



# Toll Free number now available

Mary Scott Nabers, Commissioner Representing Employers at the Texas Employment Commission announced that a statewide toll free line has been installed in her office. The number, 1-800-TEC-MARY, is the first free access to be made available for people wanting to directly contact her state office. Commissioner Nabers represents 336,000 Texas employers.

"With these tough economic times business men and women need and want assistance more than ever", Commissioner Nabers said. "I believe this will be a much appreciated service." Commissioner Nabers receives over 100 calls a day from employers and/or employees. Many are responding to her weekly column, Texas Business Today,

Commissioner

Mary Scott Nabers



### Texas Business Today

which appears weekly in 207 Texas newspapers. Most are seeking answers to employment law issues and tax questions or want information on statewide services that are available.

need help? toll free # 1-800-TEC-MARY

DEAR COMMISSIONER NABERS: I have recently been trying to resolve a problem with an

unemployment claim and have made several calls to the state office of the Texas Employment Commission. Needless to say this has been somewhat expensive because the calls are all long distance. Isn't there some way I can get help without it costing me?

J.B. McKinney, Texas

DEAR J.B.: Your timing is superb! Beginning November 3, 1987 my office will have a toll free number-1-800-TEC-MARY. If someone in my office cannot immediately give you the information you need we will route your call to a department that can help you.

DEAR COMMISSIONER NABERS: I'm really mad! I just bought an existing business. The state should be delighted because the old owner was about to take bankruptcy.

Now, however, the Texas Employment Commission tells me that I cannot have a new business rate of 2.7%. Instead they want me to assume the ex-owner's rate of 7.3%.

I consider my endeavor to be new business-new owner, new management, etc.

Can you help me?

F.A. Dumas, Texas

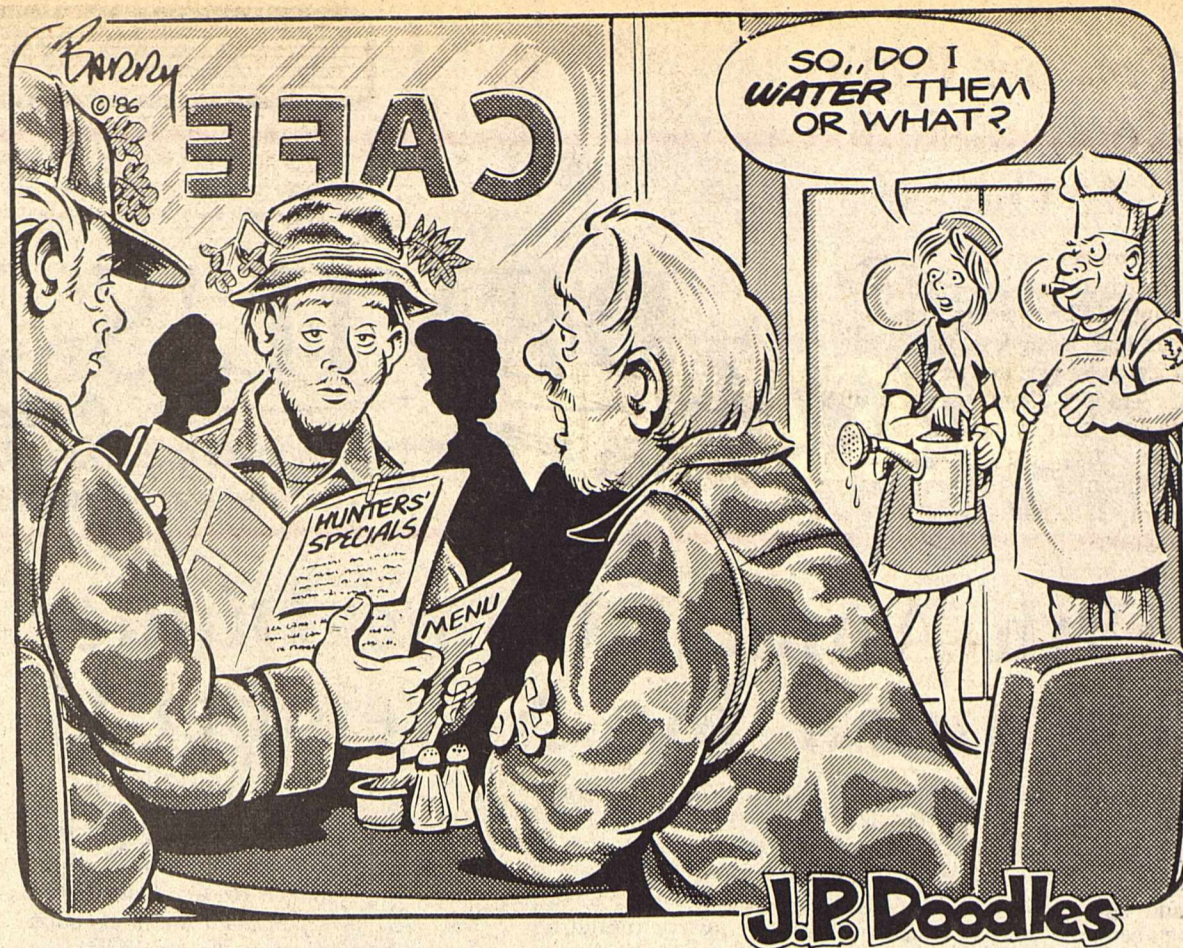
DEAR F.A.: The provision of the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act which applies to your situation is relatively new and many business people are totally unfamiliar with it. This is unfortunate because it can make a BIG financial difference to a company.

Section 7(c)(7)(A) states that if you, as an employer, acquire all of the organization, trade or business of another employer and you continue operation of that organization trade or business, then you must assume the predecessor business's tax rate.

The factors you mentioned-new name, new owner, new management-are minor considerations in determining whether the business is really new or just a continuation of a former business. The Texas Employment Commission must look to see if you acquired all of the former business. If you dispute the local Texas Employment Commission's finding that you acquired all of the organization, trade or business of your predecessor, then you should request a Rule 13 Tax Coverage Hearing. The Commission will review all of the facts and give you a final decision on your status.

Texas has an experienced rated tax system. This means that an employer's unemployment tax rate depends, in part, upon the number of payable claims filed against its business. This tax rate, which may currently be as high as 8.44%, should be a consideration in purchase negotiations. Buying a business with a high tax rate can have unforeseen and expensive consequences.

Ms. Nabers represents 336,000 employers throughout Texas. If you have any questions you want answered, please write Commissioner Nabers at: Texas Business Today, 614 Texas Employment Commission Building, 15th and Congress, Austin, Texas 78778.



J.P. Doodles

## ONE MAN'S OPINION

by T. Driskell

What shall we do with pari-mutuel? The path that we must take seems quite clear. We must maximize the state's return and involve the state in a minimum of risk.

Private and local capital sources will build and operate the tracks and the state will extract a toll from the betting. Ideally, pari-mutuel parlors should be established in major metropolitan areas to give greater pre-race betting, contributing to a broader base for establishing track odds.

The total operation must be carefully monitored by the state, with the tax extracted from the betting, motels, restaurants and general sales. It is hard to visualize how the state can lose, but somehow sitting in the gallery of our Legislature, possibilities seem unlimited.

Good management should save the state economy millions of dollars and possibly extract millions from other state's economies. The big money is not on the tracks it is in motels, restaurants, retail sales and services, but we must have the tracks to

attract the racing fans.

We are still reaching for the pie-in-the-sky as evidenced by the Super Collider Bond issue vote. How many jobs would it produce? Would workers be imported to fill the positions? Texas probably will not get the Collider so the thirty plus dollars for every man, woman and child is not a real question.

The interest on the five-hundred million would produce about two-thousand jobs and would require only about two dollars and twenty-five cents from every man, woman, and child. Why not tax the citizens for the interest amount and not

indebt our state with a bond issue

## Snips, Quips, and Lifts

by Lottie Lee Baker

If absense makes the heart grow fonder, many people sure love their church.

Another trouble with white lies is that they pick up a lot of dirt in their travels.

A balanced diet is what you get at a buffet supper.

A friend is one who has the same enemies you do.

Too many people insult friends and flatter strangers.

To err is human-but it takes a better excuse the second time.

Why do some men look for home atmosphere in a hotel and hotel service at home?

Life for most of the world is a puzzle with a peace missing.

Cheer up the fellow who is down today-give him a smile for his sorrow-For this old world has a funny way-you may be down tomorrow.

Real happiness is cheap enough, but we pay so dearly for its counterfeit.

Polished words cannot double for sincerity.

Even in Grandpa's time there was something to make you sleep. They called it work.

The trouble with the mini, midi, and maxi, they all cost moni.

A good man is like a good watch; open face, busy hands, well-

the creators never intend to pay? We have given up our prerogatives, if we every had any, for control of the educational level of the state board of education, and its membership. We are not in a predominate position in our district and there is no educational requirement on candidates. Are we heading for a situation similar to the University of Texas in the early 1940's? A board of regents without foresight enough to recognize the distinction between buildings and education. The resources available should have built the greatest University of America, but guided by a board of regents with high school educations or less, they built a helluva pile of brick. The University has evolved as one well in the nation's top thirty at great expense, since that time.

regulated, and full of good works.

Nothing you put into a banana split is so fattening as a spoon.

The fact that silence is golden may explain why there is so little of it.

When you take the air out of a big wheel all you have left is a flat tire.

To forget the disagreeable and remember instead the pleasant, is one of the things the Lord did when he gave us a mind to remember with.

**A Lift For The Week**  
Success in life depends a great deal upon the quality of the oil we use to oil the hinges.

## Television Enterprises is hosting a drawing contest on "What Thanksgiving means to me"

The contest is open to young people under the age of sixteen.

Entry deadline in November 20.

Entries should be turned in at the Television Enterprises office at 206 E. Main, Sonora.



- 1st Place will receive FREE -3 Months Disney Channel
- 2nd Place will receive FREE -2 Months Disney Channel
- 3rd Place will receive FREE -1 Month Disney Channel

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Television Enterprises Inc.

206 E. Main Sonora, TX

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Ozona, Texas 76943

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## DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

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MEMBER 1987

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

## Trooper Philip Kemp assigned to Odessa

Trooper Philip O. Kemp, 23, graduated from the Department of Public Safety training academy and has been assigned to the Drivers License Service in Odessa.

Trooper Kemp was one of 83 cadets recently commissioned as state troopers in graduation ceremonies in Austin. Trooper Kemp is a native of Sonora and assumes his new duties immediately.

Colonel Leo Gossett, DPS director, said he is proud of the new troopers and looks forward to their service with the Department.

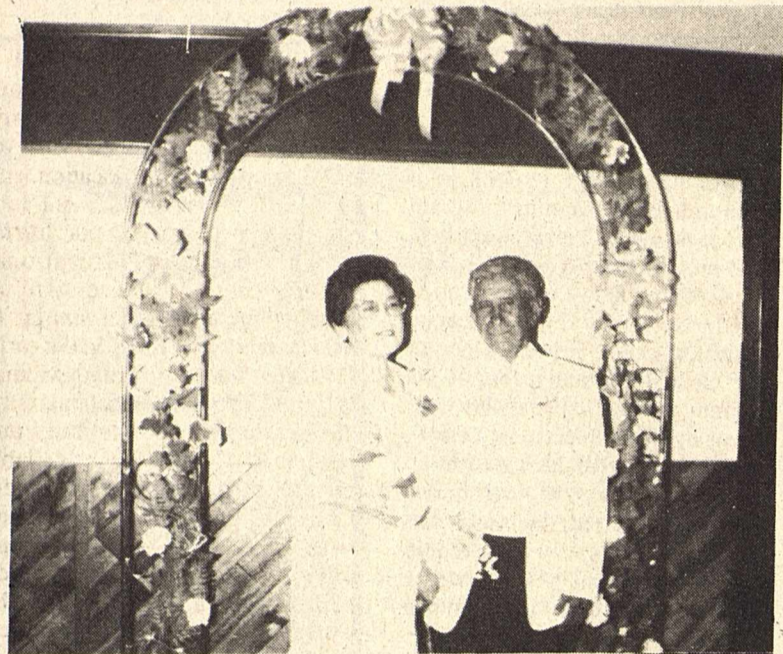
"These men and women were given an extensive 18-week course concentrating on the responsibilities of DPS troopers," Gossett said. "They have been well trained to uphold the laws of this state in routine as well as difficult and dangerous law enforcement



TROOPER PHILIP O. KEMP

situations." "A Texas trooper is required to perform a number of different tasks in addition to traffic law enforcement. The trooper will assist in narcotics arrests and other felony cases as well as manhunts and disaster situations," Gossett said.

The DPS training course included instruction in traffic law, criminal law, arrest procedures, accident investigation, and numerous other law enforcement related topics.



## Couple celebrates 50th

Mr. and Mrs. Prajediez Avila, Sr. celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Saturday October 24, 1987 at the Sutton County Steakhouse. Mr. Prajediez Avila married Carmen Pequeno on October 23, 1937 in Eldorado, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Prajediez Avila renewed their golden vows with the Rev. Louis Halford performing the ceremony. The couple exchanged gold wedding band rings. Carmen was given away by their oldest son Armando Avila.

The couple have eight children, five sons and three daughters. Their

sons are Armando Avila of Sonora; Ismael Avila, Prajediez, Jr.; Mario and Hector Avila of San Jose, California; daughters are, Tina Ortega of Ft. Worth; Irma Mata and Elizabeth Chavez of Sonora.

Hostesses for the occasion were their children and grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Avila, Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Ortega, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Mark Van Dyke, Mr. and Mrs. Mario Avila, Cynthia and Corie Avila, Mary Bell and David Ariaga, Sonia, Edward, Sammy and Adrian Mata, Olgie, Carmen, Sara, Lizzie and Maura Chavez and great grandson Michael Galindo.



MR. AND MRS. A.G. BLACK

## Blacks celebrate anniversary

A.G. and Bea Black celebrated their 55th Wedding Anniversary on November 8th in the home of Ann and Bailey Rogers with the Allen

Joe Hearn family and the J.D. Mirike family in attendance.

They moved to Sonora from Junction in 1983.

## ...IN SONORA

The Game Dinner will be held November 17th, this will be the 19th year for this event.

The Sutton County Game Dinner Association is the sponsor of the annual event. We are very proud to have the Lions Club as the food servers.

The Game Dinner is kept going year after year by all the folks who provide not only the food but the excellent cooks. Our ranchers provide all the meat except the Buffalo and it is brought from Johnson City.

Our cooks are local men who compete in competitions around the state and are good at what they do. They bring their pits and spend

long hours cooking everything from chili to deer.

Come out and join us, it will be wonderful-it hasn't missed yet!

### Turkey Shoot

Will be held November 21, all day starting at 11:00 a.m. Sponsored by Field and Streams and the National Firemen's Council, this includes our firemen (who do the work).

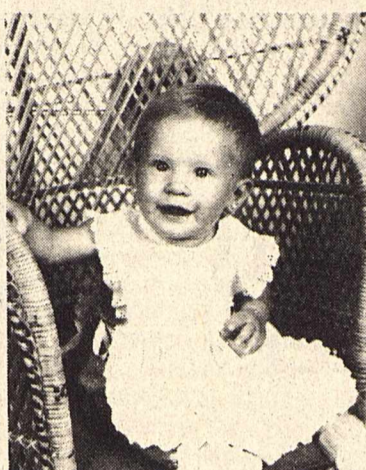
Bring your gun and test your skills. We will have targets to shoot at and turkeys for the winners. Each target will be \$3.00. Watch for the signs and streamers. We will be at the Caliche Pit near the airport. See ya there Saturday.

## Cathy Covey celebrates first birthday

Cathy Lea Covey, daughter of Lee and Vicki Covey celebrated her first birthday Monday, November 9, 1987.

On hand to help her celebrate were: Charlie Wallace, Omar Gonzales and Amanda and Ashley Covey, Cherie and Jennifer Covey, Grandma and Grandpa Covey, and Mom and Dad.

She also celebrated her cousin Cherri Covey's birthday.



CATHY LEA COVEY

## Palos, Castro announce engagement

palos, castro engagement w/pic

Mr. and Mrs. Saul Palos are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily Palos to Eddie Castro.

The couple will unite in marriage on December 26, 1987, 4:00 p.m., at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Sonora.

Mr. Castro is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Everardo Castro.



EMILY PALOS AND EDDIE CASTRO

## Jari Todd to appear in WTC opening production

The Western Texas College theatre department will open its new season with the production of "Wild Oats" November 19-23 in the Fine Arts Theatre on campus.

Jari Todd of Sonora will be appearing in the female lead role as Kate Thunder. Miss Todd is a freshman at WTC and recipient of a drama scholarship. Appearing opposite her will be Jim Miller of Lubbock.

Other members of the cast are Tony Lopez of Eldorado, Dave Harveson of Fort Worth, Dan Hawkins of Graham, Ila Kay Gross of Knox City, Bret Dillon of Leedey, Okla., Mike Carmichael, Jim Miller and Theresa Rodriguez of Lubbock, Anthony Galvez of Seagraves, Jamie Cofer of Snyder, and Shauna Gibson of Vernon.

"Wild Oats" is a funny, affectionate tribute to the men and women of the late 19th century who toured the American West as traveling players, Jim Rambo, director, said. Adapted from a famous 18th century Restoration comedy by John O'Keefe, the present version switches the locale of the action from the drawing

room of Restoration England to the saloons and prairies of the Old West. First presented to popular and critical acclaim at the Mark Taper Forum of the Los Angeles Theatre Center, "Wild Oats" is scheduled for a future Broadway production.

Performances will begin at 8 p.m. on Nov. 19, 20, 21 and 23 and at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 22.

Tickets will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Ticket information can be obtained by calling the box office at 915 573-8511, extension 234.

Play Hunt  
the Devil  
pg. 5



(Left to right)-Preston Faris, Seco Mayfield, Nancy and Bob Brockman, Tryon Fields, and Ed Koliba.

## Area producers attend Total Ranch Management School

Four local producers and CEA-Ag Preston Faris were among 21 persons who recently completed the Total Ranch Management School held in Sutton and Crockett counties. The school featured an in-depth educational effort in ranch management. Setting long term strategic goals, balancing forage supply with forage demand, evaluating enterprise budgets,

examining financial statements and planning the estate were just a few of the issues covered. Upon completion each participant was presented a certificate by District Extension Director, Ed Koliba. The school was sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service a part of the Texas A&M University System.

