

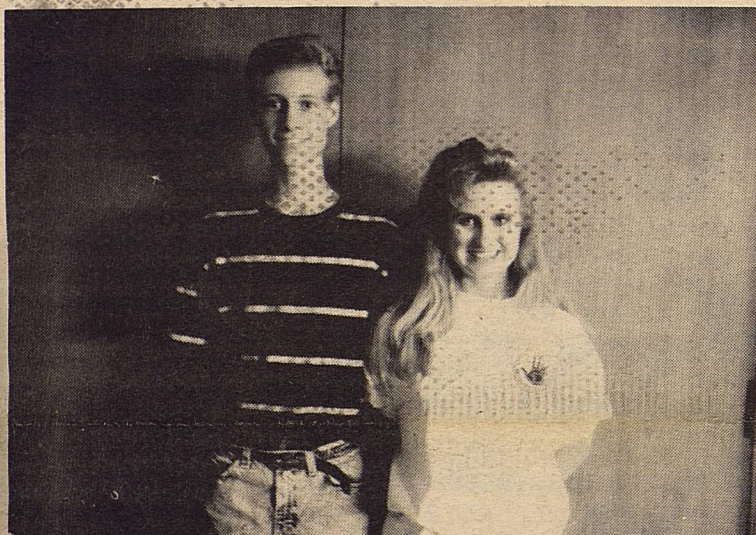
THE BORDEN STAR

VOLUME XIX

APRIL 24, 1991

Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry

STATE QUALIFIERS



Two Borden High School students have qualified for the State Academic Meet to be held in Austin May 2-4.

Junior Pat Underwood and sophomore Shawn Lewis will travel to Austin next week as a result of winning their events at the regional level in Levelland Friday, April 19.

Shawn won first place in Lincoln-Douglas debate with a perfect 4-0 record. He defeated Lea Bessire

of O'Donnell in the finals. Pat captured two second place finishes--one in feature writing and the other in editorial writing. The journalism contest will be held on Friday, May 3, with debate following that evening.

Other regional qualifiers were Heather Armstrong, who finished 6th in informative speaking; Steve Waters, accounting; Jimmy Rios, current events; and Jacquelyn McPhaul, prose reading.

COUNTY, DISTRICT CLERKS TAKE PART IN EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR

COLLEGE STATION--More than 450 county and district clerks and their staff members took part in the 19th Annual County and District Clerks' Seminar at Texas A&M University, March

18-20.

A wide range of subjects, ranging from personnel administration to hiring techniques, recording duties and responsibilities, to child support procedures, were

included in the three-day meeting.

The educational seminar had a theme of "Professional NOT Political." Clerks attending all sessions were awarded 1.0 continuing education units (10 hours) by Texas A&M University's Office of Continuing Education.

New clerks attending a special orientation session also received an additional two hours credit, for a total of 1.2 CEUs (12 hours).

The seminar was conducted by the V.G. Young Institute of County Government of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, in cooperation with the County and District Clerks' Association of Texas.

Head of the association for 1990-91 is Doris Lange of Fredericksburg, county clerk for Gillespie County.

Taking part from Borden County was Dorothy Browne, County and District Clerk.

"The seminar presented latest updates of great relevance to both county and district clerks," said Dorothy Browne.

John A. Gilmartin served as general chairmand and Joe M. Rothe as program chairman. Both are Extension Service specialists with the V.G. Young Institute.

NEED ADDRESSES

August 9-10, 1991 is the date set for a Borden County School homecoming reunion. It is to be held in the school building.

The Ex-Students Association needs addresses of former teachers and students who taught or attended school at Borden County from 1953-1990.

The following is a list of names that the association have no addresses for.

Also if the list

seems incomplete and you are able to fill in the blanks, please do so. Send the information as soon as possible to: Borden County ISD Exes, Box 312, Gail, TX., 79738.

1961
JIMMY LOCKHART
CARROLL RAMSEY
BARRY STREETMAN
JERRY WILSON
HAROLD STEADMAN

1962
JOE ALDERDICE

cont. to pg. 4

TTU, LCU students receive ARCS awards

Achievement Awards for College Scientists (ARCS) held its annual scholarship awards dinner in the Officers Club at Reese Air Force Base. Students from Texas Tech University and Lubbock Christian University who were awarded scholarships attended along with their families.

