

"Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery."
- Calvin Coolidge.

Roby Star Record

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

Fisher County The Home Of

George Price
Gabby McKay
Jo Bill White
Jessie Foster

Volume 90 - Number 40

Thursday

May 29, 1997

Rotan, Fisher County, Tx.
8 Pages

The People Have The Right....

Under the fundamental philosophy of the American constitution form of representative government that adheres to the principle that government is the servant and not the master of the people, it is the policy of the State of Texas that each person is entitled, unless otherwise expressly provided by law, at all times to complete information about the affairs of government and the official acts of public officials and employees. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.

Rotan Advance



New Rotan Water Line Cost In Area Of \$370,000

Purchase Not On Agenda

It wasn't on the Rotan Municipal Water Authority board agenda, but that didn't keep them from voting to spend money to purchase a concrete 'box' at an approximate cost of \$1,000.00 to enclose the newly purchased water meter at the far end of the line near Snyder.

Buy Concrete Box

Board members Bartlett Strayhorn, Mac Weathersbee and President John Gray approved the purchase of a concrete 'box' at the request of Rodney Denton, Jr., Supervisor City of Rotan Department of Public Works. The box is intended to protect the meter from damage. "This is a long term situation", said John Gray, Water Authority President.

Three members of the five member board were present at the regular meeting of the board on May 21st. Those absent were Larry Callan and Bobby Gruben.

Gary McKay Present

The board approved the minutes of the April 16th meeting. At that meeting Gary McKay was present to discuss the legality and engineering problems associated with the laying of the new water line. McKay discussed the cost factors, repair costs and an engineering fee of 9%. In addition, McKay, estimated that the line would cost \$370,000.00 plus fees the association would have to pay to farmers for crop damages.

Director Fees Approved

In other items at the April meeting the board approved yearly director fees of \$120.00 for each director and approved a request by Kim Pease, publisher of the Rotan Advance - Roby Star-Record, that he be notified of all regular and special meetings of the water authority board.

Snyder Water Bill Paid

The board approved a bill from the City of Snyder for \$12,987.00 for water. The board discussed the 29% water loss by the City of Rotan. John Gray expressed interest in securing the new meter readings and a report on how the new metering system was functioning.

To TNRCC For Approval

Gray reported to the board that Gary McKay had the survey drawn-up and that in the very near future copies would be forwarded to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission for approval. Gray indicated that McKay expected to hear about the approval at the next meeting of the water board on June 25th.

Contract To McKay

Gray also indicated that the water board needed to officially extend a contract to McKay. "He (McKay) is to send me a contract. He already has expenses and he is only operating on a handshake," said Gray.

Skipping Over Crop Land

Board members discussed the possible time-frame on laying the new line. Most felt that the line

would have to be laid and some farm land skipped until after the crops are harvested.

Yellowhammers Win Again

Editor's Column

By Kimball G. Pease

WHERE ARE THEY AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?: The Smith kids - children of Bill and Nita Smith of Rotan. Their daughter Debbie Smith Copenhaver and husband Steve live in Lubbock. Steve owns Copenhaver Roofing Company and Debbie stays home raising their two daughters - Kayla and Kendra. The oldest child, Kayla, was talking to Bill a few years ago and said, "I'm sad". "Well, why are you sad", said Bill. "I'm sad, because they killed Jesus on that cross." Nita said that from that statement on, Bill began paying very close attention to Kayla's questions and the answers he gave. Recently, Kayla told Bill, as they were playing in the yard, "Granddad, lets pretend this is Heaven, because your yard is so beautiful." Nita said that his head is still so big he can't wear his cap. Debbie and Steve and family are members of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Lubbock. St. Luke's is also the home church of James Duke. Other Smith children - Randy of Seguin, Texas. Randy is the district sales manager for Alamo Iron Works in San Antonio. He and his wife Jeannie, a homemaking teacher at Seguin High School, have two children - Stacy, a high school sophomore and Kevin age 6. Ken, is an employee of Marathon Oil Company in Iraan. He and his wife Terrie are the parents of three children. Steven, a sophomore at Angelo State University; Sandra, a junior in high school and Lance, a sophomore in high school. Terrie works for the Justice of the Peace, substitutes as a teacher and runs the swimming pool. She is the daughter of Murray Simmons of Roby.

MOVES HOME AFTER 45 YEARS: Carrie Jo Matthews Blackshear, a former Rotan resident, who left Rotan in 1952 to attend nurses training, has returned home. She is the daughter of Naomi Clegg and Joe Lloyd "Chin" Matthews. Carrie Jo spent 20 years in California, 3 years in various Texas cities and 16 years in San Marcos as a registered nurse. She retired and has moved back home. She worked at Callan Hospital for a year-and-a-half before going to nurses training. She is a first cousin to Judy Martin and first cousin to Perry Thomson. Carrie indicated that Earl and Judy Martin should be moving back to Rotan in July to continue remodeling their home on Cleveland Avenue.

WORDS OF WISDOM: "It is not what you plan on leaving behind when you die that counts, but what you were motivated to send on ahead that really counts."

SAW TIGER WOODS PLAY: Sweetwater's Alex Garcia, former Rotan resident and an employee of Mrs. Baird's Bread, saw Tiger Woods play at the Colonial last week. Alex said he followed the golfing wizard for nine holes but had to skip every other hole because of the tremendous crowd wanting a quick look at Tiger. If Alex watched Woods tee off and play the fifth hole, he's have to jump to the 7th to get a decent view.

THE BEST HIGH SCHOOL MASCOT NAME: In my opinion it the Hutto Hippos. But there are a few runners-up. The Progreso Fighting Red Ants, Knippa Purple Rock Crushers and the Itasca Wampus Cats.

TALKED TO CROSS PLAINS COACH: Sat near Mac McConnell, tennis coach for the past 15 years at Cross Plains at the Rotan - Cross Plains game last week. McConnell inquired about Coach Ted Posey, after finding out I was from Rotan. McConnell said he boxed with Posey in Golden Gloves competition and that Posey was one of the best Golden Glove boxers in West Texas in his class.

FATHER'S DAY FACTS: Father's Day is June 15th this year. Father's Day was started as a reaction, or perhaps as an after thought to Mother's Day. Not only was the first Father's Day service held in Fairmont, West Virginia, in July 1908 (just two months after and twenty miles down river from the first Mother's Day in Grafton), but the woman chiefly responsible for popularizing the celebration, Mrs. John Bruce of Spokane, got the idea while listening to a Mother's Day sermon. That was in 1909, and by the following year she had persuaded the Spokane city fathers to observe one Sunday in June as an official tribute to Fathers. It wasn't until 1972 that congress established Father's Day as a national holiday.

DOZEN THINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR: The smell of fresh coffee, bright colored neckties, Walt Disney movies, lifeguards, Jack Cadenhead, jalapeno corn bread, visiting an old friend, tweezers, peach snow cones, Prairie Dog baseball, defending your beliefs and Sunday afternoon naps.

MARK TWAIN SAID IT: "It is not best that we should all think alike; it is difference of opinion which makes horse races." - Mark Twain.

NO WONDER THE GUY WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT: "Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery." - Calvin Coolidge.

YOU WILL NEVER BE SORRY: For thinking before acting; for hearing before judging; for forgiving your enemies; for being candid and frank; for helping a fallen brother; for being honest in business; for thinking before speaking; for being loyal to your church; for standing by your principles; for stopping your ears to gossip; for harboring only pure thoughts; for sympathizing with the afflicted or for being courteous and kind to all.

FEW FACTS ABOUT FISHER COUNTY: From the Texas Almanac - area in square miles - 897; vehicles - 5,345; growing season - 218 days; named for S.R. Fisher - Republic of Texas secretary of the navy.

PADRES SCOUT LOOKS AT ROTAN PLAYERS: Snyder baseball coach Roland Herrera is a part-time scout for the San Diego Padres professional baseball club. He recently attended a Rotan practice session with an eye on Mikeal Harrison and C.W. Robertson.

Hammers Down Chillicothe In A 'Nail Biter'

The Rotan Yellowhammers stayed in the Area game just long enough on Thursday, May 22, that Cross Plains finally beat themselves. Last Tuesday night the Yellowhammers spanked Chillicothe to become the regional champions.

It took the Yellowhammers until the top of the 7th inning and a two-run scoring single by Stoney Carrillo to ice the win.

Mikeal Harrison allowed one run in the bottom of the 7th but struck out the final batter with a Chillicothe runner on second.

