

**All Around
The Town**

By Mary Ann Sarchet



As we count our blessings this Christmas season, let us not forget that silent night long ago when the Christ Child was born. His message of life eternal is the true gift of the season. Let us pray that the spirit of the nativity lives with us, now and always.

*
Briscoe County Activities Association will sponsor a Christmas lighting/decoration contest, and homes will be judged on Thursday, December 21.

Please be sure to have your lights turned on tonight.

*
Jeff Jones visited at our office one day last week, and while he was here he told us that his parents, Troy and Marge Jones, were doing well in Lubbock. Troy is employed by the WalMart store on the south loop.

**Seventh Grade Wins
Two Games From
Valley Monday Night**

Silverton's Seventh Grade played a pair of games with Valley Monday night, winning both of them.

The Lady Owls finished with a 15-13 lead after a very close game.

Krista Hale led the scoring with 10 points. Also scoring were Kelsie Estes, four, and Hannah James, one point.

7th Lady Owls	3	7	11	15
Valley 7th	5	9	11	13

The Owls won their game 32-23 behind the 13-point scoring of Gid Mayfield. Others scoring were Jeronimo Garcia, six; Yance Forbes, Joseph Baeza and Jacob Francis, two each; Jesse Reynolds, one point.

7th Owls	12	20	25	32
Valley 7th	6	13	19	23



Monica Alaniz told Santa that she wants a star, a cookie and a Baby doll for Christmas. She is in the pre-kindergarten class in the Silverton School.



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Briscoe County News

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2000

VOLUME 92 NUMBER 51

Owls, Lady Owls To Host Annual Hoot-Out Tournament Dec. 28-30

Silverton's Owls and Lady Owls will be hosting their annual Hoot-Out Tournament December 28-29-30. Teams playing in both the girls and boys bracket are Lazbuddie, Kress, Claude, Trinity, Hart, Cotton Center, Silverton and Bovina.

The Lady Owls will make their first tournament appearance at 6:00 p.m. Thursday with Bovina. Winner of this game will advance to play at 6:00 p.m. Friday, and the loser will play at 12:00 Friday.

The Owls will play their first game at 7:30 p.m. Thursday with Bovina. The winner advances to play at 7:30 p.m. Friday, and the loser will play at 1:30 p.m. Friday.

Opponent for each game will be either Hart or Cotton Center.

Championship games are at 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Third place games are at 3:00 and 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

Consolation finals start at 12:00 and 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Cotton Growers Are Eager To Finish 2000 Crop Year

With the finality of the Presidential election process fresh on their minds High Plains cotton growers are looking for a little finality of their own in regard to the 2000 growing season.

With a majority of the details known for the 2000 Crop Disaster Program (CDP) producers wavering over the decision to abandon or harvest marginal acreage can now closely estimate program benefits they would be eligible for under either scenario.

The last piece of the puzzle is the final determination of applicable early and late non-harvest

factors that will be applied to CDP benefits paid on failed acreage.

Most guesswork at this time indicates acreage failed early in the growing season will have CDP benefits factored down by 25-30 percent. Acres carried significantly father into the growing season will probably be factored down at a lower rate, probably between 10-15 percent.

It should be noted also that there is still authority for a "severe economic loss" program available for future consideration by the next Administration. Efforts to bring about additional assistance through this legislative window will continue as well.

Concerns now include finding ways to implement some immediate economic relief that will help growers project positive cash flows and allow the financing of operating loans for 2001.

PCG has been working to lay the groundwork for the effort which will begin in earnest with the start of the next Congressional session January 3, 2001.

Top candidates for immediate help include immediate increases of at least 20 percent in loan rates for program crops, revision of the 2001 Ag Market Transition Act (AMTA) up to the payment rates levels paid in 1998 and authorization of a second AMTA payment at 100 percent of the 1998 payment rate.

For cotton this could mean a base loan rate around 60 cents per pound and two 2001 AMTA payments calculated at 8.17 cents per pound. Other changes that would



Savannah Kast visited with Santa at the First State Bank last week, and asked him to bring gifts to her sister and brother, Daphne and Dalton. She told Santa that she wants an easel to draw and color on and a baby doll for Christmas.

Briscoe County News Photo

positively effect financing availability in 2001 will also be scrutinized as they are identified to determine both applicability and effectiveness.

The 2001 growing season holds some of the most significant challenges yet for growers. PCG and the National Cotton Council al-

ready are working to develop game plans for attacking these challenges to the benefit of all cotton producers.

The investment to support organizations such as PCG and the NCC have been repaid many times over through benefits paid to producers.



I'd like a four-wheeler and a sleigh just like yours, Braden Estes told Santa when he visited at First State Bank last week.

Briscoe County News Photo

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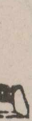
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AA-Al-Anon Meetings Mondays at 8:00 p.m. at Quitauque. Call 806-823-2020 or 806-455-1258. 26-tfnc

SILVERTON AA and Al-Anon Meetings. Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. Call 806-823-2020 or 806-455-1258. 23-tfnc

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CARDS OF THANKS

All my thanks to the people of Silverton and their churches for all the prayers and support. You've been very good to Joan and me and our family. Dick Roehr

We want to thank everyone who helped make December 3, 2000 such a special day for us as we celebrated our 50th.

Our children, grandchildren, those who came to our party, those who sent cards, telephoned or spoke to us personally.

Thank all of you so much, Ted and LaVern

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Skyler Stephens, a pre-kindergarten student in the Silverton Schools, visited with Santa at First State Bank last week. He told Santa that he wants an airplane, helicopter and module truck for Christmas.

Briscoe County News Photo

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JV Lady Owls were winners of the Spade JV Tournament last weekend. They are (left to right) Brandi Rice, Kami Wilson, Keley Simpson, Kassie Strange, Lori Griffin, Kurby Garvin and Daryl-Ann Reynolds.

Junior Varsity Ladies Fly High, Win Spade Tournament

Silvertown's Junior Varsity Lady Owls stormed the Spade JV Tournament last weekend, and brought home the first-place trophy. They opened the tournament with Bovina, earning a 43-13 victory. Kassie Strange led the offense with a big 18-point performance. Kurby Garvin backed her up with a 16-point game. Also scoring were Lori Griffin, nine, and Keley Simpson, two.

Lady Owls JV	16	29	35	43
Bovina JV	3	7	11	13

Kurby Garvin had hot hands again as the Lady Owls recorded a 44-20 victory over Motley County. Kurby shot 19 points into the baskets, with all her teammates contributing points to the score: Lori Griffin, nine; Kassie Strange, five; Kami Wilson, three; Keley Simpson, Brandi Rice and Daryl-Ann Reynolds, two points each.

Lady Owls JV	8	24	35	44
Motley County	4	6	12	20

The teams travelled to Groom Tuesday afternoon, and will be idle until after Christmas.

Silvertown Teams Win Two of Three at Lazbuddie Dec. 12

Silvertown's High School teams won two of three games with Lazbuddie here December 12, then went on to do well in their series of games with Claude on December 15.

The JV Lady Owls opened the series with Lazbuddie by taking a 54-34 victory.

Lori Griffin led the offense by scoring 19 points. Kassie Strange was right behind her with an 18-point effort. Also scoring were Keley Simpson, six; Kurby Garvin, seven; Daryl-Ann Reynolds, four points.

Lady Owl JV	22	37	46	54
Lazbuddie	8	18	22	34

The Junior Varsity Owls had to come from behind a very slow first quarter to take their game 40-36.

Nathan Baker led the scoring with 11, with Darin Martin right behind him with 10 points. Also scoring were Payton Estes and Eric Minyard, six points each; Caleb Francis, five, and Colt Smith, two points.

Owl JV	4	18	31	40
Lazbuddie	12	18	27	36

The Lady Owls played the Lazbuddie girls a close game, but were three points behind at the final buzzer. Chelsey Cherry led the scoring with 10 points. Adding to the score were Amanda Estes, seven; Bryn Mayfield, six; Julie Weaver, five; Jenny Young, four; Taylor Griffin, three; Tarran Forbes, two points.

Lady Owls	6	21	25	37
Lazbuddie	8	16	31	40

The Owls finished the evening with a flourish, taking a 78-54 victory over the Longhorns.

Isaiah Ivory had the hot hands and led the scoring with a big 28-point effort. His brother, Red Ivory, also had a very good game and finished with 24 points to his credit. Issac Garcia also caged in double figures, getting 10. Adding to the score were Andrew Francis, nine, and Adrian Ramirez, seven.

Owls	23	35	60	78
Lazbuddie	6	14	37	54

TEAMS HAVE SERIES WITH CLAUDE

The JV Owls led off the action with Claude with a 34-18 loss to the Mustangs. The Owls had trouble getting the ball in the baskets all game long.

Darin Martin led the scoring with 13 points. Also scoring were Caleb Francis, four, and Ty Reed, one point.

JV Owls	2	7	16	18
Claude	8	17	25	34

The Lady Owls kept their game close all the way, but were behind 46-39 at the end.

Leading the scoring were Chelsey Cherry, 14, and Taylor Griffin, 12. Also scoring were Bryn Mayfield and Amanda Estes, four points each; Jenny Young, three, and Tarran Forbes, two points.

Lady Owls	16	23	31	39
Claude	15	26	32	46

The Owls finished with a flourish, taking a 52-35 victory. Red Ivory led the scoring with 18 points and Andrew Francis added 15. Also scoring were Isaiah Ivory and Adrian Ramirez, six points each; Issac Garcia, three; Dustin Hale and Matt Strange, two points each.

Owls	14	24	36	52
Claude	7	22	26	35

Holiday Happiness

Joy to you and your family
this Christmastime.

We wish you a bounty of good tidings
and all the gifts of the season.

