

Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1998

WEST CADDO PEAK

EAST CADDO PEAK
Price 50c

90TH YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 11



CONGRATULATIONS 1998 BUFFALOES ON YOUR BI-DISTRICT, AREA AND REGIONAL SEMIFINALS BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS — Dusty Hinkle (front); Landon Hill (kneeling, from left), L.D. Whitehead, Clint Bailey, Joseph Hopkins, Leif Hunter, Nicholas Dimitri and Jody Pancake; Coach Atchley (back, from left), Joseph Turner, Coby Richards, Carlton Thomas, Jody Gosnell, Zach Edington, Kenny Callaway, Cody Reed, Jarad Richards and Coach Woerner.

Cross Plains High School Baseball 1998 Regional Finalist

By COACH CORD WOERNER year's season:

It is hard to find a good place to quit playing unless you win it all. Turning in our equipment and saying goodbye to our seniors always hits hard and was especially tough this time. These kids have worked very hard and come out of some very tough spots to get where they were. The following summarizes this

Bi-District Champs
W/Cross Plains - 4 Brock 1
W/Cross Plains - 10 Brock 5

Area Champs
W/Cross Plains - 14 Aspermont 11

Regional Semi-Finals
L/Cross Plains - 2 Windthorst - 9

W/Cross Plains - 5 Windthorst - 4
W/Cross Plains - 8 Windthorst - 5

Regional Finals
L/Cross Plains - 2 Rotan - 3
L/Cross Plains - 8 Rotan - 12.

My thanks to these athletes and all those who supported this team. I am proud of their accomplishments.

Callahan County Commissioners Meeting

By BILLY HARRIS
Special Writer

Callahan County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 8. Callahan County Judge Bill Johnson called the meeting to order with these officers present: Commissioner Harold Hicks Precinct 1, Bryan Farmer Precinct 2, Tommy Holland, Precinct 3, Charlie Grider Precinct 4, Deputy County Treasurer Diane Alexander and Deputy County Clerk Jeanie Bohannon.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

A preliminary budget hearing has been scheduled with all of the county's department heads being asked to attend.

Johnson told commissioners and audience that the county was looking at a \$60,000 increase in their health insurance plan for the next year and a possible murder trial with an unknown cost would have to be considered in the coming budget.

"Even if we raised taxes to maximum without risking a rollback vote it would only raise about \$48,000 in revenues," said Johnson.

"Our tax base will be about the same or less than last year," said Johnson. The population is growing, but the railroad and oil and gas have gone down, which have traditionally been the largest taxpayers.

The judge read a list of employees who would possibly not be replaced because of expected shortfalls in the coming budget.

All of these offices could lose one position from its present work force: County Treasurers Office, The Tax Assessor/Collector's Office, District Clerk's Office and the County Clerk's Office.

Johnson made it clear that no one was losing their job, because due to the recent elections and retirements these positions will be created any way.

"We've got to find a way to cut our budget and these offices have been put on computer so we believe

they can possibly work with less personnel," said Johnson. "We either have to cut back or raise taxes a large amount."

"Another idea we have to save some money is to try and shift the tax collections over to the appraisal office and this will cut down on some duplicated work," said Johnson. That decision would be up to the Tax Appraisal Board.

Johnson asked the department heads if there were any questions or concerns on the projected work force cutbacks or any suggestion on how the county could save money. No one commented.

A Health Insurance Committee was appointed by Judge Johnson. Precinct 4 Commissioner Charlie Grider, Assistant County Treasurer Diane Alexander and County Tax Assessor Collector Bun Barry will serve on the committee.

The county's retirement plan was reviewed and with a motion by Farmer, seconded by Grider, the county's contribution to the plan will remain at six percent.

Justice of the Peace Rolan Jones had asked, earlier in the meeting, if he could contribute personally to the plan and was told that the policy strictly said no.

One bid was received on Precinct 3 dump truck. West Texas Cat bid \$7,200 for the 1985 Ford truck. Precinct 3 Commissioner Holland rejected the bid.

Johnson handed commissioners a copy of the resolution that supports legislation to require inmates convicted of a crime pay for the cost of their incarceration.

Johnson said he had spoken with Sheriff Eddie Curtis and he and Curtis were in full support of the resolution.

The commissioners unanimously agreed to sign the document in support of the legislation. Motion by Hicks and seconded by Grider.

A tax exemption for the City of Cross Plains Housing Authority was approved with a motion by Grider and seconded by Holland.



JARAD RICHARDS

Jarad Richards Academic All State

By COACH BILL BOYD

The Texas Association of Basketball Coaches recently released the Texas Academic All State Team. Cross Plains Senior point guard Jarad Richards was a first team selection.

Jarad who helped lead the Buffaloes to a 24-6 banner season was also the class Salutatorian. To even be nominated for this honor you have to be at least first team All-District.

Richards was an all around athlete, as well as student at Cross Plains High School. He received numerous academic and athletic awards in his four years on campus. Jarad is the son of Monty and Melissa Richards who are both Cross Plains exes.

Jarad is the third Buffalo in seven years to receive this high honor. He follows Colby Walker in 1992 and Lee Wayne Wheeler in 1997. In my personal opinion, this is the highest honor a basketball player can receive.

To excel in the classroom as well as on the court, that's what your athletic career should be all about. Way to go Jarad!!!

Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control celebrating 10 years of service

The Cottonwood Volunteer Fire Control would like for you to help celebrate their tenth year of operation by coming to a covered dish supper to be held at the firehouse on Tuesday, June 16, at 7:00 p.m. All they ask is that you bring a covered dish and a desire to have a good time. They will have their equipment on display and the Fire Chief will be glad to answer any questions you have about the operation of the fire control group. If you are new to the community, this will be an exceptional opportunity to meet your neighbors, so come on out and have a good time.

Robert E. Howard Celebration Begins Friday, June 12

Cross Plains Project Pride invites you to join them in commemorating the life of Robert E. Howard, fantasy writer and creator of Conan The Barbarian, this Friday and Saturday, June 12 and 13.

Howard lived in Cross Plains from 1919 until his death in 1936.

Fans from near and far are expected to gather for this event.

At 1 p.m. Friday, there will be a trip to the cemetery at Brownwood where the Howards are buried. Then from 2 to 5 p.m., Howard manuscripts and first edition books will be displayed at the Cross Plains Public Library on Main Street. At 6 p.m., a group will meet for dinner at Collum's Restaurant. Following the dinner, "The Whole Wide World" will be shown at

the library.

Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m., guests are invited for coffee and sweet rolls at the Howard House. At 10 a.m., books, manuscripts and the movie will be offered again at the library. Also, on Saturday morning there will be another trip to the Brownwood Cemetery. Then at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, the Howard House will be open for public tours, visiting, and refreshments.

A special cancellation will be offered at the Cross Plains Post Office on Saturday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information call Billie Ruth Loving at (254) 725-7432.

1998 All District Baseball Picks Announced

The All District selections from District 5 A Baseball include:

District MVP - Jarad Richards
1st Team Pitcher - Zach Edington
1st Team - Carlton Thomas
1st Team - Joseph Turner
1st Team - Coby Richards

2nd Team Pitcher - Jody Pancake
2nd Team - Leif Hunter
2nd Team - Justin Hopkins
2nd Team - Dustin Hinkle
2nd Team - Clint Bailey

Honorable Mention - Jody Gosnell, Kenny Callaway and L.D. Whitehead.

Pioneer School Reunion To Be Held

The 78th annual reunion for the Pioneer, Liberty, Cook, Gunn, Peak, Hickman, Sabanno, Curtis and Crocker Schools will be June 13, in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church, in Cross Plains. Registration will begin at 9 a.m.

The Quilting Club of Pioneer has made a beautiful quilt to be auctioned with the proceeds going to benefit the Pioneer Cemetery. All ex-students and friends are invited to attend. A catered meal will be served at noon by Red's Barbecue from Clyde for \$6.50 per plate.

Annual Camp Meeting at Carbon Christ Center

There's nothing quite like an old-fashioned camp meeting! The Annual Camp Meeting at Carbon Christ Center Full Gospel Church will be held June 15-20 with daily services at 7:30 p.m.

Guest speakers are Kenneth Payne and Reverend Mills plus others.

Carbon Christ Center is located at Carbon, Texas, south of Interstate 20 on Highway 6, 10 miles south to caution light on left. Hook-ups are available for campers and you may call (254) 639-2370 for further information.

Pastor Jimmy Maples invites everyone to attend and praise the Lord together.



LOCAL CHAMBER DONATES TO K-9 UNIT — The Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce has donated \$500 to the K-9 Unit (Drug Dog) headed by Tim Sanders, Chief of Police. The Chamber of Commerce wishes Tim and Choco much success. Pictured are Tim Dillard (right), Chamber of Commerce Board Member, presenting the \$500 donation to Tim Sanders (left), Chief of Police.

CP Roping Club plans for upcoming ranch rodeo June 27

On June 1, the Cross Plains Roping Club met to plan the upcoming June 27 ranch rodeo.

The first order of business included electing a rodeo sweetheart. The young lady elected was Kim Mosier-Switzer.

The ranch rodeo was discussed at length. There will be four events. They include team penning, mugging, doctoring and wild cow milk-

ing. The two jackpot events will be horse saddling and a wagon race.

Another meeting is planned for Monday, June 15, to make final arrangements for the ranch rodeo. The next regular monthly meeting will be July 6.

All interested persons, please call 725-6852 in the evenings or leave a message.

Burn Ban Went Into Effect Mon., June 8

By BILLY HARRIS
Special Writer

Callahan County joined surrounding counties in implementing a county wide burn ban due to the dry conditions.

Callahan County Judge Bill Johnson said the ban was put into effect Monday and will remain in force until further notice.

Penalties for non-compliance with the ban are a warning for the first offense and up to a \$1,000 fine for infractions thereafter.

The Texas Forest Service has been in Abilene for a few weeks with a Wild Fire Prevention Team to educate the public on the eminent dangers of wildfires due to the lack rainfall in the Big Country.

Baird has received less than one inch of rain since March 19th.

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Presents:
"What's Inside"

Athletic Banquet Photos	Page 4
Birthday List	Page 10
Break Thru	Page 3
Burkett News	Page 3
Church News	Page 2
Classifieds	Page 8
Clips, Quips & Comments	Page 3
Colonial Oaks News	Page 3
Engagement	Page 10
Obituaries	Page 2
Pioneer News	Page 3
School News	Page 5
Scholarship Recipients	Page 2
Senior Citizens News	Page 3
Tex-Scan	Page 9
Wedding	Page 10

OBITUARIES

Jessie Jewel Foster

CLYDE—Jessie Jewel Foster, 94, formerly of Cross Plains, passed away Tuesday, June 2, 1998, in a local nursing home.

Services were held at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 9, 1998, at Bailey Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Ronnie Skaggs officiating. Burial was in Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene.

Mrs. Foster was born in Mabank, and she and her husband were farmers for many years. She also was a homemaker. She lived in Elmdale, Rowden, Blanket and Cross Plains before moving to Clyde in 1996. She was a member of First Baptist Church and was the widow of Charles Hiram Foster, whom she married in 1919 in Cross Plains.

Survivors include two sons, Charles Foster and Gene Foster, both of Clyde; one daughter, Golda Huston of Austin; three brothers, L.G. Akins of Eastland, C.H. Akins of Houston and R.J. Akins of Brownwood; 11 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Merle Williams Coffee

PORTLAND, Texas—Merle Williams Coffee passed from this earthly world in Doctors Regional Medical Center in Corpus Christi, on Friday, May 29, 1998.

Graveside services were held at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 2, 1998, at Taft Memorial Park, in Taft, Texas, with Dr. Joe Thedford officiating, directed by Maxwell P. Dunne Funeral Service.

She was born November 4, 1911, in Cross Plains to Henry Cleveland Williams and Augusta Ann (Gussie) Havins Williams. After graduating from Cross Plains High School on May 26, 1930, she received her beautician's license and worked in several beauty shops in and around the Cross Plains area. Merle moved to Uvalde, where she met and married Albert Wesley Coffee, on December 31, 1940. Eventually, Merle moved with her husband to make their home in Portland, next to Corpus Christi, where they lived until their deaths (her husband in 1959; she in 1998). Merle was a self-employed beautician owning Merle's Beauty Shop in Portland for 47 years.

