

I want that ... Damon Moore (23) goes up after the ball as Tahoka beat Friona 56-44 in bi-district play at Levelland Tuesday. (LCN PHOTO by Gary Jones)

Wilson ISD Honor Roll

Wilson ISD announces Honor Roll students for the fourth six weeks.

First Grade: All A honor roll Alyssa Matthews, Nicole Ramirez, Marissa Nino and Blaze Smith. B Honor Roll- Rebekah Hite, Bailey Steen and Kelsey Taylor. Second Grade: A-Brianna Torres, Brandon Rowland, Bryan Pena, Angel Lopez, Katie Jones and Courtney Bingham. B- Michael Rodriguez, Brayden Permenter, Tatyana Marquez, Exmid Lerma and Mariah Garza. Third Grade: A- Megan Lehmann, Mercedes Lerma, Ramon Parmer, Jeffrey Goodman and Dillon Trevino. B- Destinee Benavides, Julian Garza, Elizabeth Stephenson, Dminique Garcia, Isaha Rivera, Alfredo Rodriguez and Raul Balderas. Fourth Grade: A- Ray Parmer. B- Lacy Caballero, Jesus Garza, Jennifer Joiner. Fifth Grade: B-Ricka Taylor and Kaitlin Garcia.

Sixth Grade: A- Juana Lopez. B- Rebecca Benavides and Haley Kirk. Seventh Grade: A-B Macayla Kirk. Eighth Grade: A- Cody Cross. A-B Jenna Autry, Lindsey Bjork, Felipe Ortega and Brandon Basinger. Ninth Grade: A-B Dominique Escobar and Alyssa Moreno. Tenth Grade: A- Makenzy Bukner. Eleventh Grade: A-B Veronica Gill, Jessica Gonzalez, Sandra Reyna and Vivian Rios. Twelfth Grade: A-B Amber Autry, Rachel Chancy, Joline Martinez and Ana Sanders.

Strayhorn Reports Increase in Sales Tax Collections

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said last week that January's state sales tax collections got a boost from a strong economy, holiday sales and the rebuilding process that continues in Southeast Texas following Hurricane Rita. The state collected \$1.5 billion in sales tax revenue, up 12 percent compared to January 2005.

Also, Strayhorn returned \$572.9 million in local sales tax to Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, up 13.9 percent compared to sales tax distributions to local governments in

February 2005.

January state sales tax collections and February's local sales tax allocations primarily represent sales made in December, but also include earlier sales by businesses that report sales tax to the Comptroller on a quarterly or annual basis.

The Comptroller sent \$390.5 million in sales tax to Texas cities, up 13.4 percent compared to February 2005 payments. Texas counties received February sales tax payments of \$33.3 million, up 16.8 percent.

The 102 special purpose taxing districts around the state received \$16.6 million in sales tax, up 17.1 percent compared to February 2005. Ten local transit systems received \$132.3 million in February sales tax

payments, up 14.4 percent compared to a year ago.

For details of February sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the *Monthly Sales Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports* on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html.

The Comptroller's next local sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, March 10.



300 Wins and Going Strong ... Coach Steve Fancher (center) earned his 300th varsity basketball win with the Lady Bulldogs' win over Stratford on Feb. 10, a milestone recognized by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches and the Texas Girls Coaches Association, of which Fancher is a member. He has been a head basketball coach for 16 years, leading teams at Callisburg, Idalou and Tahoka. With Friday night's Area win, Coach Fancher has racked up 301 wins, including 114 wins for Tahoka during the five years he has been here. Since he came to Tahoka in 2001-02, Fancher has led the Lady Bulldogs to the playoffs every year, breaking a 38-year dry spell for the Tahoka girls' basketball teams who had not advanced to the playoffs since the mid 1960s. The Lady Bulldogs advanced to the Regional Quarterfinals in 2002, were Regional Finalists in 2003 (losing by 8 points to long-time nemesis Shallowater), faced Shallowater again in the Regional Quarterfinals in 2004 (losing by 8 points), and made it to the Area playoffs in 2005. This year, the Ladies are still in the playoffs, heading to the Regional Finals Tournament in Midland this weekend, after beating Shallowater for the Regional Quarterfinals Championship Tuesday.

Seven More File For City, School Elections

Seven more candidates filed during the past week for city and school elections in Lynn County. The filing period opened Feb. 11 and continues through March 13 for candidates interested in filing for all city, school and hospital board elections in Lynn County.

A complete list of all seats up for election in city, school, and hospital elections follows. Candidates filing this week are listed in italics.

Tahoka ISD: Two trustees, 3-year terms, At-Large seats. Terms expiring: Jimmy Dorman, Valton Stephens. Filing: *Jimmy Dorman, Valton Stephens.*

City of Tahoka: Three council seats, 2-year terms, District 2, District 4 and District 5 (At-Large District). Terms expiring: District 2- Clara Calvillo, District 4-Jay Dee House, and District 5-Ray Don Box. Filing: *Ray Don Box (Dist. 5), Clara Calvillo (Dist. 2), Jay Dee House (Dist. 4).*

Wilson ISD: Two trustees, 3-year terms. Terms expiring: Mike Buckner, Ricky Cross. Filing: *none.*

City of Wilson: Mayor and two council members, 2-year terms. Terms expiring: councilmen Oscar

Follis, Cody Donald. Councilman Victor Steinhauser has been serving as Mayor Pro-Tem since the death of Mayor Jackie Bishop in June 2005. Filing: *Oscar Follis for city council.*

New Home ISD: Two trustees, 3-year terms. Terms expiring: Andy Maeker, Scott McAllister. Filing: *none.*

City of New Home: Three council members, 2-year terms. Terms expiring: Louis Rodriguez, Mickey Kieth, and a vacancy. Filing: *none.*

O'Donnell ISD: Two trustees, 3-year terms. Terms expiring: Renn Dorman, Monty Hancock. Filing: *Renn Dorman, Monty Hancock.*

City of O'Donnell: Mayor and two council members, 2-year terms. Terms expiring: Mayor-Maurice Jackson, Council members-Harry Howell, Anita Guajardo. Filing: *Harry Howell.*

Lynn County Hospital District: Three directors, 3-year terms. Terms expiring: Billy Tomlinson, Jerry Ford, and John Hawthorne (who is finishing the term of Virginia Griffing, who resigned). Filing: *none.*



Crutcher Named Captain On Texas State Jr. Team

Kaleb Crutcher, a Junior at O'Donnell High School, and son of Darryl and Regina Crutcher, has earned a position on the Texas State Junior Team, based on his outstanding shooting performance in the 2005 target year in the Texas Trapshooters Association. Kaleb's scores for 2005 ranked first in state and placed him in the "Captain" position.

