12/30/96
Mike Porter
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Fisher County
Double Mountain
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Roby Star Record

Our 90th Year * The Voice Of Fisher County Since 1907 * 50 Cents Single Copy

Fisher County
The Home Of
Mildred Parker
D.L. Knight
Mario Quintanella
Richard Gaona

Volume 90 - Number 16
Thursday
December 12, 1996
Rotan, Fisher County, Tx.
10 Pages

Rotan Advance

Rotan Hires New School Superintendent

The members of the Rotan School Board have selected Jim D. Copeland, currently at the Allison I.S.D., to replace Wes Hays as the new Rotan School Superintendent.

Copeland was hired last Monday night. He has been serving as Superintendent at Allison since 1992. Allison is a school district with approximately 75 students in grades K-12.

The new Superintendent is a 1977 graduate of Texas A&M University with a B.S. in Education. He received his master's degree and mid-management degree at Sam Houston State University and his Superintendent certificate at Stephen F. Austin University in 1991.

Copeland is married to Melisa. They have three sons - Mark age 13; Tyler age 10 and Zachary - age 1. They are members of the Church of Christ.

Copeland began his education career as a middle school science teacher at Wells Middle School in the Spring I.S.D. He remained there until going to Henderson I.S.D. in 1982 - 1986. From 1986 - 1989 Copeland was Junior High Principal in the Sweeney I.S.D.

Between 1989 and 1992 he was junior high principal at Brady I.S.D. and remained there until being named Superintendent at Allison.

He was Superintendent at Allison while it received a 'Recognized District' status by the Texas Education Agency. While at Allison the TAAS scores, attendance rate and dropout rate enabled the district to be rated in the top 5% of the state's public schools. Allison's 1996 passing rates were Reading 94%, Math 84% and writing 89%.

Copeland was nominated by the Allison I.S.D. board of trustees as Superintendent of the Year and was also named to the 1996 edition of "Who's Who Among Outstanding Business Executives".

He is a member of the Texas Association of School Administrators, Texas Association of Secondary School Principals, Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development, Panhandle School Leaders Association, Allison Little League Board, Wheeler County Extension Board of Directors, Brady Lions Club Director (former), Brady Chamber of Commerce (former), Boy Scouts Assistant Den Leader (Brady) and Church of Christ.



THE COPELAND FAMILY: The new Rotan School Superintendent and his family - (l to r) Mark, - age 13; Melisa Copeland, Zachary - age 1; Jim Copeland and Tyler, - age 10.

Sheriff Pack Addresses County Commissioners On Programs

Sheriff Gene Pack met with the members of the Fisher County Commissioners Court last Monday to field information about (a.) reserve deputies and (b.) prisoner status.

Pack indicated to commissioners that he wanted authorization to use two reserve deputies, Joe Suber and Kerri Blair, in emergency situations. Pack explained that the deputies were on non-paid status, but that being reserve deputies would keep their certification active.

Pack also informed commissioners that the prisoner program was functioning well. He reviewed funds with the commissioners, grant money and an incident that took place at Roby School last month. Pack assured commissioners that there were no prisoners in his jail who had been in the work program who were convicted of a sex offense.

Commissioners fielded a report from Gloria Griffith on the Senior Citizen's program. She informed commissioners that after establishing a new Home Bound Meal Delivery route in Longworth, Sylvester and McCaulley that tight budget restraints have necessitated that she ask for volunteer kitchen clean-up assistance from the community. Volunteers can contact the program director at the Fisher County Senior Citizen's Center.

Fisher County Auditor Charles Thornton informed the court that Joe Greer was in the process of doing the 1995-96 fiscal year audit. He also indicated that there were going to be some report changes in the future.

Marty Williamson gave commissioners a 7 year look at budgets compared to actual spending for Fisher County departments. All comparisons were before budget adjustments.

Williamson reported $440,542.41 beginning balance; $290,004.93 received; $458,760.42 spent with an ending balance of $571,786.96.

Commissioners discussed the pending bank bids and requested that the Auditor, Treasurer and Judge design a form so that the banks are only bidding on requested items and that the form only ask for bids one-way.

The same applies to the upcoming bid for Fisher County hospitalization insurance.

Gene Terry inquired about the availability of securing a new Fisher County Extension Agent.

Following the meeting all attended a reception for retiring commissioner Jay Hendon.

Rotan Board Promotes Wood And Osuna To A.D. Positions

The members of the Rotan School Board, after conserable discussion on the possible hiring of an athletic director to replace Harold Mayo, voted to split the A.D. duties and hired Bryan Wood as head football coach and boys athletic director and Ruben Osuna as the girls's athletic director.

The board, earlier in the meeting before making the decision on Wood and Osuna, indicated that they wanted the next athletic director to be (a.) consistent with discipline, (b.) establish a strong junior high program, (c.) team one or two solid classes and (d.) built all athletic programs for tomorrow.

Board President Dr. Vick Burk indicated that he was confident that the two new athletic directors would work well within the system. Would continue to keep the best interests of the kids paramount.

The board, listening to a representative of Huckabee & Associates briefed the board on the possible cost of an all-weather track. The representative indicated that he felt the track would cost approximately $200,000.

The board, back in September, authorized Huckabee to begin drawing up plans and specifications for the track.

It is anticipated that the board, after viewing the plans, will vote to proceed or not depending upon the final cost of the track.

Board members are attempting to factor in some local labor and local assistance in doing some of the preliminary work on the track in hopes of reducing the cost to an affordable level.

The board basically voted to withold some $16,500 in liquidated damages from the general contractor for the junior high and band hall remodeling. The amount was witheld because the contractor did not complete the project on the date he contracted.

Acting Superintendent Mickey Early informed the board members of a few minor areas that need attention after the remodeling project.

The Huckabee and Associates representative indicated that he has plans to do soil condition samples, plans on drawing up an 8-lane track and estimates that the track surfact of latex will cost approximately $40,000 and could last 8 to 10 years.

The board authorized administration to purchase a small bus instead of the previously approved van for special education.

Board members approved the hiring of Rodgers & Company to do the 1996-97 school audit.

After coming out of closed session the board voted to hire new Superintendent Jim Copeland and hire Bryan Wood and Ruben Osuna as athletic directors.

Editor's Column

By Kimball G. Pease

A MOVE: I understand that Rotan is probably going to lose the soil conservation service office and farmers home administration office in the near future. It appears as if the replacement offices may be constructed in Roby.

BROKEN WINGS: Add a few more to the list of the walking wounded. Janeece Pease is getting over a broken arm that was injured in late September. A few weeks ago Myla Black fell from a stool and broke her hand. Frankie Cornell and Debbie Hogan have suffered a broken armsrecently. Steve Patterson and Edwin Jackson are both recovering from broken arms as well.

NOT SO: Charles Thornton, in attempting to inform me how long Avis Jeffrey had worked for the county said, "He's worked so long he helped plant the shinnery." That's a long time.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Jim Copeland, current Superintendent at Allison, for landing the Rotan job. In a recent conversation, Copeland said he had been reading a lot about the area and their lottery winners. I assured him that the winners were all South of Rotan. Rotan is still getting excited about $2.00 scratch-off winners.

WELCOME: To Rev. Johnrose H. Hayden, new pastor at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Rotan. He has been pastoring in Aspermont and is taking on Rotan in addition to his Aspermont duties.

HELP WANTED: Gloria Griffith, Fisher County Senior Citizen's Center Director, wants some volunteer help cleaning up in the kitchen a few hours a day. If you or your group can volunteer contact her.

BASKETBALL: It has taken us a while to get into sync on basketball news. Roby coverage seems to be fine but Rotan has been sporadic. We feel we have all the bugs worked out and that coverage should be on track through the end of the season.

PULPIT COMMITTEE: There was a pulpit committee at First Baptist Church in Roby last Sunday from the Dallas area to hear Rev. Mike Jeter preach.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Avis Jeffrey who retires this month after 56 years service to Fisher County and to Jay Hendon who has served as commissioner for the past 20 years.

Rotan Phones Should Be 'On Line' By Thurs.

Rotan residents should be on the new 'expanded calling' program by Southwestern Bell that was supposed to be put 'on-line' on Wednesday, December 11th, according to Petty Bilbo, Local Coordinator.

Rotan residential residents, for a fee of $3.50 per telephone number, will be permitted unliminted calls to Abilene, Sweetwater, Snyder, Anson and Stamford.

Business customers will be paying $7.00 per phone line for the same service.

McCaulley To Host Monthly Musical Friday

The McCaulley Recreational Development Cooperation will host its' monthly musical on Friday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center on the old school grounds. There is no admission charge, no alcoholic beverages are allowed. A concession stand will be open with a variety of food items.

A good group of bands is expected to perform. Anyone wishing to be on the program please call 915-962-5411. Everyone is invited for an enjoyable evening of music suitable for the whole family.

New Rotan Superintendent Comments On The Education Opportunities That Lie Ahead

Jim Copeland was hired as the new Superintendent of Schools at Rotan last Monday night. On Tuesday morning he answered a few questions concerning his new job.

Question - "When will you begin work at Rotan?"

Copeland - "I guess you could say that the ball is in the Allison School Board's court. I'll meet with my board late Wednesday night, December 11th and should know more on Thursday. I'm really not sure what they will do. It may be a interim situation, I just don't know."

Question - "Don't you have family members living in this area?"

Copeland - "Yes. My wife's family lives Northwest of Brady at Pear Valley. We have relatives in Kermit. My wife's brother lives in Big Spring and my mother lives in Garland."

Question - "What are some of your goals for Rotan, other that the stuff listed on your resume?"

Copeland - "That is hard to say, not having seen all the data at Rotan. My goals always tend to revolve around the achievements of students. I'll have a much better idea after looking at student past performance at Rotan, but the main thrust will be student achievement. Academics are first. Success must come there first. Success is the name of the game."

