

REMINDER!
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MMH stats indicate upward trend

By Janet Felderhoff
Lynn Heller, CFO at Muenster Memorial Hospital (MMH), prepared a packet on a spreadsheet format and distributed it at the Jan. 20 MMH Board meeting. He did in two months what should have taken three to six months to do, praised MMH Administrator Richard Arnold.

Arnold explained, "What we're seeing is a trend. If you look at the trend that is happening at this hospital, and you'll see this throughout these financial reports, you'll see where we've been and where we're going. If we can keep this trend we've got a very good story to tell."

Dr. Karla Cox joined the MMH staff in August. Arnold pointed out that the trend has been upward since regarding the number of patients using the hospital, emergency room, surgery, laboratory, x-ray, and other services.

Heller explained the spreadsheet showing revenues. Reimbursements from Medicare and from various insurance companies, as well as patient payments, are in an upward development.

Arnold made the following statement to the community from the Board:

"Last month the Board made a statement that the District had borrowed \$250,000 from the Muenster

State Bank. That was done before this fiscal year started in July, and was necessary due to the Medicare reimbursements held up while we were being established as a Critical Access Hospital in the Medicare reimbursement system. We are now able to pay that loan off, thanks to the better reimbursement rate we receive as Critical Access. Medicare payment to us represents an average of 70% of the hospital business we do, and we could not have pulled through the tight period without the support of the bank.

"An important thing to remember about the bank loan is that we used only half of the amount set up as our line of credit, and also importantly, we were not required to go back for any portion of that remaining \$250,000 line of credit over the past 10 months. The operational cash flow from the hospital has been enough to maintain business without further borrowing over that period. This does not guarantee that we will not have to use a line of credit in the future for maintaining operations, but we are optimistic that the arrival of Dr. Bonnie Carter this coming summer will raise the level of patients using the hospital and improve the revenues."

"Bringing in new, additional physicians is not

the total answer --- they have to be the right fit for the community's needs. We are especially selective in those doctors that we do have coming (three more, including Dr. Carter). Just as our Dr. Karla Cox, all are trained to practice in a small community as primary physicians. The specialists --- internal medicine (Dr. Ed Advincula), heart specialty, oncology, surgery, etc., are either here, have already established patient scheduling at MMH, or are in the formative stage of establishing patient scheduling at MMH. One of the goals is to have specialists coming to MMH for convenient, in-town appointments for our patients, in all instances where that is logical.

"We are doing everything that we can to make sure that Muenster Memorial Hospital continues to survive --- no, thrive --- and do so through good management and excellent service to the people in the area, not through increased taxes."

Arnold said that the Board has stressed many times that they don't want to have to go to the taxpayers to increase funds. "In fact, it's probably better for us to not have a quick fix, like doubling the taxes," Arnold remarked. "It's better for us to watch our expenses, control it, not try to do too much at one time, and make sure everything we bring in is going to pay its way when it comes in."

"Then also, what does the community want? The community wanted us to bring in physicians that are going to be primary care and we're going to have babies here. Then they also want specialists so our generic clinic is made available for specialists to

come in and do the things like the oncology, the cardiology. We'd like to have orthopedics, urology, and other specialists come in also."

Arnold said he'd just met with three doctors who were showing some interest in working with the Muenster doctors for referrals and also to do some procedures here. He spoke with an OB/GYN, orthopedist, and a general surgeon.

The message in the Board's statement Arnold explained is, "We want to pay our way. We're trying to use good business sense working with the Bank. The Bank's been very open with us and worked with us very closely in setting up a line of credit. There are going to be times when we're full like we are right now, and then there are going to be times when we are empty. That's just the nature of health care, but our costs continue on."

Board President Kenny Klement added, "We haven't borrowed any money in approximately a year since we had to do the initial \$250,000 and then when the reimbursements started catching up, we started catching up. We haven't had to borrow any money and we do have money in the Bank now, enough to cover this note now."

Klement expressed appreciation on behalf of the Board to the employees who stuck with the District because it couldn't have been done without them. He also credited management from Arnold on down. "It looks better to me than it did a year ago and we'd like to thank the community and District for supporting us and coming to see our doctors," said Klement. "They are getting more patients on a weekly basis."

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Receiving promotions at the Muenster State Bank are Jeannene Walterscheid and John D. Barthush. Scott Wood photo

Muenster State Bank announces promotions

Muenster State Bank has announced the promotion of Jeannene Walterscheid to vice president and John D. Barthush to assistant vice president. Both officers are life-long citizens of Muenster, and are active in the community.

Walterscheid has been with the bank for 20 years and is responsible for compliance, the audit function, and also has lending responsibilities. She

is currently serving on the Muenster Library Board as secretary.

Barthush has been with the bank for two and half years and is a loan officer. Barthush currently serves as race chairman for the Knights of Columbus Germanfest Fun Run. He also serves on the Sacred Heart Parish Finance Committee and the Cooke County United Way Board of Directors.

Commissioners Court hears complaints voiced on County Road & Bridge fund distribution

By Janet Felderhoff
A number of residents from the eastern part of Cooke County attended the Jan. 26 regular meeting of Commissioners Court. Their goal was to bring attention to what they feel is an unfair distribution of the County's Road & Bridge Fund.

Wayne Dodson spearheaded the complaint. He brought figures he compiled to show why he felt the even four-way split was unfair and figures to show how he felt it should be divided.

Speaking to the Court Dodson claimed, "The current method of taxation and budgeting presently in place penalizes each precinct that has any growth. Although this system may have been equally allocated 40-50 years ago, when put in place, it is inefficient for current use."

Dodson claimed that there are 2,652 houses/addresses in Precinct #1 and 3,035 houses/addresses in Precinct #2 for a total of 5,687 houses or 71.1% of total houses/addresses for all precincts. In Precinct #3 he claimed that there are 1,273 houses/addresses and in Precinct #4 there are 1,038 houses/addresses for 28.9% of total houses/addresses for all precincts.

Total number of houses/addresses listed by Dodson is Precinct #1 - 2,652 or 33.2%; Precinct #2 - 3,035 or 37.9%; Precinct #3 - 1,273 or 15.9%; and Precinct #4 - 1,038 or 13.0%. Dividing the County by 1-35 he indicates that 5,323 houses or 66.5% of the houses are in the eastern side of the County and 2,675 or 33.5% are on the western side. The total number of

houses was 7,998.

Using the amount of cash on hand and the amount due from the taxes being collected, Dodson divided that total by what he determined to be the number of rural houses in a precinct and arrived at the average amount of money that is being spent per house in each precinct. According to Dodson's figures the amount currently spent is: #1 - \$325.52; #2 - \$316.05; #3 - \$963.59; and #4 - \$1,262.85.

By dividing the funds according to the number of rural houses, Dodson claims that \$545.13 would be spent on each home in all precincts. That would give Precinct #1 - \$1,455,684.76; #2 - \$1,654,469.55; #3 - \$693,950.49; and #4 - \$565,844.94 for the 2003-04 budget total of \$4,360,009.31.

In a phone conversation Dodson clarified that the number of houses was determined from the County's 911 information. Lake Kiowa and the cities of Gainesville, Muenster, and Lindsay were deleted from the count, he said. Dodson included houses in Callisburg, Valley View, Oak Ridge, Era, and Sivells Bend because he understood that the County does road maintenance for them. He said that he now thinks that there are about 500 houses/addresses that weren't included.

Most of the growth in the County is on the east side. Dodson said that Judge Bill Freeman, Commissioner Phil Young, and Commissioner Jerry Lewis agreed that the eastern part of the County was growing faster than the western side of 1-35.

"I submit this analysis of

the problems and feel that a dialogue should commence as soon as possible to prepare to meet our responsibilities to the citizens of Cooke County for the upcoming Budget Review process in June of this year," said Dodson.

In the eight years that he has lived in Cooke County, Dodson said that Precinct #1 Commissioner Young has convinced him that of the four commissioners, he has the least amount of money to spend. According to the way Dodson figured things Precinct #2 Commissioner Bill Cox has about \$9 less per household than does Young.

Dodson was told that budget hearings begin in June and that would be the time to come forward.

In the telephone interview Dodson said, "I'm not going away. I want what is fair for

the total county. I'm not on a vendetta, I'm on a mission."

Dodson suggested in a statement with his figures that County Auditor Gloria Parrish audit his figures for accuracy. Parrish said she couldn't substantiate his figures. She wasn't sure how he determined the number of houses used for his figures.

Bob Henderson of Callisburg supported Dodson's opinion that the current distribution is unfair. "Commissioner's Court has always distributed our tax dollars equally to each precinct," he noted. "The population growth is not equal. That presented by Mr. Dodson and prepared from your own records indicates clearly where the growth is taking place and it would seem

See complaints, Pg. 2

Local candidates set for Republican Women's Forum

The February meeting of the Cooke County Republican Women will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, at the Chamber of Commerce Building in Gainesville.

Speakers will be Cooke County Candidates on the Republican Primary Ballot for election on March 9.

They include: District Judge - Janelle M. Haverkamp, Ken King; District Attorney - Nancy L. Manning, Cindy Stormer, and Roger White; County Attorney - Tanya S. Davis; Commissioner, Precinct 1 - Gary Hollowell, Patrick R. McCage, Keith Wilson, and Phil Young; Commissioner

Precinct 3 - Frank Rust and Al Smith; Sheriff - Michael E. (Mike) Compton; Constable, Precinct 1 - Tony O. Weir Sr. and Terry Wayne Gilbert; Constable, Precinct 4 - Anthony (Tony) Ward; Tax Assessor - Collector - Billie Jean Knight.

The public is invited to attend this informative meeting, as well as anyone who would like to join Republican Women of Cooke County.

Refreshments will be served following the meeting. Questions can be directed to Glenda Vowell, president, at 726-3227.



Sister Marquerite Connors and Darrell Walterscheid

Darell Walterscheid honored in Fort Worth

Each year the Diocese of Fort Worth honors men and women who are instrumental to continuing the legacy of Catholic Schools. This year Sacred Heart School's Darell Walterscheid was recognized at the 2004 Catholic Schools Banquet at the Fort Worth Convention Center.

The Sacred Heart School Staff nominated Darell. Darell has been a volunteer in service to Sacred Heart School and the parish community since his graduation in 1976. This past year Darell has been involved in the renovation of Tiger Stadium and helped to spearhead the renovation project in the high school which included remodeling of the boys restroom and placing insulation and new ceilings in the classrooms along with new wiring.

