

PAGE ONE

A QUICK READ OF THE NEWS

Did you know . . .

- In Cleveland, Ohio, it's illegal to catch mice without a hunting license.
- It takes 3000 cows to supply the NFL with enough leather for a year's supply of footballs.
- There are an average of 178 sesame seeds on a McDonald's Big Mac bun.
- The world's termites outweigh the world's humans 10 to 1.
- Pound for pound, hamburgers cost more than new cars.
- The 3 most valuable brand names on earth: Marlboro, Coca-Cola, and Budweiser, in that order.
- When Heinz ketchup leaves the bottle, it travels at a rate of 25 miles per year.
- It's possible to lead a cow upstairs...but not downstairs.
- The Bible has been translated into Klingon.
- Humans are the only primates that don't have pigment in the palms of their hands.
- Ten percent of the Russian government's income comes from the sale of vodka.
- Ninety percent of New York City cabbies are recently arrived immigrants.
- On average, 100 people choke to death on ballpoint pens every year.
- In 10 minutes, a hurricane releases more energy than all the world's nuclear weapons combined.
- Reno, Nevada is west of Los Angeles, California.
- Average lifespan of a major league baseball: 5 pitches.
- Average age of top GM executives in 1994: 49.8 years. Average age of the Rolling Stones: 50.6.
- Elephants can't jump. Every other mammal can.
- The cigarette lighter was invented before the match.
- Five Jell-O flavors that flopped: celery, coffee, cola, apple, and chocolate.
- According to one study, 24% of Iowans have some sort of lawn ornament in their yard.
- Internationally, Baywatch is the most popular TV show in history.

LOCAL WEATHER

	High	low	Pre.
Friday	90	64	—
Saturday	90	59	—
Sunday	100	60	—
Monday	98	69	—
Total to date	3.64 inches		

EXTENDED FORECAST

Partly cloudy with a slight chance of rain. Highs in the mid 90s. Lows in the 60s.

Longtime municipal court judge resigns

By RICK WHITE
Managing Editor

The Muleshoe City Council accepted the resignation of longtime Municipal Court Judge Linda Huckaby Tuesday during a regularly-scheduled meeting.

Huckaby, who submitted her resignation July 10, had served as municipal court judge for 21 years.

Both sides called the break amicable.

Huckaby said the move will allow her more time to spend with her family and to pursue

outside business interests.

"I just decided it was time to move on," Huckaby said. She would not comment on whether she felt she was being forced to resign or on her relationship with City Manager James Fisher.

Fisher said he and the City Council had some "concerns" about the day-to-day operation of the municipal court but that Huckaby departed on friendly terms. A special meeting scheduled for July 8 in which Huckaby was asked to address the Council was cancelled. She re-

signed two days later.

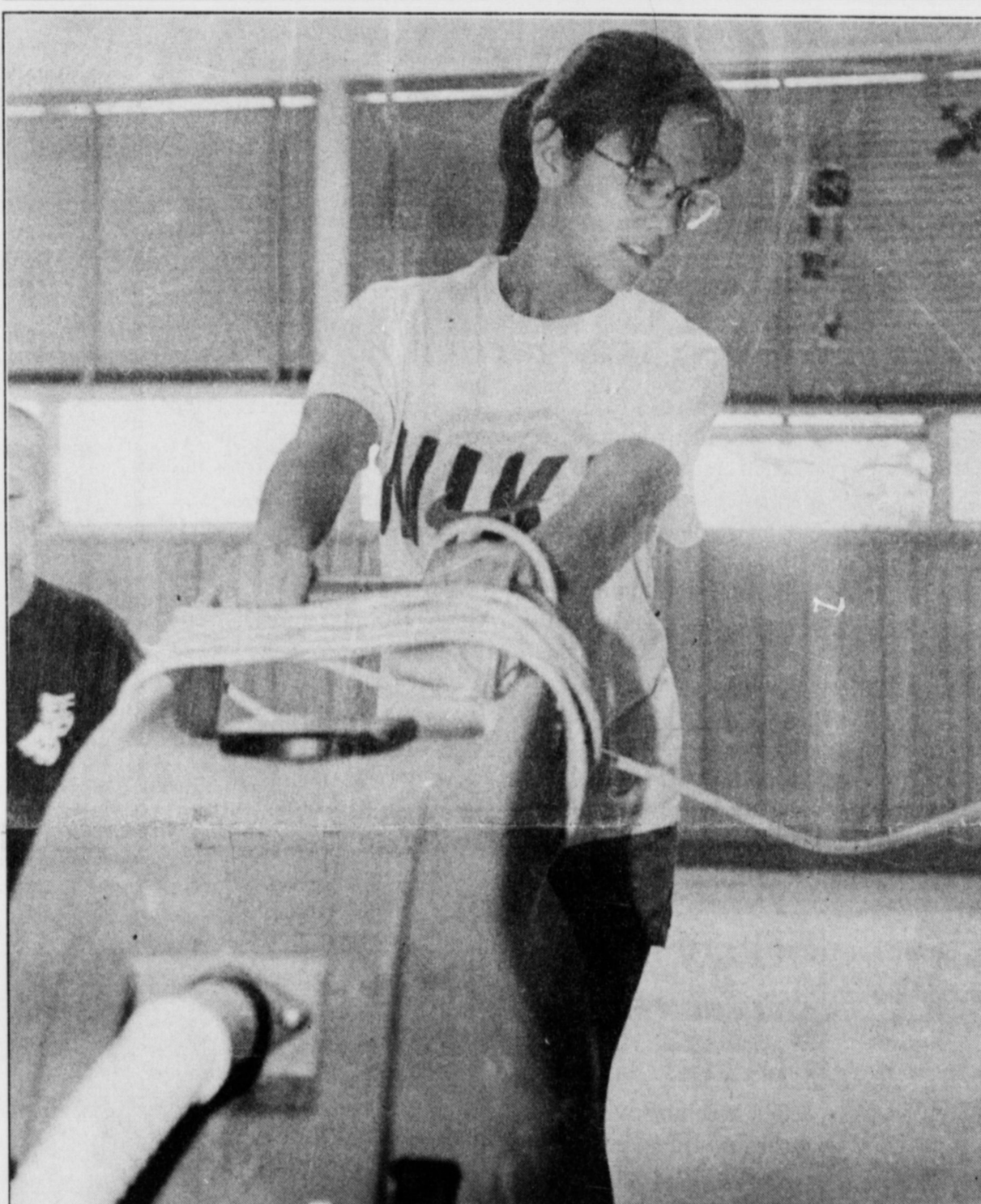
"We wish her well," Fisher said. "She did a good job for 21 years."

