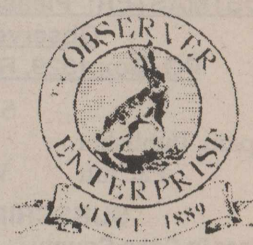


# THE OBSERVER/ ENTERPRISE

Serving Coke County

Single Copy 35¢



(USPS 467-480)  
(ISSN 8750-197X)

Vol. 116, No. 50

Friday, July 9, 2004

## Robert Lee Baptist Church to celebrate 100th Anniversary

Robert Lee Baptist Church will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary beginning on July 17 at 3 pm with visitation and reminiscing, followed by a home cooked meal of ham and all the trimmings at 6 pm. It will continue on July 18th at 10:30 with the praise and worship service. Sunday School will not be held. For more information contact the church at 453-2724.

### Proclamation

Whereas, on July 18, 1904, the following people of the Baptist faith met in the Methodist Church for the purpose of organizing a church: Mr. & Mrs. J.N. Cox, Mr. & Mrs. Berry Cole, Mr. & Mrs. W.C. Merchant, Mr. & Mrs. T.D. Evans, J.A. Green, Misses Willie and Ollie Green, C.C. Merchant, Mrs. John Patterson. The church was named Robert Lee Baptist Church.

Whereas, this year marks the 100th anniversary of this church in our city; and,

Whereas, we give pause, hon-

or and praise for the deep and abiding commitment of those who in faith began this work, and for all those who have given unselfishly during these many years to help the work grow and thrive; and

Whereas, our entire community has benefited from the Christian influence this church has provided from early pioneering days to the present; and

Whereas, it is a pleasure to extend this expression of our esteem and best wishes to the members of this congregation on the memorable occasion of this anniversary; and

Now, therefore, I, Joe White, Mayor of the City of Robert Lee, do hereby proclaim July 18, 2004, as Robert Lee Baptist Church Anniversary Day in our community, and further provide that a copy of this tribute be presented to the congregation in testimony of the high regard in which this church is held in the City of Robert Lee.

Joe White, Mayor  
City of Robert Lee

## Sheriff Styles announces arrival of Project ChildSafe

The Coke County Sheriff's Department is providing free firearm safety kits to local residents through a partnership with Project ChildSafe, the nationwide firearms safety education program. The safety kits, which include a gun lock, are currently being distributed at the Coke County Sheriff's Office, Robert Lee City Hall and Bronte City Hall.

Project ChildSafe, a program developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), will distribute millions of firearm safety kits throughout the country over the next year. The program is funded by a U.S. Department of Justice grant, with additional funding provided by the firearms industry.

"We encourage residents to pick up a Project ChildSafe safety kit so that they can securely store their firearm," said Sheriff

Rick Styles. "Each kit contains a safety curriculum and a cable-style gun lock. The locks fit on most types of handguns, rifles and shotguns. The goal is to prevent a child or any other unauthorized person from accessing a firearm in your home."

By partnering with Project ChildSafe, the Sheriff's Department is participating in a growing national effort to promote firearms safety education to all gun owners. Project ChildSafe will distribute gun lock safety kits to all 50 states and the five U.S. territories.

"We are pleased to have the Sheriff's Department as a Project ChildSafe partner," said Dee Dee Dockins, spokesperson for the program. "Project ChildSafe is an important step forward in helping ensure that all firearm owners fully under-



**Robert Lee Baptist Church 100th Anniversary!** Robert Lee Mayor Joe White signs a proclamation honoring the centennial anniversary of the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Those on hand for the ceremony from the church include (standing, from left) Roger Alexander, Della Alexander, Virginia Fikes, Weldon Fikes, and (seated) Zera Fields.

stand their responsibilities with respect to the safe handling and storage of firearms."

### FSA taking spring seeded reports

Acreage reports for all hay type crops, CRP, grass (not intended for NAP), Cotton and Gain Sorghum is underway. All spring seeded crops must be certified by July 15, 2004. This is a must for DCP, NAP, CCC Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments, including Wool & Mohair LDP's. Producers requesting benefits under the aforementioned programs must visit the county office, report acreage and provide actual planting dates of each crop. Failure to complete that requirement will result in either late file fees, loss of benefits or repayments.

Annually, FSA performs spot checks on crop reports and allows a tolerance of the greater of 1 acre or 5%, not to exceed 50 acres.

The county office is now involved in using new digital images for acreage. It will take the office 4 to 5 months of effort to get things ready to use. We will be working on this every day. It will be a great help if producers will take the time to make an appointment for conducting FSA business.

For more information regarding FSA programs, contact the Coke-Sterling FSA office at (325) 453-2751.

### Silver homecoming slated for July 25

A homecoming for all who have lived, worked or attended school in Silver is slated for Sunday, July 25, 2004.

For more information, please contact Lisa at (901) 434-4959 or lmwall@fedex.com.

### Bronte class reunion slated July 10

On July 10th, 2004, there will be a Bronte Class Reunion taking place at The Goodyear Proving Grounds Activity Building. This will be a class reunion for all the classes of 1960 through 1969.

If you are interested in coming, the visitation will begin at 7 pm and will last until everyone has left. You do not have to be a graduate of these classes to come. This is to the public and to anyone interested in seeing and reuniting with an old classmate or friend.

If you have any questions, give Jeanna Lee, Marilyn Bivins (Bronte) or myself Gale Sartain (San Angelo) a call and we will be more than happy to answer your questions.

### RLBC Youth carwash slated for July 10

The youth of Robert Lee Baptist Church are having a carwash Saturday, July 10, 2004. The fundraising event will begin at 9 am in the parking lot of

Cindy's Grocery in Robert Lee. All funds raised will help offset costs of the youngsters attending camp at Heart of Texas Baptist Encampment at Lake Brownwood.

### Disaster Relief Orientation held

Seven people from Bronte attended a Disaster Relief Orientation at the Taylor County Expo Center in Abilene on Saturday, June 26. The orientation was sponsored by the Big Country Volunteer Organizations Assisting in Disaster Relief (BCVOAD). The orientation was led by representatives of the Texas Baptist Men Disaster Relief team. Those attending received certification in both TBM and Red Cross disaster relief service. A more detailed training is being planned in September. Those attending from Bronte included Ray Barnett, Martin DeLaGarza, Judy Johnson, Morris Johnson, Ricky Royall, Marty Sedden, and George Snapp.

### Burn ban in effect for Coke County

A Burn Ban is in effect for all of Coke County. The action was taken as a result of dry conditions and a rash of recent wildfires in the county. Violation of the commissioners court's order prohibiting outdoor burning is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fine.

**THE OBSERVER/ENTERPRISE**

Published Weekly Except Christmas  
707 Austin (325) 453-2433  
email: CokeCoObserver@aol.com

Periodical Rate Postage paid at Robert Lee, TX.

**POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to  
Observer/Enterprise  
PO Box 1329, Robert Lee, TX 76945.**

**STAFF**

Hal Spain, Publisher Melinda McCutchen, Editor  
Pat Taft Wayne McCutchen

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

Per Year in Coke County.....\$20.00  
Per Year Elsewhere in Texas.....\$22.00  
Per Year Outside of Texas.....\$25.00

**Obituaries**

**Harcourt**

Deborah Kay Harcourt, 53, died Friday, July 2, 2004.

Services were held at 10 am Tuesday at First Assembly of God Church in Abilene with Reverend David Verbeck officiating. Burial followed in Elmwood Memorial Park directed by Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home, 542 Hickory. Visitation was 6-8 pm Monday at the funeral home.

Deborah was born September 25, 1950 to Minnie Loudell (Williams) and Charles R. Gentry in Bronte. She married Jim Harcourt on May 9, 1970 in Bronte. Deborah was a computer lab teacher for AISD. She was a member of the First Assembly of God Church, the Women's Group at church, and a Sunday School teacher.

Survivors include her husband, Jim Harcourt, of Abilene; her parents, Charles "Sonny" and Loudell Gentry of Bronte; a son, Heath Harcourt and wife, Landa, of Cypress, Texas; a daughter, Shealon Tuley and husband, Mark, of Abilene; a brother, David Gentry and wife, Brendi, of Norton; and two grandchildren, Hunter Wyatt and Kinlee Kay.

Special thanks to Dr. Victor J. Hirsch and his staff and the nursing staff on SE7 at Hendrick Medical Center.

Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 41, Abilene, Texas, 79604 or the First Assembly of God Church Missions, 1010 Cypress, Abilene, Texas 79601.

50-1tc

**Terry**

Dolores Louise Rucker Terry, beloved wife, daughter, mother, grandmother and great grandmother and most important friend, passed away Wednesday, June 30th, 2004 in San Angelo.

She was pre-deceased by her beloved father and mother, Elmer and Lucille Rucker, her grandson, Mark Crown, and so many other people important to her life. For the last thirty-two years she shared her daily life with her husband and best friend, T.W. Terry, who joins us all in losing this light of our life.

Born January 18, 1927, she

passed to those who await her with family and friends at her side.

She is survived by husband, T.W. Terry, sons, Dick and Sheila Wheeler, Skipper and Bonnie Terry, daughters, Rhonda Wilkerson and Lara and David McMahon, grandchildren, Scott and Carol Wheeler, Jacob Wilkerson, Zak and Dylan McMahon, and great grandson, Mark Scott Wheeler, and cousins, Wanda and Grant Grumbine.

Graveside services were held at Mount Olivet Cemetery Saturday, July 3rd at 2:00 pm.

We all love and miss her.

50-1tc

**Aguirre**

Richard S. Aguirre, 42, of Brady, died Sunday, June 20, 2004. Rosary was held at 7 pm June 22nd at Leatherwood Memorial Chapels. Services were held at 10 am June 23rd at St. Patrick's Catholic Church with burial in Rest Haven Cemetery.

Survivors include mother, Mary Ann Aguirre of Brady; son, Joshua Aguirre of Bronte; daughter, Katie Aguirre of Bronte; and sisters, Janie Bara of Brady and Jo Ann Cole of Red Oak.

**Cox**

Jeffery Scott Cox, 23, of Sand Springs died Thursday, July 1, 2004. Funeral services were Saturday, July 3rd, in Myers and Smith Funeral Home Chapel.

Survivors include daughter, Destiny Cox of Big Spring; father and stepmother, Tommy and Sherye Cox of San Springs; mother and stepfather, Kathy and Ed LaFountain of Robert Lee; brothers, Justin Cox of Brownfield and Clayton Foster of Robert Lee; and sister, Taylor Foster of Robert Lee.

**McCrohan**

Neva McCrohan, 85, died Sunday, May 30, 2004, at her residence in San Angelo.

Rosary was held in the Robert Massie Funeral Home Chapel. Graveside service was held in Calvary Cemetery.

Survivors include daughter, Sharon George of New Braunfels; sons, Charles McCrohan of San Angelo, Michael McCrohan of Kentucky and Dennis McCrohan of Bronte.



**CJ Macon Memorial Scholarship!** Receiving the very first CJ Macon Memorial Scholarship is Diane Womack (left). Presenting Diane with the award are (from left) Cheryl Isbell, CJ's oldest sister; Willie Macon, CJ's father; and CJ's fiance, Windy Abbott.

**Seilhamer dies**

**in one car rollover**

Dorothy Ann Seilhamer, 47, of San Angelo, died in a one-car rollover shortly after 6:00 pm on Monday, July 5, 2004. The accident occurred 4 miles north of US 87 on FM 2034 in Coke County.

On the scene were Robert Lee and Water Valley fire departments, Robert Lee EMS, several DPS troopers, Coke County J.P. Pct. 1 Joan Davis and Sheriff's deputies, Adam Richter and Randall Jacks.

Funeral services are pending with Shaffer Funeral Home.

**"CJ" Macon**

**Scholarship awarded**

The first annual Carrissa Joy "CJ" Macon Scholarship was awarded to Diane Womack. Diane is a 2004 graduate of Bronte High School and also CJ's best friend. The scholarship was for \$1200.00. Diane will be majoring in Business Administration attending Blinn College in Bryan, Texas.

CJ was killed in a car accident May 26, 2004. Her dream was to go to school and become a veterinarian.

"Everyone has been so generous and CJ would have been so pleased. CJ can't have us any grandkids but she can sure have us some "scholar kids" said Kim

Macon, CJ's mother.

The scholarship will be an ongoing venture to see that more children will go to school. The generosity of the Bronte public and so many others will make that possible. Several events have been scheduled to raise more funds for the scholarships.

Donations can be made to the: Carrissa Joy "CJ" Macon Scholarship-C/O First National Bank of Bronte.

**Bronte First Baptist's**

**VBS proves success**

Bronte's First Baptist Church held its annual Vacation Bible School June 27 - July 1. VBS Director Judy Johnson reported an

enrollment of 127.

The theme for the week was "Far-Out, Far East Rickshaw Rally (Racing to the Son)." A Japanese atmosphere was experienced in every facet of the VBS. A great time was had by all as they participated in Bible study, mission study, crafts, recreation, music, refreshments, and worship times. The VBS concluded on Thursday evening with a "Family Fun Night" as parents and friends joined the children for a time of sharing what had been learned and playing several games together outdoors. Plans are already underway for next year's Vacation Bible School.

