

On the Go

Wade and Walter Maynard recently attended the wedding of her cousin, Al Tittle, and Beatrice Chadwick at Hot Springs, Ark. Al and his family were residents of Dimmitt in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

A big birthday party was held Sunday for Derrick and Brian Maynard, sons of Wyanette and Karen Maynard. Many cousins, grandparents and other family members attended as well as close friends of the family. Derrick celebrated his fourth birthday; Brian celebrated his second birthday.

Georgene and Lawrence Woods of McKinney and Lanelle and Gearld Stevenson of Denton were guests in the home of Irene Blanton during the holidays. Irene's sister Gearnidine Shaw and family of Tucumcari, N.M. were here to enjoy the fun as well.

The Over The Hill Motorcycle Group got together in their cars Tuesday night and went to Hereford to eat at Sirloin Stockade. It was too cold for the group to ride on bikes at this time of the year, but the outing was fun and the food was good.

Amy Glover spent Christmas in San Antonio with her son and family. He lives on a golf course so Amy gave her son a golf cart for his Christmas present. He took her riding around on the golf course. George Gervin was there playing golf so Amy was there to watch him tee off.

Rose Acker and Rosetta Bellinghausen went to Amarillo to visit Clint McFarland since he was home after a short stay in the hospital. Catherine's daughter, Hallie Fuller, was there from Oklahoma.

If you have not paid for your Extension Club calendar, \$3.50, please contact a club president (Debbie Underwood, Karen Carter or Rose Acker) or Marilyn Neal.

Family members visiting the Eldon Minchew family recently were Barry and Glenda Epps and children Lance and Todd, Charles and Linda Minchew and Kirk, Brent and Tate. The others who attended were Don and Judy Minchew, Lora Matthews and Clark and Dawn Blair. A good time was had by everyone.

Oleta Gollehon was honored on her birthday on Thursday with a luncheon at Maria's Mexican Food Restaurant. After lunch they were served chocolate pie instead of the traditional birthday cake. Oleta received gifts and cards from Irene Carpenter, Kate Beecher and Mary Edna Hendrix.

Rosetta Bellinghausen gave her a card and poem concerning the 80th birthday.

David Bellinghausen reported to his parents, William and Rosetta Bellinghausen, that his sister-in-law and her family, Joy and Michael Armstrong and children Ryan and Samuel, were in the California earthquake. They live in Stevenson Ranch addition and were sleeping outside in a tent during a block party with their neighbors. They were sharing food and visiting during the day.

Members of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church enjoyed a pancake breakfast after each service on Sunday. Pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee were served.

Elizabeth Huckabay was hostess to the Thursday Bridge Club that met at the Senior Citizens Center. The members took their brown bag lunch and Elizabeth served a delicious chocolate cake. Dude McLauren won high score and Johnnie Vannoy won second high score. Others playing were Lorann Hamilton, Dugan Butler, Ina Rae Cates, Bernice Hill, Ferne Dickey, Susie Reeves, Louise Mears, Oleda Schumacher, Gladys Benson, Helen Braafadt, Neva Hickey, Edith Graef and Cleo Forson. Playing Skip-bo were Ocie Bolton, Inez Lee, Nell Davis and Lily Kunetka.

Texas Sugar Beet Growers Association held its 29th annual banquet on Saturday evening at the Bull Barn in Hereford. Over 400 persons attended. Beautiful organ music was furnished by Ronda Wise of Dimmitt, and the invocation was by Kenneth Frye. The delicious dinner of roast beef, baked potato, green beans, salads and cheesecake was catered by K-Bob's of Hereford. The tables were pretty with colorful balloons anchored in candy-filled vases.

Bill Cleavinger, TSBSGA president, introduced the board of directors, including Frye and J.C. Pohlmeier of

Nazareth, and Holly Sugar officials. Speedy Nieman, publisher of the Hereford Brand, announced Frye as the Man of the Year in Agriculture. Coby Gilbreath introduced the guest speaker, "Doc" Blakely of Wharton. Coby read a poem, some changes he made in 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, concerning agriculture. Mr. Blakely was very entertaining and kept the crowd laughing, something we all need. Cleavinger led the closing song, *God Bless America*. The directors and their wives made the decorations.

Oleta Gollehon flew to Dallas to celebrate her 80th birthday. They all met at Johnnie and Kathy Poer's home in Plano and then went to Steak and Ale for the big party. The waiters sang Happy Birthday as one waiter brought in the big birthday cake and pretended to fall with the cake. The family sang Happy Birthday and the waiters were surprised at all the wonderful voices. Ann Rogers read the poem concerning the 80th birthday that Rosetta Bellinghausen had given Oleta.

Family members attending were Kyle and Tanner Touchstone from Lubbock; Ann Rogers from Paducah; Ben and Vee Gollehon, Michael and Julianne and Ben Michael Gharzouzi and Lee Gollehon, all from Houston; Scott and Tricia Campbell and Conner from Garland; Tobin and Angela Touchstone, Ret and Sam from Mansfield; Todd and Debbie Touchstone and Trent, and John and Sharon Gollehon from Fort Worth.

Flo, Ty and Trey Touchstone were unable to attend because the boys were involved in basketball, and Ron and Jeana Rankin and Marshall from Amarillo were not able to attend since Ron is in medical school and could not take off from school. Oleta had a wonderful birthday! The men all went to Todd's later to watch the ballgame.



FIND "NEWSY"
We've hidden "Newsy" somewhere in the CASTRO COUNTY NEWS.

If you find him (and he may be any size, anywhere), come to the *Castro County News* office, 108 W. Bedford St., during business hours, 8-5 Monday through Friday.

The first two to come in and show us where they found "Newsy" in this issue will win a 2-liter bottle of soft drink. (One win per month, per family. No phone calls, please.)

Last week's winners:
Sylvia Medrano
Mary Ann Fuentes

Sunnyside By Teeny Bowden,

Ashley Sisemore of Plainview, infant daughter of Sunnyside Baptist Church pastor Anthony and Lori Sisemore, was admitted to the Hale Center Hospital on Friday with viral pneumonia. She was dismissed Saturday afternoon, but still has

congestion in her right lung which will require home treatments for a while.

C.J. Fowlkes of Houston, a former resident of the community and the brother of Willie Mae Sadler, died

Thursday in Houston after a long illness. The funeral was Saturday afternoon in Houston. Dr. Myles Sadler flew with Willie Mae and Embree Roy to Houston on Saturday morning to attend the funeral. His wife, Irene, is the sister of Euleuss Waggoner. Their daughters, Alice Gamblin of Sulphur Springs and Francis and her husband, Jessie Pharis of Abilene, also attended the services in Houston. Jiggs Carroll of Anton visited Sunday afternoon with Euleuss and Hazel. She is a younger sister of Euleuss. Her grandson, Tim Norman, preached the funeral.

Kathy Kerr of Hereford, daughter of Joan and James Norrell, was very ill Friday night. She was admitted to the Hereford Regional Medical Center with migraine headaches, and found no relief until Saturday morning when they learned she was allergic to some of the medicine she was taking. When this was corrected she began to get better.

Elgin Brooks of Clovis, brother of LaWanda Wilson, was dismissed from the Clovis hospital Friday after fighting pneumonia for two weeks.

Flossie Jones was back in church Sunday morning after her problem with a blood clot in one leg.

Verba Sadler was in Plainview Friday for a checkup and the removal of stitches. All was going satisfactory.

Janet Morgan of Dimmitt played the piano Sunday morning for the church services since Lori Sisemore was home with both girls in Plainview. Verba Sadler led the singing in the absence of Gerald Elkins, who was having trouble with his throat. The Morgan girls accompanied their mother.

Justin Dameron competed Saturday in Levelland in computer against several different schools. He won second place and received a nice trophy. He also was one of the Top 10 in the 10th grade at Dimmitt High School.

Gay Sadler, Ruth and Karl King of Hereford, Brenda Johnson and children of Canyon attended two funerals Friday in Amarillo. The first was for John W. Chase, 73, a longtime family friend. The other funeral was for Mr. Chase's father-in-law, Roger R. Walton, 96.

Nazareth By Ulrge Gerber, 945-2669

Enjoying a week-long cruise to the Caribbean aboard the ship *Festivale* were Tom and Raelene Hoelting, Gerald and Becky Birkenfeld, Larry and Tammy Robb and Kenny and Cince Schulte.

They were met on the ship by friends, Nicky and Laurie Smith of Olton. The ship sailed from the port of San Juan. They toured the islands of St. Thomas, St. Martin, Dominica, Barbados and Martinique. All were lush and green with beautiful beaches. Dominica is an undisturbed rain forest and it is especially beautiful. They enjoyed snorkeling, sailing and playing in the ocean while on the islands. They also explored the bottom of the ocean from inside a submarine. They reported having lots of fun, food and entertainment everywhere aboard the ship. It was a trip they will never forget.

By the way, Tom, did you enjoy your Coke on St. Martin?

Mary Litsch is home to recuperate after spending several days in Plainview's Methodist Hospital while undergoing treatment for pneumonia. We're happy to see her doing fine.

Brian Anthony, infant son of Kevin and Christine Acker, was baptized in Holy Family Church on Sunday morning with Deacon Al Maurer officiating.

Brian has three sisters, Patricia, Nicole and Jeanette, and a brother, George. His sponsors in baptism were Cary and Leona Acker.

Mattox picks King as local chairman

Carl King of Dimmitt has been named county campaign coordinator for Democratic candidate Jim Mattox.

Mattox is running for the U.S. Senate nomination.

"Carl is an outstanding citizen of Castro County, and a proven leader who genuinely cares about his community and his country," Mattox said. "Carl is joining a group of hundreds of Texans across the state who are teaming up to reclaim their communities and wage the fight for a safe, healthy and economically prosperous environment for our children and our children's children."

King is one of 300 local campaign coordinators in 200 Texas counties representing 95% of the state's population.

Mattox is a former member of Congress, serving the Fifth District (Dallas County) for three terms, and served two terms in the state legislature (1973-76). Mattox served as state attorney general from 1983-90.

The annual pool tournament, sponsored by the American Legion, was well enjoyed and attended this weekend. Julius Birkenfeld won the "A" singles with Keith Gerber being runner-up. The championship in "B" singles went to Heath Schulte with Dwight Acker finishing second.

In the doubles, Clyde Schulte and Trent Johnson claimed first place while Kevin Gerber and Tom Wethington were second. The Auxiliary served barbecued sandwiches and popcorn and are selling chances on some beautiful articles which will be raffled off. Proceeds from the tournament and raffle will send an individual to Boys' State.

Doyle and Rosie Kleman, Dan and Karen Gerber and Larry and Tammy Ramackers enjoyed a fun weekend in Ruidoso, skiing and celebrating Dan's 35th birthday.

New Things Keep Happening at Hereford Care Center Hereford, Texas

We are now accepting Medicare assignments for Patients who qualify. We also accept Medicaid, Private Pay and Insurance.

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GRANDPARENTS:
Here's your chance to brag on **YOUR GRANDCHILD!**

Send or bring us a photo of your grandchild (we promise to return it unharmed), and we'll place it in a special display frame like the one at left, with your grandchild's name and yours, and on **Thursday, Feb. 10** your little Valentine will appear in the paper!

The cost is only **\$10** per picture

Hurry! DEADLINE IS MONDAY, NOON, FEB. 7th

The Castro County News

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Together We Can

Newsy to celebrate first birthday Friday

Friday will be Newsy's official birthday, since he first appeared in the *Castro County News* on Jan. 28, 1993.

Newsy is the little newspaper-ish character who is hidden on a page of each issue of the *News*, with free two-liter soft drinks offered to the first two people who find him each week.

During his first year, Newsy appeared most often in Dairy Queen ads (five times), and also seems to prefer food ads.

Newsy watchers have learned that he has his own house (Jan. 28, 1993), went to church one time (Aug. 5), has driven a train (Dec. 9), and even went skydiving (Oct. 21).

He likes to hide among flowers, trees and agricultural products, and has rested on three bovines. He also has rested on a mattress (Oct. 28) and taken a bath (Oct. 14).

Newsy is familiar with computers (Oct. 7 and Dec. 2) and likes to appear in cartoons (April 29, June 24 and Aug. 19).

Although he is a little camera shy, Newsy has appeared in one photograph. He was sitting on the bench with the Dimmitt Bobbies at the State Basketball Tournament (March 11).

He's no stranger to danger. Besides going skydiving, Newsy has been plastered on car bumpers, carried aloft by a tornado (April 1), and almost shut in a refrigerator (Feb. 25).

He was reported "drowned" in

chili sauce once, but it was only an April Fool's Day joke.

Many times he is camouflaged, but at least four times he stood right out in plain sight—Aug. 26, Sept. 23, Sept. 30 and Dec. 30.

In three instances, Newsy stayed in the same hiding place for two weeks in a row: May 13 and 20, July 15 and 22, and Sept. 9 and 16.

He has missed only one week on the job since he started, and that was when he took a Christmas vacation (Dec. 23—he fell off the page before it was printed).



His favorite page numbers are 3, 4 and 16, with five appearances each; followed by 5, 6 and 12, with four each. Newsy also has appeared in three special sections—Stock Show, Graduation, and 4-H.

He has followers young and old, and the week he took his vacation, many frustrated searchers called in exasperation at their inability to find the little guy.

The week he was reported "drowned," the *News* even received a sympathy note!

Among the most successful Newsy finders are:

Twila West and Extelyne Lumpkin, with six wins each; followed by Wanda Youts with five; Lynn West and Sylvia Medrano with four; and Janina Puente and Tila Rodriguez with three each.

"The *News* is glad to report that Newsy will be with us for another year, and we heartily wish him a very happy birthday," a *News* spokesperson said.

Fernandez found guilty in assault

A 242nd District Court jury found a Dimmitt man guilty of aggravated assault at a summer festivity and sentenced him to prison.

Armando Fernandez was found guilty of aggravated assault at the Suds and Sounds celebration last July at Nazareth. He is accused of pulling a knife and slashing at several persons gathered in a crowd at the event.

