

Gorman Progress

2001 Member
Texas Press Association

"Serving Gorman For Over 101 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

NUMBER EIGHTEEN

MAY 17, 2001

Several Lady Panthers Make All-District Selections



LADY PANTHERS AND COACHES — (l to r) - Jamie Maupin, Assistant Coach Williamson, Mandy Warren, Lydia Royster, Emma Marin, Eva Rodriguez, Ashley Maupin, Rachel Rainey, Christina Mauney, Emerald Guthery, Melinda Leal and Coach Brock.

The Lady Panthers lost their Bi-District game to Tolar 9 to 2. The Lady Panthers finished the year with a season record of 7 and 5 and 6 and 0 in District.

All District selections for 7A Softball were made and the Lady Panthers were recognized as the cream of the crop. All starting players received an honor.

Coach of the Year: Jerry Brock
Most Valuable Player of the Year:
Emerald Guthery, Senior

1st Team Catcher: Melinda Leal, Freshman
1st Team Infielder: Eva Rodriguez, Senior and Jamie Maupin, Junior
2nd Team Infielder: Lydia Royster, Freshman
1st Team Outfielder: Mandy Warren, Junior; Rachel Rainey, Senior
2nd Team Outfielder: Christina Mauney, Senior.
Honorable Mention: Emma Marin, Sophomore

Solo and Ensemble Contest



Lacy Howard, Sarah Lewis, and Lana Howard competed at Solo and Ensemble Contest in February at Brownwood High School. The ratings were as follows: Lacy--Division II, Sarah--Division I, and Lana--Division I.

Sarah and Lana will represent Gorman High School at the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest in San Marcos on May 26.

Congratulations to all three girls and BEST OF LUCK AT STATE!

Baccalaureate Set For Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 20, 2001

7:30 p.m.

Processional
Senior Class
Invocation

Bill Campbell - Minister, First Baptist Church

Song

Sarah Lewis - Lacy Howard - Lana Howard

Baccalaureate Sermon

John Howard - Minister, Abundant Life Church

Benediction

Dane Gressett - Minister, First Fruits Ministries

Recessional

Senior Class

You are cordially invited to a

Retirement Reception

honoring Mr. Milton Jensen

Saturday, May 19, 2001

from three o'clock until four o'clock in the afternoon at the

Rotan Learning Resource Center

All-Awards Ceremony

The Gorman Schools All-Awards Ceremony will be held at Auditorium on Monday, May 21st. Junior High will begin at 8:30 and High School to begin at 11:15.

Gorman High School Graduation

The Gorman High School Graduation Ceremonies will be held at Brogdon Field on Friday, May 25th at 7:30 p.m. at

Gorman Jr. High Graduation

The Gorman Jr. High School Graduation Ceremonies will be held at Auditorium on Thursday, May 24th at 7:30 p.m.

Brown - Seay To Pledge Vows June 16th



Sandi and Garry Brown of Eastland and Vicki and Thomas Seay of Gorman, wish to announce the engagement of upcoming marriage of their children Summer Rai Brown of Eastland and Tommy Lyn Seay of Gorman.

Summer is a 1999 graduate of Eastland High School and has just completed 2 years at Ranger College and will be attending Sul Ross State University in Alpine and majoring in Elementary Education.

Tommy is also a 1999 graduate of Eastland High School and has completed 2 years in Ranger College and will be attending Sul Ross in the Fall majoring in Ranch Management.

Summer is the granddaughter of Maxine and Bud Adcock of Strawn and Gilda and Howard Brown of Fredricksburg.

Tommy is the grandson of Maybelle and the late Olen Trout of Eastland and of A.V. and the late Hillary Seay of Gorman.

The wedding will be June 16 at the Weiser Ranch in Nimrod outside of Cisco at 7 p.m.

All friends are invited to join in the fun!

Eagle Scout Project

I would like to remind everyone about the upcoming Eagle Scout Project that I'm doing. It is an organ donor drive at the Health Fair on May 22, 2001 at Heritage Manor.

My goal is to sign up 10 donors and to let the people know the importance of donating their organs. Also, it is very important to let their families know what they want to do.

Thanks, Christopher Torres

Robert Abbott Receives Eagle Scout Badge



A special court of honor was held on April 28 at 4:00 to award Robert Joe Abbott his Eagle Scout Badge from the Boy Scouts of America. Very few Boy Scouts ever achieve this high rank. Robert is the first scout from Gorman to receive this badge since 1965. Twenty-one scout badges must be earned before a boy is eligible for the Eagle Scout. Robert has spent several summers at Boy Scout camp at Lake Tonkawa, south of Abilene, working on some of these badges. Also, a community service project must be carried out. Robert's project was a blood drive where 21 units of blood were donated by local citizens.