**Churches of Coke County**

*Invite You to Worship*

**Bronte Church of Christ**

PO Box 346 • 118 S. Jefferson  
Bronte  
(325) 473-3291  
Preacher John V. Driggers  
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

**Central Baptist Church**

324 S. Franklin • Bronte  
(325) 473-4811  
Tim White, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
11 am & 6 pm Worship  
Wed. 7 pm

**Emmanuel Pentecostal**

PO Box 683 • 1019 Colorado City Hwy  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2360  
Rev. Ray Aldridge, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm

**First Baptist Church**

424 S. Washington • Bronte  
(325) 473-2331  
Bro. Morris Johnson, Pastor  
Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School,  
10:55 am Worship, 6 pm Youth  
and Worship

**First United Methodist Church**

Corner of Washington & Holmes  
Bronte  
(325) 473-3281  
Rev. Carol Fiero  
Sun. 10:00 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship  
5:00 Youth

**First United Methodist Church**

PO Box 144 • 9th & Chadbourne  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2417  
Rev. Steve Rowe, Pastor  
Sun. 10 am Sunday School  
11 am Worship  
Wed. 7 pm Choir

**Iglesia Bautista Bethel**

101 Houston • Robert Lee  
(325) 453-5003 • 453-2296  
Pastor: Basilio Esquivel  
Sun. 9:45, 11:00, & 11:30 am  
& 6 pm, Wednesday 7 pm

**Northside Church of Christ**

PO Box 388 • 9th & Chadbourne  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2619 or 453-2270  
Tommy Williams, Minister  
Services: Sun. 10 am & 6 pm;  
Wed. 7 pm

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church**

601 W. 10th, Robert Lee  
(325) 365-2687  
Rev. Hubert Wade, Jr., Pastor  
Sat. 6 pm

**Pecan Baptist**

PO Box 542 • 12 miles West of Robert Lee  
on Sterling City Hwy  
(325) 453-2004  
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 7 pm, Worship

**Robert Lee Baptist Church**

PO Box 493 • 22 W. 11th  
(325) 453-2724  
Bro. Mike Poye, Pastor  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 7 pm, Worship  
Wed. 7 pm, Prayer Meeting

**Southside Church of Christ**

PO Box 698 • 8th & Houston  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2176  
Frank J. Daniels, Preacher  
Sun. 10 am, Sunday School  
11 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 7 pm, Worship

**Tennyson Baptist Church**

Hwy 277 • Tennyson  
Joe Hodges, Pastor  
(325) 468-0014  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
11:00 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

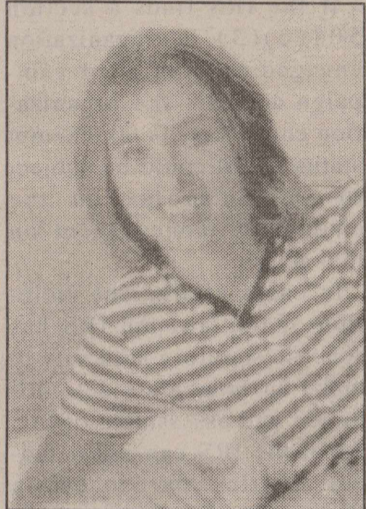
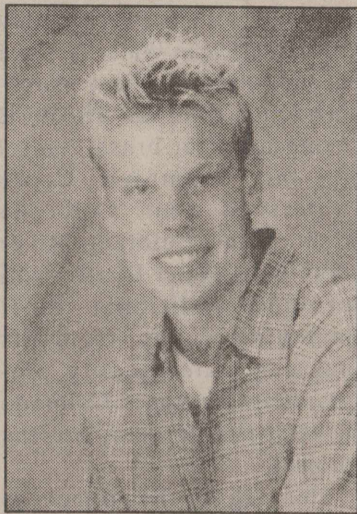
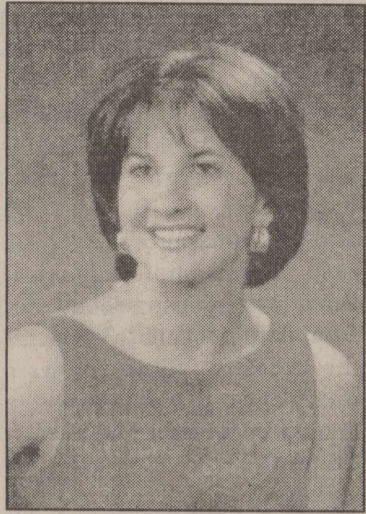
**Victory Assembly of God**

PO Box 638 • 6th & Houston  
Robert Lee  
(325) 453-2208  
Rev. Irene Ford, Pastor  
Sun. 9:45 am, Sunday School  
10:45 am & 6 pm, Worship  
Wed. 6 pm, Prayer Meeting

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**Jack and Nina Brewer Scholarship Recipients!**  
 Robert Lee High School graduates receiving Jack and Nina Brewer scholarships are (clockwise, from bottom left) Shanna Wojtek, Jodee Helwig, Alan Roe and Shannon Honse. Shanna is currently attending Angelo State University, majoring in Physical Therapy. Jodee currently attends Wayland Baptist University and is majoring in Religion. Alan attends Kettering University, majoring in Automotive Engineering. Shannon is a 2004 RLHS graduate and plans to attend Howard College and major in Dental Hygiene.

Closest to pin winners were Brent Terry (#8), Rick Watkins (#9), and Jesse Flores (#10).

The tournament was a big success with all participants looking forward to next year.

**RLHS class of 1941 reunion set**

The second class reunion for the RLHS class of 1941 will be held October 2, 2004, starting at 3:00 pm for pow-wow with dinner served at 5 pm in the small rec hall in Robert Lee. Finis and Sue have made arrangements for the rec-hall and the dinner.

Dale Fields provided the information list on all the graduates and their families. Please send any changes that you would like to make.

Anyone interested in an invitation, cost per person for attendance, or anyone connected with Robert Lee's school, board members, teachers, ex-teachers, librarians, janitors, bus drivers, etc. to contact Finis and Sue Millican, 14641 West State Hwy. 158, Robert Lee, Tx 76945; Dale Fields of Robert

Lee; or Garlan Green, PO Box 8133, Horseshoe Bay, Tx 78657 (830) 598-2135.

**RLHS reunion scheduled**

A reunion of classes graduating from Robert Lee High School from 1950 to 1970 is planned for August 7th and 8th in San Angelo. Anyone attending these classes at any time, attending any other class or just wanting to join the group are invited.

The afternoon and evening are planned with many fun remembrances, with a breakfast on Sunday morning. Several individual classes have planned activities on Friday evening and Saturday morning for reunions.

Classmate have registered from as far away as Washington and Florida. For more information contact Fran Lomas at 325-453-2894 or flomas@wcc.net. Deadline for registering is July 23rd.

**Silver Homecoming July 25, 2004**

**SUPER H**

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 WIC Cards Welcome  
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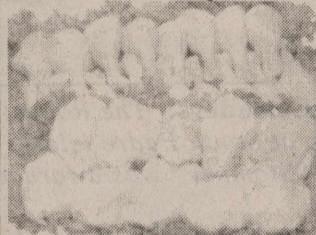


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Pilgrim's Pride Family Pack

**Drumsticks or Thighs**

Lb. **\$.69**



White Flesh

**Peaches or Nectarines**

Lb. **\$.79**

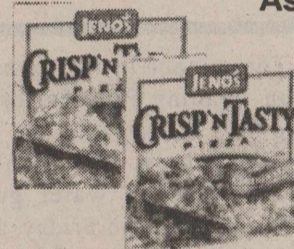
Red Rind Meat Bologna or Cotto Salami

**Oscar Mayer**

4 1 lb. pkg. **/\$5**



Assorted



**Jeno's Pizzas**

7.2-8.1 oz.

