

Motley County Tribune

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

Established 1891

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999

ISSUE NO. 9

50¢



A Look Back

Call

MARCH 2, 1950

Iron Horse Hitched For Final Run
Over Quanah & Pacific
at Floydada Depot

This article featured a picture, made in Floydada, before the crew started on their last run. Pictured were Marvin Estes, Conductor; brakeman, J.W. Reynolds; fireman, Horton Murphy, and Engineer E.B. Marsalis.

MARCH 2, 1950

"Empty for the first time in several months, Motley County jail, Tuesday morning, was receiving a routine inspection by Sheriff and Deputy Jinks Wilson. Pressing against the bars of a north window, the officers discovered one bar broken, and set back in place, and that another bar was in the process of being removed. The near break had been achieved through the aid of an iron pipe removed from the plumbing."

MARCH 2, 1950

Trail Dust by Douglas Meador

"Suds are often white above dirty water like snow white clouds above an unclean world."

Around Town News Briefs of area events

MC School to dismiss for Spring Break

Spring Break for Motley County Students will begin at 3:38 p.m. Thursday, March 11.

Teachers and Staff will be at the School, Friday, March 12, for a workday.

Classes will resume at the regular time on Monday, March 22.

Talent Show, Cake Auction set for March 4

The Annual Talent Show and Cake Auction has been set for Thursday, March 4. The event is sponsored by the Jr. Class.

All students in PK-12th grade, and anyone else, are invited to participate.

To be in the show, sign up with Mrs. Kelli Jackson at school.



CHEERING FOR THE MATADORS — Motley County Cheerleaders cheer for the Matadors during last Friday night's game in Plainview. Pictured above, left to right, are Kandi Keltz, Lisa Taylor, Brooke Decker, Ashley Stevens, Blair Thacker, and ShaVonne Taylor.

Matadors end basketball season as Bi-District Champs

by Rickey Lawrence

The Motley County Matadors ended their 1998-99 Basketball Season as Bi-District Champs, when they lost their bid to become Area Champions last Friday, February 26, when they met the O'Donnell Eagles. The final score of the game, held at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, was 44-57. Most everyone in Motley County showed up in Plainview to see if the Matadors could continue their season, and although they lost there isn't any reason for this team to hang their heads. They have played hard all year long and have accomplished a lot.

The Matadors were led in scoring by Keane Cruse with 17; Brad

Marvel, 7; Dayton Grundy, 6. Keane also led in rebounds with 10, followed by Brad with 8 and Dayton with 5.

To get to this area championship game the Matadors had to work hard. After winning the District title in a 3 team playoff, they played a practice game in Childress against Chilicothe on February 19. The Matadors won this game by the score of 67-42. Brad Marvel had 15 points for the night, followed by Brant Donaldson with 11 and Sean Rose with 8. Keane was leading rebounder with 10. Brad grabbed 8, and Dayton pulled down 5.

The Matadors went up against Wilson for the Bi-District title, Tuesday, February 24 at Idalou. This was a very good game and it came down

to the last few seconds. Wilson had one shot and missed at the buzzer, and Motley County held on to win 53-51. Keane had 19 points for the night, followed by Brad with 10 and Sean with 7. Keane led in rebounds with 10, followed by Dayton and Jermaine with 4 each.

These guys did a great job all year and were a lot of fun to watch. The Seniors did a good job in leading this team and will be missed next year. To Keane Cruse, Brad Marvel, Dayton Grundy, Jason Barton, and Jason Clauser, we say thank you for your hard work. "You guys done good!"

To Coach Ridgley and the rest of the team we say thank you and we look forward to next year and more success!

Motley County Junior Livestock Show will be held next Saturday

The 59th Annual Motley County Junior Livestock Show will be held next Saturday, March 13, 1999 at the Motley County Livestock Show Barn. The Livestock Show is sponsored each year by local volunteers to provide an opportunity for 4-H and FFA members to exhibit their livestock projects. By caring for and feeding their livestock throughout the feeding period, youth have the opportunity to learn responsibilities and increase their knowledge of the livestock industry.

During this year's Show, there will be 16 steers, 52 hogs, 16 lambs and 27 rabbits exhibited. In addition, a Pee Wee Swine Showmanship Show will be held for youth under the age of 9 years and not in the third grade.

Anyone living in Motley County, owning land in Motley County, or youth eligible for the Junior Livestock Show may show heifers. Any-

one planning to show a pen of heifers must notify the Junior Livestock Show Association by Friday, March 5th. Heifers must be 12 to 18 months of age at show time. Heifers will be shown in a pen of three (3) format. Animals will be identified by number and placed in a pen. They will not be shown at halter or weighed. There will be a \$10.00 entry fee per pen of heifers. All heifers must be in place by 10:00 a.m. Heifer classes will include English, Exotic, and Cross-bred.

Pay-N-Save Grocery in Matador will be serving breakfast to exhibitors, donors, and local residents from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the Livestock Show Barn. The breakfast will be prepared by local volunteers.

Thank you to Lowe's Pay-N-Save in Matador, all the volunteers and donors for their continued support and dedication to the Motley County Junior Livestock Show.

There will be a concession stand open throughout the Stock Show.

Donations of \$1.00 are being accepted for a drawing of \$500.00 gift certificate from Thacker Jewelry in Roaring Springs. The proceeds from the fund raiser will benefit the Premium Auction. Anyone interested in the gift certificates may contact a Motley County 4-H or FFA member and/or a director of the Motley County Junior Livestock Show Association. Anyone interested in making donations to the Motley County Junior Livestock Show Association should contact one of the directors or the Motley County Extension office by calling (806) 347-2733. Directors for this year's show are Craig Turner, Bruce Lefevre, Tommy Gleghorn, J.D. Russell, Mark Seigler, and David Stafford.

Everyone is invited to attend the Show and Youth Premium Auction to help support the youth of Motley County.

February Sales Tax Rebates total \$318.2 million to Texas Cities and Counties

(Austin) -- State Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander delivered \$318.2 million in monthly sales tax payments to 1,097 Texas cities and 118 counties, Friday, February 12, a 9.5 percent increase over the \$290.5 million allocated to cities and counties in February, 1998.

"February sales tax rebates reflect holiday season sales by Texas retailers. It appears that retailers had a very good Christmas, an indication of Texas' strong economy and high consumer confidence," Rylander said.

This month's payments to cities and counties include sales taxes collected by monthly filers in December, and reported to the Comptroller in

January, plus quarterly returns for sales in October, November, and December, and returns from annual filers for the entire year of 1998.

Rylander delivered monthly sales tax rebates totaling \$293.6 million to Texas cities, 9.9 percent higher than last February's payments of \$267.1 million. Rebates of \$24.5 million to Texas counties were up 9.5 percent compared to those paid in February, 1998. Another \$9.7 million went to 37 special purpose districts around the state.

