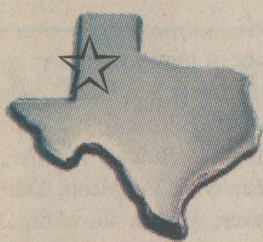


*****5-DIGIT 79235
 Floyd County Histori Museum
 PO BOX 304
 FLOYDADA, TX 79235-0304

VALENTINE ADS
 \$25 FOR PICTURE W/2 OR MORE
 \$15 FOR INDIVIDUAL PICTURE
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VOLUME 115 NUMBER 3

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011

10 PAGES - 75¢

Hero comes to Lockney

Stephens appointed Interim Superintendent at FISD



Photo by Connie Barnett

During his presentation last Friday, military hero and search and rescue elite, Lt. Brandon Sheets of the US Navy, spoke to students at Lockney ISD about the importance of being prepared and giving a 100 percent.

By Homer Marquez

During his speech last week, all it took was a quick "HOOYAH" for Lt. Brandon Sheets to captivate the attention of his audience at Lockney ISD. Last Friday, military hero and helicopter pilot, Lt. Sheets took time out of his busy schedule to visit and speak with students at Lockney's Elementary and High School. During

his presentation, Lt. Sheets used humor and real life past experiences to teach the students the importance of readiness, discipline, being respectful and giving a 100 percent.

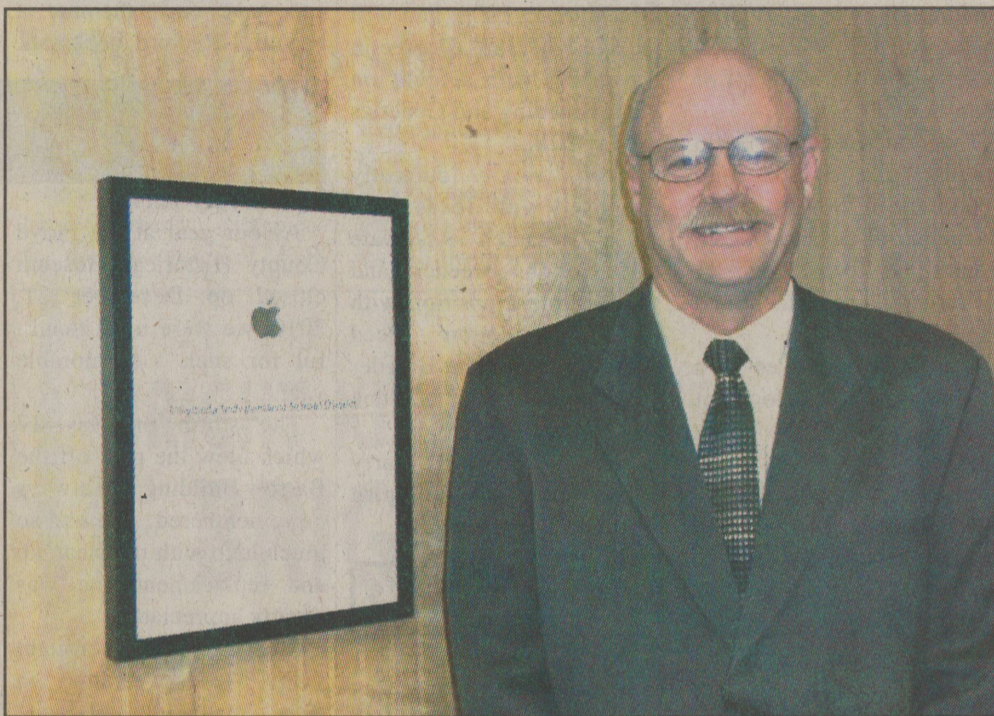
Sheets currently serves as a Lieutenant for the United States Navy and has flown in several tours in the Middle East. Lt. Sheets is also a helicopter pilot for

the Search and Rescue team in the state of Washington; there the Lieutenant has made a countless number of successful rescues in the mountain ranges of the Northwest.

In his speech, Lt. Sheets described some of his experiences during his training to become a pilot,

LT. SHEETS

Continued on page 10



CLIFTON STEPHENS

By Homer Marquez

With three weeks under his belt, retired Superintendent Clifton Stephens is starting to settle in nicely as Floydada ISD's new Interim Superintendent. Filling in the vacant position left by former Superintendent Jerry Vaughn, who recently accepted a superintendent position in Tyler, Texas, Mr. Stephens has been welcomed with open arms and has embraced Floydada's strong work ethic. Mr. Stephens explained, "There is a lot of

really good people here... excellent board members to work with, a good group of seven people there; all the administrators across the district, all the campuses everywhere, it's just been really enjoyable for me to get to know them, and just to sit down and talk about how the district runs and what I could do to help them, and how we can keep things running smooth in the transition from one superintendent to another. It's been a good experience, a lot of good

people in Floydada...They have an excellent school district; the data that you look at on the schools, test scores and things like that are good, we want them to be great, so obviously we're striving for that, but they're not bad right now, their some areas that you want to improve in, there always are, but the community needs to know that there is a lot of good hard working folks in the school district doing a really

STEPHENS

Continued on page 10

Caprock Crop Conference to be held Jan. 25 at Unity Center

By Mark Carroll

CEA-Ag, Floyd County

The Caprock Crop Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center located 6 miles west on Hwy 70 from Floydada and 4 miles east on

Hwy 70 from Lockney.

Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. The cost of the conference is \$25.00 (we will be accepting pre-registration until January 20) after this date a \$10 late fee will be collected. Registration information can be received

through the Floyd or Crosby County Extension offices. Registration fee will include lunch, conference cap and program materials.

The conference is open to all area producers as well as anyone interested in the crop production industry. Booth exhibitors will be on hand introducing the latest in technology and equipment.

In addition, Continuing Education Units will also be available by attending the conference. We have applied for 7 CEU's through TDA (tentative as of now). They include 3.5 General, 2 IPM, 1 Laws & Regulation and .5 Drift Minimization. We have also applied for 7 Certified Crop Advisor credits for those interested.

The program will start at 8:00 a.m. Speakers and topics will be: Roger

CAPROCK

Continued on page 10

Floydada ISD Featured on POWER ON TEXAS Project

AUSTIN - POWER ON TEXAS, a new project of the Texas Education Agency, explores the transformative impact of digital technology in Texas classrooms. The project includes a new hour-long documentary and companion website that showcase best practices and reveal the power of digital learning to engage today's students, boost Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) scores, and provide 21st century skills necessary to compete in a global economy.

Focusing on seven Texas school districts engaged in various levels of digital learning, the POWER ON TEXAS documentary and website offer a glimpse of

what is possible when skilled teachers use technology to engage students.

"It's clear from the examples provided by the innovative and dedicated administrators and teachers in these districts that digital technology offers a significant boost in engagement and academic performance," said Jerel Booker, associate commissioner for Educator and Student Policy Initiatives with TEA. "It's literally transforming teaching and learning as we know it."

The documentary and website were created to give Texas educators an overview of the best practices of digital learning and classroom transformation in the state, and provide a resource to help

schools make the transition to 21st century learning environments. "Teachers play an important role in preparing students for the future," said Commissioner of Education Robert Scott. "POWER ON TEXAS provides a venue for teaching tools teachers need to reach and empower 21st century students with the skills they need to shape the future."

Educators in the featured districts, which include Arp, El Paso, Floydada, Irving, Klein, Manor and White Oak, make the case that today's students are "digital natives." These students have never known a world without cell phones, laptops, the Internet

POWER ON TEXAS

Continued on page 10

Ministerial Alliance to Hold Community Worship Service

Psalm 122:1; I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord".

The Ministerial Alliance will have a community worship service on Saturday, January 22nd at 10 a.m. It will be held at the Temple Getsemani Assembly of God Church located at 701 W.

Missouri Street in Floydada, Texas.

As pilgrims on God's earth for only a brief moment, we can rejoice in God's house with God's people. The community of Floydada is invited to worship and celebrate the Lord Jesus, as we will be praying for

national and community needs.

Jeremiah 33:3 declares, "Call unto me and I shall answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things that you do not know."

For more information call Joe Hernandez at 806-983-5156.

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KENDRA D'WAYNE COVINGTON AND JACOB MORROW RIEFF

Covington and Rieff to wed

Jim Covington and Deidra Gibson, both of Floydada, would like to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Kendra D'Wayne Covington, to Jacob Morrow Rieff, son of Jerry and Marion Rieff of Hale Center.

The bride-elect is a 2006 graduate of Floydada High School and in 2009 received a Bachelor of Sciences Degree from Texas Tech University in Human Development and Family Studies.

Kendra is employed as a Leadership Development Coordinator with The Volunteer Center of Lubbock.

The prospective groom

is a 2003 graduate of Hale Center High School, received a Bachelor of Sciences Degree from Texas Tech University in Agricultural Education in 2008, and will receive a Masters Degree in Agronomy with a focus on Plant Breeding and Genetics in May 2011.

Jacob is currently employed with Texas Tech as a Research Associate and Cotton Breeder and will assume a position with Phytogen Cotton Seed Company as a Plant Breeder and Agronomist in June 2011.

The couple will marry on May 28, 2011 at Spirit Ranch in Lubbock.

Floydada Senior Citizens News

By Margarette Word

It is that time of the year where we ask those who eat at the Center for their 2011 dues. The dues are \$15 for each person and are due this month. This helps our Center to pay bills and helps to keep the Floydada Senior Citizen Center open daily.

Sandy Forehand spent Christmas in Bend, Oregon

with her son, Don and his family, Stacy, Tyler and Sierra. During her three weeks stay, she saw Tyler participate in a ski race. She also visited Roy's cousin in Eugene, Oregon and celebrated his 90th birthday. Sandy said she had a great time.

We have been having very good meals. If you are 60

years or older, come and join us. It is nice to eat a good hot meal and visit friends.

Our sympathy to the family of Wayne Rainwater.

Our sympathy to the family of Harry Whitaker.

Our sympathy to the family of Olin Watson.

Thankyouforremembering the Center when you need to make a memorial donation.

In memory of Marie Warren – Joy Bunch Finley, Greg and Mona Bond, Margarette Word.

In honor of Connie Bertrand – 1934 Study Club.

"Thought for the Week" – Happiness is in direct proportion to the love you give.

1934 Study Club

By Wilma Gowens

The 1934 Study Club met December 14, 2010 in the home of Faye Bertrand at 2:30 p.m. with Diana Glover as co-hostess. Delicious refreshments were served.

The meeting was called to order by Faye Bertrand. Club Collect was led by Betsy Dempsey and Willie Mae Ferguson gave the roll call answered by "My Christmas Plans" and she also read the minutes.

New/old business was called for by Faye Bertrand. Connie, Bertrand gave a story "A Redbird Christmas" and gave each member a beautiful Redbird bookmark

handcrafted by herself.

Each member gave a \$5 donation for a local charity.

Members present were Faye Bertrand, Wilma Colston, Betsy Dempsey, Willie Mae Ferguson, Diana Glover, Wilma Gowens, Emagene Haenisch, Jo Lyles, and Margarette Word. Absent was Marie Warren who was in the hospital at the time.

The 1934 Study Club met Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. in the home of Faye Bertrand.

Faye Bertrand called the meeting to order. Willie Mae Ferguson gave the roll call answered with "here" and she also read the minutes. The

Club voted to meet year round if weather permits. Each hostess will be responsible for her own program and refreshments. We will still meet the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

The program was given by Willie Mae Ferguson about a Claude, Texas native that happened sixty-six years ago when Charles Roan absorbed a grenade saving the lives of four men. A Medal of Honor was posthumously bestowed on his mother, Lilliebell Roan on the Armstrong County Courthouse lawn. Later Mrs. Roan christened a battleship, The U.S.S. Charles H Roan in Boston, Massachusetts in

honor of him.