Earning the "Captain" spot entitles him to a ring in addition to the team trophy. A presentation will be made to Crutcher at the Texas State Team awards at the state shoot in July in San Antonio.

Remember, you can still mark your ballot!
EARLY VOTING CONTINUES THROUGH MARCH 3rd!
 (I'm the first candidate listed for this office!)
 - VOTE -

Ginger Henry
 FOR LYNN COUNTY
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 1
 in the DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ELECTION
 Pol. Adv. paid by Ginger Henry, P.O. Box 1843, Tahoka, Tx 79737
 Your vote will be greatly appreciated!

Wilson SCHOOL MENU

Breakfast
Monday: Breakfast Burrito
Tuesday: Egg, sausage, toast
Wednesday: Breakfast Bar
Thursday: Sausage, biscuit,
Friday: Donut

Lunch
Monday: Chili cheese dog, fries, fruit
Tuesday: Beefy Nachos, beans, salad, fruit
Wednesday: Corn dog, baked chips, Salad, carrot sticks, fruit
Thursday: Chicken Nuggets, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, fruit
Friday: Pizza, salad, carrot sticks, fruit

The best gas leak detector is *you.*

You were born with the best equipment for detecting a natural gas pipeline emergency—your eyes, ears and nose.



Your Nose

Unusual aromas around your property resembling rotten, eggs, skunk or sulfur could indicate a natural gas leak.



Your Ears

Don't ignore a shrill hissing, blowing or roaring noise on your property. All of these could be signals of a high-pressure natural gas emergency.



Your Eyes

Visible warning signs of a gas emergency include water or dirt blowing in the air, discoloration of vegetation or continuous bubbling from standing water.

Take the Time to Call.

If you discover any or all of these warning signs, leave the area immediately. Do not operate motor vehicles or equipment nearby, and forego any activity that could generate a spark. You should immediately contact your local emergency authorities and ONEOK WestTex Transmission at 1-800-562-5879, or the operator of the pipeline.

By using your built-in detection devices, you can prevent any disasters associated with random natural gas pipeline leaks.



Phebe K. Warner CLUB NEWS

Seven members met Tuesday, Feb. 14 to make heart pillows for the heart hospital in Lubbock. Members stuffed 18 red fluffy pillows for patients to hold on their chest while coughing to help eliminate pain. The members also enjoyed refreshments of cookies and coffee furnished by Dora Alderson and played games of Bingo.

The next meeting will be a reception on Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 4:00 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall. The reception will be to honor all law enforcement officers of our community including the Tahoka Police Department, Lynn County Sheriff Officers, and local DPS Troopers.

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS is available at the following locations in Tahoka:

- Allsups
- Lynn County News office
- Thriftway
- Tahoka Drug
- Town & Country Convenience Store

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

News • Advertising • Printing • Office Supplies
 PHONE (806) 561-4888 • FAX (806) 561-6308 • TAHOKA, TEXAS

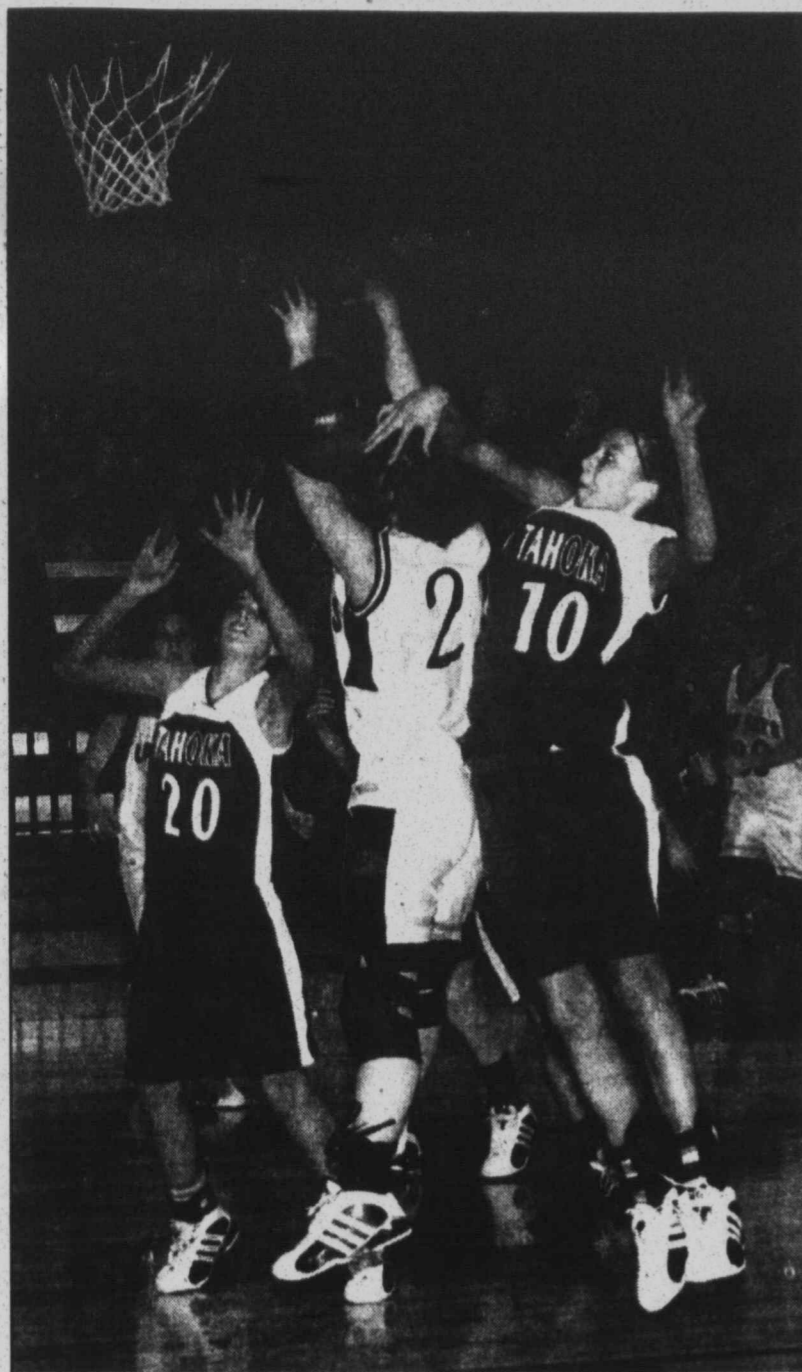
Come meet a new friend. His name is Jesus!

