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Around Town

Bobby Hawkins of Lewisville came on Friday to take Christopher Tatum and Joyce Hawkins to Aspermont, where they picked up Sammy Hawkins on their way to visit the Gary Huffines in Dimmitt. Before returning home Sunday evening, the boys hunted pheasant while Joyce visited with daughter Yvonne.

Bernice Hilliard attended the Key City monthly square dance in Abilene, Saturday.

Jean Richards and Lois Redwine were in Abilene last week to visit Lois' sister-in-law and Jean's aunt, Eunice Sonnamaker, and their aunt Mable White, both of whom live in Care Inn.

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Obituaries

George Alvis Mullino



GEORGE ALVIS MULLINO

Funeral services for George Alvis Mullino, 68, of Rochester were held Sun., Dec. 15 at Rochester First Baptist Church under the direction of Smith Funeral Home of Knox City. Burial was in Rochester Cemetery.

Mr. Mullino died Wed., Dec. 11 in an Abilene hospital.

Born Dec. 28, 1933, he was the son of Ermine and Felix Mullino of Rochester. He was a 1951 graduate of Rochester High School where he was a Star Greenhand and received his Lone Star Farmer degree. He attended Texas A&M where he was a member of the Aggie band. He com-

pleted his Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education at Texas Tech University in 1955. While at Tech he was a member of Alpha Zeta fraternity. Following graduation he taught agriculture for two years at O'Brien High School.

He married Sharon Sue Reid, Aug. 9, 1953. They farmed and ranched in Rochester for almost 50 years. George had the heart of a servant and gave much to his community and to the area. From 1960 until 2001, he owned and operated Rochester Cotton Warehouse. He was on the board of directors of the Farmer's Gin Company and was instrumental in the organization of Producer's Grain and Supply, Lone Star Peanut Company, Western Pipe and Pivot Company and Home State Bank, all of Rochester. He was a member of Rochester First Baptist Church, a deacon and men's Sunday school teacher.

He served 19 years as a trustee of Rochester I.S.D., 14 years as board president. He was particularly supportive of the RHS band program. He was appointed to the Texas Ag Finance Authority Board and the Texas Water Board by Gov. Ann Richards. He was a member of the Haskell County Appraisal Board, Haskell

County Livestock Association, Small Business Administration Board, Rochester Roping Club, Rochester Cemetery Association and Haskell County FHA board. Whatever church, school, community or county project got underway, he could always be counted on to help make it successful.

George treasured lifelong friends and each one of them shares many precious memories. He leaves a legacy of generosity, leadership and unflinching devotion to family.

He was preceded in death by his father, Felix Mullino.

Survivors include his wife, Sharon of Rochester; children, Buddy Mullino of Dallas; Susan and husband Cole Turner, Reida and husband Bill Penman, Faye and husband Ricky Ulrich, all of Rochester; grandchildren, Maggie and husband, Adam Schain of New York City, Mary Belle and Amy Turner, Teddye Sue Harris and Stewart and Aaron Ulrich of Rochester; one great grandchild, Max Mullino Schain of New York City; his mother, Ermine Mullino of Rochester; sisters, Anita and husband, Pete Murray of Ruidoso, Ginger and husband, Bill Leflar of The Woodlands.

PD. NOTICE

James 'Jimmy' Hannsz

Funeral services for James 'Jimmy' Hannsz, 65, lifetime resident of Haskell were held Fri., Dec. 13 at First Baptist Church in Haskell officiated by Rev. Kevin Hall and Dusty Garrison. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Mr. Hannsz died Wed., Dec. 11 in an Abilene hospital.

Born Aug. 24, 1937 in Stamford, he was the son of Albert Roy Hannsz and Doris Felker Hannsz. After graduating from Rule High School, he married Grace Marugg Aug. 28, 1955. He was a farmer and rancher. He was a member of the Sons of Hermann Lodge in Irby and the First Baptist Church in Haskell. He loved cotton and wheat

farming, cattle ranching, deer hunting and fishing.

Survivors include his wife, Grace Hannsz of Haskell; two daughters, Charlotte Peiser and husband, Robbie of Haskell, Kristie Rynnion and husband, Robert of Abilene; one son, Mark Hannsz and wife, Jana of Midland; one brother, Jerry Hannsz and wife, Carla of Haskell; one sister, Janet Earle of Haskell; grandchildren, Breanna Cypert and husband, Cody of Irving, Bergen Peiser and Lacey Peiser, both of Haskell, Clay Hannsz, Ryan Hannsz and Ashton Hannsz, all of Midland.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of the Big Country, 4601 Hartford, Abilene, Texas 79605. PD. NOTICE

Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve
 11:00 p.m.
 at
Trinity Lutheran Church
 Throckmorton Hwy.
 We invite you to share with us
 the worship service
 And the beautiful music of Christmas.

Use holiday season to relax

Forget spending hours carving a turkey or hanging lavish decorations, focus on the important things in life this holiday season and just relax.

"Trying to do too much in preparation for holiday festivities can lead to overexertion," said Dr. Kenneth Goodrick, an associate professor of family and community medicine at Baylor College Medicine. "Take advantage of the time you can spend with your family members and remember to set aside time for yourself."

Goodrick offers the following tips for a fun and relaxing holiday:

- Keep it simple. Don't spend mass quantities of time and effort preparing a holiday meal or cleaning the house from top to bottom.
- Find a physical activity that you enjoy and implement that into an exercise routine. This will help you

to unwind and relieve stress.

- Organize yourself by keeping only one "to do" list. Don't have multiple lists on the refrigerator or in your work environment, this creates clutter and chaos that can trigger stress.

- Take time for yourself. Escape from holiday tasks by taking a long walk, soaking in a hot bath or reading a book.

- Know your boundaries. Don't get so caught up in holiday chores and preparations that you don't have time to do things that you enjoy.

- Use the holidays to catch up with family and friends. Instead of turning on the television, take this time to share old memories and make new ones with your loved ones.

- Cut down on the time and expense of shopping by assigning gifts. Have all of your family members draw one name from a hat so that everyone still gets a gift without your pocketbook paying the

price.

- Be thoughtful when gift-giving by creating your own gift. For instance, write a personal letter to someone about all of their good qualities, or frame your loved one's favorite poem or song.

- Develop projects that everyone can be involved in. For instance, develop a family history book by sharing stories and pictures with one another.

- Try to schedule a family evening at a resort or park. This allows everyone to interact without burdening one person's house in terms of preparation and cleanup.

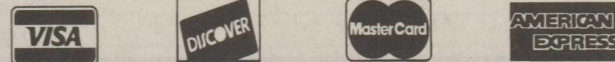
"Everyone can do something significant and meaningful, and the holidays present the opportunity to explore options that allow people to reach self-fulfillment by relaxing and focusing on what truly makes them happy. "Real happiness comes from relationships, not food or passive entertainment," Goodrick said.

Merry Christmas

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Sanders family holds holiday gathering

The children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the late Jack and Sallie Sanders, longtime residents of Weinert, met over the weekend at the Circle-S Ranch in southeast Haskell County for their Thanksgiving and Christmas get-together.

Their oldest sister, Lona Mae Phelps and family host the meeting each year. As long as Jack and Sallie Sanders were living all the family celebrated the holidays at their home in Weinert.

Starting on Friday, fifty members of the family and four guests began arriving and stayed until late Sunday. Jacky Sanders took several of them over his ranch to see all the wildlife. On Sunday morning a church service was held.

Special guests this year were Denise Maupin's parents, Denis and Florrie Pinder of Mansfield Woodhouse, England, who were in Texas visiting Denise, Bill, and Mark Maupin of Odessa, for Christmas.

Others present were: Lona Mae Phelps; Kenneth and Elaine

Campbell; Karen, Kendall and Allison Mitchell; and Shane' Mays, all of Haskell; Travis Sanders of Coleman; Darwin and Ethel Slade of Eagar, Arizona; Andy and Marlene Sanders, Netha, Renetha and A. J. Carrouth of Cross Plains; Bill, Martha and Loretta Maupin, Little Bill, Denise and Mark Maupin, all of Odessa; B. D. and Marie Kirkland of Fort Worth; Jacky Dee and Barbie Kirkland of Weatherford; Walter and Sue Cox of Naples; Brenda, Austin and Sallie Sartain of Ore City; Jacky, Sandra and Jaelyn Sanders of Alcedo; Ricky, Shanna and Shambrey Sanders of Weatherford; Rocky, Marsha Sanders and Bryce of Abilene, and a visitor, Charles Davis of Avoca, who works the ranch for Jacky Sanders, and has been a longtime friend of the Sanders family.

Enjoying being together in the ranch setting, the family missed having Wilma Sanders, Scarlet and Kenneth Cole, Johnny and Teresa, their children, Johnny and Carol and children, and Edwin Baxter, who usually attend.



ANDY KINNEY - KIMLA STRICKLAND

Strickland, Kinney to marry Feb. 8

Janet Earle of Haskell and Doyle Strickland of Rochester are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimla Ann Strickland, to Andrew Denton Kinney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kinney of Stamford.

The couple plans to be married February 8, at St. John's United Methodist Church in Stamford.

Study Club meets for Christmas dinner

The Haskell Progressive Study Club met Thurs., Dec. 12, for a Christmas progressive dinner.

Their first stop of the evening was St. George Catholic Church. After appetizers were served by club members Kay Croft and Linda Lane-Bloise, the group learned about the Catholic Church's Christmas celebration and traditions from the parish priest, Father Michael Melcher.

Next, the group of forty, including guests, members of the Pierian Club of Stamford, journeyed to the First Baptist Church. There they viewed the awesome nativity scene which was handcrafted in Italy. They were served the dinner's main course by hostesses Ruby Turner, Franciene Johnson, Bettie Wainscott and Julia

Harrell. Franciene Johnson presented a moving Christmas program.

The group then traveled to the First United Methodist Church where Nelda Lane explained the history and meanings of their special tree decorated with lovely white and gold chrismsons, which are ornaments depicting traditional Christian symbols, made by women of the church. After listening to organist Nelda Lane play Christmas hymns, the women enjoyed desserts served by hostesses Nelda Lane and Mary Kaigler.

After leaving their donations of canned goods for the local food bank, the group departed for their homes with a deeper appreciation of the true meaning of Christmas.

Students in the News

Sharon Jimenez of Haskell and Jodie Reel of Paint participated in commencement exercises for Lubbock Christian University Dec. 7.

Jimenez graduated with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies in Elementary Education and was named to the Dean's List. She is the daughter of Nick and Eva Jimenez

of Haskell.

Reel graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies in Secondary Education. He was a member of the Alpha Chi Honor Society and received the LCU Chemistry Award. He was named to Who's Who. He is the son of Ronnie and Brenda Reed of Paint Creek.

ECC Calendar and Menu

Mon., Dec. 23

Lunch—Mesquite broiled chicken breast, creamy mashed potatoes, stewed tomatoes/okra, buttered corn, yeast rolls, lemon ref. dessert, milk, tea, or coffee

Wed., Dec. 25

Center Closed

Fri., Dec. 27

Lunch—Hamburgers/cheeseburgers, lettuce/tomatoes/pickles, mayo/mustard/ketchup, pinto beans, chips, cookies/

applesauce, milk, tea, or coffee

Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

Hospital

Admissions

Eunice Hunt, Rule

Dismisals

Lavoid Robertson, Doris Martin

Placebo study produces odd results

There's some truth to the joke in which the psychiatrist tells the patient over the phone to take two placebos and call me in the morning," says Dr. Janet Tekell.

Tekell, assistant professor of psychiatry at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, and colleagues found in a study of the antidepressant Prozac that placebos do work sometimes for some people. The study showed that while both Prozac and a placebo caused the same type response in some overlapping brain areas, there were other areas where the responses

differed.

But don't throw away your Prozac yet. "While we know placebos work for a while for some people, we know from other studies that their effect is not long lasting and doesn't work for everyone," Tekell says. Mental health professionals speculate that for some patients just the fact that a physician recognizes their problem and offers help may be placebo in itself, she says.

Births

Devery and Shana (McKenzie) Rosenquist announce the birth of their son, Payton Lane, born Dec. 9, weighing 9 lbs. 7 ozs. and was 21 1/2 long.

Welcoming him home was big brother, Logan Pecos. Grandparents are Doy and Rod Jeter of Haskell,

Doug and Wynama Rosenquist of Abilene, Jocille and Donald Enders of Stamford.

Great-grandmothers are Marsha Whittemore of Rule, Gene Culpepper of Haskell and Louise Massey of Stamford. Shayne McKenzie of Haskell is the baby's aunt.

Library Notes

By Joan Strickland

Emilee Griffith Goff has been kind enough to loan us "part" of the Nativity collection for display at the library in our showcase. Emilee and her husband were missionaries in South America for many years. There are nine from South America and one from Alaska. Thank you Emilee.

This is the season to give, so we at the Library would like to give everyone who has a past due book a clean slate if you will return you late book in the month of December. That's right, if you have a book that you thought was lost, but now found, or if you have a book that you just keep forgetting to return, now is the time to return it, this month only and your fine will be forgiven.

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Laugh at our favorite comic strip. Help our kids with their homework. Enjoy Harry Potter. Read to a child.

Memorials to the Friend's of the Library: George Millino, Nellie Kate Frazier.

Donations to the Friend's of the Library: In lieu of Christmas Cards—Joan Strickland.

Memorials to the Haskell County Library: Borden Clifton, Jess Templeton, Dr. Bob Colbert.

Merry Christmas!!! See you at the library!

Merry Christmas

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Area Basketball scores

Girls
 Eastland 55, Haskell 39
 Scoring for Haskell: Kendall 14, Burger 12, Hise 4, Lindsey 4, Bird 2, Harlan 2, Mays 1.
 JV score: Eastland 30, Haskell 20.