**\$.79**

Red or White

**Seedless Grapes**

Lb. **\$.99**

**Coca Cola, Sprite or Dasani Water**

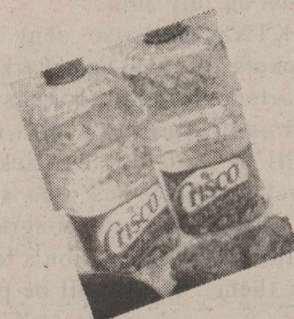
3 12 pk. 12 oz. cans **/\$10**



Assorted

**Crisco Oil**

2 48 oz. bottle **/\$4**



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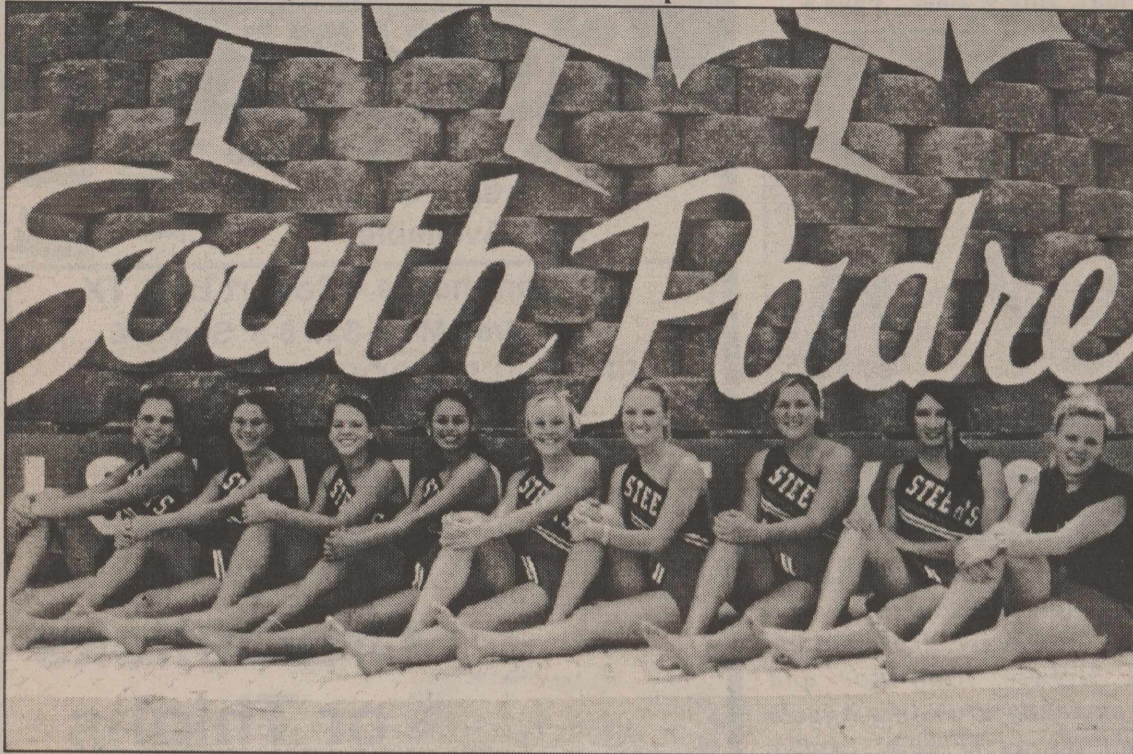


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**Robert Lee High School Cheerleaders!** The Robert Lee High School Cheerleaders and Mascot attended UCA camp at South Padre Island this summer. The cheerleaders received a Superior trophy and "Stomper" was awarded Camp Champion and All-Star Mascot.

The ladies include (from left) cheerleaders Kyla Millican, Jaden Alexander, Kelsy Duncan, Brittany Soliz, Cara Eaton, Katie Bessent, Lindsey Roe, Michele Sanchez and Casey Nesbit "aka Stomper".

**Observer/Enterprise joins rallying call**

The Texas Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce that The Observer/Enterprise has become a member of Texas Yes!, TDA's new initiative to market and promote rural Texas.

"Every voice and action make a difference, and we are proud to have The Observer/Enterprise as a member of this program," said Michael Muska, TDA's director for Texas Yes! "The purpose of Texas Yes! is to create a single rallying call for rural Texas, and our goal is to build a growing network of members dedicated to this purpose."

Launched in October 2003, Texas Yes! is a broad-based membership program open to rural communities, businesses and individuals. All members commit to the continued improvement and economic strength of rural Texas through community projects from promoting tourism and cultural heritage to beautification and economic development. Texas Yes! will help spotlight rural Texas success stories to spur ideas and inspiration for other rural communities.

Through Texas Yes! TDA has also launched a multi-faceted marketing initiative to promote rural Texas tourism. Gov. Rick Perry allocated funding through 2005 to help support this effort.

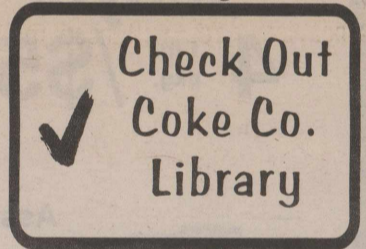
"Rural Texas has so much to offer, and we want people to know about it," Muska said. "This is an exciting opportunity to give rural Texas the attention it deserves."

Rural Texas covers approximately 80 percent of the state's land area, encompassing 213,297 square miles out of 267,277. Eighty-five percent of the state's incorporated cities have fewer than 10,000 residents and the

population of rural Texas is higher than the combined populations of Alaska, Delaware, North Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming.

"There has never been a more important time to stand up in support for rural Texas," Muska said. "And we appreciate every member who is standing with us."

For more information on Texas Yes! call (866) 4TEX-YES or visit [www.TexasYes.org](http://www.TexasYes.org).



The winner in the Summer Fun Reading Program drawing held Friday, July 2nd was Emily Barnett. She won the Water Blasters water guns. The prize for the Friday, July 9th drawing is a Hot Shot Camera. For every book turned in during the summer reading program, readers' names are entered in the drawing once for every book returned.

A Grand Prize of a camping set will be awarded on Friday, July 30th which is the last day of the summer program. All names turned in during the summer program are eligible for this drawing.

Also, the library has recently received from David Caldwell, KTXS Promotion Manager, four tickets to Schlitterbahn Water Park in New Braunfels or South Padre Island to be used in the final drawing. There will be two drawings for two tickets each on July 30th.

KTXS has also sent ten tickets to Play Fair Park in Abilene for free rounds of miniature golf. A drawing will be held for two tickets each. KTXS has also sent ten certificates of congratulations with the station's logo on them. These will be pre-

sented to faithful readers on an individual basis.

Library hours are Tuesdays, 8-12; Wednesdays, 8-4; Thursdays, 1-5; and Fridays, 8-12. Books may be returned in Bronte to the Main Street Market. Also, the 24/7 book return box on the porch of the library is available.

