

Sherman County Museum 7/03
Box 1248
Stratford, TX 79084

THE STRATFORD STAR

75 CENTS

Published for over 100 years in Stratford, SHERMAN COUNTY, TEXAS 79084 usps 523

NUMBER 1 JANUARY 2, 2003

ATTENTION: The City of Stratford will be accepting Christmas Trees at the old water tower, located on North First Street.

Cowboy Church To Begin Again

The Cowboy Church will resume on Wednesday, January 8 at 7:30 p.m. at Sherman County Barn.

Reminder:
Wildlife and Windbreak workshop on January 7, 2002. Sponsored by Sherman Co. SWCD & NRCS. 4 CEU's and Lunch provided. Call 396-5517 ext. 3 with questions.

Blood Drive Monday, Jan. 6

Coffee Memorial Blood Center will be in Stratford on Monday, January 6th for a blood drive from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the County Barn at 5th and Maple.

Due to the inclement weather on December 23rd we were unable to make the blood drive as scheduled. We have re-scheduled that blood drive for Monday, January 6th from 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. and all donors will receive the 24-karat gold Christmas Ornament.

The Texas panhandle is currently experiencing a critical need for all blood types! This Holiday Season, along with the inclement weather, has taken a toll on all blood levels.

We need the help of the Stratford community to ensure that blood levels will be safe for the patients of the Texas panhandle. Please stop by the County Barn on January 6th to donate blood and give hope to those who have been unfortunate enough to be stricken with a blood disorder or in a serious accident.

For more information, contact Danny Cervantes at 358-4563.

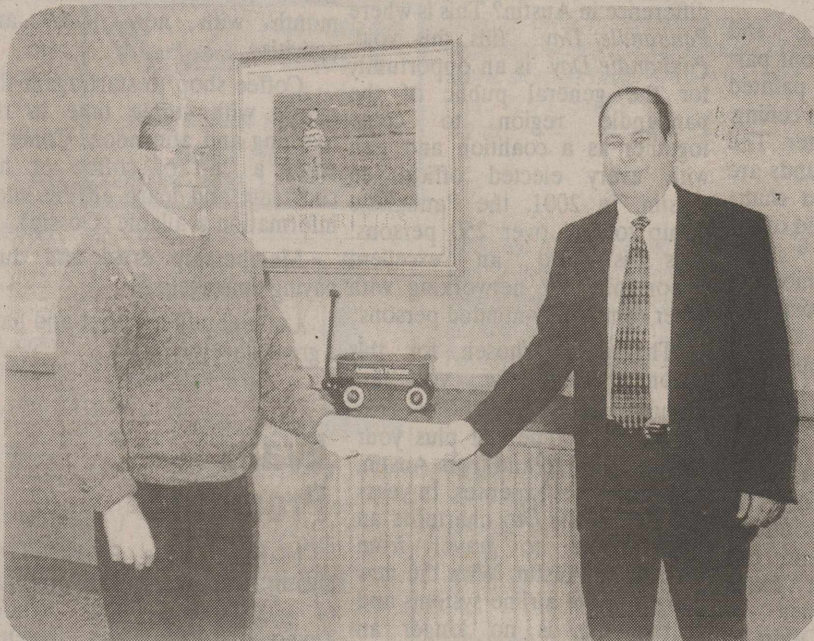
CEU Meeting

Don't forget the Wildlife and Windbreak Workshop on January 7, 2003 at the Sherman County Barn. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and Krispy Kream doughnuts. The meeting will start at 9:00 and go until 3:00 with lunch provided by Stratford Flying Service.

You will receive 1 CEU in Laws and Regulations, 2 in General and 1 in Drift Minimization. 4 CEU's in all.

We hope to see you there.

The Stratford Star Would Like to Wish Everyone a Happy New Year!!!



Jim Taliaferro, right accepts pledge from B.A. Donelson of First State Bank of Stratford.

First State Bank Makes Pledge

Jim Taliaferro, Superintendent of Stratford Independent School District, is happy to acknowledge the receipt of a pledge of \$25,000 by Stratford First State Bank to the Stratford ISD Education Foundation. This is the first Platinum Education Partner donation that the foundation has received. B.A. Donelson, President of Stratford's First State Bank, has indicated the bank's interest in The America's Promise program which promotes helping build character and confidence in our children. Stratford First State Bank has participated in the America's Promise program for several years and the bank finds the Stratford ISD Education Foundation a perfect vehicle for their continued participation in this program.

"We are happy to be able to make this pledge because of the long and continued support Stratford First State Bank has received from the community. We have been blessed by the community in many, many ways

and we feel that it is not only our opportunity but our obligation to give back to the community and its children," Mr. Donelson said.

The Stratford ISD Foundation by receiving this pledge now has cash & pledges exceeding \$120,000. It is the feeling of the Foundation Board that these funds will provide an opportunity for our school to take the next step in broadening the education of our children. The Board feels that by raising expectations among the children we will continue to make Stratford a desirable place to live with the school being the number one drawing card that our community presents.

Mr. Taliaferro indicates that the Foundation is raising real interest among the faculty and administration as another vehicle to add to our ability to educate children. This along with the other things going on in our community such as the rebirth of the Imagination Station which ties directly with opportunities for children makes this an exciting time to be in Stratford.

Nicholson Asked To Step Down As City Administrator at City Council Meeting

Stratford City Council met in Regular session, Thursday, November 14, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor David Brown presiding and the following council members present: Joe Zak, Bryan Mungia, BA Donelson and George Harding.

Also present: Don Nicholson, City Administrator; LaRita Butler, City Clerk/Secretary; Mike Batchelor, Stratford Police Department; Vince Viaille, First Southwest company; Ken Forthman, Public Works Director; Paula Nusz, Gayland Vandiver and Barry Smith.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

George Harding motioned to approve the minutes of October 15, 2002 regular meeting. Joe Zak, seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Vince Viaille with First Southwest Company was present to discuss Certificates of Obligation to the council. Vince briefed the council on the step-by-step process for Certificates of Obligations. Vince stated the interest rate would be known prior to the ordinance adoption. The process takes approximately 70 days from beginning to end. The cost of the issuance of the Certificates would not have to be paid until the money is actually issued. Cost involved would include financial advisory cost, bond council, which includes legal documentation involved, bond

rating fee, and disclosure documents. Total approximate cost of issuance is \$25,000.

Kristine Olsen arrived at 7:08 p.m.

BA Donelson questioned on if the City did the certificates today, what would the interest be at this time. Vince then stated approximately 4 3/4 % to 5%, subject to the market.

Vince did tell the council that on the existing debt the city has, the last payment could be combined with the new payment and save approximately \$5,000. BA questioned Vince if he advised the City getting a credit rating. Vince stated that it would be easier when they went out for bids on the certificates. Surrounding cities have gotten the ratings. Discussion took place. Vince stated he would expect to receive 7-8 bids after the rating.

J.J. Williams arrived at 7:25 p.m.

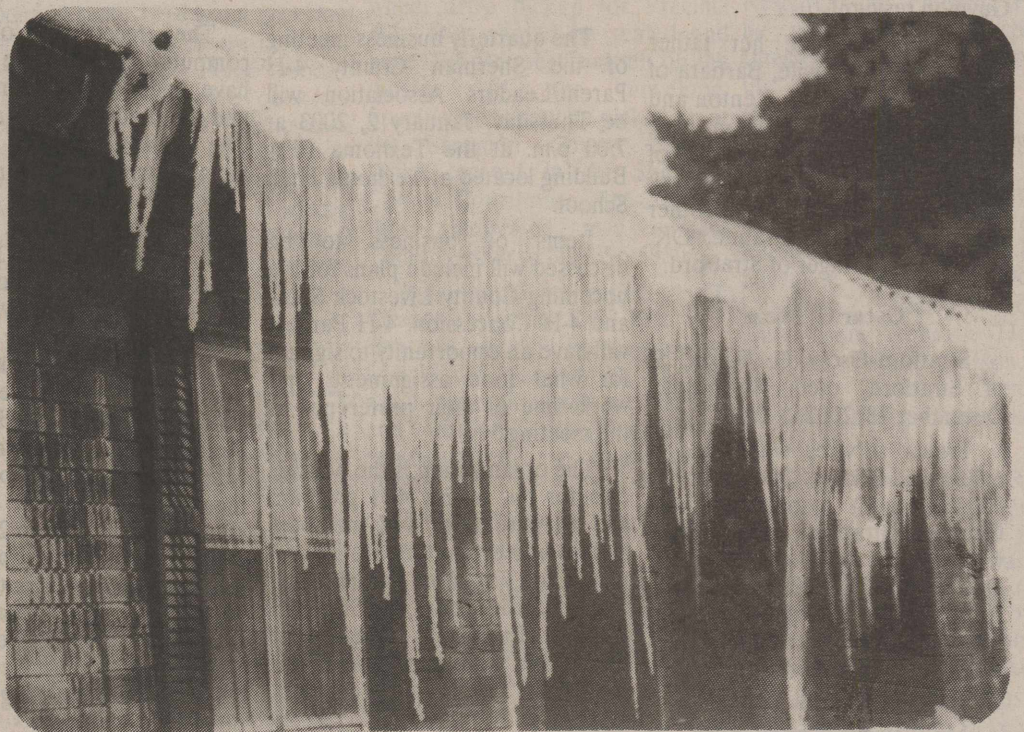
If there happened to be any funds left over, the city could do the following: further improve the water/sewer system or pay off any existing debt.