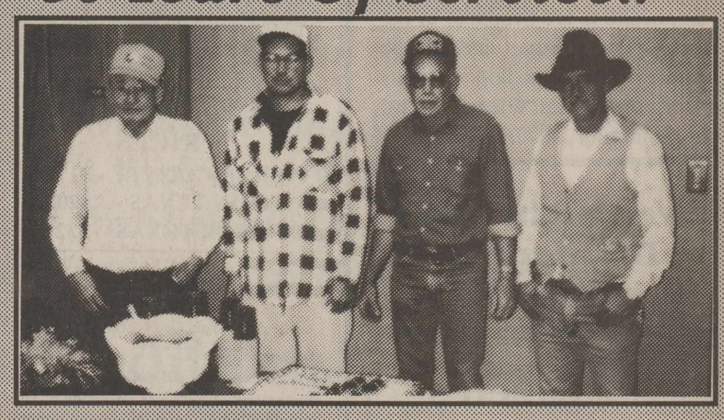
Question - "Has your strong involvement in the classroom (science) helped you in your capacity as Superintendent."

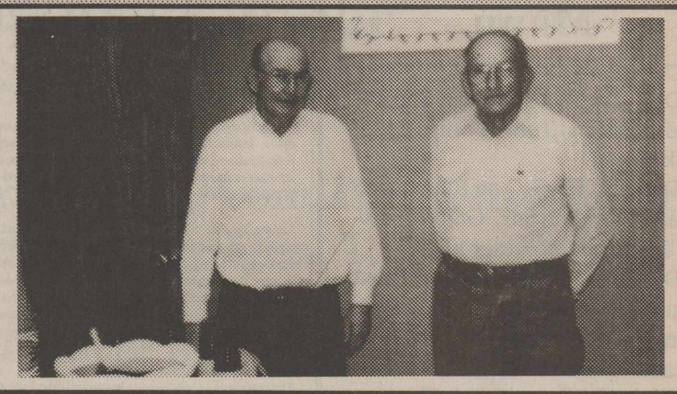
Copeland - "My time in the classroom has given me first hand knowledge of students. That is very important. I know what motivates students. All extra curricular activities are important, but the school is driven by academic achievement."

Question - "Does your board have an idea that you may be leaving."

Copeland - "Dr. Burk and Clay Helms visited in Allison several weeks ago. Since that visit, the word has been out that there is a strong possibility of me moving.. You don't do much in a community this small without everyone knowing what is going on. I am happy to be moving to Rotan and look forward to the opportunities and challenges ahead."

56 Years Of Service..





RETIREMENT RECEPTION: Fisher County Commissioner Jay Hendon attended his last regular commissioner's court meeting last Monday and Avis Jeffrey officially retired after serving Fisher County for 36 years. Hendon retires after 20 years. They were given a retirement reception at the Court House last Monday. Top photo - (l to r) Jay Hendon, Niky Wilson, Danny Weaver and Richard Wright. Bottom - (l to r) Hendon and Avis Jeffrey.

The Newspaper Office

News And Advertising Deadlines

Paper Date	Deadline	Delivered In County On
December 19	Noon - Dec. 17	December 19
December 26	Noon - Dec. 23	December 24
January 2	Noon - Dec. 30	December 31
January 9	Noon - Dec. 7	January 9

The deadline for Santa letters is December 17th. They will appear in the Holiday Greeting Issue to arrive in county homes on Tuesday, December 24th.

Big 'High Five' For Santa.....





VISITS SANTA: Above, Zach McClurg, son of Desirre and Jim McClurg of Rotan, had a visit with Santa last week and gave Santa a 'high five' after he agreed to all of Zack's Christmas wishes. Left- Santa and Zach.

Roby School Board Hires Alvaro Mandujano Coach, Spanish Teacher

The Roby School Board, after a short executive session, voted to accept the resignation of Matt Torres, teacher/coach effective December 20, 1996.

Torres resigned to take a position at the Wylie School District. The board voted to hire Alvaro Mandujano, from Coyanosa, Texas, to serve in a dual assignment of Spanish teacher and coach for the remainder of the 1996-97 school year. He is a graduate from Buena Vista High School in Imperial, Texas and will graduate from San Angelo University in December, majoring in Physical Education and Spanish. The evaluation for superintendent was passed out to the board after executive session.

All members of the board were present with the exception of Greg Meek.

The board voted to approve the minutes, the monthly tax report, added Shanna Feagan and Kristi Price Givens to the substitute teacher list, and update 53 to localized Policy Manual were all approved by consent agenda.

Gary Daniel, High School Principal, reported on the band concert to be held in the auditorium and the Roby Roundball Basketball Tournament.

Superintendent, George Price briefed the board on the summer work program, repair of a motor on a school bus and the move of a 69kV transmission line by WTU.

The board convened at 7:30 p.m. and adjourned at 8:20 p.m., with approximately fifteen minutes in executive session.

Six Man State Football Game At Sweetwater

The Gordon Longhorns will play for the Six Man State Football Championship at 2:00 Saturday in Sweetwater Mustang Bowl.

Jerry Carreon, a Roby and Tarleton State University graduate, is on the coaching staff at Gordon ISD.

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THE PICTURE BOOK OF FISHER COUNTY
FISHER COUNTY, TEXAS, CEMETERIES
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By Fisher County Historical Commission

Rotan Ag Class Builds Santa's Hut

The Rotan Agri-science Recreational Management class worked in conjunction with the Rotan Chamber of Commerce to build Santa's Hut for his visit on Thursday, December 5.

The class was looking for a community service project when they were approached by the Chamber about building a Santa Hut. The class designed an eight by eight building which could be easily assembled and disassembled for storage. It is the plan of the Chamber to continue expanding this project year after year.

The project took approximately three days for construction. The greatest challenge for the students was to engineer a structurally sound building that could be portable. The second most was to work within a limited budget. The learning experiences by the students were rewarding and excellent life skills for the future. We urge people to be supportive of the Chamber and community youth this holiday season.



Rotan Agri-science Recreational Management Class

Gifts & Collectibles Have Arrived From
Dept. 56
Good Selection-Some Of These Items Will Go Fast. Shop Early!
THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE
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Rotan, Texas

Financial Aid Workshop December 17th

A financial aid workshop for junior and senior parents and guardians will be held Tuesday evening, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. in room one at Roby High School.

Mrs. Corky Swanson, who is currently with the financial aid office at McMurry College, will conduct the workshop for Roby families who need information and assistance in applying for funds to meet the costs of a college education or vocational school training.

Applications are available in the office of Glenna Stuart and will be available at the workshop. For further information call Glenna Stuart, Roby Counselor, at 776-3207.

Over Night Film Developing
Newspaper Office

Sr. Citizen's Menu

Dec. 12: Tacos, Beans, Spanish Rice, Salad and Tortilla Chips, Jello, Milk, Bread.

Dec. 13: Bar-B-Q on Bun, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Onions/Pickles, Jello and Cookies, Milk.

Dec. 16: Baked Ham, O'Brien Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Pineapple Upside Down Cake, Milk, Bread.

Dec. 17: Oven Fried Chicken, Potato Salad, Pork and Beans, Greens/Onions, Cake with Frosting, Milk, Bread.

Dec. 18: Beef Stew, Pineapple Carrot, Corn Bread, Bread Pudding, Milk.

Dec.19: Roast/Brown Gravy, Potatoes AuGrautin, Broccoli, Salad, Lemon Ref. Dessert, Rolls, Milk.

Dec. 20: Chili Dog, Pinto Beans, French Fries, Corn, Salad, Fruit, Cookies, Milk.

Rotan Advance
Roby Star- Record

Texas Press Association

608-100USPS

ROTAN ADVANCE
ROBY STAR RECORD
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(915)735-2278
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Evonne Teague - Typesetter

Hooper Shelton - Publisher 1960-1970

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Any erroneous reflections upon the character standing or reputation of any individual, firm or corporation will be gladly corrected when notification is given in writing to the editor within 10 days after publication.

Notices, Etc.
Notice of entertainments where a charge of admission is made, resolutions of respect, in memoriam, poetry, proclamations, letters expressing political opinions, and all other matter not of general news will be charged for at regular advertising rates.

Letters To The Editor
Letters To The Editor are encouraged. They must be signed by the author and include a telephone number for varification purposes. Only the writer's name will appear in print. Letters should be kept to a length of 200 words or less, are subject to be edited for clarity, liable and for the purpose of only conveying a single point. All letters are run 'space available'. All letters are accepted on that basis.

Photographs
The cost to run an unsolicited photograph submitted with a new story or on an event will be $5.00.

Errors
This newspaper is not responsible for errors in more than one edition. Claims will not be considered unless made within 72 hours of publication. No allowance will be made when the error does not materially affect the value of the advertisement.

The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.

The news and advertising deadline is noon Tuesday.

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Fisher County Devotional Page

Seeds From The Sower

Michael A. Guido, Metter, Georgia

Our German Shepherd grew up without his mother and father; yet in every stage of his development, he acted like a dog.

He saw us every day, yet he never acted like us. Why? He had a dog nature.

My dog understood my commands, but not my sorrows. He had an animal life, not a human life.

You can't enjoy fellowship with God if you haven't been born again, for you have only human life. If you have God life, you can.

You want this life, don't you? Then receive His Son. The Bible says, "He that has the Son has life; he that has not the Son of God has not life."

Calvary Baptist Church Rev. Gene Haynes 735-3464 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas	**First United Methodist** Rev. Steve Patterson 776-2308 SS - 9:45 - Worship 10:50 Roby, Texas
Church Of Christ Speedy Hart, Minister 776-2496 SS - 10:00 - Worship 10:45 Roby, Texas	**First United Methodist** Rev. Larry Holder 735-2334 SS 9:30 - Worship 10:30 Rotan, Texas
Church Of Christ Barry Day, Minister 735-2344 SS - 9:45 - Worship 10:45 Rotan, Texas	**First United Methodist** Rev. Jeff Sedberry SS 10:00 - Worhsip 11:00 Sylvester, Texas
Cross Roads Baptist Rev. Joe Baucham 735-2178 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas	**Hobbs Baptist Church** Rev. Dee Threatt SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas
Emmanuel Baptist Church Appointment Pending 735-3143 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Roby, Texas	**Little Zion Baptist Church** Rev. Mark Smith 735-2362 SS 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas
First Baptist Church Rev. Mike Jeter 776-2159 SS - 9:45 - Worship 10:45 Rotan, Texas	**Mission Bautista Calvario** Rev. Jim Lawliss SS 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Roby, Texas
First Baptist Church Rev. Werth Mayes 735-3471 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas	**McCaulley Baptist Church** Rev. Bruce Cook SS 10:00 - Worship 11:00 McCaulley, Texas
Foursquare Church Rev. Robert Kennedy 735-2553 SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas	**St. Joseph's Catholic** Appointment Pending Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m. 735-3285 Rotan, Texas
First United Methodist Rev. Jeff Sedberrey Worship 9:30 - SS - 10:00 Sylvester, Texas	**Sylvester Baptist Church** Rev. Bruce Hess 993-4479 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Sylvester, Texas

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Lady Hammer Varsity Basketball

By April Montez

Last week was packed with basketball games for the varsity players. The Lady Hammers hosted Anson Tuesday, then travelled to Clyde Thursday, Friday and Saturday for a tournament.

