The Art Class of Kay Todd are inviting all area residents to attend a Christmas Art Show on December 10th from 2 until 4 p.m. at the Amerine Heating and Cooling Building in Mer-



Thursday, November 30, 1978... Merkel, Texas

All area children ages 3-10 are invited to draw a Christmas poster to enter in a Merkel Christmas Fair poster contest. Children may pick up a free sheet of poster-paper from the Merkel Mail office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Posters must be delivered to the Merkel Mail by 5 p.m. December 8th.

Trophies will be presented for first place in ages 3-10.

15 cents





photo's by glenn Richards

### Army destroys abandoned dynamite Monday

by Cloy A. Richards

Merkel Police and Fire personnel, as well as a couple of Army folks, got a chance to see if they had steady hands under pressure when a case of dynamite was found Sunday by some local

The youths found the dynamite at 6:15 p.m. Sunday on South 1st Street, directly across the railroad tracks from the Little Mexico Gift Shop. Merkel Police Chief Leroy Austermann responded to the call and with the help of Merkel Volunteer Fire Department personnel, moved the

dynamite to the city dump.

Two Army explosives specialist, Sgt. Nickie W. Jordon and Specialist 5 Kenneth Brooks, attached to the 47th Ordinance Detached from Fort Hood were flown to Dyess AFB, and escorted here.

The Army ordinance disposal team, accompanied by Merkel Police and Fire personnel searched the area again Monday morning and found more dynamite, and transported it to the

Using six sticks of plastic C-4 military

explosives, the ordinance team detonated the dynamite in the city dump Monday. The dynamite was destroyed without injury.

Sergeant Jordan said although he had no way to determine the age of the dynamite, still posed a threat of explosion. Jordan said that dynamite that is left exposed for a long period of time can become unstable and pose a threat.

Both Jordan and Brooks said that people should report all explosives to local authorities for

The Army will come free of charge to check any explosive devise, including war tokens for danger possibilities

This was not the first time that dynamite has caused some problems for Merkel Fire and Police people. In 1967, a dynamite truck caught on fire near Merkel and when Merkel Volunteer Fire Department folks responded, the truck

Citizens are reminded to report all finds of any explosives to the Merkel Police Department.

### by Cloy A. Richards

recently at the West Texas Council of Governments Annual meeting at the Abilene Civic Center. (Staff photo by glenn Richards)

### Stenholm blames low farm prices

Congressman elect Charles Stenholm told approximately 335 West Texas government and business leaders attending the annual meeting of the West Texas Council of Government, that getting fair farm prices is his number one concern for West Texas.

Stenholm said if the "low farm prices paid to the local farmer were increased, or paid a fair price that West Texas would have an additional \$300,000 circulating this Christmas and if agricultural imports were increased, more jobs would be created.

Stenholm also told the audience, made up of mostly local government officials and admistrators, that they should return federal revenue sharing funds to decrease their dependence on the Federal Government.

Stenholm said that he and his staff is doing everything in their power to gain a seat on the Agricultural Committee in the House. Stenholm said that committee seat was one of the main reasons he wanted to run for the House and he felt his agricultural expertise would be beneficial to the committee and West Texas.

Stenholm also said that if the farm price problem was solved, West Texas would be a strong economic area once again.

The congressman said he does not see a thing wrong with exporting food to the Soviet Union and Red China, but he hates to see any food given

away, especially to communist countries.

He also said that he will "drop a bill into the hopper his first day in office that will call for balancing the federal budget." Stenholm also saidhe feels that government spending is largely responsible for the current inflation rate. He also said that some federal agencies, such as EPA, OSHA, and the Department of Energy could stand some reduction and that he would support

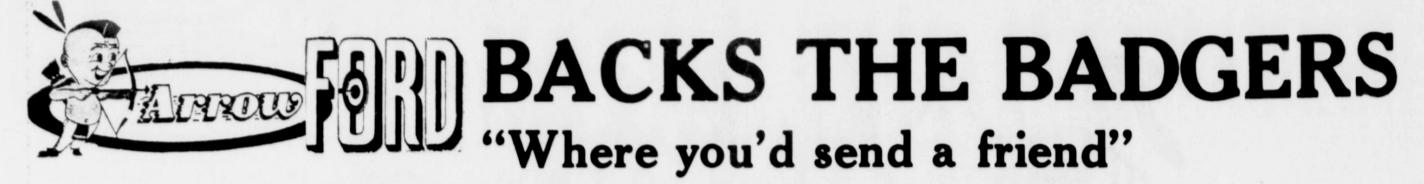
Sunset Legislation, that would require all federal agencies to justify their existance periodacally.

Stenholm said that he will attend the Freshmen Orientation in Washington this week and will meet with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance in foreign policy briefings.



Gotcha

The Merkel Police received their new radar last week. The radar will be put to a lot of use in the ool zone by the high school. (Staff photo by



### BADGER BASKETBALL BOYS . . . GIRLS . . . SCHEDULE

The Badger round-ballers opened their 78-79 season last week with a loss to Jim Ned. The game was slightly tightly scheduled as the Badgers had only 2 days after the end of the football season to ready for the game.

High scorer in the game was Ken Wells, who hit 66 percent from the floor scoring 21 points. The only other Badger in double figures was Chris Cox, who hit 38 percent from the floor while accumulating 11 points.

Coach Bartee saw, "our 30 turnovers and free throw shooting at 5-18" as two major factors in the game.

Merkel played Jim Ned in a re-match here on the 22nd at Badger gym. "Averaging 63 points a game is much better than I expected," said Coach Pennick after the girls varsity has won their three opening games (one was a scrimmage with Clyde). The lady snipers are shooting 56 percent from the free throw line and 40 percent from the floor.

In the girl's first meeting with Jim Ned, Gwen Tarpley had 10 points to lead the scoring.

Mrs. Pennick feels the team is turning over the ball much to much having 31 turnovers in each of the first three games.

The girls won the scrimmage with Clyde 55-42 and beat Abilene High in their opener.

The basketball teams at Merkel will pair off and go their separate ways this week-end. The 7th and 8th don't have far to go as they are hosting the Merkel Jr. High Basketball Tourney at the gym.

The J.V. players will head for Divide where they will face Divide in a match up.

The two varsity teams will be traveling to Anson Thursday for the Anson Tourney this weekend. Merkel girls play at 4:00 against Baird, while the boys play the next game

scheduled at 5:30 against Baird also.

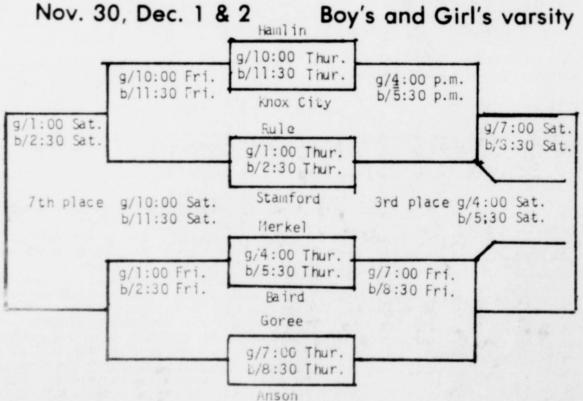
The Merkel girls lost to Knox City last year by one point, said Mrs. Pennick. "We plan on winning this year. Our game with Goree should be very interesting. They're small and quick."