Members present were Faye Bertrand, Wilma Colston, Betsy Dempsey, Willie Mae Ferguson, Diana Glover, Wilma Gowens, Jo Lyles and Margarette Word.

A donation was given to First Baptist Church T.V. Ministry in memory of Marie Warren. The 1934 Study Club extends our prayers and sympathy to Marie's family in her loss. Marie was such a dear friend to each of us and we mourn her passing.

Our next meeting will be at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 8, 2011 in the First Baptist Church parlor for Guest Day!

Museum News

By Dorothy Turner

As our year at the Floyd County Historical Museum closed on December 31, 2010, we were most thankful for such a memorable year.

The storm of May 17 which blew the roof off the Barrow Building will always be remembered. We had so much help with the clean up and replacement that was greatly appreciated.

Most days of 2010 brought many visitors—many in state, many out of state and even some from other countries. Total visitors for the year were 3,703. Our largest number of visitors other than Old Settlers and

Punkin Day was 29. Many travelers drop in just crossing the state not traveling on the Interstates. Maybe someday, someone will just like our town enough to stay.

We have had several new donations. One of those created much research by many people. After much investigating Mac Smitherman identified the articles as cross-cut saw handles.

Sam Watts gave an interesting program in May on the Battle of McKenzie in Blanco Canyon. He and a group of explorers returned to the canyon in October and found several artifacts that re-enforced his belief of the

location of the battle. He is still working to identify the objects they found.

A large number of people enjoyed making ropes on Old Settlers and on Punkin Day. Our rope makers enjoy this activity, also.

We have made improvements on the Museum this year. Putting a new roof on the Barrow building, repairing brick on the Barrow and main buildings, and covering the back of the east building to seal it were some of the projects. The City of Floydada assisted with the latter project by awarding the museum with funds from the Hotel-Motel Tax money.

Carolyn Cunningham again shared eleven different nativity scenes from her collection of almost 700. These will be on display throughout January.

If you don't know about your family history, workers in the Genealogy department can usually help you find the information. We often have questions about genealogy from people whose ancestors lived here at one time.

We encourage each one of you to come by and visit any time you are in town. This is your museum and this is your county's history.

We look forward to 2011 and all it will bring forth.

Lockney Senior Citizens News

By Renee Armstrong

Hello from the Lockney Senior Citizens Center. Remember potluck on Thursday at 6 p.m. with games to follow. Exercise classes are on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9 a.m. -9:30 a.m.

Our sympathy goes out to Edna Smith in the loss of her brother. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Memorial services will be

held Saturday. Have a wonderful rest of the week.

Menu
Jan. 24-28
Monday-Chicken Strips
Tuesday-Frito Pie
Wednesday-Chicken Fried Steak
Thursday-Grilled Chicken
Friday-Enchiladas
Subject to change without notice due to availability

Thanks for reading!

Floyd County Hesperian Beacon Classifieds

Miscellaneous

LET ME FARM FOR YOU. I would like to rent 300 to 500 acres in western Floyd County, Francis Montandon, 806- 652-3696, Lockney (Sandhill Community). tfn

Help Wanted

NEEDED: Full time secretary with experience in accounts receivable and accounts payable. Need to be proficient with computers and Quickbook accounting program. Previous experience preferred. Apply at Don Hardy Race Cars, 202 @. Missouri, Floydada, Texas. 1-20c

da, Texas. 1-20

BOOKKEEPER/RECEPTIONIST is needed for a small irrigation/farm operation. Experience in QuickBooks and common computer skills is preferred. Some traveling and conference attendance is possible. For more information contact J. E. Irrigation at 806-559-0186. Ask for Jaron. 1-20c

CROP PRODUCTION SERVICES NOW HIRING: Warehouse, delivery driver needs CDL/Hazmat and cashier. Pick up application at 517 East Houston Street, Floydada. 1-20c

MANUFACTURING POSITION AVAILABLE—Floydada/Matador: Opportunity for Craftsman for Composite Manufacturing. Knowledge of precision measurement tools and machine shop equipment a +. Wage based on experience. Please call for appointment first 806-983-3311. 1-20c

LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER, part-time. Hackberry Creek Care Center, Matador. Please call Sandra for more information. 806-347-2942. Hackberry Creek Care Center is an EOE. 1-27c

House for Sale

822 W. GROVER (CORNER LOT)—3 bedroom, 1-3/4 bath, large eat-in kitchen, living, laundry and sunroom with attached garage. New central H/AC, siding storm windows and large storage building. \$50,000. Monte Williams, 806-983-5699. 1-20c

Classifieds get results!

Covenant Mobile Mammography will be providing screening mammograms in Crosbyton.

January 26, 2011
 Crosbyton Clinical Hospital
 720 W. Main

For information or to schedule an appointment call
 1.877.494.4797

Financial assistance, for those who qualify, is funded in part by the Lubbock Komen for the Cure.

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From the archives....

FLOYD COUNTY HISTORY FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE FLOYD COUNTY MUSEUM

From the Floyd County Hesperian and The Lockney Beacon May 24, 1990
 Floyd County Centennial by Carolyn Marble

FORMS OF IRRIGATION BEGAN IN LATE 1800'S

Since time began the search for water has been of utmost importance. Water is the number one necessity for life. Therefore the first people to inhabit Floyd County camped near the few sources of water. The first known form of irrigation in Floyd County was after the Indian wars of 1870 and 1874, after the extermination or expulsion of the indians.

In the northwest part of the county where the Merrill home place is the Pastores were irrigating by building a dam where Turkey Creek runs into Quitaque Creek creating a canal system.

The Llano Estacado was thought to be uninhabitable because of the lack of surface

water other than the "buffalo wallows" which we call playa lakes.

The early settlers relied on rainfall for their crops, and they hand dug rope and bucket wells to supply water for household use and for livestock. But it was not until the very late 19th century, when self-regulating windmills made available the plentiful supplies of ground water too deep for the rope and bucket wells that full settlement of our region could begin. Now began the period when windmills, sometimes as many as twelve per square mile, became West Texas landmarks.

Most of the 255 acres under cultivation in Floyd County in 1890 were planted to livestock feed, when there were 529 citizens. The drouth which began in the late 1880's whittled away many and severely retarded the growth of farming. The few shallow streams stopped flowing and settlers experienced the full blast of sandstorms.

Many farmers began to withdraw from the region especially after 1891. That year Floyd County had 176 farms. By the end of the next year only 55 farms remained. Those farmers who remained during the 1890's existed by raising drouth-resistant grain sorghums to feed to their

small herds of beef cattle and milch cows. In addition it was reported that settlers in Blanco Canyon irrigated orchards and gardens through a system of canals from the White River.

Moreover, there were undoubtedly many farmers who used their windmills to water a few rows of garden crops. Thus, the early farmers who remained did so by concentrating upon stock farming and by irrigating a few rows of vegetables for the family larder.

As many farmers drove their wagons loaded with household goods back to the more humid regions of the east, they met other wagons driving west toward the Caprock. The incentive was that in 1895 the Texas legislature enacted a more liberal law—the Four Section Act—under which a settler could file on four sections of land for \$2.00 per acre for the first section and \$1.00 for the remaining three, with 40 years to pay at 3% interest.

In 1887 when the town of Floydada was mapped out and the streets named, J. K. Gwynn, who was sent by Mrs. Carline V. Price to establish Floydada, had a public well dug with a windmill on the public square. People for three or four miles obtained their water there.

See ARCHIVES on Page 6

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Obituaries



LISA ANN MOLINA

Lisa Ann Molina, 28, of Lockney, passed away Thursday, January 13, 2011 in Lubbock. Rosary was held at 7 p.m., Friday, January 14, 2011 at Lemons Memorial Chapel in Plainview. Funeral Mass was held at 10 a.m., Saturday, January 15, 2011 at San Jose Catholic Church in Lockney, Texas.

Interment followed at Lockney Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Lemons Funeral Home.

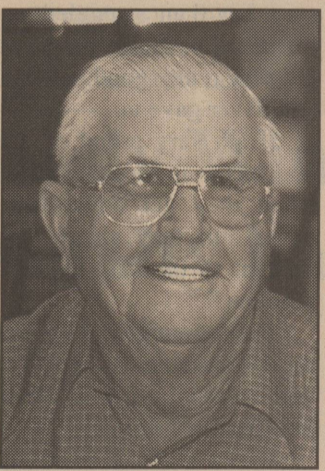
Lisa was born on September 29, 1982 in Lockney, Texas to Rojelio Molina, Sr. and Irene (Beltran) Molina. She grew up in Lockney and graduated from Lockney High School in 2001.

Lisa was a determined, strong-willed girl who never complained no matter how difficult life became for her. She was a fighter. She stayed young at heart, loved to joke and make people laugh and was always caring for others. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Lisa is survived by her parents, Mr. Rojelio Molina of Holland, Texas, and Ms. Irene Molina, of Plainview; her paternal grandparents, Ben Molina, Sr. and Petra Molina, of Lockney; brothers, Roy Molina, Jr., of Plainview, and Danny Molina and his wife, Letty Mayorgo, of Lubbock; sister, Crystal Molina; and her nephew, Xavier Christerfield, both of Amarillo.

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandmother, Senaida Rojas.

Online condolences may be made online at www.lemonsfunerals.com



WAYNE RAINWATER

Family and friends gathered at the First United Methodist Church in Floydada from 5 to 7 pm Friday, January 14, 2011 to celebrate the life of Wayne Rainwater, 76, of Dougherty.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 15, 2011 at the First United Methodist Church with Rev. Les Hall officiating. Burial followed in the Dougherty Cemetery under the direction of Adams Funeral Home of Ralls.

Wayne passed on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at his residence. He was born in Crosby County on September 27, 1934 to the late Andrew James and Myrtle Missouri (Miller) Rainwater. He married Rosalyn McDermott on January 7, 1955 in Ralls.

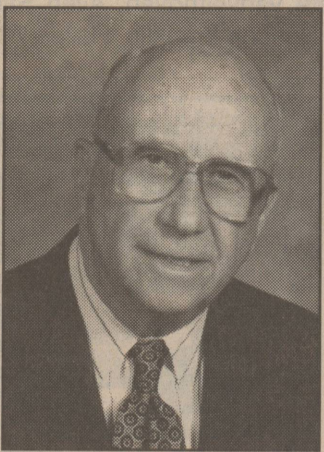
A graduate of Ralls High School in 1953, he served in the US Army from 1956 to 1958. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Floydada and served on the Dougherty School Board. He enjoyed NASCAR, motorcycles, the mountains, and Possum

Kingdom Lake.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Willard Rainwater, and a sister, Louise Cain.

Survivors include wife Rosalyn Rainwater, four sons and their wives, Michael and Karol Rainwater of Dougherty, Andy and Kay Rainwater and Randy and Sharon Rainwater both of Floydada, and Carlos and Melinda Rainwater of Southlake, one brother, Alford Rainwater of Lorenzo, 11 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren.

www.adamsfuneral.com



OLIN MATTHEWS WATSON, JR.

Olin Matthews Watson, Jr., age 89, of Keller, Texas, passed away Saturday, January 15, 2011 in Keller.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at the First United Methodist Church in Floydada with Pastor Les Hall officiating.

Interment followed at the Floyd County Memorial Park under the direction of Moore-Rose Funeral Home.

Olin was born May 9, 1921 in Floydada to Olin M. Watson, Sr. and Ruby Fay (Appling) Watson. He graduated from Floydada High School in 1939 and later graduated from Texas Tech University in 1943 with a degree in business.

He was a member of the Red Raider Band and loved music, classic films and Broadway shows. Olin honorably served his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II and the Korean War. Olin married Lena Mae Caruthers in Bridgeport, Texas on December 6, 1952.

