MUENSTER ENTERPRISE

75¢

VOLUME 67 NUMBER 19

Million dollar bond gets extensive planning

The March 21 Enterprise article introduced the call for a bond election and explained the maintenance and overcrowding problems the District must address. Over a two year period, Mr. Steelman, MISD Superintendent, and the School Board have met with District stakeholders (community organizations, tax payers, parents, a construction task force, and staff members) to discuss these issues. This process proved to be very time-consuming, but the process provided a mound of information with input, suggestions, and recommendations from the community for the Board to consider in addressing immediate problems that must be corrected before any major building programs can be considered.

All statistical data has been compiled and presented to the Board and community by engineers, facility planners, and architects. Facilities planners determined the population trends and the condition and capacity of the school

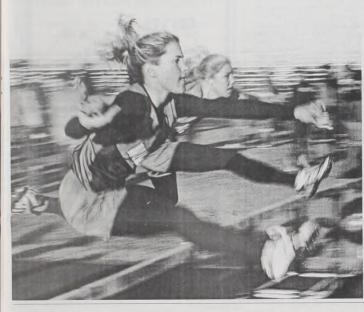
buildings in order to have information essential to long-term planning for future needs. This data examined the district's ability to manage increasing student populations and more rigorous mandated curriculum requirements. The data assessment was focused on (1) a demographic analysis of school population information and enrollment forecast; (2) an objective evaluation of physical and educational features of the school plant; (3) a uniform capacity analysis and space inventory of the existing facilities; and (4) an evaluation of the best use of existing facilities based on information obtained from on-site visits and information provided by the District.

After the facility planners' reports were submitted and reviewed, engineers and architects were assigned to evaluate the structural integrity of several District buildings. The District had to make a determination to renovate existing buildings so they can be used until other

facility programs or phases are considered. This \$1 million dollar bond proposal includes: (1) begin Phase I of the Junior High renovation project; replace roof over the west classroom wing, replace HVAC systems and duct system, electrical upgrade, replace dropped acoustical ceiling, and add fire alarm system; (2) replace roof in Junior High Gymnasium (According to roof consultant and engineer's report, this roof is the next roof, besides the roof over the classroom areas, in need of replacement); (3) correct drainage problem behind the junior high school, library, and vocational wing area; asphalt playground area (old tennis court) must be removed to correct the drainage problem, but will be replaced; (4) construct a building with two large areas. (One area will be used by the maintenance/transportation department and technology department, while the other area will house a weight room); these departments will vacate the

classrooms in the vocational wing (old field house/old 3rd & 4th grade wing) which will be used next year by the JH/HS classes moved from the JH building (The new building will be designed for future expansion as the demand for additional space is required); and (5) miscellaneous fees to include, but not limited to, associated fees for construction, material testing, architectural and engineering fees, air quality testing, asbestos testing, building commission, project printing for specifications and blueprints, project contingency, bonding fees, attorney fees, etc.

etc. There is an estimated \$136,552 set aside for unforeseen structural problems that could arise during renovation. Any remaining money will be used for several maintenance projects in the elementary buildings and junior high building. Specifics can be found in the March 21 article in the Muenster Enterprise and will See MISD BOND, pg 3





Sacred Heart hosted their annual Invitational Relays last Friday. Above, Clint Fuhrmann competes in the high jump for the Sacred Heart Tigers. At left, Muenster Lady Hornets Jace Koelzer and Brooke Endres fly down the track racing against time in the 100m hurdles. See page 9 for meet results.

Photos by Dave Fette and Janie Hartman

Winn released by Lindsay ISD Board By Janet Felderhoff "Shame on youl" That was be sentiment expressed by number of the Lindsay SD taxpayers who filled he school's library Monday inght, March 31. A special necting had been called to lonsider a ccepting independent School District effective 5 p.m. June 30, 2003. My resignation as an amployee and as superintendent of the schools of the Lindsay Colons and the schools of the Lindsay in the school in the structure session was a continuous and province the terms continuous and province the terms conditions, and province the student of the school so of Lindsay ISD and worker's comp, insurance, the school in the structure session was a memployee and as superintendent of the school so of Lindsay ISD and worker's comp, insurance, the school in the structure session was a memployee and as superintendent of the school so of Lindsay ISD and worker's comp, insurance, the school in the structure session was a memployee and as superintendent of the school so of Lindsay ISD and worker's comp, insurance, the school in the school i

By Janet Felderhoff
"Shame on you!" That was
the sentiment expressed by
a number of the Lindsay
ISD taxpayers who filled
the school's library Monday
night, March 31. A special
meeting had been called to
consider accepting
Superintendent Travis
Winn's resignation and an
exit agreement purchasing
the remainder of his
contract.
An executive session was

the remainder of his contract.

An executive session was held as soon as the meeting was officially opened and a quorum determined. After the meeting was re-opened Board President Danny Nortman said that there were two documents, which had been jointly prepared by the law firms of Adams, Lynch, and Lofton, representing the superintendent, and Hayes, Coffey, and Berry, representing the Board. The two documents were a letter of resignation and a voluntary exit agreement.

lead these people and lead these children has been undermined by what has happened in this whole event. I don't appreciate it.

"As school board members, you are all responsible for it. I think you will be when voting time comes. I don't want you to forget what's happened here tonight and where you stood in public and in executive session when all of this started and when it ended." Her remarks were followed by audience applause.

Sandy Otto said she is a parent, a taxpayer and is very involved in the community. "It outrages me that you all will sit up there and take my children's money, my tax money, to pay someone off. This is costing a whole lot of money and unless you want to pocket it yourselves, you come up with \$50,000



Rodeo Houston calf scramble winner Kirk Hartman, center with Scott Reed, left, and Jim Winne, calf scramble donor chairman

Hartman, Sicking win in Houston

As some of the first RODEOHOUSTON calf scramble participants in Reliant Stadium, Kirk Hartman and Nathan Sicking of Muenster lined up with 27 other young men and women in an exciting pursuit.

Strength and determination took over as the Muenster boys managed to capture two of 14 elusive calves and pull them into the winners' square during the March 13 performance of RODEOHOUSTON.

In exchange for their successful scramble, Kirk and Nathan, Muenster FFA students at Muenster High School, will each receive a \$1,000 calf purchase certificate donated by



Nathan Sicking, center, Rodeo Houston calf scramble winner with Scott Reed, left and James Beetz, donor.

National Research at MMI

Cooke County offers a unique opportunity to the National Health Institute for research. Select farm communities within the County offer a chance for the Institute to study and do research on a sector of the population that have done a very good job of retaining the youth of the area. This population stability offers a fertile area for study and development of certain health trends. It is unique to be able to study several generations that have lived their entire lives within a finite set of environmental conditions.

The National Health Institute (NIH), one of the premier nation-wide research institutes, has arranged with Muenster Memorial Hospital Lab to collect and analyze research specimen for them. NIH will forward some additional specimen on to their own labs in Maryland for special testing that cannot be done locally. They arrive onsite to accomplish their research, recognizing the quality work undertaken at the MMH Lab, the NIH has chosen to work with one of the most experienced and technically qualified Lab Tech Consultants in the state. Danny Lovelace, MMH's Lab Director, is especially well qualified to test the NIH specimen — he maintains a top-rated lab, is a certified lab inspector, and is frequently called upon as consultant to analyze and rectify problems at various

experience quality shortcomings.

In his recent work at one such hospital lab in Oklahoma, Mr. Lovelace was told by the State Inspector that before his arrival and quality control work, the subject lab was ranked as one of the five

importantly, the techs drawing blood are known as "Ms. Easytouch and Ms. Softneedle." The tenderness and special care exhibited by these two tech nurses in the lab are extraordinary, and appreciated by all patients, especially the very young. (MMH personnel

Administration have a stated goal of gaining back to the patient level enjoyed 25 years ago, when five local physicians attended to MMH patients. Quoting the Physician Search Committee Chairman, "We have the physicians lined up with the next one arriving



Muenster Memorial Hospital Lab Director Danny Lovelace, left, assisted National Health Institute researchers Laura Fontaine, RN, at right, and Teri Kim, RN (standing) with lab work or a local family this week.

a local family this week.

lowest in the state of Oklahoma. Now it is considered one of the top five!

Quality lab work results in accurate, reliable specimen tests results, and MMH Lab is recognized for quality work. Mr. Lovelace's lab team is not only noted for quality, but just as wish to remind everyone in the community that most times when a doctor orders lab work they do not specify where to obtain the work. Most likely, your lab work order can be brought to MMH for that quality handling and extra care).

Muenster Memorial Hospital Board and

in August -- and they, as well as those already on the team, have our goal and vision. We are building a team of physicians to accomplish our goal, and the lab, radiology, and nursing staff have all been groomed and prepared for this same purpose."

FBI will speak for Pipeline Group

The Pipeline Group's counties. Following the dinner, a brief safety contractor Awareness Program will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 10 at the Gainesville Civic Center, 311 S. Weaver. The program will be prevention by identifying pipeline and utility rights of companies with a common goal of preventing accidents and damages to underground pipelines and utilities. A free dinner will be notification to a one-call system will be prevention accidents and damages to underground pipelines and utilities. The Texas law requiring notification to a one-call villities; and answer questions regarding the role of our guests within the newly created Department of Homeland Security. Each year many lives are injured or lost, plus millions of dollars in repairs and lost products are incurred due to

MMH FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC 509 NORTH MAPLE • MUENSTER • (940) 759-2226 We Welcome New Patients

MIKE MINODIN, M.D.

"third party" incidents someone digging into a pipeline. Thousands of communications, some lifethreatening, may be disrupted when expensive fiber-optic cables are damaged or severed. These types of exeavation can be financially devastating to the responsible party. This safety program is an attempt to help those who do excavation work to avoid such situations.

Sponsors for the program include: All American pipeline LP - Gitgo Products Pipeline Co - DiG TESS - Koch Pipeline Co - DiG TESS - Koch Pipeline Co - Teppco Crude Pipeline LP/Teppco Crude Oil LP - TXU Fuel Co/TXU Lone Star Pipeline.