The position of municipal court judge is appointed by the City Council.

The plan is for current Bailey County Justice of the Peace Jack Bates to serve as interim municipal court judge "until we sort things out," Fisher said.

Former city employee Norma Perez was

see JUDGE on page 3



Floor it

Summer helper Roxann Garcia uses a dry vac to dry off a classroom floor Monday at Watson Junior High School. Classes for Muleshoe students begin Aug. 19.

KEEPERS OF THE LEGEND

Rehearsals in full swing

By HEATHER SHIPMAN
Journal staff writer

There will be many new faces among those in the cast of "Keepers of the Legend," a local outdoor play now in its fourth year.

However, several of the key actors are returning.

Nikki Felan returns as Lizzie, the play's heroine. Also returning are Heath Scott as

Tom Masters and Twila Gear as Miss Rosalie, his love interest.

Other key roles belong to Curtis Shelburne as rancher Tom Masters and Joan Lewis, who plays his wife.

Rehearsals started July 13 at the First United Methodist Church, but were moved to the Heritage Center after the stage was finished on July 18.

Choreographer Sheri Hawkins was busy Monday helping cast members learn the waltz steps and how to mingle on the first day rehearsals were held on the stage.

"I think this year's cast will be great," said Carlos Rojas, who plays Jake, a troublemaker, "we all seem to work

see KEEPERS on page 3

MISD Board sets date for tax hearing

By RICK WHITE
Managing Editor

Despite no anticipation of a tax rate increase, the Muleshoe Independent School District will hold a state-mandated tax hearing Aug. 10 at the district administration building.

The tax hearing was set Monday during a regularly-scheduled meeting of the MISD Board of Trustees.

A recent change in legislation mandates that school districts hold a tax hearing before setting the tax rate and passing a budget if the district's tax levies increase.

Because of an anticipated jump of \$5 million in property tax assessments this year, the district will collect more local tax dollars although the current rate of \$1.2704 per \$100 of valuation is expected to remain the same, according to school superintendent Bill Moore.

Under previous legislation, tax hearings were necessary only when the tax rate increased by more than 3 percent.

In other action Monday, the school board held more discussions on the proposed 1998-99 school budget, which is projected at \$9.8 million.

The board will set the tax rate and adopt the budget during its Aug. 24 meeting.

■ The board discussed the possibility of increasing group health insurance rates for district employees by as much as 20 percent.

Employee rates for the middle of the district's three coverage plans would increase from \$66.36 per month to \$72.50 if the 20 percent increase is passed. The district would continue to provide matching funds for employee premiums if the proposal is passed.

"It's been a real rough year and costs are going up," Moore said.

It would be the first rate increase in health insurance premiums since 1990, Moore noted. The district is self-insured under the name of MISD Group Health Trust.

The board will not take action on insurance rates until its Aug. 10 meeting.

■ Moore reported that the district is close to hearing about its FACT consortium grant.

"I feel better than ever it will get approved," Moore said.

The grant would be used to install interactive TV classrooms. Muleshoe is one of six schools

see BOARD on page 3

Gore wins national trampoline title; Cowart places in four events



Amber Cowart placed in four events

Local gymnasts dream of Olympic berths

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Mindy Gore of Circle Back won a national championship in double-mini trampoline and Amber Cowart of Muleshoe placed in four events recently at the USA Trampoline and Tumbling National Competition at River Center.

Gore and Cowart competed with Acrospirit of Levelland.

Competing in the 13-14 age group, Gore also placed

seventh in synchronized trampoline, ninth in trampoline and 19th in tumbling.

The Sudan seventh-grader was also named to the Junior Olympic National Team.

Competing in the 11-12 age group, Cowart placed sixth in the double-mini, 11th in trampoline and synchronized trampoline and placed 15th in the floor exercises.

The girls helped Acrospirit

finish third in the double-mini trampoline in the team competition.

Both girls said their goal is to make the 2000 Olympics.

Gore, the daughter of Randy and Robin Gore, is an "A" student and is involved in basketball, track and cross country.

Cowart, the daughter of Mr.

see GYMNASTS on page 2



Mindy Gore won national trampoline title

AROUND MULESHOE

Fire department receives check

The Muleshoe Volunteer Fire Department received a check for \$150 recently from Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies as an expression of thanks for the department's work on the property of Perry Whalin.

The money will be used for their loss prevention program.

The Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies pay fire departments this amount when the department works at a fire in rural areas, involving property insured by them.

The Insurance Company believes fire departments have contributed to reduce the amount of loss involved by fire and more importantly, to prevent fires. It is their hope this money will help the Muleshoe Fire Department in their program.

McCutchen attending Fire School

John McCutchen of the Muleshoe Volunteer Fire Department is attending the 69th annual Texas Fireman's Training School, July 19-24. The school, attended by nearly 2,000 students representing about 750 cities from more than 25 states, is being held on the Texas A&M University campus this week.

Firemen can choose their course at the school from a list including fire fighting, fire prevention, fire department officer training, fire department pump maintenance, specialized fire protection, and disaster rescue training.

Fireman McCutchen is being sponsored by Bailey County Farm Bureau and Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies by contributing toward the cost of school. Since volunteer firemen are interested in attending this school to help do a better job of fire fighting and fire prevention, 125 County Farm Bureaus and the Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies in the statewide program have sponsored 125 firemen at the school.

"The Farm Bureau Insurance Companies believe Volunteer

Fire Departments have been very effective in reducing the amount of loss involved by fire in rural areas," said President Bob Stallman of Columbus. "It is our hope in sponsoring this program that the fireman will help the Muleshoe Volunteer Department to better serve the residents of Bailey County".