"The staff was right on with their nomination of Darell," said Jon LeBrasseur, principal. "He was hard to miss as he was here at all hours. Over the Holidays Darell was in the building with as many as 40 other volunteers doing various renovation projects."

Master of Ceremonies John Rhadigan introduced Daniel Curtin. Curtin is the Executive Director, Chief Administrators of Catholic

Education. Mr. Curtin acknowledged how the volunteers built Catholic schools and how the parental support is alive in the Catholic schools. He mentioned how there are so many trying to destroy our religion by trying to close Catholic schools.

"The Diocesan honoree was Sister Marquerite Connors SHSp. Sr. Marquerite was honored for her tireless dedication to meeting the challenges of today's Catholic schools. Her ministry, leadership, and vision have led the Fort Worth Catholic School System for the past 10 years. Under her leadership the Fort Worth system has become a national leader in Catholic education."

Bishop Delaney welcomed all and commended the honorees for their dedication to Catholic Schools. "It is that investment in human beings that has made Catholic education so successful... excellent education in an environment where Christ is always acknowledged, where His presence is felt and where the tools of the faith are absorbed in the children. So, certainly, if I had children, I would do everything I could to get them into Catholic schools."

Cooke County hires architect firm for jail

By Janet Felderhoff
Cooke County is moving forward with plans to remedy its problem of lack of jail beds. At the Monday, Jan. 26 meeting Commissioners contracted with the firm of Burns, Fletcher, Gill Architects of Fort Worth and instructed them to proceed with the study of the existing jail facility. The firm agreed not to charge for the jail study.

The architect's cost will be paid according to the cost of the facility. The percentage drops as the building cost rises. Costs were agreed to on both new and renovation plans. Should the bond issue fail and the project picked up later on, Norris Fletcher assured the Judge that there would be cost to resurrect the project should they decide to implement the work.

Should the bond issue fail, the firm will be paid 12% of what the architect's fee would have been if the bond passed. "We have to have them design a jail to tell us what it's going to cost so that we can tell the voters what it will cost," explained the Judge.

Judge Freeman reported, "As of today we are housing 29 prisoners in Dickens County and five prisoners in Montague County for a total of 34 out of county. That's still in excess of a thousand dollars a day that we are spending out of county housing prisoners."

Commissioner Virgil Hess inquired of Fletcher, "Do you feel comfortable with the Jail Commission on their study as far as the number of beds we need?" He noted that with the original jail it was only a few years later and beds had to be added because it wasn't built large enough.

"We can take a quick look

at that," agreed Fletcher. "Typically your jail population is a function of the county population. We take a look at your historical data and give you an opinion."

Judge Freeman said it bothered him that they were sending the tax dollars to house prisoners out of county when it could be being spent locally. It is expected that county voters will be asked to decide on a general obligation bond for the proposed jail construction or renovation at this May's election. This requires calling the election in March at which time the costs, etc. must be known.

Freeman said that there has been a steady increase of prisoners in the last several years. "I just don't think with our existing court system, having two courts, that we are going to be able to clear this jail simply by trial matters," said Judge Freeman. "It's a long process on trials and things like that. We need to move forward I think the voters in Cooke County have the right to decide if we're going to spend this kind of money. I don't believe that the court believes that we should just take this on ourselves, although we could do it with a certificate of obligation. I think the public needs to understand what our problems are and let them make the decision. The money is going to be spent locally or be spent out of county, but it is going to be spent."

County Judge Bill Freeman asked that commissioners consider canceling a contract signed about a month ago with Allison, Bass, and Associates, Attorneys at

Law. It was to implement House Bill 117.

"The contract sounded pretty good," noted Freeman. "We were going to get all of the county road deeds and titles straightened out. The further we get into this the more concerned I become."

Judge Freeman said that he and Commissioner Jerry Lewis had a conference call with the County attorneys in Austin. There were questions that couldn't be answered, especially deed questions as to what we were going to do with the deeds, whether the person retained ownership, and what was happening with this Bill, he said.

If the County implements the Bill, "There are a lot of (mandatory) 'we shall do' a lot of things and at the end we still won't know where the deeds are," Judge Freeman noted. "If we have to go out and survey all these roads who's going to pay for it?" The County Surveyor explained to Judge Freeman that the cost would be staggering.

Freeman said the Bill is basically good, but needs tweaking. The Legislature is expected to revisit it next year. Judge Freeman said that the County has until 2008 to implement the Bill. He wants to work with the Legislature on the Bill.

"I certainly believe the Bill can be fixed as long as we leave the ownership of the road with the landowner," Judge Freeman said. "I'm not for taking ownership from someone who has bought the ownership to the middle of the road. When he sells the land, he needs to have the right to sell the land to the middle of the road."

Allison, Bass agreed not to hold the County to the

contract at this time as long as any work already done was paid for. Freeman said he thought little, if any, work had been done. He expects little or no cost.

The Court voted 5-0 to cancel the contract.

An Executive Session scheduled with the County's legal council was canceled because the Council was out

sick. After studying a copy of the opinion requested from Tidwell, Judge Freeman recommended that they move forward with scheduling a Public Hearing on the proposed Susquehanna Radio Tower at Lake Ray Roberts. Commissioners agreed. The date of the hearing will be announced.

In other business Commissioners Court:

- At the recommendation of Commissioners Hess and Lewis, who inspected it, approved the specifications of the cul-de-sac in Country Estates North Unit II Lot 1, off of CR 428 in Precinct #4.
- Approved Simpson Homes request to install a See BUSINESS, Pg. 3



Six dead baby calves were recently disposed of by someone who threw them over the bridge on County Road 426. The carcasses are in the Brushy Elm Creek bed. That manner of disposing of dead animals is illegal. According to information received from county officials, it is a state jail felony punishable by a fine of \$1,000 to \$100,000 and/or imprisonment, not to exceed five years in a state jail. It violates Texas Water Code 7.145. Photo by Janie Hartman

TREND.....Continued from Pg. 1

The best we can do is what we started and to stay with it. That's our goal. If anyone has other ideas that could help us, we'd appreciate hearing them."

"You've heard of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act which is the biggest reform act of the Medicare program since 1965 probably," said Arnold. "Within that Act there is an effort to try to encourage rural hospitals. The first time we've had some encouragement in a long time."

There is a list of changes that targets Critical Access Hospitals (CAH). One change is that Medicare will now reimburse CAH 101% of cost. That one percent gives CAH a little extra money to use for increasing their capital such as buying better equipment, said Arnold. The number of beds allowed also increased. MMH is licensed for 18 patients and could have 18 swing bed patients, but were only allowed to have 15 acute care patients. Now it is expanded to have 25 acute beds and/or 25 swing beds. This covers season increase problems. There were several other changes for the better that were discussed.

An MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) unit will soon be on the MMH premises. The hospital contracted with Metro Imaging for use of an MRI unit. Dr. Gregory, radiologist, said that the .5 machine was sufficient for the medical needs of primary care doctors for use on extremities, brain, and spinal exams. He said it is comparable to the unit used at the Gainesville Hospital where the patients are being sent now. This will avoid the need to send patients out of house for an MRI exam.

Three Board members have terms expiring in May. The Board ordered an

election to be held on May 15. The three members up for election are Angelo Nasche, Kenny Klement, and John Aytes.

Board members received a report listing insurance companies that are accepted at MMH and ones that have been contacted by MMH, but denied. Arnold noted that separate contracts are required for the hospital, the clinic, and each doctor. He encouraged residents of the District whose insurance isn't yet accepted, to write letters encouraging the insurance company to enter into a contract with MMH. There is a generic letter available for those who are interested, but not sure what to write. This tactic worked with United Healthcare. Contact the Administration office for assistance.

Proposals from two insurance companies for Directors and Officers' insurance coverage were

reviewed. Fireman's Fund is the current carrier. They bid \$6,981.00 for a million dollar coverage with a \$25,000 deductible. William Rigg proposed \$4,965 for a million dollar coverage with a \$5,000 deductible. The lower premium from William Rigg was accepted.

In other business the Board:
• Heard a report on St. Richard's Villa including a census of 39 of a possible 40. Terri Plumlee, R.N. was hired as director of nursing. She has several years of experience at Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth in Trauma ICU. Amy Snider, L.V.N. is welcomed back as Medicare Coordinator.

• Approved submitting an application for Rural Health Facility Improvement grant. It is a \$50,000 with a 10% match grant. There is a need for new laboratory equipment, and if the grant is approved for MMH that is how it will be spent.

COMPLAINTS.....Continued from Pg. 1

reasonable that our tax dollars should be distributed in the same manner. We should also be preparing for future growth now, as we know it is coming. We can no longer live in the past and do budgets to distribute funds as we have always done in the past and pass it off by saying, 'That's the way we've always done it.' The citizens you took an oath to represent deserve better answers and better work."

Shirley Newton of Callisburg added her agreement and asked that the Commissioners Court review the system of distributing funds and be realistic about where the population is.

Bill Newton of Callisburg criticized the commissioners who have some of their Precincts' money invested in CDs. He compared it to a man who had the flu and wouldn't spend money on antibiotics, etc. because he was saving his money in case he had to have a bypass. He said the man died from the flu. Newton remarked, "So what good is this money in CDs when the roads are not fixed? I propose that all of the excess money that is in there be equally divided up amongst the precincts and that we have some definite method of fixing the road and the bridges. I know that Mr. Hess has done an excellent job of taking care of his money and I appreciate that, and all the rest of you. But when you

realize that money won't buy you health or won't buy you anything to eat or drink, all you have is money. I suggest you go ahead and spend the money on the things that we need."

According to Parrish, County Road & Bridge Funds come from County tax (the amount needed is determined at budget time), fines from County Court, percentage of money from weight permits and from license plate renewals. Some of this money is required by the State to be divided equally among the four precincts, said Parrish.

At the beginning of the fiscal year, Oct. 1, each commissioner receives an equal amount in his fund. In an interview after the meeting Commissioner Hess commented that this side of the County would be getting the short end of the stick with Dodson's method. It goes by the number of people, not by the number of miles. He said that the number of miles of rural roads is about equal in each precinct.

