

## Citizens demand answers on local hospital issue

by Janet Felderhoff  
This is the third and final of a series of articles covering the Jan. 11 presentation by John Ayles on Muenster Memorial Hospital. The meeting was filled to capacity with interested citizens. MMH Administrator Jack Endres and three of the Board's nine members attended.

Ben Bindel questioned the Board on what they had done in the way of brainstorming with other rural hospitals to see what was working for them. "I just don't want to go out without a fight, I guess, and we could pool more resources and find out what is working for the other guys... maybe work as a co-op of small rural hospitals. Wouldn't that be great?" Jack Endres informed him that it had already been done.

Don Flusche, MMH board president, explained that the Board has badgered its CPA firms to learn what other hospitals are doing. They do the same with the hospital's attorney Kevin Reeves of Austin, he said. Flusche added that Endres is vice-president of TORCH, an organization of rural hospitals whose representatives pool their ideas. Endres said that TORCH has sponsored and achieved a number of programs that benefit small hospitals.

Bindel referred to Nocona's hospital which had reached the point of threatening to close the doors and somehow did a turn around to become a booming facility.

Herbie Fisher wondered about how the hospital determines which insurance companies it will deal with since MMH isn't a provider under his current policy. He suggested the hospital apply for all insurance companies.

Endres said the hospital applies and then has to negotiate a rate. "They will try to screw us in the ground every time," said Endres. "We do try to negotiate a rate with

everybody that has an insurance company around here. It doesn't work that way all the time." He gave Harris Methodist as an example. They turned MMH down because they already had a provider in this area, he said.

Rufus Henscheid noted that Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison had faxed information to a Muenster person informing them that Congress had okayed

three of the Board members had made about when the hospital might close, Chas Bayer said. "You have to understand that we're on the Board. We're looking five years down the road. We're not looking at next week. We can see what's going to happen and we don't want to get in such bad shape before we run out of options. What the hospital needs is what gets said less than anything,

the hospital, if it's not broke, it's almost broke and there is money there. Whether it's enough to keep the hospital afloat or not, I don't know. If you want the people in Muenster to use the hospital, that's good. But if the people perceive the hospital is going to close anyway they are never going to use the hospital. They have already quit using the hospital. It's a catch 22 situation."

Jack Endres asked, "What do we do then when I can tell you that running year to date numbers, we're going to be about \$400,000.00 under where we are this year. Should I ignore that?"

Urban Endres said regarding the approximate \$800,000.00 MMH had in the bank, "I'm a small businessman. There are expenses up there that amount to two months expenses, roughly. Is there a businessman in here who would not want the money in the bank to cover two months expenses? I don't think that's out of line at all."

Henscheid remarked that it beat the heck out of the \$200,000.00 that the hospital had on hand a few years ago. U. Endres said, "At that time you were broke." "But you're still here," added an audience member.

Urban Endres remarked, "I never did hear this brought up. If the hospital merges, if it comes to that, what difference is it going to be at this hospital after the merge than it is today? Is it the emergency room or is it more than that? What would be gone is my question."

Flusche responded, "The emergency room wouldn't be here, that's for certain." What would be left See HOSPITAL, p.2

*What the hospital needs is what gets said less than anything, people have to use the hospital. Our front door does not open enough. - Chas Bayer*

funding for rural hospitals. Endres responded that it would help, but that all of the money would not go to rural hospitals. Also sometimes the money that they're talking about are scheduled cuts which are delayed, said Endres. "We're not any where close to going back to the Balanced Budget Act (BBA)," noted Endres. "The BBA '97 cut a \$100 and some odd billion dollars and they're going to give us back, I think, \$22 billion."

Henscheid said, "In the first years of this hospital

people have to use the hospital. Our front door does not open enough."

Mary Sicking wondered how the Board could know what would happen five years from now. Bayer answered that they could see that the hospital is in financial trouble. Fisher said, "If you all look five years down the road and Gainesville (Cooke County) builds the hospital they're going to build, and all of a sudden it goes into debt, these low taxes that we're looking at right now in the next few years, predicting at

*There's something that really needs to be settled. Is there money in the bank or not? - Leon Klement*

we didn't have Medicare, we didn't have tax money, and a lot of people didn't have insurance. It was tough, but we kept the thing going and that's what we got to do. We need to work day and night to keep this thing open and operating."

Endres commented that we don't know the full impact of the bill and there will be some benefit which won't be seen for six months or so since it doesn't take effect until this April and July, and later.

Referring back to statements that Endres and

their level, theirs will double and we're in the same boat we're in right now."

Leon Klement said, "There's something that really needs to be settled. Is there money in the bank or not?" The hospital administration conceded that, yes, there was between six and seven hundred thousand dollars in the bank.

"It's out there that the hospital's broke," remarked Klement. "I think that the majority of the people in this community think that



Casey Bell and her Grand Champion Brangus Heifer

## Casey Bell has winning heifer at Fort Worth Stock Show

Casey Bell, a 4-H member from Muenster, exhibited the Grand Champion Brangus Heifer in the Junior Heifer Show at the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show in Fort Worth on Jan. 21. There were 2,119 head entered in the Junior Heifer Show.

The Stock Show's Junior Division this year is hosting a record 9,224 entries by youth of Texas as the culmination of yearlong agricultural educational projects in various areas of livestock production. Junior premiums will exceed \$64,038.

The junior entry list is part of the overall count of more than 22,000 head of cattle, sheep, swine, horses, mules, donkeys, llamas,

goats, poultry, pigeons, and rabbits. The 105th annual Stock Show, underway at the Will Rogers Memorial Center in Fort Worth, will continue through Sunday, Feb. 4. Total prize and premium money for the livestock show and its accompanying World's Original Indoor Rodeo will be in excess of \$800,000.

The Stock Show is a major opportunity to showcase the livestock industry as well as a growing metropolis. The 800,000 visitors to the show during its 17-day run will include many people from nations outside the United States. Last year the show hosted visitors from 73 other countries.

## Schedule set for next blood drives

The schedule set for the next Blood Drives sponsored by Muenster Memorial Hospital has been announced. The Texoma Regional Blood Center Mobile Team will be here on Feb. 22, 2001 at the KC Hall, 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. The following dates are May 3, July 5, Sept. 6, and Nov. 1. In December 2000 there were 33 donors.

## Haywood questions bicycle bill

State Senator Tom Haywood, R-Wichita Falls, met with representatives from the Texas Farm Bureau as well as Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, to discuss the repercussions of Wentworth's SB 238 which prohibits bicycles from riding on farm-to-market and ranch-to-market roads, except in single file.

He has been assured the legislation will include an exception for planned bicycle events such as North Texas' annual "Hotter than Hell Hundred" road race. "I look forward to working with Sen. Wentworth and the Farm Bureau on this measure," Haywood said.

Amending the bill will also hold in place the enormous economic and charitable impact such races have on rural areas in Texas. For example, the Hotter than Hell Hundred brings in more than \$3.6 million annually to the Wichita Falls area.



Ronnie Felderhoff (left) of Muenster Milling Co., emceed the Muenster Chamber of Commerce annual banquet last Saturday. He introduced his friend and business associate Howard Garrett, noted organic advocate from WBAF radio. Watch for the story next week in the Enterprise. Photo by Dave Fette

## Muenster School Board hears first assessment recommendations

by Janie Hartman  
In a called meeting of the Muenster ISD Board of Trustees on Jan. 24, Board members heard reports from three Needs Assessment Committees, the support, vocational, and technical groups. This is the first of the committees to report to the Board with recommendations on what the district is doing right and what changes need to be done to prepare students for college or the work force. The support committees' (counseling, library, and health) recommendations included: hiring a full-time counselor for the elementary campus, expanding the library and services, building a new cafeteria, and fixing the playground. The vocational committee's submission to the board included: improving funding for current programs; hiring CAD teacher; revamping lab with grant funds; adding

basic electronics/computer repair and small engine repair to curriculum.

The summary from the technology committee included: equipment in the science labs; technology honor classes; and robotic courses.

In other business:

- The Board hired Camp Creek Surveying to survey the entire school property.
- Clyde Steelman noted the district has added land over the years and needs a full survey for the district's Master Plan.
- The student trip to Palo Duro Canyon has been postponed due to several student activity conflicts.
- Hired Pam Horn to finish the year in accelerated reading program.
- Discussion on the architect services of Huckabee and Associates and the policy on student travel will be reviewed at the February meeting.

## Muenster ISD Annual Performance Report presents outstanding results

Muenster ISD Superintendent, Clyde W. Steelman, Jr. presented the District's Annual Performance Report (APR) and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Academic Excellence Indicator Systems (AEIS) Report at the Regular Board Meeting, December 13, 2000. Both of these reports provide invaluable information to taxpayers and parents concerning the performance of the Muenster Independent School District.

The APR provides documented information to school board members, parents, business leaders, and community members regarding the yearly performance of students and the school district in general. The AEIS Report is sent annually by TEA to every district in the state. The report analyzes academics, finances, staffing patterns, student testing information, etc., and compares the results with state averages and school districts of similar make-up.

The AEIS reported that the Class of 1999 (Class of 2000 will be included in next year's AEIS report) scored substantially higher than the state average and districts of similar make-up on College Admission Tests. These tests include the SAT, ACT, and a TAAS/TASP Equivalency rating. The TAAS/TASP Equivalency rating is the percentage of students scoring high enough on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) Test to exempt them from taking the mandatory TASP College Entrance Exam, which students must take before full acceptance in all state colleges and universities.

Students excelled on end-of-course exams and TAAS testing at all levels. The high school was awarded an Additional Acknowledgement from TEA for student performance on the TAAS/TASP Equivalent Rating and Reading Scores. Financial information indicates that Muenster ISD educates its students with less money than the state average and schools similar in size. This is welcome news for taxpayers and indicates that students are exceeding current state mandates with less money than other public school districts.

| Some of the features of the AEIS report included | Muenster ISD | State Average | Districts of Similar Make-up |
|--|--------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| SAT Score  | 1045         | 989           | 1000                         |
| % above criterion                                | 41.2%        | 27.2%         | 16.7%                        |
| ACT Score  | 23           | 20.2          | 20.3                         |
| TAAS % Passing Rate                              | 96.7         | 79.9          | 82.9                         |
| School Budget                                    |              |               |                              |
| Expenditures per student                         | \$4,017      | \$4,582       | \$5,749                      |

The Annual Performance Report includes information pertaining to the Elementary and JH/HS campuses at Muenster ISD, percent of students involved in extra-curricular activities, grade distribution, technology, academic UIL results, and much more. Approximately \$409,460 in scholarship money was available for the Class of 2000.

This report will be presented to the Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, February 14, at 7:30 a.m. Reports will be available in local businesses and at school district offices for review. If any organization would like the report and other information presented in an open forum, please contact the Superintendent at 759-2570. Submitted by Clyde W. Steelman, Jr.

# Anti merger group grills hospital board, administrator ..... continued from pg. 1

according to Flusche is the mammography unit, x-ray, laboratory, CT scanner, ultrasound, procedure room, doctors. Steven Fisher asked why all that was needed if we didn't have a hospital to do surgery, etc.

The answer Flusche gave was, "Right now we have less than four patients per day year round. We've got a hospital here we're keeping for those four patients per day average. Those four patients will have to go down the road 10 miles each time they want to go down there. The rest of the people can stay right here in Muenster and get all the care they need. It's a lot cheaper that way. If you don't merge the hospital this is what's going to happen. Gainesville is going to build their hospital anyway and then Muenster will have a hospital district, possibly, and you'll have the expenses of all the indigent care and so forth, but you won't have any of the benefits. Then you don't have any assurance of keeping your clinic open. If you merge with Gainesville and we get four people on that board I believe we can have a good representation."

Someone asked if we ever got anything from Gainesville. Henscheid said that he's read the proposed enabling legislation for the merged districts. "That bill has no penalty," he pointed out. "If Gainesville wants to shut Muenster down I see nothing in that bill that's a penalty. ... You say in there that they're going to keep a clinic here but, there's not a penalty in that rule anywhere that says what will happen if they close that thing."