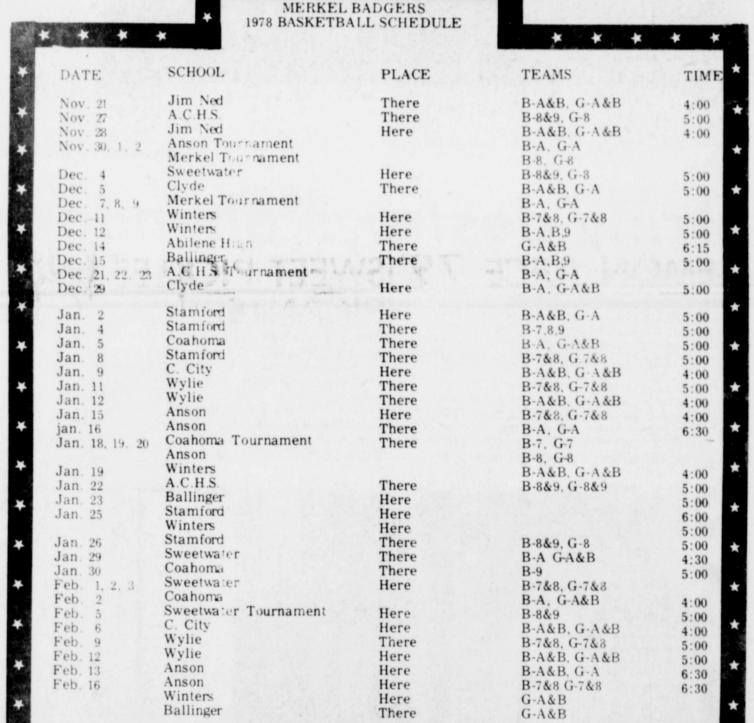
Come over to Anson this week-end and watch the Badgers blitz Baird.



8th grade girls

Anson Invitational Basketball Tourney
ov. 30, Dec. 1 & 2
Boy's and Girl's varsit







7th grade girls



7 th grade boys

THE MERKEL MAIL  OFFER		SNOWDRI	FT	FOLGERS Page 3				
THANKSGIVING FO	od	3 LB \$ 7	89	1 LB \$239				
SPECIAIS  GOOCH	SPECI		30	0, DEC. 1, 2				
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GATORADE 32 OZ  DEL MONTE CUT OR FRENCH STYLE 303	49	COKE USDA APPROVED	6 BOTTI PLUS D	DEFENCEDATED AND				
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FLOUR GLADIOLA 5 LB	19	DELIVERY Where Cus	HONE 928	nd Their Friends MON. THRU SAT.				

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30-tfcnc DAMAGED STORAGE buildings, several sizes, big savings this week only, Morgan Buildings, 2775 S. Treadway, Abilene. Call 692-8100.

33-tfc FOR SALE: Antique Piano. Offers to be considered at Business meeting in December. First Baptist Church, Trent, P.O. Box 85, 862-3171

39-3tr FOR SALE: Dry Mesquite wood, \$40 a cord, U-Haul, 846-4351.

39-3tp FOR SALE: Tool boxes and headache racks for pick ups, ½ price, 609 Runnels or phone 928-5195

40-2tp FOR SALE: 1973 Mercury Marquis Brougham. 2 door hardtop, loaded, \$1800. Robert Higgins, 928-5998.

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41-1tp FOR SALE: 1973 4 door Chevrolet, good condition, air conditioning, radio, power. Asking \$1995. See at 702 Locust. Call 928-5808. Also a 66,-4-speed pickup for \$150.

41-1tp FOR SALE: Bullock estate furniture, all white oak, dining table and chairs, corner table and coffee table, sectional devan and over stuffed chair. Call Cyrus Pee, 928-5136.

41-1tc

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41-1tc

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### CARD OF THANKS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Senior Citizens and all that sent cards in memory of Mrs. Vida Long. J.W. and Theo Long 41-1tc

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### Farm/Ranch News

### TFB says no to cheep food policy

Texas Farm Bureau President Carrol Chaloupka said Monday that the wrong king of a farm program could lead to a "cheap food" policy by government that would benefit neither farmers nor consumers.

Addressing the 45th annual meeting of the Texas Farm Bureau at the Dallas Hilton, Chaloupka warned producers about piling up surpluses in government held reserves.

"We must avoid giving political planners the opportunity to impose a cheap food policy on us,' Chaloupka said.

Chaloupka referred to the large increase in private storage built by producers, and urged farmers to keep control of their grain.

The leader of the state's largest farm organization said the only way producers will get fair prices is to balance supply with demand. He referred to the recent experience in the cattle industry.

"The cattle industry has gone through a devasting four years, but it did reduce cattle numbers by 15 percent, and today cattle prices are very good," he said.

Chalcupka pointed to other problems that must be solved if farmers and ranchers are to obtain a high net income in the marketplace. These include, he said, expanding exports, controlling inflation, lessening government regulations, restraining the "monopoly power" of labor unions, and "sensible" water and energy policies.

The state farm leader stressed the importance of farm exports to agriculture. He said one-fourth of farmers' income results from foreign sales, and that the production of one acre in three of

cropland is exported. He said many people in agriculture still do not realize how much farmers depend upon exports. "If we didn't have this outlet," he said, "our

prices for export commodities-assuming current production-would be way below the cost of production. And, a lot of us would be out of

Still on the subject of exports, Chaloupka said agriculture could not afford a farm program that forcedforeign buyers to pay 100 percent of parity for American farm products. He pointed out that the U.S. does not control the world markets.

"Anytime you have a law like that, you can

prepare to take tremendous cuts in your cotton, grain, rice, and soybean production," he said. "I don't mean acreage, I mean production.'

The farm leader said inflation--caused primarily by government deficit spending--is the greatest problem facing this nation. If inflation is not stopped, he warned, it will be the "downfall of this society as we know it."

Chalcupka said Farm Bureau has a policy that deals with inflation. It includes adopting amendments to the U.S. Constitution requiring Congress to operate on a balanced budget and restricting the tax authority of government to a realistic percentage of the gross national product.

On the subject of government regulations, Chaloupka said there is no excuse for the degree of regulation and restraint Americans are subjected to today.

"The unneeded regulations and the bureaucracy they have spawned create special problems for all of us," he said. "They take away our freedom. They add to the cost of everything

Commenting on what he termed the "stranglehold" union labor has on the American economy, the farm leader said unions are protected from anti-trust provisions of the law. This "unfair

advantage" should be restrained, he said. On another subject, Chaloupka said water may become the most limiting resource to which Texas must adjust.

"We in Farm Bureau are going to have to be leaders in the development of a water resources plan to eliminate shortages in water-deficit areas as well as prevent flooding in the surplus areas,'

The TFB leader commented that the Presi-

dent's energy bill is "worthless" as far as Texas is concerned as it would regulate intra-state use of natural gas. He said total deregulation would provide incentives for adequate production of energy supplies. Chaloupka commended county leaders for

helping to pass the Tax Relief Amendment in the general election. But, he warned, enabling legislation is still necessary if agriculture is to have relief from agricultural land taxes.

"If we fail to pass enabling legislation this next session, we may never have another chance again," he said.

### Best market buys

Best buys this week at Texas grocery markets include grapefruit, fryer chickens, potatoes and winter squash, according to Gwendolyne Clyatt. Large-size eggs and grocery market feature items in several departments are other economi-

cal buys, she reports. Mrs. Clyatt is a consumer marketing information specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University

This week's price-quality trends are the following:

I'RUITS-Grapefruit offers high quality and low prices, especially in bags--5, 8 or 18 pound bags. Apples have moderate prices.

on oranges, grapes, bananas, cranberries, tangerines and tangelos. POULTRY-Fryer chickens make an economi-

For best buys on other fruits, compare prices

cal meat choice in spite of slightly higher prices. Largesize eggs are a budget buy, also. VEGETABLES-Best buys are potatoes, sweet

potatoes and winter squash (hard-shell). Other budget-stretching items are cabbage, carrots, turnips, broccoli, rutabagas, cooking

greens and dry yellow onions. DAIRY--Feature items are eggnog, yogurt and

GROCERY MARKET AISLES--"Specials" include canned applesauce, peanut butter and

FROZEN FOOD CHESTS--Check for low prices on vegetables, strawberries and dinners.

BEEF-Markets follow no pattern on "specials". Some offer chuck cuts, while others offer loin or rib cuts or ground beef.

