

**County teams wrap up  
playoff berths**

—Pages 12-14

**Grandparent's  
"Bragging" Time!**

—Pages 6-9

**Buckle up your  
little Valentines**

—Page 5

**Everyone out  
for the Junior  
Livestock Show!**

—See Section B



# The Castro County News

75th year—No. 45

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, February 10, 2000

50¢

32 pages plus supplement

## Stock show will feature 269 animals



**THE DIMMITT YOUNG FARMERS** unload the hundreds of sacks of bedding they will use in the holding pens for barrows, lambs and steers this weekend at the Castro County Junior Livestock Show. The Young Farmers gathered at the Expo

**Building Saturday** to set up the pens and show ring for this weekend's annual show. They will be on hand throughout the show, making sure things run smoothly.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Some of the best lambs, steers and barrows in the Texas Panhandle will be paraded before judges Friday at the 46<sup>th</sup> annual Castro County Junior Livestock Show.

Conducted by the Dimmitt Young Farmers, the annual show is scheduled to start at the Expo Building in Dimmitt Friday morning at 9 with the lamb show. The steer show will start at 11 a.m. The barrows show will start at 1 p.m.

The number of animals in this year's show is down, with 178 barrows (down from 194 last year), 84 lambs (down from 90 a year ago), and seven steers (down from 10 a year ago).

Lambs will be weighed and classified at 4:30 p.m. today (Thursday) in the show ring. Steers will be weighed upon arrival at the show and classed by weight. Steer classes will be determined by the superintendent. Hogs will be classified by owner. Any animal not classified at the proper time must wait until last to be classified.

President of the Dimmitt Young Farmers this year is Chaun Gunstream, and he serves as general superintendent for the show. Vice president of the club is Curt Summers, and he is the assistant show superintendent.

Judges for this year's show are Billy Copeland for lambs, Greg Jones for steers and Gaylon McCune for barrows.

Hart youngsters are expected to show 51 barrows in this year's club show.

Those youngsters lucky enough to get their animals in the premium sale will show off their animals before auctioneers and buyers Saturday afternoon beginning at 1.

Auctioneers will sell 125 barrows, 125 lambs and 40 steers, or 75% of the total number of animals that are weighed in, whichever is the smaller number.

Those manning the microphone at this year's premium sale will be Jack Howell, John Davis, Greg Odom, Jason Wooten, Kenneth Gregg and Leslie Davis.

First into the sale ring this year will be the grand champion steer. After it sells, the grand champion barrow will be auctioned next. The grand champion lamb will be the third animal sold. Next up will be the reserve grand champion steer, barrow and lamb, in that order. All breed champions will be sold next, followed by the reserve breeds. Then one-third of the steers, barrows and lambs will be sold. This order will be repeated until all qualifying animals are sold.

The Dimmitt Young Farmers will be raffling off a brand new 16-foot half-top Easley type stock trailer, with proceeds going to raise money for its Dana Wall Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Tickets are \$100 each. Several other prizes will be awarded in addition to the grand prize stock trailer. They include \$100 worth of fuel from Dimmitt Consumers; \$100 worth of groceries from Dimmitt Thriftway; \$100 worth of merchandise from each of the following merchants: Just Imagine, Flagg Fertilizer Co., Village Shop, Texas Equipment, terra international, Dimmitt Market and Lextron Animal Health Products; and \$100 beef certificates from Dimmitt Feedyard and Rafter 3 Feedyard.

For tickets, contact any member of the Young Farmers.

## County agrees to buy Energas building for Extension Service

The Castro County Extension Service may soon have a new home—the old Energas office on North Broadway in Dimmitt.

In a unanimous vote Monday, commissioners agreed to offer the building's owner, Gilliland Group, its asking price of \$48,500.

Commissioners discussed sub-leasing the building from Energas until the current contract expires in September. At that time they could look at purchasing the building. But commissioners agreed that the building was "a good deal" and they hated to let it slip away.

"I believe we should just buy the building and go from there," said Pct. 2 Commissioner Clyde Damron.

Pct. 3 commissioner Bay Baldrige agreed, saying, "We really need more office space, and we can

always resell it if they decide it won't work. Since I've been on the commissioners' court, I've seen so many things like this slip through our fingers."

The county has looked at alternate office space for the Extension Service for a long time now, but commissioners got serious about the search last month when Extension Agent Marilyn Neal fell as she was going down the outside steps leading to the basement offices.

Neal's doctor will not release her

to navigate stairs, which will create problems since her office is in the courthouse basement and the only access to the office is by stairway. Neal is currently working out of her home.

Commissioners had met with Allan Foster, a representative from Energas last week, and were informed that the company could vacate the building by March 1 if the county elected to sub-lease the office space. Energas's current lease on the building runs through Sept. 1.

After meeting with Foster, county Judge Irene Miller spoke to a representative from Gilliland Group who said the company would be willing to lease the space to the county, or to sell the property.

If the county were to sub-lease the building, finishing out Energas's current contract, the cost would be \$450 per month. After the current lease agreement expires, the county would have to enter into a new lease agreement with Gilliland Group and the cost would rise to \$550 per month.

Before agreeing to purchase the building, commissioners questioned Extension Agents Pammy Millican, Neal and Johnna Patterson about whether or not the building would

(Continued on Page 15)

### Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	58	23	
Friday	65	20	
Saturday	35	19	
Sunday	58	19	
Monday	60	26	
Tuesday	65	23	
Wednesday	73	26	

February Moisture ..... 0.00  
2000 Moisture ..... 0.07

Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.

## 1:1

By Don Nelson

Lots of guys wear short-sleeved shirts year-round, but I don't switch from long to short until the temp hits a civilized 70 or above.

Wednesday was my first short-sleeve day of the new millennium.

If the basketball playoffs are here, can spring be far behind?

On the other hand, if the Junior Livestock Show is here, would a snow storm not be on the horizon?

The foibles of the weather are among the things that make life here so interesting.

We really, really need rain. If the Commissioners' Court really cared, they would set a day for everyone to wash their cars.

A Valentine's bummer: You can't buy Pangburn's Millionaires anymore.

Pangburn's Candies, Inc., has gone belly-up.

However, the dietary world still is not without sin. The candy companies that are left make clusters of milk chocolate, pecan and caramel similar to the popular Millionaires and call them "Turtles," etc.

(Continued on Page 15)

## City calls election

A city election has been called for May 6 to fill the positions of the four city council members who represent the single-member districts. The measure was approved at the Monday night meeting of the council.

The four whose terms are expiring are Roy Garza, District 1; Gloria Hernandez, District 2; Charles Richard, District 3; and Roger Malone, District 4.

Feb. 21 is the first day that candidates may file for office. Early voting will be held April 19 to May 2 at the City Hall from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each weekday.

Those wanting to apply for a ballot by mail may send their request to Betty McClure at Box 146, Dimmitt 79027.

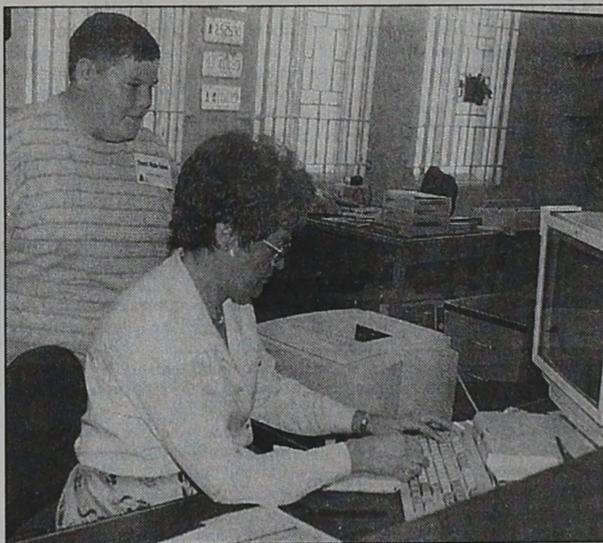
In other business, the council approved a resolution concerning the

city's application for grant funding for a swimming pool project.

In another matter, the council asked City Attorney Jack Edwards if he had received any reply from Classic Cable concerning the damage that had been done to trees belonging to local residents. He said the company expressed "shock that anything like that could have happened in Dimmitt."

He said they did not comment on the city's proposal to renegotiate the cable company's franchise agreement with the city.

Mayor Wayne Collins said that a company spokesperson told him that the company would consider giving the city a public access channel, but seemed doubtful that Dimmitt would be granted the same low cable rates as the City of Friona.



**THIS IS HOW WE KEEP TRACK OF VEHICLE TAGS**—Laura Small of the Castro County Tax Assessor/Collector's office in the courthouse shows Dimmitt Middle School eighth grader Todd Jansa part of her job duties on Feb. 2 for the Job Shadowing Day observance in Dimmitt. The project was intended to help students learn about job skills and how they relate to what they are learning in school.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Bobbies, Swiftettes, Bobcats, Swifts, Horns Teams line up for playoff race

County hoop teams are ready to tip off in some of the biggest games of the 1999-2000 season as the playoffs get underway this week.

The Dimmitt Bobcats and Bobbies and the Nazareth Swifts and Swiftettes are assured of playoff berths, but the Hart Longhorns are in a three-way tie with Sudan and Springlake-Earth for second place and will have a playoff to decide who advances into post-season play.

### Bobbies

The Dimmitt Bobbies (10-19), third-seeded team from District 1-AAA, will face District 2-AAA's runner-up, Muleshoe (16-11) Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Plainview High School.

"Muleshoe beat us by two here earlier in the year, so I guess it's payback time," said Dimmitt Coach Tim Gilliland.

In the first meeting between the two teams, Dimmitt overcame an 11-point deficit in the first quarter and held the lead at the start of the fourth period. But Muleshoe came back to win the game down the stretch, 59-57.

The Bobbies are trying to line up a practice game later this week, but Gilliland said everything is up in the air now.

### Swiftettes

The No. 3-ranked Nazareth Swiftettes (25-5), runners-up in District 8-A, will meet the District 7-A champion Texline Lady Tornados (18-4) in a Class A bi-district playoff Tuesday night at 6:30 at Dumas High School.

Ticket prices for the bi-district playoff will be \$4 for adults and \$2 for students.

The Lady Tornados breezed

through their district race with an unbeaten 6-0 mark and they wrapped up regular season play Tuesday with a 58-33 win over Texline.

Nazareth Coach Matt Garrett said he doesn't know much about Texline yet, but he was expecting to receive information on the team Wednesday afternoon.

The Swiftettes were trying to schedule a practice game with either White Deer or Shallowater for Friday night, but nothing was definite at press time.

### Longhorns

Hart (11-14) is tied with Sudan (9-15) and Springlake-Earth (11-14) for second place in District 8-A and the three will have a playoff to determine who will represent the district in the playoffs. Each has a 4-4 record in district play.

(Continued on Page 15)

## Bulletin

Four Hart men were injured, but none killed, in a one-pickup rollover Wednesday morning on FM 145 east of Hart.

All are employees of Hart of the Plains Pump Co., and were in route to a field job in a company pickup, investigations said.

Two of the accident victims—Dale Scott, 36, and Albert Colorado, 33—were transported from the scene of the accident to a Lubbock hospital via helicopter.

The pickup's driver, Hector Lopez, 30, and the other passenger, Damon Gonzales, 26, were taken to Plains Memorial Hospital via ambulance, and then transferred on to Lubbock.

Officers said the pickup somehow went out of control and ran into a bar ditch, then crashed through a power pole and began rolling.

Three of the men were ejected from the cab as the pickup rolled, officers said. Lopez was still in the pickup when rescuers arrived.

A witness at the scene said the damaged power pole stayed upright after being sheared off, and that none of its lines were broken.

# Former Hart resident makes generous donation to Centennial Pavilion Fund

**By MARGUERITE McLAIN**  
The telephone rang. It was a voice from Hart's distant past, saying, "Hello, Marguerite. This is Cliff Cooper. Luisa and I received your letter, and are excited about the Hart Pavilion plans, and are discussing the purchase of a tile."

What a pleasant surprise. Two days later, another call came through. "Hello, Marguerite. This is Cliff Cooper. Luisa and I have decided to send a gift to the Pavilion Fund because Hart means a lot to me. Would \$5,000 help?"

Would it? I was astounded, not so much at Mr. Cooper's generosity, because I understand him to be that kind of person, but because some 60 years after he had made Hart his home, he remembers it with such tenderness that he is moved to help in one of our

major financial undertakings. This is very touching, and I believe we have a common bond—a deep love for Hart.

Mr. Cooper had already left Hart when my family, the Bennetts, came here in 1937. But in the next few years, I heard him spoken of many times by various individuals; yet I did not have the pleasure of meeting him and Luisa until our 75<sup>th</sup> year, all-school reunion in 1996, which they attended.

Cliff had come home; his roots drew him back to the little town that he had once called home; and he and Luisa will be called back again this year unless some unforeseen event occurs to prevent it.

He and his partner and friend, Leroy Aven, introduced the Big T Pump Co. to this area, which changed the face of agriculture.

Since Mr. Cooper left Hart, he has enjoyed the honor of becoming National Junior Chamber of Commerce president. He has stood in the company of dignitaries—presidents, senators, foreign diplomats and leaders—and has enjoyed financial success.

He authored a book called *The Runt Pig Principle*, which was translated into Chinese, and is used in Chinese schools. The book is based on principles that he learned as a boy living in Hart.

Though episodes of his life have taken him far, they have not ameliorated his love for Hart. His good

wife, Luisa, fosters that love by encouraging him in his remembrances of his hometown.

Many times, people who grow up in small towns get a chance to move away to a larger city and enjoy a modicum of success. Yet they sometimes indicate that they are somewhat ashamed to say they were reared in small town America.

We should never be ashamed of the events that have made us the persons we have become.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper's gift has brought this truth home to me so very profoundly, and it is with deepest gratitude that I express to them the City of Hart's appreciation for doing what they have done.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper challenge us further in making that gift grow with private donations from individuals.

Ten people giving \$500 would match his gift, and one individual has already done that. Five people giving \$1,000 each would match it, and two people have already done that. Several have given from \$40 to \$400, and the fund continues to grow.

Would you, who are reading this, take the challenge and give above the cost of a tile to make the Pavilion dream come true?

It truly is Hart's history being written on the wall, and Mr. Cooper, by his gift, has issued all of us a challenge to invest in this project with pride.

Thank you, Cliff and Luisa.



**BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA students from Dimmitt High School attended regional contests in Lubbock and seven qualified to advance to state competition by placing fourth or higher. Those who went are (back, from left) Damian Martinez (fourth, business law), Randy Porter (first, C++ programming), Ernesto Olmos and Mark Casares (both in keyboarding, and Casares, third, business**

**law); (middle, from left) Dee Sloan (second, medical concepts), Larissa Fuentes (document formatting), Ironica Traylor (database applications), Anita Rodriguez (third, payroll accounting), and Kendra Shannon (database applications; and (front, from left) Lilia Dominguez (third, business law, and fifth, legal concepts), M'Lissa Huffines (spreadsheet), and Leticia Sanchez (fourth, computerized accounting).**

Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Local students earn honors at Texas Tech

Several Castro County students were named to academic honor lists at Texas Tech University during the 1999 fall semester.

Those making the President's List with a 4.0 grade-point average while maintaining 12 semester hours of class work include Robin Schulte of Nazareth, a senior multidisciplinary studies major; Amy Denise Garcia of Dimmitt, a sophomore human development major; and Jason Randel Hargrove of Dimmitt, a sophomore "COBA" major.

Several other students were named to the dean's list after maintaining a grade-point average between 3.5 and 3.9 on a minimum of 12 semester hours. They include Sarah Jean Olvera of Nazareth, a junior majoring in multidisciplinary studies; Laura Jean Birkenfeld of Nazareth, a freshman studying agribusiness; Alka Nanubhai Patel of Dimmitt, a sophomore majoring in political science; Andrew Paul Teaschner of Dimmitt, a junior studying wildlife and fisheries management; Andrea Lorraine Wilson of Dimmitt, a freshman majoring in restaurant, hotel and institutional management; Heather Sha Wise of Dimmitt, who is a freshman undeclared major; and Adam Gonzalez of Dimmitt, a freshman majoring in microbiology.

## TRSI

### Parents, community invited to math, science meeting Monday

Parents and interested community members are invited to attend an open forum about the Texas Rural Systemic Initiative (TRSI) on Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Richardson Elementary School in Dimmitt.

Dimmitt Independent School District has been selected to be a part of the TRSI, a new mathematics and science initiative focused on improving the way students are taught, learn and are assessed in the classroom in those subject areas. The statewide project is led by West Texas A&M University for schools in eligible counties.

At the open forum, which is free of charge, TRSI staff members will present a brief summary of the program, engage participants in inquiry learning, and will answer questions about the program.

"We are excited about visiting

Dimmitt and meeting with the staff and local community," said Judy Kelley, TRSI project director. "Our program will benefit the district's students. We look forward to collaborating to improve mathematics and science for all students."

Parents of all DISD students are urged to attend, along with any interested community members.

"This is a great resource for teachers," said Doricell Davis, DISD curriculum director. "I expect this program to improve the quality of class delivery."

DISD staff members will meet to learn more about the program at 3:30 p.m. Monday.

Some of the benefits of the program include inquiry-based learning for all students; building administrators supporting teachers in implementing high quality mathematics and science; technology training for teachers and students; and increased parental support.

State Senator Teel Bivins (R-Amarillo), chairman of the Texas Senate Education Committee, said that Texas is suffering from a shortage of high school and college graduates with solid skills in mathematics and science.

"Job opportunities in the technology industries are increasing significantly and this program will help prepare rural students to successfully compete in the global marketplace," Bivins said.

Funded by a grant from the national Science Foundation, TRSI is a statewide initiative led by WTAMU through the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, a state research agency and member of the Texas A&M University System. TRSI involves a partnership among 11 universities, the Texas Education Agency, Region 2 Education Service Center and other educational associations.

## Nino wins prize for insect poster

Two students from West Texas A&M University won awards for posters they presented at the Agriculture Program Conference for educators held in January in College station.

Emilio Nino, a senior general studies major from Dimmitt, won a third-place award for his poster presenting an evaluation of bacterium used to control certain insects in corn. He received a \$200 prize.

Sixty posters were presented at the competition, and only six placed at the event, including the two from

WTAMU. The other WTAMU student who placed was Michal Roberts of Frich, who took second.

Dr. Greta Schuster, WTAMU assistant professor of integrated pest management, supervised five WTAMU students at the competition, which was the first of its kind at the annual conference for educators.

"We took six students down to compete against other students from the Texas A&M University System, and the fact that two of our students placed second and third is really great considering it was the first year."

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Community Correspondents.....Martha Jo Hyman, Dimmitt, Virgie Gerber, Nazareth

## Game night set Friday at Senior Center

The Dimmitt Senior Citizens Center will host a game night on Friday, starting at 6 p.m.

All members of the center are encouraged to attend, and those interested in joining the Senior Citizens also are invited.

Membership is open to all who are age 55 or older, and the membership fee is only \$15 per year.

**Last Puzzle Solution**  
RACE ONIAN CARD KCRS ERA ABILENE REST DEFENDANT CO NINE TAIL INVEST OBJECTORS TTP INVESTIT ESITA GOTTIT CANTREADFEAST YAHOO THELAW EH RENE SEAFATR YOUREMAD ARK TO RIODEL HUMANLY TLODD TIA TALL ADE  
S-419

## What's Cooking

*In the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Schools*

Here are the breakfast and lunch menus for the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth schools for Feb. 10-18.

**DIMMITT Breakfast**  
THURSDAY: Pancake on a stick with sausage, fresh bananas and milk.  
FRIDAY: No school.  
MONDAY: Granola bars, orange juice and milk.  
TUESDAY: Toasted English muffin, apple juice and milk.  
WEDNESDAY: Rice Krispie treats, orange wedges and milk.  
THURSDAY: Corn Pops cereal, fresh banana and milk.  
FRIDAY: Breakfast burrito, grape juice and milk.

**Preschool-First Grade Lunch**  
THURSDAY: Nachos with cheese, Mexipinto beans, plums, jalapeno peppers and milk.  
FRIDAY: No school.  
MONDAY: Turkey lasagna, Mexicali corn, tossed salad, French bread and milk.  
TUESDAY: Pigs in a blanket, whole new potatoes, gelatin, hot wheat rolls and milk.  
WEDNESDAY: Southern fried chicken, seasoned black-eyed peas, fresh bananas and milk.  
THURSDAY: Beef taco, Spanish rice, taco condiment salad, corn tortilla and milk.  
FRIDAY: Red Baron Pepperoni Pizza, savoy green beans, cantaloupe and milk.

**Second-12th Grade Lunch**  
THURSDAY: Choice of nachos with cheese, grilled chopped steak or beef stir fry; Mexipinto beans, lyonnaise carrots or Chinese style vegetables; tossed salad, cantaloupe or plums; assorted muffins, hot cheese rolls or Spanish rice; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.  
FRIDAY: No school.  
MONDAY: Choice of turkey lasagna, teriyaki steak or chicken taco; Mexicali corn, mashed potatoes and gravy or broccoli and cheese sauce; tossed salad, fresh spinach salad or taco condiment salad; French bread, hot rolls or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.  
TUESDAY: Choice of pigs in a blanket, beef stir fry or beef stew; parsley buttered potatoes, fried okra or savory green beans; gelatin, fruit fantasy or tossed salad; hot wheat rolls, assorted muffins or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.  
WEDNESDAY: Choice of southern fried chicken, pork tamales or hoagie submarine sandwich; seasoned black-eyed peas, potatoes au gratin or vegetable medley; fresh banana, hamburger salad or tossed salad; commale yeast rolls, hot rolls or crackers;

**HART Breakfast**  
THURSDAY: Pancakes with syrup, sausage, variety of cereal, graham crackers, assorted fruit juice and milk.  
FRIDAY: No school.  
MONDAY: Pancake and chicken breakfast stick, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.  
TUESDAY: Breakfast pizza, cinnamon rolls, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.  
WEDNESDAY: Sausage, buttermilk biscuit, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.  
THURSDAY: Breakfast pizza, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.  
FRIDAY: Biscuits, ham, variety of cereal, graham crackers, raisins and milk.

**Lunch**  
THURSDAY: Choice of hamburger basket, pork tamales or enchilada casserole; tortilla pieces, corn, salad, fresh fruit, pineapple pudding, ice cream and milk, punch or tea.  
FRIDAY: No school.  
MONDAY: Choice of pizza, burrito or macaroni and cheese; peaches, corn, salad, sugar cookie, carrot sticks and milk, punch or tea.  
TUESDAY: Choice of chicken sandwich with chips, ham sandwich or chicken nuggets; gravy, mashed potatoes, fresh fruit, green beans, wheat rolls, cherry cobbler and milk, punch or tea.  
WEDNESDAY: Choice of hamburger basket, chicken sandwich with chips or chicken fajita; salad, pineapple, refried beans, sugar cookie and milk, punch or tea.  
THURSDAY: Choice of beef stew, toasted cheese sandwich or deluxe burrito; gelatin dessert, peaches, salad, banana pudding and milk, punch or tea.  
FRIDAY: Choice of hamburger basket, chicken sandwich with chips or hot dog on a bun; pinto beans, sliced pickles, lettuce, tomato, peaches, gelatin dessert, gingerbread, and milk, punch or tea.

**NAZARETH Breakfast**  
THURSDAY: Breakfast burrito, cereal, orange juice and milk.  
FRIDAY: No school.  
MONDAY: Cinnamon roll, cereal, orange juice and milk.  
TUESDAY: Pancake and sausage on a stick, cereal, orange juice and milk.  
WEDNESDAY: French toast and sausage, cereal, orange juice and milk.  
THURSDAY: Breakfast tacos, cereal, orange juice and milk.  
FRIDAY: Sausage and biscuit, cereal, orange juice and milk.

**Lunch**  
THURSDAY: \* Pork patties or steak finger, tossed salad, scalloped potatoes, applesauce, pudding and milk or juice.  
FRIDAY: \* No school.  
MONDAY: \* Corn dog or chicken strips, tossed salad, chicken rice, pears, Valentine cupcakes and milk or juice.  
TUESDAY: \* Barbecued sandwich or hamburger, lettuce, tater tots, broccoli, peaches, cookies and milk or juice.  
WEDNESDAY: \* Hot turkey sandwich or pizza, broccoli and cauliflower salad, corn, apples, cranberry sauce; dessert and milk or juice.  
THURSDAY: \* Frito pie or hamburger and French fries, cornbread, tossed salad, green beans, pineapple, peanut butter bars and milk or juice.  
FRIDAY: \* Nachos or corn dog, tossed salad, beans, applesauce, dessert and milk or juice.

\*Items designated with an asterisk (\*) will be served to elementary school students.

**TEXAS CROSSWORD**  
by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**  
1 grass to tend  
5 NFL Hall of Fame site: Stanton, \_\_\_\_  
6 TX Supreme Ct. all together: en \_\_\_\_  
7 TXism: "up \_\_\_\_ snuff"  
8 TXism: "active as a fox in a \_\_\_\_ house"  
9 newspaper delivery runs  
15 Comanche's courthouse: "Old \_\_\_\_"  
16 in east Hidalgo Co. TXism: "if \_\_\_\_ he'll bark"  
21 medical pictures  
22 TX film pilot Tom  
27 "I don't like the \_\_\_\_ of your voice"  
28 NE Fort Worth suburb: \_\_\_\_ City  
29 snapshots  
30 TXism: "got a \_\_\_\_ big as Texas" (kind)  
32 TXism: "he's \_\_\_\_ spring chicken"  
33 New \_\_\_\_ TX  
36 UT has original manuscript of "Pygmalion" by this George Bernard Caminiti  
37 Astro infielder  
38 "Old Yeller" actress Dorothy  
39 soft in the noggin?  
41 Houston TV  
42 domesticated  
45 TX Warren of JFK commission  
46 Sault \_\_\_\_ Marie

**DOWN**  
1 high tennis shot  
2 cry of discovery  
3 In Runnels Co. on 83  
4 north TX ball glove goods co.  
8 cotton chopper  
9 Fort Worth facility: Will \_\_\_\_ Center  
10 TXism: "drawing a bead \_\_\_\_ it"  
11 Austin university  
12 song: " \_\_\_\_ Die"  
13 TX Heisman winner Campbell  
14 bed board  
15 TX C&W singer Mark  
16 \_\_\_\_ Lisa  
17 TX "Mighty Ducks" actor  
18 this Marie was "a little bit country"  
20 TXism: " \_\_\_\_ a bull give milk?" (no)  
22 TX soft drink (abbr.)  
23 founder of giant TX Belo media group (init.)  
24 Dallas sports-caster Hitzges  
25 TXism: "sharp as \_\_\_\_"  
26 former Ranger pitcher, et al.  
27 this Lukas starred with TX Martin in "Leap of Faith"  
28 this sound of a boot hitting the floor  
31 TX's "lone star" has \_\_\_\_ points  
36 TXism: "let \_\_\_\_ rip"  
37 Dallas public TV & FM station  
40 Maureen O' \_\_\_\_ film "Rio Grande"  
43 bomb type  
44 rock singer Etheridge  
50 country singer Haggard  
51 Darin of TX-filmed "State Fair" (init.)

# On the Go with Martha Jo Hyman, 647-2255

Tuesday night a group of people went to Hereford to see The Cassidys as a part of the Hereford Community Concert Association's season.

Those attending were Carolyn Jones, Marie Perrin, George and Carolyn Sides, Shirley Wise, Rayphard and Mary Lou Smithson, V.C. and Dorothy Hopson, Mary Edna Hendrix, Gertie Waggoner, Ferne Jones, Merle Arthur, Mearle Morgan, Mildred Bradford and I.

The Hereford Community Concert Association has a treat for us. They have been able to book *Greater Tuna*. This play was played to a packed house in Amarillo for all the showings. If you are interested in seeing this production, this gives you another chance. The production is slated for Feb. 18. The tickets are \$8.

Contact Doris Flynt for tickets.

Susie Reeves was hostess for the Senior Citizens Bridge Club Thursday. Carol Lantz won high score and Bernice Hill was second.

Carla Petty and Jason Wooten were married Saturday evening at the First Baptist Church in Dimmitt. There were several people from out of town attending. We saw Brad and Vanessa Holcomb of Lubbock, Lou Flowers of Brownfield, Shelly and Kevin Petty and Grant of Seagraves, and Jo and Bill Settle of Amarillo.

Dorothy Hopson and Billie Kirby took Mozelle Lilley to Olton for lunch at the Wild Plum Tea Room on Wednesday for her birthday. Mozelle celebrated earlier with her sisters and her grandson, Jason Wilke, came to visit her, too.

V.C. Hopson and E.M. Jones went to New Mexico to see a man about some boots, and Dorothy and Betty went to Hereford for lunch after church in Dimmitt. They had good food and saw several people they had not seen in a while.

The Hopsons' grandchildren, who live in or near Houston, were here for the weekend—Dawn, Todd and Madison McDaniel. There is never enough time to visit. They did squeeze in dinner Friday night.

Leigh and Curtis Durbin went to Plano for a checkup and Joan and I kept Aubrie overnight. Connie Aguilar and her granddaughter, Clarissa, and Jo and Bill gave their advice and assistance. We made it okay and Aubrie was none the worse for wear.



**SOLO CONTEST WINNERS**—These members of the Dimmitt High School Bobcat Band won placings at the Region I UIL Solo and Ensemble competition held Saturday at West Texas A&M University. (From left) Jessica Salinas made a Division I on her

Class I trumpet solo; Rachal Harman made a Division I on her Class I clarinet solo played from memory, and qualified for state competition in May at San Marcos; and Melanie Wall received a Division II rating on her Class I alto sax solo. Photo by Linda Maxwell

# Nazareth with Virgie Gerber, 945-2669

Congratulations to Nazareth sophomores Jase Merritt and Trinity Robb, who are state qualifiers in the UIL cross examination meet.

Their district finish earned them a trip to the state meet, which will be held March 12-18 at the University of Texas in Austin.

Parents' Night was observed Friday evening at school before the varsity girls' game with Hart.

Parents of the junior varsity boys and girls, varsity boys and girls and the cheerleaders lined up across the length of the gym to be recognized.

A baby shower was held Saturday morning for Tae Walter, infant son of Heath and Nicole Schulte. The shower was held at the home of Tracie Peterson. Everyone enjoyed visiting and watching Nicole open all the great gifts.

Congratulations to Raef and Melissa Albracht of Clovis, N.M. on the birth of a son, Tanner Kevin. He was born Feb. 2 at Clovis Hospital. He has a big brother, Tyler; and a big sister, Breann. His grandparents are Ralph and Evelyn Albracht of Nazareth and Urban and Roberta Klemman of Tulia. His great-grandmother is Margaret Birkenfeld.

Mark and Deanne Abner of Oklahoma and their children, Tori

and Matty, spent the weekend here with their many friends.

Sandee Hoelting was honored with a surprise 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party Sunday evening as her family and the Hoelting family gathered at the El Camino in Tulia. She was especially surprised to see her brothers, Rick Gerber of Austin and Harold Gerber of Lake Ivie, with the group.

Most of the group later returned to Nazareth to Virgie Gerber's home for cake and ice cream and a fun evening.

We are proud of our band students who performed in the UIL Solo and Ensemble competition at West Texas A&M University in Canyon Saturday.

Mark Birkenfeld played a Class I trumpet solo and earned a Division I rating. Craig Birkenfeld played a Class II tuba solo and he earned a Division I.

The ensemble including Mark Birkenfeld, Kristi Ramaekers, Judy Schacher, Jason Birkenfeld, Quentin Jones and Craig Birkenfeld played a Class I or "superior" solo and earned a Division II rating of excellent.

They won't make it to state, but

they know what they must do to go next year. Good luck!

A very lively group of women treated Florene Brockman to a fun evening at the El Camino Sunday.

Prayers are asked for Gene Schacher, Leonard Gerber, Virgil Brockman, Paul Venhaus, Raelene Hoelting, Dianne Huseman, Anna Huseman Lee, Margaret Brockman, Sue Schneider, Florene Brockman, Dorothy McQuilliams and Meredith Braddock.

## PCS cancels HUD waiting list

Panhandle Community Services has closed down its waiting list in Castro County for HUD Rental Assistant Section 8 as of Feb. 1.

This will be until further notice.

You should plan on ordering or collecting two cubic yards of stone for every cubic yard of finishing wall when building a stone wall.

## Need a ride to church?

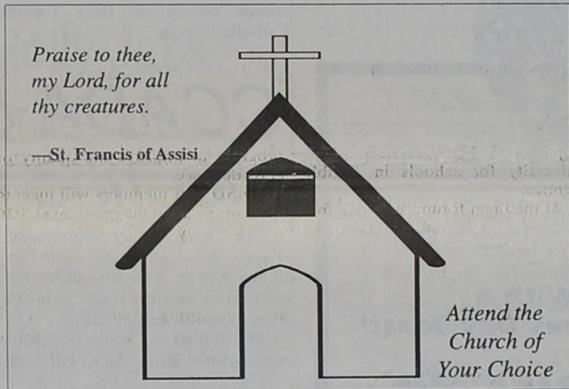
We at Abundant Life Family Church, a spirit-filled Christian community, will gladly pick you up and bring you to our 10:30 a.m. or 6 p.m. Sunday services and 7 p.m. Wednesday services.

Call 647-5288 for arrangements.

Youth Nights Monday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

# Church Directory

- New Hope Memorial Baptist**  
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Bobby Starlings.....647-2889
- Sunnyside Baptist**  
Sunnyside  
Benjie Wright.....647-5712
- First United Methodist**  
Hart  
Kelly Inman.....938-2462
- La Asamblea Cristiana**  
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt  
Manuel Rodriguez
- First United Methodist**  
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt  
Rusty Dickerson.....647-4106
- Iglesia De Cristo**  
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt  
Pedro A. Gonzalez
- Immaculate Conception Catholic**  
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt  
Fern Couture.....647-0105
- Jesus and the Love of God Church**  
(Bilingual) 301 NE 7th, Dimmitt  
Felix Sanchez.....647-3668



- Church of God of the First Born**  
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt
- Immanuel Baptist**  
501 SE 3rd, Dimmitt
- Rosa De Saron**  
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt  
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598
- First Baptist**  
302 Ave. G, Hart  
Aaron Reed.....938-2316
- Church of God**  
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt
- St. John's Catholic**  
Hart  
Fern Couture.....647-0105
- Church of Christ**  
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-4435
- Rose of Sharon Temple**  
407 NE 4th, Dimmitt
- Primeria Iglesia Bautista**  
9th and Etter, Dimmitt  
Antonio Rocha
- Abundant Life Family Church**  
113 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Tom and Kay Mullins
- First Assembly of God**  
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
Larry Gilliam.....647-5662
- First Baptist**  
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Howard Rhodes.....647-3115
- Lee Street Baptist**  
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt  
Jeff Addison
- First Christian**  
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
- La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito**  
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt
- Presbyterian**  
1600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt  
Connie Nieto.....293-7361
- Holy Family Catholic**  
Nazareth  
Peter Otto.....945-2616
- Hart Church of Christ**  
416 Avenue H, Hart  
Aaron Lee.....938-2267

## This directory is sponsored by these businesses:

- B & W Aerial Spray**  
N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt • 647-2550
- Bryant's Sales & Service**  
"Your Heating & A/C Expert in Dimmitt"  
317 N. Broadway • 647-3149
- C&S Battery, Inc.**  
301 SE 2nd, Dimmitt  
647-3531
- Cerestar USA Dimmitt Inc.**  
A Company of Eridania Beghin-Say  
"Attend the Church of Your Choice"  
647-4141
- Dale's Auto & Salvage**  
200 N. Hwy. 168, Nazareth  
945-2223
- DeBruce Grain, Inc.**  
N. Hwy 385, Dimmitt  
647-2802
- Dimmitt Consumers**  
"Your Co-op Supplier"  
217 E. Bedford • 647-4134
- Dimmitt Equipment Co.**  
Farm Equipment Repair & Irrigation Engines  
411 SE 2nd • 647-4197
- Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply**  
200 E. Bedford • 647-3286
- Dimmitt Ready Mix**  
Commercial, Residential Concrete  
Backhoe & Ditching Service  
718 E. Bedford • 647-3171
- Dodd Gin**  
Dodd, off FM 1055 on CR629  
806-965-2311
- Flagg Fertilizer Co.**  
Farm Chemicals  
"See Us for Your Spraying and Fertilizer Needs"  
Flagg Intersection • 647-2241
- Hart Producers Co-op Gin**  
Monty Phillips, Manager  
938-2189
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.**  
Lumber, Hardware, Housewares,  
Flooring, Garden Supplies  
109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt • 647-3161
- E.M. Jones Ditching**  
North Hwy. 385  
647-5442
- Lockhart Pharmacy**  
107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-3392
- Lowe's Pay & Save Foods**  
410 Broadway, Hart • 938-2312  
"Proud to Support the Community Churches"
- Red X Travel Store**  
320 S. Broadway  
647-4510
- Texas Equipment Company, Inc.**  
Hwy. 385, Dimmitt  
647-3324
- The Village Shop**  
204 W. Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-2450
- Westway Trading Corporation**  
North Hwy. 385, Dimmitt  
647-3138



## Petty earns two degrees

Carla Gail Petty of Dimmitt recently graduated from Texas Tech University with bachelor of business administration and master's degrees in accounting.

