

Vote September 11 in FISD Bond Issue

7/30/05
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The Floyd County

50¢

Hesperian-Beacon

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Floydada, Texas 79235 (USPS 202-680)

Volume 108 Number 37

FISD voters to decide fate of school bonds

Residents living within the Floydada ISD boundaries will go to the polls this Saturday to decide the outcome of a \$14,500,000 bond issue.

The election will determine if the bonds will be approved for renovation and new construction of FISD campuses.

The upcoming election has brought out strong opinions on both sides of the issue prompting numerous letters to the editor and "pro" and "con" advertising.

The issue was brought to the public's attention early in 2004 with recommendations from consulting engineers who gave FISD a Master Plan on their opinion of what would be the most cost effective way for FISD to upgrade, repair, and improve their campuses.

An April 8 issue of The Hesperian-Beacon, reported on the Master Plan by Grimes and Associates Consulting Engineers. Grimes said, "Two FISD campuses, the Junior High facility and the R.C. Andrews Elementary facility, both need significant improvements, to the point that we recommend you replace them. They both have significant shortcomings, such as, sewer pipes dripping on desks, non code compliance on certain equipment, no ventilation air being introduced into the heating and cooling system, plaster falling off the walls, and many other things."

Two options were presented to the school board. The first option called for major renovations to all campuses at an estimated cost of \$16,035,947.

Option two called for reducing the campuses down from 4

to 2. Grimes recommended moving the children from R.C. Andrews Elementary to A.B. Duncan Elementary, and move the Junior High students over to the High School and expand both Duncan and the High School.

Option 2 would include new construction at Duncan and the High School, and demolition of old structures, for an estimated cost of \$14,500,000.

The money would have to be raised in a bond election. To pay off the bond, taxpayers would have to pay an additional 27¢ per \$100 valuation on all property, for 30 years, over and above the current FISD tax rate of \$1.44 per \$100 evaluation. Senior citizens tax rates would be frozen on their homes only.

The school board voted to have the election on September 11 to meet a deadline to apply for EDA funding. If approved for State EDA funding, FISD would be given 60% of the cost of construction and FISD taxpayers would pay the remaining 40%, or approximately \$390,000 each year for 30 years.

The payback of \$390,000 is based on an interest rate of 5%, a taxable assessed valuation of \$149,828,606 yearly average and a tax collection rate of 97%.

If the vote passes in favor of the bond, the tax rate would be raised to \$1.7196. Tax collections would begin in the fall of 2004.

The board would issue up to \$5,850,000.00 in principal amount of the bonds to begin construction. The board will only issue the remaining \$8,650,000.00 in bonds if the district receives State EDA rev-

enues. "We can't proceed in this project without the EDA funding," said Superintendent Jerry Vaughn. "It will be over."

According to Vaughn, if no assistance is received the first \$5,850,000 worth of bonds sold would not be spent and would be paid off as soon as possible.

Proponents of the bond election cite cost savings in reducing the district down to 2 campuses from 4. Savings could be found, say proponents, from a reduced number of cafeterias, lower utility costs, personnel costs, and other various expenses required to operate the schools. (Numerous opinions are reflected in paid advertisements in this week's paper).

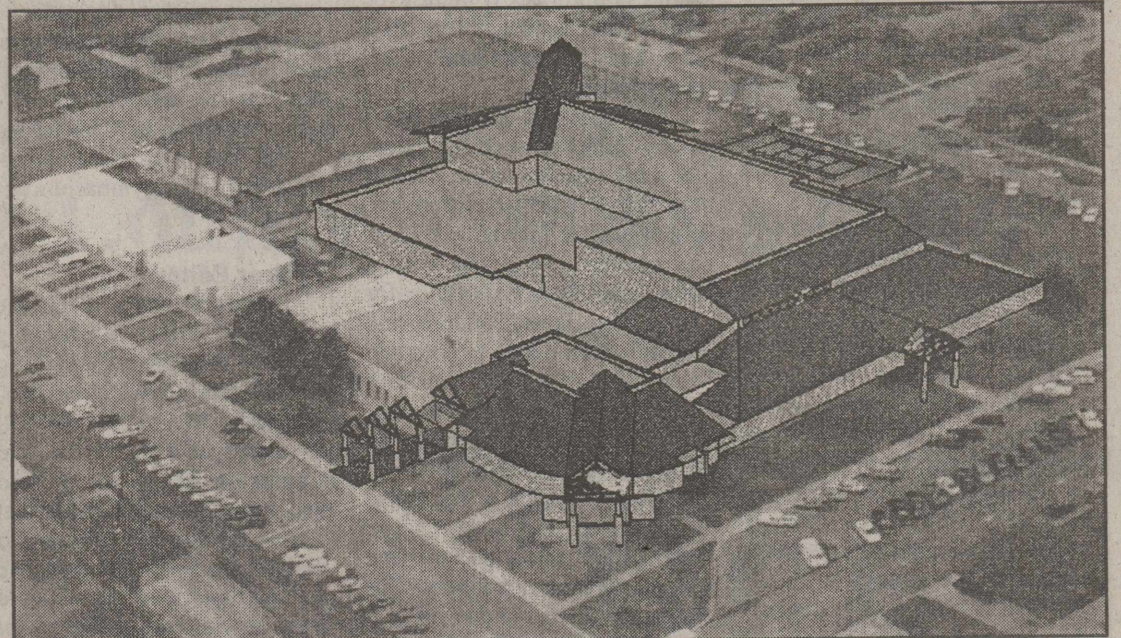
Proponents believe approximately \$400,000 could be saved in operating costs every year.

Many opponents of the bond election have organized themselves into a group called "Citizens Against Higher Taxes." The group has been campaigning heavily with newspaper and radio ads, and direct mail letters to voters homes.

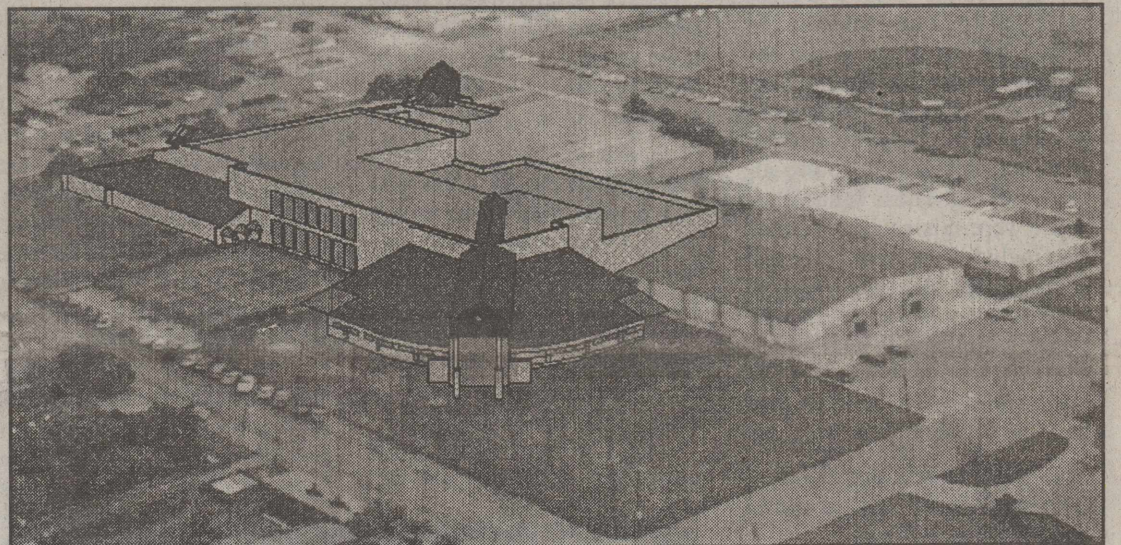
A spokesperson for the group, Hulon Carthel, said, "I'm not against repairing the schools. I'm against the 30 year indebtedness. If it passes, it is 30 years of payment. If it fails, we can back off and look at different options."

"I don't think all the options have been looked at. If we can fund a new gym without a bond election, why can't we do the same thing here?"

FISD registered voters should cast their ballots, September 11, at the Massie Activity Center, 503 W. Georgia, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.



CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR FLOYDADA HIGH SCHOOL FROM N.E. VIEW



CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR FLOYDADA HIGH SCHOOL FROM S.W. VIEW

Homecoming Will Be Celebrated in Lockney on September 18th. A Schedule Is Not Available At This Time. Floydada's Homecoming Will Be Celebrated September 25. A Schedule For Floydada Can Be Found Inside.

Pumpkin truckloads already leaving town



WEIGHING THE HEAVY PUMPKIN-Tim Assiter (right) and Rolando Suniga (left) are weighing a 158 pound pumpkin harvested at Assiter Punkin Ranch, 11 miles south of Floydada on Highway 62. (see related story) Staff Photo

By Darwin Robinson
Floydada is advertised as the "Pumpkin Capital USA". By visiting some of our local pumpkin growers here in Floyd County, one begins to believe the advertisement.

Assiter Punkin Ranch, 11 south of Floydada on the Ralls Highway, has around 46 acres of pumpkins this year. According to Manager/Co-Owner Tim Assiter, they plant some 45 to 50 varieties of pumpkins, squash and gourds on their farm every year.

"Our money making variety of pumpkin, our main crop, is the Blue Ribbon Prizewinner. It is the large variety and is our best seller. We have had them to get up to 220 to 250 pounds, and some could get up to 300 pounds. We just shipped out a truck load of 130 of this variety Thursday morning. We have two pumpkin plants that are cousins to this big variety, left out of ten that we planted, that are still growing. Up north, they use this variety to grow World Champion Pump-

kins weighing up to 1,250 pounds," said Assiter.

"We are picking them early this year at around 150 to 175 pounds, just because we are getting orders for them earlier. The bread and butter pumpkin for our county, as a whole, is the Jack-O-Lantern pumpkin. Normally our season doesn't start for another couple of weeks into September," Assiter added.

According to a new web site floydadapumpkins.com, other
Continued On Page 3



SHUCKIN' THE CORN-Workers at Carthl Brothers/HEPTAD in Floydada are shown shucking and preparing ornamental dried corn to be shipped out to customers. (see related story) Staff Photo



Letters to the editor



Dear Editor:

I was just thinking about the Floydada School Bond Election and I decided to write down some of my thoughts. The thought occurred to me about the status of our two, old buildings in question.

How many voters against the bond election live in a house that was built in 1922? How many of you work in a building that was built in 1922?

Really? Hardly anyone? Why is that?

Could it be that you thought building a new house would be better than putting good money into an old, dilapidated house? Could it be that living in a new house will cost you less than in the long run than constantly putting money into a house that just keeps costing more and more. The cost of replacing and remodeling is just a band-aid to the problem.

If you do live in a house that is old, you realize that you have to constantly fix, remodel and replace. Soon the cost of repairs gets too expensive and you end up with a no-win situation.

What if the government told you to remodel your business, so that the second floor of your building, as well as your basement, had to be wheelchair accessible? That could get expensive! What if your building had asbestos in it? What would happen if your building were found by the state to not be up to the fire code? What if your sewage pump broke and filled your basement with raw sewage?

Now, do you want your children or grandchildren in a school system that does not have the funds available to resolve these problems? The people of Floydada are being given the chance to vote for the funding. The State of Texas has said it will pay for 60% of the bond issue with tax money that you've already paying. Those figures last week were misleading, as they also included the raised city and county taxes. Are you going to tell you schools that you would rather your tax dollars being spent elsewhere? What exactly is your solution to the schools' building problem "Mr./Miss No

Vote"? Don't say "Consolidation" because that will not happen in your lifetime or mine.

I just want you voters to really think about this issue, because we will not be given this opportunity again for a LOONG time.

Sincerely,
Susan Kirk

Dear Editor,

I have never been one to express myself publicly about events that were taking place in our community, but this is one issue that I cannot keep quiet about. I really appreciated what Marty Lucke had to say in his letter to the editor last week, and I want to add my two cents worth.

I don't understand how anyone who has had children attend R.C. Andrews and Junior High could possibly vote against the bond election. Folks, have you really looked at those buildings? I taught at R.C. Andrews for 20 years, and I can tell you what it is like. I have been in the P.E. teacher's office, which happens to be under the boy's restroom, when sewage was leaking through the ceiling from the urinals above. I remember how awful the ceilings were in the classrooms with stains and mold before the suspended ceilings were put in. I had from four to five sinus and respiratory infections a year from the mold and filth in that building. I have had only one since I retired. I'll bet if you check the attendance records, you will find that many of the children suffer from the same symptoms. If there ever was a building that suffers from sick building syndrome, R.C. Andrews is it.

Floydada has lost out on so many things through the years, let's not lose out again. When the Palace Theater closed, the community could have bought it, restored it, and had it for a great multi purpose building for plays, programs, concerts and the like, but we didn't. We could have had the Q.A. & P. Depot for practically nothing, but the community and the powers that be couldn't get together on it. It would have made a wonderful community building. Look what other small towns have done with their old depots. Our hospital closed, our doctors left, and it took forever to get a doctor back in the community.

I have heard and read where different ones have said that our town was dying, our population declining, so why not consolidate with another district instead of increasing the tax burden to build new schools. Did you stop to think that maybe no one wants to consolidate with us? How can we expect to have a growth in population, industry, etc. when prospects come to look at the community and see the buildings where their children would attend school?

Don't let the children of this community miss out just be-

cause you don't want to pay the taxes. Vote yes and help the children get a quality education by giving them a decent place to get that education.

Bobby Rainer

Dear Editor:

I noticed in different statements that outside consolidation was mentioned. Because of the number of problems that Floydada seems to have, I doubt that Ralls or Motley County would want to help with them.

Three of my family (the Zach C. Cummings) graduated from Lockney and three from Floydada. Five of my grandchildren from Floydada and three soon from Lockney. I have seen no difference in preparation for higher education.

Smooth running and lack of trouble depends on the administrators and I do believe Lockney has had an edge here. I'm probably biased because I did graduate at Lockney!

Sterling K. Cummings

P.S. You folks did a beautiful job on your gymnasium!

Dear Editor:

At the time you print this, the wife and I will have had a big time in West Texas enjoying their annual Labor Day celebration called West Fest. We will have enjoyed a lot of Polka and Country music, dancing, food and other amenities! I hope that I have a clear enough head to make a good decision about the school bond election. I have been hearing and reading a lot about why I should NOT vote for the school bond but very

little, if any, about why I should vote FOR it. You see this is the last year that we have to pay taxes on our car and there will be no tax increase on the house because of age and homestead exemption. That just leaves two votes that can influence the election but won't affect us tax wise one way or the other. I know that I enjoy working much better when I have a clean office, but that is up to me. No tax increase when I clean it up! But I do question if the children in our school system will achieve higher academic levels with this

increase. I believe that when grandma stepped up to the plate we had a much larger population and thus a larger tax base. The population is declining every year and there is going to be a much bigger burden on those that remain. Businesses will pay more, individuals who are buying homes, cars, etc. will pay more and the farmers whose income is risky at best will pay more. Those tax rates are set in concrete and our incomes fluctuate (there is no allowance for that). Nobody wants to deny our children and those who teach a quality education and better fa-

ilities but it does seem to me that our governmental entities are going to have to, someday, learn to operate on what they have.

Philip Wilbanks

Editor's Note:

We received a Letter to the Editor from an "O. Moses" with an opinion on my opinion concerning Wal-Mart's advertising (or lack of advertising in local newspapers).

The signature was typed but not signed and there was no return address.

It was written as if "Moses"

Dear Editor,

This letter is written in response to the ad placed in the Sept. 2, 2004, edition of the Hesperian Beacon by citizens against higher taxes. I write this as an individual and as a member of the Floydada school board. All of these questions have been answered on numerous occasions at various public meetings and at the regular meetings of the FISD board of trustees. Our board meetings are open to the public. The community meetings have been publicized and invitations were sent to all the members of the various committees that were a part of the overall planning that went into the bond proposal. The actions of the FISD board of trustees concerning the proposed bond election have not been done hastily nor without thorough studies. I offer the following answers to questions that have been raised in the past few weeks.

1. *Has any analysis been done involving the overall efficiency (excluding brick and mortar) within FISD?*

Yes, FISD is required by state law to perform evaluation throughout the year of many different parameters of our schools. We maintain a ten year analysis of the state of our schools that compares each of the previous years.