Hess also questioned Dodson's figures. He said that he feels that they are distorted because some town populations were included while Muenster and Lindsay were excluded. Valley View's population was counted and it is larger than Lindsay's, Hess noted. Also many of the people counted in the eastern totals live along the highways and don't use the county roads. Another

questionable fact is that many 911 addresses are for barns, shops, and other out buildings. Were these excluded? Hess said that Dodson is comparing apples to oranges.

About the money he has put in reserve, Hess said he is saving to build a new county barn for Precinct #4.

Hess said he's been saving for 14 years. When he took office Precinct #4 had no extra money. Hess noted that when Commissioner Young took office in 1996 he had \$150,000 more in Reserves in Precinct #1's fund than Hess had in Precinct #4's. The actual balances as of Sept. 30, 1996 were: Precinct #1 - \$366,995; Precinct #2 - \$312,388; Precinct #3 - \$433,308; and Precinct #4 - \$241,050.

"I wasn't complaining then and I was the low man on the totem pole," Hess said about his precincts fund balance compared to the other precincts at the end of the fiscal year.

Much of the Precinct #1 reserves went to purchase brand new equipment. Hess said that he doesn't buy brand new equipment, but looks for used equipment that is in good shape and more reasonably priced. He also tries to buy no finance.

Splitting the excess funds equally among all four precincts as suggested by Newton would not be fair, said Hess. He didn't think the voters of Precinct #4 would be too happy with that suggestion either.

City Council Agenda

The following is the agenda for the regular meeting of the Muenster City Council to be held at 7:30 pm in the City Hall meeting room on Monday, February 2, 2004.

1. Call meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
 2. Opening prayer.
 3. Approve minutes of the regular meeting on January 5 and special meeting on January 12, 2004.
 4. Recognize visitors and invite them to attend the entire Council meeting and to discuss their business.
 5. Consider any other business to come before the Council.
- OLD BUSINESS:
1. Consider and act on Ordinance 271 regarding mosquito fogging.
- NEW BUSINESS:
1. Call the City election for May 15, 2004.
- Positions for election: Place #1 - now held by Tony Dicking
Place #2 - now held by Johnny Fegel
Place #4 - now held by Jewel Otto
2. Filing dates for applications for candidacy are February 16 through March 12, 2004, at Muenster City Hall.
 3. Consider and act on request for zoning for RV park.
 4. Consider and act on Chamber of Commerce request for park usage.
 5. Consider and act on approval of hiring legal counsel for annexation issues.
 6. Consider and act on pay increase for police officer.
 7. Executive Session - The Council may enter into executive session to discuss the following: Texas Local Government Code 551.071 Consultation with Attorney regarding parking loan cases.
 8. Return to open session. Consider and act on matters discussed in Executive Session.
 9. Review and act upon monthly bills.
 10. Receive status report on city projects and activities.
 11. Adjourn.

2-WEEK EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, February 1, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Monday, February 2, 2004 City Council meeting, 7:30PM	Tuesday, February 3, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center MMH Auxiliary meeting, 7PM, Administration Office	Wednesday, February 4, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Chamber of Commerce Board meeting, 5:30PM Religious Ed Class, 7PM College Financial Aid Workshop, 6:30PM, Muenster High School Computer Lab	Thursday, February 5, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4PM Cooke County Republican Women's Forum, 7PM, Gainesville Chamber of Commerce	Friday, February 6, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM AARP Board meeting, 10AM, Stanford House, Gainesville	Saturday, February 7, 2004
Sunday, February 8, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM	Monday, February 9, 2004 Pro Life Youth Essay Contest deadline VFW meeting, 8PM	Tuesday, February 10, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center	Wednesday, February 11, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center SH Alumni & Friends meeting, 7PM, Community Center MISD Board meeting, 7:30PM Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, 7:30AM, Rohmer's Religious Ed Class, 7PM	Thursday, February 12, 2004 Exercise Class, 10:30-11:30, S.N.A.P. Center Muenster Museum Open 1-4PM	Friday, February 13, 2004 Muenster Museum Open 1-4 PM AARP meeting & luncheon, 11:30AM, Stanford House, Gainesville	Saturday, February 14, 2004 Lindsay VFD, Truck Dance, 6PM, Centennial Hall

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Obituaries

Roberta Tolbert 1956 - 2004

By Elfreda Fette

Funeral Service was held on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. for Roberta Marie "Birdy" Gesinger Tolbert of Muenster. She died on Jan. 20, 2004 at 9:10 a.m. at age 47, in Harris-Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth, of injuries that occurred in a one-vehicle accident on Highway 82 between Muenster and Lindsay.

Officiating for the funeral service at First Baptist Church in Gainesville were Joe Howard Williams and Rev. J.L. Williams, associate pastor of First Baptist Church.



Roberta Tolbert

Survivors of Roberta Tolbert are three sons, Travis Tolbert, Jake Tolbert, and Clayton Tolbert, all of Muenster. Also parents Robert and Janet Gesinger of Ridgeview, South Dakota; three sisters, Peggy Gesinger of Mineral Wells, Janelle Gesinger of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Kitty Webster and husband Mike of Craig, Colorado; and two brothers, Blaine Gesinger and wife, Deedra of Pierre, South Dakota, and Kenny Gesinger and wife, Mary Kaye of Eagle Butte, South Dakota. Also her paternal grandmother, Rose Gesinger of Gettysburg, South Dakota; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

of Gettysburg, South Dakota; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Preceding her in death were her paternal grandfather, John Gesinger; her maternal grandparents Owen Kearns and Jeannie Sutton Kearns.

Roberta Marie "Birdy" Tolbert was born on Nov. 15, 1956 in Gettysburg, South Dakota, to Robert and Janet Kearns Gesinger. She attended grade school in Ridgeview, South Dakota and graduated high school at St. Gertrudes in Raleigh, North Dakota, and graduated from North Dakota State University with a degree in Animal Science. Birdy was active in barrel racing and goat tying in high school and college. She won the Goat Tying in 1981 in both the South Dakota and the Northwestern Rodeo Associations. She worked for two years on the family ranch after college graduation, and then moved to Texas where she became involved in the cutting horse industry. She won many awards in competition. She was married to John Tolbert on Feb. 18, 1983. She has lived in the Muenster area the past two years.

McCoy Funeral Home of Muenster directed funeral services. Visitation was held at the funeral home on Friday, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Burial was in New Resthaven Cemetery in Gainesville.

Pallbearers were Les Remington, Chet Burrows, Jeff Matsler, Blaine Gesinger, Kenny Gesinger, and Scotty Austin.

For those who have asked, the family has suggested memorials be sent to the Tolbert Boys Trust, c/o Larry Sullivan, P.O. Box 1517, Gainesville, Texas 76241-1517.



Margaret Henson

Margaret Henson 1921-2004

By Elfreda Fette

Margaret Henson of Bowie died on Jan. 21, 2004 at age 82 at her residence, following several years of illness. She was the mother of Brenda Rigsby, former employee of the Muenster Enterprise. Other survivors are a daughter and son-in-law, Linda Kay and John Smith of Mesquite, Texas; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; one brother, Babe Weaver Anderson of Bowie; and one sister, Doris Shearon of Granbury, Texas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her husband who died on Jan. 11, 2002; and one brother, Ed Anderson.

Before moving to Bowie 25 years ago, Margaret Henson was a longtime resident of Mesquite. She was born on Feb. 18, 1921 in Fairfield, Texas. On Feb. 7, 1948 she married Raymond Henson in Gainesville. She was a homemaker, a member of the Baptist faith, a member of the Reddy-McClelland VFW Post #8789 Ladies Auxiliary in Bowie. Some of her special hobbies were gardening, crocheting, games of "42" and "Skip-bo". She was known for her dry sense of humor.

Funeral service was held in Fry Funeral Home Chapel of Bowie on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2004 at 2:00 p.m., officiated by Rev. Jack Eastwood, a Baptist minister of Arlington, Texas. Sacred songs included "Amazing Grace", "Peace In The Valley", and "On Eagles Wings". The organist was Maridan McClelland and the vocalist was Dick Hennings.

Interment was in Briar Creek Cemetery of Bowie, directed by Fry Funeral Home. Pallbearers were Ricky Shearon, Mickey Shearon, Jim Cnuth, Ken Brown, James Skidmore, and Keith McNutt. Honorary pallbearers were Ronald Lyon, Ervin Lyon, John Morrison, and J.C. Upchurch.

Friends and relatives attending from out-of-town came from Mineola, Granbury, Mesquite, Dallas, and Irving, Texas, and Louisiana.

For those who have asked, memorials may be made to Hospice of Rural Texas, 705 East Greenwood Avenue, Bowie, Texas 76230.



Mary Noggler

Mary Noggler 1916-2004

Mary Noggler, 95, longtime resident of Hereford, Texas passed away Sunday, Jan. 25, 2004 at the Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Funeral services were under the direction of Parkside Chapel Funeral Home of Hereford. A rosary was recited at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28 at Parkside Chapel, and the funeral mass was held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Hereford officiating. Interment followed at St. Anthony's Cemetery in Hereford.

Mrs. Noggler was born Oct. 17, 1908 in Muenster, the daughter of John and Mary Koelzer. She married John Noggler on March 3, 1930 in Hereford. Mrs. Noggler was a homemaker and a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church.

Survivors include three sons, Lourdel Noggler of Hereford, Dennis Noggler of McCauley, Texas, and Jerome Noggler of Amarillo; four daughters: LaVerne Kearns and Alice Hund, both of Hereford, Bernice Noggler of Amarillo, and Rose Ann Irlbeck of Copperas Cove, Texas; 25 grandchildren; 50 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, and 12 brothers and sisters, Anna (Mrs. Leo Rohmer), Lena (Mrs. Joe Streng), Elizabeth, Margaret (Mrs. Ed Moster), John R., Peter, Rosa, Theresa, George, Susanna (Mrs. Anton Noggler), Bernard, Louis (Father Bonaventure).

The family requests memorials sent to the St. Anthony's Catholic School Endowment Fund, 114 Sunset Dr., Hereford, TX 79045.

DA candidate reports theft of political signs

Signs belonging to Cindy Stormer, candidate for District Attorney, were taken off their support posts and damaged on Saturday, Jan. 24. The two four-foot by four-foot signs were on Main Street in Muenster. A police report was made of the vandalism. Signs were also stolen off of Ken Stormer's truck.

