

Baseball

Indians vs Hamlin
Fri., April 24, 4:30 p.m.
at Hamlin
Indians vs Baird
Tues., April 28, 5 p.m.
at Haskell

Softball

Maidens
Maidens vs Hamlin
Fri., April 24, 5 p.m.
at Hamlin

Track

PAINT CREEK
HS Area Meet at Blackwell
Thurs., April 23
RULE
HS Area Meet at Blackwell
Thurs., April 23

Calendar

Pot luck meal in Rochester

A fourth Saturday pot luck get together will be held Sat., April 25 at 5 p.m. at the Rochester School cafeteria. Anyone with a connection to Rochester is invited to bring a dish, including recipe, and join in the fun.

Football fund-raiser

The West Texas Scorpions and the West Texas Drillers will participate in a football fund-raiser for the Seeliger family Sat., April 25 at 7 p.m. at Indian football stadium in Haskell. The Seeliger family suffered a house fire and all proceeds from the game will go to help them recover. Tickets are \$5 for adults, free to kids 10 and under.

Men's breakfast

A men's breakfast will be held Sun., April 26 at 8 a.m. at the Haskell High School cafeteria. All men in the community are invited.

Garage sale

The Haskell community wide garage sale will be held Sat., May 2. For more information, contact the Haskell Chamber of Commerce at 864-2477.

Book sale

The Friends of the Library will hold a book sale Sat., May 2 in the meeting room of the Haskell County Library. The sale begins at 8 a.m.

Piano recital

Pam Gibson will present her piano students in a spring recital Sun., May 3 at 2:00 p.m. at the Haskell First Baptist Church Chapel. Students are Michael and Eddie McBroom, Shalee Dunnam, Kenley Cox, Alyssa Stocks, Zoe Shiplett, Garrett Waggoner, Grace Colley, Katie Newberry and Jacee Guess. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Storm siren tests

The City of Haskell Emergency Management will test the tornado sirens every Friday at 11:30 a.m. barring bad weather during storm season. The tornado sirens will be used in conjunction with storm watchers and the Code Red phone notification system. Should you have any questions please contact 940-864-2333. You can read more in the City's Emergency Handbook located at www.city-of-haskell-texas.org.

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Early voting begins Mon., April 27

The Haskell Free Press

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"The People's Choice"

18 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-75 CENTS



STATE BOUND—The Haskell Indian golf team takes silver at Regionals and is State Bound April 29-30. Team members are, l-r, Alec Roewe, Sean Weiser, Dylan Hanson, Ian Bailey and Kellen Parks.

Indian golf team to tee off at state

The Haskell Indian golf team is bound for the state golf tournament, after a second place finish in the Region I-2A tournament.

Sean Weiser led the team, as he shot 85-73 for a 158 two day total. The Indians finished the two-round tournament with 357-334 for 691, 24 strokes behind the team champion Panhandle.

Contributing to the win were Indians Kellen Parks, 175; Dylan Hanson, 177; Alec Roewe, 181; and Ian Bailey 236.

Panhandle, Haskell and Quanah will represent Region I on April 29-30, at Roy Kizer Golf Course in Austin.

Congratulations to these Indian golfers, and the best of luck at state.

Paint Creek, Rule schools to register Pre-K, K

Paint Creek School will hold registration for Pre-K and Kindergarten students for the 2015-2016 school year Wed., April 29.

Pre-K students currently enrolled at Paint Creek need not enroll

until fall registration. Please come by the school office between 12:00 noon and 3:30 p.m. to complete needed paperwork.

To attend Kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2015. To attend Pre-K, a child

must be 4 on or before Sept. 1, 2015. Parents should bring their driver's license, and their child's immunization record, birth certificate, and social security card to registration.

If you cannot attend

registration, but have a Pre-K or Kindergarten student, please call the school at 940-864-2868 and make arrangements to come at another time.

On Thurs., April 30, registration for Rule ISD pre-k and kindergarten will be from 2 to 3 p.m. in front of the superintendent's office.

Children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 may attend kindergarten in the fall, while pre-k students must be four years old by that time. This registration is to complete paperwork, so it is not necessary that prospective students attend with their parents. Parents of students already enrolled in Rule ISD do not have to attend.

Each student needs:

1. An up-to-date immunization record,
2. Social security card,
3. Official birth certificate from the court house and
4. The parent's driver's license.

If you cannot bring these, please attend anyway, but all four things will be needed before the child starts to school in August.

If you cannot attend, and your child will be attending Rule ISD in the fall, please contact the school (997-2115, 997-2246, 997-2521) so arrangements can be made to meet with you another time. It is important that this is done before school dismisses in May, if possible.

Saturday football game to benefit Seeliger family

A fund-raiser to benefit the Seeliger family, will be held Sat., April 25 at the Indian football stadium beginning at 7 p.m.

The family lost many of their possessions after a house fire on Monday, April 6.

The fund-raiser, sponsored by the Haskell Booster Club, will be a football game between the West Texas Scorpions and

the West Texas Drillers. The Scorpions, based in Abilene, and the Drillers, based in Midland, are part of the Minor Professional Football League. All proceeds from the game will go to help the family as they try to recover from this devastating loss.

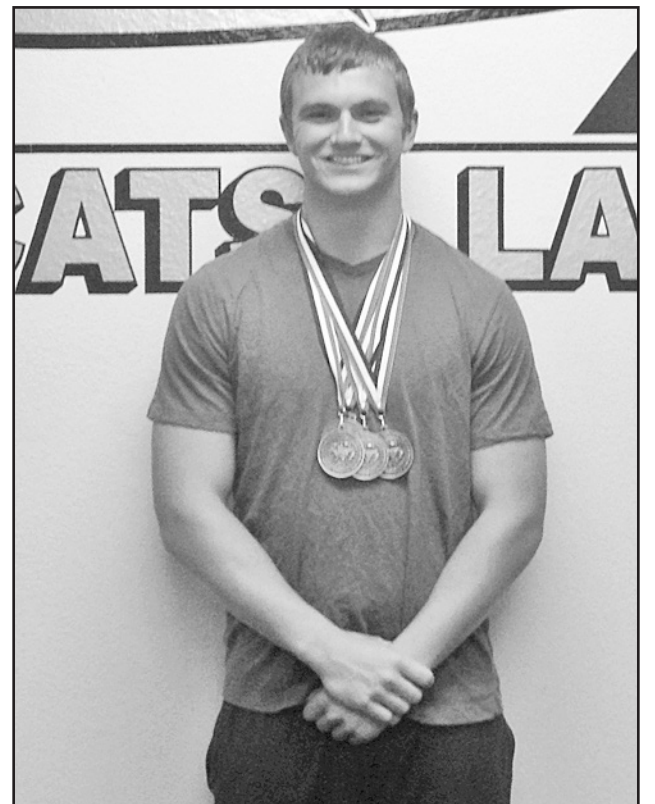
Tickets are \$5 for adults and free for students ten and under. A

meal will also be available for purchase at the game.

Haskell County has always been ready and willing to step up and help their neighbors in need. This is a great opportunity to do just that. Mark your calendars for Sat., April 25, and come out and support the Seeliger family, while you enjoy some spring football.



UPDATED KITCHEN—The Haskell Co. Extension Office is sporting an updated kitchen featuring new paint, cabinet hardware and new laminate countertops donated by Richardson's. Carl Milburn, center, of Richardson's was invited for a preview of the finished job. New extension assistant, Erica Chavez, left, will be on hand for a meet and greet open to the public Thurs., April 30, said DaLinda Black, Haskell Co. CEA/FCS. The kitchen will be unveiled at that time and is available for use by the public by contacting the Extension Office at 940-864-2546.



ADVANCES TO AREA MEET—Rule Bobcat Colton Rogers advanced to area in all four of his events at the district track meet. He placed first in the shot put, second in the discus, third in the 100 and fourth in the 200. He will participate in the area track meet Thurs., April 23 in Blackwell.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 940-864-2686



4-H FASHION SHOW—Madilyn Moore and Shalee Dunnam competed at the District 3 4-H Fashion Show in Quanah. Moore placed first in Buying-SemiFormal and Dunnam placed second in Construction-Everyday.

Obituaries

Mary Sue Guess Henry



MARY SUE HENRY

Funeral services for Mary Sue Guess Henry, 83, lifelong resident of Haskell, were held Mon., April 20 at First Baptist Church in Haskell with Rev. Greg Gasaway and Rev. Morris Johnson officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the

direction of Smith Family Funeral Homes.

Mrs. Henry passed away Sat., April 18 at Haskell Memorial Hospital in Haskell.

Born April 15, 1932 in Haskell, she was the daughter of Claude Gordon and Annie Laura (Hillard.) She married Bob Guess in Haskell Dec. 23, 1949 and after Bob passed, she married Pat Henry April 15, 1999. Mary was a member of the First Baptist Church in Haskell.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Bob Guess; sister, Laverne Landress; three brothers, Billy Tom Gordon, Claude Lee Gordon and Jimmy Gordon; and her parents, Claude and Annie Gordon.

Survivors include her husband, Pat Henry of Haskell; two sons, Mike Guess and his wife Beth of

Haskell, and Steve Guess of Haskell; step-son, Harry Henry and wife Heather of Richardson; two step-daughters, Patricia Kirby and her husband Grant of Glen Rose, and Cindy Henry also of Glen Rose; grandchildren, Chan Guess, Mart Guess, Steffanie Naredo and Lindsey Guess; step-grandchildren, Elinor Henry, Amelia Henry, Charlotte Henry, Morgan Kirby and Cameron Kirby; and great grandchildren, Jacee Guess, Cami Guess, Cooper Naredo, Madilyn Guess and Carissa Guess.