## Preccia Miller wins in Concho Cookery Contest

The Concho Cookery Recipe Contest was held in San Angelo on Wednesday, October 28. The annual event is sponsored by the San Angelo Standard-Times.

Preccia Miller took Best of Show Recipe and also first place in the Vegetable category. She won both categories with her recipe of Best Ever Cheese Soup.

Miss Miller is a senior at Sonora High School.

The winning recipe is reprinted below:

**Best Ever Cheese Soup**  
1 stick margarine  
2 carrots (grated)  
2 celery stalks (chopped)

3 green onions (chopped)  
Saute the above on low heat.  
Add:  
2 cans chicken broth  
3 cans cream of potato soup  
1/2 lb. Jalapeno cheese (or less)  
1/2 lb. longhorn cheese (grated)  
Heat the above, stirring frequently.  
Add sauted vegetables and heat thoroughly. Remove from heat.  
Add: 3 heaping tablespoons of sour cream. Salt and pepper to taste.

## Special Thank You

The Sonora Junior High Student Council wishes to thank the following businesses for donating prizes of the Bingo Booth at the Halloween Carnival: Sonic Drive-In, Video Shack, Chavez Grocery, Dairy Queen, Teaff Oil Company, Radio Shack, Perry's, Stokes Products, Town and Country, Thriftway, Western Auto, Spain's, Bait Shop, Ol' Sonora Trading Co., Sonora Wool and Mohair, Pizza Hut, The Bright Spot, Food Center, Commercial Restaurant, O'Bryans, Modern Way, Gosneys, Hill's Jewelry, Westerman Drug, Photo Ranch and Flower's by Irene.

## Happy Birthday M.



Love, Mom and Dad

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**Gildon speaks**

(con't. from page 1)

life and I will work toward enhancing it."

In regard to economic development Gildon says "We all know the oil and gas industry has been hit hard. Now we need to focus on our other resources available to us such as people. There are agencies, both private and governmental, who are willing

to share their expertise with us in helping us grow. This growth could be in the form of new industry but we also have to look at helping the businesses that are already here.

"The important thing in any development is that it requires the entire community, working together, to produce results."

Thinking of West Texas as

home, Gildon says he was delighted to see the ad in a trade magazine for City Manager of Sonora. "When I read the ad, I sent my resume immediately. In fact, Irene and I felt it most appropriate when we heard the theme for the Christmas promotion here in Sonora--"Home for the Holidays"--because we feel we are."

Gildon grew up in Monahans where his parents still live as they have for the past forty-six years. Mrs. Gildon, Irene, was raised in Coleman County so both are familiar with this part of Texas.

The Gildons have two children. Their daughter Kimberly, 26, is a school teacher in Columbus near Houston and their son Mathew, 18, is a High School Senior in Portland. Until Mathew's graduation, Irene will split her time between Sonora and Portland.

**GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT**  
 TAKE A BREATHER ON NOVEMBER 19

**FINANCIAL FOCUS**

by Mike Smith

**Investment firm sheds new lights (camera action!) on investment representative training**

On one set, the television camera is focused on two chairs around a table in a "country kitchen." In another, the camera is pointed at a comfortable sofa in a "living room." Still, in a different setting, the focus is a "professional office." And in the fourth set, a cash register in a "retail store" is a visual prop for the camera.

These aren't four different sets on the back lot of a television network's film studio in Hollywood, but part of the state-of-the-art training center at the national investment firm of Edward D. Jones & Co. in St. Louis.

Every day, new brokers are videotaped in "real life" settings as part of the firm's extensive six-month training program--an exercise which makes Jones' brokers sensitive to the needs of individuals.

"Each of our investment representatives does this kind of role playing as both the broker and the customer," said Steve Roberts, who is responsible for Jones' training program. "This helps our brokers to more effectively understand the individual investor and gives them a unique perspective when they are determining a correct investment mix."

After the videotaping session, the role-playing exercise is played back, and the new broker is critiqued by an "experienced veteran," a colleague in the training program and him/herself. Every person gives their point of view and the group arrives at a consensus as to whether the interview was positive or negative.

"The critique session is very valuable in that the videos let the new representatives see themselves as others do, and in turn helps them develop a unique client sensitivity," said Roberts.

Every new representative at Edward D. Jones & Co. spends approximately six months in a comprehensive training program before actually opening an office. The process begins with 16 weeks of academic study in preparation for the New York Stock Exchange licensing exam. However, one of the most important facets of the training process is the nine weeks spent by the trainee in an office--on the job with an established Jones' investment representative. During this period, the trainee has the opportunity to personally experience the day-to-day business of helping individuals achieve their financial goals.

"Our approach to training is unique among the investment industry," said Roberts, "but even after the investment representative is out in the field, we continue the training process with meetings, seminars and updates which help keep our people as informed as possible."

Edward D. Jones & Co. provides conservative investment counseling to individual investors in 37 states.

The Sonora Edward D. Jones & Co. representative is Michael W. Smith whose office is located at Park Place 205 A. Hwy. 277 N., Sonora, Texas.

**Where to write**  
 Texas Representative:  
 Gerald Geistweidt  
 House of Representatives  
 Box 2910, Rm. GO4-C,  
 Austin, Texas 78769  
 (512) 463-0536  
 Texas Senator:  
 Bill Sims  
 Texas Senate  
 Box 12068, Rm. 421,  
 Austin, Texas 78711  
 (512) 463-0125  
 U.S. Representative:  
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 Representatives  
 Rm. 509 Cannon House  
 Office Bld.,  
 Washington, D.C. 20515-  
 (202) 225-4236  
 U.S. Senators:  
 Lloyd Bentsen  
 U.S. Senate  
 Rm. 703 Hart Bld.,  
 Washington, D.C. 20510  
 (202) 224-5922  
 Phil Gramm  
 U.S. Senate  
 Rm. 370 Russell Bld.,  
 Washington, D.C. 20510  
 (202) 224-2934

**Schleicher County Medical Center presents FREE Health Fair**  
 Wednesday, November 18, 1987  
 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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*The simplicity of trust*

by Charles Huffman, Pastor  
 Hope Lutheran Church, Sonora  
 "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord! Be it unto me according to Your word". Luke 1:38

she listened to what He had to say and observed what He did, and then kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

At the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-11), we see the simplicity of her trust. When an emergency arose, she went to her Son with it. She didn't make all kinds of pleas to Him, nor did she claim any priority with Him. She simply laid the need before Jesus, saying: "They have no wine". What a beautiful prayer! And when it appeared that Jesus would reject her request, she knew that it was only

appearance. She had pondered well what she had seen and heard of Him, and simply trusted her Son. Mary's faith was such that she simply got everything ready for Christ to answer her prayer, saying to the servants: "Do anything He tells you". And Jesus turned water into wine.

In several ways of expressing our own faith, we claim that our trust is in Jesus Christ alone. But do we trust Him simply enough to lay our needs before Him and then let Him transform them into whatever He will, however He will?

Turning water into wine was the first of Jesus' miracles. But much greater things follow. By His perfect life of forgiving love, Jesus Christ transforms gloomy days into days of brightness and abundant life. By His suffering in our place, Jesus Christ transforms beds of pain into altars of praise. By His substitutionary death on the Cross, Jesus Christ transforms sinners into saints. By His glorious resurrection from the grave, Jesus Christ transforms death into everlasting life. We need only to keep His words, ponder them in our hearts, and simply trust Him.

**Church Directory**

Church of Christ Minister-Don Jones Bible School-10 am Worship-11 am Sunday Night-6:30 pm Wednesday Night-7 pm	The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Rev. William R. Jones Worship Service-10 am Communion first Sunday of each month	Somebody Cares Center Rev. Louis Halford Sunday Adult Bible Hour-9:30 am Super Son Bible Hour-9:30 am Morning Service-10:45 am L.I.F.E. (youth)-3 pm Evening Service-6 pm Wednesday Bible Study-7 pm	First Baptist Church Rev. Jim Stephen Sunday School-9:45 am Morning Worship-11 am Church Training-6 pm Evening Worship-7 pm Wednesday Service-7 pm
Primera Iglesia Bautista Sunday School-9:45 am Worship Service-11 am Training Union-5 pm Evening Service-6 pm Wednesday Service-7 pm W.M.U.-Sunday-2 pm Between Santa Clara & Chestnut	First United Methodist Church Kent L. Kepler-Pastor Sunday School-9:45 am Worship-10:55 am KVRN 98 AM-11 am UMYF-6 pm Chancel Choir-7 pm	Hope Lutheran Church Sunday School-10 am Worship Service-11 am Thursday: Adult Bible Class-8pm Charles Huffman, Pastor	St. Ann's Catholic Church Rev. Lawrence D'Mello Saturday Night Mass 7 pm English Sunday Mass- 8 am Spanish 11 am English Holy Day Mass-7 pm
Sonora Tabernacle United Pentecostal Rev. Kenneth Doyle, Pastor Sunday School-10 am Worship-11 am Evening Worship-7:30 pm Wednesday Service-7:30 pm	Live Oak Baptist Church Rev. Charles White Sunday School-10:00 am Sunday Worship-11:00 am Evening-6:00 pm Wednesday Service-7 pm	Jehovah's Witness 310 St. Ann's 387-2679 or 387-3947 Spanish Language Meeting Public Talk-10:00 Sunday Watchtower Study-11:00 Sunday Theocratic Ministry-7:30 Tuesday Service Meeting-8:15 Tuesday Bible Study-7:30 Thursday	St. John's Episcopal Church 404 NE Poplar Holy Eucharist-Sunday 8 & 11 am Sunday School-9:45 am Holy Eucharist w/Prayers for Healing, 1,3 & 5 Wed., 7 pm Daily Morning Prayer-8:45 am Monday-Friday The Rev. J. Montic Jones, Rector

The following businesses urge you to attend the church of your choice

Westerman Drug COX DRUG, INC. 387-2541	SW Texas Electric Co-op 387-2544	Food Center Home owned and operated 387-3438	Kerbow Funeral Home 387-2266
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**School Menu**

- Monday, November 16-**  
 Chicken & Noodles, Green Beans, Buttered Corn, Crackers, Applesauce, Milk  
**Tuesday, November 17-**  
 Corn Dog, Pinto Beans, Tossed Salad, Orange Wedges, Milk  
**Wednesday, November 18-**  
 Turkey & Dressing, Giblet Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Broccoli Casserole, Hot Rolls, Fruit Salad, Milk  
**Thursday, November 19-**  
 Tacos, Pinto Beans, Tossed Salad, Cinnamon Roll, Milk  
**Friday, November 20-**  
 Sloppy Joe Burger, Potato Chips, Cole Slaw, Ice Cream, Milk

**HERE'S MY CARD**

CHARLES R. PAJESTKA, M.D.  
 FAMILY PRACTICE 301-A HUDSPETH AVENUE  
 SONORA, TEXAS  
 OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT TELEPHONE (915)387-6557

PATRICIA JOHNSON  
 Patricia's Place  
 ANTIQUES - GIFTS  
 304 S. E. CROCKETT  
 SONORA, TEXAS 76950  
 BUS: (915) 387-5334  
 RES: (915) 387-5921

GREGORY C. LIND, M.D.  
 301 B HUDSPETH PLAZA  
 SONORA, TEXAS  
 (915) 387-6565

**The Lind Guest House Bed & Breakfast**

101 N. Prospect, Sonora, Texas  
 Across from the Courthouse in downtown Sonora  
 Continental Breakfast/or Continental Plus  
 915-387-3652  
 Dr. and Mrs. Gregory C. Lind

## BRONCO TAILS

News from Sonora High School

by Heather Bunkley

Football season is officially over, but there will be plenty of action with basketball coming on so please keep coming out and supporting our Bronco athletes.

The following Sonora High students went to Hondo Saturday to represent the Sutton county 4-H Club at District 13 meetings. Those attending were: David Ross, Christi Spain, Deaky Spiller, Heather Bunkley, Clay Graves and April Spiller.

Yearbooks will be on sale through November 13. Please see that you have your money in to Mr. Kirkpatrick or a yearbook staff member by the end of the day on Friday if you want a 1987-88 Bronco yearbook.

The debate teams along with those participating in poetry will be traveling to their first tournament of the year on Friday. They will be competing at Clark High School in San Antonio.

UIL science, math, and literary contests will be held Saturday, November 14, at Lake View High School in San Angelo. Good luck

to those from Sonora High who will be competing there!

Congratulations to Michele Adams and Alicia Sanchez for being named Football Sweethearts for 1987! Special recognition was also given to Corie Avila for her support of the Bronco football team this season.

I wish to recognize Leila Bouhassis for her dedication and hard work in supporting the Bronco football team. Leila spent many hours working on locker decorations and other supportive activities for which she received no public recognition.

Congratulations to the Bronco football team for receiving the Spirit Award at the last pep rally--it was nice to see them so enthusiastic!

And a very special thanks to all parents and other adults who supported the Broncos and the Mighty Bronco Band. Your efforts in following the team to out of town games, and your time and labors spent at home games did not go unnoticed. Keep it up--we need you and your support!



Sonic Halloween Costume winners (left to right)-2nd-Dacy Fawcett, 3rd-Amy Gutierrez, 1st-Cody Day.

### How much should you spent on credit?

by Micki Miller

You're all set to go shopping. You've got your credit cards ready and waiting to "charge." But before you hit the shops, take the time to figure out just how much you can afford to spend on credit.

There are two simple rules to follow when figuring out how much you can afford to charge. First, your credit bills--including car payments, credit card bills and other installment credit, but excluding your mortgage payment--should be kept to under 15-20 percent of your take-home pay each month. Second, be sure you are able to pay off everything in 18-24 months.

Interest rates on credit cards depend upon the rates set by the issuing financial institutions. Credit cards, such as Visa or MasterCard, aren't all the same. Interest rates and terms and conditions of computing interest rates can differ.

Depending upon how you use your credit cards, lower interest rates can be beneficial. If you pay your credit card bills in full each month, you don't have to worry about paying a finance charge so the interest rate wouldn't matter. You're using your credit cards for convenience, not credit.

But a true credit user may benefit by shopping around for a credit with low interest rates. Because true credit users regularly use credit,

and always carry over an outstanding balance, they pay a finance charge each month.

If your current credit card charges 19% interest and another credit card company charges 14% interest, that's a 5% difference. Now, if you usually have a monthly balance of \$800, multiply that figure by 5% and you come up with \$40. That's the amount you'll save each year by switching to the credit card with a lower interest rate. If you have several credit cards at high interest rates, the savings could be substantial.

There's one catch to this, however. There may also be a difference in the annual fee charged by each company. Subtract the annual fee from the amount you calculated to see the real savings. If, for example, the card with 14% interest has a \$17 dollar annual fee, you are usually saving \$23 (\$40-\$17=\$23) by changing cards. Lower interest rates may mean a high annual fee, which could cost you more in the long run, depending on the balance you carry over each month.

## GIFT offers school enrichment grant

Science and math teachers served by Education Service Center Region 15 (San Angelo) interested in the GTE Foundation Growth Initiatives for Teacher (GIFT) fellowship program can get more details at an area seminar beginning at 3:45 p.m. November 16 in the conference room of the San Angelo Independent School District offices at 1621 University in San Angelo.

Forty-three science and math teaching teams from Texas have been selected to participate in the program the past two years, including one team from Region 15 in 1987. The GIFT program provides opportunities for school enrichment and professional development to secondary school mathematics and science teachers from both public and accredited non-profit schools.

Charles Watkins of General

Telephone Company of the Southwest in San Angelo, coordinator of the Texas program, said the grants reward outstanding teachers by providing them with an opportunity to update their subject knowledge and to translate their learning experience into effective teaching.

GIFT offers a school enrichment grant of \$2,500 each to the mathematics and science teachers which must be matched by an additional \$2,500 each from the school or community; a personal development grant of up to \$2,500 each for study, field work or in-service training; and an opportunity for each teacher to participate in an all expense paid seminar with GTE scientists, managers and human resource experts to address real-world needs in mathematics and science education.



## Play "Hunt the Devil"

It's easy and here's how:

Answer the following questions regarding the ads in this issue of the paper and return to the Devil's River News office, 220 NE Main, by 5 p.m. on Friday. From the forms which are correct, five will be drawn and each will receive a coupon good for a medium pizza at Pizza Hut, compliments of the Devil's River News. Winners will be notified in next week's paper. Employees of the Devil's River News and their immediate families are not eligible to participate. One entry per household, please. Advertisers, if you would like to be included in this contest, call Carla at 387-2507.

1. How much is the 16 oz. box of Sunshine Crackers at Jim's Thriftway?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. At what temperature does WTU recommend you set your thermostat?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is Westernman Drug offering a 25% discount on gifts and appliances?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many dollars worth of gifts are in the sleigh Tedford Jewelry is giving away on November 21?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the second rule Lone Star Gas recommends should you smell gas in your home?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. How much is the sale price of the AM/FM Stereo Headset at Kerbow's Radio Shack?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

7. You receive \$500 back when you purchase what at Sonora Ford Sales & Service?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is the purpose for the Saturday Clinic at Hudspeth Hospital?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

9. The Federal Land Bank is schooled in what and trained in what?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

10. What size is the block of ice that Shots sells for 99¢?

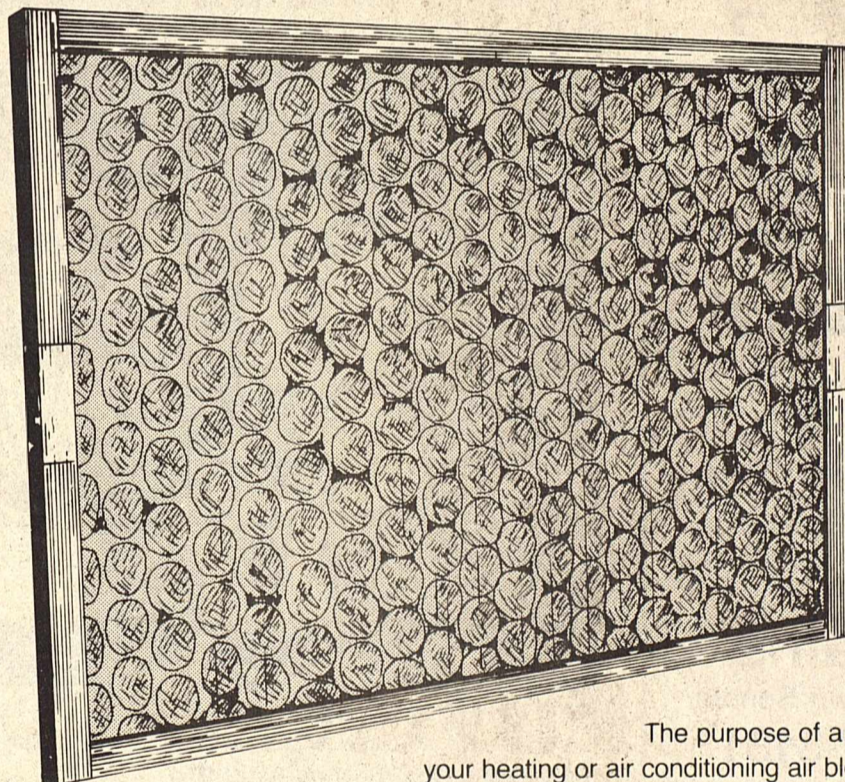
Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## CHECK YOUR FILTER



The purpose of a filter in your heating or air conditioning air blower is to catch dust or dirt before it can enter your unit. If your filter gets clogged, your unit will have to work harder to do the heating or cooling job required, and it will use more electricity.

