

# The Merkel Mail

Thursday, December 4, 1986 . . . Merkel, Texas

Our 98th Year

## Local Christmas parade is Saturday



The annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade will be held Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

The Merkel High Band will lead the parade and Mr. & Mrs. S. Claus, visitors from the north, will be on hand.

The Chamber is presenting cash prizes of \$50 for the best float, \$40

for the best car or pick-up, \$30 for the best marcher and \$20 for the best bicycle.

Persons wishing to enter the parade are asked to meet no later than 2 p.m. Saturday in front of the Assembly of God church.

Martha Sue Justice is in charge of this year's parade and she can be reached at 928-5217 (home) or at Handy Food Store 928-4912.



## New water contract calls for 50 cent rate increase

The Merkel City council gave its approval to a new water contract with the City of Abilene at their regular session last Monday night.

The Abilene city council had the new contract on its agenda for today's (Thursday) session.

The new contract is for a 15 year period and the city will pay Abilene \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons.

Merkelites will also see their water bills increased on their January statements as the new base charge here will be \$2 per 1,000 gallons. Council approved the new rate last Monday.

The city had a 31 year contract with Abilene that was negotiated in 1954. The proposed contract will last for 15 years from the date of action taken by Abilene's city council.

Some of the provisions in the new contract stipulates that Merkel cannot transfer its rights for water purchase to any other group. The city has also agreed to enforce all Abilene municipal water ordinances, resolutions and regulations.

The contract further stipulates that if Merkel does fail to comply with Abilene's municipal water regulations, ordinances or regu-

lations or if the city does sell water in violation of the contract, the city will be fined \$1,000 per month.

The contract sets Merkel's annual water demand at 156 million gallons. Also, Merkel agrees that the Abilene City Council has the right to revise the rate schedule from time to time to cover all reasonable, actual and expected costs, including the costs of future water supplies. It further states Abilene must give Merkel a written notice of rate increases 60 days before they go into effect.

The contract also has a clause that states what will happen during times of short water supplies. The contract states "In the event of a temporary water shortage such that it becomes necessary for Abilene to ration water, Merkel will apply the same basis of rationing to its customers as Abilene applies to its customers."

The contract has been discussed for the past two months by Merkel and Abilene city employees. Merkel's city council said it was pleased with amounts and price when the rough draft of the contract was discussed in September.

## Merkel-Trent on the courts

Varsity boys coach Skip Townsend thinks his team is ready to play and says his team will face strong opposition over the next two weeks.

The boys hosted Haskell Tuesday night and are in the Graham tournament starting today. Merkel faces Jacksboro in the first round at Graham today (Thursday). Next Tuesday, the varsity will host Sweetwater.

Townsend told **The Mail** "We have eight games in the next two weeks."

There are 24 out for basketball in the sophomore through senior class and 19 freshmen. The boys teams lost two freshmen to grades as report cards were issued Monday.

The Merkel girls varsity basketball team opened their season Nov. 21 with a 60-38 win over Anson.

Stacey Newberry led the way with 16 points. Michelle Woodard added 12 and Teresa Lucas was in double figures with 10.

The girls lost their second game of the season 64-39 against Sweetwater. Newberry again led the scoring with 14.

The girls will play in the HSU tournament this weekend as they start their action Friday at 4:30 against Coleman. With a win, the girls will play at 7:30 that evening and a first round loss calls for a 10 a.m. Saturday tip-off.

### Freshman Girls

The freshman girls are off to a 1-2 start this year.

The girls lost a 25-24 overtime decision to Wylie in their first game. Judy Williams led the way in that contest with 10 points.

They lost their second game as Abilene High cruised to a 68-17 romp. Lisa Cannon led the way in that game with 7 points.

They defeated Abilene High here Monday night 38-34. In that game, Gay Lynn Robertson, Tricia Garrett, Laurinda Powell and Ella Eleby each had six points.

### J. V. Girls

The junior varsity has started its season with an 0-3 record.

The girls opened their season with a 28-6 loss to Haskell. Melinda Baker had 4 in that contest.

In their second contest, the girls were defeated 42-22. Baker, Twila Wilburn, Bena White and Bridgett Vaughn each had four points.

They also lost to Sweetwater 55-14. Baker again led in scoring with 6 points.

### by Rebecca Sharp

The 1986-87 T.H.S. and Jr. High Girl's seasons look very promising this year. The Varsity girls team boost 5 returning lettermen and three starters, also returning is a District guard and a Jr. this season, Lucy Masonheimer. Coach Robbie Shugart listed the teams strong points as quickness and a well executed fast break. This year their district has been re-aligned to include, Roscoe,

Highland, and Blackwell. They are also entered in three tournaments this season. The first beginning this Thursday, Dec. 4th in Rotan. Last week they defeated the McCaulley Eagles in a tight victory of 54-53, with Tami Collier popping the net for 21 points.

The Jr. High Girls team is an exciting one also, coming in from last season, as the reigning district champions, with a 12-3 season. The opened play with a win also, defeating ACJHS, 24-13. Ginger Massey, an eighth grader,

was high point with 10 points. The ten girl team has good height, speed, strength and quickness. They also possess a good team attitude, and hold good leadership in their squad. "I am glad to see so much depth and potential with our younger kids. I see a lot of help and a good foundation for the future of our girls sports program," Shugart said.