Memorials may be given in Mary's name to the First Baptist Church, 301 N. Ave. E, Haskell, TX 79521, 940-864-2581 or the charity of your choice.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.smithfamilyfh.com.

PD. NOTICE

Native or introduced grass?

submitted by **Cody Mathis**
District Conservationist
USDA-NRCS

The Natural Resources Conservation Service Anson Resource Team is made up of Jones, Knox and Haskell Counties. We provide technical assistance regarding resource concerns such as, livestock water, forage production, plant health, soil erosion, wildlife habitat and practices to address them. In these field offices we get many calls and questions about grass planting between March and May. What types establish quickest? What grows fastest? Introduced versus natives? So, I thought I would provide a bit of technical information to those who would be interested. In this article I will discuss establishment, palatability and management of both native and introduced grasses. Let's start with establishment and plant growth.

When seeded, native grasses can take a much greater amount of time to establish and reach full growth potential than introduced species. It is not uncommon for a native grass planting to take two years before becoming fully established. However, most introduced grasses will grow and establish at a much quicker rate. In some cases they can even be hayed or grazed during their initial season of growth if conditions are adequate. Even though natives might grow slower they make up for it in palatability.

To some it might sound a bit silly but I like to compare the palatability of different

grasses to steaks. A cow is not any quicker to eat old or tough grass than we would be to eat a leathery hunk of meat. Let's break it down like this. There are four plates that each have a steak on them. Two plates are ribeyes, one is a round steak and the last is flank steak. Most people are going to start by eating the ribeyes, then work their way down to the round steak and lastly, eat the stringy flank. If cattle are given a choice to graze in a large pasture, they typically exhibit the same behavior. They will start by grazing out all the highly palatable grasses (Little Bluestem, Switchgrass, Indiangrass, Sideoats and Blue Grama) first, then work their way down to any introduced grasses that might be there and the less desirable species such as Tridens, Dropseeds and Threeawns. This is the main reason that I typically do not recommend that producers mix native grasses in with introduced grasses such as Kleingrass, Wilman Lovegrass, WW-Bdahl and Bermudas. Although introduced grasses are not as desirable, they do have their own benefits but must be managed appropriately.

The growing season for native grasses is between mid-March to September 1. During that time it is crucial to allow native grasses to replace what they lost from grazing last year, grow to their full potential and produce seed before they are grazed. Once natives reach full growth and are ready to be grazed, it is a good management practice to use the "take half, leave

half" method. By only grazing half of the plant, you avoid damaging the root system and leave enough herbaceous material for the plant to easily produce new material next growing season. On the other hand introduced grasses can tolerate heavier grazing during this time of year than natives. It is best to fence off and plant smaller patches of introduced grass that would allow for a high intensity grazing system, the reason being, introduced grasses lose palatability once the seed head is produced, so they should be grazed down before this growth stage to keep palatability at its highest. However, the plants should be grazed to a minimum of six inches. Grazing below the six inch mark can begin to cause damage to the root system and make it harder for the plants to produce new herbaceous material. Once established it is a good idea to fertilize introduced grasses if they are being heavily utilized each year. If they are not fertilized they will not produce near the amount of forage. One of the greatest benefits of having introduced pasture is you have the ability to stay off of native range during the growing season and allow those plants to recuperate.

In conclusion, even though flank steak might be a little tough we can still live off of it.

If you would like to receive more information about anything discussed in this article come by the Haskell County USDA Service Center or call 940-864-8516 ext. 4.

Weather

by **Kim Hutto**
National Weather Service
Volunteer Co-op Observer
Temperature

Mon., April 13.....60°/80°
Tues., April 14.....63°/88°
Wed., April 15.....60°/83°
Thurs., April 16.....50°/77°
Fri., April 17.....47°/63°
Sat., April 18.....52°/76°
Sun., April 19.....50°/72°

Precipitation

Mon., April 13..... .30" rain
Wed., April 15..... .21" rain
Fri., April 17..... 3.21" rain

Haskell Co. Arrest Report

The following arrests were reported by the Haskell County Sheriff's Office during the week of April 13-19:

Darrell Demond Hodge, failure to identify.

Thirty-two calls were made to 911.

CFBC Wed. programs

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church invites the community to new Wednesday night classes from 7 to 8 p.m. for all ages. Kids Club, for children attending 4 year old Pre-K through fifth grade, will include music, missions and Bible lessons. Adults will study "Unlocking the Mysteries of Genesis" with topics including: the origin of the universe, the age of the earth and dinosaurs. Childcare will be provided for younger children of parents attending the adult study. For more information call 940-864-5557 or email pastor@cornerstonehaskell.org.

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Election Day
May 9

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Haskell City Hall

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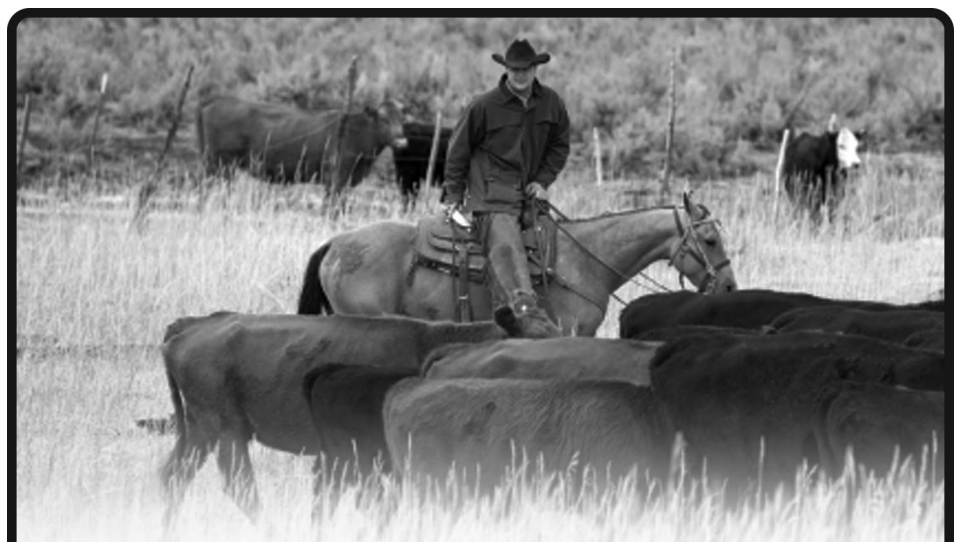
Haskell Community Wide GARAGE Sale!

Sat., May 2nd

Forms and \$10 entry fee due
Thursday, April 30th at 1:00 pm.

Pick up forms and pay your fee at the Haskell Chamber or call 940-864-2477.

Maps for all garage sale entries will be available May 2nd at 7:30 a.m. on the square.



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Munday Office

111 South Munday Ave. • (940) 422-4522

Haskell Office

200 S Avenue E. • (940) 864-8555

Stamford Office

610 Columbia • (325) 773-2122



MEMBER FDIC

Big Country Electric Cooperative

MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE COOPERATIVE'S
ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, April 30

THE COLISEUM IN SNYDER, TEXAS

6:00 p.m.: Member Registration and BBQ Meal

catered by Rough Creek Catering

Musical entertainment by Revolution Strings

7:00 p.m.: Business Meeting

Director Elections for Districts 7, 8 and 9

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

Attending the annual meeting is an important responsibility to being a co-op member. Door prizes will be given away throughout the evening to REGISTERED MEMBERS, including energy credits worth \$500, \$750, even \$1,000!



Big Country Electric
Cooperative

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Rule ISD lists honor rolls

Rule ISD has released the names of students on the A honor roll, A-B honor roll and perfect attendance list for the fifth six weeks of school.

Pre-K: Perfect attendance, Justin Caldwell, Jayden Scheffler, Justus Smart and Emma Vance.

Kindergarten: Perfect attendance, Madalyn Gonzales, Madisyn Hollabaugh, Jayde Leek and Brylee Teague.

First grade: A honor roll, Skylor Kreger, Skylar Leek and Kaitlyn Saffel; A-B honor roll, Allie Boone, Nevaeh Frazier, Haelynn Logan and Lacoste Navarrette; perfect attendance, Skylor Kreger, Haelynn Logan, Lacoste Navarrette, Kaitlyn Saffel and Leland Short.

Second grade: A-B honor roll, Hailey Garcia, Jelena Alvarez and Kyleik Mason; perfect attendance, Michael Ervin, Kyleik Mason and

Julio Tapia. Third grade: A honor roll, Shelby Saffel; A-B honor roll, Sirena Baiza and Lani Richards; perfect attendance, Sirena Baiza, Astrid Guzman and Shelby Saffel.

Fourth grade: A-B honor roll, Cory Mathis; perfect attendance, Trevor Henry, Karleigh Hertel, Patrick Lightfoot and Ragen Thompson.

Fifth grade: A-B honor roll, Andy Andrews, Lenzi Manske, Jaella Alvarez and Abigail Ortiz; perfect attendance, Daena Diaz, Hannah Ervin, Kurt Leek, Lenzi Manske, Haylee McIntosh, Abigail Ortiz and Macy Rogers.