FISD receives a yearly AEIS report from the state which covers in detail all areas of our schools. This is available on the internet at www.tea.state.tx.us

One may also view these reports at the FISD central office. At the TEA site one can find multiple reports detailing FISD's performance as well as that of other districts in our region and the state. Previously it was mentioned in a letter to the editor that "a large percentage of those who enter high school drop out before graduation". In fairness to both the students and teachers at Floydada High School it should be pointed out that the dropout rate at FHS is 0.7%. A dropout rate of less than 1 percentage point is one that few would consider to be large. Our students and teachers are to be commended.

2. *Have any options with entities outside the FISD system been considered and evaluated concerning consolidation?*

Yes, but at this time consolidation with other school districts was not considered to be a viable option.

Consolidation of two or more school districts requires the approval of the voters of all districts. If a consolidation vote were to be approved, the overall costs to relocate and build new facilities would far surpass the cost of the proposed bond issue.

3. *Were any other options considered and evaluated concerning consolidation of FISD campuses?*

Yes, FISD explored the option of maintaining the four existing campuses. It was determined that this would cost an additional 1.5 million dollars. We would still be faced with two aged buildings that do not meet state recommended guidelines for public school buildings.

4. *Was the analysis report by Mr. Trautman of the Texas Association of School Administrators the sole source of consideration involved in the current proposal to taxpayers?*

NO. The FISD board of trustees did an initial walk-through study during September 2002. TASA was then asked to do a facilities study. TASA came in February 2003 and did

a comprehensive study which was presented to the school board in June 2003. The TASA facilities study, under the guidance of Mr. Paul Trautman, indicated that two of our buildings, R. C. Andrews and Floydada Junior High School, had outlived their usefulness and were beyond the scope of repair and renovation. TASA recommended demolition of these two buildings and major renovations on A. B. Duncan and Floydada High School. TASA recommended that FISD develop a master facility plan.

Various committees were formed after receipt of the TASA study. These committees were Parent and Future Parents Committee, Citizens Committee, and Faculty Committee. Input from these three committees was assimilated, and the consensus of opinion was formulated into directions for the next step in developing a master facility plan.

FISD retained Grimes and Associates from Lubbock to develop a Master Facility Plan for our district. They did extensive studies over the course of several weeks. The findings of Grimes and Associates were similar to those of the TASA report.

We asked Grimes and Associates to develop a Master Facility Plan with cost estimates for two options. The first option would be to consolidate four campuses to two campuses, with extensive remodeling and renovation of the High School and A. B. Duncan buildings. The second option would be to maintain the four existing campuses, including remodeling to bring the buildings up to state recommended specifications.

Grimes and Associates indicated that remodeling our existing campuses would cost an additional 1.5 million dollars.

Our school auditor gave a qualified opinion that going from four to two campuses would result in a yearly savings to the district of approximately \$425,000. By a unanimous vote the board of trustees voted to select the first option.

5. *Has the effect of a .2762 @ \$100 tax increase on the community for 30 years been evaluated by FISD?*

YES. FISD realizes that taxes will have to increase to fund the proposed bond election. Not passing the bond election will not make the problems we have go away. Delay in correcting these problems will only become more costly in the future. Examination of the last thirty years' tax rates revealed that the present tax rate of \$1.44344 is actually lower than the overall tax rate for the period of time in late sixties and early seventies. From 1969 until 1973 the overall tax rate for FISD was \$1.75. If the bond election is passed on September 11th the overall tax rate for FISD would be \$1.7196.

If the bond election is successful and we are able to merge our four campuses into two campuses the district should realize yearly savings of over \$400,000. These savings will be made possible through reduced energy costs and using shared facilities such as libraries, cafeterias, and science labs. It should be pointed out that no employees will lose their jobs with the exception of one elementary principal. Presently Mr. Charles Tyer is planning to continue as principal at A.B. Duncan until such time as the district will eliminate that position. No other employees will be terminated.

The yearly savings that our school auditor has estimated we

worked at Wal-Mart, but the Plainview Wal-Mart had no record of anyone working there with that last name.

The writer of the letter said, "We hope your objectivity would motivate you to publish the letter."

I want the writer to know that I won't feel motivated to publish until I have a signature, address, and phone number to go with the letter.

**VOTE
Sept. 11**

will see with just two campuses will be used to fund our general operating budget.

6. *How will the passage of the bond package result in better education and higher test scores for FISD students?*

The Texas Education Agency has established accepted state standard for Texas schools. Our schools were built before television was even state of the art. Twenty first century technology is difficult and sometimes impossible to incorporate into our buildings. The following is an associated press story which ran last week in both the Lubbock and Plainview papers.

(AP) Poor school building conditions such as inefficient air conditioning and noise, can be harmful to student achievement in the classroom, an expert testified Thursday in a trial challenging the way Texas funds public education. Building conditions ranging from lighting to overcrowding can impact student achievement by as much as 17 percentage points, said Glen Earthman, a Virginia Tech professor who prepared an expert report for the plaintiff school districts in the case. He cited several studies that he said show students in modern buildings score higher on exams than students in older buildings. "There's a formidable body of research that show, no doubt, the conditions of a building influence the achievements of youngsters," Earthman said. One study found that any temperature over 74 degrees harms students' math and science scores. Ideally, school temperatures should be between 68 and 74 degrees, he said.

7. *What guarantees does FISD have that the State Legislature will continue to fund their portion (with State and Local tax dollars) of the 14,500,000 dollar bond package that FISD taxpayers could be obligated for over the 30 year life of the bond?*

First Southwest Financial is the board's bond underwriter. They have assured not only FISD, but school districts all over the state that once a district has been approved for EDA (Existing Debt Allotment) funding that it will continue for the duration of the bonds. EDA is funded by the Permanent School fund of the state of Texas, not by local taxes. Our bonds will be guaranteed by the state.

8. *Will the resolution recently passed by the FISD Board to "wait and see" before selling the second portion of the bond package, be worded into the bond proposal to be voted on September 11th?*

NO. The ballot has been prepared several weeks in advance and has been published in the Hesperian Beacon per requirements of state law. The resolution passed by the board was not a "wait and see". It was a binding resolution on this and future boards that prohibits FISD from issuing further bonds if state funding from the EDA (Existing Debt Allotment) is not obtained. FISD cannot shoulder the total costs of the scope of this project without state aid. If FISD does not qualify for funding through EDA the initial sale of bonds will be paid off at the end of one year with the only expenditure of money being the fees associated with the issuance and sale of the bonds.

FISD has tried diligently to present the facts to the public. I urge everyone to consider the

facts, and then vote as he or she feels will best serve our community's future.

Respectfully,
Bill Dean

VOTE

Sat. Sept. 11

**Massie
Activity Center**

Citizens Against Higher Taxes

WE HAVE GREAT EDUCATORS!!

WILL NEW BUILDINGS MAKE THAT BETTER?

VOTE AGAINST

Against/Contra Higher Taxes

Citizens Against Higher Taxes



TOSSIN' THE PUNKINS-Workers in the field at Assiter Punkin Ranch, 11 miles south of Floydada on Highway 62, are shown loading field pumpkin boxes getting ready for shipment. (see related story) Staff Photo

TxDOT to remove highway dumpsters

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will begin removing illegal trash receptacles from the state right of way in the next few weeks in an effort to eliminate a safety hazard to the traveling public.

Trash receptacles that have been placed on the state right of way throughout the Lubbock District will be removed if the waste management company has not relocated the dumpsters to private property.

Texas law gives TxDOT exclusive control over the state highway system, and the authority to limit what objects are placed on the right of way. Objects are removed for several reasons, the most important one being safety, explained Ted Moore, director of maintenance for the Lubbock District.

"When objects are placed on the right of way, often they create sight distance problems that can be hazardous for the traveling public," said Moore. "Another reason we want these objects off the right of way is because of the damage to vegeta-

tion, pavement edges and ditches when the trash trucks pull up to empty the contents of the receptacles.

Damaged pavement edges and shoulders mean faster deterioration of the main lanes and cost the state more money in highway rehabilitation. Sometimes the objects create problems with drainage, also.

"Removal will take a while, and we'll concentrate on the receptacles that are the biggest problem - those that are closest to the travel lanes or any creating a sight distance problem," Moore added. "The public needs to understand that TxDOT is not doing this just to be difficult. We have extremely high safety standards, and we work continually to rectify any situations that

might compromise the safety of motorists."

Moore added that any object that is allowed to stay on the right of way has to be crash tested. "There's no way we can crash test a dumpster because of the wide variety of materials that are placed inside. A dumpster with a bunch of paper might not cause as big a problem if someone runs into it. A dumpster where a load of concrete has been dumped is a whole different situation," he said.

Customers whose dumpsters have been removed should contact the waste management company that provides the service for the neighborhood.

For more information on TxDOT's program, call Ted Moore at 806-748-4432.

Pumpkins already leaving County

Continued From Page 1

producers in the county include, Carthel Brothers - Heptad Vegetables, Paula Pyle (Pumpkin Pyle), (Jon) Jones Pumpkins, Chuck Holmes, Hickerson Pumpkins, Covington Partnership, Larry Ferguson, Jim Simpson, Clay Simpson, Victor Smith and Amado Morales.

Pumpkins were first raised in Floyd County by B.A. "Uncle Slim" Robertson in the late 1950's, according to the web site. He was known as "The Pumpkin Man." Other farmers found out the climate and soil were good for raising pumpkins and they joined in planting pumpkins. Floyd County now produces over 1800 acres of pumpkins yearly.

The Annual Punkin Day, held on the second Saturday of each October since 1987, attracts hundreds of locals and visitors each

year. Television stations, newspapers, magazines and nationally broadcast programs have made Floydada famous for their pumpkins over the years.

Punkin Day this year will be held on Saturday, October 9th. The regular activities will include Arts and Crafts Booths, Seed Spitting Contest, Largest & Smallest Pumpkin, Pumpkin Bowling, Pumpkin Carving, Pumpkin Rolling, Pumpkin Painting, Guess The Weight, Pumpkin Decorations, Pumpkin Wheel Barrow Race, Pumpkin Pie Relays, Races & Runs, Recipes Contest and much more.

Assiter told the Hesperian-Beacon, "The rains this year has been great for growing our pumpkins, but the weed control problem has cost us over \$175 per acre."

Some of the pumpkin varieties grown by Assiter are: Prize-

winner Pumpkins ("Big un's"), Jack-O-Lantern Pumpkins (for carving and display), Specialty Pumpkins (Red's, White's, Blue's, Kaki's and Fairy Tale, that changes from green to tan and can last up to two years), Sugar Pie Pumpkins (great for cooking or display), Minis and Small Gourds (mini colorful pumpkins in all shapes and sizes), Hard Gourds and Crafts Pumpkins (for dippers, birdhouses, etc.), Table Squash (for display or healthy eating), Red Warty Pumpkin (hard as a rock), Blue Hubbard Pumpkin (best for pies), Turks Turbin Pumpkin (for great decoration), Cheese Pumpkin (tan in color), White Ghost Pumpkin (comes in three varieties), Oriental and Jarridale Blue Pumpkins.

Hulon Carthel of Carthel Brothers - Heptad told the Hesperian-Beacon, "We average

planting around 300 acres of pumpkins each year, but this year we only planted 260 acres. September 14 we will be in full swing with our harvest, packing and shipping. We ship to North Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas."

"We ship mostly the ornamental varieties of both pumpkins, gourds and corn. We have four truck loads going out in the next two weeks and we just shipped a load to Six Flags."

According to the Carthel, pumpkins are an "extra" crop in Floyd County. "We also farm 1400 acres of cotton. However, every dollar made from pumpkins comes mostly from outside the county and the money is spent in the county. I think this is very important. All our (Heptad) supplies are bought locally, that way our money stays here," Carthel concluded.

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Family Protection - Loan Requirements

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VOTE

Sat. Sept. 11

**Massie
Activity Center**

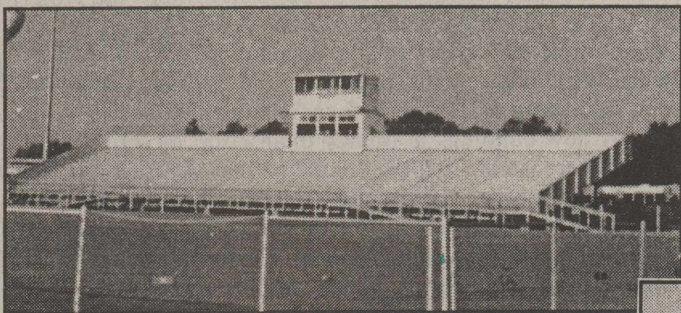
Citizens Against Higher Taxes

VOTE
September, 11
Massie Activity Center

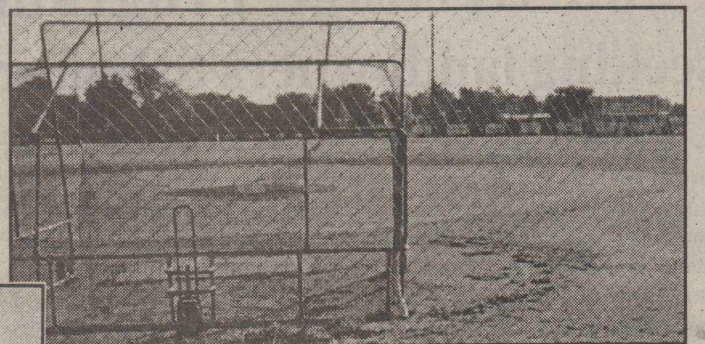
VOTE
September, 11
Massie Activity Center

**Were these expenditures
necessary for better
education???**

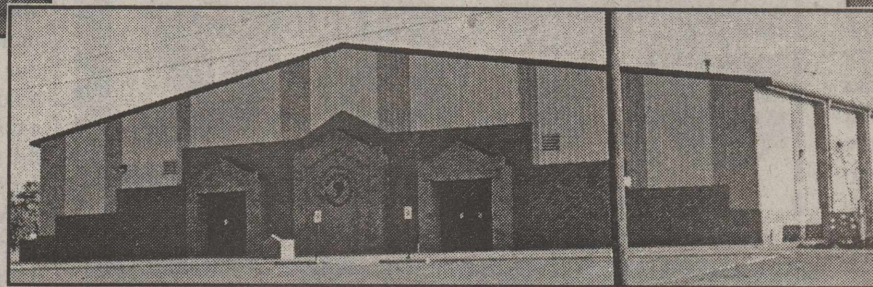
Football Field



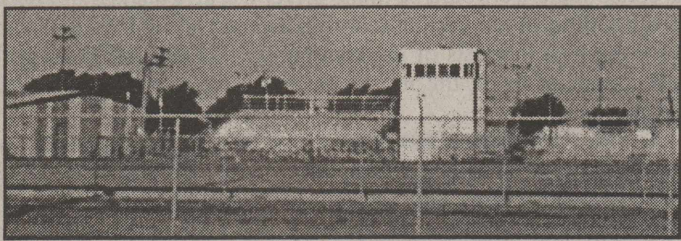
Baseball Field



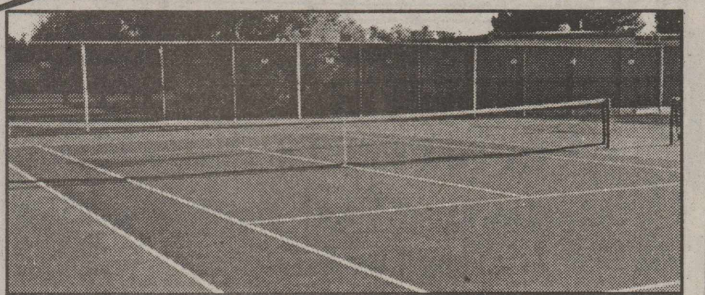
Gym



Track & Field House



Tennis Courts

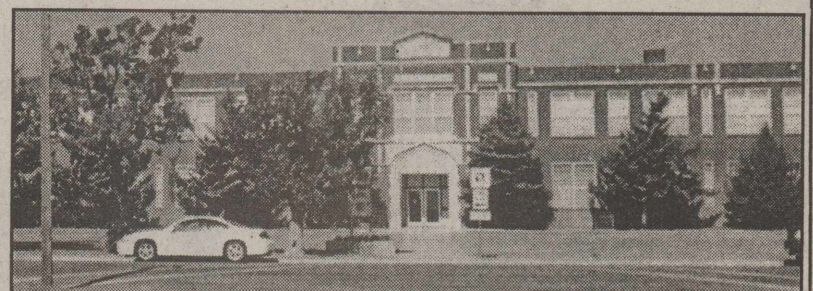
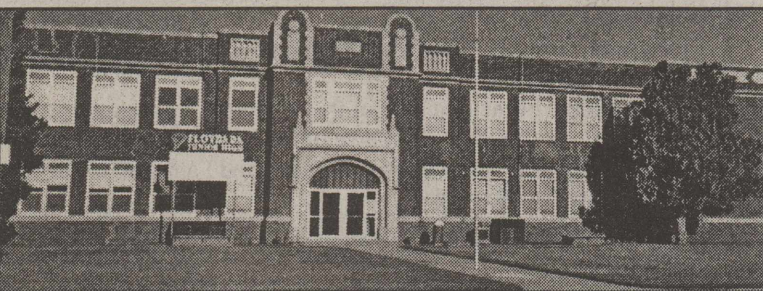


**Could not some of the
money used to build or
renovate these facilities-**

**Have been better spent
on renovating these
buildings???**

**Vote Against
F.I.S.D. Bond Election**

Against / Contra



Citizens Against Higher Taxes

What Will The Bond Cost The Homeowner?

