

PAGE ONE

A QUICK READ OF THE NEWS

Groom fakes holdup

A cash-strapped Thai groom spent his wedding night in jail after allegedly faking a holdup to duck out on the marriage bill.

Somsak Sowong, 26, left the wedding ceremony at the Bangkok home of his bride, Saengdaun Jonburom, 31, before it was time to exchange rings, saying he had to return home to collect \$1,775 and a gold necklace to offer as dowry.

About 30 minutes later, police were informed that Somsak had been found unconscious in a bush nearby, according to police Lt. Chakawan Aranawat.

Somsak claimed a man had hit him over the head with a gun, tied his hands with his necktie and stole the cash and necklace.

Police were suspicious about the story because Somsak did not appear to be injured.

After a long interrogation, the suspect admitted that he concocted the robbery to cover up the fact that he didn't have the money to pay the dowry or the \$670 cost of the wedding party, Chakawan said. It was not clear who had tied Somsak's hands.

Somsak could face up to three years in prison for falsely reporting a crime.

His bride-to-be has called off the marriage.



Drawing date: Saturday, Feb. 16
Winning numbers: 2-4-10-20-40-43
Estimated jackpot: \$16 million
Winners: 1 (Duncanville)
Next drawing: Wednesday, Feb. 20
Estimated jackpot: \$4 million

On this date in history

Feb. 16 — Texas' first Legislature convenes in Austin, thereby completing the process of annexation to the United States (1846).

Also on Feb. 16 — Gen. Robert E. Lee arrives in San Antonio from Fort Mason, en route to Washington, D.C. Confederate troops hold his luggage until he swears allegiance to the Confederacy, but he never gets the luggage back (1861).

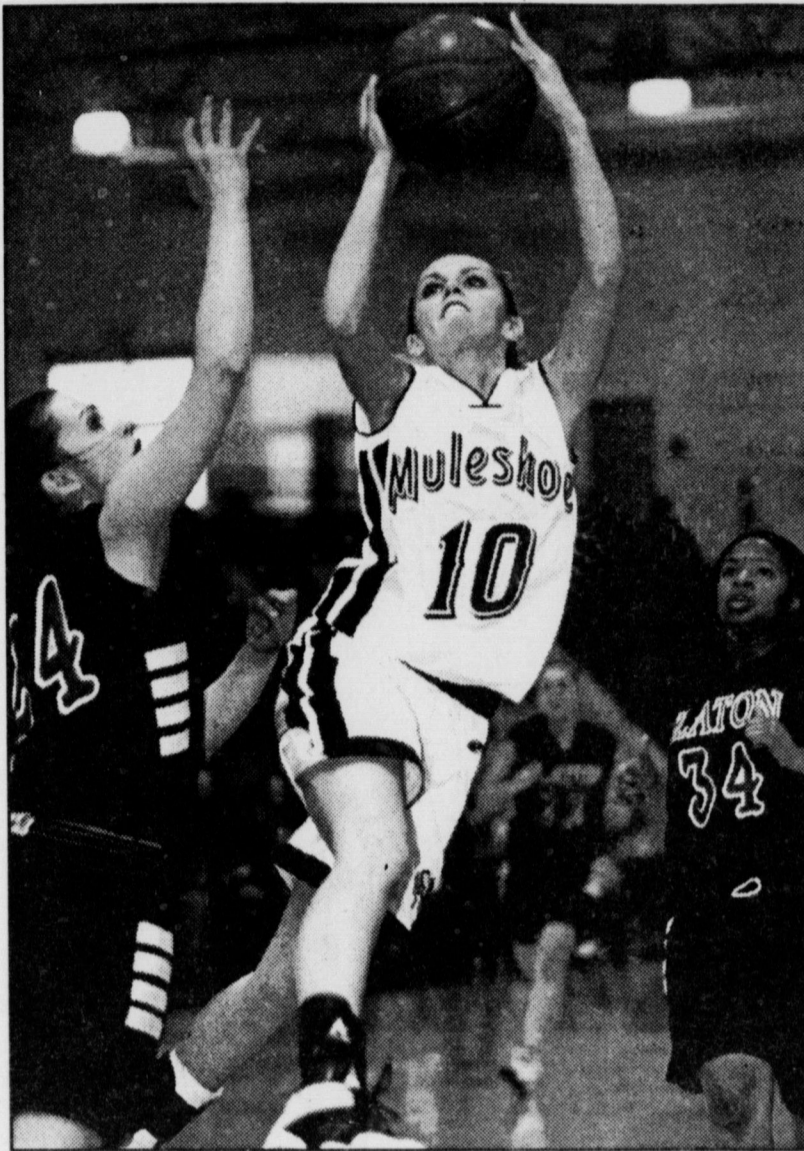
Feb. 17 — Col. James C. Neill leaves the Alamo, leaving Col. William B. Travis in command (1836).

LOCAL WEATHER

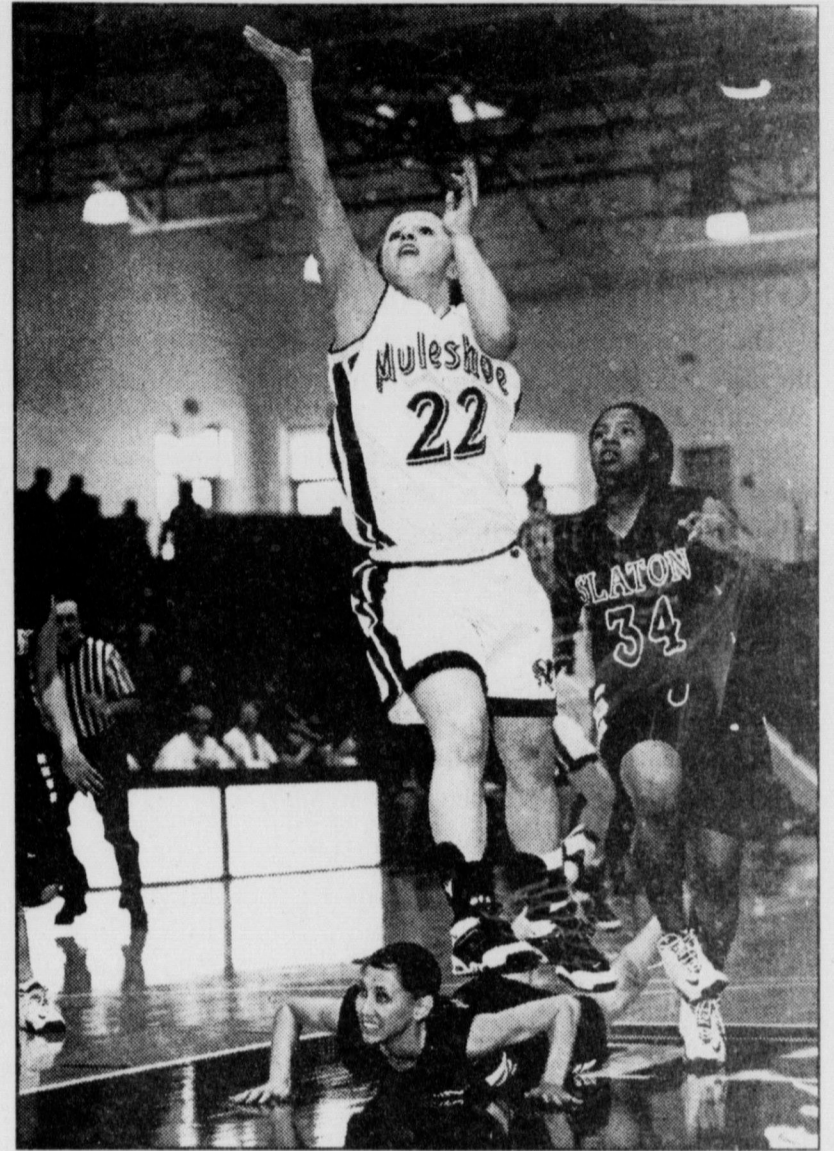
Thursday may be unpleasant at times because of wind, the National Weather Service was predicting Tuesday. The temperature, though, should reach about 60, climbing to near 70 Friday and as high as 76 Saturday before dropping to about 70 again Sunday. After a morning low of about 24 Thursday, there should be a couple of pleasant mornings at about the freezing mark.

Editor Ronn Smith can be reached at 272-4536 or ctyankee@fivearea.com

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



Journal photo: Mike Hahn
Jessica Carpenter goes for a layup Friday against Slaton.



Journal photo: Mike Hahn
Annie Cox appears to be punishing a fallen Slaton player.

Lady Mules' best season ends in loss to Perryton

By DELTON WILHITE
Journal sportswriter

CANYON — The Lady Mules came close to winning their first-ever regional quarterfinal game Tuesday night, but Perryton prevailed 50-46.

The playoff experience of the Rangerettes apparently paid dividends early and late in the game.

"This was big-time basketball tonight, and I am very proud of our kids — they gave their hearts," said Lady Mule coach Shanna Simms.

Perryton jumped out to a 12-2 lead before Simms called her second time out to calm her troops and get them on track. But even after the 30-second break, the Lady Mules trailed 17-8 after one quarter.

