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e Post Bispatch

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Thursday, January 1, 2004

Christmas Eve fire consumes house, leaves couple stranded

Bill and Barbe Bevers were planning to move to Fort Worth over the holidays, but a Christmas Eve fire interrupted their plans. The couple lost the entire contents of their home in a fire that erupted at about 7 p.m. Dec. 24.

All but a few clothes and the couple's everyday essentials had been packed in boxes and stored on a screened-in porch that flanked the back of the house, located in the 700 block of North Broadway. The Bevers had spent much of the day with two of their sons who'd come in for a holiday visit. Their visitors had been gone a short time when Barbe Bevers said she and her husband heard a "loud pop" at the back of the

Bill Bevers ran to the area the noise came from - the screened-in back porch - and saw the back wall engulfed in flames. He grabbed a water hose while Barbe Bevers ran out the front door to the gas station down the street to call for help. The Bevers' phone has been disconnected in preparation for the move.

By the time she returned, Barbe Bevers said flames were already billowing out the front door.

Seventeen firefighters and three units responded to the emergency call, Fire Marshal Mark Short said. It took firefighters almost three hours to contain the fire.

Investigators have determined the fire was likely started by an electrical short, Short said. The structure and its contents were a "total

Some of the outside walls and the roof of the wooden house the couple rented for five years is still standing, but Bevers said the fire destroyed everything she and her husband owned.

"It's totaled," she said. "There's nothing at all left.... Stuff can be replaced, but my kids' baby pictures and all the pictures when they grew up are all gone. You can't replace that."

The couple had no renters' insurance. Their life savings, which Bevers said had withdrawn from the bank earlier in the week before the planned move, was lost in the fire.

In addition to losing the contents of their home, the Bevers also lost wo dogs in the fire. The animals escaped the burning house, but the two adult blue heelers died at the scene.

Four blue heeler puppies, including one Bevers carried with her on her dash to call 9-1-1, survived the blaze; however, one of the animals disappeared after the couple left their dogs with a friend in the Graham community. There, 1-year-old Diamond climbed a fence and disappeared.

Following an extensive search over several days, Bill Bevers found Diamond Sunday morning on the Tahoka highway about eight miles from where she'd disappeared. She was exhausted, Barbe Bevers said, Garza County. Tragedies and tri-solved. but in good condition.

"I think she was trying to go home," Bevers said Sunday evening after ity. The closure of the community's the Comfort Independent School Dis-banquet. Business of the Year honors cil. The plan calls for upgrades in the her dog was recovered. "It's nice to have some light at the end of this oldest store. And increases in taxes, trict, was named superintendent of went to Citizens Bank. The Conser-cemetery, baseball fields, streets, tunnel.'

Bevers lauded the work of local firefighters, including her nephew, Kelly Baker. When Baker learned Bevers' purse, along with the couple's avings, was inside the burning house, he promised he would locate it fter the fire was extinguished.

"He kept that promise," Bevers said.

The contents of the purse were scorched and melted, but the bills nside were at least partially recognizable as U.S. currency. The Bevers are working with a local bank and the Federal Reserve in hopes of eventually recouping at least a portion of the savings they lost.

Short commended the quick response of local firefighters, particularly with regard to the timing of the Christmas Eve fire.

"To have 17 firefighters there, that's a good turnout, especially during stallation of pipe and tanks for the superintendent, was recognized at a athletic director Richard Gorman. the holidays," he said. "It shows the dedication of the firefighters in Post. They put aside time with their families to help others."

As of Sunday evening, friends had supplied the Bevers with some ter from Slaton to Post. clothes and the Salvation Army and the Victims Assistance Program had arranged for a four-night stay at a local motel.

Bevers said it is unclear what the future holds.

"We're still trying to figure out what we're going to do," she said.



Christmas Eve fire guts house on North Broadway

A house fire Christmas Eve kept Post Volunteer Firemen busy and put a big dent in a local family's holiday cheer. No one was injured in the blaze, which was reported about 7 p.m. The house is located on North Broadway near the curve. (Photo by Tim

Big changes in 2003

by Sheri Lewis

umphs. Expanded water availabilas well as a public outcry for a rollback election to be decided in 2004.

As local residents gear up to move dent School District principals were A town hall meeting was held at the Voters turned down a proposal to into a new calendar year, The Post extended by district trustees. Dispatch looks back at news that made front page headlines during proved a resolution in support of a Care District, the event was designed Care District election. Almost 31 perthe past 365 days. The following is a regional Foreign Trade Zone in coop- to provide information on the vari- cent of the district's registered voters synopsis of the Dispatch's coverage eration with Market Lubbock Inc. ous health care options available to participated in the election, which of events that have shaped and im- The FTZ is designed to provide in- district taxpayers, including the pos- saw 743 votes against and 113 in pacted local residents:

January 2003

The Post City Council approved a cent to Lubbock County. contract for \$3.8 million for the inemergency water supply project. The reception held in his honor. project is designed to transport wa-

the May ballot.

increased fees for the Sam Wahl Rec- the 96-bed facility. reational Area of Lake Alan Henry.

ums and prize money.

Health Care District received notification that Covenant Health System About 35 local residents gathered March 21. plans to opt out of its contract for the at the flagpole of the Garza County operation of the local health care courthouse March 3 to show support

individual awards.

February 2003

The past 12 months have ushered project. Once bond payments are com-dispatch system.

The contracts of all Post Indepento Lewis Farms.

Garza County officials were noti- his contract. The Lubbock City Council approved its decision to give up operation of structed and opened in Post.

March 2003

The Garza Theatre's "Charlotte's The City-County Ambulance Sereral "Web" cast members garnered Garza County Sheriff's Department. accepting the Post position. The move, made possible following bonds relating to the Slaton water with the existing 9-1-1 emergency Utah. They will take over May 1.

in a variety of changes for Post and pleted, the corporation will be dis- Betty Posey was named Citizen of A plan for city-wide upgrades to be Marlin Marcum, an educator with merce & Tourism Bureau awards was approved by the Post City Counthe Post Independent School District. vation Farmer of the Year award went sewer, water, landfill and municipal

> Post Community Center. Hosted by construct a \$10.5 million, 10-bed hos-Garza County Commissioners ap- directors of the Garza County Health pital in the Garza County Health centives for manufacturers and dis-sibility of opening a new hospital. favor of the plan. The two unopposed tributors to locate in counties adja- The meeting drew a large turnout. Post Independent School District Kirkpatrick and newcomer Terry

Dr. Bobby Bain, retiring Post ISD trustees accepted the resignation of

fied that the MTC Corporation would Garza County Health Care District of an additional sales and use tax at The Post City Council took action to no longer operate the local juvenile directors voted to call a May 3 electors voted to place a sales tax increase proposal on detention center after April 30. The tion to allow voters to decide whether reduce the property tax rate. Propocorporation cited financial losses in or not a new hospital should be con-sition 2 called for the adoption of a

The Garza County Health Care rise Wind) ceremony conducted at debt service to finance a new water Ninety-nine 4-H and FFA youths District board voted unanimously in the city park indicated the county's supply project. Mayor Archie Gill, participated in the 39th annual Garza favor of contracting with PNS of Lub-agricultural interests will see an Ward 1 Council woman Juanita County Junior Livestock Show, re-bock for the management and opera- "above average" year. Kenneth Pantoja, Ward 2 Councilman Dick ceiving a total of \$49,960 in premition of a local health care clinic. PNS LeBlanc led the annual event, which Odom and Joshua Whiteley, all of was one of two groups that submitted included a memorial to the late whom ran unopposed, were voted Officials with the Garza County bid proposal packages to the board. "Chief" Frank Runkles, the longtime into office. leader of the ceremony who died The top three vote-getters in the

April 2003

for the U.S., its leaders and military. athletic director of the Post Indepen- candidates, including three incumdent School District. James began bents, were vying for three open po-Web" was recognized as Best Show at vice joined the emergency communi- his coaching career in Floydada and sitions. the annual Willy Awards event. Sev- cations system operated out of the spent 14 years in Lamesa prior to VFW Post 6796 hosted the District

the Caprock Economic Development designed to increase the overall emer-venile detention facility. Cornerstone sonal and business interests. Corporation. The purpose of the corgency medical response capability by manages similar facilities in Penn- A 20-year-old Shallowater man, poration is to oversee the payment of teaming the ambulance operations sylvania, Montana, Colorado and Brandon McIntyre, drowned at Lake

May 2003

the Year at the annual Post Com- budgeted over the next three years facilities.

> board candidates - incumbent Zoe Bartlett - were voted into office.

In the municipal election, both Gorman had one year remaining on propositions earned voter approval. Proposition 1 called for the adoption sales and use tax at the rate of one-The traditional Taba'na Yuane (Sun-half of one percent to fund the cost of

Post Independent School District election were Alexa Collier, Scott Tim James of Lamesa was named Creech and Milton Williams. Eight

7 convention.

Garza County officials accepted an Municipal Judge Jim Plummer anan update of communications equip- offer from the Denver, Colo.-based nounced he would resign his position The Post City Council established ment at the sheriff's department, is Cornerstone firm to manage the ju- in June to devote more time to per-

(Continued on Page 7)

Stocksow entries due January 8

All exhibitors planning to show in the Garza County Jr Livestock Show must have entries in the Extension Service office by 5 p.m. Thursday, January 8. 4-H'ers will need to bring checks or enough money to pay for all validation tags at time of entry. Willy Awards Gala January 24

The Garza Theatre's annual Willy Awards Gala will be held Saturday January 24. Call the theatre box office at 495-4005 for reservations.

