

The Castro County News

76th year—No. 3

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, April 20, 2000

50¢

16 pages plus supplements

Cerestar sets \$622,000 in improvements

Cerestar USA announced last Thursday that a \$622,000 capital project has been approved for the plant at Dimmitt and work has already begun on construction of a new central control room.

The project will include replacement of local pneumatic control systems with a single plant-wide computer-controlled system, and enclosed overhead walkways to connect work areas.

These improvements are coming after the \$260,000 project approved last year to upgrade process computer software and initiate construction of the central control room.

David Bone, plant manager, said that current plant operations are controlled from five locations around the plant—the mill house, the “42” refinery, the “55” refinery, the utilities area, and the load-out area.

“There are at least five separate control rooms that are being manned by somebody all the time,” Bone said. “We want to go with just one central control room. As things get

more and more automated, you don’t need as many people in all these different areas just monitoring the computer.”

The first two work groups will relocate to the new central control room this month, Bone said, and the last group should make the transition by December.

The objective is to develop an operations plan that will allow the plant to continue to increase production rates while at the same time, reduce manpower requirements.

“It’s pretty much common knowledge in the community that we’ve offered an early retirement package to part of our employees,” Bone said. He added that positions vacated due to employee retirement, transfer, company-wide centralization or resignations often are not being filled.

Bone said that when the mill house was automated completely, all of the equipment was set up to be controlled by computer.

“But in the refinery it was only necessary at that time to put about 40% of the equipment on a computer

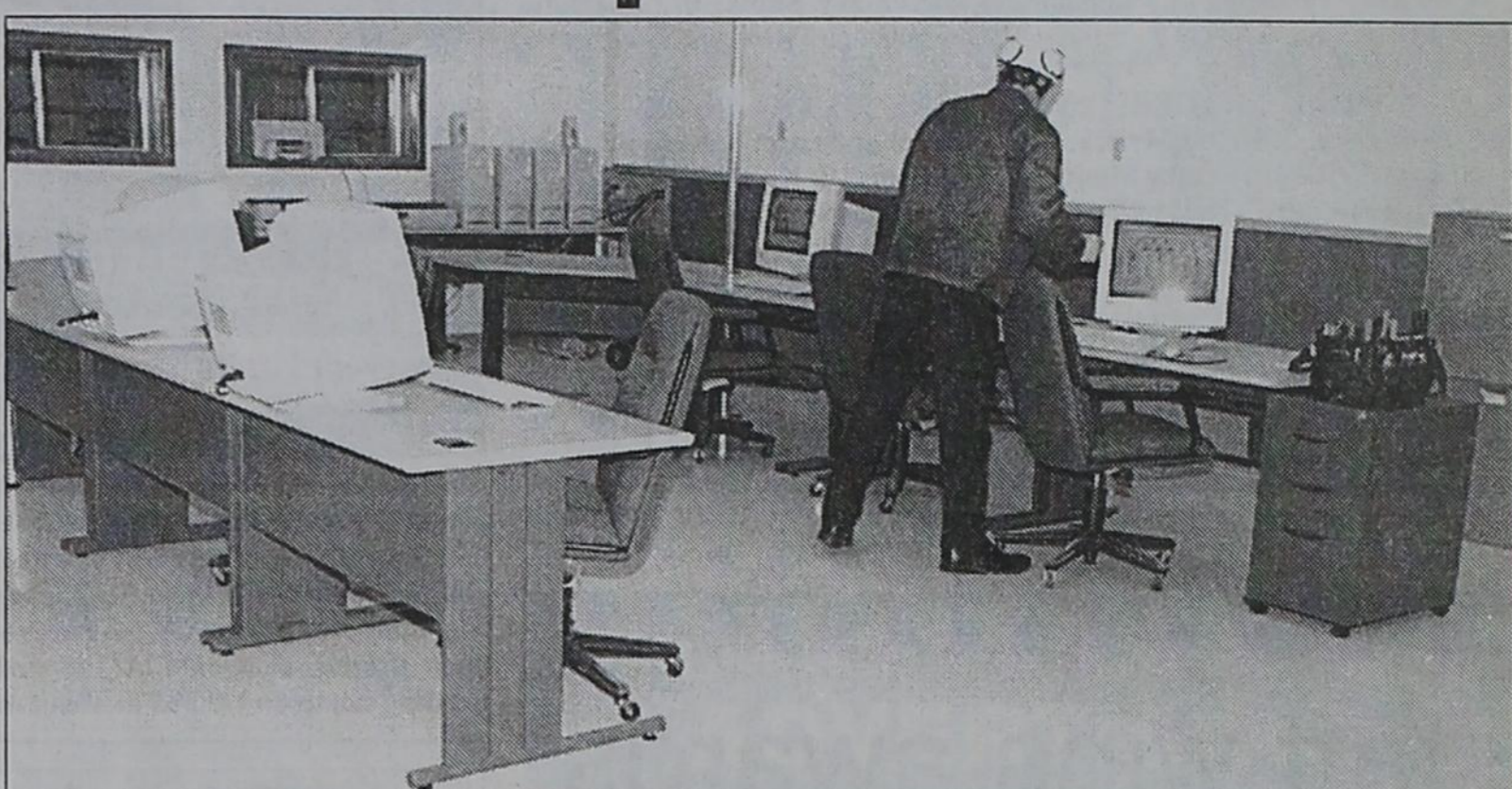
and the other 60% stayed on what we call single-loop pneumatic controllers,” Bone said. “Over the years, probably another 10% of that has been put on the computer. Any time we have a problem with an old pneumatic system, instead of spending a lot of time repairing it, we’ll just go with new electronic equipment and put it on the computer.”

The construction of the central control room has been contracted to Panhandle Building Services of Dimmitt. The new office furniture and equipment is being purchased from Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply, according to Bone.

Bone said that everybody in the fructose industry is “tweaking” what they have.

“There’s been nothing new built in the last four or five years. No new plants are in the process of being built,” Bone said. “Every company is working on tweaking what they’ve got, just like we are.”

“Cerestar is still investing in the company,” Bone said about the local operations.



THE HEART OF THE MATTER—This is the new central control room at Cerestar USA in Dimmitt. It will consolidate the five current control rooms at the plant into one as part of a \$622,000 improvement project that was announced recently. Plant manager David Bone (shown) said the computers in this room

will enable staff to control most of the operations of the plant from one location. He said the contract for the construction was given to Panhandle Building Services of Dimmitt, and office furniture and equipment is being purchased from Dimmitt Printing & Office Supply.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Two sentenced in District Court

Two men were sentenced in recent sessions of District Court.

Jose Guadalupe Banda entered a plea of guilty to charges of DWI, third offense, from a May 10, 1999 incident. The judgment imposed by 64th District Judge Jack Miller was five years in the Institutional Division Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice and in-prison therapeutic communities, along with a \$1,000 fine and \$237.25 in court costs.

Danny Marmolejo entered a plea of guilty/nolo contendere to charges of aggravated assault with serious bodily injury in 242nd District Court before Judge Ed Self. The charges stemmed from an incident on Sept. 6, 1998. He was sentenced to five years in the IDTDCJ, probated for five years. He also was assessed a \$1,000 fine, \$251.25 court costs, \$4,520.25 restitution to Plains Memorial Hospital, \$250 attorney fees, \$50 donation to Castro County CrimeLine, and 400 hours of community service.



DON NELSON of Dimmitt (right), owner and publisher of the *Castro County News*, is inducted into the Panhandle Press Association Hall of Fame. Presenting him with a plaque is PPA Secretary Becki Lightfoot of Amarillo. In back is incoming PPA President Doug McDonough of Plainview.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

PPA honors News, Nelson

The *Castro County News* tied for third place in “General Excellence” for Division I newspapers, and Don Nelson was inducted into the Panhandle Press Association Hall of Fame at the association’s 90th convention, held this past weekend in Amarillo.

In the PPA Better Newspaper Contest, the *News* took first place for sports writing, society/lifestyles, and headline writing in Division I (weekly newspapers).

The *News* also took second place honors in serious columns (Don Nelson) and spot news picture.

Third place recognition went to the *News* for special edition, and honorable mentions were received in news writing and feature stories.

First place for general excellence went to the *Clarendon Enterprise*, second went to the *Irish Star/County Star-News*, and the other third place winner was the *Eagle Press*. General

excellence winners are determined by adding up points for placings won in the various categories.

Nelson was honored at the PPA Hall of Fame luncheon Saturday at noon at the Ambassador Hotel.

Others honored were Nancy Ezell of the *Canadian Record*, the late J.C. Estlack of the *Clarendon News*, and the late W.R. “Bill” Rutherford of the *Moore County News*.

Nelson was honored for his years at the helm of the *News*, his participation in the PPA, membership in other professional organizations, and his continuing concern with the ethics of his profession.

He was accompanied at the ceremony by his wife, Verbie; his sister, Mary Burnham of Albuquerque, N.M.; and his daughter and granddaughters, Rev. Connie Nelson and Katherine and Anna Nelson-Daniel, all of Atlanta, Ga.; along with members of the *News* staff.

Three Hart men arrested after shotgun blasts fired

Three Hart men, ages, 18, 20 and 21, were jailed early Sunday on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon after a shot gun had been fired at a vehicle at Roadside Park just outside of Dimmitt. No one was injured in the incident.

The three were apprehended by deputies two miles northwest of Hart after they had participated in a high speed chase with the damaged vehicle, a Mustang.

Deputies said that the occupants of the Mustang called the sheriff’s office at about 11:33 p.m. Saturday to report that they had been shot at and were being followed by the suspects in a maroon pickup and possibly other vehicles.

They told deputies they were traveling at a high rate of speed toward Hart on SH 194. They were advised to continue into Hart and stop in a well-lighted area and wait to be contacted by an officer.

A deputy reported that he stopped the pickup before it reached Hart, and he searched the vehicle. He reported that he found a shot gun in the bed of the pickup. He said an occupant of the pickup told him that the Mustang’s occupants had “shot first” and that was why they returned fire.

It was reported by deputies that they and Hart Police Chief Jay Livingston approached the stopped Mustang in Hart and searched it, but found no weapons.

The two men and two women in

the Mustang told deputies that the events of the evening had started earlier when the two vehicles were in the drive-through at a fast food place in Dimmitt. The owner of the Mustang, who was riding in the back seat, said she had motioned for the maroon pickup, which was behind them in the line, to back up so that the Mustang could leave the line.

The woman told deputies someone in the pickup made an obscene gesture, but then they backed up and allowed the Mustang room to get out.

The woman told deputies that later in the evening the occupants of the Mustang were parked, talking to the occupants of another vehicle, when the men in the pickup approached and made some remarks to them, then left.

After that, the four in the Mustang wanted to make one more circle of Roadside before going home, and as they drove through the park, they encountered the pickup’s occupants and the shots were fired, according to deputies’ reports.

City council selects new phone service provider

The Dimmitt City Council voted Monday night to sign up with Ionex Telecommunications, Inc., for the city’s telephone business.

A company representative had met with the council at their last meeting and said that Ionex is able to discount GTE’s services by 20%.

In other business, the council tabled action on getting a new warning siren for the city until they are able to meet with emergency coordinator and fire marshal Randy Griffith.

Council members said they want to make sure that one more will be adequate and inquire about its placement, etc.

