

The McLean News



Bank Of Commerce Building
Office No. 5, 201 N. Main St.

Published Weekly
Thursday, September 27, 2001

1-806-779-2141
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McLean Students Need Your Help With Yearbook

During these times of financial problems at the school, have you asked yourself how you can help? Well, the McLean students need your help. Every year the students put together a school yearbook. They earn money through different projects because the sale of the yearbook never covers the cost of printing, with the school

covering the balance. This year however, the students have a goal to earn the money to cover the entire cost of printing themselves. They have several projects planned including a raffle for a beautiful spirit jacket and the sale of spirit buttons. They will be selling these at all the ball games. So when a student ask... say YES!

Tigers Gain Experience As They Battle Silverton

The McLean Tigers were unable to add an "X" to the win column this week. They lost to the Silverton Owls, 51-0. Once again, they played one of the top six teams in the state. And once again the larger, more experienced team came

out on top. Coach Smith said that the team "just didn't show up" for this game.

He was glad that the Tigers didn't sustain any injuries and is still optimistic about the team. He is looking ahead to

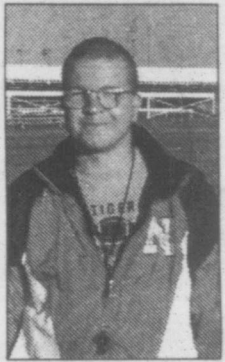


McLean's Number 55 rushes the line in an attempt to stop the Silverton Owl's progress down the field.

the game when the Tigers put all the pieces together and show what they can do. McLean faces Hedley, tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in McLean.

McLean Welcomes New Coach Smith & Family

McLean welcomes new coach, Eric Smith and his family, wife Tracie and children Ethan, 5 and Tanner 3. Eric is from Higgins, OK and Tracie is from Deer Creek, OK. Eric attended school at Northwestern Oklahoma State in Alva, OK. He graduated in 1994 with a bachelor of science in Education. He teaches Government, Economics, Geography, History and Football.



The couple met while on a Mennonite Disaster Service mission trip, where they were building homes for victims of a tornado in Wichita, Kansas. Eric was the foreman and Tracie was "swinging a hammer." So he said that he got to see her work, before he married her! Smith said that he and

his family are loving living in McLean. He says that he appreciates the good, respectful kids and that McLean should be very proud of them. McLean is happy to have the Smith's as residents. If you haven't met them yet, take time and welcome them to McLean!

Board Discusses Personnel, Audit And Alanreed

The McLean Independent School District Board of Education met for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 17, 2001. Board members present were John Holland, Joe Riley, Billie Ward, Toni Bohlar, Don Dorsey, Neal Odom and Mike Darsey. Others present were Superintendent, John Griffin, Elem. Principal, Dick Crockett, H.S. Principal, Blaze Herring, Leslie Darsey, Secretary, Margaret Milam, Pam Crockett, Eric Smith, Ann Pierce, Vonda Averett, Ben and Mindy Reeves, Ted and Sue Simmons, Mary Ann Carpenter, Dick Everett, Gene and Debbi Krueger, Bill and Ronnie Anderson, Bill Reeves, David and Shandee Tolleson, Jim Shaw, Bill and Jerry Billingsley, Carey Richardson, Chris Reyna, Creed Lamb, James Hefley, Sandi Anderson, Wayne and Peggy Baer, Mark Cadra, Lewis Meers, CPA, and Ken Fields, Attorney. The meeting was called

to order at 7:06 p.m. by John Holland, President. Opening prayer was by Mike Darsey. Motion by Toni Bohlar, second by Joe Riley to move to the auditorium in order to accommodate the large crowd. Ken Fields stated that the audit report was public information and should be disclosed in Open Session. At this time Lewis Meers began to give the audit report according to the agreed-upon procedures. Mr. Meers examined the cash disbursements of the District from August 1, 1995 through August 15, 2001 for the following accounts: Visa card, Sam's, Wal-Mart, Best Buy, travel expenses of Superintendent, cell phone charges by Superintendent, Petty cash fund, Office Max, and Office Depot. Supporting documents disclosed that the Superintendent had purchased items that clearly had a personal nature and that the District had paid for

these items. Some items such as computers and related equipment could not be found on the school premises. These items also were purchased by the Superintendent and paid by the District. Superintendent travel indicated overpayment of auto expenses. Cell phones had a considerable amount of personal use, and although the charges were for a fixed amount, the personal usage reduced the minutes available for the District. Attached lists of expenditures clearly showed a serious breach of fiduciary responsibility, unless the items were for the benefit of the District. Non-prescription items purchased such as pepcidac, tylenol, acetaminophen, tums, ect., cannot be distributed to students. Various videos were purchased, as well as, blackjack poker software, chewing gum, Turbo Tax prep software, Caress soap, latex gloves, Curel lotion, Head and Shoulders shampoos,

Vaseline Intensive Care, Oil of Olay body wash, pickup toper, lawnmower, bread maker, ergonomic chairs, new desk unit (not found in the District's premises), trousers and various meals and lodging at places not appropriate for qualified travel. The District's internal control systems for property purchased can be improved in the areas that were examined. The District's accounting system should reflect all assets purchased including date purchased, and cost. The District should consider implementing a policy on personal use of the District's credit cards and other charge accounts, including cell phones. The budgetary control of the District's expenditures can be improved. It was apparent from the auditor's review that budgetary control was an after thought. The Board should require budget-to-actual comparisons each month and take measure See Board, pg 10

REMINDERS

HOMECOMING has been changed to Oct. 19 against Ft. Elliot.

PREGAME Supper on Sept. 28 at 5:30-7:00 p.m., sponsored by the Junior Class in the Elementary School Cafeteria. Serving brisket on a bun, red beans, chips, pickles, onion, dessert and beverage for \$6.00.

5TH QUARTER will be held at the First Baptist Church.

PARENTS Teachers conference will be held the first week in October.

ATTENTION All Alanreed Cemetery Association. There will be a quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees on Monday, Oct. 1, 2001 at the Alanreed School Gym. Your attendance will be greatly appreciated. For more information call John Bible at 779-2247.

IF YOU OR A member of your family is currently serving in the armed forces, would you please let Ella Mae know at The McLean News office.

JR. HIGH AND High School will travel to Lefors for an invitational track meet on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 9:00 a.m.

MOTHERS CIRCLE will be held Wed. Sept. 26 from 11:00 to 1:00 at the Trinity Baptist Church. For more information call Shawn Bybee at 779-3255.

JR. HIGH VS Hedley at Hedley at 5:00 p.m. **TIGERS** will play Hedley, here at 7:30 p.m.

HUNTER Education Class is set for Oct. 2, 8, 16, from 6-9:30 each night. For more information call Bill Layman at 779-2504.

FAMILY READING Night is Monday at 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

MARK YOUR calendars for the Circle of Friends Dinner and Homespun Auction on Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Red River Steak House. All Proceeds benefit Cancer patients.