Coach Shugart also had a 10 member traveling squad on her high school team this year. She will begin her fourth season as

head coach over girls athletics in Trent.

Shugart graduated from Abilene Christian University, where she was a starting player for the regional champs of the ACU Women's teams under coach Burl McCoy. Prior she played with the Howard College, Hawk Queens in Big Spring, Texas. She retained athletic scholarships at both schools. Coach Shugart is a native of Trent, graduating in 1978.

## Commodities, parade, new water rates, cotton, VFW program . . . more

by Cloy A. Richards

It will be a busy Saturday as the annual Christmas parade will be held at 2:30 and a USDA surplus commodity distribution will be held Saturday morning at 9 at the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department's station.

The Merkel High Band will appear in this year's parade and it should be one of the best in years.

How was your Thanksgiving holiday? Are you through with turkey sandwiches?

The gang and I witnessed A & M's third straight win over the Longhorns at Memorial Stadium. We also saw a high school 2A playoff game with San Antonio Cole and Rogers. My mother-in-law teaches at SA Cole and I hopefully took some photos for their annual.

Joey won the catfish bragging rights as he netted three to my one channel cat.

The Abilene City Council should take action on the new water contract with us today (Thursday) at their regular meeting.

The 15 year contract will raise water rates here 50 cents. The new charge for each 1,000 gallons of water used will be \$2. That increase will show up on your January bill.

Negotiations between the cities has gone very well and both sides seem to be more than pleased with the new accord.

The media is saying we have a new Watergate on our hands with the who knew what and when scenario of the US-Iran arms sale.

Any scandal of this nature in the post-Nixon era would end up being compared to Watergate, and only public knowledge of details of the arms sale will tell if the scandal is far reaching enough to be compared to the All the President's men disaster.

As Reagan said, journalists are now cruising the waters off the White House, as a scent of scandal permeates the area.

It ought to be interesting, to say the least.

The local cotton harvest is in full swing and that's no news flash to anyone involved.

Trent Gin didn't crank up until Monday and the local gin had 171 bales Monday and planned to start working around the clock Tuesday.

Price is averaging around 47 cents a pound and the seed price was \$90 Monday and rumored to be on the way up.

There's a lot of green bolls that

will need to open in the area but harvesting is going on all over the area.

The Merkel VFW is asking for donations of canned food and good usable toys for needy children in the Merkel-Trent area.

Donations are being accepted at the post from 3 until 10 p.m. each day or at 904 Orange Street here from 4 until 6 p.m.

As the post is encouraging area residents to "Let's take care of our own first."

### WTU holiday ideas available

West Texas Utilities Company welcomes everyone to join us for our annual Christmas Open House. Holiday decorations and food gift ideas will be displayed at our local WTU office from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The 1986

"Holiday Delights" cookbook will be available, as well as refreshments featured in the cookbook. Come sample the "goodies", register for a free door prize, and visit with your friends and neighbors. We're looking forward to seeing you.

### Sr. Citizens will meet tonight

The Senior Citizens Club will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. for singing, December 4. The luncheon will be Wednesday, December 10.

Plans are being made to enter the Christmas Parade. Members are urged to be at 122 Edwards Street, Saturday, December 6 at 1 p.m.

### Area pecan show starts today

Entries for the Abilene Area Pecan Show should be brought to the old S&Q Clothiers store across from Luby's Cafeteria in the Mall of Abilene on Thursday, December 4. Entries in the pecan division are taken from 8 a.m. till 12 noon and food show entries are taken from 8 a.m. till 6 p.m.

Food show entries will be divided into two categories, Adult and Youth. Classes include: pie, cake from scratch, cake with a mix base, cookies, brittle or praline candy, fudge and other candy, quick loaf bread, muffin, sweet dough yeast bread, and yeast bread loaf.

### USDA distribution is Saturday

Merkel will be holding a USDA surplus commodity distribution at the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department station starting at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Local volunteers will pick up and prepare the surplus commodities for distribution. People who have qualified for

## Cotton harvest under way here

The local cotton harvest is underway as the Farmers Co-op gin here had ginned 171 bales as of Monday and the Trent Gin started up Monday.

At the gin here, the cotton grades are looking good as cotton is being brought in with good high mikes. The turnout is averaging from 20-23 per cent and the seed price was \$90 per ton. That price was expected to increase. Lint prices are running about 47 cents per pound.

The local gin said they were adding their night crew this Tuesday and would be operating 24 hours per day.

Over at Trent Gin, Mrs. Red Shafer told **The Mail** "They just started stripping cotton today because it has been too wet. She said frost had killed just about all of the cotton but there were a lot of green bolls that still needed to open."

Trent's first bale was turned in by Manuel De la Cruz.

## Badger football players

### receive post season honors

The Merkel Badgers did not place any players on the 5-AAA All-District team but the Badgers dominated the second team selections.

Sophomore Kenneth Jowers was named twice; as quarterback and punter.

Other 2nd team offensive recognition was given to running back Ramon Moreno, tight end Justin Amerine, tackle James McFadden, guard John Paul Dudley and center Tony Roberts.

Defensively, Chris Biera at down lineman, Shayne Newberry at end, Douglass Taylor at linebacker made the second team. Honorable mentions were received by Tim Harris, Chris Reyna, Ramon Moreno, Danny Santee and Corey Hines.

Billy Hair and Shayne Newberry were mentioned honorably in offensive selections.