Rule 61, Crowell 31
 Scoring for Rule: Lisle 21, Dudensing 20, Lehrmann 12, Marquis 3, Brown 2, Hertel 2, Davis 1.
 JV score: Rule 44, Rotan 21.

Highland 53, Paint Creek 32
 Scoring for Paint Creek: Brzozowski 8, Gonzalez 6, M. Daniel 6, Thomasson 5, Reel 5, A. Daniel 2.
 JV score: Highland 60, Paint Creek 9.

Vernon Invitational
 Borger 57, Haskell 41
 Scoring for Haskell: Buerger 10, Hise 7, Kendall 4, Wallace 4, Harlan 4, Lindsey 4, McKnight 4, Rutkowski 2, Gonzalez 2.
 Haskell 53, Van Alstyne 43
 Scoring for Haskell: Buerger 12, Kendall 10, Lindsey 6, Rutkowski 6, Harlan 5, Hise 4, Bird 4, McKnight 3, Mays 2, Wallace 1.

Lions Den Classic
 Hawley 59, Paint Creek 33
 Scoring for Paint Creek: Brzozowski 13, Gonzalez 8, Thomasson 7, Reel 3, Walton 2.
 Forsan 49, Paint Creek 41
 Scoring for Paint Creek: Brzozowski 14, Reel 11, Gonzalez 8, Thomasson 4, Duniven 2.
 Abilene High JV 52, Paint Creek 30
 Scoring for Paint Creek: Brzozowski 12, Walton 6, Reel 4, Daniel 3, Duniven 2, Thomasson 1.

Rule Booster Club
 Munday 63, Rochester 48
 Scoring for Rochester: Byrd 20, Ramos 13, Brown 7, Martin 4, Sanchez 2, Turner 2.
 Rule 59, Rotan 30
 Scoring for Rule: Lehrmann 17, Lisle 13, Dudensing 10, Smith 8, Brown 7, Hertel 4.
 Rotan 53, Rochester 48
 Scoring for Rochester: Byrd 29, Turner 10, Brown 4, Sanchez 3, Ramos 2.

Rule 41, Munday 32
 Scoring for Rule: Dudensing 18, Lisle 7, Lehrmann 4, Marquis 4, Hertel 4, Brown 4.
 Rochester 50, Lueders-Avoca 39
 Scoring for Rochester: Byrd 15, Ramos 10, Martin 8, Turner 7, Brown 4, Sanchez 4, Saucedo 2.
 Rule 43, Aspermont 29
 Scoring for Rule: Lehrmann 12, Lisle 12, Smith 8, Marquis 6, Hertel 3, Dudensing 2.

Boys
 Haskell 60, Iowa Park 51
 Scoring for Haskell: Burgess 17,

E. Loyd, Webb 10, M. Garcia 8, Goudeau 3, B. Loyd 3, Mitchell 2, Pena 2, O. Garcia 1.

Crowell 49, Rule 47
 Scoring for Rule: Smith 19, Stephens 9, Standefer 9, Brown 4, Kittley 3, Dudensing 2, Turner 1.

Paint Creek 74, Highland 66
 Scoring for Paint Creek: Lowrance 24, Medford 23, Hobbs 20, Hope 5, Biba 2.

Vernon Invitational
 Haskell 70,
 Henrietta Midway 31
 Scoring for Haskell: Goudeau 16, Webb 10, E. Loyd 6, O. Garcia 6, B. Loyd 6, Burgess 6, Mitchell 5, Hodge 5, M. Garcia 4, Hairgrove 4, Pena 2.
 Haskell 59, Holliday 47
 Scoring for Haskell: E. Loyd 15, Goudeau 11, B. Loyd 11, Burgess 9, Webb 7, Hairgrove 4, O. Garcia 2, Memphis 63, Haskell 60
 Scoring for Haskell: E. Loyd 16, Burgess 12, B. Loyd 11, Goudeau 9, Webb 8, M. Garcia 4.

Lions Den Classic
 Hawley 73, Paint Creek 29
 Scoring for Paint Creek: Medford 14, Biba 9, Brown 4, Hobbs 2.
 Albany 84, Paint Creek 42
 Scoring for Paint Creek: Medford 21, Biba 10, Hobbs 6, Lowrance 5.

Rule Booster Club
 Munday 86, Rochester 32
 Scoring for Rochester: McGhee 12, Self 9, Saucedo 5, Earl 4, Carrasco 2.
 Rotan 72, Rule 43
 Scoring for Rule: Stephens 12, Standefer 10, Brown 6, Smith 6, Turner 5, Kittley 2, Dudensing 2.
 Rule 67, Rochester 51
 Scoring for Rule: Standefer 15, Smith 14, Kittley 13, Brown 12, Stephens 9, Fuentes 2, Dudensing 2.
 Scoring for Rochester: McGhee 22, Earl 13, Self 8, Saucedo 6, Rogers 2.
 Lueders-Avoca 78, Rochester 57
 Scoring for Rochester: McGhee 28, Self 20, Earl 6, Carrasco 3.
 Roby 60, Rule 54
 Scoring for Rule: Stephens 19, Standefer 15, Smith 13, Brown 5, Kittley 2.

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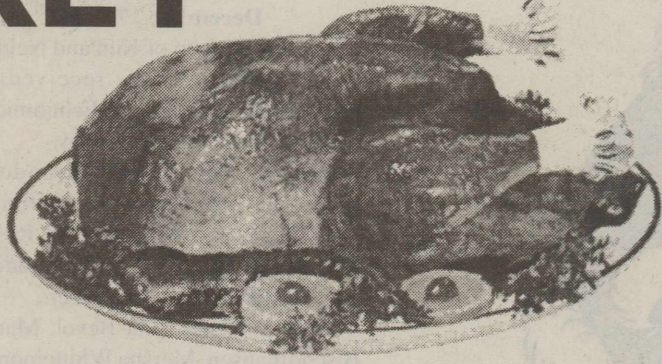
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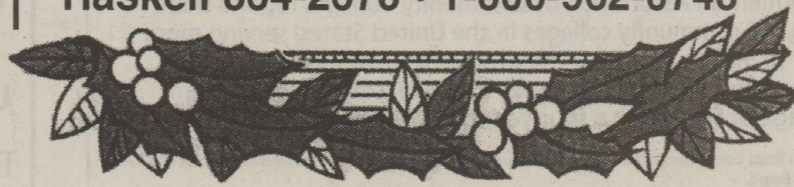
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Hunters should take precautions to prevent disease

Thousands of Texas hunters are taking to the woods and fields to hunt deer, doves and other animals; and they are not alone. All manner of critters that can carry diseases are out as well, say officials with the Texas Department of Health (TDH).

Hunters, along with campers and hikers, are at risk of exposure to diseases transmitted by ticks, fleas and mosquitoes. Many of these diseases begin with flu-like symptoms such as fever, chills, headache and body aches that can worsen quickly.

West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne illness new to Texas. "Both public health officials and the public are learning about a new virus that appeared on the East Coast just three years ago and in Texas this summer," said Texas Commissioner of Health Eduardo Sanchez, M.D.

The virus, which can cause encephalitis, is spread by mosquitoes. Encephalitis is an inflammation of the brain that may be caused by one of several mosquito-borne viruses. Symptoms include intense headache, high fever, nausea, muscle tenderness, partial unconsciousness and even coma. In rare instances, death may occur.

Another potential danger is Lyme disease, the most frequently diagnosed tick-borne problem in the United States. Lyme disease may result in skin lesions or rashes, which, if left untreated, may result in severe damage to the joints, heart and nervous system. Rocky Mountain spotted fever also is spread by infected ticks. It can create a measles-like rash and is fatal if not treated quickly. Exposure to bacteria that cause tularemia, yet another tick-borne disease, also can occur by handling wild rabbit carcasses.

To protect against insect bites: Use insect repellent containing DEET. Follow directions carefully. Stay on trails and avoid areas of overgrown brush and tall grasses.

Wear protective clothing such as a hat, long-sleeved shirt and long pants tucked into boots or socks. Wear light-colored clothes to easily spot ticks.

In areas with ticks, check your body carefully for them every few

hours. Ticks are small, easy to miss and will attach to any part of the body from head to toe, so look carefully.

Plague, common in wild rodent populations of West Texas, is transmitted to people by fleas or by direct contact with infected animals such as prairie dogs, squirrels, cats, rats and mice. This disease sometimes includes the presence of painful, swollen lymph nodes. Unless treated quickly, death may result.

Infected rodents such as rats and mice also spread hantavirus infection to people. A rodent may have the virus in its droppings, urine and saliva. The virus also may be spread through dust particles in the air.

"You can become infected by inhaling dust that contains the virus," said Guy Moore, a wildlife biologist with TDH's Zoonosis Control Division. "Cleaning cabins, sheds or barns without a mask can increase your chances of coming in contact with hantavirus."

Hantavirus infection may lead to extreme difficulty breathing and can be fatal. Patients are given supportive treatment, but antibiotics will not cure a hantavirus infection.

Hunters also need to be aware that deer can share the bacterium that causes anthrax in people, and feral hogs can carry brucellosis. Precautions include wearing latex gloves when field dressing animals or handling any wild animal carcass.

Rabies is a viral infection of the nervous system that may affect almost any warm-blooded animal. "It is impossible to tell by looking at an animal whether it is infected with the rabies virus, so avoid contact with any wild animals," Moore said.

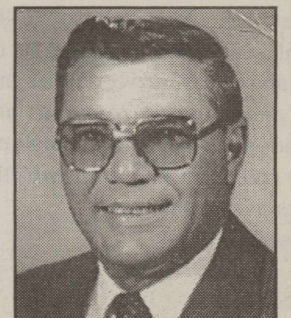
Rabies occurs in many wild animal populations in Texas, especially skunks, bats, raccoons, coyotes and foxes. Humans usually are infected through a bite by a rabid animal, which is why you should always consult a doctor if an animal bites you. Rabies is almost always fatal once symptoms begin, but timely preventive treatment can be lifesaving.

"Do not try to help injured animals or touch dead ones," Moore said. "If you need assistance, contact a game warden, park employee or animal control or law enforcement officer."

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TAX PLANNING

Written By
James E. Rodgers, CPA



DON'T INVEST EVERYTHING IN THE STOCK MARKET

Did you know there are at least two categories of savings that should never be invested in stocks or stock mutual funds? Many investors have recently learned an unfortunate lesson about the stock market: it's not the right place for all of your money at all times.

Historically, it's true that the stock market has provided superior returns over long periods. But those returns come at a price—volatility. On the road to achieving those superior returns, there are many ups and downs. And if you need to withdraw your savings during one of the market downturns, you might not recover your investment.

Rule #1. Generally, you shouldn't invest funds in the stock market that you will need during the next two to three years. For example, if you need to withdraw money to pay your ongoing living expenses in retirement, the money you'll need in the next few years should be in stable investments such as money market funds, bank CDs, or bonds with maturities matched to your needs. That eliminates the risk that you'll need the money when the stock market is severely depressed, as it is now.

This lesson applies to college savings funds or any other savings set aside for a definite purpose. If you have 15 years before your child goes to college, by all means invest in stocks. But if your child is a junior in high school, you should be protecting the value of those college savings.

Rule #2. It's generally advisable to keep at least three to six months' living expenses in an emergency fund. Your emergency fund is to provide the money you might need for crises such as job loss, illness, major car repairs, uninsured dental work, etc. If you need to draw on these savings, you probably can't afford to wait until the market recovers.

By all means, invest your other savings in stocks, bonds, real estate, or whatever fits your goals. But keep these two categories of savings in safe, stable investments, and that means out to the stock market.

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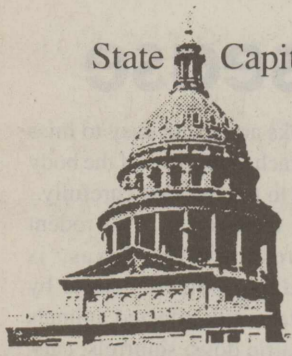
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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Mike Cox

Comptroller projects multi-billion dollar budget deficit
AUSTIN—If you think balancing your checkbook is hard, imagine what it must be like dealing with a bank account of \$14.4 billion. That was the cash Texas had on hand at the end of the fiscal year, according to a recent report from the comptroller's office.

A look at the figures for August only shows \$5.1 billion in state spending with total revenue of \$7.2 billion.

Those numbers look pretty good, but tax collections were down 3.1 percent. The most notable decrease was in income from oil and gas production. Oil production tax receipts were down 23.5 percent, with natural gas production tax income down 60.6 percent.

Other tax categories with decreases from the previous fiscal year were the hotel and motel tax (-6.4 percent), utility taxes (-8.4 percent), cigarette and tobacco taxes (-7.6 percent), franchise tax (-1.3 percent) and sales tax (-1 percent.)

Still to come is the comptroller's official revenue estimate. Right now the projected deficit is ranging from \$5 billion to as high as \$12 billion.

Changing times...
No one thinks it particularly unusual for a woman to seek election to public office, but times have changed.

"Votes for Women!," an online exhibit prepared by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission examines the interesting history of the woman's rights movement in Texas from the 1830s to the winning of the vote for women in 1919. (Not until after World War I could a woman even vote, much less run for office.)

One of the prime movers in the woman's suffrage movement in

Texas was someone few people have heard of, Minnie Fisher Cunningham.

Not only did she lead the movement to get women the vote in Texas, she battled the Ku Klux Klan, ran for the Senate and even for governor.

"The exhibit truly places these women and the suffrage movement in the context of Texas history," said State Archivist Chris LaPlante, "and on every page it is possible to learn something new and unexpected."

To see the exhibit, go to www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/suffrage.

No bull, bovine on lottery tickets

"Houston," a prize-winning bull, is now more famous. The Texas Department of Agriculture helped its fellow state agency, the Lottery Commission, get a portrait-quality photo of "Houston" for the latest scratch-off lottery game, Blue Ribbon Bucks.

