

Sherman County Museum 7 / 06
 Box 1248
 Stratford, TX 79084

The Stratford Star

75 cents

Published for over 100 years in Stratford, Sherman County, Texas 79084

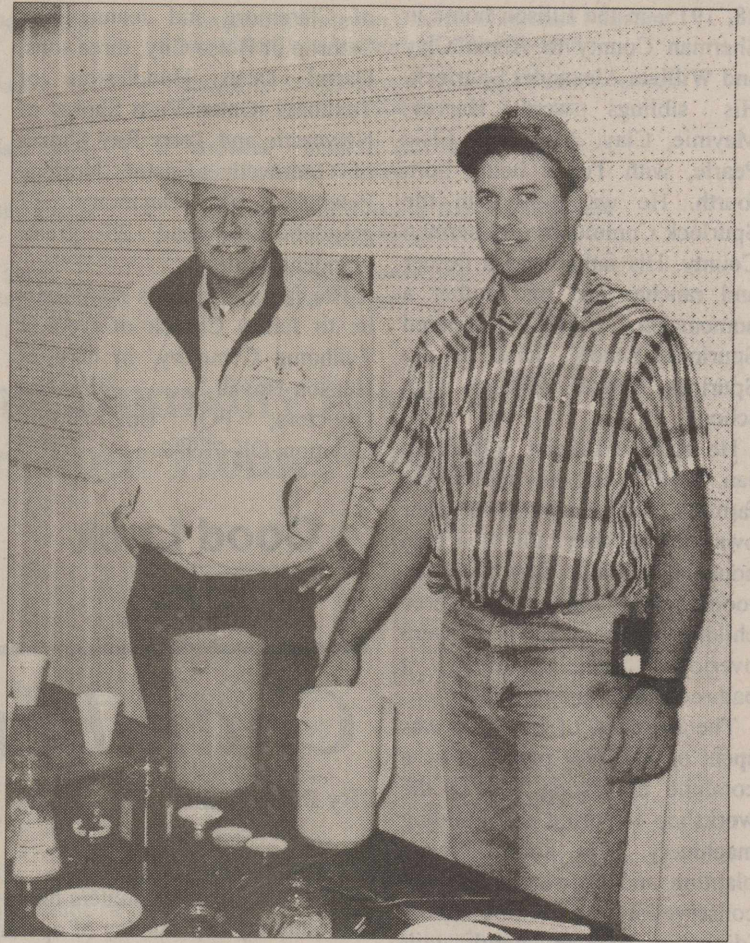
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Number 50, December 15, 2005



2005 STRATFORD ELKS STATE BOUND!!

The Stratford Elks captured the Semi-Final win 21-17 over Windthorst Trojans to advance to the Class 1A State Championship game to be held in Abilene at Shotwell Stadium at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 17, 2005. CONGRATULATIONS ELKS - WIN STATE!



Shown above are Stratford Lions club Members Walter Lasley and Dean Hauser helping out at the Lions Club Pheasant Hunters Breakfast held on Saturday, December 3, 2005. Reports of one of the biggest crowd they have ever had. Shown at left are some of the hunters that came out to eat before they started their morning of Pheasant Hunting. Welcome to all hunters. Glad to have you in our County.

Tickets for the Stratford Elks vs. Big Sandy Game are on sale now at the Stratford High School Superintendents office See Dinah Horsford. All Tickets are \$8.00 Each

Pep Rally will be held on Friday, Dec. 16 at 12:30 p.m. Go ELKS

Saturday's game will be broadcast on XITV Channel 80 and on Channel 79 also on 96.3 FM and on the internet at KXIT.com

Lunch and Learn Meeting Thursday
 By Susie Spurlock

Lunch and Learn TEEA will meet Thursday, December 15 at 12 noon in the home of Susie Spurlock. The program will be "Awe, Nuts!" which will focus on the variety of nuts available in the marketplace and their nutritional value. All members are invited and guests are welcome also.

Lunch will be served at a cost of \$5.00 per person. Interested participants are asked to call the Extension Office at 366-2122 by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 14 so that adequate preparations can be made.

Educational programs conducted by the Sherman County Office of Texas Cooperative Extension are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

Prayer & Praise Service Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m. First United Methodist Church

Younger Texans meeting

The Younger Texans meeting scheduled for December 12, 2005 has been changed to December 18, 2005. The meeting will be from 3-5 p.m. Dress for a hay ride.

Project Christmas Card

Project Christmas Card is a joint project of the GFWC/Prospectus Study Club and the Stratford Star are asking the residents of Sherman County for their continued support of the Sherman County Public Library at Christmas time. How does the project work? Instead of sending Christmas cards locally to your friends and neighbors in the Stratford area, you are asked to make a donation to the library. Figure up how much it costs for the cards, stamps and your time, add a little extra and bring your donation to the Sherman County Public Library or the First State Bank of Stratford, Your name will be placed on a foil page Christmas card printed in the Christmas edition of The Stratford Star wishing everyone "Merry Christmas."

Previous years' donations have purchased two replacement public access computers, large print books, and audio books. Our library is one of the best of its size in this area, if not the state, so let's help continue to keep it that way. The deadline for donations is twelve o'clock noon on Monday, December 19th.



Deadline for Santa Claus letters is Friday December, 16, 2005, at 12 noon. Please leave at Allen-Tarver Insurance, Fax them to 366-5885 or E-Mail stardm@xit.net or leave in our mail boxes outside our houses. Thank you! Letters will appear in the Christmas Edition, December 22, 2005.

Sherman County Tax Office To Be Closed On Friday

The Sherman County Tax Office, located in the Courthouse, will be closed on Friday, December 16, 2005. We will be in Odessa Training on the new parks and wildlife software for boat and motor registration renewals. We will be back in the office on Monday, December 19th, 2005.

Medicare Part D Notice from Elk Pharmacy...

It has come to our attention as well as other pharmacies in the area that in checking on-line, Elk Pharmacy as well as other pharmacies are listed as being enrolled in various Medicare Part D Prescription Programs that the pharmacies have not contracted with. This is not to say that we absolutely cannot take some of these plans, but the terms of certain plans may prohibit us from taking them.

We encourage everyone who plans to enroll in a Medicare Part D Program to contact their pharmacy to make sure they actually contracted with the program you are planning to enroll in. At this particular time, there is a lot of misinformation out there, and the information some have received on-line and from the insurance companies themselves is incorrect or misleading. Some entities have listed us as participating in their plans without our authorization. At the present time, **ELK PHARMACY enrolled in only ONE Medicare Part D Prescription Program. Community Care RX.** A representative from Community Care RX has been in Elk Pharmacy over the past few weeks on various days, and plans to be in the store again on Friday, December 16th for any questions you may have about the Medicare Part D Program.

Again....Please check with your pharmacy to make sure they are participating in the program you plan to enroll in. If they are not able to participate in the plan you are choosing, you may have to mail order your prescriptions, or be forced to look for a pharmacy that will accept your Medicare Part D Plan.

NEW GROCERY STORE COMES TO TOWN



Bret Moore

Seen any new faces around? Moore's Food Pride is the new grocery store in town. With excitement in his voice, owner Bret Moore talks about his acquisition of the only grocery store in Stratford.