Shelly Dawn Lewis, biology; a former graduate of Borden County Schools was among the 20 undergraduates being presented with scholarships. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Lewis of Gail.

Astronaut Vance DeVoe Brand was the scheduled speaker.

The purpose of the ARCS Foundation is to provide funds for scholarships "to

deserving science, medicine and engineering." ARCS Foundation Inc., a national organization for women, was formed in 1958 in Los Angeles, Calif., as a non-profit corporation.

Currently, funds are being raised to match a \$20,000 grant from the Moody Foundation so that \$40,000 may be given to Texas Tech University and Lubbock Christian University students in graduate and undergraduate programs this year.

ARCS provides a way business, education, civic and social members of a community may combine their interests and efforts to achieve a strong contribution to the future and (to) America's youth through the achievement of scientific education.

JUNIOR HIGH ENDS TRACK SEASON

The Junior High track teams finished the season on positive notes at the district meet held at Grady on April 12th.

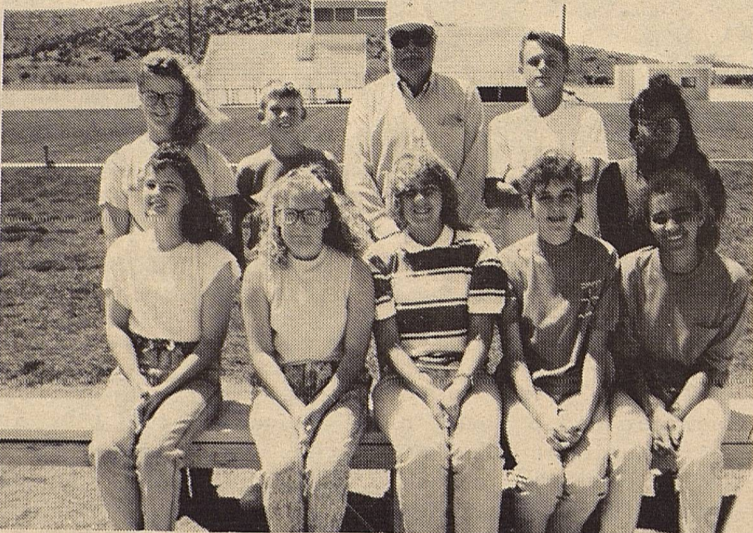
Bucky Williams triple jumped 29'5½" for a third place finish and long jumped 15'9" for a sixth place ribbon. He also high jumped 4'6" but failed to make the finals. Bucky also ran the 100 meters in 14:3 and the 200 meters in 30:4 to finish fifth and sixth. Jessie Watson also ran the 100 and 200 meters in times of 14:71 and 31:88 plus long jumping 13'4½".

The girls 4x100 relay finished fourth with their best time of the season. Maya Sheen, Shayla Jeter, Bobbie

Armstrong and Deann Pakrs make up the team. excellent 800 meters in 3:34.16 to place fourth.

Maya Sheen and Shayla Jeter ran the 100 meters in 14:4. Jana Kincheloe also entered the 100 meters and ran a 15:41. Deann Parks ran the 200 meters in 32.8 to finish sixth. Laura Hensley ran an

On the girls shot put Jana Kincheloe was fourth with a put of 25'4½". Bobbie Armstrong was sixth with a 22'1¼" followed by Shayla in a 15'8 3/4" to finish seventh.



JUNIOR HIGH TRACK TEAM MEMBERS: Back row (L. to R.) JANA KINCHELOE, JESSE WATSON, COACH FRISBIE, BUCKY WILLIAMS and LETICIA RIOS. Bottom row DEANN PARKS, SHAYLA JETER, BOBBIE ARMSTRONG, LAURA HENSLEY, and MAYA SHEEN. (Star Photo)



JUNIOR HIGH TENNIS TEAM MEMBERS: Top row(L. to R) JOSH ADAIR, KURT HESS, BUCKY WILLIAMS and ROY CLAYTON. Bottom row COACH JONES, NICOLE LAWRENCE, ERICA NANCE, MANDI HERRING, SHAYLA JETER and BOBBIE ARMSTRONG. (Star Photo)

U.I.L. AWARDS BANQUET

The Annual U.I.L. Awards Banquet honoring all high school U.I.L. participants (Literary and Athletic) will be held May 7, 1991, at 7:30 P.M. in the school cafeteria.