Season ending offensive statistics also indicated what Badger fans already knew.

Ramon Moreno was the teams leading rusher and receiver and also led the way in touchdowns. Moreno had 576 yards for the season on the ground and 402 yards in pass receptions. Moreno had 11 touchdowns and had a 5.8

rushing average and a 23.6 receiving average.

In the rushing department, Shane Reagan gained 358 yards for a 3.1 average and two touchdowns. Corey Hines had 190 yards for a 4.4 average and a touchdown. Kenneth Jowers had 198 yards, a 4.5 average and a touchdown. Douglass Taylor had 130 yards and a 4.3 average and Shayne Newberry had 24 yards and a touchdown.

In the receiving department, Newberry had 277 yards and three touchdowns for a 10.8 average. Justin Amerine had 21 catches for 258 yards with two touchdowns and a 12.2 average and Douglass Taylor had 18 catches for 160 yards and an 8.8 average.

Jowers completed 80 of 144 passing attempts for 54 percent. Jowers threw for 1120 yards, was sacked 17 times and threw ten interceptions.

The Badgers attempted 363 rushing plays and gained a total of 1588 yards. Total offensive stats for the year was 2,573 in yards gained.

Jowers punted 22 times for 895 yards and a 40.6 average. The Badgers fumbled the ball 24 times.

Cowboy called me last week. He's the guy who comes in from the range, has a few beers, loses his girlfriend to his best buddy, then calls up in a state of depression.

We're not friends, really. We used to work together, though, and occasionally he'd ask me for advice, just so he could ignore it.

The truth is, the only ranch he comes off of is the one in his mind. When he called the other day he had resorted to washing dishes in a hotel. He is a cowboy though, and he's got the mud flaps and bumper stickers and tobacco-stained teeth to prove it.

Cowboy may only weigh 125 pounds, but he's got 250 pounds worth of kick in his heart. "You don't ever want to mess with a cowboy," he warns. "You could get hurt - real bad."

So could Cowboy, unfortunately. Cowboy's girlfriend not only messed with one cowboy's heart - the one we've just been talking about - she gave the same heart to his best friend.

Cowboys aren't like the rest of us. If this was your girlfriend and she was taking up with your best friend, you might not have a best friend any longer.

Cowboys are different. Willie Nelson gave hint of this with his ballad, "Red-Headed Stranger."

"Well, you can't blame a man for killing a woman, who's trying to steal his horse," he told us, with enough conviction to get your sympathy, if not total agreement.

A cowboy's best friend is his best friend. Cowboys prop their boots on bumpers of pickup trucks and sandwich 25 words of speech into eight hours of spittin' and drinkin'. By slowing down speech patterns several RPMs, the dialogue has few conversational gaps.

You don't lose a best friend for a girl. Any 8-year-old gunslinger can tell you that.

"I don't blame him at all," Cowboy said. "Shoot, he's my best friend. He can't help it if she starts coming on to him. It's nothing against me. I'm just worried she'll wind up doing him the same way she did me, and I don't want to see the guy get hurt."

Cowboy admits he'd like to have her back. "She just needs to get straightened out and realize you don't treat a cowboy that way. One of these days she's going to get into some real trouble doing that to somebody who's not as kind hearted as I am."

You can't change a cowboy's mind

## Art Lawler



Why would Cowboy want his girl back when she's taken up with his best friend?

"Because I love her. I've always loved her - ever since we were in the eighth grade. She was going with my best friend then, and dumped him for me. I guess I should have seen it coming. But you don't think about those things when you're 13 years old."

Or 33. Now that he knows his first love tends toward the fickle side, why doesn't he move on to more promising relationships?

"I'll always love her," he says. "And she'll always love me. She doesn't understand that right now because she's confused. Someday she'll understand and she'll feel terrible about all this. But I'll be there waiting, you can bet on that."

Nevertheless, I felt a responsibility to encourage him to move his only life on down the trail.

"You're just like everybody else," he said, testily. "Somebody does you wrong, first thing on your mind is revenge. Me, I'm not that way. I'm not trying to get even with nobody. All I want to do is get this one woman - the only woman I've ever loved - straightened out. Once that's accomplished we can get on with our life. I'm lookin' at me some land not far from here. We could put a few head of cattle out there, make a decent living, and be happy the rest of our lives."

"Except that she seems more interested in living the ranch life with your best friend," I reminded him.

"That's temporary," he explained. "She'll do him just like she does everybody else. I just have to wait around to pick up the pieces once she's gone too far."

Even the best Shirley Temples among you must realize by now nothing you say is going to change this man.

Right or wrong, tough or easy, nobody changes the mind of the cowboy, bless his tortured heart.

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Anyone wishing to address this columnist should mail his, or her, comments to P. O. Box 432, Buffalo Gap, Texas 79508.

The 7th grade girls basketball team lost a close game Monday against Sweetwater 27-24.

Becca Dunagin led the scoring for the Badgers with 9 points. Other scorers were Coty Vaughn 6 points, Dayna Doan 4 points, Hope Ward 2 points, Becky Donaldson 2 points and Son Hui Chon 1 point.

Dunagin also led the Badgers in rebounds with 9. Other rebounders were Kriste A. Smith 7, Vaughn 4, Doan 3, Donaldson 3 and Kristi G. Smith 1.