#### A VERY HONEST PRAYER"

"If I have hurt the poor or caused widows to weep, or refused food to hungry orphans... or if I have seen anyone freezing and not given him dothing or fleece from my sheep to keep him warm, or if I have taken advantage of an orphan because I thought I could get away with it....let my arm be torn from its socket!D Let my shoulder be wrenched out of place! Rather that than face the judgment sent by God. (Job 31: 16-26, Living Bible)

HEAR "THE PRIME OF LIFE" WEEKDAYS AT 7:50 a.m. CN KBGG RADIO

### MERKEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Larry Gill, Minister John McKeel, Youth Minister

SUNDAY Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

### FFA news

The chapter has been preparing for the local stock show. There will be a lot of work put into this one day show. We all know that it will be a big success.

This week we would like to spotlight three of our V.A.II 3rd period class students.

Sheila Adair, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Adair, was a member of the parlimentary procedure team last year and this year.

Last year, she had a Hereford Heifer for her project that she will use for a project this year.

Cary Metts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Metts, was on the judging team and parliamentary procedure team last year and this year. For his project this year, he has one gilt and one barrow.

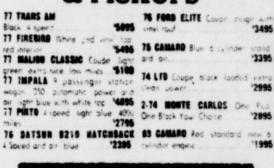
Ken Well, a junior, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wells, is taking his second year of Ag.

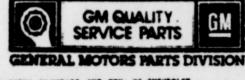
Kenis treasurer of the F.F.A. and junior class. He is raising a feeder calf for his project this

Ken is on the Varsity Basketball team this year. He played football and basketball last vear

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928-4736

HAPPY **BIRTHDAY** JOHN CARTER

LOVINGTON, NEW MEXICO

### Cattlemen outraged at USDA decision

United States Department of Agriculture has shown a disregard for the cattle industry's wishes when it adopted new guidelines for improving department regulations, Don C. King, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association secretary general manager, said Nov. 22.

"Although USDA had asked for industry suggestions on how to improve the process of creating new regulations, its final report shows that virtually none of the suggestions were taken. Instead of making the rule making process simpler and easier to understand, USDA has maintained its past course of making the process more complicated and more burdensome. In short, USDA has given us a formula for more complicated procedures for producing regulations instead of its stated goal of simplifying the decision making process," King said.

USDA began the revision of its rul making process after President Carter directed all his executive agencies to "improve regulations." USDA asked for suggestions from industry groups like TSCRA, but in the end, it seemed to incorporate none of the

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suggestions into the new procedures, King said. In presenting sugges-

tions into the new procedures, King said. In presenting suggestions for improving the rule - making process, TSCRA has asked that "the rule making process should be responsive to public opinion, free from decision making of administrators and bureaucrats, conscious of the interest of

citizen' King also said that "We are adamantly against misuse of public tax monies through subsidizing agency-desired testimony from specific

Congress and, most of

all, simple and under-

standable to the average

individuals or groups."
Paying for testimony from witnesses led to the resignation of Robert Angelotti, admini-strator of USDA's Food Safety and Quality Service on Aug. 4.

"Despite our suggestions," King said, 'USDA agreed to continue paying witnesses for expenses incurred when giving testimony. And we feel sure that ex-

penses will be paid with public tax money only when testimony supports the USDA official

position. "We asked for a rule making process that the public could have a hand in, one that would be responsive to the needs of the persons that USDA serves. But instead it maintains its position of keeping all decision making pro-cesses within the bureaucracy.

"We asked for less duplication among agencies, but the department has seen fit to increase the paperwork between agencies which will only increase duplication and waste of public tax

Perhaps then public money would not be needed to produce a new rule making process that in effect is more complicated than the old one. Apparently USDA's request for industry comments was more 'window-dressing' than sincere interest for industry input," King

**TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR** CHRISTMAS PARTIES. PRIVATE DINING ROOM. CONTACT NITA HARRIS AT 928-4723.

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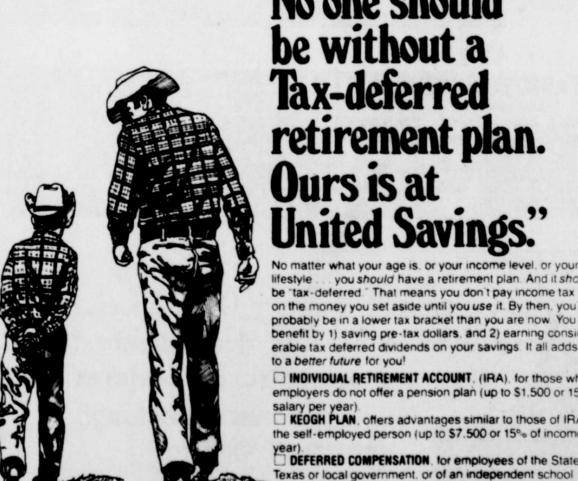
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### South, Hicks wed

Janice Lee South, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lee South, 402 Cherry Street, Merkel and Michael Cason Hicks, son of Mr. Waymon Hicks of Merkel and Mrs. E.L. Whitaker of Weatherford, were married Saturday, Nov. 25th, 1978 in the First United Methodist Church, in Merkel, with Rev. Russell McAnally

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Mrs. Everett Ray Brown of Phoenix, Ariz., sister of the bride, was Matron of Honor, Bridesmaids were Lori Du-Bose and Cindy Shipman of Merkel and Marsha Vernon of Abilene. Ringbearers were Dana Brown and Christopher Brown, of Phoenix, Arizona, niece and nephew of the bride and flower girl was Stacy South of Anson, niece of

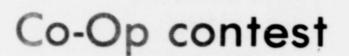
Jackie Minze of Mer-

kel was best man Groomsmen were Clifford Dye of Merkel and Mark Hicks, brother of the groom, and Jerry Fuller, both of Weatherford. Tommy South of Anson, brother of the bride, and Richard Hill, of Merkel, seated guests.

The bride's parents hosted the reception in the Church Fellowship Hall. Mr. and Mrs. Waymon Hicks hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Merkel Country

Following a wedding trip to Dallas, the couple will be at home at 303 Cherry Street, Merkel.

The bride is a Senior at Merkel High School and is employed at Castille's Hardward and Gifts in Merkel. The bridegroom attended schools in Weatherford and graduated from Merkel. The bridegroom is employed by Amerine Heating and Cooling Service in Merkel.



An all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. next June will be awarded to two young people from this area by Taylor Electric Cooperative, according to Don Hart, Manager of the Cooperative.

The trip is part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's annual rural electric youth tour that brings around one thousand rural youths to the winners of an oratorical contest sponsored by the 15, 1979.

Cooperative would be awarded the trip which begins on June 8th and runs for about 11 days.

The contest is open to any boy or girl who is at least sixteen years of age but not eighteen years of age prior to September 1, 1979.

Entry forms are available at the local schools and at the Taylor Electric Cooperative office in Merkel, Texas.

ect, "Future Energy Sources." All entries must be in by January



### Tye gets increase

Tye continues their Contest entrants will dramatic tax revenue be required to give an 8 climb with another minute talk on the sub- bumper month of \$2,342.46 in October compared to \$1,818.31 last year.

the city of Tye have climbed 44 percent more than last year.