For more information call (800) 982-8752 or visit our we b site at www.pipelinegroup.com.



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Annual Membership Meeting Thursday, April 10, 2003 North Central Texas College Gymnasium

ENTERTAINMENT



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- · Vacuum Cleaner
- · Small Power Tools
- Small Appliances
- · Power Bill Credits

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City Council Agenda

- Recognize visitors and invite them to attend the e and to discuss their business.

- Open paving bids. Consider and act on awarding proqualified bidder.

- Receive report from Clyde Steelman, MISD Superintendent, reg financial implication of upcoming school bond election.

- Consider and act on IESI's request for Amendment to Contract for Collection and Disposal of Municipal Solid Waste in the City of

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Outside of Cooke County - 1 year-\$42; 2 years-\$79
ne (940) 759-4311 • Fax (940) 759-4110 • THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISI

2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

Providing Quality Health Care To Patients Of All Ages

MMH Annual Health Fair - May 3 -

Watch for more info soon!

Clinic Hours • Monday — Friday • 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED

FACP

BOARD CERTIFIED

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Hospice City Council, 7PM Muenster Booster Club meeting, 7PM

EDD. G. ADVINCULA, M.D., MELISSA TRUBENBACH, FNP-C

Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Grief Support Seminar, 6-8PM, Home Hospice Office Marketing Club meeting, 7PM, Farm Bureau

O F

N.A.P. Center eligious Ed Class, 7PM HS Artfest HS Arriest
HS Alumni/Parent meeting
30PM, CC meeting room
of C Breakfast, 7:30AM, Thursday, April 10, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM "ANNIE" SHHS Musical :30PM, STATE THEATER

Friday, April 11, 2003 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM AARP meeting & luncheon 11:30AM, Stanford House "ANNIE" SHHS Musical

Saturday, April 12, 2003 "ANNIE" SHHS Musical 7:30pm, STATE THEATER



"ANNIE" SHHS Musical 2:00pm, STATE THEATER

Palm Sunday

WEEK Monday, April 14, 2003 VFW meeting, 8PM

Tuesday, April 15, 2003
Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30,
S.N.A.P. Center
Grief Support Seminar, 6-8pm,
Home Hospice Office
MMH Board meeting, 7pm
MHS Hornet Band Concert,
7pm, Sacred Heart Church

Wednesday, April 16, 2003
Religious Ed Class, 7PM
MISD Board meeting, 7:30PM
Early Voting Begins

Thursday, April 17, 2003 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM

OUNG

Friday, April 18, 2003 Muenster Museum CLOSED No School

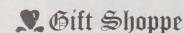
Good Friday

ournament at Turtle Hill Golf

Sponsored by







Obituaries

Emma Lou "Lulu" Hess 1931 - 2003

by Elfreda Fette
Mass of Christian Burial
was held for Emma Lou
"Lulu" Gehrig Hess in
Sacred Heart Church on
Wednesday, April 2, 2003 at
10:00 a.m. officiated by
Father John Ohner OSA,
pastor. Known to hundreds
of friends as "Lulu", Mrs.
Hess died on March 31,
2003 at 2:05 a.m., at age 71,
in Muenster Memorial
Hospital.
Survivors are daughters,
Linda Luttmer of Muenster,
Donna Biffle and husband
Jim of Muenster, and
Tammy Hess of Muskogee,
Oklahoma, and sons
Howard Hess and wife Lorie
of Muenster, Brent Hess
and wife Mary of Muenster,
Troy Hess of Muenster, and
Mike Hess of Muenster,
There are 24 grandchildren
Also one sister Leona
Eberhart and one sister-inlaw Clara Evans of Pilot
Point.
Preceding her in death

law Clara Evans of Pilot Point.
Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, and one daughter, Kathy Hess.
Lulu was born on May 2, 1931 in Muenster to William Gehrig and Katherine Gergen Gehrig.
On Sept. 1, 1953 she married Arthur William "Archie" Hess in Sacred Heart Church.



She was a life-long resident of Muenster, a member of Sacred Heart Church, a Registered Nurse, having graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1949 and St. Paul School of Nursing in 1952. For 10 years she worked in surgery at Gainesville Sanitorium, and from 1963 to 1997 she worked at Muenster Memorial Hospital. She dearly enjoyed helping others Some of her other special joys were dancing, gardening, canning, and crocheting. A great highlight in her life was laking with her husband and family. Traveling to Idaho to visit relatives was always an eagerly anticipated trip. In always an eagerly anticipated trip. In

McCoy Funeral Home now offers great discounts on pre-arranged funeral prices. The following are examples of these savings.

Male

Age	Funeral Amt.	Pay Period	Monthly Pmt.	Total Pmt.
36-50	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$121.80	\$4,384.80
51-60	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$145.20	\$5,227.20
36-50	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$82.20	\$4,932.00
51-60	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$96.00	\$5,760.00

Female

Age	Funeral Amt.	Pay Period	Monthly Pmt.	Total Pmt.
36-50	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$118.20	\$4,255.20
51-60	\$6,000	3 yrs.	\$79.80	\$4,788.20
36-50	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$142.20	\$5,119.20
51-60	\$6,000	5 yrs.	\$93.60	\$5,616.00

Come in and let us calculate your exact savings, which is based on your age and health condition.

MISD BOND

Muenster, she was also a member of St. Anne's Society and the VPW Auxiliary.

On Tuesday, April 1, a Rosary Service was held at McCoy Funeral Home of Muenster at 4:00 p.m., led by a good friend, Mary Lin Knabe. Vigil and Wake was presided by Father John Ohner OSA at 7:00 p.m. Family Rosary Wednesday morning was led by Lucille Hess, an aunt.

Participating in the Mass of Christian Burial and Farewell with Father John Ohner OSA, pastor, were altar servers, a threegeneration-team of close friends, Alvin Hartman, his son Kenny Hartman, and his grandson Nolan Hartman.

A granddaughter, Ashley Hess gave the First Liturgical Reading from the Old Testament; a granddaughter Jayna Biffle gave the Second Liturgical Reading from the New Testament. Prayers of the Faithful were read by granddaughter Tanya Baldwin.

Offertory gifts of bread and wine were presented at the altar by grandchildred Joshua Biffle, Dylan Hess, Clayton Hess, and Andrea Hess. Eucharistic Ministers were friends and past coworkers, Dorothy Hartman, Lorena Taylor, Carol Grewing, Stacie Miller, Judy Flusche, and Joanie Hartman.

Music ministers were Ruth Felderhoff, Christy Hesse, Mary Endres, and Diane Grewing. Stacie Miller, Judy Flusche, and Joanie Hartman.

Music ministers were Ruth Felderhoff, Christy Hesse, Mary Endres, and Diane Grewing. Sacred music included: "Be Not Afraid" for the Entrance; Responsorial Psalm was "The Lord Is My Light", Offertory was "Ave Maria", "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" and "You Are Near" as Communion; and "On Eagles' Wings" as the Recessional.

The eulogy and remarks of remembrance were given by Mark Hess, a godchild. He stated, in part: "We gather together today because of the death of Luli; but actually we are here to celebrate and honor her life. There is a difference between "living"

...... continued from pg. 1

and simply being alive" and Lulu knew that. She also knew that family and friends were everything, and without them, you had nothing: by that measure, she is a wealthy soul.

"Emma Lou Gehrig was born May 2, 1931, to William and Katherine Gergen Gehrig. She was the youngest of seven children. She had one brother, George Gehrig, and five sisters, Clara Fette, Leona Eberhart, Ida Gehrig, Virginia Carter, and Alvina Hellman...

"Uncle Archie and Aunt Lulu soon started what would be a family of nine children... Lulu lost a daughter, Kathy, before the child's second birthday, and lost a son, who was born prematurely...

"Lulu's forty-four year career as an RN began in 1953... Often, her work at the hospital was hectic and stressful. Lulu would make light of these times; referring to the capital letters "RN" on her name tag as meaning "Running Nuts"! Many patients have told Lulu's family that their son or daughter couldn't have made it without her!...

"Lulu was usually full of energy and did acrobatic cartwheels up into her fifties. It was also hard to keep Lulu down; after the birth of two of her children, she picked up her baby and went home after one day in the hospital... On one occasion, her relatives, the Steinke's were coming down from Idaho for a visit. Lulu was pregnant and due in several weeks. As the story goes, Archie went to the airport to pick up the Steinke's and when they returned, Lulu was gone. Well the kids hadn't seen her and didn't know where she went... finally one of the kids said, "she might have gone to have a baby!" She had. Archie and the Steinke's found her at the Gainesville Hospital and she had already delivered Donna. The Steinke's teased her because she delivered dearly and they wouldn't be able to go 'across the river and go dancing. So Lulu climbs out of bed, gets dressed and across the river and go dancing. So Lulu climbs out of bed, gets dressed and across the river and go dancing. So Lulu climbs out of bed, gets dressed and across the river had go dancing. The sacred Heart Cemete

NCTC ARTS AND CRAFT FAIR

North Central Texas
College student
organizations are
sponsoring an Arts and
Crafts Fair for Saturday
April 5 from 10 a.m. to 6
p.m. in the Student
Activities Center of the
Administration Building on
the Gainesville Campus.
"There will be lots of door
prizes, gifts and concessions
all day," said Ann Norcross,
NCTC student activities
coordinator.

Admission to the event
will be \$1 charge at the door
and the ticket will be used
in drawings for door prizes.
The event is designed to
raise funds for NCTC
student organizations,
which like other NCTC
programs, have felt the
impact of state budget cuts.
NCTC art students will
have a table and vendors
with a variety of arts and
crafts items have already
reserved space, said
Norcross. For additional
information on the event,
contact Norcross by calling
940-668-7731, Ext. 302

Muenster featured in new brochure

Muenster is prominently featured in a brand new tourism brochure published by the Red River Valley Tourism Association (RRVTA). 50,000 copies of the brochures were published and placed in tourist information facilities at the state borders, in hotels, at Chambers of Commerce and other places where tourist look for such information.