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through Monday, December 25 and January 1, 2001

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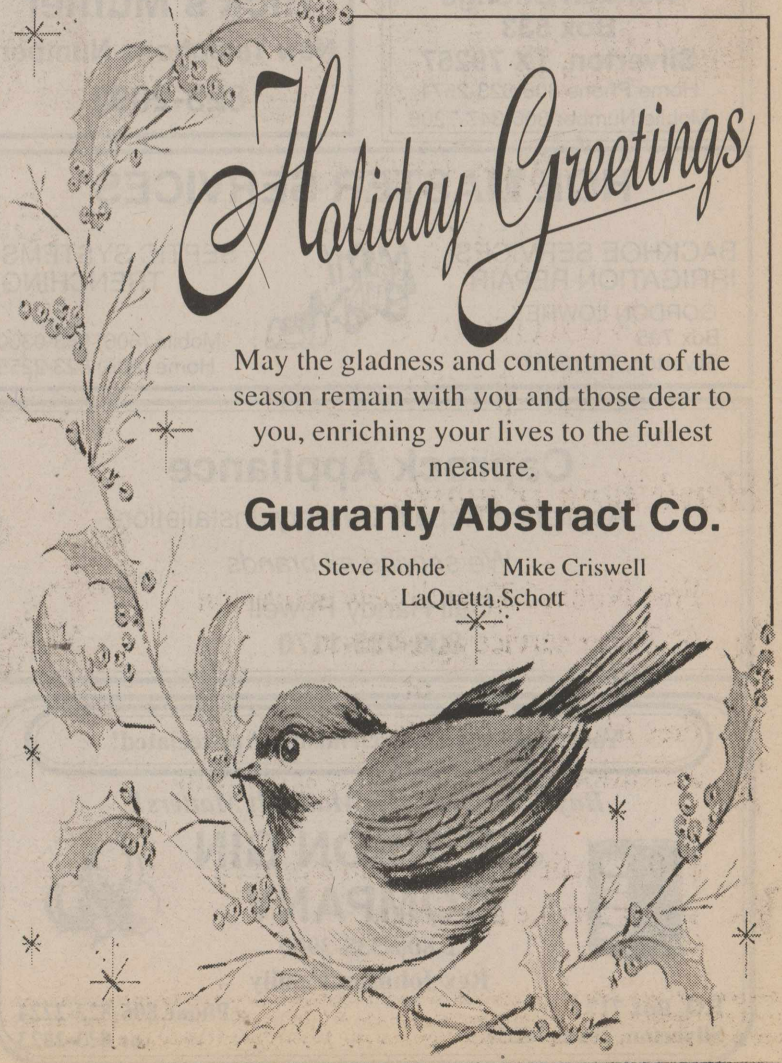
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Sandi Tomlin Lena Hubbard

Holiday Greetings

May the gladness and contentment of the season remain with you and those dear to you, enriching your lives to the fullest measure.

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 Mary Ann Sarchet.....Editor & Publisher

Dear Santa,
 My name is Baylee. I really do try to be good. Would you please bring me q baby. And Bubba and Mammie needs a baby also. Sissy needs some toys. She really wants Brittany Speer stuff.
 Love,
 Baylee Deckard

Dear Santa,
 I would like a razer scooter, (playstation) twisted metal 4, A new bike. I have been kinda bad so would you bring me something anyway. And I would like Speed Wrench Tyco Rc, And The Lego Steven Spieburg Studios, And the millineuse (Lego) falcon. And

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Merry Christmas To All!

Christmas Eve is amost here,
 Santa's on the way,
 Bringing happiness and cher,
 And presents in his sleigh,
 And wishing every one of us
 A Happy Holiday!

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ACTS 20:35

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Rock Creek Church of Christ

WEATHER

December Readings at 6:00 a.m. each day

	High	Low	Precip.
1	66	29	
2	66	24	
3	32	24	
4	40	28	
5	48	22	
6	43	29	
7	50	28	
8	62	33	
9	50	28	
10	68	32	
11	55	30	
12	30	12	
13	19	13	
14	42	19	
15	50	22	
16	60	32	
17	43	17	
18	58	19	
19	47	14	

Total Precip. in December .00
 Normal Precip. for Dec. .68
 Total 2000 Precip. Rec'd, 19.93
 Normal Precip. for Year to Date 20.51

game boy color AN64, (playstation) Army men Sarges Heroes, Roller Coaster (computer) Tycoon corkscrew folies, And on the bike I want a diamond back mountain bike with helmet, and a go cart.

Love,
 Tyler Scott Garvin

SEVERITY!
 Truly it's hard to walk with a person with an attitude. Some would like to understand them, and pass on goodness but, it's also known they mean to you, they wouldn't care. We must care! It's God's will, and what Jesus always tried to teach us! We shouldn't carry anger before the sun goes down. For when a new day arrives it could be contagious! Hurting our own. Must stand together! How will the Lord Jesus Christ stand for us? We all must care for each other! The Father spoke to his son and said, let us make man in our own image! From the beginning he wanted us always to be in unity, one! Following goodness! -- For it is written! Rom. 11:22--Behold therefore the Goodness and Severity of God: on them which fell, Severity; but toward Thee, Goodness (if) thou continue in his Goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off! Let's never be that bad steward! Remember! Note the birth of Christ! His work and kindness toward us all! Test! your goodness this season! Give to those who cannot return to do the same. Yes! There are people who wouldn't even return a smile, but! Love still conquers all! During our time, we may find goodness in return. Everyone in this world wants to be loved! Hugged! Kissed! Everyone needs attention, needed, special, important. It's up to us! To make Christmas full of joy and of the spirit! all thru the years. . . Let's pray more often!! In Jesus name! For Unity!
 Pastor: Armando Davalia



Travis Self visited with Santa at First State Bank last week, and told the old gentlemen that what he wants for Christmas is a trailer, pickup, motorcycle and bike with training wheels. Briscoe County News Photo

Season's Greetings

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LOOKING BACK

through the files of the
Briscoe County News

December 20, 1990--Four from Silverton, Robert D. McWaters, Jamie L. Frizzell, David L. Schott and Royce A. Combs, spending Christmas in Middle East... Hoot-Out tournament scheduled for Christmas vacation... Bradley Brunson, 6-2 senior linebacker, has been named to the Six-Man Football All-South Plains Team... The home of Carolyn and Langdon Reagan was judged third best in the Briscoe County Activities Association home lighting contest. Second-place winner in the Christmas decoration contest went to Lee and Ada Clay... The Shafe Weaver home was selected as the first-place home in the Christmas lighting contest... Dear Santa, I want a John Deere tractor and I want for my brothers a tractor and I want a play gun and I want a pocket terminator. Love, Andrew... Dear Santa, I want some fun toys. I want a bike and a Barbie car and the crayolas that write on the bathtub Little Miss Marker. From Kina... Santa, I want a boat that goes on water and land and a motorcycle. That's all. Bye, John Arnold... Santa, I want you to bring me a swing set and a pretty ballerina. That's all. I wish you a merry Christmas. Tarran Forbes... UIL rules McLean gridders must forfeit two games, including the regional playoff victory over Silverton and the quarterfinal win over Sands...

November 18, 1980--Clara Fleming, 72, buried Wednesday... Tommy Perkins has been named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges at Clarendon College... Mr. and Mrs. Elwayne Turner are parents of a son, Jason Wade... Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Tiffin are parents of a daughter, Holly Lynn... Bess McWilliams, Briscoe County and District Clerk, is recuperating from injuries she received in an automobile accident while she was in Midland to attend a shower for her daughter-in-law last week... Mrs. Esther McMurry presented a program on dolls for the March of Time Study Club... A. B. Ramsey undergoes surgery at Central Plains Hospital early Sunday morning... Dear Santa Claus, For Christmas I would like to have a baby with a bottle, two big pom-poms (like Tammi's) a tricycle and some candy, and that's all of it. Dedra Johnston, three years old... Dear Santa, I want a Star Wars doll: his name is Darth Vader, and a laser pistol on Star Wars. Please bring them. I hope kids believe in you. Your friend, Jeff Smith... Dear Santa, Please bring me an Evel Kneivel and a calculator. Your friend, Fidencio Reyes...

December 24, 1970--Santa brings promise of doctor for

Silverton... Reception honors Mr. and Mrs. Frank Breedlove on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary... Dear Santa Claus, Please bring me a pogo stick. And Baby Luv'n Care. And Lite Brite set. Love, Penny Cogdell... Dear Santa, Please bring me lots of toys. Love, Cynthia Hale... Dear Santa, I am a little boy six years old. I've been about as good as a six-year-old can be. I would like for you to bring me a watch, a Power Mate Workbench, and a Matchbox Country Set. I would also like a Matchbox Parkin Plaza. Love, Dwain Tipton... Dear Santa, I want a walkie-talkie and a surprise. St. Nick, put something in my stocking. Cary Fleming... Dear Santa, Please bring me a Hot Wheels two track racing set, and racing cars. I would like a baseball glove and bat. I love you, Mitcheal Martin...

December 22, 1960--Silverton Owlettes making the All-Tournament team here were Jimmie Nell Reynolds and Brenda Cornett... John Burson was the Owl making the All-Tournament team... Funeral held for Mrs. J. H. May, 73... Dear Santa Claus, I have been a good little girl and would love to have a baby doll with a pink dress and hat and a pink bed. Don't forget my little sister, Susan, who wants a baby doll and a buggy. Love, Christi Northcutt... Dear Santa Claus: I am a first grade boy six years old. I would like for you to bring me a Kenner's Building Set, and a B-B Gun and a big rubber ball, and a pair of school shoes, some fruit and nuts. Thank you, Marvin Self... The only man who ever got all his work done by Friday was Robinson Crusoe...

December 21, 1950--Dear Santa, Claus, I am a little boy in the third grade. I wish you would bring me a football suit, shoulder pads, B-B Gun and also fruit and nuts. Thanks, Santa, Larry West... Miss Jo Ziegler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ziegler, and Roy Vaughn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Vauahn of Tulia, were united in marriage Wednesday in Clovis, New Mexico... The following students have straight A's on their report cards: Barbara Kay Fisch, first grade; Joe Dale Francis, Joy Ann McCutchen, second grade; Marsha Monroe, Gretchen Morris, third grade; Susan Anderson, Paula Reid, Richard Jarnagin and Dennis Nix, fourth grade...

December 26, 1946--Dear Santa, I am a little girl one year old. Please bring me a teddy bear, a set of dishes, a little red rocker and lots of candy, fruit and nuts. Your little girl, Jerry Lynn Garrison... Dear Santa, Please bring me a set of dishes, a sand coloring set, a magic skin doll, a doll buggy

and lots of fruit, nuts and candy. Your friend, Kay Garrison... Dear Santa Claus, Please bring me something to play with when I go outside with the big boys. I like candy, oranges and apples and chewing gum. I am nearly two years old. Love, Bill Schott... Dear Santa, I want a pair of cowboy boots, a little rubber farm, a football and also lots of candy, fruit and nuts. Please do not forget Brenda. Your friend, Don Cornett... Dear Santa, I want some chaps. I want some spurs too. I want a truck. I want a jeep. I want lots of candy and fruit and nuts. I want a doll too. Your friend, Sue Reid...