Flusche said if we have good people on the board of directors then you should be able to get everything you're going after. Henscheid said we wouldn't have the majority. Another said he couldn't see us having four people on the board since we only have 10 percent of the population. Flusche claimed that since (County) Precincts #3 and #4 were in the Muenster Hospital District we would have two representatives from each. (In fact Precincts #3 and #4 have more people in the Gainesville Hospital District.)

Ben Bindel asked Flusche if that was in writing and he

was told it was. Flusche said, "There will nine people on the board, two people from each precinct and one at large. That means Muenster could actually have five people on that board." Henscheid countered that claim, "We don't have all of Precinct #3 and we don't have all of Precinct #4. We only have a part of that. We've got all of Era, we've got a part of Gainesville, that's all a part of those two precincts. We have no assurance of having anybody on the board."

Aytes noted that the top maximum number of Muenster Hospital District voters is 15 percent. Flusche claimed it would be 25 percent after the redistricting is completed. Flusche said he wasn't talking about the hospital district, but about the precincts.

*Is there a businessman in here who would not want the money in the bank to cover two months expenses? - Urban Endres*

Herbie Fisher informed Flusche that our precincts go to Gainesville. He added, "Who is to say that somebody northeast of Lindsay is not on Gainesville's side? I can remember in days when we were in high school all these towns hated each other to the point that they wouldn't do business with each other. What brought that change about?"

Endres commented, "I just want to know with all of the Gainesville people in Precinct #4, for example, how is Virgil Hess our commissioner? It's a paid job. Do you think more people are going to scramble over a paid commissioners job or do you think they'll scramble more after an unpaid volunteer position on our hospital board?"

Klement quizzed the administration on another subject, "If we keep our hospital district and Gainesville does theirs and we go broke, do we have to be in their hospital district? Can they absorb us?"

The answer was no, but the Muenster Hospital District would have to pay the indigent care if they go there. If there were no MMH hospital and no MMH

district, the County Commissioners would assess people in the area of the Muenster Hospital District a tax because they would be responsible for paying the indigent care.

Henscheid said, "Our history of indigent care here should be and has been much less than down there." Endres remarked that all it would take would be one premature baby or one burn patient to wipe out a whole year. Henscheid wondered, "What are they going to do take the district? There isn't anything they can do about it."

Going back to Aytes' suggestions to reduce expense in the District, Endres asked about the Family Health Clinic. According to Aytes the nurse practitioners are costing about \$155,000.00 to \$165,000.00 per year and

aren't bringing in any where near that amount. Endres asked what they were bringing in but Aytes had no answer. Endres said their salary wasn't that amount. Aytes said it was close when you included benefits.

Endres then said that without nurse practitioners there could be no rural health clinic. That's what the MMH Health Clinic and Lindsay Health Clinic are said Endres. "They are Medicare designated rural health clinics that entitles them to special reimbursements," Endres said.

Aytes wondered what that meant in dollars to the hospital's income. Endres answered, "It means cost based reimbursements. Everything that we are getting now is propped up by Medicare. Part of the doctors' income is propped up by the presence of those two Medicare funded clinics and if you get rid of the nurse practitioners you lose that designation. You can't have one without the other. It is a matter of law. You must have mid level practitioners in the clinic in order to get the designation. If you want to trash the nurse practitioners that's fine, but keep in mind that Dr. Morrill and Dr. Edd Advincula just went down the toilet."

Aytes requested more explanation. Endres went on, "Do you think the doctors run their own practice or do you think the clinic pays the doctors?" Aytes said that there was only one doctor here who ran their own business.

"The point being you don't know what you're talking about. You want to get rid of these nurse practitioners because you think you can cut costs and I'm telling you by doing that you wreck the clinic, you wreck the source of Dr. Advincula and Dr. Morrill's income."

Aytes asked if there would be no Medicare reimbursement if there were no nurse practitioners. Endres said, "They are not reimbursed as a rural health clinic. We are getting cost reimbursed. Right now Dr. Edd and Dr. Morrill don't have to worry about collecting from patients. They are collecting contractual payment from

the hospital to run the clinic. There are very limited ways we can funnel money to doctors without running afoul of a host of federal laws. The rural health clinic allow us to do that. Without that tool to do that we could not have recruited Dr. Morrill and we could not have kept Dr. Advincula."

Asked if both nurse practitioners were needed, Endres said no. If one was let go the Saturday morning clinics would probably be shut down, he said. Flusche said we wouldn't be able to see as many patients. Aytes asked Endres if the nurse practitioners were paying their way in the patients that they see and Endres said he'd have to check the stats. Flusche protested that taking away nurse practitioners would be taking away health care from the people in Muenster who were paying tax dollars for it.

Binzel wondered if the Lindsay Health Clinic was necessary and Endres said it wasn't. Endres said the Board had talked about Lindsay. It was opened because they had an opportunity to do three for the price of two.

Binzel asked what was the net worth of the Muenster Hospital District. Aytes said as of June 30, 2000, the district's book value was \$2,250,570.00. "Don, with that number in your head, what is the Muenster Memorial Hospital District getting for two and a quarter million dollars that we have? What is my money buying me?"

Flusche said that about the biggest thing that would be lost was the emergency room, that and surgery and inpatients. "You're going to keep a first class clinic here where if you get sick you can run down and see the doctor," expounded Flusche. "Now if you're really sick they're going to ship you to Gainesville. You're still going to be able to go to a doctor right here at home, but if you're sick you don't have to drive all the way to Denton."

Aytes remarked that if the hospital closes we have two chances to keep doctors here, slim and none. Flusche asked, "What about the doctors I just talked with about a month ago who want to move here if we merge?"

Binzel said he'd like to finish his point, "For two and whatever change millions, I'm going to lose the emergency room and I'm going to get a very, very nice clinic that I have right now basically. In the mean time hopefully, and I say hopefully, we'll have some say-so on the board of the Cooke County hospital. What is Gainesville throwing into the pot?"

Flusche said that their debt would be paid off because they have the funds on hand to pay off the debt. Endres said that if Binzel would call him the next day he could give him the numbers from Gainesville's financial statement.

Binzel continued, "Then in return we'll lose revenue, we're going to lose people coming over here because the same facility that we have here they're going to go to the place - new bright, clean, brand new, state-of-the-art. The only people who are going to use this are hopefully the 1400 people who are here yet."

Endres said the bright, clean, high tech would put Muenster further and further behind. Binzel said Gainesville had a lot of problems in its hospital. "It's been a long time since I had to use it, but I had no other choice but to go there. You're as good as dead! So I don't think building a whole new building with fancy glass and everything else is

going to fix those problem, that's an internal problem."

Flusche said that is why he wants at least four board members from Muenster on the new hospital board. He was told that would never happen. Endres said they would start off with four people on the board. (Gainesville will have five). Henscheid said that they were looking down the road and there was no way Muenster would have four people on the board and besides four people isn't even half. "If you have a partnership that has 51 percent, that 51 percent controls," he noted. "If you don't have control you have nothing to say."

A question was posed as to putting some of the hospital staff on call and using help only when needed. Endres said that they were operating with the minimum because there have to be enough to staff the emergency room and care for patients should there be an emergency. Bigger hospitals can put people on call and operate with a minimum core staff, but MMH is already staffed at minimum, he said.

Endres was asked why Muenster couldn't have an emergency room if we merged. His answer was that it is one of the most expensive things we have. Endres commented that Gainesville physicians and GMH board members Dr. Doug Lewis and Dr. Khawaja Anwar both argued for an emergency room in Muenster. Endres said that he finds it hard to argue for what is the most money losing thing in the world and he'd rather see the merged district take See MERGER, p.3

## MUENSTER ENTERPRISE

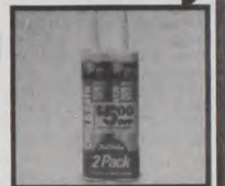
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## Muenster Jaycees Annual

# Installation Banquet

Feb. 10

Happy Hour: 6 pm  
 Dinner: 7 pm

KC Hall

Honoring Citizen of the Year

FOR INFORMATION OR TICKETS CONTACT  
 Craig Monday 759-5284

## 2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

|  |  |  |   |   |  |  |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Sunday, February 4, 2001</b><br>Muenster Museum CLOSED  | <b>Monday, February 5, 2001</b><br>City Council meeting, 7:30 pm<br>Home Hospice Bereavement Parent/Grandparent Support Group, 7 PM, Home Hospice Office | <b>Tuesday, February 6, 2001</b><br>Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center<br>Tigers vs. Abilene Christian-First Round Playoffs -H- 6 PM | <b>Wednesday, February 7, 2001</b><br>Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center<br>C of C Board meeting, 5 PM<br>Rel. Ed. Class, 7 PM / TDH<br>Immunization Clinic, 9-11 AM, Cooke Co. Electric, Flu Shots available / MISD Needs Committee Reports, JH Auditorium, 7 PM | <b>Thursday, February 8, 2001</b><br>Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center<br>Muenster Museum CLOSED<br>Muenster Historical Commission meeting, 8 AM / CC Business Women meet Noon, Wooden Spoon / Parenting Class sessions begins 6-8 PM, Room B-4 Courthouse / DIALOGUE Support Group meeting, 7 PM, Home Hospice / Muenster Booster Club meeting, 7 PM, New Gym | <b>Friday, February 9, 2001</b><br>Muenster Museum CLOSED  | <b>Saturday, February 10, 2001</b><br>Muenster JC Installation Banquet, 6 PM, KC Hall, Dinner 7 PM |
| <b>Sunday, February 11, 2001</b><br>Muenster Museum CLOSED | <b>Monday, February 12, 2001</b><br>VFW meeting, 8 PM  | <b>Tuesday, February 13, 2001</b><br>Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center<br>Sacred Heart Preschool Parents meeting, 7 PM              | <b>Wednesday, February 14, 2001</b><br>Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center<br>SH Alumni meeting, 7:30 PM / C of C Breakfast meeting, 7:30 am, The Center / MISD Board meeting, 7:30 PM / C of C Dinner Theater / Rel. Ed. Class, 7 PM                              | <b>Thursday, February 15, 2001</b><br>Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center<br>Muenster Museum CLOSED  | <b>Friday, February 16, 2001</b><br>Muenster Museum CLOSED | <b>Saturday, February 17, 2001</b>   |

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**MERGER** ..... cont. from pg. 3

over the ambulance service and have ambulances stationed at Muenster and Lake Kiowa.

Aytes commented, "There's one thing evident and that is that you people are here for one reason and that is you're interested in maintaining and keeping our own hospital. Now the Board thinks that we should merge. They've made it obvious that they're committed to merge. They're committed to closing down our hospital. We've got to do everything that we possibly can to prevent the closure of the hospital, convince these people that it is a viable operation."

"One way of doing that is to petition for the election, for the referendum, we can decide within a very short time. They will have to bring it to a vote once we give them a petition that is signed by enough people (about 300). By law they have 60 days to bring it to election. Once we go to the election and show them that we are serious about keeping our hospital and we are not going to give up our hospital district perhaps they will get serious about trying to save it, perhaps they will not. What we can do is get this petition signed get it on the road, bring it to

No, it seemed like they had made up their mind that they were merging. Maybe they went out and asked everybody in Muenster but me. Did you ask people what they wanted? Give us the brains that we're smart enough that we can handle this stuff! You can tell us. Don't do things behind our back."

Phil Endres said, "Yes, we talked to Gainesville for four or five years. We looked at all kinds of things during that period of time."

Mrs. Walterscheid asked why the Board didn't tell the public. Phil noted, "Because everybody knew the hospital was struggling with different things. No where did we ever say, 'This is it, we're merging with Gainesville.' We signed a resolution saying that that's what we think is the thing to do. We said from day one that it was going to require an election of the people."

Jack Endres said that someone had mentioned earlier in the evening that reason the hospital was losing money was because they told everybody that the hospital was going to merge with Gainesville. He wondered, "If we'd done that five years ago we certainly wouldn't have the doctors that we have now."

*Did you ask people what they wanted? Give us the brains that we're smart enough that we can handle this stuff! You can tell us. Don't do things behind our back. - Theresa Walterscheid*

a vote, and by voting that we do not want to give up our hospital, we do not want to merge."

