The Merkel Mail

Thursday, February 18, 1988 . . . Merkel, Texas

30 cents

Boys take on Ballinger Friday

The Merkel boys made it a clean sweep over Wylie this season as they nipped the Bulldogs here Friday 41-

The boys also blasted Sonora here last Tuesday 83-22 to set up a distric ending showdown in Ballinger Friday night.

Both Ballinger and Merkel are undefeated in the second half of play and a Merkel win Friday will give the Badgers the district championship. A Merkel loss will force either ters. It was nice to see the guys a one game playoff Tuesday night in Abilene or the two teams could decide to settle the matter with a coin

Regardless of Friday's outcome, the Badgers will be in the state basketball playoffs for the first time in a two point win before a packed Bad-11 seasons with the bi-district game ger Gym. set for next Friday against either Decatur or Breckenridge. If the Bad-

gers and Breckenridge play, that game the first half and then we were real

In the Sonora game, the Badgers were led by Kenneth Jowers with 21 points. Monty Griffin had 18 and Ted pressure on them because they wanted Seymore added 15, Coach Johnny Hampton told The Mail "We changed things Brit Pursley did an excellent job on up a bit for that game because we had defense as he held the district's been going through some bad practice leading scorer to 5 points." sessions and we started our best practice team. We held them to 11 points through the first three quarplay with a lot of intensity on defense."

In the Wylie game, Monty Griffin led with 13 while Lynn Hays added 11. Clesky travled to Colorado City The Badgers jumped out to a 29-21 to watch the C-City-Ballinger lead at the half and then hung on for game.

Hampton said "It was a real

will be played in Abilene Feb. 25th. tentative on offense in the second half. We only had 12 points in the second half. The kids had a lot of to go 3-0 against Wylie this year.

With the two wins last week, the Badgers improved their record to 23-5 on the season and 11-0 in district

Coach Hampton traveled to Decatur Tuesday night to watch the Decatur-Breckenridge game while Coach Mc-

The boys JV team, which beat Wylie on a last second shot by Stephen Jacobs last week, will go up againt Ballinger with tip off set for 6:30 p.m. The varsity game will follow.



Merkel Badger basketball coach Johnny Hampton explains what he wants from his players in last week's win over Wylie. With a win at Ballinger Friday night, the Badgers can enter the state basketball playoffs as district champs.

Tye's rebate of \$6,947.71 pushed

a decline of 8.18 percent from last

State Comtroller Bob Bullock said

Local sales tax rebates increase

two months of 1987

iod last year.

year's pace.

Merkel and Tye enjoyed increased

sales tax rebates according to a

news release from the State Comp-

7.61 percent while Tye's rebates

Tax rebate checks represent taxes

cember and reported to the Comtrol-

Merkel's check of \$8,835.97 pushed

collected by monthly filers in De-

troller's Office.

ge up 12.9 percent.

ler's Office in January.

Trent basketball teams enter state playoffs

Both playoff bound 'Rilla basketball teams were in action Friday in preparation for the state playoffs. The boys took their 9-10 record to Jayton to play Patton Springs, the runner-up to #1 state ranked Paducah in their district, and were beaten 79-61. Trent stayed with Patton Springs for three quarters, trailing 50-44 at the end of the 3rd quarter, before Patton Springs pulled away in the final quarter to put the wraps on their 19th win against nine losses. James lewis led Patton Springs with 29 points while for Trent, the trio of sophomores Lee Hunt, Mike Payne and Chris Jones popped the

nets for 14, 14, and 10 points. Coach Ed Donahue told The Mail "We had three solid quarters but we had a big letdown in the 4th quarter. We didn't play good defense and our

shots wouldn't fall. " The boys next action will be Friday in Highland against the District 17A co-champs Westbrook and they will go up against the District 21 champion Robert Lee Steers and their 20-5 record Feb. 23rd in bi-

That game is tentatively scheduled for the Scurry County Colisuem at 7 p.m. in Snyder. "We'll have our hands full," said Donahue. "They are a real good team, they'll press from the start and they are very quick. They have got some good height, a couple of 6'4" or 6'5" guys that are real good leapers and get off the floor real well," continued Donahue.

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The Lady 'Rillas traveled to Highland Friday to take on the District 17-A champs, Ira and came out with a 53-39 victory.

Trent started slow and trailed 10-9 after one quarter but behind the solid play of Ginger Massey (who had 16) and Luci Masonheimer (who had 15 the Lady Rillas outscored Ira 37-17 in the 2nd and 3rd quarters to put the icing on the victory.

"This was definately not one of our better games, said girls coach first time in 11 years. (Staff photo)
Robbie Shugart. "We were looking ahead to Robert Lee. There is no way that Ira should have played us that close. I wasn't pleased but I told them to forget this one and prepare for Tuesday night," added Shugart.

Tuesday night, the Trent girls will travel to Sweetwater to take on unavailable). Robert Lee is the dis- student and a graduate of Merkel trict 21 champions and carried an 18-4 record into the game. If Trent wins, they will face the winner of the Bronte-San Saba game at a time and place to be determined.



Ted Seymore (33) and Lynn Hays (21) scrap for the rebound with a Wylie player. The Badgers will be in the state basketball playoffs this season for the

EMS offers local scholarships

vice will again be awarding two scholarships in memory of Donnie Cloyd. 2,000 words, may be typed or handthe Robert Lee Lady Steers (details are awarded to a Merkel High School cant and quotes from others must be

> Applicants apply for the scholarship by writing a request from four subjects including: education-purpose, community values, need for

The Merkel Emergency Medical Ser- health care and the reasons for life. The request can be no more than The scholarships are \$500 each and written, may not identify the appliattributed.

The written requests must be received by May 1st in the office of the MISD superintendent.

More information is available by contacting the school or the Merkel Emergency Medical Service.

Kenneth Jowers (15) puts up a jumper in last week's

win over Wylie. (Staff photo)

Type, basketball, hockey . . . more

by Cloy A. Richards

First off, you are probably wondering just what the heck is going on. For some reason, the paper looks a lot different, it's a little hard-

Well, we had a machine break down at the end of last week's edition and so far, the machine is not back in business again. Believe me, we will have this situation taken care of as soon as possible.

In the mean time, we will do the best we can with what we have to work with.

The Markel Badgers boys basketball just keeps rolling along. They beat Wylie for the third time this season, ally heating up and should get hotmuch to the delight of a very large

crowd at Badger Stadium. The boys have a chance to wrap up

the district championship Friday

night in Ballinger.

A Merkel win will send the Badgers into the state playoffs against the number two team from the neighboring 3A district. A Badger loss will force a one game playoff, next Tuesday night, probably in Abilene to decide which team goes into the playoffs as

district champs It has been 11 years since the Badgers have gone to the basketball playoffs and it has been five years since Wylie has been out of the play-

Folks around here couldn't be happer with those two facts.

The Jones-Dickson campaign is reater as we draw near the the March

You should start hearing more about the presidential hopefuls as soon as the early season primaries are completed.

spring.

Melanie and I have been glued to the VCR watching the Winter Olympic games. We were really unhappy with the outcome of Monday's hockey match but the U. S. team , still looks good.

The Merkel Band Boosters have a couple of upcoming events. The Boosters are raising money to send the high school band to a concert contest in Nashville this

A volleyball tournament is on tap Saturday at the high school gym with games starting at 8:30 a.m. Next Saturday, a cow chip contest will be held at Badger Stadium and for a \$1 donation, someone stands a chance to win \$500 if the moods hits the cow in your lucky spot.