TDA put out a press release to brag on Houston (the Polled Hereford, not the city) and the Texas cattle business in general. The Lone Star state is the U.S. leader in cattle production, with more than 14 million head.

Cattle are found on more than 150,000 Texas farms and ranches and cattle sales amount to nearly half the agricultural income in Texas. That's no bull...

It's "puh-con"...

Folks from outside Texas often refer to the tasty nut so common to this state as a "pea-con." But in Texas, it's "puh-con."

No matter how you pronounce it, however, Texas has a lot of them. Last year, according to the comptroller's office, Texas produced 75 million pounds of pecans valued at \$50 million.

The only state exceeding that production was Georgia, which grew 110 million pounds.



From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

When I was in London in 1989, it was again my privilege to visit Westminster Abby, where I spent half a day in the bookshop (which meant another burden of books for my already loaded-down luggage).

One of the books I brought home was *The Quiet Heart*, a collection of prayers and meditations written by George Appleton, who was formerly an Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, after a varied career in missionary ministry beginning in 1915.

I have always liked to reread his following thoughts for Christmas Eve, as he speaks to his own soul.

Although written in years past, like any other truth, I think it is not out of date in relevance for us to consider today.

"When the time had fully come, God sent forth his son." Gal 4:4

Tomorrow's Birthday
O my soul, do not let the last preparations for the celebration of Christmas crowd out the remembrance of its meaning. From time to time today let memory go back into divine and human history,

and picture once more the Christmas stories with their haunting beauty and lovely symbolism.

Remember, it was no sudden happening; it had been in the mind of God from the first movement of His creating love, until the right moment of His saving purpose; it had been longed for by spiritual beings, prophets and holy souls.

It awaited the right mother, blessed Mary of Nazareth, eager to be the handmaiden of God.

It needed to be in the right place, Bethlehem, the birthplace of one destined to be a God-ruled King, barely an hour's walk from a city meant to be holy, from which the word of God should radiate out to all the world.

So let me pray for the needs of the whole world, for peace and righteousness, the end of war, hunger, poverty and pain, the brothing of all men and women in God's first-born Son, the fathering of every child, cradled in the Father's heart, as the babe nestled in the manger of the stable.

And, since of all things, this would rejoice His heart, let me

remember on tomorrow's birthday, the poor and lonely, the cold and hungry, the hurt and sad, the neglected and unemployed, all who are bitter and unloving because they are unloved, and those who do not know the Lord Jesus or who grieve His heart of love.

Then, O my soul, remember before the Father of souls, those who rejoice with us, but who, in God's eternal order of being, are hidden for a moment from physical sight, yet are still held in the unbroken relationship of love, who will be remembering with us the blessing of Christmas past, and the hope of permeating every generation with the spirit of God's eternal Christmas.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me praise His holy name. Praise the Lord, O my soul and forget not His most treasured gift, His undefeatable love!

May you and yours enjoy the holiday, blessed by the joy, peace and love that is the heart and meaning of Christmas.

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago December 17, 1992

Matt Lane, son of Ken and Nelda Lane of Haskell, has received a bachelor of arts degree in Economics from the University of Texas.

Laura Tibbets and Brandon Williams were named football sweetheart and hero for the Rule Kittens. Tibbets is an eighth grader and Williams is a sixth grader.

Juanita Rhea, Neat Bevel, Mary Bischofhausen, Marsha Whittemore, Dee Sprayberry, Peggy Burnett, Helen Cox, Florence Peden, Lorene Dewey, Leone Pearsy, Ernestine Dickson, Linda King, Gladys O'Neal, Ozelle Frierson and Mona Gibson, all members of the Haskell Garden Club, met at Mona Gibson's house for their December meeting.

20 Years Ago December 23, 1992

Doyle Norman of Rule was the winner of the \$500.00 jackpot given away by the Haskell Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Trade Committee.

Four Haskell Volunteer Firemen were recognized for a combined service of 90 years to the Haskell, Volunteer Fire Department at their annual Christmas banquet. Receiving service badges were: Raymond Davis, 40 years; Chief Tom Watson, 30 years; E. B. Love, 15 years; and Charles Reed, 5 years.

30 Years Ago December 21, 1992

Carol Dudensing and Kyle Wilfong, Haskell County's 4-H Gold Star Girl and Boy, were honored at the District 4-H Banquet held in Vernon.

Joe Kretschmer was selected to the all tournament team at the Knox City Basketball Tournament. Kretschmer led the Indians with 42 points in two games. Robin Colbert had 19 points.

The Ruth Circle met in the home of Mrs. Dave Hiebert. Mrs. Terry M. Diggs' speech students from Haskell High School presented the program. Students that participated were Ed Walling, Linda Hartfield, Rene Abbott, Cheryl Bennett and Marilu McCauley.

40 Years Ago December 20, 1962

The First Baptist Church honored the Haskell High School "A" football team with a banquet Dec. 13.

The Hannah Sunday School class, of the East Side Baptist Church held its monthly social and business meeting in the home of Mrs. T. E. Mercer.

The Haskell Indians defeated Throckmorton by a score of 50-44 in the Haskell tournament. The Indians, were led by James Davis and Joe Thigpen with 17 points each.

50 Years Ago December 18, 1952

Mary Beth Payne of Haskell has been elected corresponding secretary of Delta Alpha Pi girls social organization at Baylor University, Waco.

The Commissioners' Court has awarded a contract to Austin Bridge Company for a bridge over Paint Creek, southeast of the Paint Creek School. The bridge is to be completed by Feb. 1, 1953.

An early morning blaze destroyed the Texas Theatre on the south side of the square. The fire damaged adjoining structures and for a time threatened to spread to other buildings in the south side business district. Estimated damage is between \$70,000 and \$80,000.

90 Years Ago December 21, 1912

Judge Gordon B. McGuire and Buford Long attended court at Weinert Saturday.

Virgil Hudson has pulled off one of the biggest enterprises in the industrial history of the town. Last Friday he began the slaughter of 1,500 turkeys, under the supervision of an expert. He had the birds picked and dressed and they were packed 20 to a barrel for shipment to a cold storage concern. This venture has placed Haskell on the map as a turkey raising and shipping center of this area.

Sheriff Crawford Allen went to Austin the first of the week on official business.

Letters to the Editor

Dear editor,

The C.I.A. of Haskell would like to thank everyone who helped set up tables and chairs, serve, deliver, and cook; and for food donations and decorations. Thanks for taking time out to come out and help with the Thanksgiving meal.

Jesse Billington

Dear editor,

I would like to thank everyone who donated to our Jump Rope For

Heart jump-a-thon this year. The kids collected over \$5,700 and I am very proud of them. I would especially like to thank all the parents for sharing their children with me and allowing them to collect donations for this wonderful cause.

A special thanks also goes out to local merchants for their contributions and continued support of our annual event.

Thank you,
Tiffany Thomas

Happy Holidays

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This issue mailed Wed., Dec. 18, 2002

Haskell CISD Comments

by Billie McKeever
Assistant Superintendent

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Haskell CISD, I would like to wish each of you a happy, safe holiday season. Another school year is half over and school personnel are looking forward to a few days break.

While we enjoy working with your children, it is nice to let you share that experience while we recharge and get ready for the spring semester, which is always packed full of events and activities.

Our school district is blessed to enjoy excellent community support. Your interest and encouragement for academic, extracurricular and co-curricular activities are wonderful.

As a district we are committed to returning that loyalty through involvement in community activities. We invite community groups to use the school facilities for meetings, banquets and conventions. We encourage our employees to be active in local churches, civic organizations and community groups.

We also partner with local businesses in work programs and on-the-job training for our students. We help sponsor the annual Soup Kitchen, the Sr. Citizen Sr. Banquet, adult education classes and support other community activities and events. We assist with grants that help improve our community.

Just as we try to be involved in

the community, we invite members of the community to be involved in school activities. Ways to do this include serving on advisory committees, being a volunteer, serving as a mentor, attending sporting events, serving as a guest speaker, and/or being a room mother/father.

As we make our resolutions for the new year, let's all resolve to keep working together to keep Haskell the best place in the world to live and to raise children.

Haskell Co. Gin Report

December 16, 2002 Haskell

Haskell Co-op Gin 3.962
Haskell County Gin 2.223

O'Brien

O'Brien Gin 9.373

Rule

Rule Co-op Gin 3.105
Sagerton Gin 2.200

Weinert

Griff's Gin 1.835
Weinert Gin 4.058

Total Bales 26,756

Keeping an Eye on Texas

Bang for the Buck

At a time when the state's belt is tightening, the question of the hour is whether the state is making the best use of taxpayer dollars. According to a study by the Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC) released in June 2002, the state is getting its money's worth from its community colleges.

Average Annual Tuition Nationwide

Community College \$1,518

Four-year Public College \$3,754

Community College \$1,518

Four-year Public College \$3,754

Community College \$1,518

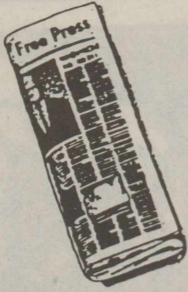
Four-year Public College \$3,754

Community colleges are post-secondary institutions that offer a variety of educational programs, including certificates, associate degrees and individual courses that students can transfer to four-year colleges or use for professional or personal enrichment.

The American Association of Community Colleges reports there are 1,166 community colleges in the United States, serving more than 10 million students. The average annual tuition for community colleges nationwide is \$1,518, compared with an average of \$3,754 for a four-year public college.

Sources: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Carole Keeton Rylander (www.window.state.tx.us) and the College Board.

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COMPUTER SOLUTIONS. 864-2200. New computer with monitor and CDRW. \$829. 51c

Garage Sales

INSIDE-OUTSIDE SALE: Washers, dryers, furniture, Fri., Sat. & Sun. 305 N. Ave. D. 864-3900. 51p

Lost & Found

LOST: 4 month old male Rottweiler. Answers to Zeus. Lost sometime Sat. between 5th and 6th Streets. Has no tail. Black/brown. No collar. Emily Thigpen 915-660-5912 cell or 940-864-2085. Reward. 51p

Jobs Wanted

WILL DO HOME, private care. References. Dovie Lipham. 940-989-2668. 51-2p

WILL BABYSIT New Year's Eve. Cindy Hearn. Call 864-2508 for details. 51-52c

LICENSED DAYCARE now open in Rochester. Meals and snacks provided. Openings available. Call 743-3644. 51c

Miscellaneous

THE TRAVELING DJ's. Playing the hits. Choose from over 1900 selections of Rock & Roll hits, Country & Western, Elvis, 100% Disco. Spectacular lighting effects. Karaoke fun with "The Singing Machine." Also weddings, rehearsal dinners, cakes. Just for You. Call 940-864-3703. 47-52p

CUSTOM FRAMING. Country Friends and Frames, 101 N. Swenson, Stamford. 915-773-2661. Complete framing needs. Closed Mondays. 51c

Help Wanted

PAINT CREEK ISD currently has the following openings: 7th-12th grade math teacher; school secretary. To apply, please call Brett Starkweather at 940-864-2471 or send resume to Paint Creek ISD, 4485 FM 600, Haskell, TX 79521. ATTN: Brett Starkweather. Paint Creek ISD is an equal opportunity employer. 51-52c

WANTED: Responsible female caregiver to sit with elderly woman in Rochester. Call 281-363-2219 or write 12 E. Torch Pine Circle, The Woodlands, TX 77381. 51-1p

It is easier to do a job right than to explain why you didn't. Special prices on all sizes of Spring Air Back Supporter mattress sets. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 51c

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Help Wanted

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PART RN needed for weekend coverage. Apply in person at Teakwood Manor, 1003 Columbia St., Stamford. 33fc

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE position available for dependable person. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave. F, Knox City. 44fc

BRAZOS VALLEY Care Home is now taking applications for kitchen help. Please apply in person at 605 S. Ave. F, Knox City. 44fc

RN's, LVN's and home health aides needed. Earn excellent pay for part time work! Girling Health Care, Inc. needs fee for service staff for home health visits in Haskell and surrounding area. Please call 1-800-950-0786 for more information. EOE. 50-51c

WANTED: Service technician for local tractor dealership. Health, retirement and vacation benefits included. Call 940-422-4534. 50fc

HELP WANTED: Haskell Healthcare. Cook. Contact Janice Payne or Cindy Guess. 864-8537. 50-51p

HELP WANTED: Haskell Healthcare. Weekend RN. CNA 2-10 shift. Contact Cindy Guess, 864-8537. 50-51p

HELP WANTED: Haskell Healthcare. Housekeeper. Contact Cindy Guess, 864-8537. 50-51p

FULL-TIME HELP NEEDED. Must be 18 years old and have own transportation and car insurance. Must be able to work any hours. Apply at TNT Video, 9 North Avenue E, Haskell. 51fc

Real Estate

RENT TO OWN: 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Call 256-1400. 50fc

LOT FOR SALE: 410 S. Ave. H. Located by Elementary School. \$4,000 or negotiable. Call or leave message 915-673-3636. 51-2p

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, carpet, AC/H. 1,400 sq. foot. Water well, storage shed, fenced yard. Remodeled this summer. Mid twenties. 504 Cardiff, Rule. Call between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. 940-997-2638. 51fc

Beautiful Double-Wide in country. Call Ron at 915-725-4133. 48fc

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Real Estate

FOR SALE: Brick home. Smoke-free. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Attached garage. CH/A. Corner lot 150x132. Storm cellar, water well. Price reduced. Call 940-864-2264. 40fc

FARM FOR SALE: 370 acres (Lillian Spencer) with excellent yields north of Haskell on CR 118 with approximately 7 ac. pasture, and stock tank. Rike Real Estate, 940-864-2411 or 940-864-2332 or mrike@westex.net. 33fc

FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, dining, C/A, 2 car garage, 2 storage buildings. Call Bridget at Hartsfield Realty 864-2665. 39fc

HOUSE FOR SALE by owner: 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, formal living room/dining room, large den with fireplace. Amenities include large master suite with fireplace in bedroom, garden Jacuzzi in master bath, designer stained glass, exercise room, office and atrium. 3100 sq. feet. Underground sprinkler system with water well. Large barns. Located west of town on 2 acres. Lots of pecan trees. Call 864-3982 after 5 p.m. to schedule showing. 50-1c

FOR SALE: Christmas special. 2 bedroom, 1 bath with washer/dryer, stove, oven, refrigerator, new heater and window units. \$9,000. 864-2145. 103 N. Ave. L. 49-51c

HOUSE FOR SALE: 2400 sq. ft. brick. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 car garage. Hot tub. All new roof, siding, flooring. Oak trees. \$69,900. 940-864-2516. 50-52c

4 BEDROOM BRICK HOUSE, 2 car garage, 2 baths, office, extra large closets throughout, large kitchen and family room with fireplace. Large covered patio with storage building and barn and pen for show animals. On five lots in town. Needs some repair. \$75,000 firm. Call 940-691-0220 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. 50-51c

Public Notices

Haskell County is advertising to sell a used D5 Dozier. Specifications and information will be available at the County Judge's Office, phone 940-864-2851. Haskell County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Bids will be turned into the Judge's office on January 2, 2003, opened January 3rd and presented to Commissioners Court on January 13, 2003. 51-52c

FOR SALE Lake Stamford. 20 acres. Shoreline, highway frontage. City water. Will divide. 915-773-3863. 51-4p

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FAX (940) 864-3686
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mrike@westex.net

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1301 N. AVE. L. 3-2-1, living-den, C/A, well, beautiful corner lot.
SOUTHEAST HASKELL. 20 ac. with barn, pen, water well. Good home site.
1206 N. AVE. H. 3-2-carport, rock, C/A, wood stove, large master, beautiful yard.