Gerald Walterscheid said he'd read an article in *Successful Farming* about how rural hospitals are staying open. He said it was about a hospital in northwest Iowa. Walterscheid called the administrator of that hospital and was told by her that they were recouping every penny of their loss through Medicare. He said it was a 12 bed hospital and they were recouping about \$225,000.00 a year of lost money from Medicare through a loophole in the Bill. The administrator offered to talk to anyone from here who wanted to talk about the situation, said Walterscheid.

Endres said there were businesses devoted to finding loopholes who will offer to examine cost reports for a certain percentage of the money recouped.

Theresa Walterscheid remarked, "What really bothers me about this whole thing is, and maybe I'm really not with it and what's going on in this world, I had no idea that this was all going on until how many months back when they said the hospital is merging with Gainesville. Well, who asked us did we want to be?

Carol Aytes remarked, "Jack and Don, John has no ulterior motive here. We came back to this community. It was home town." She said that they'd talked to Jack and were told Aytes would be able to get the treatments at the Muenster hospital. That and to be around family were the reasons the couple moved back to Muenster and built a home down the street from the hospital, she said. We talked to you, Jack, about treatments because he (John) has to have these expensive treatments."

Discussion followed between Aytes and Endres on how had factual information in their Letters To The Editor. Endres asked for a letter by letter comparison in the paper to clarify facts.

Henscheid said, "Jack and Board it's a fact that we want to keep our hospital, we want to keep our district and we're going to do everything we can to keep it."

Endres cautioned that care should be taken because there would be too many people who would get pink slips if it went down hard. Gerald Walterscheid said he'd been through seven mergers and he's seen some big management go down to painting walls, etc. to keep their jobs.

**Muenster scores well on the Keep America Beautiful litter index but still has problems**

In October an entourage of Keep Muenster Beautiful Board members divided the Muenster area into eleven segments and set out to conduct the required annual Keep America Beautiful (KAB) litter index. The litter index was conducted before the fall community-wide clean up to get a true picture of local litter problems. Prior to conducting the litter index, the scorers received training and watched a KAB video describing the appearance of the four possible scores an

area may receive. During the actual scoring process the scorers were not allowed to talk or influence the scores of one another. They were instructed to rate each area on a scale of one to four, with one being the best, indicating no litter or so little that one person could easily pick up the litter. A score of four indicates an extremely littered area requiring the need for equipment to clean up the area. Muenster has no segmented areas scoring 3 or 4. The highest scoring

area with the most litter was the first four miles of Highway 82 from Main Street going east, with scores of 2.3 and 2.6. This area has the highest concentration of convenience and liquor stores. Proprietors in this area have supported the Keep Muenster Beautiful clean ups with memberships and donations. However, the patrons of these businesses may be careless with their drink and food packaging after leaving these businesses. This area will become a target for change through the Keep Muenster Beautiful organization.

keeping, storing or accumulating rubbish, including newspapers, abandoned vehicles, refrigerators, stoves, furniture, tires, and cans, on premises in a neighborhood for 10 days or more, unless the rubbish or object is completely enclosed in a building or is not visible from a public street; 3) maintaining premises in a manner that creates an unsanitary condition likely to attract or harbor mosquitoes, rodents, vermin, or disease-carrying pests; 4) allowing weeds to grow on premises in a neighborhood if the weeds are located within 300 feet of another residence or commercial establishment... If you have a "public nuisance" issue in your

neighborhood please report it to Muenster City Hall. Our public officials are elected to care for the general welfare of the community as a whole and their concern for the community must be, and is greater than any one person, residence or business.

All eleven segments of Muenster were scored. The scores were averaged to determine the overall Keep America Beautiful litter index score for Muenster, which is 1.6 - an excellent

overall score. The KAB litter index will be conducted annually to determine the effectiveness of the Keep Muenster Beautiful anti-litter campaign and to continue to identify and address problem areas.

**Obituaries**

**Billy Doyce Gaston 1927 - 2001**

Billy Doyce Gaston of Saint Jo died at age 73 on Jan. 25, 2001 at 2:00 a.m. in Muenster Memorial Hospital.

He was born on Apr. 28, 1927 in Montague County to Elmer James Gaston and Della Ferguson Gaston. On Oct. 26, 1949 he married Peggy Jo Sandlin in Gainesville. He was born, raised and lived in the Saint Jo area all his life except when employed in the oil field; and was a plumber for more than 40 years. He was a family man, and was devoted to his grandchildren. His hobbies were fishing, hunting, and watching sports, especially football.

Survivors are his wife, Peggy Gaston of Saint Jo; and two daughters, Tracey Lynn Davis of Saint Jo and Tammy Morris of Paul's

Valley, Oklahoma, and one son Mike Gaston of Rowlett. There are six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Also one brother, Jimmy Gaston of Grandview.

Preceding him death were his parents; one daughter, Pamela Gayle; one son Eric Dale Gaston.

Services were held on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2001 at McCoy Funeral Home in Saint Jo, officiated by Rev. Ricky Kerr. Burial in Union Cemetery of Montague County was directed by McCoy Funeral Home of Saint Jo. Pallbearers were Doug Gaston, Jana Gaston, David Gaston, Sharon Gaston, Mike Preuninger, and Darla Preuninger. Honorary pallbearers were Johnnie Hall, Gene and Pauline Parker, and Jean Dennis.



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**PROCLAMATION**

Whereas: The Boy Scout Oath states: "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight", and

Whereas: The Scout Law states: "A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent", and

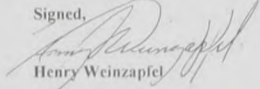
Whereas: The Scout Slogan states: "Do a Good Turn Daily", and

Whereas: The Scout Oath, Scout Law, and Scout Slogan serve as everyday guidelines for a good life, we the citizens of the city of Muenster, Texas desire to instill these guidelines in our youth of today and those yet to come.

Therefore: The citizens of the city of Muenster, Texas have requested that the week of February 4, 2001 be proclaimed and honored as Scout Week, to show appreciation and gratitude to the work done by the Boy Scouts of America for the betterment of our community.

Therefore: I, Henry Weinzapfel, mayor of Muenster, Texas hereby proclaim the week of February 4<sup>th</sup> Scout Week.

Signed,



Henry Weinzapfel

**From My Side of the Fence**

by Ed Cler

Surfing the T.V. late Friday evening I was surprised to see an ad on Channel 2 wishing me "Happy 86th Birthday" from "my family."

I had no doubt who was responsible for the ad that was to run Jan. 27, Saturday, my birthday. The loving culprit was Sandra Fuhrmann, one of my much loved daughters, and I was to later learn that quite a number of people had a suggestion or two in the forming of the ad and its good wishes.

My sincere thanks to all who had part in it. Yesterday, Sunday Jan. 28, the greatly hyped Super Bowl football game was aired. I must say the outcome was of little or no interest to me or Tony, who is quite a football enthusiast.

I had intended to tune the game in, now and then, to

learn what the score might be, but there was little to cause any excitement until the Giants ran a kickoff back almost the length of the field, scoring 7 points, and causing us to think perhaps they would make a game of it yet.

Well, as soon as the Giants kicked off after their score, the Ravens returned the ball all the way to score 7 more points for a total of 24, to the Giants 7.

Taking into account the fact that the Ravens had scored 7 points just before the Giants tallied their only 7 of the game, there were 21 points scored in just 36 seconds of game time.

Well folks, I am a football fan, but this was just another dull and uninteresting exhibition. The Giants didn't seem to have any real enthusiasm, and the Ravens had just enough to win. Ho-Hum.

**Texas Railroad Commissioner Charles Matthews proposes standards**

Texas Railroad Commissioner Charles Matthews has once again called upon his colleagues to adopt the Public Utility Commission's (PUC) Conflict of Interest standards.

"The PUC's standards are more in line with the duties at the Railroad Commission," stated Matthews. "A very large number of Texans are affected by the actions of the RRC, particularly when the RRC is setting the rates that can be charged by local gas utility companies and the pipeline industry."

The Texas Public Utility

Commissioners perform similar functions to those of the Railroad Commissioners. The PUC of Texas, established by the Public Utility Regulatory Act in 1975, represents and protects the public interest in regard to public utility rates, operations, and services. Likewise, the RRC has been given the same charge in regards to gas utilities.

"I believe it is important to set high standards at the Commission, and I believe adopting the Public Utility Commission's standards are the best way to accomplish this task," said Matthews.

**State GOP relaunches website**

Susan Weddington, Republican Party of Texas Chairman, announced the re-launch of the award winning state GOP website, TexasGOP.org. The new website is an expansion and improvement of the Republican Party's original website, which Campaigns & Elections magazine recently named the "best

state party site" in the nation for Campaign 2000.

The 2001 Republican Party of Texas website will include:

**77th Legislature Updates:** Every two years legislators from around Texas meet to tackle the toughest questions facing Texas government. Updates from the 77th Legislature

will let those who subscribe to the free e-mail notification system stay on top of breaking developments in the State Capitol.

**Republican Spin Cycle:** The most popular section of the original site returns with political commentary on the latest happenings in the world of Texas politics.

Free e-mail notification gives subscribers all the news that's fit to spin!

**Today's Top Stories:** All the top political stories of the day, plus facts you won't hear on the evening news, updated every morning. Find out how Republican leadership is working for Texas in Austin and Washington, D.C.

**Redistricting 2001:** See what's at stake for Texas with redistricting in 2001 and learn more about the redistricting process.

**GOP Library:** Read about the history of the Republican Party, see how Republican leaders are "putting principle into practice," or compare the

basic values of the two major political parties.

**GOPoll:** Sound off and let Texas Republican leaders hear your opinion on policy and politics.

**Get Involved:** Volunteer to help the Republican Party of Texas, your county Republican Party and local Republican officials all in one place!

**Letters to the Editor**

**Letter to the Editor,**

In the 22 years as CEO of my own business, I had several opportunities to expand my original company by purchasing other companies or by starting other business ventures. Most of these opportunities I declined because the profit potential did not meet my expectations. (They wouldn't make money).

Each business opportunity that arose would be studied and analyzed to determine if it offered a good possibility to generate a profit. We would look at market trends, economic forecast, cash flow projections, government

regulations, employment cost, etc. Every effort was made to reduce the risk of losing money. As CEO, it was my responsibility to produce a profit, and steer clear of any money losing business ventures.

The hospital administrator has recently involved our Muenster Hospital in two business ventures - and both are losing money according to the financial report for FY 2000.

In June of 1998, MMH purchased Saint Richard's Villa. According to the financial report FY 2000, the loss for the past 2 years exceed \$181,000.

The second business, a start-up venture in the form of the Lindsay Clinic has generated losses of \$97,000 in the past 2 years.

Did our hospital Administrator perform the necessary research, before recommending the investment of taxpayer's money in these two business ventures?

With this \$278,000 loss, I would agree with our Administrator when he says we can't afford to keep our hospital open. But maybe closing the hospital isn't the solution. Would better management decisions be our solution?

Doug Hellman  
Saint Jo, Texas

**Letter To The Editor,**

The Hospital Administrator and several Hospital Board Members are very much in fear of bringing to the voters of this Hospital District the simple question of whether or not we dissolve the District. They know that the voters will resoundingly defeat the idea of closing our Hospital for the purpose of MERGING with the Gainesville District. So they have set about trying every thing possible to make voters believe that there is something illegal about bringing the question before the voters. The Administrator, in last Tuesday's Hospital Board Meeting, told everyone there that the Petition being currently circulated and demanding the vote was illegal. I challenged him on his statement, and he maintained he was correct, but by the next day he withdrew his statement, via his letter in this paper. But he now is asserting other illegalities and doing his best to create a smoke screen.

The Petition IS LEGAL AND VALID, and with signatures of 15% of the voters in this District, by law, they MUST bring it to a vote. The enabling legislation that originated this current Muenster Hospital District sets that out very, very clearly!! Do not be fooled on this issue.

