

Sports

Class A state semis

Swiftettes overcome slow start to defeat Zavalla

When you are forced to play a basketball game at 8:30 in the morning, you might be awake, but that doesn't mean your shot is.

Just ask Nazareth's Swiftettes. The Swiftettes shot a miserable 21-of-62 from the field in the Class A state semifinal game against Zavalla last Thursday morning at the Erwin Center in Austin, but still managed to pull out a 57-42 victory.

"We kind of struggled there in the first couple of quarters, but we managed to put enough together to come up with a win," said Nazareth Coach Denise Skinner. "I felt like Zavalla came out and did a super job. They were confident and they executed both their offense and defense."

Noel and Janay Johnson paced the Swiftettes scoring attack, scor-

ing 17 and 14 points, respectively, and each earned all-state tournament honors this year. Post players Monica Kleman and Peggy Huseman added eight points each.

The Swiftettes defense dominated Zavalla, forcing 21 turnovers and pulling down 42 rebounds while limiting the Lady Eagles to 28. The Swiftettes turned the turnovers into 28 points enroute to the win.

"Our defense has been our saving grace throughout the entire year. We've struggled in ballgames with our offense, but we've never had to struggle with our defense. We feel very confident about our offense and defense both. With the perfect chemistry we have on offense and defense, we feel like whatever teams throw up at us

offensively, we can deal with it; and whatever defense they put on, we can handle it. If all 11 of our girls are ready to play, from the bench out to the floor, we are a formidable opponent for anyone," Skinner said.

Nazareth didn't start out slow, but its offense seemed to go to sleep during a time out called by Zavalla Coach Jan West with five minutes left in the first quarter.

The Swiftettes had jumped out to a 7-0 lead before West called the time out, and after the break, the Lady Eagles came out with guns blazing and cut the lead to two points, 7-5 when Venasa Ray converted a three-point play with 3:49 left. Ray pulled her team within two points, 11-9, by canning a two-footer as time ran out in the opening period.

Ray continued to give the Swiftettes problems in the second quarter, scoring off of another two-foot jumper with 7:49 left in the half to tie the score at 11, then Zavalla's junior guard standout, Nigel Boyles, took over. She scored on a fastbreak layup with seven minutes left to give Zavalla its first and only lead of the game.

"Zavalla switched from a man-to-man defense to a zone, and it took us a little while to figure out what type of zone they were in and what offense we needed to run against that zone. They caught back up with us and got a lead. We changed our offense then and found one that worked against their defense. I really think Noel (Johnson) and Monica (Kleman) are the two that came to the forefront for us during that time. Nigel Boyles was taking the ball end to end on us and she just picked up the tempo of the game.

"The key to our game was to stop Boyles. She's a very quick and exceptional athlete. We just had to play good team defense and we did," Skinner said.

That's when Nazareth's Johnson trio—Noel, Janay and Jodi—and Jill Pohlmeier took control on offense. Before Zavalla knew what had happened, the Swiftettes had outscored the Lady Eagles 19-7 to claim a 30-20 half time lead.

"When we were struggling at the end of the first quarter, I just told the girls we had to slow down. We were shooting the ball too quick. We had to have a little more patience on offense and get the ball where we needed it," Skinner said.

Noel Johnson scored four quick points to give the Swiftettes a two-point lead, 15-3, then Pohlmeier hit a four-foot jumper. Four more points by Noel Johnson and two free throws by Pohlmeier gave the Swiftettes a 23-17 lead, then Janay Johnson found her mark. She hit a layup and a short jumpshot to give Nazareth a 10-point lead, then Jodi Johnson nailed a three-pointer to give the Swiftettes a 30-18 margin.