MAD DAD's will be open during the Christmas break Monday throgh Friday, except for Christmas Eve and Christmas Da de d New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. The center will operate from 1 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday evenings. For more informa-

MAD DAD's open during Christmas break

tion, call 495-1244.

Judy's Jabberin'

by Judy (Ballentine) Bush

Hey everyone,



DURWOOD

Not very long ago

There was no acceptable excuse. He UPDATE ON BETTY would always tell me that "Jabberin" I hear that Betty Posey is recovering came first because he liked to read it. from her knee replacement surgery He would also call every now and pretty well. I know she had a hard then call and give me "news" to put time in the beginning but things are in. No matter how short or lack of going better now. I know she is missed material he always let me know how on the ambulance but hopefully will much he appreciated "Jabberin" to be back and going strong before long.

lived next door we became so close to Lubbock. Also to my granddaughter Durwood. He was such a wonderful, Alison, a belated birthday wish. She caring person. I know that his family celebrated her birthday on December will miss him terribly.

OTHER SYMPTHIES

Also to the Cleo Sappington family



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holiday season has been saddened by the loss of all these wonderful people.

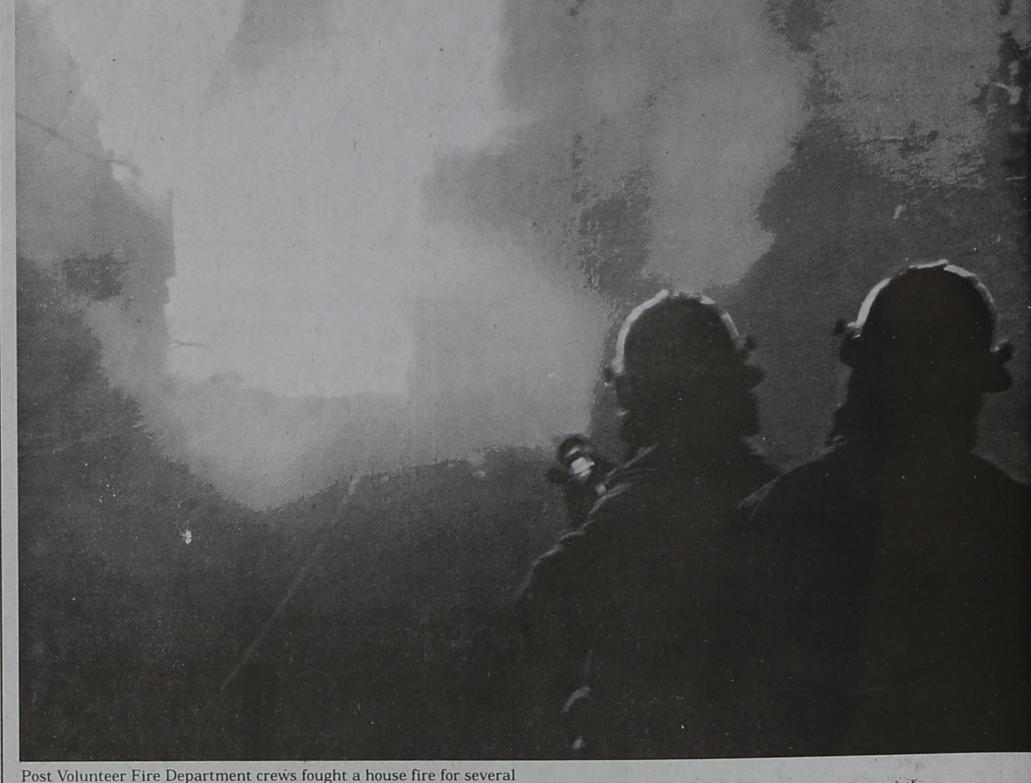
WHAT A SURPRISE watched as Rick and I received a wonderful Durwood parked surprise the day after Christmas. in front of the store Our children, Megan and Stan Everitt and I watched as of Akin, SC flew in for the holidays. he made his way They had told everyone that they to the front door would not be able to come because of where I met him. I had not seen him new jobs so we had all resigned in awhile so I gave him a hug and ask ourselves that we would not get to what he was up to that day. He replied see them until March or April. But lo with "I just came in to let "Judy's and behold there they were Friday. Jabberin" know that I still loved her. What a great surprise it was and How I will miss him. He was my Megan was really proud of herself for column critic. If I missed a week he pulling it off. It was great to see would call me on Thursday and want them. They are really happy in their to know what was up that I didn't get new home and have adjusted to "Southern" living quite well.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY During the time that Rick and I Happy birthday to my son, Kelly of

YOUR NEWS Please call in your news and tidbits and the Ruben Wilke family. Our so that I may keep Jabberin going. It is so hard to know what all is going on if you don't call in. You can call me at 495-0277 or you may email me at cellonepost@dtnspeed.net. Thanks in advance for your help.

TILL NEXT WEEK

Guess that is all for this week. I hope that everyone has a great New Year and that if you are out on the road, please be careful. May God bless each of you. See you next week.



hours Christmas Eve. (See Page 1 for details). (Photo by Tim Burnett)

State reports decreases in sales tax receipts

The sales and use tax analysis by the state comptroller's office show Garza and Lynn counties posted substantial drops in the second quarter of 2003.

According to the analysis report on retail trade published by the state in late November, Garza County ended the second quarter with 138 reporting outlets compared to 156 in the same time period a year earlier.

Gross sales for the second quarter in 2003 approached \$6.5 million, while they exceeded \$7.5 million in the second quarter of 2002, resulting in a percentage change of -24.6

A similar trend was recorded in Lynn County, where 46 outlets were reported at the close of the second quarter in 2003, compared to 49 midway through 2002. Gross sales for the second quarter in 2003 were slightly more than \$2.9 million, down 10.2 percent from the \$3.23 million

recorded in the previous year.

Cebridge Media

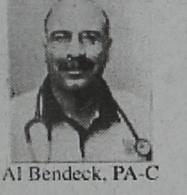
Channel 12

KPOS Radio



PHS Junior Varsity Lady Lopes enjoying their recent Christmas party are (back row, left to right) Claire Kirkpatrick, Steffi Norman, Keisha Odom, Ashley Powell, (middle row) Cristin Aguilar, Rachel Gray, (front row) Kylie Easterling, Courtney Short, Kadie Vernon, Jackie Hay and Ashley Wilson. Others attending the event were Coach and Mrs White and Courtney

Plan ahead now ... for our annual Grandma Brag Pages ... deadline February 6 for the Valentine's edition on Thursday, February 12 Call 495-2816 for details



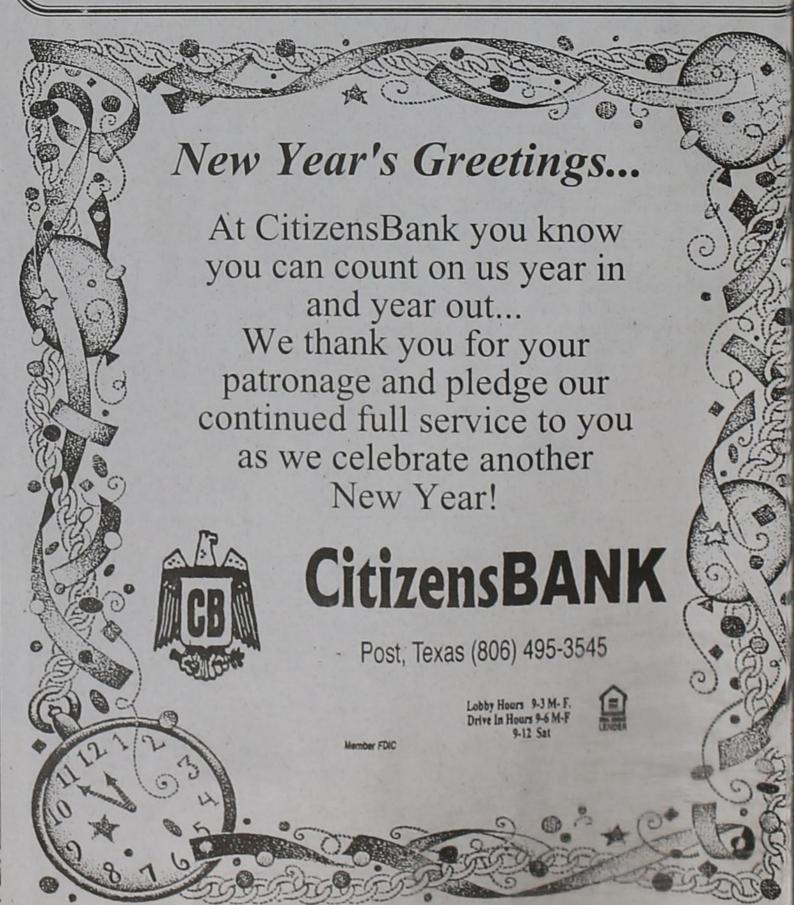




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by Sheri Lew Post Fiber-Tec ecent years, Bu rom industrial I he verge of tren

Insultoneisafi v Post Fiber-Te vorldwide sales nternationally ountless situat electricity pane Post Fiber-Ted with Johns Man he local busin shipped to Fort military vehicl "It's pretty ex In addition to nevy of other nsulCot insula panty liners ma armers. With th re biodegradal CottonSorbpa settings to cont used for contain event of tanker

and oceans. Ac sorbs" up to numerous time The products b ash residue. InsulCot cot cotton fibers u quivalent Raccording to a retardant. Ins without the us Fiber-Tech al of feminine pro of O'Donnel wi Davis said the working with Foil Systems In non-woven pro a disposable hi Fiber-Tech ha

about 80,000 Development (work 10-hour s two more shifts Davis resides student at Pos

armed cotton

Charles Smith

vith the under

Last year, Fi

Now th

and ge that's a month

Post Fiber Tech products get world-wide attention

by Sheri Lewis

Post Fiber-Tech has enjoyed a substantial measure of success in

ecent years. But all of that is about to change.