"I'm excited about growing the business in Stratford," Moore said. He has plans to provide more competitive pricing of his products and also to improve on the general merchandise, especially in the beauty and health care departments.

But when you think of a grocery store, most people think of the food.

"Anyone can get canned goods at any store," said Moore, "I believe the success of a grocery store lies in the meat and produce departments and providing for the customers' needs."

You can also expect great customer service from the store and its employees, because great service is his "main goal and concern," said Moore.

"I grew up in the business," said Moore, "sacking groceries since I was a little kid." Grocery stores have always been a part of Moore's life. His grandfather, father and uncle started the family business in 1950 in Chillicothe, Texas, although, Moore claims his hometown to be Friona where he grew up. There he worked in his father's grocery stores in Friona, Dimmitt and another in Olton.

After high school, he attended Lubbock Christian University in Lubbock and returned to work in the grocery stores. In 1981, he began working at Moore's Supermarket in Hereford, managing the meat and produce departments.

In 1985, Moore and his brother bought a grocery store in Boise City, Oklahoma and in 1989 bought another in Elkhart, Kansas. Along the way, they acquired two more stores, one in Meade, Kansas and another in Montezuma, Kansas.

Although he and his family, wife Lisa and three daughters, Brittany, 16, Lindy, 13 and Katy 10, will remain in Boise City, that won't keep them from hanging their hats in Stratford as frequently as possible.

"I plan to be as involved in the community as I can be," said Moore, "that's a part of small communities that I love, and Happy State Bank is a part of this great community too." Happy State Bank has established a relationship with Moore's Food Pride and know the store will succeed.

"I feel the grocery store is one of the most important businesses in a community," said Doak Crabtree, President of the Happy State Bank Stratford office. "We are excited to welcome Moore's Food Pride to Stratford and I encourage the whole community to stop by and visit with Bret."

Obits

Travis Fedric Spurlock

Travis Fedric Spurlock, 89, died Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2005 in Amarillo.

Memorial services were held at 2 p.m. Friday in First United Methodist Church in Stratford with the Rev. Mark Metzger, pastor of Sweetwater United Methodist Church, and the Rev. Gene Weintette, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Stratford officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery in Stratford.

Mr. Spurlock was born Dec. 28, 1915, in the Ellison home in Sherman County to Annie Clay and William Alexander Spurlock. His siblings were Harvey, Maymie, Clay, Alvin and Elsie Pearle, with Travis being born fourth. He was raised in the Spurlock Community in Sherman County. His father was a farmer and rancher and his mother a homemaker. He attended Spurlock School, held in the Spurlock Chapel, through high school.

He married Lorene Folsom on Jan. 3, 1937, and they settled into farming and ranching on their own. In 1947 they built their own house, a half mile from the four-room home where their three children were born. They were overjoyed with electricity, a bathroom and running water.

The majority of his time was spent on a tractor plowing, on a combine harvesting and in the workshop repairing and building machinery. His hobbies were planting and growing trees, soil conservation and dirt work (diversion terraces, ponds, tail-water pits, etc.) In his later years, he enjoyed woodworking — building bird feeders, birdhouses, highly finished wood boxes and welding ornamental pieces. He enjoyed collecting pocket knives and polishing rocks.

He served on the Sherman County Farm Bureau Board. He also served on the Sherman County School Board for more than 20 years. He received the Farm Bureau Soil Conservation Award. He was the last living charter member of the Sunray Co-op.

He attended the Methodist Spurlock Chapel. When the Chapel closed, he transferred his membership to First United Methodist Church of Stratford.

Survivors include his wife, Lorene; two daughters, Jean Spurlock of Ruidoso, N.M., and Elaine Jordan and husband, Max, of Amarillo; a son, James Spurlock and wife, Linda, of Stratford; a brother, Neal Spurlock of Amarillo; two grandchildren, Brent Spurlock and wife, Laurie, and Mary Beth Tallant and husband, Paul; four great-grandchildren, Mary Ann and Russell Spurlock and Makenna and Reid Tallant; four step grandsons, Mike, Clay, Kent and Jack Jordan; many nephews, nieces and a host of friends.

The family suggests memorials be to first United Methodist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 1289, Stratford, TX, P.O. Box 48, Stratford, TX 79084

BERNICE VADEN HUDDLESTON SHORES

TEXHOMA, OK. — Bernice Vaden Huddleston Shores, 86, died Monday, Dec. 5, 2005, in Claremore, Okla.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in James Church of God, 17 miles north of Texhoma on Highway 95, with the Rev. Donnie Callaway officiating. Burial will follow in Texhoma Cemetery by Henson-Novak Funeral Home of Guymon.

Bernice Norris was born Dec. 4, 1919, the oldest daughter of Vernon and Beryl Ford Norris, who also homesteaded in the James Community, Texas County. She married John Carl Huddleston in 1939; she married Harold LaVern Shores in 1951.

Survivors include two daughters, Linda Lou McDaniel of Claremore and Jeanne Kay Lathrop of Boise City; three sons, Darrel Dean Huddleston of Texhoma, Galen Vern Shores of Newcastle and Terry Ray Shores of Goodwell; a sister, Norlene Peterson of Guymon; 17 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials be to James Church of God or Texhoma Cemetery, in care of Henson-Novak Funeral Directors, P.O. Box 1306, Guymon, OK 73942.



Honor Society Volunteers serving The President's Dinner at The Imagination Station November 12, 2005. Conner Vincent, Case Crabtree and Brady Bell.

Editors Note: correction- In last weeks edition-The little girl sitting on Santa Claus lap was Daria Mayeux. We apologize for the mistake.



Good Luck Elks

Chamber News

By Patty Tims

Pheasant Hunt

Wow, the Chamber hunters had a great time. Each hunter limited out on Saturday and Sunday of opening weekend. There were 12 hunters for the Chamber hunt, so if my calculations are correct, that means 48 birds left Sherman County and headed for other parts of Texas. Some of these birds will be mounted and others will adorn the tables of these great hunters. Even though these hunters have gone home, there are more to come. The Chamber hunt will continue through December 18. So, if there are anymore willing hunters out there, give me a call and I will set you up with a hunt, 806-366-2260.

Lion's Club Breakfast

What a great breakfast. Since I have been working for the chamber, I have not seen that many hunters at the breakfast. Dean Hauser said they served 130 hunters. I think word got out about all the pheasant we have this year. Not to mention the good food served by the Lion's Club members. Great job everyone. The winner of the shot gun this year was Jimmy Chesher.

The Worlds Largest Stocking

If you have been in West Texas Gas, you have had the opportunity to see this giant stocking. Dick Bachman, Jolie Asher, and the chamber office has tickets available for the chance to win this stocking. Please go by WT Gas and take a look.

Christmas Lighting Contest

Don't forget the lighting contest will be on December 14, 2005, starting at dusk. Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place winners.

Remember to shop locally and support your local businesses.