First place winners in the TISD First place winners in the TISD
Soil Conservation Essay contest were my Spraggins and Britt Sipe.
TISD photo (from left) Scott O'Kelly, Lewis

Knapp, Jon Evans, Travis Walker, Tam

the state's recession has finally ended. This increase in consumer Merkel's sales tax rebates were up their yearly total to \$11,824.03 com- spending is a statewide vote of conpared to \$10,473.43 for the same per-fidence in our economy. Te widened tax base, authorized Trent's check of \$814,67 represents by the Texas Legislature last year,

also contributed to the increase. Texas cities collected \$129.4 million in local sales tax rebates.

Girls basketball season is over

the yearly total to \$12,084.05, com- "The growth in December's holiday

pared to \$11,229.24 through the first sales is yet another indication that

The Merkel girls varsity basketball eam finished their season here last Sonora.

The girls ended district play with 6-6 record and third in both halfs of district play. Krista Toombs led the way with 9

points as Carolyn Lally had 8, Mi-chelle Dudley, 7 and Teresa Lucas and Amber Whisenhunt each had 6.

Next season, the girls will face two new teams in the district as Breckenridge and Comanche will come in replacing Sonora, Colorado City and Coahoma.

The girls are losing three seniors including Krista Toombs, Carolyn Lally and Clara Herrera.

Girls coach Jan Whisenhunt told The Mail Tuesday "Coach Hampton did a good job with the JV team this season. They won their last three games and they began to work as a team.

About her freshman squad, Whisenhunt said "We took Brandy Fenton and Betsy Hellums to the Varsity and the freshmen girls really responded to the change. They regrouped and new leaders emerged. They got better and better as the season went on and they really showed a lot of fight and drive on the court."

Trent NHS induction

Trent High School's annual induction ceremonies for the Trent Chapter of the National Honor Society were held Feb. 11th in the school

To be eligible for membership consideration, students must be a sophomore, junior or senior and have a cumulative grade average of 85 percent.

Additionally, potential members must meet standards in leadership, service and character. Candidates are screened by a fac-

ulty council consisting of high school teachers.

Selected this year were-Lewis Knapp, Jon Evans, Denise Gibson, Renee Gibson, Chris Jones and Keith Oden. Officers of the National Honor Society this year are Brian Massey- president, Luci Masonheimervice president, Glenna Clark- secretary and Mrs. Vicki Lewis- advi-

Volleyball tournament

The Merkel Band Boosters are sponsoring a volleyball tournament Sat-urday in the high school gym. The first game will begin at 8 a.m. and the public is invited to attend.

There will be a small admission charge and a concession stand will be provided.

If you would like to play on a team or enter a team, you still have time and can call 846-4044.

Next Saturday, beginning at 1 p.m. the Boosters will sponsor a cow drop along with a short concert by the band. There are still some tickets left and they are \$1 each and you

have a chance of winning \$500. All the profit from the two events will be used to pay for two charter busses to carry the Badger Band to Nashville for a spring concert con-

Merkel High's honor students

Honor students for the third six Galatta

Cara Kelso, Sean Leamon David Miller, Christi Moore

Toombs. Cassie Townsend. Bridgett Vaughn, Daniel West, Twyla Wilburn, Jerry Workman, Steve

Beasley, Dayna Bentley, Walter da. Son Mi Chon, Lisa Donaldson

White, Twyla Wilburn, Judy Wil-



Month for January are Troy Gary & Ann Smith. Her favorite Horton, Jr., Alvis N. Nagy, Gloria the Ollie Skidmore family & the rington, Betty Jane Tittle in § Troy is the son of Teddy & Jane playing the piano. She would like Harold Teaff, Mrs. John Mans- Mae Stotts Estate, Troy & Jo and Mrs. Howard L. Stanley in Roberts and his favorite subjects to become a good piano and french field in memory of Harold Teaff. Vassar, Gene & Jeamie Cochran, memory of Amy Wilson are science and band. He enjoys horn player and she would also. Also, John & Peggy Collie in M H & Marie Ely. Hundra Ely in

§ Elizabeth is the daughter of subject is band and she enjoys West, Laverne Teaff in memory of W. J. Thornton family; George memory of Lottie Butman Everett



Month at Merkel Middle School & Loris is the daughter of Ricky & are Russ Holloway and Lori Martha Snowden. Her favorite

The 7th grade students of the wants to be a pro football player Alvarez, Laura § Russ is the son of Rusty & playing basketball and riding Baker, Dustie Baldree, Michele Sharla Holloway, His favorite horses. She would like to work in

Recent cemetery donors named

memory of Hub Goolsby, Mr. & memory of R. G. Bond, Charles & The following are recent dona- Mrs R. W. Sledge, Mr. & Mrs. W. Louise Beaird in memory of tions to the Merkel Cemetery H Richards in memory of Mr. & Harold Teaff & Mrs. Nancy Teaff. Mrs. E. C. Richards, Famojean Also, Mr. & Mrs. C. E. Farmer, Billie Hartley in memory of Bruno in memory of Jim & Fannie Mrs. Jack Chenault, Mary & J. H. Effic Tittle, Henry Boyett & Mrs. Williams, Betty L. Eason in Wimberly in memory of L. M. Ollie West; Allene Richardson, memory of Lee & Martha Eason & Ewing, Mr. & Mrs. Ray Orsborn Benny & Leroy Eason, Lois Beasley, Rob- in memory of Lottie Everett, Nina in memory of ert & Beverly Reed in memory of Orsborn in memory of Lottie Paul West in Mary J. Reed, John & Peggy Everett, Weldon & Sylvia Beasley of Effie Tittle; Mr. & Collie in memory of Margaret & in memory of Mrs. V. E. Eller, Mrs. Berneil Teaff in memory of Johnnie Collie. Don & Meddie Dana & Harlin Thomas in mem-

memory of Mrs. C. R. Tittle, J. Brown in memory of Lottie of her parents Mr. & Hutcheson, Mr. & Mrs. Howard memory of Lottie Everett, Lona Mrs. F. E. Church; Ethel & Sliger in memory of Mr. & Mrs. B. Ferrier in honor of the Ferrier Wayne Mitchell in honor of Hollis Austin Robertson, G. W. Fay & & Bryan families, The First Jimmie & Dorothy Rus- Lou Ella Hughes in memory of Baptist Church- Dorcas Sunday sell in memory of Mable Dunn, Mrs. C. R. Tittle, Ernest Newsom, School Class Jimmie & Dorothy Russell in Also, Vera V. & Ideen Ely, W. Also, Nina Orsborn in memory memory of Effie Tittle, Marjorie S. J. Brown in memory of Mrs. C. of Johnnie Bell Derington, Pauline N. & Norman Stanley King in R. Tittle, Vernie Vick & Family in Butman in memory of Mrs. C. E. nemory of the King family, John memory of Hughie Vick, Mr. & Derington, Margaret McAninch in & Roberts Williams, J. Pierce Mrs. H. M. Thornton in memory of memory of Johnnie Bell Der-

Harold & Deverl Teaff, George, Rollins in memory of Mr. & Mrs. ory of Mrs. V. E. Eller, Mrs. & Mrs. C. C. Benson in memory of Mrs. George T. Moore in memory of Mrs. V. E. Eller, W. S.