The council gave approval for the city’s listing in the phone book “yel-

low pages” to be dropped. City Manager Don Sheffy said the listing carried the same information as given in the “white pages” and was costing the city \$22.60 a month.

Sheffy reminded the council members that the sales tax “holiday” planned for the first weekend in August will only cover selected items of clothing and footwear, just like last year.

The council agreed to hold their next meeting May 8 so that the council members could be sworn in as soon as possible after the May 6 election date. All council members who were up for re-election have been declared elected since all were unopposed.

1:1

By Don Nelson

I guess you’re wondering whether I lost control when they inducted me into the Hall of Fame Saturday.

Well, let me tell ya. As a singer, I’ve trained myself to control my emotions when performing in such situations as a close friend’s funeral or my daughter’s wedding.

I wasn’t expecting to have to say anything Saturday. I really hadn’t thought about it. I was just going with the flow, since the situation was out of my control.

But no matter. For most singers, public speaking is a snap if you only have something to say, which I usually seem to have, hehe.

There are two deceased and two living inductees each year. Roger Estlack of the *Clarendon News* accepted for his great-grandfather, the late J. C. Estlack; and W. R. “Randy” Rutherford Jr. accepted on behalf of

(Continued on Page 12)

Elderly warned about home repair scams

Sheriff’s deputies are warning elderly residents of the county to look out for persons who may offer to perform minor home repairs and then charge exorbitant prices for the work.

A woman in the county recently was approached by a white male who offered to paint her storage shed. The woman said no, but asked if he could fix a crack in the bricks of her home.

She said he refused to quote a price before beginning the work, and presented her with a bill for \$5,600 after it was done. She paid him with a check. When she later mentioned it to a family member, she was told that the work, although apparently done well, could have been done for about one-eighth the price.

The man cashed the check immediately after leaving the woman.

Deputies said that the man cannot

be charged with a crime, because he did perform the work and the woman agreed to pay for it. However, they urged other citizens to be careful about having out of town people make repairs.

They said that sometimes fraudulent work may be done and then the repair person cannot be contacted to make it right.

Deputies said that elderly persons living alone are usually targets of such “con men.”

It is a good idea to make sure a repair person is known or get a recommendation before allowing repairs to be done.

A price quote or estimate should be obtained before work is started, and it would be wise to compare prices from several sources to make sure the cost is not out of line.



PAINTING FOR KAYLA—Jennifer Howell (right) adds painted highlights to an Easter egg on the face of Priscilla Reyes last Thursday at Richardson Elementary School. About 400 RES students paid 50¢ to have their faces painted and hundreds others paid to make paper links for a friendship chain for fellow student Kayla Lively, 8-year-old daughter of Ty and

Dixie Lively. Kayla is suffering from a serious heart condition and will be traveling to Houston for heart surgery. RES students have collected \$500 so far, and still have two days left to go on the project. The money raised by the children will be donated to the Lively family to help with their travel expenses.

Photo by Anne Acker

Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	58	38	
Friday	80	38	
Saturday	85	44	
Sunday	85	29	
Monday	76	29	
Tuesday	85	39	
Wednesday	91	45	

April Moisture 0.73

2000 Moisture 3.37

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

On the Go with Martha Jo Hyman, 647-2255

Mary Dove celebrated her 80th birthday with two parties. The first was on Friday, April 14, at the home of her daughter, Debbie Annen.

Those attending the party at the Annen home were Juanita Summers, Tommie Sue Nisbett, Oleta Gollehon, Retta and Billie Cluck,

Winona Bunch, Bessie Strickland, Geneva Malone, Louise Mears, Kate Beecher and Mary's granddaughter, Amanda Annen.

Debbie Annen and Amanda Annen served cake and punch to the guests. Mary received several cards, gifts, flowers and balloons.

Mary's son, Roy Dove of Hartley, came to take Mary to Hartley on Friday afternoon. Waiting for her in Hartley were her daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Bob Thompson of Hartley and, in a big surprise, her daughter and son-in-law, Peggy and Gary Beebe of Durango, Colo.

On Saturday, Roy and Joyce Dove and Barbara and Bob Thompson hosted a lunch for Mary with 63 family members present.

Attending were all four of Mary's children and their spouses; nine of her 17 grandchildren; 13 of her 36 great-grandchildren; four of her six siblings; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Relatives traveled from Durango, Colo., Dallas, Eastland, Oklahoma City, Okla., Portales, N.M., Amarillo, Dalhart, Hartley and Dimmitt.

There were enough people to have three tables of bridge last Thursday. Dwight Joiner was the high scorer while Dude McLauren finished second.

Thirty-one senior citizens attended a seminar Tuesday at the Senior

Citizens Building. It was titled, "Failing to Plan, Planning to Fail," and was hosted by the Grantham Agency in Tulia.

The Dimmitt Senior Citizens had a snack bar at the center on Friday and Saturday during the quilt show.

P.O. Goodwin and 10 helpers served three kinds of sandwiches, drinks, chips and more. The sandwiches were made fresh daily. Others brought in cookies, brownies and cup cakes.

P.O. brought 13 bags of shelled pecans which he offered for sale.

Those helping were Merle Morgan, Merle Autry, Opha Burks, Joy Parsons, Tommie Sue Nisbett, Mildred Bradford, Wanda Murdock, and Mary Lou Smithson.

Houston Lust and Rayphard Smithson were on hand to help run errands.

The group made \$417.69.

Charlene Howell, Carolyn Mike and their sister, Dorothy Sargent of Hereford, went to Fort Worth last weekend to help their aunt celebrate her 80th birthday.

The bluebonnets were so pretty and getting to view the scenery was a big addition to their fun.

On Friday evening Jack and Charlene Howell and Don and Carolyn Moke went to Hereford to take the girls' uncle, Otis Lee, out to eat for his 87th birthday.



SOME OF THE CHARTER MEMBERS of the Dimmitt Area Retired Teacher Association recently organized in Dimmitt are (from left) Barbara Bain, Billye Gwynn, Lucile Dollar, Joanne Snider and Ralph Smith. The group held a meeting April 11 at

Rhoads Memorial Library in Dimmitt. A similar organization had been in Dimmitt in the past, but disbanded, according to Bain. "We are encouraging people from adjoining communities to join the group," Bain said. She may be reached at 647-4400.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Earth UMC sets revival

Earth United Methodist Church has set revival services for May 7-10 and everyone is welcome to attend.

Rev. Derrell Patterson, pastor of FUMC in Vernon, will be the evangelist. Sessions are set for Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and then at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. each following day.

For more information, call 257-2061 or e-mail earthumc@hotmail.com

Breast cancer screenings slated for May

Two breast cancer screening clinics will be held at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt during May and appointments are being accepted.

The mobile clinic will be in Dimmitt on May 4 and May 23.

Those who wish to have an exam should call 1-800-377-4673 or (806) 356-1905 to schedule an appointment.

The clinic is being conducted by the Women's Center of the Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist/St. Anthony's Health System.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening that includes a mammogram and instruction in self-examination by a registered nurse.

Funding is available through the Texas Dept. of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

Between 1960 and 1980, the average male became almost an inch taller and almost four pounds heavier.

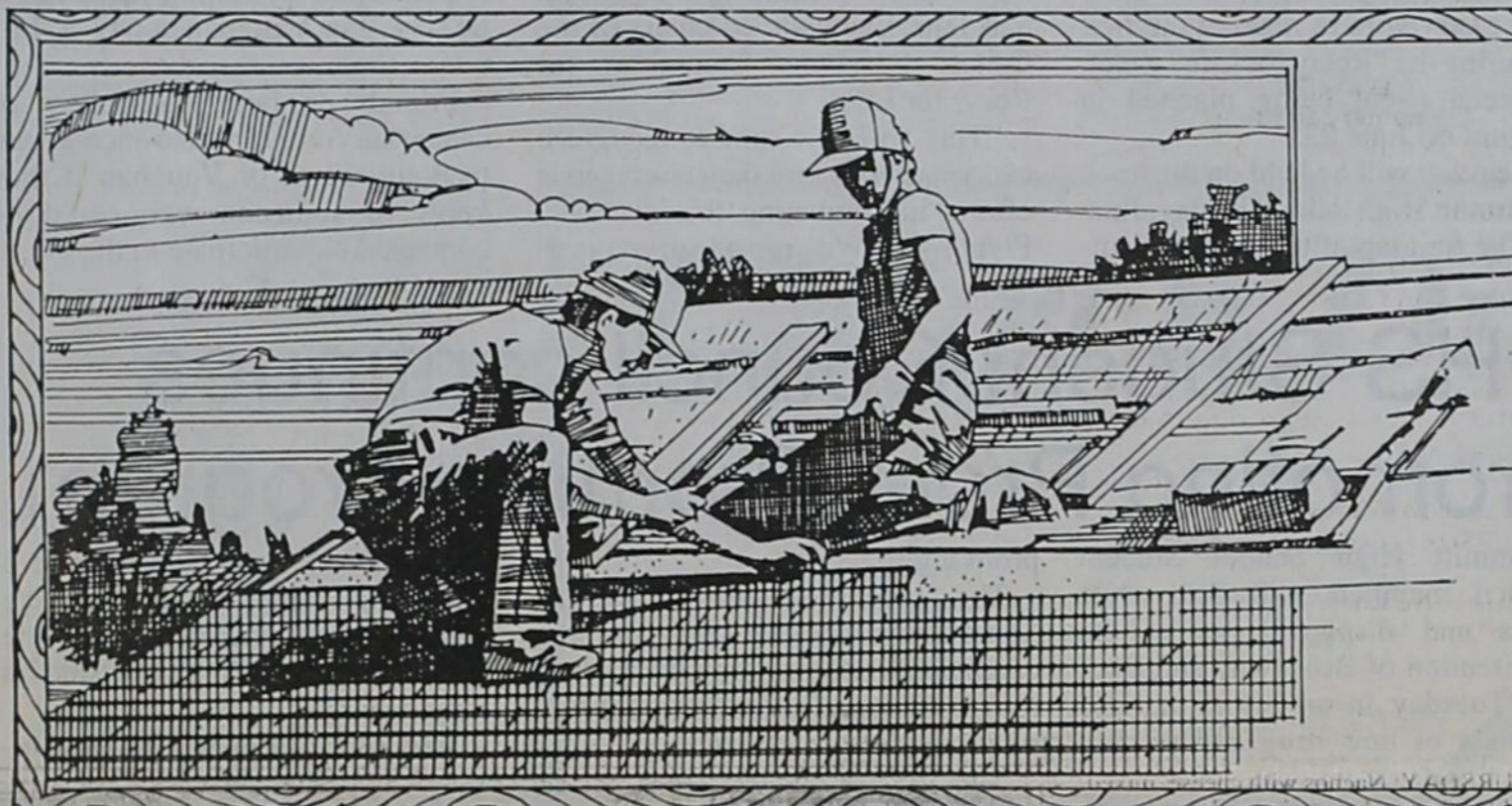
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People



City-wide garage sale will be in Dimmitt June 3

It's time to clean out those closets and drawers and get ready for the 13th annual city-wide garage sale, which is being planned for June 3 in Dimmitt.

Each year since the beginning, more than 100 families have participated in the event by holding sales at their homes or with friends and family members.

Anyone interested in taking part in this year's sale should contact Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Sava, 647-2524, as soon as possible.

A \$10 fee is charged to those who participate to cover the cost of advertising, yard signs and garage sale maps.