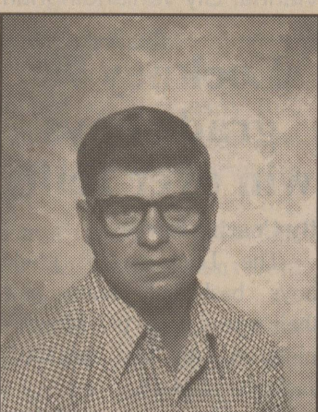
He was the Lions Club President from 1964 to 1965 and again from 1974 to 1975. Olin was named "Citizen Through the Years" by the Floydada Chamber of Commerce. He worked at the First National Bank of Floydada and was the Floydada Chamber of Commerce Director. Olin was the Floyd County Auditor until he retired in 1981. He worked with the Floydada Housing Authority for 21 years and he volunteered at the Floyd County Museum and Historical Society. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Floydada where he served 30 years in the choir and taught Sunday School.

Olin was preceded in death by his spouse of over 51 years, Lena Mae; and both of his parents.

He is survived by his daughter, LouAnn Barker and her husband, Brent; his three grandchildren, Brittany Duniven and her husband, Tyler, Jeff Barker and BreAnn Barker.

Memorials may be made in Olin Matthews Watson, Jr.'s name to the Senior Citizens Center, PO Box 573, Floydada, TX 79235; First United Methodist Church, 203 W. Kentucky, Floydada, TX 79235; or to the Floyd County Museum, PO Box 304, Floydada, TX 79235.

Online condolences may be made at www.moore-rose.com.



HAROLD G. WHITAKER

Harold G. Whitaker, known by friends and family as "Harry", age 75, of Floydada, passed away Thursday, January 13, 2011.

A casual memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, January 22, 2011 at Whittle Farms in Floyd County with Dennis Whittle officiating. Arrangement were under the care of Moore-Rose Funeral Home of Floydada.

A reception will follow the memorial service at the Whitaker home in Floydada.

Harry was born December 30, 1935 in Plainview to Grady and Ozella (Low) Whitaker. He spent the majority of his life farming in Floyd County. Harry was a Floydada resident for almost 50 years after he moved from Plainview. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Floydada.

He was preceded in death by both of his parents, his son, Bobby Whitaker, his sister, Peggy Wiley and his best friend, Billy Ray Horton.

Harry leaves behind his son, Billy Whitaker and wife, Angela; his grandson, Robert Whitaker and his granddaughter, Keaton Whitaker, all of Montgomery; his former spouse, Doris Kalb of Madisonville and his sister, Edna Smith of Lockney.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks memorials be made in Harry Whitaker's name to the American Cancer Society, 3411 73rd St., Lubbock, TX 79423. Online condolences may be made at www.moore-rose.com.

View obituaries online.

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Floyd County Church Directory

AIKEN BAPTIST CHURCH
Dennis Butler, Pastor
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH
810 S. 3rd, Floydada
Darwin Robinson, Pastor
983-5278
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship ..10:50 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

CALVARY'S CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP
Floydada
Armando Morales, Pastor
Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m.
Bible Study6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening7:00 p.m.

CARR'S CHAPEL
Service Every Sunday:
Morning Worship9:00 a.m.
Sunday School10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
West College & Third,
Lockney
Steve McLean -Minister
Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship5:30 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m.

CITY PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST
Levi Sisemore, Minister
Floydada
Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Tim Franks, Pastor
Terry Simmons,
Minister of Ed./Music
Josh Burgett -Minister of Students
Sunday School9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship ...10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study....6:30 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Lockney
John Franklin, Pastor
Chad Cook, Youth Min.
Phil Cotham, Music Min..
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....6:30 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Lockney
John Franklin, Pastor
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Phil Cotham, Music Min..
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Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....6:30 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Lockney
John Franklin, Pastor
Chad Cook, Youth Min.
Phil Cotham, Music Min..
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....6:30 p.m.

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Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....6:30 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Floydada
Rev. Les Hall, Pastor
Early Worship8:30 a.m.
Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship ...10:50 a.m.
Youth (Sunday).....5:00 p.m.
Youth (Wednesday)..7:30 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Lockney
Rev. Ricky Carstensen
Pastor
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Worship Service10:30 a.m.
Evening Service..... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Jr. High5:30 p.m.
Wed. High School... 6:30 p.m.

GRANT CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
Joe Bennett, Pastor
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m.
Evening Service.....7:30 p.m.
Tuesday8:00 p.m.
Wed. Service7:30 p.m.

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POWER OF PRAISE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor
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Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:30 p.m.

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Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor
704 N. Main, Lockney
Sunday Services....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m.<

Lockney Elementary Honor Roll

A Honor Roll
1st Grade
 Mireya Ascencio, Aidan Bustillos, Gabriella Cervantes, Emma Dunn, Jesus Gonzales, Maliea Huerta, Joshua Jimenez, Isaac Lopez, Derek Luna, J'Ann Pena, Lacy Phillips, Ezekiel Ramos, Austin Rodriguez, Desarae Salas, Morris Salas, Clare Smith, Lillian Vanlandingham



Photo by Rodney Hunt

Lady Horn, Meagan Dunn goes for the steal during last Friday's home game against Crosbyton. With an impressive 2nd half comeback, the Horns get back on the right track with a 48-35 victory over the Chiefettes.

2nd Grade
 Hunter Lefevre, Dylan Morgan, Tasha Schlueter, Koh Stapp

3rd Grade
 Kayla Archer, Anahi Ascencio, Felipe Azua, Madai Chavira, Ainslee Dunn, Saria Martinez, Jason Moore, Tiffany Nunez, Carly Rendon, Abigail Rogers, Joey Vanlandingham

4th Grade
 Lyndee Setliff, Bryson Walker

5th Grade
 Raimondo Alvarado, Shawn Marquez, Ryder Race, Austen Rexrode, Tristan Schlueter

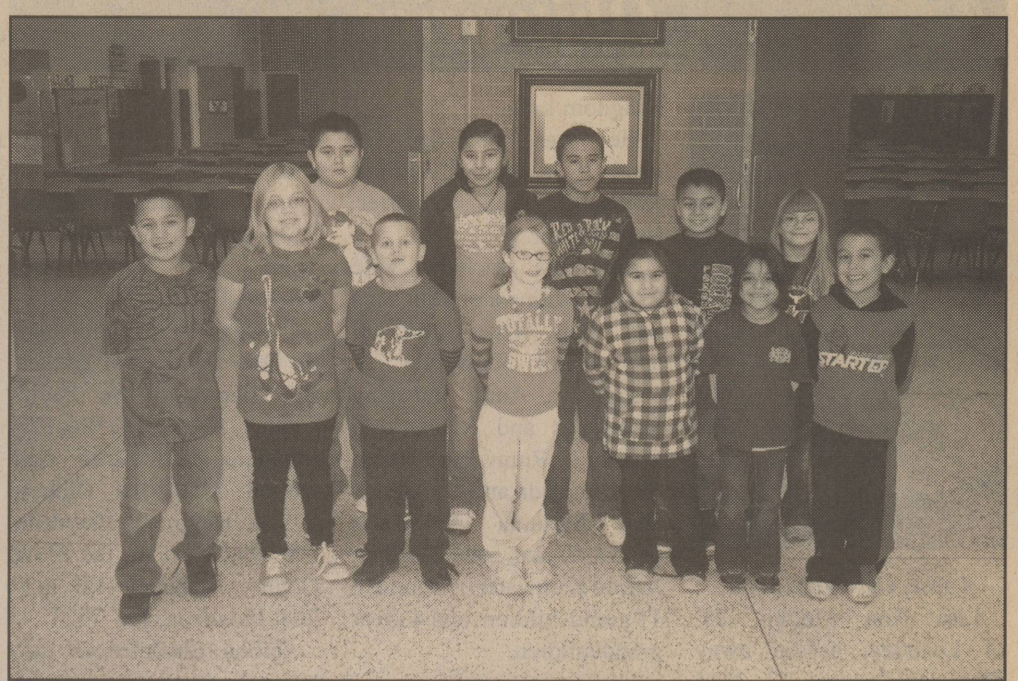
Longhorn Junior High Tournament held

By Coach Browne
 The Lockney Longhorns 7th grade boy's basketball team went 1-1 in the Longhorn Junior High Tournament.

The Horns first game came against Lubbock Christian. The Horns started off quickly and never looked back. The Horns play hard defense holding the Eagles to just 4 points for the game. The Horns won the game 50-4; they played really hard and gave a total team effort.

The Horns saw themselves matched up against a very good Tulia team in their second game. The game was back and forth the whole game and ended up with Tulia edging out the Horns 47-44.

See **TOURNAMENT** on page 8



LITTLE LONGHORNS: Jaden Ascencio, Pedro Pacheco, Haley Sanchez, Keane Villarreal, Julio Laura, Celeste Vanvelthoven, Aven Sanchez, Mariah Salas, Micha Vianna, Lily Vanlandingham, Deacon Franklin, Hailee Widener

Lockney 7th grade boys win over Ralls

By Coach Browne
 The Lockney 7th grade boys basketball team saw their record go to 6-2 Monday night as they beat the Ralls Jackrabbits 44-16.

The Horns started off slow as the score after the first quarter was 11-6, but they picked up the defensive intensity and started playing team basketball.

"I was very proud of the way we came back and started playing our game, we started off sloppy but then picked it up the in the second quarter."

The Horns were led in scoring by Daylen Gatica with 16, followed by Ruben Ascencio with 11, Derick Patel with 9, Mark Solis with 4 and Levi Kasner and Justin Suarez with 2.

The Horns next game will be Monday the 17th in Sudan with tip coming at 5 p.m.



Photo by Rodney Hunt

Lockney's Landry Kidd (14) finds room to shoot during last week's game against Crosbyton. With signs in the second quarter of a comeback, the Longhorns would run out of time as they would fall 44-34 to the Chiefs. Top scores in the game would be Rendon and Cruz with 10 points apiece. In the JV game, the Horns would pass Sudan 88-35.

Lockney Longhorn black team loses to Ralls

By Coach Browne
 The Lockney Longhorn Black team played a hard fought game but just came up short against the Ralls Jackrabbits Monday night in Lockney.

The Horns got off to a fast start but than struggled on offense. The Horns however did play really good defense and never gave up.

"I am very proud of the way this team keeps fighting, when they get down they never quit they always try to fight to the best of their abilities."

The leading scores for the Horns were Luke Ortiz with 2 points and Stephen Setliff with 2 points.

Lockney School Lunch Menu Jan. 24-28

- Monday**
 Breakfast-Bagel or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch- Popcorn Chicken or Barbeque, potatoes, green beans, pineapple, roll, milk
- Tuesday**
 Breakfast-sausage biscuit or cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch-Carne guisada or chicken patty, refried beans, corn, pears, tortilla, milk
- Wednesday**
 Breakfast- Oatmeal or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch-Steak Fingers or grilled cheese, potatoes, baby carrots, apple slices, bread, milk
- Thursday**
 Breakfast- Pancakes or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch- Pizza or burrito, corn, peaches, milk
- Friday**
 Breakfast- Cinnamon Roll or Cereal, toast, juice, milk
 Lunch- Corndog or tuna sandwich, Tater tots, Western beans, orange, pickle spears, milk

Immunization Clinic
Thursday, Feb. 3 at
Lockney Elementary
9:30 a.m. – 12 noon



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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Lubbock
 Contract 0453-01-016 for NEW STRUCTURE in FLOYD County will be opened on February 9, 2011 at 1:00 a.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
 NPO: 35312

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
 200 E. Riverside Dr.
 Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

Lubbock District
 District Engineer
 135 Slaton
 Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771
 Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Lockney red basketball team falls short

By Coach Browne
 The Lockney Longhorn black team competed over the weekend in the Lockney Longhorn Junior High tournament. The team played really hard both of its games and never gave up.

The Horns fell short in both games but they have

more heart than anyone. "I love coaching this team, they are a group of kids who have fun and love to compete. They work hard everyday and always fight till the end."