Taxes would be levied at \$0.27 increase over the current tax rate. All homeowners receive a \$15,000 homestead exemption. The following table shows the tax rate impact.

Home Values									
\$15,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$70,000	\$80,000	\$90,000	\$100,000
Tax Rate Increase at \$0.27 per year									
-0-	\$27.00	\$40.50	\$67.50	\$94.50	\$121.50	\$148.50	\$175.50	\$202.50	\$229.50

What Will The Bond Cost The Landowner?

Taxes would be levied at \$0.27 increase over the current tax rate. All taxes would be based on the Ag use value. The following table shows the tax rate impact per acre and per section of land.

Ag Use Values Based on 2004 Appraisals									
Class of Land	Irrigated value per acre	Tax Rate Increase per acre at \$0.27	Tax rate increase per section at \$0.27	Dry Land value per acre	Tax Rate Increase per acre at \$0.27	Tax rate increase per section at \$0.27	Grass land value per acre	Tax Rate Increase per acre at \$0.27	Tax rate increase per section at \$0.27
1	280	.76	\$486	137	.37	\$236	55	.15	\$96
2	220	.59	\$377	110	.30	\$192	45	.12	\$77
3	180	.49	\$313	80	.22	\$140	40	.11	\$70
4	125	.34	\$217	67	.18	\$115	35	.09	\$64
5	85	.23	\$147	48	.13	\$83	30	.08	\$51
6	70	.19	\$121	25	.07	\$44	20	.05	\$32
7	55	.15	\$96	25	.07	\$44	15	.04	\$25
8	30	.08	\$51	15	.04	\$32	5	.01	\$6

How are the home and land values determined?

The Floyd County Central Appraisal District located in Floydada sets these values for the District.

Courtroom Activities

In District Court, September 7, 2004, Mitchell W. Blackwell, 21, of Lubbock pled guilty to a March 4, 2004 charge of Possession of Anhydrous Ammonia. He was sentenced to 4 years in TDC and fined \$1,000.

Also in District Court, Jose Cuba, 24, of Floydada, pled guilty to Burglary of a Habitation which occurred on January 11, 2004. He was sentenced to 2 years in TDC and a \$500 fine.

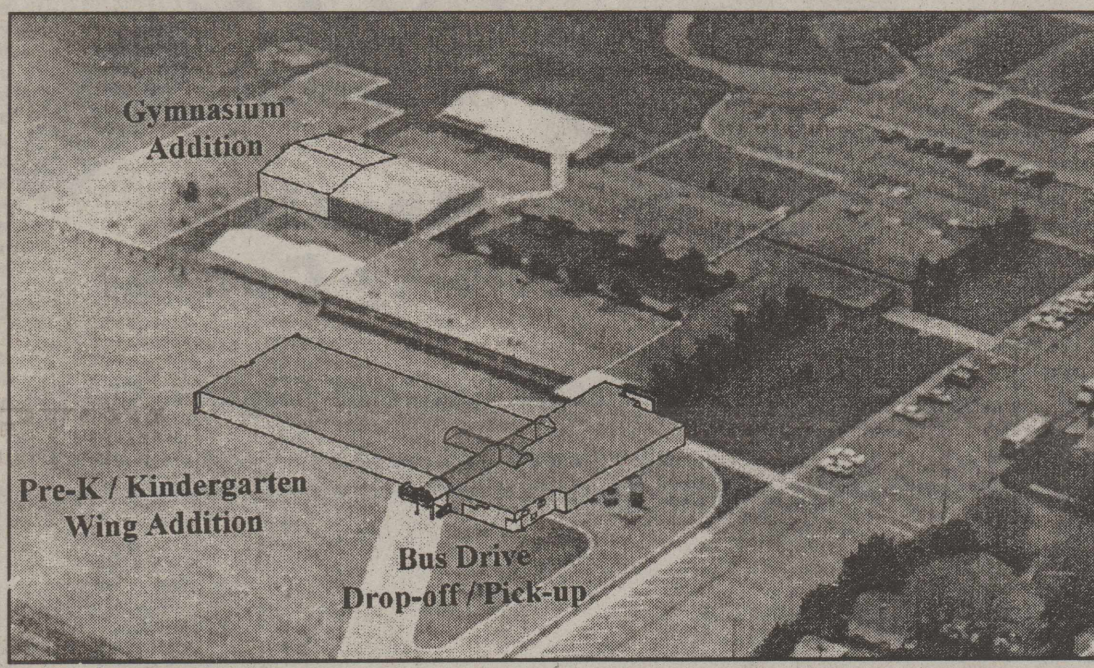
In County Court, August 26, 2004 a May 22, 2002 charge of Possession of Marijuana against Courtney Aaron Shaw, 21, of Lubbock, was dismissed.

A Theft By Check charge of More Than \$500 But Less Than \$1,500 from July 23, 2004, was dismissed against Elisa R. Poole, of Lockney.

In J.P. Court, Pct. #1 & #4 there were 17 speeding tickets issued, 16 other traffic related tickets, 1 open container charge against Leslie Deann Boyce, 39; 7 commercial vehicle violations, a small claims suit filed by Oden Chevrolet against Verla Varnell; and by Producers Coop Elevator against: Catarino Padilla, Estella Navarette, Alex Martinez, Jeremy Hernandez, Steven Orr, Renea Jimenez, Claudia Jimenez, Joe Ibarra, John Hall, Joe Barrientos Jr., and Ralph Casillas Sr., and one eviction notice served.

Alfalfa Round Bales
\$45
Call Ken Bloys 983-2724
Cell 292-2163

VOTE
Sat. Sept. 11
VOTE
Massie Activity Center
Citizens Against Higher Taxes



CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR A.B. DUNCAN ELEMENTARY

Subscribe and Have The Paper Brought To Your Door!

THE FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN-BEACON
Published weekly each Thursday at 111 E. Missouri St., Floydada, TX 79235.
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Subscriptions: \$25.00--Out of County \$23.00--In County
website: hesperianbeacon.com

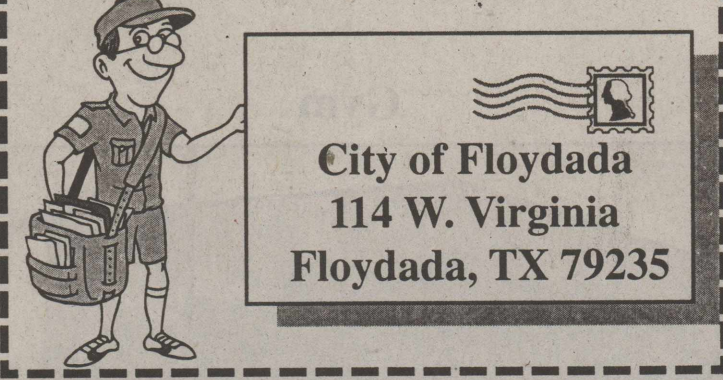
Land Heritage Program seeking landowners to honor

AUSTIN - Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced that the Texas Department of Agriculture's Family Land Heritage Program is seeking farms and ranches for recognition by the Family Land Heritage Program, which marks its 30th anniversary this year. Since the first ceremony on October 14, 1974, the program has honored almost 3,900 farms and ranches in 222 counties for being kept in continuous agricultural production by the same

family. "These families have nurtured life from the land to make a future for their children, all the while making their mark in Texas history," Combs said. "The Family Land Heritage Program honors their contributions to the settlement of the Lone Star State. It also chronicles the unique history of Texas agriculture, a proud record that otherwise might be lost forever." To be eligible for the program...

Continued To Page 6

The City of Floydada has closed their post office box (#10) Please make note of our new address.



Performers Needed
The Lockney Youth Activity Center will be holding a
Jamboree
Sept. 25th.
If you would like to perform please contact Ray or J.J. at 652-2550

We are looking for Gospel, Country, Barber Shop, Oldies and everything in between

Farm INSURANCE

For all your insurance needs...

One of the leaders in property insurance is your local Farm Bureau Insurance agency. For over half a century, we've provided proven protection, prompt personal service, and competitive rates. Plus, we'll review your needs without obligation. Give us a call.

David True, Mgr.
101 S. Wall
Floydada, Tx.
(806) 983-3777

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
Auto • Home • Life

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Take Action in Your Community

I have spent \$236.00 on 4 ads in the newspaper this week. Incidentally it will cost me virtually the same amount of money in one year that the tax increase of the school bond election levies on my family's house and vehicle. Divide that figure by 365 days per year and it costs less than a soft drink (\$0.65) of tax increase per day for my family to provide our part to ensure the viability of our school district and the safety of our children.

I have written about that expenditure to illustrate the point that it was not a great sacrifice to do something positive in my community. I want to be able to contribute in an effective manner to promote my school and my community. The school bond election is a wonderful tool to implement such progress. It is wonderful not only because it will unify this community towards a specific goal, but it will recruit 60% of the help from the State of Texas to promote Floydada. Think of the positive effect such an investment will have towards our community.

To those who still do not get it. We would receive 8.7 million dollars from an outside source to be spent towards the progress of Floydada. This in turn would go a considerable way towards bringing more people to Floydada to spend more money here in Floydada. We will have built superior school facilities to that of Matador, Petersburg, and Lockney for a fraction of the cost to build completely new buildings in Muncy in an effort of consolidation for which there is not a willing second partner. As rural communities continue to decline the eventual outcome, however far down the road, will be consolidation. We have a choice, we either vote now to build for the future of Floydada or we choose to eventually merge with other school districts in their respective towns. They will be more than happy to enlist the monetary gains of school taxes from our property to be spent in their communities. Then when they readily vote through their school bond elections we will also incur a tax increase that will be spent outside our community. In the event the school bond election gets voted down it will paint a sad picture for Floydada.

We have also just built a Gymnasium from 2 million dollars of taxpayer funds. It is an asset that we need to protect. We should pursue consolidation directly here in Floydada from a position of strength. We can strengthen our bid in a consolidation scenario through building a first-rate academic teaching facility in Floydada. After having voted the bond package through, when the time comes to consolidate we would be in the driver's seat. That is the wisdom in the actions of our current school board and administration. They have the best interests of the community of Floydada in mind. It also happens to be the most cost effective scenario for us as taxpayers.

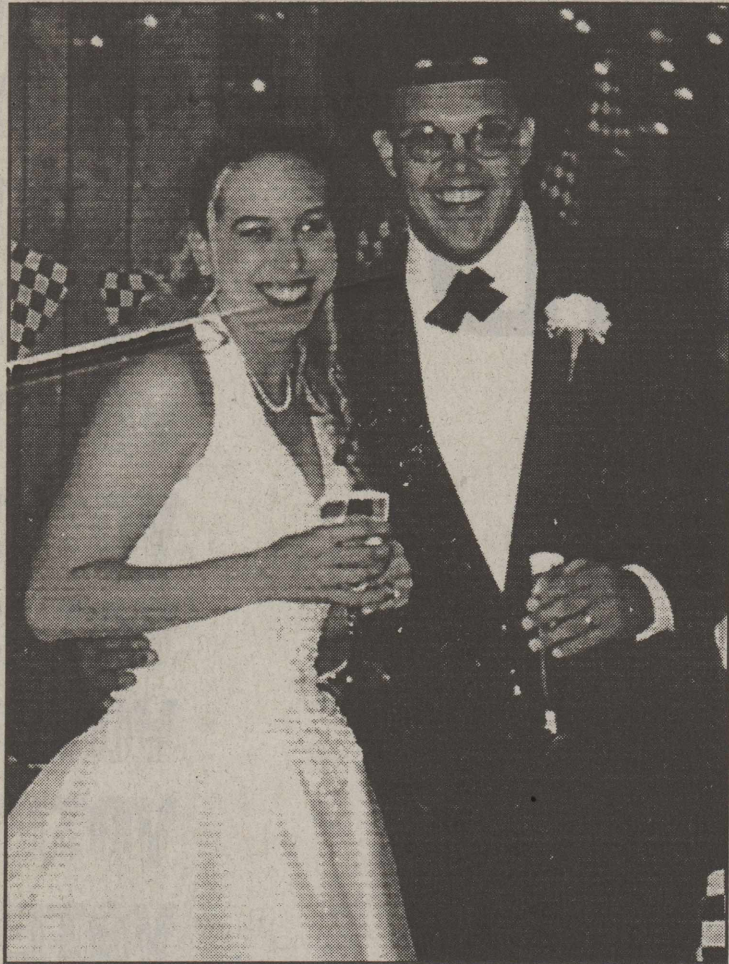
To the efforts of Mr. Hulon Carthel and the group "Citizens against Higher Taxes", I respect your opinions, and I believe you are entitled to them. I think you have run a good campaign. I pray God will continue to bless this community with such hard working and motivated people. However, I believe the stance you have taken concerning school property taxes is not selfish in origin, but that it is fundamentally flawed. I believe it is the wrong direction for this community, and I have chosen to speak out against it.

I have tried to draw a couple of political cartoons, but I have found I am not much of an artist. However, I can write. I was taught by two wonderful teachers - Mrs. Jackie Chadwick 8th grade English and Mrs. Jan Wilson former 12th grade English & current High School Librarian. Both of these women are long time employees of Fisd, and I want to thank them for their dedicated service and passion for teaching. I have benefited from their expertise. I am also entertained by the ironic possibility of Mrs. Anne Carthel, the current 10th and 11th grade English teacher, offsetting the vote of her husband.

Regardless of the outcome of this election - I have enjoyed taking part in the political discourse of this community via our local paper. I believe it was money well spent, and I am glad it was spent directly here in Floydada.

I have taken ACTION by VOTING FOR the school bond package. I urge those who have not yet voted to also TAKE ACTION and VOTE FOR our community. I am an optimistic person, so I say VOTE FOR the Fisd school bond package and continue the legacy of the Fighting Whirlwinds.

(The cost of this ad would pay for my school tax increase Jan.-March.)
Sincerely, Brian Teeple



Mr. and Mrs. Casey Lambert

Kammerdiener and Lambert wed

Amber Kammerdiener and Casey Mac Lambert were joined in Holy Matrimony in a double ring, candlelight ceremony on August 14, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. The ceremony was held at the First United Methodist Church in Plainview with Reverend Max Browning officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kammerdiener and Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Mason, all of Plainview. She is the granddaughter of Charlie Kammerdiener of Louisiana, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Davis of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Baker of Plainview, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dooley of Lub-

bock, and Mr. and Mrs. John Weiler of Midland.

The groom is the son of Dickie and Peggy Lambert of Lockney. He is the grandson of Bobbie Sue and Gay and B.J. Wofford, all of Lockney.

The bride's father escorted her down the aisle. Serving as maid of honor was Crystal Rushin, the bride's sister. The bridesmaids were Rashell Hall and Keshia Bryan, both of Lubbock and friends of the bride, and Trudi Hernandez of San Angelo, sister of the groom.

The flower girls were Faith Bradley of Lockney, niece of the groom, and Anne Marie Rushin

of Plainview, niece of the bride. Austen Rexrode served as ring bearer, nephew of the groom from Lockney.

Ryon Smith from Austin was best man, a friend of the groom. Groomsmen were Carson Johnson, friend of the groom, Jimmie Bradley and Heath Rexrode, brothers-in-law of the groom, both of Lockney.

Ushers were Josh Lambert and Jeremy Stapp, both cousins of the groom from Lockney. Ashley Reese of Plainview registered guests.

After the wedding, a reception was held at the Elk's Lodge in Plainview. Jeri Rexrode and Becky Bradley, both of

Lockney, assisted at the bride and groom tables.