Sunday School Classes for all ages!
 CHILDREN and ADULTS

9:45-10:30 a.m.
 every Sunday
 (COME AT 9:30 FOR DOUGHNUTS!)

NEED A RIDE?
 Call the church office (561-4503) in advance and the church van will pick you up!

TAHOKA'S First United Methodist Church
 1801 Avenue J • 561-4503



Battle for the ball ... Brandi Raindi (10) and Samantha Andrews (20) battle Canadian's Danielle Purcell for the basketball as Tahoka won the area playoff game at Canyon Friday.
(LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Voting Machine Use Delayed: Early Voting - By Hand - Offered In Primaries

Early voting for the March 7 Democratic and Republican Primaries began Tuesday, Feb. 21 and continues through March 3 at the Lynn County Courthouse. Registered voters must bring voter registration cards to the Lynn County Clerk's office for early voting, and may vote in only one primary election.

The new electronic voting machines, which were supposed to have been used for the first time in Lynn County elections, will not be available for use this week for Early Voting, Lynn County Clerk Susan Tipton said Tuesday morning, due to a software delay created by a recent lawsuit filed in Houston in the Republican Primary.

"Two candidates in the Republican Party filed a lawsuit in Houston, claiming their names should have been on the ballot, and a court ordered their names added to the ballot. The printed ballots we have been provided do actually have their names on the ballot, but the flashcards which are necessary for each voting machine to read the ballots have been delayed from the companies that provide us with this software ... and this is for all the counties who use this particular voting equipment, not just for Lynn County," the county clerk explained, adding that Yoakum, Terry and Garza counties were also affected by the software delay, but that Lubbock County used a different company and their voting equipment has not been affected.

"I want to reassure citizens that there is nothing wrong with Lynn County's new voting equipment, and that we have done everything we were supposed to do as required by the state - it is just simply a delay caused by the software companies waiting for the decision regarding the lawsuit in this particular election, and it happens to be the first time we are using this equipment. However, our citizens can still come and vote during the early voting period,

but for the time being they must mark their ballots by hand," she said.

"We will be able to use our paper ballots, but until the flashcards are sent to us that are downloaded into each voting machine, ballots must be filled in by hand instead of the using the touch-screen machines," she said.

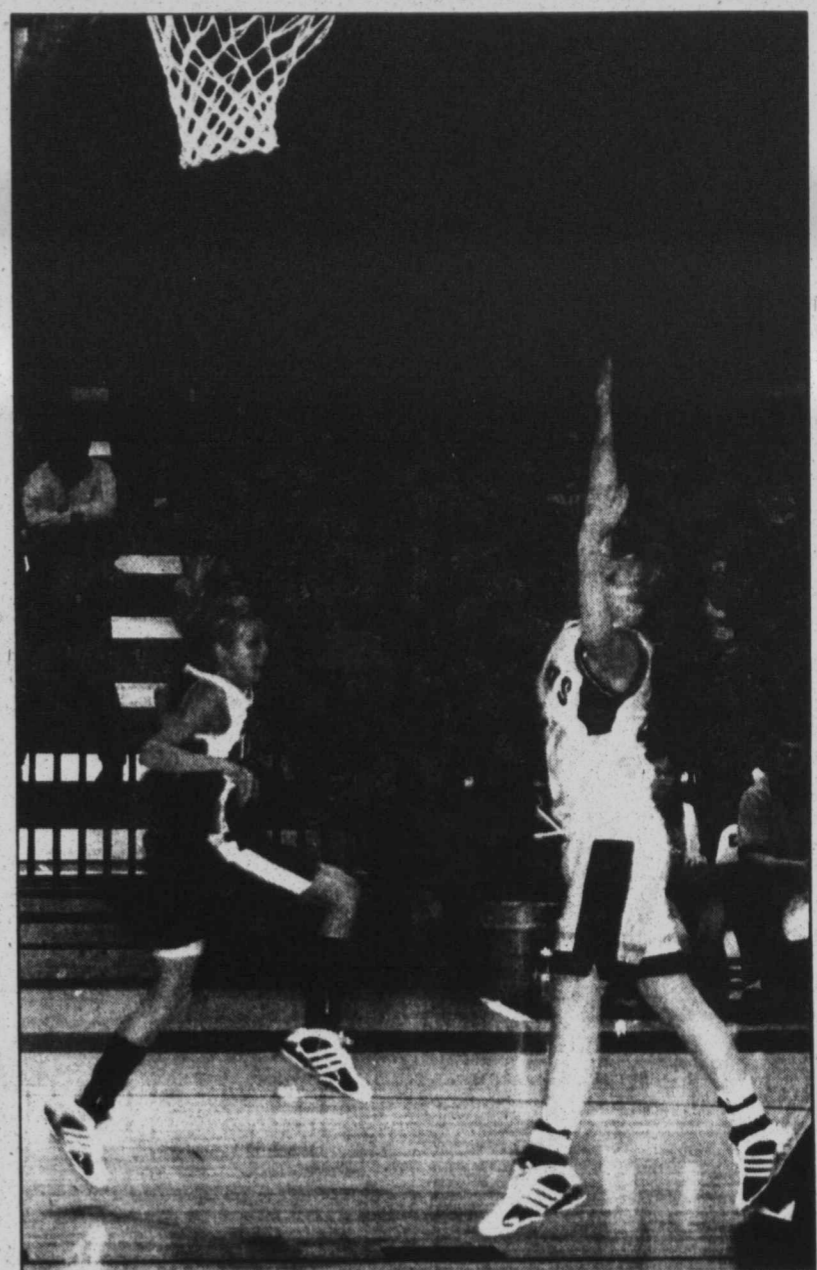
Voters hand-marking their ballots must fill in an oval space next to the candidate's name they wish to vote for, instead of marking an X in a square. Mrs. Tipton said that as soon as the flashcards arrive at her office, the new electronic voting equipment would be used.