To avoid damage to your unit and to save energy and money, be sure your filter is clean. WTU recommends checking your filter once every 30 days. Permanent types can be cleaned according to manufacturer's instructions, while non-permanent filters should be replaced.

A clean filter, along with other conservation measures you can do at home, will help you save energy and money!

### Set Thermostat at 68°

Set your thermostat at 68 degrees or lower. Turn it down at night and use an electric blanket. Turn it down even lower when you leave home for an extended period of time. Every degree you lower your thermostat will help to increase your energy savings.



### Keep Damper Closed

Tightly close the damper in your fireplace when you're not using it. The same draft that is needed to help make a fire burn could circulate through your fireplace and pull warm air out of your home.



For more conservation tips, call your local WTU office.



Remember REDDY Supplies the energy—  
but only YOU can use it wisely!

# Season ends, but spirit continues

**THORP'S**  
LAUN-DRY

LAUNDRY & CLEANERS

Serving  
Sonora Ozona  
Eldorado  
Since 1948

113 SW Plum  
387-2666

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fine bakery and  
deli for you  
Premium Quality  
groceries vegetables  
meats fruits

**FOOD  
CENTER**

600 Crockett  
387-3438

Halbert LPG, Inc.

**The  
Bait Stop**

Diamond  
Shamrock



Your "ONE" Stop  
for gasoline, propane,  
live bait and other  
"fishin necessities"

Deer Storage

606 Crockett  
Sonora, Texas

387-3756

We support  
the youth of today  
as they are the  
leaders  
of tomorrow



102 N. Main  
387-3861

**Spains**

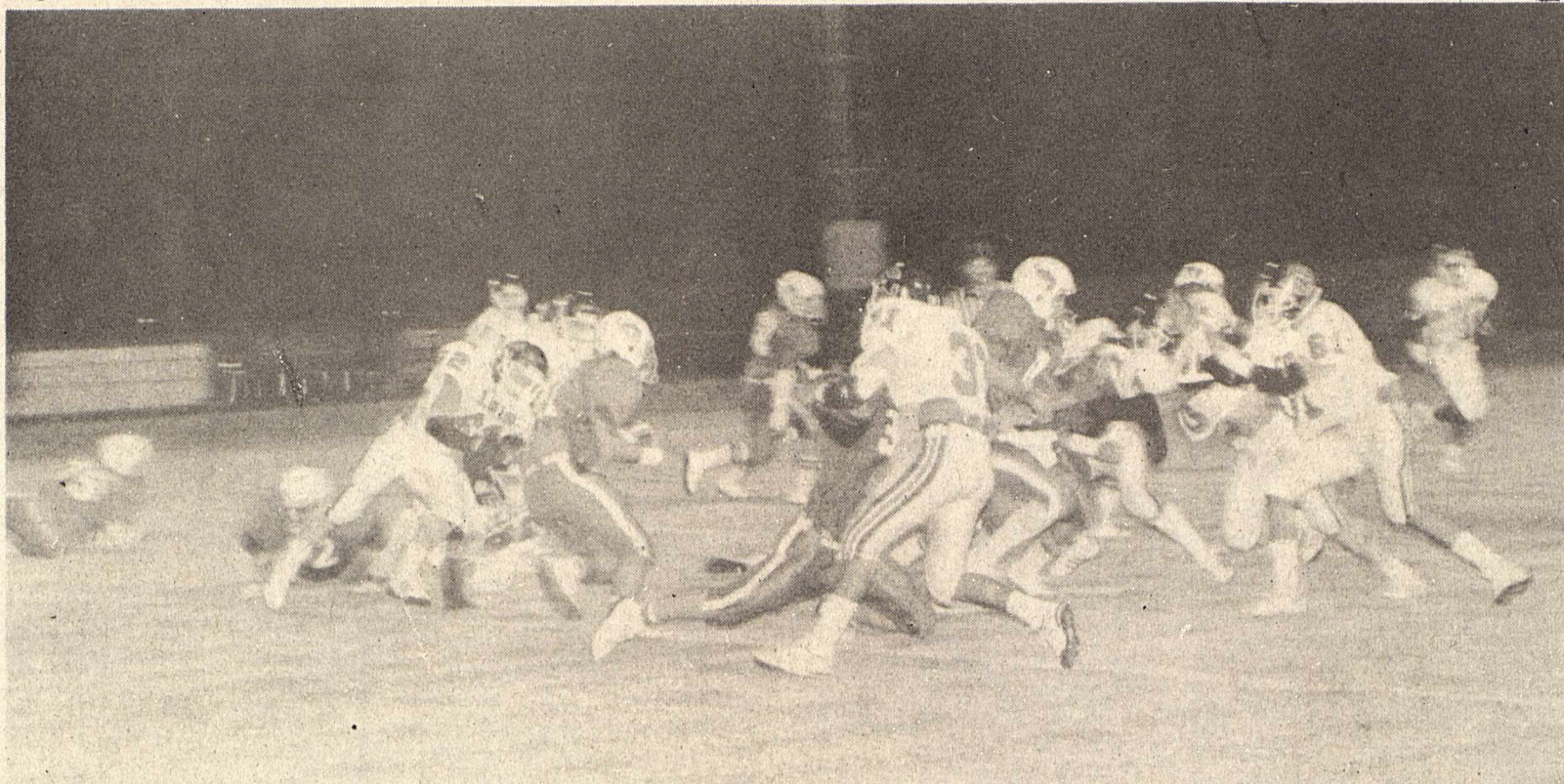
Sonora's  
Family  
Department Store  
Clothes for the family  
Linens Shoes

**Spains**  
Downtown Sonora  
387-3131



1987 Varsity Football Players

(l-r) Tommy Zapata, Mike Fuller, Russell Chalk, Osbaldo Castaneda, Kevin Richter, George Noriega, Justin Condra, Sammy Sentena, Tracy Ficher, Rodney Haltom, Kenneth Conger, second row, Decky Spiller, Peter Perez, Jeff Lowder, Eddie Virgen, Luie Gonzales, Robert Harris, Juan Ramirez, DuWayne Castro, Alex Duenes, Sal Castilleja, third row, Sammy Mata, Cleto Coronado, Blake Trainer, Michael Harris, Eddie Perez, Leroy Sanchez, Pepe Perez, Chacho Cahill, and Ruben Mesa. Photo courtesy of Photo Ranch.



Charge!

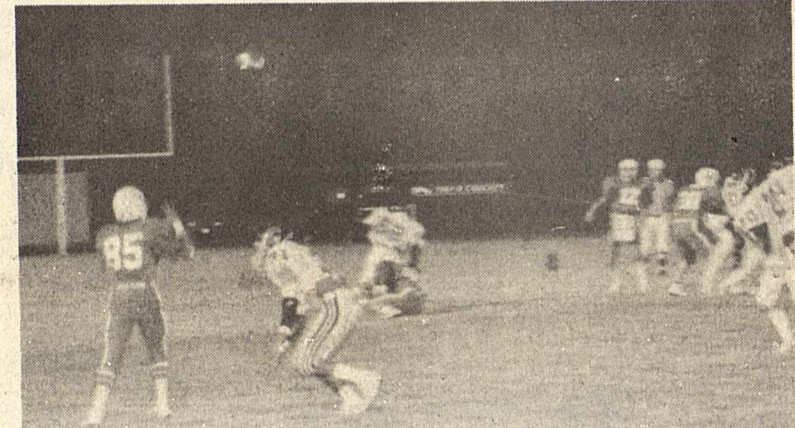
Broncos could not hold back the Wolves in the last game of the season last Friday at Bronco Stadium. Staff photo Clay Cates.

**Coaches**

Bob Snodgrass,  
Jerry Hopkins,  
Doyle Carter, Don  
Sessom, Primo  
Gonzales. Photo  
courtesy of Photo  
Ranch.

**Got It!**

Luie Gonzales  
catches one of Alex  
Duenes passes in  
the last game  
against Colorado  
City. Staff photo  
Clay Cates.



1987 Varsity Cheerleaders

Norma Sosa, Michele Adams, head cheerleader, Kim Brown, Leah Brown, Preccia Miller, Kay Williams. Photo courtesy Photo Ranch.

by Alex Duenes

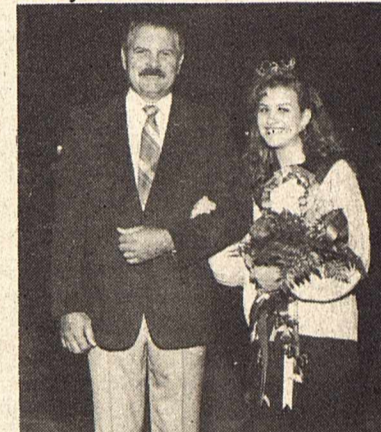
The Broncos played their last game against Colorado City last Friday night. Unfortunately, it was not a good night for the Broncos. The C-City Wolves took over in the first quarter.

In the second quarter the Broncos scored. Robert Harris scored on a fifty yard touchdown. The PAT was good, leaving the score 14-7. But the C-City Wolves came back and gave it their all. In the end the score was 34-7.

The Wylie Bulldogs are the district champions for 1987 with the Ballinger Bearcats as runners-up.

The graduating seniors for the Bronco team include: Alex Duenes, Eddie Perez, Robert Harris, Peter Perez, Sammy Mata, Justin Condra, DuWayne Castro, Sal Castilleja, Kenneth Conger, George Noriega, Mike Fullen, Rodney Haltom, Luie Gonzales and Tracy Fincher.

Robert Harris did reach his final goal of 1147 yards so he should be a high contender for the All-District team. Hopefully the Broncos will have a better year next year.



Homecoming Queen 1987  
Preccia Miller escorted by  
Preston Love. Photo courtesy  
Photo Ranch.

"Ronnie Cox  
would like  
to be  
your  
pharmacist!"

**Westerman Drug**  
COX DRUG, INC.  
101 NW Concho  
Downtown Sonora  
24 Hour  
Service  
387-2541

**Last victory  
for Colts over  
Ozona, 32-14**

by Richard Lopez

The Sonora Eighth Grade Colts ended their season with a victory over the Ozona Cubs, 32-14, last Thursday night.

The Colts scores came on Sam Taylor's two touchdown runs, Danny Mata's kickoff return plus two extra points, Bryan Dietz's run and Ricky Gandar's 85 yard run.

Defensively, the Colts were led by Blake Adkins, Cody Black, Estevan Gloria, Papo Sanchez and Adam Richter.

The Colts ended the season with 3 wins, 3 losses and 1 tie.

**Doyle  
Morgan**

Insurance-Real Estate



213 E. Main  
387-3912

For your convenience

**A Saturday Clinic**

at Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital  
with a doctor on duty  
will be in operation every Saturday

**9 am to 12 noon**

This clinic is for routine illnesses or for routine office visits which can not be taken care of during the week.

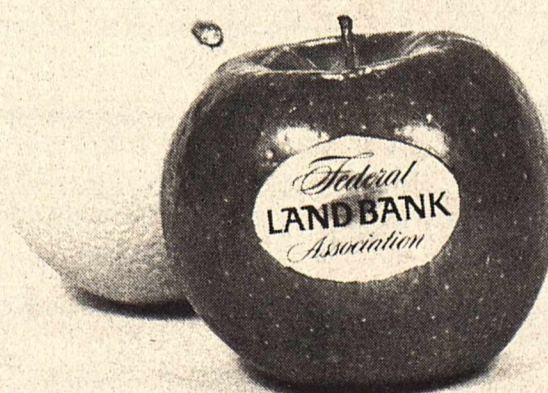
Se abra una clinica para su conveniencia cada Sabado de 9am al doce de medio dia.

Esta clinica es para enfermedades oh visitas rutinas que no se pudieron hacer durante la semana

**L. M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital**  
Hudspeth Drive

**387-2521**

the  
**LAND  
BANK**  
difference



**Comparing apples to oranges**  
is like comparing our Associations to other lending institutions.

For years, farmers and ranchers have counted on the Land Bank. They know the Land Bank understands their business. Schooled in Agriculture, trained in Banking.

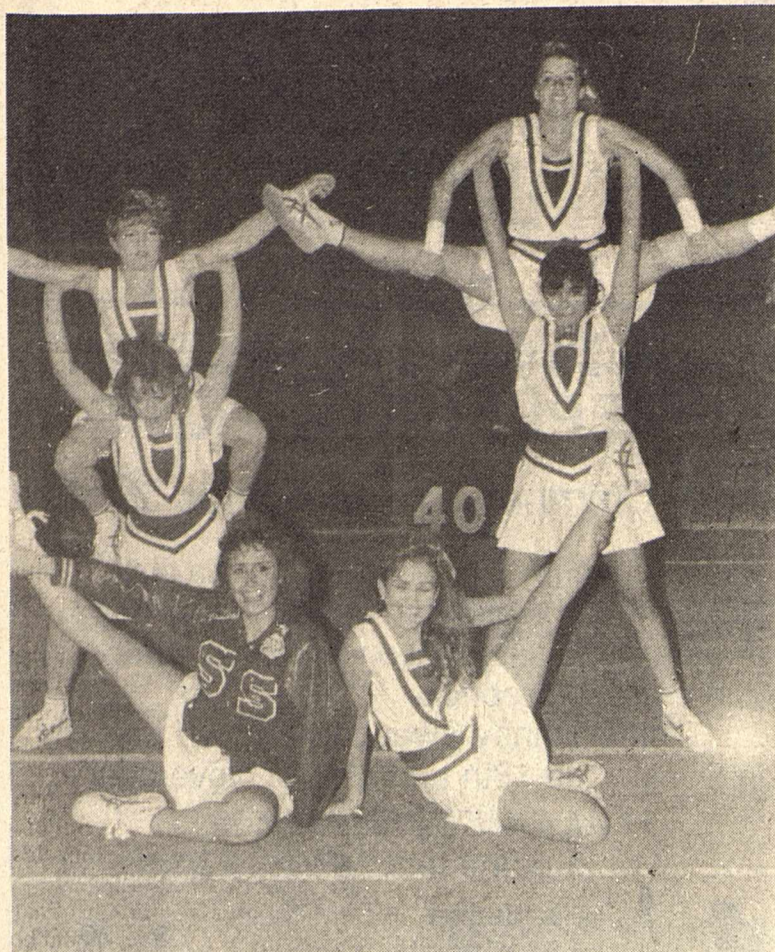
The Land Bank is a Dependable source of long-term financing. Allowing prepayment without penalty. Reasonable rates. Funds Held Accounts. Flexible terms, too.

The Land Bank ... your Lender that makes a difference.

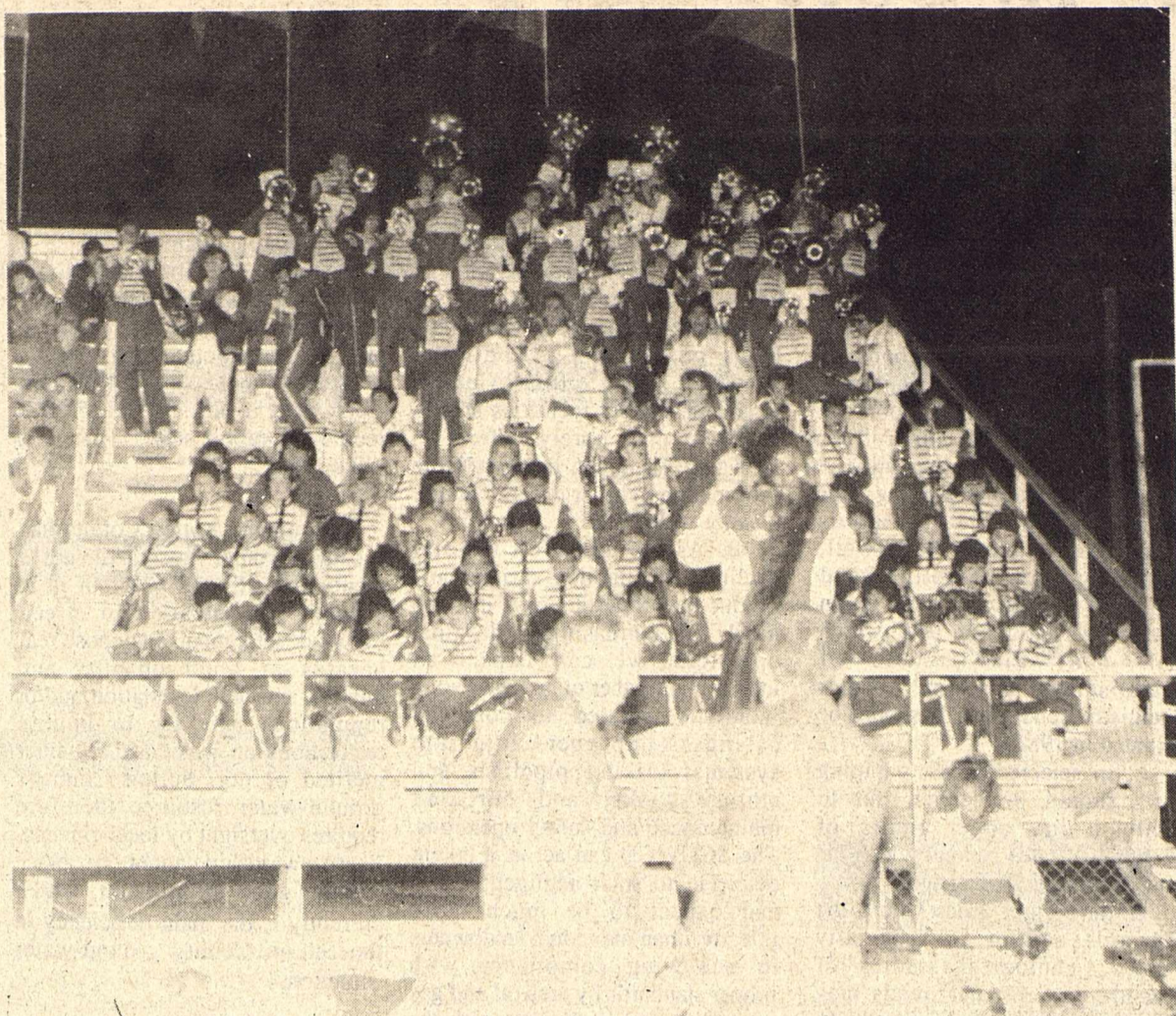


Federal Land Bank Association of Sonora  
Jack B. Smith, Jr., President  
217 E. Main • Box 397 • Sonora, Texas 76950 • 915/387-2777





**Cheerleaders show their stuff . . .**  
Doing what they do best are Kim Cooke, Kay Williams, Leah Brown, Norma Sosa, Michele Adams, and Preccia Miller. Staff photo Clay Cates.



