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# Storms, hail wreak havoc in north

**By JOHN BROOKS**  
**Managing Editor**

For the second day and night in a row Tuesday, portions of Deaf Smith County suffered from turbulent weather as the area was hit by severe thunderstorms.

The worst of the weather was in the northern section of the county, where hail up to baseball-size and high winds damaged several homes in the Bippus area, then continued eastward.

"Back north-northwest of us, about 7-8 miles, it hailed quite a bit. It just beat the devil out of a lot of folks," said Cal Mitts of Northwest Grain at Milo Center. "There were heavy winds and lots of hail back that way."

A tornado uprooted 12 Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative power poles just north of the Oldham County Country Club (which is actually in Deaf Smith County).

"It got one strip of 12 poles, and we cannot find one of those poles," said James Hull, DSEC general manager. "We've lost 17 poles in two days."

A tornado crossed U.S. Highway 385 about two miles south of Vega and tracked to the northeast, apparently crossing Interstate 40 just east of Vega. It turned over two trucks, including an empty cattle truck belonging to Bedford Trucking of Hereford. Heavy winds or a tornado also caused a pickup truck to roll twice off of the interstate. None of the persons in those vehicles were injured.

A man who lives south of Vega who did not want to give his name was caught outside when the storm hit. He suffered cuts to his hands, and came to Deaf Smith General Hospital's emergency room Tuesday night to get several stitches in his hands.

"The hailstones were bigger around than my hand," the man said.

The other poles were damaged in an area north of Dawn as the storm traveled to the east. It was responsible for several funnel clouds and at least one small tornado just north of Dawn, near Panhandle Milling.

"I got two of their poles and wadded up the wire," said Fire Marshal Jay Spain, who spent several hours Tuesday watching storm clouds as they traveled across the county, along with Deaf Smith County sheriff's deputies and others.

At Dawn, the J.E. McCabes recorded 1.75 inch of rain from the storm.

"We didn't see a tornado, but the wind and dirt were flying north of us," said Jim McCabe.

The area remained under a

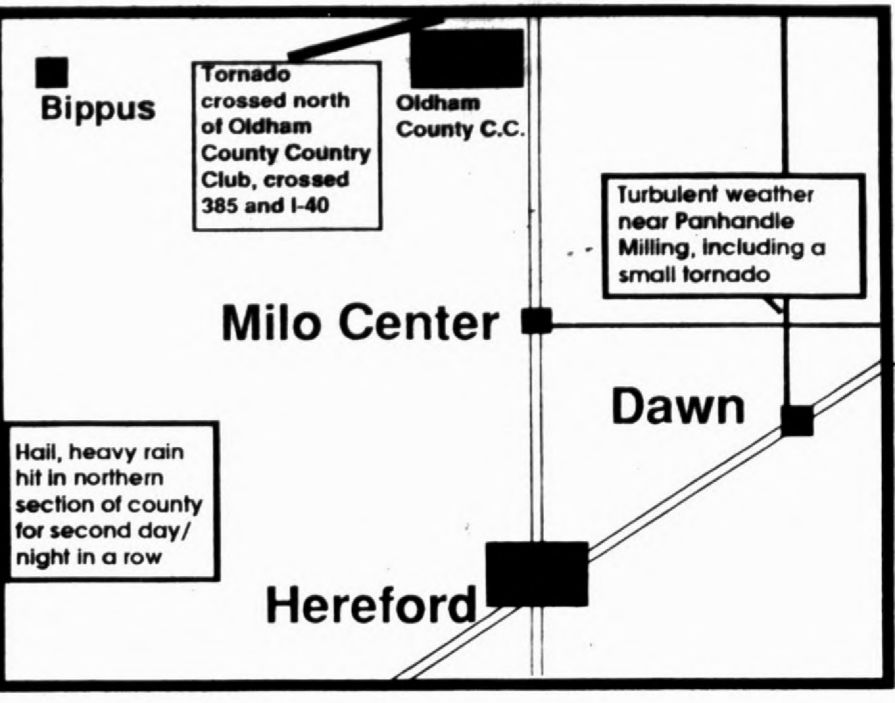
tornado watch until 4 a.m. today, and the National Weather Service predictions of more storms Tuesday night held up in some portions of the county.

"We got .30 inch of rain yesterday, then we got 1.2 inch last night," said Bobby Hammock, foreman of the county barn at Bootleg.

"There's water going down the draw behind us this morning," Hammock said. "It started in about 11:30 last night. We had some small hail, no bigger than pea size, but it got stacked up by all of the water. I don't think it hurt anything."

The county was under the gun for more severe weather today and tonight.

"I don't mind the rain, but I'm ready for this severe stuff to be over," said Spain. "I burned 20 gallons of gas in my Suburban yesterday chasing all of this stuff."



## The Hereford Brand

Hustlin' Hereford, home of Jaime Neeper

Wednesday  
May 17, 1989

88th Year, No. 225, Deaf Smith County, Hereford, Tx. 10 Pages 25 Cents

# British, U.S. farmers fight similar battles

**By JOHN BROOKS**  
**Managing Editor**

Bob Josserand of Hereford, president of the National Cattlemen's Association, got ready to do a little lobbying to a group of visiting farmers from the United Kingdom on Tuesday.

He found out he was doing a lot of preaching to the choir.

The British group, making an extended tour of the United States, visited the Panhandle for three days and made a stop in Hereford on

Tuesday for lunch at the Hereford Country Club and a tour of Hereford Feedyard.

Josserand took time to explain the significance of the cattle industry in the area, and Shirley Garrison outlined the diversified farming in the region.

Hereford Mayor Wes Fisher also detailed how Hereford and Deaf Smith county was "unique in all areas of agriculture" with its diversification including small grains, sugar beets, vegetables and cattle.

"I also think this meeting is great because of the information each one of us can provide and can trade," Fisher said.

Then, Josserand explained some of the problems, some already here and some that may come, facing all of American agriculture.

Those problems stem from a European Community ban on imported beef raised with growth stimulants.

"That ban itself is insignificant," Josserand said. "The United States was only exporting about \$130 million a year in beef to the Common Market."

"That is insignificant, but it's the principle. ... We need a much more open market than what some of our friends have had, and there's a point where we are going to have to draw the line. Soon, we will have drawn a boundary, and that is not in the best interest of the world. The overall broad picture is what we are concerned with."

The British farmers then outlined some of the problems they are having within their country and with other Common Market countries.

The British contingent felt that the issue on hormones was forced on them by other EC members in return for lifting boycotts that led to criminal acts on British goods in other countries.

"We have had a war with France for five years on lamb," one person said. "We would send lorries (trucks) filled with lamb into France. They would stop the lorry, pour diesel all over the lamb, and burn it."

"We feel exactly the same as you do on many issues, and we have been saying this since 1982," said another of the visitors. He said that the British city-dweller looks on the countryside "with envy," and many have raised concerns about animal rights and environmental concerns.

"You're just entering some things we have already been through, and you have a helluva fight on your hands," the Britisher said. "You ain't seen nothing yet."

He said that British farmers have encountered some of the same adversity from the media that American farmers and ranchers have faced. "We have great difficulty getting our message across to the media. We try to feed to the media what we are doing, but the problem is if it's not controversial, they don't want it."



**Reviewing feedlot operations**  
Wade Lewis, at right in hat, manager of Hereford Feedyard, explains some of the yard's operations to a group of visiting farmers from Great Britain during a tour on Tuesday. The group was traveling through the Panhandle as part of a tour throughout the United States.