"We list three items or categories

of items on our directory for each sale location," Sava said.

Sava said those planning to hold sales should list unusual items on the directories to attract shoppers to their sale on June 3.

One change for this year's event is that food items will not be listed on the directory for residential sales.

Several merchants are planning sidewalk sales and spaces are available around the square for those who feel they would like to hold their sale in the downtown area. Those spaces will be rented for \$30 each, according to Sava.

For more information about the sale or to sign up for this year's event, contact Sava at the Chamber office.



HOSPICE MEMORIAL SERVICE—Carolyn Moke of Dimmitt lights a candle in memory of her mother, Inez Lee, during a memorial service conducted by Hospice Care Monday evening in the First United Methodist Church. Mrs. Lee, who died last June in

the Baptist-St. Anthony's Hospice in Amarillo, was one of about 35 persons memorialized by their families and friends. Helping conduct the service behind the altar rail are Susan Cothran, Shelly Rice and Trudy Jackson of Hospice Care. Photo by Don Nelson

Head Start enrollment is May 4-5

Those interested in enrolling their 4-year-old children in Dimmitt's Head Start program may do so during a special enrollment period on May 4-5.

Students may enroll for the program between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. at Richardson Elementary School's library on May 4-5.

The program is for children who will be four years old on or before Sept. 1, 2000.

For a child to qualify, his or her family must meet income guidelines or be on some form of public assistance. Children also qualify if they have a documented disability or are in a foster care program.

When enrolling a child in the Head Start program, parents or guardians are asked to furnish the following information:

- ✓ Child's birth certificate.
- ✓ Two months of income verification or tax return.
- ✓ Immunization record for the child.
- ✓ Social Security numbers.
- ✓ Documentation of the child's disability (if applicable).
- ✓ Proof of public assistance (for example, Food Stamp Card, TANF benefits, Medicaid, WIC, SSI or HUD).
- ✓ Health insurance card (if applicable).

Cancer survivors will take first lap in Relay for Life event on June 23

Those who have battled and cancer and won are invited to join other cancer survivors in making the first lap during the "Relay for Life" event, a special event being planned in Dimmitt on June 23.

The relay will be held on the track at Dimmitt High School Friday, June 23. The first lap of the relay is dedi-

cated to individuals who are cancer survivors, according to Doris Flynt and Jane Vaughan, co-chairs of the Cancer Survivors Committee for Relay for Life.

"This will be a time to recognize cancer survivors for their courageous efforts in combating this disease," Flynt said. "We urge all survivors to

join us for this event and to register to participate by calling either me at 647-3473 or Vaughan at 647-5213.

Friends or family members of cancer survivors are also encouraged to notify Flynt or Vaughan if they know of someone who could be contacted to participate in the event.

DHS Student Council continues promoting Prom Promise Program

Dimmitt High School Student Council members will don white sheets and display signs at the intersection of Broadway and Bedford Tuesday in an effort to raise awareness of how drug and alcohol abuse can destroy lives.

The "Stop the Road Kill" event is part of a month-long Prom Promise Program that the Student Council is sponsoring.

This "Stop the Road Kill" event is designed to raise community awareness, and the students plan to stand at the main intersection in Dimmitt from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Tuesday. Each will be draped with a white sheet. The students will hold posters carrying safety messages such as "Don't Drink and Drive," "Stop the Road Kill," and "Every 30 minutes someone is killed by a drunk driver."

The Dimmitt High School Student Council is planning several events in conjunction with the nationwide Prom Promise Program.

The goal of this program is to encourage high school students to sign a pledge card promising not to take drugs or drink alcohol, especially on

prom night. The students on the DASH and Spirit Committees are kicking off the campaign by committing themselves to remain drug-free and alcohol-free on prom night.

The first of the activities was a special introductory assembly on Tuesday.

This Tuesday's activity is the second scheduled event.

During the week of May 1-5, the Student Council will hang anti-drug and anti-alcohol posters at Dimmitt High School. Included among these signs will be grave markers of famous people who have died as a result of alcohol or drug abuse.

On Friday, May 5, Student Council members will pass out "Dum-Dum" lollipops with a message attached. These messages will include "Don't be a dum-dum; don't drink and drive."

A special event has been planned for Friday morning, May 8, on the east side of the high school. Several local agencies including the Castro County EMS, Dimmitt Volunteer Fire Department, Castro County Sheriff's Dept., and Dimmitt Police Dept. will be helping the Student Council coordinate this event.

The special event will include a "Circle of Friends," and all of the observers will gather in a circle. The "Grim Reaper" will take a student from the circle.

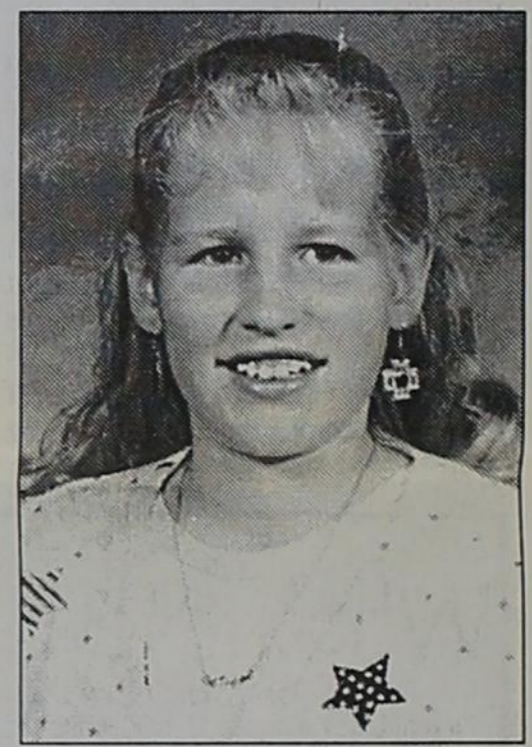
During the day on May 8, the Student Council has planned "The Living Dead" event. Every 30 minutes the Grim Reaper will go to high school classes and remove a student, signifying the fact that every 30 minutes someone is killed by a drunk driver. Each time a student is removed, a heartbeat and a flatline will sound over the public address system, along with the name of the student.

The final event will be a morning assembly in the DHS Auditorium on Tuesday, May 9.

During this assembly, Bob Ledbetter of Atlanta, Ga., will be the guest speaker.

Ledbetter's son was killed in a crash caused by a drunk driver. Ledbetter is a trained MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) speaker.

At the conclusion of this assembly, students will be encouraged to sign a Prom Promise Pledge Card. Members of the community and the high school administrators will be there to witness the students' signatures.



Jenna Acker

Jenna Acker to be honored

Jenna Acker of Nazareth will be honored June 2 by the Duke University Talent Identification Program at its 2000 Texas Recognition Ceremony in Fort Worth.

The state ceremony honors students in Duke's Talent Search program who achieved high scores on the SAT or ACT college entrance exams. Acker achieved a composite score of 20 on the ACT test, which she was allowed to take in the seventh grade as part of the Duke program.

The recognition ceremony will be held June 2 at 4 p.m. in the Daniel-Meyer Coliseum at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

Acker was one of 87,034 students who participated in this year's Talent Search and only a fourth of those qualified for recognition among the 16 states involved in the program. Each of the states holds its own recognition program.

Acker is a seventh grader at Nazareth Junior High. She is the daughter of Dwayne and Anne Acker of Nazareth; the granddaughter of Joe Lynn and Mary Lou Birkenfeld of Nazareth and Charlotte and Bob Middleton of Vega; and the great-granddaughter of Rose Birkenfeld of Nazareth and Virginia and Charles Steele of Bovina.

Wall places fourth at regional meet

Rachel Wall of Hart finished fourth in the Headline Writing contest at the Region 1-A Literary Meet Friday at South Plains College in Levelland.

Wall missed out on a trip to the state meet by one place, but will serve as the Region 1-A alternate to the state meet.

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Sweepstakes winner

The Nazareth Swift Band achieved what most bands only dream about this year when they earned Division I or "Superior" ratings in each of their UIL contests. That trio of Division I ratings qualified the band as a Sweepstakes winner for the 1999-2000 school year. The Swift Band

earned its first I rating last fall in the UIL Marching contest. The group culminated their year's success in March by earning the top ratings at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading contests. The band is directed by Fidelis Fetsch (back row, right).

Photo by Brenda Schulte

Handweaver's Guild to meet

The Palo Duro Handweaver's Guild monthly meeting will be held April 27 at 7:30 p.m. in Amarillo. Anyone interested in weaving, spinning, dyeing or fiber arts is welcome. For meeting location or information, call 355-6220.

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.

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LIVE in CONCERT

Saturday, May 6 — 7:00 p.m.

In the

Tulia High School Auditorium

Sponsored by the First Christian Church of Tulia

Birkenfeld cousins qualify for state literary meet

Mark Birkenfeld and Blake Birkenfeld of Nazareth are making plans for the UIL state literary meet.

Each has qualified for the state meet in three events, after placing at the regional contest Friday in Levelland.

Mark Birkenfeld will compete in Math, Calculator Applications and News Writing while Blake Birkenfeld qualified in Calculator Applications, Computer Science and News Writing.

Blake Birkenfeld captured the regional championship in News Writing and Computer Science on Friday, and he finished third in

Calculator to earn the three berths in the Class A state meet.

Mark Birkenfeld was second in Calculator Applications and finished third in the Math and News Writing contests.

Nazareth's Calculator Applications team, which includes both Birkenfelds and Ky Wilcox, finished second at regional, just missing out on a trip to state.

The Computer Science team from Nazareth also finished second at regional. Joining Blake Birkenfeld on this team were Jase Merritt and Trinity Robb.

Other Nazareth students placing at regional were Lindsey K. Gerber, who finished fourth in Feature Writing; and Jill Schulte, who was fourth in Editorial Writing.



Who's New

OUT-OF-TOWN
It's a girl for Keith and Renee Smith of Dimmitt. Their daughter, Julie Ann Smith, was born at 9:29 a.m. on April 7 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. She weighed in at 8 lbs., 1 oz., and was 21-1/2 inches long. She has two older sisters, 5-year-old Amy and 4-year-old Mindy. Paternal grandparents are Charles and Gayle Smith of Nashville, Tenn. Maternal grandparents are James and Billie Ward of Lubbock. Great-grandparent is Louise Green of Arab, Alabama.

Red Cross sets class

The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross is planning a babysitting class today (Thursday) and Friday.

The class for prospective babysitters will be conducted at the Red Cross office and cost for this class is also \$35 per person.

Students were asked to pre-enroll for the class by Wednesday. The class is limited to 10 students and the recommended age of students is 11 to 15 years.

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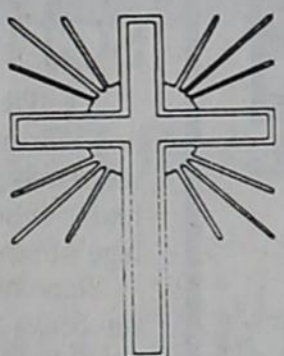
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- Easter Worship Service ~ Sunday, 10:45 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt to Follow on South Lawn

You are invited to come rejoice with us!

First United Methodist Church
Third and Bedford, Dimmitt



KNOCKING IT DOWN—The old 700-sq. ft. center block office at North Gin of Dimmitt, which was constructed in 1956, was burned and then knocked to the ground April 12 to make way for a new, larger building on the same site. According to gin manager Jim Bradford, construction is expected to start this week,

with completion set for Aug. 1. The new structure will include two offices, a meeting room, a cotton marketing room, and an "information exchange" room with seating and a coffee machine. A temporary building is housing the office for now.

