

WEST TEXAS Country Trader



The West Texas Country Trader is a Supplement of:

Abernathy
Weekly Review
The Canyon News

The Castro County News
The Clarendon News

The Lorenzo
STAMPER
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Plainview Daily Herald
Ralls Reporter-News

The Slatonite
The Tulia Herald

Thursday, October 20, 1994



Early sorghum harvest

AgReview/Gordon Zeigler

A Hale County combiner gets a wide angle view of a Hale County sorghum near Petersburg. Good weather contributed to an earlier than normal maturity. While dryland sorghum suffered due from lack of moisture this year, irrigated stands were rated good, yielding around 5,000 pounds per acre.

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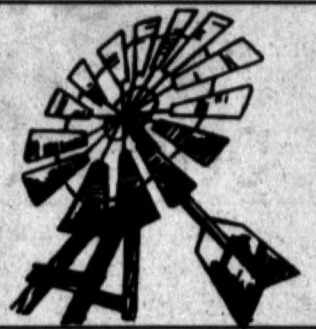
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AgReview



Sale of pet foods soars in Mexico

By **KIMBERLY WILSON**

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sales of U.S. pet food are soaring south of the border, the Agriculture Department says. "Whether it's purebred chihuahuas, hairless cats or just your average dog, more and more pets in Mexico are chowing down U.S. pet foods," USDA's AgExporter magazine reports this month. "Mexico is a growing and almost exclusive

market for U.S. pet food products."

U.S. exports to Mexico increased fivefold over the past four years, from \$3.6 million in 1990 to \$18 million last year. Dog and cat foods accounted for most of the total, with pet foods such as ornamental fish food and birdseed amounting to less than \$1 million.

Mexico imported 10,719 metric tons of pet food in 1992, according to the AgExporter article. Imports grew an annual

rate of 30 percent between 1990 and 1992 and are expected to continue increasing about 15 percent a year, totalling 41,000 metric tons in the year 2000. A metric ton is equal to about 2,200 pounds.

In 1992, domesticated animals in Mexico consumed about 18,000 metric tons of prepared pet products.

Domestic producers included Mexican-owned La Junta, in Guadalajara, and U.S. companies such as Quaker Oats,

Ralston Purina and Anderson Clay, which have production facilities in Mexico.

The United States is the main supplier of pet food to Mexico and has little competition for Mexico's pet food market. With the North American Free Trade Agreement phasing out tariffs over the next 10 years and U.S. producers controlling the market, whether domestic or import, future pet food trade with Mexico could be even more

profitable to American businesses.

"Distributors-importers are the key to the success of any imported product since none of the major retail and few of the major food service chains import directly," the article says.

Seventy percent of pet foods are sold through large supermarkets that tend to cater to the wealthier Mexicans.

South Plains

Ag
News

Oct. 25

WASTEWATER
Seminar sponsored by the public education committee of the Water Environment Association of Texas, South Plains Section in Lubbock. Information is available by calling Blas Gomez at 767-2349 or Martha Ellerbrook at 767-2498.

Nov. 29-30, Dec. 1

AMARILLO FARM & RANCH SHOW
at the Amarillo Civic from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Show to feature more than 725 booth spaces in one with an additional 100 booths next door. Texas Wheat Producers Association, Panhandle Farm Management Symposium and others to meet at same time.

COUNTRY CALENDAR

SUBMIT ITEMS
TO: Editor, Country Trader AgReview, P.O. Box 1240, Plainview Daily Herald, Plainview, TX 79072. Or phone 296-1354.

Post-NAFTA environmental pact is said to be largely ineffectual

By **ALLEN R. MYERSON**

c. 1994 N.Y. Times News

DALLAS — Nine months after the North American Free Trade Agreement took effect, a side agreement intended to safeguard the environment has shown virtually no results. Two new agencies dealing with the Mexican border lack general managers and no cleanup projects are even close to starting.

Some environmental groups say the delays confirm their fears that increased commerce under the pact will further damage the earth, water and air in Mexico and on the U.S. side of the border.

"There has been very little progress," Carl Pope, executive director of the Sierra Club, said this month. "During the debate, we kept saying that unless trade is contingent on progress, progress won't occur."

American officials acknowledge that they are impatient with the squabbling over who will lead the new agencies and how they will work. But they say that international meetings so far assure them that American standards and expertise can be brought to bear in Mexico.

