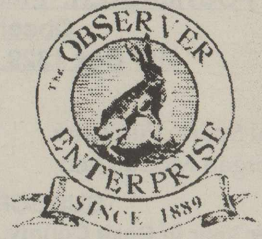


THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

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Friday, February 7, 2003

Local facilities have positive county impact

by Hal Spain

Except for a few ornery quail hunters, this year's hunting season (whitetail, at least), is in the books. County residents have often heard how many dollars deer hunters bring to Coke County in the form of leases, gasoline, accommodations, and food. What you may not be aware of is the economic impact our deer processing plants have on our local economy.

This past week I visited with Newt and Tonya Netting, who own Coke County Deer Processing at 703 E. 5th Street in Robert Lee, and Brian and Kerry Hall, who own B&K Processing and Hall of Fame Taxidermy in Bronte.

In describing this year's season, Kerry Hall stated that this has been a "better than average" year for horns, with approximately 30% more shoulder mount orders being placed with the taxidermy shop. He also stated that most of this year's deer were in excellent shape, with the bucks starting out fat in the fall and progressively leaner past the rut and into the winter season. The does, on the other hand, started out the season pretty lean, and were fatter during the latter portion of the season.

Newt Netting estimated that he would process approximately 800 white-tails this year, not including exotics, pigs, elk, and buffalo. That same figure for B&K at Bronte is over 1400. If you add those two figures together, you come up with 2200 deer processed at these two facilities this year.

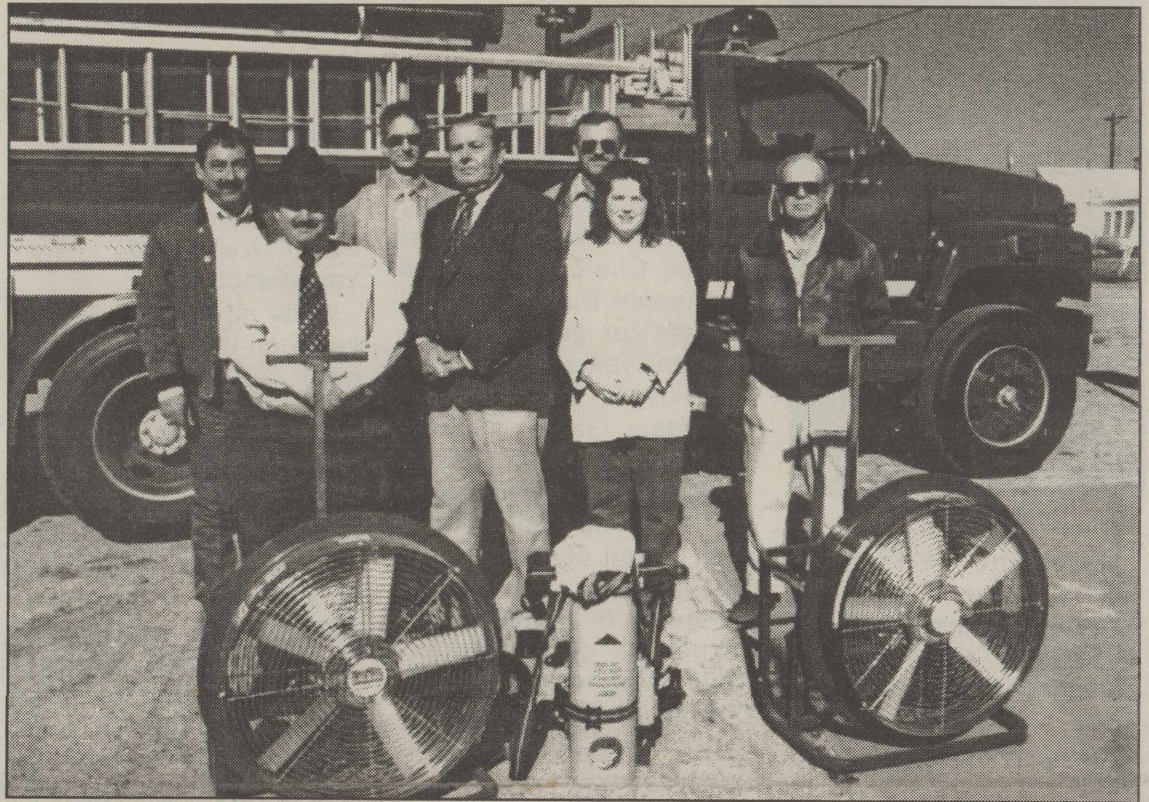
To arrive at the economic impact of these two operations, you have to start estimating a little from this point on. If you assume that some hunters pay the absolute minimum for processing (\$55 to \$65), and other hunters shoot the

works and have all sorts of sausage ground, etc., they may spend well over \$100 per deer. For our purposes we used a somewhat conservative figure of \$75 per head for processing. Using these figures, 2200 deer processed @ \$75 per head totals \$165,000 in processing fees for these two facilities on just whitetail deer.

To take this even further, you have to consider a number of factors and do some more guessing. Before the opening of these two facilities, most of these deer were either taken out of county or processed in camp. So practically all of these funds capitalize on a new market; which heretofore we were allowing to escape to other locations. Along with these factors, one must consider the extra gasoline, accommodations, and food these hunters spend in the county which is related only to deer processing. Add to this the extra payroll (primarily parttime) this creates, and you see more families being able to stay in Coke County and make a living. Don't forget these businesses pay their share of city, county, and school taxes, taking some of the burden off the rest of us.

Another related business which is a direct spinoff of these two processing plants is Hall of Fame Wildlife Studio, a taxidermy shop at 115 W. Main in Bronte, owned and operated by Brian Hall. Don't forget to add this to the total when you consider the economic impact of this industry.

As with all of these types of numbers, there are as many estimates as there are people involved in the process. All factors considered, it is our estimate that the economic impact of deer processing in Coke County is somewhere between \$500,000 and \$1 mil-



The City of Robert Lee recently signed an SEP (Supplemental Environmental Program) contract, which allows municipal entities to offset administrative penalties by conducting local clean-up and other types of projects. The City purchased a foam unit, exhaust fans, breathing apparatus, and hoses in the amount of \$9850 to offset the fine received on the water treatment plant. These funds previously went into the state's general fund. The SEP Program was designed to allow these funds to remain in the local community. Shown with the new equipment are (from left): Tony Resendez, Concho Valley RC&D Coordinator; Ricky Anderson, Bill Koger, both with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; Allen Amos, Concho Valley RC&D Chairman; Mark Sides, local conservationist with NRCS; Kay Torres, City of RL secretary; and Bud Thompson, with the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department, recipient of the new equipment.

lion. Not too shabby for a parttime job, in our opinion.