February 6, 1930--The efforts of Wylie Bomar, local dairyman, to bring his milk products up to the highest standard deserve special mention. He himself has secured a certificate of health and has secured health certification for all his cows from a state veterinarian... Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Patton announce the arrival of a fine baby girl, born Thursday. The little lady is named Bettie Ray... Billie McDaniel spent Sunday with Garland Tucker... Iva and Lina Watters were weekend visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Watters... Olan Yocum visited Glenn Smith Saturday night... Mr.

and Mrs. U. D. Brown announce the arrival of a fine baby girl born February 1 and named Wynona Faye... Misses Lois and Doris Brown spent Saturday night with Modena and Maye Pearl Jasper... The following took dinner in the W. W. Reid home Sunday: Miss Catherine and Ester Cline, Viola and Francis Jones, Mildred Chappell, Ruby McDaniel, Master L. L. Callaway and Leon Martin... Miss Jewel McCain is on the sick list, having had an attack of appendicitis...

The bat is the only mammal capable of flight.



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Wishing you a season that's merry and bright,
filled with laughter, love and much delight!

It's been a privilege and pleasure serving
you this past year.

Fleming Well Service

Leo, Peggy and Cary Fleming



Mrs. Nance's Third Grade Writes Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,

I want a scooter and a go cart and something for my brother and my dad gis beter for Crismis.

Your friend,
Chas Stidham

Dear Santa,

I wished I had a Nfl blitz game boy game because my cousin has it and I like football and I like the Dallas Cowboys.

Your friend,
Adam Bryant Mullin

Dear Santa,

I want a miny motors yele. I want a Raiser skooter. I want to have a bow and arrows. I want the movie Empires New Groves. I want an agresser. I want Donkey kong. I want some Adventure II. I want a puppie.

Your friend,
John Perkins

P. S. Bring Zak a box of Pokeman cards and Whitney a celerter Barbie.

Dear Santa,

I would like a scooter, a Celebration Barbie doll, a watch, and the movie New Groove. I want my grandma to get more money.

Your friend,
Emily Garcia

Dear Santa,

I just want 2 things. I just want a truck and a comandobot. I hope you and Mrs. Claus and the reindeer have a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Your friend,
Logan Fabela

Dear Santa,

How are Mrs. Clause and Roudouph doing? I would mostly like a razor scooter but it would be nice to have a race track. So have a nise flight and Christmas morning get some rest.

Yours truely,
Skyler Beesinger

P. S. My sister wants a new bike.

Dear Santa,

I want army men 3d. I want to get my scepe set, a hunting dog a Irish pointer. a new come pouter game. some more new close.

Your friend,
Nicholas Garcia

Dear Santa,

Can you pleas bring me a c.d. player? Can you alsow bring my brother a digvise and my sister a little bear?

Your friend,
Marchell Curry

Dear Santa,

I want a longhorn, a buffalo, and, playmobils. Please send my brother and sister a present.

Your friend,
Blaze Cogdell

Dear Santa,

I would like a play station. I would like if you got my family a surprise and a barbie cash register.

Love,
Molly Stinson

Dear Santa,

I want a skooter, a labadoor, and a hunting dog. A few peases of train track would be nice.

Your friend,

Trinton CoDee Grabbe
Please bring my sister a doll.

Dear Santa,

I want a easy bake. I also would like you to bring my sister a shop with me cash register. I also would like some pants. Also a cumputer with a game with it.

Your friend,
Wendy Garcia

Dear Santa,

I do not want much. I would like for you to bring my brother a scoter. Will you bring me a doll please? Can you get my Mom and Dad something nice? I hope you have a Merry Christmas!! One more thing. My family loves surprises.

Your friend,
Emily Long

Dear Santa,

I want a remote cuntrol car front and back. My brother wants a scooter too. I want a CD plar. I want a new bike. Please remember Myra.

Your friend,
Renee Martienz

Dear Santa,

I wood like a Nintendo64 game and some different colloed wheels for my scooter. I want a whele bor for my scooter.

Your friend,
Brooks Brock

Dear Santa,

I want some cloths and a barbie cash register. I will make my mom and dad a card. But then also I wish for a suprise from you.

Sincerely,
Tamra Metcalf

P. S. bring something for the rest of the family.

Rise Above The Holiday Clutter

(NAPSA)-Do you have a list of 35 long-distance calls to make before the holidays?

Do you have 48 family members to buy gifts for?

Do you have to coordinate your office's Secret Santa party?

Do you have 15 different holiday recipes to exchange?

Do you have photos to send across the country and overseas?

If you answered yes to any or all of the above questions, you know all about the holiday clutter, the lack of time, and the inevitable last-minute chaos. Homestead's "60-Minute Holiday" integrates some of the Internet's best tools and features to provide you with a richer, more personalized way to celebrate the season of giving.

From Christmas, Hanukah and Kwaanza to New Year's, Homestead lets you create a unique site, specially designed for the holidays. Try these Elements, your Web site's building blocks, to create a festive and functional Web site: Visual Elements including custom cursors and digital photo service; sound Elements, such as voice greeting and holiday music; and e-commerce Elements that include selling books, toys and baby products online.

You can use your holiday Web site to enhance your favorite holiday traditions by creating online newsletters and greeting cards, sharing recipes and planning tips, organizing gift exchanges, and more. You can also apply your creativity to compile an online scrapbook, stream virtual lights, and decorate a Web tree. And you can communicate with your family and friends near or far through message boards, chat rooms, live voice chat and photo/video greetings directly from your Web site.

Go to Homestead this season for a hassle-free solution to all your holiday needs.

Homestead.com provides a comprehensive resource for building free Web sites. Ranked in Media Metrix' Top 50 for the last six months, Homestead has over 8 million members and more than 100,000 new members register for the service each week. Homestead enables members to communicate with friends and family, meet people around the world, and operate small businesses online.

For more information, visit www.homestead.com, or contact: Michele Sloat: 650-549-3358 or msloat@homestead-inc.com, Monica Haim: 415-975-9953 or monica@tedinc.com.

Organize and expedite every aspect of your holiday to-do list with your own holiday-theme Web site.

Did You Know?

(NAPSA)-While all personal digital assistants (PDAs) come with a prepackaged stylus, according to Pen Computing experts, some people have trouble using the stylus pen and look for a larger stylus such as the Cross Morph DigitalWriter Duo at \$55.

DKNY Holiday Socks are a wonderful choice for the girl who likes to treat her feet to warmth in style. The holiday socks include fur-trimmed anklets with snowflake patterns on the bottom (not just for design but for gripping the floor-\$8.50).

With reasonably-priced gifts from the Body Benefits collection from Conair, such as the Ultra Massaging Foot Spa and Dual Jet Bath Spa, weary holiday revelers can soak up sensuous luxury-and the giver won't be soaked with an outrageous bill.

Emphasis in 2000's newest styles for men and women have emphasized utility and sportiness. For example, Polo Jeans Co. offers a line of men and women's clothing inspired by active lifestyles.

Caprock Cellular & Santa
have teamed up to offer you:

SANTA SELECTIONS

Your Choice:

Nokia 282,
Motorola 650 flip,
Or \$100 credit

Call Toll Free:

(888)271-3344
Or see see your local
Caprock Cellular
agent, David Reagan

Here's how it works:

Free Nokia 282 with new activation
& 2 year service agreement.

or

Free Motorola 650 flip with new
activation & 1 year service agreement

or

\$100 credit with new activation &
1 year service agreement



Some restrictions apply; Offer good on applicable plans with appropriate contract period; Subject to approved credit; No service with Caprock within the previous six months; phone must be locked on scan B; Toll-Free USA and 6 second billing apply to calls placed within the Caprock Cellular Home Area only; See your Caprock Cellular Agent for Details



*Fast away the old year passes,
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Sing we joyous all together,
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la la la . . .*

Traditional Welsh Carol

Fond wishes for a Merry Christmas

from all of us to all of you!

**BRISCOE COUNTY OFFICIALS
AND EMPLOYEES**



Kindergarten Students Write Letters to Santa

Dear Santa Clause

I have been a good gitl. My name is Brittany. Would you please bring me a baby doll, tape player and a Barbie nail salon. I love you and I will leave you and all the deers a snack for Christmas Eve.
Brittany Deckard

Dear Santa,

Sir, I've been a good boy. Please bring my sister, Haley, a Barbie Doll and house. For my sister, Shelby, a little Barbie and Kitchen play area. Please bring me a remote control motorcycle and a punching bag. Santa, please bring my mommy a remote control motorcycle, new Baseball and bat. I would also like a new football. Please bring my Dad a new knife and Haley a new dress. Please

bring other kids their toys, too.

Thank you, Santa,
Ian Dunbar

Dear Santa,

I want a red scooter, a Tekno, a little tiny puppy collar and a thinking chair and that's all.
Shelby

Dear Santa,

I want a tornado twister and I want a roller skate that has one wheel in the front and one wheel in the back. Do they sell clothes in the North Pole? I want a godzilla clothes and a toy with an extra man on a car and Lego Soccer.

Santa, I like you and I have been a good kid.
Brewster

Hi, my name is Jeremy.

I want a game boy color. A Buzz. Bullseye. And I would also like some X-man toys. And for my baby brother a blanket, a shirt and a teddy bear.

Thank you Santa for all the toys.

Jeremy Hall

P. S. I will have you some milk and cookies

Dear Santa,

I want a basketball suit. I also want a T. V. and some new shoes. My brothers Colt and Galen both want CDs. I would also like a game called Candy Land. I have been a pretty good girl most of the time.

I love you,

Kodie Reagan Saul
6 years old

Dear Santa,

How are you? I want a Rainbow horse and sprinkles with wings. I also want a kitty and a new movie. Could you also bring me a new Barbie? My brother Matthew wants a new truck. I will leave you

some gingerbread cookies and milk, and I will put out carrots for your reindeer.

Thanks. I love you.

Abbie Tipton
Kindergarten

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a banjo, A Cotton Candy maker, a nintendo game, and some legos. Please bring Calvin some legos too.

I will leave you some cookies and milk.

Your friend,
Cody Daugherty

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like a Lil' Sniffles Doll, anything Barbie, a black Shadow Dog, a Charlie Cheese Pizza maker and a Magic Wand.

Ashley

P. S. Daddy said to be sure and tell you I'd leave lots of cookies and milk out for you!

Dear Santa,

Would you please bring me a T. V. for my room. I also want a new big truck. Could you bring me a new backpack, too.

Love,
Kaison

Dear Santa,

I would like a Chef's Kitchen Ice Cream maker and a Barbie Doll. I would also like new shoes and a hula-hoop.

Thank you,
McKayl

Dear Santa,

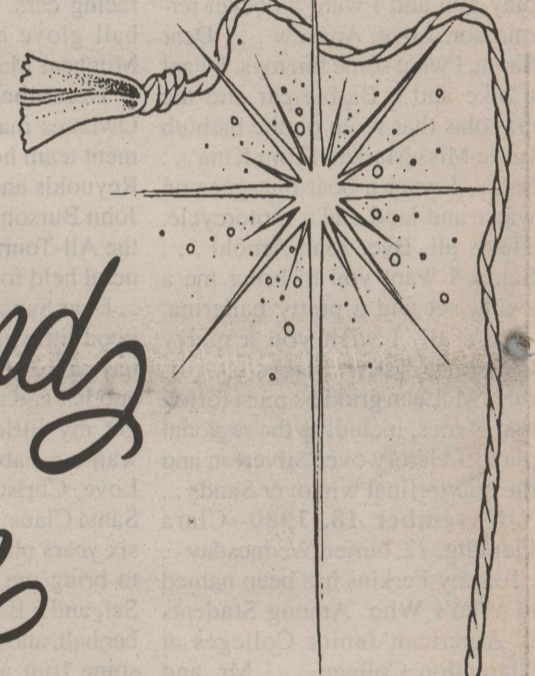
I have been good this year and I would like a "shop with me" Cash Register with play money, credit and savings cards. Thank you Santa.

Sincerely,
Selena Hernandez

Dear Santa,

I would like a computer for Christmas.

Love, Valeria Garcia



*With You in Mind
at
Christmastime*

Lights are twinkling. Carollers, singing. Trees all aglow.

Signs of Christmas are everywhere, bringing to mind all the good people we've had the privilege to serve this past year, and so we offer our warm wishes to all who make the holiday season so special for us.

Happy Holidays from all of us at

**MID-PLAINS
RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE**





**More Kindergarten Letters
To Santa Claus**

Dear Santa,
I want a glittery nail polish. I want a drawing set and playdough.
Love,
Tessa Breedlove

Love,
Michael

Dear Santa,
I want a computer, a bike and a house.

Love,
Ezberdy

Dear Santa,
I would like a water gun, a car and a Woody toy. I would also like a toy motorcycle and a toy duck like Donald Duck.

Dear Santa,
I would like a police car. And



"I want a Barbie doll and a real baby for Christmas," Sarah Stinson told Santa when she visited with him at First State Bank last week. She is a pre-kindergarten student in the Silverton Schools.

Briscoe County News Photo

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good little boy this year. I would like some little cars. I would also like a tractor, a tool set, coloring book, crayons and some board games. I will leave you some cookies and milk.
Love,
Ryan Tate Baird
2 1/2 years old

Dear Santa Claus,
I want a bicycle for Christmas and a dump truck too. I've been a good boy. I am two years old. My grandma will leave you some cookies.
Love,
Dylan J. Smith

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good little girl this year. I would like a baby doll. I would also like a coloring book, crayons, and a stuffed bear. I will leave you some cookies and milk.
Love,
Lana Kay Baird
1 1/2 years old

Dear Santa,
I want a scooter. I want a horse. I want a new bike. I want lots of good presents. I want a new night shirt. I have been bad all year. I hope you bring me some thing please. I will start being nice.
from Reba Jo Garvin

my brothers want a car.
Love,
Gustavo

Dear Santa,
My name is Chase.
I will like a skeeter and a Jernemagraf dirt bike and a Mowbick.

please bring my mom and my dad something.
I love you.

Dear Santa,
My name is Cord. how are you? Please help the Poor People by given them food and buy them Christmas.

Santa, I would like a Skeeter, Clothes and a new coat, and a KX 100 dirt bike. Oh I have a dog he is in the front yard, so pleeas don't get close to him because he might try to Bite you and a little puppy.

I love you
Cord Stidham
P. S. Come by my house please!!

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would love to have a mean guy toy and a fun sounds garage. Please bring something for Savannah and Daphne also. I'll leave you some milk and cookies.

Thank you!
Love,
Dalton Kast

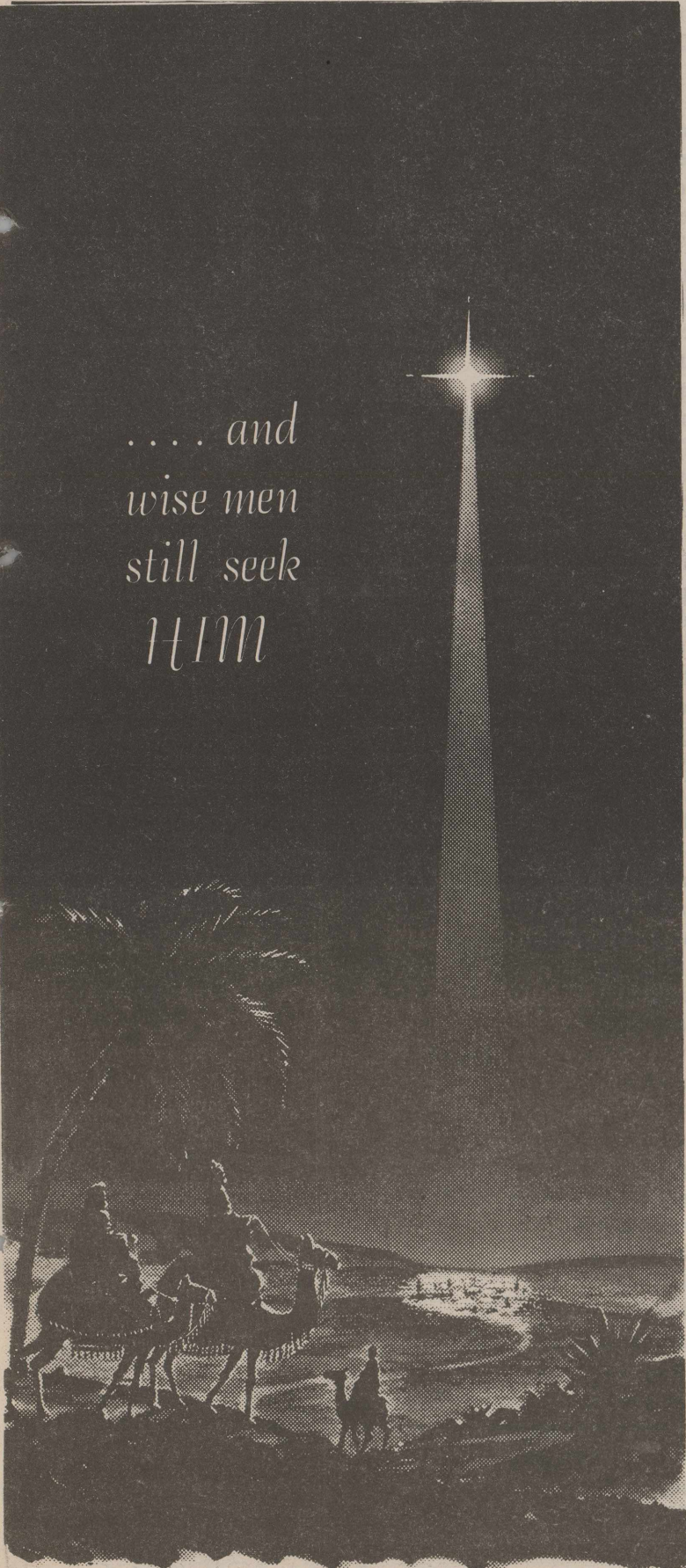
Dear Santa,
Please bring me a Peaceful Planet Aquarium and a Kick Start Gym for Christmas. Mommy says I have been very good! Savannah and Dalton have been good also, so please bring them a toy too.

Thank you very much!
Love,
Daphne Kast

Dear Santa,
I have been a very good little boy. Would you please bring me some clothes, Dodge Ram Moster Truck, tickle me Elmo and any kind of toys.

Love,
Jesse W. Hill

.... and
wise men
still seek
HIM



**Lighthouse Electric
Cooperative**



'The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord'
(Psalms 33:5)

Christmastime offers us time to reflect on the beauty of creation as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. We're pleased to join with you in prayer, and to offer you our thanks.

Briscoe Implement



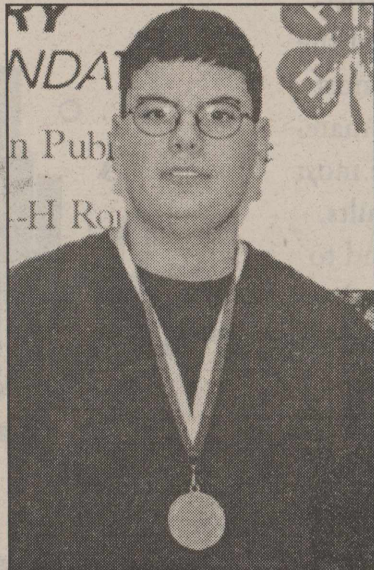
Christine Walls



Enedina Valdez



Scarlett Sperry



Skyler Clifton

Top Winners Are Named in 2000 Panhandle 4-H District Roundup

Panhandle 4-H members from 19 of the 21 counties in Extension Panhandle District 1 qualified on November 18 to compete in the Teks 4-H Roundup at College Station June 11-15, 2001. This year's program was sponsored by New Century Energies Foundation on behalf of Southwestern Public Service Company.

4-H Roundup is a public speaking and decision-making event providing 4-H members the opportunity to share their knowledge and skills learned through 4-H projects. Goals of the project include:

- Learn about organization of materials to present in a speech or performance
- Acquire the ability to speak convincingly in public
- Become aware of one's relationship to others--family, peers, state, nation, world
- Acquire life skills that are essential for an individual to become an active, responsible citizen
- Learn about vocational choices and career opportunities and preparation related to the focus of a project

Over 160 boys and girls competed in the 23 activities, including speaking events, illustrated talks, method demonstrations and performing arts. Recognition awards were given in ceremonies at the Ballroom of the Activities Center at West Texas A&M Uni-

versity in Canyon. Award medallions were presented to all first, second and third place entries by New Century Energies Foundation.

To qualify for State Roundup, a team or individual must have a first or second place win in the senior division, which is for 4-H members 14 years old and older. Other first place seniors in the performing arts advance to state finals. Juniors do not compete beyond the district level.

Those from Briscoe County who participated in the District 4-H Roundup were Enedina Valdez in Junior Dance, and placed second; Christine Walls participated in Junior Vocal, and placed first; Scarlett Sperry participated in Senior Vocal and placed first; and Skyler Clifton participated in Senior Poet and placed first.

Scarlett and Skyler both will advance to State 4-H Roundup competition in June 2001 at College Station.

DID YOU KNOW?