Public Notices

Haskell County is advertising to buy a used D5 Dozier. Specifications and information will be available at the County Judge's Office, phone 940-864-2851. Haskell County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Bids will be turned into the Judge's office on January 2, 2003 and opened on January 3 and presented to Commissioners Court on January 13, 2003. 51-52c

NOTICE I will not be responsible for bills incurred by Nacona Zoe Ingleland as of December 13, 2002. James Loyd Strickland. 51-52p

Haskell County will accept bids for replacement of the RV section feed line for the septic system at the Anchor Marina Park. Contact Bennie Gibbs at the Anchor, phone 940-864-3779, for details. Bids will be turned into the Judge's office on January 2, 2003 and opened on January 3. Bids will be presented to the Commissioners Court January 13, 2003. Haskell County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. 51-52c

Haskell County will accept bids for a 1996 Ford Crown Victoria and a 2000 Ford Crown Victoria. Bids to be turned into the Judge's Office by January 2, 2003. Bids will be opened January 3, 2003 and presented to Commissioners Court January 13, 2003. These vehicles may be seen at the Sheriff's Office. Haskell County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. These automobiles have been well maintained and are in good condition. 51-52c

The Haskell Memorial Hospital District will hold a public hearing on changing the Haskell Memorial Hospital designation from Acute Care Hospital to Critical Access Hospital. The meeting will be held Dec. 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, located at 301 South First Street, Haskell, Texas. 50-51c

For Rent

3 BEDROOM Brick house in Rule and Knox City. References. \$350/\$350 deposit. 997-9505. 50-51p

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fenced backyard. 806-983-5211 or 806-983-3777. 51fc

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The family of George Alvis Mullino would like to express their sincere appreciation for all the calls, cards, food and expressions of sympathy at the time of our loss. God bless each of you.
George Mullino family

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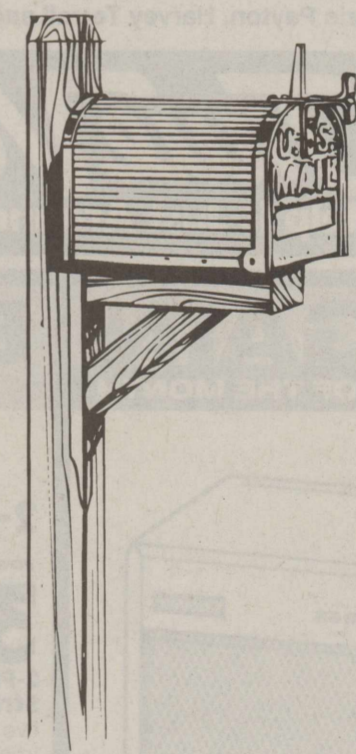
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JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS—Paint Creek Junior Varsity girls basketball team members are, l-r, Bonnie Emert, Sarah Jones, Amy Huggins, Coach Joe Thomasson, Sarah Hunt, Becca Hope and Carolyn Marshall. Photo by Kis



JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS—Paint Creek Junior High girls basketball team members are: back, l-r, Malinda Brueggemen, Kailey McCord, Tara Meyers, Alice Blair and Melanie Bishop. Middle, Michelle Jones, Angela Longoria, LaShell Walker, Paula Isbell and Hali Wolsch. Front, Kim Medford and Kayla Fernandez. Photo by Kis

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BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

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Ceramic Heater Two heat settings at 1000/1500W, plus thermostat. Features automatic safety shutoff and an adjustable tilt base. M 839 426 6

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

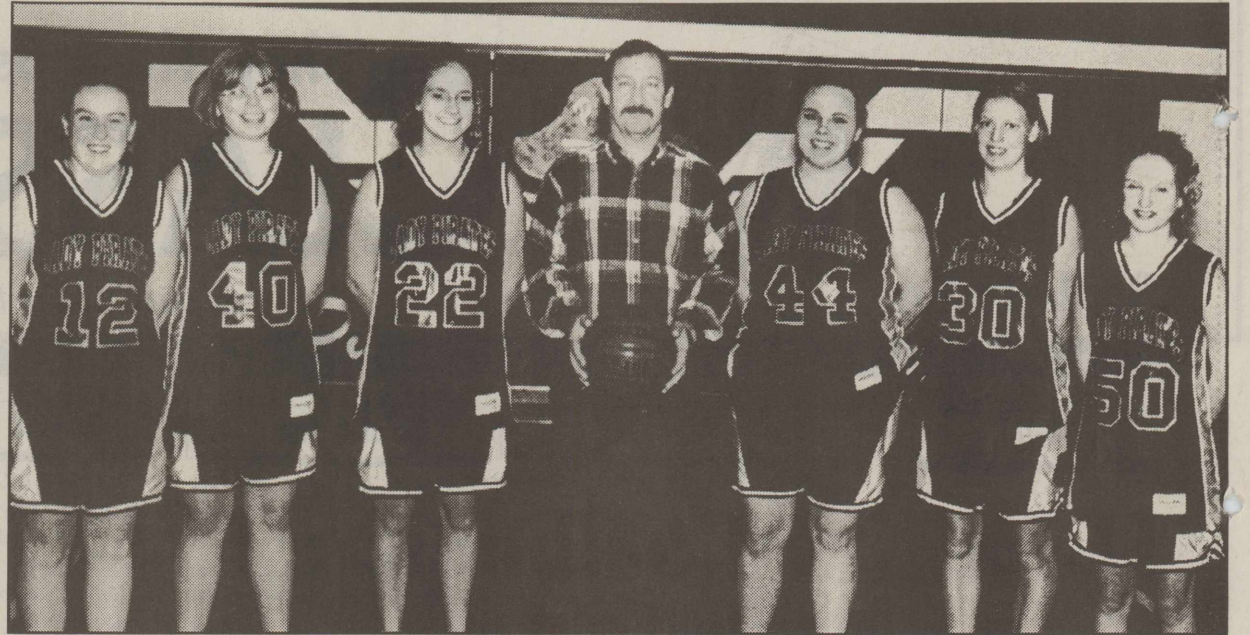
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POWER SENTRY, INC.
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2-Pk. 6-Outlet Power Strips Each strip features five regular outlets and one transformer-spaced outlet, plus an on/off switch and a 15-amp circuit breaker. E 854 331 B18

BARGAIN OF THE MONTH

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JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS—Paint Creek Junior Varsity boys basketball team members are, l-r, Bonnie Emert, Sarah Jones, Amy Huggins, Coach Joe Thomasson, Sarah Hunt, Becca Hope and Carolyn Marshall. Photo by Kis

Alcohol can have serious consequences

Alcohol and holiday parties may go hand in hand, but alcohol and driving never should.

"Seventy-five percent of the serious motor-vehicle accident injuries we see in the emergency room are alcohol-related," says Dr. Kathleen Delaney, UT Southwestern professor of emergency medicine. "Very serious consequences can ensue from drinking and driving."

Delaney suggests calling a taxi, arranging for a designated driver or simply not drinking to stay safe during the holiday party season.

"It's just never safe to drink and drive," she says.

Merry Christmas

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CASE # True Value. AUTO PARTS

Dear Santa, I would like a . . .

Dear Santa,
My name is Logan Tyler Steele. I am 23 months old. I have been a very good boy this year. For Christmas I want trucks and spiderman. I will leave milk and cookies. I Love you santa.

Logan Steele
P.S. Bring my mommy some nice things also.

Dear Santa,
My name is Taylor Hunt. I am 4 years old. I have been fairly good this year. For Christmas I would like a Power Ranger Robot, 2 remote control robots 1 red 1 blue so they can fight, Transformer that changes into a cop car thats remote control, and a Zoid with white remote control and his partner, and T-rex dinosaurs with remote control, and remote control car, and I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies and milk. And bring my Meme new stockings and fill them up.

Thank you
Taylor

Dear Santa,
This is all new to me I am 3 mo. old and my name is Tristen Payne. I have been very good. I would like to have a step and play piano, and a walker, and Winnie the Pooh stuff. Grandma Stephens wants a new car and Papa Stephens wants a camper for his new p-up. And please bring mommy and daddy something nice.

Thanks
Tristen Payne

Dear Santa Claus,
Hi again! This Christmas is going to be so much fun! My mommy says I'll be into everything. I am learning so much right now and most of the time I don't even play with toys. I still think I'd like to have a Home Sweet Home Playhouse though. And whatever you could bring for my doll would be nice too. I'm trying to mind mommy and daddy and play nicely with Dylan (it's hard sometimes). Also, please visit my baby cousin Haley if she gets here in time for Christmas Day. If not, you can see her next year. Thank you for my toys and fly safely.

Love,
Landry Lynn,
age 15 1/2 months

Dear santa,
I would like a spider-man web blaster. I would also like batman and Robyn. I have been a good boy this year. I can't wait for Christmas Eve. I will leave you milk and cookies!

Love always,
Cedar McIlwain

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy for you this year. I can't make up my mind for what I want you to bring. Just bring me whatever you would like. I will leave you some milk and cookies.

Love Always,
Cannon Edwards

Dear Santa,
I missed you all year. I've been a really good girl this year. I would like for you to bring me a bicycle and a sleeping bag for my cousins sleepover party. I will leave you some cookies and milk out on Christmas Eve!

Love Always,
Kaley Mathis

Dear Santa,
I've been good this year and have been helping take care of my little brother P. J. I would like a remote control monster truck, a jacket, and a new bike. And my little brother P.J. is good sometimes when he's not getting into stuff. Could you bring him a toy he can ride. Because he's been starting to learn to push his bike. I hope all of your reindeer are doing okay. I think Rudolph is the coolest. I don't know your elf's name, but tell them hi, and thank you for helping kids have a smile on Christmas too. Merry Christmas!

Love,
Aaron Silvas, age 5

Dear Santa,
I want a Spider Man Web Blaster, and big Red Power Ranger, a blue fish for my room and an orange spider.

Lane Burson, age 3

Dear Santa,
Hello! I didn't really know what I wanted till I heard my friends tell that they wanted drums and toys. See ya soon

Love,
Ty Coleman

Dear Santa,
I just turned 3 but you know that. I don't know what I want except for Scooby toys. and drums.

Love,
River Hall

Dear Santa,
I have been pretty good this year and I'll try harder next year. I hope to have a fun and safe Christmas and I hope that everybody in the world does too. I hope the little kids in other countries have a merry Christmas and they get lots of presents also. What I want for Christmas is a: Navy bean bag, a blue chair that folds into a bed, walkie-talkies, playstation 2, Christina Aquilara CD, Kereoke machine, capri pants and a lava lamp.

Kacey Strickland

Dear Santa Clause
What I want for Christmas is a clock, blue with birds, stereo, Karoke machine, Navy blue bean bag chair, Playstation 2 with games, legos, Necklace with the name of Kelsey, and a lava lamp. I've tried to be pretty good this year. I'll try harder next year. Don't forget my grandmommie and Uncle Kendall. Most of all, my soon to be stepdaddy Andy Kinney.

love
Kelsey Strickland

Dear Santa,
Hi! I just wanted to ask you for a go-cart, and a spider-man web blaster. I hope you will come see me. I have been trying to be a good boy for you.

Love,
Riley Minzer

Dear Santa,
I've been the best boy in town just ask my babysitter. I would love a drum set so I can play music. Also a bike and a little toy!

See ya soon.
Love,
Dalton Meinzer

Dear Ho Ho,
My Marame says that I do nothing wrong I hope you remember that when you check your list twice. I want a big horsey and punzel barbie and a baby that cries. I will leave you and the crew some yummy snacks! See ya soon!

Love ya lots
Cequin McIlwain

Dear Santa,
I've turned in to a very big boy this year. I know that you are watching so I've been nice. I would like a drum set and music tapes. See you soon!

Love,
Crow Parham

Dear Santa,
I've been a very good girl. I would love a little toy.