Coke County Community Network news

These classes will be offered in February:

*Feb. 10th, 11th, & 13th - Spreadsheet Basic (Excel)

Teacher: Jerry Horn, Location Elementary Lab

*Feb. 17th, 18th, & 20th - Web Design (Word & Netscape)

Teacher: Winnie McPeck, Location High School Lab

*Feb. 24th, 25th, & 27th - Troubleshooting and Upgrading your PC

Teacher: Jerry Horn, Location Elementary Lab

If you are not enrolled, please call 453-4555 to enroll in a class.

Skywarn training set for February 11

Skywarn training will be held Feb. 11th, at 7 pm in the Commissioners courtroom in Robert Lee. Hector Guerrero with the National Weather Service will present the training.

Contact Keith Eubanks 453-2908 or Bud Thompson 453-4423 for information.

City of Bronte town meeting set

A Town Meeting will be held at the Bronte City Hall on February 13, 2003, from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Citizens will have an opportunity to address the City Council and Commissioners, Bill Wheat and George Snapp, regarding daily operations of the City and the County.

Bronte UMC opens Prayer Chapel

The First United Methodist Church of Bronte has converted their church parlor into a Prayer Chapel. "I am very excited about the opening of our Prayer Chapel. I would like to encourage everyone in the community to come and spend some time in meditation and prayer. With all of the challenges and circumstances prevalent in

both our personal lives as well as the situation of our world today, I believe the time is ripe for us to seek God's power and presence in our lives" says Pastor Paul A. Evans.

The Prayer Chapel is open to the public and is open daily from 7 am - 7 pm. The Prayer Chapel can be accessed through the door on the north side of the fellowship hall.

San Angelo Writers' Club to meet February 11

The San Angelo Writers' Club will meet at 7 pm Tuesday, Feb. 11, in the conference room at VistaCare Family Hospice, 940 B Arroyo Drive, San Angelo. An informal social period will precede the meeting, beginning at 6:30 pm.

Anyone interested in writing, whether or not a published author, is invited to attend. For more information, call Barbara Jennison at 942-0632.

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Per Year in Coke County.....\$20.00
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Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$25.00

Obituaries



Spain

Geraldine Elizabeth "Gerry" (Fouts) Spain, 84, formerly of Haskell, Texas died at 4:15 am Wednesday, January 29, 2003 in Hilltop Haven Nursing Home in Gunter, Texas after an extended illness. Services were 2 pm January 31, 2003 at the First Baptist Church in Haskell. Dr. Troy Culpepper, former pastor of the First Baptist Church officiated. Burial was in Willow Cemetery directed by Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Mrs. Spain was born December 15, 1918 in Jud, Texas, the daughter of J.R. "Jim" and Mary (Malone) Fouts. The Fouts family migrated from Georgia to Texas at the turn of the century and moved to Haskell County in 1902, becoming prominent and active members of the farming community.

On May 6, 1938, Gerry married Harold Russell Spain in Ardmore, Oklahoma. After the war, the couple moved to Haskell in September of 1946 to live and raise their family. Harold R. Spain was postmaster from 1948 to 1966 and past president of the Texas State Postmasters Assn. in 1963. He was a rural carrier from 1966 until his death January 4, 1977.

Gerry (Fouts) Spain graduated from Haskell High School in 1936, Hardin Simmons University in 1955 and was an elementary school teacher in Haskell. She retired in May of 1980 with the elementary faculty presenting her with a breakfast and a

plaque in appreciation for her twenty five year teaching career. She was a member of the Texas State Teachers Association, Haskell County Teachers Association, Association of Texas Educators and Retired Teachers Association.

Mrs. Spain was a long time member of the First Baptist Church of Haskell and taught Sunday School classes for young people for many years.

Survivors include one daughter, Gayle (Spain) Maxson and husband, Dwight of Denton, Texas; sons, Philip Spain and wife, Helen of Denton and Hal Spain and wife, Kimberly of Robert Lee, Texas; six grandchildren, Kevin Maxson and wife, Corinia of Denton, Texas, Laura Kirk and husband, Allen of Bayfield, Colorado, Stephanie Spain of Sanger, Texas, Angela Spain of Dallas, Texas, Christi Savage and husband, Obie of New York, N.Y. and Wade Spain of Waco, Texas; eight great-grandchildren, Ariel and Robert Maxson of Denton, Texas and Luke, Zachary, Jessica, Matthew, Michael and Melissa Kirk of Bayfield, Colorado; and one sister, Lois (Fouts) St. Clair of Lubbock, Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents, James Robert "Jim" and Mary (Malone) Fouts and husband, Harold R. Spain.

Pallbearers for the service were grandsons Kevin Maxson of Denton, Texas and Wade Spain of Waco, Texas; grandson-in-law, Allen Kirk of Bayfield, Colorado; George Fouts, John Fouts and Carl Bailey all of Haskell, Texas. Honorary pallbearers were Deacons of the First Baptist Church of Haskell.

28-1tp

Price

Willie Ray Price, 82, died Saturday, February 1, 2003 in a San Angelo nursing home.

Graveside services, 4 miles north of Silver, at McKenzieville Cemetery, were held Wednesday, February 5, 2003 at 2:00 pm, with J.C. Wallace officiating. Services were under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Mr. Price was born January 15, 1921 in Owen, Texas to Morrison and Nellie Price. He married Daisy Bloodworth in Colorado City, Texas, September 16, 1939. She preceded him in death August 23, 1990. He later married Dorothy Manship in San Angelo, Texas on June 13, 1992.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Glen; two grandsons, John Walker Price and John Curtis McCurdy, Jr.; and a brother-in-law, Charles Honea.

He is survived by Dorothy, three sons, Ed and wife, Maureen, Gary and wife, Margaret and Jeffrey; two daughters, Jamie and husband, John McCurdy and Cindy Price; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren; three sisters, Louise Honea, Viola and husband, Truett Dennis, Imogene and husband, Ray Youngblood.

Willie ranched for several years on the Garner Ranch near Girvin, Texas. He was inducted into the United States Army on April 28, 1944, serving in WWII as a Tech/Sgt. in the CBI-China, Burma, India Theater in Transportation Ordinance 3581st and 882nd. Upon his discharge on May 28, 1946, he began working in the oil fields around the Odessa area, where he was also an active 4-H leader for many years. Later Atlantic Richfield transferred him to Wyoming. He left the oil field business in 1970 and moved to Colorado where he raised hogs. He and Daisy moved to the Silver-Robert Lee area in 1981.

28-1tc

Ybarra

Pedro "Pete" Ybarra, also known as "Tata", went to be with his Lord Saturday, January 25, 2003 at an Abilene hospital. Service was held at 2:00 pm on Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Robert Lee with Jody Rodriguez officiating. Burial followed

in the Robert Lee Hispanic Cemetery under the direction of Elmwood Funeral Home in Abilene.