**"One, two, three, four . . ."**  
Dora Escalante readys the band during the last home game. Staff photo Clay Cates.



**"We've got spirit, yes, we do . . ."**  
Everyone fired up for the pep rally Friday afternoon. Staff photo Carla Yager.



**"Cheeseburger, cheeseburger"**  
As always the concession stand was manned by the Bronco Boosters. Staff photo Carla Yager.

*These local merchants support Bronco teams.*

**Sonora**



**Sales and Service**  
Serving the Southwest with a complete line of Ford cars and trucks

*For sales or service see Sam*

**Sonora Ford Sales**  
115 NW Concho  
Downtown Sonora  
387-2549

*Our people make the difference*



387-2593

**Jimco/Dicon Enterprises Inc.**

- Roustabouts
- Forklift Transports
- Oilfield Hauling
- Contract Pumping
- Pipe Storage
- Kill Trucks
- Vacuum Trucks

Jimmy & Diana Condra  
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**Brisket and Bar-B-Q**

- Goat
- Cooked Daily
- Live-oak Smoked Meats
- Custom Processing
- Locker Service
- Beef Jerky
- Bagged Ice
- 387-2801
- Across the street from the Courthouse



**Carl J. Cahill Oilfield Contractor**

- \*Rock Specialists
- \*Locations
- \*Roads
- \*Pits
- \*Mohair Blankets
- 387-2524

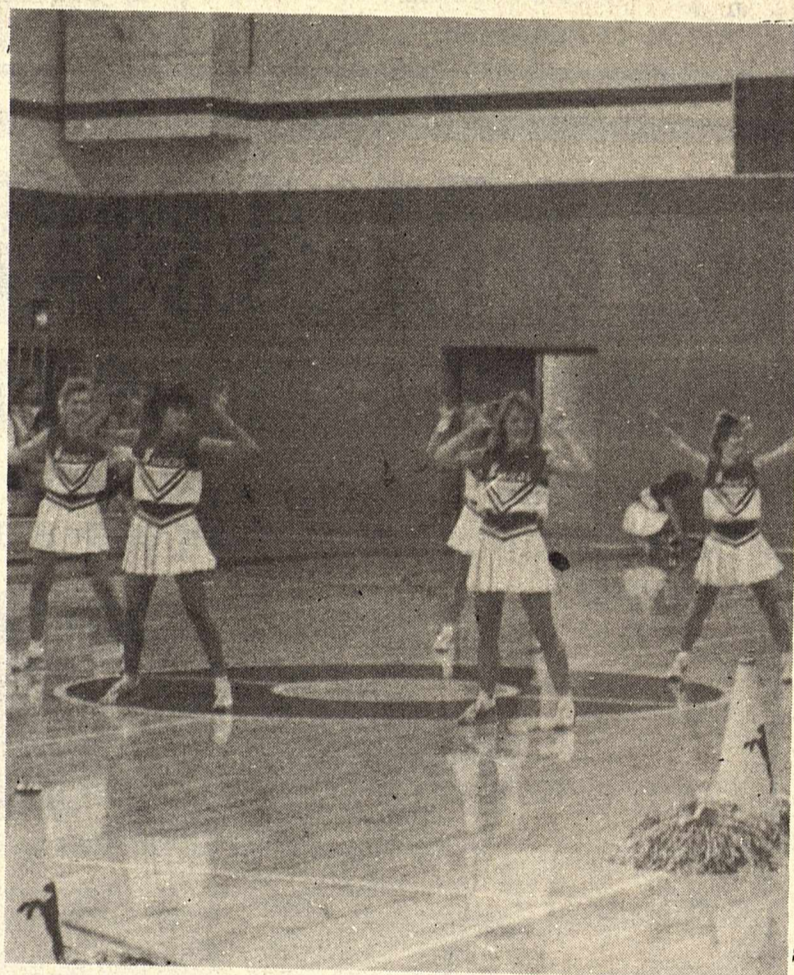
**WEEKLY SPECIALS**

- Thursday  
Steak Bits 3.95
- Friday  
Beef Enchiladas and Chalupas 3.95
- Saturday  
Chopped Sirloin 4.75

For orders to go call  
**Sutton County Steakhouse**  
I-10 and Golf Course Rd.  
387-3833

**SHOT'S**

- BLOCK ICE**  
8 Lb. Bag 99¢
- CIGARETTES**  
Generic per pack 99¢
- COKES**  
6 Pack 12 Oz. Cans 1.89
- Open 6am to 12pm Sun.-Fri.  
6am to 1am Saturday
- 1001 N. Crockett  
387-2365



**" . . . we've got spirit, how about you?"**  
Varsity Cheerleaders show their spirit. Staff photo Carla Yager.

**Bronco Football Scoreboard**

Home		Visitor
	<b>Varsity</b>	
33	vs Wall	0
25	vs Junction	10
13	vs Eldorado	0
20	vs Brady*	17
22	vs Merkel*	22
18	vs Ballinger*	22
08	vs Coahoma*	07
15	vs Abilene-Wylie*	17
07	vs Clyde*	32
07	vs Colorado City*	34
	<b>Junior Varsity</b>	
26	vs Wall	0
12	vs Junction	0
25	vs Eldorado	6
20	vs Brady	22
35	vs Del Rio	14
26	vs Ballinger	22
13	vs Del Rio	08
14	vs Iraan	06
00	vs Brady	16
12	vs Ozona	00
	<b>8th Grade</b>	
36	vs Ozona	20
06	vs Brady	12
18	vs Del Rio	24
26	vs Ballinger	14
06	vs Iraan	26
32	vs Ozona	14

\* denotes District game



1001 North Crockett Sonora, Texas  
387-2365  
Open 6 am to 12 pm Sunday through Friday  
6 am to 1 am Saturday

**BLOCK ICE**

8 Lb. Bag **99¢**

**BEER**

Budweiser 12 Pack cans **6<sup>25</sup>**

**MILK**

Warnock Gallon Jug **2<sup>25</sup>**

**COKES**

6 Pack 12 Oz. Cans **1<sup>89</sup>**

**AM/FM Stereo Headset**  
STEREO-MATE® by Realistic

**42% Off 2195**  
Reg. 37.95

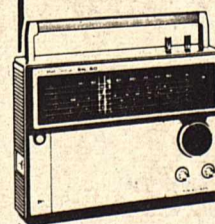
Slip 'em on and turn 'em up! Delivers rich FM stereo and AM. Really lightweight—weighs only 6 1/2 ounces. FM-AFC. #12-125 Batteries extra



**6-Band Portable Receiver**  
Patrolman® SW-60 by Realistic

**Cut \$40 5995**  
Reg. 99.95

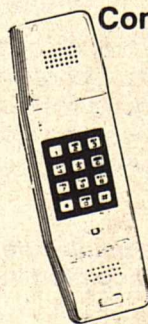
Tunes 6-18 MHz short-wave, VHF Hi/Low, UHF, FM and AM. #12-779 Batteries extra



**Compact Personal Telephone**  
ET-120 by Radio Shack

**Cut 35% 1295**  
Reg. 19.95

Get one for everyone on your list! "Hangs up" on any flat surface. Pulse dialing! White, #43-501. Brown, #43-502

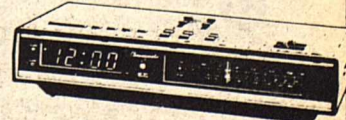


**AM/FM Stereo Clock Radio**  
Chronomatic®-251 by Realistic

**Cut 36% 3188**  
Reg. 49.95

- On-Top 3" Speakers
- Stereo Headphone Jack

Rise 'n shine to FM stereo, AM or alarm! Dual alarms for two wake-up times. #12-1559 Backup battery extra



**Radio Shack**  
DEALER

**KERBOW, INC.**  
A RADIO SHACK DEALER  
214 NE Main 387-5500  
Sale ends November 16, 1987

# Solutions to potential problems

At the present time, should a problem arise concerning a declining water table, deteriorating water quality, contamination, or impending outside regulation, SCUWCD is highly vulnerable because base-line studies have not been carried out so as to establish "what is normal". Accordingly, it would be very difficult to perceive a new situation in proper hydrologic context. For example, a suspected contamination situation would be hard to prove because we may not know what the direction of ground water flow is in a certain area, or we may not know what the composition of the ground-water "used to be." As another example, we might not know if proposed pumpage of 50,000 gallons per day would constitute an unacceptable hazard to adjacent landowners or not, because studies of aquifer fluctuations and pumping tests haven't been carried out.

The primary need now is to perform the necessary "base-line" studies so as to identify and understand how the Edwards (Plateau) aquifer behaves in Sutton County. Some specific needs are:

A. Establish an inventory of all water wells in the county, including location, depth, depth to water table, producing rate, etc. Fortunately, a good start has already been made here by Texas Water Development Board Report 14 (Muller and Pool, 1972), on Sutton County.

B. Map the configuration of the free-water table, using the 500-well inventory of 1968-69. Then, using selected key wells, map the configuration of the free-water table during periods of drouth, as well as in especially wet periods. This will allow us to understand the directions of water flow in the aquifer, and how flow paths change with climatic variations.

C. Plot the fluctuations in water-table heights in roughly 20 designated key wells, in Sutton County, plus southern Schleicher County, and compare with contemporary rainfall charts. This will allow us to understand the response-time of the aquifer to rainfall and to large-scale adjacent pumpage-withdrawals.

D. Map the distribution patterns of the main chemical constituents of the Edwards aquifer in Sutton County, based on the 1968-69 data. Compare with subsequent changes in water chemistry of the 20 designated "key wells" and relate to water-table changes, rainfall

fluctuations, adjacent withdrawals or inflow, etc. This will help us understand what the "normal" water chemistry is, and how it changes with respect to fluctuations in the water table, adjacent sites of possible contamination, etc.

E. Begin a systematic program whereby water from the 20 designated "key wells" is analyzed annually or bi-annually for trace elements and for hydrocarbons, as well as the routine chemical analysis. Such analysis should be run by the same analytical laboratory, using consistent methods of both sampling and analysis. Costs for each analysis should not exceed \$500/well, including the sampling and reporting functions. This is an extremely important task which will start the process of establishing "base-line" water chemistry conditions. It should be initiated in 1987.

F. In selected areas, pumping tests should be carried out to evaluate the upper limits of withdrawal-rates beyond which the aquifer or wells are damaged.

G. In certain areas where the Edwards aquifer is especially "tight", geological studies of fracture patterns and trends may suggest favorable sites for wells. In addition well stimulation techniques may improve well deliverability. SCUWCD can provide such information at little or no cost to concerned landowners.

H. SCUWCD will need the services of a professional ground-water geologist as well as a licensed engineer, especially for well monitoring. There are two reasons for this: 1) it is important that accurate, reliable technical work be done to assure correct management of the aquifer; and 2) a certain amount of such work will inevitably be tested in litigation, requiring the quality of such work to be able to withstand legal scrutiny. Some technical field work can be done by SCUWCD personnel or landowners working in cooperation with SCUWCD.

### WHAT LIES AHEAD?

No one has a crystal ball, but we can perceive some likely future developments that could affect Sutton County's ground-water supply, and the necessary functions and services of the SCUWCD:

A. As Texas urban areas expand, their water needs will grow. This is likely to set up a major political conflict in Texas over ground-water. Inevitably, this will pit rural

interests against urban interests, private water-rights against public needs and State regulation. This is why the formation of locally governed water districts is so important, and so timely. The local water district is a quasi-governmental agency, and has the capability to undertake litigation as well as regulation, if so empowered. The SCUWCD thus helps protect the ground-water resource for Sutton County residents, but its functions should be more than purely defensive. However, it must have reliable information in order to serve Sutton County well.

B. As the Texas oil industry declines, profitability shrinks, and producing properties pass into the hands of increasingly marginal operators, we can expect an increasing number of contaminating incidents, related to corroded casings, improper injection systems, leaking pipelines and storage tanks, and curtailed maintenance and safety operations. The SCUWCD can act as a potent deterrent to such negligence, and can expect to be much more effective than individual landowners in achieving compliance with proper standards by area oil and gas operators, and in dealing with the Texas Railroad Commission, which is controlled by the petroleum industry, and which tends to be relatively unresponsive on water matters.

C. As Federal and State Clean-water Standards come into use, the SCUWCD, in conjunction with the City of Sonora, will be much more effective in dealing with the Texas Water Commission and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, concerning minor deficiencies in water-quality standards, should such be found to exist.

D. An extremely important responsibility of the SCUWCD, perhaps the most valuable one, is in its service to the Sutton County community, by providing reliable

information on ground-water matters, counseling individual landowners, especially on irrigation matters, providing input with regard to future development, and incoming new industrial projects, and in dealing with competing-water litigation matters.

But to provide all these services, to perform these functions, a sound data-base must be in place to provide the factual information required to make sound decisions. Borrowing from an old French recipe for rabbit stew, "first, you kill a rabbit..."

In summary, Sutton County has excellent ground water, and there is plenty for all. The problem is in keeping that situation in effect. Future developments may pose real hazards to water quantity and quality, and new legislation and/or regulations may try to impose restrictions on water use, whether merited or not. Sutton County's ground-water resource therefore requires oversight by local citizens. That stewardship cannot take place without good information, which currently is the main deficiency in the Sutton County ground-water situation.

Part IV of four part series.

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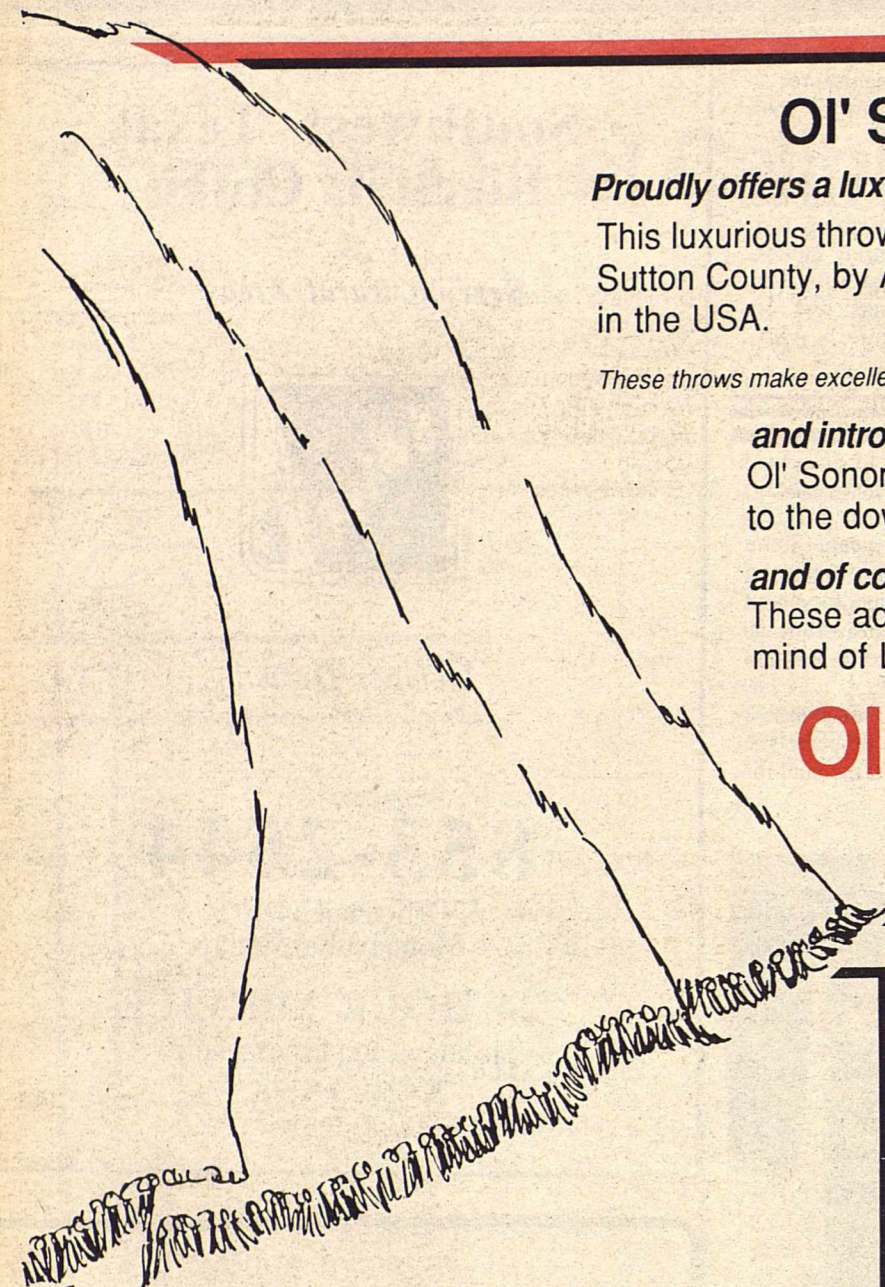
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Operation Game Thief is funded entirely by private donations from individual sportsmen and organizations.

To report a violation dial toll-free, 1-800-792-GAME (1-800-792-4263) any time, day or night, and give the person on duty the information you have. Call immediately, or as soon as possible, after witnessing a violation. The more information

you have and the fresher it is, the more likely it is that a case can be made.