In Motley County, Matador, with

a current rate of 1.00%, received a net payment this period of \$4,280.87, compared to \$3,694.40 last year, a change of 15.87%. 1999 payments to date have been \$5,311.90, compared to \$4,991.66 for 1999, a 6.41% change.

Roaring Springs, with a current rate of 1.00%, received \$2,471.74, compared to \$1,629.69 last year, a 51.66% change. 1999 payments to date are \$2,956.58, compared to \$2,755.63 in 1998, a 7.29% change.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation is scheduled to be delivered on Friday, March 12, 1999.

Briscoe County Jurors indict Garner in Quitaque shooting

Note: This article is from the Plainview Daily Herald, by Richard Orr, Staff Writer.

John "Corky" Garner has been indicted in last year's shooting of the prominent Quitaque resident Roye Pigg.

A spokeswoman for the Briscoe County district attorney's office said the grand jury returned the indictment early Wednesday afternoon.

Garner, 64, is an ex-pilot for Southwest Airlines and a former Briscoe County rancher and farmer. He remains free on \$150,000 bond.

Pigg was president of the Quitaque Chamber of Commerce and owned the Sportsman Cafe and Club in Quitaque.

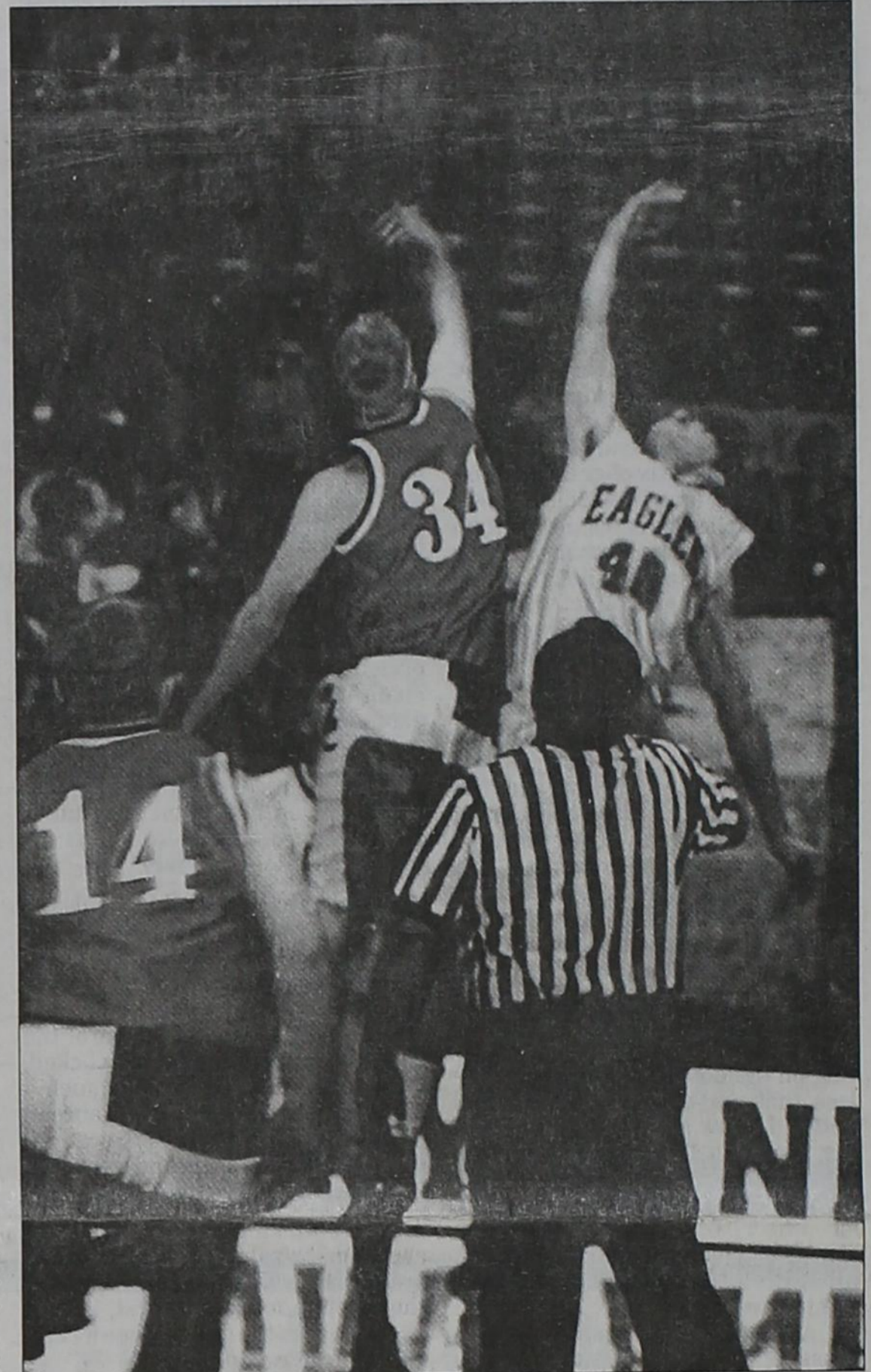
He was found shot to death in the kitchen of Garner's house after clos-

ing the club in the early-morning hours of June 4, 1998, and apparently giving Garner a ride home.

Floyd County District Attorney Becky McPherson - whose jurisdiction includes Briscoe county - said earlier that the delay in getting the case to the grand jury stemmed from the time it takes to run DNA and other tests on evidence sent to Austin for analysis.

Pampa DA John Mann was named special prosecutor in the case after McPherson recused herself upon learning in January that her father-in-law is negotiating with the defendant to buy some of his property.

Mann presented the case to the grand jury and is expected to prosecute Garner when he goes on trial. A trial date is pending.



UP FOR THE JUMP — Motley County Matador, Brad Marvel, #34, tips the jump ball for the opening of the Area playoff game against O'Donnell at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview last Friday night. The Matadors lost the game, 44-57.

photo by Mary Renfro

Cotton Council predicts no major changes in '99 Farm Legislation

Farmers aren't likely to see any substantial changes in existing farm legislation until 2000, the year of the next presidential election, said John Maguire, the National Cotton Council's chief Washington lobbyist, at the Beltwide Cotton Conference here this week.

"Still, we could see some slight revisions of Freedom to Farm in 1999. Crop insurance will be high on that list, along with additional supplemental farm program payments," Maguire said. "Most people will only remember 1998 as the 'year of Lewinsky,' but it also was a year of Congressional realignment that could benefit agriculture."