Merle is survived by one daughter, Laura Ann Coffee of Woburn, Massachusetts; one son, Albert Wesley Coffee, Jr., of Portland; one brother, Henry Elwin Williams of Englewood, Colorado, and one grandson, Brian Alan Coffee, of Houston; several nieces and nephews and many friends.

Herbert Rice Ellis

CISCO—Herbert Rice Ellis, 78, passed away Wednesday, June 3, 1998, in an Eastland hospital.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Friday in Kimbrough Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bob Ferguson officiating. Burial was in Cottonwood Cemetery.

Mr. Ellis was born in Cottonwood and married Wanda Juanita Curry in 1969 in Clyde. He was a farmer and was a member of the Church of the Nazarene.

Survivors include his wife, of Cisco; four stepchildren, Jerry Harris of Abilene, J.W. Harris of Clyde, Marlene Coats of Montrose, Colorado, and Connie Jernigan of Cisco; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

COLONIAL OAKS SERVICES

Church of Christ will conduct worship services at Colonial Oaks Nursing Home on Sunday, June 14, commencing at 3:30 p.m.

City Council approves dog ordinance for City of Cross Plains

By BILLY HARRIS
Special Writer

The Cross plains City Council approved a dog ordinance for Cross Plains and a dog impoundment contract with the City of Clyde during their regular meeting Tuesday, June 2.

Ordinance number 98-003 that prohibits dogs from running at large in the Cross Plains city limits was unanimously accepted.

The ordinance also states that any dog inside the city, over six months of age, must have proof of vaccination for rabies and wear a vaccination tag.

Any authorized officer of the City of Cross Plains will have the duties of enforcing this ordinance.

Cross Plains has not had a dog ordinance in the past. Enforcement of the new ordinance will begin on July 2.

W.C. Pringle made the motion to adopt the dog ordinance and was seconded by M.R. Womack.

Before the city adopted the new dog ordinance, a place to hold impounded animals had to be found. Cross Plains councilmen approved an agreement with the City of Clyde for holding of animals picked up in violation of the new ordinance.

The terms of this agreement state that the City of Clyde will house impounded animals, at their facility, for the required amount of time or until the animals owner claims the dog. The dogs will be delivered to Clyde by Cross Plains officials and a description of the impounded animals will be kept at the Cross Plains City Hall.

Ray Womack was seconded by W.C. Pringle when he made the motion to accept the agreement with Clyde.

Other matters on Tuesday's agenda were:

A health officer for the city was discussed, but action was tabled to

wait for further input.

Action on an ordinance concerning the Texas Community Development Program Disaster Relief contract with the City of Cross Plains received no action as the city's lawyer has yet to complete his work on the ordinance.

The owners of the property in question at 640 Chestnut Street, have fulfilled the obligations required by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs but the city must pass an ordinance condemning the structures uninhabitable.

Kathryn Tunnell requested that the city employees clean trash and debris out of the bar-ditches before moving them. The council deemed the cleaning would not be feasible due to the length of time that would be required to clean the ditches.

Discussion was held concerning the local churches holding non-denominational youth meetings at the Cross Plains Community Center during the summer. None of the representatives requesting the action was at the meeting so it was tabled.

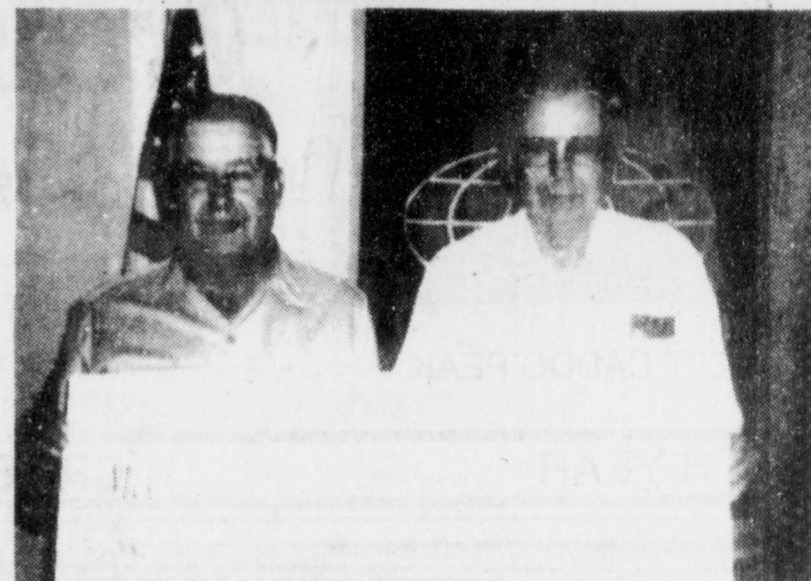
Chuck Woody asked the council if the city could help with refurbishing the walls of the Senior Citizens Center. The item was tabled because it was not on the agenda as an action item.

The city judges report was accepted with a motion by Edwin Weiss and seconded by Ray Womack.

The Cross Plains Police Department report was accepted as presented. Motion by W.C. Pringle and seconded by Edwin Weiss.

Bills were paid after a motion by W.C. Pringle and seconded by Ray Womack.

The minutes reflected no discussion or action on an agenda item concerning an accident at the ball park and a remedy to prevent further accidents.



KIWANIS DONATE TO MEEK'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL — The local Kiwanis held their first annual golf tournament, pledging most of the proceeds to the Meek's Children's Hospital. Wimpie McCoy (left) and Roy Stambaugh (right) represented the club last week at their telethon and presented the check for \$2,500 in Abilene. The second annual golf tournament to be held at the Rising Star Golf Club is scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 1998. Plan to attend and support this worthy cause and have fun golfing with friends.



KIWANIS GUEST SPEAKER — Mary Webb, executive director of the local Kiwanis Club, was guest of Joe Hanke for Tuesday's meeting of the local Kiwanis Club. She spoke concerning production and marketing the peanut locally and all the way to the international level. The Cross Plains Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at noon at the Dairy Queen.

"Draw Nigh to God" Fellowship Friday

The "Draw Nigh to God" Fellowship meeting will be held at Pioneer Pentecostal Church beginning at 7:30 p.m. Sister Ruby McCowen invites everyone to attend.

Selected Scriptures

Make me walk in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it... Psalm 119:35
Paid Advertising — Irma Miller

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Annual Camp Meeting

Carbon Christ Center
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June 15 - 20

7:30 p.m. nightly

Guest Speakers - Kenneth Payne,

Rev. Mills & Others

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Summer Trouble - Skin Problems For Pets

In most of the country, summer is the time to be on the lookout for parasites—that is on tough little ticks, fleas and other nasty pests which can cause serious skin problems for our pets.

These are some pints to remember: (1) Scratching and itching can be year-round problems for many cats, dogs and birds, but skin diseases often get an extra boost about the time summer starts. (2) Some animals are affected more seriously than others. For example, fleas can be devastating to some very young dogs and cats, while other animals don't exhibit symptoms until after they mature. Also, warm weather plant growth can revive allergies, particularly in humid climates, and parasites can make the allergic animal even more miserable.

Since scratching and itching are so common, why should you be especially concerned?

First, your suffering animal friend can become grouchy from the constant irritation. Gradually, it may become unhappy and foul smelling, a very unpleasant version of that friendly pet which was once so easy to love.

Second, many skin diseases can become virtually impossible to treat successfully if you don't get professional help before the problem reaches an advanced stage.

Third, painful skin lesions—often called "hot spots" occur when your pet continues to lick and chew any part of its body that is itching and

Cross Cut Cemetery Donation Noted

Lorene Arledge of San Angelo recently donated \$50 to the Cross Cut Cemetery. The association is always grateful for every contribution.

You may send donations to O.B. Byrd if you would like to help with the upkeep of the area cemetery.

burning. If allowed to go untreated, large areas (sometimes the width of two hands) may quickly develop that can eventually require drying lotions and antibiotics and even sedation and restraining devices to stop the agony your pet will experience.

What can you do to help your pet avoid suffering needlessly while also avoiding big bills for you?

Begin by watching carefully for any symptom or pattern (such as scratching or irritability which may be caused by lack of sleep due to continuous itching) your watchfulness can help pinpoint the professional diagnosis that's a must for an early, effective and low cost treatment.

Another step to take is to control parasites which create the trouble. Products are available which are effective in killing ticks, fleas and other pests. Since some work better than others, get professional advice on products and usage before you spend your money.

Remember, de-fleaing or de-ticking your pet once or twice a season, or on a regular basis, isn't enough. The only real solution is to remove the pests from your pet's environment and this means controlling the sources in your home and yard. The good news is that once the insect population is under control, it's fairly easy to maintain a pest-free environment.

WHEN RENEWING YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW PLEASE BRING THE RENEWAL CARD SENT TO YOU IN THE MAIL THANK YOU

The Next Time
The Devil
Reminds You
Of Your Past
Remind Him
Of His Future!
See Rev. 20:10

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CHURCH SERVICES

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

10TH & MAIN CROSS PLAINS (254) 725-7629
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Robert Smith - Interim Pastor • Jason Kempf - Youth & Music Minister

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NEWS

By
LINDA MERRITT
Activity Director

Grace Loflin received a wonderful surprise visit from her son Billy Joe Loflin and wife Ginger from Talpa and her grandson Maurice Loflin and great-granddaughter Taylor LeAnne from Bangs. She reported that they had a nice time visiting.

Thoughts and prayers for Minnie Swann who is still in the hospital. Appreciation to Ruby Casse for the chips and dip.

Ruby Harrell was our winner for a free meal at Jack's Place. Thanks Wanda and Jack.

Kenneth Brooks from Arlington, Ruby, Bob, and Naomi McCowen visited with Blanche Brooks and Howet Wilson.

Hazel, Ella and Michael Lee from Pioneer visited with Pauline Regian and Falba Shofner.

James and Pearl Harris from Waskom visited Jesse Harris.

Lurene and Brenton McNutt visited with Louise Richardson. Also visiting was Charlou Cowan.

Bonnie and Bill Hedrick from

Gulfport, Mississippi visited Julia Hedrick.

Edwin and Nelda Wilcoxon from Abilene visited Lillie Childers.

Charles and Kathy Chesshir visited Howet Wilson and Vera Belyeu and Jo Boatright.

Activities during the week:
Monday: Bingo winners were Ruby Harrell (2), Vera Belyeu, Louise Richardson (2), Falba Shofner, and Inola Wilcoxon. Exercise class.

Tuesday: Sing-a-long with Bob Wallace. Popcorn social.

Wednesday: Art class. Exercise. Skip-Bo games.

Thursday: Bingo winners were Falba Shofner (2), Louise Richardson (2), Ruby Harrell, and Vera Belyeu. Skip-Bo games.

Friday: Singing with Bob Wallace. Sit-down-basketball.

Sunday: Church of Christ.

Take time to laugh - It is the music of the soul.

Clips, Quips & Comments

By KAY DENNIS MOSLEY

"Leo, Geo., and C.E.O."

It's sometimes, but not always, odd, strange and curious and like as not; kind of funny too. How many names are spelled, spoken, and yet somehow misspelled and misunderstood.

Some sound alike but are spelled quite differently. On the other hand, however, some are spelled alike but differ in pronunciation. Quite a few letter groupings appear very similar but have a very broad spectrum of meaning.

For instance, just observe the title of this week article, "Leo, Geo., and C.E.O." As far as looks, they appear very similar. However, the only thing they really seem to have in common is that a relatively new sitcom on television is titled "George and Leo. Now to look at the title you might just glance quickly and think since Leo is the first word that the others are pronounced Geo-o and Cee-o. However, that is not the case. Leo is indeed pronounced Lee-o; indeed Geo. looks similar except since it is followed by a period it is an abbreviation for George and thus is pronounced George. On the other side of the coin, however, C.E.O. is also an abbreviation which merely (no antonym intended) stands for the head cheese or to be linguistically correct; Chief Executive Officer. In other words the "Big Kahuna!"