The corporation, which manufactures a variety of items ranging rom industrial pads to feminine hygiene products, appears to be on he verge of tremendous growth as its biggest product, Insultone, is eing marketed by the largest Fiberglass insulation company in the

Insultone is a fire-retardant polyester insulation product developed y Post Fiber-Tech for the Johns Manville Company, which logged vorldwide sales of \$525 million last year. Marketed nationally and nternationally through Johns Manville, Insultone can be used in ountless situations where insulation is needed ñ in motors, heaters, lectricity panels, small appliances and a myriad of other uses.

Post Fiber-Tech Vice President David Davis said the association vith Johns Manville could be the catalyst to significant growth for he local business. Also, Insultone materials have recently been hipped to Fort Hood for possible use in the maintenance of U.S. nilitary vehicles.

"It's pretty exciting to see what you can do," Davis said.

In addition to Insultone, Fiber-Tech manufactures and markets a bevy of other products, including CottonSorb absorbent pads, nsulCot insulation products created from denim waste, and organic panty liners made from organic cotton purchased from South Plains armers. With the exception of Insultone, all of Fiber-Tech's products ire biodegradable.

CottonSorb pads, rolls and booms are marketed for use in industrial settings to contain drips, leaks and spills in both oil and water. Also used for containment and wipe downs, CottonSorb is useful in the event of tanker spills and major water-based spills in rivers, lakes and oceans. According to a brochure on CottonSorb, the product sorbs" up to 30 times it weight, can be recycled and reused numerous times and can be easily disposed of through incineration. The products burn without toxic fumes, leaving less than 1 percent

InsulCot cotton insulation products are made from 100 percent cotton fibers using a patented manufacturing process. They provide equivalent R-values to synthetic fibers in any given thickness, according to an InsulCot brochure, and are non-toxic and flameretardant. InsulCot products can be safely handled and installed without the use of protective clothing and are environmentally safe. Fiber-Tech also has done substantial research in the development of feminine products created from organic cotton. Organic Essentials of O'Donnel will soon be marketing some of these products.

Davis said the company continues in its research and development, working with Texas Tech University, Green Tech Texas, Advanced Foil Systems Inc. and other small companies interested in developing non-woven products. One product they are currently working on is a disposable high chair tray.

Fiber-Tech has been operating in Post for several years. Davis, who sional hockey team will honor Song. The Cotton Kings have game by contacting Geoff Goff at farmed cotton for 15 years, and his partner, contractor and builder the City of Post Saturday, Janu- Lubbock tied into their name, but the 'Kings office at 747-7825 ext. Charles Smith of South Lyon, Mich., purchased the company in 1999 ary 10th, as the 'Kings will cel-they benefit from all South Plains 215. with the understanding that Davis would operate the local facility. ebrate "Post Night" at the Lub- communities. They give back to Last year, Fiber-Tech purchased the old Burlington building in bock Municipal Coliseum while the communities by recognizing A-Seat locations or by calling about 80,000 square feet of space ñ from the Post Economic hosting the Wichita Thunder. Development Corp. The business employs eight individuals who work 10-hour shifts four days per week. Davis said he plans to add Kings will honor Post by having a community.

two more shifts in March or April with the expansion of the business. the Pride of Post High School Davis resides in Post with his wife, Kelly, and their son, Dylan, a Band performing the National student at Post Middle School.



The folks at Post Fiber Tech - (left to right) Eric Hernandez, Paul Criswell, David Davis, Raquel Collazo, Judy Marchetti, Bill Gandy, Saul Rodriguez and John York Jr. (Photo by Tim Burnett

Cotton Kings host "Post Night" on January 10 at Lubbock Municipal Coliseum

Lubbock Cotton Kings profes- Anthem and the Post High Fight special rate for the January 10th Prior to the game, the Cotton night, the 'Kings are recognizing information, please call (806) 747-

Tickets are on sale at all Selectarea schools, and on this special (806) 770-2000. For more 'Kings PUCK or visit the Cotton Kings Citizens of Post can receive a website at www.cottonkings.com.

'Lope football players get additional honors

The Bold Gold Antelopes continue to rake in gridiron honors. In the Dec. 24 issue of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, four 'Lopes were named to the 2003 A-J All-South Plains 2A football team.

Running back Mitchell Mills and offensive lineman Chessauf Garcia were tapped for the team's offense, while defensive end Kris Hernandez and linebacker Mark McCallister were included on the defense. McCallister was also named to the AJ's South Plains Super Team.

All four honorees are seniors at Post High School.

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Obituaries

Cleao Sappington

Services for Cleao Sappington, 74, of Post were held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, 2003, in the First United Methodist Church in Tahoka with the Rev. Marvin Gregory officiating, assisted by the Rev, Jim Osby. Burial was in the Terrace Cemetery in Post under the direction of the White Funeral Home of Tahoka.

She died Saturday, Dec. 27, in Lubbock.

Born June 3, 1929, in Dickens to Roy and Hettie Byrd Holly, she was a lifelong resident of Post. She married R.H. Sappington in Post on Aug. 11, 1945. He died Jan. 15, 1988. She was a homemaker and a member of the Trinity Baptist Church in Post.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Roy and Sherry Sappington of Lubbock; a son, Mackey Sappington of Slaton; a daughter, Shirley McInroe of Tahoka; two brothers, Troy Holly of Andrews and Eddie Holly of Post; four sisters, Vada Kinman of Lubbock, Rene Mason and Joann Blacklock, both of Post, and Brenda Angerer of Lubbock; her grandchildren, Paige and Michael Rivas, Rance Sappington, Jason McInroe, Justin McInroe, Rynn Sappington, Kyley McInroe, Brady Sappington, Brodie Simpson and Jim Rily Simpson; and her great-grandchildren, Meghann Rivas, Dane Rivas, J.C. McInroe, Rachel Sappington, Taylor Sappington, Claire Simpson and Olivia Simpson.

She was preceded in death by her parents and four brothers.

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Durward (Pro) Bartlett

Services for Durward (Pro) Bartlett, 92, of Post were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, 2003, in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Buddy Payne of Snyder officiating. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

He died Dec. 25 at his home.

Born Sept. 25, 1911, in Jones County, he married Mozelle Kuykendall in 1935 in Post. She died in May 1971. He married Bill Lawrence in April 1972 She died in Feburary 1994. A member of the First Baptist Church, he established the Caprock Golf Course in 1954 and operated it for 45 years.

Survivors include his children, Linda Kay Wheatley of Quinlan, Barbara Beth Gatlin and husband, Felton, of Broken Arrow, Okla., and daughter-inlaw, Jan Bartlett, of Post; one brother, Henry Bartlett of Hemphill; 13 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Beverly Sanders, in September 1975 and one son, Jimmie D. Bartlett, in May 1997.

Honorary pallbearers were former members of the Caprock Golf Course. The family has requested memorials be made to the American Heart Association.

Tom Patty

Services for Tom Patty, 88 of Coppell and formerly of Carlsbad, New Mexico were Saturday, December 27, 2003 at the Justice-Mason Funeral Home at 1:00 P.M. with the Rev. Lloyd Stice of the First United Methodist Church officiating.

Burial followed at the Terrace Cemetery in Post, under the personal care of Justice-Mason Funeral Home. Mr. Thomas Earl Patty, Sr. was born on September 18, 1915 in Sulphur Bluff, Texas. At the age of six, he and his family moved to Post,

He was raised in Post and Lubbock, Texas. He met his sweetheart, Audrey Nell Reno in Post. Pledging their love, Tom and Audrey were wed in Lovington, New Mexico on November 12, 1940. Tom and Audrey, and their two children Tom and Anita, moved three years later to Carlsbad, New Mexico where he went to work for Potash Company of America until he retired in 1980.

There Tom and Audrey raised eight children, six boys and two girls. Two children preceded him in death, Richard in 1950 and Len in 1981. He was also predeceased by a brother, James and a sister, Rea. Tom's life was devoted to his wife and children.

He enjoyed attending the many sporting events his children participated in over the years, including baseball, basketball, softball and football. Tom was well-known for his sense of humor and friendliness.