Mindy Locker ended the quarter by nailing a 15-foot jumper, then picked up in the second quar-

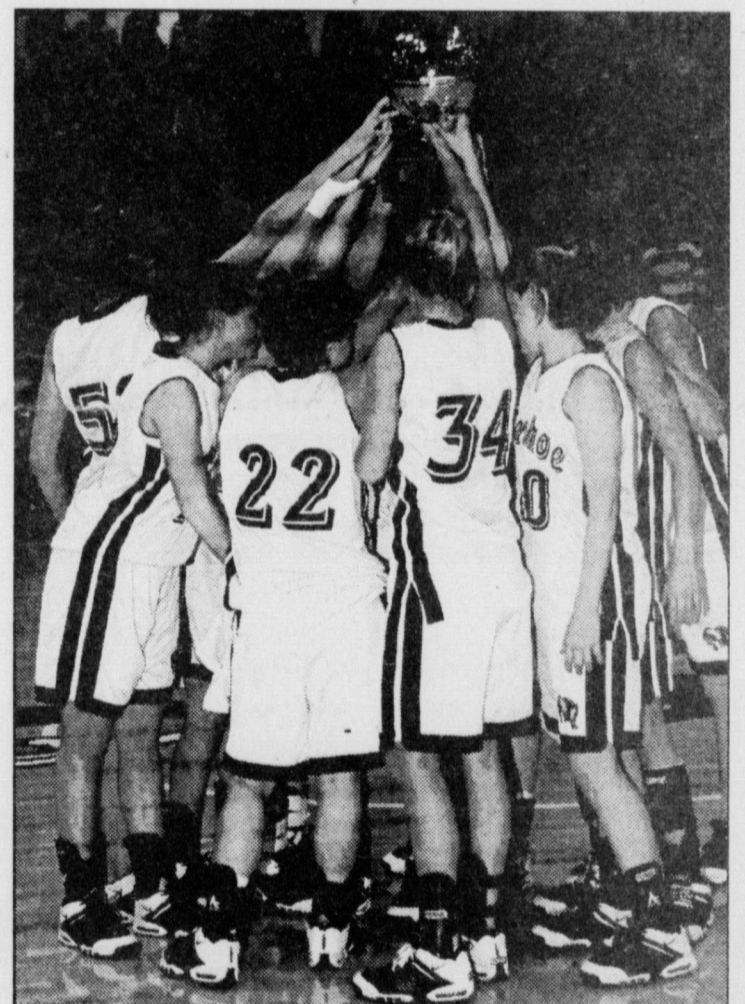
ter where she left off by putting the ball back on the rack to crank a 15-6 run by the Lady Mules. That knotted the game at 23 by intermission.

Near the five-minute mark of the third quarter, Tori Barton nailed a three from the top of the key to give Muleshoe a three-point lead going into the final frame.

Barton started the final period by adding her second trey of the night and extending Muleshoe's lead to six. The Rangerettes' seasoning reappeared in the final stanza as Lindsay Dyer converted eight of nine charity tosses and a deuce for 10 of her game-high 12 points.

Most of Dyer's points came during a four-minute span that saw the Rangerettes convert a six-point deficit to a six-point advantage.

see LADY MULES on page 2



Journal photo: Mike Hahn
At right, the Lady Mules hoist their latest trophy after defeating Slaton (for the third time this season) in the area round of the playoffs Friday night at Lubbock Christian University.

Election set for city council seats

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Residents of Muleshoe have until March 20 to register as candidates if they want to seek a city council seat in the May 4 election.

The council seats up for re-election represent districts 3 and 4, although candidates do not have to live in the district they represent.

LeAnn Gallman at city hall said Tuesday that Sharon Grant, the incumbent in District 4, was the first candidate to file, and so far the

only one.

The incumbent for District 3 is Jerry Hicks.

The Muleshoe Independent School District has scheduled an election for three board seats on the same date, and the Muleshoe Area Hospital District Board is expected to address the election issue Thursday night.

The entities can cancel their respective elections if no contested races develop.

Area farmer heads national group

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Mark Williams of Farwell was elected last week as chairman of the American Cotton Producers during the National Cotton Council's annual meeting in Dallas.

Williams becomes the leader of the group representing the farmers' arm of the cotton industry.

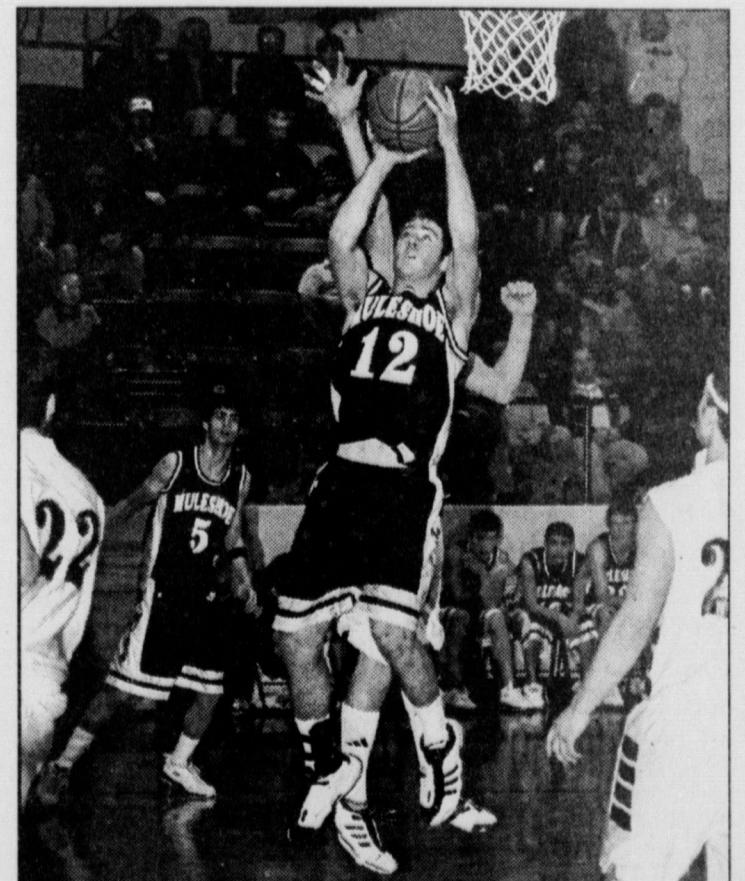
He takes the reins at a tense time for cotton farmers, who are waiting for a new permanent farm bill to be ironed out by a House-Senate conference committee.

Adding to the discussion is the

fact that the payment limitations included in the Senate bill reportedly would affect Southern cotton and rice farmers more than other segments of agriculture.

Williams replaced Hollis Isbell of Muscle Shoals, Ala., as chairman.

John H. Pucheu Jr. of Tranquillity, Calif., was re-elected a vice chairman, and new vice chairmen elected were Sam Spruell of Mount Hope, Ala., and Jon W. Harwick of Newellton, La. The new Southwest regional director is Woody Anderson of Colorado City, Texas.



Journal photo: Mike Hahn
A valiant effort
Muleshoe's Lincoln Riley goes up for a shot during the Mules' loss to Lubbock Cooper in Shallowater on Friday. The team made a spectacular last-minute run at getting into the playoffs, but lost the district's third spot to Cooper by a score of 56-54. The Mules beat the other teams in the four-way tie, Littlefield by 54-26 and Lubbock Roosevelt by 62-54. The boys finished the season with a 10-21 record.

AROUND MULESHOE

Pep homecoming slated for Feb. 23

The 42nd annual homecoming of the Pep Ex-Students Association is scheduled for Feb. 23 in the Pep High School cafeteria.

Registration is set to begin at 5 p.m. and the school will be open for touring at that time. Classes hosting reunions will be those ending in 2 and 7; classrooms will be available for reunions.

The banquet — a brisket dinner — is scheduled for 6 p.m. The cost will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for children age 12 and under. A business meeting will follow the dinner.

Details are available by calling (806) 933-4696.

Girl Scout cookie sale under way

The 65th annual Girl Scout cookie sale is under way through March 1, featuring two new cookies and six returning favorites.

New this year are All-Abouts and Olé Olé. All-Abouts are shortbread cookies with fudge coating on the bottom, while the Olé Olé is a reduced-fat, bite-sized cookie with pecan chips, coconut and a covering of powdered sugar.

Returning cookies include the Thin Mint, Original Samoa (caramel and toasted coconut), Tagalong, (layered peanut butter and chocolate), Do-Si-Do (oatmeal peanut-butter cremes) and Trefoil (shortbread).

Orders may be placed by calling 272-6833 (evenings) or 272-5281 (evenings or leave a message).

School news

Parents and others interested in activities in the Muleshoe Independent School District can learn about changes in the current week's activities by calling 272-7669. The information line is also updated for changes in the school schedule due to bad weather.

Correction

A photo caption on page 7 of Sunday's *Journal* misidentified Rendi Hodge as Myndi Heathington.

The *Journal* regrets the error.

