

The Castro County News

75th year—No. 47

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, February 24, 2000

50¢

14 pages plus supplements

County taking first steps for jail bond issue

Castro County Commissioners took the first step toward solving the county's jail overcrowding problem last week when they agreed to accept proposals from qualified individuals who could serve as a financial advisor or bond counsel for a \$2.5 million bond election.

Commissioners will accept proposals for the two positions through March 7, according to Castro County Judge Irene Miller.

The county decided to pursue a bond issue election to build a new jail during a special meeting last November with members of the jail

committee.

During that meeting, commissioners were presented with an architect's estimate of around \$2.2 million to construct a 48-bed jail.

Miller told commissioners at their Feb. 14 meeting that the cost of the project would be around \$2.5 million today.

The county jail is facing serious problems, with overcrowding being the number one issue.

State jail inspectors visited the county jail last October and reported that the jail was out of compliance in

the following areas:

- Single cells throughout the facility have been occupied beyond the approved capacity.

- Multiple occupancy cells throughout the facility have been occupied beyond the approved capacity.

- Day rooms throughout the facility have been occupied beyond the approved capacity.

The approved capacity of the county jail is 18, but the average daily jail population has been running close to 22 prisoners.

The county has been "farming out"

prisoners to other jails for years now, but the number of prisoners which must be sent to other areas because of overcrowding here continues to increase.

For the past three years, County Sheriff CD Fitzgerald said the county has been forced to farm out inmates, and lately the average has been between eight and nine prisoners per day. At one point recently, 14 prisoners were housed out of the county.

The county must pay between \$35 and \$38 per day, per prisoner, for

those prisoners which are farmed out.

As of Tuesday, there were 17 prisoners in the local jail. Another 11 prisoners housed out of the county in Littlefield and Plainview at a cost of \$418 per day.

Those costs add up in a hurry. If those 11 prisoners were to remain farmed out for a month, Fitzgerald said the cost would be more than \$12,500. The number of prisoners farmed out could also increase at any minute.

"Every day is a new day around here. You never know what's going

to pop up," Fitzgerald said.

From Jan. 1, 1999, through Dec. 31, 1999, the county paid \$36,486.50 to other counties that housed its prisoners.

During January, the county paid \$5,556 to nearby counties for housing prisoners. The county has already shelled out \$12,075.50 in February, and that was for bills received through Feb. 14.

"It's cheaper for us to keep them here than it is to farm them out, we just don't have the space to do that right now," Fitzgerald said.

(Continued on Page 2)

1:1

By Don Nelson

Here I stand, with chocolate on my face.

Milk chocolate.

From Millionaire\$, yet.

A couple of weeks ago I noted with alarm that you couldn't get Pangburn's Millionaire\$ any more because the Pangburn Chocolate Co. had gone belly-up.

Ralph Smith caught me after church the following Sunday and said that Pangburn's didn't exactly go belly-up, that Russell Stover Candy Co. had bought up both the Pangburn's and Whitman's companies.

I meant to report Ralph's revelation here last week, but let it slip my mind.

Then on Monday of this week, Ralph's daughter-in-law's brother, Jack Flynt III of Lubbock, brought me a box of Pangburn's Millionaire\$. He was carrying out the orders of his wife, Elaine, who had bought "a whole armload" of boxes of Millionaire\$ for Valentine's.

There's no mention of Stover's Candy Co. on the Millionaire\$ box. It carries the familiar logos and notes that the candy is made in Corsicana.

However, the back-of-the-box info is now printed in both English and Spanish. I don't remember that from before. Obviously, Stover intends to market the same boxes on both sides of the Rio Grande.

Meanwhile, Mary Lockhart, whose pharmacy was our local Pangburn's dealer, visited her sister and brother-in-law, Sally and Lyndon Crelia, at their pharmacy in Wellington.

There, to her surprise, she saw Millionaire\$ on her sister's display shelves.

"Sally is a Russell Stover dealer,"

(Continued on Page 14)



See Pages 8-11

Grand lamb draws extra bid from buyer

Trinity Robb's grand champion lamb from the Castro County Junior Livestock Show originally sold for \$11 per pound at the premium sale on Feb. 12, but since then, the bid has been boosted by \$9 per pound.

Robb's lamb was purchased by Coby and Connie Gilbreath for \$11 per pound at the sale.

Gene Bradley informed the Dimmitt Young Farmers last Wednesday morning that he intended to add \$9 to the Gilbreaths' bid, giving Robb a total of \$20 per pound for his animal.

Young Farmers' President Chaun Gunstream informed the News about the additional bid late Wednesday morning, but it was too late to make the Feb. 17 issue, which had already gone to press.

We've got yer ULTIMATE COAST-TO-COAST BASKETBALL MOM right here!

By DON NELSON

Mary Lou Schmucker is in the final stretch of a 21-year run as a basketball mom.

And what a run it has been.

It has taken her from the Nazareth school gym to the hardwood palaces and popcorn stands in such places as Levelland, Austin, San Antonio, Fort Worth, Dallas, Norman, Albuquerque, Lawrence, Boulder, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Tampa, Orlando and even Honolulu.

Her career as a traveling team mom started when her oldest, Johnny, was in the seventh grade. Before he finished high school, he played in a state championship game in Austin.

Her trek continued with LaDawn, who was on three state championship teams and played college basketball at Eastern New Mexico.

And with Debbie, just a year younger than LaDawn, who with her older sister made up two-fifths of the starting lineup on two of those state championship teams.

And with Chris, who was a soph-

omore point guard on Nazareth's state championship boys' team in 1986.

And with Natalie, who was on one state championship team and one runner-up team.

And finally with Melinda, who has become the most famous of the family's basketball players.

Melinda, a four-time all-stater at NHS, is now nearing the end of an outstanding collegiate career as the playmaker for the nationally ranked Texas Tech Lady Raiders.

Melinda is known as one of the best point guards in the Big 12 Conference, if not THE best, and her picture has been in the sports pages of newspapers from coast to coast, including *USA Today*.

And at all but one of the Lady Raiders' games this season, Mom has been there, wearing her customized Lady Raiders shirt that says "Melinda's Mom" on the back.

In Tech's new United Spirit Arena, the "parents' section" is directly behind the Lady Raiders' bench.

"Each player is allowed four tick-



Mary Lou Schmucker

ets, so we get complimentary tickets for the games, both away and at home," Schmucker said. "But that's all the parents get."

"We go by car if the game is in the state of Texas or Oklahoma," she said. "I've gone with the team three or four times when they chartered a bus."

"If they charter a plane, they have extra seats, and the travel agent will call and I can purchase a seat," she said. "Otherwise, everyone uses public aviation."

"I always stay in the same hotel that they do."

Her husband, Ray, goes to as many of the Lady Raiders' games as he can, "but he doesn't go to the far-away ones," she said.

Ray encourages her to go, though, and so does her boss, Jimmie George of George Real Estate, where she is an agent.

Or, maybe they just accept the inevitable.

"I try to make sure all my work is caught up before I leave on a game trip, and it doesn't take long to catch

back up when I get back," Schmucker said.

Coach Marsha Sharp's Lady Raiders "are like a family," Schmucker said.

"I think that's part of the reason that Marsha recruits as much as she can from this area, is to keep that feeling of closeness among the girls," she said.

"Melinda has made good, lasting friends on the squad."

"When she got married (last Aug. 28), Rene Hanebutt served punch and the team manager registered guests. There were a lot of Lady Raiders at her wedding."

(Melinda's husband is Chet Pharies, a former Tech football player who now owns and operates Carpet Tech in Lubbock. She has adopted Schmucker-Pharies as her married name.)

"The coaches, and even the people associated with Tech, and the team manager's family—the Maines family there in Lubbock—have had them

(Continued on Page 2)

THE is able to issue paychecks

Texas Health Enterprises, Inc., (THE) released paychecks to their 4,500 employees, including those at Canterbury Villa in Dimmitt, on Feb. 16.

According to a news release from THE, the payments were made after the Texas Dept. of Human Services (TDHS) released funds due to THE for care provided to Medicaid patients.

Representatives of THE met with the financial representatives of TDHS on Feb. 15 to discuss the discrepancies between what THE and TDHS believe is owed.

Dick Knight, president of THE, said that TDHS has committed to pay processed claims within the customary five days from submission and has pledged to cooperate with THE in resolving any further interruption in payment and in reconciling outstanding claims.

"They failed to bill correctly or failed to bill," said Rosemary Patterson of Austin, public information officer for TDHS. "When they bill correctly, we will pay."

Knight said, "There were no adverse incidents reported and THE continues to provide the highest level of care to the elderly of Texas. The staff of our nursing homes are to be commended for their devotion to their residents and their profession."

"Our sincere thanks to the employees of our facilities who selflessly worked through this problem."

Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	60	31	
Friday	76	26	
Saturday	51	20	
Sunday	64	20	
Monday	62	33	
Tuesday	75	36	
Wednesday	68	39	

February Moisture 0.00
2000 Moisture 0.07

Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.

Two men arraigned in separate incidents

Victor Hugo Perez, 35, of Dallas was arraigned before Castro County Justice of the Peace Tana Young on Friday on charges of indency with a child. His bond was set at \$50,000.

A 16-year-old Dimmitt girl told police at 12:08 a.m. Friday that she had been sexually assaulted by the man in his motel room in Dimmitt.

Police said the girl told them she was accompanied by a friend and visited with the man at the motel, when he invited them to go to his room. The other girl left and the victim was then sexually assaulted.

Police said the girl reported that she cried for help but no one came to the room. After the assault, she said the man released her and she went with her friend and another person to a local convenience store, where she called the police.

Perez remained in jail as of Wednesday morning.

Antonio Solis III, 20, of Hart, was arraigned Tuesday on robbery charges. His bond was set at \$50,000. He was out on bond as of Wednesday morning.

Solis was charged in connection with a confrontation between Junior Vasquez, the manager of Lowe's Pay-n-Save in Hart, and a gunman who surprised Vasquez in his car.

On Feb. 16, Vasquez reported to Hart Police Chief Jay Livingston that a gunman confronted him in his car as he prepared to leave work at about 8:28 p.m.

According to a report in *The Hart Beat*, Vasquez told Livingston that when he got into his car a man stuck a semi-automatic handgun behind his right ear and told him in Spanish to "be cool."

Vasquez said he backhanded the man, who apparently had been hiding in the floorboard of the car. Vasquez said he then jumped out of the car and ran to a nearby house to summon help.

The suspect then tried to start Vasquez's car, but couldn't, so he got out and walked toward the west part of Hart.

Vasquez described the suspect as an Hispanic male, wearing a red bandana over his face, light-colored overalls, and a cap turned backwards. Solis was arrested Friday night.



THE FINISHING TOUCHES—Dimmitt's Richardson Elementary School Principal Clint Seward gets help from student Stephanie Castro in completing his girlish attire in an assembly at the school Friday afternoon. Seward donned a dress, hose, heels, a wig, false fingernails, a hair bow, shawl, perfume, and

handbag, in addition to some makeup, to pay off a pledge to the student body. Students raised \$1,412.17 for the Leukemia Society of America, well above their goal of \$1,200. Seward's performance was featured on the news on Amarillo's television station Channel 10.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Letter
Family mourns loss of their mother due to negligent nurse

Dear Editor:
Our mother was a nurse for 42 years, and was very proud to be a part of the nursing profession.
She was in an out-of-town hospital for a staph infection and pneumonia, and had been receiving a small amount of Demerol for pain over a two-week period. On Nov. 1 at 9 a.m. a nurse called my sister and said, "Your mom had a bad night and she wants you to come to the hospital." She got there about 9:10 a.m.
Mom was holding on to the bed rails, gasping for air. My sister asked what happened, and mom said she didn't know, but said, "Don't leave me, I can't feel my feet or legs."
They rushed mom to the ICU and my sister called all the family. When we all got there, a doctor came in and told us what happened.
He said, "A nurse gave your mom a massive morphine overdose—50 mg—instead of 50 mg of Demerol."
They got her stabilized and x-rayed her and found that she had

clotted from the waist down.
The doctors told us she was going to die, but they would try to unclog the arteries with surgery. They were afraid they would fill back up. They didn't try to give us hope.
They said, "If she lives, we will have to amputate."
Before they took her to surgery, we all went in one at a time and told mom we loved her, and she told us she loved us and our kids.
She never cried. She said she wasn't afraid to die. She went into surgery with a positive attitude and gave us a smile and a thumbs up. She made it through the surgery. Later that night a "code blue" was called, and it was mom. The nurses came out and tried to avoid us, but we stopped them and they said, "Your mom didn't make it."
Shocked and numb, we just looked at each other.
The male nurse was fired immediately, and hopefully he will lose his license. He didn't believe the morphine was the cause of her death. However, the doctor and the death certificate clearly said otherwise.
Our family would like the nurse to know he killed a very special person—our mother.
We will never be the same again. Our kids won't get to enjoy their grandma. We won't get to hear her laugh or see her smile.
Our hearts are broken because of a person's negligence—without any remorse or apology.
We have heard that he is still practicing (in a nursing home in the Panhandle area), and that it takes a year to get a nurse's license revoked.
So, please, if you have any loved ones or friends in the hospital, don't take for granted that a mistake cannot be made. Don't be afraid to ask questions.
There is great care available, but it only takes one mistake.
NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST (Name on file)

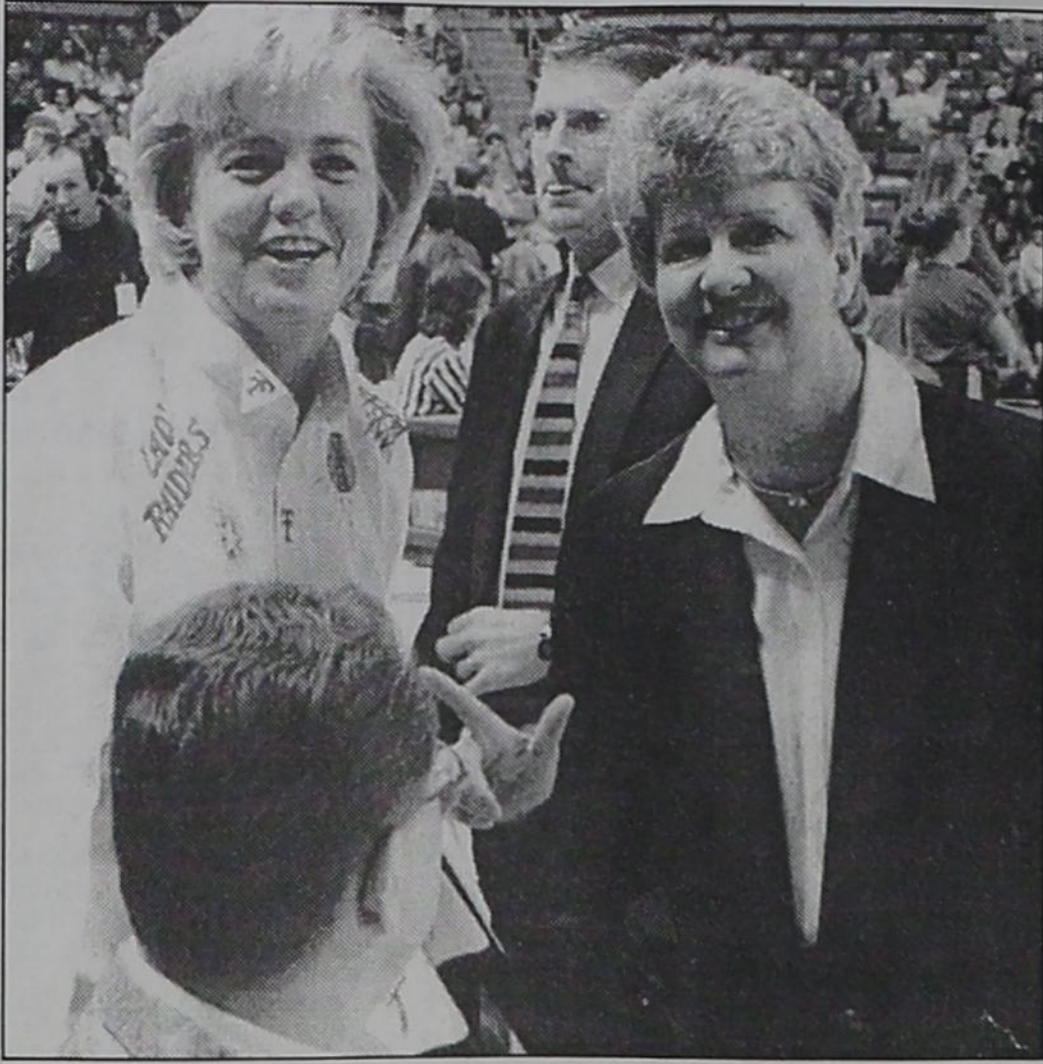
DHS selected for \$100,000 ninth grade initiative funding

Dimmitt High School has been notified that it will receive \$100,000 in grant money for the Ninth Grade Success Initiative.
The initiative is funded by the Basic Skills Program for High School Students, created by the Texas Legislature in 1999.
The purpose of the program is to increase graduation rates in Texas public schools by reducing the number of students who are retained in the ninth grade or who drop out that year.
"The ninth grade is a critical year. Historically, we have our highest retention rate at the ninth grade. Students also begin dropping out in large numbers that year," said Jim Nelson, Texas Commissioner of education. "This program will help districts address both the retention and dropout problems. It also will give us a great research vehicle to determine best practices in this area."
The funding will extend from March through August 2001.
Dimmitt applied for \$197,000 and was granted \$100,000. The funds have been earmarked for the salary of a teacher and a paraprofessional, in addition to the costs of field trips and other activities.
Also, core curriculum ninth grade teachers worked with DHS Principal R.L. Stockstill and Counselor Sue Summers to put together a program providing credit recovery and tutoring.
Darlene Collins, director of the Alternative School, wrote the grant application. She said the plan also calls for developing an Individual Educational Program for each student in an effort to fill in the gaps for each one who is deemed "at risk."
Collins said the field trips have been planned for the purpose of career orientation to assist students in discovering a reason for being in school and getting an education.
Suggested field trips include going to EXCEL, hospitals in Amarillo and Lubbock, Amarillo College, and South Plains College, as well as places like the newspaper, banks, pharmacies, and beauty shops.
The program includes funding for summer programs, as well, that will help students in credit recovery.

The grant also will allow the school to buy additional computer software that will allow students to work on an individual basis on any credit recovery required.
"It will be similar to what is used in the alternative placement school," Collins said.
"For instance, if a student fails a course that would prevent them from entering ninth grade or would keep them from promoting to the 10th, intensive instruction will be offered during the regular school day to give students an opportunity to catch up to grade level," Collins said. She said this will help students keep from getting discouraged and more likely to drop out.
"We want to try to increase atten-

Police Calls

A Dimmitt couple were both jailed on Class C misdemeanor assault charges Sunday night in an incident of family violence. The 29-year-old man was charged with assault (threat) and the woman, 23, was charged with simple assault.
Two incidents of disorderly conduct were reported at Dimmitt schools last week. Two juveniles were fighting Feb. 15 at 8:40 a.m. in the hall at Dimmitt Middle School. Two others were fighting in the hall at Dimmitt High School at 9 a.m. last Thursday.
Police Chief Ray Aleman said the police have been assisting the school more closely in behavior problems at the school and the school has been filing charges in more of the cases. He said all four of the juveniles in the two cases were fined in municipal court.
Monday at 11:34 a.m., Marie Powers of Dimmitt reported to police that a trailer in the 600 block of Southwest Fourth Street had been entered and ransacked. Items missing included 50 pieces of paneling valued at \$100, a yard sign valued at \$100, a socket set valued at \$30, and a remote control vehicle valued at \$65.
Billy Earl Terrell Jr., 24, of Lubbock, told police Friday morning that someone threw some bricks at a 1989



MARY LOU SCHMUCKER with Marsha Sharp, Texas Tech women's basketball coach, before the Lady Raiders' game against Oklahoma Saturday. In foreground is Assistant Coach Linden Weese.