Love,
Kameryn Mathis



WELL MANNERED—Haskell Elementary students recognized for using good manners in the lunchroom and serving line during November were: standing, l-r, Seth Chavez, Andrea Aguilar, Veronica Robledo, Seth Rock, Angelo Pena, Kelly Crain, Ross Wittenborn, Caitlan Johnson, Andrea Anderson, Amanda Gutierrez and Lunchroom Coordinator, Johna Messenger. Kneeling are Rosa Fernandez, D. J. Masias, Colton Kimmel and Ryan Pierce.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*Wishing you a Beautiful Holiday Season
and a New Year of Peace and Happiness*



Christmas Open House
Friday, December 20th 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We will close December 24 at 12 noon.
We will be closed Wednesday, December 25 and Wednesday, January 1

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Robbie

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Pam J.

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Janet

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Betty Sue

Mynea

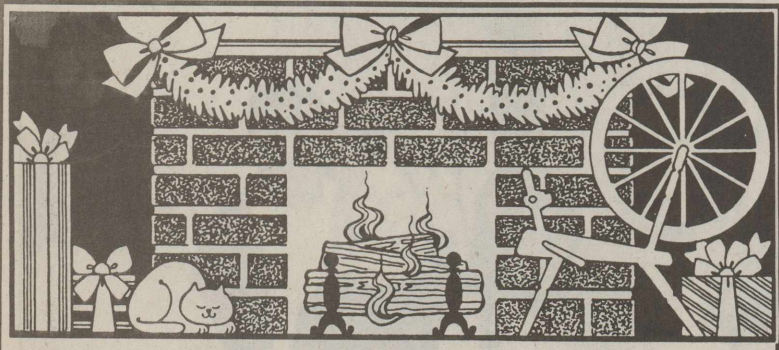
Christa Tatum

Kathryn

Emily

**Merry
Christmas**

MERRY CHRISTMAS

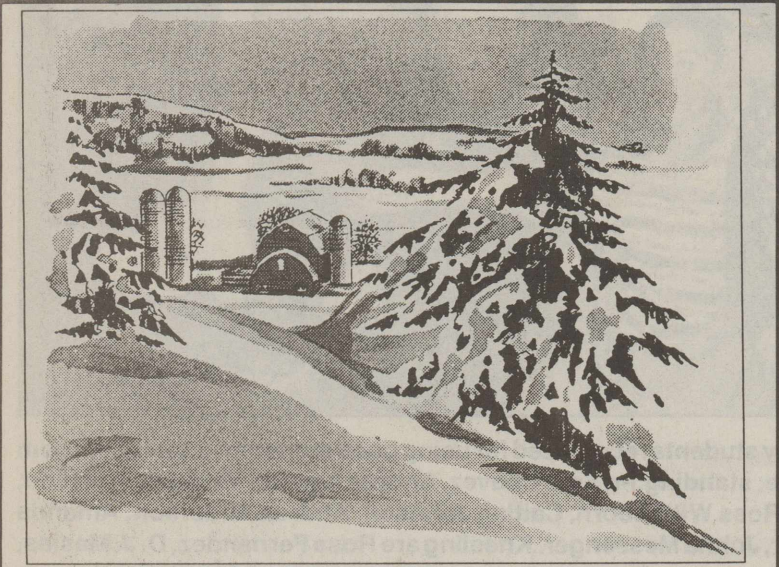


May your heart and your home be warmed by the spirit of Christmas this season.

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Merry Christmas from The Larned Family



Greetings Of The Season

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Just in time for the big day.
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Because they all know,
St. Nick's on his merry way!*

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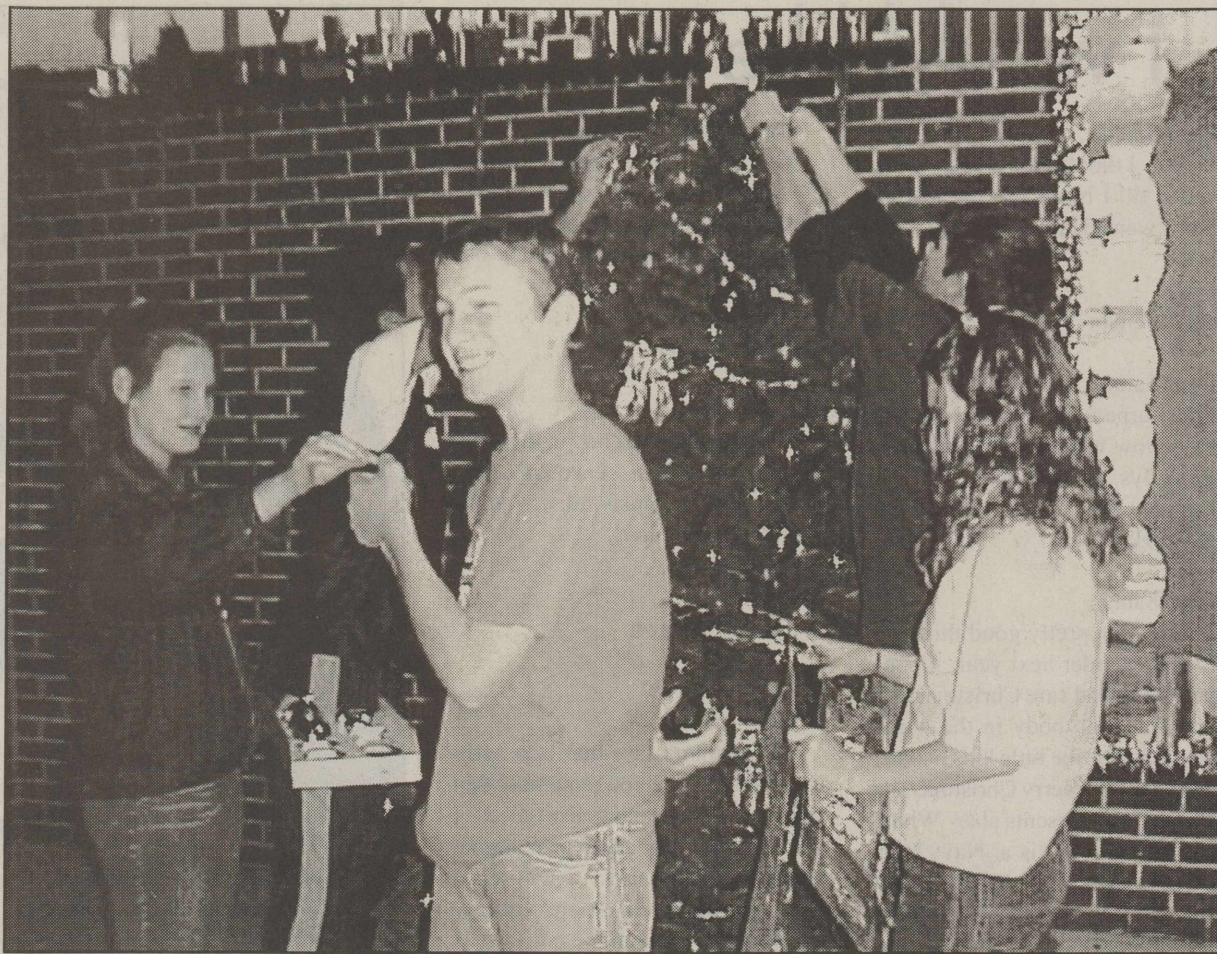
HASKELL OFFICE
Dale Bullinger, President
864-8565

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

May your holiday season greet you with plenty of good friends and good cheer. Our deepest thanks to you for making our year a ringing success!

Haskell Co-op Gin

Leon Jones, Mgr.



TRIMMING THE TREE—Paint Creek Student Council members volunteering to decorate the school's tree are, l-r, Jeb Acosta, Kimberly Medford, Barrett Thomasson, Carolyn Marshall and Brandon Bryant.

Dear Santa, Please bring me a . . .

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas is for my mom to get better! I want the collector's doll from the Carousel. I want anything that involves music! Any scientific building sets would be super. I would also like to add to my marble collection. And remember, I really want my mom to get better!

Love,
Jordan Burson, age 10

Dear Santa,
I want a desk so I will have one of my own to do work on! I want the pretty doll at the Carousel that starts with an "L", that has a flower shirt. I want the Scooby Doo movie. I want a CD player that you can listen to and the Dream CD. I want to give you some milk and cookies.

Love,
Taylor Burson, age 8

Dear Santa,
Please bring me whatever my big brother Chase wants me to have so he can play with it too!! I think he wants me to get a Barney Dancing Mat, because I can really boogie!! I try real hard to be good, but "Sassy" is my middle name! Well, Sweet and Sassy go together!! I hope you like the cookies!

Love,
Kourtney Gibson, age 1

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Magic Talking Grill and some new shoes. I love shoes. Please remember my sisters and my mom and dad. Bring Jake and Oscar some new bones.

Thank you!
Hollyn Hadaway, 2
Haskell

Dear Santa,
I would like a keyboard and some clothes for my doll Natalie. I would really like keyboard more than clothes for my doll. Please remember my sisters, friends and family. I wonder if the elves get presents?

See U Later!
Love,
Carson Hadaway, 8
Haskell

Dear Santa Claus,
I would really like a Barbie magic talking town house with Barbie's already in there (except boys just 1 little baby boy). And a puppy dog in there too!

See U Later!
Love,
Reagan Hadaway, 6
Haskell

Dear Santa,
My name is Brett Shelton and I am 8-and-a-half years old! This year I want a BB handgun, a security box with 2 keys that my BB handgun will fit in, a 007 video game for my playstation, an electric guitar with speakers, and laser lock. Thank you. I will leave milk and cookies under the tree.

Love,
Brett Shelton

Dear Santa,
I will take anything that is not a hand-me-down!!! I am trying to be a good boy, but I have my daddy's temper! (Ok, maybe a little bit of mom's!) Anyway, I love you, and I'll leave some cookies, if I don't eat them all!!!

Love,
Logan Burson, age 1

Dear Santa,
Please, I want the Rescue Hero Robot and some Rescue Hero action figures, the Red Power Ranger soft doll since it can make noise. I want the Power Ranger Lightspeed Rescue movie with the gold man on the front. I've been good, like the other year and this year, and my sister Kourtney and I will leave you some cookies!

Love,
Chase Gibson, age 4

Dear Santa,
My name is Madilyn Davis, and I am 10 months old. This is my very first Christmas and I am so excited. First, I would like the Playskool Step Start Walk-n-Ride. I am learning to walk and I think that would help me. Second, I will need a new pair of shoes for my first steps. I would also like the Rock-n-Play Piano because I love music. I love to read, too. So maybe you could bring me some more Listen and Learn interactive books. I know you are busy this time of year, but please remember that I have been a good little girl. I'll leave some milk and cookies for you. Have a safe trip.

Love,
Maddie

Tips to mind your weight during holidays

The holidays can be a tough time for those who are watching their weight. Smorgasbords served up at family gatherings and office parties can lead even the most determined dieter to yield to temptation.

One slip shouldn't mean the end to your efforts, however. In fact, an occasional indulgence can actually help in dieting, according to a Texas Woman's University professor and a nutritionist with the university's Wellness Center.

"An unrelenting severe diet makes people resentful, hungry and often just plain miserable," said Dr. Sally Stabb, associate professor of psychology and philosophy at TWU. "It's OK to allow yourself some leeway on the weekends, or one day a week or for one of your holiday meals."

Stabb said the holidays can bring increased pressure to eat, as social rituals and celebrations almost always involve eating.

"During the holidays, many people have multiple rounds of visiting friends and family—especially if they have step, blended or divorced families in which a number of sets of relatives must be visited," she said. In these situations, Stabb said, people can easily find themselves at a luncheon followed by a dinner, "all with the expectant eyes and smiles of family or friends looking on. So we feel obligated to eat in order not to be considered rude."

That may help explain why most Americans gain 4 pounds during the holidays.

Melissa Hendricks, facilities manager and nutritionist with the TWU Wellness Center, stressed the importance of exercise in warding off those extra pounds.

"An occasional splurge is not bad," she said. "In order to lose weight, it's more important to exercise regularly than to skip sweets."

Hendricks said people should make every effort to stay active during the holidays and stick as closely as possible to their regular exercise program. However, she said, people shouldn't worry if their entire program won't fit into their holiday schedule.

"Any exercise you do is good. It doesn't matter if you can't fit in a whole hour."

For those who also are counting calories, Hendricks said it's important to cut back on liquid calories.

"We tend to compensate for eating, but not for drinking," she said. Those who choose low-calorie foods often continue to drink high-calorie beverages such as sodas or alcoholic beverages at holiday gatherings, she said.

LET IT SNOW...! LET IT SNOW...! LET IT SNOW...!

Hope you receive a blizzard of happiness and a pile-up of good cheer this holiday season.

Merry Christmas
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Merry Christmas and God bless you.*

from all of us at
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A YULETIDE WISH

As in Bethlehem of old, may the heavens light your way and may you and yours experience peace and joy at Christmastime.