Merry Christmas from
Allen-Tarver Agency

+

The Stratford Star

Stop by 205 N. Main

Thursday, Dec. 15th

8:30 to 4:30

For cookies and cider &
pick up your 2006 calendars



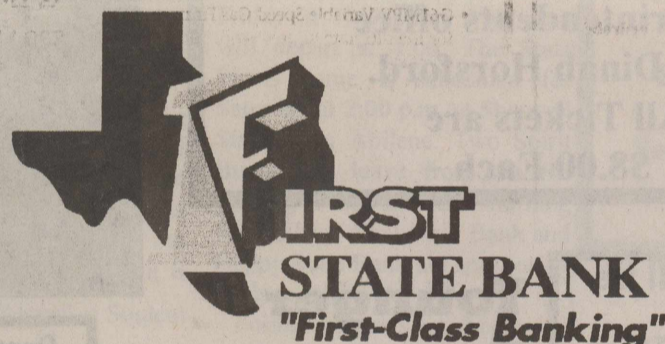
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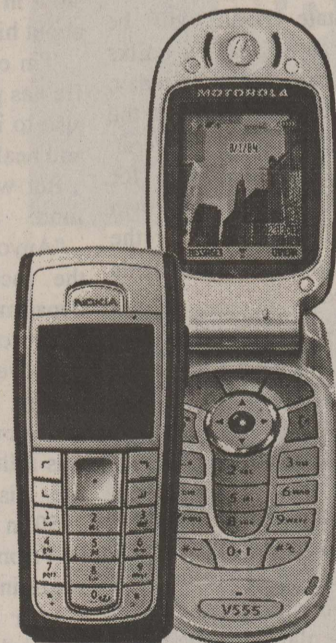
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The Stratford Star

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\$20.00 per (9 months)
College Rate

The Stratford Star
Box 8
1-806-366-5885
Fax-1-806-366-5885

Kerrick News

By Marylou McDaniel

Kerrick had their Christmas program Monday night. Hope word got around or the crowd might be small.

Barbara and Leroy Hawkins have been ill with pneumonia and the family has been busy seeing about them. Peggy visited with Mabel Rogers in Amarillo recently.

Donna Gillenwaters had surgery to remove spurs on her back Tuesday morning.

Secret Pal Party was Thursday at the Chicken House. Jo June McDaniel was hostess. Enjoying the dinner and the revealing of names were Betty Fry, Jeannie Bennett, Barbara Schoonover, Marihoward Engelbrecht, Donna Gillenwaters, Pat Borcn & Marylou McDaniel.

Kathy Switzer was a guest of Donna.

Terry & Barbara Schoonover visited with his grandmother Lucille at Liberal Saturday.

Don't say "water" to me! Had a waterfall to the basement. Still trying to dry out! Heard there were several who had water problems last week.

IT'S TIME FOR SANTA'S ANNUAL DEEP FRIED TURKEY & BRISKET COOKING

(Sponsored by Sherman County Development)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

We will begin at 8 a.m. and keep cooking until we're done.

IF YOU'VE NEVER HAD A DEEP FRIED TURKEY AND ALWAYS WANTED ONE OR IF YOU'D RATHER HAVE BRISKET HERE'S YOUR CHANCE AND WE'LL COOK IT FOR YOU! BEST OF ALL THERE'S NO CHARGE!!!

- 1 All turkeys must be thawed and ready to cook (be sure to remove everything that's inside the bird!)
- 2 Be sure and provide a container with your name so we can get the right turkey or brisket to the right person!
- 3 All briskets must be thawed and ready to cook! Please, no seasonings, we will provide that!
- 4 If you are donating a turkey or brisket, make sure we know where it needs to be delivered!

WE WILL BE COOKING AT WESLEY SPURLOCK'S BARN, LOCATED SOUTH OF THE EMT BUILDING.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OR DONATE A TURKEY OR BRISKET, CALL ONE OF THE FOLKS LISTED BELOW:

Billy Elliott 366-5702 Larry Parsons 366-2558 Gregg Hudson 366-5398 Lynn Allen 753-7979

Merry Christmas!!!



Grove Honored with Baby Shower Sunday

Kelli Grove was honored with a baby shower on Sunday, December 11, 2005 at the home of Nancy Kimball. Shown above left to right are Klaire Walden, Keri Walden, Korinne Naylor, Kaci McBryde, Kenlee McBryde, Jamie Wight, Kelli Groves, Barbie Wight, Jo Rita Groves and Jo Angela Lamb

GOOD LUCK ELKS

MITCHELL THEATRES
NORTHRIDGE CINEMA 3

Guyton, Okla

Movies Beginning Dec. 16

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King Kong
PG-13 Naomi Watts Jack Black

ON TWO SCREENS
Chronicles of Narnia
PG The Lion, Witch & Wardrobe

Yours, Mine & Ours
PG Dennis Quaid Rene Russo

Just Friends
PG 13 Ryan Reynolds

Harry Potter/Goblet of Fire
PG 13 Daniel Radcliffe

Walk The Line
PG 13 Joaquin Phoenix

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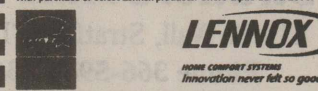
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Stratford Grain Company

will be closed on

Monday, Dec. 26, 2005

&

Monday, Jan. 2, 2006

First Assembly of God

Kevin Anderson, Pastor

921 Fulton

Sunday School 9:45 am

Morning Worship 10:45 am

Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm

First Christian

Rev. Walter Reed

5th & Main

Sunday School 9:45 am (nursery)

Morning Worship 10:45 am (nursery)

No Sunday Evening Worship Service

Wed. : Youth Choir 3:45 pm, Chi Rho 5 p.m.,

CYF 6 p.m., Bell Choir 6:50 p.m., Adult Choir 8 p.m.

First United Methodist

Rev. Gene Weinette

520 N. Main

Sunday School 9:20 am

Morning Worship 10:30 am

Junior High UMY 5:00 pm

Senior High UMY 8:00 pm

St. Joseph Catholic

Rev. Dr. Johnson, Reiki Master

6th & Pearl

Rectory - 366 - 5687

Sunday morning: 8:00a.m. (English), 12 noon. (Spanish)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass. or by appt.

Christian Formation Classes: K-6th Grade, Wed. afternoon

Jr. & Sr. High, Wed. - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

Ernie Maiwald

N. 3rd & Chestnut

Sunday School 9:30 am

Morning Worship 10:30 am

Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

Calvary Baptist

James Washburn

302 S. Main - 806-396-5335 lv. message

Morning Worship - 11 a.m.

Evening Service 6 p.m.

Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist

396-5554

702 N. 3rd

Sunday School - 9:30

Worship Service - 10:30

Adult Choir Practice - 6:30

Wed.—Children—6:00, youth—7:00

La Mision Bautista

Mision Bautista

401 S. Wall 396-5376

Domingo-(Sunday)

Estuela Dominical 9:45 am

Miercoles (Wednesday)

Servicio De Adoracion 11:00 am

& Servicio De Oration 6:00 pm

Servicio De Adoracion 6:00 pm

Susninos Durante El Servicio.