More about Basketball mom . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
with the Lady Raiders?
"Well, in Cancun I went hang-gliding on a kite over the water, being pulled by a boat," she said. "Ray thought it was strange. That's probably the most daring thing I've done on any of the trips, and was probably the most fun thing I've done."
"May most memorable experience in Hawaii was the visit to Pearl Harbor. That was just the most awe-inspiring thing I've ever, ever done. Unbelievable. Reading the letters from the servicemen to their mothers was awe-inspiring. We all went through the museum together—the team and parents—and all went on the boat together out to the USS Arizona Memorial."
The Lady Raiders are closing in on the end of the season, and the end of Melinda's collegiate career.
But there are still several more Big 12 regular-season games. Mom will be there.
And there's still the Big 12 Tournament in Kansas City. Mom will be there, too.
Then, maybe there will be NCAA post-season playoff games who-knows-where. And wherever they are, Mom will be there.
Then what?
"When this season's over, you know, that's it," Schmucker said.
"I've gone to a lot of ball games. I used to count up when the kids were younger. At one time, Johnny was on the varsity boys at Nazareth, LaDawn was on the varsity girls, Debbie was on the junior varsity girls and Chris was on the eighth grade team. When they played tournaments, there were times when I would go to 10 or 12 games in a week.
"I wouldn't take anything for it. When Melinda graduates, I'll have to shift my focus, I guess.
"You know, Johnny's little girl is in junior high now at Dumas, and I've started watching her play. It's an awful lot of fun watching that grandbaby play. . . ."
So:
Coming soon to a gym near you—Basketball Grandma!

More about Jail . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
"Right now, it's sure costing a lot of tax money to keep these prisoners incarcerated," Fitzgaird said. "This is an easy problem to solve. We can stop arresting people. But that's not what we're here for. The taxpayers pay us to keep crime off the streets.
"We could have 18 prisoners in the jail, but we have to keep a couple of empty beds for classification needs," Fitzgaird added.
For example, male prisoners and female prisoners must be separated. Fitzgaird said the county has one wing for female prisoners and it has two cells, one with two beds and the other with one bed. If there are no female prisoners in the jail, that space can be used for male prisoners. But if there is one female in custody, there cannot be a male prisoner in that wing.

The county had been sending prisoners to Deaf Smith County and Swisher County, but those counties are now facing overcrowding problems of their own and are farming out their own prisoners today.
"Other jails in the area are also getting full," Fitzgaird said. "Everybody's having the same problem.
"The population in the jail just keeps growing, but if we had a 48-bed unit, we could take some of the prisoners that Tulsa and Hereford are farming out and maybe earn that \$12,000 per month that we're having to shell out now."

Heart disease leading killer of US women

February is National Heart Month, and the Baylor College of Medicine issued information showing that heart disease, not breast cancer, is the leading killer of women in the US.
"Most women do not experience heart disease until after menopause because the hormone estrogen protects them up until that point," said Dr. Rebecca Reeves at The DeBakey Heart Center at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "Following menopause, estrogen levels change. This is why many doctors encourage women to go on hormone replacement therapy."
Some of the risk factors for heart disease in women include obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, a lack of exercise, and a poor diet. Eating a balanced diet where less than 30% of the calories come from fat is very important.

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ACROSS
1 TXism: "___ grip like a snappin' turtle"
5 TXism: "got knocked down ___ or two"
6 TXism: "___ mamma" (waitress)
7 TX Strait's "All My Exes Live ___ Texas"
8 TXism: "molar ___" (toothbrush)
9 what TX shot putter Stuiwe got in Atlanta
15 Houston has large ___ space industry
16 extraordinary
17 TXism: "he could wear ___ shirt to a church social" (lazy)
19 closet pests
22 seat of Wharton Co.
27 TX John Wesley Hardin was known for his quick-___
28 Jefferson has the "Diamond ___ Murder Trial"
29 a Cowboy loss
30 preserves a corpse
32 ___ Jo, TX
33 "honcho's" helper
36 TX saying: "One ___ one Ranger"
37 Houston's Hermann Park has Wortham World of ___ mates
38 Sonora ___ Mohair Company
39 TX O'Hair won the Supreme Ct. ___ to ban school prayer
41 a TX combat group
42 in Pecos Co. on 190 ___ of thunder
45 ___ of thunder
46 today branding irons are heated with pro ___ gas
47 TXism: "___ high on the hog" (is rich)
48 TXism: "busy as ___ armed paper hanger"
49 TXism: "put ___ together" (conclude)
52 loving devotion
53 bench player
12 tame
13 biblical prophet
14 Nocona Boot Co. slogan: "___ Rodeo!"
15 TXism: "busier than ___ a boomtown"
16 Semite
18 Von ___ TX
20 TXism: "he's at the end of ___"
21 TXism: "___ cement" (permanent)
22 Devane of TX Tommy Lee's film "Rolling Thunder" (init.)
23 TXism: "If ___ a rooster, he'll crow"
31 security for a debt
34 Manson killed this TX actress Sharon ___
35 TXism: "sneaky as ___ egg-sucking dog"
37 instrument of TX "Queen" Spivey
40 TXism: "___ as molasses"
43 TXism: "tough as ___ hide"
44 drink proposal (2 wds.)
50 "Bum" Phillips book "He Ain't ___"
51 ___ Pepper

Nazareth

with Virgie Gerber, 945-2669

We do appreciate Monsignor Bud Erpen of Tulia, who has been with us the past three weekends for masses in Holy Family Church. He seemed to enjoy being here and we enjoyed having him.

Father Peter Otto, our pastor, will return this week from his vacation.

Our sympathy to the family of Gene Schacher, 63, of Lazbuddie, who died Friday.

Funeral services were held Monday at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Bovina with the Rev. Ed Sweeney officiating. Burial was in the Friona Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Alverna Schacher of Lazbuddie; a son, Daniel Schacher of Lazbuddie; two daughters, Becky Sava of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Cathy Schacher of Lubbock; five sisters, Rosalie Davis of Los Altos, Calif., Georgie McCormick of Amarillo and Leona Maurer, Catherine Hochstein and Margie Albracht, all of Nazareth; two brothers, Bobby Schacher and Edwin Schacher, both of Nazareth; and six grandchildren.

Theresa Rider was the honoree at

a recent 50th birthday party held in Las Vegas, Nev. It was given by her sisters and some of her brothers and brothers-in-law.

Germaine and John Witt live in Henderson, Nev., a suburb of Las Vegas. They all stayed at Sunset Station and made the trip to downtown and the strip. Those attending were Theresa and Gary Rider of Claude, Rita Pohlmeier and Robert Pohlmeier of Oklahoma City, Greg Pohlmeier of Amarillo and Beth and Gerald Harder of Dimmitt.

Many fans attended the bi-district girls' basketball game in Dumas on Feb. 15 and watched the Swiftettes defeat Textline.

Last Thursday evening a huge crowd supported the Swiftettes as they defeated Fort Elliott in a Region 1-A Area playoff game in Amarillo at Caprock Activity Center. It was an unbelievable game, and the Swiftettes managed to pull out the win.

Prayers are asked for Florene Brockman, Leonard Gerber, Margaret Brockman, Anna Huseman Lee, Dianne Huseman, Sue Schnei-

der, Junior Hochstein, Virgil Brockman, Paul Venhaus, Odelia Schulte, Meredith Braddock, Amber Waite and Leona Maurer.

Bulletin Humor

"Where is God?"

A couple had two little boys, ages 8 and 10, who were excessively mischievous.

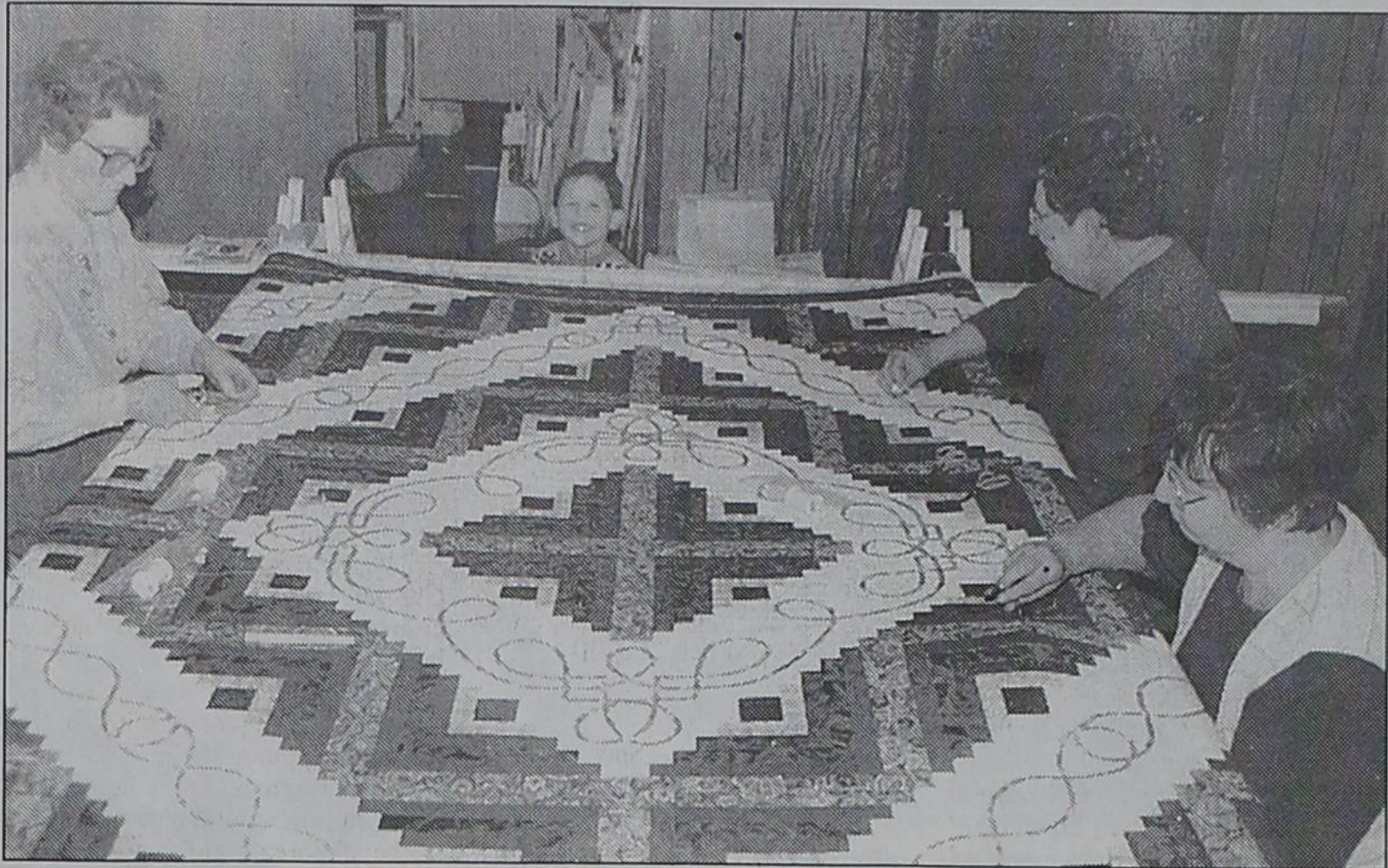
Their parents could be assured that if any mischief occurred, their two sons were in some way involved.

The parents were at their wits end when they heard that a clergyman in town had been successful in disciplining children.

The clergyman agreed to speak with the boys, the 8-year-old first. After asking the boy the third time, "Where is God?" and receiving no reply, the boy bolted from the room, ran home and slammed himself in a closet.

His older brother followed him and asked, "What happened?"

The 8-year-old replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it!"



FINAL QUILTING—Members of the Friendship Quilters Guild in Dimmitt are working on the quilt they will raffle off at this year's Harvest Days celebration. The club members also plan to enter the quilt in the Ogallala Quilters' Festival, as well as the

Houston International Quilt Show, if accepted. Working on the quilt are (from left) Ina Cleavinger, Twila West and Donita Vernon. Watching the ladies is Brian West, 4, grandson of Twila. The quilt is called "Log Cabin with Blue Birds in the Celtic."

Photo by Linda Maxwell

On the Go

Paintings done by artists without professional training are generally referred to as "naive art." The works of Grandmas Moses and Henri Rousseau are characterized this way.

The Methodist Men's annual Sweetheart Banquet was once again a success.

On Feb. 14, over 160 people were served filet minion steaks with baked potatoes, salad and ice cream for dessert.

The evening's entertainment was Jody Boudreaux of Lamesa, a large participant in the "Walk to Emmaus" movement who was blessed with a great voice as well as a comedic personality. She told jokes and sang while playing her accordion. A great time was had by all.

Thirty people from here attended the play, *Greater Tuna*, which was held in the Hereford High School Auditorium. Those attending from Dimmitt and Nazareth were Billie Kirby, Gertie Waggoner, Dorothy Hopson, Irene Carpenter, Doris Flynt, Howard and Belinda Rhodes, Ed and Betty Freeman, Joan Durbin and Martha Jo Hyman.

They really enjoyed the show.

The group attending the play, *Greater Tuna*, in Hereford also enjoyed eating out at K-Bob's in Hereford before the play. They saw former Dimmitt resident Justin Schultz, who is now the head girls' basketball coach at Vega. His parents, Joe and Jerre Schultz, are still living in Kentucky.

Bill and Jo Settle came to Dimmitt Saturday morning. They and Martha Jo Hyman went to Lubbock Saturday afternoon to help Midge Burleson celebrate her 81st birthday. Midge is Bill's grandmother and Kay Kellar's mother.

Approximately 30 people attended the party. After the party, they ate at the Cattle Baron with Bill's parents, Billy and Mike Settle; and with Bill's sister, Suzanne Nolen.

Jo Settle was the February Young Careerist for Center City Business and Professional Women. The group

honors young women between the ages of 21 and 35 for their community and business involvement.

Don and Mae Hargrove and Robin and Dillon went to Colorado Springs, Colo., with Laura, Roy and children. The girls, Sherri and Kerri, were in a gymnastics program at the Air Force Academy during the half-time program. The Air Force was playing the New Mexico Lobos and it was fun.

Louise Mears was hostess to the Senior Citizens Bridge group. The high scoring player was Dede McLaurin and Louise won second.

THE SHOW WAS CANCELED...BUT THE ADVENTURE HAS ONLY BEGUN.

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What's Cooking

In the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Schools

Here are the breakfast and lunch menus for the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth schools for Feb. 24 through March 3.

DIMMITT

THURSDAY: Fresh donuts, fresh bananas and milk.
FRIDAY: No school.
MONDAY: No school.
TUESDAY: Canadian bacon and biscuit, applesauce and milk.
WEDNESDAY: Sausage and biscuit, orange juice and milk.
THURSDAY: Blueberry loaf, fresh banana and milk.
FRIDAY: Pancake on a stick with sausage, fruit cocktail and milk.

Preschool-First Grade Lunch

THURSDAY: Chicken and noodles, hash brown potatoes, tossed salad, banana bread squares and milk.
FRIDAY: No school.
MONDAY: No school.
TUESDAY: Steak fingers, onion rings, hot wheat rolls and milk.
WEDNESDAY: Hot dog on a bun with chili, corn on the cob, tater tots and milk.
THURSDAY: Bologna and cheese sandwich, peas, hamburger salad and milk.
FRIDAY: Red Baron pepperoni pizza, potato wedges, fruited gelatin and milk.

Second-12th Grade Lunch

THURSDAY: Choice of chicken and noodles, ham and cheese sandwiches or cheese enchilada with sauce; hash brown potatoes, potato chips or refried beans; tossed salad, taco condiment salad or guacamole salad; banana bread squares, Spanish rice or tortilla chips; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.
FRIDAY: No school.
MONDAY: No school.
TUESDAY: Choice of steak fingers, macaroni and cheese or turkey fajita with onions and peppers; onion rings, refried beans or spinach; tossed salad, pasta salad or rainbow salad; old fashioned cornbread, hot wheat rolls or flour tortilla; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.
WEDNESDAY: Choice of hot dog on a bun with chili, southern fried chicken or meat loaf with creole sauce; corn on the cob, tater tots and baked sweet potato and apple; tossed salad, coleslaw or cucumber and tomato salad; hot wheat rolls, cornmeal twist bread sticks or potato chips; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.
THURSDAY: Choice of bologna and cheese sandwich, chicken baked Italian or vegetable pasta Alfredo; stir fried rice, pas or Italian vegetable salad; tossed salad, broccoli and cauliflower salad or hamburger salad; angel flake biscuits, French bread or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.
FRIDAY: Choice of Red Baron pepperoni pizza, chicken and dumplings or green enchilada casserole; potato wedges, pork and beans or southern collard greens; tossed salad, cucumber and tomato salad or fruited gelatin; hot rolls, cornmeal yeast rolls or tortilla

chips; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

HART

Breakfast

THURSDAY: Pancake and chicken breakfast stick; variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.
FRIDAY: Scrambled eggs, ham, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, and milk.
MONDAY: Pancakes with syrup, sausage, variety of cereal, graham crackers, assorted fruit juice and milk.
TUESDAY: Breakfast sausage pizza, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.
WEDNESDAY: Cinnamon toast, applesauce, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.
THURSDAY: Variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers, pancake and chicken breakfast stick and milk.
FRIDAY: Scrambled egg and sausage, biscuits, graham crackers, assorted fruit juice and milk.

Lunch

THURSDAY: Choice of burrito, pizza hot picket or pizza; green beans, gelatin dessert, peaches, salad, cake with cherry topping and milk, punch or tea.
FRIDAY: Choice of chicken sandwich with chips, burrito or nachos with ground beef; sliced pickles, salad, gelatin dessert, peaches, fresh fruit, ginger cookies and milk, punch or tea.
MONDAY: Choice of corn dog, pizza or burrito; macaroni and cheese, salad, lettuce, tomato and pickles, carrot sticks, gelatin dessert, peaches and milk, punch or tea.
TUESDAY: Choice of steak finger basket or sub sandwich; peaches, broccoli and cheese, cherry cobbler and milk, punch or tea.
WEDNESDAY: Choice of chicken sandwich with chips, pizza or lasagna with ground beef; bread stick, salad, corn, fruit cocktail, fresh assorted fruit, ice cream and milk, punch or tea.
THURSDAY: Choice of corn dog, chicken sandwich with chips or chicken strips and nuggets; rolls, gravy, mashed potatoes and gravy, mashed potato, peaches, cherry cobbler and milk, punch or tea.
FRIDAY: Choice of pizza, chicken sandwich with chips or brisket; baked potato, salad, fresh fruit, pinto beans, Texas toast, cornbread and milk, punch or tea.

NAZARETH

Breakfast

THURSDAY: Breakfast burrito, cereal, orange juice and milk.
FRIDAY: Sausage and biscuit, cereal, orange juice and milk.
MONDAY: Cinnamon roll, cereal, juice and milk.
TUESDAY: Canadian bacon on a roll, cereal, juice and milk.
WEDNESDAY: French toast and sausage, cereal, orange juice and milk.
THURSDAY: Breakfast burrito, cereal, orange juice and milk.

Game night set Friday at Senior Center

The Dimmitt Senior Citizens Center will host a game night on Friday, starting at 6 p.m.

All members of the center are encouraged to attend, and those interested in joining the Senior Citizens also are invited.

Membership is open to all who are age 55 or older, and the membership fee is only \$15 per year.

For more information, call the center at 647-2654, or Edith Graef at 647-4748 or Cleo Forson at 647-4313.

Prior to becoming President of the Confederacy during the Civil War, Jefferson Davis served as Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce.

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People



Nazareth group to host World Day of Prayer event

Christians in over 170 countries around the world will gather on Friday, March 3, in observance of the 2000 World Day of Prayer service, and Castro County residents can join in the service at 3 p.m. at the CCD Building in Nazareth.

The local observance is being sponsored by the Catholic Daughters Organization in Nazareth.

World Day of Prayer was started in 1887 by Presbyterian laywoman Mary Ellen James. It brings together in informed prayer and prayerful action, international women from a myriad of backgrounds, cultures and Christian traditions.

Since 1941, World Day of Prayer has been sponsored in the United States by Church Women United, a grassroots ecumenical movement of Protestant, Roman Catholic, Ortho-

dox and other Christian women.

This year's service, written by Christian women of Indonesia, focuses on the theme, "Talitha Kumi: Young Woman, Stand Up!" and is based on the Gospel of Mark 5:42.

At the young age of 12, a girl was dying. Life was coming out of her, yet Jesus healed her.

Today, many Indonesian children are experiencing a similar situation. Poverty, child labor, and the exploitation of young people by multinational corporations all take away the precious life God intends.

Inspired by this text, the Indonesian women see the hand of Jesus reaching out to them, inviting them as He did this young woman, to life in all its fullness. They hear Jesus saying to them, "Talitha kumi: stand up with young people to affirm life."

Shop Dimmitt first!

The shy and gentle capybara is a member of the guinea pig family and, in captivity, can weigh up to 200 pounds.

A baldachin is an ornamental canopy over an altar, tomb or throne.

American artist John Banvard once painted a mural depicting 1,200 miles of landscape along the Mississippi River. The mural was a mile long.



Malcolm Wolter and Tish Miller

April vows planned

Ron and Irene Miller of Dimmitt announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Tish, to Malcolm Wolter of Houston, son of Oscar and JoAnn Wolter of Victoria.

The couple will exchange wedding vows on April 1.