Sixth grade: A-B honor roll, Ariel Cortinez, Vanessa Elmore, Kayla Hollingsworth, Jysela Alvarez, Michael Medford and Christian Speck; perfect attendance, Ariel Cortinez, Kayla Hollingsworth and

Dean Kreger. Seventh grade: A honor roll, Ian Sotelo; A-B honor roll, Kennedy Fritzier, Danny Kreger and Madalyn Navarrette; perfect attendance, Kiya Bailey, Kennedy Fritzier, Cheyenne Kreger and Ian Sotelo.

Eighth grade: A honor roll, Kourtney Hertel; A-B honor roll, Del Fritzier, McKenzie Gray and Leann Manske; perfect attendance, Del Fritzier and Leann Manske.

Ninth grade: Perfect attendance, Adolfo Gonzalez.

Tenth grade: A-B honor roll, Ron Mitchell.

Eleventh grade: A-B honor roll, Dominic Gonzales; perfect attendance, Gabriel Baiza.

Twelfth grade: A-B honor roll, Jonah Caddell, Laura Curriel, Luis Diaz and Colton Rogers; perfect attendance, Luis Diaz, Colton Rogers and Josh Starr.

Paint Creek ISD honor rolls

Paint Creek ISD has released the names of students on the A and A-B honor rolls for the fifth six weeks of the school year.

First grade: A honor roll, Zak Jones; A-B honor roll, Adrian Castorena, Abigail Castorena, Dylan Campbell, K'lee Milenak, Amelia Ngoun, Ethan O'Donnell, Sonny Payne, Cort Rogers and Audianna Yanez.

Second grade: A honor roll, Andrew Castorena, Adrian Cisneros and Melanie Clary; A-B honor roll, Evan Cisneros, Cayden Rogers, Audie Shaw, Delaina Todd and Alisa Walburg.

Third grade: A honor roll,

Phaiden Spikes; A-B honor roll, Zachary Campbell and Mark Hall.

Fourth grade: A honor roll, Levi Rhoads; A-B honor roll, Kaiden Castillo, Austen Sanford and Trinity Whorton.

Fifth grade: A honor roll, Ivy Cumby and Mark Garcia; A-B honor roll, Chris Acosta, Joshua Blake, Ana Hall and Ethan Jenkins.

Sixth grade: A-B honor roll, Zak Elkins.

Seventh grade: A honor roll, Desiree Acosta and Jaclyn Snelling; A-B honor roll, Taylor Cantrell and Bailee Thomas.

Eighth grade: A-B honor

roll, George Bogle, Clayton Cumby and Bailey Hawkins.

Ninth grade: A honor roll, Katelyn Jenkins; A-B honor roll, Austin Guadalcazar, Felicity Hannsz and Frankie Masias.

Tenth grade: A honor roll, Catherine Lemond and Corey Mengwasser; A-B honor roll, Devon Benitez and Buddy Trotter.

Eleventh grade: A honor roll, Jarrett Lopez and Paige Ramirez; A-B honor roll, Tyler Cantrell and Ryan Reid.

Twelfth grade: A honor roll, Caitlyn Mengwasser; A-B honor roll, Brandon Luevano and Alondra Munoz.

Food Protection Management Course set

by Jane Rowan
CEA/FCS, Taylor Co.
A two-day Food Protection Management training for food service managers in the Big Country area will be held May 18 and 19. It will be held at the Taylor County Extension Office located on the Taylor County

Expo grounds in Abilene from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days.

The training will allow food establishments permitted by the Texas Department of Health to meet their certification requirements if they pass the exam. The exam being used is the National

Restaurant Association's ServSafe exam. The class covers twelve food safety concepts related to personal hygiene, cross contamination, time and temperature, sanitation, pest management, foodborne illness and related areas. The course is sponsored by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Jones, Nolan and Taylor Counties and the Environmental Section of the City of Abilene.

Cost for the class is \$125, which includes the course book and exam. Registration deadline is Fri., May 1. Registration information is available by calling Taylor County Extension Office, 325-672-6048; Jones County Extension Office, 325-823-2432; or the Nolan County Extension Office, 325-236-6912. You may also access a downloadable registration form at <http://taylor.agrilife.org>.

Players of the week

Haskell Indian golf team members Sean Weiser, Dylan Hanson, Kellen Parks, Alec Roewe and Ian Bailey were named to the Abilene Reporter-News Big Country Player of the Week Top Ten Tues., April 21.

The group earned the state golf berth with a noteworthy effort in the Region 1-2A tournament held in Odessa.

They had a collective 354 in the first day's competition and carded a season-best 334 in the final round to secure a second-place finish.

Weiser tallied a 1-over 73 individual card.

Indian Alec Roewe,

sophomore outfielder was named to the Other Top Performers list going 3 for 6 through two games with two RBIs.

Rule Bobcat Colton Rogers was named to the Abilene Reporter-News Big Country Player of the Week Top Ten Tues., April 21.

He took the District 13-1A title in the shot pot with a throw of 40-5.5 and finished second in the discus at 127-8.

He also earned a bronze medal in the 100 and a fourth-place finish in the 200 to advance to the area meet in four events.



OPERATION ROUND UP—The Big Country Electric Cooperative Trust Board of Directors for Operation Round Up are, front row, l-r, Nancy Sparks and Paula Stegemoeller; back row, Ginny Rasberry, Carl Burleson, Dickie Cooper, Fred Cross, Debbie Hailey and Mary Drury.

Operation Roundup directors meet

The Big Country Electric Cooperative Trust Board of Directors, which administers the Operation Round Up charitable program, met March 11. Officers and members are Nancy Sparks, president; Carl Burleson, vice president; Mary Drury, secretary; and Ginny Rasberry, treasurer; Debbie Hailey, Dickie Cooper, Paula Stegemoeller and Fred Cross.

The mission of Big Country Electric Cooperative Trust's Operation Round Up program is the accumulation and disbursement of funds for charitable purposes in Borden, Fisher, Garza, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Throckmorton Counties.

This shall be accomplished by disbursement of funds to individuals and organizations for food, shelter, clothing, health needs and education. Disbursements annually to individuals are limited to \$2,500 and \$10,000 to organizations. We're looking for your help in spreading the word about Operation Round Up so that assistance can be provided to individuals and

Emergency Preparedness class set

Tues., April 28
An emergency preparedness class "Preparing for the Unexpected" will be held Tues., April 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the Haskell Co. Extension Office, 101 S. Ave. D.

Topics will include a family plan of action for bad weather events, shelter/safe rooms, and planning for ample food, water and etc. for a family after the storm.

families in need, as well as organizations, in our communities.

If you want more information about this program, would like to apply for assistance or know of an organization or people in need of financial assistance, please go to www.bigcountrycoop and click on the Operation Round Up link. You may also call or email Sarah McLen at 325-776-3803 or smclen@bigcountrycoop for more information.

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Must present coupon before purchase.

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Teacher's Day - May 5
Say 'Thank You' to your favorite teacher with a gift of appreciation

Nurse's Week - May 6-12
Give a special gift to a great nurse

Mother's Day is May 10
Jewelry, Delicious Candy, Trendy Clothing and More!

Graduation Gifts Galore!

Many area seniors have made selections. Please call or come by to purchase gifts for the graduates on your list. We will be happy to contact each senior to pick up his or her gifts.

Bridal Registry

Denise Hibbitts and Chase Thompson
Maegan (Hearn) and Jarett Earle

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OPINION

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago
April 28, 2005

Haskell High School's UIL one-act play, "Over the River and Through the Woods," directed by Melissa Tatum, advanced to the state competition. Ryan Davis and Jimmy Fuentes were named to the All-Star Cast and Jaclyn Drinnon received Honorable Mention.

Jonathan Hisey of Rule, was among 102 students at South Plains College recently inducted into Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

Haskell High School student Caleb Hudgens, son of Jerry Don and Donita Hudgens of Haskell, placed second in Persuasive Speaking at the Region 1-A UIL academic meet. He will advance to the state UIL meet held at the University of Texas at Austin.

20 Years Ago
April 27, 1995

Haskell High School's FFA Land Judging Team, competing against fifty other teams, brought home a 6th place win from the state contest. Team members are Aaron Earles, Bobby Ortiz, Jennifer Comedy and Carol Thornhill. Comedy was High Point Individual in the contest.

Christy Mathis, daughter of Jerry Joe and Carolyn Mathis of Rule, was inducted into the Tarleton State University Chapter of Phi Eta Sigma, a national college scholastic honor society.

Haskell Young Homemakers installed the following officers for the 1995-96 year. They are Laurie Irby, president; Michelle Dunnam, vice-president; Michele Copeland, treasurer; Rhonda Hanson, secretary; and Tracy Frierson, parliamentarian.

30 Years Ago
April 25, 1985

Haskell native Jerry Larned, was guest speaker for the All-Sports Banquet. Chosen Football Sweetheart and Hero were Denise Burris and Robert Ivy. Julie Roewe and David Adams were crowned Basketball Sweetheart and Hero.

Five girls on the Paint Creek track team have qualified for the regional track meet. Rhonda Coleman qualified in the 400 meter run, along with the 1600 meter relay team of Kay Fischer, Sophie Gonzales, Doretha Moore and Gina Calk.

Shannon Forehand,

a junior at Weinert High School and son of Chet and Jeannie Forehand, was selected All-State Quarterback in Class A Six-Man football by the Texas Coaches Association. He had a season record 2000 yards passing for a total of 35 touchdowns.