The brightly colored brochure features photos from communities that follow the Red River along its easterly course through Texas and Oklahoma, before turning south to joining the Atchafalaya River in Louisiana. For one-third of its journey, the Red River forms the boundary between Texas and Oklahoma.

The tourism association was formed more than 10 years ago to promote the region along the river, which is steeped in history. Six years ago the RRVTA expanded to the east and last year went into Oklahoma. It has served as a gateway between the United States and New Spain, to greet Indian Nations and for the cattle drives that spread across its frontier.

Susan Campbell, Bowie economic development officer and president of the Texas-based Catholic

Texas-based Catholic Life Insurance reaches historic milestone

Catholic Life Insurance, the nation's 9th largest fraternal life insurer, has reached a significant financial milestone. On March 14, 2003, the Texasbased insurer surpassed \$500 million in total assets under management.

"We take pride in helping individuals and families reach their financial goals through life insurance and retirement products," said President and Chief Executive Officer J. Michael Belz. "Their confidence in us has fueled remarkable growth in recent years even in the face of an economic downturn."

Tuby "Cratall" Farmings

Ruby "Gretell" Fanning 1914 - 2003

Ruby "Gretell" Alfred A. "High Gear" Forestburg died in Nocona General Hospital on March 31, 2003 at 10:00 p.m., at age 89. Services were held Thursday, April 3 at 2:00 p.m. in Forestburg Methodist Church, officiated by C.E. Cole and Rev. Warren Russell.

Survivors are one daughter, Betty Jean Miller of Mallard, three grandchildren and six greatgrandchildren; and one sister Frances Walling of Wichita Falls.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, and three brothers, Darwin, Steve, and Judge White, and one sister, Lucille Littell.

Ruby "Gretell" Fanning was born on Jan. 7, 1914 in Mallard Community to Nathan Edward White and Bama (Barker) White. On May 20, 1933 she married

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rionie value	MOUTHLY	really micrease	MOHUITA	1 Cally
\$50,000	\$1.82	\$21.88 \$0.065	\$3.38	\$40.60 \$
\$75,000	\$3.13	\$37,50	\$5.80	\$69.60
\$100,000	\$4.43	\$53.13	\$8.22	\$98.60
\$150,000	\$6.25	\$75.01	\$11.60	\$139.20
\$200,000	\$8.86	\$106.26	\$16.44	\$197.20
Due to the w	ou current Sto	to funding interes	etad in disc	mesing this
\$150,000 \$200,000	\$6.25 \$8.86	\$75,01	\$11.60 \$16.44	\$139.20 \$197.20

With EDA Assistance Tax

be addressed again in upcoming mailings and community meetings.

There are several options available to school districts to finance construction projects. The Board considered several options and elected to call a bond election. A bond election was the only financing plan that would make MISD eligible for state assistance under the existing debt as altird tier of the Foundation School Program pursuant to TEC, Chapter 46. The new tier provides a guaranteed amount of state and local funds for each cent of tax effort to pay the principal and interest on eligible bonds. The amount of state support, subject to certain limitations, is determined by formula. The Texas Education Agency will decide what districts are eligible for state assistance, the District must make a debt service payment before Sept. 1, 2003. The District currently makes its debt service payments on 2/15 and 8/15, so the District would need to have an election prior to the order to issue the bonds and make a payment. Currently, the District has an opportunity to receive EDA assistance, the Board approved a ten-year debt payment. The following chart represents a conservative approach to estimating the tax increase, and the interest rate used to calculate the bonds has been inflated to 5.5% (current interest rate used to calculate the bonds has been inflated to 5.5% (current interest rate used to calculate the bonds has been inflated to 5.5% (current interest rate used to calculate the bonds has been inflated to 5.5% (current interest rate used to calculate the bonds has been inflated to 5.5% (current interest rate used to calculate the bonds has been inflated to 5.5% (current property value used to calculate payment is \$116,000,000 and the District would have an election in time to close the bond issue prior to 8/15. In order to make a payment on that date, the District would have an election prior to the district would have an election prior to the district has an opportunity to receive from the EDA.

Keep in mind, as local property values saftled

Due to the way current State funding formulas are paid for EDA assistance, the District would begin receiving EDA assistance during the 2005/2006 school year. During the 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 school years, the tax payment would be as if the District had not received EDA essistance.

if the District had not received EDA assistance.
Additional information regarding how the tax rate can be altered with changes in student populations and taxable property values will be discussed in community meetings regarding the bond issue. Dates and times will be posted in the Muenster Enterprise and in mail-outs to MISD taxpayers. "Public school finance law has become increasingly complicated. I have simplified it in this article to the best of my ability," says Steelman. "I certainly wish it were easier to explain and I welcome any and all questions." If you are

interested in discussing this as an individual or in small groups, please contact the Superintendent, Clyde Steelman, at 759-2281, ext. 601 to set up a moeting.

Without EDA Assistance

Steelman, at 759-2281, ext. 601 to set up a meeting. During the construction phase the Board will use a Construction Manager At-Risk will allow the Board more flexibility in selecting contractors, especially local contractors.

in selecting contractors, especially local contractors.

Early voting will be April 16-29 from Solution a.m. - 4:00 p.m., at the MISD Administration Building. Branch voting will be conducted April 22 and 24, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., in the MISD Gym foyer, and voting on April 23 will be until 5:00 p.m.

submitted by Clyde Steelman, MISD Superintendent

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:
On behalf of the thousands of Texas social studies teachers, I strenuously oppose the proposal that denies the purchase of new textbooks and materials already adopted for the next school year. Our state legislators are assuming that it is acceptable to once again issue our students ten year-old books that have missing covers and are held together with duct tape!
Our current American history books have the Reagan administration in the final chapter. Ann Richards is still the governor, according to the present Texas history book. Yugoslavia? The ninth grade world geography book describes Sarajevo's Olympic Games, but no mention of the violence in Kosovo.
Renewing textbooks in ot a "frill" to be offered on the chopping block in Austin. With our country at warwith a nation that 87% of adult Americans cannot even locate on a map, are we going to shackle our children with that same ignorance? When we desperately need our future leaders to have the skills of cultural sensitivity, how can we deny our students that

To the Editor:
Cutting School Textbook Parchases is False and provides and are a poor fit for the statement of the country and ward and end our students that

Vital information about their world?

We do not teach by books alone. The textbook packages that we reviewed offer multimedia resources and special materials for students with learning inficulties. In addition, for the first time, our students will be equite required to pass a social studies TAKS test to graduate from high school. Preparation for the test varieties will be required to pass a social studies TAKS test to graduate from high school. Preparation for the test varieties will be required to pass a social studies TAKS test to graduate from high school. Preparation for the test varieties will be required to pass a social studies TAKS test to graduate from high school. Preparation for the test varieties with learning difficulties. In addition, for the first time, our students with learning difficulties. In addition, for the first tim

To the Editor:
Cutting School Textbook Purchases is False Economy.
It is unfortunate that the Texas Legislature is considering a proposal to handicap social studies and citizenship education for our children at the same time we are asking for more accountability and better performance from them. Delaying the purchase of social studies textbooks is being offered as a way to save money. It's not. It will only delay spending the money to a time when costs definitely will be greater, but economic conditions may be no better. The real cost of this proposal is in the classrooms and in the minds of our students. Social studies teach our heritage, good citizenship and patriotism. Social studies help kids become better global citizens, better stewards of our precious environment. I wonder if our legislators know that our social studies texts are already hopelessly out of date, some more than 10 years old. Further delay could mean an educational Studies Director for the San

could mean an educational disaster.

Dr. Amy Jo Baker, Social Studies Director for the San Antonio ISD, points out, "Social Studies is the only core content area that does not have textbooks aligned with the new Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)." This means that the present textbooks

are a poor fit for the statemandated TEKS, and these requirements, for all grades, will show up on the high stakes TAKS tests required for advancement. It's like removing two spark plugs and expecting the car to run smoothly.

Legislators need to understand that our 6th grade teachers and students have been studying "Contemporary World Cultures" for three years, and, because of non-alignment, have had to use World History texts with an emphasis on the Greeks, Romans, and the Egyptian dynastic period. Hardly contemporary!

The state of Texas has the finest, most complete social studies K - 12 curriculum in the United States in spite of our current substandard textbooks. For this, we have to thank the Texas Council for the Social Studies and key officials at the Texas Education Agency Let us not destroy this leadership position; let us not handicap our children in a misguided effort to delay spending state funds to purchase critical learning materials.

Richard G. Boehm Jesse Jones Distinguished Chair in Geographic Education Southwest Texas State University Driva

Iraq Showdown Hits Home Even For a Wife of a State Department Intern

Home Even For a Wife of a State Department Intern

By: Donetta (Hess) Corbett

Over the last few months we have all found ourselves tuning in to the television event of the year. It's more colossal than the Super Bowl; more suspenseful than "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire". There's a promise of more action than a WWF Smackdown. And it features more controversy than the squabbling castaways on "Survivor". I'm referring to the "Showdown With Saddam", of course – the ultimate reality TV show.

Every day, we have tuned to the very oracles of our age – Jennings, Brokaw, Rather, even Chung and O Reilly – for wisdom on the daily plot twists. Flashy graphics grab our attention. Ominous music worthy of a Jack Ryan movie indicates the importance of the events. In some ways, it really does feel larger than life, as if the war is every bit as much showbiz as the commercials crammed in between.

For me the talk of war is more than compelling television – it is a real part of my life. Not long after Christmas when John and I learned that he had earned a paid internship opportunity at the State Department in Washington, D.C., He was assigned to the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs—the "Middle East" to the rest of us – and arrived there shortly after New Years Day. Regardless of the situation in world affairs, it wasn't an easy decision for us. We had only been married five months, and like any newly married couple, we wanted to share as much time together as we could.

Ever since I met John – a history and geography major in college and graduate school - I have known him to be deeply interested in history and current events, especially in foreign policy. His passions have reinforced my commitment to learning about social issues from the days in Mr. C's class at Sacred Heart. Although John and I are now married, we found this was an opportunity John couldn't reasonably pass up. While my husband is at the forefront of these unfolding events, I find myself even more attentive to the ongoing threat of war. Afterall, my husband is lo



Donetta and John Corbett in Washington D.C.