Lazbuddie registration set for new year

Lazbuddie registration for new and returning students for grades 6-12 will be held at Lazbuddie ISD cafeteria using the following schedule:

Wednesday, Aug. 5, , grades 11 and 12.

Thursday, Aug. 6, grades 9 and 10.

Friday, Aug. 7, junior high students.

All days are from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Students may register on any of these dates if there is a conflict with the assigned time. Junior High School students are encouraged to register on Friday.

Registration for new elementary students will be any time during the week of Aug. 3-7.

No students may register on Aug. 11 due to staff inservice. The first day of classes for Lazbuddie I.S.D. will be Aug. 14.

Littlefield will host craft show

The Littlefield Homemakers Association is hosting their 16th annual Arts and Crafts Festival on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will be held at the Lamb County Ag and Community Center on Hwy. 385.

They are a non-profit, educationally based club and the festival helps to support their organization.

For more information, contact Toni Foley at 385-5990.

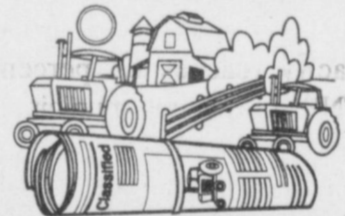
Deadlines to get items placed in *Around Muleshoe* are 5 p.m. Monday for Thursday's *Muleshoe Journal* and 5 p.m. Thursday for Sunday's *Bailey County Journal*.

W. Virginia garden is history

FORT ASHBY, W.Va. — Butch Ridenour dropped plans to plant tomatoes in his yard after his gardening turned up an archaeological wonderland. "This place is like a time capsule with stuff dating from about 1700," he said. Ridenour was digging beside his house when his shovel hit an object that turned out to be the 233-year-old remains of an original French and Indian War fort complex where a young Col. George Washington was stationed.

Artifacts uncovered included handmade nails, musket balls, bone-handled knives, old English porcelain, a King George III coin and a hand-made lock. Greg Adamson, a Virginia geologist who is also a specialist in colonial forts, said the finds confirm that

Ridenour lives on the site of Fort Ashby, which gives the town its name.



Practice makes perfect

Amber Cowart practices on the trampoline last week at her Muleshoe home. The DeShazo sixth-grader recently returned from the U.S. Trampoline & Tumbling national championships in Minnesota.

GYMNASTS

From page 1

and Mrs. Barry Cowart, is a honor roll student going into the sixth grade at DeShazo and is involved in basketball and track.

Last year, she competed in the State Games in track and went to Baton Rouge to compete in the Junior Olympics in track.

She practiced 3 1/2 hours a day at the Acrosprits gym and an hour a day at home in preparation for the national meet.

The Acrosprit team brought home 46 awards with 23 medals. Four kids were named to

the National Team and Coach Green was selected to attend a special trampoline clinic to be held in December at the Olympic Training Center. Coach Sherry Mulkey was chosen as a trampoline coach for the U.S. team going to Australia.

"It was a wonderful year for the Acrosprits and will be a great lead into next year," coach Mulkey said.

Anyone interested in fall classes can contact Will Green at 897-1054 or Sherry Mulkey at 894-7275 or 894-1846 in Levelland. Classes are also available in Sudan.

School bus driver course offered

A school bus driver course for anyone interested in driving school buses in the state of Texas is being offered July 27-31 at the Muleshoe High School library.

The 20-hour certification course will be held daily from 1 to approximately 5 p.m.

A one-day course for driver's needing eight-hour recertification will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 1, also at the high school library.

Both courses are being taught by David Gray.

For more information, call 272-4412.

South Plains announces fall registration

South Plains College's fall registration 98 begins Aug. 24-25 at the SPC Reese Educational Center in Lubbock.

The college educational extension center, located at the corner of W. 4th St. and Quitsna Ave. in Lubbock, offers freshman and sophomore college-level courses during the evenings and late afternoons in partnership agreement with the Frenship Independent School District.

Registration will be 5:30-7:30 p.m. both days.

Regular fall registration and

evening registration on the SPC Levelland campus will be Aug. 27. Financial Aid Award Day, for pre-registered students receiving any type of financial aid, grant, loan or scholarship, is scheduled Aug. 26.

Registration on the SPC Lubbock campus will be Aug. 26 for returning students who attended in the spring or summer of 1998, and Aug. 27 for new students. A TASP exam for new students at the Lubbock campus is scheduled Aug. 22, Aug. 24 Aug. 26-28 and Aug. 31. The Lubbock campus offers courses at a number of

locations, including the main campus at 1302 Main in Lubbock, Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center at 34th and Ave. Q, and the Workforce Training Annex at 2415 6th St. in Lubbock.

SPC's fall classes begin Aug. 31.

For specific registration time or to obtain a 1998 fall schedule of classes, contact SPC Levelland at 806/894-9611, ext. 2374 or 2375; SPC Lubbock at 747-0576, ext. 4606 or ext. 4660, or the SPC Reese Educational Center at 747-0576, ext. 2902.

