

"Melt" Is 1.5 In Friona

Area Receives Nice Moisture From Snow

By BILL ELLIS

The most beneficial winter moisture in three years had the farmers from Rhea to Black, and from Lazbuddie to Bootleg, with unmistakable grins on Wednesday of this week.

Friona's official gauge caught 1.51 inches of moisture Tuesday. A total of 31 inches was measured at 8 a.m. that day, which fell mainly as rain, before changing over to snow.

With the temperature dropping below the freezing mark at about 7:30 a.m., snowflakes became the order of the day, and the snow fell constantly the rest of the day.

By 6 p.m., Friona had received 7-8 inches of snow, and the "moist meltdown" came to 1.2 inches.

Wednesday's low temperature, with a socked-in snow covering, was a bone-chilling eleven degrees.

By comparison of this time a

year ago, there had been only .03 inches measured for January and February, and nothing significant was received until March 15, when .5 inches fell.

Tuesday's snow was the most, since eight inches was measured on January 28, 2001.

Debra Zaikowski, who answered the phone at the AGP Cooperative at Rhea, said the Rhea area received about eight inches of snow. "This has made everyone feel a little better," she said.

Randy Thomas, manager of Attebury Grain in Black, said that area received five to seven inches of snow, and around an inch of moisture, overall.

"If we could've had this 30-40 days earlier, it would have been great, but this will definitely help. Everyone got a pretty good dose (of the snow)," Thomas said.

A spokesman for the AGP Lazbuddie elevator said they had received about four inches of snow. A couple of days earlier, the Lazbuddie area received .3 inches of rain.



Early Vote Date Mar. 3 In Friona

Early voting for the March primary elections is now open until March 5 by personal appearance at the County Clerk's office in Farwell.

On Wednesday, March 3, early voters can vote at the Friona State Bank Community Room from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The primary election is set for Tuesday, March 9. Sample ballots and election notices with polling places will be published in the Friona Star March 4.

New Jail Open House Mar. 13

The county commissioners have set Saturday, March 13, from 2-4 p.m. as the date for the public to visit the new Parmer County Law Enforcement Center.

Sheriff Geris said his staff would be on hand during the open house to take visitors on a brief tour of the jail and that refreshments will be served.

All Parmer County residents are invited to see the new jail facility and Sheriff's Department offices. The jail will not be officially occupied by inmates until the week following the open house.



A TX DOT snowplow clears some of the 8 inches of snow off Fifth Street on Tuesday.

ron carr photo

Brownfield Wreck Claims Life Of Curtis Murphree

Curtis Murphree, 82, of Friona, died Saturday morning, February 21, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock as the result of a Friday evening traffic accident in Brownfield.

Mr. Murphree, his wife Gertie, and friends Doyce and Mary Joyce Barnett, were on the way to Lamesa to attend the Friona Squaws vs. Eastland area round playoff game. The Murphree's granddaughter is a member of the Squaws basketball team.

Murphree stopped at a stop sign at a highway intersection in Brownfield. As he pulled out to turn left, a 2004 Chevy Tahoe occupied by a woman and her daughter from Sudan, hit Mr. Murphree's 2003 Yukon in the driver side door. Brownfield police said the woman's Tahoe

had the right-of-way. The woman said she saw them stop so she didn't slow down.

Mr. Murphree was taken to the Brownfield hospital then transferred to Lubbock. He died there at 10:45 a.m. Saturday morning as a result of head injuries sustained in the accident.

Parmer County Sheriff Randy Geris was driving the Squaw basketball team bus about two miles behind the accident. He said they arrived at the scene before any emergency personnel.

Two of the Murphree's granddaughter's, Staci and Brenda Murphree, were on the

team bus and two of the Murphree's children, Jim Murphree and wife Rhonda, and Carolyn Wiseman and husband Kevin also were on the way to the ball game and happened on the accident scene.

Many other Friona fans also stopped as they passed through the intersection on the way to the playoff game in Lamesa. Gertie Murphree and the Barnetts suffered bruises but were not seriously injured.

Funeral services for Mr. Murphree were held Wednesday, February 25, in Friona. His obituary is elsewhere in today's paper.

Board Calls For School Election

The Board of Trustees of the Friona Independent School District passed a resolution calling for a trustee election to be held jointly with the City of Friona election on Saturday, May 15, 2004.

Two trustees will be elected on the above date. The seats expiring are currently held by Kathryn Gurley and Danny

Black. Holdover board members are Loraine Anthony, Danny Hand, Alan Monroe, Mitchell Smiley, and Joe Santellana.

Sign up takes place in the Superintendent's office at 909 E. 11th St. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Deadline for filing a candidate application is Monday, March 15, 2004.

Stenholm Visits Friona On Campaign Swing

U. S. Representative Charles Stenholm, a casualty of Texas' contentious redistricting, is now a refugee in District 19. Stenholm has been in Congress since 1979 representing the 17th district, but he now finds himself in the redrawn 19th district with 11 new counties in which to woo votes.

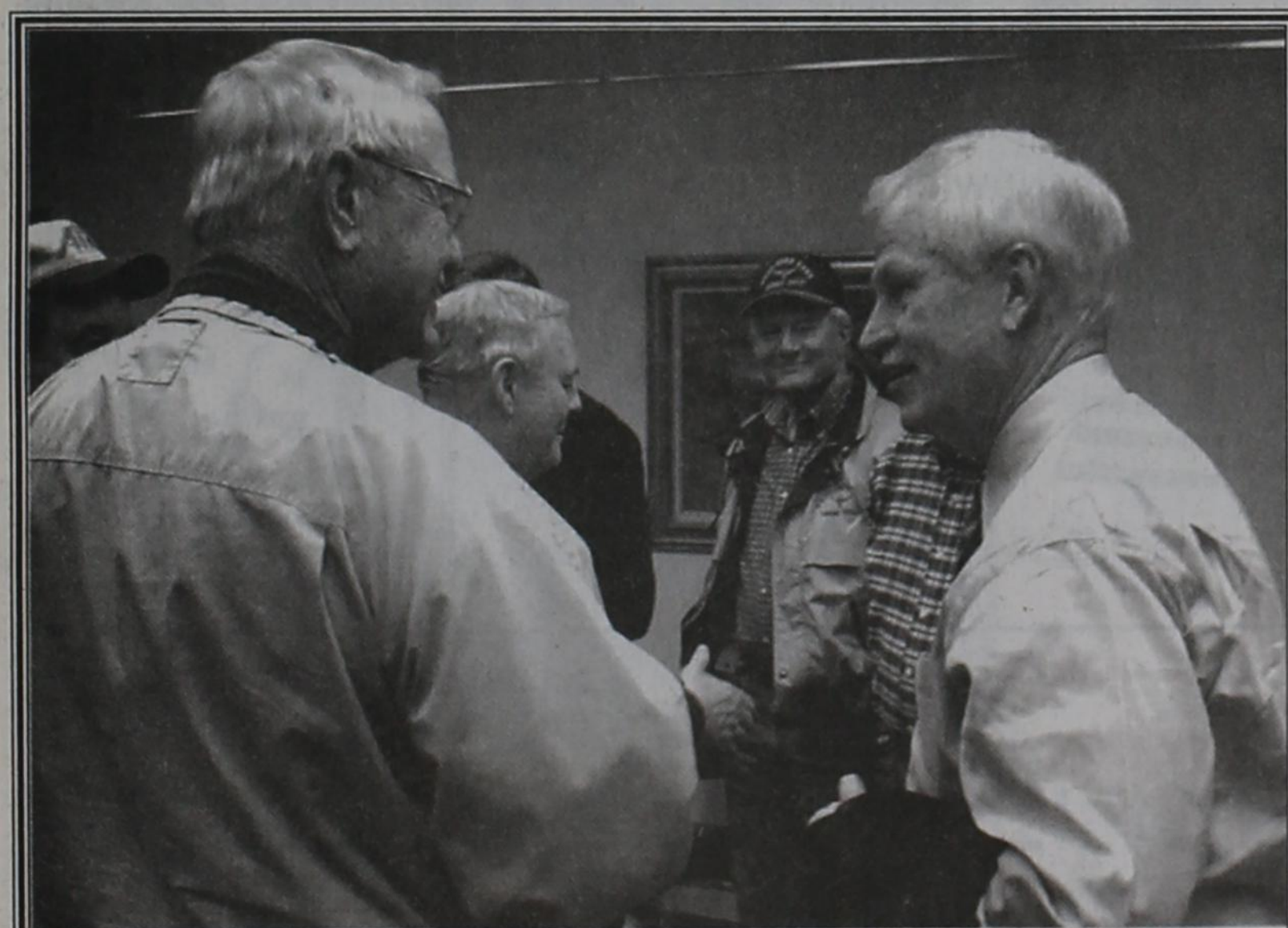
At Friday's campaign stop in Friona, over 40 residents gathered at the Friona State Bank to get acquainted with the "farmer friendly" representative. Stenholm is the ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee and worked with former Congressman Larry Combest on the 2002 Farm Bill. The majority of the audience at Friday's gathering were farmers, dairymen, and educators.

Stenholm, who terms himself a Blue Dog (conservative) Democrat, said he has yet to meet an educator of any rank that likes President Bush's No Child Left Behind Act. "It was a good publicity gimmick," he said, "but it is another unfunded mandate from the government that puts local districts in a bind." Stenholm said only six percent of education money comes from the federal government with the other 94% coming from state and local sources.

And he told the group he was not in favor of education vouchers to be used for private schools, nor did he favor standard testing. Stenholm said he had seen 25 Presidential budgets submitted during his career and none of them

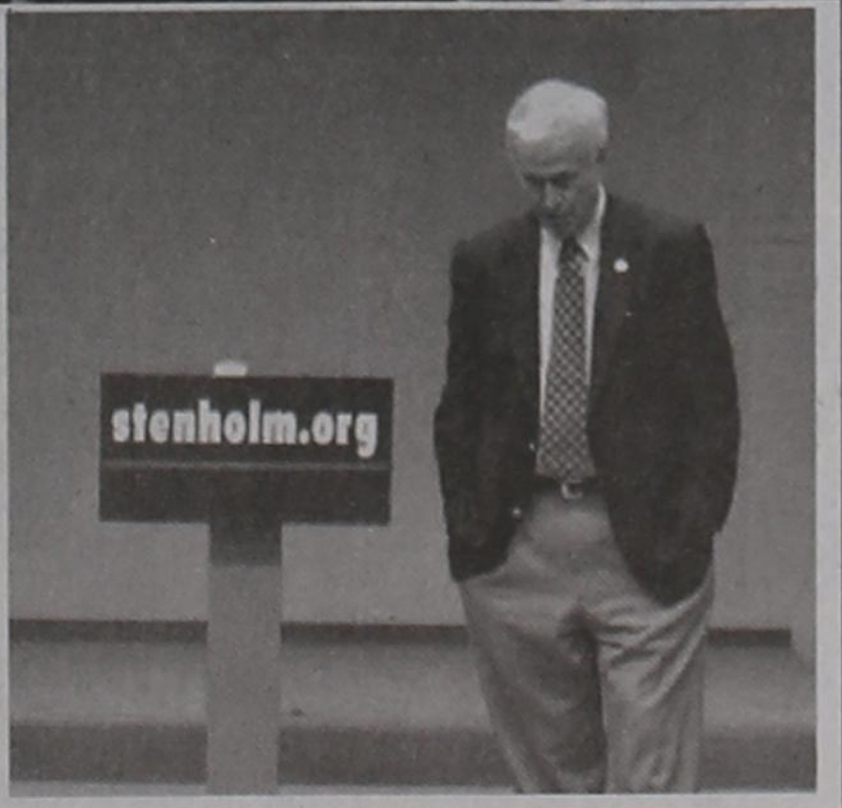
passed Congress. "And the current president's budget will not pass either," he said. As for the Farm Bill, Stenholm told the audience he would be happy recommending that the Farm Bill budget stay status quo this year in light of the impending deficit rather than asking for an increase or risking a decrease.

Stenholm is running unopposed in the March 9 Democratic primary election but will face freshman Congressman Randy Neugebauer in the November general election for the next two-year term representing District 19. Neugebauer was elected to fill the unexpired term of Larry Combest, who resigned in May of 2003.



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE Charles Stenholm chats with Ron Davenport during a campaign stop Friday. Wes Barnett and Floyd Reeve are in the background. Right, Stenholm ponders a question from one of the 40 citizens who attended the meeting at Friona State Bank.

ron carr photos





OUT HERE

BY RON CARR

Stuff From The Gab Bag

This is National FFA Week. The Future Farmers of America is a youth development organization that prepares students for leadership and career success through agricultural education. The 2004 National FFA Week theme is: "FFA.....Living the Legacy."

FFA is in its 75th year. The first line of the FFA Creed says, "I believe in the future of agriculture.....". Nowhere is agriculture's future more important than in counties like Parmer County. We join in saluting the local youth in FFA for their hard work and wish them all the success they deserve. Thanks, kids.

The Friona Chamber of Commerce is interviewing for the chamber's executive director position. Longtime Chamber exec Kathryn Goddard has resigned the position. The annual Chamber banquet is tonight with Ray Stone as the speaker and Excel steaks cooked and served by Desperado's. Look for the citizens of the year in next week's paper.

Friona's former coach and high school principal Kenny Austin took a LifeStar ride to Amarillo last week. Kenny left his office at the school administration building with pains, drove himself to the hospital, and they sent him to Amarillo via helicopter. Doctors there put in two stents and said he had 100% blockage in one artery. He came home Saturday and is recovering at home this week, reading and resting. If you know Kenny, you know the resting will get old soon and I bet he will be back at the office Monday.

Bovina Police Chief Leon Sadler took an ambulance ride to Clovis Monday morning with a possible heart attack. He was at the high school preparing for his law enforcement class when the pain struck. The good news is he was treated and released the same day and is home resting.