After hearing two days of testimony, Fernandez was found guilty. After hearing testimony and following additional deliberation in the punishment phase, Fernandez was sentenced to five years in prison. He was also fined \$1,000, assessed court costs of \$242, and ordered to pay \$1,104 in restitution.

In another jury trial, James Willie Vaughn was found not guilty of burglary of a habitation. Vaughn had been accused of breaking into a house in Dimmitt last summer.

Two persons pleaded guilty to charges and were assessed probation.

Larry Joe Ivory, also known as Larry Joe Hyman, pleaded guilty to burglary of a motor vehicle. He was sentenced to five years probation, fined \$1,000, ordered to pay \$250 restitution to Maurice Powell, and must pay \$50 to Castro County Crime Line.

Francisco Rodriguez of Dimmitt was given four years probation for driving while intoxicated, third offense. He must also serve 15 days in Castro County Jail, had his driver's license suspended for 180 days, and must pay a \$1,000 fine, \$242 court costs, and \$50 to Castro County Crime Line.

Police Calls

Dimmitt police are investigating a forged check reported Jan. 18 at Dimmitt Middle School.

The check, for \$12.40, was reportedly made on the account of a Dimmitt woman.

Police are looking for suspects in a criminal mischief episode on NW 12th. A man told police someone threw a brick at the right door of his pickup. Damage was estimated at over \$200. The incident occurred on Jan. 18.

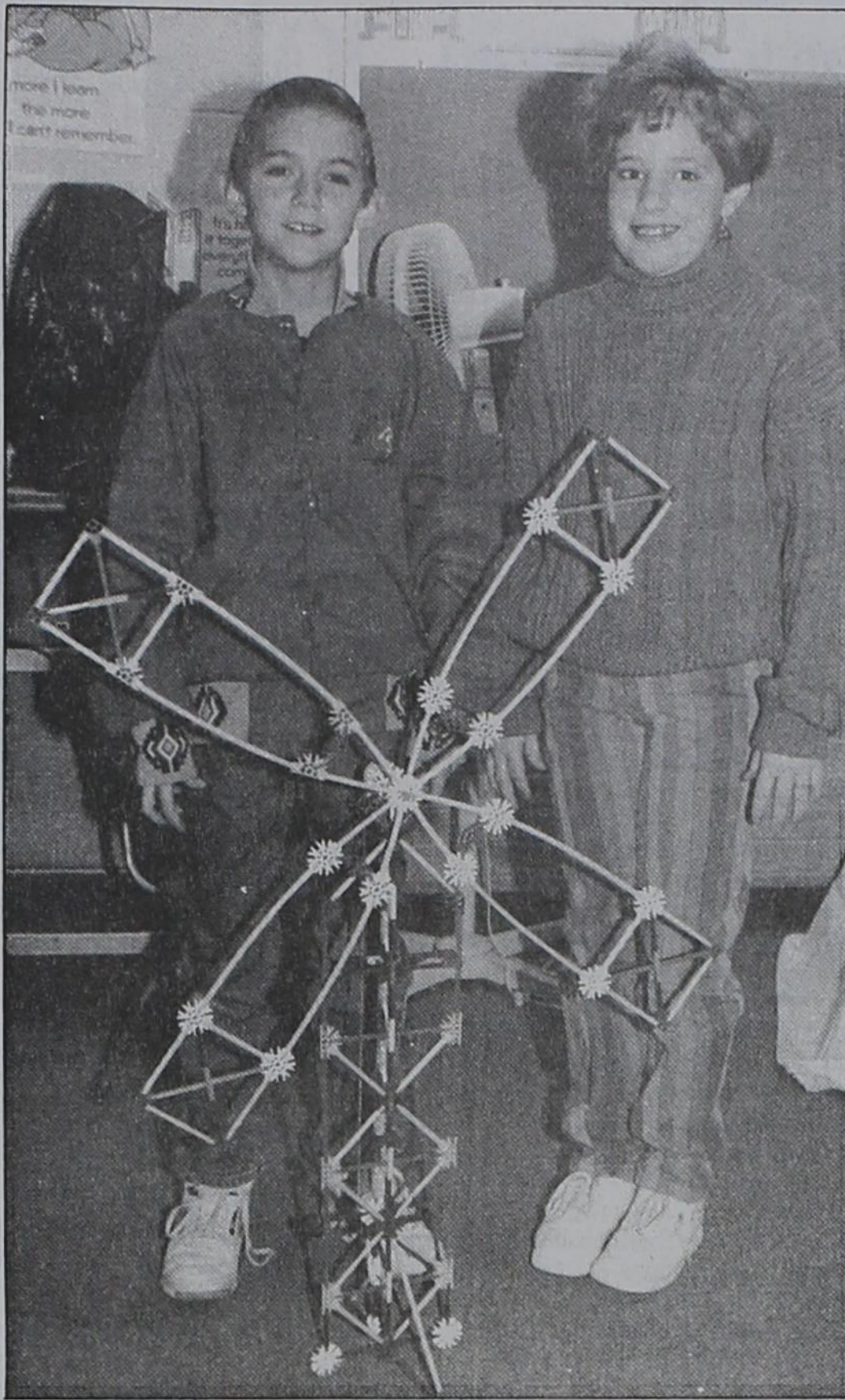
A Dimmitt woman reported she was assaulted in the 300 block of NW Sixth on Jan. 17. The assault was reported to police by the victim's mother.

About \$1,000 in damage was reported in a criminal mischief episode at Higginbotham-Bartlett Lumber Co. Police said two glass doors and two glass windows were shot sometime Wednesday night or Thursday morning.

Windows on a Cadillac were damaged by vandals in the 300 block of SE Fifth on Saturday. Suspects broke out the car's windows.

Police also reported a man was arrested for public intoxication.

Together We Can



WINDMILLING AROUND—Dimmitt Middle School fourth grader Cliff Wright displays his unique windmill in Mrs. Wardlaw's room at the school. Cliff used Connects (including some borrowed from his cousin, Sharla Kenworthy, right) to build the windmill. The four-foot-tall windmill can be hand-cranked with a rubberband pulley setup on the back. *Photo by John Brooks*

HHS Band members named all-region

Chris Dotson claimed first chair on the trumpet, headlining a list of Hart High School students who were selected to the All-Region Band.

Others qualifying were Norma Velasquez, second chair alto saxophone; Christina Rivera, second chair contra-bass clarinet; Brandi Key, seventh chair clarinet; Norma Marquez, ninth chair flute; Traci Knox, 14th chair trombone; Lyndy Mitchell, 23rd chair clarinet; and Debbie Velasquez, 27th chair clarinet (first alternate).

Several junior high students also made the All-Region Band including Gerardo Dozal, second chair baritone; Stephen Dotson, second chair trumpet; Dalid Mata, third chair B-flat clarinet; Eric Montemayor, third chair trumpet; Angel Pantoja, fourth chair tenor saxophone (second alternate); Rachel Garcia, fifth chair baritone; Jared

You Can't Be Recycled

Buckle Up

A reminder from this newspaper and the Troopers of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

County FmHA offices given loan approval

Farmers applying for assistance from Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) may experience a breath of fresh air under action taken recently by State Director George Ellis.

Ellis has given full loan approval authority to FmHA county offices in Texas. That means county FmHA supervisors will be able to exercise loan approval authority up to the full county limit. Prior approval would not be required from other locations, or even other FmHA officials at the same location.

"I feel this will be a real help to our farm customers, and I intend to pursue this type of change in the future, wherever I can," Ellis said.

In the past, FmHA county supervisors had to go through a complicated system of reviews of loan applications before getting approval. The system was instituted several years ago to insure fewer mistakes and for more uniformity from county to county.

"I still intend to hold FmHA supervisors to the same high standards as in the past," Ellis said. "I am also dedicated to streamlining the process so that our farm customers will have funds available to them at the time they are needed."

Proffitt honored as top student

Alexis Proffitt has been named the Student of the Week in Mrs. Darnon's fourth grade classes at Dimmitt Middle School.

Alexis's parents are Wayne and Paula Proffitt. Her 10th birthday is Feb. 21, and she enjoys reading, writing and drawing. She wants to have a lot of animals when she grows up, and wants to be a teacher. Her favorite book is *Matilda*, her favorite animal is a dog, and her favorite food is pizza.

She enjoys art and reading, and she admires Kimberly.

After serving Castro County for nine years, I'm now out on my own!

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| <p>WOLF CHILI WITH BEANS 15 OZ. CAN</p> <p>99¢</p> | <p>ASSORTED SANDWICHES</p> <p>RITZ BITS.....10.5 OZ. BOX \$1⁹⁹</p> <p>COCOA BLAST OR FRUIT CURLS</p> <p>POPEYE CEREAL.....12 OZ. PKG. \$1⁷⁹</p> <p>SCHILLING</p> <p>BLACK PEPPER.....5 OZ. CAN \$1⁷⁹</p> <p>Q&Q</p> <p>VERMICELLI.....5 OZ. BOX 4 FOR \$1⁰⁰</p> <p>JOLLY TIME</p> <p>POPCORN.....2 LB. BAG 89¢</p> <p>ASSORTED</p> <p>FURNITURE POLISH.....7 OZ. \$1⁶⁹</p> <p>DOG FOOD</p> <p>PURINA HI PRO.....20 LB. BAG \$4⁹⁹</p> |
|--|--|

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People



STUDENTS HONORED AT DMS—Students of the Month for December were named recently at Dimmitt Middle School. The students included eighth graders Rosendo Amador and Sabrina Olvera, seventh graders Jerry Thomas and Emily Robertson, sixth graders Michael Penney and Jessica Martinez (not pictured), fifth graders Jeremy Furr and Laura Gil, and fourth graders Brent Josselet and Bianey Saucedo.
Photo by John Brooks

2 candidates speak to ROW

Two candidates for county office spoke at the meeting of the Republican Organization for Women, Jan. 19 in the coffee room at First State Bank.

Robbie Hawkins, who is running for county judge, and Shirley Hollums, candidate for county-district clerk, spoke to the 23 members and guests. Hawkins and Hollums are lifelong county residents who bring promise of willing hard work and efficient service to the people to whom they are grateful for many deeds of kindness in the past. Hawkins said he would like to see upgraded conditions for sheriff's department employees, harmonious courthouse relationships and an overall county road foreman.

Two letters were approved by the group to be sent to the Environmental Protection Agency on the proposed rules for monitoring irrigation wells and on health textbooks proposed by the State Board of Education. Both letters protested the proposals.

If you have a fire tonight will you get out safely?

You'll have a better chance of getting out safely if you've planned ahead. Develop a fire escape plan and practice it with the whole family. Everyone should know two ways out of

each room and know where to meet outside. Make sure everyone understands that getting out is the first priority. And remember, once you're outside, stay out.




Get Out, Stay Out:
Your Fire Safe Response



NFPA
National Fire Protection Association

○ Memos from —
○ —Marilyn—
○
○
○
○
○



By Marilyn Neal
CEA-Home Economics

One component of meat you have probably heard about in a negative way is cholesterol.

All animal tissues contain cholesterol and the body makes much of its own. This substance is necessary for the body to form various hormones and liver bile. It's also needed for proper functioning of the blood and brain. Scientists think a high level of cholesterol in the diet is associated with heart disease.

In any event, would people be wiser to change their diets just in case? For people of normal weight there is no conclusive evidence that diet changes will reduce the risk of heart attack. In fact the American Medical Association has publicly stated that there's no reason for the population as a whole to modify its diet in a drastic way.

For most Americans that means a diet based on a variety of food from both animals and plants. Still some physicians may recommend reducing intake of both cholesterol and saturated fats for certain patients. Even if a doctor recommends that someone in your family should limit consumption of cholesterol and saturated fats, there is no reason not to eat a reasonable amount of lean meat because its cholesterol content is relatively low. But, in any case, how

much cholesterol is there in beef relative to other foods?

When one compares serving sizes of food, beef doesn't really have an extra high level of cholesterol. A 3-ounce serving of cooked lean beef contains about 80 milligrams, while the same amount of shrimp has 128, chicken has 78, and egg has 252 milligrams.

If you are also watching your fat intake, there is a wide variety of beef cuts on the market that enables you to select low fat meats. Lean, less tender cuts are rump roast, round steak and flank steak. Be sure to use moist heat cooking to make these cuts tender.

Tender lean cuts are lean ground beef and sirloin steak. Dry heat cooking can be used on these tender cuts. Broiling rather than panfrying will further help reduce calories.

Trim off most of the visible fat before eating. In stew and other dishes cooked in liquid, let the liquid cool slightly until fat hardens and can be lifted off the surface.

Last, know the proper size of servings. This is very difficult, like trying to guess how fast your car is going. For your car, watch the speedometer. For serving sizes of meat, try to remember what three ounce servings look like. A three ounce serving of lean meat is about the size of a single deck of cards.

Any way you look at it, beef has a big stake in any diet. There's a cut of beef for every meal and every occasion. There are beef dishes for the weight conscious and the price conscious. All of us should be health conscious of all of beef's nutrients.

You still need the other kinds of foods, of course, but every day make sure to include two servings of foods from the meat group.

For more information on meat, contact the Castro County Extension Office at 647-4115.

Reading help is available

Tutors can help anyone learn to read.

There is no charge. Pupils learn at their own pace. The one-on-one teaching also is private.

Call 647-3532 if you are interested.

Encourage someone who does not know how to read to call.

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Register for a bottle of SPOILED Perfume (\$115 value) with any Valentine's purchase. Drawing to be held Monday, Feb. 14.

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Sports

No. 1 Sudan outquicks Hart

When you can't out-tall 'em, you have to out-quick 'em. And that's what Sudan's Lady Hornets did in wresting a 59-49 victory from Hart's Lady Longhorns in a District 2-A barn-burner between the state's No. 1 and No. 9-ranked teams at Hart Friday night.

Traci Knox, Hart's 6-2 post, got only two inside shots all night as Sudan's lightning-quick outside guards clung to the Lady Longhorns' perimeter players like a bad habit to keep them from passing inside.