McLean Birthdays Anniversaries
September 28 - Buna Gudgel, Loyd Bybee, Jason Myers, Sarah Myers.
September 29 - Chester Jones, Gabe Parson, Robert Brass.
September 30 - Dianne Stewart, Tony Acuna, Gwen Stewart, D.J. Basham, Lonnie Knutson.
October 1 - Elaine Pierce, Ruby Back, Nolan McClellan.
October 2 - Don Sanders, Ben Reeser, Shandee Tolleson.
October 3 - Bill Graham, Billy Bybee, Joe Riley, Carey Richardson, Stephanie Ritchie, Don and Mary Basham (A).



Card of Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who visited me in the hospital after my recent back surgery and also those who sent cards or flowers or brought food to the house. Thanks also to the ambulance crew, Pam Skipper and Doyle Lee, who took me to Amarillo. Their concern and professional work are appreciated. And thanks to all for their prayers.
 Joyce Haynes

JUNIOR HIGH GAME CANCELED DUE TO LIGHTNING

The Junior High football game was called because of lightning last Thursday. Silvertown was leading 30-13. The Tigers are a young team playing a much more experienced team, but they were playing tough. They are looking forward to a big win against Hedley tonight.

"The RO Brand" New Book Published

In preparation for the 100th Birthday of Gray County and area towns, a new book entitled "The RO Brand" has been written and published by Delbert Trew, local author.

After two years research of previous Alfred Rowe published information, history books, interviews, studying land abstracts and county records, this new information proves beyond a doubt, that the man was among our most influential early-day pioneers.

Starting in 1878, Rowe built a ranching empire in the Texas Panhandle and established the town of McLean, Texas before perishing on the Titanic in 1921. Considered eccentric, notional, and always in a hurry, the Englishman turned American citizen, left a lasting legacy in the development of the area.

The 8" X 11" paperback contains 47 pages of text, ownership maps, photos and may be purchased at either McLean museum or ordered from the author. Please send order to Delbert Trew, Box A, Alanreed, TX 79002.

MARY JEAN HUGG
 Mary Jean Hugg, 71, of Brazoria, Texas passed away Tuesday, September 18, 2001 at Brazasport Memorial Hospital.

A memorial service was held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 20, 2001 at the Lakewood Funeral Chapel. The Reverend Mark Cox officiated.

Mary was a local resident for the last three years and a member of First Baptist Church of Goldsmith, Texas.

She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Robert B. Hugg of Brazoria, Texas; by two sons, Steven Hugg and wife, Claudine of Abezdoen, Maryland, Rick Hugg and wife, Karen of Corpus Christi, Texas; by seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; four brothers, Hudson Garvin and wife, Geneva of Missoula, Montana, Jimmy Garvin and wife, Inez of Brazoria, Texas, Lloyd Garvin of Amarillo, Texas and Paul Garvin and wife, Neva of Midland, Texas; and by a sister Lavelle Campo of Missoula, Montana.

FRED NOBLE SMITH
 MCLEAN-Fred Noble Smith died Tuesday, September 18, 2001 at the age of 45.

Graveside services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, September 21, 2001 at the Hillcrest Cemetery. The Reverend Z.A. Myers officiated.

Mr. Smith had been a resident of McLean most of his life. He loved to fish.

He is preceded in death by his parents Ford and Shirley Smith, and a son, James Smith. Survivors include his wife, Vesta Smith; two sons, Toby and Rickey Smith, both of McLean; a daughter, Jennifer Smith of McLean; two brothers, Floyd Smith and Ford Smith Jr., both of McLean; two sisters, Evonda West and Mary Wells, both of McLean; and a grandson, Joey Smith of Pennsylvania.

A fund for the family has been set up at the McLean Chamber of Commerce.

Card of Thanks

Thanks to Neal Odom and the McLean Feed Yard Inc., and to Gabe and Cozy Parson at the Red River Steakhouse for their donations of food for our recent Volunteer Appreciation Dinner held in Bull Canyon on the Trew Ranch on the Devil's Rope Museum and the McLean/Alanreed Museum. Thanks for your time and effort Ella Mae.
 Delbert Trew

BACKYARD REUNION

Fun was had by all at the Hankison Reunion. Tents were put up, campers opened and flags flying. Those attending were David from Dallas, Ray and Eva from Amarillo, Kris and Pam from Denver, Krystal and Karstin from Austin, Greg, Patty and "Big" Joe from Amarillo, Butch, Katie and Britt from McLean. Four generations, proud to be Americans!

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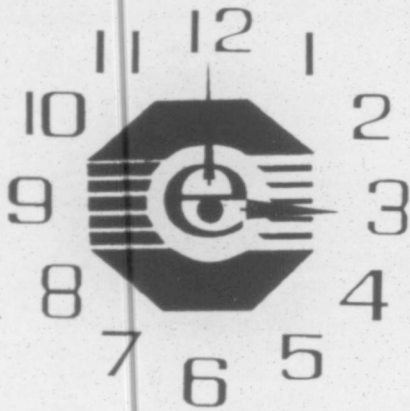
Sunday Special:

Chicken Fried Steak & Peach Cobbler

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McLean Church Directory

Church of Christ 4th & Clarendon
 779-2548
 Sunday Bible School 10 am
 Worship 10:40 am & 6 pm
 Wed. Bible Class 7:30

First Assembly of God 4th & Main
 Pastor Dean Williamson 779-2221
 Sunday School - All Ages 9:30 am
 Morning Worship 10:45 am
 Sunday Night & Youth Services 7 pm
 Wednesday Night Service 7:00 pm

First Baptist Church 206 E. 1st
 Brian Quisenberry, Pastor 779-2175
 Sunday School 9:45, Worship 11 am & 7 pm
 (Youth) & Wed. Bible Study, Prayer Meeting 7 pm

United Methodist Church 2nd & Gray
 Pastor Thacker Haynes 779-2049 & 779-2337
 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 10:50 am & 6 pm
 Sun. Sr. High Youth Alpha Chi 5 pm
 Wed. Choir 7:00 pm

Heald United Methodist Church
 Kellerville Road
 Sunday 9:15

Trinity Baptist Church 603 Commerce
 James Mantooth 779-3207
 Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 11 am
 Sunday Evening Worship 7 pm
 Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Wed 7 pm

Cowboy Church at Red River Steakhouse
 Cowboy Preacher - Kitchell Collins
 779-2456 or 779-2965
 Sunday Evening Worship - 7:00 p.m.
 Children's Church, Sunday - 7:00 p.m.

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McLean's Members of the Military

McLean has several young men and women in the military. Please keep them in your prayers. If you have a name you would like added to this list please give Ella Mae a call at the News Office.

They are: Jessie Swafford-Air Force - Lakenheath AFB, London, England.

Joshua Swafford - Air Force - Altus AFB, but scheduled to go to Germany.

Donald Ray Basham Jr.- Air Force - Tinker AFB, OKC.

Scott Glass - Army - Scheduled to go to Kosovo.

R.L. Payne - Army - Fort Hood.

Sara Brown - Navy - Virginia.