This fall, many women were choosing funky legwear accessories from hip designer collections such as DKNY.

To help chefs make the most of tofu, there's now a collection of "soy-fully" sumptuous treats in Soy Desserts: Fresh, Fun & Fabulously Healthy Recipes (Regan Books, \$25) by Patricia Greenberg.

BUILDING BLOCKS

(NAPSA)-High-tech toys seem to be topping holiday wish lists everywhere. Yet, low-tech toys that are tried and true, such as plastic building blocks, are favored by child development experts who advise parents to seek toys that encourage thinking, problem solving and creativity.

What's new is that tried and true doesn't have to be expensive.

England-based Best-Lock Construction Toys is debuting its line of plastic building blocks to the U.S. market this season in stores including Target, K-Mart, J.C. Penney and Toys

'R' Us.

The sets of building blocks, which retail for \$29.99 for a 700-piece set, \$19.99 for a 350-piece set and \$9.99 for a 175-piece set, maintain a high quality standard comparable to other brands of building blocks. Best-Lock pieces can even be used with other brands, meaning new sets don't have to replace a child's building blocks, but add to their collection and enhance their ability to create.

Best-Lock's building blocks meet standards set by child development experts who recommend toys that encourage thinking, problem solving and

self-esteem; foster creativity, imagination and sharing; involve hand-eye coordination and motor skills; and are conducive to parent interaction.

The company offers building block configurations that are unique-like a line of military-themed toys complete with accurate renditions of missile launchers, battleships, planes and artillery. A line of bright yellow construction vehicles-dump truck, crane and bulldozer-is also popular among children.

For more information and a complete listing of toys, log on to www.best-lock.com.



Glory to the Newborn King!

As we count our blessings this Christmas season, let us not forget that Silent Night, long ago, when the Christ Child was born. His message of life eternal is the true gift of the season. Let us pray that the spirit of the nativity lives with us, now and always.

**Thank you for letting us serve you
this past year.**

NANCE'S FOOD STORE

LIGHTHOUSE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
David Beebe, Pastor

SUNDAY:
Fellowship.....10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

SILVERTON CHURCH OF CHRIST
Hal Rogers, Minister

SUNDAY:
Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:
Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Randy G. Mullin, Pastor

SUNDAY:
Library Opens.....9:15 a.m.
Bible Study/S.S.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Ladies Group.....4:00 p.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

MONDAY:
RAs, GAs, Mission
Friends.....3:30 p.m.

TUESDAY
Mens Group.....6:30 a.m.

SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAYS:
Baptist Women.....9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY:
Library Opens.....6:30 p.m.
Bible Study/Prayer.....7:00 p.m.
TeamKID.....7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY
Ladies Prayer Group.....9:00 a.m.
Weigh Down Workshop.....7:00 p.m.

SILVERTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Jay Stinson, Pastor

SUNDAY:
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:55 a.m.
Choir Practice.....5:00 p.m.
Evening Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY:
Unit. Meth. Women.....9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY:
In-home Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY:
Unit. Meth. Men.....6:30 a.m.

NEW FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST MISSION

SUNDAY:
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
Training Union.....5:00 p.m.
Evening Service.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:
Choir Rehearsal.....7:00 p.m.
Prayer Service.....8:00 p.m.

OUR LADY OF LORETO CATHOLIC CHURCH
Father Ed Graff, Pastor

SUNDAY:
Mass.....9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY:
Doctrina Class.....4:30-5:30 p.m.
Junior & Senior
High.....4:30-5:30 p.m.

ROCK CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY:
Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:
Worship Service.....7:30 p.m.

La Iglesia de Dios De Jesus
604 Grady
Armando Davalia, Pastor

SUNDAY:
Worship.....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:
Worship Service.....7:30 p.m.

MONDAY-SATURDAY:
Prayer Meeting.....9:00 a.m.

† A Savior is Born

a son is given

What Do You Want for Christmas?

If you ask children what they want for Christmas, they will probably tell you about all of the latest toys and games on the market. For most well-cared-for youngsters, I guess it is the material things in their lives that give them the most joy and happiness. Children, as well as adults, often desire the luxuries of life, and we tend to take for granted all of the blessings that we have been given. However, I am sure it is not that way for the needy, less fortunate children in the world. For Christmas, these children would probably ask for something like a new pair of shoes, or a warm coat, or perhaps a sweater. The true Christmas spirit should be more about giving than receiving, and sharing what we have with others. The Bible tells us that the generous person is blessed by God, and that God will not forget the good works and labors of love which have been performed in His name.



He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise.

K.J.V. Luke 3:11

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| R. Photography | Nance's Food Store |
| Myers-Long Funeral Directors | Briscoe Implement |
| Lavy Pump Service | Briscoe County News |
| Brown-McMurtry Implement | CellularONE Silverton-Quitaque-Turkey |
| First State Bank | Mid-Plains Rural Telephone |
| Goen & Goen | |

Warm Wishes Are Headed Your Way

Here's hoping yours is a great holiday

Art and Bonnie Ainsworth
Betty and Osco
Josephine Anderson
Fred and Vivone Arnold
Shawn and Vanessa Barbour
Jerry and Jealeta Baird
Hoot, Katy and Cole Barker, Sammy, Squirt and Miss Kitty
Bill and Della Boling
Carl and Dorothy Bomar
Doug, and Jeanetta Bradford
Lance and Julie Bradford
Jess and Heather Brannon
Joe and Vaughnell Brannon
Seymour and Ruby Brannon
Wade, Mary Jo, and Lori Brannon
Briscoe Implement, Gerald and Gail Smith
Bill, Janinne, Josh, Jeremiah and Molly
Ronnie, Sheila and Misty
Don and Mary Brown
Perry and Marsha
Gail and Dora Bullock and family
Bryan, Lana, Zackary, Dusty and Lee True Burson
Iris Burson
Mary Burson
Luree Burson
Tom, Deb and Donny
Elton Cantwell
Kent, Penny, Ryder and Candy Kate Carpenter
Pauline Chitty
City Bank
Lee and Ada Clay
The Clemmers
Lois Cline
Larry, Cindy, Cy, Miles, Lisa, Chase and Max Comer
Elsie Cornett
Stan and Waynelle Couch
Don and Arlene Curry
D & K Manufacturing
Marcelete Reid Dana
Carol and Mary Davis
James and Annell Davis
Jim, Connie, Kevin, Jeremiah and Jesse
Carrie Dickerson
Clinton Dickerson
Doris Dudley
Bryant Eddleman
Dewey, Jimmie Sue and Lorn
Edna Estes
Jim, Donna, Amanda, Kelsie and Braden
Donald and Carlye Fleming
Leo, Peggy and Cary
Stan and Lynda Fogerson
Sylvia Fogerson
Doug and Elaine Forbes
Thada and J. C. Fowler
Barry, Michelle, Jared, Nathan, Andrew, Caleb and Jacob Francis
Charles and Anna Francis
Danny and Donna Francis
John and Maebelle Francis
Norma, Emily and Brewster
Bessie Garrison

Lottie Garrison
Pascal and Donny Garrison
Lane, Paula, Brooke and Kurby Garvin
John and Wilma Gill
Melba Gilliam
Sloan, Debra, CoDee and Brittney Grabbe
Jack and Ruby Graham
Mary Grantham
Liz, Taylor, Lori and Cord Griffin
Roberta Griffin
Guaranty Abstract Company, Steve, Mike and LaQuetta
Buck and Loretta Hardin
Albert and Rita Hartman
Freeda Henderson
Dwain and Shirley Henderson
Wayne Henderson
Zane and Tay Henderson
Rick, Bena, Will and Katy Hester
Hoe Master Services
David, Debbie, Jared, Jeremy and Cade Holt
Lance and Jonathan Holt
Kent, Donna and Maci Holt
Doug, Karen, Chad, Neal and Dee Turner
Rex and Theta Holt
Hutsell Insurance Agency, Flute, Sandi and Lena
Flute and Junis Hutsell
Clarence, Diana, Destiny, Isaiah, Red, E. J. and Jasmin Ivory
Pauline Jarnagin
Nelda Jasper
Hand and Vici Baird
Russell, Krystal and Coy Baird
Carrie, Ryan and Lana Baird
Juannah Jennings
Rex and Dorothy Johnson
Matt and Misty Kast, Savannah, Dalton and Daphne
Frances Kellum
David and Denise Kellum and family
Christene King
Anthony and Kathy Kingery
Ted and LaVern Kingery
Frank, Janice and Sara Kirchoffner
C. D. and Betty Kirk
Louie Kitchens
Leon, Pat and Nikki
James, Genie and Christian McMorries
Kenneth and Ruby Lee
Beryl and Dottie Long
George and LaVerne Long
Othel Long
Gordon and Carolyn Lowrey
Malt Shop Employees
Jack and Diane Mayfield
Reba S. McClung
Lucy McDaniel
Jack and Jo Ann McFall
Glenda McGavock
J. D. and Daphne Ferne
Harvey and Patricia McJimsey
Robert and Betty McPherson
Joe and Ruby McWaters
Bess McWilliams
Jackie Mercer

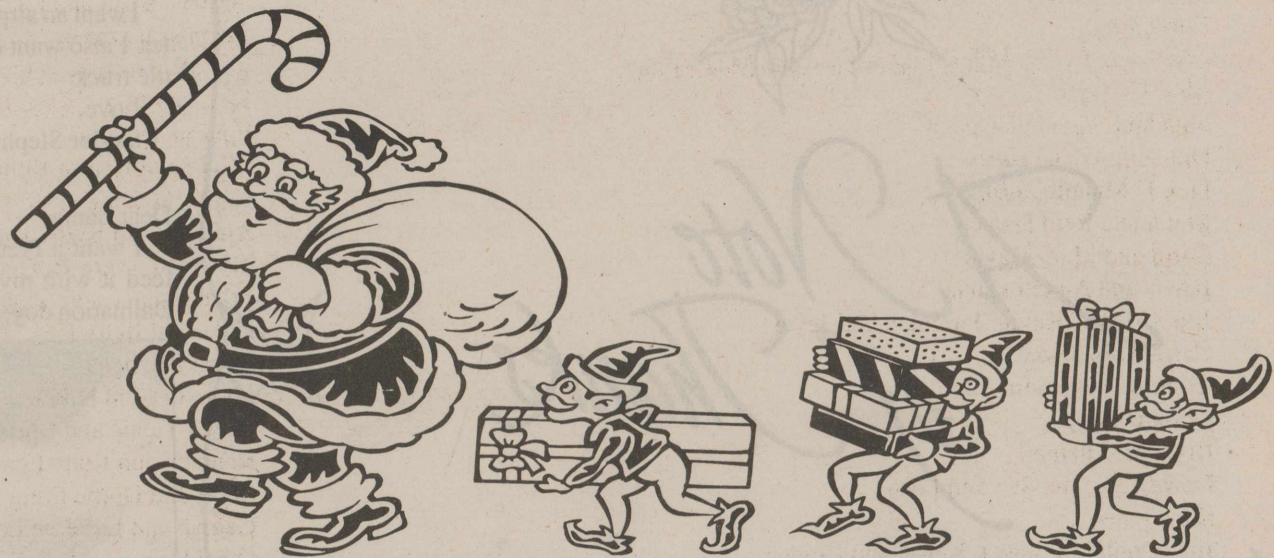
Peaches, Latresa and Stacy Minyard
 Rick, Beverly, Ryan and Eric Minyard
 Iwana Monroe
 LaNelle Montague
 Paula Montague, Logan and Landon
 Polly Montague
 J. D. and Vernell Nance
 Nance's Food Store
 Wayne, Tina and Holly Nance
 Ann and Ed Norris
 Bronc, Amy, Butler and Forrest Otis
 Charlie Parker

J. E. and Mary Jane Patton
 James Alan, Kari, Bryce and Blaine Patton
 Jerry and Brenda Patton
 Lallie Patton
 Donald, Fay and family
 Donnie and Sandi Perkins
 Thomas Lee and Rose Mary Perkins
 Faye Rampley
 Mary Ann Rauch
 David, Shelia, Michael, Daniel and Mark Reagan
 Winnie Redin

c/o Harley Redin
 102 Kirchwood Pl. #2
 Plainview, TX 79072
 Wayne, Colleen, Ty and Drew
 Duane and Shirley Reynolds
 Loretha Rhoderick
 Eddie, Charlotte, Kendra, Kody, Chance and
 Charla Rhoderick

Kimmie and Jack Bitmer
 Tobe Riddell
 Dean and Theda Rowell
 Charles and Mary Ann Sarchet
 Brandon, Melody, Jordan and Molly
 John and LaQuetta Schott
 Rena Schott
 Jane Self
 J. L. and Faye Self

Silverton Masonic Lodge #754 AF&AM
 Silverton Oil Company
 Dewey, Jimmie Sue and Lorn
 Jim, Donna, Amanda, Kelsie and Braden
 Gerald and Gail Smith and Clay
 Glenn and Winnie Smith
 Jerry and Sandra Smith
 Trent and Kelli Smith
 Juanita Stephens
 Lola Mae Stephens
 Jay, Michele, Molly, Nathan, Sarah and Levi Stinson
 Clifton and Joy Stodghill
 Jimmy and Madeline Stone
 Fred and Wanda Strange
 Teresa Sutton
 Ray and Nelda Teeple
 The Plum Thicket
 Jack and Linda Oetgen
 Richie and Amanda Pinkerton
 Emmett and Sandi
 Jay, Patsy, Julie and Braden Towe
 Pauline Turner
 Bud and Norma Vaughan
 Roy Mack and Lois Walker
 Cliff and Sandy Walker
 Jimmy and Karen Walker and family
 Bonnie Watters
 Mary Lee Watters
 Gary, Cathey, Rob, Leslee and Lindsey
 Max, Sheryl, Shannon and Julie Weaver
 Shafe and Jonnie Weaver
 Charles and Faye Whitfill
 Pat Whitfill
 Morris Wilcox
 Mary Alice Wilkinson
 John, Gail, Ashleigh and Trey
 Riley and Lois Ziegler



The Holidays Bring The Most Wonderful Things

Sleigh bells ring. Carollers sing. Magic fills the air as families and friends exchange greetings of joy and good will. It's happening here and now in our most wonderful town, and we're pleased to be a part of it. Merry Christmas to all.

Those whose names appear on these pages extend to you their personal wishes for your happy holiday season. They have donated to community projects instead of sending greeting cards locally. The project was organized and carried out by the members of the Century of Progress Study Club.

Cotton Market weekly

A Service Provided by Plains Cotton Cooperative Association

USDA's December crop estimate was considered to be optimistic in light of adverse weather conditions in major U. S. cotton growing areas. The Department of Agriculture surprised the market in December by lowering its U. S. cotton crop estimate just 110,000 bales to 17.4 million bales and leaving carryout at 3.9 million, though many anticipate further reductions in the final report.

Although the department's supply/demand report altered 2000-01 cotton production in eight out of 17 states, Arkansas and California were the only states to show a rise in production as higher than average yields in the two states have boosted cotton output. Reductions in estimated output totaling 255,000 bales were made in South Carolina, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma, with Texas/Oklahoma showing the heaviest loss at 210,000 bales.

Alterations to outturn and yields were made to most cotton-producing districts in Texas. The statewide average yield was pegged at 410 pounds per acre, a decrease of only 20 pounds per acre from the

November estimate, and Texas cotton production was placed at 4.1 million bales.

"I think USDA didn't want to cut Texas production any more than it did because, at the time of the report, producers still were trying to determine if their crop was worth harvesting," an analyst commented.

As for global production, USDA placed the world crop at 86.6 million bales, down a mere 5,000 bales from the previous estimate and a sharp contract with market expectations for a large reduction. Additionally, the world consumption figure slipped 270,000 bales to 92.2 million. With higher world beginning stocks, the projected world carryout rose to 35.6 million bales rather than falling significantly as analysts expected.

USDA lowered production in Uzbekistan, Australia and India, and more reductions are expected in China and Pakistan later this marketing year. The production cuts should tighten exportable cotton supplies resulting in a situation that is seen as positive for the United States.

Smaller crops are expected in several key cotton producing countries which will result in a tightness in supply. In fact, traders said crop estimates from overseas have seesawed this fall as weather conditions fluctuated. The most recent estimates have been mixed with some estimates higher than earlier cuts and others far below previous ideas. All in all, most in the industry expect world output to slide and mill use to drop slightly while ending stocks remain fairly tight. However, most of the world's cotton is being harvested at this time and will reach the world market all at once. Therefore it will take some time for the supply crunch to be felt by the market thereby forcing cotton prices to adjust higher.

In other news, net export sales of current crop U. S. cotton for the week ended December 7 were 85,700 bales, more than doubling the

previous week's sales. Despite the healthy sales, the figure remained well below the average amount needed to reach the USDA's export projection of 7.6 million bales for the year. For the third consecutive week, Mexico was the primary buyer, making up nearly half of the commitments at 40,000 bales. Other primary buyers included Hong Kong and Japan with purchases totaling 6,500 and 6,200 bales, respectively.

Online sales of Texas/Oklahoma/Kansas cotton were not as brisk in the week ended December 14. Just 13,633 bales were sold on the Internet trading system, compared to 16,693 bales the previous week. Average daily prices received by producers utilizing the system ranged from 48.67 to 54.11 cents per pound compared to a range of 51.52 to 54.17 cents the previous week.

Full-Figured Fashions

(NAPSA)-"Black is hot for the holidays," says Star Jones, adding, "It looks sexy on all sizes." She should know! This is why the curvy co-host of ABC's The View became associated with alight.com, a new Web site for plus-size fashions.

alight.com offers major designers and loads of fashions and tips-including those from Jones, who has her own section where she answers readers' questions. Because many of the questions concern holiday dressing, she offers these tips:

- All that glitters is good-for your party wardrobe. When shopping, go for the gold. Wear it from head to toe-a glimmery shantung suit. Or use it as an accent-a metallic cardigan to punctuate a black ensemble.
- Glamour rules-as in floaty pants in my size that aren't available anywhere else," explains Jones.

One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in still another village, where He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty. Then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never had a family or owned a home. He never set foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place He was born. He never wrote a book, or held an office. He never went to college. He did none of the things one usually associates with greatness.

He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends deserted him. He was turned over to his enemies, and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, his executioners gambled for the only piece of property he had - his coat. When He was dead, He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today He is the central figure for much of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as this "One Solitary Life."

★ ★ ★

Although this poem has become popular in recent years, it is not a contemporary piece. The poem actually has tracings back to medieval times, and the poet to this day remains anonymous.

We pause to reflect on his life during the Christmas Season, and celebrate his birthday on Christmas Day.

Merry

CHRISTMAS

from

SWISHER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



The light that shown in the east on the first Christmas lives and illuminates across the ages, bringing hope and promise to mankind. May the spiritual joy of the season bless you and yours abundantly on this Christmas Day and forever.

Myers-Long
Funeral Directors

Students Write Their Letters to Santa

More First Grade Letters

Dear Santa Claus,

I want a scooter for Christmas and a football for Christmas and a CD player with 2 CDs with it and I wish everybody a Merry Christmas.

Love,
Curtis

Dear Santa,

I want an electronic supreme cheetah and a pokeman game and a BB gun.

Love,
Matthew

Dear Santa,

My name is Jacob, and I want a Thomas the Tank Engine Railroad Track and a computer.

Your friend,
Jacob Ortiz

house this year.

I love you,
Mollie

Dear Santa,

I have been very good this year. For Christmas I would like a Mermaid Barbie, Barbie Phone that talks and Krissy and Scooby Doo Towel and wash cloth.

Please bring toys for all the other kids.

Please know that Marcus, Sydney and I will be at Nana's

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl this year. Please bring me a swing set, a Barbie doll, a color hair baby, some play dishes, a bear, and a Scooby-Doo pillow. We will leave you cookies and milk and some carrots for Rudolph and the other reindeer. Thank you Santa for m presents last year.

love,
Haley Jackson
Flomot, TX

Put a Crowning Touch on Family Celebrations

Giving thanks, getting together with the family and enjoyin a luscious, nutritious feast is what America's favorite holiday is all about.

LEMON BROCCOLI 4 Servings

1/2 cup Imperial Spread
1 large shallot or small sli.onion
1/4 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. ground black pepper
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
1 1/2 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1 head broccoli, cut into florets (about 4 cups), steamed

In 10-inch nonstick skillet, melt Imperial over medium-high heat and cook shallot, salt and pepper, stirring occasionally, 2 minutes or until tender. Add garlic and cook, stirring constantly, 30 seconds. Add lemon juice and heat through. Serve over hot broccoli.