Public calendar

Feb. 21 — 7 p.m. Muleshoe Area Hospital District Board, at Muleshoe Area Medical Center.

Feb. 22 — Noon. AARP covered-dish lunch and meeting. Entertainment will be provided by the Sudderths.

Feb. 23 — 10 a.m. Five Area Telephone Cooperative annual meeting, including election of three directors, followed by lunch and the drawing for prizes.

JV girls reigning as district champs

By DELTON WILHITE
Journal sportswriter

The junior varsity Lady Mules won their district title Feb. 5 with a 61-45 win over Shallowater.

Both teams entered the final game of the season with 8-1 district records. The Fillies had defeated Muleshoe by only one point when the teams met in Shallowater, then dropped a second-round tilt with Littlefield.

The Lady Mules started quickly when Tabatha Obenhaus dropped in a three from the corner and Jamie Carpenter chased down a long defensive rebound.

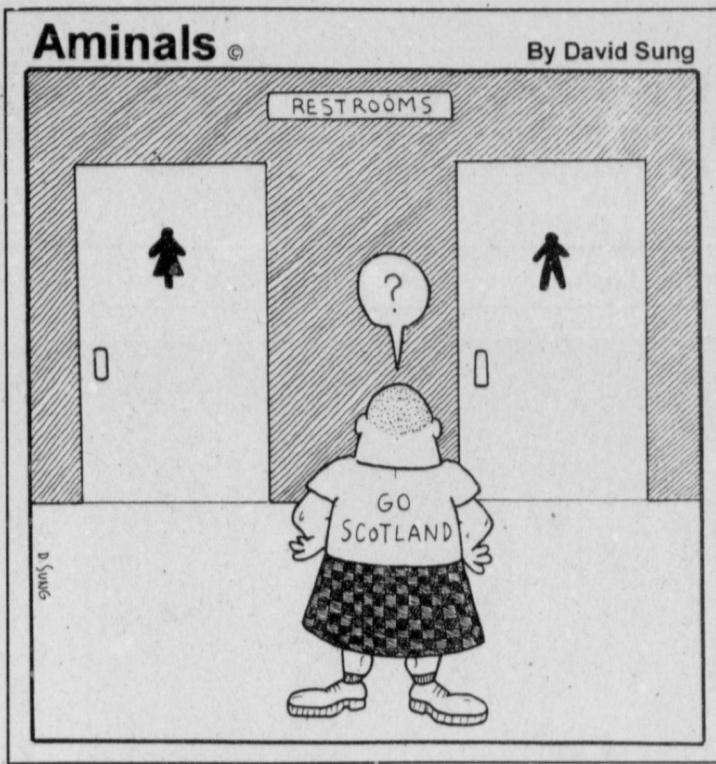
Carpenter outdistanced the Filly defense for the layup and was fouled as she finished her shot. She converted the charity toss to put Muleshoe on top 14-4 at the five-minute mark of

the first period.

Lindsey Wood added a three-pointer and, after a Shallowater miss, grabbed the loose ball and sent a half-court pass to Obenhaus to complete a fast break as the clock ticked below a minute. Obenhaus nailed her second three to end the first period with Muleshoe ahead 26-12.

Wood posted 13 points in the first period to set the pace for the Lady Mules, and Obenhaus provided the firepower in the second period by putting 14 on the board. Gradee Adrian made three of four from the charity line as the Lady Mules lapped Shallowater 46-23 by intermission.

The Fillies regrouped during the break, putting six points on the board in the third quarter before Wood was fouled shooting from behind the arc. She



LADY MULES

from page 1

When the scoring barrage ended, the Lady Mules had less than two minutes to catch up.

Britni Gartin popped the net for a tray with less than 90 seconds remaining to cut the Perryton lead to three. Barton answered a Rangerette bucket with two charity tosses before time ran out on the Lady Mules.

Barton led the Lady Mules with 10 points, Sara Benham had nine, Mindy Locker and Gartin eight each, Shani Rasco and Annie Cox three each, Candace Hutto and Kayla Glover two apiece and Tiffany Flores one for Muleshoe.

"We always want to get to the playoffs and go in knowing that only one team

in each class will end the season without a loss," Simms said.

"After the game, I told the returning six players to remember how bad this loss feels because they owe it to the five seniors to make next season the year we end on a win."

"The seniors are a very special group and it will be hard to let them go — I am thankful that I was able to have a part in their final season. This elite 11 won 27 games this year, and the season holds a lot of good memories for me."

Muleshoe finished the season at 27-6, its best ever. Perryton (31-2) faces either Merkel (19-14) or Ballinger (24-8) on Friday in the regional tournament.

made two of three and, after a Filly bucket, hit from the "Land of Plenty" to keep a 20-point spread between the teams.

Carpenter got the ball to climb the rim for two points to leave Shallowater trailing 55-33 after three periods. The Lady Mules spread the floor in the final frame to deflate the ball for the Fillies and accelerate the clock.

Even though the Fillies outscored Muleshoe 12-6 in the fourth quarter, they could not get close to the Lady Mules.

Obenhaus led Muleshoe for the game with 24 points (22 in the first half), and Wood made 23 points with 16 in the first two periods.

Carpenter added seven points, Adrian three, Jessica Hall two, and Mitci Hawkins and Amber Cowart a point apiece.

Texas A&M researchers clone cat

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL
COLLEGE STATION — In what is believed to be the first success of its kind, Texas A&M University researchers have cloned a cat.

A kitten named "cc" was born to "Allie," a surrogate mother, on Dec. 22.

The kitten is believed to be the first successfully cloned companion animal, and Texas A&M is the first academic institution in the world to have cloned four different species.

A&M had already cloned cattle, goats and pigs.

cc and "Rainbow," her genetic donor, are both female domestic shorthair cats. The announcement of

the successful cat cloning was delayed until DNA analysis could be performed to confirm genetic identity.

This breakthrough in cat cloning is reported in the current journal *Nature*, headquartered in London.

"cc is developing normally for a kitten its age, and appears healthy," said Dr. Mark Westhusin, who holds a joint appointment with the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and is the lead investigator on the project.

"A DNA analysis confirmed cc is a clone — a genetic copy of the donor," he said, adding that "future

scientific advances resulting from the successful cloning of the cat are expected."

Although the cloned kitten exhibits a color pattern similar to the cell donor, the color distribution is not exactly the same.

"The pattern of pigmentation in multi-colored animals is the result of genetic factors as well as developmental factors that are not controlled by genotype," Westhusin said. "With each new species cloned, we learn more about how this technology might be applied to improving the health of animals and humans."

The Directors of Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery, Inc. would like to thank all who contributed to our organization. We are very grateful and continue to need your support.
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Experts offer advice for spring repainting

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL
Spring is a time for fresh starts, and a traditional time for spring cleaning and home makeovers.

A fresh coat of paint can be a surprisingly easy do-it-yourself project by following these four steps from the Rohm and Haas Paint Quality Institute.

- Before painting, be sure to adequately prepare the surface. Scrape, sand or use a wire brush to remove loose, flaking or peeling paint.

- Spot-prime bare wood and sand glossy areas. Make sure the surface is clean, sound and free of dirt. Power washing with plain water is the best way to rid large exterior surfaces of dirt and chalk, but soapy water and a scrub brush also can be used to clean exterior surfaces.

- If mildew is detected, remove it with a solution of three parts water and one part household bleach. Wear rubber gloves and eye protection. After using any cleaning solution on your home, rinse it off with clean water.

- Next, be sure to purchase the right paint for the job. Don't skimp on quality — the better grades of paint may be more costly, but they are also the better value.

In most cases, the best bet is a 100 percent acrylic latex exterior paint. These paints are more durable and last longer than ordinary paint, often up to 10 years or more. That's because top-quality paint has superior adhesion, making it less likely to blister, flake or peel on a properly

prepared surface.

There are a few instances when latex paint is not the best choice. If the paint is to be applied over more than three or four coats of old, oil-based paints, then another coat of oil-based paint is recommended. Also, oil-based paints adhere better to surfaces that are very chalky.

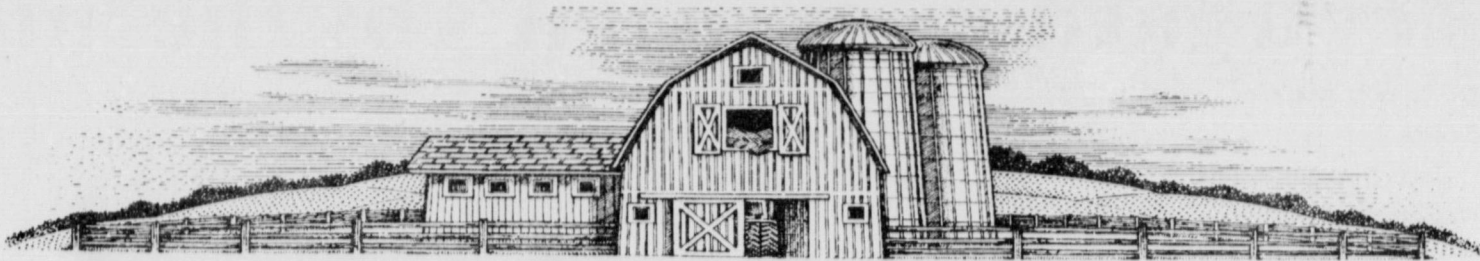
- When applying the paint, use top-quality tools. Good brushes and rollers are easier to use and help make the job go faster as opposed to economy tools. Top-quality tools also apply a thicker, more uniform coat of paint that will look better and be less likely to fail prematurely.