"They have promised us that the flashcards will be sent as soon as possible. We expect to at least have them by the election date of March 7. Until then, all ballots must be marked by hand. We hope to get the flashcards for the machines sooner than that, so that at least some of the early voting can be conducted with the new equipment," she said.

The County Clerk's office will be open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., with election personnel also available during the noon hour for the early voting period.

All local county offices will be decided in the Democratic Primary, with contested races for the Lynn County Treasurer's seat, Justice of Peace Pct. 1 seat, and County Commissioner Pct. 4 seat. Five other county offices are uncontested, although there is a lone Democratic challenger for the four-county 106th District Judge position, currently held by a Republican incumbent. That contest will be decided in the November general election.

State and national offices will also be on the ballot, as well as two referendums on the Democratic ballot, and four referendums on the Republican ballot. Referendums that pass in the primaries will be placed on the ballot in the November General Election for all voters to consider.



Blocked! ... Tahoka's Carissa Hall is on her way down at left after blocking this shot by a Canadian player. The ball is visible about chest high behind the Canadian girl. Good defense like this helped the Lady Bulldogs win 48-38 at Area.

(LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Nationwide ACT Test Set April 8

College-bound high school students can take the ACT Assessment on April 8, 2006, the next nationwide test date. The registration postmark date is March 3. Late registration postmark deadline is March 17. The costs is \$29 without and \$43 with the Writing Test (an additional \$18 fee is required for late registration).

Students can receive registration information from their high school guidance counselors or they can register on ACT's website at www.actstudent.org. The website also features test tips, practice tests, online test prep, and a database for students to find out if a prospective college requires a writing score.

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities in the nation, including all Ivy League

Schools. Scores are use, along with the student's high school GPA, high school courses taken, extracurricular activities and other information to help determine if a student is academically ready for college-level coursework.

"In April, many juniors take the ACT," said spokesman Ken Gullette. "When they get their scores, they should examine them carefully, talk with parents and counselors, then get extra help from tutors or peer helpers and take courses that will strengthen any academic weaknesses. Students can retest early in their Senior year and then report only the score they want the colleges to see."

The ACT Assessment is an achievement test that includes four exams: English, reading, math, and science. Students who take the optional Writing Test will add 30 minutes to the three-hour normal testing time. Most colleges and universities

don't require a writing score, so students should check the writing test requirements of colleges they're considering before registering for the ACT.

THE LYNN COUNTY NEWS

is available at the following locations in Tahoka:

- Lynn County News office
- Thriftway
- Tahoka Drug
- Town & Country Convenience Store

NOW AVAILABLE at the

City-County Library in Tahoka ...

2005 Income Tax Forms

PLUS FAFSA Forms AND FAFSA On-the-Web Worksheets

H&R BLOCK
DOUBLE
Your
REFUND
Instant Win Game
Bigger than ever!

Play to win double the amount of your refund or one of a million other prizes!

Get your taxes prepared at H&R Block and play the Double Your Refund Instant Win Game. There's lots to win: cash prizes, free tax preparation, software and a 10-song download. You might even win double the amount of your Federal refund—up to \$20,000. **Come in by April 17 to play** (while game card supplies last).

H&R BLOCK

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Odds of winning vary based on participation. The purchase of H&R Block products or services will not increase your chances of winning the Double Your Refund Instant Win Game. To obtain a game card without purchase, see official rules. Game begins 12/20/05 and ends 4/17/06 or when supply of game cards is depleted. Must be a legal U.S. resident, 18 years or older, to participate or win. Participation is subject to full official rules. Official rules available at participating H&R Block offices or at hrblock.com. Void in Puerto Rico, and where prohibited. ©2005 H&R Block Services, Inc. ETCW483

H&R Block - Slaton
Laverne Renfro
105 Texas Ave.
Slaton, Texas 79364
806-828-5091
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tahoka ISD 2006-2007 Proposed Calendar

INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS: (177)			
First Six Weeks	August 14	to	September 22 29 Days
Second Six Weeks	September 25	to	November 3 28 Days
Third Six Weeks	November 6	to	December 21 31 Days
Fourth Six Weeks	January 9	to	February 16 28 Days
Fifth Six Weeks	February 19	to	April 5 29 Days
Sixth Six Weeks	April 9	to	May 24 (last day of school) 32 Days
Total Instructional Days	 177 Days	

STAFF DEVELOPMENT
New Staff In-Service: August 7, 8
Inservice/Student Holiday:
August 9, 10, 11
October 9, 23
January 8
May 25

BAD WEATHER DAYS
April 27, May 11

HOMECOMING Sept. 29 (tentative)

HOLIDAYS
Labor Day September 4
Thanksgiving November 22, 23, 24
Christmas December 22-January 8
Spring Break March 12-16
Good Friday April 6
Comp Days/
Student Holidays Dec. 22, Jan. 19, Apr. 6

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION May 25, 2007

Please direct comments regarding the proposed 2006-2007 school calendar to Tahoka ISD Superintendent Jimmy Parker at the Harvick Educational Building, 2129 N. Main Street in Tahoka, phone (806) 561-4105. The Board will discuss and may adopt a calendar for the 2006-07 school year on March 9, 2006.