## Hereford Bull

By Speedy Nieman



That feller on Tierra Blanca Creek says the toughest job in life is gracefully getting down off your high horse.

oOo

Football involves two of the worst aspects of life: violence and committee meetings.

oOo

Medical terms are often difficult to understand. During the observance of Hospital Week, here's a list of medical terms and the definitions which were prepared for pre-med students at the University of Brazosport Memorial Hospital:

- Artery--the study of fine paintings.
- Barium--what you do when CPR fails.
- Bacteria--back door to the cafeteria.
- Cesarian section--a district in Rome.
- Colic--a type of sheep dog.
- Coma--a punctuation mark.
- Congenital--friendly.
- Dilate--to live longer.
- Foster--quicker.
- GI Series--baseball games between teams of soldiers.
- Hangnail--a coat hook.
- Medical Staff--a doctor's walking cane.
- Morbid--a higher offer.
- Nitrate--lower than the day rate.
- Node--be aware of.
- Organic--musical.

Outpatient--a person who has fainted.

Protein--in favor of young people.

Secretion--hiding everything.

Serology--study of English knighthood.

Tumor--an extra pair.

Urine--opposite of you're out.

Varicose Veins--veins which are very close together.

oOo

These "daffy-nitions" remind us of an old editor's quote: An accountant hides his mistakes; a lawyer sends his mistakes to jail; a doctor buries his mistakes, but an editor tells the whole world about his mistakes in big black and white letters.

oOo

**Quote of the month:**  
"I sought for the key to the greatness and genius of America in her harbors . . . in her fertile fields and boundless forests; in her rich mines and vast world commerce; in her public school system and institutions of learning. I sought for it in her democratic Congress and in her matchless Constitution. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."--Alexis de Tocqueville.

## Khuri, Detten, Schroeder sworn in on DSGH board

Three members were sworn in for the Deaf Smith county Hospital District board of directors at the board's regular May meeting Tuesday at Deaf Smith General Hospital.

Incumbents Ralph Detten and Raymond Schroeder and newcomer Dr. Nadir Khuri received their oath of office from County Judge Tom Simons.

Retiring from the board Tuesday night was Dr. Gerald Payne.

"I've enjoyed my years on the board," Payne said. "We've been through some difficult times, but most of it has been fun. I think the hospital is on the right track now."

Detten was re-elected as board president. Frank Zinser Jr. will serve as vice president, and Margie Ford will be the secretary.

Hospital administrator Gary Moore said that two doctors visited Hereford last week, and that other prospects are expected to visit in the near future. Among the prospects is a urologist to take up where Dr. Harold Baddour is leaving. Baddour will be moving to Georgia in June.

Moore reviewed changes in transfer procedures mandated by the Texas Department of Health and reviewed April's operations.

"We had a busy month. Surgical procedures were down, but we had more patients than we did in April 1988," Moore said. The net income statement showed the hospital made a \$23,000 profit in April, but the cash flow figures were harmed by the withholding of payments by Medicare based on adjustments made for as far back as 1986 that left the hospital receiving \$70,909 less cash in April than it paid out. However, the "cash flow loss" was down from \$101,777 in April 1988.

The board also approved conflict of interest statements, purchased two new pieces of medical equipment, and extended privileges to Dr. Dennis Finley, the new orthopedic surgeon at DSGH.

# DSEC was pioneer in irrigation power

**By ORVILLE HOWARD**  
**Special Feature Writer**

Fifty-four years ago this month, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized \$75,000 for total operating expenses of a fledgling Rural Electrification Administration--in 1934 Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative paid nearly \$20 million for energy surging to more than 10,000 meters.

Having 3,687 miles of transmission lines serving 2,800 members in portions of four counties, Deaf

Smith Electric Cooperative, Inc., was the first organized effort in the United States to harness electric power for irrigation under the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). The cooperative has also ranked among the top REA cooperatives in Texas for the past 50 years, being a leader much of the time in power usage.

"We celebrated our 50th anniversary in 1986," said James T. Hull, president and manager of the Hereford-based cooperative. "We

also had the distinction that year in being the second such cooperative in the nation to pay off its advance REA loan ahead of schedule...second by about 30 minutes to the cooperative at Gonzales, Texas."

The cooperative retired its outstanding indebtedness to REA in the amount of \$9,665,709 in December of 1986 at a discount of \$3,003,011.

In describing the progress of the greater Hereford trade territory, Hull said the leadership exhibited by the member-owners of the Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative has been the key to its success. "Just remember, the cooperative has not had an easy row to hoe," said Hull, in recalling its formation years in the

Great Depression of the 1930s. "From the very beginning there were some tough times, such as outside factions trying to halt its organization, devastating ice storms during the early years, World War II and then some severe drought."

With headquarters out where East First merges with U.S. 60, Deaf Smith Electric serves Deaf Smith, Castro, Parmer and Oldham counties with a staff of 48. Distribution lines run north to the Canadian River, a distance of about 55 miles, southward to a point about 2 miles south of Clovis, N.M., on the New Mexico line which is the west boundary. The lines run eastward to just East of the town of Nazareth.

Plans were drawn and approved to

run electric distributions lines into Randall County but World War II halted all expansion at the time of the proposal. The line was never built.

The staff includes some two dozen linemen who have been known to work around the clock to restore power in times of storms. Two linemen live in Bovina as a customer convenience to serve the vast territory of Deaf Smith Electric, but all equipment is stationed at the Hereford headquarters. An example of power moving over Deaf Smith lines, the cooperative last month purchased 30 million kilowatt hours, serving households, industry and agricultural irrigation. Deaf Smith also serves the entire town of Nazareth, a few customers

in Dimmitt and some in Hereford.

Hull estimated Deaf Smith lines now serve some 4,000 irrigation meters, the largest such rural run in Texas. "I would say that we furnish more power supply for irrigation purposes than any electric firm in Texas," said Hull. "We have several metering points from which we work. For example, we have a delivery point just east of our office and from that delivery point we furnish power to four substations."

Deaf Smith Electric is also the largest electrical power supplier to commercial livestock feedyards in the Beef Belt of the Central Texas Panhandle. The power company

**HUSTLE  
HEREFORD**

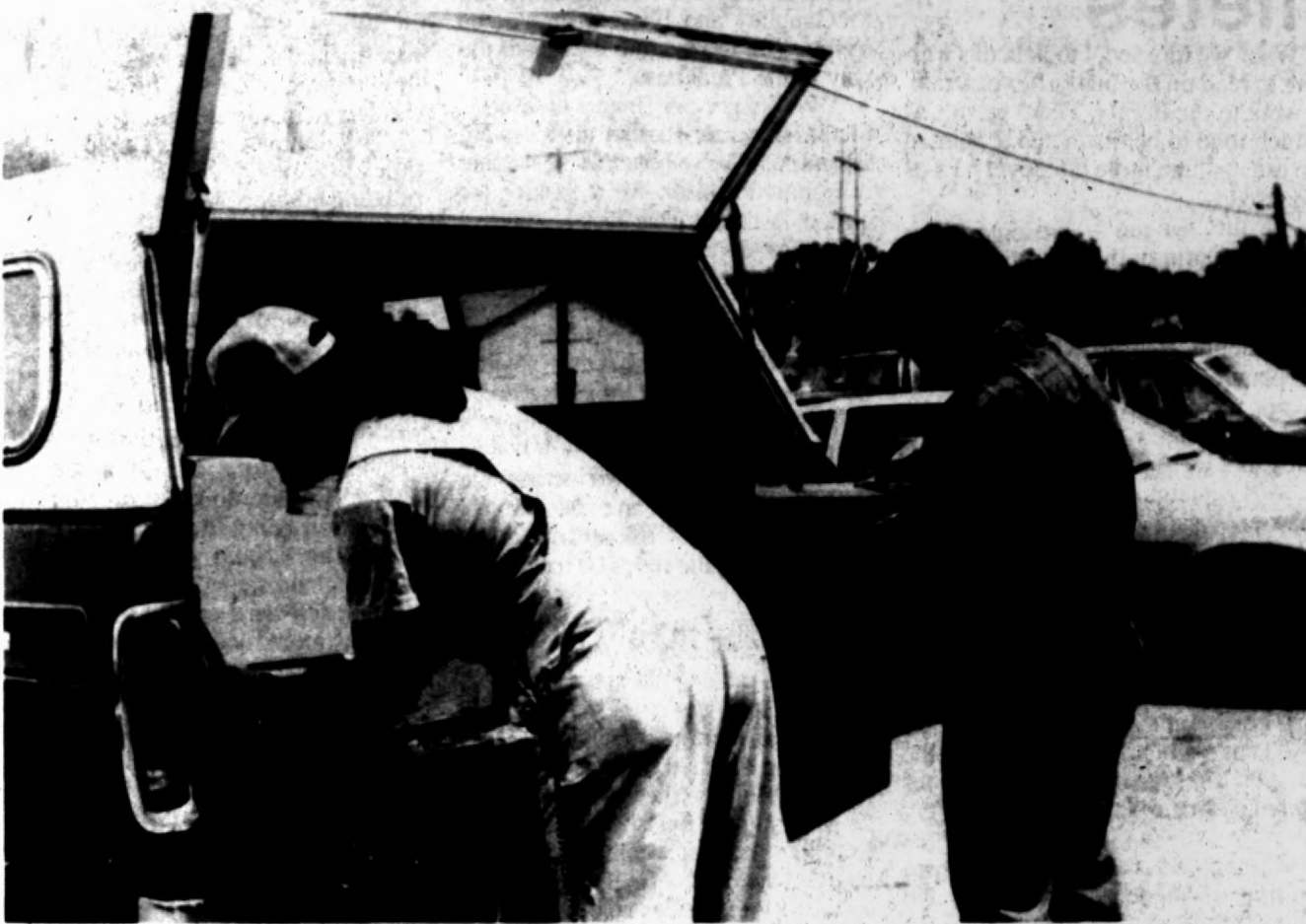
(Editor's note: This is the third in a 'Hustle Hereford' series about businesses and people who are helping make Deaf Smith County a hustlin', progressive community.)