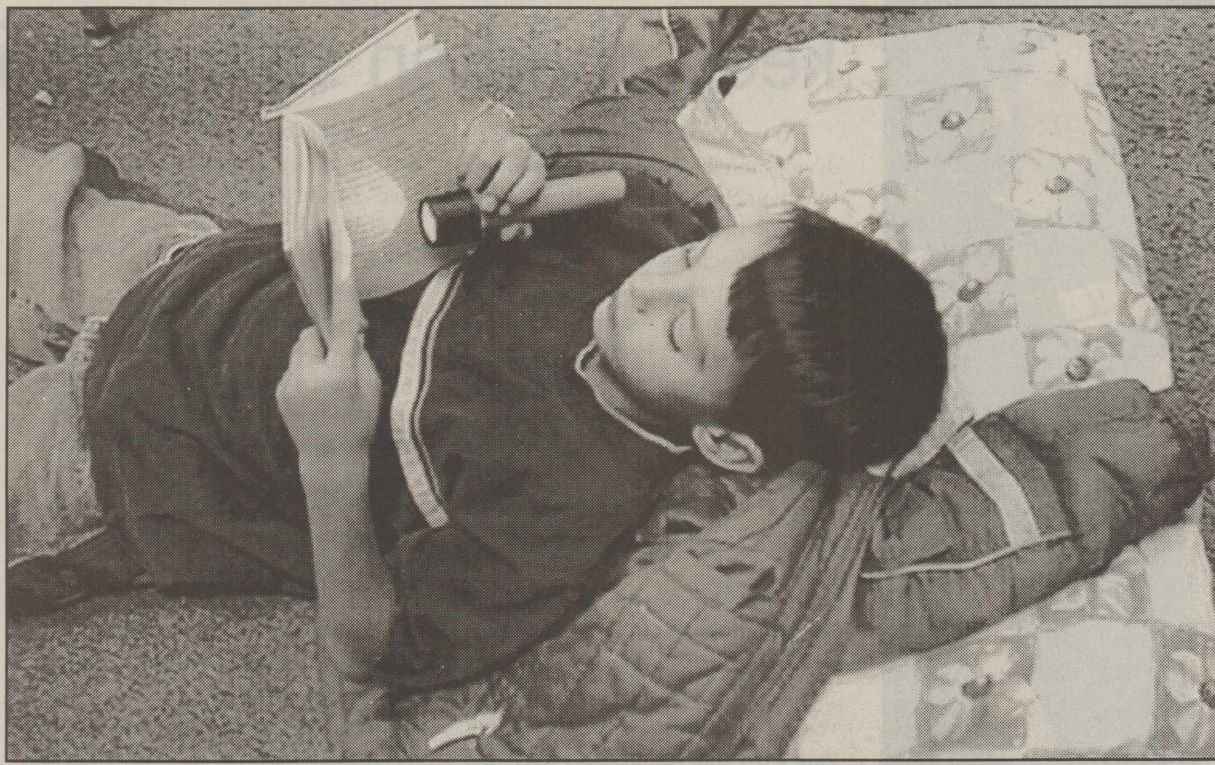
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Third graders enjoy reading in the dark

Haskell Elementary third grade classes joined the Scholastic Book Club global reading celebration, Fri., Dec. 6. The celebration required students to read for 2003 minutes on that date. More than 24,000 classrooms from 63 countries around the world registered with Scholastic to participate in this special time of reading.

While reading for 2003 minutes, several students also enjoyed a local third grade tradition of using a flashlight in a darkened room for reading. "Reading in the Dark" is a fun activity that excites the students. "It is certainly more fun reading in the dark than just reading in the plain light," stated third graders, Garrett Brueggeman and Tiffany Thomas.



READING IN THE DARK—Third grader, Cody Pierce tries out using a flashlight in a darkened room for reading during the fun reading activity at Haskell Elementary School.

Dear Santa, Please bring me a . . .

Dear Santa,
My name is Kenzie Shelton and I am 6 years old. This year I want a Barbie Rapunzel Horse and Carriage, a Barbie Talking Styling Head, a big stuffed puppy, a baby with a cat in her pocket (that will fit in my stocking), and 4-wheeler shoes. Thank you! I will put cookies and milk under the tree.

Love,
Kenzie Shelton

Dear Santa,
I've been a good kid this year. Please bring me a camouflage knife and an electric scooter. Bring my new sister some diapers and toys. I'll leave you some cookies and milk and nine carrots for your reindeer.

Love,
Drake Everett

Dear Santa,
I would like a Barbie Jeep, Brittney Spries CD, Brittney Spriers Shirt, A computer with a chair, and a puppy. I'll leave some cookies and milk out for you.

Love you always,
Kaylee Walker, age 5

Dear Santa, I would like a . . .

Dear Santa Claus,
I really want a cheerleading suit. If I have been bad this year don't give it to me give me what I deserve. it looks like this (shirt with the letters HHS going down the center, skirt with pleats, blummers, pom poms, shoes with stripes, socks). Can you put it in a thing that looks like this? (rolling suitcase).

Merry Christmas Santa
your friend
Denise

Dear Santa,
I want some Scooby Doo house shoes, black sunglasses, race car house shoes, and big black truck with army man in it. Truck that I can drive. Green car at Walmart push buttons and it goes by itself. Little bity tractor with a doggy in it. I want a blue flashlight, number game, a car and batteries, one more battery. Did you get me all of these things? Thank you for the presents.

Love,
Alec

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I hope I am on your list this year. This is my first Christmas. My name is Tayleigh and I am nine months old. I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me an activity table that lights up and makes lots of noise. I would also like a pretty baby doll. Please remember my big brother, Tyler. He has been pretty good, too. He really wants a cool game. I think he also needs some books to read to me. We will leave you some Christmas cookies and a Big Diet Dr. Pepper. Thank you.

I Love you,
Tayleigh Johnson

Dear Santa,
This is My First letter to you. I would like a new baby doll, a Barbie so my sister won't fuss that I get hers. A new bottle because my mommy took mine away from me. I'll leave some cookies and milk out for you.

Love you,
Kobie Walker, age 1

Dear Santa,
My name is Caitlin Medford. I have been trying to be really good, and I've been nice to Brennan, sometimes. I hope your hands don't get tired making all the toys for Christmas. Do you ever put up a Christmas tree at your workshop?

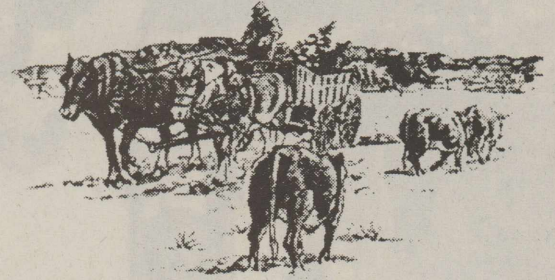
This year I would like a Password Journal 2, a pink and black cool bike (not a cute one), magic dust to make me fly, some jewelry, and some music CD's. Please don't forget my brother Brennan, my mom and dad, and all my friends at school. We will leave some fudge and a glass of pink milk out for you on Christmas Eve. Don't forget to share with the reindeer.

Love,
Caitlin Medford
6 years old
P.S. Don't forget our stockings!

Merry Christmas

WITH OUR THANKS, AT CHRISTMASTIME

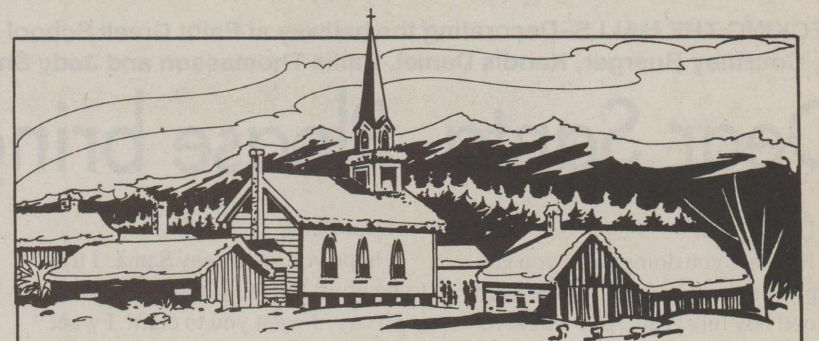
Of all the places in the land, we're glad we've settled here. Thank you for helping us to have a truly fruitful year.



Gary and Kay Tate
Carter and Julie Fore
and employees

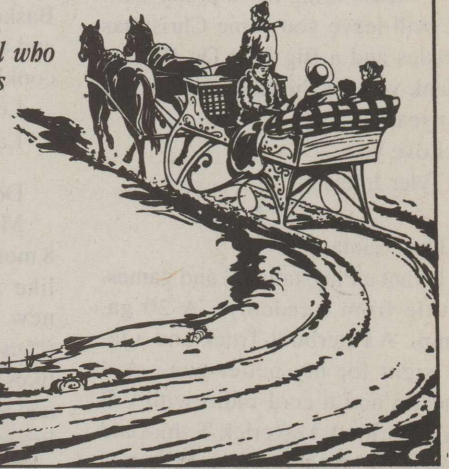
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An Old-Fashioned Christmas Wish

Christmas has always meant reflecting upon one's blessings. We wish much happiness to all who bestowed good fortune upon us this year. God bless you all!



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DECKING THE HALLS—Decorating the hallway at Paint Creek School are Student Council members, l-r, Courtney Buerger, Kandis Daniel, Callie Thomasson and Jody Smith.

Dear Santa, Please bring me a . . .

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Are you getting your sleigh ready? I have been a good boy this year. All I would really like to have for Christmas is a cool game. I don't care which one it is, as long as it is cool! I have a new little sister this year. Her name is Tayleigh. She has been pretty good, too. Please bring her a pretty doll. We will leave you some Christmas cookies and a Big Diet Dr. Pepper. Thank you for the toys you left me last year.

Love you,
Tyler Johnson

Dear Santa,
I want a Playstation 2 and games. A title from Academy. A 20 gallon pump. A Peterbilt Truck and a laser sight for my pellet gun. A 4 wheeler and a cool radio with CD DVD on it. A Maverick T-shirt and a toboggan. A camouflage jacket and a knife with two blades (sharpen too) I will put cookies for you.

Love,
Sterling Bird

Hi Santa!
My name is Tristen Swinney and I am almost 2 yrs. old. I have tried to be real good. I like Winnie the Pooh stuff and horses. Maybe you can help my PaPa get me a horse. Also please bring my baby brother some good stuff he was just born and I love him bunches.

Love,
Tristen Maelynn

Dear Santa,
My name is James William but they call me Will. I was just born 2 months ago and I don't need much but a few little toys. Please bring my big sister Tristen a bunch of goodies because she is the best big sister.

Love,
Will Swinney

Dear Santa
I hope you are oh cay Santa. I tried to be good Santa. I hope your Wife is oh cay. I want you to cum! I want a doll.

Hapy christmas.
Kadie McCord.

Dear Santa,
I would like a Basket Ball, with a Basket Ball goal, a watch, a golf cart, and a new puppy. I will leave some cookies and milk out for you

Love,
Lauren Lampe, age 11

Dear Santa,
My name is Cutter Medford. I am 8 months old. For Christmas I would like a crawl-n-cruise playground, new cowboy boots, new clothes, (cause I'm growing so fast) a little tikes piano, little tikes mail box, oh and a new black cowboy hat. Please bring all my cousins something, I'm sure they have been good too! I will leave you something good to eat!

Love,
Cutter

Dear Santa,
My name is Madaline Jo Williams and I am 3 years old. I have tried really hard to be a good girl, for x-mas this year I would want a Barbie bake oven, new dress-up's, new bike, new Barbie, Disney Belle Doll, Beast Doll, and pumkin shirt. Please don't forget my bubba James, he would like a Men in Black II DVD movie, clothes with belt, running shoes, Spiderman lunch pail, new watch. Daddy, mommy, and Nene would like just about anything, don't forget all my friends and cousins okay.

I Love you,
Madaline Jo Williams
age 3, Haskell

P.S. I will leave you a glass of milk with a little debbie's brownie x-mas tree, (their very yummy, their my favorite snack!)

Dear Santa,
I want a blue flashlight, a blue game, blue's clues sunglasses. I want a blue car with music, one battery.

Love,
Reed

Dear Santa,
I have been a sweet little girl this year. I am very excited about you coming and bringing me presents. I would love for you to fill my stocking full of candy. I love candy. I would also like a new barbie and a power ranger like Adam's. I will leave you milk and cookies for a snack.

Love,
Allie Andress

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How things going on? I want a robot Rescue Hero and it's blue and gray. I also want a Tonka Joe road building set and it's on the floor. How are the toys going? Thank you for the toys. I love you for the toys and I love your reindeers. I'm going to leave cookies for you and milk. I wish you had a cute little baby doll for Landry Lynn.

Santa Claus, I like you forever.
Dylan Hanson, age 5

Dear Santa,
My name is Bethany Josselet. I am 6 years old. For Christmas I would like a Barbie Van, Barbie Rupenzal and Prince. My own tea set, a little refridgerator, make-up, necklace and ring set. Also a baby that talks with a crib and bottle. For my sister Allison please bring her a remote control car and for my cousin Cutter please bring him a new horse. I will leave a Rodriquez Inn burrito and a Dr. Pepper for you.

Love,
Bethany

Choose the right toy to help keep children safe and interested

How many parents have been disappointed Christmas morning to find their child playing with gift wrap and not the gifts? Keeping some simple toy selection rules in mind can help ensure preschool children will enjoy their gifts more than the boxes.

"First, parents need to make sure all toys they buy their children are safe," said Dr. Jo Ann Engelbrecht, professor of family sciences at Texas Woman's University in Denton. "The toy shouldn't have any small parts the child can put in his or her mouth."

Equally important, the toy should be durable. Pieces of broken toy pose just as great a choking hazard.

"Toys that can be used for a variety of things will be used more than a toy that has a single use," Dr. Engelbrecht said. "Open-ended" toys let children be creative and use their imagination. A toddler can use a large ball for playing catch, kicking in the back yard or as a stool for spinning in a circle.

"Something as simple and inexpensive as a beach ball can hold a child's attention much longer than an expensive toy," Dr. Engelbrecht said. "Markers, newsprint, colored papers, blocks and Play Dough are all things that can keep children entertained for hours and spark their imaginations."

Durable books made out of plastic or cardboard, puppets and puzzles are other items that entertain children. And keeping a child challenged is important in keeping a child interested in a toy.

"If a puzzle is too easy, the child will do it once and not use it again, similar to teenagers who find a video game too easy and play it once and then opt for something more challenging," Dr. Engelbrecht said.

Toy packaging gives recommended ages for the product. But, Dr. Engelbrecht notes, sometimes the recommendations are off. Look carefully at the toy, examine it and determine if it might be too challenging for your child—which also will cause it to be discarded—or not challenging enough. "Based on his or her personality, is it something that your child would be interested in?" Dr. Engelbrecht added.

Gift givers need to think about what they are going to buy before heading to the toy store. "Have you seen Toys 'R' Us? It's overwhelming.

"If you go toy shopping without any idea of what you're looking for, you're more likely to make a mistake," Dr. Engelbrecht said. "Look in catalogs and online to get

ideas first."