Trent receives a quarterly check and those figures will be released

How the Badgers were named...

by Hoy A. Richards As a newcomer to Merkel you wonder about a lot of things. For example, our first football season had the whole family guessing as to how the Badger became the symbol of the fighting spirit of the school's athletes. Now until someone tells us different here is how we newcomers guess

The other day we were working on the Mail Bag column and reading the Merkel Mail, Friday, April 16, 1905 edition when we ran across this article on page 4. Headlined-Real Badger Fight. Two hundred sports of city of Merkel enjoyed entertainment at Ball Park. The article goes on to say that a man from Forks of Creek brought a badger to town to do battle with the best watch dogs in Merkel. The badger was described as full grown and a fighter from the tip of his bushy tail to the end of his pointed nose. He had a better snap than a politician and teeth sharper than a safety razor. W.W. Williams captured the never-to-be forgotten symbol of ball park battles in Merkel on the old Sam Vurtis place. Word got around town fast that a badger that never had been beaten was prepared to take on dogs that hadn't been eaten. Well being sporty folks, about 200 citizens soon gathered at the ball park to watch the fight. The first member of the canine family to represent the City of Clover, as Merkel was called in those days, was Arnold Dye's English bulldog "Bobin". He was the town's bully (dog) who had upset many a buggy and scarred the day lights out of children just by his looks, not to mention how the cats of Merkel felt about this 80 pounds of meaness. All is said that after three rounds of "Bobin and the Badger" the owner hollered enough, and the fight was stopped

Well being fair folks in Merkel all agreed that the badger should have another opportunity to defend his hide. Now there were not many automobiles in Merkel in 1909 but one was sent for the second biggest bully dog in Merkel. "Old

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Watch' the property of Bone Johnson was brought to the ball park. "Old Watch" was not real mean but it was often said that the reason more trains did not stop in Merkel was because Old Watch just chased them right out. Well the Mail reporter had little to say again about the three rounds of "Watch and Badger", only that Bone hollered louder than Arnold to stop the

What happened then is a sign of those times. What do you do with a champion badger? You don't have a zoo. It is too far to the veterinary school at Texas A&M, and who would keep a fighter that could beat up on every bully in town. What you do is, and I quote from the article, "A purse was made up among the spectators and given to W.W., the captor of the badger, and the hide brought another good piece of money. About two hundred citizens were witnesses."

Well, being a newcomer and not knowing any better, I beleive that those two hundred people said right then and there, "We will always remember the badger as the best fighter in the ball park". Just think what would have happened if Bobin had won. "Go Bobins, Beat Clyde", or what if Old Watch had won. "Watch our Old Watch Win''. Me, I am glad the badger won. Just makes more sense to yell, "Go, Fight, Win, Badgers"

### HE BRINGS US **THROUGH**

The Lord has never promised to deliver us immediately from every trial, but He has promised to bring us through.

He brings us through the waters and the fire (Isasiah 43:2), and He even takes us through the flood (Psalm 66.6). He brings us safely through the depths (Psalm 106:9) and even takes us through the deserts (Isaiah 48:21). Job 29:3 promises that God will take us through the darkness, and Deuteronomy 2:7 states that He will take us through the wilderness.

When we come to the end of life, Christ will take us through the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23:4).

What a wonderful Savior is He! He brings us

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won't get from anybody else, too. Because ACCO has people right here in the southwest that specialize in cattle, swine. horses, poultry, sheep and other livestock. People who can help you with feeding problems,

problems, disease prevention and even with housing and feeding facilities. So come on by and get acquainted. And while you're here pick up some ACCO. It gives you the kind of results

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4th Grade Mrs. Winter

School days are flying by and fourth grade students at Tye Elementary School have begun making Christmas balls to decorate the Christmas tree in their room. They are using beads, sequins, and bows on styrofoam balls. These are very colorful, and when our school Christmas party is over, they will take them home to put on their Christmas trees at home

Lastweek was American Book Week and all of the students gave an oral book report. For some, this was a new experience, but a rewarding one as well. Also, several students are planning to do the reading required in order to receive reading certificates at the end of the school year.

The class is enjoying the "Weekly Readers" which have just started coming. They particu-larly enjoy the "game page", but there are also many interesting and unusual news items

Our class has been doing several dictionary exercises. They have really enjoyed compet-ing in dictionary drills where teams compete in locating, pronouncing and giving definitions for new words.

3rd Grade Mrs. Key

Third grade is getting some of the Thanksgiving spirit incorporated into their math. The students will practice addition and subtraction skills while they "follow the dots" to a Thanksgiving surprise.

On a duplicating master, number from left to right one to one hundred thirty. Then, ask each child to solve the math problems on the left side of the paper and write the answers next to each

When the students have solved all 27 problems they will be shown how to use their answers to find the surprise. First, the children find the first answer and draw a straight line connecting the dot above it to the dot above the second

answer. Next, they find the third answer and draw a line to the dot above it. Continue joining each number to the one preceding it until all 27 answers have been connected in succession.

To complete the drawing, the children solve four more problems listed at the bottom and connect these answers. When all dots are connected a Thanksgiving friend will appear - a



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Thursday November 30, 1978

### Tye Times

THE MERKEL MAIL

### Bill Adams bags two

by Vicki Spurr

That's a deer with two e's and our slayer is none other than Bill Adams (Junior, that is) In case you don't know Bill, he's twelve years old and quite capable of slaying "deers" or

On Saturday, November 18, he went hunting south of Merkel with several men. Not only did he bag the first deer, a eight point, but also managed a second deer before night fall. Rumor has it that it wasn't only because he reached his limit that the other men were ready for him to call it quits!!

When I asked Bill if he was ready to go again next year, there wasn't even a second's hesitation as his eyes sparkled, and he said, "You

Congratulations, Bill. When did you say the B-B-Q would be?!?



### Shanna Key named Miss Merry Christmas

Shanna Key, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Mac Key, was named Miss Merry Christmas by the total student body of Tye Elementary School. Shanna will be one of the participants in the Merkel Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade on December

9th in Merkel. Other candidates for Miss Merry Christmas from Tye Elementary were: Melanie Damme, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Damme, Jonnie Sever, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Sever, Katina Neith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Neith, Lori Willborn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Willborn, Sherri Miles,

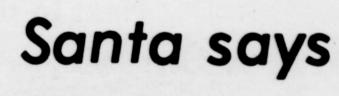
daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roddy Miles, Mi Hwa Chon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pyong O Chon, Son Mi Chon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pyong O Chon, Shelley, Thornton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Evan Thornton, Melissa Roys, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Aury Roys, Cissy Sever,

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Sever, DeDe Hall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Hall,

Lori Owen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Owen, Clara Herrera. daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Auturo Herrera, Kathy Corbin, daughter of Mrs. Sherron Corbin, Sandra Kotrlik, daugh-

ter of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Kotrlik, Marie Terral, daughter of Mr. Doris Terral, Brandy Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Elrod,

Stephanie Boyd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Boyd and Tracy Brown, daughter of Mrs.



Come to the Merkel Christmas Fair and Parade beginning at 10 a.m. December 9th. Santa will arrive in Downtown Merkel that day



### Tye policeman named

Mr. Joseph Rzucidlo, age 28, was employed as City Policeman in a special called meeting on November 21st.

Mr. Rzucidlo is a graduate of the Security Police Academy and was involved in police work while in the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Rzucidlo is a member of several organizations including president of the Abilene Gun Club, a member of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce and he is a Abilene REACT volunteer.

Mr. Rzucidlo is married and has two childMr. Rzucidlo has traveled to such points as England and Korea. His hobbies include skeet shooting, fishing and hunting

In other action the council employed Joe Rodriquez of Tye as maintenance assistant.

The Tye School menu is as follows:

Monday Nov. 27
Pizza, seasoned corn, lettuce wedges with choice of dressing, and diced peaches.

Tuesday Nov. 28 Barbecue beef, potato salad, pinto beans, hot rolls, and apple cheese crisp.

Wednesday Nov. 29
Beef and spaghetti with
cheese, seasoned green
beans garlic bread, and
fruit float.

Thursday Nov. 30
Turkey pot pie, green
salad with choice of
dressing, bisquits, and
wackey cake.

#### School menu

Friday Dec. 1
Hamburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, p i c k l e s, onions, french fries, and cowboy cookies.

# Tye news from 70 years ago

TYE NEWS - 70 YEARS AGO S.Y. Reese made a flying trip to Merkel Friday.

Health of our community is not very good. Mrs. Smith is on the sick list, we are sorry to hear.

The Home Mission Society at the Methodist Church meets every first and third Saturday in each month.

Mrs. J.S. Thomas and wife were the guests of Tom Abbott and wife Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Abbott are the happy parents of a fine new baby girl.

There will be a rally at the Presbyterian Church next Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Everybody is invited.

# How we sweetened the melting pot.



We all pitched in That's how we sweetened the melting pot called America.