VALOR TELECOM COMMUNITY LEADER SCHOLARSHIPS

The most valuable contributions are
handmade.

When someone in the community has a need, some people give of themselves and lend a helping hand. That's why VALOR Telecom created the *Community Leader Scholarships*: to recognize local youth dedicated to academic achievement and the strengthening of community through volunteerism.

Our *Community Leader Scholarships* were created in 2004. This spring, 12 local high school seniors in our service areas will receive \$1,000 scholarship awards. VALOR Telecom believes in the value of personal contributions to community. Through our scholarships, we honor those youth who have excelled with their hearts, minds and hands.

For more information or an application, visit your local high school counselor's office or the Community Connection section at www.valor telecom.com

Applications Due:
March 15, 2006



Way to Go, Bulldogs

Taboka Lady Bulldogs are Area Champions

DEFEATING CANADIAN 48-38 ON FRIDAY, FEB. 17TH



LADY DOGS WITH THEIR AREA TROPHY

CLASS 5-AA and Regional Quarterfinal Champions

DEFEATING SHALLOWATER 55-46 ON TUESDAY, FEB. 21ST



Congratulations



AREA GAME AGAINST CANADIAN

GIRLS BASKETBALL HEAD COACH STEVE FANCHER AT THE AREA GAME AFTER DEFEATING CANADIAN

2005-06 LADY DOGS:

- 03 - Meghan Saldana
- 10 - Brandi Raindl
- 11 - Haley Hall
- 14 - Amanda Truelove
- 20 - Samantha Andrews
- 21 - Carissa Hall
- 22 - Christyn Chapa
- 23 - Cori Vega
- 24 - Porscha Mitchell
- 32 - Jessica McLelland

Head Coach Steve Fancher
Asst. Coach Katie Craft

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT: MIDLAND COLLEGE CHAPARRAL CENTER

REGIONAL SEMIFINALS:

WALL VS. PANHANDLE AT 6:00 P.M., FOLLOWED BY

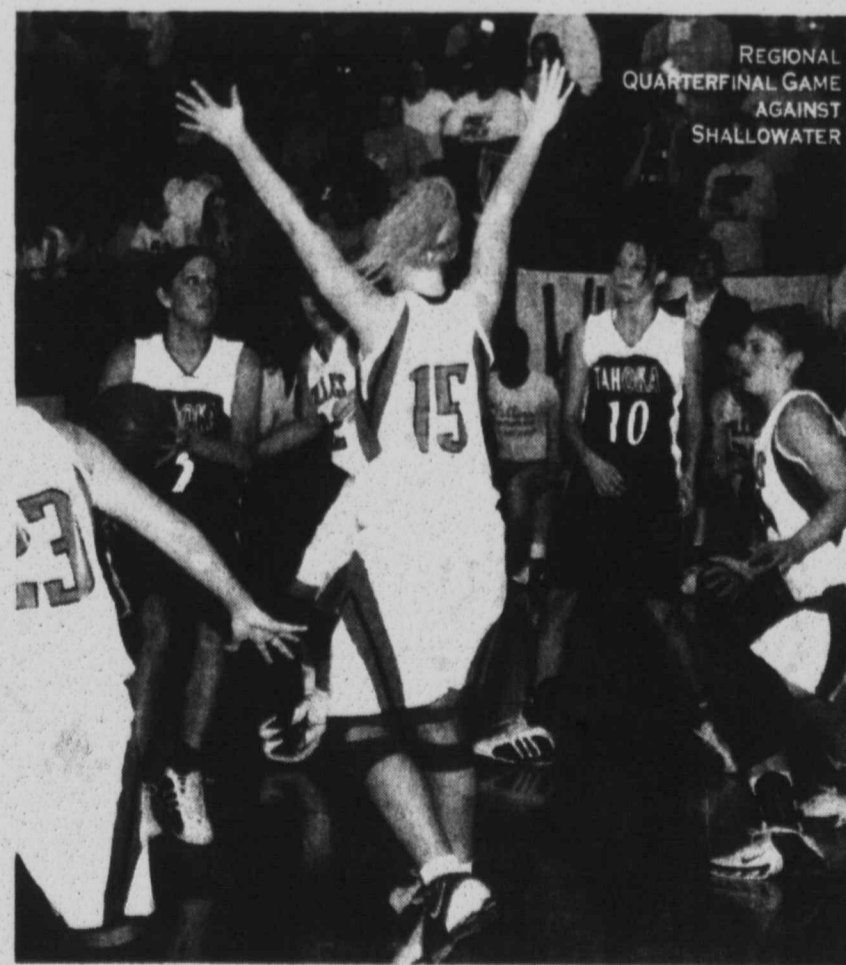
**TAHOKA LADY BULLDOGS
VS JIM NED LADY INDIANS**

FRIDAY, FEB. 24 AT 7:30 P.M.

(CHAMPIONSHIP REGIONAL FINAL GAME WILL BE AT THE SAME GYM AT 1:00 P.M. ON SATURDAY.)

TICKETS ARE \$10 AND \$5 ON FRIDAY, \$5 ON SATURDAY.

WE'RE PROUD TO BE B



REGIONAL QUARTERFINAL GAME AGAINST SHALLOWATER

- Hudgens Pump
- First National Bank of Tahoka
- Dr. Donald Freitag
- Wildcat Manufacturing
- Lynn County Farm Bureau
- Lynnco Automotive
- Valor Telecom
- Fenton Insurance
- One Stop Burritos Tahoka Auto
- Silk Impressions
- White Funeral Home
- Mitch Raindl Cement
- Dixie Dog Drive-In
- Wilson State Bank WILSON • TAHOKA
- Xcel Energy
- Huffaker Law Office Lynn County Abstract & Title Walker-Solomon Agency
- Calvillo Funeral Home
- Tahoka Drug
- Dr. Richard White, DDS
- Poka Lambro/ Digital Cellular
- Atmos Energy

200
03 - T
04 - C
05 - L
10 - M
12 - D
21 - J

Head Assist

Bulldogs and Lady Dogs!

