

FRIONA ★ STAR

VOLUME 74, NUMBER 39

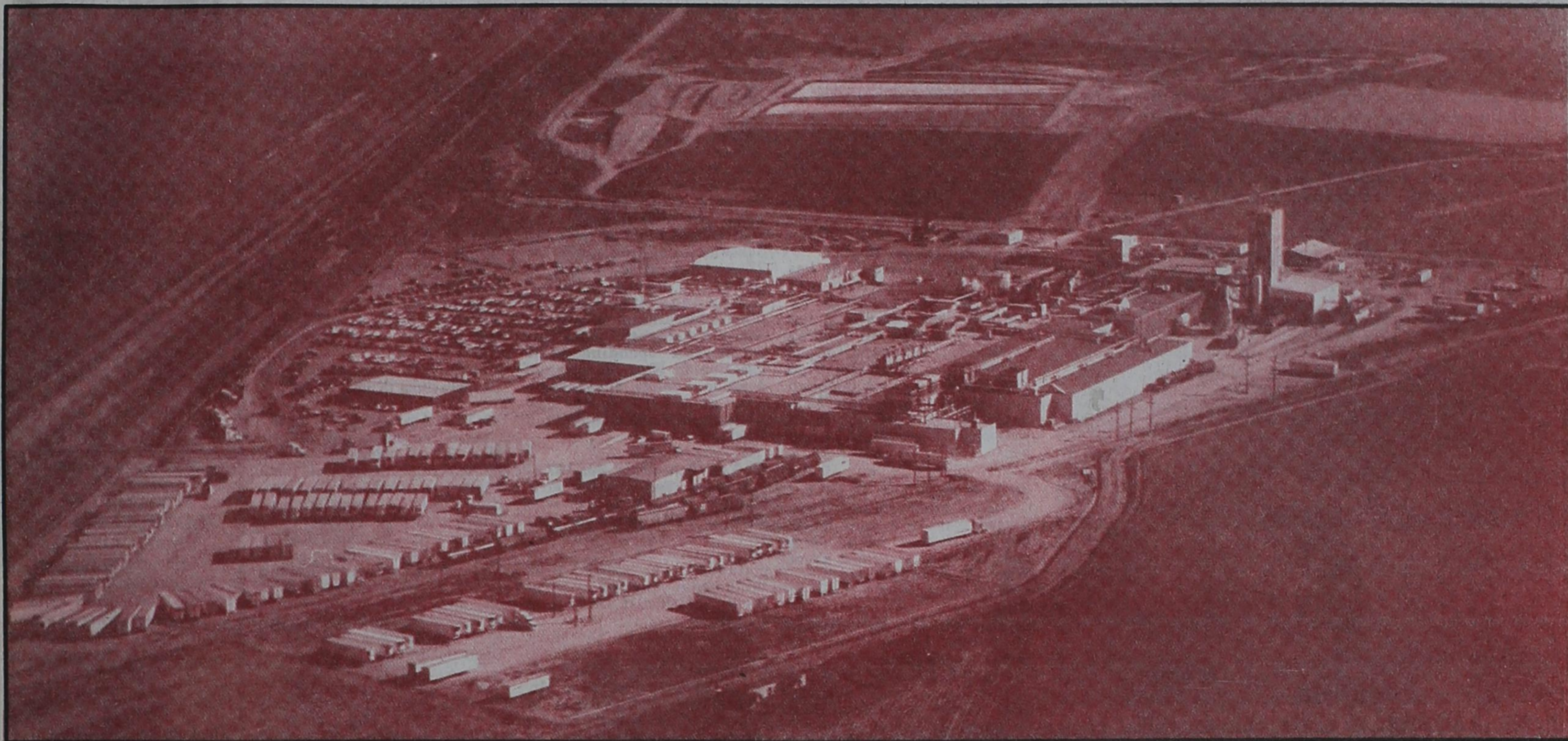
FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1998

30 PAGES + INSERTS



A Special 30th Anniversary Tribute to EXCEL

EXCEL At 30...Still Going And Growing!



THANKS A MILLION, EXCEL!

What would Friona, Bovina, and the area as a whole be like today if we hadn't had our packing plant all these years?

Excel is not only the number one employer for Friona and Bovina residents, but we would be willing to bet that it's at or near the top employer for Hereford and Clovis as well.

The large meat-packing facility has not only provided a much-needed payroll here in the farming country of rural America, but it has helped our communities in many other ways as well.

Excel is the top tax-payer for both the Friona Independent School District and also of Parmer County. Residents of Hereford are still in shock over losing Holly Sugar Corp., which was one of that community's top-employers and one of their most solid taxpayers as well.

In addition, Excel has contributed to our communities in so many other ways. The plant has been a steady supporter of our schools by way of contributing to many of their clubs and organizations.

They have been staunch supporters of our Chambers of Commerce. In addition to paying for several Chamber memberships, in Friona, several Excel officials have served on the Chamber's board of directors. Current plant comptroller Carol Aistrup served two terms on the Friona C-C board.

Sadly, Ms Aistrup is about to leave Friona Excel, having received a promotion in the company which will take her to Excel headquarters in Wichita, where her family lives. Thanks, Carol, for being such a good friend and supporter and good luck in your new position.

Down through the years, Excel-related folks have taken lead roles in scouting, as well as United Way, church and many other community activities.

When Missouri Beef Packers held their Open House in late April of 1968, the Friona Star promoted the event with a multi-section 42-page issue complete with several pages that contained color. That was, and is, the largest single issue the Star has ever published.

In that 1968 issue, Santa Fe Railway participated with a full-page congratulatory advertisement. Several companies which MBP purchased machinery and goods from to accomplish their startup, likewise took out impressive advertisements to wish the new plant great success.

One of the reasons we recall the Santa Fe ad in particular is that our good friend and longtime Santa Fe agent J. C. Beck came into our office to deliver the "camera ready" advertisement. Shaking his head, Carlos told us "I couldn't believe it. They stopped the train to drop off your ad!" Of course, that was in the "glory days," when Santa Fe still ran passenger trains from Chicago and Los Angeles.

A big selling factor for our local group to the Missourians was that the Friona plant would be located on this major East-West railway connection.

You may find it hard to believe, but when the local Chamber group was beating the bushes for donations to purchase the land, there were some folks who doubted that the packing plant would really contribute that much to the local economy. If most of these folks hadn't already gone on to their great reward, we'd ask them "What do you think now??"

We shudder to think what our community would be without Excel. Many small communities would give anything to have an even smaller payroll. We think those who donated to the land fund years ago, have recouped their donations many times over.

Congrats, Excel! We're proud to have had you all these years. And thanks, millions!

STAR LITES
By
Bill Ellis



Excel--A Local Giant With Worldwide Ties

The Friona Division of Excel Corp. recently observed its 30th birthday, and a number of their friends and business associates are taking the opportunity to wish them "Happy Birthday" in this special edition of the Friona Star.

When the plant first opened in 1968, it became within its second week of operation the largest beef processing plant (in terms of numbers slaughtered) in the state of Texas. The numbers have grown steadily from that point. After getting up and running, Excel's predecessor, Missouri Beef Packers, slaughtered 3,500 cattle in only its second week of operation.

At the company's 30th birthday luncheon last month, Excel's Chief Executive Officer, Bill Buckner, told his audience that Excel currently processes 1.1 million cattle per year.

Buckner also pointed out that Excel:

- *Spends \$850 million per year purchasing cattle that the plant slaughters.
- *Has a current payroll of over \$40 million.
- *Has around 1,900 employees, plus another 200 in private and general

contractors on-site.

- *Has over \$1 BILLION in sales per year out of its Friona plant, and

- *Has spent \$33 million in investments in the past three years.

Excel Corporation is one of the nation's top three meat processors, producing beef, pork and further-processed meats. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Cargill, Excel's headquarters is in Wichita, Kansas. The corporation has production facilities across the U.S.

The Excel Packing Company was formed in Wichita in 1946. Missouri Beef Packers (MBP) was founded in 1965 at Rock Port, Missouri. MBP opened its Friona plant in 1968 and its plant in Plainview in 1971.

In 1974, MBP merged with Kansas Beef, and became MBPXL. The XL in that name stood for Kansas Beef's former Wichita operation.

In 1979, Cargill acquired MBPXL and the company's name was changed to Excel in 1982.

In addition to Friona and Plainview, Excel now operates beef processing plants in Dodge City, Kansas; Ft. Morgan and Sterling,

Colorado, and Schuyler, Nebraska.

Excel has pork-processing facilities in Ottumwa, Iowa and Beardstown, Illinois. It operates meat further-processing plants in Boonville, Arkansas; Ft. Branch, Indiana; Marysville, California and Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Also located in Wichita, Kansas is the Excel Product Development Center, which opened in 1992 to create new products for the food industry.

Excel also has a dozen distribution centers and six regional U.S. sales offices. International sales offices are located in Tokyo and Osaka, Japan; Paris, France; and Toronto, Canada.

Cargill itself processes beef, pork and poultry at various overseas facilities, such as Canada, Mexico, Honduras, Argentina, Brazil, England, France, Japan, Taiwan and Thailand. In the U. S., Cargill produces chicken, turkey, catfish and further-processed egg products.

Cargill was founded in 1865, and is based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The corporation employs more than 67,000 people worldwide.

Water Ration In Effect Now

City Manager Paula Wilson and the city council has implemented a water rationing plan which is in effect now. The plan prohibits watering except for specific days of the week.

Even numbered addresses can water lawns on Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday. Odd numbers may water on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday. No one will be allowed to water on Friday.

City ordinance 02-96 sets rules for a City of Friona drought contingency plan.

The drought contingency ordinance was adopted by the city council in May, 1996, the most recent drought year in Friona until now.

According to City Manager Paula Wilson, water usage has reached 1.5 to 2 million gallons daily. Normal usage is around 700,000 gallons daily, so the city wells are taxed with double the amount of daily consumption.

Well pumps that pump water into the water tower are running non-stop and are barely able to keep sufficient water in the tower because of the increased usage.

Wilson said that recently when the city electricity went off, the water tower was drained in 40 minutes.

If a similar situation happened during the current heat wave, the city water equipment could not supply water under current usage volume.

The drought contingency ordinance plan triggers under four condition levels: mild, moderate, severe, or emergency demand measures.

The city has asked for the public's cooperation to conserve our water supply, and rest the equipment, during these severe drought conditions.

Event Info. Needed For Celebration

If your group or organization is planning an event during the week of Maize Days that needs to be included on the Chamber's schedule of events, please contact the Chamber office with the information no later than August 10.

The schedule of events is mailed out locally and a wide area. Call the Chamber office at 250-3491 or come by 621 Main Street.



COTTONWOOD TOWNHOMES OPENING....Members of the Friona Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture and guests gathered at the Cottonwood Townhomes at 14th and Walnut last week for an open house and ribbon cutting. Paul and Diane Sullivan, center, behind the bow, are the owners and have been renovating the apartment complex for the past year. Units are now available for lease. ron carr photo

Forms Are Available For Little Miss Friona

The 1998 Little Miss Friona pageant will be held on Tuesday, September 15, at 7 p.m. at the Friona High School Auditorium.

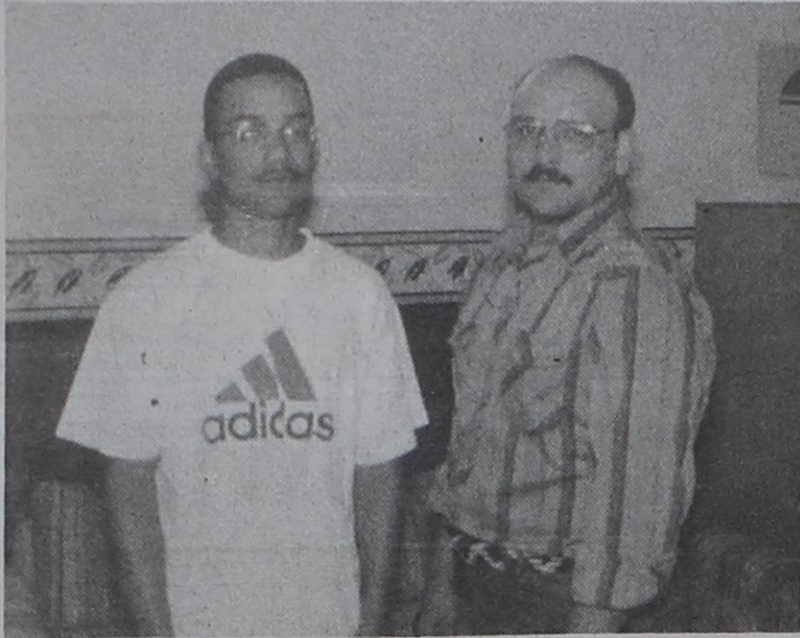
Entry forms are available at the Chamber of Commerce office at 621 Main Street.

Contestants must be five years old by September 1, and not older than six. They must also be Friona residents.

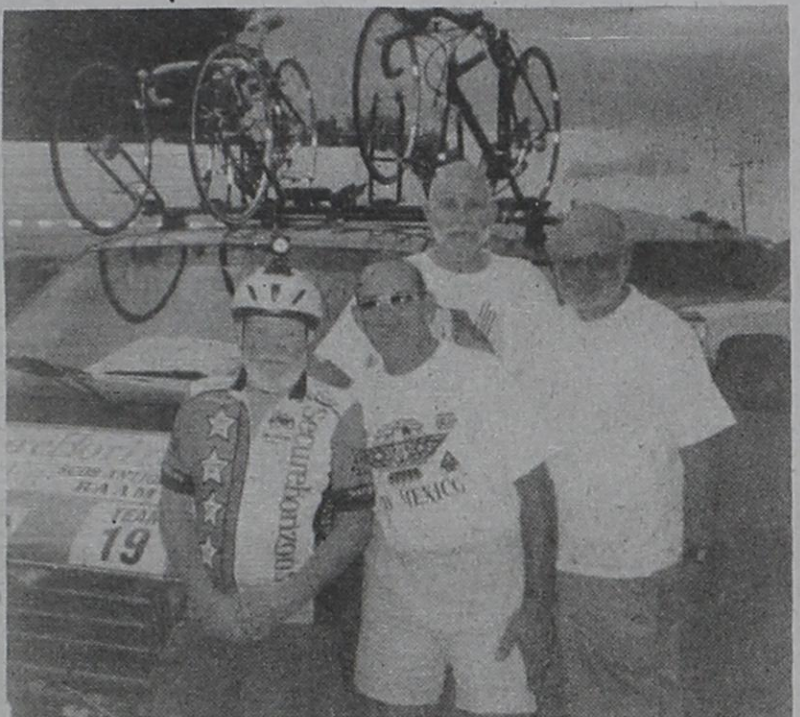
Deadline for entries is August 28. For more information, contact the Chamber at 250-3491.

Friona Flashbacks

....from the files of The Friona Star



IN THE NAVY NOW is Charles Walker, left, a 1997 graduate of Friona High School. Charles is shown saying goodbye to Joe Lafuente, city youth coordinator and a retired Navy veteran. Walker reported to Chicago to begin basic training and will then go to Pensacola, Florida for jet engine mechanic school. Best of luck Charles. ron carr photo



BIKE RACERS...A cross country bike race, from Irvine, California to Savannah, Georgia, came through Parmer County this week. The cyclists rode 24 hours a day for 2,906 miles. A seniors team, composed of, l-r, Guido Acquistapace, 71, Ron Volman, 66, Richard Amendola, 56, and Don Van de Verde, 62, made a quick stop at West Allsup's for gas and supplies. ron carr photo

70 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 10, 1928
Mrs. E.L. James of Alva, Oklahoma, arrived here last week to visit her daughter, Mrs. L.R. Dilger.

J.M. Osborn and family will depart Sunday for Hope, Arkansas, for a few weeks vacation.

Earl Drake, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.O. Drake, made a very genial host to a number of his friends Tuesday afternoon from two to six o'clock, when he celebrated in honor of his eleventh birthday. *****

50 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 6, 1948
Mrs. C.D. Carter had as her guests this week her daughters and their families, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Martin of Lamar, Colorado, Mr. and Mrs. Boots Deathridge, Gay and Iavon, Mrs. Carol Dean Dunn and Donna Kay.

Mrs. Alma Klien, who has been living with her daughter, Mrs. Hebbings, for the past year and a half, left this week to visit her children at Houston, Edna and Corpus Christi. Her son-in-law, Fred Schnieder, who has been visiting his daughters, Mrs. A.E. Taylor, and a son of Lubbock also returned with her. *****

45 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 6, 1953
Fire of undetermined origin gutted most of a rent house on the Hadley Reeve farm one mile west of Friona about 2 o'clock yesterday morning. Funeral services for Ben T. Galloway, 75 will be conducted at the Friona Methodist Church, Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

Six people were hospitalized early tonight after a head-on auto collision just west of the Hub store.

Mrs. Allen Stewart and children left Tuesday morning for Big Spring where the children will remain with their grandparents while Mrs. Stewart drives on to California where her husband is attending a gemology school. *****

40 Yrs. Ago--July 31, 1958
Glen Stiles has been returned to his home after major surgery in the Dimmitt hospital a few weeks ago and is reported to be improving.

Mrs. Walter Edwards returned from the Muleshoe Hospital the first of the week after having major surgery over a week ago.

Mrs. Jael Williams and daughter, Sanya, arrived in Friona at noon today by train. They came from Germany to New York, where they were met by Bianka Wilhelm, Monday. *****

30 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 1, 1968
Gary Brown, vice president and agriculturist of Friona State Bank, was among 510 bankers who attended the 1968 session of the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking, July 14-27, on the SMU campus in Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Agee and children, Dean and Krystal, returned home this week after spending their vacation in New Mexico and Arizona. They spent some time at the Palisades, Red River, Salt River Canyon and Ruidoso. *****

25 Yrs. Ago--July 29, 1973
Funeral services for Mrs. Thelma Lee Ford, 61, who died at 10:15 p.m. Monday in Parmer County Community Hospital, were conducted at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday in the First United Methodist Church in Friona.

Houseguests in the Jack Hamil home at 1507 Columbia this week have been her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H.B. Rose of Phoenix, Arizona and Hamil's father, David A. Hamil of Alexandria, Virginia. *****

20 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 13, 1978
Friona Little League received a pair of district championship banners during the past week, proclaiming the titles won by the Major and Senior League teams, *****

both of which advanced to the sectional tournament.

A reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. Roy Melugin of Clovis, on their 50th wedding anniversary will be held Sunday, August 13 from 2-4 p.m. Hosting the event will be their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Melugin, Jr. and their daughters, Annella and Cynthia, and friends, Mr. and Mrs. Harlon Beasley of Clovis. *****

15 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 21, 1983
Two Friona families will be hosts to exchange students in the Youth for Understanding program during the year. Ludwig Steinhausel from Hagen, West Germany, will be living with the George Frye family. Masayo Okomoto of Osaka, Japan, will be living with the Robert Neelley family.

Eldred Brown of Friona has been elected chairman of the organization known as Rural Friends during a caucus of the group in connection with the August 1-3 annual meeting of Texas Electric Cooperatives in Fort Worth. *****

10 Yrs. Ago--Aug. 13, 1988
Cliff Stephens, new Friona High School principal, says he is looking forward to the beginning of school. Stephens comes to Friona from Midland Greenwood High School.

The City of Friona had to be content with small amounts of moisture during the past week, while parts of the area had spotted showers of up to an inch and a half, and Bovina was hit with a flash flood. *****

5 Yrs. Ago--July 31, 1993
The Bovina to Friona section of U.S. Highway 60 is nearing completion as a four-lane facility, and TDHPT official Rhea Bradley said that the department hopes to open the road to four-lane traffic during the coming week.

A love fund for Oney Brady has been established by friends at Friona State Bank. *****

Mrs. Brady, a longtime Friona resident, has been a cancer patient for two weeks in an Amarillo hospital. *****



FRIONA BRIDAL REGISTRY

AN ADDED TOUCH
Phone 247-2184
Aimee Renner - Seth Houston

INGRAM'S
Phone 250-3291
Renee' Martin - Brent Dunn
Holly Grimsley - Richard Davila
Krista Renner - Christopher Kemple
Matt Osborn - Jo Lytal
Aimee Renner - Seth Houston
Jason Rector - Karla Lane
Jennifer Smith - Brynn Jolly

IVY COTTAGE FLOWERS & GIFTS
Phone 247-8073
Matt Osborn - Jo Lytal
LeeAnn Ford - Britt Conklin
Jason Rector - Karla Lane
Brent Dunn - Renee' Martin
Jason Rector - Karla Lane
Timothy Clark - Rhonda Maurer
Holly Grimsley - Richard Davila

WYONA'S FLOWERS & GIFTS
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Lee Ann Ford - Britton Conklin
Renee' Martin - Brent Dunn
Jason Rector - Karla Lane
Charlie Snead - Jennifer Chaney
Deena Willard - Steve Sellars
Aimee Renner - Seth Houston
Krista Renner - Christopher Kemple
Matt Osborn - Jo Lytal

Congratulations EXCEL



Friona, Texas

We Appreciate Your Support
Of The Chamber, And Of The
Local Community In General.

Thank You

Friona Chamber Of Commerce
& Agriculture

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

KPAN To Celebrate Golden Anniversary

KPAN AM/FM Radio in Hereford is celebrating fifty years of service to the area with an Open House from 3-6 p.m., Tuesday, August 4 at the KPAN studio, 218 E. Fifth Street in Hereford.



Clint Formby, painter and handyman, 1948

Journalists John Blake of Brownwood and Marshall Formby of Plainview established the station in 1948. Formby relocated to manage the station and supervise construction of the first studios, renovated from barracks transported from the army arsenal in Hooks, Texas, and sited on West Highway 60, about two miles from Hereford.

Blake and Formby originally planned the station for Canyon, but were swayed by Hereford's growth, publicity and aggressiveness. Formby's wife, Sharleen, suggested the "KPAN" all letters to represent the Texas Panhandle.

Clint Formby, nephew of Marshall Formby, commenced the regular broadcast ceremonies at 6:15 a.m. on August 4, 1948. A Texas Tech University student, Clint Formby assisted in the station's summer construction and announced until returning to classes that fall.

Marshall Formby, also a Texas Tech alumnus, became

KPAN's sole owner in 1950 and sold half interest in the station to his nephew in 1956.

Following graduation from Texas Tech in 1949, Clint Formby helped construct and operate new stations in Tulia, Snyder and Colorado City. He returned to Hereford, August 20, 1951, as KPAN general manager. Formby's son, Chip, currently fills the position, sharing KPAN AM/FM ownership with his father.

KPAN's studios were virtually destroyed by fire in 1961. A smaller transmitter building was constructed at the site and erection of new studios and offices began at its current location. In 1965, KPAN was one of the first area stations to build a companion FM station.

KPAN has celebrated a number of broadcasting "firsts" and awards. It was the first Texas station to conceive DE Day, offering special training and financial resources for high school Distributive Education students.

The Texas Association of Broadcasters (TAB) twice named KPAN the state's Outstanding Radio Station and the state's Outstanding Radio Station in Support of Education. KPAN received more TAB awards in a ten-year period than any Texas radio or television station.

It was one of the first West Texas stations to inaugurate daily Spanish programming and music. KPAN's promotion of Good News Day received prominent national wire coverage and nationwide newspaper publicity. It is the only station to be featured on Texas Highways cover and was featured in the Dallas Morning News, AP releases, and area and national publications.

KPAN broadcasted live programs in 1997-98 to the British Broadcasting System, one of few stations in the Southwest to do so. It is one of two Texas stations retained by the same family ownership for the past fifty years.

Clint Formby was named TAB's 1979 Broadcaster of the Year and formerly chaired the National Association of Broadcasters, and served as national president of the Associated Press Broadcasters and of the Broadcast Education Association.

KPAN president and affectionately known as The Old Philosopher, Formby boasts the longest running consecutive broadcast by an individual in the United States.

The first airing of his program, "The Day by Day Philosopher," was October 11, 1955, and continues being broadcast six days a week, totaling 13,434 programs as of July 24.

Hereford area residents tune in to KPAN for the latest weather report, crop market, storm warnings, hospital and funeral reports, school and senior citizen lunch menus, school and bus schedules for inclement days, and live coverage of local sports, UIL championships, spelling bees, stock shows, church services, crop tours, agriculture conventions, parades and political speeches.

It's been a golden fifty years of broadcasting for Hereford, KPAN, and the Old Philosopher, Clint Formby, who returns as morning announcer fifty years later to again open the station for an encore production of KPAN's first morning show.

Residents are asked to tune in to AM 860/FM 106.3 at 6:15 a.m. Tuesday, August 4, to hear Formby's live broadcast, including 1940's music, a report of the day's Trading Post and, of course, Formby's well loved "Day by Day Philosopher."