He enjoyed meeting people and never met a stranger. He was a man who asked very little for himself. He always put his family first when one of his children needed something.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Audrey Nell Patty; six children, Thomas E. Patty, Jr., of Arlington, Texas; Anita Jo Bass and husband Del, of Lubbock, Texas; David Lee Patty and wife, Suzanne, of Paris, Texas; Terry D. Patty and wife, CeCe, of Arlington, Texas; Kathy J. Kiser and husband, Jack, of Abilene, Texas; and Kim Alan Patty and wife, Cherene, of Coppell, Texas; and one brother, Billy Lee Patty, of Yukon, Oklahoma; one sister in

law, Ruth Reno of Post; 16 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Richard, of Carlsbad, in 1950, and Homa Len Patty, of Lubbock, in 1981; one brother, James, of Post and one sister Rea Caffey of Lubbock.

Tom was a cancer survivor for five years. Although is spirit and heart were strong, his body grew weak and he died the afternoon of December 22, 2003 in Harris Methodist Hospital in Bedford, Texas with his loving wife and children at his side. He wants all to know that he loves all those that he has come to know. Tom will always be remembered as a kind, outgoing and genuine person. Although his life here with us has ended, his legacy will continue in his children, wife, family and friends.

Pallbearers were grandsons: Craig Patty, David Patty, Jr., Terry Patty II, Cole Kise, Chase Kiser and Jimmy Patty, Jr..

R.B. Wilke

Services for R.B. Wilke, 86, of Post were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2003, in St. John Lutheran Church in Wilson with Tonda Freitag PLM officiating. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery in Post under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

He died Monday, Dec. 29, in the Golden Plains Care Center.

Born April 18, 1917, in Bishop, he married Pauline Perkins April 19, 1949, in Post. She died April 3, 2003. He farmed in Garza County for many years and was a member of St. John Lutheran Church.

Survivors include two sons, G.B. Wilke and Robert Wilke, both of Post; one daughter, Lillie Wright of Lovington, N.M.; three sisters, Darlene Gurley of Tahoka, Florene May of Lubbock and Alvira Higginbotham of Abernathy; two grandchildren, Jennifer Gonzalez and Christopher Wright, both of Plainview; and one great-granddaughter, Alexis Gonzalez of Plainview.



Robby Dean tagged this white tail deer November 22 at about 8 a.m. on the Juanita Dean Ranch about 16 miles east of Post. the deer scored 147 and was shot with a Remington 25.06, which Dean had borrowed from his friend Joe Mason.

KPOS Radio

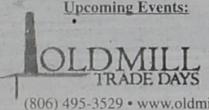
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Post Devotional Page

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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

Joseph's Response...Matthew 1:18-25

Last week we looked at Mary's humble response to the promise of God. After being exhorted that no word from God shall ever be void of power, she humbly said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." In continuing chronologically we move to Matthew 1:18-25. In verse 18 the record shows that Mary was found with a child of God. This verse is significant considering in the next verse Joseph did not believe her. Verse 18 came right after the genealogy of Jesus Christ through Mary. Placed like a gem, God began the record of Jesus Christ's life with a very important truth. Mary was found with a child of God.

On to verse 19, "Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily." The word "husband" came from the same Greek word as the word husband in Luke 1:16. It came from a word that referred to the man over the household. Understanding this helps to clear up some confusion concerning Joseph "the husband" of Mary listed in the genealogy. This Joseph could only be Mary's father. We can now see that she married a man who had the same name as her father.

Joseph her husband was a just man. He desired to do God's will according to the laws and His word. Yet he didn't want to make her a public example. So he made up his mind to divorce her secretly.

Continue to verses 20-22, "But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto the Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." God did not leave Mary to be alone without a husband. He worked mightily to make sure of this. While Joseph deeply pondered his situation Gabriel appeared to him. He told him to not be afraid to take his wife. He reassured him that she was truly carrying the child of God.

Now it stands to reason that if she were his wife then he wouldn't have to "take unto him Mary his wife." When Mary was espoused to Joseph she was contractually married to him. But they had not yet sealed their marriage with the intent to conceive a child. According to tradition this was not to happen until later. Gabriel also made sure Joseph knew to name the child Jesus. Please note that Jesus was actually given the same name as Joshua the son of Nun. Recall that he led God's people into the "promised land."

According to verses 22-23 the conception and birth of Jesus Christ fulfilled the word of God that said, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, 'God with us.'" Just as God was with His people when Joshua led them into the promised land, so also was God with his people through His son Jesus (Joshua).

Now we come to Joseph's humble and meek response in verses 24-25. "Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife; And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and called his name Jesus." The first part of verse 25 states the obvious. Although he sealed their marriage, Joseph did not conceive a child in Mary until she gave birth to Jesus Christ. With a meek heart for God, he went unto his wife and sealed their marriage. He also made sure Mary's firstborn child would be named according to God's will.

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Opinions



Parting company is an option

by Walter E. Williams



22, 2003

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A fortnight ago, in "Let's Do Some Detective Work,"

Project's proposal to set up New Hampshire as a free state.

Free State Project (www.freestateproject.org) intends to get 20,000 might be bound." or so Americans to move to New Hampshire and, through a peaceful political process, reduce burdensome taxation and regulation, reform state and local law, end federal mandates, and attempt to restore constitutional federalism as envisioned by the nation's founders.

Since there was only a remote possibility that we could successfully negotiate with Congress, the Courts and White House to obey the by Thomas Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase, in 1803, the first U.S. Constitution, I speculated that liberty could only be realized by secessionist movement started in New York, Massachusetts, a unilateral declaration of independence — namely, part company. Quite a few readers criticized the idea, calling secession unconstitutional. Let's look at it.

On March 2, 1861, after seven states had seceded and two days before Abraham Lincoln's inauguration, Sen. James R. Doolittle of Wisconsin proposed a constitutional amendment that said, "No State or any part thereof, heretofore admitted or hereafter admitted into the Union, shall have the power to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the United States."

Several months earlier, Reps. Daniel E. Sickles of New York, Thomas B. Florence of Pennsylvania and Otis S. Ferry of Connecticut proposed a constitutional amendment to prohibit secession. Here's my no-brainer question: Would there have been any point to offering these amendments if secession were already unconstitutional? I'm guessing, no.

But there's more evidence. The ratification documents of Virginia, New York and Rhode Island explicitly said that they held the right to resume powers delegated should the federal government become abusive of those powers.

There's more evidence. At the 1787 constitutional convention, a I provided unassailable evidence that Congress had proposal was made to allow the federal government to suppress a vastly exceeded powers delegated to it by our seceding state. James Madison, the father of our constitution, Constitution. In last week's column, "Getting Back rejected it, saying: "A Union of the States containing such an Our Liberties," I argued that liberties lost are seldom ingredient seemed to provide for its own destruction. The use of force regained, but there was an outside chance to regain against a State would look more like a declaration of war than an them if enough liberty-minded Americans were to pursue Free State infliction of punishment and would probably be considered by the party attacked as a dissolution of all previous compacts by which it

> Professor Thomas DiLorenzo, in his revised "The Real Lincoln," provides abundant evidence in the forms of quotations from our Founders and numerous newspaper accounts that prove that Americans always took the right of secession for granted. Plus, secession was not an idea that had its origins in the South. Infuriated Connecticut and other New England states.

> Every single bit of evidence shows that states have a right to secede. There's absolutely nothing in the Constitution that prohibits secession. What stops secession is the brute force of a mighty federal government, as witnessed by the costly War of 1861. Only one thing good came out of that war. It eliminated slavery. It's had a devastating legacy for future generations of Americans, in that since the issue of secession was brutally settled, the federal government is free to run roughshod over the safeguards envisioned by the Framers, namely the Ninth and Tenth Amendments.

> There's little to suggest that the same brutality wouldn't be encountered if secession were tried again, as one writer cautioned: If New Hampshire seceded, massive troops along with today's deadly modern military equipment would be on its soil before lunch.

To find out more about Walter Williams, and read features by other him up. Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Saddam's capture violates constitution

by Sheldon Richman

kind of totalitarianism that emerged in the early 20th century in was helped into power by the ubiquitous CIA.) Russia, then Italy and Germany. It was a regime based on a As for planting democracy, it seems that nothing has been learned pervasive party and ideology, self-adulation by the dictator (with since 1917, when the war to make the world safe for democracy concomitant privileges), and rule by terror.

The regime combined brutal repression, including unspeakable forms of torture and murder, with succor, such as food rations and medical care. The inclusion of welfare-state features was an admission some pretty nasty rulers in the Middle East and Central Asia. If most that brute force and fear are not enough to hold people as political slaves. Unless they are led to believe they need the regime - that its terror is somehow necessary - the people remain capable of rebellion.

Now this man who wanted to be regarded as every Iraqi's father has been brought low, dragged out of a hole in the ground looking like a common bum.

satisfaction in seeing the tyrant treated as he deserves: as a criminal.

capture of Saddam and his impending trial and punishment cannot be separated from the manner in which he was deposed and apprehended. It was the result of an improper and unconstitutional declared it, which it didn't. How can we bring freedom to Iraq when exercise of U.S. government power by a president convinced that the we we're losing it here? rule of law, including international law, is made of elastic.

illegal conduct of the Bush administration. Those who experience "Ancient History': U.S. Conduct in the Middle East since World War unmixed satisfaction at Saddam's capture need to check their II and the Folly of Intervention.". premises. They are willfully evading a host of considerations that are too important to be ignored.

It may not matter in today's postconstitutional America, but there was a time when the thought of American troops chasing another country's dictator would have inspired revulsion in this country.