Leading in recoveries and steals was Dunagin with 6. Vaughn, Chon and Ward each had 3, and Jennifer Hobbs, Shayla Miller, A. Smith, and G. Smith each had one. Shooting percentage for the Badgers was 23 percent. Vaughn shot 25 percent, Doan 22 percent, Dunagin 33 percent, Ward 20 percent, and Donaldson 100 percent. Free throw shooting percentage was 40 percent. Vaughn shot 33 percent from the line, Dunagin and Chon both shot 50 percent from the line.

Other contributors were Lori Thompson, Michelle Ingram, Sheila Bynum and Christy Russom.

The 7th grade will participate in the Wylie Tournament December 4th, 5th and 6th.

## Start now for better '87 cotton

The first step to a successful 1987 cotton crop begins with land preparation this fall and winter.

A farmer's objectives for land preparation should include weed control, plant residue breakdown, moisture storage, breakup of hard pans or compaction zones that could otherwise restrict root growth, and getting down some fertilizer, says Dr. Bob Metzger. The final goal should be a firm, weed-free seedbed that permits timely planting.

"Getting a uniform early stand that grows off well next spring often can be attributed to proper land preparation the previous fall and winter," points out Metzger, a cotton specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

One of the key practices associated with land preparation is to avoid working wet soil, Metzger emphasizes. Compacted zones or hard pans frequently can be traced back to working soil too wet. Unless these compacted zones are broken up, cotton roots may be limited to the upper 12 inches of soil.

The cotton plant requires a constant supply of moisture to achieve uniform fruiting, so it must have a large root reservoir that uses lower soil profile moisture. Such a root system cannot develop in compacted soil. Cotton producers are painfully aware of excess shedding of young fruit that can occur when moisture becomes limiting in shallow-rooted cotton.

"In addition to compacted zones severe crusting and cloddy soil due to loss of soil structures often result when working soils that are too wet," says Metzger. "All too frequently loss of valuable planting moisture is associated with poor soil structure. This leads to erratic seedling emergence and replanting. Unfortunately, the optimum planting date often slips by when a farmer is forced to replant the crop."

Early land preparation is of critical importance since it allows time for plant residue breakdown, moisture storage and firming up of seedbeds.

Of course, wet fields and prolonged periods of rainy weather can prevent timely land preparation. However, Metzger advises farmers to try to avoid land preparation within a few weeks of planting since unsettled beds quickly lose valuable planting moisture.

"bed planting is another practice that provides a number of positive benefits," emphasizes the

specialist. "Favorable temperatures for germination and seedling emergence occur first in beds. This becomes highly important when producers strive for the earliest possible planting date. Benefits of bed planting decrease as planting is delayed further into the season."

How rapidly cotton emerges and grows off in the spring is dependent on a number of factors, but good management decisions in land preparation during the remainder of 1986 will have a favorable impact on getting next year's crop off to a good start.

## New law allows tax relief for some

Farmers with taxable income from debts discharged are eligible for some tax relief.

Such farmers will not have to wait until the new tax law takes effect to complete a debt forgiveness plan, points out Dr. Wayne Hayenga, an economist and attorney with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

Under final language in the new law, the Internal Revenue Service will treat farm debt discharged after April 9, 1986, as if the farmer was insolvent. In general, that means debt relief will reduce a farmer's basis in earnings or assets down to the level of his total liabilities but won't trigger an immediate tax bill, Hayenga explains.

Thus, in most cases, a farmer who faces capital gain recognition from liquidating a farm under a

restructuring plan should now get it done before year-end, advises the economist. Also, a farmer can still benefit from the old 60 percent capital gain exclusion which will be eliminated after 1986.

If a farmer is insolvent before the restructuring, he can also avoid the alternative minimum tax on capital gain, adds Hayenga. This provision applies to any sale after 1981.

The new law lifts the statute of limitations on filing an amended return if a farmer is stuck with the alternative minimum tax for post-1981 sale while insolvent.

For further details relating to the taxable income from debts discharged and to the alternative minimum tax on capital gain, Hayenga advises producers to consult an accountant or tax specialist.

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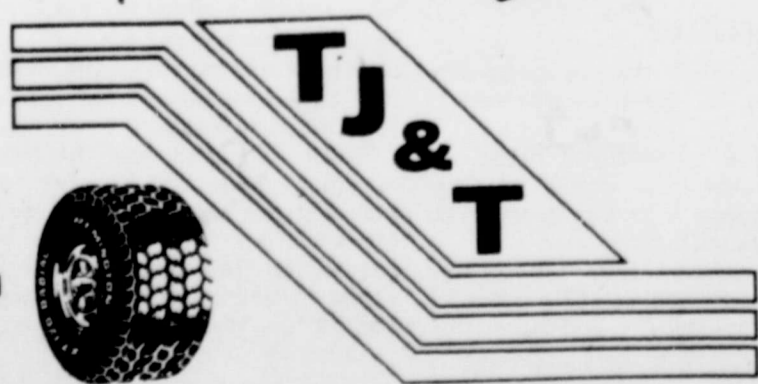
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# Newsbriefs

## McIntyre promoted

Robert J. MacIntyre, son of Fran and Robert L. Foy of Rural Route 3, Merkel, Texas, has been promoted in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of airman first class.

MacIntyre is a financial services specialist at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, with the 3762nd Student Squadron.

## Lambda Beta

Lambda Beta attended the program presented by the Rape Crisis Center on November 18 at the Taylor Electric meeting room. Preceptor Eta Omega was the hostess for the program.