The cost of the banquet will be \$5.50 per person. Students being honored will attend without charge.

Please R.S.V.P. by May 3, 1991 in the Superintendent's Office (806)756-4313.

Runs at Ackerly Junior High Girls

On Friday, April 5, the Junior High track team traveled to Ackerly to participate in the Sands Track Meet.

Bobbie Armstrong, DeAnn Parks, Leticia Rios and Maya Sheen placed fourth with a good effort of 59.9.

Maya also placed fourth in the 100 meters with a 14.5 and sixth in the 200 meters in a time of 31.4. Leticia also ran the 100 and 200 in times of 16.1 and

33.7. Also interested in the 200 meter was DeAnn Parks and she ran at 32.5. Laura Hensley ran the 100 meter hurdles in a 22.83 to finish seventh. She also ran a 3:17.3 in the 800. Bobbie Armstrong ran the 100 meters in 15.9 plus putting the shot 22 feet 5½ inches for a sixth place finish. Also putting the shot was Jana Kincheloe with a 23'9" effort for fourth place and Shayla Jeter had a good effort of 17.9½.

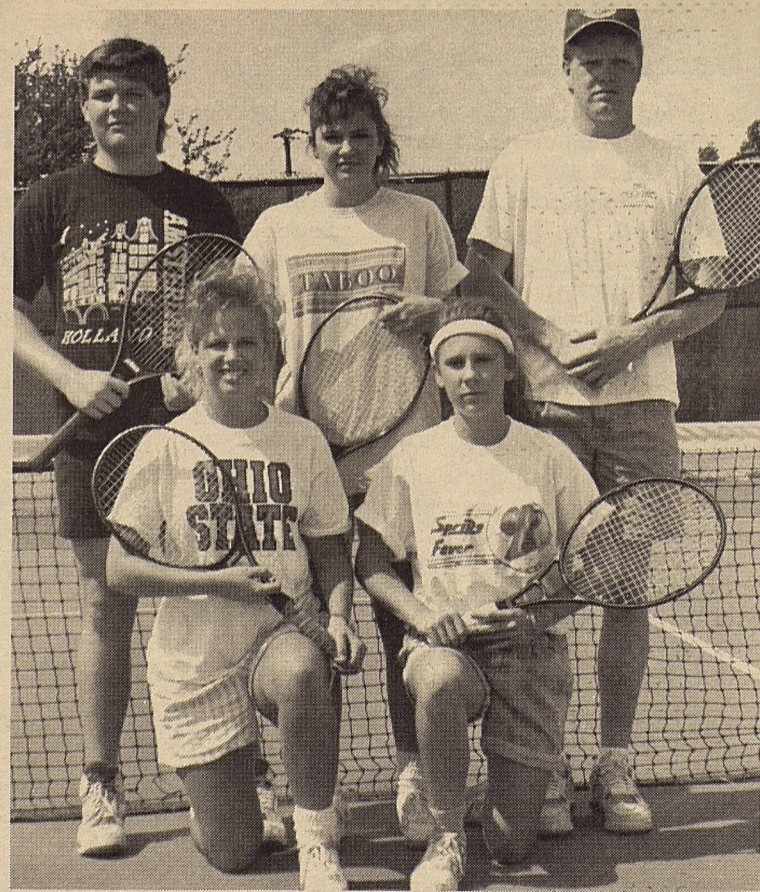
Golf Teams Compete at District

The boys and girls teams traveled to Sweetwater to compete for honors in district 13-A on April 9th.

The boys team consisted of Cole Vestal, who had a score of 64-65 for a 129. Seth Vestal 84-73= 157, Cody Cox 52-55= 107, Kirk Jones 60-63= 123 and Guy Will Zant 69-59=128. The team finished in third place behind the teams

from Trent and Blackwell.