In my family as I was growing up; on the paternal side we had a few sound alike names. There was Gay, Kay, Gayle, and there was a Glenda and a Belinda. Though not necessarily called by these names, there was also a Jean and an Eileen, as well as Debbie, Donna, Donnie and Dana. Now on the maternal side there were a lot more of us. My mother had two sisters named Nora and Dora, however, they were not twins. My father had two sisters named Ila and Iva and they were twins. On my mothers side of the family, there were 25 cousins. In those 25 we have the following sound alike names, Jay, Gay, Mae, Kay and Vae, and an Elbert and a Thelbert. My paternal grandmothers family had a few sound alike names also. None of them were twins either. Her brothers were named Earnest, Ervin, and Ellis. The girls were my grandmother Mary, a Carrie, Anna and Fanny, Merle and Pearl, and the youngest was named Georgia. Their fathers name was George. My great aunt, Georgia, the youngest of them had 5 sons which she named Kenneth, Kellis, Kyle, Jerry and Jackie.

What's in a name, well that's debatable. Each person is however as different and diverse as the derivative names they bear. "O" is that BARE? Hm-mm-m. "C" "U".



ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL PARTICIPANTS

Fun, Pride & Prizes

Those who participated in the "Wheels For Life" bike-a-thon on May 30, had a fun time while taking pride in the fact that they were benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The riders biked between 6 1/2 - 18 miles on a day that started out in the high 70's and ended up over a hundred degrees. They did a great job! They had lemonade, water, peanut butter and crackers, and orange slices available to them to help them going. Altogether, they raised \$516.10 for a very worthy cause.

Each rider won a certificate from St. Jude and were given a certificate for a free snow cone and either a movie rental, or movie pass. Melissa Luter, raised the most money, collecting pledges totaling \$157.50 and will receive a sports bag, t-shirt, and a duel cassette jam box. Ryan Mack rode the farthest riding 18 miles and will receive a helmet with a detachable visor.

Joe Dalton Wyatt rode the furthest in his division with 13 1/2 miles collecting \$75 in pledges and will receive a sports bag, t-shirt and a helmet. Jullianne Mack rode the most miles in her division with 16 miles and will receive \$25 worth of

merchandise from the Wal-Mart Supercenter in Abilene. Karen Ross rode 11 1/2 miles to receive \$20 cash for her division.

Cole Luter will receive a flashlight for obtaining the most pledges. He will also receive a sports bag and a t-shirt for having raised \$117.50. Cole rode 10 1/2 miles. Michael Curry rode 13.5 miles, collected \$75 and will receive a sports bag and t-shirt. Katie Mack rode 9 miles and Will Mack rode 6.5 miles. Ribbons were awarded for overall 1st-3rd place, top riders and 1st-3rd place top riders in each division.

They are all to be commended on a job well done.

A big thank you goes out to Sandy Mack, Beverly Ross, Kelly Lafoon, Deborah, Griswold, and Teri Jane Wyatt, who volunteered their help with the event.

Also, a special thanks goes to The Movie Store, Pizza Pro, J&L Sales, Koening Family Store, and Jody's Tropical Sno, all of Cross Plains, and Biketown, Moore's Bicycle Shop, Wal-Mart Supercenter, U.A. Cinema and Park Central Theater all of Abilene for their generous donations for prizes.

In An Emergency Call 911

ROBERT E. HOWARD DAY

WHEREAS, we the City Council of the City of Cross Plains wish to dedicate a day to honor and recognize a man for his contribution to our community.

NOW THEREFORE, I Ray Purvis, Mayor of Cross Plains, Texas do hereby proclaim June 13, 1998, as ROBERT E. HOWARD DAY and invite every citizen to join in the local commemoration.

In Witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Cross Plains to be affixed this the 2nd day of June, 1998.

Ray Purvis, Mayor

GREETINGS FROM YOUR SENIOR CITIZENS

BY THELMA LONG

The center is still buzzing with activity. Our attendance goes up and down. It's summer time -- have you noticed the heat? Time for vacations with children and grandchildren coming to visit. That makes a difference in our attendance. Isn't it nice to have loved ones come home for visitation in the summer time.

Mary Bates attended graduation exercises for another granddaughter, Sharon, in Crowley. She also attended the funeral of a long time friend in Leaday one day last week.

Helen Freeman spent a week in Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene. That was not much fun. We are all glad she is home and able to come to the center part of the time.

Our last report on Marie Horton is that she came home from the hospital after her car accident, but had to return to a hospital in Temple. Let's pray that she gets out soon and back

home again.

The van loaded with some of our members made a trip to Brownwood on Thursday and went to Wal-Mart, of course!!

Saturday was a big day -- a pot luck picnic at a park near Clyde with the Clyde Seniors. The 42 tournament was great. Other games and music were enjoyed by all. It was a perfect cool day for a picnic.

We are sad to hear of the death of Jewel Foster. She has been here many times with her children. Her funeral was Tuesday of this week in Clyde. We extend our sympathy to her family. We care!

Tammie was missed Monday. She was ill at home. Hopefully she will be back soon.

Quote: Age 5
I've learned how to hold animals without killing them.

PIONEER NEWS

By PIONEER QUILTING CLUB

Jon and Cindy Ochoa from Brownwood visited their grandmother, Earlene Burge. They came to work and did a lot for their grandmother. Earlene visited Glenda Barr in the Rising Star Nursing Home on Friday. Bobby Nell Brown came by one day and brought some blackberries. The enjoyed their visit and some blackberry pie.

Oliver and Frankie Smith and Jean Fore attended the revival at Hwy. 206 Baptist Mission. Rufus Wilson and Larry Briley were preaching. Then Oliver and Frankie went to the Brownwood Lact Park Saturday afternoon to meet the Smith family. They were having their family reunion. Then they traveled to DeLeon for the Eaves reunion on Sunday. They had a visit from their granddaughter Laura Rankin and friend Blaine Houston. Enjoyed them very much. Monday night Raymond and Mary Parrish came to their house for a fun game of canasta.

James and Jean Alexander and May Jones attended the funeral of their cousin, Wade Parson, in Sanger.

The community of Pioneer would like to give a "big thanks" to the Fleming and Watson families for putting together the Memorial Day Service. The service was very touching the cemetery looked

very nice. Thanks to all the people on the program. They did a "super" job. We had a good attendance. We also extend an invitation to all to come be with us next year. There are many people in this area who have loved ones resting in the Pioneer Cemetery.

Reminder: The Pioneer Reunion will be held at the First Methodist Church fellowship hall on June 13. There will be a quilt auctioned. Proceeds will go into the cemetery fund.

The quilting club is working on our last two quilts before we break for summer. Sandy has a "Flower Garden" in. Lou has a "Tulip" in. We finished Lou's hostess quilt, a "Log Cabin." It is beautiful.

Our community is saddened by the death of our fellow quilter and long-time resident of Pioneer, Jewel Foster. Jewel made all our lives better. Her family is in our prayers. There was good attendance at the Community Center for dominoes Thursday night. Even though it might get a little warm due to one of our air conditioners being out, everyone had a good time. The group coynotes to have game night all summer -- so come join the fun.

Words of Wisdom #38: Be a life long or short, it's completeness depends on what it was lived for. David Starr Jordan

BURKETT NEWS

By
LOVERA STRICKLAND

This is a continued list of donations received for the Burkett-Adams Cemetery Association. Donations were received from:

Edward Day \$25; G.W. Watson \$20; Noack & Dorothy Adams \$25; Joan Hollis Fisher \$30; Bill & Judy Porter \$25; Neal Ulmer \$100; Dean & Natalie Klick \$15; John & Edna McCleaver \$100; Bob & Bonnie Illingworth \$25; Elsie Porter \$25; Barbara Chamber \$100; Wayne Webb \$20; Zenobia Vernon \$50; Verda Brown \$50; Anonymous \$100; Mertie Brown & Fay Brown \$15; Bill & Sandra O'Connor \$10; Mary O'Brien \$50; Vernon Boyle; family of M/M J.C. Boyle \$50; Wilda Porter McDonald - Clifton McDonald \$25; W.B. Bludworth \$300; Cleeta Trewhitt \$20; M/M J.C. Herring \$25; Wayne & Lavelle

Parsons \$50; Bernice Sultenfuss \$10; and Olene Johnson \$25. Again the cemetery board wishes to express their appreciation for each and every donation.

Saturday night supper guest in the home of Jack and Lovera Strickland were Darryl Tinney of Kingfisher, Oklahoma, Marsha and Mark Turney, Jon and Bill of the Whon Community, Bill Strickland and Eddie and Michele Strickland. It was Bill Strickland's birthday and Jack and Lovera's wedding anniversary.

Landon Pope killed 32 or so rattlesnakes at Lillian Harris' house. He moved a tin tank that is when he found them.

I think we had better look before we step now.

MA & PA

By JAMES NICHOLS

Circuit Preacher Johnson would stop by on occasion to spend the night. This particular time, Rachel, a brassy young girl, had put goat-heads in the braided rug in the spare room.

The next morning you could hear the Reverend saying, "Shioot!! Shioot," with every step he took trying to get to the wash basin on the other side of that big old rug.

CP Garden Club Tours Gardens

On May 27, the Cross Plains Garden Club met at the home of Rolan Jones for their year ending meeting.

When all members had arrived, we boarded two vans and toured the Cross Plains area gardens. Among them were the gardens of Frank and Francis Taylor, Mrs. McCowan (Alton's mother), Larmon McMillan, Vicky Worley, Jesse Bixby, Ray Dodd, Johnny Pillars and Brian Jones. Even with hail and wind damage apparent on some of them, all showed the nature and character of their owners. Garden club members were impressed and inspired by all of these quality gardens. We would like to express

thanks to all who participated in this event. A special thanks to Vicky Worley for refreshments served to all her visitors, an unexpected kindness!

After our tour, all returned to Rolan Jones for our business meeting and installation of officers. The new officers installed were President - Julene Franke, 1st Vice President - Esther Kerr, 2nd Vice President - Allison Wilkins, Secretary - Kay Mosley, Treasurer - Barbara Powell, Parliamentarian - Rolan Jones. The meeting was adjourned and Rolan Jones treated the membership to a fish fry.



BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes, preacher
Cross Plains Church of Christ
433 N. Main At 12th
(254) 725-6117

A young lady was being teased by her roommate about the "love poem" that the young lady's boyfriend had sent her. "It was really written by Robert Bowering in your boyfriend's name," the roommate chided. "What difference does that really make?" she answered, "The important thing is that he sent it to me."

That should provide a "Breakthru" for anyone guilty of looking at the gift instead of the giver. The most important thing about a gift is the fact that someone cared enough to give.

In Acts 3 we read of a lame beggar who asked for money. Not only did Peter and John give him (through God) a better gift -- the ability to walk! -- they gave it because of their concern for him.

God's gift to mankind was borne out of great thought and with supreme intention. It was great in every respect! God gave His only begotten Son, and in so doing, left us no excuse not to accept it and rejoice in the blessings of it. He gave His Son that we might believe and have life in Him -- instead of perishing, John 3:16.

Perhaps the proper view of gifts and givers will provide a "Breakthru" for you to greater happiness. Be sure and consider carefully the Gift of the Great Giver, and respond positively toward it. Remember, He "cared enough to send His very Best!"

Come learn more of Christ and the salvation available through Him, in periods of Bible study and worship.