If latex paint is being used, brushes and rollers made of synthetic materials, such as nylon or polyester bristles, are the best choice. They hold their shape and maintain the proper stiffness regardless of how much water they are exposed to.

When working with oil-based paints, brushes or rollers made of either natural or synthetic material work well.

- Apply paint when the weather is good, ideally with temperatures between 60 and 85 degrees F with little or no wind. It's best to avoid painting in direct sunshine, because intense heat can cause the water in a latex paint to evaporate before the paint binder particles can completely form a continuous, durable film.

Consult the label on the paint container for more specific instructions.



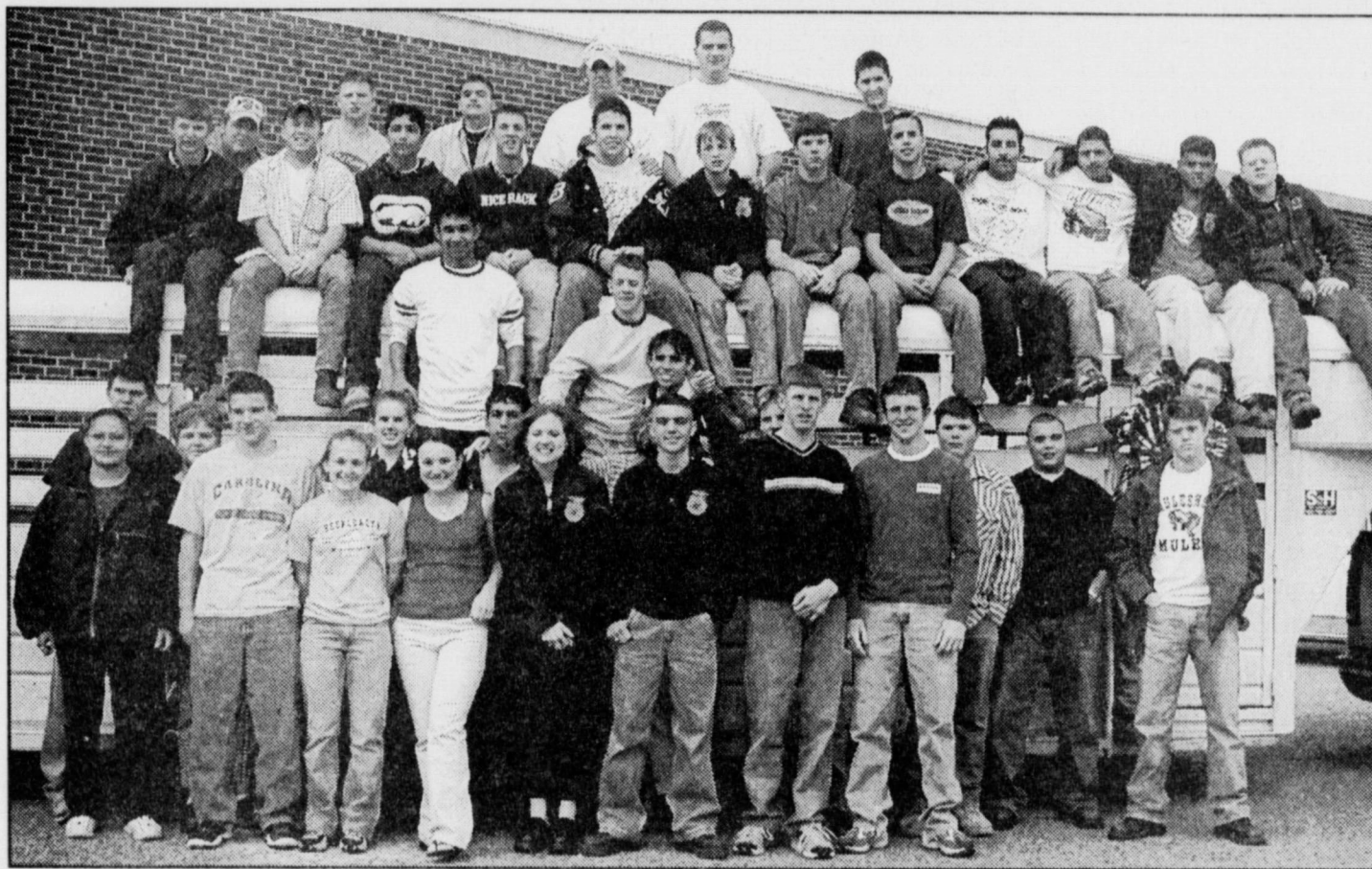
Growing Successful Farmers

We are proud to salute the hardworking members of the Future Farmers of America, Muleshoe chapter, during



National FFA Week

February 17-24, 2002



Muleshoe FFA officers: Landon Sheets, reporter; Miguel Castorena, sentinel; Bryan King, student advisor; Layne Sheets, secretary; Cory Hunt, vice president; Amy Burris, parliamentarian; Summer Daniel, president; and Chance Daniel, treasurer.

Join these sponsors in encouraging the continued growth and success of our future leaders in the field of agriculture.

OBITUARIES

DOYLE GILBERT

Graveside services were held Tuesday at Littlefield Memorial Park for Doyle Gilbert, 74, of Muleshoe. The Rev. Gary Leonard officiated.

Hammons Funeral Home of Littlefield handled arrangements.

Mr. Gilbert was born Jan. 29, 1928, at Normangee, Texas. He died Sunday at University Medical Center in Lubbock.

He married Naomi Leonard on Nov. 15, 1947, in Littlefield. They lived in Tucumcari and Clovis before moving to Muleshoe in 1965.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He sold insurance for The American National Insurance Co. and was a member of the Church of Christ.

Mr. Gilbert is survived by his wife; a daughter, Bobbie K. Pierson of Oklahoma Lane; a son, Billy Gilbert of Muleshoe; a sister, Gloria Mae McCraw of Arkansas; a brother, Jim Gilbert of Littlefield; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Joe Gilbert, Billy Glenn Gilbert and Truman Gilbert, and a granddaughter, D'Ann Pierson.

Pallbearers were Danny Leonard, Lee Leonard, Johnny Leonard, Bob Pierson, Gary Gober and Kenny White.

LELA CHESTER

Services were held Thursday at the First Baptist

Church of Sudan for Lela Wiseman Chester, 86, of Sudan. The Rev. Robert Roecker officiated. Burial was in Sudan Cemetery.

Ellis Funeral Home of Sudan handled arrangements.

Mrs. Chester was born Jan. 16, 1916, in Childress. She died Tuesday at Grace House in Lubbock.

She married Dorman Chester on Dec. 24, 1932, in Clovis.

She moved to the Sudan area in 1925 from Vernon. She was a secretary and bookkeeper at Sudan Livestock Co. for 25 years.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school for a number of years, and the Sudan Senior Citizens. She also had served as worthy matron of the Sudan Order of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Howard is survived by her husband; a son, Glenn Chester of Sudan; a daughter, Dorna A. Prokop of Dallas; a brother, Milton Wiseman of Sudan; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Ola Howard; four brothers, Brent Wiseman, Charles Wiseman, Ottis Wiseman and Claude Wiseman; and a great-grandson, Josh Chester.

The family suggests memorials to Sudan EMS.



Chester

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Try a garden, even if it's by the 'mush-pot method'!

By **RONN SMITH**
Editor

Garden writers (and there are too many of us these days) like to tell you to select plants that fit a color scheme or that provide beauty in more than one season, or whatever.

That can be sound advice, depending on your specific goal with your specific garden.

Ellen Schlesinger's column in the April issue of *Fine Gardening* states that many people select plants by the mush-pot factor — pure sentimentality. A certain kind of plant reminds these people of someone or something or someplace they felt good about in the past, and they try growing the plant as a link to the past.

I don't know that I go that far, but coming from a gardening family, I do recognize a continuity or "flow" in this attitude. The farm still has rows of my mother's pale-pink and pale-blue hyacinths, and while I may not think about them for most of the year,



once they come up in late January I keep an eye on them until they bloom again.

While I never see hyacinths praised for their toughness, these have been there for more than 40 years, and survived for a number of years without anyone even seeing them, let alone watering them.

Seeing them bloom every year is part of what makes the farm still seem like home.

My point, though, is that it doesn't matter what motivates you to work with nature. The satisfaction in doing this, and enhancing the appearance of your surroundings at the same time, is why gardening is the No. 1 outdoor activity among Americans today.

With spring getting closer

every week, this is a good time to plant something!

Regular readers will remember that last fall Illa Ritchie of Tucumcari wrote asking for sources of pinksqueak (*Bergenia cordifolia*), and I couldn't immediately find them.