In the earlier contest with Cross Plains - The Cross Plains squad took an early lead, relying on Rotan tactics of pecking away and getting a run or two every inning. Through three innings of play the Buffaloes led 3 - 0.

Cross Plains failed to score in the top of the fourth and Rotan rallied with three runs in the bottom of the fourth to tie the score at 3-3 at the end of four.

Mikeal Harrison scored the go ahead run after doubling into deep center field. Harrison's run appeared to be the insurance run until Cross Plains tied the game at the end of seven innings.

Guy Duke ran the bases and provided what was the winning 'go-home' run and the area championship.

The five Rotan runs were scored by C.W. Robertson, James Flores, Ray Yanez, Mikeal Harrison and Guy Duke.

Robertson collected two hits in the Cross Plains game while James Flores, Ray Yanez, Mikeal Harrison, Russell Price and Guy Duke each recorded a single hit.

Through the regional game last Thursday, only two teams in the Region remained. Rotan will face the winner of the Baird - Claude game later this week.

The big inning for the Yellowhammers was the top of the sixth when Mikeal Harrison tripled. Next batter Ray Yanez also tripled scoring James Flores and Harrison.

In the top of the fifth inning Harrison and Stoney Carrillo scored.

'Splash Days' At Rotan, Roby

The two Fisher County public swimming pools officially open on Tuesday, June 3rd for 'Splash Day'.

Admission is free on 'Splash Day' at both the Rotan City Pool and Roby City Pool. Operating hours are from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. for Roby and from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 at Rotan.

Rotan's opening could be postponed for a week if the two individuals who will be serving at lifeguards can't get certification from Western Texas College - Continuing Education - Red Cross Lifesaving class.

The Roby Pool will be managed by Vickie Vahlenkamp. Leslie Harwell will serve as the lifeguard. She is certified. Roby City Pool operating hours are - Sunday - 2 - 5; Monday - closed; Tuesday - 2 - 6; Wednesday 1 - 5; Thursday 2-6 and 7-9; Friday 2 - 6 and Saturday 2 - 6.

Admission prices are .75 cents for children age 12 and under and \$1.00 for anyone 13 and over. Swimming lessons are available.

Private parties can be held at the Roby Pool any evening except Monday or Thursday for \$35.00 to reserve the pool. That includes the services of the manager and pool lifeguard.

The Rotan Pool will be managed by Lonnie Starnes. Proposed lifeguards are: Justin Moffett and Katy Cade. Rotan City Pool operating hours are - 1 - 5 Tuesday through Sunday, except Thursday. On Thursday the pool opens from 7 - 9 also. The pool is closed on Monday.

Admission prices are \$1.00 for children 10 and under and \$2.00 for anyone 11 and over. Season passes are \$20 for children 10 and under and \$30 for anyone 11 and over.

Rotan Has Highest In-Town Water Rate Of 25 Area Towns Surveyed

If you are a resident of the City of Rotan, you are paying more for your tap water than residents of 24-other towns surveyed in the area.

Rotan's cost of water for 10,000 gallons is \$37.50. That is calculated on a basic minimum charge of \$8.50 for 2,000 gallons, plus \$3.25 per 1,000 gallons over minimum and plus a \$3.00 emergency water fee that is added on to every water bill.

While Rotan basic charge of \$8.50 for 2,000 gallons ranks it at about 12th; when the \$3.00 emergency water fee is added and when the fee of \$3.25 per 1,000 gallons after the minimum is added - which is the highest in the area, the total fee for 10,000 gallons ranks tops of the twenty-five West Texas towns surveyed.

Roby ranked tenth, or near the mid-way point or average of the twenty-five towns surveyed.

Rotan purchases their water from Snyder - their fee was 9th or \$29.45 for 10,000 gallons. Roby purchases their water from Sweetwater - their fee was 24th or \$17.73 for 10,000 gallons.

The town with the lowest rate was Post with a fee of \$17.00 for 10,000 gallons.

Spur and Crowell collect mandatory fire protection fees of \$1.00 a month on water bills. Those fees were not calculated in the cost of water. Rotan collects a \$2.00 a month mandatory fire protection fee - it was not calculated into the water cost equations.

Crosbyton charges a \$1.00 a month mosquito spraying fee. It was not calculated in the cost of water.

Rotan City Limit Residents Pay The Highest Water Rates Of Twenty-Five Area Towns Surveyed May 19, 1997

Cost Of Water

Big Country Area - Cost For 10,000 Gallons - City Limit Residential Customer Survey

TOWN RANK	BASIC CHARGE	OVER MINIMUM	10,000 GALLONS
1. Rotan	\$8.50 - 2,000 gal.	\$3.25	\$37.50*
2. Bal'ngr	\$15.00 - 3,000	\$3.00	\$36.00
3. Hamlin	\$13.00 - 2,000	\$2.75	\$35.00
4. Stanton	\$15.00 - 3,000	\$2.75	\$34.25
5. Rsng Str.	\$10.00 - 2,000	\$3.00	\$34.00^
6. Anson	\$15.00 - 2,000	\$2.25	\$33.00
7. Aspr'm't	\$9.00 - 2,000	\$2.90	\$32.20
8. Merkel	\$10.75 - -0-	\$2.00	\$30.75
9. Snyder	\$9.13 - 2,000	\$2.54	\$29.45
10. Roby	\$8.00 - 2,000	\$2.50	\$28.00
11. Haskell	\$12.75 - 3,000	\$2.15	\$27.80
12. Stamfrd	\$12.00 - 3,000	\$2.25	\$27.75
13. Crowell	\$26.00 - 9,000	\$1.40	\$27.40##
14. Munday	\$13.00 - 3,000	\$1.80	\$25.60
15. Spur	\$14.24 - 3,000	\$1.58	\$25.30#
16. Albany	\$8.70 - 2,000	\$2.05	\$25.10
17. Seymour	\$8.00 - 3,000	\$1.75	\$20.25
18. Robt Lee	\$8.00 - 3,000	\$1.65	\$19.55
19. C'sbyton	\$10.00 - 3,000	\$1.40	\$19.80**
20. Bronte	\$11.50 - 3,000	\$1.00	\$19.50
21. Paducah	\$10.00 - 3,000	\$1.35	\$19.45
22. Lorenzo	\$8.00 - 3,000	\$1.50	\$18.50
23. Miles	\$10.00 - 2,000	\$1.00	\$18.00
24. Swt'wtr	\$6.05 - 3,000	\$1.64	\$17.73
25. Post	\$6.50 - 3,000	\$1.50	\$17.00

* Includes a \$3.00 per meter assessed charge by the City of Rotan for emergency water fund. Does not include a \$2.00 a month per meter mandatory fire assessment fee.

** Does not include a \$1.00 a month mosquito spraying charge that appears on water bill all year.

Spur charges a \$1.00 per meter for fire protection that was not calculated into the above rates.

Crowell charges a \$1.00 per meter fire protection fee that was not calculated in the above charges.

^ Rising Star has a \$3.00 a month voluntary fire protection fee that brings in about \$800 a month. They went to \$3.00 a month voluntary fee versus the \$3.00 mandatory fee after learning that the mandatory fee assessment was illegal.

Obituaries

Loran Little

Loran Little, 55, of Rotan, died Thursday afternoon, May 22, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center in Big Spring. Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 24, at First Baptist Church with Rev. Werth Mayes officiating. Burial was in the Belvieu Cemetery under the direction of Weathersbee Funeral Home.

Mr. Little was born August 6, 1941 at Rotan, the son of Joe W. and Lometa Little. He had lived all his life in Rotan. He graduated from Rotan High School and attended Tarleton State University. He was a farmer-rancher and was also an auctioneer and an electrician. He was a member of First Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his mother in 1992.

He is survived by his father, Joe W. Little, of Rotan, and two sisters, Janel Holcomb of McCaulley and Gayleta Pugh of Denton.

Cecil Ward Parks

Cecil Ward Parks, 91, of Bells, died May 21, at The Renaissance, in Sherman. Graveside services were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 27, at Belvieu Cemetery, Rotan., under the direction of Earnheart Funeral Home of Whiteright.

Mr. Parks was born July 1, 1905 in Alma, Arkansas to J.C. and Elizabeth Overstreet Parks. He married Marian Patricia Purcell. He was a retired farmer and a member of First Baptist Church, Cooper, Texas.