Taboka Bulldogs are Bi-District Champs

CLASS 5-AA



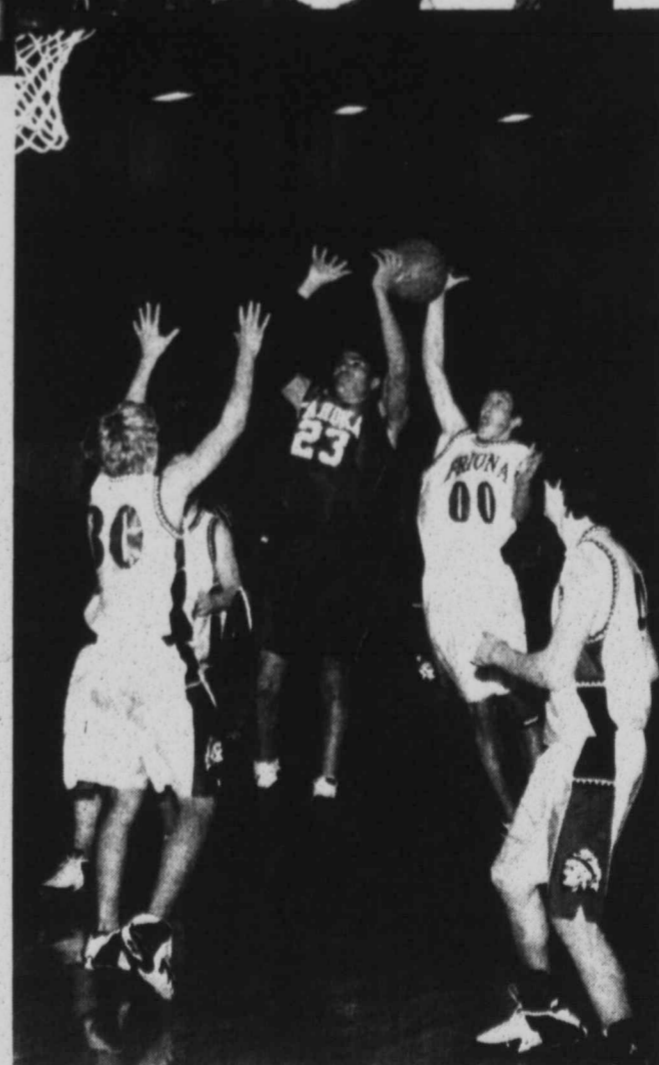
DEFEATING FRIONA 56-44 ON TUESDAY, FEB. 21ST

Congratulations!

2005-06 BULLDOGS:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 03 - Troy Price | 23 - Damon Moore |
| 04 - Colby Gardner | 24 - Patrick Dotson |
| 05 - Lance Murphy | 32 - Josh Hawthorne |
| 10 - Matt McLelland | 34 - Zach Tillman |
| 12 - Daniel Baker | 42 - Josh Freitag |
| 21 - Jay Tillman | 52 - Nathan Garcia |

Head Coach: Drew Stone
Assistant Coach: Jonathan Galley



AREA PLAYOFFS:
TAHOKA BULLDOGS VS OLNEY
FRIDAY, FEB. 24 AT 7:30 P.M.
CLYDE HIGH SCHOOL

(WINNER ADVANCES TO REGIONAL QUARTERFINALS ROUND WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE PLAYED TUESDAY, FEB. 28.)



Dr. David Midkiff, DDS

Higginbotham-Bartlett

Farmer's Co-op Association #1

PJ's Deli & Bakery

Lynn County News

Joe Hays, CPA

Huffaker, Green & Huffaker

Witt Butane

Tahoka Thriftway

Main Street Express

West Texas Agriplex

John Benson, P.A.
Melanie Richburg, FNP
Griffith Thomas, M.D.

Tejeda Cafe

First Ag Credit FCS

Lucy Me/Slap-On Decals

AgTexas FCS

Calvillo Bail Bonds

Lyntegar Electric Co-op

Lynn County Hospital District / Lynnwood Independent & Assisted Living

TO BE BULLDOG FANS!



Reserve Champion ... Harley Reynolds, 12, of Tahoka, showed the Reserve Champion Santa Gertrudis Steer in the Junior Market Steer Show on February 17th at the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo. Harley is a member of the Lynn County 4-H and also shows pigs. Harley's parents, Brian and Paula Reynolds are shown with her.

Registration Continues For Senior Sneak

South Plains College is currently registering for Senior Sneak Preview on February 24 from 9:00 to 11:30 am. Students can register for Senior Sneak Preview online at www.southplainscollege.edu/seniorsneak/.

High school seniors from the college's 15-county service area in addition to seven other nearby counties have been invited to the college-day experience.

"We are expecting a great turnout and hope the students will take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about SPC and the college process," said Kimbra Quinn,

SPC director of enrollment management. "We have a full schedule and are sure that everyone, students and parents alike, will benefit from this event."

The schedule includes registration and Expo beginning at 9:00 am followed by the opening assembly at 9:30 am in the Texan Dome. The program showcase begins at 10:00 am followed campus tours, open house activities and finally lunch in the PE Building at 11:30 am.

At 10:30 am, a special "Just for Parents" session will be held to answer questions regarding admissions, testing, housing, financial aid and any other aspects of SPC.

For more information, contact 806-894-9611, extension 2113.

Candidates May File For Water District

An election for District Directors and County Committee members in Precincts One, Two, and Five of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 is scheduled for Saturday, May 13.

District Directors' Precinct One consists of the portion of Crosby County above the escarpment and all of Lubbock and Lynn Counties. District Directors Precinct Two includes Cochran County and most of Hockley and Lamb Counties. District Directors Precinct Five is the portion of Floyd County above the escarpment and all of Hale County.