"Moderates now control the balance of power in Congress, and that's good for agriculture. The Republicans hold only a six-vote margin in the House of Representatives. Larry Combest, a Republican from Lubbock, will head the House Ag Committee and Charles Stenholm, a Democrat from Stamford, is the ranking minority member of the

House. And in the Senate, Richard Lugar, a strong ag advocate, still chairs the ag committee."

Congress is likely to boost ad hoc disaster relief beyond 1998 levels at a time when budget matters will dominate legislative debates on Capitol Hill, he added.

National Cotton Council president Jack Hamilton noted that NCC will compare ag policy recommendations from cotton industry leaders during its annual meeting in Memphis, Tenn., next month.

"Keeping a cotton marketing loan in place, restoration of full-year Step 2 export enhancement funds and revision of Step 3 cotton import regulations will be high on our list of farm policy recommendations in any farm bill debate," he said. "These points of policy need to be addressed and revised to keep our cotton competitive in today's global marketplace and to help ensure reasonable domestic prices for American cotton growers."

NWS report shows region with below average rainfall

Based on data from the National Weather Service's network of Cooperative Weather Observers, 1998 precipitation was well below average across most of the South Plains region.

One exception was in the extreme southern Panhandle, where precipitation was close to the annual average. The driest location in the South Plains was Seminole, which received only 7.85 inches of precipitation last year. In contrast, Silvertown received the most rain in the area - a whopping 22.11 inches.

The average South Plains town received 13.89 inches of precipitation. A list of area towns with their total

1998 precipitation is as follows:
Abernathy, 16.48 inches; Big Spring, 14.14; Brownfield, 14.66; Crosbyton, 12.98; Dimmitt, 17.85; Floydada, 12.82; Friona, 15.51; Hereford, 16.59; Jayton, 10.51; Lamesa, 10.57; Levelland, 13.19; Littlefield, 16.34; Lubbock, 13.06; Matador, 13.91; Morton, 12.60; Muleshoe, 14.74; Muleshoe Refuge, 9.82; Olton, 15.78; Paducah, 14.59; Plainview, 14.68; Seminole, 7.85; Silvertown, 22.11; Snyder, 10.56; Spur, 10.07; Tahoka, 11.98; Tulia, 21.10.

According to the NWS the 13.06 inches recorded in Lubbock made 1998 the driest year since 1993 when 12.75 inches fell.

MOTLEY COUNTY SCHOOL NEWS

Students of the Month

January Students of the Month for Motley County ISD are T.J. Christopher and Mandi Ream in Jr. High, and Nesa McFall Palmer and Keane Cruse for High School.

T.J. is the 15-year-old son of John and Mitzi Christopher of Roaring Springs. He is an eighth grader. He has one sister, Crystal, 19, and one brother, Ky, 6.

His favorite color is blue and his favorite song is Space Lord. His favorite movies are Austin Powers and Happy Gilmore.

T.J. enjoys participating in football. His hobbies include playing pool, hunting, and chasing girls.

He admires his cousin, Jeremy Jones, "because he's always been good to me and he has set a good example for me. I want to be good in sports like he was."

Mandi is the 12-year-old daughter of Charles and Gail Ream of Matador. She is a seventh grader. She has two sisters, her twin-sister, Charli, 12, and Callie Hodgson, 22, and one brother, Gabo Ohlson, 19.

Her favorite color is baby blue and her favorite song is Angel of Mine. Her favorite movies are She's All That and Titanic.

When she lived in Iowa, she enjoyed dance class. She also enjoys rollerblading and going to the Mall.

She admires her Mom, "because she has gone through so much to get where she is now."

Nesa Palmer is a Senior. She is the 18-year-old daughter of Bruce and Ann McFall of Matador. She has one sister, Becky Renfro, 21.

Her favorite color is green. Her favorite song is Lullabye by Shawn Mullins. Her favorite movie is Armageddon and her favorite food is enchiladas.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH — T.J. Christopher (back) and Mandi Ream, Jr. High; and Keane Cruse, High School. Not pictured is Nesa Palmer, also a High School Student of the Month.

Nesa enjoys riding horses, reading books, and working cattle with her dad and the crew.

She plans to attend WT A&M and major in Animal Science in the future.

She is involved in FFA, NHS, Gifted and Talented and has been named to Who's Who.

Nesa admires her parents "for their strength, patience, faith, and love for one another that gets them through each day."

Keane is also a Senior, and the 17-year-old son of Brenda and Darrel Cruse of Flomot.

He has one sister, Leah, 19, and one brother, Derrick, 14.

His favorite color is blue. His favorite movie is Waterboy and his favorite food is enchiladas.

Keane enjoys playing basketball and football, hunting, fishing, and golfing. He is also involved in the National Honor Society.

He plans to attend college after graduation.

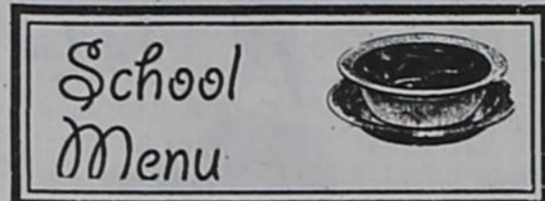
Keane admires his parents "because they are always watching out for me and keeping me out of trouble."

MCTV to be presented March 4

The Jr. Class will present its annual Talent Show and Cake Auction in the format of MCTV, not to be confused with MTV. This special event will be Thursday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the gym.

Each adult paying admission will be given a voting ballot for all divisions. You decide which talent is tops! Admission is \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for students.

For your enjoyment this year, special "commercials" will be presented throughout the show. Also, word is... look for some "unique" performers. Little surprises everywhere.



MONDAY, MARCH 8

Breakfast: Breakfast Burrito, Fruit, Milk.

Lunch: Pepperoni and Cheese Pizza, Tossed Salad, Pineapple, Vanilla Wafers, Milk.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9

Breakfast: Sausage, Biscuits, Gravy, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Assorted Sandwiches, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Onion, Potato Chips, Apple, Cookie, Milk.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

Breakfast: Cereal, Buttered Toast, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, California Blend Veggies, Creamed Potatoes, Hot Rolls, Honey, Milk.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11

Breakfast: Biscuits, Bacon, Eggs, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Barbecue on a Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Onion, Potato Chips, Peaches, Milk.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

NO SCHOOL! IN-SERVICE DAY.

Powerlifters to compete in Regional meets

by Kathy Gillespie

The Motley County Powerlifters Team competed in their last regular season meet Saturday, February 27 at Floydada. This was the last day that a competitor could qualify for the regional meet. Each of the six powerlifters gave a 100% effort at each of the three lifts (squat - bench - dead lift), and each one improved personal bests.

All of the girls at the meet were placed in one division. Rabecca Morris placed first with a total of 530 pounds (210 - 105 - 215). This was an improvement of 80 pounds over her last meet.