A rehearsal dinner was hosted by the groom's parents

the night before the wedding at Carlita's in Plainview. A miscellaneous shower was hosted by Dorothy Stapp of Lockney on July 15, 2004. Rashell Hall hosted a lingerie shower in Plainview on August 12, 2004.

After a honeymoon in Florida, the newlyweds returned to their home in Lockney where Casey is employed with the City of Lockney and Amber is attending school at South Plains College and is employed at Prairie House in Plainview.

Floydada Senior Citizen News

The Center was closed Labor Day, September 6th. We will be open Tuesday through Friday. Next week we will be open Monday through Friday.

A couple of weeks ago, Francis Gunter, his sister Estelle and her husband Amos of Amarillo, drove to Santa Fe, New Mexico for a few days of vacation.

My son, Greg Bond of Granbury, came home this past weekend to go dove hunting with his friends.

Our sympathy to the family of Dora Miller.

Our sympathy to the family of Archie Huckabee.

Thank you for remembering the Center when you need to make a memorial donation.

In memory of Wayne Russell - John and Judy Dunlap, William and Faye Bertrand, Jo Wester, Bob and Evelyn Goodnight.

In memory of Junior Taylor by John and Judy Dunlap.

In memory of Gayle Daniel by William and Faye Bertrand.

In memory of Pat Alldredge by Jo Wester.

In memory of Sam Puckett by William and Faye Bertrand.

In memory of Harbie Vick - Bob and Evelyn Goodnight.

In memory of Jackie Walls by Bob and Evelyn Goodnight.

In memory of Dora Miller by Genelle Breed.

In memory of Dora Miller, Wayne Russell and Ann Helms by Windmark Insurance Agency, Inc., Clar Schacht.

Please VOTE on Saturday, Sept. 11.

Thought For The Week:

If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose it's freedom. And the irony of it is that if it is comfort or money that it values more, it will lose that too.

W. Somerset Maugham

From Vision to Reality

Have you ever wondered how to turn your dreams into reality? Come join us Tuesday evening, September 28th, as Nick Long helps you identify the resources you need to accomplish your dreams and reach success! Not only will Nick help you create an inspiring vision for your future but he will teach you how to make your life and work more rewarding!

Nick's presentation will feature several stories and actual experiences in the building of the Unity Center; his involvement of the State Farm Friday Night Scoreboard Report that has grown to a network of 30 radio stations all across West Texas, and other topics around sales and community involvement.

Nick Long has been speaking to various groups across the Texas Panhandle and South Plains with his core message of

"Make the Rest of Your Life, the Best of Your Life". His message focuses on leadership, courage, utilizing your talents, and teamwork that all are built around encouragement, enthusiasm, and perseverance.

"From Vision to Reality" is part of the "Maximizing Your Potential" professional development series sponsored by the

Floydada Economic Development Corporation and WorkSource of the South Plains. This series is a tool for preparing yourself for the challenges you face - from developing habits and discipline that will get you started down the path of success to learning the value of persistence as you begin to reach and surpass your goals. "Maximizing Your Potential" is for anyone who doesn't like what they are getting and are willing to change what they are doing!

Upcoming sessions are every Tuesday evening for the next 9 weeks:

- * September 14th - Mission Possible
- * September 21st - Checking Your Passion
- * September 28th - From Vision to Reality
- * October 5th - Balancing Life's Issues
- * October 12th - Drawing Your Lines
- * October 26th - Believing In Yourself
- * November 9th - Staying on Course
- * December 9th - Breaking the Rules

You are invited to attend one session or every session! To register or for more information, please contact the Floydada EDC at 983-3318 or come by 105 South 5th Street, Floydada.

Land Heritage Program.....

Continued From Page 4 gram, the farm or ranch must meet these qualifications:

* The farm/ranch has to have been agriculturally productive for 100 years or more and the line of ownership traced from the first family member to the present, either through direct relatives, marriage or adoption.

* The land must fit the old U.S. Census definition of a farm: 10 acres or more with agricultural sales of \$50 or more a year; or if less than 10 acres, sales of at least \$250 a year.

* If all the land has ever been rented to someone outside of the family, it will not qualify. If only a portion was leased, and as much as 10 acres retained in the family for agricultural production with sales of at least \$50 annually, it will qualify.

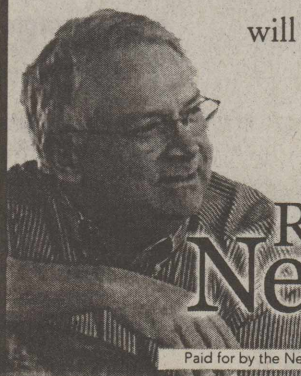
* Deadline to submit applications for properties established in 1904 or before is November 15, 2004.

For more information, contact their web site at www.agr.state.tx.us/producer_info/flhp/com_flhp.htm

A MESSAGE FROM RANDY

did you know...

Randy attended the Republican Convention in New York to support President Bush's plan to win the War on Terror, give all Americans tax relief, create jobs, defend marriage, and uphold the sanctity of life. Republicans are under attack by the liberal John Kerry and his Democrat friends who will weaken America's resolve at home and abroad.



www.randy2004.com
Randy Neugebauer
 Conservative
 U.S. Congress

Paid for by the Neugebauer Congressional Committee

VOTE FOR FISD BOND ELECTION

SEPTEMBER 11, 2004

VOTE FOR: FLOYDADA CHILDREN

VOTE FOR: FLOYDADA TEACHERS

VOTE FOR: SAFE BUILDINGS

VOTE FOR: IMPROVED TECHNOLOGY

VOTE FOR: FLOYDADA'S FUTURE

VOTE FOR: FLOYDADA'S GROWTH

VOTE FOR: PRIDE IN FLOYDADA

VOTE FOR: A BETTER TOMORROW

PAID FOR BY FLOYDADA CITIZENS FOR IMPROVED SCHOOL FACILITIES

Handwritten signatures and names:
 Joe's, Criselda, Helen, Angela, Lyle, Anne Jones, Cheryl, Kaerin, Wayne, Moun, Jennifer, Sandra, Lauren, David, Neil, Paul & Kelly, Jan, Hallson, Susan Kirk, David Vasquez, Bill Dean, Charly Dyer, Ref & Denise Holcom, Nanna McBowen, Dale Dyer, Pauline, Robert, Wanda, Mary, Rebecca Warren, Rajon Johnson, James, Hank, Ally, Sanders, Brent, Sarah Sanders.

COME IN AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW ITEMS FOR HOMECOMING 2004

MUMS, GARTERS, BELLS, FOOTBALL SHAKERS, SPIRIT STICKS, SHOE MUMS, BOOSTER BADGES, WRIST MUMS, DAD BADGES, HALOS, RING MUMS, HAIR BOWS

Don't forget to place orders early. Guaranteed delivery on all orders placed before Sept. 20th

Cathy's Floral & Gifts
 128 W. California
 983-5013
 Homecoming Hours: M-F 9-7 Sat. 10-2

Cruz and Mercado exchange vows

Priscilla Cruz of Denver City and Michael Mercado of Floydada were married Saturday, July 24th at the First Methodist Church in Denver City. Marcelino Banda of Lubbock officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Johnny and Carmen Cruz, both of Denver City. Grandparents of the bride are Catherine Cruz, who attended the wedding, and the late Pete Cruz of Meadow, and Maria De Jesus Fernandez of Mexico.

Parents of the groom are Sam and Olivia Mercado of Floydada. Grandparents of the groom are Augustina Martinez, who attended the wedding, and

the late Felipe Martinez of Floydada, and the late Estefana and Jesus Mercado of Floydada.

Maid of Honor was Mandy Cruz of Denver City, sister of the bride, and the Best Man was Rance Barnett of Amarillo, childhood friend of the groom. Candle lighter was Resa Mercado of California, sister of the groom. The flower girls were Hollie and Johnna Villarreal of Denver City, nieces of the bride. Ushers for the wedding were Austin Stalter of Amarillo, and Daniel Quiroz of Austin, both cousins of the groom. Guest book attendants were Jamie Johnston of Floydada, Alicia Stalter of Amarillo, both cousins

of the groom and Tara Teator of Amarillo, college friend of the bride.

The bride sang "This Day" during the lighting of the unity candle. Rhondalyn Butler of Denver City provided the music during the ceremony.

The bride wore a strapless A-line ivory gown featuring an embroidered bodice encrusted with pearls with a chapel length train.

The bride chose ivory calla lilies for her bouquet. The wedding color scheme was sage and dusty rose.

The reception was held in the church fellowship hall. Reception attendants were Tiffany

Grandon, of Lubbock, Vinnie Vorabouth of Canyon and Heidi Rettig of Colorado.

The bride graduated from Denver City High School in 1999 and is currently attending West Texas A&M University. She is currently employed at Panhandle Plains Student Loan Center in Canyon.

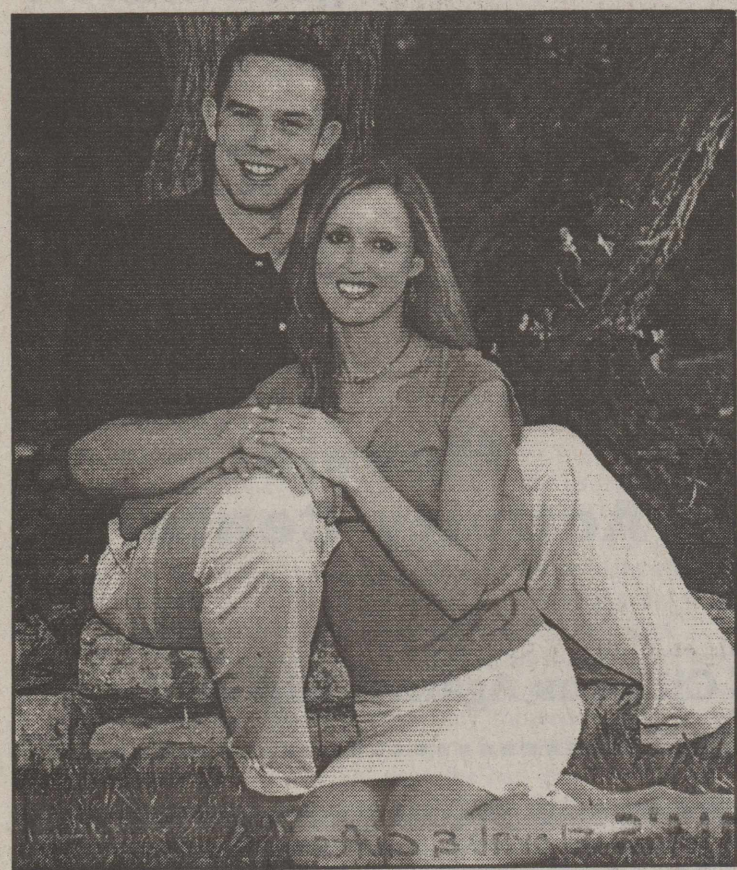
The groom graduated from Floydada High School in 1996 and is currently attending West Texas A&M University. He is currently employed at West Texas A&M University at the Hasting Electronic Learning Center.

The couple honeymooned in Denver, Colorado and reside in Canyon, Texas.



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Mercado

Floyd County Lifestyles



Kristi White and Zachary Logan
White and Logan

David and Denise White of Stamford and Bobby and Tammie Shuping of Hale Center are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Kristi Denise White to Zachary Rhea Logan both of Canyon.

Kristi is a 1996 graduate of Stamford High School and a 2002 graduate of Texas Tech University with a Bachelors Degree in Multidisciplinary Studies with a Minor in Math. She is currently employed by the Amarillo Independent School District.

Zach is a 2000 graduate of Hale Center High School and a 2004 graduate of West Texas A&M University with a Bachelors Degree in Sports and Exercise Sciences with a Minor in Biology. He is currently working on his Masters Degree and is employed by West Texas A&M University. Zach is also the son of David Logan of Canyon. He is the grandson of Don and Sue Chesshir of Floydada and Ernie and LaDelle Watson of Lubbock and Connie Shuping of Hale Center.


A December 18, 2004 wedding is planned at the First Baptist Church in Stamford.

See you at

H
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g



Shaklee Products
For your Shaklee needs
call Sue Reeves
983-2562

**Have You Made
Your Will?**

**Laney & Stokes,
Lawyers**
293-2618

Lockney Senior Citizen's News

By Vera Jo Bybee

Homecoming is just a week away. Last week I wrote asking all the out of town exes to please come "Home" for homecoming. This week I am urging all the local exes to come out and greet the out of town guest. It is so disappointing for the exes who live away to return and have no one here to welcome them. Please don't let this happen this year.

We have a new member of the Senior Citizens. Kay Brock celebrated her 40th birthday last Friday and went over and got her lunch at the Center. Glad to have you Kay.

Dorothy Stapp and Annabelle Bramlet have just returned from a 17 day bus and ship tour of the United States, Alaska and Canada.

Leonard Griffith and wife Judy really need our thoughts and prayers during this time of Leonard's extreme illness.

Jo Webb's sister Wilma Gilcrease of Chicago has been here visiting for several weeks. Last week Jo's daughter Arlene Anderson of Littlefield took her Mom and aunt Wilma to Ruidoso for a few days. Other guest has been her daughter Ruby Wardlow and husband Jimmy of Seymour.

Of course her Lockney daughter Lynda Holly has been over there every day visiting her

Auntie Wilma.

This week's Senior Citizen Profile is on Billie Cook.

Billie Dixon was born July 13, 1924 in Sherman, Texas to Bill and Minnie Thrift Dixon. Billie attended school at White Wright.

In 1941 Billie married M.C. Cook Jr. M.C. was the son of Cliff and Ruth Coats Cook of Van Austine.

Billie and M.C. moved to Lockney in 1956. M.C. work for Paymaster and the feed lot. Retiring in 1989 from Ty Co. Billie worked for Brown's Department Store for 13 years. Retiring from Mangold Clinic in 1989 after working there for 20 years. M.C. passed away on Feb 12, 2001.

M.C. and Billie have three children. Two sons and a daughter. Vickie Ford of Hereford, David of Floydada and Robert of Richmond of near Houston. She has 9 grandchildren and 9 great grands and 2 gggrands.

Thank you Billie for being this week's Senior Citizen.

Menu for Sept 13-17

Mon: Stuffed Green Peppers
Tuesday: Frito Casserole
Wed: Chicken Fried Steak
Thurs: Crusty Baked Chicken
Friday: Ham

Make new friends but keep the old. Those are silver, these are gold.



Bridal selections:

**Angie Clark & Brett Ostrander
Jana Eudy & Ryan Graves**

CLARK PHARMACY

Danny Clark

309 North Main, Lockney- Pharmacy - 652-3353
Residence - 652-3712 (24 hour call)
Free in town prescription delivery

Come by and pick up a **FREE** School Calendar/Football Schedule.

Bridal Selections:
**Meredith Schacht & Craig Campbell
Angie Clark & Brett Ostrander
Jana Eudy & Ryan Graves**

You'll be making **Memories Galore** in 2004 this Homecoming, so don't forget to place your orders by the 13th for mums, garters, spirit sticks and flags

Schacht FLOWERS, JEWELRY & GIFTS
112 W. Poplar, Lockney 8:30-5:30, Mon.-Sat., 652-2385
1-800-566-5754

an American Tribute

A remembrance of one of our Nation's darkest hours: 9.11.01
Commemorative tee-shirts, \$5; US flags, \$25. Proceeds funding local charities.

Flags will be displayed on Ralls Highway
September 8-13
983-3725

AmericanStateBank Member FDIC

Wilcox and Davis are united

Terri Melissa Wilcox and Clyde "Denny" Davis, Jr. were united in Holy Matrimony Friday, July 30, 2004, at the First Baptist Church in Floydada. Reverend Mike Holster officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Doris and Edwin Wilcox of Floydada and the granddaughter of Thelma and the late Gilbert L. Fawver of Floydada and the late Edwin and Emma Wilcox of Levelland.

The groom is the son of JoAnn and Gordon Levison of Lubbock and Jessie Davis and the late Clyde Denny Davis of Lubbock. He is the grandson of Virginia Davis and the late Clyde W. Davis of Crosbyton, Mary and the late T.B. Leatherwood of Lubbock, and Allin and the late LaVeme Tidwell of Snyder.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore beautiful white sleeveless satin gown by Michaelangi. It was fashioned with a simple round neckline and buttoned at the neck with a teardrop opening in the back. Five satin bands embellished the bodice to the waist.