Like a big family coming together for a festive meal, each immigrant group has added its contribution. The world's best skills; talents, minds, hearts, music, children, customs, that's what's gone into America.

We've put them all together and they've nourished the greatest nation in the world.

And the best thing is, we haven't stopped pitching in

Today 912 million American workers invest in their country by buying U.S. Savings Bonds.
You can too Sign up for the Payroll Savings Plan where you work. It's an easy, automatic way to sweeten your life while you sweeten your land by taking stock in America with

U.S. Savings Bonds.



would be be a body

West Texas Utilities Co. within the next few weeks will install special meters and recorders for about 350 customers as it initiates a comprehensive study of electric usage patterns in its service area.

The 350 customers comprise a random sample chosen by computer from throughout the WTU system. Only residential and small commercial customers are included.

"These are the two
classes of customers we
know very little about,
so far as their electric
demand habits are concerned," said Darwin
Breeding, manager of
WTU's Rate and Regulations Department.
Breeding emphasized

that the information provided by the special recording devices will have no effect on the individual customer's electric bill, but will provide valuable information about the entire system which eventually could benefit all customers.

"This data will improve our decision making," he said, "especially in rate structuring, marketing, engineering analysis, and corporate and systems planning."

Probably the most important use of the research results will be in electric load analysis for future rate structuring. Breeding said President Carter's new Energy Act had made it "absolutely mandatory" that utility companies take the initiative to form load research programs that will provide accurate data for future rate issues as well as information to be utilized in the regulatory process. However, WTU's plans were un-derway before the Ener-

gy Act was passed.

State regulatory bodies, including the Public Utility Commission of Texas, also are requiring load research data from electric compan-

The first step in WTU's program will be to make personal contact with each of the 350 customers and to have them fill out questionnaires. The questionnaires will be administered by personnel from WTU's Customer Technical Services Department, headed by Bill Baxter. The questions will concern such basic facts as size of house, type and number of

wers be as a series

electric appliances, amount of ceiling insulation, and number of persons in the family.

The special equipment then will be installed at the site of the old meter, and the information recorded by magnetic tapes will provide specific details on electric demand by each custo-

"With the information

from the questionnaires and the accurate load data from the tapes, we'll have a better knowledge of our customers' electric use patterns," Breeding said. "It's possible that we can use this information to improve the utilization of our generation and transmission facilities, and this could be beneficial to all customers."

"For one thing, it will enable us to better define the loads that

ppliances, aceiling insulanumber of cause our system peak demands," he said. "This can help us decide

such things as the feasibility of time of day rates for these customer classes."

Time of day rates for residential customers are under study by the Texas PUC, and already have been implemented on a limited basis by some companies in the

The initial phase of the load research program will last at least a year, and the project likely will continue as a permanent program, involving different types of customer samples. Also initiating such programs are WTU's three sister companies in the Central and South System. The four companies are sharing computer facilities in order to reduce the cost of the operation.

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"No bird soars too high if he soars with his own wings
William Bla



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THE MERKEL MAIL

### Trent News

\*CONTROL OF THE CONTROL OF THE CONTR

Thursday November 30, 1978



### home at

A house that housed some single hands at Cal-Tex feedyard burned to the ground Monday while the hands were at work.

The house was engulfed in flames when Merkel Volunteer Fire Department personnel arrived and was destroyed.

No one was hurt in the blaze and the cause of the fire has not been determined.

### Trent news from 70 years ago

TRENT - 70 YEARS AGO

J.L. Banner spent Wednesday in Merkel, the guest of his son, John.

Mr. Cotton's new residence is almost completed.

Mrs. Irving Hale is visiting in Dallas and Terrell.

The farmers have been delayed with the cotton on account of the severe weather this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Blackman and Miss Roxie

Smith have returned from Putman.

We had the pleasure of being a guest at the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Thanksgiving dinner-it was grand. We never enjoyed anything like that dinner and hope soon again to enjoy another. Long live that great organization.

Mr. Estes has sold out and gone back to Arkansas. His family will soon follow. We regret to lose this good family, but our loss is someone else's gain.

### Trent elementary school news

First graders at Trent Elementary enjoyed getting ready for the Thanksgiving holidays. We made paper plate turkeys for decorations and listened to the story of the Pilgrims and Indians. Wednesday, we listed everything for which we were thankful.

We are happy to have a new student, Bobby Garcia, from Sweetwater, Texas. The second grade enjoyed playing new math games in order to sharpen their math skills. We welcome Joe Esquila to our class. We had a very enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday and we are eagerly anticipating our Christmas projects.

Luci masonheimer and Scotty O'Kelly are honor students in spelling. They have made a test. Tammy Collier is math student of the week for doing excellent work. Scotty O'Kelly is sick this week and we hope he gets well soon.

The fifth grade enjoyed our short week and Thanksgiving vacation. We celebrated with popped corn just like the Pilgrims.

Everyone did well

with their division problems. This was the first time this year that we've worked with remainders. Missy Simpson won our timed multiplication test.

Book activities are due today. Missy has made a game to go with her book. Janna King has done a cartoon. Kim Wallis made a neat shadowbox. We are involved in a forthwestern Europe. We are making maps, drawing flags, and making travel folders for the countries.

We are also learning bout birds of the world ing a kit from the mal Georgraphic

### Stenholm taking Texans with him to DC

Congressman - elect Charles Stenholm of Stamford announced his choices to serve on his staff recently. He will be employing two West Texans along with several Washingtonians with West Texas ties in his Washington D.C. office.

James Morgan, 30, De Leon attorney and farmer, will serve as Stenholm's legislative assistant in charge of agricultural affairs. Robert Dyer, 30-year-old rancher, of Cisco will serve as an aide concerned with energy related matters. Stenholm remarked, "I am pleased to have these men going with me to Washington. They are young, hard working, and will serve the people of the

17th District well." Judith Curtis, formerly retiring Congressman Omar Burleson's Washington office manager, will be the new congressman's Administrative Assistant. She joined Burleson's staff 22 years ago and has worked and traveled extensively throughout the

district Carlton H. "Sonny" Lee, formerly of Snyder and now a student at American University in Washington, will be a part time employee in the office. His studies and interests are in foreign affairs, and will concentrate primarily on foreign agricultural markets along with other duties.

Ken Walter, son of Abilenian Nancy Walter and also a former employee in the Burleson office, will be a legislative assistant.

"The District office of a congressman is his "Members of Congress must listen and be responsible to the people of their District.'

Bill Longley, who was manager for Stenholm. will be manager of the district office in Stamford. Dale King, Anson farmer who worked in Burleson's district office will bedistrict representative and B.P. Cain III of Roscoe will serve as field representative. A travel schedule will be announced early next year for King and Cain as the needs of the district become evident.

Elaine Talley, presently secretary in Burleson's Abilene office, will be in charge of the Abilene branch office to be located in the Omar Burleson Federal Build-

"The congressional staff is extremely important in carrying out the work that must be done by a congressman," remarked Stenholm, "I am proud to have these people working with me to serve you, the people of the



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1074 CHESTNUT

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### Be A Big Wheel For Christmas



Christmas morning, as well as introduce him to one of the nation's fastest growing sports

—Bicycle Motocross, or BMX

If you're wondering what would make that favorite boy on your list happy this holiday season, why not get him fastest growing sports, Bicycle Motocross, BMX for short?

Patterned after its big brother, motorcycle motocross BMX has captured the fancy from California to New Jersey It provides healthy, supervised recreational activity for youngsters, who race their 20-inch wheel bicycles over a dirt course that features banked curves, water hazards, and other obstacles to test their riding skills and stamina, and it's great fun to boot!