Rotan defeated the Anson Tigers 57-48. Latisha Jones scored 15 points, Katie Kennedy totalled 11 points, Stacy Morrow, Crystal Early and Crissi Martin each had 7 points, Amy Gruben made 5, Jennifer Fowler scored 3 and Monica Gaspar made 2.

The Yellowhammers first played Hawley on Thursday, Rotan trailed Hawley closely at the end of the first quarter with an 11 to 12 score. At the end of the half, the Lady Hammers continued to stay a close distance as 23 to 25. The Yellowhammers failed to score any points during the third quarter and the Bearcats gained a lead and brought their total to 37 points. The final score resulted in a loss for Rotan at 33-49.

Crissi Martin made 15 points, Crystal Early had 7, Amy Gruben scored 5 points, Jennifer Fowler made 4 and Katie Kennedy had 2. Also playing were Latisha Jones and Stacy Morrow.

Rotan went up against Bangs next and were defeated by ten points.

The first half, the Lady Hammers only trailed by one point with an 8 to 9 score. The Yellowhammers fell behind in the 2nd quarter when Bangs gained a ten point lead. The ending score was 36 to 46. Katie Kennedy was the leading scorer with 10 points, Amy Gruben made 6, Jennifer Fowler, Crystal Early and Latisha Jones each scored 5, Crissi Martin had 4 and Stacy Morrow made a free point shot.

The Lady Hammers also fell short to Early, their third opponent during the Clyde tournament. Once again Rotan was only one point behind after the first quarter with a score of 6 to 7.

During the second quarter the ladies pulled ahead 14 to 10. The Lady Hammers retained their lead during the third quarter but then fell behind during the final quarter, where they lost 26-35.

Latisha Jones was the high scorer for this game and scored almost half of the points with a total of 12 points. Katie Kennedy and Crissi Martin each had 4 points, Amy Gruben, Crystal Early and Tracy Posey all had 2 points. Also playing were Stacy Morrow and Jennifer Fowler.

The final game Rotan played in the Clyde tournament was against Eula. The Hammers fell behind in the first quarter and could not pull ahead. The final scored was 46-52.

Once again Latisha Jones was the leading scorer with 12 points. Crystal Early made 11, Stacy Morrow had 6, Tracy Posey made 5, Crissi Martin and Katie Kennedy both had 4 points, and Jennifer Fowler had a three point basket.

The Junior Varsity played only once last week against the Anson Tigers. The JV won 28-25.

The Junior High girls hosted Knox City-O'Brien last Monday night. The 7th grade won 34-11 and the 8th grade lost 27-34.

Rotan, Roby Get $12,386.32 In Sales Taxes; All Part Of $190.5 Million Across The State

State Comptroller John Sharp sent $12,386.32 back to Rotan and $1,939.95 to Roby earlier this month, as their part of the November sales tax rebates which go to 1,083 Texas cities, a 4.9 percent statewide increase over payments a year ago.

Rotan's check amounted to $12,386.32 compared to $15,280.26 for the same period 1995 which reflects a loss of 18.93%.

Roby collected a check of $1,939.95 in 1996 compared to $2,528.09 for the same period 1995 which reflects a loss of 23.26 percent.

1996 payments to date for Rotan have been $108,875.27 compared to $120,285.70 in 1995 which is down 9.48 percent. Roby has collected $16,284.49 compared to $16,026.65 in 1995 or an increase of 1.60 percent.

Spinal Screening Set For Dec. 16 For Roby

Spinal screening for 6th and 8th grade students has been scheduled to begin on Monday, December 16, for Roby Elementary and Junior High students.

Children will be screened for two types of spinal deformities: scoliosis and kyphosis. Scoliosis is a condition in which the spine is twisted, causing misalignment of the upper body or lower back. This condition can worsen and lead to much pain as well as complications of the heart and lungs.

Kyphosis is a type of spinal deformity in which the upper spine shows a pronounced curve. This condition is also referred to as "round back" and can be corrected if detected early.

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Fisher County NEWS BRIEFS

Christmas Concert

A Christmas Concert will be presented Suday, December 15, at 2:00 p.m. in the Roby School Auditorium by the kindergarten through fourth grade and high school students.

Fisher County Senior Citizen

Fisher County Senior Citizens will hold a game night, Thursday, Dec.12, at 6:30. The group will hold their Christmas Party Tuesday, December, 17 at 6:30, and on Friday Dec. 20, they will sponsor a dance at 7:00 p.m. All senior citizens and guests are invited. The center will be open the entire week of December 16-20.

4-H Club To Meet

The Rotan 3rd and 4th Grade 4-H Club will meet Thursday, December 12, from 5:30 to 6:30 at the Rotan Lions Club Building.

4-H is open to all youth grades 3 through 12 regardless of race, color, creed, sex, religion, socioeconomic level, disability or national origin.

Texas Almanacs

Great Gifts At THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE

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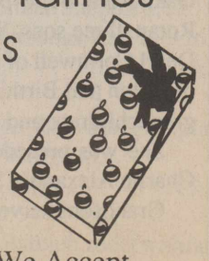
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Obituaries

Epifanio O. Gaspar

Epifanio O. Gaspar, 69 of Rotan, died Wednesday, Dec. 4, in Mitchell County Hospital in Colorado City. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 9, at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Rev. Johnrose H. Hayden officiating. Rosary was held at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at Weathersbee Funeral Chapel. Burial was in Belvieu Cemetery, directed by Weathersbee Funeral Home.

Mr. Gaspar was born April 7, 1927 at Carricitos in Cameron County Texas, the son of Francisco and Maria (Ortiz) Gaspar. He moved to Rotan in 1947 from South Texas and has lived here since. He was a railroad employee and was a farm laborer. He was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Mr. Gaspar was preceded in death by a son, Alexandero, in 1988.

Suriviors are two sons, Epifanio Y. Gaspar of Rotan and Jose Francisco Gaspar of Rotan; two daughters, Guadalupe Carrier of West Enfield, Maine, and Mary Elizabeth Aguirre of Paris, Texas; two sisters, three brothers, 10 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Lennie R. Gibson

Services for Mrs. Lennie R. Gibson, 82, of Sherman were held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday in Parkview Church of Christ. Officiating was Charles Billingsley. She died Monday, December 2, at Integrated Health Services of Texoma. Burial was in West Hill Cemetery. Arrangements were under the direction of Dannel Funeral Home.

Mrs. Gibson was born April 18, 1914 in Rotan, the daughter of B.B. George and Mary Frances Baker George. In 1980, she married Alvin Jimmy Gibson who preceded her in death on March 31, 1987. She was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors are her sons: Wayne Rowell of Amarillo and Dale Linton of Sherman; daughters: Diane Griminger of Lake Dallas and Barbara Douglas and Janice Henderson, both of Sherman; brothers: Waylon George of Crane, and Layne George of Kennewich, Wash.; sisters Bernice Henderson of Crane and Wilma Smith of Pecos; 22 grandchildren; 33 geat-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Nora Ashton

Mrs. Nora Ashton, 89 of Rotan, died Friday, Dec. 6, at Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene. Funeral services were held at 2 P.M., Wednesday, Dec. 11., at the Church of Christ with Barry Day officiating. Burial was in Belvieu Cemetery, direcred by Weatehrsbee Funeral Home.

Mrs. Ashton was born July 12, 1907 in Jones County and has lived most of her life in Fisher County. She married Ozias Ashton, July 12, 1925, at Rotan. Mr. Ashton died March 6, 1984. Mrs. Ashton was a member of the Church of Christ.

She is survived by three daughters, Donnie Matt Settle of Red Oak, Nora Belle Buckingham of Rotan and Josephine Settle of Rotan; three sons, W.C. of Phoeniz, Arizona, Donald of Rotan and Dearl Cormwell of Sahuarita, Arizona; two sisters, Wilmeth Posey of Rotan and Birthie Counts of Rotan; 24 grandchildren; 59 great-grandchildren; and 18 great-great-children.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, John Seaton and Charlie Alexander Seaton, Jr., and by a sister, Cleo Spain.

Grandsons served as casket bearers.

Horace D. Mitchell

Horace D. Mitchell, 86, of Roby died Wednesday, Dec. 4. in Graham. Services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, in the Church of Christ in Roby with Mr. Richard Melton and Mr. Bright Newhouse officiating. Burial was in the Roby Cemetery under the direction of Weathersbee Funeral Home.

Mr. Mitchell was born July 14, 1910 in Roby to the late J.D. and Elsie Mitchell. He married Vera Leo McCright November 20, 1932 in Royston. Mrs. Mitchell died February February 24, 1973. Mr. Mitchell was a longtime administrator of the Golden Haven Nursing Home of Roby.

He is surived by three sons, Lee D. Mitchell of Lubbock, Frank K. Mitchell of Lufkin, Leonard G. Mitchell of Price; two daughters, Wynell Laverne Young of Lubbock, Lou Evelyn Puckett of Comance; two sisters, Audie Burk of Roby, Dora D. Mitchell of Abilene; two brothers, Frank Mitchell and Foy Mitchell of Roby; sixteen grandhildren and and 21 great- grandchildren.

Letters To The Editor

December 7, 1996

To The Editor:

Tonight, instead of knowing the tree we adopted, and our boys ages 7, 4, 6, 9, 10, so cheerfully decorated downtown on December 1, will be shining bright and pretty, we know it won't be shining, nor pretty as it had been on Dec. 4, 5, and 6. Why? The reason or who did the vandalism on the Gentry boys's tree between 10:30 December 6, and 9:00 a.m. today, (Dec. 7) we will never know.

