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The Hansford County Reporter-Statesman

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VOLUME 98 • ISSUE 52

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2005



Happy New Year 2006

Live,
Laugh &
Love



by Catherine R. Smith
cathysmith@antden.com

I would like to extend these "Wishes for the New Year" to each of you with my thanks for the support you have shown in the past.

Wishes for the New Year

May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs, and your stocks not fall; and may your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol, your white blood count and your mortgage interest not rise.

May you get a clean bill of health from your dentist, your cardiologist, your gastroenterologist, your urologist, your proctologist, your podiatrist, your psychiatrist, your plumber, and the IRS.

May you find a way to travel from anywhere to anywhere during rush hour in less than an hour, and when you get there may you find a parking space.

May what you see in the mirror delight you, and what others see in you delight them.

May the telemarketers wait to make their sales calls until you finish dinner, may your checkbook and your budget balance, and may they include generous amounts for your church and charities.

May you remember to say "I love you" at least once a day to your spouse, your child, and your parent(s). You can say it to your secretary, your nurse, your butcher, your photographer, your masseuse, your seamstress, your hairdresser or your tennis instructor, but not with a "twinkle" in your eye.

May we live as intended, in a world at peace with the awareness of the beauty in every sunset, every flower's unfolding petals, every baby's smile and every wonderful, astonishing, miraculous beat of our heart.

Bless you with every happiness, great health, peace, and much love during the next year and all those that follow.

May God bless and keep you; May He make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26
Catherine J

Words from Faith & Grace

by Cecil R. Biggers, Lutheran Lay Minister

On the first Sunday after Christmas, the first day of a new year, we study Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7, and Luke 2:22-40. Isaiah exults in God who has given him personal salvation like a new set of clothes, and the salvation of Jerusalem when she shall be called by a new name. The Psalmist sings of the Greatness of God! He calls upon all of creation, animate and inanimate, to sing praises to the Creator who has raised a horn (of salvation) for His people.

Paul tells the Galatians that Jesus Christ was born of a woman, was born under the law, but as the Son of God, He came to redeem us from the bondage of the law. The point being that as we through God's grace come to faith in Jesus Christ as our savior, we are "adopted" into God's family, and as a member of God's family we are an heir with Jesus Christ. We are Children of God!

Luke shows Mary and Joseph bringing Jesus to the temple to be dedicated to God according to the Law of Moses. They offered the sacrifice of the poor, a pair of turtledoves/pigeons. The old priest on duty was called Simeon and he had been told by God that he would live to see the Messiah. His words form part of our liturgy, the "Nunc Dimittis": "Lord, Dismiss your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people, Israel." Simeon ends the expectation of the prophets with the announcement of the arrival of God's plan of salvation into the world.

Also in the temple was Anna, an 84 year old prophetess, she had seen trouble, but was not bitter; she prayed daily; she worshiped God in hope. She spoke about the child, Jesus, as being for the redemption of Jerusalem. Jesus, our "Emmanuel" (God With Us).

May the Holy Spirit clothe you with salvation and allow you to live this new year as a Child of God.

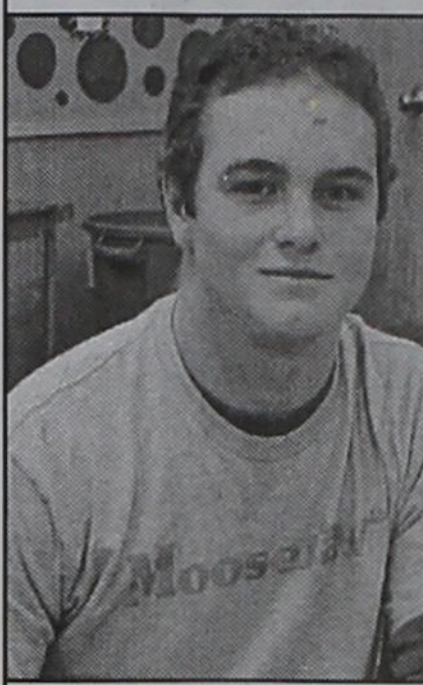
Gruver Football Team Members and Coach Receive High Honors in District 1-A

The Gruver football team had a very fine year and it shows up with the number of team members earning their position on the District 1-A in the 1st team, 2nd team or honorable mention.

The District 1-A MVP offensive player was Tyler Lane, senior running back and it was by a unanimous vote. Others on the Gruver team receiving unanimous votes for 1st team positions were: senior, tight end, Steven Salazar; offensive and defensive line, senior, Reid Winger; defensive end, senior, Tanner Irwin; and secondary, senior, Matt Messer and senior, Tyler Lane. Additional members of the 1st team are: senior quarterback, Matt Messer; linebacker, senior, Sheldon Atwood. Coach Terry Felderhoff was named Coach of the Year. Gruver football players making the District 1-A 2nd team are: senior, fullback Sheldon Atwood; senior, running back Crispin Borunda; senior, offensive line Tanner Irwin; junior, defensive line Travis McDowell; senior, defensive end Stephen Salazar; and senior, linebacker Crispin Borunda. Other honors received this week by Gruver football players went to junior, center Travis McDowell; offensive linemen, senior Steve Villegas and junior Charlie Slough; senior linebacker Ivan Briones and in the secondary, senior Sammy Pena, junior Drew Grotegut and junior Diego Luciano.

Although no awards will be handed out, it is well worth noting that this Gruver team beat the Stratford Elks. The Elks went on to win the State Championship. Good going to the Gruver Hounds!

Gruver High School September Student of the Month



The Gruver Student of the Month for September is Tanner Irwin. Tanner is a senior and the son of Clint and Jody Irwin. Brock is his brother.

Tanner lists his extracurricular activities as, football, basketball, One Act Play, UIL and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He received the art award and was in One Act Play all-star cast receiving Honorable Mention. His hobbies include drawing and painting, skiing and music.

Tanner plans to attend Colorado State University and major in Graphic Design.

We asked him what he liked best about Gruver and the Gruver High School, his response was, "I like the close relationship that everyone has with each other. You have the opportunity to get to know everyone. (For the school) The connection between the teachers and the students... we're all very close. Clean bathrooms, too."

The teachers that has most influenced him during his school years were: Mrs. Watson, Mrs Irwin and Mrs Curry.

Basketball Hoopla

Varsity Lynxettes

Spearman JV 46 vs Stinnett 19
12-13-05

Brown, 2; Reed, 2; Lang, 12; David, 2; Pittman, 2; Bradley, 4; Kern, 5; Cazares, 3; Shields, 10; Smith, 4

Coach's Comments: Good district opener. Nice job defensively. We will need to make more free throws.

Spearman 40 vs Canadian 35
12-16-05

L. Short, 2; J. Short, 4; Rex, 10; Flowers, 9; Schneider, 5; Howard, 8; Hart, 2

Coach's Comments: This was a big win over a great opponent.

Canadian is Ranked #5 in the state. We had to play really well and do a bunch of little things right to win this one. The girls have put many hours into winning against quality opponents, and tonight they were rewarded with a victory.

JV Lynxettes

Spearman 44 vs. Canadian 36
Reed, 7; Lang, 22; Pittman, 4; Bradley, 2; Cazares, 1; Shields, 4; Hart, 4

Coach's Comments: We played very good the first half. It was a nice team effort to protect our home court.

Gus Birdwell Elementary Lynx Star Award

Gus Birdwell Elementary has a program called the Lynx Star Award. This award is given each Friday. Each month has a different theme, and each week there is a different character trait that is discussed. December's theme is "Generosity."

Teachers pick a student from their room each week who has worked hard on the trait for that week.

The character trait for the week of December 2nd was "Taking Turns." Lynx Star Award winners were: Crystal Cantu, Hector Juarez, Macy Walker, Derek Holloway, Peyton Garnett, Bryan Campos, Reyna Rey, Jael Caro, Briana Ochoa, Logan Sowder, Luke VanDyke, Daniela Enriquez, Christian Macias, Josh Fuoss, Laura Anima, J.D. Reed, Paola Prieto, Vanessa Vela, Maggie Pipkin, Seth Carson, Finley Garnett, and Erynn Saenz.

The character trait for the week of December 9th was "Sharing." Lynx Star Award winners were: Kylee Porter, Richard Jarvis, Yesenia Davila, Savanna Salazar, Cooper DeArmond, Emilee Key, Ever Briseno, Samantha Puente, Isaiah Navarrete, Alexis Alvarez, Cassidy Fox, Cristal Pena, Rosario Flores, Katie Miesner, Allison Brown, Susy flores, Rene Soto, Wesley Trueax, Haylee Miesner, Paloma Mendez, Eric Vela, and Adrianna Correlejo.

Wishing you the best in 2006!
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Open Display rates are \$4.00 per column inch. Classified Ads are \$5 for the first 25 words and 10¢ per word for each additional word. (Additional charge for boxed classifieds.) There is a \$1 charge per week if billed.

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Spearman Chamber of Commerce
Texas Press Association and Panhandle Press Association

Happy Birthday!

Editor's Note: This Happy Birthday list is run as a public service by the Hansford County Reporter-Statesman. We apologize if any names are misspelled. If you know of a name that needs to be changed, added or deleted, please call 659-3434.