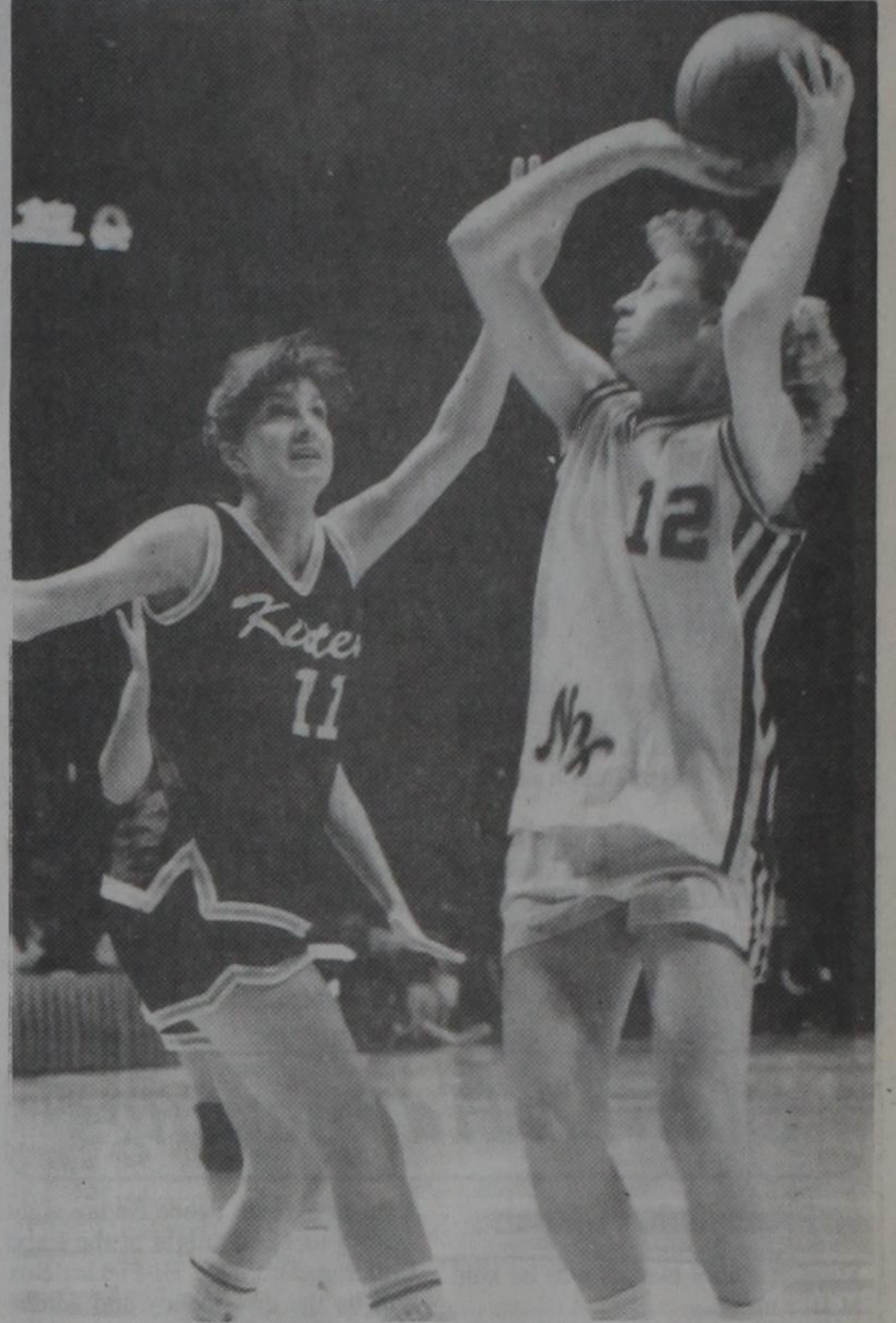
During the Swiftettes' spree, Zavalla's offense, with the exception of Boyles, was cold. Boyles, who paced the Lady Eagles in scoring with 19 points, accounted for all but two of Zavalla's 11 points in the second quarter.

Kleman boosted her team to a 14-point lead in the third quarter, connecting on three 15-foot jump shots during the eight-minute span while Peggy Huseman and Janay Johnson added two points apiece and Jodi Johnson sank another three to give the Swiftettes a 43-29 lead after three quarters of action.

Zavalla tried to make a run at the Swiftettes in the final period, but the closest they could get was 11 points.