You do not have to give your name. If you choose to remain anonymous, a code number will be assigned and no one, not even the dispatcher you speak with on the telephone, needs to know who you are.

The poacher is a crook, a thief and a cheat. He steals property, your wildlife, and robs you of tax, license and business dollars. He cheats you out of recreation, and your children out of our heritage and part of their future. He causes thousands of dollars a year in property damage. Don't let him get away with it. Call 1-800-792-GAME and a game warden will be dispatched to investigate. Help support the program, game and fish violators must be stopped.

## Knight advises of changes in Hunting Laws

Rodney Knight, Game Warden III, warns all hunters to be aware of recent changes in the Hunting Laws.

Beginning this year in Sutton County and surrounding counties, Knight advises that antlerless deer permits will no longer be issued. The hunter simply uses the tag off his license. The land owner still has the right to say how many antlerless deer a hunter may take on the owners land.

The head with antlers attached or the head of an antlerless deer with a properly filled out tag from the hunting license must accompany the carcass of the animal until it reaches its final destination and is finally processed.

Hunters seventeen years of age or older, while hunting, fishing or trapping **MUST** have on their person a driver's license or personal identification certificate issued by the Department of Safety.

Texas residents may now obtain hunting and fishing licenses which are valid for the lifetime of the license holder. Applications for lifetime licenses may be obtained from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Offices or by calling the Department's toll-free number, 1-800-792-1112. Fees for

the lifetime licenses are: Combination Hunting and Fishing-\$500; Hunting-\$300; and Fishing-\$300.

It is unlawful to hunt or fish using someone else's license, or to allow another person to hunt or fish using your license, or to possess more than one hunting license, except non-residents may possess any number of hunting licenses provided that not more than one general non-resident hunting license is purchased during any one license year.

Beware of No Trespassing signs. Ranchers who have land with a public road going through it should post a "No Trespassing" sign at each entrance. If there is a sign at each entrance, the entire ranch is protected against possible trespassers. If you have any questions, call the local game warden or your county attorney.

According to Knight, Sutton County has done without rain for quite a while. Leaves are starting to fall without a frost and the dry conditions are starting to show up in some parts of the county. He says that while the deer and turkey are still in good shape at present, no one knows how long they will stay that way.

The antlers this year seem to be about average, but every

once in awhile, Knight says he gets a report of a really big buck. "There are some good bucks out there but they may be a little hard to find," Knight says.

There are plenty of deer as the counts taken by the state biologists show approximately one deer to every twelve acres county wide.

Knight says the turkeys and quail did great this year. "There seem to be turkey everywhere and the quail are showing up in fair numbers in places where they were scarce before.

"The overall outlook for the season is a good one. With plenty of game out there, every hunter should be able to put meat in the freezer," says Knight.

The new limit on quail, statewide, is sixteen per day and the season runs from November 7 through February 28.

Season and bag limits for other game are as follows: DEER-general, Nov. 14-Jan. 3; 4 deer, either sex, limit 2 bucks. JAVELINA-no closed season; no bag limit. SQUIRREL-no closed season; no bag limit. TURKEY-general, Nov. 14-Jan.3; 2 turkeys, either sex; spring season, April 2-24; 2 gobblers.

### Introducing...

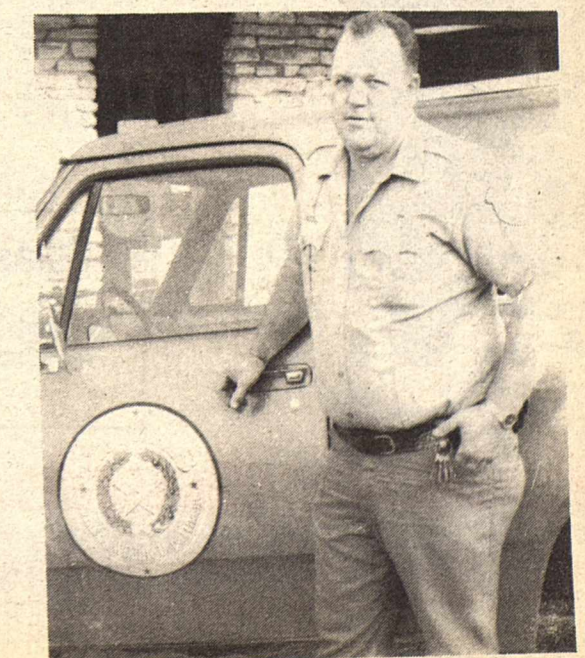
## Rodney Knight Game Warden III

Rodney Knight is already known to most hunters who have hunted this area before. His familiar shotgun gray Game Department vehicle seems to be almost everywhere at all times during hunting season.

Providing you are observing all game laws, you'll find Knight to be the best friend you can have around here. He has a great sense of humor, a big smile and hearty laugh, and he's full of hunting tips and recipes--he tells us that he's the best wild game cook in the county.

However, if you break the law--watch out! Knight has a deep respect and love for both the country and wildlife in the area and does his utmost to protect the land and animals. You'll do well to remember that he has the same authority as any other law officer.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Knight of Poteet, Knight grew up on a dairy farm. He attended Texas A&M and the State Game Warden Academy before beginning his career as a Game Warden some seventeen years ago. He says if he has his way about it, he'll spend the rest of his life watching out for the wild animals of Sutton County.



RODNEY KNIGHT

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*and scattered throughout are the advertisers who make this issue possible. They are all pretty special people and they will appreciate your patronage.*

# Whitetail in Texas at all Time High

by Ray Bronk

The whitetail deer population in Texas has risen to over 4.2 million, an all-time high. This has occurred, even though an annual harvest has been permitted, with about 380,000 whitetails

taken during the 1986-87 season. The 1987-88 season look sto be another good one, the winter was not very cold, and there was lots of moisture this spring, with a good growth of food supplies, when antler formation was

beginning.

Although whitetails are hunted throughout a long season, from early October for archers, through the months of November and December, and ending the weekend of the New Year, the population census figure have continued to slowly rise over the past decade. Because the deer population has continued to rise, another antlerless deer tag will be allowed for the upcoming season. Habitat has been improving slightly, and the game management efforts of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department have been paying big dividends in the form of greater whitetail population.

The most numerous whitetail deer species found in Texas is the Texas whitetail (*Odocoileus virginianus texanus*). Texanus is one of the four subspecies found in the Lone Star State. It is the largest of the southern subspecies, but much smaller than the northern subspecies. Texanus's antlers have a wide spread, but are thinner than those of the more northern whitetails. The body size of the Texas whitetail will vary, depending on where in the state it is hunted. The typical whitetail of the Hill Country is, in a word, small. That is not to say that the Hill Country has not produced some fine animals. Several of the top 25 Boone and Crockett record racks were harvested in the Hill Country.

The Hill Country whitetail in recent years has been the victim of overpopulation. This crowding has caused a reduction in body weight of the animals affected.

This trend toward small body weight is reversible. Local deer

transported to an area with better habitat and nutrition conditions averaged a 32 pound weight gain!

Even if you are a resident of Texas, you know that it is hard to find a good place to hunt. There is little public land, and unless you have family or friends who own property here, you will have to purchase a hunting lease. Finding a lease or any other hunting place can take lots of time. Some places to start are: Chamber of Commerce, general stores, filling stations, sporting good stores, newspaper ads, shooting ranges, friends, relatives and co-workers.

If you start early enough in the year, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has drawings for low-cost public hunts in the Wildlife Management Area. Contact the Department for information on hunt dates and application forms.

Let us assume you have found a place to hunt, photograph, or just animal watch. There are some things you should accomplish prior to a hunting or photo

session.

Tramp over the property and get acquainted with the cover, water, fences, and roads. Note where you see animals, or evidence of animals. A topographical map of the area will be particularly useful and can be purchased from the U.S. Geological Survey office in Denver, or from a blueprint or map store. These maps show all the features mentioned above, as well as elevation contours, compass headings, structures, and features not usually noticed by a mere visual inspection of the property.

Look for animal tracks, droppings, fence crossing areas, evidence of animal beds, choice food areas, areas where animals might bed down or hide, escape routes, and routes to and from bedding and eating areas. Mark these locations on your map, and keep them in mind when, in the future, you are looking for animals to hunt or photograph.

(con't next page)

## Shooting Preserve License is required

Anyone leasing the hunting rights on their property for pay or trade is required to have a shooting preserve license. In addition, the holder of a shooting preserve license shall require a suitable record book and shall require each guest to register. The registration of a guest must include:

- 1. The name and residence of the guest.
- 2. The hunting license number of the guest.
- 3. The number and type of game

animals and game birds killed each day by the guest.

This record book must be given to the local game warden not later than March 1 of each year.

### License Fees

- 1. Less than 500 acres-\$15.
- 2. 500 acres or more but less than 1000 acres-\$40.
- 3. 1000 acres or more-\$60.

Shooting preserve licenses may be obtained from the local game warden, Rodney Knight, or call 387-5159 or 387-3068.

bullet, which allows better penetration before expanding might be chosen.

It is evident that there is no one clear choice for an all-around deer hunting rifle. Existing conditions will dictate proper calibres, bullet types, and weights.

Consider the conditions under which you will probably be hunting. Check the above

considerations. Check the game laws of Texas to determine the legal requirements for safe and legal hunting.

By analyzing the probable hunting conditions you might encounter, you can select the best calibre gun and bullet for the conditions. Remember your qualifications and shooting ability, and pick the combination

for the best opportunity for a quick and humane shot for your quarry.

The wildlife of Texas and elsewhere deserve nothing less than a thoughtful, caring hunter, using a weapon best suited to him, to the animal and to conditions, to ensure a safe, humane harvest.

### Taxidermist

(con't. from page 19)

if you have made prior arrangements, he will ship the mount to you. When shipping a mount, there is normally a charge for the wooden crate used in shipping. The mount will probably be shipped COD for the amount due plus freight. If you pick your mount up be prepared to pay the balance.

Regardless of how you receive your mount, inspect it immediately. Does it look like the animal you killed? Is it anatomically correct? Does the skin where the animal was stitched look natural? Are the fleshy areas painted correctly? If you answer no to any of these questions, talk to the taxidermist.

cheaper form, eyes that look like marbles, less attention in anatomical form, an animal that will not hold up, or an animal that just doesn't "look right". In taxidermy as with all else, you get what you pay for. However, it's up to you to look around the taxidermist's shop and the mounts in his showroom. He may be charging for the extra detail but the animals don't show the quality this article has tried to express--

don't use him.

A quality mount takes time so don't expect your mount back for six months to a year. Some taxidermists will guarantee a sixty day turn-around for about 50% extra but again, time is quality and therefore, this is not recommended.

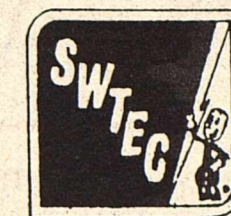
Happy hunting and remember, if your mount is done properly you can relive the thrill of the hunt for years to come.



Bob is shown sewing prepared hide in one of the final stages before adding life-like details.

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# What's the Best Calibre for Whitetail Hunting

by Ray Bronk

Among whitetail deer hunters sitting around a Texas deer camp, there are few other questions which can incite arguments quicker than: "What's the best caliber for deer hunting?"

The sad fact is, these arguments are useless for other than conjecture, because when one analyzes the question of the best calibre, the obvious answer is: There is no one gun which is best for all situations!

The basic idea when choosing a gun for whitetail hunting would be to select a gun which would be powerful enough to kill humanely, could be accurately shot without flinching, kill humanely at long ranges when necessary, and kill without relying on a second shot.

For instance, there is little logic in using a 7mm magnum for hunting a small-bodied whitetail deer when stalking through a brush covered hunting area. The shooting range will probably be

.22 rifle. They have also been killed with 300 magnums. Either gun could, in the right hands and under exactly right conditions, be confidently used for humane hunting, but probably should not be used.

The .22 is illegal for hunting whitetails in most, if not all, states. Where it is legal, the bullet must be expertly placed to kill, whether a head, neck, spine, or heart/lung shot. It is far more likely to wound than kill.

A shot should be powerful

30, 300, 308, and 30-06 non-magnum calibres, sometimes called the "middle" calibres.

Here is a suggested approach to selecting the proper rifle for a particular hunt:

1. Consider the animal. Big-bodied? Small-bodied? Select the bullet weight and the velocity necessary for a humane kill.

2. Consider the probable shooting range. How many foot-pounds of killing energy are available at the various probable shooting ranges. A bullet which

*... powerful enough to penetrate vital areas, deliver adequate shock, and exit on the other side*

less than 50 yards, with little or no chance for a lengthy aiming opportunity, and with the shot coming at a time when the hunter is surrounded by brush. A short barreled 30-30 or a shotgun would be more logical under those conditions. On the other hand, the 30-30 would be a lousy choice for an open terrain hunt where the deer might be spotted at ranges exceeding 200 yards. At 200 yards, a 150 grain 30-30 bullet zeroed in at 100 yards, will drop 8.2 inches, and at 300 yards, 30.0 inches. At these ranges, attempting a shot would be unfair to the animal being hunted, because exact range estimation would be required to calculate the exact bullet drop and avoid a crippling shot.

Let's face it, a whitetail could be, and has been, harvested with a

enough to penetrate vital areas, deliver adequate shock power, and exit on the other side. The chest thickness of a 175 pound whitetail deer is about 11 inches.

A large magnum gun, when used on a distant target, perhaps beyond 250 yards, and in the hands of a confident, qualified, practiced shooter, could be aimed and fired accurately. There is no question that a killing should be made, even a near-miss on a vital spot will probably kill, although death might not come quickly. The fact is, you just don't need that big a gun for killing a 150 pound whitetail. You don't swat flies with a sledgehammer, do you?

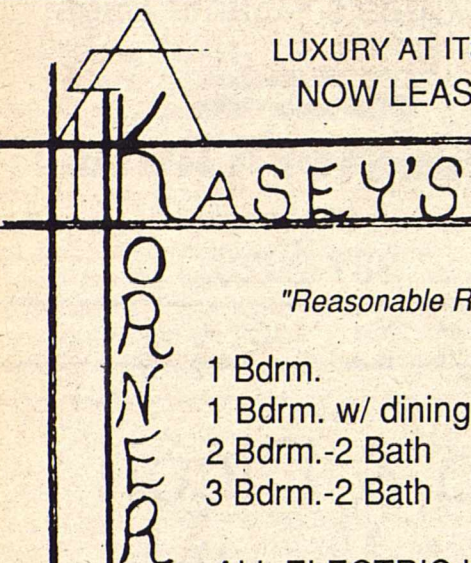
Some, but not all, of the calibres which are better suited to all-around deer hunting are those in the .243, 6mm, .270, 30, 30-

starts at 1902 foot/pounds at the muzzle may have only 399 foot/pounds at 400 yards. Hardly the choice for elk or moose, and probably too low for a proper killing of a small deer except at close ranges.

3. Consider your proficiency with the selected rifle. Where a 30-06 and 7mm are equally adequate for the game and ranges, choose the one which you can shoot best, without flinching.

4. Consider the bullet choice. Would a light/fast bullet be better than a heavier/slower bullet? What is the energy left at the probable distance you will be shooting? What type point? Solid? Expanding? Partitioned? Remember, expanding bullets generally have less penetration, and vice versa. When hunting a large bodied animal, a partitioned

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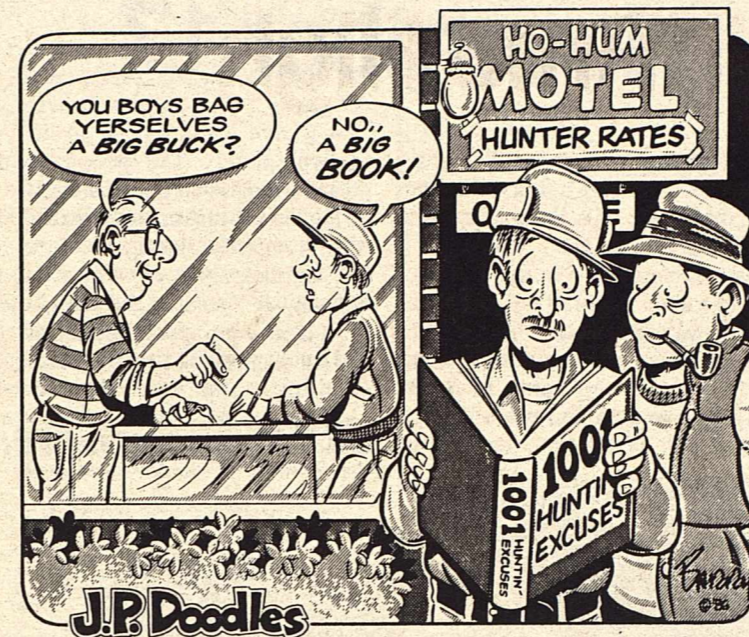


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Practice shooting the weapon you will use during the season. Inspect and adjust the telescopic sight, if one is used. Practice shooting in the same calibre and bullet weight you will use during the hunt, one which will kill most quickly and humanely.


If you are an archer, shoot your bow as often as possible, in every shooting position you might anticipate. Before the season starts, make a final sight adjustment while using broadheads identical to the ones you will use during the hunt. Remember broadheads will fly differently from field points. Keep your

broadheads hair-shaving sharp. A dull arrow increases the possibility of merely wounding your game. Hunting with dull arrows is inexcusable.

Remember, a caring and humane hunter will pass up a shot where a clean, quick kill is not probable!

Now is the time to prepare for the upcoming seasons. Preparation prior to the hunt pay off in more enjoyment, more time spent in the field, more glimpses of wild animals, and a better probability of a successful hunt or photo session.

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Chamber of Commerce**  
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## Add Wild Turkeys to Your Hunting List

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department data already indicated that white-tailed deer are in boom cycles across the state, and new information from the field shows Rio Grande turkeys also are flourishing.

Don Wilson, upland game program leader, said the hen/poult count (the number of poults compared to the number of hens observed in the field) is more than twice the long-term average. "The statewide average count was 2.6 poults per hen this year, compared to 1.6 in 1986," said Wilson. "A count of one poult per hen is considered average."

Texas leads the nation in turkey populations, and this year the state boasts an estimated

population of some 571,000 birds.