The failure to find weapons that could have threatened the American people and the lack of evidence that Saddam participated in the 9/11 attacks have left the Bush administration with one last rationalization for its illegal and undeclared war: the liberation and reform of Iraq. The president, his spokesmen, and his media boosters talk of mass graves and the prospects for democracy. Those are rationales enough, they say. Are they?

No one should be surprised by the mass graves. It was known that Saddam was a mass murderer when he was still a U.S. government ally in the late 1980s and the neoconservatives were proclaiming

Saddam Hussein went a great distance toward establishing the him the voice of moderation in the Middle East. (This was after he

ushered in the worst era of European despotism imaginable. The project to bring freedom to Iraq must seem strange to those around the world who realize that the Bush administration is allied with Americans see nothing peculiar in that, it may only be because their government has done this sort of thing for so long.

But even if democracy were a vine that would easily take root in the Iraqi soil, that would not justify what President Bush did. The end does not justify the means. Or does that apply only to others?

I realize that bringing up the constitutional limits on government What lover of liberty cannot take joy in seeing Saddam reach the at a time like this is as welcome as telling the designated driver he end of his road? Reading in the Washington Post about the four Iraqis shouldn't have ordered that beer. But here goes. The Constitution permitted to confront the captured Saddam, one can imagine their delegated a short list of powers to the Congress. Any power not expressly delegated is therefore off-limits. Nowhere on that short list The joy at his fate, unfortunately, should not be unalloyed. The does one find language implying that the U.S. government may free captive peoples in other lands.

That makes the war unconstitutional - even if Congress had

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Trying Saddam

by Bill O'Reilly



According to a recent Gallup poll, most Americans want Saddam Hussein tried in an International Court, but 24 percent say a U.S. military court should decide his fate. This, of course, would be a disaster, because America's legal system is so screwed up, Saddam might wind up a winner. Here's what could possibly

The Ninth Circuit Federal Court of Appeals in San Francisco, a legal body modeled on the philosophy of Che Guevara and the most overturned federal court in U.S. history, might well rule the military court unconstitutional

because, as we all know, military people have strict rules of behavior and make judgments. The Ninth would never abide that.

Immediately after the Ninth ruled, Saddam would find himself in civilian criminal court and would hire Mark Geragos and Johnnie Cochran to represent him. Geragos would book himself on the Larry King program and declare that Saddam was not responsible for the mass murderers in Iraq, devil worshipers were. Geragos would convince Larry that the devil people infiltrated Saddam's inner circle without his knowledge. Only Saddam's sons knew about the insidious activities. Too bad they're dead.

At the same time, Cochran would be asserting that U.S. forces actually planted the tens of thousands of bodies that were dug up in mass graves. Yes, that would have been difficult, Cochran would tell the E! Entertainment Network, but if the Los Angeles police department could plant evidence on every single criminal case it had ever investigated, then surely the American Armed Forces could transport 100,000 dead bodies into Iraq. E! would also report that Cochran had evidence Colombian drug dealers actually held Saddam hostage and ordered him to invade Kuwait.

In the preliminary hearing, Geragos would demand Saddam be let out of prison and housed at the Neverland ranch so he, Geragos, could do the needed leg work on the Michael Jackson case and Saddam's situation at the same time. Geragos would also file a motion to suppress everything Saddam

has ever said in his entire life.

Meantime, Cochran would raise the race issue. He'd produce an American corporal who had uttered anti-Arab remarks while taking machine gun fire in a foxhole. Using that evidence, Cochran could then weave a brilliant line of logic: If Americans were so hateful toward Saddam's forces, why wouldn't they develop hideous weapons and violate international law? Anyone would, it was absolutely a matter of self-defense. Cochran would then have Saddam try on all his old uniforms and they would not fit. Obviously, then, this man isn't really Saddam after all. He's Scott Peterson.

Geragos would then jump in quickly. If Scott Peterson were in Baghdad all these years, he couldn't possibly have killed his wife Lacy and their unborn child. Different devil worshipers did that. And Geragos would convince Larry King that those people worked at Fox News. Al Franken would back

In the end, Saddam Hussein would be acquitted by a jury, which would find reasonable doubt indeed. No weapons of mass destruction. Planted bodies all over the place. Devil people running wild. No wonder things went wrong in Iraq. But you can't blame Saddam.

The delighted dictator would then move to Florida and buy a nifty home near O.J., because the Sunshine State will let you keep your assets no matter how many people you kill and torture. A few months later, Saddam would appear on "Dateline" and proclaim that he would spend the rest of his days trying to track down the real culprits in Iraq. He would also file suit for millions claiming Michael Jackson had molested him at Neverland.

American justice. There's none better. Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the new book "Who's Looking Out For You?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the Web site www.billoreilly.com.

Our vision for 2004

by Wesley W. Burnett

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It's a dream about us, for us.

I have a dream for the new year ... a dream filled with visions of individual liberty and freedom for all people.

I dream that free enterprise will replace the current socialist notion of "government controlled economies." I dream that a republic form of government will replace the

corporate form that now strangles us with cajillions of corporate rules and regulations. I dream that young people will learn about and appreciate the

sacrifices of their ancestors in fighting and dying for liberty and freedom. I dream that the evils of democracy and majority rule will be

replaced with a government designed to secure individual rights. Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom I dream that elected officials will understand the importance of

I dream that the principles of individual liberty and personal responsibility will once again be embraced by Americans.

I dream that justice will be dispensed with fairness and simplicity. I dream that peace officers will be relieved of revenue collection duties and devote their efforts to securing our individual rights.

I dream that all parents will take responsibility for the moral instruction and education of their children.

I dream that our church leaders will see the evil of government control and discard corporate charters and the infamous "501c3"

instrument. I dream that people will reject the evils of taxation through lawful and peaceful means.

I dream that people will express their disagreements with one another without being disagreeable.

I dream that people will accept God's love, grace and mercy, and show by our daily lives that we are his people, eager to be his instruments on this earth.

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Card of Thanks

I wish to thank everyone for loving friendships, support, prayers, food, flowers, calls, and cards. Mostly for your prayers and support that brought me through my recent surgery. Betty Posey

We would like to thank Dee and Janet Justice, Brother Stice, and the ladies of the Methodist Church who prepared and served the food for the family of former Post resident, Tom Patty, our brother-in-law and uncle. It was very kind of each of you to help out our extended family in their time of sorrow.

Thanks again; Ruth Reno and Nancy Wyatt

Thank you for the food, prayers, flowers and memorials that were sent in memory of our Dad, Martin

Nichols. It's so nice to live in a town where people care enough to share our loss with us. We would like to extend our heartfelt "Thanks" to Golden Plains Care Center and all of the employees that cared for both Mother and Daddy these past months and all of the friends who inquired about them and visited them. A special Thanks goes to Bro. Jim Hancock and the members of First Baptist Church for their visits and concern.

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Housing Authority of The City of Post, Texas Rosa Maldonado, Executive

Director (806) 495-2233.

Notice

The following person has registered with the Garza County Sheriff's Department as a convicted Sex Ofender. Jesus Ortiz, Jr. also known as Jesse Ortiz, male-age 39. convicted of "Indecency with a Child" Victim was a 16-year old male. Mr. Ortiz will reside at 109 West 14th or 1019 Mesquite, Post, Texas. can be seen on DPS web page:http:// records.txdps.state.tx.us Windy Mathews

Sex Offender Compliance Coordinator

Garza County Sheriff's Department

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Notification

La siguente persona se an registrado con el departamento de Sheriff de Garza County. Y sue convicto de una offensa sexual. Un hombre de 39 anos, Jesus Ortiz, Jr. aka Jesse Ortiz. Sue convicto de "Indecencia con Un Nino". La Victima sue una nino 16 anos. Senor Ortiz, 109 West 14th or 1019 Mesquite, Post, Texas. DPS web page: http://records.txdps.state.tx.us

Windy Mathews Sex Offender Compliance Coordinator

County Sheriff's Garza Department

Suspicious Staph scourge concerns doctors

A mysterious scourge has Texas physicians and other public health officials concerned, Texas Medicine magazine reports in its December issue. People are developing skin eruptions that cannot be treated by ordinary antibiotics, and while theories have been presented, researchers are not certain why outbreaks are occurring. The skin eruptions are the result of a Staphylococcus bacteria called methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, or MRSA.

Texas Medicine is a publication of the Texas Medical Association, a 38,000-member statewide association of physicians and medical stu-

People in jails, day care centers, schools, and other facilities in Texas and elsewhere have suffered outbreaks of the infection over the past 19 months, the magazine reports. A San Antonio hospital reports more than 100 MRSA cases among children in recent months, and even one case in which the young patient died as a result of MRSA. Scores of inmates at the Bexar County jail also have contracted the malady since last December. "What we have noticed since 1997 is that an organism that is usually seen only in the hospital is now becoming very common in the community," Jaime E. Fergie, MD, chair of the Texas Medical Association's (TMA's) Committee on Infectious Diseases, tells the magazine. "That bacteria, that germ that in the past was just associated with infections acquired in the hospital, is now being seen in children who are otherwise perfectly healthy," adds the pediatric infectious disease specialist.