Our Senator, **Grant Jones**, has a well-earned reputation as a leader in the fight against drugs and violent crime. He supported wiretapping drug dealers, tough sentencing of violent criminals, increases in peace officers and construction of new prisons.

Grant Jones is already hard at work in leading a renewed effort to crack down on crime. Key parts of this aggressive program are:

- No more early releases for violent, repeat offenders. Such criminals will stay in prison until they've done their time.
- Creating "Boot Camps" for non-violent offenders in major metro areas and administered by judges.
- Mandatory sentencing for drug pushers selling to children
- Emphasize drug and alcohol education programs in public
- Beef up law enforcement and speedier trials.

Grant Jones' position is clear . . . "If a person commits a violent crime or pushes drugs to children in Texas, we want him to know he will be caught, he will be sentenced to prison, and he will serve the sentence he received





3 area students honored by ASU

Three Merkel area students attend- honor roll include George Powell, a ing Angelo State University in San health and physical education major Angelo are listed on the Dean's Hon- Beth Ferguson, a psychology major, or Roll for the fall semester at the University.

Those listed on the 3.0 to 3.49

both of Merkel and Kimberly Ann Wallis, an accounting major from Trent.

Xi Nu Chi names Duncan sweetheart

The Xi Nu Chi Chapter of Beta Sig- followed the business meeting. A ma Phi met in the fellowship hall at spuds dinner with all the trimmings the Methodist Church Jan. 26th.

Nancy Johnson announced the 1988 Valentine Sweetheart, Nancy Duncan. She will be honored at the February meeting.

Mary Hill read the guidelines for the club's endowment fund which is being started this year.

Our Treat The Other Chapter Party Donna Bryan and Judy Elliott.

and an evening of playing Crazy Bridge was enjoyed.

Guests for the party were Virginia Pirraglia, Blanche Hewitt, Opal Garner, Connie Ybarra and Mamie Steck. Members attending were Mary Hill, Minyon Seymore, Nancy Duncan, Anita Allen, Nancy Johnson, Sandra Wurst,

Lion pancake supper is tonight

The annual Pancake Supper spon- for 11 sets of glasses for local sored by the Merkel Lions Club will school children and their eye exambe held Thursday from 5:30 until 8:30 at Heritage Hall.

The all you can eat meal's proce- Lions and can also be purchased at eds will help fund the eyeglass pro- the door. Tickets are \$3 for adults gram for local students. So far this and \$1.50 for children under the age year, the local Lions Club has paid of 12.

inations.

Tickets are available from local

Services held for Merkelite's mother

Elizabeth Myers, 80, of Abilene, 1978 and later returned to Abilene. died Saturday at an Abilene nursing

Graveside services were held Monday at 3 p.m. at the Parklawn Mem- rell Myers of De Kalb, Ill., and Rev. Ted Latham officiating, direct-thers, E. O. Moore of Azle, R. H.

Born in Jackson County, Okla. she children; and six great grandchildlived in Plainview and moved to Abi- ren. lene in 1969. She moved to Merkel in

She worked for the Plainview Cotton Oil Mill and was a Baptist.

She is survived by two sons, Darorial Gardens in Plainview with the Marvin Myers of Merkel; three broed by Lemons Funeral Home of Plain- Moore of Farmington, N. M. and Shirley Moore of Truscott; six grand-

Horton's services held here Feb. 11th

ry Street in Merkel, died at the Shady Oaks Nursing Home in Abilene

Funeral services were held at the Starbuck Chapel Feb 11th with Dr. Bob Christian officiating. Burial followed at Rose Hill Cemetery here under the direction of the Starbuck Funeral Home.

William Audrey Horton of 107 Cher- Born August 18, 1907 in Fannin County, he was the son of the late J. H. and Ettie B. (Wheeler) Wit cher. He was a Veteran of World War II and worked as a clerk in the Taylor County Tax Office in the 1940s and 1950s. He was a Presbyterian. He is survived by two nephews, J. D. Witcher of Abilene and Earl Wit-

cher of Houston.

ACU honors 4 Merkel students

Four students from the Merkel area are among 681 Abilene Christian University Students listed on the Dean's higher List for the 1987 fall semester.

They are Michelle Lea and Timothy Michael Brandon, daughter and son of Mr. & M.rs bob Brandon; John Robert Wilson, Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. John Wilson; and Christopher James Evans, son of Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Evans.

student must be enrolled for a grade in at least 12 semester hours and earn a 3.45 grade point average or

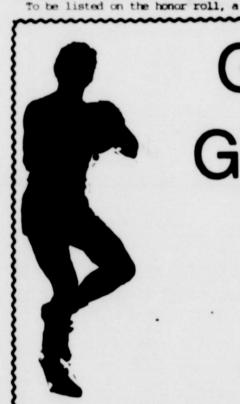
To keep the drain from clogging with hair when bathing your dog, stuff it with a nylon scouring net.



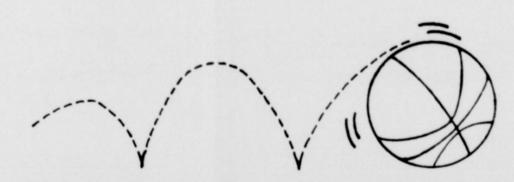
These Merkel Middle students won awards at the Big Country Writing Contests held in Abilene. They are (from left) Mary Walker- 1st place essay, Delayne Pack- 1st place essay, Susan Holden-1st place research and Mark Wrighthonorable mention essay. (Staff photo)



Ashlea Sipe (left) and Mindy Ray take a break at last month's Taylor County Stock Show. (staff photo)



GOOD LUCK TO THE BADGERS & GORILLAS IN THE STATE PLAYOFFS



THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT AREA BASKETBALL

ANDY DON HART, CPA **BEN FRANKLIN STORE CARSONS SUPERMARKET** FARMERS COOP GIN MERKEL FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK MERKEL DRUG CO. P & L AUTO PARTS SEYMORE INSURANCE SHANNONSIDE APARTMENTS STARBUCK FURNITURE TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOP

WYLIE TRUCK STOP





Mr. Elliott's 8th grade Earth Science Classes at Merkel Middle School just completed their study of weather and climate. Each student in his 9th grade class

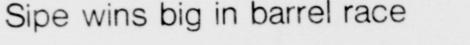
made some type of weather instrument as a lab project. The winners are [from left] Scott Cannon 5th, Kriste A. Smith 4th, Hope Ward 3rd, Jan Taylor 2nd



month are Scott Walker and Lisa to become a baseball player.

He enjoys sports, especially foot- become an astronaut.

The 8th grade students of the ball and basketball and he wants § Lisa is the daughter of David & § Scott is the son of Robert & Brenda Fenton and her favorite Fave Walker and his favorite subject is English. She enjoys subjects are athletics and math, sports and she would like to



big winner in the San Antonio Bar- rel racing world. rel Racing Futurity held Feb. 6th & 7th in San Antonio bringing home \$4,100 and a saddle for her first

The futurity, which was for horses four years old that have never won money, was the first for Cindy and salad, apricot halves. her horse. She and har horse, Sheila Feb. 19: Hamburgers with all the Bar-Jet bested the field of 57 contestants placing 4th in the first Cindy and her horse, who was trained by Ralph Russell of Merkel, ished in the money on all three

get ready for the Abilene Puturity Guthrie Okla. April 14-16, and Ft. Smith's \$75,000 Puturity May 26-28.