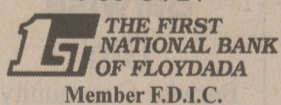
The Horns where lead on defense by Scott Lass who played very well on both ends of the court. Stephen Setliff and Josh Cruz did a great job in handling the pressure that the teams put on them. Marcos Salas, Marcos Bueno, and Luke Ortiz did a great job getting rebounds for the team and playing hard nose defense.

PRODUCER'S COOPERATIVE ELEVATOR

983-2821 Floydada
 983-3770 Dougherty

First National Bank of Floydada

983-3717



FLOYDADA COOPERATIVE GINS, INC.



Floydada • 983-2884

Public Service Announcement: Fair Housing, It's the Law

To promote fair housing practices, the City of Lockney encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law.

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

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Every Valley dealer commits themselves to provide complete parts and service. Stop by, discuss Valley Irrigation solutions, and learn why Valley is *The Leader in Precision Irrigation*.

Rhoderick Irrigation
416 Main Street • Silverton, TX
806-823-2139
<http://rhoderick.valleydealers.com>



Lady Winds Defeat Muleshoe, 59-36

By Coach Styles

The Floydada Lady Winds stayed unbeaten in district with 59-36 win over the Lady Mules from Muleshoe.

The Lady Winds owned quarter leads of 16-7, 37-9, 47-18, and 59-33. Floydada's press caused the Lady Mules to turn the ball over numerous times and to disrupt their execution on offense. The Lady Winds played very well together as they passed the ball with pinpoint efficiency through the Mules defense. Floydada dropped back into their half court defense midway

through the second quarter as the Lady Winds built leads in excess of thirty points. Floydada limited Muleshoe to one field goal in the first half.

The Lady Winds and the Lady Mules played pretty even in the second half. The Lady Winds were in control from the beginning. When you have an emotionally charged game like last Friday, there is a tendency to have a let down. The Lady Winds would not let that enter into last Tuesday's contest.

Leading the Lady Winds was

Avery Miller with 20 points and 8 steals, Whitley Beedy 16 points and 9 deflections, Sarah Jo Miller 8 points and 7 deflections, Sarah Sanders 7 points and 7 rebounds, Breann Gooch 5 points and 6 steals, Brityn Helms 3 points, Nikki Seymour 3 steals, and Emily Hall 2 deflections.

The Lady Winds are 18-2 (6-0) for the year. Come out and support the basketball teams. We need to pack the Friona gym Friday and Whirlwind Gymnasium next Tuesday and Friday against Dimmitt and Abernathy.

Lady winds come up short against Tulia

By Coach Styles

The Floydada Lady Winds ended the first round of district with a 56-54 loss at Tulia. With the loss, the Lady Winds dropped into a tie with Littlefield for first place.

Floydada turned the ball over too much against the Lady Hornets. The Lady Winds had 26 turnovers, 10

in the fourth quarter. This led to a nine-point lead for Tulia. The Lady Winds never gave up and eventually took the lead to one.

A controversial call on a turnover with less than ten seconds would end the Lady Winds chances for a final comeback. The Lady Winds fought through a couple of

See LADY WINDS on page 6

Whirlwinds blow past Tulia, 63-44

By Coach Renfro

The Floydada Whirlwinds jumped out to an early 10-0 lead last Friday night and cruised to a 63-44 victory in Tulia. The win was the first district victory for the Winds and brings their season record to 10-10.

Haden Lipham fueled the quick start hitting two of his 4 three-point shots in the opening minutes as the Winds built a 40-24 lead by halftime. Lipham ended the game with a team high 22. Bryson Session had 10 points and 5 rebounds to go with 2 assists, John Angel Yanniss

had 7 points, 4 steals, and 3 assists for the game, R.J. Deleon and Venturo Gonzales each both had 6 points.

Cole Covington had 3 points to go with a team high 6 rebounds while Deleon and Tyler Renfro each grabbed 4 boards. Greg Aleman put in 5 points to go with 3 steals and 3 assists while Jordan Woody had 3 points and Jose Martinez had 2. Woody and Lipham also grabbed 3 rebounds apiece. The Winds will face Friona and Dimmitt in the coming week to round out the first half of district play.

Whirlwinds fall to the Muleshoe Mules

By Coach Renfro

The Muleshoe Mules defeated the Floydada Whirlwinds in a fast paced 71-61 game on Tuesday night in the Whirlwind Gym.

Bryson Session led all scorers with 23 points while pulling down 11 rebounds. Jordan Woody scored 10 points; Haden Lipham

had 7, and RJ Deleon 6. The loss brings the Winds Season record to 9-10.

In the JV game, the Winds lost 62-50 to the Mules. BJ Perez had 20 points while Michael Cisneros had 18. Joseph Herrera and Landry Morren put in 4 each while Laron Lamb and RJ Gomez had 2 each.

FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU JAN. 24 - 28

Monday	Lunch-Chicken spaghetti, English peas, tossed salad, French bread stick, fruit, milk
Breakfast -Breakfast pizza or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk	Thursday
Lunch -Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, fresh apple, hot roll, milk	Breakfast -Oatmeal and cinnamon toast or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Tuesday	Lunch -Grilled cheese sandwich, vegetable soup, fresh broccoli w/ranch, fresh fruit, saltine crackers, milk
Breakfast -Sausage/biscuit or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk	Friday
Lunch -Crispy tacos, lettuce & tomatoes, Spanish rice, pinto beans, fancy gelatin, milk	Breakfast -Breakfast burrito or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Wednesday	Lunch -Whirlwind sandwich, tater tots, pickle spears, orange smiles, milk
Breakfast -Pancakes, syrup or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk	

Lady Winds junior varsity basketball

By Coach Eddleman

The Floydada Lady Winds JV team played Whiteface in the Olton Tournament on December 9, 2010 and won by a score of 47-11.

Scoring results are as follows: Kelsey Nutt - 11 points; Jennifer Alonzo - 10 points; Amelia Gonzalez - 7 points; Merritt Johnson - 6 points; Elyanna Duran - 5 points; Kristan Sanchez - 4

points; Jianna Davenport - 2 points.

On Dec. 10 the Lady Winds JV team played New Deal in their second game of the tournament and won by a score of 45-34.

Scoring results are as follows: See JV BASKETBALL on page 6

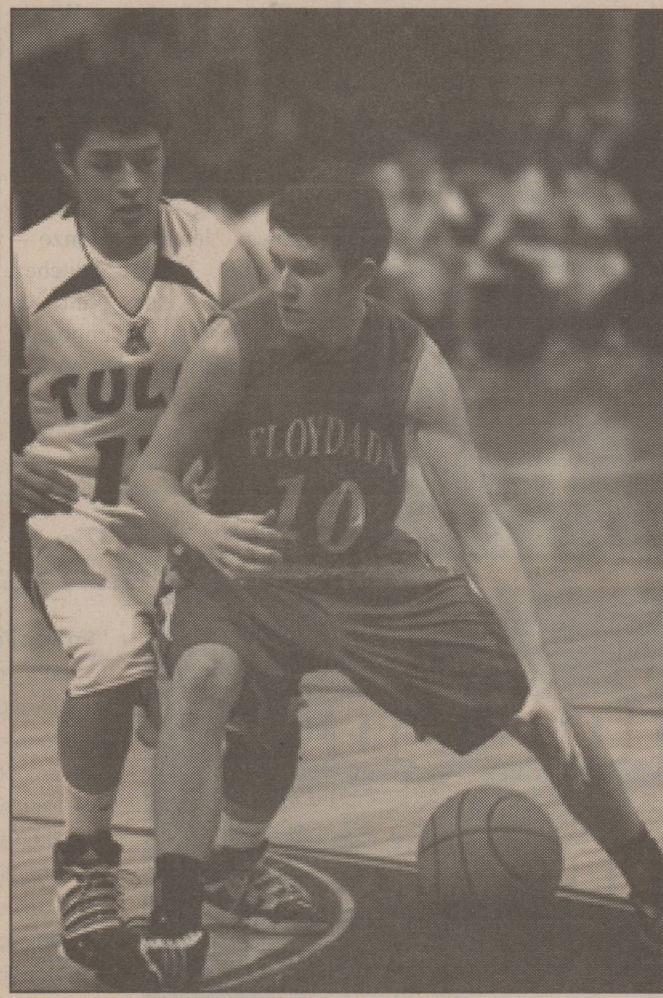


Photo by Jim Covington

Floydada's Haden Lipham (10) pushes his way towards the net during last week's game against Muleshoe. Lipham would put a nice 7 points during that game, but unfortunately, the Winds would come up short losing 71-61.

fbhb.editor@yahoo.com

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer Retail Dealer's Off-Premise Permit and a Wine Only Package Store Permit by Jeremy Rodriguez dba Merm's Liquor L.L.C., to be located at 320 N. 2ND St, Suite B, Floydada, Floyd county, Texas. Managing Member of said L.L.C. is Jeremy Rodriguez, sole member. 1-13c



Photo by Jim Covington

Lady Wind, Whitley Beedy (20) drives it home during last week's game against Muleshoe. With 16 total points in the game, Whitley would help the Winds bring home another win by a score of 59-33. With the win, the first place Lady Winds stay undefeated in district with a 5-0 record, overall the Winds are 17-2.

Whirlwind Powerlifting team competes at Friona Championship Meet

By Coach L. Bandy

The Floydada Whirlwind Powerlifting team competed in the Friona Powerlifting Championship meet in Friona Texas on January 8. The Whirlwinds only had two competitors at this contest, Troy Morales and Juan DeOchoa.

Troy Morales competed in the 123 lbs. weight class, and Juan DeOchoa competed in the 220 lbs. weight class. Both lifters finished 1st respectively, Troy's total weight lifted was 855lbs (Squat-345, Bench-185,

Deadlift- 325), Juan's total weight lifted was 1305 lbs. (Squat-450, Bench-335, Deadlift-520).

As of Jan. 11 Troy is sitting number 1 in the state standings for the 123 lbs. class and Juan DeOchoa is sitting 2nd in the 220 lbs. class behind John Herrera of Banquete, Texas who's total is 1310 lbs. (Squat-495, Bench-315, Deadlift-500).

The Whirlwind Powerlifters next meet will be held on Jan. 15 in Plainview, Texas at the Bulldog Field House.

Whirlwind 8th grade team falls to Friona

By Coach Riley

The Whirlwind 8th grade team came up just short against the Friona Chieftains last Monday night, Jan. 10 by

a score of 35-30.

Zach Martinez was the only one in double digits with 11 points.

THANKS FOR READING!

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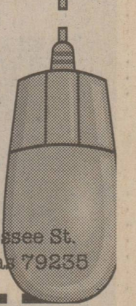
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NOTICE OF LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY CAPROCK HOSPITAL DISTRICT BY SEALED BIDS

The Caprock Hospital District will lease by sealed bids the property know as Cogdell Clinic, which is located at 901 W. Crockett Street, Floydada, Texas 79235. A description of such property is described on Exhibit "1" together with all improvements thereon, and together with the office furniture and medical equipment, if any, located therein.

Date the Sealed Bids will be Opened: February 3, 2011

Time the Sealed Bids will be Opened: 7:00 a.m.

Place the Sealed Bids will be Opened: 901 W. Crockett, Floydada, Texas

The property will be leased to the highest bidder subject to Caprock Hospital District's reservation to reject any and all bids. If your bid is accepted, you will be required to sign the Lease Agreement.

Restriction: The property must be leased for hospital and medical purposes only and according to the terms of the Lease provided to the bidder. All bidders must submit evidence of qualification to perform all lease obligations and a history of their experience.

CAPROCK HOSPITAL DISTRICT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.

EXECUTED this 6th day of January, 2011.