Survivors include five daughters and sons-in-law, Julia and Josue Longoria, Sotera and Juan Galvan, and Josephine Rocha all of Robert Lee; Lalita and Eliazar Saucedo and Rosa and Oscar Tavarez both of Abilene, one son, Edward Ybarra and wife Frances of Abilene; three grandsons which he raised as his own children, Salvador Longoria and wife Kelly of Odessa, Pete Ybarra and wife Deborah of Keller, and Reyes Ybarra and wife Josie of Abilene; 22 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-great-grandchild; 2 brothers, Inez Ybarra of Ozona, Santiago Ybarra of Abilene, 2 sisters, Regina Santibanez of Fort Worth, and Maria Pena of San Angelo.

Sanchez

Raymond Calistro Sanchez, 43, of Bronte, died on Monday, February 3, 2003, at a San Angelo hospital. Rosary was held at 6:00 pm Wednesday, at Saint James. Graveside services were held at 10:00 am Thursday, February 6, 2003, at Fairview Cemetery. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, Alicia Sanchez of Bronte; his parents, Ramon and Sophia Sanchez of Bronte; two sons, Ray Sanchez and Ricky Sanchez, both of San Angelo; one step-daughter, Natalie Armendarez; one step-son, Joseph Flores, both of San Angelo; three sisters, Margaret Peters of Bronte, Helen Gloria of San Angelo, and Christina Tapia of Bronte, and four grandchildren.

Shelton

Lonnie Shelton, 100, of Bronte died Tuesday, February 4, 2003, at a Bronte nursing home.

Graveside services were held at 11:00 am on Wednesday, February 5,

2003, in Fairview Cemetery. Arrangements were by Shaffer Funeral Home.

Survivors include one sister-in-law, Rosa Lott of Wichita Falls; great nieces, Linda Decker of San Angelo, Brenda Green of Winters, and Dolores Hinson of Brownwood; and great nephews, Gary Proffitt of Goldthwaite, Howard Lott of Wichita Falls, and Alfred A. Bennett of Van.

Ministry to shut-ins

The high school girls Sunday school class at First Baptist Church would like to begin a ministry to the shut-in community of Bronte. The girls would like to bring a cassette tape recording of Sunday's services to interested shut-ins.

If you would like to receive a cassette tape on a weekly basis, please call the church office at 473-2331, Monday through Thursday and give your name, physical address, and phone number. The girls are excited about this ministry and hope to receive a good response.

Churches of Robert Lee

Invite You to Worship

- Emmanuel Pentecostal**
PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy
(915) 453-2360
Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm
- First United Methodist Church**
PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne
(915) 453-2417
Rev. Steve Rowe, Pastor
Sun. 10 am Sunday School
11 am Worship
Wed. 7 pm Choir
- Northside Church of Christ**
PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne
(915) 453-2619 or 453-2270
Tommy Williams, Minister
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;
Wed. 7 pm
- Pecan Baptist**
PO Box 542 • 12 W. Sterling City Hwy
(915) 453-4645
Rev. Dale Patterson, Pastor
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
- Southside Church of Christ**
PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston
(915) 453-2176
Frank J. Daniels, Preacher
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School
11 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Worship
- Robert Lee Baptist Church**
PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th
(915) 453-2724
Dr. Kenneth G. Patrick, Int. Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
11 am & 7 pm, Worship
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**
601 W. 10th
(915) 365-2687
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor
Sat. 6 pm
- Victory Assembly of God**
PO Box 638 • 6th & Houston
(915) 453-2208
Rev. Erma Johnson, Pastor
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship
Wed. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting
- Tennyson Baptist Church**
Hwy 277 • Tennyson, Texas
(915) 482-0663
Rev. Rickey D. Green, Pastor
Sun. 10:00 am, Sunday School
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship

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The Red Hat Society meeting was held at the Ballinger home of Nell Richards. Twenty-nine ladies enjoyed the wonderful food and gracious hospitality. Ladies 50 and under must wear lavender with a pink hat and ladies over 50 are required to wear purple with a red hat when attending the meetings.

Bronte UMC opens Prayer Chapel

The First United Methodist Church of Bronte has converted their church parlor into a Prayer Chapel. "I am very excited about the opening of our Prayer Chapel. I would like to encourage everyone in the community to come and spend some time in meditation and prayer. With all of the challenges and circumstances prevalent in both our personal lives as well as the situation of our world today, I believe the time is ripe for us to seek God's power and presence in our lives" says Pastor Paul A. Evans.

The Prayer Chapel is open to the public and is open daily from 7 am - 7 pm. The Prayer Chapel can be accessed through the door on the north side of the fellowship hall.

Look Who's New Sawyer Grant Davis

Rosie and Garland Davis are pleased to announce the birth of their newest grandchild, Sawyer Grant Davis, son of Gary and Carmela Davis and big sister, Marlow of Denver City, Texas.

Sawyer arrived on Monday, January 20, 2003 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. He weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. and was 20 1/2" long.

FSO Representative available

The Family Shelter Outreach Program has representatives available to

Coke County teen and adult residents for counseling, referrals, and other assistance. Staff members are also available for presentations to schools and other organizations.

For more information, contact the Outreach Services offices of the Family Shelter at 655-5774.

Waldrop graduates

Texas Tech University awarded about 1,500 degrees during Fall 2002 commencement ceremonies, which took place on December 14, 2002.

Students who made the President's List or the Dean's List in Fall 2002 numbered 1,498 and 3,315 respectively. A student must have completed at least 12 qualifying course hours during a semester with a grade point average of 4.0 to be on the President's List. To be on the Dean's list, a student must have a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9, having taken at least 12 qualifying course hours during the semester.

From Robert Lee, Jaclyn Waldrop graduated from the University, fall 2002 with a Master of Science degree.

Runnels Baptist Association news

The Runnels Baptist Association will meet Sunday, February 16, 2003 at First Baptist Church, Winters for a music festival.

The executive board and W.M.U. will not meet.

The music festival will begin at 4:00 pm. A light

meal will be served following the festival.

Ken Williams, Association Music Director, is in charge of the program. Churches that have individuals, ensembles, choirs, or instrumentalists that would like to sing or play, may contact Ken at: 104 W. Truitt, Winters, Texas 79567 or phone 754-5521.

The public is invited to attend.

Sorosis club news

The Sorosis Club of Bronte met Thursday, January 23, in the home of Mary Glenn.

Annessa Hays, a dietitian from Shannon Hospital presented the program. It was interesting to hear what foods we should or should not be eating. It comes down to a matter of common sense. Eat smaller amounts of good nutritional foods to be healthy.

We discussed the birthday party for the nursing home in Bronte. Mary Frances Glenn and Jean Fancher will make birthday cakes and Marilyn Bivins or Mary Glenn will get a box of candy for the birthday honoree.

Members present were Swan Archinal, Marilyn Bivins, Jean Fancher, Mary Frances Glenn, Mary Glenn, Diane Luckett, Joyce Hoffman, and Janet Wommack.

The next meeting will be at Diane Luckett's home. There will be a silent auction and Eva Henley, motivational speaker from San Angelo, will be the speaker.