"I think we're doing pretty darn well, everything considered," said Robert M. Sussman, the Environmental Protection Agency's deputy chief, who is responsible for enforcing the side accord. "You can imagine the problems of getting three nations to agree."

Or even two. The United States and Mexico have only recently broken an impasse over the nationalities of the chiefs of two new agencies concerned with the Mexican border. An American will lead the Border Environment Cooperation Commission, which will be based in Ciudad Juarez,

Mexico, and will develop projects within 100 kilometers, or 62 miles, of the border.

A Mexican will lead the less powerful North American Development Bank, based in San Antonio, which is supposed to arrange financing for these plans, especially for water projects, beginning this month.

Mickey Kantor, the U.S. trade representative, said these agencies would have leaders by the end of the year; other officials say the appointments could come this month.

"Obviously, it takes time to organize the staff, to put together the bank, to obtain the financing, to begin to review the projects and to approve them," Kantor said at a news conference in Dallas last week. "But it's going to make an enormous difference environmentally along this corridor."

Mexican officials counsel patience. "We should take the long perspective," said Luis de la Calle, who directs Mexico's North American Free Trade Agreement office in Washington. "Many of the environmental problems we have today you have had in the past, or still have."

In recent years, furniture makers, automobile paint shops and other businesses seeking looser environmental rules and lower costs have shifted from the United States to Mexico. Pope says the border is has become "the world's largest toxic waste dump."

Mexico has some strong environmental laws, but money, staff and timetables for enforcing them are often less than what is needed. "Our legislation, on paper, is impeccable, but there is no schedule," said Sylvia Adriana Pinal Calvillo, the coordinator, based in Monterrey, Mexico, of the Latin American branch of

the Business Council for Sustainable Development.

On the border, a Mexican mess often slops over into the United States as readily as pollution from Juarez's smokestacks blows across the Rio Grande to irritate eyes and throats in El Paso.

In July, a 13-year-old boy from near Laredo, Texas, died from an amoebic brain infection after swimming in the Rio Grande. American health officials traced the infection to the 24 million gallons of raw sewage that Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, pumps into the river each day.

A huge Mexican coal-fired power plant being built 18 miles from the border has lost its American investors and drawn protests from environmentalists who fear that emissions will taint the skies of Big Bend National Park, 130 miles away.

U.S. environmentalists have drawn some encouragement from Mexico's appointment of Victor Lichtinger in July to head the staff, or secretariat, of a new commission for environmental cooperation. Lichtinger, a Mexican economist who has worked on environmental matters as a consultant and as an official of Mexico's Foreign Ministry, had the backing of groups including the Environmental Defense Fund.

Both the United States and Canada agreed to his appointment, but his American and Canadian deputies have yet to be appointed.

The commission, established under the environmental side agreement and governed by the top environmental officials of the Canadian, Mexican and American governments, works on joint projects and hears complaints about fail-

ures to enforce environmental laws. After drawn-out arbitration procedures, two of the three member countries can as a last resort impose fines and trade sanctions on the third for pervasive laxity.

"It frankly is a part of the agreement that I hope is never used," Sussman of the EPA said in a recent speech at the University of Houston.

The side agreement blunted but by no means eliminated opposition from environmental groups to the trade pact. The Environmental Defense Fund favored the treaty and the side agreement and still contends that both will bring American pressure and expertise to bear on Mexican polluters. The Sierra Club opposed the pact.

Last week, Richard A. Gephardt, the House majority leader who was a leading opponent of the trade pact, joined with environmentalists to protest some rules of the Border Environment Cooperation Commission. He said that the rules, negotiated by the two governments, limited public participation and allowed closed-door decisions.

"The credibility of the BECC," he said in a letter to Secretary of State Warren Christopher, "is at stake."

As each week passes, environmentalists who backed the trade pact are becoming more chagrined. "The critics are saying, 'We signed the environmental side accord and now it's not working,'" said Peter M. Emerson, a senior economist in Texas for the Environmental Defense Fund. "It makes me look pretty bad."

Quaint Ausin restaurant reports it will close doors

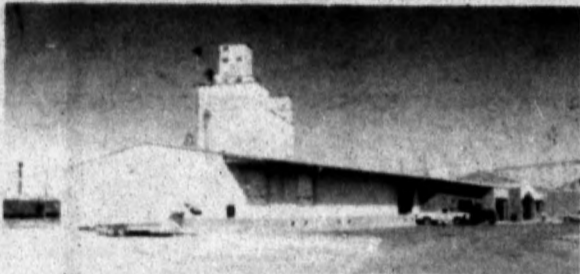
AUSTIN (AP) — La Zona Rosa, an eclectic restaurant and night-club considered a reflection of Austin, has closed its doors. More than 350 people went to the downtown restaurant Sunday to say goodbye to the 5-year-old establishment, whose owner, Gordon Fowler, blamed prohibitive city regulations and increased competition for its demise.