All costs are contingent costs, the city must have enough funds to complete the project, and the calendar on the project is not yet set, the city can move forward or backward, but when the certificates are sold the rate will be fixed and not variable.

Jon King arrived at 7:27 p.m.

If the city wanted to go ahead and get started and had not yet

Cont. on page 4



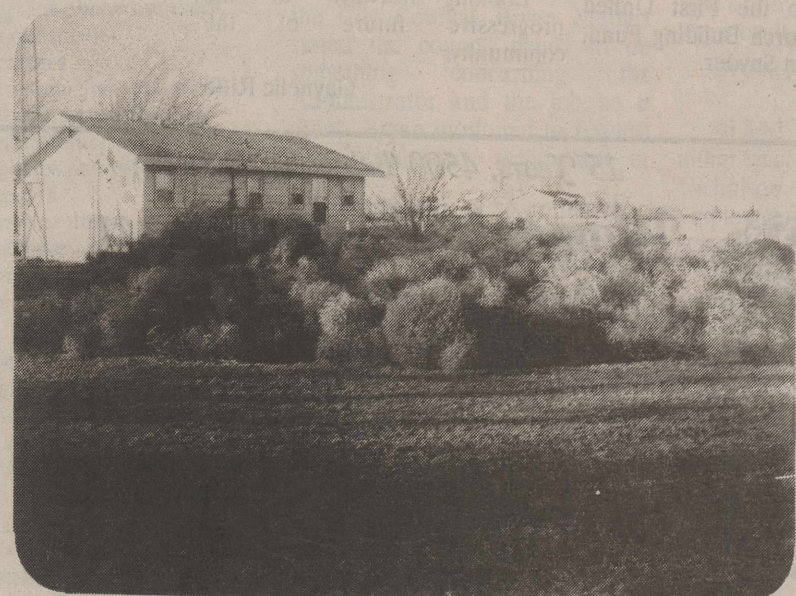
After a Pre-Christmas Snow on Monday and Tuesday this is what a lot of houses looked like. This is Dusty and Shannon Stewarts home.



Some children were busy over the holiday building snowmen. This was taken in front of the home of Dario and Michelle Garza.



This is what a lot of trees and houses looked like after last weeks snow that fell on Monday and Tuesday. Approximately 10 to 12 inches was reported for Stratford.



The tumbleweeds were piled higher than this in places at Kerrick!

Obits

Tabbie Mae Ramirez Hager

Stratford-Tabbie Mae Ramirez Hager, age 30 died Tuesday, December 17, 2002 at Stratford, Texas.

Funeral services were held on Friday, December 20, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Stratford with Rev. Brent Farney, pastor officiating. Burial was in Stratford Cemetery under the direction of Morrison Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Hager was Born April 14, 1972 in Oklahoma City, OK. She was a homemaker. She was a member of First Baptist church in Stratford and had been a Stratford resident for the past nine months, prior to that time she lived in Amarillo, Texas and a former Guymon resident.

Survivors include her father Joe Ramirez and wife, Barbara of Guymon, OK, Denise Kenton and husband, Scott of Weston, CO, one daughter Ashley Ingram of Liberal, KS and one son Derrek Hager of Stratford. One brother Ethan Ramirez of Granite, OK; and Terrence Hager of Stratford.

Oscar G. Baeza

Stratford-Oscar G. Baeza, 55 of Stratford, died Wednesday, December 18, 2002.

Prayer services were held at 6:00 p.m. Friday, December 20, 2002 at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church in Stratford. Funeral Mass was held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 21, 2002 at Saint Joseph's Catholic church. Burial was at Stratford Cemetery by Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors of Dumas.

Mr. Baeza was born in Ojinaga, Mexico. He had worked as a farmer.

He is survived by his wife, Paula Baeza of the home; three daughters, Gracie Fierro and Enedit Mendoza, both of Stratford and Erika Soto of Amarillo; three sons, Dario Garza and Jamie Garza, both of Stratford, and Oscar Baeza Jr. of Dallas; his father, Baudilio Baeza of Presidio, TX.; six sisters, Maria De Jesus Castro and Silvia Olivas both of Chihuahua, Mexico, Marcelina Garza, Anna Baeza, and Magdalena Padilla, all of Dallas and Lila Panek of Georgia; two brothers, Jose Baeza of Odessa, TX and Juan Baeza of Ojinaga, Mexico, and ten grandchildren.

**Ann Pendleton
1947-2002**

Ann M. Pendleton, a registered nurse and resident of Snyder since 1987, died Tuesday, Dec. 24, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after a brief illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Pendleton, 55, was held at 2 p.m. December 26, 2002 in the First United Methodist Church with Dr. Tom McGovern officiating. Burial as in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born May 4, 1947 in Auburn, N.Y., she married Bob Forrest Pendleton on Oct. 26, 1973 in Dallas.

Mrs. Pendleton moved to Snyder from Clear Lake and worked at Cogdell Memorial Hospital as a labor and delivery specialist nurse.

Survivors include her husband, Bob Forrest Pendleton of Snyder, a daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Cody Williams of Denver City; a son, Michael Pendleton of Snyder; a sister, Patricia Voss of Arlington; a brother, Michael McCarthy of Phoenix, and two grandchildren, Caitlin Corbin Williams and Tanner Robert Lee Williams, both of Denver City.

Memorials may be made to the Ann Pendleton Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund, Box 1396 in Snyder; or to the First United Methodist Church Building Fund, 2700 College in Snyder.

Arts in the Area

By Gaynelle Riffe

*** note new listing

- Jan. 15-16 Amarillo Symphony presents Young Peoples Concert
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-376-8782
- Jan. 16-18 "The Laramie Project" 7:30 p.m.
Branding Iron Theatre, WTAMU 806-651-2881
- Jan 16-26 "Brighton Beach Memoirs"
Amarillo Little Theatre 806-355-9991
- Jan. 25 Amarillo Symphony Wu Man, pipa (Chinese Flute)
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-376-8782
- Jan. 28 Lipizzaner Stallions
Amarillo Civic Coliseum 806-378-3096
- Jan. 29-30 Broadway Series "SHOCKWAVE"
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-3096
- Feb. 12-15, Sun. 16 "Company" 7:30 p.m. (16-3:00)
Branding Iron Theatre WTAMU 806-651-2881
- Feb. 18 Lone Star Ballet "AEROS" Hungarian Dance Troupe
Amarillo Civic Auditorium (806) 378-3096 or 372-2463
- March 5-6 Broadway Series "South Pacific"
Amarillo Civic Auditorium 806-378-3096

County 4-H Parent/Leaders Meeting Jan. 2

The quarterly business meeting of the Sherman County 4-H Parent/Leaders Association will be Thursday, January 2, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at the Texhoma FFA Building located at Texhoma High School.

Items of business to be discussed will include plans for the upcoming County Livestock Show and 4-H Concession. 4-H Parents will have an opportunity to sign up for what food assignments and work time of their preference at the meeting.

The organization is the booster club for the county 4-H program and all parents of 4-H members and volunteer leaders are invited to attend. For more information, contact Susie Spurlock, Sherman County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences at 366-2122.

Imagination Station News

The reception, office and computer rooms in the front part have been textured and painted and are ready for the drop ceiling. The kitchen will come later. The most pressing needs for funds are for carpet and tables and chairs for the computer room. End of the year gifts would be much appreciated. Gifts of commodities such as grain or cattle will certainly be welcomed. (We may be too late for this year. Please keep us in mind for next year.) The Imagination Station will host The Panhandle Tourism and Marketing Council for a noon meeting on January 3rd. This council covers the top 26 counties. Anyone wishing to attend this meeting should contact Paula Nusz at the Chamber of Commerce or Kristine Olsen at Sherman County Development. (We are still hustling while we build.)

The program committee is working on the Week of the Young Child in April and other programs for the community.

District 4-H Food Show Results

One hundred fifty 4-H'ers from the top 21 counties in Texas gathered at Westover Park Intermediate School for the Panhandle District 4-H Food Show December 14, 2002. Each participant earned the privilege of competing at the district level by placing first in respective county food show competitions.

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 nutrients in the product as well as their community services and leadership activities in the foods and nutrition project.