(See DSEC, Page 10)

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# Lifestyles



## Getting ready for sale

Red Cross volunteers Karl King and Leta Eubanks are loading items that will be sold during the Red Cross garage sale set Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day at the Little Bull Barn. The local Red Cross chapter requests that sellable items be donated to the Red Cross office at 224 S. Main or they can be taken to the Little Bull Barn on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of new CPR mannequins to be used in CPR classes.

# Ann Landers

**DEAR ANN LANDERS:** I need advice in the worst way and don't know where to turn. I have read your column for so long I feel as if you are a friend.

"Jerry" and I have been married for 21 years. We have two lovely children. A young woman in this town is pregnant and she is telling everyone that the father of her unborn child is my husband. Jerry doesn't know I am aware of the gossip, but his attitude toward me has definitely cooled. He spends a lot of time away from home, and I know that he is with this woman because I have had him followed.

I have no intention of divorcing Jerry and he hasn't asked for a divorce. But I am very nervous about the whole matter.

Should I confront him? Would it be a good idea to go see the woman? She has turned up at functions where Jerry and I have been together and makes no attempt to hide her feelings for him. How she can be so brazen beats me.

Could I sue her? Should I insist that Jerry take a blood test? I know she is about ready to give birth and I watch the papers daily for the announcement. Since she is a single woman, I am keeping my fingers crossed that she doesn't name him as the father.

Jerry is a highly respected businessman in this community, and I would like to protect him as well as myself and the kids. But it's hard to hold my head up when I know everyone is talking.

Ann, you have given a lot of good advice to others and now I need some. What is the best course of action for all concerned?—Troubles Galore in Conn.

**DEAR TROUBLES GALORE:**

You must let Jerry know that you are aware of what is going on and ask him if he wants a divorce. I suspect that if he wanted one he would have asked you by this time.

If Jerry admits that he fathered the unborn child, he may have to support him or her for 18 years. If he denies it, he may be hit with a paternity suit.

Obviously you are ready to stand by your man no matter what, but you must find out whether or not he wants to stay with you or go in another direction. And this is why you should stop playing games and confront him immediately. Good luck.

**DEAR ANN LANDERS:** I do not drink regular coffee for health reasons. I always order decaffeinated after dinner when I eat out.

It is unbelievable the number of times waiters and waitresses have served me regular coffee even though I always ask, "Is this decaf?" They say, "Absolutely." When I am up all night, I know I was lied to and it makes me furious.

In one particular restaurant where this happened to me twice, I raised Cain. The waitress confessed that when they run out of decaf, they use regular coffee and hope nobody catches on.

Ann, how can I be sure that I am getting what I ordered? I'm certain many of your readers would like an answer to this question.—E.F., in Valley Stream, N.Y.

**DEAR E.W.:** Are you willing to settle for decaf that comes in an envelope? If so, you could carry your own and order hot water. That way you'd be sure.

If you insist on brewed coffee (I do) and you don't trust the restaurant, ask to see the coffee can. If they are unwilling to product it, or give you an excuse for why they can't, order herbal tea and don't go back.

Is that Ann Landers column you clipped years ago yellow with age? For a copy of her most frequently requested poems and essays send a self-addressed, long, business-size envelope and a check or money order for \$4.85 (this includes postage and handling) to: Gems, c/p Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, Ill. 60611-0562.

**WEATHER PERMITTING**  
NEW YORK (AP) - Perfect for picnics: Crabtree & Evelyn's "Tea for Tea," which contains the essentials for a portable picnic tea: crunchy all-butter cookies, an English preserve and a box of tea sachets.

Four new fruit teas are available for a pleasant picnic - Mango, Raspberry, Vanilla and Cherry. These teas can be served hot from the thermos or served iced, with slices of lime. Crabtree & Evelyn's Fruit Tea Caddy contains all four flavors.

## Hacker to chair National Guild Piano Auditions here

Evelyn Hacker has been named chairman of the National Guild Piano Auditions to be held Thursday through Saturday at First Christian Church.

Teachers participating in the event include Johnie Walters of Friona, Dee Anne Tackitt of Dimmitt and Shirley Peagram of Nazareth.

Judging the auditions will be Bobbie Lee Farmer of Plainview. She is the owner and director of the Fine Arts Center, a music school which teaches piano, theory, violin, art, organ and related subjects.

Mrs. Farmer has more than 30 years of private teaching experience. Her students include teachers, church organists, composers, night club performers, etc. She has been named Who's Who of American Women, Pictorial World Who's Who of Women and Who's Who in the South and Southwest. She has been nominated three times for the Woman of the Year in the Panhandle and was the Woman of the Month (Soroptimist Club, March 1987).

Farmer, who holds memberships in numerous organizations, received her master of music education and bachelor of music in piano from Texas Tech University. She has also studied at Wayland Baptist University, Abilene Christian College, Mississippi Southern University, and Matlock Teacher's College. She has attended workshops in Copenhagen, Paris, Geneva and the Mozarteum in Salzburg.

From coast to coast over 105,464



**BOBBIE LEE FARMER**

piano pupils in the nation will participate in this annual national piano playing event being held in 759 music centers across the country. Every worthy entrant will be certificated, given a gold or bronze embossed pin, a year's membership in the National Fraternity of Student Musicians and Piano Hobbyists of the World.

**WASHINGTON (AP)** - Andrews Air Force Base, home to Air Force One and other presidential jet transport planes, covers 4,279 acres and was opened as a military airfield in 1943.

It is named after Lt. Gen. Frank M. Andrews, an early advocate of airpower, who was the first commander of the Army's General Headquarters Air Force.

**TEXAS TWANG**  
SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) - Texas Twang is a tart-salty treat that comes in single-serving packets and can be used as a topping for margaritas, Corona or Tecate beer. The product comes in pickle and lemon-lime flavors.

Texas Twang can also be sprinkled on apples and watermelons, or added to beef or chicken stock, according to Roger and Alex Trevino of San Antonio, who developed the product.

The product is available primarily in western and southern states, but the Trevinos say they would like "word-of-puckered-mouth" to spread their salt from coast to coast.

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# Biggio 'goat', hero in Astro win

HOUSTON (AP) - Houston's Craig Biggio made two errors and the St. Louis Cardinals stole five bases with Biggio behind the plate. But he was able to end his frustrating evening with one swing of his bat.