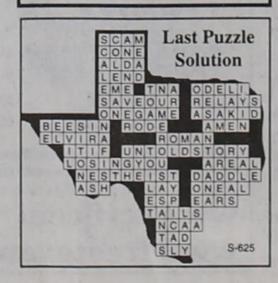
Dr. Fergie and Kevin Purcell, MD, PharmD, RPH, have published an article on the subject in a medical journal. Their work notes a significant jump in MRSA cases in Corpus Christi's Driscoll Children's Hospital as early as 1997, Texas Medicine reports. Their study examines 147 cases of MRSA at the hospital from October 1990 through December 2000. Of those 147 cases, 60 cases are deemed to have been community-acquired MRSA; 53 occurring since 1997, and 35 in the year 2000

Where else is MRSA showing up? On our kids' school sports fields. Some student-athletes on middle school and high school teams are contracting the skin eruptions. One health official tells Texas Medicine that 20 high school football teams across Texas have players suffering from the infection. "We have one football team with 25 members with soft tissue infections," Neil Pascoe, RN, an epidemiologist with the Infectious Disease Division of the Texas Department of Health (TDH) says in the magazine. Of those, nine are confirmed cases of MRSA, he says. Person-to person contact with wounds often suffered in athletics apparently increases the spread.

The MRSA infection is resistant to penicillin and other similar antibiotics, but it can be treated effectively with other drugs, including non penicillin-related antibiotics. Public

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health officials are warning physicians that Staph infections not responding to antibiotics may be MRSA. Proper detection and diagnosis is key, Texas Medicine reports, which is easier when the infection afflicts the skin, the most common target. However, infection showing up in less-obvious places in the body. such as internally, is more difficult to detect, diagnose, and treat.

MRSA is spread primarily through person-to-person contact, so Texas Medicine says TDH's top prevention tip is thorough hand washing. But cases in which a person has no direct contact with an infected patient may be caused by the over-prescribing of antibiotics, and patients not completing their dosages of antibiotics when prescribed them.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation. It is located in Austin and has 120 component county medical societies around the state. TMA's key objective is to improve the health of all Texans.

America was not intended to be a democracy, it was intended to be a republic.

Letters

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In God we trust...

I can't help but wonder if God may of em to "In God I trust." be highly disappointed in his invention and creation called "man."

Mankind is treading on God in the same manner that some of us choose to do to our friends and neighbors, that being none other than "stab 'em in the back." Most of the friends and neighbors have done many wonderful things for us that we only take for granted. Is that what we are doing to God, or are we just not taking him for anything and just want him out of the picture?

In a similar example, Alcoholics Anonymous sure does interfere with our drinking, so does God interfere with our sinning? I have learned both the hard way and the easy way that we can't have it both ways.

I go to AA and I believe in God, but on a good many occasions I have defied both... only to feel a strong guilt trip afterward.

dia

I suppose if I had to prove there is a God in a court of law I might be up against a brick wall, but them stupid activists can't prove to me that there isn't one either.

I've been down a pretty bumpy road in my 58 years, and I am thoroughly convinced God does exist - or I wouldn't be sitting here right now writing this.

I am very much disgusted with the so-called activists (I call them idiots) removing God's name from anything. I believe only a short time these fools will strongly regret what and how they are treating God. They can't tell me that if they get in a bind or in a corner... who they gonna call?

I'm sure there are a lot of people out there like me that got caught up in a trap they couldn't get out of on their own. Such an example is getting thrown in jail for public intoxication. While getting intoxicated, I suppose God never entered my stupid mind... but the minute the big iron door slammed, I guess my first words were, "God, if you will just get me outta here one more time, this will never happen again, I promise." I would be willing to bet that I am a long ways from being the only person that ever throwed that request Through the years, they have had

prayer from public areas, such as scare the voters into allowing them schools, games, etc. I don't give a to have their way. darn if we are standing on top of a mountain, laying on the bottom of flier is the title. It should read, "The the ocean or kicked back in the middle of the courthouse square prayer is a important factor in life's you." long and difficult journey. It makes me want to puke to know it has been removed from a lot of important ar- list of the "Taxpayer Top 15" I find to

ments from anywhere on anything tant fact about the list, however, is troubles me as well. Where do these that it is really irrelevant. people think our man-made laws and rules originated from? Mankind is not smart enough to put such a set of guidelines together as the Ten things not necessary! Commandments, in my opinion. They are all we got. We better stick with 'em.

eliminated, then we can do no wrong, right? Stop to think about it. If they right or wrong.

I wonder what they will come up with next? Now they take "In God mentions God. If God and the Ten Commandments are all thrown by the wayside, will that make it OK to rob, rape, murder and steal? I shudlike without God.

Several things has happened in my life in the last few months, weeks, even in the last few days, that only God could have designed for me. I am not even close to being smart enough to design such things that has taken place in my life. I have no other choice but to believe anything but inaccessible to those with physical "God done it for me."

my way for 58 years, but I was too ing them. What are they trying to busy having the whole world circle around me to even recognize someone was trying to help me. I have not in) this flier, however, was the spent a lifetime searching for what? expenditures on the prison, juvenile I don't even know what I was look- detention center and Lake Alan ing for. I spent a lifetime searching Henry. Cuts are listed to so many of for happiness, thinking it must be in the very necessary programs in the bottom of Jack Daniels' base- Garza County, but nowhere is there ment, only to get to the bottom and find that I missed the whole show three. somewhere along the way. But then I've heard that it took everything I have ever done along the way to get me to this point in life. Had I changed anything along the way, I might not creases will never end! be setting here right now.... I'll just have to let it go at that. Can't change anything anyway. But I can sure but they don't even consider pulling change today, and I intend to do just funding from the other projects? that.

son to remove or change anything.

with exception of I might change one

So to the activists: If it ain't broke,

you better leave it alone.

As I see it and my opinion only. O.L. (Ferg) Ferguson

Saying "goodbye"

We were deeply saddened this week to hear of the death of Durwood Bartlett. I have known Durwood almost all my life. In the last year, our association has changed. As many know, my brother, Chip, Tom Crites and I recently purchased the golf course property for the purpose of building an outdoor amphitheater to stage the outdoor musical, "Ragtown".

Only because of Durwood Bartlett's generosity and civic mindedness has this become a reality. He had turned down higher offers for his land, but when I told him of our plans for the property, he got a little twinkle in his eye and said, "I think that would really be good for Post." We struck a deal and the plans began to develop.

As we began to come out to the property and make preparations, he was always there with his ever present companion, his cocker spaniel, Buddy. It seemed that Durwood was as anxious as we were to see something happen. How many times have I heard him ask, "When are you guys going to get started?" However, he understood that the wheels of progress turn slowly.

Mr. Bartlett, all by himself, carved that golf course out of the Caprock over 50 years ago. I am sure he felt a little "invaded" when we began to make small changes. But, he was always such a gentleman. If he felt that way, he never mentioned it. I wish he had been able to see the end result of the dream he allowed to

He will be missed. Glenn Polk

"Truth?" or Proganda?

After reading through the flier recently put out by the Commissioners and Judge Dalby, I wanted to commend them on a job well done. much practice and it shows with I did not like the idea of removing their latest work of propaganda to

The first problem I have with their TRUTH of how the County Commissioners and Judge are trying to scare

Several things I find very interesting in this flier they published. The be curiously missing a few that I ex-Removing the Ten Command- pected to be there. The most impor-

Does it matter who pays most of the taxes? What matters is that the tax money is being overspent on

Whether it is the big oil interests in Garza County or the poor farmers whose land is likely overvalued any-If the Ten Commandments are way, the total amount of the tax money they pay compared to each other is not the issue! The waste and are eliminated, then there will be no misuse of the tax money is the issue! It must be reined in!

The second thing I find interesting is on the back page under "Tax We Trust" off everything, get rid of Facts." The flier states the Commis-Christmas and anything else that sioners' Court held three public hearings with approximately 30 citizens attending one of them.

I remember the public meeting where the commissioners and Judge der to think what will the world be Dalby pretended to listen to the citizens, although it was clear the budget was already determined and they weren't interested in changing it.

Were they publicized any more than posting a notice at the courthouse and then held during the day (when most folks are at work) in their "cubbyhole" meeting room that is limitations? Maybe this was why I suppose God tried to throw things there wasn't any taxpayers attend-

> The most glaring of all items in (or any mention of cuts to any of these

> Why were these left out? These are some of the main problems contributing to the tax increase, and if they are not cut back the spiral of tax in-

> Why is it OK to pull out of agreements with the city to fund projects,

I believe most of the budget cuts I like the mottos "In God we trust" could be made on these three proband "One nation under God." They lem areas and most, if not all, of the have a good ring to 'em. I see no rea- programs listed in the flier not have to be cut at all! This is why I am so

2003 in review...

(Continued from Page 1)

when the accident occurred near the public crappie house.

Garza County Health Care District board president Mike Travis, nominated to return to the president's position, declined the nomination. The board elected Ray Bagby as president, Terry Bartlett as vice-president and Zoe Kirkpatrick, secretary.

The Post City Council voted to enter into an agreement for an option to purchase water rights from three landowners in the Southland area. The agreement provides an opportunity for the city to acquire well water that would be tied into the pipeline from Slaton. The wells could provide six times more water than what is expected from Slaton.

County officials, working on a request to add two more divers to the Garza County Dive Team, looked at ways in which they could secure financial assistance from the City of Lubbock. The bulk of the dive team's duties are carried out at Lubbockowned Lake Alan Henry.

Valedictorian Kenda Josey and salutatorian Chase Miller were among the Post High School seniors earning diplomas at commencement exercises held at Antelope Stadium.