Friona track coach Lanny Crow needs volunteers for next weekend's Friona track meet. The meet is Friday and Saturday. There will be a meeting for those interested in helping out on Tuesday, March 2, at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

The new movie, The Passion of the Christ, opened Wednesday. I don't plan to go see it but I seem to be in the minority. The movie has gained nationwide controversy and attention. It will be playing in Hereford at Moovies 6.

Several churches will go as a group. First Baptist of Friona bought out one performance, 175 tickets, for Sunday, February 29, at 4 p.m. The Friona Methodists bought another at 10 a.m. Saturday. Bovina's Methodist pastor Quita Jones organized a group of 65 or so for Saturday at 1 p.m.

Mel Gibson said he made the movie for all sorts of honorable reasons and I'm sure money is among them. It will be interesting to talk to someone that attended. If you did and would be willing to share a movie review, call me.

Harold Taylor of TLC Service Center and bagpipe fame is home from the hospital. Wife Trell took him to Amarillo Monday, February 16, and he came home last Saturday. Trell said he was recovering slowly but surely and thanked everyone for their thoughts and concerns.

The front page of the Clovis News Journal last Sunday had a story about a town hall meeting where only one guy showed up. The town hall meeting was about a proposed quarter-percent increase in the gross receipts tax. The one guy that showed up was Rev. Alvin Petty, pastor of Calvary Baptist in Friona. He explained that he and Betty have bought a trailer home west of Clovis and plan to live there when they retire so he was interested in Clovis taxes.

Bovina city manager Ernest Terry has asked for a spot on the agenda of the Parmer County Community Hospital board meeting next Tuesday evening. Bovina has concerns about ambulance service and patient transfers to Amarillo. Terry said he was attempting to organize a county-wide meeting between EMS, law enforcement, and the PRPC to try and resolve what seem to be continuing conflicts among EMS services.

Our sympathies to the families of David Goddard and Curtis Murphree, both of whom passed away within the last week. Both men made great contributions to the community and will be missed by friends and family alike. As we are often reminded, life can take sudden turns for which we are not always prepared.

If you have tidbits of news of interest for me to include in future columns, call me or email the newspaper. We heard by email from one of the ladies in the old photo. Linda Williams Holland is the lady in the middle. Her daughter Shelli Rose of Olton sent her the picture from last week's paper. We almost always appreciate hearing from our readers. Send me some column info. Thanks. See ya' next week.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Ron,

Enclosed you will find a press release regarding the 2004 State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC). The Amarillo Area Campaign covers the top 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle. Last year over \$138,000 was contributed from state employees in this area.

I am writing to every newspaper in the Panhandle that I can find an address for, to appeal for media coverage of the application period. One of the questions most asked during the campaign, from state employees is "Why isn't 'XYZ' charity, in my town, included in the campaign?" The primary reasons are, the organization did not know about the campaign, or they didn't take the time to apply.

Does your town have a senior citizen center, a youth center or a food pantry? If the answer is yes, and they are a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, they may qualify for inclusion into the 2004 campaign.

Please help us spread the word regarding the 2004 SECC application period. The deadline for applications is March 24, 2004.

If you have any questions, or need further information, please do not hesitate to call me at (806) 376-6359 or fax (806) 376-9343.

Sincerely,
Kara Lea Deardorff
SECC Local Campaign Manager Contact

Ron,

Heard about the sad news in Friona from my brother-in-law, Gerall Wyly. Mr. Murphree was one class act. He will be missed by all. Myrna and I feel so badly for the Murphree family.

I told Gerall, there were not many good men like Mr. Murphree left in this ole world. When my Dad died 13 years ago, it crushed me, and I asked the pastor why good men had to die. His answer was, "God only takes GOOD men into the kingdom of heaven".

Mr. Murphree was truly a good man. May GOD bless the family, friends, and the whole town of Friona.

Ron & Myrna Cain

Assessment Dates, Rates Set

The Texas Department of Agriculture has established the 2004 assessment rate, due date and discount date for the Northern High Plains Zone of the boll weevil eradication program.

The assessment for 2004 in the NHP is \$6 per dryland acre and \$12 per irrigated land acre, the rate established by growers and landowners in the original referendum.

Growers with failed acres are eligible to receive a credit on those acres destroyed before the final certification date. Qualifying failed acres must remain free of all hostable cotton until a killing freeze to receive the credit.

Assessment notices will be mailed by August 20, and payment is due September 25. Growers who pay by September 10 are eligible to receive a 2 percent discount on their assessment.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation is a nonprofit, grower-initiated and funded organization dedicated to eliminating the cotton boll weevil from the state in the most cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner possible.

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School Board Candidate Workshop Set In Amarillo

Area school board candidates and interested citizens can learn more about the demands and rewards of school board service at a candidate workshop, Thursday, March 11, 7-9 p.m. at the Region 16 Education Service Center, 5800 Bell Street, in Amarillo.

The workshop will provide interested community members and individuals thinking about running for the board with a better understanding of what is involved in being elected and serving as a local trustee. Experienced school board members will explain board members' key responsibilities and outline the qualities necessary for effective service.

Topics to be covered include

what it's like to be a trustee, key responsibilities of the board, division of authority with staff, how to campaign constructively, and where to find more information. Participants will also view *A Call to Service*, a Texas Association of School Boards' video, highlighting many aspects of board service and featuring several experienced school trustees.

The workshop is open to everyone and admission is free. For more information about the workshop, call Brenda Canul at TASB, 512-467-0222 or 800-580-8272, extension 6104, or check the TASB Website at www.tasb.org for other dates and locations.

Home Improvement Show this week

The Texas Panhandle Builders Association Remodelers Council will host the 2004 Home Improvement Show Saturday, February 28 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, February 29 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the north exhibit hall of the Amarillo Civic Center. Admission is \$3 per person. There will be many new exhibitors this year.

ACT Deadline Approaching

The Registration deadline for the April 3, 2004 ACT, is Friday, February 27. Students may pick up registration forms in Mrs. Gallman's office or may register online at www.act.org. Friona ISD has purchased a license for students to access an ACT tutorial program at home. Information about the program is also available in Mrs. Gallman's office. There are only two more ACT test dates this school year, on April 3 and June 12. Students who plan to attend a four-year college or university, need to have an ACT score for admissions and scholarship purposes.

Panhandle Plains A&M club to meet

The Panhandle Plains A&M Club of Parmer, Deaf Smith and Castro counties will be holding an informational meeting March 1, 2004 at the Bovina High School beginning at 7:00 P.M. ALL Aggies are encouraged to attend. We need your help with names and addresses. For more information or to provide your address to the club please contact Kevin or April Eschberger at 238-2095, P.O. Box 654, Bovina, Texas 79009, or e-mail 2aggies@wtrt.net. We need your address to ensure your personal invitation to Aggie Muster, April 21, 2004, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Friona Community Center. RSVP's will be sent mid-March and need to be returned by April 14. Please make plans to attend both of these functions

PCRT & SP to meet March 2

The Parmer County Retired Teachers and Support Personnel will meet Tuesday, March 2, at 2 p.m., in the Friona State Bank meeting room. James Cunningham, District 16 President, will be the speaker.

13th Annual Sausage Dinner March 7

St. Ann's Catholic Church will be hosting their 13th Annual Czech Sausage Dinner, Sunday, March 7, 2004, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Parish Family Center, 605 38th Street in Canyon. They will be serving Czech Sausage, Sauerkraut, Bread, Parsley Potatoes, Cobbler and all the trimmings. Take-outs will be available. The cost for this delicious meal will be \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children 6-15 years, and children 5 and under eat free. They will also have a drawing, country store, arts and crafts, and games.

AARP Driving program set

An AARP Mature driving program (formerly AARP 55 Alive) is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, March 18 & 19, 2004. This is an 8 hour class. Class time is 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. each day at Friona State Bank Community room. Anyone 50 or over may attend. The cost is \$10.00. Completion of the course qualifies the driver for a reduction in their liability insurance premium, for three years. Joann Mills will be the instructor. To enroll, call her at 247-3526.

BSA Hospice offers training

Baptist St. Anthony's Hospice will be presenting volunteer training and community education classes called "The Hospice Approach to Living with Dying". This is a class for anyone interested in becoming a hospice volunteer, learning more about hospice care, and/or desiring personal growth and enrichment. Training is free of charge. There will be eight class sessions, April 5 thru April 29, 2004, Monday and Thursday morning, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the BSA Hospice Den, 600 N. Tyler, Amarillo. To register call Stacie Boyer at BSA Hospice, (806) 212-8715 or (800) 315-6209. 24 Contact hours/2.4 CEU's awarded by Amarillo College.

FHS Seniors plan service day

The Friona High School senior class will hold a service day towards the end of April. The exact date has not been determined. The class is looking for service projects to do in the community, for example any cleanup type work for businesses. They also would like volunteers to help them with the projects. All participants will receive a free t-shirt. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help the Class of 2004's "Clean Up Friona Day" project, please contact FHS principal, Lori Zingerman, at the school, 250-3951.

Bill Ellis needs your help

Bill Ellis is asking for everyone's help with information for a sports and academic record book on Friona High School.

On the academic side, Bill needs to know the class valedictorians from the years prior to 1938, and those after 1956. He also plans to publish photos of all of these honor grads that he can get.

Also, the longtime publisher would like to have class GROUP pictures from as many of the classes he can find. At the present time, all he has are the classes of 1935, 1938, 1940 and 1951.

"Please help me to recognize these ex-students. Call me if you have either photos, or an idea of who we could contact," Bill says.

There is no charge for news included in *Around Town*. So call us at 250-2211, fax to 250-5127, email to frionastar@wtrt.net, or mail info to P.O. Box 789, Friona, Texas 79035.

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Caprock Council Looks For Alumni

Were you a troop leader or member of the Girl Scouts (yes, this includes being a Brownie)? Do you have fond memories of Girl Scout activities or time spent with other members? Girl Scouts of Caprock Council is currently trying to get in contact with it's Girl Scout Alumni.

The Alumni of Caprock Council, Camp Rio Blanco and Alumni from other councils are invited to get back in the loop. To receive more information or to get in touch with old friends, contact Tiffany Stallard at (806) 745-2855 or email her at tstallard@girlscoutscaprock.com.

Cancer Screening Friday, March 19

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at Parmer County Hospital, 1307 Cleveland Avenue in Friona, on Friday, March 19, 2004.

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

Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only.

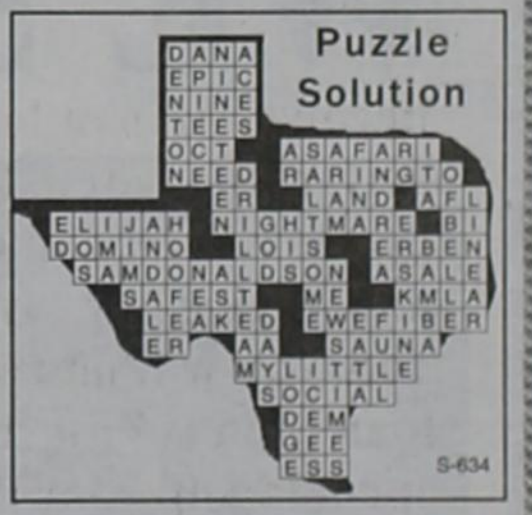
Call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Hanes Named To HSU Dean's List

Hardin Simmons University announced that Friona resident, Christian Hanes, made the Dean's List for the Fall 2003 semester.

The HSU Dean's List honors students who completed at least 12 hours with a grade point average of 3.74-3.99.

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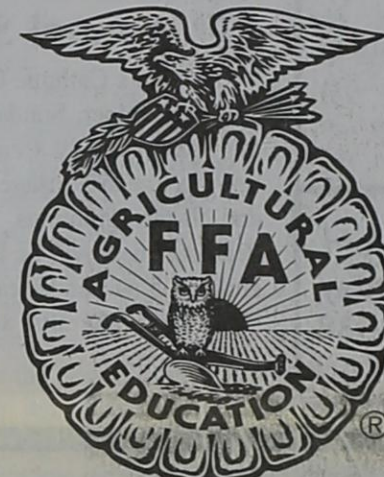
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EXCEL.

FRIONA

Thursday, Feb

Ashley

Katy

The District 5-2
ketball all-district se
released this week.
Friona Squaw s
Smiley earned top
her selection as 5-2
able Player (MVP)
Welch was chosen
as Newcomer of th
Other Squaws s
Andrea Geris, juni
defensive team
Winebrinner, juni



ASHLEY S.
District 5-2



FHS All
Friona High School
Zingeman, announce
Honor Roll for the four
Tenth grade: Kando
Hidalgo, and Morgan L
Eleventh grade: M
Guadalupe Estrada
Gammon, Andrea Ge
Lara, and Katy Welch
Twelfth grade: Rox
Beau Barnett, Rob
Jacob Dominguez, Ch
Amy Geris, Kyla Gra
Herbert, Keith Hunt
Andrew Merrell, Jac
Potts, Bridget Soltero,
Mashay White, Sara W
Wilcox, and Lory Wy
Ninth grade: Mat
Desiree Cordova, a
Wright

FJHS All
Friona Junior High S
pal, Kevin Wiseman, ar
All A Honor Roll for
weeks.
Sixth grade: Bryan E

Ashley Smiley-District 5-2A MVP Katy Welch-Newcomer of the Year

The District 5-2A girls basketball all-district selections were released this week.

Friona Squaw senior Ashley Smiley earned top honors with her selection as 5-2A Most Valuable Player (MVP). Junior Katy Welch was chosen by coaches as Newcomer of the Year.