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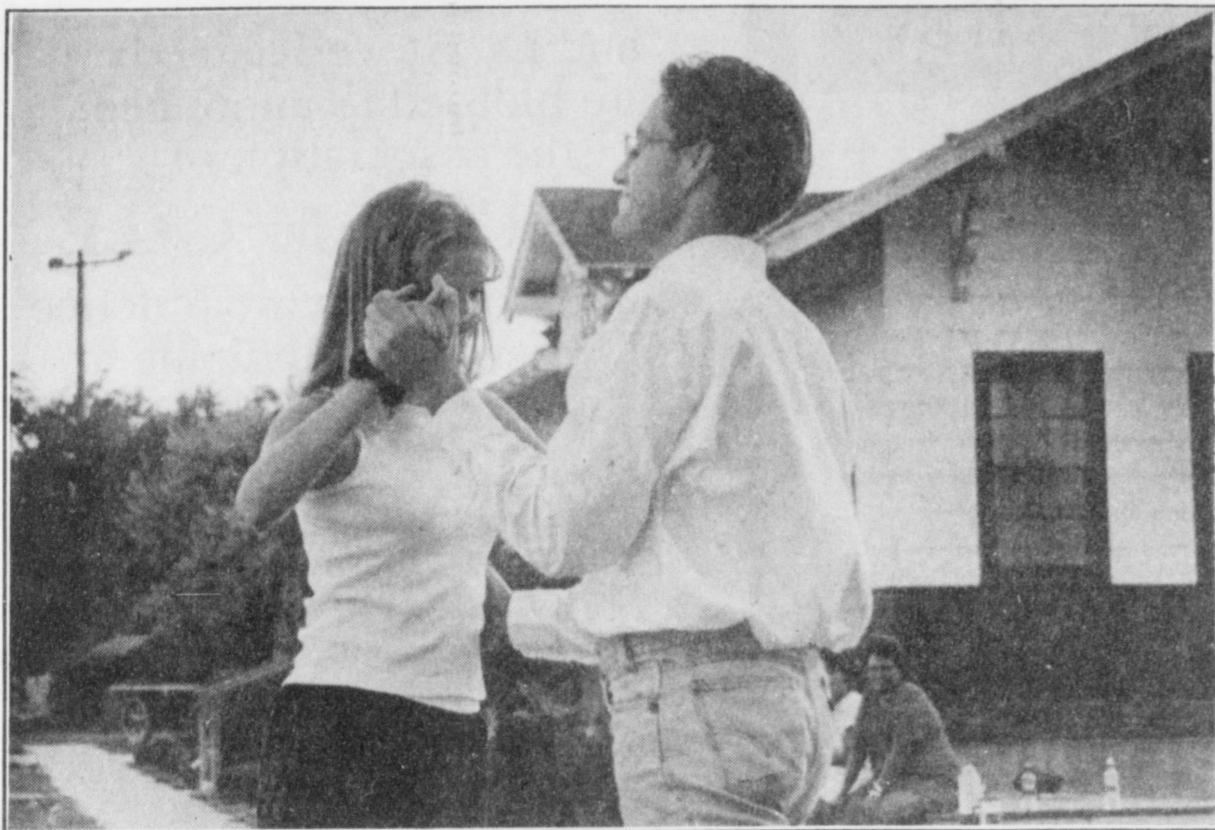
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Learning a new step

Suzanne Messenger and Michael Precure practice a waltz Monday during rehearsals for the outdoor play "Keepers of the Legend" at the Heritage Center.

KEEPERS

From page 1

well together and I think we're going to have a great time."

Keepers of the Legend is an outdoor musical presented by MulePlex Production Co. and directed by Sally Messenger.

The historical play written by Bailey County native Paula Paul will be performed at 8:30 p.m. nightly Aug. 7-10 at the

Muleshoe Heritage Center on West American Boulevard. Tickets are \$10 at the gate or \$8 in advance. Children ages 10 and under are \$5. There will be a beans and corn bread dinner each evening at 6:30 served by the Muleshoe Heritage Foundation. Adults are \$4 a plate and children 10 and under are \$2.50 a plate.

"It's really too early to tell how it will turn out because right now we are just learning bits and pieces of the play, but I was very impressed with Monday's practice and I'm getting excited to see the final product," Messenger said.

For more information or to volunteer, call (806) 272-5612 or 272-5690.

JUDGE

From page 1

rehired Friday as full-time municipal court clerk, which will enable the office to stay open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Fisher said.

Huckaby worked about 20 hours per week.

Municipal court handles city traffic and code violations and Class C misdemeanors.

BOARD

From page 1

in Five Area Telephone's service area that belong to the technology consortium.

Moore reported that the CH Foundation had awarded a \$7,000 grant to Tom Boutell's TV broadcasting class and a \$43,000 grant to Pep School for upgrading its math and science curriculum

The CH Foundation is funded by oil, gas and cattle rights of the old Mallett Ranch located in the Whiteface area.

The board reviewed a preliminary accountability rating report that will be released next month that showed 78.6 percent of all MISD students that took the TAAS test received a passing score in all test areas.

Assistant superintendent Adrian Meador reported that 58 students were attending the district's migrant summer school.

The board accepted the resignation of longtime junior high band director Martha Anthis and DeShazo fifth-grade teacher Debra Williams. Anthis has been director of the junior high band for 23 years.

The board also approved the hiring of three teachers: former Texas Tech football standout Cody McGuire, who will teach and coach at the junior high, and DeShazo teachers Leslie Crane and Ginger McCall.

Read it first in The Journal

Clinton unveils plan for wheat purchase

President Clinton ordered the Agriculture Department this week to purchase more than \$220 million worth of wheat for distribution to nations in need, with the express purpose of helping American farmers by boosting prices. The government purchase of more than 80 million bushels of wheat would boost prices by as much as 13 cents per bushel, according to Clinton's weekend radio address.

"America's farm families face a crisis, and we have an obligation to help," Clinton said. "Our farmers face a difficult and dangerous moment. Many farm families have been pushed off their land, and many more could suffer the same fate unless our nation revives its commitment to helping farmers weather hard times."

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said the purchases would begin — this week to send grain to aid the starv in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Indonesia, North Korea and Sudan.

The grain buy could run several months and no specific timetable was given for purchase and distribution of the grain.

"All told, this is in the best

humanitarian tradition — an action, based on human need, to help save lives as it opens new links of trade with these nations," Clinton said. "It's good for American farmers, good for our economy and it's the right thing to do."

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Funded in part through the County Arts Expansion Program of the Texas Commission on the Arts, and a grant from the City of Muleshoe.

Flores captures local PGA event

■ Buhrman, Hodge, Whitt finish second

Ariel Flores of Muleshoe needed a playoff Friday to win his third Northern Texas Junior PGA Westcott Tour title this summer.

Flores defeated Nathan Sheen of Amarillo on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff to win the boys 11-12 division of the junior golf tournament held at Muleshoe Country Club.

Flores recorded a par on the par-5 second hole while Sheen finished with a double bogey. Both golfers had pars on the first playoff hole after finishing tied at 44 in the regular

nine-hole tournament.

Three Muleshoe golfers also finished second in their respective divisions.

Ryan Hodge, a Muleshoe High School junior, fired a four-over-par 74 and finished a stroke back of champion Tyler Chadwick of Farwell in the boys 16-18 division.