40 Years Ago
April 24, 1975

Members of the Weinert Home Demonstration Club met in the home of Mrs. Bailey Guess for their regular meeting. Mrs. Henry Smith presided at the meeting. Mrs. Gus Rueffer and Mrs. M.C. Cunningham gave a lesson on needlepoint.

The children of the late Mr. and Mrs. A.H. Hargrove met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Strickland of Haskell, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Mitchell.

50 Years Ago
April 29, 1965

Haskell High School drum major and majorettes chosen for the coming year are Donna Josselet, Jerre Couch, Terre Stiewert, Joyce Cook, Peggy Thigpen and Paula Terrell.

Ross E. Lowe, HHS graduate and son of Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Lowe, has completed the requirements for a doctorate degree in business education. He is head of Livingston, Alabama State College's Division of Business Education and Administration.

Mrs. Worth Green and Cecil Lewis were named "Top Citizens of the Year" at the annual Rule Chamber of Commerce banquet.

100 Years Ago
April 24, 1915

J.L. Sherrill of Haskell, representing Austin College, won the eighteenth annual oratorical contest of the Texas State Oratorical Association. His subject was "America's Opportunity at the Cost of Blood."

Members of the Knox-Haskell County Medical Association met in Haskell. Among other things, they took steps to help improve methods of dealing with the small-pox situation. Members present were Dr. G.P. Gibner and Dr. L.F. Taylor, Haskell; Dr. W.H. Dunn and Dr. W.T. Miller, Rochester; Dr. W.M. Rogers and Dr. H.C. Weaver, Rule; Dr. T.S. Edwards and Dr. W.B. Pope, Knox City; and Dr. A.A. Smith, Dr. W.P. Farrington and Dr. J.E. Hammond, Munday.



Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension Service

by Jason Westbrook, CEA-Ag, Haskell Co.

Identification could save producers water, money

As spring growth of wheat begins, Texas A&M AgriLife Research studies indicate now might be the time to determine possible wheat streak mosaic virus infection and future management of the crop.

During the past three years, the AgriLife Research plant pathology and crop physiology programs in Amarillo have concentrated studies on the occurrence of wheat streak mosaic disease and how it impacts a crop's water-use efficiency. The disease is caused by a virus transmitted by the wheat curl mite.

Knowing that major productivity losses can occur to both grain and forage yields in wheat with this virus, the research studies are trying to determine if the infection can be predicted at the early stages, and at what stages the infection is most damaging.

Both of these projects were partially funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Ogallala Aquifer Program and reported upon at the program's recent annual conference in Manhattan, Kansas.

A study by Dr. Qingwu Xue, AgriLife Research plant physiologist, titled "Physiological responses of hard red winter wheat to infection by wheat streak mosaic virus" will appear in Phytopathology, a periodical journal published by American Phytopathological Society.

Dr. Charlie Rush, AgriLife Research plant pathologist, and his team, including Dr. Fekede Workneh, senior research scientist in plant disease epidemiology, initiated a study to investigate whether the progressive nature of the disease could be exploited and early infections used to predict future impact on grain yield and plant biomass.

As temperatures warm during the next few weeks, symptoms of wheat streak will become more obvious, so growers should be on the lookout, Rush said.

"It is difficult to tell for sure in the field whether a particular symptom is caused by wheat streak or

something else, and the only way to know for sure is to take the sample into the plant diagnostic lab and have it tested," he said.

Barley yellow dwarf, a virus-caused disease transmitted by several different aphid species, and Russian aphids and greenbugs have been widespread this year, and they do cause discrete spots of yellowing wheat. At times these symptoms can easily be confused with wheat streak, even by a trained observer, Rush said.

When a producer is looking at wheat and trying to determine what is causing sick plants, he said uniformly yellowing leaves in a definite pattern, such as yellow stripes or spots, is probably not due to a mite-vectored virus disease such as wheat streak.

But streaks of green and yellow and little yellow flecks on individual leaves, a mosaic pattern, probably indicates its presence, Rush said. Wheat streak often starts at the edges of fields and symptoms spread across the field over time.

"It is important to know the difference between aphid damage and wheat streak because with aphids you can always spray to knock down populations to a manageable level, while with wheat streak, there is little a grower can do after symptoms begin to appear," he said.

"By that time, the virus has already infected the plants and depending on how widespread the disease is in the field, the only thing the farmer can do is decide on whether or not to keep irrigating."

If symptoms are widespread across a field in early April, yield potential is very low and additional inputs are questionable, the researchers said. If symptoms don't begin to show up until early or mid-May, yields will still be reduced compared to a healthy, non-diseased crop, but it won't be a total loss.

The disease causes root reduction, which significantly impedes soil water uptake, leaving growers uncertain as to when they should continue irrigating or stop and graze the wheat out, Workneh said.

"In order to answer that question, we are currently trying to determine if we can predict the disease early," he said. "The good thing about this disease is it is progressive over time, and in many cases begins on the edges and progresses into the field. This will help us assess the disease at different severity stages, which could be related to yield and forage biomass."

Workneh said the results so far are promising.

"We believe we will be able to tell growers that either the disease occurrence is severe and the field may not yield very well or the disease occurrence is not that severe, enabling them to make early decisions on management options including the need for irrigation," he said.

"But we need to continue the research for several years and include weather data to see how the temperature over the years affects the data," Workneh said. "It is a good start, but we need to continue the research."

Xue said his studies concentrated on the timing of the virus infestation and how that affected yield.

"We mechanically infested the wheat plants with the virus at different stages of the wheat," Xue said. "We inoculated it with the virus at the three-leaf, four-leaf, five-leaf, jointing and booting stages. Then we looked at the physiological responses of wheat plants."

"What we found in our two greenhouse studies is the grain and forage yields can be reduced tremendously when the virus infects the plants at an early stage - the three-leaf to five-leaf stages," he said. "If you irrigate wheat, then it might not be worth it when the field is infested early."

Xue said the wheat yields can still be affected if the infestation comes at jointing stage, so spring infestations also can reduce grain yield.

Early wheat streak mosaic virus spread on the greenhouse-inoculated plants resulted in a significant reduction in shoot biomass, root dry weight, tillers, water-use efficiency and yield. The infection did not affect rooting depth but reduced the number of nodal roots, he said.

While the research in both programs will continue, AgriLife Research offers an early disease detection system for producers through a Listserv and website, <http://bit.ly/1sVKFFA>.

Producers can subscribe and will be notified of the name of the county, types of pathogen found and the discovery date. Additionally, samples of diseased wheat can be submitted to the Plant Diagnostics Lab at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West in Amarillo for testing.

Pipeline safety urged

by Jason Westbrook
CEA-Ag, Haskell Co.

Many farms and ranches have been passed down through a family for generations or operated by a single owner for decades. You or someone you know may remember when and where underground utilities were installed on your land. But the location and depth of these lines can change over the years due to erosion, previous digging projects or uneven surfaces, so it's important to call 811—even if you think you may know what is buried in the area.

Pipeline Safety Tips

- If you observe any suspicious activity along pipeline right-of-way report it to the Pipeline Operator (PO).

- If you smell any type of odor that is unusual near a pipeline right-of-way report it ASAP.

- If you notice an excavator working on or near pipeline right-of-way and no pipeline personnel present at the site then report it.

- Develop awareness of where the pipeline facilities are located in your community.

- Be aware of what products/vehicles are being transported to and from the pipelines.

- If you discover any flammable, toxic or corrosive gas or liquid gas escaping from the pipeline, report it to 911 and PO.

- Observe the information provided on pipeline signs in your community.

- If you suspect anything unusual along pipeline right-of-way report it to the pipeline operator. It may turn out to be nothing, but that's ok. The pipeline personnel are committed to safety, and would like the opportunity to check it out. Better safe than sorry.

Before Digging or Planting

Comply with Texas law. Dial 811 or your local One Call Center to request to have pipelines located before digging or landscaping at least two days before starting your project. One Call is a free service that coordinates with utility companies to mark pipelines and other underground utility lines.

811 is a free, nationwide service designed to keep you safe when digging or excavating. Calling 811 is meant to be a simple process and is always the safest option any time you are moving dirt. Two to three business days before a soil-disturbing project, simply make a call to 811 with important details about your work, including:

- The type of work you will be doing and a description of the area

- The date and time when excavation will begin

- Your work site's street address, the road on which it is located and the nearest intersection

- Driving directions or GPS coordinates

After the call is made, professional locators will mark underground utilities. Pipelines will be marked with yellow flags or paint so you can conduct your work around them, saving yourself from potential injury or damage. Many states now offer online "811" options; visit call811.com/state-specific.aspx to find out if an online option is available in your state.

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This issue mailed Wed., Apr. 22, 2015

Rule-Paint Creek track

The Paint Creek Pirates and Rule Bobcats track teams competed in the District 13-1A meet held in Roby last Thursday.

Boys

Team standings: 6. Paint Creek, 29; 7. Rule, 28 (tie).

Shot put: 1. Rogers, Rule, 40-5.5.

Discus: 2. Rogers, Rule, 127-8.

3200: 1. Luevano, Paint

Creek, 11:19.92.
400 relay: 4. Paint Creek, 49.28.

100: 3. Rogers, Rule, 11.85.

200: 4. Rogers, Rule, 24.69.

1600: 1. Luevano, Paint Creek, 5:14.54.

Girls

Team standings: 7. Paint Creek, 5.

Shot put: 4. Darnell, Paint Creek, 28-9.