"Thanks to the 2,000 bands who have played here," Fowler said. "Thank you for supporting live music. And don't stop doing it." The restaurant, known for its funky art and Mexican food, was considered a haven for aspiring artists, musical and otherwise. Fans who attended the club's last night of

live music ranged in age from senior citizens to children. Austinite Diane Carminati, 38, said she had been coming to the club for five years. "I'm very sad to see it close. La Zona Rosa was an institution the day it opened its doors," she said.

State Rep. Elliot Naishtat, D-Austin, joked that La Zona Rosa served as an unofficial headquarters for him and for Gov. Ann Richards. "For me, it was an opportunity to listen to ideas that would generate legislation, a place to talk about the ramifications of bills and get direct, honest and intelligent reactions from a wide variety of people," Naishtat said.

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Dangerous Don

Boy, Howdy! Whatta Mind!

Howdy, neighbors!

Lots of outsiders and "Furriner"-type folks probably don't realize it, but some real heavyweights have been sired right here in Windy Valley. For instance, Dr. I.M. Smart, who has achieved some fame as an author and a professor over at the big university, is one of Windy Valley's proudest products.

Product? I recent so. Joabb Rollins introduced him as Windy Valley's "number one expert."

On occasion, Dr. Smart comes back home to share a little culture and higher learnin' with some of us local yokels. When he was gonna lecture out at Windosr County High School the other night, he invited old Dangerous to attend. I've known Smart for years and I like him, but I'm somewhat awed around him seein' as how he has enough letters after him name to make a whole wash tub full of alphabet soup: B. A., B. O., DDT, PHD, PU, etc.

Anyway, I went out to hear him and right off he got to talkin' about how smart we all are. Fact is, he asserted boldly that we are all "geniuses." Then he looked right at me and asked, "Dangerous, did you know that?" Ole Dangerous had to admit that he didn't know that.

Well sir, Smart commenced to tellin' us that our mind is like a computer. And if you drew a picture of the mind it could be shaped like a square (I kinda resented that). "But," he expounded, "90 percent of that square would represent your unconscious mind while only 10 percent represents your conscious mind." Right there, he hit on somethin' that I'd sorta been wonderin' about because I have a lot of days when I'm only about 10 percent conscious.

Smart wasn't through yet. He said that our subconscious mind is like a computer



Illustration By Chris Johnson

and that it sends messages to our conscious mind at the rate of 72,000 per minute. Not only that, but if you were to try to build a computer that would equal your subconscious mind, it would be larger than the Empire State Building, cost over four billion dollars and require all the water in the Mississippi River to keep it cool while it was runnin'.

That's when he said somethin' really smart. He said, "You have such a computer in your subconscious mind, workin' for you, either positively or negatively everyday!"

I was impressed. I liked the sound of it but somethin' was botherin' me. So I raised my hand and asked, "Dr. Smart, zackly how were you able to determine that the subconscious mind sends 72,000 messages per minute to the conscious mind?" I was sure I had him. But old Smart didn't spend fifteen years goin' to school on his daddy's money just so he'd end up bein' stumped by the likes of me. "Well," he said, "I had a minute one time when I wasn't doin' much, so I counted 'em!"

Any time I get a chance to hear Dr. Smart expound, I'm gonna show up. He really knows his onions. Ole Dangerous can use all of that high-powered culture and learnin' stuff he can get his hands on.

Boy, Howdy! Whatta Mind!
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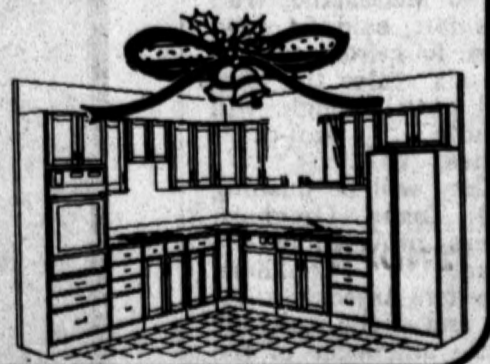
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Starts in Texas:

Modern cattle drive to cover six states in six months

By ART CHAPMAN
c.1994 Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH, Texas — The days of "Lonesome Dove" are gone, and there isn't much open prairie left, but a group of cowboy enthusiasts say it's not too late to hold the largest, longest, most ambitious cattle drive of the century.