As you know, Mr. Editor, we contacted your because we felt an article needed to be written how only a handful of Rotan's came to help decorate downtown and adopt trees which didn't cost a person one penny to do. And then the next day after the Christmas program downtown, people or persons took time to destroy the adopted trees that were done up. But as we also feel it's very important to the Gentry boys that the community know how disturbed we are that this tree was the only one at this time with lights pulled off the branches from top to bottom, and bulbs taken out of all four strands, so the tree wouldn't light, these bulbs were not broken, but completely removed and nowhere to be found.

Who ever did this, we hope you read the paper or hear about our letter because when you did this you destroyed 6 smiles today of young boys who took pride in the tree. Who ever you are, you might have well come to their homes and did the same thing, why do the job half-done.

There are 5 parents very upset at this time, plus a lot of friends and family of these boys. Two sets of these boy's parents came to Rotan in June, we wanted the smaller country life for our sons. We teach them to be proud of their African-American and Caucasian heritage and culture. We have taken pride in Rotan by involving the boys in school activities, organizations, scouts, community activities to teach them love, respect and honor of all races and so they won't be closed minded at such young ages.

We know the Gentry boys aren't perfect, who is. The Gentry name has been in this town a long time and these boys' grandmother was proud of the tree because her grandsons decorated it and adopted it, and were so happy about their name, just as anybody should have pride in their surname.

But to finish this letter, we want who ever did this to know, we put all this vandalism in God's hands, because even though we were very upset and mad today, we forgive you and we told the boys that they have to forgive and keep smiling. Also, remember what you do unto others, comes back to you in a different way but worse.

One more thing, we want to thank the people of this community who care and help our boys at school, church, and where ever they are when we may not be there. The boys talk of being Rotan Yellowhammer athletes and a part of Rotan when they grow up.

We will continue putting great input into the Gentry boys (Samuel, Jonathan, Nicholas, Felix, Jackie, Micheal) on their still positive thoughts about Rotan.

Thanks,
Retha Simons, Cheryl Reese,
Nina Messick, Jesse and John
Gentry.

Letter To The Editor

I am writing this letter on Monday morning, December 9th, less than one week after our downtown lighting ceremony. This year we tried very hard to create "community unity" by bringing everyone together to celebrate this Christmas season. The turnout was a success. It's been a while since I saw so many people downtown. I want to take this time to thank all the people who adopted a tree, entered a float in the parade, sang or helped in any other way. A special thanks to Jeff Anderle for providing us with music and equipment Thursday night. Again, thanks to everyone who put forth an effort.

That being said, I'd like to address another issue that has taken light. On my way home last night I noticed that none of the trees in the center had any lights turned on. This morning on my way to work I stopped to take a look. Much to my dismay I found that most of the lights have been ripped off the trees and some of the lights have been cut! The signs that were placed in front of the trees to identify who had adopted trees were knocked down and broken. I was shocked.

I sincerely hope that whomever is responsible for these actions has a true sense of pride for what they have done.

I, personally, would like to apologize to all the people who tried to help make this Christmas shine. Your efforts will not be forgotten.

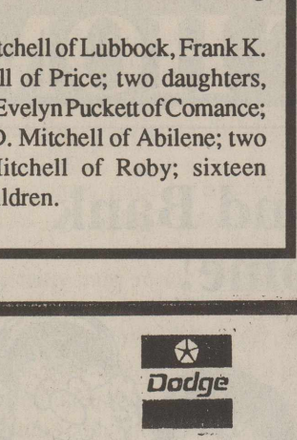
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Roby Roundball Tourney Schedule

Thursday, Dec. 12
Junior Varsity Boys/Girls (Old Gym)
3:00 J.V. Boys- Lueders Avoca vs Jim Ned
4:30 J.V. Girls-Roby Red vs Jim Ned
6:00 J.V. Boys-Roby vs Roscoe
7:30 J.V. Girls- Roby vs Roscoe

Varsity Girls/Boys (New Gym)
3:00 Varsity Girls-Ira vs Jim Ned
4:30 Varsity Boys-Ira vs Jim Ned
6:00 Varsity Girls- Roby vs Roscoe
7:30 Varsity Boys-Roby vs Roscoe

Friday, Dec. 13
Junior Varsity Boys/Girls(Old Gym)
3:00 J.V. Boys- Lueders-Avoca vs Roscoe
4:30 J.V. Girls- Roby Red vs Roscoe
6:00 J.V. Boys- Jim Ned vs Roby
7:30 J.V. Girls-Jim Ned vs Roby

(New Gym)
3:00 Varsity Girls- Ira vs Roscoe
4:30 Varsity Boys- Ira vs Roscoe
6:00 Varsity Girls -Jim Ned vs Roby
7:30 Varsity Boys- Jim Ned vs Roby

Saturday, Dec. 14
(New Gym)
9:00 J.V. Girls- Roby Red vs Roby
10:30 J.V. Girls-Jim Ned vs Roscoe
12:00 J.V. Boys- Jim Ned vs Roscoe
1:30 J.V. Boys-Lueders-Avoca vs Roby
3:00 Varsity Girls-Jim Ned vs Roscoe
4:30 Varsity Boys-Jim Ned vs Roscoe
6:00 Varsity Girls-Ira vs Roby
7:30 Varsity Boys- Ira vs Roby

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3:00 P.M.
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Real Estate

NEW LISTING - Nice 3 BR brick home on Hwy. 70, south of Roby, call for details, Black Investments 915-735-3091.
14:tfc

FIRST TIME ON MARKET - 32 acres, more or less, about 6 miles west of Rotan with FM 611 frontage, no structures on place, $500/acre, call Black Investments (915) 735-3091.
10:tfc

MOTIVATED SELLER says "sell" and will provide buyer with a sizeable sum of money to make improvements on 3 bedroom home with corner lot at 109 West McArthur; call for details about this special situation! Black Investments (915) 735-3091.
10:tfc

You need to see this one at 708 East 7th Street, Rotan! 3 BR/1.75 bath home with great extras, like 4-car carport, patio, privacy fence, wonderful corner location with curb appeal - and the price is right! Call Myla Black at Black Investments (915) 735-3091.
10:tfc

FOR SALE BY OWNER: Well built, 3 bedroom brick house at 806 E. Johnston. Bath redone, fresh paint, central heat and air, insulated, fenced back yard. Priced for quick sale. Call 735-2077 or 806-237-2182.
9:tfc

160 ACRE FARM FOR LEASE OR RENT: 2 miles West of Rotan. Call John Barker in Lamesa 806-872-5897.
16:3tp

HOUSE FOR SALE: 4 rooms and 1 bath, asking $4,000.00. Call 735-3290.
16:1tc

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TV - VCR - SATELLITE - ANTENNA WORK... Call Westar Electronics in Sweetwater at (915) 235-3335...in Rotan-Roby area at least 2 times a week...Fast, Dependable, guaranteed work...Owned and operated by Frank and Carl Shearer...
31:tfc

JAMES RATLIFF, FUR BUYER: Will buy skinned or unskinned. Also dozer work, specializing in farm and ranch work. Call 915-573-3932, leave message.
16:2tc

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: Saturday, December 14, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. One mile West of Rotan. Nice items, also girl mannequin for sale $100.
16:1tc

BAKE SALE AND CRAFT SALE: At Rotan Foursquare Church, corner of Lee and McKinley, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-?
16:1tc

Help Wanted

PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME WORK NEEDED: We presently have seventeen pre-release parolees available for work. These men and women can do farm work, carpentry, gin work, and various other work. One has a commercial drivers license. We do not wish to take employment away from local citizens, but if you are unable to find an employee, please keep us in mind. No dangerous people are involved. Call Fisher County Sheriff's Dept.
10:tfc

CONSERVATION JOBS: Wildlife positions $16,000 - $35,000/yr. Clerical. Security. Game Warden, Etc. No experience. For info call 219-769-8301, Ext. WTX 788, 8 AM-8 PM, Sun.-Fri.
13:4tp

HELP WANTED: The Rotan Public Library is seeking applicants for the position of Librarian. The job consists of 20 hours a week at a fixed salary. Anyone interested may obtain job descriptions and applications at the Library.
16:1tc

HELP WANTED: The Rotan ISD is accepting applications for the following positions: Custodian, Bus Drivers (CDL required). Applications will be accepted until January 7, 1997. For an application and information concerning the referenced position, please contact: Mickey Early, Junior High Principal, 915/735-2332 or 915/735-3162. Rotan Independent School District, 102 North McKinley Avenue, Rotan, Texas 79546. Rotan ISD is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes all applicants regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or political belief.
16:2tc

Miscellaneous

ANTIQUES: We have fine furniture, over 400 clocks and numerous old lamps for you to purchase, plus many gift items. We also repair and refinish clocks, lamps and furniture. Call us or bring in. All work guaranteed. House of Antieks, 4008 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79546, (915) 573-4422.
27:tfc

FOR SALE: 1988 Ford Pickup, 4 wheel drive, clean, call 915-735-2008 after 5:00 p.m.
10:tfc

FOR SALE: Weight machine, basketball goal. Call 735-3587, Debby Burnes.
16:1tp

LARGE ROUND HAYGRAZER: Bales for sale $40, call Kenneth Gruben 576-3929.
15:4tc

NUTRIGENICS: Now available at Hometown Cleaners. Naturally activated dietary supplement. Also Blocks for Necklaces 50% off till Christmas. 735-3495, 115 Sammy Baugh Ave., Rotan.
16:1tp

HOLIDAY SPECIAL: Through Dec. 31st, Perm, Hilites, Sculptured Nails for $25 each. Come by and see our line of clothing, jewelry, purses and specialty items. We have a good selection of gift items at Southern Styling, 735-3130, Rotan.
15:2tc

FOR SALE: 1979 Ford Bronco 4x4 with removable top, excellent for hunting, call 776-2393.
15:2tp

MUST SELL! 3 New Arch Type Steel Buildings. 25x26, 30x38. Great for Backyard Shops, Two Car Garages. Easy financing. Must sell immediately. Call today 1-800-527-4044.
15:2tp

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15:2tc

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16:2tp

PUPPIES FOR SALE: Australian Sheppard, German Sheppard, $20.00, weaned by Christmas. Call 776-2633.
15:2tc

FOR SALE: Old upright piano $50.00. Call 776-2633.
15:2tc

FOR SALE: Bathtub, toilet with tank, sold separately or together, make offer 735-2512.
16:2tc

DEPARTMENT 56 - Elegant gifts, all our Department 56 Christmas merchandise is now on display. Traditionally goes fast, so shop early for best selection. The Newspaper Office, 735-2562, 114 E. Sammy Baugh Avenue, Rotan.
12:tfc

CHRISTMAS GALORE: We have Christmas gifts galore and we also have a collection of Santas, ornaments, large selection of angels, wrapping paper, ribbon, Christmas cards (boxed and individual), cookie cutters, napkins, plates, cups, table covers, candles (all shapes and sizes), plus so much more. Come in and shop in our Christmas Shop. The Newspaper Office, 114 E. Sammy Baugh Ave., Rotan.
12: tfc

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT: Story & Clark piano for sale, (small piano.) 735-2349
16:1tp

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After Hours Call:
Beverly Nash
735-2719
Lori Garner
735-2835
Rotan Insurance Agency

ROTAN SCHOOL MENU
Dec. 16-20, 1996

MONDAY: Ham, Sweet Potatoes, English Peas, , Hot Rolls, Applesauce.
TUESDAY: Steak/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Fruit.
WEDNESDAY: Beef Vegetable Soup, Salad, Cheese Toast, Cake.
THURSDAY: Taco Salad, Pinto Beans, Fruit.
FRIDAY: Hamburger, Hamburger Salad, Fries, Cookies.