The girls teams consisted of Kristen Monger, Pat Underwood and Betsy Breeden. Kristen had a eighteen hole score of 66-65=131 Pat 56-72=128 and Betsy shot a 60-85=145 total. In the girls division, Blackwell was first and the team from Highland was second.



REGIONAL BOUND NETTERS -- Borden County will be represented in three events at the Region I-A tennis tournament Wednesday and Thursday in Abilene. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Kristin Monger and Shayne Hess, girls doubles; (middle) Amanda Anderson, girls singles; and Richard Buchanan and Cole Vestal, boys doubles. (Lamesa Press-Reporter Photo)

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and The Borden
County I.S.D.

SPC SUMMER SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

Registration for the first summer term at South Plains College will be May 30.

Sign-up times are 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. on both the Levelland and Lubbock campuses. Classes begin June 3.

"SPC is offering a wide variety of five-week and 10-week classes this summer," said Bobby James, registrar and dean of admissions. "We encourage anyone who is interested in taking some summer classes to give us a call for more information."

In addition to regular five-week classes at SPC, 10-week classes offered on the Levelland campus include automotive service technology, cosmetology, diesel service technology, occupational therapy assistant and welding.

Ten-week classes offered on the Lubbock campus include automotive machinist trades, automotive technology, business vocations, chemical abuse counseling, computer information systems, electronics technology, human service and rehabilitation science, math, microcomputing, radiologic technology, respiratory care, spanish, surgical technology and vocational nursing.

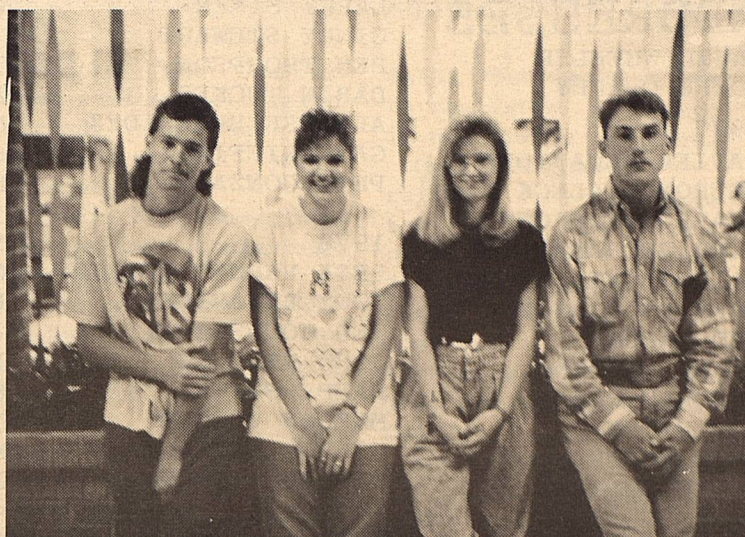
For more information, contact the SPC Levelland campus at 894-9611, SPC, Lubbock at 747-0576 or the Base Education Office at Reese, 885-3048.



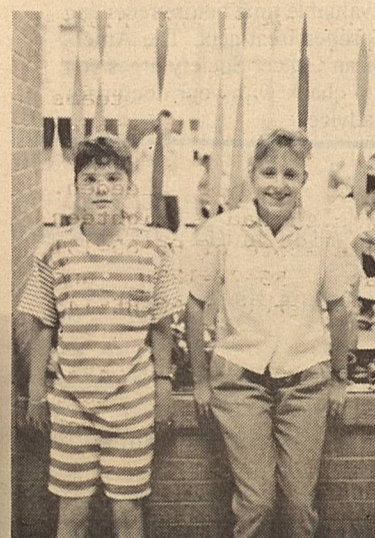
Texas, possibly because of its cowboy heritage, has developed a mystique for being a wide-open, hard-drinking place. But the fact is, for a long time, more of Texas was dry than wet. That is to say, the people who lived like saints in certain counties had to go to other Texas counties to buy booze. By the time Texas passed the National Prohibition Act in 1918, there were fewer than a dozen counties where you could buy alcohol legally!