Muleshoe freshman A.J. Buhrman's 84 left him three strokes behind Dusty Street of Kress in the boys 14-15 division.

Recent MHS graduate Keisha Whitt shot an 82 and finished eight strokes back in the girls 15-18 group. Goldie Harrilson of Friona won the title with a one-over 74.

Flores, 10, has won all three tournaments he has entered this summer and has qualified for

the Junior PGA area championship July 27-28 in Lubbock.

Northern Texas Junior PGA Westcott Tour Friday, July 19 at Muleshoe CC CO-ED (ages 7-9)

1. Daniel Wood, Canyon, 44; 2. Cade Smith, Muleshoe, 66.

BOYS

(ages 10-11)

1. Ariel Flores, Muleshoe, 44 (won in playoff); 2. Nathan Sheen, Amarillo, 44; 3. Sean Eichorn, Amarillo, 48; 4. Dominick Torres, Hereford, 56.

(ages 12-13)

1. Aaron Sides, Lubbock, 77; 2. Zach Starnes, Snyder, 83; 3. Coby Kygar, Slaton, 86; 4. Travis Street, Kress, 93; 5. Lonnie McFarland, Farwell, 95; 6. Tobin Davis,

Lubbock, 103; 7. Tyrel Gear, Muleshoe, 145.

(ages 14-15)

1. Dusty Street, Kress, 81; 2. A.J. Buhrman, Muleshoe, 84; 3. Marcus Davis, Lubbock, 89; 4. Lane McFarland, Farwell, 97; 5. Jordan Pool, Muleshoe, 101.

(ages 16-18)

1. Tyler Chadwick, Farwell, 73; 2. Ryan Hodge, Muleshoe, 74; 3. Cody Anderson, 77; 4. Grant Snell, 82.

GIRLS

(ages 10-11)

1. Whitney Osborne, Amarillo, 61; 2. Julia Street, Kress, 69.

(ages 12-14)

1. Laura Hunter, Lubbock, 108; 2. Shana Blackard, Hermleigh, 146.

(ages 15-18)

1. Goldie Harrilson, Friona, 74; 2. Keisha Whitt, Muleshoe, 82; 3. Casey Blackard, Hermleigh, 107.

Muleshoe all-stars finish 3rd

FRIONA — Muleshoe simply ran out of gas.

Playing its fourth game in four nights, the Muleshoe Major League all-stars dropped a 10-1 decision to Littlefield Fri-

day, July 10 in the loser's bracket championship game.

After an opening-round loss, Muleshoe won two games — including a miraculous 7-6 come-from-behind win Thursday against Levelland — and finished third in the Area 2 Little League all-star tournament for 11-12 year olds.

Littlefield jumped out to a 6-0 lead after two innings in the loser's bracket final and Muleshoe never recovered.

Muleshoe's biggest threat came in the third inning, when it loaded the bases inning, but managed to score just one run.

"The kids played their hearts out," said Muleshoe manager David Marricle. "But I think

Thursday's win took its toll."

Kade Gaston pitched 3 2/3 innings of two-hit, two-run relief against Littlefield. Ryan Marricle led Muleshoe with two singles and an RBI. Muleshoe finished with six hits.

Bryan King, who pitched a one-hitter earlier in the tournament, started for Muleshoe and was charged with the loss.

Muleshoe stunned Levelland Thursday by scoring seven runs in the sixth inning.

Shallowater, which handed Muleshoe a 4-2 loss in the opening round, hammered Littlefield 15-2 in the championship game Saturday and finished the tournament unbeaten.



Amanda Douglas

Douglas heads for nationals

Amanda Douglas of Garland is a member of the Texas Muzuno Sox, an 18-and-under girls fastpitch softball team which recently qualified for the ASA national tournament July 26-Aug. 2 in Phoenix, Ariz.

Douglas is daughter of Ed and Marsha Douglas and granddaughter of Barbara Blackman of Muleshoe. Ed Douglas is the head coach of the Muzuno Sox.

Amanda Douglas, a senior at Richardson Berkner High School in Garland, was also a member of the Lady Rams softball team that went to the state playoffs in 1997. She plays center field, first base and pitches.

At Berkner, she is also a varsity cheerleader, a member of National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, SADD, and has been chosen for Who's Who in American High Schools for four years.

She has also been chosen as a candidate for the McDonald's Scholar Athlete of the Year, Wendy's High School Heisman award and is an NCA All-American cheerleader.

In high school ball this spring, she led the Dallas/Ft. Worth area with 50 RBIs. She was selected as best hitter on the all-district and all-city teams, and outstanding outfielder for the all-area team.

KENW-TV

Public Television

Evening at

POPS

29th Season Sizzles

Evening at Pops returns this month for its twenty-ninth season on PBS. With a star-studded lineup of guest artists from Hollywood, Broadway, Nashville, Vegas, and even Alice's Restaurant, Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Orchestra fill summer evenings with song.

Now in his fourth season as conductor of the Boston Pops, Keith Lockhart ushers in Evening at Pops 1998 with five exciting new programs and five encore presentations of favorite past performances. The new season features a diverse repertoire of music and entertainment, including a passionate dance performance by the cast of *Luis Bravo's Forever Tango*; singer-songwriter Mary Chapin Carpenter on the same bill with Michael Moschen, whose blend of illusion, mime, light, motion, and juggling is a sight to behold; a special collaboration between Laureate Conductor John Williams and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Rita Dove; and the pairing of violinist Gil Shaham and legendary storyteller/songwriter Arlo Guthrie.

The new season of Evening at Pops 1998 premieres with a guest appearance by star of stage and screen Sarah Jessica Parker, lauded for her roles on Broadway in *Annie*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and for the Hollywood films *LA Story*, *Honeymoon in Vegas*, and *First Wives Club*. Backed by the Boston Pops Orchestra, Parker showcases her comedic and vocal talents with a medley of Hollywood musical numbers, including *Gentlemen Prefer Blonds* and *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

The season opener also includes a special presentation of Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' composition, "Mavis in Las Vegas," filmed on location at some of the most well-known locations throughout the famous city. Rounding out the premiere program are renditions of the hit theme song from *Titanic* and selections from Gershwin's *An American in Paris*.