Janay Johnson sank eight straight free throws in the last 1:43 of the game to seal the victory.

"They picked the perfect person to foul at the end of the game," said Skinner. "Janay's an excellent free throw shooter and she did the job for us."



SHE'S GOT THAT LOOK of determination etched on her face, and that determination pays off in two points here for Nazareth's Peggy Huseman (12). Huseman goes up against Moulton's Roxanne Gold (11) during action Saturday morning in the Class A state championship game at the Erwin Center in Austin, and scores two of her five points in the contest. The Swiftettes and Kittens met in the state tournament for the fourth straight year, and the Swiftettes prevailed again, 50-30, winning their fourth straight state title and the school's 12th. This year's state title moved the Swiftettes into national prominence — they now hold the record for the most state championships of any school in the country. *Photo by Anne Acker*

Scoreboard

CLASS A STATE TOURNAMENT
At Erwin Center, Austin
Class A Semifinals
Swiftettes 57, Zavalla 42
Nazareth 11 19 13 12 — 57
Zavalla 9 11 9 13 — 42
NAZARETH: Noel Johnson 8-0-17; Janay Johnson 2-10 — 14; Monica Kleman 4-0-8; Peggy Huseman 4-0-8; Jodi Johnson 2-0-6; Jill Pohlmeier 1-2 — 4; Stephanie Farris 0-0 — 0.
TOTALS: 21-12-57.
ZAVALLA: Rhonda Campbell 3-1-7; Nigel Boyles 6-7-19; Venasa Ray 4-1-9; Jana Kitchens 2-1-5; Kim Blake 1-0 — 2. **TOTALS:** 16-10-42.
FIELD GOALS: Nazareth, 21 of 62 for 33.8%; Zavalla, 16 of 32 for 50%.
FREE THROWS: Nazareth, 12 of 13 for 92.3%; Zavalla, 10 of 22 for 45.4%.
REBOUNDS: Nazareth 42 (Noel Johnson 16, Monica Kleman 8); Zavalla 28 (Venasa Ray 8).
TURNOVERS: Nazareth 12 (Jodi Johnson 4); Zavalla 21 (Nigel Boyles 9).
STEALS: Nazareth 7 (Noel Johnson 6); Zavalla 8 (Rhonda Campbell 4).
FOULS: Nazareth 16, Zavalla 12.
FOULED OUT: Campbell, Zavalla.

Class A Championship
Swiftettes 50, Moulton 30
Nazareth 14 9 16 11 — 50
Moulton 6 5 9 10 — 30
NAZARETH: Noel Johnson 8-2-19; Janay Johnson 6-2-15; Monica Kleman 2-0-4; Peggy Huseman 2-1-5; Jodi Johnson 0-1-1; Jill Pohlmeier 2-0-4; Stephanie Farris 0-2 — 2; Natalie Schmucker 0-0-0; Kristin Brockman 0-0

—0; Nicole Kleman 0-0-0; Jenny Jones 0-0-0. **TOTALS:** 20-8-50.
MOULTON: Roxanne Gold 1-0-2; Becky Henrichs 1-0-2; Tiffany Stevens 3-1-7; Amy Koudelka 1-0-2; Kristie Simper 7-3-17. **TOTALS:** 13-4-30.
FIELD GOALS: Nazareth, 20 of 45 for 44.4%; Moulton 13 of 35 for 37.1%.
FREE THROWS: Nazareth 8 of 16 for 50%; Moulton 4 of 8 for 50%.
REBOUNDS: Nazareth 35 (N. Johnson 11, M. Kleman 6); Moulton 24 (Gold 7).
STEALS: Nazareth 16 (Janay Johnson 4, N. Johnson, Kleman and Jodi Johnson 3); Moulton 6 (Koudelka and Simper 3).
TURNOVERS: Nazareth 13 (Farris 4); Moulton 21 (Henrichs 12).
FOULS: Nazareth 10, Moulton 13.
FOULED OUT: None.
ATTENDANCE: 5,923.