Photo by Joyce Nelson

Cotton talks

By SHAWN WADE

The House and Senate are working on a compromise of their versions of crop insurance reform and finding that compromise is the focus of staff members in each.

House and Senate staff members for the Conference Committee continue to work through technical details of the plan and that will yield the groundwork for the Conference Committee's first face-to-face meeting to develop a final compromise.

The effort was aided this week by an agreement on how much money would be included for crop insurance reform provisions in the forecast of Fiscal Year 2001-2005 congressional budgets.

Overall, \$8.15 billion has been earmarked over the five-year period to cover the cost associated with changes to the crop insurance program that will be part of the final legislation.

With this information in hand, committee staff and the Conference Committee can get on with the task of determining how much each provision will cost and how to pay for them with the funds available.

Total federal expenditures for crop insurance will double starting in 2001. Producers will be the main beneficiaries because of the heavy reliance on increased subsidy amounts at all coverage levels in both bills.

The Congressional budget projection for the Fiscal Year 2001-2005 years also includes an authorization for a supplemental expenditure of up to \$5.5 billion for ag assistance in the current Fiscal Year 2000 budget cycle.

Money provided under this directive would need to be spent before Oct. 1, 2000. The agreement also included \$1.6 billion in spending authority for agricultural assistance in the Fiscal Year 2001 budget.

The \$5.5 billion dollar figure for Fiscal Year 2000 was slightly less than what was originally approved in the House of Representatives budget proposal. It will also serve as a starting point for determining the eventual

size of this year's supplemental assistance package.

As cotton farmers prepare for planting, Plains Cotton Growers and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service are joining forces for their sixth year of the AgriPartners Grid Trapping Project.

Approximately 1,000 traps set out in 27 counties across the High Plains provide Integrated Pest Management agents, crop consultants and growers with a timely indication of boll weevil activity across the area. Trap catches and maps will be posted each

Friday on PCG's web site and to PCG's pages on DTN.

Data from PCG's and TAEX's overwintering habitat study should be released soon and boll weevil numbers have been reduced significantly in the three active boll weevil eradication zones.

Numbers still remain high in the Southern High Plains Zone and are also rising in the Northern High Plains Zone.

Both of these zones are currently inactive, but growers and landlords will be able to vote this fall on initiation of boll weevil eradication.

Burning is cost-effective method to control brush

Prescribed burning is a cost-effective way for Texas ranchers to control mesquite and other undesirable brush, according to a Texas A&M University rangeland ecologist.

In fact, the cost of this brush control method decreases as the size of the treated area increases.

"The cost of prescribe burning varies according to the size of the treated area, the labor required and the kind of equipment used," said Dr. Jim Ansley, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station rangeland ecologist based in Vernon. "Another cost factor is the amount of risk the producer or land manager is willing to accept when conducting a burn."

This conclusion is drawn from burn research conducted by Ansley, range ecologist Richard Teague, and range animal nutritionist Bill Pinchak from late January through early March 1996 on five pastures on the W.T. Waggoner Estate ranch. Part of this research was a comparison of burning costs.

The five pastures ranged from 495 to 1,232 acres, but averaged about 765 acres.

"There were four components in our total burning cost. We paid \$60 per hour to the bulldozer operator, about \$8 per hour for other labor, and we added in a cost of 20 cents per mile for vehicle use at the burn

sites," said the rangeland ecologist. "The drip-torch fuel to conduct the burn cost \$1.10 per gallon for a diesel-gasoline mix, and 70 cents per gallon for propane.

"We spent only about \$2.04 per acre, or \$2,513 total, to conduct a prescribed burn on the largest (1,232 acres) of these pastures—this was the least expensive burn of all five pastures. Burning is the only brush control method that has become less expensive as the acreage treated increases. Our most expensive burn cost was \$2.94 per acre."

The researchers also noted that fire crews typically become more efficient with experience and that increased efficiency helps reduce field labor costs over time.

In their study, a bulldozer was used to cut a clear area around each pasture's perimeter and two parallel lines on the north and east sides of the pasture. Fire crews then burned the area between the two parallel lines—known as "blacklines"—before starting the larger, main fire. The main fire was set in southwest wind, to move the flame "front" toward the "blacklines."

The researchers also note their prescribed burning costs may be higher than those producers might actually incur, mainly because they use the "blacklines" to reduce risk.

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Weather forecast, local news, birthdays, anniversaries, American Folk Song, school lunch menus, Good Neighbor

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MARKET REPORTS 40 past the hour,
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KDHN 1470

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Double barrage boosts Bobcats over Tulia, 9-6

Dimmitt made every hit count and took advantage of every Tulia error last Thursday and the result was a 9-6 District 1-AAA win for the Bobcats in Tulia.

Dimmitt batters ripped Tulia pitcher Brent Burrow for 12 hits in the game, and four of those were doubles.

The Bobcats trailed the Hornets after one inning, 0-1, but came back to take a 3-1 lead in the top of the second before allowing the Hornets to tie the game in the bottom half of the inning.

Dimmitt claimed a one-run edge in the third and extended it to three runs in the fourth. The Bobcats never trailed again.

Wesley Harkins picked up the win for Dimmitt after pitching the seven innings. Burrow was charged with the loss.

Jeremy Furr, Bobby Hill, Daniel Proffitt and Tanner Self all doubled for Dimmitt in the game while Michael Penney, Omar Torres, Furr, Self, Brent Josselet and Bobby Hill all picked up singles.

Burrow and Tulia's defense retired the side to start the game, with Furr grounding out to third, Brent Josselet grounding out to short and Bobby Hill taking a seat after his shot toward second base was caught by Tulia's Isaiah Subealdra.

The Hornets were able to tag Harkins for a pair of singles in the first, but lead-off man Chris Chavez was the only runner to cross the plate, giving the Hornets a 1-0 edge.

Jonathan Stevens walked to lead off the Bobcats in the second inning, then Penney and Torres struck with back-to-back singles. Furr would add a double in the inning and Dimmitt managed to bring Stevens, Penney and Torres home to take the 3-1 lead.

Harkins walked Josh Garza in the bottom of the second, then a double

to center field by Subealdra scored him from second. Tulia had to settle for one, as the Hornets would strand two runners in the inning.

Another lead-off walk in the top of the third turned into another Bobcat run.

Bobby Hill walked, then stole second. He advanced to third on a passed ball, then scored before the Hornets retired the next three Dimmitt hitters in order.

Tulia picked up a solo run in the third. Aurilio Chavez singled to right field, and worked his way around the diamond before finally coming home to make it a one-run game, 4-3, Dimmitt.

The Bobcats extended their lead to three in the fourth with the help of a few passed balls by Hornet catcher Tate Criswell.

Burrow struck out the lead-off hitter, then Self connected for a single. Proffitt walked, then Furr got his second hit of the game. Self and Proffitt would score for Dimmitt before Burrow struck out Bobby Hill to end the inning.

Harkins and the Bobcats shut down Tulia in the bottom of the inning and Dimmitt carried a 6-3 lead into the fifth.

Tulia returned the favor, holding

Dimmitt scoreless in the fifth, despite a single by Penney and a walk by Torres.

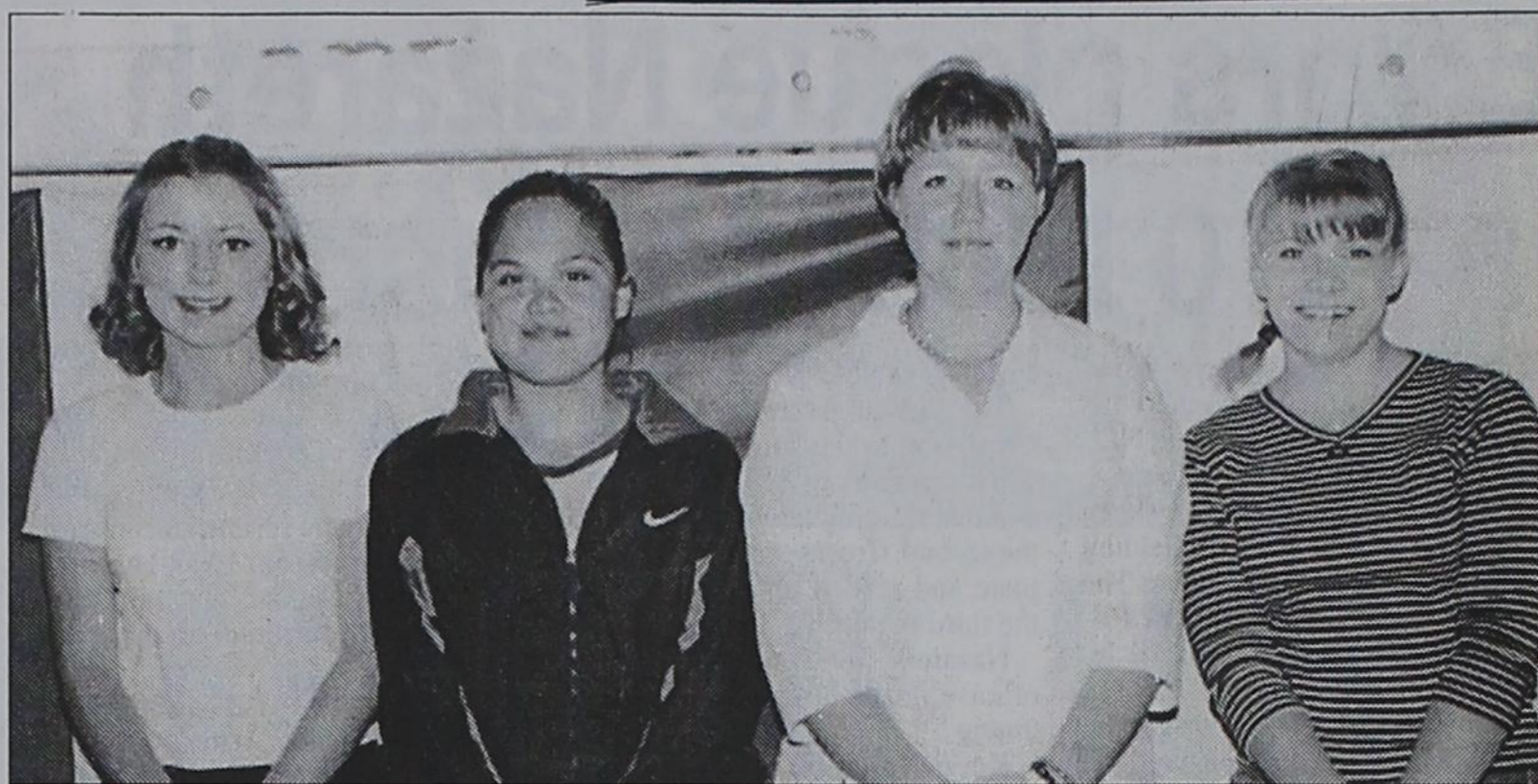
The Hornets cut the Dimmitt lead to a run in the bottom of the fifth when they picked up a pair of runs, with one coming after a triple to center field by Chris Gibson. Two singles from Burrow and Subealdra kept the Hornets alive until Dimmitt escaped when third baseman Penney caught a line drive by Criswell for the third out.