Estudio Biblico

Se Cuidamos

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

EXACT THE LAMB

When I was a youngster, I had a recurring dream. In the dream I was in Waterworks Park in Detroit, Michigan near the Detroit River. My grandparents lived nearby. There were lots of open grassy places, lots of trees and a very nice swimming pool. In my dream I was always in this park. A snake would chase me. Don't ask me how a snake could run because I don't know. All I know is this big snake would chase me through the park. I would run and climb up a tree. Just as the snake was about to grab me by the hand, as I got up the tree, bang, I'd wake up. It was the same every time. Now here is the interesting thing. I became a Christian early in my adult life, after I graduated from college. I realized Christ came into the world to die on the cross to pay for my sins. In reading the Bible, I then learned something quite startling about what God had done for those who trust in the saving work of Christ. Listen, "He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son (Colossians 1:13). Christ rescued me from the clutches of the devil. I never ever had that dream again after I became a Christian. Jesus Christ is the Savior. Jesus Christ is in control of all of life and all of history. Jesus Christ is worthy of our worship and adoration.

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Templo Hispano Eben-Ezer

Pastor Roberto Frescas

205 N. Poplar - Hwy 287

Escuela Dominical 10 a.m.

Servicio De Adoracion 5 p.m.

Meir Co Les Serv De Ador 5 p.m.

Kerrick Community Church

Pastor Roy Harris

Community Building

Sunday Morning - 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening-6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

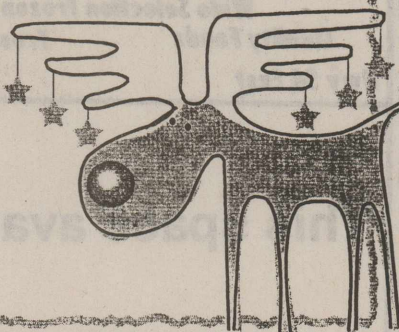
Santa is coming to Stratford's First State Bank

Wednesday, Dec. 21

1:00 - 4:30

FREE pictures & refreshments

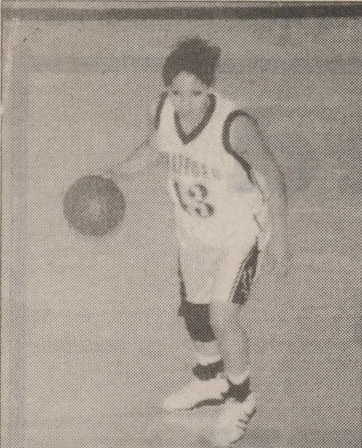
Santa finds us every year, we hope that you will too!



Basketball



Lady Elks on defense against Tulia from left, Yadira Ortega, Allison Baskin and Candie Bell.



Lady Elk Crystal Peregrino

LADY ELKS START SEASON WITH 12-2 RECORD

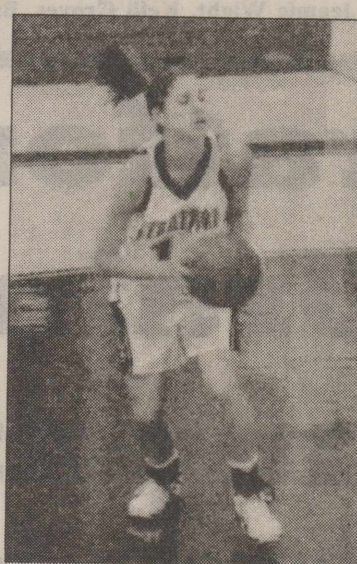
After winning the Highland Park Tournament, the Lady Elks have continued winning despite several obstacles that have come their way. The Lady Elks have faced several injuries and some illness to face many teams short handed. Despite all of these things, the Lady Elks took second in the Fritch Tournament. They defeated West Texas High with a score of 50-31 to send them to the winner's bracket. In the semi-final round they defeated River Road with a score of 51-19. They dropped their second loss of the year to a very strong Panhandle team in the Championship game of the tournament with a heartbreaking score of 38-39. The Lady Elks did all of this without their leading scorer and rebounder Shadlee Audrain. Several young ladies stepped up in these games to lead the Lady Elks in a balanced attack. Katelyn Reed led the scoring in the tournament with 30 points, Candie Bell had 26 for the tournament, and Merilee McDaniel add 23 more during the tournament.

Last week the Lady Elks traveled to Charming on Tuesday night. They defeated Channing with a score of 41-34. Leading the Lady Elks in scoring was Katelyn Reed with 10 points and Candie Bell and Merilee McDaniel both with 8 points. The Lady Elks then faced the Tulia Lady Hornets on Friday night. The Lady Elks played an outstanding first half holding the Lady Hornets to 0 points in the

first quarter and only 10 points in the first half. Yadira Ortega and Candie Bell showed great leadership for the Lady Elks with two outstanding performances. Yadira had 13 points, 4 steals, and handled the pressure from the Lady Hornets with no turnovers. Candie Bell scored 8 points and pulled down 10 defensive rebounds while Merilee McDaniel and Katelyn Reed added 8 more points each. Crystal Peregrino had 3 defensive assists and added 4 more points. The Lady Elks defeated Tulia for the second time this year with a score of 41-33 to bring their record to 12-2. The Lady Elks will play Texhoma at 4:00 and 5:30 on Friday night and will go into the holidays playing Perryton in Stratford on December 19th.

Good Luck Stratford Elks

Beat Big Sandy



Lady Elk Cassi Garza

The 7th grade Elks beat Sunray 43-17 on December 5, 2005. Kyle Horsford led the Elks with 17 points followed by Michael Ortega with 9 points and Tyler Wright with 8 points.

The 8th grade Elks beat Sunray on Dec. 5th 25-17. Braden Hamilton was high point with 10 points followed by Blu Pruitt and Elias Terrazas with 4 points each.

The J.V. Lady Elks beat Canadian in the Spearman Tournament on December 8th. Rhia Everett was high point with 10 points followed by April Peregrino with 9 points.

SHERMAN COUNTY YOUTH ADVANCE TO STATE

By Susie Spurlock

The Sherman County 4-H Beef Quiz Bowl team advanced to state competition after capturing first place in the contest held during the Panhandle District 4-H Roundup in early November. Team members are Pete Dahl, Jacob Edmond, and Nathan White. The state contest will be held at Texas 4-H Roundup in June on the campus of Texas A&M University.

Courteney Sells placed second in the Senior Share the Fun Vocal contest held that day.

Congratulations to these youth on a great job.

Auto Care

(NU) - The "big three" warning lights on your car's dashboard, according to AAA Automotive, are those that monitor engine oil pressure, engine coolant temperature and the vehicle charging system. AAA Automotive provides the following guidelines on what to do if these lights come on: For the oil pressure warning light, immediately have your vehicle towed to a repair facility; for the coolant temperature warning light and if steam or liquid coolant comes from under the hood, call for assistance; for the charging system warning light, turn off unnecessary electrical accessories and drive to the nearest repair facility. To locate an auto repair facility, visit www.aaa.com.



4-H Food Show Representatives

Representing Sherman County at the Panhandle District 4-H Food Show held December 3 were Mary Ann Spurlock, Mazie Vincent, Garrett Ely and Jennie Spurlock.

DISTRICT 4-H FOOD SHOW RESULTS

By Susie Spurlock

One hundred fifty 4-H'ers from the top 21 counties in Texas gathered at Highland Park High School in Amarillo for the Panhandle District 4-H Food Show December 3, 2005. Each participant earned the privilege of competing at the district level by placing first in county food show.