Sunday Morning Bible Class ... 9:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

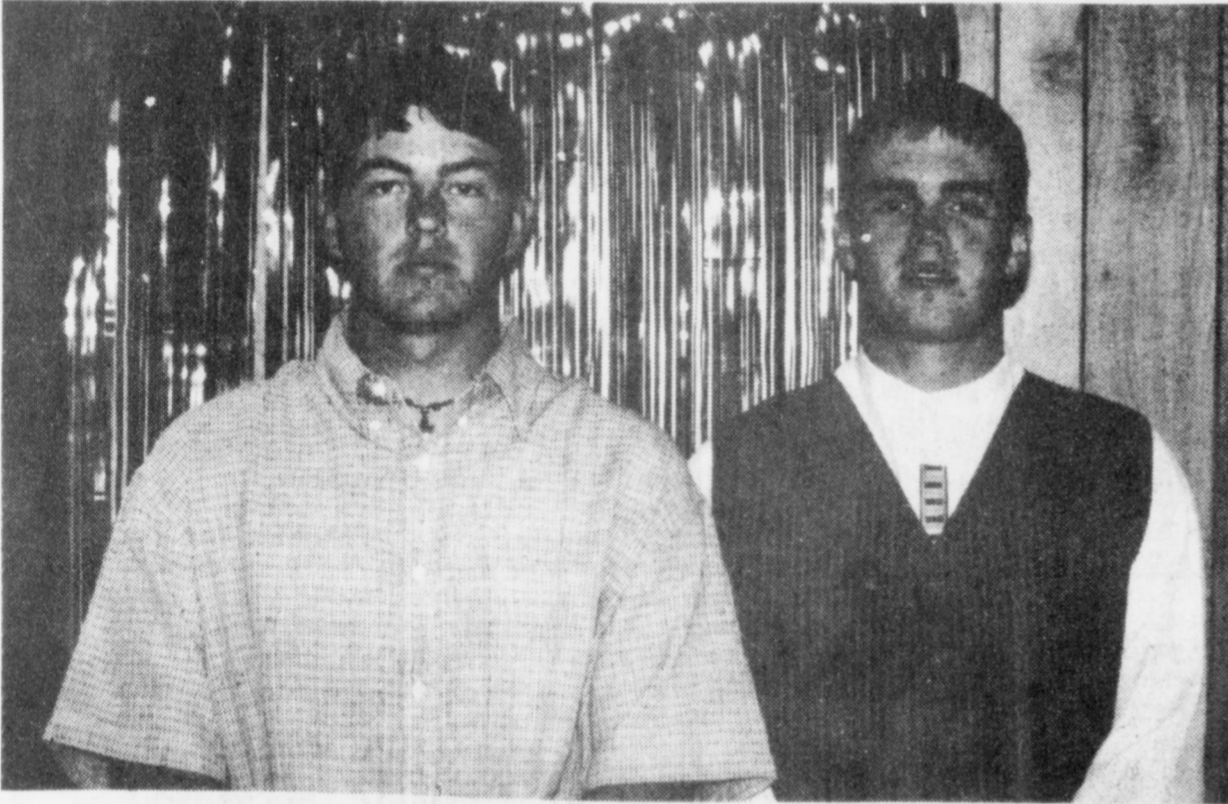
Friends & Neighbors Caring In Jesus



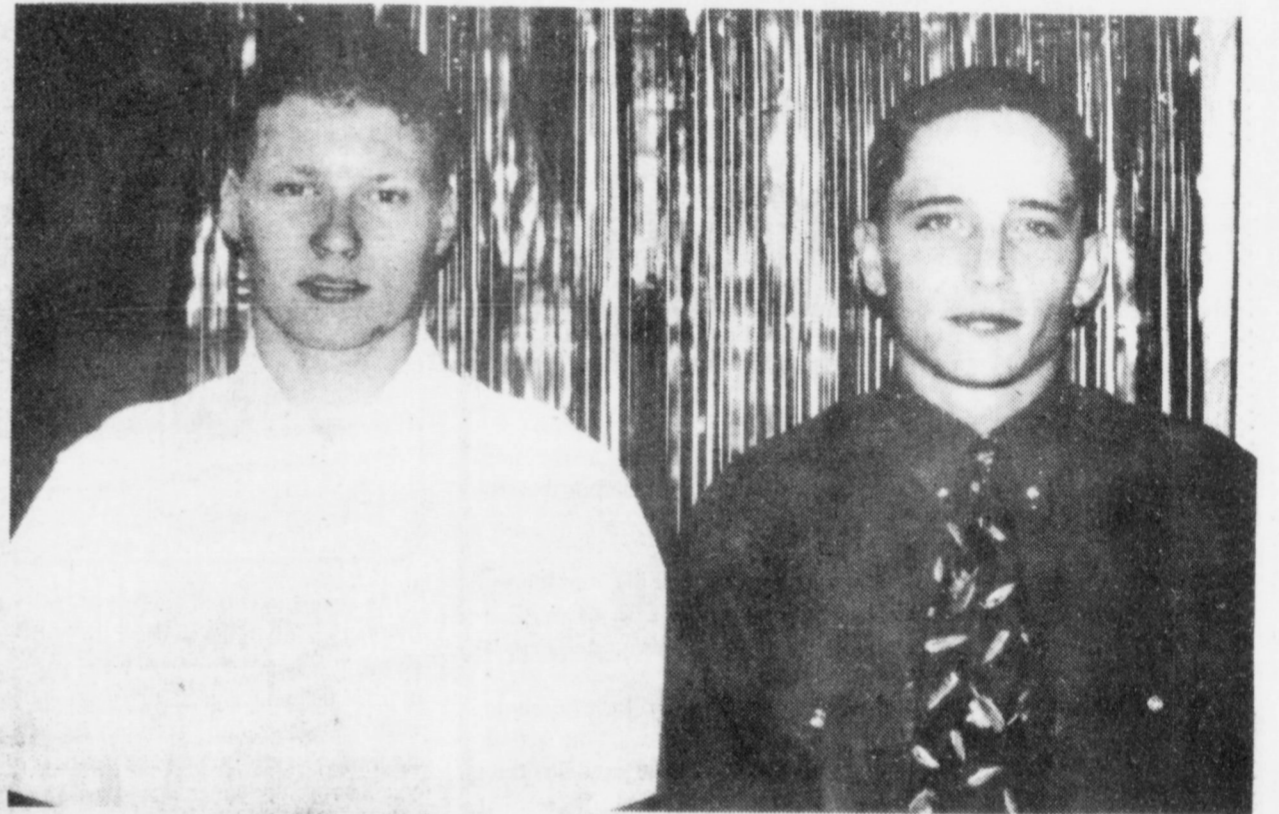
ATHLETES OF THE YEAR—Jarad Richards & Brandi Richey



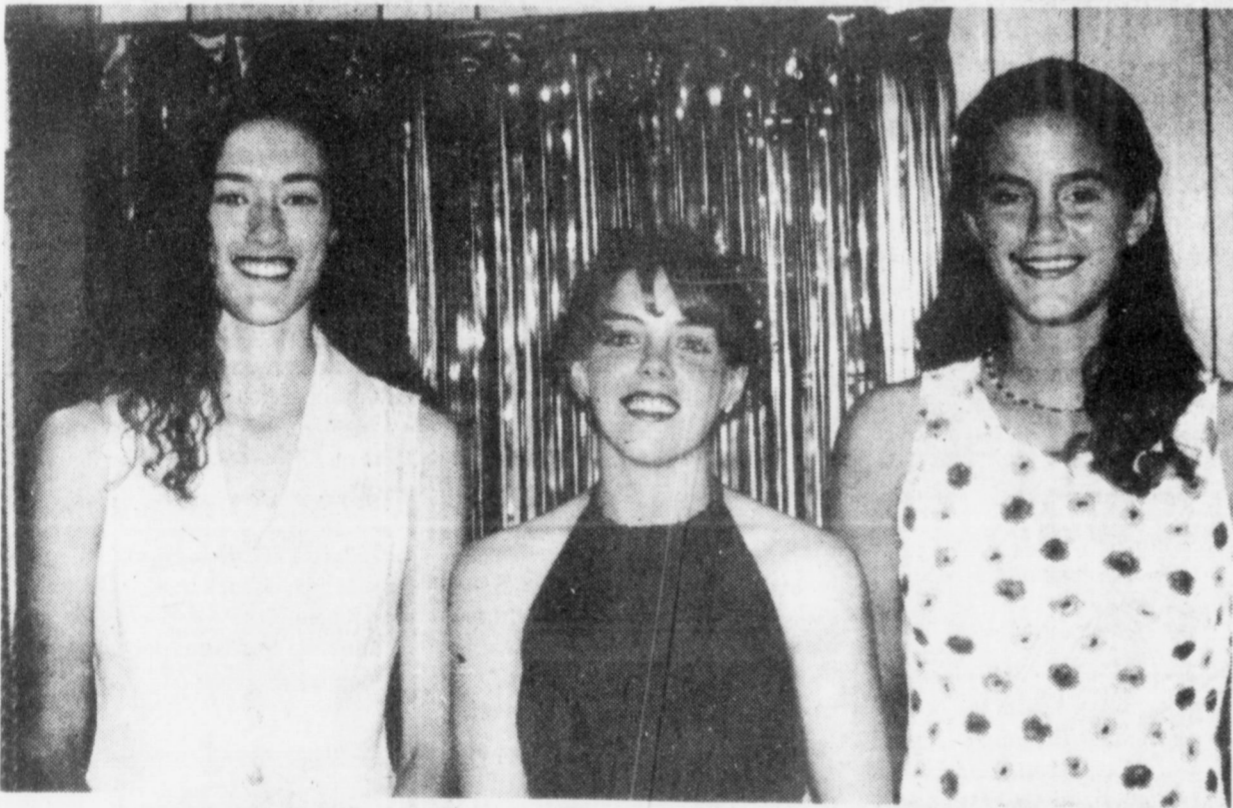
BOYS BASKETBALL
Benji Blackstock(back from left), Dusty Hargrove and Zach Edington; Jarad Richards and Joseph Turner



FOOTBALL MVP—Joseph Turner & Jarad Richard



FOOTBALL—Defensive Player of the Year Justin Hopkins; Offensive Player of the Year Jody Fortune



GIRLS BASKETBALL
Offensive Player of the Year Laura Ricci, MVP Holly Butler and Defensive Player of the Year Whitney Giles
Whitney also received award in Girls Golf. Boys golf award went to Kenneth Ratliff (photo not available).



SIBLEY BARNARD AWARD—Kevin Nickerson, Carlton Thomas and Leif Hunter



BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY—Nathaniel Swift & Brandi Richey



BOYS & GIRLS TRACK—Scott Ricci and Brandi Richey

Athletic Banquet Gets Better Each Year

By COACH BILL BOYD

The Cross Plains High School Athletic Banquet was recently held in the Cross Plains Community Center. A crowd of about 240 people composed of athletes, coaches, parents, family and fans attended the festivities.

I would like to thank the Cross Plains Athletic Booster Club for another great banquet. I'm amazed every year on how successful a banquet that you have. I would also like to thank everyone who has been a positive part of the Cross Plains Athletics - from the fans to the parents, the band and cheerleaders and everyone who makes our program what it is. The loudest and biggest THANK YOU goes out to all the athletes. You all have been the main ingredient of a tremendous journey, THANKS!!

Athletic Banquet Awards Recipients

- Boys Track - Scott Ricci
- Girls Track - Brandi Richey
- Boys Cross Country - Nathaniel Swift
- Girls Cross Country - Brandi Richey
- Boys Tennis - Jarad Richards
- Girls Tennis - Mindy Mitchell
- Boys Golf - Kenneth Ratliff
- Girls Golf - Whitney Giles
- Boys Basketball - Benji Blackstock, Zach Edington, Dusty Hargrove, Jarad Richards, and Joseph Turner
- Girls Basketball - MVP Holly Butler; Offensive Player of the Year Laura Ricci; Defensive Player of the Year Whitney Giles

Football - MVP Joseph Turner and Jarad Richards; Offensive Player of the Year Jody Fortune; Defensive Player of the Year Justin Hopkins; Sibley Barnard Award Leif Hunter, Kevin Nickerson, and Carlton Thomas

110% Award in Memory of Billy Brown - Boy Nathaniel Swift - Girl Jolena Fleming

Homer Robison Memorial Scholarship - Carlton Thomas

Buffalo Academic Award in Memory of Scott Cheshier - Boy Jarad Richards - Girl Jolena Fleming

AIM Award - Male Jackie Dale Thomas; Female Karen Richey and Melissa Richards

Athletes of the Year - Male Jarad Richards; Female Brandi Richey



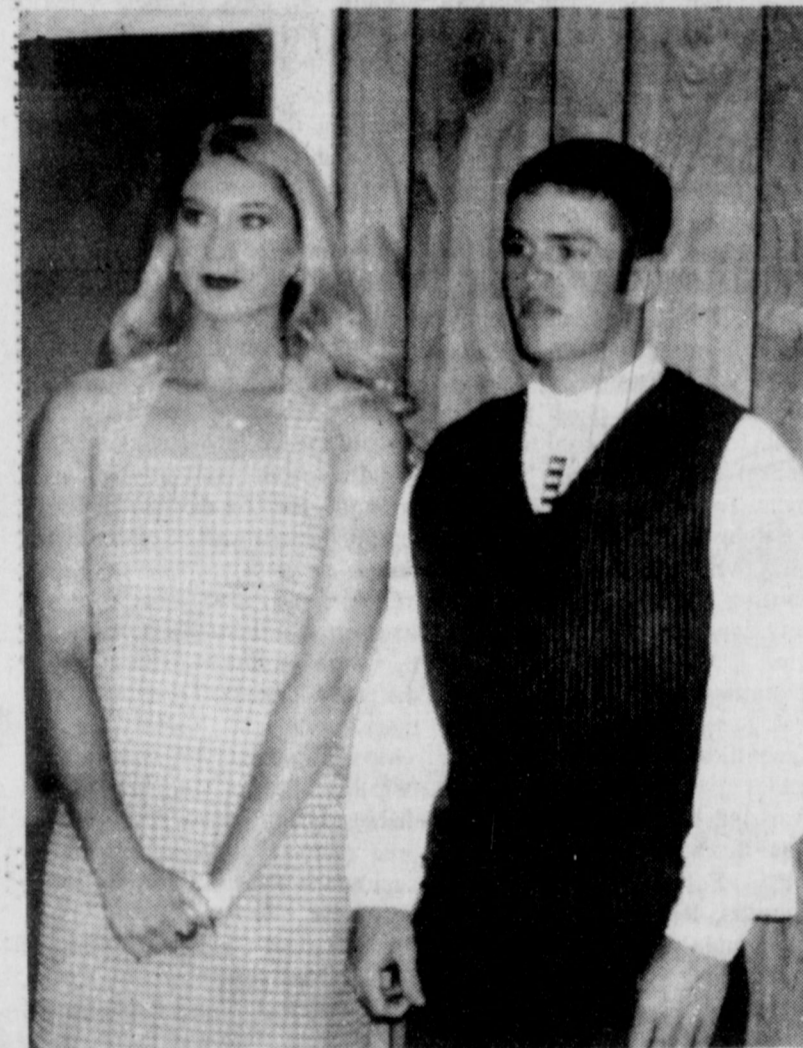
BUFFALO ACADEMIC AWARD IN MEMORY OF SCOTT CHESHER
Jarad Richards & Jolena Fleming



HOMER ROBISON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Carlton Thomas



110% AWARD IN MEMORY OF BILLY BROWN
Nathaniel Swift & Jolena Fleming



BOYS & GIRLS TENNIS
Jarad Richards & Mindy Mitchell

District 7 4-H Horse Show to compete June 15

SWEETWATER — Young horsemen from a 23-county area will compete June 15 during the 1998 District 7 4-H Horse Show in the Nolan County Coliseum.

The show begins at 8:00 a.m. Over 80 top riders are expected to enter. The day-long event features classes in Regular Qualifying and Invitational. Classes range from speed events including barrel racing and roping to western pleasure and showmanship.

Buckles will be presented to the champion judged and times horsemen as well as to the top ropers. Ro-

settes will go to exhibitors of the champion and reserve champion mares and geldings. Plaques will be awarded to the high point county and winners of each event. Second through 6th place winners earn ribbons.

Winners of the district show are eligible to compete at the State 4-H Horse Show in Abilene July 19-25.

The 4-H Horse Project teaches leadership, horsemanship, sportsmanship, teamwork and responsibility. It is one of the 4-H youth program's most popular projects.

Submitted by Robert Pritz.

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#7048 1994 Chev. Corsica 4 cyl., auto \$152.83/mo.**** \$7,500 Cash Price	#11017 1993 Chev. Camaro 36,000 miles \$188.09/mo.***** \$9,000 Cash Price	#10563 1997 Chevrolet Lumina V-6, Auto., Loaded \$276.21/mo.* \$14,000 Cash Price
10849 1996 Chev. 1/2 ton V-6, 5 spd., Tilt, Cruise \$233.71/mo.** \$12,000 Cash Price	#10822 1997 Pontiac Grand Am 4-dr., auto, loaded, warranty \$254.96/mo.* \$13,000 Cash Price	#9821 1995 Chev. S10 Ext. Cab 5-spd. \$192.37/mo.*** \$9,950 Cash Price
#10160 1996 Pontiac Sunfire 2-door, automatic, low miles \$190.16/mo.** \$9,950 Cash Price	We Have Two 1997 Olds Achievas 4-dr., auto, low miles, warranty, 6.9% on 60 mon., \$1,000 dn. + TTL \$217.29/mo.	#10670 1993 Chev. 3/4 ton Silverado 4x4, 350 V-8, Auto \$258.63/mo.***** \$12,000 Cash Price
#7800 NEW '96 GEO Prizm 4-door \$201.84/mo.** \$10,500 Cash Price	#9147 1997 Buick LeSabre Loaded \$329.32/mo.* \$16,500 Cash Price	1996 Buick Century 4-door, V-6, Auto., Loaded \$223.09/mo.** \$11,500 Cash Price
#10764 1997 Chev. 1/2 ton V-6, Auto, Tilt, Cruise \$265.58/mo.* \$13,500 Cash Price	#7977 1998 Oldsmobile Cutlass Ciera 4 door \$223.09/mo.** \$11,500.00 Cash Price	#10903 1996 S-10 Blazer 4x4 4-dr., LT pkg, V-6, Auto, Loaded \$371.82/mo.** \$18,500 Cash Price
#10737 1996 Chev. Lumina Van V-6, Auto, Loaded \$286.83/mo.** \$14,500 Cash Price	#10252 1997 Chev. Cavalier 2-dr., 16,000 miles \$254.96/mo.* \$13,000 Cash Price	#8942 1998 Pontiac Sunfire 4 dr., auto, low miles \$212.47/mo.* \$11,000 Cash Price

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*****1993 11.5% 48 mos. *****1992 11.9% 42 mos.

Call Dale Bishop

1-800-968-1877 or 1-800-843-5230

Coaches to open gym on Mondays & Thursdays

Starting Monday, June 15, the Cross Plains High School coaches will open the gym from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

This is open to the public and clean shoes are encouraged. This is strictly for fun, but students are encouraged to attend.

Getting high on the hog

By BOB HOOD
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Rusty Reed was talking quietly about feral hogs and hunting dogs on a cloudy, cool morning near Cross Plains recently when two of his best hounds sounded off at the crest of a wooded hill. When the action erupted, it was difficult to tell who more excited, Reed or his two hounds.

"They've got him bayed," Reed exclaimed, hurrying through the brush with a camcorder in one hand. "Be careful!"

The hog had bayed in a thicket of underbrush, and the two hounds that had finally caught up with the boar after a chase through a mesquite and oak flat below kept the hog busy until we could race to them.

The black boar, weighing approximately 200 pounds, tried to hook the dogs with his sharp tusks, tossing his head at one dog and then another as we approached.

It was a scene Reed has seen and recorded many times. As a hunting guide for his Box R Outfitters operation, which specializes in trophy boar hunts, Reed has watched his dogs bay several hundred hogs during the past 12 years. And he has lost a few dogs along the way, including one he bought recently that was fatally cut on its first hunt by the tusks of an exceptionally large boar at bay.

"You never know when something like that is going to happen," said Reed, who owns more than 30 dogs trained specifically for hunting hogs. "Some hogs are just a lot more aggressive than others. Their tusks are sharp, and they can rip a dog open so quickly."

Indeed, the feral hog is an animal that must be respected. Although the hogs usually attempt to avoid man, a sow with young, an individual boar or a wounded animal can be dangerous. Feral hogs also have been known to prey on young lambs and kid goats, as well as ground nesting birds such as turkey and quail.

Generally cursed by ranchers and farmers for the destruction their rooting can cause to crops, fields, and livestock and watering facilities, the feral hog also competes directly for food with livestock and wildlife species.

Nevertheless, despite the negatives, the feral hog's growing popularity as an animal that can be hunted for a trophy mount and for meat cannot be denied, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials say.

"Feral hogs are very intelligent and considered a challenging quarry," said parks and wildlife department biologist Rick Taylor. "Many hunters consider the long tusks and mean appearance a genuine trophy, in addition to the quality of meat."

On Reed's hunts, many hunters use either archery equipment or handguns because of the close quarters presented by a hog at bay. Reed furnishes his hunters with a taped video of their hunts. Once the dogs had been called away from the hog, I used a .357 to put the hog down. The animal was later cleaned and processed for the freezer.

Feral hog hunting in Texas has grown in popularity in recent years, both among outfitters such as Reed, who hunts them with dogs, and with those who hunt alone. The reason for the growing popularity is twofold: Feral hogs are recognized as non-game animals and can be hunted year-round, and hunting opportunities have increased because of their dramatic spread over much of Texas in recent decades.

The boar that Reed's dogs had bayed weighed approximately 200 pounds, an average size for trophy boars. However, some have been known to weigh as much as 400 pounds or more.

Although misconceptions remain among hunters and the general public about feral hogs, few animals, including the white-tailed deer, have had their history better documented by Texas wildlife authorities.

Originating from domestic hogs brought to the Texas coast about 1682 by early Spanish explorers, the

free-ranging hogs soon became wild and began to spread, Taylor said. And when Stephen F. Austin's first colonists arrived in East Texas in 1821, they brought domestic hogs that were allowed to run wild in the woods and forage for themselves.

When many of the colonist fled Texas to escape hostilities with Mexico as Santa Anna marched through the state, many free-ranging hogs were left behind. By 1860, records show, the area of Austin's colony had an estimated 50,000 hogs, Taylor said.

As domestic hogs are allowed to roam free in the wild, they began reverting back to their "wild" characteristics, including growing longer hair than pure domestic swine. These changing characteristics among feral hogs also have been enhanced by crosses with European (Russian) boars first introduced in Texas in about 1930.

"This hog has some Russian boar in him," Reed said of the hog that his dogs had bayed near Cross Plains in West Texas. "One with Russian boar in him has a longer snout, longer hair and a longer, straighter tail. A regular feral hog has a shorter snout and often is colored differently, sometimes with spots."

Taylor said releases of a few European boars by a landowner in Aransas County in about 1930 (they were obtained from the San Antonio zoo), plus another release by a rancher in Bandera County in 1940, resulted in the first known crosses between European and feral hogs in Texas.

Ever since the 1950s, hogs have been continually released throughout Texas by landowners in an effort to increase hunting opportunity and economic returns, Taylor said. Many of these releases were claimed to be European hogs but probably were actually hybrids between the European and feral hogs, Taylor said.

"In 1967, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department estimated that approximately 10,000 European boars were on the Edwards Plateau, with feral hogs occurring in those areas and also in eastern Texas," Taylor said.

Many landowners who had suitable hog habitat but no known hog populations began stocking wild-trapped feral hogs in other parts of the state and, by 1993, an estimated one million feral hogs were found throughout most of Texas except the western panhandle and the northern Trans-Pecos region. The heaviest densities are in East, South and portions of West Texas.

The stocking of wild-trapped feral hogs in Texas no longer is legal, although some stockings continue to take place, Taylor said. Before 1992, feral hogs could be purchased at livestock auctions or from individuals and released. By regulations set by the Texas Animal Health Commission in 1992 banned the stockings in an effort to prevent the possible spread of swine diseases to livestock.

Nevertheless, stockings by people not familiar with the law, plus the prolific reproductive capabilities of the hogs, continue to help expand their range. Many counties void of hog populations three decades ago now have hogs in at least some areas.

Hunting feral hogs with well-trained dogs is perhaps the oldest and most effective way to bag a trophy hog, Taylor said, but many hunters choose to hunt from stands or over baited areas and areas adjacent to wheat or maize fields.

In many areas, especially where hunting pressure is great, feral hogs become almost exclusively nocturnal, choosing to lay up in thickets during the day and moving about only at dusk and after dark.

"Hogs have been around Texas for many centuries, but have increased substantially in the last few decades," Taylor said. "It is obvious that they are an integral part of Texas fauna, currently No. 2 behind the white-tailed deer in numbers. They are extremely wary and secretive, very adaptive to conditions, and are in Texas to stay."

Distributed by The Associated Press

1998 Callahan Co. Ranch Rodeo a success

This past Saturday, June 6, the Callahan County Sheriff Posse held their 11th annual Ranch Rodeo and Sheriff's Posse President Shannon Staggs termed it a great success.

Unusually cool weather was enjoyed by cowboys, livestock and rodeo fans. A welcomed relief from the triple digit heat experienced in this area for the past few weeks. The weather was also beautiful for Baird's Trades Day celebration, which also transpired Saturday. There was a full day of events downtown, then the rodeo kicked off at 6 p.m.