Many online retailers offer an additional service to buyers: customer product reviews. It's another tool gift givers can use to gauge whether or not a toy will work for his or her preschooler.

For someone purchasing a toy for a friend's relative's child, call the parents and make sure the child doesn't already have the toy and that the parents are fine with the proposed gift. The drum set from Uncle Bob might not be as big a hit with Mom and Dad as it is with Junior.

On Christmas morning, let the child open all his or her gifts but then put some of them aside. "If a child has too many choices, he or she will be overwhelmed and won't know which toy to play with," Dr. Engelbrecht said.

"Rotate the toys," she said. Let the child play with a few for several days or weeks, then pull some others out of the closet and put the toys they have been playing with up. By doing this, it's like discovering new toys every rotation.

Finally, Dr. Engelbrecht stresses that parents need to play with their little ones. "Children need and learn from human interaction. Don't let videos, electronic games and television become babysitters."

Elementary students to appear on TEA video

Haskell Elementary School was recently selected by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to be featured in a video program that they are producing for use in the current school year.

This special program will air on T-STAR, the TEA's statewide satellite television network, and will be sent to every school district and every regional Educational Service Center in Texas. School Districts and Education Service Centers are free to download and record T-STAR programming for use on any of their campuses.

The TEA and the Texas Science Center are producing this program to highlight the Light and Optical Systems lessons teachers are using in their classrooms. The program will include video from first and fifth grade classrooms, and will contain videotape footage of students participating in the classes photographed.

TEA's production crew was on the Haskell Elementary campus, Wed., Dec. 18 to film the students at work

on their light and optical systems lessons in Paula Everett's elementary science lab. Activities included first graders discovering what makes a magnifier, and fifth graders exploring

reflection and refraction.

Haskell Elementary students and teachers were excited about state TEA officials choosing to visit their campus.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

All our best wishes to you and your loved ones on this joyous occasion.

419 S. 1st • Haskell • 864-2200

Happy Holidays to one and all.

Computer Solutions!

Computer Sales & Service
419 South 1st • Haskell
(940) 864-2200

A way In A Manger

Just as the angels came to spread the word, we'd like to spread our best holiday wishes to you and your family this season.

Blessing to all with sincere thanks.

"essential elements for the way we live"
West side of the square - Haskell

All the Best to You On Christmas

Here's hoping your holiday is stuffed with the gifts of family, friends and good fortune. We appreciate all you've given us throughout the year and look forward to continuing to serve you in the future. Happy Holiday and many thanks.

Rule Co-Op Gin, Elevator and Farm Supply

Philip Manske, Manager
301 Adams Avenue
997-2421 • Rule

WE'RE MAKING A LIST...

We'd like to thank each of you personally, but we've made too many good friends in the past year to find the space to list them here.

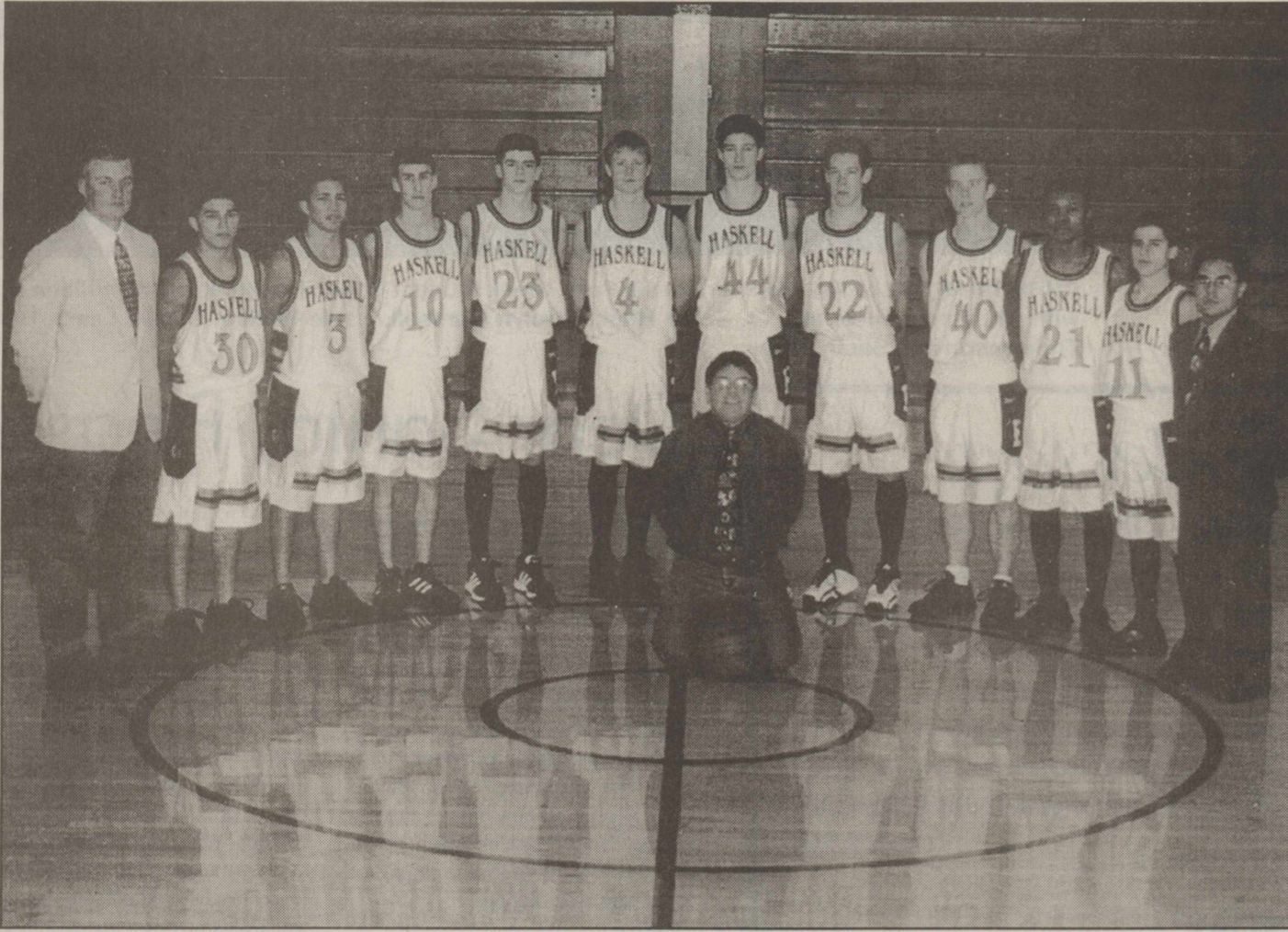
So to all of you, our very best wishes go - for a very Merry Christmas and a ho...ho...ho!

Double A Drive In

1103 North 1st • Haskell
864-2466



GOOD LUCK, INDIANS and MAIDENS



HASKELL INDIANS: from left, Coach Mark Adams, Osiel Garcia, Melvin Garcia, Kendall Mitchell, Ross Hairgrove, Josh Webb, Ryan Burgess, Eddie Loyd, Bobby Loyd, Leon Goudeau, Angel Pena, Coach Toby Villa. Center: Larry Trevino.

Photos by KIS Photo



INDIANS

Fri., Dec. 20 • 4 p.m.
JV & Varsity Boys
vs Cisco
at Cisco



MAIDENS

Fri., Dec. 20 • 4 p.m.
JV & Varsity Girls
vs Cisco
at Cisco



HASKELL MAIDENS: From left, Coach David Middleton, Coach Shawna Faircloth, Brittany Lindsey, Monica Buerger, Whitney Hise, Calina Kendall, Katie McKnight, Lynzie Harlan, Brittany Bird, Mandy Adams, Whitney Wallace, Brittany Rutkowski, Shanee Mays, Consuelo Gonzales

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May you have every tool you need to make this a happy holiday. Thanks for your patronage.

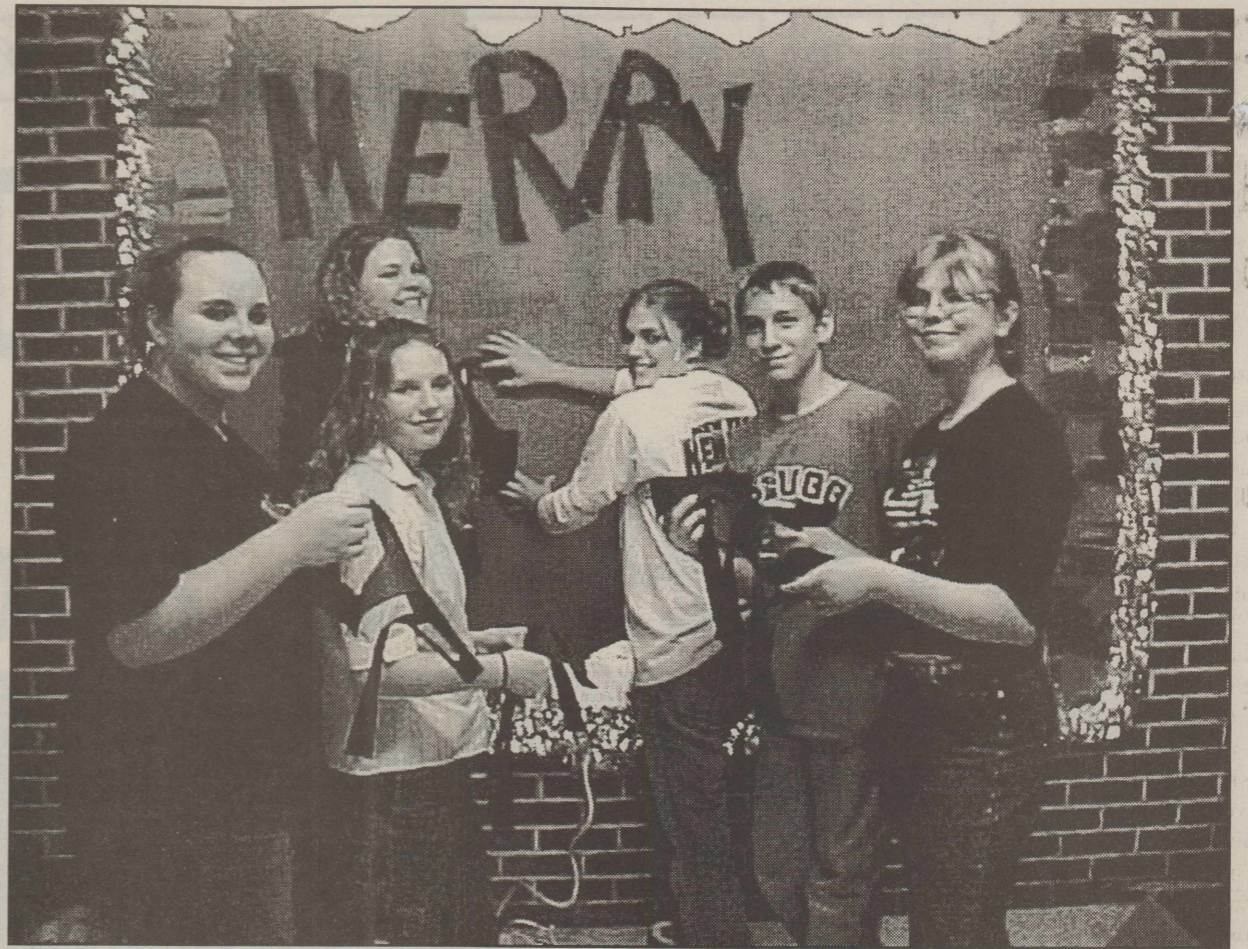
McGee's Lumber Yard
105 N. 1st • 864-3552

Dear Santa, I would like a . . .

Dear Santa
I want a Pass word Jernl 2 and baby stuff. I rily want a camra. Thats wut I have ben wating for.
Love
Kannan Pittcock

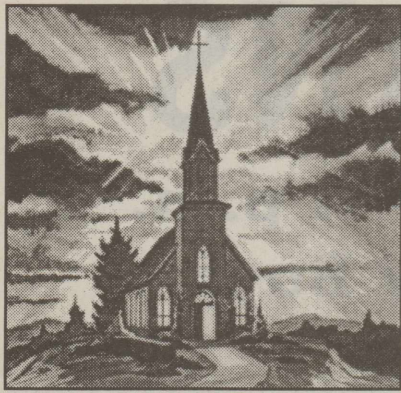
Dear Santa,
I would like a Password Jornal 2, a telascope, a big yellow stuffed doggy, a dictionary and a buleten board. I have tried to be good but I hope your hands don't get tiered.
Will you get me lots of other things?
Love
Caitlin Medford

Dear Santa
I'm still a good boy. I'm still a good boy to my sisters. I am minding my mom and dad. Happy Christmas Santa. I would want a naw bike and a hotwils track and a lego socker game.
Shawn Myers



CHRISTMAS BULLETIN—Members of the Paint Creek Student Council decorating the bulletin board with Christmas cheer are, l-r, Sarah Hunt, Carolyn Marshall, Hattie Walton, Cassie Lamb, Barrett Thomasson and Sarah Jones.

This Week's Devotional Message:



LET US PRAY FOR TRUE PEACE ON EARTH AT CHRISTMAS

The time has come for us to deck the hall,
And greet our friends and relatives who call.
The holly and pine cones in our home,
Along with angels made of styrofoam
And colored bulbs that light the entryway,
Proclaim that it will soon be Christmas day.
The presents, gaily wrapped, beneath the tree
Are further symbols of festivity,
But at this time, when loved ones reunite,

The world conditions should be kept in sight.
While many lands their freedom did obtain,
Yet others under tyranny remain.
So let's enjoy this gala holiday,
But also let us not forget to pray,
That when the Yuletide comes around again,
We'll celebrate true peace, good will to men.