Other Squaws selected were Andrea Gerjes, junior, all-district defensive team, Trisha Winebrinner, junior, first team

all-district, and V'Lesha Wilcox, honorable mention all-district. The five girls, Smiley, Welch, Gerjes, Winebrinner, and Wilcox, made up the Squaws starting lineup most of the year as the girls were unbeaten, 10-0, in District 5-2A play. Rounding out the selections were:

All-district defensive team: Andrea Gerjes; Ashlei Mahagan, Hale Center; Emily Mercado, Lockney; Cynthia Martinez,

Floydada; Jennifer Garibay, Olton; Kyla Hoover, Abernathy.

First team all-district: Trisha Winebrinner; Lindsey Leatherman, Floydada; Karah Hrbacek, Lockney; Tori Terrell, Lockney; Lindsey Madrigal, Hale Center; Kourtney Johnson, Hale Center; Amber Dorman, Lockney; Danielle Newton, Hale Center; Cassie Guerrero, Olton; Kelsey Ross, Floydada.



ASHLEY SMILEY
District 5-2A MVP



TRISHA WINEBRINNER
First team all-district



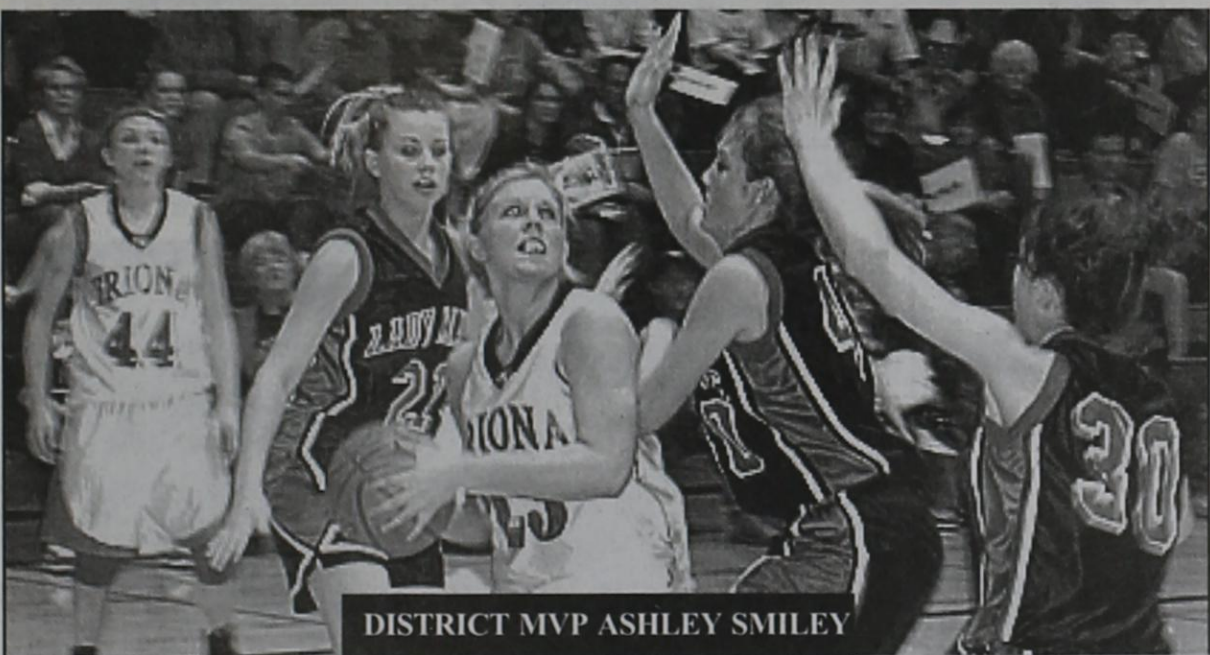
ANDREA GERIES
All-district defense



KATY WELCH
Newcomer of the Year



V'LESHA WILCOX
Honorable Mention



DISTRICT MVP ASHLEY SMILEY



HONOR ROLL



FHS All A

Friona High School Principal, Lori Zingerman, announced the All A Honor Roll for the fourth six weeks.
Tenth grade: Kandace Frye, Caleb Hidalgo, and Morgan Leal.
Eleventh grade: Misty Adams, Guadalupe Estrada, Matthew Gammon, Andrea Gerjes, Erandy Lara, and Katy Welch.
Twelfth grade: Roxana Aguillar, Beau Barnett, Robbie Barrett, Jacobo Dominguez, Cindy Estrada, Amy Gerjes, Kyla Graham, Haleigh Herbert, Keith Hunt;
Andrew Merrell, Jacob Miller, Ty Potts, Bridget Soltero, Jisela Torres, Mashay White, Sara Widner, V'Lesha Wilcox, and Lory Wyly.
Ninth grade: Matthew Balli, Desiree Cordova, and Briana Wright.

FJHS All A

Friona Junior High School Principal, Kevin Wiseman, announced the All A Honor Roll for the fourth six weeks.
Sixth grade: Bryan Baxter, Sasha

Estrada, Alex Ferguson, Paige Herbert, Kenneth Newhouse, David Ramos, and Melina Vega.
Seventh grade: Monica Acosta, Anna Alvidrez, Steven Bentley, Hannah Carthel, Edward Echevarria, Aaron Hand, Lucia Mendez, John O'Brian, Gabriela Rivera, Alba Soltero, Andrew Stowers, Alexis Vega, and Kathleen Wyly.
Eighth grade: Erin Austin, Ryan Gerjes, Lauren Hughs, and Joanna Mendoza.

FJHS AB

Friona Junior High School Principal, Kevin Wiseman, announced the AB Honor Roll for the fourth six weeks.
Sixth grade: Stephanie Aguirre, Leonardo Castaneda, Fernando Chavez-Salcido, Erik Cruz, Joseph Dickson, Felissa Dominguez, Maria Garcia, Derek Jamerson, Taryn Jamerson, Jordan Kelley, Lacey Lookingbill, Anyuli Lopez;
Yesenia Ortiz, Omar Ramirez, Stetson Reed, Krystal Rios, Alma Robles, Marquese Saenz, Monica Saenz, Noe Saenz, Jesus Sarabia,

Bianca Soto, Matthew Stanberry, Ashley Trevino, and Irene Vera.
Seventh grade: Tori Abeyta, Michael Beard, Brittany Berend, Rolando Castanon, Paola Castillo, Jessica Delgadillo, Alex Dunnam, Staci Fairweather, Amber Garcia, Gerardo Garza, Jamie Garza, Trinidad Gonzales, Victor Guerrero, Corinne Hinton;
Maria Jurado, Emma Lopez, Pablo Lopez, Jose Mendoza, Jazmin Neyoy, Liliana Palacios, Teresa Ramos, Patrick Rios, Jonathan Rocha, Richard Salinas, Heather Sandoval, Gabriel Senibalo, Omar Tafoya, and Christine Widner.
Eighth grade: Emily Allen, Erin Austin, Morgan Anthony, Briar Barnett, Jared Boyd, Jordan Carr, Miranda Frye, Hollis Gurley, Chris Haile, Trent Hudson, Cynthia Lara, Ivan Loya, Jeremy Mendoza;
Jordan Monroe, Dulce Ortigoza, Elizabeth Quintina, Sawyer Reed, Alonzo Rojas, Edlyn Romero, Julissa Saenz, Blair Smiley, Cesar Tarango, Stefanie Tirado, John Torres, Daniel Vazquez, Dillon Welch, and Erica Wyly.

Savings that will...



LOOK AT THESE NEW CAR DEALS!

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
|
2004 F150 4x4 Supercab
MSRP \$35,195
Factory Rebate \$1,000
Whiteface Discount \$4,199
Your Special Price \$29,996 |
2004 Freestar Van
MSRP \$30,015
Factory Rebate \$3,000
Whiteface Discount \$2,632
Your Special Price \$24,383 |
2004 Expedition
MSRP \$36,550
Factory Rebate \$3,000
Whiteface Discount \$3,579
Your Special Price \$29,971 |
|
2003 Ford Explorer Limited
MSRP \$39,560
Factory Rebate \$4,500
Whiteface Discount \$3,561
Clearance Discount \$1,150
Gotta Go Discount \$500
Your Special Price \$29,179 |
2003 Ford Crown Victoria
MSRP \$28,560
Factory Rebate \$5,000
Whiteface Discount \$1,637
Clearance Discount \$835
Gotta Go Discount \$500
Your Special Price \$20,588 |
2003 Ford Thunderbird
MSRP \$41,690
Factory Rebate \$5,000
Whiteface Discount \$3,233
Clearance Discount \$1,233
Gotta Go Discount \$500
Your Special Price \$31,724 |
|
2004 Ford Focus
\$2,000 Factory Rebate |
2004 Ford Mustang, Pony Package
\$3,000 Factory Rebate |
2004 Ford Escape
\$2,000 Factory Rebate |
|
2004 Ford F150 Regular Cab
\$1,000 Factory Rebate |
2004 Ford F250 Pickups
\$2,500 Factory Rebate |
2004 Ford F350 Pickups
\$1,500 Factory Rebate |
|
2004 Ford Western Hauler
\$1,500 Factory Rebate |
2004 Ford Explorer
\$3,000 Factory Rebate | |

GREAT USED CAR PRICES!

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
|
2000 Dodge Quad Cab SLT, 4x4, Automatic, Loaded, \$15,245 |
2000 Chevrolet Extended Cab, Silverado, LS, V8, Automatic, \$15,945 |
2003 Mustang Program Car V-6, Automatic, \$13,956 |
|
2003 Ford Sport Trac, 4x4, Leather, Sunroof, Heated Seats, \$19,680 |
2002 Eddie Bauer Expedition, TV VCR, V-8, 6 Disc CD, \$22,917 |
2002 Lincoln Twn Car, Signature Series, Sunroof, 15K miles, \$25,233 |
|
2002 Ford Mustang, Gotta Go! Program Unit! Loaded, \$11,187 |
2001 Ford Expedition XLT, 3rd Seat, Rear Air 4x4, V-8, \$16,522 |
2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT, V-8 Low Miles, \$19,497 |
|
2001 Chevrolet Tahoe, LT, 4x4, Leather Heated Seats, Loaded, \$22,702 |
2000 Ford F250 Supercab, V-10, 35K miles, \$15,551 |
2000 Ford F150 Supercab, 4x4, 5.4ltr, V-8, XLT, \$14,528 |
|
2000 F250 Regular Cab, V-10, 4x4, With Flatbed, \$12,965 |
2000 GMC Extended Cab 4x4, Z-71, Loaded, LS, \$16,504 |
1995 Mercury Cougar Xr7, Loaded, \$4,495 |
|
2000 Mercury Sable, Loaded, Now \$7,332 |
2003 Ford Explorer Sport, XLT, 2wd, Low Miles, \$16,598 | |

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Squaws Comeback Is Too Late, Eastland Wins 56-51

BY RON CARR

It was a game in which the Eastland coach spent more time on the court than the players. A game of real fouls and should-have-been fouls, loud frustrated fans, and a come back run that fell just shy for the Friona Squaws in their bid to advance to the regional round of 2A basketball.

On Friday night at the middle school gym in Lamesa, Texas, the Friona Squaws met the Eastland Lady Mavericks, two teams with similar records, in Friona's first playoff game. The Squaws won the 5-2A district title and received a bye in the first playoff round. Eastland had defeated Henrietta to reach the second round playoff.

The Squaws fell behind 7-2 early in the first quarter but managed to pull to 13-12 at the end of the quarter on a 5-point spurt

by Trisha Winebrinner. There were only 7 free throws between the two teams in the first stanza but that would not be the case the rest of the game.

The Squaws found themselves down by 32-22 at half time as they took their share of shots but they wouldn't fall. The Lady Mavs, playing a fast aggressive game under the direction of their equally loud coach, drew 11 free throws in the second quarter. They converted 7 and added two 3-point goals for the halftime lead.

It didn't get better after the break. The Lady Mavs went on a 14-4 run in the third to increase their lead to 20 points, 46-26 after three quarters. Squaw junior guard Katy Welch hit two goals in the third quarter for the only Friona scores.

The Squaws turned up the tempo in the fourth. Andrea Geris and Winebrinner each hit 3-point goals. Winebrinner scored 13 of her team high 23 points in the final frame. Senior post Ashley Smiley fouled out earlier in the quarter and Coach North moved Winebrinner into the post spot. Welch scored four in the fourth and also fouled out.

In the end the Squaws scored 26 points in the first three quarters and 25 points in the fourth quarter. They moved within two points of the Lady Mavs late in the quarter, 50-48. Eastland managed only 10 points in the fourth quarter, all 10 of them on free throws. Lady Mavs point guard Huff (30) went to the line for 12 free throws and converted 8 of them. She led Eastland scoring

with 23 points.

The Eastland coach, often pacing out on the court during play, challenged several calls by the referees which caused short delays in the game. On two occasions he touched the referees during the arguments and on another occasion one of his players argued a call with the referees. There were no technical fouls called during any of the incidents. This oversight was duly noted by Friona fans.

Of the Lady Mavericks 56



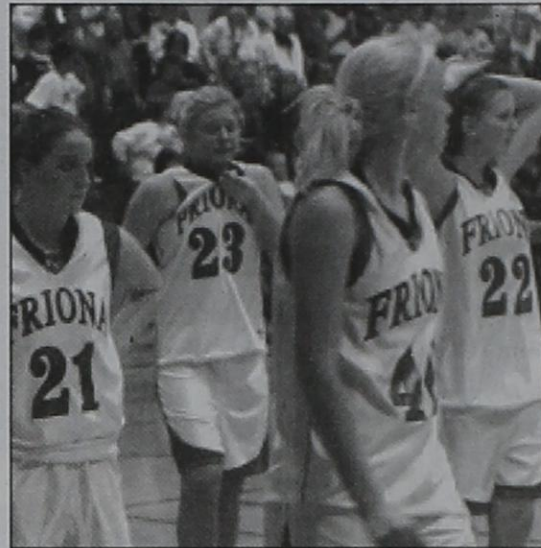
IN A JAM under the basket are Trisha Winebrinner (40), V'Lesha Wilcox (44), Ashley Smiley (23) and Shayli Reed (25).

ron carr photo

points, 25 were free throws as they converted 25 of 38 attempts. The Squaws shot 13 of 21 from the line. Eastland also had two players foul out.