A spokesman for Holland Gardens in Lubbock (4315 50th St.) says bergenia is on order there and should be available for about six weeks during April and early May.

A good bet for these perennials would be Coulter Nursery, a short distance south of I-40 West on Coulter Drive in Amarillo. The place has been unreachable by phone lately, but its answering machine tells how to get there while Coulter is under construction: Drive between the nursery and its neighbor, then enter through a new side gate that has been added to allow access while the street is rebuilt.

As for mail order, the new Heronswood catalog lists a relative, *Bergenia*

purpurascens — a species collected in China by Heronswood co-owner Dan Hinkley, among others.

Eric Hammond, the chief propagator at Heronswood, says the species should be fine in our semi-arid climate provided it gets water in hot weather, and its leaves will "squeak" between the fingers, just like those on the common species.

There is no ultimate size listed for the plant, and I neglected to ask. The catalog states "full sun to part shade in a well-drained, humusy soil," so add some composted material to the soil and you should be in business.

The flowers are the typical purple-pink of bergenias. If it has the same late-winter blooming time as *B. cordifolia*, I'd say you'd need to get it planted as soon as possible in order to get flowers this year.

Heronswood's price is \$8 per plant (catalog number "bepur206"), and the catalog does list a couple of hybrids if you don't mind paying more.

You can order on the Internet at www.héronswood.com, call (360) 297-4172, or write to Heronswood Nursery, 7530 NE 288th St., Kingston, Wash. 98346.

Of the other big mail-order nurseries, White Flower Farm (P.O. Box 50, Litchfield, Conn. 06759-0050) lists only one cultivar, 'Cabernet,' and the price is \$10.95 apiece or three for \$30.95.

A somewhat lesser-known mail-order firm that I can recommend from experience is Weiss Brothers Nursery (11690 Colfax Highway, Grass Valley, Calif. 95945).

This nursery is unusual in that it sells very small perennials, and you have to wait a year for them to reach full size. The trade-off is that the prices are low: From six (the minimum order) to 15 plants, the cost is

\$4.65 apiece for anything in the catalog, which is fairly extensive.

With 16 or more plants, the cost per plant goes down to \$4.45.

This does not have to be six of a kind or anything like that — mix and match any way you want.

Weiss Brothers does list *Bergenia cordifolia*, and being a western nursery, it recommends at least some shade, which I go along with even though many experts say "full sun."

The catalog also lists a cultivar known as "Red Start," which is somewhat shorter and needs more moisture, but has the same basic bergenia appearance.

Happy planting!
Questions and comments can be directed to Garden Writer, 571 County Road 1018, Muleshoe, Texas 79347, or e-mailed to ronnsmith@hotmail.com.

Mild winter helps dairy cows, hurts forage

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL COLLEGE STATION — The state's mild winter has helped keep dairy cows content, but it has hurt the crops used to feed them, according to Texas Cooperative Extension.

Sandra Stokes, Extension dairy specialist in Stephenville, said that while the drier-than-normal weather helps the cows, there has been a decrease in forage quality and an increased need to ship in forage to feed the animals.

Joe Pope, Erath County Extension agent, said weather conditions impact milk production the most, and cows have enjoyed this year's dry, cool weather there.

In fact, producers have seen an increase in production per cow even though dairy cattle numbers have decreased.

"The ancestors of the major milk-producing breeds come from Northern Europe, so cattle generally do better in cool weather than in hot weather. More milk per cow per day is produced in cool weather than in warm weather," said Robert B. Schwart, Extension dairy economist in College Station.

According to the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 316,000 milk cows in Texas in November 2001, compared to 345,000 a year earlier. However, production per cow increased by 10 pounds per cow during that year, from 1,225 pounds to 1,235 pounds.

Stokes said most forages are grown locally, but higher-quality alfalfa hay is shipped in from Colorado, New Mexico, and Kansas.

Schwart said some dairy farmers prefer to feed their cows a corn

silage-based ration if they can get it. Others feed an alfalfa base. Most dairies in Texas have gotten away from feeding coastal Bermuda hay except to replacement and "dry" cows.

Pope said production is down for some local hay growers, but that should not affect dairy cattle and, in spite of the climate, feed is still affordable and available.

The economic slowdown has decreased demand for some dairy products. Fewer people are eating out, and if they are eating away from home, they are looking for less expensive foods, Schwart said.

For example, instead of ordering a double cheeseburger, consumers may opt buy a single.

"There's some indication that there's a slight change in dairy demand,"

Schwart said.

He believes ice-cream consumption will increase because it is viewed as an inexpensive luxury. In the past, when the economy took a downturn, people have gravitated toward ice cream. "Ice cream is not a big part of the budget: it's cheap, it's easy, it's a treat."

Texas milk is used primarily for fluid consumption, but the state is also the third-largest ice-cream producer in the nation. Much milk goes into yogurt, cottage cheese and specialty products such as dairy creamer as well.

Fluid milk demand is seasonal. It goes up and down depending on when school is in session, Schwart said.

"If there is a holiday, bottled milk goes down a bit. When kids are back

in school, it goes back up," he said.

He said the demand for lower-fat dairy products is increasing as people become more health-conscious.

Schwart said there are no big cheese plants in the state. Cheese consumed in the state is mostly made elsewhere.

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MULESHOE JOURNAL'S 8TH ANNUAL CUTEST BABY CONTEST

Enter any child born in 2001 who you fell in love with at first sight - children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends, etc...

This year's contestant will appear in the March 31 edition of the Bailey County Journal. A panel of unbiased judges will pick the most attractive picture to be the 2001 Cutest Baby. All baby pictures will be printed in this Easter edition of the paper. Babies need not be born in this area.

Bring your favorite photo along with \$12 to the Muleshoe Journal office at 304 W. 2nd Street, Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or mail the coupon below along with your child's photo and \$12 to Cutest Baby Contest, c/o Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, Texas 79347. You may pick up your baby's picture during office hours after Monday, April 1, 2002. Arrangements must be made to return photos by mail.

Winner will receive a \$50 Savings Bond for being selected 2001's Cutest Baby!

ENTRY DEADLINE
Fri., March 15 at 5 pm

Please provide phone number or address (it will not be published) so that we may contact you if we need additional information.

Baby's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Weight at Birth: _____

Length at Birth: _____

Place of Birth: _____

Mom & Dad's Name: _____

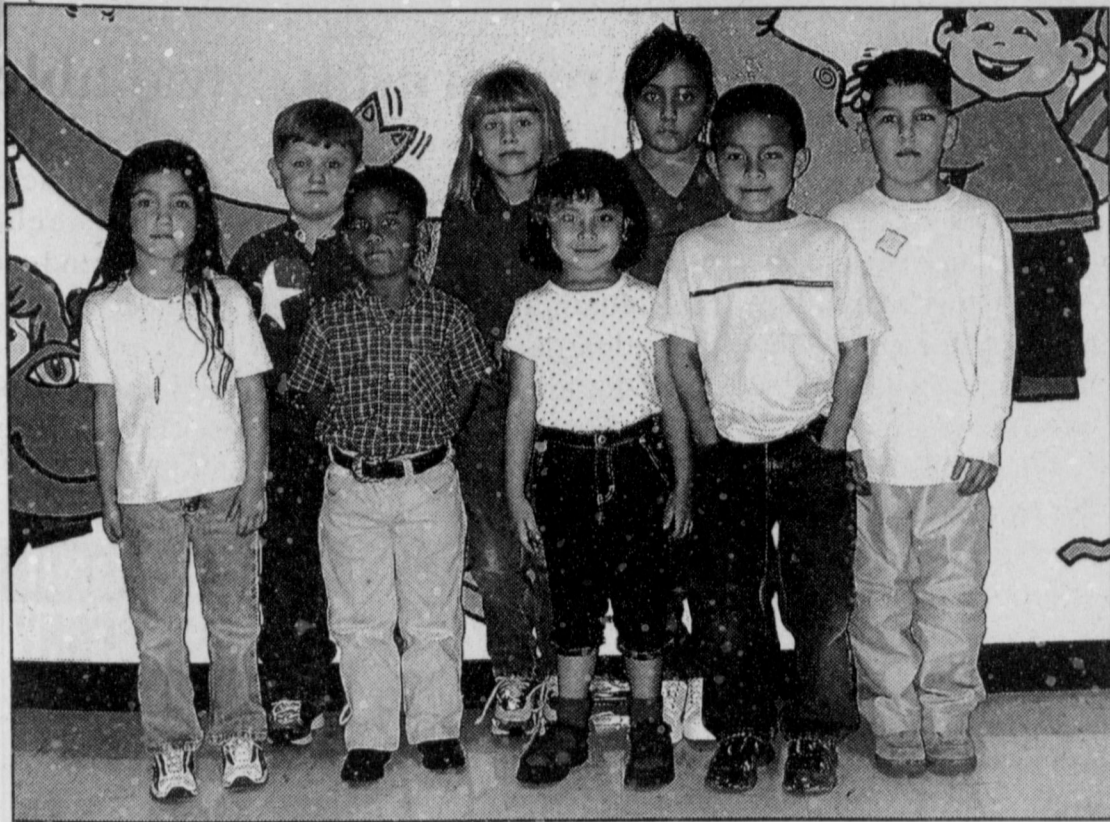
Grandparent's Name: _____

Contact Info: _____

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Journal photo: Leah Bell

Dillman Character Kids

Character Kids at Dillman Elementary School for the month of February are (back row, from left) kindergartner Matthew Dickerson, first-grader Sarah Whitworth, second-grader Crystal Rubio and first-grader Cruz Castorena; (front row, from left) kindergartner Victoria Guzmán, pre-kindergartners Nathan Rejino and Kari Mendoza, and second-grader Jaden Herrera.