Again on Tuesday, Jan. 27 it was discovered that one of the replaced signs was stolen from its location on Main Street in Muenster. A second police report was made. The criminal offense carries a penalty of a fine of up to \$500.00. Anyone having information about any sign vandalism should contact the Sheriff's Department.



Damaged political signs.



From My Side of the Fence

by Ed Cler

My earliest remembrance of any entertainment in Muenster takes me back to when I was possibly six to eight years of age. Fr. Frowin Koerd, our pastor at that time, would allow a movie to be shown occasionally in the old parish hall. These movies were silent, and admission was ten cents.

We kids, at least, thought they were great. Sometime after 1927, the year Muenster had its first oil boom, Mr. Henry Wolf built the Wolf Hotel and a theatre, where, again silent movies were shown. After a time the theater was shut down, due to lack of patronage. Ed Wolf, the operator told me they simply didn't take in enough money to pay expenses.

So that left only Gainesville, and with the Great Depression in full swing, most could not afford to buy gas and tickets to a movie, so that too, was pretty slow.

Every now and then a medicine show would set up between Henry Walterscheid's drug store and the brick building south and across the street from it. These shows didn't amount to much, but they were some place to go and

watch the foolishness for a couple of hours, and I guess we did enjoy them.

The medicine show people always hawked some kind of bottled (your guess is as good as mine) stuff that was supposed to cure anything from dandruff to fallen arches.

To keep a bit more interest in the proceedings they offered to give the prettiest girl there a diamond ring when the show came to an end. Well, sure enough, several of the young ladies dressed in their finest, and prettied themselves to the nth degree in anticipation of being selected to receive the big prize.

Well, the man that put on the show walked very importantly amongst the young ladies and eventually made a selection. The pretty young girl had to stand in a spot where all could see, as she was awarded a dime and a pin.

Better luck next time!

BUSINESS.....

Continued from Pg. 1

4-inch fresh water line across CR 147, approximately at the west intersection of CR 147 and CR 171 located in Precinct #1.

Contracted with Rone Engineering for asbestos abatement in the County Library. It is only a small amount. The contract is based on one day's work at 12 hours. The cost of an air analysis after the removal will be added to that.

Approved appointment of Galene Morris to the Cooke County Child Welfare Board, Place 6. There are two vacant positions remaining on that board.

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Cubs to collect food for the needy

Muenster Cub Scouts will be "Scouting For Food" on Saturday, Jan. 31, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The Scouts will be going door to door collecting canned goods for the less fortunate. Scouts will be walking, so please remember to drive carefully.

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Margaret Kupper honored on 95th

A birthday to remember was celebrated Sunday, Jan. 25, 2003 by Margaret Susan Kupper. She turned 95 years of age on Jan. 28.

The celebration began with family attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Mass in Sacred Heart Church. Family members taking part in the liturgy were Betty Rose Walterscheid, as lector for the Mass and great-granddaughter Sara Walterscheid as an altar server. Music for the Mass was presented by David Nystrom's Group, his wife Nancy Nystrom, and Margaret's grandson John Walterscheid, his wife Dana, and their daughter Anne. One of Margaret's favorite hymns "Open My Eyes, Lord", was included. Jerry Walterscheid was one of the Eucharistic Ministers.

Following Mass, the family and out-of-town guests were together for dinner at The Dutchman Banquet Room in Lindsay. The meal prayer and welcome were given by Jimmy Kupper. Dinner was served to 65.

An afternoon "come and

go" party was also held at The Dutchman, attended by about 150 guests. The banquet room was decorated with 95 long stem pink roses, one for each year of the honoree's life. Many candles glowed.

A display table of pictures also held memory books for guests to view. Two quilts that were pieced by Betty Rose and quilted by Margaret were displayed.

The refreshment table held an assortment of cookies made by the family. The birthday cake was a two-tiered lemon-flavored cake decorated in all white, with fresh flowers on top, and at focal points, and at the base of the cake. Other cakes served included a German sweet chocolate cake, hummingbird cake, and chocolate cake, all made by Betty Rose. Cake was served after dinner by great-grandchildren.

Coffee and cranberry punch were also served in the afternoon.

Guests from out-of-town flew in, drove in, or rode motorcycles to get to the party for one very special lady.

Coming from out-of-town was a niece and godchild, Nancy Gray of Los Angeles, California; Chris Kupper of Little Rock, Arkansas; Dan, Ellie, and Danny Bump of San Antonio; Joey Kupper and family of Austin; Lynn Kupper of San Antonio; Roger and Melanie Cooper of Rockwall; Robert and Florene Kupper of Marlin; Andy Kupper of Lubbock; Kelly, Deann, and Gracie Jacobs of Richardson; Mike and Julie Anderson and Jason Walterscheid of Lewisville; Doug, Leigh, Traci, and Chris Walterscheid of Grapevine; Phillip and Doyle Kupper of Arlington; Eric Kupper and family of Aledo; and many other family and friends from Gainesville, Lake Kiowa, Valley View, Lindsay, and Muenster.

Margaret Kupper is the loving mother to Ginger Kupper, the wife of the late Leroy Kupper. Other members of her family are Betty Rose and Jerry Walterscheid, Joan and Dave Walterscheid, all of Muenster, Tom and Helen Kupper of Lewisville, Jimmy and Janell Kupper,

and Billy and Lisa Kupper of Valley View. They and all their families were present to celebrate a great lady.

Only grandchildren, missing because of distance, were Kristen Vinci and family of Florida (daughter of the late Leroy Kupper); also Susan Kupper of Hawaii; and Dryal Kupper and family of Maryland, children of Jimmy Kupper.

Margaret Kupper has 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

When Margaret was asked to speak, she voiced her thanks, and invited them all back for her one hundredth birthday. To which the response from guests was an enthusiastic round of applause and shouts of "We'll be there!!!"

Margaret Kupper was born in Lindsay on Jan. 28, 1909 to Joe and Elizabeth Neu. She married John Kupper in Lindsay on Nov. 26, 1935. They were able to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. Margaret's mother lived to be one hundred and eleven years of age.



Margaret Kupper reminisces over her 95 years of life.

Lindsay Lay Franciscans held Jan. 15 meeting

Members of the Lay Franciscan Fraternity of St. Peter's Parish in Lindsay met on Jan. 15 in the home of Elvira Flusche. Fr. Ron Scheible was in attendance at the meeting.

Mrs. Theresa Hermes presided over the meeting. Opening prayers were said in unison. Scripture was read by Mary Ann Arendt. Mary Sicking has donated a quilt top to be quilted and

later raffled off. A letter from St. Francis Village in Crowley thanked the members for the canceled stamps and requested they continue to save stamps.

A letter was received from Fr. Francis requesting aid for the poor families and children of Honduras. A motion was made and seconded to send \$50. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

Gavin Growing turns 2

Gavin Jon Growing of Saint Jo celebrated his 2nd birthday at his home on Dec. 27, 2003. His party theme was Bob the Builder. Guests enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, and cake and ice cream. Guests included Gavin's parents, Jon and Janette Growing, and family.



Gavin Growing

Gavin's favorite gifts included his basketball goal, and his new Bob the Builder bedroom set.

Stroke warning sign
 A pulsating and/or tender mass in the abdomen

Meeting Notice

The February **Brown Bag Book Review** will be held at the NCTC Library Lyceum meeting room. Patsy Wilson will review the book "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Garcia Marquez. The review will be Thursday, Feb. 5, at noon.

Local College students on honor rolls

University of North Texas

Mitch Felderhoff, son of Ronnie and Sharon Felderhoff, was named to the Dean's List at UNT for the Fall 2003 semester. He is a freshman majoring in Kinesiology, and working toward Athletic Training Certification. Felderhoff is a 2003 graduate of Muenster ISD.

Texas Tech University

Craig Hartman, son of Tom and Debbie Hartman, was named to the Dean's List at Texas Tech for the Fall 2003 semester. To be on the Dean's List, a student must have taken 12 quality hours and maintained a 3.5 to 3.9 grade point average. Hartman is majoring in Agribusiness.

CCFB supports local youth with scholarship money

Texas Farm Bureau invests large amounts of money and time in developing youth leadership. Each year, more than \$73,000 in scholarships are awarded to young people from across the State of Texas. These scholarships are awarded through participation in a variety of contests, seminars, and by applications.

former field representative and Field Service Director Dick Mitchell. The recipient must be from a Farm Bureau member-family and must have attended the High School Citizenship Seminar. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2004 and are to be mailed directly to Texas Farm Bureau. Applications are also available online at www.txfb.org by clicking on "Youth Activities".

The Cooke County Farm Bureau would like to announce the upcoming scholarships which are offered to all college-bound high schools seniors and one scholarship which is offered to college students. Applications for each of these programs are available through the area high school counselors office (Cooke County) and the Gainesville office of the Cooke County Farm Bureau (1212 W. Highway 82, 940-665-1763).

Texas Farm Bureau Agriculture Research and Education Foundation - The Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) Youth Foundation is a charitable affiliate of Texas Farm Bureau which annually awards one or more scholarships to graduating seniors whose parents have been TFB members for at least two years. The Youth Foundation awards are based on academic achievements, extracurricular activities, and other factors, including family financial need. Each Youth Foundation scholarship is \$1,000 per year renewable for up to four years if satisfactory college grades are maintained.

The Young Farmer and Rancher - Each year, proceeds from Young Farmer & Rancher activities are used to award scholarships to high school seniors who intend to pursue a college degree in agriculture. The number of scholarships available, amount of scholarships and other specifics may vary from year to year. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2004 and are to be mailed directly to Texas Farm Bureau. Applications are also available online at www.txfb.org by clicking on "Youth Activities".

The Young Farmer & Rancher Scholarship - For enrolled college agriculture students who are pursuing degrees in agriculture and who have completed a minimum of 45 hours of college credit. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 31, 2004 and are to be mailed directly to Texas Farm Bureau. Applications are available online at www.txfb.org by clicking on "Youth Activities".

Dick Mitchell Memorial Scholarship - This scholarship, started in 1991, is in memory of

 Wait Klement is a patient at Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth. He is recovering from surgery. Get well wishes may be sent to: Harris Methodist Hospital, 1301 Pennsylvania Ave. Fort Worth, TX 76104. He is in room 690.

Gardening health tips
Weed Away Your Weight: Spring and summer gardening can be a great whole-body workout to shed extra winter weight. Weight-bearing activities such as digging and lifting can build muscle, and aerobic activities such as raking, mowing and hoeing can burn calories. A 180-pound person will use 202 calories during 30 minutes of digging, spading and tilling.* Even 30 minutes of cutting the grass on a riding mower burns 101 calories.