CAPROCK HOSPITAL DISTRICT
By: Eric Smith, Chairman

1-13c

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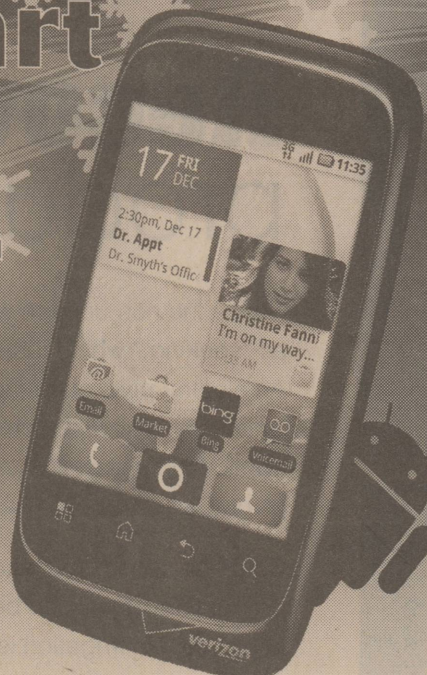
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ARCHIVES

During the first year or two of Floydada's existence, few of the inhabitants provided themselves with wells and windmills, and rolling water kegs came into general use. On both ends of a keg, blocks of wood with protruding spikes were placed. On these spikes were attached ropes or leather straps by which the kegs were rolled on the ground. The kegs were ten, twenty, and even thirty gallon capacity.

J. D. Starks supplied his home 1/2 mile from the public well by means of a rolling keg drawn by his big dog Quannah. J. R. Keene's home two miles west of town was supplied with water hauled from the public well on a slide drawn by two yearlings. The means thus employed in obtaining a water supply for home use illustrates the resourcefulness of the first people who lived at Floydada.

Then in 1912 the Texas Land and Development Company, an irrigation development enterprise, came to the area. Publicity about the existence of shallow water in the region brought land prices up as the existence of irrigation water became more widely known.

The irrigation movement on the Texas High Plains which began during the drouth of 1910, failed to mature under the promotion efforts of speculators and boosters. By 1920 there were only 187 irrigation wells in operation in the four counties of Bailey,

Deaf Smith, Floyd and Hale and probably over one half of these were Texas Land and Development wells.

The irrigation movement was premature because it lacked a solid base of farmer support. Yet some of the early pumping units continued to operate during the 1920's and early 1930's.

Right when the depression was playing havoc in 1931—positive thinking people were expounding on the possibilities of irrigation, with an estimated cost of 25 cents to \$1.00 per acre. As news spread of the bountiful crops made with irrigation more wells were drilled as farmers dared to invest in the initial costs. One 10 acre plot made 42 1/2 bushels of wheat after being watered three times and pastured pigs, goats, sheep and cows during the winter.

Twenty-five years after the Texas Land and Development Company had come into the area, Floyd County boasted of 350 irrigation wells watering 70,000 acres.

Farmers who believed in the old adage that "The Lord helps those who help themselves," began drilling irrigation wells. There were 8,356 irrigation wells on the Texas High Plains in 1948. By 1957 some 42,225 large pumps were pouring water on the region's crops.

The period of most rapid growth was 1950-1954, roughly coinciding with the Korean War, when the number

of wells increased from 14,000 to 27,000 and the irrigated acreage rose from 1.86 million to 3.5 million. Although cost climbed sharply in the post-World War II period, this rise did not seem to deter expansion of irrigation.

In the 1947-1949 period the least expensive irrigation pumping units were about \$3,900, almost double the cost in 1938. This amount included \$1,272 for drilling and casing the well, \$2,155 for the pump and gear head, and \$485 for a small irrigation engine. For electric motors, larger engines and deep well, the cost was more than \$4,000. Increased prices probably reflected a greater demand for such equipment and improvements in machinery, as well as postwar inflation.

Because of the increased efficiency of pumping plants and profitable prices for farm products, irrigation moved beyond the old "shallow-water" belt into areas of deep ground water. For example, as early as 1937, several farmers drilled wells south of Floydada in eastern Floyd County. Among those who put down wells was Lovell Jones, who made an agreement with the Floydada Chamber of Commerce to insure the drilling of a well on his farm. The group of businessmen agreed to pay the cost of drilling if he failed to find sufficient irrigation water. The well, drilled to a depth of 330 feet, was successful.

JV BASKETBALL

follows: Jennifer Alonzo – 23 points; Kristan Sanchez – 8 points; Elyanna Duran – 6 points; Kelsey Nutt – 6 points; Merritt Johnson – 2 points.

The Lady Winds Junior Varsity girls played Muleshoe and came away with a win by a score of 54-40. They went 3-0 and claimed the first place trophy at the Olton Tournament. Their season record at this time stands at 11-0. Scoring results of this game are: Kristan Sanchez – 13 points; Kelsey Nutt – 7 points; Elyanna Duran – 4 points.

On Dec. 14 the Lady Winds JV team played Friona in their first district game and won by a huge score of 58-29. Scoring results are as follows: Kristan Sanchez – 22 points; Jennifer Alonzo – 15 points; Amelia Gonzales – 9 points; Merritt Johnson – 6 points; Kelsey Nutt – 3 points; Jianna Davenport – 2 points; Sierra Gomez – 1 point.

The Floydada Lady Winds took on Dimmitt on December 17 and again garnered another district win by a score of 64-44. The scoring results are: Jennifer Alonzo – 29 points; Amelia Gonzalez – 18 points; Kristan Sanchez – 5 points; Merritt Johnson – 4 points; Jianna Davenport – 4 points; Kelsey Nutt – 2 points.

The Lady Winds Junior Varsity girls played Abernathy for their third district game and took home another district win. The score at the buzzer was 50-45. Scoring results are as follows: Jennifer Alonzo – 23 points; Kristan Sanchez – 8 points; Kelsey Nutt – 6 points; Jianna Davenport – 5 points; Elyanna Duran – 5 points; Anna Delafuente – 2 points; Amelia Gonzalez – 1 point.

Season record: 14-0 – District record – 3-0



It's official. Recess is a good thing.

No, I'm not talking about the courtroom kind, although anybody who's ever been on a jury knows that the greatest words spoken during long and tedious trials come from the bench:

"We're going to recess now for ... minutes."

When it comes to judges' decisions, that one's always my favorite. It's not just because I'm always ready for a break but also because the word "recess," whatever the setting, always makes me think of my favorite kind of recess – the grade school kind.

Until recently, the jury apparently was still out on the benefits of recess for school kids. But newly reported research confirms that children suffer from being cooped up in the classroom all day. I could have told them that when I was 6. Indeed, a child interviewed in the study said that without recess he would be spending all his classroom time fidgeting and planning what to do upon release. Honest kid.

One research finding said children who enjoy recess are less likely to bully others. Hmmm. Maybe that's true. I don't remember any bullies at our school. There were some enjoyable fights. They happened during recess. Generally it was the same two guys. We'd make a circle around them. They'd grapple in the dirt. Then a teacher would break it up. But they weren't bullies. I think they just liked to fight.

Punishment in grade school was missing recess -- a sobering experience. It happened to me once.

There I sat at my desk, gazing fixedly at the erasers resting on the blackboard tray, which wasn't as bad as it sounds. The backs of the erasers sported construction paper designs. But it was still pretty bad.

When I grew up and got a job, I discovered the adult equivalent of recess was the coffee break. We took two – one in the morning and one in the afternoon. We solved world problems on break, if only verbally, and otherwise talked mostly about restaurants. The place was New Orleans. That's what everybody talks about in New Orleans. Restaurants.

Coffee breaks of that caliber exist no more inasmuch as we were integrated. We had smokers and non-smokers.

A friend of mine believes the world's most interesting people are smokers. She's herself crosses the line, switching back and forth between smoking and not, so that makes her an expert. I rather suspect she's got it all figured out.

Or maybe not. But it did seem to me back then that the smokers made the keenest observations and enjoyed breaks the most, puffing on their brands of choice as the delicate blue smoke rose above their heads. Secondhand smoke didn't bother me so much then. I just stayed below the cloud.

Now we are a nation riven, and even though I wouldn't have it any other way, it still strikes me as sad that we can't all take our coffee breaks together.

Kids, enjoy your friends at recess while you can. Someday you'll be divided.

LADY WINDS

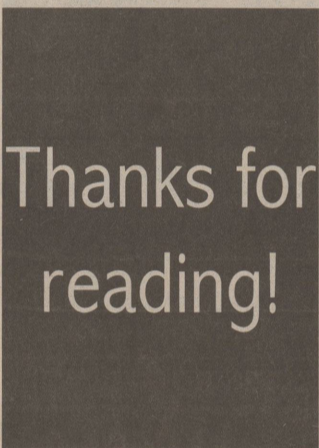
injuries during the game but did not let that keep them from competing hard to the very end.

Leading the way for the Lady Winds was Whitley Beedy with 15 points and eight rebounds. Avery Miller had 12 points and 6 rebounds. Brityn Helms had 11 points and 3 three pointers. Sarah Jo Miller had 9 points and 6 assists. Sarah Sanders had 6

points and 8 deflections.

The Lady Winds made 20 out of 52 shots including 5 three-pointers. They had 16 assists, 23 steals and 26 deflections.

District standings after the first round are: Floydada 6-1; Littlefield 6-1; Dimmitt 4-3; Idalou 3-4; Tulia 3-4; Abernathy 3-4; Friona 3-4; Muleshoe 0-7.



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Notice the non-uniform water application of the center pivot circles shown. This is known as "spoking," which results from the start-stop operation of an electric drive pivot system. An electric pivot starts and stops 2,880 times a day at the end tower alone. Michigan State University field research (Fusco, 1995) verified the significant effect of "spoking" and found application uniformity ranged from 15% to 85% on a leading manufacturers electric drive pivot. Call up Google Earth Maps on your computer and see for yourself.

Common sense would say the consequence of "spoking" is lost crop production and that production losses can be even greater if the system is being used for chemigation. Your investment in irrigation is significant, and is intended to maximize your economic return from your crop. However, the intermittent motion of an electrically powered pivot system can detract from your return, sometimes significantly.

History has shown that the start-stop motion is also detrimental to component life, increases mechanical problems, creates more expense, causes downtime, and generally makes irrigating miserable. Many growers have experienced these problems.

OPINION



The Paperboy

A little civility?

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

Members of Congress are doing the right thing in their recent gestures of civility.

As a resident of this great land and a voting taxpayer, I sincerely hope these gestures lead to a new culture in Washington. One which has the people's business at heart.

During the State of the Union speech next week, a leader of the Senate Democrats and one of the Senate's most conservative Republicans will sit together.

Furthermore, a House Republican from Pennsylvania and a House Democrat from California said Sunday that they would work together to revisit federal and state laws on mental illness.

Recently House Speaker John Boehner used the phrase "job-destroying" instead of "job-killing" in reference to the Democrats' health care overhaul in a speech to colleagues.

It seems the shooting in Arizona that killed six in a failed assassination attempt on Representative Gabrielle Giffords has shifted the political dynamic in Washington and across the nation. It is a welcomed change.

The venom has spewed in Washington for over a decade. I think back to President Clinton's impeachment as one event in a series which has led to the current climate in U.S. politics. The Clinton impeachment angered many Democrats.

More feelings were hurt following the 2000 election (debacle). Democrats across the country were angry with the outcome.

Likewise, Republicans became angry at what they saw as a

mainstream media attack on all things President Bush during his final term.

The GOP remained angry, with the culmination of that anger evident after Obamacare was passed and the manner in which it was passed.

Years of anger and hurt feelings have led to discourse and division.

And who suffered because of all the ill feelings? You and I.

A dose of civility and leadership would go a long way in changing Washington for the better for all of us. I firmly believe there are far more issues most Americans agree on than not.

Am I wrong to make that assumption? The vast majority of us want a safe and prosperous country where we can live free and rear our children in a healthy environment. Within that model lies a lot of common ground.

Democrats and Republicans are never going to agree on all of the issues. That's okay. However, with the right attitude and having the common decency and respect to listen and acknowledge the other side, the people's business can be done.