Circle of Friends Plan Benefit Party

The McLean circle of Friends will host a membership dinner and "homespun" auction to benefit cancer patients on Monday, October 8, 2001 at 6:30 p.m. at the Red River Steakhouse.

Circle of Friends is the local volunteer support group for the Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center in Amarillo. The annual membership drive for Circle of Friends is able to provide financial support to cancer patients and their families who might have difficulty paying for services not covered by insurance or not available through other agencies.

Patient care is a large Circle of Friends' focus. Helping patients with cost such as medication, medical supplies, health insurance premiums,

utilities, mortgage, rent or travel falls in this category. Social workers at Herrington Cancer Center evaluate each request before Circle of Friends approval. In addition, Circle of Friends maintain two furnished apartments in Amarillo available to patients living more than 60 miles from Amarillo.

Membership money is used to provide outings for pediatric oncology patients and their families. Circle of Friends also support Camp Alphia, an annual summer camp for children with cancer and a Christmas art contest for school age children in the Panhandle as well as decorating the Harrington Cancer Center during the holidays.

Grants totaling \$25,000

were recently approved by the Circle of Friends Board to update equipment and renovate the 20 year old facility. Funds are also provided for education and research directed at improving the patients life.

Representatives from the Cancer Center will attend the McLean party giving information on the latest developments in the war against cancer. James Hefley will auction donated items such as homemade crafts, canned or baked goods, artwork, needlework or "found treasures." These items may be brought to the party or can contact Beverly Odom or Charlotte Hefley to donate an item.

Cost for membership is \$25 for singles, \$25 for couples, \$50 for special friends and \$100 for patrons. Sixty hosts and

hostesses are underwriting the cost of the party so the entire membership fee and auction proceeds will benefit cancer patients. although invitations are

mailed, everyone is invited to attend.

For tickets or information contact Beverly Odom before Oct. 3.



Students of the Week for September 3-7: Kindergarten-Tristan Davis; 1st Grade-Miranda McMordie; 2nd Grade-Jordan Herring; 3rd Grade-Nicole McClendon; 4th Grade-Hogan Ketcherside; 5th Grade-Evan McMordie; 6th Grade-Lucas Webb; 7th Grade-Courtney Lamb.

Attention: McLean Residents & The Surrounding Areas

A fund is being established at the Bank of Commerce in the name of CHRISTMAS FOR OUR TOWN. The purpose of this fund is to begin a project of replacing decorations that are no longer useable and to add to what McLean does have. We are asking each business as well as every family to give a little. We already have one company that will match your funds up to \$800.00 for this years christmas project.

This year we hope to start with Christmas wreaths and bows to be added to the new wooden ornaments the city does have. next year maybe more wreaths, bows and banners for other streets. This will be an ongoing project over several years, due to the expense.

Perhaps this could be a way of saying WE CARE. If you would like to learn more, please call the Mayor, the McLean City hall, the Bank of Commerce or Wood Group Turbine Components.

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McLean Tigers 2001



Drew Barker



James Alexander



Terrence Lite

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Mary Dwyer
Delbert & Ruth Trew

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor, "The time has come," the walrus said, to speak of many things, of sailing ships and sealing wax, of cabbages and kings."

The McLean Superintendent of schools was suspended by the school board on September 17, during a scheduled meeting. The suspension was based apparently on an audit report, a portion of which was read in open session. The audit itself was extremely limited as the president of the board had designated the areas to be audited. Although, the suspension was based on what could be conceived to be indictable offenses, the keys of the superintendent were not obtained and further non-access by Mr. Griffin to school records and property was not assured. The board president assured the Amarillo Globe News that Mr. Griffin's only fault was having a big heart as he was a good friend to everyone. The district taxpayers and school children might argue the last point. The audit designation and subsequent dismissal action by the board president were handled in a particularly maladroitness manner. Should a precedent be established based on Mr. Holland's

actions, it is possible in the future any enlargement or engorgement of any physiological aspect of a perpetrator could be seen as an exculpatory factor in human conduct deviating from the norm. The current board should adopt an introspective attitude and begin to determine where the large dollars went, not the chump change disclosed by a controlled audit. Who was responsible for the large cost overruns in

the new gym construction! Use a little backbone and encourage the resignations of board members who have sided with Mr. Griffin and aided and abetted the current financial situation. A note to Mr. Griffin and to Mr. Holland. Public service need not be community service and community service need not be public service. The assets of this district have been frittered away.

Bill Reeves

HOUSE OR FOUNDATION SETTLING?

Cracks in brick or walls? Doors won't close? Call Childers Brothers Stabilizing & Foundation Leveling 1-800-299-9563 or 806-352-9563 Amarillo, Tx.

BOARD

to make appropriate changes. All personnel hired by the District should also be cost conscious concerning the District's expenditures. The Board should involve more personnel in its budgetary process, rather than just the Superintendent. Total cost expenditures by the Superintendent for 1995-2001 were \$5,941.71.

At this time Lewis Meers answered questions from the Board concerning the audit. Don Dorsey made an inquiry about the computers and related items purchased, that were not on the school premises or the fixed asset inventory. Neal Odom mentioned the fact that the number of minutes used on the cell phones, could be netted out of the school's total minutes, to find out how much was used for personal calls. The Board received the audit report and accepted it.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. to consult with attorney, under Sec. 551.071; and to discuss personnel matters including employment, evaluation, duties, discipline, or dismissal of Superintendent, John Griffin, under Sec. 551.074.

Return to open session came at 8:50 p.m. after the Board had consulted with Ken Fields, Attorney.

A copy of the audit may be obtained in the Business Office for a small fee.

At this time the Board took a brief recess, and upon reconvening the meeting in the absence of the Superintendent, the Board asked the Principals, and other Administration for any help they might need.

Jerry and Bill Billingsley spoke to the Board to express an interest in the Alanreed Property for the purpose of having Cowboy Church there, and possibly a Bible Camp in the future. They would be interested in leasing, buying, or having it donated. The Board informed them that there

is a new law effective after the first of the year in which property can be disposed of, and the Board will do some checking on this. Billie Ward mentioned the fact that Alanreed was also interested in the property, and would Cowboy Church be willing to make this a joint effort to include Alanreed, so that everyone would be able to use the facility. The Board agreed that they would rather not take bids, but that they want the property to be used and taken care of. The Board heavily leaned toward Alanreed to

acquire the property due to the two districts merging and the statement being made that Alanreed would have access to the property. Neal stated that the Board was open to any proposal, where it be to lease or own the property, but that it would be real important to keep things open for the community of Alanreed. Neal asked the Billingsley's to get the details in the form of a full proposal in order for the Cowboy Church to return to a later Board meeting and present their offer. It was suggested that the Billingsley's look at the property, and that they get in touch with Sally Bohlar and Billy Bob Adams to discuss any joint effort that might be forthcoming between the two entities to purchase the Alanreed property.