PARMESAN MASHED POTATOES 6 1-cup servings

2 lbs. all-purpose potatoes, peel-and cut into chunks
1/2 cup Imperial Spread
3/4 cup milk, heated



The Plum Thicket

Open 9-7 For Your Holiday Shopping
FREE GIFT WRAPPING

Open Christmas Eve 10-4

- Fresh Cut Flowers, Plants, Christmas Greens
- Jewelry, Pottery, Pewter, Leopard Bags
- Stemware, Gifts Galore
- Replica Guns, Knives, Keys, Badges
- Great Stocking Stuffers

Look For Half-Off Specials Thru-Out the Store!

Home-Town Shopping at its Best! No Need to Make That Drive.

Seasons Greetings

Closed December 26-27
Call 823-2587 For Any
Emergency

1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
3/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese

In 3-quart saucepan, cover potatoes with water. Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer uncovered 20 minutes.

Drain. Return hot potatoes to saucepan. Add Imperial, milk, salt and pepper; mash until smooth. Stir in cheese.

"O Little Town Of Bethlehem..."

When the shepherds saw that shining star over Bethlehem, they knew a great miracle had taken place. Let us remember to keep the miracle of that night alive, and renew in our hearts the true meaning of Christmas.

May all the joys of the season be yours.



JOHNSON'S GIN COMPANY

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Classic Value

Cable TV for just

\$15.95

per month



CALL NOW for FREE installation of Limited Basic Service PLUS your second month of service at no charge!*

Now Classic Cable has made it even easier to enjoy the benefits of cable television. For about 50¢ a day, you'll get coverage of local and national news, weather, and sports as well as other programming services. And our local professionals are always ready to offer prompt customer service whenever you call.

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Enjoy channels like:

Classic CABLE

www.classic-cable.com

*Offer expires December 31, 2000. Not valid in conjunction with any other offers. Not all services available in all areas. Other restrictions may apply.

Mrs. Mayfield's Second Grade Letters to Santa



Dear Santa,
 May I please have two B-B guns so me and my dad can sute puckens. And so Ross can take me hunting. Then I want a shiny new blue red green and brown bike. Next I want a golden Raser scooter. Finally I want two boxes of legose.
 Love,
 Nathaniel

Dear Santa,
 I think I was good. And if I was this is what I want. I want a poo chee and a camera and a teddy bear. Can I have one more thing please. I want a skeeter. Have a nice landin and a happy New Year.
 Love,
 Kaitlan

Dear Santa,
 I want a scooter because I cud ras with my brother. My scooter and his bike. But I no he well bete me.
 And thank you Santa for the prezens last year. you are the best friend.
 Love,
 David

Dear Santa,
 My I please have a cd player with head phones and new sheos and a Barbie and clothes and my you by a truck for my little brother. How are you?
 Love,
 April

Dear Santa,
 Would you bring me a CD player. The game of candy land, clothes for me. And wold you bring baby clothes for my little sister Crystal. How is Mrs. Cluse? Good bye Santa.
 Love,
 Melissa

Dear Santa,
 May I please have a soccer ball and new shoes and a digimentoy named Submariomoo. Will you get Abby a hairagomi. Thank you for the toys you gave me last year.
 Love,
 Ismo

Dear Santa,
 May I please have a tecno. And a C.D. player. And a baby dog. And one more thing can I please have a baby Kitty.
 Love,
 Adrianne

Happy Birthday-

December 21--Thurman May, Ester Ramirez, Nathan Perry, Billie Perry

December 22--Carl Bomar, Donnie Perkins, Sonya Bitner

December 23--Iris Burson, Earlyne Hutsell, Kim Mayfield, Jeannita Ellison

December 24--Jack Robertson, jr., Sally Grimland

December 25--Dorothy Bomar, Donna Estes, Peggy Strange, Merlene Stephens

December 26--Molly Brooks, Ed Baker, Lindsey Irwin, Abigail Reyna, Sloan Grabbe

December 27--Lydia Hutsell, Ellen Edwards, Holly Glenn, Denny Hill, Dara Ramsey

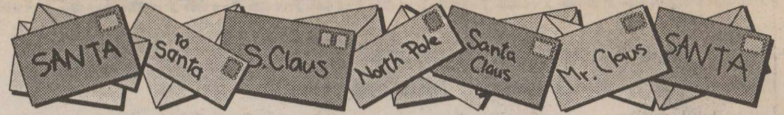
Happy Anniversary-

December 21--Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McWaters, Mr. and Mrs. David Warren

December 22--Mr. and Mrs. Terry West

December 27--Mr. and Mrs. Jay Towe, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Grimland

Dear Santa,
 May I please have a comeputer? I want cloths and sheos and a sweater. Thank you for the bog.
 Love,
 Patricia



Pre-Kindergarten Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a wrestling toy, and a cage.
 Love,
 Jonathon Cartwright

Dear Santa,
 I want a Barbie and candy.
 Love,
 Taylor Hubbard

Dear Santa,
 I want a Barbie Studio and a baby, and a house, and a star.
 Love,
 Klarrisa Gamez

Dear Santa,
 My big brother was fighting with me. I want you to bring me a bike and a baby and baby crib.
 Love,
 Ciara Patino

Dear Santa,
 I want more Barbie clothes, and more baby clothes and baby dolls.
 Love,
 Brittney Grabbe

Dear Santa,
 I want a doll and a Barbie, and change, and real Baby. That's all.
 Love,
 Sara Stinson

Dear Santa,
 I want an airplane and a helicopter. I also want a truck like a mod-ule truck.
 Love,
 Skyler Stephens

Dear Santa,
 I want a Pretend Baby so I can feed it with my bottle, and a 101 Dalmation dog, and a cash register

that prints up.
 Love,
 Candy Kate Carpenter

Dear Santa,
 I think that I love Santa. Bring Daphne and Dalton some presents. I want an easel that I can draw and color on, and a baby doll.
 Love,
 Savannah Kast

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a trailer and a pickup. Me want a motorcycle and a bike with training wheels.
 Love,
 Travis Self

Dear Santa,
 I want you to bring me a Barbie Jeep and a tooth for the Jeep.
 Love,
 Tiffany Smith

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a car, a play toy and a pickello.
 Love,
 Matias DeLeon

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a truck, and an action figure and lots of toys.
 Love,
 Fidel Morales

Dear Santa,
 I want a Barbie Jeep, a com-puter, a house, and a duck.
 Love,
 Karina Garcia

Dear Santa,
 Please bring me a star, a cookie, and a Baby doll.
 Love,
 Monica Alaniz

A Note of Thanks

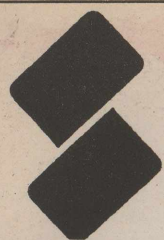
We hope your holiday is adorned with peace and love. Thank you for your friendship and all the many things that have been done for us this year.

Brown Hardware

Carol and Mary Davis and Family



When Taylor Hubbard visited with Santa at First State Bank last week, she told him she wants a Barbie and candy for Christmas.
 Briscoe County News Photo



The Seam

December 7, 2000
Online Trading

Lackluster trading characterized the market this week as somewhat bullish figures from the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) and confirmation of crop losses in several key cotton growing areas of the world were offset by technical considerations and a lower-than-expected export sales report.

The ICAC lowered its world cotton production and consumption estimate for 2000-01 while raising its estimate for the average Cotlook A Index price to 66.00 cents per pound, up two cents from the previous month's estimate.

ICAC lowered world production to 85.5 million bales due to crop losses in India, Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Turkey; four of the six top cotton-producing countries in the world. However, the committee estimates consumption should remain robust enough to drive world cotton stocks down to 34.7 million bales. As a result, international cotton prices as measured by the Cotlook A Index should rally because of the rightened stocks situation, ICAC noted.

Meanwhile, reports of smaller crops in Australia and Turkey confirmed talk circulating in the market this month, and all-time-high cotton prices in Pakistan underscored tight supplies there. Additionally, the USDA attache in India lowered its production estimate for the country and raised its export projection as drought lowered yields in western India.

Uzbekistan reported it has harvested 13.9 million bales of raw

cotton this season, down from an earlier estimate of 17.9 million. Drought cut yields during the growing season there, while rain during the harvest added to quality and yield losses. As harvest reached an end, estimates are beginning to solidify. To improve production next season, the Uzbek government plans to double the number of acres planted under plastic, which speeds the plants' growth.

Traders said crop estimates from overseas have see-sawed this fall as weather conditions fluctuated. The most recent estimates have been mixed with some forecasts higher than earlier cuts and others far below previous ideas. All in all, most analysts expect world output to slide and cotton use to drop slightly while ending stocks stay fairly tight.

Meanwhile, USDA's weekly export figures showed lower than expected sales. Despite a weaker U. S. dollar overseas in the week ended November 30, most importers moved back to the sidelines. Current crop export registrations dropped to the lowest level in 10 weeks, and Asian countries were responsible for the majority of cancellations. Therefore, net sales of 38,700 bales of U. S. cotton were 78 percent below the week before. Mexico remained the primary export recipient, with 35,300 bales. Other destinations included turkey at 12,100 bales and Taiwan with 6,200 bales.

As expected, export shipments increased approximately 50 percent to the highest level in 15

Orders Are Being Taken Now For Windbreak Trees

Caprock Soil and Water Conservation District is once again taking orders for windbreak trees.

All varieties of evergreens are \$2.50, hardwoods are \$1.50.

A limited number of wildlife seedling packets for quail, pheasant, deer and turkey also are available for farmstead plantings. Each wildlife packet contains 100 trees and is available for \$75.00 per packet.

Minimum orders are required on windbreak seedlings, but the Natural Resource Conservation Service will work to try to get what you need. There is no required minimum on the larger trees that are available. Order early, because many of the more popular varieties sell out fast.

Windbreaks properly located and containing the right tree species will provide wind and snow protection for farm homesteads as well as livestock. Living windbreaks also provide nesting places for small insect-eating birds as well as food and cover for numerous High Plains game birds. Windbreaks for shelter or wildlife habitat are permitted under CRP contracts.

Technical assistance is available from the Natural Resource Conservation Service in planning and designing your windbreak, drip irrigation systems and windbreak management. Drip irrigation systems and information on installation are available through the Caprock Soil and Water Conservation District.

Come by the Natural Resource Conservation office for a complete list of tree varieties. For any additional information, call 823-2431, Ext. 101.

Programs and services of the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Natural Resource Conservation Service are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, or handicap.

The deadline for orders is Tuesday, March 13. The trees will arrive in Silverton Wednesday, March 21, 2001.

weeks. However, traders said if the shipment pace did not pick up, USDA might be forced to lower its export estimate for 2000-01 by 100,000 to 200,000 bales.

Additionally, a decline in spot cotton sales was reported for the week ended December 7 as only 16,693 bales were sold online. The previous week, 28,170 bales were traded. Average daily prices received by producers utilizing the online marketing system ranged from 51.52 to 54.17 cents per pound compared to a range of 50.60 to 55.77 cents the previous week.