Donetta and John Corbett in Washington D.C.

As you are by now all aware, this is a very dangerous part of the global neighborhood. Aside from Iraq, there are still long-standing tensions between the Israelis and their neighbors; the question of what to do about the Palestinians remains as perplexing as ever; and the uncertain future of Iran raises still more concern. John deals with all of these issues and more. I asked him to explain what he does and what it's like working there on front lines of this growing international crisis.

John's job as an intern is to be a pinch-hitter in a crisis, to do the legwork and research needed to put a policy together. Sometimes this means gathering information and talking points that officials right up to Secretary Powell himself may use when talking with diplomats, congressmen, or guests from other countries. Sometimes it entails little more than writing a letter to a foreign leader congratulating him on the occasion of an obscure holiday.

Rather than actively engaging in war policy, John says that most people dealing with Middle Eastern affairs at the State Department have had to put most of their plans on hold until it becomes clear what the near future will bring. The basic policies and diplomacy that make the nightly news are in the hands of a relative few. The offices that John works with are responsible for carrying them out. Most recently, Secretary Powell unveiled the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), which is designed to provide funds to a host of programs that promote educational, political and economic reform to the various countries in the region. Should war break out, the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs and MEPI will no dubt have their hands full with bringing order to a chaotic region.

According to John, the tension in Washington is palpable. Locals there remember well the attacks on September II and reasonably see themselves as targets in future strikes. Recently residents in the area went on a duct tape buying frenzy during the Code Orange scare,



Muenster Junior High Student Council will be collecting money to be used for sending various supplies and goods to our men and women in combat. Through the Red Cross, the donations will be used for the Armed Forces Emergency Services (AFES)-Iraq Response. You may donate on Sunday, April 13th at Fischers. Student Council members will be taking donations from 1:00-5:00. Thank you for your support!

Military Addresses

The following addresses are published so that those who wish to support the local men in the military can do so. A check with the local post office confirmed that packages addressed to APO addresses would have even care packages delivered. The time it takes may be several weeks, so bear this in mind when selecting items to include. Some of the local people serving are on ships, bases, or submarines. Others are likely in the Iraqi combat zones.

We welcome addresses of

likely in the Iraqi combat zones.

We welcome addresses of all in the military and hope that more families in the County, nearby areas, and those with local connections will share their loved ones addresses. Also requested are any known changes in addresses already printed or in information supplied. They can be mailed to the Muenster Enterprise, P. O. Box 190, Muenster, TX 76362.

MM3 (SS) Skinner, Lee T. USS Columbia SSN 771 FPO AP 96662-2427

Lee is the son of Anna Skinner. He's on a submarine in the Persian Gulf.

Col. R. Thomas Bright, USMC USCENTCOM ATTN: CCJC-O (CHOPS) APO AE 09365

programs, most recently with Larry King Live on CNN. He's an orchestrator at the Joint Operations Center.

Maj. James M. Bright, USMC Hq. USEUCOM CMR 480, Box 528 APO AE 09128

Maj. Bright is also the son of David and Juanita Bright. He is stationed at European Command in Stuttgart, Germany.

Captain Andrew White 485 AEW/746EAS APO AE 09364

Captain White was deployed March 6. He is with the Air Force Reserve serving with the 185th Airlift Squadron. His wife, Leslie, and three children live in Muenster.

2ndLt. Luke, Jacob R USMC 30BN 7thMAR, RCT-7 India

Jacob is the son of Melvin and Terri Luke. At last report he was stationed near Kuwait City, but his parents aren't sure of his location at this time.

OS2 Hesse, David COMSIXTHFLT Unit 50148 FPO AE 09501-6002

"SAVVY SENIOR"

YOU ASK THE SENIOR QUESTION - WE FIND THE SAVVY ANSWER

A Social Security representative can tell you was See SAVY, pg 12

From My Side of the Fence ed Cler

Went out to see how much progress has been made in the building of Muenster Lake. We were surprised at the size of the dam. It is huge. Most of the dam, north and east of the railroad right-of-way seems to be completed and looked like it has been seeded to grass. It is much higher and longer than we expected, and extends northeast well into what was the Medders place, in their hey-day.

Just looking at it, I would say the portion of the dam south and west of the old railroad right-of-way still remains to be built.

Our military seems to be making good progress on their way to Baghdad, but are meeting stiffer resistance than others did ten years ago. If the neighboring countries stay out of it, I raq can likely be mopped up in a few more weeks, but when one

MILESTONE continued from pg. 3

of financial products, Catholic Life also offers its members the opportunity to volunteer and help the parishes and communities in which they live. In 2002, Catholic Life members, through Branches located in 100 communities, and Roth IRAs and throughout Texas, devoted 113,360 hours valued at Mississippi.

Lifestyle

Beautification projects help Keep Muenster Beautiful

Many groups have participated in beautification events in Muenster since the Great American Cleanup began in mid March. The old Dude's Gulf Station on Highway 82 has been demolished and removed. A dilapidated house was demolished and removed. Members of Keep Muenster Beautiful (KMB), Kiwanis Club of Muenster, the Muenster Youth of the MISD National Honor Society and Student Council, and the Muenster Golden Oldies which are a group of Muenster citizens ages 55 and up organized by Juanita Weinzapfel, worked at several locations last Saturday to make Muenster pretty for the spring. At the beautification event organized by KMB, the Kiwanis members removed deteriorating wood from the cement wall adjacent to the new rock wall at the corner of Highways 82 and 373. After removing the wood the Kiwanis members painted the wall to help minimize the eyesore at the old cheese plant. New decorative cement pots were placed in front of the Chamber of Commerce and the new Muenster Library. Blue Point Juniper trees were planted in the center of the pots and in the pots at the new Post Office. Flowers and ivy were planted around the trees. Employees of the Chamber, Library, and Post Office agreed to care for the plants if members of Keep Muenster Beautiful donated the planters and plants. Muenster Beautiful donated the planters and plants. The new planters, trees and flowers greatly improved the appearance of these already beautiful buildings. Keep Muenster Beautiful planted flowers in the seven new rock planters on Main Street with hopes they will be mature and blooming beautifully when Muenster is visited by the anticipated 50,000 attendees of Germanfest on April 25, 26,

Happy Birthday Agnes Walter

and 27. Volunteers also planted flowers, weeded and did other work at Keep Muenster Beautiful Park on Main Street across from Sacred Heart Church.

Other projects are planned that will make Muenster more beautiful. The DON'T MESS WITH TEXAS Trash-off, a community-wide and statewide cleanup is this Saturday, April 5. At the request of Herbie Knabe, Dave Fette of the Muenster Enterprise created a beautiful landscape design for another "pocket park" to be built next to the building Knabe rents on Main Street in an effort to improve its appearance. Fette asked KMB to organize labor for the project, which may be complete in time to report toward next year's Governors Community Achievement Award nomination. Chas Bayer is bringing in the bulldozers to clear rubble from property visible to visitors on Highway 82. Others planning cleanup or beautification projects are asked to report them to KMB at the address below.

Keep Muenster Beautiful conducts the Keep America 1800.



Final Morton Museum program of Series

The final program in the Morton Museum of Cooke County's Spring Series "A Victorian Picnic" will take place at noon on Monday, the contest will receive a tender of the contest will receive a special prize. A typical victorian Age. This session will look at typical Victorian typical Victorian agames and possibly play a few. Garden outfits and other artifacts from the Victorian period will be on wise more information, call the Victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, call the victorian period will be on wise more information, and will be transported back to the victorian period will be served. Handouts will be served. Handouts





Juanita Bright and Key Broyles find a home for young bedding plants at the Keep Muenster Beautiful Park on Main Street

LaChance is graduate

New

Arrival

Fleitman

Kenny and Jennifer Fleitman of Fort Worth are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Kylee Anne Fleitman on March 18, 2003 at 5:51 a.m. at Harris Methodist HEB Hospital in Bedford, Texas She weighed 6 lb. 15 oz. and was 18 3/4 inches long. Kylee is welcomed by her sister Makenzie, 22 months old. Grandparents are Lynn Magee of Longview and David Magee of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Annette Fleitman of Lindsay and the late Henry Fleitman. Greatgrandparents are Lorraine Sunski of Longview, Texas and Nita Mage of Shreveport, Louisiana.

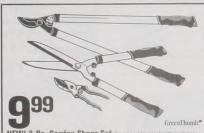


Lauren LaChance

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Sacred Heart School's Musical Theatre Department

STATE THEATER

Gainesville • April 10, 11, 12 at 7:30 p.m. • April 13 at 2:00 p.m.

CCFF holds 4th "Walk Without Fear"

Cooke County Friends of the Family marks the start of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The theme of this year's observance is Texas: A No Rape State. The focus will be on the potential strength of unified communities working together to fight the sexual violence that plagues our great state.

During this month of April, sexual assault programs across the state will intensify their efforts to promote public awareness of sexual assault issues, including the need for citizen involvement in reducing sexual assault (by confronting rape-supportive attitudes rather than relying entirely on the criminal justice system), and the need to increase community support for agencies providing sexual assault crisis and educational services.

Cooke County Friends of



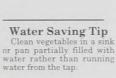
Jacob and Jared are one

hotdogs. French fries and onion rings were made by grandfather Dink Hudspeth and uncle Dale Schilling.

Presents were opened and cake and ice cream were served. Cousin Dana Miller made and decorated a Bert and Ernie cake, and aunt Stacie Miller made an earthquake cake.

Stacie Miller made an earthquake cake. Guests attending were grandparents Julian and Carrie Walterscheid and Dink and Rose Hudspeth; aunts and uncles Beverly

Jacob and Jared and Mike Fuhrmann, Walterscheid, twin sons of Jesse and Francine Walterscheid, celebrated their first birthday on their actual birthday, March 19, with friends and family. Jacob and Jared's dad and uncle Wade Walterscheid grilled hamburgers and hotdogs. French fries and Jonna, Kristen, Lisa, and Jonion rings were made by grandfather Dink Hudspeth and uncle Dale Schilling. Presents were opened and



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Muenster Historical Commission recognizes historic value of Sacred Heart Rectory

At the regular meeting held Thursday, March 13, members of the Muenster Historic Commission agreed that the Sacred Heart rectory located on Main Street was of historic value to the community. An effort is now in motion to remodel the building. It was agreed that the Muenster Historic Commission should support preserving the building's original form.