Jennie Spurlock of Sherman County was recognized as an intermediate medalist in the Nutritious Snacks category. Other Sherman County participants were Jacque Mayfield of Texhoma, Tell Lowe, and Haden Long. Volunteer who assisted with the planning of the district contest were Connie Burton and Eric Burton.

4-H is a national youth program sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension. District Sponsors of the contest include the Texas Extension Education Association and Arrowhead Mills of Hereford. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Trees often transplanted seldom prosper.

—Dutch proverb

Gaynelle Riffe

Letters To The Editor

Dear Readers,

As I rearrange the words of wisdom on my 2003 Calendar, I would like to share again with you the 20 CLUES TO RURAL COMMUNITY SURVIVAL.

1. Evidence of community pride.
2. Emphasis on quality in business and community life.
3. Willingness to invest in the future.
4. Participatory approach to community decision-making.
5. Cooperative community spirit.
6. Realistic appraisal of future opportunities.
7. Awareness of competitive positioning.
8. Knowledge of the physical environment.
9. Active economic development program.
10. Deliberate transition of power to a younger generation of leaders.
11. Acceptance of women in leadership roles.
12. Strong belief in and support for education.
13. Problem-solving approach to providing health care.
14. Strong multi-generational family orientation.
15. Strong presence of traditional institutions that are integral to community life.
16. Attention to sound and well-maintained infrastructure.
17. Careful use of fiscal resources.
18. Sophisticated use of information resources.
19. Willingness to seek help from the outside.
20. Conviction that, in the long run, you have to do it yourself.

Looking forward to the progressive future of the community.

Panhandle Day 2003

The State legislature makes an impact on every facet of daily life. The 31 state senators and 150 state representatives make decisions that affect everything from the taxes you pay to the quality of education our children receive. Like it or not, government action or inaction, affects your bottom line and the economic strength of the Panhandle. Taxpayers can wield power and influence in Government by interacting with elected officials. Without this crucial input, elected and non-elected government officials may make uninformed decisions that could ultimately have an adverse impact on our business communities. On the other hand, this input can be used proactively to encourage policies that benefit the business climate in this area.

So, what is the answer to this governmental action? What can the individual do to make a difference in Austin? This is where Panhandle Day fills this void. Panhandle Day is an opportunity for the general public of the panhandle region to come together as a coalition and visit with every elected official in Austin. In 2001, the Panhandle group totaled over 250 persons! This is also an excellent opportunity for networking with other community-minded persons.

The dates chosen for this upcoming legislative visit are February 24-25, 2003. The cost will be \$125.00/person plus your transportation to and from Austin, and your Hotel expenses. In years past, Panhandle Day chartered an entire plane to travel from Amarillo to Austin. With the new changes in the airline systems and security, this is no longer an option, with each person making their own transportation plans, there is no longer a limited number of persons who may attend. In 2001, Stratford had 8 citizens attend.

The designated topics chosen for discussion will be (1) consortium for integrated health education, Agricultural medicine and Research, (2) health care/tort

reform, (3) Panhandle higher education, (4) Public School financing, (5) cooperative research, education & extension triangle (Creet). While in the offices, your own private thoughts may also be discussed.

For further information or to obtain a registration form, contact the Chamber office located in the City Hall building or call the office at 806-366-2260. Plan now to mark your new 2003 calendar with this important event.

Scot News

By Jack Gore

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

ScotTERS will start the new year by playing Bingo Thursday January 2nd at 7 p.m. New Scot Board members will start this month with new ideas and activities.

Coffee shop to start again this month with coffee time in the morning and afternoon. Come to enjoy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate and learn all the latest information available (Gossip).

Membership drive and dues paying time again.

Let's all pull together and have a great start for 2003!

Evans Promoted

Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Dustin K. Evans, a 2002 graduate of Texhoma High School, Texhoma, OK, was recently promoted to his current rank while serving with 4th Tank Battalion, 4th Marine Division, Amarillo, Texas.

Evans was promoted based on sustained superior job performance and proficiency in his designated specialty.

He is the son of Danny W. and Sally Davis, also of Texhoma.

Cards of Thanks

I would like to thank the children of the First Baptist Church who came and decorated my porch for Christmas. You did a very good job and it made me very happy to look out at the pretty lights. Thank you to each of you!

Doris Dyess

Our families would like to give a SPECIAL THANK YOU to the Sherman Co. Sheriff's office Dispatchers, Deputies and Sheriff, E.M.S., Fire & Rescue personnel, DPS Troopers, J.P. Batis and Morrison's Funeral Home for their Sincere Kindness, Concern and Compassion. Pastor Brent Farney for his Memorable Service & The First Baptist Church Family for their Prayers, Guidance, and Special Dinner. Pastor Bob Sweeten for his Memorable Service & The First Christian Church Family for their Prayers, Comforting Words and Help. Lets Make Arrangements for the Beautiful Designs of the Floral Arrangements. The City of Stratford Police in helping with the funeral procession. The Mary Allen Faculty and Students for their Love, Kindness, Caring, Thoughtfulness, Prayers and Cards for Derrek. And last but by no means least our Loving and Caring Friends in our Wonderful City of Stratford during our time of sadness and loss of our loved one Tabbie Mae Hager

Terrence and Derrek Hager
Joe & Barbara Ramirez
Scott & Denise Kenton
Terry & Pam Hager
Gib & May Fedric
and Penny K Gilbert

I would like to say a Special Thank You to the Sherman County Sheriff's office Dispatcher's Bobbie, Sarah, Betty and Jim for their continued Support and Endless efforts to cover my shifts so that I can spend time with my son Terrence and Grandson Derrek during the loss of their Wife and Mommy. Also, thank you to whomever plowed my driveway out after the snow storm.

Penny K. Gilbert

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Exhibit C-3

STRATFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended August 31, 2002

Data Control Codes	10		98	
	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
5700	Local and intermediate sources	\$ 3,777,022	\$ 311,257	\$ 4,088,279
5800	State program revenues	1,131,991	95,755	1,227,746
5900	Federal program revenues	-	348,837	348,837
5020	Total Revenues	4,909,013	755,849	5,664,862
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
0011	Instruction	2,643,150	174,536	2,817,686
0012	Instructional resources and media services	124,966	-	124,966
0013	Curriculum and staff development	13,912	15,497	29,409
0021	Instructional Leadership	-	4,114	4,114
0023	School leadership	237,323	-	237,323
0031	Guidance, counseling, and evaluation services	46,552	-	46,552
0033	Health services	24,681	-	24,681
0034	Student transportation	185,147	1,200	187,347
0035	Food Service	-	219,209	219,209
0036	Extracurricular activities	225,418	-	225,418
0041	General administration	352,954	-	352,954
0051	Plant maintenance and operations	488,846	-	488,846
0053	Data processing services	114,419	85,140	199,559
0061	Community services	27,769	-	27,769
0071	Principal on long-term debt	-	115,000	115,000
0171	Interest on long-term debt	-	123,865	123,865
0080	Capital outlay	-	353,671	353,671
0095	Payments to Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs	-	-	-
6030	Total Expenditures	4,486,137	1,102,232	5,588,369
1100	Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	422,876	(346,383)	76,493
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7912	Sale of real or personal property	22,000	-	22,000
7915	Transfers in	-	2,303	2,303
7949	Other resources	-	-	-
8911	Transfers out (use)	(2,303)	-	(2,303)
8949	Other uses	-	-	-
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	19,697	2,303	22,000
1200	Net change in fund balances (See Exh. 5)	442,573	(344,080)	98,493
0100	Fund balances - September 1 (Beginning)	1,182,888	440,850	1,623,738
1300	Prior Period Adjustment(s)	-	-	-
3000	Fund balances - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 1,625,461	\$ 96,770	\$ 1,722,231

15 Years, 4500 Babies In Dumas

Women's Health Center

Normal and high risk pregnancies
Gynecologic cancer screening
Breast cancer screening
Infertility and family planning
Menopause and hormone problems

Dr. Turhan I. Baykan, M.D.

Specializing In
OBSTETRICS-GYNECOLOGY

110 S. Bliss
Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. 935-6599

Kerrick News

By Marylou McDaniel

There was a big crowd for Kerrick Christmas program Dec. 21. The children and a few brave adults sang, read a poem. Marjory Munden played the piano for the group to sing "White Christmas" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town".

Santa arrived to greet all and distribute presents and treats.

Joe Bill Boren and family made it in time for the program from St. Louis, even with a four hour delay caused by a wreck. Not theirs! Joe Bill, Jennifer, Will, Brice, Tallie & Ryan were here for the holiday. Joining them were Kelly, Kerry, Kevin & Kole Carlisle of Ropesville.

Others present were Bill & Pat Boren; Ralph James, Minnie, Ralph James & Annette Hampton; Trew, Cara, Allie & Benjamin James; Ben Tom James, Levi James; Bill & Donna Gillenwaters; Ted & Joyce Iribeck; Virgie Mathews, Dr. Gary Mathews; Trisha, Reed & Rett Schoonover; Jennifer & M'Lynn Wells; Michelle, Monty & Hayley Danielli; Marylou McDaniel.