Called the Great American Cattle Drive, the event is scheduled to begin in March in Fort Worth, to cover six states and more than 1,500 miles, and to end six months later in Miles City, Mont.

It will pass through Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming.

"In the long history of Texas and our nation, the legendary cattle drives lasted less than 30 years, but they left a lasting impression that is part and parcel of every Texan's and every American's identity," said Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry, who announced plans for the drive recently at the Stockyard Exchange Building in north Fort Worth.

Organizers hope to raise money along the route from riders who want to join in the drive, from sponsors, and from special entertainment events in cities along the way.

A portion of that money is earmarked for charities along the trail. The All Church Home for children will be the Fort Worth recipient.

There will be a four-day "send-off" celebration at the Stockyards beginning March 2.

George T. Kurkowski, Miles City mayor, said his city will be ready for a similar celebration Labor Day, when the herd is scheduled to arrive.

"We're really looking forward to this celebration, linking these two great cowtowns together, Miles City and Fort Worth," Kurkowski said. "I don't know of any two states in the Union that have more pride than these two. We will give you the best welcome when you get there. We'll meet you at the border."

Bud McCasland, trail foreman, said 24 cowboys, four from each of the six states the herd will pass through, will handle trail-drive duties.

They will be pushing 300 Texas Longhorn steers, provided by the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association. At the end of the trail, the cattle and some of the more than 80 horses used will be sold at auction in Montana.

McCasland, one of the drive's founders, said organizers have been working on the event for four years. They conceived the idea in 1990, and made an attempt to get it off the ground in 1991. The concept of a

Texas-Montana cattle drive, he said, came in part from the Larry McMurtry book, and TV miniseries, "Lonesome Dove." The route McCasland picked somewhat resembles the trail taken in the fictitious "Dove," but it is not the same.

In any case, he concedes that he and his partners were not ready for the enormous task in 1991, either logistically or financially. Now, he said, the planning is complete and the more than \$3 million budget is coming together.

They are still looking

for sponsors who want their names associated with the drive, he said.

"As far as the planning, as far as the actual route is concerned, we have worked it twice in the last four years," McCasland said. "Now it's being worked for the third time."

"We have a retired Texas highway patrolman, Paul Geiser from Bridgeport, and he is going back up the route, visiting with the county commissioners and securing permission from land owners for us to stay on their farms and ranches. Also, he's

visiting the cities and counties where we are going to be staying at fair grounds and such. We're signing them all up again."

Most of the route will follow farm-to-market roads, county roads and state highways, McCasland said.

Plans call for the drive to take six months, though McCasland said it could be done faster. "We'll try to average about 12 miles a day," he said.

"I think there are actually 122 days in the saddle. The rest of the days are rest days, or

days we are putting on events for the local communities; staying over for a festivity that has been planned for us."

Jamie McClain, whose job will be to move the cattle along the trail, said Geiser is also preparing a scouting report on the roads.

"If he finds a high bridge with low sides, he'll take a picture of it and put it in the scouting report," McClain said. "By the time we get there with the herd, we'll have temporary panels set up along the bridge so that we don't


lose any cattle, horses or cowboys over the side."

A 20-member support staff will take care of logistical problems including setting up and tearing down camp sites.

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July 21, 1994
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Sincerely yours,
Keith Carmichael
Keith Carmichael
Cutting Edge Ag Products, Lowry City, Mo.

Computer tips:

The experts give tips for cruising the Internet

So much is written about the Internet, the vast worldwide network of computers, that it is easy for relatively naive users to feel left out.

"Relatively naive" can mean people who operate a computer at the office or at home and perhaps even belong to a commercial on-line service, but are by no means experts.

I spent an hour or so one recent Saturday morning exploring the net. I signed on with Turbogopher 1.0.8b4, a mouthful of a program that lets a Macintosh with modem cruise the infobahn through menus and a mouse rather than by typing arcane commands.

Turbogopher automatically connects to Arts and Farces, which offers six options. Picking the option Other Gopher and Information Servers, I was then offered 15 additional places to go, from All the Gopher Servers in the World, through Africa, Asia and Russia, to Terminal Based Information.

Bravely, I selected Search All the Gopher Servers in the World and was presented with a box in which a

blank waited to be filled. Not knowing what to type, I went back to the list of 15 places and selected another option, All the Gopher Servers in the World, not preceded by Search.