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF BRISCOE

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of a certain writ of execution issued out of the honorable 254th Judicial District Court of Dallas County, Texas, on the 7th day of November, 2000 by clerk of said 254th Judicial District Court for the sum of one hundred twenty thousand and no/100 (\$120,000) dollars, plus interest at the rate of 10% per annum from November 22, 1996, plus cost of execution, under a judgment in favor of H. Edward Toles, III, in a certain cause in said court, No. 93-13636-R and styled H. Edward Toles, III, as petitioner, vs. Lougay Malone Toles as respondent, placed in my hand for service, I, Jason Miller, as Sheriff of Briscoe County, Texas did on the 7th day of December 2000, levy on certain real estate, situated in Briscoe County, Texas described as follow, to wit:

An undivided 1/6th interest in the minerals in and under the following described real property located in Briscoe County, Texas, to wit:

1. All that portion of the E/2 of Section 30, Block B-3, lying and being situated in Briscoe County, Texas, being 42 acres more or less;
2. All of Section No. 26, Block B-3, Briscoe County, Texas;
3. All of Section No. 27, Block B-3, Briscoe County, Texas;

Together with an undivided 1/3 remainder interest (subject to a life estate in Helen F. Malone, S/P/A/ Helen Cowan Malone) in both the surface and an undivided 1/2 interest in the minerals in the following described real property located in Briscoe County, Texas to wit:

1. All that portion of the E/2 of Section 30, Block B-3 lying and being situated in Briscoe County, Texas, being 42 acres, more or less;
2. All of Section No. 26, Block B-3, Briscoe County, Texas;
3. All of Section No. 27, Block B-3, Briscoe County, Texas

and levied upon as the property of Lougay Malone Toles and that on the first Tuesday in January, 2001, the same being the 2nd day of said month, at the courthouse door of the County Courthouse of Briscoe County, Texas, in the City of Silverton, Texas, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., by virtue of said levy and said execution, I will offer for sale at public venue for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of Lougay Malone Toles in and to said property.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks preceding said day of sale, with first of said publications appearing not less than twenty days immediately preceding in Briscoe County, Texas.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

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.

CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

District: Childress

Contract 0925-00-042 for miscellaneous work in Childress County, etc. will be opened on January 3, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Contract 6065-28-001 for thermoplastic striping in Dickens County, etc. will be opened on January 3, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office for an estimate of \$1,039,235.18.

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 District 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 in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 2235

State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
District Office(s)
Childress District
District Engineer
1700 Ave F NW
Childress, Texas 79201
Phone: 940-937-7100

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. 50-2tc

Witnessed my hand this 7th day of December, 2000.

/s/ Jason Miller

Sheriff, Briscoe County,
Texas 50-3tc

The inspiration for Santa Claus, St. Nicholas, was born in Turkey, in the 4th century. He was known for his generosity and love for children.

Poinsettias are native to Mexico. They were named after America's first ambassador to the country, Joel Poinsett.

Caprock Cellular

Equipment Upgrade

If your cellular phone has seen better days, please contact David and ask about upgrading your cellular phone.

Caprock Cellular is proud to announce our dealer in Silverton is Brown-McMurtry Implement. Brown-McMurtry carries a full line of cellular phones and accessories. Our agent David Reagan can also custom order any item that you might need for your cellular phone. If you need any type of help with your cellular service or would like to activate additional phones, please let David know.

Brown-McMurtry Implement
823-2441

David Reagan can be contacted (806) 983-0012.





First Graders Write Letters To Santa Claus

Dear Sata
I wish for a for a intido64
love Ryder

Dear Santa,
I Wish I had a motorcycle and
helmet and a Scooter and a horse
Love Rodolfo

Dear Santa
I want a Nintindo 64 and I love
you Santa
Timothy

Dear Santa,
Skooter. I want a fire truck and
a car thailr, NoMootheie
I love you Santa
from Rowdy

Dear Santa,
I want a sandbox and a

Britnespears cd and a cd plaer and
pladow and a wipe off bord

Dear Santa
I want Britney spears CD Hit me
Pubyorr MOre time
Britney spears
Bar bie
Lav
Brandi

Dear Santa,
I want nittdo 64 I Luv mu
Thank presents rov for all the
urhaper
I Wish for a Cof Cee with the
Derrick

Dear Santa,
I want a new bike. I want a new
Scooter. I want a new horse. I want
a new night shirt.

from Reba jo Garvin.

Dear Santa
I want a bike and jacket helmet
and back pack
Love
Marvin

Dear Sata,
I want a 22 gun with 20 packs
of bullets and some tan shirts
love Tanner

Dear Santa,
I want a game boy came mery
crismis Santa.
love
Forrest

Dear Santa. I want max stils jet
sckg and a sckooter sack you for
evry sang you gave me eury toy
year and dcandy
Bye Bryce

Dear Santa,
I want a scooter and rollerblades
and a dirt bike and some hot
wheels and a remote control air-

plane.
Love,
Nehemiah

Dear Santa,
I want a police motorcycle and
a 4 wheeler and a paint ball gun
and a sleigh like you.
Love,
Braden

Dear Santa,
I would like a 4 wheeler, please,
Santa, and I would like a baby,
please, Santa, and I would like lots
of toys.
Love,
Skyler

Dear santa,
Please can I have a babies and a
Barbies and a crib and earrings and
a Power Ranger please?
Love,
Whitney

Dear Santa,
I want a scooter, a 4-wheeler (a
real one) and a CD player with lots

of CDs and a CX box. Can I have
a real motorcycle? I want a lot of
candy of my own and a for real BB
gun.

Love,
Ty
Dear Santa,
I wold like a Birbie and a Birbie
game and a new Bike and a Baby
Born and a Birbie haws.

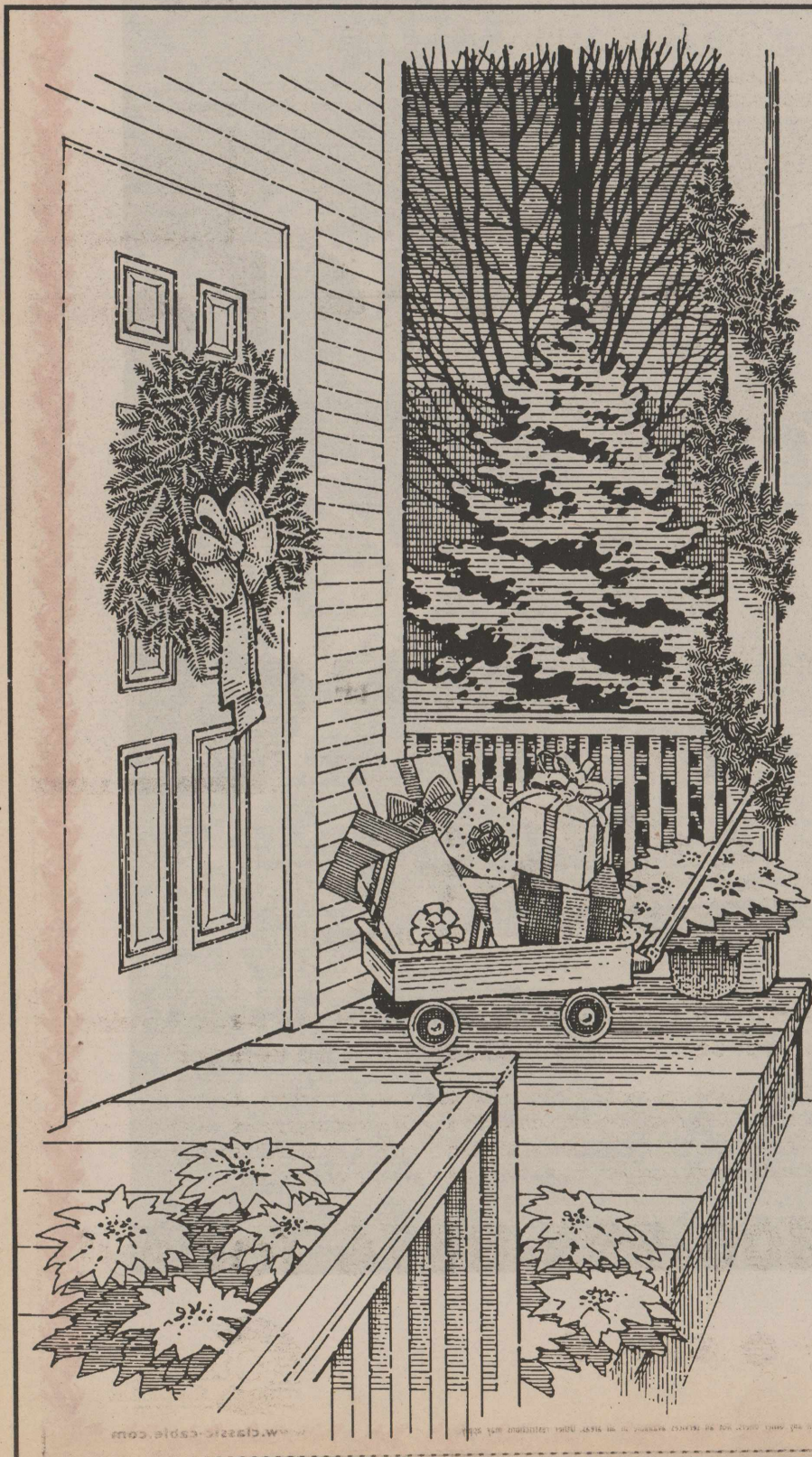
Love,
Haley

Dear Santa,
I want a little motorcycle, Santa,
I want a pretend dually with a
trailer.

Love,
J. T.

Dear Santa,
I want a scooter and a bike and
CD player and a toy police car.

Love,
Omar



Merry Christmas

One of the real joys of the season is the chance to put aside the routine of daily business, and, with sincerity, wish our friends a very merry Christmas.

BROWN - McMURTRY IMPLEMENT



Christmas Joy to All

In the spirit of this special time of year, we wish everyone the blessings of His light and love.

An abundance of thanks for giving us the opportunity to serve you.

Morris Wilcox

Beverly Minyard

Kyle Fuston

Brenda Patton

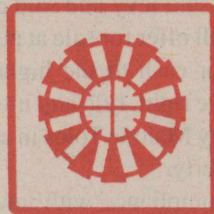
Madeline Stone

Shawn Miller

Patricia McJimsey

Estella Juarez

Mike Juarez



Member FDIC

City Bank

Phone 806-823-2426

Silverton, Texas 79257