Her headdress was a single layer veil accented with a satin ribbon trim. The bride carried a bouquet of multi colored tulips accented with three calla lilies, tied with white sheer and satin ribbons. The bride's gown was bustled during the reception.

Representing something borrowed, the bride had tied to her bouquet her mother and father's wedding bands. For something old, the bride wore the crystal necklace and earring set that her Granddaddy Fawver had given her granny on their first wedding anniversary. The bride also carried her great grandmother's handkerchief. Something blue was the garter that her mother had worn on her wedding day. It was trimmed in homemade lace and adorned with a Buckeye that the brides' great grandfather Fawver always carried for good luck. Something new was her wedding gown.

Serving as Matron of Honor was Tammy Dunn of Floydada, sister of the bride. The bridesmaids were Kristal Wilson of

Floydada and Kelly Pachiano of Lockney, both dear friends of the bride. The ladies wore a two piece; floor length special occasion dress that was unique for it's off the shoulder neckline. Mrs. Dunn was outfitted in coral, Mrs. Pachiano in blue, and Ms. Wilson in Yellow. They

each carried three white tulips bound together by their coordinating color of gingham checked ribbon and detailed with pearls down the stems of each bouquet.

The groom was dressed in a white long sleeved western shirt that belonged to the bride's grandfather. He also wore a black vest, jeans, and tie with a garter detailed by black gingham checked ribbon. The groom carried a handkerchief of his late father. Serving as best man was James Davis of Oklahoma, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Scottie Reed of Crosbyton and Brian Conn of Brownfield, both friends of the groom. The groomsmen were attired in white long sleeved shirts with black vests and jeans. The men also wore coordinating ties and garters to match their escorted bridesmaids. All garters were detailed and fashioned by the bride's mother.

Jesslyn Davis of Lorenzo served as the flower girl. Ms. Davis wore a green tea length dress with a similar neckline of the bridesmaids. Matthew Davis of Crosbyton served as the ring bearer and also was in green tie and garter. Junior attendants were Katie and Eddie Dunn, who were in purple coordinates and were escorted down the aisle in a wagon by their father. Chad Davis of Crosbyton served as the candle-labra attendant.

Ushers were Greg Medina and Matt Ratheal both of Crosbyton and Buster Woofter and Charles Dunn both of Floydada. Ushers wore white long sleeved shirts, black ties, and black and white garters.

Taryn Rainwater, Jeffrie Vaughn, and Bailey Davenport provided piano selections as preludes to the ceremony. These young ladies were greatly involved in the Methodist Youth group that the bride had the honor to work with for the past several years and continues to be truly honored to call them friends. JaNae Galloway, a cherished friend of the bride, served as Hostess at the guest table and distributed programs upon entrance to the sanctuary. The First United Methodist Church Handbell Choir, under the direction of George James, played "Carillon for a Joyous Day" as the grandmothers were seated. The Handbell Choir also played "Rejoice" for the seating of the mothers. "Holes in the Floor of

Heaven" by Steve Wamer was played while memorial candles were lit for honorary guests. This part of the ceremony was extremely dear and precious to the couple. It was an opportunity to share with their guests the love that they shared for those who had left this earth to spend eternity in Heaven. Candles were lit to remember and to express a deep sense of gratitude for the gifts of life and love that these individuals have passed on to Denny and Terri: Mrs. LaVeme Tidwell, Mr. T.B. Leatherwood, Mr. Clyde W. Davis, Mr. Clyde Denny Davis, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Emma and Edwin Wilcox, Sr., Mrs. Mary Lou Sinor, and Mr. G. L. Fawver. The alter was adorned by enlarged photographs of these loved ones placed on easels draped in white cloth and trimmed by greenery. Two brass candelabras were trimmed by white tulle ribbon bows to mark the honorary lighting.

While the candles were lit, a slide show presentation accompanied the ceremony and was detailed by a personal message from Denny and Terri to their lost loved ones.

The entrance of the groomsmen and bridesmaids was marked by the playing of "Can't Help Falling in Love" by Elvis Presley. As the bride and her father entered, "Pachelbel's Canon in D" was played. The ceremony was blessed by a scripture reading from Becky and Mary Warren, both of Floydada. These two young ladies were also very active mem-

bers of the Methodist youth group and Terri and Denny were privileged to have serve this role in the ceremony. The bride couple lit the unity candle while groomsmen Brian Conn performed "The Rose." After the pronouncement of the couple, the recessional was accented by "Can't Take My Eyes off You" recorded by Lauren Hill.

The guests of the ceremony were then invited to remain in the sanctuary and view a video presentation prepared by a dear friend of the bride and groom, Brenda Parker. The presentation was a detailed account through pictures and songs of Terri and Denny growing up and the life they now share together. The guests were then dismissed to the Parlor of First Baptist Church for the reception.

The bride's table featured a four-tiered cake with each layer accented by the blue, yellow,

coral, or green. The cakes were topped by white satin and sheer ribbon bows. Each cake was adorned on its own pedestal draped in white cloth. The cakes were further detailed and separated by greenery. The cakes were hand made by the bride and her sister and delicately decorated by the bride's mother. The punch table was detailed by large tulip pedestal candle holders and the bridal portrait taken by Robin Hambright. Also served were pastel coated chocolates.

The groom's table was embellished in red, white, and blue to honor the groom's service to his country with his past dedication to the navy and his current obligations as a volunteer fireman and paramedic. The table featured a red velvet cake with sour cream frosting that detailed the markings of the American flag. The table also featured the engagement picture of the couple and the groom's navy picture. The table sported a variety of authentic American traditions as a dedication to a man of service. The table was also service to coffee, mints, and nuts.

The reception tables were covered in floor length white table cloths and decorated with crystal vases of multi colored tulips accented by blue and white gingham checked ribbon.

Each table also had a photograph of the couple in a crystal frame with silver trim. The tables also made room for small blue votive candles in crystal holders and disposable cameras for all guests to help the couple remember their very special day.

The couple now resided in Floydada, Texas where Terri serves as the Coordinator for the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program for Floydada ISD and Denny serves as a Paramedic for Lubbock Aid Ambulance.



Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Davis, Jr.

VOTE
Sat. Sept. 11
VOTE

Massie Activity Center

Citizens Against Higher Taxes

Museum News

There are still many visitors coming in the Museum daily. There were several family and community reunions held locally in August and some of those attending have stopped by the Museum. Those who have not been in the Museum for several years always praise the work that has been done. The Museum Board of Directors and volunteers are very dedicated and work very hard to make the Museum a special place to visit. The out of state visitors were from Arkansas, North Carolina, Kansas and New Mexico.

Dr. Kregg Fehr brought his history class from the Wayland Campus in Lubbock to tour the Museum Tuesday night, August 31. There were approximately 39 people and each was so eager to specifically hear about the Jimmy Owens Site and see the Spanish artifacts from Coronado's expedition.

Dr. Donald Blakeslee, with the University in Wichita, Kansas, Don Henkle, Hank Roekers and Leroy Ellis from Kansas, volunteers, Jay and Jerry Lee Blaine from Allen, Texas and Richard and Shirley Flint from Villanueva, New Mexico, were here over Labor Day weekend. Work has begun on the Coronado educational video. Filming was done at the Museum and at the Jimmy Owens Site in Blanco Canyon. The first official "dig" was over Labor Day weekend 1995. It was well over 100 degrees in 1995 but it was pleasant this year except for the mosquitoes.

Plans for "Punkin Day" are being made. Punkin Day will be the second Saturday in October. This will be October 9th. The Museum will be open from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M. that day. The rope maker volunteers will be here to assist the children in

making ropes. Last year there were 94 ropes made. Volunteers to assist the rope makers are greatly appreciated. The children come back through the year telling us that their rope is hanging in a special place in their rooms. Making rope all day can be tiring and the more that volunteer, the easier it is for all involved in making rope. Everyone should mark their calendars for SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9 and attend "Punkin Day" in Floydada.

Janet Milam, who volunteers every day, is currently photocopying the obituaries from the 1950's newspapers. These will be indexed and filed by the year. Copies can be made for those looking for an obit from the 1950's. The staff also stays busy with new queries from researchers with Floyd County connections.

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02 Chevy Reg. Cab Big Tires/Wheels, Sporty, V-6, Auto Sale \$15,995	00 Ford Explorer 4x4, Leather, Nice, 61K Sale \$12,859	02 Ford F-150 Reg. Cab, Sporty, 29K Miles Sale \$9,965	03 Chevy Cavalier School Car, 29K Miles Sale \$7,735	02 Dodge Neon Gas Saver, Red, 47K Mile Sale \$6,871	99 Ford Taurus Nice Car, Low Miles, 50K Sale \$4,872
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STOPPING THE RUN-Whirlwinds Lionel Williams (45), Taylor Sue (58) and Ty Heflin (41) are shown stopping the running game of the Slaton Tigers last Friday night in Slaton. Floydada won the hard fought game 28-22. The Whirlwinds have an open date next week. Photo by Jim Covington

Whirlwinds rally for last minute win over Slaton

By Bill Gray
For forty-seven minutes the Slaton Tigers controlled the scoreboard in their Homecoming encounter with Floydada at Tiger Stadium last Friday night. At one point, in the second quarter, the Tigers led 22-6 and appeared to be headed toward only their third victory in their last 26 games.

But, a funny thing happened to the Tigers on the way to the winners' circle -- they weren't able to withstand Floydada's 20-point, second-quarter rally and a final-minute-of-the-fourth-quarter, game-winning score by Justin Martinez.

The Whirlwinds made it easy enough in the early going for the Tigers, who were hoping to win one for their exes. A roughing-the-kicker penalty by Floydada kept alive Slaton's opening scoring drive. Then the 'Winds were assessed a personal foul on the conversion, giving the Tigers good field position on the ensuing kickoff. Slaton jumped on the opportunity and converted an onside kick to retain possession. 90 seconds later, A.J. Samuels cashed in with a 26-yard TD romp - his second score of the opening period. Floydada had more than 50 yards stepped off in penalties in the first quarter - not all of them totally warranted.

Floydada's offense got untracked in the final two minutes of the opening stanza. Luke Miller and Ty Heflin picked up good chunks of real estate and Heflin's 23-yard run set up Miller's 3-yard TD plunge to open the second quarter. Slaton fought back with 9 unanswered points (a 33-yard field goal by Jacob Salazar and Samuels' final score of the game at the 4:58 mark of the second period). It was at this point, with a little over four minutes remaining in the first half, that the Whirlwinds took control of the game.

Lionel Williams scored from

5 yards out and Miller tacked on the two-pointer. Heflin added a 6-yard touchdown jaunt with just :19 left before intermission, but a dropped pass on a 2-point conversion attempt prevented the Whirlwinds from knotting the score at 22-all just seconds before the intermission break.

Floydada coach Lee Hurt commented, "It was just one of those things again...we simply made too many mistakes at the wrong time, and they certainly took advantage of our miscues. We just can't get down like that against a good football team." Whirlwind defensive coordinator Coby Emery quipped, "(A.J.) Samuels is probably as good a tailback that we'll see this year, and his three first-half scores could have put us in a big hole had our offense not come around like it did in the second quarter." Samuels ended the night with 136 yards on 19 attempts and three touchdowns for the Tigers.

Coach Hurt added, "I'm very proud of our kids and the character they showed coming back, playing hard and getting us back into the ball game before half-time. We could have easily been down by 20 points if we weren't careful there. We came back to only a 2-point deficit at the half. They showed great character by keeping their composure and pulling it out at the end of the game."

Luke Miller led all rushers by carrying the ball 20 times for 138 yards and one touchdown. Ty Heflin attempted 9 times for 67 yards and the important touchdown in the final seconds of the first half. Justin Martinez toted the ball 10 times for 37 yards, but it was his two-yard touchdown with one minute remaining in regulation time that sealed the victory for the Whirlwinds. Floydada seems to have the knack of having the Tigers by the tail in front of their alumni as the Whirlwinds

ruined the Homecoming on their last trip to Slaton several years ago.

Whirlwind sophomore defender Tate Jones led all tacklers with 10 solos and 4 assists. Miller and Heflin each were credited with 8 stops. Slaton's top defender was Kevin Kilmer with 11 tackles. Floydada's Jacob Reddy snared his first pass interception of the young season, while Tiger Quillam Williams picked off one Whirlwind aerial.

Slaton will travel to 1-1 Olton this weeks in hopes of gaining its first victory of the year. The Whirlwinds have an open date this week.

SCORES BY QUARTERS

FLOYDADA	0	20	0	8	28
SLATON	13	9	0	0	22

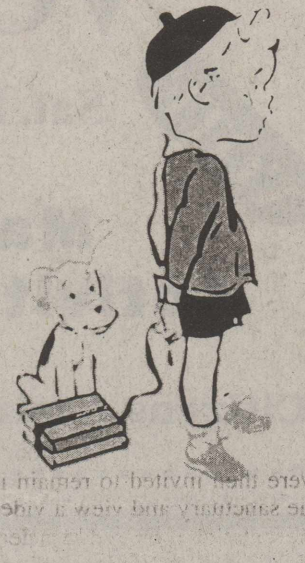
Final Statistics

Floydada:	Slaton:	
20	First Downs	18
49-291	Rushes-Yards	43-214
23	Passing Yards	96
314	Total Yards	310
2-8-1	Comp-Att-Int	4-16-1
60	Return Yards	57
2-30.5	Punts - Average	2-42.0
0-0	Fumbles - Lost	2-0
6-60	Penalties - Yards	6-35
25:21	Time of Poss	22:39

S P O R T S

Don't do drugs or drugs will do you!

Through the Halls



FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU

September 13-17
Monday
Breakfast-Eggs/biscuit or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Frito Pie, corn, beans, brownie, milk
Tuesday
Breakfast-Breakfast pizza or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Spaghetti with meat sauce, peas, carrots, bread sticks, Jello, milk
Wednesday
Breakfast-Pancake & Sausage on a Stick, milk
Lunch-Stuffed Baked Potatoes

w/Ham & cheese, broccoli w/cheese, fruit, milk
Thursday
Breakfast-Scrambled eggs, toast and jelly or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch-Enchiladas with meat, beans, salad, cornbread, fruit, milk
Friday
Breakfast-Cinnamon roll, fruit or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk
Lunch- "Whirlwind Sandwich", (Chicken Fried Steak Sandwich) fries, salad, assorted fruit, milk

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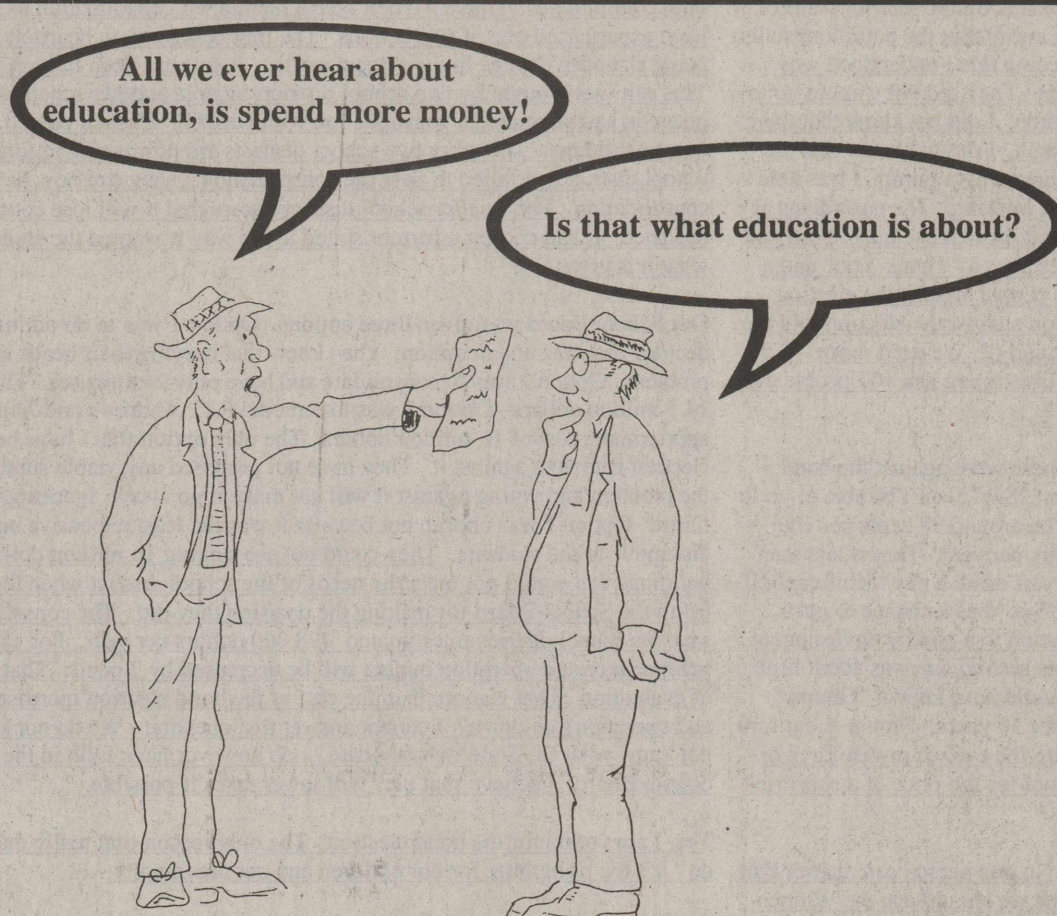
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VOTE AGAINST

Against/Contra Higher Taxes

Citizens Against Higher Taxes

VOTE
Sat. Sept. 11
Massie Activity Center
Citizens Against Higher Taxes

FLOYDADA 2004 HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

Friday, September 24
Lunch tickets and t-shirts on sale!!
2:30 p.m. ...Pep Rally, new FHS gym.
Special Recognition to Classes of 1960-69, 1970-79.
5:00 - 7:30 p.m. ...Pregame meal, Sponsored by FHS at Jr. High Cafeteria.
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. ...Register at ballgame.
7:30 p.m. ...Football game between Whirlwinds and Farwell Steers, Homecoming Queen recognized before the game. Special Recognition to classes of 1980-89, 1990-1999, 2000-2003.
Class of 1947: ...Sat. 3:30 p.m. at Bill Hale's Home 813 W. VA.
Class of 1949: ...Floydada Country Club Friday 5:30 p.m. (55th).
Class of 1960 & Friends: ...Sat. 6:30 p.m. Ronnie Smith's home call 806-983-2672.
Classes of '60,61'62 & Friends: ..After game at Leonards Cafe-
Class of 1967 & Friends: ..After game party at Michael & Linda Hinsley, 905 W. Georgia St.
Class of 1968 & 1969: ..After game at Dayne & Penny Golightly, (Rucker house Sandhill Hwy.)