Anytime the Lady Longhorns did get the ball inside, a Sudan player would go with it to sandwich Knox.

Knox finished with just three points, all on first-half free throws.

5-10 Shea Bennett carried Hart's scoring load, getting 22 tough points on nine field goals and four free throws. After being held to just

six points in the first half, Bennett uncorked four field goals in the third and added three buckets and a pair of charity tosses in the fourth.

But the offensive star of the game was Sudan's Danielle Martin, a petite, brunette junior guard. After being held scoreless in the first quarter, Martin burned the nets for 29 points, including 11 fourth-quarter free throws.

"Danielle Martin just did a superb job," Hart Coach Rachelle Wilcox said. "She almost beat us single-handedly. She just had a phenomenal ball game."

The first half was a textbook study in tight, ball-hawking defense. The lead changed hands three times before Sudan emerged with a 12-10 advantage at the first-quarter buzzer.

"Our game plan was to run a triangle-and-two defense after we

made a field goal," Coach Wilcox said. "If we missed a field goal, we went to a man-to-man defense. We did fine in that part of the game, but we just had mental letdowns that would cost us two to four points here and there. They just constantly capitalized off of our mistakes. Sudan could do no wrong—they executed very well."

Both defenses made a lot of steals and interceptions during the first half, which ended with Sudan owning a 21-17 lead. Hart had 14 turnovers and Sudan 10 during the half.

Bennett opened the third period with a layup and tied the score at 23 two minutes later as the Lady Longhorns made three defensive steals early in the quarter.

But Martin answered with a three-point play off of a baseline drive and a long trey to help give the Lady Hornets an eight-point

lead, 31-23. A jumper by Brandi Key and a put-up by Bennett cut Sudan's lead back to four before Martin swished another trey from the top.

Bennett hit a long shot from the side with 35 seconds left to keep the Lady Longhorns within five at 34-29. Sudan went for one shot in the final seconds, but Knox blocked it—her second block of the quarter.

The fourth quarter was gangbusters as the two state-ranked teams went on a 45-point scoring spree.

Sudan's Breanne Baker fouled out while guarding Knox, and Shaun Weaver also went to the bench with her fifth, taking the visitors' second and third leading scorers out of the game.

However, Hart's Sheila Aalbers, Sandra Lopez and Trinette Finch—all of whom had taken turns at

(Continued on Page 10)



PRESSURE DEFENSE!—Carie Wethington (10) applies pressure to Valley's Angie Pointer (31) Friday during a non-conference game in Nazareth. The Swiftettes, who had posted a 57-40 win at Valley a week ago, used a stifling full-court press to jump out to an early lead and never looked back, winning 88-43. Leading scorers for the Swiftettes were Melinda Schmucker with 25 points, Kristin Brockman with 19, Courtney Hoelting with 18 and Wethington with 11. Photo by Anne Acker

Bobcats buzz past Hornets

Defense has always counted for a lot in Dimmitt Bobcat basketball, and it allowed the Bobcats to even their season record at 11-11 Friday with a 63-48 win at Tulia.

More importantly, the win made the Bobcats 3-1 in District 2-3A with six games to play.

"Our defense really started to come on when we beat Lamesa in the first game down at the Caprock Tournament," said Dimmitt coach Alan Steinle. "We played two more tough games that we lost, and another loss to Caprock when they shot the eyes out of the basket again.

"Then we won at Brownfield, and things started coming together for us. Our players found out how important our defense is for us, and found out tough defense will win you lots of ballgames."

The defense was tougher than imagined in the Littlefield game. The Wildcats shot nine three-pointers.

"But we shut them down inside," Steinle said. "You can't panic when someone comes out and hits three of those in the first quarter. Our game plan was to play them tough in the paint, and the middle of our zone has been tough the last month or so.

"We didn't panic the other night when the kid from Tulia popped a couple of threes on us. We didn't feel like he could hurt us that much and just stayed with our game."

The kid from Tulia, Jerome Hawthorne, had three treys in the first quarter as Tulia jumped to an early 11-4 lead. Dimmitt came back to lead at the end of the quarter, 14-13, and never trailed the rest of the game.

Hawthorne ended up with 24 points, including six treys, but the rest of the Hornets made just 10 baskets.

Dimmitt's offense, meanwhile, was in high gear over the last three-and-a-half quarters. The Bobcats outscored the Hornets 40-27 in the last 28 minutes of the 32-minute contest. Derrick Thomas led the Bobcats with 26 points, but Dimmitt had balanced scoring from Fernando Ontiveros (nine points), and Chad Ellis and Tait

Crow (eight points each).

"We've now seen everyone in the district and know pretty much what to expect," Steinle said. "I think our kids believe we can go through the rest of the way without losing another game, and if we do that, we're in the playoffs."

The Bobcats were also aided by making 18 of 22 free throws, 82%.

"We've got to make those free throws, and we did Friday," Steinle said. "We need more of that."

For the Bobbies, it was a night of lost opportunity.

Dimmitt had an eight-point lead at halftime, but saw it slip away against a bigger, deeper Tulia club in a 54-49 loss. The defeat dropped the Bobbies to 2-2 in District 2-3A.

The loss was compounded by Muleshoe's fall at Friona. That dropped the league-leading Mulettes to 3-1 coming into Tuesday's encounter at Dimmitt.

The Bobbies and Lady Hornets were tied at nine after one quarter, but Dimmitt leaped to a 24-16 halftime lead. The strong second quarter was aided by the benching of Tulia's 6-2 post, Leigh Dalluge, with three fouls for much of the period.

Dimmitt also missed just two shots in the quarter, going seven-of-nine from the field. Kim Thomas and Katrina Acker led the Bobbies with seven points each at intermission.

The wheels fell off the Bobbies' cart in the second half, as Dalluge avoided committing another foul and the Lady Hornets shut down the Dimmitt offense. Dimmitt scored just seven points in the third period as Tulia raced to a 34-31 lead at the end of three periods.

Dimmitt stayed close, and took the lead, 42-41, with 3:50 to play on an Acker jumper over Dalluge. That was the Bobbies last lead, as Tulia came back to take the five point win.

Thomas had 13 and Acker 11 for the Bobbies. Dimmitt's girls shot just seven-of-14 free throws, while Tulia was 15-of-19.



CARD GETS FIRST BASKET—Hart's Jodi Card sank the first basket of the game Friday, after getting an offensive rebound in the first two minutes of the contest with top-ranked Sudan at Hart. Beside her is teammate Traci Knox, while Sudan's Tia Lee (11) and Breanne Baker (13) look on. Sudan came back to take a 10-point win, 59-49. Hart is still 10th in the state. Photo by D'Lynn Hankins

Freshman girls win shorthanded

Who says basketball is a five-player game? Not the Freshman Bobbies, who defeated the Littlefield ninth graders by seven points despite playing most of the second half with just four players.

Littlefield, of course, had five players on the court at all times in the 37-30 Dimmitt win.

The teams met in the third place game of the Levelland Freshman Tournament on Saturday. They have played twice before this year; Dimmitt won both times by three points.

"The girls told me before the game they were going to win by seven," said Dimmitt coach Bobby Feaster. "I believed them, because they have made a couple of other pretty good predictions this year. But after we lost the two girls, I didn't know."

The game didn't start off well for the Dimmitt freshmen, who were behind 11-1 at the end of the first quarter and 17-10 at halftime. At the intermission, Feaster told his six players to be a little careful, but not too much.

Then, three minutes into the third period, Candi Espinosa and Summer McLean fouled out. The Dimmitt girls were down by three points at the time, but were down five, 23-18, at the end of the quarter.

Two of the leading players, Carrie Bradley and Emily Robertson, were still out on the court, along with Tawnee Matthews and Melynda Anes. They played tough defense against the five Littlefield players and went on a scoring rampage.

"They got the kinks worked out on the offense and really played very well," Feaster said. The Dimmitt girls racked up 19 points in the period to win going away. Bradley had 24 and Robertson 10 to lead Dimmitt.

(Continued on Page 10)

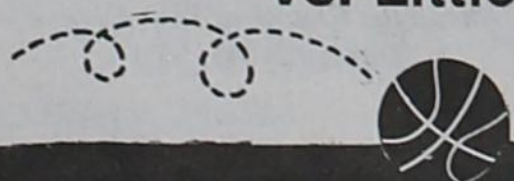
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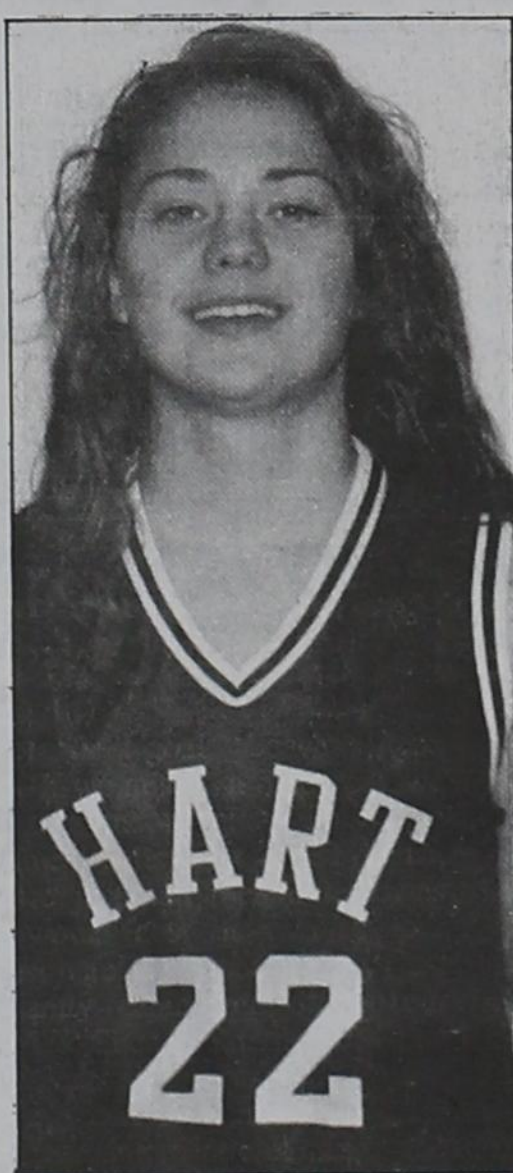
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 8:45 a.m. Dallas Cowboys Report
 5:45 p.m. Dallas Cowboys Report

Friday:
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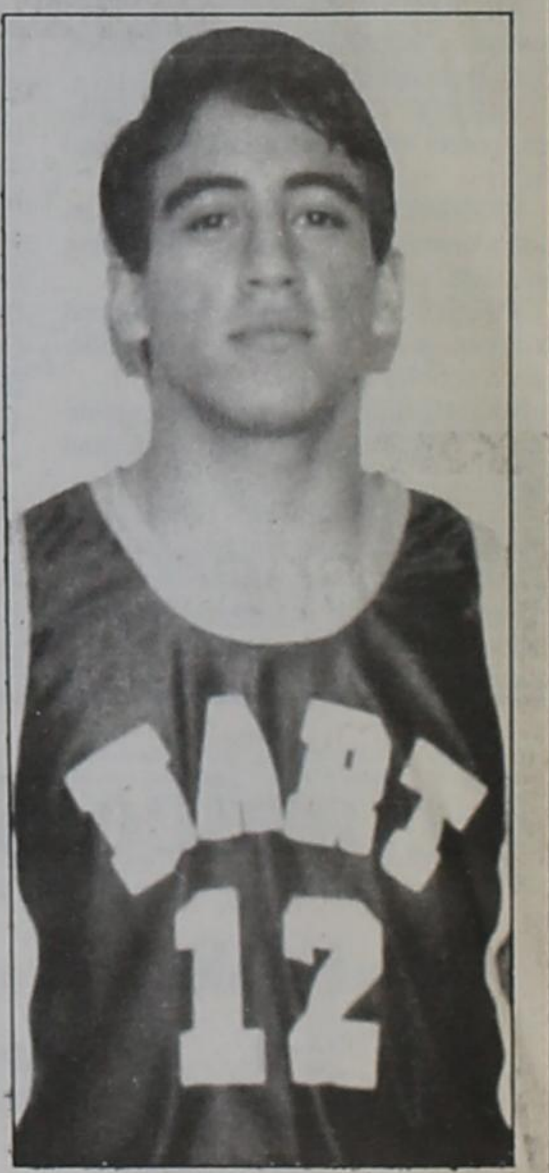
Tuesday:
Bobbies and Bobcats vs. Littlefield



1470 A.M.



JODI CARD
 Junior Guard



JOE LONGORIA
 Junior Guard

Good Luck, Lady Horns and Longhorns

and against **FARWELL** Friday, Here and **VEGA** Tuesday, There

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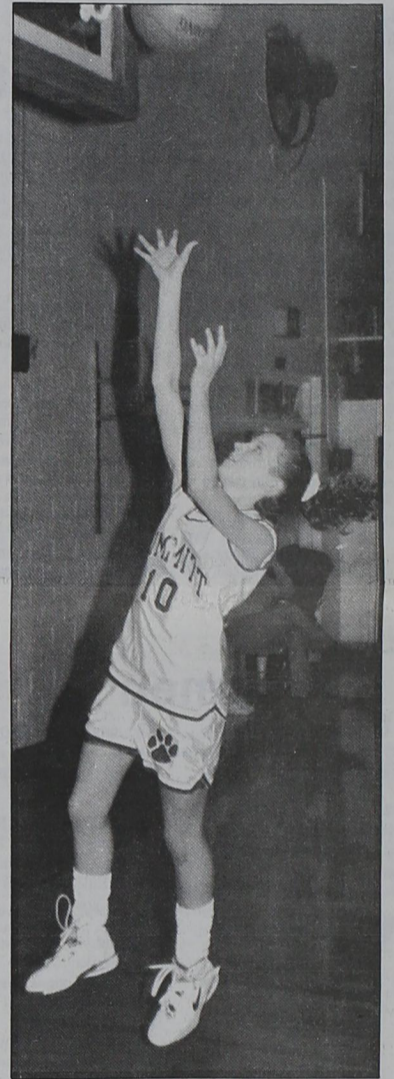
Good Luck, Bobbies and Bobcats against FLOYDADA—Friday, Here LITTLEFIELD—Tuesday, There