The SX 100 MAG Scrambler from the Schwinn Bicycle Company is one of the best ways to please "junior" on Christmas morning, as well as introduce him to this new sport. The Scrambler, built for sembled and can also be used for regular bicycle riding. It combines performance with style, including lightweight glass fiber, reinforced MAG wheels, competition tires and saddle, cross-braced handlebar, and reinforced frame construc-

The BMX Scrambler will be remembered long after Christto make you the big wheel in

### **News about Trent**

### from 70 years ago

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1908

Hurrah for Trent. Our sister city to the west has added another valuable institution to her growing list of enterprises and one which will be an important factor in her future growth and the development of the rich agricultural land surrounding her on all sides.

The organization of the Farmers State Bank was completed this week and the institution will open for business upon receipt of the charter from Austin, probably the first of December. The new enterprise starts with a capital of \$15,000 paid in and will be located on the main street in a handsome east front brick building erected and equipped especially for its home at a cost of approximately \$3,000.

The officers, directors and stockholders include some of the wealthiest and most successful merchants, farmers, stockmen and bankers in Bank are worth more than one million dollars

and it begins business under the most favorable conditions. The management of the bank will be in the hands of R.O. Anderson, formerly cashier of the First National Bank of Merkel, who has demonstrated his ability during his connection of several years with that institution.

The orgainzation was completed at Merkel the first of this week when the following officers and directors were elected:

Officers: George S. Berry, president; W.D. Hutcheson, vice-president; R.O. Anderson, cashier. Directors: Wm. Capps, Fort Worth; D.J. Rawlings and R.O. Anderson, Trent and George S. Berry, Merkel. Stockholders: Wm Capps, William Bryce, H.L. Pier, Joe Peirano, J.S. Swann, T.J. Coggin, John Sears, Dr. M. Armstrong, S.C. Keith, J. Anderson, R.O. Anderson, R.L. White, Caps and George S. Berry.

A Mosler screw door burglar proof safe has this section and some of the capitalists of foreign financial institution will be ready for business upon receipt of the charter from Austin.

#### TRENT HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL 1978-79

			OPPONENT	PLACE	TEAMS	MME
Н	Sat.	Nov. 4	Jayton	There	Cirls (HS&JH)	6:30
	Thurs.	Nov. 9	Ira	There	Girls (HS&JH)	6:00
	Set.	Nov. 11	Jayton	Here	Girls (HS&JH)	6:30
	Tues.	Nov. 14	Ira	Here	Girls (HS&JH)	6:00
	Sat.	Nov. 18	Abilene High	There	Girls (HS)	6:30
	Tues.	Nov. 21	McCaulley	Here	Girls (HS)	7:00
1	Tues.	Nov. 28	Hobbs	There	Boys & Girls	7:00
П	ThursSat.	Nov. 30-Dec. 2	TRENT TOURNAMENT		Boys & Girls	1.00
П	Tues.	Dec. 5	Westbrook	There	Boys & Girls	6:30
	Fri.	Dec. 8	Westbrook	Here	Boys & Girls	6:30
Н	Tues.	Dec. 12	Hobbs	Here	Boys & Girls	6:30
ı	Thurs -Sat	Dec. 14-16	ROSCOE TOURNAMENT		Boys & Girls	0.00
ŀ	Tues.	Dec. 19	Abilene High	Here	Girls (HS)	6:30
	ThursSat.	Dec. 28-30	HAWLEY TOURNAMENT		Boys & Girls	0.00
1	Tues.	Jan. 2	OPEN		Loys & Ollis	
	Fri.	Jan. 5	OPEN			
	Tues.	Jan. 9	Bronte	Here	Boys & Girls	6:30
	Fri.	Jan. 12	Robert Lee	There	Boys & Girls	6:30
	Tues.	Jan. 16	OPEN		Doys & Gills	0.50
ı	Fri.	Jan. 19	Divide	Here	Boys & Girls	6:30
ı	Tues.	Jan. 23	Hackwell	There	Boys & Girls	6:30
	Fri.	Jan. 26	Bronte	There	Boys & Girls	6:30
ı	Tues.	Jan. 30	Robert Lee	Here	Boys & Girls	6:30
ı	Fri.	Feb. 2	OPEN	-2.0	Doys & Gills	0.30
	Tues.	Feb. 6	Divide	There	Boys & Girls	6:30
	Fri.	Feb. 9	Hackwell	Here	Boys & Girls	6:30
4					Logo & Cilia	0.00



### Scott's celebrating 50th

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Scott of Trent will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 3rd in a reception at the Methodist Fellowship Hall from 2 to 4 p.m.

The reception will be hosted by Mr. Tommy W. Scott and Mrs. Weldon Steen.

All friends are invited to attend the reception. Mr. Scott was born May 3, 1907 in Runnels

and Mrs. Scott was born April 6, 1911 in Big Lake. The couple met in Lenorah and married in Big Springs on Dec. 2,

The couple moved to Trent from Lamesa in 1936 where Mr. Scott is a stock farmer.

The couple attend the Baptist Church and have grandchildren and four great grandchild-

### King in honor society

Miss Vondi King, a King was initiated into junior at Del Rio High the Thespian club. School, has recently Earlier this year, she been invited to active was named "Ramette of membership of the Del the Week" by a vote of Rio High Chapter of the National Honor Society by the Advisory Com-

N.H.S. Candidates are selected on the basis of their scholarship, leadership, service and character, and election to the National Honor Society is perhaps the highest honor a student may earn during his high school career. In September, Miss

She is the 17 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean King, formerly of Trent.

### TFU says bill bad for farmers

The leadership of Texas Farmers Union denounced President Carter's veto of the beef importation bill and feed grain program announcement as following the course of "kicking the farmer and kidding the consumer."

Jay Naman, President of Texas Farmers Union, issued a statement from the Waco state office stating that President Carter's decision to veto the beef import plan was a grave mistake that will keep cattle producers from expanding production and make the beef price roller coaster more severe.

"Farmers are not confident at the future of the cattle business and are not expanding their herds at a time when they could safely do so. As a result, consumers are looking at beef shortages and higher prices. President Carter's decision to veto the beef import bill will make the price roller coaster more erratic and punish both cattlemen and consumers," Naman said.

"At a time when feed grain supplies are at historic highs and feed grain producer income is less than the cost of production, it is a national discrace that the administration won't take the action necessary in assisting farmers in balancing supply with demand. Instead, the administration economists are justifying their weak farm policy by saying that it is necessary to dampen inflation. This is a cruel hoax to the consumer who will pay higher prices because of higher costs along the processor chain. It is a slap in the face of the feed grain producer who is being told that even though improved prices would not exceed the President's inflationary guidelines, he must bear compulsory income

The state farm organization leader explained both the wool and cotton growers by sighning the bill that would give American textile manufacturers badly needed concessions, he chose to punish both U.S. producers of fiber and the textile industry with his veto. Naman predicted that the cotton program, soon to be announced would encourage more production of cheap cotton, outside of the traditional growing areas. He said, "Our efforts to get the administration to announce a set-aside on cotton to assist us in the balancing of supply with demand and getting the price of cotton out of the bargain basement, seems to be falling on deaf ears." According to the Farmers Union, the administration is neither willing to curb textile imports or help American

cotton farmers balance supply with demand.

Naman said, "The only hope we have to get decent prices for 1979 cotton crops now is for the sacrifice they make in reducing acreage."

armon do la milestate



Trent Basketball Tourney this Thursday-Saturday at the new Trent gym. (Staff photo by glenn Richards)

### Basketball tourney this weekend

The second Trent Basketball Tournament will highlight this weekend's activity in Trent. Girls games begin today (Thursday) at 11:30 as Wylie faces Rotan. The boys teams from those school will square off at 12:45 to start that side of

Prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers in each division and teams competing include Wylie, Wylie J.V., Roscoe, Rotan, Old Glory, Hobbs, Coleman Girls, Highland Boys and Trent.

First day girls action will pit Wylie against

Rotan at 11:30 a.m.; Roscoe against Wylie J.V. at 2 p.m.; Old Glory against Hobbs at 4:30; and Coleman against Trent at 7:30 p.m.