Biggio had two of Houston's season-high four errors, and all five runners who stole bases came home to score before he made up for all the mistakes with an 11th inning triple to center.

Biggio then scored the winning run in the Astro's 8-7 victory over the Cardinals Tuesday night.

"I threw it away enough times," Biggio said. "It was one of those nights where I was struggling defensively, so it was good to make up for it offensively."

St. Louis center fielder Willie McGee tried to field Biggio's sinking liner, but he lost sight of it momentarily.

"I just kept going in that direction, and I lost it for just long enough. If I saw it I could have played it. I couldn't judge it because I didn't know where it was."

Biggio kept sprinting once he saw the ball had cleared McGee.

"He was playing pretty deep," he said. "When I saw it get by, I just put my head down and ran."

McGee also felt like he misplayed the sacrifice fly by Rafael Ramirez that scored Biggio and made a loser of reliever Cris Carpenter, 1-3.

"I should have set up to have a shot at him," McGee said. "My mechanics were wrong, and the throw was dead."

With one out in the seventh inning, Ramirez also delivered a pinch hit single that preceded a two-run home run by Bill Doran that tied the game 7-7.

Doran equaled his career-high of five RBIs which he originally set on Aug. 28, 1985, against Chicago.

The last Astro who had five RBIs in the game was Ramirez on May 29, 1988.

"I'm glad we finally won at home," Doran said. "I don't care about all that other personal stuff."

Doran was referring to the fact that the 18-19 Astros are now only 7-12 at home while being 11-7 on the road.

The five stolen bases by St. Louis (including Vince Coleman's two of 16 for the year) represent a season high for the Cardinals.

After the 12-hit attack by the Cardinals including three hits and three RBIs by Pedro Guerrero, St. Louis manager Whitey Herzog was more concerned about his pitching, especially after losing ace reliever Todd Worrell to an injury.

"I wasn't concerned about my bullpen until now," Herzog said. "We just don't have enough pitching. I'd like to see how good anyone else would be when they lose their No. 1 and No. 4 starters and their No. 1 reliever."

Dan Schatzeder, 1-0, won the game after completing the final three innings in relief.

"It was an ugly game," Schatzeder said, "but I've been in a pretty good groove lately. I haven't had the situation of closing a game until this one, I had a lot of zip on my fastball tonight."

St. Louis has lost four-straight for the first time this year. While Houston has won four consecutive games for the first time since July 20, 1988.

"It's a real boost for us to win this game," Doran said. "We just had to get out of the same rut of losing at home."

In other games, San Francisco trounced Philadelphia 13-5, Houston beat St. Louis 8-7 in 11 innings, San Diego defeated Montreal 5-2 and Chicago held off Atlanta 4-3. Los Angeles and New York were rained out and rescheduled for Thursday.

Randy Kramer had a no-hitter going until Ron Oester's two-out double in the eighth inning, and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Cincinnati Reds 5-0 Tuesday night.

"I had the obvious response. I wondered what would have happened - what if, what if," said Kramer, who was trying to become the 14th rookie to pitch a no-hitter.

Kramer's bid was kept alive by a controversial scoring decision in the seventh inning. Oester, batting just .175, spoiled it for good by slicing a liner 10 feet inside the left-field line.

Giants 13, Phillies 5

Atlee Hammaker won his first start of the season and drove in three runs, leading San Francisco on a rout in Philadelphia. The Giants' 13 runs and 18 hits were season highs as they

ended a three-game losing streak.

Hammaker, 2-3, gave up three runs on four hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Robby Thompson had three hits, including a two-run double in the second inning off Mike Maddux, 1-2. Cubs 4, Braves 3

Ryne Sandberg's two-run triple highlighted a strange first inning and sent Chicago over Atlanta at Wrigley Field.

The Cubs scored four times in the first inning against Tom Glavine, 5-1. They opened with four straight hits and Glavine then left the game with a sprained left ankle, which he hurt covering first base.

Scott Sanderson, 4-2, gave up two runs on four hits in six innings. Padres 5, Expos 2

Jack Clark hit a two-run homer and a run-scoring single as San Diego won in Montreal.

Clark connected on a 3-0 pitch from Brian Holman, 1-1, for his sixth home run and a 4-1 lead in the fifth inning.

Eric Show, 5-4, stopped his three-game losing streak.

## Bowls fined for illegal promotions

HOUSTON (AP) - The Rose and Cotton bowls are among eight football bowls fined by an NCAA committee for using a professional athlete in promotions or promoting the National Football League, a television station reported.

The Rose Bowl fine of \$11,892 was the highest, followed by the Cotton Bowl's penalty of \$10,118. KRIV-TV in Houston reported Tuesday.

According to an NCAA memo dated April 24 and obtained by KRIV, both bowls were fined for using a professional athlete in promotions, and the Cotton Bowl also was cited for promoting the NFL.

The station said the other bowls fined for using a professional athlete in advertising were the All-American Bowl, \$1,000; the Fiesta Bowl, \$5,751;

the Orange Bowl, \$5,471; the Sugar Bowl, \$5,610; and the Hall of Fame Bowl, \$3,010.

The Sun Bowl was fined \$1,614 for promoting the NFL, KRIV said.

"Fines are tied to a percentage of the gross revenues of the bowls, and are assessed if a professional athlete is used in advertising during the telecast of the game, or as in the case of the Sun Bowl, if a network promotes an upcoming NFL game," said John Swofford, athletic director of North Carolina and chairman of the NCAA special events committee that issued the penalties.

However, Swofford said the committee has voted to do away with both prohibitions in the future. The NCAA has yet to vote on the committee's decision.

## Tourney not critical, except for Houston

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) - Although the Southwest Conference Tournament that began today means an automatic NCAA tournament bid to the victor, at least three of the four teams entered are treating it like a tuneup for regionals next week.

An announcement from the NCAA regional selection committee Monday afternoon handing both Texas and Texas A&M hosting roles has taken some of the urgency out of the SWC tourney for those two teams.

Texas plays Arkansas at 1 p.m., while A&M takes on Houston at 7 p.m. in a tournament that features three

of the top 10 teams in the nation.

In reality, the only benefactor if they happen to win it will be Houston, 44-14, who had to use a sweep of Texas Tech in the final weekend of the regular season to slide into the tourney as the fourth seed. The Cougars were 1-8 during the regular season against tournament competition, having beaten A&M.

Texas as well, may want to use the tournament to prove they still belong at the summit of SWC baseball after finishing third and snapping a 10-year hold on the crown.

## Jays rally under interim manager

By BEN WALKER  
AP Baseball Writer

For six weeks under Manager Jimmy Williams, the Toronto Blue Jays did hardly anything right.

The Blue Jays couldn't get the big hit, failed to protect leads and lost 24 of their first 36 games.

But Williams was fired Monday, and in two games under interim Manager Cito Gaston, the Blue Jays have gotten the big hits and even a save.

Lloyd Moseby homered to snap an eighth-inning tie and Toronto rallied from a six-run deficit to beat Cleveland 7-6 Tuesday night for its second straight victory under Gaston.

Elsewhere in the American League it was Seattle 6, Milwaukee 5; New York 3, Oakland 2; California 7, Boston 2; Detroit 9, Chicago 7; and Kansas City 8, Minnesota 1. Baltimore at Texas was rained out. Mariners 6, Brewers 5

Ken Griffey Jr. snapped an eighth-inning tie with a pinch-hit two-run homer as Seattle rallied from a four-run deficit to edge Milwaukee at the Kingdome.

Darnell Coles singled with one out in the eighth and Griffey, making his first major league pinch-hitting appearance, hit Bill Wegman's 1-0 pitch over the right-field wall for his fourth homer of the season. Yankees 3, Athletics 2

Clay Parker pitched seven-plus innings for his first major league victory and Steve Balboni snapped an eighth-inning tie with a two-out, two-run homer as New York beat Oakland at the Coliseum.