Thank you, Catherine

December 29

Birthday - Bray Armes, Erin Bergin, Amy Tolleson, Cecilia Trejo, Jerry Williams, Mrs. W.T. Woodward, Sharon Rhea, Deanna Martin, Del Baskin, Julie Barkley Stedje, Thomas Reyes, Robert Elliott, Ed McIntyre, Deann Rosales, Martin Rasor, Brittany Taylor, Connie Wood, Diana Bynum

Anniversary - Don & Gwen McLain, M/M Brad Spivey, M/M Pat O'Connell, M/M John Duncan, M/M Ronnie Harris, James & Karen Schnell

December 30

Birthday - Julie Meyer, Kim Younger, Angela Van Buskirk, Robert Cochran, Fern Robinson, Robert Black, Traci White, James Red, Sammie Goehring, Kelley Ogilvie, Joyce Simon, Angelica Huerta

Anniversary - M/M Verlin Behne, M/M Phillip Renner, M/M Jerry Morris, M/M Randall Schell, M/M Stan Josephson, M/M Jimmy Brown, M/M Bart Thoreson, M/M Van Bradford, M/M Rodger Ferguson, Doug & Linda Cummings, Josh & Katie Bynum

December 31

Birthday - Lera Beasley, Justin Pressley, JoAnn Schneider, John Gaither, Jerry Ross Jr., Hazel Stumph, Rick Morris, Helen Boyd, Seth Redwine, Andrew Vela, Billy Joe Boyd, Heather Gammon, Lucy Gilmore, Delfino Parra, Kare Thompson

Anniversary - M/M Oscar Rojas Jr., M/M John Gaither, Michael and Patricia Quillin, M/M Kelly Arrington, M/M Marlon Mitchell, M/M Charles Page, M/M James Smith, Jim & Marlene Miller

January 1

Birthday - Teresa Boyd, Kenneth Stewart, Daylynn Brummett Johnson, Virginia Trindell, Carolyn Cummings, Andy Francis, S.B. Sheets, Alberto Rosalez, Rhonda Ross, Willie Salgado, Craig Vinson, Bertie Frazier, Elizabeth Sumner, Melba Olsen, Audrie Behne, Carl Baumgardner, Colby Odegaard, Kim Vera

Anniversary - M/M Wilson McClellan, M/M Doug Connelly, M/M Raymond Fairbanks, M/M I.W. Ayres, M/M Monty Hawkins, M/M Jesse Ramsey, M/M Bob Wall, Daniel & Callie Hopkins

January 2

Birthday - John Armes, Chelsea Reid, Silvia Holgin, Troy Smith, Lynetta Woodward, Dwight Gillispie, Brian Dillow, Rebecca Dillow, Nelda Winn, Olivia Salgado, Garrett Martin

Anniversary - Lupe & Debbie Trejo, M/M Luke Pittman

January 3

Birthday - Alta Fisher, Elmon Jacobs, Brandon Close, Darl Hergert, Lois Shieldknight, Charles Bartz, Martha Villalobos, Betsy Ward, Joe Morris, Rodger Ferguson, Lorraine Schick, Crista Moreno

Anniversary - M/M J.D. Wilbanks, M/M Ronny Smith, M/M Buddy Lowe, KiKi & Dave Brabham

January 4

Birthday - Allen Mires, Denise Ware, Janie Kunselman, Willis Boyd, Randall Mitchell, April TeBeest, Harold Crooks, Martina Miller, Lori Haight, Mandy Vernon

Anniversary - M/M Vernon Baker, M/M George De Santiago

January 5

Birthday - Brice Lewis, Kent Remmel, LaNetta Shapley, Glenda Cambell, Scotty DeWitt, Becky Renteria, Linda Tope, Kim Stinson, Rick Cazares, Jacinda Perez, Kent Remmel

Anniversary - M/M Jimmy Blau

January 6

Birthday - Benny McCullough, Debbie Knight, Julie Logsdon, Valorie Hull, Joyce Sparks, Sam Boone, Teresa Pope, Alicia Davis, Ron Antalek, Kenny Kenton, Lesa Moffett

Anniversary - M/M Arnold Stork

January 7

Birthday - Brad Holt, Marsha Lowe, Lucy Pittman, Judy Virden, Mrs. Perry Hawkins, Michael Rodriguez, Pam Porter, Buddy Parker, Christina Bayless, Dorothy Nollner, Kimberly Irwin

Anniversary - M/M Howard Nash

January 8

Birthday - Cody Barkley, Haley Shields, Tina Brogdon, Doris Hendricks, Fontella McKee, Ross Womble, Lisa Brown, Amanda Schneider, Destiny Fisher

Anniversary - M/M Manuel Gomez, M/M Sonny Kell, M/M Bill Logsdon

January 9

Birthday - Bob Bort, Miles Messer, Louise Vanderberg, Kirby Taylor, Eric Brown, Britt Jarvis, Connie Holmes, Jim Bass, Edna Marie Walker, Kiley Coombs, Helen Blau, Bill Etling, Desiree Harris

Anniversary - M/M Manuel Gomez, M/M Sonny Kell, M/M Bill Logsdon

Peace at Christmas

by Rev. Brenton Haworth, Minister, Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Fairview, OK

Scripture for Prayer and Reflection: "Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me! Take hold of shield and buckler, and rise up to help me! Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers; say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.'" (Psalm 35:1-3, NRSV)

Thought: There is always a lot of talk about "Peace" as we approach our Lord's birth at Christmas, so what is "peace"? As I write this, our son Bill is in Iraq serving with his National Guard unit, and I ask myself, "What is 'peace' for Bill?", especially as he serves guard duty at his camp using night vision goggles, wearing body armor, and holding a loaded weapon, under orders to shoot any intruders. Still, I believe "peace", true peace for him is found in David's words in Psalm 35. David writes as a soldier when he asks God to "take hold of shield and buckler and rise up to help me! Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers; say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.'" I hear David speaking to himself (and to all of us, including Bill), "don't depend solely upon your own skills or equipment as a soldier, as good as you might be, but remember you still look to God as your protector and savior." As his father, I pray that David's outlook is Bill's outlook, is my outlook, is our outlook as followers of Christ. True peace for David, for Bill as he puts his life on the line serving our country, or for any of us, is calling upon and depending upon God, no matter how good things are, or how well any of us are doing, especially in this season of the greatest gift of protection and love.

Prayer: O Lord of peace, remind us anew that true peace is not found in possessions or achievements, but in reminding our soul that you and your Son are our peace and salvation. In our Lord's name, Amen.

Texas High Plains Grain Elevator Workshop Scheduled Jan. 17

by Kay Ledbetter

Aeration, aflatoxin, meal moths and rodent control will be among the topics addressed Jan. 17 at the Texas High Plains Grain Elevator Workshop here, said a Texas Cooperative Extension specialist.

"The stored grain industry, just like other aspects of area agriculture, is not immune to change," said Dr. Carl Patrick, Extension entomology specialist. "Working with the local Tri-State Chapter of Grain Elevator and Processing Society, we are attempting to address some of these changes as well as discuss the latest research relevant to the stored grain industry."

The 18th annual workshop will begin at 8 a.m. in the Regency Room of the Amarillo Civic Center. The workshop has been submitted to the Texas Department of Agriculture for continuing education credits for commercial, non-commercial and private applicator licenses.

Additional topics of discussion will be stored grain protectants, laws and regulations, fumigation and weed control. Pre-registration is requested by Jan. 10. The fee is \$30 and checks should be made to: Tri-State Chapter of GEAPS.

Mail registration forms and fees to Carl Patrick, Texas Cooperative Extension, 6500 Amarillo Blvd. West, Amarillo, Texas 79106. For more information, contact Patrick at (806) 677-5600.

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Bob Boxwell

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The Hansford Hospital Auxiliary has begun their annual fundraiser - "Operation Christmas Greeting." Instead of mailing greeting cards, persons may donate money to the Hansford Hospital & Manor Auxiliary. This money is used to purchase equipment and supplies that are not budgeted at the Hospital and Manor.

Merry Christmas

from

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 Sun. Eve: 6 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Mtg: 7 p.m.
 Pastor - Roland Haney

First Assembly of God
 401 N. Bernice • 659-2295
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
 Worship: 10:35 a.m.
 Kid's Church: 10:35 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
 Wed. Worship: 7 p.m.
 Wed. Youth: 7
 Pastor - Bob Elder

First Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
 29 S. Bernice • 659-2036
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 10:50 a.m.
 Minister - Gary Smith

First Baptist Church
 123 N. Bernice • 659-5557
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 11 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 7 p.m.
 Men's Bible Study - Wed., 7 a.m.
 Children's Choir - Wed., 6 p.m.
 Adult Choir - Wed., 7 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 7 p.m.
 Pastor - Jim Medley

Church of Christ
 121 S. Haney • 659-3244
 Sunday Bible Class: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
 Bible Study Wed.: 7:30 p.m.
 Minister - Leonard Harper

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
 901 Roland • 659-2792
 Sat. Night Mass: 5:30 p.m.
 Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. - English
 Sun. Mass: 11:30 - Spanish
 1:30 p.m. - Gruver - Christo
 Rector Mass - Spanish
 Rev. Guillermo Morales

First United Methodist
 407 S. Haney • 659-5503
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 8:30 & 11 a.m.
 Jr. High Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday
 High School: 6 p.m. Sunday
 Kids Club: 3 p.m. Wed.
 Pastor - Derrel Evin

Grace Presbyterian Church
 (Worships with Faith Lutheran Church)
 1101 Bernice • 659-2033
 Pastor - Beverly Cook

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)
 1101 Bernice • 659-2252
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 11 a.m.
 (Worships with Grace Presbyterian Church)
 Pastor - Beverly Cook

Union Church
 31 S. Endicott • 659-2644
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 10:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
 Bible Study: 7 p.m. Wed.
 Pastor - Dr. Timothy Minor

Fellowship Baptist
 1102 S. Archer • 659-2783
 Sunday School: 10 a.m.
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 Youth/Adult Service: 7:30 Wed.
 Pastor - James Washburn

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 502 E. 7th • 659-3991
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
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 Culto Evangelistico - 7 p.m.
 Jueves: Oracion - 8 p.m.
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Gruver

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 Disciple Training: 6 p.m. Sunday
 Prayer Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday
 Pastor - Scott Curry

Church of Christ
 209 King • 733-2760
 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
 Worship: 10:20 a.m.
 Evening Worship: 6 p.m.
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 Minister - Gaylord Cook

First Christian Church
 510 King • 733-2960
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
 Youth: 7:30, Sunday
 Adult Bible Study: 7:30, Sun.
 Wed. Bible Study: 8:00 p.m.
 Pastor - Gary Gurnofy

Gruver United Methodist
 Broadway & Garrett
 733-2851
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 Worship: 8:30 & 10:50 a.m.
 Eve. Worship & UMY: 6 p.m.
 Pastor - George Price

Spanish Cristo Redentor Church
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 Friday Evening Mass
 Summer - 8:00 p.m.
 Fall/Winter - 7:30 p.m.