ROBY SCHOOL MENU
Dec. 16-20, 1996

MONDAY: Steak Fingers, Gravy, Cream Potatoes, Corn, Fruit, Hot Rolls, Milk.
TUESDAY: Hot Dog w/Chili, French Fries, Salad, Peanut Butter Cookie, Milk.
WEDNESDAY: Fish w/Tarter Sauce, Macaroni & Cheese, Black-eyed Peas, Fruit, Bread, Milk.
THURSDAY: Pizza, Green Beans, Salad, Oatmeal Cookie, Bread, Milk.
FRIDAY: Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Chips, Lettuce & Tomatoes, Fruit, Milk.

Presentation Of This Weeks Menu Made Possible By:

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Fisher CountyRoundup

By Joy Walker

We have really been having some wonderful weather this past week, so warm and sunny, and just about perfect. The cotton stripping is going off really well now that the ground has dried up.

We were sorry to learn of the death of Robert Martinez who passed away last Tuesday. Robert was born in Kent County and was a long time resident of the Hobbs community. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his wife, Catharine, and to his many children and the remainder of his family.

Happy Birthday to Cody Etheredge, son of Randy and Vicki Etheredge, who had his 11th birthday Tuesday, December 10th.

Louise Martinez went in the Fisher County Hospital on Thursday and she wasn't feeling at all well. She came home from the hospital on Sunday evening, and is taking things easy. Her daughter, Berta, from Louisiana will be staying with her this week.

Tammy Mauldin, bride-elect of Wade Carper, was given a bridal shower Saturday, December 7, at the Midwest Electric meeting room in Roby. Congratulations to Tammy and Wade who will be married after Christmas.

Donald Hull is now home from the hospital in Lubbock where he had been staying with some heart problems.

Marcos Medrano spent Thanksgiving in Coahoma with Junior and Esther Lopez, Michael and Stephen. They watched football games all day Thursday, and Marcos sure enjoyed his visit. Michael is travelling with the Howard County College Hawks basketball team and is videoing their games. This weekend Marcos went to Coahoma and watched Stephen play against Borden County and he made 6 points. Marcos really enjoys watching his grandson play.

Floy Jim Hughs went to Plano last weekend; all 5 of her children and their families met at the home of a daughter, Jackie Blakeley. They sure enjoyed the visit.

John and Della Lawlis spent Sunday in Abilene with their daughter, Linda, and her family.

Rheta Thomson is going to Scott and White Hospital in Temple and is scheduled for surgery Tuesdy morning. We hope to hear that she is doing just fine.

Anson Martin has been in the Fisher County Hospital with pneumonia, and we hope that he will soon be feeling much better.

The Mitchells went to the funeral for Horace Mitchell who passed away Wednesday in Graham. Services were held Saturday in the Roby Church of Christ with burial in the Roby Cemetery. Our sincere sympathy goes out to all the Mitchell families.

Sheila and I spent the day together on Saturday, and then on Sunday, Sheila, Donnie and I went to Lubbock and visited with Julie and Donnie Carl Gruben and the little twins. They are doing so well, but are still very small, and will be staying in the hospital for some time. Julie is feeling so good, and is going to start teaching today (Monday) so she can take off later when the twins come home. Kim and Janeece Pease were also there visiting. We also say Mr. and Mrs. Blake Walker from Snyder in Lubbock, with their daughter, Mrs. Billy Jack Wilson, who is from Southwest of Snyder.

This is all the news for this week, so let me know if you have any that you would like to report.

The Newspaper Office Sells Cassettes And CD's For Your Listening Pleasure

The Pastor's Column

By Rev. Larry Holder
First United Methodist Church
Rotan, Texas



Pursue peace with everyone, and the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no one root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and through it many become defiled. Hebrews 12:14-15 NRSV.

Sin always blocks our vision of God, so if we want to see God, we must renounce sin and obey Him. We must not allow bitterness to grow into resentment, nor should we nurse grudges against others. In this season of Christmas, may we forgive others as God has forgiven us through the gift of His Son Jesus.

"The Pastor's Column" is available to any Fisher County pastor on a rotating basis. Submit devotionals to "The Newspaper Office", Post Office Drawer A, Rotan, Texas 79546.

Stenholm Accepting Applications From College Students And Educators

Congressman Charles Stenholm is now accepting applications from college students and educators interested in participating in the 1997 Washington, D.C. Internship Program

Completed applications must be submitted in person or postmarked by January 19, 1997, to be considered.

Interns are selected to work in the Congressman's office for one month intervals in June or July. Interns are involved in the daily operation of the Congressman's office and will assist the legislative staff and help research constituent inquiries.

The internship program is open to college students from the 17th Congressional District, or those attending college inside the district, and teachers and administrators. The interns are paid a $1,000 stipend to apply toward basic living and travel expenses.

Ms. Senior Texas America Pageant To Be Held In Abilene Jan. 18, 1997

The search is on for Ms. Senior Texas/Midwest. The Ms. Senior Texas America Pageant is the world's first and foremost pageant to emphasize and give honor to women who have reached the 'Age of Elegance'," said Kloyece Irvin, RN, BSN, director of Abilene Regional Medical Center's Senior Partners, which with the city of Abilene Senior Citizen's Division, is sponsoring the pageant.

The pageant will be January 18, 1997, in the Abilene Civic Center.

"It is a search for the gracious lady who best exemplifies the dignity, maturity and inner beauty of all senior Americans," explained Water Graham, superintendent of the City of Abilene Senior Services. "The Ms. Senior Texas America Pageant philosophy is based upon the belief seniors are the foundation of America, and our most valuable treasure. It is upon their knowledge, experience and resources that the younger generation has the opportunity to build a better society."

Contestants must be a least 60 years of age and a resident of the State of Texas for at least 90 days. Contestants must reside within the Texas Midwest.

The contestants will appear, one at a time, before a panel of judges for a five-minute question period on the contestant's community involvement, volunteer work and lifestyle.

Each contestant will also have a presentation which exemplifies her philosophy on life, perform a talent presentation and appear in an evening gown.

Registration fee is $50 and two five-by-seven-inch head and shoulder black and white photos must accompany the registration. Deadline for registration is December 15.

For more information and a copy of the complete rules and requirements, phone 692-0916 or 1-800-4-ARMC-97.

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The Daniel family would like to thank everyone who sent us flowers, food and prayers in our time of need. Your kindness helped ease our pain.

God bless you,
Kathy, Kayle &
Kelsy Daniel
& The Daniel
Family

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Fisher County

Agricultural News

County Home Extension Agent News

By Beth Dannheim

Selecting a Christmas Tree: Christmas trees can quickly turn from symbols of joyous season to an ignition switch for disaster. It doesn't take much to send a dry tree up in flames. Keeping your tree supple and your home safe begins with the selection in the tree lot. A good test is to press a needle between your thumb and index finger. If the needle cracks instead of bends, the tree is already dry. Once you've found a good tree, be careful where you put it. Some trees will last for months if they're watered well and placed in the right spot. Do not put them near windows where the sun will dry them out. And keep them away from fireplaces and other heat sources. Spruce trees have a bad habit of dropping needles when they get the least bit dry. The noble fir is a beautiful tree, but it is quite costly and may dry out during the long trip from the Pacific Northwest. The Virginia Pine is the tree with the greatest longevity.

Hypoallergenic Christmas Tree: So if you're looking for an alternative to your traditional tree and you could benefit from a pollen-free holiday environment, give the Leyland Cypress a try. The Leyland Cypress is a combination of the Alaskan Cedar and Monterrey Cypress from Mexico. It was developed by the British in the 1940s as an ornamental tree. The tree was brought into Texas in 1982 as an alternative Christmas tree for growers. Because it's a true hybrid, the Leyland cannot produce pollen, giving allergy sufferers the option of having a natural evergreen in the house for Christmas. The most common Christmas tree grown in Texas is the Virginia Pine. It is a thick, very dense evergreen. The Leyland Cypress is less dense and looks more like a fir tree. The Leyland Cypress was in short supply last year because growers did not have the tree long enough to build up a good supply. Tree farms should be better stocked this year.

Cactus for Christmas: Poinsettias are the perennial favorites for Christmas, but once the holidays are over, those plants get thrown out with the wrapping paper. This year, why not select a plant with better staying power. Doesn't cactus seem appropriate in the Southwest for Christmas? Christmas cactus is becoming a more popular holiday plant. Some people prefer it over the more traditional poinsettias because after the flowers fall off, you still have an attractive and hardy plant. There are more than 70 varieties of Christmas cactus with names such as Christmas Charm, Red Radiance, Twilight Tangerine and Peach Parfait. As the names suggest, they come in shades of red, orange, purple, yellow and white. Christmas cactus are tough. They'll tolerate temperatures ranging from 35 to over 100 degrees. They require little water, but unlike many cactus, they prefer low light or shade. Christmas cactus will typically bloom a second time in February. Growers control the blooming time by controlling the amount of light the plant gets. You can do the same at home each year by exposing the cactus to less light. The shorter the day and the warmer the temperature, the earlier the bloom.

Party Packs For Eight THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE.