It would be wonderful if the tragedy in Arizona led to a new era of politics with both sides coming together as one of the most important issues.

Michigan is in a financial mess, and Detroit is at the epicenter of that mess.

There is currently a plan on the table to close nearly half of the schools in the city in the next two years. A move that

would increase high school class sizes to 62 students per teacher by the following year, under a deficit-reduction plan filed with the state.

The plan, part of a monthly update Emergency Financial Manager Robert Bobb gives the Department of Education, was filed last week to provide insight into Bobb's progress in his attempt to slash a \$327 million deficit in the district to zero over the next several years. The district would slim down from 142 schools now to 72 during 2012-13 as part of the plan.

Can you imagine facing six or seven periods of 62 teenagers each five days a week? Brutal!

Here's the breakdown on the increases in class size as part of the plan:

Grades 4-5 from 30 students to 37 in 2012-13 and 39 in 2013-14.

Grades 6-8 from 35 students to 45 in 2012-13 and 47 in 2013-14.

Grades 9-12 from 35 students to 60 in 2012-13 and 62 in 2013-14.

No child left behind huh?

We may not have the perfect school system here, but when compared to school districts across the U.S., I'd say we have it far better than most.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

The UAW Deputizes Itself to become "Human Rights" Police

By ADAM BITELY

Somehow, somewhere in its nearly 76 year history, the United Auto Workers (UAW) became a "human rights" policeman. With their newly declared calling to find violators of human rights, the UAW is setting its gaze upon car manufacturers that primarily operate in America's South.

Of course, to the UAW, a human rights violation would be to not allow the union to shanghai the paychecks of the employees they claim to defend. We're not exactly sure if this would be a violation that the United Nations Human Rights Council would recognize, but we would not be surprised if it were.

Speaking on Wednesday, Bob King the President of the UAW, announced that it would be aggressively moving forward on organizing workers at Honda, BMW, Toyota, and Hyundai, among others. Seeking to come off as a benevolent representative of the typical "disenfranchised employee", he informed

the automakers that he seeks to be a friend and not a foe.

But all hope of King and the UAW being a friend to the auto companies was lost when he described at the Automotive News World Congress what he would do to those that did not allow the UAW to hold a secret ballot election at their factories.

Threatening the auto manufacturers, King said that companies that don't sign on in support of the UAW's preferences for holding elections in regards to whether or not employees should be represented by the UAW, he announced that the UAW would brand those companies as human rights violators. And that's the least of what he will do.

According to the Labor Union Report, King vowed to commit the entire array of resources at the UAW's command in order to sniff out these "human rights violators." The amount of those resources? Possibly \$800 million or more.

On top of being branded a violator of hu-

man rights, the UAW will hold protests and demonstrations while informing the local community of all the evils that purportedly go on at the companies. All the while, the UAW suggests to the companies that they should do nothing to interfere in the mischaracterization and falsehoods they will undoubtedly spread.

When an AP reporter asked the executive vice president of sales for American Honda why the employees of Honda were not actively seeking the UAW to represent them, he replied that "[t]hey've never seen the need, so far, to have anybody intervene on their behalf, work in partner with them, and I think that continues to be their decision, not ours."

More intriguing on this matter is the fact that the employees in the non-union companies are making the same amount of money as those that work at companies with the UAW's presence. The UAW argues that the companies that currently have no union representation are exploiting their workers, but

how? The UAW isn't really sure yet, but their confident that there must be something wrong.

Oh, and never mind the fact that the UAW owns 67 percent of Chrysler, a competitor to all of the companies that they seek to wet their beak at. Why any company would even allow the UAW to encroach on their employees is beyond logic.

While the UAW may believe that it is empowered to sniff out and destroy those that would violate human rights in the auto manufacturing industry, it is important to remember that these same, greedy, self-righteous human rights policeman brought Detroit to its knees and destroyed what little was left of the American auto industry, including a vast amount of jobs. The UAW is no more qualified to declare one in violation of Human Rights than the nation of Sudan is.

Another Day Older and Deeper in Debt...

By VERONICA de RUGBY

If lawmakers are going to vote in favor of raising the debt ceiling, they should do it only in exchange for a change in the country's direction.

Last year, Congress approved a \$1.9 trillion increase of the debt limit to support the government's borrowing. This lifted the total amount the federal government could borrow to \$14.3 trillion.

Now Congress needs more money, so the debate about the debt ceiling is making the front pages again. This time around, the federal government proposes that it be allowed to borrow an additional \$700 billion to pay its bills, which would raise the national debt to \$15 trillion (more than the size of our gross domestic product). This would support the federal government's borrowing through 2011.

Democrats spent a lot of money over the last two years, hence the two consecutive increases of the debt limit in just three months in 2009, and the biggest one-time increase of all time in 2010. But Democrats are not the only debt-friendly party. According to the Office of Management and Budget, the federal debt limit has been raised 98 times since 1940—more than once a year, on average. Under President Bush alone, Republicans voted to raise the debt limit by about \$5.4 trillion.

When the statutory debt limit was instituted in 1939, its explicit goal was to limit congressional spending. Its purpose is

supposedly still the same today. Technically, if the debt nears its statutory limit, the Treasury Department cannot issue new debt to manage short-term cash flows or manage the annual deficit. The government may be unable to pay its bills.

This limit actually worked well for a while. The chart below shows increases in the federal debt and the statutory debt limit since 1940. From 1940 to the beginning of the 1980s, the debt and its limit grew slowly.

In the 1980s, however, both the debt and the limit started increasing at a faster rate. Since 2000, the debt limit has been increased ten times; in 2008 and 2009 it was increased twice in the same year. It was increased yet again last year. Now, Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner warns that the debt limit may be met again as early as March 31 this year.

As is frequently the case, lawmakers and pundits are arguing that they have to raise the limit because otherwise the country would default. Consider this recent quote by Austan Goolsbee, the chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers:

This is not a game. The debt ceiling is not something to toy with ... If we hit the debt ceiling, that's ... essentially defaulting on our obligations, which is totally unprecedented in American history. The impact on the economy would be catastrophic ... I don't see why anybody's talking about playing chicken with the debt ceiling. If we get to the point where you've damaged the full faith and credit of the United States,

that would be the first default in history caused purely by insanity.

I agree that this is not a game. This way of reasoning, however, obscures the fact that the need to raise the debt ceiling is merely a symptom of a much bigger problem: Congress has been spending too much money for too long.

The consequences will be dramatic if the government fails to make some serious changes to the way it spends money and borrows money to pay for its daily consumption, if it does not change its practice of paying the interest on its debt by borrowing more and more, and if it continues its practice of making benefit promises it will never be able to deliver. Having to raise the debt ceiling is only a sign that Congress keeps failing to do what is necessary to get the nation's finances in order.

If lawmakers are going to vote in favor of raising the debt ceiling out of fear of the immediate consequences, they should do it only in exchange for a change in the direction this country is going. For instance, they could vote yes in exchange for a credible commitment to reform Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, or in exchange for a solid cap on spending across the board (with no exceptions for pet projects, and applicable to all spending, not just new spending increases). They could also vote yes in exchange for a balanced-budget amendment. Whether it is politically difficult or not, it is a good time for action and change.

Obama's Rubber Stamp

By BILL WILSON

Should the Senate just be a rubber stamp? On January 25th, the Senate will be voting on a proposal to severely weaken the filibuster — the process whereby 41 Senators can block dangerous pieces of legislation and radical appointments from being voted on or even debated on the floor of the "most deliberative body".

Now that Senate Republicans have 47 members in their conference, the ability for Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell to wield the filibuster as leverage has significantly increased. The effectiveness of the filibuster was on display when the then-41 member Senate-Republican Conference blocked the \$1 trillion omnibus spending bill in December.

Because Minority Leader McConnell kept the entire Senate Republican conference in line, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid had to abandon his plans to have one last spending spree in 2010.

But now, Senate Democrats are intent on making sure that never happens again. New Mexico Senator Tom Udall is proposing a rules change that would eliminate holds on presidential appointments, including lifetime judicial nominations, and cloture votes on motions to proceed to debate on important pieces of legislation. Cloture votes require 3/5 majorities, or 60 votes to proceed.

Making matters worse, Senate Democrats want to weaken the filibuster with a simple majority vote, instead of the traditional two-thirds required to amend Senate rules. This is a transparent move to squash any dissent or opposition in the Senate.

This will allow the Senate majority under Reid to all but rubber stamp all of Barack Obama's radical nominations to the federal bench and bureaucracy, and to bring any piece of legislation he wants to floor without having to consult with Senate Republicans.

Right now, the very threat of the filibuster can be utilized by Republicans to achieve con-

cessions in exchange for allowing certain items to come to the floor. These will prove critically important as votes on a budget continuing resolution prior to March 4th, and on raising the national debt ceiling prior to March 31st come up this year.

Republicans have said they want such proposals to be accompanied by significant spending cuts, but that will be harder to achieve if Reid can bring them to the floor and use his majority to defeat any Republican amendments. Whereas now Republicans have a seat at the table in terms of what even comes to the floor. This is a critical distinction.

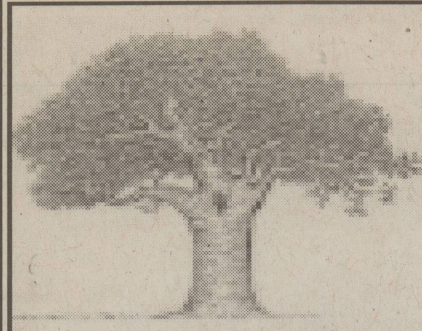
Even more dangerous is Udall's proposal to make it impossible to block federal nominees to the judiciary and executive branch. Senate Republicans successfully blocked several radical appointments in the last session: Robert Chatigny and Goodwin Liu to the judiciary, Errol Southers to the Transportation Security Administration, and Dawn Johnsen to the Office of Legal Counsel. Since Senate Republi-

cans placed holds on these nominations, Senate Democrats needed a full 60 votes to proceed, a hurdle they could not achieve even with their then-59 seat majority.

It is imperative that the Senate not become a rubber stamp for the Obama Administration's radicalism. The rights of the legislative minority need to be protected.

In 2011, to live up to their campaign promises, Senate Republicans will need to use the leverage they have. But that will only work if they have any leverage left to wield. Hopefully, cooler heads will prevail, and the Senate will keep its status as legislation's cooling saucer.

As the Left cries crocodile tears over alleged hyperpartisanship, Senate Republicans need to make a very big deal about this very partisan power grab taking place under the guise of making the Senate more "efficient". That is, if they want to have any influence at all in the 112th Congress.



HACKBERRY HAPPENINGS

BY CARLA MEADOR, MARKETING DIRECTOR

The annual Hackberry membership meeting was held last Monday evening. Board president, Seab Washington, Hackberry administrator, Sandra Seago and Dianne Washington, CPA, spoke to those attending. I put together a slide show which was presented during the membership drive before the meeting. Composing the slide show and looking back through the photos I have taken over the past several months brought tears of joy and sadness. The happy times we have all enjoyed with our Residents are wonderful memories. The loss of the beloved Residents who have passed from this life and remembering time spent with them; a blessing to have had the opportunity to know them.

Most of us have spent time with an elderly person we love. Maybe our grandparents, aunts, uncles or just friends. Sometimes visits with these special people may be just because we think we need to visit once in awhile. But, when we take the time to really visit with them, to look them in the eye and really listen to what they have to say; time spent with a beloved grandparent, aunt, uncle or friend can be something to be remembered for a lifetime. Especially for a child; a memory recalled as an adult from time spent with a grandparent is priceless.

Our friends who call Hackberry home have given the staff and caregivers who work here the opportunity to share some very special memories with them. With this in mind, I wanted to share this short story with you. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

The Eyes of Love

A grandmother and a little girl whose face was sprinkled with bright red freckles spent the day at the zoo. The children were waiting in line to get their cheeks painted by a local artist who was decorating them with tiger paws.