The bride-elect is a 1990 graduate of Dimmitt High School. She attended South Plains College in Levelland and she is currently employed at Que Imaging, Inc., a photo and digital imaging lab.

The prospective groom holds a degree in graphic design after graduating from Southwest Texas State University. He is now vice president of Bravo Zulu! Interactive, a multimedia company he co-founded in 1997.

Scholarship offered by Farm Bureau

The Castro County Farm Bureau has announced that graduating seniors in the county are eligible to apply for the Texas Farm Bureau's seventh annual Youth Foundation Scholarship, as long as their families have been Texas Farm Bureau members since at least March 15, 1998.

Applications are available at the counselors' offices at local high schools and at the Castro County Farm Bureau office in Dimmitt. The deadline for applying is March 15.

Graduating seniors planning to enter college in the fall of 2000 may apply, according to Castro County Farm Bureau President Bruce Fuller.

"A scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 per year, renewable up to four years, will be awarded by May 2000 on the basis of academic achievement, extracurricular activity involvement and other considerations, including recommendations and financial need," Fuller said.

Applications may be sent to Coordinator, Texas Farm Bureau Youth Foundation, P.O. Box 2689, Waco 76702-2689. They must be postmarked no later than March 15.

The scholarship recipient will be selected by a committee of college faculty and administrators from Baylor University.

The Youth Foundation, a charitable organization, was established by the Texas Farm Bureau for the purpose of awarding scholarships and agricultural grants for TFB youth. The foundation accepts donations, which are tax-deductible, from individuals interested in furthering the youth mission.

The number of students receiving financial help from the foundation will vary according to the generosity and scope of members.

DSREC to award five scholarships

Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative will award five \$2,000 scholarships in May to eligible applicants of immediate families of active members and active employees of Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative.

The deadline for submitting applications is March 10. Awards will be announced within 60 days of this date.

Applicants may be either traditional high school graduates or students wishing to continue their education after an extended absence. Applicants must be of good character as evidenced by at least three letters of recommendation from teachers, principals, or counselors. Selection will be based on grade point average, community activities, service work and recommendations. Secondary criteria will include: written essay, SAT/ACT scores and academic honors.

Applications may be obtained from area high schools, extension offices of Deaf Smith, Farmer, Castro and Oldham counties, or Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative's office in Hereford.

Plainview Symphony sets concert March 2

The Plainview Symphony will conclude its 21st season on March 2 with "The Millennium Concert: A Proud Heritage" at 7:30 p.m. in Haral Auditorium on the campus of Wayland Baptist University.

"This will be a rousing, crowd-pleasing performance," said Timothy S. Kelley, artistic director of the symphony. Admission will be \$8 for adults and \$2 for students.

Boyce Wyrick of Lubbock will be the guest conductor of the 70-plus area musicians. Dr. Carl Moman of WBU, a tenor, will sing Aaron Copland's *Suite of Old American Songs*.

Kelley said, "We will play music that has been rooted in America—part of our proud heritage."

The first half of the program will feature Dr. Moman's light-hearted selections. Copland is often referred to as "the dean of orchestral music," and the symphony will play his *Outdoor Overture*.

Kelley said that following an intermission, "the orchestra will take us on a short tour through the 20th century big band and musical scene in America."

"Glen Miller's *In the Mood*, *Gershwin in Concert* by George and Ira Gershwin, plus *Leroy Anderson's Favorites* should bring the audience to its feet."

"George M. Cohan's *Star Spangled Spectacular* will live up to its title, providing a spectacular finale," Kelley said.

County youths hone skills; place in UIL practice meet

Students from Nazareth and Hart claimed several honors in the Lazbuddie Invitational UIL Practice Meet Saturday.

Nazareth students earned four individual first places, four seconds, four thirds and numerous other places in several of the meet's events.

Hart's Rachel Wall won the News Writing contest.

Here's how county youths fared Saturday:

News Writing: 1. Rachel Wall of Hart, 2. Blake Birkenfeld of Nazareth, 3. Mark Birkenfeld of Nazareth.

Feature Writing: 1. Mandy Hoelting of Nazareth, 2. Megan Hoelting of Nazareth.

Persuasive Speaking: 2. Karen Wilhelm of Nazareth.

Current Events: 5. Mindi Ethridge of Nazareth, 6. Daryl Pohlmeier of Nazareth.

Number Sense: 3. Blake Birkenfeld.

Calculator: 2. Mark Birkenfeld, 3. Blake Birkenfeld, 4. Ky Wilcox of Nazareth.

Ready Writing: 3. Trinity Robb of Nazareth.

Poetry: 3. Karen Wilhelm.

Editorial Writing: 1. Mark Birkenfeld.

Team Math: 1. Nazareth.

Math: 1. Mark Birkenfeld, 8. Trinity Robb.

Computer Science: 1. Blake Birkenfeld.

Headline Writing: 1. Whitney Hoelting of Nazareth, 2. Blake Birkenfeld.

February sales tax rebates reflect decline

The sales tax rebates for February issued to the cities of Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth and to Castro County were down from payments issued in February 1999.

Castro County saw its rebate drop 33.43% from \$16,196.45 to \$10,781.11 for the month and 7.2% for the year. So far in 2000, the county has received two rebates for a total of \$22,469.95, down from 1999 totals of \$24,215.24 through the same period. Castro County's rebate comes from a .5 percent sales tax collected by local businesses.

Dimmitt's February 2000 rebate was down 25.09% from the 1999 payment of \$34,478.34. This month's check for \$25,827.42 brings Dimmitt's yearly total to \$53,721.75, down 4.48% from the \$56,242.40 issued through the first two months of 1999. Dimmitt collects a 1.5% sales tax.

Hart's rebate also was down for the period, falling 11.64% from \$2,166.44 in 1999 to \$1,914.14. For the year, Hart is running ahead of 1999 rebates, earning \$3,700.16 this year, compared with \$3,000.54 a year ago. Hart businesses collect a 1% sales tax.

Nazareth's 1.5% sales tax rate earned the city a rebate of \$1,685.01 this month, but that's down 38.12% from the 1999 total of \$2,723.20 for February. This month's stipend brings Nazareth's yearly total to \$2,572.22, down 15.82% from \$3,055.77.

Breast cancer screenings set in March

Two breast cancer screening clinics will be held at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt during March and appointments are now being accepted.

The first clinic will be conducted on March 2 and the second is being planned for March 8.

Those who wish to have an exam should call 1-800-377-4673 or (806) 356-1905 to schedule an appointment.

The clinic is being conducted by the Women's Center of the Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist/St. Anthony's Health System.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening that includes a mammogram and instruction in self-examination by a registered nurse.

Funding is available through the Texas Dept. of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

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Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary!
Love — Kristie, Nicholas and Jessica

Happy 60th Anniversary, Melvin and Juanita Summers!
Love, Your Family

40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40

She's 40 and been put out to (Good) pasture!
Love, Your Family

40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40

Cleveland earns praise from student

Libby Cleveland, a former Dimmitt teacher who now teaches at Wayland Baptist University received praise from a student last week in a "Line One" feature of the *Plainview Daily Herald*.

The "Line One" column sought comments on the following question: "Do you have a good word for an individual, organization or cause?"

The following comment about Cleveland was submitted:

"Libby Cleveland, a professor at Wayland (in the Academic Achievement program), is the greatest person I have ever known.

"She teaches from her heart and it shows in so many ways. She is kind, compassionate, loving, funny, encouraging, patient and above all, a fine Christian lady.

"It is because of her that I have the self-confidence to make it through college. She always has just the right words to encourage a student. She is so full of knowledge and experience and these combined with her love of her students make her a wonderful teacher.

"Thank you, Mrs. Libby, for being the greatest teacher I have ever had or have ever known."

St. Ann's sets sausage dinner

St. Ann's Catholic Church of Canyon will hold its 9th annual Czech sausage dinner On March 5 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Parish Family Center at 38th Street and Conner Drive.

Meal prices are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Children 5 and under may eat for free. Take outs will be available.

The menu will include Czech sausage, sauerkraut, bread, parsley potatoes, cobbler, and all the trimmings.

Also, there will be a country store, arts and crafts, music, games for the kids, and a drawing.

Women's forum seeks nominees

The Amarillo Women's Forum is seeking nominations for the annual Distinguished Service Awards.

The purpose of the award is to honor outstanding women who have helped shape the development of the Texas Panhandle through their contributions of talent and skill. The deadline for nominations is March 15.

Nominees must be Texas women who are legal residents of the top 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle. They may not be former recipients of the award. The forum encourages people to re-nominate women who may have been nominated in previous years.

Winners of the awards will be selected on the basis of the individual's significant impact on the Panhandle of Texas through their local communities. An anonymous panel of judges representing the Panhandle will select the recipients on the basis of their lasting contributions and achievements.

For nomination forms or additional information, contact Jane Juett at 806-355-0603. Presentation of the awards will be made during a luncheon on May 6.

Since 1976, 200 awardees from 26 communities within the Panhandle have been selected from the arts, business, finance, education, health care, law, science, volunteerism and other fields.



HAVE A SPARE BEDROOM? Try hosting a quilter or two for the Ogallala Quilters' Festival. Shown is a room in Mildred Bradford's home.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Hosting quilters can be a fun, rewarding experience

Want to meet new people who are friendly and creative?

Try hosting a quilter or two for the third annual Ogallala Quilters' Festival set for April 6-8 in Dimmitt.

Over 1,000 people are expected to attend the festival, and places will be needed for some of them to stay. Organizers of the festival are inviting local residents to share their spare bedrooms with the visitors.

Hosts are asked to allow a guest or guests to stay for one to three nights and to provide at least a continental breakfast (sweet rolls and juice or coffee) each morning. Each resident who furnishes a room will be paid and the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce will handle arrangements.

Mildred Bradford of Dimmitt has hosted judges and special speakers for each year of the event, and she said she has found each one to be very interesting.

"I have never had any who have not been friendly and accommodating," Bradford said. "They may have thought they had signed up for a weekend seminar, because I got them to talking a lot about quilting."

"I enjoyed making friends," said Shirley Wise, who kept three guests last year. "I'll probably keep four this year."

She said her visitors were nice and a pleasure to host, although they really didn't hang around the house that much because they were anxious to get to all the activities of the festival.

Bradford said it was no trouble at all for her to make breakfast for her guests, since she is an early riser, anyway.

"It has been a pleasant experience," said Carolyn Sides about hosting some quilters for the festival.

"The people have been interesting and it hasn't been a bother at all."

Darlene Collins said she knows of a host from previous years who kept two guests and has continued to correspond and maintain a friendship with them.

"It is interesting to meet new people, whether you are a quilter or not," a festival spokesperson said. "We hope more people will be willing to volunteer their homes and help us show what a friendly town Dimmitt is."

Forms or additional information may be obtained from Chamber Ex-

ecutive Director Bill Sava at 647-2524 or from Joyce Davis at 647-5362.

The festival will include quilting classes, lectures, demonstrations, entertainment, appraisals and a quilt show.

The Ogallala Quilter's Society is an organization with over 200 members from the tri-state area.

DPS now accepting trooper applications

The Texas Dept. of Public Safety has opened the application process for the next state trooper training academy.

The six-month recruit school will begin Sept. 18 in Austin. Application deadline is April 7 for out-of-state applicants and April 24 for Texas residents.

Anyone interested should contact the nearest DPS office for more information and an application packet.

Information also is posted on the DPS website, www.txdps.state.tx.us

Applicants must be US citizens, at least 20 years old by the time they are accepted as trooper-trainees, be of good moral charater, meet certain vision requirements, and have at least 60 hours of college (prior law enforcement or military experience may be substituted).

A final conviction (including probation) for any DWI, DUI, family violence or felony automatically will disqualify applicants. The screening process will include verification of written and oral statements and overall scrutiny of the applicant. Physical, psychological and drug testing also are required.

Trooper-trainees are paid \$2,000 a month. After graduation, they will earn \$29,000 annually with a pay increase to \$35,000 after completing a one-year probationary period.

Graduates initially are assigned to one of the department's uniformed services, such as highway patrol, license and weight division, or the driver license division. After gaining experience, troopers may apply for promotions within those services or other areas of the DPS, such as the Texas Rangers, special crimes, auto theft or narcotics.



VALENTINE KING AND QUEEN—Deroy Cates and Adell Clark are shown with their crowns as they were honored at Canterbury Villa Nursing Home in Dimmitt on Valentine's Day. They were presented with flowers and candy. Each year the residents of the home vote on who they would like to honor.

Courtesy Photo

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New Hope Memorial Baptist
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt
Bobby Starlings.....647-2889

Sunnyside Baptist
Sunnyside
Bennie Wright.....647-5712

First United Methodist
Hart
Kelly Inman.....938-2462

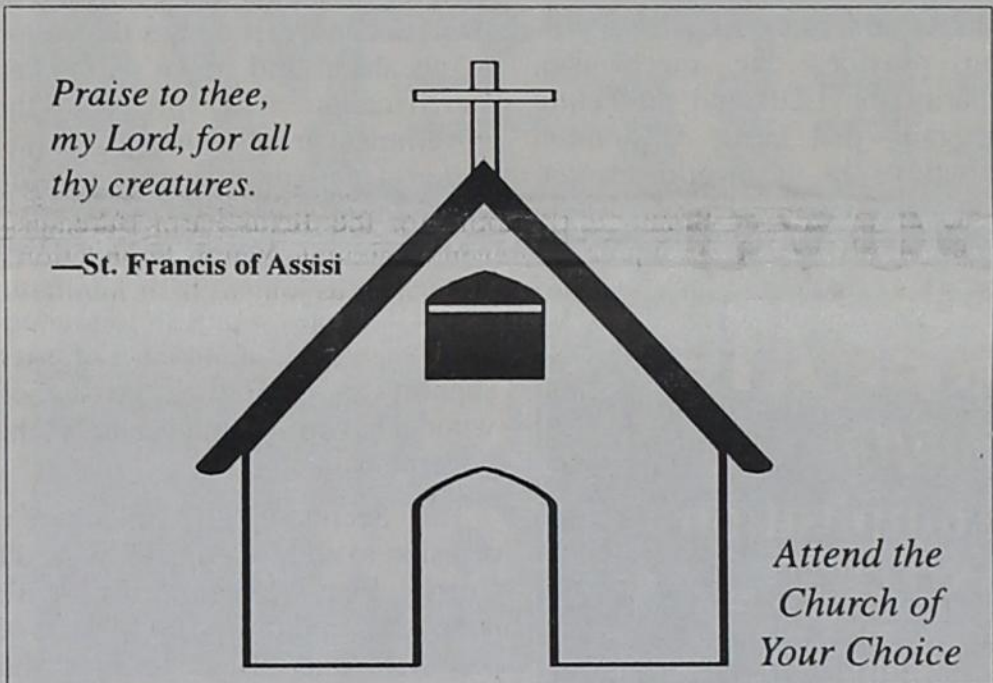
La Asamblea Cristiana
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt
Manuel Rodriguez

First United Methodist
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt
Rusty Dickerson.....647-4106

Iglesia De Cristo
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt
Pedro A. Gonzalez

Immaculate Conception Catholic
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt
Fern Couture.....647-4219, 647-0105

Jesus and the Love of God Church
(Bilingual) 301 NE 7th, Dimmitt
Felix Sanchez.....647-3668



Church of God of the First Born
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt

Immanuel Baptist
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt

Rosa De Saron
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598

First Baptist
302 Ave. G, Hart
Aaron Reed.....938-2316

St. John's Catholic
Hart
Fern Couture.....647-0105

Church of Christ
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt
647-4435

Rose of Sharon Temple
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt

Primeria Iglesia Bautista
9th and Etter, Dimmitt
Antonio Rocha

Abundant Life Family Church
113 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
Tom and Kay Mullins

First Assembly of God
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
Larry Gilliam.....647-5662

First Baptist
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Howard Rhodes.....647-3115

Lee Street Baptist
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt
Jeff Addison

First Christian
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt

La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt

Presbyterian
1600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
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Hart Church of Christ
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Open house is today

New SPS Service Center to improve customer response in Hereford area

Southwestern Public Service Co., has opened a new district service center in Hereford and the company hopes the move will help improve its response time to its customers in Hereford, Dimmitt, Bovina, Friona and Canyon.

The Hereford District Service Center will be located at 3550 Holly Road and an open house will be held at the new location at 11 a.m. today (Thursday). Area SPS customers are invited to attend the open house.

SPS hopes opening the new office will allow the company to consolidate equipment and supplies in one convenient area, away from regular trains that can block access to electrical emergencies.

At its former site on New York Street, trains could be a regular hassle for SPS crews needing to move freely through town, according to Wallace Hill, manager for construction, operations and maintenance in the Hereford District.

"Our response times are faster now

that we've moved to Holly Road," Hill said. "The New York site was blocked by trains every 12 minutes and we would have to wait for the tracks to clear before we could get to the trouble spots."

Another advantage of the new site is that SPS can now store all equipment at one site, and all of the company vehicles are stored inside the building, Hill said, adding that when the company is better organized, it can better serve its customers.

For SPS employees in Hereford, the new location will be a welcome relief from cramped quarters on New

York Street. SPS is almost doubling its square feet of office and storage space with the new site over the New York Street site, which only had 6,492-square-feet of space.

"When the customer service office closed in 1997, all our Hereford employees were moved to a very small space at our warehouse on New York Street," Hill said. "At the new site, we have double the office space, which allows for better organization and productivity for all employees involved. This results in more efficient service to our customers."

Cotton talks

With the US cotton industry facing potentially damaging effects from building domestic supplies, the announcement that generic certificates would be available Tuesday came as welcome news to cotton producers across the Cotton Belt.

The alternative was shaping up to be around one million bales of cotton forfeited to the Commodity Credit Corp.

The reason for the potential forfeitures was producers would no longer be able to market the crop with the Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP) or marketing loan gains to bridge the gap between the loan value of the cotton and significantly lower world market prices.

The cotton marketing loan program provides the mechanism, primarily the LDP and marketing loan gain, that keeps US cotton competitive in the world market.

However, current farm legislation caps the amount of benefit a producer can receive through this mechanism and effectively limits the producer's ability to compete in the international marketplace. Cotton subsidies provided by other countries typically keep world market prices significantly lower than US growers can stand.

The availability of generic certificates will make a significant number of bales accessible to the market immediately and solve two pressing problems.

The first thing it does is keep the Commodity Credit Corp. from having to take control of loan cotton and then try to market that cotton on its own. Secondly, it allows the cotton to go ahead and move to market. Certificates will prevent the government from having to market cotton at the same time producers are trying to sell their 2000 crops.

Generic certificates will help reduce burdensome stocks from accumulating and also help producers realize a minimum level of price support on all of their production without having to forfeit cotton to the government.

The Secretary of Agriculture's decision to allow Commodity Credit Corp. loan redemptions with certificates conforms with 14 years of precedent and brings to light the important role certificates play in keeping commodities in the private sector and out of government stockpiles.



THESE SHEEP SHOWMEN from the Dimmitt FFA impressed judges at the San Antonio Livestock Exposition and they were rewarded by receiving the first-place "Herdsman" award. FFA members

pictured are (from left) Laura Rasor, Cliff Wright, FFA Advisor Jerry Mathis, Shae Odom, Heather Lindsey and Jinna Wright. Not pictured, but part of the group, is Dakota Pitcock. Courtesy Photo

Dimmitt FFA wins 'Herdsman' award at San Antonio show

The Dimmitt FFA recently captured the first-place "Herdsman" award in the group division of the San Antonio Livestock Exposition's junior market lamb show.

This award, along with the \$150 cash prize, is given to the group that has the best display, the cleanest area around the pens, the most courteous students and displays the best sportsmanship.

Groups competing for the award were evaluated by members of the San Antonio Exposition Livestock

Committee. County 4-H clubs and FFA chapters with three or more exhibitors owning three or more animals combined, stalled together, are eligible to compete as a group.

Members of the livestock committee inspected each group's exhibit daily.

Part of Dimmitt's display featured drawings by Cliff Wright.

"All of the students did their part to see that the lambs were fed before 8 a.m., that our area was kept clean

and that sportsmanship was shown at all times," said Dimmitt FFA Advisor Jerry Mathis.

Students who were part of the participating group were Laura Rasor, Cliff Wright, Shae Odom, Heather Lindsey, Jinna Wright and Dakota Pitcock. The group was supervised by Mathis during the show.

Adult sponsors accompanying the FFA members on the trip were George Rasor, Mike Odom, Rick Wilcox, Tiffany Wilcox and Jim Wright.

Drought conditions forecast across South Plains region

The National Weather Service's long-range, forecast calls for more unseasonably warm and dry weather through April in the Texas Panhandle and South Plains.

If that occurs, the drought situation and fire danger will become more serious across the area.

Precipitation during 1999 varied widely over the Texas Panhandle and South Plains, with both record wet and dry months.