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Roby, Texas

Roby Varsity Girls Defeat Loraine Squad 64-32

By Makala Herron

Tuesday night, the Varsity Lady Lions defeated the Loraine Varsity Girls 64-32 at home. Roby squeezed by the first quarter with a 10-8 lead. In the second quarter, the Lady Lions caught on fire, leading 31-16 at the half. Roby's defense shut down Loraine in the third quarter allowing the Lady Bulldogs 6 points. The Lady Lions dominated the fourth quarter, capturing a 64-32 victory.

Shella Graves was high point with 17 points and lead rebounder with 10 rebounds. Konnett Mays had 9 points, 3 rebounds, and 3 steals. Karen Carriker scored 10 points, Amber Kelly contributed 6 points, Wendy Harwell, Mandy Taylor and Chasity Valenzuela had 5 points each. Kristi Bond put in 3 points, and Misty Taylor scored 2 points.

In Junior Varsity play the Roby Girls won 28-12 against Loraine. After a scoreless first quarter, the Lady Lions came back in the second with a 9-1 lead. Roby breezed through the third quarter 22-5, and never slacked up in the fourth quarter, winning 28-12.

Ashley Douglass led the Junior Varsity girls with 9 points, Cassie Terry scored 8, Autumn Daniel had 6, Denise Caswell contributed 4 points and Amanda Johnson had 1 point.

After losing their first game of the Hilltop Classic at Highland to Trent 26-32, the Lady Lions came back swinging Friday defeating Colorado City Junior Varsity 57-15. Roby blew away the Lady Wolves leading 18-3 at the end of the first quarter. The Lady Lions kept on trucking in the second quarter with a 38-6 lead. Dominating Roby defense kept Colorado City scoreless in the third quarter. The Lady Lions clinched their 57-15 victory in fourth quarter play. Shella Graves had 19 points, Konnett Mays scored 14, Chasity Valenzuela had 13, Amanda Johnson contributed 4, Misty Taylor had 3, Wendy Harwell and Amber Kelly scored 2 points each.

Saturday, the Lady Lions captured Consolation, defeating Ira 40-36. Roby trailed 6-14 at the end of the first quarter but bounced back in the second quarter taking an 18-6 lead. Roby dominated the third quarter, leading 31-20, and fought off Ira's comeback attempt in the fourth quarter, winning 40-36. Shella Graves had 23 points, Wendy Harwell contributed 10, Konnett Mays scored 4, Chasity Valenzuela had 2, and Amber Kelly scored 1 point.

Roby's Junior Varsity girls lost 14-34 to Baird Junior Varsity in the first game of the Hawley Junior Varsity tournament. The Lady Lions lost their second game of the tournament 28-33 to Knox City Junior Varsity.

City Of Rotan Employees
September 1996

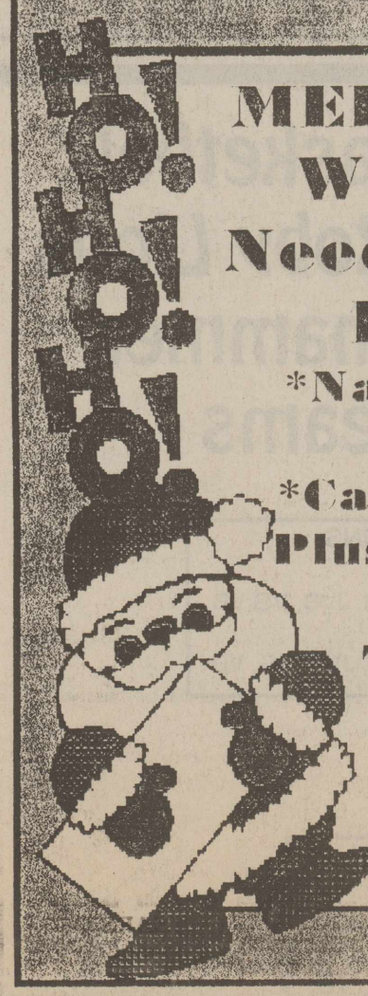
The members of the Rotan City Council employ a total of nine workers.

1.	Sandra Underhill	City Clerk
2.	Gilbert Ramirez	Field
3.	Robert Mooney	Field
4.	Lonnie Starnes	Field
5.	Randy Martin Asst.	Public Wks/Anml. Ct
6.	Rodney Denton	Public Works Director
7.	Tyda Hayes	Library
8.	Harold Sanders	City Secretary
9.	Sue Barrera	Water Clerk

Breakdown - 5 in field, 3 in office and 1 library

NOTICE
The deadline for Classified Ads and News Is Noon On Tuesday.

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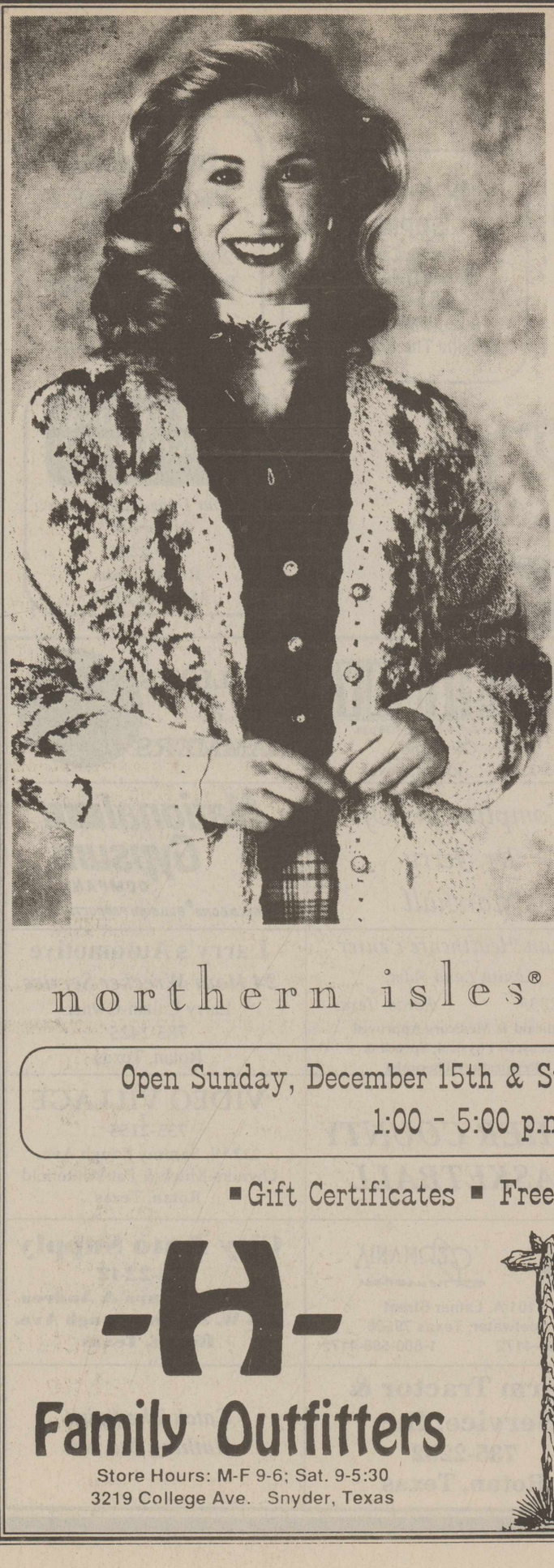


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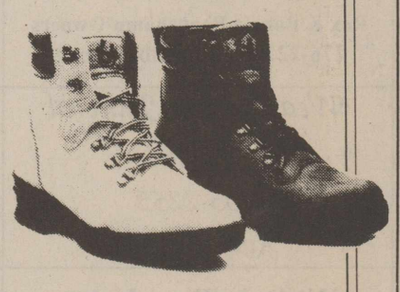
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Call For Specific Times
Wed., Thurs., Fri. Evening Times Vary
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3,000,000	55%

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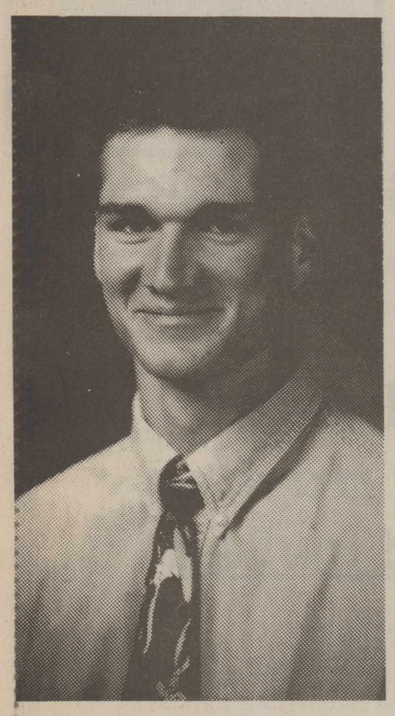
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*IRC SECTION 20001 (C) APPENDIX B

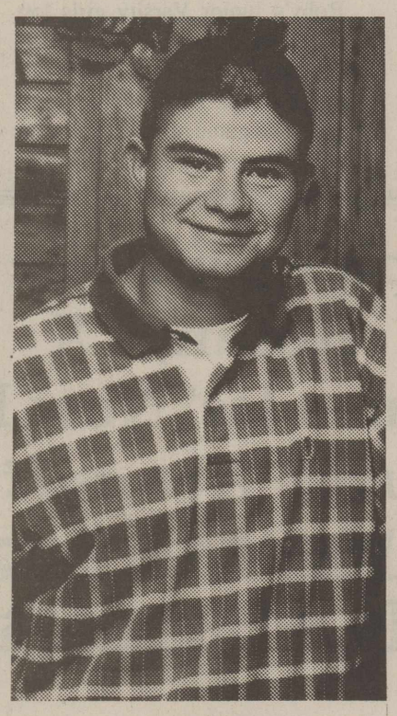
Alls, Onofre Named As 1996 DAR Good Citizens

JayBen Alls and Robert Onofre were honored as the 1996 Anne Pettus Shelburne chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens at a luncheon Saturday, November 13, 1996, in the home of Mrs. Whit Clark. JayBen is the son of Rhenda and Ernest Ragan of Rotan. Robert is the son of Luther and Olga Onofre.