It was the general consensus of the Board not to sign Gordon Maddox's audit engagement letter at this time. It was decided to ask Mr. Meers for recommendations for an auditor, and to find out the time line for completing the audit. Mr. Everett stated that an in-house audit would allow a deeper look at the records and have more accountability. The Board explained that an in-house audit is the type of audit that has been done in the past and will continue to be done.

Motion by Neal Odom, second by Don Dorsey to take out another bank loan in the amount of \$100,000.00, as the state funding had not come in yet, and there were M & O bills to be paid. This will be a single advancing note and the pay down terms state that the funds may be used for as short a time as was needed.

Item F. was tabled until the Board could receive explanations from the Service Center personnel regarding the budget amendments. Mr. Odom inquired about the time line in which the amendments must be approved, and he feels that this is a process used at year-end to zero all expenditure accounts. Mr. Odom wanted Region 16 to come to the next Board meeting in order to discuss management issues.

It was agreed upon that the District needed an Interim Superintendent on the grounds as soon as possible, and that the Board would be having a Special Meeting, Monday night, Sept. 24, in order to consider any interims that might be interested. Mr. Holland was to go to Mr. Griffin's house and give him an audit report and to pick up any keys, etc. John Holland felt that things were going smooth, but that business had to be taken care of. Bus

driving issues came up and will be discussed at the next meeting. The Board elected to have an ad for bus drivers put in the newspaper. District maps were available to see the different bus routes.

School Board Orientation training is mandatory for new board members, and Level I training is mandatory for other board members, which will be set for September 25, 2001. Level II training dates will need to be decided upon.

Item I-infants riding on buses was tabled until Mr. Holland can get a recommendation from TASB, as well as, policies on credit card use, and cell phones.

There was no action taken on Personnel.

Present enrollment numbers are at 204.

A motion was past to approve the student transfer for Kaid Shaller.

A motion by Mike Darsey, second by Neal Odom to approve Financial Reports A, B, and C. Toni Bohlar was opposed.

A motion was made and passed to move the meeting back into the Business Office at this time in order to look at bills and sign the checks.

August 13, 2001 regular meeting minutes, and special meeting minutes of August 17, 2001, and August 30, 2001, were approved with motion by Neal Odom, second by Billie Ward.

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:20 p.m. to discuss other Personnel under Sec. 551.074; motion by Neal Odom, second by Mike Darsey.

Return to Open Session came at 11:13 p.m. Motion by Neal Odom, second by Joe Riley to approve to pay August bills and September start-up as presented.

In other business it was decided that Mr. Griffin could contact Joe Riley so that he could accompany him when he returned to the school to collect his personal things. Vision and hearing screening is still in the works, under the direction of Tammy Hanes.

The meeting adjourned at 12:14 a.m.

Revival To Be Held In McLean

Jeff Meyers, Crossroads Ministries (from Dallas, TX.) and Ticen Nixon, Music Minister (from Plainview, TX.)

From sports stadiums of thousands in Bangalore, India to gymnasiums of teenagers in rural Texas, Jeff Meyers has been proclaiming truth and providing answers to people's questions. His message is not just relevant to today's struggles, problems, and

contemplation's: it is powerful and entertaining as well.

Jeff is a native of DeSoto, near Dallas, TX. and is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

He is currently working towards his Ph.D. degree at Southwestern. We are excited to share with you that he will be in our city this week to share his life changing message. He wants the opportunity to share with you about your questions and struggles in life. What is on your mind today? Have you ever contemplated the

following questions? Is the end of the world near? What is the meaning of life? How do I get through the day? Can the existence of God be proved? Where did we come from? Where are we going? Is there life after death? Are all religions the same? Is the Bible really true?

If these questions are on your mind, I want to invite you to come out this week to hear Jeff speak on these issues at Trinity Baptist Church, starting Sunday, September 30, at 11:00 a.m. Monday night through Wednesday night at 7:00. Monday night is youth night starting at 6:00 with pizza. Tuesday night is children's night starting at 6:00 with hotdogs.



Cowboy Church

NONDENOMINATIONAL

Attention: New Location

Beginning July 29th

Every Sunday At 7:00 p.m.

At Red River Steakhouse

Corner of Highway 273 & Old Route 66

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REVIVAL

Trinity Baptist Church

Sun. Sept 30 11:00 am

Mon. - Wed. Nov. 1-3 7:00

JEFF MEYERS

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Tuesday Night is Children's Night

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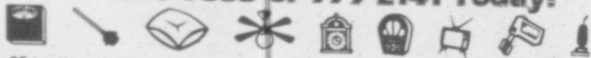
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Errors - Check your ad for errors on the first publication. The News will not be liable for errors after the first publication. The Groom-McLean News does not vouch for the legitimacy of any ad, job or money making opportunity. We suggest that you thoroughly check out any offer before making a commitment or give out personal information.

FOR SALE: Int. 7240, 1500 hours, M.F.W.D. 200 HP, like new. For information call 806-248-7018.

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NOTICE

Of Election of Director to Represent Subdivision No. Five of the McClelland Creek Soil and Water Conservation District No.156.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of V.T.C.A., Agricultural Code, Section 201.073, qualified voters of the above named Soil and Water Conservation District will assemble at the McClelland Creek Office at 221 Euclid, at 6:30 a.m. on the 11th day of October 2001, then and there to elect one of the qualified voters owning land within said subdivision to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of said soil and Water Conservation District. BY DIRECTION OF THE STATE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD.

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Large round bales, small square bales. Call 806-874-9404 or 670-7044.

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Carson County Commissioner's Court is taking bids on the following: **One Office Building to be built in Groom, Carson County, Texas.**

Specifications can be obtained from Carson County Commissioner, Mike Britten, P.O. Box 277, in Groom, Texas 79039.

This procedure and notice is in accordance with Chapter 262 of the Local Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated which requires publication of this notice for at least three consecutive weeks immediately preceding the day of the scheduled bid opening. Bids are to be delivered to Jackie West, County Auditor of Carson County, Texas, prior to 10:00 a.m., on Monday, October 9, 2001, the date and time at which such bids shall be publicly opened, read and considered by the Commissioner's Court. The Court shall award the contract to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid, or reject all bids and publish a new notice or take such other action of the contract, if at all, shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined to be the lowest evaluated offer resulting from negotiation, taking into consideration the relative importance of price and other evaluation factors in accordance with section 262.030 of said Code.

NURSES UNLIMITED, Inc.

needs attendants to assist with personal care, meal preparation and light house keeping, part-time basis. Please call 1-888-859-0631, Mon-Fri., 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. E.O.

ORDINANCE #187

An ordinance amending the water rates for the City of Groom; providing an increase in water rates for usage over the two thousand gallon minimum; repealing all previous amendments; providing for an effective date; and providing for publication.

A. Water rates within City Limits, excluding businesses: first two thousand gallons-\$7.00, \$1.38 per thousand thereafter.

B. Water rates for businesses inside the City Limits: first two thousand gallons-\$10.00, \$1.38 per thousand thereafter.