Cub Scouts Aaron Keith, Trey Underwood and Carlos Gutierrez of Pack #38 began the court of honor by presenting the flags and leading the Pledge of Allegiance. The Eagle escorts Thomas Hurd and Andy Abbe of Boy Scout Troop #38 ushered Robert in. Then Robin Abbott of Abilene, Robert's brother, called the proceeding to order. Lori Dodd was the guest speaker and she gave a very good insight into what it takes to become an Eagle Scout. Then it was time to present the award. Jackie Gutierrez, Robert's mother, had the honor of pinning the Eagle medal on Robert. Rodney Abbott, Robert's father, presented Robert with his certificate from the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America. Kathy Abbott, Robert's step-mother, presented Robert with the Eagle neckerchief. Robert then presented his mother with an Eagle mother's pin. Rodney was presented with an Eagle tie-tac. Kathy received an Eagle pin. Thomas Hurd read a poem entitled, "The Legend of The Rose," while Robert presented Jackie with 7 red roses to signify the 7 ranks achieved on the path to becoming an Eagle. Robert also received a scrapbook containing several letters of commendation from Vice-President Cheney, former President Gerald Ford, Rev. Billy Graham and many others. Also a Texas state flag which had been flown at the state capital was sent from state representative Jim Keffer. After the court of honor, a reception was hosted by Rodney and Kathy Abbott and Jackie Gutierrez at the home of Billy Joe and Betty Sue Dennis. Hamburgers and cake were served to all who attended.

Robert attends school at Gorman High School where he is a Junior. Robert is the grandson of Billy Joe and Betty Sue Dennis and the late Joyce Dennis, and Bill Abbott of Abilene and the late Wanda Abbott.

Thank You

We would like to thank the people of Gorman who came to help with the City Pool Work Day. We would also like to thank Tommy Clark and J.S. Ripley for helping us gather materials and for Brenda Hammontree for the discount on the pizzas.

Again, thanks to those who helped make it happen, helping make Gorman GROW!

Sincerely,

Gorman G.R.O.W. Board of Directors

FBC Mission Dinner Set

The Gorman First Baptist Church Missions Dinner, Sunday after the morning service, barbecue dinner by donation. Proceeds go to Indiana Mission Trip for June 23 to July 1.

Wheels For Life Bike-A-Thon

The Gorman Bike-A-thon, to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (Danny Thomas, Founder), will be held Saturday, May 19, 2001 at 9:00-11:00 a.m., starting at the American State Bank parking lot.

Cancer kills more American children than any other disease and is second only to accidents as the cause of death of the young. Please help us help St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to treat these children and to find a cure.

If you would like to participate by getting donations for riding your bike, roller blading or walking, please contact Beth Underwood at 734-2222 or 734-3237.

Prizes for participation and top fund raisers will be awarded. Refreshments will be provided.

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO AREA FOLKS

HEALTH FAIR - There will be a Health Fair at Heritage Manor of Gorman on Tuesday, May 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please contact Janet for more information at 254-734-2202.

GORMAN GROW MEETING — The Gorman Grow will meet on the Third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Gorman Senior Citizen Building. Contact Peyton Vaughn, Veronica Seaton or Lori Dodd.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS — Blood Pressure Checks by Heritage Manor of Gorman. Every week at Senior Citizens at 11:00 a.m. Every Other week at Gorman Hotel at 10:30 a.m.

Gorman Primitive Baptist Church has Services Every Sundays. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. Bro. Mark Waltenberger - 1st Sunday; Elder Mike Webb, Pastor - All Other Sundays - Everyone Welcome To Attend.

FOOD PANTRY Second Thursday of Each Month

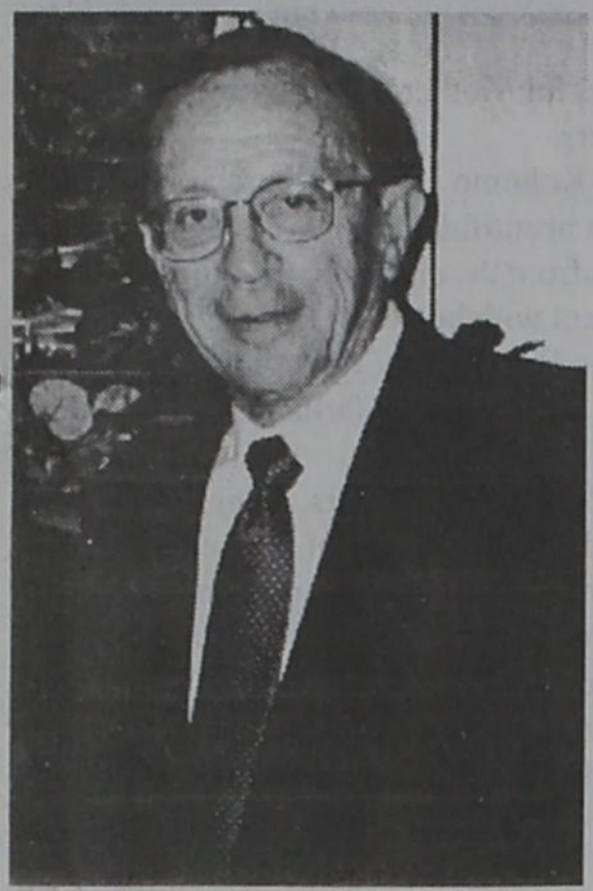
Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Roy Lipson, Worshipful Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

The Order of the Eastern Star holds its regular stated meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. - Nell Ragland, Worthy Matron and Elwood Ragland, Worthy Patron.

Gorman Oaklawn Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. If you would like to make a donation in memory of or In Honor of someone, please send to Rt. 3 Box 121A, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT WILL BE MAY 16TH FROM 9 - 12 NOON.

Morris Concludes 19-Year Winning Tenure at SPC in June



Marathon Championships in Levelland.