Prospective candidates wishing to file an application for place on the ballot should be aware that the deadline for filing is 5 p.m., March 13.

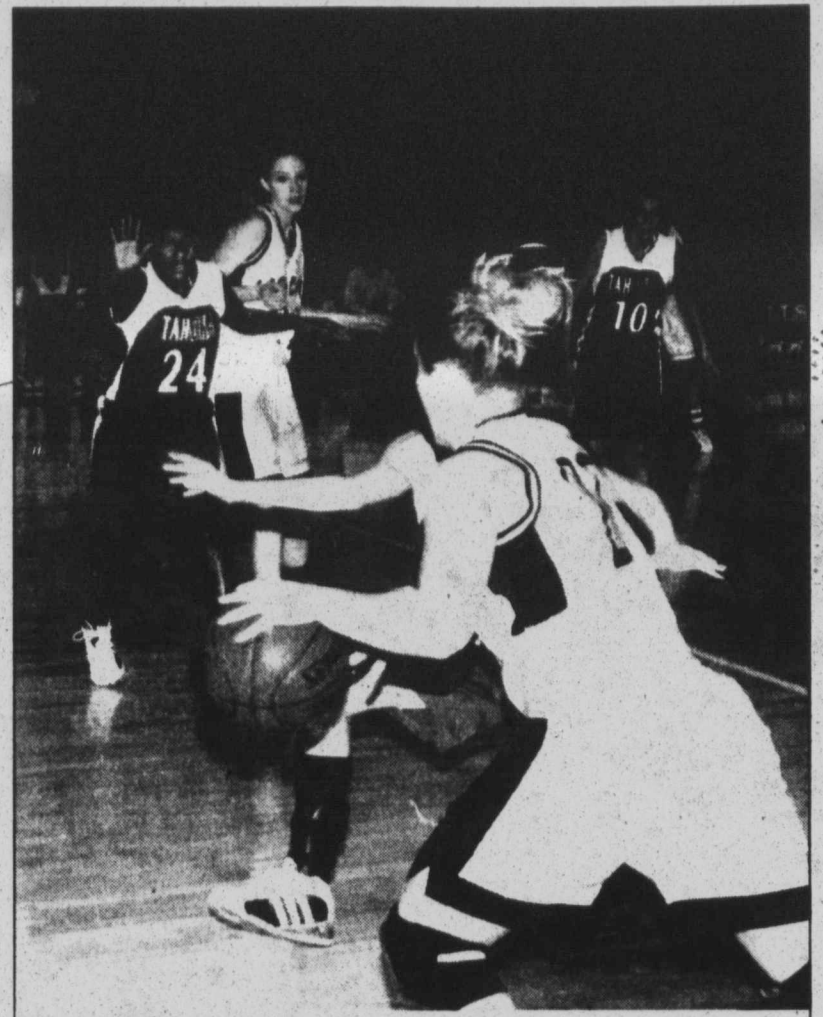
Eligibility requirements for candidates for District Director or a County Committee member are the same as other public offices in the State of Texas. Some of the major qualifications are that candidates must be U.S. citizens, 18 years of age or older on the first day of the term to be filled, must have resided continuously in the state for 12 months, and must have resided in the territory from which the office is elected for six months.

Candidate packets may be requested Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District office, 2930 Avenue Q, in Lubbock.

The High Plains Water District was created in 1951 to conserve, preserve, and prevent the waste of underground water within its service area. The district's board of directors meets monthly to consider legal, financial, and business matters. Board members set long-range goals and direct staff activities through the Water District's manager.

County Committee members meet regularly to recommend approval or denial of water well permits. Committee members also keep District Directors informed about the water-related needs of their county and serve as local contacts for water conservation opportunities and problems in their respective communities.

Additional election information is available by contacting Carmon McCain at (806) 762-0181.



Stop it! ... Lady Bulldog Porscha Mitchell (24) makes the stop signal for this Canadian player in the area playoff game at Canyon Friday, won by Tahoka. No. 10 is Brandi Raindl. (LCN PHOTO by Juanell Jones)

Co. History Books Offered For \$30

Phebe K. Warner Club has now lowered the cost of The Lynn County History Books to \$30 each. The books are available at the City-County Library, Lynn County Pioneer Museum and The Lynn County Pioneers, or you may contact Loretta Tekell at 998-5040.

NARCONON

... a nonprofit public benefit organization that specializes in helping people with drug or alcohol addictions offers FREE professional assessments, advice and referrals to more than 11,000 treatment centers nationally. Drug addiction can be overcome and Narconon can help by calling (800) 556-8885 or visit www.drugrehab.net

SPC Continues CNA Registration

South Plains College is holding registration for Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) courses that begin on March 27 through April 27 in Levelland.

The course provides detailed coursework, work-based training and direct patient/client care at a clinical site. Students develop skills to work in long-term care, home health or hospital environments.

The classroom instruction will be held Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 9:30 pm. The clinical instruction will be held on Saturdays (April 8, 15 and 22) from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm at the Levelland Nursing Home. Upon completion of the 60 hours of classroom and 24 hours of clinicals, students are required to take the State of Texas Certified Nurse Aide Competency Exam.

The fees are \$456 including course fee, textbook and exam fees. Students must also provide proof of immunization for MMR, tetanus, hepatitis B, current negative TB test, social security and photo id. The required text is *Skills and Techniques for the New Nursing Assistant*, 7th edition, by Barbara Gillogly. Course instructor is Barbara Brattain, L.V.N.

Students that satisfactorily complete the course will receive a certificate for 8.4 continuing education units. Enrollment is limited to 14 students. A schedule and registration form can be found at www.southplainscollege.edu/ce.

For more information, contact the Division of Continuing and Distance Education at 806-894-9611, extension 2340 or 2341.

Irrigation Water Management Can Cut Water Costs

Irrigation water management is the process of determining and controlling the volume, frequency, and application rate of irrigation water in a planned, efficient manner. The main purpose of irrigation water management (IWM) is to manage soil moisture to promote desired crop response and to optimize the use of all available water supplies.