Trent resident Cindy Sipe was a force to be reckoned with in the bar-

MISD menu

Feb. 18: beef stew, combination

trimmings, tater tots, fresh orange

Feb. 22: salisbury steak with

Feb. 25: tacos with sauce, pinto

Feb. 26: hamburgers, fries and all





Ricky Riley (left) and neil Newman were the local winners in the Soil & Water Conservation District Essay contest. Their essays will be judged in a district competition. (Staff photo)



Susan Holden (left) and Angie Nault were the winners locally of the Soil & Water Conservation District essay contest in the 7th grade. Susan placed first and Angie was second. (Staff photo)

Church Services Schedule

"Comfort and a peaceful heart are the rewards of those who rely on His help.

First United Methodist Church S. 3rd and Locust Pastor - John Wagoner

Sunday - Early Worship 8:30 A.M. Church School 9:45 A.M. 10:50 A.M. Morning Worship Evening Worship 6:00 P.M. Very Important Kids 1st thru 5th Grade Jr. High United Meth. Youth 5:30 P.M. Sr. High United Meth. Youth 6:15 P.M.

Wednesday - Childrens Choir Pre-School thru 2nd Grade 5:30 P.M. Childrens Choir 3rd thru 5th Grade

Saturday, February 20th, 7:00P.M. til 11:00 P.M. Dance for all Junior High (No Charge)

RIVIVAL, Feb. 21st thru 24th, Begins at 7:00 P.M. Monday, 22, 23, and 24th Morning Devotional at 7:00 A.M. Womens Bible Study - 2:30 P.M. Evening Service - 7:00 P.,. Rev. Larry Howard

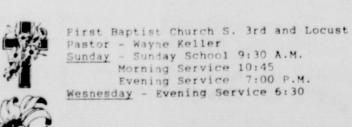
Calvary Baptist - David Strange, Pastor 506 Runnels 928-5120

Sunday - Sunday School - 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship - 11:00 A.M. Childrens Church 11:00 A.M. Childrens Choir Practice 5:00 P.M. Financial Seminar 6:00 P.M. Evening Services Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 P.M.

Mission Conference Feb. 24th thru 28th 7:00 P.M. nightly [Missionaries coming from Brazil and the Artic region]

International Banquet
Saturday February 27th - 6:00 P.M.

A CHURCH FOR YOUR FAMILY



Grace Presbyterian Church Pastor - Robert Christian South 2nd and Ash

Sunday Sunday School - 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship - 11:00 A.M.

Merkel Church of Christ South 7th and Ash 928-5024 Minister - Bob Brandon

> Sunday - Bible Class 9:45 A.M. Morning Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening Worship 6:00 P.M. Wednesday - Evening Bible Class 7:30 P.M.

First Assembly of God Church 2nd and Runnels
Pastor - Richard Sessions 928-5154 Sunday - Early Worship 9:45 A.M.

Morning Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday - Family Night 7:00 P.M.

Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church 1300 Locust Father Frank Zimmermann & Father Lee Zimmermann

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Saturday - Mass 5:30 P.M.

Sunday - Grade School Religion Class 9:30 A.M. Confessions 10:15 A.M. till 10:55 A.M. (upon request anytime) Mass 11:00 A.M.

Wednesday - High School Religion Class 7:00 P.M. Mass (followed by Stations) 7:00 P.M.

Friday - Mass (followed by Stations) 7:00 P.M.

This Worship Schedule Sponsored by: STARBUCK FURNITURE POLLY'S RESTAURANT WYLIE TRUCK TERMINAL FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

DUBOSE TEXACO Call 928-5712 if you would like to be a



Fortnightly group holds meeting

The GFWC Fortnightly Study Club met trict could be eligible for some of our society by creating a personal Feb. 9th in the home of Ruby Hammond, them. President Alice King presided for the business meeting and heard reports of officers and committees. Members will bring items for donation Mary Collins gave "On Your Guard-to M. D. Anderson Hospital in Houston against obscene phone calls, con and the West Texas Rehabilitation Center in Abilene to their next club Maurine White discussed ways to

ing planned for April 2nd. Federation Counselor Edna Hill reported that there are several Texas Pont Company and the General Feder- more, Anna Belle Shouse, Clara Bee Federation of Women's Club scholarships available to be awarded, and that students from our Mesquite Dis-

duced the program, "No, Not Me", tips some of these safety tips and crime for personal safety.

cages and auto thefts.

and sexual abuse of children. Aileen Knight told us that the Du ette Pursley, Becky Rogers, Ida Sey-

safety program and an accompanying Vice-President Ruby Hammond intro- handbook, "No, Not Me!" She gave prevention strategies.

Members present were Pam Carson, Mary Collins, Bess Dixon, Anna Lou Ferguson, Mildred Hamm, Ruby Hammond, Lucy Haynes, Edna Hill, Madelon Hormeeting Feb. 23rd. A bake sale is be- guard against murder, robbery, rape, ton, Alice King, Aileen Knight, Evelyn Martin, Leota Patterson, Jeanation of Women's Clubs have responded Walla, Maurine White, Lucile Wilson to the problem of violent crime in and Becky Pyburn.

Compere group learns about stress

The members of the Compere Home Delores Adair led a multiple

choice quiz "Words From The Wild." Roll call was answered with a fav- healthier, happy life. orite stress reliever by 8 members and a guest. Secretary Annie Taylor home of Amie Price, Feb. 25th. The read minutes of the previous meeting program will be on Lite Cooking and and gave a treasurer's report.

Delores Adair gave the program on a Lite dish and the recipe. ways to control stress. She taught us an exercise to help control

Demonstration Club met Feb. 11th at Members were advised to love them- Ginger Hoog. Secret pal gifts were 2 p.m. in the home of Bertha Hunter, selves amough to give their bodies exchanged. the food, exercise, careand neces-

> Their next meeting will be at the Taylor, Amie Price and guest Connie each member is being asked to bring

The E. H. Council met yesterday.

flower arrangement, was received by

Refreshments were served with a sary things that enable us to live a Valentine theme to Dolores Adair, Ginger Hoog, Frances Carter, Annie

> Griffin by hostess Bertha Hunter. The Jones County Spring Fest will be at the Women's Building in Anson Feb. 23rd. A bar-b-q supper, cake auction and entertainment will be provided. Ticjets are available from extension club members.

Trent spring sports look strong

led by three-time regional qualifier will be in the top three doubles Luci Masonheimer, has started prepa- teams in our district and Chris rations for their first matches a-

Coach Robbie Shugart has lined up three tournaments this year starting with the Trent Invitational March 76 Payne returns to chase the little 8th, Other tournaments include Rotan March 28th & 29th and Colorado City April 8th & 9th. Practice matches will be played against Rotan March 4th, ACHS March 1st & 17th, and Merkel April 5th. The district meet will be held April 11th and 12th in Sweewtater at the Sweetwater middle school courts and the regional meet will be held April 25th through 28th ball playoffs so I have not really at McMurry College in Abilene.

Team members are as follows: girls are looking forward to it." singles Luci Masonheimer- seniorthree time regional qualifier who finished third her freshman and sophomore years and 4th last year; Denise Gibson, Ginger Massey and Twila Williams.

In girls doubles, Tarmy Collier and B. J. Poindexter are two-time regional qualifiers; and Rene Gibson and Julie Clay.