June 2003

Garza County Commissioners were advised that the bondholders behind the Garza County Regional Juvenile Center are interested in selling the bonds. The bonds were issued by the Garza County Facility Corp., which was formed in preparation for construction of the facility.

City Council members were advised that water could begin flowing. through the pipeline from Slaton to Post as early as mid-July. Construction on the storage tanks at Slaton and Post is on schedule and should be completed by early July.

Garza County Commissioners turned down an opportunity to purchase bonds that provided the financial backing for construction of the juvenile detention center. Approximately \$4.75 million remains unpaid on the bonds, which are held by a source the county judge declined to name. The monthly payment is about \$40,000, but the last payment made on the debt was made in May by the Garza County Public Facility Corp.

July 2003 Katelyn Hobson of El Paso won the local Colgate Country Showdown competition and will represent Post at the West Texas Regional in Abilene in September. The local show was hosted by KPOS Radio.

A reception honoring retiring postmaster Roy Willis was held. Willis has served as postmaster for the past seven years.

A July 13 fire destroyed the historic Justiceburg school building located at the intersection of CR 340 and CR 360. Local firefighters responded to a 9-1-1 call about the blaze but found the abandoned building fully engulfed.

Garza County Judge Giles W. Dalby named Allstate as the lone bondholder for the juvenile detention center and indicated that negotiations are under way to provide for lower monthly payments and a payment extension.

Garza County Commissioners took the first step in refinancing bonds issued by the Garza County Public Facility Corp.

convinced that this flier is nothing more than scare tactics!

Taxpayers, don't be fooled by their scare tactics! Call your commissioners and let them know that cuts in the programs they listed in their flier are not acceptable! Ask them why they can't cut expenditures to the prison and juvenile detention center. Most of all, ask them why they can't cut expenditures to Lake Alan

If they can't use taxpayer money responsibly so that it benefits the most of Garza County citizens, maybe we need to change some faces on the commissioners' court!

Charles J. Propst

Radio Cebridge Media Channel 12

* Taxation is immoral it is theft * apparently lost control of his 2001

August 2003

Peggy Dark, 45, of Cleveland, Texas,

died at the scene of a one-vehicle

accident north of Post at CR 140 on

Aug. 1. According to reports, Dark

was the front seat passenger in the

vehicle when the driver of the Toyota

SUV apparently fell asleep, awoke

and overcorrected. The driver and

Arson was named the apparent

stroyed the Justiceburg School build-

ing, according to sheriff's department

reports. The fire is believed to have

been started inside the building, al-

newly-built pipeline from Slaton.

school year. On the first day of classes,

eral administration, \$474,052; social

September 2003

Plans for "Ragtown," a full-scale

outdoor musical performed in a state-

of-the-art amphitheater, were an-

nounced this month. The amphithe-

ater will be the centerpiece of a live

performance complex to be con-

structed north of Post on the former

Caprock Golf Course property.

Groundbreaking for the \$2.5-million

Bob Collier Drug closed this week

with the retirement of Bob Collier,

who worked in the store for more

than 55 years. The store opened in

1908 as R.H. Collier Drug after Bob

Collier's father purchased the drug

rights from community founder C.W.

Declining land and mineral values

prompted directors of the Garza

County Health Care District to ap-

prove a 1.22-cent per \$100 valuation

tax hike, rolling the existing .10258

(abbr.)

"Texas

(small town)

36 why Jimmy left

Dallas? (2 wds.)

10 TXism: '

dead worm"

on a

project is set for October.

maintenance, \$213,496.

were enrolled in the Post ISD.

Book" award.

treated at UMC in Lubbock

were found.

ejected from the vehicle.

A32-year-old Post man, Mark Cruz, proved a tax rate of 50 cents per \$100 was killed in an accident where he valuation, up from .379.

GMC pickup on FM 669 July 31. Solis was fired two weeks after lawaccording to authorities. The pickup men were summoned to the Solis rolled and caught fire. Cruz was residence by a 9-1-1 call. Solis and his wife were each arrested on Class A misdemeanor charges of assault firmation in a recent election. and family violence, according to re-

pose building was dedicated at the Giles W. Dalby Correctional Facility.

October 2003 A group of local taxpayers began

circulating a petition requesting the Garza County Commissioners Court the vehicle's other passenger were call a tax rollback election. The drive was in response to the court's Sepcause of the July 13 fire that detember decision to increase property taxes from .379 to 50 cents per \$100 valuation.

A longstanding agreement between the City of Post and the White River though no traces of an accelerant Municipal Water District was amended to allow the municipality The 63rd Annual Post Stampede to purchase water from the City of Rodeo wowed spectators for three Slaton. The amendment was rewritten to accommodate the city's plans Slaton city officials notified the City to purchase water from Slaton.

Garza County Commissioners of Post that because of increased costs from the Canadian River Municipal heard debate on a stretch of roadway Water Authority, the City of Slaton that passes through the north sechas planned a 17 percent increase in tion of W.C. Senn's ranch in the area costs for CRMWA water. That in- south of Lake Alan Henry. Senn ascrease, in accordance with the con-serts that the roadway is not owned tract between the cities of Slaton and nor maintained by the county. Senn's Post, will be passed on to the City of neighbor, John Q. Ward, and subdi-Post for water funneled through the vision developers Jody Ashley and LaWayne Fagin, hold that the road is Enrollment in the Post ISD is on a county road - CR 378 - deeded to the the upswing, suggesting a trend that county in 1935 by the former owners could push the district's student count of the Fuller Ranch. No decision was close to 1,000 during the 2003-2004 made on the matter.

A55-year-old Lubbock man, Miguel Aug. 18, the district recorded an over- Ramos, drowned at the public docks all enrollment of 957. By Aug. 26, of Lake Alan Henry after apparently that figure had climbed to 989. On falling into the water while trying to Aug. 30, 2002, a total of 887 students step into a boat.

November 2003

The 2003 Achievement Banquet Garza County Commissioners forhonoring local 4-Hers was conducted. mally accepted petitions calling for a Dionn Heckaman was presented with rollback election. A total of 390 local the "I Dare You" award. Breann residents signed the petitions.

Heckaman was awarded the Senior Water from Slaton began to flow Progress award, and Kevin Strube through the City of Post distribution earned the "Best Junior Two Record center, with approximately 3 million gallons of Canadian River Municipal A tax increase of 50 cents per \$100 Water District water stored in the valuation was approved by the Garza two new tanks and pipeline from County Commissioners Court. Com- Slaton to Post. Water from the missioners agreed to a budget of just CRMWD will be circulated through under \$3 million, with a \$2,555 defi-the city water distribution system cit. The biggest single expense is every third day as part of the plan to \$644,470 for the sheriff's department. keep the water moving through the Other big ticket items include gen- tanks and pipeline.

services, \$261,677; and building trustees agreed the historic Justiceburg school site will be deeded back to that area's community cen-

ter. No determination has yet been made concerning the related 264 Garza County sheriff's deputy Gene acres of property obtained when the two school districts consolidated in

The creation of the Lake Alan Henry Water District earned a majority con-

The Post Dispatch, Thursday, January 1, 2004 Page 7

A Feb. 7 election date was set by Garza County Commissioners in re-A new 2250-square-foot multi-pur- sponse to the validation of the tax rollback petitions. Atotal of 383 qualified voters signed the petitions, according to county officials.

Traffic was bumper-to-bumper through downtown Post over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend thanks to construction on U.S. Hwy. 84. Some travelers waited more than 30 minutes to make their way through

December 2003

In announcing his bid for re-election, Sheriff Kenny Ratke confirmed he will be running in the Republican Party primary instead of on the Democratic Party ballot. Ratke, who previously ran as a Democrat, has served as sheriff since 1992, having twice been re-elected to the post

A life-sized J&T Imagination Santa was shipped from Post to Washington, D.C., this month for display at the White House. The patriotic Santa was created as part of the White House holiday décor at the request of the First Family.

A resolution demanding that the state fund mandated statutes earned the approval of the Garza County Commissioners. County Judge Giles W. Dalby said the cycle of state government mandating new responsibilities to counties without providing is "not right."

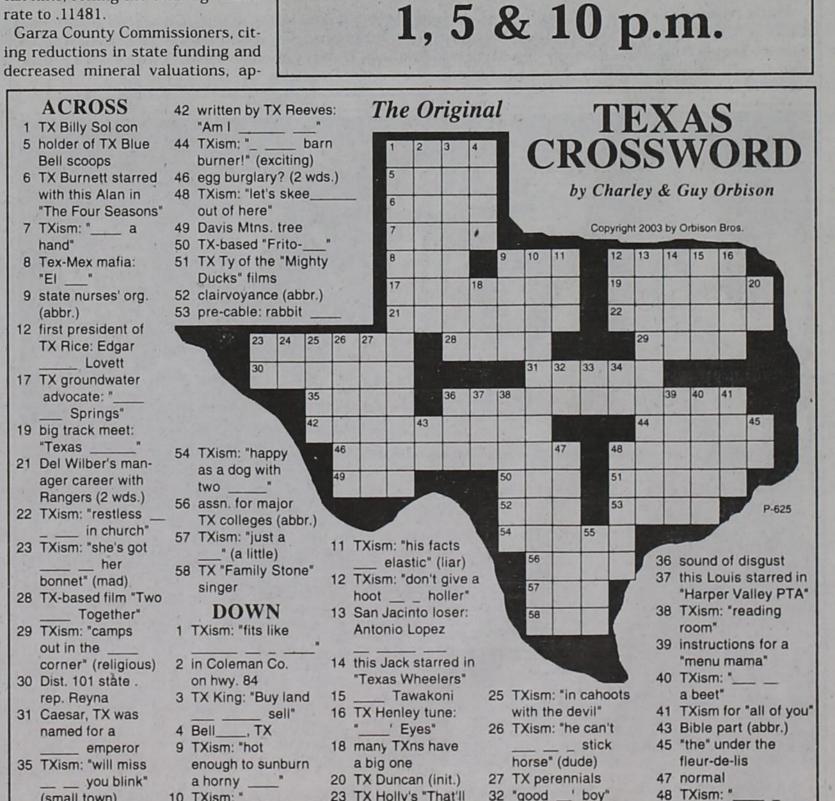
Post Independent School District trustees voted 6-a to sell a 264-acre parcel of property at Justiceburg obtained when that community's school consolidated with the Post school about 30 years ago. School board members voted to sell the Justiceburg property in a public sale to be conducted by sealed bid in February.