Saturday, September 25
8:00 - 9:30 a.m. ...Registration, High School old gym.
8:00 - 9:30 a.m. ...Tea & coffee for Ex-Teachers & Administration, Library.
10:00 - 11:30 a.m. ...Business Meeting, new FHS gym, Hall-of-Fame, Election of Officers for 2008, Special Recognition to classes 1920-29, 1930-39, 1940-49, 1950-59.
Awards presented to: Oldest class member present, Oldest gentleman in attendance, Oldest lady in attendance, Ex-Student traveling the longest distance.
11:30 - 1:00 ...Catered meal served in new FHS gym.
1:30 - 2:00 p.m. ...Memorial Service, FHS auditorium.
2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ...Class Reunions, FHS.
3:00 p.m. ...Golf Scramble, Floydada Country Club.
8:00 p.m. ...12:00 a.m. ...Exes Dance, Floydada Coop Gin Barn. Live Band - "Blue denim II & Friends"

ATTENTION!

THE MOST POWERFUL VOTING GROUP IN THIS COMMUNITY - ARE THOSE WHO DO NOT OWN BUSINESSES OR LARGE PROPERTIES.

YOU ARE THE MAJORITY.

YOU HAVE EVERYTHING TO GAIN.

YOU CONTROL THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOLS.

YOU CONTROL THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN.

YOU ARE THE DECIDING FACTOR.

MAKE YOUR PRESENCE FELT IN THIS COMMUNITY!

PROMINENT MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY - SEATED AS BOARD MEMBERS OF FLOYDADA ISD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY FOR THE FISD BOND PACKAGE.

ANSWER BACK TO THE LEADERS OF OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT - WITH A FIRM VOTE FOR FISD BOND ELECTION.

REGISTERED VOTERS - VOTE FOR FISD BOND ELECTION.

EARLY VOTE - AUG. 25 THROUGH SEPT. 7

FINAL VOTE - SEPT. 11

(The cost of this ad would pay for my school tax increase April - June.)
Sincerely, Brian Teeple



FASHION SHOW--Floyd County 4-H'ers modeled outfits they purchased in the Junior Fashion Show held at the Methodist Church in Floydada. All 4-H'ers will advance to District competition on September 25 in Lubbock. Participants and senior 4-H members assisting included left to right: Taylor Orr, Katie Beth Crossland, Kayla Kelley, Senee' Foster, Segayle Foster, Jill Bramlet, and Kami Keaton. Also participating were Sunny Williams, SyAnn Foster, Kaylie Nutt and Cheyann Powell. Courtesy Photo

Floydada 4-H News

By Kaylie Nutt

The first 4-H meeting of the year was held on Monday, August 23, at 6:00 at the MAC. The meeting was called to order by President, Katie Beth Crossland. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Janson Graham, and the 4-H motto and pledge was led by Sarah Duus. Brady Ragland gave the inspiration. Abigail Miller gave the Project Report on the Clothing Project which was held August 11th. 4-H'ers brought school supplies which were donated to RC Andrews school. Abigail Miller donated the door prizes which were won by Jordan Cornelius and LaTresa Miller. Laura Nutt did the program which was the installation of new officers. The meeting was adjourned and everyone enjoyed refreshments provided by Sarah and Tim Duus, Brady Ragland and Jason and Kaylie Nutt. Recreation was volleyball at the park. If you weren't there, you missed a lot of fun. Our next 4-H meeting will be September 20th. Our program will be a 4-H talent show! Don't miss it!

Vote in School Bond Election

Drugs aren't smart. Just don't start!

Conservative Tax Cuts Here in this Town

I am a firm believer that the conservative idealism of putting federal tax dollars back into the hands of the American people strengthens our national economy. However, the macro-economics at the federal level that support tax-cutting measures to energize our national economy stand in stark contrast to the micro-economics of our small rural economy. I believe that a strong tax base will provide for the continuing development of our community for both our city and our school district. The strength of our community is what draws people to live, work, and spend money within our city limits. I believe that tax increases are actually the best investment in which we can make to generate more business within our community and energize the growth of our local economy.

Has the city of Floydada really benefitted from the conservative tax cuts of the past? If you have said "YES" to that question, then why is the city of Floydada now considering tax increases? Why is a former "tax-cutting" mayor now advocating the effort of the city to increase taxes at the same time in which he leads a group of citizens to vote against a school tax increase? Why has a fundamental shift occurred in the consistency of that group's tax-cutting idealism? Have some of these people begun to recognize that by failing to fund the local progress of our city it is actually hurting the business community. Are they capable of distinguishing between the macro-economics of the United States of America and the micro-economics of our local community?

I welcome tax increases of both the city and school district. I encourage citizens to put their faith in the capable hands of our community leaders and vote to fund the much needed projects. That is how the community was built. Vote to further the progress of our city and our school district. Choose to invest in our community. (The cost of this ad would pay for my school tax increase July-August).

Sincerely, Brian Teeple

Wilson, Coronado and Lowrance win football contest

In the second week of our football contest Brance Wilson, Ricky Coronado, Jr. and Gene Lowrance claim the prize money.

Brance Wilson of Lockney missed only 5 games and will garner the first place check of \$25.00.

There were 4 entries that missed 6 games each. They were Ricky Coronado, Jr., Gene Lowrance, Keith Marricle and Karen Quebe. The tie-breaker game between Lockney and Childress was used to determine the second and third place winners.

Coronado chose Childress to win over Lockney with a total final score of 44, which was the total score of that game (Childress 30 - Lockney 14). He will claim the second prize money of \$15.00.

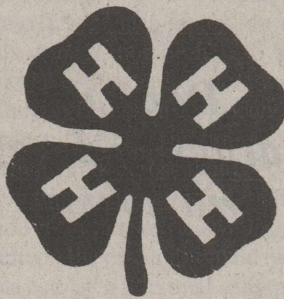
To determine the third place, Lowrance and Marricle both chose Childress to win over Lockney with a total final score of 42. So we had to use the second tie-breaker game between

Floydada and Slaton. The final total score of that game was 50. Lowrance chose Floydada to win with a score of 27 and Marricle chose Slaton to win with a score of 38.

Gene Lowrance of Floydada will get the third place check of \$10.00 since he won the tie-breaker after choosing Floydada to win. Keith Marricle of Floydada-Muncy-Lockney will get Honorable Mention as will Karen Quebe of Lockney. Quebe did not enter into any of the tie-breakers as she incorrectly picked the winner of the first tie-breaker.

Honorable Mention also goes to Bryan Bybee, Ricky Ascencio and Lisa Collins, all of Lockney and to Franklin Harris and Max Yeary, both of Floydada.

Please be sure that you circle a winner on all games on the entry form and you chose a winner and write in the final total score of the tie-breaker games. If a winner is not circled on the entry form, that game will be counted as incorrect.



A Subscription Saves You Money Off The Newsstand Price

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Sat. Sept. 11
VOTE

Massie Activity Center

Citizens Against Higher Taxes

ATTENTION VOTERS IN THE FISD BOND ELECTION

My letter in the newspaper last week was edited for space. I paid for the entire letter to be published because I believe that you have the right to read the entire letter. The parts that are underlined were the parts that were edited last week.

The price of this advertisement would have paid the increase in my school taxes from the bond election for 18 months.

Dear Editor,

I would like to start this letter by stating that how you vote is your business. I encourage everyone to vote. Many people have fought and many have died to secure that right for us. Now I would like to explain to you why I am voting for the Floydada ISD bond package.

I did go on a tour of the schools in question {I did not see most of the people against the election on the tour.} It was the first time that I had been through and around R.C. Andrews and the Junior High. I was not aware that the heat in the classrooms came from heaters that burn the air in the classrooms. There was no vent to bring in fresh air for the students or the heaters. These heaters have open flames in a wooden classroom. There is no way to contain a fire in a classroom as there are no fireproof doors. The floors on the second floor of both buildings bounce, creak and squeak when two grown men walk across them. I don't believe that I would want to be in a classroom below them. The bricks on the outside of both buildings and the interior walls are cracked from the building settling. The plaster on the interior walls of both buildings was crumbling and beyond repair in several rooms. I was not aware that the bathroom stalls do not have doors or do not have dividing walls between the toilets. Upon seeing this I understood why several parents kept telling me that their children did not drink water at school. They did not want to go to the bathroom where everyone could see. This cannot be healthy for the children. I did not know that there was asbestos throughout both schools. I do know that is not healthy for children. I did not know that the raw sewage at R.C. Andrews went into a "pool" in the basement and was removed by a pump. I was able to see the marks on the wall where the sewage backed up when the pump quit working. The custodians at this school have the job of fixing the pump while standing in raw sewage. God Bless those men. I did not know that raw sewage fell on Coach Nixon's desk on a regular basis. She deserves a "Thank You" and a "I'm Sorry" from everyone for putting up with that. I was told by one of the people against the election that the sky wasn't falling... they were right it was not the sky. Another person against the election told me that the only two things that we need is (1) The teachers need to work harder and (2) We need more discipline in the classroom. I'm not an architect or a structural engineer but I bet if you ask 100 people that are they will tell you that will not fix the problem.

In last weeks Hesperian-Beacon there were two "political satires." Both of these were against the bond election. The first one was about little "Sue." If the bond election passes then "Sue" won't be able to go to college. If the bond election passes then the taxes for the bond package will be around 28 cents per 100 dollars of evaluation. Figuring 30 cents on a 60,000 dollar home is 180 dollars per year. That is less than the price of a soft drink a day. If "Sue's" parents cannot afford to give up a soft drink a day then I doubt if they can afford to send "Sue" to college. However with a quality education "Sue" has a chance to get a scholarship. I believe we should give "Sue" the opportunity to get that education in a quality environment in a quality classroom. I am willing to give up a soft drink a day for that. The second one was about little "Sue's" parents having to pay for the improvement for 30 years. That one should have shown "Granny" telling "Sue's" mom to suck it up. "Granny" paid for school improvements for 30 years. Now it is our turn to step up and do something for the school district. I am not going to look into the eyes of my children or any other person's child and tell them I was against them having a better school for the price of a soft drink a day.

If the bond election doesn't pass then will the schools will be closed down? No one person can answer that question. If the school buildings were condemned what would we do? Maybe we should ask the Wilmer-Hutchins ISD. School officials in that school district were told two years ago that the high school should be abandoned. As of Tuesday {08/24} the high school remained closed and the state {TEA} plans to intervene. The TEA plans to take over the school system for up to 6 years. That means that for 6 years the TEA will be telling the school district how it will be run instead of decisions being made by the School Board. I have had people against the bond election tell me that the state cannot take over. Maybe they should call Charles Matthews {he is the Superintendent of Wilmer-Hutchins.} I believe I could stand a small increase in my taxes to keep the local School Board running things.

I have been asked where all the money from the increasing taxes over the past years has been going. That question has a simple answer. It has been going to fund state mandates. These mandates are not funded

Page 2

by the state but are required of all school districts. They have been going to pay for equipment, teacher salaries and upkeep on the buildings. A school can only tax for two things. These two things are (1) Maintenance and Operation and (2) Bond Debt. I am willing to bet that the operating budget of every business has increased in the past 15 years. Is there any business more important than educating our children?

I have had people against the bond election tell me that we should consolidate. I am not totally opposed to that idea I am, however, realistic. A consolidation is somewhat like a marriage. There are two kind of marriages. The first being a "consolidation" of two willing parties. These are good as both parties are generally happy. The second being a "shotgun" consolidation of two parties, usually one willing and one not. These are not good. If you are curious about consolidation then maybe you should talk to people in both communities. I have. When I have mentioned consolidation to several people in both communities I have experienced one of two actions. The first being a very heartfelt and aggressive "No." The second being a sudden change in the subject matter. A suit has been filed in District Court in Haskell County. This suit was brought by two school districts against another school district. Why? The school district in question had attempted a consolidation with Haskell. Haskell passed the proposal but the school district in question did not. The other two school districts are now trying to force a consolidation. Who loses? The school district that failed to pass the consolidation. They can now be forced by the court into a "shotgun" consolidation. The smaller school district knows that it will lose control of the way that its students are educated. It had chosen a partner suited to the way it wanted the students educated. It will now receive what it is given.

Our School Board was given three options. Option 1 was to do nothing. The members of the School Board decided that was not an option. They knew that burying their heads in the sand was not an answer to the problem. Option 2 was to consolidate and have only 2 campuses. This would be at an approximate cost of 14.5 million dollars. Option 3 was to remodel R.C. Andrews and Junior High. This would be at an approximate cost of 16 million dollars. The only option that I have heard from the people against the bond election is to vote against it. They have not proposed any viable solution to correct the problem. Ignoring the problem and voting against it will not make it go away. Ignoring the problem will only cost more in the future. Option 2 was chosen not because it was the least expensive but because it would also be the least disruptive to the students. They could not see sinking 16 million dollars into two broken down old buildings that would not meet the needs of the school district when the project was completed. My hat is off to the School Board for making the decision they did. The consolidation of the two campuses will also save the school district an estimated 428,000 dollars per year. For each 100,000 dollars saved the maintenance and operation budget will be decreased by 7 cents. That is a 30 cent decrease per 100 dollars of evaluation. That is more than the cost of the bond election increase. Will our base taxes {maintenance and operation} go down? I cannot answer that question. We do not know what the future holds and we do not know what the State will mandate. I do however have faith in the people that were voted onto the School Board. I believe that they will lower taxes if possible.

Yes, I am voting for the bond election. The only reason that really matters is because it's the right thing to do. It's the right thing for our children and our community.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Marty Lucke
Marty Lucke

Celebrating 40th Anniversary of Lockney Elementary

"We remember.."

By Edythe Clarke and Jontha Mercer

With much joy and excitement, we began our 1964 school year. Our building was so bright, cheerful, new and clean with central heat and air conditioning. We no longer had to use the old "Dearborn" heater and when the weather was hot, we had air conditioning that wasn't a swamp cooler. We also left behind the drafty windows, because the building was made from old army barracks, and lots of gin smoke and dust.

There were about 500 students in the building. Every room had at least 30 students with no assistants. Each teacher was responsible for her own class from the time they arrived at school until they went home. There was no help even at lunch. We had music once a week for 20 minutes and the teacher went to music with them.