'You've got so many freckles, there's no place to paint!' a boy in the line cried.

Embarrassed, the little girl dropped her head. Her grandmother knelt down next to her. 'I love your freckles,' she said.

'Not me,' the girl replied.

'Well, when I was a little girl I always wanted freckles,' she said, tracing her finger across the child's cheek. 'Freckles are beautiful!'

The girl looked up. 'Really?'

'Of course,' said the grandmother. 'Why, just name me one thing that's prettier than freckles.'

The little girl peered into the old woman's smiling face. 'Wrinkles,' she answered softly.

SR. HEALTH TIPS

How Does Hypertension Affect Memory?
No matter which way you look at it, hypertension (high blood pressure) is bad for your brain. Hypertension is an important risk factor for cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease. And if you are diagnosed with Alzheimer's, hypertension may hasten cognitive decline.

What's more, hypertension is the most significant risk factor for strokes, which can lead to dementia by destroying brain tissue. This form of dementia, called vascular dementia, is the second most common type of Alzheimer's. It is most frequently caused by

chronic hypertension, which can result in a series of small strokes. It is the accumulation of damage caused by multiple little strokes that commonly causes vascular dementia. Of course, hypertension can also cause a significant single stroke that can damage a large area of the brain and also cause dementia.

How does high blood pressure impact memory? The most obvious way is via stroke. High blood pressure damages blood vessels that carry blood to the brain, and this damage leads to the buildup of plaques, accumulation of inflammatory cells, cholesterol, and other tissue products within blood vessels. When one of these plaques ruptures, it travels through an artery and eventually gets lodged in a place where the diameter of the plaque is larger than the diameter of the blood vessels. This causes a blood clot to form at that spot. If the clot completely cuts off blood supply to brain cells responsible for memory or other cognitive functions, the cells die. The death of these cells then leads to impairments in thinking. About one third of people who suffer a stroke develop serious cognitive problems that interfere with their ability to perform daily activities.

Another way that blood pressure affects cognition is its effect on the white matter, the portion of the brain that lies below the surface. White matter is composed of nerve fibers that conduct messages between brain cells and a surrounding myelin sheath that acts as insulation and improves its function as a conduit of electrical and chemical information. Scans show that people with hypertension often have

white matter abnormalities, probably because the hypertension produces impaired blood flow that starves nerve fibers of needed oxygen and nutrients. This causes the myelin sheath to decay and results in "demyelination," which shows up on magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans as bright white spots known as white matter hyperintensities (WMHs) or age-related white matter changes (ARWMCs).

Research shows that the greater the amount of white matter changes, the higher the risk of dementia. Reduced blood flow from hypertension can also directly affect cells in such areas of the brain as the hippocampus, which is involved in memory. When these cells do not get enough nutrients and oxygen, they cannot function properly. If this causes the death of cells, those areas of the brain may shrink. In addition, blood flow reduction leads efficient removal of waste product from brain tissue.

Last, hypertension may compromise the blood-brain barrier, a relatively impenetrable shield that surrounds the brain. This, in turn, allows toxic substances such as beta-amyloid (a sticky protein associated with Alzheimer's) to enter and accumulate in the brain.

Notice: Information printed in these Health Tips should in no way take the place of your physician's advice.

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HPDEC announces agreement to buy natural gas-powered electric plant from PSEG power

LUBBOCK, Texas (January 13, 2011) – High Plains Diversified Energy Corporation (HPDEC) today announced that it has signed an agreement to purchase a 1,000-megawatt natural gas-powered electric generation facility located near Odessa, Texas, from PSEG Power, a subsidiary of PSEG (NYSE:PEG). The \$335 million transaction will be financed through the sale of municipal bonds.

When complete, this will be the second acquisition for the Lubbock, Texas-based municipal utility and

will enhance its position as a low-cost, diversified electricity provider in the West Texas power market. On Dec. 30, 2010, HPDEC announced plans to acquire the 550-megawatt Quail Run Energy Center in Odessa from Constellation Energy Corporation. Both transactions are expected to close during the first quarter of 2011.

"These plants will help HPDEC provide the generating capacity necessary to deliver reliable, low-cost electricity to our customers and the surrounding area," said

HPDEC Chairman Scott Collier. "When these acquisitions are complete, we will have purchased a combined 1,550 megawatts of natural gas-fired electric generation at a significantly lower price than if we were to build the equivalent capacity."

Formed in 2008, HPDEC was created by the West Texas Municipal Power Agency (WTMPA) as part of a unique public-private partnership with Republic Power Partners, LP (RPP) to provide the WTMPA member cities of

Brownfield, Floydada, Lubbock and Tulia, Texas with a reliable, low-cost portfolio of wind, natural gas, solar and biomass electric generation.

HPDEC intends to develop new transmission capabilities to deliver the electric power to its customer base. Through investments in infrastructure development, HPDEC will also help bring jobs and economic growth to the region.

About High Plains Diversified Energy Corp.

HPDEC is a municipal utility based in Lubbock, Texas. Formed in 2008, HPDEC was created by the West Texas Municipal Power Agency (WTMPA) as part of a unique public-private partnership with Republic Power Partners, LP (RPP) to provide WTMPA member cities Brownfield, Floydada, Lubbock and Tulia, Texas with a reliable, low-cost portfolio of diversified electric generation. For more information, visit the HPDEC Web site at <http://www.highplainsenergy.org>.

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FSA reminds producers of deadline for emergency assistance program

Floydada, Texas-- January 18, 2011 --Stephanie Bradley, Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Floyd County, reminds producers they have until Monday, January 31, 2011, to submit an application for payment under the 2010 Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP).

ELAP provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish who have losses due to disease, adverse weather or other conditions, including losses due to blizzards and wildfires.

ELAP assistance is for losses not covered under other disaster assistance programs established by the 2008 Farm Bill. FSA is authorized to

spend up to \$50 million per year nationwide to provide emergency relief for ELAP eligible losses.

Producers who feel they have suffered a qualifying loss are encouraged to file an application for the 2010 ELAP. Contact the Floyd County FSA Office at 806.983.5747 for more information regarding ELAP or visit our website at www.fsa.usda.gov/tx.

Vilsack on EPA Biomass

WASHINGTON, January 12, 2011--Today, Agriculture Secretary Vilsack issued the following statement on EPA's announcement on greenhouse gas permitting requirements for biomass:

"I strongly support EPA's announcement today that it is starting an expedited rulemaking so that it can defer for three years greenhouse gas permitting requirements for biomass and that it is also undertaking a scientific assessment of how emissions from biomass should be treated under the Clean Air Act.

"America's forest owners, farmers and ranchers can play a crucial role in providing renewable energy

from wood, switchgrass and other agricultural products. Homegrown energy can provide jobs in rural America while reducing greenhouse gases. Markets for woody biomass in particular can be especially important in allowing the US Forest Service and other landowners to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire while restoring more natural conditions in our forests.

"EPA's action today will provide the agency with the time it needs to ensure that greenhouse gas policies properly account for the emissions and carbon sequestration associated with biomass. In many

cases, energy produced from biomass will provide significant reductions of greenhouse gases relative to fossil fuels. USDA looks forward to working with EPA in ensuring that this Administration's policies use the best science and spur innovation and job creation in the renewable energy sector."

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Texas astronomers 'weigh' heaviest known black hole in our cosmic neighborhood

SEATTLE — Astronomers led by Karl Gebhardt of The University of Texas at Austin have measured the most massive known black hole in our cosmic neighborhood by combining data from a giant telescope in Hawai'i and a smaller telescope in Texas.

The result is an ironclad mass of 6.6 billion suns for the black hole in the giant elliptical galaxy M87. This enormous mass is the largest ever measured for a black hole using a direct technique. Given its massive size, M87 is the best candidate for future studies to "see" a black hole for the first time, rather than relying on indirect evidence of their existence as astronomers have for decades.

The results will be presented in a news conference today at the 217th meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Seattle. Two papers detailing the results will be published soon in The Astrophysical Journal.

Gebhardt, the Herman and Joan Suit Professor of Astrophysics, led a team of researchers using the 8-meter Gemini North telescope in Hawai'i to probe the motions of stars around the black hole in the center of the massive galaxy M87.

University of Texas at Austin graduate student Jeremy Murphy has used the Harlan J. Smith Telescope at the university's McDonald Observatory in West Texas to probe the outer reaches of the galaxy — the so-called "dark halo." The dark halo is a region surrounding the galaxy filled with "dark matter," an unknown type of mass that gives off no light but is detectable by its gravitational effect on other objects.

In order to pin down the black hole's mass conclusively, Gebhardt says, one must account for all the components in the galaxy. Studies of the central and outermost regions of a galaxy are necessary to "see" the influence of the dark halo, the black hole and the stars. But when all of these components are considered together, Gebhardt says, the results on the black hole are definitive, meeting what he calls the "gold standard" for accurately sizing up a black hole.

Gebhardt used the Near-Infrared Field Spectrograph on Gemini to measure the

speed of the stars as they orbit the black hole. The study was improved by Gemini's use of "adaptive optics," a system that compensates, in real time, for shifts in the atmosphere that can blur details seen by telescopes on the ground.

Together with the telescope's large collecting area, the adaptive optics system allowed Gebhardt and graduate student Joshua Adams to track the stars at M87's heart with 10 times greater resolution than previous studies.

"The result was only possible by combining the advantages of telescope size and spatial resolution at levels usually restricted to ground and space facilities, respectively," Adams says.

Astronomer Tod Lauer of the National Optical Astronomy Observatory, which was also involved in the Gemini observations, says "our ability to obtain such a robust black hole mass for M87 bodes well for our ongoing efforts to hunt for even larger black holes in galaxies more distant than M87."

Graduate student Jeremy Murphy used a different instrument to track the motions of stars at the outskirts of the galaxy. Studying the stars' movements in these distant regions gives astronomers insight into what the unseen dark matter in the halo is doing. Murphy employed an innovative instrument called VIRUS-P on McDonald Observatory's Harlan J. Smith Telescope.

Studying the distant edges of a galaxy, far from the bright center, is a tricky business, Gebhardt says.

"That has been an enormous struggle for a long time, trying to get what the dark halo is doing at the edge of the galaxy, simply because, when you look there, the stellar light is faint," he says. "This is where the VIRUS-P data comes in, because it can observe such a huge chunk of sky at once."

This means the instrument can add together the faint light from many dim stars and add them together to create one detailed observation. This kind of instrument is called an "integral field unit spectrograph," and VIRUS-P is the world's largest.

"The ability of VIRUS-P

to dig deep into the outer halo of M87 and tell us how the stars are moving is impressive," Murphy says. "It has quickly become the leading instrument for this type of work."

The combined Gemini and McDonald data have allowed the team to pinpoint the mass of M87's black hole at 6.6 billion suns. But measuring such a massive black hole is only one step toward a greater goal.

"My ultimate goal is to understand how the stars assembled themselves in a galaxy over time," Gebhardt says.

"How do you make a galaxy? These two datasets probe such an enormous range, in terms of what the mass is in the galaxy. That's the first step to answering this question. It's very hard to understand how the mass accumulates unless you know exactly what's the distribution of mass: how much is in the black hole, how much is in the stars, how much is in the dark halo."

Today's conclusions also hint at another tantalizing possibility for the future: the chance to actually "see" a black hole.

"There's no direct evidence yet that black holes exist," Gebhardt says, "zero, absolutely zero observational evidence. To infer a black hole currently, we choose the 'none of above' option. This is basically because alternative explanations are increasingly being ruled out."

He says the black hole in M87 is so massive that astronomers someday may be able to detect its "event horizon" — the edge of a black hole, beyond which nothing can escape. The event horizon of M87's black hole is about three times larger than the orbit of Pluto — large enough to swallow our solar system whole.