In addition to Winebrinner's 23 points, Welch had 8, Smiley 6, Geris 6, V'Lesha Wilcox 5, Misty Adams 2, and Shayli Reed one point.

Season Over



THE SQUAWS season ended at the Lamesa gym last Friday as these after game photos suggest. The girls had a fine season, scoring an undefeated district sweep 10-0, but lost a come-from-behind effort 56-51 to Eastland.

ron carr photos

BIG VALLEY

Friona native John Baxter is now associated with the Big Valley auto dealership in Portales, New Mexico (formerly Chuck Daggett).

John has 33 years experience selling cars and invites all of his Farmer County customers to

give him a call or visit for the best in new or used cars or trucks.

Big Valley is a Ford, Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep dealer.

Call John toll free at 877-873-2325 or his mobile at 806-265-7307

Portales, New Mexico

Yes, he still lives in Friona!

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IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN AND IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY OPENED AN INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT, YOU MIGHT WANT TO GIVE AN IRA SOME THOUGHT.

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Equal Housing LENDER



FOCUSING on a free throw is Trisha Winebrinner (40) who led the Squaws with 23 points vs. Eastland. Teammates Katy Welch and Ashley Smiley look on.

ron carr photo

Stevens

5-Star

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Thursday, Feb
HAP
Feb.
Feb. 29—Lionie El
Mar. 1—Clydie Bl
Mendoza, Jr., Jeff C
Mar. 2—John Bur
Sisson, Rhonda Wils
Mar. 3—Melanie B
Weatherly, Jay Be
Peter Malouf
Mar. 4—Jeremiah
Stokes, Aaron King
Mar. 5—Katy Jo
Michael Mann, Lind
Gallman, Nathan Nu
Mar. 6—Pat Flemi
If you or someone
see a name that
move, etc.), pleas
Thank you.

75 Yrs.
February 2
Another line of
opened up last week
its base, when V.E.
regular schedule of
service between Fri
rillo. The need for
has been apparent f
and Mr. Hart says
three trips per we
days, Thursdays and

65 Yrs.
February 2
About 28 of the
professional men of
on Thursday night of
Friona High School.
pose of reorganizin
ingly defunct local
Commerce.
J.A. Blackwell
president; C. Carl
tary; J.R. Roden, v
and Loyde Brewer,

60 Yrs.
February 1
In spite of a sa
freezing weather and
small crowd, the B
Friona went over t
rate of \$346,350 las
the Grade School A
At a called me
Friona Board of Ed
Thursday afternoon
Friona school admini
re-elected for the 19
term. They are St
O. B. Ginn, Lora Ma
registrar and Dean
Friona High School
Warden elementary s

50 Yrs.
February 1
Frank Spring says
Ethridge, Dr. Paul
Dalton Caffey retu
from a fishing jaunt to
just 49 pounds short
they went after—a
marlin.

45 Yrs.
February 19
Friona Squaws d
yon, 63-43 for their
1-AA title. This is t
for Friona High Sch
pete in the Class AA
The team will meet
bi-district on March 3

40 Yrs.
February 20
Dan Ethridge, wh
duties as tax asses
for the Friona Schoo
years ago, is resigni
tion, effective at the
current school year,
nounced at the regula
the schoolboard Mon

30 Yrs.
February 24
Two members of t
team were named
regional tournament
were Gene Strickland
20 points in each ga
Cleveland, who score
for the two games ar
rebounds.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FRIONA

February 29 through March 6, 2004

Feb. 29—Lonnie Ellis, Doreen Duran
 Mar. 1—Clydie Black, Joe Osborn, Jean Terry, Lance Outland, Jesse Mendoza, Jr., Jeff Curtis
 Mar. 2—John Burns, Baylee Duke, Beth Alexander, Billy Wayne Sisson, Rhonda Wilson Rebber
 Mar. 3—Melanie Bynum Burns, Christie Brinkman, Jay Reeve, Philip Weatherly, Jay Beene, Billy Seiver, Charles Mercer, Katie Osborn, Peter Malouf
 Mar. 4—Jeremiah Johnson, Lynn Clark, Misty Renner, Boyd Stokes, Aaron King, Everett Gee, Lucy Mae Stokes, Misty Frye
 Mar. 5—Katie Jo Osborn, Louella Drake, Janet Baxter LaBrue, Michael Mann, Linda Chesher, Chuck Sutter, Tony Duran, Jr., Daylen Gallman, Nathan Nunley, Campbell McFarland, Cassie Gonzales
 Mar. 6—Pat Fleming, Reba Buske, Rainey Jo Beth Williams

If you or someone in your family has a birthday coming up or see a name that should be removed (name change, death, move, etc.), please call the Friona Star office at 250-2211. Thank you.

First Grade Perfect Attendance

ALL THESE STUDENTS were awarded for perfect attendance during the fourth six weeks at the Friona Primary School.



FRIONA FLASHBACKS

75 Yrs. Ago

February 22, 1929

Another line of business was opened up last week in Friona, as its base, when V.E. Hart began a regular schedule of motor truck service between Friona and Amarillo. The need for such service has been apparent for some time, and Mr. Hart says he will make three trips per week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

65 Yrs. Ago

February 24, 1939

About 28 of the business and professional men of this city met on Thursday night of last week at Friona High School, for the purpose of reorganizing the seemingly defunct local Chamber of Commerce.

J.A. Blackwell was elected president; C. Carl Dollar, secretary; J.R. Roden, vice president; and Loyde Brewer, treasurer.

60 Yrs. Ago

February 18, 1944

In spite of a sandstorm and freezing weather and therefore a small crowd, the Bond Rally at Friona went over the top at the rate of \$346,350 last Thursday at the Grade School Auditorium.

At a called meeting of the Friona Board of Education last Thursday afternoon, the three Friona school administrators were re-elected for the 1944-45-school term. They are Superintendent O. B. Ginn, Lora Mae McFarland, registrar and Dean of Girls at Friona High School; and Ocoee Warden elementary supervisor.

50 Yrs. Ago

February 18, 1954

Frank Spring says that he, Dan Ethridge, Dr. Paul Spring and Dalton Caffey returned home from a fishing jaunt to Old Mexico just 49 pounds short of the catch they went after—a 50 pound marlin.

45 Yrs. Ago

February 19, 1959

Friona Squaws downed Canyon, 63-43 for their first District 1-AA title. This is the first year for Friona High School to compete in the Class AA competition. The team will meet Abernathy in bi-district on March 3.

40 Yrs. Ago

February 20, 1964

Dan Ethridge, who began his duties as tax assessor-collector for the Friona School District 30 years ago, is resigning the position, effective at the end of the current school year, it was announced at the regular meeting of the schoolboard Monday night.

30 Yrs. Ago

February 24, 1974

Two members of the Chieftain team were named to the all-regional tournament team. They were Gene Strickland, who scored 20 points in each game, and Dale Cleveland, who scored 33 points for the two games and added 29 rebounds.

25 Yrs. Ago

February 25, 1979

Dean Church, Friona High School junior, broke a 13-year "jinx" for Friona FFA members by exhibiting the Grand Champion Steer at the Parmer County Junior Livestock Show last weekend.

20 Yrs. Ago

February 26, 1984

Bi-Wize Drug, located in the 600 block of Main Street for many years, opened at 902 Main Street this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Young of Friona will be honored with a reception on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. The reception will be held Sunday, March 4. Children of the couple are Joyce Veazey of Friona, Roy Young of Olathe, Colorado, Troy Young of Hobbs, N.M. and Monroe Young of Wiggins, Colorado. The couple was married in Clovis, N.M. on March 4, 1934.

15 Yrs. Ago

February 25, 1989

Prairie Acres Nursing Home is making plans to add ten rooms to the facility, as well as adding space to the dining room and other improvements.

10 Yrs. Ago

February 26, 1994

The Boy Scouts of Friona have awarded Sgt. Steve Jones a plaque for his help with some merit badge work the boys needed his help on.

5 Yrs. Ago

February 26, 1999

Hereford CattleWomen presented special recognition to Teena Hughs of Friona during their annual Sweetheart Dinner at the Hereford Country Club. Hughs was named as CattleWoman of the Year by the group.

ACROSS

- 1 this actor Andrews was in "Laura" with TX Gene Tierney
- 5 TX-based "Giant" was an film
- 6 TX Dabney film: "to Five"
- 7 TX Kite ball holders state fair month (abbr.)
- 9 African hunting expedition (2 wds.)
- 16 TXism: "I ___ that like an armadillo needs an interstate"
- 18 TXism: "hunkered down and ___ go"
- 20 Parkland Hospital's receiving area for the injured (abbr.)
- 21 A&M started as a grant college
- 22 Houston Texans league (abbr.)
- 24 ___ E. Myers designed the state capitol
- 30 bad dream
- 34 airline once headquartered in Dallas (abbr.)
- 35 "42" tile piece
- 36 TX "Moonraker" actress Chiles
- 37 TX Luby's CEO at time of '91 killings
- 39 abrasive ABC reporter from TX
- 43 consumers expect after X-mas (2 wds.)
- 44 most secure
- 45 TXism: "cut ___ some slack"

DOWN

- 15 TXism: "call ___ day" (quit)
- 17 football precision dancers (2 wds.)
- 19 film about TX woman: "Son ___ Starr"
- 23 lumber is sold by the foot
- 24 TV horse: Mr. ___
- 25 ___ Ebanos, TX
- 26 Gov. Hogg's daughter
- 27 TXns Bowie, Hogg & Reeves
- 28 TX eatery: Steak ___
- 29 TXism for "dancer"

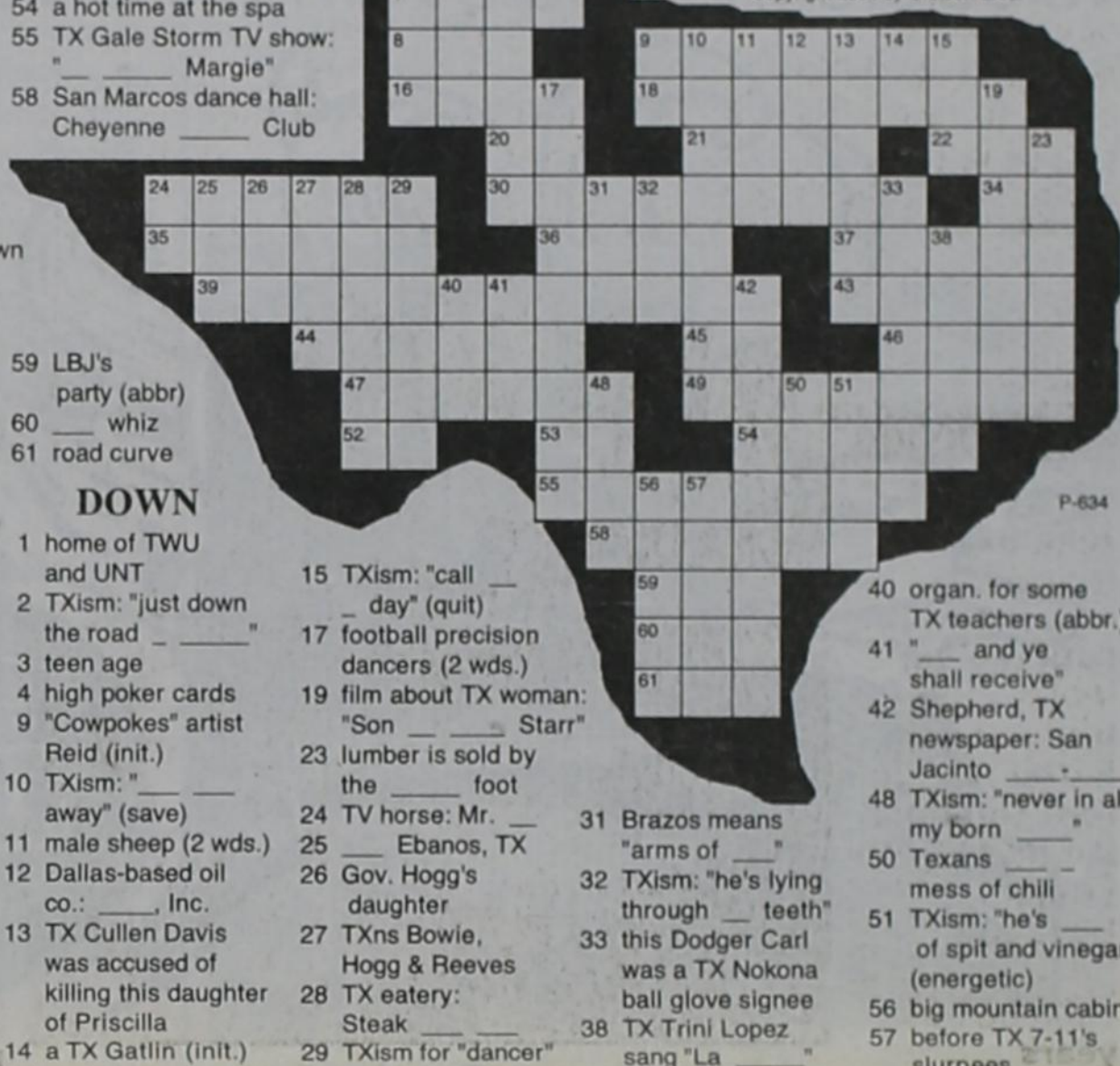
The Original

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

Answers on page 3

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ALL NEW 2004 F-250 4X4 3/4 TON DIESEL
\$375 Per Month