"Ecclesiastes says there is a time and place for all things," said Morris who has spent 42 years in the coaching profession. "I think this is the time appointed for me to do this. It was certainly a difficult decision for me. But after talking to my family, I know it is the right one."

"I want to spend more time with my wife, Beverly, two children and five grandchildren. I want to devote more of my time to church and go fishing and do a lot of traveling and some volunteer coaching."

The Brownfield native began his coaching career in his hometown in 1959. He coached junior high football and track for eight years, before moving to Brownfield High School in 1967. In 13 years at Brownfield, his teams won five regional cross country championships, and he guided two individual state champions. Morris left Brownfield to enter private business in 1980, then served as an assistant track coach at Texas Tech University for the 1981-82 school year before taking the reins at SPC in 1982.

"When I came here I never thought I would be here for this long," Morris said. "In 1963 I came here to watch a college track meet and thought I would

like to be the track coach here at SPC some day. When I was selected for this position, I thought I had died and gone to heaven. I still think it is the best junior college position in the United States."

The numbers speak for themselves. A total of 191 Texans and Lady Texans have turned in 389 All-American performances in 18 years. Among those performances are 53 individual national champions and 12 national relay team championships. He also has coached 13 Olympians.

Deflecting any desire to congratulate himself, Morris credits the athletes who have performed on the track.

"We have had so many national and world class performers on this campus," Morris said. "You wouldn't believe the talent that has competed at SPC."

He was named National Outdoor Track Coach of the Year in 1983, and in 1986, he guided the Texans to the NJCAA Indoor Track and Field Championship, the school's first-ever national championship team.

Morris also was selected as the NJCAA National Indoor Track Coach of the Year in 1991 and shared NJCAA Outdoor coach of the Year honors in 1991. He was elected as the "Coach of the Meet" at the 1993 NJCAA Mara-

thon Championship, after guiding the Texans to the national championship in their first-ever appearance at the event. He repeated that feat in 1995, when he was named "Coach of the Meet" after the Texans won their second NJCAA Marathon Championship. Morris also was named NJCAA National Indoor coach of the Year in 1995. The Lady Texans also took home a national championship in the marathon in 1997.

He was named the NJCAA Region 5 Cross Country Coach of the Year in 1984, 1986, 1989 and 1990. He was named the NJCAA National Cross Country Coach of the Year of the first time in 1991, after guiding the Texans to their first-ever cross country team championship. He received that honor again in 1994, 1996 and 1997.

His proven ability to hone skills and recruit talented athletes has served well for Morris, who was named the National Coach of the Year and the Coach of the Meet at the 1996 and 1997 NJCAA Cross Country Championships after guiding the Texans to back-to-back cross country championships.

"We have had tremendous support from the administration and faculty. The credit for this goes to SPC athletic director Joe Tubb. Joe has provided untiring effort in promoting the track team and giving me encouragement and support through the years."

His career was highlighted when he was inducted into the NJCAA Cross Country/Track Hall of Fame in November.

Bennetts Schedule Memorial Day Reunion

In 1890, Eli Harlan Bennett moved to Eastland County from Franklin County, Tennessee. He moved on to Oklahoma and died there in 1905. Two of his sons, James Washington Bennett and Jefferson Davis Bennett stayed in the area and raised large families. James Washington died in 1930, Jefferson Davis in 1928. Both are buried in Gorman Cemetery.

For the past three years, the descendants of Lawson Asbury "Loss" and Sarah "Sally" Bennett, son of James Washington and Sara Ellen Earles Bennett, have held a reunion. This year, the group invites everyone descended from Eli Harlan Bennett to come meet

their relatives. Set for Memorial Day weekend, Saturday and Sunday, May 26-27, the reunion will be at the Carbon Community Center. On Saturday, the group will share a sandwich supper at 4 p.m. at the Community Center. They will meet for coffee and doughnuts at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 27, followed by a 1 p.m. dinner at the Catfish Corner Restaurant in Carbon.

For more information, contact Sue Grice Ross, of Ranger, 254/647-1832. Deadline for reservations for the dinner on Sunday is May 15.

The genealogy of the Bennetts has been extensively researched by the late Roy Bennett of Big Spring, Loss' son, Sharon Bennett Jones of Austin-granddaughter of Loss, and Fred L. Wilson of San Angelo. Wilson is married to Jimmie Joan Bennett, also Loss' granddaughter. Much of their findings will be available at the reunion, and Jones and Wilson are eager to add to the information they have gleaned so far.

"I've seen so many outstanding students and athletes in my time here," he said. "I've seen SPC grow from 1,800 to more than 4,000 students here on the Levelland campus. It's just been amazing. You hope you made an impact on the students and athletes' lives. I hope I have done that. Very few coaches have the opportunity to experience something like this. It's been a great ride."

James is the son of the late Hupp Morris and Lottie Morris of Gorman.