Following the program, members of Lambda Beta gathered in the home of Jerrye Carey for a meeting. President Virginia Pir-

raglia conducted the meeting.

Members present were Janet McKeehan, Sharon Young, Debbie Sandusky, Kay Bishop, Jerrye Carey, Janet Rogers, Debbie Roberson, Beverly Helmer, Pat Schuknecht, Virginia Pirraglia, Cindy Beaver and Robin Robinson.

After the meeting, Janet Rogers and Jerrye Carey served delicious refreshments to everyone.

The next regular meeting will be held December 2 in the home of Janet McKeehan.

## Butman's daughter

Jerry and Cindy Butman are the parents of a baby girl born Saturday, November 15 at 11:53 a.m. in Deaf Smith General Hospital.

Named Kristin Jean, the new arrival weighed seven pounds, twelve and one-half ounces and

was twenty inches long.

Kristin has two older brothers, Gaines, five years old, and Chance two and one-half years old.

Grandparents are Ron and Melba Smiley of Friona, Mack and Pat Bigbee and Jarrell Butman, all of Merkel.

Grandparents are Lucretia Bracken and Artie Smiley of Friona, Marie Fisher of Merkel.

## Project praised

Dear Editor:  
Project Love.

How Great. I've just read this in the Merkel Mail. How well I know what it means to those clients.

As many will remember several years ago, I worked as a trainer at Abilene State School and would bring a wheel chair bus, which

it and so did everyone.

Saying Thanks From  
Mrs. Faye Jones,  
Deceased Sam Jones,  
Jana Yarbrough  
Dale Farmer

Merry Christmas To All.  
8th grade wins

The 8th grade girls basketball team was defeated by a tough Sweetwater team 53-39. High scorer for the Badgers was Betsy Hellums with 20 points, followed

by Brandy Fenton with 8, Jayma Goldsmith and Cristi Moore each with 4, Melanie Tankersley with 2 and Angie Leverich with 1. The leading rebounder was Jayma Goldsmith with 6. Tammie Pierson led the team in steals and recoveries with 4.

The team shot 34 percent from the field and 40 percent from the free throw line. Other girls contributing to the team were:



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For Sale: 1981 Buick Rivera, leather interior, electric windows, seats and locks, am-fm tape, 50,000 miles, cruise, tilt, Tom Carson, 928-5069. 190-TFC

For Sale: 1971 Chevy pick-up, runs good, call 928-5476. 192-11p

Mesquite Firewood: \$55 full cord, \$30 half cord, delivered and stacked, anytime 928-5023. 192-11c

Need To Sell One: 1978 T-Bird, high mileage, \$1,200 or 1981 Buick Skylark 35,000 miles, \$3,100, both in excellent condition, 862-6272. 192-11p

MUST SELL: 2 bedroom home, newly remodeled new electrical wiring, plumbing, carpet, paneling, hot water heater, septic tank and lateral lines new roof and new hot water heater. Low utilities, located west of Trent High School. Call 862-6352 after 9:00 p.m. or call before 7:00 a.m. 189-5tp

House for sale at a bargain, 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, living room, kitchen, one bath, has central heat, all furniture and appliances stay with the house. Cal Cyrus Pee, Agent 928-5145. 179-TFC

House For Sale: large living area, water well, storage building, central air and heat, available for immediate occupancy, call to see Cyrus Pee Realtor 928-5613. 185-TFC

# Classifieds

See, Ads work

House For Sale: 2 bedroom, living room, kitchen, 2 baths, three lots, call Cyrus Pee Agent 928-5613. 186-TFC

For Rent: 2 bedroom partly furnished apartment, water furnished, \$175.00, call 928-5635 early or nights. 191-2tp

For Rent: 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, central heat and air, fenced back yard, close to school, available Dec. 1, \$375 per month plus \$200 deposit. Call 846-4715 or 846-4696. 191-TFC

For Sale: 3 bedroom brick house, central air and heat, bath & 3/4, built in dishwasher and range, on 2 lots, 1 car garage, horsepens, and storage building, 906 Lousit 928-5145. 171-TFC

Choice Lots For Sale: in the growing area of town, after 6:00, 928-5067 189-TFC

House for sale: living room, dining room, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen, central heat & evap cooling, good location, storage in the back, water well, 2 pecan trees, on five lots, new carpet. Cyrus Pee, Realtor 928-5613. 190-TFC

For Sale: by owner, in Merkel, handymans special, some work needed, but liveable, five room house, bath, outside storage on 50x140 lot, \$6,000. Shown by appointment. Call 846-3106. 192-2tp

NO EQUIP: Masonite siding, 14 X 80, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, ceiling fans, storm windows with tinting, central air and heat, chain link fencing, storage shed, paid up insurance for one full year, and all right across the street to all schools, no kidding, all this for no equity. 928-4483. 192-11p

For Sale By Owner: 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, central air and heat, water well, steel siding, double storm windows, built in appliances, fenced yard, Trent-862-6272. 192-11p

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1,2 & 3 bedroom mobile home. Mobile home rents start at \$185 and \$200 is the highest rent. Mobile home lots for rent near school \$50 per month West end of S 7th call 928-4973. 186-TFC

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orable District Court of Travis County, of the 30th day of October, 1986, by Execution of said District Court for the sum of Two Hundred Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fourteen and 75/100 Dollars and cost of suit, under a Judgement, in favor of Travis Bank & Trust in a certain cause in said Court, No. 355,479 and styled Travis Bank & Trust vs Penroc Energy, Virgil Robbins, placed in my hands for service, I John W. Middleton, as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas, did, on the 6th day of November 1986, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit: Lot 34, Section Three of Country Club Estates, being 11.96 acres out of lot nineteen, Grims County School Land, League 148, Taylor County, Texas, and levied upon as the property of Virgil Robbins and that on the first Tuesday in January, 1987, the same being the 6th day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. by virtue of said levy and said writ of Execution I will sell said above described Real Estate at public venue, for each to the highest bidder, as the property of said Virgil Robbins.