Regent Bessie Cleveland called the meeting to order, welcomed guests and DAR members. The opening ritual was led by Regent Cleveland and included a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag and the American Creed. Joe Clark read the President General's message. Betty Blanche Miers Mauldin introduced Roby senior honoree Robert Onofre and his parents. Patsy Maberry Hamric introduced Rotan senior honoree JayBen Alls and his parents Rhenda and Ernest Ragan. A DAR Good Citizens certificate, pin, and billfold-size certificate was presented to both honorees. The symbolism of the pin was explained by Mrs. Hamric. The 13 stars represent the original 13 colonies. The band of blue enamel identifies it was the DAR. The qualities of good character which DAR emphasizes-Dependability, Service, Leadership, and Patriotism, are the title of the four books in the center suggesting school days. Circling these books is the laurel wreath of Honor; behind the books is the torch of understanding.



JayBen Alls



Robert Onofre

At Roby High School, Robert's activities include National Honor Society, Class President, Gifted and Talented, Academic Team, and Catholic Youth Organization. Awards include Science Award (1-3), Math Award (1-3), English Award (1-3), Spanish Award (1-2), History Award (1-2), National Honor Roll, Macy's Scholar, National Young Leader Scholar $6,500.00 to Our Lady of the Lake University, $6,000.00 to McPherson College. He participates in basketball, cross country, and track. He was All-District Honorable Mention in basketball as a sophomore, All-District as a junior, and was captain the senior year. He works for Buffalo Creek Ranch and his hobbies include sports, Music and movies.

Robert plans to attend college and acquire a job in the field of medicine.

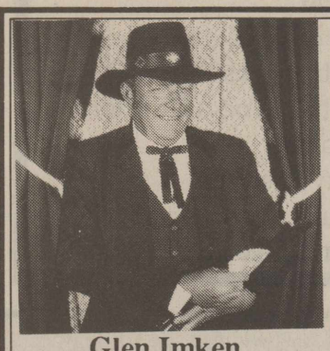
At Rotan High School, JayBen is a 4 year letterman in football, basketball, track and 3 year letterman in cross country. He has been a National Honor Society member for two years, and is vice-president of NHS this year, and was a member of Student Congress. He received the FFA Greenhand Award, the Academic Excellence award, the Art award, is a member of Who's Who in Sports, was elected Class Favorite, and is participating in the On-Campus Bible Study. He plans to attend college to study Horticulture/landscaping or Zoology. He has qualified for regional track all three years of his participation, and basketball the Bi-District play offs his sophomore year. This year he was All-District punter first team in District 5-A and second team wide receiver.

A bountiful Thanksgiving luncheon followed the program to the honored guests and DAR members including Bessie Cleveland, Joe Clark, Dot Harris, Laverne Kennedy, Vera Morrow, Betty Mauldin, Marilyn Threlkeld, Ellen Gruben, Sue Cleveland, Patsy Hamric, and Frances Weatherman.

The next meeting of DAR will be Monday, December 16, at the home of Mrs. Whit Clark at 4:30 p.m. and will include an exchange of gifts, a Christmas program, and refreshments.

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Glen Imken

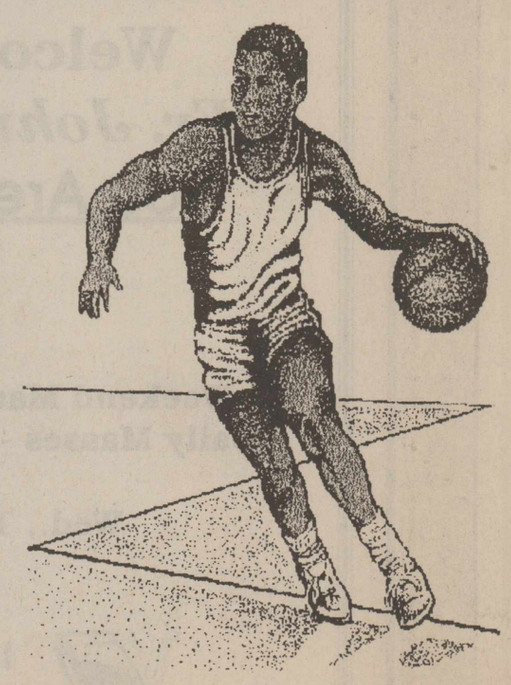
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Ritz Theatre Production

The Ritz Community Theatre Christmas production, The Butterfingers Angel, Mary & Joseph, Herod the Nut, and The Slaughter of 12 Hit Carols In A Pear Tree, is scheduled for December 13-16 at the Ritz Theatre on the southside of the square in Snyder. Reservations for season ticket holders will be open on Wednesday and Thursday, December 4 and 5 from 2 to 5 PM, call 915-573-4035. Reservations for the general public can be made beginning Friday, December 6, and December 9-13, and Monday, the 16th, from 2 to 5 PM at the same number. Tickets for this production are $7.00 for adults and $4.00 for children under 12 years old. Friday, December 13, and Monday, December 16, performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, December 14 and 15, will be matinees beginning at 2:30 p.m.



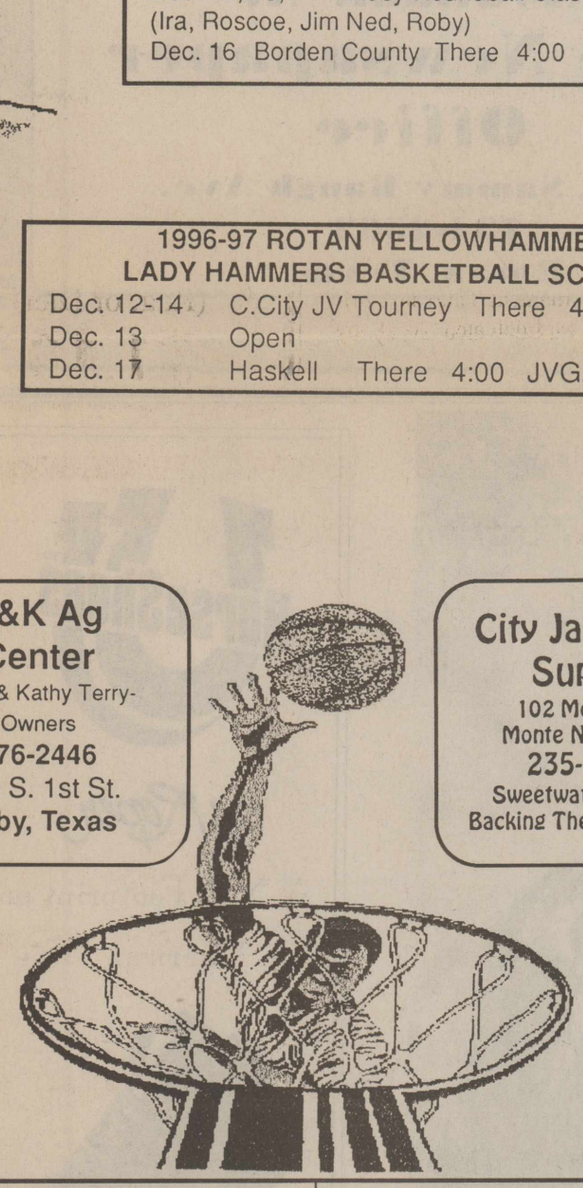
Fisher County Basketball
We Support The Roby Lions & Rotan Yellowhammer Basketball Teams

1996-97 ROBY LIONS & LADY LIONS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Dec. 12, 13, 14	Roby Roundball Classic (Ira, Roscoe, Jim Ned, Roby)	JVG, JVB, VG,VB
Dec. 16	Borden County There 4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB

1996-97 ROTAN YELLOWHAMMERS & LADY HAMMERS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Dec. 12-14	C.City JV Tourney There 4:00	JVG, JVB
Dec. 13	Open	
Dec. 17	Haskell There 4:00	JVG, JVB, VG, VB



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Rotan, Texas

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Roby, Texas

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Letter To The Editor Policy

Letters To The Editor are encouraged. They must be original, signed by the writer, not over 200 words, and include a telephone number for verification purposes. Only the writer's name will appear in print. Letters are subject to be edited for clarity, liable and for the purpose of only conveying a single point. Every attempt will be made not to change the meaning of letters. All letters are run 'space available'. Each letter is accepted on that basis. Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication.

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735-2562

Rotan Varsity Boys Participate In Clyde Tourney

By April Montez

The Rotan varsity boys hosted Anson last Tuesday and participated in the Clyde tournament.

The Yellowhammers fell short in the end 42-46.

JayBen Alls made 10 points, Zach Morris had 8 points, Reed Underwood and Larry Daniels each scored 5 points; Kris Rogers, Jason Hargrove and Stoney Carrillo all totaled 4 points each and Joey Sepeda had 2.

Rotan lost their first game in the Clyde tournament against Comanche by 13 points.

After the first half, Rotan trailed 29 to 36, the final score was 54 to 67.

Stoney Carrillo was the high scorer for Tuesday's game with 12 points. Reed Underwood was right behind him with 11 points, Larry Daniels made 10, Kris Rogers and Zach Morris each had 8, Joey Sepeda scored 3, Jason Hargrove and JayBen Alls both had a single point. Also playing was Robert Briggs.

The Yellowhammers' second game was against Eula and ended with a better outcome than the first. Rotan led 24-11 after the first quarter and 44 to 40 at the half. The score after the third quarter was 53 to 56, however, Rotan regained their lead and won 70 to 66.

JayBen Alls was far ahead in scores and ended with 32 points. Zach Morris had 12 points, Larry Daniels scored 10, Reed Underwood made nine, Stoney Carrillo had seven points.

Also playing were Kris Rogers, Robert Briggs and Joey Sepeda.

Rotan defeated Hawley in their final game of the tournament. The Yellowhammers led 37 to 24 at the half and won 66-65.

Scoring 24 points, JayBen Alls was again the leading scorer. Robert Briggs scored 11, Larry Daniels made 9, Reed Underwood had 8, Kris Rogers totalled 7, Zach Morris had 4, and Stoney Carrillo made 3. Also playing were Jason Hargrove and Stoney Carrillo.

The junior varsity lost 52-60 Tuesday night against the Anson Tigers.

Roby Boys Team Defeats Loraine By 97-50 Score

By Makala Herron

The Roby Lions defeated the Loranie Bulldogs 97-50 at home Tuesday night. Roby players were nothing but a blur in the first quarter scoring 26 points The Lions danced through the second quarter with a 49-27 lead. In the third quarter, Roby out hustled, out maneuvered, and out scored Loraine, leading 69-40. The Lions sent the Bulldogs home with their tails between their legs, winning 97-50.