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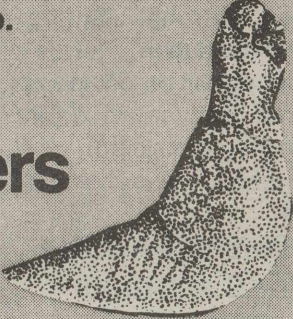
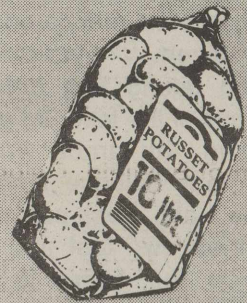
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BRONTE SCHOOL NEWS

Bronte ISD Fitness Center update

The schedule for the fitness center will be the same for Feb. 10th - 13th. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 6:15-7:00 am, and Monday - Thursday 3:45-6:00 pm.

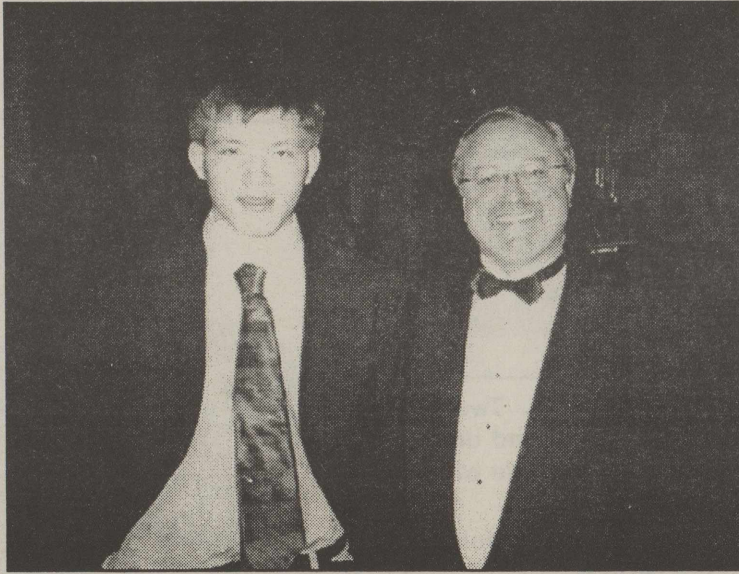
The six certified people that are supervising the center are doing this on their own time. They do not get paid for this. Working out on the circuit takes around 20 minutes, so please do not come in 10 minutes before the closing time. The fitness center wants to keep this open for the public but we have to follow the guidelines of the National School Fitness Foundation.

The times will be posted on the front and south doors (next to the ag building).

The times are subject to change.

Parents attempt the TAKS at Bronte elementary

On Thursday, January 23, Bronte Elementary hosted its annual Parents Attempt the TAKS Night. The night began with a delicious



On January 24, Stephen Tomes received the honor of performing for the Region 2 TMEA All Region Orchestra at Wichita Falls High School. Stephen, a sophomore at Bronte High School, was one of the 34 who qualified December 7 when over 80 area high school violin students met for competition at Cooper High School in Abilene.

The All Region Orchestra performed an outstanding concert under the direction of Boyce Wyrick of Coronado High School in Lubbock.

Mexican Pile-On prepared by teacher volunteers: Kandace Arrott, Michele Bearden, and Tammy Hortenstine.

A brief presentation of the new requirements of TAKS, the new state-mandated test, was given. Participants began taking four different portions of the test: 3rd grade reading, 4th grade writing, 5th grade science, and 6th grade math. Each participant got their own test and only shared the score if they chose to do so.

At the end of the night, winners for door prizes were drawn. Bronte Elementary would like to thank all the participants of PAT Night.

Lady Longhorn basketball results

On the 28th, the Lady Longhorn's took on Eden and won by a score of 48-37. Individual scoring: Britney McCutchen 11; Ashley Denton 8; Lillian McMullan 2; Kanah Coalson 4; Kailey Howell 3; Rebecca Rawlings 1; Lindsay Springer 5; Jasmine Kresta 2; and Heather Richey 12.

The Lady Longhorns took a loss against Christoval on the 29th by a score of 53-59. Individual scoring was Britney McCutchen 11; Ashley Denton 6; Natalee Reed 2; Lillian McMullan 5; Kanah Coalson 4; Kailey Howell 2; Rebecca Rawlings 1; Lindsay Springer 8; Jasmine Kresta 2; and Heather Richey 12.

Longhorn basketball results

The Bronte Longhorns won against Eden by a score of 59-44. Stats for Bronte: Charlie Bettis 38 points, 8 rebounds, 3 steals; Joel Webb 11 rebounds, 6 assists; BJ Hall 8 points, 4 assists, 5 steals; Cody Lee 7 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists; Scott

Snyder 4 points, 7 rebounds; and Kinlee Hoyt 2 points.

The Longhorns were defeated by Irion County by a score of 40-34. Stats for Bronte: Charlie Bettis 2 points; Joel Webb 14 points, 5 rebounds; BJ Hall 9 points, 4 assists; Cody Lee 4 points; Kinlee Hoyt 5 points.

Bronte JV girls basketball results

On the 30th, the Bronte JV girls took on Irion County, but came up short by a score of 17-39. Individual scoring for Bronte was Christan Kelly 8; Ashleigh Kelly 7 and Melissa Palmer 2.

Lady Longhorn b'ball results

The Lady Longhorns game against Irion County was close but they came up short by a score of 50-55. Scoring for Bronte was Britney McCutchen 8; Ashley Denton 2; Lillian McMullan 6; Kanah Coalson 5; Kailey Howell 5; Lindsay Springer 4; and Heather Richey 20.

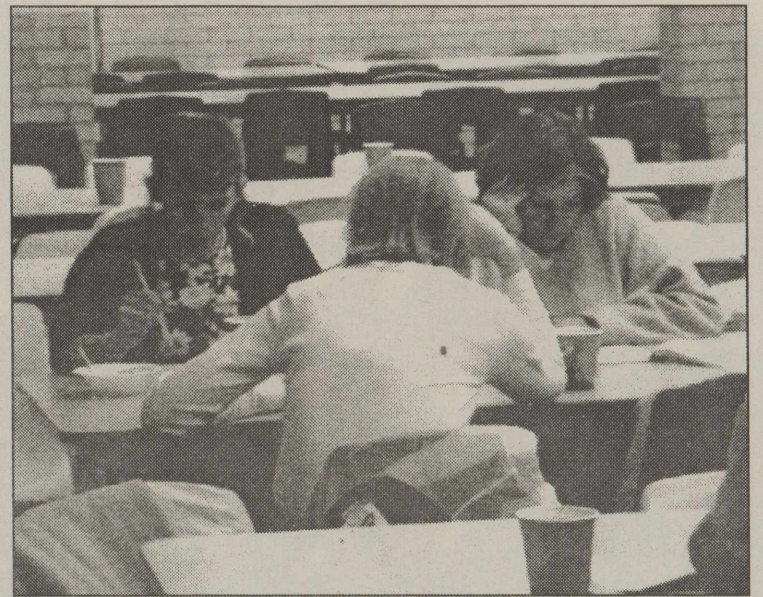
Bronte JV boys basketball results

On the 24th, Bronte was defeated by Christoval by a score of 29-44. Scoring for Bronte was Garrett Acker 3, Riley Coalson 4, Garrett Jackson 6, Chase Williams 12, Joseph Isreal 2, and Zack White 2.