The sale will be held at 10:00 a.m.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in The Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County.

Witness my hand, this the 6th day of November, 1986.

John W. Middleton Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas by Eddie Swanson, Deputy

THE STATE OF TEXAS -TO: M. E. BISHOP, An Individual, Address Unknown, Defendant, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being Monday the 22nd day of December, 1986, at or before ten o'clock A.M. before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, Texas, at the Court House of said County in Abilene, Texas.

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said Court, on the 28th day of July, A.D. 1986, in this cause, numbered 39,981-A on the docket of said court and styled ODDILEE REDDIN, AN

INDIVIDUAL Plaintiff vs. M. E. BISHOP, AN INDIVIDUAL Defendant.

The names of the parties to the cause are as follows: ODDILEE REDDIN, An Individual are Plaintiffs and M. E. BISHOP An Individual, are Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit:

On the 15th day of July, 1986, the Plaintiff, was and still is, the owner in fee simple of the following described premises situated in the County of Taylor and the State of Texas: Lot 7, Block 6, Original Town of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas:

After the 15th day of July, 1986, the Defendant, M.E. Bishop, unlawfully entered upon and dispossessed her of such premises and withholds her the possession thereof. Said property being described as Lot 7, Block 6, Original Town of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas.

Plaintiff prays that the Defendant be cited to appear and answer this petition and that the Plaintiff have judgement against the Defendant for the title and possession of the above described premises, for her damages and costs of suit, and such other and further relief to which the Plaintiff may be entitled either at law or equity.

as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this process shall promptly execute the same according to law, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this the 3rd day of November, A.D. 1986.

Attest: Rilla Mahoney District Clerk, Taylor County, Texas 42nd District Court by Rita Moore, Deputy (Seal) 191-4tc-109

## CHRISTMAS PARADE SATURDAY DEC 6

928-5217 OR HANDY'S 928-4912

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## The Merkel Mail

First Published March 3, 1889

Cloy A. Richards--Editor--Co-Publisher  
Melanie Richards--Co Publisher  
Published at 916 North 2nd Street  
Merkel, Texas  
Entered As Second Class Mail at the U. S. Post Office in Merkel, Texas 79536

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
\$10 Per Year in Taylor County  
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TUESDAY - FRIDAY FROM 8 - 5 SATURDAY AT 6:30 - ? JOHN O'DONNELL RONNY WILL BE AT THE SHOP SAME AS ALWAYS

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NEW OWNERS \* NEW HOURS OPEN 8-5 MONDAY SATURDAY \* LATE EVENING APPOINTMENTS TUESDAY & THURSDAY COME BY 310 THORNTON OR CALL 928-4858 ASK FOR SHIRLEY 'J' OR SYBLE RINEY

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REPAIRS REGROOVING RETREADS

TIRE COMPANY, INC

RT 1 Box 10 MERKEL TEXAS 79536

3/4 Mile East of Taylor Telephone on North I-20 Access Road



**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO: ROGER BRUNS,  
ADDRESS UNKNOWN,  
Respondent:  
GREETINGS:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable 326th DISTRICT Court, TAYLOR County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in ABILENE, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the FIRST AMENDED petition of CHRISTIAN HOMES OF ABILENE, INC., Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 1st day of DECEMBER, 1986, against ROGER BRUNS Respondent, and said suit being numbered 526-CX on the docket of said Court, and entitled "In The Interest of AN UNBORN CHILD, a Child", the nature of which suit is a request that the Court determine what parent-child relationships exist between the child and any other persons, that an Attorney as Litem be appointed by the Court to represent the interest of those persons cited by publication, and that all such parent-child relationships be terminated. Said child is UNBORN.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at ABILENE, Texas, this 1st day of DECEMBER, 1986.

Rilla Mahoney,  
District Clerk,  
Taylor County, Texas,  
By Patricia Henderson,  
Deputy.  
192-11c-83

is in addition to any impoundment fee."

Section 12. Change minimum fine from \$10.00 to \$15.00.

Effective date of amendments is Nov. 18, 1986.

Ordinance # 79-13 (REGULATING THE HEIGHT TO WHICH GRASS\* WEEDS OR UNCULTIVATED PLANTS SHALL BE PERMITTED TO GROW UPON PRIVATE PROPERTY; REQUIRING OWNERS TO KEEP PRIVATE PROPERTY FREE OF GRASS, WEEDS, BRUSH AND UNCULTIVATED PLANTS; PROVIDING FOR A NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND DECLARING A MISDEMEANOR THEREOF; PROVIDING A PENALTY; PROVIDING A PENALTY; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PASSAGE) was amended to provide for removal of conditions, filing of statement of expenses, collection by lien, and providing effective date of amendment as November 18, 1986.

Jo Moore  
City Secretary  
City of Tye, Texas.  
192-11c-89

CITY OF TYE  
The Tye City Council during a regular held council meeting, Nov. 18, 1986 passed and approved the following: Ordinance # 80-3 (PROVIDING FOR RABIES CONTROL; REPORTING OF ANIMAL BITES; PROVIDING FOR QUARANTINE; RESTRAINT OF ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE; RESTRAINT OF VICIOUS ANIMALS; IMPOUNDMENT OF ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR FEES; PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN SPECIES OF ANIMALS; AND DESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING SUCH PROVISIONS)

Section 1.12a Change three months to four months.

Section 2.1 Change three months of age or older to four months of age in line 1 and line 3.

Section 10.3 Change quarantine charges from \$5.00 to \$3.00. Delete the words "This

The Student Council attended the Fall District Convention, Tuesday, November 11 at Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

At the convention, Merkel was elected the President School. This means that Merkel will host the Spring Convention. The place the Spring Convention is to be held is undecided.

Also at the Fall Convention, there were sessions held during the afternoon. Merkel was in charge of Teacher Appreciation. The officers talked and told their ideas on how to appreciate our teachers more. The other members of the council went around to different sessions such as: Homework Hotline, Junior Olympics, Homecoming Activities, etc. held by various schools and got some good ideas on how to help our school.

The convention ended with the winners of the door prizes. Our council got lucky and came up with a few winners: Angela Thomas won some Stetson Cologne, Tracy Bicknell won \$10.00 cash and Laurinda Powell won some pizza coupons. After the door prizes, all councils were dismissed.

We would like to thank Something Special and Country Etc. for donating door prizes.

We would also like to Congratulate some of our Athletes. The volleyball team had an outstanding season, winning District, bi-district and playing for Area. Unfortunately the girls lost in Area, but we were very proud of them for getting as far as they did.

We also congratulate the football team. Merkel ended up third

**MHS student council notes**

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We also congratulate the football team. Merkel ended up third

Congratulations is also in order for Michelle Woodard, Football Sweetheart and Doug Taylor, Football Hero. Also Kristen-Kennedy and Shane Reagan, Band Favorites.

**MISD lunch menu**

The following is the MISD school lunch menu:

Dec. 4 Beef stew with potatoes, carrots and onions, vegetable salad with choice of dressing, corn bread and chilled sliced peaches.

Dec. 5th: Hot dogs with chili, pinto beans and french fries, coney buns and fresh orange wedges.

Monday December 8: tacos, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, cheese, pineapple chunks.

Tuesday December 9: chicken

fried steak with gravy, whipped potatoes, english peas, hot rolls, whipped jello.

Wednesday December 10: pizza, mixed vegetables, lettuce wedge, lemon pudding.

Thursday December 11: bar-b-q links, baked beans, fried okra, corn bread, peanut butter brownies with icing.

Friday December 12: hamburgers with all the trimmings, french fries, apple wedge.

**Trent school lunch menu**

The Trent school menu is as follows:

Monday December 8: Breakfast: cereal, juice, milk. Lunch: chicken patties, mashed potatoes, green beans, peach cobbler, rolls, tea or milk.

Tuesday December 9: Breakfast: donuts, juice, milk. Lunch: Spaghetti, english peas, salad, peanut butter cups, rolls, tea or milk.

Wednesday December 10: Breakfast: Biscuits, sausage, juice, milk. Lunch: chili, pinto beans, cornbread, jello-pears, cookies, tea or milk.

Thursday December 11: Breakfast: oatmeal, juice, milk. Lunch: chicken enchiladas, corn, salad, apple crisp, crackers, tea or milk.

Friday December 12: Breakfast: cinnamon rolls, juice, milk. Lunch: corn dogs, french fries, mixed fruit, cookies, milk or tea.

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**THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL**

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**COKE 2 LITER 99¢**

**CUNNINGHAM'S**  
311 ASH 928-5378

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO: MALFORD,  
LAST NAME UNKNOWN, ADDRESS UNKNOWN,  
Respondent:  
GREETINGS:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th DISTRICT Court, TAYLOR County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in ABILENE, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the petition of CHRISTIAN HOMES OF ABILENE, INC., Petitioner, filed in said Court on the 1st day of DECEMBER, 1986, against MALFORD LAST NAME UNKNOWN, Respondent, and said suit being numbered 542-CX on the

**FUR BUYER  
WILL BE IN MERKEL  
BEGINNING  
DECEMBER 2  
AT WYLIE  
TRUCK TERMINAL  
FROM 11:30 - 12  
EACH TUESDAY  
THROUGHOUT  
FUR SEASON  
WE BUY RATTLE SNAKES**

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1. Don't switch anything electrical on or off. Don't strike a match or do anything that could cause a spark.
2. Have everyone leave immediately, leaving door open to help ventilate.
3. Go to a nearby phone and call Lone Star.

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Help us keep natural gas one of the safest energies available. Use your nose. Then use your head... and follow the proper precautions.

 Lone Star Gas Company

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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3 WORLDS BIGGEST XMAS STOCKINGS  
HAMILTON BEACH FOOD PROCESSOR  
LITTLE PAL PORTABLE CHARCOAL GRILL

TOOTHPASTE  
**CREST**  
MINT OR REG  
4.6 OZ TUBE **\$1.09**

PRICES  
PIMIENTO 7.5 OZ CRTN  
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DEL MONTE IN JUICE  
**PINEAPPLE** CHUNK SPEARS OR TIDBITS 15 OZ CAN **59c**

TEXSUN  
**PINEAPPLE JUICE** 46 OZ CAN **\$1.23**

DEL MONTE 303 CANS CUT  
GREEN **BEANS** MIX 'EM OR MATCH 'EM  
SWEET **PEAS**  
CS **CORN** 2 FOR **79c**

DEL MONTE 303 CAN  
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**TOMATO SAUCE** 2 FOR **43c**

WOLF 300CAN  
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PACE  
PICANTE **SAUCE** 16OZ JAR **\$1.39**

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VIENNA **SAUSAGE** 5 OZ CAN 2 FOR **89c**

KEEBLER  
**CRACKERS** 1 LB BOX **83c**

DUNCAN HINES  
BLUEBERRY  
**MUFFIN MIX** 13OZ BOX **98c**

WISE  
RIDGES  
**CHIPS** 6.5 OZ BAG **89c**

B P I ASST  
**SODA POP** 2 LITER BOTTLE **69c**

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SINGLE SLICED  
**CHEESE** 12 OZ PKG **\$1.59**

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WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

FROZEN FOODS  
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**PIZZAS** 10 OZ PKG **99c**

MRS SMITHS 26 OZ  
PUMPKINS OR  
APPLE **PIES** \$1.89 EA

BIRDSEYE 8 OZ  
**COOL WHIP** 79c

MRS SMITHS 2 PACK  
**PIE SHELLS** EA \$1.29

KRAFTS  
MACARONI AND CHEESE  
**DINNER** 7.4 OZ BOX 2 FOR **83c**

BEST MAID  
HAMBURGER  
DILL  
**PICKLES** 16 OZ JAR **89c**

LIPTONS  
**ONION SOUP MIX** 4 PACK BOX **69c**

LIPTON  
**BEEF CHICKEN OR SPANISH** 4.5 OZ BAG **69c**

LIPTON  
24 FAMILY SIZE  
**PUDDING** 24 CT BAGS **\$1.59** LIMIT 1  
WITH \$15 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

**CORN OIL**  
**CRISCO** 48 OZ JUG **\$1.89**

BORDENS  
1/2 GAL CRTN  
**ICE CREAM** \$1.69

DEL MONTE  
**SNACK PACK PUDDING** 4PACK **\$1.19**

GOLD MEDAL  
**FLOUR** 5 LB BAG **89c**

SHORTENING  
**JEWEL** 42 OZ CAN **99c**

TEXAS RUBY RED  
**GRAPEFRUIT** SWEET JUICY  
LB **49c**

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LEAN  
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3 LBS OR MORE

CHOICE BEEF  
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CHOICE BEEF  
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**PIKES PEAK ROAST** LEAN POUND **\$1.79**

CHOICE BEEF  
BONFLESS  
**SIRLOIN TIP STEAK** LEAN LB **\$2.39**

OSCAR MAYER  
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ARMOUR STAR HEAT & EAT  
CHICKEN FRIED  
**BREADED BEEF PATTIES** LB **\$1.79**

WRIGHTS  
**SMOKED BACON** LB **\$1.75**

GOOCH B.R.  
**LINK SAUSAGE** LB **\$1.39**

HORMEL MARKET SLICED  
**CHOPPED HAM** LB **\$1.79**

LOG CABIN  
**SYRUP** 24 OZ JUG **\$1.98**

MORRISONS  
**CORN KITS** 2 6 OZ PKG **49c**

PARADE  
BLACK  
**PEPPER** 4 OZ CAN **98c**

HEFTY  
STEEL TRASH  
**BAGS** 20 CT BOX **\$2.69**

MAYONNAISE  
**KRAFTS** LITE OR REG QT **\$1.59**

COUNTRY CROCK  
**SPREAD** 1 LB TUB **49c**

BOUNTY MINI  
**TOWELS** WITH HOLDER **69c**

POINSETTIA  
HOMO  
**MILK** GAL JUG **\$1.98**

FRESH  
**BROCCOLI** LB **49c**

WASH. FCY DELICIOUS  
**RED APPLES** 3 LB BAG **\$1.39**

CALIFORNIA NAVEL  
**ORANGES** 4 LB BAG **\$1.49**

FRESH  
**CARROTS** CELLO LB 2 FOR **59c**

GOLDEN  
**BANANAS** LB **29c**

FRESH GREEN  
**CABBAGE** LB **19c**

RUSSET  
**SPUDS** 10 LB BAG **\$1.39**

BORDENS  
LOW FAT  
**MILK** GAL JUG **\$1.93**

BORDENS  
BUTTER  
**MILK** 1/2 GAL JUG **\$1.09**

DETERGENT  
**GAIN** GIANT BOX **\$1.69**

LIQUID  
**DAWN** 22 OZ BOTTLE **\$1.09**

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**TOP JOB** 2 OZ JUG **\$1.29**

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**LY-SOL** 6 OZ CAN SPRAY **\$1.29**

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STAMPS  
EACH  
WED'S  
WITH \$5.00  
IN TRADE  
OR MORE

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS

**CARSON'S**  
SUPER MARKET  
Fresh Vegetables  
Best Meats in Town

Merkel, Texas