Ashley Stevens placed third with a total of 480 pounds (200 - 80 - 200) which was an improvement of 30 pounds for her. Kember Everett placed fifth with a total of 450 pounds (165 - 85 - 200) for an improvement of 50 pounds.

Coach Copeland feels that each girl has made significant improvements. He feels that each of them may have qualified for regionals but is awaiting official word from the Regional Director at Cisco where the Girls' Regional Powerlifting meet will be held Saturday, March 6.

Each of the three boys remained in his same weight class. Each boy also attained a personal best total. Casey Lawrence, in the 132 class, lifted a total of 680 pounds (300 - 140 - 240) for an improvement of 25

pounds. Casey placed 7th in his class.

Robert Gillespie, in the 148 pound class, placed second with a total of 1010 pounds (400 - 225 - 385) which was an improvement of 20 pounds. Robert still appears to be in second place in the region in his weight class. The Boys' Regional Powerlifting Meet will be held in Colorado City on March 13.

Chooch Meyer was again in the 181 pound class. He placed 7th in this class with a total of 960 pounds (400 - 185 - 375), an improvement of 25 pounds. Chooch is "on the bubble" as the saying goes as far as making it to the regional meet.

Coach Copeland feels that each boy has also made significant improvements throughout the season. He feels that each boy should qualify for regionals based simply on effort but knows the official listing will determine who gets to go.

All six of the members of the Powerlifting team once again exhibited tremendous support for each other. They worked hard to inspire each other to new personal bests and concentrated equally as hard when it was their turn to lift.

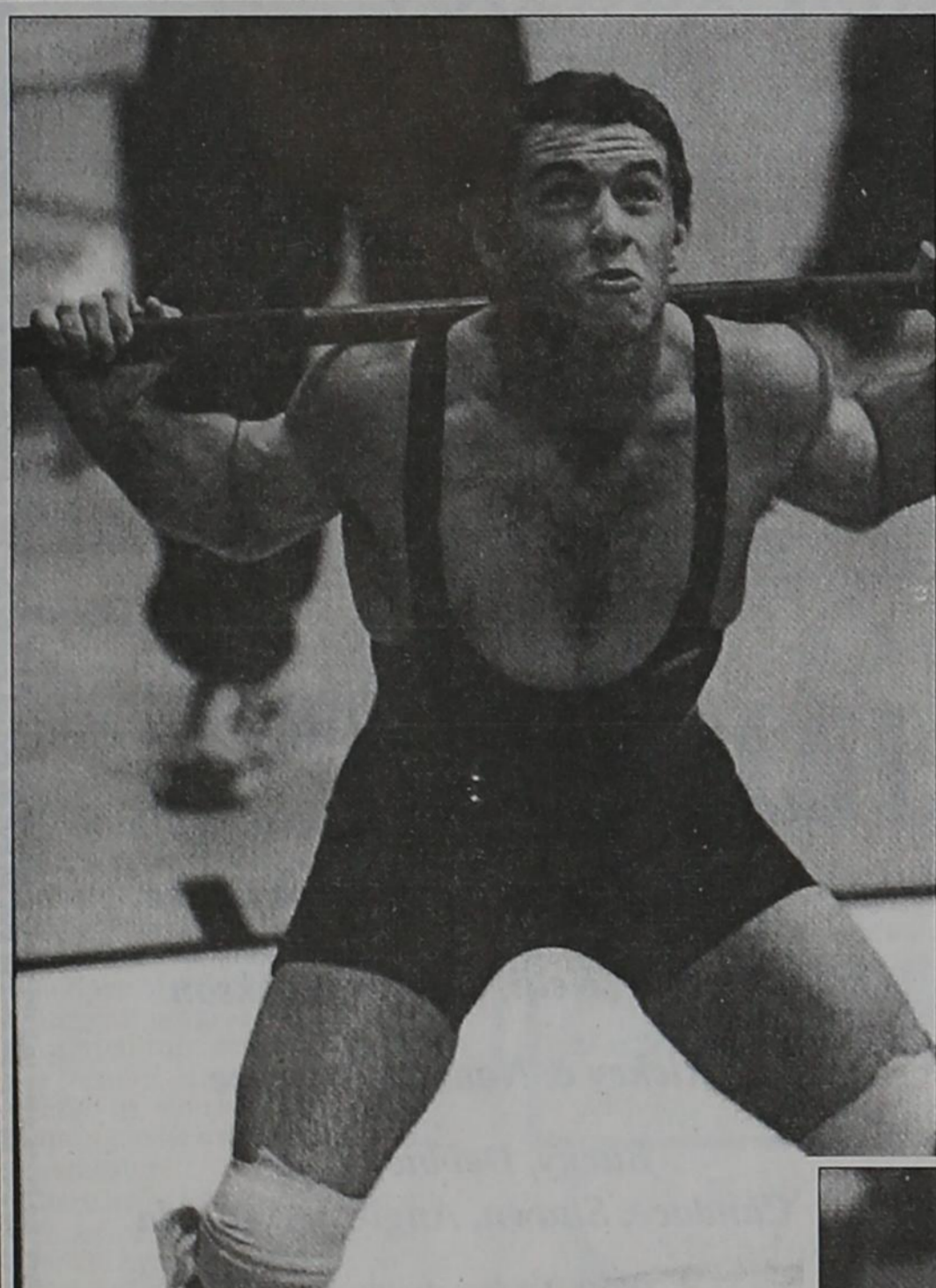
The community should be proud of each lifter for representing the county so well. Each of the lifters should be praised for a job well done. The lifters who are continuing on to the regional competition should be encouraged to do their best.

All My Downs Have Been Ups
The Horrible Homemade Halloween Costume
The Fabulous Flying Flag Farm
Guidelines for Freelancers
by Nancy Robinson Masters
available at the
Motley County Tribune