Program aimed at educating Hispanic mothers on breastfeeding

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL
HOUSTON — Researchers at Baylor College of Medicine are identifying effective ways to increase breastfeeding among low-income Hispanic mothers.

The U.S. surgeon general has made breastfeeding a public-health priority. But, until this study, conducted through the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor, there has been little information about the best way to do so.

Proyecto Leche de Vida ("Project Milk of Life"), a community-based breastfeeding pilot project, began as part of a random-controlled research trial.

Designed to compare the effectiveness of home visits and telephone

consultations by trained breastfeeding counselors, the research trial and pilot project provided services to women living in Houston's East End neighborhood, an area with a predominantly Hispanic immigrant population.

Spearheaded by Dr. Judy Hopkinson, an assistant professor of pediatrics at Baylor, the program was initially funded by the Texas Department of Health and Episcopal Health Charities.

Preliminary results from the research trial, which involved 105 new mothers, showed 38 percent of mothers in the trial breastfed exclusively for at least three months, a significant improvement over the 5 percent typical for new mothers in that area.

Scientific research has shown that three months of exclusive breastfeeding is needed to effectively reduce infant morbidity and health-care costs throughout the first year of life.

Hopkinson found that both home visits and telephone calls could effectively increase the number of mothers still breastfeeding exclusively after three months. In the study, 41 percent of the new mothers who received home visits

and 35 percent of those who received phone calls were still breastfeeding exclusively after three months postpartum, compared to just 11 percent in the control group.

However, when it came to first-time mothers, Hopkinson found that home visits were hands-down the most effective approach.

She said the inexperienced mothers often lacked basic breastfeeding knowledge and skills. Many also

have limited access to Spanish-language breastfeeding information and assistance in the hospital. As a result, hands-on teaching during home visits becomes essential.

After completion of the research trial, the Proyecto Leche de Vida community-based project was continued, with additional financial support from Episcopal Health Charities and private philanthropists.

Over two years, counse-

lors in the project provided more than 2,700 breastfeeding consultations to more than 450 women. Another 1,000 women participated in prenatal breastfeeding classes.

The success of Proyecto Leche de Vida has led to an additional \$250,000 grant from the Texas Department of Health, which will help to develop similar public-service projects in other under-served neighborhoods throughout Houston.

State's annual rabies program begins

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

As the red rays of dawn stretch across the Texas sky, personnel from the Oral Rabies Vaccination Program of the Texas Department of Health take flight. Their mission: Drop about 2.75 million baits filled with oral rabies vaccine across 30,000 square miles in 48 south and west-central counties in Texas.

The program was initiated in 1995 in South Texas, where canine rabies in coyotes and domestic dogs had reached epidemic proportions and threatened to invade San Antonio and other major population areas.

The next year, an airdrop began in west-central Texas where rabies epidemic had been occurring in gray foxes since 1988.

The Health Department plan was first to halt the spread

of the outbreak and then gradually reduce the number of cases. "The program is really working," said Health Department veterinarian Skip Oertli, program director.

"Rabies in animals in South Texas had reached a high of 142 cases in 1995 when we began distributing oral rabies vaccine on a yearly basis to coyotes," Oertli said.

"Since September 1999, we have had only one case of canine rabies in a dog from Webb County. And the numbers of gray fox rabies cases in west-central Texas has dropped from a high of 265 in 1994 to 18 in 2001 through Dec. 1."

The Health Department is not alone in its goal of controlling rabies. Texas Wildlife Damage Management Services and the Texas National Guard also contribute personnel and resources to the

program.

The last distribution began Jan. 7 from the Zapata County Airport in South Texas. After about a week there, the planes relocated to the Pecos County Airport at Fort Stockton, and, after another week to 10 days, to the Gillespie County Airport at Fredericksburg.

"These are harmless baits that contain the vaccine are composed of fish meal or dog food. The vaccine inside the bait cannot cause rabies in people or animals," Oertli said.

No reports of adverse effects to pets or livestock from contact with the bait or vaccine have been reported since the program began, according to Oertli.

Oertli also reminded pet owners that they still need to get their animals vaccinated against rabies each year as required by law.

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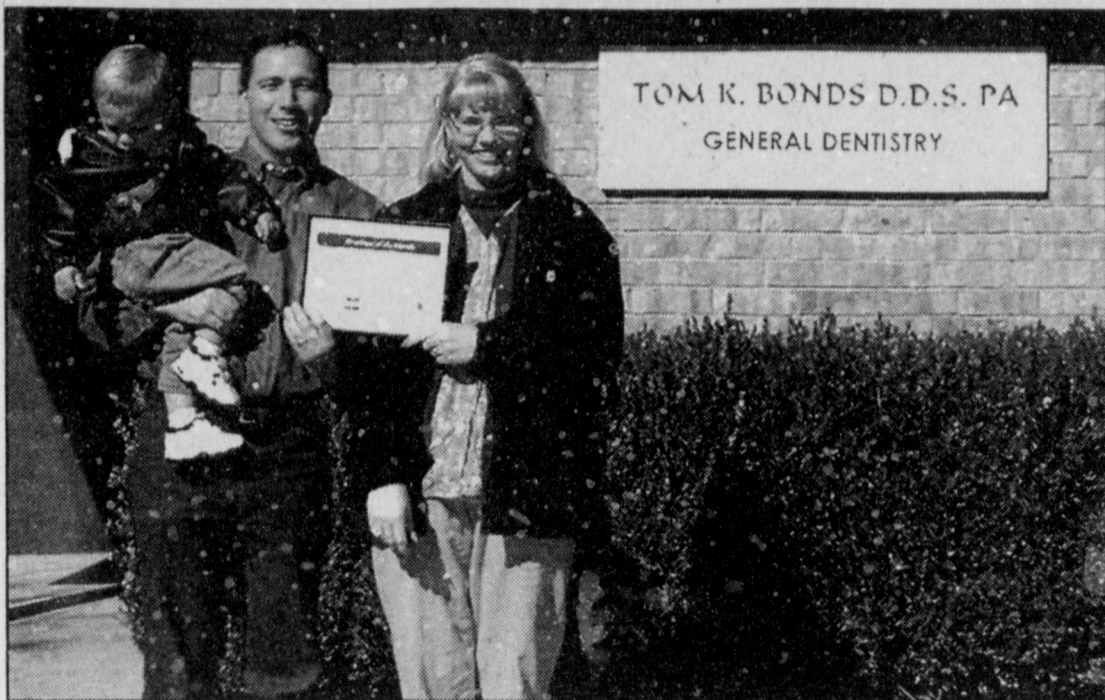
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Brought to you by the Muleshoe Journal
We urge you to get involved in your local government.



Courtesy photo: Clay Kidd

Employee of the month

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce announced this week that Lisa Hall (right) has been selected as the chamber's employee of the month for January. Presenting her a certificate is chamber President Mike Holt, assisted by Carson Holt.

Energy is essential to national defense

Energy is not only a matter of economic security — it is vital to our military security. Now more than ever before, it is critical that we reduce our reliance on foreign sources of oil.

In addition to altering the course of our lives and pushing us in to a battle against terrorism, Sept. 11 served as an unfortunate reminder of why our country must adopt a sensible, national energy policy. Stability depends on opening up our own resources.

Today, the United States depends on foreign oil production for about 60 percent of national demand. Yet back when the oil shocks of the 1970s knocked the wind out of our economy, that figure was closer to one-third.

This is unacceptable — but solvable. We must take control of our destiny and increase domestic production to help stabilize oil prices, control our own energy supply and put Americans back to work — a strong energy policy would be one of the best economic stimulus packages Congress could pass.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

One of the first steps to reduce dependence on the Middle East is to open up the Arctic

CAPITOL COMMENT




U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

National Wildlife Refuge for drilling.

Opponents of drilling in the refuge have unfortunately painted an inaccurate picture of environmental destruction and disregard for its habitat. The truth of the matter is that while the refuge is the size of South Carolina, the proposed drilling area in Alaska is only, 2,000 acres — smaller than the San Antonio International Airport.

New technologies enable drillers to efficiently use much smaller plots of land, effectively reducing any disruption to the surrounding wildlife and habitat. If we made the commitment to drill in the refuge today, in one year's time we could have the capacity to produce the amount of oil that we import from Saddam Hussein's Iraq every day.

UNCAPPING MARGINAL WELLS

There are nearly 500,000

low-volume wells around the country that have the capacity to produce roughly 10 to 15 barrels a day.