For the year, most areas received near or slightly above normal precipitation, except for the extreme eastern and southern areas where signifi-

cantly less than normal precipitation fell.

Another exception was the extreme northwestern South Plains, which was wetter than average.

The latest Palmer Drought Severity index shows the eastern counties of the Texas Panhandle are in a moderate drought while the rest of the area is near normal.

Reservoir water supply levels improved during 1999 at White River Lake and Lake Alan Henry.

Lake Meredith is the municipal water source for many South Plains communities along I-27, including Lubbock, and the water level at the lake is currently near an all-time high.

A "moderate" to "high" fire danger is currently forecast for most of the area.

The "moderate" area extends from Lubbock and Hale Counties westward. This area received significant snow in December.

In the southeast, King and Stone-wall counties are designated as "extreme" fire danger areas and outdoor burning bans are in effect in both locations.

Without precipitation, much of the South Plains area will trend toward "high" to "extreme" fire danger by March.

Soil moisture is near normal to slightly above across the Southern Panhandle. Farther south, soil moisture decreases with well below normal readings in the Southern South Plains. Since farming there is mostly dryland, any continuing lack of soil moisture will greatly impact agriculture in that area.

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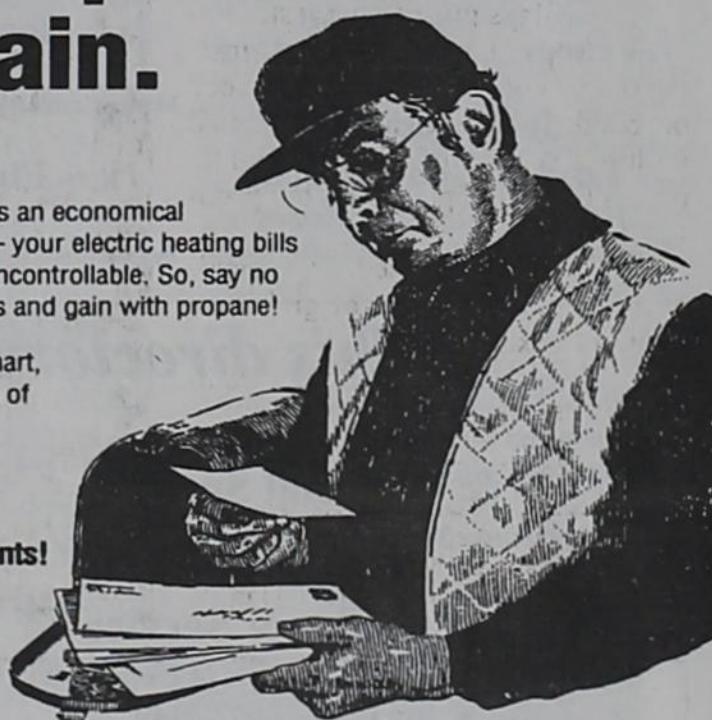
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West Texas Rural Telephone taking scholarship applications

West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is accepting applications for scholarships that will be awarded in May.

Scholarships are open only to students whose parents or guardians are members of the cooperative, or to students who are members of WTRT themselves. Applicants must be high school seniors who are candidates for graduation this spring, have completed high school or have received their GED.

The 2000 scholarships are open only to eligible, qualified applicants from the Hereford, Friona, Bovina, Farwell, Lazbuddie, Dimmitt, Adrian and Vega school districts. Scholarship monies will be disbursed in increments per semester.

An official application form, accompanied by two letters of recom-

mendation and a wallet-sized photo, must be submitted. One of the letters of recommendation must be from a teacher, principal or counselor from the high school that the applicant is currently attending or has attended; or from a college/trade school instructor if you are currently enrolled. Applications may be picked up at the West Texas Rural Telephone offices on South Highway 385 in Hereford, or at high school counselor's offices in Friona, Bovina, Lazbuddie, Farwell, Dimmitt, Adrian and Vega.

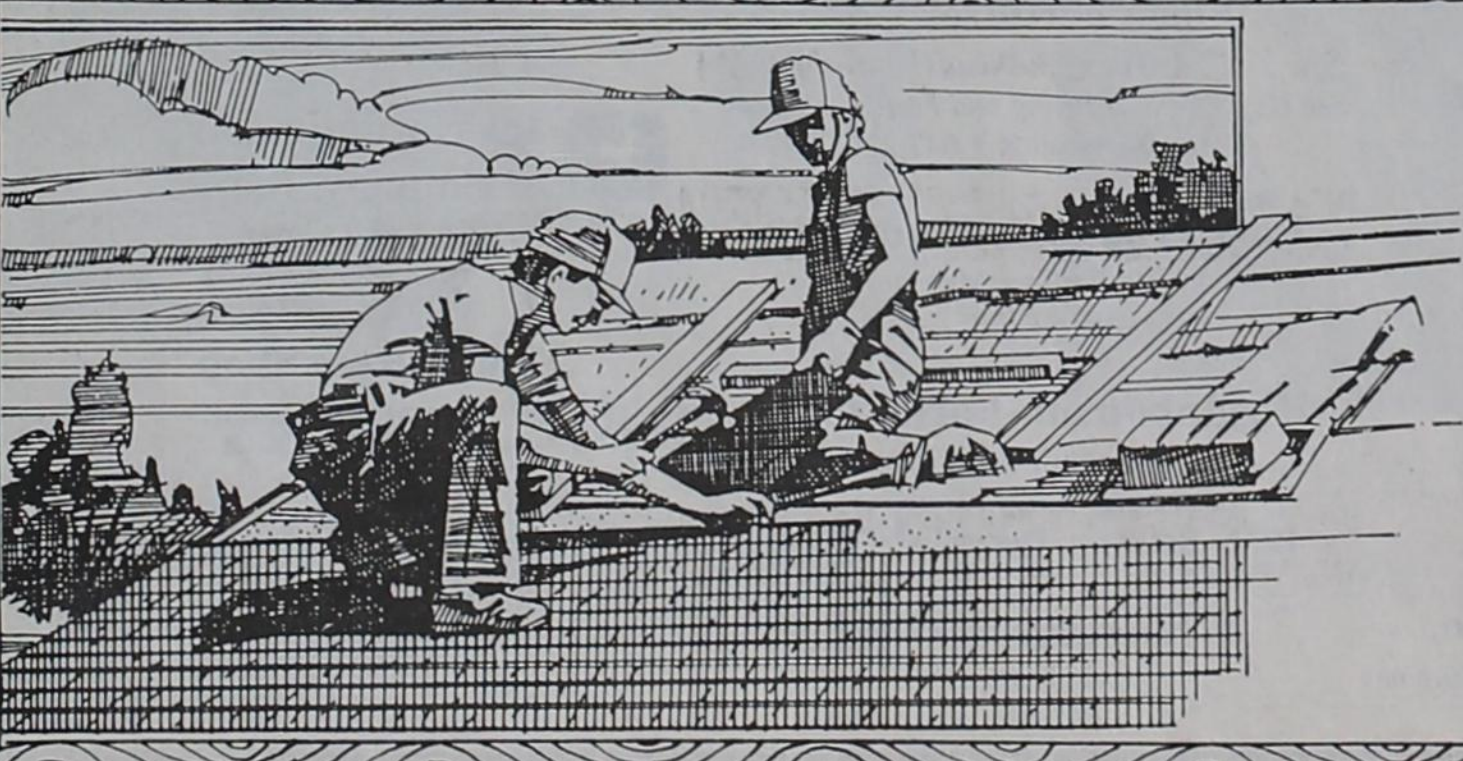
To be considered, applications must be fully completed, have no attachments other than the photo and two required letters of recommendation, and must be received at West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, PO Box 1737, Hereford 79045, by April 3.

Applicants may be asked to attend an interview at the discretion of the board.

The scholarship may be used at any state or church-sponsored college or university, or at any accredited vocational or technical school.

Recipients must maintain a minimum of 12 credited hours through each semester, or have full-time student status at vocational or trade schools.

As soon as enrollment or pre-enrollment for the fall semester is completed, recipients must send the cooperative a confirmation from the registrar's office. Should the recipient drop out of school for any reason, the unused portion of the scholarship will be rescinded.



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Terra's name change doesn't negate service

When Cenez/Land O'Lakes Agronomy Company, a farm supply cooperative headquartered in St. Paul, Minn., purchased Terra Industries' distribution business last June, it brought retail capabilities into the cooperative's mix in the southern U.S. Following that purchase, the Terra Distribution business was renamed Agro Distribution.

"All our southern retail locations will be retained as company-owned facilities," said Jim Greengard, vice president of retail operations. "We purchased this business to grow our company and expand our geographic reach since Cenex/Land O'Lakes Agronomy Company was not operating in southern states. Our strategy from day one was to reposition the northern locations where we already have member cooperatives, and we have decided to retain the southern locations as company-owned retail businesses."

Under its former name, Terra Industries supplied plant food and crop protection products to producers. With its name change to Agro Distribution, that hasn't changed.

"One advantage we see is that we have more resources to draw on for the latest technologies, financial

stability and training support," said Tim Witcher, director of retail operations. "The other advantage we see is that we are backed by the resources of a regional producer-owned cooperative while keeping the same people, products and locations."

Terra Industries outlets are still serving their locations in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, the Bootheel of Missouri, New Mexico, Tennessee and Texas.

"Agro Distribution will continue to serve our customers' needs in its 137 locations today and in the future, just as we have in the past," Greengard said. "We're just doing it under a new name."

Agro Distribution is a division of Agrilience, LLC, an agronomy marketing joint venture between Cenex Harvest States Cooperatives, Farmland Industries, Inc., and Land O'Lakes, Inc., that was effective Feb. 3. Agrilience markets crop nutrients, crop protection products, seed, information management and crop technical services to farmers and ranchers through the cooperative system and independent retail dealers in all 50 states, Canada and Mexico.

Minding Your Own Business

That isn't what I really wanted



Don Taylor

By DON TAYLOR

Most small business owners know it's easy to get what you don't really want. So here's a little advice for all who make their living by serving others. Know what your customers want, and what they don't want.

If you are in a service business, it is critical to serve exactly what is ordered. That is giving the customer what they want, the way they want it.

Here are some words of wisdom I've gleaned from unhappy customers. While you may not be guilty of any of these specifically, I'll bet that you have some customers

who aren't getting exactly what they want from you. Wise readers that you are, I know you'll wear the shoe if it fits.

What I don't want . . .

✦ **I don't want you to ignore my instructions.** I am willing to listen to better ideas, but since I am paying the bill, I want it my way.

✦ **I don't want to pay for your mistakes.** When your people screw up, I expect you to eat the cost and correct the problem quickly. If you pass the cost on to me, I'll find someone who makes fewer mistakes.

✦ **Don't tell me about the awards you've won.** I want to grow my business, not win awards. I don't care about the plaques and trophies you've got hanging on your walls. I'm paying for and expecting results.

✦ **I don't want excuses.** If I'm not getting what I want, giving me 100 valid reasons doesn't solve the problem. I expect you to make things happen, not make excuses.

✦ **I don't want to train your employees.** I don't want a bunch of kids to service my account. If I wanted kids to do my work, I'd hire them and pay them less than I'm paying you. I'll pay for what you know, not what you're learning.

✦ **I don't want you to make promises you can't keep.** If you can't do my work until Friday, I can live with that. But if you promise Monday and don't start until Wednesday, I'll find another source.

✦ **I don't want you to say you're sorry.** I expect results not apologies. I'm not saying it's wrong to apologize, but if that happens very often I'll look for someone who isn't as sorry as you are.

✦ **I don't want you to change my company contact without letting me know.** I value my business relationships, and ours is based on trust. I don't like surprises. I have found new suppliers because of this very reason in the past.

✦ **I don't want you to waste my time.** I don't want to answer the same question over and over. I don't want to visit for 20 minutes about the ball game. I don't care what you saw on TV last night. I was too busy to watch and I have more work to do now.

✦ **I don't want to be your most important customer.** But I would like to be treated as if my business is important to you.

✦ **I don't want you to run my company.** I'll be happy if you run yours really well and serve me effectively.

✦ **Don't try to buy or keep my business with freebies.** You can buy me lunch if there's a good business reason for a discussion, but don't insult me with meaningless matter. Send the fruitcake to your Great Aunt Edith.

Some of you readers may feel that these reactions are too harsh. Please remember, these aren't my ideas, they are the thoughts of good, viable customers. You'd be wise to find out how your customers feel and give them what they really want.

Don Taylor is the co-author of "Up Against the Wal-Mart's." You may write to him in care of "Minding Your Own Business," P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, Texas 79105.

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WELCOME TO DIMMITT—Dimmitt Independent School District Supt. Les Miller (right) welcomes Dimmitt's new head football coach Wade Wilson on his visit to Dimmitt Friday. Wilson was hired by the Dimmitt school board Feb. 14 and will begin his duties here March 6. He is coming to Dimmitt from Barnsdall, Okla., where he was the head football coach for two years.

Photo by Don Nelson

DISD board sets March meetings

The Dimmitt school board met briefly Tuesday at noon to set two meeting dates for March.

The regular meeting date for March would have been March 13, but that falls during the week of spring break.

The board voted to hold the regular board meeting on March 6 at 7 p.m. at the administration building, 608 W. Halsell.

Another board meeting was scheduled for March 27, when employee contracts will be considered.

The board wanted to wait until later in the month to give new head football coach Wade Wilson time to get acquainted with other members of the coaching staff and see if any changes may be needed.

The public is welcome to attend all meetings of the school board.

TDA sets exemption for Tilt for ergot on grain sorghum

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced recently that the Texas Dept. of Agriculture has been granted approval by the US Environmental Protection Agency to issue a Section 18 specific exemption to use Tilt fungicide(propiconazole) to control ergot on grain sorghum.

The specific exemption allows the use of Tilt until Dec. 31, 2000. It applies to all grain sorghum-producing counties in Texas. All applicable directions, restrictions and precautions on the EPA registered product label for Tilt fungicide, as well as restrictions within the EPA approval notice, must be followed. Tilt is manufactured by Novartis.

Other restrictions include:

✦ Applications should be made only by certified applicators, by licensed applicators or by persons under the direct supervision of licensed applicators. Applicators must have a copy of the Section 18 exemption before making any applications.

✦ Tilt may be applied at the rate of 4 fluid ounces (0.113 lb. a.i.) per acre in a minimum of 15 gallons of water per acre when ground application equipment is used, or in a minimum of 5 gallons of water (10 gallons recommended) per acre when aerial application equipment is used.

✦ Tilt applications must not exceed more than 12 fluid ounces (0.339 lb. a.i.) per acre per season to control sorghum ergot.

✦ Tilt should not be applied within 21 days prior to harvest.

✦ Crops intended for food, grazing or any component of animal feed or bedding should not be planted within 105 days of Tilt application, unless the crop appears on the product label.

✦ Tilt may be used on a maximum of 270,000 acres of grain sorghum in Texas.

The expression "pulling the wool over his eyes" dates back to the days when men wore powdered wigs.

Short height and speeches on behalf of the Democratic party earned President James Polk the nickname "Napoleon of the Stump."

Landowners should plug abandoned wells

Clean, clear water makes it possible for us to enjoy the food we eat, the conveniences we have and the pleasures of everyday life. Protecting this vital resource is the responsibility of all Texans.

However, it is estimated there are more than 150,000 abandoned water wells in the state, according to Dr. Bruce Lesikar, agricultural engineer with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Abandoned water wells increase the risk of contamination to groundwater, Lesikar said.

"We dump trash into them, spray chemicals over them and for the most part pretend they don't exist. However, that's an attitude that's illegal in Texas."

Texas law makes landowners responsible for plugging abandoned wells and liable for any resulting contamination or injury. A well is considered abandoned if it has not been used for six consecutive months and is unusable because it is deteriorated, Lesikar said.

Water wells come in all different shapes and sizes. Early Texas settlers used large-diameter, hand-dug wells to access shallow groundwater. Many times, these wells remained long after the residence was gone.

Other wells were mechanically driven into the ground; the most common wells are installed using rotary drilling rigs. A casing is placed down the drilled hole to access the groundwater below.

A functioning water well serves as a channel for bringing groundwater to the surface. An abandoned well, likewise, serves as funnel for carrying contaminants from the surface to the groundwater below.

"Products we use around the home, in agricultural operations and in industrial processes can contaminate the groundwater supply," he said.

A water well also may pass

through two different aquifers and have a deteriorated well casing that allows water from two different aquifers to mix. A well casing can develop a hole in the elevation of the upper aquifer and allow the water from the upper aquifer to flow down the casing to the lower aquifer and contaminate it.

Some wells pose a considerable danger to people, wildlife and the environment. Wells have been used as dumping sites, filled with trash, oil or other debris.

"Abandoned water wells need to be properly closed," he said.

Some landowners may be able to do the job themselves. In some cases, it is recommended that a licensed water well driller or pump installer is hired to seal and plug an abandoned well.

Landowners who plan to do the work themselves must first contact the Water Well Drillers Program of the Texas Dept. of Licensing and Regulation with their intent and method they plan to use. They also should request a state well plugging form. Within 30 days of plugging the well, they must send a copy of the form to the TDLR and a copy to their local groundwater district, if one is present.

Abandoned wells should be handled in this manner:

1. Determine the size of the well.
2. Remove obstructions from the well.
3. Disinfect the well.
4. Remove the casing.
5. Fill the well with plugging materials (which can include cement, bentonite, bentonite grout or native clay or caliche).
6. File the plugging report.

Further information about plugging abandoned wells is available from county Extension agents, local groundwater districts or by contacting the Texas Dept. of Licensing and Regulation at (512) 463-7880.

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Sports



Bobcats win bi-district thriller, 61-50

The Bobcats finished the bi-district game decisively and dramatically, with Daniel Flores and Taylor Matthews leading a 17-0 run in the final three minutes for a 61-50 win over Littlefield Tuesday night at Wayland's Hutcherson Center.

The Bobcats and Wildcats traded surges throughout the nip-and-tuck

contest. Dimmitt took a 38-37 lead into the fourth quarter, but Littlefield fashioned a six-point lead, 50-44, with 3:15 remaining.

That's when Matthews and Flores took control.

After Matthews scored off of a rebound with 3:06 left, Flores drove under from outside the arc for a

layup—his second in-your-face drive of the quarter—and then sank six straight free throws to reverse the scoreboard to a 54-50 Dimmitt lead.

On defense, meanwhile, the Bobcats positioned themselves and leaped like wild men, denying Littlefield any second shots.

Matthews nailed two huge rebounds after misses by Littlefield's Clayton Shipley and Kevin Reed, and was fouled both times. He sank three of four free throws to give the Bobcats a little breathing room at 57-50 with 31 seconds left.

Keevin Sanders grabbed an offensive rebound and sank a layup with 10 seconds left to make it 59-50, then the Bobcats got a steal and Matthews finished it off with a 10-ft. jumper just before the buzzer.

Littlefield went scoreless throughout the 17-point Dimmitt run.

"We really wanted this one, because they beat us out (in bi-district) last year," Matthews said. "We just didn't want to go home again and hang 'em up after this game, like we did last year."

He added, "They were pretty good. It was a hard-fought game. I think we just wanted it a little bit more."

After notching 16, 7 and 15 points in the first three quarters, the Bobcats outscored the Wildcats by an impressive 23-13 in the fourth, with Flores netting 11, Matthews 7, Sanders 2 and Daniel Proffitt three on an early long bomb.

The Wildcats' sticky man-to-man defense gave the Bobcats fits, but also was a factor in Littlefield's undoing.

The Wildcats got into foul trouble and put Dimmitt into a bonus free-throw situation with 2:00 remaining, and with a minute left, hotshot guard E. T. Rosemond—who had been hurting the Bobcats on both offense and defense—picked up his fatal fifth foul.

And their defensive aggressiveness gave Flores a couple of openings for his big-time driving layups from the top in the fourth.

"They were overplaying on the rest of our guys, so I was getting some open shots," Flores said. "I was just taking what they were giving me."

✦

The Bobcats started like gang-busters, building an 11-2 lead in the first three minutes of the game, but Coach Brian Huseman's Wildcats got their inside game working and closed it to 16-12 by the end of the quarter.

"Then in the second quarter we kinda went cold," Coach Alan Steinle said. "We got behind about four points (18-22), but our old kids just wouldn't quit. I heard them say several times, 'We're gonna dig our way back in it.'"

After trailing 23-25 at halftime, the Bobcats fell behind 25-30 early in the third before Sammy Prieto nailed six straight points, Flores scored two driving layups and Sanders popped a trey for a 13-0 run that put Dimmitt ahead by 38-30.

But that lead evaporated as the Wildcats finished the third with a 7-0 run of their own to make it a 38-37 game going into the fourth.