C. Water rates outside the City Limits: first two thousand gallons-\$15.00, \$2.35 per thousand thereafter.

WOULD LIKE TO find good home for indoor/outdoor declawed and neutered, grown female cat, two years old. She has a sweet personality, but doesn't like other cats. She needs to be in a home without small children. Current on all vaccinations. Call 248-7453, Donna Burton.

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TexSCAN Week of September 23, 2001

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Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption.

A BABY To adore: Young, adventurous couple are eager to offer your baby lots of attention. Todd will be a great dad, he's understanding and very playful. Lynn will be a nurturing, caring stay-home mom. We'd love to help you. Lynn & Todd, phone 1-888-301-8876.

AUCTIONS

FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION 10 A.M., Sept. 29, 2001, Arcadia, LA. Many good late model tractors. For information contact Dusty Taylor, 1-318-251-7232, LA Lic#836-01.

MEGA AUCTIONS: OCTOBER 13, 11 a.m. 3 Pagosa Springs, CO. Area properties, 4200+ acres, some selling absolute. J.P. King Auction (Lic#0425652). Free brochure 1-800-558-5464.

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SUNSET LOGISTICS-FLEET expansion underway. Owner-Operators needed hauling sand, rock, and scrap year around, 98% Texas. Trailers available. Home weekly, 100k yearly potential. Call Scott @ 1-888-215-HAUL.

Tired of GOING backwards in life? Let us help you. 350 openings for student drivers. 14-16 day CDL Training Program. 100% financing available. Call 1-877-83TRAIN.

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PATIO ASSTD MEXICAN
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PREFERRED TRIM BONELESS BEEF
Chuck Steak **1.69** LB.

ASSORTED
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Pork Ribs
FRESH **1.59** LB.
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NEW CROP BARTLETT
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Lemons 5 FOR **\$1.00**

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Peanuts 2 FOR **\$3.00**

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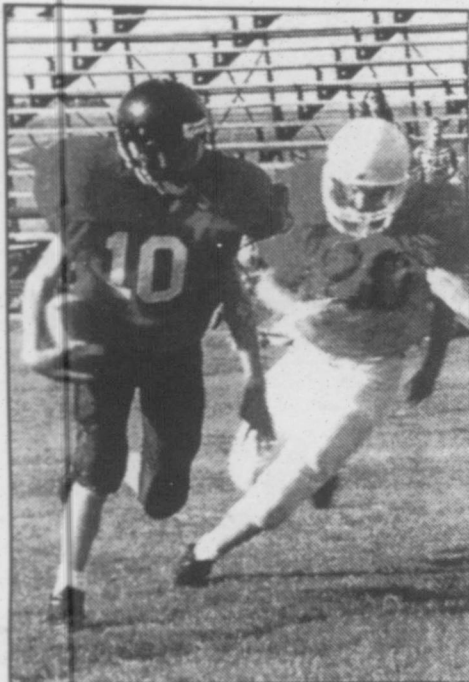
Volume 75 Number 18

The Groom-McLean News 79039

Thursday, September 27, 2001

Cubs Blast Miami, 27-0

The Groom Cubs got the season started very nicely last Thursday with a shut out victory over Miami. The Cubs rolled to a 27-0 victory, that was filled with excitement. On the Cubs first possession of the season, they capped their drive off with a 25 yard touchdown pass from Thane Barkley to Kade Brown. Kelby Noack then completed a pass to Joel Horn for the extra point. In the second quarter, Brown busted loose for a 13 yard touchdown run. Thane Barkley then added the extra point run. Kade Brown then took the second half kickoff and raced 55 yards for the score. In the fourth quarter, Thane Barkley pushed his way across the goal-line for a two yard touchdown run. Brandon Jenkins then concluded the scoring with the extra point run. During the night, Kade Brown pushed two times for 16 yards and one touchdown, caught one pass for 25 yards and a



#10, Thane Barkley sprints for a touchdown as the Cubs battle Miami.

touchdown. Thane Barkley had four rushes for 13 yards and one touchdown, had an interception return for 10 yards, had an extra point, and had nine tackles.

Kelby Noack had three rushes for 10 yards, completed an extra point pass, and had seven tackles. Joel Horn had

See Cubs, pg 4

Groom Board asks Voters To Approve \$0.025 Tax Increase

Groom I.S.D. Board of trustees will be asking voters to go to the polls on November 6 to vote in favor of increasing the tax rate to \$1.50, a rate that they say is only \$0.025 higher than the rollback rate. If passed the tax will allow the school to raise enough money next year to almost balance the budget.

Groom I.S.D. has been plagued by decreasing property value and a declining student population in recent years. This has caused a decrease in the amount of money the local district can raise, as well as the monies provided by the state.

The need for the roll back has resulted from an increase in oil and gas property values, due in part to the increase in oil and gas prices last winter. That increase has caused the effective tax rate to drop to \$1.475, thus the need to increase it to the maximum, \$1.50. The increase will bring the projected budget to approximately \$1,300

away from balancing the budget, unless some unforeseen need arises. This is a far cry from the \$186,303 that Groom I.S.D. was in the red this year.

Groom Schools have a reserve fund balance now of around \$400,000. If the school continues on the present course they would be faced with using up all their reserve funds in approximately 2 years. Hope still continues that many area schools, including Groom, will receive some kind of help from the State of Texas as Legislatures work to revise the school finance bill during the recess.

The board has taken measures to reduce the budget by cutting two programs as of the end of last year. The Band program and the Vocational Agriculture programs are now considered half-time programs with educators who are paid at half salary. The Board also combined the Superintendent and Principal positions so that the two jobs could be

manned by one person. Business Manager Joyce Hutsell estimates that this has reduced the payroll budget by as much as \$100,000.

"Supplies for those classes have not really been reduced significantly. But our payroll is much less," she said.

Some very good things are going on at Groom I.S.D. according to the Superintendent Kevin Noack in spite of all the financial worries.

"We have been rated Exemplary three times in the last four years," he said. "97.5% of all our kids passed all parts of the TAAS test".

Groom students were acknowledged in the Attendance Rate, Math and Reading Scores by the State of Texas. That means that they had a higher than state average in these areas.

Noack also added that the school has managed to add to its technology program without much cost to the tax payer.

See School, pg 6

Tigers Rally To "45" Miami After Shaky Start

After a shaky start, Groom Tigers rallied Friday night to beat Miami 66-20. In less than two minutes into the game the Warriors had a 14 to 0 lead on the Tigers.

Miami returned two long drives of 60 yards and 43 yards. The Tigers defense went into action and quickly turned the score around by the end of the first quarter. Trey Britten ran for 34 yards and a touchdown to put Groom on the scoreboard. Cody Bivens made the kick to bring the score to 8-14.

Clay Ritter caught a 17 yard pass from Clay Britten and Cody Bivens kicked the P.A.T. to let Groom pull ahead 16-14.

Clay Ritter then completed a 30 yard pass from Clay Britten for a touchdown. Bivens kicked the extra point and ended the first quarter 24-14.