A motion was approved to send a letter to the Sacred Heart Finance and Building and Maintenance Commissions stating that, "we, the Muenster Historical Commission stating that, and Maintenance Commissions stating that, we, the Muenster Historical Commission members, encourage and request the historical integrity of the Sacred Heart Rectory be preserved in decisions concerning materials used and modifications made in the restoration process which will affect eligibility for



Shelbi Lynn Grissom turned one year old on March 21, 2003. A party in her honor was held at the home of her grandparents in Lindsay on March 21 at 7:00 p.m., with the theme of Winnie the Pooh, and her cake was decorated in that theme. Her first birthday cake was chocolate, which she enjoyed eating "without hands"! Attending the party were Shelbi's mother Randi Grissom; maternal grandparents Mike and Kristi Grissom; an uncle, Micah Grissom, and other close friends. Unable to attend were greatgrandparents Leon and Charlene Grissom, Randall and Donna Kilmer, and a great-uncle Dan Kilmer. Alexander Nervo is five

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Your

Alexander Nicolas Nervo celebrated his fifth birthday with a party in the home of his parents, Donna and Nicolas Nervo. He was excited to have a Blues Clues theme. The blue cartoon character dog was accented in wall hangings and table decor, which included a barking theme dog on top of the party table.

Guests suppered on

Shelbi Grissom

Guests suppered on homemade Phillipian egg rolls, complimented with rice and salad. Cake and ice cream were served afterwards, The large vanilla sheet cake was iced in the theme colors of blue, white, pink, yellow, red, and

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MEM



Alexander Nervo

Kody Allen Walterscheid was honored with a Carla Zwinggi. Joyce and birthday party observing his second birthday, held on School birthday, held on School birthday, held on School birthday, held on Collin Walterscheid, and April Walterscheid. The party was themed "Bob, the Builder." A barbecue lunch was followed with dessert of birthday cake and ice cream. Guests included, with his parents Mel and April, his brother Cole, his sisters Amber and Allie; his grandparents Peggy

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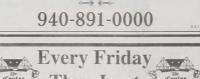
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School

Sacred Heart School celebrates Week of the Young Child

April 6 - 12 is a time to recognize that "children's opportunities are our responsibilities." That is the theme of the Week of the Young Child. The National Association For the Education of Young Children sponsors this celebration each April. This is also a time to recommit ourselves to young children and their early learning at home, at child care, at school, and in the community. Sacred Heart School has scheduled many activities for the week.

Monday, April 7 - 8:00 a.m. Opening Mass is planned by Billie Becker and the Eighth grade class. Preschool and Kindergarten classes will participate in an entrance procession and meditation song, "Praise Him." Annette Bayer's Kindergarten students will read the First Reading, and Prayers of the Faithful will be read by Kindergarten and Preschool students. Kindergarten is also inviting parents and describer our procession and meditation song the faithful will be read by Kindergarten is also inviting parents and describer our procession in the community of the participate in an entrance of the Faithful will be read by Kindergarten is also inviting parents to him and the participate in a leason in the community of the participate in t

Kindergarten is also inviting parents and grandparents to bring a

book to share with the class. Anne Poole's First graders will bring their favorite book to read to the class. Michelle Knauf's Second grade will have extra recess.

Tuesday, April 8 - The Preschool class will take a nature hike and bake teddy be a r c o o k i e s. Kindergartners will walk to the Muenster Post Office for a tour and mail a letter at 10:00 a.m. "Crazy Shoe Day" is up for the First graders. They may decorate or create a unique pair of shoes. They will enjoy a "Sonic picnic" under the pavilion. Second grade will have "Crazy Hat and Shoe Day."

Wednesday, April 9 - Non-uniform day for K, First, and Second grades. Afternoon of creative arts and crafts at the annual Artfest, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. under the pavilion. Grades Preschool through Sixth grade will attend. Craft activities and snacks cost 25 cents each. Artfest is sponsored each year by the Preschool Parent Group and planned and manned by the

Eighth and Seventh grade classes, under the direction of Mrs. Becker. All are

classes, under the direction of Mrs. Becker. All are welcome.

Thursday, April 10 - The First grade and the Second grade plan the liturgy for Mass. The Preschool classes are invited to bring their favorite teddy bear to school for a Teddy Bear Tea Party. Kindergarten will have lunch in the Muenster park. First and Second graders will enjoy the SH Theater Department production of Annie at the State Theater.

Friday, April 11 - 8:00 a.m. Closing Mass (all school). All Preschool students will attend the a.m. session for a field trip to Reiter's Dairy accompanied by Pam Dangelmayr, Kathy Berres, Susan Yosten, and parents for a morning of adventure and learning. Kindergarten will enjoy "Happy Hat Day."
The students will end the week by making hats to wear. First grade will have an ice cream sandwich party, while Second grade will watch a movie.



The Muenster ISD first grade classes made a field trip to the Alford Caste. Juanita Bright read the children stories and homeowner MaryLee Alford gave the students a tour of the home. After having their picnic style lunch in the Grand Hall, the students learned not to liter and about keeping Texas and Muenster beautiful. Each child received Don't Mess With Texas littlerbags from the TxDOT, filled with coloring books and bookmarkers teaching them five ways to take care of Texas.

ANNIE rehearsals move to State Theater

"Hold it right there," shouted cast member Kevin Walterscheid. "Raise that platform another inch!"
Though Walterscheid

Walterscheid. "Raise that platform another inch!"
Though Walterscheid holds only a minor role in Annie, the fate of the production rests heavier on his shoulders than he may admit.
Walterscheid, a junior at Sacred Heart, supervised Annie's three-day move to the State Theater in Gainesville. Among set items taken to the theater were a 14 ft. mansion, a replica of the F.D.R. White House, as well as a striking rendition of a '30s era orphanage. "There's still work to be done," said fellow cast member Andy Davis." There always is. But we'll finish, and Annie will be the best show ever produced by Sacred Heart."

Davis's statement is amplified by the volume of sales at ticket vendor Hansel und Gretel Haus. Already more than 60% of available tickets have been purchased. "They're going fast," said cast member Jacqueline Bauer. "It's going to be sold out before long."

In fact, Annie may sell out before the curtain ever rises. This past Monday, the SH Musical Theatre Dept. launched a massive marketing campaign for Annie, complete with newspaper ads, banners, posters, and a slot on KGAF AM Radio. The campaign is aimed primarily at Gainesville and Lake Kiowa audiences.

audiences.
"If you don't know about Annie, you must be trying to

Grandson of Marcie Klement excels

miss it," said cast member Laura Taylor. Yesterday, the SH Musical Theatre Dept. hosted a sneak preview of Annie for members of the news media. "It was our unofficial first performance," said Taylor. "Several newspapers showed up for interviews and photos. It was great."

with only three rehearsals to go, Annie is sure to be a hit. Annie will be presented April 10, 11, and 12 at 7:30 p.m., and April 13 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available at Hansel und Gretel Haus, located at 218 N. Main Street in Muenster. To reserve tickets by phone call (940) 759-2114 or (940) 759-2894.

2894. Submitted by Patrick Knapp

School Lunch Menus

bread.
Wed. - Beef Tips over rice, green beans, coleslaw, cake, bread.
Thurs. - Hamburger with trimmings, tator tots, ice

Fri. - Cheese pizza, corn, lettuce salad. peaches, bread.

Cleanup this Saturday

annual community The annual community Universe and statewide cleanup, Texas from DON,T MESS WITH Since 1 EXAS Trash-off, will be held this Saturday, April 5. All volunteers will receive a free lunch provided by Christine Weinzapfel and RE/MAX Realty. All Muenst registered volunteers are

MUENSTER ISD

WEEK OF APR. 7-11
SACRED HEART
Mon. - Turkey ham hoagies, lettuce, tomatoes, tortilla chips, fruit salad.
Tues. - Chicken spaghetti, green peas, green salad, oranges, bread sticks.
Wed. - Saus sage, sauerkraut, potatoes, corn, strawberries, biscuits.
Thurs. - Beef stew, cornbread, tossed salad w/spinach, peaches.
Tri. - Grilled cheese sandwiches, tomato soup, wheat crackers, fruit cocktail.

LINDSAY ISD
Mon. - Hot dogs w/chili, baked beans, carvas & ceramed potatoes w/gravy, green beans, pineapple, hot rolls.
Fri. - Fish sandwiches, French fries, pork and beans, lettuce and tomatoes, applesauce.

ERA ISD
Mon. - Vegetable beef

Texas Farm Bu

soup, grilled cheese sandwich, tossed salad, sliced pears, chocolate chip cookie.

Tues. - Chicken fried steak or chicken strips, mashed potatoes, gravy, tossed salad, peaches, hot roll.

Wed. - Soft tacos, trimmings, pinto beans, cornbread, chocolate pudding.
Thurs. - Corn dogs, French fries, tossed salad, fruit mix, rice krispy treat.
Fri. - Pepperoni pizza or cheese pizza, corn, strawberry applesauce, ice cream.

Texas Farm Bureau Summer Agricultural Institute 2003



Any elementary teacher wishing to combine hands on learning activities about agriculture with practical curriculum development, receive three hours of graduate credit and 45 clock hours of Continuing Professional Education units should consider attending the TFB Summer Agricultural Institute. This week-long, graduate level course will be held on the campus of Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas from July 7-11.

Since 1994, Texas Farm Bureau, in cooperation with Bring your own gloves.

Bring your own gloves.

Meet at the Muenster City Park on Highway 82 at 9:00 a.m. this Saturday, April 5.