2015

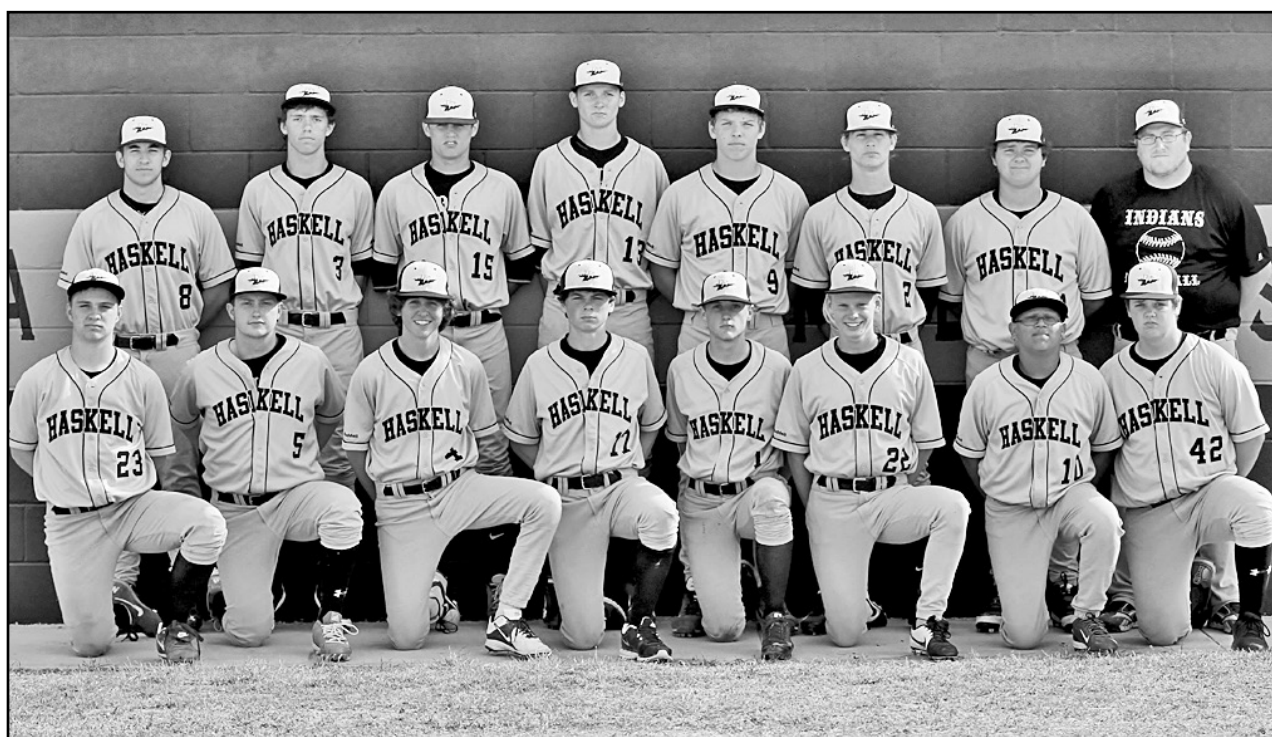


HASKELL INDIANS

Indians

Indians vs Hamlin
Fri., April 24
4:30 p.m.
at Hamlin

Indians vs Baird
Tues., April 28
5 p.m.
at Haskell



HASKELL INDIANS—Members of the 2015 Haskell Indians baseball team are, front row, l-r, Garret Tatum, Pryce Stewart, Kellen Parks, Alec Roewe, Kadin Seeliger, Finn Goette, Ankit Bhakta and Riley Sloan; back row, Ian Bailey, Rocky Haggard, Kade Colley, Henry Smith, Kyler Hoover, Ryan Pace, Caden Tatum and Coach Jeremy Kirk.

HASKELL MAIDENS



HASKELL MAIDENS—Members of the 2015 Haskell Maidens softball team are, front row, l-r, #21 Kelsey Guzman, #32 Abby Blair, #12 Julia Fuentes, #20 Breezy Gibbs, #11 Gabby Mendoza, #1 Hannah Foster, #2 Krysta Winegeart and Melody Martinez, manager; back row, Coach John Foster, #4 Laura Fuentes, #14 Kasie Isbell, #5 Jacie Klose, #6 Daphni Leonard, #3 Ashlyn Bevel, #13 Briana Rodriguez and Coach Lolo Martinez.

Maidens

Maidens vs Hamlin
Fri., April 24
5 p.m.
at Hamlin

GO INDIANS GO MAIDENS

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Haskell Elementary to register Kindergarten

Haskell Elementary School will have registration and screening for Kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year on Tues., May 5. New students not currently enrolled in Haskell Elementary School will be registered and screened from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the elementary office.

To attend Kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old on Sept. 1, 2015. Only students registering for Kindergarten who are not currently enrolled in Haskell Elementary School need to attend registration with their parents. All students currently enrolled in Haskell Elementary School will be pulled from their class to be screened. Their parents do not need to attend registration.

Program for Children with Disabilities) is for children ages 3-5 that may be developmentally delayed in areas such as learning, speech and/or emotional skills. If your child turns 3 during the 2015-2016 school year, you can call the elementary office at 864-2654 at that time to schedule an appointment to have your child screened.

Parents should bring their driver license and their child's birth certificate, immunization record and social security card to registration. Your child will not be able to start school in the fall until we have all these items on file.

It is possible for some children to qualify for more than one of these programs. Call Peggy Adams at 864-2654 if you have any questions.

PPCD (Preschool

April sales tax figures released

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar said that state sales tax revenue in March was \$2.12 billion, up 1.5 percent compared to March 2014.

"State sales tax collections have now grown for 60 consecutive months despite weakening in the energy sector. This moderated growth was expected and is currently in line with estimates presented in January," Hegar said. "Receipts in the construction, services and restaurant sectors remained relatively strong. We will continue to monitor the state's economic activity and its impact on key revenue sources."

Hegar sent cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts their April local sales tax allocations totaling \$576.6 million, up 4 percent compared to April 2014.

The sales tax figures represent February sales reported by monthly tax filers.

Haskell County had a 28.68 percent decrease for April 2015 of \$40,551.85 in comparison to \$56,863.77 for April 2014. 2015 payments to date of \$182,825.50 reflect a 7.06 percent decrease over 2014 payments to date of \$196,726.72.

The City of Haskell had a 30.92 percent decrease for

April 2015 of \$37,517.68 in comparison to \$54,313.88 for April 2014. 2015 payments to date of \$168,006.97 reflect an 8.50 percent decrease over 2014 payments to date of \$183,630.97.

The City of O'Brien had a 72.39 percent increase for April 2015 of \$737.23 in comparison to \$427.64 for April 2014. 2015 payments to date of \$1,475.99 reflect a 1.10 percent decrease over 2014 payments to date of \$1,492.52.

The City of Rochester had a 1.57 percent increase for April 2015 of \$411.81 in comparison to \$405.43 for April 2014. 2015 payments to date of \$2,218.20 reflect a 12.11 percent increase over 2014 payments to date of \$1,978.58.

The City of Rule had an 8.98 percent increase for April 2015 of \$1,658.71 in comparison to \$1,521.98 for April 2014. 2015 payments to date of \$10,150.67 reflect a 17.09 percent increase over 2014 payments to date of \$8,668.78.

The City of Weinert had a 16.20 percent increase for April 2015 of \$226.42 in comparison to \$194.84 for April 2014. 2015 payments to date of \$973.67 reflect a 1.86 percent increase over 2014 payments to date of \$955.87.



HASKELL FFA TEAMS

Haskell FFA teams compete and advance to state

The Haskell FFA Chapter was proudly represented by five teams competing in the combined District and Area II judging contests this past week. All of the teams placed within the top five of Area competition and will be competing on the state level over the next few weeks.

The Haskell FFA Dairy Products team, placed third in District, fourth in Area, and will compete at State on April 23. The team consists of Morgan Nava-Munoz, Lori Rodgers, Jaycee Ferguson and Kameryn Mathis.

The Range Judging team placed second in District, third in Area, and will compete at State on April 23. Team members include Reagan Hadaway, Victoria Hertel, Kourtney Howard, Sarah Fouts and Brenn Weiser.

The Entomology team placed first in District,

second in Area, and will compete at State on April 25. Team members include Reed Lee, Jacee Guess, Katie Newberry and Daphni Leonard.

The Poultry team placed

second in District, fourth in Area, and will compete at state on May 2. Team members include Makenzie Gass, Kylie Adams, Alye Stewart, Payton Thomas and Isaiah Alvarez.

The Meats Evaluation team placed first in District, third in Area, and will compete at state on May 2. The team consists of Chase Gibson, Sam Fouts, Lane Burson and Hayden Hudson.



STATE BOUND-The Haskell Range team members Vicky Hertel, Sarah Fouts, Reagan Hadaway, Brenn Weiser and Kourtney Howard are headed to state competition April 23.



Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension Service

by Jason Westbrook, CEA-Ag, Haskell Co.

We still want beef

By Miranda Reiman

People love beef. When price skyrockets, and incomes are tight, people still love beef. That's according to a new Oklahoma State University research report, "Retail and Foodservice Marketing Trends for Beef." Co-authors Bailey Harsh and Deb VanOverbeke combined data from major consumer databases to find, "even as late as 2013, among consumers who changed their meat purchases 91% were spending less."

Most indications show that's returning to pre-recession levels.

"The majority of consumers today say beef isn't too expensive. But most importantly, 72% of consumers listed beef as their first or top choice of proteins in 2013," it states.