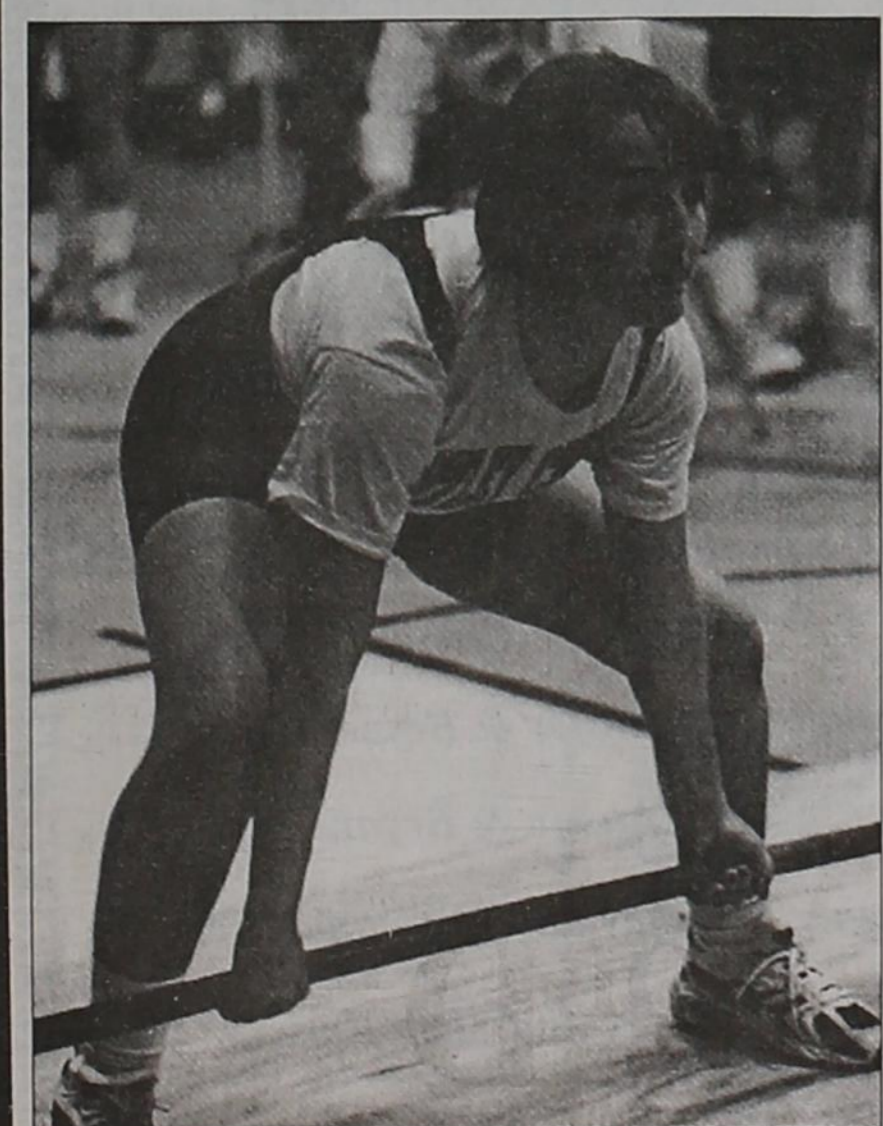
Leaning Tree Easter Cards
Brighton Jewelry - 40% off
Matador 347-2233
The Windmill

Motley County Jr. Livestock Show
March 13

PEOPLE WHO READ NEWSPAPERS ARE STUDENTS WITH BETTER GRADES



photos by James Gillespie



Good Luck at Regional! Motley County Powerlifters!

REGIONAL POWERLIFTING MEETS
Girls - Saturday, March 6, at Cisco
Boys - Saturday, March 13, at Colorado City

- Cap Rock Telephone
- Caprock Cellular
- Matador Variety
- Flomot Gin
- Rose Garden Floral & Gifts
- Tony, Sherry, Sean & Shea Rose
- Alexander Fuel
- Motley County Tribune
- Jim & Carla Meador
- Vickie's Floral & Country Crafts
- Production Credit Association
- Higginbotham-Bartlett
- Motley County Judge, Laverna Price
- First State Bank
- Thacker Supply
- Thacker Jewelry
- Matador Implement
- CSR PolyPipe
- The Windmill
- James, Kathy, & Brenda Gillespie
- Kelly, Pennie, Kevin & Kandi Keltz
- Jeremy, Whitney & Morgan Jones
- Alan, Kay, & Chance Bingham
- Donnie, Kelli & Dusty Jackson
- Dr. Pat & Mary Lou Williams
- Rickey & Naomi Lawrence
- Jeff, Pam, Brad & Blair Thacker
- Vaden, Carrol, Quinn & Courtney Hays
- Steve, Reneigh & Leigha Burns
- Dale & JoEtta Bumgardner
- Rodney, Glenda, Lindsey & Kristi Williams
- Billy, Pam & Dodie Morris
- Bettye & John Wesley Stevens
- Angie, Blake & Hunter Copeland
- Robin, Beverly, Bert and Dumont Darsey

Congratulations, Matadors on your winning season!



MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS — DISTRICT AND BI-DISTRICT CHAMPS! Jermaine Hendrix, Jason Clauser, Ben Ridgley, Casey Lawrence, kneeling left to right. Standing are Brad Marvel, Brant Donaldson, Jason Barton, Keane Cruse, Matt Easter, Sean Rose, Dayton Grundy, and Chase Carson.

And a BIG 'Pat on the Back' to Coach Ridgley
and the MC Coaching Staff
for your fine job with our kids!



We're proud of you!

Cap Rock Telephone

Motley County Tribune

Matador V&S Variety

Flomot Gin

CSR PolyPipe

Alexander Fuel

Vickie's Floral

New To You

Production Credit Association

The Windmill

Meredith Construction - Gas & Supply

Higginbotham-Bartlett

Thacker Supply

Thacker Jewelry

Rose Garden

Feed Trough Steakhouse

Caprock Cellular

First State Bank

Matador Implement

Motley County Judge, Laverna Price

Marihelen Wason

Ben, Dvonna, Cole & Justin Grundy

Steve, Reneigh, & Leigha Burns

Vaden, Carrol, Quinn & Courtney Hays

Shannon, Jane & Brady O'Pry

Kelly, Pennie, Kevin, & Kandi Keltz

Bettye, Ashley & John Wesley Stevens

Billy, Terree & Brittany Donaldson

Terry & Ronda Miller & Brittany

James, Kathy, Robert & Brenda Gillespie

Randy, Bonita & Lanie Barton

Jeff, Pam, Brad & Blair Thacker

Billy, Pam, Dodie & Rebecca Morris

Alan, Kay, & Chance Bingham

Coach Copeland, Angie, Blake & Hunter

Jr., Betty, & Cindy Bearden

Ronny, Mikki, Ryan & Leah Payne

Dr. Pat & Mary Lou Williams

Rodney, Glenda, Lindsey & Kristi Williams

Darrell, Brenda & Derrick Cruse

Donnie, Kelli, & Dusty Jackson

Rickey & Naomi Lawrence

Bucky, Debbie, Kris,
Candace, Shawn, Angie & Amanda

L.B. & Lucretia Campbell

Dale & JoEtta Bumgardner

Robin, Beverly, Bert & Dumont Darsey

Larry, Deidra, Monica & Skylar Clifton

Butch, Judy & Rachelle Renfro

Johnny, Tammy & Miranda Palmer

Billy, Brenda, Samantha, Sabrina, & Lexie Osborn

Tommie Cruse

Stephen, Jennifer & Bryce Brady

Shane, Wendi, Austin & Bryant Taylor

Jeremy, Whitney and Morgan Jones

Tony, Sherry and Shea Rose

An Alaskan adventure



Mary Meason and Patti Hamilton on a cold and snowy day during an outing in Alaska.