Wilson said it was encouraging that some of the highest hen/poult ratios were in some of the most popular turkey hunting regions of the state. The Possum Kingdom region of West Texas, which runs roughly from Fort Worth to Midland, had the highest count at 3.45 poults per hen. The eastern portion of the Trans-Pecos registered a 3.27 count, while the Edwards Plateau had 2.88 poults per hen. That overall average for the Edwards Plateau was strengthened by the Sutton County count of 3.91 poults per hen.


The Panhandle and South Texas regions also were above average at 2.29 and 1.95 respectively.

In the Oak Prairie region both north and west of Houston, the hen/poult count was 1.69. "It's gratifying to see those birds having a good production year, because they are present because of the department's stocking programs," Wilson said.

The fall turkey hunting seasons in Texas are concurrent with the white-tailed deer seasons. The regular season will be November 14-January 3.

The bag limit is two turkeys during the fall season. However, a hunter may elect to take one turkey in the fall and two gobblers during the special spring season during April. One turkey tag on the hunting license may be used either in spring or fall season.


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# 19th Annual Game Dinner, November 17

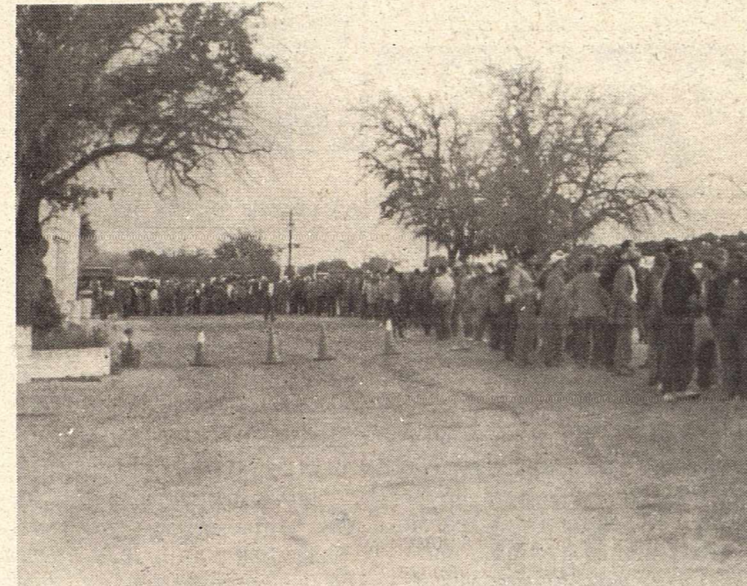


The Thompson Brothers Cooking Team, along with many other good cooks, will start to prepare the feast early Thursday morning. DRN File Photo.

For the 19th year in a row, the Sutton County Game Dinner Association will be hosting their annual game dinner. The affair is set to begin at 6 p.m., Tuesday, November 17 at the 4-H Center on Highway 290 West.

The event was designed to honor the people who come to Sutton County to hunt and when it began nineteen years ago, there were approximately 150 people who went through that first serving line. This past year saw almost 1000 hungry persons line up to eat.

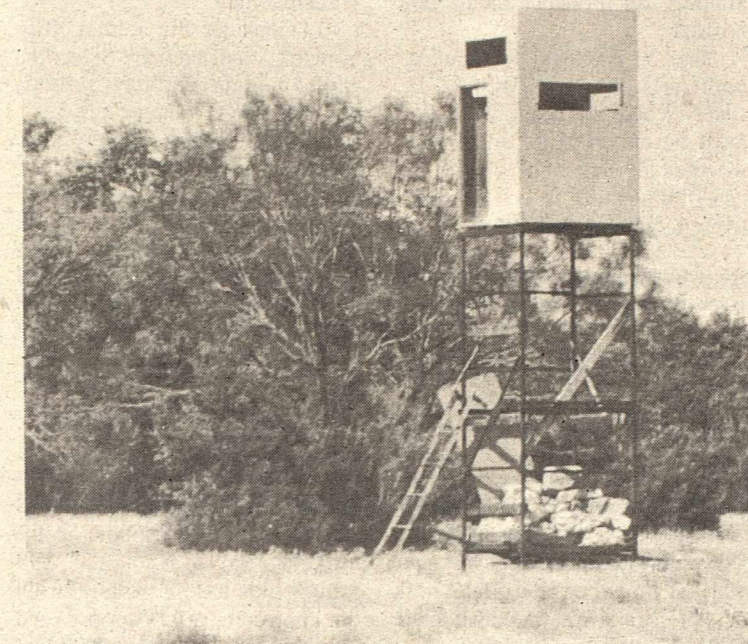
And talk about eat! For a ticket costing \$5, sold at the door, you can treat your appetite to the likes of bar-b-que'd buffalo, fried venison, cabrito, roast wild boar, fried antelope, bar-b-que'd barbado, country fried dove, smoked turkey,



The line starts forming long before 6 pm, so make plans to arrive early. DRN File Photo.

will increase the amount of game spotted, make your waiting more comfortable, and increase the probability of a successful hunt. A serious Texas hunter will find that if they are a comfortable,

relaxed hunter, they are more likely to react properly when a shooting opportunity occurs. They should end up with more meat in the pot!



Blinds and stands should be located in areas where game has been observed traveling to and from feeding and bedding areas. DRN File Photo.

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# Hunting Whitetails from Deer Stand and Blinds

by Ray Bronk

During the past 30 minutes, since watching the Texas sun sneak over the horizon, you have spotted many deer. Most were does and yearlings, but a few small bucks also passed your way. Some passed within 10 feet of you. None of them saw you. How is this possible?

Easy. You're hunting from an elevated deer stand or blind. Elevated tree stands have revolutionized the sport of bow and gun hunting, allowing archers and shooters to see more deer at closer (and longer) range, without being seen, and enabling the hunter to be more selective about which deer to harvest. A recent survey showed that 61% of gun hunters, and 92% of bow hunters used

elevated stands.

The words "blinds" and "stands" are nearly synonymous. If one wished to quibble, blinds suggest an attempt to hide, and a location at ground level. Stands are usually elevated in order to increase or improve the viewing area, and they are usually not camouflaged.

Whitetail deer use their excellent sense of smell, their good eyesight for movement, and their good sense of hearing to confound the deer watcher and hunter. Well planned and placed blinds and tree stands can do much to equalize the sight/smell/hearing advantage enjoyed by most game animals.

Blinds and stands should be located in areas where game has been observed traveling to and from feeding and bedding areas.

They should be located downwind from these trails, and some attempt should be made to conceal them with brush, grass, or other natural cover, or man-made cover appropriate to the surroundings.

Some natural materials make excellent blinds. Logs, branches, tree limbs, grass, reeds, large rocks, hay bales or stacks, and man-made materials such as oil drums, lumber, plywood, farm machinery, etc. have been used to construct excellent blinds. The builder must make certain that the blind will hide any movement inside the blind.

Ground blinds are best used where thick tree growth would prevent good viewing from an elevated stand, or where the lack of, or smallness of, trees prevents the building of an elevated stand.

Ground blinds are better for viewing under trees and brush than are elevated stands.

In the past decade, more and more companies are manufacturing portable tree stands. These are the lightweight stands which can be carried to a chosen hunting area and used to climb a chosen tree, or can be hauled up to a position in a tree from which to hunt. They can be fastened securely at most any point on the tree which provides the best view. These stands allow the use of trees located in good locations that otherwise could not be used as hunting stands because they lack sufficient branches available to support the hunter. Some of the "self-climbing" stand incorporate a seat arrangement which can make waiting quite comfortable.

Tree stands and elevated blinds get body scent up off the ground, and help to carry it above the heads of the game passing downwind. Elevated stands which are well-placed can provide long range viewing and shooting possibilities, and more game sightings.

When a game animal is sighted at a distance, the hunter has more time available to identify it, and

to plan the shot, if that is the course of action to be taken. Game spotted at a distance is not as likely to require speedy action.

Game is not normally aware of stands located above them, although the whitetail will look up. Elevated stands are more forgiving of hunter noise, since the game sighted will be at greater average ranges than from most ground blinds.

While in elevated stands, safety is imperative. A safety belt will help in keeping a hunter safely secure if he should happen to doze off or slip. Ladders, steps, braces, rails, and guns rests must be kept in a state of good repair. Firearms should be unloaded, and arrows should be cased, while climbing up to a stand. Guns and bows should be hauled up by rope after the hunter is safely in the stand.

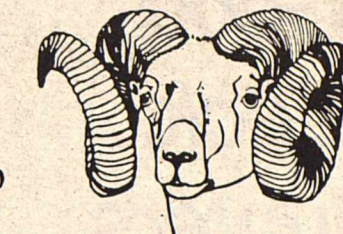
What is the best stand for your area? You must study the area, consider the advantages and disadvantages of a blind or stand in your particular location, and make your own decision. All ground blinds might be preferable, or all elevated blinds, but a mixture of both is more likely.

Tailor your blind or stand to the requirements of the particular hunting area. By doing so, you

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NOVEMBER 17, 1987  
 SUTTON COUNTY 4-H CENTER  
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Drawings for Door Prizes  
 The Annual Sutton County Hunter of the Year Award  
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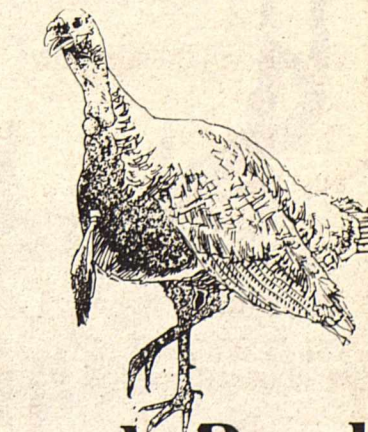
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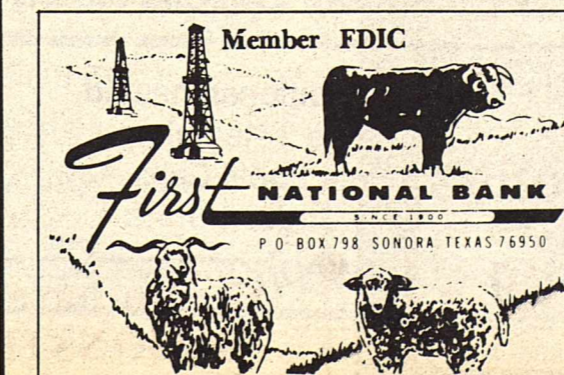
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fried quail, son-of-a-gun stew, venison chili, potato salad, beans, dessert, and coffee or tea. When you leave that serving line, your plate will be so full you'll almost need help to carry it!

You also know the food is going to be good cause the cooks have so much fun cooking it--all those special recipes and extra touches. It's worth it to arrive early just to watch them.

Drawings are held throughout the evening for door prizes. Now these

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aren't your everyday run-of-the-mill door prizes. There's some good stuff given away including rifles, shotguns, binoculars, savings bonds, cash, camping and hunting gear and lots more. Some of these prizes are donated by local businesses, others are purchased by the Game Dinner Association and the Chamber of Commerce.

Your meal ticket entitles you to one chance at winning but you can purchase additional chances, as many as you want, for \$1 each. There will be ladies moving around the crowded room that evening selling the extra tickets.

The Annual Sutton County Hunter of the Year Award will also be presented some time during the evening. Last year the honor went to ninety-two year old Edgar Brooks from Livingston who has been

**... it doesn't  
 hurt to get  
 there early**

hunting in this area since 1930. Brook had gotten his buck last year on the morning of the Game Dinner. When asked where he hit the buck, Brook answered "Through the neck, of course."

The Game Dinner Association will also bestow the honor of "Poacher of the Year" on one of their own which is fitting as they are responsible for obtaining all the game cooked for the dinner. They do have help with the preparation and serving of the meal from the Sonora Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club, Sonora Volunteer Fire Department and some of the best cooking teams to ever light a fire.

It's usually a good idea to get there a little early as the line forms in a hurry.

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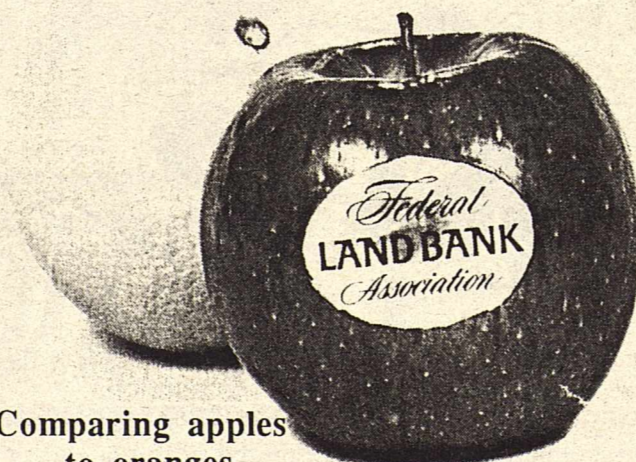
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# Twenty Whitetail Hunting Tips

by Ray Bronk

One of the easiest and most volunteered actions that humans enjoy is giving advice. Just remember and heed the advice in this column, and your hunting skills will improve and you will become a more successful Texas

hunter. That's the truth!

Keep the following hints in mind while hunting. You'll be pleasantly surprised at the results.

1. Do pre-season scouting. Take some time to get familiar with the hunting area. Look for deer sign such as tracks, droppings, trails,

feeding and bedding areas, and deer sightings. Take notes and plan your hunt using this information.

2. Hunt early. Few, if any, deer have been harvested by a hunter lying in his bed. Be at your hunting stand or area before dawn. Use your flashlight sparingly, deer will be spooked by too much shining around. Most deer move from feeding areas to bedding areas in the hours from just before to just after dawn.

3. Hunt late. Deer move from bedding areas to feeding areas from just before to just after dusk, with some smart bucks waiting in the edges at dusk, and getting out to feed right at or just after dark. Look for their movements inside the edges.

4. Check your gunsights. It doesn't do any good to spot a fine buck, have a good shooting opportunity, and then miss because you hadn't checked your sights. Tighten all screws and mountings, and test fire your gun just before the hunt. This is especially important when using a "borrowed" gun.

5. Use binoculars. Binoculars can "see through" brush quite effectively. Use binoculars especially at dusk and dawn. Look into shaded areas. Spot deer at a distance, and have more time to plan your shot. Don't use your scope for looking, it's dangerous. Binoculars will not accidentally shoot another hunter!

6. Shoot quickly, but carefully, after you have identified your target as a legal animal. The first shot at your deer will usually be the easiest. Your second shot will probably be at a running target.

7. Don't over or under dress. If

you are too sweaty while still-hunting you will not hunt efficiently. If you are too cold, you will have trouble keeping movements to a minimum. Some Texas winter mornings are downright frigid. Layer your clothing. Take off layers when hot, put on when cold.

8. Keep you gun handy. When still-hunting or stalking, a gun slung on your shoulder is too difficult to bring into action quickly. When sitting, keep your gun where excess movement is not necessary to get into a shooting position.

9. Watch other animals. Cattle sometimes stare at deer. Deer sometimes look intently at other deer out of your sight. They may

be watching a big buck lurking in the brush.

10. Avoid body scents. Minimize your odors. Dress so that you create as little perspiration as possible. Don't use smelly soap, aftershave, or cologne before the hunt. Don't wear soiled and smelly clothing, or clothing having that "fresh soap" smell.

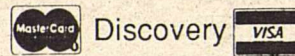
11. Avoid shining. Stay in shadows when possible. Keep glare to a minimum. Contact lenses are preferred to shiny glasses. Reflections from thermos bottles, soft drink bottles, etc., will alert a deer.

12. Look everywhere. Some smart bucks hide in small brush patches, small gullies, under



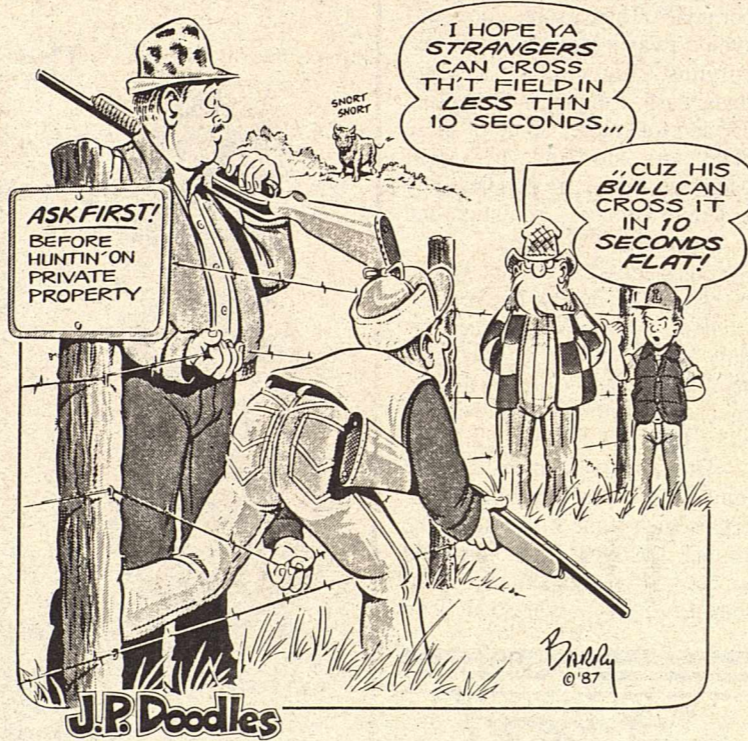
## Good Luck, Hunters

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neck, if these are correct the rest of the form should fit. Deer are like people, they have different and distinct faces.

The eyes used in your mount are not marbles but are a high quality optical glass that is hand painted to an exact likeness of the animals eyes. The glass eye is fired to burn in the paint so that it will be permanently bonded to the glass. When the eye is inserted, attention must be paid to the angle and the depth so that the animal looks natural. A "bug eyed" look says

go to the trouble of fiber glassing the skull plate will get jittery if you start to pick the mount up by the horns which could even be loose.

The cape will be soaked before it's placed on the form so that the hide will regain its elasticity.

Ear liners, shaped in the form of the cartilage removed from the ears, are then inserted and glued with an epoxy glue to insure adherence with the hide. If properly done, the hide will not "drum" or turn loose in spots.

As the skin in these areas is tucked in, the animal should begin to take shape. All that remains to be done is to sew the animal around the horns and down the back where the cape was cut to remove the horns. The cape is then pulled down around the back of the form, stapled, and the excess skin removed. At this time the final details like different expressions can be put into the mount. The mount is

now left to dry and the taxidermist should check it everyday for the first three days to make sure there is no shrinkage or pulling of the hide which will cause the animal to look unnatural.

In ten days to two weeks, the mount should be dry enough to finish. At this time the animal is closely checked especially around the eyes and nose. Correctly colored waxes are used to fill any voids. This completed, the fleshy

areas are hand painted with oils to obtain the highest quality mount with the most realistic "live look". There are as many as five colors used in this process with a whitetail deer. After the paint has dried it should be sprayed with a clear acrylic spray to protect the paint and give the fleshy areas a warm, moist appearance.

When the mount is completed the taxidermist will contact you or (cont. on page 23)

## A "bug eyed look" says the taxidermist was not familiar

that the taxidermist was not familiar with anatomy. A good taxidermist knows that a deer's eyes are set at a 45 degree angle while a pronghorn's eyes are at a 20 degree angle, etc.

The eyes are placed in the eye openings with a non-shrinking, non-cracking clay and the eyelid is then formed over the eye.

The horns should be screwed into the form with long drywall screws and fiber glassed over the skull plate to add strength. A good mount can be handled by the horns. A taxidermist who doesn't

As the hide is placed over the form, a high grade hide paste should be used to glue the hide to the form. Again, this prevents drumming.

When the hide was "fleshed" remember that the eyes, nose and lips were opened. The skin should have been thinned down so that now the skin can be tucked into openings in the form. The skin around the eye is tucked under the clay the eyelid is formed from. A high grade clay is inserted into the base of the ear to form the ear butt back to the correct anatomic form.



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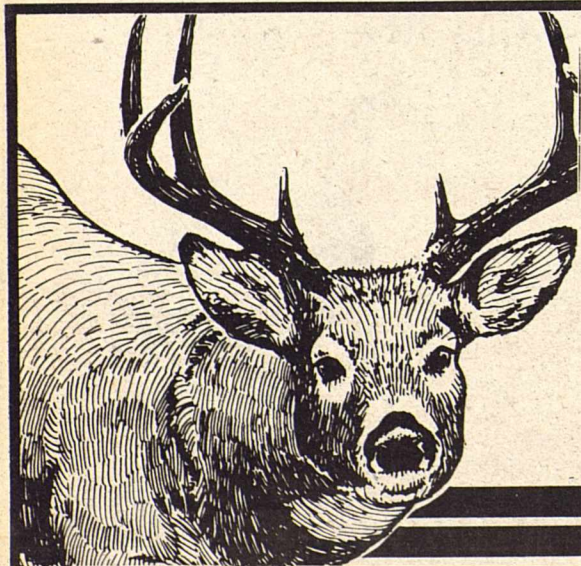
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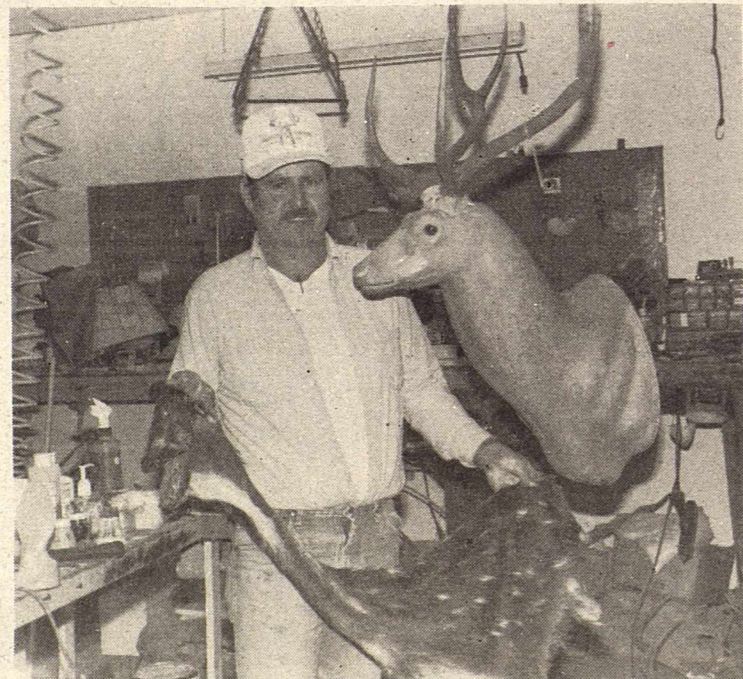
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head and freeze it until you can. The taxidermist will skin the head taking out all the meat, fat, and connective tissue. He will totally invert the ears, open the lips to the edges and shave the area thin, open the eye area, and remove the cartilage in the nose and the nose skin is thinned. The cape is then salted to preserve it in preparation before sending it to a tannery. The taxidermist uses a medium grain salt-table salt washes away and rock salt is too coarse to penetrate the hide. A tannery that works only for taxidermists will take the time to prepare the cape in the areas essential for a good mount. Ask your taxidermist what tannery he uses and why. Only a handful of tanneries in the U.S. will treat your hide with a chemical called Edolan-U which permanently bonds to the hair and gives the best



The material for any mount include an anatomically correct form, optic grade glass eyes, properly tanned cape, and of course the horns...



...materials are assembled before the skin is sewn on mount.

protection against bugs. Because of the workload with good tanneries, it will take between 90 and 120 days before your hide is returned to the taxidermist. While your cape is at the tannery, the taxidermist will order all the parts to put your trophy back together. A polyurethane foam form, a little harder than a foam ice chest, is used in your mount and is the "heart". It must be shaped in the likeness of your animal with all the proper anatomy. Your mount will only be as good as this form. The measurements the taxidermist takes before skinning your animal are crucial so that he orders a form to fit your animal. The two most important measurements are from the corner of the eye to the end of the nose and behind the ears around the smallest part of the neck, the measurement around the



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rather small bushes. Scan these areas, walk up to them cautiously, and be prepared for a quick shot. 13. Be in a good condition. Deer hunting sometimes requires good stamina for walking or climbing. Your reactions are better if your body is in good shape. A hung-over hunter is not alert physically or mentally, and can be a danger to other hunters and to himself. Don't drink while hunting.

sneak out of the area. 16. Watch the wind. Have alternate hunting spots. If the wind blows your scent toward where you expect deer to travel, move to a position downwind, or to another spot with a more favorable wind. Deer have very sensitive noses, and constantly sample the air for scent. 17. Shoot from a rest. Accuracy is poor when shooting offhand. Always try to have gun rest.

... notice the beauty around you, that's what hunting is about

14. Keep shooting as long as a killing shot is possible. Too many "mortally wounded" and downed deer ran off and were lost because the hunter "didn't want to ruin the meat." Nothing ruins meat like seeing your "dead" trophy hoofing it out of sight, to survive the scarce, or to die later from a bad hit.

15. Stay alert. Investigate all movements. If you think you saw something, you probably did. Take a closer look. Look behind you from time to time. Bucks will sometimes wait until you have passed them and then will

especially when attempting these longer shots. 18. Watch does. They will sometimes indicate by their actions that bucks are following them, especially during the rut. Be ready to shoot, you may have to make a quick shot. 19. When a deer is down, make certain it is dead. Touch its eye with a stick to see if it blinks. Don't get hurt by a panicky deer. Give it a killing shot. 20. Enjoy the outdoors. Take notice of all the beauty around you. This is what hunting is all about. This is as important as the kill.

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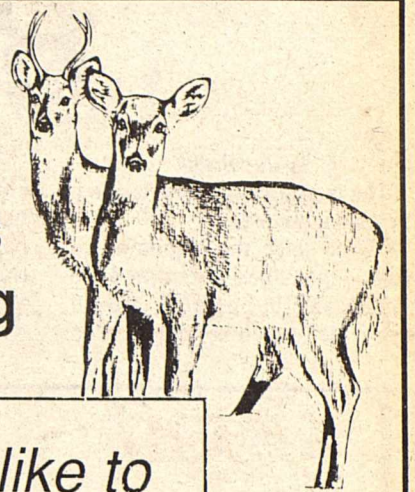


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# Rattling for Whitetails

by Ray Bronk

The largest buck I ever bagged, I called in by rattling. Ever since the beginning of time, man has attempted to understand the animals around him. He did this for a good

reason. If he could understand animals, it would be easier to hunt them, and his stomach would be fuller more often. That's much the same reason why Texas venison lovers today are trying all manner of methods for

hoodwinking the whitetail deer. Some modern inventions to ease the task of bagging the whitetail include compound bows, bows sights, high powered rifles, telescopic sights, tree stands, binoculars, and many others. One effective technique, which exploits the basic instincts of the whitetail's aggressive behavior during the rut, is rattling.

## ... technique exploits the basic instincts

Rattling is the practice of banging antlers or other materials together to produce the sound of two fighting buck deer. When a curious buck hears the sound of rattling, he will sometimes come to see what is happening, in order to do battle or to try to steal any doe which might be the center of the controversy!

How does one become familiar with this amazing technique, and start putting it into practice?

First of all, most libraries have magazines and books which delve into this technique in great detail. Study those books and articles. Then, consider what the field conditions are in the area where you plan to rattle.

Rattling is most successful just before, during, and just after the rut. That is not to say that you shouldn't attempt to rattle at all times during the season. Try rattling anytime you feel like it. Some factor other than the rut

may make it highly successful. The state wildlife biologists can tell you exactly when the rut should begin in Texas.

Rattling is most effective when competition for does is at its highest, that is, when the buck/doe ration is close to 1 to 1. It's just like young adults fighting for the attention of the only good looking girl in town. Where a buck does not need to search diligently for a willing doe, he will not be as interested in seeking out fighting bucks with an idea to steal their doe.

Next, one must remember how bucks fight. They seldom run headlong toward one another as do the bighorn sheep in outdoor documentaries. They usually mince toward one another, head down, tapping their antlers slightly, and then begin pushing and shoving with force. This fight will usually sound quite violent, with the antlers grinding and

banging, and with the ground being pounded with their hoofs, and with brush and saplings being scraped and snapped.

A hunter will attempt to imitate this activity when rattling.

Rattling is most effective when done by two hunters. One will do the rattling, ground pounding, and brush banging, and the other will take a position about 75 yards away, facing the rattler.

Both hunters are thus able to scan the entire area around the rattling activity. The curious bucks will sometimes sneak in to get a look at the contestants, (or the doe) and sometimes they will burst upon the scene with no stealth at all, aggressively looking for a fight.

The antlers used for rattling may be old cast-offs, found in the woods, a pair of unmounted antlers from a previous harvested buck, synthetic antlers available by mail or at sporting goods

processing plant to be cut up or should you decide to process the meat yourself, to a taxidermist. For now let's say you choose the taxidermist.

will include the price of the mount, the price of the panel (optional), and the price of the brass name plate to be engraved with information on the kill

deer mounted while he is still excited over the thrill of the kill but has second thoughts when the time comes to pay for the mount. The downpayment insures that the

full shoulder mount. Most taxidermist will refuse to do the old-fashioned "neck mount". They don't look good and a taxidermist doesn't want his name on it.

To properly cape a trophy animal, the following steps should be taken:

With the animal on his back or hanging, make an incision down the back side of its leg, never the inside. This is the most important cut as the area under the leg is

used in a full shoulder mount. Next cut around the knee and pull that part of the hide back. About 4 inches behind the shoulder at the sternum, cut all the way around the body of the deer. You will be able to pull the hide using a knife, carefully to avoid cutting holes, down around the neck up to the ears. Saw off the head. If you are unable to take the animal to the taxidermist immediately, wrap the (con't. next page)

## ... should assign a number to the cape and to the antlers to assure that you get your deer back

When you take the animal into the taxidermist, he should point out any weaknesses in the hide. Common problem areas are tick rubs behind the ears, on the brisket, the bullet exit wound, or how the animal has been field dressed. Incidentally, cutting the throat isn't necessary as the deer will bleed internally from the bullet.

If the taxidermist is reputable, he will furnish you with a legal contract of work. This contract

(optional). The taxidermist should also assign a number to be permanently attached to the antlers and the cape and this number should be entered on the contract. This number will assure that you get your horns and cape. If the taxidermist does not follow these practices--beware!

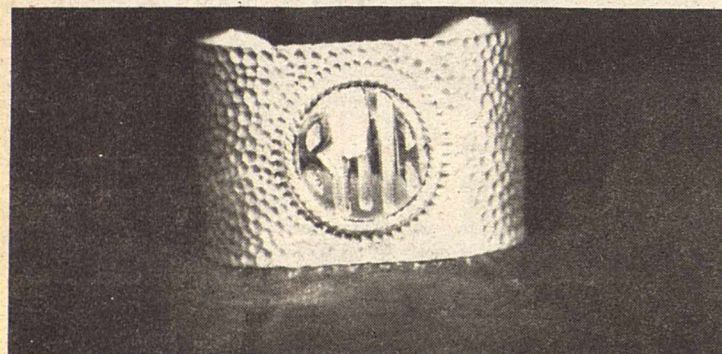
Be prepared to pay at least 50% down on the mounting fee when you leave the animal. This is standard practice in the trade. In many cases a hunter will want a

taxidermist will recover the cost of materials used in the mount.

Before you leave the shop, be sure you have a copy of the contract and a receipt for the downpayment.

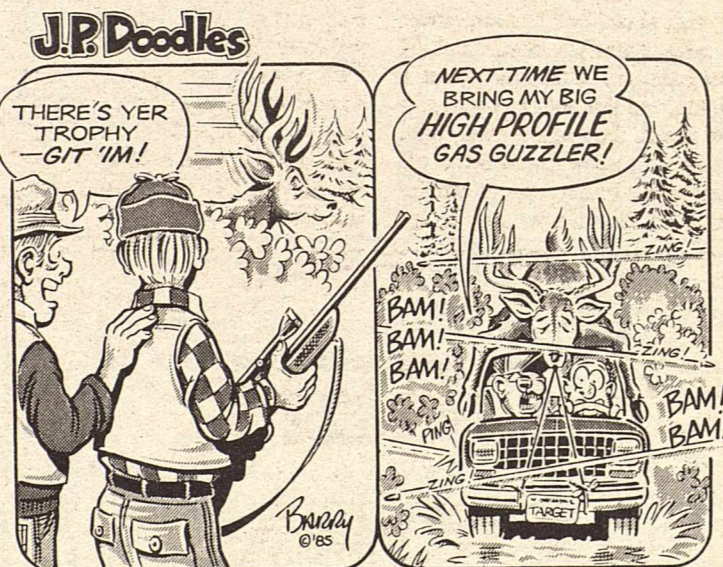
The first thing the taxidermist will do is skin or "cape" the deer. Some hunters bring an animal in already skinned; that's okay if you know what you are doing. If you don't, you're headed for trouble. An animal must be skinned properly if you are going to get a

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## From A to Z How to choose your taxidermist

by Bob McWilliams  
Wildlife Artist  
in the Field of Taxidermy

What is taxidermy? The word is derived from the Latin words *taxi* meaning to arrange and *dermy* meaning skin. This article will give you an insight into how your trophy is processed from a pile of hide and horns into a beautiful

mount for you to hang on your wall for years. It is your memory of a good hunt whether it's a first kill or a super trophy.

A question often asked a taxidermist is "Should I mount it?" or "Is it big enough to mount?". The taxidermist is going to say yes, businesswise he would be a fool to say no. However,

before entertaining thoughts of mounting the animal, it should have special meaning to you.

Just because you want to mount the deer doesn't mean he must be "Ol Moss Back", in fact few are. The animal is a trophy if, for some reason, it has a distinct significance. The reasons are varied: it could be your first kill,



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your son's or wife's, it was an exciting hunt, it has a freak set of horns, it's a beautiful animal, or a record size. You must decide.

Now, into the basics of taxidermy to help you decide where to have your trophy

mounted. Most people have no idea how a deer is mounted, nor the amount of work involved.

Once the deer is killed, gutted, and you have decided to have it mounted, you make a choice. The deer will either be taken to a

stores, or other inventions such as a bag of hardwood dowels which are shaken to simulate the antler clashing. All these types of apparatus have been successfully used to call up bucks.

When using actual antlers, many hunters will cut off or file down any sharp points, and will fasten the antler halves to a lanyard to make them easier to carry and control.

When actually going to rattle, one must get into the woods as early as possible, with as little noise as practical. Try to set up in an area where there are shooting

gravel with the antlers if available. Don't rattle too much, and don't forget to keep looking for sneaking bucks.

Sometimes bucks will come to you from the very limits to the sound of the rattling, and it may take them a long time to get to the source of the sound. Sometimes the buck will stop and listen, and if no rattling is heard, he will graze until the next rattling, then he will continue to travel toward the source. You must have confidence, patience, and good spotting eyes when rattling.

... get into woods early

and spotting lanes, and try to obscure your outline with brush. When hunting where snakes are not a hazard, get on top of, and into the middle of, a brush pile to provide you good elevated vision as well as good hiding.

When ready, bang the antlers together about 2 or 3 times. Break off a few branches. Wait. Look. If you have no action in about a minute, tap the antlers together a few times, then again bang them together for a few times. Break off some more brush, and stomp the ground a few times, and scrape

Every buck will react differently to rattling. You will learn a little more each time you attempt rattling, so don't be afraid to try, try, try. You may be able to call up that big guy that has been eluding you for many seasons.

We will never be able to fully understand the actions and motivations of the whitetail. We will always be able to learn something on each hunt, whether game is harvested or not. That's why hunting is called hunting and not killing. The studying is great fun, isn't it!

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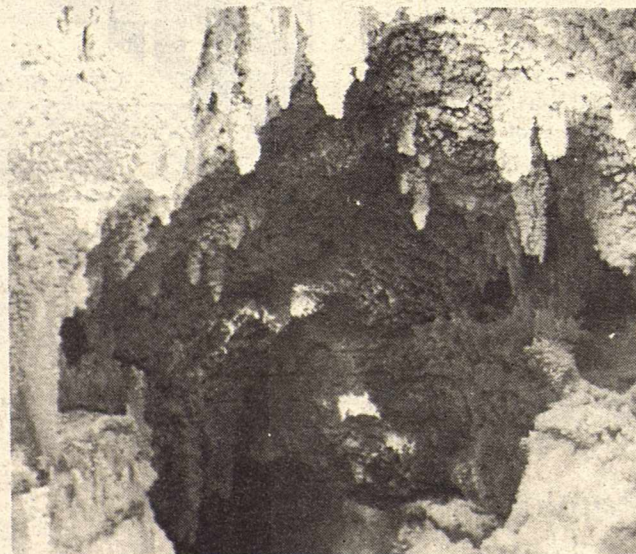
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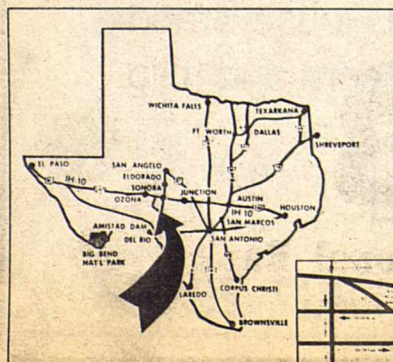
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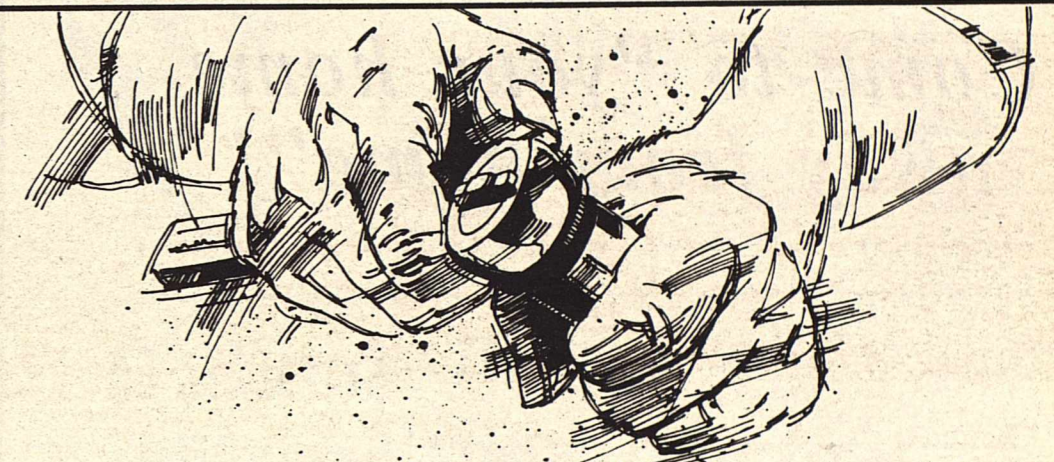
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# Texas Parks and Wildlife Makes Deer Population Surveys in Sutton County

Wildlife personnel with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department recently completed annual deer population surveys here in Sutton County. The resulting population estimate, 86 deer per 1,000 acres of about 82,000 deer county wide, represents a slight increase over last year's estimate. This year in Sutton County the deer season opens on Saturday, November 14, and runs through Sunday, January 3. The bag limit is the same as last year—4 deer, no

more than 2 antlered bucks. Most Sutton County landowners are already aware that doe permits or special doe tags will not be issued nor required to harvest antlerless deer here in the Edwards Plateau during the 1987 hunting season. Hunters will need only the appropriate tag off of their hunting license, and landowner permission, to bag doe or antlerless deer in Sutton County and the other "either-sex" counties this year.

### ... doe tags not issued this year

After reviewing the results of the recent deer population surveys, local wildlife personnel are recommending that Sutton County landowners located in the northeastern half of the county try for a harvest of 1 doe or antlerless deer for every 100 acres and 1 buck for every 250 acres. Those landowners in the remaining southwestern half of the county should try for a harvest of 1 doe

for every 50 acres and 1 buck for every 175 acres. The recommended rates result from the need to better balance the sex ratio observed in the herd and from the need to maintain or possibly allow for an increase in the deer populations within the respective areas.

These general harvest rates are based on county averages and may not be completely suitable for each individual ranch in the county. Landowners interested in closely managing their local deer herd need to conduct their own on-site fall population surveys, with resulting harvest recommendations that meet their specific management objectives. Although it's a little late this year to set up survey lines and draw up 1987 management objectives for a specific ranch, interested landowners can contact local wildlife personnel or the Wildlife District Office in Kerrville for information on how to get started on a sound deer management plan for the 1988 hunting season. For more information, contact Wildlife Technician Mary Haecker, in Sonora, at 387-3687.

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# The Rut, When Bucks Go Crazy

by Ray Bronk

What makes an old moss-back, Texas brush buck, who has eluded hunters for many seasons; suddenly show-up, with little attempt at stealth, in a vulnerable location, in broad day-light? What phenomenon causes many formerly careful trophy animals to forsake normal caution and fall to the hunter's bow or gun?

The rut. To look at the rut and the effect it has on whitetail deer, you must first look at what makes up "the rut."

The rut, quite simply, is S-E-X. It is that time when a buck can breed, and when a doe is willing to cooperate.

Many myths concerning the rut have arisen, because many folks view the rut as being complicated and mysterious.

Let's examine and simplify the mystique of the rut.

The rut activity in a whitetail buck begins in the pineal gland. The amount of light striking the eye increases as the amount of daylight begins to increase in the spring. This increasing amount of light, called photoperiodism, finally reaches a level high enough to stimulate the pineal gland to produce hormones. These hormones initiate testosterone production in the bucks body, and antler growth activity begins. The amount of testosterone in the blood continues to increase until two things happen.

First, a testosterone level is reached which triggers a stoppage of the hormones which form the antlers. The antlers stop growing and harden, velvet begins to slough off, and the buck begins to polish, and spar with, his now

fully grown antlers.

Second, testosterone stimulation of the testes causes the production of sperm to begin. Before this time, because of a low sperm count, a buck probably could not impregnate a doe even if he had the desire. (He doesn't have the desire yet, this is started by other factors.) Testosterone production increases, reaching maximum at the height of the rut.

At this time, the buck will begin to form "scrapes," which are places in the dirt where he will paw away the vegetation in a large (1 to 8 foot diameter) cleared depression. He will usually urinate in the scrape. The buck will sometimes chew a twig hanging above the scrape, and rub secretions from glands in his forehead and near his eyes, onto twigs. The odor of the urine, the saliva, and the glandular secretions deposited on the twigs send a message to a doe. It says, "Hey, I'm here now, and am ready to breed, and will come back later, so don't run off." The glandular secretions on the twigs seem to be a personal identifier, telling the doe that it's Big Rack and not Crooked Rack who is making the invitation.

The buck, having made a scrape, will sometimes hang around for a while, then wander off and make another of a series of scrapes. He may make ten or more. Some he will re-visit and freshen with urine and gland secretions, others he will never visit again. For this reason, "scrape hunting," waiting near a scrape and watching for the buck to re-appear, is popular. The hunter should realize that hunting near a "freshened" scrape is more

likely to produce better results than merely hunting near an un-freshened one, one which the buck may never re-visit.

The complimentary portion of the rut phenomenon is completed by physiological and physical actions of the whitetail doe.

As the doe reaches the estrous (heat) cycle, her body begins to produce pheromones in her urinary tract. These sexual attractants, composed of steroids and fatty acids, act upon the sense of smell of the buck, triggering a powerful sexual response.

As the doe in estrus urinates, pheromones are deposited along with the urine. Breezes will carry these pheromones to bucks. The limbic, (pleasure-seeking) portion of the bucks brain is stimulated by the pheromones, bring instant, intense, sexual excitement.

A buck will follow the scent of the doe over hill and dale, paying little attention to anything else, including a hunter. The buck will curl back his upper lip, enabling him to draw air into a more sensitive smelling areas of his nostrils.

The hunter will sometimes spot a doe bounding along without a worry. A few minutes later, the buck may appear, making small grunting sounds, his lip curled back, his nose to the ground, mindlessly following his compulsion to find the doe he has scented. It is at times like this that the buck is most vulnerable to a skilled hunter.

Sometimes the doe, having detected the odor of a distant scrape, will visit it, urinate nearby, and stay hidden there, hoping for a visit by the buck. The combination of an estrus doe

in the area of a freshened scrape will almost always ensure a visit by the buck. Often enough, however, he is passionately busy elsewhere, (he will stay with, and breed with, each doe for about 24 hours) and may not show up for days.

The components of the rut

should be studied by the serious hunter. The hunter is likely to be more successful if there is an understanding as to what the rut is, how the buck and doe are affected by it, and how the interaction between both sexes can be exploited by the careful hunter.

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(Con't. from pg. 11.)  
 more edible portions of the carcass. When gutting the deer, avoid puncturing the intestines or bladder. If feces or urine touches the meat, quickly wash the contaminated portion with clean water. If the weather is warm, skin the animal immediately, and cover it with a fly proof cloth cover. These covers are commercially available, and fold

to a small size for carrying while hunting. (Carry a plastic bag to transport the liver and heart.)

Prop the body cavity open to cool and ventilate it, and dry the cavity with paper towels or clean grass.

When transporting the deer to your home, keep it cool and well ventilated. Don't transport it atop a fender or roof of your vehicle where the hot sun or engine can

heat the meat, or where people could be offended by a seemingly boastful and inhumane display.

If a cooler is available, the meat can be "aged" for a week to help in breakdown of the tissue, which tenderizes the meat. **WARNING!** If the temperature cannot be controlled to maintain 34 degrees, you run the risk of freezing the meat, or risk meat spoilage. Aging can be done in a refrigerator, with the deer cut into pieces for easier handling.

Because the deer has little natural fat, venison should be cooked either low and slow or hot and fast. Just remember to baste or add moisture when using slow-cooking recipes.

When preparing venison for storage or cooking, make a special effort to remove the fat. Natural fat is strong tasting, and will affect the taste of the cooked product.

When cooking venison **chops**,

don't overcook. These cuts, the finest on the deer, deserve to be cooked to pink or just a little longer to be at the peak of perfection.

The **shanks**, that area on the lower legs, just below the ham and shoulder area, are best used for soups or ground up for sausage, meat loaf, or patties.

The **round** of ham area is usually tender enough to be cut into steaks. If it is tougher than expected, use it for swiss steak, or grind it for ground meat recipes.

The **rump** or upper ham area is great for pot roasts. Many normal beef recipes may be used if the meat is tender.

The **shoulder** area and the **arm** area, just below the front shoulder will make fine roasts, or can be ground.

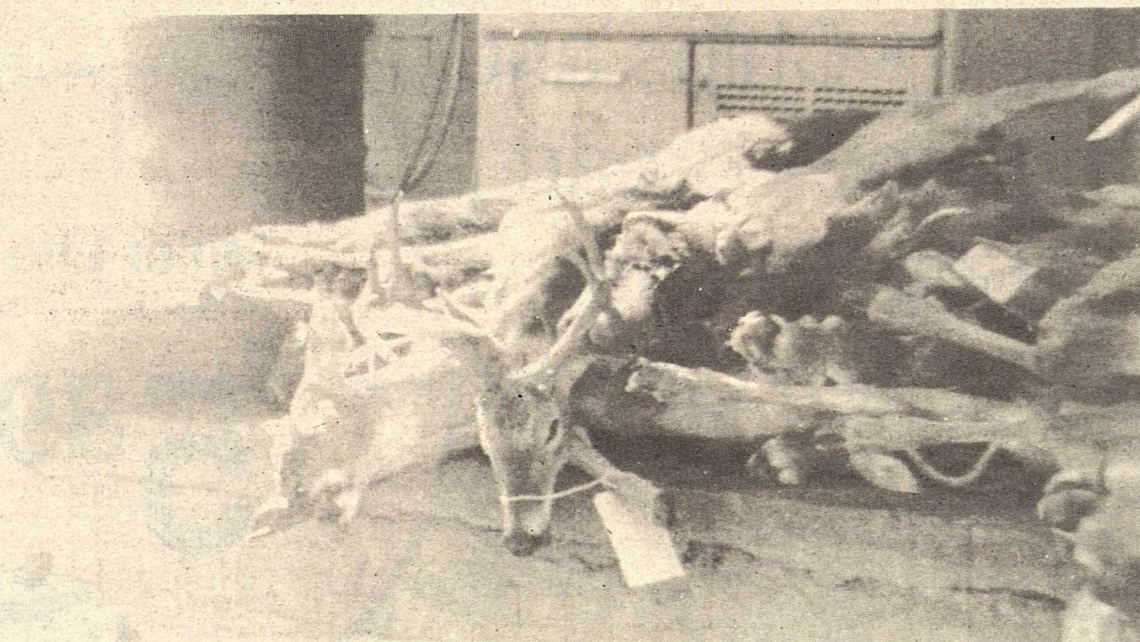
The **flank** area, under the loin, and the **breast** are, under the ribs, can provide meat for soups and stew meat, or ground meat.

The neck has tendons which must be removed before roasting. It can also be cut into stew meat, or ground.

Any rib recipe will give good results when barbecuing or roasting the rib sections. Basting will keep the meat moist.

Jerky can be made from the meatier roast or loin areas, and is a delicious way to enjoy venison when hiking, camping or hunting. Once prepared, jerky need not be cooked, and will keep well if kept dry. Jerky stores well in the freezer.

Most libraries and bookstores have excellent wild game cookbooks. These cookbooks give many hints for preparing and cooking venison. Find your favorite venison recipes and prepare them often. Adapt your beef recipes to venison cuts. Eating the venison you harvest is a practical part of the joy of hunting.



Last years haul was a good one. Pictured above is one of the many deer taken to the Branding Iron Smokehouse for processing and storage. DRN File Photo.

# What to do With all That Venison

by Ray Bronk

Someone once gave a pretty good example of the difference between deer meat and venison. "Deer meat is that which has to be carried back to camp, venison drops right by the truck."

With the liberal game limits in Texas, it is imperative that hunters find delicious methods of cooking that bonanza of venison.

You've heard folks who say, "I never eat venison, I don't like the gamey taste." You've also heard of others who upon learning that the meal they had just eaten with gusto was venison, said something like, "I don't believe it was venison, it tasted just like good beef."

cooked so as to have a delicious taste. Conversely, venison which is neglected and carelessly cooked can be an unpleasant eating experience. Most folks don't realize that venison is a healthy meat. It contains no additives, is high in protein (21 grams per 100 gram portion) has little fat, (4 grams in the same portion) little cholesterol, and is low in calories and sodium. What commercially grown meat product can make that statement? The same portion of beef contains only 17.4 grams of protein, but it has 25.1 grams of fat!

The preparation of good venison starts with the selection of the animal chosen for harvest. An

meat. When placing the killing shot, attempt to make death instantaneous, for humane as well as gastronomic reasons. A shot in the gut will delay death and

contaminate the body cavity. Entrance and exit wound areas will be tainted with intestinal matter which will give an off taste to the meat.

Once the animal is harvested, field dress it at once. Hang the carcass by the back legs to promote drainage away from the

(Con't. on pg. 14.)

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" I don't believe it was venison,  
 it tasted just like good beef"

Good tasting venison is no accident. Unless there is something seriously wrong with the animal which was harvested, venison can be cared for and

excited, rutting older buck will probably be loaded with adrenalin and other natural stimulants. A quietly grazing legally harvested doe would produce better tasting

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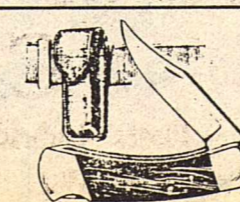
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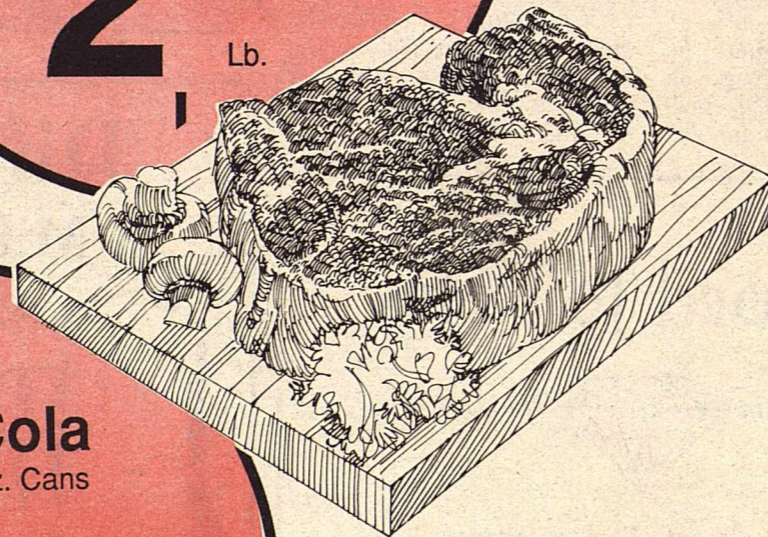
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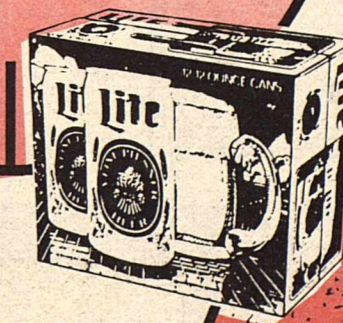
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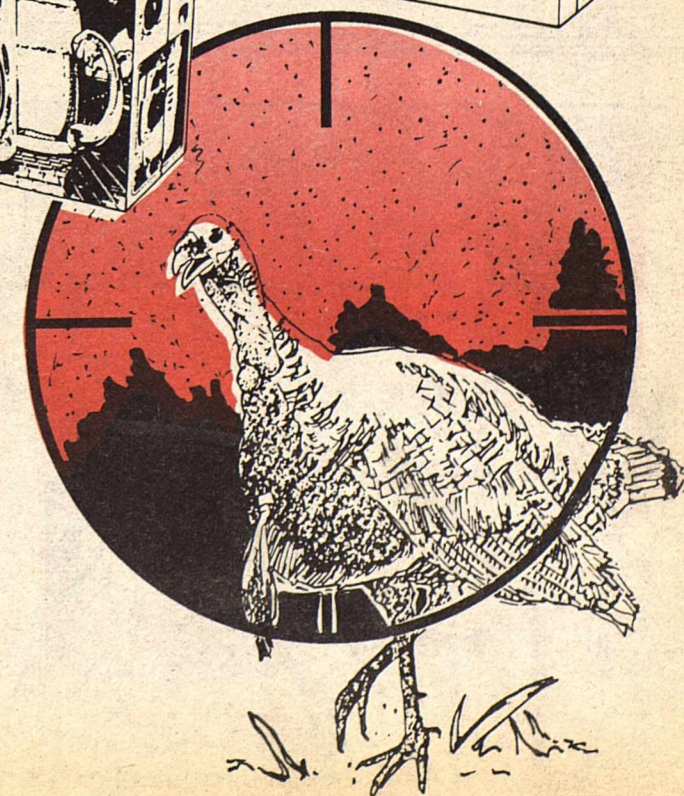
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