Curt Young, 1-4, gave up a two-out single to Jesse Barfield before Balboni hit a 3-0 pitch just over the 330-foot marker down the left-field line for his fourth home run.

Angels 7, Red Sox 2

Johnny Ray drove in four runs and Kirk McCaskill allowed two runs in eight-plus innings as California beat

visiting Boston for its fourth straight victory.

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## Biggio 'goat', hero in Astro win

HOUSTON (AP) - Houston's Craig Biggio made two errors and the St. Louis Cardinals stole five bases with Biggio behind the plate. But he was able to end his frustrating evening with one swing of his bat.

Biggio had two of Houston's season-high four errors, and all five runners who stole bases came home to score before he made up for all the mistakes with an 11th inning triple to center.

Biggio then scored the winning run in the Astro's 8-7 victory over the Cardinals Tuesday night.

"I threw it away enough times," Biggio said. "It was one of those nights where I was struggling defensively, so it was good to make up for it offensively."

St. Louis center fielder Willie McGee tried to field Biggio's sinking liner, but he lost sight of it momentarily.

"I just kept going in that direction, and I lost it for just long enough. If I saw it I could have played it. I couldn't judge it because I didn't know where it was."

Biggio kept sprinting once he saw the ball had cleared McGee.

"He was playing pretty deep," he said. "When I saw it get by, I just put my head down and ran."

McGee also felt like he misplayed the sacrifice fly by Rafael Ramirez that scored Biggio and made a loser of reliever Cris Carpenter, 1-3.

"I should have set up to have a shot at him," McGee said. "My mechanics were wrong, and the throw was dead."

With one out in the seventh inning, Ramirez also delivered a pinch hit single that preceded a two-run home run by Bill Doran that tied the game 7-7.

Doran equaled his career-high of five RBIs which he originally set on Aug. 28, 1985, against Chicago.

The last Astro who had five RBIs in the game was Ramirez on May 29, 1988.

"I'm glad we finally won at home," Doran said. "I don't care about all that other personal stuff."

Doran was referring to the fact that the 18-19 Astros are now only 7-12 at home while being 11-7 on the road.

The five stolen bases by St. Louis (including Vince Coleman's two of 16 for the year) represent a season high for the Cardinals.

After the 12-hit attack by the Cardinals including three hits and three RBIs by Pedro Guerrero, St. Louis manager Whitey Herzog was more concerned about his pitching, especially after losing ace reliever Todd Worrell to an injury.

"I wasn't concerned about my bullpen until now," Herzog said. "We just don't have enough pitching. I'd like to see how good anyone else would be when they lose their No. 1 and No. 4 starters and their No. 1 reliever."

Dan Schatzeder, 1-0, won the game after completing the final three innings in relief.

"It was an ugly game," Schatzeder said, "but I've been in a pretty good groove lately. I haven't had the situation of closing a game until this one, I had a lot of zip on my fastball tonight."

St. Louis has lost four-straight for the first time this year. While Houston has won four consecutive games for the first time since July 20, 1988.

"It's a real boost for us to win this game," Doran said. "We just had to get out of the same rut of losing at home."

In other games, San Francisco trounced Philadelphia 13-5, Houston beat St. Louis 8-7 in 11 innings, San Diego defeated Montreal 5-2 and Chicago held off Atlanta 4-3. Los Angeles and New York were rained out and rescheduled for Thursday.

Randy Kramer had a no-hitter going until Ron Oester's two-out double in the eighth inning, and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Cincinnati Reds 5-0 Tuesday night.

"I had the obvious response. I wondered what would have happened - what if, what if," said Kramer, who was trying to become the 14th rookie to pitch a no-hitter.

Kramer's bid was kept alive by a controversial scoring decision in the seventh inning. Oester, batting just .175, spoiled it for good by slicing a liner 10 feet inside the left-field line.

Giants 13, Phillies 5

Atlee Hamaker won his first start of the season and drove in three runs, leading San Francisco on a rout in Philadelphia. The Giants' 13 runs and 18 hits were season highs as they

ended a three-game losing streak.

Hamaker, 2-3, gave up three runs on four hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Robby Thompson had three hits, including a two-run double in the second inning off Mike Maddux, 1-2. Cubs 4, Braves 3

Ryne Sandberg's two-run triple highlighted a strange first inning and sent Chicago over Atlanta at Wrigley Field.

The Cubs scored four times in the first inning against Tom Glavine, 5-1. They opened with four straight hits and Glavine then left the game with a sprained left ankle, which he hurt covering first base.

Scott Sanderson, 4-2, gave up two runs on four hits in six innings. Padres 5, Expos 2

Jack Clark hit a two-run homer and a run-scoring single as San Diego won in Montreal.

Clark connected on a 3-0 pitch from Brian Holman, 1-1, for his sixth home run and a 4-1 lead in the fifth inning.

Eric Show, 5-4, stopped his three-game losing streak.

## Bowls fined for illegal promotions

HOUSTON (AP) - The Rose and Cotton bowls are among eight football bowls fined by an NCAA committee for using a professional athlete in promotions or promoting the National Football League, a television station reported.

The Rose Bowl fine of \$11,892 was the highest, followed by the Cotton Bowl's penalty of \$10,118, KRIV-TV in Houston reported Tuesday.

According to an NCAA memo dated April 24 and obtained by KRIV, both bowls were fined for using a professional athlete in promotions, and the Cotton Bowl also was cited for promoting the NFL.

The station said the other bowls fined for using a professional athlete in advertising were the All-American Bowl, \$1,000; the Fiesta Bowl, \$5,751;

the Orange Bowl, \$5,471; the Sugar Bowl, \$5,610; and the Hall of Fame Bowl, \$3,010.

The Sun Bowl was fined \$1,614 for promoting the NFL, KRIV said.

"Fines are tied to a percentage of the gross revenues of the bowls, and are assessed if a professional athlete is used in advertising during the telecast of the game, or as in the case of the Sun Bowl, if a network promotes an upcoming NFL game," said John Swofford, athletic director of North Carolina and chairman of the NCAA special events committee that issued the penalties.

However, Swofford said the committee has voted to do away with both prohibitions in the future. The NCAA has yet to vote on the committee's decision.

## Jays rally under interim manager

By BEN WALKER  
AP Baseball Writer

For six weeks under Manager Jimmy Williams, the Toronto Blue Jays did hardly anything right.

The Blue Jays couldn't get the big hit, failed to protect leads and lost 24 of their first 36 games.

But Williams was fired Monday, and in two games under interim Manager Cito Gaston, the Blue Jays have gotten the big hits and even a save.

Lloyd Moseby homered to snap an eighth-inning tie and Toronto rallied from a six-run deficit to beat Cleveland 7-6 Tuesday night for its second straight victory under Gaston.

Elsewhere in the American League it was Seattle 6, Milwaukee 5; New York 3, Oakland 2; California 7, Boston 2; Detroit 9, Chicago 7; and Kansas City 8, Minnesota 1. Baltimore at Texas was rained out.

Mariners 6, Brewers 5

Ken Griffey Jr. snapped an eighth-inning tie with a pinch-hit two-run homer as Seattle rallied from a four-run deficit to edge Milwaukee at the Kingdome.

Darnell Coles singled with one out in the eighth and Griffey, making his first major league pinch-hitting appearance, hit Bill Wegman's 1-0 pitch over the right-field wall for his fourth homer of the season. Yankees 3, Athletics 2

Clay Parker pitched seven-plus innings for his first major league victory and Steve Balboni snapped an eighth-inning tie with a two-out, two-run homer as New York beat Oakland at the Coliseum.

Curt Young, 1-4, gave up a two-out single to Jesse Barfield before Balboni hit a 3-0 pitch just over the 330-foot marker down the left-field line for his fourth home run.

Angels 7, Red Sox 2

Johnny Ray drove in four runs and Kirk McCaskill allowed two runs in eight-plus innings as California beat

visiting Boston for its fourth straight victory.