Let's clear away the smoke on the issue of voting. We talk about the Texas Legislature creating new legislation that will allow for Gainesville and Muenster Hospital Districts to MERGE, if the voters in both districts want it. That new (enabling) legislation provides for the following election (referendum): There will be only two questions on the matter - the same two questions will be voted on in both Districts. Those questions are 1) Do you want to dissolve your Hospital District?, and 2) Do you want to MERGE the two Districts into one new District? Now understand this, only one "NO" vote by the majority in either District will have the effect of killing the issue of MERGER. It makes no difference which question receives the "NO" majority vote, nor in which District. That is the end of the matter!

Now the Administrator is saying that a vote held at this time on whether we want to dissolve our District will deprive the voters a right to vote on the second question - "Do you want to MERGE?..." Well obviously, when we vote that we are not going to close down our Hospital and District, we are at the same time saying we are not going to MERGE. When we vote "NO" on either question, we make the decision against MERGER. It takes only one majority "NO" vote to say no to both questions! The fact that we say "NO" as soon as possible, rather than wait until later, has the same effect. But just in case we in the opposition group have misinterpreted what the voters are saying, and the majority vote goes to those in favor of closing our hospital and district, because they do indeed want to MERGE, then they will have a chance to vote on the MERGER once the new enabling legislation is ready. But no one knows when it'll be ready.

Just be aware that voting soonest possible increases chances of saving our Hospital, as well as our District, and the earliest vote deprives no one of a fair vote. Get your name on the Petition, and then remember to vote. Petitions are available for signing at many business places in town, or call me - I'll bring you a Petition.

John G. Ayles, Muenster

**City Council Agenda**

The following is the agenda for the regular meeting of the Muenster City Council to be held at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall meeting room on Monday, February 5, 2001.

1. Call meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. Opening prayer.
3. Approve minutes of the regular meeting on January 2, 2001, and special meeting on January 24, 2001.
4. Recognize visitors and invite them to attend the entire council meeting and to discuss their business.
5. Consider any other business to come before the Council.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Consider and act on closing of East Eighth Street and Walnut Street.
2. Consider and act on removal of old water storage tank.
3. Consider and act on tax abatement agreement with Universal Machining Services, Inc.
4. Consider and act on nomination of member to Zoning Board of Adjustments.
5. Consider and act on Fire Department building extension.
6. Receive police activities report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Receive presentation from Terry Tombaugh, TXU Electric & Gas Company, regarding deregulation and gas line on bridge.
2. Consider and act on tax abatement request from Klement Ford of Muenster.
3. Mayor to call election for May 5, 2001. Seats up for election are as follows: Mayor, Place 3 (Joey Anderson), and Place 5 (Stan Endres).
4. Consider and act on approving advertising for bids for street curbing and paving work.
5. Consider and act on approval of purchase of street sweeper.
6. Consider and act on Texas Municipal League's notice concerning building valuations for property coverage insurance.
7. Discuss preliminary annexation plans.
8. Receive update on current city projects.
9. Consider and act on budget amendment #1 for FY 00-01 - General Fund and Water & Sewer Fund.
10. Review and act on monthly bills.
11. Adjourn.

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**Letters to the Editor policy**

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and the writer's phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters should be concise and could be subject to editing if considered too lengthy. Letters endorsing political candidates will be published only as paid advertising. Letters to the editor will be printed at the publisher's discretion.

## Walterscheids married 50 years

Leonard and Betty Walterscheid of Grand Junction, Colorado, formerly of Muenster, are celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary this week. They were married on Jan. 20, 1951 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. They have five children, Tommy (Treva) Walterscheid, Cindy (Denny) Granum, Lenny (Korine) Walterscheid, Mike (Chris) Walterscheid, and Dianna (Jim) Bicknell. There are nine grandchildren. Their children, spouses and grandchildren observed the anniversary together with several close friends at an anniversary dinner. Leonard and Betty will take

a trip to Puerta Vallarta, Mexico soon. Their Muenster relatives are Wilfred and Lillian Walterscheid and Mrs. Elizabeth Koessler, and from OLV in Fort Worth is Sister Francesca Walterscheid.



Leonard & Betty Walterscheid



Victor and Mary Nell de la Garza of McAllen announces the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Vanessa Catherine de la Garza of Austin, to Cory James Rosser Smith, also of Austin, son of Patricia Ann Evins-Smith and Lonnie Smith, both of Sharyland, and the late Ralph Dale Smith. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Charles H. and Dorothy Mae Luke Denny of San Antonio and Marcella Gonzales de la Garza of McAllen and the late Victor de la Garza, Sr. Her great-grandparents were the late Mr. and Mrs. Ben Luke of Muenster. The future groom is the grandson of Inez Smith and the late Luby Smith and the late Jessie Evins; he is the great-grandson of the late Mary Jane Evins, all of Edinburg. The wedding will take place on June 30, 2001 at Our Lady of the Sorrows Chapel in McAllen. The bride-elect is a 1995 graduate of McAllen Memorial High School and will graduate from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in Nursing in May 2001. The future-groom is a 1994 graduate of Sharyland High School and a 1999 graduate of Texas A&M University with a bachelor of science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is employed as an engineer in the live planning department of Samsung Austin Semiconductor in Austin.

## News from Den 2 Wolves

The Den 2 Wolves of Pack 664 held den meetings respectively on Monday, Jan. 15 and on Monday, Jan. 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Edelweiss TeaHaus. Attending were scouts Matt Hesse, Jordan Henscheid, Chad Walterscheid, Ryan Felderhoff, Tanner Silmon, Jason Luke, Will Taylor, and Aaron Grewing.

At the Jan. 15 meeting, the scouts prepared place mats that will be used at the Blue and Gold Banquet to be held on Feb. 4. Their den leader, Charla Taylor then discussed the Pinewood Derby, the Blue

and Gold Banquet, and the Operation Lifesaver Poster Contest. Achievement beads were distributed to the scouts, and the meeting ended with refreshments.

The Jan. 22 meeting began with the scouts and their den leader preparing snacks that will be placed on their table at the Blue and Gold Banquet. Achievements and Electives earned by the scouts were discussed, and future plans were made for activities the scouts will participate in that will earn them additional belt loops and pins.

## Support group offers help to bereaved parents

Children are the most precious blessing of a parent's life. Therefore, losing a child is probably the most traumatic situation a parent will ever cope with, whether the loss be due to illness, accident, or war. You do not have to endure this pain, loneliness or emptiness alone. Come meet others who feel the pain of losing a child and let your feelings and emotions come out in a safe, comfortable environment. There are people who care and want to help if you are

willing to accept help. If this sounds like a group for you, please come on Monday, Feb. 5 at 7:00 p.m. to the Home Hospice office, 1001 East Broadway in Gainesville.

Home Hospice of Cooke County offers this support group the first Monday of each month and is free of charge. If you need further information please feel free to call Kelly Lamkin, L.S.W. at 940-665-9891. There are people who care and are willing and ready to listen.



New officers for the St. Anne's Society were installed at a special ceremony by Fr. John Ohner (back). Incoming officers are, from left, vice president Mary Endres, president Imelda Rohmer, treasurer Lanie Bartush, outgoing officers Toni Hess and Tillie Otto. Courtesy photo

## Kyle turns three

Kyle James Klement, son of Kevin and Terri Klement turned three on Saturday, Jan. 13. First there was a party at his Grandpa Jim Whitley's house on Friday in Denison, with friend and family. Hamburgers, cake and ice cream were served.

On Sunday he celebrated at home with his parents, brother Kolby, grandparents Helen and David Fisher and Tony and Sis Klement, and great-grandparents Dorothy and Paul Fisher. Also many aunts, uncles and cousins attended. They all enjoyed a chicken spaghetti dinner.

Decorations included a construction zone theme. The birthday cake was decorated as a construction zone with dump trucks.

Special friends Tracey, Glenn, and Caleb Skrivanek

spent the weekend to celebrate Kyle's birthday. The next day he observed his birthday with friends at Tender Loving Care Day Care Center, and shared cupcakes with them.



Kyle James Klement

## Why weight?

It is an established fact based on various surveys that the prime interest of adults is that of health - not politics, history, or even the weather - but health - their health and the health of their families. What a paradoxical age we live in! In the 21st century, we have more doctors, hospitals, and medicines. We have more medical knowledge about the care, treatment, and curing disease. We have more pills, capsules, vitamins, etc., yet seldom has there been a time when more sickness and general ill health has plagued the human family. In spite of incredible programs in medical research, the problems of health and longevity are still the most serious our society faces.

The Surgeon General has recently stated that we are having an epidemic of weight and weight related conditions like diabetes. These problems affect people all around the U.S. - even people in Gainesville, Texas! Is being overweight the only risk factor for diabetes? Is diabetes the only complication of an enlarging waistline or dress size?

On Monday, February 5, at 7 p.m., Dr. Zeno Charles-Marcel will present "Why

Weight," at the Gainesville Seventh-day Adventist Church located at 2845 North Weaver. This program will help better understand the underlying causes of diabetes, and the health risk involved.

Come and hear Dr. Zeno as he presents information that will show you if you are at risk and what simple steps you can take to remove the risk, treat the problem, and even reverse the course of these killer diseases.

The program will be free and following the lecture, refreshments will be served. To put into practice the techniques and suggestions

## Sam Houston Univ. announces Dean's List

Clinton Gallagher, a graduate of Lindsay High School, son of Eddie and Corie Gallagher of Gainesville, has been named to the Dean's List at Sam Houston State University for Fall, 2000. The Dean's List at Sam Houston consists of full-time students having Grade Point averages of 3.5 and above. A perfect record (A) averages 4.0.

Dr. Zeno shares, Linda Alexander will conduct a free wellness program with low impact creative movement of stretching, strengthening and conditioning. This begins Monday, Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. and will continue for the next three consecutive Mondays (Feb. 19, 26, and Mar. 5) at the Gainesville Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Lecture and Class size are limited. You may sign up for "Why Weight" or the wellness class by calling toll-free 888-778-4445 daytime or evenings at 940-726-3669.

## News of the Sick

Ronnie Hess of Bridgeport underwent major back surgery in Harris Hospital of Fort Worth. He is recovering at home, where Get Well cards will reach him at 1741 Boston Ave., Bridgeport, TX 76426.

## Meeting Notice

**DIALOGUE**  
DIALOGUE, an ongoing support group for cancer patients and their families and friends will meet Thursday, Feb. 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Home Hospice office, 1001 E. Broadway, Gainesville. **Note Change in Location.** For more information call Kelly Lamkin, L.S.W. at 665-9891.

## Wendy Pels is graduate of Midwestern State Univ.



Wendy Pels

Wendy Pels, daughter of Bob and Linda Pels of Muenster and graduate of Sacred Heart High School received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, with a minor in Physiology from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls on Dec. 16, 2000.

Attending the ceremony were Wendy's parents, her grandmother Gen Pels, and aunts Beverly Stevens and Dee Eberhart; also a friend, Melinda Fleitman.

## New Arrivals

**Beattie**  
John Hensley Beattie was born to Julia (Bright) and Brian Beattie on Jan. 8, 2001 in Santa Clara, California. He joins two sisters, Audrey and Elizabeth. Grandparents are Jack and Donna Beattie of Hendersonville, North Carolina and David and Juanita Bright of Muenster.

**Tanner**  
Sherry Tanner of Bowie announces the birth of a daughter, Hayle Nicole Tanner in Muenster Memorial Hospital on Jan. 28, 2001 at 3:34 a.m., weighing 5 lb. 8 1/2 oz. and measuring 19 inches long. Hayle Nicole joins a sister, Courtney, age 2. Their grandmother is Debbie Tanner of Bowie.

## Open House will honor Henry and Ollie Kuhn

Henry and Ollie Kuhn will be honored on their 70th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Feb. 2001. Their family will host the party in Conrad Hall of Lindsay between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Family and friends are invited to stop by, enjoy an Open House and visit with Henry and Ollie, and share reminiscences. Your presence is your special gift to them. See ad in this issue.

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# School News



Dana Miller, president of the Sacred Heart Student Council presented a check for \$400 to Annette Walterscheid, President of the Muenster Chamber of Commerce at the Keep Muenster Beautiful park. The funds are to be used for repair, replacement and addition to the Christmas decorations. Each year the Sacred Heart Student Council decorates Muenster for the Christmas holidays, noticing deteriorating decorations. With the help of Principal Jack Murdock, a grant from the Meadows Foundation was awarded to Sacred Heart for their community service. Pictured are, from left, Nick Taylor, Michael Voth, Travis Fuhrmann, Jeff Hartman, Miller, Walterscheid, Melanie Bartush, Mary Jane Callahan, and Kristin Yosten. Photo by Janie Hartman

## Muenster High School Academic students compete at Wichita Falls

Approximately 400 students competed in the Coyote Classic UIL Invitational Prep Meet at Wichita Falls High School Jan. 13. Muenster students attending the meet were Genny Lathrom, Chris Jackson, Kevin Hermes, Ashley Klement, Paul Fleitman, Grant Hartman, Daniel Rohmer, Laura Drachenberg, Justin Hess, Anna Jackson, and Michael Eckart.

Muenster High School competed in the 1A through 3A division. Chris Jackson received first place in Science, Mathematics, and Computer Science. He also received second place in Number Sense. Chris had the highest score on the Chemistry part of the Science test. Grant Hartman received first place in Computer Applications, fourth place in



Muenster High School students competing in the Coyote Classic. Photo by Janie Hartman

place in Science. Daniel Rohmer placed third in Computer Applications. Anna Jackson placed sixth in Current Issues and Events. The Computer Science team consisting of Chris Jackson, Grant Hartman, and Kevin Hermes received first place. "The Muenster High School students did very well overall," said Jerry Eckart. "Muenster High School academic team members are excited

because they have a number of promising underclassmen as well as experienced upperclassmen leaders for this year's academic competition." This was the first contest of the year in which all events were offered. The students are increasing their practice time in preparation leading up to district competition to be held at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls. The date for district competition is Mar. 22.

## Muenster High School Cross-Examination Debate Teams compete at district

On Jan. 25, three Muenster High School Cross Examination debate teams competed at district in Munday, Texas. The three teams consisted of Lauren Dangelmayr and Brett Howell, Brady Howell and Tyler Walterscheid, and Deann Dangelmayr and Kristian Koelzer.

Cross-X debate is an academic UIL event in which teams debate government policy. Teams must be prepared to argue either for the affirmative or the negative, usually finding out their position to

argue and defend minutes before the round begins.

This year's policy debate topic is - Resolved: That the United States federal government should significantly increase protection of privacy in the United States in one or more of the following areas: employment, medical records, consumer information, search and seizure.

Each team debated three rounds against teams from Munday and Perrin-Whitt schools. Lauren and Brett won all three debates to advance to the semi-final

round. Brady and Tyler missed advancing only by a few speaker points, while freshmen Deann and Kristian gained valuable debate and public speaking experience.

Lauren and Brett also won their semi-final and final debate over teams from Munday by a unanimous decision of the judges. They will advance to the state meet that will be held in Austin on Mar. 12 and 13. Mr. Eckart is debate sponsor and accompanied the students to Munday for the contest.



Muenster High School Cross-X debate teams, from left, Kristian Koelzer, DeAnn Danglemayr, Lauren Dangelmayr, Brett Howell, Tyler Walterscheid & Brady Howell. Photo by Janie Hartman

## School Lunch Menus

### WEEK OF FEB 5 - 9 SACRED HEART S.N.A.P. MENU

Mon. - Hamburgers w/trimmings, French fries, fruit.  
Tues. - Mexican casserole, ranch style beans, salad, fruit, bread.  
Wed. - Fried chicken, rice, gravy, mixed vegetables, fruit.

Thurs. - Salisbury steaks, potatoes, green beans, fruit, bread.  
Fri. - Pizza, corn, salad, fruit.

**MUENSTER ISD**  
Mon. - Hot dogs, chili and cheese, potato wedges, ranch style beans, mixed fruit, pumpkin bread.  
Tues. - Spaghetti w/meat

sauce, lettuce salad w/dressing, green beans, peaches, hot rolls.  
Wed. - Crisпитos (chicken and cheese), macaroni and cheese, bananas, carrot sticks, cookies.

Thurs. - Chicken fried steak, creamed potatoes w/gravy, corn, pineapple tidbits, hot rolls.  
Fri. - Barbecue sandwiches, French fries, onions and pickles, pork and beans, applesauce, ice cream.

### LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Chicken sandwich, French fries, pickles, pineapple.  
Tues. - Chili with beans, creamed potatoes, pickles, peaches, crackers.  
Wed. - Pork chop, au gratin potatoes, sauerkraut, pears, bread.  
Thurs. - Spaghetti and meat sauce, salad, corn, apple crisp.  
Fri. - Hamburger w/trimmings, French fries, ice cream.

### ERA ISD

Mon. - Country fried pork steak or steak fingers, mashed potatoes, gravy, tossed salad, peaches, hot roll.  
Tues. - Vegetable beef soup, grilled cheese sandwich, sliced pears, tossed salad, rice krispy treat.  
Wed. - Spaghetti w/meat sauce or barbecue wieners, green beans, fruit cocktail, breadsticks.  
Thurs. - Nachos w/ground beef, Mexican salad or tossed salad, pinto beans, cornbread.  
Fri. - Pizza on a bun w/Canadian bacon, corn, strawberry applesauce, ice cream.

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Cub Scouts of Den 4 toured KXGM radio station in Gainesville as part of their Bear Achievement. Scouts attending were Dustin Pumphrey, John Nyström, Gerry Brundage, Zachary Moritz and Ashton Barrett. Courtesy photo

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# Thoughts on Catholic Schools by Sacred Heart Journalism students

My Experience at Catholic Schools

by Kristen Zimmerer  
My first experience with Catholic schools was in fifth grade. I attended Saint Mary's School in Gainesville for four years. My very first teacher was a nun. I did not know what to think. I learned what it meant when a person commits himself to God. I made many friends and became involved in sports which you would not always be able to participate in at public schools. At private schools, everyone has the chance to be involved in anything. I was happy at a school that was God-centered.

When I graduated from eighth grade and moved on to high school, I began school at Sacred Heart School in Muenster. I didn't know anyone and I really didn't want to leave the friends I had. Sacred Heart wasn't much different from Saint Mary's. They both involved God into every activity and have contributed greatly to my spiritual growth. Learning the fundamentals of my Catholic Christian faith are important for me as I grow into adulthood and learn to raise my own family in the faith. Catholic schools also bring our awareness of the possibility of religious life which can help expand our religious vocations in our parishes and dioceses, since we are under current shortage. The openness for religious life is there for us to consider as opposed to in public schools, we are not exposed to that kind of life.

I never understood why my parents would take the time and effort to drive me all the way to Muenster from Denton. That's 45 minutes each way. This does not include all the extra time spent after school for sports and other activities. As I made friends, I found out that their families had the same values that my family had with the same religious beliefs. I liked the way everyone prayed together, like they were all a family. Prayer in school is the norm. It's not against the law. Everyone shares the same faith in God. Catechism classes are part of the curriculum. They are not an alternative. I have been blessed to have teachers like Ms. Whaley who has devoted herself to receive a degree in theology and to share that knowledge with us.

The sacrifices to attend this school have been worth every inconvenience I have

spent. One day, if I am lucky to have children, I, too, will send them to Catholic schools because it will be like going home.

As we celebrate "Catholic Schools Week," let us remember the memories we have experienced. "Catholic Schools Week" is a time when we as a Catholic community have a chance to showcase what we are all about.

Sacred Heart's Musical Theatre Department  
by Jessica Koessler

What makes a person proud? Everybody gives a different answer when they are asked this question. Some might say they feel proud when they finish a three-mile run. Others say it is when they receive a good grade in a class they thought they were doing poorly in. I go to an exceptional school, and I participate in a class that makes me feel incredibly proud. I am a senior at Sacred Heart High School, and the class I am referring to is musical theatre. This class has had a significant effect on my life, and I am so thankful to attend a school with such an extraordinary program.

Musical theatre is new to Sacred Heart. This class was formerly two different classes, one being theatre arts and the other music. The two classes remained separate during the first semester of the school year, then joined together in the second semester in order to produce and perform a musical. The two classes were forced to combine this year, because the theatre department was without a teacher. But what seemed like a tragedy turned out to be a blessing in disguise. Mrs. Pam Fette, the former music teacher and musical director of our performances, volunteered to take on the task of teaching both classes as musical theatre. This combination has proven incredibly helpful in preparing for our big, Broadway musical. In the past, the two classes joined, and we were left with actors that could not sing, and singers that could not act. We were able to pull off the work, but not without pulling our hair first. Now, we are blessed with the best of both worlds. We are learning both the proper singing and acting techniques, and we hope to be completely prepared for the spring musical.

We have definitely

developed a strong reputation over the years. This year, as the new musical theatre class, we were asked to perform a melodrama for a dinner theater that the Muenster Chamber of Commerce was hosting. We chose to do *Dogsbreath Devereaux, the Dastardly Doctor*. The show was a smash hit. We also sang a selection of songs including "Hey There Little Red Riding Hood," "Sing, Sing, Sing," a variety of songs from the movie *Runaway Bride*, and the play *Les Miserables*. In November, we performed at the VFW, singing for the local veterans. We are now preparing for our Winter Arts Festival, the TAPPS Academic Meet, and of course the spring musical. Mrs. Debbie Endres will assist Mrs. Fette in organizing and directing this major production. This year has been beyond productive, and it is far from over.

Sacred Heart School has been blessed with such an amazing department. But it is more than just the class. The people who donate their time, including teachers, students, and parents, have made this department what it now is. Those involved make it special. I am thankful to have been given such an opportunity. So what makes me proud? When I am taking that final bow, and I realize just how lucky I am.



Muenster Junior High and Elementary students participating in the TMSCA meet. Photo by Janie Hartman

## Muenster Junior High hosts TMSCA meet

On Jan. 19, 24 schools attended the TMSCA junior high meet. Fifth through eighth grade students from 1A through 4A schools competed in four events - mathematics, science, calculator, and number sense. The schools were divided into two divisions: Division I included 3A - 4A schools and Division II included 1A - 2A schools. All students participated in all four events and were ranked by the total number of points scored on all tests. Their overall ranking is given below as are entries by grade. Students' places in each event are also listed.

**5th Grade:** Christina Eckart - Math 3rd, Science 3rd, Calculator 7th, Number Sense 7th, 2nd Overall; Allison Teafatiller - Math 4th, Science 6th, Calculator 6th, 5th Overall; Kim Patel - Math 8th, Science 9th, Number Sense 4th, 7th Overall; Laura Heers - Science 8th; Noel Barnhill - Math 6th, Calculator 9th;

Adam Fredrick - Math 5th; Hillary Swirczynski - Calculator 8th; Colton Steelman.

**6th Grade:** Krystal Wolf - Math 3rd, Calculator 9th, 9th Overall; Jessica Walterscheid - Science 7th; Collin Walterscheid - Science 9th; Brad Endres - Science 3rd; Also competing were Megan Felderhoff, Kyle Caldwell, Brett Walterscheid, Zack Swirczynski, and Matthew Abney.

**7th Grade:** Travis Felderhoff - Math 10th, Science 4th, Calculator 8th, 6th Overall; Michael Eckart - Math 8th, Science 8th, Number Sense 7th, 7th Overall; Malcom Martin - Math 6th, Science 3rd, Number Sense 8th; 9th Overall; Ryan Fuhrmann - Science 6th; Also participating were Ryan Hennigan, Chris Steelman, Dustin Wimmer, Keith

Walterscheid, Casey McAden, Noah Barnhill, and Derek Endres.

**8th Grade:** Derek Felderhoff - Math 6th, Science 4th, Number Sense 3rd, 3rd Overall; Clint Miller - Math 8th, Number Sense 8th, 4th Overall; Adam Vinson - Math 5th, Science 8th; Sean Fuhrmann - Science 9th; Donald Dickerson - Science 1st; Gage Gilliland - Science 7th. Also participating were Whitney Watson and Aaron Walterscheid.

**Small School team results - (Individual Teams) - Math:** City View 1st, Muenster 2nd, Lindsay 3rd. **Science:** Valley View 1st, Muenster 2nd, Paradise 3rd. **Calculator:** City View 1st, Midway 2nd, Paradise 3rd. **Number Sense:** City View 1st, Valley View 2nd, Muenster 3rd. **Sweepstakes (Overall) - City View 1st, Muenster 2nd, Paradise 3rd.**

## Dinosaurs studied at Muenster ISD

First grade students in Muenster Elementary School have been very busy working on a unit of study about dinosaurs. First grade teachers: Amy Anderle, Danna Fredrick, and Rosemary Dankesreiter and their students completed a unit of study about dinosaurs this week. They studied the names, nicknames, habitats and eating habits of 14 dinosaurs.

First grade students discovered that their entire class could easily stand inside a "drawn to life-size" footprint of the Apatosaurus, also known as the brontosaurus or "thunder lizard." The seventy-foot thunder lizard ate plants and spent most of its time in the water.

The classes chose *My Dinosaur* by Mark Alan Weatherby, as their favorite book. The story and the way the artist gave the feeling of the enormous size of the dinosaur by drawing only a small portion of the dinosaur in his illustrations impressed the first graders. Each student drew a picture showing only a part of their own dinosaur to illustrate

the stories they wrote telling what it would be like to have a dinosaur for their very own.

During computer class with Ms. Hettler, the students used the Internet to find pictures and more about dinosaurs. She also shared many books, puzzles, and fun things about dinosaurs.

Students came up with their own theory about why the dinosaurs became extinct. "It might be because T-Rex started eating all of the other dinosaurs and eventually just ran out of dinosaurs to eat, so he died too." Regardless, the class chose T-Rex, a meat eater, twenty feet tall and fifty-three feet long, as the favorite dinosaur studied.

Students also learned a song called *Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp*. They especially enjoyed *The Dinosaur Bop* because they could dance to it.

First graders finished the unit on dinosaurs by sharing what they learned with their friends and families. If you see a first grader, ask them what they learned about dinosaurs. They will be happy to share with you.

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# Sports

## Sacred Heart Tigersharks qualify for state swim meet

All eight members of the Sacred Heart High School TigerSharks Swim Team have qualified for the State Championship Swim Meet. Qualifications were awarded at a recent 17-team District Swim Meet held at Glenhills Academy Natatorium in Addison, Texas. The TigerSharks will compete at the TAPPS State Swimming and Diving Championship to be held at the Downs Natatorium located on Texas A&M University campus on Saturday, Feb. 3, starting at 8:00 a.m.

The team has been practicing on a twice weekly basis at the Waterloo Park Pool in Denison. Head Coach Jill Hess stated, "It was unfortunate we could not get a good pool for practice sooner, but the team's conditioning has been helped by the fact most team members are practicing for track, baseball, and/or are involved in the basketball playoff competition." She added, "During our final week of preparation we will concentrate on stroke fundamentals and perfect

our turns. We want our team to arrive as rested as possible so that they can do their best."

Diving Coach Bob Bauer said, "Our squad, especially our dive team, is younger and stronger than last year. We hope to be surprisingly successful against the more experienced teams. With a little luck maybe a couple of school records may be broken."

TigerShark state qualifiers are: Andrea Bauer - 100 Breaststroke, 200 Freestyle, Medley Relay, and Diving; Karen Gehrig - 100 Freestyle, 200 Freestyle Relay, and Diving; Kimberly Hess - Medley Relay; Oliver McElroy - 50 Freestyle and 100 Freestyle; Lilly Nasche - 100 Freestyle and 100 Backstroke; Sara Rogers - 50 Freestyle, 200 Freestyle Relay, and Diving; Kathryn Sepanski - 50 Freestyle, 200 Freestyle Relay, Medley Relay, and Diving; Charlie Sue Switzer - 100 Backstroke and 100 Medley Relay.

Coach Jill Hess is assisted by assistants Bob Bauer and Shirley Hess. Team Manager is Katie Cox.



Sacred Heart Swim team, l-r, back - Kathryn Sepanski, Oliver McElroy, Kimberly Hess, Lilly Nasche, Charlie Sue Switzer, Karen Gehrig. Front - Bob Bauer, Katie Cox, Shirley Hess, Jill Hess.

Courtesy photo

## Hounds hand Muenster defeats 46-41, 95-66

The Muenster varsity teams lost two contests to Slidell last Friday. The Lady Hornets, in a fouling attempt to get the ball, allowed Slidell to win 46-41.

Muenster had a small lead the first half, then let the Lady Hounds take it away in the third quarter. With time running short, Slidell popped in numerous free throws to get a 5 point victory.

Melinda Walterscheid and Ashley Klement were Muenster's high scorers with 16 and 10 points. Kristie Lutkenhaus and Ashley Hess each added 6,

while Megan Lippe scored 2, and Lisa Felderhoff 1.

|   |   |   |    |    |    |
|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| M | 8 | 6 | 13 | 14 | 41 |
| S | 6 | 6 | 16 | 18 | 46 |

The Greyhounds dominated the game quickly, taking a large lead with two players scoring 53 points in the 66-95 game.

Mitch Endres led Muenster in scoring with 23 points. Elliot Klement added 15, Chisam Cain 9, Greg Johnson 7, 5 apiece from Brett Howell and Blake Garrison, and 2 points by Kevin Hermes


|   |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | 18 | 22 | 13 | 13 | 66 |
| S | 28 | 31 | 14 | 22 | 95 |



The Lady Hornets defense knocks the ball away from a Lady Hound. Pictured for Muenster are Ashley Klement and Lisa Felderhoff going for the ball, and Megan Lippe and Melinda Walterscheid.

Photo by Janie Hartman

**Playoff Action**  
**Sacred Heart Tigers**  
 vs  
**Abilene Christian**  
 sub bi-district  
**Tues., Feb. 6, 6 pm**  
**Tigers Den**



## Sacred Heart splits wins with Lighthouse

Gospel Lighthouse varsity boys clinched the district championship with a 95-64 win over the Sacred Heart Tigers last Friday. The Tigers finished as district runner-up and will face third place team, Abilene Christian on Tuesday, Feb. 6 in the Tigers Den.

Both teams burned the boards the first quarter, then the Tigers went cold, allowing Lighthouse to take a 54-29 half-time lead. The second half was close scoring, which never allowed the Tigers to catch-up.

Johnny Yosten put in 26 points for Sacred Heart, with Jack Biffle adding 10, Marty Farrell 8, Luke Endres 7, Matthew Grewing 6, Clint Fuhrmann 5, and Jared Zimmerman 2.

|    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| SH | 20 | 9  | 14 | 21 | 64 |
| L  | 25 | 29 | 16 | 25 | 95 |

The Tigerettes kept their perfect district record with a 89-44 win and a district

championship. The Tigerettes will get a bye in the first round of playoffs.

Raney and Andrea Bauer were high scorers for Sacred Heart with 19 and 17 points. Audrey Barnhill scored 10, Mary Jane Callahan 9, and 8 each from Karen Gehrig, Jayna Biffle, and Jana Truabenbach. Kristen Zimmerer and Jennifer Hoedebeck each hit 4, and Courtney Hartman 2. The Tigerettes were 12 of 19 from the free throw line.

Shakira of Lighthouse scored 27 points.

|    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| SH | 20 | 20 | 27 | 22 | 89 |
| L  | 8  | 8  | 12 | 16 | 44 |

### Booster Club Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Muenster Booster Club on Thursday, Feb. 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the new MISD gymnasium.



Going for the rebound against Slidell are Muenster Hornets Josh Freeman (33) Elliott Klement (00) and Blake Garrison.

Photo by Janie Hartman

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## Lady Hornets fall to Carrollton team

Muenster's Lady Hornets hosted Carrollton Christian Monday night in a non-district game. Muenster was out-scored 61-42 by the TAPPS-3A team.

Melinda Walterscheid led the Lady Hornets on the scoreboard with 15 points. Kristie Lutkenhaus added

6, with Ashley Hess and Krystal Hale each scoring 5. Ashley Klement and Lisa Felderhoff put in 3 apiece, while Amanda Felderhoff and Alisha Walterscheid each got 2. Robyn Hermes added a free throw.

|   |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | 10 | 9  | 6  | 17 | 42 |
| C | 20 | 18 | 17 | 6  | 61 |

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## Junior High Action

**Sacred Heart 44**  
**Saint Jo 26**

Three 7th grade Lady Cubs scored high in Monday's contest at Saint Jo. Shannon Hartman led Sacred Heart with 14 points. Whitney Wimmer added 11, and Hannah Hess 10. Joelle Fuhrmann scored 6, and Diana Knabe 3 for the Lady Cubs.

|    |    |    |    |   |    |
|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| SH | 10 | 13 | 13 | 8 | 44 |
| SJ | 10 | 6  | 3  | 7 | 26 |

**Sacred Heart 30**  
**Saint Jo 33**

Katie Flusche scored 12 points in the 8th grade's nail-biter game. Stephanie Henscheid and Jacqueline Bauer each added 6. Jessica Knabe put in 5, and Christine Fetsch 1.

|    |   |   |   |    |    |
|----|---|---|---|----|----|
| SH | 6 | 5 | 9 | 10 | 30 |
| SJ | 9 | 8 | 9 | 7  | 33 |

**Sacred Heart 23**  
**Saint Jo 35**

The 7th grade Cubs fell to the Panther Cubs. Jon Ambrose scored 7 points. Mark Gehrig and Adam Dangelmayr each added 5. Timothy Otto put in 4, and David Walterscheid 2.

|    |    |   |   |    |    |
|----|----|---|---|----|----|
| SH | 6  | 7 | 3 | 7  | 23 |
| SJ | 10 | 8 | 7 | 10 | 35 |

**Sacred Heart 27**  
**Saint Jo 37**

The 8th grade Cubs fell to the Panthers Monday night in a low scoring contest. Andy Davis led the Cubs with 14 points. Clayton Truebenbach added 7, Casey Coker 3, Stephen LaChance 2, and Christopher Hoedebeck 1.

|    |    |    |    |   |    |
|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| SH | 5  | 10 | 7  | 5 | 27 |
| SJ | 10 | 11 | 10 | 6 | 37 |



David Walterscheid and Mark Gehrig fight for the ball against Saint Jo. Jared Hofbauer (44) watches the action. Photo by Dave Fette



Jacqueline Bauer (30) and Kelli Seeds (13) go after a loose ball in 8th grade action between Sacred Heart and Saint Jo. Photo by Dave Fette



Clayton Truebenbach moves through Saint Jo defenders to get to the basket. Also pictured for Sacred Heart is Stephen LaChance. Photo by Dave Fette

## Junior Varsity Action

**Muenster 46** **Slidell 31**

The Lady Hornets notched another victory last Friday. Scoring in the double digits for Muenster were Pamela Lutkenhaus with 17 points and Deann Dangelmayr scoring 11. Rachel Clark added 7, Chelsea Felderhoff 6, and Jami Gerstberger 5.

|   |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | 12 | 10 | 14 | 10 | 46 |
| S | 8  | 7  | 8  | 8  | 31 |



In Muenster JV action, above, Joseph Dangelmayr goes for the lay-up. Below, Kirk Hartman pops in two points. Photo by Janie Hartman

**Muenster 65** **Slidell 39**

A dozen Hounds put points in the basket to control the contest with the Hornets. Michael Endres was the game's high scorer with 16 points. Tyler and Dustin Walterscheid each added 7 points, with Jared Ledbetter getting 5, and Kirk Hartman 2. Brady Howell and Kyle Endres each added a point.

|   |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | 7  | 8  | 15 | 9  | 39 |
| S | 17 | 17 | 13 | 18 | 65 |

**Muenster 33** **Carrollton 39**

Muenster hosted Carrollton Christian, a TAPPS 3A school, Monday night for girls competition. Jami Gerstberger was the game's high scorer with 13 points. Rachel Clark and Pamela Lutkenhaus each added eight, with Diana Felderhoff and Deann Dangelmayr scoring 2 apiece.

|   |   |    |    |    |    |
|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| M | 8 | 4  | 7  | 14 | 33 |
| C | 8 | 14 | 12 | 5  | 39 |

**Muenster 73** **Home School 21**

Muenster hosted a home school team Tuesday night in a one-sided practice game. Ten Hornets contributed points in the victory with four scoring into the double digits. Josh Porter was high scorer with 17 points. Daniel Russell, Dustin Hiser and Kirk Hartman each added 10 points. Joseph Dangelmayr put in 9, Paul Fleitman 6, Karl Fisher 4, and a 3-pointer by Andrew Milburn. Ricky Endres and Josh Calabrese scored 2 apiece. Playing hard defense were Brady Howell and Wes Koelzer.

|    |    |    |    |   |    |
|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| M  | 28 | 20 | 20 | 9 | 73 |
| HS | 6  | 6  | 0  | 9 | 21 |



## Lady Knights sink Collinsville

The Lindsay varsity girls took a 55-39 win from the Lady Pirates last Friday. Collinsville took an early lead, but once Lindsay warmed up, the Lady Knights led by 2 at half-time. Adjustments the third quarter gave Lindsay a 20 point lead going into the final period.