The respective boys team will play one hour and fifteen minutes after the start of the girls

#### Insurance let

The Merkel Independent School Board awarded some 3.5 million in extended fire insurance to Connie Mack Seymore and Benny Melton, who acted as brokers for the new three year policy.

The policy is the standard fire and extended coverage provided to schools and is \$1000 deductable. The policy calls for 100 per cent replacement costs, that will be re-determined annually.

The board received four sealed bids. Other bids received included an Abilene firm, a Dallas firm and another Merkel firm.

#### Garden Club

On November 16th the District 8 Garden Club Fall Convention was held at Roby High School. The theme was Autumn Gold. After the business meeting a pro-gram was given by Mrs. H.B. Horn on the Madonna. Mrs. Horn is the past State President of the Del Rio Chapter.

A catered luncheon was then held at the Fireman's Hall in Roby. The Merkel, Hamlin, and Roby Garden Clubs were the hosts of the convention. Seven club members were present along with approximately 125 guests. The Merkel Garden Club made the potted plants for the table decorations and all guests received door prizes made by the host clubs.

#### Pastor's meet

Hardin Simmons University will be hosting it's Annual Bible Study for pastors of the West Texas area Thursday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to

The January Bible Study in Southern Baptist Churches will be over the New Testament gospel of Mark so the pastor's study will focus on this topic.

H-SU president Dr. Jesse C. Fletcher will deliver the welcoming address prior to lectures from four H-SU, will discuss the "Introduction and Major Motifs of Mark," and will be followed by Dr. Jack Weir, assistant professor in Bible and Religion with his paper on "The Galilean Ministry Controvers and Revela-

Following lunch a dis-cussion of "The Journey to Jerusalem and the Conflict With the Jews," will be presented by Dr. George Knight, associate professor in Bible and Religion, and Dr. Lindell O. Harris, chairman of the division of religion, will deliver his paper entitled "The Lit-tle Apocalypse and the Ending of the Gospel." Dr. Austin will speak on the last topic covered with his lecture "Homiletical Suggestions."

#### TET Class

T.E.T. class of the First Baptist Church met Nov. 28 for a business meeting and breakfast at the Big Country Inn. Bessie Perry and Estelle Humphrey were hostesses. President Mrs. Mimmie Carey opened the meeting. The opening prayer was given by Wynona Scoggins.

Members present were: Jewell Christwell, Maggie Renfro, Parilee Gibson, Annie Walker, Minnie Carey, Bessie Clack, Estelle Humphreys, Dewie Flemming, Ruby Jinkens, Ora Griggs, Ruth Bage, Jewell Dunigan.

be a Christmas luncheon December 11 at the Church

Our next meeting will

The closing prayer

### Newsbriefs

was given by Estelle Humphreys.

Pecan Show

The 3rd Abilene Area Pecan Show sponsored by Taylor County Ex-tension Service & Abilene Chamber of Commerce will be held at Westgate Mall, November 30 and December 1. There will be two categories in the show, the Nut Category and the Food Category. Entries of both food and nuts are due Thursday, November 30 between 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at the mall. Ribbons will be awarded to the first five places in all classes. Silver serving trays will be given to Adult and Youth Foods SweepstakesWinners and Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show in the

In the Nut Division a family may have one entry for each variety and the entry must contain 42 nuts. Pecans should not be polished excessively. Unknown varieties will be classified by the judges. All pecans will become the property of the show. First place winners will be sent to the Regional Show in San Angelo, December 12-15.

Pecan Nut Division.

In the Food Division each entry must be covered with transparent wrap and accompanied by a recipe that will not be returned. Foods must contain pecans as an ingredient; not just decoration. Food may be picked up Friday from 4-5 p.m.

#### Stith HD

Stith Home Demonstration Club met Nov. 21 in the home of Mrs. Daisy Mashburn for a Thanksgiving salad luncheon. There were 8 members there for lunch, being 5 members

and 3 visitors. Roy Mashburn and grandson, Josh, and Mrs. Ladean Thomas were the visitors. The members attending were: Mrs. Mae Jones, Ophelia Mergel, Margaret Dickerson, Miss Louise Hudson and our hostess, Mrs. Dairy Mashburn. In the afternoon we has our meeting. Mrs. Mashburn acted as president. Roll call was answered with, "What I

For". The minutes were read and approved.

Our game was directed by Mrs. Mashburn. She also gave the council report. Our lucky lady of the day was Mrs. Ladean Thomas.

Our next meeting will be a luncheon at Stith on December 7. We reveal pals. Last meeting this year will be this one. Our next meeting will be January 10, 1979. All ladies are invited to our meetings.

### Cotton farmers;

### market better

Cotton farmers hold the key to the prices they are receiving for their 1978 crop. The key is orderly marketing. "The manner in which

Have to be Thankful

producers market their crop has a great bearing on the price level. points out Dr. Carl Anderson, cotton marketing specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension System. "Although the market is still fairly strong, most cotton is traditionally sold in Texas in December and January. Holding back some cotton and marketing only a limited amount can help bolster prices."

Going into this year's crop season, the cotton market looked fairly strong due to the drop in domestic production and stable foreign production, says Anderson. But once the harvest season starts and the new crop hits the market, prices tend to go down. However, with cotton supplies tight as they are this year, orderly marketings can contribute to a more stable price

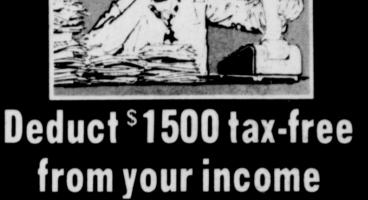
pattern. "With the weak domwhich currently exists, bunched marketings will cause a slump in prices," contends the marketing specialist. "Producers short on cash may want to consider placing cotton in the CCC (Commodity Credit Corporation) loan program for several months. This would help even out marketings and maintain a higher price level."

Looking ahead, prospects for a favorable price for 1979 cotton depend on the anticipated crop size which now appears to be substantially larger than this year's crop, notes Anderson. Prices could easily be down near the 1979 CCC loan rate of 50.23 cents per pound for Strict L ow Middling 1- 1-16 inch cotton this time next year.

"With the prospects of a sizeable boost in next year's cotton crop, producers might consider forward contracting or hedging in the futures market during the next several months at least part of their 1979 crop at a price that allows a reasonable profit," ad-

vises Anderson. So, it all boils down to mark eting.

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GOOCH SLICED SLAB **BACON** 

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POTATOES 10LB BAG

TIMEX **WATCHES** 

LAY AWAY FOR XMAS

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HOURS MONDAY S. . . R. 49

50 years of

on Dec. 9th

Mr. and Mrs. Tom

Watson of Merkel will

celebrate their 50th wed-

ding anniversary in a

reception scheduled for

Dec. 9 at the fellowship

hall of the First Baptist

Mr. Watson was born

May 7, 1901 in Robinson

County and Mrs. Watson was born October 20

1909 in Hood County The couple met in 1926

in Newman and were

married in Sylvester on

from Newman to Trent

and then to Merkel in

1947. Mr. Watson is a

retired Merkel City em-

ployee and the Watson's

attend the First Baptist

Church here. They have

13 grandchildren and

two great grandchild-

and spouses are: Mr.

and Mrs. Doyle Watson

of Abilene; Mr. and

Mrs. Bobby Amason of Arlington; Mr. and Mrs.

Thomas Watson of Houma, La.; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smith of Abilene;

Mr. and Mrs. Rena

Vancil of Richardson;

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon

Smith of Thoreau, N.M.;

and Mr. and Mrs. Steve

Radner of Little Rock,

Ark.

The couple's children

The Watsons moved

Dec. 23, 1928.

Church of Merkel.

event.

marriage



Mr. and Mrs. Tom Watson

### Hart invited to energy confab

Don J. Hart, manager Taylor Electric Cooperative, has been invited to join President Jimmy Carter in a White House meeting on Friday, December 1, 1978. Rural energy issues will be discussed and cural iniatives announc-

Other participants expectedto attend are Bob Bergland, Secretary of Agriculture; Cecil And-Secretary of Interor: Ray Marshall, Secretary of Labor; John O'Leary, Deputy Secretary of Energy; James McIntyre, Director of the office of Management and Budget; and Robert Feragen, Administrator of REA

Mr. Hart will represent all cooperatives in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona at the energy meeting. Currently, he is one of twenty directors in the United States serving a three year term as a National Director of CFC, a supplemental financing organization for Rural Electric Cooperatives.