Snow and ice weigh the tree branches to form an ice sculptor.

by Mary Meason

Alaska! What a beautiful state! I have been fortunate in having had two trips to Alaska - one in the summer and one at Christmas time this year. I haven't really decided which season is the most beautiful time to visit that state.

First of all, I'm so very thankful for my nephew and niece, Richard "Duck" and Patti Hamilton, who have lived in Alaska for many years. They both taught school, she until retirement, and he taught for a number of years, then worked in the oil business in Prudo Bay until he retired.

My nephew has his own plane and when I was there in the summer time I saw much of the beauty of Alaska from the air - the beautiful mountains, glaciers, forests and rivers.

On my Christmas trip, Alaska had on its winter coat and it was more than gorgeous! Everything was covered in snow, but those people pay no attention to it! They have snow tires, the highway department keeps the highway and streets open and my nephew pays \$30 a month to keep his driveway free of snow from his house to the highway!

Christmas Day the outside temperature stood at 30° below zero, all day, but we were warm and everyone was looking forward to Christmas tree time! The sun came up around 12 noon and that is when we would have breakfast!

Their Christmas tree, of course, was a native evergreen and it was beautiful and loaded with gifts. Patti and Duck's two sons and their wives and their children and a friend were all there.

The sun was setting a little after three o'clock in the afternoon and was dark by 4:00 or a little after Patti put together a Christmas dinner fit for a king and we all gorged on that delicious Christmas dinner.

After I got home someone asked me if we had a turkey for Christmas dinner. I suppose they thought we had elk, bear, reindeer or fish for our Christmas dinner. That would have been all right, too, but that huge turkey was cooked to perfection.

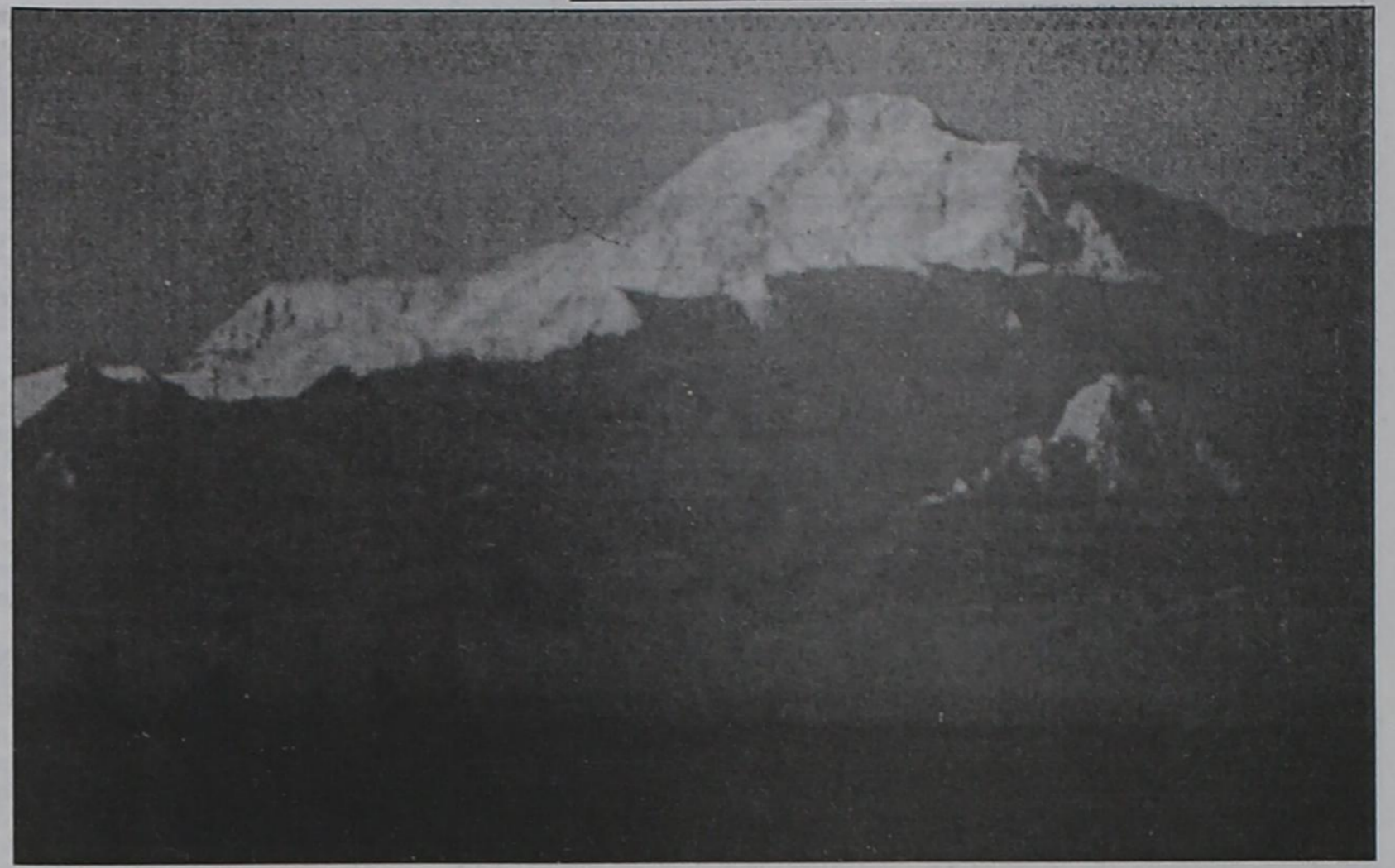
After all the decorations were removed from the tree, wrapped and stored away, Patti and I made several trips into Anchorage, ate out as all women love to do, and went to the Museum. That Museum was so interesting. It displayed the handiwork of the Indians and Eskimos from the early days of Alaska.

Those people were artists! Several things were so interesting to me because those people make their "houses" out of animal skins. Their pottery was made from grasses, and different designs were added for decorations. Their dresses were made of animal skins and decorated with beautiful beadwork.

One item that especially interested me was a large pot, almost as large as a wash pot, that was made of fish skin. The fins were left on the skins as decorations for the outside of the pot.

Seeing all these things made me realize how we "civilized" people have wasted our natural resources.

One thing I especially enjoyed was seeing the wonderful work of a



Mt. McKinley in Alaska. The Indians call the mountain Denali.

taxidermist who prepared the body of the Husky dog that pulled the sled carrying diphtheria vaccine into northern Alaska that was suffering from an epidemic of diphtheria. The dog didn't die from that arduous trip, but died a natural death. He is standing erect in a big glass cage. He saved many lives.