The resulting list was too long to count, going on for screen after screen. Just a fraction of those beginning with the letter A included AACRAI National Office, Washington, D.C.; Area Science Park, Trieste, Italy; Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia; A l a b a m a Supercomputer Network; American Geological Institute; Arabian Horse Breeder's Marketing Network.

Skipping down to the C's, I selected the intriguing name of Cavebear. In a few moments, there was a "could not connect" message. I went down a few more C's and selected the Chaos Cypherpunks' Gopher Server, which soon offered seven options. Welcome to the Chaos Gopher Server brought up the not very welcoming message that this service was "located on port 70 of chaos.bsu.edu." Selecting Other

Services elicited 10 options. The two I tried, Ball State Library Gopher and Login to Chaos.BSU.Edu, were "unable to resolve host name." I backtracked again to All the Gopher Servers in the World, went into the B's and selected Barbershop, which offered 23 options.

From the Calendar of Barbershop Events I selected the Sons of the Severn in Anne Arundel County, Md., on Oct. 29. The Sons of the Severn were presenting Radio Daze, a radio musical comedy, with tickets at \$12.50, and the screen provided the name, address and phone number for ordering them.

Clearly, the Internet is overwhelming. With a decent interface and sufficient time and money to spend, you can plunge into Compuserve or Prodigy and root around until you find the things you want, or didn't know you wanted until you happened on them. But navigating the Internet also requires know-how.

Lately, there has been a flood of books as well as articles in newspapers and mag-

azines intended to educate people about using the net.

The October issue of the promising new HomePC magazine (\$2.95), offers "Internet: Time to Take the Plunge?" for beginners. The glut of books about the Internet, from those intended for Dummies, Idiots and Morons to those aimed at people with degrees in computer science, is unabated.

"Internet in Plain English" (MIS Press; \$19.95), by Brian Pfaffenberger, really is written in plain English. Though it is dauntingly comprehensive, the second edition of "The Internet Navigator"

(John Wiley & Sons; \$24.95), by Paul Gilster, is also readable. "Planet Internet" (Windcrest/McGraw-Hill; \$24.95), by Steve Rimmer, is a guide to some of the more entertaining and bizarre groups: alt.pantyhouse, origami-1(AT)nstn.ns.ca, alt.satanism and the like.

When I signed onto the Internet for the second time, things went much more smoothly. I connected almost immediately to Glasnet, the Moscow-

based Russian member of the Association for Progressive Communications, "a 16-country association of computer networks working for peace, human rights, environmental protection, social justice and sustainability." One component of Glasnet is AskEric (Educational Resources Information Center), a large repository of files on all those good things.


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WEST TEXAS Country Trader

The West Texas Country Trader is a Supplement of:
Amarillo Weekly Review | The Texas Country News | The Starline | The Valley Herald
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Organ & Tissue

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Coalition On Donation

Travel Ideas:

Westerners have some ideas for fall getaways

By TOM STIENSTRA
c.1994 Hearst News
SAN FRANCISCO — Death Valley National Monument is still so hot that it has the appeal of a tarantula zoo. Visitors are still being packed into Yosemite National Park the way fish packers cram baby sardines into a can. Point Reyes National Seashore? Hey, it's not exactly a secret, the most popular weekend destination for Bay Area hikers.

So that means it's time to give up on visiting a national park, right? Well, no. In fact, many believe there is no better time to make such a trip than in October. Providing, that is, you know where to go.

Here is a rating of 10 prime national parks in California where the number of visitors is way down, yet the natural beauty is way up:

1. **Lassen Volcanic National Park:** This park has it all, a dramatic mountain peak, beautiful campsites, lakes, streams, wilderness hiking, bubbling lava pots and steam vents and a quality catch-and-release fishery (at Manzanita Lake). But what it does not have is people, who just plain haven't got it yet.

A must-do for the well-conditioned is the two-hour hike (one-way) to the Lassen Summit, rising 2,000 feet on a steady grade,

then gaining an incredible view of Mount Shasta to the north and the Sacramento Valley to the west. My favorite campground here is at Summit Lake, where deer are common in an adjoining meadow each fall evening.

Location: east of Red Bluff. Information: (916) 595-4444.

2. **Devils Postpile National Monument:** Many summer tourists make the trip here to see the geologic wonder of Devils Postpile, one of the world's best examples

of a columnar rock formation. In fact, during the summer, a 5-mile shuttle ride is required from the Mammoth Ski Area to keep traffic under control. No shuttle is required now, and in addition, there are other outstanding benefits.