Oslo

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 North of Gruver
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 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Worship: 11 a.m.
 Pastor - Paul Fiske

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Waka Church of the Brethren
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Morse

Morse Baptist Church
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 Pastor - Mike Martin

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Crop and Weather Year-End Summary: Texas Agriculture Beat the Odds in 2005

by Crystal Polasek

Though many producers struggled with the effects of extreme weather, the state's agriculture industry persevered and made the best of 2005, said a Texas Cooperative Extension expert.

Jose Pena, Extension economist in Uvalde, said early rainfall made vegetable and crop production especially successful this year despite later drought.

"Early, above-average spring rain and low relative humidity helped produce near-record yields of most spring vegetables and some row crops," Pena said. "For example, cotton production in Southwest Texas experienced record yields under heavy irrigation."

The most significant struggle for many producers was lack of soil moisture, he said, including "a severe dry spell from April to December, with rainfall as low as 75 percent of the long-term average in a large portion of the state. As a result, crop agriculture experienced increased irrigation requirements."

Thanks to record-high energy prices, necessary irrigation also became more expensive for many producers, Pena said.

Because of the state's severe and extreme drought conditions since July Texas - along with Illinois - was one of the country's driest regions in 2005, according to the National Drought Mitigation Center.

Dr. David Anderson, Extension livestock economist in College Station, said dry conditions were a challenge for many cattle producers in the eastern half of the state.

"Significant drought had a large impact on the hay crop and hit pastures hard," he said. "Many producers had to begin buying hay much earlier than normal, and the hay that is available is often poor in quality."

"Of course, hurricanes impacted some producers in Southeast Texas; high fuel costs hit them hard and will continue to do so in the coming year."

However, high cattle and calf prices were helpful, Anderson said.

"Prices have been record high over the last couple of years," he said. "It's a mixed bag for cow-calf producers. While prices have been good drought and increasing fuel costs have increased dramatically."

Pena said gross agricultural

income increased significantly because the markets were good for livestock. Increased production costs, however, will likely mean that net income will nearly match or be slightly lower than in 2004.

Anderson said even though livestock production was not as successful as last year, it was certainly more productive than it was five years ago.

"In the coming year, I expect to see calf prices decline as cattle inventory expansion occurs in the U.S.," he said. "But prices should still be at relatively good levels. The opening of the Japanese market for beef is positive, even though it may take a long time to regain significant market levels."

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced on Dec. 11 that the U.S. will resume exporting beef to Japan. Trade was severed in 2003 when a Japanese embargo prevented U.S. beef from being sent to Japan after the state of Washington reported a case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (commonly referred to as BSE, or "mad cow" disease).

The cattle market has gradually improved since 2003, Pena said, and the future should be good for producers.

"The cattle market outlook for 2006 remains bright," he said. "The favorable market may extend into 2007 as Japan allows U.S. imports again."

The future looks good for crop producers as well, Pena said.

"The cold weather during December 2005 will help conserve the sparse moisture left in the soil profile," he said. "It will also reduce the potential of insect and disease problems in the coming spring."

Beef 2010 Will Take Participants from Feed Pens to Boxed Beef

by Kay Ledbetter

A unique opportunity to follow cattle through the feeding and packing process to see how management decisions make a difference is being offered, a Texas Cooperative Extension specialist said.

Beef Marketing and Management 2010 is a series of educational activities for beef industry personnel in the Panhandle, said Dr. Ted McCollum, Extension beef cattle specialist.

"Whether you are in the cow/calf, stocker, cattle feeding or allied industry sector; whether you are an owner, a customer-based operator or an employee; this program offers an opportunity to learn more about factors influencing beef quality and value," McCollum said.

The program consists of two components: Beef 2010 educational meetings and Beef 706, he said. All activities will be held at the Herbert F. and Jeannie Kuhlman Extension Center and West Texas A&M University in Canyon.

In Beef 706, teams of participants will select feeder steers at the kick-off meeting Jan. 26. These steers will be placed on feed and followed until finished in July, McCollum said. They then will be followed through the grading and hands-on cutting session.

"Participants will have a chance to experience first-hand the differences encountered in carcass composition and see the production of boxed beef cuts," he said. "The information will be evaluated in terms of the boxed beef value differences among steers and how that translates back to differences in live cattle."

The second component, the Beef 2010, is a series of seven monthly meetings/seminars supporting Beef 706. Topics covered in these seminars will be feeder cattle and carcass evaluation, influence of genetics and management on carcass merit, marketing on carcass grids, and tradeoffs between live and carcass marketing, McCollum said.

Pre-registration is required. To participate in the Beef 706 component, individuals must register for the entire Beef Marketing and Management 2010 program, he said.

Seats are limited to 45 for the Beef 706 portion of the program. Seating is not limited for the monthly meetings. Registration is \$50 and payable to the Extension Activity Fund. Deadline is Jan. 15.

Registration forms are available at Extension offices or at <http://amarillo.tamu.edu> and should be mailed to Randall County Extension Office, 200 N. Brown Road, Canyon, TX 79015.

For more information, contact McCollum at (806) 677-5600 or Danny Nusser, Extension agent in Randall County, at (806) 468-5543.

It's A Girl!

Cody and Stacy McLean wish to announce the birth of their daughter, Kathryn Belle McLeod. Kathryn was born on December 9, 2005 at 8:15 a.m. She weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Jimmy and Carolyn McLeod of Spearman and Phil and Denise Brown of Aedmont, Oklahoma.

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2005 in Review

Hurricane Katrina

Disaster. Hurricane Katrina slammed into the U.S. Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, destroying towns in Mississippi and Louisiana, displacing a million people, and killing more than 1,000. When levees in New Orleans were breached, 80% of the city was submerged by the flooding. About 20% of its 500,000 citizens were trapped in the city without electricity, food, or drinking water. Rescue efforts were so delayed and haphazard that many were stranded for days on rooftops and in attics before help arrived. The city became a toxic pool of sewage, chemicals, and corpses, and in the ensuing chaos, mayhem and looting were rampant—about a third of the city's police force had simply walked off the job. The 20,000 people who made their way to the Superdome, the city's emergency shelter, found themselves crammed into sweltering and fetid conditions. At a second shelter, the convention center, evacuees were terrorized by roaming gangs and random gunfire. Relief workers, medical help, security forces, and essential supplies remained profoundly inadequate during the first critical days of the disaster.

As most of the city's citizens fled the city, those without cars or the financial means to relocate were left behind. The 100,000 who remained in the drowning city were largely poor and predominantly black, exposing the racial dimension of New Orleans's persistent poverty: 28% of New Orleanians are poor (twice the national average) and 84% of those are black. The elderly poor were also disproportionately affected by the disaster: 70% of the New Orleans area's 53 nursing homes were not evacuated before the hurricane struck.

Hurricane Katrina has been called the most anticipated disaster in modern American history. For years, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) had ranked New Orleans and San Francisco as the two cities most vulnerable to catastrophic natural disaster, and a day before Katrina's landfall, the National Weather Service warned that the hurricane would cause "human suffering incredible by modern standards."

Aftermath. Americans were shaken not simply by the magnitude of the disaster but by how ill-prepared all levels of government were in its aftermath. Although New Orleans had performed a hurricane drill the previous year, the city and state governments had no transportation or crime prevention plans in place, and such negligence had devastating consequences. The Department of Homeland Security, the new cabinet agency created for the very purpose of increasing domestic security, had unveiled its National Response Plan in Jan. 2005, which promised "vastly improved coordination among federal, state, local, and tribal organizations...by increasing the speed, effectiveness, and efficiency of incident management." Yet Michael Chertoff, the department's secretary, waited until two days

after the hurricane hit before putting the plan into effect by declaring it an "incident of national significance." Critics claimed Homeland Security's efforts had been focused on the prevention of terrorism at the expense of preparing for natural catastrophes. Seemingly not to grasp the scale of the disaster, Chertoff and Michael Brown, FEMA's director, expressed surprise at the dangerous conditions in the convention center in New Orleans, days after its horrific images had saturated the airwaves, making them appear less informed than the average TV viewer. Brown was so inept in managing the crisis that he was quietly removed after two weeks. All three top jobs at FEMA had been filled by political appointees with no emergency management experience, and half of the agency's senior career professionals had been cut since 2000.

In sharp contrast to the leadership he displayed after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, President Bush initially seemed off-key and out of touch, declaring that he didn't "think anybody anticipated the breach of the levees" and waiting four days before his first brief visit to the region. Trust in the president's ability to lead the country during a crisis had been a central factor in his reelection, but two-thirds of Americans considered his response to Katrina inadequate. To repair his image, Bush acknowledged the government's faltering response and pledged "one of the largest reconstruction efforts the world has ever seen."

Election. Perhaps the most hopeful sign in Iraq since the fall of Saddam Hussein was the country's first free elections in 50 years. About 8.5 million people voted in January, representing about 58% of eligible Iraqis. A coalition of Shiites received 48% of the vote and the Kurdish parties received 26%. Sunni parties received just 2%—most Sunni leaders, feeling marginalized, had called for a boycott.

Insurgency. The elections, however, did not stem the insurgency, which grew increasingly sectarian during 2005 and predominantly involved Sunni insurgents targeting Shiite and Kurdish civilians in suicide bombings. According to a British-based antiwar group, the death toll for Iraqi civilians reached almost 25,000 since the start of the war (no official U.S. or Iraqi tally of civilian casualties exists). The lack of security has continued to frustrate reconstruction efforts. Despite investing \$9 billion over the past two years, the U.S. has made only "limited progress" on rebuilding the country's infrastructure. According to the Government Accountability Office, Iraq's oil output and power generation have in fact diminished since the war began.

U.S. Strategy. By mid-September, about 1,900 U.S. soldiers had died and more than 14,000 had been wounded. The absence of a clear strategy for winning the war beyond "staying the course" caused Americans' support for Bush's han-

dling of the war to plummet to an all-time low of 37%, according to a September Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll. The U.S. and Iraqi governments agreed that no firm timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops should be set, maintaining that this would simply encourage the insurgency. Withdrawal would take place as Iraqi security forces grew strong enough to assume responsibility for the country's stability. "As Iraqis stand up, Americans will stand down," Bush stated. But the training of Iraqi security forces had been far below what was anticipated. A July 2005 Pentagon report acknowledged that only "a small number" of Iraqi security forces are capable of fighting the insurgency without American help.

Political Uncertainty. In Aug. 2005, after three months of fractious negotiations, Iraqi lawmakers completed a draft constitution that is to be voted on in a national referendum on Oct. 15. Shiites and Kurds supported a decentralized government with autonomous regions in the Kurdish north and the Shiite south; the minority Sunnis wanted strong centralization, fearing that they would otherwise be deprived of the oil wealth of the north and south. That issue, as well as the role of Islam—some Shiites have advocated a theocratic government and the reduction of women's rights—remained unresolved in the final draft. In the end, the Sunnis' objections were overridden, and they in turn vowed to defeat the constitution at the referendum stage. Given that the insurgency is largely fueled by Sunnis, their further disaffection from the political process is likely to bring more division and the possibility of civil war.

The Domestic Agenda. Economy and Legislation. Bush's priority in the first year of his second term was the overhaul of the Social Security system, but despite months of campaigning, the president failed to convince the electorate that the program was in need of a massive restructuring. Legislative accomplishments included the passage of the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) and an energy bill, which did not, however, address what Americans consider the single most pressing economic issue: skyrocketing fuel prices. President Bush has firmly ruled out tax cuts to pay for the astronomical costs of the Iraq war (\$5 billion a month) and hurricane recovery (estimated to exceed \$200 billion) or to offset the federal budget deficit, which reached \$319 billion at the end of fiscal year 2005.

Senate Standoff. When Bush proposed several judicial nominations that Senate Democrats considered emphatically "out of the mainstream," they threatened to filibuster. Republicans, who controlled 55 votes (overriding a filibuster takes 60) vowed to set off the "nuclear option," which meant changing Senate rules to ban filibusters—in which case, Democrats warned, the work of the Senate would be brought to a standstill. A bipartisan "gang of 14" moderate senators ended the showdown through a compromise in May;

Democrats would not block several of the controversial nominees from an "up-or-down vote" and would use filibusters only under "extraordinary circumstances"; Republicans would preserve the 200-year-old tradition of filibusters, considered an essential right of the minority party.

Congress and the Courts. Terri Schiavo, a brain-damaged Florida woman who had been kept alive by a feeding tube for 15 years, became the focus of an emotionally charged battle between those who felt removing her feeding tube was tantamount to murder and those who believed she had the right to die instead of remaining in a persistent vegetative state. In an unprecedented intervention, congressional Republicans stepped in to "affirm a culture of life," overriding a decade of legal battles in the Schiavo case involving 19 judges and six state courts, by passing emergency legislation to reopen the case before a

federal court. The court upheld the earlier rulings. Schiavo died 13 days after her feeding tube was removed, and her autopsy revealed that her brain had deteriorated to half its normal size and that no treatment could have helped her. While Republican leaders, railed against "activist judges," a majority of Americans (70% in an ABC poll) disapproved of Congress's intervention and sized up its motives as political opportunism (67%).

Supreme Court. Two Supreme Court vacancies opened up with the retirement of Sandra Day O'Connor and the death of Chief Justice William Rehnquist, offering the president the opportunity to make his mark on the court. He nominated John Roberts, widely seen as solidly conservative but nonideological, to replace Rehnquist.

Continued on page 6

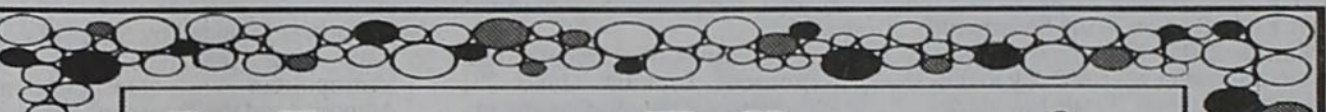


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Continued from page 5

SNotable Decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court, 2004-2005 Term Court Declares Sentencing Guidelines Unconstitutional

(Jan. 12, 2005): In the first part of a two-part ruling in *United States v. Booker*, Court rules, 5-4, that federal sentencing guidelines in criminal cases violate the Sixth Amendment's right to a trial by jury because the guidelines allow judges to make factual findings that could increase a sentence beyond the maximum permitted by a jury. In the second part of the ruling, the Court resolves the issue, ruling, 5-4, that a defendant's rights would be protected by making the guidelines discretionary instead of mandatory.

Court Rules Against Execution of Juveniles (March 1, 2005): In *Roper v. Simmons*, Court decides, 5-4, that executing people who commit crimes before they turn 18 constitutes cruel and unusual punishment, a violation of the Eighth Amendment. Writing the majority opinion, Justice Kennedy points out that since the United States is the only country in the world that officially allows the execution of juveniles, it should be considered unusual punishment.

Justices Expand Protection under Title IX (March 29, 2005): Voting 5-4 in *Jackson v. Birmingham Board of Education*, the Court rules that the federal law, known as Title IX, that forbids sex discrimination in schools and colleges also protects third-party "whistleblowers" who file such complaints. "The statute is broadly worded; it does not require that the victim of the retaliation must also be the victim of the discrimination that is the subject of the original complaint," writes Justice O'Connor.

Ruling Broadens Criteria for Age Discrimination Suits (March 30, 2005): Court rules, 5-3, in *Smith v. City of Jackson*, that employees who sue for age discrimination do not have to prove that the discrimination was intentional, only that it negatively affected older workers.

Court Ends Ban on Wine Shipments (May 16, 2005): Votes, 5-4, to allow wineries to ship wine directly to out-of-state customers if state law allows in-state wineries to do so. Ruling in *Graham v. Heald* invalidates state laws in New York and Michigan that the majority says violate the Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

Justices Overturn Verdict in Enron Scandal (May 31, 2005): Justices unanimously reject criminal conviction of auditing firm Arthur Andersen, saying the jury received improper instructions from the judge in the case. The company was convicted of shredding documents related to the Enron scandal. Chief

Justice Rehnquist writes in the Court's opinion in *Arthur Andersen v. United States* that the jury was not instructed to prove that the company's auditors knew such acts were wrong.

Court Rules in Favor of Religion in Prisons (May 31, 2005): In a unanimous decision in *Cutter v. Wilkinson*, the justices say the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, a federal law that requires prison officials to accommodate inmates' religious requirements, does not violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

Congress Can Ban Use of Medical Marijuana (June 6, 2005): In a 6-3 decision in *Gonzales v. Raich*, the Court upholds the right of Congress to prohibit the use of medical marijuana and to prosecute those who violate the law even in the 11 states that have passed initiatives legalizing it for medical purposes.

Disabilities Act Applies to Cruise Ships (June 6, 2005): Court rules, 6-3, that passengers of cruise ships that are operated by foreign companies but stop at American ports are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The decision in *Spector v. Norwegian Cruise Line Ltd.*, however, says that the ships are not required to make structural changes if they can't accommodate the disabled.

Justices Reverse Murder Conviction (June 13, 2005): Court, 6-3, invalidates 1986 conviction of Thomas Miller-El, a black man from Texas, ruling that the jury selection in his trial was racially biased because the prosecution used peremptory strikes to exclude 10 out of 11 potential black jurors. The decision in *Miller-El v. Dretke* is the Court's second in *Miller-El's* favor.

Court Overturns Death Sentence (June 20, 2005): Justices vote, 5-4, in *Rompilla v. Beard*, to overturn the death sentence of Ronald Rompilla, a Pennsylvania man convicted of murder, saying that his lawyers failed to provide him with a defense that met minimum constitutional standards.

Justices Uphold Government's Use of Eminent Domain (June 23, 2005): In one of the most controversial cases of the session, the Court rules, 5-4, in *Kelo v. City of New London*, that a government can take possession of private property against the owner's will and transfer it to private developers when the result will promote economic development. The Fifth Amendment allows the government to take private property for public use. In writing the majority opinion, Justice John Paul Stevens says "public use" also means "public purpose." "Promoting economic development is a traditional and long accepted

function of government," he says. "Clearly, there is no basis for exempting economic development from our traditionally broad understanding of public purpose."

Court Hands Down Divergent Rulings on Displays of Religious Symbols (June 27, 2005): In *Van Orden v. Perry*, Court rules, 5-4, that taken in historical context, the 6-foot-tall monument of the Ten Commandments on display on the grounds of the Texas Capitol in Austin does not violate the Establishment Clause. The monument, which has been up for about 40 years without causing controversy, is one of 17 in the 22-acre park. "Simply having religious content or promoting a message consistent with a religious doctrine does not run afoul of the Establishment Clause," says Chief Justice Rehnquist. In the second decision, *McCreary County v. American Civil Liberties Union*, however, the justices, 5-4, find that the framed copies of the Ten Commandments on display inside two county courthouses in Kentucky are unconstitutional because officials in the counties sought to promote religion. The framed copies were originally displayed by themselves, but officials hung historical documents beside them once litigation began in an attempt to put them in historical context. Justice Souter calls the counties' claims that they were secular displays "an apparent sham." He also writes, "Reasonable observers have reasonable memories."

Business/Science/Society
Oldest-Known Mayan Mural Discovered (Dec. 13): Dated at around 100 B.C., the plaster mural portrays the Mayan creation myth. The sophistication and quality of the painting suggests that the Mayan civilization was highly developed much earlier than archeologists had previously believed.

Trade Deficit Hits Record High (Dec. 14): Government reports that October trade deficit reached \$68.9 billion.

New Yorkers Stranded by Strike (Dec. 19): After talks between the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the Transport Workers Union break down, the union declares a general strike. A Brooklyn Supreme Court judge calls the strike illegal and fines the union \$1 million for each day of the strike.

Scientists Announce Discovery of Distinct Crocodile (Nov. 11): Researchers from the Mathematical Biosciences Institute at Ohio State University have found the skull of a sea-dwelling crocodile that lived 135 million years ago. Unlike other crocodiles, it has a short snout. Major League Baseball to Change Drug Rules (Nov. 15): Players asso-

ciation agrees to suspend players who fail a test for steroids 50 games for the first offense, 100 games for the second, and for life for a third failure.

GM and Union Reach Deal (Oct. 17): General Motors and the United Auto Workers union agree to cut \$1 billion in annual health benefits for workers and retirees.

Bush Nominates Successor to Greenspan (Oct. 24): President selects Ben Bernanke, his chief economic adviser, to replace Alan Greenspan as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

Tyco Executives Sentenced (Sept. 19): L. Dennis Kozlowski, company's former CEO, and Mark Swartz, former chief financial officer, both sentenced to 8 1/2 years in prison for bilking the company out of \$600 million in a stock-fraud scheme and used the money for personal purposes. Kozlowski ordered to pay \$167 million in fines and restitution, while Swartz will pay \$72 million.

NASA Releases Plan for Moon Visit (Sept. 19): Michael Griffin, administrator of the agency, outlines \$104 billion plan to have astronauts land on Moon by 2018.

China Withdraws Bid for Oil Company (Aug. 2): The China National Oil Corporation rescinds \$18.5 billion bid for Unocal.

South Korean Scientists Clone a Dog (Aug. 3): After a three-year effort and 1,095 eggs, researchers clone the first dog, a male Afghan hound. **Shuttle Lands Safely** (Aug. 9): Discovery returns to Earth after a 14-day mission. Landing moved to Edwards Air Force Base in California because of bad weather in Florida. Mission included the first-ever spacewalk to remove a piece of material sticking out of the shuttle's skin.

Five Planes Crash During Month (Aug. 2): All passengers and crew of an Air France flight survive when a jetliner overruns the runway in Toronto, lands in a gully, and bursts into flames. (Aug. 6): Plane crashes off Sicily, killing 13 people. (Aug. 14): Everyone on board a Helios Airways dies when the Boeing 737 crashes into mountains north of Athens, Greece. (Aug. 16): West Caribbean Airways plane dives to the ground in Machiques, Venezuela, killing all 160 people on board. (Aug. 23): About 40 people die when plane crashes in Peru's northern jungle.

Jury Finds Drug Maker at Fault in Death (Aug. 19): Texas jury finds Merck, maker of pain medication Vioxx, liable in death of Robert Ernst and awards his widow \$253.5 million.

Musicians Urge World to Unite to End Poverty in Africa (July 2): Millions of people attend Live 8, free concerts in nine countries—South Africa and each of the Group of Eight nations—to promote increased aid to Africa.

London to Host 2012 Olympics (July 6): City chosen over Paris as the site of the summer games. It will be the third time London has hosted the Olympics.

China Revalues Currency (July 21): After months of pressure from the Bush administration, China announces it will no longer peg the yuan to the dollar.

Shuttle Problems Continue (July 26): Discovery launches from Cape Canaveral, Florida, for a 12 1/2-day mission to the International Space Station. A piece of foam insulation

breaks off from the shuttle's external fuel tank. (July 27): NASA announces it will ground the shuttle fleet.

Scientists Discover Potential Tenth Planet (July 29): Astronomers at the California Institute of Technology find rocky, icy planet that's larger than Pluto and about nine billion miles away from the Sun.

SEC Chief Announces Resignation (June 1): William Donaldson, chairman of the Security and Exchange Commission, steps down amid criticism that he was too tough in enforcing regulations. (June 2): President Bush nominates California congressman Christopher Cox to replace Donaldson.

Pop Singer Cleared of Molestation Charges (June 13): A California jury acquits Michael Jackson of 10 charges, including molesting a child, conspiracy, and providing alcohol to minors.

Schiavo Autopsy Results Released (June 15): Examination finds that Terri Schiavo's brain had deteriorated to half normal size and no treatment could have helped her. Autopsy also reveals no evidence of abuse.

Tyco Chief Convicted (June 17): L. Dennis Kozlowski, former chief executive of Tyco, and Mark Swartz, the company's former chief financial officer, found guilty of fraud, conspiracy, and grand larceny. They bilked the company out of \$600 million in a stock-fraud scheme and used the money for personal purposes.

Fed Raises Interest Rates (May 3): Federal reserve increases short-term interest rate by a quarter point, to 3%. It is the eighth increase in less than one year.

South Koreans Report Success in Therapeutic Cloning (May 20): Researchers announce they have devised a new procedure to successfully produce human stem cell lines from a cloned human embryo.

Pope John Paul II Dies (April 2): John Paul, the first Polish pope and the first non-Italian pope since 1522, dies after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. (April 8): John Paul II is buried at the Vatican. Leaders from more than 70 nations gather for the largest funeral for a pope in history. (April 19): Conclave of cardinals selects Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany as the new pope. He will call himself Benedict XVI and is installed as pope at outdoor mass at St. Peter's Square.

Prince Charles Remarries (April 8): British prince marries longtime lover Camilla Parker Bowles.

Agriculture Department Releases New Food Pyramid (April 19): Government calls MyPyramid an "interactive food guidance system." There are 12 versions of the new pyramid, allowing people to choose one based on their age, sex, and level of physical activity.

Overweight People Face Lower Risk of Death Than Those of Normal Weight (April 20): Federal researchers also find that being very thin can increase one's risk of death. Study seems to contradict earlier reports.

Dozens Die in Train Accident (April 25): Derailment of speeding commuter train near Osaka, Japan, kills more than 100 people and injures about 400.

Greenspan Urges Action on Deficit (March 2): Urges Congress to work toward reining in budget deficit, saying it is "unsustainable."

Man Makes Circumnavigation Record (March 3): Steve Fossett completes a 23,000-mile journey when his plane GlobalFlyer lands in Kansas. He's the first person to make the solo nonstop journey around the world.

WorldCom Chief Found Guilty (March 15): Bernard Ebbers convicted of securities fraud, conspiracy, and seven counts of filing false reports. Fraud cost the telecommunications giant about \$11 billion.

Obesity Shortens Life Expectancy of Children (March 16): Report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* indicates that if childhood obesity continues, the current generation of children may be expected to live two to five fewer years than adults today.

Indonesia Hit by Earthquake (March 29): Temblor, with a magnitude of 8.7, strikes the island of Nias. Residents fearing another deadly tsunami, flee for higher ground. Hundreds are killed.

Woman Breaks Circumnavigation Record (Feb. 7): British sailor Ellen MacArthur completes a solo circumnavigation in 71 days, 14 hours, 18 minutes, and 33 seconds.

Kyoto Protocol Goes into Effect (Feb. 16): The international environmental treaty requires 35 industrialized nations to reduce heat-trapping gases such as carbon dioxide. Developing nations have promised to try to limit their emissions of such gases. The United States, which emits the largest amount of heat-trapping gases in the world, has refused to sign the treaty.

Professional Hockey Season Canceled (Feb. 16): As National Hockey League owners and players fail to reach a deal on salary cap for players, Commissioner Gary Bettman formally cancels the season.

Panel Advises FDA on Painkillers (Feb. 18): Experts vote to tell the Food and Drug Administration to allow Celebrex, Bextra, and Vioxx to stay on the market.

Earthquake Kills Hundreds in Iran (Feb. 22): More than 500 people die and about 40 villages destroyed in central part of the country.

Train Crash Kills Several in South Carolina (Jan. 6): Mistake involving a switching mechanism causes train in Graniteville to crash into parked railcars, killing nine people and releasing toxic chlorine gas.

Heavy Rains Cause Landslides (Jan. 10): Mudslide in coastal town of La Conchita, Calif., kills 10 people and destroys 15 homes.

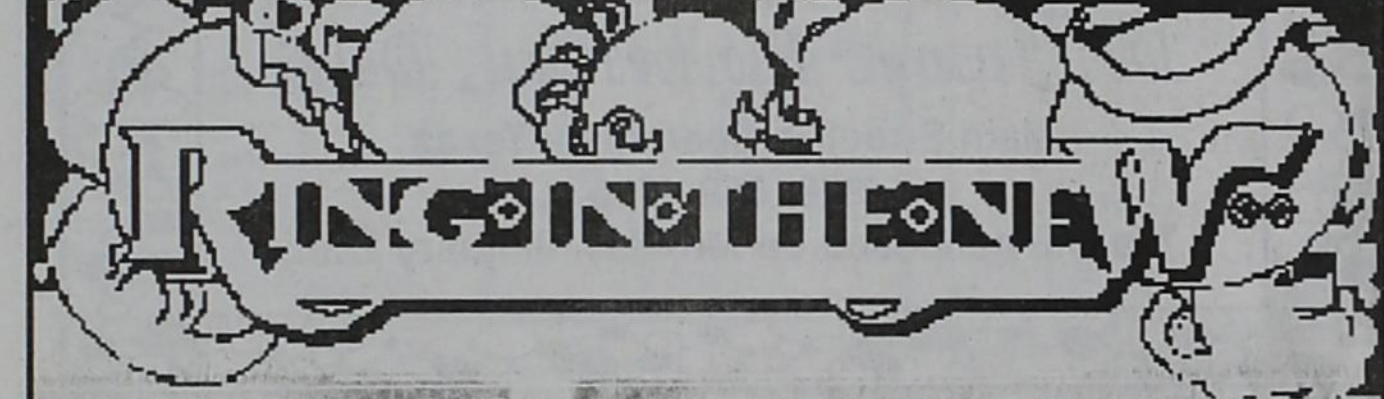
Government Changes Dietary Guidelines (Jan. 12): Updated Dietary Guidelines for Americans say that people should exercise at least 30 minutes every day.

Largest Passenger Plane Launched (Jan. 18): The prototype of the Airbus A380 debuts in France. The plane is seven stories high and can seat 555 passengers.

Cancer Top Killer in U.S. (Jan. 19): Replaces heart disease as No. 1 cause of death for people ages 85 and under. Number of deaths from both, however, have fallen.

FCC Head Announces Resignation (Jan. 21): Michael Powell will step down as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

Deficit Expected to Continue to Grow (Jan. 25): The bipartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates a 2005 deficit of \$368 billion, excluding expenses incurred in Iraq. The White House releases its own estimate—\$427 billion, including an additional \$80 billion for Iraq.



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We will be closed on Monday, January 2nd.

OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY GIVES EVERYONE REASON TO CELEBRATE.



2.9% APR for 12 months as low as \$41 per month up to \$200 cash back
on all Motorcycles, ATVs & Scooters*

FIVE STAR EQUIPMENT, INC.
Hwy 15 West • Spearman TX 79081-0658
(806) 659-3743

*Cash back offer good on select models. Finance offer available at participating Yamaha dealers on the Yamaha card, subject to credit approval. 3/1/05 - 12/31/05, on any new 2006 (or new prior year) Yamaha Motorcycle (including YZF-R1 LE, FJR models and Rhino), ATV or Scooter model. Reduced Rate 2.9% APR and monthly payment calculated at 1% of amount financed effective on these purchases for 12 months, if your Account is kept current. Example: \$41 minimum monthly payment based on \$1,000 purchase price of \$4,199. Thereafter, the Standard Rate currently 12.99%, 16.99%, 18.99%, or 22.99% APR will apply and minimum monthly payments will be required as described in your cardholder agreement. For accounts not kept current, the Default Rate 24.99% will be applied to all balances. Minimum Finance Charge \$1.00. Certain rules apply to the allocation of payments and Finance Charges on your promotional purchase if you make more than one purchase on your Yamaha card. Call 1-888-367-4310 or review your cardholder agreement for information. *ATVs with engines 50cc or greater are recommended for use only by riders age 16 years and older. Yamaha recommends that all ATV riders take an approved training course. For safety and training information, see your dealer or call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-800-887-2887. ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety, always avoid paved surfaces. Never ride on public roads. Always wear a helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Never carry passengers. Never engage in stunt riding. Riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix. Avoid excessive speed. And be particularly careful on difficult terrain. yamaha-motor.com

ATTENTION: Planter Owners

Simple, accurate, zero maintenance.

Every White Planter is engineered from the ground up to provide outstanding quality, simplicity, accuracy, gentle handling and visibility of the seed. So, when you purchase a White Planter, if you're required to replace parts in the metering system within the first three years, we'll simply give you the parts at no charge. That's belief in a product and a claim the competition won't make. This represents all of the features a successful farmer demands from a new planter... ensuring perfect seed placement across the field.

White Planters are available in a wide variety of sizes and narrow transport widths. And these planters are backed with the superior knowledge, support and service of a White Planter Dealer. Visit your local White Planter Dealer for details.

Meter guarantee applies to 8000 Series Planters. Does not include row unit assembly, frames or attachments.

THREE YEAR METER GUARANTEE

WHITE PLANTERS

SIMPLY ADVANCED

FIVE STAR EQUIPMENT, INC.
Hwy 15 West • Spearman TX 79081-0658
(806) 659-3743

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 727 Wilbanks, Spearman - 3-4BR, 1 1/2B, office, living room, dining room, laundry room, central H/A, garage, lg. covered porch, lg. backyard, lg. carport, on 112 lots. New carpet, fresh paint inside & outside. Call 432-268-4746 or 432-264-7781. TFN(9-16-04)B

FOR SALE: 810 Womble, Gruver - 1700 sq. ft., detached garage, 4 1/2 lots. Call 806-733-2402 after 5 p.m. TFN(8-11-05)B

FOR SALE: 700 Collier, 3BR, 1 3/4 B Lg. family room, 1911 sq. ft. CH/CA, double car garage. Call 878-2271 or 898-1126 TFN(12-22-05)B

FOR SALE: 2100 acres farm land; call J.C. Harris 733-2785. 2(12-22-05)B

FOR RENT/LEASE

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT, SPEARMAN: Pittman-Shieldknight building - all sizes available. Call 659-5588 or 659-3399 for more information. TFN(01-27-05)B

FOR RENT, SPEARMAN: Recently remodeled 1BR, 1B apartment, utility allowance. Call 659-3889. TFN(03-03-05)B

FOR RENT, SPEARMAN: 2BR apartment, water paid. Call 659-9971. TFN(04-21-05)B

FOR RENT, SPEARMAN: Beautiful 3BR apartment. Water paid, NO PETS! 659-9971. TFN(8-11-05)B

FOR RENT: 2 BR apartment, \$375.00 per month, Call Larry O'Neal, 659-9971 TFN(10-20-05)B

FOR LEASE: 3BR, 1B house w/ basement. NO PETS! \$450.00 per month; \$450.00 Deposit. Call 940-631-0894. TFN(12-15-05)B

FOR LEASE: Large 1BR Apartment w/washer/dryer hook-up. NO PETS! \$350.00 per month; \$350.00 deposit. Call 940-631-0894. TFN(12-15-05)B

FOR SALE OR RENT: 3BR, 1B house. Call 659-3889. TFN(12-22-05)B

WANTED

LAND WANTED: 1/4 section or more for a dairy, house included is preferred. 300-500 g/m well needed. Dry land farm OK. Contact Spearman EDC at 659-5555. TFN(11-13-05)B

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED: Now hiring full time mechanic. Apply in person or send resume to Hi-Plains Auto Supply, 118 Main St., Spearman TFN(12-22-05)B

AUTOMOBILE

FOR SALE: 1998 Dodge Ram SLT 1500 extended cab pickup. 659-2255 or 330-0762. 5(12-1-05)B

FOR SALE: 2003 Dodge Dakota Quad Cab pickup. 659-2870. 5(12-1-05)B

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO TAXPAYER

Pursuant to Texas Transportation Code Chapter 258, the Commissioners Court of Hansford County, Texas, intends to consider the adoption of an official county road map.

The Purpose of this action is to clarify the public versus private status of the existing rural road network. After adoption, the official county road map will serve as conclusive evidence of the public's right of access over roads shown on the map and of the county's authority to spend public money to maintain the roads included on the map.

The Commissioners Court of Hansford County will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 23rd, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. in the Law Library at the Hansford County Courthouse, at which a citizen has the right to protest the county's claim of a public interest in a road included on the map. A person may also file a written protest to the County Judge at any time prior to the public meeting.

The proposed official county road map will be available for viewing beginning December 23, 2005, during regular business hours at the

Hansford County Courthouse. 4(12-22-05)B

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ORVILLE RAY LATHAM, Deceased, were issued on November 21, 2005, in Cause No. 2462, pending in the County Court of HANSFORD County, Texas, to SCOTT LATHAM AND TERRY LATHAM, Co-Executors.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o Cecil R. Biggers
P.O. Box 342
Spearman, Texas 79081

DATED the 21st day of November, 2005.

Cecil R. Biggers
Attorney for Estate
State Bar No.: 02308500
13 W. Kenneth Street
P.O. Box 342

Spearman, Texas 79801-0342
Telephone (806)659-5531
Facsimile (806)659-553
1(12-29-05)B

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARY WOODWARD, Deceased, were issued on November 22, 2005, in Cause No. 2463, pending in the County Court of HANSFORD County, Texas, to JESSIE REGES KELL.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o Cecil R. Biggers
P.O. Box 342
Spearman, Texas 79081

DATED the 22nd day of November, 2005.

Cecil R. Biggers
Attorney for Estate
State Bar No.: 02308500
13 W. Kenneth Street
P.O. Box 342

Spearman, Texas 79801-0342
Telephone (806)659-5531
Facsimile (806)659-553
1(12-29-05)B

DUKE ENERGY FIELD SERVICES, LP

Duke Energy field Services, LP has developed an Awareness Program to safeguard everyone who lives and works along our pipelines. We belong to the ONE-CALL System in your state, which provides damage prevention services to all excavators at no charge to the excavator. Despite all of our efforts, however, emergencies can occur. We need your cooperation to prevent accidents from happening. You can help by reporting any pipeline emergencies. Here are some helpful tips on preventing

and spotting pipeline emergencies" *Before you dig, call the One-call system in your state:

- *Colorado 1-800-922-1987
- *Kansas 1-800-344-7233
- *Oklahoma 1-800-522-6543
- *Texas 1-800-344-8377

*This service is absolutely free and is available 24 hours a day.

*Call BEFORE you dig, blast or doze

*Watch for our pipeline marker signs at road and railroad crossings as well as fence lines and other sites.

*Pipeline markers are used to show approximate location of pipelines

*If you are excavating in a rural area in the vicinity of our pipeline marker signs, please call us at 1-888-204-1781..... 24 hours a day.

As a property owner, you may not be aware that a pipeline runs through your property. Check your property plat or title report for any pipeline easements.

You can help to recognize and report substance emergencies by calling us if you detect any of the following:

- * Gas or petroleum products escaping from a pipeline
- * The hissing sound of gas escaping
- * Gas or liquids bubbling to the surface of water
- * An unexplained area of dead vegetation on the pipeline right-of-way
- * The smell of natural gas odorant
- * An oily residue on the ground or

water surface
* Fire or explosion near a pipeline

What To Do If You Suspect A Leak

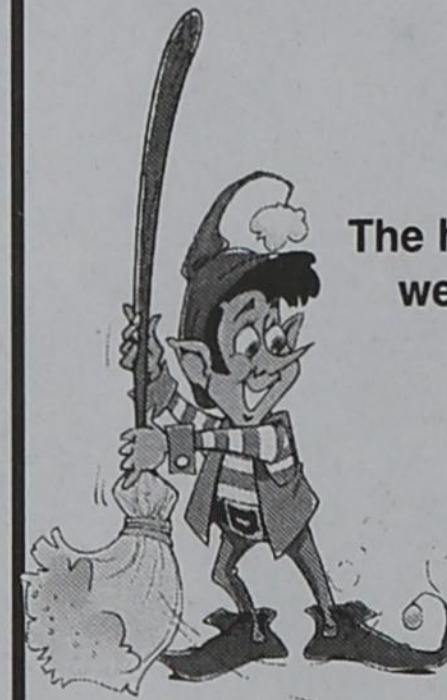
The first concern should be for your personal safety and the safety of those around you. Follow these steps:

1. Leave the leak area immediately. Warn others, if necessary. Do not make contact with the escaping gas or liquids.
2. Avoid creating sparks or sources of heat that could cause the vapors or liquids to ignite. Do not light a match, start an engine, use a telephone or even switch on/off an electric light.
3. Turn off any running machinery (engines).
4. If you come upon a leak or vapor cloud while in an automobile, do not drive into the area.
5. Call 911 and the pipeline owner immediately, from a safe location. Call the pipeline owner collect. Provide them with your name and phone number and a description of leak and its location.

Remember, even a scrape or a dent to a pipeline needs to be reported to the Pipeline Company. If not promptly repaired, it could result in a future leak or serious accident.

1(12-29-05)B

Clean Sweep Sale!



The holidays are over, and we're ready to clean out our Christmas items!

50% OFF

Celebrate

203 Main St. Spearman, TX
(806) 659-3350 • 1-800-663-8026



Golden Spread Realty
200 S. Main - Perryton, TX
(806) 435-5444

RESIDENTIAL IN SPEARMAN
221 S. Bernice - 3BR, 1 1/2B, 2 attached garage. \$67,000 - PRICE REDUCED

504 S. Roland: 3BR, 2B, 1844 sq. ft., includes small apartment - \$76,500

Equal Housing Opportunity. INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED.

OWNERS - WE NEED LISTINGS on ranches and farms of any size in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico (especially ranches off the caprock in Texas or Oklahoma and large or small ranches in New Mexico). Please call us to set up a time to visit about or see your property.

MOORE & SHERMAN COUNTIES - Choice Dairy Locations on pavement - 2400 & 640 acres, strong water area, sprinkler irrigated, possible incentives. **PERMITS IN PROCESS!**

MOORE CO. - choice section with large metal barn/shop 1/2 mile sprinkler & irr. wells, county road on two sides, good location.

OCHILTREE CO. - dryland 1/4 in irrigation area east of Spearman.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE for data and pictures of many farms, ranches, feedyards, dairies and choice dairy locations with permits and acreages with homes.

www.scottlandcompany.com
Shawn Gillispie 806/922-5532
Ben G. Scott, Broker
1-800-933-9698 day/night



Hansford Hospital has an opening for an **Office Assistant**. Must have clerical skills including computer skills, typing, filing and data gathering. Great benefits package, paid holidays, vacation, sick leave and health insurance.

Apply at 707 S. Roland, Spearman, TX or contact Lelia Bynum, RN, DON at (806) 659-5850. Download application at www.hchd.net

Equal Employment Opportunity Employer
2(12-22-05)B

As another year draws to a close, we thank you for your friendship and goodwill and sincerely wish you all the happiness that a prosperous and successful New Year can bring.



First State Bank

The Bank that has the Tradition of Strength and Service
One NE Court • Spearman, Texas • (806) 659-5565
member FDIC

We will close at 3 p.m. (including drive-up window) on Fri., Dec. 30th and will be closed on Mon., Jan. 2nd

Reagan & Brown Auctioneers
PO Box 658 • Dalhart, TX 79022 • (806) 244-6776

AUCTION Farm & Estate Sale

MRS. BETTY PORTER & OTHERS

THURSDAY
JAN 5

LOCATION: From Gruver on Hwy. 15 go east 10 miles to County Road 20, go south 5.8 miles to sale site; From Spearman on Hwy. 15, go 3 miles west to County Road 20, go south 5.8 miles to sale site

Starting time - 10 a.m.
Storm date: Tues., Jan. 10

WATCH FOR SIGNS

TRACTORS, COMBINES, HEADERS, TRAILERS, GRAIN CART, FARM EQUIPMENT, IRRIGATION MOTORS, TANKS, PUMPS, PICKUPS, TRUCK, SHOP EQUIPMENT, LAWN EQUIPMENT, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, COMPUTER & PRINTER

For more information, or a brochure, call us at 806-244-6776, email us at rbauact@xit.net or visit our website at www.texasuctionguide.com/rb, or call Leon Laney at 806-333-2738.

Reagan & Brown Auctioneers - TXS 16071 - Office (806) 244-6776

Real Estate & Rental

PRICES REDUCED!

903 Richardson - 2BR, 1B
813 Richardson - 2BR, 1B
122 N Cooper - 3BR, 1 1/2B, 2CG, really nice!

Gruver Property

201 9th - 2BR, 1B, Garage apartment
806 Richardson - 2BR, 1B, 2CG
306 Womble - 2-3BR, 1B, 2CG
618 Front Street - 1BR, 1B, cellar, lg. shed
802 Womble - 2-3BR, carport, corner lot

Spearman Property

1015 S. Haney - 3BR, 1 1/2B, TCG, really nice

Rural Property

7959 FM 1573 - 3BR, 1 1/2B, 2CG, 5 acres (Sherman County)

Rental Property

Houses for Rent in Gruver & Spearman

Real Estate & Rental for all your real estate needs!

Melinda McCullough, Assoc.
(806) 733-5678

John Graves, Broker
Toll Free: 1-877-664-5050

Blankenship Real Estate
659-3052 - 670-3774

SPEARMAN

NEW LISTING: 1100 Pessen - 3BR, 1B, 2CG, TCG. Needs paint and minor repairs.

NEW LISTING: 703 E. 2nd - 3BR, 1 1/2B, nice home!

NEW LISTING: Great Home with Income Property - 3BR, 2B, 2CG, basement - office - apartment - workshop - 1CG & RV port. 616 & 620 Evans.

Eulalia Blankenship - Sales
Eschol Blankenship - Broker

NEW LISTINGS WANTED!



Serving Hansford County for 14 years
Julie Martin, Broker - 659-2425

IN SPEARMAN

722 Wilbanks - 3/1 1/1 - nice home in nice neighborhood and ready to move into. Free-standing fireplace.

1109 Haney - 3/1 1/1 - investment property

We'd Like Your Listing FOR QUALITY & SERVICE CALL US TODAY!



Guymon, Oklahoma

Movies beginning Dec 30

CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2
PG - Steve Martin & Hilary Duff

FUN WITH DICK & JANE
PG-13 - Jim Carrey & Tia Leon

THE RINGER
PG-13 - Johnny Knoxville

PRIDE & PREJUDICE
PG - Keira Knightly

RUMOR HAS IT
PG-13 - Jennifer Aniston & Kevin Costner

FAMILY STONE
PG-13 - Diane Keaton & Rachel McAdams

KING KONG
PG-13 - Naomi Watts & Jack Black

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA
PG - The Lion, Witch & Wardrobe

FRESH POPCORN EVERYDAY!
-PARTY ROOM & ARCADE-

Call for Showtimes
580-338-3281

www.northridge8.com

Office -- 580-338-8969

CASH & CREDIT CARDS ONLY

THANK YOU!

Our entire organization joins in wishing you a very Happy New year!



From

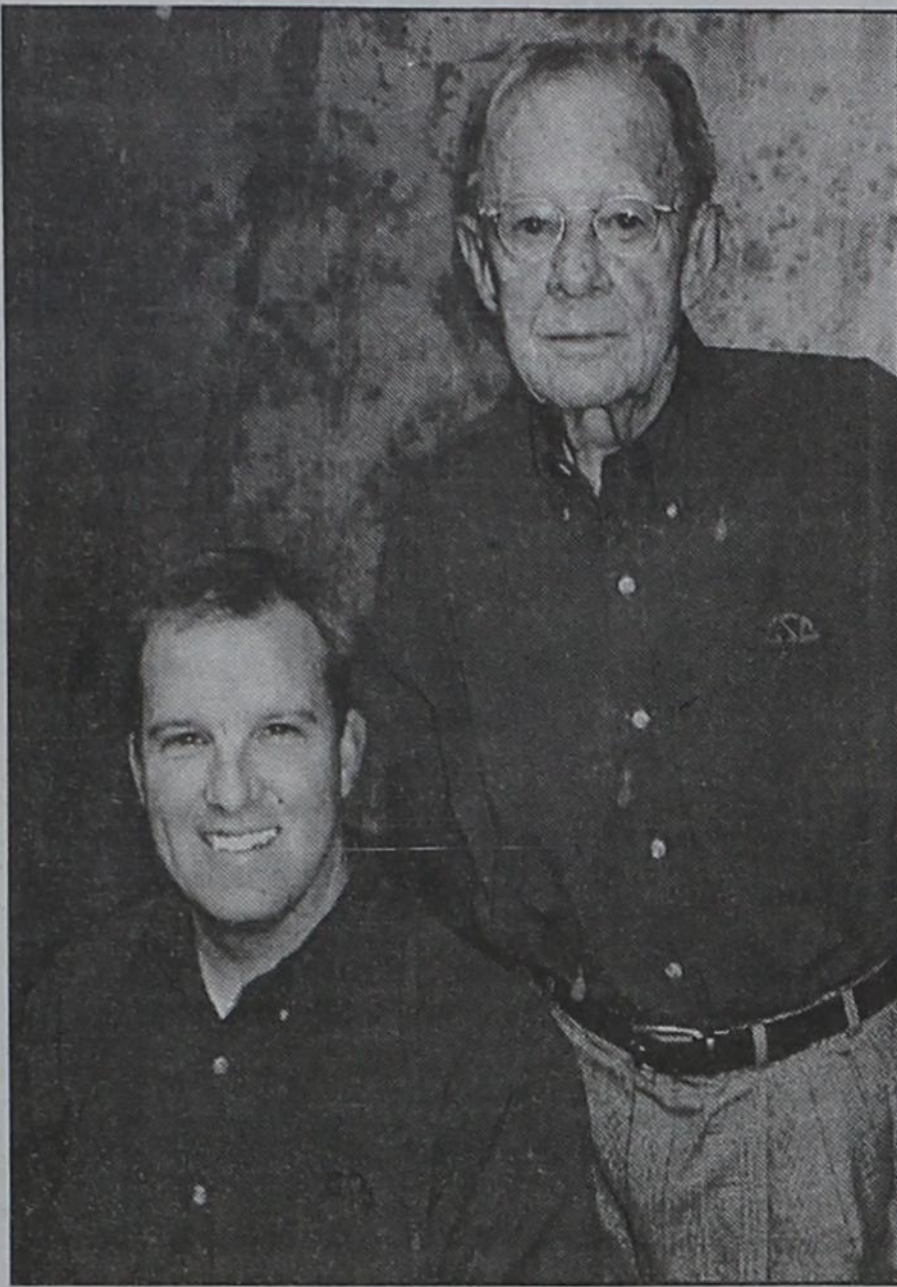
North Plains Electric Cooperative

Please note that our office will be closed January 2nd for New Year's. But, if you need us, we're only a phone call away!

1-800-272-5482

(806) 435-5482

Two generations of Irwins lead Gruver State Bank



Kyle and Kenneth Irwin

Reprinted from "Texas Banking" In the summer of 1950, when Gruver State Bank was not quite four years old, a recently married Kenneth Irwin joined as assistant cashier, earning a salary of \$100 a month. Fifty-five years later, Irwin, now chairman, president and CEO, is confident that when he's ready to hand over the reins of family-owned bank that his grandson Kyle will continue the traditions and philosophies that he nurtured over the years.

Grandfather and grandson have been a dynamic team since 1988, when Kyle joined for four years in other banks. Kenneth's leadership skills, coupled with Kyle's strong background in credit administration, have helped the bank remain profitable.

The two are quick to credit the bank's 14 employees, most of whom have at least 10 years of tenure with the bank, for contributing to the bank's success. "Our employees support this bank, our family and the decisions we make,"

Kyle said. In its 60 years, Gruver State Bank has never experienced an unprofitable quarter. It has survived economic depressions, severe droughts and the ups and downs associated with agriculture lending.

Kenneth grew up in a farming family in Iberia, located in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri. The Irwin banking genes trace back to his grandfather, who founded a bank in 1899. In 1945, Kenneth was drafted and spent 18 months in the Navy. He graduated from the University of Missouri in 1950 with a business degree and began his banking career at Lindell Trust Co. in St. Louis.

His uncle, Ralph Bort, who was in town for Kenneth's wedding, convinced him to come to Texas after telling some "tall tales" about the Lone Star State.

Bort and a group of farmers, ranchers and merchants organized Gruver State Bank in 1946 with \$75,000 in capital. Originally housed in a hotel lobby, the bank

moved in 1949 to a new building across the street. In 1972, the bank moved to its present building just up the street from its original location.

When Kenneth began his 55-year career with Gruver State Bank assets totaled a little over \$1 million. Today, this number has grown to \$35 million, which he describes as "not phenomenal growth, but steady." Kenneth acquired total interest in the bank in 1982.

Although he has four children, none of them decided to pursue banking careers.

Kenneth has been married to Janet for 55 years and they have four children. Debby, a business manager at Gruver ISD; John, an attorney; Mark, a Ford dealer; and Clint, a veterinarian. Out of his eight grandsons, three are involved in banking, which makes Kenneth proud that they will carry on the family tradition.

Kyle began his banking career mowing the lawn of Gruver State Bank as a young child. During his vacation breaks from Gruver High School, he began learning the ropes by working as a teller and book-keeper. He left Gruver to attend Texas Tech University in Lubbock, where he graduated in 1994 with a finance degree. He also graduated from the Texas Tech School of Banking that year. He immediately went to work for Boatman's National Bank of Amarillo, which later became Nations Bank and Bank of America. In July 1998, he

joined Gruver State Bank. Kyle has been married for 11 years to Kimberly, a schoolteacher. The couple has three children, Korbin, 11; Karsten, 7; and Klaire, 6.

"I really enjoy living in a great community and working at a great bank," said Kyle. "I've obtained a great deal of knowledge."

His grandfather has been his mentor. "Probably the one thing that I've learned most from him is to lead the bank in a direction he feels it needs to go and in maintaining a vision."

Kyle brings a strong background in credit administration to the bank in addition to a youthful perspective. He also brings comfort to his grandfather. "I have no problem with succession management," he said. "I don't have to worry about that."

When the time comes for Kyle to fill his grandfather's shoes, he knows he will continue what has been done in the past. "We're more than happy to entertain opportunities to grow the bank through branch acquisition or organic growth, but don't want to get out of doing what we know best, and that's agriculture."

An agriculture community Gruver, located in Hansford County in the Texas Panhandle, is an agriculture community. Crops include corn, wheat, cotton and milo. The town came into existence when the Chicago-Pacific Railroad added a branch line from Amarillo

to Kansas in 1929.

The feed lot capacity in Hansford County is a very large contributor to the growth and economic stability of Gruver. Kenneth served the city as mayor for 14 years, and Kyle's father has been the current mayor for the past 12 years.

Both Irwins are also very strong proponents of the Texas Bankers Association. Over the years, Kenneth became very active in TBA, serving on the Board of

Directors from 1969 to 1971. He continued to serve on every TBA committee through the early 1980's. He vividly remembers the Sharpstown Scandal, and he has fond memories of annual Washington, D. C. trips.

Kyle hopes to continue that tradition and encourages all bankers to become active in their trade association and "be a face for the banking industry."

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Hansford County for your patronage.

MURMUR'S CAFE

100 S. Roland • 659-3580 • Spearman
Hours - Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Tong's Chinese Restaurant
511 S. Hwy. 207 • 659-2838 • Spearman

All-You-Can-Eat Buffet Specials

Tuesday - Steak	\$7 ⁹⁹
Friday - Shrimp	\$6 ⁵⁰
Saturday - Catfish	\$6 ⁵⁰
Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Sat.	\$5 ⁵⁰

Buffet Hours: 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
and 5:30-Close

Have A GREAT '06

From our family to yours, our warmest New Year's greetings.

Kay
Kitty
Jenna
Jentry

Celebrate

203 Main St. Spearman, TX
(806) 659-3350 1-800-663-8026

We will be closed on Mon., Jan. 2nd.

New Year's Eve at The Bunkhouse

Prime Rib
available with reservations only
Reserve Early!
Lobster tail available on request

Ask wait staff about our special desserts.

The Bunkhouse Restaurant

Spearman's place for steak!

212 Main Street • Spearman
(806) 659-2089

New Year, New Hours:
Tues.-Thurs., 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat.: 11 a.m.- 9 p.m.
Sun. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

We will be closed the week of Jan. 9-15.