Ten, five men teams vied for the quickest times in Team Penning, Team Branding, Team Muggin, Team Roping and Wild Cow Milking. Times were based on a point system with the winning team having the most total points in all five events!

1998 Winners Results are:

1st Place: U-U Steakhouse-Ricky Beasley, Clay McGonagill, Buck Campbell, Kelly McLaughlin, and Tim Yates with a total of 38 points.

2nd Place: 1st National Bank of Baird-Tim Reeves, Steve Goldsmith, Shannon Staggs, Richy Barr and Michael Palmer with 37 points.

3rd Place: Clyde Farm and Ranch Supply-Marshall Green, Bo Trojack, Paul Burns, Bradley Black and Sam Hargrove with 36 points.

4th Place: Thrifty's Food Mart-Billy Golson, Dean Bowen, Doug Akers, Dale Isenhower and Cody Odom with 32 points.

5th Place: People's State Bank-Mike Cannon, Joe Farmer, Gary Richardson, Tom South and Bob Morrison with 30 points.

6th Place: Metal Mart-Sam Seider, Archie Akers, John Fred McWilliams, Jim Craft and David Collins. Metal Mart and People's State Bank teams tied for 5th place with each team having 30 points.

7th Place: Parker Funeral Home-James Sanders, Mel Matthews, Kim Walton, J.D. Isenhower and Bubba Tuggle with 23 points.

8th Place: Callahan County Veterinary Clinic-Cody Carson, Ronald Green, Philip Whitlock, Les Robison, and Tyson Kropp with 21 points.

9th Place: Wichita Falls Production Credit Association-Cody Sutterfield, Kenneth Saunders, Scotty Goldsmith, Dale Eddins and Billy Collins with 18 points.

10th Place: Hanner Chevrolet-Pontiac-GMC-GEO-Ricky Cowley, Bubba VanZant, Danny Manley, Tommy Smith and Rooster Hargrove with 5 points.

This team had a tough time all night long with problems (or wrecks) cropping up in several events. To quote Rooster Hargrove, "one thing about it, we really added to the show!" This they did, contributing much excitement and many laughs with their western style.

The first place team, U-U Steakhouse members were awarded gift certificates for silver trophy belt buckles given by Luskey's Western Wear and Nelson-Scoggins Real Estate-Butch Nelson, Scotty Goldsmith, Felix Manion, Dale Scoggins, Ripps Guitar, Sonny Collins and Curtis Martin.

2nd place - 1st National Bank of Baird team received "Handmade" leather breast collars from Art Reid Saddle Shop of Abilene.

3rd place - Clyde Farm and Ranch Supply received beautiful trophy saddle pads.

4th place - Thrifty's Food Mart received ropes given by Tommy Matthews and Mel Matthews owners of Cisco Rope Company of Cisco.

Second and third place prizes were furnished by Parker Funeral Home, Metal Mart, 1st National Bank of Baird, Clyde and Abilene, Clyde Farm and Ranch Supply, Wichita Falls Production Credit Association, Hanner Chevrolet, Pontiac, GMC, GEO, Callahan County Veterinary Clinic, U-U Steakhouse of Baird and Thrifty's Food Mart of Clyde.

The Callahan County Sheriff's Posse would like to thank each of the above sponsors for their continuing support!

The winner of the eight and under boot race was Luke Wallace, 2nd place was Megan Guthrie of Clyde with Monica Puschel of Clyde taking third.

In the Goat Ribbon race for 9 to 12 year olds a herd of small cowboys and cowgirls chasing two goats who were turned loose in the arena sporting ribbons on their tails. The idea was for the thirty or so, miniature cowboys and cowgirls to see who could be fastest at retrieving those ribbons.

First back across the line was Chance Watkins of Baird and second was Zach Green also of Baird, two very speedy young men.

The last event of the evening was a Wild Steer Sadding. Three men teams have to saddle a haltered steer, ride it to the middle of the arena, around a cone and back to the finish line. Seven teams were entered in this years event.

Team #1: Kenneth Saunders, Jake Saunders, & Mel Matthews; Team #2: Josh Curtis, Todd Vestal and Jerod Oliver; Team #3: Bo Trojack, Ricky Cowley and W.T. Miller; Team #4: Cody Sutterfield, Bubba Tuggle and Tom south; Team #5: Justin James, Bo James & Clay Smith; Team #6: Bradley Black, Tyson Kropp & Cody Walton; Team #7: Cody Carson, Billy Golson & Bubba VanZant.

Winners of this exciting and sometimes heart stopping event was Team #3: Bo Trojack, Ricky Cowley and W.T. Miller.

Extra special thanks to Billy and Lesa Harris and Larry McIntire for bringing the Baird Rescue Unit. This unit is something you hope and pray you'll never need, but when in need it's wonderful to have them right there ready to help.

Thanks to Cliff Holley of Clyde and Tommy Boyd of Baird for judging the events.

Thanks to "Crow Ranch" - Richie, Sarah and Stephen Crow for use of the cattle panels for the team penning. Rodeo announcer, Jimmy Nail did a great job keeping the fans both entertained and informed on arena action.

Each of the rodeo teams, the team sponsors and individual team members were introduced to the crowd as the rodeo kicked off with the grand entry.

Most important, for without their help this rodeo could not be produced an "Extra Big" "Thank You" to all the area ranchers who so generously supply the livestock for the rodeo each year. Benton Pruet of Baird, Sieve Nail of Clyde, Foy Kelly of Baird, Mel Matthews of Cisco, Mickey Kelly of Baird, Paul Burns of Clyde, Mike Walker of Baird, James Sanders of Clyde, Dianne Green of Clyde and Abilene Livestock Auction of Abilene; and all the wonderful people who work so hard each year to make the rodeo happen! Thank You!



A VISIT TO THE CROSS PLAINS POST OFFICE ON JUNE 3, 1998, WAS LIKE A STEP BACK IN TIME—Local postal customers received greetings from the "Roaring Twenties" from employees dressed in costumes of that period as a promotion of the special stamp cancellation held on that day. The United States Postal Service is issuing a series of special stamps to "Celebrate the Century." The stamps are commemorating people and events from each decade. Beginning with the 1900's and continuing through the 1990's. Check with the post office for the next stamp to be released.

1998 Retail Sales Reported for Callahan County

The City of Cross Plains is reporting 1998 one and one-half percent city sales tax payments running 2.15 percent below the 1997 payments of the tax. Cross Plains 1998 sales tax payments have amounted to \$35,617.17, while the 1997 sales tax rebates were \$36,401.24.

The city's monthly sales tax check for May 1998 was \$8,920.76, a decrease of 13.53 percent from the \$10,317.35 payment made in May of last year.

Retail sales in Clyde were 8.20 percent above last year's sales, according to the city's one and one-half percent sales tax rebates.

The 1998 sales tax payments in Clyde were 8.20 percent above tax payments made to the city in 1997. The 1998 sales tax rebates for the City of Clyde amounted to \$64,061.90 so far in 1998. The 1997 payments to the city were \$59,206.74.

Sharp reported the City of Baird sales tax payments in 1998 are 5.97 percent higher than the 1997 payments. The city had received \$33,729.41 so far in 1998, while the 1997 tax payments to the city totalled \$31,829.13.

The town's monthly payment for May 1998 was \$10,098.49 which was 2.54 percent above the \$9,847.91 payment made in May last year.

The City of Putnam is reporting the 1998 payments to the town totalled \$4,417.78 up 9.84 percent from the 1997 payments to the city in the amount of \$4,021.88.

Putnam's tax payment for the month of May 1998 was \$1,042.76 which was 8.92 percent below the \$1,125.21 payment made in May 1997.

County wide sales tax payments for

1998 in Callahan County are running 4.84 percent above the 1997 payments in the county. Callahan County towns have received sales tax payments in 1998 amounting to \$137,826.26, while the 1997 payments to the county towns totalled \$131,458.99.

The tax rebates in Callahan County for the month of May were \$38,138.34, which was 2.94 percent below the \$39,294.80 collected in May 1997.

Merchants collect the state and local sales tax and send it to the Comptroller's office with their tax returns. The state keeps its 6 1/4 percent share and returns the local one percent sales tax each month to local governments. Cities and counties may levy a combined tax of up to two percent above the state's sales tax. Clyde, Baird and Cross Plains all collect 1.50 percent in local sales tax.

This month's payments include local sales taxes collected by monthly filers on March sales and reported to the comptroller in April and those businesses filing quarterly returns for January, February and March. Businesses file sales tax payments either monthly, quarterly or annually depending on the amount of sales tax they collect.

All local sales taxes must be approved by local voters and may be used for any legal city or county expenses. Most areas put the money in their General Fund and use it for normal operations like fire fighting, maintaining roads and law enforcement, Sharp said. Some cities use up to an additional one percent city sales tax to help fund local economic development and to reduce property taxes.

and no one moves in until all the homes are completed.

During 1997, 66 percent of assistance through this program went to minorities. One-third of all self-help loans belong to single women homeowners.

Johnson signed up for this "sweat equity" program, and was soon learning to frame walls and hang drywall. As a result, this week Johnson and her children will be moving into an attractive new, three-bedroom home in a rural community in the Mid-Atlantic region.

"To think of where I was just three years ago -- it just doesn't seem possible," she said. Johnson is far from alone as a single mother in pursuit of a home to own. And like her, many others are succeeding. In the United States today, 51 percent of all homes are owned by female-headed households.

Nor is one's income level the barrier that many think. Indeed, half of all homeowners nationwide earn less than the median family income.

If you are a low-to moderate-income resident of a rural area and are dedicated, hard working, and responsible, the key to homeownership is within your reach. Celebrate National Homeownership Week June 6-13 by

contacting your state USDA Rural Development office at (254) 742-9770 to find out more.

Turning Impossible Dreams into the American Dream

By STEVEN A. CARRIKER
State Director for USDA Texas
Rural Development

If anyone has reason to celebrate National Home Ownership Week June 6-13, it's Beverley Johnson and her two daughters. Johnson (her name has been changed for this article) was locked in an abusive marriage, but one day decided she could stand no more and fled to a shelter for battered women. She escaped with nothing but her children and a suitcase.

Johnson has been living in a public housing project and needed food stamps to support her family. But she had a strong desire to create a better life for her daughters, and so enrolled in community college and studied hard, graduating with honors. She now has a full-time job and is full of hope for the future.

Despite this remarkable comeback, the idea owning a home seemed like an impossible dream until she heard about the Mutual Self-Help Housing Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Under this program, USDA provides technical assistance grants to nonprofit housing organizations, which acquire land and hire a construction supervisor who works with groups of 8 to 12 low-income rural families. They perform at least 65 percent of the labor on their homes,

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JAMIE APPLE RECEIVES DIPLOMA FROM CHANCELLOR DR. DON NEWBURY (Left) AND DR. RICK GREGORY, PRESIDENT OF HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY (Center).

Jamie Apple Graduates from HPU

Jamie Apple graduated from Howard Payne University in Brownwood on May 16, with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

She recently was given one of the highest honors a college student can receive -- a nomination to be included in THE NATIONAL DEAN'S LIST. Fewer than one-half of one percent of

all college students in the country receive this award.

Jamie's husband is Rickey Apple and the couple have two daughters, Brittany and Sheena. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Barnes and her grandmother is Gladys Wyatt.

Mrs. Apple is planning a career in elementary education.

Stephens qualified for Dean's List at Tech

LUBBOCK—More than 3,600 Texas Tech University undergraduate students qualified for academic honors lists at the end of the spring semester.

Janeal Stephens, daughter of Wade and Pat Stephens of Cross Plains, qualified for the Dean's List. She is majoring in pre-veterinary.

Students qualifying for the Dean's List are enrolled in 12 or more semester hours of classwork with a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.9.

Malysa Sowell on Angelo State University Dean's List

Malysa A. Sowell of Cross Plains, a student attending Angelo State University in San Angelo, is listed on the Dean's List for the spring semester at the university.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled as a full time student and have at least a 3.25 grade point average.

Ms. Sowell is an undecided major at ASU.

She is the daughter of Stuart and Barbara Sowell of Cross Plains.



LEANNE GIBSON

Local Couple's Granddaughter Honored

LeAnne Gibson of Ruidoso, New Mexico was recently named "Outstanding Eight Grade Girl" in an end-of-the-year awards assembly. The Ruidoso Middle School student was chosen by her teachers and principal for achievement in academics, outstanding citizenship and involvement in extracurricular activities.

In the same assembly, she was awarded the President's Award for Academic Excellence.

LeAnne is the daughter of Eddy and Kim Gibson of Ruidoso and the granddaughter of Roy Neil and Ellowayne Tatom of Cross Plains.

Tennison Receives Nursing Degree

Tracie Blair Tennison graduated May 9, 1998, from McMurry University in Abilene with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Tracie will begin work on the neurology floor at Hendrick Medical Center June 9.

Tracie is married to J.J. Tennison and is the daughter of Roy and Judy Blair and the daughter-in-law of Jackie and Marilyn Tennison.

Attending the graduation ceremonies were Roy and Judy Blair, Douglas and Erma Lee Gartman, Bill and Eula Fay Blair, Rhonda Hood, Aaron Hood, Maranda Wojtek, all of Robert Lee; Walter, Vicki and Grant Flowers of Greenwood; Kimberly Tavarez of Fort Worth; Jackie and Marilyn Tennison of Cross Plains, Joe and Daisy Blair, Clinton and Mary Ellen Little, J.J., Joshua and Ashlie Tennison, all of Abilene.



The only game show to become the season's top-rated series was *The \$64,000 Question* in 1955-56.

Chris Key participated in exercise

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Christopher J. Key, son of Alan C. Key of Cross Plains and Kayla King of Weatherford, recently participated in the Atlantic Joint Task Force Exercise while assigned to the destroyer USS Stump, homeported in Norfolk, Virginia.

Key was one of more than 10,000 sailors, Marines and Airmen who participated in the U.S. Second Fleet exercise off the coast of the southeastern United States. The exercise involved the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Battle Group and the USS Saipan Amphibious Ready Group with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit embarked. Both groups are scheduled to deploy to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf this summer.

The exercise focused on preparing naval forces for contingencies they may encounter during the six-month deployment. During the 17-day major training in operations which included strike, mine, amphibious, undersea and surface warfare and maritime interception operations.

The 1992 graduate of Cross Plains High School of Cross Plains, joined the Navy in September 1993.

Rising Star "The Original Friday Night" Rodeo June 12 & 13

Rising Star "The Original Friday Night" Rodeo is slated for Friday and Saturday, June 12 and 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Participants may call Monday through Friday (254) 643-6251 days or (254) 643-4001 nights to enter. You may also enter Friday or Saturday in person.

The order of events will be bulls, barrels, breakaway roping, jackpot tiedown (age groups: 11-49 and 50 plus), and team roping.

Age groups include 10 and under, 11-14, 15-19, 20-49 and 50 plus.

All events will have a Jackpot with added money on Saturday bulls. Fifty bulls will be bucked out!

A dance featuring White Wolf at the K-Bar is set for Saturday evening.

All proceeds will be utilized to rebuild the rodeo grounds which were constructed in 1950.

Come out and enjoy a night of entertainment and recall your memories of the Original Friday Night Rodeos!

Caregiver Workshop Scheduled for June 26 in Abilene

The Alzheimer's Association of West Central Texas will present a workshop for caregivers on Friday, June 26, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Activity Building at Minter Lane Church of Christ, 2502 Minter Lane in Abilene.

The workshop, entitled "A Breath of Fresh Air," will be presented by Bill and Lyn Roche, both children of Alzheimer's victims. The Roche's unique program is non-technical and user friendly! They share and deal with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders in a practical, realistic way designed to uplift family caregivers and validate their memory-impaired loved ones.

There is no charge for the workshop, and no advance registration is required. Attendees will receive a ten-page handbook containing reality checks, networking resources, self-care considerations, time-outs and things that work. In addition, participants will receive other helpful literature from the Alzheimer's Association.

Though the workshop is designed primarily for family caregivers of dementia patients, healthcare professionals and other interested persons are welcome to attend.

The program is sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association of West Central Texas and made possible by the Texas Department on Aging and the West Central Texas Area Agency on Aging. For additional information, call the Alzheimer's Association at (915) 672-2907 or (888) 511-4132.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Vanda,

I am writing to congratulate the caretakers of the Cross Plains Cemetery. It looks just great! Everything is pretty and green and well kept.

Those with loved ones buried there should be proud of its appearance. Drive by and see how nice it looks.

L.D. Koenig

YOUR OFFICE SUPPLY HEADQUARTERS FOR CROSS PLAINS IS THE CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

Texas Pecan Production

By ROBERT PRITZ
Callahan County Extension Agent

Although there are some orchards in Texas that have fair to good crops, the overall crop situation in Texas is that the state crop is light. Reports on native crops have come in looking fair to good.

Pecan Nut Casebearer: Commercial pecan producers and homeowners have been busy spraying for pecan nut casebearers starting the week of May 25 for the first generation PNCs. Many are finishing second insecticide applications if they were required to control any unhatched eggs. Homeowners choices for insecticides include several B.T. insecticides, several formulations of Sevin and 50 percent Malathion EC. The question now is what will happen with second generation PNC. Logically thinking with a light crop, this is a year that second generations should be watched very closely. On average the second generation is 42 days after the first generation. Spraying would be the same as for first generation.

Phylloxera: Phylloxera galls should be quite apparent on trees now. In many areas, galls have already split open to release adults. Phylloxera are tiny, soft bodied insects closely related to aphids. These insects cause conspicuous swellings, called galls, to form on leaves, twigs and nuts. The new adults will not lead to any additional infestations this year but insecticide applications should be applied in the spring just after budbreak. So where phylloxera are heavy, make note of the area and write yourself a reminder for next spring.

Aphids: Aphids are small, soft-bodied insects that suck sap from pecan leaves. Aphids remove water and plant nutrients from leaf veins. As they feed aphids excrete large amounts of excess sugars. This sticky material, called honey dew, collects on almost everything. Aphids have a short life cycle and high reproductive capacity, so infesta-

tion can quickly increase during favorable conditions. Treatment of aphid is mixed. Treatment thresholds are 25 aphids per compound leaf, however researchers are concerned with exposing these insects to any more insecticides than is absolutely necessary. Treatments applied for aphids or other pest can destroy their natural enemies, allowing aphids to increase to even greater densities than before treatment.

Webworm and Caterpillars: We will no doubt see webworms and caterpillars again this year. There are no indicators at this time as to the levels to infestations. The worms will defoliate the trees where they are present in large numbers. It's important because heavy defoliation can weaken trees. Malathion and the B.T. (Bacillus thuringiensis) products are recommended for control of these pest. Webs should be broken up as much as possible prior to spraying to make the sprays more effective. Follow all label directions prior to spraying. Be on the lookout!

WATER TIPS FOR SUMMER
With the dry weather, water management is going to be very important for pecan production. Pecan trees normally extract most of the water they use from the upper 32 inches of the soil profile, even though they are deep rooted plants. They can extract water from deeper profiles; however, they must expend more energy to pump water up from deeper strata. Realistically speaking, deep water is survival water and does little to contribute to orchard productivity. The standard recommendation is that 1 to 2 inches per week is needed to generate adequate water for tree production. The water needs of trees will vary from near 1 inch in spring to over 2 inches per week in mid-summer. If lawn grasses are under trees competing for water, apply additional water to compensate. For more information on pecan production contact the Extension Office at (915) 854-1518.

Independent Cattlemen Urge Support For Beef Program

AUSTIN—The Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas (ICA) is calling on the state's cattle producers to reject a move by a national livestock trade group to kill the state's premier beef promotion program.

If successful, the move against the Beef Checkoff Program by the Livestock Marketing Association (LMA) would land a serious blow to the industry's efforts to remain aggressive in an increasingly competitive marketplace, ICA officials said.

"The Beef Checkoff Program is 100% producer controlled and has been an excellent investment for the cattle industry during the last decade," said ICA President John Brown of Luling and a livestock auction owner himself. "To terminate beef's only promotional program would give the chicken, pork and foreign beef industries a dramatic lead in the market share going into the 21st century.

"We can't let that happen," he added. "The fact is, demand for beef is slipping and without the checkoff program it won't get any better. We urge Texas cattle producers to reject

any effort to end this vital program."

The LMA is urging cattle producers to sign a petition calling on Texas and other states to terminate their checkoff programs.

The checkoff program works this way: A dollar from the sale of every bovine animal in Texas is earmarked for promotional activities of the Texas Beef Council. These activities include:

- A homepage showcasing beef as a healthy, low-cost food.
- Showing beef consumers through television and print advertising how to achieve savings by buying beef in bulk.
- Agricultural-promotional programs for students.
- Providing low-fat beef recipes to grocery stores across Texas.
- Teaching Texas chefs about beef, food safety and other related issues.

"Our world is changing daily and the beef industry must learn to change as consumers needs change in the marketplace," Brown said. "The checkoff program is our best tool to do this."

While LMA has taken a stance questioning the benefits of the

checkoff, other organizations such as the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) agrees with ICA on the need to keep the promotional program. NCBA, which represent more than 230,000 cattle breeders, producers and feeders across the country, enthusiastically endorses the checkoff program as a part of their "Year 2000" work to stabilize the demand for beef.

"It is important that we stay unified as an industry," said Jim Selman, ICA's past president and a livestock producer from Gonzales. "In the end we all want what is best for the beef industry."

The LMA has one year to collect signatures from 10 percent or roughly 120,000 of the nation's beef producers as is required by the U.S. Beef Promotion and Research Act to call for a referendum. Meanwhile, LMA's petition drive at best estimate will consume \$3 million of checkoff funds -- money that could and should be spent on beef promotion. If the LMA is successful in retaining all signatures, the petition is submitted to the USDA Secretary who has 12 months to call a referendum.

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CARD OF THANKS

Card Of Thanks
My family and I would like to say thank you for taking care of us during my recent stay in the hospital. The prayers, cards, calls, visits and food were greatly appreciated. I thank God we live in a small community where everyone helps everyone. It is truly a caring community. I love each of you and look forward to seeing everyone soon.
Melissa Richards & family

Card of Thanks
"A Special Word of Thanks"
On the morning of May 20th, I couldn't walk or speak. Dr. Charles, Brenda and Charlotte rushed to my home, called 911 and helped our Cross Plains Ambulance crew get me on the way to Hendrick Medical Center. I remember Barbara Worley's voice and I'm told George Mathews was also there. Bob Pipes was driving and somewhere along the way they were met by Rural Metro and I was transferred. My friends didn't just leave me, they followed me to the hospital and helped with information the hospital needed. Through my fog, I could hear them saying "Jean we are still here with you!" I could say "Thank You" a million times and it wouldn't be enough. Thank you to Sidney, who came to drive me home, Sissie, Ray, Jean, Ginny, Vanda, Wanda and so many others who called, sent flowers and cards.
Jean Vaughn

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FOR SALE—1995 GMC Suburban; no engine or suspension, \$50 phone (254) 725-6558. 11-10p

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DO YOU JUST HATE TO WASH THE DOG?—We're having a DOG WASH at the 1st Baptist Church!! Wednesday, June 17, 10 a.m. - ? Bring your friendly dog for lots of love and pampering. Benefits pre-teen camp tuition. 11-10c

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YARD SALE, BAKE SALE, & HOME MADE ICE CREAM—benefiting First Baptist Pre-teen camp, Saturday 9 a.m. - ? at Country Kin, 225 W. Hwy. 36 11-10c

SATURDAY ONLY—5 families, all kinds of stuff - antiques, large crocks, trunks, camping cots, 5th wheel hook-up; 12 miles out on Putnam 880, turn right 1 mile on 3265. 11-10c

4-FAMILY GARAGE & BAKE SALE—8 A.M. - ? Saturday and Sunday at Reba Lane's home. Go south on Ave. A to the end and go east. 11-10c

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the estate of TED A. SAUNDERS, Deceased, were issued on May 5, 1997, under Docket No. 5175, pending in the County Court of Callahan County, Texas, to: AMELIA ANN SAUNDERS.
Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows:

Amelia Ann Saunders,
Independent Executrix
c/o Gaston Swifford, Attorney
P.O. Box 499/1200 Oak Street
Clyde, Texas 79510

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated this 18th day of May, 1998.
Gaston Swifford
Attorney for Applicant

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Comanche Electric Cooperative Association notice of District Meeting - 1998
To: All members in District No. 6 - Eastland and Callahan Counties. The district Meeting will be held at the Nimrod Community Center - Thursday, June 18, 1998, at 7:30 p.m. This meeting is for the purpose of nominating candidates for director for District No. 6 (Please refer to excerpt from by-laws pertaining to directors.) This meeting will be open for discussion of any affairs of the cooperative. A \$7.50 credit on electric service will be given to each member (family) attending. Refreshments will be served, and drawing prizes will be given away during the meeting. (Handicap facilities will be provided upon request.) 10-20

TxDOT "123 Safe Days of Summer" campaign focuses on work zone safety

ABILENE—With summer approaching, Texans will be traveling to their favorite vacation spots by plane, train and the most popular mode, automobile. But all these cars must contend with another Texas summer favorite: roadway construction. To keep summer travelers from becoming summer hazards, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has begun its annual "123 Safe Day of Summer" campaign to remind motorists and employees to put highway safety out front this season.

From May to August, the focus months of the campaign, TxDOT's goals are to increase employee awareness of work zone safety, prevent on-the-job accidents and educate the public about the dangers road crews face.

"Most of our construction is concentrated in the summer months because the warmer, longer days allow us to get more work done," said Ed Sims, TxDOT's occupational safety division director. "But that also means we have to double up our safety efforts," he said.

According to statistics compiled by TxDOT, 10 department employees have been killed on the job since 1994. Seven of the last 10 employee deaths have occurred during the summer, and more than 30 accidents also occurred during May and August last year.

For TxDOT employees, the added emphasis on safety begins before they hit the highways. Workdays begin with checks of department equipment, and regular safety meetings focus on accident prevention.

For all its internal measures to keep its employees safe, TxDOT must rely on the public to help. "Give Us a Brake" signs are posted at construction zones to emphasize the need for motorists to obey posted speed limits and pay attention when driving through work zones.

More than 300 new construction projects will begin around Texas between May and August, and all will be accompanied by the customary cones, barrels and construction workers. Prime conditions, TxDOT officials say, for inattentive or impatient motorists to turn construction zones into injury and death zones.

But safe construction zones are possible, TxDOT officials believe, if motorists follow some simple rules of the road:

- Keep a safe distance between your vehicle, other vehicles, traffic barriers, construction workers and equipment. Most crashes in work zones involve rear-end collisions.
- Stay alert. Driving conditions change in work zones. Be prepared to respond to any changes in traffic flow.
- Merge at the first notice of a lane closure or change. Traffic flows better when you move to an appropriate lane at the first opportunity of an approaching work zone.
- Be patient. Traffic delays in work zones are often unavoidable while improvements are being made to the roads. Patience can prevent accidents.

News from the Texas Beef Council

Seven prominent Mexican journalists toured Texas cattle and beef operations April 19-22 to report on the U.S. beef industry's technology and production processes. Their visit coincided with record quantities of U.S. beef entering their country.

The journalists' visit was funded by the \$1 per head beef checkoff program through the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) and the Texas Beef Council (TBC).

The journalists represented national print and broadcast media companies in Mexico. Many of the reporters also publish or broadcast to other Spanish-speaking countries.

"Beef checkoff dollars brought these media to Texas so that they can report factually in Mexico about how U.S. beef is produced," said Gilberto Lozano, director of the USMEF-Mexico office. "This helps our sales because these prominent journalists are better able to respond to myths spread by our competitors worried about the growing market share of U.S. beef in Mexico."

Last year, U.S. beef exports to Mexico hit record levels, according to USDA figures. Sales volume increased 64 percent over 1996 to total 145,959 metric tons. In dollars, sales increased 74 percent to more than \$345 million. Mexico vaulted over South Korea and Canada to win the No. 2 spot behind Japan as major U.S. beef buyers.

On the beef checkoff-funded tour through Texas, the Mexican media representatives learned about every facet of beef production from an

embryo to an entree. The program started at Elgin Breeding Service in Elgin where technician Brad Cardwell backgrounded the group on improving beef production through technologies like artificial insemination and embryo transfer.

The journalists then visited Diamond A Ranch at Dime Box, owned by Jerry and Julie Armstrong, to view a cattle operation and to learn about production processes.

The following day, the media traveled to the Texas Panhandle to visit Littlefield Feedyard, owned by Friona Industries, Inc., at Amherst. Friona CEO James Herring briefed the journalists on how the company works with Mexican cattlemen to feed cattle. He also provided an hour-long interview on the beef industry to Eduardo Torreblanca, director of financial news for Televisa, a national network that will broadcast the interview to Mexico, Central and South America, Spain and Northern Africa.

The media representative then visited the Excel plant in Plainview to look at fabrication of a beef carcass and food safety measures, including USDA government inspection and HACCP protocol. They then closed the visit out in Dallas with a tour of the state-of-the-art Freedman Food Service plant and a briefing on cattle industry economics by Bret Fox, a cattle analyst with Cattle-Fox.

After the tour, the media said their eyes were opened to the efficiency of the U.S. beef industry.

"The dominance of the (U.S. beef) industry and the capacity of its re-

sources were what impressed me the most," said Marco Campillo, a business reporter for TV Azteca, another national network. "Its use of technology to not only produce for the U.S. consumer, but also for the consumer in my country and Japan was also highly impressive."

Aurelio Bueno, business writer for *El Financiero*, said he now better understands the production system of U.S. beef.

"I know more about the genetics of cattle to how beef comes out of the packing plant," Bueno said. "This tour has helped me understand how the product is developed from the beginning of an egg to when it is eaten as a cut of beef."

TBC and USMEF have cooperated on educating foreign media teams about U.S. beef for five years, said Alan Smith of Caprock Industries, Amarillo, a member of the boards of directors of both TBC and USMEF. Most of these media teams have been from Mexico, but last year USMEF brought a team from Japan. Several other Asian countries also have indicated an interest in sending a team in the future.

"Because Texas has such a great beef infrastructure, we can show foreign journalists the complete production picture of the beef industry in a short time," Smith said. "Thanks to the state's beef producers, we have been able to use checkoff dollars to educate foreign media, who in turn educate their consumers, about the many positive qualities of U.S. beef."

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MR. AND MRS. BEN HONEA

Hutton-Honea Exchanged Vows May 30

Shanna Hutton and Ben Honea were united in marriage Saturday May 30, 1998. The lawn wedding was at the home of the bride's parents, J.D. and Sandy Hutton, with Bob Pipes performing the ceremony.

Tabitha Jordan of Carrollton and Tamara Young of Cross Plains, sisters of the bride, were bridesmaids. Jeff Parker and Adrian Slaymaker, both of Cross Plains, were groomsmen. Shelby Jordan and Janiesha

Hutton, the bride's nieces, were flower girls.

The groom was finally returned after being kidnapped by the groomsmen and a \$200 ransom was collected by the bride.

After returning from their honeymoon at Sulfur Springs Camp at Bend, the couple will reside in Cross Plains where Ben is employed at Parker's Machine Shop.

Janet Purvis celebrates 80 with open house



JANET PURVIS

An open house to celebrate Janet Purvis' 80th birthday will be held Sunday, June 21, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at her home north of Cottonwood.

The only "gift" Janet wants is your presence so she can bid you farewell, as she prepares to move to her new home in Wimberley, Texas.

Everyone is cordially invited.



JERRY LONG & JANA RISTER

Rister-Long Engagement announced

The parents of Jana Rister and Jerry Long would like to announce the engagement of their children.

Jana is the daughter of Albert and Brenda Willars of Cross Plains.

Jerry is the son of Rex and Trudy

Long of Rising Star.

The wedding is set for 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, at the home of Albert and Brenda Willars. All family and friends are invited.

Harris-Brown Reunion Set For June 28

The annual Harris-Brown Reunion will be held on Sunday, June 28, at the Cross Plains Multi-Purpose Center located at the corner of 8th and Beech (Old Pioneer Highway) in Cross Plains. All descendants and friends of the Brown and Harris families and early pioneers of the Burkett area are encouraged to attend. Please ask all family member to come. Bring enough food for you immediate family to our noon meal. Come early, stay late, and enjoy a day of fellowship and reminiscing with your family and friends.

Eastland Co. 4-H Horse Program Playday

The next Eastland County 4-H Horse Program Playday is set for Sunday, June 14, 4:00 p.m. at the Cisco Junior College Arena.

Events include stakes, cloverleaf barrels, poles, flags and the alternating event will be goat tying for ages 11 and older, and goat-slapping for the younger age groups.

A current negative Coggins test is required to enter all Eastland County 4-H Horse Program events.

For further information, call (254) 442-4081 or (254) 629-1873.

Rising Star Golf Club News

A 4 person Scramble Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, June 13, as a celebration of Juneteenth for the Benefit of the Bennie Houston Community Center in Brownwood.

A shotgun start begins at 1 p.m. featuring hole-in-one, closest-to-pin, long drive, skins pool and mulligans. Entry fee is \$40 per person with the field limited to 36 teams. Entry deadline is June 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Carts are not included in the entry fee, but are available by calling for reservations (254) 643-4653.

For further information call the Golf Shop (254)643-4653 or Bennie Houston Community Center, W.A. Williams (915) 646-0620.

Junior Golf School is slated for June 15-18 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for ages 6-15.

This includes instruction, lunch and golf for \$20 per person.

Call Rising Star Golf Club (254) 643-4653 for details.

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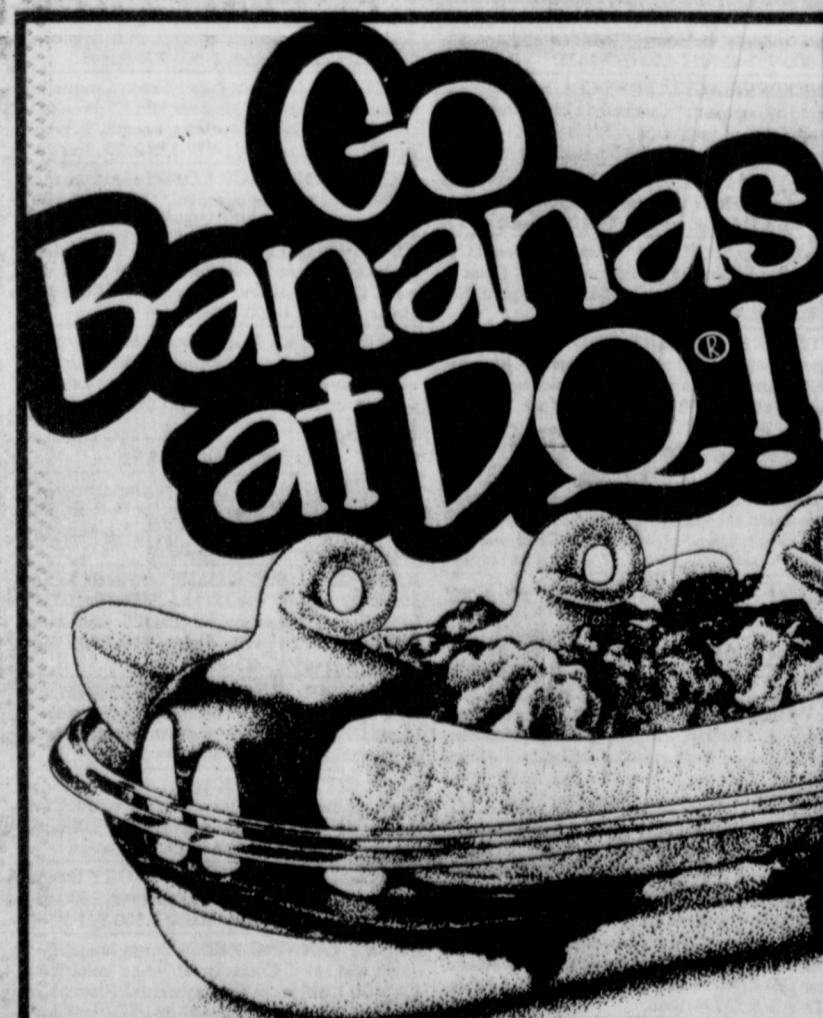
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STEPHENVILLE — Farmers Milling Inc., 965-5025, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
DUBLIN — Bradberry's Best, 445-2388, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
CROSS PLAINS — Cross Plains Grain & Peanut Co., 725-7345, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

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