The Wildcats continued their run in the fourth, despite a trey by Proffitt and a layup by Flores, until they were ahead by 50-44 with 3:15 to go.

That's when the Bobcats launched their decisive 17-0 finish.

"When we were down by two and Daniel was on the line," Steinle said, "I knew that if Daniel could hit those two free throws and we could get a stop, then we could go up by two, or maybe at least tie it."

"He hit both of them, and then they kept fouling him and he kept making them."

"And Taylor made some awfully big plays in that stretch."

Flores finished with 18 points (11 of them in the fourth quarter), Matthews with 15 and Prieto with 10, while Proffitt and Sanders added eight each and Matthew Sandoval scored two.

Matthews recorded a triple-double as he snared 12 rebounds and racked up 10 credits to go with his 15 points.

Proffitt also had 10 credits while Prieto and Flores notched eight each.

✦

The bi-district victory came on the heels of the Bobcats' ugliest game all year, a 73-39 loss to Tulia in the 1-AAA championship playoff Friday night in "the Box" at WTA&M, Canyon.

The Bobcats realized their worst nightmare as they hit only 26% of their field-goal attempts, including 1-of-20 from the critical three-point range against the taller, ball-hawking Hornets.

The only Dimmitt players in double figures were Taylor Matthews with 10 hard-earned inside points and Daniel Flores with 10 from all angles.

For Tulia, all-stater Mikey Marshall scored 17 and had a bushel of assists and rebounds, Cash Rodgers netted 14 and Isaiah Subealdea got 11.

"They were overplaying on the rest of our guys, so I was getting some open shots," Flores said. "I was just taking what they were giving me."

✦

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"They were overplaying on the rest of our guys, so I was getting some open shots," Flores said. "I was just taking what they were giving me."

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The Bobcats started like gang-busters, building an 11-2 lead in the first three minutes of the game, but Coach Brian Huseman's Wildcats got their inside game working and closed it to 16-12 by the end of the quarter.

"Then in the second quarter we kinda went cold," Coach Alan Steinle said. "We got behind about four points (18-22), but our old kids just wouldn't quit. I heard them say several times, 'We're gonna dig our way back in it.'"

After trailing 23-25 at halftime, the Bobcats fell behind 25-30 early in the third before Sammy Prieto nailed six straight points, Flores scored two driving layups and Sanders popped a trey for a 13-0 run that put Dimmitt ahead by 38-30.

But that lead evaporated as the Wildcats finished the third with a 7-0 run of their own to make it a 38-37 game going into the fourth.

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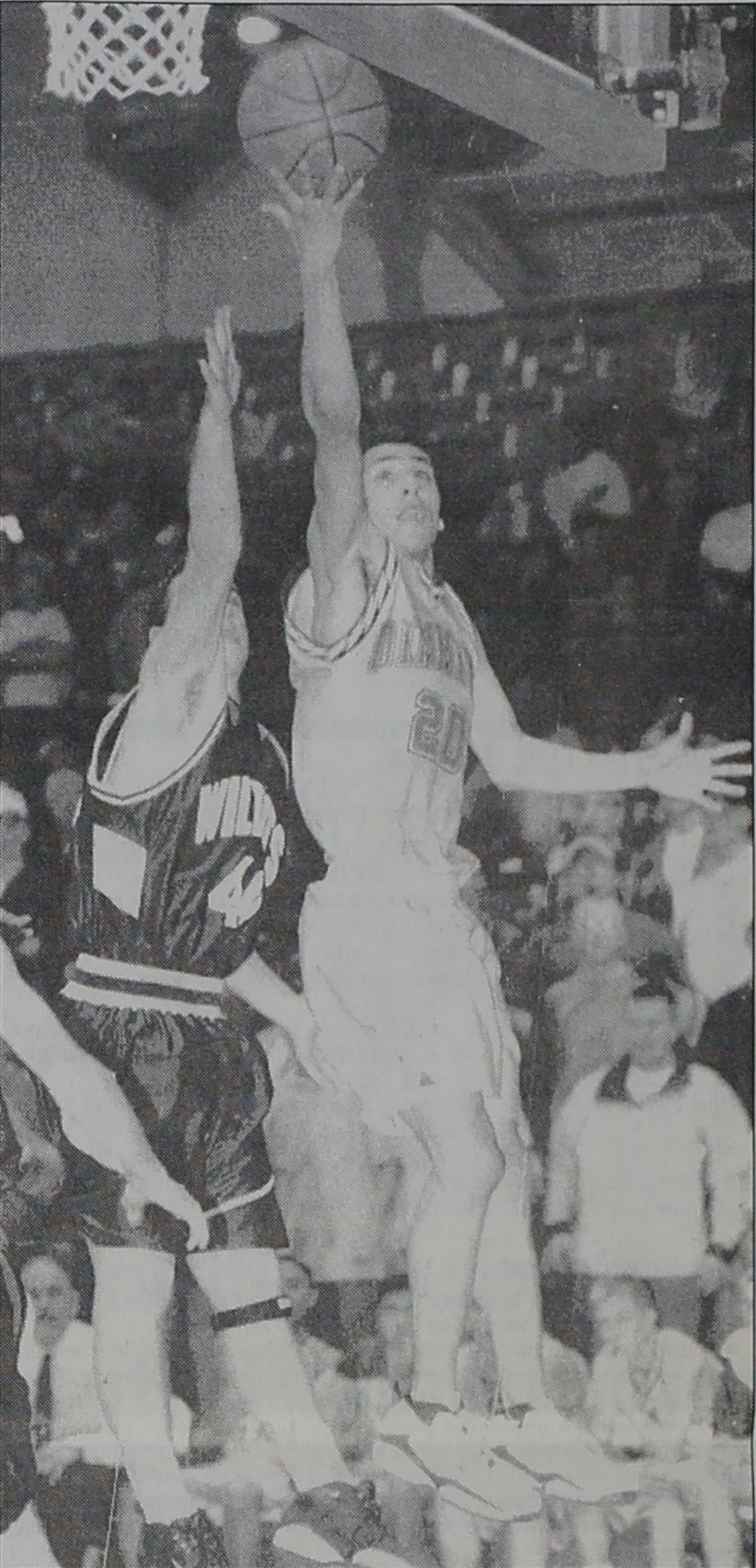
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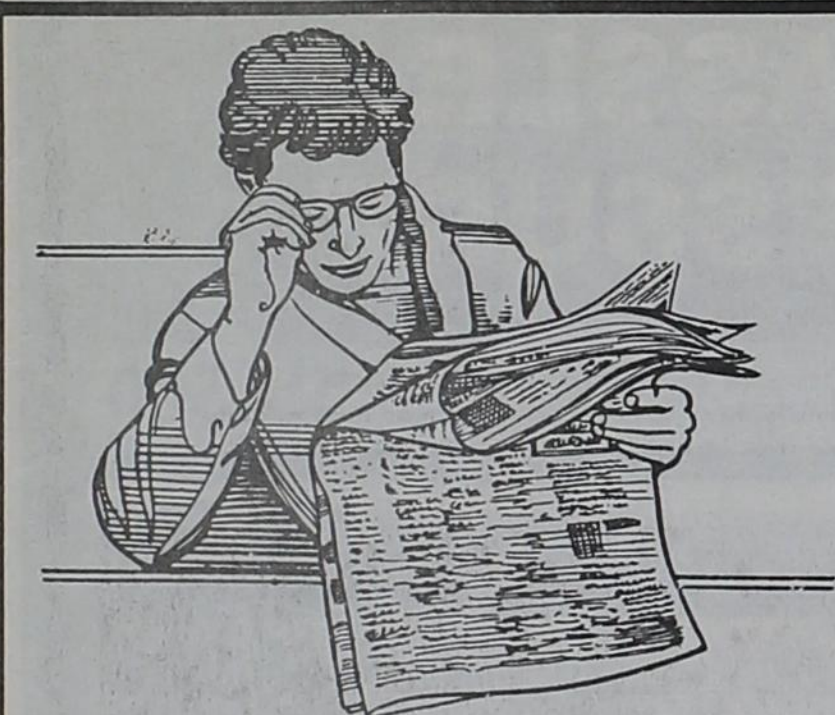
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DANIEL FLORES closes Littlefield's lead to two points, 43-45, with a driving layup from the perimeter with 4:10 remaining in the bi-district championship game Tuesday night. Two minutes later, Flores and Taylor Matthews launched a 17-0 run that gave the Bobcats a 61-50 win. Flores finished with 17 points, 11 of them coming in the fourth period.

Photo by Carter Townsend



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Nazareth Swifts in Area

(Swifts vs. Gruver, Thursday, at 7 p.m.)

Nazareth Swiftettes in Region

(Semifinal: Swiftettes vs. Guthrie, Friday, 6:30 p.m.)

(Championship: Saturday, 7 p.m.)

Dimmitt Bobcats in Area

(Bobcats vs. Monahans, Friday, 8 p.m.)



1470

A.M.

Swiftettes chasing regional title; Bobcats and Swifts ready for area

Three Castro County hoop teams are still alive and working to achieve their season goal of reaching the state tournament.

The Swiftettes have to scale two more hurdles before they can earn a coveted trip to Austin while the Bobcats and Swifts just rounded the first turn in the race for The Drum.

Swifts

The Swifts will meet Gruver tonight (Thursday) in a Class A Area playoff game at 7 p.m. at Amarillo

Power lifters finish fourth among teams

Fred Taylor captured first-place honors in the 242-pound division of a power lifting meet Saturday and that helped boost the Dimmitt Bobcats to a fourth-place team finish in the meet, held at Dalhart.

Mitchell Gentry finished second in the 123-pound class while Daniel Medrano was third in the 132-pound division.

Other Bobcats placing in the meet were Jeremy Furr, fourth in the 148-pound class; Casey Villanueva, fifth in the 220-pound class; and Ruben Casas, fifth in the 220-pound class.

High School.

Nazareth (17-8) advanced to the area round with a big 83-42 win over Texline Tuesday night. The District 6-A champion, Gruver (22-5) qualified for area with a 76-50 bi-district win over Follett Tuesday night.

The Greyhounds have a balanced attack featuring Dan Odom, who poured in 19 points against Follett; Bray Armes and Jason Shoulders.

Bobcats

The Bobcats will tip off with Monahans Friday at 8 p.m. at Lamesa in a Class AAA area playoff. Monahans is the winner of District 4-AAA and brings a 21-8 record into the playoffs. The Lobos earned a bi-district bye by virtue of its district championship.

Dimmitt, 20-11 on the season, earned a spot in the area round by downing Littlefield Tuesday, 61-50.

"They've got a good post player and a good guard," said Dimmitt Coach Alan Steinle. "They're a very athletic team. I understand that their basic defense is man, although they can also do a zone. They're the district champions down there (4-AAA).

Swiftettes

The No. 3-ranked Swiftettes will face Guthrie Friday night at 6:30 in a Region 1-A semifinal game at South

Plains College's Texan Dome in Levelland. If they win that game, they'll meet the winner of the Smyer-Sudan semifinal game in the regional championship Saturday at 7 p.m.

The Nazareth girls knocked off Irion County, 86-43, Monday night to reach the regional tournament.

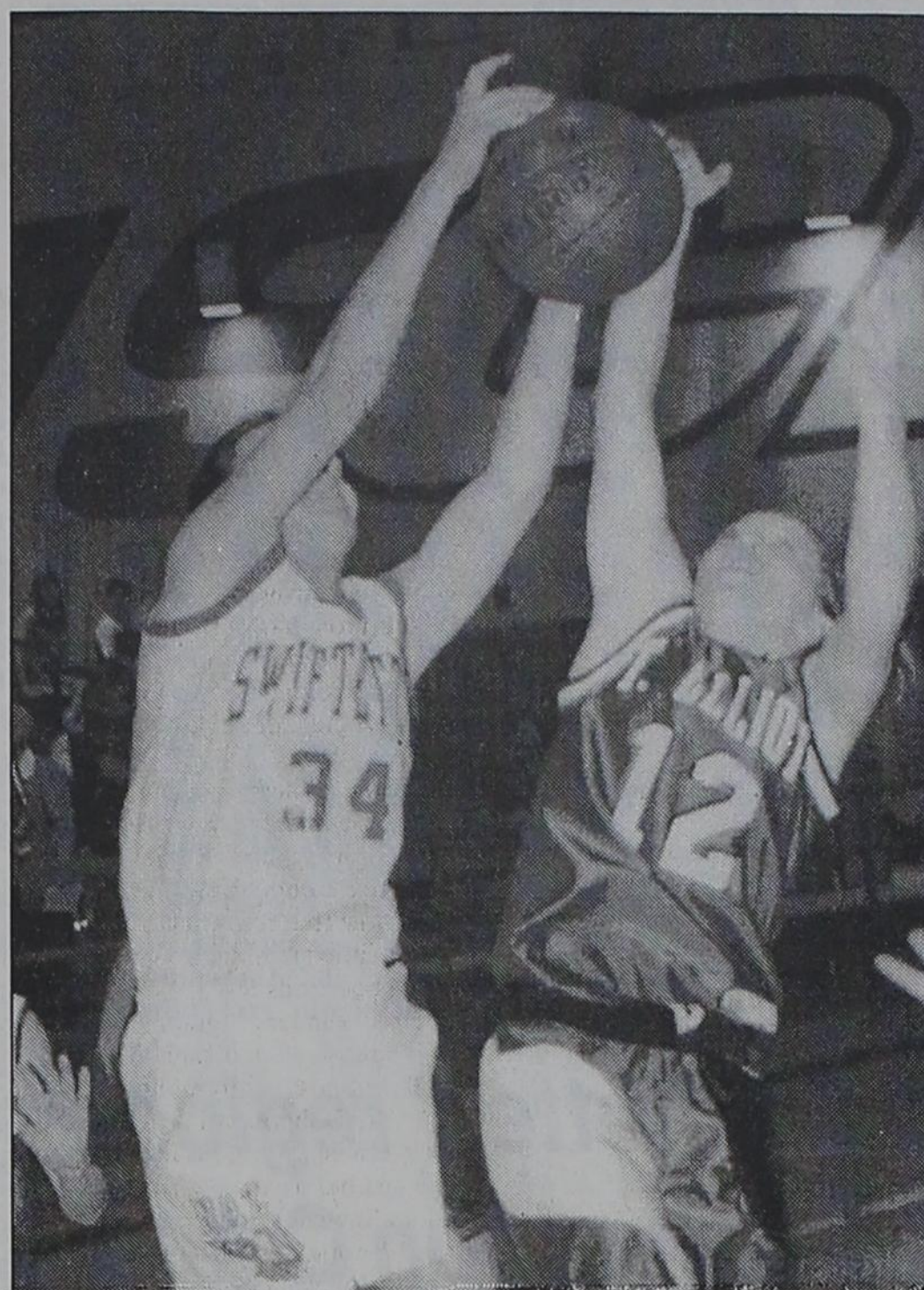
The Swiftettes are 29-5 on the season while Guthrie is 28-4. Guthrie knocked off Whiteface Tuesday night to earn its spot in the regional tourney.

Motorcycle rally slated in Friona

A motorcycle rally is being planned this summer in Friona, and bikers from across the area are invited to attend.

The High Plains Joy Motorcycle Rally Sunday will be held July 30 at Calvary Baptist Church in Friona.

The day's activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee. Fellowship study groups will start at 9:45 a.m. A biker worship service is slated to start at 11 a.m. A lunch will be served at noon.



WHITNEY HOELTING of Nazareth out-maneuvers a Fort Elliott girl for a rebound in area hoop action last Thursday at Caprock Activity Center in Amarillo. The Swiftettes had their hands full with the Lady Cougars, and had to come back from a halftime deficit to claim the win.

Photo by Dwayne Acker

JV Bobcats win district

The junior varsity Dimmitt Bobcats captured the District 1-AAA title with a perfect 8-0 mark and closed out their season with a 22-5 mark on Feb. 11 when they beat Perryton, 70-47.

Dimmitt trailed the Perryton JV, 10-12, after the opening stanza, but exploded in the second quarter with 24 points to take a 34-22 halftime lead.

Dimmitt turned that advantage into a 54-32 lead after three quarters before coasting through the fourth for the 70-47 win.

Three of Dimmitt's leading scorers on the season, Anthony Oltivero, D. Norman and Austin Sherman, kept Dimmitt in control against Perryton, scoring 26, 18 and 11 points, respectively.

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Scores

Bobbies

32, Randall 56
32, Levelland 37
31, Borger 66
Queen's Classic
27, Plainview 66
62, Vega 69
55, Hale Center 40
35, Hereford 49
Levelland Invitational
40, Idalou 42
49, Slaton 51
57, Muleshoe 59
46, Levelland 50
40, Friona 53
46, Lubbock Coronado 85
Caprock Tournament
50, Lamesa 32
40, Shallowater 67
55, Lubbock Estacado 44
45, Caprock 51
50, Littlefield 34
53, Slaton 50
61, Perryton 70
58, Tulia 46
75, River Road 70
62, Sanford-Fritch 41
49, Dalhart 34
49, Tulia 62
59, Perryton 66
44, Sanford-Fritch 55
66, River Road 68
53, Dalhart 48
65, Hale Center 60
43, Muleshoe 49
Season Record: 11-21
District Record: 5-5

Bobcats

54, Randall 61
69, Levelland 60
67, Borger 60
74, Farwell 57
60, Hereford 33
Pioneer Classic
67, Estacado 66
47, Hale Center 50
78, Muleshoe 72
Abernathy Tournament
64, Trinity Christian 84
40, Muleshoe 45
50, Idalou 38
54, Friona 42
56, Lubbock Coronado 62
Caprock Tournament
52, Big Spring 54
47, Caprock 44
61, Seminole 69
55, Littlefield 40
54, Slaton 41
47, Muleshoe 61
56, Tulia 51
70, River Road 64
66, Sanford-Fritch 69
65, Dalhart 45
33, Tulia 61
35, Perryton 32
63, Sanford-Fritch 50
73, River Road 41
86, Dalhart 62
57, Perryton 53
39, Tulia 73
61, Littlefield 50
Season Record: 20-9
District Record: 8-2



TAYLOR MATTHEWS sinks a basket in the first quarter of the bi-district championship game against Littlefield Tuesday night. Matthews finished with 15 points as the Bobcats won the gold trophy, 61-50.
Photo by Carter Townsend

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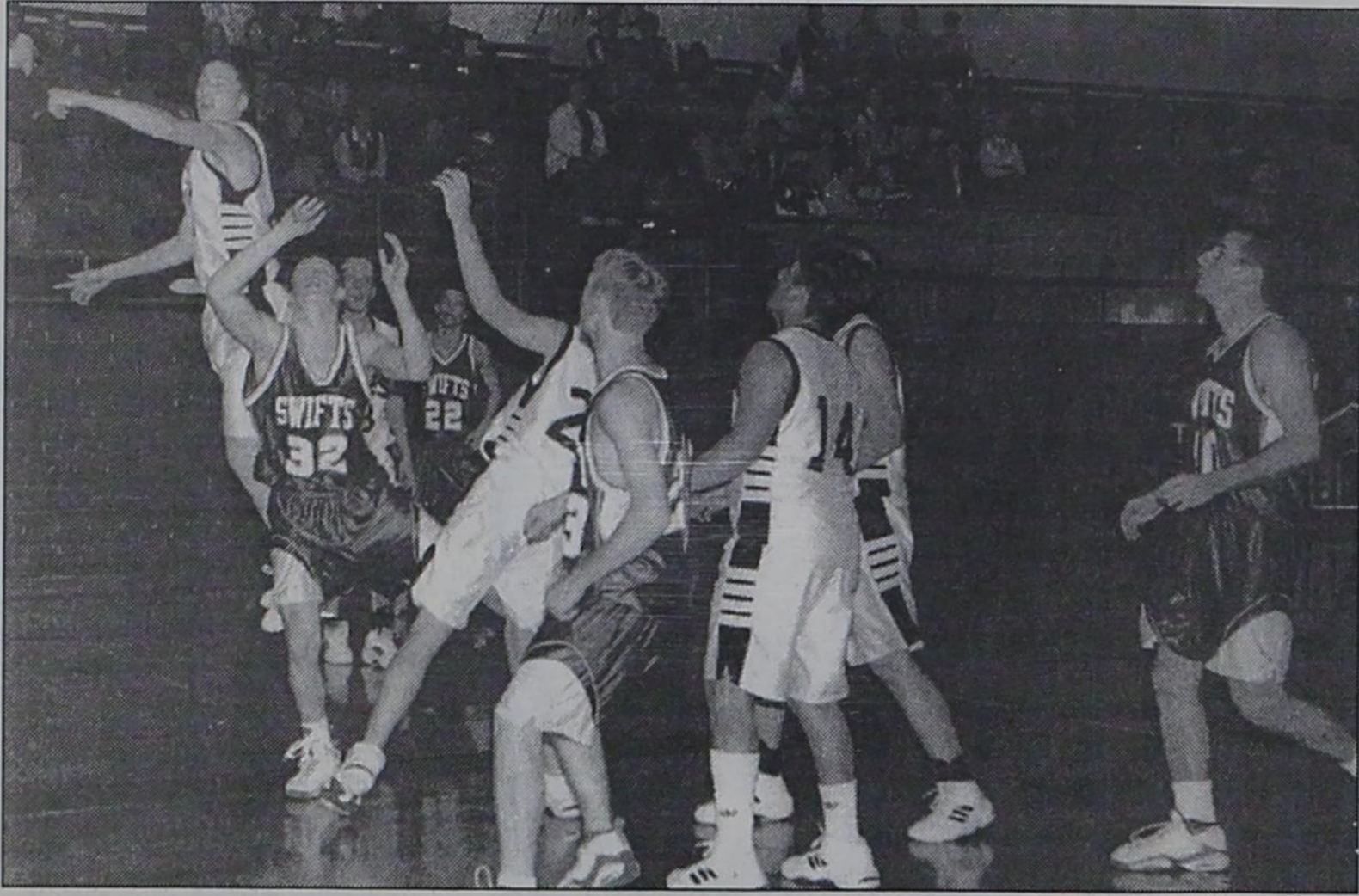
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DARYL POHLMEIER (32) of Nazareth drives around an Abernathy defender and gets off a shot as he's fouled Saturday night in a practice game between the two teams at Plainview High School.