We also had a central library. Each class went to the library once a week, and the teacher also went. Half day kindergarten was also added, but was not a requirement.

We remember how proud our school nurse, Mrs. Ansley, was of the bathtub. Many times if the children were very dirty or had head lice, she would treat them and then let them take a bath. She had the "Nellie Brown Fund" to buy socks or underwear for the ones who needed them.

We had a lounge, but we didn't use it much because we were with students all day.

At first, our playground had no equipment and certainly not rocks. The children ran, jumped and played. Each room had 2 twenty minute recesses, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Children then were just as active as children are today.

Since this time, several changes have been made on the building. A gym and music unit was added to the north end. By that time, each teacher had a 45 minute conference or planning period.

Then, years later another unit was added to the north end to house the 4 third grade rooms. The last additions were on the west for the Title I Reading program.

The heating and air conditioning system has been upgraded to individual units. Now, each room could control its own temperature.

These changes have all been good and we are still very proud of our building. Thanks to the trustees, administrators and community for making this available for our children.

By Mary Louise McCarter

Lockney Elementary was just a year old when I returned to Lockney in September, 1965. I applied to substitute, and did so for a fourth grade teacher who had lost a parent. At the end of the week, the superintendent, Herbert Nicholas, asked to see me. He offered me a full time job as a Title I Reading teacher, a new federally funded program. His wife, Bessie Nicholas, and I began preparing for our new job. The building was filled, so our classrooms were in the dressing rooms beside the stage in the cafetorium. Putting chair desks and as many as ten students per class in that space was challenging. We stored equipment behind the curtains on the stage. Later, two breezeways were partly enclosed to give us more room. At that time, there was a large migrant population, so our students changed often. Nine years later, there was a rumor that the Title I program would be disbanded, so I acquired a fourth grade. It was a class of 32, where I taught all subjects, even P.E., Music, plus lunch duty, recess, and we kept our own attendance registers. What a change, but teachers and students developed such a close relationship.

Nine years later, there was some reorganization because of the Bilingual program. I moved back to Title I reading and taught in the "Outhouse", a metal building that had been erected behind the main building. A gym, four new classrooms, and a library were added to the north end of the building. When that was completed, there was space to move back into the main building, where I remained until retiring in 1997.

Weldon Dodson was principal in 1965, followed by R.L. Knox, Joyce Evans, and the current principal, Phil Cotham.

By Phil Cotham

One of the first things I noticed about this building, when I became principal in 1992, was how well it was built. A lot of thought and planning went into the design. Many of the materials used, such as flooring and wallboard, require minimal maintenance. Several additions have been made, and a few outdated lights and ceiling tiles have been replaced. Forty years later, the building serves our needs well and is in great shape.

The quality of the school goes well beyond the physical building. I am the fifth principal to serve in this building in 40 years. There has been little turnover in Lockney schools

through the years. I attribute this to the community and the school system as a whole. It is a great place to work and raise a family. The school system has been great for my kids.

By Bernie Ford

It is hard to believe that it has been 40 years since Lockney Elementary was built and my class was the first group of first graders to attend. My teacher was Mrs. Muncy, who also taught my sister and brother a few years before. Some of my memories include walking down the hall in single-file directly under the row of lights and that elusive electric-paddle! I also remember that first girlfriend, milk break, achievement tests, recess (not P.E.), and not to forget that occasional check for head lice by Mrs. Ansley, the school nurse.

When you look back at the way education has changed over the past 40 years, it makes me wonder if all those changes were for the best.

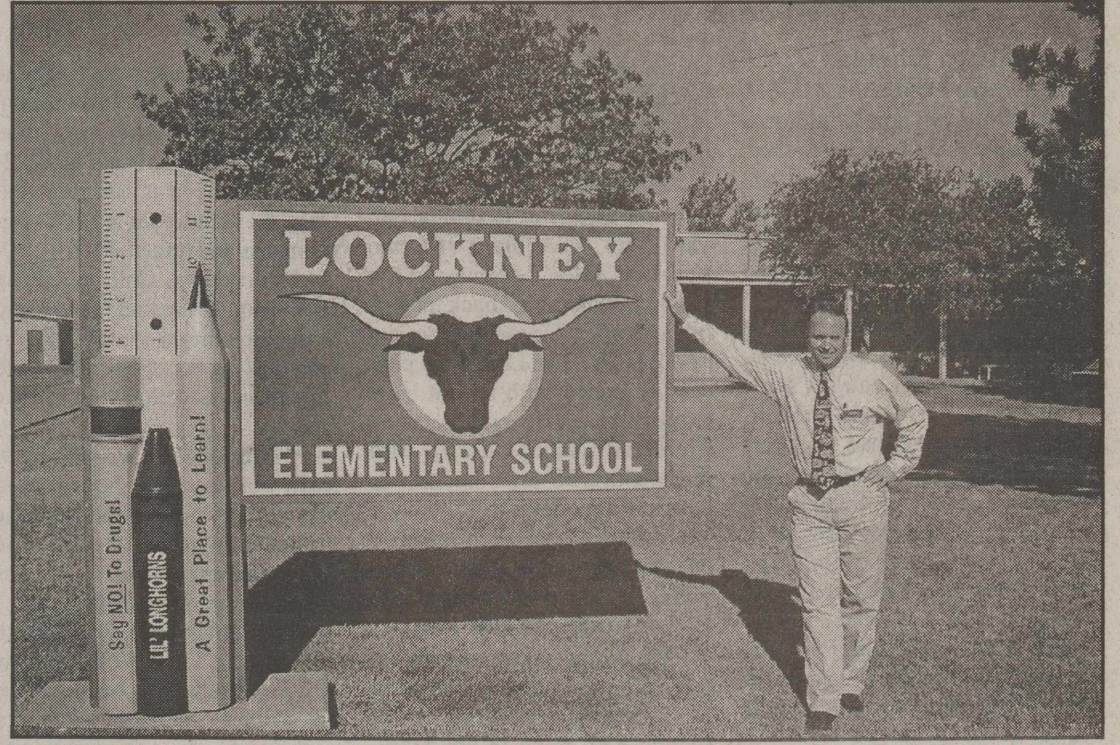
Time will tell.

By Barbara Carthel

2004...Happy Birthday... Lockney Elementary School...

I have been in the school system for 29 years and have certainly seen some changes. I started in what was considered the "Migrant Room". We worked with the migrant students to try and keep them on task with the other students. There were probably about 50 students at that time. Now we have 16 students. Due to the economy, our school has gone through some tough times. I am secretary now to Phil Cotham. With good family values, leaders and community support, we have survived the changing of the times.

The first secretary in this building was Emma Lou Frye. The first principal was Alma Dutton. The school board at that time was Kenneth Wofford (president), R.E. Mitchell, Charlie Boedeker, Owen Thornton, Walter Taack, James Bobbitt, and Harold Griffith. The superintendent was H.H. Nicholas. Our school board now is Robbie Long, Aaron Wilson, Mike Ford, Jessie Garza, Lonny Hooten, Jeff Don Terrell, and President Johnny Quebe. Our superintendent is Raymond Lusk. Some of the people to teach first in the building were Jontha Mercer, Edythe Clarke, Lilly Cooper, Virginia Lyons, Bettie Knox, and many many more. The community is the reason why this system has survived so many good years. I hope we have many more milestones.



LOCKNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PHIL COTHAM, PRINCIPAL



BANDY ASSITER WITH "PATCHES" AND "P" AT ASSITER PUNKIN RANCH



VOTE

Sat. Sept. 11

VOTE

Massie Activity Center

Citizens Against Higher Taxes

VOTE---VOTE---VOTE---VOTE---VOTE---VOTE---VOTE

Remember to vote!

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LOCKNEY RENEWALS

Kathryn Cooper Kidd, Phillip Lockney Library Moore, Dr. Sharie	Rasco, Darrell Rodgers, Brannon Schaeffer, Milton Smith, Sandra	Stapp, Louis Ray Ware, W. R.
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LOCKNEY RENEWALS

Archer, Janie Bailey, Mrs. Guin Baxter, Clyde Bramlet, Clyde Bramlet, Wayne Brown, Claude Cooper, W. T.	Cypert, Homer Dietrich, Michael Ellison, Terry Frizzell, Pat Hernandez, Rosalie Kelley, Don McPherson, Becky	Mercer Jr., W. C. Minter, James Quebe, John Reecer, Clara Savage, Margie Smith, Dan B. Sweepston, Hershel
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Longhorns lose in hard fought game to Bobcats

By Bubba Edwards

For three quarters last Friday night, the Lockney Longhorns dominated one of the best teams in the region and in the state, the Childress Bobcats. But the old "Bobcat Tradition" kicked in and scored 22 points in the final quarter to outlast Lockney 30-14.

The Bobcats, ranked 15th in the state in class 2A, were led by Cary Keys who caught four passes for 83 yards and a touchdown. Keys also had an interception which he returned for another touchdown. Sophomore quarterback, Sawyer Vest, also was right in the mix of things as he rushed for 164 yards and a touchdown. Lockney's Mark Ford finished the night with 129 yards on 18 carries and two touchdown runs.

Lockney jumped on the Bobcats early in their first quarter when Mark Ford shredded the Bobcat defense for a 25-yard touchdown run. Dahlen McCarter's point after was good giving the 'Horns a 7-0 lead. Childress fumbled the ball back to the Longhorns on their next possession which set up a 15 play scoring drive for Lockney. The 'Horns marched 88 yards, not including the three offensive penalties that they had to overcome, eating seven minutes off the clock which ended on a one yard plunge by Ford. McCarter's point after was good increasing their lead 14-0 with 7:16 remaining in the first half.

Childress drove the deep into Lockney territory on their next possession, but the Longhorns defense turned it up a notch causing the Bobcats to turn the ball over on downs at Lockney's 25 yard line. Five plays and two penalties later, Lockney had a two long runs called back including a Monte Lass touchdown run of 46 yards. The Longhorn possession ended with a punt back to the Bobcats. Seven plays later, Childress finished off a 72-yard drive with a 28-yard touchdown pass to Rance Jeter from Sawyer Vest. After a Lockney penalty on the extra point, the Bobcats converted a two-point conversion closing Lockney's lead 14-8.

The second half consisted of only three possessions. Childress took the first possession of the second half down to the 'Horns one yard line, but turned it over on downs. Seven plays and six penalties later, the Longhorn possession ended with an interception which gave the Bobcats ball on Lockney's 35 yard line. The Bobcat possession carried over to the fourth quarter which ended on a fourth and long touchdown reception from back-up quarterback, Nephi Tipa, to Cary Keys for 21 yards. David Villareal's point after was good giving the Bobcats their first lead of the game 15-14 with 11:12 remaining in the contest.

Lockney drove the ball to the Bobcat's 35 yard line on their next possession, but turned it over on downs. Five plays later, Justin

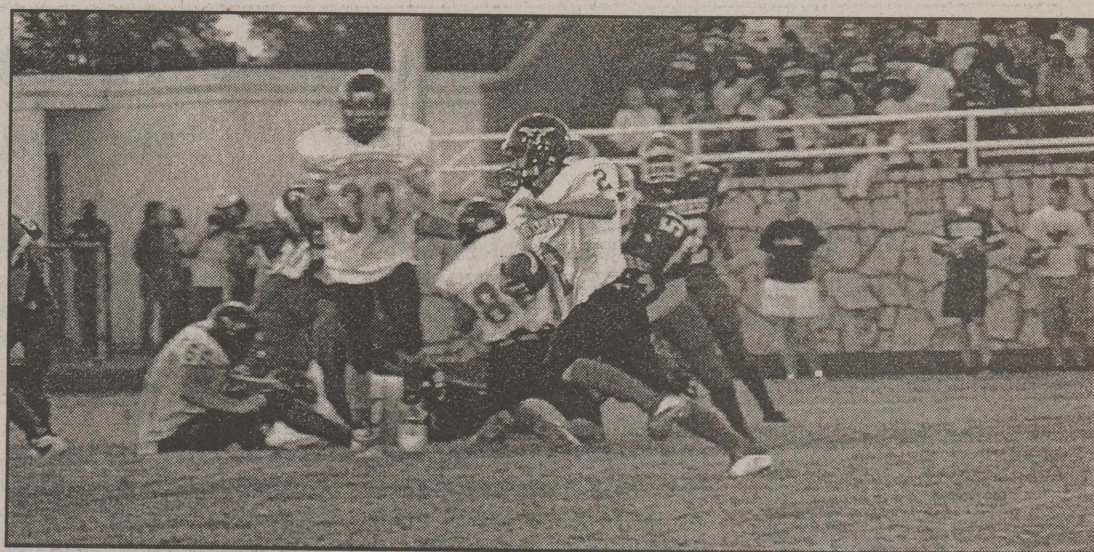
Willis scampered in the end zone for a 19-yard touchdown run. Villareal's point after was good increasing the Bobcats lead 22-14. As time was running out, Cary Keys intercepted a Longhorn pass and returned it for a 40-yard touchdown. Childress set up for the point after, but faked it and completed the two-point conversion making the score 30-14 with :24 seconds remaining in the game.

"The final score does not show how hard our boys played and actually how close the game actually was," Coach Joe Robertson exclaimed. "This was a great test for us tonight and I believe our boys handled the task with great effort. We now know where we stand as a team and we are going to get better and better each week. I am very proud to be these young men's coach."

Lockney (1-1) will host the Post Antelopes (0-1) in their home opener next Friday night. The Antelopes had a bye last week. Longhorn Time will kick-off at 7:30 p.m.

Final Statistics

	Lky	Childress
First Downs	17	16
Yds Rushing	262	251
Yds Passing	54	177
Ttl Yards	316	428
Pass C/A/I	4/10/2	9/15/0
Penalties/Yd	12/87	7/50
Fumbles/lost	2/0	4/1
Punts/Avg	2/29	0/0



TURNING THE CORNER-Longhorn Monte Lass is shown turning up-field last Friday night against the Childress Bobcats. Lockney fell short at the end of the game by 30-14. The Longhorns will host the Post Antelopes this Friday in Lockney at 7:30 P.M. Photo by Jana Miller

COLLEGE NEWS



JESSIE SALAS LEDESMA

Ledesma graduates from WTA&MU

Jessie Salas Ledesma graduated August 13, 2004 from West Texas A&M University with a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration.

Jessie is the son of Delia Salas of Lockney, stepson of Joe Johnson of Lockney and grandson of the late Mary Salas of Lockney. He graduated from LHS in 2000.

Lockney FFA News

This past Monday, August 30, the Lockney FFA had their first meeting of the '04-'05 school year. Hamburgers were served and anyone wishing to join the FFA was invited to attend. The officers for this new year are: President-Eddie Lee Fortenberry, Vice President-Trey Graves, Treasurer-Krista Rasco, Secretary-Ty Young, Reporter-Rebekah Thornton, Sen-

tinell-Brady Tannahill, and Student Advisor-Hagan Johnson. We will be selling our annual fund-raiser cookie dough again this year. The officer team and members will be attending the district FFA meeting in

Plainview on September 14. We hope to have a prosperous and exciting year in FFA. Thank you for all your support.

Lockney JV rolls over Childress 42-0

By Bubba Edwards

The Lockney Junior Varsity improved their record to 2-0 as four different Longhorns found the end zone giving Lockney them a 42-0 victory over the Childress Bobcats.

In the first quarter, Lockney's Adrian Luna outran all of the Bobcats for a 93-yard touchdown run. Wes Davis connected with Ky Reagan for the two-point conversion giving them an 8-0 lead. Also in the first quarter, Zacary Gonzales scampered into the end zone from 27 yards out. Ernie Vasquez ran in the two-point conversion increasing their lead 16-0.

Bryan Cooper started the second quarter for the Longhorns with a 50-yard touchdown run.

The point after was no good making the score 22-0. On Lockney's next possession, Ernie Vasquez scored one of his three touchdowns on 37 yards out. Reagan ran in the two-point conversion increasing the lead 28-0. Vasquez again found pay:dirt this time, on a 10 -yard run. Wes Davis ran in the two-point conversion making the score 36-0.

Vasquez finished all of the scoring in the fourth quarter on a 20-yard touchdown run. The point after was no good leaving the score at 42-0.

Wes Davis and Andrew Bernal each recorded an interception in the game.

The Lockney Junior Varsity will travel to Post next Thursday. Kick-off will be at 6:00 p.m.

Lockney 7th & 8th graders tie 14-14

By Bubba Edwards

Lockney seventh and eighth grade football squads kicked their season off last Thursday in Childress.