Mr. Hart, serving the second year of his three year term, was elected at the National Rural Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

In addition to his work on the National level, Hart has served in various capacities on State-Wide Committees, and the Area Rural

Electric Cooperative organizations. Presently, he is chairman of the Power Procurement Committee for the Electric Cooperatives in West Texas, and chairman of Mid-Tex GNT.

Hartwill attend President Carter's energy meeting on December 1. and also the reception that follows in the State Dining Room of the White House.

#### Watson's Agency holding public talks celebrating

The Health Systems Plan for the 44 county Texas Health Service Area Four is currently being examined and re-vised by a number of subarea task forces. The task force structure is an integral part of the Tri Region Health Systems Agency's annual amendment process for updating and revising the plan. The current plan is the first comprehensive health plan for the area and was formally approved by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in August of this year.

The children and A total of twelve task grand children of the Watson's will host the

forces have begun work on revising the plan. Specifically, task forces have been set up to look at the heart, cancer, infant and maternal, and mental health sections of the plan. A task force has been set up in each of the HSA's three subareas (Nortex, Concho Valley, and West Central) for each of these concerns. The task forces are comprised of physicians, nurses, technicians, and interested citizens who reside in the area. Task force activities will be ongoing through the month of November with recom-

presented before the Agency's nine member Plan Development Committee around the first of the year. Area residents are encouraged to watch the legal notices for times

mendations forthcoming

sometime in December.

A revised Health Sy-

stems Plan should be

and places of upcoming task force meetings. All task force meetings are open to the public and interested persons are encouraged to partici-

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### Garden Club donations listed

ferkel Garden Club ish to thank these ontributors to the Merkel Garden Club Cemeery Fund. Without the elp of friends they ould neither have built continued to build, nor

maintained this beautiful structure to enclose our loved ones.

W.A. Witcher Mr. and Mrs. Buster Horton in memory of Mrs. Celia Merritt

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson in memory of

MORE

Mr. John West Mr. and Mrs. Johnny

Cos in memory of Mrs. Celia Merritt Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson in memory of

Mrs. M.T. Head Mr. and Mrs. Buster Horton in memory of Mrs. E.L. Palmer

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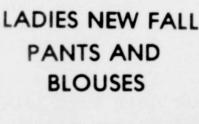


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ditor: Merkel Mail. Please find enclosed \$2.00 hich extends my subscription to 11-20-09. For nd I can't do without my home paper. I use to idein Merkel and the Mail seems like a letter m home. Wishing you every success with your per, I remain, Yours truly. Mrs. Nelia Hudson.

Don't live a single hour without doing exactly at is to be done in it, and going straight ough it from beginning to end. Work, play, dy, whatever it is, take hold at once and finish up squarely; then to the next thing, without ting any moments drop between. It is inderful to see how many hours these prompt ople contrive to make of a day; it is as if they ked up the moments that the dwadlers lost. d if you find yourself where you have so many ngs pressing upon you that you hardly know w to begin, let us tell you a secret. Take hold of very first one that comes to hand, and you Il find the rest all fall into file, and follow after, like a company of well drilled soldiers; and though work may be hard to meet when it charges in a squad, it is easily vanquished if you can bring it into line.

Marriage License issued to J.W. Dean and Miss Fannie Bostick; James Lampkins and Miss Lizzie Woods; O.P. Harlan and Miss Willie M. Shephard; W.A. Rosamond and Miss Bessie Jones: George Thorn and Miss Della Nichols and J.M. Anderson and Miss Nettie Randolph.

Messrs. Twyman Collins, Frank Ferrier, Kingrea, Osie and Burns went to Trent Saturday night. They report a great time, claiming to have witnessed a minstrel performance. That is what they tell but we don't know.

The Merkel merchants pay a little more for cotton, and sells goods for less.

### **Newsbriefs**

On Saturday night, November 18th, thirteen club members from the Compere Home Demonstration Club arrived at the Noodle Community Center with well filled baskets and table decorations for their Thanksgivingsupper. The families of club members, relatives and friends from the surrounding communities made a well filled house, to feast and enjoy the wonderful fellowship on the occasion.

The club's Christmas party will be in the home of Mrs. Clyde

Chancey, December 7th at 2 p.m. Gifts will be exchanged from a tree and pals revealed.

#### Cisco JC

Registration for the springsemester at Cisco Junior College, is now being held, according to Olin Odom, III, Regis-

Off-cam pus extensions will begin registration on December 4. Students may register at any time during office hours, from 8:00 a.m. -5:00 pm.

Student costs are: twelve hours, \$138.00; nine hours, \$108.00; six hours, \$79.00; three hours, \$63.00. Tuition and fees for a full fifteen hours load would be \$168.00.

The first class day for the spring semester will be January 15, 1979. Students desiring more information, may contact Mr. Odom at the Registrar's Office at the CJC campus, by calling 817-442-2567

#### Cascio promoted

Marisaia A. Cascio, daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. A.C. Asencio of 108 Haynes St., Merkel, Tx., has been appointed to noncommissioned officer (NCO) status in the U.S. Air Force.

The newly selected sergeant completed required training in management, leadership, human relations and NCP responsibilities, before being considered for this new rank.

The sergeant attended Merkel High School. Her husband, Sergeant David L. Cascio, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. B.J. Cascio of 1505 Barbara St., Austin, Tx.

### aylor County water study released

Results of the first detailed study of ground ater resources in Taylor County were released oday by the Texas Department of Water

Report 224, "Occurrence, Quantity, and Quality f Ground Water in Taylor County, Texas," was ritten by Department geologist Howard D.

Most productive ground water source in the ounty, the report states, is the alluvium aquifer which consists mainly of sand and gravel deposits bordering major streams. Ninety-nine rrigation wells are reported supplied by the alluvium aquifer, most of them along Jim Ned Creek in the county's southeast quarter, from northwest of Tuscola to east of Lawn.

The alluvium aquifer along Jim Ned Creek contains about 4,400 acre-feet of water in storage, the report concludes, and probably could support a small increase in irrigation development. The alluvium aquifer also furnishes water used for public supply at Tuscola, Buffalo Gap, and Ovalo; for industrial purposes at a gas plant west of Tuscola; and for domestic and livestock supplies in numerous scattered locations

A second principal aquifer is the Antlers Formation which consists mainly of sand and underlies the mesas and buttes in the southern half of the county. The ranching industry in south Taylor County depends on this aquifer to a great extent as a reliable source for livestock water supply, the report indicates

Other aquifers found to contain usable water are the Choza, San Angelo, Lueders, Arroyo, and Vale Formations, and limestone beds of the Fredericksburg Group.

The quality of ground water in Taylor County wells varies greatly, but generally is good. Typically, the water is very hard and low in fluoride content. Locally, a few areas experience troublesome nitrate concentrations.

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The people of the Assembly of God here in Merkel are excited and looking forward to a great revival. God is doing great things for us in our altar services. However, our scheduled revival services will begin November 26 each night except Saturday and will continue until December 10. Our Evangelist will be Rev. L.L. Ammons. He has been a full time Evangelist for over twenty years. He is a great prayer warrior and preacher of the Gospel. You will not want to miss a single service so come and invite someone to come with you.

> Yours Truly in Christ, Reverend Joseph A. Bushnell

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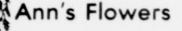
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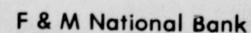
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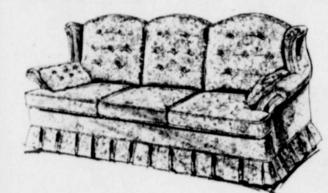




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