Though the technology does not yet exist, M87's event horizon covers a patch of sky large enough to be imaged by future telescopes. Gebhardt says future astronomers could use a world-wide network of submillimeter telescopes to look for the shadow of the event horizon on a disc of gas that surrounds M87's black hole.

Obama Administration reappoints state committee for Texas Farm Service Agency

(COLLEGE STATION, TX), Jan. 13, 2011 --Juan M. Garcia, Executive Director of USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Texas, announced the reappointment of the current five-member State Committee. The State Committee is responsible for the oversight of farm programs, county committee operations, appeals, federal farm policy determinations and provides FSA program information to the general public and other Agency stakeholders.

"I am grateful that our state committee members were reappointed and can continue their involvement with Texas FSA," said Garcia. "Their contribution to the Agency has had a positive impact on our programs, producers and employees, and I am certain that we will have another successful year of delivering federal farm programs," he said.

The individuals reappointed to serve on this committee are:

- Jerry Don Glover

(Chairperson): Glover from Muleshoe, Texas, has over 46 years of experience in Agriculture policy. Glover is a third generation farmer currently farming in Parmer County.

- Debra Barrett: Barrett, From Edroy, Texas, is a fourth generation cotton farmer, and has been farming cotton and grain sorghum since 1981. Barrett served as a member of the San Patricio County FSA Committee six years prior to her appointment in January of 2009.

- Armando Mandujano: Mandujano, from Cayanosa, Texas, owns Mandujano Brothers, a partnership with his three brothers. The farming operation consists of 4,000 acres

producing watermelons, cotton, onions, pumpkins, and peppers in Pecos and Reeves County. Mandujano has served as an advisor to the Pecos County FSA Committee.

- Wesley Ratcliff: Ratcliff, from Oakwood, Texas, has been involved in agriculture

for most of his life, and has owned and operated his current ranch for over 10 years.

- Glen A. Rod: Rod, from El Campo, Texas, owns and operates Rod Grass Farm LLC and Jones Creek Farm JV growing rice, row crops, and turf grass.

"In Texas, the State Committee has a tremendous responsibility to be accountable for the use of taxpayer dollars as our Agency allocated more than \$1.6 billion in federal farm program benefits to producers statewide in fiscal year 2010," said Garcia. "These appointed individuals have proven they can be both fair and effective in their service to Texas farmers and ranchers," he said.

Through the efficient and equitable administration of price support, conservation, disaster assistance and farm credit programs, FSA promotes and protects agricultural practices to ensure a safe, affordable, abundant and nutritious food supply for all consumers.

Vilsack on shooting of Giffords

WASHINGTON, January 8, 2011 - Today, Agriculture Secretary Vilsack released the following statement on the shooting of U.S.

Representative Gabrielle Giffords:

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the Representative and all those who have been

victims of this senseless act of violence. Our heart goes out to those family members who are grieving the loss or injury of a loved one."

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STEPHENS

good job and they should be proud of that. They have an excellent Board of Trustees leading the district."

For the next several months as board members look for a permanent superintendent, Stephens will step in to help maintain the management of the school district; helping with the administrative needs of Floydada's school district as well as helping out with the ongoing preparations for spring tests like the TAKS test. "There is always paper work to do," Stephens explains, "whether it's for TEA in Austin or who ever, just make sure those things are getting done, and sign off on work that's being done. You're just kind of maintaining, is a good way to put it I suppose, but at the same time part of my job is to be an encourager to the administrators and the staff and help them grow as a professionals, if there's things I can do to improve

what they're doing I'm going to suggest it...whoever it may be, I feel like I have a lot of expertise and a lot of years of experience, there is probably a few things that I can share with them to help them grow a little bit; and I see that as a part of my job too."

Stephens would go on to explain that he is not planning on making any drastic or major changes to the operations of the school district, but thinks that responsibility will fall on the new permanent superintendent. "Things aren't broken here, there is nothing that needs to be fixed today and for me to walk in here and say we're going to change this, this, and this, that's not appropriate; the new superintendent is the one that needs to come in with new ideas; I'm just that go between, that transition person to keep thing moving on."

On Feb. 3, the Floydada ISD school board will meet to review current applications that have been submitted to the district. "They have a really hard decision to make on a new superintendent," Mr. Stephens commented, "but they'll make a right decision, I'm very confident they make the right decision when it comes down to it."

Stephens has had over 35 years of school experience, serving as a teacher for 10 years, a principal for 10 years, and a combined 12 years as a superintendent for Borger and Monahans. Retiring last June, Stephen works as an interim superintendent for the Education Service Center in Lubbock where he lives. In 1976, during his first year of teaching, Mr. Stephens taught social studies and coached at Floydada High School. Mr. Stephens is married to Tana Stephens and has two children and five grandchildren.

LT. SHEETS

and expressed to the students that being prepared for any situation was one or the major keys to his success, "I was prepared for it though, just like you guys are preparing each day in your classes." Lt. Sheets explained, "The way you guys prepare is just listening in class, making sure your doing your homework, and also helping each other out, those are the ways that you are preparing each day."

Back in August of 2010, Lt. Sheets was the pilot in a heroic and dramatic rescue in Washington's Olympic National Park. After a report came in that a 15 year old girl, who had been hiking in the canyons,

had fallen 60 feet from a steep trail into a river, Lt. Sheets and his crew sprung into action for the rescue. Once rescuers arrived on the scene, the girl's vitals were diminishing fast, and rescuers needed an airlift to ensure the girl's survival. That's when pilot, Lt. Sheets steadily maneuvered the large H-60 Sierra helicopter in-between the narrow canyons to the river below. Still airborne, the helicopter then had to nudge its way under an old railroad bridge for a chance to drop a rescue rope. With about 15 feet of clearance for the copters rotor blades, the rescue team was then able to pull the girl out of the river;

once in, the helicopter then carefully backed up and out from under the bridge and out of the canyon. Stories of the rescue became national news and propelled the already heroes into the spotlight.

After telling the story, Lt. Sheets advised students to never let the feeling of fear hinder them from taking advantages of opportunities, and that even though he wasn't always the smartest in class, hard work and determination were the keys to success.

Lt. Sheets has been in the service for about 10 years and is the nephew of Lockney Kindergarten teacher, Sheri Miller.

Cotton Market Weekly



A service provided by Plains Cotton Cooperative Association



The excitement from Wednesday's USDA's supply/demand report did not last long. Early momentum faded quickly on Thursday as pressure returned to the market and sent the most actively traded contracts into a free-fall which hit limit four-cent losses at the end of the day. Analysts noted that cotton's quick limit advance following USDA's report on Wednesday could have been more of a reaction to surging corn and soybean futures after confirmation of historically low stocks and reductions to domestic production in those commodities. However, cotton observers certainly paid close attention to the department's January figures.

USDA's 2010-11 U.S. cotton supply and demand estimates showed minor revisions from last month. Production was raised 47,000 bales, due mainly to production increases in California and Georgia. The figure was up slightly from last month and up 50 percent from 2009. The United States yield is estimated at 821 pounds per acre, up 7 pounds from the December forecast and up 44 pounds from last year. Harvested area, at 10.7 million acres, is down 1 percent from December but up 42 percent from last year. Domestic mill use was raised 50,000 bales to 3.6 million, reflecting stronger-

than-expected activity in recent-months.

USDA left exports and ending stocks unchanged. The forecast range of 78 to 86 cents per pound for the average price received by producers was raised two cents on the lower end as monthly prices reported by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) continued to rise.

This month's world cotton estimates for 2010-11 included lower beginning stocks and production and higher consumption, resulting in a 560,000-bale reduction in ending stocks. Global production was reduced marginally as increases for Brazil and Turkmenistan were more than offset by reductions for Syria and others. World consumption was raised slightly, reflecting an increase for India and reductions for Pakistan and Syria. World trade was reduced marginally.

Meanwhile, USDA's export sales report for the week ended January 6 was surprisingly strong. At 115,200 bales, net export sales of U.S. cotton were down noticeably from the previous week and 18 percent from the four-week average. Turkey, China, and South Korea were the week's top buyers. Net sales of 211,300 for delivery in 2011-12 were mainly for China, Vietnam, and Brazil. Export shipments of 268,100 bales were down eight

percent from the previous week and nine percent from the four-week average. Primary destinations included China, Turkey, and Indonesia.

In contrast to USDA's export figures, spot cotton sales were slightly higher in the week ended January 13 as producers in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas sold 38,336 bales online at prices ranging from \$1.33 to \$1.41 per pound. The previous week, producers sold 34,292 bales at \$1.33 to \$1.38 per pound.

In other news, final harvest work was nearing completion in the Texas High and Rolling Plains. Gins and growers were reporting slightly above average yields, and field work in the region continues with producers preparing fields for spring.

Across Central and West Texas, USDA cotton classing offices continued to grade the crop as it is processed. With much of the Kansas, Oklahoma, and Rolling Plains crop still arriving, the Abilene, Texas, classing office still is operating at full capacity, and cotton quality has been mostly favorable.

The Texas High Plains crop quality has been high, and the Lubbock, Texas, classing office expects to class more than four million bales while the Lamesa, Texas, office expects to class more than one million for the season.

CAPROCK

Haldenby, TX Cotton - The Future; Ray Akers, Drift Minimization & Equipment Calibration; Dr. Jason Woodward, Disease Issues in Cotton & Other Crops; Jim Conkwright, High Plains Underground Water District Legislative Update; Dr. David Kerns, Pest Management; Dr. Randy Boman, 2010 High Plains Cotton Update; Stephanie Bradley, CRP Update; Dr.

Ed Bynum, Control Options for Spider Mite Infestation; Dr. Dana Porter, Irrigation Management; Rick Kellison, Update for TX Alliance for Water Conservation; Joe Kueser, 2011 Product Updates; Jay Yates, Risk Management; Casey Summers, TDA Laws & Regulations.

The conference should conclude around 5:00 p.m.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless

of socio-economic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Extension Office will seek to accommodate all person with disabilities for the meeting. If you need assistance or have questions please call the Crosby County Extension Office (675-2347) or the Floyd County Office (983-4912) as soon as possible to advise of auxiliary and/or service needed.

POWER ON TEXAS

and video games, and they sometimes find the traditional classroom a turnoff.

"To expect that we could continue to do school the same way that we've done school for the last 150 years, doesn't seem very relevant to the students we're trying to serve," said Justin Martindale, campus instructional technologist at Krimmel Intermediate School in the Klein Independent School District (ISD).

Teachers in the POWER ON TEXAS documentary display a variety of creative applications of technology that make school more engaging and get children excited about learning.

Theresa Jones, a science teacher in Arp ISD, said "I've

seen students who showed no interest in paper and pencil assignments flying with technology."

Most districts report a direct correlation of classroom transformation between technology use and improved academic performance, including TAKS scores.

But perhaps the biggest payoff of technology is the transformation that occurs in the classroom, particularly when integrated with project-based learning.

"Project-based learning is a true pedagogical shift," said Steven Zipkes, principal of Manor New Tech High in Manor ISD. "No longer is the teacher in the front of the classroom pushing out information to

students." Instead, students take charge of their own learning, with the teacher acting as the guide, building creative and analytic skills so vital to success in the 21st century.

This and other transformative aspects of technology integration are explored in depth in the documentary and the POWERONTexas.com website.

"We hope everyone interested in the future of Texas school children will watch the documentary and visit the website," said Anita Givens, associate commissioner for Standards and Programs at TEA, "and be inspired to power on teaching in their districts."

Produced in partnership with the Public Interest Division of AMS Pictures, a creative media company with studios in Austin and Dallas, the POWER ON TEXAS documentary and website will be available in January 2011. All 20 regional education services centers and education preparation programs throughout the state will receive the video and a companion resource guide. The video will also be available for online viewing at POWERONTexas.com, YouTube and iTunes U.

The link for you to view the site is: <http://powerontexas.com/Publish/district-profile.php?isd=4&cat=1>

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