On the 28th, the JV won their game against Eden by a score of 41-18. Scoring for Bronte was Garrett Acker 2, Chase Williams 13, Jaylon Saunders 2, Jesse Herold 2, Joseph Isreal 16, and Zack White 6.

Bronte Shorthorns b'ball results

On the 3rd, the Bronte Shorthorn "B" team was defeated by Robert Lee by a score of 14-17. Kyle Nealey scored 2 points, Brett Wills 8



Stephanie White (from left), Dawn Kelso and Rhonda Sedden are deep in concentration as they attempt the practice TAKS test at Bronte Elementary Thursday, January 23.

and Kyler Lee 4.

The "A" team won their game against Robert Lee 46-19. Scoring for Bronte were Logan Rawls 19, Jonathan Marrs 4, Josh Scott 3, Jonathan Ehl 8, Eric Hendrickson 7 and Phillip Rawlings 5.

Lady Shorthorns b'ball results

The Bronte Lady Shorthorn "B" team lost their game on the 3rd to Robert Lee by a score of 14-20. Scoring for Bronte were Stephanie Flores 6, Marcy McMorris 4, Beth Sanchez 2 and Miranda Parks 2.

The Bronte Lady Shorthorn "A" team was defeated by Robert Lee by a score of 21-

52. Scoring for Bronte were Heather Mitchell 6, Crystal Wallar 2, Katie Cooper 12 and Kirsten Gorden 1.



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School Menu

Breakfast

Monday, Feb. 10

Cereal, sliced peaches, toast, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Pancake and sausage on a stick, apple juice, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Breakfast pizza, apple juice, milk

Thursday, Feb. 13

Sausage, orange juice, biscuit, milk

Friday, Feb. 14

Blueberry muffin, pear halves, teddy grams, milk

Lunch

Monday, Feb. 10

Pizza, tossed salad, sweet corn, spice cake, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Frito pie, chili & cheese, pinto beans, tossed salad, corn chips, peach cobbler, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Corn dog, macaroni & cheese, tator tots, mixed fruit, peanut butter cookies, milk

Thursday, Feb. 13

Oven fried chicken with gravy, creamed potatoes, green beans, rolls, banana pudding, milk

Friday, Feb. 14

Sub sandwiches, ham & cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, orange half, bun, chips, pink panther cake, milk

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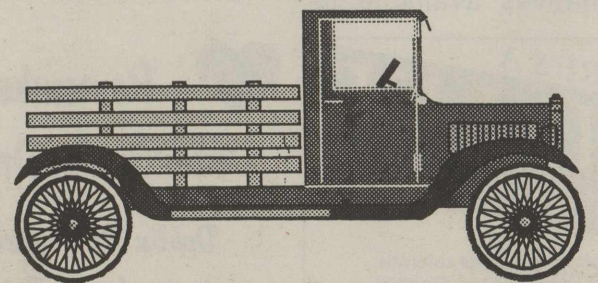
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ROBERT LEE SCHOOL NEWS



Angelica Barrera and Cody Williamson were the winners of the Robert Lee High School Spanish Club's Super Bowl baskets.

RL Powerlifting team results

The Robert Lee Powerlifting teams competed this past weekend in Coahoma. Both teams finished in 3rd place overall. Individually, these people placed as follows in their respective weight classes: Anson Lott 1st, Brandon Soliz 1st, Lindsey Roe 2nd, Carolina Vera 2nd, Omar Saucedo 2nd, Sean Barnett 2nd, Cole Flanagan 3rd, Stacey Denton 4th, Brian Abalos 4th, Bridgette Barnett 5th, Veronica Ceritos 5th, Shannon Honse 5th, and Brittany Soliz 5th.

Their next meet will be Saturday in Big Lake.

RLJH girls results

At Robert Lee on the 3rd, the RLJH "A" girls basketball team won from Bronte by a score of 52-21. Scoring for Robert Lee was Jaden Alexander 2, Bretnie Reed 8, Sarah Philley 4, Kelsy Duncan 6, Kathrine Fryar 6, Becca Skinner 2, Dixie Johnson 8, Katie Bessent 2, Tashsa Aguirre 6, and Rosa Rojas 8.

On the 1st, the RLJH "B" team held a tournament here and

played their 1st game against Garden City. The "B" girls lost this game by a score of 5-17. Scoring for Robert Lee was Megan Percifull 4 and Molly Burns 1.

In the 2nd game, the "B" team won from Sterling City by a close score of 12-10. Scoring for Robert Lee was Anna Rojas 2, Megan Percifull 1, Ashley Hopson 1 and Molly Burns 8.

On the 3rd, the "B" girls won from Bronte 20-14. Scoring for Robert Lee was Kasey Skinner 3, Anna Rojas 6, Ashley Hopson 1 and Andrea Pineda 10.

The Robert Lee Jr. High "A" girls finished the season with a 10-5 record. The "B" girls finished with a 10-4 record.

RL varsity girls results

On Jan. 28th, Robert Lee outscored Roscoe by a score of 37-35. Robert Lee scoring: Kindra Matthews 6, Tyler Lott 7, Krystal Soliz 8, Christina Middleton 9, and Amie Kendall 7.

The varsity lost to Sterling City on the 31st by a score of 30-45. Robert Lee scoring: Jessica Fluhmann 2, Kindra Matthews 6, Tyler Lott 2, Krystal Soliz 10, Cassidy Wink 6, Amie Kendall 3, and Michele Sanchez 1.

RLJV girls results

On the 28th, the JV won from Roscoe by a score of 19-6. Robert Lee scoring: Anly Gallegos 3, Kayli Dickey 2, Brittany Soliz 2, Tiffany Bagwell 2, Julie Riley 2, and Lindsey Roe 8.

They lost a close game against Sterling City by a score of 24-27. Robert Lee scoring: Anly Gallegos 3, Julie Riley 14 and Lindsey Roe 6.

RLJH boys results

On the 1st, in the RL "B" tournament, the "7th" grade boys won from Sterling City by a score of 22-14. Scoring for Robert Lee was Brody Dillard 2, Cameron Hodge 2, Chase Roe 14 and Chris LaRue 4.

In the 2nd game, the "7th" grade boys lost a close one to Garden City by a score of 14-17. Scoring for Robert Lee was Brody Dillard 2, Cameron Hodge 4, Luke Thurman 1, Chase Roe 3 and Chris LaRue 4.

On the 3rd, the RL "7th" grade boys won a close one over Bronte by a score of 17-14. Scoring for Robert Lee; Taylor Percifull 2, Chris LaRue 6, Brody Dillard 3, Cameron Hodge 5, and Chase Roe 1.

The "8th" grade boys lost their game to Bronte by a score of



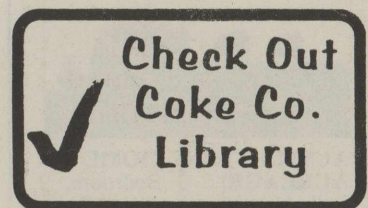
The Robert Lee High School Spanish Club recently enjoyed a trip to San Antonio. Some of the activities enjoyed were Ripley's Believe It Or Not, the IMAX Theatre, the Alamo, the Malibu Race Track, and a Yanaguana cruise. Enjoying the trip were sponsors, (bottom photo) Lindsey and Janet Wallace, Robert and Maliah Fryar, Ricky and Elena Sanchez, Douglas and Denise Roberts, Marshall and Sheri Millican, Will and Kelly Beuschel, Kevin and Tammy Roe, Brad Roberts, Trey Gardner, Yolanda Saucedo, Frances Mendoza, Terry and Linda Eaton, and Valerie Howard. Students traveling to San Antonio were (top photo) Cassidy Wink, Josh Conner, Evan Braswell, Cara Eaton, Stewart Millican, Tyler Lott, Yolanda Olguin, Alana Parker, Monica Barrera, Robert Raney, Shelby Roe, Ashlee Millican, Ashley Womack, Chris Eubanks, Stacey Denton, Clayton Austin, Tina Arellano, Monica Rodriguez, Ruben Torres, Veronica Cerritos, Brittany Soliz, Omar Saucedo, Will Howard, Zachary Sanchez, Chris Torres, Becca Saucedo, Briana Longoria, Julie Samaniego, Rachel Wallace, Tiffany Bagwell, Krystal Soliz, Kyla Millican, Andra Braswell, Stephanie Trejo, Lindsey Roe, Kayli Dickey, Brandon Soliz, Michele Sanchez, Christina Middleton, Felipe Arellano, R. J. Service, Anly Gallegos, Nicole Sanchez, Carolina Vera, Amanda Thurman, Tim Messer, Amie Kendall, Josh Alexander, and Alan Roe.

46-17. Robert Lee scoring was Clay Antille 5, Cody McCabe 4, Kevin Hodge 5 and Eleasar Vera 3.

Elementary Science Fair slated

The Robert Lee Elementary 4th, 5th, & 6th grade science classes will be holding a Science Fair on February 11th.

Judging of projects will take place that afternoon. Open house for relatives and friends will be held at 6:30 that evening in the cafeteria. Come and enjoy the displays.



The Senior Citizens group who meet regularly at the Rec Hall for lunch and games have added another interest. Reverend Steve Rowe has been making regular trips to the library to pick up large print books to be checked out at the Center. The library has applied for a grant to purchase more large print books. Part of the application called for letters from people who would benefit from the large print collection.

Several members wrote very expressive letters in support of the large print collection. It is hoped that the Coke County Library will be a recipient. If the grantor pays attention to the letters, the chances are really good.

The Abilene Public Library is offering two workshops that might be of local interest. One workshop is entitled Writing About Your Family and is being held February 18 at 7:00 pm and will be conducted by Dr. Al Haley. Another workshop entitled Storytelling is being held February 22 in the Main Library auditorium and will be conducted by Toni Simmons,

Librarian/Dramatist. Call 915-676-6067 for more information.

The Library has a set of IRS forms available for anyone who needs them. The forms 1040, 1040A and 1040EZ as well as the Earned Income Credit forms are available. There will be another shipment soon of forms for itemizing.

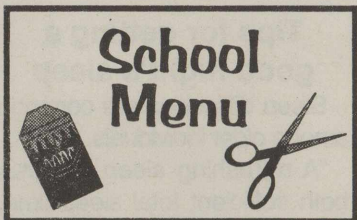
Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; Fridays, 8-12. Books may be returned to the Main Street Market in Bronte and to the 24/7 book drop and to the library. Story Hour is on Tuesday at 10:00 am and the Head Start Hour is Wednesday at 9:30 am.

COMING SOON

TO

ROBERT LEE

AND SURROUNDING AREA



Breakfast

Monday, Feb. 10

Juice, cinnamon roll, cereal, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Juice, pigs in blanket, cereal, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Juice, donut, cereal, milk

Thursday, Feb. 13

Juice, biscuit, sausage, cereal, milk

Friday, Feb. 14

Juice, muffin, cereal, milk

Lunch

Monday, Feb. 10

Salisbury steak, scallop potatoes, corn on cob, rolls, fruit cocktail, milk

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Corn dogs, tator tots, broccoli/carrots with ranch dip, cookie, milk

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Taco, cheese, salad, chili beans, peaches, Spanish rice, milk

Thursday, Feb. 13

Grilled ham & cheese sandwich, pickle spears, hash browns, salad, fruit, milk

Friday, Feb. 14

Chick-fil-A, chips, strawberries, pickles, milk

Program deadline fast approaching

The FSA Office reminds area farmers and ranchers to make an appointment to sign up for the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP). The deadline to apply for DCP is April 1, 2003. This date is outlined in legislation and no extensions or exceptions will be made.

The new farm legislation is complex in nature. Maximizing benefits received from these programs will require producers to organize and plan ahead before visiting our offices.

The sign-up for DCP is averaging at least one hour per farm. Producers are encouraged to avoid procrastinating and come in as soon as possible to make application.

Our office is processing applications as soon as possible so payments can be issued to producers as soon after sign-up as possible.

For more information about DCP you may contact the office at (915) 453-2751, or visit the national website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

Emergency farm loan applications being accepted

Applications for emergency farm loans for losses due to damages and losses caused by drought and excessive temperatures that occurred on various dates from January 1, 2002, and continuing, are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Sweetwater.

Coke and Sterling Counties, as primary disaster counties, were recently declared eligible for FSA EM loss loans.

Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 80 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue in business or \$500,000.00, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders the interest is 3.75 percent.

As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan. Farmers participating in the PIC or Federal Crop Insurance program will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until June 23, 2003 but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing.

The FSA office in Sweetwater is open from 7:30 to 5:00 Monday through Friday.

VistaCare Hospice offers volunteer training

Hospice is a comprehensive program of medical care designed to address the physi-

cal, emotional and spiritual needs of patients with life-limiting illnesses and to provide support services for their family members. Volunteers are critical to the overall success of VistaCare's mission of caring, and play a vital role in serving patients and their families. VistaCare volunteers allow other team members more time to provide quality medical care to as many patients as possible.

VistaCare is offering free training for all individuals wanting to offer their time and talents to help hospice patients during the later stages of their lives. VistaCare volunteers serve in various capacities including companionship, assistance with basic maintenance of patient homes, transporting patients to doctor appointments, caregiver relief, bereavement support, along with other services. No previous medical skills are required.

Any person wanting to volunteer will be trained and certified to work with any hospice patient. The training is free and the rewards are great! All training will be held on Monday evenings, starting on February 10th at the VistaCare offices located at 940 B Arroyo in San Angelo. The time of the training will be from 6-7:30 pm. Please call Dolores Pina at 947-0123 for additional information.

What the Attorney General can do for you

by Greg Abbott
Attorney General of Texas

Each year, thousands of people write to the Attorney General requesting information and assistance on a wide range of topics. They also offer their comments, observations, and suggestions on many public policy issues.

The Office of the Attorney General provides a wealth of valuable services to the public. We provide direct assistance to Texans in areas ranging from child support to consumer protection to help for victims of violent crime.

We are the designated agency responsible for collecting child support on behalf of children whose parents have separated, were never married, or are divorced. Texas law requires non-custodial parents to contribute to their children's financial and medical well being according to the parents' means.

While many parents honor their obligations to support their children, not all do. Our Child Support Division provides free child support services to ensure that children receive the financial and medical assistance required by law. It is also part of our mission to promote healthy families and to encourage non-custodial parents to maintain strong relationships with their children.

The Office of the Attorney General works to protect consumers by enforcing the Deceptive Trade Practices Act. Our agency also provides an informal complaint resolution service between consumers and businesses. If you have a dispute with a business, you can submit a consumer complaint form to our office.

The complaint process is vol-

untary for both the individual and the business and we do not represent either side. However, most respectable businesses are anxious to maintain their good reputations with the public, and more than half of the complaints filed with our office are resolved to the satisfaction of both parties.

Consumer complaints that cannot be resolved through the usual process are kept on file. Often, it is complaints from individual consumers that alert us to serious and persistent violators of Texas consumer protection laws. This may result in our filing a lawsuit and obtaining restitution for victims of unfair or deceptive practices.

Victims of violent crime can apply for Crime Victims' Compensation through our Crime Victims' Compensation Program. Texas law allows for eligible victims of violent crime and their family members to receive financial assistance from the Fund. The Fund can help pay for crime-related expenses such as medical, funeral and counseling bills as well as other expenses not covered by other sources.

Our agency can also help citizens seeking access to information held by governmental bodies. Texas law provides that all governmental bodies are subject to the Public Information and Open Meetings Act. We publish several useful handbooks that answer frequently asked questions about these Acts, and we also have staff available to answer questions about open government from both the public and government officials.

Many people come to us with questions and problems that fall outside our agency's authority. In those cases, we try to provide the best possible referrals to other sources of assistance and information. We ask you to please understand that we cannot provide legal advice or representation to private individuals.

For those of you who write simply to voice your comments on important issues. I assure you that I appreciate knowing your thoughts and concerns. We look forward to hearing from you. Accent on health

While not as common as the cold or flu, meningococcal disease (frequently a meningitis) is in season. While meningococcal disease occurs year round, now through March generally is the time when meningitis is most likely to appear, according to the Texas Department of Health (TDH).

"Meningococcal disease is a serious, potentially deadly condition that can progress extremely quickly, so prompt medical attention is critical," said Neil Pasco, a TDH nurse epidemiologist. "As meningitis, it is an inflammation of the membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord. A blood-stream infection can occur by itself or with meningitis."

The disease strikes about 3,000 (about one in 100,000) people a year in the United States. This includes as many as 125 on college campuses, and leading to 5 to 15 deaths among college students every year.

In 2001, 198 cases of menin-

gococcal meningitis were reported in Texas with 19 deaths, not unusual numbers for Texas.

Once the bacteria enter the bloodstream, deadly toxins cause the blood to clot, cutting off the blood supply to critical organs or limbs. The bacteria also may infect the lining of membranes surrounding the spinal cord and brain, sometimes leading to permanent brain damage that may include behavior changes, hearing loss or seizures.

Symptoms of the disease include sudden onset of fever, intense headaches, stiff neck or back, a skin rash of small red or purplish patches, behavior changes, sensitivity to light and nausea often with vomiting. The incubation period is typically three to four days but can range from two to 10 days.

"Anyone with these symptoms should see a doctor immediately," Pasco said.

Bacteria that cause meningitis are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the same air as a person with meningitis. The germs often live in the noses and throats of people without making them sick, but these bacteria do not live long outside the body.

The disease is transmitted when people exchange saliva (such as kissing, sharing drinking containers, utensils, cigarettes or toothbrushes) or otherwise come into direct contact with respiratory or throat secretions.

Various upper respiratory infections flourish in winter due to increased close indoor contact. People can reduce their risk of infection, including the potentially deadly meningococcal disease, by following a few common-sense precautions.

*Maintain personal space. As little as 36 inches will significantly reduce the potential to inhale virus or bacteria an infected person may transmit by sneezing or

coughing.

*Never share beverages, straws or containers. People should have their own beverage containers such as water bottles, cups or cans.

*Don't share cigarettes. Smoking irritates the lungs and throat, making them more vulnerable to infection. Smokers who share the same cigarette may infect each other with a communicable disease.

*Don't share food. Do not allow others to take a bite of your sandwich or piece of fruit and do not share eating utensils.

*Wash hands frequently. Frequent hand washing will remove germs that may have been picked up from contaminated surfaces.

*Get a flu shot. If you carry the bacteria in your nose and throat, protecting yourself from influenza or a cold may decrease the likelihood of self-infection.

Family members or close contacts of people with meningococcal disease are advised to take antibiotics to reduce their risk of getting the illness. A vaccine that protects against four of the five major strains that cause meningococcal disease is available for people over age 2 but is not routinely given in the United States. The vaccine is recommended for people during certain outbreaks, incoming college students in group living conditions such as dormitories, the military and for some international travelers.

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Randy Flanagan • Buck Duncan • Billy Wayne Roe

College-bound high school students can take the ACT assessment on April 12, 2003, the next nationwide test date. The registration postmark deadline is March 7. Late registration postmark deadline is March 21 (an additional fee is required for late registration).

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities in the nation, including all Ivy League schools. The test fee is \$25. Colleges use ACT scores, along with a student's high school GPA, the type of college-prep course taken and other information to help determine admissions and the appropriate course placement for new students.

The ACT Assessment is an achievement test in English, reading, math and science. It measures what students have learned in high school, and the skills required for success in college. It is not an aptitude test. Some students find it more comfortable than an aptitude test because it reflects their high school curriculum. The ACT was administered more than 2 million times last year.

Important tips--Students who have already taken the ACT can take it again and try for a higher score. Juniors can use their scores to examine academic weaknesses, take courses to correct those weaknesses and re-take the exam as seniors. Students who take the exam more than once can report only their highest composite score to prospective colleges if they choose.