—Gloria Nowak

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

—HASKELL—
East Side Baptist Church
David Page, pastor
Sun. 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
Christian Church
Dusty Garrison, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
New Vision Family Worship Center
James Rincker, pastor • 864-5438
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.
East Hwy 380, Haskell
Trinity Lutheran Church
Gary Bruns, pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
Iglesia Bautista El Calvario
Art Flores, Interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell
First United Methodist Church
Allen Brooks, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
First Assembly of God
Rev. J.C. Amburn
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
St. George Catholic Church
Father Michael Melcher
Sat. Mass 7:15 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.
901 N. 16th, Haskell
Church of Christ
Brett Anderson, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
First Presbyterian Church
Steve Beatty, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
Trinity Baptist Church
Tony Grand, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.
401 S. Ave. D, Haskell
Hopewell Baptist Church
John Lewis, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

Greater Independent Baptist Church
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
New Covenant Foursquare
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
Mission Revival Center
Rev. William Hodge
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell
First Baptist Church
Kevin Hall, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
Church in the Park
Rev. Tim and Suzann Townsend
Sun. Morn. 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Gazebo or Pavillion

—PAINT CREEK—
Paint Creek Baptist Church
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek
—WEINERT—
First Baptist Church
Chris Powell, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
Weinert Foursquare Church
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert

—ROCHESTER—
Church of Christ
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester
First Baptist Church
Jackie Brem, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester
Union Chapel Baptist Church
Rev. Clarence Walker
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester

—O'BRIEN—
O'Brien Baptist Church
Kyle Gulledege, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p, Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

Faith Chapel of Rochester
Katherine Byrd, minister
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.
Hwy 6, Rochester
First United Methodist Church
Dolan Brinson, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Rochester
—SAGERTON—
Sagerton Methodist Church
Melissa Bemis, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
Sagerton
Faith Lutheran Church
Deborah Nissen, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Sagerton

—RULE—
First Baptist Church
Josh Stowe, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1001 Union Ave., Rule
Primitive Baptist Church
Dale Turner Jr., pastor
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule
Church of Christ
John Greeson, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
811 Union, Rule
First United Methodist Church
Tommy Wilson, pastor
Sun. Morn. Worship 10 a.m.
1000 Union Ave., Rule
Primera Iglesia Bautista
Alfa y Omegas
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
500 Elm Street, Rule
Sweet Home Baptist Church
Bill Trice, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Gladstone Ave., Rule
West Bethal Baptist Church
Rev. Robert Sweet
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
300 Sunny Ave., Rule

Dear Santa, Please bring me a . . .

Dear Santa,
My name is Allison Josselet. I am 1 year old. For Christmas I would like some new books, a baby doll, playskool animal farm, some new clothes, a new rockin chair and anything else you think I need. Please bring my sister a new movie. For my cousin Cutter please bring him a new toy! I will leave you some chips, hot sauce and a Dr. Pepper.
Love,
Allison

Dear Santa,
I would love to have a Play Station 2 with all the works, some Game Boy Advance game cartridges and game cards, a bubble gum maker, and some spy gear. I wish it would be possible for me to get all these things. I sure hope you think I'm as nice as I think you are. You're a special guy to me, and we'll feed you and your crew when you get here. Thanks so much.
Love,
Shelton Toliver, age 7

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a guitar that I can sing with along with some drums, some new dress-up clothes, a baby doll, and some play dough. I have been a good girl this year, and I can't wait for you to come and see me. Will have a surprise for you and Rudolph when you get here. I love you so much. Thank you for my toys.
Love,
Bailey Ann Toliver, age 3

Dear santa
thank you for telling me why elves are small. For christmas could you please bring me a baby with a potty and duck clothes and a chair for my room to watch movies and some candy. merry christmas.
Love,
Kylie, age 4

Dear Santa,
I want to wish you a Merry Christmas, and tell you and the reindeer to have a safe trip. I have been a pretty good boy this year, and I wish you would bring me some tractors and trucks, some hunting stuff because I like to go with my Dad, some new cowboy boots, but mostly I like any kind of tractors with trailers. Don't forget my sister Stephanie, she really wants a game boy advance and some stuff for the computer. Don't forget all of the other kids everywhere, and don't forget our puppy "Freckles." I think he would like a new toy. We will leave you some special cookies and milk.
Love,
Hunter Threet,
age 3, Rule

Dear Santa
I have been good this year. I want a laser tag you know the one that Taylor has. I also want a good Zoids, a puppy with a dog house, a game boy advance game called Pac Man, Spy Vision goggles, yu-Gi-OH cards, Rescue Heroes fire truck, Lite Brite, clothes, GI Joe, Rock'm Sockima Robots, some new books to read, connect four game. I think that is all.
Oh! Don't forget my mom, dad, Nana, Pa, Turkey, PaPa and uncle Al. I will be leaving out some oats and carrots for all the reindeers and some homemade cookies and milk for you. Fly careful.
Love,
Reed Lee

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like bubble gum or money to go buy gum, the movie "Beauty and the Beast Enchanted Christmas," Bitty Baby Winter Wonderland set, Bitty Baby Fall Leaf set, and some stickers. You may pick which kind you think I would use or just the first ones you find.
Love,
Ashlee

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\$19.95 per month or \$16.95 per month if paid annually

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Haskell

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864-3891 • "Where Winners Shop"

Children will make discovery on their own

As each holiday season passes, parents of young children ponder when is the right time to tell their youngsters that there really isn't a Santa Claus. However, children tend to know instinctively when it's time to stop believing—whenever their fantasy world starts to fade into more reality-based thinking.

"Some children as young as five years old will discover on their own there is no Santa. Others will hold on to the belief until about nine years of age," said Dr. Karen Petty, assistant professor of child development at Texas Woman's University.

In a young child's world, anything is possible and there is on distinction between fantasy and reality. "Their play is their world. Everything is play and imagination. But as a child develops, he or she becomes more aware of the real world," Dr. Petty said.

"It's when you become logical that you lose some of your magic," she said. "By the third grade, the logic is beginning to override the magic. So, in time, a child will discover the truth about Santa on his or her own." But some children may not acknowledge the discovery for fear that admitting there is no Santa could mean no gifts.

Even in the "magical" world of a child, he or she can deduce that adults who no longer believe in Santa Claus receive fewer gifts. The child might pretend to believe after discovering Santa doesn't exist out of fear of receiving fewer or no gifts.

Making Santa part of a family culture or family ritual can ease those fears. "There are many aspects to the holidays, with religion and spirituality being the most prominent. But the holidays are also a time of family and fun.

"Santa represents the spirit of giving and fun and parents can use him to teach their children about giving," Dr. Petty said. Incorporating Santa into family holiday culture, even when children know he doesn't exist, keeps some of that childhood magic alive and reinforces lessons on giving.

"If you don't believe, then he doesn't exist. But if you choose to believe, he becomes part of your family's holiday traditions," Dr. Petty said.

Still, many parents may fret when their child make the discovery rather than simply give them a one-word answer.

"When a child asks if there's a Santa, a parent can respond with something like, 'That's a good question' or 'Well, what do you think?'" Dr. Petty said. Helping guide the child to the answer not only helps them develop reasoning skills, it gives the parent and child a chance to discuss the importance of what Santa represents and how he fits into family holiday traditions.

Although some children may be disappointed to learn there is no Santa, Dr. Petty said she's never met a child or adult who was bitter toward his or her parents for perpetuating the Santa myth.



PAINT CREEK VARSITY BOYS—Standing with their coach, Johnny Garcia, left, are Paint Creek basketball team members, l-r, Cyle Brown, Roland Cisneros, Brad Irby, Craig Lowrance, Eric Hobbs, Jesse Medford, Jason Biba, Brandon Bryant and Skeet Hope. Photo by Kis

Dear Santa, I would like a . . .

Dear Santa Claus,
This is all I want for Christmas. Please look on the back! and Please get the back stuff for me Santa.

Your Friend,
Lisa D. Hibbits
(bitty baby with suitcase full of accessories, canopy bed, bouncer, car seat, bassinet, stroller, blankets, pillows, clothes; all for the bitty baby) ***

Dear Santa Claus
All I want is a SpectraColor Image pad and a LeapPad book. Troy wants one too. Don't forget Hannah and Troy will be a Mini's house with all of us.

Merry Christmas
Harrison ***

Dear Santa,
How are you? How is Mrs. Clause and all the elves and reindeer?

These are a few things that I would like for Christmas. Hot Shot Transformer, Gameboy Advance, Gundam Battle Assault 2, The Legacy of Goku game for play Station, and anything else you might want to bring me. I will leave you milk and cookies. Also, don't forget my Cousin Spencer will be here too.

I Love you,
Cole Casey ***

Dear Santa,
My name is Rhett Lampe and I am 5 years old. I've been a good boy this year. I would like a remote controlled blue race car, a hermit crab, a new fish tank, a new belt and some hot wheels. I will leave you some milk and cookies.

Love, Rhett
Haskell ***

Dear Santa,
My name is K'Lee Lampe and I am almost 2. I've been pretty good this year. I would like a baby doll, some dress up clothes, and a beauty salon.

Love, K'Lee Lampe
Haskell
P.S. Bring something for my dog, Simba too. ***

Dear Santa
I would like a snokon maker. I hope I bin good. I would like a Barbie doll. I am Tarah.
Tarah Trotter

Dear Santa,
I would like a princess easy bake oven. I want the Barbie ice skating game you can play on the computer. I also want a my size Barbie.

I've been a very good girl this year. You are a good Santa. My brother, Kyler, has been good and bad this year. But you can bring him a blue motorcycle and everything else that he wants. Mom and Dad can get us the rest of the stuff we want. Have a nice trip.
Breezy ***

Dear Santa,
I whold like a game-boy adanced and 2 spongebob sqare pants T-shirts and Paper Mario for Nintendo 64 that's all I want thank-you
Love,
Ryan Anderson ***

Dear santa
thank you for telling me all about your elves. For christmas could you please bring me a stuffed giraffe and a robe and a Disney sweetheart doll. I will leave you some milk and cookies. merry christmas.
Love,
Ashley, age 7

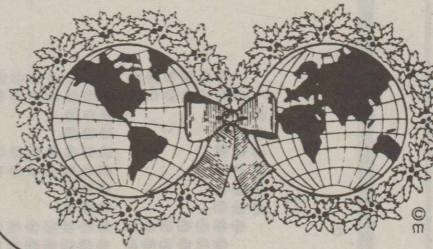
Dear Santa,
I've been a good boy. I would like a blue Motorcycle. I want a big airplane so I don't have to play with my sisters. I want a soccer ball, new shoes, spiderman shirt, and a Lilo and Stich movie.

Bring my sister, Breezy, a blue motorcycle too. She's been a good girl. Bring her a my size barbie too. Have a nice trip.
Kyler ***

Dear Santa,
I want a Rescue Hero bell for my bike, and Rescue Hero Robot with Remote Control. That is all I want. I will leave you cookies.
Love,
Andy Anderson ***

Dear Santa,
I have been a pretty good boy this year. I thought I heard you on the roof the other night. Was that really you? I do not want a lot for Christmas this year, but if you could bring me two Robots, a power ranger, and a dog, I would be so happy. Please bring my little sister Allie a power ranger so she can play with me. Are you sure you were not on my roof? I really thought I heard your reindeer stomping. Merry Christmas.
Love, Adam Adress

JOY TO THE WORLD



To all our friends, near and far, we offer our thanks and best wishes.

Lanco Insurance
12 Ave. D • Haskell
864-2629

Cecil's Country Meat Market & Grocery



wishes all a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Cecil and Sue

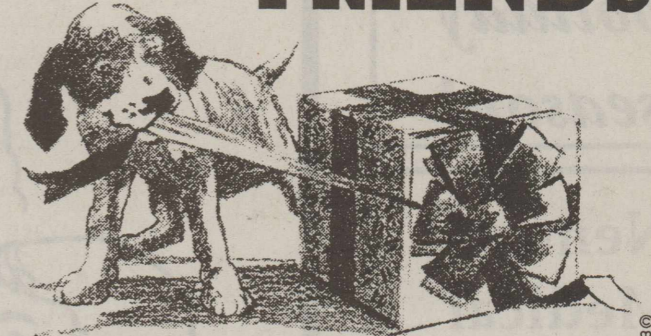
SEASON'S GREETINGS



May joy, prosperity, peace and goodwill visit your home this holiday season.

Bassing Jewelry
404 N. First • Haskell

TO OUR "BEST" MANY FRIENDS



We're pulling for you to have a simply splendid season.
Happy Holidays!

J & R Radiator & Muffler Shop

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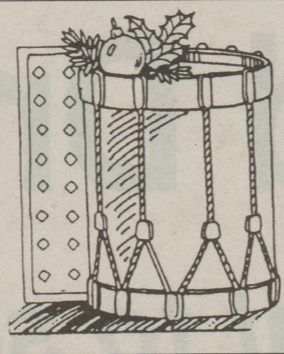
Sands loses semifinal game to Sanderson

The Sands Mustangs lost to the Sanderson Eagles 58-16 in a six-man state semifinal football games played last Friday night in Big Lake.

Coach Larry Reid's Sands Mustangs finished the season at 12-2 with both losses being to

Sanderson. Scoring by quarter in the game was Sands, 0 8 8 0 for 16, and Sanderson, 8 20 14 16 for 58.

Sanderson lost to Calvert 51-46 in the six-man state championship, Sat., Dec. 14 in San Angelo.



Merry Christmas

to all my customers. May your season be filled to brimming with many happy holiday moments.

Eunice Koehler

WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY SEASON
With heartfelt thanks from all of us.
Haskell Save-A-Dollar Inc.
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Here's hoping that joy plays a starring role this holiday season.
Nanny Plumbing Inc.
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Bill Wilson Motor Co.
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Haskell Office
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CELEBRATE
WISDOM



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Wishing you a happy, healthy and **SAFE** Holiday Season.

We value your friendship and support.

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Always
Stamford, Texas

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