In the second quarter, Miami held Groom's scoring to only one touchdown, which was made when Hugh Weinheimer received a pass from Cody Bivens.

In the third quarter, Groom offense turned up the heat and added five more touchdowns while Miami managed only one.

Garrett Britten scored a touchdown on a 40 yard run. Cody Bivens successfully kicked a P.A.T. Garrett and Cody then gave a repeat performance with Garrett running in a 54 yard drive for the end-zone, and Cody's P.A.T. kick was good.

Clay Ritter received a 33 yard pass from Garrett Britten to score his third touchdown of the game.

Groom failed to stop the Warriors on a 76 yard kick-off return that

made the scoreboard read 52-20, Groom.

Cody Bivens scored on a 60 yard run and then kicked a P.A.T.

The final touchdown came when Doug Fields scored on a 19 yard run, late in the third quarter to invoke the 45 point "mercy" rule. No P.A.T. was attempted.

Groom completed 12 first downs to Miami's 5. The Tigers gained 272 yards rushing on 18 carries while Miami struggled to complete 83 yards on 17 first downs.

Groom's passing game found the Tigers completing 10 of 17 passes for a total of 189 yards and four touchdowns. Miami completed seven of 11 for 103 yards, one touchdown and one interception.

The Tigers kicked one punt for 45 yards. The Warriors kicked three averaging 24.33 yards.

Groom had one fumble but recovered it, Miami had four and lost two of them.

Individual Stats are as follows:

Garrett Britten lead the Tigers in yards rushing with six carries of 131 yards and two touchdowns. He completed one of two passes for 33 yards and a touchdown. As a receiver he gained 29 yards on three passes. Garrett recovered a fumble, intercepted a pass and completed three unassisted tackles.

Cody Bivens rushed for 74 yards on four carries and scored a touchdown. He passed twice, completing one for 16 yards and a touchdown. He earned a total of 12 points in P.A.T.'s and defensively completed three unassisted tackles.

See Tigers, pg 4

Community Calendar

CONGRATULATIONS HOMECOMING CANDIDATES

DAYLIGHT Savings Time ends on October 28.

COLUMBUS DAY is October 8, 2001.

HOMECOMING ACTIVITIES

Thursday: Today is "Twin Day" for students. Cubs will travel to Fort Elliot and play at 5:30 p.m. The Coronation

will be at 7:30 p.m. The Bonfire will follow the Coronation at the north end of the practice field.

Friday: Today is "Spirit Day," so everyone wear red and black. The game will kick off at 7:30 p.m.

CUBS will play Fort Elliot at 5:00 p.m., there on Thursday.

DON'T FORGET the Homecoming Queen Coronation on Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. The Bonfire will follow at 8:45 p.m.

Tuesday Prices At Attebury Grain Co.

Wheat.....\$2.44
Milo.....\$3.31
Corn.....\$3.76
Soybeans...\$3.99
Sunflowers..\$6.85
No Precipitation Reported

The Groom News

USPS 230-380
 Second-class Postage Paid at Groom, Tx.
 Carson County, Texas, under the Act of Congress of
 March 3, 1879.
 Published weekly except Christmas Week
 Publisher-Phillip J. Miller
 Groom Editor-Donna Burton
 McLean Editor-Ella Mae Royce

Postmaster: please send address changes to:
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2001

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Local Happenings

Groom Birthdays
Anniversaries
September 28 -
 Alice Britten, Penny
 McMahan, Bethany
 Williamson, Mr. and Mrs.
 R.J. Kempf (A).
September 29 -
 Carole Fields.
September 30 -
 Louise Conrad, Kay
 Stephens, Arthur Britten,
 Betty Black, Ray Morris.
October 1 -
October 2 - Fay
 Wortham.
October 3 - R. G.
 Weller, Theresa Wills,
 Anthony M. Ratterree.

ILL OR RECOVERING

Al Homer, Joy Snyder,
 Jean Morrow, Tom
 Britten, Glynn D Harrell,
 Hannah Yelverton, and
 Curtis Whatley.

Visiting in the home
 of Fred and Juanita
 Brown this weekend were
 Tracy and Heidi Brown
 of Lubbock. Local
 family also stopped to
 visit throughout the
 weekend.

✠ **PRAY**
FOR RAIN!

Delilah Clark Accepted In To Honors College At Texas Tech

Delilah Clark has been accepted into the Honors College of Texas Tech University. Delilah is the daughter of Larry and Karen Clark of Canyon. Her grandparents are Dorothy McMullen and the late George Clark of Groom and Ted and Shirley Heath of Amarillo. Delilah graduated from Happy High School in May and was Salutatorian of her class. While in high school, she attended the Amarillo Area Center for Advanced Learning for two years. She participated in a number of state and regional events, such as UIL Literary Criticism, Current Events and Issues and was on the Robotics Team. During her four years in high school she attended Amarillo College earning a number of

college credits. Delilah participated in many scholastic activities including NHS, National Young Leader Conference and Leadership Council in Washington, DC. She was a member of Health Occupations Students of America, Gifted and Talented classes, High School Yearbook Staff and FFA. Delilah received the Who's Who of American High Schools award on three occasions, National Science Awards and three All American Scholars Awards. She will use her five year scholarship at Texas Tech University to pursue a dual major in Pre-Medicine and English with the intention of entering medical school after receiving her undergraduate degree.

Letter To The Editor... Listen To Ourselves

I was born American, grew up American, and will be an American until the day I die. I would not change citizenship for all the material things of this world. I have a burning desire, as you do, to seek justice for the horrendous criminal activity against our people and lands, and I ask for you to remain behind our government, no matter how long it takes.

I am afraid, however, that while we here in

America talk a good game of having tolerance for those of a different color, ethnicity, or religious beliefs, some of us are no better than those we are focusing our "hate" toward. If there is but one thing we should learn from this misfortunate situation that we have been thrown into; it should be that we must set aside our unnecessary fears and hatred for our fellow Americans. We can not face and defeat our

enemies, if we can not lay aside our differences and become as one.

Not only is striking out against someone because of racial ethnicity, religion or simply because they look differently a "hate criminal" for which severe penalty can be incurred, but, when we seek to destroy ourselves from within, we will have no need to fear those who truly are sent to bring us down.

If you suspect someone of acting suspiciously,

please do not take the law into your own hands. Let those of us who represent you, check the situation out in some rational manner.

Gary W. Robertson
 Sheriff of Carson
 County, Texas



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Hamburger Dinner

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Hannah Yelverton

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 30TH IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
 11:00 A.M. TILL EVERYONE IS STUFFED!!!**

*We will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs,
 chips, cobbler and tea.*

*All Donations will go to help the Yelverton's
 pay Hannah's medical expenses.*

The supper is being put on by the Youth Group from the Baptist Church, Catholic Church, Methodist church, Church of Christ, Grocery Store, Circle B, Dairy Queen, Sorority and many other businesses in town.

Crop Dusters Grounded

While some may have begun to feel that New York and terroristic threats are a long way away, for some Panhandle people the effect of these attacks are now effecting their own existence.