For more information, including registration forms and test locations, contact your high school guidance counselor or register online on ACT's website--www.act.org. The website also has helpful information, sample tests and the opportunity to order test prep materials.

ASU 'College Days' slated for Feb. 15

Angelo State University will host "College Days" on Saturday, Feb. 15, to provide prospective college students a view of the genuine education available to them at ASU.

In addition to sampling the various academic and extracurricular programs available at the university, students and their families will also be treated to a free lunch and will be offered complimentary tickets to the Rambelle and Ram basketball games that night against Texas A&M-Kingsville in the Junell Center/Stephens Arena.

Activities will begin at 9:30 am with check-in at the C.J. "Red" Davidson Conference Center in the Houston Harte University Center at 1910 Rosemont. The program will begin at 10 am in the Davidson Center with a welcome by ASU President James Hindman. Tours of campus will then be conducted, including a stop at the Food Service Center for the complimentary lunch.

After lunch students and their families will return to the Davidson Conference Center for the ASU Expo, where informa-

tion will be available on academic programs, student organizations, extracurricular activities, financial aid, Carr Academic Scholarships, residence halls and other areas of interest to prospective students and their parents.

Special information sessions also will be presented for students interested in ASU pre-professional programs, including nursing, physical therapy, pre-law and pre-health professions.

Throughout the event ASU faculty, staff and students will be available to welcome guests to campus and to answer their questions about all aspects of student life at ASU.

College Days Coordinator Bonnie Stennett said the event is an opportunity for prospective students to get acquainted with ASU, its faculty and the educational experience it offers. The school year's final College Days program is scheduled April 5.

For more information on College Days, contact the Office of Admissions at 915-942-2058.

Texas animal health news

Texas livestock officials have temporarily put new health rules "on hold" that will apply to Mexican-origin roping and rodeo cattle. The regulations had been slated to become effective February 1, 2003.

"Under the rule, which is being delayed until further notice, horned steers or horned spayed heifers from Mexico would be recognized as potential rodeo stock and would undergo a skin test for cattle tuberculosis (TB) upon arrival at the Texas port of entry," said Dr. James Lenarduzzi, acting executive director for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory authority. "We will continue to enforce an existing regulation that requires the annual TB testing of Mexican-origin rodeo and roping cattle."

"Requiring the TB test on the imported rodeo and roping cattle at the port of entry is just one facet of our efforts to manage the risk of importing cattle TB. It is also meant to help us regain our cattle TB-free status," said Dr. Lenarduzzi. Texas lost the free status after two infected herds were detected and depopulated in 2001-2002.

A bacterial disease, cattle TB is caused by Mycobacterium bovis. The disease can cause lesions to develop in the animal's lungs, in lymph nodes or other internal organs. For nearly a century, the U.S. has worked to eradicate cattle TB, which at one time, affected nearly five percent of the nation's herds. Today, the disease is rare in the U.S., and infected animals usually are detected by slaughter inspectors who examine carcasses. Infected live animals may be detected by a skin-test for the disease.

"We are working out logistical concerns with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, so that the TB test can be conducted at the port of entry, under the supervision of a USDA veterinar-

ian," said Dr. Lenarduzzi. To test an animal, an accredited veterinarian injects a tiny amount of tuberculin into the animal's skin, under its tail, in an area called the "caudal fold." Seventy-two hours later, the veterinarian examines the injection site for a reaction, such as swelling or bump, which may indicate the animal has been exposed to the cattle TB bacteria.

When the regulations are implemented, the TB test-negative Mexican-origin rodeo and roping animals may be allowed to move under a TAHC-issued permit from the port of entry to a ranch or other facility. The animals will remain under TAHC movement restrictions for 60 to 120 days, pending a retest for cattle TB. Dr. Lenarduzzi pointed out that, during the 60-to 120-day holding period, the TAHC may allow the animals to have limited movement for training or events, provided no other cattle will be present. After the TB retest, these animals may move freely, but must be retested annually for cattle TB.

"Although Mexican producers and veterinarians have made huge strides in eradicating cattle tuberculosis (TB), Mexico still has a greater incidence of the disease than the U.S. Because rodeo and roping steers have a long life and are moved from site to site, we need to be certain these animals do not have cattle TB," said Dr. Lenarduzzi. "By testing the animals twice before they are widely used, we reduce the risk of potential disease exposure to our Texas cattle."

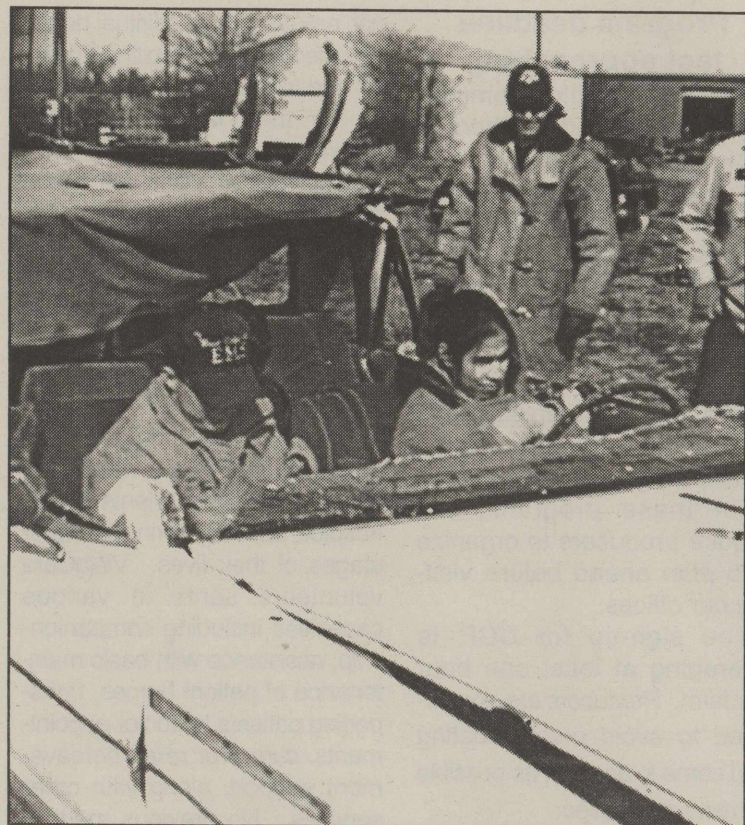


Photo courtesy of Bud Thompson, RLVFD

Members of the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department were joined by Howard College students, a Grape Creek fireman and others qualifying for Advanced EMT certification at an extrication class. The class was held December 7, 2002, on Highway 208 South in Robert Lee. Those attending were given instruction in and were able to practice extricating people from vehicles at accident scenes.

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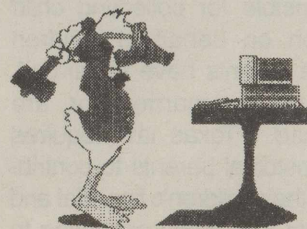
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