Evening at Pops airs Mondays at 8:00 p.m. beginning July 27th. It repeats Saturdays at 11:00 p.m.

Between the Lines

Sundays, 1:00 p.m. (begins 26th)

In this new series, host Barry Kibrick interviews high profile authors like Ray Bradbury, Sydney Sheldon, Marianne Williamson, Deepak Chopra, and so on. Authors sign first edition copies of their books that are offered to viewers at the end of the program. The series premieres with guest Jack Canfield, author of *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, a version of which has been on the *N.Y. Times* Best Seller List for over 135 weeks. Ed Solomon, screenwriter of *Men in Black*, also appears.

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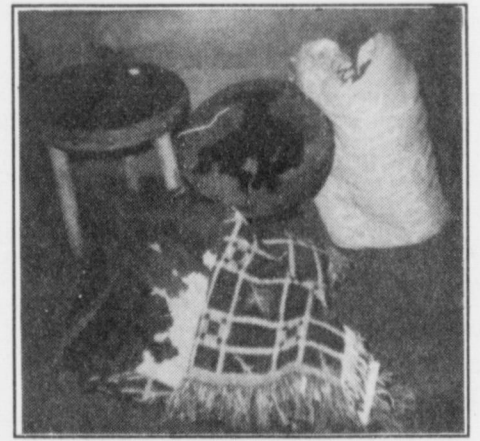
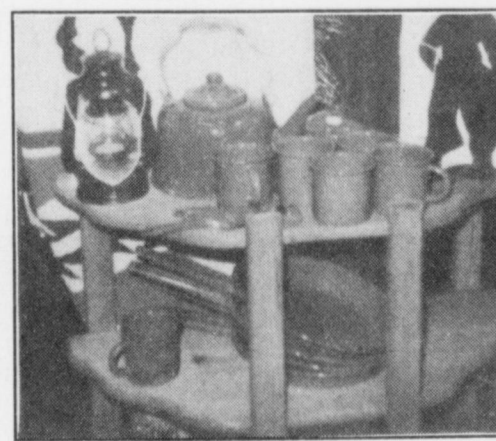
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We have bridal selections for...

- Jennifer Burcie & Russell Brown - July 25th
- Barbara Lennon & Dink Pitcock - Aug. 9th
- Jennifer Hill & Mike Sorenson - Aug. 8th



BLM mismanagement root of wild horse quagmire

Shades of Wild Horse Annie. It's all come back to haunt us. For centuries, since the Spanish conquerors in the 1500s let some of their horses escape, wild horses have been a part of the western rangeland. They were managed, AKA chased, captured, tamed, upbred and culled for dog food by Native American, Mexican, Gringo, cowboys and ranchers who shared their range.

In 1971 the culmination of an organized effort to 'Save the wild horses', became law in the form of the Wild Horse and Burro Protection Act. It became illegal for private citizens to mess with wild horses. Administration of the herds fell to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The wild horse situation today was summed up by assemblyman Carpenter of Nevada who said management of horses on the public range has just been mishandled by the BLM. "I don't think there's anybody that thinks they should all be slaughtered, but they've got to be controlled."

I would like to take exception. I do not think the BLM should take the blame. It's like blaming the school bus driver for the graduates low S.A.T. scores.

Department of Interior policy, which oversees the BLM, is a roller coaster of political manipulation, from James Watt to Bruce Babbitt. The front line BLM employees are whiplashed between ranch friendly administrations to the present Secretary of Interior, who is Public Enemy #1 of western ranchers today.

This lack of continuity is reflected in the kind of people who do the BLM's footwork. The BLM was once an honorable career choice for ranch raised kids. But they are



BAXTER BLACK
ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

few in number today. Now the BLM is peopled with many more who have less real experience of knowledge of rangeland. They are just as enthusiastic, and often mean no harm, but they have very little in common with ranchers who have been managing their land for generations.

So when they wild horse management is entrusted to regional BLM administrators and 'foot soldiers' lacking range or cow savvy, it is no wonder the results are poor.

Add to the good intentioned, but grossly inadequate strategies such as the adopt-a-horse program or "Government Gathering," and we make our BLMer's look like the Keystone cops.

I think the public has come to accept that all wild horses cannot be tameable, trainable pintos with no blemish or unsoundness. And I'd guess most of the BLM employees who are directly involved realize that, too. But their hands are tied by a policy which has outlawed the application of common sense.

We have created a quagmire that can only be changed by congressional amendment. But I have another idea. What if we turned the management of the horse on the range over to the Fish and Game Department. They could license the cowboys — have a season for live capture complete with tags and the right to sell.

We'd solve the problem and get the BLM off the hook. Only disadvantage I can see is they'd have more time on their hands to irritate ranches. But that will never change. It's part of their job description.

Get me to the ER on time

BOSTON — Rafael Pittman fainted at the altar while awaiting his bride-to-be, Shelly. So she followed him to the ambulance, where he was attended to by emergency workers.

"She stepped into the ambulance and one of the paramedics joked they should just get married right there," said Kevin Shea, Emergency Medical Services deputy superintendent. "Suddenly a minister hops in, and, with the two EMTs as witnesses, they did."

The Rev. Jason Sutton said he made the ceremony short and sweet.



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HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY NELL COOPER!

Nell Cooper, formerly of Muleshoe, is celebrating her 90th birthday this month. A birthday party is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 1998 at Union Center Baptist Church in Rising Star, TX. The celebration will take place from 2 pm to 4 pm. All of Nell's friends from the Muleshoe area are invited to attend and help her celebrate this momentous occasion.

U.S. and Nell Cooper lived in Muleshoe from 1931-1974. U.S. was a farmer in the Baileyboro area and Nell was a homemaker and a church worker for the Longview Baptist Church. Nell also worked for both Muleshoe hospitals many years ago.

The birthday event is being hosted by their daughters: Gerrie Cooper & Family, and Ginger Witcher & Family.

Senate moves to aid farmers

Before adopting a \$57.3 billion agriculture spending bill by a 97-2 vote, the Senate last week turned back an attempt to reopen the 1996 farm bill. Instead senators passed a non-binding resolution that encourages Congress to move forward with trade, tax, regulatory reform and risk management legislation desperately needed by American farmers and ranchers and agreed to provide \$500 million in cash assistance to farmers who have suffered crop disasters.