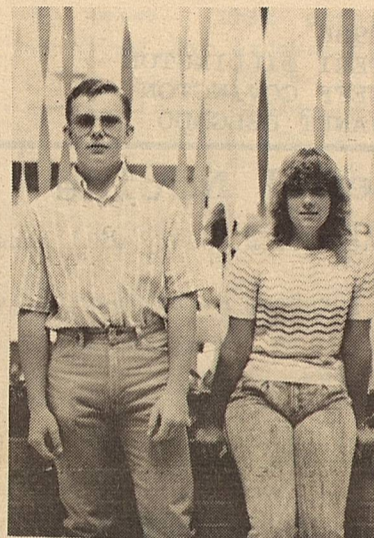
HIGH SCHOOL BETA CLUB: DAVID BUCHANAN 11th, MELODY HARRISON 9th; KRISTIN MONGER 11th; JACQUELYN McPHAUL 10th; JEANA JONES 12th and BRANDON ADCOCK 9th.



HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL: JASON SHARP 12th; AMANDA ANDERSON 11th; CHARLOTTE BALL 12th and ERIC ANDERSON 12th. Not available for photo PATSY UNDERWOOD 11th; and SHANE KEMPER 12th.



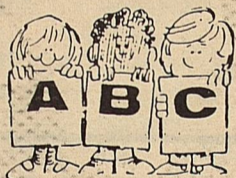
JUNIOR HIGH BETA: SARA LUSK 6th and REAGAN SMITH 6th. (Star Photo)



JUNIOR HIGH HONOR ROLL: DOUG FLANIGAN 8th. and BOBBIE ARMSTRONG 8th. (Star Photo)



ELEMENTARY HONOR ROLL: Back row (l. to r.) SABRINA OLIVIA 2nd. TAMMY COOLEY 5th; RENDEE HERRING 5th; KATI MERRITT 4th, JEFFREY DENNIS 4th, COLT MILLER 4th and DAYNA PARKS 4th. Middle row: MIKANNA HERRING 2nd; SHAINA ISAACS 3rd; KACI POOLE 3rd; JULIE MAYES 3rd; STACI O'BRIEN 3rd; REBEKAH HENSLEY 2nd; KY MERRITT 3rd; HOLLY THOMAS 2nd; ANDRIANNA BAEZA 3rd; JENIFER LaRUE 2nd; LINSDEY SMITH 3rd and SHAWNA ELLISON 3rd. Bottom row JERRY HERNANDEZ 2nd; D.J. SMITH 2nd. Not available for photo SHARLA MILLER 4th and TANNER MILLER 2nd.



PRE-SCHOOL DAY

Pre-Kindergarten Day will be Friday, May 10th. All pre-school children who will be 5 years of age on or before September 1, 1991, are invited to attend school on this date. The kindergarten class will be the hosts. Please contact the bus driver in your area if you would like for your child to ride the bus or the parent may bring the child to school. If your child rides the bus, please send a note with the name of the child and parents, address and phone number. This is very important in order to contact you if necessary, and to send you beginning school information later in the summer.

Registration cards will be provided for each child. If you bring your child you may wish to bring immunization records and birth certificate. If the parent elects not to visit the school on this date, please return the registration card, birth certificate and immunization records when your child reports to school in August.

GARAGE SALE

The Senior Class is having a Garage Sale on Saturday, May 4th.

Any and all donation's would largely appreciated.

Contact John Wilson for more information at 806-756-4384.

KINDERGARTEN TO PRESENT PLAY

Mrs. Copeland's Kindergarten would like to present "The King & Queen Who Wouldn't Speak" on Thursday, May 2nd. at 2:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy this program. It was the same play her first Kindergarten class performed and she would like to present it to you with her last class.