Petty was one of more than 1,500 students who graduated from Texas Tech University during the 1999 fall commencement exercises in December.

The highest temperature ever recorded in the U.S. was 134 degrees Fahrenheit at Greenland Ranch, Death Valley, California on July 10, 1913.

Hear **The First United Methodist Church** Morning Worship Service Sundays, 10:45 a.m. On KDHN 1470

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# People



## Housing needed for quilters again

Local residents are being invited to share their spare bedrooms with visitors to the third annual Ogallala

## Substitute teachers are needed

Individuals who would like to serve as substitute teachers for the Dimmitt Independent School District must attend an in-service sign-up session on Monday at 10 a.m. at the DISD Administration Office, 608 West Halsell.

Those who have never served as substitute teachers in the past should bring their driver's license and Social Security card when they attend the sign-up session.

Quilters Festival, set for April 6-8 in Dimmitt.

Over 1,000 people are expected to attend the festival, and places will be needed for some of them to stay.

"We would like for residents to allow a guest or guests to stay for one to three nights and to provide breakfast each morning," a festival organizer said. "Each resident who furnishes a room will be paid and the Chamber of Commerce will handle arrangements."

Forms or additional information may be obtained from Chamber Executive Director Bill Sava at 647-2524 or from Joyce Davis at 647-5362.

The festival will include quilting classes, lectures, demonstrations, entertainment, appraisals and a quilt show.

The Ogallala Quilter's Society is an organization with over 200 members from the tri-state area.



Marilyn and Herman Birkenfeld

## Mr. and Mrs. Herman Birkenfeld will celebrate golden anniversary

Herman and Marilyn Birkenfeld of Nazareth will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Saturday with a reception hosted by their children.

Herman Birkenfeld married the former Marilyn Hoelting on Feb. 14, 1950, at Nazareth.

He served in the US Navy during World War II. He is a farmer and rancher. She is a homemaker. The couple belong to Holy Family Catholic Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Birkenfeld's children are Darlene Schulte, Kent Birkenfeld, Keith Birkenfeld, Bob Birkenfeld, Clyde Birkenfeld, Greg Birkenfeld and Alan Birkenfeld, all of Nazareth; Father Darryl Birkenfeld of Stratford; Karen Peddy of Seminole; Joel Birkenfeld of San Antonio; Gail Hooks of Canyon; and Shana Hutchins of College Station.

The Birkenfelds have 18 grandchildren.

## Quilt Festival set for April 6-8

Quilt entries are invited for the third annual Ogallala Quilters Festival, which will be held in Dimmitt April 6-8.

Members and non-members alike may enter up to three quilts each, with only one per category per person. Ribbons, cash prizes, and "Silver Dollar" and "Fat Quarter" awards also will be given.

"We want to encourage everyone to enter," said Ogallala Quilters member Joyce Davis of Dimmitt.

Entry forms may be obtained from Bill Sava at the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce office at 115 W. Bedford, or from Davis at 647-5362, or from Doris Lust at 647-5637.



## Who's New

### PLAINS MEMORIAL

It's a boy, Seth Leighton Cardona, for Sarah Cardona of Dimmitt. The baby was born Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m., weighing 5 pounds and 15 ounces and measuring 19 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are Ubaldo and Sara Godinez.

It's a girl for Bryan and Danielle Welps of Hart. Bryar "Scout" Welps was born Jan. 31 at 5:35 p.m. She weighed 6 pounds and 2 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Kyle and Dana Martin of Sudan. Paternal grandparents are Hubert and Virginia Holland of Hart and Joe Welps of Fort Worth. Great-grandparents are Adrian and Zanelle Martin of Sudan, Eugene and Virginia Young of Amherst, and Jack and Mary Roberts of Truth or Consequences, N.M. Great-great-grandmother is Mary Lance of Amherst.

The entry fee is \$5 per quilt and the deadline is March 18. Completed forms should be mailed to Ann Powell, Quilt Show Chairman, Rt. 2, Box 222, Canyon 79015, along with a picture of the quilt. The quilts must be delivered to Davis at 1601 Sunset Circle in Dimmitt on or before April 5 at 9 a.m.

Also, there are drop-off locations where quilts may be delivered by April 4. They are R&R Quilts & More of Amarillo, The Quilt Shop of Lubbock, The Old Blue Quilt Box in Lockney, The Needle Nook in Midland, The Patchwork Place in Clovis, N.M., or Susie Edwards, 1936 N. Zimmers in Pampa.

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**SPECIAL**  
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BEARS starting as low as \$6

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 301 N. Broadway, Dimmitt 647-3554

## CCADA changes meeting location

The Castro County Autoimmune Disease Association will meet Feb. 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Rhoads Memorial Library meeting room, a change from its usual meeting place.

Marilyn Neal, County Extension Agent-Home Economics, will pres-

ent a program on diet and nutrition.

"We had an excellent program last month with Michelle McGrorey, RN, talking to us about diabetes," said CCADA member Linda Maxwell. "Marilyn will continue the subject with more specific details about diet."

Maxwell said McGrorey talked about the importance of watching sugar for diabetics, but also noted that carbohydrates can have a big affect on blood sugar levels.

Neal will talk about carbohydrate content in foods and will give out recipes that are low in sugar and carbohydrate content. She also plans to prepare some foods from the recipes that those attending will be welcome to sample.

Knowing more about foods and their affect on health can be an important tool for those who suffer from chronic diseases, including diabetes, Maxwell said. She added that all interested persons are welcome to attend the meeting.

## Health screenings to be held Feb. 17

The Castro County Hospital District will conduct a cholesterol and triglyceride screening next Thursday, Feb. 17, from 7 to 10 a.m. at the hospital's lab.

For best results, patients are asked to abstain from eating or drinking anything from midnight on Feb. 17 until their test is complete that day. Cost for the screening is \$10.

For more information, contact Linda Rasor at Plains Memorial Hospital.



THESE ARE ONLY TWO of the more than 20 characters that will be portrayed by David D. McKnight Jr. (left) and Raymond Girard (right) in the Amarillo Little Theatre production of Greater Tuna. In this scene, McKnight is Stanley Bumiller, with Girard as his mother, Bertha. The touring production will be hosted in Hereford Feb. 18. Courtesy Photo

## 'Greater Tuna' set Feb. 18 in Hereford

The Hereford Community Concert Association will sponsor the Amarillo Little Theatre touring production of Greater Tuna on Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hereford High School auditorium.

Tickets are priced at \$8 in advance or at the door. Advance tickets may be purchased in Dimmitt from Doris Flynt at 1008 W. Oak St. (647-3473) or at the Chamber of Commerce office (647-2524).

Greater Tuna is described as "an entertaining and endearing send-up of small town mores, with two talented actors portraying the entire population (both men and women) of

Tuna, Texas, through a tour de force of quick-change artistry, both in costuming and characterization."

ALT's Raymond Girard and David D. McKnight Jr. will portray the more than 20 residents that "make up that greasy little spot in the road known as Tuna."

The play, by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard, is directed by Loren J. Strickland, with Julie Yock as assistant to the director. Crew members include Larri Jo Starkey, Amy Gililland and Keith Jones.

Those attending Friday's performance are reminded to park on the west side of the auditorium.

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**PROPERLY SECURED**—Dimmitt Police Officer Rita Ramos explains that all infant safety seats must be placed in a rear-facing position in a vehicle, whether it is in the front or back seat, although the back is much safer. Also, an infant seat should not be placed in a seat where there is an air bag unless

the air bag is deactivated. Local law enforcement officials are encouraging drivers to observe National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week, Feb. 14-20, and get information on the safest way to transport our most vulnerable passengers.

*Photo by Linda Maxwell*

## Protect 'Valentines'—observe Child Passenger Safety Week

National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week has been set for Feb. 14-20, and the Dimmitt Police Dept. is encouraging everyone to observe the week by getting in the habit of making sure that all child passengers in vehicles are properly restrained.

"What better way can you show your little 'Valentines' that you love them than by making sure they are safe every time they ride in a vehicle," a department spokesperson said.

According to figures from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, in crashes involving infants, car seats reduce fatalities 71% in passenger cars and 58% in vans and light trucks. Children ages 1 to 4 are 54% less likely to die if they are restrained in car seats.

Parents are encouraged to stop by the police department at any time to have child safety seats checked out for proper installation.

Laws spell out that all children younger than 2 should be restrained in a safety seat and all children ages 3 to 14 must wear a seat belt. Those who break the law can be fined up to \$500, according to local police.

Information from the Texas Dept. of Transportation states that children less than one year old and less than 20 pounds should ride in a rear-facing car seat. Infant seats should be reclined at a 45-degree angle, and if they have a handle, it should be positioned to the rear, behind the child's head.

Use a forward-facing seat for children heavier than 20 pounds and older than one year, but less than 40 pounds and shorter than 40 inches tall.

Booster seats should be used by children who weigh more than 40 pounds, but are not large enough to use a seat belt alone. Booster seats must be used with a lap and shoulder belt. The shoulder belt must be properly adjusted.

Children at least 4 feet 9 inches tall who weigh 80 pounds or more

can use a regular seat belt. The lap belt must rest on upper thighs, not on the abdomen. Never put the shoulder belt under a child's arm or behind the back. It should rest on the shoulder and across the chest.

Everybody needs a safety belt or safety seat, according to information from the NHTSA. Anyone who rides loose can hurt those who are buckled up by being thrown against them. They also could be hurled out of the car and seriously hurt.

The back seat usually is safer than the front in passenger vehicles, because head-on crashes are the most common kind.

Buckling two people, even children, into one belt could injure both. Also, each child safety seat needs a safety belt to hold it in place.

If no shoulder belt is available, it is much safer for anyone (except small babies who can't sit up) to use just a lap belt than to ride loose. Keep the lap belt low and snug across the thighs.

Also, an infant seat should never be placed in a seat where there is an air bag unless the air bag has been deactivated. An air bag also can be hazardous for children age 12 and under.

Adults are reminded to never hold a child on their lap, because they could crush the child in a collision or the child could be torn from their arms in a crash.

In addition, the cargo area of a station wagon, van or pickup is a very dangerous place for anyone to ride. Anyone riding in the bed of a pickup truck, even under a canopy could be thrown out.

TxDOT traffic safety specialist Tracy Tellman of Amarillo said people can call her at 356-3295 for information on where people can obtain car seats or have their current car seats checked for proper installation and possible recalls by manufacturers.

She also said that local Texas Agricultural Extension Service offices should have similar information.

## Four judgments are entered

Recent court decisions were filed in both 242nd and 64th District Courts.

Jan. 17, an order was signed by 242nd District Judge Ed Self revoking the probation of Albert Clinton Richards. He was on probation on charges of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle in September 1998. He failed to meet the terms of his probation, such as reporting to the probation officer, paying restitution and performing community service. The punishment assessed was that he should serve his original sentence of two years in the Institutional Division of the Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice.

Jan. 31, 64th District Court Judge Jack Miller signed a judgment of guilt against Thomas Walker, who entered the guilty plea to charges of delivery of a controlled substance on Aug. 28, Aug. 31, and Sept. 2, 1998. He was sentenced to 6 years in the IDTDCJ, a \$1,000 fine, \$236.25 in court costs, and participation in an in-prison therapeutic community.

Feb. 2 a plea of guilty was entered in 242nd District Court with Self presiding. Billy Joe Farris pled

guilty to DWI, third or more, on Dec. 12. He was sentenced to five years in the IDTDCJ, a \$1,000 fine, \$277.25 in court costs, 400 hours of community service, one year's suspension his driver's license, treatment in a felony substance abuse facility plus treatment in a state substance abuse treatment facility. The confinement

was suspended in favor of five years of community supervision.

Last Thursday, in the 64th District Miller entered an order modifying the probation of Randy Powell. After serving 30 days in the county jail, he will be reinstated to a term of one year in the Castro County Jail on work release.

## Naz cheerleaders will sell Valentine 'Candy-Grams'

The Nazareth High School cheerleaders will sell Valentine "Candy-Grams" through today (Thursday) and those interested in purchasing one or more of the gifts should call the school at 945-2231 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles who want to send a special message to their "sweeties" at school should call one of the cheerleaders at the number above by today (Thursday).

The Candy-Grams are 50¢ each and will be delivered on Valentine's Day, which is Monday.

## Holly Jack graduates with honors

Holly Jack graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from Texas Tech University on Dec. 18, earning her bachelor of science degree in human development and family studies.

Jack is the daughter of Galen and Keri Jack of Friona. She is the granddaughter of Troy and Billie Kirby of Dimmitt and Bertram Jack of Hereford. She plans to stay in Lubbock and attend nursing school.

While at Texas Tech, Jack was involved in Inter-varsity Christian Fellowship and she was a member of Golden Key National Honor Society and Honors Program. She also was on the dean's list and president's list throughout her college career.

Jack completed her 150-hour practicum at Covenant Health System in the guest relations department last fall. While attending Texas Tech, she was employed by the First Baptist Church's Child Development Center in Lubbock.

A car seat check point has been scheduled Feb. 19 from noon to 3 p.m. in the parking lot of the Wal-Mart at Fourth Street and the Loop in Lubbock, in cooperation with the Texas Dept. of Health and the Injury Prevention Coalition, according to coalition spokesperson Karen Slay. She can be reached at 806-791-2582. She said the coalition tries to hold check points once a quarter, and they also have brochures available titled *Are You Using it Right?*, concerning child safety seats.

TxDOT traffic safety specialist Karen Peoples of Lubbock said, "It is best if adults bring along the child who will ride in a safety seat to make sure the car seat is a proper fit for that child."

Peoples can be contacted at 806-748-4478.

The Safe Riders Program, through the Texas Dept. of Health, can be contacted at 1-800-252-8255, and the NHTSA also has information on safety seat recalls. The web site for NHTSA is [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov). Those who don't have a computer may access the web site at Rhoads Memorial Library.

"It might sound like a lot of trouble to try to find out if you have the right car seat or infant seat and if you have them installed correctly, but just look at those 'little Valentines' of yours and it is easy to see that they are worth every bit of it," said Dimmitt Police Officer Rita Ramos.

## CYO slates dance Friday

The Catholic Youth Organization of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Dimmitt is sponsoring a dance Friday from 7 to 11 p.m. at the church gym.

Admission is \$2 per person. All junior high and high school students are invited, and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Music will be provided by a D.J.

## Required reading for anyone who knows a kid.

If there's a child you care about, anywhere in your life, then you should care about our public schools. For a free booklet about raising academic standards in your child's school, call 1-800-38-BE SMART.



Here's a great alternative to candy or flowers for your Valentine this year!

On Friday, Saturday and Monday, the 11th, 12th and 14th of February, The Village Shop will have for you a box filled with **SURPRISE DISCOUNTS**, along with a **\$50.00 Gift Certificate**. Come in, draw from our Valentine Box, and see what your surprise benefit will be!

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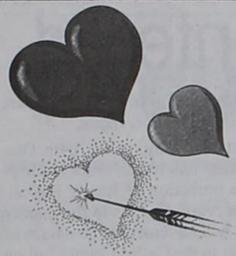
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# Our Favorite Valentines



**Robert Michael Hermesmeyer**  
Grandson of Billy & Carolyn Harman  
Great-grandson of Bea Cole, Bill & Paula Harman



**Kynzee Blair & Courtney Elise Smith**  
Granddaughters of Robert W. and Norma Smith



**Jessica Caitlin Polansky**  
Granddaughter of Robert W. & Norma Smith



**Dustin Burnam**  
Grandson of Jimmie & Sue Howell  
and Carroll & Eileen Burnam



**Kayme Sue Howell**  
Granddaughter of Jimmie & Sue Howell  
and Ace & Carolyn Overton



**Paige McKenna Howell**  
Granddaughter of Karen Carter  
and Jimmie & Sue Howell



**Jeanette D'Ann Cates**  
Granddaughter of Nila Fuentes



**Maegan Davis**  
Granddaughter of Valeria Davis and Leroy & Betty Burnett  
Great-granddaughter of Coalene Millsap and Delphia Davis



**Amy Ann Adams**  
Granddaughter of Pauline Adams  
and Roy & Sandi Blevins



**Paula Sue Adams**  
Granddaughter of Pauline Adams  
and Roy & Sandi Blevins



**Jewel Shayne Roberts**  
Granddaughter of Jackie & Beth Roberts  
and Coy & Vickie Ethridge  
Great-granddaughter of Bessie Strickland,  
Ray & Fay Ethridge, and Geraldene Newsom



**Bretton Strickland and Jewel Roberts**  
Great-grandchildren of Bessie Strickland  
and the late Butch Strickland



**Breanna Bruegel**  
Granddaughter of Carl & Gail Bruegel



**Schuler Underwood**  
Grandson of Carl & Gail Bruegel



**Christopher Bruegel**  
Grandson of Carl & Gail Bruegel



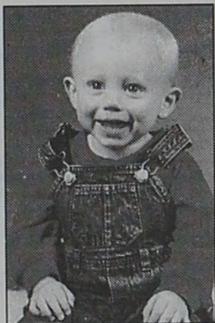
**Perry Kemp**  
Grandson of Carl & Gail Bruegel



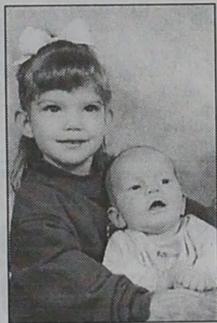
**Claudia & Camille Casas**  
Granddaughters of Ruben & Carmen Casas  
and Cesario & Felicitia Garza  
Great-granddaughters of Maria Casas,  
Theodoro & Ermenia Tijerina



**Aubrie Durbin**  
Granddaughter of Joan & Paul (Buddy) Durbin  
and Martha Jo & Harold Hyman



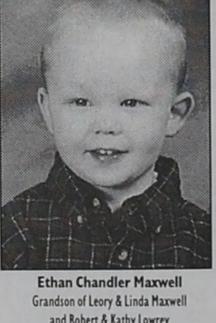
**Braden Buckley**  
Grandson of Steve & Vicki Buckley



**Gierra & Brennan Armes**  
Grandchildren of Francis & Bea Acker  
Great-grandchildren of Clarence & Odella Schulte



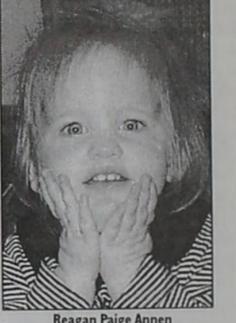
**Samantha Marie Herrera**  
Granddaughter of Candy Perez, and Jo Ann Herrera  
Great-granddaughter of Susie Herrera, John & Teresa Garcia



**Ethan Chandler Maxwell**  
Grandson of Leory & Linda Maxwell  
and Robert & Kathy Lowrey  
Great-grandson of Jeanne Thackeray, Mrs. Bertha Runkle,  
Royce Davis and Mr. & Mrs. Bob Lowrey Jr.  
Great-great-grandson of Levi Bennight



**Eliza & Chi**  
Grandchildren of Carl Lee Kemp



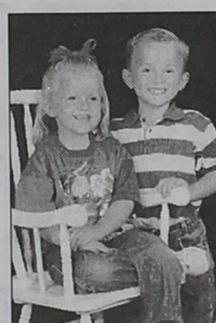
**Reagan Paige Annen**  
Granddaughter of Jerry & Debbie Annen  
and Tommy & Kathy Walker  
Great-granddaughter of Mary Dove and Ramona Lienen



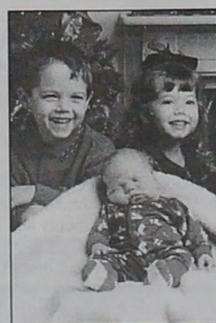
**Dylln Gage Nelson**  
Grandson of Joe Lynn & Mary Lou Birkenfeld,  
George & Vickie Nelson and Sue Bates  
Great-grandson of Edmund & Joyce Hunter,  
Allena Nelson & the late R.O. Nelson, Rose Birkenfeld  
and Weldon & Louise Bates



**Kayla Schacher**  
Granddaughter of Dick & Shirley Schacher  
and Walt & Sue Kotas



**Tanner & Aimee George**  
Grandchildren of Dub & Pauline George



**Joshua, Chloe & Jonathan Trevino**  
Grandchildren of Terry & Ann Widick  
and Bob & Yolanda Trevino



**Zack, Kerry & Alexa Gonzales**  
Grandchildren of Larry & Susie Gonzales



**Elisha Ann Sheffy-Harris**  
Granddaughter of Don & Karen Sheffy  
Great-granddaughter of Polly Bell



**Charley J'nae, Shauna Cie, Bailey Paige, Stormy Cayle and Cassidy Michelle Nutt**  
Jake Devin, Jensen David, & Jarrison Dylan Kelsey and Grant Taylor Petty  
Grandchildren of Dorothy Nutt



**Meleah Renae Penney**  
Granddaughter of Paul & Janet Weaver

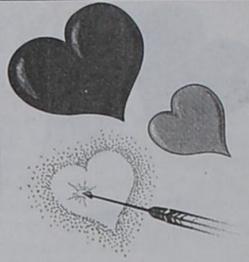


**Caleb Penney**  
Grandson of Paul & Janet Weaver

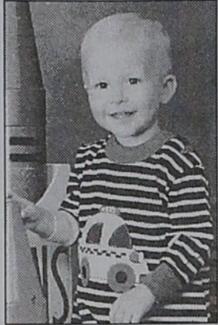


**Michael, Anthony & Hannah Torres**  
Grandchildren of Paul & Michele Torres

# ♥♥♥ Our Grandchildren!



**Bethenie LeAnn & Brianna Nycole Sanchez**  
Granddaughters of Jerry & Louise Engelking and Evaristo & Janie Sanchez  
Great-granddaughters of Lou Ella Isham



**Jett Ryan Black**  
Grandson of Jerry & Louise Engelking and Libby Black  
Great-grandson of Lou Ella Isham



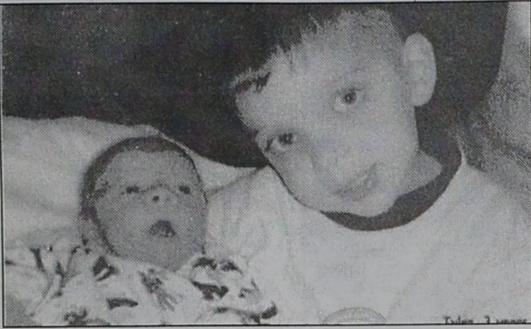
**Logan Garrett & Shelby Nicole Black**  
Grandchildren of Tommy & Paula Portwood and Libby Black  
Great-grandchildren of P.L. & Pauline Hoyer and Lillian Portwood



**Brady Durham**  
Grandson of Jerry Durham and Charley Russ



**Abby & Jason Durham**  
Grandchildren of Jerry Durham and Charley Russ



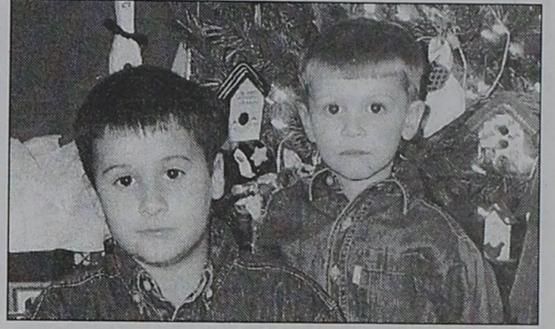
**Tyler Woodrow & Jake Michael Nelson**  
Grandsons of Donny & Wanda Nelson, Michael Fleet and Jan Fleet  
Great-grandsons of Alma Nelson, Don Goodwin, Virginia Hoover and John & Nell Hrabal



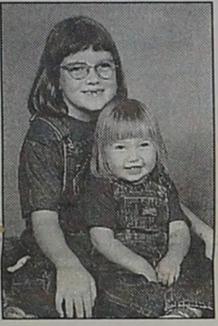
**Kyle Bradley Nelson**  
Grandson of Donny & Wanda Nelson and Ken & Vicki McMillan  
Great-grandson of Alma Nelson, Clarabell McMillan, Mary Jo Briley and John & Nell Hrabal



**Reagan Mendoza**  
Granddaughter of James & Sandy Baker and Frank Mendoza, Sr.



**Chase & Kaden Hatla**  
Grandsons of Glenn & Diane Hatla and Carl & Jo Parks  
Great-grandsons of Frances Hatla, Joy Dibert, Cleo Parks and Ella Miller



**Amanda & Danielle Nelson**  
Granddaughters of Don & Verbie Nelson



**Katherine Nelson-Daniel**  
Granddaughter of Don & Verbie Nelson



**Anna Nelson-Daniel**  
Granddaughter of Don & Verbie Nelson



**Jake Nelson**  
Grandson of Don & Verbie Nelson



**Marissa & Manuel Bugarin**  
Grandchildren of Engelberto & Janie Bugarin and Mr. & Mrs. M. Hernandez  
Great-grandchildren of Juana Guajardo and Mr. & Mrs. M. Bugarin



**Jaxton & Madison Hoelting**  
Grandchildren of Jim & Sandee Hoelting  
Great-grandchildren of Virgie Gerber and Sylvia Hoelting



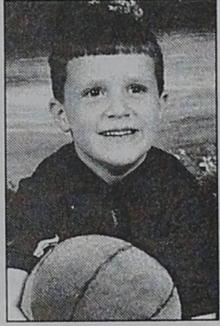
**Courtney Birdwell**  
Granddaughter of Bill & Kathryn Birdwell



**Eli Birdwell**  
Grandson of Bill & Kathryn Birdwell



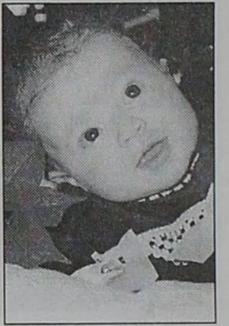
**Taylor Michelle Robertson**  
Granddaughter of Jerry & Dianne Cartwright



**Samuel Gregory Kelley**  
Grandson of Nell & Ewell Kelley



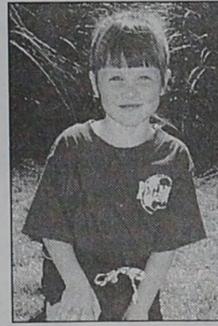
**Benjamin Scott Kelley**  
Grandson of Nell & Ewell Kelley



**Bethany Alexis Broussard**  
Granddaughter of Nell & Ewell Kelley



**Quinten Douglas Humphrey**  
Grandson of Doug & Cheryl Pybus



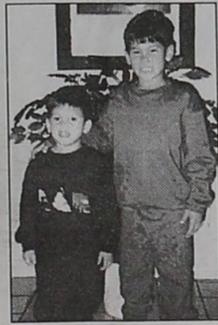
**Hannah Thomas**  
Granddaughter of Frank & Ann Thomas and Jessie & Thelma Hutcheson



**Syrena & Symonie Larra**  
Twin Granddaughters of Jessie & Gloria Reyes and the late Emilio & Cuca Nino



**Erica Wise, Duncan & Dillon Welch, Ryan & Camille Wise, Clayton Cerday, Hayli Wise and Holly Davis  
Courtney & Colton Cerday, Kelsey Welch, Evan Wise, Caroline Cerday, Heather & Hanna Wise and Katy Welch**  
Grandchildren of Shirley Wise, Maxine & Buster Tidwell, Gene & Mildred Welch, Sue & Ed Cerday and Julia Dexter



**Nicholas & Jacob Riley**  
Grandsons of Tommy & Mary Guzman



**Daniel, Anthony, Marissa, Rudy & Santos Jackson**  
Grandchildren of Tommy & Mary Guzman



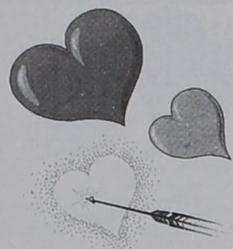
**Katie, Jody & Alyson**  
Granddaughters of Bobby & Wanda Murdock



**Keegan G. Acevedo**  
Grandson of Albert Acevedo and Barbara Backus



**Mavrik Gfeller**  
Grandson of Ronnie & Kay Gfeller, Frances Davis and Leslie Davis



# More Favorite Valentines



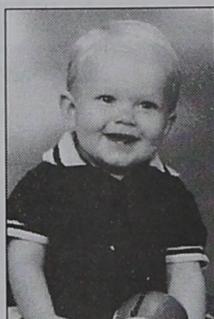
**Mason & Macy Birdwell**  
Grandchildren of Kent & Mary Jo Birdwell,  
Charlotte Turner and Bill & Ann Bray  
Great-grandchildren of Lassie Bray



**Devon Bryce Martinez**  
Grandson of Jerry & Sandy Pena  
and Richard & Bonnie Martinez



**Jessica Fry**  
Granddaughter of Fred & Sandy Lookingbill  
Great-granddaughter of Eva Lookingbill



**Austin McCright**  
Grandson of Fred & Sandy Lookingbill  
Great-grandson of Eva Lookingbill



**Shayle Swink**  
Granddaughter of Fred & Sandy Lookingbill  
Great-granddaughter of Eva Lookingbill



**Jacob, Zachary & Micah Link**  
Grandchildren of Janice Erth, Jerry Erth  
and Helen Link



**Wil Pond, Daniel Pond, Steffanie Pond, Kayla Watts, Jeffrey Pond and Colby Watts**  
Grandchildren of Jerry & Carolyn Watts



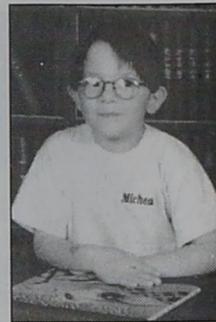
**Gabryella Alyce Barrios**  
Granddaughter of Jesus & Mandy Oliviero  
Great-granddaughter of Anita Aleman



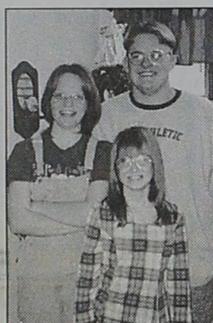
**Jasmine Aleman**  
Granddaughter of Armando & Linda Aleman  
Great-granddaughter of Anita Aleman



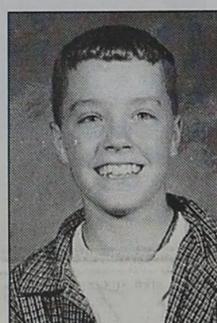
**Marissa Anne Oliviero**  
Granddaughter of Anita Aleman



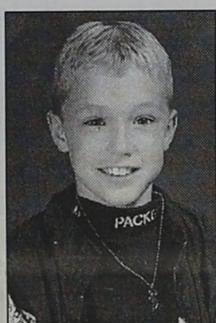
**John Michael Oliviero**  
Grandson of Anita Aleman



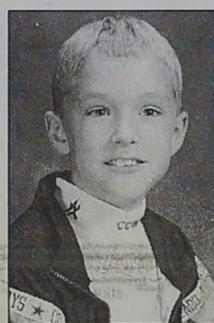
**Andrea, Baylei & Christopher Smothermon**  
Grandchildren of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon  
and J.R. & Rickie Mixson



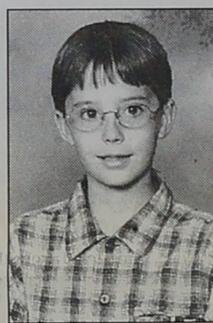
**Zjhon Smothermon**  
Grandson of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon  
and Ginger Todd



**Joshua Smothermon**  
Grandson of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon  
and Ginger Todd



**Skyler Smothermon**  
Grandson of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon  
and Ginger Todd



**Ashton Drew Smothermon**  
Grandson of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon,  
Robert McLean and Roxanne & Horace Burnett



**Addison Drake Smothermon**  
Grandson of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon,  
Robert McLean and Roxanne & Horace Burnett



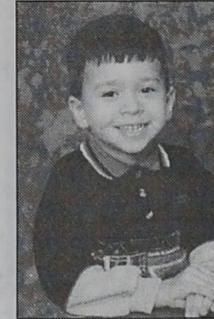
**Thomas Samuel Smothermon**  
Grandson of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon



**John William Smothermon**  
Grandson of Delbert & Jackie Smothermon



**O'lvia Noemy Ontiveros**  
Granddaughter of Ramon & Stella Rodriguez  
and Miguel & Nena Ontiveros



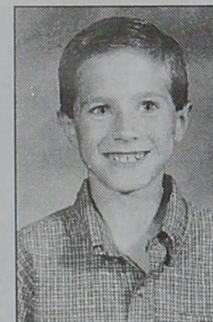
**Jason Eric Sparks**  
Grandson of Ramon & Stella Rodriguez  
and Jonita Synder



**Allen Douglas Perales**  
Grandson of Arnold & Dalia Perales  
Great-grandson of Fannie Perales



**Malcolm Harley, Laura Maddison  
& Kalen James Reynolds**  
Grandchildren of Malcolm & Lyndy Reynolds  
and Arnold & Dalia Perales  
Great-grandchildren of Fannie Perales and Dee Williams



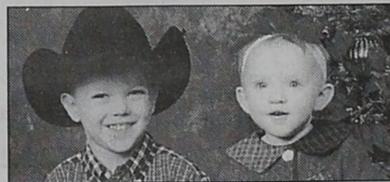
**Chance Schilling**  
Grandson of Gerald & Patty Summers



**Kelsey Schilling**  
Granddaughter of Gerald & Patty Summers



**Keila Schilling**  
Granddaughter of Gerald & Patty Summers



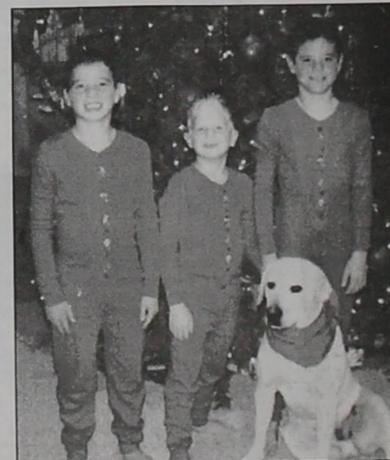
**Chase & Kaitlyn Summers**  
Grandchildren of Gerald & Patty Summers



**Tanner & Tristin Watkins**  
Grandchildren of Delton & Sue Tischler



**Ethan Scholl, Brynlee Hill and Anni Scholl**  
Grandchildren of Bev & Charley Hill  
Great-grandchildren of Virgie Gerber



**Brennan, Austin & Cameron Cluck**  
Grandsons of Mary Cluck and John & Becky Bliss  
Great-grandsons of Millicent Davis & Retta Cluck



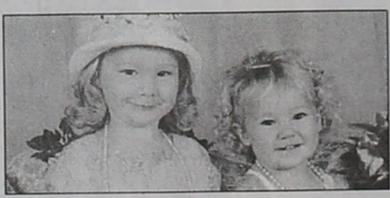
**Colton & Carsyn O'Brien**  
Grandchildren of Gerald & Patty Summers



**Dustin Paul & Coby Ross Venhaus**  
Grandsons of Linda Campbell & the late Eddie Campbell  
and Greg & Mary Lou Venhaus  
Great-grandsons of Dorothy Yates and Paul Venhaus

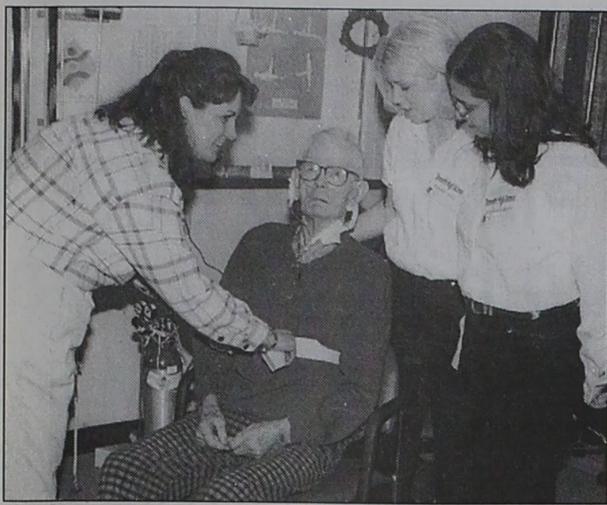


**Lisa Marie Deleon**  
Granddaughter of Pete Gallegos Jr.  
and Ricky & Carmella Salinas



**Brennan Jo & Meggan Kate Lytle**  
Granddaughters of Kenny & Anne Paxton





**JOB SHADOWING DAY** participants from Dimmitt High School investigated jobs at Plains Memorial Hospital on Feb. 2. Here (from left), Jane Eby, a physical therapy technician, works with patient DeRoy Cates as Jennifer Heck and Debbie Garcia look on. Photo by Linda Maxwell

# Consolidation fated in vegetable industry

Retail consolidation in the vegetable industry is scary, but inevitable, according to John McClung, president of the Texas Citrus and Vegetable Association, who spoke at the West Texas Vegetable Conference in Hereford recently.