While that figure may sound low, the combined production of these wells would equal 20 percent of America's oil needs — nearly the same amount we import from Saudi Arabia.

Unfortunately, there is currently no economic incentive for producers to incur the expense of reopening and maintaining these wells. Producers need a safety net to weather the storm of price fluctuations.

That's why I have proposed bipartisan legislation that provides a tax credit for marginal well operators if oil prices fall to between \$18 and \$15 per barrel.

By implementing a floor on the price per barrel, we can create stability and ensure that domestic producers can con-

Extension summer internships available

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL
COLLEGE STATION — Texas Cooperative Extension is seeking the state's top agriculture students for summer internships in integrated pest management.

Nine internships will be awarded to college sophomores, juniors or seniors majoring in either integrated pest management, entomology, soil and crop sciences or plant pathology.

The interns will be based across the state and employed by a lo-

cal pest management steering committee. Interns will handle a variety of tasks, including scouting for pests, providing quality assurance for other scouts, collecting and summarizing data, assisting with demonstrations and assuming responsibility for one or more demonstrations.

Each intern will write a monthly report and a final report on the internship.

Hourly wages will be paid during the internship, which will last

from 10 to 15 weeks. Students who complete their internships are eligible for a stipend of \$3,500 (subject to funding).

More information is available by calling (915) 653-4576.

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tinue contributing to our nation's oil demands, even in the face of dropping prices.

THE SOLUTION

We must free ourselves from the whims of foreign dictators and unstable regimes that do not have America's best interests at heart.

Increasing domestic production by encouraging marginal wells and allowing access to Alaska National Wildlife Refuge resources would be a critical step toward ensuring that we

are not beholden to foreign countries for our energy needs.

It is critical that we emphasize a balanced and comprehensive strategy that meets the needs of today and plans for tomorrow — one that effectively balances conservation, development of alternative sources of energy, and common-sense exploration to increase our energy supply.

This will be one of my highest priorities for Congress this spring.

Cemetery marker to be dedicated

MORTON — The Cochran County Historical Committee voted Feb. 14 to hold a dedication ceremony for a Texas State Historical Medallion at Morton Memorial Cemetery.

The event is scheduled for 2 p.m. May 26, Memorial Day.

Judge James St. Clair told committee members he will

arrange with the Texas Highway Department for the installation of the marker on a pole near the cemetery entrance.

The committee also plans a fund-raising dinner, open to the public, before the ceremony. This is being planned for the Cochran County Activities Center.



Muleshoe Cattle Market
SATURDAY, FEB. 16, 2002

REPRESENTATIVE SALES

1133 head of cattle, 221 hogs and 227 sheep and goats for a total of 1,581 animals were sold at the Feb. 16th sale. Market steady to stronger on stocker steers; stocker heifers 1-2 lower. All Feeder cattle 2-3 dollars lower. Pairs and Bred cows steady with good demand. Packer cows and Bulls steady to a dollar lower.

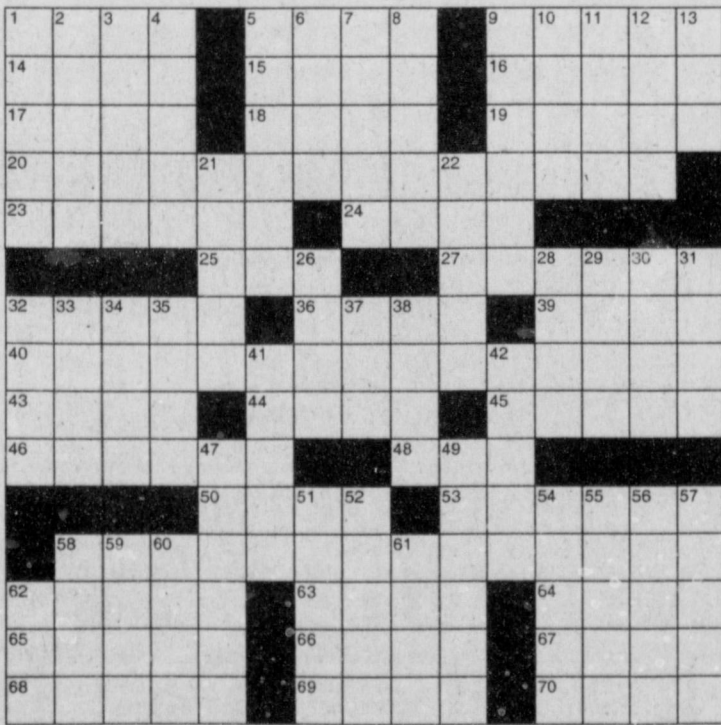
The Muleshoe Cattle Market is brought to you each week by Muleshoe Livestock Auction, located east of Muleshoe on U.S. 84. Muleshoe Livestock conducts sales every Saturday, beginning with hogs, sheep and goats at 10 a.m. and cattle following at approximately noon.

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

Seller, City	# Type	Wt.	CWT or PH
Jesus Lopez, Portales, NM	4 Hol. Hfrs .per hd.	268 lbs.	at \$500.00
Ron Dyer, Farwell	15 Hol. Strs	130 lbs.	at \$103.00
L&S Cattle, Portales, NM	15 Hol. Bulls	190 lbs.	at \$106.00
Luis Flores, Muleshoe	5 Hol. Bulls	229 lbs.	at \$100.00
Ft. Worth Co., Las Vegas, NV	36 Hol. Strs	242 lbs.	at \$97.00
Jamie Gray, Littlefield	3 Char. Strs	374 lbs.	at \$123.00
KP Farms, Lubbock	Blk. Str	305 lbs.	at \$120.00
KP Farms, Lubbock	8 Blk. Strs	383 lbs.	at \$116.50
Houston Bartlett, Bovina	2 Char. Bulls	413 lbs.	at \$118.00
Kenneth Wilhite, Muleshoe	3 Red Bulls	348 lbs.	at \$124.00
Diamond Y Cattle, Muleshoe	3 Mxd. Strs	475 lbs.	at \$106.50
Max Demel, Pep	2 Yell. Strs	495 lbs.	at \$110.00
Clyde Phillips, Portales, NM	4 Mxd. Strs	509 lbs.	at \$106.00
Clyde Phillips, Portales, NM	10 Mxd. Strs	611 lbs.	at \$89.00
Doug Walden, Littlefield	5 Mxd. Strs	542 lbs.	at \$105.50
Doug Walden, Littlefield	5 Mxd. Strs	599 lbs.	at \$93.00
John Thiessen, Seminole	4 Mxd. Strs	551 lbs.	at \$102.50
A&B Cattle, Muleshoe	3 Mxd. Strs	647 lbs.	at \$85.50
Lorenzo Armijo, Peña Blanca, NM	14 Mxd. Strs	671 lbs.	at \$85.00
Marvin Tillman, Olton	5 Blk. Hfrs	353 lbs.	at \$95.00
Diamond Y Cattle, Muleshoe	9 Mxd. Hfrs	379 lbs.	at \$99.00
KP Farms, Lubbock	4 Blk. Hfrs	426 lbs.	at \$97.00
Clyde Phillips, Portales, NM	5 Mxd. Hfrs	435 lbs.	at \$97.00
Clyde Phillips, Portales, NM	8 Mxd. Hfrs	683 lbs.	at \$77.50
Doug Walden, Littlefield	8 Mxd. Hfrs	545 lbs.	at \$88.50
John Thiessen, Seminole	8 Mxd. Hfrs	569 lbs.	at \$86.00
Donnie Baker, Morton	2 Red Hfrs	613 lbs.	at \$85.00
D&D Cattle, Portales, NM	4 Mxd. Hfrs	756 lbs.	at \$74.00
Owen Young, Levelland	7 Mxd. Hfrs	776 lbs.	at \$74.00
Houston Bartlett, Bovina	3 Blk. Pairs		\$710.00
Houston Bartlett, Bovina	2 Blk. Cows P8		\$640.00
Jason Featherston, Levelland	BWF Pair		\$720.00
Jason Featherston, Levelland	RWF Cow P7		\$570.00
Leroy Bailey, Broadview, NM	Blk. Cow P8		\$600.00
Atlas Cattle, Ft. Sumner, NM	5 Blk. Cows P6		\$545.00
J.D. Cage, Muleshoe	3 Red Cows	1078 lbs.	at \$44.00
Jason Featherston, Levelland	BWF Cow	1300 lbs.	at \$43.00
Jackie Williams, Levelland	RWF Cow	1215 lbs.	at \$43.00
Dan Day, Meadow	Blk. Cow	1265 lbs.	at \$45.00
Dan Day, Meadow	Blk. Bull	1640 lbs.	at \$60.50
Mike Beauchamp, Bovina	Char. Bull	1565 lbs.	at \$59.75