What does this mean to you as a producer? Saving money! By only putting down the amount of water needed to meet the needs of the crop, you will save money as well as water and time, according to information released by the NRCS.

Some factors to consider as you prepare for the upcoming planting season: The soils may currently have more moisture than you realize. Take a shovel and dig down a few inches to determine how much moisture is currently in the soil and how deep it is.

Will the water you are considering putting down now be available and of help at planting time? With the current soil moisture, will pre-watering this early be a waste of time and resources?

So, how do you determine the amount of moisture actually in the

soil? The following are three methods available to producers: 1. Estimating soil moisture by feel and appearance. 2. Request soil moisture levels from the Natural Resources Conservation Service or the High Plains Underground Water District. 3. By use of moisture monitoring devices such as a moisture probe, tensiometer, or gypsum blocks.

Now that you have determined how much moisture you need before you start watering, give nature a chance to help. When you determine how much moisture is needed, split the application of that water up over several different periods.

For example, if 4i of water is needed, apply 1i in four different applications. This way, if nature decides to help us, the soil will not be saturated and the rain will be absorbed instead of running off. If you replace all of the soil moisture deficit and the rains do come, will you realize any benefit from those rains or will most of it run off and be lost from your fields?

For more information contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service office at 806-998-4507, ext 3.

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Wedding Announcement Policy

The Lynn County News accepts wedding announcements at no charge if run within 8 weeks following the event. A \$35 fee will be assessed if run after that time. All information is subject to editing. Wedding and Engagement forms are available at the Lynn County News Office, 1617 Main, P.O. Box 1170, Tahoka, TX 79373, (806) 561-4888, Fax 561-6308.

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Fire Guts Tahoka Home ... Fire gutted the home of Urban Garcia, at N. 5th and Ave. O in Tahoka, Monday afternoon, but fortunately no one was home and no injuries were reported. Fourteen members of the Tahoka Volunteer Fire Dept. answered the call at approximately 12:45 p.m. and remained on scene until 4 o'clock. The fire was believed to have started in the front room of the home, possibly from an electric space heater, and smoke and flames alerted several passersby who called in the alarm, including a group of Tahoka High School boys (second photo from left, bottom row) who were on their way back to class during their lunch period, and Kellie Paris, who reportedly ran onto the porch and opened the front door, shouting to see if anyone was home. Firemen quickly arrived, and began hosing down the house, and eventually had to cut through the roof to get to the flames smoldering in the rafters. The bottom photo at left shows firefighter David Ehlers with the tank on his back, who was away last week when firefighters fought a large grass fire that threatened to destroy his home northeast of Tahoka.

The photo at top left shows firemen Steve Sanders and Jeff Martin with an axe, to gain access through the roof with the water hose. The next-to-last photo shows Sanders and Fire Chief Jimmy Woodard, shaking hands with the home owner, Urban Garcia, who thanked the firemen for their efforts. Garcia reportedly had no insurance on the home, and Woodard said he referred him to the Lynn County Sheriff's Dept. for assistance from Red Cross and other agencies. "The two front rooms were gutted, and the roof was damaged. The house is definitely unlivable, and I don't know if it can be repaired. Some of the contents at the back of the house may have been salvageable, but I don't know," Woodard told *The News*. The home is located just a couple of blocks away from the school, with the smoke easily visible to students, and Elementary Principal James Baker brought Garcia's two sons to the scene to reassure them that their father was okay.

(LCN PHOTOS by Juanel Jones)

Smoking Can Lead To Vision Loss Or Blindness

Age related Macular Degeneration (AMD), an eye disease that affects more than 1.65 million Americans over the age of 50, has no cure. Although several new promising medications are currently being tested, those who have been diagnosed can only treat the symptoms.

However, recent studies have shown that one way to reduce the risk of developing AMD is by not smoking. A study published in the *British Medical Journal* from the University of Manchester found that smokers were three to four times more likely to develop AMD than non-smokers. And, non-smokers living with smokers almost double their risk of developing AMD.

Fortunately, the research also showed that former smokers who had quit for over 20 years had the same risk level of those who had never smoked. Smoking impairs the effects of antioxidants, which then damage the retina.

In a recent survey commissioned by AMD Alliance International, only 32 percent of respondents who had heard of AMD were aware of the link between AMD and smoking. In addition to AMD, smoking has been linked to increases in the cases of cataracts, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy.

"We've all known for years that smoking is bad for our health," said Diana Condon, Executive Director of Prevent Blindness Texas, Panhandle/South Plains Branch. "But some people may not know that besides causing cancers, smoking can

also cause vision loss and eventually lead to blindness."

Prevent Blindness Texas has designated Feb. as Age-related Macular Degeneration Awareness Month in an effort to educate the Public on the disease and what steps can be taken to avoid it. Because of the large aging population, the number of AMD cases is estimated to balloon to almost 3 million in the year 2020.

"We also want to remind everyone, whether they are smokers or not, that the most effective way to fight the effects of AMD is through the early detection and treatment," said Condon. "Prevent Blindness Texas strongly encourages regular eye exams from qualified eye care professionals."

AMD begins as a loss of central vision, which results in difficulty to read a book and see fine details. Over time, the vision loss increases significantly. Of the two forms of AMD, "dry" and "wet," dry AMD is the most common form of the disease. It involves the presence of drusen-fatty deposits that from under the light sensing cells in the retina. Vision loss in dry AMD usually progresses slowly. Wet AMD is less common, but more rapid threatening to vision. Wet AMD causes tiny blood vessels under the retina to leak or break open. This distorts vision and causes scar tissue to form.

Healthy habits can lead to healthy eyes. The risk of eye disease and vision loss can be lowered if you:

- Quit smoking
- Eat healthy foods (including green leafy vegetables and foods high in zinc, vitamins C and E, and beta carotene)
- Control blood pressure and cholesterol
- Stay active
- Visit your eye care professional on a regular basis

For free information on AMD, please visit Prevent Blindness Texas at 3008 50th Street, Suite E - Lubbock, or call 806-797-6701.

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