In boys singles, Jamie Masonheimer and Chris Jones. In boys doubles, the girls team. Lee Hunt and Dock Carriker, along with Joe Tarin and Mike Payne.

Luci and Jamie should both be resaid Coach Shugart. "Luci will probably be seeded in the top three in the region and Jamie will probab-

The Trent High School tennis team ly be in the top five. Tammy & B. J. has been throwing 47 feet in prac-Jones could finish in the top three gainst Abilene Christian High school in boys singles. Ginger Massey could relay team but our field events are finish behind Luci in our district

if she works hard.' In golf, district medalist Mike ball. Payne was a regional qualifier last year and hopes to go even further this year. Other team members are Chris Jones and Lee Hunt. Tournaments are not finalized yet due to the basketball playoffs but Coach Ed Donahue is raring to go. "We ought to do real well," said Donahue. "I am involved in the basketbeen able to get going yet but we

Trent's track and field team is facing the same problems as the golf tournament in Abilene team. Due to the basketball playoffs, most of the two track teams are still on the courts but they do have some hopes for Austin.

Lewis Kanpp in the pole vault and Scott O'Kelly in the shot put and discus are the boys best hopes while Tanny Collier hopes to reach the state meet in the shot and discus for and over 180 entries attended to ad-

Trent's first meet will be March 5th in Anson but coaches are having trouble finding meets. If you know gional qualifiers as district champs of any meets, contact either Coach Gore or Donahue at Trent High School. Coach Gore told The Mail "We don't know much about either team. Scott

tice and if he can add five more feet he will go to Austin. We are going to try and put together a mile going to be our strength on both teams. Both Scott & Tammy could get to Austin if things go well."

Trent is traditionally strong in the spring sports and this year looks no different. The tennis, track and golf teams all have the potential to join the football & basketball teams in state compe-

by W. E. Dulaney Masonheimer plays

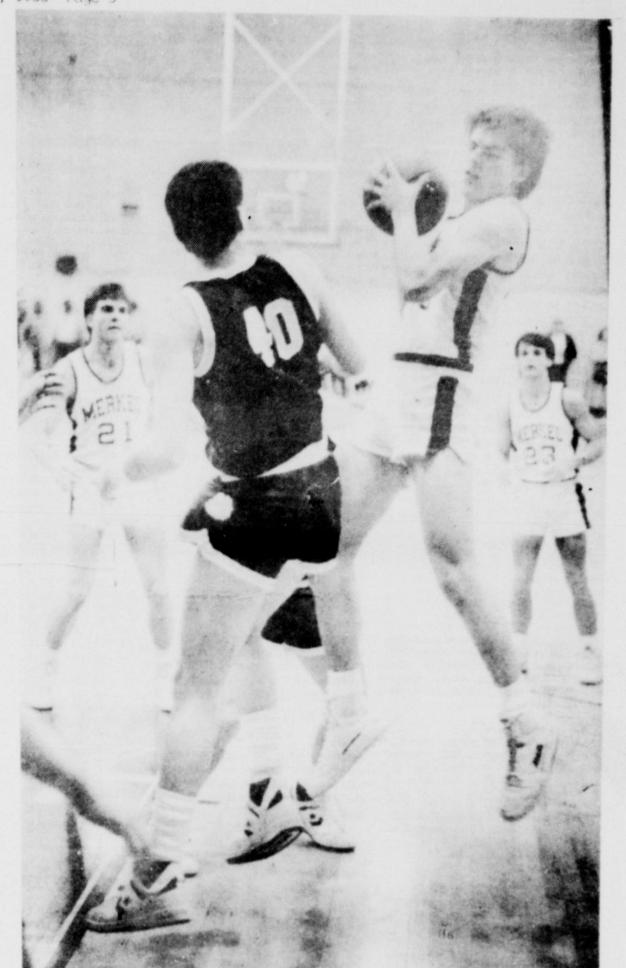
well in UTSA

Trent resident Jamie Masonheimer played in the Abilene Zone 79ZAT tennis tournament held at Rose Park Tennis Courts Feb. 13 & 14.

The tournament is a major event of The United States Tennis Association vance their state rankings.

Masonheimer advanced to the boys 16 singles consolation semi-final before losing to Jerry Hill of Stamford 4-6, 4-6.

Jamies is a Trent Freshman and is the son of Mr. & Mrs James Masonheimer of Trent.



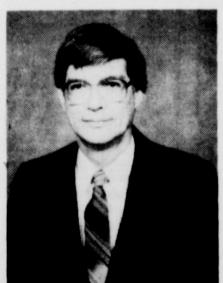
Shayne Newberry wrestles a reboundaway from a Wylie Bulldog in last Friday's 41-39 win over Wylie. Looking

REVIVAL

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7-1tp-

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& Leo's 1-20 Merkel 928-5672. 5-TFC

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6-21p

Call 862-6309 or 862-6296.

6-21c

Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon meetings are Tuesday & Thursday at the New Testament Church in Merkel on S. 5th & Block From Fig. 512-895-2259.

Overeaters Anonymous meetings are held at the New Testament Church on S. 5th & Trundy each Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Pug & Leo's Open Everyday 8 928-5635. a.m. until Noon I-20 Merkel 928-5672

For your insurance needs. Locally school \$350 per month & \$300 represented by Donna Carter, deposit. Call 846-4715 or 846-4696. please call 928-5348.

TFC

928-5694 1-TFC

ladies apparel, childrens (\$20-\$40 4898 after 5 p.m. value) or show store. Regular stores choose from jean/ sports- 1, 2 & 3 bedroom mobile homes. wear, ladies, men's, large sizes, Rents start at \$185 & \$200 is the petite, dancewear/ aerobic, bri- highest rent. Mobile home lots for dal, lingerie or accessories store, rent near school \$50 per month. Brands: Liz Claiborne, Healthtex, West end of S 7th. Call 928-4973. Camp Beverly Hills, St. Michele, Forenza, Bugle Boy, Levi, Organically Grown, Lucia, over 2,000 multi-tier pricing discount or bedroom apartments, all electric, family show store. Retail prices central heat & cooling. For more unbefivable for top quality shows information, call 928-5038. normally priced from \$19 to \$60. Over 250 brands 2,600 styles. \$17,900 to \$29,900: Inventory,

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Call Mr. Morphis (305) 366 8606.

Granny's Playhouse Day Care Center-Open 6 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Hot lunch & snacks provided. For more information, call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange. TFC

Sticks N Stones Day Care: Center 201 Oak, open Monday Friday 6:30 a.m - 5:30 p.m. Call 928-4381

Handy Man: Try me, I may be able

REAL ESTATE

for Easter Several breeds, all bedroom mobile home, 2 baths,

the time. Pug & Leo's 1-20 having credit problems? 2 bed- Antiques, dishes, books, scraps, room, 1 bath, newly remodeled, glass, lots of misc, Old Sadler Clinew carpet & paint. Call me now nic. Friday & Saturday 9 until ?. Ken Hogan at Century 21 Abilene Big Country 692-8311, 928-4826, 675-9138.