NEED

cont. from pg. 1

CHARLENE CAPPS
JIMMY MCEACHERN
VENITA RAINS
CAROLYN SMITH
EDDY LOU WALKER
BETH BOYD
SANDRA CROW
CHERYL IRVIN ECHOLS
SUE SZITER
MARCUS SWEAT

1963
LOUIS BREWER
TIM COCHERHAM
SUSAN DAVIS
DAVID DENNIS
DAVID KELLY
LEONA MCEACHERN FRENCH

1964
ROBERT BEAL
MARVIN PYRON
CARROLL ZANT

1965
HOPE MORENO
ANN RAINS
LLOYD ZANT
JEROLD KINGSTON

1966
WAYNE RAINS
CHARLES TEAGUE
LARRY WALLACE
SHARON WILKERSON
PAULA BOBO
DAVID CASS
KAY HOGAN
JOE KROPP
PRESTON STONE
MARY JANE TAYLOR

1967
JACQUE DENNIS
WAYNE KELLY
TOMMY MORENO
DAVID SUMMERS
KEITH SWAIM
DAVID WALKER
DENNIS YADON
GLENDA CASS
FRED CASTILLO
MARIAN GOODGION
ALFONSO LOPEZ
JANE MURPHY
MARGARET PYRON
RONNIE TAYLOR

1968
CELIA CARRENO
LYNDA GRAY
PAT HAGINS
BETTY LITTLE
DWAINE CLANTON
RANDY CORNETT
DAVID LANSFORD
SANTOS TIJERINA

1969
CARMEN MORENO
GLEN PERRY
NORMAN PYRON
CURTIS SWAIM
DELIA CARRENO
ALBERT OLIVAREZ
AVERY PALMER
JOHN SOLIS

ADDRESSES

DAVID WHEELER
DOYLE CURREY
1970
XAVIER BENAVIDEZ
CHERON BILLECK
CHARLOTTE BROWN
JUDY BUCHANAN
ELIDORA VILLANUEVA
GARY WILKERSON
TED YADON
FRANK CARRENO
DEBORAH HAYNES
JOE HYDEN
GALE KROPP
STEVE SUMMERS

1971
DANIEL BAEZA
JOHNNY BROOKS
BONNIE CURREY
RICK HENDLEY
JIMMY HODGE
MARVIN BOYD
JOHNNY LANSFORD
OLIVIA MORENO
ALBINO NOVOLA

1972
CHARLES BILLECK
STEVE BOYD
CINDY BROWN
JIMMY BROWN
JERRI BETH HODNETT
MICHAEL MCHENRY
SUZIE PROCTOR
JULIA BENAVIDEZ
LYDIA CARRENO
LESLIE GREEN
ROYCE PYRON
GWEN STANSELL

1973
BILL BENAVIDEZ
JIMMY HAYSE
STEPHEN LOCKHART
ROBERT HYDEN
JOHNNY MCDIFFITT

1974
JIMMY GRAY
LESLIE HAGINS
DIANA MCHENRY
HENRY OLIVAREZ
ALLEN HEBEL
JOYCE MCDIFFITT
JUDY RICH
DONNA SIMER
GARY SIMER

1975
MELODY GROSE
KEM LOCKHART
MARION BENAVIDEZ
BARBARA BROWN
JOE MARTINEZ
JUNIOR OLIVAREZ
LINDA GASS

1976
JAMES BUCHANAN
BEATRICE GARDEA
KATY GARDEA
VINCE HATFIELD
DEBBIE LITTLE

1977
GAIL GROSE

JACKIE LOCKHART
DAVID POOL
LARRY SIMER
CINDY STEWART
BEN THOMPSON
DARIN TUCKER
ALVAISE BENAVIDEZ
GAY GRIFFIN
PETE GONZALES

1978
LESA BARNES ROLLINS
TONY BENAVIDEZ
TED JOHNSON
JOHN REDDING
RANDY SMITH
MARLON VAUGHN
SYLVIA ESPINOZA
WENDELL STROUP

1979
JOHN ELDRIDGE
VICKIE JONES
BRENT RHOTON
PENNYE THOMPSON

1980
CARLEY DOYLE

1981
SHARLA HERRING

ANITA MASSENGILL
RICKY SMITH
CHARLA VAUGHN
1982
ALFONZO BENAVIDEZ
MARIA BENAVIDEZ
SHARON BRUMMETT PERRY
DARRELL GREEN
TERRY MORENO
MICHAEL VAUGHN
GLORIA VILLANUEVA
BECKY SIMER