"Consolidation is intimidating to growers, shippers and packers, but it is an inescapable part of doing business in the future," McClung said. "Even so, we do have some choices as we face consolidation. We can form strategic alliances to boost our market reach. We can continue to find and capitalize on niche markets. Or we can simply go out of business."

McClung said the US Dept. of

Agriculture's Economic Research Service is now conducting a study of retail practices and methods in the vegetable industry. The results of that study could provide growers, shippers and packers valuable insight as they decide how consolidation will affect their operations.

"I think one conclusion of that study will be that suppliers are going to continue to face sometimes burdensome food safety and quality requirements," McClung said. "We may even see a third-party certification requirement. In the future, a third agency or party may be responsible for certifying that our produce meets consumer food safety and quality parameters. The

government won't take on that burden. It probably will fall on the supply side of the industry.

"We also are facing new technology requirements as produce suppliers," McClung said. "As retail firms (buyers) continue to consolidate, merge and grow larger, they will expect us to be in synch with the technology they use in product tracking, identification and pricing. Consolidation within our own ranks should give the Texas produce industry an edge in meeting this technology requirement. Together, we have the resources at hand to make it work."

Even though productivity and acreage of the Texas produce industry has shrunk in recent years, McClung said there is good news on

the horizon.

"Consumption of fresh fruit, vegetables and produce is at an all-time high and should continue to grow. People are consuming more produce and that's not going to change," he said. "Our challenge is to keep our industry alive and vital so we can fill that need."

"Our best show is strategic alliances that synch with consolidation on the buyers' side. They will need us to supply them with a consistent, high quality product almost year-round. We can do that, and meet consumers' growing taste for our produce, if our alliances are intelligent, flexible and technologically sound. We still have tremendous potential for growth through our future alliances."

# Cotton conference set for Friday in Hereford

Cotton producers will have the opportunity to hear the latest information on cotton production and marketing at the Southwest Panhandle Cotton Conference on Friday, beginning at 8 a.m. at the Deaf Smith County Bull Barn in Hereford.

The conference will feature presentations on cotton management, irrigation management, weed control, insect control GMO cottons, selection of seed treatments, cotton marketing opportunities, cotton fertilization, cotton physiology, controlling herbicide drift, safe handling of pesticides and risk management.

Registration fee for the conference is \$10 which covers the noon luncheon, refreshments and hand out materials. Dennis Newton, Deaf Smith County Extension Agent-Agriculture, asked all persons planning to attend to please contact the Deaf

Smith County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at (806) 364-3513 so that planners might have an indication of how many will attend. Persons needing more information should call the Deaf Smith, Randall, Potter or Oldham County Extension offices.

Featured speaker for the day will be Dr. Carl Anderson, professor and cotton marketing specialist, from Texas A&M University at College Station. He will provide information on marketing strategies and an outlook for cotton prices.

Newton said that application has been made to the Texas Dept. of Agriculture for five hours of CEU credit for both private and commercial pesticide applicators. Application has also been made for CEU's for Certified Crop Advisors.

# Farm Bureau calls for changes in drought policy

Texas Farm Bureau President Donald Patman in Austin recently told members of the National Drought Policy Commission that the combined effect of the 1996 and the 1998 droughts caused more than \$4 billion in direct losses to Texas farmers and ranchers with an impact on the state's economy close to \$11 billion.

Stepping forward in his new role as Texas Farm Bureau president, Patman, who grows cotton, wheat, corn, soybeans, and raises beef cattle in partnership with his son near Waxahachie, emphasized that farmers are not the only ones hurt by drought. Patman, former vice president of the farm organization, stepped this month into the new role of president upon the election of former TFB leader Bob Stallman as president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The TFB president commended various state and federal agencies and officials for a good job of disseminating drought assistance information and members of Congress for their recent efforts to help agriculture.

Speaking without hesitation in his new role on behalf of the state's largest farm organization, Patman said the primary role of the federal government during extended drought periods is that of providing adequate funding in a timely manner to help with the emergency situation as well as making necessary adjustments in related federal programs to help offset the impact.

Texas Farm Bureau's recommendations to improve drought policy, as laid out by Patman, include the following:

- ◆ Provide adequate funding for the Emergency Livestock Feed program, as well as some form of water transportation assistance, and the establishment of a revolving emergency fund, to be replenished and available without special congressional action and appropriations.

- ◆ Allow hay from Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land to be sold and moved across state lines to drought-affected areas without reduction in CRP payments to producers and allow drought-affected producers to ship livestock to areas where CRP land is available, to be grazed.

- ◆ Exempt capital gains on the forced sale of livestock due to drought.

- ◆ Implement an emergency "refundable tax credit" that would utilize a farmer's IRS schedule F income from prior years, to provide additional income at a critical time (all commodities).

- ◆ Request the Comptroller of the Currency direct banks to expedite reamortization of loans for borrowers who have been "good pays."

- ◆ Provide priority attention to expedite Farm Service Agency disaster loan processing.

- ◆ Provide some relief from the aflatoxin problem, which is increased during a drought, and can significantly impact both yields and quality of corn.

- ◆ Consider the alternatives to address rural water system problems — particularly small and disadvantaged communities — which seem to occur during drought situations.

- ◆ Develop an effective risk management insurance program for all producers of commodities, which is critical to the long-term stability of agriculture.

In closing, Patman said, "I should note for the record that it is apparent that we are in the midst of another drought here in Texas. Most areas of our state are in very, very dry condition. We hope that the commissions efforts will lead to a positive drought policy for agricultural producers in Texas and across the nation. It is long overdue."

Generally 20 percent of the contributors account for 80 percent of the funds.

# Sims continues as TFU president

Wes Sims of Sweetwater has been re-elected to a two-year term as president of the Texas Farmers Union.

Sims, a dairy farmer, was first elected four years ago to lead the Texas farm group.

"I pledge to you a total commitment and effort to do all I can to bring economic improvement to our farmers and ranchers," Sims said in his acceptance speech. "United we will persevere."

The group also re-elected Joe Rankin of Ralls to a third term as vice president. Rankin is a cotton farmer and is a former president of Texas Farmers Union.

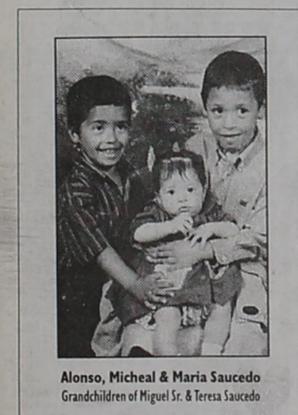
Established in 1902, Texas Farmers Union is the state's oldest general farm organization that represents family farmers and ranchers and rural interests of Texas. It is part of the National Farmers Union, which works to improve the quality of life for all rural people through legislation, cooperation and education.

We'll put it in plain old black and white...

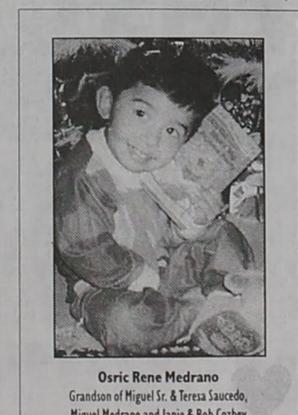
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# More Valentines ♥♥♥



Alonso, Micheal & Maria Saucedo Grandchildren of Miguel Sr. & Teresa Saucedo



Osric Rene Medrano Grandson of Miguel Sr. & Teresa Saucedo, Miguel Medrano and Janie & Bob Cozby

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# ABI Agriculture, Business & Industry



## Gerber earns VP promotion at Hart's HCSB

Marty Gerber of Nazareth has been promoted to vice president at Hale County State Bank's Hart Banking Center.

Gerber was one of three Hale County State Bank officers recently promoted, according to Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer J. David Williams.

Gerber began working at Hale County State Bank in Hart on Dec. 21, 1998, as an assistant vice president.

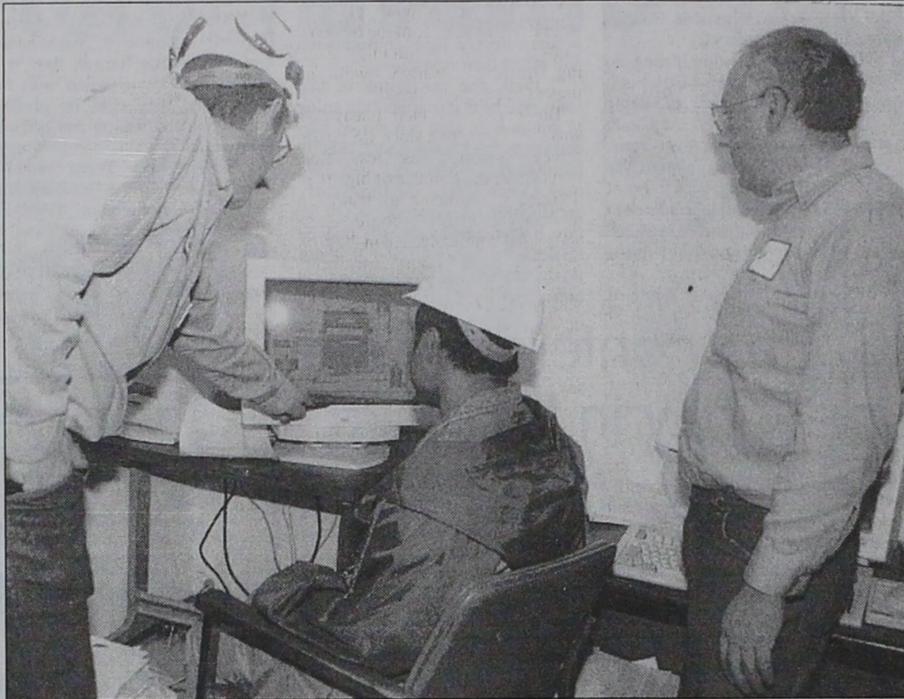
He graduated from Nazareth High School and attended Texas Tech University, where he graduated in December 1994 with a bachelor of science degree in agricultural economics.

After graduating from college, Gerber began his banking career at Hale County State Bank's Tulia Banking Center, where he worked as a collateral inspector and in the credit department.

Prior to returning to work at Hale County State Bank's Hart Banking Center, Gerber worked for two years at First Bank of Muleshoe—Dimmitt Branch.

He is a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Nazareth and of the Nazareth Knights of Columbus organization. He is a member of the Hart and Nazareth Lions Clubs.

Gerber married the former Tisha Rice of Dimmitt in June 1998, and the couple reside in Nazareth.



AND THIS IS CONTROLLED BY COMPUTER—Keith Bartley (left) and Cornelio Salinas (right) show Dimmitt High School student Ironica Traylor (seated) some of the functions of the complex equip-

ment at Cerestar, USA in Dimmitt. Traylor visited the plant as part of the Job Shadowing Day activities held Feb. 2 for students to get an idea about skills needed for various jobs. Photo by Linda Maxwell

## West Texas Rural Telephone taking scholarship applications

West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is accepting applications for scholarships that will be awarded in May.

Scholarships are open only to students whose parents or guardians are members of the cooperative, or to students who are members of WTRT themselves. Applicants must be high

school seniors who are candidates for graduation this spring, have completed high school or have received their GED.

The 2000 scholarships are open only to eligible, qualified applicants from the Hereford, Friona, Bovina, Farwell, Lazbuddie, Dimmitt, Adrian and Vega school districts. Scholar-

ship monies will be disbursed in increments per semester.

An official application form, accompanied by two letters of recommendation and a wallet-sized photo, must be submitted. One of the letters of recommendation must be from a teacher, principal or counselor from the high school that the applicant is currently attending or has attended; or from a college/trade school instructor if you are currently enrolled.

Applications may be picked up at the West Texas Rural Telephone offices on South Highway 385 in Hereford, or at high school counselor's offices in Friona, Bovina, Lazbuddie, Farwell, Dimmitt, Adrian and Vega.

To be considered, applications must be fully completed, have no attachments other than the photo and two required letters of recommendation, and must be received at West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, PO Box 1737, Hereford 79045, by April 3.

Applicants may be asked to attend an interview at the discretion of the board.

The scholarship may be used at any state or church-sponsored college or university, or at any accredited vocational or technical school.

Recipients must maintain a minimum of 12 credited hours through each semester, or have full-time student status at vocational or trade schools.

As soon as enrollment or pre-enrollment for the fall semester is completed, recipients must send the cooperative a confirmation from the registrar's office. Should the recipient drop out of school for any reason, the unused portion of the scholarship will be rescinded.

At the end of each semester, recipients are asked to send a report of their grades to West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, PO Box 1737, Hereford 79045.

*No one knows when tattooing started, but some Egyptian mummies of 1300 B.C. show blue tattoo marks under the skin.*

*Although the name implies the plants have little value, seaweed is actually rich in vitamins and minerals.*

## Plainview ELC to begin Feb. 18

GTE will extend local calling for all customers in the Dimmitt telephone service area, beginning Feb. 18. Under the plan, all calls from Dimmitt to Plainview will be local calls. Calls from Plainview to Dimmitt also will be local calls.

"Prior to the start of extended local calling, each call between these areas was billed separately as a long-distance call, and customers would see a long-distance charge per call on their monthly bills. Now these calls are equivalent to local calls," said Danny Ammons, manager of region customer operations for GTE, Plains district.

This is a result of balloting which took place in the Dimmitt telephone service area under the rules of Senate Bill 632 and the Public Utility Commission rule 23.49 (c). Under those guidelines, certain communities are allowed to petition for extended toll-free local calling to nearby communities.

Dimmitt currently has expanded local calling to Amarillo, Canyon, Hereford and Tulia. The addition of

Plainview to the list will not increase the monthly surcharge that is already being paid by local subscribers—\$3.50 per line for residential and \$7 per line for businesses.

The implementation of this service may require modification to some telecommunications equipment such as fax machines, speed calling, PABXs, key system, automatic dialers and other equipment that may restrict or automatically dial long-distance numbers.

Customers are not required to take any action to take advantage of the new service offering. Once extended calling is operational, it will no longer be necessary for customers to dial "1+" before the number when placing calls between these communities. Just dial the seven-digit phone number for local and ELC calls.

The charges will continue to be listed as "expanded local calling/surcharge" in the tax portion of the telephone bill. More information will be provided to affected customers in their monthly telephone bill as the service becomes operational.

## Carpenter earns honors in national corn yield contest

Donny Carpenter of D&D Farms in Dimmitt recently won state and national honors in the 1999 National Corn Growers' Association's (NCGA) corn yield contest.

He planted Pioneer Hybrid 33R88 with the YieldGard gene and it yielded 269.2 bushels per acre. That earned Carpenter first-place state and second-place national awards in the competition's ridge-till irrigated division.

The NCGA contest is an annual competition for corn producers with the goal of achieving the highest yields. Growers compete within a broad range of corn production classes, including conventional, no-till, non-irrigated, no-till irrigated, ridge-till non-irrigated, ridge-till irrigated and irrigated classes.

Carpenter's hard work will be recognized in March at the annual Commodity Classic convention in Orlando, Fla. The Commodity Classic is the joint meeting of the NCGA and the American Soybean Association.

Carpenter, who farms corn, soybeans, cotton and wheat with his father, Don, has been entering the contest on and off for several years. He likes to enter to see how his yields and management practices

compare with those around the country.

This year Carpenter credits some of his success to hybrid choice.

"Southwestern corn borer is a problem in this area," Carpenter said. "I decided to go with a new Bt hybrid that has built-in resistance to the pest. If I could plant all my corn acres to Bt hybrids, I would. These hybrids make a big difference. They control insects so we don't have to use chemicals, and they have good plant health and standability."

Carpenter planted his 33R88 into 30-inch rows at 36,000 seeds per acre using a John Deere 7300 12-row planter. He planted the corn on 200 acres of flat, sandy clay loam that had been planted to corn the previous year.

Carpenter applied 10 tons of manure per acre along with a starter fertilizer in the spring. He followed that by injecting 270 pounds per acre of nitrogen and 30 pounds of sulfur per acre through his sprinkler system to enhance fertility.

He used Aatrix, Exceed, Accent and prawn in his minimum-till plot to control weeds.

Carpenter harvested his corn at 30% moisture on Sept. 9, 1999, using a John Deere 9610 combine.

## Valor applies with PUC to acquire GTE phone lines

Valor Communications of Texas has filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas, requesting approval of the acquisition of GTE Southwest Inc.'s telephone exchange lines.

Valor does not propose any increase in charges to customers in this application. If, in the future, the company proposes a rate change, customers will be given notice at that time.

Anyone with questions about the proposed acquisition should contact Mike Page with Valor at (202) 400-0940 or Carl Erhart with GTE at (512) 477-8986.

Persons who wish to intervene in either proceeding or comment on the action sought should identify the relevant docket number (Valor application is assigned Docket No. 21834 and GTE's application to remove the exchange has been assigned Docket No. 21830) and contact the Public

Utility Commission of Texas at PO Box 13326, Austin 78711-3326; or you may call the Public Utility Commission Office of Customer Protection at (512) 936-7120 or toll-free at (888) 782-8477.

Hearing and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones can contact the commission at (512) 936-7136 or use Relay Texas at (800) 735-2989 to reach the commission's toll-free number, (888) 782-8477.

The deadline for intervention in these proceedings is Feb. 22, and letters requesting intervention must be received by the commission by the deadline.

*To protect your back, keep it straight when lifting heavy objects. Bend your knees and let your legs do the work. They are most likely stronger than your back.*

*The word "Wyoming" comes from a Delaware Indian word meaning "upon the great plain."*

*A leg of lamb, though pricey, is a good buy. Cut some slices for steaks, cut up some for stew, roast the rest, then make soup with the bone.*

*In some countries, such as China and Japan, the study of genealogy is important to religion because people revere their ancestors.*

# NAZARETH KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Saturday, February 19, 2000 — Sale Time: 9:30 a.m.  
LOCATED: Nazareth, Texas, 1/4 Mile West On Hwy. 86 (Same Being On Dimmitt Agri Yard, Nazareth).

Telephone: Brian Ramaekers (806) 647-7307 Or Col. Lonnie Huseman (806) 647-7663, Or Auctioneers: Jim Summers (806) 864-3611 Or Aubrey Latham (806) 655-8547

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TO SERVE LUNCH AND COOL-AID  
The Following Will Be Sold At Public Auction:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>TRACTORS, DITCH WITCH, COMBINES —</b><br/>1—1996 John Deere 7800 M.F.W.D. Diesel Tractor, Cab, A/C, 14.9x46 Rubber W/Duals, Quick Hitch, 2.431 Hrs.<br/>1—1990 John Deere 4640 Diesel Tractor, Cab, A/C, Q/R Trans., 16.4x38 Rubber W/Duals, Quick Hitch<br/>1—1958 John Deere 720 Tractor, Newly Restored, Tricycle Front<br/>1—1948 Ford 8N Tractor, Overhauled In 1995, Used Little<br/>1—1981 Case 2290 Tractor, Power Shift, 4,400 Hrs., Quick Hitch, Duals W/GS Loader, 7 Bucket<br/>1—1969 John Deere 4020 Diesel Tractor, New Paint &amp; Rubber<br/>1—1967 John Deere 4020 LPG Tractor<br/>1—John Deere 4010 LPG Tractor<br/>1—1981 Case 2290 Tractor, Power Shift, 4,400 Hrs., Quick Hitch, Duals W/GS Loader, 7 Bucket<br/>1—1996 John Deere 9600 Diesel Combine, No Header, 1,120 Sep. Hrs., SN 656497<br/>1—John Deere 7700 Diesel Combine W/224 Platform<br/>1—John Deere 7720 Combine W/224 Header</p> <p><b>VEHICLES, GRAIN &amp; FLOAT TRAILERS —</b><br/>1—1980 Flatbed Truck W/2,000 Gal. Fuel Tank W/Pump<br/>1—1975 Chevy, C-65 Fertilizer Truck<br/>1—CJ-5 Jeep<br/>1—1986 Mazda 626<br/>1—1986 Buick Car, Runs Bad Needs Motor<br/>1—1982 Chevy 6.2 Liter Diesel Pickup, S/B<br/>1—1974 Chevy Tandem Truck, 360 Eng., 22' Bed, Hoist, Sledge &amp; Cattle Racks<br/>1—1982 Arctic 42' Flatbed Trailer, New 11x24.5 Tires W/Slider<br/>1—1951 Chevy Dump Truck, 1—1964 Jeep Wagoneer<br/>2—1989 Dodge Ram Chargers<br/>1—1973 Porsche<br/>1—1997 Camaro, No Motor, No Trans.<br/>1—1975 American Hopper Bottom<br/>1—1980 Ford 9000 W/300 Cummins, 9 Sp., 22' Bed, Hyd. Gate &amp; Erosion Racks<br/>1—1981 Chevy Pickup, Bad Motor<br/>1—1990 Chevy 4x4, Runs Good<br/>1—1990 Freightliner Tractor, 400 Cal., 9 Sp.<br/>1—1976 Timples 9 Hole Hopper Bottom, 38'<br/>1—1969 GMC Grain Truck W/22' Bed &amp; Hoist<br/>1—1971 White Cabover, 270 Cummins, Tom Down, Engine Kit<br/>1—1959 Chevy Truck, Tractor<br/>1—1959 Flatbed Float 45' Trailer<br/>1—1969 Kenworth Cabover<br/>1—1974 Hobbs Grain Hopper<br/>1—1987 Dodge Aes 4 Door<br/>1—Flatbed Float 35' Trailer<br/>1—Honda Motor Cycle, XR70<br/>1—Honda Motor Cycle, XR100</p> <p><b>FARM EQUIPMENT —</b><br/>1—John Deere 12 Row, 7300 Vacuum Planter<br/>1—John Deere 8 Row, 7300 Vacuum Planter<br/>1—Bush Hog 4215, 15' Shredder<br/>1—Wyle 200 Gal. Front Mount Spray Rig, Fts 4440, Used One Time<br/>1—Krause 30' Tandem Disc<br/>1—8 Row, 3-pt. Cultivator<br/>1—Hamby 5 Shank, 3-pt. Stubble Munch Rig<br/>1—Hamby 8 Row, 3-pt. Disc Bedder<br/>1—Hamby 6 Row, 3-pt. Toolbar, L.T.M.<br/>1—Hamby 7 Shank, 3-pt. Dammer Diker Rig<br/>1—Hamby 8 Row, 3-pt. A.A. Fertilizer Rig<br/>1—8 Row, 3-pt. 3-pt. Rowweeder Rig<br/>1—Hamby 7 Shank, 3-pt. Stubble Munch Rig<br/>1—John Deere 727, 14' D.T. Shredder<br/>1—John Deere 1500 Hydrosewing 16' Swather W/Crimper<br/>1—20' Bed Roller<br/>1—Hutchmaster 14' Offset Disc<br/>1—Diamond 20' Toolbar W/Shanks<br/>1—8 Row Disc Beater Units<br/>1—Coco 7 Shank V-Ripper W/Harrow</p> | <p>1—8 Row, 30', 4x4 Bar W/2 Diamond Bar Cultivar<br/>1—Eversman Ditcher<br/>1—Case 4 Bottom Plow &amp; Packer<br/>1—International 295, 8 Row Planter, 30' Toolbar &amp; Roller<br/>1—International 490, 25' Disc<br/>1—John Deere 900, 13 Shank D.T. Ripper<br/>1—Krause 25 Chisel Plow<br/>1—Roll-A-Cone 48' Sweep Plow W/Pickers<br/>1—Versatile Noble 42' Grain Drill W/Transport Wheels<br/>1—Roll-A-Cone 16 Row Lister, Hyd. Fld., 4'x7' Front And Head Bar, G.W., Like New<br/>1—1998 John Deere 1780 D.T. 23 Row, 15' Planter, No Till Coulters, H.D. Down Pressure W/Insecticide Spray Attach, Markers, Nice, Call Brian<br/>1—Navigator Guidance System<br/>2—Orphan 12 Row, 30' Minimum Till Cultivators W/Coulters, Been Shredded<br/>1—Sunflower 32' Disc<br/>1—21' Double 4'x4" Tool Bar W/Hitch<br/>1—1988 9 Row, 30' Rolling Cultivator, Guide Cones, Barring Off Disc<br/>1—Ford 917 Flail Mower W/Roller, 3-pt.<br/>1—International 133, 8 Row, 30' Cultivator, Guide Cones, Crop Shaver<br/>1—MC 86 Flail Mower W/Roller, 3-pt.<br/>1—Morris 11 Shank V-Tipe Ripper<br/>1—Phares-Wilkins 400 Bu. Grain Cart<br/>1—Roll-A-Cone 21' Sweep Plow<br/>1—1,000 Gal. NH3 Tanks On Hamby Chassis<br/>1—John Deere 12 Row, 30' Shank Cultivator<br/>1—Roll-A-Cone 7 Bottom Sledge Plow<br/>1—1982 Arctic 42' Flatbed Trailer, New 11x24.5 Tires W/Slider<br/>1—John Deere 3950 D.T. Enslage Cutter, 2 Row, 30' Header, 2 Row, 40' Header<br/>6—Auzherman Coulters<br/>1—12 Row, 30' Cyclo 800 Air Planter W/Markers, Lock &amp; Load Boxes<br/>1—Bigham Bros. 9 Row Ripper, 3 Bar W/Hyd. Dammer Dykes<br/>1—Front Mount 3-pt. For Cal. Row Crop Tractor<br/>1—Hamby 8 Row Bed Roller, L.T.M., G.W.<br/>1—Dempster 3-pt., 10' Ditch, 8 Hole<br/>1—Crustbuster 31' Double Offset<br/>1—Emerson V-Tipe Ditcher<br/>2—Miller 40' D.T. Rodweeder<br/>1—Dempster 6 Row Lister Planter<br/>1—John Deere D.T. 14' Single Disc Grain Drill, 8' Spacing<br/>1—Roll-A-Cone 21', 3-4'x4' Bar<br/>1—Roll-A-Cone 21', 9 Shank Subsoiler<br/>1—20', 10' Bed Roller<br/>1—John Deere 14' Grain Drill<br/>1—Hitchcock PTO Incorporator, 1,000 RPM<br/>1—1982 470, 21' Tandem Disc<br/>1—John Deere 12' Grain Drill<br/>1—Graham Hoema, 24'<br/>1—Caldwell Grain Cart<br/>1—Lisson 14' Chisel Chopper<br/>1—Hamby 7 Shank, Good<br/>1—John Deere 230, 24' Disc<br/>1—Caldwell 14' D.T. Shredder, 540 PTO<br/>1—Sevis 5, 3-pt. Shredder<br/>1—6 Row, 3-pt. Rowweeder<br/>1—3-pt. 8' Blade<br/>1—Dackson 28' Offset Disc<br/>1—12' Push Blade For John Deere W/F, W. Assist<br/>1—4 Row Rotary Hoe<br/>1—1981 15' Packer/Mulcher<br/>1—21', 3-pt. Bed Roller<br/>1—1982 95, 2 Row Brush Cotton Stripper</p> <p><b>COTTON EQUIPMENT —</b><br/>1—Aas Chalmers 880 Cotton Stripper W/Broadcast Header &amp; Row Units Header<br/>1—Crustbuster Boll Buggy, T.A.</p> <p><b>IRRIGATION, CENTER PIVOT —</b><br/>1—Lockwood 4 Mile, 10 Tower Center Pivot, Located From Dimmitt, 8 Miles South On Hwy. 385, Then 1 1/2 Miles West On Hwy. 1524, Then 1/2 Mile North (To Be Sold At Main Sale Site At 1:00 p.m.) Info Call Tommy (806) 647-3135</p> | <p>10—Jts. 6" Pipe, 20' Spacing, Gated Pipe<br/>1—Case 21' Disc<br/>1—Berkley Flooding Tailwater Pump, S.H.P., Single Phase<br/>1—5' Lake Pump, PTO Drive<br/>1—Lake Pump, 10 HP, Single Phase Motor<br/>1—Berkley 10 HP Flooding Pump<br/>17—Jts. 7' Gated Pipe, 30' Spacing<br/>1—Floating Lake Pump W/15 HP Motor<br/>1—PTO 4" Tailwater Pump<br/>2—Chev. 292 Irr. Engines</p> <p><b>TRAILERS, TANKS —</b><br/>1—500 Gal. Tank On 4 Wheel Chassis<br/>2—500 Gal. Water Trailers, B&amp;S Motor &amp; Pump<br/>2—Metal Cotton Trailers, 24'x8'x6'<br/>2—Pickup Bed Trailers<br/>1—S.M. Camelback Trailer, 34'<br/>1—Tandem Trailer W/Chain Hoist<br/>1—18' T.A. Utility Trailer<br/>1—Donahue Combine Trailer<br/>1—500 Gal. Diesel Tank W/Pump On 4 Wheel Chassis<br/>1—1,000 Gal. Diesel Tank, 2 Wheel<br/>1—500 Gal. Diesel Tank W/Pump On 4 Wheel Chassis<br/>1—Kayman Combine Trailer, 44,000 Lb.<br/>1—Flatbed Cotton Trailer<br/>1—2" Trans. Pump W/B&amp;S Eng.</p> <p><b>LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT —</b><br/>2—12 Hole Round Metal Hog Feeders<br/>1—John Deere 750 Portable Grinder/Mixer With Hay Table<br/>1—Heston Bale Trailer<br/>1—16' T.A. Stock Trailer<br/>1—Loading Chute<br/>1—Wire Roller<br/>1—3 Ton Portable Self Feeder On Wheels<br/>1—2 Horse Stock Trailer</p> <p><b>TRACTOR &amp; TOOLBAR MAKEUPS —</b><br/>1—Set Bigham Bros. Markers<br/>1—Set Guide Cones<br/>6—Bigham Bros. Sliding Fenders<br/>1—Set 16.9x38 Hub Type Duals<br/>1—Double Diamond 21' Toolbar W/Top Mast<br/>1—Set Roll-A-Cone Shanks &amp; Clamps<br/>1—Set Roll-A-Cone Stabilizers<br/>2—Tye Stabilizers<br/>9—1'x3" Roll-A-Cone Shanks<br/>1—21' Double 4'x4" Bar Toolbar W/Top Mast<br/>8—3'x2'x1" Shanks W/Clamps<br/>1—Set Roll-A-Cone Gauge Wheels<br/>1—Set Roll-A-Cone Straight Markers, 6-8 Rows</p> <p><b>SHOP EQUIPMENT, NON-CLASSIFIED —</b><br/>1—Tulsa Hyd. Winch<br/>1—Cowboy Camper<br/>1—Miller Portable Welder W/Oran Motor<br/>1—1978 Holiday Rambler 24' Motor Home On 460 Chassis, 50,000 Miles, New Carpet, Tires, A/C, Nice<br/>1—1978 Kawasaki KZ 650 Motorcycle, 12,500 Miles, Shredded<br/>1—L-Shaped Diesel Tank W/Pump<br/>1—20' Cart<br/>1—Pickup Bed W/Chain &amp; Hoist<br/>1—1978 John Deere 330 Riding Lawn Mower, Diesel<br/>1—Grainovator 10'x70' Auger, Hyd. Lift, PTO Drive<br/>1—John Deere 4020 Cab<br/>1—4020 Eggng Cab<br/>1—Ford 390 Eng. W/400 Trans.<br/>1—2500 PSI Snow Fill Compressor W/Complete Compressed Natural Gas System For 1999 Chevy Pickup &amp; 2 Fiber Wrapped High PSI Tanks<br/>1—Windpower Belt Drive Generator, 2,500 Watt<br/>1—5 Gal. Upright Gas Pump Complete Without Tin<br/>1—Lot Cast Iron Seats</p> <p><b>BEET EQUIPMENT —</b><br/>1—Big 12 Beet Cart<br/>1—John Deere 100, 8 Row, 30' Beet Thinner, Shredded, W/Accessories<br/>8—Milton Planter Units<br/>1—Lot Milton Planter Access.</p> <p>NOTE: Any Announcement Sale Day Takes Precedence</p> |
|---|---|---|

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# Cotton talks

By SHAWN WADE

Most industry officials patiently waited for the release of the National Cotton Council's preliminary planting intentions survey with an impending sense of dread.

The reason for their uneasiness was the feeling that since US cotton prices projected as less than spectacular the promise of high loan deficiency payments to make up market shortfalls could spur additional cotton acreage in 2000.

The National Cotton Council survey shows that producers do indeed plan to plant more acres to cotton in 2000, a whopping 490,000 more according to the National Cotton Council figures. Beltwide, growers say they will plant some 15.35 million acres to upland and extra long staple cotton in 2000.

Growers planted 14.86 million acres of cotton in 1999. Upland cotton plantings are projected at 15.12 million acres.

What that means for growers is that there will be little or no upward momentum for the market during the growing season barring widespread weather problems that significantly reduce crop size. It also means that while world cotton stockpiles are beginning to fall, US supplies will very likely stay level or increase slightly by the end of the 2000 marketing year.

Texas growers are expected to plant 3.2% more cotton in 2000, upping acreage to 6.344 million. The change in Texas accounts for one-half of the projected increase with the bulk of the remainder located in the mid-south and far west growing regions.

The National Cotton Council survey is regarded as a very reliable estimate of grower intentions and is usually the first such survey available each year.

J. Larry Nelson of Edmonson has been elected president of Cotton Council International for 2000. His election was finalized during the group's board meeting on Feb. 4.

Cotton Council International is the National Cotton Council's export promotions arm and works to build export business for US cotton and cotton products.

Nelson succeeds Paul A. Ruh, a merchant with Paul Reighart, Inc., of Richardson. Ruh becomes Cotton Council International's board

chairman, succeeding Bruce K. Groefsema, a cooperative official from CALCOT in Bakersfield, Calif.

Other Cotton Council International officers elected were Hans G. Kretschmer of El Paso, first vice president; William B. Dunavant III of Memphis, Tenn., second vice president; and Robert A. Carson Jr. of Marks, Miss., treasurer. Phillip C. Burnett of Memphis, Tenn. was re-elected as board secretary and Allen A. Terhaar of Washington, D.C., was elected as assistant secretary. Newly-elected director is William L. Carter Jr., of Scotland Neck, N.C.

The second annual Southwest Crops Production Conference and Expo will be held Feb. 23 at Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

The conference will begin at 9 a.m. and is free to all interested parties. A total of 4.5 continuing education units for private/commercial pesticide applicators are tentatively scheduled to be presented to participants.