Also John & Nina Lavake; Charley & Denton Crabtree, Rolene Arkon, Becky, Kaylee & Gabe Harris; Bud & Frankie Shields; Shelby McDaniel; Lynn Wells, Lem, Cindy & Sunny Russell, all of Stratford.

And Jan Wells & Christofer Tondre of San Antonio.

Christmas Day Patti McDaniel of Denver, made it for Christmas with her mother, Marylou and brother Mike. Christmas afternoon they went to Dumas along with Merilee McDaniel and Clifford Abbott of Canyon to see Sherri & Lori Hutchison of St. Louis and Duane & Thelma Smith. They were visiting with Sherri's parents, Thelma & Duane Smith.

Marjory Munden hosted Christmas dinner for R.J. & Mary Hill, Dudley Hill, Virgie Mathews and Dr. Gary Mathews.

Jo June McDaniel went to her brother's, Penny & Linda Whitson for Sunday Dec. 22 which turned into an extended vacation! She made it home Saturday night in time to enjoy supper with Brenda Taylor, Bill & Donna Gillenwaters, Bud & Frankie Shields. Brenda of Denver spent a few days in Kerrick during the holiday.

Bill & Pat Boren had a houseful for Christmas. Joe Bill & Jennifer's family of four children and Kerry & Kelly Carlisle's two kept the house jumping. The boys did get to help the Hampton's trim meat two days! Then everyone went bowling Friday night.

Charles & Jean Beth Boren, Ft. Worth, visited one day.

Brady, Trisha, Reed & Rett Schoonover spent Christmas Eve with his folks, Terry & Barbara. Christmas Day they went to Trisha's parents, Sandy & Ellen Tillery's.

Linda & Poe Keener, Stratford, hosted Christmas dinner for the family. Nita Taylor and Buck Weaver, Boise City, were among those attending.

The Hamptons had Crabtree Christmas on Dec. 22 at Don & Martha Ellison's. Christmas Day they had Nora, Mike and Parker Wells, Charley & Denton Crabtree as guests.

The Hawkins family had a busy holiday. Dec. 21 they went to Amarillo to see Mabel Rogers. While there they had a family picture made with Leonard, Peggy & Chandra; Kenna, Heath & Dempsey; Brandi, Roger & Lara. They had a Christmas at Kerry & Brenda Bell's on Friday and at the Hawkins' on Christmas Eve. Visiting during the holiday were Leonard's brother Leroy and Leta of Stillwater, OK.

City Council
Cont. from page 5

to participate in either the health insurance program or the retirement program. LaRita stated that to her knowledge, 100% participation is a requirement. She will call and get further information.

Wayland stated he is interested in the position full-time as long as his health holds up.

LaRita spoke of her concern of bringing someone in at this time to fill the position of City Administrator because of the obvious chaos.

Bryan Wungia motioned to appoint Wayland Brown as Interim City Administrator at \$32,500 per year, George Harding seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

George Harding motioned to approve vehicle allowance at \$400.00 per month, B.A. Donelson seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Blake Confer state there should be a review of the Interim City Administrator in 6 months.

Wayland Brown requests from Council that if they have a problem with an employee, direct their concerns to Wayland first.

B.A. Donelson questioned whether the City has any further obligation to Don Nicholson as the City did with the Police Officers.

Wayland requested a list of employees, their salary, vacation/sick leave, and job description.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 a.m.



Santa was surrounded by children at Kerrick Christmas party on Dec. 21. Santa is holding a very young Benjamin James. Several of the children sang.



Visiting Santa Claus at the First State Bank on Friday, December 20th were Meghan Brooks, left and Alex Asher.



Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus (aka Jack Haile and Andy Woolley) and elf helper Carol Zimmer kept busy at the First State Bank on Friday, December 20th taking children's pictures and lists for Christmas.

The Red Door

(located at 217 N. Main)

Opening January 2nd

Hours:

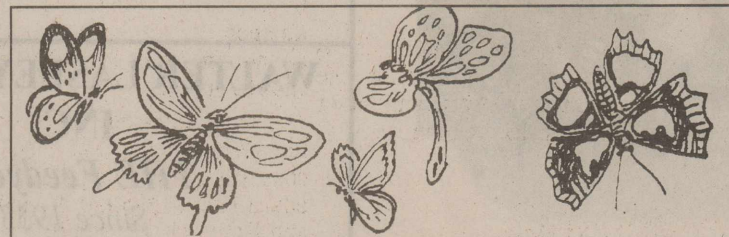
Monday 4-8 p.m.

Tuesday—Friday 9-6:00 p.m.

Saturday—9-12:00 p.m.

Call For Your Hair Appt.

366-DOOR



Skippers, blues, coppers and hairstreaks are all kinds of butterflies.

REAGAN & BROWN AUCTIONEERS
P.O. BOX 658
DALHART, TX 79022

ADVANCE NOTICE

Reagan & Brown Auctioneers will be holding their **Annual 3-Day Consignment Auction of Farm, Ranch & Industrial Equipment on Tues, Wed & Thurs. March 4-5-6, 2003**
Location - Miller Airport
Dalhart, Texas

Anyone wanting to consign should call Reagan & Brown
NO LATER THAN FEB. 4TH, 2003
Office Phone - (806) 244-6776
Late Evenings or Early Morning Call
Bob Brown Home - (806) 244-4038
Cell # - (806) 333-2738
TXS-058-007442

First Assembly of God

Terry Callis, 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. Bob Sweeten
5th & Main
Sunday Coffee Fellowship 9:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
No Sunday Evening Worship
Wed. Adult Choir 8:00 pm

First United Methodist

Rev. Mark Metzger
520 N. Main
Sunday School 9:40 am
Morning Worship 10:50 am
Junior High UMY 5:30 pm
Senior High UMY 6:00 pm
5:00 pm Cable Ch. 3 for
Morning Worship Service - Ev. worship - 7:00

St. Joseph Catholic

6th & Pearl
Rectory - 366 - 5687
Sunday morning: 8:30a.m. (English), 10:30 a.m. (Spanish)
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass.
Christian Formation Classes: K-6th Grade, Sun. - 9:00 a.m. - Jr. & Sr. High, Wed. - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Church of Christ

Larry Evans
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
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Evening Service 6 p.m.
Wed. Service - 7:30 p.m.

First Baptist

Brent Farney
702 N. 3rd
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Church Training 6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

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 Estudio Biblico &
Servicio De Oration 6:00 pm
Servicio De Adoracion 6:00 pm Se Cuidamos
Susninos Durante El Servicio.

The Churches of Stratford Welcome You

Message and the Task

The message of the holiday season is "Joy to the World." But unfortunately there is a great deal of loneliness and sadness that comes upon a lot of people during this seeming joyous season. Is there a reason for this? Yes there is! Too many people expect too much out of this time of the year. They think that just because this is Christmas and New Year time that a special kind of joy will automatically come their way. After all, everyone else seems to be so happy. Why not me? But do you think you can overcome your loneliness and sadness without meeting the real person who stands behind these holidays? Yes, most folks want the joy of Christmas and the joy of New Year without the Christ of Christmas and without the God of the Bible. But you cannot have real joy without first realizing that "The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10). and you will never overcome loneliness without accepting the invitation of Jesus Christ when He says to you, "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). You see, these are all things involved in the salvation, which Christ brought almost two thousand years ago, and the angels sang about at His birth. And so I encourage you to follow Jesus Christ. "Putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21). In other words, receive Jesus Christ. Accept Him as your Lord and Savior.

Sponsored by:
Thriftway 396-5586
Stratford Grain 396-5541
Lautz 769-4485
Ellie's 396-2092
Stratford Star 396-5885
Walter Lasley & Sons, INC
753-4411

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

ACHIEVEMENT

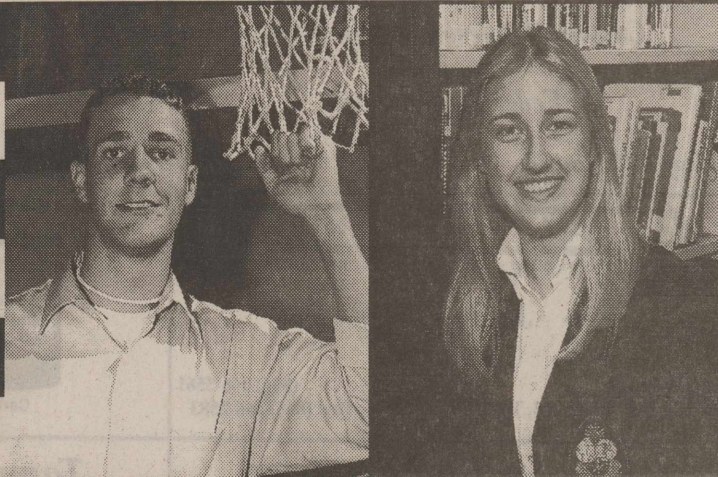
DISCIPLINE

RESPONSIBILITY

LEADERSHIP

SELF-ESTEEM

MOTIVATION



San Marcos Baptist Academy is a private boarding school for boys in grades 6-12 and girls in grades 8-12. Day school is available for boys and girls in grades 6-12.