Joshua Reilly of H.D. Jacobs High School in Algonquin, Illinois, class of 2004, has been selected to participate in the National Student Leadership Conference (NSLC) on Business and Commerce, an extraordinary leadership development program for outstanding high school students. He is the son of Mike and Kim Reilly, His grandmother is Marcie Klement and his greatgrandfather is Joe Wimmer. While attending the NSLC, Reilly will have the opportunity to study, experience, and develop the skills and traits that define and identify a leader. This summer, approximately 1500 gifted high school students from across the United State and from 45 countries around the world will find themselves immersed in a learning environment unlike any they have ever experienced. These young leaders return to their schools with increased potential and newly developed abilities that enable them to make a positive difference in their communities.

During the conference, students attend special workshops and classes where they study the "distinctions of leadership." positive difference in their communities.

communities.

During the conference, students attend special workshops and classes where they study the "distinctions of leadership." Special guest speakers add a sense of reality and bring

current national and international issues to life. Through participation in this extraordinary 11 day program, students develop their abilities to think on their feet, to engage in critical analysis, and to communicate effectively-skills that will serve them well as leaders in high school, college, and throughout their lives. The NSLC mission is to identify and recognize outstanding young leaders from around the world, and to provide them with a unique learning environment that encourages not only academic achievement, but also diversity, cooperation, and social responsibility. "Students develop a sense of independence and responsibility," said Dr. Paul M. Lisnek, the NSLC Director of Academics and former Assistant Dean of Loyola University Chicago School of Law. "They leave with a true feeling of accomplishment and confidence in their ability to handle the challenges that lie ahead."

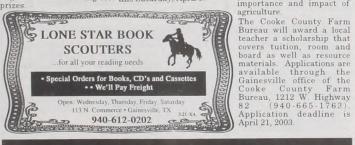


Joshua Reilly

Skin cancer facts

Because we live in a southern state where the sun is stronger, the number pf skin cancers diagnosed is higher than in most other states. This year an estimated 2,900 Texans will be diagnosed with the most deadly form of cancer — malignant melanoma.

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SACRED HEART PARISH

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On Thursday, March 27, Muenster FFA members participated in the Tarleton Invitational Contest in Stephenville, including Horse Judging – Michelle Pagel, Joseph Dangelmayr, Teresa Greathouse; Livestock Judging – Casey McAden, Kirk Hartman, Keaton Haverkamp; Dairy Products – Cassie Sicking, Darell Henscheid, Chris Rains; Range and Pasture – Crystal Fuhrmann, Noah Barnhill and FFA advisor Scott Reed.

WARRO 30

The Muenster FFA team of Chris Rains, Cassie Sicking and Darell Henscheid, finished in first place in Dairy Products competiont at the Navarro County Youth Expo Judging contest on Friday, March 28.

Courtesy photo

Young Farmer and Rancher Scholarships are available for high school and college students



Muenster FFA students finishing 19th in Livestock Judging at the Navarro County Expo were Casey McAden, Kirk Hartman, Michelle Pagel, and Keaton Haverkamp.

Courtesy photo

Water Saving Tip

Don't use the toilet as a trash can. Toilets should be used only to carry away sanitary waste.

Conception to a Natural Death
by Alexandra Hellinger, Lindsay High School
God doesn't make mistakes. Humans do. Life after life
has been ended by people who think they have the right
to make life and death decisions in the name of fixing
their mistakes. Sometimes they decide against life just
because it doesn't fit into their tidy life scenario. Other
times 'mercy' is the 'caring' reason for ending another
life. This poor baby will grow up and be handicapped or
retarded all their life. How do you show that every
person has value, even if they are not beautiful,
intelligent, and athletic? Where do you find statistics
that show that even individuals less blessed than you or
I are still blessings to their parents and that their
contributions to this world will be different than ours but
still needed?

How do you measure whether a person is perfect? to this world will be different than ours but still needed?

How do you measure whether a person is perfect? Maybe the intellectual and beautiful have other serious flaws, like a heart incapable of accepting others as they are. Perhaps the very hardships that we encounter when our child is less than perfect gives us strength and leads us to where we are supposed to be in life. If it starts with ending undesirable children's lives, progresses to ending lives of seniors who are suffering and inconvenient, where does it end? Perhaps in a few years sickness or blindness will be singled out as the target. In the future which part of society will be in danger of being eased out of existence? We have history lessons of this; Jews, African Americans, Irish, all people who were deemed inferior.

Since the advent of time life has always been wanted.

Respecting Human Life - From

African Americans, Irish, all people who were deemedinferior.

Since the advent of time, life has always been wanted and respected. From cavemen to the pioneers, children have been nurtured and precious - seen as more help in a difficult world. Only in our modern times, when we know what we are 'getting' has life become cheap and dispensable. We have so many scientific ways to determine if the baby will be normal that we forget that the baby is alive, made by God, given a soul, and who will live a happy life if given the chance. Why do we decide instead of the child if they will be happy? The false consensus of today's age seems to be that, until the baby is born, it is not a living being. The baby is not only capable of kicking or sucking its thumb, but also of accepting love from its parents. Giving to another, especially a child, is the greatest gift we can give ourselves.

accepting love from the greatest gift we can give especially a child, is the greatest gift we can give ourselves.

Douglas Lawson once said, "Just as a flower grows from a planted seed, so life springs eternal from love given unconditionally. No matter what difficulties or deformities our children suffer from, they still deserve to be loved like any other. God makes each person with a plan in mind. If he harbored any less love and hope for any of us, we could not survive in this world any better than a mentally or physically challenged individual. However, each being he brings into our world was created for a reason. Each life affects numerous other lives and contributes to the overall good of the world. By nurturing and protecting them from the moment they are conceived, they in turn will do the same for us in our old age when we no longer have the ability to care for ourselves. Thus, we set the precedent of respecting ours and each other's life from conception to death.

Eiget Place High School Pro-Life Essay Contest

each other's life from conception to death.

First Place High School Pro-Life Essay Contest

LINDSAY ISD BOARD RELEASES WINN cont. from pg. 1

personally feel that there's too many on the Board who have a personal agenda against Mr. Winn for various things that went on prior to him being here." Zimmerer expressed disappointment in the Board.

Betsy Fleitman asked how much the Board was paying Jeffrey Hardaway, the lawyer who was present per hour. "I voted for some of you, not all of you, and I voted for you because I thought you would represent the kids and the teachers of this school district to the best of your abilities. I am ashamed that I voted for any one of you sitting there with the exception of maybe David. You don't care about the school district, You care about our vendetta; a personal peeve with someone."

Another former Board member Donna Hess made

personal peeve someone."

Another former Board member, Donna Hess, made several comments. She chided the Board on a forum at which they talked about fiscal responsibility and open communication. Hess said she hadn't seen it. She said that Winn had asked to have his hearings done in open session and they weren't.

Hess reminded those

weren't.

Hess reminded those present that the make-up of the Board can change every year, but the superintendent is there longer. "Whoever is your superintendent, he will never please everybody," she noted. "It will never happen. We've seen that." She feels it is a personal agenda.

"I say shame on you," continued Hess. "I feel you purposely did this before the elections. Some of you are going off and you are going of get that agenda taken care of. I say shame in you." She also asked about the final walk-through for the maintenance list. She wasn't aware of a final walk-through taking place.

Pam Horn said she had given a book to each of the Board members at a previous meting and asked if any had read it. The book was her disguised teaching tool, she said since she is a certified teacher. The story was meant to teach them to be flexible, to work together, and compromise.

Horn cited a time at a Board meeting when Winn was asked to explain spending \$15. She declared, "Shame on you; what a rude thing to do to a human being! If you didn't want the superintendent in the first place, then why did you extend the contract the year or two before?"

Horn then said one of the biggest problems is that the school doesn't have a new gym. She accused the school board of not being interested in that and not caring that the kids have to work out until late because of the one gym being shared by so many.

"Did you know that the bus system here runs based on the Catholic Church," Horn asked. "I wonder about that sometimes. My daughter has to get up extra early so that the people's children that are Catholic can go to their Sunday school." She then threatened to call Austin and the TEA to report a problem in Lindsay ISD. "You get them down here and they are going to find out how closely related church and state is in this community. This is a public school."

Marvin Knight, DVM said he'd spoken with Winn. The Board has made the man so miserable in the past few years that he wants out, he said. Knight said he wouldn't fight that.

"Trust me things"

"Trust me things will work out for the best," Damian Krahl, Board member

"You spend money foolishly, yet you won't spend money wisely," Knight told the Board.
Relying on his 12-14 years of experience in the school business, Knight said he knows how things work, and the Lindsay District won't be able to find anyone to come in as

and the Lindsay District won't be able to find anyone to come in as superintendent under the present circumstances. "The only person that would take this job is inbred," he said. He feels there would be no new ideas,

Joe O'Dell asked why the voice of the people who supported what the Board was about to vote on wasn't being expressed. He urged the Board to search their souls. If Winn is doing a bad job, he should be fired, if not he should be left alone. Not extending Winn's contract is shown he feels the situation should be handled if there is dissatisfaction. It was not renewed this year and he has two more years remaining.

Many of the comments mirrored those of the first speakers. The Board was asked repeatedly to explain how they felt and why. Some accused some of the Board of not paying attention or listening to the audience.

Someone from the audience.

Someone from the wanted to finish out his contract. Winn was unable

hiring in '89. The District won UIL Academic competitions and received Exemplary Ratings. Sometime in the late '90s the Board lost confidence in him and his contract was not extended in '97 or '98. With a year left on his contract he seemed to read the writing on the wall and took early retirement, said Nortman ... "I am not in favor of a buy out at any cost." Nortman said as he revealed his stance.

cost," Nortman said as he revealed his stance.

Damian Krahl refuted audience accusations that he wasn't listening. "I'm a good listener," he stated. Krahl said that the Board had a lot of information with which to make their decisions that the general public did not have. He said he was most provoked by former Board members in the audience who questioned the motives of some Board members.

He denied an accusation by Knight that Board members' main goal was to be re-elected. "We'd be useless. We'd tell everybody what they wanted to hear," he said.

"Trust me things will work out for the best," commented Krahl. "A new gym, like suggested, is not the most important thing. We've talked about it. Sometimes certain things must be done before the end

to answer that due to legal issues, he said.