Topics which will be covered during the conference include market outlooks for cotton and other crops, an update on the issues surrounding genetically modified crops, a report on progress of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation's efforts and discussions on fine-tuning crop inputs, insect management and other production tips.

Displays and representatives from seed, chemical and other ag suppliers will be open to the public, also.



**\$100-WORTH OF HAMBURGER MEAT**—Castro County Farm Bureau is making a donation to the Castro County Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry, which is administered by Panhandle Community Services. Shown are (from left) Bruce Fuller, presi-

dent of the board of the Castro County Farm Bureau; Malcolm Sager, agency manager; Mike Garza, assistant manager at Dimmitt Thriftway, where the meat was purchased; and Jerry Peña of PCS.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

## Food Check-Out Day is observed Feb. 9

National Food Check-Out Day was celebrated Wednesday (Feb. 9), with a special observance set by the Castro County Farm Bureau.

The Farm Bureau donated 100 one-pound packages of hamburger meat to the Castro County Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry, which is administered by Panhandle Community Services.

Food Check-Out Day is the day

by which the average American will have earned enough income to pay for their food supply for the entire year, according to information from the Farm Bureau.

According to statistics from the US Dept. of Agriculture, the average American devoted only 10.7% of his or her disposable personal income to pay for food.

By comparison, the same average

American works until the middle of May to earn enough to pay taxes.

"Food Check-Out Day really shows just how much of a bargain food is in the US," said Bruce Fuller, president of the CCFB. "It also gives us a chance to share some of that blessing with folks who are in need."

"America's farmers and ranchers are the most productive in the world. We're proud of our contribution to society, and Food Check-Out Day gives us the opportunity to share some of our success with others."

Twenty-two million American workers produce, process, sell and trade the nation's food and fiber. But only 4.6 million of those people live on farms—slightly less than 2% of the total US population.

### Minding Your Own Business

#### Increasing the average sale: a profit builder

By DON TAYLOR

Looking for a good way to boost profits? Want to increase the efficiency of your business? Would you like to increase sales without increasing your promotion budget?

The answer, my friends, isn't blowing in the wind, it's increasing the average sale. What is the "average sale?" It is the amount your customers spend with you per visit. For example, if 100 customers visited your business on Monday and sales for the day were \$528, your average sale would be \$5.28. The average sale is calculated by dividing total sales by the number of customers or sales transactions.

For most small businesses, existing customers are the best short-term prospects for other products, services and programs. If you can visualize that potential in your customers, and put the right marketing plans into place, you can reap a harvest of additional sales and profit.

Here are several ways to increase the average sale. These techniques are working for others and I'm sure they'll work for you as well.

#### Bottom line builders

● **Sell up.** As simple as it sounds, sometimes just showing your customers a better quality choice will create a larger sale. Low price isn't the only factor customers consider. Everyone wants the best possible value. Value is the relationship of price compared with quality and quantity. Introduce a step-up offer, show the best you have, point out the added value then let the customer decide.

● **Offer more.** When a customer is undecided, you can often add perceived value by offering additional products or services at a lower price. For example, a computer retailer might offer to add additional software or games at a discounted rate with the purchase of a better quality computer. Remember, the objective is to sell more, not to lower margins by giving something away.

● **Suggest a go-with item.** Train your staff to look for "go-with" opportunities. In retail seminars, I challenge those attending to suggest go-with items. For example, a customer comes into a hardware store to purchase a gallon of paint. What other items would you suggest? There are a few obvious answers—brushes, drop cloths, masking tape, paint thinner, razor blades, etc.; however, in the three minutes I allow for this exercise, I often get as many as 30 go-with suggestions.

This is a service to your customers. You may save them a trip back for a needed item. Make a game out of it. Challenge your staff to take any item you sell and find at least three go-with possibilities. This is one of the best ways to increase your average sale and all it takes is a simple suggestion.

● **Show your go-with items.** Work with the previous idea in your merchandising efforts. When your staff creates their lists of go-with items, display them together. Scotch tape with wrapping paper, surge protectors with electrical appliances, books by the same author, batteries by battery-operated toys and games, etc.

● **Present a package.** When companies and organizations ask me to speak professionally, they often mention my books. When this happens, I always present a package that includes a copy of my books for those attending the seminar or speech. I add value and increase the sale. A package can present multiples of one product—three roles of tape, multiple products—tape and a hands-free tape dispenser or multiples of related products—three apples, three oranges and three grapefruit.

Remember, first calculate your present average sale. Then use some of these techniques for a few weeks and watch that number grow. It's fun and good for the bottom line, too.

Don Taylor is the co-author of "Up Against the Wal-Marts." You may write to him in care of "Minding Your Own Business," P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, Texas 79105.

## Grain elevator workshop set for Feb. 17

The 2000 Grain Elevator Workshop will be held next Thursday in Amarillo at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center, 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West.

Registration is \$25 and begins at 8 a.m.

The program starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:45 p.m. The workshop will adjourn following the evaluation and CEU certification for applicators. The Texas Dept. of Agriculture has approved five continuing education units (CEUs) for commercial, non-commercial and private pesticide applicators.

To register and obtain information, call Carl Patrick at (806) 359-5401. He is an entomologist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, and a key organizer of the event.

Leading the agenda are presentations on biotech crop acceptance, hantavirus, herbicide and pesticide safety issues, automated aeration, bird problems, and industry regulations.

The Tri-State Chapter of Grain Elevator and Processing Society is sponsoring the workshop in cooperation with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

This is the twelfth year of the workshop, and it has been self-supporting since 1989 due to the enthusiastic support by the Texas High Plains stored grain industry, according to Patrick.

It takes a cord of wood to boil down one thousand gallons of maple syrup.

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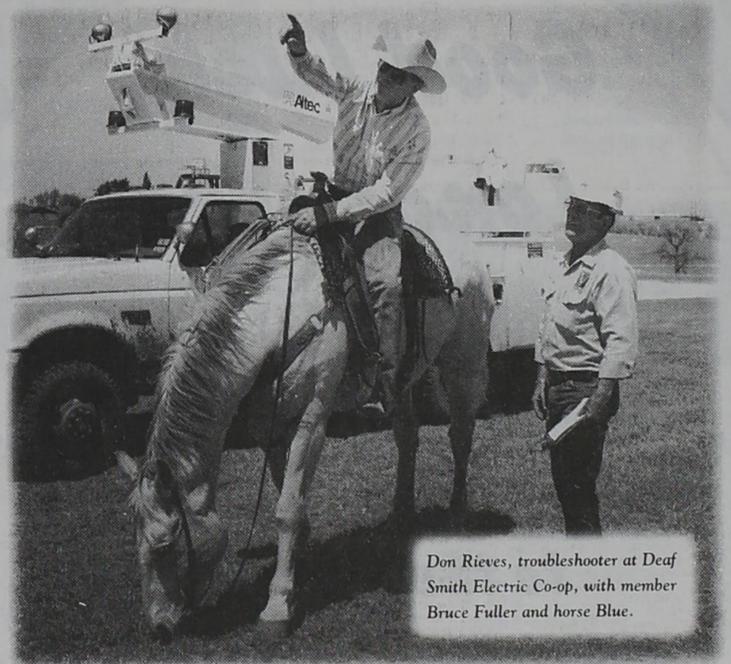
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# Sports



## Bobbies, Bobcats earn playoff berths

Tuesday night victories here assured the Bobbies and Bobcats of coveted berths in the state playoffs.

The Bobbies subdued the stubborn Dalhart Lady Wolves, 53-48, and the Bobcats scorched the Dalhart lads, 86-62.

Meanwhile, Sanford-Fritch's Lady Eagles defeated Tulia, 46-34, to help the Bobbies to a lock on third place without a district playoff needed.

The Bobbies will meet Muleshoe, the No. 2 seed from District 2-AAA, at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Plainview High School in the bi-district round.

The Lady Mules and Bobbies have met once, Dec. 7 here, with Muleshoe taking a 48-47 win.

The Perryton Lady Rangers are the District 1-AAA champs with a per-

fect 10-0 league mark, followed by Sanford-Fritch at 6-4 and Dimmitt at 5-5. Those three teams will represent 1-AAA in the playoffs, with Perryton getting a bye in the bi-district round.

Tulia finished fourth at 4-6, River Road fifth at 3-7 and Dalhart in the cellar at 2-8.

The Bobcats still have a game to play—against the capable Perryton Rangers Friday, there—but with a three-game pad over Perryton and Dalhart in the standings, the Cats have a lock on the runner-up spot in 1-AAA and a mathematical shot at a first-place tie if Tulia should lose Friday night.

In District 2-AAA, Shallowater has clinched the championship with a perfect 9-0 conference mark, and

three teams—Littlefield, Muleshoe, and Lubbock Cooper—are still in the hunt for the No. 2 and 3 playoff spots with identical 5-4 conference marks. A crucial game is on tap Friday when Cooper visits Muleshoe.

So the boys' bi-district pairings won't be drawn until the runner-up is determined in 2-AAA, and that will likely require a playoff.

### Bobbies 53, Dalhart 48

The Lady Wolves played the Bobbies tough all the way, making them push to earn their playoff berth.

"We played just well enough to win, and I'll take it," Bobbies Coach Tim Gilliland said.

Dimmitt led by a scant point, 11-10, at the end of the opening period,

and surged to an 18-10 lead early in the second on layups by Roni Traylor and Heather Black and a three-pointer by Tamara Robertson.

But the Lady Wolves cut the Bobbies' lead to two, 24-22, and would have taken the lead if they could have hit their free throws. They were four for 16 from the free-throw line in the first half.

It took two free throws apiece by Black and Kelsey Welch in the final 2:13 to give the Bobbies a 29-22 halftime lead.

In the third, despite good defensive rebounding by Robertson and Welch, the Lady Wolves fought back within four points at 39-35 by the end of the third.

Coach Gilliland started the fourth with 5-10 guard Carol Summers moving to high post and Dorothy Hamilton and Lori Schulte rotating at the playmaker position. The strategy paid off with two quick inside baskets by Summers, followed by a layup by Black that gave the Bobbies a 45-38 pad. But the Lady Wolves inched back to within three again, 47-44, with 2:56 left in the game.

The two teams frustrated themselves with five straight misses from the free-throw line as the clock wound down to the 1:30 mark.

After a Dalhart timeout, the Lady Wolves came out shooting 3's and the Bobbies countered by putting Black and Robertson on the perimeter to draw fouls.

In the final 1:20, Black, Summers and Welch sank six of 10 freebies to offset a three-pointer and a final free throw by Dalhart gunner Jennifer Lang.

Black had another big scoring night, notching 21 points, while Robertson and Summers scored 9 apiece.

### Bobcats 86, Dalhart 62

The Bobcats were in peak form and looked as though they could hit the century mark as they rang up a big 49-point first half en route to a runaway win over the Wolves (13-13, 4-5).

That first-half total was as many points as the Bobcats had scored altogether against the Wolves the first time in a 49-34 victory at Dalhart.

5-9 senior guard Sammy Prieto, always a cool Cat on the court, had even a better-than-usual night with 25 points plus a basketful of steals, assists and other floor credits.

Also scoring in double figures for Dimmitt were Keevin Sanders with 13, Matthew Sandoval with 12 and Daniel Flores with 10.

Prieto scored the game's first five points in the first minute as he drained a three-pointer on his opening shot 16 seconds after the tip, then scored a layup after stealing Dalhart's first inbound pass. Prieto scored nine of Dimmitt's first 12 points before deferring to his teammates, who ran it up to 26-16 by the first-quarter buzzer.

Prieto opened the scoring in the second and third quarters, too, and Sanders, Daniel Proffitt and Daniel Flores bombed away from three-point range and Matthews, Sandoval and Julian Velo cleaned up under-

neath.

By halftime the Bobcats held a 26-16 lead, and they stretched it to 49-33 as they outscored the Wolves 19-8 during the third.

The Bobcats continued to add to their lead, even when it became firehouse basketball with bodies flying in the final three minutes, and when the smoke settled the scoreboard was tilted at 86-62.

### River Road 68, Bobbies 66

The Bobbies needed their Tuesday victory over Dalhart and some help from Sanford-Fritch to gain a playoff berth after blowing a 12-point lead and losing to the River Road Lady Wildcats here Friday night.

It was the third district win of the year for the River Road girls, who came into Friday's game with an 8-18 season record. The loss left the Bobbies with a 4-5 district mark and a 9-19 season record.

The Bobbies took a 40-28 lead into the fourth quarter, only to see the

Lady Wildcats go for broke from three-point range—and start hitting them.

After RR's Chris Swaim opened the fourth with a pair of free throws, Carrie Mullins and Brandee Digman nailed two treys apiece within 2½ minutes. Then Camille Kile sank a 10-foot jumper and Digman added a pair of free throws to give the Lady Wildcats their first lead of the game, 46-45, with 2:28 remaining and the River Road fans screaming.

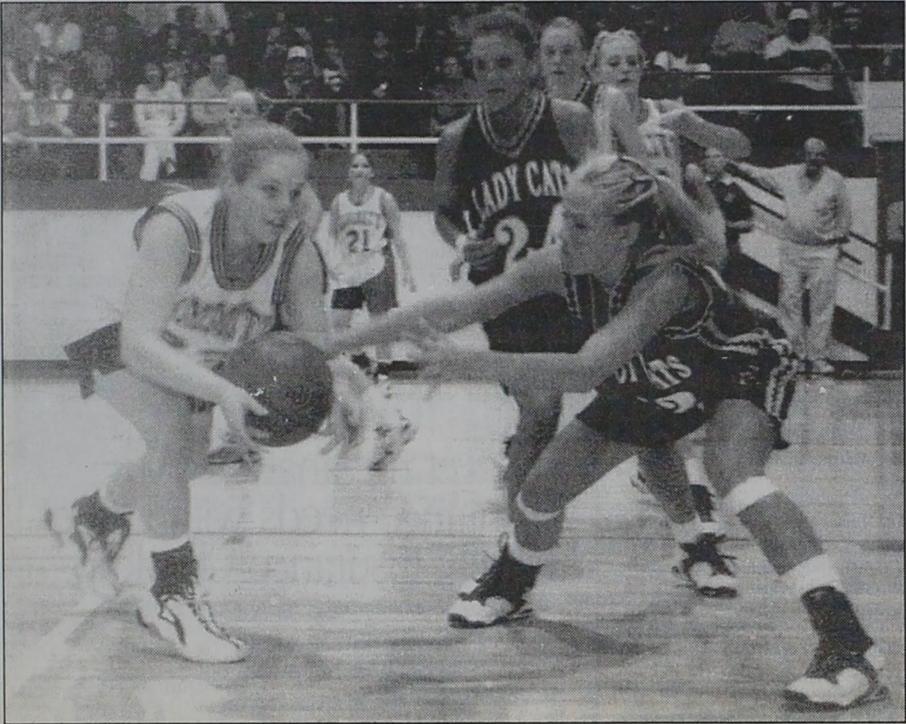
With the score tied at 50-50, the Bobbies got possession of the ball on a tie with 27 ticks left in regulation, but each team missed a final shot to send it into overtime.

After the first OT, it was 57-57.

In the second OT, Dimmitt got five points ahead, 64-59, on two baskets by Kelsey Welch and a three-pointer by Larissa Fuentes.

But Anna Craven netted a pair of free throws and Digman hit another trey from the corner to tie it again,

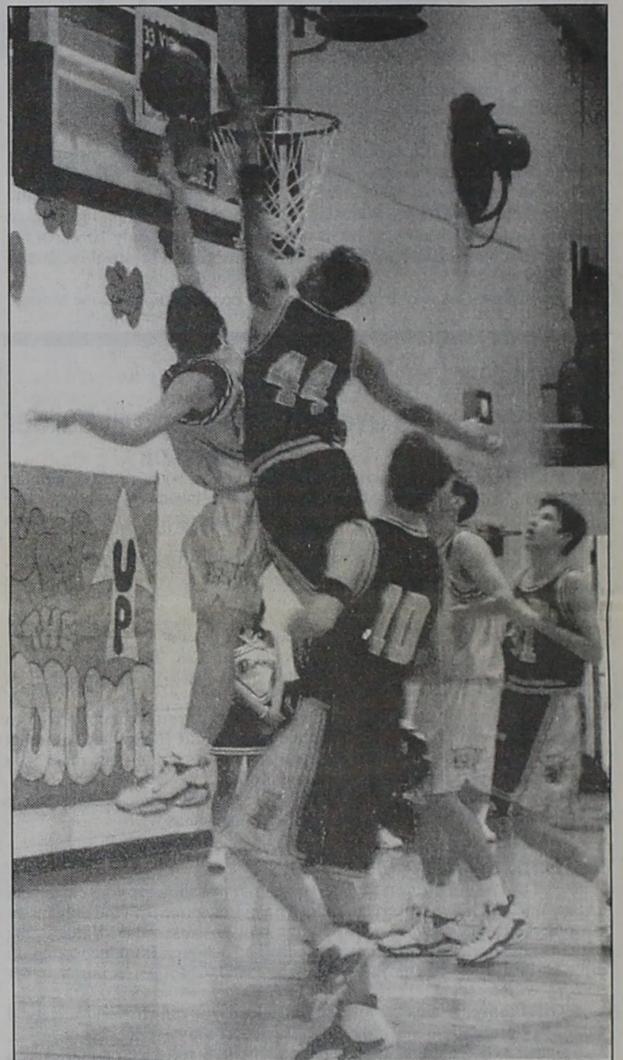
(Continued on Page 15)



EVERYBODY WANTS IT—River Road's Carrie Mullins (right foreground) attempts a steal as Dimmitt's Jade Vick picks up her dribble while driving in

the third quarter of Friday night's District 1-AAA girls' varsity game here. The visiting Lady Wildcats came from behind to win, 68-66, after two overtimes.

Photo by Carter Townsend



FAST-BREAK LAYUP—Despite being fouled by River Road's Jeff Gilmore (44), Dimmitt's Keevin Sanders sinks a fast-break layup after a nifty feed by teammate Daniel Flores to give Dimmitt a 28-10 lead in the second quarter of Friday night's District 1-AAA boys' varsity game here. The Bobcats coasted to a 74-41 victory to stay in the playoff race.

Photo by Carter Townsend

**Good Luck,  
Longhorns**  
as you battle Sudan  
and Springlake-Earth  
for the right to advance  
to the playoffs!

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# Hoop Scores

## LAST WEEK

8<sup>th</sup> Bobcats 49, Dalhart 32  
7<sup>th</sup> Bobcats (Purple) 29, Dalhart 30  
7<sup>th</sup> Bobcats (White) 22, Dalhart 28

JV Bobcats 65, Sanford-Fritch 55  
Dimmitt JV 17 14 17 17—65  
Sanford-Fritch 6 21 18 18—55  
**Scoring:** DIMMITT JV—D Norman 23, Austin Sherman 15, Matthew Wright 13.

## FRIDAY

Bobcats 73, River Road 41  
River Road 9 4 8 20—41  
Dimmitt 21 13 20 19—73  
**Scoring:** DIMMITT—Sammy Prieto 20, Taylor Matthews and Kevvin Sanders 13.

Bobbies 66, River Road 68 (2OT)  
River Road 9 7 12 22 7 11—68  
Dimmitt 13 15 12 10 7 9—68  
**Scoring:** DIMMITT—Heather Black 16, Tamara Robertson 11.

Swiftettes 84, Lady Horns 42  
Hart 8 9 10 15—42  
Nazareth 13 26 23 22—84  
**Scoring:** NAZ—Stephanie Thiel 20, Cassie Birkenfeld and Wendy Hoelting 19. HART—Lacie Curry and Geneva Finch 10.

Swifts 50, Longhorns 40  
Hart 8 14 11 7—40  
Nazareth 10 6 20 14—50  
**Scoring:** NAZ—Blake Birkenfeld 16, Eric Schilling 11. HART—Keith Finch 13.

JV Swifts 38, JV Longhorns 33  
JV Bobbies 43, River Road 22

JV Bobcats 66, River Road 27  
River Road JV 6 7 8 6—27  
Dimmitt JV 17 15 13 21—66  
**Scoring:** DIMMITT JV—Anthony Oltivero 15, Austin Sherman 12, D. Norman 11.

## MONDAY

Freshman Bobbies 36, Tulia 30  
Dimmitt 4 8 10 14—36  
Tulia 7 10 8 5—30  
**Scoring:** DIMMITT 9<sup>th</sup>—Jenna Steinle 16. *The Freshman Bobbies finished the season with a 14-7 overall record and were 6-1 in district. They are the District 1-AAA champs.*

## TUESDAY

Bobcats 86, Dalhart 62  
Dalhart 16 17 12 17—86  
Dimmitt 26 23 19 18—62  
**Scoring:** DIMMITT—Sammy Prieto 25, Kevvin Sanders 18, Matthew Sandoval 12.

Bobbies 53, Dalhart 48  
Dalhart 10 12 13 13—53  
Dimmitt 11 18 10 14—48  
**Scoring:** DIMMITT—Heather Black 21.

Swifts 68, Springlake-Earth 59  
Nazareth 17 13 18 20—68  
Springlake-Earth 19 16 13 11—59  
**Scoring:** NAZ—Ky Wilcox 20, Eric Schilling 18, Kade Wilcox 12.

Swiftettes 77, Springlake-Earth 35  
Nazareth 25 16 20 16—77  
Springlake-Earth 5 11 7 10—35

**Scoring:** NAZ—Cassie Birkenfeld 21, Stephanie Thiel 17, Shawna Gerber 16, Wendy Black 10.

JV Swiftettes 41, Springlake-Earth 42  
JV Swifts 42, Springlake-Earth 60  
JV Bobcats 77, Dalhart 47

## Barrera is honored

Patricia Barrera has been selected student of the week at Dimmitt Middle School for the fourth grade classes of Mrs. Damron and Mrs. Spring.

The daughter of Sharle Barrera and Eddie Barrera, she admires and respects her parents.

Barrera said that she likes having fun with her friends at DMS and is good at spelling, but she wishes she were better at math.

She wants to be a doctor when she grows up.

Her favorite animals are cats and dogs, her favorite book is *Cat in the Hat*, and her favorite food is hot chips.

She was born Jan. 11, 1989 in Amarillo.



**TRAPPED!** Hart's Keith Finch (4) and three of his teammates surround Nazareth's Eric Schilling (42) as he works inside Friday in a District 8-A showdown in Nazareth. Also pictured is Nazareth's Jase Merritt.

The Swifts enjoyed a big third quarter and were able to overcome a halftime deficit to down Hart, 50-40. The win assured the Swifts of the district championship and a playoff berth.

Photo by Dawn Ramaekers

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**Good Luck,**  
**Bobbies and Bobcats!**

★

**FRIDAY: Bobcats vs. Perryton, There**

★

**TUESDAY: Bobbies' Bi-District Game**  
**Bobbies vs. Muleshoe**

**6:30 p.m. at Plainview High School**

## Schedule and Scores

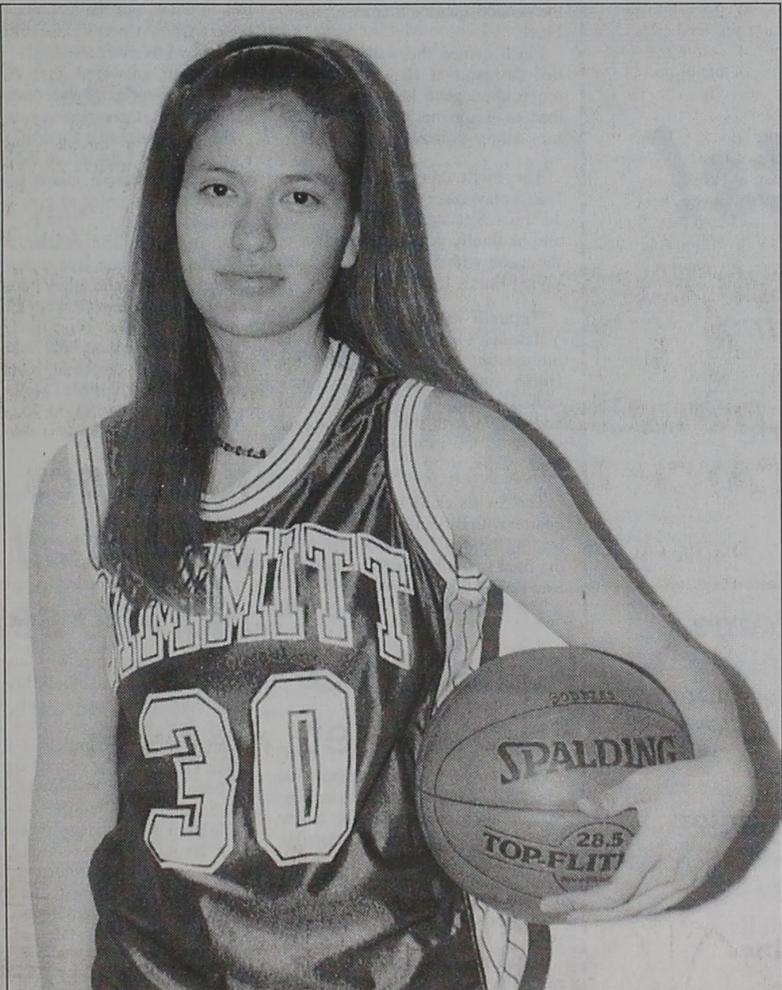
Feb. 11—\*Perryton (Boys), There

### Bobbies

32, Randall 56  
32, Levelland 37  
31, Borger 66  
**Queen's Classic**  
27, Plainview 66  
62, Vega 69  
55, Hale Center 40  
35, Hereford 49  
**Levelland Invitational**  
40, Idalou 42  
49, Slaton 51  
57, Muleshoe 59  
46, Levelland 50  
40, Friona 53  
46, Lubbock Coronado 85  
**Caprock Tournament**  
50, Lamesa 32  
40, Shallowater 67  
55, Lubbock Estacado 44  
45, Caprock 51  
50, Littlefield 34  
53, Slaton 50  
61, Perryton 70  
58, Tulia 46  
75, River Road 70  
62, Sanford-Fritch 41  
49, Dalhart 34  
49, Tulia 62  
59, Perryton 66  
44, Sanford-Fritch 55  
66, River Road 68  
53, Dalhart 48  
**Season Record: 10-20**  
**District Record: 5-5**

### Bobcats

54, Randall 61  
69, Levelland 60  
67, Borger 60  
74, Farwell 57  
60, Hereford 33  
**Pioneer Classic**  
67, Estacado 66  
47, Hale Center 50  
78, Muleshoe 72  
**Abernathy Tournament**  
64, Trinity Christian 84  
40, Muleshoe 45  
50, Idalou 38  
54, Friona 42  
56, Lubbock Coronado 62  
**Caprock Tournament**  
52, Big Spring 54  
47, Caprock 44  
61, Seminole 69  
55, Littlefield 40  
54, Slaton 41  
47, Muleshoe 61  
56, Tulia 51  
70, River Road 64  
66, Sanford-Fritch 69  
65, Dalhart 45  
33, Tulia 61  
35, Perryton 32  
63, Sanford-Fritch 50  
73, River Road 41  
86, Dalhart 62  
**Season Record: 18-8**  
**District Record: 7-2**



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# Swiftettes sew up playoff berth with win over Hart

The first half of Friday night's District 8-A battle between cross-county rivals Hart and Nazareth turned into a free throw shooting contest with the odd basket falling through the hoop here and there.

Neither team found much success from the field in the first half, but the Swiftettes made just enough of their shots to take an early lead, then coasted through the second half for an 84-42 win.

Nazareth attempted 19 free throws in the first half alone, and cashed in on 15 of those attempts. Hart shooters tried 15 shots from the line and made 12—in the first half. For the game, Nazareth was 18-of-23 from the line while Hart was 13-of-19.

Shots from the field were few and far between early in the game. The Swiftettes missed six of their first seven attempts, but finished up by hitting 5-of-14 from the field. They were 12-of-25 in the first half.

Hart shooters didn't fare as well, though, making only three of their 19 shots over the first half.

The game was the season finale for the Lady Horns, who closed out district play with a 1-7 mark. The Lady Horns wrapped up their season with a 14-12 record.

Nazareth improved to 5-2 in district and the victory assured the Swiftettes of a playoff berth. Nazareth's season record improved to 24-5.

Nazareth got its first basket a minute into the game, but didn't score again until the 4:24 mark. Both shots were by Stephanie Thiel, who finished with 20 points to lead the Swiftettes.

Hart cut that 4-0 Nazareth lead to a point when Lacie Curry scored as she was fouled by Shawna Gerber. Curry added the bonus shot with 3:31 left.

Nazareth's Cassie Birkenfeld converted a three-point play of her own after she was fouled by Geneva Finch with 3:21 left.

Hart hung with Nazareth throughout the first quarter, and trailed just 8-13 at the end of the stanza. The Lady Horns picked up half of their points from the free throw line during the quarter, and Curry kept her team in the game with a five-point performance in the quarter.

Hart pulled within three early in the second quarter after Ruby Rodriguez counted a pair of free throws, but Nazareth went on a tear after

that, building a 10-point lead at the five-minute mark.

The marathon second quarter included 26 free throws—16 attempted by the Swiftettes and 10 attempted by the Lady Horns—as both teams struggled with foul trouble.

Two Swiftette starters picked up their third fouls early in the second period and went to the bench.

Rodriguez was whistled with her fourth foul early in the quarter and Brenda Diego got her third personal with 4:32 left.

Nazareth gradually pulled away from Hart in the quarter as Whitney Hoelting got hot inside, scoring eight points in the quarter, but she had a lot of help. Seven Swiftettes scored in the period.

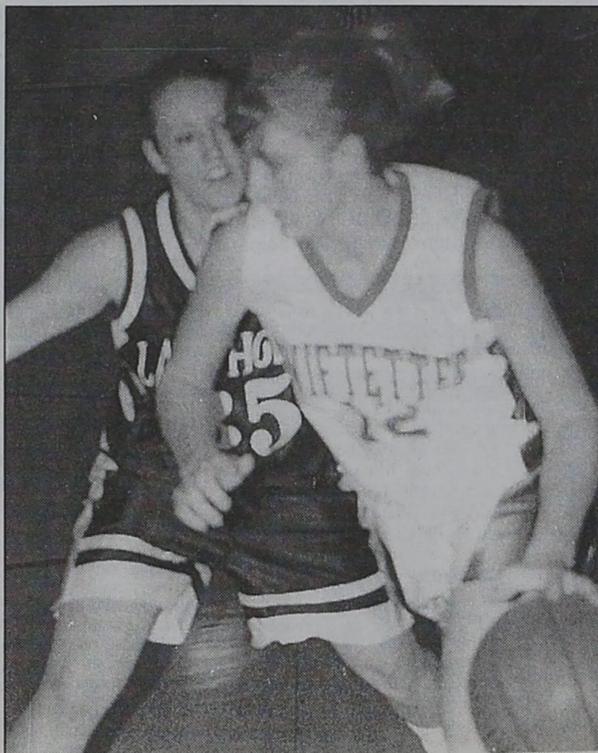
Hart had five players pick up two

points apiece in the quarter, but the Lady Horns would only make one shot from the field during the quarter.

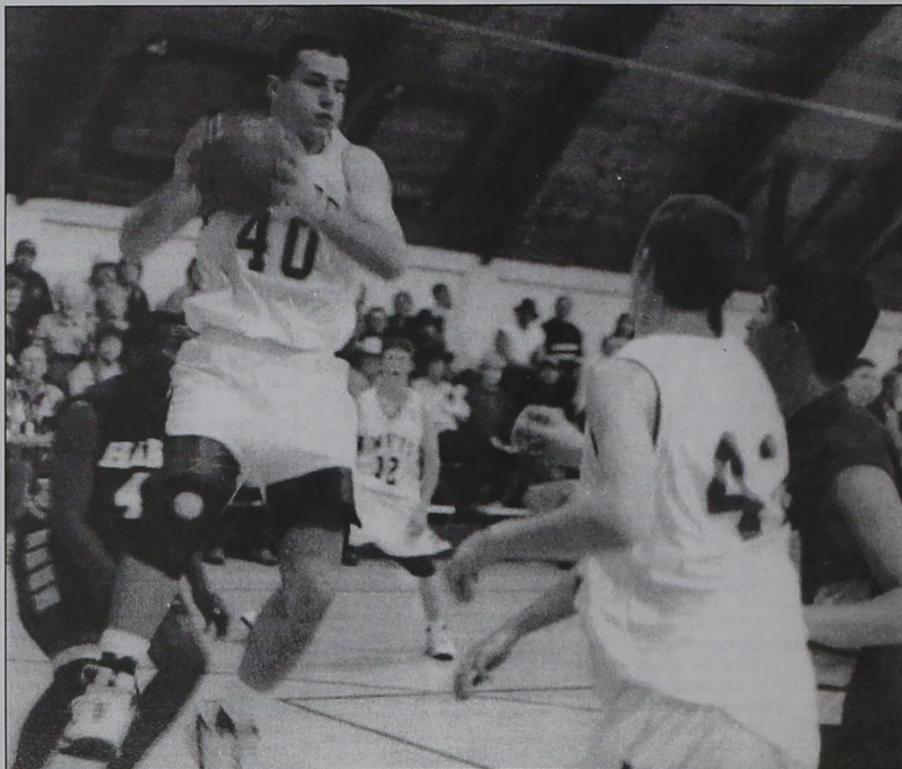
Gerber, Schulte and Mandy Hoelting all picked up their fourth fouls in the third quarter, but by that time Nazareth was on its way, turning its 39-18 halftime lead into a 62-27 advantage after the third quarter.

Hart got six points from Crystal Diego and Finch in the fourth quarter, but the game was out of reach by then.

Joining Thiel in double-figure scoring for Nazareth were Cassie Birkenfeld and Whitney Hoelting, who had 19 apiece. Hart's leading scorers were Curry and Finch, who finished with 10 each.



**ONE-ON-ONE**—Hart's Lindsey Montemayor (35) applies pressure to Nazareth's Shawna Gerber (12) as Gerber attempts to drive the baseline Friday when the Swiftettes and Lady Horns met in a district battle at Nazareth. The Swiftettes pulled out an 84-42 victory to clinch a playoff berth. Photo by Dwayne Acker



**NAZARETH'S CAMERON McLAIN** soars high above the rest of the players on the court and snatches an offensive rebound, then lays the ball through the hoop for two points Friday as the Swifts played host to the Hart Longhorns in a District 8-A

showdown. Nazareth came from behind to beat Hart, 50-40, and clinched the district championship. Also pictured are Hart's Keith Finch (4) and one of his teammates; and Nazareth's Jase Merritt (12) and Eric Schilling (42). Photo by Dawn Ramaekers

## Three-point barrage in third quarter boosts Swifts over Hart

Four unanswered three-pointers by four different Nazareth shooters in the third quarter proved to be the turning point in Friday's District 8-A shootout between the Swifts and Hart Longhorns.

Nazareth captured the district championship outright and won its last home game of the season Friday with a 50-40 decision over Hart.

The loss left the Longhorns (10-15 on the year) struggling for their lives in the battle for the playoffs, but they got a little help Friday when Sudan knocked off Springlake-Earth.

Hart wrapped up its district slate in Friday's game, and finished the tour with a 4-4 mark, trailing Springlake-Earth (4-3) by a game. Sudan also was still in the running headed into its Tuesday game with Vega.

Nazareth played Friday night's game without its leading scorer, Kade Wilcox, who suffered a severe sprained ankle in Sudan the week before.

Wilcox's absence was a factor early in the game, but Blake Birkenfeld and Eric Schilling took control of the game in the second half and propelled Nazareth past Hart.

Schilling blocked several shots in the third quarter and dominated the boards while Birkenfeld popped several shots and made key free throws down the stretch to keep the Swifts in control.

Birkenfeld was Nazareth's leading scorer with 16 points while Schilling added 11.

Finch was Hart's leading point-getter with 13 points.

Both teams hit 18 shots from the field, but six of Nazareth's came from three-point land while Hart made only three from that territory. Nazareth was 8-of-14 from the free throw line while Hart made its one attempt.