THE GORMAN PROGRESS NOW HAS AN EMAIL ADDRESS
gprogress@txbusiness.com
Send us all your local news items for the newspaper

GHS BAND - JUNIOR HIGH BAND



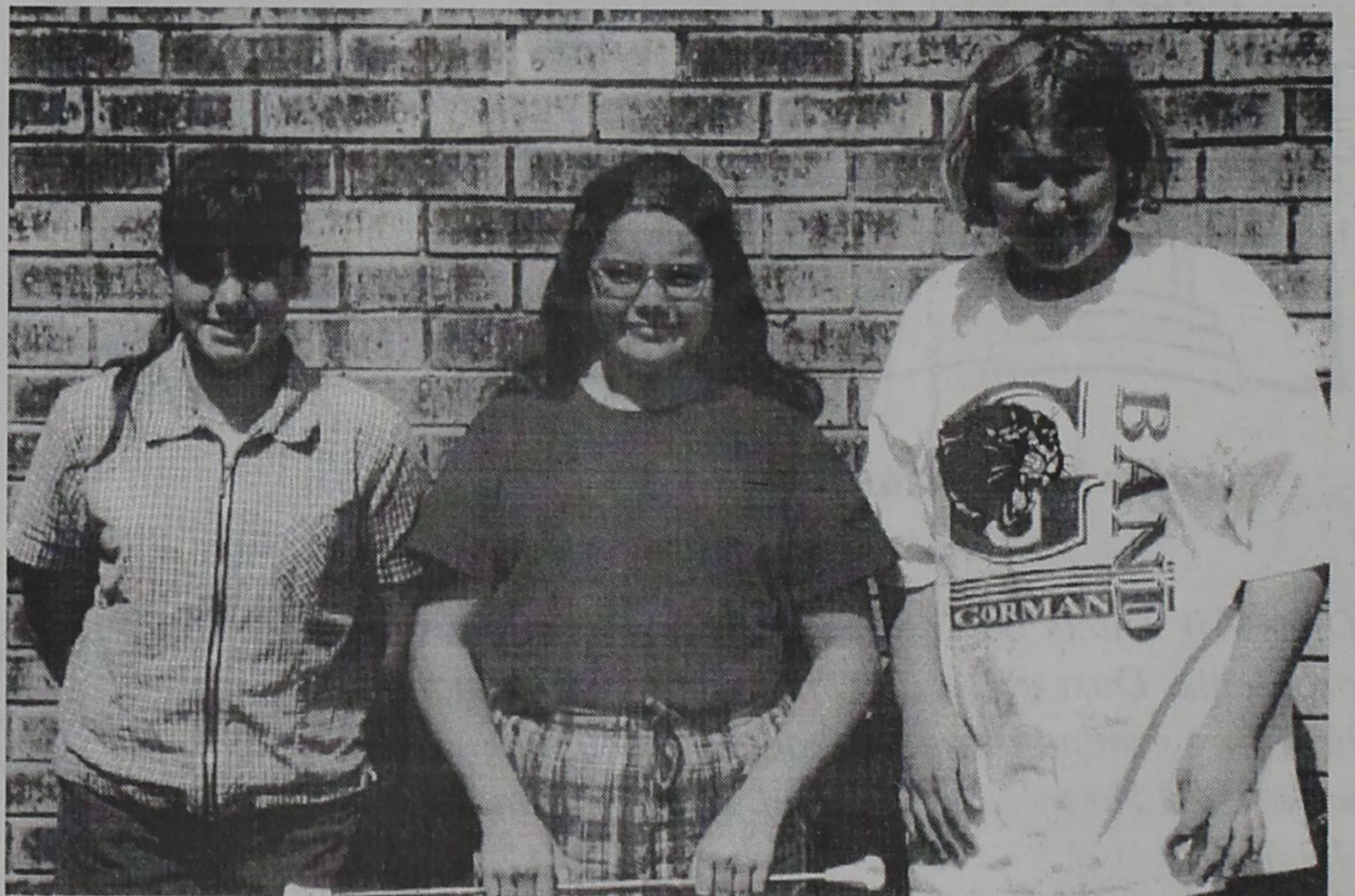
Gorman Panther Band Drum Major - Sarah Lewis



Gorman Panther Jr. High Band Drum Major - Kent Long



Gorman Panther Band Flags - Dana Longoria, Crystal Williams, Amanda Hair - Co-Captain, Christine Everton, Casondra Grumbles and Heather Keaton - Captain.



Gorman Panther Jr. High Band Twirlers - Brittney Shirley, Stephanie Hughes and Kristy Carlton.



Gorman Panther Band Twirlers - Holly Abbe and Emily Thornton



Gorman Panther MASCOT - Chris Cox

School Menu

Week of May 21
Breakfast

Monday--Cereal, Graham crackers, milk, juice
Tuesday--Poptarts, milk, juice
Wednesday--Sausage pancake on a stick, milk, juice
Thursday--Cereal, animal crackers, milk, juice

Lunch

Monday--Nachos meat & cheese sauce
Tuesday--Chicken casserole, green beans, salad, hot rolls
Wednesday--Burritos with chili cheese, refried beans, Spanish rice, chocolate chip bars
Thursday--Sandwiches, pork-n-beans

15th Annual Kirk Reunion

The 15th Annual Kirk Reunion will be held on June 9, 2001 at the Senior Citizens Center on Main Street in Gorman.

Family and friends are invited. Bring your favorite dishes and desserts. Please come early and visit.

For more information contact Linda Wooldridge at 254/629-1113, Homer Kirk at 254/629-2781, and Brenda Newton at 972/986-8431.

DESDEMONA NEWS

BY VONNIE GUTHERY

First Baptist Church of Desdemona observed Mother's Day last Sunday during the morning service. Several visitors attended. Special music was presented by Wilma Iley, Helen Collum, Patty Brawner, and Wayne Eaves with Karen Eaves at the piano. Lane Shirley presented a special with a piano solo. A long stem carnation flower was presented to each mother present. Evening service was dismissed.