**State Soil & Water Conservation Board Approves Saltcedar Control Project**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB), at their May 2004 meeting, approved the project schedule and landowner agreements to begin a saltcedar control project in the upper Colorado River basin. The project is designed to improve water quality and increase stream flow in the Colorado River and its tributaries above the E.V. Spence Reservoir.

The three-year project is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2004. Treatment will begin on the main stem of the Colorado River below the Lake J. B. Thomas dam in Scurry County and proceed down river to the confluence of Beals Creek in Mitchell County. Major tributaries to the river that contain significant stands of saltcedar will also be treated. In 2005 treatment will begin on Beals Creek east of Big Spring in Howard County and proceed to the upper end of the E.V. Spence Reservoir. The lake basin of the E.V. Spence Reservoir will be treated in 2006.

The saltcedar control project is a part of the implementation plan for the Total Maximum Daily Load Study for the E.V. Spence Reservoir, which was completed in 2000 by the Colorado River Municipal Water District and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This project is funded by the

Environmental Protection Agency with a 319(h) grant from the Clean Water Act and is supported by local matching funds from the TSSWCB being used for brush control in the Champion Creek watershed near Colorado City. The Colorado River Municipal Water District will provide additional local matching funds from its ongoing water quality programs in the upper Colorado River basin to complete the project.

Planning for the project has occurred over the last four years with cooperative efforts by the Upper Colorado, Howard County, Mitchell County and Coke County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Texas Cooperative Extension (San Angelo), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Austin), and the Colorado River Municipal Water District (Big Spring). Current conservative estimates indicate that the control of saltcedar in the upper basin could increase yields as much as 4,000 acre-feet of water annually in E.V. Spence Reservoir. The TSSWCB project manager is Tuffy Wood. He can be reached at 325-481-0335.

**Charities may not engage in political campaign activities**

Charities should be careful that their efforts to educate voters comply with the Internal Revenue Code requirements concerning political campaign activities.

Organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Code that are exempt from federal income tax are prohibited from participating or intervening in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office. Charities, educational institutions and religious organizations, including churches, are among those that are tax-exempt under this code section.

These organizations cannot endorse any candidates, make donations to their campaigns, engage in fund raising, distribute statements, or become involved in any other activities that may be beneficial or detrimental to any candidate. Even activities that encourage people to vote for or against a particular candidate

on the basis of nonpartisan criteria violate the political campaign prohibition of section 501(c)(3).

Whether an organization is engaging in prohibited political campaign activity depends upon all the facts and circumstances in each case. For example, organizations may sponsor debates or forums to educated voters. If the debate or forum shows a preference for or against a certain candidate, however, it becomes a prohibited activity.

If the IRS finds a section 501(c)(3) organization engaged in prohibited campaign activity, the organization could lose its tax-exempt status and it could be subject to an excise tax on the amount of money spent on that activity.

In cases of flagrant violation of the law, the IRS has specific statutory authority to make an immediate determination and assessment of tax. Also, the IRS can ask a federal district court to enjoin the organization from making further political expenditures.


In addition, contributions to organization that lose their section 501(c)(3) status because of political activities are not deductible by the donors for federal income tax purposes.

The political campaign prohibition as it applies to churches is discussed in Publication 1828, Tax Guide for Churches and Religious Organizations. This publication, along with other information about the political campaign prohibition, is available on IRS.gov at [www.irs.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo).

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**Robert Lee Junior Golfers!** Logan Philley (below left) shot a 39 at Midland Country Club June 7, 2004, to take 1st place in the Northern Texas PGA Westcott Junior Tour.

Participating in the WTJCT Tourney in Eden were (above left photo, front row, from left) Mason Ross, Kaden Duncan, Kelsy Duncan, Taylor Percifull, Sarah Philley, Johnathan Pagan, (back row, from left) Brody Dillard, Logan Philley and Cody Bridges.

The Mountain Creek Junior Golf Association held their first meeting June 30, 2004, (above right photo) with a good group of golfers attending. During the meeting, officers were elected for the year and discussions were held regarding upcoming events. The members will be holding a fundraising raffle at the upcoming 4 person golf tournament July 17 and 18.

Officers for the year include Cody Bridges, President; Johnathan Pagan, Vice President; Logan Philley, Secretary; Mason Ross, Treasurer; and Kelsy Duncan, Tournament Director. If you are interested in joining this association, please contact one of the officers.



Selecting the right mowing height also means selecting the right mower for the job. Do not put money into a high density Bermuda grass or zoysia grass hybrid variety and mow it at 3 inches with a rotary mower and expect a high quality lawn. Many of the varieties available today require mowing height at or below 1 inch, which cannot be done effectively with a rotary mower.

Some general mowing height requirements of common grass species are given below in variety, the range of mowing height and the optimal mowing height.

Buffalo grass has a range of 2-4.5 inches and optimal height of 2.5 inches; Common Bermuda grass has a range of 1-2.5 inches and optimal height of 1.5; Hybrid Bermuda grass has a range of 0.75 to 2 inches and optimal height of 0.75 inches; St. Augustine grass has a range of 2.5 to 4 inches and optimal height of 2.5 inches.

**How often do I mow?** This question deserves an "it depends" answer. You will have to play it by ear for every different season, weather, nutrient availability change, etc...The best rule to follow is NEVER TAKE MORE THAN 1/3 OF THE LEAF BLADE OFF AT ANY ONE TIME. If you have piles of clippings left after each mowing, then you are mowing too infrequently. For example, consider a farmer's hay field, they go out there and remove close to 80% of the leaf surface of those grass plants and subsequently the grass left after the hay is baled turns a golden tan color. This happens because the grass plants are not capable of recovering from that amount of stress for quite a while. The small amount of leaf surface left is not enough to maintain the physiological activities (photosynthesis) for plant energy. Grass plants have a "growing point" where all of the leaves

originate-and that growing point is near the soil surface when the grass is mowed frequently. When people let their lawns get really "hairy", that growing point begins to elevate from the soil surface and when the mower does finally come through-the growing point may be cut and removed with the rest of the clippings-this results in that plant's death. Frequent mowing, never removing more than 1/3 of the grass blade, ensures that the growing point will stay near the soil surface and the turf will stay healthier and denser.

**Blade sharpening:** Maintaining a sharp mower blade, whether rotary or reel, is essential in maintaining turf health. A smooth, clean cut not only looks better for the lawn, but it also does much less damage to the grass plant. When you have a dull mower blade-you are "thrashing" or "beating" the tops of the grass blades off. This leaves a ragged top which becomes straw colored. This gives the lawn a "tannish" hue and leaves the grass wide open for insect and disease encroachment. These ragged tops are prime points of entry for many fungal pathogens (turf disease causers) and small turf insects.