Jacque Bezner leads the pack down court in the Lady Knights contest last week with Collinsville. Photo by Dave Fette

Four Lady Knights scored in the double digits. Jacque Bezner was high scorer with 15. DeeAnn Fuhrmann and Elaine Hess each added 12 and Karah O'Dell 11. Hannah Trammell hit in 3 points and Emmy Trammell 2.

|   |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| L | 7  | 15 | 25 | 8  | 55 |
| C | 11 | 9  | 7  | 12 | 39 |



Lindsay Knight Rhett Rimmer attempts to move under the basket in action against Collinsville. Also pictured is Tommy Arendt. Photo by Dave Fette

Tuesday night the Lady Knights traveled to Slidell in a close contest with the Lady Hounds. Lindsay led through the first half, then allowed Slidell to tie the game going into the final period. Eighteen points by Ashlie Griffin in the fourth quarter nailed the defeat. Karah O'Dell led Lindsay with 11 points. DeeAnn Fuhrmann and Jacque Bezner each added 9, with Amber Selby scoring 8, Elaine Hess 6, and Maggie Lutmer 2.

|   |   |    |    |    |    |
|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| L | 9 | 13 | 9  | 14 | 45 |
| S | 7 | 11 | 13 | 20 | 51 |

## Slidell slips by Knights

The Slidell Greyhounds turned up the score in the final quarter to take a 74-67 win over the Lindsay Knights Tuesday at Slidell. Lindsay had an early lead, then allowed the Hounds to have a point advantage at half-time. The Knights tied the third period, but let Slidell hit too many free throws for the

win. All seven Knights put points on the board. Jonathan Bengfort scored 17 points, Brad Minnix 12, and Nicholas Fuhrmann 10. Mitch Creed added 9, Josh Goldsmith 8, Rhett Rimmer 6, and Tommy Arendt 5.

|   |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| L | 19 | 20 | 15 | 13 | 67 |
| S | 15 | 25 | 14 | 20 | 74 |

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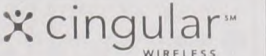
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**Legal Notices**

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: ROY LOVING and MILLAGE LOVING, IF LIVING, OF THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES.

Defendants in the hereinafter styled and numbered Cause: CAUSE NO. 01-012, IN THE 235TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF COOKE COUNTY, TEXAS; T.S.C. OIL & GAS, INC. VS. ROY LOVING AND MILLAGE LOVING AND/OR THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES.

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, that is to say on or before 10:00 A.M. of Monday, February 26, 2001, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of T.S.C. Oil & Gas, Inc., Plaintiff, was filed in Cooke County, Texas, on the 8th day of January, 2001, against Roy Loving and Millage Loving and/or their unknown heirs or legal representatives in the above entitled and numbered cause. The Plaintiff brings this suit for the purpose of having a receiver appointed of the interests of defendants in the oil, gas and minerals in, on and under and that may be produced from the following described land in Cooke County, Texas, to-wit:

100 acres, more or less, located in the Hiram Brinlee Survey, A-19 in Montague and Cooke Counties, described as the South 100 acres of the following 199 acres tract of land:

BEGINNING at a point in the East boundary line of the Hiram Brinlee Survey 714 varas to the North of the Southeast corner of said survey, said point being also the Northeast corner of a tract of land formerly conveyed by M.M. Franklin to W.H. Hilton by deed recorded in Vol. 9, page 332, Deed Records of Montague County, Texas;

THENCE North approximately 714 varas to the Southeast corner of a 100 acre tract in Said Brinlee Survey formerly conveyed to John Morris, said point also being the Northeast corner of a 237 acre tract of land conveyed by Peggy Anne Kelly to M.M. Franklin; THENCE West 936 varas to the Southwest corner of said Morris tract;

THENCE South 714 varas to the Northwest corner of the above mentioned tract previously conveyed by M.M. Franklin to W.H. Tilton;

THENCE East 936 varas to the place of beginning, containing 100 acres of land, more or less.

and that said receiver, under orders of this Court wherein this suit is filed shall have the power and authority and be directed by said Court to execute and deliver to a lessee or lessees an oil and gas lease covering the interests of said Defendants upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Court, for costs of suit, and for such other and further relief as Plaintiff may be entitled to at law or in equity.

The interest of Defendants in above described land is as follows:

ROY LOVING AND MILLAGE LOVING 3.125 acres

Appointment of a receiver is prayed for under terms of Section 64.091 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, and under the general equitable powers of the Court wherein said suit is filed.

The nature of the proceeding is fully shown by plaintiff's petition on file in this cause.

The officer executing this process shall promptly execute the same according to law and make due return as the law directs.

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after date of its issue, it shall be returned unserved.

WITNESS Pat Payne, Clerk of the 235th Judicial District Court of Cooke County, Texas.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court in the office in Cooke County, Texas, this 9th day of January, 2001.

/s/Pat Payne  
Clerk of the 235th Judicial District Court of Cooke County, Texas.  
ISSUED THIS 9th DAY OF January, 2001.

/s/Pat Payne  
Clerk of the 235th Judicial District Court of Cooke County, Texas.  
/s/ BY Sue Comer  
Deputy

Legal Notice

The Era ISD has a 1987 GMC, 59-passenger school bus for sale. The bus has a Ward body, an automatic transmission and a 350-gasoline engine. Sealed bids must be received by 5:00 P.M., February 19, 2001. Bus is not currently running. For further information contact Kim Mason, (940) 665-2007, Era ISD, P.O. Box 98, Era, TX 76238.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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**Legal Notices**

THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: D.C. EDWARDS and ANNIE WILLIAM EDWARDS, IF LIVING, OF THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES.

Defendants in the hereinafter styled and numbered Cause: CAUSE NO. 01-103, IN THE 235TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF COOKE COUNTY, TEXAS; T.S.C. OIL & GAS, INC. VS. D.C. EDWARDS AND ANNIE WILLIAM EDWARDS AND/OR THEIR UNKNOWN HEIRS OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES.

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, that is to say on or before 10:00 A.M. of Monday, February 26, 2001, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of T.S.C. Oil & Gas, Inc., Plaintiff, was filed in Cooke County, Texas, on the 8th day of January, 2001, against Roy Loving and Millage Loving and/or their unknown heirs or legal representatives in the above entitled and numbered cause. The Plaintiff brings this suit for the purpose of having a receiver appointed of the interests of defendants in the oil, gas and minerals in, on and under and that may be produced from the following described land in Cooke County, Texas, to-wit:

80 acres, more or less, located in the Ambrose Hilburn Survey, A-441, Cooke County, Texas, being the same land more fully described in that certain Mineral Deed from Gilbert Irwin and wife, Alice Irwin to A.W. Pearson, dated July 30, 1929, and recorded in Volume 188, Page 331, Deed Records, Cooke County, Texas.

and that said receiver, under orders of this Court wherein this suit is filed shall have the power and authority and be directed by said Court to execute and deliver to a lessee or lessees an oil and gas lease covering the interests of said Defendants upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Court, for costs of suit, and for such other and further relief as Plaintiff may be entitled to at law or in equity.

The interest of Defendants in above described land is as follows:

D.C. EDWARDS 15 acres  
ANNIE WILLIAM EDWARDS 15 acres

Appointment of a receiver is prayed for under terms of Section 64.091 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, and under the general equitable powers of the Court wherein said suit is filed.

The nature of the proceeding is fully shown by plaintiff's petition on file in this cause.

The officer executing this process shall promptly execute the same according to law and make due return as the law directs.

If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after date of its issue, it shall be returned unserved.

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/s/Pat Payne  
Clerk of the 235th Judicial District Court of Cooke County, Texas.

ISSUED THIS 9th DAY OF January, 2001.

/s/Pat Payne  
Clerk of the 235th Judicial District Court of Cooke County, Texas.  
/s/ BY Sue Comer  
Deputy

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct a public meeting on Thursday, February 8, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. at the Wichita Falls District office Training Facility at 1601 Southwest Parkway, Wichita Falls, Texas.

The purpose of the public meeting is to allow public input into the Unified Transportation Program (UTP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) preparation process. A list will be provided of upcoming state projects selected in the UTP and STIP. Maps and drawings will be on display.

Mr. John Barton, P.E., Director of Transportation, Planning and Development with the Texas Department of Transportation in Wichita Falls, will be in charge of the meeting.

The meeting will be informal, and all interested citizens are invited to attend and express their views on the programs, utility companies are also invited so that we may inform them of the upcoming state projects in the Wichita Falls District.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aides or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, large print or Braille are requested to contact Tammy Marlow at (940) 720-7741 two (2) weeks prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Written comments may be submitted to the Texas Department of Transportation, 1601 Southwest Parkway, Wichita Falls, Texas 76702-4906, but must be received no later than 10 days after the public meeting.

If you are not able to attend this meeting additional meetings scheduled for the Wichita Falls District on: February 13, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. at the Vernon Area Office located at 4031 S. Main. February 15, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. at the Gainesville Area Office located at 2615 W. Hwy 82. And on February 20, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. at the Graham Area Office located on US 380 1.3 miles north of SH 16.

**ACCEPTING BIDS**

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# Farm & Ranch

## Agriculture Commissioner makes statement on FDA report

We do not have BSE in Texas. Cattle have not been quarantined in Texas because of BSE.

Two weeks ago, a Purina feed mill in Texas accidentally mixed meat and bone meal made from domestic cattle in a feed supplement that was fed to 1,222 head of cattle at a southeast Texas feedlot.

During normal quality control measures at Purina, the accident was discovered and the feedlot and appropriate authorities were notified. This is a regulatory issue, because since 1997, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has banned the feeding of meat and bone meal supplements to cattle. The

feed was fed to the cattle only once before it was retrieved by Purina for further testing. All the feed has been accounted for.

The owner of the feedlot voluntarily isolated the cattle. No cattle have been quarantined.

Results of the FDA report show that a low level of the prohibited meal was found in the feed but at such a small quantity that each animal at most consumed only a quarter ounce. Despite the negligible risk, Purina Mills Inc. is voluntarily buying all 1,222 head of cattle, and meat from these animals will not enter the food supply.

The actions taken by the Texas cattle industry, Purina Mills and FDA once again emphasize that safeguards are in place, they work, and everyone is committed to keeping BSE out of the United States.

The FDA regulation is an added firewall to the stringent measures already in place to prevent BSE from entering the United States.

It is important to remember that the meat and bone meal in question was produced from domestic cattle. Since U.S. cattle do not have BSE, there was never a chance of this being a BSE incident in Texas.

The nation's cattle industry supports full compliance with FDA regulations. Texas cattle are safe, and the industry is taking aggressive steps to keep BSE out of the United States.

## Haywood files agriculture bill

State Senator Tom Haywood, R-Wichita Falls, recently filed legislation calling for a statewide agricultural policy for the state of Texas. The measure, Senate Bill 331, addresses the need for a comprehensive agriculture policy for the state, based on the findings of an interim study conducted by Haywood and the Joint Interim Committee on Agricultural Policy during the past year and a half. Its companion, House Bill 499 was filed by the joint committee co-chairman Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas. Joined by Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs, Haywood and Swinford laid out the plan at an Austin press conference.