REGION 1-A BOYS' TOURNEY

Quarterfinals
Swifts 54, Vega 44
Nazareth 11 20 7 16 — 54
Vega 15 12 7 10 — 44
SCORING: N — Nick Johnson 18, Scott Huseman 14, Wade Hoelling 13, V — Adrian Monzingo and Thornhill 14.

Semifinals
Swifts 70, Petersburg 72
Nazareth 16 13 15 26 — 70
Petersburg 6 20 24 22 — 72
SCORING: N — Adrian Farris 17, Wade Hoelling 13, Nick Johnson 11; P — Fox 22, Fillingim 16.

Ladies' Golf names officers

The Dimmitt Ladies Golf Association has selected new officers for 1991, and will hold their annual membership drive dinner March 26 at 7 p.m. at the Country Club.

Jo Beth Bates was named president of the organization, with Patty Summers as vice president, Dolores Baldrige as secretary-treasurer, and Betty McClure as reporter.

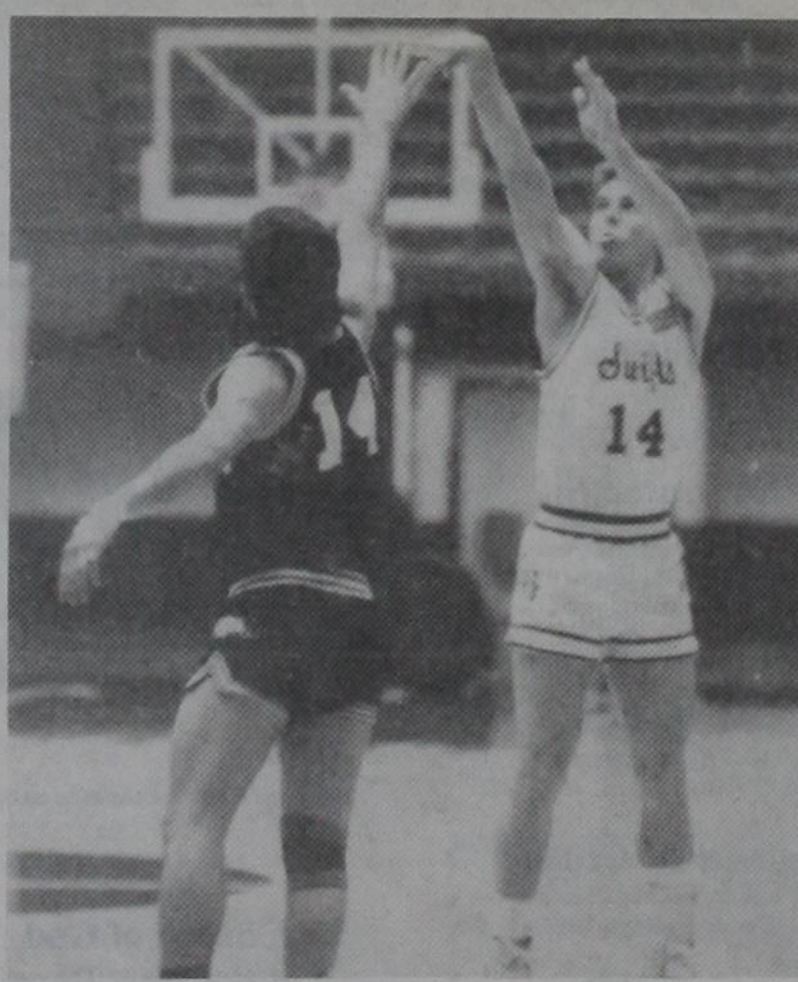
At the Feb. 28 meeting of the association, the members voted to move the time of the monthly meeting. The group will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month, beginning in April. The meetings will start with a noon luncheon at the Country Club, followed by a play

day. Working members may come for the luncheon, then return for play after their work day ends, a club spokesman said.

Melissa Carpenter was named chairman of the membership committee. All members and prospective members are urged to attend the membership dinner.

The club members agreed to work on placement of a restroom out on the course between the fourth and seventh greens, with the club providing the funds for purchase of the facility.