On this last trip only one person reminded me that Alaska is bigger than Texas. I think there are so many Texans living there now, the Alaskans have quit reminding them of Alaska's size.

Quite a few people have asked me how I went. They surely don't think that I drove up there in my eleven year old car at my advanced age! I told them I went by plane and wheelchair. I can get along at Lubbock airport, but not in DFW, Salt Lake City, Anchorage or Seattle. Patti had reserved a wheelchair for me at each airport and an attendant was at each airport to get me to every plane connection.

These two trips to Alaska were given to me by my niece and nephew. These two trips were the most wonderful gifts I have ever received.

In our trips from Anchorage to Willow, it was not out of the ordinary to see Elk or Moose grazing by the side of the road. These two trips to Alaska are something that happened during my lifetime that I'll never forget.

On my trip home I spent 10 days with my niece and family, Jean and Dean Straub, on Marrison Island, just across the sound from Seattle. It rained all day everyday and night that I was there. I was much colder there than I ever was in Alaska.

I talked to my niece, Jean, last week and they have had 89 days of rain. The sun was out that day but according to the weather man it was to start raining again the next day! I hate to admit it but I was glad to get back to old dry, sunbaked Texas.

But I'll have to admit that I am ready for another trip to Alaska, and in dryer weather, a trip to Washington.

WTPA Scholarship applications being accepted

Applications are now being accepted from high school seniors and junior and senior college students for two \$1,000 college scholarships, according to Carla Meador, publisher of the *Motley County Tribune*. The amount of the scholarships were increased by West Texas Press Association at the 1998 Summer Convention held in Midland.

The *Motley County Tribune* is a member of the West Texas Press Association, the world's largest press organization because of the vast geographic area it encompasses. The Association will be presenting scholarships to two future journalists in print media from the area served by the membership of WTPA whose career goals include working with a community newspaper.

Through the Bob Craig Memorials Scholarship program, a graduating high school senior and a college junior or senior will each be presented with a \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarship is named in honor of longtime *Hamlin Herald* publisher Bob Craig, who died in 1981. He served 18 years on the WTPA board in all offices, including president in 1967 and secretary/treasurer from 1969.

The scholarship will be divided into payments of \$500 per semester for two semesters for each of the two scholarship winners. The winners must be enrolled in at least three hours of college or university journalism courses each semester that the scholarship is awarded.

Each applicant must fill out an

application form and write an essay based on the theme "My Future and Career Plans in Community Journalism."

One scholarship will be presented to a graduating high school senior and the other will be presented to a student who is already attending a college or university as a print journalism or advertising major.

There were no entries for the college scholarship last year and the board voted to award two scholarships to graduating seniors. Winners were Aimee M. Moreland of Fort Worth, Texas, and Laura Barkowsky, a graduate of Greenwood High School at Midland.

Application forms have been sent to member newspapers and high schools in the area of West Texas Press Association members and to college journalism departments. Prospective applicants may secure a form from the high school journalism department or counselor or the local newspaper office. Applicants must be from the area served by the WTPA membership.

Applications and essays must be sent to M. Gene Dow, WTPA Scholarship Chairman, P.O. Drawer 1200, Seminole, TX 79360, and be post-marked on or before June 15, 1999.

Scholarship recipients will be chosen by the directors of the West Texas Press Association and will be announced at the Association's 69th Annual Summer Convention, July 22-24, 1999, at the Clarion Hotel in Abilene, Texas.

AFBF Monsanto provide scholarships

More students from farming families will have an opportunity to go to college with the help of scholarships provided by the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture and the Monsanto Company.

The joint program will allow eligible agriculture students from 28 major farming states to receive the scholarships, which will be awarded this spring to be used during the fall 1999 semester.

There are a total of 50 Monsanto and American Farm Bureau Commitment to Agriculture Scholarships, each totaling \$2,500. To receive them, a student's family must be actively involved in farming. Applicants should be preparing to enter the first year of college in the fall of 1999 and plan to major in agriculture.

Royalty payments from farmers who unlawfully saved and replanted, or sold for replanting, seed containing Monsanto's patented technology will be used to fund the scholarships.

"It has always been Monsanto's desire to use the money collected from seed piracy actions to benefit the agricultural community," said Lisa Safarian, Monsanto's business development manager for intellectual property. "We're very pleased to be able to work with American Farm Bureau to make this money available to help a lot of young people pay for their education in agriculture."

Monsanto is investigating more than 525 reported seed piracy cases. Royalty money has been generated from payments made to Monsanto based on the claims.

The scholarships will be awarded through the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.

Applications are now available at the state office, county Farm Bureau offices, and agricultural chemical retailer locations.

The deadline for application is April 15, 1999.

He who has conquered doubt and fear has conquered failure.

— James Lane Allen

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

— Theodore Roosevelt

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Farm & Ranch News

EQIP Cost Share Funding offered by NRCS

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently offering a ranking period for the purpose of obtaining cost share and incentive funds for environmental friendly farming and ranching practices. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is the program that replaced the Great Plains Conservation Program (GPCP) and the Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP), however, the EQIP does not have the same objectives. The ranking (funding) period will continue through March 31.

Incentive payments and cost share payments are available for virtually any farming or ranching practice that is considered environmentally friendly and is planned as a part of a complete conservation plan. The EQIP is a contract program and the

term of the contracts range from a minimum of five years to a maximum of ten years. The maximum contract limitation is \$50,000 and cost share rates up to 75%. The cost share rate is variable and the applicant can in-

crease their chance of acceptance into the program by bidding at a lesser cost share rate.

On a national basis EQIP is funded on an equal basis of cropland and rangeland. Motley County pro-

ducers will compete for a cost share pool against other counties in Texas. To obtain more information contact the Motley County NRCS office or the Farm Services Agency (FSA) office. The main telephone number for both offices is (806) 347-2263.

Crop Loss Disaster Assistance Program available through FSA

The Motley County FSA office is currently accepting applications for the Crop Loss Disaster Assistance Program. The program provides assistance to eligible producers who suffered losses for 1998 crops (single-year) or losses on crops in three of the last five years (multi-year) from

1994 through 1998. Farmers can receive payments under either the single-year or multi-year provisions, and USDA will make payments at the higher of the two levels.

The single-year (1998) crops with qualifying losses in excess of 35 percent of the expected production are

eligible for single year benefits. Single year provisions cover insured crops, uninsured crops, and non-insurable crops.

Under the multi-year disaster, insured crops will be compensated with an additional payment of 25 percent of the indemnities received during the period. For non-insurable crops the compensation will be an additional payment of 25 percent of the NAP payments received during the period.

The payments for the single-year and multi-year disasters will be prorated if the amount allocated for each is exceeded. The payment limitation for 1998 single-year and multi-year benefits is \$80,000 per person will be applied before any national payment factors. Also, producers receiving benefits that did not insure all 1998 insurable crops will be required to purchase crop insurance for ALL crops in 1999 and 2000. The sign-up deadline is March 12, 1999. Please call the office at (806) 347-2671 for an appointment.

Southwest Crops Conference March 11

The Southwest Crops Production Conference & Expo is right around the corner. Scheduled for March 11 at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, the daylong event is free to those attending and will be held in the Memorial Civic Center Banquet Hall.

Attendees are being asked to pre-register by calling Southwest Farm Press at 1-800-253-3160 or PCG at 306-792-4904. Attendees can also register by sending in the registration card included in recent editions of the Southwest Farm Press. Tickets for an on-site barbecue lunch will be sold for \$7 each.

Education credits for private pesticide applicators and for Texas Certified Crop Advisors will be available as well.

"Be beautiful inside, in your hearts, with the lasting charm of a gentle and quiet spirit which is so precious to God."

1 Peter 3:4

COW POKES

By Ace Reid



"The boss said I had to be a good cowboy to stay here, but I ain't had a chance to prove myself and now I'm not sure whether I am or not!"

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Cotton News

from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

FIRST STEP 3 IMPORT QUOTA OPENS MARCH 4

With the announcement of the first, of what will no doubt be many, Step 3 import quotas by the United States Department of Agriculture many producers are probably wondering what to expect in terms of foreign cotton making its way into U.S. textile mills.

The quota announced yesterday will be established March 4 and allow the importation of 93,806,582 pounds of raw cotton. That equates to 195,430 480-pound bales of cotton. The quota will be open for 180 days beginning March 4. This the maximum amount of cotton that could be brought in under a single quota and approximates the amount of cotton consumed by U.S. mills in one week.

The reality of the quota situation is that several important considerations are probably going to keep the flow of imports in check. The high cost of shipping cotton from foreign ports to U.S. destinations, the ability to obtain acceptable qualities of cotton for desired end-products and fact that many mills are geared to receive just-in-time shipments of raw cotton will all figure into mill decisions of when and if to buy foreign cotton.

Importing cotton is also a buyer beware proposition since the sales are not automatically subject to Southern Mill rules that allow a buyer to turn back damaged or otherwise unacceptable bales. Unless the buyer and importer specifically agree to use the Southern Mill rules then buyers run the risk of being delivered bales which would normally be turned back as unacceptable.

Mills may also find it difficult to

manage larger shipments of cotton since most have gotten away from the inventory control procedures involved with storing cotton prior to use.

On the quality side of the issue imported cotton is also generally sold on type and will not have an independent quality grade like U.S. cotton. The preference for most mills will be to continue to purchase available U.S. cotton unless they need cotton in quantities, specifically high-grade longer staple qualities, that are currently unavailable from U.S. sources.

USDA estimates only about 350,000 bales to be landed under Step 3 quotas during the remainder of the marketing year which ends July 31, 1999.

NEW ACREAGE RESERVE PROGRAM PROPOSED

Reports from USDA indicate Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman intends to support new legislation.

The bill is expected to be presented in the next three weeks and will propose the creation of a new conservation program that pays farmers to leave cropland idle.

However, the proposed new Conservation Reserve Program will differ from the current CRP which idles around 30 million acres. The proposed program would only request farmers leave land idle for five years rather than 10 years.

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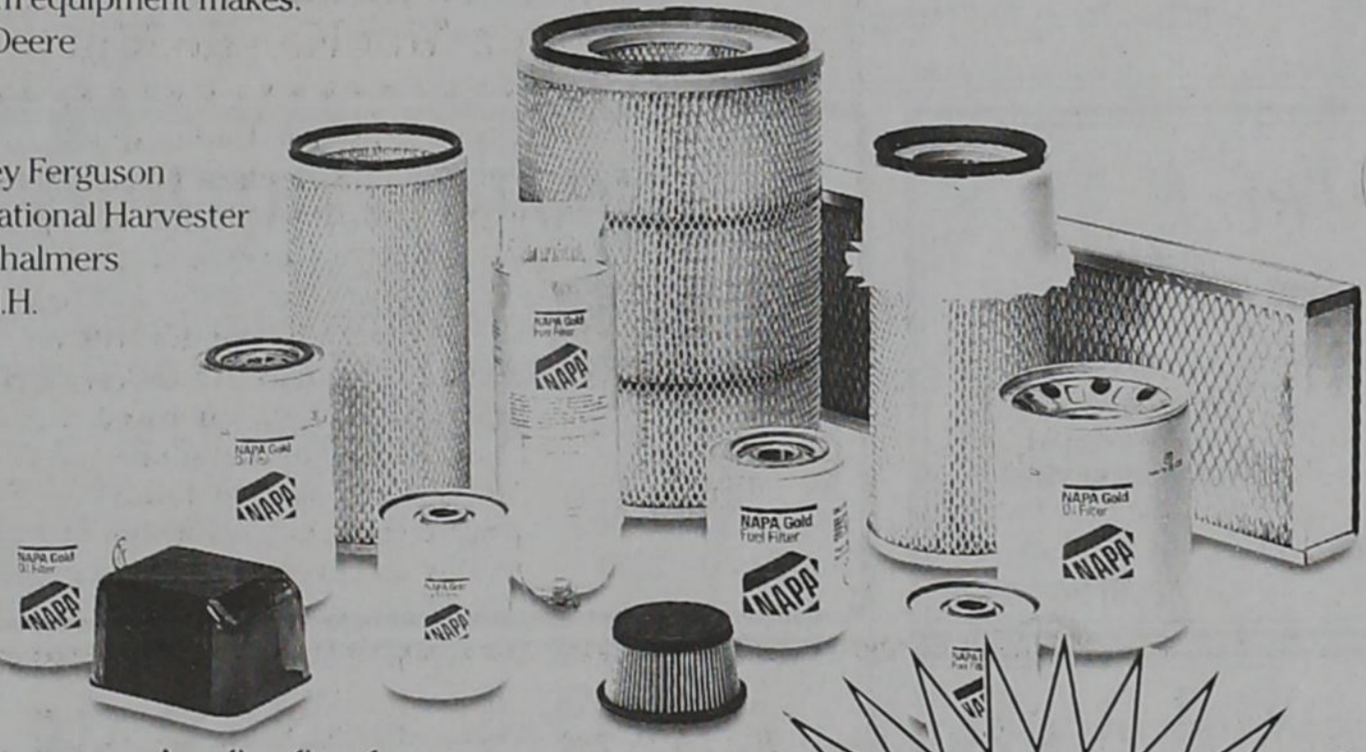
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