4-TFC

New listing: Large 3 bedroom, 2 - We would like to thank all of our bath, brick with central heat & friends and neighbors who were so wells, fireplace and pecan trees. Witcher, For all of the wonderful This property also contains 70 things that were done for hime, we Ken Hogan at Century 21 Abilene A special thanks to Dr. Bob Chris-Big Country 692-8311 675-9138 tian for a beautiful service and to interest acrued due through June
928.4826 1st 1987 \$333.93 which is contin-

4-TFC This home of 3.23 acres is looking for a new owner. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, modern throughout, built in 1987, it has a wooden deck, central heat, horse barn with chain link fence. Call Ken CITATION BY PUBLICATION Hogan at Century 21 Abilene Big CIVIL Country 692-8311 675-9138 928-4826. 4-TFC

Home for sale in Humphrey's TEXAS Defendant, Greeting: Village. Reduced, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, corner lot, water well, must appear by filing a written answer Altest sell, Call 928-4487 4-TFC

TEC

range & oven, dishwasher, water LIE FLORES, FORMERLY well, Cyrus Pee. Realtor 928-561 KNOWN AS ELLIE GARZA De- W. Elliott III vs. Judy Johnson,

For Sale: 2 story large living cause are as follows: room, dining room, kitchen, mas- THE FIRST STATE BANK, tain Real Estate, situated in Taylor Needed: mature lady to care for ter bedroom & bath downstairs, ABILENE, TEXAS are Plaintiff's County, Texas, described as follows, elderly woman in home. Live-in or large upstairs, , 3 bedrooms, bath, and ELLIE FLORES, FORnight desired. Salary negotiable. lots of storage room on corner lot. priced to sell Cyrus Pee. Realtor

For sale: 3 bedroom, 1 bath on 2 lots, well insulated, vinyl siding, 1 block from High school call 698-TFC

FOR RENT

For Rent: 3 bedroom mobile home, good location, \$175 per month call

7-2tp-

For rent. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, den, central heat & air Germania Insurance Company. carpet, fenced back yard, close to

For sale or rent: Large 2 vvanted: Lady to live in to take bedroom house, near schools and care of my mother for room and churches, \$325 per month, 1st month's rent and \$500 damage board and small salary. Call deposit required before moving in. Owner will sell with small down payment and carry note for Own your own \$14.99 one price qualifying individual. Call 817-835-

52-TFC

TFC Equal Housing Opportunity: others. Or \$13.99 one price or Shannonside Apartments 1,283

TFC

For rent: 5 year old apartments, training, fixtures, grand opening, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 3 ceiling fans, airfare, etc. Can open 15 days. sprawling living room, fully loaded kitchen, rent \$195- \$225, last month's rent free. Call Sheley at 928-3472

THE MERKEL MAIL February 18, 1988- Page 6

Classifieds

GARAGE SALES

Garage Sale: Saturday 8-4 812 Oak. misc.

Moving Sale: Feb. 19 & 20 812 Brickhaven. Everything goes.

Garage Sale: Thursday, Friday & Saturday 8-6 Full size dust ruffle Take up payments on a 14 X 76 3 and pillow shams, household items, toddler summer clothes, crib sheets, GEMENT MAY BE TAKEN stroller, shoes, books, toys, 7 miles AGAINST YOU. A COPY OF THE

Having trouble qualifying or Garage Sale: Different things added.

CARDS OF THANKS

air, well kept throughout, 2 water kind to us at the passing of Audrey defendant in making installment acres with 2 irrigation wells and time of need, many people performed

The Family of W. A. Wicther.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CAUSE NO 16.661 THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: ELLIE FLORES, FOR MERLY KNOWN AS ELLIE GARZA 4425 FLEETWOOD LANE .. APT. # 7. CORPUS CHRISTI.

to the Plaintiff's Petition at or JANICE LYONS, CLERK before ten o'clock A.M. of the first TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS Monday after the expiration of For sale: 2 nice large lots on S forty-two days from the date of 1 Since in Merkel Owner will the issuance of this citation, same inco with small down payment being Monday the 22nd day of NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE FEBRUARY 1988, at or before ten THE STATE OF TEXAS o'clock A.M. before the Honorable County of Taylor off a lot at 202 Locust, of said County, in Abilene, Texas

Con ac : Mildred Starbuck 928-4712 Said Plaintiff's Petition was the 14th day of January, 1988 by filed in said Court, on the 22nd day Writ of Execution, of said 350th Orders to go. Let us do your bedroom, 2 bath, living room, cause, numbered 16.661 on the as, for the sum of Eight Thousand cooking on Saturday for you. Pug dining room, kitchen, utility room, docket of said Court, and styled One Hundred Eight Dollars & 04/100 steel siding, storm windows, THE FIRST STATE BANK, ABI-

fendant

BY APPOINTMENT

MERLY KNOWN AS ELLIE GARZA are Defendants.

Good clothes Boys 10-12 and teenage MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. South 76 deg. 50' West 34 feet; IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EX-PIRATION OF FORTY-TWO

DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION A DEFAULT JUD-506 Rose or call 928-3855 after 5 NE of Merkel on FM 126 at black sat- PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PE-TITION ACCOMPANIES THIS CITATION

Attorney for Plaintiff is JOE E.

COPE

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: An installment note and security

agreement in the original principal sum of \$6,563.44 payable to the First State Bank, Abilene, Texas on or about April 3, 1985 (note executed). Upon default of payments are required by the note. First State accelerated the note persuant to the terms. The principal remaining due and owing on the note was \$2,212.85 as of June 1st, 1987. In addition to the 1st. 1987 \$333.93 which is continueing to accrue at the rate of \$1.09 per diem until the date of Judgement.

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

The officer executing this process shall promplty 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 You are hereby commanded to 7TH day of JANUARY A.D. 1988.

By GLENDA SNYDER, Deputy

County Court at Law of Taylor NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by vir-For Sale: 3 bedroom house to be County, Texas, at the Court House tue of a certain Writ of Execution issued out of the Honorable 350th District Court of Taylor County, of House for sale in Trent: 3 of OCTOBER, A. D. 1987, in this District Court of Taylor County, Tex-Dollars and costs of suit, under a Judgement, in favor of Harry W. Elcarpet, central air & heat, built-in LENE, TEXAS Plaintiff vs. EL- liott III in a certain cause in said Court, No/ 1836-D and styled Harry placed in my hands for service, I The names of the parties to the lor County, Texas, did on the 3rd John W. Middleton as Sheriff of Tayday of Feburary, 1988, levy on cer-

to-wit: ALL UNDIVIDED INTEREST OF

FM 126 NORTH

JUDY JOHNSON: The surface only including any and all improvements to that 10 acres of land out of and part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 36, Block 19, T & P Railroad Company Survey, Taylor County, Texas, and de-

scribed as follows: BEGINNING at a point 1250.6 feet South 13 deg. 00' East of the Northeast corner of said Section 36, said point being a 40 d nail in the center of a paved public road, for the Northeast corner of this tract, from which a 3/8" iron rod set in a fence on the West side of the road brs.

THENCE South 13 deg. 11' East along the highest bidder, as the property the center of said road 1378 feet to a 40 d nail set on the intersection of the centerline of a public road running West and being the Southeast corner of this tract, from which a corner post brs. South 76 deg. 50' West 34 feet and North 13 deg. 00' West 20 feet;

THENCE South 76 deg. 50' West 316.1 feet along the center of said road to a point in same, for the Southwest

corner of this tract; THENCE North 13 deg. 00' West at 20 feet pass a 3/8" iron rod set in a fence on the North side of said Road; continue in all 1,378 feet to a 3/8" iron rod set for the Northwest corner by Eddie Swanson, Sr. Deputy of this tract;

THENCE North 76 deg. 50' East at 282.1 feet pass a 3/8" iron rod on

the West side of said paved road, continue in all 316.1 feet to the point of beginning and containing 10

acres of land with 1.205 acres being in public roadway. and levied upon as the property of Judy Johnson, and that on the first Tuesday in April, 1988, the same being the 5th day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the city of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., by virtue of said levy and said Writ of Execution, I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to

of said Judy Johnson. This sale will be for cash or a Cashier's Check from a Taylor County Bank Only.