Mozelle Lilley, tournament chairman, reported on upcoming tournaments in the area.



Adrian Farris shoots from three-point range in the regional semifinals game against Petersburg.



Coach Mark Makeever and Assistant Coach Joey Waldo.

Congratulations, Swifts— Regional Semifinalists!

Season Record: 21-9

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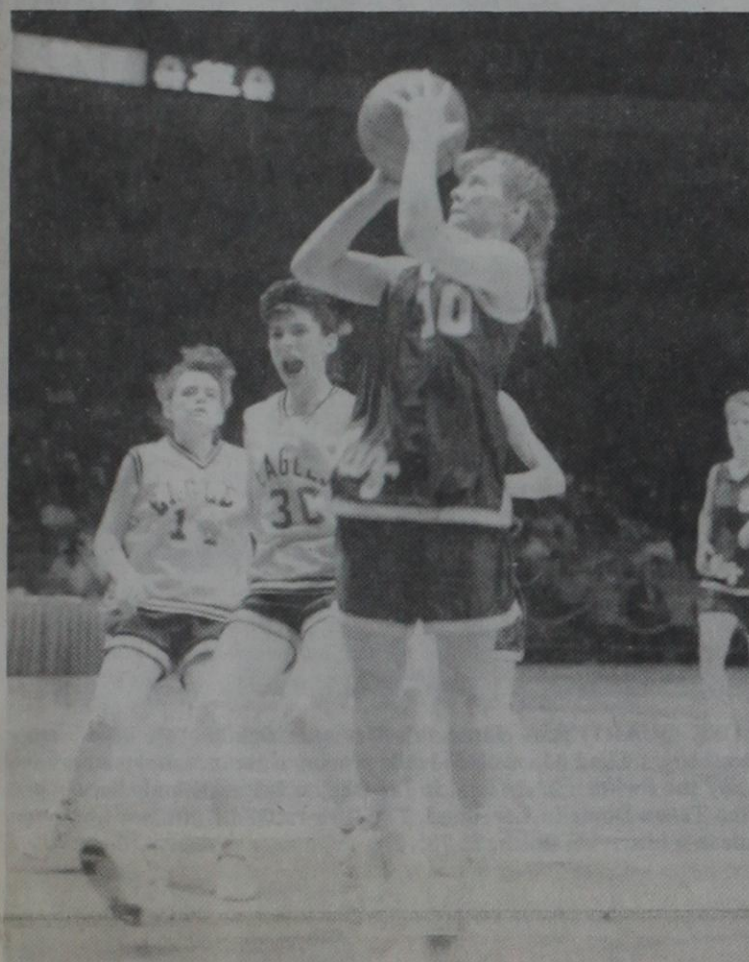
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A DOZEN STATE TITLES was the goal of the 1991 Nazareth Swiftettes' basketball team and that goal was achieved Saturday when the Swiftettes defeated Moulton 50-30 in the Class A state championship game at the Erwin Center in Austin. Team members include (from left) Coaches Leslie Storer and Denese Skinner; managers Tracy Drerup and Kalina Pohlmeier; and team members Kristin Brockman, Jenny Jones, Nicole Kleman, Jill Pohlmeier, Natalie Schmucker, Peggy Huseman, Jodi Johnson, Janay Johnson, Stephanie Farris, Noel Johnson and Monica Kleman.

Photo by Anne Acker

A National Record!



JANAY JOHNSON drives to the bucket and scores two points during action against Zavalla in the Class A state semifinal game last Thursday at the Erwin Center in Austin. The Swiftettes had a few problems handling Zavalla's zone defense early in the game, but the problems were ironed out before too much time and damage had transpired and the Swiftettes went on to claim a 57-42 win. Johnson and teammate Noel Johnson, both seniors, earned all-state tournament honors for their performance in the state tournament. The Swiftettes went on to beat Moulton in the championship game Saturday morning to win the school's 12th state championship—a national record.