Hess said that she'd heard that the Board has already approached someone to be the next superintendent. She hoped this was not true because it would be setting that person up for failure. It would not be fair to him because people would be mad at him due to the situation, she said.

A number of the approximately 34 present spoke in support of Superintendent Winn asking him to tear up his resignation or repeating statements already said by previous speakers. None of the public present spoke against him. Most admitted to being there becauses someone had asked them to attend.

Board opinions
Nortman noted that it diseem to be a vicious cycle about to repeat itself. Winn came in to replace a superintendent who took early retirement with one year remaining on his contract. This followed his will work out Damian Krahl, nember

to answer that due to legal work of the public procession whey a make He said he was in agreement with the letter of resignation and exit agreement with the very decision they make. He said he was in agreement with helters of resignation and exit agreement and had phone calls three to one from the bublic supporting that.

Bruce Bezner said that this was not his situation, his calls supported the other view. "This is the most tiewerse Board we've ever had and in the three years love here we haven't gotten anywhere," said Bezner. He asked Winn to tear up his resignation.

David Arendt noted that he was the senior member on the Board with 12 years of service. He went through the situation with the previous superintendent who not the situation with the previous superintendent with one year remaining on his contract. This followed his with the provious superintendent with the provious superintendent with the

said.

Carol Conaway declined making any comment other than to tell people to call her at home with their comments.

Wayne Fleitman said he had no comments at the time.

A second expension of the second expension with their comments.

Wayne Fleitman said he had no comments at the time.

A second executive session was held after the Public Forum to consider the two documents. At 10:12 the meeting was re-opened. Richard Connett moved to accept the resignation and exit agreement. Damian Krahl seconded the motion.

Wayne Fleitman then addressed the public present. He remarked, "I didn't speak earlier because I really wanted to examine my conscience on this. I always try to do what is right and different jeeple have different ideas about what is right and so I struggle. I try to do what is right for the kids, what's right for the kids, what's right for the school district.... I've come to the best conclusion possible. I did listen to what was said."

With a vote called for, the Board voted 4-3 to accept the resignation and exit agreement. Voting for the motion were Connett, Krahl, Conaway, and Fleitman. Nay votes came from Nortman, Bezner, and Arendt.

NOTE: Since people were not made to identify themselves before speaking, it is hoped that nobody was identified incorrectly.

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Muenster Lady Hornets, Warriors of Liberty take championships at Sacred Heart Relays

Muenster's Lady Hornets and the Warriors of Liberty Christian in Denton took home the championships from the Sacred Heart Relays track and field meet held last week Friday. Muenster scored 163 points to outpace the other 13 teams that participated in the girls division. Whitesboro came in second with 97 points, followed by Lindsay 89, Era 78, and Sacred Heart 63. Others and their team scores were Garland Christian 36, Bells 31, Liberty 24, Forestburg 16, Calvary 9, Liberty JV 3, Canyon Creek 2, SGCA and Metro 1 point apiece. The top three placers and local finishers were as follows:

VARSITY GIRLS

VARSITY GIRLS
Long Jump: 1, Clarke, E, 15'
775", 2, McCutcheon, W, 15' 2.5";
Katie Schneider, L, 15' 2"; 5,
ace Koelzer, M, 15' 0.5";
Shot: 1, Howard, E, 32'2.5"; 2,
uggs, W, 31' 11.5"; 3, Katie
arpenter, L, 31' 9.75"; 5, Jana
ruebenbach, SH, 29' 10.5";
High Jump: 1, McCutcheon, W.
8"; 2, Mitchell, W, 4' 8"; 3,
arroll, D, 4'6"; 3, Cheryl Knabe, L,
6".

arroi, 9, 46 ; 3, cheryi Khabe, L.

Triple Jump: 1, Brooke Endres, 6, 32 ; 9; 3, atie Schneider, L, 31 ; 7.75 ; 4, heryl Khabe, L, 31 ; 6.75; 5, Lisa elderhoff, M, 30 8".

Discus: 1, Elaine Hess, L, 94 ; 25; 2, Amber Wolf, L, 93' 4.5", 3, ana Truebenbach, SH, 88 ; 5; 5, aura Hellman, L, 84 ; 8.25".

Pole Vault: 1, McKissack, LC, 2, Weeks, B, 7' 6"; 3, Brooke ndres, M, 7'; 4, Jami Gerstberger, 1, 6.

12.55.
200m: 1, Alisha Walterscheid, 1, 27.6; 2, Megan Lippe, M, 28.22; Weeks, B, 28.3.
1600m Relay: 1, Muenster, tevie Klement, Alisha Valterscheid, JoAnna Felderhoff, rooke Endres, 2:13.91; 2, Era, 21.04; 3, Whitesboro, 4:21.23; 4, indiasy 4:23, 86.

21.04, 3, Whitesboro, 4:21.23, 4, ndsay, 4:23.66.
300m Hurdles: 1, Jacé Koelzer, 4, 477, 3, Allison Hundt, L, 52.07, 4, sa Felderhoff, M, 52.53.
1600m: 1, Kallie Gerstberger, M, 59.65; 2, Jami Gerstberger, M, 07.1; 3, Rose Bartush, SH, 06.11; 4, Diana Knabe, SH, 12.83; 6, Tiffany Martin, L, 22.49.

SH, 13.35; 6, Alex Hellinger, L, 13.76.

800m Relay: 1, Era, 1.52.41; 2, Whitesboro, 1.55.36; 3, Muenster, Robyn Hermes, Megan Lippe, Alisha Walterscheid, Stevie Klement, 1.55.58; 4, Lindsay, 1.58.67; 5, Sacred Heart, Shannon Hartman, Jacqueline Bauer, Sarah Whitecotton, Whitney Wimmer, 2.00.09.

Liberty Christian boys earned 188 points to beat out Sacred Heart at 123. Lindsay finished in 3rd at 96, followed by I Am 38, Bells 32, Denton Calvary 29, and Muenster with 26. The remaining boys teams and their points were Era 24, Garland Christian 14, Canyon Creek, Metro and Whitesboro 10 each, Liberty JV 6, and 2 each by Era JV and Muenster JV.

The Sacred Heart Tigers set a new meet record, finishing the 4x200m relay with a time of 1:38.01. The team consisted of Johnny Krahl, Michael Voth, Aaron Krahl, and Thomas Whitecotton.

The top three finishers and distances are as follows:

VARSITY BOYS
400m: 1, Michael Voth, SH,
51.75; 2, Batey, LC, 55.53; 3,
Miller, B, 55.69; 6, Andy Davis, SH,
56.84.
300 Hurdles: 1, Combs, LC,
42.91; 2, Henderson, LC, 42.95; 3,
Paramore, LC, 43.02; 4, Martin, L,
43.54

24.11.

160m: 1, Grimes, LC, 4:52.25, 2, Mitchell Ward, L, 4:57.85, 3, Hurley, G, 4:59.73; 6, Kyle Endres, L, 5:07.10.

1600m Relay: 1, Liberty, 3:36.68; 2, Sacred Heart, Clint Fuhrmann, Michael Voth, Aaron Krahl, Kevin Walterscheid, 3:37.65, 3, Lindsay, Mitch Ward, Ryan Dickerson, Alan Trammell, Matt Brennan, 3:37.68, 5, Muenster, Daniel Russell, Sean Fuhrmann, Clint Miller, Tyler, Walterscheid, 3:50.39; 6, Muenster, JV, Jöseph Dangelmayr, Jordan Walterscheid, Matterscheid, Matterscheid,

2:24.40.
110 Hurdles: 1, Kelly, B, 15.43;
2, Clint Fuhrmann, SH, 15.44;
3, Hood, G, 15.64.
100m: 1, Bowles, LC, 11.04;
2, Journet, I, 11.17;
3, Johnny Krahl, SH, 11.26;
5, Thomas Whitecotton, SH, 11.41;
6, Aaron Krahl, SH, 11.45.

TEAM CODES: SH, Sacred Heart; M, Muenster; L, Lindsay; E, Era; W, Whitesboro; D, Denton Calvary; LC, Liberty Christian; B, Bells; F, Forestburg; G, Garland; I, I Am; C, Canyon Creek; ME, Metro



THE MUENSTER ENTERPRISE - APRIL 4, 2003 - PAGE 9

Action from the Sacred Heart Relays, clockwise, above left, Kate Sepanski dashes down the track; Kallie Gerstberger, Diana Knabe and Jami Gerstberger in the 3200m run; distance runn Chris Steelman; Emerald Otto attempts the high jump; Daniel Bartush and Kristopher Cree compete in the 3200.



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Muenster Athletic Booster Club to hold meeting, April 7

The Muenster Athletic Booster Club will be meeting on Monday, April 7 at 7 p.m. in the girls locker room. Items to be discussed include the upcoming golf tournament scheduled for May 17.

Golf Tournament set for April 19

The Red River Golf Association will hold a tournament at Turtle Hill Golf Course on April 19. Registration will be at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. for the four-man, 18-hole scramble.

Prizes will be awarded for the longest drive and closest to the pin, as well as the first two places.

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FEBRUARY PERMITS TO DRILL

The February total included 766 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 25 to re-enter existing well bores, and 185 for recompletions. Permits issued in February 2003 included 210 oil, 356 gas, 394 oil and gas, 11 injection, one service, and four other permits.

four other permits.

JANUARY CRUDE OIL
PRODUCTION
The preliminary Texas
crude oil production figure
for January 2003 is
31,039,110 barrels, an
increase from 31,691,768

barrels reported during

barrels reported during January 2002.

FEBRUARY OIL AND GAS COMPLETIONS

In February 2003, operators reported 255 oil, 364 gas, 24 injection, and one others compared to 243 oil, 471 gas, 12 injection and five other completions during February 2002. Total well completions for 2003 year to date are 1,367, down from 1,625 recorded during the same period in 2002. Operators reported 542 holes plugged and 53 dry holes in February 2003.