The Bobcats wasted little time in getting back the two runs, using back-to-back singles by Furr and Josselet and a double by Bobby Hill to add to their run total.

Tulia sent three batters to the plate in the sixth, and each took a seat after either their ground balls or pop ups were handled by the Bobcats.

Dimmitt ripped three hits in the seventh, starting off with a single by Torres. Doubles by Self and Proffitt ensured the Bobcats of at least one run in the inning, and Dimmitt held a 9-5 lead after 6-1/2 innings.

Tulia would get one run in the bottom of the seventh, but Dimmitt first baseman Stevens and second baseman Josselet caught infield pops by Subealdra and Criswell, respectively, to end any threat and preserve the Bobcat win.



REGIONAL STROKES—The Hart Lady Horns' golf team qualified for regional with a second-place at the recent district meet, and team member Nikki Burress (left) was the individual gold medalist. The

Region 1-A tournament will be held April 26-27 in Sundown. Team members include (from left) Burress, Becky Guzman, Melanie Davis and Whitney Mitchell.

Photo by Neoma Williams

Basketball camp set

A basketball camp will be conducted by Nazareth High School Coach Matt Garrett June 5-8 and registration deadline is May 15.

Campers will receive a t-shirt and basketball for the \$45 registration fee, and should specify what size shirt they will need when registering.

The camp is for students in the third through ninth grades and those planning to attend should send their registration fee to Garrett at 704 SW 5th, Dimmitt, 79027.

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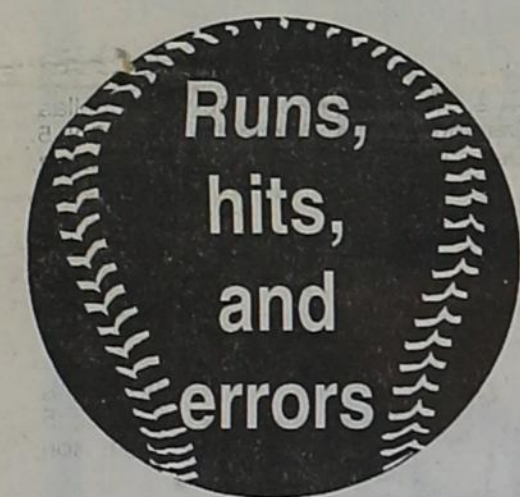
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LAST THURSDAY

Bobcats 9, Tulia 6

(Rescheduled from April 11)

Dimmitt	031	202	1	—9	12	2
Tulia	120	020	1	—6	12	5

Wesley Harkins and Tanner Self for Dimmitt; Burrow and Criswell for Tulia. **WP:** Harkins. **LP:** Criswell. **2B:** Jeremy Furr, Bobby Hill, Daniel Proffitt and Tanner Self for Dimmitt. **3B:** Gibson for Tulia. **Record:** Dimmitt 4-11 2-4; Tulia 7-8, 2-4.

FRIDAY

Swifts 7, Crosbyton 10

Crosbyton	211	022	2	—10	7	3
Nazareth	100	231	0	—7	7	10

Maio Munoz, Fink (6), Rogers (6) and Rodriguez for Crosbyton. Eric Schilling and Daryl Pohlmeier for Nazareth. **WP:** Munoz. **LP:** Schilling. **2B:** Mario Munoz, Fink and F. Rodriguez for Crosbyton; Michael Korman and Evan Huseman for Nazareth. **Record:** Nazareth 3-3.

SATURDAY

Bobcats 2, Perryton 14

Dimmitt	002	00	—2	3	5
Perryton	131	36	—14	13	2

Martinez and Self for Dimmitt; Williams and Creswell for Perryton. **WP:** Creswell. **LP:** Martinez. **2B:** Coch, Estrada and Bernal for Perryton. **3B:** Stiles, Estrada and Merrell for Perryton. **Record:** Dimmitt 4-12, 2-5; Perryton 14-4, 6-1.

TUESDAY

Swifts 2, San Jacinto 12

San Jacinto	407	10	—12	15	1
Nazareth	000	02	—2	3	1

Brent Felder, Curtis Reneau (4), Josh McCreary (5) and Kyle McKinney for San Jacinto; Blake Birkenfeld, Nick Bermea (4) and Daryl Pohlmeier for Nazareth. **WP:** Felder. **LP:** Birkenfeld. **2B:** Adam Acker for Nazareth; Felder, Reneau, Jonas Fuller, Scott Park, Martin Roberts and Ed Delgado for San Jacinto. **3B:** McCreary for San Jacinto. **HR:** Ryan Reneau for San Jacinto (1). **Records:** Nazareth 3-4; San Jacinto 15-4.

Bobcats 1, Sanford-Fritch 17

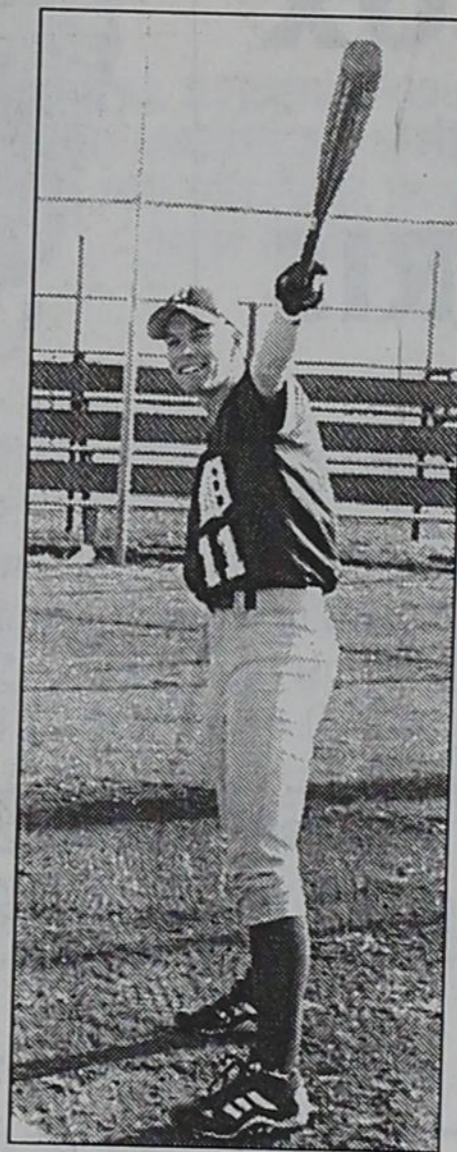
Dimmitt	001	00	—1	2	7
Sanford-Fritch	(11)31	2x	—17	11	3

Wesley Harkins, Brent Josselet (1) and Tanner Self for Dimmitt. Kelley Henderson, Dan Graves (4) and Eric Tindall. **WP:** Henderson. **LP:** Harkins. **HR:** Shiloh Reed, Cade Carr, Henderson, and Derrek Shapley of Sanford-Fritch. **Records:** Dimmitt 4-14, 2-6; Sanford-Fritch 11-6, 4-4.

IT'S TIME TO
PLAY BALL!

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Bobcats!**

**SATURDAY: Bobcats vs. River Road,
1 p.m., Here**
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**TUESDAY: Bobcats vs. Dalhart,
5 p.m., Here**



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Errors plague Nazareth in 7-10 loss to Crosbyton

Crosbyton took advantage of numerous errors by the Nazareth Swifts Friday to post a 10-7 win at the Nazareth Community Center Ballpark.

Each team picked up seven hits in the game, but Crosbyton's fielding was the difference in the game. The Chiefs had just three errors in Friday's game, compared with 10 by the Swifts.

Crosbyton's Mario Munoz got the win while Eric Schilling suffered the loss for the Swifts.

Crosbyton picked up two runs in the first inning, and the first one was the result of a couple of Nazareth errors.

The Chiefs had two base hits in the inning, but only managed to get one more runner across the plate.

Schilling struck out two in the inning, and he threw the last batter out after fielding a dribbler back to the mound.

Nazareth would answer with a run of its own in the bottom of the first. Schilling singled to left field, then scored on a left-field double by Evan Huseman.

That was all Munoz would allow. Schilling walked the first Chief up in the second, and he would score on

a Munoz double.

The Swifts were able to hold Crosbyton to the single run, but the Chiefs were up by two, 3-1.

After shutting down the Swifts in the second, Crosbyton returned to the plate and picked up another run in the third to take a 4-1 lead.

Nazareth finally generated some offense in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Koty Huseman reached on an error, then Adam Acker picked up a single to left center field. Munoz walked Shane Kleman to load the bases.

Chase Schulte picked up an RBI and was credited with a sacrifice when his fly ball to left field scored Huseman from third.

Acker scored on a passed ball while Justin Kleman was at the plate and Nazareth was within a run, 3-4, but Munoz retired Kleman and Schilling to end the inning.

Defensive mistakes continued to plague the Swifts in the fifth inning, and those errors allowed Crosbyton to score two more runs, even though the Chiefs didn't have a hit in the inning.

Nazareth was able to get those

runs back plus one to tie the game at 6 after five.

A lead-off double by Michael Kormann sparked the Swifts, then Daryl Pohlmeier reached on an error.

Munoz struck out Evan Huseman and Koty Huseman, but the Chiefs couldn't hold Nazareth off the scoreboard.

Crosbyton's second baseman bobbed a grounder by Acker, and Acker was able to beat out the throw to first base as Kormann and Pohlmeier headed for home, bringing the Swifts within a run, 5-6. A Shane Kleman single scored Acker to tie the game before Crosbyton escaped.

The Chiefs got a two-RBI double from F. Rodriguez to regain the lead in the top of the sixth. After he drove in Rogers with the double, Rodriguez was able to take advantage of a Swift error to score himself.

Crosbyton replaced Munoz with Fink on the mound in the sixth, and he walked Kleman and Schilling before Rogers took over. A right field single by Pohlmeier scored Schilling, but that was all Nazareth would get as the Swifts stranded two in the inning.

Crosbyton took its one-run lead into the top of the seventh and extended it to three runs. Nazareth couldn't make up the deficit and the Chiefs held on for the 10-7 win.



THREE HART NETTERS earned tickets to the Region 1-A tennis tournament after placing second in their district meet. Yadira Anzuldua (left) and Crystal Diego (right) finished second in girls' doubles to advance while Christopher George was a district runner-up in boys' singles. The trio, coached by Mark Castillo, will compete in the regional tournament April 24-25 at South Plains College in Levelland. Photo by Neoma Williams

Hart runners, jumpers, hurlers qualify for regional track meet

Five Hart individuals and the Longhorns' sprint relay team are headed to Levelland for the Region 1-A track meet after they placed among the top four in the District 5-A and 6-A area meet Saturday in Abernathy. Leading the qualifiers is Jeremiah Velasquez, who will be competing in the triple jump, long jump, 110 hurdles and 300 hurdles at regional. He will be joined by the boys' 400-meter relay team of Jacob Reyna, Joel DeLaFuente, Marcial Mendoza and Keith Finch; Dan Eric Castillo in the boys' shot put competition; Angelica Perales in the girls' 100 hurdles; Kellie George in the girls' mile run; and Dahnie Castillo

in the girls' 100-meter dash. Castillo was the only Hart competitor to earn a gold medal at the area meet. He won the shot put by a good margin, hurling the ball 49-8, compared with the 45-10½ effort of Springlake-Earth's Ben Angeley, who finished second. Velasquez took the silver in the triple jump and long jumps with leaps of 41-11½ and 19-6, respectively. He also finished third in the 110 hurdles and 300 hurdles, posting times of 15.61 in the 110-meter event and 42.68 in the 300-meter race. The Longhorns finished third in the spring relay with a time of 46.17. Perales was the second-place finisher in the 100 hurdles with a time of 17.25. Castillo's time of 13.55 in the 100 was good enough for the bronze medal. George also took third place honors after posting a time of 6:04.98 in the 1,600-meter run. The regional meet will be held next week at South Plains College in Levelland.