Photo by Anne Acker



NUMBER 12—Senior Swiftettes (second from left) Janay Johnson, Stephanie Farris, Noel Johnson and Monica Kleman accept Nazareth High School's 12th state championship trophy from a UIL official following their victory over Moulton Saturday at the Erwin Center in Austin. The Swiftettes victory gave the school a national record of 12 state titles.

Photo by Anne Acker



WHAT A FAKEOUT!—Nazareth's Monica Kleman makes a move on Moulton's Amy Koudelka (22, on floor) and sends the Moulton defender to her knees. Kleman notices another Kitten defender, Kristie Simper (right) coming up from behind and dishes off to Noel Johnson in the center of the lane. Johnson scores an easy jumpshot on the play and Kleman gets the assist. The Swiftette seniors—Johnson, Kleman, Janay Johnson (pictured in background) and Stephanie Farris say it's teamwork like this that enabled the team to win the school's 12th state title with a 50-30 victory over Moulton Saturday at the Erwin Center in Austin.

Photo by Anne Acker

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Congratulations to the Swiftettes on winning Nazareth High School's

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- The Sweet Shop
- Terra international
- West Texas Gas Co.

Locals experience Gulf War losses

Although casualties have been very light among US service personnel in Operation Desert Storm, at least two of the dead have had close ties to local citizens.

Thelma Smith of Dimmitt lost her nephew, Pfc. Corey Winkle of Lubbock.

The son of Gary Winkle of Clearwater, Okla., and Freida Johnson of Lubbock, Corey was killed in a noncombat grenade accident somewhere in the Persian Gulf area last week. Details of the incident had not been released by the Dept. of Defense, according to family members.

Corey's parents were both born and raised in Dimmitt and graduated from Dimmitt High School, according to Smith, and Corey lived in Dimmitt for a short time when he was small.

Corey was a former Texas Tech University theater arts major before he enlisted in the Army in August 1989. He was assigned to a mechanized infantry unit, which was deployed to the Persian Gulf from Fort Stewart, Ga., shortly after the Aug. 2, 1990, Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

He is survived by his parents; a sister, Caryn Peterson of Lubbock; a brother, Craig Winkle of Lubbock; his grandparents, Irene Winkle of Lubbock, and Frank and Polly Webb of Texas; and a niece, Amanda Peterson.

"I think the whole family felt like he was doing what should be done," Smith said. "And he was very proud to do it."

Smith said Tuesday that the family had been notified his body was in Dover, England, and would be shipped soon.

"It makes it very hard because it takes so long," Smith said.

She related that a memorial service was held at Tech Monday in honor of Corey, with some of his professors and fellow actors saying a few words about him. "I heard it was just the sweetest thing," Smith added.



ONE LAST NOTE—Miranda Turner (seated) signs a sympathy card to the family of her military pen pal, Tommy Butler of Amarillo, who was killed Friday shortly after the cease-fire was called in the Gulf War. Turner, 10, began her correspondence with Butler as an assignment in the social studies class of Dimmitt Middle School teacher Elaine Steinle (standing). Turner received three letters from Butler, and had sent him a Christmas card, a valentine, and other letters.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Dimmitt fourth grader Miranda Turner was pen pals with Tommy Butler of Amarillo, who was killed by a "bomblet" just after the cease fire was declared.

Turner, the daughter of Mike and Julia Turner of Tulia, had received three letters from Butler, who was among the first troops sent into Kuwait from Saudi Arabia when the ground troops were sent in.

Butler, 22, died Friday, and his parents, Gary Butler and Kathleen Butler, both of Amarillo, were notified Saturday morning. He was stationed with the US Army B-Battery, 3rd Battalion, 18th Field Artillery out of Ft. Sill, Okla. He

was a military cannon crewmember, and had joined the Army in October 1988.

Turner first wrote to Butler as part of a social studies project for her teacher, Elaine Steinle. The whole fourth grade sent letters marked "To Any Soldier," and many of them received replies, according to Steinle.

Turner received the letter from Butler, and the correspondence continued. Butler's letters were filled with light-hearted joking and decorated with Bart Simpson cartoon figures, according to Steinle.

Turner and her classmates signed sympathy cards to be sent to Butler's family.

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