SALE WILL BE HELD AT 10:15 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 preceeding said day of sale, in The Merkel Mail, a newspaper published

in Taylor County. Witness my hand, this the 9th day of February, 1988.

John W. Middleton Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas

SAND = TOP SOIL = CALICHE SEPTICS = DRIVES



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Bryan Robertson

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928-4711

Farm crisis far from over, despite claims to the contrary

Commodity	January 1981	December 1985	December 1987	1987 Cost of Production
Wheat	\$4.21 bu.	\$3.16 bu.	\$2.71 bu.	\$4.82 bu.
Corn	\$3.19 bu.	\$2.31 bu.	\$1.72 bu.	\$3.50 bu.
Rice	13.2e lb.	7.8¢ lb.	6.5¢ lb.	13.5e lb.
Cotton	77¢ lb.	54e lb.	64¢ lb.	91c lb.
Soybeans	\$7.34 bu.	\$7.82 bu.	\$5.57 bu.	\$8.54 bu.
Grain Sorghum	\$3.09 bu.	\$2.03 bu.	\$1.56 bu.	\$3.34 bu.

This additional cut will be particularly hard on winter wheat farmers who have already obtained their loans, purchased their seed and chemicals, cultivated their fields and planted their crops, expecting a Farm Bill target price of \$4.29 per bushel. Now those target prices have been cut to \$4.23 per bushel.

The 1.4 percent cut will reduce net cash income on typical Texas farms by the following amounts in 1988:

Location	Amount of Cut	Net Cash Income Reduction
	Amount of Cut	income Reduction
Northern High Plains Wheat Grain Sorghum Farm	\$5,914	63 percent
Southern High Plains Cotton Farm	\$9,462	129 percent
Rolling Plains Grain Cotton Farm	\$7,050	37 percent
Coastal Bend Grain Cotton Farm	\$10,992	19 percent

(WICHITA, Kan.) -- "The good news for American farmers in 1988 is that the farm crisis has officially been declared 'over' by the Reagan Administration, "Texas Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower said today. "The bad news is that their good

Hightower, who is serving his second four-year term as the elected Texas commissioner of agriculture. made the comments in an address to the ninth annual convention of the American Agriculture Movement.

"The Administration bases its rosey assessment of agriculture's prospects on the fact that net farm income rose in 1987 for the first time in years and that the volume of our farm exports increased: That would be happy news, indeed, except that the small increase in farm income last year came out of the taxpayer's pocket rather than from a healthy increase in commodity prices, and while export volume went up, the dollar value of those exports went down. This Administration is proving again that figures don't lie, but liars do

"The hard truth is that our nation's farm economy still is a wreck. Last year was not quite as bad as 1986 or 1985, but it certainly is not a year to be celebrating, and 1988 looks even worse. Farmers will know that the farm crisis is 'over' not because some Washington officials or some editorial writer proclaims it to be so, but because they will be getting a fair market price for their commodities and a warm smile from their bankers. That day will not come until we do away with the illconceived farm program that Washington has put us under," Hightower said.

"The 1985 Farm Bill was supposed to accomplish four goals. The Reagan Administration promised that it was going to (1) increase farm income; (2) reduce taxpayer costs; (3) increase agricultural exports; and (4) lower crop surpluses. When President Reagan signed the 1985 Farm Bill, he was quoted in the New York Times (12/24/85) as saying the legislation 'provides new hope for America's hardworking farmers and our rural communities.

"Now after two years, we can see that the 1985 Farm Bill has failed miserably on each point. Just consider the following

· Net Farm Income rose by an average of \$500 million between 1985 and 1987, when inflation is removed, which is an increase of less than two percent. Every penny of this very small increase was due to record high taxpayer subsidies, which, for many producers, must now account for twothirds of their gross farm income. The prices which producers were paid for most of their crops continued to fall,

nearly \$175 billion, while farmland values have dropped by another 19 percent nationwide. In some parts of the Midwest, good, rich farmland is worth less than one-third of what it was in 1981. Farm lenders now hold eight million acres in foreclosed farmland-property which they cannot sell--of which the U.S. Farmers Home Administration possesses 1.6 million acres. Sixty-seven percent of the farmland sold by FmHA was sold to speculators and agribusiness concerns which fall outside the mandate of the "Both FmHA and the Farm Credit System are eager to sell only to those

who are able to provide the cash up front. No family farmer has the cash money to plunk down on farmland for a son or daughter, but an investment syndicate does. A real estate developer from Mesa, Arizona, has purchased dozens of farms in Iowa. He told the New York Times that he rents the farms to lowans, sometimes to former owners, and gets up to 12 percent return on his investment in cheap, foreclosed farmland. Since 1981, the number of acres managed by farm management companies has increased by an area the size of Colorado. The 12 largest landowning insurance companies hold three million acres of farmland worth \$2.3 billion, while commercial banks hold about 400,000 acres worth \$350 million.

"The misery is compounded when you consider that the 1985 Farm Bill has produced another 25 percent decline in tractor sales, has prompted the layoff of another 8,800 farm implement workers, has forced another 700 farm implement dealers to close, and has caused over 100 agricultural banks to shut their doors," Hightower

While we are now selling 28 percent fewer John Deere tractors than in 1981, sales of Mercedes Benzes in this country have skyrocketed by 57 percent. While farm prices were falling, food-processing profits were going through the roof, and the power of the food industry was being concentrated at a dizzying pace. Five companies now control two-thirds of this country's beef industry, and one of those companies, Cargill, also is one of five multinationals which dominate 80 percent of the world's grain trade. These are the • Taxpayer Costs continued to companies that benefit from a farm increase by an additional 27 percent to policy which saw the United States, in 1986, stockpile 250 million tons of 1987, when compared with 1985. The unsold grain when only 40 million tons projected three-year price tag of the of grain would have averted the famine taking place in Africa," Hightower said.



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decline by two percent in 1988. · Crop Surpluses have not been reduced either, as the amount of U.S. wheat and feedgrains in storage is up by 10 percent over the past two years.

just as they have since 1981, often to

only one-half of 1987's actual

they will get even worse in 1988. Under

the Budget Reconciliation Act just

signed by President Reagan, target

prices this year will drop an additional

1.4 percent on top of the two percent

reduction already mandated by the

cost Texas winter wheat farmers

approximately \$6 million; nationwide.

the cut in target prices will cost winter

wheat farmers \$72 million in cash

support these failed farm policies in

current farm bill is now estimated at

over \$68 billion-about \$16 billion more

than first estimated. Between 1981-88,

this Administration will spend a

whopping \$122 billion on failed farm

programs, making it the third largest

expenditure from the U.S. Treasury behind defense spending and Social

Security. This Administration has also

spent nearly \$50 billion more on its

farm programs than the combined total

of what was spent for U.S. agriculture

by about one-third in the last seven

years, dropping from \$44 billion in 1981

to \$31 billion in 1985 to \$28 billion last

year. The decline between 1985-87 was

over 10 percent. If you subtract the

Export Enhancement Program, which

allowed Russian livestock producers to

purchase wheat at 36 cents a bushel less

than the U.S. price, the decline in farm

exports since 1985 was nearly 12

percent. Even forecasters at the U.S.