The Swifts won the board battle, 34-25; but committed more turnovers than Hart, 15-13.

After Nazareth gained a 10-8 lead in the first quarter, Hart exploded in the second quarter thanks to Keith Finch.

Finch owned the stanza after he tied the game at 10 with an inside move, then gave his team its first lead of the game, 13-10, when he sank a three-pointer at the 5:49 mark.

The Swift defense was all over Hart's playmaker and leading scorer, Jeremiah Velasquez, in the first half, and he finally got his first basket of the game with 5:13 left in the half, giving Hart a 15-12 lead.

Nazareth called a timeout after Velasquez's basket, but Hart had the momentum at that point and the Horns wouldn't relinquish it. Finch scored again with 3:05 left, then added his fourth shot of the quarter with 2:40 left to give Hart a 22-12 lead.

The Swifts came back late in the quarter with Birkenfeld and Schilling leading the way. Each scored shots in the final two minutes to trim Hart's lead to 22-16 by halftime.

The Swifts came roaring back

early in the third quarter to tie the game at 22 after Birkenfeld converted a three-point play when he drove baseline, made his shot and added the ensuing free throw after he was fouled. Nazareth took the lead for good with 4:43 left on a three-point shot by Jase Merritt.

Merritt's shot started a domino effect, and Nazareth's next three shots all swished the nets—three-pointers by Schilling, Birkenfeld and Tyler Ehly.

Those long-range shots put Nazareth on top by 10, 36-26, with 2:39 left in the third quarter.

Hart got baskets by Finch and Jacob Reyna in the first two minutes of the stanza, but then Schilling took over in the paint and rejected three Hart shots, frustrating the Longhorns. Hart wouldn't score another basket until Salvador Velasquez connected with 1:55 left.

Nazareth's three-point assault came during the Hart drought and that enabled the Swifts to snatch the momentum.

The Swifts took a slim 36-33 lead into the fourth quarter, but Hart pulled within a point on a shot by Jeremiah Velasquez with 6:58 left.

Cameron McLain picked up an easy bucket after snagging an offensive rebound and that kept the Swifts up by three. Neither team scored for two minutes, but the stalemate was broken when Albert Velasquez made one of two free throws.

Nazareth answered that charity toss with one of its own seconds later to maintain its three-point advantage.

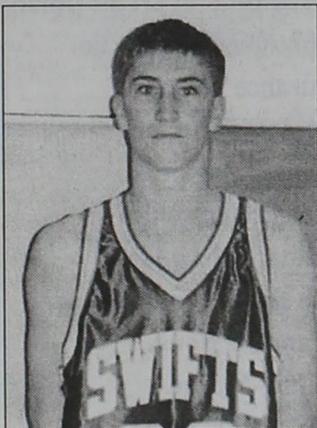
Hart's defense lost Birkenfeld for a second with 3:34 left in the game and the sophomore guard popped another three-pointer to give Nazareth a 44-38 lead.

During the fourth quarter, Nazareth stepped to the free throw line several times, and they counted seven of 12 attempts to keep Hart at bay.

The Swifts got their final field goal when Schilling tipped in a missed teammate's shot with 1:03 left. That put Nazareth up by 10, 50-40.



# Good Luck, Swiftettes & Swifts!



**Tyler Ehly**  
Freshman Guard

★  
**FRIDAY: Swiftettes' Practice Game**  
(Tentatively)

★  
**MONDAY: Swifts' Practice Game**  
(Tentatively)

★  
**Swifts vs. Clarendon**  
7 p.m. at Silverton

★  
**TUESDAY: Swiftettes' Bi-District Game**  
**Swiftettes vs. Texline**  
6:30 p.m. at Dumas

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**George Nelson Trucking, Inc.**  
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**Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt**  
**Thriftyway Supermarket/Dimmitt Market**

## Girls' AAU tryouts set

An Amarillo-Panhandle area-wide 11-year-old AAU girls' all-star basketball team is looking for a few talented players who are interested in competing on an AAU team which qualified for the national AAU tournament in 1999.

Players must have a birthday in 1988.

The team, West Texas Heat, is coached by Jackie Mercer. Tryouts for the team will be held between 2:30 and 5 p.m. Sunday at Carter Gym on the Amarillo College campus.

For more information, call John Teters at 364-7057.

## Kids, Inc. basketball sign-up set

Dimmitt youngsters who want to play Kids, Inc., basketball this year must register by Monday, Feb. 14.

The first sign-up day was held Monday at the Chamber of Commerce Office, but a second sign-up has been scheduled for Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Chamber office.

Children should have received a form from school on Friday, and these forms must be returned along with a \$25 registration fee. T-shirts will be given to all participants.

Those registering late will be charged \$50 this year.

For questions and coaching information, contact Rhenea Webb at 647-2273.

A meeting for Kids, Inc. coaches will be held next Thursday, Feb. 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Chamber office. All coaches are asked to attend.



**KELSEY WELCH scores a clutch basket to give Dimmitt a 61-59 lead in the second overtime of the Bobbies' game against River Road here Friday night. Trying to block her shot is the Lady Wildcats' Brandee Digman. Following Welch's shot in background is Dimmitt's Heather Black. Welch later scored Dimmitt's final basket to give the Bobbies a 66-64 lead with 35 seconds left, but the Lady Wildcats came back with a three-pointer and a free throw in the final 20 seconds to win it, 68-66.**

Photo by Carter Townsend

**Delay of game**

**Aw, c'mon, refs!**

The Bobbies and the River Road Lady Wildcats were finishing their warm-ups, the cheerleaders and scorekeepers and media were in place, and the crowd was filing in to Cleveland Gym Friday for the 6 o'clock start of the varsity girls' game.

There was just one thing missing. Two things, really.

Referees.

6 o'clock came and went. Had the scheduled refs got their tip-off times mixed up? Sometimes the varsity girls play at 6, sometimes at 6:30.

Coaches and school officials had a hurry-up huddle on the court.

6:30 came and went, and there was still not a striped shirt to be seen anywhere.

A couple of phone calls confirmed the school officials' worst fears: No refs had been assigned to the game by the Amarillo chapter of the Southwest Basketball Officials Association.

There had been a computer glitch. Dimmitt school officials swung into action.

"I called the district representative, Alton McCormick, who happened to have a late game that evening in Amarillo," Bobcat Coach Alan Steidle said. "He asked if I'd like for him to round up two officials, and I said I that if we could do it in a relatively quick time, we'd really appreciate it."

McCormick knew of one ref—Amarillo real estate agent Randy Connally—who had an open date that night.

"Alton started from the top of the list and I started from the bottom," Steidle said. "He called me back on another phone about 6:45, and said he had found Al Marks (who runs the prison hospital for the Clements Unit in Amarillo)."

As soon as Connally could find someone else to meet his wife at the airport that evening, he and Marks threw their things into the car and sped toward Dimmitt.

The girls' game finally tipped off at 8:10 p.m., and went to two overtimes before it ended at 9:42.

The boys' game finally ended at 11:15.

"I had it down on my database for 02/08/00 for that game," rather than Feb. 4, said Gary Whiteley, who serves as the secretary of the Amarillo chapter when he isn't refereeing somewhere or tending to his day job as Randall High School counselor.

The Amarillo chapter assigns refs to 140 varsity games a week. To

keep up with the complex scheduling, they compile a master database and send out confirmation schedules to the 70 schools involved.

"The date for Friday night's game was correct on my confirmation sheet—Feb. 4," Steidle said. "But on Gary's master schedule, he had us playing River Road on the 8th."

Steidle added, "I always try to call and confirm, but I just didn't do it Friday. And when I talked to Gary, he said we shouldn't have to call him to confirm."

The next day, Whiteley—who had been battling the flu for two weeks and didn't really need this aggravation—fired off a letter of apology to Dimmitt Supt. Les Miller.

"I begged for forgiveness at Dimmitt," Whiteley said. "I apologize to the people of Dimmitt for keeping them up so late, especially the kids."

He added, "It couldn't have been in a worse place, because we had that problem in Dimmitt not many years ago."

Well, "not many years ago" was back in 1995, when Tulia came here to play.

When you count back, that would have been almost 100 games since the last glitch.

Or, to look at it another way, one of the girls on that 1995 Tulia team was Jennifer Thompson. Since that last time that Dimmitt was caught without referees, she has gone to college, gotten married, and is now Jennifer Smith, Dimmitt junior varsity girls' coach.

"I just hope that Dimmitt's administration will forgive us," Whiteley said. "I don't know of any official who minds going to Dimmitt. When you go to Dimmitt, you know that place is going to be rocking and rolling, because they take their basketball very seriously. And I know some very fine people in Dimmitt."

The games could have started sooner had the coaches and administrators agreed to Middle School Principal George Rasor's suggestion.

"I just said we ought to get one of the guys on our side and one on their side who are always refereeing the games anyway, and put them on the floor and let them give it a try," Rasor quipped.

*The largest movie theater in the world is the Radio City Music Hall which has 5,874 seats. It opened in 1932.*

*If you don't use your mail slot, seal it up as it lets an enormous amount of draft into your house.*

**More about**

**1:1**

(Continued from Page 1)

Our candy merchants here tell me, though, that people don't buy candy much for Valentine's anymore. They got caught holding half or more of their stock after Valentine's Day last year.

Another fine old tradition becomes a martyr on the altar of guilt.

Let's hear it for the Postal Service and its "dumb and dumber" Grand Canyon commemorative stamps.

In its first issue, the scene was identified in small writing as "Grand Canyon, Colorado."

When that error caused an uproar, the USPS recalled all the zillions of dollars' worth of stamps, put the world-famous canyon in the right state, Arizona, and re-issued them.

This time, though, the picture of the canyon is backward.

When that minor irregularity was pointed out to the USPS powers that be, they decided just to let it ride, backward canyon and all.

We might as well get used to this

**Voters must register before Monday cut-off**

Monday is the last day that citizens may register to vote in the March 14 general primary election.

Citizens who are not already registered to vote may obtain a form from the Voters' Registrar's office in the courthouse.

Feb. 28 will be the first day of early voting by personal appearance for the primary.

March 7 will be the last day for the early voting clerk to receive applications for ballots by mail.

Early voting will end March 10. The primary elections will be held March 14.

If any runoff elections are required following the primaries, qualified persons may register to vote in the runoff by March 13. The runoff would be held April 11. Early voting for the runoff elections would be held April 3-7.

sort of thing if our schools keep turning out grads who can't find the US on a world map, or who don't know that New Mexico is actually a state.

I'm steamed about the way the Federal Reserve is putting the new gold dollar coins into circulation.

The Fed has turned all the first issue of the new coins to Sam's Clubs and WalMart stores to put into circulation, instead of issuing them the customary way—through the banks, which are, after all, members of the Federal Reserve System.

And guess how you can get one of the new coins at WalMart?

Nope, not by trading a dollar bill for a dollar coin.

WalMart says you have to buy something first, then they'll give you the new coins in change.

Nifty arrangement, huh?

The "big box" stores already have killed off enough smaller stores and small towns. They don't give hardly anything back to the communities that support them.

So why should the Federal Reserve, of all agencies, defer to Sam's and WalMart and let them manipulate the way the new coins are distributed?

**More about Playoffs...**

(Continued from Page 1)

Hart split its games with each team this year, winning the first game with Springlake-Earth in overtime, 70-66. The Wolverines came back to beat Hart in the second match, 56-47.

The Longhorns lost to Sudan, 52-43, the first time they played in district; but Hart returned the favor in the second game, winning in overtime, 66-64.

Hart Coach Todd Bryant said the superintendents from each school met Wednesday morning to decide how to handle the playoff, but nothing was definite at press time.

He said the schools did obtain a waiver from the UIL and could play those playoff games on Tuesday and next Thursday. He added that the two teams playing would meet at a neutral site, probably at the school that was off that night. (For example, Hart and Springlake-Earth would play at Sudan; Sudan and Springlake-Earth would play at Hart; Hart and Sudan would play at Springlake-Earth).

**Bobcats**

The Dimmitt Bobcats have sewn up a playoff berth and are assured of at least the No. 2 seed from District 1-AAA.

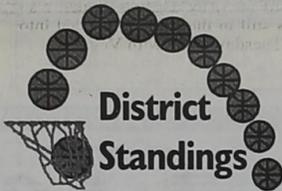
They will play either Littlefield, Lubbock Cooper or Muleshoe from District 2-AAA in bi-district. Those three teams are now locked in second place with 5-4 records and a crucial game is coming up Friday when Cooper visits Muleshoe. The winner likely will come out tied for second with Littlefield behind district champion Shallowater, so a playoff game will probably be necessary to determine the No. 2 and 3 seeds from that district.

**Swifts**

The Nazareth Swifts (15-7) have won the District 8-A championship with a perfect 8-0 notch and will face Texline (15-5), the runner-up from District 7-A, in a bi-district playoff. The day, time and place of that playoff matchup hasn't been set yet.

The Swifts have tentatively scheduled a practice game with Clarendon for Monday night at 7 at Silverton High School.

Nazareth Coach Mike Scarbrough said he also hopes to line up a second practice game with Abernathy, possibly on Feb. 19.



Here are the district standings for District 1-AAA and District 8-A through Tuesday night's games.

DISTRICT 1-AAA		
Girls		
Team	District	Overall
y-Perryton	10-0	22-7
x-Sanford-Fritch	6-4	11-16
z-Dimmitt	5-5	10-19
Tulia	4-6	12-15
Dalhart	2-8	12-16
River Road	3-7	8-19

Boys		
Team	District	Overall
x-Tulia	8-1	18-9
x-Dimmitt	7-2	18-10
Dalhart	4-5	13-16
Sanford-Fritch	3-6	15-11
Perryton	4-5	14-13
River Road	1-8	6-21

DISTRICT 8-A		
Girls		
Team	District	Overall
y-Sudan	8-0	25-1
x-Nazareth	6-2	25-5
Vega	4-4	13-12
Springlake-Earth	1-7	9-17
Hart	1-7	14-12

Boys		
Team	District	Overall
y-Nazareth	8-0	15-7
Springlake-Earth	4-4	11-14
Hart	4-4	10-15
Sudan	4-4	9-15
Vega	0-8	5-20

y—Clinched district title.  
x—Clinched second seed.  
z—Clinched third seed.

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Remember my recent musings about Choc Lay's service station on the corner, a block west of the courthouse square?

Willie Word of Big Spring, who also grew up here, says that Joe Gollehon built that station and its ice house in the 1930s, and that E. L. Umberson delivered ice there from Hereford in a Model T ice wagon.

And Judy Birdwell says that her dad, Andy Lowrance, operated the station during World War II while Choc Lay was serving in the Navy. Judy said that her older sister, Zoe (who died Jan. 8) worked with their dad at the station, cleaning cars, etc.

Zoe also worked for my dad on the newspaper during the war, while she was still in high school. Dad and Mom thought the world of her.

**More about**

**County agrees...**

(Continued from Page 1)

meet their needs.

"Will you be satisfied with this as a permanent home?" Pct. 1 Commissioner Newlon Rowland asked the county's Extension agents Monday.

"Personally, I'm fine with it," Neal said. "I wanted it two years ago when we first looked at it. I like the location. It's very accessible and it's a nice building."

The Extension agents did express concerns about a couple of things with the building, namely parking space and storage space.

"The building is fine," Millican told commissioners. "We do have a few daytime meetings that could require quite a bit of parking and I'm not sure there's enough space to handle it."

The agents also said they don't think there is as much storage in the Energas office.

"The office space is great. We can handle that. Storage is our only concern," Neal said.

"There is a bunch of stuff that needs to be thrown away and once we start going through it, we'll probably be okay there, too," Millican added.

Another option would be to purchase a storage building and place it inside the fence to the west of the building.

Patterson expressed concern about having ample storage for chemicals she uses in her work, and for the large traps she uses. Currently, she is able to store the chemicals in a safe place. She said that a small storage building would work for that, too.

Some remodeling will have to be done to the existing facility so that each Extension agent will have an

office of his or her own. The current reception area will serve as the office for the secretary, while the two offices behind that area will work for two of the four agents. Another meeting room can be divided into two offices for the other two agents. Work also will be done to renovate another area so it can be used for a kitchen and demonstration area.

**More about Bobbies...**

(Continued from Page 12)

64-64.

Welch put Dimmitt out front with a five-footer with 35 ticks left, but Digman countered with still another trey at the 0:20 mark to give RR a 67-66 advantage, then Kile sank a final free throw with four ticks remaining to complete the turn-around.

**Bobcats 74, River Road 41**

The Bobcats had no trouble putting away the Wildcats here Friday night in the latest "late game" played here in many years.

The contest didn't end until 11:30 p.m. due to a scheduling snafu by the referees' association (see separate story).

And the entire crowd was yawning by the time it did end, after the Bobcats built leads of 21-9 in the first quarter, 34-12 at halftime and 55-20 after three.

Prieto finished with 20 points, while Sanders and Matthews had 13 each for Dimmitt.

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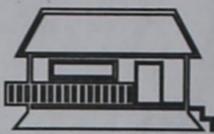
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that the dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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**FOR SALE:** Spacious two bedroom, one bath, fenced backyard, all new carpet, heating and air conditioning, steel roof, carport. Call after 4, 647-5755. 1-45-tfc

**HOUSE FOR SALE:** 611 W. Andrews. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1-car garage. Remodeled. \$31,900. 647-0863. 1-44-2tp

**FOR RENT:** Ruidoso condo. 3/3, sleeps eight. Call Debbie at (505) 420-6700 or (806) 285-3053. 3-30-tfc

### Together We Can

### 3—Real Estate For Rent

FOR RENT: Ruidoso condo. 3/3, sleeps eight. Call Debbie at (505) 420-6700 or (806) 285-3053. 3-30-tfc

### 3—Real Estate For Rent

## DIMMITT SENIOR CITIZENS APARTMENTS

622 N.W. 5th  
**ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT**  
Call 647-2638  
S&S Properties Equal Opportunity Housing

## Stafford Apartments

Call 647-2631 or 647-3696 evenings

### 5—For Rent, Misc.

## RENT TO OWN

NEW TV'S, VCR'S & APPLIANCES  
No credit checks.  
KITRELL ELECTRONICS  
647-2197 Dimmitt

### 6—For Sale, Misc.

**ARE YOU RENTING STORAGE?** Why rent when you could OWN it!! Call me today. 364-7713. 6-40-tfc

**USED TREADMILL** for sale. Health Max manual type with pump-grips, electronic monitor. \$100. 647-2400. 6-44-tfx

**MARY KAY VALENTINE SPECIAL.** Let me create your Valentine a gift basket made up of MARY KAY Beauty Products. Call Debbie at 647-0889 FOR PRICES. 6-44-2tc

### 10—Agricultural Services

**CRP SOWING** and/or shredding. Seed available. Call Gerald Acker, 945-2274 or 647-6005, mobile. 10-42-10tp

**CUSTOM FARMING:** No-till, drill, mini-till, tillage equipment. Kenneth or Ashley Heard, (906) 945-2270 or (806) 627-4623. Mobile, 657-7980 or 647-7981. 10-8-tfc

**CUSTOM SWATHING** and baling. Call Roy Schilling, 647-2401. 10-31-tfc

### 11—Feed, Seed & Grain

**CRP GRASS SEED.** Call 647-4003 or 647-4002. 11-42-4tp

**PALETTES FOR SALE.** \$2.50 each. Oat seed for sale, \$5.50 per bag. Nazareth Feed & Supply. 945-2291. 11-42-tfc

**HAY FOR SALE:** Small square bales. Oats, \$3.75; alfalfa, \$4.95. Nazareth Feed and Supply, 945-2291. 11-17-tfc

### 12—Farm Produce

**CORN SILAGE**, forage sorghum silage and cotton burrs for sale. 1980 Chevrolet feed truck with 320 Oswalt box. Call 647-4544 or 647-4551. 12-38-tfc

### 14—Automobiles

**FOR SALE:** 1996 Buick Regal, good condition, tilt, cruise, automatic, power windows, 96,000 miles. Runs great. \$5,800. (806) 647-2068 after 5. 14-44-2tc

1982 RIVIERA 89K miles. Good work car. After 5, 647-4367. 14-45-4tc

### 18—Services

**I'M MAD...** at banks who don't give real estate loans because of bad credit, problems or new employment. I do. Call L.D. Kirk, Homeland Mortgages, (254) 947-4475. 18-45-1tp

### 20—Help Wanted

**JT TRUCKLINES** is now hiring. Must be at least 21. Must have a Class A CDL license with a tanker endorsement. Must have two years experience with clean driving record. Transporting dry commodities as well as liquid. Call Johnny at 647-5014 or 647-7038. 20-43-3tc

### 20—Help Wanted

**EARN EXTRA MONEY** in your spare time with a temporary job from CENSUS 2000. Part-time and full-time census field jobs last 4 to 6 weeks and offer flexible hours, competitive pay and work that's close to home. Do something good for yourself and your community. To find out more information or where the nearest testing location is call the Local Census Office, 1-806-371-9317, Ext. 115, or the toll-free line, 1-888-325-7733. The Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 20-44-8tx

**ESTABLISHED INSURANCE AGENCY** in Dimmitt is seeking an outgoing, pleasant person for position of office staff representative. General knowledge of office procedures, computers and customer service experience is preferred. Some insurance knowledge is helpful, but not required, for an individual who is ambitious and willing to learn. For more information, call State Farm insurance at 647-3427. All inquiries handled with complete confidentiality. 20-43-tfc

**SWISHER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL** is accepting applications for the following positions: LVN—7 p.m.-7 a.m. acute care. P.R.N. Staff-RN, LVN & Nurse Aide. LMSW or LSW for Hospital District. Duties include: Home Health visits, Discharge Planning, Social Services, Knowledge of Swing Bed Program helpful. Please send resume to Swisher Memorial Hospital, Attn: Human Resources, PO Box 808, Tulia TX 79088. 806-995-8286. 20-45-2tc

### 22—Notices

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**, 647-4594, 22-44-4tc

### 24—Card of Thanks

**CARD OF THANKS**  
I know I live in the best community in the world. The people of Dimmitt have always been there for me, but this past year you have been phenomenal. Your love and care have helped me deal with all the troubles. Thank you and I love you and our community.  
LINDA KOCH  
24-45-1tc

### Classifieds gets results!

### TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



### TexSCAN Week of February 6, 2000 ADOPTION

**ADOPT: DEVOTED COUPLE** dreams of cherishing, nurturing, and educating your baby. Let's help each other. Expenses paid. Call us. 1-800-613-2394.

**BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**  
**ZIG ZIGLAR GOES MLM.** Biggest announcement in years! 100 key leadership positions available. Call 1-888-248-4441.

**AAA CIGAR MFG.** needs distributors. Accounts included. No selling. Up to \$2,500 weekly. Small start-up. Free samples. 1-800-366-5990.

### DRIVERS WANTED

**DRIVERS . . . SWIFT TRANSPORTATION** hiring drivers and teams. Contracted CDL training available. Excellent pay and benefits, consistent miles, assigned equipment. Ask about sign-on bonus! 1-800-587-1013 (EOE-M/F).

**DRIVER-DRIVERS WEST** of the Mississippi - Great pay/benefits, 80% west coast runs, top equipment, 100% lumpers paid! 1-800-528-3675. Recruiters available Saturday and Sunday, 10am-3pm, CST. John Christian Trucking.

**CLASS-A CDL DRIVERS** needed. 1 year experience required. Good miles. Weekly pay. Home office. Excellent equipment. Mileage incentive available. Call Parkway Transport toll free 1-877-864-7901.

**COMPANY DRIVERS AND Owner Operators.** Call today and ask about our great new compensation and bonus packages! Boyd Bros., 1-800-543-8923 (OOs call 1-800-633-1377). EOE.

**DRIVER - COVENANT TRANSPORT** \*Coast to coast runs \*Teams start 35c-37c \*\$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers and owner operators, 1-800-441-4394. For graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

**DRIVER - O/O'S AND professional drivers** for Landstar Fleet Owners wanted! Qualifications: 23 years old; Class-A CDL with hazmat; 1 year OTR experience, safe driving record. Call Landstar Inway at 1-800-435-4010. www.landstar.com.

**DRIVERS - CFI NOW hiring!** OTR drivers. Company and O/O. Super teams split up to: 40c - Company, 84c - O/O. 1-800-CFI-DRIVE, www.cfidrive.com.

**DRIVERS - FLATBED.** New Year! New pay schedule. Up to 39 cpm. \*Run western or 48 states. \*401k, medical, dental, life. \*3 years OTR/1 year flatbed. Owner operators welcome! Call Mike, 1-800-290-2327. Combined Transport.

**DRIVERS - INEXPERIENCED** training available. North American Van Lines has tractor trailer 48-state hauling opportunities for owner/operators and temporary company drivers. Call 1-800-348-2147, dept. TXS.

**DRIVERS - LONG HAUL** - Drivers needed. Class-A CDL required. Student graduates welcome. Continental Express, 1-800-727-4374.

**DRIVERS - O/O'S FLATBED** - Smithway Motor Xpress. New pay package, weekly pay, great home time. Charles Malone, 1-800-952-8091.

**DRIVERS - WHEN IT comes to benefits**, we've got all the bells and whistles. \*Paid weekly. \*Great pay. \*\$1,000 sign-on bonus. \*Training opportunities. **SRT-1-877-BIG-PAYDAY (1-877-244-7253)** Toll Free.

**DRIVERS/ VAN FLATBED** - Little John Trucks, Inc., 3000-4000 miles/week. Health insurance paid 100%. Tarp pay, drop pay, monthly

Call before noon Tuesday to place your classified ad: **647-3123**

**What your ad will cost:**  
✓ The first time your ad runs it will cost at least \$5 (25 cents per word with a \$5 minimum).  
✓ Each consecutive time you run your ad with no changes, it will cost 25 cents per word with no minimum.  
✓ A Card of Thanks will cost \$7.50.

- Where to find ads:**
- |                                   |                             |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Homes and land for sale        | 14. Automobiles for sale    |
| 2. Farms for sale                 | 15. Recreational vehicles   |
| 3. Homes and apartments for rent  | 16. Auto parts and supplies |
| 4. Things people want to rent     | 17. Business opportunities  |
| 5. Miscellaneous items for sale   | 18. Services                |
| 7. Garage sales                   | 18A. Insurance              |
| 8. Household goods for sale       | 19. Students seeking work   |
| 9. Farm equipment and supplies    | 20. Help wanted             |
| 10. Agricultural services         | 22. Notices                 |
| 11. Feed, seed and grain for sale | 23. Lost and found          |
| 12. Farm produce for sale         | 24. Cards of thanks         |
| 13. Livestock and pets            | 25. Legal notices           |

### 24—Card of Thanks

**CARD OF THANKS**  
A very heartfelt "Thank You" to everyone who said prayers and expressed concern during the illness of J.M. and Leta Hefner; and on the passing of Leta Hefner, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.  
J.M. HEFNER  
TANA & MARSHALL YOUNG  
DANA, COY, TYLER & JOSHUA JAMESON  
JIM, SUSAN & ALEX HOLMES  
DARLA, DENNIS & DANIELLE RICE  
24-45-1tp

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
The following person has registered with the Castro County Sheriff's Department as a convicted Sex Offender:  
**Name:** John Puentes, 27-year-old male.  
**Address:** Lot 81-82 Coronado Acres, Dimmitt, Castro County, Texas.  
Convicted of aggravated sexual assault. The victim was a 7-year-old female.  
A photograph of the above named person is accessible at no cost from the following Internet address:  
<http://records.txdps.state.tx.us>

La siguiente persona se a registrado con el Departamento del Sheriff del Condado de Castro, y fue convicto de una Ofensa Sexual.  
**Nombre:** John Puentes, un hombre de 27 años de edad.  
**Dirección:** Lot 81-82 Coronado Acres, Dimmitt, Condado de Castro, Tejas.  
Declarado culpable de agravo ataca sexual. La víctima fue una niña de 7 años de edad.  
Una fotografía de la persona nombrada esta accesible por ningun costo de la dirección del internet:  
<http://records.txdps.state.tx.us> 25-44-2tc

We'll put it in plain old black and white—  
**Advertising Works!**  
Let it work for you. Call 647-3123 today.

*Before creating his world-famous animated character's, Walt Disney failed at film-making. He set up his first studio in a garage and struggled to pay his expenses. He finally gained success when he released the first short Mickey Mouse cartoons.*

### JESUS MANIFESTO. GOD'S plan for mankind.

The first, lost, and last messages of Jesus Christ. Toll free 1-877-345-9060, M-F, 3-6 pm, or H.T.M. Publishing, P.O. Box 9455, Austin, TX 78766-9455.

**KISS YOUR CABLE Goodbye!** - Only \$69. Includes 18" little dish system. 40 channels: \$19.99/month. Toll-free, Direct LLC, 1-888-292-4836. Won't be undersold! Money-back guarantee. FedEx Delivery.

**MUST SELL IMMEDIATELY!** Three undelivered Arch Steel Buildings - 25x30, 40x64, 50x110. Factory direct. Priced to go! Financing available. Great workshops/garages. 1-800-341-7007. www.steelmasterusa.com.

**PURPLE MARTIN BIRD** houses, 12-family; \$29.95 & S/H. Telescopic poles/accessories available. Free catalog. Order today! Call: 1-877-878-5280. www.purplemartin.net

**STEEL BUILDINGS SALE:** 5,000+ sizes. 40x60x14, \$8,007; 50x75x14, \$10,105; 50x100x16, \$13,561; 60x100x16, \$15,127. Mini-storage buildings, 40x160, 32 units, \$16,534. Free brochures. www.sentinelbuildings.com. Sentinel Buildings, 1-800-837-0900, ext. 79.

### LEGAL SERVICES

**DIVORCE \$155\*** - COVERS child support, custody, visitation, missing spouses, property debts, military, name change, one signature required. \*Excludes government fees, uncontested. 1-800-462-2000 (8 am - 8pm), Legal Tech, Inc.

### HELP WANTED

**ABLE TO TRAVEL** - Opening for 8 sharp people. No experience necessary. All transportation and lodging furnished. Expense paid training program. Travel entire USA and return guaranteed. Call Candy, 1-888-981-0696.

**AIR FORCE. GREAT** career opportunities available for high school grads, ages 17-27. Plus up to \$12,000 enlistment bonus if you qualify! For an information packet call 1-800-423-USAF or visit www.airforce.com.

**COORDINATOR - FRENCH EXCHANGE** organization. Begin implementing 2000 summer program for French teens. Enjoyable, part-time, flexible, in your area, good extra income. Must be organized, community oriented, good PR skills. Call LEC 1-888-837-1855. For more information see website: www.LEC-USA.com.

**START YOUR OWN BUSINESS!** Set your own schedule. Control your own income. Sell from your home, at work, through fundraisers. Be an Avon Representative. Call 1-888-942-4053.

### PET SUPPLIES

**GET HOOK, ROUND,** tapeworms with rotational worming. Use Happy Jack Tapeworm Tablets in rotation with Happy Jack Liquid-Vet Feed & Hardware Stores ([www.happyjackinc.com](http://www.happyjackinc.com))

### HUNTING LEASES

**SEVERAL SOUTH PLAINS** Christian farm and ranch families desire long term hunting lease. Year around would be best but not necessary. 1-806-637-9171, 1-806-891-1145, 1-806-787-5818.

### REAL ESTATE

**COLORADO MOUNTAIN PROPERTY** on trout stream. \$12,500. Secluded good access. \$500 down. Easy terms. Trade for old money, watches, diamonds, jewelry, autos, pick-up. Owner 806-376-8690.

Call this newspaper to Advertise Statewide and Regionally or Call 512-477-6755.

## Azteca Complex APARTMENTS

910 E. Jones, Dimmitt  
★ NOW LEASING ★  
1, 2 or 3 Bedrooms  
We have Rent Assistance for qualified tenants (agricultural workers)

For more information, call (806) 647-3406 Night 647-2677 Miguel Velasquez, Manager





22—Notices

25—Legal Notices

Political Announcements

The News has been authorized to list the names of the following candidates for public office, subject to the March 14 primary election.

**DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY**  
For County Tax Assessor/Collector:  
Billy Hackleman (I)  
Marshall Young

For County Constable:  
James Dobbs (I)

For Precinct 1 Commissioner:  
Harold Smith

For Precinct 3 Commissioner:  
W.A. "Bay" Baldrige (I)

For County/District Attorney:  
Jack Edwards  
James Horton  
Jerry Matthews (I)

For County Sheriff:  
CD Fitzgearld (I)

25—Legal Notices

NOTICE OF CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION APPLICATION

TPDES Permit No. 03783  
**APPLICATION:** ANDY ROGERS, PO Box 639, Dimmitt, Texas 79027, has applied to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) for a DES Permit No. 03783 to renew and replace a state permit to authorize the applicant to operate an existing beef cattle feedlot facility at a maximum capacity of 6,000 head in Castro County, Texas. No discharge of pollutants into the waters in the state is authorized by this Permit. All waste and wastewater will be beneficially used on agricultural land.

The existing facility is located on the east side of Farm-to-Market Road 1055, approximately 4.5 miles south of its intersection with State Highway 86 near Dimmitt in Castro County, Texas. The facility is located in the drainage area of White River Lake in Segment No. 1240 of the Brazos River Basin.

The Executive Director of the TNRCC has prepared a draft permit which, if approved, would establish the parameters and limitations within which the facility must operate.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING.** Written public comments and requests for public meeting may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, at the address provided in the information section below, within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice. A public meeting is intended for the taking of public comment, and is not a contested case hearing. A public meeting will be held if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application.

**CONTESTED CASE HEARING.** The TNRCC may grant a contested case hearing on this application if a written hearing request is filed within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice. The Executive Director may approve the application unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days after newspaper publication of this notice.

To request a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: 1. Your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; 2. Applicant's name and permit number; 3. The statement, "I/We request a contested case hearing;" 4. A brief and specific description of how you would be affected by the application in a way not common to the general public; and 5. The

location and distance of your property relative to the proposed activity. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the application or permit which would satisfy your concerns. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address provided in the information section below.

If a hearing request is filed, the Executive Director will not issue the permit and will forward the application and hearing request to the TNRCC Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a contested case hearing is held, it will be a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

**INFORMATION:** Written hearing requests, public comments or requests for a public meeting should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TNRCC, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. For information concerning the hearing process, contact the Public Interest Counsel, MC 103, the same address. For additional information, please contact the Office of Public Assistance at 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TNRCC can be found at our web site at [www.tnrcc.state.tx.us](http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us).

Issued: Dec. 18, 1999.  
LaDONNA CASTANUELA, Chief Clerk  
Texas Natural Resource  
Conservation Commission  
25-45-11c

NOTICE OF CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION APPLICATION

Permit No. WQ0001633-000  
**APPLICATION:** AZTX ACQUISITIONS L.L.C. and DIMMITT FEED YARD, L.L.C., P.O. Box 638, Dimmitt, Texas 79027, have applied to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) for a new TPDES Registration to renew and replace existing Permit No. WQ0001633-000 to authorize the applicant to operate an existing beef cattle operation at a maximum capacity of 52,000 head in Castro County, Texas. The registration application was received on Oct. 7, 1999. No discharge of pollutants into the waters in the state is authorized by this permit under chronic or catastrophic rainfall conditions. All waste and wastewater will be beneficially used on agricultural land.

The existing facility is located on the east side of Farm-to-Market Road 1055, immediately north of the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 1055 with State Highway 86, approximately 5.5 miles west of the City of Dimmitt in Castro County, Texas. The facility is located in the drainage area of White River Lake in Segment No. 1240 of the Brazos River Basin.

The application will be made available for inspection by the public at the Rhoads Memorial Library, located at 105 SW 2nd Street in Dimmitt, Texas, during normal business hours.

The Executive Director of the TNRCC has prepared a draft registration which, if approved, would establish the parameters and limitations within which the facility must operate.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.** Written public comments may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, at the address provided in the information section below, within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice. The Executive Director will consider all relevant information pertaining to whether the applicant meets the requirements for the registration and will issue a written determination as to any final action on the application for registration and a response to all comments.