"Even during a recession, folks still want to have beautiful moments in their lives," says John Lundeen, senior executive director of market research for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), a contractor to the Beef Checkoff.

Still, as drought and other herd-shrinking circumstances helped elevate prices and add to the cash register crunch, many predicted a decline in demand.

"If you look at the trends, beef consumption didn't really fall during that time,"

says VanOverbeke. "They maybe changed how they used it, maybe using more casserole-type dishes using beef, rather than having steak-but people didn't change beef consumption as a whole."

Trading middle meats for grinds gave home cooks a chance to stretch their food dollars, Lundeen says.

"Ground beef is very familiar and you can do a lot of things with it," he says. "I can buy a pound of ground beef and feed my family, so there is a value story there."

It's easy to prepare—a trait most beef eaters are looking for today.

Beef consumption is higher among the "Millennial" generation, those born from 1980 to 2000, than those over 35.

"Millennials are a major target for beef marketing because they consume the most beef both at home and in restaurants of any generation and, given their age, will continue to be a major driver of beef demand," the research says.

A decline in high-school cooking education coupled with more after-school activities taking families out of the kitchen, could lead to a decrease in preparing beef for dinner, Lundeen says.

"It's not happening at school and it's happening to a smaller degree in the home, so you just don't grow up with it," he says, "but that does not

mean that there isn't a desire to cook."

Indeed, this generation has grown up with the Food Network and a greater exposure to a vast array of food choices.

"Cooking is a very social thing and is a common force among people," Lundeen says, noting that the beef industry must equip consumers to work with the product.

In some cases, it's increasing easy-to-prepare options. The paper says in the past four years the number of consumers preparing "convenience meats" has increased 12%.

"We can't assume that folks know how to buy the cut, how to season it, how to prep it and how to know when it's done or what temperature to cook it at," Lundeen says, "but the desire for knowledge is there and people want great food. That's what beef has to deliver on."

The higher quality the beef, the more likely it is to live up to expectations, says Phil Bass, Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) brand meat scientist.

"High quality meat results in the high quality end product," he says, noting marbling increases the three palatability components: tenderness, juiciness and flavor. "Marbling is less dense than protein, so if you have the marbling in that piece of meat it's going to be easier to bite through."

Research also shows the more intramuscular fat, the more intense the "beautiful, buttery-flavor" and the juicier the meat is.

Higher quality beef is also more forgiving. Beef Checkoff studies show nearly 50% of people like their steaks cooked "medium well" to "well done."

"As a result, if you don't have that marbling in there then it's going to turn out to be a very dry steak," Bass says. "The marbling doesn't evaporate, but the water does cook off."

Branding at the meat case helps assure purchasers they're getting what they want.

"In all categories, consumers have preferred brands. When you talk about ketchup, most people are brand loyal," VanOverbeke shares as an example. "We're seeing beef move toward that brand recognition."

Since 2002, CAB demand increased 108%, compared to a 51% increase for USDA Choice or higher, and a decline of 1% for unbranded Choice, according to a Kansas State University demand index in 2014.

"Part of the goal is to get consumers to come back to that section of the meat case over and over again because they are happy with the beef they had the last time," she says.

VanOverbeke says the main research message is that beef came through the recession in good shape and poised for growth.

"Consumers ultimately believe the price reflects beef's value and continue to vote with their dollars for beef's flavor, juiciness, tenderness and versatility," the authors say.

People love beef.

Now it's up to the industry to make sure they continue to have reasons to, Lundeen cautions: "We have to produce a great product that, at the end of the day, tastes good. Actually it has to taste more than good. It has to taste great."

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DAIRY CATTLE CDE—Members of the Paint Creek Dairy Cattle CDE team who competed at Windthorst were, l-r, Devery Reed, Frankie Masias and Seth Harper.



DAIRY CATTLE CDE—Members of the Paint Creek Dairy Cattle CDE team who competed at Tarleton were, l-r, Devery Reed and Whitney Masias.



AREA MEATS CDE—Paint Creek FFA members, l-r, Zhenia McTasney, Corey Mengwasser and Clay Cumby at the Texas Tech Area competition.



MEATS EVALUATION CDE—Paint Creek FFA members, l-r, Dakota Mayor, Zhenia McTasney and Clay Cumby at the Tarleton competition.



CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS—Paint Creek FFA members, l-r, Clay Cumby, Ashley Crossley and Corey Mengwasser compete at Angelo State University.



MEATS CDE—Paint Creek FFA members, l-r, Ashley Crossley, Corey Mengwasser and Clay Cumby at the Texas Tech competition.

Paint Creek FFA teams wrap up successful judging season

Paint Creek FFA had an awesome judging season beginning with a Dairy Cattle Judging CDE in Lingleville March 21 and wrapping up in Lubbock with the Area II Meats Judging CDE Sat., April 18.

Career Development Events build on what is learned in agricultural classes and encourage members to put their knowledge into practice. These events are designed to help a member prepare

for a career in agriculture by testing and challenging the student's technical, leadership, interpersonal and teamwork skills as well as their knowledge of the subject matter. CDEs answer the question,

"When will I use this knowledge in the real world?"

Each CDE was a successful event for all Paint Creek FFA judging individuals. Each student improved tremendously

with their individual scores at every judging event.

Results from the judging events Paint Creek FFA competed in include:

Dairy Cattle Judging, team members, Devery Reed, Whitney Masias, Frankie Masias, Seth Harper and Manual Acosta: Lingleville CDE, March 21, fifth place. High ranking member was Frankie Masias seventh place; Tarleton CDE, March 26, ranked 110th; Windthorst CDE, April 1, 23rd place; Tarleton Area CDE, April 8, 14th place. High ranking members, Whitney

Masias 34th place and Devery Reed 36th place.

Meats Evaluation, team members, Corey Mengwasser, Clay Cumby, Ashley Crossley, Zhenia McTasney and Dakota Mayor:

Tarleton CDE, March 26, ranked 68th; Angelo State CDE, April 10, 23rd place; Texas Tech CDE, April 11, 27th place; Texas Tech Area CDE, April 18, seventh place. High ranking members, Corey Mengwasser, 24th place; Clay Cumby, 25th place and Zhenia McTasney, 34th place.



Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension Service

by Jason Westbrook, CEA-Ag, Haskell Co.

With cotton prices projected to be sideways in the near term as oversupply continues to pressure prices, growers will have to evaluate all aspects of planting costs to boost profit margins in 2015, according to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

Dr. John Robinson, AgriLife Extension cotton economist in College Station, said growers should prepare themselves for prices to trend lower or be range bound for much of the year.

"In hindsight, the 2014 crop should have been sold or hedged much earlier when futures prices were in the 70 to 80-cent range," he said. "Near-term cotton futures prices remain range bound, having traded from the upper-50s to the mid-60s since October 2014, referencing May 2015 futures contract. That implies cash prices for average quality old crop cotton to be between the upper 50s and the grower's

loan rate value."

Robinson said the price outlook for the 2015 crop will be "more of the same."

"This is based on the expectation that the reduced planted U.S. acreage will see slightly lower-than-average abandonment and slightly above-average yields," he said. "That would result in over 14 million bales of new crop production and about 19 million bales of supply. Taking out domestic mill consumption and exports leaves about 5 million bales of leftover ending stocks, which is about the same as the 2014 crop leftovers."

Meanwhile, Dr. Gaylon Morgan, AgriLife Extension state cotton specialist in College Station, said farmers can look for ways to cut input costs and boost their bottom line in light of low price projections prior to planting.

"In most fields, a significant amount of nitrogen remains in the soil profile from previous years

when nitrogen application rates exceeded crop removal," Morgan said. "This residual nitrogen should be credited when calculating nitrogen application rates for the 2015 crop. In most cases, crediting this soil residual nitrogen will equate to significant cost savings. However, soil sampling is required to know how much residual nitrogen exists."

Morgan said it is important to optimize yields and it starts with genetics and varieties which impact both yield potential and fiber quality.

"Fertility and varieties are two of the biggest things you can do to optimize income. Reducing seeding rates to decrease input costs may also play a role for some producers. Variety and seed technology fees, to my knowledge, will remain relatively flat. Producers are wondering how low they can go to save on seed and

technology costs."

Morgan recommends getting good quality seed.

"Seed quality is paramount if a producer is going to the lower end of the recommended seeding rates," he said. "Know the cool-warm vigor index for the seed. Make sure your planting equipment is in the best shape with regards to seed placement. Plant stands as low as two per foot, but the stand has to be unified."

Morgan said that South Texas has more of a buffer than the High Plains to compensate for lower plant stands due to more heat unit accumulation.

He also recommends producers pay attention to soil temperature when planting.

"If you are going to push the envelope and plant early, you need to plant a variety known to have lots of vigor and a good cool-warm vigor index," Morgan said.

Wildflower viewing safety

Springtime in Texas is known for the beautiful wildflowers that blanket the fields and roadsides across our state, including the state flower, the Bluebonnet. Here are a few tips to help everyone enjoy the wildflower season safely and lawfully.

While there is no law against picking the state flower, laws do exist against damaging or destroying rights-of-way and government property. So even though picking a few flowers may be okay, individuals should not dig up clusters of flowers or drive their vehicle into a field of flowers.

Flower fans must also consider laws against criminal trespassing and make sure they are not on private property when stopping to enjoy or take photos of the wildflowers. Individuals should also be cautious of snakes, fire ants and other potential dangers while

observing wildflowers.