2004 DODGE RAM CUMMINGS DIESEL
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ZERO PLUS 0% FINANCING + \$2,000 REBATE

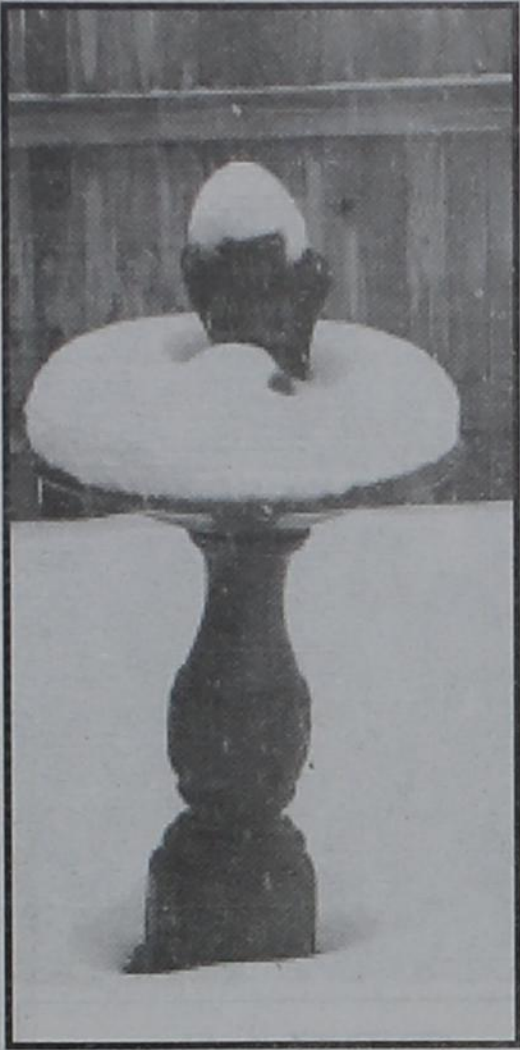
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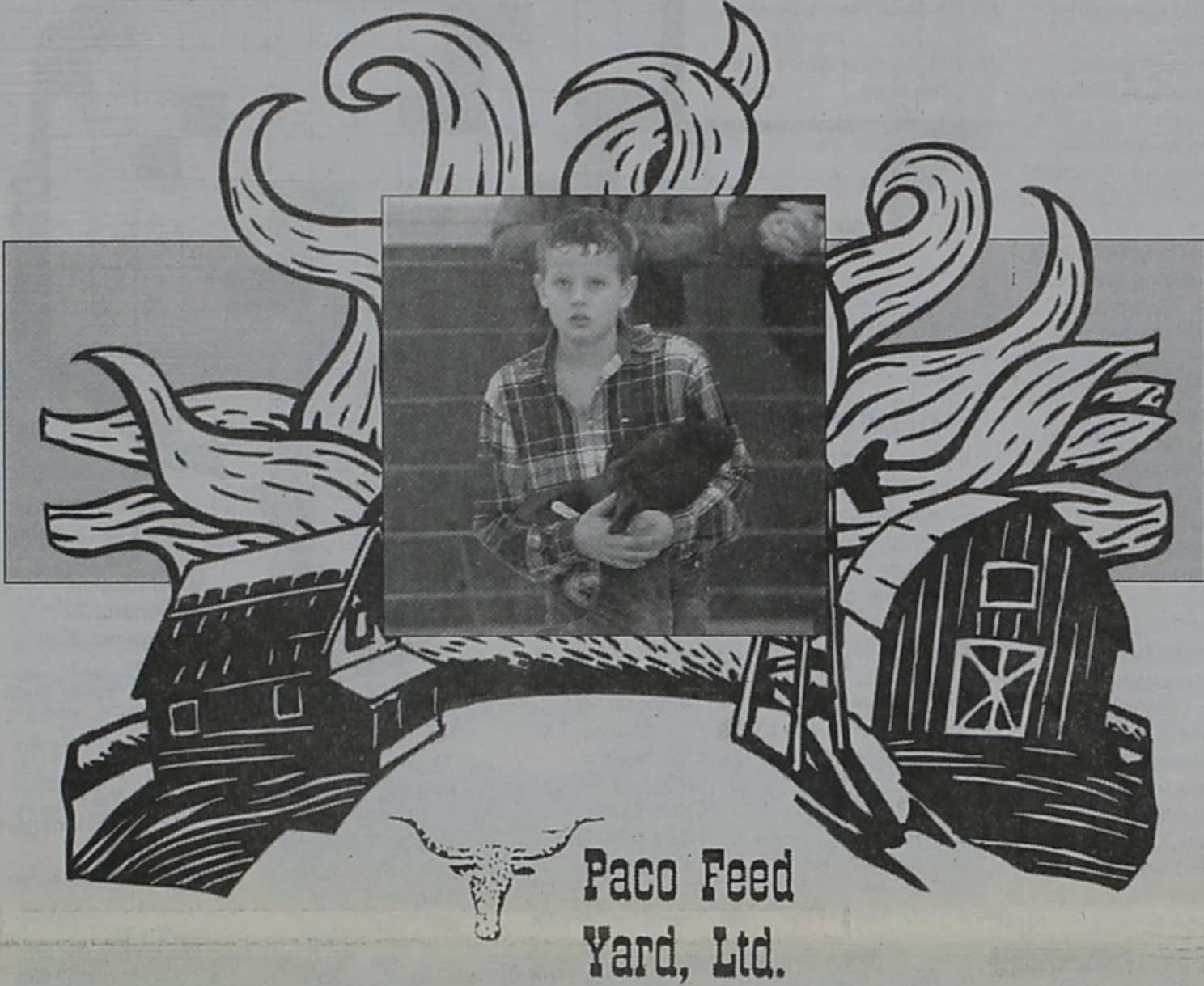
505-356-8581 or 877-873-2325
 1115 North Chicago Avenue Portales, NM 88130

Winter Came To Parmer County



AN 8-INCH snowfall covered bird baths, backyards, and local streets.

We Salute The Future Farmers Of America



Sheriff's Report

February 14, Paul Aragon III, 26, of Friona, was arrested by the Friona Police and charged with possession of marijuana, less than two ounces, pending County Court.

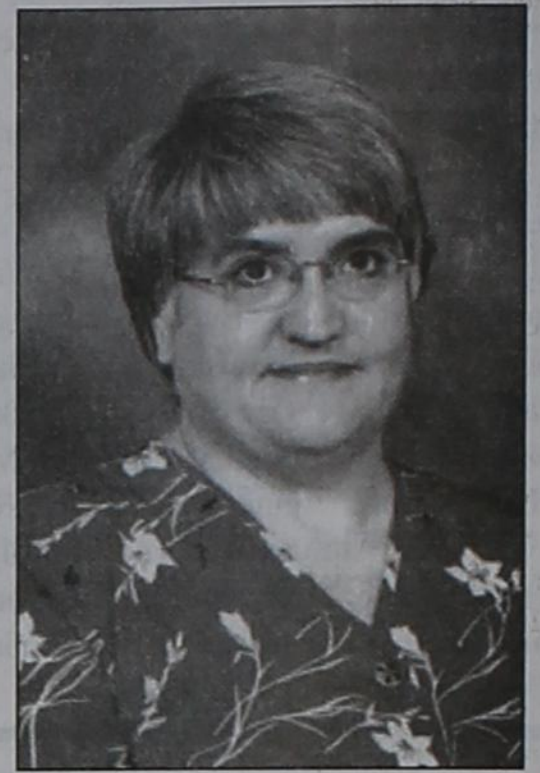
February 19, Anthony Cordova, 37, of Mexico, was arrested by the Texas Highway Patrol and charged with theft. Potter County, posted bond and released.

February 21, Joe L. Salazar, 35, of Bovina, was arrested by the Sheriff's Office and charged with possession of marijuana, less than two ounces, pending County Court.

February 22, Pablo Calel, 28, of Friona, was arrested by the Sheriff's Office and charged with DWI, 2nd, pending County Court.

Bracken To Attend National Workshop

Friona Public Library Director Darla M. Bracken is one of three Texas librarians selected to participate in "Sustaining Public Access Computing in Rural Libraries", a national event sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Bracken, Fort Stockton Public Library Director, Renee Forrister, and Texas State Library and Archives Commission Special Services Consultant, Myra Arredondo (Austin), will travel to Seattle, Washington, in late February, to attend the invitation-only workshop and the Public Library Association Annual Conference.



DARLA BRACKEN

The information gleaned from the workshop will be used to help Texas rural libraries that are struggling to maintain their capacity to provide technology access to their communities. Small community libraries constitute the majority of the state's public libraries, and thirty-five percent of Texas' public library buildings serve rural communities of 5,000 or fewer, according to statistics compiled by the Texas State Library.

The Gates Foundation asked Texas state librarian Peggy D. Rudd to select two librarians from small, rural libraries, who were committed to providing information technologies for their communities. Notes Rudd, "Both Ms. Forrister and Ms. Bracken are excellent representatives for Texas. Each has worked dili-

gently to provide access to technology to their communities." In addition, Rudd selected Myra Arredondo to represent the Texas State Library and Archives Commission at the workshop. Arredondo consults with Texas librarians regarding funding, grants, and special promotion issues.

Bracken has served as the Friona Public Library Director since 1985. Notes Bracken, "Nobody said it was going to be easy to establish infrastructure, fund equipment, and manage technology, in our community—and it hasn't been. We are fortunate to have such excellent community support her in Friona. I look forward to exchanging ideas with other librarians about how to sustain public access to information technology."

Senator Hutchison Blasts U.S.-Mexico Water Treaty

The Texas Farm Bureau today expressed appreciation to Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison for "focusing attention on Mexico's blatant disregard for its water treaty with the U.S."

Hutchison spoke in the Texas Rio Grande Valley on Tuesday, about the importance of Mexico's compliance with the U.S.-Mexico Water Treaty of 1944. Under the terms of the treaty, Mexico still owes 1.3 million acres feet of water, due to be released for use on the U.S. side of the border.

"It's clear to us that Mexico intends to ignore this treaty for as long as they are allowed to," said Kenneth Dierschke, president of the Texas Farm Bureau. "For whatever reason, our own government has not been very aggressive in requiring an accounting from Mexico on the outstanding water debt."

Dierschke, a grain and cotton farmer from San Angelo said

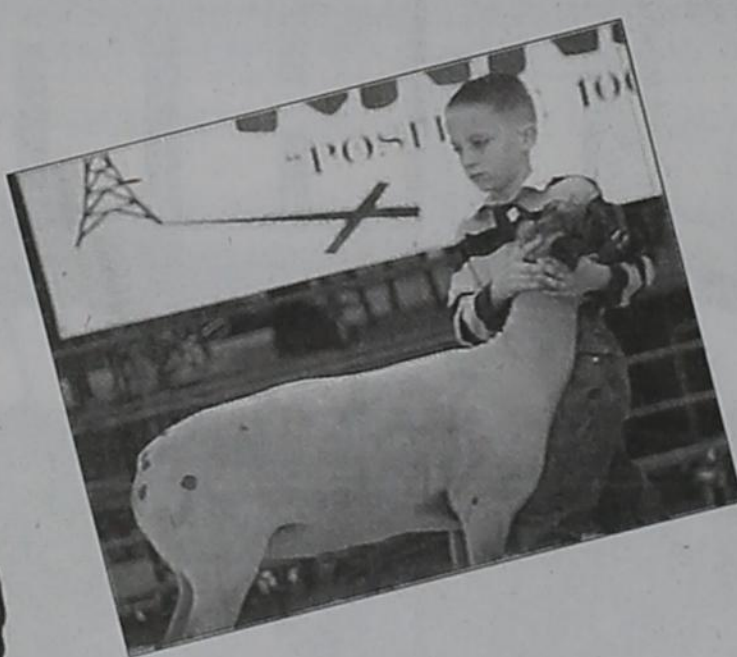
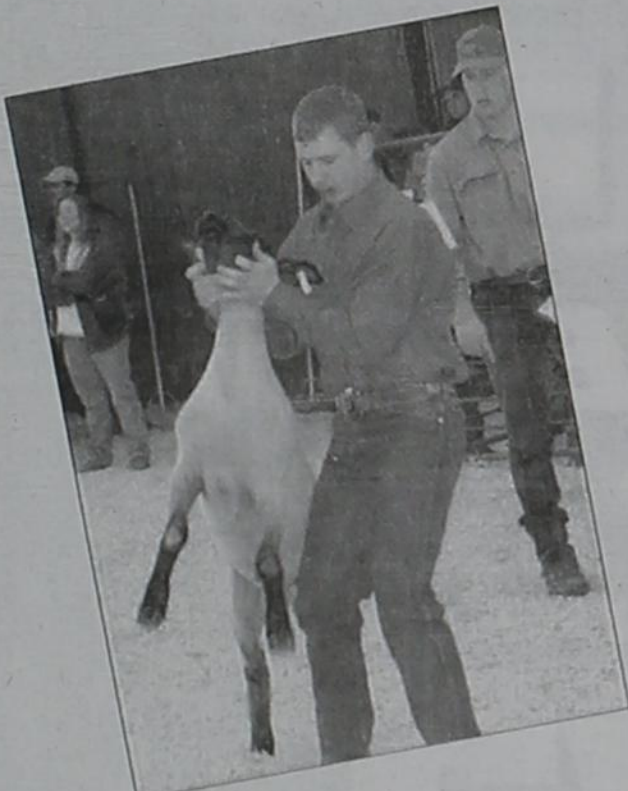
Hutchison's remarks were "welcome".

"South Texas farmers and ranchers are hurting for water," he said. "This issue is overdue for serious attention Washington."