My pick here is to park at the Agnew Meadows Campground, then hike upstream along the John Muir Trail. It makes an excellent day or weekend hike, with views of the Minarets and out-

standing trout fishing in the adjacent upper San Joaquin River.

Location: West of Mammoth. Information: (619) 934-2289.

3. **Kings Canyon National Park:** Here is one of the deepest gorges in North America, complete with a beautiful trout stream (Kings River) and surrounded by high Sierra wilderness. The setting is nearly as dramatic as Yosemite Valley, yet come the fall, and the park is nearly abandoned.

Best pick is to drive to road's end in the canyon, then either fish along the last 2 miles of road for trout, or park and hike on the trail that follows the Kings River upstream. Excellent camping, hiking and fishing.

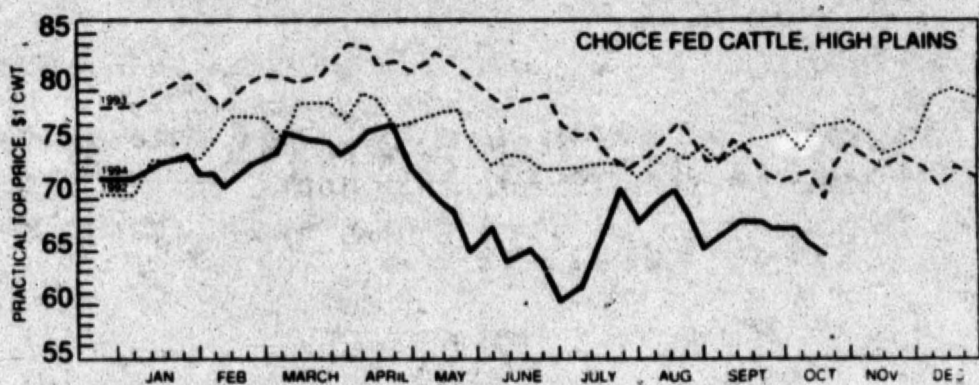
Location: east of

Fresno. Information: (209) 565-3341.

4. **Redwoods National Park:** The tallest trees in the world attract a deluge of motor homes every summer on U.S. 101, but the flow gets slowed to a trickle come the fall. Suddenly there is plenty of space in the campgrounds, fewer people on hiking trails, yet those trees are still as tall as ever.

Location: south of Eureka. Information: (707) 464-6101.

5. **Lava Beds National Monument:** This is an extraordinary region, complete with "glass" lava flows, "ice" caves, mountaintops with long-distance views, and the best brook trout fishing in the state.



Courtesy Texas Cattle Feeders Association, Amarillo

Choice fed cattle, High Plains

The above report reflects market activity through Oct 13.

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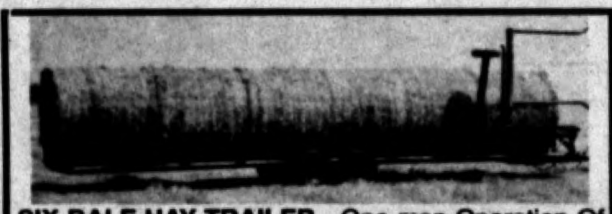
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1988 CHRYSLER 5TH AVENUE - Loaded, Leather. \$6,000. 296-6788. After 3 p.m.



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1991 CHEVROLET CAVALIER - Great School Car, Low Mileage, New Tires. \$6,200. Call 296-5829 After 6:00.



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1992 CHEVROLET ASTRO - CL Extended, Loaded, Nice. \$14,500 Firm. 296-7114. After 5:30 P.M.



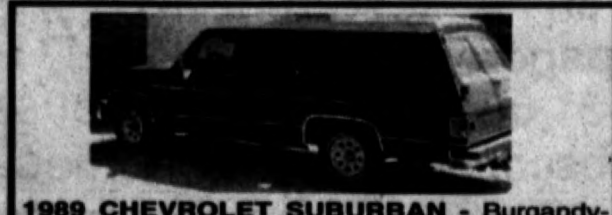
1977 CONTINENTAL TOWN CAR - One Owner. Practically New Michelin Tires. \$1,800. 293-4437.



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- Abernathy Review, Hale County 298-2033*
- Canyon News, Randall County 655-7121*
- Castro Co. News, Castro County 647-3123*
- Clarendon News, Donley County 874-2259*
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