**INFORMATION:** Written public comments should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC105, TNRCC, PO Box 13087, Austin TX 78711-3087. For additional information, about the application or the procedure for public participation in the registration process, individual members of the general public may contact the Office of Public Assistance at 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TNRCC can be found at our web site at [www.tnrcc.state.tx.us](http://www.tnrcc.state.tx.us).

Issued: Feb. 1, 2000.  
LaDONNA CASTANUELA, Chief Clerk  
Texas Natural Resource  
Conservation Commission  
25-45-11c

Police Calls

A Dimmitt woman told police Feb. 2 that a suspect assaulted her by grabbing her right wrist in an incident of simple assault/family violence.

A suspect was charged last Thursday with disorderly conduct—using profane language in a public place. Police were called to Dimmitt High School at 10:45 a.m.

Alcohol related arrests included: Feb. 2, a 49-year-old Hereford man for public intoxication; and early Sunday, a 25-year-old Amarillo man for DWI, first offense/open container.

Jailed on warrants and court matters:

—Feb. 2, a 28-year-old Dimmitt man serving time after court on a warrant for motion to revoke probation, stemming from DWI, first offense; and a 26-year-old Dimmitt man, serving time after court for DWI, first offense.

—Last Thursday, an 18-year-old Dimmitt man served time after court on DWI charges; and a 46-year-old Tulia woman on a warrant for DWI/endangering a child.

—Sunday night, a Hart man, 25, on a warrant for delivery of a controlled substance.



SEMESTER BREAK—Tina Casneuf of Belgium (center) is back in Dimmitt to visit with Vada and Rick Wilcox, who hosted her as Dimmitt High School's American Field Service foreign exchange

student last school year. She said she is looking forward to attending the Castro County Junior Livestock Show on Friday, but she will catch her return flight on Saturday.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Former AFS'er makes return visit to Dimmitt

Tina Casneuf of Belgium has been in Dimmitt for a couple of weeks during her semester break from college in Antwerp, Belgium.

Casneuf was the American Field Service foreign exchange student at Dimmitt High School last year, and she stayed at the home of Rick and Vada Wilcox.

She said she traveled back to the US all alone, flying to Chicago, then Dallas, then Lubbock, where the Wilcoxes picked her up Jan. 31.

Casneuf is studying bio-medical science at college, and "it is much harder than high school."

She said she misses the extracurricular activities she enjoyed in Dimmitt.

Casneuf said one of the first major adjustments she had to make on her return to Belgium was remembering how to speak Dutch.

"I couldn't talk Dutch anymore. I didn't know what to say at first. It was really weird," she related. She said she talked to her family in Eng-

lish at first, and then just listened to them during her first meal back home and it (Dutch) came back to her.

And speaking of meals, she said another difficult adjustment was learning to slow down her eating. She said meals are much more leisurely in Belgium than here. She said in Dimmitt she had gotten used to eating quickly so that she could get on to her next activity.

But her family complains now that she doesn't know how to hurry up in other ways.

"They said I seem more calm and 'laid back'," Casneuf said. "They noticed that I was more tanned than before and they said I had an 'accent.' They also keep calling me a 'nerd' because I wear white socks."

"I told them that they would be considered 'nerds' over here because they wear colored socks," she said with a laugh.

Casneuf said her home seemed different in other ways, as well. "The weather was a big adjust-

ment, and everything seemed crowded, people were rude, and everything seemed little," she said.

Casneuf said she has missed Mexican food and even hamburgers, even though she didn't really like hamburgers that well while she was here.

Casneuf said she feels her experience with AFS has helped her adjust to college. Her college is only a 30-minute drive from her home, but she stays in an apartment.

She said she has enlargements of photos she took in Dimmitt decorating the walls of her apartment, and even though her friends "get a little tired of hearing about Dimmitt," they do ask a lot of questions about the cheerleaders, homecoming, and prom—activities they do not enjoy in Belgium.

The Wilcoxes said Casneuf didn't seem to have changed any, except that she cut her hair shorter.

"She's still the same old Tina to me," Vada said.

Casneuf will return to Belgium on Saturday.

Obituary

Lindell Myatt

Funeral services for Lindell Myatt, 73, of Abernathy, the brother of J.H. Myatt of Dimmitt, were held Monday afternoon in the Abernathy Church of Christ with Condyl Billingsley and David Bennett officiating.

Burial followed in the Abernathy Cemetery under direction of Abell Funeral Home of Abernathy.

Mr. Myatt died Feb. 5 in Covenant Medical Center.

He was born Aug. 15, 1926, in Bonham. He married LaRita Morris on May 29, 1999, in Abernathy. He was a longtime resident of the Abernathy and County Line areas. He was a member of the Church of Christ. He had served in the US Army from 1945-47 and served on the County Line Coop Gin Board and the Hale County Equalization Board.

He is survived by his wife, a son, Tommy Myatt of Abernathy; a daughter, Debbie Barton of Abernathy; a stepson, Kevin Galloway of Lubbock; a stepdaughter, Kristi Gibson of Stamford; a brother, J.H. Myatt of Dimmitt; a sister, Imogene Bryant of Abernathy; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The family suggests memorials to the Abernathy Cemetery Association or to the Abernathy EMS.

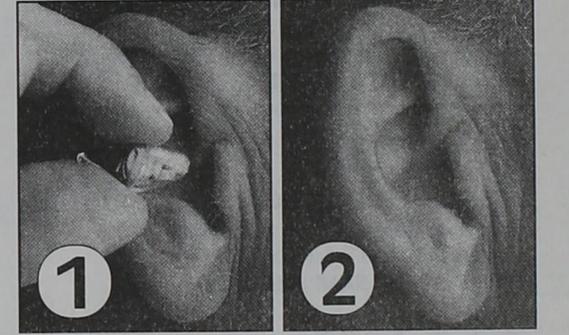
If you must sit for hours on end, such as during a long drive, doctors suggest you use a cushion to support the small of your back.

The basic structure of the modern symphony orchestra dates from the court of Duke Karl Theodor at Mannheim, Germany in 1743.

**CASKETS AND MONUMENTS**  
"SAVE HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS!"  
FREE DELIVERY to your funeral home of choice within 100 miles of Hereford.  
337 N. MILES HEREFORD, TX  
363-2700

New Fully Digital Hearing Aid

Now Available in Dimmitt



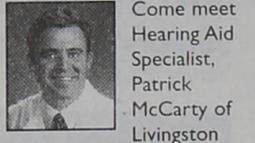
Digital hearing aid prescriptions are precisely matched to your hearing loss. Once inside your ear, it is hardly noticeable.

"The new Direct Digital Hearing Aid has been released. It samples sound one million times per second with more processing power than many desktop computers," said Patrick McCarty, hearing aid specialist with Livingston Hearing Aid Center.

Aid Center offers a 60-day money back satisfaction guarantee.

Call for a free demonstration: 1-800-828-0722. Livingston Hearing Aid Center is located at the Senior Citizens Center in Dimmitt.

**ONE DAY ONLY**  
Wed., Feb. 16th



Come meet Hearing Aid Specialist, Patrick McCarty of Livingston Hearing Aid Center. He will be demonstrating the new Direct Digital Hearing Aid one day only, Wednesday, Feb. 16th at the Senior Citizens Center in Dimmitt.

**TRUCKLOAD SALE!**

st#30141P  
1999 CHEVY CAMARO  
Bright red, cloth, auto V6  
18k miles  
\$15,995+TTL

st#30145  
1999 BUICK PARK AVE. ULTRA  
White, gray leather. Do not miss this one. Only 12k miles.  
\$24,995+TTL

st#30144P  
1999 PONTIAC GRAND AM  
4door, red.  
Only 22k miles.  
\$13,995+TTL

st#35084P  
1999 S-10 BLAZER  
Cloth, 4X4, white.  
9k miles  
\$20,995+TTL

st#35039P  
1998 VENTURE VAN  
4 door, rear A/C  
35k miles  
\$15,995+TTL

st#20240  
1997 771  
52k miles  
\$18,995+TTL

**All new arrivals! LOW, LOW mileage vehicles!**

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**SALE! 16.99-34.99**  
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and you'll see why if you join us at the

# Castro County Junior Livestock Show

*Friday and Saturday*

at the Castro County Expo Building

★ *Lamb Show, 9 a.m., Friday*

★ *Steer & Heifer Show, 11 a.m., Friday*

★ *Barrow Show, 1 p.m., Friday*

★ *Premium Auction Sale, 1 p.m., Saturday*



*Conducted by the Dimmitt Young Farmers*



# Cattle industry plays big part in nation's economy

The cattle industry plays an integral role in the county's economic growth and well being, and has done so since this country was formed.

More than one million cattlemen and women do business in a free-market economy, and represent the largest single segment of American Agriculture.

Agriculture is a significant segment of the US responsible for 2.5 percent of our Gross Domestic Product, but it employs only 1.6 percent of the US population.

The largest single segment of the US agricultural economy is beef production, with cattle representing about 18% of total farm sales. In the 1990s, US beef production has generated more than \$30 billion annually in direct economic output, plus three times that much per year in related economic output.

Agriculture is responsible for more than 22 million jobs in everything

from growing the food to selling it in the supermarket, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation. Beef production itself is a major employer, with more than 186,000 full-time jobs on farms and ranches creating more than a million more jobs throughout the economy.

Beef is consumed 77.8 million times each day across America and about nine to 10 households will serve beef over a two-week period. That percentage has remained fairly sustainable over the last decade.

About 70% of all beef sold (by volume) is sold from the retail meat case, but the value of food is increasingly found away from home. In 1972, 62% of the consumer's food dollar was spent in the grocery store, with 38% spent away from home. By 1997, 52% of food expenditures were away from home, with 48% from retail stores, according to Technomic, Inc.

There were seven billion beef servings in commercial restaurants in 1997, up 1.4% from 1995. Nearly every restaurant (97%) has some kind of beef on the menu.

Beef exports, which in 1998 exceeded one million metric tons, continue to defray the nation's trade imbalance with other countries, according to the US Meat Export Federation.

US farms are getting more efficient. According to the 1997 Census of Agriculture, average annual farm employment dropped from 9.9 million in 1950 to 2.9 million in 1997 while output grew significantly. Although more than 60% of American farms were less than 180 acres in 1997, more than 9% were more than 1,000 acres.

In 1997, the US had 2.06 million farms, down less than 1% from 1996. Land in farms continues to decline slowly, reaching its peak in 1954 at 1.2 billion acres. The number of farms has declined at a faster rate than land in farms, though, with the average farm increasing from 451 acres in 1987 to 471 acres in 1997, the Census reports.

More than 61% of farms reported gross farm sales of less than \$20,000 in 1997. Only 2.8% of farms were large operations with sales of \$500,000 or more, but these farms operated 16.5% of the land.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service points out that 90% of farms in 1997 were owned by individuals, families or family-held corporations. Non-family corporations or institutions owned just 1% of farms.

Approximately 45% of US cattle businesses with more than 100 head have been in the same family for more than 50 years, according to Rockwood Research. 16% have been in the same family for more than 75 years.

Today's farmers have become more efficient, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation and Tax Foundation.

Total farm marketings in 1997 totaled more than \$200 billion, with livestock and poultry sold valued at \$99 billion. Of that, fattened cattle totaled 20.6% and other cattle and calves totaled 20.4%.



GRAND CHAMPION STEER at the 1999 Castro County Junior Livestock Show was this 1,320-pound cross shown by Shawn Nelson (back, right). The steer

was purchased by North Gin of Dimmitt, represented by Jim Bradford (back, left) Holding the champion-ship banner and plaque is Chapman Royall.

Photo by Anne Acker

## Junior livestock program offers way for families to spend time together

*(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article includes information from an interview with John Kearney conducted by David Wied for the October 1999 issue of "Purple Circle" magazine. Kearney evaluated junior meat goats at the 2000 Southwestern Junior Livestock Exposition in Fort Worth.)*

The junior livestock program is a family-oriented program, and John Kearney, a former ag-science teacher in Texas, believes that is one of the best reasons for having the program.

"There is very little correlation between the junior livestock show industry and the commercial industry—there never has been and there never will be," Kearney told David Wied of Purple Circle magazine in a recent interview.

"The junior livestock show program is simply a game that provides an opportunity for a parent/parents to spend more quality time with their child/children than any other activity

available," Kearney said. "Once we lose sight of this objective, we may just as well close the program down."

Kearney grew up and attended school in Sweetwater and he holds a bachelor's degree in range animal science from Sul Ross State University. He also holds a master's degree from Sam Houston State University. He was an ag-science teacher in Marfa and Sterling City before moving on to teach at Howard College. He has assisted with many junior livestock shows and summer jackpots across Texas. He has judged cattle, sheep and goats.

Most recently, Kearney judged the junior meat goats at the Southwestern Junior Livestock Exposition in Fort Worth.

He says there are several life skills youngsters can learn from a junior livestock show program.

Management, morals and people skills are among these.

"Always be a lady or gentleman.

Help others, but don't be taken advantage of. Watch your backside," Kearney said. "If someone crowds you in, simply reposition your animal and take control of the situation."

Kearney says when he judges animals, they should meet two main criteria: meet the hand and meet the eye.

In meeting the hand, there must be an abundance of quality muscle with minimum fat deposits. In meeting the eye, an individual animal must look the part by being structurally sound.

Grooming of animals is also a big factor in whether or not a youngster has success in the show ring. According to Kearney, the shearing rules of a show must be closely followed.

The final tip Kearney offers to youngsters is to be a good showman.

"More good animals have been ruined by poor showmanship than by any other factor," he said.

We say ...  
**WELL DONE 4-H & FFA MEMBERS**  
as you begin your  
**Junior Livestock Show & Sale**  
Friday and Saturday

**Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt**

**Best Wishes**  
to the young people who will be exhibiting animals  
this weekend in the Junior Livestock Show!

**C&S Battery, Inc.**

As the bright members of today's FFA and 4-H Clubs prepare for their careers in agri-business, the citizens of this community are assured of continued advancement for tomorrow! We salute you all and wish you the best as you begin your Junior Livestock Show and Sale this Friday and Saturday.

**Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.**  
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**Whatever their shape or color,  
you won't find better ones  
anywhere!**

Good luck to our  
4-H and FFA youngsters  
in the show and sale!

**Benny's Auto Sales**  
220 W. Bedford, Dimmitt  
647-3620

**There are no losers!**

Every youngster who has raised a project animal for the Castro County Junior Livestock Show has gained valuable experience and learned some worthwhile lessons. They're all winners in our book!

**Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply**

**Tomorrow's farmers and ranchers at work today!**

Our FFA and 4-H clubs are constantly learning and experiencing new ideas to help better our farming community. They'll be shaping the future of our agricultural world! We salute these fine groups and its members! Show your support by attending the Junior Livestock Show and Sale this Friday and Saturday.

**Floyd Lopez and Family**  
S. Hwy. 385

**El Sombrero Restaurant**

**Best Wishes**  
to the young people of Castro County as you hold your Junior Livestock Show and Sale this Friday and Saturday.

In your work in the FFA Chapters and 4-H Clubs, you are preparing for the future. When you are in business on your own, remember we specialize in furnishing concrete for feed yards.

**Dimmitt Ready Mix**

# Here are the junior livestock show rules

Here are the rules for the 2000 Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale, scheduled Feb. 10-12, sponsored by the Dimmitt Young Farmers.

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### I. GENERAL

- All entries must be sent to the Young Farmers, Vo. Ag Dept., Dimmitt High School, 1505 Western Circle Drive, by 5 p.m. on Jan. 20. Any incomplete, unsigned or late entry will be fined \$25.
- Entry fee—To be used for bedding, show expenses, etc.: \$15.
- All livestock must be in place by 4 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 10, and no earlier than noon Wednesday, Feb. 9. Weighing will begin at 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 9. Entries must be ready by 4:30 p.m. Feb. 9.
- All animals must be weighed at the time of entry by the officials. Only one weigh back will be allowed if the animal does not make the limit set. This weigh-back must be within one hour of the first weighing or at the discretion of the superintendent.
- All animals must receive state validation from the county agent or ag teacher.
- Each exhibitor will not be allowed to enter or show more than two steers, two barrows and two lambs. An exhibitor will be allowed to sell no more than three animals. If an individual shows more than three animals, he must notify the superintendent immediately after judging as to which three animals he will place in the sale.
- The number of animals that will be sold through the auction will be as follows: 125 barrows, 125 lambs, 40 steers or 75% of the total animals that are weighed in, whichever is the smaller number.
- The percent of the animals to be sold will be figured on each class. If an animal eligible to sell is pulled, the next animal in line from that class will sell. This will be at the discretion of the superintendent.
- Animals that make the show but do not make the sale will be sold with the floor animals, unless the exhibitor pulls the animals by one hour after showing.
- All livestock will be sifted by weight.
- Two showmanship trophies will be awarded for steer, swine and sheep. The senior showmanship trophy will be for the exhibitors aged 14 and older, and the junior showmanship will be for the exhibitors aged 13 and younger. The animals must have been owned, fitted and groomed by the exhibitor to be eligible for a showmanship award.
- No steer will be allowed in the show that has not been owned as of July 1, 1999. Barrows and lambs must have been owned as of Dec. 1, 1999.
- Only active 4-H and FFA members are eligible to show. All livestock entered in the show must have been fed under the supervision of the Castro County Agent or Vocational Agriculture Teacher of Dimmitt, Hart or Nazareth High Schools and must be so certified by one of the above on the entry card.
- To be eligible to show, all 4-H Club members must be enrolled in a Castro County 4-H Club under the supervision of the Castro County Agent. All FFA members must be enrolled in a Castro County School. All exhibitors must reside in Castro County, be at least nine (9) years of age, or in the third grade, and be enrolled in a public or private elementary or secondary school located within Castro County. Any exceptions must be approved by the Dimmitt Young Farmers.
- All animals must be reasonably dry and clean before weighing. Any animal not so may be declared ineligible to show by the committee in charge of the division.
- Animals are the responsibility of the exhibitor until they are loaded on the truck. Any animal left in the barn after trucks are loaded are the responsibility of the seller.
- The Dimmitt Young Farmers shall reserve the right to disqualify any exhibitor or animal for any reason that is deemed necessary. Also, the Young Farmers will not be responsible for any injury, loss or damage to persons or property arising from the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale.
- Exhibitors and show officials will be the only persons allowed in the showing ring.
- Any animal sold on the floor must have been entered in the show.
- Any exhibitor found violating the rules may be subject to a fine of up to \$200 and suspension from the county show for a period of one year. The person signing the entry card may also be fined up to \$200. Entry cards will not be accepted from the offending organization until the fine is paid.
- All protests must be in writing and be accompanied by a deposit of \$50, which will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained. Such protest must state plainly the cause of complaint or appeal, and must be delivered to the livestock show management immediately after occasion for such protest. The protest committee will consist of the Young Farmer officers and the various division superintendents. All committee decisions are final. The Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale and the Dimmitt Young Farmers are indemnified from any and all liability for all legal and other proceedings which may ensue from the committee's decision.
- No animal may leave the stock show premises from the time of weigh-in until after the show without the approval of the superintendent. All take-home animals must be checked out of the barns by noon on Saturday, Feb. 12.
- Each club will be responsible for cleaning their pen. If pens are not cleaned, a fine of \$200 will be levied. Checks will be held until the fine is paid. All pens must be cleaned by 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 13.
- No change in the pattern or highlighting of any animal by painting or dyeing in all three barns will be allowed (water only).
- No adults in show ring during show or classification.
- Exhibitors ineligible to participate at the Castro County Junior Livestock Show due to the "no pass, no play" rule cannot have another or others exhibit the animal or animals in question.

### II. CLASSIFICATION

Lambs will be weighed and classified at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 10, in the show ring. Steers will be weighed upon arrival at the show and classed by weight. Steer classes will be determined by the superintendent. Hogs will be classified by owner. Any animal not classified at the proper time must wait until last to be classified.

### JUDGING SCHEDULE

Lambs—9 a.m., Friday, Feb. 11.  
Steers & Heifers—11 a.m., Friday, Feb. 11.  
Barrows—1 p.m., Friday, Feb. 11.

### III. STEER DEPARTMENT

- Steers and heifers are eligible to show.
- All calves in the show must weigh at least 900 pounds; however, 1,350 pounds is the top pay weight.
- Awards:  
Placings—Ribbons.  
Grand Champion—Banner.  
Reserve Grand Champion—Banner.
- If there is not enough of any one class to be placed in a separate class, they will be classified with another class.

### IV. LAMB DEPARTMENT

- Both wether and ewe lambs are eligible to show.
- There will be a possibility of four breeds only. Definitions of breeds are as follows: A. Fine Wool—This breed shall include only purebred Grade Rambouillet or Delaine or a cross between these two breeds; B. Fine Wool Cross—This will include lambs sired by Suffolk, Hampshire, Corriedale or Columbia Rams and out of Fine Wool ewes. Lambs that carry more than 50% Medium Wool breeding will go into the Medium Wool. The decision will be left to classifiers; C. Medium Wool Class—This shall include only purebred or Grade Hampshire, Suffolk, Corriedale and Columbia or other Medium Wool Cross; D. Southdowns—This is only for purebred Southdowns or lambs that exhibit predominant Southdown characteristics.
- Weight Classes: Breeds of lambs will be divided at supervisor's discretion. The minimum weight will be 80 pounds. There will not be a top weight, but the maximum pay weight will be 130 pounds.
- Lambs will be classified in show ring according to breed numbers at the superintendent's discretion. A classifying judge will assist the superintendent in placing the animals in the proper class. Classifier's decision will be final. If there are more than 50 in one breed, the superintendent will break the breed into four classes: light, medium, medium heavy and heavy.
- Champion and Reserve Champion of each breed will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion of the show.
- Lambs wool should be uniform in length and no more than 1/4 of an inch in length. Top knots are permitted.
- Where four animals are not available to make weight classes, then lightweight and heavyweights will be grouped into a single breed class.
- Awards:  
Placing—Ribbons.  
Grand Champion—Banner.  
Reserve Grand Champion—Banner.

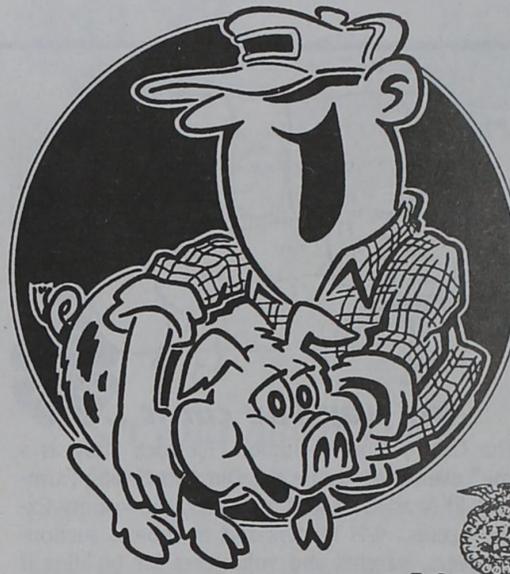
### V. SWINE DEPARTMENT

- Only barrows are eligible to show.
- Barrows weighing less than 175 pounds or more than 260 pounds will be sifted from the show. A weigh-back may be done on any barrow at the discretion of the Dimmitt Young Farmers. A 10-pound variance up or down will be allowed from write-in weight. Any barrow not meeting the weight will be disqualified.
- No feeding in aisles. All feed will be dumped outside south of the barn.
- It takes five head to make a breed. Those not making a breed will be shown in the Cross class. There will be eight breeds of barrows as follows: A. Berkshires; B. Chester Whites; C. Durocs; D. Hampshires; E. Spots; F. Poland Chinas; G. Yorkshires; H. Crosses and Other Breeds; and I. Other Pure Breeds.
- Weight classes: Breeds of barrows will be divided by weight at the discretion of the superintendent.
- At the judge's discretion, any obvious violation of classification will result in disqualification of the animal in question.
- First- and second-place barrows from each class will compete for Champion and Reserve Champion of the breed.
- Champion and Reserve Champion of each breed will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion of the show.

- Where five animals are not available to make weight classes, then lightweight and heavyweights will be grouped into a single breed class.
- Barrows will be sold at weigh-in weights.
- Minimum floor weight will be 220 pounds (no exceptions).

### VI. SALE

- Exhibitors selling livestock must have their animals ready to be brought into the auction ring when their number is called.
- Sale order:  
A. Grand Champion steer, barrow and lamb.  
B. Reserve Champion steer, barrow and lamb.  
C. All Breed Champions.  
D. All Reserve Breed Champions.  
E. 1/3 of the steers and heifers.  
F. 1/3 of the barrows.  
G. 1/3 of the lambs.
- All animals that are to be sold as take homes must be listed on the sale sheet prior to the sale.



**JOIN US** 

at the  
**Junior Livestock Show & Sale**  
Friday and Saturday

*Everyone of you deserve an award!*

**Agro Distribution, L.L.C.**

*Together We Can*



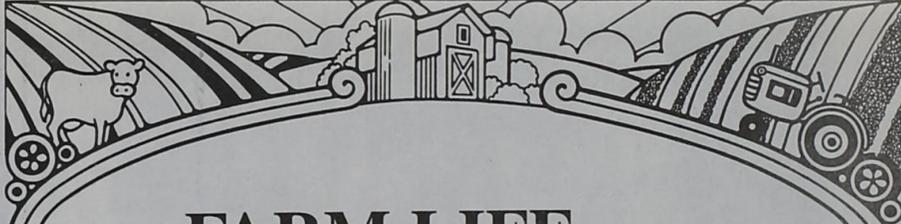
**Our future depends on our youth!**

Give them your support by attending the

**46th Annual Junior Livestock Show & Sale**  
Friday and Saturday

Best wishes from  
**Dimmitt Feed Yards, Inc.**





**FARM LIFE**

*is the best way of life in the world, and the best way to live it to its fullest is through participation in farm youth organizations.*

*We're proud of our Castro County youth and of their accomplishments. The annual Junior Livestock Show is one of many areas in which the youth of our county excel.*

*It takes commitment and dedication to excel in anything. It takes a committed teacher, a dedicated student, a supportive family, a worthwhile project or goal. And it takes a lot of hard work.*

*We want you young livestock raisers to know that we appreciate the work and long hours you've put in, preparing for the show. You could be spending your time in a lot of other, less productive, ways. We're glad you chose this wholesome, worthwhile route. Whether you win or not, we're proud to be part of a community that supports its youth the way ours does. Our Junior Livestock Show and sale represent a big undertaking—and it's done almost entirely by volunteers, who have the common commitment of helping our kids.*

*Ours is a great county. And we're proud to be a part of it.*

**Cerestar USA**  
**Dimmitt, Inc.**

# Low-stress livestock handling benefits animals, people, profits

Stress is one of the great hidden costs in the livestock industry, according to Roger Ingram, a University of California Cooperative Extension farm advisor who will be one of the featured speakers at the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) convention and School for Successful Ranching to be held in Houston March 11-12.

"Handling stress affects ranching operations through marketing, weight gain, reproduction, health and relationships with family and labor," said Ingram. "Some people start to get upset a few days before they will actually be working around cattle.

The animals can sense when you are upset and this causes their stress level to go up, which then leads to other problems. If you are mad and upset, other people don't necessarily want to be around you. It may cause you to have difficulty keeping competent help."

Ingram says range condition also benefits from low-stress livestock handling in the shape of longer rest periods, shorter graze periods, increased stock density and an easier way to use hooves as a tool of environmental restoration on capped soils, weeds and head cuts. The animal behavior expert will demonstrate low-cost handling techniques using

both live cattle in an arena and videos of previous work performed in a pasture setting.

"Stress impacts animal gains and health. Lowered stress can mean higher gains and less associated health costs," Ingram said. "These benefits can be attained without any extra cost except the time invested in learning these new techniques."

Ingram cited a study by Dr. Temple Grandin that found feedlot cattle with calm temperaments have higher average daily gains than cattle with excitable temperaments. Weight shrink during sorting periods, milk production, feed costs, death loss and reproductive performance can also be affected by poor handling methods.

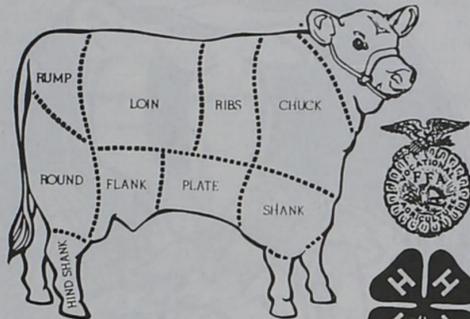
Producers attending the TSCRA convention and its Successful Ranching School will see live demonstrations of the safest, most effective ways to work calves, including de-horning, castration and administering shots. Participants can take part in several interactive training sessions including how to match Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs) and live bulls to various environments and production systems and how to maximize rainfall under different range conditions as demonstrated by Texas A&M University's "rainfall simulator."

Expert speakers will demonstrate how valuable quail habitat is affected by brush management and show producers how to turn regular ranch equipment into spraying equipment for weed and brush control. Three continuing education units (CEUs) will be offered with these classes.

The second day of the school will feature an in-depth marketing session looking at the latest trends in cattle marketing.

The TSCRA school is funded through educational grants.

Registration fee for the school is \$50 per person. For more information, contact Sharla Ishmael or Todd Tippett at (800) 242-7820 or (817) 332-7155.



**Any way you cut it ..**

... The Castro County Junior Livestock Show is a "prime" event. We salute the Dimmitt Young Farmers, our FFA advisors and members, our county Extension agents, 4-H leaders and members, auctioneers, buyers, parents and volunteers for building it into such a great show.

## Cargill Ag Horizons

Jarrel Sewell, Manager

938-2178 Highway 194, Hart



1999 GRAND CHAMPION LAMB at the Castro County Junior Livestock Show was exhibited by Raynee Bradley (right) of Dimmitt. The jumbo medium wool was purchased by her great-uncles, Mike Baca and Andy Rogers, for \$14 per pound. Bradley also captured junior showmanship honors in the lamb division. With Bradley are (from left) her sister, Taylor Bradley, her aunt, Mary Bradley, and her brother, Beau Bradley.

Photo by Anne Acker

# Lamb feed options vary during growth

By THE BOGGS FAMILY

For our lambs, we like a beginning ration of one part whole oats, one part whole barley, one part coarse ground corn and one part cotton seed meal. Add wheat bran and enough molasses to make it moist.

When you bring the lamb home for the first time, give him an over-eating vaccination. For about the first three months, feed the lamb all he will eat. Also, once each day, feed a double handful of good leafy alfalfa hay. Keep fresh, cool water out at all times. We suggest rubber or plastic buckets that can be easily turned over each day and refilled with clean water.

After the first three months, it is time to begin feeding the lambs separately and twice each day. The amount you feed each lamb will depend on what shape he is in.

For example, if the lamb is still thin and coming, he may require 4

pounds a day. If the lamb is in fair condition and just needs to be gotten into shape, he may need 3 pounds a day. If the lamb is fat and soft and must be brought down, he may require only 2 pounds per day. Of course, the amount required will also depend on the breed of the lamb.

We like to use a 1-pound coffee can to measure the feed. If you are going to feed the lamb three pounds per day, give 1½ cans in the morning and 1½ cans in the evening.

Feed as close to the same time each morning and evening as possible. Lambs are creatures of habit and like to be on a regular schedule. At this time, you will have to decide for yourself whether to keep the corn in the ration or take it out. We do not completely agree among ourselves about this point. But again, keep the ration at least 16% protein.

The Boggs Family of Cyril, Okla., contributed information for an article in the October 1984 issue of Show Ring Magazine.

# Minerals are necessary for hog's chemical reactions

Minerals are necessary for many of a pig's body's chemical reaction.

Unlike carbohydrates and proteins, which are needed in large quantities, minerals are needed only in small amounts, but they are just as important for growth and reproduction.

Mineral requirements for hogs still are being studied, but at present it is believed that hogs require at least 14 different ones—calcium, phosphorous, sodium, chlorine, iodine, iron, copper, potassium, manganese, sulfur, cobalt, zinc and selenium.

# Show day preparation necessary

By T.D. TANKSLEY JR. and W.B. THOMAS

Extension Swine Specialists Texas A&M University System

When showing a pig, check the catalog and judging schedule to find out when your animal is to be exhibited. Keep a close check on how fast the show is moving, so that you will have everything ready at the correct time.

Most shows have specific rules against using anything but water as hair dressing. No oil or powder is allowed.

About 15 to 20 minutes before your class is to be called, brush the sand or shavings from the pig. Remove the dust using a rag saturated with water.

Brush the pig with a fine-bristled brush and use a fine mist from a water spray bottle to obtain the desired "sheen" to the hair.

When the class is called, be prompt and drive the hog quietly and carefully into the show ring. Try not to get your hog unnecessarily disturbed or confused. Carry a small brush in your pocket and a short whip in your hand.

Together We Can



John Keim, Scoutmaster and co-op meter technician, helps Scout Kaury Edwards with a knot-tying project.

# Community Service: Fancy Words For Doing Our Part

There's a lot of talk about community service these days. But action speaks louder than words. If we can sponsor some kids for a field trip to Washington, help hang arena and ballpark lights, or assist local businesses, we'll do it.

We've got our priorities straight. Your electric co-op answers to no distant corporate tower. It serves no investors, only members like you. It's an idea we feel at home with.



SWISHER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE THE HOME TEAM ADVANTAGE

A Touchstone Energy™ Partner The power of human connections

Doing Our Part for Area Buyers Clubs  
Congratulations to all Winners at the Castro County Show



# The Tradition Continues

It was 45 years ago that the first Castro County Junior Livestock Show was held.

Today, many of those who exhibited their project animals in that first show are helping to make this year's the best ever ... and are helping their own children get ready for it.

It's a good tradition, and it adds a lot to the quality of life in our area, and to the character of our next generation.

We salute all the youngsters, their parents, the adult supervisors, teachers and volunteer workers who make the Castro County Junior Livestock Show one of the best anywhere!

# Bar G Feedyard

# Vet offers tips on how to spot and prevent overeating in sheep

By Dr. Bo Brock, DVM

Overtreating in sheep is the most over-diagnosed disease that I see as a veterinarian. It seems as if it gets the blame for every unexplained lamb death.

Not only that, people constantly worry about it. I thought it would be good to go over the disease so we would know a little more about it and perhaps not be so afraid of it.

The disease is actually caused by the toxins produced from a bacterium called Clostridium perfringens.

These toxins do some mean things to the body. These toxins kill cells and weaken blood capillaries until they rupture and produce small hemorrhages. Since the body is just a maze of capillaries that are going to all the tissues to give them oxygen, the disease can look like many different things, depending on where affected capillaries are located. It turns out that the brain and intestines are most likely to be the target organs.

This bacteria is in the soil and in the intestine of a normal lamb. So what sets it off? I personally think that no one knows for sure, but here is our best guess.

When intake of good quality food suddenly increases, it surpasses the ability of the intestinal tract to break the food down to simple, easily digested sugar. This leaves more large, undigested starch granules in the small intestine.

If there are few bad Clostridium bacteria there, and there almost always is, they will use this starch as a food source and begin to grow out of control. As they grow they begin to produce this highly virulent toxin which, when in high enough concentration, will start the cascade of events which leads to the disease we call overeating.

In the acute form of overeating, affected animals become uncoordinated, recumbent and have seizures. If the toxins accumulate at a lower concentration, the animal may just have a weak rear end, which develops into paralysis.

Most people think that the lamb with overeating is doomed to die within a matter of hours to a few short days. This is not always the case.

At lower concentrations, the toxins may not kill the critter. Some develop a more acute form of the disease, which looks much like a thiamin deficiency. They may head press, walk in circles, have a watery diarrhea, stand around and kick at their belly, become slightly bloated or just stagger when they walk.

The problem is that it is hard to

absolutely diagnose the disease. The toxin, which causes all these symptoms, is very unstable outside the animal or in the dead animal. This makes it almost impossible to isolate.

The bacterium is an anaerobe. This means that it dies or forms a spore when it is exposed to oxygen. Since it is so hard to prove or disprove, everyone just seems to blame it for all sudden deaths in sheep.

Here are some practical things that I have observed about the disease over the years. It is most common in the aggressive, better doing lambs. It will occur in the top three or four sheep in the pecking order.