Many local crop dusting pilots have been grounded for their third time on Monday. Local crop duster, Craig Howard of Groom Flying Service said that FFA officials notified him that all crop dusters would be grounded until five minutes after midnight on Tuesday.

"Most of our spraying is done in midsummer,"

he said, "so being grounded for a day or two will not have much of an effect on us, but the people down in cotton country are having a bad time." He continued, "they need to be spraying now for boll weevils, and it cannot be done from the ground." Both pilots and farmers will be in trouble if our crop dusters are not in the air soon, but according to Howard, it is a small price to pay for safety's sake.

If you have noticed ways the "New War" has effected our lives locally please call it to The New's attention.

Ray Morris Celebrates 90th Birthday In McLean

Ray M. Morris was born on September 30, 1911 to Fred and Margie Meade Morris in Pratt, Kansas. He had two sisters and two brothers, who have all passed on except for one sister who is 92. At the age of 12, during the summer, he would drive six head of horses to the lister. At the age of 14, he hopped a rail and went to Canada. Upon his return from Canada, he and two of his friends decided to hop the Rock Island and Santa Fe to go to Hollywood and become movie stars. He got bit parts in fighting scenes with Tom Mix and Hoot Gipson. Most of them ended up on the cutting room floor. So he then went to work at Chrysler Motors, making cars. When World War II broke out, they changed to war items. He also worked in the ship yards in Long Beach. After the war, he moved his family to a 40 acre ranch in Imperial Valley, California. There he dealt with buying, selling, and hauling cattle. After

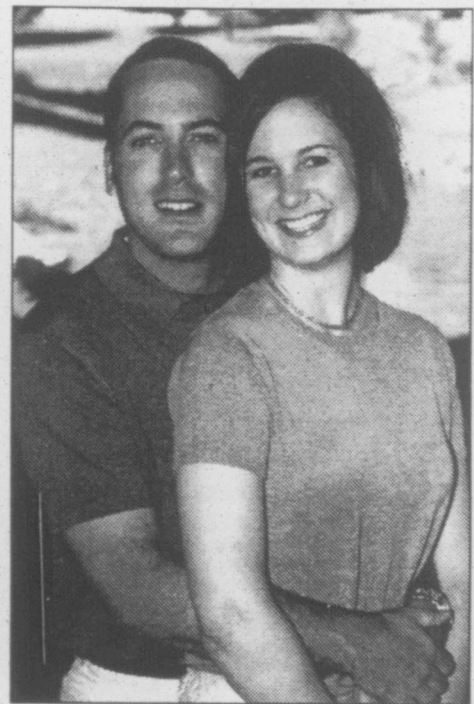
years there he moved to Semecula and Marietta California, where he did odd jobs. In 1995 he



moved to Groom to make his home with his daughter and son-in-law, Burl and Nellie Painter. He is blessed with three grandchildren, Billy Ray, Larry, and Cheryl; a grandson, Steve preceded him in death in August 1986; two step-grandchildren, Tony Painter and his spouse, and Johnny Richard; ten great-grandchildren; and seven great great-grandchildren.

As of January 15, 2001, he has made his home at the McLean Care Center after a light stroke in December. He is doing great but thinks McLean is a great place to live if you have to be in a care center.

His family and friends wish him a Happy Birthday and continued good health. We love you!!



Shara Wiseman & Jay Britten To Wed In Denver

Deloris Jones of Amarillo and Mike Wiseman of Memphis, Tennessee announce the engagement of their daughter, Shara Wiseman to Jay Britten, son of Art and Jo Ann Britten of Groom.

The wedding is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on November 24, 2001 at the Church of the Holy Ghost in Denver, Colorado.

The bride-elect graduated from Amarillo High School in 1994, and earned a Bachelor of Business Administration

Degree from West Texas A&M in 1998. She is Program Consultant for ProCard, Inc. in Golden, Colorado.

The groom-elect graduated from Groom High School in 1990, and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science in 1999. He is a Radiological Engineer at Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site in Denver, Colorado.

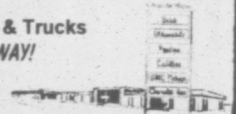
After their honeymoon in Rome, Italy, the couple will reside in Denver, Colorado.

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Kim Brumley-Bates - Agent
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Claude, Texas



Saturday, October 13th at 7:30 pm
Ranch Dance Fiddle Band

Friday & Saturday, October 26 & 27th at 7:30 pm
"Laughing Wild" directed by Carale Manning-Hill

Tickets: \$8.00 adults \$3.00 children
Call 226-5409 for reservations

Come See Our Selections In The Gift Shop!

TIGERS

Trey Britten rushed for 38 yards on two carries and scored a touchdown. Defensively he scored two quarterback sacks and had seven unassisted tackles.

Clay Britten lead the team in passing yardage, completing eight of 13 passes for 140 yards and two touchdowns. He also gained 12 yards rushing. Clay returned a kick-off for 23 yards. He had a quarterback sack and seven unassisted tackles.

Clay Ritter had an awesome night scoring three touchdowns on three receptions of 80 yards. He gained 42 yards on two kick-off returns and a whooping nine unassisted tackles.

Hugh Weinheimer received three passes for 72 yards and a touchdown. He recovered a fumble and completed two unassisted tackles.

Wyatt Britten gained eight yards on a pass.

Luke Pavlovsky and Lance Ollinger each contributed unassisted

passes to the Tiger's victory.

Groom will be facing Fort Elliot in this weeks game. With it being Homecoming week, the Tigers will be working on "focus."

"We will be working to keep our focus on the game," stated Coach Reid. "We hope all the activities will be a positive influence rather than a distraction to the boys."

Everyone is encouraged to attend all the Homecoming events and show their support for the Tigers.

CUBS

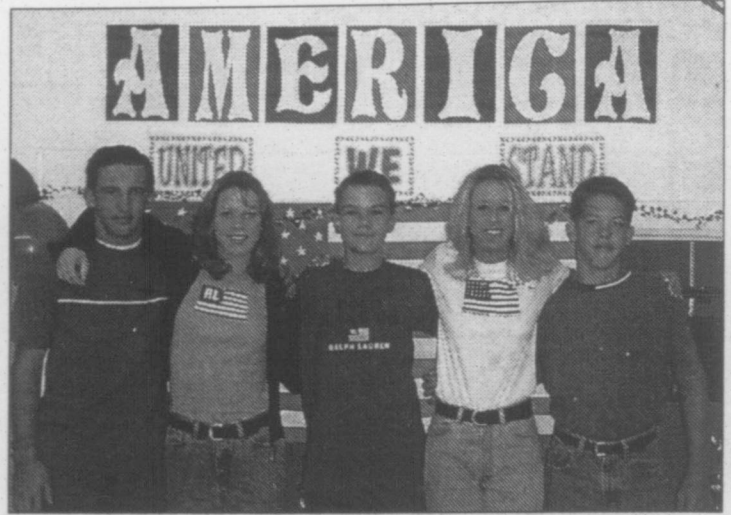
one rush for four yards, caught an extra point pass, and had a tackle. Chad Barkley had one rush, a fumble recovery, and two tackles. Tommy Head had one rush for three yards. Bryan Newton had two rushes for 19 yards, three tackles, and a sack.