American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

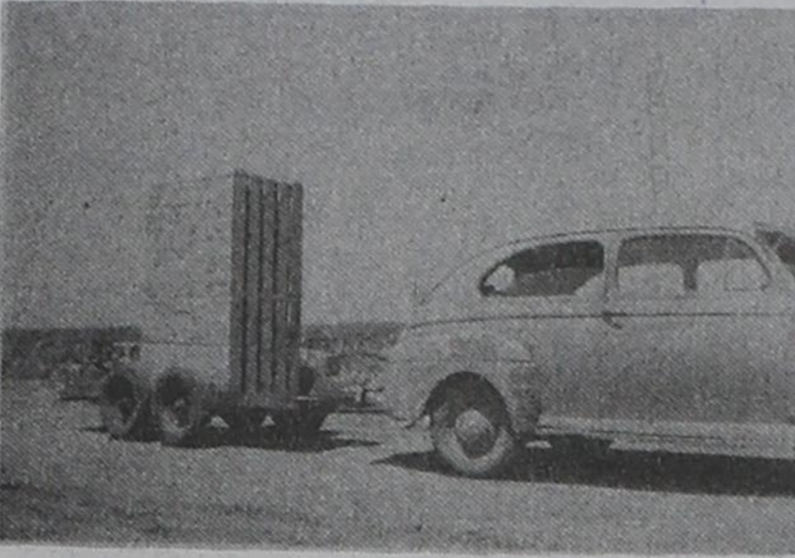
It keeps more than memories alive.



Marshall and Sharleen Formby, 1948



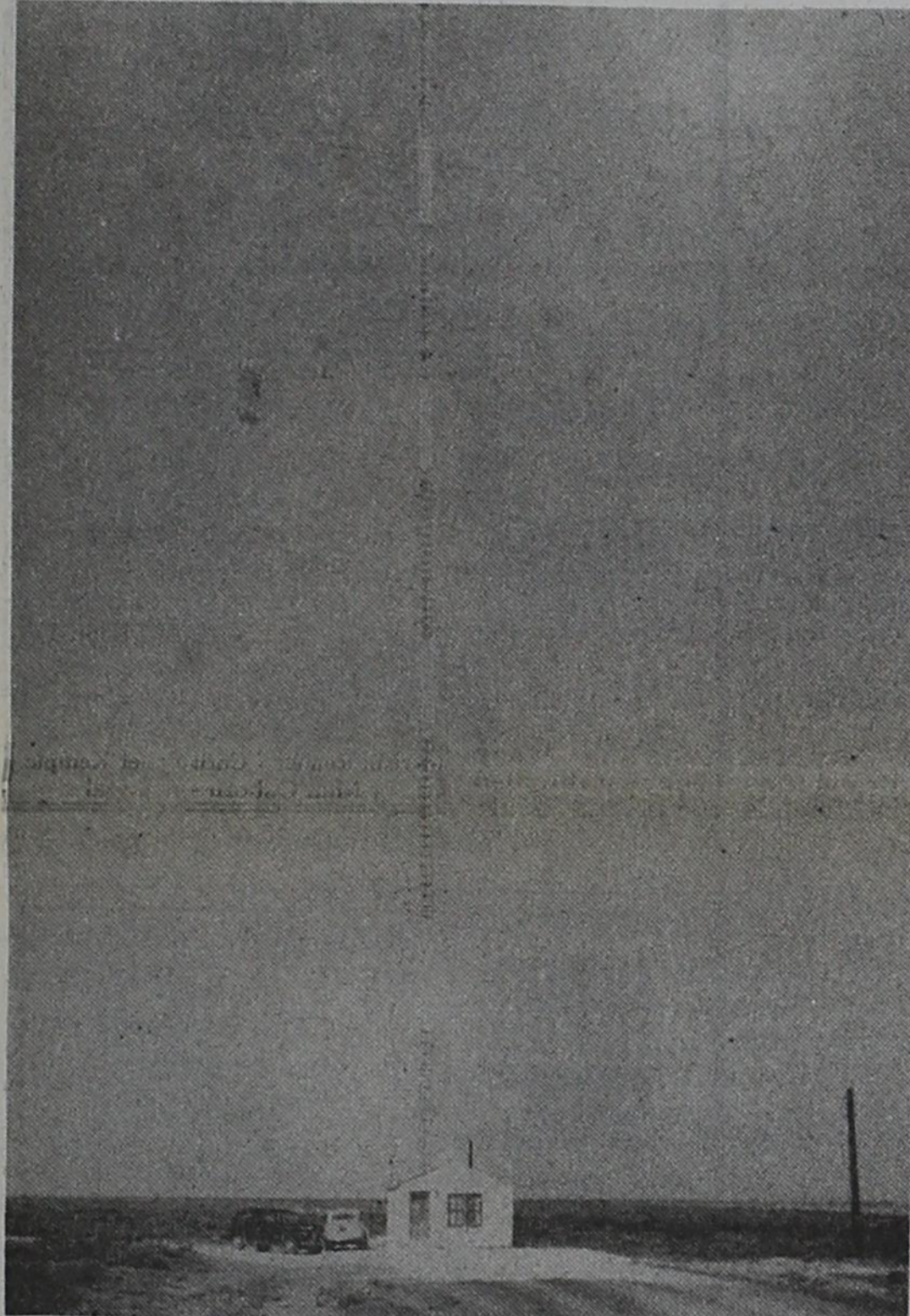
Original studio/transmitter housed in single army barracks, 1948



AM transmitter arriving at site after being unloaded at Hereford railroad depot, 1948



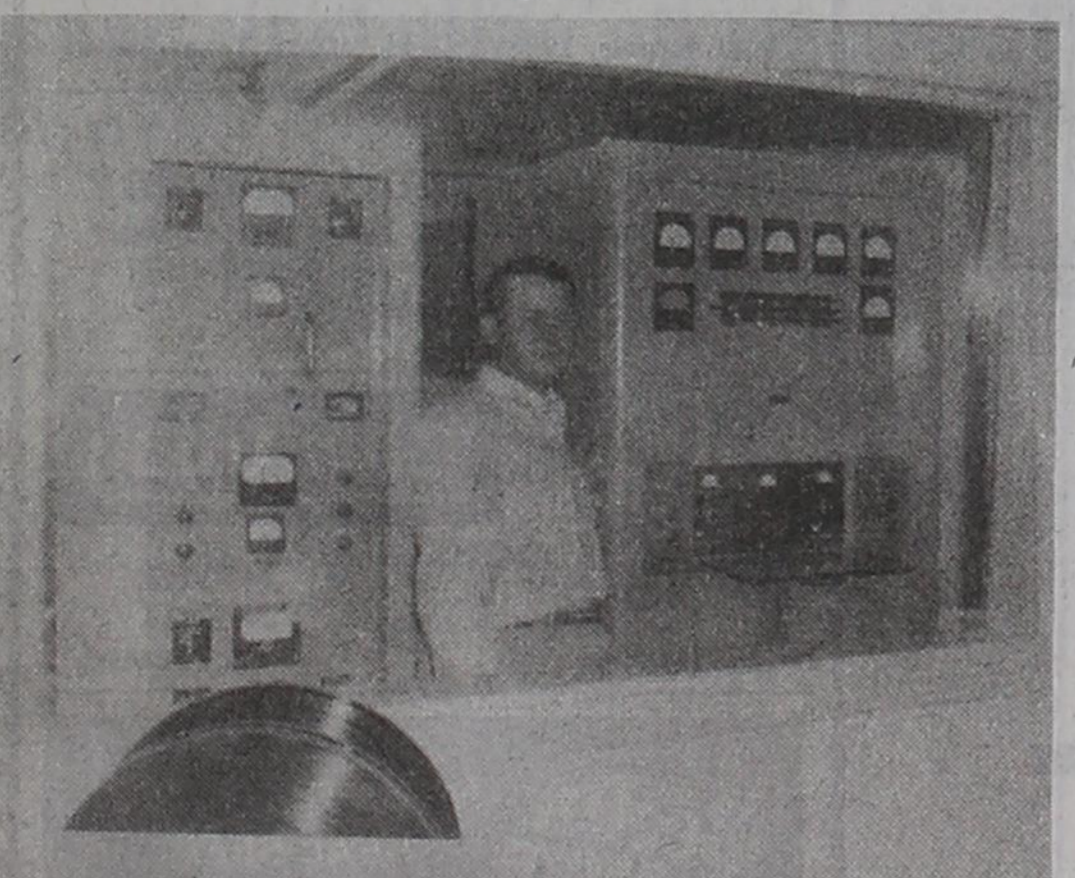
Aftermath of studio fire, 1961



Studios/transmitter, 1952



Clint Formby at KPAN microphone opening day (Aug. 4, 1948)



Marshall Formby with 1948 Gates AM transmitter

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Come In And WIN!

FRIONA/BOVINA DEVOTIONAL PAGE

414

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the book of I Samuel intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

SAMUEL AND SAUL

AT LONG LAST SAMUEL BRINGS SAUL BEFORE THE ASSEMBLED TRIBES OF ISRAEL TO ANOINT HIM KING, AS THE LORD HAS DIRECTED....

NOW, EVEN AS THE LORD HAS COMMANDED ME TO DO, I BRING BEFORE YOU SAUL- CHOSEN BY GOD!

YE HAVE REJECTED THE LORD TO RULE OVER YOU AND HAVE ASKED INSTEAD FOR A KING!

...AND SAMUEL PREPARES TO ANOINT SAUL WITH OIL...

NOW, AMIDST CRIES OF GOD SAVE THE KING, SAUL STANDS BEFORE ALL ISRAEL, HANDSOME, MODEST, TALLER BY A HEAD AND SHOULDER THAN ANY OTHER MAN. IN THIS, HIS GREATEST MOMENT-ALL OF WHICH HAS BEEN RECORDED IN I SAMUEL, CHAPTERS 8,9,10.

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK



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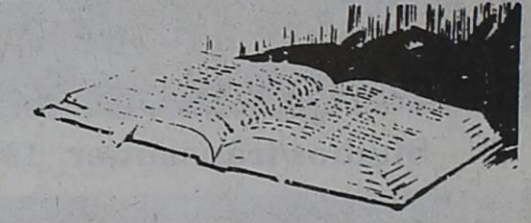


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502 West Sixth
T. Leon Talley, Min., 247-2769 |
| TEMPLO "MARANATHA" SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD
301 Grand
Rev. Daniel Hidalgo | TENTH ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST
10th & Euclid |
| BAPTIST | LUTHERAN |
| CALVARY BAPTIST
14th & Cleveland, 247-3000 | REDEEMER LUTHERAN
13th & Virginia
Don L. Kirklen, Min., 247-3496 |
| FIRST BAPTIST
Sixth & Summitt
Rev. Waide Messer
Phone 247-3933 | METHODIST |
| ST. ESTHER'S BAPTIST
5th & Main
Timothy Askew, Minister | FRIONA UNITED METHODIST
8th & Pierce
Rev. Don Boren |
| TEMPLO BAUTISTA
403 Woodland, 247-3472
Jose Luis Najera, Min. | PENTECOSTAL |
| CATHOLIC | UNITED PENTECOSTAL
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| ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC
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Father Ed Sweeney, Pastor | IGLESIA COMPANERISMO CRISTIANO
7th & Washington
Ruben Rivera, Min., 247-8011 |
| | UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Union Congregational Church
1601 Euclid--Herman Krauel |

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- | | |
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| FIRST BAPTIST OF BOVINA
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401 Third Street, 238-1511 |
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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY wishes were shared at Prairie Acres last week with Howard and Minnie Kelso. The Kelsos, long time Bovina residents, were celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary with flowers, best wishes and a pretty anniversary cake. Howard is a resident at Prairie Acres. ron carr photo

Growers Cautioned

By Shawn Wade

"If it sounds good to be true, then it probably is."

It may be an old saying but it is one that could protect cotton producers and prevent them from spending money they can't afford to waste on products that promise the moon but rarely deliver.

Dr. John Abernathy, Dean of the Texas Tech University College of Agriculture and Applied Economics, noted during a recent boll weevil management seminar sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. that High Plains cotton producers will soon be bombarded with a bevy of quick and easy cures for the boll weevil.

The boll weevil has rapidly developed into this area's most serious threat to profitable cotton production.

Abernathy notes that the best protection around is a healthy dose of skepticism and a reliance on verifiable scientific proof that the product in question can provide the results it claims.

Abernathy encourages cotton producers to contact their local county Extension agents or Intergrated Pest Management Specialists to get a second opinion on the effectiveness of any new product. He also notes that by taking the extra time to find corroborating information a producer could prevent a costly waste of money and time.



MICHEL RODRIGUEZ and PETER GOMEZ... Mariano and Maria Rodriguez of Friona announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Michel, to Peter Gomez, Jr., son of Pedro and Eileen Gomez of Friona. The couple will exchange wedding vows Saturday, August 29 at 4:30 p.m. in Templo Bautista Church of Friona. Both the bride-elect and the prospective bridegroom are graduates of Friona High School. She is attending Amarillo College working on a degree in social work. He is currently employed by Excel Friona.

Lone Star Tumblers

*Tumbling *Trampoline *Double Mini

Fall Registration: Wednesday, August 5 From 4 -7 at the Friona Community Center.

Recreational & Competitive Classes.

Ages 2 yrs. & up; Beginner to Advanced

For more information, contact Sharon Snead

(806) 894-8678

On Your Payroll

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Russell Building
Washington, D.C., 20510
Ph. (202) 224-2932;
Lubbock: (806) 743-7533

*Cong. Larry Combest
511 Longworth Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C., 20515
Ph. (202) 225-4005

*Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison
283 Senate Russell Building
Washington D.C., 20510
Ph. (202) 224-5922

Keepers of the Legend

An Outdoor Musical presented by MulePlex Production Co.

August 7-10, 1998
8:30 p.m.

Muleshoe Heritage Center

West American Blvd. • Muleshoe, TX

Tickets \$10.00 at gate or \$8.00 in advance. \$5.00 Children Ages 10 and Under
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE

For Information Call 806/272-5612

BEANS & CORNBREAD DINNER each evening at 6:30 p.m. served by the Muleshoe Heritage Foundation
ADULTS \$4.00 • CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER \$2.50 (per plate)

While in Muleshoe, enjoy our fine shopping, dining and overnight accommodations

Funded in part through the County Arts Expansion Program of the Texas Commission on the Arts, and a grant from the City of Muleshoe.



ATTENTION FARMERS

Sprinkler in need of repair?

We are happy to announce that Ronnie McLellan has joined our work force and will be our sprinkler service man, including all electrical work.

For sprinkler sales, parts and maintenance

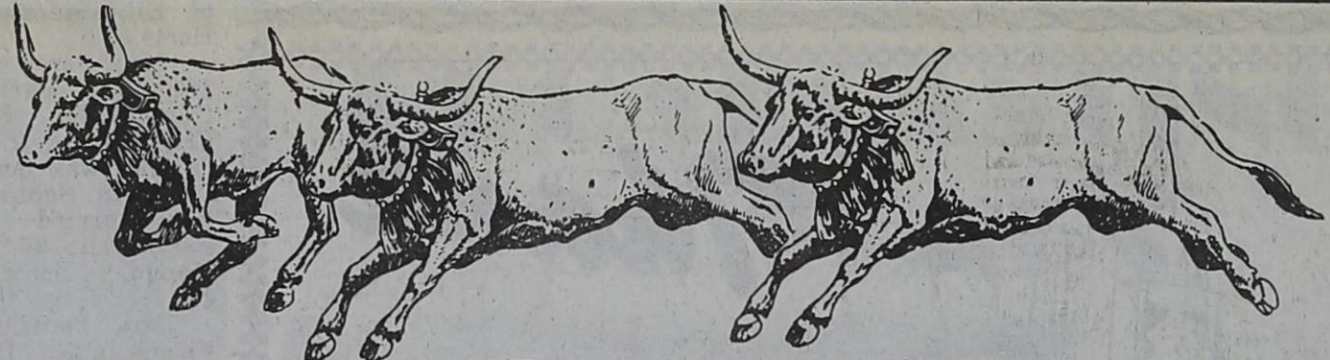
Call Stevick Sales & Service
(806) 250-3110
514 Main Friona, TX

Your local Zimmatic Representative

Interest rates as low as
1.9%
Rebates as high as
\$2,000

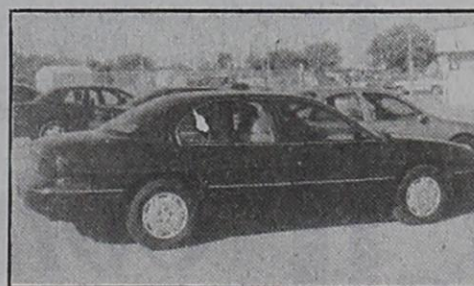
Western

"0" DOWN available with approved credit**



THANKS **EXCEL**, FOR
30 YEARS IN PARMER COUNTY
AND FOR YOUR TRUCK AND
AUTO BUSINESS.

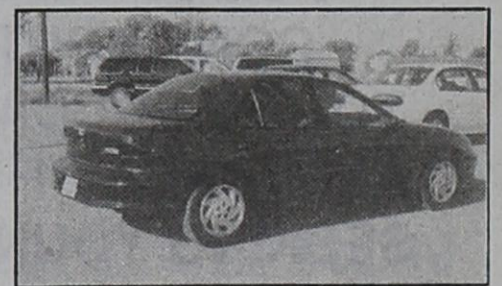
WE APPRECIATE YOU ALL!!



'97 Chev Lumina.....\$193 mo*
4-Door, Tilt, Cruise, PW, PL \$12,700



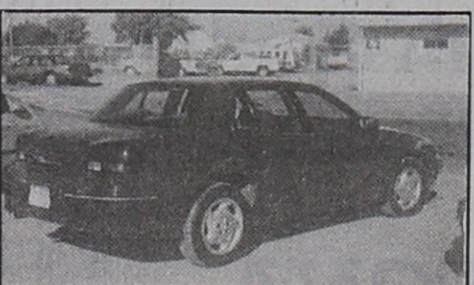
'97 Olds Achieva.....\$167 mo*
4-Door, Red, Auto-PW,
PL, PW,TL, & Cruise \$10,995



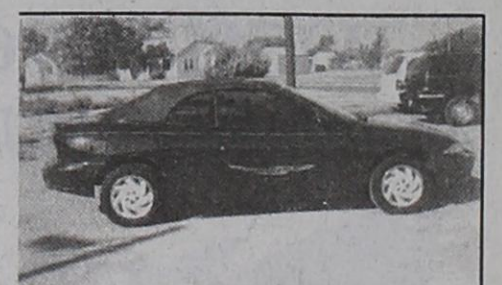
'97 Chev Cavalier.....\$167 mo*
4-Door, Red, Loaded Nice \$10,995



'95 Ford Contour.....\$136 mo*
4-Door, Auto Air, AM/FM Cassette \$8,995



'97 Pontiac Grand AM.....\$217 mo*
Low Miles, 4-Door, Loaded \$11,995



'97 Chev Cavalier\$181 mo*
Convertible, Red \$11,900

*30% Down + TTL, W.A.C., 60 mo 10.9%

**0% Down Available W.A.C.

***30% Down + TTL, W.A.C., 48 mo, 10.9%

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Grand Ave. at Hwy. 60, FRIONA

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Successful Years
In Parmer County.



**HEADQUARTERS
RESTAURANT**

*Daily Buffet *Home Of Just Good Food
1502 W. HWY. 60 Phone (806) 247-2821



GO CHIEFS....Cheering on dad at the summer football camp were Allison, 11 months, and Derek, 2. They are the children of new Chieftain head coach and athletic director Mike Scott and his wife, Michele. We welcome the Scott's to Friona. Go Big Red! ron carr photo

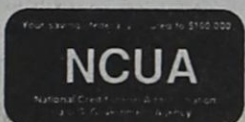


GOOD BOUNCE....Lots of bouncing went on during the little girls basketball camp last week. The future Squaws were under the watchful eye of varsity girls head coach Richard North. ron carr photo

**Friona Texas Federal
Credit Union**

Sends Its Congratulations To
EXCEL
On Their 30th Anniversary.

*Thank You For
Your Support, We
Appreciate Your Business!*



6th & Euclid
Phone (806) 250-2736

**Football
Workouts
August 5**

New Chieftain head coach Mike Scott and his coaching staff will open the 1998 football season on Wednesday, August 5.

All football players who will be in grades 9-12 are to meet at the gymnasium at 7:30 a.m.

This marks the first day of two-a-day workouts and what should be an exciting and interesting Chieftain season.

**Mrs. Perez
Is Buried**

Funeral services for Maria R. Perez, 83, of Friona were held Wednesday, July 29, at St. Teresa's Catholic Church in Friona with Father Ed Sweeny, Pastor, officiating. Rosary was said at St. Teresa's Catholic Church, Tuesday.

Burial was in Friona Cemetery, under the direction of Ellis-Blackwell Funeral Home.

Mrs. Perez died July 26, 1998, at Parmer County Community Hospital in Friona.

She was born March 2, 1915, in Sebastian, Texas. She married Jose Manual Perez June 30, 1934 in Rio Hondo. He died July 4, 1971.

Mrs. Perez had lived in Friona since 1958, moving from Corpus Christi. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by one son, Amadeo Perez in 1962, and one daughter, Estela Montemayor in 1997. She was a member of the Catholic Church.

Survivors include, four sons, Conrado Perez and Samuel Perez, both of Friona, Jose Perez, Jr. and Rene Perez, both of Amarillo.

Three daughters, Amelia Rodriguez of Hollis, Oklahoma, Irma Raymond and Rosa Castillo, both of Friona.

Also, one brother, Jesus Rincones of Brownsville; thirty-four grandchildren; forty-six great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

AROUND TOWN

Cheerleader camp August 5-7

The Friona High School cheerleaders will conduct little girl and junior high cheerleading camps on August 5, 6, & 7. Little girls camp will be from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and cost \$12. Junior high camp will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and cost \$15. Both camps will be at Friona High School. For more info contact Monda Daniel at 250-3230.

CCC orientation August 11

Students new to Clovis Community College are encouraged to attend the fall semester orientation program on Tuesday, August 11. Students may choose from two identical sessions, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., in room 409 at the college, 417 Schepps Blvd. For more info call 505-769-4009.

Museum clean up day Aug 8

The Pioneer Museum committee will meet at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Aug 8 at the old Congregational Church building on 6th St. for a clean up day in preparation for the installation of new windows. Anyone with the time and energy is invited to help.

Friona on KPAN Every Tuesday

Tune in to KPAN in Hereford each Tuesday morning at 8:25 a.m. to hear the Friona Bulletin Board program. The Friona Chamber of Commerce talks about community events on the air. To list an event, call the Chamber at 250-3491.

CannonFest flea market space available

CannonFest, "the largest summer Fest in the Eastern New Mexico/West Texas area" has inexpensive flea market space available for their Saturday, Aug 29, Fest day. The annual Fest attracts 8-10,000 visitors. For info call 505-784-6381.

St. Teresa Jamaica Aug 2

St. Teresa's Catholic Church in Friona is planning their annual Jamaica festival for Sunday, August 2. All residents are invited. Food and fun at the church from 11 a.m. 'till ???

Friona PD drug dog fund at FSB

You can assist Parmer County law enforcement with a donation to the fund to purchase a new drug dog by the Friona Police Department. Donations in any amount are welcomed. A fund is established at Friona State Bank.

So. Plains registration begins Aug 24-25

1998 registration begins at South Plains College in Levelland August 24-25 at the SPC Reese Educational Center in Lubbock. Regular fall registration and evening registration on the SPC Levelland campus will be Aug 27. For more info about registration call SPC Levelland at 806-894-9611, X 2374 or 2375.

FSB Gang to TEXAS

The Friona State Bank senior citizens club, "The Gang", is sponsoring a trip to Palo Duro Canyon for the TEXAS performance on August 14. Cost is \$30 and includes bus, food, and tickets to the show. Contact the bank at 250-5000.

Musical set in Muleshoe

"Keepers of the Legend", a Muleshoe Production Company production is scheduled for August 7-10 at the Muleshoe Heritage Center. Information at 806-272-5612 or 272-5262.

Four woman golf scramble Aug 22

A four woman golf scramble is scheduled for Saturday, Aug 22 at 9 a.m. at Friona Country Club. There will be a shotgun start. Entry fee is \$160 per team, includes lunch, cart, green fee, and mulligans. Call 250-3125 NOW to enter.



*Thank
You
EXCEL*

FOR 30 YEARS OF
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE EDUCATION OF
ALL TYPES OF CAREER
SEEKING YOUNGSTERS
IN OUR COMMUNITY.

WE APPRECIATE
ALL YOUR SUPPORT!!

**FRIONA
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



**Congratulations
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See us for all your insurance needs.

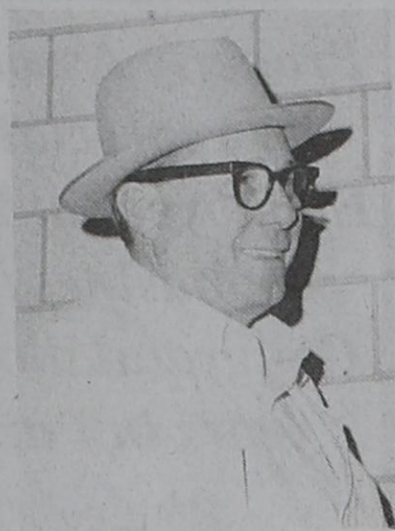
Prairie Insurance Agency, Inc.