Survivors are one daughter, Deanna Orr of Bells; 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Albert Daniel

Albert Daniel, 51, of Rotan died Wednesday morning, May 21, in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene. Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, May 24, in the First Baptist Church of Rotan. Burial was in Belvieu Cemetery, directed by Weathersbee Funeral Home.

Mr. Daniel was born July 20, 1944 in Perry to Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan Daniel. He was a janitor for Rotan Schools and lived in this area all his life.

Survivors include one daughter, Kim Denise Gilbert of Rapid City, SD; two step-sons, Kenneth and Michael Gilbert, both of Rapid City, SD; eight sisters, Barbara Daniel, Vernell Huitt, Lucy Daniel and Lillie Mae Daniel all of Rotan, O.C. Huitt, J.D., Shug, and Vivian; four brothers, Lonnie Gunn, Jimmie Daniel, Willie Daniel of Rotan, and Little Brother Gunn.

Russell Price Winner Of DeKalb Ag Accomplishment Award

Russell Price, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Price of Rotan, was recently named winner of the 1997 DeKalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award. The award, sponsored nationwide by DeKalb Genetics Corporation, is presented to the outstanding senior, agricultural student demonstrating superior scholarship, leadership and agricultural experiences. Russell, student of Rotan High School, has been president of the local FFA Chapter; agricultural program consists of swine, cotton and leadership.

Following graduation, Russell plans to attend western Texas College.

As this year's winner, Russell receives a lapel pin and certificate and

his name will be inscribed on a special plaque displayed in the school Agri-Science Department. The DeKalb award, often considered the highest honor an agricultural student can receive on the local level, is presented at nearly 3,000 schools annually.

A long time supporter of youth activities, DeKalb has presented Ag Accomplishment Awards since 1947. In addition, the company sponsors college scholarships for ag students pursuing specific careers. Based in DeKalb, Illinois, DeKalb Genetics Corporation is an international researcher, producer, and marketer of corn, sorghum, soybeans, alfalfa and sunflower seeds.

McCallum High School Counselor Retires After 30 Years Of Service

Judy Martin Retires by Jacqueline Mgebroff The McCallum High School counselor known for her stylish hats will be hanging hers up at the end of this year. After 30 years counseling students at McCallum, Judy Martin is considering a new life off campus. But, she admits, the thought is a little scary. "I've been going to school since I was six-years-old," she said. "I really can't imagine not going to school." But, she figures if she's ever going to write a book and do the traveling she's dreamed of, now's the time.

Mrs. Martin began her career as a speech and drama teacher, a field that she loved. But when she and her husband moved to San Marcos so he could finish his degree in the mid-fifties, she thought she might as well get a masters degree. "At the time, Southwest Texas didn't have a large enough drama department to offer a masters in drama," she said. "I was offered the option of majoring in education and minoring in drama." Even at that, she had another decision to make.

She could choose a major in education administration (which she knew she wasn't interested in) or a new program they were starting at the school, counseling and guidance. Mrs. Martin chose counseling and guidance and was one of the first four people to graduate from the SWT program.

Her new degree changed the course of her career. She held positions in several Texas schools and served as a consultant for the Texas Education Agency before "settling down" at McCallum High in 1969.

During her career, she said, it's been her pleasure to mentor young counselors and teachers and she's received great satisfaction from helping the students at McCallum. She said that she loves to write recom-

mendation letters for others who are competing for scholarships and awards-both students and teachers.

Mrs. Martin looks back on her career with fondness. "There have been bad days and there have been good days," she said. "But never a dull day! As a high school counselor, you never know what to expect."

Even so, she admits, she's always loved her job. "The people I work with at school are like my second family. But, it's always been my hope that I'd know when it was time to retire. I want to leave at the top. My goal was for my last year to be my best year!"

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Rotan Chamber Sets 'Rotan Days' June 14

June 14th is the date of the annual Rotan Chamber of Commerce "Rotan Days" Celebration. The Rotan Days Celebration will be held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Activities for the day will include many events from years past as well as numerous new events. This years Mr. and Miss Rotan Pageant is being directed by Pat Boone. To enter the pageant contact her at 735-2489. Other events will include the Fly-

In, car show, parade, craft booths, pet show, and more.

To reserve booth space contact Tammy Huggins at 735-3434. There will also be a bake-off at this year's Rotan Days Celebration. To enter the bake-off contact Sherrie Rodgers at 735-2241.

The day will end with a street dance. The Rotan Lions Club will be sponsoring a carnival the afternoon of the celebration.

Fisher County NEWS BRIEFS

Gospel Musical

The Old Glory All Gospel Musical will be held May 31 at the Community Center in Old Glory. The concession stand will open at 5:30 p.m. and the music will start at 6:00 p.m. There is no admission charge. The proceeds of the concessions and any donations go to off set Community Center expenses.

McCaulley Musical

The McCaulley Recreational Development Cooperation will host its special 5th Saturday Musical Saturday, May 31, from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Special guest will be Roland Smith. There is no admission charge. A concession stand will be open with food and soft drinks. No alcohol beverages are allowed. Proceeds will benefit the Cooperation and its many endeavors.

4-H Bake Sale

A 4-H Bake Sale will be held Friday, May 30, at 9:00 a.m. at the Courthouse Coffee Room. Proceeds will be used for the 4-H Exchange trip and 4-H Leadership Lab.

Roby O.E.S

Installation of officers for Roby Chapter #25, O.E.S. will be held during the regular meeting, June 5, at 7:30 p.m. All dues must be paid by June 1, 1997.

Rotan Chamber Meeting

Rotan Chamber of Commerce meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 29, at the Chamber Office.

Fisher County Tax History

A 9-Year History Of Tax Rates Adopted By The Fisher County Taxing Entities.										
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	
Hospital Dist.	.302	.415	.382	.437	.497	.560	.590	.590	.590	
Roby School	.890	.890	.946	.300	.334	1.26	1.26	1.30	1.49	
Rotan School	.940	1.03	1.03	.435	.493	1.42	1.27	1.43	1.43	
Fisher County	.595	.570	.550	.628	.730	.795	.825	.872	.895	
Roby City	.490	.490	.520	.535	.535	.560	.500	.520	.520	
Rotan City	.581	.617	.570	.591	.616	.631	.639	.659	.692	
Rotan Water	.080	.080	.096	.106	.106	.106	.080	.080	.080	

2 For 1 La-Z-Boy Recliner Sale!

Two La-Z-Boy recliners for only \$499 and up. We're famous for quick, free delivery and good values since 1932.

KINNEY FURNITURE

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Don't forget to come to our back door. 773-2232.

LEGAL NOTICE

The City of Roby has passed a Fair Housing Ordinance on April 1, 1997. It declares the policy of the City of Roby to bring about, through fair, orderly and lawfully procedures, the opportunity for each person to obtain housing without regard to his or her race, color, creed, sex, religion or national origin, physical or mental disability, martial status, parenthood or age. Copies of said ordinance are available at City Hall. If citizens have any questions regarding this ordinance, please contact the City Secretary at 915-776-2271.

Fisher County Devotional Page Seeds From The Sower

Michael A. Guido, Metter, Georgia

A groom was awfully nervous on the eve of his wedding. "Have you lost the ring," asked a friend, "or the plane tickets for your honeymoon?" "No," he answered, "but I've lost my enthusiasm!"

Many Christians are in the same predicament. There's no love in their labor, no glow in their giving, no warmth in their worship.

Our Lord says, "There is one thing wrong. You don't love me as at first. Think about those times of your first love and turn back to me again and work as you did before."

The Christian needs spark as well as Spunk. Have you lost your enthusiasm?