DPS encourages motorists to be mindful of laws against impeding traffic and exercise caution when slowing down to enjoy the view; and if you decide to stop, choose areas with light traffic conditions.

For the safety of yourself and others, consider the following tips while enjoying Texas wildflowers:

- Signal before leaving or entering the roadway.
- Park off the roadway (off of improved shoulders), parallel to the road in the direction of traffic.
- Don't cross lanes of traffic on foot to get to the flowers.
- Obey signs that prohibit parking on a particular stretch of roadway.
- Remember that failure to follow the rules of the road any time of the year could result in a ticket.

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- Steps should be highly visible, have good lighting, nonskid treads and handrails.
- A strong banister running along all indoor and outdoor steps is essential.
- Clearly mark and light the top and bottom steps.
- Use bright lighting in the living space.
- Remove all floor clutter in the walkways.
- Remove slippery floor coverings such as polished linoleum, small mats and area or throw rugs.
- Use nonskid floor wax, wall-to-wall carpeting or rubber-backed rugs. Tack down the corners of area rugs.
- Install nonskid mats and handrails in the bathtub and near the toilet and bed.
- A bedside lamp or low-wattage night-light should be available in the bedroom.
- Secure electrical cords along the walls or baseboards.
- Store frequently used dishes, clothes and other items within easy reach; climbing on a stool or chair should be avoided.
- Set the temperature on the hot water heater to no hotter than 130°F or have a mixing valve installed on the bathtub faucet to prevent burns.

What questions regarding home care do you have for the nurse? Send your questions to Haskell Home Health Agency, 417 S. First, Haskell, TX 79521 or call 940-864-5074 or 1-877-864-5074.

HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH—AT HOME is brought to you by Haskell Home Health Agency providing home care services in *Haskell, Knox, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Jones Counties*

Home Care: Keeping Texans Proud & Independent

Haskell School Menu

April 27-May 1 Breakfast
Milk variety and 100% fruit juice is available at every meal.
Monday: Pancake wrap and yogurt or cereal variety and toast
Tuesday: Chicken-n-biscuit or cereal variety and toast
Wednesday: French toast and bacon or cereal variety and toast
Thursday: Early bird sandwich or cereal variety and toast
Friday: Muffin choice and sausage or cereal variety and toast

Milk variety is available at every meal.
Monday: Chicken fajitas, salsa, seasoned corn, baby carrots with ranch, fresh fruit bowl
Tuesday: Pig in a blanket, baby carrots with ranch, steamed broccoli, pineapple, sugar cookie
Wednesday: Turkey and cheese wrap, multigrain chips, tomato cup, garden salad, cinnamon apples
Thursday: Chicken Parmesan, savory green beans, garden salad, breadstick, fresh apple slices
Friday: Cheeseburger with garnish, potato rounds, western beans, diced pears

Lunch

Paint Creek School Menu

April 27-30 Breakfast
Milk and juice are served daily.
Monday: Waffles
Tuesday: Breakfast club
Wednesday: Toast, eggs, sausage
Thursday: Oatmeal round, yogurt
Lunch
Milk is served daily.

Monday: Chicken strips, fries, gravy, roll, salad, hot apples
Tuesday: Texas chili, cornbread, fries, veggie cup, fruit, cookie
Wednesday: Spaghetti, green beans, salad, breadsticks, peaches
Thursday: Burritos, beans, salad, oranges

Rule School Menu

April 27-May 1 Breakfast
Fresh fruit, juice or milk are offered daily.
Monday: Sausage biscuit, string cheese
Tuesday: Muffin choice, scrambled eggs
Wednesday: French toast, bacon
Thursday: Banana muffins, cereal choice
Friday: Waffles, sausage
Lunch
Milk is served daily.

Monday: Steakfingers, French fries, gravy, roll, charro beans, salad, cinnamon apples
Tuesday: Chili with cornbread, potato rounds, veggie cup, fruit, carnival cookie
Wednesday: Pizza salad, carrots, fruit
Thursday: Chicken nuggets, mac and cheese, salad, blackeyed peas, apple slices, Rice Crispy treat
Friday: Chicken fajita, salad, corn, carrots, salsa, peaches



Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension Service

by Jason Westbrook, CEA-Ag, Haskell Co.

Sorghum pricing offers producers opportunity to maximize profits
Experts: Water management key to profitability
Higher prices for grain sorghum due to greater overseas demand from China are creating an opportunity for producers if the crop is properly managed, according to several Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service experts.

“What’s happening in the sorghum market is a surprise and is exciting for producers,” said Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLife Extension agronomist in Amarillo. “The Chinese market has increased prices. As a result, many producers are considering planting sorghum this year to take advantage of the situation.”

Bell said management is key to capitalizing on the situation, and the biggest area of savings can be realized by minimizing production risks and maximizing water use efficiency, or maintaining production with limited water.

When comparing corn and sorghum production, she said, sorghum production is greater when water is limited. In order to optimize sorghum production, irrigation should be managed at critical growth stages.

Dr. Dana Porter, AgriLife Extension agricultural engineer in Lubbock, offered producers some tips for optimizing limited water.

Management and maintenance are key to realizing the benefits of efficient irrigation methods and best management practices, Porter said. There are some excellent technologies out there for producers to choose from, however, she said site-specific and operation-specific considerations affect suitability of these technologies and best management practices.

“Remember, one size does not fit all,” she said. “The bottom line is to select the appropriate, efficient irrigation tools and practices for your operation based on field layout, water resources, cropping practices, economic feasibility, labor and management capabilities or constraints.”

When planning irrigation strategies, keep in mind peak crop water demand periods, Porter stressed, as well as critical growth stages and total crop water

requirements. And don’t forget to consider total water—rainfall and stored soil water, as well as irrigation application—to improve water-use efficiency.

When looking at overall integrated crop management, Porter said to consider and address potential limiting factors, such as crop genetics and nutrient management, as well as water capacity. She also emphasized an integrated pest management program should be included in overall production considerations.

Bell said the “biggest bang” from irrigation in a grain sorghum crop can be achieved by maximizing the by seeds per head, and the most important time to effect this is between the critical growth stages of growing point differentiation and half-bloom. Growing point differentiation is about 30 days past emergence or at the seven to 10 leaf stage.

“Make sure water and nutrients are there from growing point differentiation through bloom,” she said. “Available water and nutrients during these periods offer the greatest potential to increase yield and profit because we are able to optimize seeds per head.”

Bell said managing deficit irrigation at critical growth stages fits well with a split pivot scenario where water is concentrated on a smaller area rather than trying to spread it across an entire field. Utilizing a managed deficit irrigation strategy whereby irrigation is further concentrated during the critical growth stages would eliminate at least one, if not two, early season irrigation events prior to growing point differentiation, she said.

From half-bloom through reproductive maturity, irrigation is again applied at a deficit rate, Bell said. It is important to realize that a producer must have the well capacity to increase the rate of irrigation during this period.

“You end up applying almost the same amount of irrigation between a standard deficit and a managed deficit strategy, but the concentration of water at the right time will help you see a difference in the seeds per head,” she said.

Bell said other key points to remember are: while irrigation after the hard dough stage is often used to

minimize lodging, it does not increase grain production; and producers should not plant the same hybrids and populations under the same irrigation levels, because, again, “one size does not fit all.”

Dr. Calvin Trostle, AgriLife Extension agronomist in Lubbock, added that the two key production considerations producers sometimes make poor decisions related to seeds planted and fertilization.

“The thing about sorghum is there is nothing visual to determine when growing point differentiation is occurring, so a producer just has to go on growing days,” Trostle said. “I say at 33 days from planting you need to make sure you are not limited with nutrients on the crop.”

He said nitrogen fertility and soil testing are important, adding the rule of thumb is to have 2 pounds of nitrogen per 100 pounds of yield goal.

The nitrogen should include both what is already in the soil, determined by a soil test, and what is added through fertilization, Trostle said.

“Do a profile of nitrate testing and credit that fully towards your crop requirements.”

Also, seeds per acre are very important, he said.

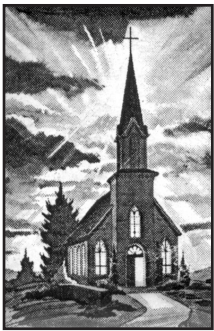
“Most limited irrigation (6-8 inches) grain sorghum should target 50,000-55,000 seeds per acre if deep soil moisture is very good, but seeding rates should be reduced by 10,000 seeds per acre if soil moisture is poor,” Trostle said. “Full-irrigation grain sorghum should not increase seeding rates too much from these numbers.”

With dryland sorghum, he said, adjust to the moisture conditions. Planting 30,000-35,000 seeds per acre is enough when deep soil moisture is good, but reduce rates if deep soil moisture is lacking. These seeding rates are high enough to not limit yield, but low enough to significantly reduce the potential to burn up the crop due to lack of water later during the growing season.

“Less is more when it comes to grain sorghum seeding rates,” Trostle said.

For more information on Texas High Plains grain sorghum, see the AgriLife Extension guides prepared for the United Sorghum Checkoff at <http://bit.ly/1HX2gQ3>.