Youth prepared a dish, served it to a panel of adult judges, and answered questions in an interview format. 4-H'ers were asked about preparation skills needed to make their dish, food safety concerns involving the preparation and storage of their dish, the key nutrients in the product as well as their

CASA to Honor Dietrich

EMPIRE-TRIBUNE
By MISTY SHAW
Staff Writer

For her unflinching commitment to the organization and to the children it serves, local Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) member Lore Dietrich will be given statewide recognition.

Dietrich, a resident of Morgan Mill, will receive the 2005 CASA Lone Star Proud for Kids Special Recognition Award for her efforts against child abuse.

"She (Dietrich) has been involved with CASA since 1992, when she was a volunteer in the Dalhart Program in the Panhandle before she moved down here," said Trina Geye, director of CASA for the Cross Timbers area. "From the day she realized that there was no CASA program in Erath County, Lore started talking about it, all the while continuing her volunteer service with the Hood County program. She was a catalyst to get CASA started in Stephenville, and she was our first volunteer to take a case. She's awesome."

Dietrich, a native of Germany, is currently attending a reunion over-seas and will not be able to accept the award in person at the 16th annual Texas CASA Conference in Dallas.

Geye said she could think of no one more deserving of the award. "She's opened so many doors

for us. There's no telling how much money she's brought in to our organization, not to mention all the children she's helped," Geye said. "With hundreds of volunteers nominated out of 64 CASA programs in the state, she's the one who was selected by the Texas CASA staff and board. "We're really excited that she's going to be honored. Our organization has only been around for three years so it's a big deal to have one of our volunteers recognized at the state level. Our volunteers are special people."



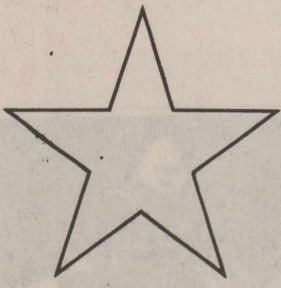
Sheriff Haile Presents Program

Jack Haile, Sheriff, gave the program at GFWC/Prospectus Study Club Dec. 7 when they met at Sherman County Library. He was introduced by Dorothy Haile, Public Affairs Chairman; He gave the program he gives to 17-18 year old Stratford High School students, titled "Life's Not Fair". Most members thought the program should be given to younger students.

Lavell Haggard served hot cider and breads that had been frozen from Old Timor celebration.

D'Lynn Reed, club president, conducted the business session. Others present were Oline Caraway, Pat Hartman, Marylou McDaniel, Margaret Reed, Sandy Baskin, Laurie Spurlock, Cindy Jackson, Linda Swain, Patti Vincent, Marty Bain, Barbara Haile. Shown above are Jack Haile, Sheriff and his mother Dorothy Haile (Public Affairs Chairman)

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<p>Betty Brown's Medical Claim Service 605 S. Main P.O. Box 7 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-2623</p>	<p>Joe Flores Farm Bureau Insurance 396-5538 office 396-5389 home</p>
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Used Tire Sale: Duncan Chevrolet-366-5557. 7-28-tfn

For Sale or Lease-212 N. Poplar-40' x 60' office building. Call 806-679-5585. 4-1-tfn

For Sale:

1-1999 Suburban
1-2001 Pickup
1-2002 Pickup
1-2003 Pickup
2-2004 Pickups
Call Billy Bell at 366-2576.
10-27-tfn

Help Wanted

Help Wanted-Counter Salesperson needed at A&I Parts. Contact Jerry Ewers at 366-5592 or 753-7593. 12-1-tfn

TRANSPORTATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN II JOB REQUISITION NUMBER: 009212

The Texas Department of Transportation will be accepting applications for one full-time position at the Sherman County Maintenance Office located at 1202 E Texas Ave., Stratford, Texas.

The applicant must have one (1) year experience in maintenance, construction or an equipment operation-related field. (Experience requirements may be satisfied by full-time experience or the prorated part-time equivalent.)

The starting salary will be \$9.92 - 12.92 per hour. A completed application is required and applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 19, 2005, for further application information, including a complete job vacancy notice, contact the nearest Texas Department of Transportation; Information may also be accessed via the Internet at www.dot.state.tx.us. Mailed applications should be postmarked the day the job vacancy closes and sent to: 5715 Canyon Drive, Amarillo, TX 79110; Attn: Human Resources. If more information is needed or if an applicant needs an accommodation in order to apply for this job, contact Barbara Franks at (806)356-3232.

TXDOT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER. 12-15-c

Land for Sale

Land for Sale: Section 66 and South 1/2 of Section 67 Block 8. Capital Syndicate sub-division. Dallam County CRP to 9-30-2007. Contact Trust Dept. at First State Bank of Stratford 806-396-5521. 10-23-tfn

To Give Away

Seven Christmas Kittens ready for Santa's stocking. Don Riffe 396-5303. 12-15-c

Congratulations & Good Luck Stratford Elks

Sherman Co. Child Welfare Board

To report Suspected Child Abuse, call

Kathie Altman-366-5611
Paula Everett-966-5445
Ken Forthman-366-2586
Patsy Harland-827-7568
Belinda Hamilton-827-7728
Jesse Resendes-366-3134
Ernie Maiwald-366-5546

Austin Hotline
1-800-252-5400
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Services

Piano Tuning-Dwight Odell (580) 544-3331-Boise City, OK 11-10-p8x's

Tree trimming or removal. Call Dusty Stewart for a free bid. 366-7601. 6-9-tfn

I will do little handiwork jobs for the elderly at a reasonable cost. Call Dick Bachman 366-7679. 8-19-tfn

For Rent

For Rent: Office space on Main Street for rent. For information call (806) 396-5541. 11-27-tfn

House for Rent-2 Bedrm at 609 N. Grace. Call 366-2008 for more information. 5-12-tfn

For Rent: 1 Bedroom furnished Apt., 6th & Fulton. Call 396-5541 daytime, 396-5692 nights. 1-28-tfn

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For Rent: 1 and 2 Bdrm. Apts. 307 S. Main. Call Al Baker at 366-5318. 12-1-tfn

For Rent: 1 and 2 Bdrm. Apts. At 312 S. Pearl. Call 366-5318 12-1-tfn

Pet of the Week



The Dalhart Animal Rescue Shelter needs your old blankets, towels, & rugs for the dogs and puppies. If you have any that you would like to provide them, please contact Linda Reimer at 244-6326 (leave message) or 249-5333. You can also drop them off at the shelter.

The Dalhart Animal Rescue Shelter ("no kill" facility) currently has over 100 dogs and puppies available for adoption. These dogs are all sizes & range in age from 4 weeks on up. The older dogs have been spayed and/or neutered & have their shots. These dogs need a good home.

We are also seeking responsible individuals to provide foster care for the dogs. If you feel you would like to take one or two and care for them for a couple of months, we will provide free food. All of these dogs have had their shots and are looking for lots of love. Please contact Diane Trull at 244-3216 for additional information.