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## Tourney not critical, except for Houston

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) - Although the Southwest Conference Tournament that began today means an automatic NCAA tournament bid to the victor, at least three of the four teams entered are treating it like a tuneup for regionals next week.

An announcement from the NCAA regional selection committee Monday afternoon handing both Texas and Texas A&M hosting roles has taken some of the urgency out of the SWC tourney for those two teams.


Texas plays Arkansas at 1 p.m., while A&M takes on Houston at 7 p.m. in a tournament that features three

of the top 10 teams in the nation.

In reality, the only benefactor if they happen to win it will be Houston, 44-14, who had to use a sweep of Texas Tech in the final weekend of the regular season to slide into the tourney as the fourth seed. The Cougars were 1-8 during the regular season against tournament competition, having beaten A&M.

Texas as well, may want to use the tournament to prove they still belong at the summit of SWC baseball after finishing third and snapping a 10-year hold on the crown.

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# Calendar of Events

## THURSDAY

Ladies exercise class, First Baptist Church Family Life Center, 7:30 p.m.  
 Teen support group, homemaking livingroom at Hereford High School, 3:45 p.m.  
 Immunizations against childhood diseases, Texas Department of Health office, 914 E. Park Ave., 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.  
 San Jose prayer group, 735 Brevard, 8 p.m.  
 Weight Watchers, Community Center, 6:30 p.m.  
 Kids Day Out, First United Methodist Church, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.  
 Ladies exercise class, Church of the Nazarene, 5:30 p.m.  
 Kiwanis Club, Community Center, noon.  
 TOPS Club No. 941, Community Center, 9 a.m.  
 Amateur Radio Operators, north biology building of high school, 7:30 p.m.  
 Story hour at library, 10 a.m.

Hereford Toastmaster's Club, Ranch House, 6:30 a.m.  
 Bud to Blossom Garden Club, 9:30 a.m.  
 L'Allegria Study Club, 10 a.m.  
 Alpha Iota Mu Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, 8 p.m.  
 North Hereford Extension Homemakers Club, 2:30 p.m.  
 Wyche Extension Homemakers Club, 2:30 p.m.  
 Bay View Study Club, 2 p.m.  
 Merry Mixers Square Dance Club, Community Center, 8:30 p.m.  
 Red Cross Uniformed Volunteers, noon luncheon.  
 VFW, VFW clubhouse in Veterans Park, 7:30 p.m.  
 BPOE Lodge in Elks Hall, 8:30 p.m.  
 Hereford Study Club, 7:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY

Kiwanis Whiteface Breakfast Club, Caison House, 6:30 a.m.  
 Community Duplicate Bridge Club, Community Center, 7:30 p.m.

Ladies exercise class, Nazarene Church, 5:30 p.m.  
 Patriarchs Militant and Ladies Auxiliary, IOOF Hall, 8 p.m.  
 Dawn Extension Homemakers Club, Dawn Community Center, 2 p.m.

## SATURDAY

Open gym for all teens, noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and 2-5 p.m. Sundays at First Church of the Nazarene.  
 AA, 406 W. Fourth St., 8 p.m. on Saturdays and 11 a.m. on Sundays.

## MONDAY

AA meets Monday through Friday, 406 W. Fourth St., noon, 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. For more information call 364-9620.  
 Spanish speaking AA meetings each Monday, 406 W. Fourth St., 8 p.m.  
 Ladies exercise class, First Baptist Church Family Life Center,

7:30 p.m.  
 SOS-Teen NA/AA group, homemaking livingroom of Hereford High School, 7 p.m.  
 Odd Fellows Lodge, IOOF Hall, 7:30 p.m.  
 TOPS Chapter No. 1011, Community Center, 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
 Rotary Club, Community Center, noon.

Planned Parenthood Clinic, open Monday through Friday, 711 25 Mile Ave., 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.  
 Ladies exercise class, Nazarene Church, 5:30 p.m.  
 Civil Air Patrol-U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, Community Center, 7 p.m.  
 Easter Lions Club, Easter Clubhouse, 8 p.m.  
 Deaf Smith County Extension Homemakers Council, Library Heritage Room, 1:30 p.m.  
 Deaf Smith County Lapidary Club, Energas Flame Room, 7:30 p.m.  
 Deaf Smith County Historical Museum: Regular museum hours Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to

5 p.m. and Sunday by appointment only.

## TUESDAY

TOPS Chapter No. 576, Community Center, 9 a.m.  
 Ladies exercise class, Church of the Nazarene, 5:30 p.m.  
 Kids Day Out, First United Methodist Church, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.  
 Free women's exercise class, aerobics and floorwork, Community Church, 7:30 p.m.  
 Free blood pressure screening, Tuesday through Friday, South Plains Health Providers Clinic, 603 Park Ave., 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 Hereford AMBUCS Club, Ranch House, noon.  
 Social Security representative at courthouse, 9:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
 Kiwanis Club of Hereford-Golden, Senior Citizens Center, noon.  
 Alateans and Al-Anon, 406 W. Fourth St., 8 p.m.

Women's Golf Association Play Day, City Golf Course, 5:45 p.m.  
 Hereford Rebekah Lodge No. 228, IOOF Hall, 8 p.m.  
 Problem Pregnancy Center, 505 E. Park Ave., open Tuesday through Friday. Free and confidential pregnancy testing. Call 364-2027 or 364-7626 for appointment.  
 Pilot Club, Caison House, 7 a.m.

## WEDNESDAY

Noon Lions Club, Community Center, noon.  
 Young at heart program, YMCA, 9 a.m. until noon.  
 Play school day nursery, 201 Country Club Drive, 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Call 364-0040 for reservations.

**FRUIT DRINK**  
**SOUTH DARTMOUTH, Mass. (AP)** - Pommac, a non-alcoholic sparkling fruit drink, is a festive alternative to wine, champagne or cocktails. It can be mixed with aquavit, vodka or cognac.

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Woven, knits, in stripes and solids. Includes Tall Men's.



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 Great savings on every pair!  
 Sale 2.60 Reg. 3.25. Supershaper® sheer toe.  
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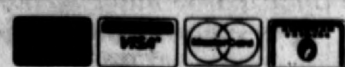
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**Picket 'n Post® camp shirts**  
 Two styles to choose from in cotton/polyester.  
 12.99 Smart Value. One-pocket camp shirt.  
 12.99 Every Day. Classic style in pastels.

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**Jaguar® Capri**  
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Sugarland Mall







James Hull, president-manager; Tommie Weemes, area development

## Co-op member-owners termed key to success

'Hustle Hereford'--continued from Page 1

also serves meat packing firms, pet food manufacturers, and all types of industrial centers pinpointed in the Hereford area. Researchers found that contented cattle have better conversion rates, thus, many of the large feedyards illuminate entire feeding units at night with low-density lamps.

In recalling storms that have racked electric lines from corner-to-corner, such as the one on Good Friday of 1988, Hull said he never has any trouble getting the men to stop working...they'll work 'till they drop if you let them.' Their concern is to restore people's electricity, more than their own health and well being, at times.

Tommie Weemes, area development manager for Deaf Smith Electric, works closely with Hull who has held the reins of Deaf Smith since 1969. Weemes is also a veteran in the company, having served the corporation for 31 years. Weemes recalled that the worst storm he had witnessed in his 31 years was the one on Dec. 14, 1959, when an ice storm snapped nearly every line in the area: "It's hard to believe but we had every one back on line by Dec. 25. We used Caterpillars to pull the trucks from pole to pole."

"I'm just a youngster in this business...I've only been here 20 years," said Hull, in showing that nearly all of Deaf Smith employees are career-oriented in the electric industry.

Hull was born and reared in Navarro County of East Texas and graduated from Dawson High School in 1948 and graduated from Sam Houston State University at Huntsville in 1956, and did graduate work at Sam Houston and Texas Tech University. He also had a four-year hitch with the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict which interrupted some of his college work. "They threw a few things at me but didn't hit me," said Hull, in relating to his military run in Korea.