SENIOR SUCCESS—Nazareth seniors Sara Schulte (left) and Cassie Birkenfeld will compete in the Region 1-A tennis tournament in Levelland Monday and Tuesday after finishing as district runners-up recently. The two had to beat another Nazareth team in a playback to earn the trip to regional. Photo by Brenda Schulte



THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM—Nazareth junior Shawna Gerber is hoping her third trip to the Region 1-A tennis tournament will result in the regional crown and will eventually lead to a state championship in girls singles. Gerber earned her trip to the regional meet with a first-place finish at district. When she was a freshman, Gerber won regional, but fell in the state quarterfinals. A year ago, Gerber was the regional runner-up, advancing to the state quarterfinals before falling. Photo by Brenda Schulte



- DISTRICT 1-AAA JUNIOR HIGH MEET**
8th Grade Girls
 Shot Put: 6. Stephanie Hazel, Dimmitt, 25-9.
 Discus: 6. Ashlynn Otto, Dimmitt, 67-8.
 100: 5. Alisha Heard, Dimmitt, 13.91.
 400 Relay: 5. Dimmitt (Kami Sanders, Ashlynn Otto, Heather Hargrove and Alisha Heard), 58.29.
 800 Relay: 6. Dimmitt (Tabitha Laurent, Ashlynn Otto, Stephanie Hazel and Heather Hargrove), 2:11.28.
 1,600 Relay: 5. Dimmitt (Alisha Heard, Veronica Aguero, Heather Hargrove and Kami Sanders), 4:54.40.
8th Grade Boys
 Pole Vault: 4. Jared Griffith, Dimmitt, 8-0; 5. James Lindsey, Dimmitt, 7-6.
 Shot Put: 1. Matthew Sanders, Dimmitt, 42-10.5; 3. Caleb Dickerson, Dimmitt, 38-6.
 Discus: 1. Matthew Sanders, 139-1; 4. Caleb Dickerson, 110-3.
 Long Jump: 3. Tyler Myatt, Dimmitt, 16-9.4.
 Triple Jump: 4. Tyler Myatt, 33-2.
 400 Relay: 4. Dimmitt (Nicky Gauna, Matthew Sanders, Ethan Martin and Adam Zambrano), 51.53.
 100: 5. Ethan Martin, Dimmitt.
 200: 6. Eric Ward, Dimmitt, 26.56.
 200 Hurdles: 5. Nicky Gauna, Dimmitt, 31.54.
 400: 4. Tyler Myatt, 59.64.
 1,600 Relay: 3. Dimmitt (Nicky Gauna, Matthew Sanders, Tyler Myatt and Ethan Martin), 4:15.15.

Tennis camp set for June

Nazareth Tennis Coach Matt Garrett will conduct a tennis camp for students in the third through ninth grades on June 12-15 at Nazareth. Cost to attend the camp is \$25 and registration deadline is June 5. Late registrations will be accepted. There will be two sessions during the camp. The first will be from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. for students in the third through sixth grades. The second will be from 10 a.m. to 12 noon for those in the seventh through ninth grades. To register, contact Garrett at 704 Southwest Fifth, Dimmitt 79027.

Thanks to all who supported and voted for me in the election. I appreciate your support.

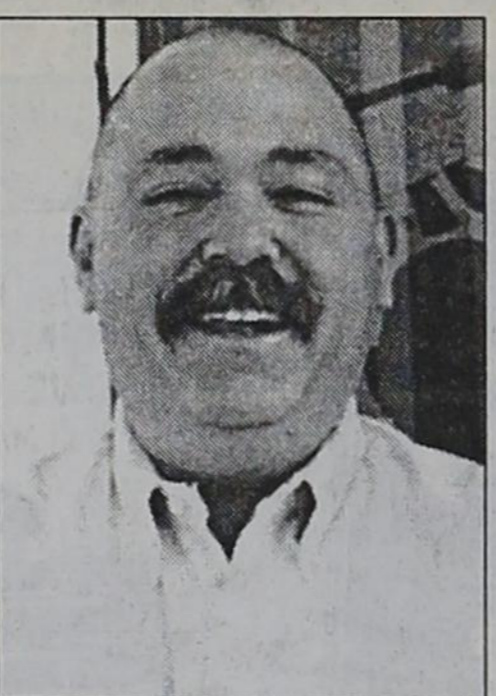
Jack Edwards

Political advertisement paid for by Jerry Annen, Campaign Chairman, 301 SE 2nd, Dimmitt, TX 79027

Chili cook-off raises \$652

A chili cook-off and auction at the VFW Post 8056 in Dimmitt raised \$652 for Districts 7, 9 and 13. Proceeds from the event will be shared between the VFW posts in District 7 and 9 and the Auxiliaries in each district. (District 13 no longer exists because it has been split by the state). Winners in this year's chili cook-off are Ted Stubblefield, first; Jeanne Frazier, second; and Don Howell, third.

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98 Mercury Sable LS V-6, auto., air, loaded, PS, leather/cloth trim, tan, 19K	96 Honda Civic EX Cpe. 5-speed, air, tilt, cruise, windows, locks, sunroof, white, 55K
95 Olds 98 Regency 4-Dr. V-6, auto., this one has it all, leather, light blue, luxury, 68K	97 Ford T-Bird LX Cpe. V-8, auto, loaded, p. seat, deck spoiler, red, 47,000 miles
97 Dodge Avenger Cpe. 5-speed, air, tilt, cruise, power windows/locks, cassette, red	99 Plymouth Breeze 4-Dr. Auto, air, tilt, cruise, power windows/locks, cassette, white, 15K
97 Chev. Monte Carlo LS V-6, auto., air, tilt, cruise, windows, locks, cassette, 54K	99 Merc. Sable LS 4-Dr. V-6, auto, all power accessories, cassette, luxury, silver, 10K
96 Ford Taurus GL 4-Dr. V-6, auto., air, all power, p. seat, cassette, wheels, tan, 47K	99 Chev. Cavalier 4-Dr. 4 cyl., 5-speed, air, power, CD, almost new, white, 7,000 miles
97 Ford Taurus GL 4-Dr. V-6, auto., air, tilt/cruise, power windows/locks, red, 55K	98 Toyota Corolla LE Auto, tilt, cruise, windows, locks, cassette, white, nice car

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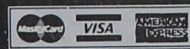
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More about

1:1

(Continued from Page 1)

his father, the late W. R. "Bill" Ruth-erford of the *Moore County News* at Dumas. They didn't have any prob-lem saying a few words on behalf of their forebears, of course.

A living inductee used to have to stand in front of the audience while the emcee recited his/her life history, and that was tough on the inductee. But they don't do it that way any-more, so it's a lot easier now.

When this year's other living in-ductee, Nan Ezzell of the *Canadian Record*, went up and accepted her plaque, she said, "I had a lot of things in mind that I was going to say, but I'm not going to say them."

Then it was my turn. I just went up and, with all my experience as a singer and public speaker . . .

I choked.
Yeah, I lost it.

It's been a really different kind of week, getting congratulations and comments from friends around town as I go, and cards in the mail every day.

Let me tell ya: It's an enjoyable experience.

I got to visit by phone during the week with two of the ladies who helped raise me on the 300 block of Southwest Third.

After we got home from the press convention, I called Polly Manning and notified her that our swallows had returned (as she had instructed me to do). Hers had not shown up

yet, as of Monday.

And Irene Carpenter, who was our next-door neighbor, called to con-gratulate me, and while we were on the phone she told me a story that I hadn't heard before.

It happened in the spring of 1946, the first year that our families lived in their new homes next to each other, which they had built just after the war ended.

One Sunday morning, the Carpen-ter's youngest daughter, Pat, wasn't feeling well, so Mrs. Carpenter and Pat stayed home from church while Mr. Carpenter and their other two daughters, Joyce and Floyce, went on.

It started raining, and my Mom noticed that a bedroom window was open on the south end of the Carpen-ter's home.

There was only one car per family in those days, and since the Carpen-ter's car wasn't there, Mom was sure they were at church, so she went to close the open window. (She knew the door would be unlocked.)

Mr. Carpenter had just planted grass seed in the back yard and had laid out boards to walk on.

"I heard something in the back yard and went to the door to see what it was, and there was your mother,

sitting on one of those boards," Mrs. Carpenter said. "She had slipped on that wet board and plopped straight down.

"When I opened the door and she saw me, she said, 'Well, I'm not going to worry about you anymore!' "I helped her get up, and we went into the kitchen and had a cup of coffee and a good laugh."

That's the kind of neighbors they were.

◆
Claude Mounce of Bryan, another former staffer of the *Daily Texan* at UT, sends the rest of us an occa-sional publication called the *Millen-nium Bash Gazette* to keep us in-formed of coming events and to get help in identifying other exes in old photos.

These ditties are from Claude's latest issue:

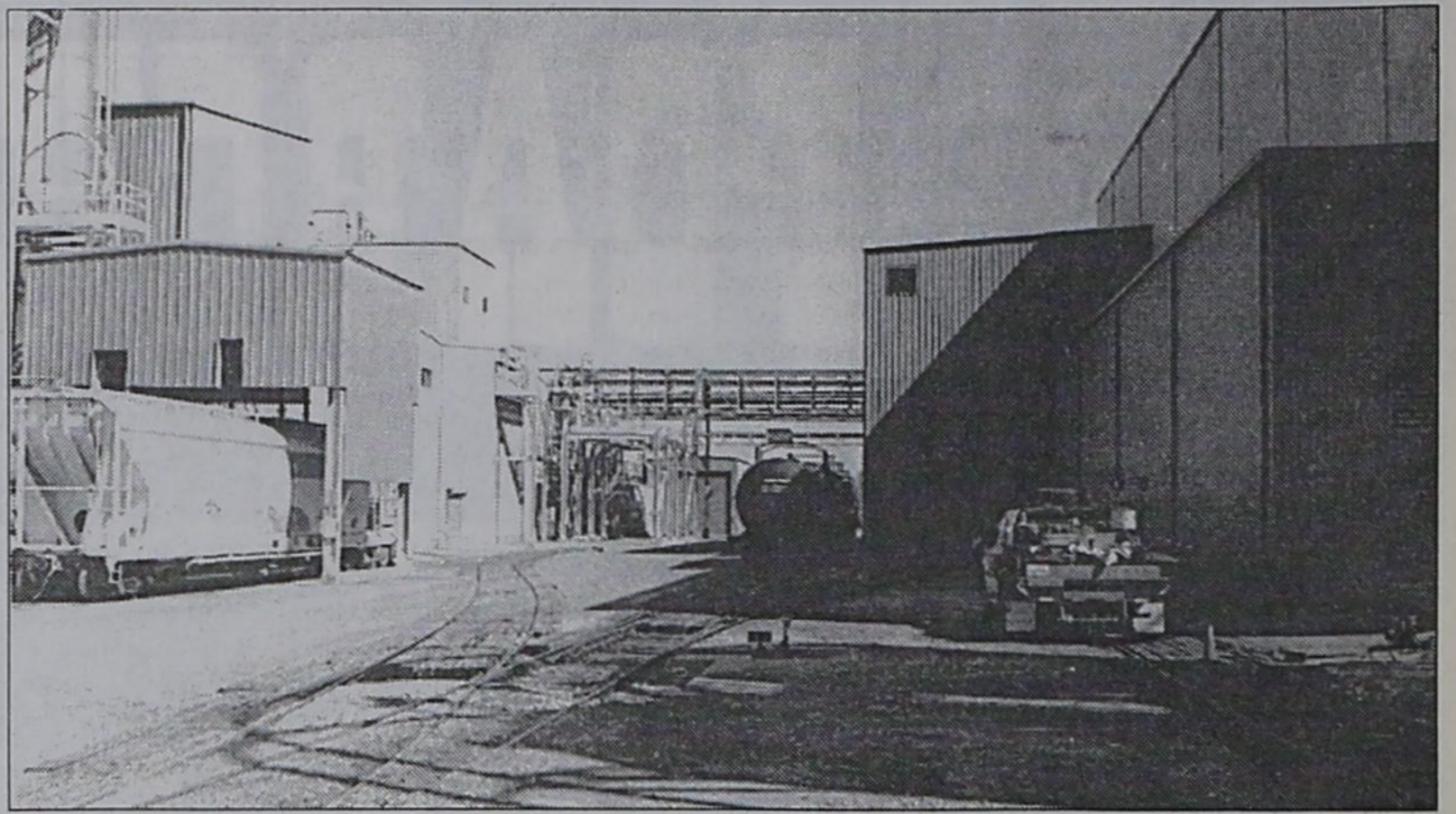
If inert is stationary, what is ert?
If you are going to shoot a mime, should you use a silencer?