Helen (Abel) Brown of Stephenville and Dorothy Roberts were in Fort Worth for Mother's Day. Helen visited with her daughter, Sherry and family. Dorothy visited with her daughter, Kevin and Ulenda Weaver. Other visitors in the home were Shown and Heather Caddell and children, Kelsey and Cameron; Heath Weaver, Ashley Weaver and son, Tanner all of Fort Worth; Shelly Horan and Jeff Roberts of Dallas, Mark and Emily Williams and daughter, Kena of Granbury.

Lelan Pack of Lubbock and his mother, Dixie Ryon spent several days last week in Orlando, Florida on vacation. The reported a good trip.

Elgenia (Jeanne Barker) Bochillion of DeLeon is slowly recovering from recent surgery to repair a broke hip. She is a former resident of Desdemona where she attended school. Get Well wishes goes out to Jeanne.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Dorothy (Wilhite) Tidwell, 85, of Desdemona. She was buried last Sunday, May 13 in the Howard Cemetery north of Desdemona. Survivors include a son, James Hardie Tidwell of Stephenville; a daughter, Nancy Tidwell Bond of Desdemona; a sister, Clyde Wilhite Paul of Topcka, Kansas; several grandchildren and great grandchildren. She lived all of her life in Desdemona where she attended school and graduated with the Class of 1932.

A new metal roof for the Desdemona Community Center will be completed during this week. Also much needed repairs on all the rain gutters. The building had many leaks.

Victor Cemetery Working will be on Saturday, May 26. There will be a business meeting followed by a covered dish luncheon. Makes plans to attend.

Workforce Development Board

To Our Eastland County Friends— Best wishes from the West Central Texas Workforce Development Board. I know you are extremely busy, and it is often difficult to arrange a face to face contact, but please know that we are still here to serve you. If you have a need for workforce services, such as recruitment and training of employees, training for your current workforce, tax incentives, labor market information, etc., please let me know. We have a wealth of services and resources at our disposal, and we want to share them with you.

As always, we look forward to being your partner in insuring that you have a skilled workforce and a prosperous community.

Nancy Smith, Community Relations Coordinator West Central Texas Workforce Development Board 400 Oak Street Abilene, TX 79602 (915)795-4306

Federal Funds Available for Housing in Rural Areas Zero Down Payment for Rural Homeownership

Richard L. Perryman, Acting State Director, Texas USDA Rural Development announced today that federal funds are available for Guaranteed Rural Housing loans. Borrowers can often get these loans with no down payment.

To be eligible for financing, the home must be located in a rural community with less than 10,000 in population, on a farm or in open country no closely associated with an urban area. Under certain circumstances loans can be made in towns and cities between 10,000 and 25,000 in population.

"Never assume an area is not eligible under the guaranteed loan program. We encourage anyone interested in owning their own home to call the Brownwood Local Office for details on eligible areas. Texas has over \$100 million still available for the Guaranteed Housing Program for Fiscal Year 2001," said Perryman.

The guaranteed rural housing loan may be used to finance new or existing homes that are structurally sound and have adequate mechanical, electrical, plumbing and insulation systems.

The loan may be made for up to 100 percent of the market value. There is no down payment required. The lender may loan some closing costs depending on the appraisal. Theoretically, someone could move into a home for zero out of pocket expenses. Typically, however, not all the costs associated with buying a home can be financed. All loans must be secured by a first lien on a residential property.

Interested homebuyers, lenders, realtors, or builders should contact Harold Kennedy in Brownwood Local Office at 915/643-1585, extension 4 for more information on the USDA Rural Development Guaranteed Loan program as well as the availability of other agency programs.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

TXOL Internet

Starting at \$9.95 for 20 Hours per month to \$23.50 for Unlimited "Not Dedicated". Set-up Fees from \$25 to \$40 Get the Best, for little more than the rest! Come by the Gorman Progress to see the internet in operation. See Jake or call 254-734-2411.

KOKOMO NEWS

BY ZELDA JORDAN

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Mother's Day with their Mothers, grandmothers and other family members.

Mother's Day was a special time at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday morning. Daryl and Cecilia Hirst brought a beautiful bouquet of roses for all to enjoy. Nancy Hendricks presented corsages from the church to the oldest mother and the mother with the most children present with her, Mrs. Bill (Hope) Joiner, the next oldest mother, Mrs. Otis (Johnnie B.) Griffith, the youngest mother, Karen Patterson of Eastland and the mother who came the farthest, Janie Riley of Midland.

Daryl Hirst rendered the special music 'Suppertime'. Mrs. Joiner's children present in the service with her were Billie Jeanne Grisham of De Leon, Lucille Joiner of Stephenville, Donald Lee Joiner of Canada, Ennis and Nina Joiner of Gorman, Howard, Barbara and Julie Joiner and Barbara's mother, Earline Mitchell of Arlington. Other visitors were Janie Riley and Lara Griffith of Midland and Hattie of Forsan, Karen Patterson of Eastland, Shannon and Stephanie Bond of Tyler, Brian Bond of Frisco, Sandy Yarborough, Aline Garrett and Jerald McClearn of Gorman. Jimmy Little directed the singing with Daryl Hirst at the piano and Glynda Bond at the organ.

Those from the Kokomo Baptist Church going to the Heritage Manor in Gorman for church services on Sunday afternoon were Bro. Clarence Wilson, Nancy Hendricks and Ruth Bryant.

Johnnie B. Griffith is home now following her visit with Ken and Janie Riley in Midland while she recuperated from her hip surgery. Ken and Janie and Lara Griffith brought her home and visited during the weekend. Hattie Griffith of Forsan also visited with them.

Shannon and Stephanie Bond of Tyler and Brian Bond of Frisco visited during the Mother's Day weekend with their parents, Joe and Glynda Bond.

Sylvia Buchanan had lunch on Mother's Day with her mother, Nancy Hendricks. Other visitors with Nancy during the week were Monie Fay Craddock of Stephenville, Jo Nell Torrez, Charley Torrez, Jr. Gloria Kay Murphy, Katrina Longoria, Jimmy Murphy, Ruth Bryant and Zelda Jordan.

Mother's Day visitors with Hazel Snider were Gene and Kay snider, Dan, Dianne and Sandra Snider, Belinda, Audri and Isaac Segura and La Von Snider. Ted Snider also visited during the week.

Zelda Jordan accompanied her daughter, Glenda Black, to Lubbock for a visit with Cindy, Kyle and Kayla Jordan from Wednesday until Sunday. Glenda flew from Lubbock to Sacramento, CA for a visit with her husband, Leon, who is currently employed in Fresno. She returned to Lubbock on Saturday night. Cindy honored her mother, Wanda Thompson of Littlefield and her Mother-in-law, Zelda Jordan with lunch in her home on Sunday. Others enjoying the celebration were Cindy's dad, Carl Thompson of Littlefield, and her sister and nieces, Bonnie, Shannon and Jamie of Lubbock, Glenda Black of Abilene, and Kyle and Kayla Jordan of the home. It was truly a wonderful time. Upon returning to Abilene on Sunday afternoon, Wade, Sheri, Ryan and Kody Daniell came to Glenda's home for a visit. While in Lubbock, Zelda's brother, Arvel Lewallen of Slaton, her sisters, Laverne Winn of Muleshoe, Barbara and Bo Bell of Denver city and sister-in-law, Wanda Russell of Floydada all came for a visit and they enjoyed lunch together and then went back to Cindy's for more visiting.

Jimmy and Verna Little visited in Arlington on Wednesday and Thursday with Nelda, Cody and Jarad Falls. Jarad was presented the "President's Medal" at his school and Nelda, Cody, and Jarad and Jimmy and Verna attended the "All Star Awards" breakfast on Thursday morning.

Jimmy and Verna Little, Ray Neal, Melissa and Emily Little of Eastland enjoyed a hamburger cook-out at the home of James, Jill, Ashley and Breckley Little at Lake Leon on Saturday night to celebrate Mother's Day.

Lavell Hallmark, Shane, Amy and Rylee Shott and Haegan Braddock all of San Angelo spent Sunday night last week with Commie Hallmark in Eastland. Jimmy and Verna Little joined them on Monday for a visit and lunch at McDonald's.

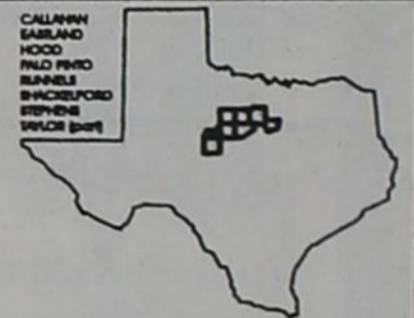
Laverne and Tommy Carr of Whitney and Mickey Carr of Dallas came for a Mother's Day visit with Troy and John Scitem, bringing a delicious meal complete with a beautiful decorated cake inscribed "Happy Mother's Day". Mickey brought his grandmother a bouquet of beautiful roses. Another grandson, Kris Wayne Scitem visited with them in the afternoon.

CAPITOL WATCH

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JIM KEFFER

DISTRICT 60



Transportation Liability Relief

Individuals making the transition from public assistance to the workforce often have difficulties finding transportation to and from work, training, and child care, especially in rural areas without public transportation. Many churches and charitable organizations are willing to provide these services, but are hesitant because of the liability that may be incurred.

In response, I have introduced House Bill 560 to amend the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code to provide that a religious charitable organization that owns or leases a motor vehicle is not liable for damages arising from negligence of the driver if the driver is engaging in providing specified services to a recipient of financial or nutritional assistance, and that recipient is participating in or applying to participate in a work or employment activity or the food stamp employment and training program. However, it provides that such limited organizational liability does not apply to any claim arising from injury, death, or property damage in which the operator of the vehicle was intoxicated.

H.B. 560 has passed the House and will be considered by the Senate shortly. It is my goal to encourage these faith-based, charitable organizations to continue to provide services to Texans who are working to transition from welfare to self-sufficiency.

REPRESENTATIVE JIM KEFFER
P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910
1-800-586-4515
e-mail: james.keffer@house.state.tx.us



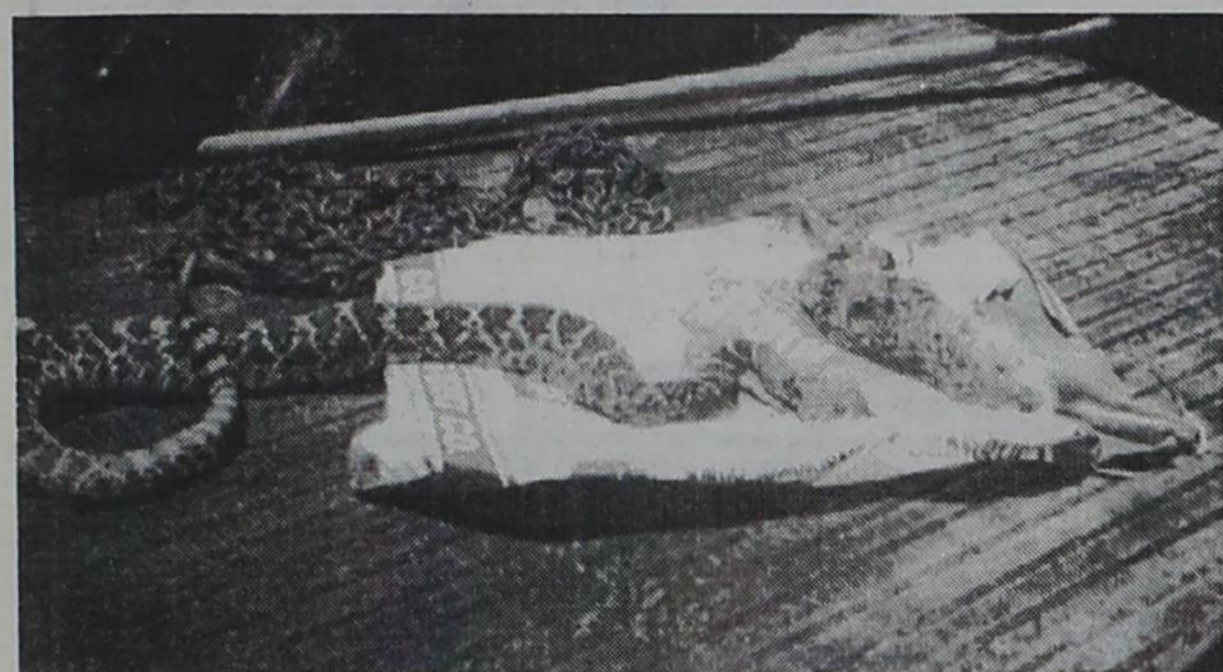
RAWLINS MONUMENTS

Weatherford, Texas

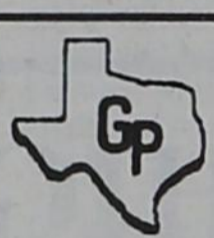
"A Family Tradition Since 1884"

Your memorial will be a constant source of inspiration and comfort to you and a source of pride to us. We are at all times ready to protect our reputation and sustain your good will. This is our guarantee to you and is supported by our service to your community SINCE 1884.

Estelle Craddock is our Representative for the Gorman Area. She may be reached by calling 254-734-2363.



RATTLESNAKE — This snake was killed outside of Desdemona on Philip Lewis's place. The snake was trying to swallow the rabbit in the picture when Philip shot the snake several times with a 22. This was a large rattler.


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Does Anyone In Your Home Have Allergies, Asthma, or Breathing Troubles?

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Do Your Heating And Air Conditioning Costs Go Up Every Year?

Dirty Air Ducts can contribute to or even cause many of these problems. Dust collecting inside of the air ducts is an excellent breeding ground for mold, bacteria, and fungi. There is only one way to get rid of these harmful pollutants and that is by cleaning the ducts.

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CAPITOL COMMENT
 U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



TEXANS SPEAK OUT ON POLITICAL CAMPAIGN LAWS, GUN CONTROL

My annual opinion surveys, which your newspaper published earlier this year, asked Texans their opinion on several issues currently pending before Congress. This week's column reports your answers to the third segment of the questionnaire, which addressed campaign finance reform and 2nd Amendment rights.

The first question asked if readers would change the current federal campaign finance law that allows a candidate to loan himself or herself an unlimited amount of campaign funds, and then hold fund raisers to reimburse himself or herself after the election. I wanted to know if you think there should be a limit on such self-loans. Nearly three-fourths of those who replied, 73 percent, said that such self-loan arrangements should be limited.

When asked if you would support changing the current \$1,000-per individual, per-candidate contribution limit to adjust for inflation, 49.13 percent you said yes, and 50.87 percent said no — almost a draw. Only 16 percent of you replied that the current federal campaign finance laws yield a level playing field for candidates who challenge incumbents, while 84 percent said they do not.

Here are some of your comments regarding campaign finance:
 From Fair Oaks Ranch: Before we add any more campaign finance laws let's enforce the ones that are on the books.

Denton: Have a set amount each candidate can spend so no one has the advantage.

Leonard: We need to ensure that no other country gets a hold over any of our elected officials by contributing to their campaigns.

Georgetown: Every form of contribution, advertisement, flyer, circular, ought to have to be attributed to specific, individual candidates. All the costs of the production and distribution of such materials ought to be used in calculating a maximum amount of spending allowed. The penalties for abuse would be loss of tax-exempt status or deductibility.

Amarillo: I would eliminate all corporate contributions.

Tyler: Unions should not be allowed to contribute. I was a union member and I did not want them to use my money to campaign for someone I wouldn't vote for.

San Antonio: Candidates should only be able to accept money from their home districts, or states if it's a statewide race. No out-of-district contributions from anyone.

My view: Campaign finance reform can make the election process more responsive to voters and more accessible to potential candidates. But workable reform has to acknowledge the central role played by legitimate, voluntary contributions from individuals and organizations. Voters need good information and getting that to them costs money. Inherent in our democracy is the right of candidates for public office to publicize their views before an election so the electorate is able to make an informed choice.

When I asked you if gun owners should be registered and licensed, only 16 percent answered in the affirmative; 81 percent answered with a resounding "No." Next, only 27 percent said it is reasonable for the government to require trigger locks be provided with the sale of every gun, while 73 percent voted no. When asked if the federal government should encourage state-sponsored voluntary programs, such as the one in Texas, where trigger locks are distributed at no cost to their use is not required by law, 61 percent of you said yes, while 39 percent replied the negative. Similarly, only 34 percent said they would support more stringent requirements on vendors at gun shows; with 66 percent saying no they would not. And finally, 72 percent said imposing more stringent requirements on firearms vendors has the potential to drive gun shows underground and might, therefore, result in fewer background checks on buyers, while 28 percent said it wouldn't.

Here are some of your comments regarding firearms:

San Saba: Guns are not a problem, it's a lack of the enforcement of existing laws.

Texas City: Each gun should be sold with a trigger lock. If you have to pay for it, you'll be more likely to use it.

Lockhart: The 2nd Amendment addresses tyranny, not dove hunting.

Temple: God, guns and guns made America free. To disarm America would only serve to enslave us.

Georgetown: As a taxpayer, I'm the one who is really paying for that "costly" trigger lock.

San Antonio: We need a mandatory background check and trigger locks on all hand guns from this date forward.

Ozono: Criminals have guns. Private citizens should not be punished because of what criminals do. We need to be able to protect ourselves, since law enforcement can't.

Horseshoe Bay: Australia banned all firearms and crime has increased rapidly.

Dayton: People need to take gun safety classes and be responsible gun owners.

Amherst: The accidents and tragedies we see are the price we pay for freedom. It's too bad, but that's the way it is.

My view: As a strong supporter of the 2nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, I believe we should crack down on those who use guns to commit crimes rather than usurp the rights of law-abiding citizens. I will continue to support legislation that both fights crime and upholds the Constitution.

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MSRP.....\$23,375
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 Bayer Discount.....2,047
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MSRP.....\$18,600
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MSRP.....\$33,900
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Sale Price **\$18,812**

MSRP.....\$23,414
 Equip Rebate.....500
 Factory Rebate.....1,000
 Bayer Discount.....3,102
 Sale Price.....\$18,812

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'00 Chevrolet Metro 2 dr, auto, 27K, warranty.....\$7,500	'99 Chevrolet 1 ton Dually 4dr, 454, 5 sp, loaded, 50K.....\$20,000
'00 Oldsmobile Intrigue, 4 dr, loaded, 20K, warranty.....\$15,000	'99 Dodge Cab-Chassis, 3500, Diesel, 5 spd, Flatbed, 63K.....\$19,000
'00 Cadillac DeVille, 4 dr, Sedan, loaded, leather, 11K.....\$33,000	'98 Chevrolet 1/2 ton, V-6, auto, 32K, clean.....\$11,500
'00 Chevrolet Cavalier, 4 dr, auto, 24K, warranty.....\$10,500	'98 Chevrolet Dually 4x4, Ext. Cab, 454, auto loaded, new warranty.....\$27,500
'00 Oldsmobile Alero 4 dr, loaded, warranty.....\$13,500	'98 Chevrolet 3/4 ton Ext. Cab H.D.C., 350, auto, 36K.....\$18,000
'99 Oldsmobile LS Sedan, V-6, auto, loaded, warranty, 28K.....\$15,500	'98 Chevrolet 3/4 ton Cargo Van, LWB, V-8, auto, AC, 77K.....\$13,000
'98 Buick Regal GS 4 dr, V-6, auto, loaded, 25K.....\$16,000	'97 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Ext. Cab., V-6, auto.....\$10,500
'97 Pontiac Grand Prix, 4 dr, V-6, auto, loaded, new warranty.....\$15,000	'97 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Reg. Cab., V-6, auto, 52K.....\$13,500
'97 Oldsmobile Aurora, leather, loaded, 66K.....\$16,000	'97 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Ext. Cab, 350, auto, loaded, 39K.....\$16,000
'97 Chevrolet Malibu, 4 dr, V-6 Auto, New, warranty.....\$13,000	'97 Ford F150, XLT, V-8, auto, 36K.....\$13,500
'97 Cadillac Sedan DeVille 4 dr, loaded, clean.....\$18,500	'97 Chevrolet S10 Blazer 4 dr, 4x4, V-6, auto, loaded.....\$15,500
'95 Buick Road Master 4dr Limited, loaded, clean.....\$11,000	'96 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Sportside, V-6, auto, nice, 73K.....\$11,000
'93 Mercury Marquis 4dr, loaded, leather, 31K.....\$7,500	'95 Chevrolet Astro Ext. Van, loaded, 59K.....\$10,500
'92 Buick LaSabre, 4 dr, loaded.....\$5,000	'94 Chevrolet 1/2 ton Ext. Cab, V-6, auto, loaded, 43K.....\$13,000

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