Brandon Jenkins had one rush, and an extra point run. Blaine Britten had two rushes for nine yards, 12 tackles, a

fumble recovery, and a sack.

Everyone is always a little nervous in anticipation of the first game of the season. Our kids handled it well. They had a good preseason of practices to prepare for this game. We played well and made very few mistakes. We will move on and get ready for the next opponent next week. We travel to Fort Elliot on Thursday, September 27 to take on the Cougars at 5:00 p.m.

Local High School students show their patriotism during Homecoming week. Pictured are Doug Fields,



Staci Britten, Adam Britten, Jessica Bates, and Chance Barkley.

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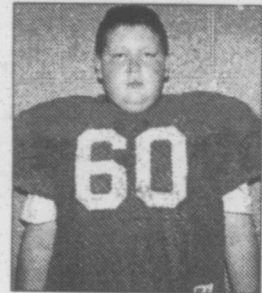
GROOM TIGERS 2001



Joel Horn



Brian Newton



Tommy Head



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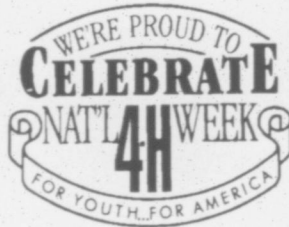
The City of Groom is the reason that there is a Groom Tigers Football team, so who could be a bigger fan than that. All of the Council and employees are Tigers by birth or Tigers by choice so it is just natural that they continue to Support the Tigers -All The Way!

National 4-H Week

October 7 - 13, 2001



All across the nation, the dedicated young members of 4-H are making a difference. Through group projects and 'hands on' experience, they're shown how to get things done for the betterment of the community, and the nation, and we're proud to offer our support and appreciation. To all 4-H members and leaders we say, 'You're tops!'



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Carson County Sheriff's Report

There were six people booked into the Carson County Jail during the week of September 17 through September 23, 2001. Currently there are 19 people incarcerated in this jail and additional 17 prisoners being held in other jurisdictions.

Arrest made this week include:

Lisa Gabrelcik, age 25 of Holdingford, MN-Warrant-Florida.

Roderick Means, age 62 of Fritch, TX-Fail to appear on charge of

assault causing bodily injury.

Robert Evans, age 31 of Mesa, AZ-Overnight prisoner housing-Iowa.

Barney Reed, age 23 of Stone Mountain, GA-Possession of Marijuana, more than 50lb but less than 2000lb.

Tammy Snyder, age 28 of Las Vegas, NV-Possession of Marijuana, more than 50lb but less than 2000lb.

Heath Pearson, age 23 of Amarillo, TX-Unauthorized carrying of a weapon.

Court Approves Contract

Carson County Commissioners met in their regular session on September 24 with the following members present: County Judge Lewis Powers, Commissioners Mike Britten, Kenneth Ware, Jerry Strawn, and Kevin Howell.

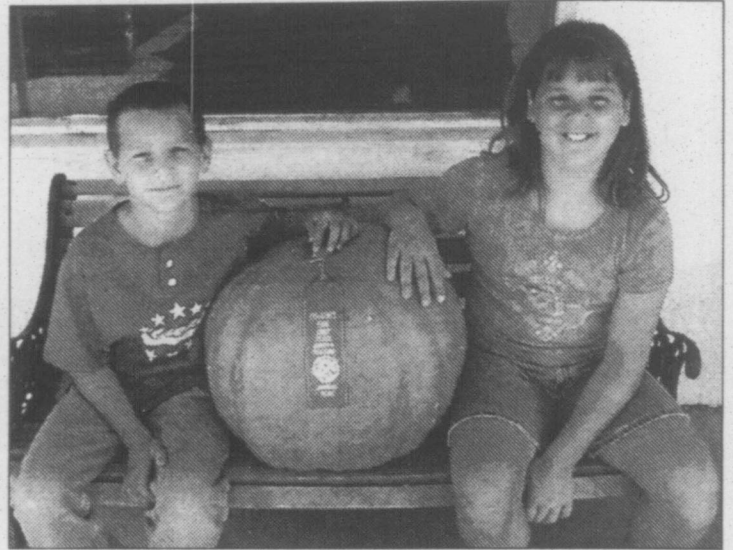
Discussion was held concerning the upcoming project on Highway 201. The County will be involved in easements to expedite improvements to the road.

Sheriff Gary Robertson presented the court with expenditures made from forfeiture assets. Robertson stated that radars and checks had been purchased to leave a balance of \$6,223.25 in the account. Money from this account is earmarked to fight drug related problems.

Representatives from AFLAC Insurance Company met with the court to seek authorization to set up a "Cafeteria Plan" with county employees to handle insurance procedures. Judge Powers made the motion to allow the installation of the program and all commissioners voted in favor.

Several budget transfers were presented to the court to cover increased health insurance premiums before the new budget year starts in October. The court approved the line item transfers.

Judge Powers presented the court with First Care's Enrollment Agreement for the



Trent and Ashley Murray earned a 1st place ribbon with their homegrown pumpkin at the Tri-State Fair. This was their first entry at the Tri-State Fair.

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upcoming year. (Insurance) The contract was approved.

Linda Yoachum, director of the Texas Panhandle Film commission met with the court to ask for support for the entity's efforts. The Commissioners moved to support the group.

A slate of nominees from the Texas Association of counties was presented to the court for endorsement to represent the county in the Health and Employee Benefits Pool. The slate was endorsed by the commissioners.

A contract was approved and signed by the commissioners with the Texas Tech University Sciences Center for autopsy services.

County Auditor, Jacqueline West gave the monthly auditors report and the report was approved.

Wednesday, October 3, will be the clean up day for the county ag barn in preparation of Museum Day.

Minutes and payment claims were approved. The next meeting will be on October 9.

SCHOOL

Recently a mobile computer/internet lab has been added that consists of 12 lap top computers that are wireless internet capable. Teachers can use these in their own classrooms for special projects.

"We also now offer a class that is called "A+ Certification," said Noack. "This is computer technology, trouble shooting and repair program, that when a student completes the course they are certified with a marketable skill."

He went on to say that he had seen advertisements for job applicants with this certification in which the advertised starting pay was \$29,000 per year.

Noack is also responsible for bringing the Cisco Program to Groom students, which teaches how to design and maintain a web site and all about networking.

Other innovations include the Distance Learning Lab which is now operational. While no classes are using the lab as of yet, administrators plan to use the lab for some Board Training and Teacher workshop sessions this year.

Noack warns that while approving the \$0.025 increase will help for this

year, it is no guarantee for next year.

"While it looks like oil and gas property will not decrease in value in light of our current situation in the country, we continue to lose student enrollment. It is down to 148 students at this time. We hope that the legislature will come through with some help."

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