PHONE 250-2766
603 Main Street Friona, Texas

Familiar Faces From Excel Friona's Past



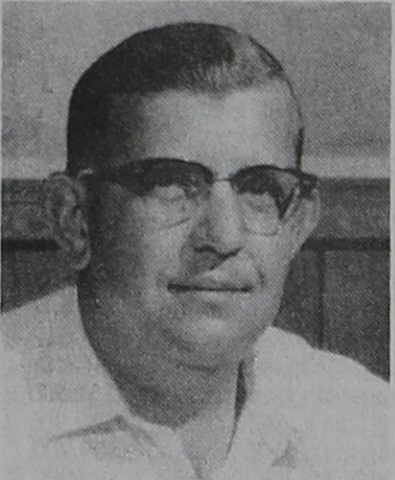
EUGENE FRY
1st President, MBP



BILL GILBERT
First Plant Manager



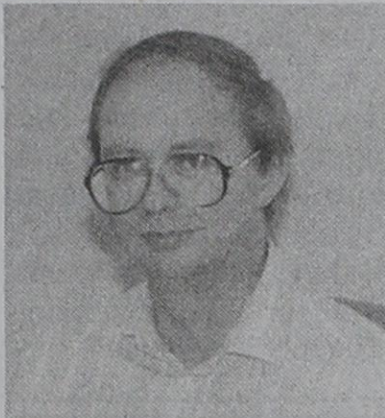
VAUGHN BLUM
Plant Mgr., 1978-87



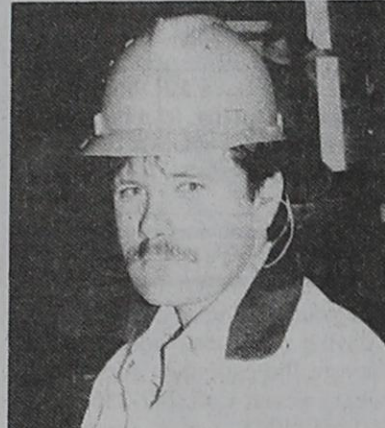
DAVE LaFLEUR
Plant Manager
1969-71
Former Excel Pres.



TERRY WILKERSON
Plant Mgr. 1987-92



HARRY HUTCHESON
Former Comptroller



KERRY BAHNS
Former Comptroller

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Western

"0" * DOWN



'98 RANGER
Auto



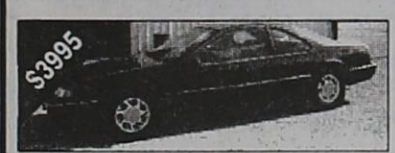
'97 FORD MUSTANG CONV.
18 K Miles, V-6
\$259⁰⁰ Mo.



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Short Bed, A/C, Cruise, Tilt, Warranty!



'97 FORD TAURUS
\$207⁰⁰ Mo.



'94 FORD BRONCO
\$259⁰⁰ Mo.

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CAROL AISTRUP
Comptroller Dec. 91-

Area Gets Some Rain Sunday.

Friona received 17 inches of rain last Sunday afternoon, and had .02 inch the previous Friday.

It was reported that the Rhea vicinity got up to 1.5 inches of rain during the Sunday afternoon shower, although it may be "too little, too late" for the farm crops.

The week's moisture made Friona's total moisture for the month 43 inches.

With the cool rain on Sunday, the high stayed at 87 degrees. It was the first time in 45 days that the day's maximum temp was under 90 degrees.

Date	Hi-Low
Thursday, July 23	94-64
Friday, July 24	94-66
Saturday, July 25	93-64
Sunday, July 26	87-64
Monday, July 27	93-68
Tuesday, July 28	96-69
Wednesday, Jul. 29	97-68

Class of 1988 Reunion Set Saturday Aug 1

The class of 1988 will hold its 10-year reunion on Saturday, August 1.

Anyone who has not preregistered is encouraged to attend. A family lunch will be held at noon at the Friona Jr. High Cafeteria. Kids eat free.

An adult only dinner will be held at the Clovis Holiday Inn at 7 p.m. (Newborns are, of course, welcome.) The cost is \$30 per adult and includes both events.

Contact Rachel Clark at 806-295-6811 with any questions.

MAKE AN EDUCATED CHOICE... READ YOUR NEWSPAPER

AUCTION

27th Annual SPECIAL HARVEST EQUIPMENT AUCTION

August 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8, 1998

Tuesday Thru Friday Sale Time: 10:00 A.M.
Saturday Sale Time: 9:00 A.M.

Located: Plainview, Texas South Side of Town on Interstate 27 Business Route on Hale County Airport Property. Take Exit 45 or 53 off I-27.

*** * * FIVE BIG DAYS * * ***

Tuesday, August 4, 1998 SALE TIME: 10:00 A.M.
Combines * Cornheads * Headers * Attachments * Grain Carts * Augers * Combine Trailers
Grain Equipment * Peanut Combines * Peanut Equipment

Wednesday, August 5, 1998 SALE TIME: 10:00 A.M.
Grain Trucks * Truck Tractors * Implement Trucks * Trucks
Trailers * Float Trailers * Other Truck Pulled Trailers

Thursday, August 6, 1998 SALE TIME: 10:00 A.M.
Cotton Strippers (Self Propelled) * Cotton Strippers (Tractor Mount) * Boll Buggies * Cotton Trailers
Stock Trailers * Livestock Equipment * Pipe & Irrigation Equipment
Hay Equipment * Ensilage Equipment

Friday, August 7, 1998 SALE TIME: 10:00 A.M.
Tractors * Loaders * Front End Loaders * Tractor Make-Ups * Grain Drills * Backhoes
Motor Graders * Forklifts * Crawlers * Miscellaneous Related Items

Saturday, August 8, 1998 SALE TIME: 9:00 A.M.
Implements & Tools * Implement Trailers * Utility Trailers * Motor Homes & Mobile Homes
Tanks * Toolbar Make-Ups * Non-Classified

NOTE: ALL EQUIPMENT MUST BE REMOVED FROM PROPERTY BY AUGUST 29, 1998.

COME AS BUYER OR CONSIGNOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO CONSIGN, CALL:

Cruce & Fletcher

Auctioneers and Real Estate Brokers
PO BOX 609 - WOLFFORTH, LUBBOCK CO., TX 79382

James G. Cruce
Plainview, TX
(806) 296-5050
Lic #6704



Bobby Fletcher
Wolfforth, TX
(806) 866-4201
Lic #7131

Pete Patterson
Hale Center, TX
(806) 839-2979

Rocky Blair
Shallowater, TX
(806) 832-5968

Barbara Richey
Wolfforth, TX
(806) 866-9091

Joe Gonzalez
Lorenzo, TX
(806) 657-4439

"WE ARE LOCATED AT THE HALE COUNTY AIRPORT"

BROADCASTING 50 YEARS



Clint Formby was a Texas Tech student when he became the first voice on KPAN on Aug. 4, 1948. Fifty years later, he is still broadcasting as the "Old Philosopher," and will be honored during the station's Anniversary Celebration and Open House Tuesday afternoon.

Please Join Us For Our
**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
OPEN HOUSE AND RECEPTION**
from 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4,
at the KPAN Studios,
218 E. 5th St., Hereford



AM 860
FM 106.3

READ & USE

CLASSIFIED ADS

PHONE 250-2211

Reader Ads--First insertion, per word.....25 cents
 Additional insertions (no copy change, per word).....20 cents
 Minimum charge.....\$2.50

Classified display (boxed ads--10 pt. type under a specific heading, 1 column width only--no art or cuts. Per column inch.....\$3.50

Card of Thanks--same as classified word rate, 25 cents per word, minimum charge.....\$2.50

DEADLINE for classified advertising in Saturday's issue--Wednesday noon.

Check advertisement and report any error immediately. The Star is not responsible for error after ad has already run once.

All classified ads are CASH in ADVANCE. Only legal notices or continuous running ads will be billed. All other ads must be paid in full before they will be published.

AUTOMOTIVE

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings every Saturday and Monday, 8 p.m. at Union Congregational Church on North Euclid St. in Friona. tfnc

STEVENS

Chevrolet • Olds
 Buick • Pontiac • GMC
Hereford 1-800-299-CHEV
 Our everyday prices are better than their sale prices!

Friona Masonic Lodge No. 1332
 Stated Meeting-1st Tues. 8 P.M., 7th & Ashland
 James W. Dixon, W.M.
 Larry J. Knowles, Sec.

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WATKINS DEALERSHIP
 at 1006 Prospect,
 Friona
 Phone 247-3428
 Lela Mae George

LOSE WEIGHT NOW. ASK ME HOW.
 Dr. Recommended. All Natural. Guaranteed.
 Call (806) 250-5238
 F-4tc-7/31-8/7/8-14/7-21

"Grand Opening Special" Cottonwood Townhomes

13th & Walnut
 In Friona
NOW LEASING

1, 2, and 3 Bedrooms

- New Carpet
- New Air Units
- New Appliances

CALL: 250-5288

Snead Realty

908 W. 11th St. Phone 250-2345 Fax: 250-3682
 Gary Snead, MFLA, MSA Home Phone: 265-3383

2 BR, 1 bath plus a junk house, 3 lots, near school.....\$22,000
 3 BR, 1 bath, 1 car, utility, front and back fenced yards.....\$35,900
 4 BR, 3 baths, 2 car, storage building, lots of new items.....\$80,000
 3 BR, 1-3/4 baths, 3 acre country home, barn, new roof.....\$95,500
 4 BR, 2 large baths, extremely clean, large lot, 2 C/P, storage, two story, quiet street, carpet cleaned.....SOLD.....\$66,000
 3 BR, 2 baths, permastone, large corner lot, near FHS, 1-car.....\$49,900
 3 BR, 2 bath, 2-car, fenced yard, built 1993, heat pump.....SOLD.....\$58,750
 9.5 acres w/country home, 1.5 miles to Bovina, on highway.....\$65,000
 3 BR, 1 bath, corner lot, new paint.....\$34,900
 2-Single Family residences, good rental property.....SOLD.....\$28,000
 2 BR, 1 bath, plus 2 story rental unit, corner lot.....\$42,000
 3 BR, 1 bath, 1-car, fenced, chain link fence.....MUST SEE.....\$35,900
 3 BR, 1 bath, 1-car, cellar, fenced.....SOLD.....\$39,900
 1.15 acres with 3 BR country home, 2 carport, 5 miles out.....\$35,000
 3 acres, 3 BR, 2 bath, 2 car, country home.....\$80,000
 3 BR, 2 bath, near high school, 3-car, basement.....SOLD.....\$64,900
 Small office/studio with 1/2 bath to be moved.....\$5,000
 3 BR, 2 baths, 2-car, 5 yrs. old, fenced yard.....SOLD.....\$64,000
 2-3 BR, 1 bath, metal, shop, 2-car carport, nice & clean.....SOLD.....\$51,000
 298 acres with CRP, 2 wells, a real deal.....at \$400/Acre
 2 BR, 1 bath, 2 car C/P, Corner Lot.....\$25,000
 3 BR, 2 bath, 1-car, metal trim, Refri A/C, BEAUTY.....SOLD.....\$69,000
 2 BR, 1 bath with siding, corner lot, GOTTA SEE.....\$23,400

For All Your Construction Needs--
Call Terry Copley at 265-3427
 (just leave a message and I'll get back with you as soon as possible)
 I can build you a new:
 *Storage building *Covered patio
 *Carport *Barn
 *Concrete Patio or Driveway
 If you need a metal, pitched roof on your flat-top building or old barn, just call.

FOR RENT
 FOR RENT....1 bedroom apartment. Call 250-3818. F-tfnc-7/31

FOR SALE
 FOR SALE....Maytag washer and dryer. Good condition. Call 250-3251. F-1tc-7/31
 FOR SALE....1972 int. tractor CO 4070/10 speed/V8 Cummins/11x24 Bud wheels; 1973 Tempte grain trailer; good 1973 955 MM tractor w/duals; good CrustBuster drill 40 ft. 10" disk; Big 12 grain cart, 400 bu. long auger. Call (806) 265-3350. F-2tp-7/31-8/7

Band Students
 Rebuilt horns, drums, etc. Also, accessories and payment plans.
 Call Hereford Music (806)363-1111
 Nights, (806)995-2424
 F-13tc-7/3-7/10-7/17-7/24-7/31-8/7-8/14-8/21-8/28-9/4-9/11-9/18-9/25

Winter Wheat and Fall Forage Seeds
 For ALL varieties of Wheat Rye * Barley * Triticale *Grazing Blends * Oats
 Call 1-800-299-9273
 Your choice of Registered, Certified, or Select Seed. Bagged or Bulk Delivery Available
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 www.wrt.net/~gws1998

HELP WANTED
 Need base, lead rhythm and steel guitar players for an upcoming band. Call 806-265-3499. F-3tp-7/17-7/24-7/31
 Bovina I.S.D. is now accepting applications for Elementary School Special Education aide position. Must have High School diploma or G.E.D. Applications may be picked up from Darlene Miller in the Superintendent's office. Applications must be filed by August 4. Return to Darlene Miller. B-1tc-7/31

LEGAL NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given that Prairie Acres is seeking financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities Program. Grant funds will be used to purchase a standard 15 passenger van modified to provide stand-up entry for adult passengers, wheelchair lift and securement to be used to transport to be used to transport elderly and disabled adults to doctor's appointments, to hospitals, and on outings from 201 E. 15th, Friona, Texas. Copies of the grant proposal are available for inspection by the public at 201 E. 15th, Friona, Texas.
 If requested in writing by August 11, 1998, a public hearing will be held by Prairie Acres, 201 E. 15th, Friona, Texas on August 11, 1998 at 7 p.m. to accept comments on the proposed continuation of elderly and disabled transportation services within Friona, Parmer County, Texas. Written comments on the proposed project may be submitted to 201 E. 15th, Friona, Texas 79035 prior to August 11, 1998.

Jo Blackwell Administrator

HELP WANTED
 The Service Cafe at Excel Plant at Friona, Texas, has immediate openings for fun and energetic Managers, Supervisors, Cooks, Bakers and Cashiers. Call for an appointment (806)295-8259. F&B-2tc-7/24-7/31

REAL ESTATE
 For Sale...3 Bedroom, 1 bath, house on 5 lots in Bovina. Call: 225-4004 B-3tc
 FOR SALE....3 BR house, 203 Avenue A, Bovina, telephone (505) 742-1839. F&B-4tc-7/24-7/31-8/7-8/14

SERVICES
 Call your local used cow dealer for 7 days a week dead stock removal. Serving the cattlemen for the past twenty years. Call 247-2563 or 1-800-692-4043. 41-tfnc

First Texas Federal Land Bank Association-Muleshoe
 316 Main St., Muleshoe (806) 272-3010
Long Term Financing for Farms, Ranches, Rural Housing, Operating and Improvements. Both Variable and Fixed Rate are Available. Call for quotes. Property Rights Advocate and Equal Opportunity Lender.

FOUND THRU THE WANT ADS
 PREMIERE CINEMA CORP MOOVIES 6
 Sugarland Mall 400 N. 25 Mile Ave. • Hereford, Texas
 Business Office: 364-0101 • Movie Hotline: 364-8000
JULY 31 - AUGUST 6
PARENT TRAP PG
 1:30 - 4:15 - 7:05 - 9:35
SAVING PRIVATE RYAN R
 1:00 - 4:10 - 8:00
MAFIA PG-13
 2:00 - 4:00 - 7:20 - 9:20
THE MASK OF ZORRO PG-13
 1:15 - 4:10 - 7:00 - 9:40
THE NEGOTIATOR R
 1:15 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:40
ARMAGEDDON PG-13
 1:00 - 4:05 - 7:30
 Adults: \$5 - Kids & Seniors: \$3
 Bargain Matinees: \$3
 Daily Matinees

Property Associates Realtors Appreciates All The Employees at Excel For their past business and offer our Congratulations on 30 great years in Parmer County.

We Look Forward To Working With You In The Future!

- *NEW LISTING-Cheaper than rent 1BR-1bath near schools.....\$16,000
- *NEW LISTING Good investment, has renter already.....\$20,250
- *NEW LISTING AFFORDABLE 2 bedroom stucco.....\$20,750
- *NEW LISTING Two story 3BR needs work.....\$23,500
- *NEW LISTING Permastone 3BR, fenced yard.....\$26,500
- *NEW LISTING-recently painted, 3BR, 2bath,dbl garage.....\$55,500
- *NEW LISTING-Magnificent Western Add. Custom built.....\$235,000
- *Just right for a couple, remodeled 2BR 1BA FHA Loan.....SOLD
- *NEW CARPET 3BR, 1BA w/vinyl siding.....SOLD
- *REMODELED 3BR, 2BA w/siding, close to schools.....SOLD
- *FHA FINANCED 3BR 1bath single car garage.....\$32,500
- *Close to high school, NEW PAINT, new AC, 3/2/2.....\$59,900
- *BIG TREES, new roof, large living area, 3BR/2bath.....\$59,900
- *LARGE 3/2/2 with sunroom by FHS-MAKE OFFER.....\$73,000
- *DRASTICALLY REDUCED, landscape, storage, brick.....\$66,500
- *ALMOST EVERYTHING NEW, custom wood, true value.....\$87,000
- *BED & BREAKFAST 4BR, 2bath, REDUCED AGAIN.....\$85,000
- *RAMBLING RANCH HOME, den, gameroom, by FHS.....\$135,000
- *WESTERN ADDN. 4BR 4 1/2 bath custom built.....\$159,000
- *LARGE RESIDENTIAL tract w/own well.....\$24,900
- *142 ACRES, dryland in CRP.....\$45,000

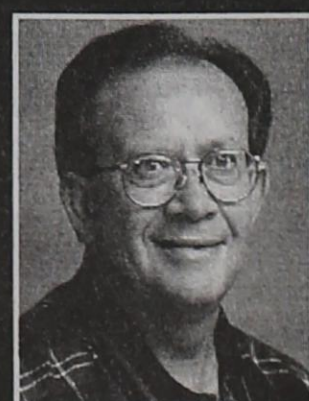
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- 3 BR, 2 BA, large living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen, utility, double garage, large cellar, storage, extra nice.....SOLD.....\$85,000
- 3 BR, 2 BA, kit., dining, LR, fireplace, dbl. garage, sprinkler system, storage, extra nice.....Reduced to \$79,900.....\$82,500
- NEW LISTING--4 BR, 3 BA, 2 living areas w/fireplace, formal dining, kitchen, utility, new paint, new tile, new air conditioning.....\$78,000
- 3 BR, 1-3/4 BA, den/family rm., near school.....SOLD.....\$68,000
- 3 BR, 1-3/4 BA, 3 living areas, double garage.....SOLD.....\$65,000
- 3 BR, 2 BA, living room, dining room, kitchen, utility, new paint, double garage, heat pump.....SOLD.....\$63,000
- 3 BR, 1-3/4 BA, lots of storage, kitchen/den, living room, garage, nice location.....Reduced to \$57,900.....\$59,900
- 3 BR, 2 BA, 3 living areas, 1 with fireplace, large kitchen, dining, utility, new carpet.....\$59,500
- 3 BR, 1-3/4 BA, kitchen/dining/family room with fireplace, 2 car garage, storage building.....\$54,900
- 3 BR, 2 BA, living room, kitchen, dining, double car garage with cellar.....Reduced to \$49,900.....\$53,900
- 2 BR, 1 BA, LR, kit., dining room, garage.....SOLD.....\$30,000
- 3 city lots, good location.....inside lots \$3,000/corner lot \$4,000
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PATRICIA DIANE KESSLER and JERRY JEFF ROCHA... Curtis and Shirley Drager of the Rhea community announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Patricia Diane Kessler, to Jerry Jeff Rocha of Bovina. He is the son of Raymond and Lucy Rocha. The wedding will be held August 22 at 4 p.m. in St. John Lutheran Church of Lariat, Texas. She is a 1998 graduate of Bovina High School and plans to attend nursing school. Rocha is a 1997 graduate of Bovina High School and is employed by Parmer County Spraying Service in Bovina.

Happy Birthday Friona Folks....

Week of August 2-9
Friona residents having birthdays next week include:

August 2--Billy Sifford, Dusty Ryedel Rosario, Pepper Weatherly, Vuthill Loafman, Florian Jarecki, Jessie Sisk, Brenda Jackson.

August 3--Ray Gonzales, Connie Johnson, Valerie Brockman Inmon, Peggy Stowers, Marie Roden, Retta Schueler, Norbert Schueler, Wendy Harris.

August 4--Ashley Smiley, Shannon Grissom, Rosa Reyes.

August 5--Lila Gay Gee, Michelle Stevens, Amber Drager, Ruby Stone, Earlene McCreary, Kirk Frye, Lori Woods, Cindy Adams, Lindsey S. Bowyer.

August 6--Mary Lou Castaneda, Paul Mohr, Charlotte Paiz.

August 7--Sarah Widner, Wayne Case, Jared Beard, Dusty Fleming, Jud Sims, Vicky Pipes.

August 8--Jason Vaughn, Oscar Eastep, Richard Ellis, Julia Warren, Jenny Hamil-

ton, Judy Cummings, Sarah Widner.

If you or someone in your family has a birthday coming up soon, call the Friona Star office at 250-2211 and report it.

H. Martin Earns Dean's List at ACU

Heather Michelle Martin of Friona was named to the Dean's Honor Roll for the spring 1998 semester at Abilene Christian University.

She is the daughter of Mike and Reta Martin and a 1997 graduate of Friona High School. She is a freshman vocational home economics education major at ACU.

To make the Dean's Honor Roll, a student must complete at least 12 semester hours for grades and earn a 3.45 or higher grade point average.



In the spirit of Christian joy
Mr. and Mrs. Butch Preston
and

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Ratliff
invite you to share in the joy
of the marriage uniting their children
Melissa Bree Lewis
and

Brian Chad Ratliff

on Saturday, the twenty-second of August
Nineteen hundred and ninety-eight
at four o'clock in the afternoon
First United Methodist Church
301 East Eighth
Friona, Texas
Reception following ceremony

Pioneer Museum Clean-Up Day Set

Bruce Fleming, president of the Pioneer Heritage Museum committee, reported on the progress of the work on the old Congregational Church building.

A temporary power pole has been installed to provide electricity for the window installation.

The committee is currently shopping for insurance to cover the building and new windows.

The windows are being fabricated and are scheduled for installation in August.

All of the large windows have sponsorships. Additional sponsorships for the smaller basement windows are needed. Small window sponsorships are \$250. Sponsors can contact Billie Tongate or Fleming to sponsor a specific

window.

General sponsorships and donations can be made to the Pioneer Museum at Friona State Bank.

The committee is in process of writing grant proposals by a September 1 deadline. One requirement for a grant is to have wide spread community support. Therefore donations from the community will not only help meet expenses but will help in obtaining grant money.

Clean up day plans include removing the vines on the east side of the building and clean up in the interior.

Volunteers are asked to bring vine cutters, rakes, brooms, trash cans, and your own water jug. The Museum committee will appreciate any and all assistance with this important historical project.

YOUR EYES

Pinkeye Remedies



It starts with slightly pink and swollen eyelids. Before long, they get redder and become itchy. In more severe cases, pus oozes out and the whites of the eye are reddened.

Pinkeye is the infectious form of conjunctivitis, a swelling of the membrane inside the eyelids. It's very common among children, who tend to pass it around by rubbing their eyes and touching everything. Like a cold, it generally goes away on its own. Here's what you can do to soothe the discomfort:

*Use warm compresses. Soak a washcloth in hot water and apply it to the eyes up to ten minutes three or four times a day.

*Remove contact lenses. Until the condition clears up, it's best to wear glasses.

*Use a drop or two of saline solution. Be sure not to touch the eye with the tip of the eyedropper.

Keep in mind that the germs that cause pinkeye can easily spread among family members. Make sure everyone washes their hands thoroughly, and launder all linens used by the family member with the condition in hot water.

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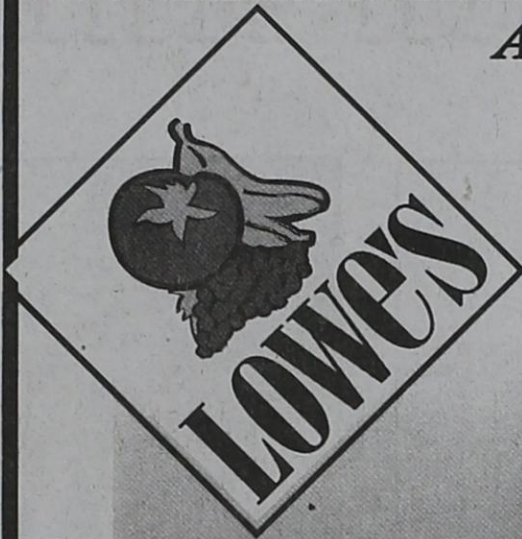
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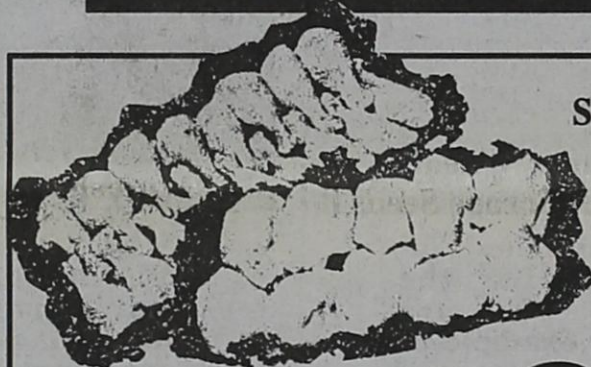


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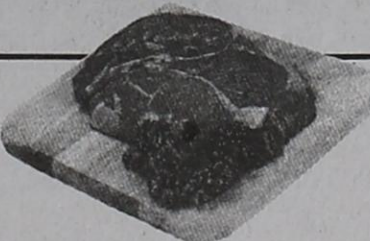
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Family Pack

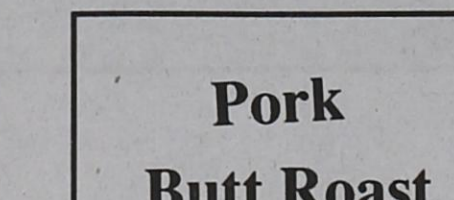
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Pork
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Popcorn
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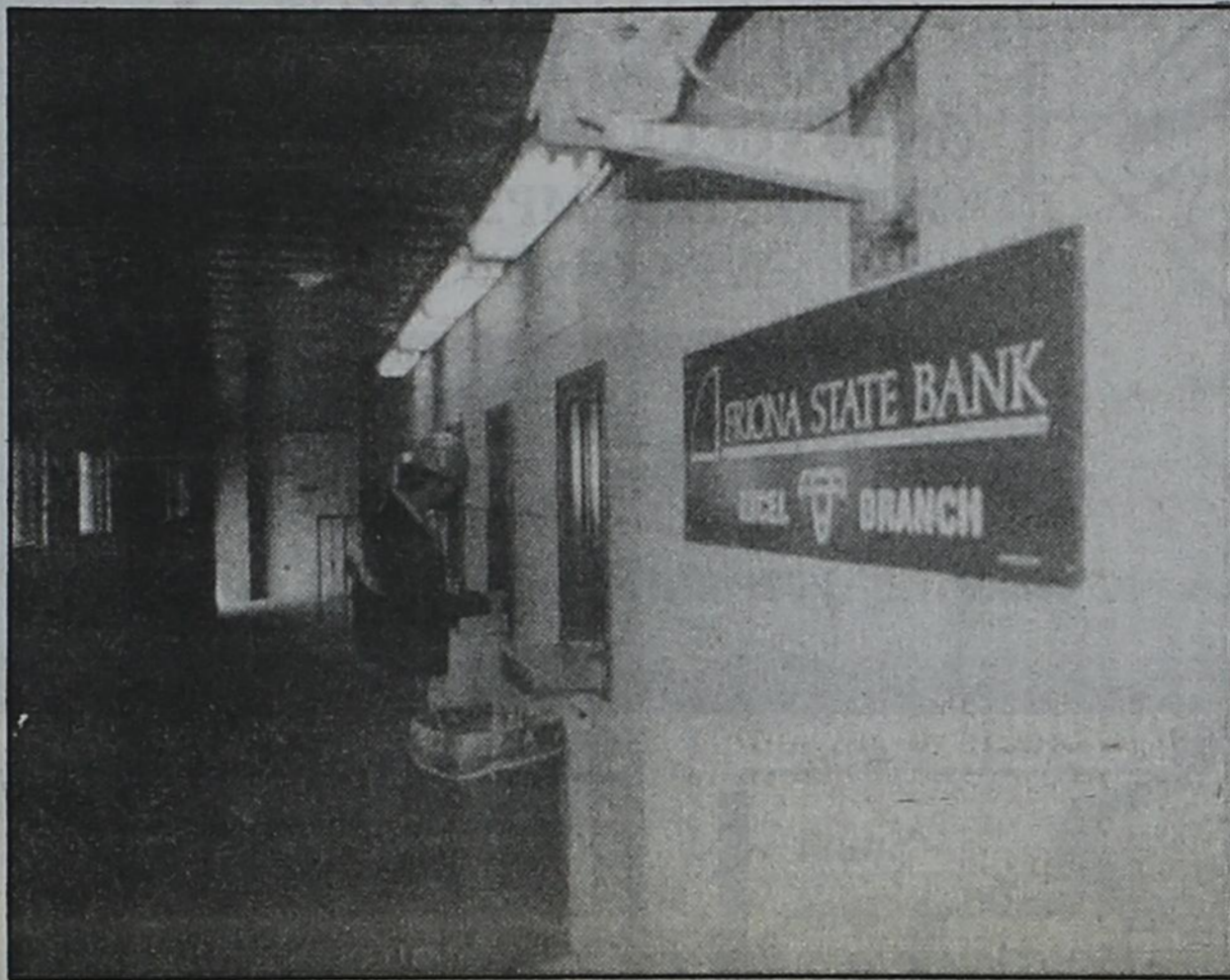
See Ya at... **LOWE'S**



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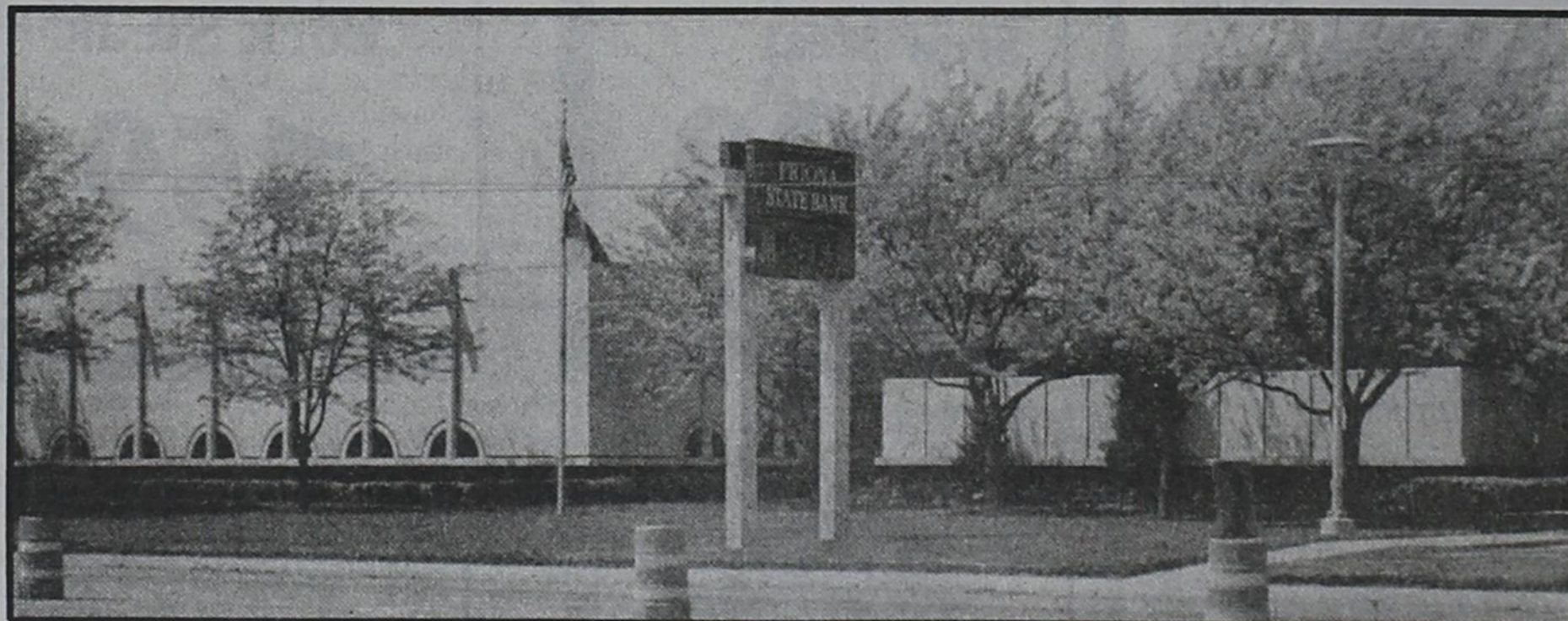
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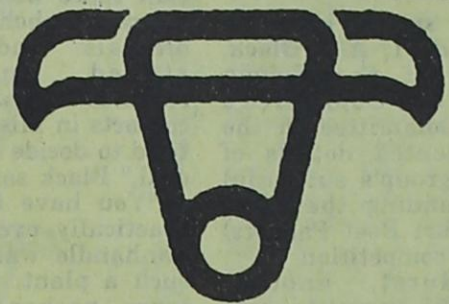


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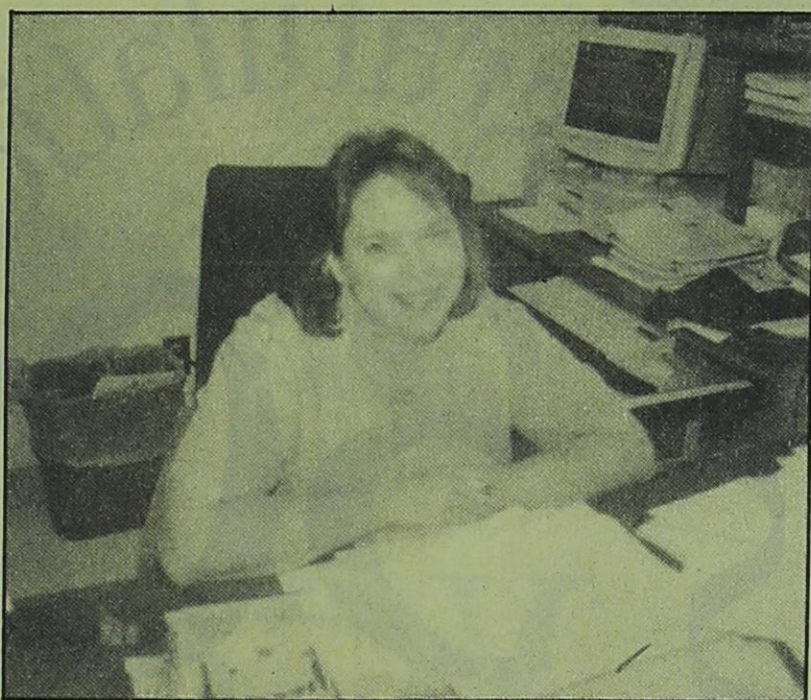
30TH ANNIVERSARY

Would like to thank the people of Friona/Bovina & Parmer County for...

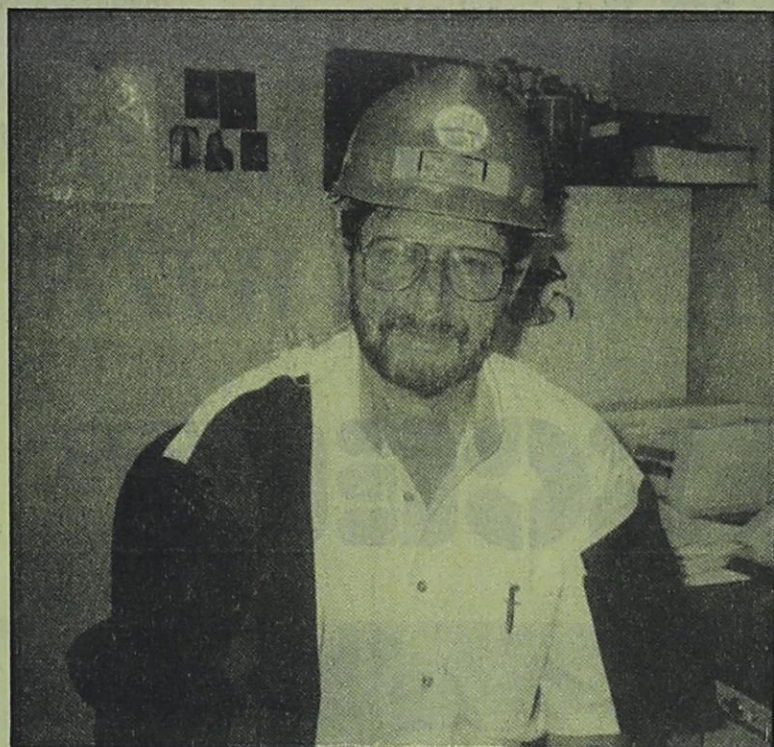
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We look forward to many more good years in this area.

AT LUNCHEON

A. L. Black Recalls Details Of Securing Packing Plant

by BILL ELLIS

During a special luncheon at Excel June 1, A.L. Black, a member of the Friona Chamber of Commerce's Industrial Committee in the 1960s, presented details of the Friona group's successful efforts in landing the plant (then Missouri Beef Packers) against stiff competition.

Andy Hurst, another member of the committee was also in attendance, as were Clydie Black and Winifred Hurst. The third committee member, Dr. Lloyd Shackelford, was unable to attend due to a prior scheduled vacation trip.

"Dr. Shackelford was a major cog in the drive. He was attending a dental conference in Dallas and ran across a dental friend who was connected to Missouri Beef Packers and told Lloyd about their success. Lloyd told his friend about the growing cattle-feeding industry in and around Friona," Black told the audience.

Missouri Beef Packers had been established in Rock Port, Missouri, in the early 1960s, and had grown into a successful independent beef packer. Under the leadership of likeable Eugene Frye, MBP was already considering expanding.

Dr. Shackelford's friend visited Friona, was given a tour of the area's blossoming beef feedlots, and soon afterward, a dialogue was begun between the Friona group and those at MBP.

Dr. Shackelford and Hurst were "coffee buddies," and the dentist began to share the packing plant possibility with his friend, who was an owner of Parmer County Implement Company. Before long, they contacted Black, who had years of experience in the cattle business, and asked his advice.

"We decided to get an appointment to meet with the board of directors of MBP.

After the meeting we felt that there was some genuine interest on behalf of the MBP officials. Andy and "Doc" stayed in constant communication with their contacts in Missouri, while we tried to decide how to strike a deal," Black said.

"You have to realize that practically every city in the Panhandle was interested in such a plant. (There was no large packer operating at that time. Hereford, also heavy into cattle feeding, was a big competitor). And, Amarillo had the attitude that if anything good wanted to come to the Panhandle, it should come there," he added.

"We told the MBP officials that we would provide the land, if they would guarantee to start construction on a plant within 90 days," Black explained. The Missourians gave a verbal "okay" to the deal.

"We priced the land at the plant site with its owner, and it came to \$96,000. This offer was good for 30 days, and we had to raise all of the money by that time. We visited such folks as Southwestern Public Service, Santa Fe Railway and Energas and asked for their financial support.

"Within about two weeks, we had raised \$106,000, and felt we had ourselves a deal," Black said. He told about some of the good-natured arm-twisting that he and the other men did on local residents and businesses, in the most successful short-term fund-raising drive the local area has ever seen.

On the day the local group met with MBP officials and their attorney to draw up and sign the contract, it was down to the signing point when a 'phone call from one of their officials told them they couldn't sign the contract for 30 days, due to the fact that MBP was going into a "new offering" with its stock, and they would have to re-do their application with

considerable cost involved.

Although that took the wind out of the Friona group's sails momentarily, Black said he was still optimistic. After thinking a few minutes, Black said he took a check out of his pocket and made it out to MBP for \$10,000.

"I told their representative: 'Here's my check. I'll be back here in 30 days to sign the contract. If I'm not, the \$10,000 is yours,' (then, after a short pause), I asked the rep 'I'd like to have your check for the same amount, in case you don't show up. He scratched his head a minute and then gave it to me," the longtime cattleman told the audience.

After the 30-day period, the two parties signed contracts, and the announcement of the Missouri company's plans to expand to Friona was made on April 28, 1967.

Special guests included members of the Friona City Council including Mayor Clarence Monroe and City Manager Paula Wilson, County Judge Bonnie Clayton and other Parmer County officials, members of the Friona Chamber of Commerce and that organization's Ambassadors, among others.

Excel's Friona plant manager, Scott Entz, welcomed those attending. He spoke of the plant's community involvement, and the fact that Excel and the local community had worked together for their common good throughout its existence.

Excel's CEO, Bill Buckner, pointed out how Excel had grown from the commitment of a small independent packer to one of the largest in the world.

"Excel's capital investments over the past five years has been over \$33 million, which is almost ten times the amount of money it cost to build the original (Continued on Page 3)



MEETING BUCKNER....Andy Hurst, left, and A.L. Black, right, members of the Friona Chamber of Commerce's industrial committee that brought the packing plant to Friona in the 1960s, met current C.E.O. of Excel, Bill Buckner, during a luncheon last month celebrating the plant's 30th anniversary locally. Dr. Lloyd Shackelford was also a member of the Chamber committee.

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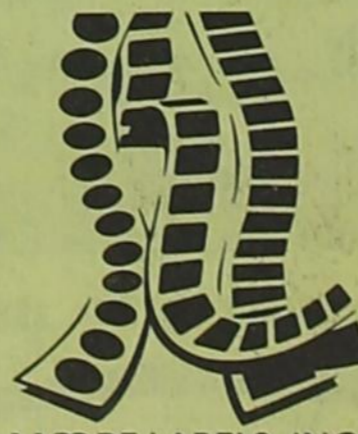
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Classic To Offer \$ For ISDs

Classic Cable has announced their plans to donate money to local high schools with each new cable installation or upgrade. The company continues to focus their efforts on community commitment and customer service.

According to Jennifer Hauschild, marketing manager for Classic Cable, the company has committed to donating five dollars to local high schools for each new installation or upgrade during the month of August, plus HBO will donate for each HBO sale.

"We offered a similar campaign in 1997 and generated nearly \$15,000 for local high schools," stated Ms. Hauschild.

"We have been working very hard this year on being good neighbors in the communities we provide with cable service and we firmly believe the education of our children is vitally important. This effort demonstrates our continued commitment to our customers, their communities and their children," added Hauschild.

Classic Cable currently provides all schools with free cable television service and has established a college scholarship fund for graduating seniors. In addition, the company makes donations to many community events and donates a large number of toys to needy children during the holidays.

Individuals wishing to install with cable television during this month will not only have the five dollars donated to the local high school but will also receive 50 per cent off the regular install fee. Existing customers wishing to assist with these efforts can do so by upgrading their existing cable service to include any premium service and the donation of \$5 will also be made to the local high school. Again, they too, will receive 50 per cent off the regular upgrade fee.

According to Ms. Hauschild, customers can either call 1-800-999-8876 or stop by their local offices to get the details. "During the month of August everyone can win. Customers will have the best home entertainment value in town, the local high school will receive a donation and Classic Cable will have a valued customer," stated Ms. Hauschild.

Co. Receives July Sales Tax Rebates

State Comptroller John Sharp has delivered a total of \$174.5 million in monthly sales tax payments to 1,091 Texas cities and 118 counties.

This month's rebates include local sales taxes collected in May and reported by businesses filing monthly tax returns in June.

Parmer County received \$26,891 this period. Of the total, Bovina received \$2,143; Farwell, \$3,017; and Friona, \$21,730.

For the same period last year, the county received \$24,367.

To date in 1998, Parmer County has received \$207,600 in sales tax rebates, compared to \$170,750 for the same period in 1997.

The 1998 total breaks down as follows: Bovina, \$16,492; Farwell, \$29,061; and Friona, \$162,046.

Excel Plant's History.....

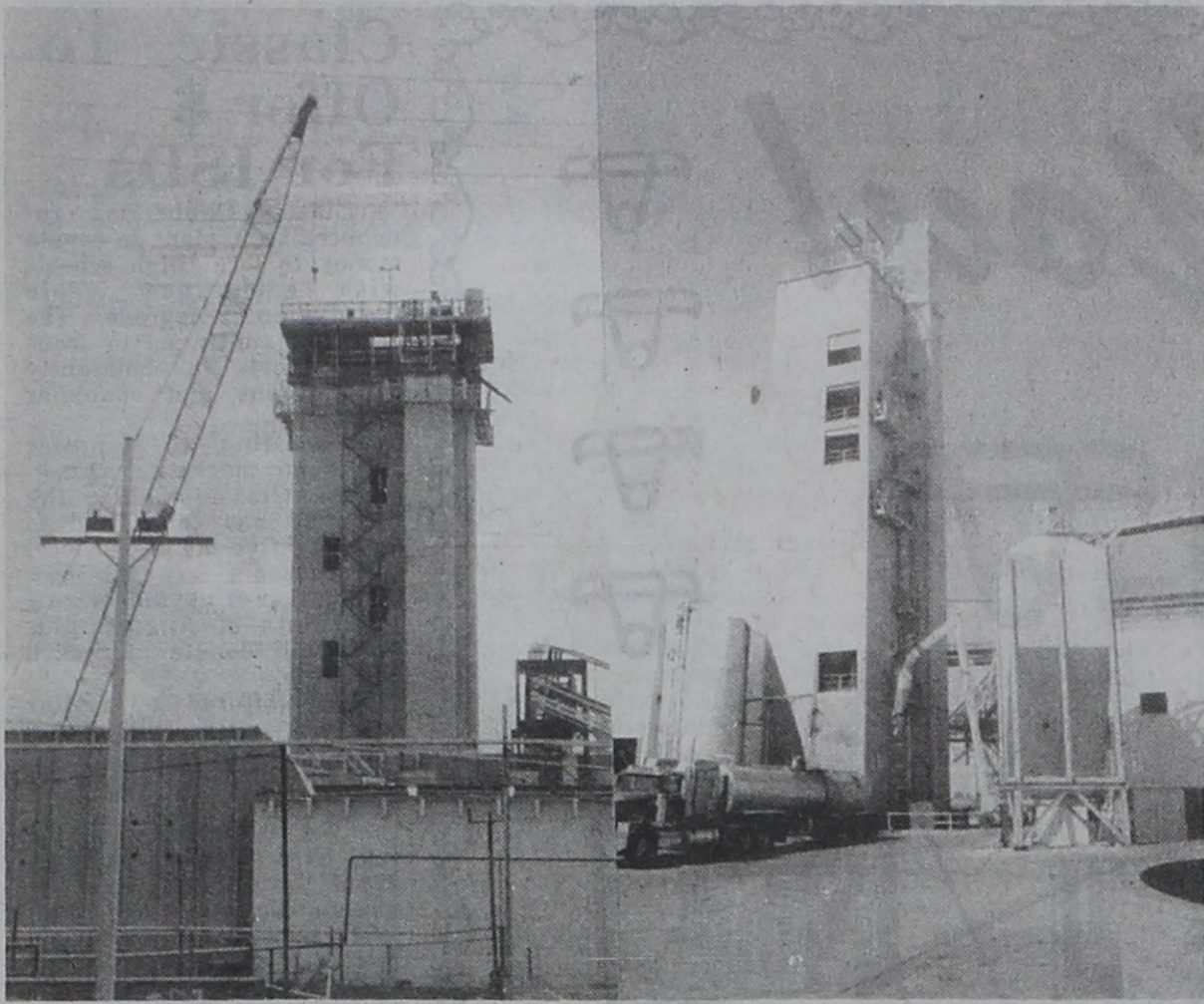
(Continued from Page 2)

plant. Over the past 10 years, we have invested about two and one-half times our earnings in capital improvements," Buckner said.

Among the recent improvements include a new kill floor, with steam pasteurization. (No other beef packer has this improvement on their slaughter floor, Buckner said). In addition, new hide, bone and offal facilities have been constructed in the past three years.

"We have reduced bacterial levels by 90 per cent--we monitor plant sanitation closely," the Excel chief said.

Buckner pointed out that Excel had increased its work force from 230 after a year's time to over 1900 with three full shifts. The annual payroll exceeds \$40 million.



MILLING TOWER...Excel's high-rise milling tower is shown (left) while it was under construction, and right, as it appears today. The 147-foot high tower, which is as high as a seven-story building, is used for bone grinding operations, and was completed in late 1996, and was part of a \$15 million expansion program at Excel.

Friona Star photos



WHERE TO SIT...The cafeteria at Excel fills up quickly during meal break, giving workers a chance to catch their breath before the next "shift."

(ron carr photo)

Amarillo Will Host Coin Show

Golden Spread Coin Club, Inc. will sponsor their annual Coin and Collectors Show, August 8-9 in the North Meeting Room Amarillo Civic Center, Third and Buchanan, downtown Amarillo.

"Admission is free and there is something for everyone so bring the whole family," said a spokesman. There will be 108 dealer tables from all over the country offering coins, paper money, gold, silver, stamps, knives, jewelry, sport and non-sport cards, collector toys, books, records, watches, Indian artifacts, gems, antiques, crafts, Nascar and everything collectible except for real guns (they will be across the hall at a gun show).

Hours of the show are from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, August 8 and 9 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, August 9. Free hourly prizes will be given. You will be given the opportunity to buy tickets on gold pieces to be given away on Sunday at 5 p.m. Come to buy, sell, trade or just ask questions from Coin Club members concerning coins and their meanings.

Golden Spread Coin Club, Inc., is a non-profit organization with their main emphasis on numismatic education. Part of the proceeds from the show will go to the Raymond Bates Scholarship Fund at West Texas A&M University at Canyon and for numismatic literature for the libraries in Amarillo and Canyon.

The club meets the first Monday of the month in the Presidents Room, Nations Bank, downtown at 7 p.m. The public is invited. For additional information on our tables or the club call (806) 655-3006.



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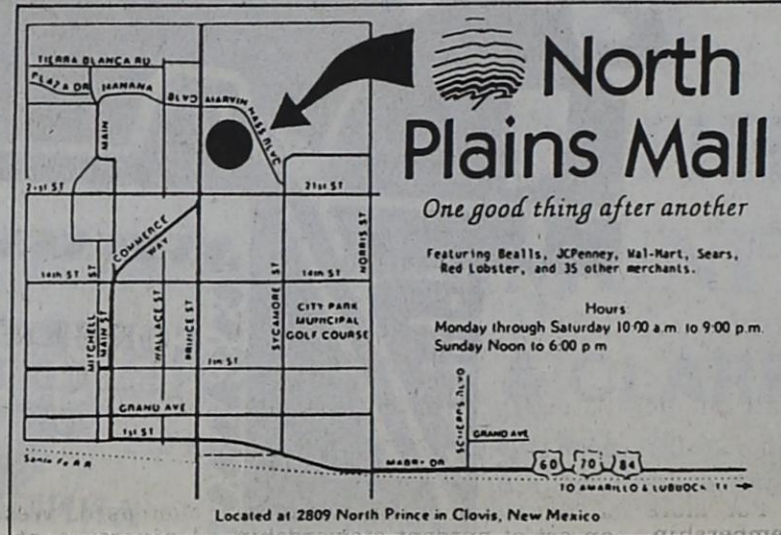
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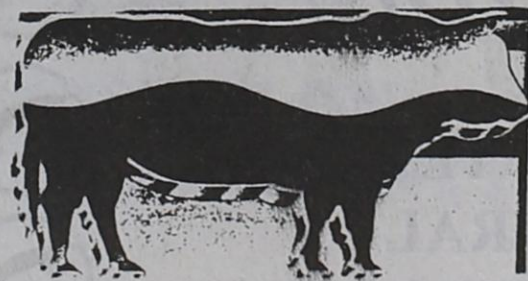
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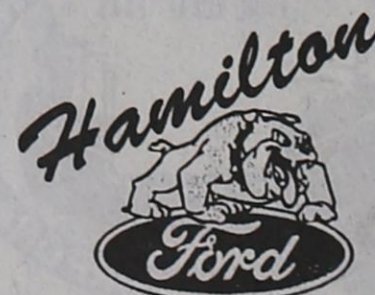


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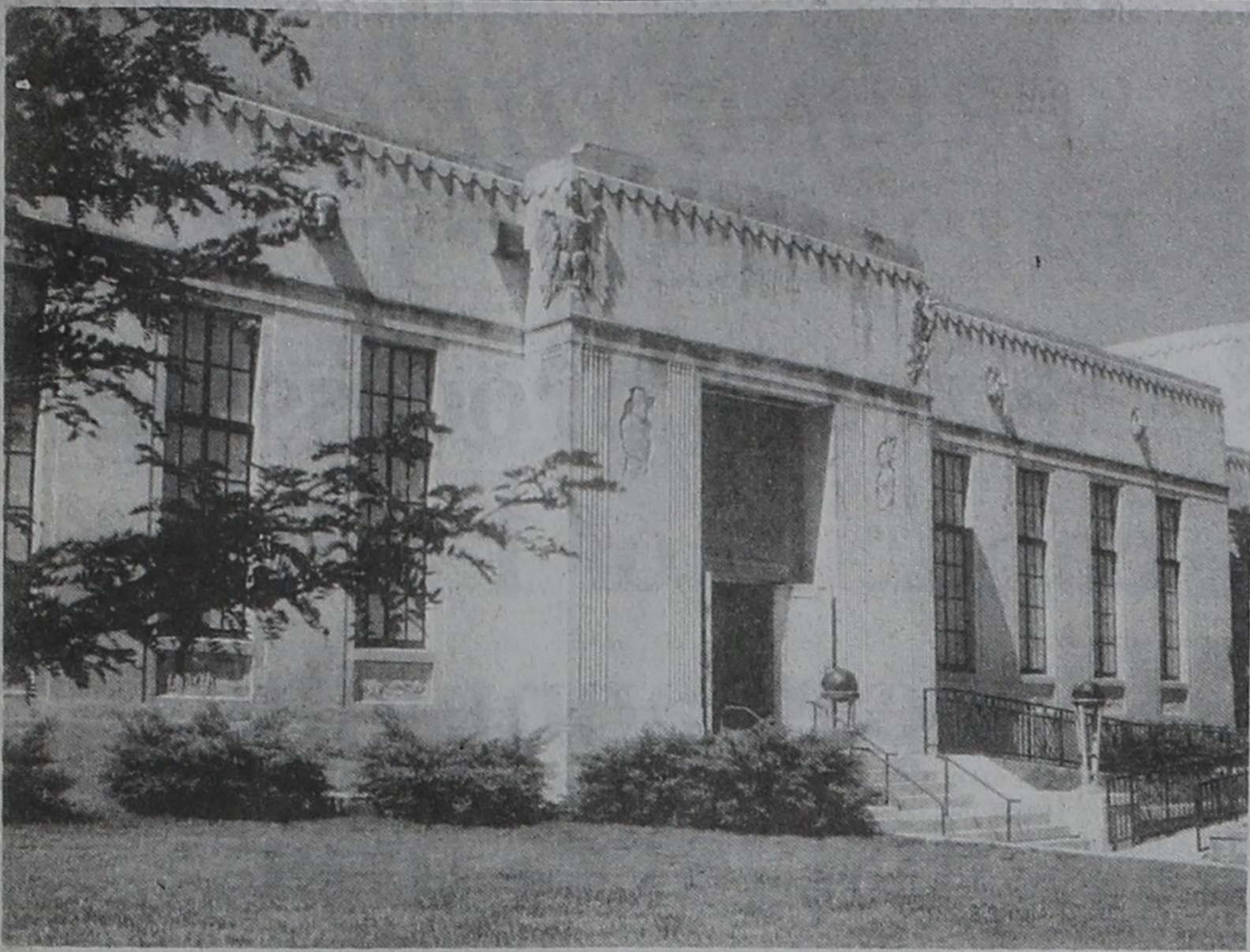


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Front entrance to the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, which bears a State Antiquities Landmark designation awarded in 1983 for its unique Art Deco architectural style.

Museum Has Sunday Schedule

Beginning June 7, the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon began Summer Sundays, which will continue through August 30. The Summer Sundays will allow free admission to the Museum each Sunday for all visitors.

In order to assure that all local and area citizens have access to the Museum, the Summer Sundays is one of the programs that will allow free admission. Other programs that will not have an admission charge will be special community events, such as the Victorian Christmas Open House, Museum Day and other days to be announced.

Members of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society and members of the Museum Auxiliary will be admitted during all public hours without an admission charge. Membership in the Society is available on a variety of levels. For more information on membership, call the Museum at 806/651-

2244.

In order to provide educational access, school children visiting the Museum with their reserved school groups, scholars using the Research Center or collections, and West Texas A&M University students, faculty and staff will be admitted free of charge.

The decision to institute an admission charge resulted from thoughtful and concerned deliberation by both the Board of Trustees of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society and a specially appointed task force comprised of area and community representatives.

"After an in-depth independent review of the initial proposal for admission made by the Non-Profit Services Center of Amarillo Area Foundation, members of the task force determined that the implementation of an admission charge would be an act of prudent stewardship by the Society on behalf of

the PPHM's regional constituency.

All decisions made by the task force and the PPHS Board of Trustees were based on a primary concern to sustain for future generations the standards of service and excellence enjoyed by previous generations of museum visitors, stated W.A. Attebury, past president of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society.

Beginning June 1, the Museum's admission charge was set at \$4.00 for adults, \$3.00 for adults 65 and over, \$4.00 for children 12 years of age and over, \$1.00 for children ages 4-11, and children age three and under will be admitted free. Groups of 20 or more will be charged \$3.00.

Summer hours at the Museum are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 1-6 p.m. The Museum is located on the campus of West Texas A&M University at 2401 Fourth Avenue in Canyon.



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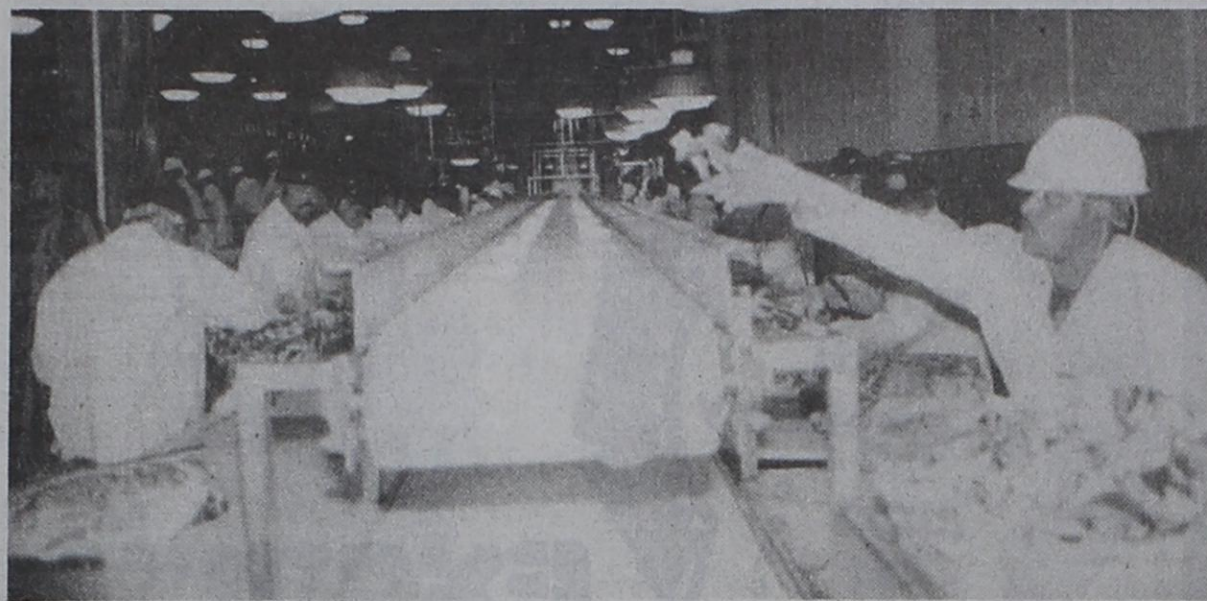
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FABRICATION AREA....The Fabrication department is one of the additions to the original Friona plant, being added in the summer of 1978. Workers are shown (top photo) at ground level, and below, in an overhead view.

Lubbock District TXDOT Will Be Receiving Highway Funds

Texas will receive nearly \$1.9 billion a year in federal highway funding under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21), signed this week by President Clinton. For the last six years, Texas has received a \$1.1 billion annual average that resulted from the 1991 federal bill.

And, some of that money will find its way into the district coffers for maintenance and construction of West Texas Highways. In fact, the last authorization bill (ISTEA) netted the Lubbock District

\$120 million in federal funds for highway construction.

The infusion of federal dollars, on the average of \$19 million each year during the last six years--provided funding for highway upgrades in the 17 counties served by the Lubbock District. The district also receives about \$17 million a year in state funds.

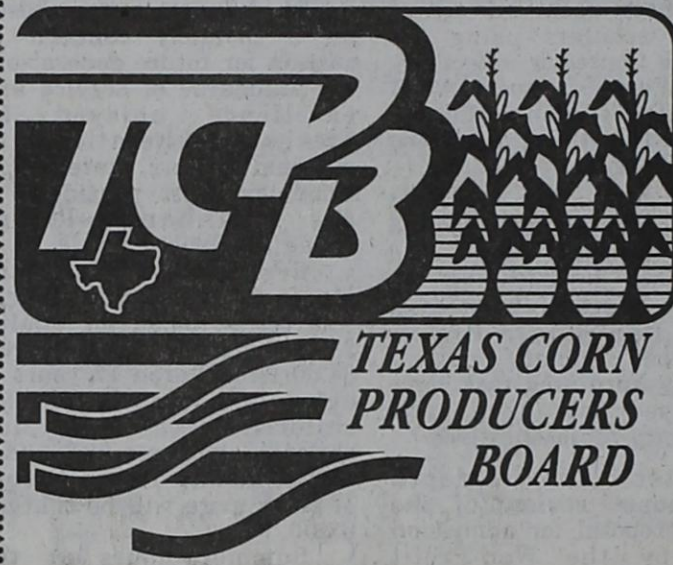
The Lubbock District will also receive \$12.3 million for an East/West Freeway project from Memphis Avenue to University Avenue, and \$7.2 million goes to the

construction of Texas Tech University Boulevard (relocation of Indiana Avenue).

"The Lubbock District is excited about the increase in the rate of return for our tax dollars," said Carl Utley, district engineer for TxDOT's Lubbock District. "With this authorization bill, we've reduced the amount of dollars that Texas is donating to the federal government which should, in turn, mean more dollars for the Lubbock District."

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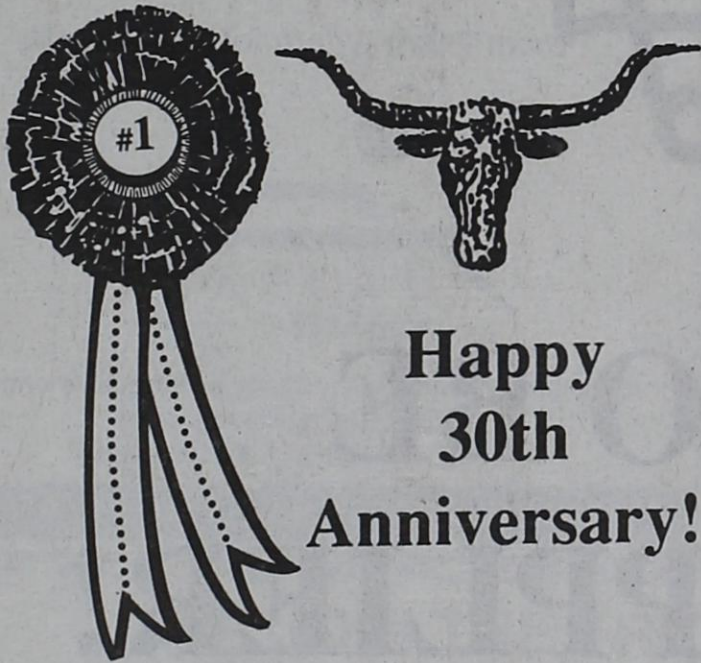


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Bataan Death March Survivors Are Backing Reparations Bill

(Editor's note: Alfred Haws was raised in the Friona area. He is the brother of Gladys Wilson. He attended school at the old Lakeview School (southeast of Friona), and also lived at Lazbuddie, Melrose and Center, N.M.)

By MICHAEL MORRISON
Six County Star
Staff Writer

In one short week, Clovis lost two of its veterans who were survivors of the Bataan Death March, Harold Knighton and Dick Malone.

The number of those survivors grows less, but there are still some in the Clovis area. After all, the original Bataan Death Marchers came more often from New Mexico, and Curry and Roosevelt counties in particular, than from any other part of the country.

And although New Mexicans made up a larger contingent of Japanese prisoners of war than probably servicemen from any other state, only one New Mexico congressman has signed on as co-sponsor of a resolution by U.S. Rep. William O. Lipinski, D-III.-Rep. Joe Skeen of the 2nd District.

The resolution urges the Japanese government to extend a formal apology for its aggression and to pay reparations to American prisoners of war and other victims of Japanese war crimes.

New Mexico Congressman Steve Schiff has not signed, nor has freshman Representative Bill Redmond.

"We've heard very little about this," said Redmond's press secretary Jennifer Bennett. "It's a resolution, not a bill, which means it's not binding."

She added Redmond recognizes that large numbers of New Mexicans were among those prisoners "and that's one reason he chose to be on the Veterans' Affairs Committee."

However, at this point, she said, "This has not been brought to our attention by our constituents. If it comes to a point where it is, then he will absolutely take a look at it (the resolution)."

Despite the fifty years of national alliance between Japan and the United States, and the decades-long interdependence of the two economies, the survivors of the Death March remember.

And people who weren't there take note.

Rick Madera, commander of the Disabled American Veterans post in Clovis, emphasized that the National Guardsmen of Curry and Roosevelt counties were in the Death March.

His own great-uncle, Madera said, was there, too.

However, Madera said, stories on Bataan survivors are tough to come by because "they just don't want to remember it."

One who would discuss it is Alfred Haws of Clovis. He was born in Oklahoma in 1917, but "I lived in and around Clovis since '32. I really grew up right here."

He was called into the service before Pearl Harbor. "I was pulled in on the one-year draft," he said, and was trained at Fort Bliss. He then was assigned to Battery G of the 200th Coast Artillery.

"I was put on detached service...to a 75 mm half-track outfit" in the Philippines. "We had four guns and a service crew to supply them guns. I was with that group all during the fighting."

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked on Dec. 7, 1941. But it was Dec. 8 in the Philippines. "We were deployed out a ways and kept on alert," Haws said, adding, "We didn't have any ammunition the day the war started."

The fighting was fierce.

"We deployed pretty well all over the island. Our 75 half-tracks were right up at the north end of Luzon. And then as the Japanese landed on the north end, we were pushed back and everybody retreated to Bataan. That's where everybody surrendered."

And that's where one of the most infamous incidents of World War II began.

"We made that Bataan Death March," Haws said.

A listener commented that Haws made that statement matter-of-factly. Did he ever mind, as so many Death March survivors did, talking about it?

"Outside of no water on the march..." He paused, and went on, "The first day out on the march, I was pulled out of line and I carried a Jap's back pack. When they stopped for a rest, he sat there with a revolver, cocking it and uncocking it right at my stomach. Finally he turned me loose, pulled another guy out of line. I don't know whether the guy lived or died. You can't tell. They killed a lot of them that way. I got back in line and made it all the way into the prison camp."

"It wasn't that easy," he said. "We only had food about once, a little bit of dried rice once, and water once."

As to how long the prisoners had to endure that hardship, Haws said, "I don't recall any more. I was hot and dry. Most everybody was urinating blood...from lack of water."

Haws said he backs the Lipinski resolution. "I'd like to see it pushed. Of course it means some money to me."

He said there is a suit against Japan "for \$22,000 apiece to all of us. We never got any compensation of any kind for what we went through. I lost my right arm because of that, too."

As a prisoner, he was

eventually transported to Japan where he was, contrary to the Geneva Convention, put to work in a steel mill. He lost his arm "by one of our own bombs, shrapnel," when U.S. planes bombed Japan.

Haws sacrificed more than an arm in that war against Japan: "I lost a brother over there, too, and my wife lost two brothers. They murdered 'em."

He clarified that verb: "I said murdered. My brother and her...brother died in the prison camp--starvation, no medicine, no nothing. That's the same as murder as far as I'm concerned."

His other brother-in-law, he said was put in a cave with other prisoners. They had gasoline poured over them and were set on fire. "Whoever run out was bayoneted....Some ugly things happened, a lot of them that have never come out."

Haws is concerned that contemporary generations know what happened. "We're all getting that age now. We're about ready to die off."

Another survivor living in Clovis is Lee Roach. "I was on most of it," he said. "got to ride a little ways on a truck...but not too far. But I didn't walk all the way. It was enough to know what it was all about."

"The main thing was food and water," he said. "You didn't get any of that. That's

what hurt, out in that tropical heat, no water and nothing to eat for probably two to three days. The walking wasn't all that bad. It was the groceries you didn't get."

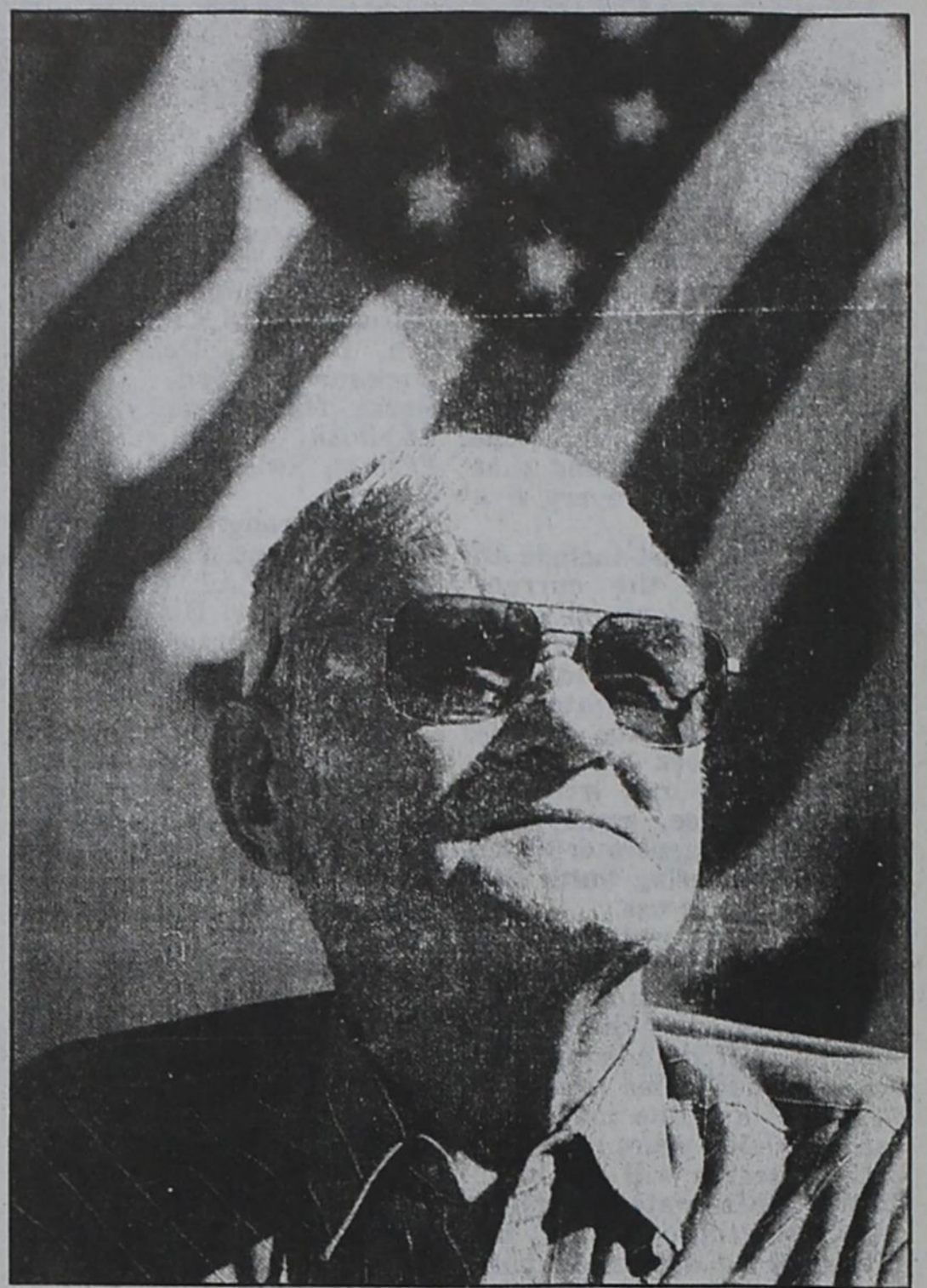
He said he wasn't familiar with the Lipinski resolution, but he had heard that for two or three years something was being worked on. "But I didn't think it would happen."

He does think, though, it would be a good idea, "if they'd pay. But I never did think it'd get much out of them, it's been so long."

He was a prisoner about 3-1/2 years, but he isn't holding a grudge against the Japanese. He's even bought their automotive products. "I've had two or three pickups."

Friends and relatives sometimes wonder about that, he said. "I said, 'Well, let me tell ya. These here pickups weren't made by the people who give me all that static.' And then I said, 'Everywhere I parked this little pickup, there ain't any grease under where I park it, either.' I think they learned the Americans a few things on gas mileage and things like that."

He said he had no bitterness. "Not for the people now. I did back there when I was in the prison camp, but not the people now. I think it's a different bunch."



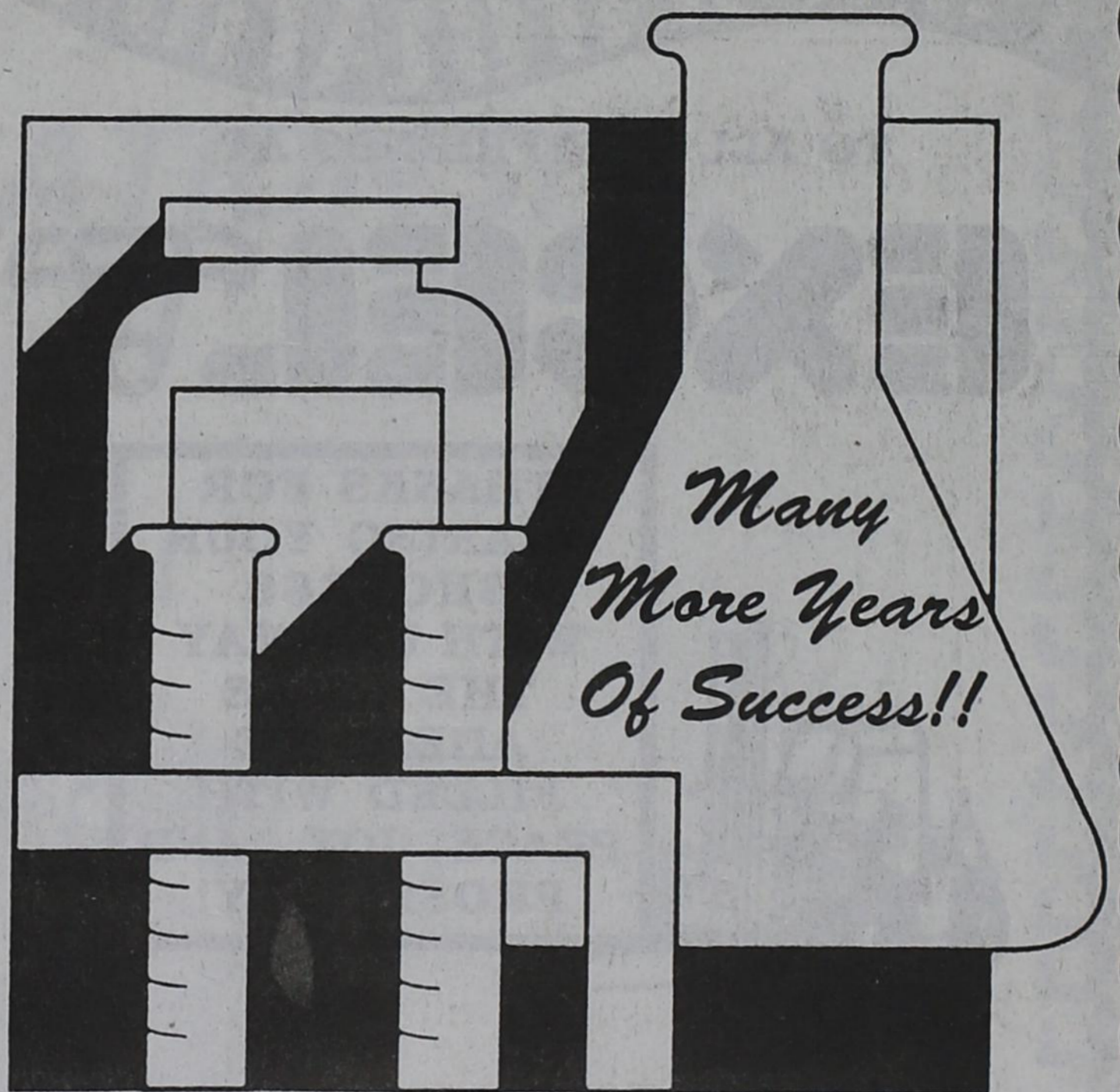
ALFRED HAWS of Clovis, a World War II prisoner of war who survived the Bataan Death March, is among several World War II POWs trying to rally support in Congress to seek reparations from the Japanese government for the treatment they received as prisoners of war. Haws is the brother of Friona's Gladys Wilson and attended Texas schools at Lakeview (east of Friona) and Lazbuddie; and Center and Melrose, N.M.