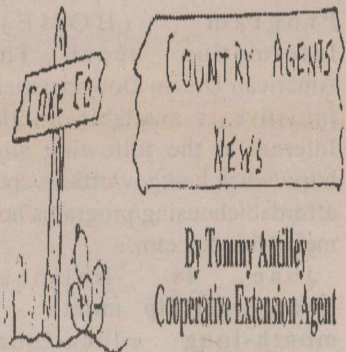
Be sure to have your mower blade checked and sharpened frequently-at least once a year. You can adequately sharpen a rotary mower blade with a good bench grinder and a tub of cold water. Here are a few steps to take when sharpening. First of all-wear safety glasses when grinding. Try to keep the original angle on the mower blade by making smooth, quick swipes across the grinding wheel. Dip the blade in cold water after every few swipes across the grinding wheel so you don't lose "temper" in the steel. If you see blue in the blade where you are grinding-that means that the temper is lost in that area and that steel is now very soft-there

will most likely be a chip there next time you check your blade. Be very careful with the sharpening process and use the cold water judiciously. After you are finished grinding the blade angle, test to see if the blade is properly balanced. Place the blade on a thin pole through the center hole of the blade. If it wants to fall to one side-that side is heavier. You will need to grind off some more steel on the heavy side to balance the blade. You don't need to grind more of the angle down-just grind a little

steel off the back side or a corner of the blade. When you have the blade properly balanced-take a file and file off the burrs left behind by the grinder.

If you don't feel comfortable with grinding your own blades, check around for a service in your area that will do it for a few bucks.

**Silver Homecoming July 25, 2004**



**Home lawn care**

**Site evaluation:** Evaluate your lawn for high spots, low spots, and ruts made from equipment because these areas will most likely cause scalping. Take the time to level out the lawn surface with the addition of soil. To reduce rutting, lift the sod with a sharp spade and place topsoil underneath, then replace sod and keep that area moist for several days to a week to encourage a healthy root system redeveloping. Is your lawn smooth enough to mow with a reel mower? Is it smooth enough to mow at the optimal mowing height for your grass variety without continual scalping damage? Scalping will most certainly put the grass at a competitive disadvantage and eventually lead to the decline of the lawn's quality.

**Selecting the right mowing height:** It is essential that you mow your particular grass variety at or near the optimal mowing height because this will keep that grass the healthiest and most dense (highest number of shoots per unit area). Higher density means more soil surface shading, which severely restricts the germination of many annual grassy and broadleaf weeds. Maintaining a dense and healthy turf is the best weed control.

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### Tips to saving money on gas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), who sponsor the two-year-old Drive Clean Across Texas initiative, say little things can add up to big savings when it comes to gasoline consumption.

Here are ten ways to save money on gas and pollute less while you save:

1. Keep your car well-maintained. Replacing a clogged air filter can improve your vehicle's gas mileage by as much as 10 percent. While you're having the air filter replaced, have the mechanic check our your oil and fuel filters, too.

2. Keep your tires properly inflated and balanced to prevent excess drag on your engine. This can improve fuel economy by up to one mile per gallon. Depending on the size of your gas tank, you could get an extra 20 miles per tank.

3. Drive the speed limit. Gas mileage drops the faster you drive. Each 5 mph over 60 mph is equivalent to paying an extra 10 cents per gallon for gas. In a 20-gallon tank, that's adding an extra \$2 to your gas bill for every 5 mile increment over 60 mph.

4. Avoid aggressive driving, jackrabbit starts and quick stops. At highway speeds, you'll lower your gas mileage by about 33 percent. By maintaining a constant speed and driving sensibly, you could save as much as 50 cents a gallon.

5. Drive less by combining your errands. Several separate short trips from a cold start can use twice as much fuel as a longer trip when your vehicle's engine is already warmed up.

6. Avoid idling in drive-through lanes. Idling burns more gas than restarting the engine. Turn off the engine if you know you will have a long wait. Better still, park and go inside.

7. Travel light. Carrying an extra 100 pounds in your vehicle makes your engine work harder and use more gas. A loaded roof rack can decrease your fuel economy by up to five percent. Reduce drag by removing heavy items from your vehicle that you don't need to carry around.

8. Use multi-grade motor oil labeled "energy conserving" to improve your gas mileage. Using 10W-30 motor oil in an engine designed to use 5W-30 can reduce fuel efficiency by up to 2%.

9. Stop at the "click"-when you fill up, don't top off your tank. Spilled gasoline pollutes the air when it evaporates, and it's like dropping spare change on the ground.

10. If your vehicle has a 5-speed manual or 4-speed automatic transmission, shift into your overdrive gear as soon as your speed is high enough. If you have a manual transmission, remember the lower the shift speed, the better your fuel economy.

Bottom line: Experts say the good habits that save money at the gas pump also help reduce air pollution and improve the quality of the air we all breathe. To find out more, log on to [www.drive-cleanacrosstexas.org](http://www.drive-cleanacrosstexas.org).

### Stay healthy in hot weather

The sun is shining and skies are clear. Summer in Texas invites outdoor activities. But the intense heat that marks the season also can signal the need to take health precautions.

Preliminary numbers from the Texas Department of Health (TDH) show that there were 40 heat-related deaths of Texas residents last year. A total of 38 deaths were recorded in 2002 and 26 deaths in 2001. In 2000 in Texas 64 people died of exposure to excessive natural heat.

The elderly, the very young, those who are sick or without access to air conditioning are most severely affected by heat. Children left in closed vehicles, even for a short period of time, are at great risk.

Perspiration normally cools people. But high temperatures and high humidity can overwork the body. Dehydration and heat illness can result if a person does not replace fluids lost during perspiration.

Symptoms of heat illness include heavy sweating, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, nausea, weak but rapid pulse and headaches. People with these symptoms should find shade, drink water slowly and make sure there is good ventilation.

If fluids are not replaced soon enough, heat stroke can result, potentially leading to brain damage or death. Get immediate medical attention for anyone with extremely high body temperature, red and dry skin, rapid pulse, confusion and loss of consciousness.

Staying in an air-conditioned area, either at home or in a public place such as a mall, library or recreation center, is the most effective way to fight heat. If air conditioning is not available, pull the shades over the windows and use cross-ventilation and fans to cool rooms.

A cool shower or bath is an effective way to cool off. Limit use of stoves and ovens to keep home temperatures lower.

Children can quickly become dehydrated in hot weather. They need to drink fluids frequently, especially water, and wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothes. Avoid drinks that are heavily sweetened or contain caffeine. Check on children often, especially if they are playing outside in high temperature.

TDH offers these precautions: \*Never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle during hot weather, even for a short time.

\*Drink plenty of fluids but avoid drinks with alcohol, caffeine or a lot of sugar. Start drinking fluids before going out into the heat.

\*Plan strenuous outdoor activity for early morning or late evening when the temperature is lower. Use a repellent containing DEET to avoid insect bites.

\*Take frequent breaks when working outside.

\*Wear sun block, hats and light-colored, loose-fitting clothes.

\*Stay indoors in air conditioning as much as possible.

\*Eat more frequently but be sure meals are well balanced and light.



**Bronte Health & Rehab Center Magnolia Ball!** Lorand Roman (above) and Dora Gallaway (right photo, right) entertained the residents of Bronte Health and Rehab Center at the 3rd annual Magnolia Ball held May 13, 2004.