The two most common places it is seen are on a lush cereal grain crop or in a confinement-feeding situation. Single or twin lambs from heavy milking ewes are most likely to get it at any stage of life. Anything that slows the movement of the intestinal tract will exacerbate the disease. These things include acidosis, sudden change from poor pasture to good quality grain and water deprivation.

We see a very high blood and glucose concentration in affected lambs. It is one of the ways that I help diagnose it in living lambs. Dead lambs have a clear, straw colored fluid around their hearts and small dots of blood called petechia on the outside muscle of the heart.

If the post mortem exam is delayed for a few hours, the wool will be easily plucked from the skin and the skin will have a purple discoloration to it. At this time, the kidney will have a soft, "pulpy" look to it and will not stand up firmly on a hard surface like a normal kidney.

The stomach is often still full of undigested, good quality feed. Sometimes these creatures die so suddenly that they still have food in their mouth that they are chewing.

Treatment is often to no avail, but I have saved quite a few that I thought had the disease. We use an antiserum in ones we suspect of having the disease. It is a commercially available product that I like because it won't hurt them even if they don't actually have the disease. It is a commercially available product that I like because it won't hurt them even if they don't actually have the disease.

If we have a few in a herd die from what appears to be overeating, we will often give the others in the herd a dose of this antitoxin. We will give the animal a large dose of activated charcoal orally. Penicillin or sulfur drugs are sometimes of benefit as well as IV fluids to keep the circula-

tory system from collapsing.

Prevention is the key to happiness. Vaccination with a Trypsin activated or formalin-killed vaccine is highly recommended in all classes of sheep and goats. The lambs will get some passive immunity in the colostrum, but should be vaccinated starting at 4 to 10 weeks and again a month later.

In highly fed show lambs it is not uncommon for people to vaccinate monthly. I'm not sure if it needs to be done that often. I would, however,

recommend vaccinating any new lambs you get at least two times soon after arrival at your farm.

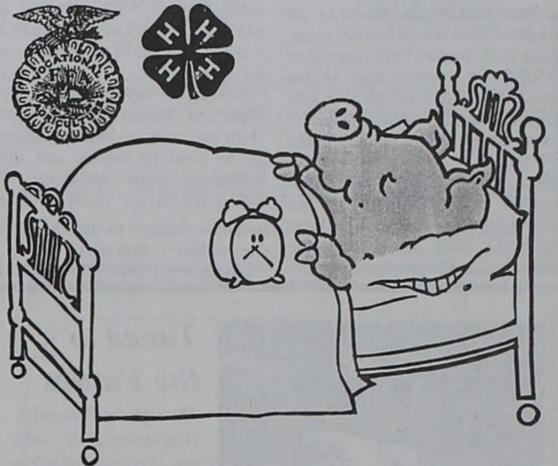
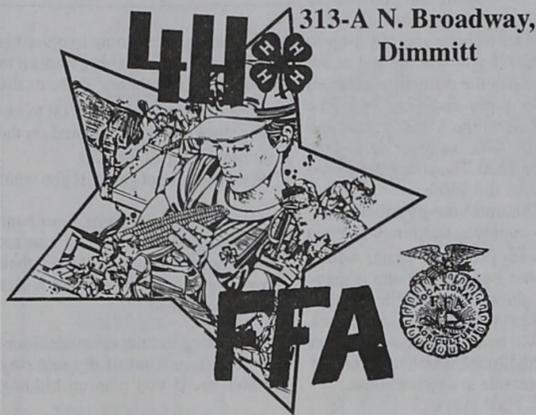
Even though it is over-diagnosed, it is still one of the most common and discouraging diseases that fed lambs get. It deserves respect and will almost always get the one you paid the most for.

This article was reprinted from the May/June 1999 issue of "Purple Circle," a youth livestock magazine.

## Pancake House

Francis & Bea Acker

... salutes the "stars of the show," our 4-H and FFA youths. Good luck in this year's Junior Livestock Show and Sale!



Set your alarm clock!

You don't want to be late for the Livestock Show this Friday and Saturday!

Dr. Robert Lindsey, D.D. S.  
Orthodontist



We hope the Castro County Junior Livestock Show & Sale will be

## A HAPPY TIME

for our 4-H and FFA youngsters, the Dimmitt Young Farmers, the buyers and everyone associated with this great show. Let's all get out and support our kids!

Hart of the Plains Pump, Inc.  
Hart 939-2570



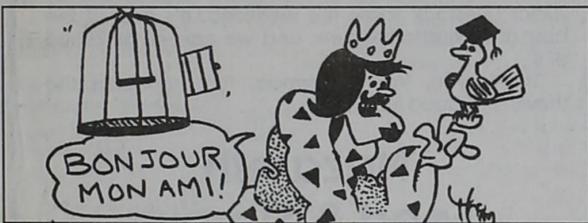
You're the tops!

We're talking to YOU, 4-H and FFA members!

Best Wishes for another successful Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale from

**WESTERN FORD**  
**Lincoln-Mercury, Inc.**

806-364-3673 550 N. 25 Mile Ave., HereFORD



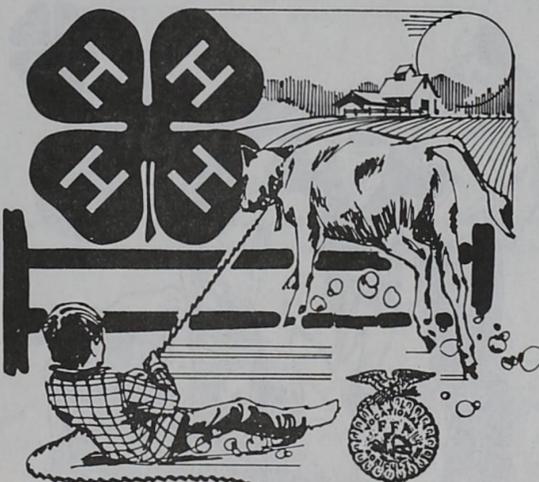
Titmice are highly intelligent birds. In the 1700s French kings kept them in cages and trained them to do tricks.



You will see some well trained showmen at the Castro County 4-H and FFA Junior Livestock Show!

A great big thank you to all the participants for your contribution to our community.

**E.M. Jones Ditching**  
and  
**Allstate Insurance**  
Betty Jones

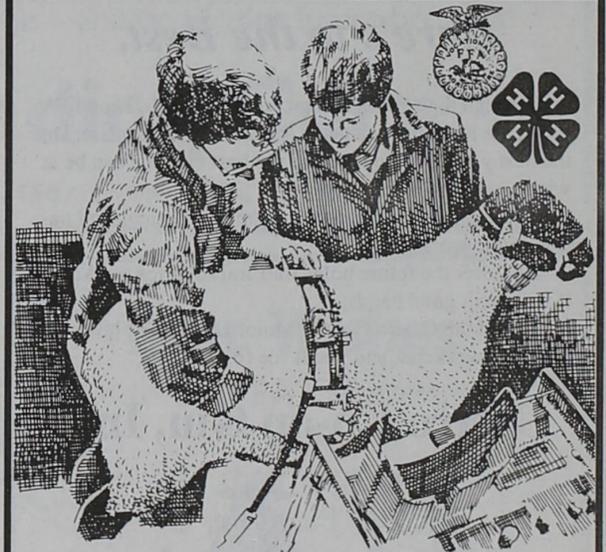


Drag yourself on down to the Junior Livestock Show & Sale

Friday and Saturday  
You'll be glad you did!

Passbook Account — 4.50%  
IRA C.D. — 6.25%

Hereford Texas Federal  
**Credit Union**  
647-5169 • 212 W. Bedford, Dimmitt



**Congratulations**

... to our FFA and 4-H youth, to their sponsors and parents, and to the Dimmitt Young Farmers for making the Castro County Junior Livestock Show the best in Texas!

**Hart Producers**  
**Co-op Gin**

# Youngsters find hard work can result in premium bids

One of the best times in a young livestock exhibitor's career is when he or she can lead an animal into the sale ring as an auctioneer works to obtain a premium bid for that animal.

The premium sale after the livestock show is when a youngster really reaps the rewards of hard work, sweat and tears during the fall.

Youngsters exhibiting lambs, steers and barrows in the Castro County Junior Livestock Show this weekend want their animals to do well and earn a spot in the premium sale, which will be held Saturday afternoon.

Animals that place within established limits will qualify for the sale, and those qualifying sheep, barrows and steers will be guaranteed to sell for a good price above market value.

Last year, buyers paid more than \$175,000 for animals making the county sale, and although that sale total was down from previous years, so were the number of animals in the 1999 sale.

Floor prices were set first, with Dan Cure of Olton winning the bid on the sheep floor at \$68.25 per hundredweight. Cure also bought the barrow floor at \$24 per hundred. The

floor on steers went for \$64 per hundred.

Here's how the premium sale is conducted.

The floor sells first, then auctioneers will sell the grand champions, then the reserve champions. All breed champions will be sold next, followed by reserve breed champions. Then auctioneers will proceed to auction off one-third of the steers, lambs and barrows qualifying for the sale. The order will be repeated until all qualifying animals are sold.

Castro County businesses and others with local interest (like grandparents, other relatives, friends, etc.) provide bids on the animals that make the sale each year, but they can't purchase all of the animals and that's where the buyers' clubs come in.

Stock show supporters in Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth form buyers' clubs each year and those volunteers go to local businesses and solicit donations. From the money collected, the buyers' clubs are able to purchase animals owned by youngsters in their community.

Commercial bidders set the floor

prices, which are usually based on the day's market prices.

If a youngster makes the sale with his animal, he will be going for a premium bid above floor prices. These premiums help pay expenses of raising show animals, including medicines, feed and other supplies.

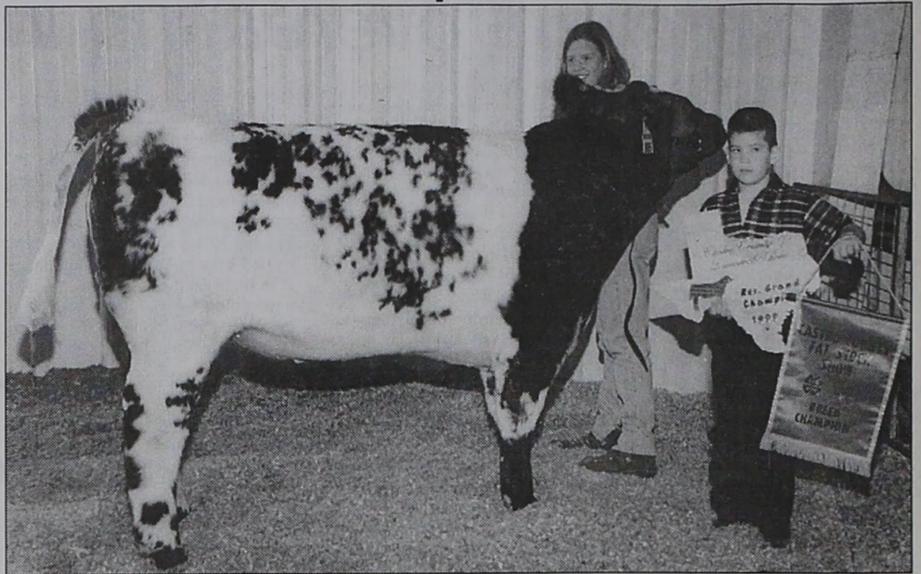
If a youngster's animal doesn't seem to be drawing a top bid, the buyers' clubs step in and try to insure that each youngster gets a good price and can make enough to pay expenses and make a little profit.

The buyers' clubs rely heavily on donations and the more money they receive, the more they can bid on youngsters' animals. Members of each buyers' club will be collecting donations this week and they will have tables set up at the Expo Building on Saturday.

Premium bids can run all the way up and down the scale; however, the auctioneers and buyers' clubs try to set minimum standards to insure that every youngster gets a decent price for his animal.

If the floor price on lambs is 70¢ a pound, the auctioneer may call for an opening bid of \$2 a pound. If you want to buy a particular animal that weighs 100 pounds and you want to bid \$4 for it, get a friend or a buyers' club bidder to help you bid it up to that price. If you win the bid at \$4, then you pay the difference between the floor price and your bid. The floor price on the \$100-pound lamb would be \$70, so your total cost would be \$330. The youngster would receive the full \$400.

The Dimmitt Young Farmers operate the county's auction sale on a guaranteed premium basis, which means that a youngster who is planning to show his animal at another show, like the Houston Livestock Show, will receive the money bid on his animal here, whether or not he makes the sale at another show.



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION STEER for 1999 at the Castro County Junior Livestock Show was this 1,135-pound cross, shown by Meggie Lemons. The

Dimmitt Buyers' Club bought the steer for \$1.25 per pound. Holding the banner and plaque for Lemons is Houston Sutton.

Photo by Brenda Bruton



## Tuned to the Future

Through the FFA and 4-H programs, our youth are learning valuable basic skills on which they can build for a bright future. The Junior Livestock Show is a prime example of program excellence.

## Danny's Motor Service

938-2310 • Hart



## Still Going Strong

For 46 years now, our 4-H and FFA programs have been producing responsible youngsters and top show animals, and Castro Countians have been supporting them in every way. That's a long record of success and a good source of pride for our county. Let's keep it going strong!

## Zockhart Pharmacy

107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt

647-3392



Congratulations  
4-H & FFA Members  
on your  
**Junior Livestock Show & Sale**  
Friday and Saturday

## Lane Dirt Co.

647-5793

Dimmitt



Don't you dare miss seeing the Castro County Junior Livestock Show this weekend. It's one of the best of its kind anywhere, and we can all be proud of it.

Thank you, Young Farmers, for producing the show. And good luck, kids!

## Nazareth Feed & Supply

## Here's to the Best.

Through their show-animal projects, our 4-H and FFA youth are learning a valuable lesson in Americanism: Do the best you can, and try to be the best that you can be at what you do.

The ethic has made ours the greatest agricultural nation in the world.

Whatever the future holds for rural America, we know it will be in good hands.

Attend the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale this weekend, and you'll see for yourself.

## Castro Co-op Gin, Inc.



We're proud of our youngsters who are involved in the Junior Livestock Show. Through the work of the Dimmitt Young Farmers and great support from throughout the county, it just keeps getting bigger and better every year.

## Pro-Ag, Inc.

## Hats Off!

... to the fine young people who are participating in the annual Junior Livestock Show this weekend, and to the Young Farmers, the buyers and supporters who make it such a great event!

## Agri-Plex Transport, Inc.

945-2225

Nazareth





**INTO THE SALE RING**—Raynee Bradley of Dimmitt and her grand champion lamb led off last year's premium sale held in conjunction with the annual Castro County Junior Livestock Show. Last year's sale brought premiums estimated at \$175,000, which dropped off some from the previous year. The number of entries also was down some. One of the auctioneers for last year's sale was Jack Howell. Holding the banner for his sister is Beau Bradley. *Photo by Don Nelson*

## Buyers Clubs seeking donations for stock show

The Castro County Junior Livestock Show is just around the corner and that means representatives from the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Buyers' Clubs will be asking for donations.

The buyers' clubs can help guarantee that a youngster from their community gets a premium bid for his or her animal when it makes the sale.

But these clubs operate on donations from the public and one of the reasons the local sale is always successful is because individuals and businesses give generously to the clubs.

Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Buyers' Clubs provide many of the premium bids in the sale. Sometimes one of the buyers' clubs purchases a grand or reserve champion. Often during the auction, a club will make the initial bid on the animal, especially if the auctioneers seem to have a hard time finding that first bidder.

But the buyers' clubs can't operate without money and the money the clubs bid with comes from donations. Donating to a buyers' club is ideal

for a person who wants to participate but who doesn't want to buy an animal. Contributions to buyers' clubs may be made before, during or after the show. Each club has its own table set up at the Expo Building during the show and sale.

If you want to donate to one of the clubs but haven't been contacted, you can either stop by the club's table at the Expo Building or contact one of the following individuals:

**Dimmitt Buyers' Club:** Greg Odom and Chaun Gunstream; or to Dimmitt Buyers' Club, c/o First Bank, PO Box 1099, Dimmitt 79027-1099.

**Hart Buyers' Club:** Laura Hart, PO Box 461, Hart 79043, phone 938-2178; or Toni Nelson, HCR 2, Hart 79043, phone 938-2010.

**Nazareth Buyers' Club:** Dwayne Acker at Higginbotham-Bartlett Co. in Dimmitt, Virgil Huseman, Dale Brockman, Walt Pohlmeier, Dennis Kern, Jimmy Kern, Olen Schulte or Dwayne Schulte; or donations may be mailed to Nazareth Buyers' Club, PO Box 192, Nazareth 79063.

**SALUTE TO THE CHAMPS**

*We're talking about ALL of you who participate in the Castro County Junior Livestock Show!*

**Castro County Farm Bureau**  
647-5106 304 N. Broadway, Dimmitt

## Young Farmers make it all click

The Dimmitt Young Farmers spend numerous hours working on the annual Castro County Junior Livestock Show and they keep things running smoothly from the first day through the sale.

It all starts with drawing up show rules, and they hold special meetings just to go over the rules each year, making needed changes and finalizing the plans.

They organize entries and ready the show barns and show ring for the annual event. They direct the show on Friday, then run the sale on Saturday. After the sale, they tally totals, then issue checks.

So, if you spot a Young Farmer at the stock show this year, shake his hand and say thank you. He's earned it.

Here's a list of the club officers and those who will be in charge of various areas at this year's stock show:

- Young Farmers President ..... Chaun Gunstream
- General Superintendent ..... Chaun Gunstream
- Assistant Superintendent ..... Curt Summers
- Vice President ..... Curt Summers
- Secretary ..... Andy Williams
- Treasurer ..... Chad Davis
- Reporter ..... Malcom Sager
- Steer Division Superintendent ..... Justin Nelson
- Assistant Steer Superintendents ..... Chad Davis, Rodney Hunter, Robert Boozer, Rick Bagwell, Mark Rogers, Greg Odom, Roy Schilling
- Lamb Division Superintendent ..... Tim Wales
- Assistant Lamb Superintendents ..... Jason Wooten, Lonnie Robb, Malcom Sager, Lee Kleman, Kurt Wales, Chaun Gunstream
- Swine Division Superintendent ..... Curt Summers
- Assistant Swine Superintendents ..... John Link, Mark Abner, Andy Williams, Jason Nelson, Matt Gfeller, Danny Underwood, Jay Davis
- Auctioneers ..... Jack Howell, John Davis, Greg Odom, Jason Wooten, Kenneth Gregg, Leslie Davis
- Building Superintendent ..... Danny Underwood
- Assistant Building Superintendent ..... Kurt Wales
- Clerks ..... Dimmitt Young Farmers
- Public Relations Liaison ..... Greg Odom
- Floor Buyers Committee ..... Dimmitt Young Farmers

**Castro County youth are #1!**

Best wishes for another successful Junior Livestock Show!

**Ed Harris Lumber Co.**  
Hart

*The combined efforts of Castro County 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters have brought many honors to Castro County.*

We congratulate you on the event of your Junior Livestock Show this Friday and Saturday!

**DIMMITT CONSUMERS**

## Consignment farm auction set Feb. 19

A consignment farm equipment auction will be held Feb. 19 at the Nazareth leg of AgriFarm Industries, one-fourth a mile west of Nazareth on SH 86.

For more information about the sale, contact Brian Ramaekers at 945-2331 or 647-7307 (mobile);

Mike Huseman at 945-2366 or 647-5169 (work); Lonny Huseman at 945-2458 or 647-7663 (mobile); or Alan Birkenfeld at 945-2218 or 647-6884 (mobile).

The auction is sponsored by the Nazareth Knights of Columbus with the help of Five Star Auctioneers.

**Nobody dresses 'em up or shows 'em off better than our kids do!**

Congratulations, 4-H and FFA members on work well done. We wish you well with your show animals—and on all your future projects!

**Westway Trading Corp.**  
Fred Bruegel Jr., Manager • 647-3138 • N. Hwy. 385, Dimmitt

Let's all support our 4-H & FFA youngsters in the **46th Annual Junior Livestock Show** and make this year's show and sale **Another Record Breaker!**

**C & T Fertilizer, Inc.**  
Tam Anne  
Office: 647-4374  
Tuffy Dement  
Mobile: 265-7107  
Billy Lytal  
Mobile: 346-2922

**Best Wishes** to the FFA Chapters, 4-H Clubs and their sponsors as you hold your **Junior Livestock Show and Sale** this Friday and Saturday!

**Gary's Engine & Machine**

# Bradley, Nelson and Jordan exhibit grand champs in 1999

Raynee Bradley raised the top lamb, Shawn Nelson trained the top steer and Chandra Jordan exhibited the top barrow at the 1999 Castro County Junior Livestock Show.

Bradley won the lamb show with a 130-plus pound jumbo medium wool lamb, and she earned \$14 per pound for the animal from her great-uncles, Andy Rogers and Mike Baca.

Nelson took top honors in the steer show with his 1,320-pound cross, and North Gin purchased the animal for \$1.50 per pound.

The top barrow, owned by Jordan, was a 260-pound Yorkshire, and AgriFarm Industries, Castro, Co-op Gin and Dimmitt Consumers joined to provide the youngster with a bid of \$5 per pound for the grand champion.

Runners-up in the 1999 show were Kirsti Edwards, Meggie Lemons and Keli Schulte, who exhibited the reserve grand lamb, steer and barrow, respectively.

Edwards' reserve grand lamb, a 119-pound light-heavyweight me-

dium wool, was purchased for \$7 per pound by Gene and Shari Bradley.

The Dimmitt Buyers' Club bought the reserve grand steer, a 1,135-pound cross owned by Lemons.

Schulte's reserve grand barrow was a 242-pound heavyweight cross, and it brought a bid of \$7 per pound from Marvin Schulte, Tulia Livestock Auction Co. and Gene and Shari Bradley.

The 1999 sale drew 294 entries—194 barrows, 90 lambs and 10 steers.

Winners in the junior showmanship competition were Bradley for sheep, Jordy Rowland for barrows and Lemons for steers. Senior showmanship winners included Cliff Wright for lambs, Clay Hoelting for barrows and Taylor Matthews for steers.

The annual premium auction sale netted approximately \$175,000, according to the Dimmitt Young Farmers, organizers of the event.



IN APPRECIATION—Mary Bradley (right) of the Dimmitt FFA presents auctioneer Jack Howell with an engraved hand-made pen as a thank you for his help last year with the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Each of the auctioneers who worked last year's sale also were given pens by the Dimmitt FFA.

Photo by Anne Acker

## Grooming of animals takes time

By T.D. TANKSLEY JR. and W.B. THOMAS  
Extension Swine Specialists  
Texas A&M University System

Fitting of a show pig should be started during the feeding period. The thing to seek in any fitted animal is a natural, attractive appearance. It is secured through cleanliness and proper trimming and grooming of the hair coat.

**Brushing and washing**  
The correct path to a good hair coat is clean, dry, well-bedded sleeping quarters, good nutrition and good grooming. Brush the hair daily the last 30 days. This will train the hair to lie down properly and adds bloom to the hair coat.

The pig should be washed at least twice before the show. The first washing should take place about one or two weeks before the show. This is done so you can carefully check for lice, mange or other skin disorders and get them corrected prior to show time. The other washing should take place the day before the show (either at home or at the show).

Follow these four steps, being careful not to get water inside the ear:

- Wet the pig over the entire body.
- Lather the pig with ample soap (liquid detergent is fine) and use a stiff brush with plenty of "elbow grease" and thoroughly scrub the entire body.
- Rinse completely to remove all soap.
- Brush hair until thoroughly dry. This is tremendously important because it trains the hair to lay properly.

## Here are some tips for halter breaking steer

When halter breaking young steers for shows, here are five tips young showmen can follow.

- 1. Select a good quality nylon-type halter that will not swell on the calf's head when it gets wet.
- 2. Tie the calf with its head up. Be sure to tie him short enough so he will not hurt himself.
- 3. Be gentle, but make sure the calf knows who is boss.
- 4. Rub and brush the calf. Let him know you are not there to hurt him.
- 5. Lead the steer to feed or water. He will be leading before he realizes it because it will become a habit.

Are you bored, lonely or looking for excitement?  
**Join 4-H**  
Call the Castro County Extension Office at 647-4115 to join today!



*You're ALL Champions!*

Good luck in the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. We're rooting for you!

**Dale's Auto & Salvage**  
Nazareth

## Good home, good start are important

By T.D. TANKSLEY JR. and W.B. THOMAS  
Extension Swine Specialists  
Texas A&M University System

In providing a good home for your pigs, facilities do not need to be expensive, but they need to provide comfort and adequate space. Select a pen location that is well-drained.

A 12-foot x 50-foot pen for two barrows is adequate, but a pen twice that long would be more desirable. A small (8-foot x 12-foot) shed open to the south is needed to keep out cold north winds, rain and snow.

If possible, place a wood floor in the shed to keep the pigs from rooting deep holes and to permit the area to be cleaned more easily.

The most critical need the first few days after purchase of an animal is for comfortable, dry, draft-free quarters. The stress of hauling and change of environment and friends require special care and attention during this period. If the animals have had unusual stress, many people give an injection of antibiotics to prevent secondary respiratory problems.

Check for lice and treat immediately if required. Tiguon, a liquid systemic compound, has proven highly successful. A second treatment 14 to 21 days after the first may be needed to completely eliminate the problem.

After your pigs are doing well (usually after seven to 10 days), they should be treated for roundworms and re-treated 21 days later (to eliminate the migrating larvae). Atgard and Tramisol have proven highly effective in Texas A&M tests when used as recommended. Follow the manufacturer's directions carefully.



Who has better youngsters raising better project animals than we have in Castro County?  
**NOBODY!**  
... and they'll prove it again at the  
**Livestock Show & Sale**  
Friday and Saturday

Come out and see for yourself!

**AgriFarm Industries L.L.C.**



**Great Reception!**

That's what we need to give our youngsters as they parade their show animals in the ring Friday and Saturday. Let's let them know we're proud of them and their work.

**Kittrell Electronics**  
**Radio Shack**  
DEALER



**Turn'em loose!**

Into the show ring they go ... with high hopes riding on every project animal and every youngster. Our best wishes to all our youngsters, our thanks to the Dimmitt Young Farmers for making the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale a great event.

"We're Here On Account of You"

**1ST BANK**  
DIMMITT BRANCH  
215 W. Bedford • 647-BANK  
Member F.D.I.C.





**When Pigs Can Fly ...**

When our 4-H and FFA youngsters raise project animals, they learn a lot about commitment, showmanship, time management and cost accounting.

We hope they also learn that anything is possible.

Good luck to all our kids.  
We hope you place, make the sale and get a great bid!



**TEXAS EQUIPMENT COMPANY**



Bill Condit, Manager  
S. Hwy. 385  
Dimmitt, TX 79027  
647-3324

# Here's how to prevent lameness in show pigs

By DR. JODI STERLE

Lameness is one of the most common problems in show pigs.

There are a variety of causes, including injury, arthritis and structural stress that can cause your animal to look less than its best in the show ring. Not all lameness can be prevented, but precautions can be taken to prevent the dreaded problem. The following is by no means an inclusive list, but contains some of the most common causes of swine lameness.

## SKELETAL STRUCTURE

Many lameness problems are caused simply by the way the feet and legs of the animal are aligned and the angularity of the joints. It's important to examine the feet and leg soundness of the animals before purchase. Any problems that are apparent in young animals are most likely going to get worse as more weight and stress is placed on the joints and bones as the animal grows.

The animal should stand wide at the base and step out with a long,

easy stride. Animals that appear "tight" in their structure will only get tighter and stiffer as they age.

In an attempt to make pigs "taller fronted," many producers have selected for animals that are too straight in their joints. Angulation in the joints, especially the elbow, shoulder, stifle and hock, is necessary for shock absorption during movement.

A level design is also a good indication of structural soundness.

Animals that "roach" or arc in their top are usually heavy muscled, but often have severe structural problems that may interfere with their performance in the ring. Muscle can only attach to bone, and extremely heavy muscled pigs often show signs of lameness due to the stress that is put upon the bones by the excess muscle.

## FLOORING

While cement is by far the best flooring from a disease standpoint, it can be hard on the feet and legs of your pig.

Many animals have absolutely no problems when housed on cement, and it is often those pigs that have some structural problems that get irritated and sore.

Wood shavings or sand placed on top of the cement may add some cushion if you see a problem developing. Regardless of what flooring you choose, make sure that it is not slippery, especially when wet. Wood that is wet from water or urine can be extremely slick, causing pigs to slip and possibly injure themselves.

It is also a good idea to check out the flooring of the trailer that you are going to be using to transport your pigs and make adjustments if necessary.

## INJURY

While most injuries heal, there is always a chance of it becoming a chronic problem.

Fighting at the feeder, slipping during transport to the show, extremes in exercise (doing too much, too quickly) or other injuries should obviously be kept at a minimum.

Common sense goes a long way in prevention of injuries, but not all of them can be avoided.

## BACTERIAL INFECTION

The most common infection of joints is mycoplasma. This organism often affects new animals which may pick up the mycoplasma from carrier animals that appear to be healthy but are harboring the microorganisms in their tonsils for many months.

After a stress, such as transport, a wave of mycoplasma may affect your pigs. Consultation with a veterinarian is important.

Once mycoplasma is diagnosed, injectable tylosin or lincomycin is usually recommended. If given early enough (within 24 hours) and repeated daily for two to three days, these treatments are somewhat effective.

## OSTEOCHONDROSIS

This disease affects the cartilage within the joints and is usually diagnosed with the help of x-rays. Veterinary assistance is usually required.

The keys to preventing lameness or twofold: First, make feet and leg soundness a priority, much like muscling and leanness, when selecting your pigs; and second, observe your pigs closely every day without fail.

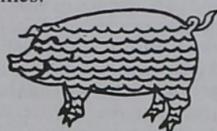
At the first signs of lameness (often apparent at feeding time by the constant shifting of the feet while standing at the feeder) take the appropriate measures immediately. A "wait and see" attitude will most likely result in a chronic problem, haunting your project all the way into the show ring.

*Dr. Jodi Sterle is assistant professor and state Extension swine specialist with Texas A&M University. This article first appeared as a special editorial in the December 1999 issue of "The Showbox" magazine.*



## Water

Water is considered a nutrient because it is essential for life. A 50-pound pig will drink about one gallon of water per day. A 150-pound pig will drink about two gallons of water per day. Therefore, clean water should be available in adequate amounts at all times.



## Trim hooves early to allow for healing

When lambs stay in small pens with no rocks, their hooves grow long and need to be trimmed. Hooves should be trimmed about every six weeks. Always trim hooves one or two weeks before a show in case you mistakenly cut into the quick and temporarily cripple the lamb. This will give the lamb time to heal before the show.

Classifieds get results!

Come out and see  
**Castro County's future**  
at the Junior Livestock Show and Sale!

**Kern Plumbing & Electric**  
Nazareth

**Doggone it,**  
don't miss the  
**Junior Livestock Show & Sale**  
Friday and Saturday

*Our youth need our support!*

**Video Magic**  
**Tanner's Magic**

## Feed ration supplements may change

By THE BOGGS FAMILY

For our lambs, we have ammonium chloride added to the ration to aid in the prevention of kidney stones.

We do not add salt or mineral in the ration because we like to feed it free choice and have the option of removing it from the pen during the show season.

We suggest you use loose salt and mineral rather than the block, because the block could be damaging to the lambs' temporary teeth. Use a wheat pasture mineral or a mineral formulated for sheep. Many minerals contain a level of copper that is not safe for sheep consumption.

Approximately two weeks before your first show, remove the salt and mineral from your pen and do not return it until the show season is over. This should cut the consumption of water by the lamb and help to get his middle in shape. Whatever ration you decide to use in the beginning, we strongly suggest it be at least 16% protein.

*The Boggs Family of Cyril, Okla., contributed information for an article in the October 1984 issue of Show Ring Magazine.*

**Howdy Pardner!**

Join us at the  
**46th Annual Junior Livestock Show & Sale**  
Friday and Saturday

See ya there Pardner!

**George Real Estate**

**Yesterday . . . Today**

Many of today's Young Farmers who make our Junior Livestock Show so great, and many of today's bidders who make our sale such a success, were once young 4-H and FFA exhibitors themselves. We're proud of that tradition!

**George Nelson Trucking, Inc.**  
500 S. Hwy. 385 647-5384

**The Best Anywhere!**

That's what we think of our Castro County FFA and 4-H youngsters and their show animals. We urge you to attend the annual Junior Livestock Show and Sale, and give them your support.

**KERN SUPPLY**  
Nazareth

We don't want to HOG the spotlight, but we want to speak out and say that you should come on out to the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Don't be shy! Join the fun!

**Lowe's Pay & Save**  
Hart

**In the show ring, in the sale ring ...**

... our youngsters will be giving their best this weekend. They'll carry months of hard work, mistakes, responsibility and expertise into the ring with them. Let's all support them at the show and sale!

**Red X Travel Center**  
Santos and Connie Perez  
320 S. Broadway, Dimmitt 647-4510

Show your support for today's youth by attending the Junior Livestock Show and Sale Friday and Saturday

**First Ag Credit, FCS-Dimmitt**  
Randy Smithson, Assistant Vice-President

**That Personal Touch**

That's what our youngsters have given their show animals as they've prepared them for the ring. And that's what makes our show, and our youngsters, so special.

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YOU!**

**Production Credit Association**  
Mark L. Kleman, Manager  
Edna Sanders, Secretary

**And Away We Go-o-o!**

Our youth and their animals don't mind stepping out into the show ring at the annual Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Our sale brings some of the top prices of any show around, and no one deserves it anymore than the hard-working members of our FFA and 4-H clubs.

**DeBruce Grain**  
P.O. BOX 758 • DIMMITT, TEXAS 79027

## Farm Service Agency notes

By TRISH ELLIOTT  
FSA County Executive Director

By TRISH ELLIOTT  
FSA County Executive Director  
Because of the heavy workload in our office, we will have non-public office hours on Wednesdays each week until 1 p.m.

We will use this time to work on payments and other paperwork that we cannot complete because of heavy counter traffic.

We are taking appointments on most sign-ups including CRP, PFC,

Oilseed Certifications and disaster programs.

This will help keep your waiting time at a minimum and help us plan our work more efficiently.

If you need an appointment, please call our office at 647-2153. We appreciate your cooperation during this difficult time of multiple program signups with limited staff.

long-term resource conserving covers on eligible land.

If you are interested in submitting an offer for CRP, please call our office for an appointment to sign up.

### 1999 oilseeds program

\$475 million has been provided for producers who planted 1999 sunflowers, soybeans and other oilseeds.

Feb. 18 has been established as the final reporting date for 1997, 1998 or 1999 oilseed acreages.

Payment will be based on the higher of the 1997 or 1998 planted acreage of each specific oilseed, or for new producers, the 1999 crop planted acreage of each specific oilseed.

Producers may use the higher of the county average yield or the producer's actual yields to determine payment. Specific details of the program are still being finalized.

Only 1997, 1998 and 1999 oilseed acreage reports that have been filed by Feb. 18 will be eligible. If you planted soybeans or sunflowers during the past three years and aren't sure if you have reported them to our office, please give us a call.

If you need to report acreages, please call 647-2153 for an appointment.

### FSA committee election

Producers from LAA-2 will elect a County Committee member this year.

Shari Willis Bradley is currently serving in this community, and is eligible for re-election to the County Committee.

Nomination forms were accepted through Jan. 21.

Ballots will be mailed to producers by Feb. 24 and must be returned by March 6. Farm owners, operators, tenants and sharecroppers of legal voting age in LAA-2 can vote if they are eligible to take part in any FSA program.

Elected committee members and alternates will take office on April 1.

### 1999 crop disaster program

Sign-up ends Feb. 25 for the 1999 crop disaster program.

Producers who suffered at least a 35% loss of production on their 1999 crops due to weather conditions are eligible for benefits. If you think you are eligible, and you did not have insurance or did not receive an insurance payment, you need to bring your production evidence with you for your appointment.

In the case of cotton, if the loan quality of your cotton is less than 49.81¢ per pound, you will be eligible for quality adjustment on your production; therefore, you will need to bring a recap sheet from your gin that shows average loan prices.