Department of Agriculture now predict

that the value of U.S. farm exports will

• U.S. Farm Exports have declined

in the previous 40 years.

1985 Farm Bill. This budget cut will

As bad as these prices were in 1987,

production expenses.

'The results are every bit as ugly as you would expect," Hightower said. "The 1985 Farm Bill is responsible for another 235,000 farmers being forced out of business, not because they were bad producers or bad managers, but because they had to fight bad farm policy. It's the same farm policy which, since 1981, has caused us to lose over 600,000 productive U.S. farmers--that is 20 percent of our farmers shut down in a stunningly brief time.

"According to the latest projections from the American Bankers Association, we're going to continue losing U.S. farmers in 1988 at the rate of 2,500 per

"These bad policies have also sacked U.S. farmers with debts of

Rules changed for moving expenses

by Andy Hart, CPA

This week the topics discussed expenses. The amount that can be deducted as a nonbusiness casualty or residence as a moving expense and a theft loss is limited. There are losses to property not used in a trade or business, or a transaction entered into for profit, that are caused by events such as theft, natural disasters, fires, auto accidents, or other similar events.

The amount of these losses to pro-tion. perty that can be deducted is reduced by any insurance or other re imbursement received. Before 1987, there was no requirement that an individual had to file an insurance ty or theft loss.

After 1986, no deduction is allowed for a casualty or theft loss that ghter of Mr. & Mrs. Rex Bland and 4th all Taylor County elementary schools. is covered by an insurance unless a timely insurance claim for reimburse- Trent firemen fight grass fires ment has been filed. Any reimbursement will reduce the amount of the

As in prior years, each individual loss must be reduced by \$100. The total losses for the year are then reduced by 10% of the taxpayers adjusted gross income.

Beginning in 1987, moving expenses are deductible only as an itemized deduction. These expenses are deductible as a seperate item on Schedule A and are not subject to the new 2% of adjusted gross income limit that applies to certain miscellan-

To be deductible, moving expenses still have to be employment related and meet the same time and distance tests as before. You may deduct most of the reasonable expenses you incur in moving your family. These include your cost to move to the new location, pre-move household expenses, expenses of temporary quarters once you arrive in the new location, and certain qualified real estate expen-

You may not deduct expenses of a loss on the sale of your residence, mortgage penalties, or refitting draparies and carpets. You must include any reimbursement of, or payment for moving expenses in gross income as compensation for services.

Beginning in 1987, the limit on the amount allowable as a deduction for expenses for meals, eighty percent of the amount that would otherwise be allowable, applies to meals that are deductible as moving expenses.

will be causalty losses and moving efits. You may not use the expenses dence, or aid to the cost of your connecting to buying or selling a

Also, you may not take double ben- gain on the sale of your old resinew residence.

Trent firemen elect new officers

met Feb. 1st to discuss and update existing by-laws and talk about getting a radio system for the fire sta-

The Trent Volunteer Fire Department They are Chief-Odie Davis, assistant chief- Dale Rutherford, secretarytreasurer Gerald Jones and training officer-Eddie Adams. by W. E. Dulaney

Ray, Bland named poster contest winners

claim for reimbursement of a casual- honors in the Big Country soil conservation poster contest in Abilene, place in their age groups. They com-Kaci Bland, a first grader and dau- peted against 1st place winners from

Two Trent students walked away with grader Jamie Ray, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Mike Ray, both received 2nd

the Trent Volunteer Fire Department was kept busy Saturday responding to two grass fires. At 2:30 p.m. the department was called to a grass fire on cemetery road near the underground house. One truck and seven firemen responded to the call, which was controlled in under 10 minutes. At 5:45 p.m., a pumper truck and five firemen responded to a call for assistance from the Nolan County Fire department in a range fire 5

miles North of the Nolan community in Nolan County. Trent joined seven other fire departments in controlling a fire that burned off 1,600

Sunday, the department continued where they left off. At 12:30 p.m., the department responded with two vehicles and 11 firemen to a grass and brush fire East of Trent. That fire was controlled in under an hour due to the prompt attention by the firemen that responded. One minor injury was reported when firemen Mike Carriker had a mesquite thorn go completely through his ear. He was not hospitalized and is resting at home. by W. E. Dulaney

Writer asks support of local Lions

To the citizens of Merkel:

On Feb. 18, the Merkel Lions Club will be having a pancake supper to raise money for eye exams and glases for local needy students. During this school year, 11 students have been examined and fitted with glasses that would not have without the help of the Lions Club here in Merkel. It is such a good feeling when I see these students get the glasses they would not have were it not for the help provided. I never see the students later without their glasse on. Teachers tell me that their gared and attitudes also improve

On behalf of these students, I would like to thank the Lions and a special thanks to Dr. Ted Ellinger, the optomotrist who examines them.

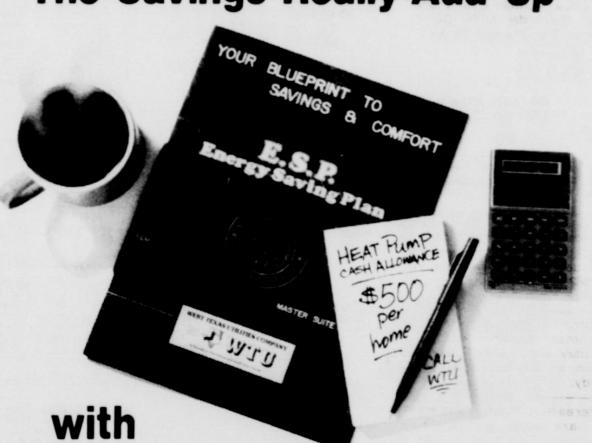
As you might guess, if 11 pair of glasses need to be paid for, the Lions would certainly appreciate your support of the Pancake Supper on Feb. 8th.

Helen Jones, R. N MISD School Nurse



Oil-base paints can usually be removed from the skin with plain

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NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Taylor

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of a certain Writ of Execution issued out of the Honorable 350th and said Writ of Execution I will District Court of Taylor County, Tex- sell said above described Real Esas, for the sum of Two Thousand Six Hundred Dollars & 30/100 Dollars and costs of suit, under a Judgement, in Cavor of Eddie Dempsey d/b/a Best Electric in a certain cause in said Court, No. 1972-D and styled Eddie Dempsey d/b/a Best Electric vs. Jay Cockrell Ind. and d/b/a Bogeys Driving Range, placed in my hand for service, I, John W. Middleton, as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas, did on the 22nd day of January, 1988, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit:

7 light poles and fixtures 1 a/c compressor 1 submersible pump and levied upon as the property of

Jay Cockress Ind. & d/b/a Bogeys Driving Range and that on the first Tuesday in April, 1988, same being

the 5th day of said month at the Court House door of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., by virtue of said levy tate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said Jay Cockrell Ind. & d/b/a Bogeys Driving Range.

This sale wwill be for cash or a Cashier's Check issued from a Taylor County Bank Only.

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 preceeding said day of sale in The Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County.

Witness my hand, this the 9th day of February, 1988. John W. Middleton Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas by Eddie Swanson, Sr., Deputy