KATRINA ACKER gets off a baseline shot against Muleshoe in the Bobbies' district game here Tuesday night. The Lady Mules won the game, 57-45. *Photo by Don Nelson*

Schedules and scores:

Bobcats 85, River Road 78 (OT)
 Bobbies 47, River Road 33
 Bobbies 38, Levelland 51
 Bobcats 42, Levelland 61
 Bobbies 28, Borger 60
 Bobcats 55, Borger 77
Queens Classic:
 Bobbies 51, Amarillo High 84
 Bobbies 62, Plainview 61
 Bobbies 36, Levelland 56
 (Sixth Place)
 Bobcats 62, Randall 68
 Bobbies 47, Petersburg 33
 Bobcats 73, Petersburg 44
Levelland Tournament:
 Bobbies 33, Denver City 48
 Bobbies 49, EP Montwood 46
 Bobbies 44, Abernathy 38
 (Bobbies win consolation)
Pioneer Classic:
 Bobcats 71, Andrews 32
 Bobcats 48, Plainview 77
 Bobcats 61, Estacado 73
 (Bobcats place fourth)
 Bobbies 43, Monterey 69
 Bobcats 51, Hereford 48
 Bobbies 78, Estacado 28
 Bobcats 56, Slaton 55
 Bobbies 55, Petersburg 37
 Bobcats 65, Petersburg 56
Brownfield Tournament
 Bobcats 34, Snyder 46
 Bobcats 57, Slaton 61
 Bobbies 49, Ralls 45
 Bobbies 46, Sudan 54
Caprock Tournament
 Bobbies 47, Lubbock Christian 51
 Bobbies 70, Midland Lee 63
 Bobbies 58, Coronado 59
 Bobcats 73, Lamesa 61
 Bobcats 53, Lubbock High 65
 Bobcats 64, Caprock 66
 Bobbies 40, Clovis 33
 Bobcats 55, Caprock 57
 Bobbies 49, Brownfield 39
 Bobcats 61, Brownfield 59
 *Bobbies 57, Floydada 56
 *Bobcats 55, Floydada 49
 *Bobbies 56, Littlefield 48
 *Bobcats 52, Littlefield 58
 *Bobbies 43, Friona 65
 *Bobcats 79, Friona 52
 *Bobbies 49, Tulia 54
 *Bobcats 63, Tulia 48
 *Bobbies 45, Muleshoe 57
 *Bobcats 72, Muleshoe 29
 *Jan. 28 Floydada Here
 *Feb. 1 Littlefield There
 *Feb. 4 Friona Here
 *Feb. 8 Tulia Here
 *Feb. 11 Muleshoe There
 *District 2-3A games



RANDA WOOD
Sophomore Guard

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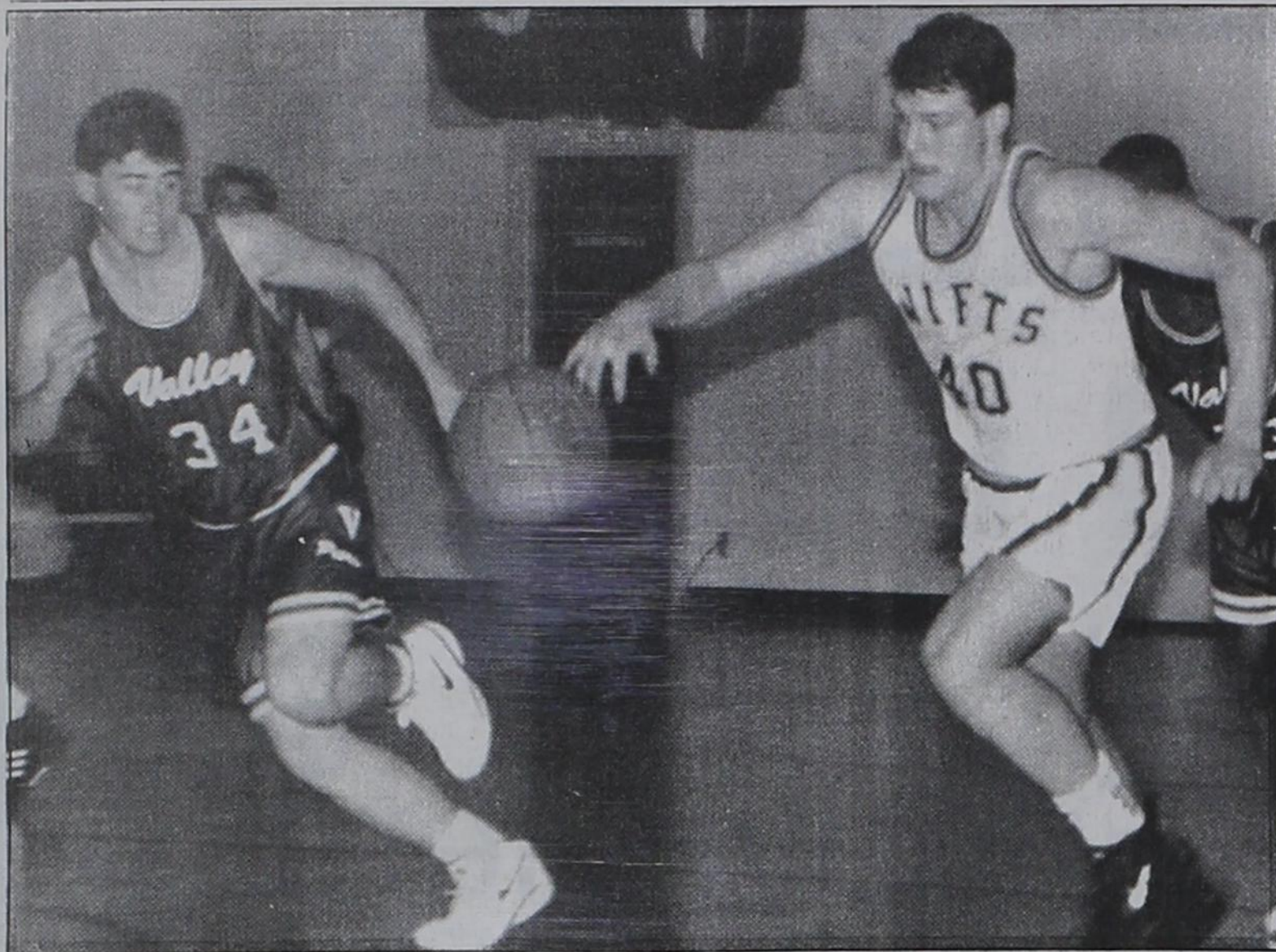
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SCRAMBLING — Nazareth's Nick Johnson (40) reaches out and claims control of a ball after knocking it away from a Valley guard Friday night. The Swifts didn't waste any time in gaining control of loose balls or the game. Nazareth broke the century mark for the first time this season, winning handily, 103-63. Leading the Swifts in scoring were Brad Keel with 25, Gaylon Schilling and Colby Pohlmeier with 18 each and Scott Brockman with 17. The win improved the Swifts' mark to 21-3 as they headed into district play Tuesday. Photo by Anna Acker

Swiftettes and Cowgirls to tangle in 7-A showdown

The Nazareth Swiftettes and Happy Cowgirls are ranked second and third in the state, respectively. The district rivals have split their two conference games and finished in a tie for the district championship the past three years. The Nazareth-Happy story will continue Friday night when the teams square off in the first of two district meetings this year. Tip-off is slated for 6:30 p.m. in Nazareth. The Swiftettes, 19-6 overall, opened district play by beating Lazbuddie, 63-46 Tuesday night. Happy picked up a first-round win over Cotton Center, 60-15. Nazareth hopes to have two key players back for Friday night's game. Lena Durbin and Kelley Boyd were starting when both suffered foot injuries in December and neither has seen any action in the past month. Boyd has been released by doctors to play Friday night and Durbin is scheduled to go to the doctor Friday morning. Nazareth Coach Ritchie Tarbet said he expects Durbin to be released for Friday's game, also, but he will go with the same starting lineup he's been using and will gradually work the duo back into action. Those starters are seniors Kristin Brockman (5-10 forward) and Kandal Derrick (5-3 guard); and sophomores Melinda Schmucker (5-10 forward), Carrie Wethington (5-3 guard) and Courtney Hoelting (5-8 post). Happy, 17-7 on the year, "may not have the offensive punch they've had in the past," Tarbet said, "but they'll have five players on the floor who are able to score. We won't be able to key on just one or two and expect to stop them."

The Cowgirls look inside to 5-8 post Lori Moudy and also start 5-3 guard Joli Pearson, 5-4 guard Rachel King and 5-5 forward Jana McManigal. The other starting position is filled by either Kimber Mayes or Heather Stewart, both 5-8 post players. "Happy is going to be fundamentally sound, as always," Tarbet said. "We sure need to win the game Friday and gain control of the district race."

Nazareth's girls had a tough fight with Lazbuddie Tuesday at home and that has Tarbet worried. "We knew they'd be a much better ballclub this year. They feel like they can play with anybody and that's half the battle. That makes them dangerous. They've got good speed and good overall height. We had to play a pretty good game to beat them."

The Lady Horns shot 50% from the floor against the Swiftettes and in the first half, it looked like Lazbuddie would create a lot of problems for Nazareth. Nazareth held a 21-16 lead at the end of the first period, but had been ahead by as many as 11 at one point before hitting a cold streak and letting Lazbuddie back in the game.

Nazareth held a 38-30 lead at halftime, then put the game away in the third quarter, outscoring Lazbuddie 19-8.

Nazareth was led by Courtney Hoelting, who finished with 23 points while Melinda Schmucker finished with 16 and Carrie Wethington had 13. The Lady Horns' leading scorer was Jarah Redwin, who had 12.

More about

Lady Horns ...

(Continued from Page 8) guarding Martin—played the fourth quarter in foul trouble. And it didn't help the Lady Longhorns' cause when playmaker Jodi Card picked up her fourth foul. "Jodi came out on a tear in the second half and helped get us back in the ball game," Coach Wilcox said. "But then she picked up that fourth foul and I had to bench her. We really need her on the court." "We knew we had to keep the ball out of her hands," Coach Wilcox said. "That was our game plan—once she passes the ball, don't let her have it back. But she has so much finesse, we couldn't keep it away from her."

paint as Sudan surged to a 15-point lead, 50-35, at the 4:10 mark. With 3:30 remaining, the Lady Hornets started playing keep-away, putting the ball in Martin's hands. During the stretch, Martin sank nine of 11 free throws, finishing with 13 of 16. Bennett sank two baskets and two free throws and Card swished a three-pointer in the last two minutes to cut Sudan's final margin to 10, 59-49. "I'm totally surprised at how the game went," a frustrated Coach Wilcox said. "We were ready to beat this team, and we just didn't execute at key points of the game. We were right with them, right when we needed to be, and then they'd have a key play—a big three-pointer or an interception—and then the way Danielle Martin

controlled the ball there at the end, it just killed us. "Our problem was getting the ball inside," she added. "We shot 63%, but we only shot it 30 times. That's half the number of shots we should have put up. We were open inside, but their defense was so aggressive outside, we couldn't get the ball from the wings to the posts. "But we're not down," she said. "The kids are still determined to prove that they can beat a team like Sudan. They beat Vega, and that was a big accomplishment. They know they can do it. "We lost a ball game, but we're still in the thick of things." The loss dropped the Lady Longhorns to second place in the tough district, still poised for the playoffs if they can hold that position in rematches against Vega and Sudan.

Swifts demolish Lazbuddie

The Nazareth Swifts opened up district play Tuesday in convincing fashion, destroying Lazbuddie, 100-45. It was the second straight game in which Nazareth broke into triple-digit scoring. (They beat Valley 103-63 Friday night). The Longhorns had the second-best record among District 7-A teams headed into conference play and Nazareth Coach Mark Makeever said Lazbuddie would probably be the Swifts' "toughest competition." But the Swifts never had a problem with the Longhorns. Scott Brockman, who finished with 18 points, second only to Justin Wethington's 22, scored the game's first eight points to get the Swifts started. After that Nazareth ran off seven more points and were up 15-0 before Lazbuddie scored its first basket with 2:44 left in the opening period. From then on it was smooth sailing for the No. 3-ranked Swifts. Nazareth was up 27-4 after one, 57-20 at halftime, and 77-36 at the end of 3. In addition to Wethington and Brockman, three other Swifts scored in double figures including Brad

Keel with 17, Nick Johnson with 12 and Gaylon Schilling with 11. "Lazbuddie's got a lot of good shooters. Their best kid, Brett Thomas, was averaging 29 points per game," said Makeever. "They run about six different defenses, presses and zones." But Nazareth held Thomas to 16 points, and he was the only Longhorn to score in double figures Tuesday. Nazareth continues district play Friday night when it hosts Happy; then will take on Cotton Center, there, Tuesday night. Makeever said he doesn't expect Happy and Cotton Center to be strong, but added his team, 22-3 on the season, "will be treating every game from now on as if it were a playoff game." He said he was pleased with his team's progress so far. Four Swifts are averaging in double figures including Wethington with 16.4 points, Brockman with 14.5, Colby Pohlmeier with 11 and Johnson with 10. Schilling and Keel average 8 points apiece. "We're shooting the ball well. Our top five guys are averaging 50% or better from the floor, and we've got a good bench and a good substitution pattern now."