There will be an information session at the Marriott Courtyard Galleria (3131 Westloop S., Houston) Tuesday, January 7th at 7:00PM. Come and learn about curriculum, campus life and admissions for the upcoming Spring 2003 and Fall 2003 enrollment. **PUBLIC INVITED**

2801 Ranch Road 12 - San Marcos, TX 78666 - 1-800-428-5120 - e-mail: admissions@smba.org - www.smba.org
San Marcos Baptist Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origins.

Christmas Band Concert Held



The High School Band under the direction of Randy Hunsaker played four selections at the concert. All bands did an excellent job.



The Junior Band under the direction of Jeff Witcher played three selections at the Christmas Band Concert.



The 6th Grade Band under the direction of Jeff Witcher played various selections from method book *Rhythm Master* at the band concert held December 19, 2002.

Let us respect gray hairs, especially our own.
—J.P. Senn

The fool doth think he is wise,
but the wise man knows himself to be a fool.
—William Shakespeare,
As You Like It

Art is unthinkable without risk and spiritual self-sacrifice.
—Boris Pasternak

City Council Cont. from page 1

obtained a rating, there would be no cost involved in the project.

Vince would like for the city council to get a "feel" of the project before making any decisions.

Council then thanked Vince for his time.

Kristine Olsen was present to discuss sewer extension on the South side of town.

Jim Taliaferro arrived at 7:30 p.m.

Barry Smith was also present to discuss the sewer extension project. Barry briefed the council on the project he is working on. Approximate cost for the sewer line is \$65,000. Cost savings was discussed. City questioned on where the money for the project would come from.

BA Donelson stated this is a good project and feels it would do well for the City, but it has not been a practice in the past for the City of Stratford to put in sewer lines. BA would like to see Barry help with the cost of the project himself. Kristine stated that the Sales Tax Board could be willing to help with the cost of the project, but she wanted to see if the City was even interested in the project. BA recommended that the city not participate out of the City's budget, but cost sharing could be possible. Ken Forthman then stated that TNRC would have to be notified.

George Harding motioned to approve the animal permit for Brandon Aduddell, located at 400 Rose, Joe Zak seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Joe Zak motioned to approve the funds for Sherman County Development Committee, George Harding seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Joe Zak motioned to approve the funds for Chamber of Commerce, Bryan Mungia seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Joe Zak questioned on if anything had been found out concerning the water bills/meters. All the meters in question were re-read and tested. BA questioned on what could have possibly happened. Don Nicholson stated the water went through the meter but whether it was read in a timely manner is open to discussion.

The meter reading process has been changed to only two people reading the meters. BA then asked for Don's recommendation on the adjustments. Don stated he would suggest that the meters be adjusted to the same month's prior-year reading.

With two people reading the meters this should help solve any further problems. BA recommended that Don handle the disputed water bills and adjust accordingly.

BA Donelson motioned to approve the adjustments with the adjusted amount to be left up to Don Nicholson, City Administrator, Joe Zak seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Approve Main Street Resolution. Gayland Vandiver was present on behalf of the Main Street Committee. Discussion took place on the utility crossovers. The approximate cost per business to hook up the new water lines in the alleys would be \$600-\$1000. Joe Zak motioned; to approve the Resolution, George Harding seconded, BA Donelson opposed, motion carried.

Jim Taliaferro was present to present a report on the school crossing guard. Jim stated the school board meets on Monday, November 18, 2002 and Jim will present to the board the following: 1) pay one-half cost of the crossing guard expenses, 2) pay all expenses 3) go out for contract. Jim will report back to the council on the board's decision, both the school crossings will be looked into. Jim Taliaferro commended Mike Batchelor on working with the school.

Discussion took place regarding the State Championship signs. The placement of the signs was discussed. The signs will be placed at the following locations: Highway 54 East and West, Highway 287 North and South, and Highway 15. Don Stone has submitted a cost on painting the signs. Discussion took place. BA Donelson suggested that Don Nicholson take care of the situation. The signs will have a white background with Blue Letters.

Approve resolution with Oller Engineering for 2003 Seal coat was discussed. BA motioned to approve the Resolution, Joe Zak seconded, all in favor, motion

carried.

Ordinance restricting parking of commercial vehicles was discussed. Mayor Brown stated he has a few problems with the ordinance Jon King stated that the fine needs to be changed. Joe Zak's concern was that the city needs to have an alternate place for these vehicles to park. Several solutions to this problem were discussed. One possibility was to contact the commercial company and asked them for any solutions to the problem. The City will go ahead and move forward on trying to collect money for the damages currently caused by these vehicles. No action taken at this time.

Approve Tax Abatement Contract. Kristine Olsen has visited with Mr. Patel concerning the contract. Jon King would like to present the contract to the Appraisal District to review and if any changes need to be made, an amendment can be done. BA Donelson motioned to approve the Abatement Contract, Joe Zak seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

Elect two places to the Sherman County Appraisal District board of Directors. BA Donelson motioned to elect Jimmy Chesher and Chet Everett, Joe Zak seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

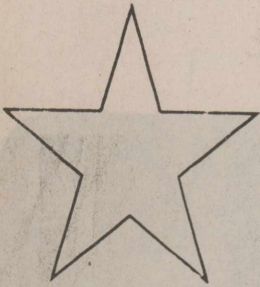
Discussion took place regarding the hiring of a Chief of

Police. Mayor Brown stated the City has numerous applications. Mayor Brown stated he felt the current officer is doing well. Don Nicholson stated he felt \$31,000 was more than a fair salary with overtime paid and on-call pay. Council questioned whether the part-time officer was still employed. Mike Batchelor said he was not. Joe Zak motioned to hire Mike Batchelor as Chief of Police, George Harding seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Mike then requested a contract with the City. Mike and Jon King will get together regarding what Mike is wanting.

Discussion took place concerning sewer line repairs in the 600-block alley between Grace Street and Wall Street. The City has received an approximate cost

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<p>Business Directory</p>	<p>COLDWATER MANOR "LOVE SPOKEN HERE" 1111 BEAVER RD., STRATFORD, TX (806)396-5568</p>
<p>WALTER LASLEY & SONS INC. <i>THE Feedyard</i> Since 1953 753-4411</p>	<p>STEVENSON & SONS PEST CONTROL Termite & Pest Control • Rat Control • Bird Control • Yard & Tree Spraying Residential • Commercial • Farms • Ranches "Professionals in Pest Control Technology" Licensed & Insured 249-4202 Dalhart • Stratford • Hartley</p>
<p>Stratford Grain Co. Stratford 396-5541 Lautz 769-4485 4 North Main</p>	<p>Robert's Service Center 400 S. Poplar 396-2882 Auto Repair & Lawn Mower Repair</p>
<p>CONSUMERS 208 Texas We Sell Seed & Fuel Farmland, Acco, & Moorman Seeds & Diamond Shamrock Products 366-2261</p>	<p>Joe Taylor, Photography PO Box 27 1305 N Chestnut Stratford, TX 79084 806-366-2459 Weddings, Portraits, Etc.</p>
<p>Stratford Auto Electric 119 S. Wall, Stratford, Texas 79084 Phone 366-5941 366-5857 Alternator, Starter, Magneto Repair Since 1964</p>	<p>Allen-Tarver Insurance Agency Carolyn A. Tarver Auto • Home • Life • Commercial Bus: (806)396-5810 • Res: (806)396-2393</p>
<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>
<p>Brown's Meat Locker Custom Wholesale & Retail Meat Federally Inspected Hwy 287 South 396-2513</p>	<p>Jesse's Gun Shop Gun Repairs • Sales • Cleaning Hours: Mon. - Fri. - 1730 - 2000 Sat. - 0800-1600 Jesse Resendes (806) 769-4454 111 S. Maple (806) 366-3134 Shop Stratford, TX 79084</p>
<p>A & I PARTS CENTER AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL PARTS — THE CAR CARE PEOPLE Jerry Ewers Manager P.O. Box 1146 (806) 366-5561 205 N. 2nd - Stratford, TX 79084 Fax: (806) 366-2583</p>	<p>Your HomeTown Pharmacy.. ELK PHARMACY 317 N. Main P.O. Box 390 Stratford, TX 79084 806-396-4505 Major Prescription Plans Accepted Gayland Vandiver, R.Ph. Debbi Vandiver/ Owners Carlton Cards...Millionaire Candy Gifts Coolie and Balloon Bouquets</p>
<p>Lehr Air/Lehr Fertilizer P.O. Box 585 Stratford, TX 79084 Off: 806-396-2284 Fax 806-396-5454 Randy Home 580-543-6488 Randy Cell 806-683-2830</p>	<p>Tommy's Embroidery 580-423-7718 Texhoma, OK 210 Hwy 54 West Caps, Shirts, Jackets, Baby Blankets, Towels, Towel Wraps, School Logos, & Much More!</p>
<p>THRIFTWAY Big Town Selection • Small Town Friendliness Wide Selection Frozen Food Quality Foods Fresh Produce Hwy 54 East 396-5586</p>	<p>Westside Laundry/Stratford Laundry & Dry Cleaners 410 N. 4th - Stratford, Texas 396-2841 Owners - Jerry & Janie Smith Operators - Bob & Keri Harris</p>
<p>Joan Bell THE TRAVEL STORE affiliated with National Travel Systems A Full Service Travel Agency 396-5958 1-800-753-2792</p>	<p>Rockin' C Cross Appraisals Farm, Ranch & Residential Appraisals 711 Purnell P.O. Box 1172 Stratford, TX 79084 Bus: (806) 366-7525 Fax: (806) 366-7515 DAVID J. CROSS General Certified Real Estate Appraiser Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma</p>



It Pays To Look In The

Star Classifieds

..The Best Salesperson Around

Phone 366-5885

For Sale

Propane Bottle Exchanges now available at THE General Store. 4-18-1fn

For Sale: 1998 Z-71 Chevrolet pickup, ext. cab. 4 whl. drive. 396-2125. 9-26-1fn

We have Holland Barbecue Grills and Commercial Front Deck Lawn Mower. Call for more information. 727-4671. 5-2-1fn

Hay For Sale: Good quality Hay Grazer. Delivery available. (806)948-4329. 1-2-2xc

Pick-up for Sale: 98 Chevy, ext. cab, 4x4, \$145,000 miles (mostly highway), maroon. \$8500. 727-4664, 753-6677. 11-7-1fn

For Sale: 1993 Ford F-250 4x4 pickup. Equipped for farm use. \$3500.00. Wendell Stacy 396-2238. 1-2-3xc

Rentals available at THE General Store. Appliance dolly, sheetrock jack, cement mixer, and rotatiller, airless paint sprayer, and rotary hammer drill. 8-1-1fn

Help Wanted

Extra Income 2003 \$200-\$500 weekly mailing travel brochures. For more information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Nationwide, P.O. Box 4355, Miami, FL 33269. 2-27-c

Coldwater Manor is accepting applications for manager of the Thrift Store. Part-time position. Apply at 1111 Beaver Road. 12-12-1fn

My idea is that there is music in the air, music all around us, the world is full of it, and you simply take as much as you require. —Edward Elgar

Services

Is your House or Foundation Settling? Cracks in brick or walls? Doors won't close?...Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling. 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, TX. 1-4-1tyrd

Whirlpool Authorized Sales & Service
New & Used Appliances
Baber Supply
1-800-292-4023 1-580-423-7255

Dusky's Chimney Cleaning

396-2596
Minor Repairs
Safety Inspection
Chimney Caps
Animal Removal
Insured

For Rent

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

For Rent: Nice 2 bedroom house, central heat & air. Good Location. Call 806-333-7418. 10-17-1fn

For Rent: Small 2 bdrm house with fenced backyard. New storm windows & carpeting. 619 N. Wall. 396-2364. 9-12-1fn

For Rent: Two bedroom house, one bathroom, washer & dryer hook-ups. 419 N. Pearl. Call James Lowe. 396-5913. 1-2-4xc

For Rent: 3 bdrm, 1 bath, refrigerated air, 1700 sq. ft. Located in country (15 miles). For more information call 366-2274 or 753-7274. 1-2-1fn

Houses for Sale

House for Sale: Great Location, beautiful corner lot, 2 large bedrooms, 1 large bath, garage, central heat/AC. 806-659-2345. 8-2-1fn

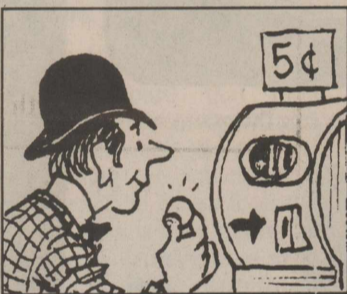
House for Sale or Lease! Brick home, 1309 N. Division. Excellent location, large fenced yard, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, storage bldg. Shown by appt. only. 928-213-9868. 1-2-4xc

3,600 sq. ft. 3,000 living, 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 living areas w/double fireplaces, covered/lighted patio, 2 car garage, corner lot, near both schools, 1220 N. Chestnut. For more info. call 1-903-732-5402 or 396-2498. 1-3-1fn

House for Sale: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled kitchen, deck, 2 storage sheds, 311 S. Pearl. Call 806-366-2726. 11-28-1fn

For Sale: 1760 sq. ft. house. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, kitchen recently remodeled. Deck, 2 storage buildings. New central air & heat. 90+furnace. \$48,500. Call 806-396-2403 or evenings 366-2726. 1-2-1fn

Trailer House for Sale: 2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. New paint on outside, new carpet inside. Central Heat. Owner financing. Move or leave sitting on lot. 727-4664, cell - 753-6677. 11-7-1fn



The first nickelodeon—now called a movie theater—was established in McKeesport, Pennsylvania, in 1905 by John P. Harris and Henry Davis.

House For Sale or Lease: Recently remodelled 2500 sq. ft house. 3 bdrm. 2 baths. Call for more information. 244-2155 or 333-7120. 8-8-1fn

REDUCED for Sale: 604 S. Fulton, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1716 living, brick/steel siding, central heat/air, a/c new vinyl windows, fireplace, large fenced backyard, new ceramic cook-top, built-in oven and microwave, dishwasher, pantry, ice maker hook-up, utility room, carpet, new vinyl flooring, attic storage w/stairs, covered patio, 2 storage sheds, 2 car garage, electric door openers. Phone 254-772-7927. 1-10-1fn

Ad Rem Land Co.
MLS Office
801 S. Bliss #107, Dumas
806-935-7364
Fax 806-935-7687 or call
Arnita Lane 366-5853

New Listing: Ready to Move Into! 3 br, 1 bath, carport, Jacuzzi tub, Italian tile. Storm windows. Mostly remodeled 3 years ago. \$64,000.

New Listing: CLOSE TO SCHOOLS! Very nice 3 br, 1 3/4 baths, single garage, large living area, covered patio. \$68,000.

New Listing: Wonderful Neighborhood! Brick 3 br, 1 1/2 baths, large family room with fireplace, french doors to patio, storage building. \$85,000.

Nice Large Home! 2 story home with 2 or 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with living, dining, den/living, gameroom, fireplace. \$79,500.

Corner Lot! 2 story, 4 bedroom, 2 baths, basement, detached 2 car garage, metal roof. Comes with 1 year home warranty. \$89,900.

Nice Home On Corner! Brick 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, den/living, office. Nearly new shop/garage. Call today to see it. \$79,500.

Nice Brick Home! 3 br, 2 bath, single garage. Nice kitchen cabinets. Ready at \$51,000.

Fireplace! 3 br, 1 3/4 baths, living room, dining room and gameroom all for \$38,500.

Huge Closets! 3 br, 1 3/4 baths, single garage. Central heat and air. Nice yard and storage building \$52,000.

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that Sherman County Commissioners' Court will accept sealed bids for the purchase of one (1) new four wheel drive pickup for Precinct #4. Bids should be sealed and have "Bid Request" written on the outside of the envelope. Specifications may be picked up at the Sherman County Judge's Office located in the Sherman County Courthouse, 366-2021 or those interested may contact Tommy Asher at 806-396-5939.

Bids should be mailed to the County Judge at P.O. Box 165, Stratford and will be received up to 9:30 a.m., January 13, 2002, at which time they will be opened and considered. Sherman County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Tommy Asher
Commissioner Pct. #4
Sherman County, Texas

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, December 19, 2002; Thursday, January 2, 2003; and January 9, 2003.

City Council
Cont. from page 4

of the repairs from Triple L Utilities, which is \$18,700. George Harding questioned on if the city could do the repairs and save cost. Bryan Mungia questioned on the amount of lines running through this area. Ken Forthman stated that documentation must be made. Liabilities were also mentioned. Joe Zak motioned to hire Triple L Utilities to do this project, Bryan Mungia seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Ken stated that there are a few sewer manholes in need of repair that Triple L could also fix.

Police review committee was discussed. The council would like to see something in writing stating what the committee members would do as a member. Jon King will write this out. Other ideas were also discussed. BA Donelson motioned that Mayor Brown be the head of the committee and six citizens form the committee and Jon King would be the advisor. All members of the board would be voting members, Bryan Mungia seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Policy changes were also discussed. The committee would only bring recommendations to the council. Each council members will have a citizen's name to form the committee.