"Agriculture has been a stalwart in our state's history, heritage and economy," Haywood said. "It has been a critical element in our economic, cultural

and historical development as well as a vital component of a diversified state economy and a self-renewing natural resource. Our goal has been to formulate a statewide policy to ensure that it continues to be all those things to Texas and to our nation. This bill goes a long way in doing just that."

The bill addresses 16 specific areas of the agriculture industry ranging from water availability, to transportation, from the state's tax policy to the eradication and control of injurious pests. It also includes changes regarding rural economic and infrastructure development as well as research and education efforts.

"This is a critical session for rural Texans, specifically those in the agriculture industry," Swinford said. "Through the work of the 76th Legislature with the

passage of House Bill 2 and the work of the Joint Agriculture Policy Committee, I think we have developed a foundation for future agriculture legislation."

"Texas agriculture has been in a fragile condition for some time," Haywood said. "Due to drought, floods, pests, crop losses, changing federal policies, lack of marketing and a general disconnection from urban centers, the ag industry is suffering."

Haywood went on to say, however, that despite these hardships, agriculture continues to be a necessity in our state's livelihood. Commissioner Combs echoed those claims.

"Each and every Texan has a vital stake in agriculture, the state's second largest industry which has an annual economic impact of \$80 billion on the Texas economy," Combs said. "That is why this comprehensive agricultural policy is so important. Whether it is ensuring adequate water resources for production or marketing the diversity of agricultural products from our farms and ranches, a statewide policy will help safeguard and support the agricultural industry, which is the lifeblood of many towns and communities across Texas."

The 16 areas dealt with in the bill are as follows: water availability issues, transportation issues, state regulatory issues, state tax policy, the availability of capital, including state loans and grants, the promotion of Texas agriculture products, eradication or control of injurious pests and diseases, research and education efforts, promotion of efficient utilization of soil and water resources, rural economic and infrastructure development, preservation of farmland, food safety, efforts to participate in the formulation of federal programs and policies, promotion of rural fire service and the promotion of value-added agricultural enterprises.

The interim committee was charged to develop a sound agricultural policy for Texas in the 21st Century by comprehensively studying the condition of agriculture, the state's current programs in support of agriculture and the role of the state in preserving the ag industry and to address these 16 areas affecting Texas agriculture. Members included chairmen Haywood and Swinford, Sens. Ken Armbrister, D-Victoria, Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, Steve Ogden, R-Bryan and Reps. Bob Turner, D-Lusk, Jim McReynolds, D-Lufkin, and Robby Cook, D-Eagle Lake.

## Ag Briefs

Test show that dairymen may be able to increase milk production and lower supplement cost at the same time by feeding silage with nutritionally enhanced corn hybrids.

Wheat farmers should take site-specific soil test every two or three years to check phosphorous and potassium levels.

Researchers have proven that newly harvested wheat seldom is infested with insects, but they immigrate into grain bins within 30 days after harvest.

By early summer, the nation's beef supply should begin to shrink. Prices should hold above the \$70 level this winter then strengthen through summer. Strong demands continue to support cattle prices. The unpredictable level of herd rebuilding will be a factor on how much beef supply shrinks in 2001.

Hay demand and prices have increased over the years. Lower production for 2000 and poor pasture conditions add to the recent increases.

Rotating crops can greatly reduce wheat diseases and help control weeds and insects.

The largest calf crop in the US was 51 million head in 1974. The USDA estimates that last year, just under 39 million calves were born.

US farmers now apply no-till practices to 51 million acres, a 7% increase in the past two years. Details of the 2000 Crop Residue Management Survey can be found at [www.ctic.purdue.edu/Core4/CT/ctsurvey/2000/NewsReleases.htm/](http://www.ctic.purdue.edu/Core4/CT/ctsurvey/2000/NewsReleases.htm/)

By 2007, it is predicted that the US will over take Australia as the world's leading beef exporter.

## Livestock assistance program offered

The Cooke County Farm Service Agency (FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced, due to the drought conditions in 2000, the Livestock Assistance Program is being implemented once again.

"The amount of money that is being allocated for this program is limited," noted County Executive Director Tim O. Gilbert. "There is no way we can tell you how much money you will receive until after sign up." Sign up starts immediately. The deadline

for sign up has not been announced, "so please act quickly."

Eligibility requirements include:

1. This program is for foundation herds only; livestock on the gain are ineligible. (No Exceptions).

2. Livestock must be owned for three months (90 days).

3. Eligible livestock are those used commercially for human food or kept for the production of fiber and use permanent pasture to sustain them. In our area we are talking about beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, and goats.

4. Payments will be made on the lesser of eligible livestock or the carrying capacity of your permanent pastures. Small grain pastures are not included. Our period of loss is Aug. 1, 2000 through Nov. 30, 2000. Our permanent pastures are classified as improved, native, and wooded native. If you have more livestock than your acres will carry, your livestock numbers will be adjusted.

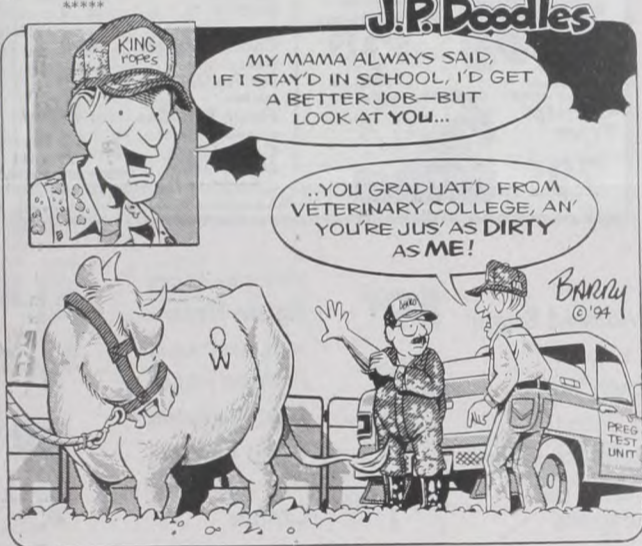
5. Producers with gross annual revenue (receipts) from all agriculture and nonagriculture sources that exceed 2.5 million are ineligible.

Information needed includes acres (which some are on file), the number of livestock, with actual dates of livestock bought, sold, owned, etc. Forms are available at the FSA office. The payment period for Cooke County is Aug. 1 through Nov. 30, 2000.

## Texoma Cattlewomen plan trail ride

Texoma CattleWomen began the year 2001 with their first meeting on Jan. 8 at Cooke County Farm Bureau in Gainesville. Two new members were welcomed, Sara Dozier and Kriste Beaver. The group discussed their 2001 goals and began planning for a trail ride to benefit the American Cancer Society and Texoma CattleWomen. The trail ride will be held on Saturday, Apr. 28 in the Walnut Bend area. Rain date is May 5. Members are planning a brisket lunch, an auction, a raffle, and a dummy steer roping for the young participants. Members are busy soliciting sponsorships and auction items. More information will follow as it become available.

CattleWomen will meet at Amigo's Restaurant on Hwy. 82 in Gainesville on Monday evening, Feb. 5. Meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in promoting the beef industry or anyone interested in helping with the trail ride, please come!



## TFU 99th Anniversary Convention in Abilene

On January 26-27 hundreds of Texas farm and ranch families will gather in Abilene for the Texas Farmers Union's (TFU) 99th anniversary convention. This year's convention theme will be "Fair Prices, Fair Markets and a Fair Trade?"

A new Congress signals a fresh start for the development of a new family farm and ranch policy said Wes Sims, president of TFU. "While some of the names have changes we face many of the same problems that farmers and ranchers saw as we began last year. This year, we will gather to address issues such as low

prices, concentration and the failed farm law."

Congressman Charlie Stenholm and State Representatives David Counts and David Farabee will address the convention along with others.

Delegates will consider and adopt TFU policy for the coming year considering many issues

Consumer perception of beef is improving, Gallup research shows. Since October 1999, the percentage of consumers who believe that beef contains important nutrients has increased by

11 points, that nutrients in beef are important to teens and children by 10 points and that beef is an important part of a balanced diet by 9 points.

that affect rural Texans. Some of the issues to be addressed will be water policy changes which will be considered by the Texas legislature this session, the need for a "bill of rights" for contract producers and additional state funding for the boll weevil eradication program.

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**Bred Cows:** Choice, \$600 to \$725; Med.-Good, \$550 to \$625; Med.-Poor, \$475 to \$525

**Cow-Calf Pairs:** Choice, \$700-\$750; Medium-Good, \$650 to \$725; Medium-Poor, NT

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Sold at Friday's sale were 1,853 head of cattle compared to 633 head of cattle the previous week. Results follow:

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>Feeder Steers (per lb.)</b><br/>200-300 lbs., No. 1, 1.20-1.29; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, 1.05-1.20; 300-400 lbs., No. 1, 1.12-1.30; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .95-1.12; 400-500 lbs., No. 1, 1.06-1.17; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .90-1.06; 500-600 lbs., No. 1, 1.02-1.13; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .85-1.02; 600-700 lbs., No. 1, .87-.96; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .75-.87; 700-800 lbs., No. 1, .80-.87; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .70-.80</p> <p><b>Feeder Heifers (per lb.)</b><br/>200-300 lbs., No. 1, 1.05-1.19; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .90-1.05; 300-400 lbs., No. 1, 1.04-1.13; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .90-1.04; 400-500 lbs., No. 1, .93-1.08; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .82-.93; 500-600 lbs., No. 1, .86-.94; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .75-.86; 600-700 lbs., No. 1, .81-.87; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .70-.81; 700-800 lbs., No. 1, .72-.81; Nos. 2 &amp; 3, .65-.72</p> <p><b>Slaughter Cattle (per lb.)</b><br/>Slaughter bulls; yield grade 1-2, 1.20-2.050 lbs., 48-57; Slaughter cows; #1-3, 39-47; Cutter, 25-39</p> | <p><b>Stocker Cows (per head)</b><br/>Pregnancy-tested, 3- to 9-year-olds - large frame, \$600-\$750; medium frame, \$450-\$600.<br/>Cow-calf pairs w/calves under 250 lbs. - large frame, \$700-\$850; medium frame, \$600-\$700.<br/>Holstein baby calves, \$35-\$75; Crossbreds, \$155-\$210</p> <p><b>Barrows &amp; Gilts:</b><br/>US #1, 230-270, 32-34; US #2, 220-280, 31-32</p> <p><b>Feeders (per head):</b><br/>100-175 lbs., \$25-\$40; 25-90 lbs., \$40-\$50</p> <p><b>Sows:</b><br/>Feeder, 400 or less, 28-30; Light wt., 400-500, 30-31; Med wt., 500-600, 32-33; Heavy wt., 600-up, NT.</p> <p><b>Boars:</b><br/>300 lb.-up, .08-1.0; 200-300 lbs., .15-.20; Light wt., NT.</p> <p><b>Sheep (per lb.):</b><br/>Feeder lambs 40-60 lbs., .95-1.00; Light lambs, 60-90 lbs., .85-.90; Fat lambs, 90-120 lbs., .70-.85</p> | <p><b>Ewes:</b><br/>Stocker, 45-50; Thin, 40-45; Fat, 45-55</p> <p><b>Bucks:</b><br/>Thin, NT; Fat, NT</p> <p><b>Barbados (per head)</b><br/>Lambs, \$35-\$45; Ewes, \$45-\$50</p> <p><b>Goats (per head)</b><br/>Kids: 20-35 lbs., \$25-\$40; 35-55 lbs., \$40-\$60; 55-75 lbs., \$60-\$80; Yearlings: 75-120 lbs., \$75-\$100</p> <p><b>Nannies (per head)</b><br/>Stocker, \$45-\$60; Milk Type, \$60-\$80; Slaughter, Thin, \$30-\$40; Fat, \$40-\$50</p> <p><b>Billies (per head)</b><br/>120 lbs-up<br/>Breeders, - \$60-\$80; Slaughter, \$70-\$90</p> <p><b>Boer Goats (per head):</b> 1/2 Nanny, \$50-\$60; 3/4 Nanny, \$60-\$75; Full Nanny, \$100-\$125</p> <p><b>Boer Cows (per head):</b> 1/2 Billy, NT; 3/4 Billy, NT; Full Billy, \$85-\$125</p> |
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