Dierschke said that Hutchison obtained a total of more than \$20 million in two appropriations bills for South Texas farmers hurt by Mexico's non-compliance. She was also instrumental in securing \$23 million from the North American Development Bank for construction and improvements in irrigation infrastructure. Over the last two fiscal years, Hutchison has passed legislation that secured more than \$5 million for new, more efficient irrigation construction.

Much of South Texas, including the Rio Grande Valley, has been hard hit by an extended drought. Many state officials and leaders of the Texas Farm Bureau believe water has been impounded for irrigation use in Mexico, while the treaty has been ignored.

FFA WEEK IS FEBRUARY 21-28



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SUNDAE MONDAY AT SONIC!



99¢ single topping sundaes
5PM - Close - Mondays



Not valid in conjunction with any other special offer or coupon. Good only at Friona location on Monday 5P-close.

WACKY WEDNESDAY

\$1.49

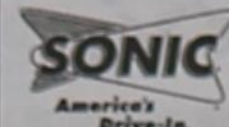
Wacky Pack Kid Meals



jr. burger, hot dog, grilled cheese or corn dog with fries, drink and a prize!

5PM - Close - Wednesdays

Not valid in conjunction with any other special offer or coupon. Good only at Friona location on Wednesday 5P-close. Chicken not included.



810 W. Eleventh · 247-3344

FRIONA



Thursday, Feb
Identity theft is a
information such as So
credit, merchandise and
with a ruined credit his
regaining financial hea
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Unfortunately, the i
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became victims of ide
epidemic proportions a
reported to the Friona
suspect that your ident
credit, money or other
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department. You might
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Make sure the police
report. Keep the phone
creditors and others w
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of Possession of Identif
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Credit Bureaus. Im
three credit reporting o
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victim of identity theft
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applications").
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ask you to fill our frau
a uniform affidavit form
vits to be notarized at
witness signatures for
signature. Ask the credi
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and transaction records.
If your existing cred
ment cards with new a
as "account closed at
stolen", because it can
and bills for evidence
creditor grantors. Add
mother's maiden name
Stolen Checks. If y



THE CHIEF'S CORNER

by ROYCE L. GOODSON
Friona Police Department

IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft is a crime in which an imposter obtains key pieces of information such as Social Security and driver's license numbers to obtain credit, merchandise and services in the name of the victim. The victim is left with a ruined credit history and the time-consuming and complicated task of regaining financial health. The imposter may even use the victim's good name for criminal activities.

Unfortunately, the incidents of identity crime are on the rise, leaving devastation in its wake. Nationally, an estimated seven million consumers became victims of identity theft during 2002. Identity theft has reached epidemic proportions and there has already been one case of identity theft reported to the Friona Police Department by the Friona State Bank. If you suspect that your identity has been stolen by someone in order to obtain credit, money or other resources you should contact:

Law Enforcement. Report the crime to your local police or sheriff's department. You might also need to report it to police departments where the crime occurred. Give them as much documented evidence as possible. Make sure the police report lists the fraud accounts. Get a copy of the report. Keep the phone number of your investigator handy and give it to creditors and others who require verification of your case. Credit card companies and banks may require you to show the report in order to verify the crime. It is a violation of federal law (18 USC 1028, Identity Theft and Assumption Act) and the laws of Texas (Penal Code 32.51-Fraudulent Use of Possession of Identifying Information) to assume someone's identity for fraudulent purposes.

Credit Bureaus. Immediately report the situation to the fraud units of the three credit reporting companies—Experian (formerly TRW), Equifax and Trans Union. As of April 2003, if you notify one bureau that you are a victim of identity theft, it will notify the other two. Report that your identifying information is being used by another person to obtain credit, fraudulently, in your name. Ask that your file be flagged with a fraud alert. Add a victim's statement to your report, ("My ID has been used to apply for credit fraudulently. Contact me at {your phone number} to verify all applications.")

Creditors. New Accounts—Contact all creditors immediately with whom your name has been used fraudulently, by phone and in writing. You will see evidence of these accounts on your credit reports. Creditors will likely ask you to fill out fraud affidavits. The Federal Trade Commission provides a uniform affidavit form that most creditors accept. No law requires affidavits to be notarized at your own expense. You may choose to substitute witness signatures for notarization if creditors require verification of your signature. Ask the credit grantors to furnish you and your investigating law enforcement agency copies of the documentation, such as the application and transaction records, showing the fraudulent transactions.

If your existing credit accounts have been used fraudulently, get replacement cards with new account numbers. Ask that old accounts be processed as "account closed at consumer's request" (better than "card lost or stolen", because it can be interpreted as blaming you). Monitor your mail and bills for evidence of new fraudulent activity. Report it immediately to creditor grantors. Add passwords to all accounts. This should not be your mother's maiden name or a word that is easily guessed.

Stolen Checks. If you have had checks stolen or bank accounts set up

fraudulently, report it to the appropriate check verification companies (see end). Your bank branch should be able to provide you with a fraud affidavit. Put stop payments on any outstanding checks that you are unsure of. Cancel your checking and savings accounts and obtain new account numbers. Give the bank a secret password for your account (not mother's maiden name). If your own checks are rejected at stores where you shop, contact the check verification company that the merchant uses.

ATM Cards. If your ATM or debit card has been stolen or compromised, report it immediately. Contact your bank branch and request a fraud affidavit. Get a new card, account number, and password. Do not use your old password. When creating a password, don't use common numbers like the last four digits of your Social Security Number (SSN) or your birth date. Monitor your account statement. You may be liable if fraud is not reported quickly. Be sure to read the debit card contract for liability. Some cards are better protected in cases of fraud than others.

Driver's License Number Misuse. You may need to change your driver's license number if someone is using yours as ID on bad checks or for other types of fraud. Call the state office of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to see if another license was issued in your name. Put a fraud alert on your license if your state's DMV provides a fraud alert process. Go to your local DMV to request a new number. Fill out the DMV's complaint form to begin the investigation process. Send supporting documents with the completed form to the nearest DMV investigation office.

Social Security Number (SSN) Misuse. Contact the Social Security Administration (SSA) to report fraudulent use of your SSN such as welfare or Social Security benefit fraud. They do not handle cases of financial or criminal identity theft. As a last resort, you might try to change your number, although it is not recommended, except for very serious cases. The SSA will only change the number if you fit their fraud victim criteria.

Identity crime is commonly perpetrated by someone stealing your wallet, purse or briefcase containing your identification, social security card, credit card or checkbook, or by someone stealing your mail, especially your bank and credit card statement, pre-approved credit card offers, or tax information. Your identity may also be stolen by someone simply rummaging through your trash to find personal data.

- Protect your identity from being stolen and used for fraudulent purposes:
- Don't give out personal information over the phone or Internet.
 - Limit the amount of personal information on your checks.
 - Check your credit histories and bank records frequently and look for signs of inaccurate or suspicious activity.
 - Keep detailed records of banking, check writing, credit card use, and ATM use.
 - Destroy carbon copies of credit card receipts.
 - Purchase a home shredder or completely destroy any item that may have personal identities, rather than discarding them in the trash.

PARMER COUNTY CRIME STOPPERS
1-800-774-TIPS

Old Photos Stir Memories & Interest



It didn't take long to identify our four ladies last week. Ron Smiley called about an hour after the paper came out. Might have been a little unfair since one of the ladies is his wife Melba. She is the one on the left. The other three, l-r, are Linda Williams Holland, Betty Campbell Phipps, and Johnnie Walters. Ron said they were probably at a Jaycee's function since the Jaycees were active years ago in Friona.

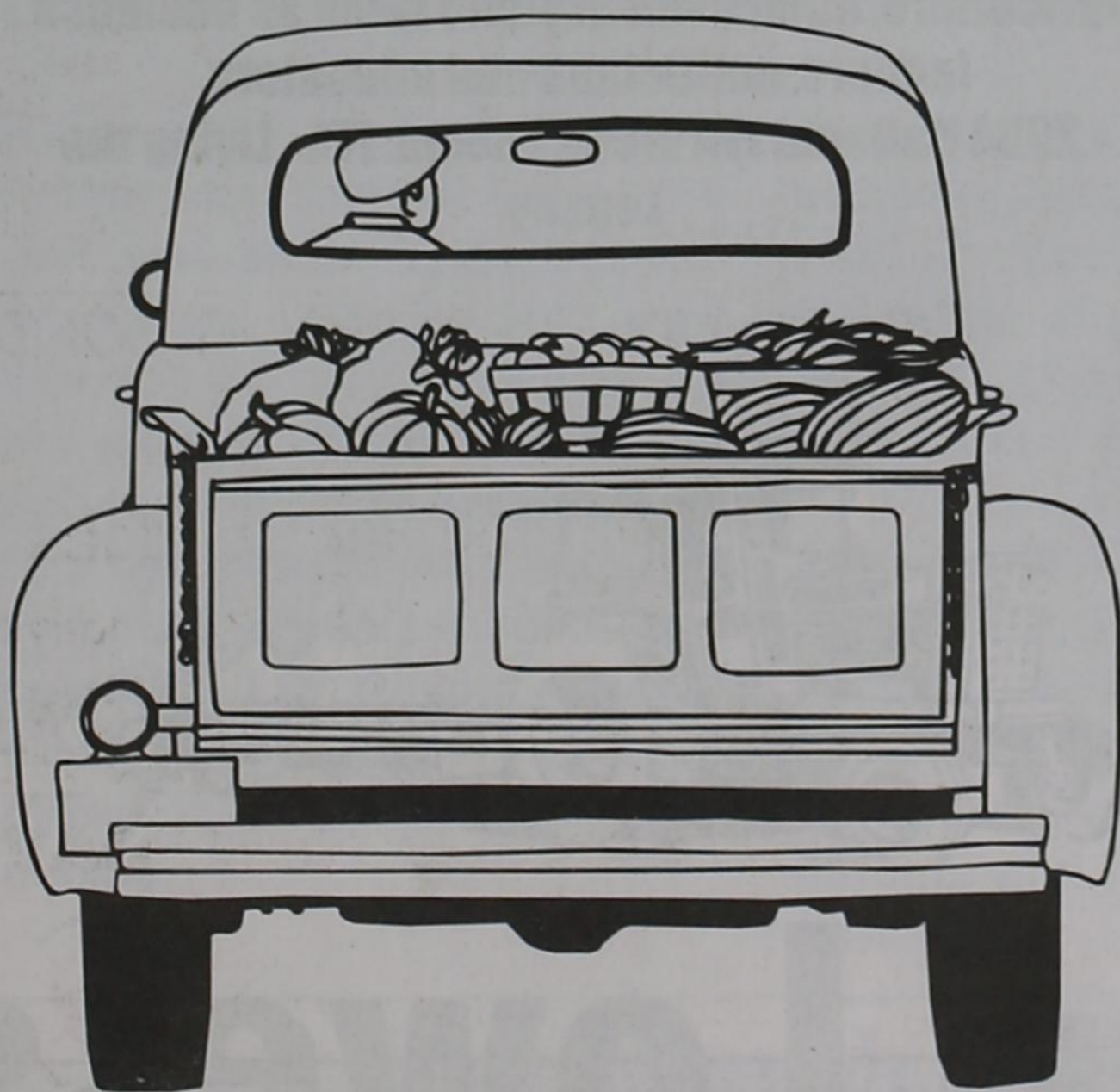
This week, we give the guys equal time in our nostalgia binge. The photo below was called "still champ" in our dusty photo bin. How about it golf rats, do you know these fellows? They might still be playing for all we know.

Give us a call at 250-2211 or email frionastar@wtrt.net. Thanks for reading our newspaper and for your support.



FFA

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FFA WEEK IS FEBRUARY 21-28

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LARRY & IRENE EZELL

Ezells Will Celebrate 50th Anniversary In March

Larry and Irene Ezell of Mullin will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary, with a dinner hosted by their children, at Rough Creek Lodge in Glen Rose on March 6, 2004.

They were married on March 6, 1954 in Clovis, New Mexico and are 1956 graduates of Bovina High School.

Larry has owned Potato Specialty Co. for 44 years and Irene owned The Market Plaza for 17 years. Larry also serves on the Board of Directors of Mills County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Currently, they own a cattle ranch just outside of Mullin. Both are members of Mullin United Methodist Church, where Irene serves as the Church Secretary.

Their children are Angela Taylor

Happy Birthday Bovina

Feb. 29 thru Mar. 6, 2004.

Mar. 2—Misty Pruitt

Mar. 3—Cassie Flores, Brenda Riddle

Mar. 4—Danny Pollard

Mar. 5—Zachary Graves

If you or someone in your family has a birthday coming up or see a name that should be removed (name change, death, move, etc.), please call the Friona Star office at 250-2211. Thank you.

Bovina Reflections

45 Yrs. Ago

February 25, 1959

Bill Read has sold his Gulf Service Station on Highway 60 in Bovina to Clarence Gaunt. Gaunt assumed operation of the business Sunday.

40 Yrs. Ago

February 16, 1964

Lt. Ramey Brandon, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Brandon, left Sunday for North Carolina. He will leave there February 28 for Manheim, Germany where he will be stationed for three years.

35 Yrs. Ago

March 4, 1969

C.C. Ross is reported to be showing improvement at McBride Clinic in Oklahoma City where he underwent surgery on his right knee about two weeks ago.

Mrs. J. Sam (Granny) Gaines will be 92 years of age Friday.

30 Yrs. Ago

March 6, 1974

The Glenn Hromas home was scene of a family reunion and dinner Sunday, Mrs. J.K. Barfield II of Ft. Sumner, New Mexico, mother of Mrs. Hromas, was the honoree on her birthday.

25 Yrs. Ago

February 28, 1979

This week, winners of the Bovina Little Miss contest were announced and they were: Junior Miss, Misti Boozer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Boozer. In the Little Miss contest, the winner was Keri Mitchell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mitchell.