Employee raises were discussed. BA Donelson asked for Don's comments for Ken's recommendations. Don stated he agreed with Ken's recommendations. Bryan Mungia motioned to accept Ken's recommendation, George Harding seconded, all in favor, motion carried. Recommendations were \$25/hour raise for Randy Melton and \$97/hour raise for Jesus Mariscal. Joe Zak motioned to accept Don's recommendations; motion dies due to lack of second. BA Donelson requested to go into executive session to discuss. City Administrator. Don then requested the meeting to be in open session. Discussion took place concerning the job Don has been doing the past year. Bryan Mungia asked Don's opinion of the City Council. Bryan Mungia stated the council needs to do something concerning the Administrator and the job he is doing. Bryan motioned to request Don Nicholson's resignation or

the termination of his employment with the City of Stratford. Jon King strongly advised the council to let him look into the legalities of this situation before proceeding further with the motion, due to item was not on the agenda for am motion to be made. NO comments from the council; therefore, George Harding seconded, BA Donelson in favor with Joe Zak opposed, motion carried.

Council convened into executive session under Section 551.071 and 551.074 to discuss pending litigation and personnel at 11:08 p.m.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING

Notice is hereby given that the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) is applying for grant funding from the Texas Water Development Board's Research and Planning Fund to be used for the purpose of Interregional Coordination during the development of the second Regional Water Plan. The application is being filed with the Executive Administrator of the Texas Water Development Board. The PWPG consists of the following counties: Dallam, Sherman, Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hartley, Moore, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Oldham, Potter, Carson, Gray, Wheeler, Randall, Armstrong, Donley, Collingsworth, Hall, and Childress.

The Panhandle Regional Planning Commission serves as the designated political subdivision for the Panhandle Water planning Group (Region A) and is represented by Gary Pitner, Executive Director, and can be reached by mail at: P.O. Box 9257, Amarillo, Texas 79105. The Texas Water Development Board may be reached at PO Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231. Attn: Comer Tuck. Individuals wishing to make comments regarding this noticed of intent or the application for funds must file such comments with the Texas Water Development Board, Attn: Executive Administrator, and with the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. Attn: Gary Pitner, within 30 days of publication or mailing of this notice.

Published in The Stratford Star, Thursday, January 2, 2003.

Council reconvened out of executive session at 11:30 p.m. with no action taken.

George Harding motioned to approve the bills, Bryan mungia seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

George Harding motioned to approve the financial statements, Bryan Mungia seconded all in favor, motion carried.

Mike Batchelor had written police department report. Discussion took Place concerning his report.

Council will hold special meeting Monday, November 18, 2002 at 7:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

Stratford City Council met in Special Session, Monday, November 18, 2002 at 7:30 a.m. with Mayor David Brown presiding and the following council members present: B.A. Donelson, Blake Confer, Joe Zak, and George Harding.

Also present were: Jon King, City Attorney; LaRita Butler, City Clerk; Ken Forthman, Public Utility Works, Director; Kathy Rendon, Records Clerk and Wayland Brown

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

COUNCIL BUSINESS
Raises for the office employees were tabled to next meeting due to lack of any discussion and lack of any motion.

Bryan Mungia arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Bryan Mungia motioned to either accept resignation of Don Nicholson or terminate his employment; George Harding seconded the motion. B.A. Donelson in favor, Joe Zak and Blake Confer opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Brown introduced Wayland Brown as possible candidate for Interim, City Administrator. Discussion took place. Mayor Brown asked Wayland what his request would be concerning salary. Wayland states he feels he should receive same pay as previous City Administrator. He does not want

Cont. on page 3

Texas Cooperative Extension to Offer Foodservice Manager Certification Course

Statistics indicate that foodborne illness continues to be a health issue in the United States. Each year, 1 in 4 Americans will become sick, 1 in 1,000 will become hospitalized, and 5,000 will die due to a foodborne illness.

During the past legislative session, a statute was amended that allowed the Texas Department of Health (TDH) to require each food establishment to have one certified food manager.

Recently, the Texas Board of Health adopted rules to implement this statute. Eating establishments have already received a letter from the Texas Department of Health regarding this. Under these new rules, each food establishment permitted by the Texas Department of health must have one certified food manager. A deadline for certification set by the Texas Department of Health is March 1, 2003. New food manager certificates will be valid for 5 years.

Texas Cooperative Extension is offering foodservice manager certification training in several locations across the Texas Panhandle from December through February. Dates, locations, and contact information for the certification training opportunities are:

January 8-9-First National Bank, Dalhart-contact: Peggy Winegarner-806-659-4130

January 13 & 16 (2 day training)- Gray County Annex, Pampa-Contact: Joan Gray-806-669-8033

January 20-21-Expo Center, Perryton-Contact: Cynthia Shattles-806-435-4501

January 23-County Barn, Vega-Contact: Sherry Harder-806-267-2692

January 27-28-First National Bank, Dalhart-Contact: Peggy Winegarner-806-659-4130

February 10-Gray County Annex, Pampa-Contact: Joan Gray-806-669-8033

February 12-13-Community Building, Dumas-Contact: Peggy Winegarner-806-659-4130

February 18-19-Community Center, Hereford-Contact: Beverly Harder-806-364-3573

February 19-Expo Center, Shattles-806-435-4501

February 24-25-Texas A&M Agricultural Research & Extension Center, Amarillo-Contact: Cheryl Brewer-806-373-0713

February 25 (Test Only)- Expo Center, Perryton-Contact: Cynthia Shattles-806-435-4501.

To register for a certification training, contact the person listed to obtain registration form. Class size is limited in all locations and registration will be accepted on first registered basis. Registration deadline for all classes is two weeks prior to the class. Registration costs are: 2-day training-\$79 per person; 1-day training-\$65 per person; Test Only-\$35 per person. Class registration includes participant study guide and test. Test Only registration does not include a study guide.

This program is designed to not only prepare foodservice managers to pass the certification examination; it will provide valuable education regarding the safe handling of food. Almost 50 cents of every dollar Americans spend on food is spent on meals prepared away from home. Therefore, careful attention to

food safety will help keep customers safe and satisfied.

Foodborne illnesses are estimated to cost thousands of dollars in lost wages, insurance, and medical bills. With these statistics, knowledge of how to prevent foodborne illness is essential. The benefits of improved food safety include:

- * Increased customer satisfaction
- * Improved relationships with health officials
- * Prevention of bad publicity and law suits due to foodborne illness
- * Identifying potentially hazardous foods and common errors in food handling
- * Preventing contamination and cross-contamination of food
- * Teaching and encouraging personal hygiene for employees
- * Complying with government regulations
- * Maintaining clean utensils, equipment and surroundings
- * Controlling pests

Foodborne illnesses can be prevented by following simple food safety practices. For more information about the Food Protection Management training program of Texas Cooperative Extension, called "Food Safety: It's Our Business," call your local office of the Texas Cooperative Extension.

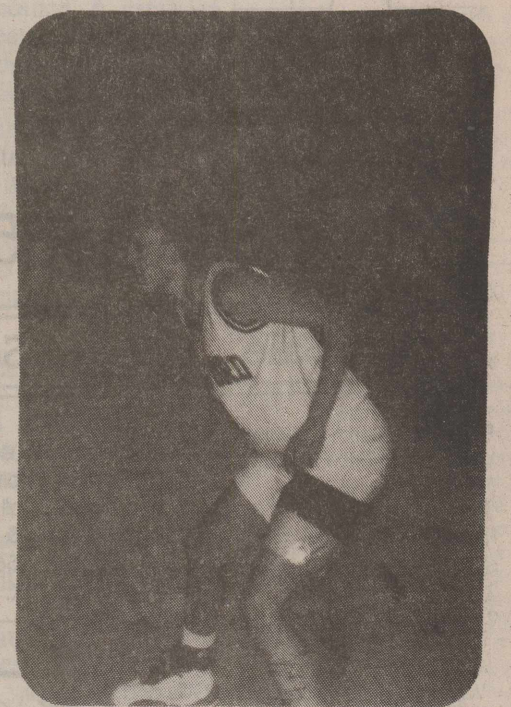
Basketball Shots!