Houses for Sale

For Sale-Nice 3 br. 1.75 bath brick home at 408 N. Fulton. Ready to move into. Updated kitchen and bathrooms. CH/A, attached garage, new attic insulation, large fenced in backyard. Stove, washer, dryer and new built in dishwasher stay. Great neighborhood. \$55,000. Call 366-3111. 3-31-tfn

For Sale: 3BR, 1.75 bath home at 603 S. Fulton. 2 living areas, dining room, master bedroom with 2 walk in closets. Lots of closets and storage throughout the house. Large backyard with above ground swimming pool, metal storage shed and covered patio. 2 car garage. Brick and vinyl exterior for maintenance free up keep. Contact Rhonda Browne after 6:30 at 366-7597 or leave message. 12-9-tfn

For Sale: 605 N. 3rd, 2 bedroom, laundry room, CH/A, detached garage, storage building, nice location \$20,000. Call 930-0734 or 930-5613. 3-31-tfn

House for Sale: 3 bdrm, 1 1/4 bath, brick, great location by elementary school. Call 366-3485. 1317 N. Division. 9-22-tfn

For Sale: 611 N. Chestnut, 3 Bdrm, 1 full bath-2 1/2 bath, CH/A detached garage, Big back Yard with storage building, close to school. Call 366-2401. 5-5-tfn

For Sale by Owner. 4/2/3 home on corner lot. Custom built in 1995. New carpet, 20 x 20 finished basement, fireplace, ceramic tile in entry, utility dining and kitchen, sprinkler system, open floor plan, Approx. 3200 total sq. ft. Call 806-934-3381 evenings or leave a message. 11-4-tfn

House for Sale; 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, 2-living areas, 2 car garage-indoor grill. Roof-1 yr. old, New H/A, Updated kitchen, Storage building, close to schools. Call 806-744-5270 9-22-tfn

Reduced Price. Precious brick house. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, New carpet, central heat & air, sprinkler system and huge storage building. 401 S. Pearl. Call 366-3678. 6-16-tfn

House for Sale at 1209 Division St. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, nice neighborhood. Close to schools. Lg. Storage building in fenced backyard-attached garage. For more information call 934-3569 or 922-3569. 7-14-tfn

House for Sale: 605 S. Main. Will consider Trade. Call 396-2569. 12-8-c-05-6x's

HOUSE FOR SALE: 816 N. Maple-Two story, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, Central H/A, Fireplace, Carport, Fenced backyard with deck. Close to school! \$40,000. Call Brett: 366-7664 or 753-6677. 7-28-tfn

REDUCED: 3 Bdrm Brick, 2 baths on large corner lot. 1201 NW 2nd St. Sprinkler system, fenced yard. Located in Casa Bonita Addition. Call 366-2153 for appointment. 10-21-tfn

Ad Rem Land Co.
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NEW LISTING! Hurry to see this large family home. It has central heat and air, a free standing fireplace and a great location. \$58,900

Shop in Backyard! Nice 3 B/R, 2 bath with 1 car detached garage. Reduced to \$43,000

Corner Lot! This 4 B/R, 1 1/2 bath home has had C/H&A, sewer lines, and gas line recently replaced. \$55,000

Cards of Thanks

Thank you Stratford Chamber of Commerce for the loan of the banners and Woodman agent, Walt Berry for the president rulers handouts for The Imagination Station President's Exhibit.

Arts in the Area

By Gaynelle Riffe

Dec. 15

Christmas Concert Stratford School Bands Stratford High School Gym

Dec. 16

Amarillo Youth Choirs "Sounds of the Season Concert" Polk Street United Methodist Church 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 16-19

Paramount Christian Church Christmas Pageant Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-353-6615

Jan. 7

Concerto Extraordinaire Chamber Music Amarillo Santa Fe Ballroom 900 S. Polk 8:00 p.m.

Jan. 19-29

"Crowns" Musical ALT Main Stage Amarillo Little Theatre

Jan 21-22

"Odyssey" Sat. evening Sat.-Sun. Matinee Globe News Performing Arts Opening

2006

January 20-21 29,28

Kwahadi Indian Ceremonials 7:30 Kwahadi Kiva Museum

Optimal Humidity Level Preserves Your Home, Health

(NU) - Humidity is important, but too much or too little can produce a host of health problems or cause damage to your home.

When the air in your home is too dry, it can crack the walls and ceilings and shrink the framing around windows and doors, allowing cold air inside and making your home less energy-efficient. Dry air also saps moisture from your body, leading to conditions such as a dry nose, scratchy throat and itchy skin. In addition, when the respiratory system is dry, it is easier for viruses to invade, increasing your chances of getting colds, flu and upper-respiratory problems.

Too much humidity, on the other hand, brings about a different set of problems: wet stains on walls, musty odors and mold. When it comes to your health, too much humidity provides an optimal environment for bacteria, dust mites and fungal growth. All of these can lead to respiratory problems, especially in those with asthma and allergies.

The ideal humidity level is between 30 percent and 60 percent. So how do you strike that delicate balance between too much and too little humidity in your home?

Pick up a hygrometer, a small, inexpensive and easy-to-use instrument that measures the humidity in your house. Place it where the humidity problems are most obvious. Keep it away from

Does your home have too much or too little moisture? Here's how to tell:

Too much moisture

- Skin feels damp, clammy or sticky.
- Upholstery and walls feel damp.
- Musty odors increase.
- Wood rots or buckles.
- Windows fog either on the outside or inside.

Too little moisture

- Skin feels dry and itchy.
- Surfaces, such as wood, dry and crack.
- Home feels cooler (dry air will not retain heat).
- Static shocks skin.

direct heat, such as near a radiator or heat register.

Simple changes in your lifestyle can help, such as remembering to open or close windows and doors. Depending on the severity of the problem, you may need to install a whole-home dehumidifier or humidifier, like the ones offered by Aprilaire. These products address humidity issues that affect the entire home and allow homeowners to add or remove just the right amount of moisture for a healthy living environment.

For more information, visit www.aprilaire.com or call (800) 545-2219.

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Good Luck Elks

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Good Luck Elks

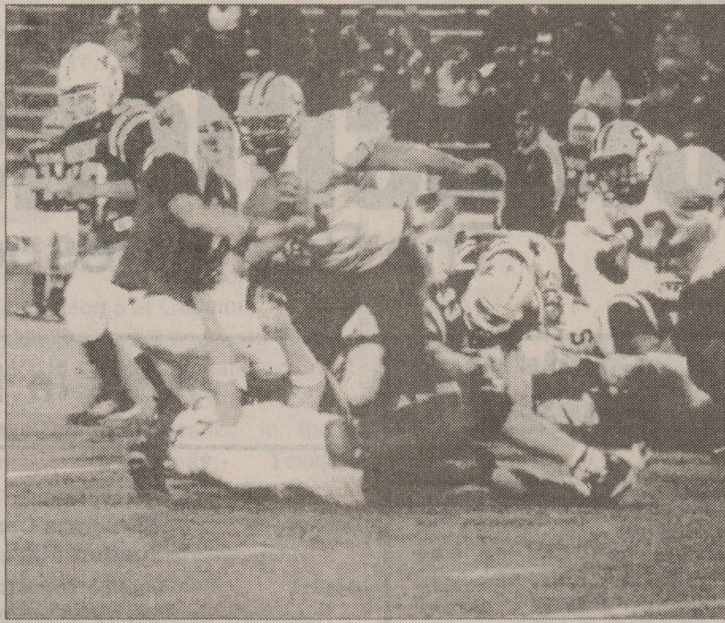
Football-Elk Style

Elks Win State Semi-Final Championship

The Stratford Elks overcame a 17 point deficit to capture the Semi-Final Championship trophy on Saturday, December 10th against Windthorst. The Elks were down 17-0 at half time but came back with one thing on their mind.....STATE!!! and beat Windthorst 21-17 to advance to the State game in Abilene on Saturday, December 17th at 2:00 p.m.

With the help of a great offensive line, Hunter Buckles was able to complete 10 of 16 passes for 110 yards and carried the ball for 27 yards on 13 carries. Craig Kautz carried the ball for 134 yards on 25 carries and two touchdowns. Brady Bell carried the ball for 80 yards on 4 carries. Bell also led the Elks in receptions with 52 yards on 4 catches followed by Brant Cummings with 37 yards on 3 receptions and the game winning touchdown. Jonathan Licon scored one PAT and Kautz scored on two-point conversion pass for the Elks.

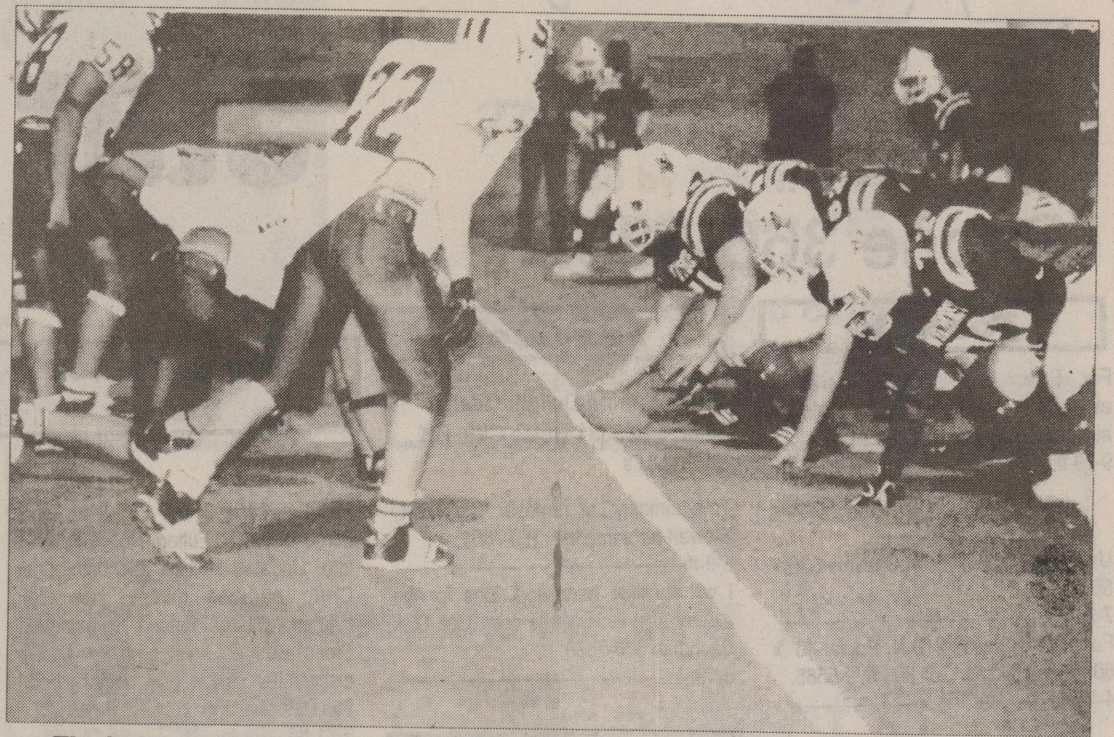
The Elks great defense was led by Steven Rueda with 11 tackles and Jonathan Licon with



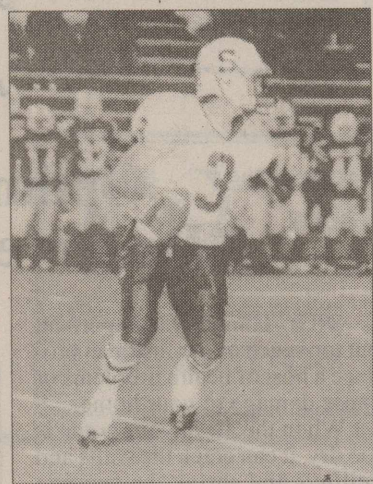
#77 Rudy Portillo plows through to tackle Windthorst ball carrier.

10 tackles. Brady Bell, Rudy Portillo, and Sandro Gomez followed with 6 tackles each. Licon also had one quarterback sack for the Elks! Other Elks contributing to the game winning defense were Andrew Correll, Craig Kautz, Case Crabtree, Gilbert Reta, Hunter Buckles, Jeffrey Frizzell, Pablo Ibarra, Alex Martinez, Brant Cummings, Joey Reta, Julio Ramirez, Martin Beltran and Brent Reed.

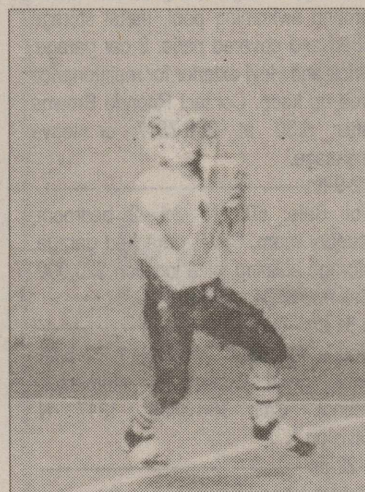
Players of The Week - The Elk Team!



The Stratford Elks awesome defense kept Windthorst from scoring in the last 5 seconds to win the Semi-Final Championship 21-17.



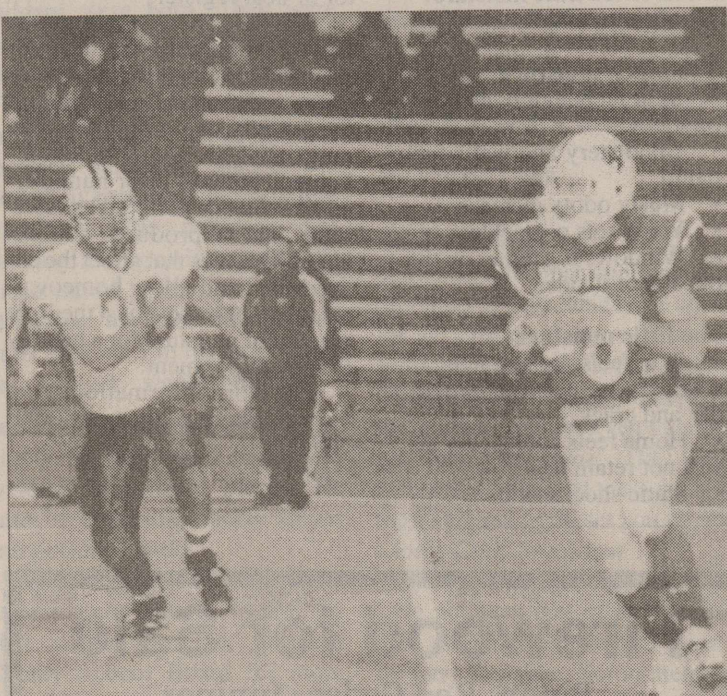
Stratford Elk quarterback Hunter Buckles.



Stratford Elk running back Craig Kautz.



The Pep Talk was given by Scott Buckles and Ernie Maiwald.



#76 Sandro Gomez puts pressure on the Windthorst quarterback.



ELK TALES

By Lynda Hauser

Mr. Hunsaker and the Big Blue Marching Band who share their talents with the high students and faculty every Friday morning during football season. The band usually moves to the front lawn of the high school and plays Grandioso in appreciation of our Stratford Elk football team. This last week they played in the hall by the gym, so even more of the school could hear them. Again, thanks, Mr. H and Band!

To conclude their study of the Navajo Code Talkers, the high school and eighth grade ESL classes wrote to six of the surviving Code Talkers who live in New Mexico and Arizona and are awaiting replies. Julio Ramirez and Oswaldo Terrazas won a prize for remembering the anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7.

Mrs. Hand's 6th grade reading classes researched time travel. This activity went along with the novel, Wrinkle in Time, which they are reading in class. Some of

the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade reading students are using a new software program called "My Reading Coach".

The third grade went to the Imagination Station and learned so many interesting things about our 43 presidents. We had a great time and learned some funny and interesting facts. Thank you to the Imagination Station for giving our students an opportunity to learn in a different way.

Student Council will be taking up donations in the offices of each school to help out the Duran family. We will match the funds gathered up to \$250, so get out the spare change and help out if you can. Cindy Russell is Student Council sponsor.

The 4th grade music class presented their Musical, "Crazy Carols" on Thursday. Thanks to Mrs. Mathews, Mrs. Teig, and the SHS Drama Department for their help in making this event a success. Mrs. Hamilton's 5th Grade Music Class went to Amarillo to the Nutcracker Ballet on Friday. We would like to thank Don and Gaynelle Riffe for

their support in this endeavor. The 4th grade will also be singing at Coldwater Manor on Tuesday.

The annual band Christmas concert will be Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. This is always a great event, so be sure and come support our bands.

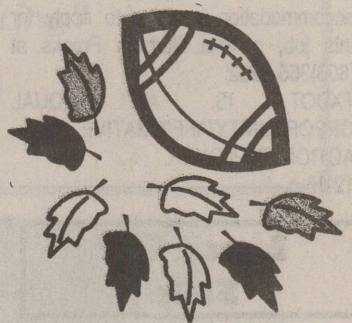
This week's pep rally will be Friday at 12:30 p.m. The team will depart at 1:00. The State Finals game is scheduled for Saturday at 2:00 p.m. at Shotwell Stadium in Abilene. Two Spirit Buses will leave from the HS parking at 5:30 a.m. that morning for Abilene. First State Bank and Happy State Bank are sponsoring the buses. Thanks!

Former students are beginning to show up for Christmas break. It's always great to see them. If you see any, be sure to welcome them back home.

I hope to have Elk Tales again next week, but then it will probably be a couple of weeks after that until the next column because of Christmas holidays — yes, CHRISTMAS holidays!

OK, ELKS, one more time — play ELK football!

Tickets for the Stratford Elks vs. Big Sandy Game are on sale now at the Stratford High School Superintendents office
See Dinah Horsford.
All Tickets are \$8.00 Each



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Ashley Named To LSC South All-Academic Team

Lone WTAMU Football Representative to Receive Academic Award

West Texas A&M University football player Nick Ashley was named to the Lone Star Conference South Division All-Academic Team, announced by the conference office.

Ashley, a 6-1, 285, junior from Stratford, Texas, has a 3.25 GPA majoring in sports and exercise science. He was the starling center for the offensive line before suffering a season-ending knee injury on Oct. 22. This season, WTAMU was No. 1 ranked passing offense in NCAA-II, and Ashley anchored a WTAMU offensive line that yielded only 13 sacks this season on 540 attempts (a whopping 41.5 attempts per sack). Over the last two seasons, the WTAMU O-Line has yielded only 21 sacks on 1,071 pass attempts (one sack every 51.0 attempts), as last season the O-Line gave up only eight sacks in 531 attempts (one sack every 66.4 attempts).

WTAMU won the LSC Championship for the first time since 1986, as the Buffaloes are 10-1 overall and 9-1 in the LSC, winning the conference title outright, as well as the LSC South crown with a 5-1 division record after being picked last in the LSC South Preseason Poll. It is also WTAMU's first

10-win season since 1950 and the Buffaloes are the No. 1 seed in the NCAA-II Southwest Regional Playoffs, marking

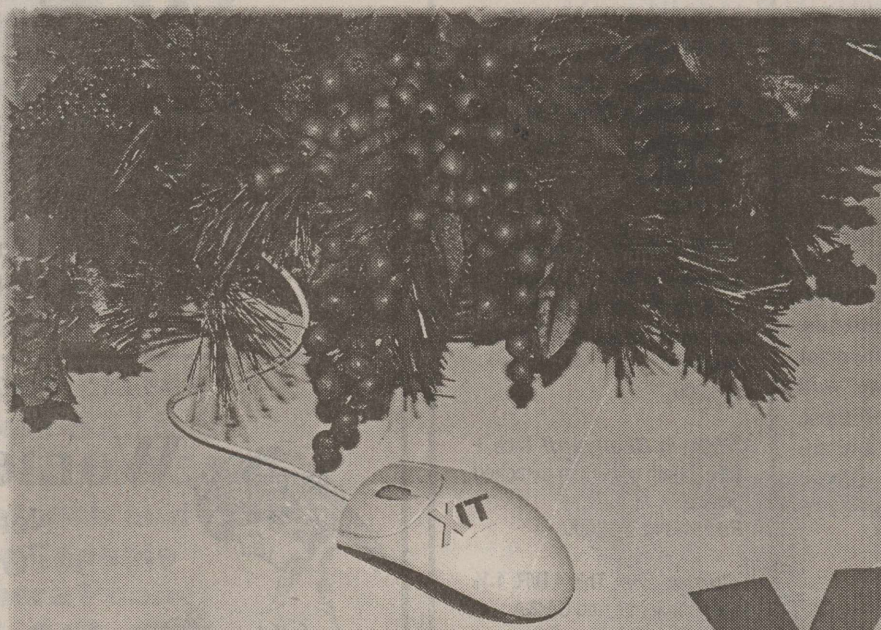
WTAMU's first-ever playoff appearance.

A total of 22 players were named to the football LSC All-Academic Team, with 11 each on the South and North teams, which recognize both academic and athletic achievement.

The All-Academic Teams are voted upon by the league's sports information directors. To be eligible for LSC academic honors, student-athletes need at least a 3.20 grade point average and must be at least a sophomore. All qualifying student-athletes not voted to the All-Academic Team are then placed on the Commissioner's Honor Roll.

Altogether, 54 football players were honored through the league's academic awards program, including representative from 10 of the LSC's 13 football-playing member institutions.

Not a creature was stirring except for a mouse!



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