(Compliments of ARA)

Winter Weather History Briefs

Dec. 22-24, 1998 - a combination of freezing drizzle - freezing rain, sleet, and snow moved over all of north Texas. Six deaths resulted, and over 2000 traffic accidents were reported. The conditions forced the cancellation of over 400 flights from Dallas-Fort Worth airport.

Red Cross offers vehicle first aid kit

The Texoma Area Red Cross is offering a vehicle first aid kit through the month of February. The kit contains standard first aid bandages, a first aid guide, flashlight and batteries, a 12-hour light stick, as well as a body warmer, emergency blanket and poncho with hood. One additional item is a metal reflective roadside emergency triangle. Cost of the kit is \$25, plus tax and shipping. For more information, contact the Red Cross at (903) 465-1330.

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Statistics:

The vast majority of people who have an aneurysm have no symptoms. The most common symptoms are back pain, rigidity in the abdomen or tenderness in the abdomen.

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Sepanski advances to Readers Digest National Word Power Challenge State Competition

Moving one step closer to winning a \$25,000 college scholarship, Lauren Sepanski, an eighth-grade student at Sacred Heart School, has qualified to compete in the state-level competition of the Reader's Digest National Word Power Challenge, sponsored by The Campbell's Soup Company. The competition for the state of Texas will be held at St. Philip's College in San Antonio on Friday, Feb. 27.

Thousands of schools across the United States participated in the school-level Word Power Challenge in November, at which students answered oral and written questions on vocabulary. The school winners then took a qualifying written test, which was returned to Reader's Digest for scoring. The top 100 scorers in each state, including Lauren, have become eligible to compete in their state-level Challenge.

All state winners will advance to the national championship in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, in March. Reader's Digest National Word Power Challenge provides an all-expenses paid trip to the event for state champions and their teacher/escorts. The Campbell Soup Company will award a total of \$50,000 in college scholarships and other prizes to the top three competitors. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship; the second and third place winners will receive \$15,000 and \$10,000 college scholarships, respectively.

NBC Today Show's Weather and Feature Reporter Al Roker will serve as "Quiz Master" for the national finals. The program will be taped for later airing. Check local listings for dates and times.



Lauren Sepanski, at right, with her Language Arts teacher Gienda Mitchell. Courtesy photo

NETPA to award two journalism scholarships

To further the cause of community journalism, the North and East Texas Press Association (NETPA) will award two \$1,500 journalism scholarships this spring, according to Scott Wood of the *Muenster Enterprise*. The NETPA scholarship program was begun in 1999. The 2003 winners were Mandy Countryman of Kemp, Texas and Leah Amos, a student at McMurry University in Abilene. The *Muenster Enterprise* is a member of the NETPA.

Scholarships will be given to college-bound graduating high school seniors and actively enrolled college students from the NETPA

region pursuing an education in print journalism.

Scholarship applicants should submit a completed application, a 500 word essay, and two letters of recommendation, including one from a newspaper professional.

Deadline is March 11. Applications are available from the *Muenster Enterprise*, and completed applications should be mailed to Randy Keck, The Community News, Box 1031, Aledo, TX 76008.

The winners will be recognized at the annual NETPA convention, to be held in Bossier City, Louisiana April 15-17.

MHS to host college financial aid workshop

Muenster High School will host a College Financial Aid Workshop on Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the MHS Computer Lab for high school seniors and their parents. Ms. Karen Collins and Ms. Kathy Schlansky from Midwestern State University's Financial Aid Office will present the program. The presentation will give the latest information on financial aid, grants, and scholarships, as well as giving individual attention after the presentation. The 2004-2005 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) will be available on paper, as well as the computer form. Parents of juniors are also encouraged to attend.

Parents of 2004 seniors are encouraged to complete income tax returns as early as possible. Financial Aid Offices at all colleges and universities suggest completing the FAFSA early allows for a better chance in obtaining financial assistance.

Many parents and

students hesitate to even apply because they do not think they will qualify for financial aid. The problem with that is, even if you do not qualify for a PELL grant, you must have the FAFSA form sent in to qualify for other student assistance, such as state-aided grants, work-study programs, student loans, scholarships, and other opportunities for attending college. Many times there are special circumstances in a family that do not show up on a financial aid report that colleges will honor; such as changes in the family income during the year, illness, disability, job displacement, and other issues. One documented form available through the colleges and universities will often qualify a student for assistance. The FAFSA is now simpler to fill out due to the on-line version and is well worth the time and effort.

For further assistance and information on financial aid, call Kristi Schneider at 759-2282, ext. 602.

ACT test is April 3 for college-bound students

College-bound high school students can take the ACT Assessment on April 3, 2004, the next nationwide test date. The registration postmark deadline is Feb. 27. Late registration postmark deadline is Mar. 12 (an additional fee is required for late registration).

Virtually all colleges and universities in the nation, including all Ivy League schools, accept ACT scores. Colleges use ACT scores, along with a student's high school GPA, high school courses taken, extracurricular activities and other information to help determine admissions and the appropriate course

placement for new students.

Important tips - Students who have already taken the ACT can take it again and try for a higher score. Juniors can use their scores to examine academic weaknesses, take courses to correct those weaknesses and re-take the exam as seniors. Students who take the exam more than once can report only their highest composite score to prospective colleges if they choose.

For more information, including registration forms and test locations, contact your high school guidance counselor or register online on ACT's website -- <http://www.act.org>.

Lunch Menus

WEEK OF FEB. 2 - 6 SACRED HEART

Mon. - Chili dogs, ranch style beans, chips, apples.

Tues. - Chicken spaghetti, mixed vegetables, pears, chocolate pudding, garlic bread.

Wed. - Steak fingers, potatoes, gravy, green beans, graham crackers, bread.

Thurs. - Ham, black-eyed peas, mixed fruit, hot rolls.

Fri. - Turkey hoagies, chips, salsa, pears.

MUENSTER ISD

Mon. - Hot dogs w/chili, potato wedges, beans, peaches, banana nut bread.

Tues. - Chicken fried steak, creamed potatoes w/gravy, corn, pears, hot rolls.

Wed. - Sandwiches (ham and cheese), lettuce, tomatoes, chips and salsa, mixed fruit, cookies.

Thurs. - Chicken pot pie, lettuce salad w/dressing, pineapple, hot rolls.

Fri. - Barbecue sandwiches, pickles, onions, french fries, beans, applesauce, ice cream.

LINDSAY ISD

Mon. - Cheese enchilada w/chili, cole slaw, beans, pineapple, bread.

Tues. - Turkey sandwich, french fries, lettuce, pickle, peaches, bread.

Wed. - Chicken nuggets, creamed potatoes, green beans, chocolate cake, bread.

Thurs. - Crispito, pinto beans, salad, mixed fruit, bread.

Stroke warning sign
Steady, vague pain in the lower back

Fri. - Hamburger w/trimmings, french fries, ice cream.

ERA ISD

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

Tues. - Lasagna or fish sticks, corn, tossed salad, fruit mix, apple brown Betty.

Wed. - Chicken spaghetti or mini corn dogs, green beans, pears, tossed salad, breadstick.

Thurs. - Nachos w/ground beef, pinto beans, tossed salad, strawberry applesauce, chocolate chip cookie.

Fri. - Barbecue sandwich, tator tots, pickle spears, ice cream.

Era ISD News

The students at Era ISD have completed several projects in various classrooms and organizations.

The Era Elementary clusters were under the leadership of Leann Spears for three consecutive Fridays and were led by teachers, parents, and community volunteers. These clusters are special interest groups who complete a service for the community, school, or family. Some of the projects were: clay sculpture creating, decorating school bulletin boards, holiday centerpieces, space study, Hornet spirit items, scrapbooks, and lots more. One group heard from a service man, policeman, and yet about their interesting jobs and how to plan for the future.

The third grade, under Mrs. West, has been reading the book "Little House on the Prairie." The students purchased material, cut

squares, and hand-sewed the squares together to make a pillow much like Laura in the book. The pillows have been on display in the halls.

The third graders have been busy reading accelerated readers and taking tests. Each test they took they received points for a passing grade. Each student who had a total of 50 points is elected to the Cowboy Hall of Fame for reading. Those who reached their goal the first semester were: Calab Comer, Shelby Huddleston, Madison Pearce, Alexia Graves, Tyler Renfro, Wrangle Walthers, Sam Weber, Sarai Balthrop. Students posted their stickers on the boot in the hall.

National Weather Service language

Frost - the formation of thin ice crystals on the ground or other surfaces.

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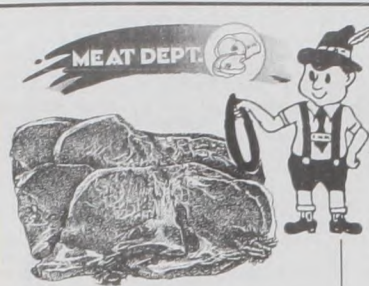
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Owens all varieties Sausage **\$1.99** 1 lb. roll

Owens snackwiche Sausage & Biscuits **\$2.39** 10-12 oz.

Oscar Mayer Bacon **\$1.89** 16 OZ. PKG.



Fischer's Country Style Ribs

\$1.39 LB. FRESH
99¢ LB. FROZEN

BAKERY
assorted Lone Star Sweet Rolls **\$2.99** 12 CT. PKG.



Busch or Busch Light **\$1.299** 30 PK.

Coca Cola **\$3.29** 12 OZ. - 12 PACK



PRODUCE SECTION

3 lb. bag Washington extra fancy gala red or golden delicious apples
4 lb. bag navel oranges
5 lb. bag Texas grapefruit
Bagged Fruit **2 for \$4**

firm heads Green Cabbage **3 for \$1**

large green Bell Peppers **2 for \$1**

super Select Cucumbers **2 for \$1**

zucchini Fresh Squash **99¢** lb.

5 oz. Spring Mix, 10 oz. Italian or American Dole Salad Blends **2 for \$5**

Fresh Broccoli **99¢** lb.

large Sno-White Cauliflower **\$1.79** ea.

Baking Potatoes **3 for \$1** lbs.

FatSmart Broccoli Slaw **2 for \$3** 12 oz.