A 35% loss is still required to qualify for the disaster program. Advance payments of 35% of the calculated payment will be made after all claims information has been processed, and the application is approved.

After the end of sign-up, all applications in the nation will be pro-rated to stay within the program's \$1.2 billion budget. The payment limitation is \$80,000 per person, and no one with an annual gross income of \$2.5 million or more is eligible.

If you think you are eligible for the disaster program, please call 647-2153 for an appointment to sign up.

### CRP sign-up 20

CRP sign-up 20 continues through February Friday, and the FSA office will be accepting offers of environmentally sensitive acreage for new contracts.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary program that offers annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish



**Good Luck**

**4-H and FFA Members**

*in the*

**46th Annual**

**Junior Livestock Show**

*and Sale!*

**Hi-Plains Oil Co.**

Tommy Cleavinger



*We hope you have a great show and sale!*

**B.O.W. Cattle Co.**

Sunnyside and Earth • 647-4554

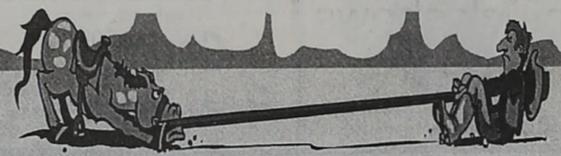
Day in and day out, our FFA and 4-H youngsters have been working hard, feeding and grooming and working with their show animals, getting ready for the Junior Livestock Show & Sale. And now the time has come for them to bring their cattle, sheep and pigs in and

**PIG OUT**

on all the awards and a great feeling of accomplishment! Let's all come out and support their efforts!

**Don Hargrove**

Contractor



**Aw, C'mon!**

No matter how busy you think you are, take time to attend and support the Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Our kids deserve our support!

*Max*



Convenience Store



**Here's to a banner year**

... for our 4-H and FFA youth, Young Farmers and others in the annual Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Congratulations on an excellent program.

**Brown, Graham & Co., P.C.**



**Gather up the Litter**

*... and join us at the Junior Livestock Show & Sale Friday and Saturday.*

*Our youngsters deserve our support. Let's keep it the best show in Texas!*

**Goodpasture, Inc.**



**Best Wishes**

Livestock feeders start young. Our 4-H and FFA youngsters learn valuable lessons by raising, feeding and caring for their show animals. Some of them will even grow up to make it their life's work.

*Best wishes to our young exhibitors!*

**Wilbur-Ellis**

Hart and Sunnyside



**Best Wishes**

to our FFA and 4-H youth and to the Young Farmers in the annual Junior Livestock Show and Sale.

**Mr. Burger**

219 S. Broadway, Dimmitt

647-3688



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION BARROW for the 1999 Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale was this 242-pound heavyweight cross, shown by Keli Schulte (second from left). Schulte's brother, Landon, is holding her reserve grand championship plaque and Kenley Kleman is holding the banner. The animal was purchased for \$7 per pound, with Marvin Schulte (right) and Tulia Livestock Auction Co. furnishing \$4 per pound and Gene and Shari Bradley providing \$3.

Photo by Brenda Bruton

## Workshops to analyze calf crop performance

Ranchers interested in completing a Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA) of their 1999 calf crops can attend workshops beginning in March.

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service is giving ranchers in the state the opportunity to complete this production and financial analysis by offering workshops in several locations. The workshops will be held at the following places and dates: March 14-15 in Amarillo; April 19-20 in San Angelo; April 26-27 in Ardmore, Okla.; May 4-5 in Laredo; May 9-10 in Vernon; May 24-25 in Victoria; and June 7-8 in Paris.

The opening session will begin with an overview of the Texas Cow-Calf SPA. According to James McGrann, Extension agricultural

economist, ranch managers use the SPA to measure performance and manage improvements of their cow-calf operations. Presently, data for 151,000 cows is maintained on 215 Texas herds through this analytical tool.

Throughout the day, district Extension specialists and county agents will assist producers in organizing their data for the analysis and using SPA production and financial software. Individual conferences will be held with the ranchers who have completed the analysis in the past. Registered operators will be sent forms to organize their data before the workshops.

For more information and to register, contact James McGrann at (409) 845-1861 at [jmcgrann@tamu.edu](mailto:jmcgrann@tamu.edu).

# 71 local youth will exhibit livestock in Houston

Seventy-one Castro County youngsters will be joining other FFA and 4-H members from across Texas for intense competition in the show ring at the 2000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, slated Feb. 18 through March 5 at the Astrohall in Houston.

The junior show, which showcases the animal projects of these FFA and 4-H exhibitors, is held during the second week of livestock competition, beginning Feb. 24. Professional breeders and ranchers will compete for top prize money and global recognition in the livestock industry during the first week of the show when it kicks off on Feb. 18.

Entries from both the open and junior shows, along with the horse show, combine to make the Houston Livestock Show the largest event of its kind in the world.

Those planning to exhibit animals in the junior show this year include the following:

**Nazareth:** Reece Hales, three commercial steers; Evar Huseman, Garrett Kleman, Karis Kleman, Elizabeth Olvera, Rebecca Olvera, Cassie Price, Wade Price, Luke Price, Trey Robb, Trinity Robb, Adam Schulte, Brady Schulte, Jill Schulte, Keli Schulte, Macee Schulte, Ross Schulte and Jason Wilhelm, market barrows; and Trinity Robb, market lamb.

**Dimmitt:** Molly Bradford, Heather Lindsey, Shae Odum, Jonathan Stevens, Justin Sutton, Cliff Wright and Jinna Wright, market lambs; Mary Bradley, Deacon

Buckley, Clay Clearman, Tyler Cornett, Chauncey Gilbreath, Haley Heard, Lyndsey Heard, James Lindsey, Van Lindsey, Ross Myatt, Eric Odum, Brooke Parker, Bryce Parker, Jake Porsch, Shantell Self, Tanner Self, Tucker Self, Jeremy Simpson, Brandy Smith, Brandy Smith, Keshia Smith, Jonathan Stevens, Dennis Underwood, Adam Wright, Cliff Wright, Jinna Wright and Matthew Wright, market barrows; Taylor Matthews and Dennis Underwood, market steers; and Tanner Self and Dennis Underwood, breeding beef.

**Hart:** Timothy Barnes, Trent Barnes, Trevor Barnes, Jeff Bennett, Maegan Farris, Zachary Farris, Zane Farris, Aaron Hart, Adrienne Hart, Blake Jones, Kelsie Jones, Zachary Jones, Lindsay Martinez, Logan McLain, Orrin McLain, Johnny Munoz, Brittany Nelson, Jordy Rowland, Nicky Rowland, Salvador Velasquez and Jaime Villarreal.

More than 1,400 entries representing 1,014 Texas 4-H clubs and FFA

chapters will compete in this year's junior show. A wide variety of animals will be shown in both the junior and open divisions of the livestock competition, including market steers, market barrows, market lambs, market poultry, beef and dairy heifers, breeding gilts, breeding sheep, goats, llamas, ostriches, commercial steers and breeding rabbits.

The four market animal categories (steer, lamb, barrow and poultry) represent animals raised by exhibitors for food sources. The finest animals in each of these categories are eligible for their individual market auctions. In 1999, the Houston Livestock Show's junior market auction sales totaled \$5,399,375, including a record \$550,000 for the grand champion market steer.

"We're always looking to improve our show," said John Sykes, assistant general manager, agricultural exhibits and competition department. "We're proud of being the world's largest livestock show, but we also

want to be the best. Due to the overwhelming interest, we have expanded the steer show to three days, March 1-3, and have increased market barrow premiums, which will award an additional \$127,000 to exhibitors."

In addition to world-class livestock competition, the show plays host to one of the premier horse shows in the country.

The Houston Cutting Horse Contest kicks off 20 consecutive days of horse show competition beginning Tuesday. The National Cutting Horse Association Championship Finals follow Feb. 17-20, as well as competition in seven different breeds of horses: Appaloosa, Arabian, Half Arabian, Miniature, Paint, Palomino, and Quarter horse, plus donkeys and mules.

The 2000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo kicks off today (Thursday) with the World's Championship Barbecue Contest, which will run through Saturday in the Astrodome parking lot. Go Texan weekend is Friday and Saturday and includes contests, the downtown rodeo parade and the rodeo run.

Tickets for the 2000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo are \$12 and include admission to the horse show (except National Cutting Horse Association events), livestock show, carnival, all shopping, food and educational exhibits, special attractions and the rode. Tickets are available at the Astrodome box office and at all Ticketmaster outlets, including Foley's Fiesta and Kroger Food Stores. Tickets also are available on the Internet at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).



For a picture to remember, call **GARNER BALL PHOTOGRAPHY** 647-3140

We're proud of our 4-H & FFA members!

See the **Lambs** at the **Junior Livestock Show & Sale** Friday & Saturday

**Coleman Pharmacy**  
201 NW 2nd, Dimmitt 647-3151

## County youths fare well in Hereford show

Bailey Nutt of Castro County 4-H exhibited a first-place Class I Duroc at the Hereford Junior Livestock Show recently.

Several county livestock exhibitors showed their animals in the annual event. Here are the local results from the show.

### BARROW SHOW

**Class 1 Duroc:** 1. Bailey Nutt, Castro County 4-H.

**Class IV Hampshire:** 7. Charley Nutt, Castro County 4-H.

**Class IV Cross:** 4. Charley Nutt.

**Class V Cross:** 8. Bailey Nutt.

### LAMB SHOW

**Class III Finewool Cross:** 4. Raynee Bradley, Castro County 4-H;

5. Ross Hunter, Castro County 4-H.

**Class I Medium Wool:** 6. Joshua Hill, Castro County 4-H.

**Class II Medium Wool:** 5. Ryan Hunter, Castro County 4-H; 8. Ryan Hunter.

**Class III Medium Wool:** 4. Raynee Bradley.

**Class IV Medium Wool:** 11. Joshua Hill.

**Class V Medium Wool:** 4. Raynee Bradley.

*Tea bags were invented when a New York merchant, Thomas Sullivan, sent his customers samples of tea in small silk bags. Discovering that they would brew tea like this, customers wrote and requested more.*



**GRAND CHAMPION BARROW** of the 1999 Castro County Junior Livestock Show was this heavyweight Yorkshire, shown by Chandra Jordan (right). The pig was purchased at \$5 per pound by the three local cooperatives—AgriFarm Industries, Castro Co-op gin and Dimmitt Consumers. Macee Schulte is holding the grand championship plaque that was presented to Jordan. *Photo by Anne Acker*

## Animal training is important part of junior livestock shows

By T.D. TANKSLEY JR. and W.B. THOMAS

Extension Swine Specialists

Texas A&M University System

Too many pigs come to shows and fairs without ample training.

Training should begin during the feeding period. A pig cannot be controlled through fear—you must win his confidence. Kind treatment during the hand-feeding period provides an excellent opportunity to gain his trust.

Gently scratch or brush him at each feeding period, but do not make a pet of him. A "pet pig" is difficult to show.

There are at least three signals that you need to teach your pig.

—Tapping him firmly on the side means for him to move forward.

—A gentle pressure with your stick, quirt or open hand on the right side of the head indicates a left turn.

—The same slight pressure against the left cheek indicates a turn to the right. Do not be disappointed if you are ignored at first. Results come with training.

Drive the pig often. A pig should be driven at least once a day the last 15 to 20 days of the feeding period.

Let your parents serve as judges while you practice moving the animal around as you would in the show ring. Study each pig from many angles to see how he should be shown to make his most favorable appearance.

Usually, your pig looks best to a judge when he is 10 to 15 feet away moving at a slow walk.

**We have confidence in our youth and community!**

Our confidence is strengthened by the interest and top quality projects of our FFA and 4-H Club members!

Congratulations on a sound program and a well planned Junior Livestock Show and Sale!

**B&W Aerial Spray**




**We believe in the future of farming and ranching!**

The Future Farmers of America and the 4-H Clubs are learning more about farming and ranching ... in the classrooms and on the farm. Thus they are becoming more proficient in farming and the future of farming is in safe hands ... for only through a strong agriculture can this nation hope to survive.

Support the Annual Junior Livestock Show and Sale with your presence!

**Texas Corn Producers Board**



**Best Wishes**

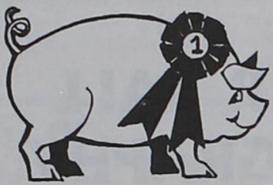
Because of what our 4-H and FFA youngsters are learning today, our nation will continue to be the best-fed on earth tomorrow. Best wishes to all participants in the Castro County Junior Livestock Show!



**KDHN RADIO 1470**

# Tips on relieving diarrhea in show pigs

By Dr. Bo Brock DVM  
 ing an animal is the experience that  
 One of the great things about show- the child has watching an animal



**There are lots of winners!**

Consider the lessons our youngsters learn by caring for and showing their project animals. And the perennial success of our show, made possible by the Dimmitt Young Farmers, the adult helpers, the buyers and the contributors. We don't see any losers there at all!

## PAXTON Tire & Service

**GOODYEAR TOYO TIRES**  
 603 SE 3rd, Dimmitt 647-4121



A special pat on the back to the hard working sponsors of the 4-H and FFA who help to make these youngsters into the citizens of tomorrow.

Best wishes for a successful and rewarding Junior Livestock Show and Sale.

## Town & Country Insurance

grow. It is the essence of animal husbandry and great memories for our youth. Very few things are more frustrating for a young pig owner than when diarrhea rears its ugly head. This disease has multiple causes but most often results in the same effect...weight loss or poor gains. We have gone over what to do if your pig has the scours.

Here is a brief list of the most common causes of diarrhea in show pigs; Nutritional causes, Whipworms, Swine Dysentery, Salmonella and TGE. The stool of a pig is normally firm but not hard. When we are feeding them intensively, the stool will be a bit looser and sometimes a different color. This can be normal for the ration that is being fed but you should watch out for the first sign of any other telling symptom. These signs vary with the type and severity of the disease. Some animals will look dehydrated, run a fever, stop eating, lose weight, or just have a chronic diarrhea with none of the other symptoms.

Whatever the cause is, if the pig is losing weight and acting sick, it needs to be treated. Here is how we usually start treatment. We take the pigs temperature with a rectal thermometer. It is a nasty job with a high noise level. What is a high fever on a pig? Good question. Some people say up to 103 degrees is normal rectal temperature. Some people say that you can tell nothing from a temperature on a pig. I say that you can if you will do it a couple of times per day while the animal is sick. It will tell you trends and reflect that individual pig's response to treatment and disease. High fever may mean that systemic antibiotics are needed.

Whatever the cause, the protein and fat portion of the ration should be decreased to about one half of the present level. High protein and fat in the ration can cause a chronic loose stool and will add to the recovery time and severity of the diarrhea no matter what the cause. In many instances, simply doing this will solve the problem. Changing back to the high protein diet should be done in small increments.

Whipworms get in the intestine and cause inflammation in the cecum and spiral colon. The eggs can remain viable in the environment for as long as six years. It takes around 42 days for the egg that was eaten by

your pig to complete its life cycle and result in more eggs being seen in the feces. You should deworm your pig with Safe-Guard or Atguard for the first three days it is at you place. I would recommend deworming the pig once a month from then on and if the animal starts scouring it should be dewormed then also.

The rest of the common causes of diarrhea in show pigs are the result of viral or bacterial infections. Swine Dysentery is very common and can be very frustrating. Prevention is best achieved by obtaining piglets from a farm that is free of the disease and not mixing pigs from various farms. This is a nearly impossible task due to the way we handle show animals. We carry things in on our feet and go from farm to farm working on the various animals. Lincomix at 200 grams per ton in the feed for 30 days after arrival seems to head off the disease as well as some other problem diseases that hogs get early in the feeding period. After about 30 days, the level can be lowered to 40 grams per ton and this level fed continuously. If this is not possible, you may want to consider putting Lincomix 300 in the drinking water at a level of 1 cc per 1 gallon of water. This can be continued for about seven days. We have had good luck with this. Some people will use Denegard in the feed.

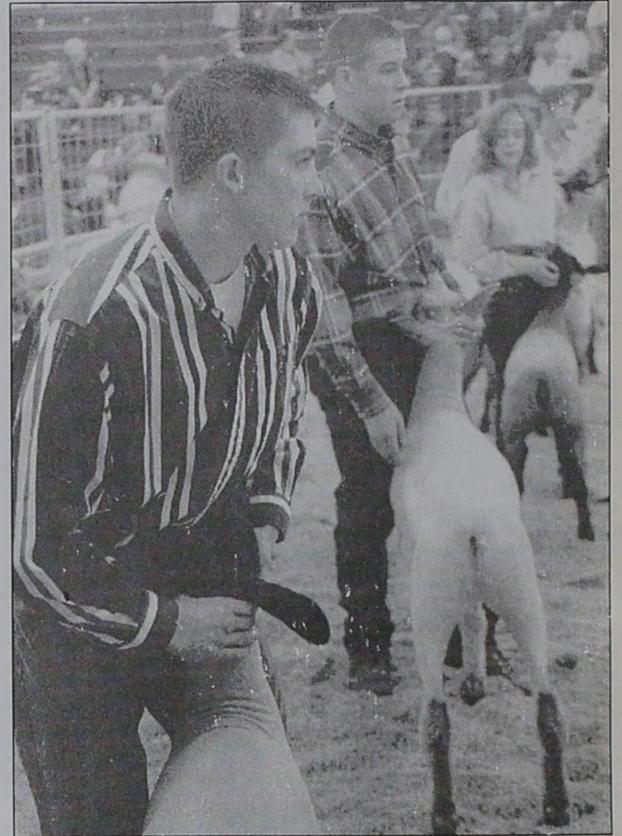
Here are some things that I do not recommend. Oral antibiotics such as Biosol or Spectam are not a good idea. These can kill good bugs that are normal inhabitants of the intestinal tract and can result in diarrhea from a different cause. Not only this, most of the bacteria that cause the diarrhea in hogs are resistant to these antibacterials. Imodium A-D can be effective and I have talked to people all over the country that use it. I will give this word of warning; using it with the wrong disease can allow for the harmful toxins produced by the pathogen to reach critically high levels and possibly kill the pig. Make sure you discuss this option with your veterinarian before indiscriminant use.

Here is a set of treatment guidelines in summary:

- Lower protein and fat content in feed
- Deworm with Safe-Guard or Atgard
- Add Lincomix to the feed or water
- Some people like to use probiotics after the use of Lincomix
- Visit with your local care givers if these steps are not effective.

This is by no means the entire list of diarrhea causes in the pig, but it does contain the most common. I have had the best luck treating scoured pigs with the previous methods. If you have questions, feel free to give us a call at 806-872-3183.

*This article was reprinted from the November/December 1999 issue of "Purple Circle," a youth livestock magazine.*



HOPING TO CATCH THE JUDGE'S EYE  
 ... Youngsters show off lambs' strengths in 1999 show

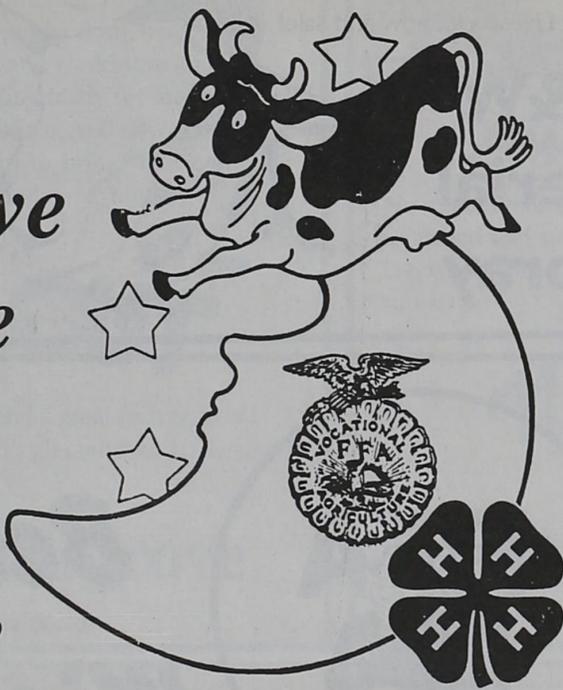
**Make our readers your customers!**  
 To advertise in *The Castro County News*, call 647-3123!



Our future is well in hand, thanks to the dedication and commitment to agriculture that encompasses the work and ideals of today's FFA and 4-H clubs. We're proud to congratulate these organizations for the progress and promise that they offer to us all. Show your support by attending the Annual Livestock Show and Sale this Friday and Saturday!

## Panhandle Ag Service

**You've come a long way!**



The competition is so tough in our Junior Livestock Show that winning may seem as impossible as this nursery-rhyme scene. But just remember, nothing is impossible. When you step into the ring, you're already a winner in our eyes!

## FIRST UNITED BANK

P.O. BOX 929 • DIMMITT, TEXAS 79027  
 DIMMITT • LUBBOCK • EARTH • SEAGRAVES

Member FDIC



**We're behind our youth all the way!**

Technology is an amazing thing! Our 4-H and FFA youth are learning the latest skills and newest techniques, developing a sense of responsibility and growth, learning by doing, on the farm and in the classroom.

Congratulations as you hold your Junior Livestock Show and Sale this Friday and Saturday.



## RAFTER 3 FEEDYARD, INC.

# Trio joins to form new ag research lab

More than 45 years of effort by visionaries concerned about the future of agriculture on the Great Plains culminated Dec. 6 with announcement of a three-way agricultural research partnership and the official dedication of a state-of-the-art plant stress and water conservation laboratory in Lubbock.

The 64,000 square-foot laboratory will house research scientists and partners from the US Dept. of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Texas Tech University and Texas A&M University. The unique partnership was finalized at a summit meeting in December 1998, giving each entity an equal stake in coordinating and developing new food and fiber research programs.

"We at Texas A&M are truly excited about this new partnership. It underscores our commitment to share campuses and research resources with other universities and agencies," said Jim Butler, Texas A&M's vice chancellor of agriculture. "We are very pleased to be a partner in this effort at this new research facility."

Scientists at the lab will conduct fundamental and applied research on plant stress and molecular biology to improve crop yields and the quality of commodity end-products. The facility includes offices, labs and greenhouses, and will house 20 researchers, technical support staff and administrative and maintenance personnel when it is fully staffed.

"We can optimize shared use of equipment and other resources by placing USDA-ARS, Texas Tech and Texas A&M University researchers together at one site," explained Floyd Horn, USDA-ARS administrator. "This cooperative interaction will help scientists find solutions to crop production problems that are rooted in climatic and moisture stress."

The new facility replaces the USDA-ARS Plant Stress and Water Conservation Laboratory built north of Lubbock in the 1970s. The older facility will continue to house the Cotton Production and Processing Research Laboratory. The new building is one of 19 ARS research facilities on the southern Great Plains and will house the Plant Stress and Germplasm Development Unit and the Wind Erosion and Water Conservation Unit.

Researchers in those units are currently studying remote sensing to detect irrigation and crop nutrient deficiencies, how the behavior of confined livestock affects animal health and air quality, and ways to move stress-preventing genes into plant germplasm.

Part of their cotton research focuses on cleaner harvest methods to improve the fiber quality of stripper cottons, and developing precision yield monitors for cotton harvest equipment.

The need for the lab was first recognized by Congress following the drought years of the 1950s—which renewed interest in the effects of erosion and the importance of water conservation in production agriculture.

"Senate Document 59, penned in 1959, laid the groundwork for this facility. Our funding effort faced a lot of highs and lows in the ensuing four decades, but we managed to get it done piece by piece," said US Rep. Larry Combest, chairman of the House Ag committee, who introduced 1987 legislation to actually build the facility. Combest was one of several dignitaries on hand at the facility's ribbon cutting.

The 100<sup>th</sup> Congress authorized construction of the lab in 1988, but we didn't get full appropriations to build it until 1997. The taxpayer's tab for this state-of-the-art research facility is only about \$13.5 million—about half of its original projected cost. That's real proof that government can achieve fiscal responsibility when we work hand in hand to meet local needs," Combest said.

## Choose proper environment for show lambs

By THE BOGGS FAMILY

Before purchasing your lambs, we believe it is extremely important to be prepared at home by providing an environment that will get your lambs off to a good start.

You need a barn or shed that will open at both ends to provide good ventilation through the summer, yet can be enclosed during the winter. Chat or sand should be used as a floor to provide good drainage, as the floor should certainly remain dry year round.

If at all possible, place your barn and build your pen around some good shade trees. Haul in sand and spread around the trees. Wet the area each morning during the summer months, shut your barn and force the lambs to lay outside in the shade. In addition to enclosing the barn in the winter, we suggest you hang a heat lamp or two to aid in keeping the floor dry.



THIS LITTLE PIGGY ENTERED THE SHOW RING . . . In the hopes of qualifying for the premium auction

The custom of kissing under the mistletoe dates back to at least the early 17th century. The correct procedure is for the young man to pluck a berry as he kisses the young woman. When there are no more berries, there is no more kissing.

Thomas Jefferson has been credited with introducing the following foods to America: rice, spaghetti, French fries, and ice cream. A lavish entertainer, when he died, Jefferson was \$40,000 in debt.

# Texas Youth Hotline offers listening, help

Recently, the Texas Dept. of Protective and Regulatory Services (TDPRS) launched a statewide public awareness campaign for the Texas Youth Hotline aimed at troubled youth and families, according to Hotline Director Jay Smith.

"The Texas Youth Hotline is answered 24 hours a day and provides prevention and crisis intervention services to callers who are in need of a caring voice and a listening ear," Smith said. "Hotline counselors talk with callers who face a variety

of issues including family conflicts, delinquency, truancy, and abuse and neglect."

"Our goal is to help minimize problems at home or school and prevent youth from becoming involved in delinquent, self-destructive behavior," explains Smith.

For additional information about the Texas Youth Hotline call 1-800-210-2278 or visit [www.texasyouth.org](http://www.texasyouth.org).

From the weigh-in to the final clean-up, a lot of adult volunteers give a lot of time and labor to insure the success of our Junior Livestock Show and Sale. To the Dimmitt Young Farmers, judges, 4-H and FFA adult leaders, buyers, and others who help with the show: THANK YOU!



## Nelson Well Service

Dimmitt

647-3300



See you at the Livestock Show this Friday and Saturday!

## Don's Wrecker Service & Body Shop



YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED if you attend the LIVE ANIMAL SHOW AND AUCTION

Friday & Saturday, County Expo Building

FUN & FOOD!



James Baker

647-7063

## Have a Great Show!

The Junior Livestock Show is one of Castro County's finest traditions. Good luck to our 4-H and FFA youngsters with your animals, and thanks to the Dimmitt Young Farmers for all your time and work.

## Insurance Solutions

Dimmitt and Hart



## The Price Is Right

We commend the floor buyers and premium bidders who make our annual Junior Livestock Sale one of the best in Texas. You're underwriting a great program for our youngsters!

## Dimmitt Equipment Co.

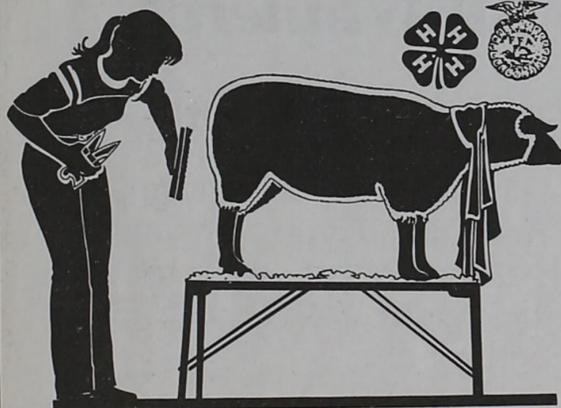


Good luck to all of our 4-H and FFA youngsters. And thanks to all the adults who work to make our show so special.

## Stanford Body Works

322 SE 2nd, Dimmitt

647-4426

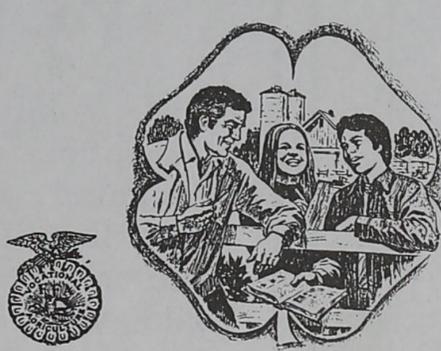


## WELL DONE!

We congratulate the Dimmitt Young Farmers, our FFA and 4-H youth, their adult leaders, the County Extension Office staff, our vo-ag instructors, and all who have a hand in making the Castro County Junior Livestock Show one of the finest of its size in Texas.

We also commend the buyers, auctioneers, Young Farmers and their wives, who make the sale such a success every year.

## Tidwell Spraying Service



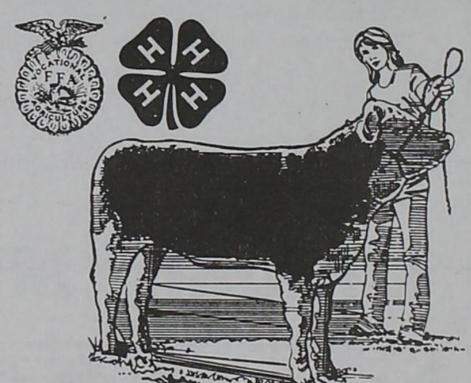
## Learning by Doing

The best way to learn many skills is to put your lessons to practice, under good supervision. That's a hallmark of both the FFA and the 4-H programs. You'll see how well it works during the annual Castro County Junior Livestock Show.

## Triple A Pump Co., Inc.

938-2114

Hart



## Best Wishes

for another successful Castro County Junior Livestock Show and Sale from

## Tulia Livestock Auction

## Feeding is key to show success

By T.D. TANKSLEY JR. and W.B. THOMAS

Extension Swine Specialists  
Texas A&M University System

There are no magic diets or feeding programs. Excellent results are obtained by feeding a nutritionally-adequate diet that meets the nutritional requirements of the pig and provides the desired weight and condition at show time.

Ideally, you would like the age and genetic background (breeding) of the pig to permit him to remain on a self-feeder until two or three days before the show, but this combination is extremely difficult to obtain.

Although there are several good feeding programs, there are a few basic guidelines that should be followed:

—Animals should be fed for rapid growth and development on a self-feeder as long as possible. The only reasons for limit feeding (restricting energy intake) are: to prevent the pig from developing excess fat, or to obtain the desired weight at show time.

—The diet must contain adequate protein that supplies a good amino acid balance, adequate energy, minerals and vitamins for pigs to make maximum growth and muscle development. Ground grain (corn or sorghum) plus a high-quality commercial protein supplement can be mixed on the farm or commercial starter, grower and finisher diets can be purchased.

An 18% protein starter diet can be fed successfully throughout the growing-finishing period, but it is more costly and contains excess protein. The extra protein is not harmful (the NH<sub>2</sub> group will be hydrolyzed and excreted in the urine; the carbon skeleton will be used for energy).

—Most successful agents feel that a pig shows to its best advantage if it has been brought along steadily without any drastic "holding" or "pushing" for weight. Weighing each pig every seven to 10 days during the last six to eight weeks of the feeding period enables you to plot a course for each pig to have him at the right weight and looking his best on show day.

*The average one year old needs about 16 hours of sleep in every 24. Two to three hours of this sleep will be during the day.*



1999 RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION LAMB at the annual Castro County Junior Livestock Show was exhibited by Kirstie Edwards (front, left). The 119-pound light-heavyweight medium wool was purchased for \$7 a pound by Gene Bradley (back, right). Also looking on are Kirstie's parents, Chris and Jennifer Edwards. Photo by Brenda Bruton

## Stock show procedures should be followed by all exhibitors

By T.D. TANKSLEY JR. and W.B. THOMAS

Extension Swine Specialists  
Texas A&M University System

When you take your pigs to a show, follow the correct procedures and rules.

In addition, find your pen and place approximately 1 to 2 inches of wood shavings or grass hay in your pen. Avoid placing too much bedding in the pen.

Let the pig rest.

Before feeding or watering, check with your county agent, club leader or teacher. Follow the directions of your leaders on feeding and watering.

Avoid overfeeding. Feed approximately half the normal ration at the show. Dehulled rolled oats (feeding oatmeal) is an excellent feed to use

at the show. Hungry pigs rarely become sick.

Take your pigs out of the exhibition pen morning and night. Give them ample exercise and permit them to relieve themselves. Do this just before feeding time. Then feed them outside their pen. This will conserve bedding and help maintain a more attractive exhibit.

Do not leave feed or water in your pen.

Keep your pen and surrounding area clean. Stay close to your pen.

Before show day, get your agent or leader to watch your pig eat and decide when he looks the best. Too much feed before show time can cause a heavy, wasty middle. A pig fed too little and/or too late may appear gaunt.

## Bloat is top problem when feeding steers

Bloat is the number one problem you will face while feeding steers. Many remedies have been tried. Sometimes they work, and sometimes they will not.

One cup of mineral oil mixed in the steer's ration daily will help.

One cup of dry detergent (Tide) mixed with the feed daily will help.

Bloat blocks and bloat liquids are helpful.

Every steer feeder should keep one gallon of mineral oil on hand at all times so that he may drench the steer with a gun or with a long-necked soft drink bottle in case he bloats. After giving the calf mineral oil, the feeder should walk his animal or let him out to exercise until the bloat goes down.



Best wishes for another successful Junior Livestock Show and Sale!



## Roger's Repair

Roger Gerber

Nazareth



## In our book, you're all winners!

Castro County youth have record of excelling in the raising of livestock, and we are sure that your skill in that endeavor will again be proven this year as you exhibit your club animals in your Junior Livestock Show and Sale this Friday and Saturday.

## Cluck Feedyard





# Good Luck!

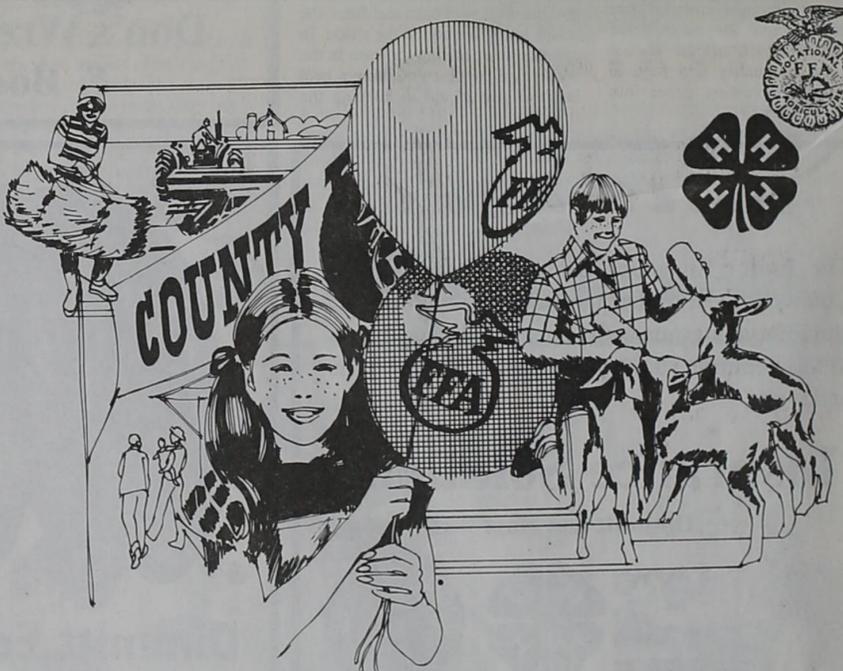
**To our 4-H and FFA youngsters:**

From the birthing pen to the show ring, your project animals have come a long way. And so have you. We know what it takes to raise a show animal and get it ready for the ring. The long nights, the cold mornings, the extra trips, the pen cleaning, the hundreds of other chores ... these are all a part of the task. And now, as you prepare to enter the ring, we wish you good luck. You've earned it!

## Dimmitt Market

THRIFTWAY







## You're All Winners!

The competition, the challenge, the dedication you've shown in raising and grooming your show animals—these all have their own rewards. If you win at the Junior Livestock Show or do well in the sale—these make your 4-H or FFA experience even better.

Congratulations for trying. And good luck this weekend!

## West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative