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Muleshoe Journal

Volume 85, No. 15

Muleshoe, Texas

50¢

April 15, 2004

News Briefs

Sexton takes reserve champion at Houston

Corey Sexton of Muleshoe recently participated in the Houston Livestock Show 2004.

March 12, Sexton entered the Heifer Show and received reserve champion in the Hereford/Polled Hereford division.

Turner makes Military Academy dean's list

Cadet Dusty Turner, son of former Hereford residents Scott and



Turner

Brenda Turner of Center Point and Mrs. R.L. Scott of Muleshoe, was named to the Dean's List at the U.S. Military Academy.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a cadet must maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

Turner graduated from Center Point High School in 2003. He is concentrating his studies in Leadership and plans to graduate in 2007 from West Point and be commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Give It A Thought

You can see a cloud, but not hear it. You can hear the wind, but not see it. But, you can see, hear and feel love and friendship.

Words to ponder from an anonymous reader.

Local Weather

Thu .. Sun ... 81/45

Fri Sun ... 82/45

Sat ... PC..... 80/45

Sun .. PC..... 75/45

Mon .. PC..... 80/46

Tue... MC 74/44

Wed . PC..... 71/41

Missed your paper?
Call Yolanda Martinez at 272-4536 during business hours, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

County Jail on schedule despite recent showers

By Leslie Radford
Managing Editor

Despite last week's rain spells, construction on the Bailey County Jail is on schedule.

"March was an excellent month," said Project Superintendent Charles Cody, of Houston. "We made leaps and bounds at the end of the month."

The security walls have been completed, a project that was in the works only a few months ago. The construction crew is working on the mechanics, electrical and plumbing systems in the attic, according to Cody.

Judge Marilyn Cox hopes the County can occupy the facility by August.

Economics of the project.

Sixty percent of the labor is being done locally according to Cody. Most of the welding and painting is being done by businesses in Muleshoe. The electrical and plumbing systems are being done by businesses within the region.

"We have utilized as much local labor as possible," said Cody.

Cox is pleased that this job has given work to people who support the Muleshoe community.

Economic Development Director Janet Claborn said the jail will bring "eight additional higher-scale jobs to Muleshoe and that is a big plus for us" once it is completed.

"I compliment the county on being so diligent in working on this project and bringing it to our area," she said.

According to Cox, the new jail will house not only prisoners, but administration including a new courtroom, the Justice of the Peace, the Sheriff's Office, and the Department of Public Safety.

Up to par.

Cody and Cox explained that the old County Jail wasn't up to standards and it was cheaper for them to build a new jail that housed more inmates than to update the current one.

"The old jail holds 27 inmates," said Cox, "but last year, we had to cut down to 16."

Continued pg. 3



Leslie Radford

Making progress— Jesse Brooks with Network Plumbing out of Amarillo works on copper piping in the attic of the new County Jail. Sixty percent of the labor used to build the jailhouse is local, according to Project Super Charles Cody of Houston.

Chavez passes torch to Guzman at City Council

The City Council met Monday evening in their regular session at the City Hall.

Juan Chavez passed the torch to Daniel Guzman by presenting him with a name plate in front of the Council. Chavez in turn was presented with a certificate of appreciation by Councilman Earl Brehends for his years of hard work on the City Council. Chavez is running for Commissioner in the upcoming election and resigned his seat to Guzman last month.

Don Carter provided the racial profiling report from the Muleshoe Police Department. The MPD recently updated their software that will allow them to process data collected from traffic tickets and miscellaneous reports made by local law enforcement as to racial profiling.

Item three was approved to award local Ronald Wagner the 2004 bid for a seal coat project. The City has been pleased with work he has done in the past.

The Council also consid-

ered Atmos Energy's Natural Gas rate adjustments. The rate increase of 2.93 percent was approved. Other cities in the region are paying six percent more versus Muleshoe's new rate. The last increase was three years ago, according to the City. Atmos representatives said 66 towns in the region will also experience an increase in rates.

There was some talk of a Home Program to be implemented in Muleshoe. The program will allow approved lower income fami-

lies to receive renovations and reconstruction for those who own their homes. The program will also allow for demolition of abandoned and un-kept property around Muleshoe. Each project will not exceed \$55,000.

Also in consideration through the program is additional rental property in town.

The City has budgeted \$100,000 to purchase a used dozer. They have a bid between a 1997 John Deere and a 1991 Caterpillar.

David Brunson and an assistant was appointed to make a decision on which tractor is best.

The bid closed on a center pivot sprinkler south of town previously used on land purchased by the City for water rights. One bid was received for \$1,000.

The Council approved the request that the Hotel/Motel tax funds be used for this year's Cinco de Mayo celebration.

Administrative reports included the Muleshoe Fire Department which had received a grant for \$841.88 from the Texas Forestry Service for a computer upgrade.

The contractor for the S. Hwy. 214 improvement project will begin setting out trees in the city parks this week. There will be approximately 150 trees planted in both parks. The Rotary Club plans to install a drip irrigation system for the new trees.

Also, the housing study authorized by the City Council will begin the last of April and should be completed by the end of May.

Journal names Bell General Manager

The Muleshoe Journal announces the promotion of a familiar face to general manager.



BELL

Leah Bell has taken on the day-to-day responsibilities of managing the newspaper in addition to continuing her job as advertising manager.

"My advertising customers are still my top priority and selling and creating ads is still my passion, but the chance to help this newspaper grow and evolve is really exciting," said Bell. "Plus, I've always acted like the boss anyway so not much should change!"

Bell has worked for the Journal for just over six-and-a-half years. She received her bachelor of arts and science degree in advertising with a minor in English from

Texas Tech University in 1991.

Journal owner Chris Bradford said, "If I had to choose one word to define Leah Bell, it would be 'Superstar.' She works behind the scenes each week to be sure the readers of the Muleshoe Journal get the quality newspaper they deserve. I am really excited about the future of Muleshoe and the possibilities of this newspaper under her day-to-day leadership."

The newspaper is continuing to change and the public is invited to be a part of that change.

"Input is the key to a better newspaper. Ideally, we're trying to improve everything from content to layout," said the new general manager.

The Journal has always strived to be the community's local source for news.

"One-hundred percent; that's what we have to be to continue building your trust as readers," said Bell.



Leslie Radford

Marble-sized hail hit the area Thursday evening as drastic rains of approximately five to six inches, according to some residents, continued to fall.

Local in grocery store TV ad

By Leah Bell
General Manager

Those tuned in to Amarillo's television Channel 45 among other stations might catch a glimpse of a hometown boy. Mike Holt is the newest star of United Supermarket commercials.

In a telephone interview

with his father, Ronnie Holt of Muleshoe, the Journal learned that Mike was asked to do the TV spots by United's Home Office.

"He's gone big time," joked Ronnie. "When the advertising guys asked him to do it, Mike didn't realize how involved the job would be. The crew of two trucks and 15 people came to his

house at 8:30 p.m. to film him drinking coffee and shaving. It's even his own dog in the commercial," he said.

Mike is married to Roxanne. They have two children, four-year-old Carson, and two-year-old Bryson.

Holt manages United Market Street in McKinney.

Do You See A Ford In Your Future?



272-4251 or 1-800-432-7617 MOTOR CO. 1125 W. American Blvd.

Regional News

Muleshoe Athletic Banquet

The annual Muleshoe Athletic Banquet is scheduled for Monday, May 3 at 6 p.m. at the Bailey County Coliseum. Tickets are \$10. For more information or to purchase a ticket, call David Marricle at 272-4504 or David Tipps at 272-5871.

Cinco de Mayo Softball Tournament

Registration is now being taken for the Budweiser Cinco de Mayo Softball Tournament to be held in Lubbock this year on May 1 and 2 at the Berl Huffman complex. More than 50 men, women and co-ed teams from throughout Texas are expected to participate this year bringing an estimated 1500 players to the Hub City. They will compete for over \$1500 in prizes. Teams can register over the Internet at www.texasupercup.com or by calling 806-763-3841. The event is sponsored by the *EI Editor Newspaper* and by Budweiser Standard Sales.

Annual Tour de Muleshoe Bike Ride

The annual Muleshoe Heritage Tour de Muleshoe Bike ride will be held this year on Saturday, June 19 beginning at the Bailey County Civic Center at 8:30 a.m. Early registration will begin soon, but late registration may be done on the morning of the bike ride. There will be prizes given by local businesses, entertainment and a free lunch for bike riders. Start riding your bicycle and join us Saturday, June 19. Business sponsors this year are: Muleshoe State Bank, First Bank of Muleshoe, Leal's Restaurant, United Supermarkets, Five Area Telephone Cooperative, Carolyn's Christmas Creations and Minsa Corporation.

Senior Center garage sale

Garage sale fund-raiser at the Oneita Wagon Senior Center on Friday, April 16 and Saturday, April 17. Doors open Friday at 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday 9 a.m. to noon. Computers, clothes, shoes, house hold items, etc.

Police Academy registration

Registration deadline for the South Plains College Basic Peace Officer Summer Academy has been extended to April 22. The academy will meet 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, May 5 - Aug. 13 in the SPC Law Enforcement-Petroleum Technology Building. The course is open to persons 21 and older who want to be peace officers in Texas. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, high school graduates or have the GED with 12 hours of approved college credit and must not have had a Class B or higher conviction in the last 10 years.

The course meets TCLEOSE requirements for the Texas peace officer licensing exam. Course topics include use of force, human relations, professionalism and ethics, fitness and wellness, strategies of defense, mechanics of arrest, criminal investigation and others. Instructors are Larry Nichols, academy coordinator and SPC law enforcement personnel. Application packets are available in the SPC Law Enforcement-Petroleum Technology Building, Room 102. For more information, contact SPC at 806-894-9611, ext. 2291.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. In recognition of the month, Family Guidance & Outreach Center of Lubbock will sponsor their sixth Blue Ribbon Rally-Harley Party, to be held Friday, April 30 from 7-10 p.m. at the Wild West (formerly The Library) at 2216 I-27. Cooder Graw will be performing at the event. Tickets will be sold for \$30, or four for \$100. Each ticket holder will have a chance to win the door prize, a 2004 Harley-Davidson Dyna Super Glide. The proceeds from this event will benefit the children of the area.

Breast cancer screening in Muleshoe

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a breast cancer screening clinic at Muleshoe Area Medical Center, 708 S. First St. in Muleshoe on May 3 and 20. Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only. Call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Word and Excel classes at ENMU

Learn how to best use these powerful software packages to enhance your personal and business finances, follow and track your investment portfolio and better streamline daily operation.

The class will be taught by Christopher Stockdale, ENMU student and Technology resource Center Manager, this class will be offered Thursday, April 29, 6:00-8:30 p.m., College of Business, Room 132 for a fee of \$30. Register by April 26 and be sure to bring a diskette.

For more information contact Office of Extended Learning at Eastern New Mexico University at 505-562-2165, 1-800-367-3668 or 1-800-537-5376 (NM only). -Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only. Call

Roxy Singer's Showcase in Olton

Roxy Singer's Showcase featuring local and area singers is Saturday, April 24 in Olton. Anyone that would like to perform or needs more information can contact Martin Hernandez at (806) 285-2611 or e-mail at oltonpwd@amaonline.com. Deadline to enter is April 22. This is a monthly show. Competition months are in July

and August.

Friona city-wide garage sale

Friona City-wide garage sale is Saturday, April 17, at the Friona Community Center, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. For information call Friona Chamber of Commerce 806-250-3491.

Turkey shoot in Nazareth

The Nazareth Volunteer Fire Department is holding a turkey shoot on Sunday, April 18, starting at 1 p.m., also with night shooting. The event will take place at the draw, four miles North of Nazareth on Highway 168.

There will be Annie Oakley's, buddy Oakley's, monkey Oakley's, bushwackers, etc. Cash prizes will be awarded. Gift certificates will be given at certain times during the event. Sponsored by the Nazareth Volunteer Fire Department, for more information contact Johnny at 806-647-7445.

American Legion Spring Convention

The American Legion will hold their 19th District Spring Convention April 17-18 in Muleshoe at Ben Richardson Post 403. The first meeting will begin at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Registration is \$15. Guests will be the Muleshoe Mayor Pro-Tem and Philip Wendt, District Director for the South Plains Boy Scout Council. For more information, call Patricia Erickson at (806) 794-9922.

Museum exhibitions

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon will open the first in a series of exhibitions celebrating the founding of the Santa Fe Art Colony on April 17. The first exhibit is "The Old Guard: Santa Fe Art Colony Founders" and will be on display through July 18. Other exhibits to be displayed at a later date include "Albert H. Schmidt: Lost and Found in Santa Fe," and "Women Artists of Santa Fe."

CCC blood drive

Clovis Community College will host a United Blood Services blood drive on Thursday, April 22, in the Commons from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., accepting all blood types. All donors will receive free T-shirts. Potential donors must be age 17 to 79, weigh at least 110 pounds, and provide photo identification.

MHS talent show and dinner

The Ballet Folklorico in collaboration with the sophomore class will have a talent show on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. It is open to the public.

Forms for auditions can be picked up at the Muleshoe High School office. Auditions will be held April 13 begin-

Continued pg. 10

Muleshoe Motor Co. clarification

Due to the large number of calls from community members about last week's headline "Muleshoe Motor Co. sold," the *Journal* would like to clarify a specific detail about the story.

Muleshoe Motor Co. has not sold. Robert Hooten has sold his remaining interest in the business to Dan Brannon of Austin who is a new partner with Lary Hooten at the dealership. Lary will remain general manager as has been the case for the past seven years.

A retirement "sale-abbreviation" has been planned for Friday, May 14 to honor Robert's retirement after 42 years with Muleshoe Motor.

Lary, Wanda and employees invite everyone to come by and say farewell to Robert and to meet Dan.

Thanks for reading!

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Heritage Foundation News

The monthly Heritage Foundation Board meeting was held Monday, April 5. Board members discussed improvements being made on the Figure 4 Ranch House recently moved to the Center, the upcoming meeting of the Texas Trails Board and the annual Tour de Muleshoe Bike Ride in June.

Dustin Wilhite, president, conducted the business meeting. Jenne McVicker, secretary, read the minutes which were approved, and Gary Hooten gave the treasurer's report which was also approved. Peggy Bates, new treasurer of the Heritage Thrift Shop, was welcomed by board members and she gave an account of the Thrift Shop. For health reasons, Vivian White will not be able to fill this of-

ice at this time.

Other board members present were; Dan Throckmorton, vice president Joe Bollinger, Gene Rogers, Lonnie Adrian, LaVonne McKillip, Betty Kerby, Sammie Simpson, Ladene Spears, Larry Nickels, Jean Allison, publicity chairperson, and Dolores Harvey, Center hostess.

The hostess thanked board members for the beautiful potted plant sent to her when she was in the local hospital recently. The hostess reported that there were now five bridge groups meeting at the Heritage Center monthly. She asked board members to notice the recently cleaned carpet at the Depot.

Hooten reported that 50 lilac bushes and 50 cherry

trees have been planted and watered at the Center which will be beautiful in the near future. He noted that Parmer County has some honey locust trees which the county would like to donate to the Center. Hooten will check whether these trees are fruitless or not and will report back.

Throckmorton reported on the bids for three jobs that need to be done on the Figure 4 Ranch House: bracing the ceiling, windows with glazing and new screens. Board members voted to have these improvements done as soon as possible so work can begin on the inside of the future museum.

Carrol Precure submitted a bid to do the electricity work on this Ranch House and board members de-

layed acting on this matter until the other improvements are made.

Simpson gave a report on the Texas Trails board meeting which will be held at the Heritage Center on April 15, beginning at 11 a.m. Simpson is a member of the Texas Trails Board and she noted how fortunate it is to have the meeting here in Muleshoe.

Amber Nuñez, from Austin, who does site evaluations, will be here to take pictures. Soon, advertisements will be released about some of the different trails, tours and Nuñez will decide which two sites in this area will go in the pamphlet.

Lonnie Adrian gave a report on the annual Tour de Muleshoe Bike Ride which

the Heritage Center is sponsoring for the tenth year. The bike ride will be held on Saturday, June 19, this year beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the civic center.

Adrian noted that ads

about the ride have gone out and also said expenses have gone up on nearly everything. He submitted a bid to do the T-shirts which are designed for the ride each year.

Commissioners' Court reviews proposal

The Bailey County Commissioners' Court met in regular session at the Courthouse on Monday morning.

The County opposed a bill by Gov. Rick Perry concerning the increase of property tax and radical cutbacks in services provided by local tax dollars.

The Court also reviewed

the renewal of their insurance through ICON Insurance through Lubbock.

They were given options as to renew their previous plan or sign on with a new provider. New providers may mean lower rates for County employees. A decision will be made at the next meeting on May 6.

After the bills were paid, the commissioners reviewed the ambulance report which showed a total of 71 calls for the month of March. Fifty six of those calls were transported to local hospitals, nursing homes, residencies, etc.

A map of county roads for approval to the Texas Dept. of Transportation (TXDOT) was considered.

Commissioners agreed to purchase more road signs to comply with TXDOT.

The probationary period as to salary for Angela Arreola, Deputy County Clerk, was approved. Arreola's new salary was made effective April 1.

The meeting concluded with the approval of Budget Amendment #8 to the FY 2004 Budget.

Senior Citizen News

Approximately 80 Senior Citizens enjoyed a Spring Pot Luck Luncheon on Thursday, April 8 at the Senior Center. Mary Alice Ramm led the singing and Nina Merriott accompanied on the piano. Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair also brought uplifting music. A matinee followed the meal.

A big garage sale will be held this Friday from

8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The sale includes 16 computers with monitors, clothes, furniture, shoes, household goods and a large assortment of miscellaneous items.

On Monday evening, April 26, at 6 p.m. we'll have another pot luck followed by a movie. Come enjoy our "Dinner Theater."

The Center opens at 8 a.m. Monday through Friday for walkers and those using the exercise machines. We now have four computers with games and other programs on them for the enjoyment of our seniors. You learn how to use a computer while enjoying the games which are easy to play.

We appreciate our April hostesses, Elsie Williams and Clara Harbin, who are providing delicious refreshments for the Tuesday morning game players.

Jail, from front page

The new jail will have 96 beds and hold up to 144 inmates. "Eventually," Cox said, "the jail will pay for itself without having to use taxpayer's money."

To do this, the jail will provide for other counties and possibly even other states. The County currently has a contract with the U.S. Marshal that will pay up to \$38.50 per bed when room is available.

The facility is costing the County \$3.548 million.

A tour of security.

"I think any concerns that the community might have about having a prison in their neighborhood is about prisoner's escaping," said Cody.

He assures the community that it would be next to impossible to break out of this jail. "This is the second most secure building I have done," he said. The first: for the Department of Defense at NASA.

The front portion of the new facility is for administration and is divided with a secure wall between it and the actual prison. To the right of the offices will be the courtroom. In the middle will be the visitation room where prisoners can talk to visitors via telephone. Next to that is the attorney visitation room.

Administration and the jail is divided with a vestibule which is secured with steel doors coming in and going out of the jail. The doors are

operated by a system from the control room, just the other side of the vestibule. All door jams are made of steel and consist of a 300 lb. steel door.

The control room is next to the recreation area that provides an area for inmates to spend time outside and within the confines of the jail. Currently, the rec area is a fenced area beside the Sheriff's Office.

"There will be a hurricane fence from roof-line to roof-line [over the outside rec area]," said Cody. "Prisoners will not be able to climb out."

The security walls are made of 3,000 psi (pounds per square inch) concrete and are six inches thick. They are reinforced and designed to prevent break-outs.

"The old jail doesn't meet those standards," Cody said. He said no prisoner would be able to "file" or "pocketknife" their way through these walls.

The attic is a secure area and only accessible by ladder. "There is no way a prisoner can access the attic," said Cody. "Everything but the sewage plumbing is located there."

The ventilation system is prisoner proof.

"The vents are made of steel," Cody said. They are meshed to allow the circulation of air and too small for an average person to fit through even if they were to break through them. Exhaust fans located in the at-

ter will suck up any smoke from fires set in the building within 60 seconds.

The ceilings are made of 4,000 psi concrete.

There are holding cells, including a "detox" cell with a washout, commonly known as the "puke room."

Cox said this area is, for example, for people who are arrested and intoxicated. They will be held in a separate cell capable of being washed out in case of any "accidents."

The holding cells are across from Medical, which is caddy-corner from the kitchen. There is an office for wardens to watch what goes on in the kitchen to the south as well as the laundry room on its north side.

On the east side of the building is a garage used for loading and unloading prisoners, which the roll-up garage doors will function like the doors in the vestibules within the prison.

Cody explained that there are eight separation cells, one of which is handicap accessible.

"There are four eight-man cells and one 12-man cell at each end," Cody said.

Cox said this is intended to separate the women inmates from the men.

While each cell has a TV set and picnic area (because there will not be a cafeteria), they do not contain windows. And for the windows that do exist in the building, "there will be no glass in any of [them]," said Cody. "It will be bulletproof glass or plastic."



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Sudan-Farmers Coop Sudan	227-2461	9:30-10:30 am
Plainview-Jalee's Outrigger, Inc.	293-5079	12-1 pm
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Canyon-Consumers Fuel Assoc.	655-2134	4-5 pm

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

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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

BEHOLD NOW, THERE IS IN THIS CITY A PROPHET! SURELY WE CAN TELL US WHERE TO FIND THE LOST ANIMALS!

IF WE GO FOR HELP TO THE PROPHET IN RAMAH, WHAT CAN WE BRING HIM? OUR BREAD AND WINE ARE ALL GONE AND WE MUST BRING A PRESENT TO A MAN OF GOD!

SAUL, IN SEARCHING FOR HIS FATHER'S LOST ANIMALS, HAS LOOKED DILIGENTLY THROUGHOUT THE LAND, NOW WITH HIS SERVANT, HE COMES TO RAMAH...

NO! NOW, WE CAN NOT GO TO HIM!

BEHOLD, I HAVE HERE AT HAND THE FOURTH PART OF A SILVER SHEKEL! THAT WILL I GIVE HIM!

SO, WITH THIS SMALL OFFERING, SAUL AND HIS SERVANT APPROACH THE CITY, WHERE AT THIS EXACT MOMENT A GROUP OF MAIDENS ARE EMERGING TO DRAW WATER FROM THE WELL...

Next Week THE MEETING!

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- 1 Corinthians 12:8

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The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.
- Habakkuk 3:19

Education

Third graders do well on TAKS test

Muleshoe I.S.D. announced last week the results of the March TAKS testing done by third graders.

Despite tougher standards this year, 92 percent of Muleshoe's third graders passed the test. Third graders are required to pass the reading portion of the TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) test to move on to the fourth grade. Preliminary results of the year's third grade TAKS test were just released.

Superintendent Gene Sheets said the teachers "did an outstanding job of preparing our student for the TAKS test. The students took the test very seriously and obviously worked very hard to do the best they could."

Of 120 students in third grade, there were four students who had a perfect score of 100 percent. Twenty-six students scored 94 percent and were designated as "Commended Students," (missed two or fewer questions), and 44

students scored 90 percent or higher on the test.

"They deserve to be very proud of their results," Sheets said.

The tougher TAKS test replaced the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) last year. This is the second group of third graders to take the test.

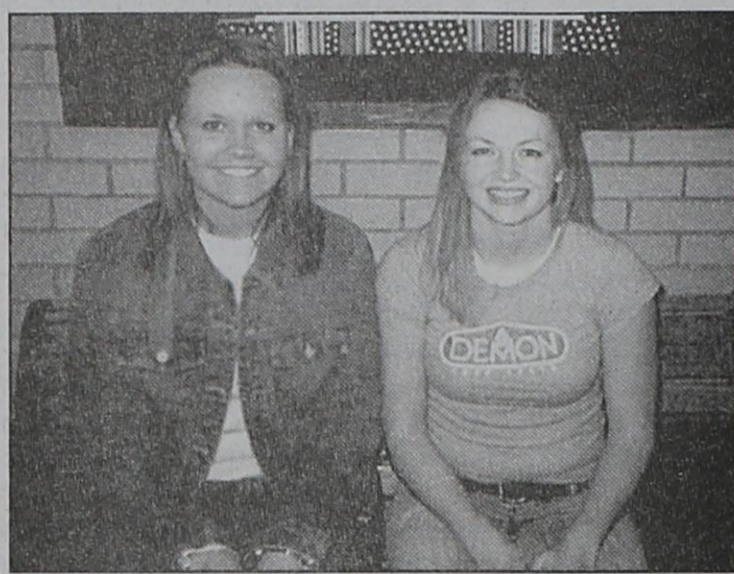
The majority of the TAKS testing will take place in April as the reading portion of the test is given earlier than other parts of the test to allow time for students who don't

pass the first time to retake the test.

The remaining testing dates are April 27 for third through eighth grades on math, and social studies for tenth grade.

April 28, grades four through eight will do reading, grade ten will test on math, and grade 11 will test for science.

April 29, fifth through tenth grades will test on science, while grades eight and 11 test social studies and grade nine tests math.



Lazbuddie Six-man Second Team All-Region—Shawndee Nichols, Sr. and Shonnah Black, Sr. have received basketball honors. Both of these Lady Horns also received the Six-Man Coaches All-Star Game award for the Lazbuddie Lady Horns and Longhorns.

Shipman District Teacher of the Year

Tim Shipman was chosen as Fredericksburg I.S.D. District Teacher of the Year. A reception in his honor will be May 4.



SHIPMAN

Shipman grew up in Muleshoe. He graduated from Muleshoe High School in 1989 and attended West Texas A&M University.

Two years later, he transferred to Texas A&M University where he received a bachelor of science degree in agronomy. While at Texas A&M University, Shipman was a member of the National Golden Key Honor Society and served as president of the A&M Turf Club.

After college, he took an assistant golf course superintendent position at Woodlake Country Club in Schertz.

"A short time passed and I found myself feeling no satisfaction in my job," said Shipman. "There was something more important I was supposed to be doing

in life."

Wanting to make a positive impact in the world and his community, Shipman took up teaching. "The answer given to me," he said. "Make a difference in a child's life; "Mold and shape the hearts and minds of children for life."

He returned to Texas A&M and completed a bachelor of science degree in agricultural education.

He and his wife Rebecca set out to find teaching jobs. She began her teaching career at Carver Early Childhood Center and he began teaching Biology, Integrated Physics and Chemistry, and Agricultural Science at A&M Consolidated High School.

"In my two years at A&M Consolidated I had the opportunity to help start the A&M Science Academy," Shipman said.

"Rebecca and I desired to move further West to be closer to family," he said. "We leaned upon our education and our God to guide us. Fortunately for us, he led us to the hill country, particularly Fredericksburg."

He began teaching 6th and 8th grade science, coached football, basketball and track and became middle school sponsor for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Fredericksburg Middle School in the fall of 1999.

The jump from High School to Middle School

was a whole new beginning in his education.

In the fall of 2000, Shipman was given the opportunity to start the FMS Horticulture program.

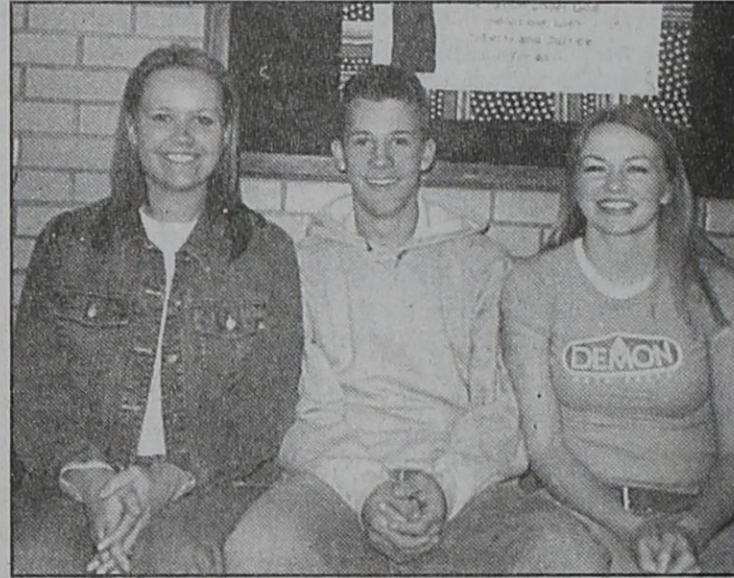
"So many times I had asked God why he took me through various parts of my life," Shipman said. "God answered me loud and clear. I have always had a passion for agriculture and have found much satisfaction in teaching."

Shipman said he considers himself to be "very lucky and blessed."

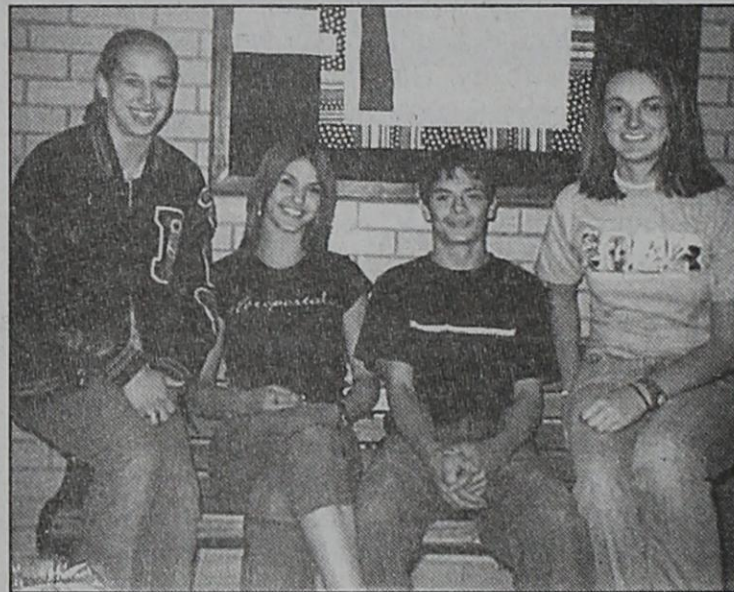
"I would not be where I am today if it were not for God, my wife, my family, my teachers, the students and the professionals I am surrounded by," he said.

"It is a joy and honor to be selected as FMS Teacher of the Year by educators and administrators who are helping students to sow seeds of hope, grow good roots that withstand, produce flowers that brighten the days, fight worldly pest and grow into large towering trees."

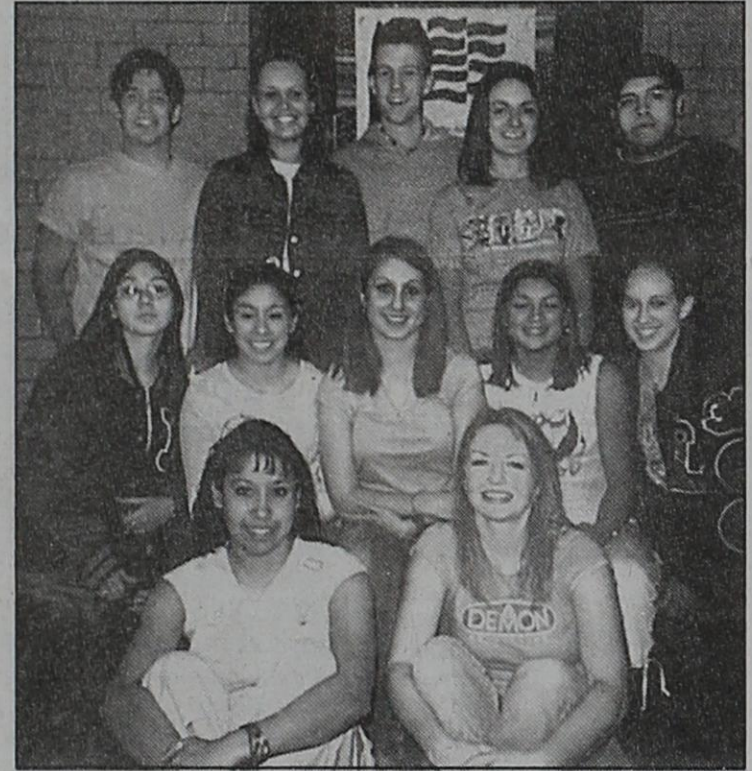
Shipman is the son of Garry and Sherri Shipman of Muleshoe.



Lazbuddie All-District—Shawndee Nichols, Sr.; Shonnah Black, Sr.; and Cory Puckett, Jr. have received basketball honors for the Lazbuddie Lady Horns and Longhorns.



Lazbuddie Honorable Mention All-District—Melanie Winders, Jr.; Kayla Parham, Jr.; Kyra Kimbrough, fresh.; and Jesse Gomez, fresh. have received basketball honors for the Lazbuddie Lady Horns and Longhorns.



Lazbuddie Academic All-District—Shawndee Nichols, Sr.; Shonnah Black, Sr.; Katy Louder, Sr.; Bethenie Sanchez, Sr.; Violet Aguilar, Sr.; Miriam Hernandez, Sr.; Robby Martin, Sr.; Ana Hernandez, Jr.; Melanie Winders, Jr.; Kayla Parham, Jr.; Cory Puckett, Jr.; and Jose Beliz, Jr.

FCS class does community service

The Family and Community Service (FCS) class at Muleshoe High School went to the city parks on Friday, April 2, where they painted the picnic tables and trash cans.

This project was a continuation of the beautification project the class is doing. FCS wanted to do this because they believed the parks were not safe and the graffiti was offending.

Many businesses assisted us by donating gallons of paint.

The group would like to acknowledge Fry and Cox, Higginbotham and Hugo Vasquez for their efforts.

Last week, FCS helped the Jenny Slippers pick up the trash surrounding the putt-putt golf and are getting ready to repaint the steps in front of the High School.

FCS extends their services to the community: any assistance in doing anything call Brenda Guzman at 272-7336.

The following students volunteered: Aaron Arguillo, Felisha Costilla, Gina Estrada, Brittney Fuqua, Brenda Granados, Jessica Hall, Erin Hancock, Mitci Hawkins, Jennifer

Heredia, Celeste Hernandez, Emma Hernandez, Shalisa Ladd, Esther Martinez, Cassandra Martinez, Paje McRoberts, Johnny Moreno, Raul Muniz, Felicia Nieto, Filly Nunez, Stephanie Rubio, Eberardo Salamanca, Marisela Silva, Ricky Trevino, Brittney Tunnel and Vanessa Vasquez.



Muleshoe High School's Family and Community Service class paints at the park

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Obituaries

MITCHELL LEE ABBE

Church services for Mitchell Lee Abbe, 79, of Levelland were Friday, April 9, 2004 at Eastside Church of Christ in Morton, with Joey Pierce officiating. Burial was in Morton Memorial Cemetery.

Mr. Abbe died Tuesday, April 6, 2004 in Covenant Hospital, Levelland. He was born March 24, 1925 in Ropesville to Herman and Oleta Coleman Abbe. He married Berta, his high school sweetheart, in Morton and they celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary on January 22, 2004.

Mr. Abbe was the third generation in his family to live in Cochran County. He attended Morton schools until he was drafted in 1944 into the Armed Services during World War II. He received an honorary diploma from Morton High School in May 2003. During his military service he served in the Philippine Islands and in the occupation of Japan. During that time he had the honor of chauffeuring President Dwight D. Eisenhower who at that time was a Five Star General. After receiving an honorable discharge in 1946, he returned to Morton until his retirement in 2000. He served on the Maple Cooperative Gin for forty years. He was a pilot, an instructor, spray pilot and taught many people to fly. He moved to Levelland in 2001. He was a longtime member of the Eastside Church of Christ and after moving to Levelland he became a member of the Cactus Drive Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife; three sons, Mayland and wife Mary of Levelland, Lamell and wife Linda of Lubbock, and Mike and wife Allene of Morton; one daughter, Rhonda Bird and husband Phil of Levelland; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a brother, Charles and his wife Jean of Morton.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Children's Home of Lubbock, P.O. Box 2824, Lubbock, Texas 79408 or New Mexico Christian Children's Home, 1356 NM 236, Portales, NM 88130.

BETTY BARRETT

Funeral services for Betty Barrett, 74, of Hereford were held Friday, April 9, 2004 at

First Presbyterian Church of Hereford with Rev. John Bethard and Dr. Stacy Conner officiating. The family had a private interment.



Barrett

Mrs. Barrett was born December 5, 1929 in Claude to G.D. and Del Caldwell. She passed away Tuesday, April 6, 2004 at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

She graduated from Claude High School as the salutatorian in 1947 then received a bachelor's degree in education from West Texas State University in 1950. In 1952, she graduated with honors and received her masters degree in sociology from West Texas State University. On September 6, 1952 she married Frank Barrett in the Joseph Hill Memorial Chapel on the West Texas State University campus.

She was very active throughout her life with her husband in farming and the cattle business. Mrs. Barrett was a member of Beta Sigma Phi, the Alpha Chi Honor Society and a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Hereford.

Survivors include her husband of the home; two sons, Bruce Barrett and wife Cindy of Muleshoe and Steven Barrett of Dallas; one daughter, Nancy Purcell of Dallas; one sister, Gloria Viersen of Rancho San Margarita, Calif.; three grandchildren, James Barrett and Megan Barrett, both of College Station, and Jason Purcell of Dallas. She was preceded in death by a brother, Joe Caldwell.

The family requests memorials to the First Presbyterian Church, 610 Lee Street, Hereford, Texas 79045.

DAVID F. ESPINOSA

Memorial services were held for David F. Espinosa, 50, of Garden City, Kan. at the American Legion at Garden City.

Mr. Espinosa died Saturday, April 3, 2004 at his home in Garden City. He was born June 17, 1953 in Clovis to Alfred A. and Mary C. Gallego Espinosa. He was a

resident of Garden City since 1982, having moved from Dodge City. He was a computer scale technician for Tynor Meats, formerly I.B.P.

Mr. Espinosa is survived by a son, Allen D. Espinosa of Wisconsin; a brother, Pete Espinosa of Albuquerque; four sisters, Gloria Espinosa Andrade of Dodge City, Kan., Ramona Handy of Portales, Christine Gonzales of Muleshoe, and Janie Rodriguez of Lubbock; 14 nephews and nieces; and 24 great-grand nephews and nieces.

The family requests memorials be given to the David F. Espinosa Memorial Fund in care of Price & Sons Funeral Home, 620 N. Main, Garden City, KS 67846 or call 620-276-2364.

JOVITA TOSCANO GAONA

Church services were held for Jovita Toscano Gaona, 75, of Levelland on Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Levelland. Burial was in the City of Levelland Cemetery with Father Martin Pina officiating.

A rosary was said at 7 p.m. on Sunday and Monday at Head Family Funeral Home Chapel.

Mrs. Gaona died April 9, 2004 in Lubbock. She was born April 9, 1929 in Campbellton. She married Bartolo Gaona in Tahoka on November 25, 1955. Mr. and Mrs. Gaona moved to Beeville, where they lived for several years until 1965, when they moved to Levelland. They settled and raised all six of their sons. Mrs. Gaona was a homemaker and was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Levelland. She was preceded in death by her husband Bartolo Gaona Sr. in 1999, and a daughter Carolina Gaona in 1968.

Mrs. Gaona is survived by her six sons, Bartolo Jr. and Conchita Gaona of Levelland, Ernesto Gaona of Levelland, Alvino and Mary Gaona of Sundown, Ruben and Dina Gaona of Levelland, Ricky and Nancy Gaona of Levelland and Rene Gaona of Levelland; twenty three grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; two brothers, Melesio Toscano of Mathis, and Enrique Toscano of Muleshoe; and one sister, Anita Lopez of Corpus Christie.

CURTIS DANIELL

Graveside services were held for Curtis Daniell, 79, of Muleshoe Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at Fairview Cemetery in Memphis with Rev. Mark Winskie of Grand Saline officiating. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Memphis.

Mr. Daniell died April 10, 2004 in Muleshoe. He was born March 15, 1925 in Van Zandt County.

He was preceded in death by a brother T.A. Daniell, a grandson and a great-great-granddaughter.

Mr. Daniell lived in Muleshoe for the past year moving from Truth or Consequences, N.M. He worked as an owner/operator of a petroleum pump service. He was a member of the Grand Saline Masonic Lodge #1269 AF & AM. He was also a veteran of the Army.

He is survived by two sons, Rick and Jean Daniell of El Paso, Dariell and Mary Daniell of Normangee; two

daughters, Kathy and Mark Miller of Amarillo, and Kay and Merlyn Rosburg of El Paso; two sisters, Joy Williams of Muleshoe, and Jo Vivian of Grand Saline; eleven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

IDA MAYE HABERER

Church services were held for Ida Maye Haberer, 88, of Round Rock formerly of Earth Tuesday, April 13, 2004 at First Baptist Church of Earth with Rev. Jeff Huckely officiating. Burial was in Earth Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. Haberer died Saturday, April 10, 2004 in Round Rock. She was born February 16, 1916 in Munday. She married Jonnie Haberer in Clovis on November 5, 1935. He preceded her in death in 1979. She was also preceded in death by her parents John O. and Jessie Cantrell, and two sons, Tony and Ronnie Haberer.

Mrs. Haberer moved to Round Rock in 1999 from Earth. She lived in the Earth Community from 1935 to 1999. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church of Earth.

She is survived by a son, Gary Haberer of Liberty Hill; a daughter, Kay Tunnell of Mineral Wells; two sisters, Betty Dillion of Grass Valley, Calif. and Helen Precure of Lazbuddie; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Don't get hit with a penalty! "Render" your taxable property by April 15th.

A "rendition" is a report to the appraisal district that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on January 1st of this year.

Who must file a rendition?

You must file a rendition if you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income—such as the inventory and equipment used by a business. If you render late, don't render or file an incomplete or false rendition, you could be hit with a 10 to 50% penalty.

Are there any advantages to you?

The advantages of filing a rendition are:

- ☛ You give your opinion of your property's value. The appraisal district must notify you in writing of any value change and explain how you can protest that value to the appraisal review board.
- ☛ You record your correct mailing address so your tax bills will go to the right address. If your bill is mailed to the wrong address, the law still holds you responsible for paying your taxes on time or paying extra charges for late payments.
- ☛ You can also file a "report of decreased value" to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of the value of your property in 2003. The district will look at your property before assigning a value in 2004.

What's the deadline?

The last day for filing 2004 renditions is April 15. You can get an automatic extension to May 15 if you ask for it in writing on or before the April 15 deadline. The chief appraiser may grant an additional 15 days after May 15 for an owner who shows good cause in writing.

Where do you file?

File renditions with your local appraisal district at:

Bailey Central Appraisal District
302 Main Street, Muleshoe, Texas 79347
806-272-5501

For more information stop by your appraisal district and pick up "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities"

Or contact

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn
Property Tax Division
P.O. Box 13528, Austin, TX 78711-3528
or call: 1-800-252-9121
or on the Web at:

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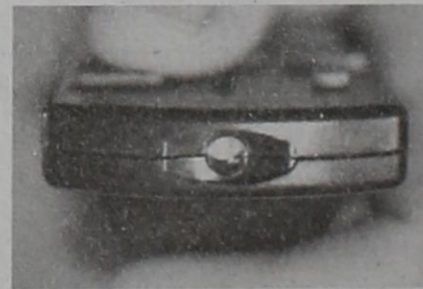
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Births

ANTHONY JORGE SIFUENTEZ

Noah Sifuentez and Terri Villa of Muleshoe are the parents of a son, Anthony Jorge Sifuentez, born at 7:50 p.m. on April 5, 2004 at Lamb Health Center.

He weighed 7 lbs., 3 oz. at birth and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Baby Sifuentez has two siblings, sister Taylor Jaramillo and brother Noah Sifuentez, Jr. His grandparents are Camilo and Belia Villa of Muleshoe and George and Aurora Sifuentez of Earth.

LACIE MARIE KIRK

Shane and Brenda Kirk of Muleshoe announce the birth of a daughter, Lacie

Marie Kirk, born at 6:29 p.m. March 8, 2004 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Kirk weighed seven pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 inches long.

She has a ten-year-old sister, Brianna.

Grandparents are Lacie and Donna Kirk of Muleshoe, Jerry and Maudie Mudford of Arkansas, and the late Pat Mudford, formerly of Muleshoe.

Great-grandparents are Gerald and Dot Carmichael of Colorado, Betty Motley and the late Weldon Motley of Olton, Lottie Mudford of California, Clara Coffman of Muleshoe and Judy Gasparetto of Michigan.

Agricultural News

Cattlemen's Capitol Concerns

The CCC is a weekly report from Washington D.C. giving an up-to-date summary of top policy initiatives concerning the cattle industry; direct from National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA).

Mexican Trade Update: In a huge boost for cattle producers across the country, we are expecting an announcement very soon about the reopening of borders for U.S. beef variety meat exports to Mexico. Negotiations between U.S. and Mexican officials are expected to result in an announcement next week. This is a critical component of our overall beef export market, as Mexico is our largest market for beef variety meats. In 2003, the U.S. exported 315 million pounds of variety meats (43 percent of our total beef trade with Mexico) and accounted for \$271 million in value. The agreement includes all variety meats (hearts, livers, tongues, etc.) except tripe. It is unclear why tripe is being exempted at this time, however, when Canada reestablished variety meat trade with Mexico, tripe was inadvertently left out.

Japanese Trade Update: With U.S. beef export markets to Japan still closed, Vice President Dick Cheney will visit Japan, China and South Korea April 9-16 to discuss top trade issues, regional issues, and efforts to combat terrorism. The Vice President has been briefed on our top beef trade concerns, and will be meeting with key Japanese government officials in Tokyo April 10-13. Correspondences from key Senators were sent to the Vice President's office asking him to make resumption of beef trade with Japan a priority discussion item during his trip. NCBA continues to make the re-opening of this prime market a top priority in D.C.

Canadian Trade Update: NCBA submitted its comments last Wednesday on USDA's Proposed Rule on BSE and the establishment of Minimal Risk Regions and Importation of Live Cattle. The rule would include Canada in a category of regions that present a minimal risk for BSE and could pave the way for the Canada to export certain categories of cattle into the U.S. NCBA comments reflect several key concerns of U.S. cattlemen: 1) possible disruption of the domestic cattle market caused by large movements of cattle from Canada; and 2) the age of Canadian cattle allowed to enter and the identification and restrictions on Canadian heifers. NCBA is demanding that re-opening the border is not an option until U.S. cattlemen's concerns are addressed. USDA will now review the comments, and it will take more time before a final rule is published.

FSIS Comments Deadline Extended: The USDA Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) announced April 7 that it will extend the comment period for their interim final rules on specified risk material (SRM) removal, prohibition of non-ambulatory cattle, changes to the Advanced Meat Recovery regulations, and ban on air injection stunning. In addition, FSIS announced the availability of an economic impact assessment for the rules on SRM and non-ambulatory cattle. Comments will be due on May 7. NCBA will review these economic impact assessments and provide comments to FSIS.

Conservation Programs Update: NCBA and other livestock groups met with Bruce Knight, Chief of the Natural

Texas crop, weather report

As wheat begins to "spring up" in Texas, producers are looking forward to higher yields and prices, reports Texas Cooperative Extension.

Dr. Travis Miller, Extension program leader for soil and crop sciences in College Station, said right now most of the wheat in Texas is progressing well.

There have been ample amounts of rainfall in most areas of Texas, which is really helping the wheat along. However, there have been some reports of rust disease on some wheat crops. Other than that, from the Brazos Valley on north to the Oklahoma border, the crops look good, he said.

"In West Texas there was a really dry fall and some stands were lost, but most of the Blacklands, Brazos Valley and Gulf Coast looks like an above-average crop," Miller said.

Lots of wheat in Texas is grown in the Panhandle, and Bob Robinson, district Extension administrator in Amarillo, said the crop is making excellent growth where soil moisture is adequate.

The southwest and western portions of the Panhandle have received little rain, and soil moisture is depleting, he said. There have been some problems with greenbugs, army cutworms and Russian wheat aphids, Robinson said.

Most of the wheat in Texas is a dual-purpose crop. This means that the wheat will be grazed for a certain period of time, and then the cattle will be pulled out of the fields around May to then cut the wheat for grain.

However, in order to do this, the wheat crop must be fenced. So if it isn't, chances are that producer is probably just growing his crop for grain purposes, Miller said.

In Texas, two major classes of wheat are grown. East Texas produces soft red winter wheat, which is used in crackers and pastries. Ninety-five percent of the wheat grown in the state, however, is the hard red winter variety, which is primarily used in bread, Miller said.

"The higher-priced cattle market may have caused more acres to be planted this year," Miller said. "However, producers, such as those in West Texas, may not be able to take advantage of this because of the lack of rain and poor condition of the wheat."

According to the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, 6.6 million acres of wheat were planted throughout the state in 2003. About 3.4 million acres of that total was harvested. This year these numbers are expected to increase.

"Prices are fairly attractive right now," Miller said. "Normally wheat sells for about \$2.50 to \$3 per bushel. We are currently seeing some new wheat contracts being offered in the upper-\$3 range."

Forage availability is also above average in many areas of Texas due to the timely rainfall. Joe Pena, Extension economist in Uvalde, said pastures and ranges are greening up. Livestock conditions are also improving due to the increase in forage availability, he said.

According to Ronald Wooley, district Extension administrator in Stephenville, supplemental feeding is beginning to decrease in Central Texas due to the recent rainfall and forage improvement.

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district Extension directors:

PANHANDLE: soil moisture is rated very short to adequate. Midweek temperatures were 10 to 15 degrees above normal. Light rains fell across the

Cotton News

Plains Cotton Growers News

Plains Cotton Growers hosts a regular meeting for what is loosely named the "Plains Cotton Advisory Group". The group meets once a month "off-season" and every other week during the production season. The next meeting is Friday April 16, 2004 at 7:30 AM. Dates for meetings scheduled for 2004 are: April 16 and 30; May 14 and 28; June 11 and 25; July 9 and 23; Aug. 6 and 20; Sept. 3 and 17; Oct. 1, 15 and 29; Nov. 11 and 17.

NCC Seeks 2004-5 Leadership Class Applicants

The National Cotton Council has announced that the application period for the 2004-05 Cotton Leadership Class has opened. NCC will accept applications from qualified U.S. industry members through July 1.

Those interested in applying can visit the Cotton Leadership Program's web site at <http://leadership.cotton.org> to review the program curriculum, eligibility requirements and download the application. The site also includes a contact form that allows users to submit questions, request information and schedule a personal visit with local program alumni. The NCC's Cotton Leadership Program seeks to identify potential industry leaders and provide them developmental training through this class.

During five sessions of activity across the Cotton Belt, participants visit with industry leaders and observe production, processing and research. They meet with lawmakers and government agency representatives during a visit to Washington, DC, and at

Select the best cotton varieties in 2004

Selecting productive cotton varieties is not an easy task — especially on the Texas High Plains, an area where weather can literally "make or break" a crop. A Texas Cooperative Extension cotton agronomist advises producers to do their homework by comparing several characteristics among many different varieties, and then keying these characteristics to typical growing conditions.

"We can't control our growing environment from year to year, but we can select the varieties we plant based on positive traits," said Randy Boman, Extension cotton agronomist. "It is very important to select and plant varieties that fit your farm — varieties with the genetic potential to achieve good lint quality and total yield."

"The 2003 crop year in the Texas High Plains was a challenging one. In spite of the weather, many producers achieved record yields on their farms. Many others had a tough year. June weather destroyed more than one million acres, mostly from the best irrigated land. Early dryland crop prospects declined due to record low rainfall in July and August," Boman said.

The 2003 crop totaled about 2.4 million bales. As a whole, the crop had excellent color and leaf grades, low bark percentage, and the highest average staple length since 1996. The average strength was also very high, he said. About 61 percent of the crop had a 34 or longer staple length, which was the highest seen since 1997.

"Fortunately, 2004 looks promising due to outstanding winter precipitation. Additional new varieties and technologies are on the way that can help producers boost

Water Issues Heat Up in Texas

Texas Dept. of Agriculture Website For Texas Agriculture Today

By Ramona Nye

"Water is more like blood than oil. Without it you die." "What may be cheap and profitable today may be devastating to regions in the future."

"The hard issues are left, like rule of capture. Now the fun part starts."

These were just a few of the comments made by a panel of state legislators who gathered at a Texas Water Summit in Austin. The panel included Sen. Kenneth Armbrister, Victoria; Sen. Robert Duncan, Lubbock; Rep. Robert Cook, Eagle Lake; and Rep. Robert Puente, San Antonio; and the remarks reflect the upcoming policy issues state lawmakers face as they seek ways to help urban and rural Texas meet its water needs for the next 50 years.

"All economic activity follows water - development, jobs, houses, hospitals, nursing homes - every single location depends on water," said Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs, who also spoke at the Summit, highlighting the importance of carefully evaluating the impact groundwater transfers may have on local, rural economies, especially if water under state lands is leased.

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Sports

Lady Mules softball collects 12 hits against Cats; perfect 4-0

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mule softball team locked up the district crown with a 12-2 pasting of the Littlefield Lady Cats April 9. The Lady Mules have two games left in district and are a perfect 4-0 to date.

Deanna Cody recorded seven strikeouts in six innings and gave up just two runs on five hits. The Lady Mules only committed one

error on defense.

The Lady Mules collected 12 hits to score the 12 runs and made the most of the 10 walks and 10 errors committed by the Lady Cats.

Sarah Sexton was two-for-two at the plate, picked up an RBI and scored a run. Ashley Dickson had two hits, scored twice and brought three runs across.

The Lady Mules error came on the first batter in

the sixth inning. The second batter bunted a slow roller back to Cody on the mound and beat the throw to first.

The base runner rounded third and headed for home. Jamie Carpenter stepped off the bag at first and fired the ball to Brianne Gomez. Gomez blocked the plate and tagged the runner to prevent a run.

Gomez made a second play at home when Dickson scooped up a hard hit ball

at third and went home on the fielder's choice. Gomez again blocked plate and made the tag for the Lady Cats second out of the inning.

Cody struck out the sixth batter for the final out of the inning. Zannia Avilla, Kyla Ellis and Sarah Dominguez walked the bases loaded to start the bottom half of the sixth inning. Avilla and Ellis scored on a sacrifice to first by Gomez.

Cecelia Reyna drew a walk before Dickson singled to right center to score Dominguez and Reyna. Madison Smith drew a walk and Cody reached on an error. The ball went in the Littlefield dugout to move Smith to third and Cody to second. Mandy Brantley hit a ground ball to short to score Smith. The run gave the Lady Mules a 10 run lead and ended the game.

"We played good defense tonight and only committed one error," said Lady Mule coach Steve Dunn. "We clinched district with the win tonight and that is a big thing for us. Kyla Ellis had a key hit for us in the fourth inning that got us started and she scored two runs. Cody keeps the ball around the plate and picked up seven Ks to keep them off the bases."

"Brianne Gomez had two big plays at the plate tonight because the infield was aware of the situation. She really did a great job behind the plate tonight," Dunn said.

The Lady Mules played at Dimmitt April 13 and will travel to Plainview April 17 to tangle with the Plainview JV. Littlefield will host the Lady Mules in the final district game April 20.

Coach Dunn has sched-

uled practice games with Clarendon and Sanford-Fritch April 24 and 30th in Fritch. The Lady Mules will probably meet either Lubbock Cooper or Pecos in the Area round of the playoffs.

Mules play three in three

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The third time was definitely the charm for the Mules. Lightning stopped the game when the Mules first met Brownfield with the Mules leading 1-0. The second meeting was in Muleshoe. Brownfield jumped in front 7-2 after three and a half innings before rain stopped the game.

District rules call for the game to start over if at least four and half innings have not been completed when weather intervenes. The two teams finally got to complete a game in Brownfield April 7 and the Mules dumped the Cubs 9-5.

Jarad Flores started on the mound for the Mules and pitched three innings. Bryan King came on to finish off the Cubs. The Mules scored five runs in third inning and added two more in the fourth and sixth innings.

The Mules scattered 14 hits and just committed two errors while the Cubs scored five runs on eight hits and also had two miscues.

The weather forced the Mules to play three games in three days. The Mules traveled to Lubbock Cooper April 8 and the Pirates sunk the Mules 15-0. Brant Hamilton and Jonathan Marlow were on the mound for the Mules.

The Mules bounced back on Friday night to defeat the Littlefield Wildcats 8-3. After giving up three runs in the first two and half innings the Mules scored a run in the third and fourth innings to trim the lead to 3-2.

Landon Wilson came on in relief of King in the fourth inning and slammed the door on the Wildcats. Hamilton drew a walk to start the bottom of the fifth

inning and stole second base.

Hamilton scored when Arium Perez reached down and lofted a ball over second base. Hamilton's run tied the game at 3-3. Robby Bomer's ground ball to short tied the hands of the short stop and he reached on the error. Perez was moving on the pitch and went to third.

Wilson went down swinging at a slow curve for the Mules first out of the inning. Ryan Marricle grounded out to short but his sacrifice scored Perez. King ripped a line drive down the third base line to bring Bomer home and push the Mules lead to 5-3. Juan Nunez and Eddie Alvarado each singled and scored in the bottom of the sixth. Bomer got on base on an error and scored the Mules final run on another Cat mistake.

Wilson threw a ground ball to get the first batter in the seventh. Hamilton scooped up the ball at short and fired across the diamond to Tyrell Gear. Gear had to dig the ball out of the mud for the out. King made a running catch near the fence in left field for the second out and Hamilton caught a high pop fly over his shoulder for the Cats final out.

"I just tried to keep the ball around the plate and let the guys behind me make the plays after I came in," said Landon Wilson. "They really did a good job and we made no errors tonight. Now that we are 4-1 though the first round of district we just have to keep playing hard and make it to the playoffs."

"These kids just keep getting better and came out early today to help get the field ready," said Mule coach Gilbert Ramirez. "We took

some batting practice and they stayed patient at the plate tonight and hit the ball. We played our style of ball tonight and when we had base runners we moved them over into scoring position. Tonight's win helped get the taste of the loss to Cooper out of our mouths."

MHS second in lady mules golf

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mule golf team edged into second place in district with a second place finish on the Elm Grove Golf Course in Lubbock April 5th. The Lady Mules caught and passed the Lady Cubs of Brownfield with a team score of 459.

The Lady Cubs had a four-stroke lead going into the tournament but finished with a 468 to fall five strokes behind the Lady Mules. Slaton continues to hold first place and took first for the second week in a row with a 369.

The final round of district was held in Dimmitt April 13th. The Lady Mules and Brownfield are in a battle for the second qualifying spot to the Region I tournament to be held in Odessa April 19 and 20.

Boys golf game best of the season

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Mules continue to play their best golf of the season and fired a 301 on their home course to all but clinch a second place finish in district. The 301 is a season best for the Mules as they peak at the right time.

Slaton continues to lead the district by 19 strokes and shot a 295 to win the second round. The JV Mules finished with a 336 to hang on to the third spot in district.

"The boys are getting better each week and 301 is their best round this season," said Mule golf coach Kode Krane. "Ariel (Flores) really heated it up on the back nine to shoot his 67. The kids are developing a tough mental attitude and are not willing to let a bad shot get them down. They really battle on every hole."

The final round of district will be hosted by Brownfield on the Sundown Golf Course April 14.

Texas quail index sets April training

SAN ANGELO—Texas Cooperative Extension's Texas Quail Index is marking its third year with a training April 26-27 at the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center at San Angelo. The center is located north of town on U.S. Hwy. 87 North.

On April 26, activities will start at 1:30 p.m. at the center, then reconvene at 6:30 a.m. April 27 near Tennyson.

Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo and TQI founder, said cooperators conduct various quail counts and evaluate different aspects for quail habitat in 40 Texas counties

and six wildlife management areas.

Day-one topics will include: "Texas Quail Index Objectives," "Descriptions Of Various Indices," "Logistical Concerns," "Reporting," "Supplies" and "Review and Critique of Year - Two Efforts."

Rollins said Extension received some special funding from the Texas Legislature in 2002 to address the decline in quail numbers. The TQI has been the major impetus of that funding.

Individual registration is \$20 due on arrival. The fee covers handout material and the meal. For more information call Rollins at (325) 653-4576 or e-mail drollins@tamu.edu.



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Thank You!

The Muleshoe Fine Arts Boosters would like to thank the following businesses and people for their donations to the Fine Arts Night To Shine. They would also like to thank the parents who brought desserts to the event. Your contributions helped ensure the success of the event. Once again, thank you from the members of the Fine Arts Boosters and the students involved in the Fine Arts programs at Watson Jr. High and Muleshoe High School.

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Commentary

Errors of my ways

Managing Editor's Commentary
By Leslie Radford

We've all made 'em. And I have no doubt in my mind we'll make some more—some of us more than others.

I'll be the first to say I have made a few; more than I'd like to admit and some that no one needs to know about!

At any rate, wise men say you should learn from your mistakes and share that knowledge with others, and in turn, learn from their mistakes.

Now, I don't know these wise men personally, but they make a lot of sense. So, I share with you the errors of my ways—learn from them:

Listen to your mother (sometimes, not all the time, just sometimes, she's right); don't smoke; don't drive fast

in Bailey County—it will hurt your pocketbook...

and your driving record (especially if you do it often...); have an opinion, but don't express it at inappropriate times (your feet don't taste like lollipops); use spell check and save often; be positive; live in the now; love;

don't tell children anything you don't want other adults knowing; make sure you have the keys in your hand *before* you lock the car door; tattoo you address on the inside of your left palm (you never know when you'll get amnesia);

laugh at yourself (that way it doesn't hurt as bad); get over it; look fear in the eyes and take life by the horns; sometimes

you just have to eat it (like peas and carrots); mind your Ps and Qs, but don't ever do anything you don't want to (even if it's good for you); make friends every opportunity you have (life is too short to be without them in the end);

if you can't beat them, for crying out loud, *don't* join them; crying over spilled milk is a waste of time... and milk; trust your instincts (that's what they're there for); your grandmother isn't as conservative as you think; the express line at the grocery store isn't always what it appears to be; be thankful for what you have and what you have to offer.

Most importantly, (and you'd be doing everyone a favor), don't let one rip in crowded places.

Frivolity

General Manager's Commentary
By Leah Bell

Frivolity. We've become a nation obsessed with frivolous things, especially lawsuits. I'm talking about the kind that make you want to completely give up on being a decent human being or, at the very least, slap some sense into someone.

Like the January 2000 case won by Kathleen Robertson of Austin who was awarded \$780,000 by a jury of her peers after breaking her ankle, tripping over a toddler who was running amuck inside a furniture store. The owners of the store were understandably surprised at the verdict, considering that the misbehaving little fellow was Ms. Robertson's son.

Or the December 1997 verdict of a Philadelphia restaurant ordered to pay Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pa., \$113,500 after she slipped on a soft drink and broke her tailbone. The beverage was on the floor because Ms. Carson threw it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument.

Or the December 1997 case of Kara Walton of Claymont, Del., who successfully sued the owner of a night club when she fell from the bathroom window to the floor and knocked out

her two front teeth. This occurred while Ms. Walton was trying to sneak through the window in the ladies' room to avoid paying the \$3.50 cover charge. She was awarded \$12,000 and dental expenses.

Or finally, the January 2002 case involving police in Vermont who had stopped a man. After running his name, it came back that there were warrants for his arrest from Florida. Before the police could arrest him, he fled into a nearby forest (in the middle of winter). The police searched for him, but were unable to find him. Three days later, the suspect turns himself in to police and was taken to the hospital with frostbite. He ended up having several fingers and toes amputated. He is now suing the police. Why? The police didn't look for him hard enough! He stated in an interview, "If they had searched harder, they would've found me". He's accusing the police of dereliction of duty leading to his loss of limbs.

Are we all so obsessed with money that we're willing to lose our self-respect and more importantly, respect for those around us? Every time someone wins a lawsuit like this, those of us who try to

be honest, hard-working people lose, too. It isn't just the defendants who pay. We can't afford health insurance because of people who win frivolous lawsuits. We can't afford a lot of things because of these greedy people. Companies pass the cost on to the innocent.