Fischer's is open Mon - Sat 6am-7pm Sunday 9am-5:30pm

assorted select menu or value menu Banquet Dinners 6.7-11 oz. **\$1.00**

D'Anjou Pears **79¢** lb.

18 oz. Corn Flakes, 20 oz. Raisin Bran or 10.5 oz. Smorz Kellogg's Cereals mix or match **2 for \$4**

assorted Capri-Sun, Tang or Kool-Aid Jammers Pouch Drinks 6-10 pack **2 for \$4**

assorted select menu or value menu Banquet Dinners 6.7-11 oz. **\$1.00**

assorted original or soft Creme Savers 5.5-6 oz. bag **\$1.00**

McCormick Black Pepper 4 oz. can **\$1.00**

plain or iodized Morton Salt 26 oz. box **2 for \$1**

assorted dog biscuits Milk-Bone 16-18 oz. bag **2 for \$5**

Pedigree assorted Canned Dog Food 13.2 oz. can **2 for \$1**

assorted dressing Hidden Valley 16 oz. btl. **2 for \$5**

Kraft original or hickory Barbecue Sauce 28 oz. btl. **\$1.89**

Kellogg's cherry, brown sugar-cinnamon or strawberry Frosted Pop-Tarts 22 oz. box **2 for \$5**

assorted Pringles 5.13-6 oz. can **89¢**

Taco Bell vegetarian or fat free Refried Beans 16 oz. can **5 for \$3**

Taco Bell Taco Shells 12 CT. BOX **\$1.00**

select group Del Monte Fruit 29 oz. can **2 for \$3**

assorted diced, steved or wedges Del Monte Tomatoes 14.5 oz. can **97¢**

Campbell's assorted Soup at Hand 10.75 oz. can **\$1.29**

McCormick assorted Bag'n Season .81-1.6 oz. pkg. **\$1.00**

assorted Classico Pasta Sauce 16-26 oz. jar **\$2.29**

Dinty Moore Beef Stew 24 oz. can **2 for \$4**

assorted Spam Luncheon Meat 12 oz. can **2 for \$4**

Culligan Drinking Water gallon **2 for \$1**

Milwaukee's Best or Milwaukee's Best Light 24 PACK **\$8.99**

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Banquet Chicken Pot Pies 7 oz. box **2 for \$1**

assorted cheese cake, butter streusel coffee cake, or family size pound cake
Sara Lee Cakes 11-19 oz. box **\$3.49**

Patio assorted Enchilada Dinners 12-13 oz. pkg. **\$1.00**

assorted Patio Burritos 5 oz. pkg. **3 for \$1**

select group Ore-Ida Potatoes 20-32 oz. **2 for \$4**

10.5 oz. garlic or alfredo shrimp bowls, or assorted Corton's Fish Tenders, Sticks or Fillets 10.5-11.4 oz. pkg. **\$3.59**

Keebler Zesta Saltines 16 oz. box **2 for \$3**

regular-with beans, reg./hot-no beans
Hormel Chili 19 oz. can **99¢**

HEINZ Tomato Ketchup regular, easy squeeze or kick it's hot & spicy Heinz Ketchup 19-24 oz. btl. **89¢**

KRAFT Macaroni & Cheese The Cheesiest 7.25 oz. box **2 for \$1**

assorted Sunny D Drinks 64 oz. btl. **89¢**

assorted flavors Blue Bunny Ice Cream 5 qt. pail **\$5.00**

12 double rolls white or ultra Charmin Tissue your choice **\$5.99**

assorted 80 oz. liquid 58-65 oz. powder Cheer Detergent your choice **\$3.99**

assorted Downy Fabric Softener 64 oz. btl. **2 for \$5**

DAIRY GOODS

Kraft assorted cracker cuts or Chunk Cheese 6.8-8.8 pkg. **3 for \$5**

Kraft regular or extra thick Velveeta Slices 12 oz. pkg. **2 for \$4**

Plains Choco Dream gallon **\$1.49**

original or light Daisy Sour Cream 24 oz. ctn. **2 for \$4**

Kraft assorted Philadelphia Snack Bars 8-9.5 oz. pkg. **2 for \$4**

assorted pudding cups, gel cups or gel sticks Jell-O Snacks 8-8 pack **2 for \$5**

select group original, light or white cranberry, sea salt or cranberry blends Ocean Spray 64 oz. btl. **2 for \$5**

home decor, fun prints, microwave or select-a-size Bounty Towels big roll **3 for \$5**

newborn swaddlers, sizes 3, 4 or 5 jumbo sizes 4 or 5 cruisers Pampers Diapers 27-40 ct. pkg. **\$9.99**

Pampers scented or unscented Baby Wipes 80 ct. **\$3.00**

bathroom tissue Angel Soft 4 roll pkg. **\$1.00**

Windex select group Glass Cleaner 26 oz. btl. **\$2.29**

21 ct. Quick-Tie trash 35 ct. Quick-Tie kitchen Clad Trash Bags your choice **\$2.97**

plus lotion or extra strength Puffs Facial Tissue 64 ct. box **\$1.00**

outdoor fresh or gentle breeze Bounce Sheets 40 ct. box **\$2.29**

select group Dawn Ultra 12.6 oz. btl. **\$1.19**

select group Fantastik Cleaner 26-32 oz. btl. **\$2.00**

Clad Plastic Wrap 100 ft. roll **\$1.29**

HEALTH & BEAUTY CARE

children's NyQuil or assorted adult formula NyQuil or DayQuil 6-10 oz. **\$4.69**

assorted Head & Shoulders **\$3.49**

36 ct. long pantliners or asst'd. maxi pads Always 14-24 ct. **\$2.79**

regular or super Tampax 20 ct. box **\$2.79**

Crest assorted Message Plus Toothbrushes 4 pack **\$1.89**

select group Crest Toothpaste 6.4 oz. tube **\$1.89**

Sacred Heart students write essays on significance of attending Catholic Schools

The following are essays with the title "The Significance of Being Able to Attend a Catholic School". They are written by Sacred Heart High School students.

By Jared Zimmerer
There are many religions in the world. I am a Catholic. People put pride in their religions as do I. My ancestors have been Catholic as far back as I can look. Some reasons that it is significant to me to attend a Catholic school are: Pride, Keeping God in school, and learning about our faith.

I am proud to attend a Catholic school, especially Sacred Heart. This school has been around for close to a century. We have the ability to walk down a hall, look on the walls and see the graduated classes before us. If I am proud of being a Catholic, why not go to a Catholic school to celebrate my faith?

Although Catholic schools do have problems, who doesn't? Even with problems, there is still a sense of God in the school. Not only can we pray, we go to Mass twice a week. Here, looking to God for help is celebrated.

The Catholic faith has been around for 2000 years and was started by Jesus Christ. In our school, we get to learn about a faith for which hundreds of thousands of people have died to keep going. This school was started by people who wanted to love the one, true faith as much as they did; obviously, it was started for the right reasons.

In Catholic schools, there are benefits and opportunities. Benefits to earn and opportunities to learn. In our school we try our hardest to take advantage of both. I am a Catholic and I am proud to attend a Catholic school.

Texas Farm Bureau citizenship seminar

The 2004 Texas Farm Bureau Citizenship Seminar is scheduled for June 14-18 at Angelo State University in San Angelo. Cooke County Farm Bureau will pay for fees and transportation. Applications must be received by April 2 at the Gainesville office of Cooke County Farm Bureau (1212 W. Highway 82, 940-665-1763). Applications are also available at all Cooke County high school counselor offices.

The participants attending the seminar and participating in either the Free Enterprise Speech or Essay Contest conducted after the seminar, will qualify for local and state scholarship money. The entrants will be eligible for the district contest. The Free Enterprise Speech contest scholarships at the state level include \$4,000 for the winner, \$2,500 for the runner-up, \$1,500 each for four finalists, and \$1,000 each for 13 district winners.

This is a great opportunity for students to obtain a better understanding of our

Ten free trees from Arbor Day Foundation

Ten free flowering trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during January 2004.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The 10 trees are two White Flowering Dogwoods, two Flowering Crabapples, two Washington Hawthorns, two American Redbuds, and two Kousa Dogwoods.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Flowering Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Jan. 31. Or go online to arborday.org.

By Kate Sepanski
The education system of America is an extensive network made up of public, private, and parochial schools. One week out of the entire year celebrates a certain type of school - the Catholic school. Why does "Catholic Schools Week" exist?

"Catholic Schools Week" celebrates the existence of Catholic schools and the benefits they bring to students, families, and communities. Often, students and community members forget or take for granted the privileges and benefits that are obtained by attending such a school. What are these benefits? To name a few, students receive a superior education, develop a better understanding of Christ and His teachings, enjoy the freedom of being able to express religious opinions, and have the privilege of attending Mass at least two days a week.

Personally, I enjoy attending a school where the idea of developing my God-given talents is important to both teachers and coaches. Because both staff and students at my school realize that Jesus is the reason for the existence of our institution, it is a common goal of those at Sacred Heart to bring glory to God through word and action. This means that I am taught to be the best I can be in every aspect of my life. Not only does developing myself to meet my full potential yield immediate positive results, but it also prepares and trains me for success in the future.

Attending a Catholic school means that I am free to talk about my religious beliefs both in and outside the classroom. Not only do my peers and I begin every

class and end every sports practice with a prayer, but we also develop our spirituality as we feel free to discuss religious topics with friends and teachers. At Sacred Heart I not only grow academically or athletically, but also spiritually, which is very important.

Attending Mass regularly is an important part of being a Catholic, and at Sacred Heart I take part in the Eucharist during two weekday Masses. Receiving the Eucharist brings so much grace into our lives, and I think that it is wonderful that our school curriculum leads us to church on both Monday and Friday mornings. This privilege is truly a blessing!

Those who have taken the time to notice have observed that Catholic schools create a more moral America everyday. They ensure a brighter future for our country by producing students who have well-developed consciences and values, as well as a strong sense of self. In this way, Catholic schools give their best to their communities and country.

I think it is amazing how Catholic schools, Sacred Heart especially, have survived through the years solely on self-support. Those who believe in the power of a Catholic school have spent time, talent, and money into helping my school become the best it can be. This is the week to celebrate all the Catholic schools stand for. During this "Catholic Schools Week," I would like to extend thanks to all those who have helped my school,

Named missed off of "A" Honor Roll

Sacred Heart School has made notification that another name should have been included on the recently published "A" Honor Roll. Sophomore Jacqueline Flusche also achieved that list.

National Weather Service language

Sleet - pellets of ice composed of frozen or mostly frozen raindrops or snowflakes, which have melted and refrozen.



2004 Muenster Knights of Columbus Free Throw winners.

Scott Wood photo

K of C crown free throw champions

Nine boys and girls from Muenster, ages 10 to 14, were named "local champions" of the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and have earned the right to move on to the district level competition. Muenster

Council 1459 sponsored the local contest where over 70 youngsters were found "shooting it out" this last Sunday at the MHS gym.

Taylor Klement was the 10-year-old girls' champion and Jason Luke was the winner of the 10-year-old boys' division. In the 11-year-old bracket, Lia Heers was the girls' champion and Shane Presnall was the boys' champion. Twelve-year-old winners in the girls' and boys' divisions

were Jackie Klement and Tanner Herr. The 13-year-old girls' division was won by Laura Heers and the boys' division was won by Brandon Bindel. Megan Felderhoff was the 14-year-old girls' champion.

Each of these winners will compete in the district competition to be held on February 8 in Gainesville with an eye toward moving on to the regional, state and international levels.

Farm Bureau offers FFA Scholarship

The Cooke County Farm Bureau announced this week that local graduating high school students may apply for the American Farm Bureau FFA/Dodge scholarship. Applicants must be a member of a Farm Bureau family and FFA. The deadline for this scholarships is February 15. Applications and details may be found on the Texas Farm Bureau website at www.txfb.org <<http://www.txfb.org>> Applications may also be pickup up at the Cooke County Farm Bureau office.



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The Students of Sacred Heart School

would like to thank their families and the community for their gift of a Catholic Education.

The Classes of 2003-2004
Grades Preschool, K - 12

Sports

LHS Keeps Muenster Alive for Hornets basketball playoffs

It was Muenster's night in Lindsay Tuesday, as both the Lady Hornets and the Hornets took big wins over the host teams. The girls started the 2nd round of District play with a 55-33 victory over the Lady Knights, while the Hornets out-played the Knights for a 67-50 win to finish the first cycle of District competition.

The Lady Knights had trouble hitting the baskets, as they had only one free point until 31 seconds remained in the first quarter. Pointmaking evened out the 2nd quarter. After Muenster took a 16 point lead, Lindsay scored and closed the score to 28-17 at half.

Baskets by JoAnna Felderhoff, Brooke Endres, and Alisha Walterscheid boosted the Lady Hornets lead to 17 points before Lindsay scored. The final period began with a 42-27 score. Muenster's biggest lead of the game happened with 24 seconds remaining in the game for the 55-33 final.

Brooke Endres was the game's leading scorer with 26 points. Melinda Walterscheid added 14, JoAnna Felderhoff 8, and Alisha Walterscheid 7.

Lindsay's scoring was led by Cheryl Knabe's 14 points. Brittany Anderle added 6, Whitney Neu 5, Lindsey Williams 4, Lori Kasparek 3, and Mallory Block 1. At the free throw line, Muenster hit 12 of 16 and Lindsay 16 of 23.

The Lady Hornets improved their season to 20-4 and remain undefeated in District. The Lady Knights fell to 15-9 and 3-2 in District. Both District losses were to Muenster.

Three 3-pointers by Russell Endres and two by Derek Endres in the 2nd quarter turned the game around for the Hornets. With 3:30 on the clock, a basket by Justin Wolf gave Muenster their first lead, 20-19. Five quick points by R. Endres, stolen balls, and a basket by Sean Fuhrmann moved the Hornets to an 8 point lead. Points by Kristopher Creed, Brandon Huckaby, and Trinity Otto closed the score to 31-27 at halftime.

D. Endres opened the 3rd quarter with a 3-pointer. Both teams dropped in baskets and the final period began with a 45-43 Muenster lead. Two quick steals by Clint Miller early in the 4th kept the ball from the Knights. Baskets by R. Endres and Miller extended the Hornet lead to 9. With four minutes remaining in the game, Cody Hess scored the first

4th quarter points for Lindsay. Forty seconds later, Muenster had a 10 point lead. After a 3-pointer by Creed, the Hornets began working on the clock. Free throws by the Hornets increased Muenster's lead to 17. With 29 seconds, Clinton Kyle hit two free throws for the Knights and the game soon ended with a 67-50 win for Muenster.

Russell Endres was the game's leading pointmaker with 32 points. D. Endres added 12, Cain 8, Wolf 5, 4 each by Miller and Fuhrmann, with John

Fredrick scoring 2. Muenster was 19 of 30 from the line with R. Endres hitting 10 of 14 and Cain 5 of 6.

Cody Anderle led Lindsay with 13 points. Clinton Kyle added 10, Kristopher Creed 7, Josey Kyle 6, Trinity Otto 6, Brandon Huckaby 4, and Cody Hess 4. The Knights were 11 of 18 at the free throw line.

The Knights and Hornets will meet again to finish District play on Feb. 13 in Muenster.

M	5	26	14	22	67
L	13	14	16	7	50



Hornet Russell Endres out jumps Lindsay's Cody Anderle to begin the district battle Tuesday night. Muenster took home a 67-50 victory. Janie Hartman photo

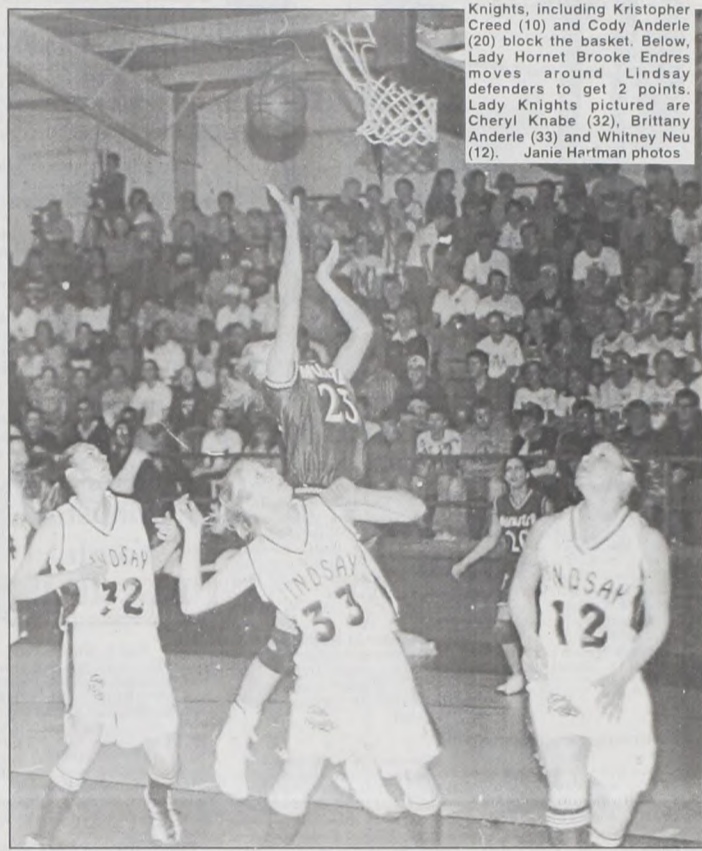
Game Warden Field Notes

"Have We Got a Deal for You" — A TPWD Marine Theft Investigator completed an investigation involving a Mesquite-area insurance agent. The man claimed he got a deal on a 1999 Four Winns when he submitted the title application to TPWD. During the investigation,

when the warden investigator explained it was a third-degree felony to falsify a government document, the agent remembered the "other" \$10,000 he paid for the vessel. Two citations were issued and \$623.43 in taxes and penalties was collected.



Above, Hornet Chase Cain releases the ball after the Knights, including Kristopher Creed (10) and Cody Anderle (20) block the basket. Below, Lady Hornet Brooke Endres moves around Lindsay defenders to get 2 points. Lady Knights pictured are Cheryl Knabe (32), Brittany Anderle (33) and Whitney Neu (12). Janie Hartman photos



Sacred Heart splits with Tyler Street

A come-from-behind attempt by the Sacred Heart Tigers Tuesday night came up 1 point short and gave Tyler Street a 48-47 District victory. The Tigers defeated the Crusaders 53-38 in round one action at Muenster earlier in the season, and now must fight to keep the District lead.

The scoreboard stayed near even the first half, with Tyler Street taking an 8 point lead going into the final quarter. The Tigers outscored the Crusaders 13-6 in the 4th, but couldn't get the win.

Chris Hoedebeck and Clayton Truembach led the Tigers in scoring with 10 points apiece. Zach Barnhill added 8, Wes Wimmer 6, Tony Koesler 5, and 4 apiece by Jared

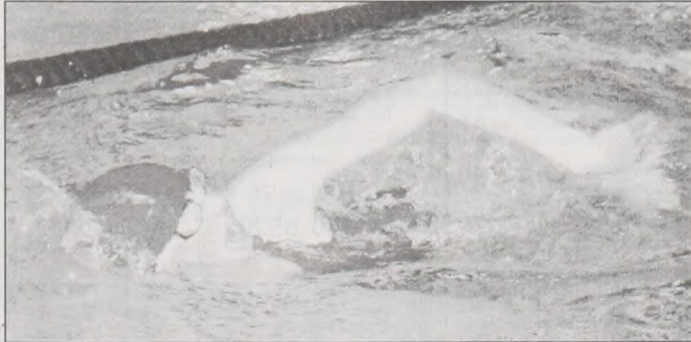
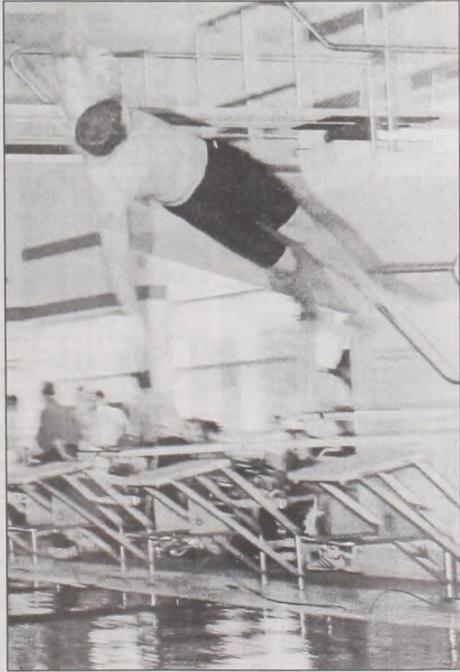
Zimmerer and Paul Bartush. Zimmerman, Truembach, and Barnhill were the leading Tiger rebounders. Sacred Heart hit six of 11 free throws.

Thirty-two points the 1st quarter set the outcome of the Tigerettes' 83-33 District blowout over Tyler Street. "We had an explosive first period," commented Coach Jon LeBrasseur. "Maggie (Farrell) was on fire from the outside (hit three 3s) and Jayna (Biffle) and Jacqueline (Bauer) controlled the inside (18 points)." The Tigerette defense held the Lady Crusaders to a dozen first half points.

Of the 12 Tigerettes playing, 11 scored points, five with double digits. Karen Gehrig led the team with 16 points. Jacqueline Bauer and Maggie Farrell each added 11, with Jayna Biffle and Stephanie Henscheid getting 10 points apiece. Shannon Hartman scored 7 points, Courtney Hartman 5, Whitney Wimmer and Katie Flusche 4 each, Hannah Hess 3, and Nicole Bayer 2. Diana Knabe was the Tigerettes' leading rebounder.

The victory keeps Sacred Heart in the lead for the playoffs at 6-0 and improved their season record to 24-2.

SH	32	21	21	9	83
TS	5	7	14	7	33



The Sacred Heart Tigersharks competed at the TAPPS regional swim meet last weekend. Pictured at far left diving is Jacqueline Bauer. At left, Kevin Walterscheid springs off the board. Above - Melissa Thomas, and at right, Jon Ambrose. Results from the meet were not made available to the Muenster Enterprise by press time. Courtesy photos



Farm & Ranch

Study reveals more information on nitrates

An Agricultural Research Service experiment finished nearly 30 years ago - and uncovered recently during new study preparations - show that it's best to be patient when measuring the movement of nitrates through soil and groundwater.

Mark Tomer and Michael Burkart, both soil scientists and hydrologists at the ARS National Soil Tilth Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, found that nitrate applied during the experiment - conducted between 1969 and 1974 - apparently took nearly 30 years to move through soils and reach a 70-foot-deep water table.

This shows that water carrying nitrate can take decades to flow through a watershed's soil subsurface to a stream and should be studied for longer periods,

according to the scientists who work in the lab's Agricultural Land and Watershed Management Research Unit.

In the original study, conducted on a 74-acre field in western Iowa, fertilizer was applied to soil at three times the normal rate. The resulting soil nitrate concentration was tracked for the next decade.

In 1996, Tomer and Burkart were preparing to monitor groundwater for a new experiment when they detected the nitrate 60 feet deep in the soil. They confirmed that the nitrate originated from the old experiment by examining groundwater flow rates and ages, and by comparing the concentration's depth with stream flow records.

Leaching of nitrate from agricultural fertilizers has

been linked to concerns such as drinking-water quality and hypoxia, a condition in which water bodies contain low oxygen amounts.

Farmers are being encouraged to use nitrogen more efficiently, but resulting environmental improvements have been difficult to document using studies lasting just two to four years, according to Tomer. In summary, he adds, application of a conservation practice within a watershed may take several decades to fully effect improvements in groundwater quality.

The results of this study were published in the November/December issue of the *Journal of Environmental Quality*, published by the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and the Soil Science Society of America. ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency. *from Texas Dairy Review*

Texas Beef Industry supports Bovine Genome sequencing

The Texas Beef Council (TBC) in 2004 has committed \$100,000 in Texas beef checkoff funds to the \$53 million international bovine genome sequencing project. TBC, an organization funded solely by Texas beef producers, represents all Texas beef and cattle organizations in the areas of beef research, education and promotion.

certainly have significant impact on the global beef industry," said Richard Wortham of Austin, TBC executive vice president. "We expect this landmark research to provide better understanding of how bovine traits determine beef quality. These traits include growth, efficiency, marbling, disease resistance, drought tolerance, milk production and much more."

million; the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization of Australia, \$1 million; and Agritech Investments Ltd., Dairy Insight Inc. and AgResearch Ltd. of New Zealand, \$1 million.

The NIH investment seeks to better understand human genetics through sequencing of the bovine genome. Bovine and human genomes overlap to a high degree. The study of comparative genomics makes it possible to interpret bovine research findings in order to improve the understanding of human diseases.

The genome project will receive an additional \$300,000 in national beef checkoff dollars from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Cattlemen's Beef Board on behalf of the nation-wide Federation of State Beef Councils, which also includes TBC.

After the initial contribution, TBC, NCBA and CBB may elect to match their contributions each year through 2006. If full funding is approved, the beef checkoff could contribute as much as \$1.2 million to the bovine genome research.

"The bovine genome sequencing project will

The international sequencing collaboration involves governments, universities and private industry. The U.S. National Institutes of Health has committed \$25 million to the project. Other contributors include: USDA, \$11 million; the state of Texas, up to \$10 million; Genome Canada, \$5

Farm Bureau celebrates Food Check-Out Day

America's farmers and ranchers are the most productive in the world, which creates affordable prices at the marketplace for American consumers. As a result, the Cooke County Farm Bureau is celebrating Feb. 5 as Food Check-Out Day.

On average, American families spend approximately 10 percent of their income for food. Applying the 10 percent statistic to the calendar year shows the average household will have earned enough income for its annual food supply in about 40 days. The positive message is glaringly visible when you consider Tax Freedom Day is not celebrated until April 19 - nearly three months later, to commemorate when the

average household will earn enough money to pay for local, federal, and state taxes.

Thanks to modern farming techniques such as biotechnology, global positioning satellites, and conservation tillage, America's farmers and ranchers are producing more food on fewer acres. However, farmers and ranchers only receive 19 cents out of every dollar spent on food at home and away from home. The rest goes for cost beyond the farm gate: wages and materials for production, processing, marketing, transportation and distribution. In contrast, America's farmers and ranchers received 31 cents in 1980.

TFU 102nd Convention to be held in Dallas, Tx.

On January 30-31 hundreds of Texas farm and ranch families will gather in Dallas, Texas for Texas Farmers Union's (TFU) 102nd Centennial Convention. The Convention theme this year is "A new century of commitment to family farm agriculture."

"Emergency Agriculture disaster assistance, new

trade agreements, country of origin labeling, BSE regulation implementation and competitive livestock markets, are some of the major issues that will be discussed at this convention," said Wes Sims, President of T.F.U. "The Congress and the administration needs to take action quickly on these issues."

Thanks to the Agricultural Community for making food affordable.

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Light Weight Steers — \$8.00 to \$10.00 HIGHER. Light Weight Heifers — \$2.00 to \$4.00 HIGHER. Feeder Steers — \$2.00 to \$5.00 HIGHER. Feeder Heifers — STEADY. Packer Cows & Bulls — \$2.00 to \$3.00 HIGHER. Pairs & Bred Cows — \$50 to \$70 HIGHER. Sold at Friday's sale were 844 compared to 901 head of cattle the previous week. Tuesday, January 27, the market conducted the sale of 263 Goats, 50 Sheep and 92 Hogs. The numbers from last week were 176 Goats, 116 Sheep, and 207 Hogs respectively. Results of both sales follow:

Feeder Steers (per lb.)
200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.15-1.35; Nos. 2 & 3, 95-1.15; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.10-1.32; Nos. 2 & 3, 95-1.10; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 1.10-1.30; Nos. 2 & 3, 92-1.10; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 1.01-1.10; Nos. 2 & 3, 80-1.01; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 90-1.10; Nos. 2 & 3, 75-90; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 83-90; Nos. 2 & 3, 75-83

Feeder Heifers (per lb.)
200-300 lbs.: No. 1, 1.20-1.40; Nos. 2 & 3, 1.00-1.20; 300-400 lbs.: No. 1, 1.04-1.13; Nos. 2 & 3, 87-1.04; 400-500 lbs.: No. 1, 98-1.11; Nos. 2 & 3, 80-98; 500-600 lbs.: No. 1, 92-1.00; Nos. 2 & 3, 80-92; 600-700 lbs.: No. 1, 86-91; Nos. 2 & 3, 80-86; 700-800 lbs.: No. 1, 72-85; Nos. 2 & 3, 50-72

Slaughter Cattle (per lb.)
Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1-2, 1.200-1.500 lbs., 55-67. Slaughter Cows: #1-3, 46-52.50; Culler, 28-46.

Stocker Cows (per head)
Pregnancy tested, 3 to 9-year-olds - Large Frame, \$675-\$870; Medium Frame, \$400-\$675.

Cow/Cal Pairs w/calves under 250 lbs.
Large Frame, \$800-\$1,040; Medium Frame, \$600-\$800.

Holstein Baby Calves, \$20-\$75; Crossbreds, \$105-\$250

Barrows & Gilts (per lb.)
US #1, 230-270, 3750-39; US #2, 220-280, 35-3750; 300-400 lbs., 15-20.

Sows (per lb.)
Feeder, 400 or less, 25-30; Light wt., 400-500, 25-27; Med. wt., 500-600, 25-27; Heavy wt., 600+, NT.

Boars (per lb.)
300 lb. up, .02; 200-300 lbs., NT; Light wt., 15-20.

Sheep (per lb.)
Feeder lambs: 40-60 lbs., NT; Light lambs: 60-90 lbs., 1.10-1.30; Fat lambs: 90-120 lbs., 90-100.

Ewes (per lb.)
Stocker, 55-65; Thin, 35-45; Fat, 60-65.

Bucks (per lb.)
Thin, 55-60; Fat, NT.

Lambos (per head)
Lambos: \$40-\$55; Ewes: \$45-\$75; Bucks: \$65-\$100.

Goats (per head)
Kids: 20-35 lbs., \$25-\$40; 35-55 lbs., \$35-\$60; 55-75 lbs., \$45-\$75; Yearlings: 75-120 lbs., \$85-\$120.

Nannies (per head)
Stocker, \$45-\$75; Milk Type: \$45-\$85; Slaughter: Thin, \$35-\$50; Fat, \$65-\$100.

Billies (per head)
120 lbs-up
Breeders, -
Slaughterers, -

Boer Goats (per head)
1/2 Nanny, NT; 3/4 Nanny, NT; Full Nanny, \$65-\$310.

Boer Goats (per head)
1/2 Billy, NT; 3/4 Billy, NT; Full Billy, \$65-\$145.

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