\*Don't dress infants in heavy clothing or wrap them in blankets.

\*Check frequently on the elderly and those who are ill or may need help.

\*Check with a doctor about the effects of sun and heat when taking prescription drugs, especially diuretics or antihistamines.

\*At first signs of heat illness-dizziness, nausea, headaches, muscle cramps - move to a cooler place, rest a few minutes, then slowly drink a cool beverage. Seek medical attention immediately if conditions do not improve.

Prevention is the best defense against heat-related illness and death. Staying cool, drinking plenty of fluids, wearing cool clothing and pacing outdoor activities are keys to staying healthy in hot weather.

## Capitol Comments

### A Sovereign Iraq

By Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
From the moment the first bomb dropped in Baghdad last March marking the launch of Operation Iraqi Freedom, our nation's dialogue has centered on seeing the mission through to a successful end. Since declaring a date for the official transfer of power, American and Iraqi diplomatic and military leaders have been preparing the nation for the June 30th handover.

#### Late Night Surprise

However, on June 28, we awoke to the news that sovereignty had traded hands during the night - two days ahead of schedule and under a cloak of secrecy. The early transfer was an inspired step and a testament to how far the budding government has come under the newly minted leadership of President Ghazi Al-Yawer and Prime Minister Ayad Allawi.

Officials cited security concerns and the threat of attacks by insurgents as the principal reason for the change and, in addition, the new Iraqi government said they were ready to take the reins of their nation's future.

Iraqis had already been in control of all ministries, from defense to electricity, and this official transfer was the final symbolic act, dissolving the Coalition Provisional Authority and solidifying Iraqi control. The swiftness and ease with which the handover took place was an early, hopeful sign that the interim government was prepared to run the country.

The U.S. goal in Iraq was never one of occupation. The goal was the removal of Saddam Hussein and the threat he posed to the U.S. and the entire free world. Within hours of the departure of Iraq's acting administrator, Paul Bremer, the new U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, John Negroponte, landed in Baghdad and took his seat as our nation's envoy to the fledgling Republic.

#### A New Beginning

In a Washington Post column that ran hours before the handover, Prime Minister Ayad Allawi clearly captured the vision for the nation's future when he wrote, "We want a free, democratic Iraq that will be a source of peace and stability for the region and the whole world." Yet within that same breath of optimism, he also recognized the enormity of the task that lies ahead. "The challenges are great, and the stakes are high, both for Iraq and the world. We must not underestimate the magnitude of the task that lies ahead. Despite the hardships, we Iraqis are determined to work together

and assume responsibility for our country. ... With these efforts, God willing, Iraq will take its rightful place among the free and prosperous nations of the world."

To move forward with these goals the interim government has outlined the following goals: 1. Establish security; 2. Address the dire economic situation; 3. Develop a strong and independent judicial system; 4. Accelerate the nation's political process and march toward democracy.

These four goals will not be met overnight and they won't occur without international support. U.S. troops will remain in Iraq in an effort to achieve the first goal and assure the remaining can take root. It is our hope that other nations who have stood on the sidelines will see the progress in Iraq and step up to the plate. We did receive welcome news that the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) has agreed to help train Iraq's security forces, but it is also time for NATO to send troops to support the critical mission of stopping the terrorists.

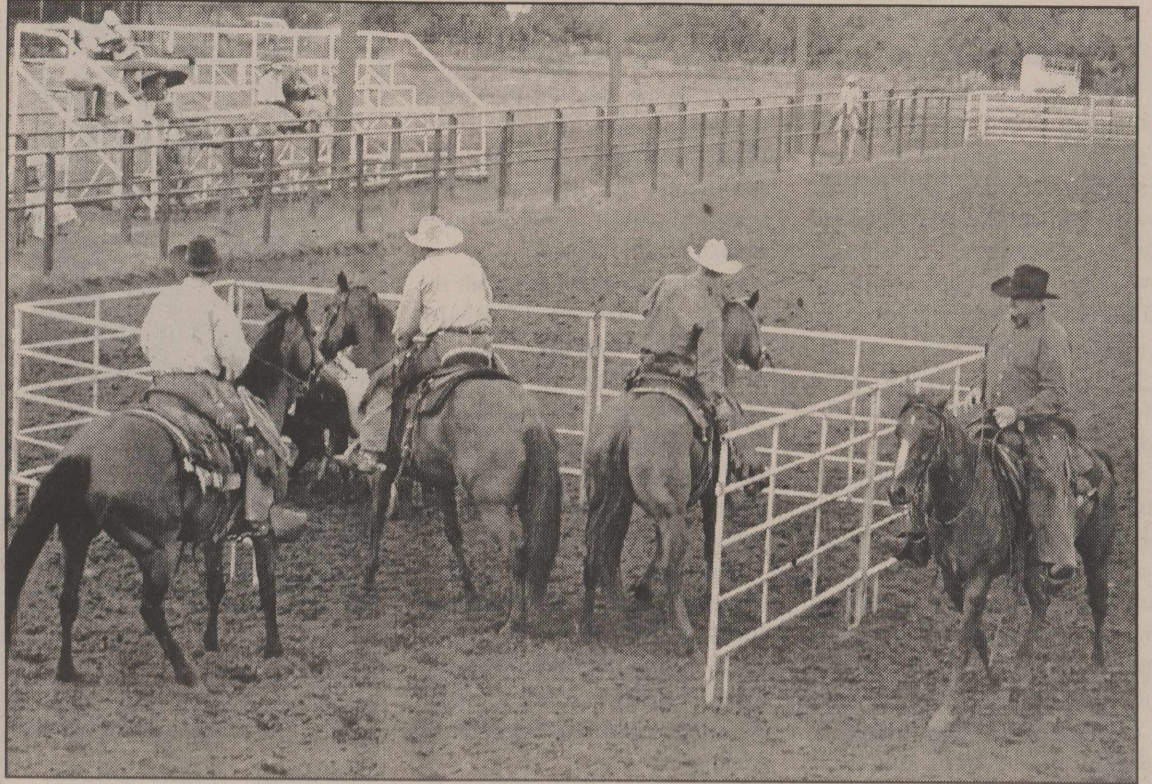
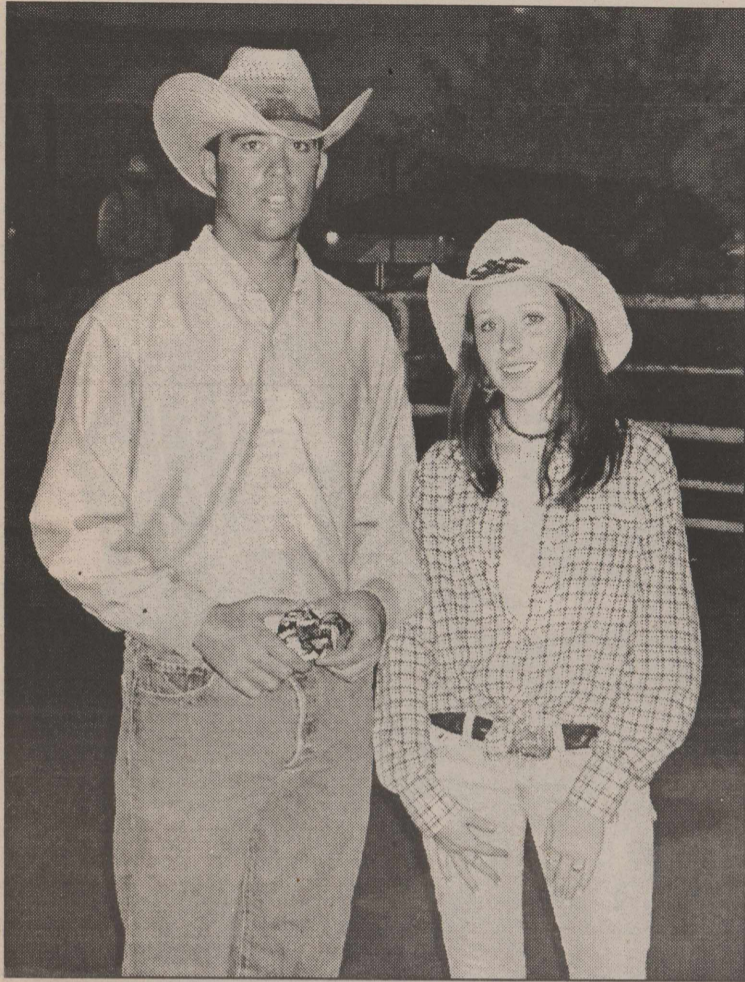
It is clear that we have more work to do, most notably to stamp out the treacherous attacks against innocent Iraqis and U.S. soldiers. But, with this important transfer of power, we are closer to establishing a fully democratic Iraq and sending an unequivocal message to the terrorists that their tactics will fail and their time is up.