After graduating from Sam Houston State, Hull went to work for Lone Wolf Electric Cooperative at Colorado City, Tx., as member-services advisor, and later was appointed general manager of the Colorado City Unit. Though Hull's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Hull, were farmers, Hull was exposed to the electrical field at an early age since his father was a long-time member of the Navarro County Electric Cooperative Board of Directors.

Hull took over as manager of Lone Wolf in 1964 and came to Hereford in 1969 to assume the general manager's post at Deaf Smith upon the retirement of Leo

Forest who had been manager of Deaf Smith since 1945. The only other manager of Deaf Smith Electric was H.V. Hennen who was one of the founders. Though Deaf Smith was ranked at the top for many years, suburban developments around such towns as Dallas, Houston and San Antonio have now pushed others at the top.

**Hereford 'premiere town'**  
Hull and his wife, Mary Sue, have two sons--Mike, an attorney in Austin, and Kevin, who attends Hereford High School. "The natives around Hereford like to brag about how they have been here all of their lives," said Hull. "But I like to brag about how all of my professional life I've told everyone that the best farmland in Texas was on the High Plains...and the premiere town of the High Plains was Hereford."

The 58-year-old executive quickly pointed out that when the opportunity presented itself he moved to Hereford. "Coming to Hereford in 1969 was the culmination of a dream that started years before," said Hull. "I have been sold on Hereford since day one--I think it is the greatest town filled with the greatest people. Every once in a while I have to reflect on how fortunate I was to having had the opportunity to come to this fine city of Hereford."

Hull gave much credit to the Deaf Smith board of directors and the employees for the progress experienced during the past half century. But Hull has also shown much ingenuity in the development of electrical power to rural area over the past 20 years. In 1980 he was one of the key leaders in organizing the Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc., which is composed of 12 distribution cooperatives of the High Plains, including Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative. The Golden Spread was designed initially to see that rural electric consumers will have adequate electricity at costs they can afford--it is a super co-op among cooperatives. The Golden Spread buys about \$80 million of wholesale electricity a year for rural distribution, with between 90 and 95 cents of every dollar spent by the Golden Spread unit going to purchase wholesale power. Hull pointed out that electric cooperatives, as they now stand, are distributors of electrical power, not regulators.

**Darkness prevailed**  
If you're 50 or younger, you've never seen a dark farm in Deaf Smith County. But there was a time--for more than 150 years--when darkness prevailed across rural America at sundown. Kerosene lanterns beamed the only flames of light from barnyards and

turnrows where men and women worked side-by-side to produce food and fiber for their nation. An occasional generator was found stashed in woodsheds or blacksmith shops, were powered with chugging single-piston jobs. A sprinkling of 6-volt and 32-volt wind-powered generators dotted mid-America for a time but electrical energy for rural America was for the most part nonexistent prior to the Great Depression, a tragedy which actually became the trigger-mechanism for the creation of the REA.

President Roosevelt didn't have darkened farms on his mind on May 11, 1945, when he signed Executive Order No. 7037 that created the REA. He had jobs on his mind--jobs for those standing in soup-lines across a nation torn apart with depression and drought. It was not until a year later--May 20, 1936--that Roosevelt signed the Rural Electrification Act into law which gave the REA the status of a federal agency whose primary purpose was to promote rural electrification--it took Washington a year to look past the city soup-lines and find the dry farmsteads awaiting for power to pump water to thirsty fields.

"While Executive Order 7037 gave birth to the REA, it was the passage of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 that brought to fruition nearly a quarter century of hard work, dedication and perseverance of a group of men who were determined to bring literally the American farmer out of his darkness," wrote Dr. Duane F. Guy, a professor of History at West Texas State University. Guy was commissioned earlier to write a history of the Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative.

Though there were a number of half-hearted attempts at bringing electrical power to rural sectors in the East and Midwest prior to 1935, the Muscle Shoals power plant in Alabama and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) were the most renowned. On that historical day in May of 1935, Roosevelt named Morris Llewellyn Cooke as the first administrator of the REA and gave him \$75,000 to run the entire agency, including possible loans and other agency funding.

Cooke sent a team of agency men to the turnrows and found the demand for electrical power was there, but electrical service from the private sectors was running at a minimum. When news spread of the REA creation, a few privately-held electrical companies expanded a few short lines--but most of rural America remained dark.

**Blazing new trails**  
The REA administrators called on farmers to form cooperatives under legislation that had passed a

couple years earlier, but they had few takers. It was something like the old proverb of the blind leading the blind--the REA leaders and the farmers were blazing new trails in a thing called rural electrification. Some of the farmers had fears of being saddled with a federal indebtedness, while most just didn't believe it possible that electrical lines would span rural farmland.

Seven of the first 10 REA loans went to Ohio, Mississippi, Indiana and Texas, with the Deaf Smith County leaders being among the first to apply for an REA line in Texas. During the first two years of the REA, Dr. Guy noted in his writing, little attention was given to non-profit organizations such as cooperatives in handling rural transmission lines. But when it became apparent that commercial electric companies were not going to cooperate with the REA in pushing electricity to rural America, the REA and Congress turned to cooperatives as the best alternative. This move later proved to be a giant step toward rural electrification.

According to research conducted by Dr. Guy, the first step in bringing electricity to the Texas Panhandle was taken by Dewey Reed, Deaf Smith County Extension agent, who on Oct. 14, 1935, wrote to the REA requesting 12 copies of publications to distribute to farmers of the county. Reed followed the request with additional letters to the REA Washington headquarters telling about the favorable irrigation possibilities of the area, noting that at that time some 250,000 acres of rich soil could be irrigated from water-bearing sands of 25 to 40 feet deep. He said there were 41 irrigation wells in operation in the county at that time in 1936. But the REA was still trying to find proper guidelines for establishing ground-work for the infant federal agency--there was not a hint in projections that this new-born agency would in 50 years be serving 10 million farms, homes, businesses and industries across America.

**C of C support**  
Reed's correspondence was soon followed with similar action from a group of Hereford businessmen and farmers headed by Henry V. Hennen, who at that time was acting secretary for the Hereford Chamber of Commerce. REA officials in Washington replied with little enthusiasm but in essence told the Hereford group to put facts and figures together but not to expect too much too fast. The REA was looking at more densely populated areas and not West Texas irrigation projects.

Volumes of written correspondence transmitted between Hereford and Washington during 1935-36 as hopes began to build in the minds of Deaf Smith County farmers. Hennen's group proposed a line that was rejected because of existing transmission lines from a private company. Another route was outlined, detailing the number of irrigation wells and farmsteads the line would serve. Then on Oct. 3, 1936, almost a year after the first correspondence was started between Hereford and Washington, the first mass meeting of Deaf Smith County farmers--about 100 strong--was conducted, with some of the principle leaders at this time being Jesse Stanford, George Muse, S.O. Wilson, Alex Thompson, George Brumley, Wilson Gyles and Charles Paddock.

A third such meeting was staged on Oct. 26, 1936, when some 300 farmers showed up to hear J. Warner Pyles of the REA offices in Washington explain what was needed in making a formal application for an REA loan. By the end of 1936, Hennen and associates received positive reaction from Washington when they received an official application number--Texas 47 Deaf Smith...meaning that the Hereford application was the 47th recognized from Texas. There were 221 potential customers on the proposed 115-mile transmission line that included one substation.

**No guidelines**  
Since this was the first irrigation district to be serviced by the REA, no one had any guidelines on how figure rates or what size motors would be needed--everything was

# HUSTLE HEREFORD

built on estimates and projections--and sometimes promises.

Retail power rates were supposed to have been included with all REA loan applications but the Hereford group had been totally unsuccessful in getting a commitment from local utility companies. The lack of retail rates led to many delays in processing the application. But due to the relentless enthusiasm of the Hereford farmers and civic leaders, REA officials in Washington approved of the first loan application without a power rate commitment from anyone in the Hereford area--they had received something of a commitment from New York stockholders of the Texas-New Mexico Utilities Company.