Farm & Ranch

Budget conferees face farm issues

The Senate on March 26 passed a \$2.2 trillion budget resolution for fiscal 2004, which a conference committee will now have to reconcile with the budget resolution the House passed March 21. Both resolutions contain provisions that could affect farm programs. During conference negotiations, the American Farm Bureau Federation will work to kill provisions that would cut \$18.6 billion, about 10 percent, from farm programs over 10 years and reduce the amount of farm payments individual farmers can receive. Conferees are expected to begin meeting April 1 to reconcile the differences between the Senate and House resolutions.

To lobby their members of Congress and ward off the farm program cuts, Farm Bureau members from around the country are flying in to Washington, D.C., this week.

The Senate resolution, which passed 56-44, could reduce the limit on farm program payments from \$360,000 per year to \$300,000 and would apparently do away with generic certificates. Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), the author of the provision, said it would restore \$1.4 billion to the Conservation Security Program. Earlier this year, Congress used funds budgeted for CSP, new in the 2002 farm bill, to pay for \$3.1 billion in agricultural we ather disaster assistance.

The House resolution, which passed 215-212, does not contain the payment limit reduction, but would slash mandatory funding for farm programs, crop insurance and nutrition assistance by \$600 million in 2004, \$5.5 billion by 2008 and \$18.6 billion by 2013. AFBF opposes payment limits and any reopening of the farm bill.

To gain sufficient support to pass the House



600-700 lb, 576 to 582: 700-800 lb, 572 to 578. Heifers, 300-400 lb, 590 to 5100-400-500 lb, 580 to 592: 500-600 lb, 576 to 582: 600-700 lb, 572 to 577.50 70-800 lb, 568 to 573.50. Packer Cows: Utility Boning, 538 to 543.50. Cannet/Cutter, \$36 to 540: Bulls, 548 to 552. Bred Cows: Choice, 5600 to 5725: Bulls, \$48 to \$52.

Bred Cows: Choice, \$600 to \$725
Med-Good, \$550 to \$600:
Med-Poor, \$400 to \$475.

Cow-Calf Pairs Choice, \$725-885(
Medium-Good, \$675-\$710,
Medium-Poor, \$475-\$566)

resolution, House Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle (R-Iowa) promised to work during conference to restore farm bill funding through 2008. Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (R-Mo.) and Rep. Larry Combest (R-Texas), former House Agriculture Committee chairman, withheld support for the resolution until receiving Nussle's commitment.

"Farm Bureau is grateful to Combest and Emerson for standing up for agriculture," said AFBF President Bob Stallman. "There is never a good time to reduce support for our farmers and ranchers. But with continuing hardships in the farm economy, weather disasters and growing demands for farmers to produce more while protecting the environment, there couldn't be a worse time to cut farm programs."

Nussle wrote the two members of Congress that, High fuel prices hit farmers'

farmers' pocketbooks

Each spring, farmers start dreaming—no matter how bad last year was, a bumper crop and good prices this year could make up for it. Better prices for corn, soybeans, cotton, cattle and hogs this year may contribute to the usual optimism. But, the soaring cost of fuel could bring a cold splash of reality.

It is estimated that energy costs account for 10 percent to 30 percent of a farm's operating costs, and those costs are going up. For some, that could be the difference between incurring a loss, breaking even or pulling in a profit.

Retail gasoline prices as of March 3 averaged—\$1.69-per gallon across the United States. That's up about 57 cents from a year ago, and 24 cents from the start of this year. Diesel fuel is going for about \$1.75 a gallon, on average, up 58 cents from a year ago. In February, the price of crude oil reached \$38 per barrel, a 12-year high, and natural gas prices reached record highs in regional markets.

SCRAMBLE from pg. 1

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Agriculture Secretary
Ann M. Veneman today
announced key sign-up
dates for programs under
the Agricultural Assistance
Act of 2003, including the
crop disaster assistance
program. Veneman said
that sign-up for the crop
program, which will
reimburse producers for
qualifying crop losses in
either 2001 or 2002, will
begin June 6, with
payments to begin shortly
thereafter.

"The Department is
committed to getting
assistance into the hands of
affected producers as soon
as possible," Veneman said
during a briefing with
reporters from the USDA
radio studios. "Our
timetable is several weeks
ahead of previous disaster
aid packages, even though
this is a more complicated
bill to implement."

To expedite the process,
Veneman said the
department is working to
cut regulatory red tape by
going directly to final rules
where possible and
implementing many
regulations through a
single, expedited "mega
regulation"

Crop disaster payments
must be calculated using
the same formula used for

Wayne Becker crop, other disaster programs

cottonseed program will begin after completion of the 2002 crop ginning season, which occurs around May 1; 60 million in disaster related assistance for the sugar beet industry, with sign-up beginning in June; 250 million Livestock Assistance Program that will reimburse producers for grazing losses will begin in July.

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and the Tobacco Payment Program (TOPP) already are in place, with sign-up for TOPP underway and LCP sign-up slated to begin April 1.

USDA also is issuing refunds to eligible producers who were assessed payment reductions last year for haying or grazing on lands enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program These refunds will total \$16.4 million to producers in 28 states.

"This is one more way to assist affected producers," Veneman said. "The refunds will go to farmers and ranchers who were hardest hit by last year's drought."

Veneman also reminded producers of next week's April 1 deadline to update

will go to lariners and ranchers who were hardest hit by last year's drought."

Veneman also reminded producers of next week's April 1 deadline to update acreage bases and yields under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program. Nationwide, USDA expects that about 5 percent of eligible producers still need to visit their county offices to either make the updates or make appointments to do so.

Two other important dates include the March 31 deadline to designate peanut acreage and yields to a farm and the June 2 closing date to sign completed contracts for the 2002 and 2003 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

For more information on these issues, visit USDA's we b s it e a thttp://www.usda.gov/
Information specific to disaster assistance can be f o u n d a thttp://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/

Wavne Becker County Agent's Report CEA - AG/NR have access to the new pasture before the cows. The calves will clip off the top of the grass which is a higher quality diet. The cows can come behind and graze the remaining forage. The Noble Foundation does this with stockers followed by cow-calf pairs to get the best pasture utilization.

Dates worthy of notice:

April 8 - Marketing Club Meeting, 7:00 Farm Bureau Building

April 26- Grayson, Fannin, and Cooke Household Hazardous Waste Pickup, Midway Mall

April 30 - Wheat Tour

We dodged a bullet this weekend! Temperatures were forecasted to be below freezing, something we don't like to see as we start looking forward to spring and warmer weather. A freeze could have done some damage to some early garden plants, but would not have been too detrimental to the wheat, as it was still in the jointing phase.

At the Extension office we are currently busy establishing advisory committees for different areas we serve. So far, a crop committee, an equine committee and a livestock/forage committee will be meeting soon. The livestock/forage committee have been formed. The livestock/forage committee will be meeting soon. The other committees have already met and projects are beginning currently.

The crops committee has recommended a milo variety trial which is now under way, and also a wheat tour which we are planning.

The equine industry directory created. Anyone with a desire to be listed should contact us for more details. Also a spring clinic is being created.

For greater pasture utilization some are beginning to consider creep-grazing? According to experts creep-grazing is an inexpensive way to provide excellent creep pasture. You can put up a creep gate or some other type gap that will let the calves enter. This will provide them access to a high quality pasture and to extra nutrients. I f the grass gets too tall and rank, then allow the cows into the field to graze it. Give a little rest and it will come back tender for the calves.

If you are on a rotational grazing program, put up a creep gate so that calves.

It's A Stat! by the Texas Agricult Statistics Service

MILK PRODUCTION
Texas milk production totaled 451 million pounds during February, up 3.9 percent from last year's production of 434 million pounds. January 2003 production totaled 482 million pounds.
The number of milk cows during February averaged 311,000 head, up 1,000 head from last year and unchanged from January 2003. Production per cow averaged 1,450 pounds during February, up 3.6 percent from last year, but down 6.5 percent form the 1,550 pounds during January 2003.

EGG PRODUCTION

EGG PRODUCTION

February egg production in Texas totaled 363 million eggs, up 3 percent from February 2002, but down 8 percent from January 2003. The number of layers during February averaged 18.72 million. Egg production per 100 layers averaged 1,939 eggs. Texas hatchery production of broiler-type

Ag Briefs

Calving in the spring, just as new grass grows, is easier on calves and will save on cow feed cost.

Weaning calves at 4-6 months of age is more profitable than the standard 7-9 month age.

In January, USDA estimated the 2002 total hay production at 51 million tons, down 4% from the 2001 total. Alfalfa was down 8%, the lowest since 1968.

Slow-moving-vehicle emblems warn motorists behind you of your presence, preventing countless accidents.

chicks totaled 48.5 millious 2 percent from last year CATTLE ON FEED

up 2 percent from last year.
CATLE ON FEED
Cattle and calves on feed
for slaughter market in
Texas feedlots with capacity
of 1,000 head or more
totaled 2.56 million head on
March 1, down 10 percent
from a year ago. Producers
placed 370,000 head in
commercial feedlots during
February, down 10 percent
from a year ago and down
12 percent from the January
2003, revised total.
Texas commercial feeders
marketed 395,000 head
during February, down 1
percent from last year and 9
percent from last year and 9
percent below the January
2003, total.

Farm Service Agency News

Crop Acreage Reports Required For Benefits

A new requirement under the new farm program is that all participating farms must file an acreage report every year. Failure to report your crops will result in loss

fall Seeded Crops -May 1, 2003 is the final date to report wheat, oats, and

barley.

Spring Seeded CropsJuly 15, 2003 is the final
date to report corn, grain
sorghum, soybeans,
peanuts, pecans, seeded hay
crops, native and improved
grasses for grazing and
forage.

Please contact this office as soon as possible to schedule an appointment.

IRA -DON'T GIVE IT AWAY

The most obvious one is an Individual Retirement Account. With an IRA you can contribute up to \$3,000 per year.



These contributions are defer from your taxable income till you take the money out at retirement age. If you can't afford to contribute the maxin you can contribute less.

Call or Visit with Sue Fisher at the Muenster Office for IRA's, CD's and Money Market Accounts.



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\$225.

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STORY

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