Nettie Rhinehart celebrated her 85th birthday with a party given by Lillie Fuller's Sunday school class of the First Baptist Church.

20 Yrs. Ago

February 19 1984

Mrs. Nettie Rhinehart celebrated her 90th birthday with friends and family on February 27.

The Lone Star Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation announced the appointment of Mrs. S.J. Stormes, as spring chairman of its 1984 campaign in Bovina.

15 Yrs. Ago

March 1, 1989

Bill Duff, the young man who is making the cross-country trip by wheelchair, will be passing through Bovina on March 1.

The Bovina Mustangs won their bi-district playoff game against Lakeview, 80-46. They received the bi-district trophy.

10 Yrs. Ago

February 26, 1994

O.H. and Charlene Jones went to Canyon on Monday and had dinner at the Railroad Crossing Steak House with daughter, Kathy, and Lowell Boozer and their son, Lynn. They enjoyed a good visit.

5 Yrs. Ago

February 26, 1999

Services for M.M. "T-Bone" Treinen, 70, of Bovina, were held Thursday at First United Methodist Church, in Bovina with Reverend Don McNerlin, pastor, officiating and Reverend Bill La Barr of Carrolton assisting.

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Group Charge \$99 per person plus tax
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8 Regular Size Wallets



BIRTHS

Sara Rylie was born to Mendan and Kim Dixon on Friday, February 20, 2004 at 6:58 a.m. at Campbell Memorial Hospital in Weatherford, Texas.

She weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19½ inches long.

Her grandparents are Bill and Carolyn Williams of North Richland Hills, Texas, and Jim and Jane Dixon of the Rhea Community.



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D'Nae Murphree & Octavio Garza

INGRAMS
Phone: 250-3291
D'Nae Murphree & Octavio Garza
Rachel & Dwight Merrell
Jeff Brown & Tonia Etier

BI-WIZE
Phone: 250-3010
Amy Knowles & Chad Stovell
D'Nae Murphree & Octavio Garza



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Future Farmers of America

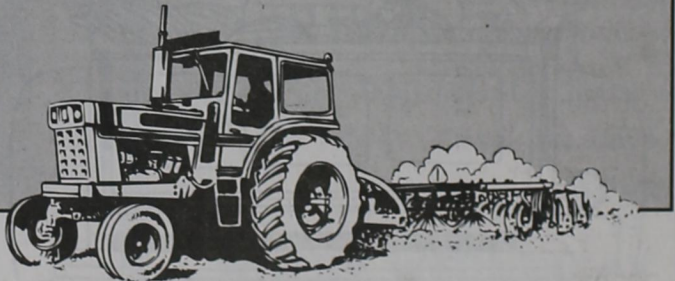


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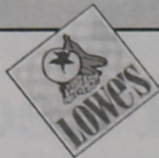
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- Today's FFA members will be tomorrow's leaders, and while some will be involved in production agriculture, others will assume roles as business leaders, politicians and educators.
- 2004 National FFA Week Theme: FFA...Living the Legacy

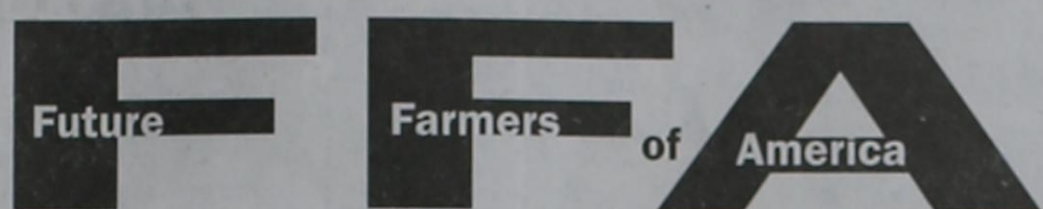


Lowe's

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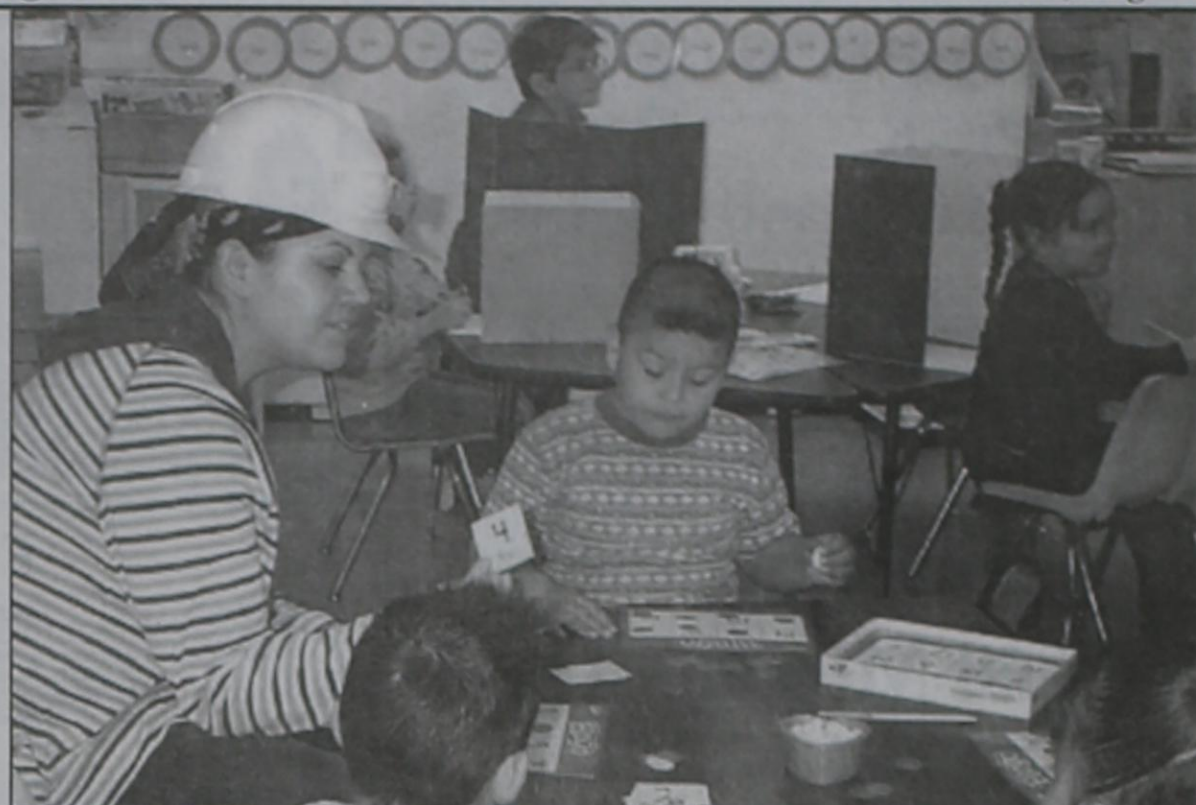


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EXCEL EMPLOYEE Santa Oviedo visits with son, Christian, in Mrs. Smolky's Kindergarten class. Excel is providing time off for parents to visit the school. courtesy photo

Excel and Friona Primary Team Up for Parent Visits

Friona Primary School principal Tracy Ellis, like all school principals, had a concern about parental involvement. So she discussed parental involvement and other issues with her Primary School Campus Improvement Plan Committee.

From an idea that began with the committee, the primary school and Excel-Friona worked out a program that allows parents who work the first shift at Excel to get involved in their child's classroom.

There was a concern by the committee for Excel day shift workers that work from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. which are also the hours of school operations. It was not possible for the workers on day shift to come to the school to see their children in the classroom. "It is vital for parents to know what their child is doing in school and to support the school

program," Mrs. Ellis said.

Her committee devised a program that would allow Excel day shift workers to leave their jobs for an hour and come to visit and work in their child's classroom. Committee member Michael Davila works at Excel and discussed the idea with Excel management. Excel did the program one better. They allow the employees the one hour off with pay and provide a company van to bring them to the primary school.

Mrs. Ellis is delighted with the program, which has only been in operation for a couple of months. "Excel-Friona has always been a great partner for Friona ISD and has made many monetary donations," she said. "This donation of time for their employees to be a

part of their children's school life shows a true dedication and commitment to education."

Parents have to sign up for the program and so far 20 have signed on. Ellis schedules 5-6 parents per visit and visits are planned two Thursdays each month. "It makes it possible for Excel parents to have the opportunity to be a part of their child's school experience," Ellis said.

In addition to Ellis and Davila, the other Improvement Plan committee members are: school counselor Loy McLellan; teachers Terry Hunt, Linda White, Leslie Wright, and Kim Smiley; parent members Sandra Padilla and Joel Rejino; and community members Cecil Maddox, Nancy Edelman, and Keri Jack.



MARIA ALFARO and SON, MARCOS, in Mrs. Garcia's first grade class at Friona Primary School.

LIVING THE LEGACY



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FFA has been recognized as a national leader in developing the social, career and academic strengths of youth from across the nation through agricultural education.

National FFA Week is February 21 through 28, 2004. To all of you in the familiar blue jackets, we say congratulations. And to the many teachers, volunteers, sponsors, parents and friends of FFA, we say thank you.

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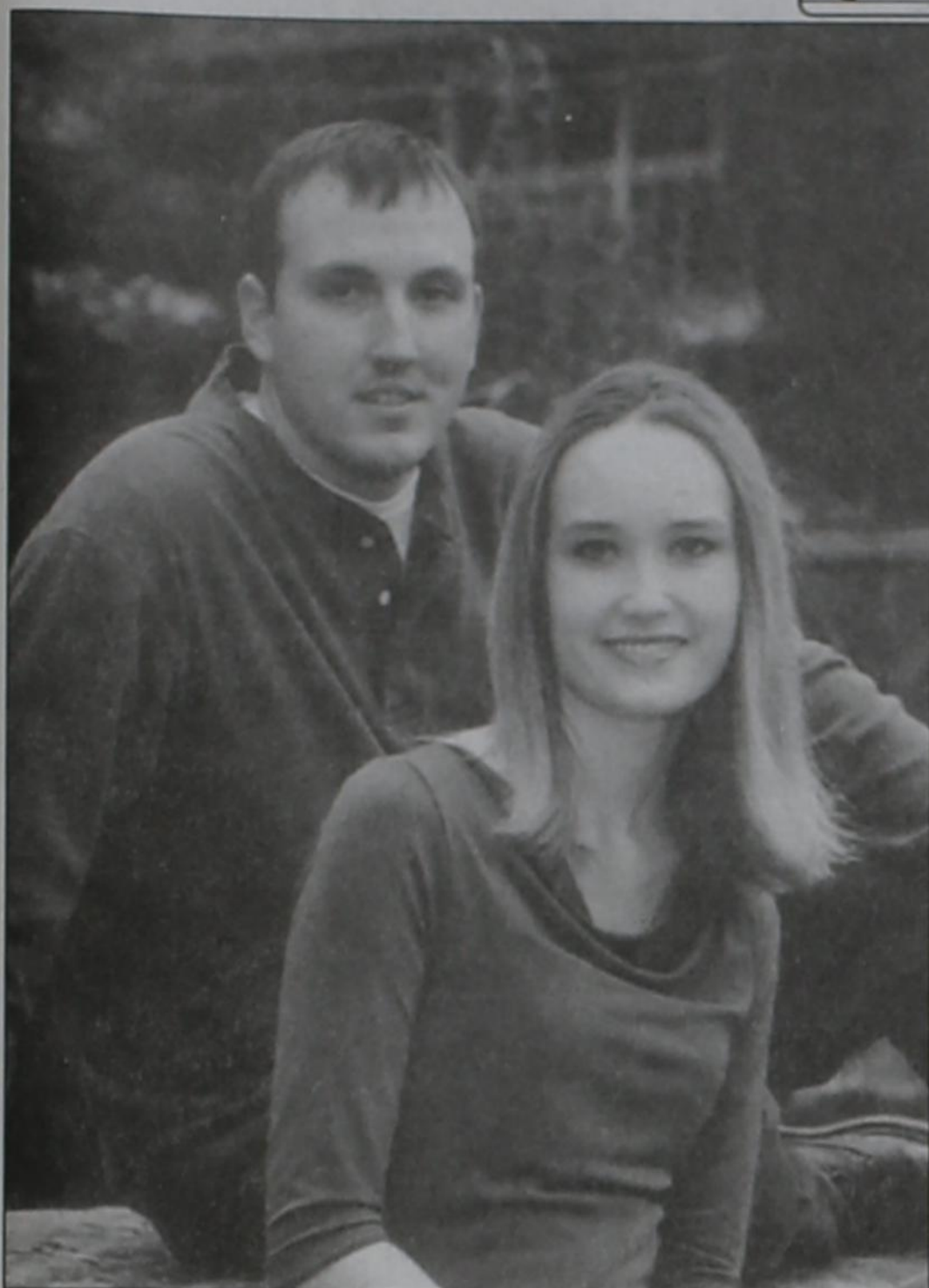
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ENGAGEMENTS



BILL MIZELL & KELLY BLASINGAME

Blasingame & Mizell To Marry In March

Robert Blasingame of Greenwood, Arkansas, and Nancy and Ron Brown of Newport, Oregon, are proud to announce the engagement and impending marriage of their daughter, Kelly Blasingame to Bill Mizell, both of Greenwood, Arkansas.

Kelly's grandparents are Janette and Bill Allard, Sallye Blasingame, and Bob Blasingame, all of Greenwood.

She is currently employed by USA Truck.

The bridegroom is the son of Randy and Melinda Mizell of Greenwood, Arkansas. Bill's grandparents are Roy and Yvonne Mizell of Greenwood and Elizabeth Ann Berggren-Williamson of Farwell, Texas.

He is currently employed by Mizell Chevrolet.

The couple plans to marry Saturday, March 20, 2004, at 2:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Greenwood, Arkansas.