The seventh grade participated in a scrimmage type game where they came from 14 points down and tied the contest as time ran out. Brent Zambrano scored Lockney's first touchdown on a five-yard run. Angel Cortez connected with Jacob Luna for the two-point conversion. Konner Ellison plunged in from two yards out to tie the game. The two-point attempt failed leaving the score 14-14.

The eight grade started the game off well, but promising drives were halted due to penalties. Childress scored just before the half after leaving the Bobcats with good field position with a partially blocked punt. The Bobcats lead 8-0 at the half. The only other touchdown that was scored was in the third quarter when the Bobcats returned a punt for a 55-yard touchdown. The point after was no good giving the Bobcats a 14-0 victory.

Both Junior High teams will host the Post Antelopes on Thursday starting at 5:00 p.m.



Drugs aren't smart. Just don't start!

The City of Lockney encourages you to bring out all your old wood (NOT FURNITURE etc.) for the Homecoming Bonfire.

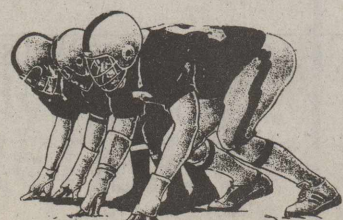
Wood can be taken out to the old Fair Building and stacked in the pile already established, on the north side of the building.


LOCKNEY SCHOOL MENU

September 13 - September 17

- Monday**
Breakfast - Banana Nutbread or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch - Pig in the Blanket or Tuna sandwich, tossed salad, corn, applesauce, milk
- Tuesday**
Breakfast - Cinnamon toast or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch - Cheeseburger pocket or corndog, tossed salad, pinto beans, fruited gelatin, cornbread, milk
- Wednesday**
Breakfast - Sausage biscuit or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch - Chicken spaghetti or ham & cheese, tossed salad, green beans, peaches, hot rolls, milk

- Thursday**
Breakfast - Scrambled eggs or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch - Pizza or burrito, tossed salad, pears, milk
- Friday**
Breakfast - Cinnamon roll or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch - Hamburger or PBJ sandwich, lettuce & tomatoes, potato rounds, orange, milk





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Sat. Sept. 11

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Citizens Against Higher Taxes

Game Time 7:30

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LOOKING FOR A "BIG'UN"-Tim Assiter of Assiter Punkin Ranch, 11 miles south of Floydada on Highway 62, is checking the Prizewinner big variety pumpkins. "These are our main crop and money makers," said Assiter. (see related story) Staff Photo

Beef spending up \$22 billion in 10 years

By Texas Beef Council

Consumers will spend \$68 billion on beef in 2004. If the beef industry were a private corporation, those revenues would rank it ninth, right behind IBM, in the Fortune 500 list. The 2004 figures represent a \$22 billion increase over 1995, which was three years before the beef checkoff program helped stabilize beef demand after 20 years of decline. The projections were made by Cattle-Fax, the beef industry economic analysis arm.

Checkoff keeps beef visible in foreign markets.

Approximately 40 countries remain closed to U.S. beef following a single case of BSE in Washington state last December. Nonetheless, foreign consumers continue to be reminded of U.S. beef's high quality and innate value through beef checkoff programs administered by the U.S. Meat Export Federation. The beef checkoff's presence in countries like Japan and South Korea will help the U.S. beef industry rapidly regain market share once these markets reopen.

VOTE

Sat. Sept. 11

Massie Activity Center

Citizens Against Higher Taxes

FLOYD COUNTY AG TOUR
Tuesday, September 21, 2004
 Tour sponsored by: Floyd County Ag. Committee & Texas Agricultural Extension Service
REGISTRATION: 8:00 - 8:25 a.m.
Floyd County Unity Center - Muncy

TOUR AGENDA

8:30 Load Busses & Leave for tour

9:00 - 9:45 TOUR STOP 1
Mathis Farm (North of Lockney)
 8 mi. N. on FM 2301 Field located east of Lutheran Church
Site Topics: Liberty Link Cotton System
Site speakers:
 Russ Perkins/Jane Deaver - Bayer Crop Science
 Randy Boman, TCE Cotton Specialist
 Jim Lester, TCE Entomologist

10:25 - 11:00 TOUR STOP 2
Delta & Pine Land Operation Plant (Aiken)
Site Topics: Cotton Seed Delinting & Processing
 Site speaker: Plant Manager, Byron Hannabas

11:25 - 12:10 TOUR STOP 3
Caprock Industry Feed Yard N. of Lockney
Site Topics: Complete Tour of Yard and Feed Mill
 Site Speaker: Plant Manager, Pat O'Connell

12:30 LUNCH & AWARDS: Unity Center
1:30 - 6:00 Antique Tractor Show, Unity Center
3 CEU'S PROVIDED

Cotton **News**
from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

4517 West loop 289 Lubbock, Texas 79414
 Telephone: 806-792-4904 FAX: 806-792-4906
www.plainscotton.org

By Shawn Wade

While prospects for a bountiful High Plains cotton crop are still excellent, producers need to begin seriously considering how the last phase of the 2004 growing season will be managed.

In fact, realizing the full potential of the outstanding crop that is in the field will require everyone in the marketing chain to shake a few cobwebs loose.

With the Adjusted World Price (AWP) of cotton still tracking below the 52-cent national average loan rate for cotton, payment limitations on the amount of Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) and Marketing Loan Gains (MLG) a producer can receive become important factors to consider.

The June 2004 reemergence of an upland cotton LDP, combined with prospects for an exceptional crop, means producers will need to carefully monitor their use of LDPs to prevent payment limit complications.

The amount of LDP and MLG benefits received by a producer are applied against that producer's \$75,000 per person payment limitation for loan benefits.

With an LDP payment rate of 10 cents per pound, and an average bale weight of 500 pounds, reaching the \$75,000 payment limit only takes 1,500 bales. If the LDP rate goes to 20 cents per pound, that threshold drops to 750 bales, well within the realm of possibility for many producers in 2004.

LDP and MLG benefits are calculated as the difference between the Upland cotton base loan rate (52 cents per pound) and the Adjusted World Price of cotton when the AWP is below 52 cents.

LDP and MLG are two versions of the same benefit with the only difference being when the producer decides to take action.

LDP benefits are provided to the producer in exchange for the producer's agreement to forego placing the commodity in the CCC loan.

Producers receive a Marketing Loan Gain after they have placed their cotton in the CCC loan. MLGs are automatically accrued when a loan is repaid at a rate less than the national average loan rate upon which the loan was originally based. This situation only occurs when the Adjusted World Price (AWP) falls below the national average loan rate for cotton.

In order to be eligible for LDP/MLG benefits, producers must fulfill the requirements for participating in the Commodity Credit Corporation marketing loan program and also meet the requirements for maintaining "beneficial interest" in the crop.

To be eligible for a marketing assistance loan, producers must comply with applicable conservation and wetland requirements, report upland cotton planted acreage, comply with crop insurance require-

ments and maintain "beneficial interest" in the cotton from harvest throughout the term of the loan.

"Beneficial Interest" is maintained as long as the producer maintains ALL of the following: Control of the Commodity; Risk of Loss; and Title of the Commodity.

For cotton "Beneficial Interest" is considered lost, and the crop ineligible for LDP or MLG benefits, when any one of the following events occurs:

- * The producer receives payment (without option to purchase)
- * Delivery of warehouse receipts to the buyer or agent
- * FOB warehouse when the commodity is loaded for shipment from the warehouse to the buyer

- * Contract signing date, when the contract restricts the producer from obtaining CCC loans or LDPs
- * Entry of the commodity into a warehouse when a contract casualty clause provides that after commencement of insured warehouse coverage the insurance settlement goes to the buyer

- * When the commodity is redeemed from Commodity Credit Corporation loan

Producers should be careful to note that while most "option to purchase" contracts offered have sufficient language to keep "beneficial interest" with the producer, any payment made to the producer under a sales contract causes beneficial interest to be lost, even if the contract contains "option to purchase" language. Producers who are unsure of the language in an "option to purchase" contract can have that language reviewed by their county FSA office.

In order to obtain LDP benefits on cotton for which "beneficial interest" will be lost soon after harvest or ginning, producers are allowed to request an LDP prior to harvest using FSA form CCC-709. The LDP rate for cotton covered by the request will be the rate in effect the date the cotton is ginned.

LDP requests filed on cotton, using FSA form CCC-Cotton AA, after ginning will have an LDP payment rate based on the date of the request.

Producers can also lock-in an LDP rate on cotton stored in a module, before it is ginned, by using the same form CCC-Cotton AA. The producer retains beneficial interest in the com-

modity, but will receive an LDP based on the lock-in date.

With prospects for the crop still good, producers who have not worried about reaching their limit on LDP/MLG benefits in the past are gearing up to market all of the cotton they produce and still receive the full protection of the loan program.

The answer for many will be using the CCC loan and generic certificates. Producers close to exceeding their limit on LDPs can put their cotton in the loan, sell it and then redeem the cotton themselves or through their designated agent using a generic commodity certificate.

When cotton is redeemed using generic certificates, the MLG that would have accrued does not count against a producer's LDP/MLG payment limit and helps provide full CCC loan protection on every pound of cotton produced.

For producers that market their cotton through a marketing pool there is little to worry about other than making sure the pool has appropriate procedures in place to prevent payment limit complications for the grower.

Growers that market cotton on their own, or who have signed "option to purchase" contracts, should make sure they apply for LDP benefits before they lose beneficial interest, keep track of how much LDP benefit they accrue and be prepared to switch their marketing plans to include the CCC loan and generic certificates to prevent missing out on benefits they are otherwise entitled to receive.

Growers that put their cotton in the CCC loan and then sell at a later date have another ace in the pocket thanks to the Farm Service Agencies release of a new, fully automated Centralize Cotton Redemption (CCR) System.

The new CCR system allows merchants who purchase upland cotton pledged as collateral from multiple loans in multiple counties to redeem the bales they purchase in a single on-line transaction. The primary benefit for merchants who register to use the system is it makes loan redemption process easier and more convenient.

Merchants are still required to obtain a valid producer signature on form CCC-605 designating them as the producers agent and authorizing them to redeem the loan using the CCR.

The primary benefit for producers is that whenever the AWP is below the national average loan rate, the loan repayment is considered to be a commodity certificate exchange and no MLG is charged against the producer's payment limitation.

Floyd County

Farm News

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Can We Afford This Bond Election?

During the past few weeks I have paid close attention to the discussion concerning the upcoming bond election. In my opinion, our current school board is represented by well respected business oriented men and women who have the very best interests in mind as they employ policies that direct our school administrators. I also have a growing respect for the new leadership of our school administration. Together they have taken a courageous step to recognize and address long standing problems with our school district.

The signature of good business is to find a way to cut expenses and streamline overall operating costs. The current school board and administration have found a way to cut operating costs by a conservative figure of \$420,000.00 per year. Cutting costs by operating 2 buildings rather than 4 would allow the administration to more adequately fund education programs and compete for and retain high quality teachers through higher salary packages. Based on those savings, it is a distinct possibility taxes could be lowered in the near future.

We have a window of opportunity that has only this election date to be implemented. Passing this bond election will allow us to petition the State for 60% of the cost. If this measure fails to pass, the next date by which we could apply for State funding is the year 2007. By that time the State funding laws will most likely have been rewritten to our disadvantage (i.e. no 60% help - probably no help at all). Construction costs will rise. Interest rates will increase. Simply put, if we do not VOTE FOR this measure between now and September 11 we will have lost a wonderful chance of progress for our community.

After reviewing the documentation and expert opinions given by the architects and school auditors at the Massie Activity Center last Monday night, I am not convinced that the fire hazard in the two oldest buildings can be fixed by simply installing fire escapes to the exterior walls. Expert testimony was given from an unbiased, outside source as to the condition of the buildings. Given the amount of time our children spend in the schools do we really want to question their recommendations on how to make our school safer? Those who suggest that their warnings are not convincing either have not personally witnessed the harsh conditions of the schools in question, or they do not currently have children in schools.

The hypothetical situation of a State official conducting an inspection and issuing an order to renovate our schools is a very REAL and IMMINENT scenario. If that order comes in the absence of our bond election passing, this community will be forced to pay the full \$14.5 million in renovation 100% out of our own pocket. We cannot afford that. In such a scenario, we were told by a school board member that the two campuses in question, Andrews Ward and the Junior High would be closed. School hours would be increased and classrooms would be rotated and shared on the two remaining campuses. Schedules would be implemented operating well into the evening hours in order to compensate for severe lack of space.

It is my opinion that families would not stand for that. At first a trickle of families that could afford it immediately, would transfer to our surrounding communities' school districts. After a year or two, those that could afford it would move away. It would devastate our school's ability to provide even the minimum standard of education. With operating hours well into the evening our athletic programs would cease to compete at the level we all expect. Within a year, the teachers and coaches that are not tied to the local agriculture through ownership or marriage would leave. Our schools although still open will have failed. Think of the impact a failed school district will have on your property value.

The backbone of any small rural community consists largely from the school district. It provides a significant portion of the employment and contributes to the overall impression of a community based on competition through academic and athletic performance. So the question isn't "Can we afford to vote for the Bond Election?" The question is "Can we afford NOT to vote for the Bond Election?" (The cost of this ad would pay for my school tax increase Sept.-Dec.)

Sincerely, Brian Teeple



2004 HESPERIAN-BEACON

FOOTBALL CONTEST

Winners will be announced in next week's issue of the Hesperian-Beacon.

1st Place: \$25 2nd Place: \$15 3rd Place \$10

SUPPORT OUR ATHLETES!

KFLP Radio 106.1 FM 1. Pampa 2. Amarillo	Stapp Paint & Body Shop 3. Big Spring 4. Hereford	Providence Farm Supply & Grain 5. Dumas 6. Borger	Lighthouse Electric Coop 7. Brownfield 8. Lamesa	Muncy Elevator 9. Crane 10. Colorado City
Kirk & Sons 11. Vega 12. Boise City	Clark Pharmacy 13. Monahans 14. Andrews	First National Bank of Floydada Member FDIC 15. Dimmitt 16. Abernathy	City Auto Inc. 17. Stanton 18. Seagraves	Windmark Insurance (Clar Schacht) 19. Levelland 20. Seminole
Quality Body Shop 21. Lorenzo 22. Clarendon	Ray Lee Equipment 23. Anson 24. Quanah	Oden Chevrolet-Olds 25. Greenwood 26. Sweetwater	Schacht Flowers, Jewelry and Gifts 27. Wyoming 28. Texas A&M	
Floydada Power and Light 29. Syracuse 30. Buffalo	Davis Lumber 31. Texas 32. Arkansas	Lowe's Pay-n-Save Floydada 33. Ohio 34. Pittsburgh	D&J Gin, Inc. 35. Georgia Tech 36. Clemson	
Lockney Cooperatives 37. Utah 38. Arizona	Lowe's Pay-n-Save Lockney 39. LSU 40. Arkansas State	Payne Family Pharmacy 41. BYE 42. Stanford	Cornelius Conoco Service 43. Minnesota 44. Illinois State	Triple T Restaurant 45. Saints 46. Seahawks
City Bank Member FDIC 47. Cowboys 48. Vikings	Hammond Sheet Metal 49. Raiders 50. Steelers	Blanco Offset Printing 51. 49'ers 52. Falcons	Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon 53. Eagles 54. Giants	DeBruce Ag Services 55. Chiefs 56. Broncos

CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE

Official Entry Form Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon Football Contest

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56

Tie Breakers

circle winner and write total combined score in football

Lockney vs Post

Texas Tech vs New Mexico

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Contest Rules

Any subscriber or purchaser age 7 or older is eligible to enter this contest. Only one entry per week per person.

To play, circle the number of the teams you believe will win on the official entry form. To indicate a tie, circle the numbers of both teams playing the game. Also, write a guess of the combined total points to be scored by the two teams listed in each of the tie-breaker games.

Only entries on official entry forms brought to a Hesperian-Beacon office in Floydada or Lockney no later than 5 p.m. on Friday will be accepted. Photocopies and mail entries will not be accepted.

Three cash prizes are awarded each week. In the event of ties (the same number of correct games and equal scores on the tie breakers), prizes will be combined and shared equally by those tied. The tie-breaker scores will be used only to break a tie on the number of games correct.

Print your name and address plainly on the official entry form and double check your choices before clipping out the entry form and depositing it at a Hesperian-Beacon office before 5 p.m. on Friday.

Entries are limited to one per person per week. Weekly winners are limited to one per household.