Frankly, I don't know what bothers me most — that people actually bring these cases to court or that juries find in favor of such nonsense.

Get a clue people! Money isn't what makes this world and it sure isn't what's going to save it.

Didn't this type of behavior have grave consequences (those of Biblical proportions) when people began to place too much emphasis on golden idols a few thousand years back? Aren't we just rewarding people who worship an idol of a different color when we let these people win frivolous lawsuits?

To wrap it up, I guess what I'm trying to say is this: Don't forget, the government wants your money by close of business April 15.

After all, someone somewhere needs a \$5,000 shower curtain and they need a "patsy" to pay for it.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Recently, I heard that the plan to make pre-k all day was approved and that the decision to move second grade to DeShazo was still being decided.

As a parent, taxpayer, and citizen of Muleshoe I am concerned how such a big decision was made without much input from our community. In my opinion the principals and administration took it upon themselves to decide what was best for our children. I feel that the reason to move second grade to DeShazo is being considered is to start preparing them for the TAKS test a year earlier.

Secondly, I cannot see the reason for sending three- and four-year-olds to school seven hours a day. I have a daughter who went to pre-k and it was great for her; She had a wonderful teacher, Mrs. Durham, who helped build a foundation to her education. She taught her how to follow directions, to play with others and many other valuable lessons. My daughter is now in kindergarten where her current teacher, Mrs. Ambriz, is building on that foundation. My daughter

is very smart and well adjusted and I did see that she had a little bit of a head start because of pre-k. So I feel pre-k is a very beneficial program. But I can honestly say that I would not have sent her had it been all day long. (In the state of Texas, kindergarten is not even a requirement [to go all day] so I do not have to send my child if I do not want to.)

I think that pre-k is a wonderful program, but my question is: why change it? Doesn't the current program work? What will be taught all day? Won't fewer kids be accepted moving from four classes to two? I know that currently they do not go to music and P.E. with Mrs. Skipworth and Mrs. Phelar; will they go now? Obviously some funds were made available so shouldn't they be going to music, P.E., and library?

I saw that in Lubbock there is a school that has four pre-k classes, two are all day and the other two are 1/2 day. Maybe that is something to consider.

I just feel that maybe the district should have called a town meeting to get the input

of the parents that this decision is going to affect, and to explain what their goals were in changing the program.

Concerned parent
Laura Mora

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CCC from pg. 7

Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) last week to discuss the implementation, funding levels, and eligibility concerns with EQIP and other conservation programs included in the 2002 Farm Bill. Currently, some applicants are having trouble qualifying for the funds, and NCBA and other livestock groups are asking Chief Knight for a formal, concrete list of reasons for exclusion from funding.

Secretary Veneman at National Press Club: NCBA participated in a press event at the National Press Club this Tuesday, where USDA Secretary Ann Veneman spoke to an audience of Washington D.C. media and industry representatives. Veneman spoke on the state of U.S. agriculture, and highlighted many cattle and beef industry issues including reopening of export markets, harmonization of trade standards, downer cattle issues, testing requirements, and our food safety and inspection systems. With testing policies being heavily debated in the media, Secretary Veneman stated

there was no scientific basis for testing every animal for BSE.

Nebraska Producer on National Panel: The National Institute for Animal Agriculture is hosting their annual meeting in Salt Lake City this week, and held a day-long forum on "BSE in North America: A New Era" on Tuesday. Scheduled speakers in-

clude Ron DeHaven, USDA Chief Veterinary Officer, and Les Crawford, FDA Acting Administrator. Nebraska Cattle Producer and Nebraska Cattlemen's Association President Allen Bright represented NCBA in a panel discussion with other industry groups on BSE Safeguards in the U.S.

We wish to thank each and every one of you for your prayers, flowers, food, cards and memorials that honored our loved one. A very special thanks to the members of the Muleshoe Fire Department for their perfect farewell escort to honor Donald. We could not have made it through this loss if it had not been for all the love and kindness shown by everyone to our family.

We Thank You All.
The Donald Harrison Family

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Engagements

CASTORENA—CASTILLO

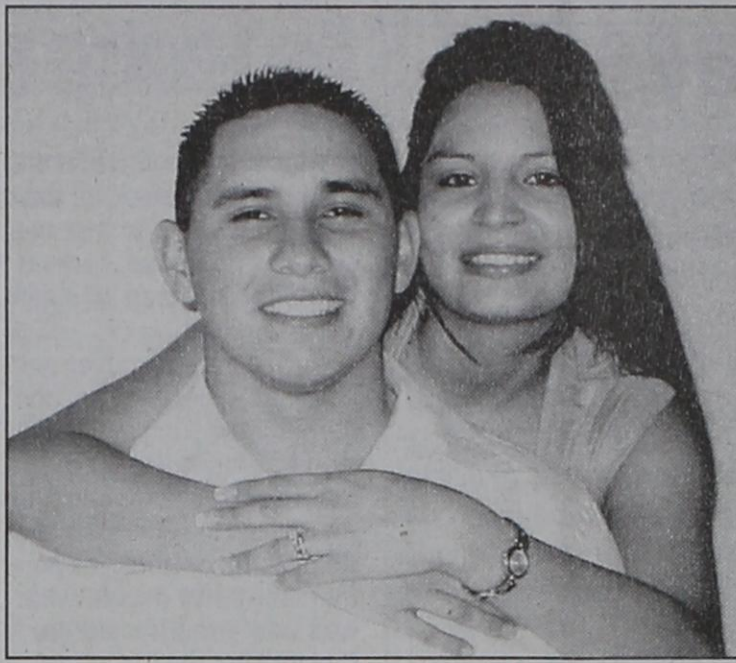
Ninfa Castorena of Muleshoe announces the approaching marriage of her daughter, Jennifer Castorena of Muleshoe to Robert Castillo of Clovis, son of Liza Bargas of Clovis.

The bride-elect is a 2001 graduate of Muleshoe High School, she attended Angelo State University in San Angelo in 2001-2003 and is currently attending University of Phoenix in Ariz.

Ms. Castorena is the granddaughter of Sylvia and the late Gilbert Castorena, Sr.

The prospective groom is a 2001 graduate of Clovis High School. He is in the presently in the United States Marine Corps.

The wedding is schedule for May 1, 2004 at 3 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. A reception will follow the ceremony.



CASTORENA—CASTILLO

SHIPMAN—COERS

Garry and Sherri Shipman of Muleshoe announce the engagement of their daughter, Mandy Shipman to Lance Coers, both of Lubbock.

Lance is the son of Linda Coers of Lubbock, Bob Coers of Post, and Bill and Tricia Mayes of Honey Grove.

The couple plans to be married July 24 at Los Abrigados Resort in Sedona, Ariz.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Muleshoe High School and Texas Tech University. She is employed by Richard Milburn Academy.

The future bridegroom is a graduate of Lubbock-Cooper High School. He is employed by Great Plains Distributors.



SHIPMAN—COERS



South Plains Senior Companion Program—The Points of Light Foundation has set the week of April 18-24 as National Volunteer Week. The Foundation along with the South Plains Senior Companion Program, has recognized (from left) Frank Estrada, Pearlie Fluellen and Delfino (Dale) Luera as volunteer Senior Companions in Bailey County. The program consists of volunteer seniors over 60 years of age who perform in-home services for homebound adults. Local volunteers donate 20 hours a week of their time to the program. Other counties that participate in the program are Cochran, Garza, Hockley, Lamb, Lynn, Terry and Yoakum.

Roundup, from pg. 2

Tickets for the meal and show will be \$8 for adults and \$7 for 12 and under. Meals will be served from 5:30- 7:30 p.m. Meal only tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for children.

Harrison at 769-4766 to register by phone. Applications must be complete and turned in by April 9th.

CCC first annual flea market April 24

Clovis Community College will hold its first annual Flea Market on April 24, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the East parking lot across from the new W.D. Dabbs Library and Technology Center. Vendors are encouraged to participate. Booth spaces are free, but space is limited. Contact Sherrie

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Bellringer trial results announced, buckles awarded

Bellringer Trial Results Friday, April 2

Open:
1. Herbert Holmes with Tess, 87 pts., \$130.20 payout; 2. Allison Holmes with Jett, 85 pts., \$106.95 payout; 3. Tracy Derox with Jill, 87 pts., \$74.40 payout; 4. Robin Penland with Pat, 84 pts., \$55.80; 5. Herbert Holmes with Jan, 79 pts., \$41.85 payout; 6. Red Oliver with Ned, 74.5 pts., \$32.55 payout; 7. Ron Burkey with Newt, 74 pts., \$23.25 payout; 8. Butch Larson with Oscar, 73.5; 9. Sarah Boudreau with Patch, 69; 10. Sarah Boudreau with Cloud, 68; 11. Ron Burkey with Glen, 66.5; 12. Ed Ward with Rock, 66; 13. Herbert Holmes with Pal, 63; 14. Larry Burkes with Rick, 59; 15. Glenn Firchow with Kim, 58; 16. Butch Larson with Craig, 57; 17. Rick Strohl with

Sue, 56; 18. Richard Bailey with Tank, 54.5; 19. Bud Boudreau with Spark, 42.5; 20. Allison Holmes with Sarah, 41.5; 21. Susan Carpenter with Rose, 41; 22. Richard Bailey with Tot, 37; 23. Raymond Reeves with Sooner, 37; 24. Robin Penland with Maddie, 32; 25. Susan Carpenter with Guy, 30; 26. Terry Debusk with Gripp, 24; 27. Raymond Reeves with Mist, 0; 28. Red Oliver with Luke, 0; 29. Bud Boudreau with Peg, 0; 30. Emil Luedecke with Ben, 0; 31. Terry Debusk with Newt, 0.

Nursery:
1. Robin Penland with Josie, 66 pts., \$82.50 payout; 2. Joe Raines with Hank, 65 pts., \$49.50 payout; 3. Ron Burkey with Hank, 61 pts., \$33.00 payout; 4. Bud Boudreau with Sam, 0; 5. Tracy Derox with Rock, 0; 6. Bud Boudreau with

Delta, 0; 7. Butch Larson with Griz, 0; 8. Richard Belvin with Reese, 0; 9. Bud Boudreau with Jael, 0; 10. Rick Strohl with Queen, 0; 11. Glenn Firchow with Slick, 0.

Saturday, April 3

Open:
1. Red Oliver with Ned, 91.5 pts., \$134.40 payout; 2. Emil Luedecke with Ben, 90 pts., \$110.40 payout; 3. Raymond Reeves with Sooner, 88 pts., \$76.80 payout; 4. Robin Penland with Pat, 87.5 pts., \$57.60 payout; 5. Butch Larson with Oscar, 87 pts., \$43.20 payout; 6. Tracy Derox with Jill, 86.5 pts., \$33.60 payout; 7. Red Oliver with Luke, 86 pts., \$24.00 payout; 8. Herbert Holmes with Pal, 84.5; 9. Susan Carpenter with Guy, 84.5; 10. Matt Alexander with Max, 82.5; 11. Bud Boudreau with Spark, 82; 12. Herbert

Holmes with Jan, 78; 13. Ron Burkey with Newt, 78; 14. Butch Larson with Craig, 78; 15. Herbert Holmes with Tess, 77; 16. Terry Debusk with Newt, 75; 17. Ron Burkey with Glen, 72; 18. Larry Burkes with Rick, 71.5; 19. Sarah Boudreau with Patch, 71.5; 20. Richard Bailey with Tank, 71; 21. Susan Carpenter with Rose, 70; 22. Ed Ward with Rock, 65; 23. Sarah Boudreau with Cloud, 63.5; 24. Rick Strohl with Sue, 58; 25. Allison Holmes with Sarah, 39.5; 26. Wes Glass with Punch, 39; 27. Richard Bailey with Tot, 21; 28. Robin Penland with Maddie, 0; 29. Bud Boudreau with Peg, 0; 30. Glenn Firchow with Kim, 0; 31. Allison Holmes with Jett, 0; 32. Pat Collins with Jamie, 0.

Open Ranch - 1st Run:

1. Stephanie Goracke with Tweed, 77 pts., \$117.00 pay-

out; 2. Butch Larson with Griz, 73 pts., \$93.60 payout; 3. Rick Strohl with Dusty, 72 pts., \$70.20 payout; 4. Susan Carpenter with Joe, 66 pts., \$46.80 payout; 5. Clay Dissler with Meg, 61 pts., \$35.10 payout; 6. Clay Dissler with Kate, 57.5 pts., \$27.30 payout; 7. Robin Penland with Toss, 54.5; 8. Richard Belvin with Reese, 54.5; 9. Tracy Derox with Rock, 50.5; 10. Rick Strohl with Cap, 37.5; 11. Susan Carpenter with Phil, 29; 12. Terry Debusk with Doc, 26; 13. Sharon Eady with Le, 21.5; 14. Ed Ward with Jan, 8; 15. Bud Boudreau with Widge, 0; 16. Butch Larson with Buddy, 0; 17. Joe Raines with Hank, 0; 18. Bud Boudreau with Fleet, 0; 19. Glenn Firchow with Slick, 0; 20. George Wallace with Boner, 0; 21. Matt Miller with Diamond,

Cont. page 11

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- 2002 GMC ENVOY SLT 7596 **\$299 MO.²**

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\$359 MO.²

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- 2003 CHEVROLET REG. CAB 4X4 7507 **\$235 MO.²**
- 2003 CHEVROLET REG CAB 7521 **\$255 MO.¹**
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Muleshoe Art Assoc. announces winners of Spring art show

The Muleshoe Art Association held their annual Spring art show at the Muleshoe State Bank Monday, April 5.

Local artists displayed their work in four different categories including oil, pastel, watercolor and miscellaneous.

Tom Boutell judged several works of art and the Association announced winners who will leave their dis-

plays up at the Bank until tomorrow, Friday, April 16.

Best of Show-First Bank Award — Mildred Williams, watercolor, "As the Twig Bent"

Watercolor— First place: Ginnie Seifert, "Winter Bridge;" second place: Jackie Hinderliter, "Christian"

Oil— First place: Marie Tidwell, "Wild Flowers;" second place: Nelda Merriott,

"Cowboys at Sunset"

Pastel— Sandra Chancey "Red Lillies"

Sculpture— Frances Stegall, "Blue Cloud"

Muleshoe State Bank Purchase Award— Ginnie Seifert, oil, "A Walk in the Fall"

Honorable Mention— Watercolor: "Aqua Aerobics," Ginnie Seifert; "Grape Vines," Mildred Williams; "Cloudy Days," Sandra

Chancey;

Oil: "A walk in the Fall,"

Ginnie Seifert; "The Fra-

grance of Roses," Nelda

Merriott; "Cotton Patch,"

Nelda Merriott;

Pastel: "You May Call Me

Lilly," Ginnie Seifert; "Beth,"

Jackie Hinderliter

Disaster declaration for West Texas counties

Washington, DC-Congressman Randy Neugebauer announced Wednesday that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated several West Texas counties as primary agricultural disaster areas due to last year's drought. Neugebauer said that Bailey, Hale, Cochran, Lamb, Lynn, Terry, Yoakum, and Lubbock Counties are being given the disaster declaration, which makes farmers in those areas eligible for emergency loans. Late last year the USDA declared a number of Texas counties

as disaster areas due to hail damage.

"I've heard from several farmers who have been waiting for this declaration in order to obtain a loan to finance this year's crop," said Neugebauer. "I encourage farmers who need these emergency loans to apply at their county FSA office as soon as possible."

This drought severely reduced last year's yields for most West Texas producers. The designation makes all qualified farm operators in these counties eligible for low-interest emergency (EM) loans from the Farm

Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for the loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs available, in addition to the emergency loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity.

USDA has also made other programs available to assist farmers and ranchers, including the Emergency Conservation Program, Federal Crop Insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

Interested farmers should contact their local FSA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available on-line at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

Bellringer, from pg. 10

0; 22. Bud Boudreau with Mo, 0; 23. Jim Ellis with Jean, 0; 24. Ron Burkey with Hank, 0; 25. Gilbert Carter with Bob, 0; 26. Janet Johnson with Heidi, 0.

Ranch:

1. Sharon Eady with Liza Marie, 69.5 pts., \$67.50 payout; 2. Gilbert Carter with Abby, 58 pts., \$40.50 payout; 3. Pat Howard with Di, 56.5 pts., \$27.00 payout; 4. Arnel Bryan with Bo, 51.5; 5. Lyndon Huckaby with Jackson, 46; 6. Clay Dissler with Roc, 42; 7. Geri Abrams with Cap, 32; 8. Jim Ellis with Mitzi, 0; 9. Stephanie Goracke with Nell, 0.

Novice:

1. Rita Cannon with Trent, 46.5 pts., \$54.00; 2. Lanelda Strohl with Ann, 43.5 pts., \$36.00 payout; 3. Chelsea Howard with Spec, 32.5; 4. Ricky Kennedy with Bill, 22; 5. Chelsea Howard with Ash, 0; 6. Mike Hunt with Mac, 0.

Nursery:

1. Tracy Derx with Rock, 68 pts., \$60.00 payout; 2. Robin Penland with Josie, 67 pts., \$36.00 payout; 3. Richard Belvin with Reese, 65 pts., \$24.00 payout; 4. Ron Burkey with Hank, 62; 5. Sarah Boudreau with Patch, 62; 6. Joe Raines with Hank, 0; 7. Butch Larson with Griz, 0; 8. Bud Boudreau with Delta, 0.

Sunday, April 4

Open - 2nd Run:

1. Matt Alexander with Max, 178 accum. pts.; 2. Red Oliver with Ned, 184.5 accum. pts.; 2. Herbert Holmes with Tess, 170 accum. pts.; 3. Herbert Holmes with Pal, 177 accum. pts.; 5. Raymond Reeves with Sooner, 179.5 accum. pts.; 6. Bud Boudreau with Peg, 91; 7. Susan Carpenter with Rose, 159.5; 9. Bud Boudreau with Spark, 171.5; 10. Red Oliver with Luke, 175; 11. Herbert Holmes with Jan, 166.5; 12. Glenn Firchow with Kim, 88; 13. Robin Penland with Maddie, 88; 14. Allison Holmes with Sarah, 126; 15. Robin Penland with Pat, 173; 16. Emil Luedecke with Ben, 175; 17. Tracy Derx with Jill, 169.5; 17. Susan Carpenter with Guy, 167.5; 18. Richard Bailey with Tot, 103.5; 19. Richard Bailey with Tank, 151.5; 20. Ron Burkey with Newt, 157.5; 21. Allison Holmes with Jett, 79; 22. Ed Ward with Rock, 143.5; 23. Rick Strohl with Sue, 135.5; 24. Sarah Boudreau with Patch, 144.5; 25. Larry Burkes with Rick, 114.5; 26. Pat Collins with Jamie, 0; 27. Butch Larson

with Craig, 0; 28. Terry Debusk with Newt, 75; 29. Sarah Boudreau with Cloud, 63.5; 30. Ron Burkey with Glen, 72; 31. Butch Larson with Oscar, 87.

Open Ranch - 2nd Run:

1. Ron Burkey with Hank, 80 accum. pts.; 2. Richard Belvin with Reese, 134 accum. pts.; 3. Terry Debusk with Doc, 105.5 accum. pts.; 4. Clay Dissler with Kate, 136 accum. pts.; 5. Rick Strohl with Cap, 111 accum. pts.; 6. Ed Ward with Jan, 81.5; 7. Robin Penland with Toss, 125.5; 8. Susan Carpenter with Phil, 92.5; 9. Rick Strohl with Dusty, 128; 10. Matt Miller with Diamond, 0; 11. Clay Dissler with Meg, 61; 12. Jim Ellis with Jean, 0; 13. Joe Raines with Hank, 0; 14. Butch Larson with Buddy, 0; 15. Glenn Firchow with Slick, 0; 16. Susan Carpenter with Joe, 66; 17. Butch Larson with Griz, 73; 18. Bud Boudreau with Mo, 0; 19. Sharon Eady with Le, 21.5; 20. George Wallace with Boner, 0; 21. Tracy Derx with Rock, 50.5; 22. Stephanie Goracke with Nell, 0; 23. Gilbert Carter with Bob, 0.

Ranch - 2nd Run:

1. Arnel Bryan with Bo, 133 accum. pts.; 2. Harry Dulaney with Rob, 70.5 accum. pts.; 3. Sharon Eady with Liza Marie, 138.5 accum. pts.; 4. Lyndon Huckaby with Jackson, 110 accum. pts.; 5. Gilbert Carter with Abby, 122; 6. Pat Howard with Di, 106; 7. Geri Abrams with Cap, 71.5; 8. Jim Ellis with Mitzi, 0; 9. Clay Dissler with Roc, 42.

Novice - 2nd Run:

1. Lanelda Strohl with Ann, 99.5 accum. pts.; 2. Rita Cannon with Trent, 101 accum. pts.; 3. Mike Hunt with Mac, 44; 4. Chelsea Howard with Spec, 69.5; 5. Chelsea Howard with Ash, 32.

Nursery - 2nd Run:

1. Sarah Boudreau with Patch, 142 accum. pts.; 2. Ron Burkey with Hank, 126 accum. pts.; 3. Bud Boudreau with Delta, 54 accum. pts.; 4. Butch Larson with Griz, 0; 5. Tracy Derx with Rock, 68; 6. Robin Penland with Josie, 67; 7. Joe Raines with Hank, 0; 8. Richard Belvin with Reese, 65.

Belt Buckles awarded:

Open - Red Oliver of Caldwell; **Open Ranch** - Clay Dissler of Del Rio; **Nursery** - Sarah Boudreau of Red Owl, S.D.; **Ranch** - Sharon Eady of Odessa; and **Novice** - Rita Cannon of Quinlan.

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SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING

Issued when severe weather has been reported by spotters or indicated by radar. Warnings indicate immediate danger to life and property to those in the path of a storm.

TORNADO WATCH

Tells you tornadoes are possible in your area. Remain alert for approaching storms. Watches are intended to heighten public awareness and should not be confused with warnings.

TORNADO WARNING

Issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Warnings indicate immediate danger to life and property to those in the path of a storm.

What You Should Do...

- ⦿ Watch the sky and listen to radio and television for further information. Remain alert for rapidly changing conditions.
- ⦿ Know the area in which you live. Use a road map of your area to track storm path.
- ⦿ If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to be struck by lightning. Take shelter inside sturdy structure.
- ⦿ Go to safe shelter in a sturdy building.
- ⦿ Continue to listen to radio and television for further information. Postpone outdoor activities if thunderstorms are imminent.
- ⦿ Unplug appliances not necessary for obtaining weather information. Unplug air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can overload compressors.
- ⦿ Avoid using telephone or appliances. Do not take bath or shower. Use phone ONLY in an emergency.
- ⦿ Watch the sky and listen to radio and television for further information. Remain alert for rapidly changing conditions.
- ⦿ Know the area in which you live. Use a road map of your area to track storm path from weather bulletins. Remember: Tornadoes occasionally develop in areas in which a severe thunderstorm watch or warning is in effect.
- ⦿ In a home or building, move to a pre-designated shelter, such as a basement.
- ⦿ If an underground shelter is not available, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Stay away from windows.
- ⦿ Get out of automobiles. Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car. Instead, leave it immediately.
- ⦿ Continue to listen to radio and television for further information.

Local Shelter Locations

Primary Location:

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507 W. 2nd St.

Secondary Location:

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A Public Service Message from

FIVE AREA TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE

Lazbuddie I.S.D. names students of the month for February

The students of the month for February have been named at Lazbuddie elementary school. These students have displayed outstanding qualities of character, citizenship, and leadership. They have proven to be an asset to their class and to their school. Each student was presented a ribbon and commended for their efforts. They are:

Pre-Kindergarten: Aron Suderman, son of Peter and Aganetha Suderman.
Kindergarten: Isaac

Romero, son of Teresa Hood and Jose Marquez.

First Grade: Haicha Hood, daughter of Teresa Hood and Jose Marquez.

Second grade: Madison Jesko, daughter of Dustan and Stephanie Jesko.

Third grade: Seth Russell, son of Clint and Holly Russell and Victor Godinez, son of Luis and Vickie Godinez.

Fourth grade: Todd Nichols, son of Mike and Sherrie Nichols and Kylie McGehee, daughter of

Kevin and Malessia McGehee.

Fifth grade: Jose Lule, son of Jose and Rosalva Lule.

February Lazbuddie High School students of the month are:

Kevin Williams is the senior son of Howard and Tracey Williams. His least favorite change from last year is the cokes. The funniest part of his day is first period because of the people. History is his favorite subject. In five years, he's going to college and become a farrier. The best advice his parents have given him is "don't do drugs." His favorite line from a song is "...Dust and mud, they call the thing a rodeo." The worst part of the school day is after lunch.

Bethenie Sanchez is the senior daughter of Jr. and Chandra Sanchez. Bethenie's favorite change from last year is becoming a senior. The funniest part of her school day is listening to all the guys talk. Her favorite school subject is Ready, Set, Teach II. In the next five years, she sees herself cheering in college while earning a degree. The best advice her par-

ents have given her is not to give up. Her favorite line from a song is "we are champions." The worst part of her day is waking up in the morning.

Lazbuddie Jr. High February Students of the Month for Lazbuddie Junior High School are:

Darin Ivy is the sixth grade son of Lanse and Shelley Ivy. His least favorite change is running from class to class. The funniest part of his day is asking Mrs. Birkenfeld stupid questions, and she laughs with the kids and they have a good time learning. His favorite subject is wood shop because he likes making things. In five years, he will be a junior in high school. He doesn't ask his mom and dad for advice; he does what he is comfortable with. The worst part of his day is when he gets home and doesn't have anything to do, because his mom won't let him ride his dirt bike without his dad there.

Rochelle Smith is the eighth grade daughter of Randy and Terrie Smith. Her least favorite change from last year is not being able to take wood shop. The funniest part of her day

is Gillit's classes. Her favorite school subject is ag. She will go to college to become an interior designer in the next five years. Her parents tell her to do her best at everything she decides to do.

"No, I did not take the nap—the nap took me," from Shel Silverstein is her favorite line. The worst part of her day is homework.



Lazbuddie Elementary School Students of the Month— Front row: Aron Suderman, Isaac Romero, Haicha Hood, Madison Jesko and Seth Russell. Back row: Victor Godinez, Todd Nichols, Kylie McGehee and Jose Lule.

Water, from pg. 7

"Leasing state water should be viewed as a public safety issue because irreplaceable water is a public safety issue," Combs said. "The leasing of state water under state lands that belong to all Texans should be a thoughtful and open process with input from all conceivable parties."

As momentum builds to tap into additional groundwater resources, more lawmakers now are calling for a look at revamping the rule of capture. The 1904 law allows landowners to withdraw an unlimited amount of groundwater without regard to the withdrawal's impact on neighboring wells.

Additionally, a proposal by the General Land Office to allow a private company, Rio Nuevo Ltd., to pump and sell water from underneath state lands in West Texas also has lawmakers

questioning the role of the state in leasing state-owned groundwater and how to balance a statewide demand on groundwater while protecting rural economies.

A separate panel will tackle environmental in-stream flows. Senate Bill 1639 in the 78th Regular Session established a 15-member Study Commission on Water for Environmental Flows. The commission will conduct public hearings and make legislative recommendations on state policy for ensuring surface water for in-stream flows. Senate Bill 1639 also prohibits TCEQ from issuing new permits for in-stream flows that are dedicated to environmental needs or bay and estuary flows until after Sept. 1, 2005.

A Water Conservation Implementation Task Force was established by Senate Bill 1094 and includes a rep-

resentative from the Texas Department of Agriculture. The task force is developing a comprehensive best management practices guide for agriculture, municipalities and industry.

To help agriculture continue its role in conserving water, Senate Bill 1053 consolidated three existing Texas Water Development financial assistance programs dedicated to agricultural water conservation into one program and established a linked-deposit program for agricultural and non-point source pollution. About \$190 million is available from this program, while the 2002 State Water

plan has identified that \$575 million is needed to improve agriculture's water conservation capacity over the next 50 years.

Combs praised the legislators' efforts on tackling the difficult water issues that all Texans are facing, and she urged all rural and agricultural officials to speak to their legislators about the importance of water to their local economies. "All economic activity follows water — development, jobs, houses, hospitals, nursing homes — every single location depends on water. You simply cannot engage in revenue-producing activity if you don't have water.

Cotton from pg. 7

their profitability. Look for new varieties from several seed companies in 2004. Bollgard II will be available in several new varieties, as well as several new Liberty Link herbicide-tolerant varieties."

Even so, growers should not plant fence-row to fence-row with one type of cotton, he added. County Extension agents can advise growers on variety performance in local field trials. The Plains Cotton Improvement Program's (PCIP) replicated large-plot systems variety trials, sponsored by Plains Cotton Growers and Cotton Inc., also contain good baseline information that can help growers evaluate and compare potential field performance, Boman said.

"The variety trials conducted by John Gannaway, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station cotton breeder, at Lubbock and many other High Plains sites is another good source of comparison information. Gannaway's performance trials provide the only unbiased information on large numbers of varieties sold on the High Plains, particularly new ones such as Liberty Link and Bollgard II,"

Boman said. "It is best to consider multi-year and multi-site performance averages when they are available. At the same time, there are many new varieties appearing on the scene that have not undergone multi-year university testing."

Growers can obtain a copy of Gannaway's 2003 Cotton Performance Tests in the High Plains and Trans-Pecos Areas of Texas, and Extension's Systems Agronomic and Economic Evaluation of Transgenic and Conventional Cotton Varieties in the Texas High Plains, from their county Extension agent or from The Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Lubbock.

These and other crop production publications, including a brief article on the new Liberty Link system, are also available on the Internet at: <http://lubbock.tamu.edu>. The Lubbock center phone number is (806) 746-6101.

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"Make Me a God!" Is a Strange But Common Request

"Make me a god!" It seems like such a strange request—until we realize how often we probably make this same request ourselves.

Israel's children were waiting in the desert at the foot of Mt. Sinai. Moses had been summoned up the mountain by God Himself. Jehovah was about to give to Moses to give to His people the tablets of the Law.

But Moses had been gone a good while. Forty days and nights. And Israel's children were as restless and impatient as a little child waiting on his mama at Cloth World. What

Was it because the God who had created this world and who gave them their very lives was not God enough?

Was it because the God who would soon be feeding them with manna and sharing with them His very Presence was less than the answer to their need?

"Make us a god!"

A god you can make. A supposed creator created by his own creatures. Hmm.

What comes first—the chicken or the egg?

What comes first—the creator or the creatures?

I've always wondered how mechanistic and naturalistic evolutionists get around the big question: "Who lit the fuse for the Big Bang?" So, they say, life on earth originated from some primordial soup? Well, who made the soup? Where did the stuff of creation come from? It seems to me, you must have a creator, a cook, a pre-existent chef of amazing power, back there somewhere.

And now the request comes: Make us a god! And it makes me wonder about the kind of god who can be made by creatures who fashion him in their own liking, set him up on a stand, and then bow down to him, presumably to thank him for life and all good things.

I see a problem here. And it would seem even sillier if we didn't do the same thing ourselves all the time.

"Make us a god!"

The god that Aaron made for them was gold. Fitting, I suppose. Lots of ours are, too. We bow before Money and what it can buy. We bow before Pleasure. We bow before Success and Prestige.

But the God who redeemed us on a cross is God enough. Let's bow before Him.

Curtis Shelburne is minister of the 16th & D Church of Christ in Muleshoe

Focus On Faith

Curtis Shelburne

had happened to Moses? What was taking him so long? Was he even still alive or had that awesome display of power on the mountain unmade him?

At first, perhaps, they were just impatient. But impatience turned into anger, and anger flowered into folly as they accosted Aaron, "Moses is gone. We don't know what happened to him, but he's gone. Make us a god!"

Why did they need a god?

Was it because the God who rained plague after plague on their humiliated Egyptian taskmasters was somehow away like Moses, off on a long journey?

Was it because the God who had parted the Red Sea and then swallowed Pharaoh's entire army in swirling death too weak to somehow help Israel's children along on the rest of their journey?

Lazbuddie District UIL participants advance to Regionals April 23

The District UIL meet was held at Happy on March 23. The following students placed and will advance to the Regional Academic UIL meet at South Plains College on April 23.

Accounting: Shawndee Nichols - first place (perfect paper), Robby Martin - second place; Michelle Scott - third place; and Shonnah Black - fourth place, first place team.

Computer Applications: Shawndee Nichols - first place; and Brett Mimms - third place.

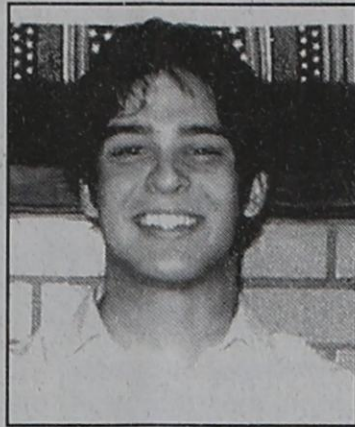
Literary Criticism: Kayla Parham - fifth place.

Mathematics: Shawndee Nichols - second place.

Number Sense: Shawndee Nichols - third place.

Poetry: Kyra Kimbrough - third place.

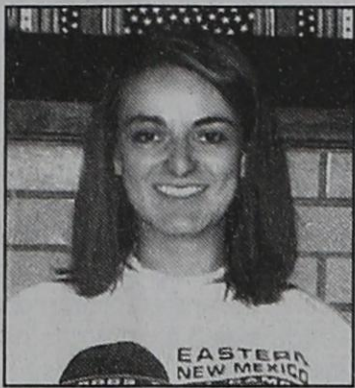
Ready Writing: Robby Martin - first place.



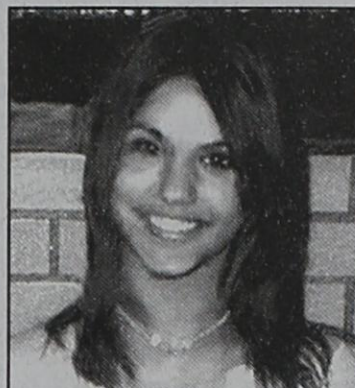
Lazbuddie UIL District Ready Writing— Robby Martin.



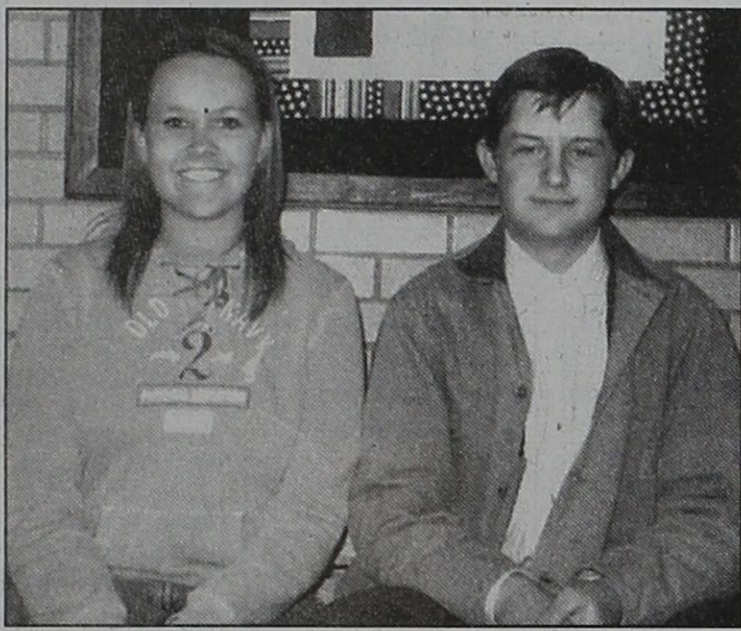
Lazbuddie UIL District Mathematics and Number Sense— Shawndee Nichols.



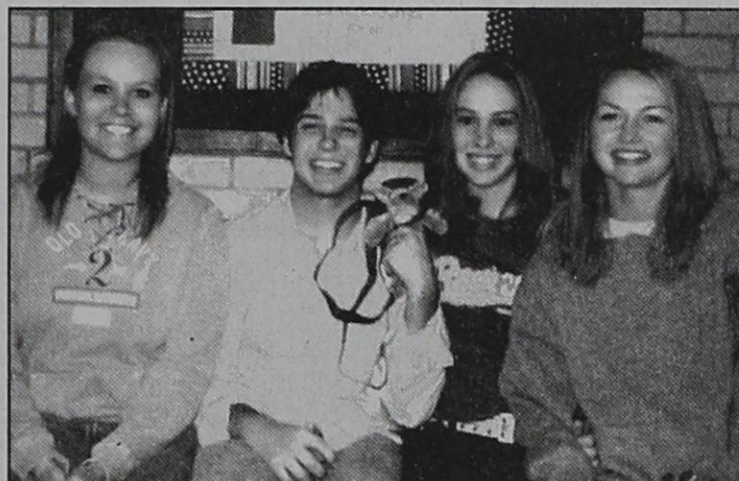
Lazbuddie UIL District Literary Criticism— Kayla Parham.



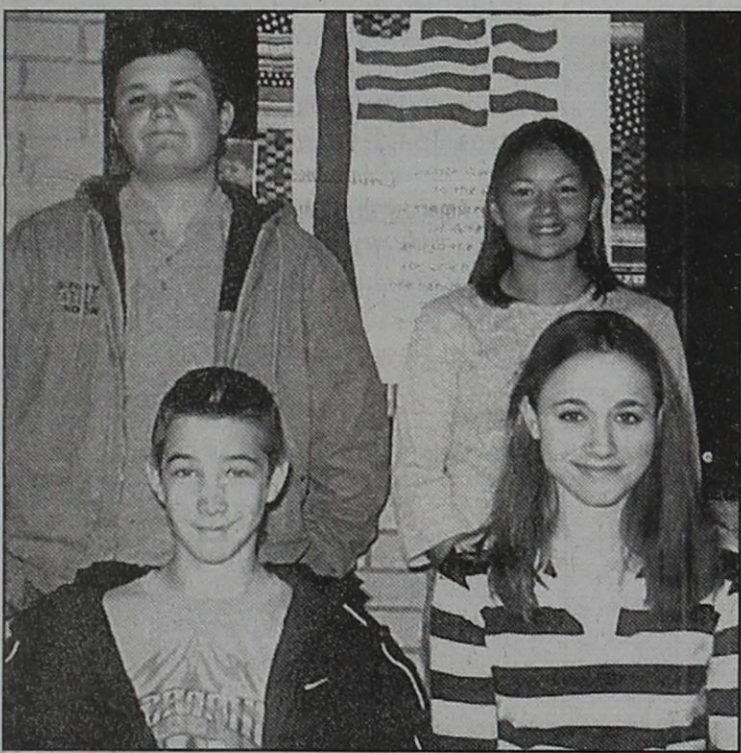
Lazbuddie UIL District Poetry— Kyra Kimbrough.



Lazbuddie UIL District Accounting— Shawndee Nichols and Brett Mimms.



Lazbuddie UIL District Accounting— Shawndee Nichols, Robby Martin, Michelle Scott, and Shonnah Black.



Lazbuddie H.S. and JHS Students of the Month— Front row: Jr. High students Darin Ivy and Rochelle Smith. Back Row: High School students Kevin Williams and Bethenie Sanchez.

NCC news, pg. 7

tend the NCC's annual meeting and its midyear board of directors meeting.

The program, now in its 21st year, is supported by a grant to The Cotton Foundation from DuPont Crop Protection and is managed by NCC's Member Services department.

The ten member leadership class is comprised of four producers and one participant from each of

the other six industry segments.

The 2004-05 class is to be announced in August by the NCC's Cotton Leadership Development Committee.

Committee Chairman Jimmy Sanford, an Alabama producer, says the U.S. cotton industry has benefited from dedicated leaders for decades, but the need to groom future leaders is imperative.

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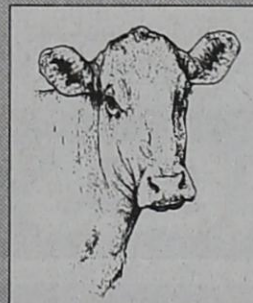
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REPRESENTATIVE SALES

331 head of cattle, 68 hogs and 221 sheep and goats for a total of 620 animals were sold at the April 10th sale. Fewer receipts due to all the rain the previous week. Market steady compared to last week.

The Muleshoe Cattle Market is brought to you each week by Muleshoe Livestock Auction, located east of Muleshoe on U.S. 84. Muleshoe Livestock conducts sales every Saturday, beginning with hogs, sheep and goats at 10 a.m. and cattle following at approximately noon.

FOR INFORMATION ON SALES OR TO CONSIGN CATTLE, CALL (806) 272-4201



Muleshoe Cattle Market

SAT., APRIL 10, 2004

Seller, City	#	Type	Wt.	CWT or PH
Jose Franco, Denver City	2	Hol. str	258 lbs.	at \$123.00
Bill Benham, Muleshoe	3	Hol. bulls	288 lbs.	at \$111.00
Gustavo Hernandez, Seagraves	1	Hol. str	325 lbs.	at \$122.00
Carl Steiner, Plainview	3	Hol. str	355 lbs.	at \$111.00
Bill Benham, Muleshoe	1	Yell. str	190 lbs.	at \$148.00
Jesus Hernandez, Hereford	1	Bik. str	215 lbs.	at \$155.00
Abraham Castanon, Friona	1	BWF bull	245 lbs.	at \$124.00
Abraham Castanon, Friona	1	Bik. str	445 lbs.	at \$106.00
Kyle Muller, Littlefield	1	Bik. bull	345 lbs.	at \$127.00
Bar C Feed & Cattle, Littlefield	2	Bik. str	378 lbs.	at \$126.00
Joe Acosta, Olton	1	Red bull	390 lbs.	at \$114.00
Janie Carrillo, Anton	1	RWF str	450 lbs.	at \$116.00
Melanie Meeks, Farwell	1	Bik. str	505 lbs.	at \$109.00
Antero Estrada, Texico, NM	1	Bik. hfr	180 lbs.	at \$295.00
Jesus Hernandez, Hereford	1	Bik. hfr	310 lbs.	at \$123.00
D&A Cattle, Portales, NM	3	BWF hfrs	333 lbs.	at \$123.00
Curtis Drager, Friona	1	Char. hfr	415 lbs.	at \$103.00
Bar C Feed & Cattle, Littlefield	8	Bik. hfrs	433 lbs.	at \$117.00
Travis Bessire, Muleshoe	1	RWF hfr	500 lbs.	at \$99.00
Miscel Escalante, Denver City	1	BMF pair		\$790.00
Kyle Muller, Littlefield	1	Bik. cow P6		\$830.00
Gary Birkelleach, Littlefield	1	Bik. cow	1630 lbs.	at \$52.50

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Health



Important asthma facts

Asthma can be managed so that you can live a normal life. You should be able to play, exercise, sleep and go to work or school without being held back by asthma symptoms.

Asthma is a disease that inflames and swells the airways in your lungs. This swelling and inflammation, and the symptoms of asthma that they cause, such as cough, wheeze, shortness of breath or chest discomfort, can be controlled by medicine and by staying away from things that bother your airways.

Pollen or allergies, pollution or tobacco smoke, and respiratory infections like colds and sinus can trigger an

asthma attack or episode that makes the airways narrow and makes breathing difficult. It is important to try to avoid things that trigger an asthma episode. Be sure to receive a yearly flu shot, and if you smoke, get help from your health professional to quit smoking for good.

Asthma needs to be watched and cared for over a very long time. Asthma cannot be cured, but it can be treated so that you can be free of symptoms all or most of the time. Asthma is NOT gone when symptoms are absent.

You play a big role in taking care of your asthma and working with your doctor.

Adolescent drinking is a rising concern

By Patti J. Patterson, M.D.
Vice President for Rural and Community Health

The use of alcohol by underage drinkers is a rising epidemic in communities across Texas. According to Kitty Harris, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Study of Addiction at Texas Tech University, alcohol is the drug abused the most and the earliest by adolescents. Many children have their first alcoholic drink between the ages of 12 and 13.

Alcohol abuse has serious and lasting consequences for underage drinkers. In addition to the risks of engaging in illegal behavior, teenager drinkers face a number of physical and emotional problems caused by drinking.

"Underage drinkers can have serious health problems, their academics suffer, as do their relationships with family and friends," Harris said. "They can also experience developmental problems. Younger drinkers literally quit growing emotionally and socially, because alcohol becomes their way to cope. These young people miss out on all the usual adolescent opportunities to learn productive coping behaviors."

Harris said that too many parents minimize the seriousness of their children's abuse of alcohol and believe that alcohol is less dangerous than other kinds of drugs their children could be using. "The parents are mistaken, however," said Harris. "Alcohol is one of the most dangerous drugs available in terms of consequences. Excessive drinking by adolescents is a leading contributor to sexually transmitted diseases and teenage pregnancies."

In a 1998, survey of secondary students conducted by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, almost half said that alcohol was "easy" to obtain, while an additional 37.5 percent responded that alcohol was "somewhat easy" to acquire.

In the same survey, 17 percent of secondary students said that when they drink, they have five or more drinks at a time. Ten percent of survey respondents claimed to have attended at least one class while drunk.

Parents must actively protect their children from the dangerous consequences of alcohol abuse. Harris discourages parents from threatening their children, and instead encourages parents to create a plan setting clear expectations and enforcing consequences if children do not meet those expectations.

"Consistency from parents is important," Harris said. "Parents must enforce the rules."

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SEASONAL OPENING

The Greenhouse

located at Muleshoe Feed Barn will be opening with plants Thurs., April 15. Tomatoes, peppers, bedding plants and more. Hours: 10-6 Mon.-Sat.

Hospital Report

Muleshoe Area Medical reports the following patients:

April 1 - Antonia Alfaro, Louise Allen, Captain Gatewood, Odie Gregory, Ollice Murray, Virgie Perry and Kay Vanleer.

April 2 - Antonia Alfaro, Louise Allen, Captain Gatewood, Ryan Gilliam, Odie Gregory, Jesus Lopez, Virgie Perry, Alma Pierson and Alice Warner.

April 3 - Antonia Alfaro, Alvin Allison, Nora Burch, Jeanne Garth, Alicia Gregory, Odie Gregory, Abraham Mendoza, Virgie Perry, Tyler Roland, Maurice Royal, Dolores Vallejo and Alice Warner.

April 4 - Antonia Alfaro, Alvin Allison, Nora Burch, Jeanne Garth, Alicia Gregory, Odie Gregory, Abraham Mendoza, Virgie Perry, Tyler Roland, Maurice Royal, Dolores

Vallejo and Alice Warner.

April 5 - Antonia Alfaro, Alvin Allison, Nora Burch, Jeanne Garth, Alicia Gregory, Odie Gregory, Abraham Mendoza, Virgie Perry, Tyler Roland, Maurice Royal, Dolores Vallejo and Alice Warner.

April 6 - Antonia Alfaro, Alvin Allison, Virginia Barrett, Jeanne Garth, Donna Graves, Alicia Gregory, Odie Gregory, Walter Hughes, Vanessa Marquez, Virgie Perry, Tyler Roland, Muarice Royal, Barnabus Smallwood and Alice Warner.

April 7 - Antonia Alfaro, Alvin Allison, baby boy Banuelos, Virginia Barrett, Blanca Beltran, Justin Brown, Maria Delacruz, Jeanne Garth, baby girl Mares, Vanessa Marquez, Virgie Perry, Maurice Royal, Barnabus Smallwood and Alice Warner.

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Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
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Contract 6113402-001 for STRIPING IN LUBBOCK COUNTY, etc. will be opened on May 20, 2004 at 10:30 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$139,292.00.
Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 12721

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Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
Lubbock District
District Engineer
135 Slaton
Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771
Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Muleshoe I.S.D. will be accepting bids for custodial/janitorial, and maintenance supplies. Bid lists may be obtained at the M.I.S.D. Administration office or by calling Sam Whalin, at 806-272-7330 between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Bids are due no later than 4:00 pm, Thursday, April 29, 2004. Please send bids to Muleshoe I.S.D., 514 W. Ave. G. Muleshoe, Texas 79347. Muleshoe I.S.D. reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids in the best interest of the district. Published in the Muleshoe Journal on April 8 and April 15, 2004.

HELP WANTED

Silverhawk Security has positions open for security guards. Must be 18, have diploma or GED, with no criminal record. Pays \$7.00/hr. Call 295-8357 or come by security office at Excel in Friona, Texas.

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GENERAL LABORERS in the Muleshoe area. Call 505-626-5089.

5 persons needed immediately! Customer service positions in Muleshoe, Clovis and Portales area. Call (505) 359-0442.

It pays to advertise. Call for classifieds at 272-4536 and ask for Yolanda.

SELL YOUR VEHICLE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

FOR SALE OR TRADE

1988 Gran Fury Sedan, 318 V8 engine, reasonable car. \$800 OBO. Will trade for pick-up or SUV, even if it needs work. Call Leslie at 272-4536 (day) or 925-6679 (night).

REAL ESTATE

Byrd Realty
Ronald Byrd
Licensed Broker
Crista Bass
Sales Associate
1631 W. Amer. Blvd. Muleshoe, Texas

- **Just Listed:** 320 acres NE of Muleshoe, 2 sprinkler systems, 4-wells, mobile home, priced for immediate sale! Call for details.
- **Newly remodeled** 3 bedroom, 1 bath brick home, central heat and refrigerated air.
- **Small Acreage!** 69 acres, close to city limits, 1 irrig. well, out-buildings, pens. Lays well.
- **Just Listed:** West Camp area 160 acres, 2-submersible wells, boxcars, cattlepens. Very reasonably priced!
- **Also West Camp Area 160 Acres**, 1- circular sprinkler, 2-wells, highway frontage. Call for details.

HAVE BUYERS!! NEED MORE MULESHOE HOME LISTINGS!!

- **New Listing!**—In Country, 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, 2 story home, central heat, central heat, 2 living areas, nice 100x70 wood frame barn. All on approximately 3 acres.
- **168 Acres** dryland. Priced at \$250 per acre.
- **Bailey Co.** — 134 total acres, sprinkler system, 2 irrigation wells, 2-50'x100' metal barns, 1-40'x50' insulated barn and 2-12'x12' very nice large 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bathroom with basement, built-ins, fireplace, ref. air, central heat, office, utility room, lots of storage, 2 car garage, hwy. frontage, plus a lot more. Show by appointment only. Call for more details!
- **New Listing!**—Very nice 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, brick home, built-ins, ref. air/heat, fireplace, 2 car garage, sprinkler system, storage building, fenced back yd., plus a lot more.

Need House Listings!
Office: (806) 272-5380 Give us a call! Toll Free 1-888-999-3846

SERVICES

Loans up to \$500. No Credit? No Problem! Call 806-272-3673 or come by Continental Credit, 206 S. Main, Muleshoe. Se Habla Espanol

FOR SALE

Farm fresh brown eggs \$1.50 a dozen. Call 925-6775, leave message.

1-30 HP Electric irrigation motor with panel box \$600. Call 806-925-6421.

1994 Nissan Sentra excellent condition, one owner. Call 806-946-3633 or 946-8283.

HELP WANTED

Production position available. Now accepting applications for production position at Hi-Pro Feeds. Company insurance, 401K, paid holidays. Must pass drug screen. Apply in person at Hi-Pro Feed in Friona.

Medical assistant, CNA wanted for Earth Medical Clinic. Must be dependable, friendly, computer literate and able to work independently. Send resume to: Dr. Sidney Ontai 2606 Yonkers Suite 6 Plainview, TX 79072

Hereford Care Center needs nurses and C.N.A.'s. Please call Ed Dudley at 806-364-7113.

Immediate openings for OTR reefer drivers. Small company, competitive pay, lots of miles. **HOME WEEKLY.** 25 years or older with 5 years experience. Call 806-647-5384 or 800-347-1296

For Sale: Large brick 3/2/2, den, fireplace, central air & heat, underground sprinkler system. Call 272-4975.

Vic Coker Land Co.
Agricultural Real Estate

- **Lamb County** — 1077 Acres, 13 wells, 9 center pivots, soils suitable for peanuts and potatoes. Nice home, shop and other out buildings.
- **Bailey County** — 160 Acres West of Muleshoe, 3 wells, good livestock farm.
- **Bailey County** — C.R.P. and improved grass. 185 Acres of C.R.P. and 200 + Acres of excellent improved grass on Allotted land with good direct payment.
- **Parmer County - Clays Corner Area** — 258 Acres. 137 Acres of C.R.P., Balance in cultivation, Good bases and yields.
- **Parmer County**, 152 Acres, Northwest of Lazbuddie. 1 well, sprinkler, very good soil.
- **Parmer County - Lazbuddie Area** - 11/2 sections. 2-1/2 miler sprinklers. 5-1/4 miler sprinklers to water corners. Can divide.
- **Lamb County** — 320 Acres Northwest of Springlake. 2 sprinklers, 3 wells, Good soil. Above average direct payments.

316 Main Street • Muleshoe, Texas
Office: 806-272-3100 Home: 806-965-2468
Website: www.vicoland.com

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HELP WANTED

Are you ready for a career turn around? Covenant Home Health Care is currently seeking a full-time or part-time registered nurse to join our enthusiastic team. Competitive salary and excellent benefits offered. Please contact Shelly Ollis or Scott Myers at (806) 385-3255 or come by 311 W. 4th Street in Littlefield for an application. Equal Opportunity Employer.

REAL ESTATE

House w/ great location, best of town and country in one. Brick, 3BR, 3 bath, 1 car garage, central heat and air. Just over 1900 sq. ft. with living room, formal dining room, and breakfast nook. Manual yard sprinkler system in both front and back. Gravel circle drive with concrete driveway. Located at 101 Cemetery Road, Earth, Texas.

HOUSE W/ 2.7 ACRES- 3 BR, 2 Bath, 2 Car Carport, Appr. 2000 sq. ft. large living room w/ fireplace, kitchen with double oven and other built-ins, covered patio, 2 storage sheds, dog kennel, curbed driveway. Located 4 miles west of Earth, TX on US HWY 70.

Lutrick REAL ESTATE
Monty Edwards, Realtor Associate
806-786-5426 or 806-687-7355

For Sale: 40 acres with house, 1 1/2 miles north of Muleshoe on Hwy. 214, then 1/2 mile west on CR 1038. Call 806-352-1883.

FOR SALE: Nice 3/2/2, Total electric country brick home, 30'x40'x12' Insulated building, extra 2 car detached garage, 2 wells, barn with permanent steel corrals on 4.4 acres. Call 806-272-4975.

•3/2 carport, brick, BA, 4 mi. E. of Morton, \$133,000
•321 Tyler, Whiteface 3/2/1 triple carport, corner, \$45,000
•Irrigated farms, Plains, Earth, Brownfield, Levelland
•40 A or 160 A, 2 1/2 mi. N. of city limits on HWY 214 & 1/2 mi. E to SW corner \$600/A or \$500/A
•310 A CRP farm just S. of game reserve \$108,500
MAKE OFFERS!
Farrar & Associates
806-894-7099

Have A Great Day !!

Nieman Realty
116 E. Ave. C • George Nieman, Broker • 272-5285 or 272-5286

RICHLAND HILLS - PARKRIDGE AREA

- IMMACULATE CUSTOM BUILT 3-2-2 Brick on corner lot, Geothermal Heat Pump, built-ins including charbroiler, dual FP in family & living areas, wet bar w/ sink & icemaker, hot tub & exercise area, abundant storage & built-ins, isolated master bdrm. & bath, fenced yd., auto splkr., 3179' lv. area!!! MUCH MORE!!! \$205K!! RH-2
- NICE LOTS AVAILABLE, CALL FOR DETAILS!!!!

HIGHLAND AREA

- PRICE REDUCED!! 2-1-1 carport Home, Cent. A&H, stove, storm shelter, MORE!! \$19.5K!! HL-3
- 3-1-2 carport Home, Cent. A&H (Elec. Heat Pump), carpet & vinyl, fresh paint, stor. bldg., PRICE REDUCED!! \$22,900!! HL-2
- 3-2-1 Brick, Cent. A&H, DW, stove, utility, fenced yd.!!! \$44.5K!! HL-1

LENAU AREA

- VERY NICE 4-3-2 Home (2 story), 4,000' + lv. area, built-ins, 2 fireplaces, 2lv. areas, study, Cent. A&H, separate bldg. with Cent. A&H & 1/2 bath for studio, office, etc., auto splkr. with well, nicely landscaped & well maintained!!! Numerous amenities!! SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT!! \$185,000!! L-3
- 2-1-1 Home, wall furn. heat, win. refrg, air, fenced yd., stor. bldg., MORE!! \$22K!! L-1
- 2-1-1 Carport Home, fl. furn. heat, fenced yd., stor. bldg.!! \$20K!! L-2

HIGH SCHOOL AREA

- 3-1 Brick, cent. heat, evap. air, corner lot, fenced yd., stor. bldg., MORE!! \$35K!! HS-1
- 3-2 1/2 Brick Home, wall furn. & cent. heat, 2 evap. air units, built-ins, fireplace, 2100'lv. area, storm shelter!!! MORE!! \$55,900!!

HS-9

- 2-1-1 Home, wall furnace heat, win. evap. air, stove, corner lot!! PRICE REDUCED!! \$28K!! HS-3
- NICE 3-2-2 carport Brick Home, built-ins, wall & floor furnace heat, cent. evap. air, cov. patio, fenced yd.!! \$59K!! HS-6
- 3-1 Brick, cent. heat, new paint, carpet, vinyl, & roof, fenced yd.!! \$49.5K!! HS-4

COMMERCIAL

- MAIN STREET — NICE 4060 Bldg. with furniture, fixtures, & bus depot (formerly Damron Drug)!! PRICED TO SELL!!! \$39.5K!!
- PRICED REDUCED!! HWY. 84 EXCELLENT BUSINESS LOCATION-125'x140' tract!!
- NICE six unit office complex, Cent. A&H, restroom facilities, and also has a nice one bedroom and two bedroom rental units. \$39.5K!!
- GOOD INCOME PROPERTY - approx. 3490' bldg., paved parking, good net lease!! PRICED TO SELL!!
- VERY NICE 2300' bldg., Cent. A&H, 175' frontage on Hwy. 84 & 70!! MUCH MORE!!
- Approximately 2,000' shop plus 450' office, cent. heat, evap. air, 250' x 100' tract on Hwy 84!! \$35K!!

RURAL

- 3-2 Home, edge of town on FM 1760, stove, DW, refrig., FP, wall furn. heat, cent. evap. air, cov. patio, fenced yd., det. garage/ shop, horse barn/ tack rm., .8 acre!! \$65K!!
- 3-1 Home on .59 acre, edge of town, wall furn. heat!! \$35K!!
- PRICE REDUCED— 108 acres or 7 acre tract on Hwy. 70, approx. 2100' office area, 16,900' commercial bldg. w/ loading dock, 3,400' warehouse, new well, 2,800' runway!!
- EARTH-HITE PARK — 2-2-1 Home, A&H, built-ins, FP, Fenced yd., workshop & storage!! PRICE REDUCED \$39.6K



Leslie Radford

Walk this way— Members of the Catholic Church walked the streets of Muleshoe Friday afternoon from west of town to the Catholic Church. The walk represents the burden of Christ and is done annually by the Church. During the two and one-half mile walk participants prayed the rosary and sang religious songs. After the walk, a mass was held at the Catholic Church where approximately 300 people attended.

Crop report from pg. 7

area. Wheat continues to make excellent growth. Wheat is rated mostly poor to good. Greenbug and army cutworm infestations in wheat are declining while problems with the Russian wheat aphid continue to increase. Corn planting continues. Alfalfa weevil, cowpea aphid and army cutworm have been reported to be a problem in isolated alfalfa fields. Rangeland is rated poor to good. Cattle are in fair condition; supplemental feeding continues.

SOUTH PLAINS: soil moisture is adequate. Very warm open weather was reported for most of the week. Rainfall over the weekend ranged from an inch to as much as three inches. High winds and hail accompanied rain in some areas. Earlier warm weather allowed producers to get fertilizer and herbicides out in their fields. Because of the recent rains, the cost of pre-plant irrigation will be greatly reduced. Wheat is in fair condition and is moving quickly to boot stage.

Ranges and pastures are in fair condition. Supplemental feeding continues.

FAR WEST TEXAS: soil moisture is very short to adequate. Pastures and ranges are reported to be in very poor to fair condition, but are improving due to recent moisture. Perennial warm season grasses continue to establish in depleted areas. The condition of cotton varies across the area from very poor to good. Winter wheat is doing well. Moderate to warm temperatures, along with moisture are expected to continue. Livestock are in very poor to fair condition; supplemental feeding continues.

WEST CENTRAL TEXAS: soil moisture is good. Rainfall is expected throughout the week. Weather conditions have been sunny and warm with above-average temperatures. Cotton producers are fighting spring weeds. Many producers are putting down yellow herbicides. Pre-watering continues on cotton acre-

age. More producers are preparing fields for spring planting.

Excellent growing conditions have been reported for wheat and pastures. The flag leaf state is present in wheat fields with a few heads showing. Some rust was noted in the wheat. Small grains have experienced good growth due to recent moisture. Pastures and ranges are showing spring green-up and have continued to improve.

Winter grasses and forbs are abundant. Cool season grasses are maturing. Pecan trees are breaking buds. Livestock are in fair condition; supplemental feeding has been reduced.

National Government

Protection for unborn victims of violence passed

WASHINGTON—U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, joined a bipartisan majority of the Senate Thursday in passing the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, H.R. 1997, to protect unborn children from assault and murder. Sen. Cornyn is a cosponsor of the Senate version of the legislation. The bill passed by a vote of 61-38.

"This important legislation

would protect unborn children by establishing that if an unborn child is injured or killed during a violent crime, prosecutors may bring a second charge on behalf of the second victim — the unborn child," Cornyn said.

"After passing the partial-birth abortion ban last year, this is another key step toward building a culture that respects every human life, from conception to natural death. Children are precious gifts and should be protected under the law from brutal and vicious acts such as violent crime, just as adults are."

Under this legislation, prosecutors may bring a

second charge on behalf of the unborn victim if that child is injured or killed during the commission of an already-defined federal crime of violence.

The Unborn Victims of Violence Act passed in the House on Feb. 26 by a vote of 254-163 and now moves to the President for his signature.

Sen. Cornyn is also cosponsor of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act, S. 3, which the Senate passed last year and the President then signed into law. It prohibits all partial-birth abortions except when necessary to save the life of the mother.

Chamber of Commerce ANNUAL BANQUET

The table cloths have been bought....Steaks, shrimp and all the trimmings will be picked up soon....Table decorations all lined out...Band confirmed....Location confirmed....Everything kept local....Awards waiting to be picked up....Ticket sales going better than last year....Is there anything else we could have left out....

Please join us for a fulfilled and relaxing night of good food... Good entertainment....And good company.

Saturday, April 24th
6:30 p.m.
Muleshoe High School Cafeteria

Tickets are available now from Chamber Board members

Phone scam: 90#

The following is from an e-mail received by the Journal. It is a warning about a phone scam to those who have long distance.

The scam: Victims receive a telephone call from an individual identifying himself as an AT&T service technician who was conducting a test on telephone lines and asks you to touch nine, zero, the pound sign,

and then hang up.

What 90# does: By pushing 90#, you give the requesting individual full access to your telephone line, which enables them to place long distance calls billed to your home phone number.

What to do: Do not press 90# for anyone. Report the scam to your long distance carrier.



Blossoming— A ribbon cutting for Decorators Floral and Gifts was held Friday, March 26. Pictured from left to right are Ruth Owen, Stacy Thompson, Patricia Martinez, Reagan Reynolds, Freddie Santos, Terral King, owner Rebecca Reynolds, Jan Thompson, Rodney Reynolds, Reese Reynolds. Rebecca Reynolds purchased Decorators from Betty Wuerflein.

The family of Senovia Davila Resendez wishes to thank each and everyone for the loving support given in every way to our family during the recent death of our loved one. Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, visits, flowers and food. Your love and kindness is greatly appreciated.
The Davila and Resendez Families

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