Debate on the bill centered on numerous amendments to help farmers. A Farm Bureau-opposed measure by Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) that would have raised marketing loan rates was rejected 56-43. The amendment would have removed the 1996 farm bill's ceiling on loan rates, permitting the Agriculture Department to raise 1998 crop loan rates to 85 percent of the past five-year market price average.

American Farm Bureau Federation President Dean Kleckner said a combination of factors is responsible for the stress many farmers are experiencing. The 1996 act, he said, set agriculture on a seven-year timetable to eliminate price supports for farmers and ranchers.

"This phase-out, combined with low commodity prices and bad weather in many parts of the country, is straining the fi-

nanical situation of many producers," Kleckner said in a letter to the Senate. "While Farm Bureau is urging Congress to help farmers by enacting international trade enhancements and risk management tools, we continue to support the farm bill and oppose amendments to alter commodity programs."

An amendment by Sen. Kent Conrad (D-N.D.) providing \$500 million in indemnity payments for farmers in some disaster areas passed by voice vote. The payments are considered emergency spending so they are not required to be offset.

A sense of the Senate amendment, offered by Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) and supported by Farm Bureau, was adopted by a 71-28 vote. The amendment urges congressional passage of fast-track trade negotiating authority, the Farm and Ranch Risk Management Act, full funding for the International Monetary Fund, sanctions reform legislation, normal trade status for China, capital gains and estate tax reforms, regulatory reform and full deductibility of health care insurance for the self-employed.

The Senate approved by voice vote an amendment by Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.) that would exempt the sale of food and agriculture products as well as medicine and medical equipment from

current and future unilateral economic sanctions. The measure prevents exports in the event of domestic shortages.

An amendment by Senate Agriculture Chairman Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) was defeated 53-46. The measure would have required the administration and Congress to determine the cost of sanctions to U.S. businesses before enacting them.

The Senate also tabled, 70-29, an amendment by Sen.

Richard Bryan (D-Nev.) to eliminate funding for the market access program. Farm Bureau supported the motion to table.

An amendment by Sen. Tim Johnson (D-S.D.) was added to require labeling meat as to country of origin.

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Featured Patient

Chloe Messenger was born October 28, 1929 in Fletcher, Oklahoma which is near Lawton. She has four siblings, one of which is her twin sister. Chloe started school in Fletcher but soon moved to Tennessee and then to South Texas. Mrs. Walker can't remember the exact year she finally settled in Muleshoe, but says, "The best I can say is I've been here a real long time."

Chloe married Foster Walker on June 25, 1947. Mr. Walker passed away nearly three years ago following a sudden illness.

Throughout nearly 48 years of marriage, Mrs. Walker stayed at home and took care of her home and children while Mr. Walker farmed. The Walkers parented six children: Tommy Walker of Clays Corner, Oleta Spencer of Tennessee, twins Lonnie and Ronnie Walker, Donnie and Willie Walker all of Midlothian, TX. Mrs. Walker has 13 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

When asked about twins born in her family, Chloe says that there are several sets of twins. She counts at least 6 sets on her fingers, but doesn't know how many more she might have forgotten. Lonnie and Donnie are identical, but she is unsure of what type of twins, identical or fraternal, most of the others are.

Chloe is a member of the Church of Christ. When asked about the staff of M.A.H.H.A., Chloe says that she thinks they are pretty good people. "They waited on my husband and now they're waiting on me."

Chloe Walker

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Happy Birthday!

Lordy, Lordy
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Read it first in the Journal



Garden spot of the Week

Jackie Scoggins' yard on Ivy Street was chosen as the Muleshoe Jennyslippers' Garden Spot of the Week earlier this month.

OBITUARIES

BILLY SMART

Billy Smart, 48, of Morton died July 16, 1998 at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas.

Services were held on Saturday at the First United Methodist Church in Morton with the Rev. Ken Peterson of the First United Methodist of O'Donnell and Wayne Thompson of Clyde, Texas, officiating. Burial was at the Morton Memorial Cemetery.

Smart was born June 26, 1950 in Muleshoe. He married Margaret Ledbetter in Morton on May 16, 1970. He was a lifetime resident of Morton and a member of the First United Methodist Church of Morton. He was a past president of the Morton Athletic Booster Club and past board member of the Morton Chamber

of Commerce. Smart owned and operated Smart's Food Mart and Smart's Speed Wash and Laundry in Morton. He also owned North Main St. Grocery in Denver City.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret of Morton; two sons, Ken and Kyle Smart of Morton; one daughter, Molly Smart of Morton; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Smart of Morton, Texas; and one brother, Ronald Smart of Danville, Calif.

The family suggests memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church of Morton and Twice Blessed House, 2732 Gaston St. Suite 119, Dallas, Texas 75226.

BIRTHS

NELA BLATZ

Anna and Frank Blatz of Friona announce the birth of a daughter, Nela Klassen.

She was born at 9:07 a.m. July 11, 1998 at the Muleshoe Area Medical Center. Nela weighed 8 lbs. and 1 oz. She has two brothers, Daniel and Pancho, and a sister, Neta. Grandparents are Herman and Helen Klassen and Daniel and Maria Blatz.

JESUS RODRIGUEZ

Jorge Sr. and Monica Rodriguez of Muleshoe announce the birth of a son, Jesus Leonardo.

He was born at 2:30 p.m. July 10, 1998 in the Muleshoe

Area Medical Center.

Jesus weighed 9 lbs. and 9 oz. He has a sister, Alexis, and a brother, Jorge Luis Jr. Grandparents are Leonardo and Diana Gallegos of Muleshoe and Jesus and Martha Rodriguez. Great grandparents are Aurelio and Socorro Gallegos and Antonio and Justa Flores.

TRISTAN LONG

Brad and Shelley Long of Plano, Texas announce the birth of a son, Tristan Robert.

He was born July 10, 1998, weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. and was 21 inches long.