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Senate Bill Impacts Texas Water Resource Management

(Reprinted From the CROSS SECTION, A monthly publication of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District.)

An act passed during the 75th Texas Legislative Session (Senate Bill 1) requires that water management plans be developed for each county in the state before September 1, 2000 and that plans be updated every five years, thereafter.

The plan must include an evaluation of the current water reserves (ground water and surface water) in each county, the historic and projected use of water by every town or city in the county, livestock water use, mining water use, irrigated agriculture use, steam and electric power generator water use, manufacturing water use, and rural water use.

Comparing water use to water reserves, a determination has to be made as to whether or not the water supplies will be adequate to meet the near time needs (0-30 years) and the long-term needs (30-50 years.) If the water reserves will not meet future needs, water management strategies must be developed to determine how future water needs will be met or, in the alternative, what economic and social effect will occur as a result of not meeting these needs.

Towns and cities are also required to develop drought management plans. Failure to comply with the provisions of Senate Bill 1 will result in the loss of low interest loans and grants for water supply development by non-participating entities.

If the work is not done at the local level, the Texas Water Development Board will make their own evaluation for non-participating entities. Their plan will include recommendations to the legislation as to what needs to be done to assure that long term water supplies will be available to meet the needs of the residents of the non-participating entities of the areas.

The legislature concluded that water planning could best be accomplished on a

regional level. They, therefore, directed the TWDB to divide the state into regional planning areas.

Region "O" includes the following counties: Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Crosby, Cochran, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Dickens, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Parmer, Swisher, Terry, and Yoakum.

Armstrong, Potter, and Randall Counties are included in Region "A." The High Plains Water District will have a representative attending planning meetings in both regions.

The legislature also concluded that the responsibility for directing the planning effort needed to be placed with leaders in the region with varied water interests. They identified 11 water interest groups and directed the TWDB to solicit recommendations from residents in the area as to whom they would like to represent them in the planning effort of each interest group.

The individuals nominated and appointed for each of the interest groups are as follows: Dr. Lloyd Urban of Lubbock, public sector; Judge Dallas Brewer of Plains, county governments; Bruce Blalack of Lubbock, Ches Carthel of Plainview, and Mayor Bob Josseland of Hereford, municipalities; Steve Perry of Lubbock, industries; Dr. John Abernathy of Lubbock, S.M. True Jr. of Plainview, Johnny Anzaldua of Lamesa, and Delaine Baucum of Seminole, agriculture; Jim Steiert of Hereford, environmental issues; Don McElroy of Muleshoe, small businesses; Bill Harbin of Floydada, electric generating utilities; John Garland of Waco, river authorities; A. Wayne Wyatt of Lubbock and Kent Satterwhite of Sanford, water districts; and Henry Rieff of Cotton Center, water utilities.

The legislation appropriated funds to help pay for the planning effort. They provided a method that matching grants (75% state, 25% local) could be used to pay for the planning effort.

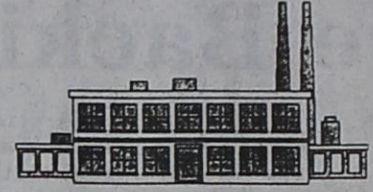
Water Use In Texas By Category



Irrigation 72%



Municipalities 21%



Manufacturing 3%



Livestock 2%



Mining 1%



Steam-Electric Generation 1%

SOURCE: Texas Water Facts, TWDB

The Region "O" planning group has met twice. They have adopted a set of by-laws, adopted a new name for the planning area, the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group, appointed Jerry Webster of Tahoka, Harold "Bo" Brown of Lubbock, and Lee Arrington of Brownfield to the planning group, elected officers, and begun the planning process. Officers are A. Wayne Wyatt, Chairman; Lee Arrington, Vice-Chairman; and Ches Carthel, Secretary.

Public meetings will be conducted to receive comments as to what should be included in the long term water management plan, especially as to what scenarios should be considered if the current water supplies do not appear adequate to meet long term needs. When each region completes their planning efforts, the TWDB will merge all of the regional plans into a state-wide plan scheduled for completion by September 1, 2001.

Please direct any written suggestions or comments you have to A. Wayne Wyatt, Chairman of the Llano Estacado Planning Group, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas 79405-1499.

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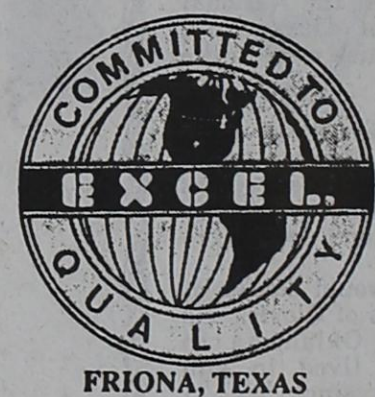
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CHOW TIME....An Excel worker places his order during lunchbreak at the plant. Service Cafe of Hereford has the hot food concession at the plant.

Plateau Wireless Has Expanded Service Area

Plateau Wireless, serving Eastern New Mexico and areas of West Texas and the Texas Panhandle, has announced an expanded wireless phone coverage area, adding almost 25,000 square miles to its existing service territory.

"Plateau Wireless now offers customers more than 150,000 square miles of home coverage for one low monthly rate," said Jeff Harlow, director of marketing. "The expanded wireless phone coverage area will be available with Plateau's Advantage Price Plans, that now include the Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Taos and Gallup, New Mexico areas."

"The Advantage Plans are price plan options that offer significant cost savings to both individuals and businesses who travel in New Mexico, West Texas and the Texas Panhandle areas."

To go along with the expanded coverage area, Plateau is changing its look, with a new image to reflect more closely its geographic region and service philosophy.

"Plateau Wireless has always been recognized for the highest quality technology and great, hometown service," Harlow said. "The new look reflects a long-standing commitment to provide our customers high quality, affordable wireless phone services. So when customers see trucks with the new Plateau Wireless logo on the side, and hear our slogan: 'People you know, communications you trust,' they can be confident we're still the same company, and that they will continue to deal with local people they know and trust."

Plateau Wireless is a partnership of wireless phone providers headquartered in Clovis, New Mexico. Partners include: Mid Plains Rural Telephone, Tulia, Texas; West Texas Rural Telephone, Hereford; South Plains Telephone, Lubbock; ENMR• Plateau Telecommunications, Clovis; Roosevelt County Rural Telephone Cooperative, Portales; and Five Area Telephone Cooperative, Muleshoe.

Symphony Announces Auditions

The Amarillo Symphony has several musician vacancies for the 1998-99 season. The Symphony employs approximately 85 professional musicians each year.

The Symphony annually presents seven subscription concerts, three Randel Chamber Orchestra performances, the Palo Duro Canyon Pops, a concert on Labor Day at the Discovery Center and extensive educational concerts. The exact number of players participating varies each concert according to the repertoire performed.

Positions open for the upcoming season in the wind and brass sections are second trombone, principal tuba and third flute. Positions open in the string section are fifth chair first violin, ninth chair first violin, fifth chair viola and other section chairs in both the first and second violins and in the cello section.

Anyone interested in part-time employment as a substitute musician or any orchestral instrument may also audition at this time.

Symphony musicians are admitted by audition only. James Setapen, the Symphony's music director and conductor and the principal players of the orchestra from related sections judge auditions.

The orchestra personnel manager, Margaret Scales-Peacock, coordinates auditions. Auditions include three to five minutes from a solo of the applicant's choice as well as several standard orchestral excerpts chosen by the Symphony.

Most applicants should prepare the first movement of a standard concerto as the solo. Copies of the required orchestral excerpts may be obtained from the Symphony office.

Auditions for all vacancies are scheduled for Saturday, August 29. If an applicant is not available for this date, another audition date may be set. For more information contact Margaret Scales-Peacock at (806)376-8782.

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AILING HOME HEALTH-CARE SYSTEM

Many Texans, especially those on Medicare, are aware that our home health-care system is in crisis. Dozens of Texas home health-care agencies have closed their doors in recent weeks. This has left many ill, home-bound patients scrambling to get proper care. People in rural areas have been particularly hard hit.

My diagnosis: this situation is a result of over-zealously applied federal law and misinterpretation by federal regulators who imposed extreme, retroactive cuts in Medicare payments (upwards of 60 percent), while failing to implement a fairer system called for by Congress last year. This has forced many providers out of the business.

The 1997 Balanced Budget Act mandated changes in the way Medicare (in this case, the Health Care Finance Administration, or HCFA) pays for and delivers health care services to the nation's seniors. Congress directed HCFA to implement a payment system that would let providers know, up front, what their payment would be for a particular service and allow them to plan accordingly.

But instead of carrying out that mandate, HCFA rewrote the rule-book on how home health-care providers are compensated in a way that left many bankrupt. The revised payment system, rather than allowing them to plan, penalizes the most cost-effective providers. This is government policy at its counterproductive worst. And it is the opposite outcome intended by Congress.

Such a situation just won't do. The housebound patients involved are our most vulnerable citizens. I am a long-time supporter of home health care because it not only allows people the dignity and comfort of staying in their homes, with familiar faces around them, while receiving needed medical care. But it also saves the Medicare system money in the long run. Home health care costs only a fraction of what it costs to care for ailing individuals in a nursing home or other institutional setting.

On July 16, I co-sponsored a bill, S.2323, that will restore common sense to the home health-care payment system.

And I have asked Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala to speed implementation of the payment system Congress originally intended. And I am working to overcome whatever snarls HCFA claims are to blame.

Congress earlier this year stopped the imposition of a surety bond requirement for the industry. This would have put countless small providers — those with little capital backing behind them — out of business.

In addition, I sponsored a bill to delay implementation of a HCFA rule that would have restricted access to home-care services to patients who need regular blood testing.

Few question the need for the home health-care system to move to a more sensible payment system. But I do not believe the transition should put thousands of good home-care providers — and their patients — at risk. 7.22.98

"Texas" Musical Presents Work Of Cowboy Artist

The paintings of cowboy artist Robert Pummill are being featured in the 1998 souvenir program of the musical drama "Texas." "Texas" opened its 33rd season on June 10 and plays nightly except Sunday at 8:30 p.m. through August 22 in Palo Duro Canyon State Bank near Canyon and Amarillo.

Pummill's western art depicts the cattle industry and transportation during the time period ranging from 1840 to 1900, the same time setting for the story line of "Texas." Several of Pummill's paintings portray historical accounts of Charles Goodnight's adventures.

Goodnight, an early Texas Panhandle cattle baron, is showcased in the finale of "Texas." Pummill's painting, April 6, 1866, shows Goodnight's chuckwagon (supposedly the first ever) drawn by oxen. Another painting entitled, "Scattering Goodnight's Herd," depicts a Goodnight cattle drive gone wild because of a buffalo stampede.

Pummill was inducted into the Cowboy Artists of America in 1984. All "Texas" artists are chosen from that organization's membership. Pummill considers his induction into that elite cowboy artist group, and being selected to paint a piece for the 175th Anniversary of the Santa Fe Trail, as career highlights.

"Subject matter is usually the result of one's interests or lifestyle. My choice of western subject matter is the result of a lifelong fascination

with the life of the cowboy and the drama of the opening and development of the American West," Pummill said.

Pummill lives in Kerrville, Texas, and his work is featured in art galleries across the west.

"Texas" annually selects a cowboy artist's work to enhance the western tones

projected in the outdoor drama's script. As audience members reflect on their Palo Duro Canyon experience, the western scenes scattered throughout the souvenir program are vivid reminders of the culture upon which "Texas" is based.

"Texas" is the best attended outdoor drama in the nation and annually attracts audience members

from around the world. History comes to life through the efforts of a 140-member cast and crew. Singing, dancing, acting and astounding special effects create an unforgettable evening beneath the Texas stars.

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THE MUSICAL DRAMA, "TEXAS" is presenting the work of cowboy artist, Robert Pummill, during the 1998 season. "On The Sixes" (above) is among the display. "TEXAS" is playing nightly, except for Sundays, in Palo Duro Canyon near Amarillo, through August 22. For ticket information, call (806)655-2181. www.texasmusicaldrama.com

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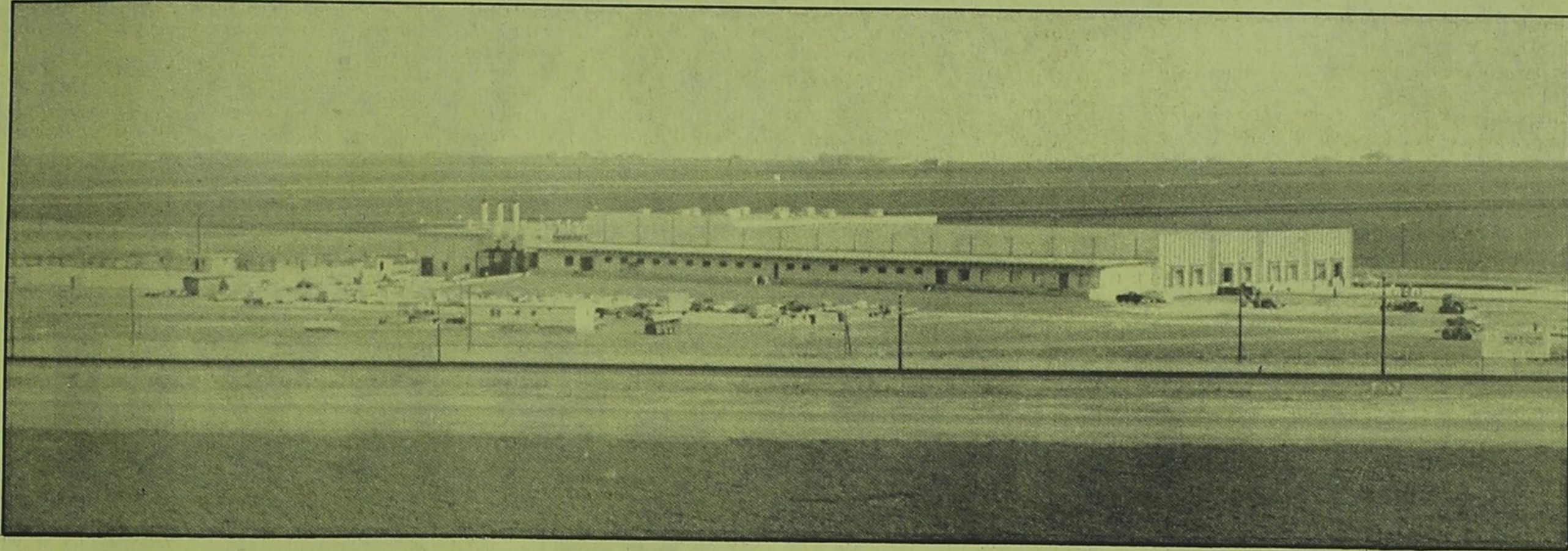
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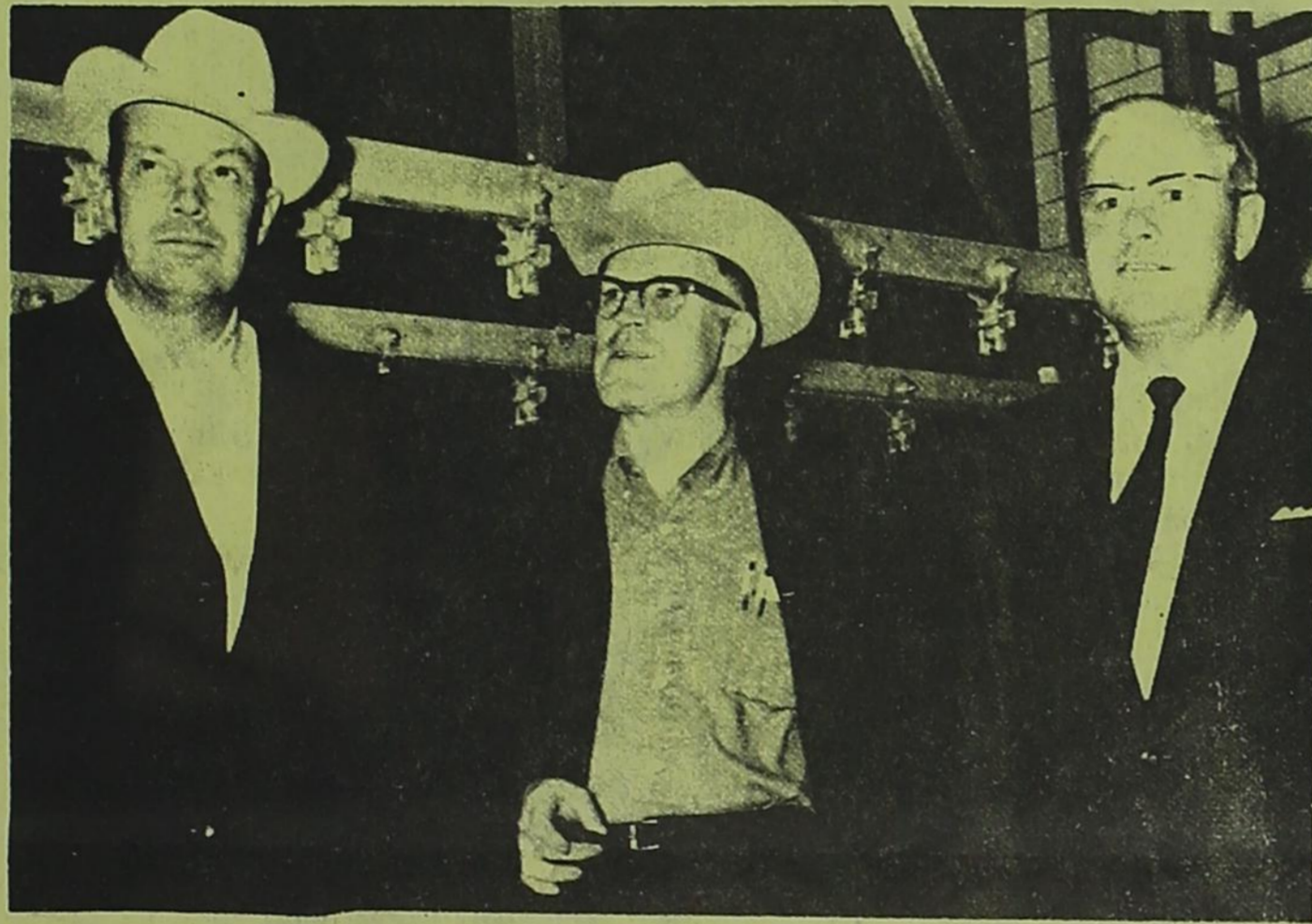
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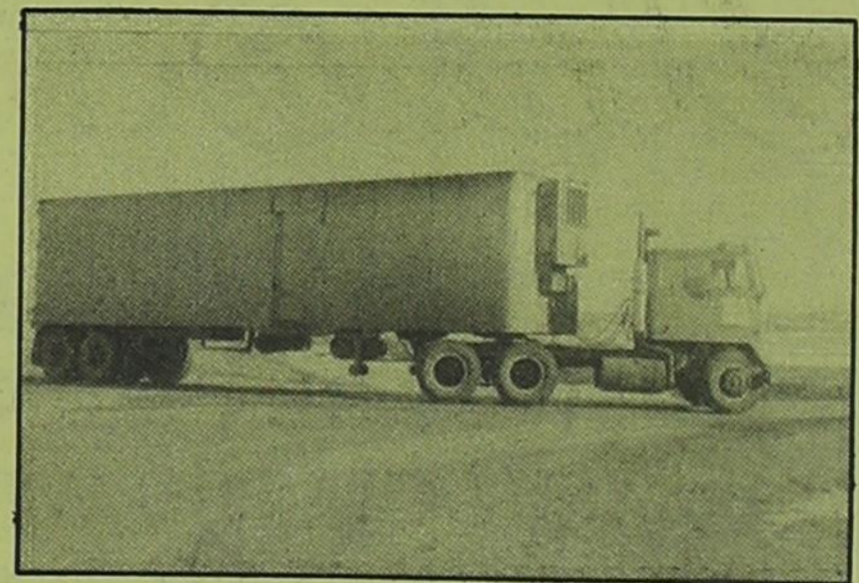
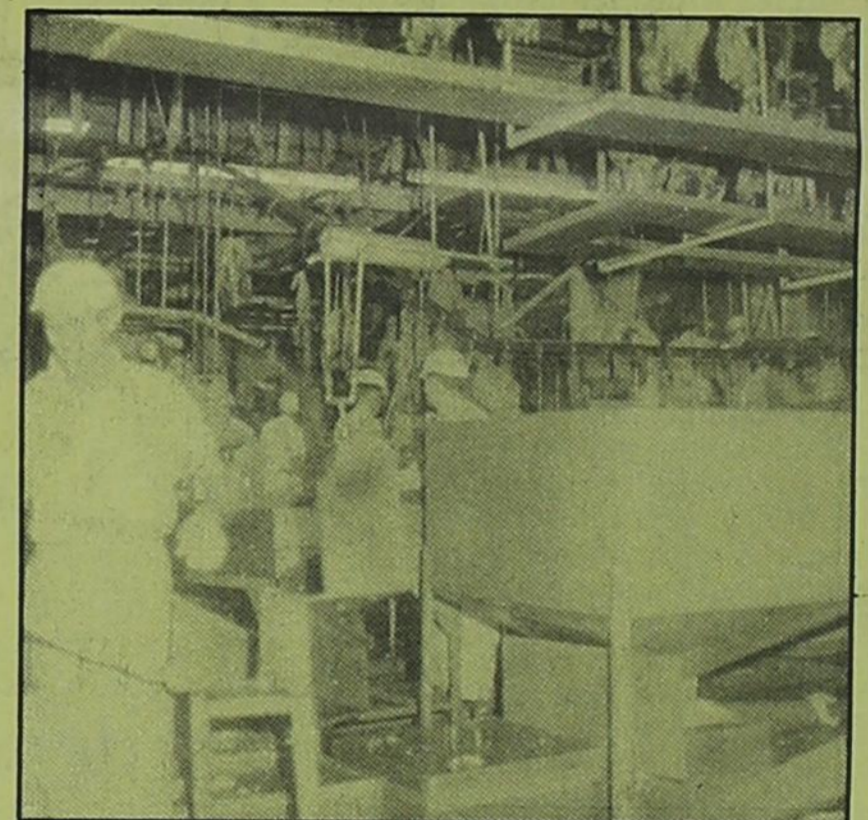
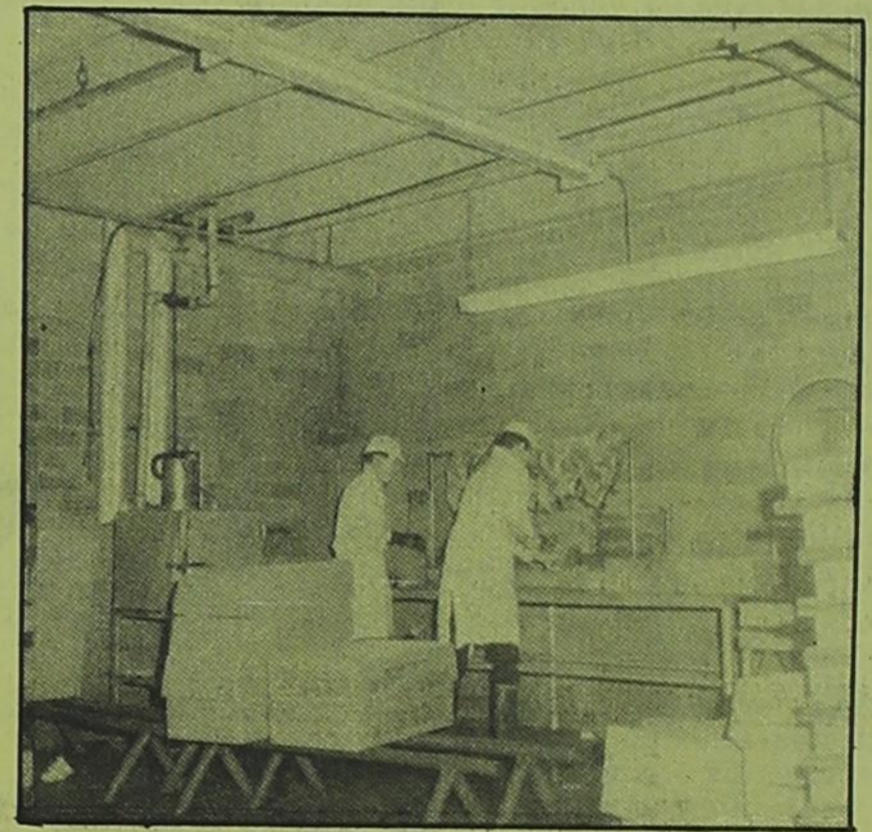
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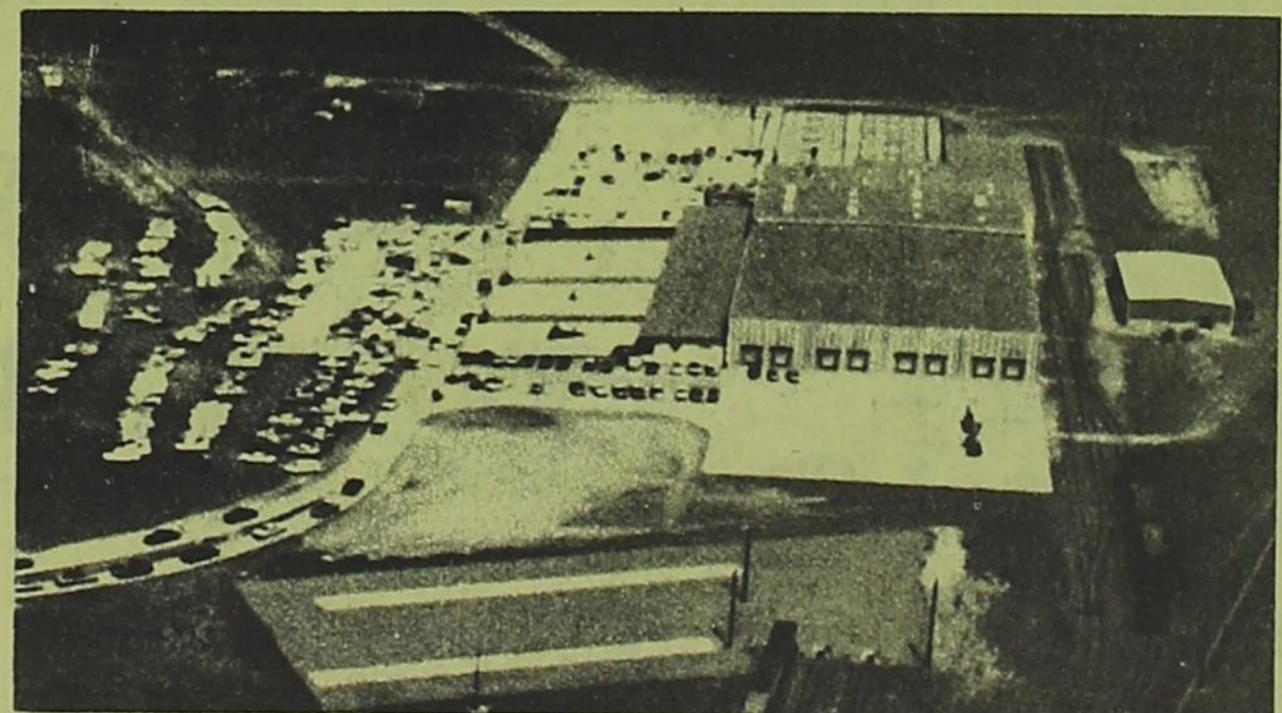
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MBP's new Friona, Texas plant, operations started May, 1968.

FRIONA STAR

The Bovina Blade



EXCEL HONORED....Robert Neelley, center, representing the Friona Chamber of Commerce, made a special presentation to Excel at a recent luncheon.

Area Lions Upgrade Eye Program

The Lions Eye Bank of District 2-T One, Amarillo's only eye bank, has recently become a member of the non-profit eye and tissue banking network, TBI/Tissue Banks International. The Lions of District 2T-1 has supported eye banking and eye donation for over 25 years.

The cornea is the clear tissue at the front of the eye. About the size and thickness of a dime, this tissue is the window of sight. When the cornea becomes damaged because of trauma, disease or inherited conditions, visual impairment or blindness can result.

Corneal blindness is one of the few irreversible kinds of blindness. The surgeon removes the damaged cornea and replaces it with a healthy cornea donated by a deceased donor and retrieved by the eye bank.

In joining the TBI network, the Lions Eye Bank of District 2-T1 benefits from such services as tissue distribution, administrative management, and public information and fund raising assistance.

TBI's national network also provides tissue from its other eye banks to meet local needs when insufficient amounts of issue are recovered locally.

"Our ultimate objective is to virtually eliminate patient waiting lists for corneal transplant surgery in this area," says Diana Martinez, the eye bank's new executive director. "We will be intensifying our efforts to inform the public about the benefits of donation and transplantation and strengthen our tissue recovery efforts in the area. We anticipate that our relationship with TBI will enhance the services of the Eye Bank to patients and their surgeons," Ms. Martinez said.

Last year, more than 40,000 men, women and children underwent sight restoring corneal transplant surgery in the U.S. Under optimum circumstances, this transplant procedure has a higher than 90 per cent success rate.

For more information, contact Diana Martinez, Lions Eye Bank of District 2-T1, phone (806)359-5101.

XIT Rodeo, Reunion Set

The 62nd Annual XIT Rodeo & Reunion is in its final stages of preparation. This Texas size celebration takes place August 6-8.

Events this year also include a Junior Rodeo on August 1. Other events taking place during the week are the XIT Queen's Contest, Pony Express, Amateur Jackpot Barrel Racing, Amateur Team Roping U.S. #'s 7, 9 and 11, Cowboy Bronc Riding and Kid's Calf Scramble.

Some added features of the rodeo will be the Nickel Scramble for kids and Crawl for Cash for the adults.

The PRCA Rodeo performance each evening is followed by a dance featuring Redneck The Band on Thursday, Exile on Friday and The Great Divide on Saturday. There is also a free stew feed on Thursday, a free watermelon feed on Friday and a free BBQ on Saturday with enough BBQ to feed 20,000 people.

One of the Panhandle's best parades is Saturday morning beginning at 10:30 a.m. This is a fantastic event that you won't want to miss.

HOO-RAY!!

FOR

EXCEL



Hail To The Beef Chiefs!

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LOCAL COMMUNITY.**

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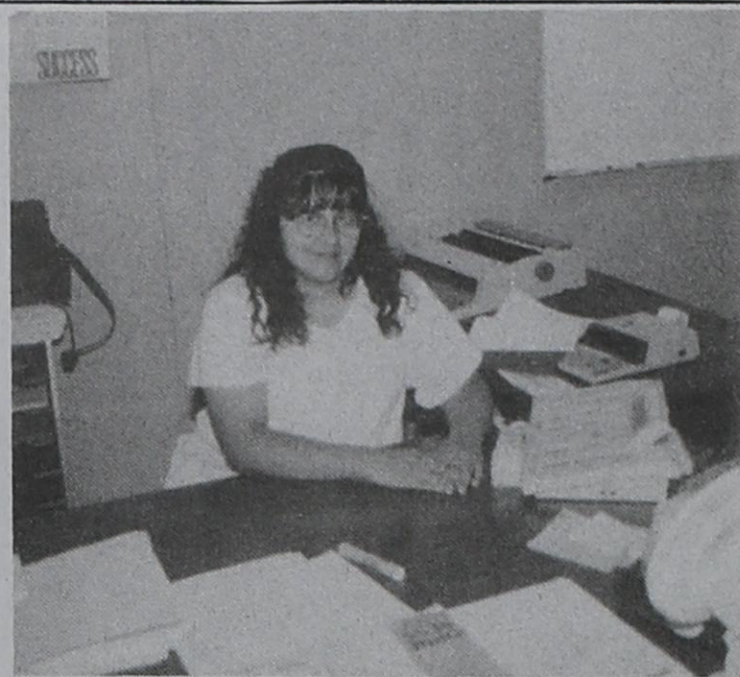
Friona's Excel Plant Is Like Its Own Exchange For WTRT

By JIM STEIERT
The Excel beef packing plant at Friona, operating on the Parmer exchange, has been much like a "tenth exchange" for its dial tone supplier, West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc., for the past 30 years.
Larry Watts of WTRT's Installation and Repair crew is the Cooperative's primary contact with Excel, and he's backed-up by I&R crewman Tony Wilcox.
Watts handles many of the day-to-day telephone service tasks and concerns at the Excel plant that are

common to any other exchange on the WTRT system--telephone installation, maintenance and repair, and troubleshooting as necessary.
Carol Aistrup, controller at Friona's Excel plant, says good communication lines are vital to the everyday business operations of this giant among area employment and agri-industry.
Many of the management decisions in Friona hinge on consultation with Cargill corporate offices in Wichita, Kansas, and information including prices, sales orders and shipping information

flows over numerous data lines between Wichita and the Friona plant.
Friona's Excel plant is served by a total of 30 lines from WTRT and 28 dial tones.
Installation and repair personnel from WTRT installed a state-of-the-art Nor-Tel Option II phone system with voice-mail capability--similar to the system in the Cooperative's own offices at Hereford, in the Friona plant last year. This allowed the Friona plant to take advantage of the best of both worlds--new phone sets, but the ability to use old single-line instruments as well.
The plant also has 200 extensions and 200 direct-inward-dial lines that allow direct conversation from one phone set to another within the plant. That capability came about with the addition of a digital switch at the plant on the part of the Cooperative.
The digital switch features a battery backup--just as is present in the central offices on all of the Cooperative's nine exchanges.
A digital loop carrier was also installed by WTRT, allowing for 24 incoming digital lines. This loop provides redundancy to maintain service in case of problems with another line.
Only recently, WTRT was involved in the upgrading of the computer network within the Excel plant to a Category 5 system, allowing far more rapid data handling by computers--100 megabits versus the old Category 3 system, that ran at only 10.
That's something like the speed difference between a high-performance race car and a mule-drawn cart. Cooperative personnel handled the Category 5 wiring.
The Excel plant now has video conferencing circuitry in-house, as well, and the Cooperative's phone room within the plant has been relocated to the administration building for environmental

control and security.
Mike Harris, installation and repair foreman with WTRT, says the Excel plant "handles as many subscribers as some of the smaller central offices on the WTRT system. There are more extensions in the Excel plant than in our Summerfield central office."
Watts is normally on-call for problems at the Friona plant 24 hours-a-day.
"We deal with the same concerns as any other central office. Heat, cold and moisture--even backhoes and trenching equipment cutting cables, can cause the same trouble here as anywhere else. We stay ready to get the problem fixed and the service back up-and-running just as quickly as possible," says Watts.



LUPE PENA is one of the "operators" at the Excel plant. Excel has 30 separate lines, with 28 "dial tones," and is almost like a separate "exchange" for West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, which supplies rural telephone service for Parmer, Deaf Smith and Castro Counties. (ron carr)

Beef Products Shine At Houston Expo June 28-30

More than 30,000 restaurant, hotel and supermarket buyers from the United States, Mexico and South America saw the spotlight shine on new beef products at the Southwest Foodservice Expo and Southwest Supermarket & Convenience Store Expo June 28-30 in Houston.

The highlight on new beef products at this major show was made possible by the \$1 per head beef checkoff program through the Texas Beef Council (TBC).

TBC's beef exhibit at the expo was an early step in changing the beef industry's focus from commodity beef products to branded beef products. The industry's goal is to introduce these products to key foodservice and retail decision makers so beef better meets consumer requirements for convenience while also adding value to beef sales.

TBC joined Sysco, Alliant Foodservice and Freedman Food Service, all distributors of beef products to hotels/restaurants/institutions, to provide new beef marketing ideas to the expo attendees. This show, sponsored by the Texas Restaurant Association, is the third largest foodservice trade show in North America and the largest in the Southwest U.S.
"There is no better time to get

foodservice distributors thinking about new beef products than at this show," says beef producer Danny Evans of Sulphur Springs, chairman of TBC's domestic marketing committee. "We had 30,000 of the most influential food professionals in North and South America see the new beef products."
TBC also took advantage of the show to highlight food-service recipes featuring chuck and round cuts. These two cuts have fallen 23 and 20 per cent, respectively, in value over the last five years. Another focus of the industry in the coming months will be to build the value of these two cuts.
In conjunction with Freedman Food Service and the Texas Chefs Association, TBC also co-sponsored a culinary event called the Southwest Beef Cookoff. Seven finalist chefs created their best beef dishes using chuck and round cuts.
"With foodservice accounting for more than 50% of the consumer's food dollar, restaurant operators can move a huge amount of chuck and round if they have ideas on how to get these cuts on their menus," Evans said. "This show helped beef producers get meal concepts to them through checkoff-produced recipes and the highly popular chefs' competition."



Happy Birthday
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30 Years In Parmer County



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SALUTING

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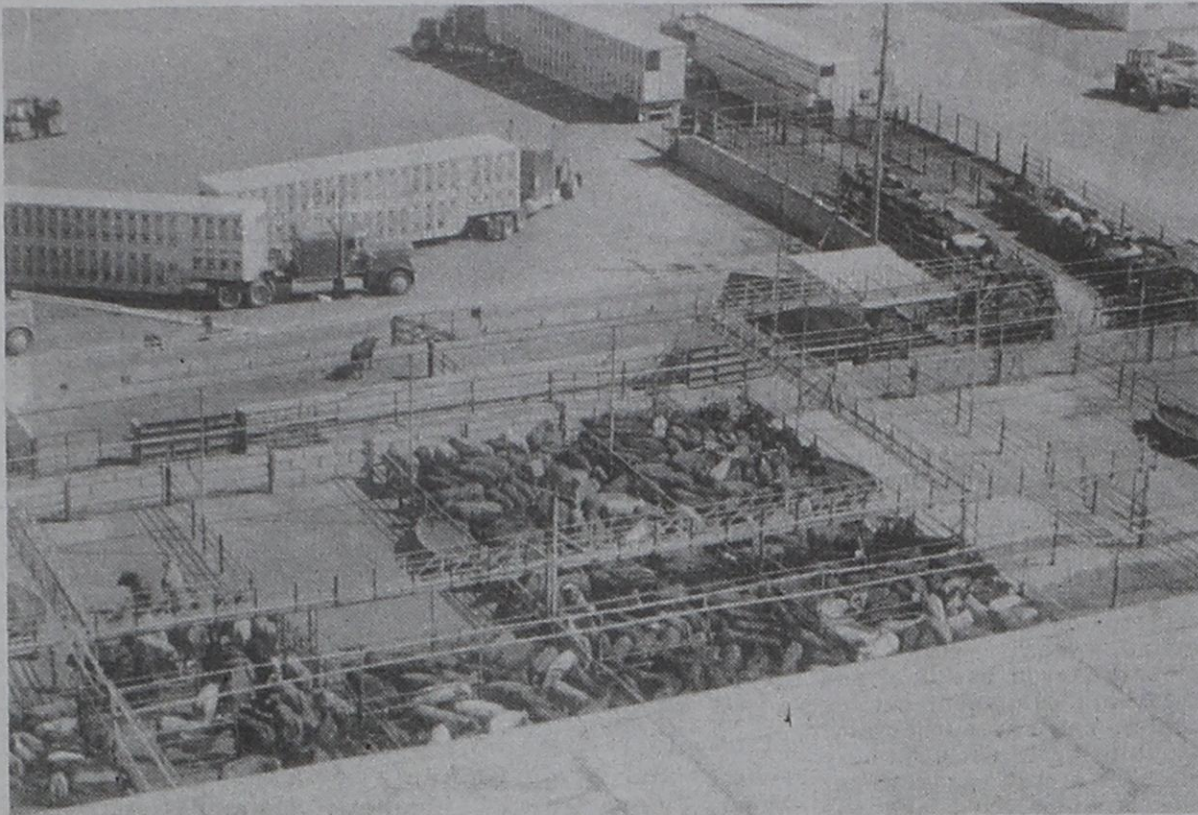
BEST WISHES FOR THE NEXT 30 YEARS!

HAPPY

ANNIVERSARY

AND BEST OF LUCK IN THE FUTURE!

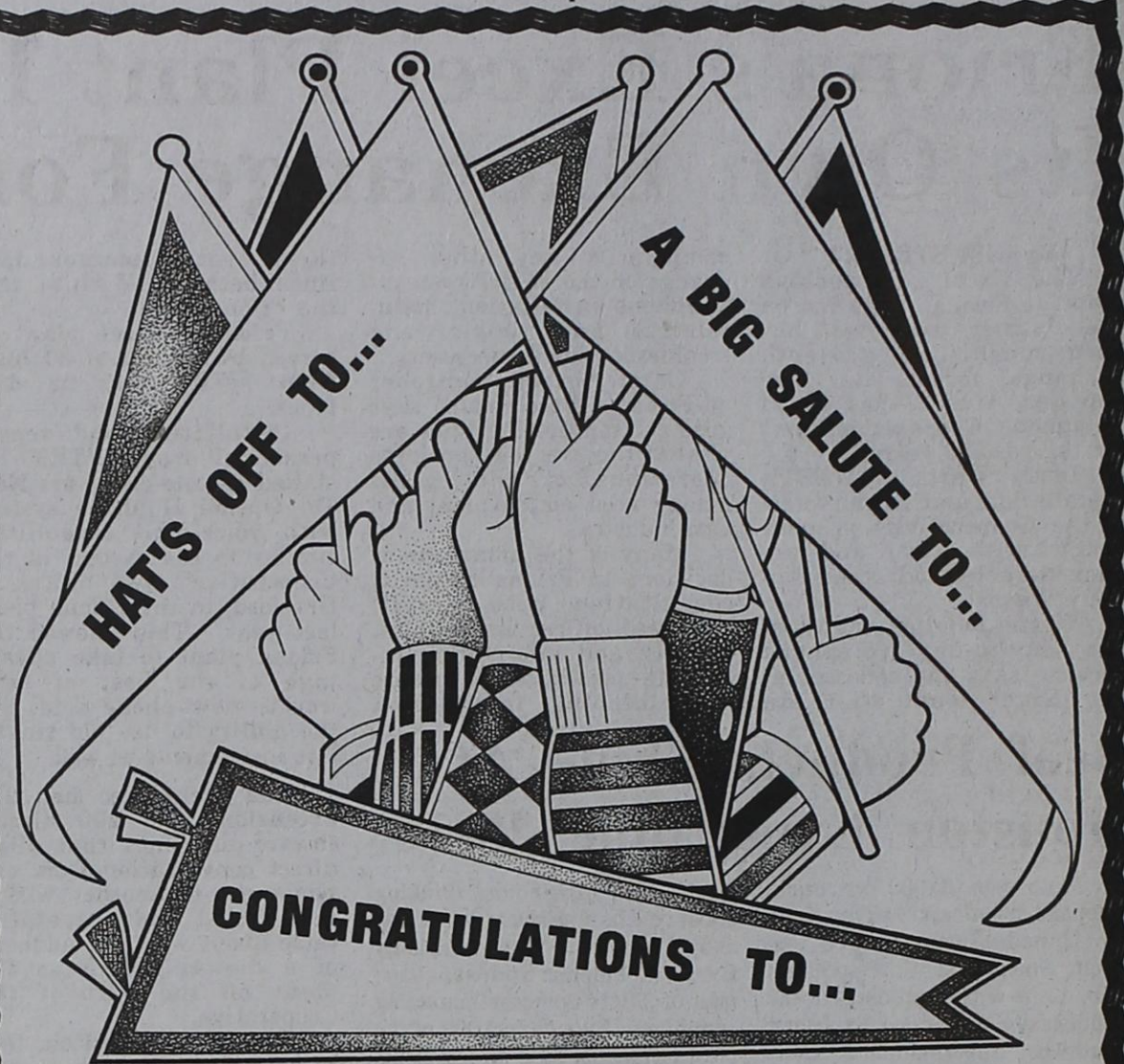
FIRST BANK BOVINA 



HOLDING PENS....Cattle are shown in the holding pens at Excel, as they await slaughter. A steady stream of trucks come and go into the plant west of Friona on a daily basis. Some bring live cattle which are unloaded, and others are loaded with frozen beef, bound for meat counters across the country. (ron carr photo)



VIEW FROM THE TOP....A portion of the Excel plant is seen from overhead, along with the parking area, looking north. The photo is from the top of the seven-story tower at Excel. (ron carr photo)



EXCEL
CORPORATION

THANK YOU!

NORTHLINE CONSTRUCTION



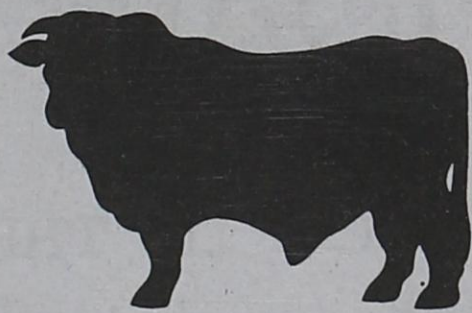
DON MILLER
(806) 356-0086
Amarillo, Texas



THANK YOU!

EXCEL

We are proud to be a business associate of EXCEL Beef Packing Plant located in Friona, Texas for the past 30 years. We wish you the best for many more successful years in the beef industry.



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EXCEL



FOR 30
SUCCESSFUL
YEARS IN
FRIONA!



Thank You



PLAQUE PRESENTED....Robert Neelley, right, presented a plaque to Excel manager Scott Entz. The plaque reads: "In appreciation for 30 years of outstanding support to the citizens and businesses of the Friona area. Friona Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture."

How To Apply For Excel Jobs

Excel currently employs approximately 1,950 management, hourly management, and production employees.

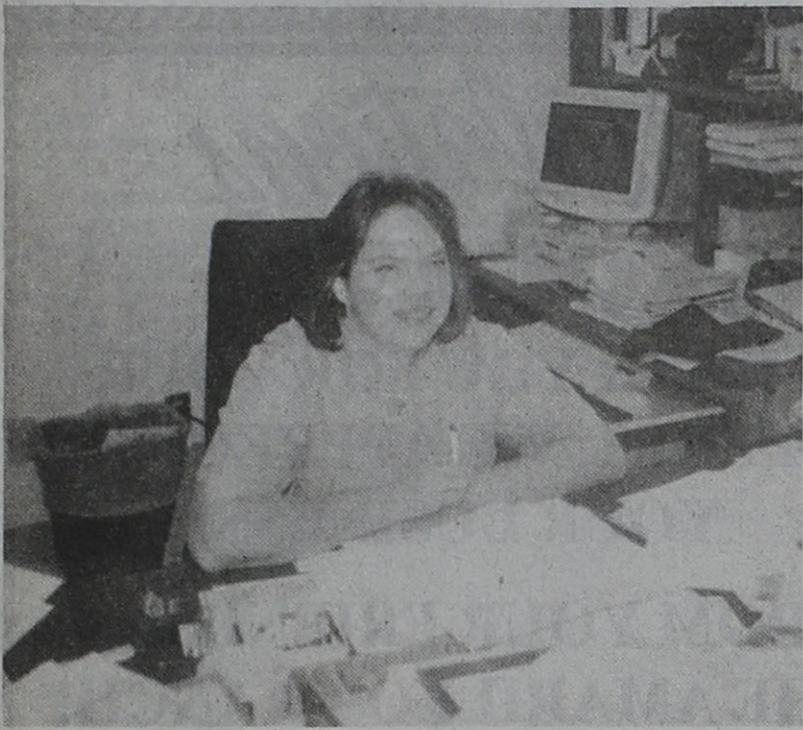
Applications for employment are not made at the Excel plant in Friona. You apply at Texas Employment Commission in Hereford, 403 W. 7th, 806-364-8600, or the New Mexico Department of Labor, 1601 Sutter Place, Clovis. Their number is 505-762-4571

A representative from the Excel plant personally interviews each scheduled applicant.

In addition to a tuition reimbursement program, the company offers paid vacation and holidays; a medical, dental, and prescription drug plan; disability and life insurance plan; pension and 401 (K) plan; and a **QUICK START PAY PROGRAM.**



LUNCH GUESTS....Among a number of local officials attending the lunch marking Excel's 30th anniversary were (l-r) Bill and Marilyn Stovell, Clarence Monroe and Paula Wilson. Stovell is head of Hi-Pro's Animal Health department, Monroe is mayor of Friona and Mrs. Wilson is city manager.



CAROL AISTRUP
Plant Comptroller



TRISH PETERSON
Senior Accountant

City Lauds Excel In Proclamation

The City of Friona presented a plaque to the Excel Corp. in recognition of the plant's 30 years of service locally, at the recent luncheon.

The proclamation reads as follows:

By executive order of the Honorable Clarence Monroe, Mayor of the City of Friona, Texas is hereby proclaimed:

WHEREAS, the Excel Friona is celebrating its thirty year anniversary;

WHEREAS, Friona Excel Corporation has been a vital part of the economy of the City of Friona for thirty years;

WHEREAS, the City of Friona recognizes the many contributions that Friona Excel Corporation makes in civic and community affairs.

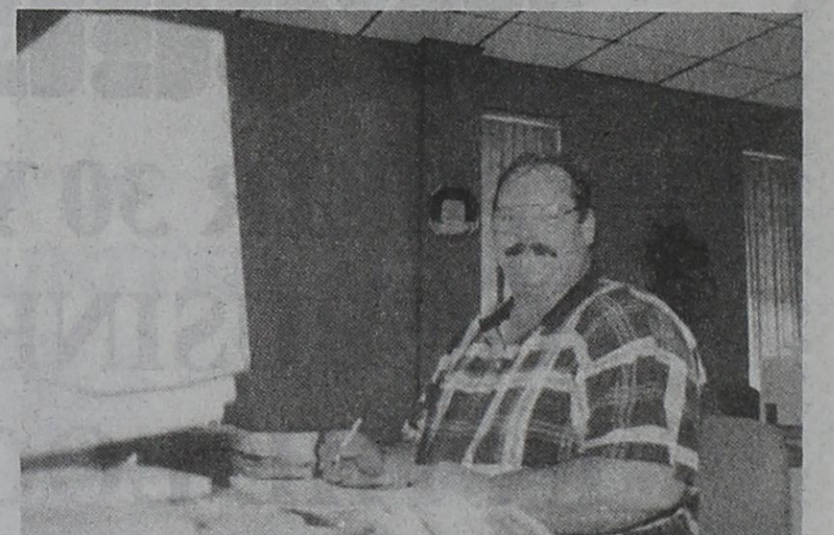
NOW, THEREFORE, I Clarence Monroe, Mayor of the City of Friona, Texas do hereby proclaim the week of May 18-23 as "Excel Week."

Let all within the reach of this proclamation heed its direction.

Clarence Monroe
His Honor, the Mayor of the City of Friona, Texas



MARGARET ROBINSON
Human Resource Mgr.



TOM RANDOLPH
Shipping Superintendent

Summer Arts & Crafts

Festival Set In Amarillo

The second annual Amarillo Summer Arts and Crafts Festival will be held August 1 and 2 in the main exhibit hall of the Amarillo Civic Center.

Artists and crafters from throughout the Southwest will be on hand with original art and handcrafted items. Hours for the show are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Mel Prather, organizer for the two-day event, said the upcoming festival would feature a number of new-

comers as well as some familiar faces. "First-time exhibitors will offer items such as hand-thrown pottery, grandmother shirts, Emu oils and lotions, gourmet flavored coffee, hardwood replicas of trucks and tractors and rocking horses," Prather said.

Also new are those with wood dolls, decorated bird houses, original clothing, jewelry, growth charts, hair bow holders, fan pulls wood wreaths, floral arrangements, children's furniture, chair fountains, wood signs, house numbers, wind chimes, quilts, pillows, stuffed animals, hand-carved wood crosses, barbed wire wreaths, calligraphy, decorated jar lids and country crafts.

Returning exhibitors will offer a wide assortment of items ranging from framed prints to jewelry. They'll also have religious carvings, silver jewelry, clothing, fireplace screens, quilts and baby quilts, vests, wood shelves and cabinets, ceramics, fountains, angels, weather stations, tole painting, short sets, decorated jar lids and canister sets.

Memorial Roping Set August 1-2

The Spicer Gripp Memorial Roping competition will be held August 1 and August 2 at the Circle A Arena, eight miles west of Hereford on FM 1058.

This year's event promises to be very exciting, as world class ropers will be competing in three events. The open calf roping will be held on August 1 starting at 10 a.m. The invitational team roping, a new event this year, will be held on August 2 at 10 a.m.

The top twenty team ropers in the world, including ten world champions, are expected at the competition. The invitational steer roping will begin at 1 p.m. August 2.

The Hereford VFW will host an introduction of the calf ropers at the VFW hall on Friday, July 31st immediately following the EMILIO concert. The VFW will also host the introduction of team ropers and steer ropers, along with a meal on Saturday, August 1 at 8 p.m.

A special match roping between two Hereford residents, Rody Wilson and Monty Lewis, will be held at intermission of the steer roping competition.

Admission to the ropings will be \$5.00 with children under 12 free. Proceeds from this event will go to the scholarship program at West Texas A&M University, and to a fund to build an outdoor special events center for Hereford. Everyone is invited to attend this special event.

BEST WISHES

EXCEL



**ON YOUR
30th
ANNIVERSARY
IN FRIONA**

**WE WISH YOU
SUCCESS IN THE FUTURE!**



Mandy's Restaurant

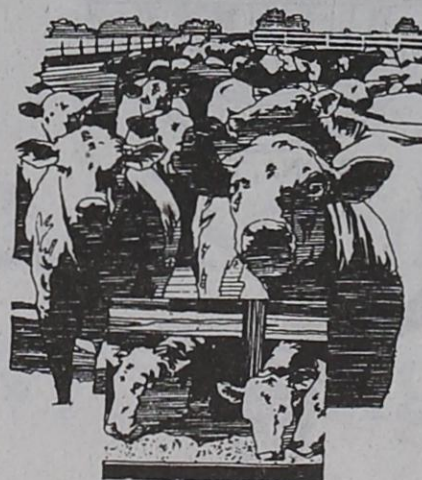
West Fifth Street (next to Golf Course)
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"Live Your Life Now" Warns L.A. Writer

(Editor's note: the following is being reprinted from the Los Angeles Times.)

A STORY TO LIVE BY
By ANN WELLS

My brother-in-law opened the bottom drawer of my sister's bureau and lifted out a tissue-wrapped package. "This," he said, "is not a slip. This is lingerie." He discarded the tissue and handed me the slip.

It was exquisite; silk, handmade and trimmed with a cobweb of lace. The price tag with an astronomical figure on it was still attached. "Jan bought this the first time we went to New York, at least eight or nine years ago. She never wore it. She was saving it for a special occasion."

Well, I guess this is the occasion." He took the slip from me and put it on the bed with the other clothes we were taking to the mortician.

His hands lingered on the soft material for a moment, then he slammed the drawer shut and turned to me. "Don't ever save anything for a special occasion. Every day you're alive is a special occasion."

I remembered those words through the funeral and the days that followed when I helped him and my niece attend to all the sad chores that follow an unexpected death.

I thought about them on the plane returning to California from the Midwestern town where my sister's family lives. I thought about all the things that she hadn't seen or heard or done. I thought about the things that she had done without realizing that they were special.

I'm still thinking about this words, and they've changed my life. I'm reading more and dusting less. I'm sitting on the deck and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in

the garden. I'm spending more time with my family and friends and less time in the committee meetings.

Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experience to savor, not endure. I'm trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them.

I'm not "saving" anything; we use our good china and crystal for every special event—such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, the first camellia blossom.

I wear my good blazer to the market if I feel like it. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out \$28.49 for one small bag of groceries without wincing. I'm not saving my good perfume for special parties; clerks in hardware stores and tellers in banks have noses that function as well as my party-going friends.

"Someday" and "one of these days" are losing their grip on my vocabulary. If it's worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now. I'm not sure what my sister would have done had she known that she wouldn't be here for the tomorrow we all take for granted.

I think she would have called family members and friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles. I like to think she would have gone out for a Chinese dinner, her favorite food. I'm guessing—I'll never know.

It's those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew that my hours were limited. Angry because I put off seeing good friends whom I was going to get in touch with—someday. Angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I intended to write—one of these days.

Angry and sorry that I didn't tell my husband and daughter often enough how much I truly love them. I'm trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save

anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives. And every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special.

Every day, every minute, every breath, truly is...a gift from God.

If you've received this it is because someone cares for you and it means there is probably at least someone for whom you care.

If you're too busy to take the few minutes that it would take right now to forward this to five people, would it be the first time you didn't do that little thing that would make a difference in your relationships? I can tell you it certainly won't be the last.

I don't have to make up silly stories about people being hit by buses or crushed by falling disco balls for not sending this letter on.

You've seen the result of this neglect in your own relationships that you have allowed to fade, dissolve, and fall into disrepair. Take this opportunity to set a new trend.

Take a few minutes to send this to a few people you care about, just to let them know that you're thinking of them. It's even better if they're not the people you already correspond with every week.

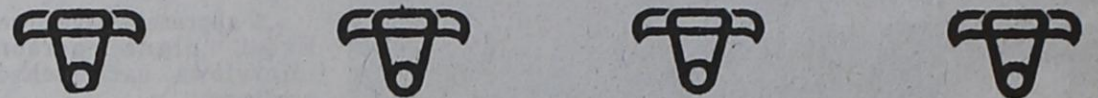
The more people that you send this to, the better luck you will have. And the better you'll get reaching out to those you care about. Here's the deal: forward this letter to at least five different people; within one hour of reading it.

Do it, and reap what you sow: luck in love, people who care for you, and that warm glowy feeling that comes from loving others. Don't do it, and suffer the consequences of being alone, wrapped up in your own affairs, and being too busy to do the things you actually care about. May love litter your life with blessings! Just send it!!

Cryovac congratulates

EXCEL on

30 years of success and growth in the Friona community



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CONGRATULATIONS!

TO

EXCEL

ON THEIR 30 YEARS OF BUSINESS IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY!



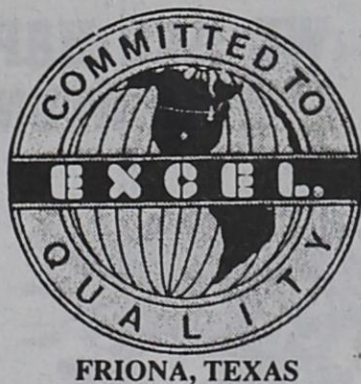
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COMMERCIAL CATTLE FEEDERS

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*



FRIONA, TEXAS



FRIONA, TEXAS
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Congratulations To

EXCEL

Happy 30th Anniversary



WE ARE HAPPY TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR BUSINESS, AND WISH YOU MANY MORE SUCCESSFUL YEARS!

Thank You!

BEATY INSULATION COMPANY

ANTON, TEXAS (806) 997-6171



EXCEL PRAISED...At the recent 30th anniversary luncheon hosted by Excel, County Judge Bonnie Clayton read a resolution thanking the packing plant for its major role as a county employer and industry. Scott Entz accepted the resolution on behalf of the plant.

Excel Is Lauded In County Resolution

At the luncheon marking the 30th anniversary of the Excel Corp. and its forerunners, the Parmer County Commissioners Court read a special resolution it had passed.

The resolution read as follows:
Parmer County being rich in land, beef, grain, water and friendly, independent citizens, needed to expand on these resources and programs; and

WHEREAS, persons dedicated, committed and keenly aware of the bountiful abundance of Parmer County saw a vision toward the enhancement of the local economy; and

WHEREAS, these persons understanding the necessity of programs and growth worked tirelessly to procure a beef slaughtering plant; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1968 Missouri Beef Packers placed the largest single-chain slaughter facility in the world into operation in Parmer County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, Missouri Beef Packers merged, expanded and progressed with the demands of the times into the vital, state-of-the-art, Excel Beef Processing Plant of 1998; and

WHEREAS, Excel Friona is celebrating thirty (30) years in Parmer County; and

WHEREAS, Excel Friona is an immediate asset to Parmer County and the entire region, surpassing the most optimistic of visions.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioner's Court of Parmer County, Texas:

That in an expression of appreciation, congratulations and support to Excel Friona on thirty (30) progressive years, Parmer County hereby declares the week of May 18-23, 1998, as "Excel Week in Parmer County."

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11th day of May, 1998.
Bonnie J. Clayton
Parmer County Judge

Colleen Stover
County Clerk Deputy

Mandatory Beef Checkoff Program Is Challenged

Livestock markets nationwide recently received petitions requesting a referendum on the \$1-per-head checkoff. The Livestock Marketing Association, which is encouraging auction markets to support the petition effort, has a year to collect the estimated 117,000 producer signatures needed to force a referendum.

"I cannot understand why anyone wants to terminate the beef checkoff," said Bob Sims, president of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association. "Checkoff-funded programs are our first and only line of defense, plus the only way we have of being proactive in the marketplace."

However, Sims can understand why some cattlemen might question some of the programs funded with checkoff dollars. "Any time you have programs that are approved by independent cattlemen, you can expect disagreement. It's just like selling fed cattle to a packer—we all have our independent ideas on how to sell cattle. Why should we expect to agree on every program approved by state beef councils or the Cattlemen's Beef Board?"

Sims understands independent thinking. However, he says the checkoff is one of the best examples he knows of how independent thinkers like cattlemen can come together and develop plans and programs to benefit their industry. "Make no mistake about it—the checkoff is governed and controlled by the cattlemen who pay the money to make it happen."

Here's how it works. State beef councils (45 in all) collect the \$1-per-head when cattle are sold. More than 600 cattlemen serve on state beef councils boards. Each state has the option of keeping up to 50 cents of each dollar it collects to use for in-state beef promotion and education efforts. The rest goes to the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board for national programs. The Cattlemen's Beef Board is governed by 111 producers who are designated

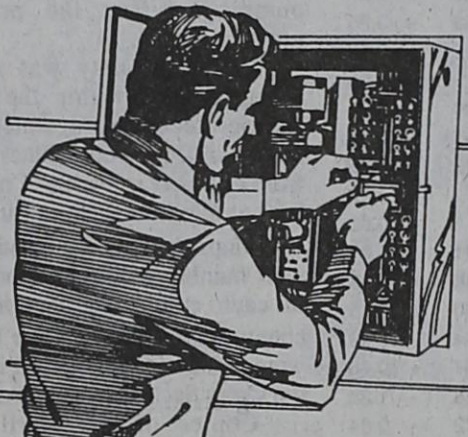
by the 45 state beef council boards to represent the states at the national level. But it doesn't stop there.

The national board sets program priorities based on the recommendations of various industry committees with a combined membership of more than 1,600 cattlemen, dairymen, importers, packers, purveyors and retailers designated by state councils and various cattlemen's and agriculture organizations. Some of these organizations include the Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, National Live Stock Producers Association, National Milk Producers Federation and the Livestock Marketing Association. "Every group with a vested interest in the cattle business and its success or failure has a seat at the table. Nobody is excluded and all voices have a chance to be heard," Sims says.



COMPANY HONORED...Fransé Irrigation, Inc. of Farwell, Texas was honored in Omaha, Nebraska during Valmont Irrigation's Regional Sales Meeting. Pictured are: (left to right) Doug Dale, territory manager, Valmont Irrigation; Ralph Fransé, Fransé Irrigation, Inc., and Joe Goecke, Valmont Irrigation.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY EXCEL



WE ARE HAPPY TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH EXCEL IN BUSINESS AND WISH THEM LUCK IN THE NEXT 30 YEARS!

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TENNECO

Jerry Elbert,
Sales Manager
Amarillo, Tx.

Arlington, Texas



Out Here

By RON CARR

EXCEL, TEXAS
Pop. 2,001

ERGONOMICS: an applied science concerned with the characteristics of people that need to be considered in designing and arranging things that they use in order that people and things will interact most effectively and safely-called also human engineering.

And human engineers were once known as efficiency experts. They were the outsiders who entered the private mess of your business and for a fee, told you how to be more efficient.

Not that most small business people care anyway. I am pretty comfortable with the mess around my desk.

Excel-Friona is not a small business. James Rudd, my plant tour guide this week, has worked in safety and ergonomics at Excel for ten years.

Safety and ergonomics become top priority at Excel-Friona when you have 2,000 employees, half of whom use knives on the job. When you have half of the others working near machines and boilers and heat and coolers and trucks.

When you process 1 million head of cattle a year, 4,200 per day, 330 per hour, and the finished product has to be safe for human consumption all across America, James Rudd's job takes on a higher respect.

At least for this writer it does. I have been out to Excel on numerous occasions the past three years, mostly taking pictures of ribbon cuttings for the cafeteria and the bank branch. Or pictures of the scholarship winners that Cargill and Excel so generously award year after year.

Last Tuesday, James Rudd drew the short straw and was assigned to give me a tour inside the plant.

I was full of confidence when I arrived with my camera bag. That confidence began to subside when

James laid out a pile of gear for me to wear. Safety gear, don't you see.

There was a hard hat, high top rubber boots, shields on each side of my eyeglasses, a white doctor-looking frock, and a small plastic bag with disposable earplugs.

The last item he handed me was a hairnet. I laughed as I put it on. Couldn't help but thank James for believing that I had enough hair to warrant a net for it.

Outfitted in my garb, he led the way past the security gate, across the entrance road, and into the largest cooler I had ever seen. A couple of hundred thousand square feet of sides of beef hanging silently in the cold sterile space, waiting to be trimmed into steaks or hamburger.

Sooner or later this meat would enter one of the several hundred trucks outside and be shipped to faraway places and end up in a shopping cart and on a backyard grill in places like Mudflap, Tennessee.

We left the silence of the cooler for the frenetic pace of the fabrication department. To get there we climbed some short ladders and stairs and traversed several catwalks.

We paused for a few minutes in the sorting and shipping department where Tom Randolph and his box people route the various cuts of meat that has been packed for shipping.

Excel-Friona uses 50,000 to 60,000 boxes every day. That would be 1,250,000 boxes every month. I shoulda' been a box salesman.

I could write an entire column on the action in the fabrication department. These are the men and women who work on the "disassembly line", preparing the different cuts of meat as it whizzes by on conveyors. For the first time on James' tour, I remembered the earplugs.

Around a corner and across another catwalk were the hamburger people. Massive machines with plastic bag tubes being filled continuously with future patties.

The next portion of our tour took in the nitty gritty of the operation. They call it the slaughter department. Hector Villarreal, the only current employee who has worked at Excel-Friona since the day it opened 30 years ago, is the slaughter manager.

It is also referred to as the "kill floor". The port of entry for the cattle that are processed so ergonomically. After the daily slaughter process of some 4,400 cattle, the kill floor is shut down about midnight, and a cleaning crew takes over until around 5 a.m.

I am not sure what I expected to find but I can vouch that the entire kill floor processing area was much more orderly and clean than I expected.

Out back, James pointed to a serpentine chute that lead the cattle from the holding pens into the plant. The smooth curved design was invented, James said, by a Colorado professor that specializes in cow behavior.

I didn't ask him how one chooses cow behavior as a career.

We went to the top of the 147-foot feed mill tower that Excel built in 1997. It is the tallest building in Parmer County. The little two-man elevator creaked and groaned it's way to the top.

From the lofty vantage point, I had a view of the cattle holding pens that always seem to be full, the shag trucks always on the move jockeying trailers to be filled while the truck drivers kill time over at the security office.

We were looking down on the second largest town in Parmer County: Excel, Texas Pop: 2001.

The afternoon after my tour, I went back to Excel to take pictures of Excel management presenting

checks to the Friona EMS for \$50,000 toward a new ambulance and \$5,000 to the Friona PD toward the purchase of a new drug dog. These stories will be in next week's paper.

We have been working on this special Excel edition for several weeks. Excel has been working for Parmer County for 30-years now.

James Rudd is back working on ways to make the people of Excel safer and more efficient.

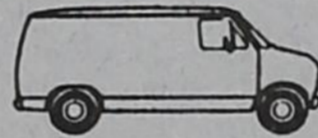
Thanks Excel. As the ads say, congratulations, thank you, we appreciate you, and hey James, thanks for the tour.



TOURING EXCEL, TEXAS.....Excel safety and ergonomics specialist James Rudd, left, prepares to guide editor Ron Carr on a photographic safari of the Excel plant. See Out Here for a visit to Excel, Texas. photo by Rachel Burseson

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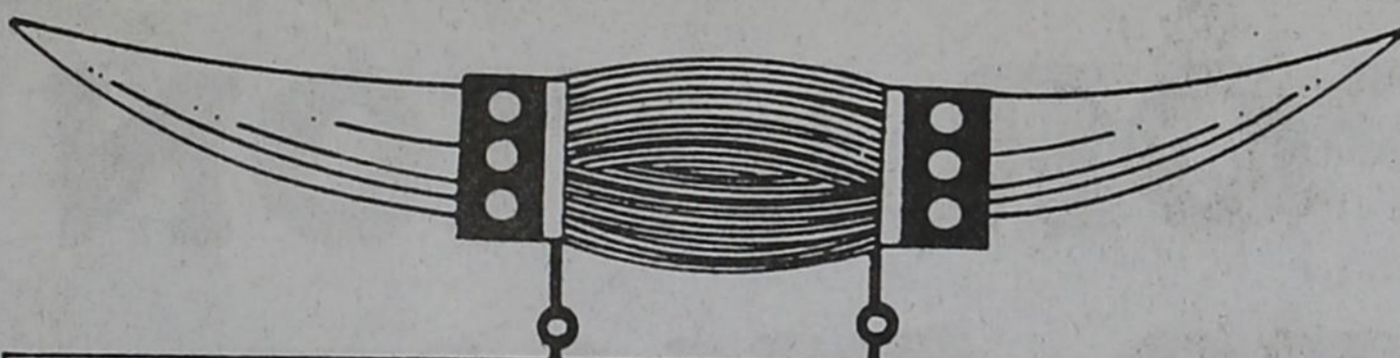
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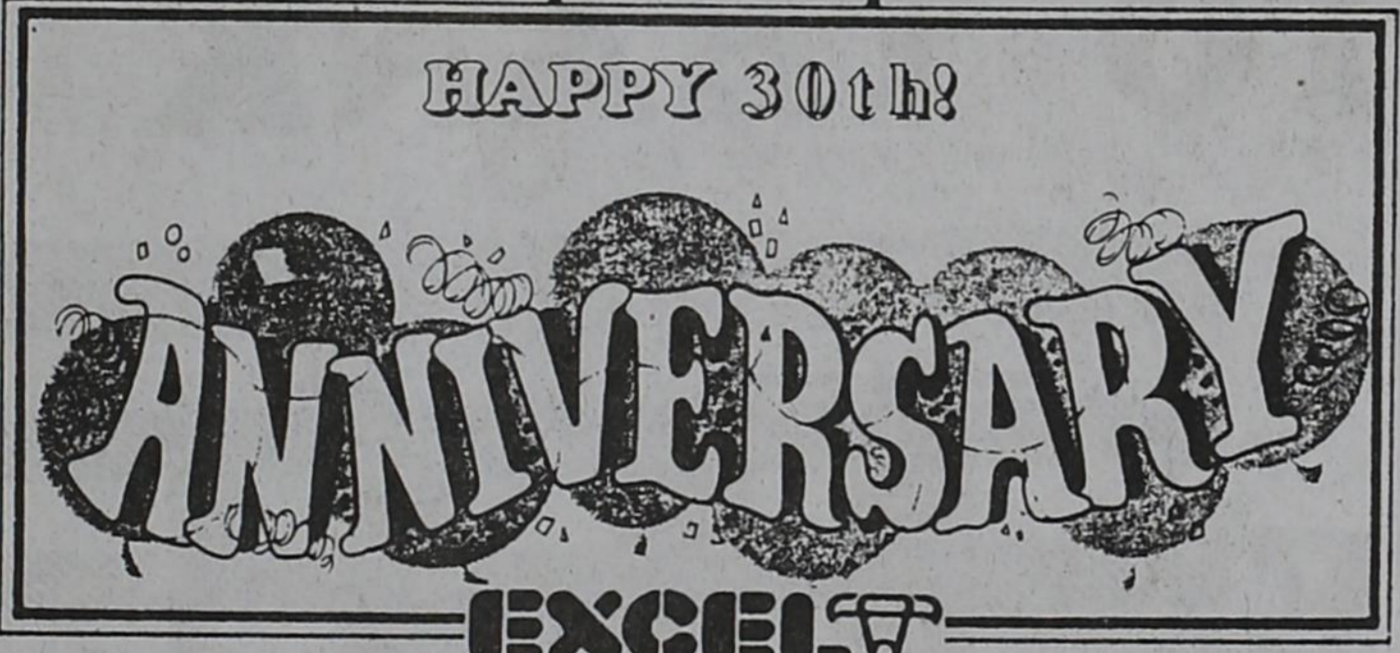
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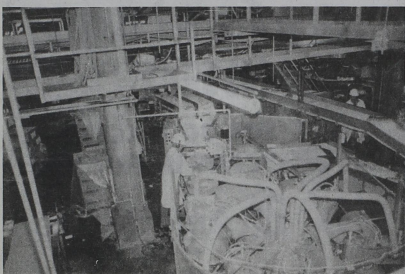


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TRIMMING AND SWEEPING....One of the massive beef carcass coolers at the Excel plant where workers trim and inspect the sides of beef before they are sent to the fabrication process. ron carr photo



END OF A LINE....Excel workers are operating the Cryovac vacuum sealing machine which is fed by an electronic dual in-feed line. Trimmed meat arrives here and is heat sealed in plastic bags prior to being boxed.

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Phone (806) 376-9200
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800-525-0478
FAX 303-580-1180
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Mobile Phone (806) 678-9124

Amarillo Warehouse
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Phone: (806) 376-9200
FAX: (806) 376-9731

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PHONE (806) 376-9200
8143 TOWHEITE ST.
DENVER, CO 80648-8087

GARY NACE
Technical Representative
Res. Phone (806) 333-8281
or (806) 228-2096

Amarillo Warehouse
308 St. Arthur
Amarillo, TX 79102
Phone: (806) 376-9200
FAX: (806) 376-9731