This Week's Devotional Message:



The word ‘conservation’ should become increasingly a part of our everyday vocabulary; not just as an expression but as a mandate to preserve our environment and ultimately, life itself. When God gave us this planet for our home, He did so as a sacred trust, expecting us to take care of it as conditions warrant. For example, in a normally dry area or during a periodic drought, it is only

common sense not to waste water. And with our landfill disposal sites growing into towering mountains, it behooves us to recycle containers or re-use them as best we can, to at least slow down the process. Learn at your house of worship that the earth is ours to inhabit and enjoy, but also care of it as conditions warrant. For our share of the responsibility for it. It's the only home we'll ever have.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

—HASKELL—

East Side Baptist Church
Terry Bunch, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell

Christian Church
Sun. 10:45 a.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell

Church of God
Bruce Ray, pastor
Sun. 10:30 a.m. Thurs. 7:00 p.m.
714 North First East, Haskell

Trinity Lutheran Church
Rev. David White, pastor
Sunday 9:30 a., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell

Iglesia Bautista El Calvario
Art Flores, Interim pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 5 p.; Wed. 7 p.
607 S. 7th, Haskell

First United Methodist Church
Rev. Weston Pendergrass, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:50 a., 6 p.; Wed. 6 p.
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell

First Assembly of God
Rev. J.C. Amburn
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell

St. George Catholic Church
Father Angelo Conzemino
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. 9:00 a.m.
901 N. 16th, Haskell

Church of Christ
Philip Sims, minister
Sun. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell

First Presbyterian Church
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell

Trinity Baptist Church
Larry White, pastor
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 6:30 p.
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell

Hopewell Baptist Church
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a.; Wed. 7 p.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

Greater Independent Baptist Church
Rev. Earnest Flanders, Jr., pastor
Sun. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
940-863-4405

New Covenant Foursquare
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell

First Baptist Church
Jim Reid, interim pastor
Jason Daniels, minister of Youth and Music
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 10:55 a.m., 6 p.m.;
Wed. 6:30 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church
Morris R. Johnson, pastor
Sun. 9:30 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.
1600 N. First St., Haskell

God Loves You Ministries
Mark Wallace, pastor
Church Service 10 a.m.
West side of square, Haskell
—WEINERT—

First Baptist Church
Dan Bullock, pastor
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.
Weinert

Weinert Foursquare Church
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sunday 11 a.m.
Weinert

—ROCHESTER—

Church of Christ
Mitchell Greer, minister
Sun. 10 a.m., 10:45 a.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester

First Baptist Church
Jim McCurley, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.;
Prayer Time/Team Kids 5 p.m.;
Wed. Youth meeting 7 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester

Union Chapel Baptist Church
Clovie Dever
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.
Rochester

Faith Chapel of Rochester
Randy Hollingsworth, minister
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 6 p.m.
Hwy. 6, Rochester
—SAGERTON—

Sagerton Methodist Church
Cory Graham, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.
Sagerton

Faith Lutheran Church
Anna Robbins, pastor
Sun. 10:30 a.m.
Sagerton
—RULE—

First Baptist Church
Scott Hensley, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p.; Wed. 7 p.
1001 Union Ave., Rule

Primitive Baptist Church
Dale Turner Jr., pastor
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule

Church of Christ
Paul Leonard, minister
Sun. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.
811 Union, Rule

Primera Iglesia Bautista Alfa y Omegas
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.; Wed. 6 p.
500 Elm Street, Rule

Sweet Home Baptist Church
Russell Stanley, pastor
Sunday 10 a.m.
Gladstone Ave., Rule
940-997-2296

West Bethal Baptist Church
Rev. Clovis Dever
Sun. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.; Wed. 7:30 p.
300 Sunny Ave., Rule
—PAINT CREEK—

Paint Creek Baptist Church
Sun. 10:00 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek
—O'BRIEN—

O'Brien Baptist Church
Jim Reid, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p., Wed. 6 p.
O'Brien

Talk, Text, Crash campaign underway

With more people dying senselessly on Texas roads due to distracted driving, the Texas Department of Transportation kicks off its annual “Talk, Text, Crash” campaign to urge drivers to give their full attention to the road. TxDOT’s campaign coincides with National Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April. “Nearly one in five traffic crashes in Texas is caused by a distracted driver,” said TxDOT Deputy Executive Director John Barton. “Last year, 468 people were killed because someone took their attention off the road. How important is a fleeting distraction when it could end in the death of someone,

perhaps even one of your loved ones?”

Distracted driving-related crashes in Texas are highest among 16- to 24-year-olds. In 2014, there were 100,825 crashes in Texas involving distracted driving—up six percent from the previous year.

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, drivers using a mobile phone are four times more likely to cause serious injury in a crash. Text messaging is particularly dangerous. New research conducted last year by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute showed it takes a driver double the amount of time to react when they are distracted by text messaging. Additionally, sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes away from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds. At 55 mph, that's the equivalent of driving the length of a football field while blindfolded.

While mobile phone use is the most recognizable driving distraction, any type

of behavior that draws a motorist's attention away from driving is dangerous. TxDOT urges drivers to refrain from:

- Texting
- Checking email
- Eating and drinking
- Grooming
- Reading
- Programming a navigation system
- Adjusting music or other audio device

If a distraction absolutely requires immediate attention, TxDOT reminds drivers to pull over to a safe location and come to a complete stop before diverting their attention.

ECC Menu

Mon., April 27
Hamburgers with all the trimmings, chips, dump cake, tea or coffee
Wed., April 29
Sauerkraut, Wieners, Texas potatoes, pork n beans, cornbread, dessert, tea or coffee
Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

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864-8533
Randy Phelps, Manager

Steele Fire Apparatus
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Modern Way Food Store
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301 Adams • Rule • 996-2421

Smitty's Auto Parts
107 N. 1st East • 864-2607

Clear Fork Crime Stoppers
1-800-222-TIPS



IT'S A STRIKE—Haskell Maiden Laura Fuentes winds up the pitch for a strike during the Hawley game.



HIT FOR THE MAIDENS—Haskell Maiden Breezy Gibbs with a nice line drive during the Hawley game.



MAIDEN AT BAT—Haskell Maiden Gabby Mendoza puts the bat to the ball during the district game against Hawley.

Indians baseball

Indians fall to Hawley 0-11

The Haskell Indians lost 11-0 to Hawley at Hawley on Tues., April 14 as Hewitt allowed three hits over five innings.

Rocky Haggard baffled Hawley, striking out three batters. Haggard allowed three earned runs, five hits and five walks over 3 2/3 innings.

Hawley was sparked by Stokes and Kapke, who teamed up for two hits and three RBIs.

Hawley stayed on top until the final out after taking the lead in the first, scoring eight runs on four singles.

Indians fall to Stamford 6-11

The Indians built an early edge Sat., April 18, but Stamford roared back to steal an 11-6 victory at Haskell.

Stamford took the lead in the sixth inning on a sacrifice fly by Gonzales.

Kade Colley was solid at the plate for the Indians. Colley went 2-3 and scored one run. He singled in the second and seventh innings.

Wesley Gonzales got the win for Stamford despite allowing six runs over six innings. He struck out five, walked three and surrendered eight hits.

Stamford's West, Gonzales, Gonzales and Mathis combined for six hits and six RBIs.

Colley ended up on the wrong side of the pitching decision, charged with the loss. He allowed seven runs in five innings, walked five and struck out four.

The top of the first saw Stamford take an early lead, 2-0. A single by Gonzales, bringing home Smith started the inning off. Stamford then tacked on more runs when West scored on a passed ball.

Stamford scored two runs in the third inning, and then followed it up with two more in the fifth. In the third, Stamford scored on a wild pitch, plating West.

The game's last lead went to Stamford thanks to a sixth inning rally that saw five runs cross the plate on an error, a sacrifice fly by Gonzales, and a two-run single by Mathis.

Maidens softball

Maidens fall to Hawley 4-9

The Haskell Maidens traded wins with Hawley in the second half of district, Tues., April 14 in front of the Haskell home crowd. Both teams were scoreless in the first and second innings.

In the top of the third, Hawley's bats came alive scoring 5 runs and Hawley remained in the lead the entire game. Haskell finally scored a run in the sixth, and was down 9 to 1 in

the bottom of the seventh. Ashlyn Bevel started a rally with a single, followed by a single by Hannah Foster, and both, along with Larua Fuentes scored on Hawley errors, but the game rally ended and the Maiden winning streak was halted.

The Maidens had 10 hits collectively, Hawley had 11. Both teams have 1 loss in district play against each other. Each team has 3 remaining district games.

E-mail your news, photos and ads to The Haskell Free Press at hfpnews@lycos.com or hfp@valornet.com

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RE-ELECT ALLEN MORROW HASKELL CITY COUNCIL

I have been on the city council for the last two years. It has been an experience, I must admit. The challenges of money management, equipment issues and personnel are at the forefront. The council we have now has met these challenges head on, and are proceeding in a forward direction. The challenges we face in the next two years are going to be even more difficult, the water situation and the infrastructure of our city (water lines and sewer lines), as well as hiring qualified and motivated employees.

Most of the people in Haskell know me, some know of me. My wife, Sherri, and I own and operate M&M Auto Plus. We built our business, with the help of our great customers, fairness, common sense, long hours and hard work, and lots of patience. That's what it takes to make progress! I'm asking for your **VOTE** to keep us moving forward. **VOTE** the first three candidates on the ballot, we all share the same concerns and challenges.

GO **VOTE**.

IT'S YOUR VOICE AND PRIVILEGE.

Thank you,

ALLEN MORROW

Pol. Adv. Pd. for by Sherri Morrow, Campaign Treasurer

Prices Good Thru 05/16/15



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