Is it true that cannibals don't eat clowns because they taste funny?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

Why did kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Why don't you ever hear about grunted employees?



THE TWO SHALL BE JOINED—The mill and the refinery buildings at Cerestar USA in Dimmitt will be joined by an enclosed elevated walkway between the two main structures as a part of the \$622,000 improvement project underway at the plant. The walk-

way will make it easier for the different sections of the plant to have access to the new central control room that is also part of the project, and workers will no longer have to go outside to travel between the buildings.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Small cities must carefully plan for future water needs

Small cities and municipalities need to examine future needs carefully and act proactively so they are not left with expensive options in future water planning, according to a water expert with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Dr. Bruce Lesikar, agriculture engineer, said "the time for looking for alternative water sources is now."

Regional planning mandated by Senate Bill 1 is currently under way; therefore, the long-term needs of cities and communities is being closely examined, Lesikar said. The first drafts of the documents should be ready in August for distribution to public meetings for comments.

◆
Information on making manage-ment decisions will be available at a workshop on April 19 at the San Marcos Activity Center in San Marcos. The meeting is open to city and county officials and interested citizens. Pre-registration is required and registration fee is \$50.

Contact Billy Kniffen, Hays County Extension Agent, at (512) 393-2120 or the Southwest Texas District Extension Office at (830) 278-9151 for more information about the workshop.

◆
Two relatively inexpensive sources of water for drinking, agri-cultural and industrial needs are groundwater from aquifers and sur-face water from lakes and reservoirs. an aquifer is a sand, gravel or clay layer under the soil surface that holds water.

"Currently, we have groundwater that is recharged by rainfall and groundwater that has accumulated over time," Lesikar said. "We are not going to have accumulated ground-water as the sole supply any longer, because we are going to fully utilize groundwater that has been stored."

Texas water demand in the year 2050 is estimated to reach nearly 21 million acre-feet, which is equivalent to nearly seven trillion gallons; how-ever, only about 15 million acre-feet is projected to be available.

Small and large communities are no longer going to be able to count on groundwater as their only source of water.

"Larger communities are already shifting their long-term supplies to surface water," Lesikar said. "They are acquiring the right to develop all lake sites available for surface water supplies. Now is the time for small communities to look at their future water growth and determine where they might get additional surface water supplies."

In terms of long-term growth, the most economical source of water is that which is replenished by rainfall each year—surface water supplies. The majority of yearly rainfall is trapped by surface water reservoirs.

"If smaller communities don't look at needs now, by the time they realize they need surface water as a source to supplement their ground-water supply, that water may already be purchased by larger cities such as San Antonio, Houston, Dallas or Fort Worth."

The first step communities need to take is to make sure they are in-volved in the regional planning process. They can determine what plan-ning region they are in, and then get in touch with regional planning groups to determine what projections have been set for their area and what water management strategies are being considered for meeting their long-term needs," Lesikar said.

They may be able to partner with other communities developing sur-face water resources.

Because many of the smaller com-munities do not have the financial

resources available to construct a large water project, the most likely could partner with a larger commu-nity that is able to secure funding for the project.

Small communities do have some leverage when it comes to competing for water rights, Lesikar said.

"A lot of people may be willing to provide long-term water resources for the development of their commu-nity," he said. "If landowners knew their land was needed to construct a reservoir to help their community, they might be more willing to sell their property. A smaller community could actually facilitate the acquisition of the land needed to develop a surface water resource. For that facili-tation, the smaller community would obtain a portion of the water resource that would be developed."

In other words, if landowners are concerned that their water is going to be shipped to another part of the state, the water resources may never be developed, he said.

Communities should contact their regional planning group to determine where they are in the planning process.

There are seven steps to the re-gional planning process. They are:

1. Determine the water demands (usage) in the area through the year 2050.
2. Evaluate the water supply in the region.
3. Determine if there is sufficient water or if a need exists to imple-ment other water management strate-gies to meet water needs.
4. Provide a draft of the regional water plan for public comment (esti-mated completion in August).
5. Provide a draft to the Texas Water Development Board (esti-mated completion in October).
6. Submit final plan to Texas Wa-ter Development Board (deadline is Jan. 5, 2001).
7. Texas Water Development Board provides the statewide plan (January 2002).

Farm Bureau recognizes Earth Day

Earth Day 2000 will be celebrated nationwide on Saturday, with this year marking the 30th observation of the celebration.

Agriculture has many talking points to deliver in conjunction with Earth Day, according to Bruce Fuller, presi-dent of the Castro County Farm Bu-reau.

"Modern farm practices have helped farmers and ranchers restore thousands of acres of wetlands, re-duce soil erosion, protect wildlife and reduce waste," Fuller said.

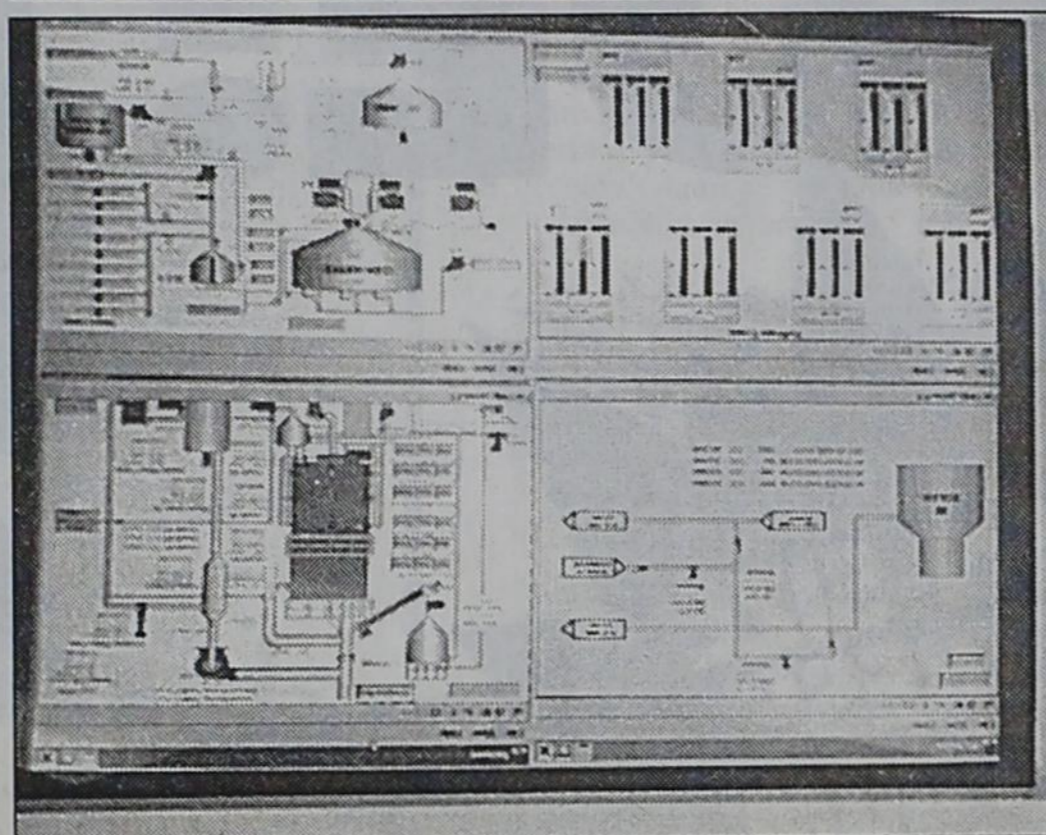
He cited figures showing a 24% reduction in soil erosion since 1983 due to conservation tillage and other modern farm practices.

According to Fuller, "Farmers and ranchers provide food and habitat for 75% of the nation's wildlife. Each year, hundreds of thousands of trees are seeded on America's farmland. Modern farm practices have enabled America's food growers to produce more food on fewer acres, leaving more open space for wildlife habitat."

"Perhaps no one in America has more invested in Earth's resources than farmers and ranchers," Fuller said. "The Earth is our livelihood. No group has more incentive to protect it."

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NEW PROGRAMMING designed in-house at Cerestar USA in Dimmitt will help the plant be able to run most operations from the new central control room that is being constructed as part of a \$622,000 improvement project that was announced recently. Here, a computer screen is divided into four quadrants, each displaying controls for a different area of the plant's operations.

Photo by Don Nelson



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Police Calls

A Dimmitt couple, ages 45 and 49, were jailed the night of April 12 for assaulting each other in an incident of assault/ causing bodily injury/family violence.

A 21-year-old Dimmitt woman told police that a suspect assaulted her and damaged her eye glasses in an incident of assault/bodily injury early Monday.

Four incidents of assaults or disorderly conduct were reported at Dimmitt schools during the week.

—April 11 at 1:12 p.m., a 13-year-old boy reported that a suspect hit him in the mouth with his fist at Dimmitt Middle School.

—Two students, an 11-year-old girl and a 12-year-old boy, leveled

charges against each other in an incident at DMS around noon last Thursday.

—A 16-year-old female student at Dimmitt High School was charged with disorderly conduct after she used profane and vulgar language toward a victim.

—Two suspects were charged with disorderly conduct for fighting Tuesday morning at DMS.

Fred Lookingbill with Tam Anne Cattle Feeders told deputies Monday morning that 67 head of steers, valued at \$40,200, are missing from the feedyard. The cattle belong to Robert Powell of Dimmitt and should weigh about 600 pounds each. Investigation

is continuing.

A 26-year-old Dimmitt woman told deputies April 9 that her roommate took her car without permission and then wrecked it after a short chase by Dimmitt police, who were attempting to stop the vehicle for DWI.