Nelda Kruger Administrator SNYDER OAKS CARE CENTER IV's, NG Tube Feeding-24 Hr. Nursing Care 210 E. 37th Snyder, Texas 915-573-9377

LANDES FURNITURE 735-3171 Larry & Beverly Landes Rotan, Texas

SNYDER SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION College Ave. & 27th St. Member F.D.I.C. 915-573-9305

Merrill Lynch Norwelle Kennedy 735-2123 Rotan, Texas

Donna Shaw Realtor "Service is a priority" Office (915) 235-4314 100 Ragland Sweetwater, Texas 79556

City Auto Supply 735-2242 Rodney, Laura, Andrea Rotan, Texas

Weathersbee Funeral Home 735-2255 Rotan, Texas

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National Gypsum COMPANY GOLD BOND BUILDING PRODUCTS

Calvary Baptist Church Rev. Ruben Osuna 735-3464 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas

Church Of Christ Speedy Hart, Minister 776-2496 SS - 10:00 - Worship 10:45 Roby, Texas

Church Of Christ Barry Day, Minister 735-2344 SS - 9:45 - Worship 10:45 Rotan, Texas

Cross Roads Baptist Rev. Joe Baucham 735-2178 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas

Emmanuel Baptist Church Appointment Pending 735-3143 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Roby, Texas

First Baptist Church Rev. Mickey Wagoner 776-2159 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Roby, Texas

First Baptist Church Rev. Werth Mayes 735-3471 S.S. 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas

Foursquare Church Rev. Robert Kennedy 735-2553 SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas

First United Methodist Rev. Jeff Sedberry SS 10:00 - Worship 11:00 McCaulley, Texas

First United Methodist Rev. Steve Patterson 776-2308 SS - 9:45 - Worship 10:50 Roby, Texas

First United Methodist Rev. Larry Holder 735-2334 SS 9:30 - Worship 10:30 Rotan, Texas

First United Methodist Rev. Jeff Sedberry SS 9:30 - Worship 10:00 Sylvester, Texas

Hobbs Baptist Church Rev. Dee Threatt SS - 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas

Little Zion Baptist Church Rev. Mark Smith 735-2362 SS 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Rotan, Texas

Mission Bautista Calvario Rev. Jim Lawliss SS 9:45 - Worship 11:00 Roby, Texas

McCaulley Baptist Church Rev. Bruce Cook SS 10:00 - Worship 11:00 McCaulley, Texas

St. Joseph's Catholic Father Johnrose Hayden Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m. 735-3285 Rotan, Texas

Sylvester Baptist Church Rev. Bruce Hess 993-4479 SS - 10:00 - Worship 11:00 Sylvester, Texas

Circle Grocery 735-2574 We Want Your Business Rotan, Texas

First National Bank of Rotan "Your Friendly, Dependable Bank Of Service" Member F.D.I.C. Rotan, Texas

NFS Nowlin Farm Services 915/735-2371 211 N. Cleveland Rotan, Texas

Builder's Transport Brad Rivers, Manager 735-3677 200 South Garfield Rotan, Texas

Stephens Office Supply XEROX 1808 26th Street 915-573-8304 Snyder, Texas Copy Machines Fax Machines Bell Stephens - Sales Agent

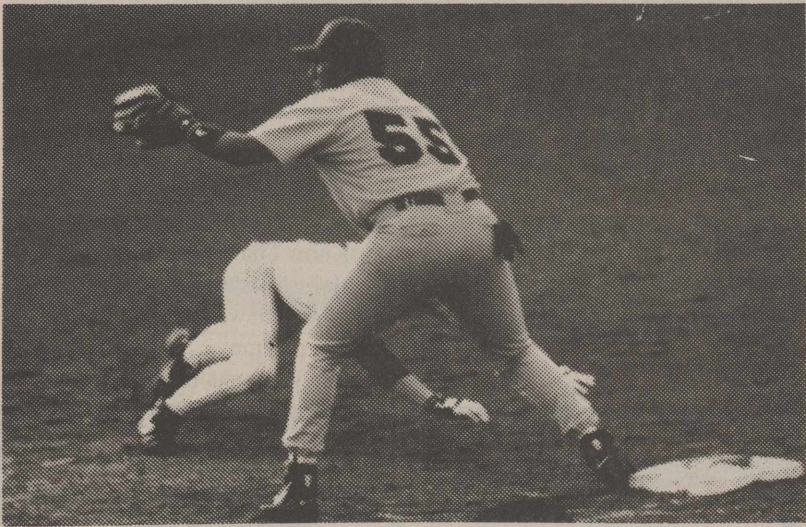
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Abilene Eye Institute Cataract & Refractive Surgery Center 2120 Antilley Road 1-800-692-2020

Clinic Pharmacy 735-2500 Cleburne Murdoch, RPh Rotan, Texas

City Grocery & Deli S. Hwy. 180 - Roby, Texas 776-2225 Kiefer & Aubry Nell Couble

Wynelle's Beauty Shop 776-2233 Wynelle Terry-Owner/Operator Roby, Texas



WAITING FOR THE BALL: Hammer player waits for the ball as he covers the base in Hammer baseball action.



TEAM TALK: The Hammer baseball team gathers for a talk with the Coach Ronn Langthorn before play begins.



LET'S TALK THIS OVER: Hammer players Mikeal Harrison, left Russell Price and catcher C.W. Robinson discuss how things will go before the next pitch.

Rotan Council Calls Special Meeting Off

The members of the Rotan City Council had a special meeting scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, May 27th at 2:00 p.m., to discuss two items on an agenda.

"For several reasons", the meeting was cancelled, according to Rotan City Secretary Harold Sanders. "Mayor Marshall called me over the weekend and advised that the meeting, because of the baseball game and because a lot of people had asked to appear before the council to talk about the proposed water rates", had been cancelled and rescheduled for Tuesday, June 3rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Rotan City Hall.

Besides discussing the out-of-city water rates, councilmen were scheduled to discuss the costs and plans of final closure on the Rotan Landfill.

"There were several reasons that the meeting was postponed. First, it was not a good time. The baseball team was playing and in respect to them we called it off. Also I wanted to wait to see what the Texas Legislature was going to finally do about this \$1.00 tap fee on every city water tap before we discussed water rates further. The proposed \$1.00 tap fee would go into a state wide water fund for water improvements across the state and finally, I had three or four or five individuals question the rates and indicate that they wanted to meet with the council," said Mayor Jerry Marshall.

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Classes meet in the Community Room of the Snyder Savings Bldg., at 2619 College Ave., Snyder, Texas.

JUNE CLASSES
June 9-10 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
June 14 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

****You must attend both classes to receive credit and must take Monday class before taking Tuesday class.**
Please arrive 15-20 minutes before class starts to fill out all registration paper.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

1. Sealed proposals will be received by Mr. Vick Burk, President, Board of Trustees, in care of Mr. Mickey Early, Jr., Superintendent of Schools, Rotan Independent School District, 102 North McKinley Ave., Rotan, Texas, and shall be received until 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, June 3, 1997, in the High School Library of the Rotan Independent School District, Rotan, Texas at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment, and performing all work required for a New Running Track for Rotan Independent School District, Rotan, Texas, and in compliance with plans, specifications, and contract documents as prepared by Huckabee & Associates, Inc. 204 River North Blvd., P.O. Drawer 611, Stephenville, Texas 76041.

2. A Lump sum proposal will be received for general construction, which includes a New Running Track and Field Events.

3. A Cashier's Check, Certified Check, or acceptable Bidder's Bond payable to the Rotan Independent School District, Rotan, Texas, in the amount of not less than 5% of the largest possible total for the bid submitted, must accompany each bid.

4. The successful bidder will be required to enter into a contract with the Rotan Independent School District, Rotan, Texas, and to furnish a Performance and Payment Bond of approved form through an approved

bonding company duly authorized to do business in the State of Texas, and currently listed in the Department of Treasury Federal Register, in the amount of not less than 100% of the contract price, conditioned upon the performance of the contract.

5. Attention is called to the fact that the contractor must comply with all Federal, State and Local labor laws, including Article 5159a. Vernon's Annotated Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, and comply with the prevailing wage rates bound in the Specifications.

6. The bidder acknowledges the right of the Owner to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid received. In addition, the bidder recognizes the right of the Owner to reject a bid if the bidder failed to furnish any required bid security or to submit the data required by the bidding documents, or if the bid is in any way incomplete or irregular.

7. Plans and Specifications may be examined without charge in the Architect's office and may be procured from the architect by prime bidders upon the following deposit schedule: COMPLETE SET OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS... \$50.00 per set.

The above deposit is required as a guarantee for the safe return of the Plans and Specifications in good condition. The full amount of this deposit will be returned to each bidder immediately upon return of the Plans and Specifications in good condition, provided the bidder submits a

Legal Notice

Proposal on the project and returns the Plans and Specifications within ten days after the bid. Failure to submit a Proposal will result in forfeiture of plan deposit.

Plans may be obtained from the Architect at the Following address: Huckabee & Associates, Inc., P.O. Drawer 611, 204 River North Blvd., Stephenville, Texas 76401, Phone: (817) 958-5588/Fax (817) 968-5688. 39-21c

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Fisher County Round Up

By Joy Walker

We had a bad thunderstorm early Sunday morning, with so much thunder and lightning, but no measurable rain. Monday, the wind blew and it was almost a sandstorm, and it was very hot, in fact, it was the hottest day we have had so far. Of course if you stayed in under the air conditioning, you couldn't know how very hot it was. And as school was out in Roby, that is just what I did. Rotan still has another week of school, and then everyone will be out for the summer. Congratulations to all the Fisher County graduates and may all their wishes come true.

Congratulations to David and Stacy Noles who are the proud parents of a baby girl born Thursday, 22nd May, in Hendrick Memorial Hospital in Abilene. They named her Holly Marie. The proud grandparents are Helen and Roy Noles of Roby.

A wedding shower was held Saturday, 24th May, for Chuck Dannheim and Wendy Matthews in the home of Mrs. Richard Spencer. Congratulations to the happy couple

Felicia Beam Valedictorian At Bronte

Felicia Ann Beam of Bronte was named Valedictorian of her graduating class, with a grade point average of 3.973. Felicia is a member of the National Honor Society, Texas Association of Future Educators, Future Homemakers of America, and One-Act Play. She was also class president and lettered in tennis. She plans to attend Angelo State University in the fall.

Felicia is the daughter of Ray and Linda Beam of San Angelo and the granddaughter of Oscar and Imogene Head of Rotan.

who will be married June 21st.

Carol and Wilber Gruben attended the Rotan-Cross Plains Baseball game in Abilene last Thursday. Congratulations to the Rotan team and their coaches as they have really been playing good baseball. Greg, Shawna and their family from Crane came to Carol and Wilber's Saturday and then Sunday they all went to Dallas and visited with Evette. They all plan on going to Six Flags Tuesday, except for Carol and Wilber and little Clancey; it will be too tiresome for such a little one, and they plan on bringing him home Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Etheredge attended the baseball game Saturday evening at Rotan; Cody Etheredge played.

We were privileged to have Tina Morin and Kathleen Moffett at Hobbs Church Sunday morning. They are college students now, but attended school in Rotan. They brought several beautiful songs with Kathleen signing a number of them. We really enjoyed them.

Frank Boydston is feeling a little better but its going to be a long, job for him to heal.

June and Clarence Anderson attended the Aaron Reunion which was held at Rio Vista, near Cleburne. They went Saturday morning and all ate lunch together. They visited with many relatives in the area, spend the night at Cleburne, and came home Sunday morning. Mrs. Jesse Morrow from Rotan accompanied them, and they sure had a good time and enjoyed all the visiting, saw lots of kinfolks they hadn't seen in years.

Marcos Medrano went with Esther and Junior Lopez, Michael and

Stephen to Dallas on Thursday. They all attended the graduation of Zack Couch who graduated Cum Laude from Jesuit Catholic School. Zack is the son of Ginger and Spruce Couch and the grandson of Marcos Medrano and the late Sue Medrano. He received a scholarship from the University of Evansville in Indiana. Marcos and all the family attended the graduation and they returned home Monday.

The Frank Mitchells went to Decatur Wednesday and visited with Lee and Barbara Swan. Thursday Barbara and Marjorie flew to Nashville and attended the East Robertson High School graduation of Jennifer Holston, the youngest granddaughter of the Mitchells. She was Valedictorian out of a class of 69, and will be attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Barbara and Marjorie flew back to the Dallas-Fort Worth airport Saturday, spend the

night in Decatur, and the Mitchells returned to Roby Sunday.

Our community was saddened to learn of the death of Tom Hargrove, who passed away last Sunday in Snyder. Tom lived in the Rotan area for all of his life, and he was buried in Belvieu Cemetery. Our sincere sympathy goes out to his two sons, Tom and Ralford Hargrove, and his daughter, Becky McKinney and to the remainder of his family. Tom will be greatly missed.

Mrs. Donnie Carl Gruben (Julie) and the babies visited Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Rotan. I ate lunch with them Sunday and the twins aren't little anymore; they are so cute and are growing so fast, and do they look

exactly like their dad, Donnie Carl. He was busy flying over the weekend, so wasn't able to come with Julie.

Parades and services were held Memorial Day in every part of the United States for those who gave

their lives for our country. Please remember them, and be grateful.

Know I have missed some of you this long holiday weekend, and if you have any news you want reported, please call me.

See you next Thursday.

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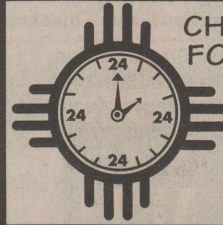
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NEW LISTING -409 North Garfield, Rotan, corner location, 3 BR, 1 bath, central AC/HT, water well...\$15,000, call Black Investments (915) 735-3091. 34:tfc

NEW LISTING - west of Rotan on pavement, 4 BR, 2 3/4 baths, large square footage with lots of storage...Call Black Investments (915) 735-3091. 34:tfc

West of Roby - 121 acres of C.R.P. grassland on FM 1657 just off of Highway 180; also 78 acres of C.R.P. in Hobbs area...Call Black Investments (915) 735-3091. 34:tfc

West of Rotan - 8 newly fenced acres on pavement with water well PLUS remodeled country home with great front porch...call Black Investments (915) 735-3091. 34:tfc

Southwest of Hamlin - 160 acres of cropland with 471 lb/ac cotton yield at \$350/ac...Black Investments, call Rita Warner in Hamlin at (915) 576-2856 or Myla Black in Rotan at (915) 735-3091. 34:tfc

Southwest of Roby - 49 acres with nice country home; for a total of 160 acres also purchase the adjoining 111 acres...Call Myla Black (915) 735-3091. 34:tfc

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FOR SALE: 14x70 Mobile Home, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, to be moved. \$4,500.00. Call 735-2680. 38:2tc

FOR SALE: House in Roby, 3 BR, 1 bath, storage building, comes with six lots, recently remodeled. Call 776-2568 or 776-2720. 39:tfc

FOR SALE: 3 BR, 1 bath, 2 carports, large storage, (915) 573-9087. 39:tfc

FOR SALE: House at 904 E. Johnston, 3 bedroom, garage, 1 bath, ceiling fans, storm windows, new heating unit and roof, large fenced back yard - \$20,000.00. Call 972-366-1217. 40:1tp

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Garage Sales

ESTATE LIQUIDATION: 107 S. 1st St., in Roby. Complete liquidation of all items, furniture, clothes, evaporative cooler, Maytag washer, some antiques, lots of miscellaneous. Friday, May 30, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday, May 31st, 9:00 a.m. til ? Sale will begin at 9:00 a.m. each day. **ABSOLUTELY NO EARLY BIRDS!** 40:1tc

GARAGE SALE: 312 E. 8th, Rotan, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. til ? 40:1tc

5 FAMILY GARAGE SALE: Dick Gruben Farm at Royston. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Antiques, quilt tops, baby things, linens, tad pole boat, and much more. 40:1tc

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED: The Rotan Independent School District is accepting applications for the following position: Secondary - Composite Social Studies, (additional teaching fields beneficial). For an application and information concerning the referenced position, please contact: Rotan Independent School District, Office of the Superintendent, 102 North McKinley Avenue, Rotan, Texas 79546, 915-735-3041 or 915-735-2332. Rotan ISD is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes all applicants regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or political belief. 39:2tc

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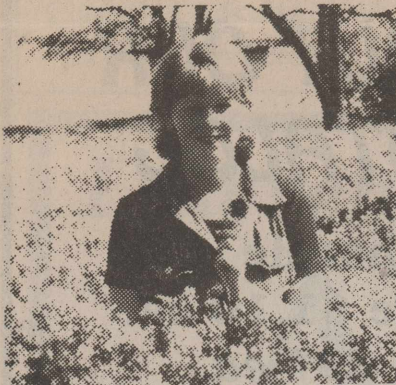
ROBY FOOTBALL HERO: Shea Feagan.



ROBY MOST POPULAR: Jacob Whitaker



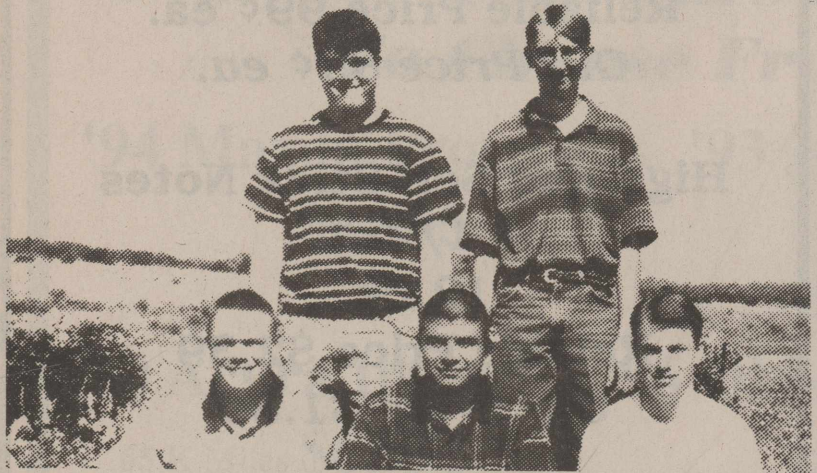
ROBY SENIOR CLASS FAVORITES: Makala Herron and Shea Feagan.



ROBY BAND SWEETHEART: Kim Hudnall

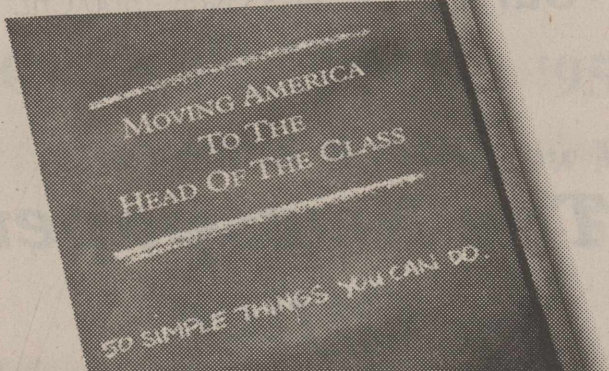


ROBY MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED: Makala Herron
Chris Gloyd



ROBY SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS: Top row, l to r: Beau hart, Reporter, Damon Dickson, Secretary. Bottom row, l to r: Chris Gloyd, Treasurer, Robert Onofre, President and Jacob Whitaker, Vice President.

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Stenholm Receives "Economic Patriot" Award

Congressman Charlie Stenholm received the nonpartisan Concord Coalitions's "Economic Patriot" Award, at a ceremony in Abilene for his efforts to balance the federal budget. Congressman Stenholm scored in the 97th percentile on the Concord Coalition Citizen's Council "Hard Choices" 1996 Scorecard. Overall, Congressman Stenholm ranked #12 out of 435 Representatives in the U.S. Congress.

Concord, Texas State Director Drew Scheberle said at the ceremony, "There are organizations out there who strictly score on whether a Congressman voted to cut spending. Our members believe that the budget must be in balance before tax cut candy

should be distributed. Stenholm stands out for his efforts to balance the budget first. Though we do not agree on all issues, Congressman Stenholm is a credible voice and a reliable vote in favor of fiscally responsible budgeting. On behalf of the children faced with paying off this enormous federal debt, the Concord Coalition thanks Congressman Stenholm for his efforts."

The 16 votes used to gauge members; fiscal responsibility in the 1996 Scorecard were chosen because they: Proposed increases or reductions in the deficit through spending or tax decisions; Offered a chance to eliminate or reduce spending for pork bar-

rel programs, to eliminate big ticket projects that cannot be afforded right now, or to make government more efficient; or involved important procedural issues affecting how budgeting decisions would be made in the future.

Stenholm received high marks for his votes in favor of the Blue Dog Budget Resolution, reduction in defense spending to Pentagon-requested levels, and establishment of a deficit-reduction lock-box that required spending cuts to be dedicated to deficit reduction and not to further spend-

ing in other areas of the budget.

The Concord Coalition Citizens' Council is a non-partisan, grassroots organization dedicated to bringing our national budget into long-term balance, increasing public savings and long-term investments in our common future. Texas has more than 10,000 members dedicated to this mission. Founded by former Senator Warren Rudman, a Republican, and the late Senator Paul Tsongas, Concord Coalition strives to bring both political parties toward fiscal responsibility.

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Fisher County

Agricultural News

County Home Extension Agent News

By Beth Dannheim

Cleaning & Storing Wedding Gowns & Textile Heirlooms - Part two.

Packing wedding gowns or textile heirlooms for storage is an important part of their preservation. Proper storage of these items can prolong their longevity and keep them a part of family tradition for many years.

Please remember no special treatments or storage procedures guarantee against textile deterioration or damage. However, a few precautions can help limit deterioration and maintain the textile.

There are several things to consider before storing your heirloom. After the item has been properly cleaned, you will need to decide if commercial or at home packaging is appropriate. A decision about horizontal or vertical storage will also need to be made. All of these decisions will need to be made depending on the type of item you are preserving.

Commercial Packaging - Most drycleaners offer a special package to clean and box wedding gowns. This could be requested for other heirloom textiles.

The service usually involves a large box of acid-free cardboard in which the gown is packed with acid-free tissue between folds of the garment and as padding in the bodice and sleeves. Over time, the acid produced by standard tissue paper and cardboard can deteriorate textiles, especially cellulosic fibers such as cotton, linen, and rayon.

The initial box is usually placed in a larger protective box. Sometimes slits are present in the box to allow air circulation.

Some drycleaners offer an optional vacuum seal. However, the International Fabricare Institute (IFI) indicates that this process isn't necessary. No seal is permanent. Also, heirloom textiles should be checked yearly for

general condition, at which time the seal would be broken.

IFI also suggests that clear plastic or cellophane "windows" on boxes be removed or punctured to allow air movement. Moisture could condense on the clear window and support growth of mildew.

At Home Packaging - Packaging heirloom garments can be done at home. Before doing so, check garments carefully in sunlight for soils and stains, even if they have been professionally cleaned.

Look for soil, stains, or the presence of wrinkles that have been pressed in. Both stains and wrinkles may be impossible to remove at a later date.

To package garments at home, use a large, deep box to avoid excessive folds. If possible, the box and tissue should be acid-free. Cardboard boxes should be avoided since they produce an acidic environment which weakens textiles over time.

White tissue is recommended. Blue or other colors can bleed onto fabric if they become wet. Use of non-acid-free tissue is acceptable if it is replaced yearly. Washed and thoroughly rinsed white cotton sheets can also be used to line the box. Acid builds up over time in cellulosic materials such as cotton, linen, and rayon.

Wash and thoroughly rinse storage materials made from these fibers every year or two to remove acid build-up and limit potential for deterioration.

To pack a large garment, such as a wedding gown, line the box with tissue or cotton sheeting. Place the garment in the box so as to limit folds. Place crumpled tissue at folds and in the bodice and sleeves for shaping.

If possible, remove fabric-covered metal buttons, rubberized dress shields, or foam padding. These items can oxidize, rust, or deteriorate and result in damage to fabric over time.

If not possible, use crumpled tissue as a buffer between these items and the garment.

Place tissue over the garments and add the lid. Do not seal. In fact, slits to allow air circulation could be added.

Avoid wrapping in plastic unless water damage is possible. Plastic bags can give off damaging fumes, trap moisture, and provide an environment for mildew to grow.

Horizontal versus vertical - Storage Box, or horizontal storage has been discussed above. This is desirable for heavy garments with beading or wedding gowns with heavy trains or sheer bodices. Knitted garments should be stored flat to avoid stretching over time. Also, small garments such as christening gowns are easily stored flat.

In some instances, vertical or storage on a hanger is acceptable. Vertical storage reduces wrinkling, but can weaken shoulders or bodice since the full weight of the garment hangs from these areas. If vertical storage is possible without undue damage to the garment, generously pad and wrap a sturdy hanger with cotton batting and cotton sheeting.

Sew cotton twill straps or a bodice shell slightly shorter than the bodice to the waistline. The weight of the garment will fall primarily on the twill straps or shell, and distribute the stress on the fabric. Stuff the bodice and sleeves with crumpled tissue or cotton sheeting.

Make a clean cotton sheeting cover. Avoid synthetic materials, as they develop static and attract dust. Wash the cotton cover and other cotton storage supplies yearly. Also, do not use plastic bags for long term storage.

Occasionally, small textile or accessory items can be stored flat or rolled on tubes. When using tubes, they should be acid-free or wrapped

in clean cotton sheeting.

If the textile is subject to dye fading, contains metallic threads, or is unusually fragile, interleave acid-free tissue as you roll the item. Roll without tension and be careful to prevent wrinkles or folds from forming. Wrap the tube in cotton sheeting and tie loosely with cotton twill tape for storage. If possible, avoid rolling textiles that are painted, as cracking may occur over time.

Storage - Store heirloom textiles, either hanging or boxed, in cool, dry areas, free from drastic temperature changes. Basements, attics or exterior wall closets are generally unsatisfactory. High attic temperatures cause oxidation of stains, finishes or trims. Basement areas are subject to moisture, mildew and flooding. Exterior closets have less stable temperatures.

Select an area with adequate air circulation, but away from light. Each year, remove the item to check on its condition. This is especially important the first year. If stains are noticeable, the potential for removal is greater than if left for longer periods.

Replace non-acid-free tissue or wash cotton sheeting wrappings. Repack the textile so folds are in different locations.

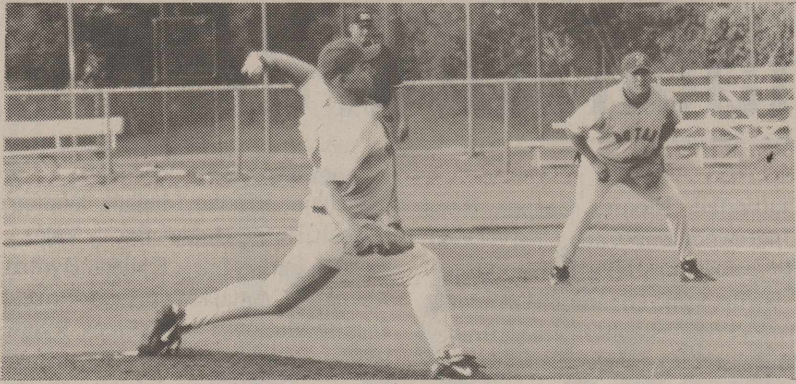
If garments are in drawers rather than boxes, do not place heavy items on top of them which may cause crushing and folds. Also, certain fibers, such as cotton, linen or rayon, should not be stored in cedar chests. The acid given off by the wood in the cedar chest can weaken the textile over time.

Caring for textiles and garments worn for special occasions can prolong their beauty and reduce deterioration over time. With proper treatment, items bought or made new today can be the family heirlooms of future generations. A little extra effort now can enrich the lives of family members to come.

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Rotan Yellowhammer Baseball Action



WINDING-UP: Mikeal Harrison, Rotan Yellowhammer baseball team pitcher winds up to hurl a strike-out.



CLEAN STRIKE: Rotan Hammer swinging at a fast one.



SLIDING INTO THIRD BASE: A Cross Plains player slides into third base in recent Hammer baseball action.

House Passes Boll Weevil Legislation

State Representative David Counts (D-Knox City) worked with the bill's sponsor, Rep. Robert Junell, in support of legislation to continue the Boll Weevil Eradication program. During the previous week, Counts had testified before the committee

and presented a notebook containing hundreds of letters of support he had received from farmers around District 70.

Senate Bill 1814, authored by Senator Robert Duncan, passed by the House, corrects the problems

noted by the Supreme Court in their ruling which rendered the program unconstitutional. "This program is crucial to District 70," stated Counts. "I have had numerous calls and letters from folks urging the quick passage of this legislation to that we can get the program up and moving again."

Counts stated that he has heard from farmers and business leaders in the district who are already seeing the early signs of continued boll weevil problems this year. In addition, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service has predicted 1.5 to 3 times as many boll weevils as last year due to the winter climate. "Time is of the essence," stated the Knox City lawmaker. "We have worked to put together the best piece of legislation we can to help our farmers before it's too late."

Counts noted that he has kept in close contact with Congressman Charles Stenholm (D-Stamford) to see that federal money will remain available. "Charlie has been working hard in Washington to make assurances that this program will continue and that the federal dollars will not go somewhere else." Counts also noted that Stenholm is working to secure federal "bridge" loans which would provide emergency funding for the program's basic operations until regular funding for the foundation resumes.

The new legislation will call for referendum elections every four years

for the continuation of the program in each zone. Counts states that while the bill was of paramount interest to those in the farming community, its effects are felt throughout the district. "Some people think this is just an issue for farmers," said Counts. "In this district, where approximately 75 to 80 percent of our economy is based directly or indirectly on agriculture production, the reality is that this issue affects us all."

TAX PLANNING

Written By:
Richard Rodgers, CPA



SOME MID YEAR TAX REMINDERS

Some businesses are facing an important tax deadline on July 1. That's the date on which certain businesses must begin depositing their federal taxes electronically. The deadline applies to your business if you made federal tax deposits of more than \$50,000 during 1995. You should have received the enrollment information for this new system from the IRS. If you haven't, or if you're not ready to comply with the new rules, you should contact your accountant at once.

If you receive revised Form 1099s after filing your 1996 return, or if you discover some other omission or error made on the return you filed, you should file an amended return (Form 1040X). Amended returns can be filed within three years from the time the original return was filed or two years from the time the tax was paid, whichever is later. If you amend to claim additional deductions and the IRS owes you money, you will receive a refund with interest. If you're filing the amended return to report more income, additional taxes should be paid when you file the 1040X. The IRS will bill you if there are interest and/or penalty charges.

As you do your tax planning for 1997, keep in mind that the politicians in Washington are talking tax change again. While some are advocating total reform of the tax system, change in 1997 is likely to be considerable less sweeping, if it occurs at all. Among the most likely changes to keep in mind: a tax credit for dependent children, changes in the taxation affecting home sales, expanded IRAs, some sort of credit or deduction for education expenses, and some capital gains tax relief. It's a good idea to find out how any pending legislation might affect you before you make any significant financial decisions in either your personal life or your business. For assistance, contact our office.

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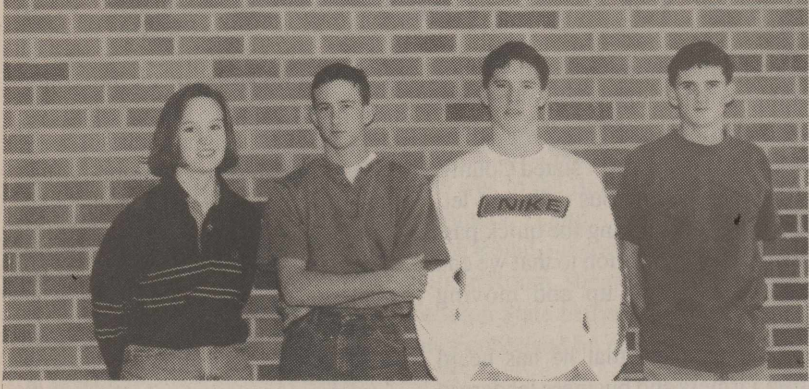
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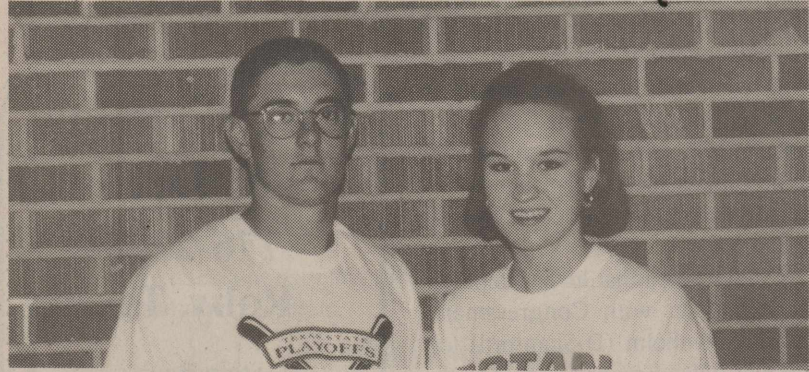
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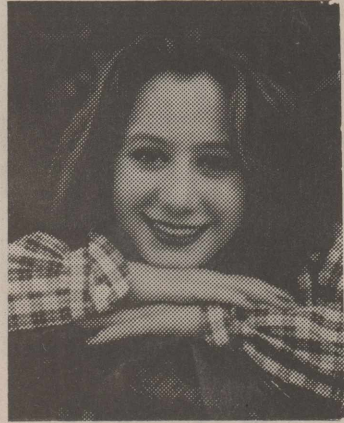
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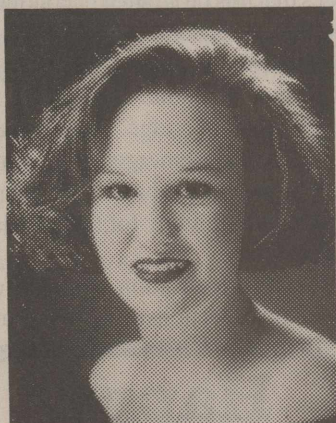
ROTAN SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS: Katie Kennedy, President, Corey King, Treasurer, Kris Rogers, Vice President and Jason Hargrove, Secretary.