Samarrons Compete In Oklahoma City

Jose and Richard Samarron lifted at the N.A.S.A. Natural Nationals power lifting competition in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on Sunday, February 15, 2004. N.A.S.A. is a weightlifting organization that promotes and supports drug-free power lifting. This was the first national meet that either man had attended in the last twelve years.

Jose competed in the 275-weight class. He squatted 650 pounds, benched 408 pounds, and dead lifted 584 pounds, for a total of 1,642 pounds. He placed 1st in the Sub-Masters Pure division and 2nd in the Natural division.

Richard competed in the Super-Heavy weight class, squatting 639

pounds, benching 402 pounds, and dead lifting 661 pounds, for a total weight of 1,702 pounds. Richard also placed 1st in the Sub-Masters Pure division and 2nd in the Natural division. Both men were members of the Texas Team which placed 2nd overall behind the New Mexico team. As of now, Richard is ranked 2nd in the Super-Heavy weight class.

Jose and Richard would first like to thank God for their many accomplishments and pure strength. They would also like to thank their families for believing in and standing by them in a sport, which promotes drug-free lifting and strong family values. The Samarrons also express appreciation and thanks to their sponsors and the support they have shown: John Mars, Harrell and Eddie Mays, Friona State Bank, Kendrick Oil Company, Friona Wheat Growers, Ron and Melba Smiley, Javier and Myra Rangel, Friona Veterinary Industries, Roger Fields, and Patricia Phipps.

The Samarrons will be back in action on May 15, 2004 in Lubbock, Texas and will be introducing their newest team member, Matthew Samarron.

For more information about N.A.S.A., upcoming events, and pictures, log on to www.nasasports.com.



RICHARD & JOSE SAMARRON pose with their trophies from the N.A.S.A. meet.



JOEL CRAMER & ABBEY JOHNSON

Johnson & Cramer Will Exchange Vows

Joe Bob and Connie Johnson, of Friona, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Abbey, to Joel Cramer, of McKinney, Texas.

He is the son of Barbara Campbell and the late David Cramer of Findlay, Ohio.

Abbey is a graduate of Friona High School and Texas Woman's University with a Master's degree in Deaf Education. She is employed by Dallas ISD as a second grade Deaf Ed teacher.

Joel is a graduate of Liberty-Benton High School and Bowling Green State University. He will graduate from the University of San Diego with a Master's degree this May. He is employed by Raytheon Space & Airborne Sys-

tems in Supply Chain Management.

The couple will exchange vows June 25, 2004 at Stonebridge United Methodist Church in McKinney.

Grandparents of the bride are Edith Johnson and the late Herchel Johnson, and Velma Schlenker and the late Carl Schlenker, all of Friona.

CCC Announces Fall Graduates

The following Clovis Community College students, from the Bovina area, applied for graduation for the Fall 2003 semester and are eligible to participate in the commencement ceremony to be held on Friday, May 7, 2004.

Penny Dutton and Patricia Rocha both received a Certificate of Completion in Practical Nursing.

Congrats



HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY WE LOVE YOU!

CHRISTIAN & PERRY

YOUR EYES

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Visual field tests are performed to assess both the extent of vision (how far you can see) and the sensitivity of different areas of your eyes to light. The test provides baseline information to monitor vision over time. This detects subtle changes before a serious problem occurs. People with a family history of diseases like glaucoma, where vision loss can arise, may take this test.



Sometimes the eye measurements taken during a routine examination may suggest the potential for an underlying ocular condition. Visual field tests can be used to determine whether these numbers are out of the ordinary or normal for the patient.

The eye specialist can conduct a rough visual field test by having the patient look straight ahead and count the fingers being held up. More typically, however, a computer is used for the visual field test measurements. For this procedure, the patient places his/her chin in a type of bowl and covers one eye at a time. Then, he/she pushes a button when seeing lights at various intensities and locations. This process produces a computerized map of the visual field.

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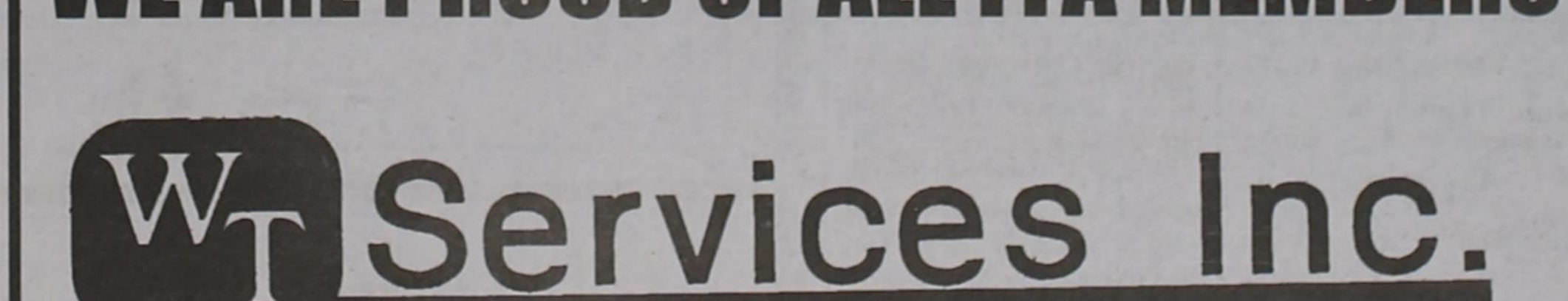
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Cottonseed Quality/Cotton Economics Hot Topics At SW Crops Production Conference

Friday, February 20, 2004

By Shawn Wade

One of the highlights of the 6th Annual Southwest Crops Production Conference & Expo, February 19, was a presentation from Dr. Norm Hopper of Texas Tech University who discussed the importance of seed quality in establishing a uniform, healthy cotton crop.

Hopper's presentation touched on the different factors that affect yield, the characteristics of a good stand and what was needed to achieve a good stand in the field. He focused mostly on the importance of seed quality, as measured in terms of viability and vigor, to achieving optimum results.

In order to achieve those results Hopper noted that several important decisions needed to be made starting with the selection of an adapted variety that is suited to the growing region.

Hopper then stressed the point that seed and technology costs have increased over the past several years and that, subsequently, seeding rates have dropped as growers attempt to more precisely control input costs.

In this new planting environment Hopper explained that it was more important than ever for growers to select and plant high quality seed and to properly calibrate planting equipment to provide uniform seed spacing down the row.

To obtain high quality seed Hopper recommended growers key on two components—viability and vigor.

Hopper explained that the Cool Warm Vigor Index (CWVI) was one of the best possible tools for providing a measure of the viability and vigor of cotton planting seed.

The CWVI is a combination test that measures the warm and the cool germination ability of planting seed. He explained that after the cool and warm test components are run the results are added together and used to estimate the quality of the seed being tested.

Hopper noted that CWVI results of 120 or less indicate a poor seed vigor level, that results between 120 and 140 are considered fair, that results between 140 and 160 are classified as good and rating above 160 are considered excellent.

Hopper added that a rating of 160 or above is extremely hard to achieve, but that growers should strive, whenever possible, to stick with seed rated in the 140 to 160 range to give them the best chance at establishing a high quality stand of cotton.

Anderson Provides Cotton Market Outlook

At SW Crops Production Conference

Warning that the potential exists for a bumpy ride in 2004, Texas A&M Extension Cotton Economist, Dr. Carl Anderson, presented his thoughts on the cotton market to over 200 producers at the Southwest Crops Production Conference & Expo.

Anderson's message was that the current restructuring of the market environment coupled with a considerable amount of market uncertainty should be a strong signal to growers to develop marketing and pricing strategies early on to reduce their exposure to sudden price moves.

He added that with worldwide cotton planting expected to increase 10 percent or more, the possibility that December 2004 futures prices could drop 10 to 15 cents from current levels, was a very real prospect and would put futures prices near the 52 cent government loan rate.

He noted that in the short run, strong demand, limited supplies, a weaker U.S. dollar, and the usual adverse weather conditions at planting, are expected to support the market and could result in a five or more cent rally in the next two to three months.

Anderson encouraged producers to consider putting together a marketing plan early and to also look into the use of crop revenue coverage (CRC) insurance in 2004, since December 2004 prices are expected to be higher in the first half of the year than the second half.

Neugebauer Names Jimmy Clark Deputy Chief of Staff

Congressman Randy Neugebauer announced Wednesday he has promoted his District Director, Jimmy Clark, to the position of Deputy Chief of Staff.

"Jimmy has been a tremendous asset to the 19th District for close to 17 years. I'm proud to have him on my staff and I know the people of the 19th District are excited to know they're being well represented. I have never met someone who works so hard," said Neugebauer.

As part of his duties Clark will be seen traveling around the 19th District with Neugebauer or representing Neugebauer in his absence. He will continue to communicate directly with constituents and with Neugebauer about concerns in the district, but most importantly he will be hands-on and seen in the community.

"When I am in Washington doing what my duties require, Jimmy will be on the ground representing me. Throughout his time working for the 19th Dis-

trict he has developed strong relationships with farmers, ranchers, businessmen and women, as well as those in the oil and gas industry," said Neugebauer. "Jimmy is a true advocate for West Texas. His knowledge is invaluable."

A third generation farmer, and businessman, Clark worked for over 16 years as District Representative for former Congressman Larry Combest. Clark worked closely with the House Agriculture Committee to formulate policy regarding the 2002 Farm Bill.

Clark attended Texas Tech from 1964-68. Farming is still a large part of the Clark family. He and his son-in-law, Chad Whitley, currently farm 2500 acres of cotton in Acuff.

An excellent photographer, Clark is the youth baseball league official photographer. He has also served since 1982 as a reserve deputy with the Lubbock County Sheriff's Department.

Furrow Dikes Help Maximize Rainfall Benefits

While no one knows when the next rainfall will occur on the Texas High Plains, it makes good sense for area producers to install furrow dikes in their fields to maximize precipitation benefits when it does rain.

Furrow dikes are small mounds of soil mechanically installed in the furrow. Installation creates a small basin in front of each dam.

Usually, area soil infiltration rates are adequate to absorb small amounts of rainfall with little runoff. However, when rainfall occurs in amounts exceeding soil infiltration rates, the furrow dikes hold water in place until it can soak into the soil.

"Water for crop production in this area is obtained either from rainfall or by pumping ground

water from the Ogallala aquifer," said Scott Orr, Conservation Technology Division Director of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 in Lubbock. "Maximizing precipitation benefits reduces water pumped from the aquifer, reduces agricultural production costs associated with meeting crop water needs, and has the potential to increase a crop yield," he said.

A three-year study at the Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center at Lubbock showed an average annual runoff of 2.73 inches from land with varying degrees of slope. Keeping rainfall on the field rather than allowing it to flow into roadside ditches and playa basins can help provide

additional water for crop use. For every inch of water available above the basic water needs for plant development, cotton can yield 50 to 100 pounds of lint per acre; grain sorghum can yield 300 to 400 pounds of grain per acre; and wheat can yield two to three bushels per acre.

The potential crop yield increase resulting from two to three inches of additional water on cotton could increase production by 100 to 300 pounds of lint per acre. Grain sorghum production could be increased from 600 to 1,200 pounds per acre. Other crops grown in the area should have similar yield increases when furrow dikes are used to retain similar amounts of additional water.

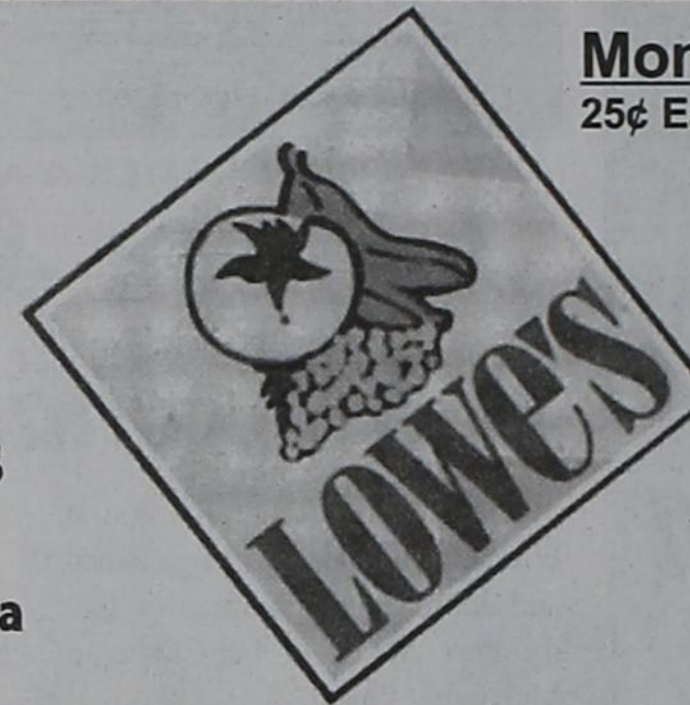
Producers should also remember that furrow dikes are especially effective when used under a center pivot system. The furrow dikes hold irrigation water in place until it can soak into the root zone soil profile.

"Furrow dikes should be an essential part of a farm water use efficiency program. This is a low-cost, high-return practice that can increase profitability for High Plains producers," said Orr.

Additional information about the use of furrow dikes is available by contacting the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79411-2499, or by calling (806) 762-0181. The district's web site is www.hpwd.com.

Prices Good
Feb 25 - Mar 2

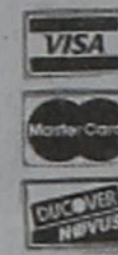
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<p>Raw Catfish Nuggets</p> <p>99¢ lb</p>	<p>Regular Ground Beef</p> <p>X-tra Savings Pack</p> <p>99¢ lb</p>
<p>Fryer Wings</p> <p>\$1.29 lb</p>	<p>Boneless Beef Chuck Steaks</p> <p>Any Size Pack</p> <p>\$2.79 lb</p>

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