A break-in at El Viejo Package Store of Dimmitt was discovered Saturday morning. Suspects broke a window and took five cartons of cigarettes, valued at \$110. Damage to the plexiglass window was estimated at \$125.

A 17-year-old student at DHS told police that someone removed the tail-light covers from his mother's vehicle while it was parked at the high school Friday night. The covers were valued at \$55.

A Hart man reported an incident of harassment to deputies on Friday.

In alcohol-related events, a 28-year-old Dimmitt man was jailed for public intoxication at 1:17 a.m. Saturday at FM 3215 and South Front Street; and a suspect was arrested for public intoxication and curfew violation at 1:45 a.m. Saturday in the 500 block of West Bedford.

Jailed on a warrant on April 10 was a 27-year-old Hereford woman on a warrant from Deaf Smith County for credit card abuse.

Jail Count

The jail population as of Tuesday morning was 13. Two had been farmed out for the week, at a cost of \$76 per day, or \$532 for the week.



DISTRICT 4-H FASHION SHOW participants from Castro County competed in the Senior Division. The competition was held April 4 at Texas Tech University. They are (from left) Melanie Book, who took third in formal buying, Rachel Wall, third in casual buying, and Nikki Burress, who competed in formal construction. Only first place winners will advance to the state competition.

Courtesy Photo

Amarillo will celebrate 'Earth Day'

A multi-species Easter parade will open the Earth Day celebration in Amarillo on Saturday at 10 a.m.

Individuals and families or other groups are invited to participate in the parade, on foot, for the length of the park in costumes depicting species of plants or animals, or wearing Easter hats made with recycled materials or other decorations.

The parade will be followed by a day of activities and exhibits, with more than 20 community organizations bringing information. Geology students from West Texas A&M University will help identify your favorite rocks brought to their booth. There will also be live music, puppet shows, food vendors, insect collections and a flint knapping demonstration.

A tai chi demonstration will begin at 1 p.m. and the Kwahadi dancers will perform at 3 p.m.

Broken Ground musicians will close the festival at 4 p.m. with a drumming circle, followed by open drumming. All are invited to bring drums, rattles, etc., and join in the session.

There is still space available for individuals, community organizations or businesses interested in sponsoring exhibits or activities. For information contact Pam Allison at 656-0036, Mavis Belisle at 335-1715 or Mary Emery at 372-3442.

PCS is accepting applications for its weatherization program

Panhandle Community Services is accepting applications from low income families for a program to weatherize their homes.

At no cost to qualifying families, the weatherization program is designed to make the homes more energy efficient and lower utility bills.

"We will weatherize about 250 homes," said Weatherization Director Margaret Wolf. "We will give preference to the elderly and the handicapped. During our assessment of the home to see if it qualifies, we will check for air infiltration, the presence of carbon monoxide, adequate insulation, the condition of windows and doors and other repairs which might be needed according to the availability of funds and the rules

and regulations of the program."

For those who pay their electricity bill directly to Southwestern Public Service, there is even a possibility that old, inefficient refrigerators could be replaced.

"This has been a vital program aiding the citizens of the Panhandle for many years," said Johnny Raymond, PCS executive director. "Families who feel they might qualify should contact their local service center for details."

Early voting continuing

Early voting started Wednesday and will continue through May 2 in the May 6 school board elections set in Castro County.

Positions that are expiring and candidates who have filed on the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth school boards are listed below, along with voting locations.

City and hospital elections in the county were canceled, since all candidates were unopposed.

Dimmitt

Terms are expiring for John Nino in Place 1 and David Schaeffer in Place 5.

Schaeffer has filed in Place 5. Also filing in Place 5 are Larry Gonzales and Brian Rambo. Nino has filed in Place 1.

Early voting may be done at the administration building on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., including during the noon hour. However, the building will be closed on Friday and Monday due to holidays.

Hart

Terms are expiring for Ricky Mitchell, Pancho Diaz, and Danny Rodriguez.

Rodriguez has filed. Others filing are Harold Bob Bennett, Vivian Finch, Roy Gonzales, Laura Hart, Manuel Minjares III, Arthur Guzman, and Julie McLain.

Early ballots may be cast at the school administrative offices on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., including the noon hour.

Nazareth

Those whose terms are ending are Peggy Birkenfeld and David Olvera.

Olvera and Birkenfeld both have filed, along with Christine Acker, Jimmy Hoelting, and Mike Huseman.

Early voting may be done at the superintendent's office at the school building on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., including during the noon hour. However, due to the Easter holidays, early voting will be available only from 9 a.m. to 12 noon today (Thursday) and Monday, and not at all on Friday.

Harrington String Quartet will play in Canyon April 29

The Harrington String Quartet will present the third and final subscription performance of its 1999-2000 season on Saturday, April 29.

The concert is slated to begin at 8 p.m. at West Texas A&M University's Northern Hall in Canyon.

The quartet will perform three works, Haydn's "Lark" Quartet, Wolf's Italian Serenade and Beethoven's Quartet in E-flat Major, Opus 74.

The quartet was formed in the fall of 1981. In late 1980, the Don and Sybil Harrington Foundation made two grants—one to West Texas State University and one to the Amarillo Symphony to jointly organize a

quartet. The members of the Harrington String Quartet are violinists Corinne Stillwell and Annie Chalex, violist Joanna Mendoza and cellist Emmanuel Lopez.

Single tickets for each Harrington String Concert are \$7 for adults and \$2 for students and senior citizens. Tickets are available in advance from the Amarillo Symphony or at Northern Hall on the day of the concert.

A free reception will follow the performance.

For more information, call the Amarillo Symphony office at 376-8782.

Scholarships are available

Catholic Life Insurance is now accepting applications for its 2000 Leadership Scholarship Program.

The program will award scholarships to Catholic Life Insurance members who attend any private or public college or university in the fall of 2000.

Due to high demand from members for financial assistance to help pay for college, the Leadership Scholarship Program now offers 10 non-renewable \$500 college scholarships. To be eligible, students must be a Catholic Life Insurance member for at least one year before the application deadline and be attending any private or public college or university beginning in the fall of 2000. Scholarship selections will be based on scholastic achievement, leadership qualities and community service. Scholarship recipients will be announced in August.

Interested individuals may call the Catholic Life Communications Dept. at (800) 262-2548 or (210) 828-9921 for an application form. All applications must be postmarked by July 11.

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Obituaries

Anna Clearman

Funeral services for Anna Laura (Stanford) Clearman, 83, of Gorman, and formerly of Summerfield, were held Saturday afternoon at Kokomo Baptist Church in Gorman with Rev. Clarence Wilson and Rev. Wayne McEntire officiating.

Burial followed in Simpson Cemetery in Eastland County under the direction of Higginbotham Funeral Home in Gorman.

Mrs. Clearman died April 12 at Abraham Memorial Home in Canadian.

She was born on July 28, 1916, in Leakey. She married J.C. Clearman on Oct. 23, 1937, in Abilene. He died in 1990.

After farming in the Lamesa area, the couple moved to Summerfield in 1952. In 1968, they retired to Gorman, where they ranched and raised registered Limousin cattle.

Mrs. Clearman was a member of various women's clubs and a supporter of civic organizations. She was a member of the Kokomo Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday School for many years. She also was a member of the Kokomo Home Club.

She is survived by two sons, Jamie Clearman of Lawn and Kenneth Clearman of Arlington; three daughters, Dianne Walser of Hereford, Nanetta Thompson of Plainview and Mary Jo Leonard of Canadian; a sister, Edna Sudduth of Winters; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to Kokomo Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Gorman 76454; Parkinson's Research at Covenant Lakeside, 4102 24th St., Ste. 501, Lubbock 79410; or to a favorite charity.

Mary Small

Mary Rose Small, 100, of Lubbock, mother of former Dimmitt resident Jacqueline McLeroy, died Friday at University Medical Center in Lubbock.

Services were held Monday afternoon at the Cooper Methodist Church with the Rev. Ron Strickland officiating. Burial followed in Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home.

Mrs. Small was born Jan. 13, 1900, in Barnesville, Ga. She married Hugh Small on April 24, 1924. He died Oct. 1, 1972.

She was a schoolteacher in the Panhandle Region and was a librarian at Texas Tech University for several years. She was a member of Cooper Methodist Church.

Survivors include her daughter, Jacqueline McLeroy of Lubbock; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be to a favorite charity.

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1-Real Estate Homes & Land ONE OF DIMMITT'S FINEST! Three large bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths...

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3-Real Estate For Rent RENT TO OWN NEW TV'S, VCR'S & APPLIANCES

Azteca Complex APARTMENTS 910 E. Jones, Dimmitt NOW LEASING

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3-Real Estate For Rent DIMMITT SENIOR CITIZENS APARTMENTS 622 N.W. 5th ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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5-For Rent, Misc. RENT TO OWN NEW TV'S, VCR'S & APPLIANCES

6-For Sale, Misc. PENTIUM COMPUTER with free, unlimited Internet access. \$200. 355-8011.

9-Farm Equipment & Supplies 1980 JD 4840, duals, quick hitch, A/C, heater, radio/cassette, runs good.

10-Agricultural Services CRP SHREDDING with 25-foot Flail shredder. Leaves no wind rows.

11-Feed, Seed & Grain SEED MILO CONTRACT growers needed for 2000 season.

12-Farm Produce CORN SILAGE, forage sorghum silage and cotton burrs for sale.

14-Automobiles GOOD, USED VEHICLES and travel trailers. New utility trailers and used livestock trailers.

18-Services Holland's Painting Interior and Exterior FREE ESTIMATES

19-Students Wanting Work NEED YOUR LAWN MOWED? Call Jason or Casey Hargrove at 647-2646.

20-Help Wanted HELP WANTED: Experienced rig operator or capable rig trainee.

20-Help Wanted FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Dimmitt, needs workers to keep pre-school children (birth-3 years) Sunday mornings.

20-Help Wanted WANTED: DEPENDABLE, experienced babysitter for two year old boy.

OWNERS/OPERATORS NEEDED to haul feed commodities in our regional fleet. We offer weekly settlements, unloading pay, insurance programs, high earnings per mile and plenty of miles.

22-Notices NOTICE OF AVAILABLE STUDENT LOANS The Burch-Settoon Student Loan Fund Trust has loans available to graduates of any high school in Hale, Floyd, Lamb, Castro or Briscoe Counties of Texas.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, 945-2553. 22-1-4tc

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).

24-Card of Thanks CARD OF THANKS Dear family and friends, words are so inadequate to really express our thanks for all your cards, prayers, gifts, food, phone calls and your love and concern shown to us during Othella's hospital stay and since we have been home. Thanks again.

24-Card of Thanks CARD OF THANKS Thanks to all who helped with our primary and runoff elections. First, to our voters, each vote is appreciated.

CARD OF THANKS The Dimmitt High School Athletic Dept., wishes to publicly thank all those volunteers who helped conduct the Bobcat Relays Friday.

When an American says that he loves his country, he means not only that he love the New England hills, the prairies glistening in the sun, the wide and rising plains, Shade must be provided in a goldfish tank because goldfish have no eyelids.

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EASTER BLESSINGS

Now late on the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. And behold, a severe earth quake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. And his appearance was like lightning, and his garment as white as snow; and the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come see the place where He was lying ...

Matthew 28:1-6

May the miracle of Easter sustain you throughout the year.

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