On March 30, 1937, Hennen received a telegram from the REA administrator: "Glad to advise on allocation of one hundred thirty-five thousand dollars for project Texas 47 Deaf Smith had been made. Stop. Letter follows." But this telegram was to be the beginning of even more delays before actual construction would begin on the Deaf Smith line. Washington notified the Hereford group that the first thing they needed, in this order, was a lawyer, engineer and manager. The organizers unanimously selected James W. Witherspoon as their legal counsel.

**Witherspoon was DA**  
Witherspoon at that time was district attorney for Deaf Smith County, a graduate of the University of Texas, had seven years experience in general practice and had served as attorney for the city of Hereford.

Despite objections from REA officials, one of Witherspoon's first moves was to obtain a state corporation charter for the organization. Carl C. Cox of Amarillo was named project engineer and Hennen was named superintendent. Witherspoon, who worked many weeks in the beginning without pay due to red-tape authorization in funding, completed the state charter with the initial incorporators being J.C. Ricketts, S.O. Wilson and H.V. Hennen. Membership was set at \$5 payable at the time of application for electricity. However, as it later became known, many of the farmers did not have \$5 at the official sign-up meeting and their applications were tossed out by the REA audits.

On May 5, 1937, at 10:15 a.m., Witherspoon received a telegram from the REA: "All right to hold meeting immediately and execute loan contract." In effect this meant that the cooperation had been fully recognized by the REA and organizational operations could begin. The first meeting of the incorporators was conducted on May 11, 1937, at 1121/2 Main Street in Hereford, with Ricketts being elected president, J.W. Hendrix, vice president, and Hennen as secretary-treasurer. Hendrix earlier had been one of the first to pay his \$5 and, hence, named a fourth incorporator.

**First general meeting**  
The first official membership meeting was staged May 15, 1937, at the Deaf Smith County Courthouse with Witherspoon and Cox on hand to answer questions from some 300 farmers. Within four days of this general meeting, 122 farmers had signed up for electricity, but when a count was made of the application money, the number dropped to below 100.

At a special meeting that same day at 5 p.m., the board approved the construction loan contract of \$135,000 for the building of 114 miles of line in Deaf Smith and Castro counties, and one substation. The terms of the loan called for the

repayment over a period of 20 years at an annual rate of 2.77 percent. Then came the real paperwork. Stacks upon stacks of legal documents were demanded from Washington as the Hereford residents got their first experience in federal bureaucracy--every mortgage document had to be filed in sets of 13...12 for Washington and one for Hereford.

As an example of the salaries in 1937, Hennen's salary as manager as set at \$135 per month, line foreman received \$1 per hour, labor foreman got 50 cents an hour, common laborers received 35 cents an hour, and tree-trimmers were paid 40 cents an hour. Truck drivers were paid 55 cents an hour, a small bonus over teamsters who got 35 cents an hour for handling the old-fashioned horsepower.

Construction finally began on Oct. 30, 1937, when 18 men out on Progressive Road began planting poles at the rate of 100 poles per day. By December of 1937, 65 miles of the original contract had been completed, but then came additional delays due to changes in routes and meter settings. REA officials expressed much dissatisfaction in these unannounced changes but construction of the line continued.

At exactly 7 p.m. Sept. 24, 1938, the 170-mile transmission line of the Deaf Smith County Electric Cooperative was energized...the first REA power surged across Texas Panhandle farmland. With Hennen as manager, the first full-time lineman was Elbert Winston at a salary of \$125 per month and Finis Owen as bookkeeper at a salary of \$85 per month. The first permanent office was at 114 W. Third.

Since the transmission lines extended into Castro County, Edwin "Goose" Ramey of Dimmitt and G.C. Hartman were added to the board of directors. A short time later the line was extended 38 miles into Parmer County.

**Ice storm of 1940**  
A devastating ice storm in 1940 snapped poles and lines from end-to-end. Much volunteer help came from Eastern New Mexico, both in supplies and manpower, and eventually some emergency funding came from Washington to help repair the wide-spread destruction. Though several expansion projects were on the drawing boards in the early 1940s, World War II halted all REA expansion, except for military purposes.

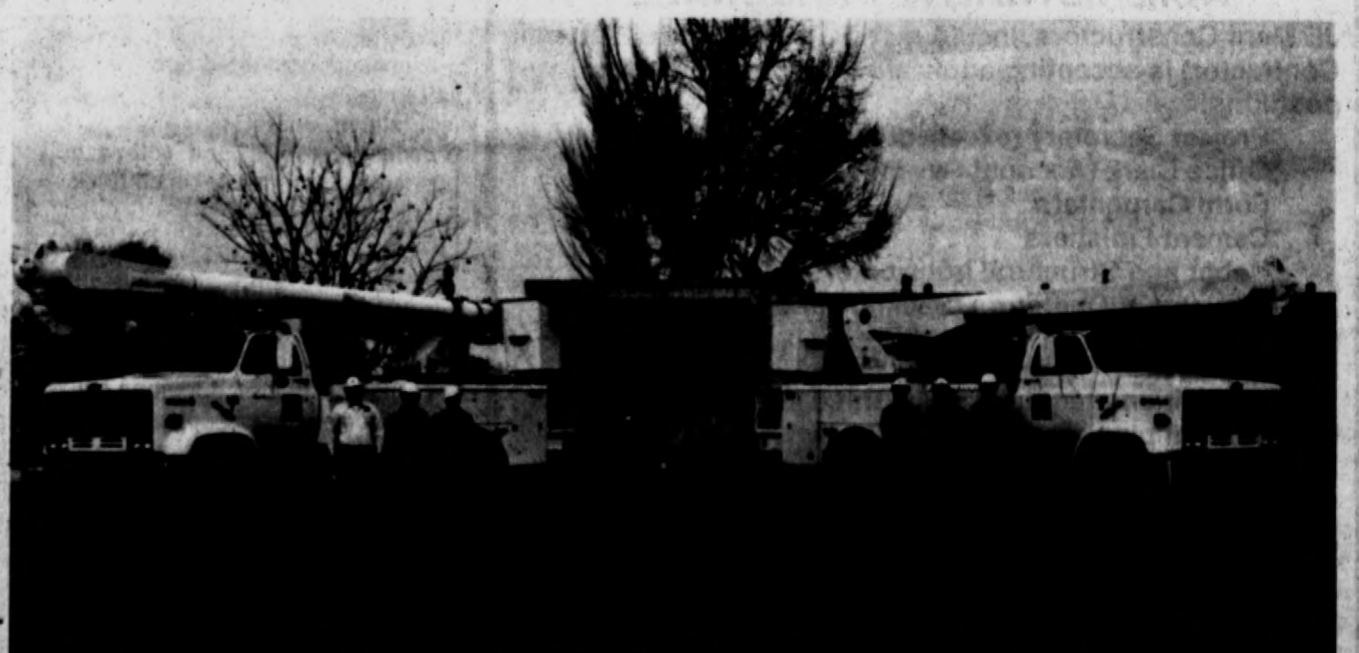
With a prisoner-of-war camp located near Hereford and the nation in dire need of foodstuff, the U.S. Armed Forces placed a 24-hour armed guard around the Hereford REA substation for a number of years--the bountiful production of Hereford commodities and vegetables had finally reached Washington.

**Forest named**  
On Nov. 1, 1944, Hennen resigned as manager and the following spring, Leo Forest, a field supervisor for the Farm Credit Administration, was appointed manager of Deaf Smith County Electric Cooperative, a position he held until retirement in 1969. Expansion programs continued throughout the next 40 years, surviving the severe drought of the 1950s and rising to meet the power demands of the big beef boom of the 1960s.

Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative is just another name in the archives of energy annuals, but a true pioneer in rural electrification. And as the pavement rises and falls along a night-run of U.S. 60 or 385, mercury-vapors beam to the world that all is well around Hereford...where farmsteads, irrigation wells and turnrows gleam at midnight.



First offices downtown, photo about 1941



Trucks, crews in front of current facilities