Other Swifts pictured include Jase Merritt, Kade Wilcox and Cameron McLain. Abernathy used a balanced attack to claim the win. Photo by Anne Acker

Defense keys Swiftettes' regional quarterfinal win over Irion County

Nazareth used a stifling defense to shut down the Irion County Lady Hornets for more than a nine-minute span in the first and second quarters Monday, and during that period, the Swiftettes turned an 8-11 deficit into a 33-11 lead.

The Swiftettes forced 27 Lady Hornet turnovers in Monday's Region 1-A quarterfinal at Lamesa, and they used those miscues to dominate their foes for an 86-43 win.

Nazareth improved to 29-5 with the win and earned a berth in the Region 1-A tournament this weekend at South Plains College in Levelland.

Irion County's Celeste Davidson kept her team in the game in the first quarter, attacking the Swiftette defense with some sharp shooting from outside the three-point arc. She made two long balls in the opening stanza, the second of which came at the four minute mark to give the Lady Hornets an 11-8 advantage.

It was all over for Irion County after that. The Swiftettes made a couple of adjustments on defense to shut down the sharp-shooter and still managed to contain the quick-footed Lady Hornet guard, Kristi Turner,

and big post player Kaci Daves.

Daves wouldn't see a point until the fourth quarter and Turner was limited to five points before she fouled out early in the fourth quarter.

After falling behind on Davidson's three-point barrage, Nazareth scored the next bucket to pull within a point and that shot started a 25-0 run that carried deep into the second quarter.

Whitney Hoelting closed out the first quarter with a jumper inside, then canned a pair of free throws in the final seconds and Nazareth held a 14-11 lead. Hoelting finished with 17 points and was Nazareth's second-leading scorer in the game.

Top scoring honor went to senior Cassie Birkenfeld, who picked up 13 of her game-high 20 points in the crucial second quarter.

Birkenfeld connected on three treys, added a pair of free throws and another jumper from inside to spark Nazareth during its 25-0 run.

Irion County finally got a shot to fall with 2:49 left in the half when Wendy Robertson picked up an inside jumper, and the Lady Hornets finished with 10 in the stanza.

But the Lady Hornets couldn't keep pace with the Swiftettes' 29-

point performance in the quarter and Nazareth held a commanding 43-21 lead at the break.

In the second half, Nazareth found the back door open and capitalized by picking up several short jumpers in a row and built a 30-point lead, 54-24, midway through the quarter.

Nazareth continued to expose holes in Irion County's defense to the tune of 28 points in the period, and the Swiftette defense held the Lady Hornets to seven points in the quarter for a 71-28 Nazareth lead.

Both teams tallied 15 points over the final eight minutes as Nazareth coasted to the 86-43 win.

The Lady Hornets were led by Robertson's 11 points while Davidson added 10 and Lindsey McCutcheon finished with eight. Daves picked up her first points of the game in the quarter, finishing with seven on the night for Irion County.

Birkenfeld's 20 points was Nazareth's best while the other four starters also finished in double figures. Hoelting had 17, Shawna Gerber had 14, Stephanie Thiel had 12 and Sara Schulte had 11.

Class A area playoff

Naz edges Fort Elliott despite ghastly shooting performance

It started out as a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad night for the Nazareth Swiftettes last Thursday as layup after layup either rimmed out or missed the hoop altogether in the first half.

Nazareth's shooting woes in its Class A area playoff with Fort Elliott continued through most of the third quarter before Cassie Birkenfeld took control and boosted her team to a come-from-behind 55-48 win.

Nazareth shooters were 5-of-31 in the first half while Fort Elliott took a 20-14 first-half lead on 9-of-20 shooting. The Lady Cougars dominated the boards during the first 16 minutes, too, out-rebounding Nazareth 22-11 in the half.

"We played as bad as you can play," said Nazareth Coach Matt Garrett. "We couldn't hit the broad side of a barn in the first half and the second half wasn't much better. We had a little discussion at halftime about what we weren't doing."

"We weren't hitting from the outside in the first half, but I told the girls you don't get conservative just because you miss a few shots. We didn't shoot the ball well the whole game," Garrett said.

Nazareth trailed the Lady Cougars the better part of the game last Thursday. Fort Elliott held a 9-8 lead after the first quarter and was up 20-14 at halftime thanks to the inside play of the Estes sisters, Amber and Ashley, and shooting guard Carissa Dukes. The trio combined for all of the Lady Cougars' 20 first-half points.

Nazareth got its first lead of the game when Birkenfeld hit one of two free throws with nine seconds left in the third quarter. A Shawna Gerber steal and layup that beat the third-quarter buzzer gave the Swiftettes a 35-32 lead.

Nazareth wouldn't hold onto that lead for long, though.

Fort Elliott would hold one-point advantages twice early in the fourth quarter before Nazareth, behind the hot hand of Birkenfeld, took the lead for good midway through the period.

Birkenfeld, who has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for Wayland Baptist University, was perfect from the field in the fourth quarter, hitting three shots from two-point range and draining



NAZARETH'S SHAWNA GERBER (12) applies defensive pressure on Fort Elliott's Kyleigh Trimble (12) and forces a turnover last Thursday in a Class A area playoff at Caprock Activity Center in Amarillo. The Swiftettes struggled through a poor shooting performance and came from behind to win the game, 55-48. Nazareth beat Irion County Monday night to earn a trip to the regional tournament in Levelland this weekend.

Photo by Dwayne Acker

her only three attempt. She added two critical free throws with two seconds left on the clock to sew up the Nazareth win.

"Cassie showed why she's a senior and why she's signed with Wayland. She's one in a million," said Garrett. Birkenfeld finished with 24 points to lead Nazareth. Gerber had 16, Sara Schulte finished with nine, Stephanie Thiel added four and Mandy Hoelting had two.

Fort Elliott's leading scorers were Dukes, who had 14; and Kyleigh Trimble, who finished with 11 in the second half after Nazareth adjusted its defense to shut down the Estes sisters.

Nazareth finished the game with 34% shooting, making 20 of 59 attempts. The Swiftettes won it at the line in the fourth quarter, making seven-of-eight free throws in the stanza to finish with 11-of-14 for the game.

Fort Elliott finished with 50% shooting, making 20 of their 40 attempts. Lady Cougar shooters struggled from the free throw line throughout the game, though, making just 4-of-12 tries.

Nazareth improved to 28-5 with the win and advanced to the regional quarterfinal round. Fort Elliott ended its season with a 22-5 mark.

Fort Elliott looked to the Estes sisters inside the paint from the opening tip and they responded.

Ashley Estes scored the first points of the game, but Nazareth quickly countered with a shot by Gerber.

Amber Estes got free inside for a short jumper of her own with 5:45 left in the first quarter and Fort Elliott never trailed again until late in the third quarter.

The Lady Cougars took a 7-2 lead when Dukes found nothing but net on a three-point shot with 5:09.

Nazareth came back to tie the game at 7, starting the comeback when Gerber hit a shot as she was fouled by Amber Estes. Gerber added the free throw to pull Nazareth within a basket. Then Birkenfeld got a steal and scored on a fast-break layup to knot the game at 7.

Fort Elliott regained the lead on a shot by Amber Estes with 3:15 left, but she picked up her second foul 11 seconds later and had to go to the bench. That foul netted the Swiftettes one of two free throws when Schulte counted her second attempt.

Nazareth continued to miss shot after shot in the quarter, finishing the first period with 3-of-17 shooting as the Lady Cougars took a 9-8 lead.

Birkenfeld's steal and layup in the first quarter came with 4:03 left in the quarter. Nazareth wouldn't score another field goal until the clock was down to 2:21 in the first half—a drought of nine minutes and 42 seconds.

The lid finally came off the goal

when Birkenfeld connected on a three with 2:21 left in the second quarter, and that pulled Nazareth within three, 12-15.

Nazareth was able to keep Fort Elliott in check with a solid defense that forced 14 Lady Cougar turnovers in the first half. But the Swiftette offense was on ice the entire stanza.

When Fort Elliott did penetrate the Nazareth press, the Lady Cougars took advantage, and with a minute left in the first half, they took an eight-point lead when Dukes hit a three-pointer to give her team a 20-12 lead.

Nazareth got a mid-range jumper from Schulte with 45 seconds left to make it 20-14 at the break.

Nazareth improved its shooting in the second half, hitting 50% of its shots in the third (9-of-18), including two from three-point range.

The seniors took over for Nazareth in the stanza. Birkenfeld paced the comeback with an eight-point third quarter while Schulte added five.

"I told the girls at halftime that we just needed to focus on the things we do best. I told them we needed to take it one basket at a time. It's easy to try and get it all at once when you're down like we were. When we got the first lead we called a timeout to organize. We were trying too hard to make things happen instead of just letting it come to us. Our defense was playing okay—not great, but okay. We just didn't play in sync. We couldn't seem to put it all together."

Fort Elliott enjoyed success in the quarter, too, hitting five of its seven shots from the field, but the Swiftettes were able to use their defense to take the three-point lead by the end of the quarter.

Dukes did her best to keep the Lady Cougars in the race in the fourth quarter. She tied the game at 35 with 7:13 left by nailing a three.

After Birkenfeld answered that trey with one of her own from the top of the key, Dukes went down the court and popped her second of the stanza to tie it at 38.

The Lady Cougars claimed a one-point lead with 6:01 left on a free throw by Trimble, but Birkenfeld connected to regain the lead for her team.

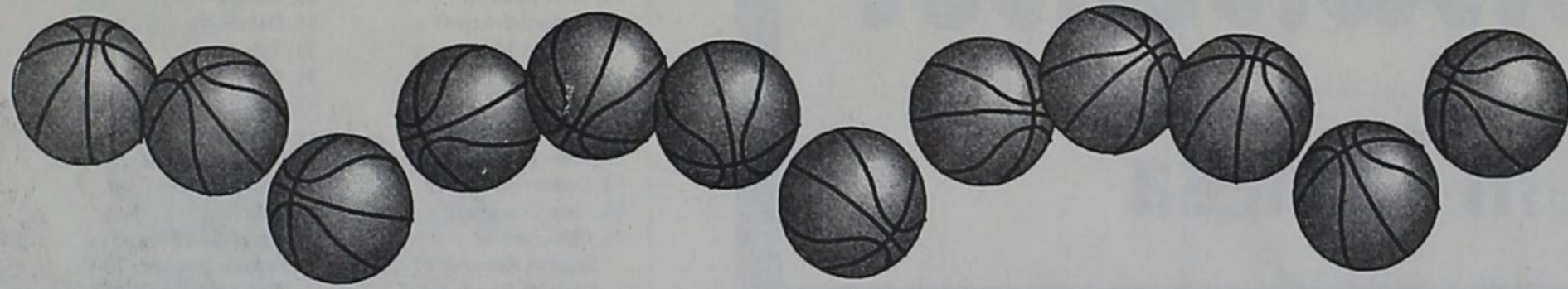
Fort Elliott would own another one-point edge in the quarter before Nazareth took over for good on a shot by Gerber with 4:41 left.

Birkenfeld and Gerber combined for 11 points over the final four minutes to keep the Swiftettes on top, although the Lady Cougars managed to pull within three twice in the final minute.

"Fort Elliott played a great game. They've got a couple of really talented post players. They really did a better job than we did tonight," Garrett said.

When inaugurated as vice president, Andrew Johnson appeared drunk, having just recovered from an attack of typhoid fever.

Hermit crabs generally live alone, in the shells of sea snails. A hermit crab may pull out the live snail, getting a new house and a feast as well.



Good Luck, Swiftettes, in the Region Tournament

at the Texan Dome in Levelland

Semifinal: Swiftettes vs. Guthrie, Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Championship: Saturday, 7 p.m.



Good Luck, Swifts, in your Area Game against Gruver!

Thursday, 7 p.m. at Amarillo High School

NAZARETH, TEXAS ★ HOME OF CHAMPIONS!

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Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt
Thriftway Supermarket/Dimmitt Market



Hoop Scores

THURSDAY

Class A Area Playoff
at Caprock Activity Center, Amarillo
Swifts 55, Fort Elliott 48

Nazareth 8 6 21 20—55
Fort Elliott 9 11 12 16—48

NAZARETH: Cassie Birkenfeld 9 4-5—24; Sara Schulte 3 2-4—9; Shawna Gerber 6 3-3—16; Stephanie Thiel 1 2-2—4; Whitney Hoelting 0 0-0—0; Mandy Hoelting 1 0-0—2. **TOTALS:** 20 11-14—55.

FORT ELLIOTT: Ashley Estes 4 0-0—8; Carissa Dukes 5 0-0—14; Kyleigh Trimble 4 3-6—11; Kirbie Kinnaman 1 0-1—2; Amber Estes 4 1-5—9; Julie Zybach 2 0-0—4. **TOTALS:** 20 4-12—48.

THREE-POINT GOALS: Nazareth 5-of-23 (Birkenfeld 3, Schulte 1, Gerber 1); Fort Elliott 4-of-12 (Dukes 4). **TURNOVERS:** Nazareth 6, Fort Elliott 23. **REBOUNDS:** Nazareth 25, Fort Elliott 32. **FOULS:** Nazareth 15, Fort Elliott 14. **FOULED OUT:** Schulte, Kinnaman. **ATTENDANCE:** 700.

DIMMITT: Daniel Proffitt 1 0-1—2; Kevin Sanders 0 0-0—0; Taylor Matthews 4 2-2—10; Sammy Prieto 1 1-4—3; Daniel Flores 4 2-2—10; Marcus Larra 1 0-0—3; B.J. Hill 1 3-4—5; Van Jeter 0 2-2—2; Matthew Sandoval, 0 0-0—0; Anthony Oltivero 0 2-2—2; Michael Norman 1 0-0—2; Jeff Stovall 0 0-0—0; Corey Lane 0 0-0—0; Julian Velo 0 0-0—0. **TOTALS:** 13 12-17—39.

TULIA: Cash Rodgers 4 3-6—14; Chris Gibson 1 3-4—5; Mikey Marshall 6 1-2—17; Skyler Vaughn 2 5-7—9; Isiah Subaldea 3 4-4—11; Blake Singer 0 0-0—0; David Hulsey 2 0-0—4; Adam Bean 0 2-2—2; Michael Hawthorne 0 0-0—0; Jordan Hacker 1 0-0—2; Tyrell Bebout 3 0-0—9. **TOTALS:** 22 18-25—73.

THREE-POINT GOALS: Dimmitt 1-20 (Larra 1); Tulia 11-24 (Marshall 4, Rodgers 3, Bebout 3, Subaldea 1). **TOTAL FOULS:** Dimmitt 13, Tulia 22. **FOULED OUT:** Sanders. **ATTENDANCE:** 1,200.

REGION 1-A QUARTERFINAL

at Lamesa

Swifts 86, Irion County 43

Nazareth 14 29 28 15—86
Irion County 11 10 7 15—43

NAZARETH: Cassie Birkenfeld 7 2-20; Sara Schulte 4 2-5—11; Shawna

Gerber 4 5-6—14; Stephanie Thiel 6 0-0—12; Whitney Hoelting 5 7-10—17; Mandy Hoelting 2 3-3—8; Wendy Black 0 2-2—2; Marsha Black 0 0-0—0; Nichole Huseman 0 0-0—0; Lindsey Gerber 1 0-0—2. **TOTALS:** 29 21-28—86.

IRION COUNTY: Hollie Harper 0 0-0—0; Kristi Turner 1 3-3—5; Lindsey McCutchen 3 2-4—8; Celeste Davidson 3 1-5—10; Wendy Robertson 3 5-6—11; Kim Whitt 0 0-0—0; Sarah Dutchover 1 0-0—2; Kaci Daves 3 1-2—7; Kasi Whitlow 0 0-0—0. **TOTALS:** 14 12-20—43.

THREE-POINT GOALS: Nazareth 7-of-28 (Birkenfeld 4, Mandy Hoelting 1, Schulte 1, Gerber 1); Irion County 3-of-8 (Davidson 3). **TURNOVERS:** Nazareth 15, Irion County 27. **REBOUNDS:** Nazareth 48 (Thiel 12, Birkenfeld 10), Irion County 22 (Daves 7). **FOULS:** Nazareth 18, Irion County 21. **FOULED OUT:** Turner.

CLASS AAA BI-DISTRICT

at Plainview

Bobcats 61, Littlefield 50

Dimmitt 16 17 15 23—61
Littlefield 12 13 12 13—50

DIMMITT: Daniel Proffitt 3 0-0—8; Sammy Prieto 3 3-3—10; Taylor Matthews 6 3-6—15; Kevin Sanders 4 1-2—8; Daniel Flores 6 7-8—18; Matthew Sandoval 1 0-1—2. **TOTALS:** 19 14-20—61.

LITTLEFIELD: Clayton Shipley 2 0-2—4; E.T. Rosemond 6 0-3—12; Kevin Reed 4 2-2—10; Micah Pratt 4 0-0—8; Eric Garcia 3 0-0—6; Dustin Kirby 2 0-2—4; J.D. Walls 2 2-2—6. **TOTALS:** 19 5-11—50.

CLASS A BI-DISTRICT

at Tascosa High School, Amarillo

Swifts 83, Texline 42

Nazareth 21 23 24 15—83
Texline 9 6 13 14—42

NAZARETH: Kade Wilcox 9 2-3—23; Ky Wilcox 2 1-1—6; Eric Schilling 9 0-0—18; Daryl Pohlmeier 3 1-1—7; Blake Birkenfeld 2 0-0—5; Cameron McLain 1 0-0—2; Jase Merritt 3 1-2—8; Tyler Ehly 1 0-0—3; Justin Kleman 0 0-0—0; Chase Schulte 3 0-0—9; Kody Huseman 1 0-0—2. **TOTALS:** 34 3-4—83.

TEXLINE: Ty Van Vranken 1 7-9—9; Chris Herrera 5 2-4—14; Ryan Austin 3 1-2—7; Aaron Potter 1 0-2—2; Brandon Smith 2 2-2—6; Lorenzo Avila 0 0-2—0; Michael Gard 2 0-1—4. **TOTALS:** 14 12-20—42.

THREE-POINT GOALS: Nazareth 12 (Kade Wilcox 5; Schulte 3; Ky Wilcox, Jase Merritt, Tyler Ehly and Blake Birkenfeld 1); Texline 2 (Herrera). **REBOUNDS:** Nazareth 42, Texline 31. **TURNOVERS:** Nazareth 15, Texline 27. **BLOCKED SHOTS:** Nazareth 2, Texline 1. **FOULS:** Nazareth 18, Texline 11.



THE NAZARETH SWIFTS captured the Class A bi-district championship Tuesday night with a big 83-42 win over Texline at Tascosa Activity Center in

Amarillo. Nazareth advances to the area round of the playoffs, where they will face Gruver tonight (Thursday) at 7 at Amarillo High School.

Photo by Dwayne Acker

City rejects Energas rate increase request

The Dimmitt City Council voted Monday night to reject the rate increase proposal submitted by Energas Co., as recommended by Energas spokesman Alan Foster.

Foster said he didn't normally ask for proposals to be rejected, but the company feels it would be simpler to deal with the rate proposal if all the affected cities stick together, so that one settlement will cover everybody.

The 67 cities covered by the proposed rate hike had already banded together and formed a steering committee that hired a consultant to look at the company's proposal and make a presentation to the Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates natural gas rates.

Foster said when the cities turn down the proposal the company will appeal it to the TRC and the case will be sent to mediation. He said the company hopes it won't have to go to a full-blown rate hearing, which takes longer to resolve.

In another matter, the council approved an agreement with VALOR Telecommunications of Texas (Valor Texas), the company that wants to buy out local exchanges from GTE.

The agreement states that Dimmitt would like VALOR to commit in writing to improve the telephone services provided to its residents, and VALOR would like for the city to support its Sale, Transfer or Merger (STM) Application and Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CNN) Applications as they are presented to the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

VALOR agrees to improve services through planned facility upgrades, including offering additional services, such as caller ID, caller name ID, call waiting, three-way calling, call forwarding, call return, call blocker, and auto redial. These shall be available at least within 24 months after the transaction is closed with GTE.

VALOR also promised not to seek any changes in the current mandated Expanded Local Calling (ELC) surcharge for a period of two years, and will perform a feasibility study of broadband DSL deployment provided the city has service requests for at least 75 DSL lines.

Also, VALOR stated that within 18 months after the closing of the deal, the company will increase its support personnel in Texas by at least 10% over the 320 employees referenced in their application.

The city council okayed adding two provisions to the agreement that have not been accepted by VALOR as of yet. One provision asked VALOR to commit to creating a physical presence in Dimmitt by employing an individual to have an office in Dimmitt during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. week days, with the duties of accepting payments and answering billing and service questions and requests.

The other provision was for Dimmitt to be granted "most favored city" status. By this, Dimmitt would be entitled to treatment comparable to that which was afforded under an agreement with any other city, giving due consideration to the contextual meaning of the provision on which the proposed amendment is requested.

In another matter, the council gave approval for City Manager Don Sheffy to begin seeking bids on seal coating for city streets this summer.

In his manager's report, Sheffy expressed thanks to Harold Smith of Hart for the caliche-fly ash mixture he donated to the city. Sheffy said it will be applied to city alleyways, with those in the worst condition getting the first treatments. Sheffy said there wasn't as much of the material as he had hoped.

Sheffy also remarked that he would like to encourage local citizens to continue using the blue dumpsters around town for recycling of paper and cardboard. He said it is really helping the situation at the landfill by eliminating a lot of waste.

Handweavers' guild to meet

The Palo Duro Handweavers' Guild monthly meeting will be on Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in Amarillo.

For meeting location or more information call 355-6220.

Swifts blow away Tornadoses to claim bi-district championship

The Nazareth Swifts blew into the Amarillo Tascosa Activity Center Tuesday night and blasted the Texline Tornadoses, 83-42, to claim the Class A bi-district championship.

Nazareth went on a 13-0 run in the first quarter to build a big lead and never looked back, cruising to the win.

The Swifts nailed 12 three-pointers in the game, with Kade Wilcox sinking five. He finished with a game-high 23 points for Nazareth.

While Wilcox and the other Nazareth guards were hitting shots all over the perimeter, Eric Schilling was dominating inside, both on the boards and scoring from inside the paint. He finished with 18 points.

The Swift defense forced 27 Tornado turnovers and held Texline's star point guard, Ty Van Vranken to nine points. Seven of Van Vranken's points came from the charity stripe.

He was 1-of-12 from the field.

Texline's leading scorer was Chris Herrera, who had 14 points on 5-of-11 shooting from the field and 2-of-4 results from the line.

The win earned Nazareth a spot in the area round of the playoffs, and the Swifts will face Gruver in that game.

Wilcox opened scoring by nailing a shot from three-point country, but Herrera answered with a trey for the Tornadoses.

Herrera hit his shot at the 6:35 mark. Texline would stall at 3 on the scoreboard until Brandon Smith scored with just under four minutes left.

During that time, Nazareth reeled off 13 unanswered points. Daryl Pohlmeier converted a three-point play to start the surge, then Schilling took over, scoring four straight bas-

kets and before Texline knew it, the Swifts were up 16-3.

The Tornadoses managed to break the drought with Smith's shot, then Herrera sank a shot at the buzzer to trim Nazareth's lead to 21-9.

Texline wouldn't get a point in the second quarter until Herrera connected with 3:12 left in the period.

Nazareth had no problems finding the bottom of the net, though, reeling off 20 unanswered points to open the quarter and build a 41-9 lead.

Texline only managed six points in the quarter, four of which came from Herrera while Smith added two.

With the comfortable 44-15 halftime lead, Nazareth cruised through the second half, taking a 68-28 lead after three quarters and outscoring Texline 15-14 in the fourth for the win.

just in time for **Spring!**



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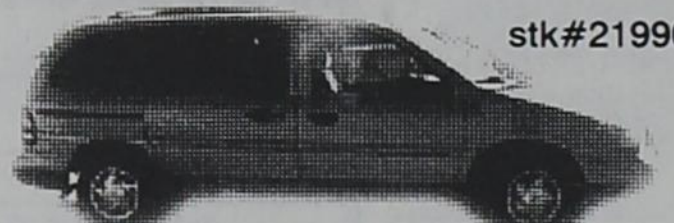
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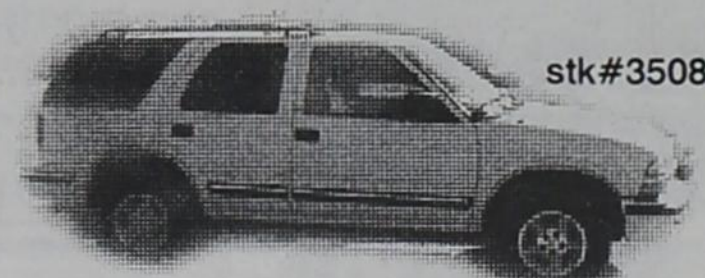


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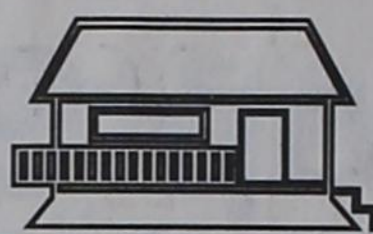
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that the dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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SUPER COUNTRY living on three acres. Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, double fireplace. Exceptional shop.

THREE BEDROOMS, two baths, living with fireplace, sunroom. \$60,000.

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THE DIMMITT POLICE DEPARTMENT is now taking applications for a secretary-dispatcher from Feb. 25 through Feb. 29. High school diploma or GED required, typing and computer skills a plus. Pick up application form at the Police Dept., 200 E. Jones. 20-47-1tc

POSITIONS AVAILABLE: Castro County Hospital District, P.O. Box 278, 310 W. Halsell, Dimmitt, TX 79027. Contact Nancy Fuller, 806-647-2191, ext. 423. FAX 806-647-2407. Gen-Psych Unit—Full-time R.N., 8 hr. week-day shift; Part-time R.N.; Full-time L.V.N.; Part-time N.A. to work 12-hr. shifts, rotating week/weekends, days/nights. 20-47-1tc

22—Notices

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 647-4594. 22-44-4tc

24—Card of Thanks

CARD OF THANKS

Words can never describe what the people of Dimmitt mean to us.

Before we could even get to Dimmitt from Amarillo, Billie Kirby and Francis Smith had been in with essential supplies and straightened up the house. Next came all the tears, hugs and food from many, many others.

We love each of you. A town is only as good as its people, and Dimmitt gets an A+ rating.

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CHRISTIAN COUPLE YEARNS to share their love of each other, sailing, skiing, and vacations with a precious baby. Let's help each other. Expenses paid. Call Linda and John anytime. 1-888-399-5131.

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DRIVER - COMPANY DRIVERS and Owner Operators. Call today and ask about our great new compensation and bonus packages! Boyd Bros., 1-800-543-8923 (O/Os call 1-800-633-1377). EOE.

DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT *Coast to coast runs *Teams start 35c-37c *\$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers and owner operators, 1-800-441-4394. For graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVER - O/Os AND Professional Drivers for Landstar Fleet Owners wanted! Qualifications: 23 years-old. Class-A CDL with HazMat, 1 year OTR experience, safe driving record. Call Landstar Inway at 1-800-435-4010. www.landstar.com.

DRIVER - WESTWAY EXPRESS - 1-800-993-7483. Great pay - 27 cpm to 32 cpm. 83 cpm owner/operator. 10,000 miles/month guaranteed. Great benefits! *Health *Life *401k *Rider *Driver training! *Call Charlie, Career Worldwide, 1-800-852-1243.

DRIVERS...\$1,000 SIGN-ON. TOP \$\$\$. OTR / Regional singles, teams & O/O's. Vans, flatbeds or specialized. Class-A CDL & 1 year trucking experience. Roadrunner Trucking 1-800-945-BIRD (2473).

DRIVERS AND OWNER-OPERATORS - 82 cpm. OTR 2 to 3 weeks. Competitive pay, good miles, outstanding equipment, excellent benefits. Experience required. Gulf Coast Transport, 1-888-988-8666.

DRIVERS - CFI NOW HIRING! OTR drivers. Company and O/O. Super teams split up to 40c - Company, 84c - O/O. 1-800-CFI-DRIVE, www.cfidrive.com.

DRIVERS...SWIFT TRANSPORTATION hiring drivers and teams. Contracted CDL training available. Excellent pay and benefits, consistent miles, assigned equipment. Ask about sign-on bonus! 1-800-587-1013 (EOE/M/F).

DRIVERS - INEXPERIENCED TRAINING available. North American Van Lines has tractor trailer 48-state hauling opportunities for owner/operators and temporary company drivers. Call 1-800-348-2147, dept. TXS.

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee their products or services advertised. We urge our readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact your local Better Business Bureau for information about the company before sending money.

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What your ad will cost:

- ✓ The first time your ad runs it will cost at least \$5 (25 cents per word with a \$5 minimum).
- ✓ Each consecutive time you run your ad with no changes, it will cost 25 cents per word with no minimum.
- ✓ A Card of Thanks will cost \$7.50.

Where to find ads:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Homes and land for sale | 14. Automobiles for sale |
| 2. Farms for sale | 15. Recreational vehicles |
| 3. Homes and apartments for rent | 16. Auto parts and supplies |
| 4. Things people want to rent | 17. Business opportunities |
| 5. Miscellaneous items for sale | 18. Services |
| 6. Garage sales | 18A. Insurance |
| 7. Household goods for sale | 19. Students seeking work |
| 8. Farm equipment and supplies | 20. Help wanted |
| 9. Agricultural services | 22. Notices |
| 10. Feed, seed and grain for sale | 23. Lost and found |
| 11. Farm produce for sale | 24. Cards of thanks |
| 12. Livestock and pets | 25. Legal notices |

22—Notices

Political Announcements

The News has been authorized to list the names of the following candidates for public office, subject to the March 14 primary election.

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY
For County Tax Assessor/Collector:
Billy Hackleman (I)
Marshall Young

For County Constable:
James Dobbs (I)

For Precinct 1 Commissioner:
Harold Smith

For Precinct 3 Commissioner:
W.A. "Bay" Baldrige (I)

For County/District Attorney:
Jack Edwards
James Horton
Jerry Matthews (I)

For County Sheriff:
CD Fitzgaird (I)
Santos Perez

23—Lost & Found

FOUND. Jewelry on Maple. Call 647-2528 to describe and claim. 23-47-1tc

25—Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Castro County Commissioners Court will accept proposals through March 7, 2000, until 5 p.m. for bond counsel for a \$2.5 million bond election.

Castro County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and the right to waive formalities.
IRENE MILLER, CASTRO COUNTY JUDGE
25-47-2tc

LEGAL NOTICE

Castro County Commissioners Court will accept proposals through March 7, 2000, until 5 p.m. for a Financial Advisor for a \$2.5 million bond election.

Castro County reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and the right to waive formalities.
IRENE MILLER, CASTRO COUNTY JUDGE
25-47-2tc

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Dimmitt
first!*

DRIVERS - LONG HAUL needed. Class-A CDL required. Student graduates welcome. Continental Express, 1-800-727-4374.

DRIVERS - O/Os FLATBED - Smithway Motor Xpress. New pay package, weekly pay, great home time. Charles Malone, 1-800-952-8091.

DRIVERS / VAN & FLATBED - Little John Trucks Inc., 3000-4000 miles/week. Health insurance paid 100%, tarp pay, drop pay, monthly bonus. Average 31 cpm. Call 1-800-647-3864.

DRIVERS - WHEN IT comes to benefits, we've got all the bells and whistles. *Paid weekly. *Great pay. *\$1,000 sign-on bonus. *Training opportunities. SRT-1-877-BIG-PAYDAY (1-877-244-7293) Toll Free.

DRIVERS-OWNER OPERATORS... Cash fleet! Condo payments at \$275 with full service maintenance, no credit check. No \$ down, free reefer fuel, 72% contract. Roor 1-800-446-4782. EOE.

DRIVERS/OWNER OPERATORS - Earn up to 87 cpm. Average 3,000 miles per week. Travel & lodging paid for orientation. Vernon Sawyer 1-888-829-9565.

FEE TRANSPORTATION IS hiring inexperienced drivers who can place in our carrier assisted training program. We offer good starting pay and excellent benefits. Call 1-800-569-9232.

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DRIVER/INEXPERIENCED... EARN up to \$35,000 the first year. Tuition reimbursement available. Experienced drivers earn \$800/wk. USA Truck,

Local candidate sign ups started

In the May 6 elections for city, school and hospital board positions, candidates began filing for office as of Monday.

Positions that are expiring and candidates who had filed as of Tuesday are listed below.

Dimmitt

City of Dimmitt—City council members whose terms are expiring are Roy Garza, Dist. 1; Gloria

Hernandez, Dist. 2; Charles Richard, Dist. 3; and Roger Malone, Dist. 4.

Richard has filed in Dist. 3.

DISD—Terms are expiring for John Nino in Place 1 and David Schaeffer in Place 5.

Schaeffer has filed in Place 5.

Hart

City of Hart—Terms are expiring for Aldermen Harold Smith, Richard Entekin, and Horace E. "Tom" McLain.

Entekin has filed.

HISD—Terms are expiring for Ricky Mitchell, Pancho Diaz, and Danny Rodriguez.

Nazareth

City of Nazareth—Mayor Ralph Brockman and City Commissioner Virgil Huseman are coming to the end of their terms.

NISD—Those whose terms are ending are Peggy Birkenfeld and David Olvera.

Hospital

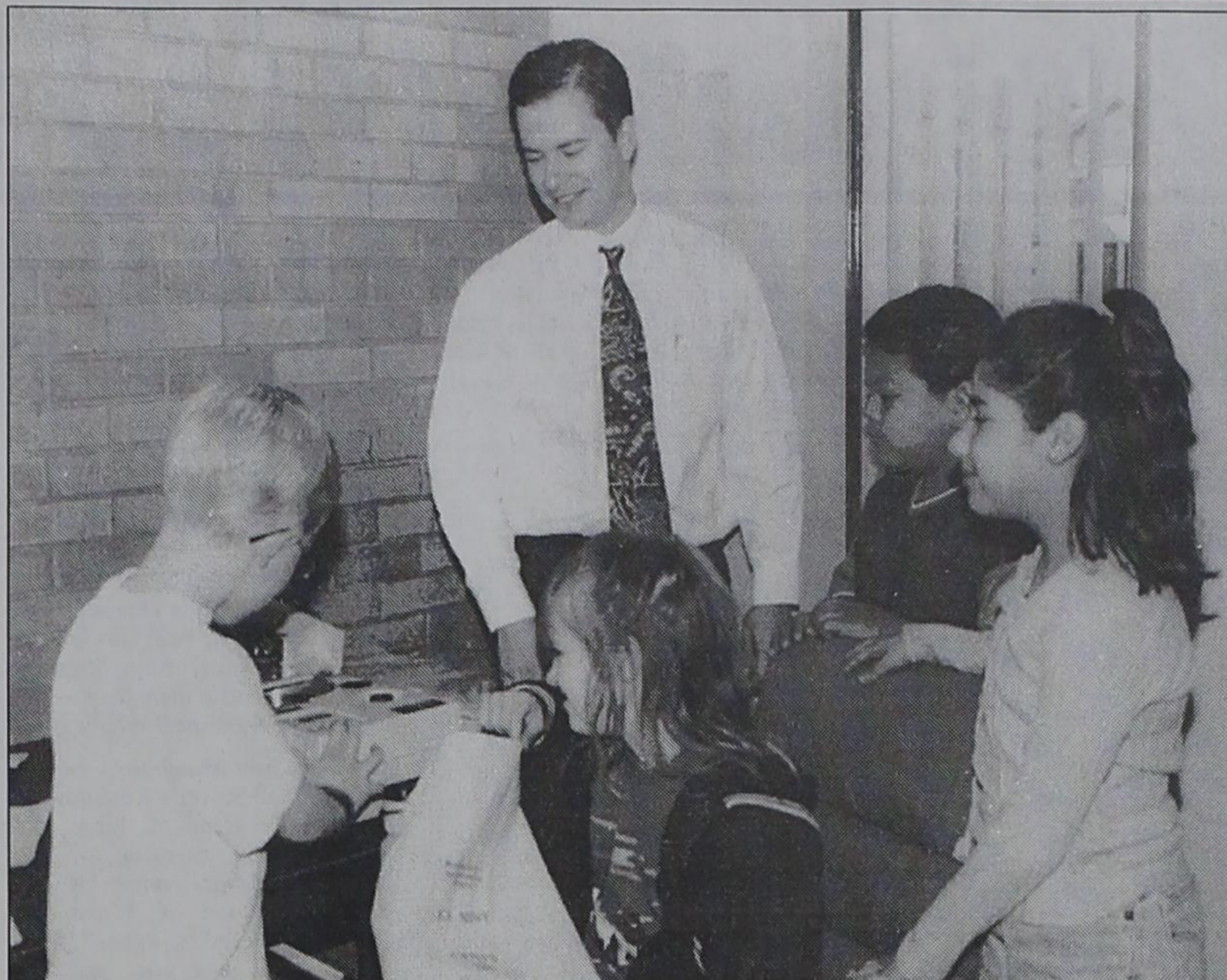
Trustees for the Castro County Hospital District whose terms are expiring are Mark Welch and Dr. W.J. Hill.

Langford makes list

Amber K. Langford of Dimmitt has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Stephen F Austin State University at Nacogdoches.

She is majoring in interdisciplinary studies.

To be eligible for the honor, students must be enrolled in 12 or more semester hours and maintain an excellent grade point average.



COUNTING PENNIES—Richardson Elementary School students collected pennies over the last few weeks to donate to the Leukemia Society of America, raising a total of \$1,412.17. Here students from the third grade class of Connie Merritt put coins in a counting machine with the help of Chaun Gunstream, branch manager of First Bank,

Muleshoe, Dimmitt Branch. The students are (from left) Jeffrey Addison, Lindsey Cates, Nick Tijerina and Mayra Aguilar. Merritt's class raised the most money (\$175.09) and was awarded a pizza party. RES Principal Clint Seward said that many donations also were received from individuals, including Irene Carpenter and Kent Fowler.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

20—Help Wanted

20—Help Wanted

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We're hand-pickin' our most valuable resource

HIRING SOON!

Seasonal Positions

- ★ Assistant Field Unit Supervisors (some exp. required)
- ★ Airport Recorder
- ★ Trapper
- ★ Ground Observer
- ★ Mist Blow Operator

All candidates must have a

- At least 18 years old and valid driver's license and be insurable under foundation fleet insurance policy.
- Outdoor work. No experience necessary. Ag background helpful.
- If you worked or applied during the 1999 season you must complete a new application for the 2000 season.

For more information, apply in person:

Frona 410 W. 12th St. Frona, TX 806-247-8008	Muleshoe 710 N. 1st St. Muleshoe, TX 806-272-5122	Littlefield 805 E. Hwy 84 Littlefield, TX 806-385-4819	Springlake Hwy 70, FM 199 Springlake, TX 806-986-4200
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Equal Opportunity MF/D/V



CNA'S

This is Sadie, our facility pet.

She is one of our residents' best friends.

Wouldn't you like to be one of their friends too?

Call Jeanie Clagg Dow

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Equal Opportunity MF/D/V

Early voting to start Monday in primaries

Monday will be the first day of early voting by personal appearance for the primary elections.

March 7 will be the last day for the early voting clerk to receive applications for ballots by mail.

Early voting will end March 10.

The primary elections will be held March 14.

If any runoff elections are required following the primaries, qualified persons may register to vote in the runoff by March 13. The runoff would be held April 11. Early voting for the runoff elections would be held April 3-7.

Red Cross sets classes

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross will hold a community first aid and safety class Saturday at the chapter's office in Hereford, 224 S. Main.

Advance payment is required to be registered in any class. The cost is \$35, which includes a book.

Those interested may call 364-3761 for more information.

Cancellations made the day before the scheduled class will receive a full refund.

On Tuesday, Emergency Assistance I will be taught by Bill Amero, the Panhandle director of disaster services for the Red Cross. There are prerequisites for this course, so those interested should call the above number.

Hart ISD Board will discuss renewing Elam's, Bryant's contracts on March 10

The Hart School board elected not to renew the contracts of High School Principal Digger Elam and athletic director Todd Bryant, then promptly rescinded the vote in a meeting last week.

Two of the seven board members, Sandy Farris and Danny Rodriguez, were absent from the meeting, and after discussing the personnel matters, the board decided it might be better to hold off on action until the entire board could be present.

Board Member Brian Nelson made the motion to rescind the previous motion which included non-renewal of Elam's and Bryant's contracts and Daniel Higgins seconded it. The motion to rescind carried with Nelson, Higgins, Ricky Mitchell and Pancho Diaz voting in favor. Coy Myrick cast a dissenting vote.

The personnel matters will be placed on the agenda for next month's meeting, which will be held at 8:30 a.m. on March 10.

The board discussed Elam's and Bryant's contracts in open forum at the request of the two employees.

Hart Supt. Dr. Martin Earley had recommended that the board offer a one-year extension to Elam's contract, which will expire in June 2000.

According to a story in the Feb. 18 issue of *The Hart Beat*, Higgins and Myrick told the board they had heard

complaints about Elam's "weak discipline."

Elam told the board that he dealt with problems if called to his attention.

The Hart Beat reported that Earley told the board the only complaints he had received involving Elam's handling of discipline problems was that he was too "excessive," not "weak."

Mitchell made the motion to renew Elam's contract and Diaz seconded it, but they were the only two members who were in favor of the renewal. Higgins, Nelson and Myrick voted not to renew it.

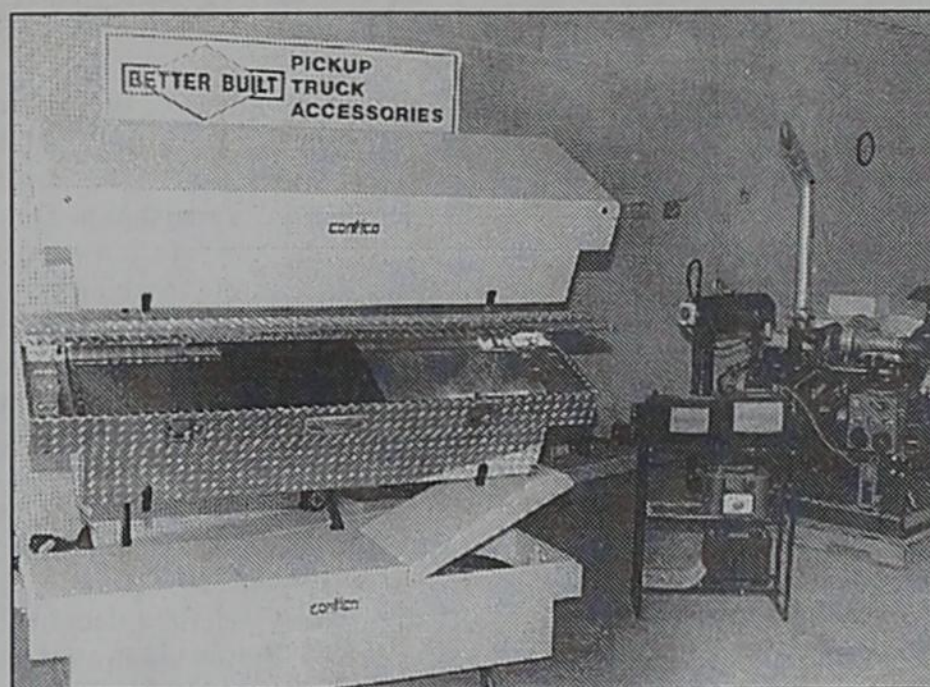
Earley also recommended a one-

year extension to Bryant's contract, but the board questioned that request, too, mentioning a controversy with the junior varsity basketball team earlier this season.

According to reports in *The Hart Beat*, some junior varsity players apparently felt pressure to select off-season football workouts over basketball.

Bryant told the board that his initial comments to the boys had been misunderstood and that he did not tell them they couldn't play basketball.

Bryant and Elam resolved the dispute, apologized to the students involved, and two of them were on the basketball team.



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1999 Buick Regal LS \$18,995
White, warranty, blue leather, AM/FM cassette, tilt, cruise, air, auto, stk#399GM.



1999 Cadillac Sedan DeVille \$27,995
White/burgundy leather, all the bells & whistles, extra nice car, stk#394GM.



1999 Pontiac Grand Am Sedan \$14,995
Bright red, gray cloth, air, auto, AM/FM cassette, tilt, cruise, warranty, stk#400GM.



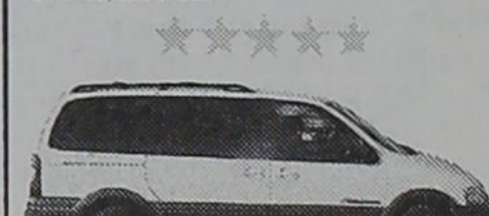
1999 Pontiac Sunfire Sedan \$10,495
Bright aqua metallic, gray cloth, AM/FM cassette, tilt, cruise, warranty, stk#373GM.



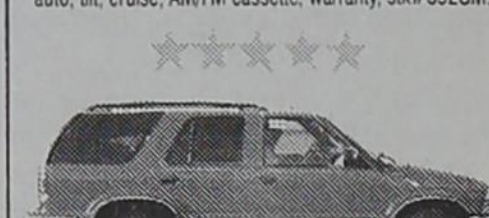
1999 Chevrolet Monte Carlo \$14,495
White, power windows, locks, mirrors, tilt, cruise, AM/FM cassette, air, warranty, stk#360GM.



1999 Oldsmobile Bravada \$24,995
White, gray leather, AM/FM cassette, tilt, cruise, power windows, seats & mirrors, stk#375GM.



1999 Pontiac Montana \$22,495
Maroon w/gold accent, power, air, auto, tilt, cruise, AM/FM cassette, warranty, stk#392GM.



1999 Chevrolet Blazer \$23,995
4x4, bright red, power windows, mirrors & locks, tilt, cruise, AM/FM cassette, auto, air, warranty, stk#381GM.

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25—Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Beer Retail Dealer's Off-Premise License, Package Store Permit and Local Distributor's Permit. Said business to be operated under a general partnership by Rodney Schulte, Ramona Schulte, Darrin Heiman and Jennifer Heiman. Business will operate as The 19th Hole Package Store, and will be located at Highway 86, North Side, .6 miles east of the intersection with Highway 168, Nazareth, Castro County, Texas, 79063. 25-47-2tc

25—Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine Only Package Store Permit and a Beer Retail Dealer's Off Premise License. Said business will be operated under a general partnership by Rodney Schulte, Ramona Schulte, Darrin Heiman and Jennifer Heiman. Business will operate as The 19th Hole Beer & Wine, and will be located at Highway 86, North Side, .6 miles and 40 feet east of the intersection with Highway 168, Nazareth, Castro County, Texas, 79063. 25-47-2tc

Obituaries

Bobbie Jo Bass

Funeral services for Bobbie Jo Bass, 73, of Abilene, and formerly of Hart, were held Friday afternoon at First Baptist Church of Hart with Rev. Aaron Reed officiating.

Burial followed in Olton Cemetery under direction of Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home of Abilene.

Mrs. Bass died Feb. 15 in an Abilene nursing center.

She was born July 25, 1926, in Sipe Springs, and graduated from Rising Star High School in 1944. She married Fred L. Bass Jr. in 1948 in Lubbock. Mrs. Bass had been a collection agent for Sears for 10 years and was a resident of Hart for 20 years. She had lived in Lubbock for 20 years before moving to Abilene in 1997. While living in Lubbock, she had been a member of Elgin Ave. Baptist Church and did volunteer work at Southpark Hospital. She also was a member of two bridge clubs—the 49ers and the Queens 'N' Kings.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1975, and by a son, David Paul Bass, in 1995.

Survivors include a brother, Jack Millwee of Sipe Springs; two sisters, Bonnie Campbell of Abilene, and Helen Burton of Scottsdale, Ariz.; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorials are suggested to Sears Methodist Nursing Center, 3202 S. Willis, Abilene 79605; or to the Arthritis Foundation, 3001 W. 5th St., Fort Worth 76107.

Harold Broadstreet

Services for Harold E. "Sarge" Broadstreet, 70, of Lubbock, brother of two Dimmitt men, were held Tuesday morning at Sanders Funeral Home Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Van Perryman and the Rev. Tom Diebel, officiating.

A Marine military burial followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Sanders Funeral Home.

Mr. Broadstreet died Friday at his home.

He was born June 27, 1929, in Amarillo. He married Laura J. Putman on April 12, 1948, in Brownfield. She died on July 16, 1997.

He served in the United States Marine Corps for 30 years, serving during World War II, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam Era. He was a member of the Marine Corps League, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Survivors include three sons, Gary Broadstreet of Carlsbad, N.M., and Dale Broadstreet and Curtis Broadstreet, both of Lubbock; two daughters, Teresa Parsons of Amarillo and Barbara Sears of Lubbock; three brothers, Gene Broadstreet and Gerald Broadstreet, both of Dimmitt; and Glenn Broadstreet of Chow Chilla, Calif.; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The United States Marine Corps Honor Guard served as pallbearers.

The family asks that memorials be to the Marine Corps League.

E.V. Cryer

Funeral services for E.V. Cryer, 89, of Portales, N.M., the father of Brenda Bruton of Dimmitt, were held Friday afternoon at Calvary Baptist Church in Portales with Rev. Roy Roach officiating.

Burial followed in Kenna Cemetery in Kenna, N.M., with arrangements by Wheeler Mortuary of Portales, N.M.

Mr. Cryer died Feb. 16 in Wolforth.

He was born Aug. 2, 1910, in Elida, N.M., and graduated from Elida High School in 1928. He worked for several years on his father's ranch and later for Bob Crosby on another ranch. He married Elizabeth Tumlinson on June 2, 1934, in Portales. They made their home in Texas and Colorado until 1947, when they moved back to Elida, and he bought the Elida Oil Co. In Elida, he was active in the Elida Baptist Church, as well as the Elida Lions

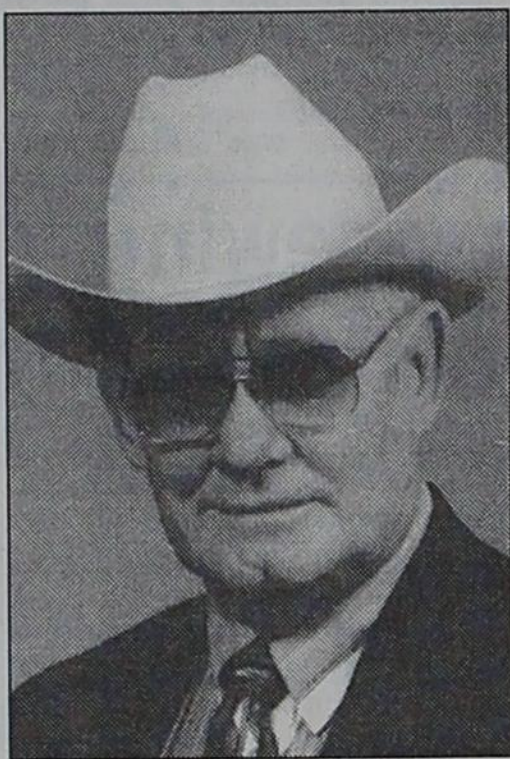
Club, the 42 Club, and the Elida Volunteer Fire Dept. He retired in 1975, and they moved to Portales. In Portales, he was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Virgil Cryer and Altus Cryer; a son, Leon Cryer, who died in 1939; and his wife, who died on Feb. 11, 1993.

Survivors include two sons and a daughter-in-law, Jerry Cryer of Clovis, N.M. and Bill and Brenda Cryer of Wolforth; two daughters and a son-in-law, Zana Denny of Lovington, N.M., and Brenda and Danny Bruton of Dimmitt; a sister, Iola Richardson of Portales, N.M.; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Vern Denny, Clint Cryer, Kevin Bruton, Rusty Cryer, Rusty Boring and Wayne Richardson. Honorary pallbearers were the members of his Sunday School class.

Memorials are suggested to the Kenna Cemetery Fund in care of Jeanie Evans, Kenna N.M. 88122.



Eugene Schacher

Eugene H. Schacher, 63, of Lazbuddie, died Friday.

A vigil service was held Sunday evening at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Bovina with Deacon Al Maurer and Deacon John Nino, officiating.

Mass of Christian burial was read Monday morning at St. Ann's Catholic Church with the Rev. Ed Sweeney officiating, assisted by Deacon Nino. Burial followed in Friona Cemetery under the direction of Ellis-Blackwell Funeral Home of Friona.

Mr. Schacher was born June 14, 1936, in Nazareth. He moved to Lazbuddie in 1962. He married Vernie Birkenfeld on Nov. 7, 1964, in Nazareth.

He was a veteran of the US Army, having served in the Honor Guard during the Korean War. He was a farmer. He was a member of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus and St. Ann's Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by a son, David Schacher, on July 8, 1990.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Daniel Schacher of Lazbuddie; two daughters, Becky Sava of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Cathy Schacher

of Lubbock; five sisters, Rosalie Davis of Los Antos, Calif., Georgie McCormick of Amarillo, and Catherine Hochstein, Leona Maurer and Margie Albracht, all of Nazareth; two brothers, Bobby Schacher and Edwin Schacher, both of Nazareth; and six grandchildren.

John Tole

Funeral services for John M. Tole, 86, of Tulia, the father of Hart business owner Bryan Tole, were held Friday afternoon at Central Church of Christ of Tulia with Trey Morgan officiating, assisted by Morgan Sturgess.

Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery of Tulia under direction of Wallace Funeral Home of Tulia.

Mr. Tole died Feb. 16 at Swisher Memorial Hospital.

He was born Oct. 18, 1913, in Foard County. He married Odelene Candler on Aug. 2, 1939, in Coleman. They moved to Tulia in 1945 where he operated the Ben Franklin store for 25 years and was a stock broker from 1967 to 1991. Mr. Tole was a charter member of the Tulia Kiwanis Club, and was a member of the Church of Christ in Tulia. He had served in the US Navy during World War II.

Survivors include his wife; a daughter, Sharon Anderson of Amarillo; a son, Bryan Tole of Tulia; two brothers, Glen Tole of Wichita Falls and L.Z. Tole of Fort Smith, Ark.; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Hi Plains Children's Home of Amarillo.

Willie Word

Willie John Word, 73, of Big Spring, formerly of Dimmitt, died at 4:14 a.m. Friday after a short illness.

Funeral services were held Monday at Myers and Smith Funeral Home Chapel in Big Spring with the Rev. Ken McMeans, pastor of College Baptist Church, officiating. Burial followed at Trinity Memorial Park.

Mr. Word was born Jan. 31, 1927, in Dimmitt to Mattie Doris Brooks Word and Ernest (Buck) Word. He grew up in Dimmitt and was a long-time resident of Dimmitt and Amarillo before he moved to Big Spring in 1989.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the US Army and Merchant Marines.

He was a fire marshal in Dimmitt for a number of years, but spent most of his time in the trucking business as an independent operator. He later worked for Steere Tank Lines, beginning with the company in Amarillo and later transferring to Big Spring as terminal manager.

He married Edna Gertrude Schur on Sept. 18, 1971, in Amarillo. She died on July 14, 1998.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Belinda Joan and Charles Tharp of Clovis, N.M.; a brother and sister-in-law, Marlin and Laura Word of Alpine; three grandchildren;

two great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

Pallbearers include Leo Free, Albert Overby, Joe Hastings, Donald Wright and Charles Harbee.

More about 1:1

(Continued from Page 1)

Mary said. "She didn't know she was going to get some Pangburn's candy in with her order from Stover. It surprised her. But there they were."

So I guess the new reality is that you buy your Pangburn's candies from Russell Stover's from now on. Given the trend of things, that seems quaintly American.

"I'm going to contact Russell Stover and see if I can get Pangburn's candies again," Mary said. "I like their price and their quality."

Besides, Millionaire\$ are made in Texas.

Besides, they're the best candy on the face of the earth. Just ask my wife.

Jimmie and Della Chapman will move this weekend to Pomona, Calif., to be closer to their children.

They've been Dimmitt residents 39 years. Jimmie, a retired printer, was the shop foreman at the News for many years.

During World War II, Jimmie was the youngest of the US Marine Corps' "Five Chapman Brothers" from Littlefield—the most members from one family in the entire Corps. The VFW post in Littlefield is named for Jimmie's brother, John Henry, who was killed in action.

Jimmie and Della have been dedicated members of the Church of Christ, whose members gave them a nice farewell reception Sunday evening.

An entire generation of younger men here will remember Jimmie as the head umpire for many years in the PONY and Mustang junior baseball leagues. He also served several years as the sectional director for Boys' Baseball, Inc.

The town will miss them.

Editorial

Managing groundwater may provide the key to Texas' economic future

By SUSAN COMBS
Texas Ag Commissioner

There's an old saying, "You never know the worth of water 'til the well runs dry."

With Texas in its third major drought in four years, soon we all may be learning just how valuable a reliable water supply is to the growth and economic survival of the Lone Star State.

It's a harsh lesson agriculture already has had to learn, and with more and more public water supplies rationing water this year, urban areas may be forced to look elsewhere for reliable water resources.

What is becoming increasingly evident in Texas is the necessity to develop new and innovative ways to manage our groundwater that ensures fairness and equity—to both agriculture and urban needs.

For decades, many landowners believed their property right interest in groundwater was best protected by Texas' rule of capture—they could pump as much water as they could use, as long as it was not wasteful or malicious.

But if you look at underground water pumping as sipping from a straw, a farmer or rancher sips from a relatively small straw. For example, on a practical level, a mid-sized city uses a pipe ranging up to 60 inches in size to withdraw groundwater and pumps 365 days a year. An average farmer or rancher uses an eight-inch pipe only seasonally.

Historically, most landowners had essentially equal ability to withdraw water from a common supply; however, with the advent of new technology and explosive population growth, we are seeing situations where those with the biggest straw are using the rule of capture to defend their right to withdraw as much water as they choose.

As the Texas Supreme Court recently pointed out in the *Ozarka* case, "... we are reluctant to make so drastic a change as abandoning our rule of capture and moving into the area of water-use regulation by judicial fiat."

It is certainly arguable that the

court is quietly urging the Legislature to do something about underground water.

Farmers and other agricultural groups have recognized that the rule of capture has served the industry well, but may need a review to ensure that agriculture and individual landowner rights for water under their property are protected in this changing environment.

New to the Texas landscape is "water ranching," the term used in situations where someone buys land solely for the water beneath it. When land becomes valued because of the water beneath it, as has happened with the petroleum industry, landowners may start exploring different areas to conserve and use their underground asset.

Landowners may want to "pool" their water rights to obtain leverage. Further, there may be good economic reasons for landowners who are considering marketing their groundwater to lease such water rather than sell it outright. As Texas' population grows, so will the demand for water—and the price.

Senate Bill 1 determined local groundwater districts are currently the best hope for rural communities and small landowners who want to protect their access to water. They are locally controlled and can level the playing field among users of the same resource. We should maintain and enhance the ability of these local districts to do their job and to ensure local landowners are protected and fairly treated as we study and debate the issues of "local" and "regional" water planning. Small rural communities could be devastated if agriculture is disregarded during this process.

Farmers and ranchers are dependent on water for livestock, crops, fruits and vegetables, in fact, they're dependent on water for their survival; and clearly, anyone who eats is also dependent on agriculture having enough water.

Whatever groundwater decisions are made must take into account the interests of all Texans—rather than simply those with the biggest straw.

Subject to Action of the Democratic Primary

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BILLY HACKLEMAN

as your

Tax Assessor-Collector
for Castro County

QUALIFIED ★ DEDICATED

I will continue to carry out the duties of
Tax Assessor-Collector in a friendly, impartial,
courteous, and professional manner.

Election is March 14, 2000.
Early Voting Begins Feb. 28 and ends March 10
in person at the Courthouse

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your support,
and your vote
will be greatly
appreciated.

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RE-ELECT

JERRY MATTHEWS

County-District Attorney

★ 7 Years in Office

★ 95+% Conviction Rate

★ Board Member of:

—Crime Line

—Child Protective Services

—HOPE Program

★ Established Crime Victims Program and
Victims Advocacy Group

★ Active in 4-H, FFA, Church of Christ, Rotary,
Meals on Wheels, Youth Summer Program

★ Has prosecuted over 3,100 cases in County
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