He has one sister, Carlynn, age 19 months. Grandparents

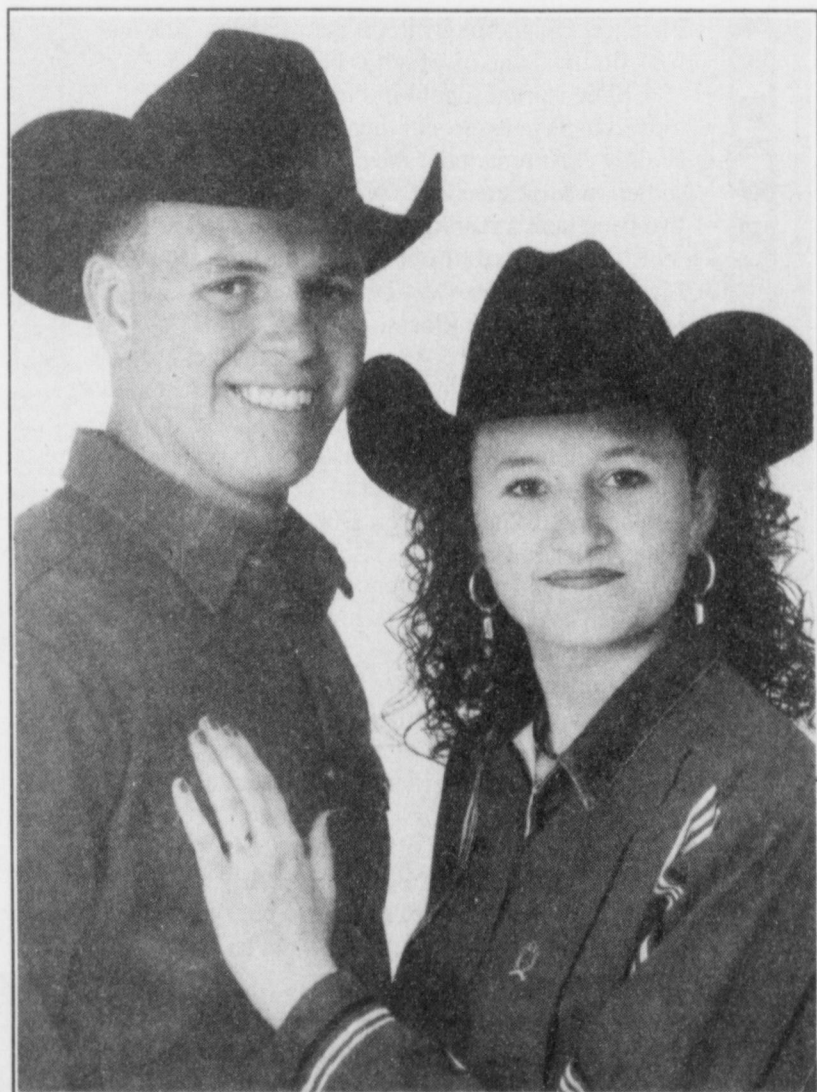
are Carlin and Freda Long of Muleshoe, Ned and Linda Harris of Plano, and Robert and Donna Shield of Bossier City, La.

CYNTHIA PINEDA

Linda and Jose Pineda of Earth announce the birth of their daughter, Cynthia Leticia.

She was born at 8:04 p.m. July 15, 1998 at the Lamb Healthcare Center in Littlefield. Cynthia weighed 6 lbs. and was 18 3/4 inches long. She has a sister, Sandra Lorena, 5, and a brother, Joe Andrew, 5. Grandparents are Connie Pineda and Salvador Salas and Liza Rivera.

ENGAGEMENT



Hill — Sorenson

Billy Joe Hill of Dumas and Dayna Jean Graves of Amarillo announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Natasha Hill, to Mike Lane Sorenson, of Amarillo. Sorenson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Fox of Amarillo and Mike Sorenson of Canyon. Hill is a Lazbuddie High School graduate and also attended American Airlines Travel Academy in Dallas. She is a travel agent with Creative Travel. Sorenson graduated from Randall High. He is employed by Guy's Plumbing as an apprentice plumber. The couple plan to wed Sept. 5 at Country Homes Bed & Breakfast. A reception and dance will follow the wedding.

Acosta visits Far East

Navy Seaman Charles Acosta, son of Dimas Acosta of Muleshoe, recently visited Hong Kong while on a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean and Arabian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln, home ported in Everett, Wash.

During the port visit, Sailors and Marines from Acosta's ship participated in Project

Handclasp providing humanitarian aid to adults and children residing in a disaster relief organization, a school for the mentally handicapped and an international Christian school.

Project Handclasp is an official Navy program established in 1962 to promote mutual understanding, respect and goodwill through direct person-to-person contact between American citizens and citizens of other lands. Educational and goodwill materials donated by various U.S. organizations are distributed to needy citizens in foreign countries.

The 1996 graduate of Muleshoe High School joined the Navy in August 1996.

Certified Nurse's Aide Course offered at South Plains

A Certified Nurse's Aide course begins Aug. 3 at South Plains College.

The class will meet 5:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesday and Thursdays through Oct. 8 in the SPC Technical Arts Building, room 112. Cost is \$264.75, plus textbook.

Fifty-six hours of classroom instruction and 24 hours of clinical instruction will be included. Clinical instruction will be held at Littlefield Hospital-ity House.

For more information, contact the SPC Office of Continuing and Distance Education at (806) 894-9611, ext. 2341.

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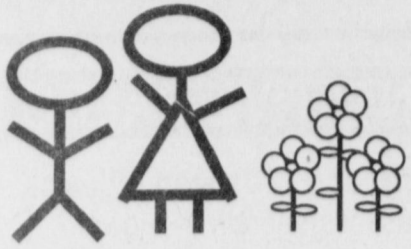
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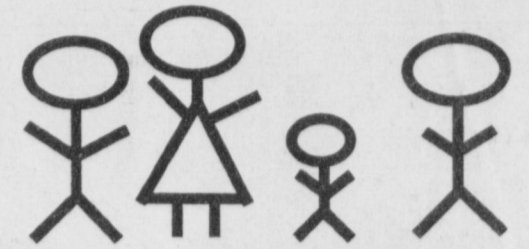
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