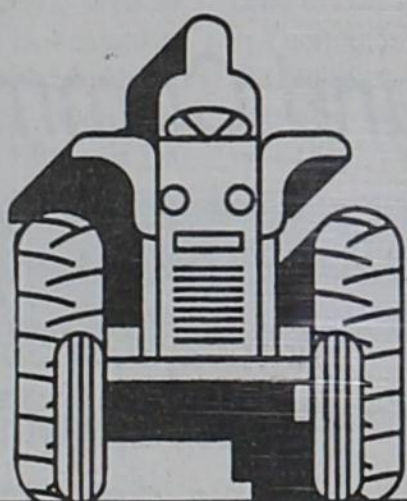
More about

Freshmen ...

(Continued from Page 8) The win made the Freshman Bobbies 12-4 on the year. In the boys division, Dimmitt won the title for one of the few times in the several years Dimmitt teams have been going to Levelland. "We played very, very well all the

way through," said Dimmitt coach Gus Ortiz. The ninth grade Bobcats were 15-1 after sweeping the three games. On Thursday, Omar Rascon canned 17 points as the Bobcats beat Abernathy, 63-51. Brandon Smith had 16 and Kalem Thomas added 15 for the ninth graders. Friday, Dimmitt sailed past Levelland, 54-36. Rascon again led the freshmen with 13 points, while Smith and Conrado Saucedo scored 12 and Thomas had 11 for the Bobcats. In the finals, Dimmitt sailed past Frenship, 70-56. Smith had 19, Rascon 17, Albert Ewing 11 and Thomas 10 for the Bobcats.

HOOP IT UP

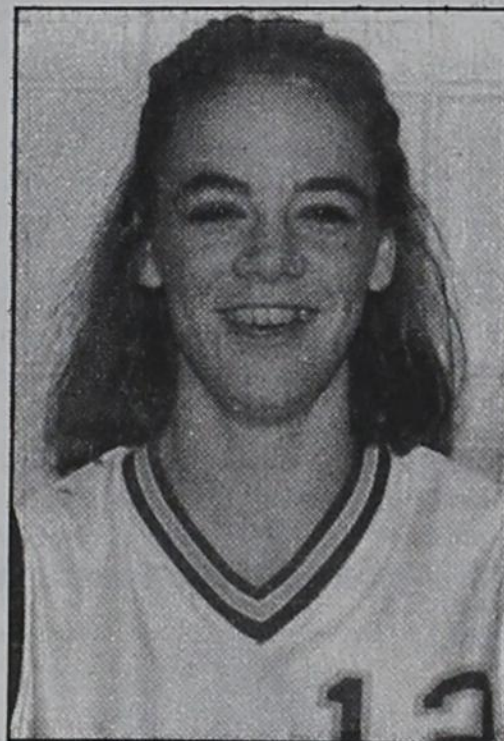


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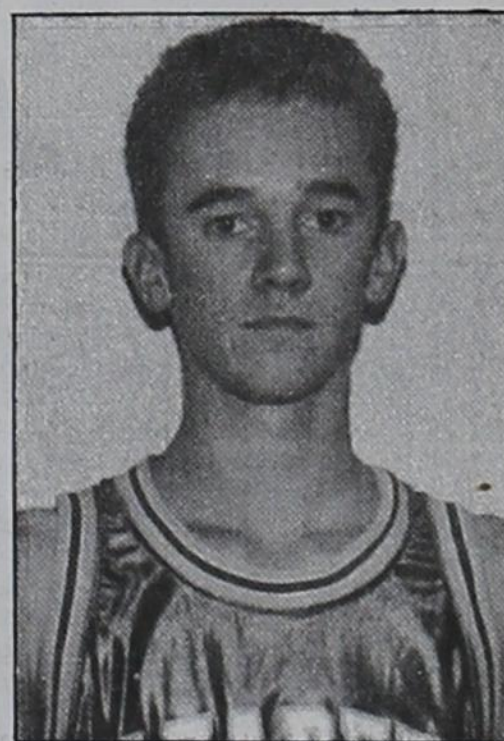
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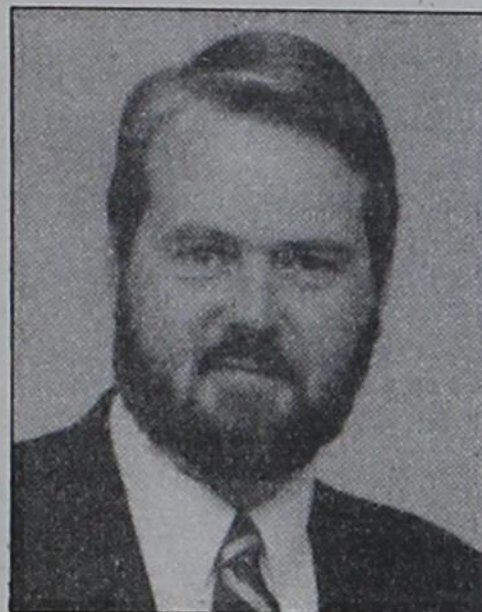
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against **Happy Friday, Here**
and **Cotton Center Tuesday, There**

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MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS



By DON TAYLOR

Words of Wisdom X

The alphabet is a wonderful organizational tool. You can use it for filing systems, seating charts and listing the names of several important people on one list--without offending anyone. Kings and presidents use it and it works well in phone books and dictionaries.

It seems only natural that we organize a column in alphabetical order. I can imagine no column that would be better suited for alphabetical arrangement than our 10th Words of Wisdom. So here it is: Wisdom in alphabetical order.

The first half

- Action--Thought is the blossom; language the bud; action the fruit behind it. --Ralph Waldo Emerson
- Bible--A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education. --Theodore Roosevelt
- College--When a subject becomes totally obsolete we make it a required course. --Peter Drucker
- Democracy--Democracy is based on

the conviction that man has the moral and intellectual capacity, as well as the inalienable right to govern himself with reason and justice. --Harry Truman

- Experience--Experience enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again. --Franklin P. Jones
- Freedom--The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground. --Thomas Jefferson (Natural, but not desirable--D.T.)
- Government--This country has come to feel the same when Congress is in session as when the baby gets hold of the hammer. --Will Rogers
- Humor--A man isn't poor if he can still laugh. --Raymond Hitchcock
- Intelligence--When you don't have an education, you've got to use your brains. --Anonymous
- Justice--Justice is the insurance which we have on our lives and property. Obedience is the premium we pay for it. --William Penn

- Kindness--A kind heart is a foundation of gladness, making everything in its vicinity freshen into smiles. --Washington Irving
- Love--He that falls in love with himself will have no rivals. --Benjamin Franklin
- Mother--All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother. --Abraham Lincoln

The last half

- Neighbors--The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor. --Hubert H. Humphrey
- Old Age--The problem with old age is that there isn't much future in it. --Anonymous
- Patriotism--Abandon your animosities and make your sons Americans! --Robert E. Lee
- Quiet--The good and the wise lead quiet lives. --Euripides
- Reading--Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. --Joseph Addison

- Solitude--I live in that solitude which is painful in youth, but delicious in the years of maturity. --Albert Einstein
- Trust--Put your trust in God, but keep your powder dry. --Oliver Cromwell
- Unity--One country, one constitution, one destiny. --Daniel Webster
- Vocation--Every calling is great when greatly pursued. --Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.
- Work--Nothing is really work unless you would rather be doing something else. --James M. Barrie
- Xylophone--I'm glad Webster spelled zilaphone with an x. --Don Taylor
- Yesterday--I am not afraid of tomorrow, for I have seen yesterday and I love today. --William Allen White
- Zeal--Experience shows that success is due less to ability than to zeal. The winner is he who gives himself to his work, body and soul. --Charles Buxton

You may write to Don Taylor in care of "Minding Your Own Business," PO Box 67, Amarillo 79105.

CEU's available for pesticide applicators

Four-and-one-half Continuing Education Units (CEU's) will be offered Wednesday at 9 a.m. in the Castro County Courthouse basement.

The course is for private, commercial and non-commercial pesticide applicators licensed and certified through the Texas Dept. of Agriculture. Persons planning to attend should call the Castro County Extension Office, 647-4116, by Monday.

Two videos will be shown. One is a replay of the video sponsored by the Farm Bureau on Dec. 6, 1993. It will be worth two hours in Laws and Regulations and two hours in Integrated Pest Management procedures. The other is a half-hour video on the new record-bookkeeping requirements.

Each licensed commercial or non-commercial applicator must obtain at

least five credits during the 12 months preceding Dec. 31 in order to recertify and be allowed to renew a license for the following year. Anyone issued an initial license on or after Sept. 1 in any year and has not been licensed at any time during the preceding nine months shall begin annual recertification requirements the following year and need not obtain any credits between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31 of that year. If credits are obtained during that period, they may be applied to the following year's requirements.

An applicator who becomes unlicensed in any licensing year may not be relicensed for 12 months unless all recertification credits required for the last year of licensing are completed.

As part of a three-year requirement, each applicator must also have at least

two credits on relevant laws and regulations, and two credits in integrated pest management strategies.

Private applicators issued a certificate prior to Jan. 10, 1989, may fulfill their recertification requirements on a one-time only basis before Dec. 31, 1995, by completing the Texas Agricultural Extension Service private applicator training program, attaining a passing score on the private applicator test, and obtaining a private applicator license.

Certified private applicators who choose not to license but wish to maintain certification under a certificate issued before Jan. 10, 1989, will be required to recertify through continuing education by Dec. 31, 1995.

Each applicator must obtain 15 continuing education credits including

at least two credits in laws and regulations and two credits in integrated pest management in order to be recertified.

All private applicators issued a certificate on or after Jan. 10, 1989, must recertify by obtaining a private applicator license by Dec. 31, 1994, and must obtain 15 credits prior to Dec. 21 of the year preceding renewal of the private applicator license.

Private applicators must obtain at least two credits in laws and regulations and two credits in integrated pest management within the five-year recertification period. Applicators licensed as both private and commercial or non-commercial applicators may satisfy requirements for private applicator recertification by meeting the recertification for commercial and non-commercial applicators.

ASCS News

By SCOTTY ABBOTT
County Executive Director

The Castro County ASC Committee will review and approve requests for cost-sharing on eligible conservation practices during their regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday.

Producers are asked to sign up before that date.

Applications received after Friday may not be considered during this approval period because technical determinations needed to determine eligibility may not be completed if producers wait until the last minute to sign up.

The insurance sales closing dates for Federal Crop Insurance in Castro County is April 15 for corn, cotton, grain sorghum, hybrid sorghum seed, potatoes, soybeans, sugar beets and sunflowers.

Producers who suffered a crop loss in 1993 due to damaging weather and related conditions may file an application for disaster benefits until March 4.

Disaster payments will be made in an amount equal to 100% of each eligible claim.

Producers who suffered a loss on more than 65% of their expected production will be required to pur-

chase multi-peril crop insurance for 1994 before they are eligible for disaster benefits.

Low grades will be eligible for adjustment due to quality. The adjustment may or may not be enough to reduce the pounds or bushels to disaster levels.

The Soybean Promotion and Research Order was implemented on July 9, 1991, under authorization of the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act.

The secretary must conduct a referendum among eligible soybean producers no earlier than 18 months and no later than 36 months after the issuance of an order to determine whether the order should be continued.

The referendum will be held Feb. 9 in the Castro County Extension Service office.

Voter registration and voting will be held on the same day, except for absentee registration and voting, which must have been requested by Jan. 21. Absentee ballots must be submitted to the county office by the close of business on Wednesday.

An eligible producer is any person engaged in the growing of soybeans in the United States who owns or shares in the ownership and risk of loss of such soybeans during the representative period of Sept. 1, 1991, through Dec. 1, 1993.

Any person who claims to be a producer shall be permitted to register and vote.

Proxy registration and voting is not permitted. Any individual registering to vote in the referendum on behalf of any producer entity must certify that he or she is authorized by such entity to take such action.

Applications for 1993 wool/mohair should be filed by Monday.

Producers are asked to furnish the following information when filing an application: place and time of shearing, number of head shorn, amount of freight paid and number of unshorn lambs purchased and sold.

Sales documents must bear the original signature of the person who prepared the document.

Some program provisions for the 1994 program have been announced.

Target prices are \$4 per bushel for wheat; \$2.75 per bushel for corn; \$2.61 per bushel for grain sorghum; \$2.36 per bushel for barley; \$1.45 per bushel for oats; and 72.9 cents per pound for cotton.

The Acreage Reduction Program (ARP) is 0% of the base acreage for wheat, barley, oats and grain sorghum. ARP for cotton is 11%.

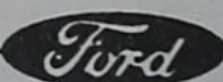
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Running Water Soil and Water Conservation District



QUARTERLY REPORT—JANUARY 1994



Top, from left:
Louis Huseman,
Coby Gilbreath,
Arnold Huseman



Left: Bob Phipps

Not pictured:
Richard Hunter

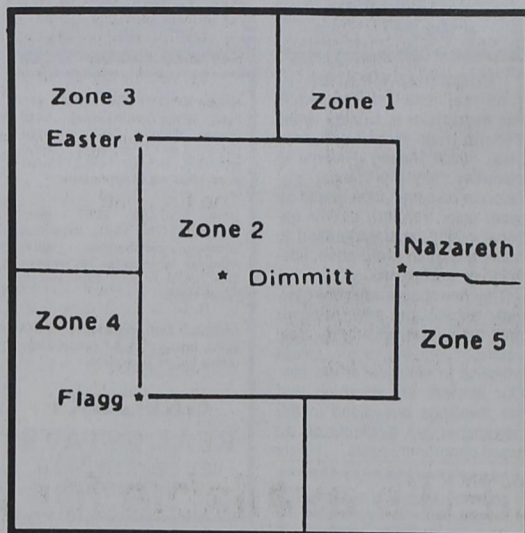
Arnold Huseman, member Director of zone 1. Lynn Ehly has served as bookkeeper for the District for the past 25 years. We commend her on the good job she has done and for the dedicated service she has given the District.

The District and the Soil Conservation Service have the common objective of helping to bring about the conservation, development, and wise use of land, water and related resources.