The United Way of Garza County announced it remains about \$10,000 short of its goal of \$25,000 for 2003. A privately funded brochure entitled

"Garza County Tax Facts" was printed and distributed as county officials attempt to defend the current tax rate against the upcoming rollback election.

More than a dozen Post Antelope football players earned district honors in football, along with two receiv-Post Independent School District ing All-State honors. Mark McCallister and Mitchell Mills were recognized as Honorable Mention All-State Class AA players.

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23 TX Holly's "That'll

_ the Day"

24 __ Lago, TX

32 "good __' boy"

33 TX Red Duke (abbr.)

34 TXism: "ugly __ sin" 55 film "Texas

bull give milk?" (no)

Post Middle School students earn U.I.L. awards

Post Middle School recently Kocurek, sixth place.

Brenna Postell and Kelsey Howard-Griffis, first place. mention were Samantha Hoover Stacy Bocko, fifth. awards went to Tamara Courtney, third place Kocurek, Lori Jones, Clint Clint Windham, third place. Windham and Cass Tatum.

school, included:

Kelly Chapa, second place.

· Modern oratory - Seventh and Clint Windham, third place.

recognized several of its students • Ready writing - Seventh grade, who earned top honors in UIL Alex Hart, second place; and eighth grade, Suhani Bhakta, Recognized for one-act play were fourth place, and Meagan place.

Star Cast. Receiving honorable grade, Jackie Slaugh, sixth, and

Raymundo, Chasiti Rutherford, • Mathteam-Braden Courtney, Meagan Howard-Griffis, Zachary Zachary Nava, Jackie Slaugh and

 Number sense - Sixth grade, Other honorees, according to Chandi Bhakta, fifth; seventh information provided by the grade, Braden Courtney, sixth Jones, Brenna Postell and place; seventh grade team, place.

• Oral reading - Sixth grade, • Number sense team - Sixth Chloe Mason, sixth place, and grade, Chandi Bhakta, John Michael Porter, second; seventh and eighth grade team, Chasiti Rodriguez, Chasiti Rutherford

and Jakelin Delgadillo, third Ranae Storie, sixth place; seventh Suhani Bhakta, first place. place; eighth grade, Zachary grade, Braden Courtney, third

grade, Braden Courtney, Zachary Howard-Griffis and Zachary Davis and Travis Rasbeary, third Kocurek, first place.

Rodriguez, second.

and Michael Porter. Participation • Math-Seventh grade, Braden Lindsay Morrow, Alexandria Wilson, first place. Rodriguez and Quinton Valdez, • Maps, charts & graphs team second place.

grade team, Ericka Cravy, Lori Bergen and Chandi Bhakta, fifth

grade, Jakelin Delgadillo, sixth Rutherford, Toni Wait and Danica place; and eighth grade, Meagan Williams, fourth place. grade, Adrianna Ceja, sixth place, • Calculator - Sixth grade, Howard-Griffis, second place, and

• Listening skills - Eighth grade · Calculator team - Seventh team, Suhani Bhakta, Meagan

· Maps, charts & graphs - Sixth · Spelling-Sixth grade, Lindsay grade, John Bocko, sixth place; Sanderson, both listed to the All- • Editorial writing - Seventh Morrow, fourth, and Alexandria seventh grade, Zach Davis, second place; and eighth grade, Call · Spelling - Sixth grade team, Windham, fifth place, and Tim

> Eighth grade, Tim Wilson, Call · Dictionary skills - Eighth Windham, Bertha Gonzales and grade, Ericka Cravy, sixth place. Allen Heckaman, first place.

> • Dictionary skills - Eighth • Art - Sixth grade team, Travis Tamara Raymundo, third place. Francisco Gonzales, Chloe Mason · Listening skills - Sixth grade, and Branda Stevens, third place;

Words worth saving ...

Will Rogers, who died in a plane crash with Wylie Post in 1935, was probably the greatest political sage this country has ever known.

Enjoy the following quotes-1. Never slap a man who's chewing

2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot

3. There are 2 theories to arguing

with a woman...neither works. 4. Never miss a good chance to shut

5. Always drink upstream from the

6. If you find yourself in a hole, stop

digging. 7. The quickest way to double your

money is to fold it and put it back in your pocket. 8. There are three kinds of men:

The ones that learn by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence.

9. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

10. If you're riding' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.

11. Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier'n puttin' it back.

12. AND FINALLY: After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him... The moral:

When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.

About Growing Older...

First, Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Sec ond, The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for. Third, Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

Fourth, When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

Fifth, You know you are getting old when every thing either dries up or leaks.

Sixth, I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top. Seventh, One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

to see how splendid the day has been. Ninth, Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable. Tenth, Long ago when men cursed

Eighth, One must wait until evening

and beat the ground with sticks, it was called witchcraft. Today it's called

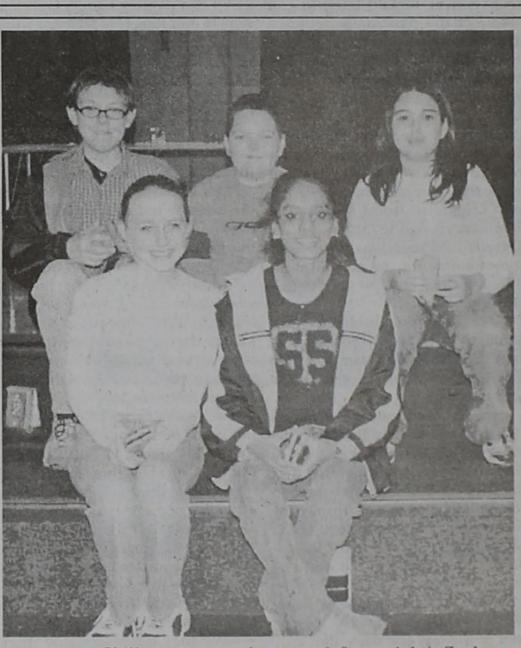
And finally, If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you are



Oral Reading and Mordern Oratory are (top row, left to right), Adrianna Ceja, Zachary Kocurek, Jakelin Delgadillo, (front row) Kelly Chapa and Chloe Mason. Coaches were Mrs. Vass and MMrs. Hester. (Photo by Greg Henry)



Ready Writing and Editorial Writing are (top row, left to right), Meagan Howard - Griffis, Jackie Slaugh, Stacy Bocko, (front row) Suhani Bhakta and Alex Hart. Coach was Mrs. Tatum. (Photo by Greg Henry)



Listening Skills team were (top row, left to right), Zachary Kocurek, Michael Porter, Jakelin Delgadillo, (front row) Meagan Howard-Griffis and Sukani Bhakta. Coach was Ms. Vaughn.



One Act Play participants are (top row, left to right), Wanda Osborn (Coach), Tamara Ramundo, Samantha Hoover, Lori Jones, Brenna Postell, Clint Windham, Dena Potter (Coach), (front row) Megan Howard-Griffis, Kelsey Sanderson, Cass Tatum, Zachary Kocurek, Michael Porter and Chasiti Rutherford. (Photo by Greg Henry)



Math, Number Sense and Calculator team include (back row, left to right), Chasiti Rutherford, Chandi Bhakta, Jackie Slaugh, Zachary Nava, John Rodriquez, Clint Hindham, (front row) Ranae Storie, Travis Rasbeary, Braden Courtney and Zachary Davis. Coaches are Mr. Powell, Mrs Fluitt and Coach Holdman. (Photo by Greg Henry)



Spelling and Dictionary Skills team are (back row, left to right), Lori Jones, Tamara Raymundo, Quinton Valdez, Lindsay Morrow, Alexandria Rodriguez, (front row) Erica Cravy and Brenna Postell. Coaches are Mrs. Humble and Mrs. Greer. (Photo by Greg Henry)



Maps, charts and Graphs and Art team are (back row, left to right), Tim Wilson, Call Windham, Zachary Davis, John Bocko and Francisco Gonzales, (front row) Toni Wait, Danica Williams, Chasiti Rutherford, Chloe Mason, Travis Bergin, Chandi Bhakta and Branda Stevens. Not in photo are Bertha Gonzales and Allen Hickaman. Coaches are Mrs. Adams and Dr. Coltrane. (Photo by Greg Henry)