**Be Careful  
This Summer!  
Practice  
Water Safety!**

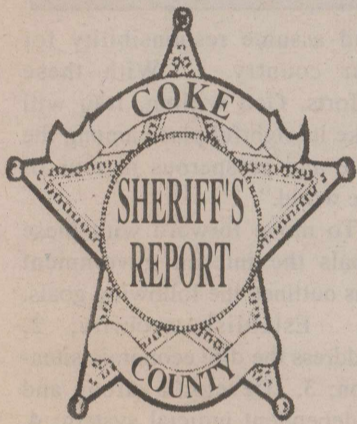
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**Coke County Ranch Rodeo!** Coke County Ranch Rodeo Secretary Bailey Saunders (left photo, right) presents the Top Hand buckle to Casey Armstrong Saturday evening, June 26th. Casey rides for the NT Ranch of Stanton. The winning team at this year's Ranch Rodeo is the Outyonder Ranch of Overthorpe. They are shown above in the team penning. Team members include (from left) Andy Smith, Clint Rainey, Blake Belcher, Monty Keeney, and team captain Shelley Granzin (not pictured).



**June 2004 Arrests, Charges Filed, & Dispositions**

Wanda Prine Persley, DWI 3rd or More, 6-25-04

Robert Claborn, DWI 3rd or More, 6-26-04

Felicia Elliott, Motion to Revoke Probation, 6-28-04

**51st District Court Dispositions**

**06/16/04**

The State of Texas vs. Clifton Dee Nagle, Charge: Motion to Revoke Probation, Plea: 10 Days Jail

The State of Texas vs. Anthony Howard Korn, Charge: Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon, Plea: 12 Months Deferred Adjudication, Fine \$300.00, Court Cost \$201.00, Attorney Fee's \$250.00.

The State of Texas vs. Chip Collins, Charge: Possession of Marijuana, Plea: 90 Days Jail, Probated 12 Months, Fine \$300.00, Court Cost \$211.00, 24 Hours Community Service.

The State of Texas vs. Victoria Jade Sewell, Charge: Driving While License Suspended, Plea: 90 Days Jail, Probated 6 Months, Fine \$300.00, Court Cost \$236.00, 24 Hours Community Service, Driver's License Suspended 180 Days.

**6/29/04**

The State of Texas vs. Michael Ray Sabrsula, Charge: Evading Arrest/Detention Using Motor Vehicle, Plea: 6 Months Jail, Probated One Year, Fine \$750.00

**Missing persons DNA database solves first cold cases**

Two Texas missing persons cases have been solved through DNA testing.

Donna Williamson, a 19-year-old North Richland Hills woman, had last been seen in August 1982. Her name and photograph were included in the DPS Missing Persons Clearinghouse database.

Skeletal remains were found in Johnson County in May 1993. Examination revealed the remains were female, and information regarding her estimated age and height was included in the Texas Department of Public Safety's Missing Persons Clearinghouse database. Although many comparisons were made, no positive identifications could be established. Investigators continued to try to determine the victim's identity.

In 2001, the Texas Legislature created the Texas Missing Persons DNA Database, using a \$1 million grant from the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund. The database is housed at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth.

In October 2003, Ms. Williamson's family submitted DNA reference samples to the Texas Missing Persons DNA Database in hopes of one day locating her. In June 2003, Johnson County investigators submitted DNA samples from their unidentified victim.

The Health Science Center received new software in April 2004 that enables the database to compare all DNA samples within the database.

In late May 2004, staff members from the Missing Persons DNA Database determined that there was a 95.21 percent probability that the DNA from the unidentified body was a match to a DNA reference sample provided by

Ms. Williamson's family. The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's office then compared Ms. Williamson's dental records with the body and ruled that the two positively identified her.

More than 150 DNA samples from unidentified victims and more than 255 reference samples have been submitted so far to the DNA database.

Investigators and medical examiners are urged to submit DNA from family members of missing persons, as well as unidentified remains, to the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth for specialized mitochondrial DNA testing.

There are 6,000 to 7,000 active missing persons cases in Texas. The DPS Special Crimes Missing Persons Clearinghouse has been analyzing cases from its database and has been contacting local law enforcement authorities to encourage family members to submit DNA samples.

**Cycling race and tour set**

The James Phillips Williams Foundation will hold a cycling road race and tour on July 25th, 2004. This event is expected to attract 100-150 cyclists, and all proceeds will benefit the foundation.

Activities will begin at 8:00 am on July 25th, and include a 45 mile race, a 45 mile tour and a 25 mile tour. The event will start and finish in the Abel Water Systems parking lot at 6601 FM 853 (Arden Road). Complete event information and entry forms are available on-line at <http://cvrr.clicks.anangelo.com>.

The course for the race and 45 mile tour will take place on roads that showcase the rugged beauty of the Concho Valley, including the challenging hills on Burma Road. For those who wish to partic-

ipate at a less strenuous level, the event also includes a 25 mile tour that follows gently rolling terrain along Jamison and Arden road.

The mission of the James Phillips Williams Memorial Foundation is to provide opportunity for alternative

educational instruction for those children or adults who are experiencing difficulties as a result of Dyslexia and/or other Learning Differences.

For additional information, please contact the JPW Foundation at (325) 655-2331.

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