The District will assist the local Soil Conservation Service office in adopting a procedure for identification, inventory and analysis of conservation and resource problems within the District and the progressive development and application of conservation and resource development plans for farms, communities, watershed, and other land units. The District is responsible for determining the priority areas of work within the district and determining the recipients responsible for developing a method for group and individual follow up work essential for carrying out conservation plans. The District is responsible for developing an information and educational program to keep the local citizen informed.

The District will, each year, prepare an annual plan of operations which will be prepared as a guide for its work and activities for the year ahead. All of the Districts responsibilities were established to coordinate a conservation program which would cooperate with and assist the local SCS office personnel in applying.

The local District has over the years been able to provide the local SCS office personnel with the following equipment to be used in carrying out their day to day conservation activities: Turbin Flow Meter, copy machine, Lazer Level, Polysonic Flowmeter. All of these pieces of equipment have been used intensively by the SCS personnel.



The District operates yearly on donations, on profits made from their windbreak tree sales, and on advertisements on their quarterly reports.

The Running Water SWCD and the Soil Conservation Service continue to work closely together in providing assistance to producers, landowners, schools, communities, and other agencies in carrying out a broad program of assistance which includes soil and water conservation, watershed protection, flood prevention, urban and rural area development, education, technical assistance, and cost sharing. All of their on going programs deal with conserving and improving soil, water, vegetative, wildlife, and related resources. The SCS personnel and District share the common objective of helping to bring about the use of each are of land within the limits of its capabilities and the treatment of each acre in accordance with its needs for production and improvements.

The Running Water Soil and Water Conservation District was organized under the provisions of the Soil and Water statuses of the state of Texas, it is a legal subdivision of the state, organized by local agricultural landowners with the assistance of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board. It has the responsibility for developing and carrying out programs for the conservation, protection and development of soil, water, and related plant and animal resources within the District.

The Board of Directors of the running Water SWCD are made up of five local farmers who reside within Castro County and who hold title to farm and ranch land lying within the county. The Directors that are presently serving are Bob Phipps, Chairman Director of zone 4; Coby Gilbreath, Vice Chairman Director of zone 5; Richard Hunter, member Director of zone 3; and

Programs and services of the Soil Conservation Service are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regards for race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status or handicap.

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Plainview Daily Herald
Ralls Reporter-News

Thursday, January 27, 1994

The Slatonite
The Tullia Herald

USDA lowers estimate of 1993 feed grain production

By MARGARET SCHERF

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department estimates that U.S. feed grain production last year was 187.3 million tons, 3 percent less than the November forecast and down nearly 33 percent from the 1992 record.

The largest change was made to corn production,

AgReview

down 159 million tons from the November projection. The estimate for sorghum was down 8.5 percent from the November forecast. Smaller adjustments were made to barley and oats production.

"Both lower area harvested and yields contributed to the reduced production," said the January feed update by USDA's Economic Research Service.

Harvested area of corn declined 104,000 acres, sorghum fell 262,000, barley dropped 271,000 and oats dipped 20,000 from their previous forecast levels.

Average corn yields for 1993 are estimated at 100.7 bushels per acre, down 2.4 bushels from the November forecast.

New grass gets raves on Northern Plains

■ *Matua prairie grass has been thriving under pivots, provides pasture eight months a year*

By GORDON ZEIGLER

AgReview Writer

STRATFORD — More than just a few heads are turning over some lush green grass growing under pivot circles in the northern Texas Panhandle in the dead of winter.

The pastures are planted in a perennial pasture grass called Matua, a brome grass native to New Zealand.

Among other attractive qualities, Matua seems to remain surprisingly active into the colder winter months, a time when many forages and native grasses traditionally go into dormancy.

It's also a grass whose protein content which experts say remains high despite winter stress.

Because of these and other touted qualities, the grass may have the potential of bringing the area a new alternative for grazing stocker cattle, according to those just becoming familiar with it.

Roy Young, for one, is a cattleman leasing land near Stratford. Growing it beneath a mile-long center pivot system, he has a stand of Matua he converted from alfalfa last August.

"You can't believe how many people have come by looking at this," commented Mrs. Young. "They come from Texas A&M, and other places. Vanloads of guys drive down there and start grabbing handfuls of samples."

Young and others have watched it flourish in the bitter cold characteristic of the Texas Panhandle winters. And, apparently, they like what they have seen so far.



Matua: A Brome grass native to New Zealand has impressed some cattle raisers growing it under center pivots near Stratford. It is high in protein and provides pasture for eight months a year.

See MATUA, Page 3

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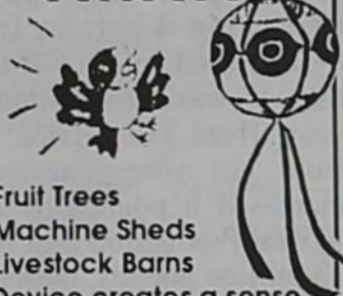
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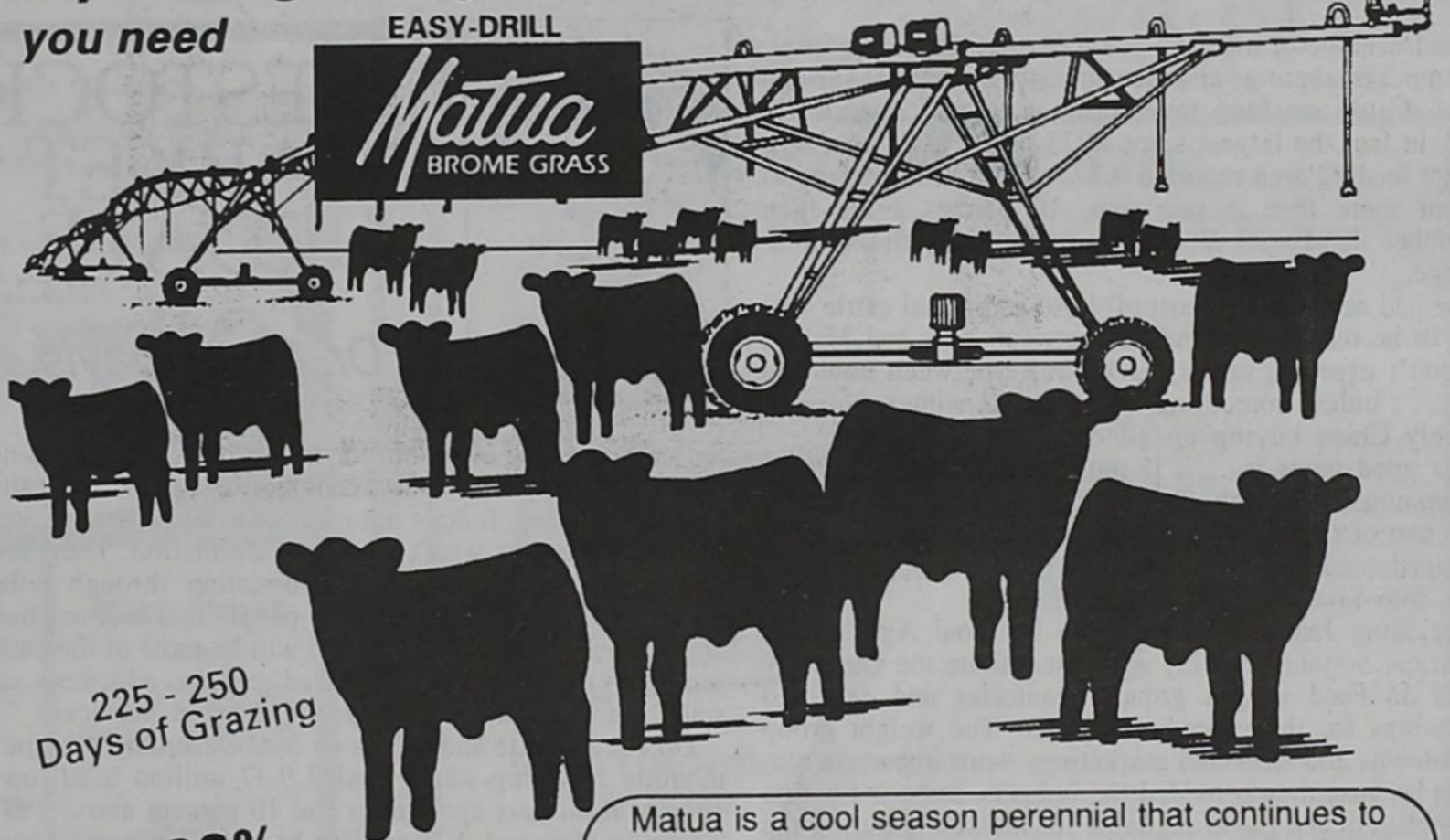
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AgReview



South Plains
Ag News

Jan. 22-Feb. 6

FORT WORTH'S SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW — The annual stock show, including a 17-day run of the championship rodeo, draws entries from throughout the state.

Feb. 16-17

ABILENE BIG COUNTRY FARM & RANCH SHOW — Champion Farm Shows will present its second annual Big Country Farm & Ranch Show at the Taylor County Fairgrounds on Feb. 16 & 17.

Total of \$600,000 in cotton research funded

By **SHAWN WADE**
Plains Cotton Growers

LUBBOCK — Producers and researchers got together Thursday, January 20, at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center north of Lubbock to hear progress reports on projects funded through the State Support Program of Cotton Incorporated (CI) and the Texas State Support Committee (TSSC).

According to Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers (PCG) the CI program was set up to provide 5 percent of CI's annual operating budget to

producers in cotton belt states to fund cotton related research and promotion activities.

Projects presented for review during the day-long meeting received funding in 1993 through the TSSC. A total of 25 projects were reviewed that seek to find answers to a number of important questions facing the cotton industry.

Reports were presented on projects ranging from efforts to remove gossypol from cottonseed to developing improved pest management and cultural strategies for cotton production.

TSSC Vice Chairman Larry Nelson, a cotton

producer and ginner from Edmonson, Texas, notes that several of these projects were also approved by the committee for further funding in 1994 and are therefore only partially complete. He adds that TSSC members will be meeting in the near future to select projects for funding in 1995.

Funding requests totaling close to \$600,000 were approved for 1994. Of that total, \$160,000 will fund projects specific to the High Plains and \$340,000 will go to projects of interest statewide. The remaining funds will be divided among other cotton production regions to fund

additional regional projects.

A number of outstanding opportunities to hear about what is going on in agriculture and the cotton industry on the High Plains will present themselves January 25-26 during the Caprock Cotton Conference. The conference will be held at the Pioneer Memorial Museum in Crosbyton.

Plains Cotton Growers officials note that producers and other interested parties who attend the conference will have a chance to hear Texas Commissioner of Agriculture Rick Perry,

Congressman Charles Stenholm and others discuss issues facing agriculture on the first day of the conference. Extension Cotton Specialist Kater Hake and a number of other researchers from the Texas Agricultural Extension Service will speak on the second day and discuss a variety of production and insect management issues.

For information about how to register for the conference contact the Texas Agricultural Extension Service office in either Floyd County at 806-983-2806 or Crosby County at 806-675-2003.

Feedgrain rally providing pricing opportunities

By **MARK WALLER**

A&M Grain Mkt. Specialist

For the most part, last week's reports were bullish for the feedgrain market, as we could tell from the good jump in prices on Thursday. With '93 corn and sorghum production at 6.344 billion bushels and 568 million bushels respectively, and corn carryover of only 802 MB, one might think that prices could remain strong throughout the summer.

Don't get swept away in all the enthusiasm though, without considering what news will keep the rally going.

With some finality now in place concerning the size of the '93 crop, the market must look to

demand for new market information. It is unlikely that this will sustain prices for long since the rally should ration demand at some point. This bull market will need more good news to keep rallying, and that may start getting tougher to come by now.

With a zero ARP for next year, a return to normal weather could produce a huge crop. If that happens, carryover will increase and prices will come back down. That is normally the way our farm programs work.

The world economy is still sluggish, and the world grain situation is not nearly as tight as we are facing here in the U.S. As a result, it is unlikely that we will get enough bullish news to sustain our current price rally from that arena either.

Seasonally prices tend to decrease as we move into spring and thoughts turn to planting a new crop, especially in years when the ARP is lowered. Be thinking about your price objectives for '94 sales. Your best pricing opportunities may be this winter and into early spring.

After more than a dollar rally from the summer lows, basis the nearby, it looks as if the wheat market's post harvest rally could be running out of steam.

Even though the winter wheat seeding report and the world agricultural supply/demand estimates report were considered bullish, March futures was unable to rally back to its earlier highs, and July, which made a new high, was unable to hold on to the gains.

December COF report brings winter market no relief

The December Cattle on Feed report at best was neutral. November marketings and placements were both at year ago levels. Cattle on feed inventories remained historically large, in fact the largest since 1973 or 20 years ago. The 7-State feeding area reported 9.37 million head on feed, 5 percent more than a year ago, 10 percent more than December 1991 and 9 percent more than the 5 year average.

The bad news is . . . most of those additional cattle will need to be marketed sometime between now and March. So, don't expect a major market rally between now and then . . . unless something like a major winter storm or possibly China buying up all our beef supplies.

The good news is . . . if those cattle do get marketed between now and March, then fed cattle prices should make some sort of rally, at least to the high \$70's during March and April . . . unless we go mad and place 2 million head of cattle into feedlots during December.

Beginning January 1, 1994, the National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) will discontinue the Quarterly Cattle on Feed weight group inventories and expected marketings for the preceding quarter. The weight group breakdowns and expected marketings were important statistics because they provided the industry some indication of supplies of fed cattle available for marketing during the next quarter.

Reasons given for the discontinuation of these data were that the estimates were inaccurate. On the contrary, for the period 1991-1993, which was the period of controversy, except for 2 of 11 quarters the expected marketings of fed cattle for the preceding quarter were most accurate. For 8 of the 11 quarters, the error was only 2.1 percent or less (Table 1). Four quarters the error was less than 1 percent!

It is our belief the principal reason that NASS discontinued the quarterly reporting of weight group categories and expected marketings is that some feedlots did not want to furnish the data. The cattle feeding and beef packing sectors are becoming more concentrated, therefore, more information, not less, is needed to insure a competitive market. Just because a sector of the industry does not want to supply the information is not a good reason to discontinue it.

Without the weight groups of steers and heifers on feed, the industry will only know that more or less cattle are on feed and that sometime in the next six months, more or less



LIVESTOCK MARKET UPDATE

Dr. Ernie Davis

fed cattle will be available for marketing. This means not much information will be available to most of the cattle and beef industry. It does not mean that the largest packers or largest feedlots won't have the information. They have the resources to obtain the information through either internal or external sources. The people that will not have access to the data or information will be most of the cattle producers, small and middle-sized packers, educators and scientists (i.e., universities and Extension Services).

On Feed: Cattle and calves on feed December 1 in the 7 monthly reporting states totaled 9.37 million head, up 5 percent from year ago counts and 10 percent above 1991. Texas feedlots had 2.78 million head of cattle and calves on feed, 15 percent above year ago numbers.

Placements: Cattle and calves placed on feed in the 7-States during November totaled 1.84 million head down slightly from last year and down 4 percent from November 1991. Texas feedlots placed 460,000 cattle and calves on feed during November. This was 6 percent above November 1992 placements.

Marketings: Marketings of fed cattle from the 7 States during November totaled 1.44 million head down slightly from last year but 5 percent above November 1991. Marketings from Texas feedlots during November totaled 390,000 up 7 percent from last year.

Commercial red meat production in the U.S during November 1993 totaled 3.45 billion pounds, 5 percent above last year. Kill days for November 1993 included 22 weekdays and four Saturdays. November 1992 had 21 weekdays and 4 Saturdays for production. Accumulative red meat production for January-November was 37.0 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 1992. The accumulative

production for beef was down 1 percent; veal was down 12 percent; pork was down 1 percent; and lamb and mutton were down 4 percent from a year ago.

Beef Production: For the month of November, beef production was 1.89 billion pounds, up 6 percent from last year. Head kill totaled 2.70 million head, up 5 percent from last year. The average live weight at slaughter increased 8 pounds to 1,185 pounds.

Veal Production: For November, veal production totaled 23 million pounds, the same as a year ago, when the record low was set. Calf slaughter totaled 104.9 thousand head, down 7 percent from last year. The average live weight was up 26 pounds to 385 pounds.

Pork Production: Pork production was 1.51 billion pounds, 4 percent above last year. Hog kill totaled 8.14 million head, up 2 percent from last year. The average live weight was up 2 pounds to 256 pounds.

Lamb Production During November, lamb and mutton production totaled 26 million pounds, down 3 percent from a year ago. Slaughter totaled 418.2 thousand head, down 3 percent. The average live weight stayed the same at 125 pounds.

Texas Slaughter November's livestock slaughter included 463.8 thousand head of cattle, up 8 percent; 1.8 thousand head of calves, down 28 percent; 31.6 thousand hogs, up 17 percent from 1992. Sheep and lamb slaughter was not reported to avoid disclosing individual operations. Commercial red meat production in Texas during Novem-

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketing and Other Disappearance, 7 States, NOVEMBER 1-DECEMBER 1

| | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 93 As % of | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|------------|-----|
| | | | | 91 | 92 |
| | 1000 Head | | | Percent | |
| On Feed NOVEMBER 1 | 8,013 | 8,584 | 9,076 | 113 | 106 |
| Placed on Feed NOVEMBER | 1,917 | 1,843 | 1,838 | 96 | 100 |
| Fed Cattle Mkt. NOVEMBER | 1,376 | 1,442 | 1,439 | 105 | 100 |
| Other Disappearance | 77 | 91 | 108 | 140 | 119 |
| On Feed DECEMBER 1 | 8,477 | 8,894 | 9,367 | 110 | 105 |

MATUA

From Page 1

The Youngs and others trying it are pioneers of sorts. Since the New Zealand product is still in its infancy, there is little documentation about its characteristics on U.S. farms, the Youngs learned.

"We had ours picked and tested recently, and it measured 20 percent protein," Mrs. Young said. Its good forage qualities have boded well for the 300 Holstein replacement heifers they raise on the pasture, she believes.

Their neighbor, Toby Kautz, is another cattle raiser growing it. He has two center pivots. Kautz' father is the landowner leasing out the land on which the Youngs have their cattle.

Farther to the north, Greg Blackwood of Liberal, Kan., was able to keep his stocker cattle on a circle of Matua from April through November.

Another plot of Matua has been growing for about three years at Texas Beef Feedyard at Sunray.

The 20-acre plot is furrow-watered and is located next to the feedyard. The pasture is used to feed out problem cattle not doing well in the pens.

"It's working real well," commented Texas Feedyard manager Tommy Raper. "It's mid-January and it's still green,"

Raper said. "Last year it didn't go dormant until around February, and that was a pretty tough winter. If we don't have a worse winter than we've had so far this year, it'll probably keep on growing right on through spring."

Though the Matua stands are still in their infancy at this time, there seems to be some reason for optimism about the future.

Sherman County Agent Jim Allison is anxious to see Matua's track record over the next year or two.

"It sounds good," Allison said. "But my experience with it has been little to none, though some producers talk highly of it."

Allison says it will be important to look at several growing seasons to just

how the grass will climatize to the area. Only the long haul will tell producers for sure the real value of such a new product, he says.

But, he admits it has promise. "We need something like this," he admits. "We always need new crops that offer some alternatives to the crops we have. And, basically, cattle is a big part of the economic stability of the area."

Questions that will be answered in the future, as producers watch it grow, he says include: How many pounds of beef can be grazed on it? How the cattle gain and how it works through the summers? Also: How much management you really have to have with it?

"How I see this can be used is a rotational program with wheat," Allison said. "What we would be looking at is — 'How would it fit in with other things that we do? Is it going to be best as seasonal, or as a continued grazing program?'"

The Youngs were sold on the grass when they saw it growing on a pivot circle near Liberal, Kan. Prior to that, they had seen an article in a newspaper about it, and started to investigate. They found some of in Liberal and Garden City, Kan., and near Boise City.

"My husband thought this is just what we had been looking for. He said 'We've got to do this.'" Mrs. Young recalls. "In the past we had to chase down wheat pasture, go to grass in the summer. You're never guaranteed pasture the way Mother Nature plays tricks on you."

Now, with a pasture of long season grass in place under a dependable pivot setup, they believe they have found a winning program.

"This program is just what we needed," she said.

Newness of a product like Matua can create a few challenges, Mrs. Young admits, especially when it is time to explain to financial lenders the potential of an unknown product.

"It's so new that when we tried to get documentation, we couldn't find much," she said. "They wouldn't just take our word for it."

Calling other growers through Kansas and Oklahoma — where more is raised than in Texas at present — and contacting grass researchers at regional universities, they finally found more data. And their success over the preceding fall and winter has spoken for itself, she said.

With 300 cattle on the land now, they hope to add 1,000 more about April 1 — believing that to be about the optimum number of animals their pasture will support. They expect Matua to keep up with the needs of the cattle, and even afford them a chance to do some haying on it to boot.

Keith Carmichael, a native of Clayton, N.M., who operates a stocker cattle operation in Missouri, was among the first to begin distributing Matua in the United States.

Basically, Carmichael tried the grass on his own operation and was so impressed he formed a company, Cutting Edge, to market it and other forages.

"Basically, it gave us a pasture longer than anything else we could use," Carmichael said. He found it in use as a winter forage, but the cool season grass, when grown under a center pivot, keeps on growing through the summer months.

Most of his customers like that aspect. It is called 'easy drill' since it goes through the big box on a standard grain box planter.

He gets the certified seed through an importer. The seed was popular last fall, selling out at the wholesale level in about three months, Carmichael said.

Carmichael says interest among those who raise cattle and have access to center pivots is growing. Dairymen are finding that it chops well, working good in hay mixtures, too. An Idaho customer cut his Matua five times last year, every 28 days, in an irrigated situation.

Feedyards can utilize it for backgrounding cattle as well as for waste disposal compliance — since matua can utilize large amounts of nitrogen.

Carmichael says the yield potential is illustrated by trials in which it reportedly doubled yields of winter rye, wheat and oats, and outproducing most annual ryegrass varieties.

"As long as you have good water, it will work," Carmichael said. He has seen interest as far south as Abilene, in areas where adequate irrigation exists for the grass.

Carmichael operates Cutting Edge Agri-Products, Lowry City, Mo.

DAVIS

From Page 2

ber was 316.1 million pounds, up 7 percent from a year ago.

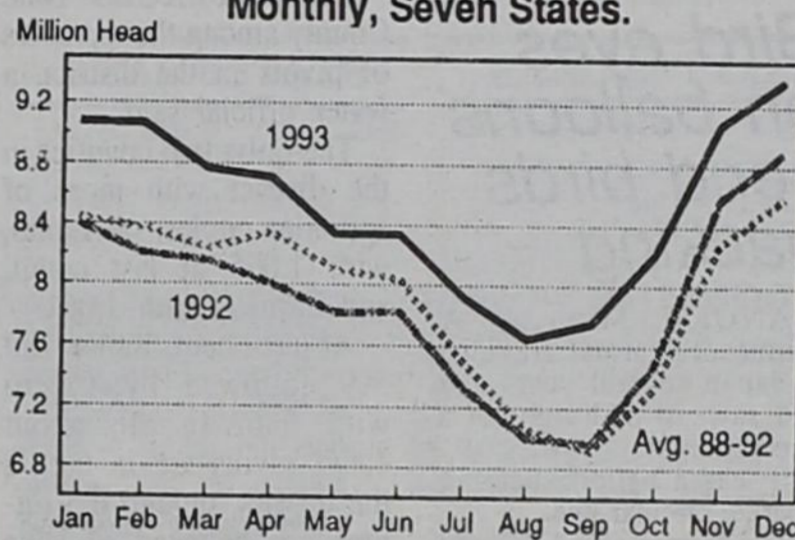
Cold storage beef supplies totaled 355.4 million pounds, up 29 percent from a year ago and 3 percent above last month's levels. Frozen pork supplies were measured at 325.5 million pounds, which was 3 percent above last year's levels, but 1 percent below last month's supplies.

Frozen poultry supplies were estimated to be 657.3 million pounds, down 3 percent from a year ago and

37 percent below last month's levels. (Dr. Ernie Davis, Livestock Marketing Specialist

with the Texas A&M Extension Service, is an authority on the livestock markets.)

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Cotton industry likes GATT in some ways, not in others

Reprint Textile News

MEMPHIS, TN — Officials with the national Cotton Council are pleased with the tariff level established for raw cotton imports, but disappointed with a number of other General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) provisions, including those governing international textile trade.

GATT talks were completed on the Dec. 15 deadline, ending multilateral trade negotiations that begin in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in 1986.

Sam Hollis, a Memphis warehouseman and member

of the President's Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee for Trade, represented the National Cotton Council in Geneva.

"It is my understanding that the final agricultural agreement is better for U.S. raw cotton than were previous versions," Hollis said. "The tariffication level for cotton, for example, was increased from seven to 16 cents in the final offers submitted by the U.S. This increase makes the tariffication level in GATT the same as negotiated in NAFTA.

Cotton's target price program and successful market-

ing loan will not be affected by terms of the GATT agreement because of budget reductions made since 1986.

Hollis commended the Secretary of Agriculture and his staff for the manner in which the final stages of these negotiations were conducted.

"Secretary Espy's accessibility and willingness to listen to what U.S. agriculture wanted made the final outcome much better than it would have been otherwise," Hollis pointed out. The cotton industry has steadfastly expressed concerns about the inadequate protection afforded by tariff offers pre-

viously submitted by U.S. negotiators. The first proposal by Bush Administration negotiators was a meaningless 17 one-hundredths of a cent per pound. The level was later raised to seven cents and, at the Council's insistence, it was eventually hiked to 16 cents.

"I know the entire cotton industry appreciates the efforts of Secretary Espy, Ambassador Kantor, and the entire delegation to get a more equitable agreement for cotton," commented National Cotton Council President Neely Mallory.

The phase out of textile quotas was not extended to

15 years from 10 as requested, nor was the phase out directly linked to reciprocal market access into the markets of competing textile producing countries. Further, the U.S. textile industry remains concerned with the size of some of the tariff reductions agreed to by U.S. negotiators.

However, negotiations with individual countries on agricultural and textiles market access issues will continue in early 1994.

"We hope that the U.S. can get increased market access for cotton and textiles in the individual country negotiations," Mallory stated.

"That increased access is crucial for our textile sector, that otherwise faces a lowering of protection at home, but no guarantee of better access abroad."

The National Cotton Council will be evaluating all aspects of the GATT agreement as it affects cotton over the next two months.

Mallory, who also is a Memphis warehouseman, added, "This is a complicated agreement with several aspects of it overlapping in their impact on cotton. We must ensure that we fully understand all of it before we take a final position on this deal."

Survey reveals extent of pivots in Hale

PLAINVIEW — Approximately 604 center pivot sprinklers are in operation within Hale County — placing its farmers third among the leading counties on the South Plains in numbers of the high efficiency

Bird eyes on balloons send birds packing

ANOKA, Minn. — A Minnesota farmer traveled to Japan several years ago and saw an odd sight in a rice paddy.

It was a balloon bearing a large, circular eye.

The farmer asked the rice producer what the deal was, and was informed that birds ran rampant in his fields until he installed the balloon.

"Do you ever see birds attacking butterflies," the Japanese farmer asked? "Look at their wings, and you will see patterns on them shaped like the eyes of eagles or hawks. That is their natural secret."

The man returned to Minnesota and teamed up with a friend, Joe Kovar, to manufacture and sell the product.

Kovar, a retired implement dealer-turned salesman related the above story at his booth at the recent Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show.

Kovar now sells the balloons at shows and business events nationwide.

"It is a product that works. It does what it says it will do, scare birds away," proclaims Kovar.

He related how Texas A&M Extension Service locations are now using his balloons, and that the idea is beginning to spread.

Shortly after his stop at the Amarillo ag event, Kovar says he got a call from the U.S. Postal Service in Amarillo asking to purchase the balloons to hang in the eaves of their parking garage, which is infested by dozens of bird pests most of the year.

Kovar's balloons are made of durable material and last for years if taken care of, he says. And, most of all, he stresses, "They do work."

Kovar, owner of Joe Kovar Co., sells his products mostly by mail order from his office in Anoka, Minn.

systems in use. The survey was done as part of a routine inventory conducted recently by the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1.

THAT PLACES Hale County among the top users of pivots in the district, a water official said.

The only two counties in the district with more of sprinkler circles are Lamb, with 1,065 at last count, and Parmer, with 1,061.

At last count, Bailey had 599 followed by Castro with 566. In all, about 4,474 pivots are in use in the district, though the figures are believed to have increased even further over the past year or so since

some surveys were done. The survey report is one of the first of a number of regular statistical studies to be conducted regularly by the district. It was among the first reported since voters okayed a proposal to bring Hale County in its entirety into the district on Aug. 14. Studies are done periodically within all counties in the district.

CENTER PIVOT surveys are done to reflect current water conservation activities within the newly-annexed territory.

"Given an average price of \$30,000 per sprinkler system, this represents an \$18 million water conservation commitment by Hale County producers," said

Water District Manager A. Wayne Wyatt. "They are to be commended for their efforts."

Many center pivot systems operating within the district service area are partial drop line systems which achieve water use efficiencies of about 80 percent.

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Decreasing cotton stocks push price up

The cotton market started the new year on an unusually strong note because of decreasing stocks worldwide. The 1993/94 cotton harvest estimates in January were revised lower, especially in the U.S. and Pakistan.

The crop in China has deteriorated sufficiently to bring on "rumors" that they will be a buyer of a substantial amount of U.S. cotton during the next year and a half.

The latest supply/demand report reduced the 1993/94 U.S. crop 100,000 bales to 16.2 million and increased expected exports 300,000 bales. Domestic use was trimmed 100,000 bales for total use of 16.4 million. Ending stocks were projected to be 4.5 million, 400,000 bales less than in December. The stocks-to-use (s/u) ratio decreased from 30.25 percent a month ago to 27.44 percent. The decline in U.S. stocks will likely boost the average U.S. spot market by some 3 to 4 cents per pound.

Exports are showing signs of increasing. The projected 1993/94 deficit between foreign production and consumption increased slightly from 10.7 million in December to 11.24 million bales. That follows a 9.18 million deficit in 1992/93 for a sizable two-season shortfall of 20.42 million bales.

The 11 percent ARP set for the 1994/95 crop will likely produce around 17 million bales with average yields. Domestic use may rise from 10.2 million this season to 10.5 million, and exports around 6.5 million bales, for a



COTTON MARKET UPDATE

Dr. Carl Anderson

total use of 17 million. This would hold ending stocks steady at 4.5 million for the "new" season.

The "A" Index (world price) has increased sharply, pulling the AWP (U.S. adjusted world price) above the loan rate on Jan. 13, 1994, for the first time since Oct. 1991. Projection indicate that the AWP will remain above the 1994/95 loan rate of 50 cents per pound for the entire season.

In other words, I do not expect a market loan deficiency or "POP" payment for the 1994/95 crop. That means it may be advisable to prepare a marketing plan to minimize risk but to allow benefits from a possible price rally later on.

The market is setting the stage to be very price sensitive and volatile during the early stages of the planting and growing season. Minimum price contracts and put options provide price insurance yet allow benefits from unexpected higher prices. You also may want to spread contracting over a reasonable time period to average out pricing opportunities.

When contracting, be sure to read the "fine print" and to understand the terms of the contract. Does the contract stipulate handling and storage charges and how much? What is the delivery date? What are the premiums and discounts? Remember, all contracts do not have the same terms.

It is possible that you may get a higher market price for the 1994/95 crop and still fall far short of the total price received for last year's crop because of no marketing loan gain. The market is expected to offer much better pricing opportunities for growers during the first half of 1994 than the last half.

(A price risk management workshop will be offered at Texas A&M Feb. 9-10. Those needing information may call 409-845-8011.

(Dr. Carl Anderson, Cotton Marketing Specialist with the Texas A&M Extension Service, is a noted authority on the cotton markets)

Surveys reveal fishing potential at White River Lake

CROSBYTON — A comparison of fish populations at White River Lake near Crosbyton last fall to the same month in 1990

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sheds some light on a growing white bass population in the lake, and good maintenance of crappie and largemouth bass numbers.

That was reported recently by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Inland Fisheries staff, based in Canyon.

During the fall, the TPWD collected an abundance of 2 to 3-inch white bass, indicating they had an excellent spawn last year.

THE TPWD HAD stocked a few adult white bass in 1985 but had seen and heard little of them until spring, 1993, when it collected 21 measuring up to 19 inches in length.

Largemouth bass numbers, it was discovered, have increased considerab-

ly since 1990, the TPWD reported. Fish up to 21 inches in length were collected with the biggest increase occurring in fish from 9 to 11 inches in length.

It was also discovered that 25 percent of the small bass collected were of the Florida strain. Because of that, Florida bass will be restocked when their percentage drops to less than 20 percent.

SMALLMOUTH BASS numbers in 1993 were identical to collections in 1990, it was learned. This species maintains a small population in the lake in areas with an abundance of rocky structure. They apparently spawn each year but numbers are limited by the amount of habitat available and fisherman harvest.

The TPWD has recommended an 18-inch minimum length limit on smallmouth bass, 3 fish daily bag limit, for fall 1994 in order to build up the smallmouth bass numbers.

Crappie have increased over the past three years. Fish up to 11 inches in length were collected with many small fish observed. Spawning and survival of crappie has been good.

Stocking of yellow perch in 1994 has been recom-

mended. The species has adapted well to Greenbelt and Meredith and have

potential of providing additional panfish for anglers. LAST SPRING, the

TPWD sampled for catfish, white bass and walleye, and their study indicated.

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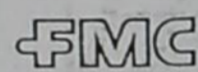
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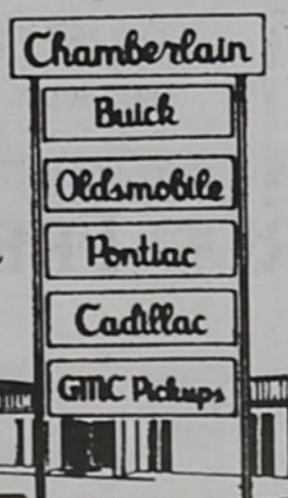
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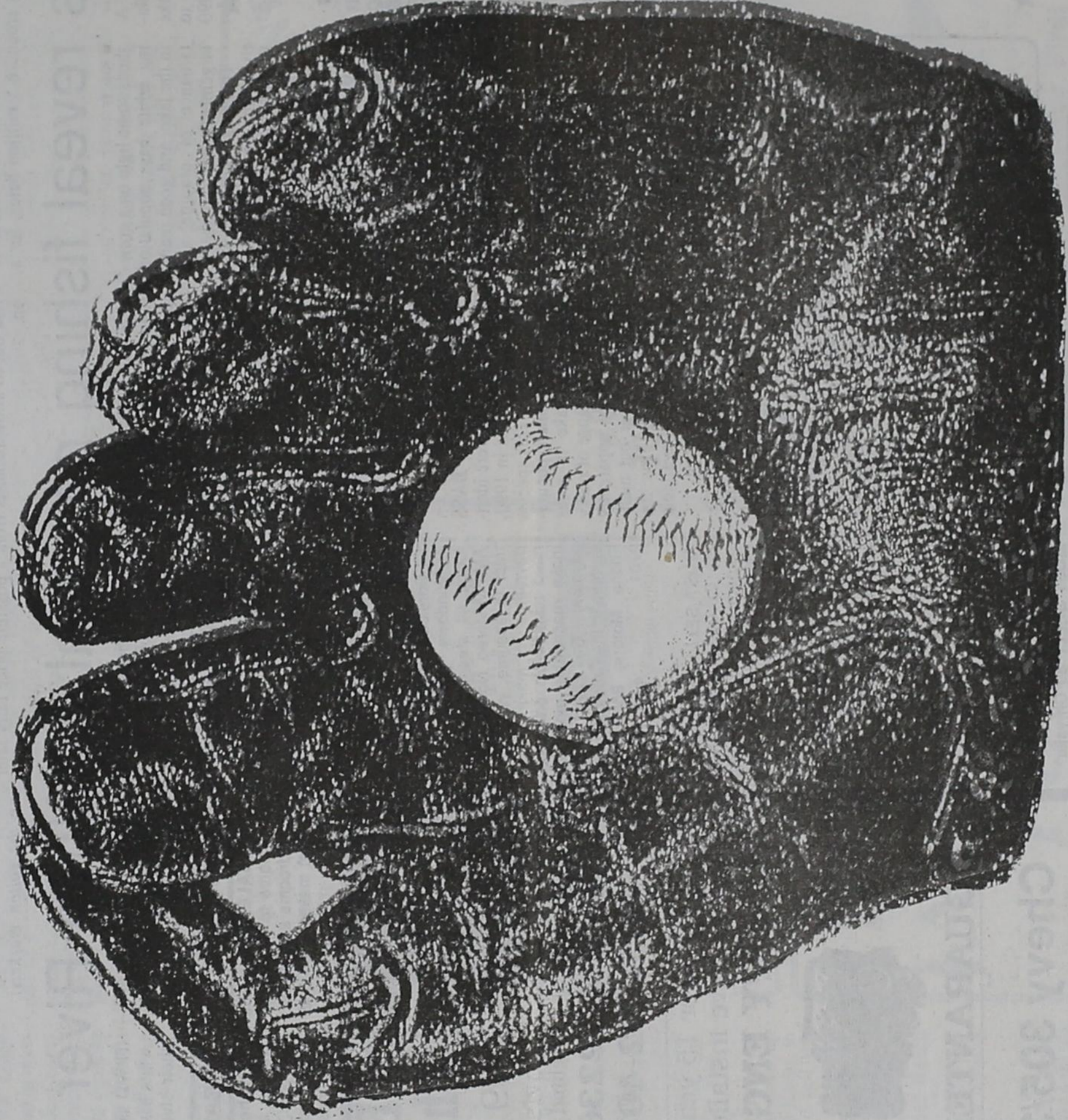
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Satellite to provide 'cable-like' services on rural Plains

LUBBOCK — Residents in South Plains counties will soon be able to tune into the nation's first high powered direct broadcast satellite (DBS-1), which was successfully rocketed into space recently from the South American nation of French Guiana.

"The successful launch of this satellite will put rural America on the cutting edge of the information age," said Ronny Puckett, Manager-Digital Satellite Television.

Hale and neighboring counties will be served by Digital Satellite Television — an entity managed by the Lubbock-based Poka

Lambro, South Plains Telephone Co-Op.

System owners are South Plains Telephone Co-Op and South Plains Electric Co-Op of Lubbock, the Lynteger Electric Co-Op in Tahoka and Lamb County Electric Co-Op in Littlefield.

Puckett said the quality of the signal to be received will be enhanced due to it being broadcast to earth via a compressed digital format, allowing customers to tune into CD quality sound. The television picture is claimed to be 30 percent sharper than standard television signals.

The new satellite, DBS-1, will begin

delivering around 70 channels of digital television service, operating under the trademark name DirecTv, to viewers across the country in the spring.

Key to the convenience of the system will be an innovative 18-inch satellite dish receiving system. The Digital Satellite System equipment is being manufactured by Thomson Consumer Electronics, makers of RCA-brand products. Each DSS will include an 18-inch dish, a digital receiver box and remote control.

The service will expand to 150 channels when the initial satellite is joined by a sister satellite in the summer

of this year.

DirecTv, a unit of GM Hughes Electronics will offer its service to the United States and Canada via a series of local agents.

In rural areas, DirecTv is dealing with rural electric, rural telephone and affiliate members of the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative.

Poka Lambro is serving 22 counties including Andrews, Bailey,

Borden, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Dickens, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Hall, Hockley, Howard, Kenkt, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, MJar-tin, Motley, Terry and Yoakum.

Retail outlets will soon be opening in the 22-county service area, Puckett said.

Among features of the new service will be use of an on-screen electronic programming guide which will allow

viewers to choose programming by category and themes.

The programming signed to the system so far includes CNN, The Disney Channel, The Discovery Channel, The Sci-Fi Channel, The Learning Channel, The Discovery Channel, Country Music Television and others.

DirecTv will also offer more than 50 channels of pay-per-view programming.

NAMES IN AG NEWS

Two Hale County beef producers have recently joined the American Angus Association. They include Tim Barton of Abernathy and Randy Bennett of Plainview.

The AAA has a membership of more than 20,000 active adult and junior members and is one of the largest beef cattle registry associations in the world. Its computerized records include detailed information on nearly 11 million registered Angus.

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| 1980-1986 Fullsize Pickups (Shaded) | \$85 ⁰⁰ |
| 1980-1986 Fullsize Pickups (Tinted) | \$80 ⁰⁰ |
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| 1987-1993 Fullsize Pickups (Tinted) | \$80 ⁰⁰ |
| Ford Ranger & Bronco II (Shaded) | \$85 ⁰⁰ |

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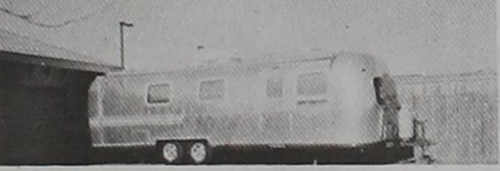
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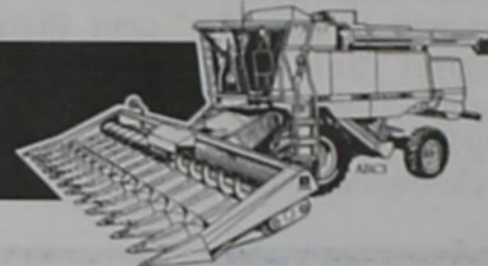
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