ADVANCED CONSIGNMENTS:
100 Strs. and Hfrs. 400-700 lbs. Off Local Wheat

JUST FOR FUN



9. Any of spiny woody plants
10. Andean herb
11. Usually with wooden soles
12. The 11th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
13. A small hole or loop
21. Highly incensed
22. Indigo bush
26. Large muscle of the chest
28. Pop
29. Not us
30. Republic of Ireland
31. Cheap lodging (slang)
32. Attired
33. Feel intense anger
34. Chamberlain, American Nobel physicist
35. Square measures
37. Whale (Norwegian)
38. Tyrant
41. Australian clover fern
42. A desert in South Israel
47. More comfortable
49. Residences
51. Rhizopodan
52. Patrician
54. Type genus of the Cebidae
55. Hindu calendar month
56. Mongolian monetary unit
57. Brought to a conclusion
58. Native Californian people
59. On top
60. Carryall
61. Hare-like rodent
62. Two-year-old sheep

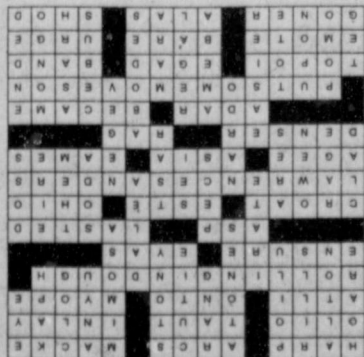
Clues ACROSS

1. Dulcimer, for one
5. Discharges
9. August __, German painter
14. Stew with chickpeas
15. Stretched tight
16. Type of filling
17. King of Huns (Scandinavian)
18. Upon
19. A person with eye impairment
20. Prosperous
23. Make certain of something
24. An unfledged or nestling hawk
25. Cobra used by the Pharaohs
27. Survived
32. Former Yugoslavian
36. This (Spanish)
39. A tributary of the Mississippi River
40. Archy McNally's creator
43. Phil __, former CIA
44. Continent
45. Designed chairs
46. More weighty

Clues DOWN

1. Sir Samuel __, Brit. statesman
2. Illinois town
3. Rivulets
4. Thick stew made of rice and chicken and small game
5. Repents
6. Called
7. Pretty, dainty person (slang)
8. Hardhearted

Crossword Answers





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4 pack Cello Wrapped **TOMATOES**

2 lb. bag **CARROTS**

1 lb. pkg. Ramirez **CHORIZO**

10 lb. bag Shurfine **ALL PURPOSE FLOUR**

30 oz. jar Dona Maria **NOPALITOS**

70 oz. bag Wonder **LONG GRAIN RICE**

7 oz. pouch (Excludes Albacore/White) **STARKIST CHUNK LIGHT TUNA**

16 oz. Frozen Can **MINUTE MAID ORANGE JUICE**



PILGRIM'S PRIDE EXTRA LARGE EGGS Xtra
18 CT.



ULTRA GAIN LAUNDRY DETERGENT Xtra
100 OZ. LIQUID OR 84 OZ. POWDER



1¢

EACH WITH 1 REWARD COUPON
1 ITEM PER COUPON

10-17 oz. pkg. Lipton **SIZZLE & STIR DINNER KIT**

7 lb. **BAG OF ICE**

16 oz. pkg. Bar S **BEEF BOLOGNA**

Asstd. 48 oz. btl. Mazola **COOKING OIL**

3 liter btl. **COCA-COLA, SPRITE OR DR. PEPPER**

16 oz. Vacuum Pack **WRIGHT'S SLICED BACON**

3 lb. bag **RED OR GOLDEN DELICIOUS APPLES**

KRAFT REG. OR LIGHT VELVEETA LOAF Xtra
32 OZ. BOX

1¢

LOWE'S OR SHURFINE MILK Xtra

ALL VARIETIES GALLON JUG Xtra

EACH WITH ONE REWARD COUPON



MIXED FRUIT Xtra
5 LB. BAG



OWENS



BREAKFAST SAUSAGE Xtra
1 LB. ROLL

Here's How It Works! Lowe's is giving you deep discounts on many of the items you purchase everyday! For each dollar you spend at Lowe's, we will give you a point. After 50 points (or \$50), you will receive a Lowe's X-tra Savings Reward Coupon. This coupon can then be redeemed for deep discounts on selected items. Each month, Lowe's will select from our most popular items in the store and deeply discount them for our X-tra Savings Reward Coupon holders. Present your coupon and receive incredible savings on selected items.
X-tra Savings Reward Program • Each Dollar You Spend is Worth ONE (1) Point • After you earn 50 points, you will receive a Lowe's X-tra Savings Reward Coupon • Use your Lowe's X-tra Savings Reward Coupon to get deep discounts on one of the selected items. • Only ONE (1) item can be purchased with each Reward Coupon • Items will be charged monthly.
THE X-TRA SAVINGS REWARD PROGRAM GOOD AT LOWE'S MULESHOE, CANYON AND TUCUMCARI STORES ONLY! Points are not transferable between stores. No substitutions please on X-tra Savings Reward Items. Only one item may be purchased at the special deep discount per Reward Coupon.

QUALITY MEAT

BEEF BONELESS **ARM ROAST** LB **\$1⁵⁹**
BONE-IN **PORK BUTT ROAST** LB **99¢**
X-TRA SAVINGS PAK BONE-IN **PORK STEAKS** LB **\$1²⁹**
X-TRA SAVINGS PAK **CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS** LB **59¢**
HORMEL 12 OZ. LINKS OR 10 OZ. PATTIES **LITTLE SIZZLERS .. YOUR CHOICE** **79¢**

OWENS ASSTD. VARIETIES **BREAKFAST SAUSAGE** 2 LB. ROLL **\$3⁵⁹**
CASA DE LOWE'S **CHORIZO** 8 OZ. PKG **99¢**
ASSTD. VARIETIES CASA DE LOWE'S **BURRITOS** PKGS. **3/⁵¹**
ASSTD. VARIETIES ECKRICH **LUNCH MAKERS FUN KIT!** 10.6-12.2 OZ. PKGS **3/⁵⁵**

ASSTD. VARIETIES **COCA-COLA, SPRITE OR DR. PEPPER** Xtra
6 PK. CANS **3/⁵⁵**

• 20 OZ. RAISIN BRAN
• 20 OZ. FROSTED FLAKES
• 15 OZ. CORN POPS
• 15 OZ. APPLE JACKS
• 15 OZ. FROOT LOOPS
KELLOGG'S CEREAL YOUR CHOICE **2/⁵⁵**
NABISCO BRAND **OREO COOKIES** 18-20 OZ. **2/⁵⁵**
HELLMANN'S **TARTAR SAUCE**... 9.3 OZ. JARS **3/⁵⁴**
SELECT GROUP **4" BAKED PIES** 5 OZ. **2/⁵¹**
LOWE'S ASSTD. **SOFT DRINKS** 12 PK. CANS **2/⁵⁴**
12 OZ. BOTTLES **POWERADE DRINKS** ... 6 PK. **2/⁵⁵**

CASH OR CHECKS NOW ACCEPTED FOR UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS through the Western Union Convenience Pay® Service
• GAS • PHONE • ELECTRIC
See store for details.

PRODUCE

CALIFORNIA **ICEBERG LETTUCE** **2/⁵¹**
GARDEN FRESH **BELL PEPPERS** **3/⁵¹**
GARDEN FRESH **CUCUMBERS** **3/⁵¹**
GARDEN FRESH **CILANTRO** BUNCHES **3/⁵¹**
FRESH, TENDER **ASPARAGUS** LB **\$2⁹⁹**
SNO WHITE **MUSHROOMS** 8 OZ. PKG **99¢**
FRESH, CRISP **CELERY** **2/⁵¹**
CELLO **CARROTS** 1 LB. BAGS **2/⁵¹**
FRESH **ANAHEIM PEPPERS** LB **99¢**
LARGE SWEET **NAVEL ORANGES** LBS **2/⁵¹**
SWEET CHILEAN **PEACHES OR NECTARINES** LB **\$1⁴⁹**
CASA DE LOWE'S HOMESTYLE OR BURRITO SIZE **FLOUR TORTILLAS** 10 CT. **89¢**

FROZEN & DAIRY

ASSTD. VARIETIES **TAMPICO PUNCH** GAL. **99¢**
ASSTD. **JENO'S PIZZA** 7.2-8.1 OZ. **79¢**
FISHER BOY **FISH STICKS** 8 OZ. PKGS **2/⁵⁴**
ASSTD. TONY'S **ITALIAN CRUST PIZZA** 15-17 OZ. PKGS **2/⁵⁴**
CREAMY **IMPERIAL SPREAD** 48 OZ. TUB **99¢**
WHOLE LOAF **ASADERO CHEESE** **\$1⁹⁹**
SHURFINE **COTTAGE CHEESE** 24 OZ. **2/⁵⁴**
ASSTD. TOP **RAMEN NOODLES** 3 OZ. **10/⁵¹**
ASSTD. NISSIN **CUP NOODLES** 2.25 OZ. **3/⁹⁹**
HONEY BOY **PINK SALMON**... 14.7 OZ. CANS **2/⁵³**
LOWE'S **WHEAT BREAD** 24 OZ. LOAF **79¢**
ASSTD. SPAM **LUNCHEON MEAT** 12 OZ. **\$1⁷⁹**

WEEKLY PRICES EFFECTIVE FEB. 20-26, 2002