Shea Feagan led the Lions with 28 points, 6 rebounds, and 3 steals. Robert Onofre had 19 points, 5 rebounds, and 5 steals. Donnie Barrera was right behind him with 17 points and 4 steals. Jacob Whitaker scored 14 points. Ty West had 10 points and led rebounding, pulling down 7 rebounds. Billy Floyd contributed 8 points. Wes Pullig had 2 points.

The Junior Varsity boys defeated Loraine Junior Varsity boys 40-20. Roby led 17-10 at the half. The Lions rolled through the third quarter with a 31-15 lead. Roby pressed on in the fourth, winning 40-20.

Every member of the Junior Varsity team scored. Robert Pippin was high point with 10 points. Ermando Barrera had 8 points, J.D. Hearn contributed 7 points, Josh Griffith scored 6 points, Kyle McWilliams had 4 points, Brian Anderson made a 2 pointer.

Thursday, the Varsity Boys defeated the Trent Gorillas 57-17 in their first game of the Highland Hilltop Classic. Friday Roby marched over Highland 58-24. The Lions moved through the first half with a 30-10 lead. Roby kept moving through the third quarter and fourth quarter, wining 58-24 and securing a place at the game for first place. Shea Feagan had 19 points, Jacob Whitaker scored 12, Ty West put in 10 points, Robert Onofre had 7 points, Billy Floyd scored 4, and Wes Pullig contributed 4 points.

Roby captured the Boys's Championship after defeating the Loraine Bulldogs 66-38 on Saturday. The Lions took control, leading 43-19 at halftime. Roby rambled through the third quarter with a 56-21 lead. The Lions strolled through the fourth quarter, winning 66-38. Shea Feagan was high point with 22 points. Robert Onofre scored 17 points, Jacob Whitaker had 14 points, Ty West contributed 6 points, Donnie Barrera had 3 points, Wes Pullig and Billy Floyd scored 2 points each.

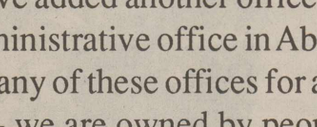
In Junior Varsity Boys Tournament play Roby lost 30-51 to Baird in their first game of the Hawley Junior Varsity Tournament Thursday. Friday Roby was defeated 26-28 by Knox City.

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Roby, Texas

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From
9:00 A.M. To
5:00 P.M.
Weekdays
7:30 A.M.-9:30 P.M.



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(Reg. or Diet)
$1.19



The Federal Land Bank has been in your community since about 1920. Since that time we have seen many changes come and go. That continues to happen. Some of these changes seem good and needed to us and some don't sit too well with us.

There is one thing that has not changed in all this time, however, your Local Land Bank Association still makes and services long term, agriculture real estate loans. We've expanded upon that concept some since our inception but it is still the basis and backbone of what we do.

We have found a way to make your strong association even stronger. We have recently merged two strong Land Bank Associations together to make one. We are still located where we have been, that being Sweetwater and Stephenville, but have added another office to the newly combined association. We now have an administrative office in Abilene. We can make you a Federal Land Bank loan out of any of these offices for any county that we serve. Come join us at the Land Bank - we are owned by people like you.

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Saint Joseph's Catholic Church
301 East Lee Street - Post Office Box 456
Phone 915/735-3285
Rotan, Texas 79546

Open Letter To Roby Winners From St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Rotan

Congratulations!

We rejoice in your good fortune. That is great!

But, it is more great to hear how you are accepting it. We were pleased to read about your intentions to "keep your jobs."

We wish to comment you and encourage you in this. God created us with body and with a soul to live in harmony. He gave us a free will that needs to dominate our ego, with "I". Yet, He wrote in our hearts a need to love and be loved, to be in a relationship, to be a part of a "we." Work helps to balance our self need for assertiveness with our need for serving others, for making our will subservient to the needs of others.

Work helps to correct our weakness to self-indulge with self-discipline so that we can be truly in control of our body; and not fall victim to the vices of excessive pleasure. Yes, then we maintain our free will and keep our relationships - the relationship we want and need to live in harmony and peace.

Thus, St. Joseph's Catholic Church community prays that you continue to accept God's blessings you received at Thanksgiving time and count it with your blessings of health, family and friends.

Our hope is that you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Much Love,

Fr. Johnrose & Members of
St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Invitation To Eat

Christmas Day Dinner

Served From 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 25th, 1996
At
The Home Of Kim & Janeece Pease
Rotan, Texas

If You Are Going To Eat Alone
If You Are A Widow or Widower
If You Just Want Some Company
If You Want A Meal For Any Other Reason

A Traditional Christmas Dinner Will Be Served At No Cost

Free Transportation To and From The Pease Home Or Someone Will Deliver The Meal To Your Home.

Dinner Will Be Provided By The Pease Family

Call 735-3115 or 735-2562

ONLY REQUIREMENT

Let Us Know That You Are Coming By Calling 735-2562 or 735-3115



Drop Into Our Place...

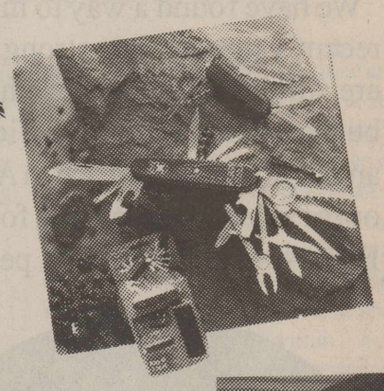


Dreamsicles

New Shipment/Large Slection



News Shipment - Perfect Gifts For Christmas

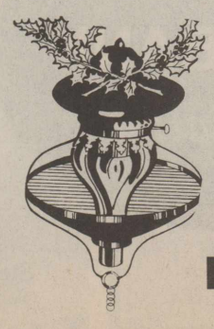


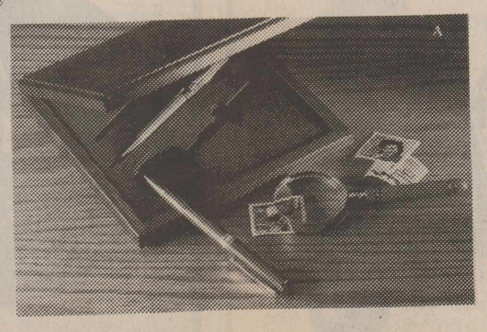
Function Knife Pliar Man $8.95

Alpine Swiss Design Knife $20

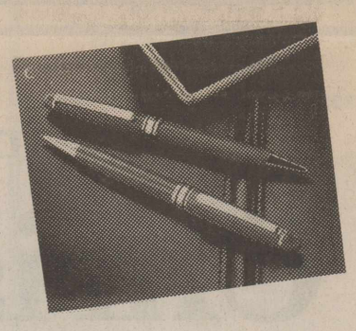
Cup Towel & Pot Holder Sets
Potholders $3.50
Sets $12.00







Pen Set & Magnifying Glass By Alex Navarre $34

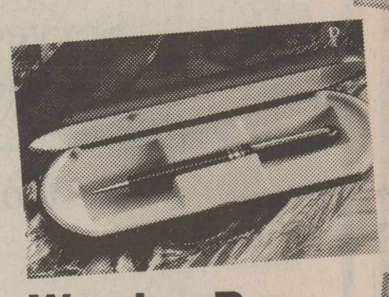


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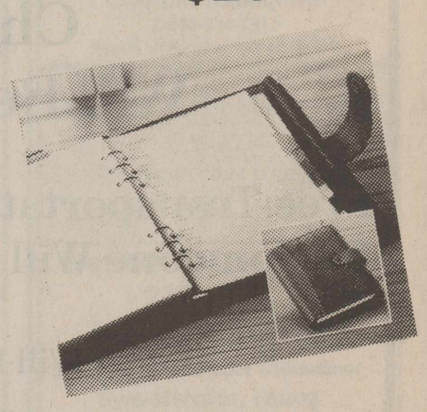
Orangizers $12



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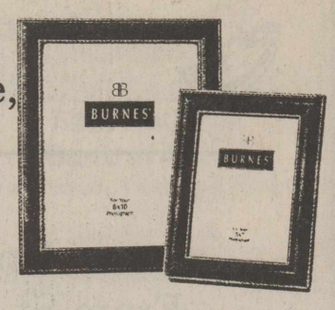


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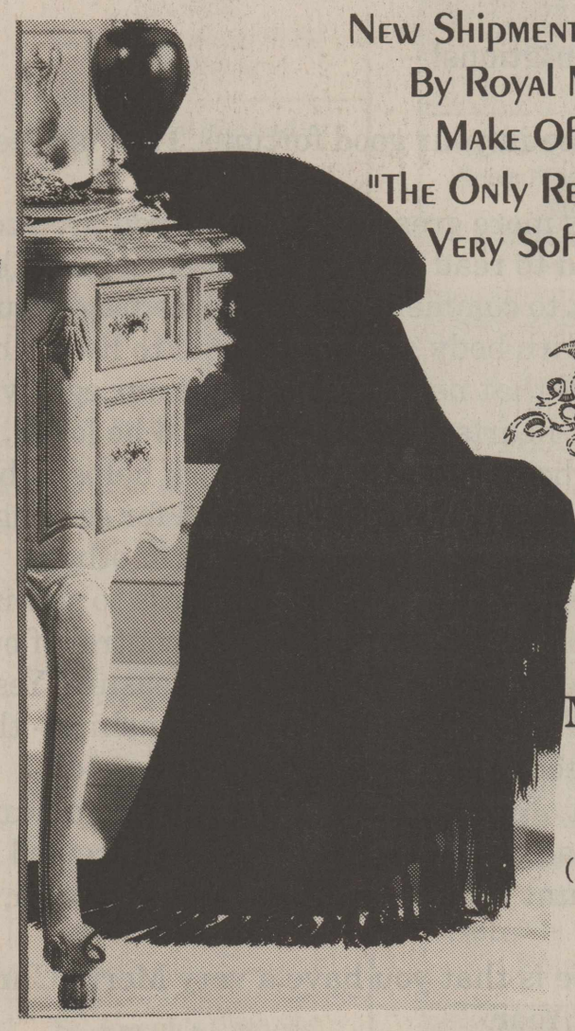
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