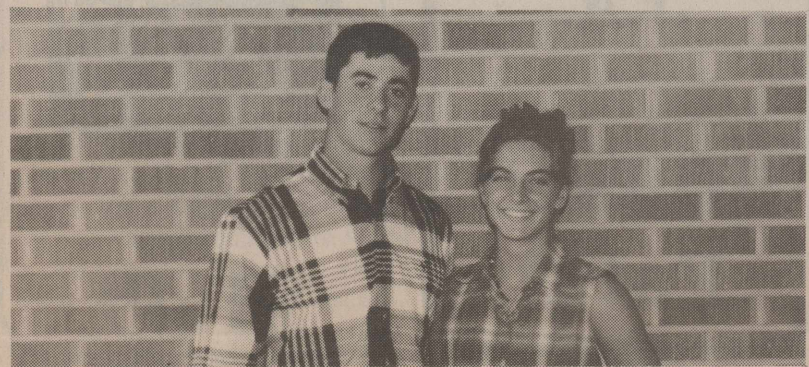
SENIOR CLASS FAVORITES: Katie Kennedy and Rusty Goodwin.



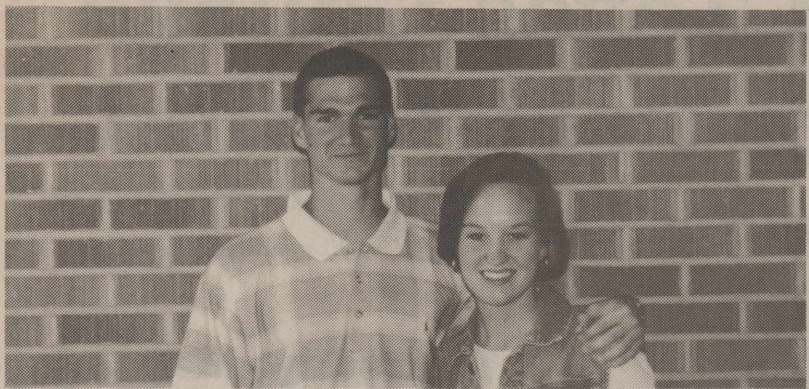
ROTAN BAND SWEETHEART:
Laura Blackwelder



ROTAN FOOTBALL SWEETHEART:
Katie Kennedy



ROTAN FFA BEAU:
Russell Price



MR. AND MISS ROTAN HIGH SCHOOL: Katie Kennedy and Jay Ben Alls.

Rotan High School Students Receive Recognition Awards

An Awards Assembly was held May 22, at Rotan High School, recognizing the following students:

Subject Awards: Cox: English I, Ruthie Riddel; English II, Sarah Greenlee; English IV, Katie Kennedy.

Dykstra: BCA, Laura Blackwelder; BCM, Amy Gruben; Advanced Journalism, Mandy Ducus.

Fryar: Entrepreneurship, Russell Price; Fruits, Nuts & Vegetables, Jason Hargrove; Animal Science, Kaleb Goodwin; Plant & Animal Production, Russell Price; 102-Applied Agricultural Sciences, Ryan Posey; Plant & Soil Science, Jason Hargrove; Wildlife & Recreational Management, Kaleb Goodwin; Ag. Metal Fabrication, JD Elrod; Intro. Horticultural Sciences, Jason Hargrove; 101-Intro. To World Agriculture, Gareth Pipes.

Jones: Algebra IB, Chris Flores; Government, Katie Kennedy; Trigonometry, Monica Gaspar; Analytic Geometry, Reed Underwood; Algebra IA, Rocky Munoz; Plane Geometry, Stacy Morrow.

Langthorn: Health, Katie Kennedy; Advanced Health, Nicki James.

Mercer: Speech, Monica Gaspar. Osuna: World Geography, Stacy Morrow; Economics, Katie Kennedy; U.S. History, Ryan Posey.

Pittard: Art I, Reed Underwood; Art II, Erlinda Natividad; Geometry, Becky Velez; Computer Science I, Andrea Miranda; Computer Science II, Sarah Greenlee.

Sparks: Spanish II, Andrea Miranda; English I, Carolyn Rocha; English IV, Deon Duke.

T. Spikes: Keyboarding, Lacy Callan; IFL, Stephanie Yanez; FSN, Lynde Martinez; CHE, Ruthie Riddel.

Threatt: Chemistry, Katie Kennedy; Anatomy/Physiology, Katie Kennedy; Overall Science, Katie Kennedy; Physical Science, Crystal Hoyle.

Underwood: U.S. History, Byron Kennedy; English III, Reed Underwood.

Brandy Wood: Algebra I, Javier Garcia; Algebra II, Keri Robertson; Algebra II, Brady Murphree; Calculus, Katie Kennedy.

Bryan Wood: Biology I, Becky Velez; Biology II, Sarah Greenlee.

Academic Excellence, Grades 10-12, G.P.A. of least 7.0; Grade 9, G.P.A. of 6.0 and students must be pursuing advanced or recommended diploma:

Katie Kennedy, Laura Blackwelder, Adriana Velez, Deon Duke, Jay Ben Alls, Leanne Landes, Mandy Dycus, Amy Gruben, Jason Hargrove, Mikeal Harrison, Kris Rogers, Zach Morris, Erlinda

Natividad, Monica Gaspar, Reed Underwood, Katy Cade, Cheryl Dodd, Renee Helms, Jake Baker, Stoney Carrillo, Lane Greene, J.P. Anderle, Tracy Posey, Sarah Greenlee, Brady Murphree, Andrea Miranda, Shelley Burk, Keri Robertson, Stacy Morrow, Guy Duke, Monica Romo, Nicki James, Rose Mary Rocha, Daniel

Markham, Brooke McCall, Walter Burnett, Ruthie Riddel, Becky Velez, Crystal Early, Lacy Callan, Byron Kennedy, Crystal Hoyle, Jacob Price, Dayne Mullins, Gareth Pipes, Ryan Posey, Andrea Romo, Jennifer Fowler, Nikki Rowland, Tara Nowlin, Chris Huggins, Scott Price, Dustin McWhirter.



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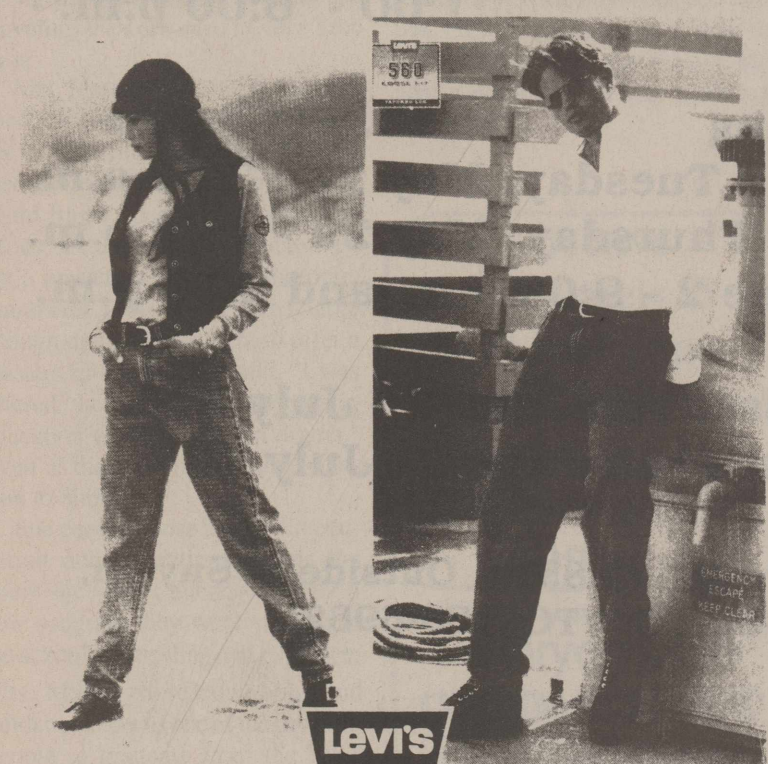
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