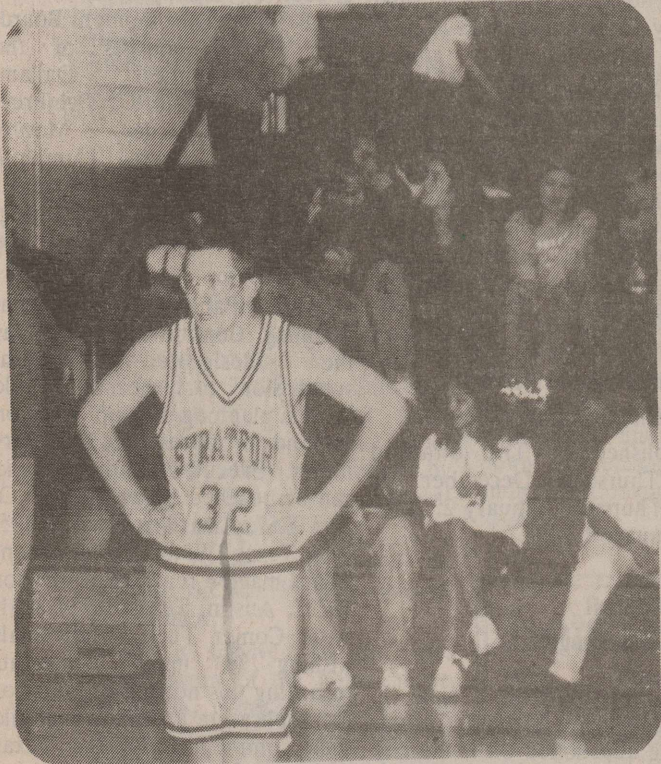
Varsity Elk #10 Josh King



Lady Elk Erin Ashley sets a screen.



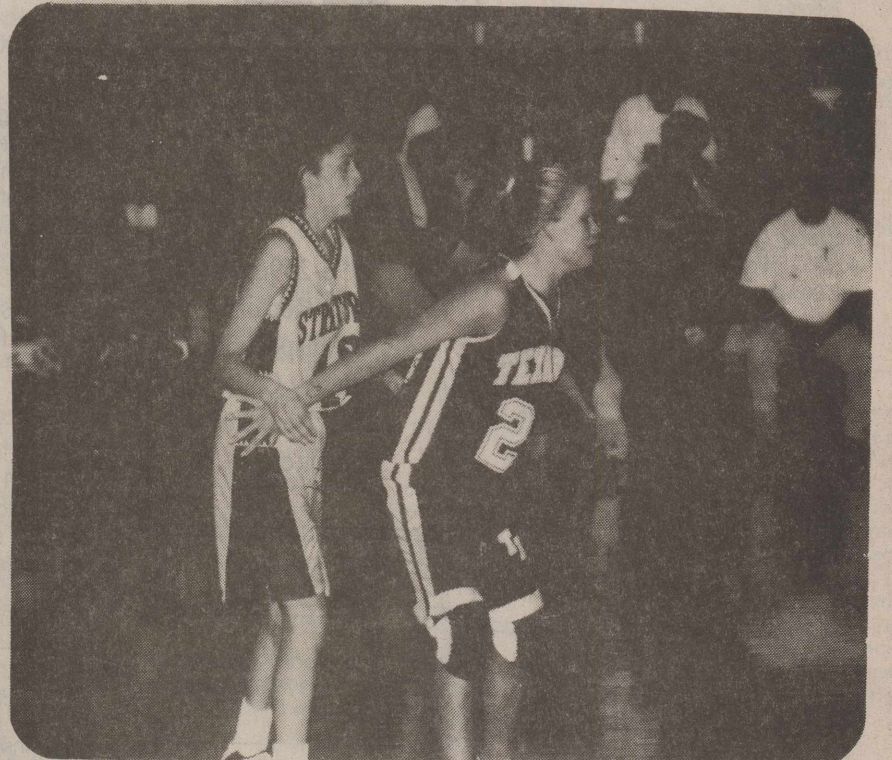
J.V. Lady Elk Jayme Wilhelm



J.V. Elk Brady Bell



Varsity Elk Jason Ashley shoots free throws.



Lady Elk Yadira Ortega



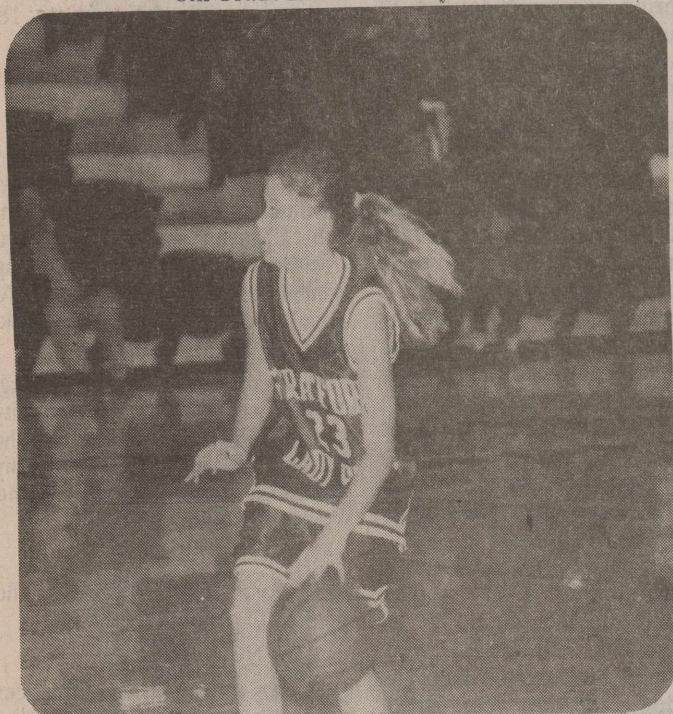
8th Grade Elk Daniel Hays



7th Grade Elk Dillyn Williams

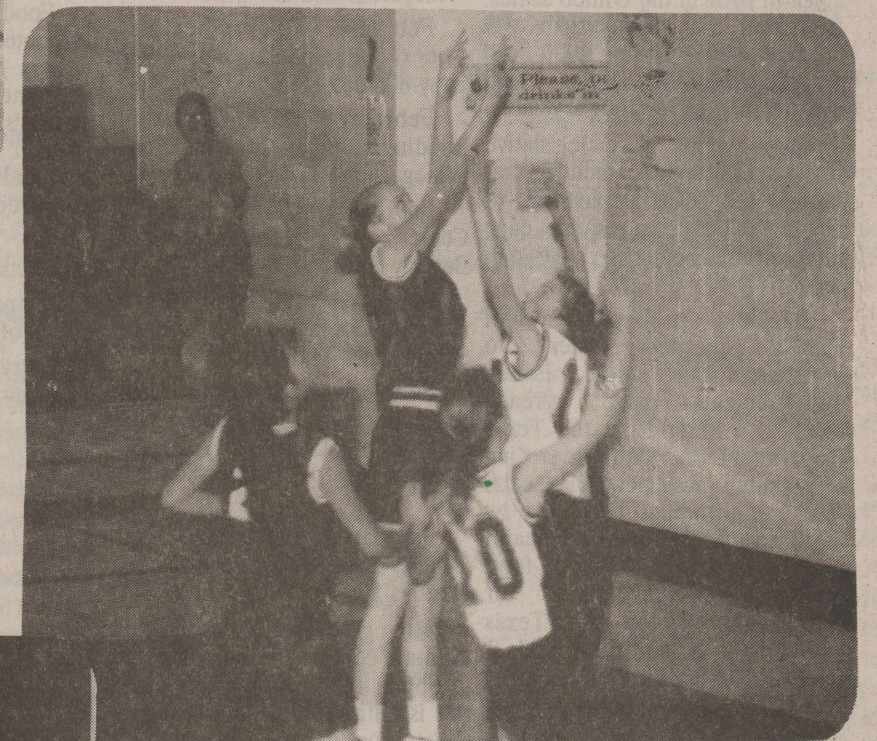


J.V. Elk Case Crabtree

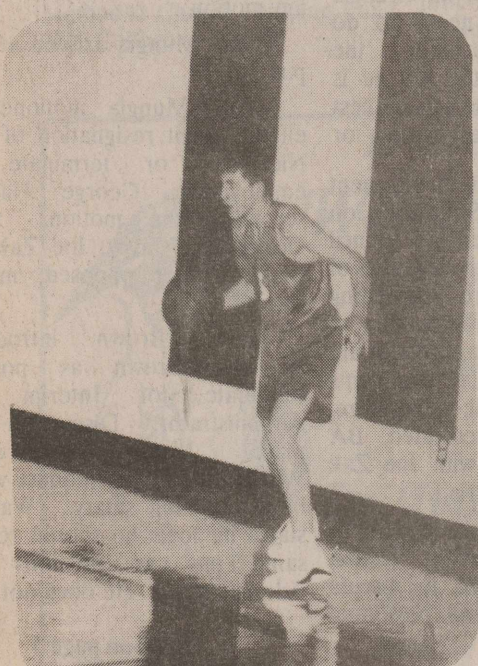


8th Grade Lady Elk Candie Bell.

Win District!!



7th Grade Lady Elk Kathrin Melton shoots as #23 Lucero Ortega stands by.



7th Grade Elk Craig Kautz



8th Grade Elk Scott Hudson

Go Elks & Lady Elks!!