1983
KELLY LANGFORD
JULIE REDDING
MARK RICE
JENNIFER WILSON

1985
DOUG ADAMS
SIMONA BENAVIDEZ
ROBIN HOOD
NANCY MARTINEZ
SHANA BRADSHAW

1986
TERI BILLINGTON
JEFF COVINGTON
JANET DELGADO

JERRY GREEN
DARRELL HODNETT
SHON PARKER
DOYCE TAYLOR

1987
DANA DOUGLASS
ROCKIE HARBER
MICHELLE JOHNSON
BG KROPP
BOBBY SQUYERS

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TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

Using unproven methods of cancer treatment could cost you your life. Don't waste valuable time before receiving proper treatment. The American Cancer Society urges you to check with your doctor for advice.

Legal Notice

Notice is given herewith that Borden County will accept bids until 10:00 a.m. Monday, May 28, 1991 for the purchase of new paving equipment as follows:

Asphalt distributor
Truck for distribution

Minimum specifications and other information may be obtained by contacting the County Judge's office, 806/756-4391.

The Commissioners' Court of Borden County reserves the right and privilege of rejecting any and or all bids submitted.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSIONER'S COURT

Van L. York
Van L. York
County Judge
Borden County

BORDEN COUNTY EMERGENCY NUMBERS

SHERIFF'S OFFICE: 806/756-4311

EMT'S

GAIL

Wanda Kite-EMT-I
806/756-4411

Richard Laverty-EMT
806/756-4363

David Mayes-EMT-I
806/756-4446

Royce Nance-EMT
806/756-4467

Buddy Wallace-EMT
806/756-4478

John Wilson-EMT
806/756-4384

DONATIONS & Memorials may be mailed to:

BORDEN COUNTY EMS
Box 153
Gail, Texas 79738

PLAINS

Frances Burkett-EMT-P
806/439-6683

AERO CARE:
1-806/627-2376

POISON CONTROL:
1-806/392-8548

FLUVANNA

James Aaron-EMT-I
915/573-7760

Mitey Bilano-EMT-P
915/573-7312

Freida Campbell-EMT-P
915/573-7342

Kent Holmes-EMT-P
915/573-4164

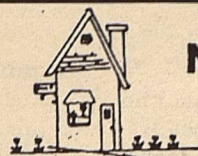
Barbara Miller-EMT-P
915/573-7720

Debi Parks-EMT-P
915/573-8615

Judy Pylant-EMT-P
915/573-3486

Nelva Jones-EMT-I
915/573-2426

SEASONAL ALLERGIES SUFFERERS



NOTES FROM HOME

BY DEBRA POLLARD

Home Demonstration/CEA

HIGH CHOLESTEROL LEVELS IN CHILDREN LINKED WITH TV VIEWING

First, Americans learned that children could be threaten by obesity while sitting idle watching hour after hour of programs on television. Now, researchers have found a link between excessive TV-watching by children and high blood cholesterol levels.

At the University of California-Irvine, researchers matched more than 1,000 young children's and adolescents' cholesterol measurements with their TV-viewing habits. They discovered that children who reported watching at least two hours of television a day were twice as likely to have high blood cholesterol, above 200 milligrams, as those who watched TV less than two hours daily. Results indicated that those who watched four or more hours a day were nearly four times as likely to have cholesterol levels over 200.

Eight percent of those tested, were found to have blood cholesterol levels of 200 milligrams per deciliter or higher. Another 13 percent had levels between 176 and 199. The American Academy of Pediatrics considers a cholesterol level over 175 in a child older than two to be high enough to warrant treatment. These results are of great concern, especially since the average youngster in the United States watches at least three hours of TV each day.

Obesity, linked with

too much TV viewing, seems to be one of the factors contributing to the problem. Children who are becoming couch potatoes in front of the television set are not spending as much time playing ball, roller skating or bicycling--physical activities that burn calories and exercise the heart. This sets the stage for excessive weight gain, which in itself is a risk factor for high blood cholesterol. Children who watch a lot of television are more likely to exercise less than their peers who spend relatively little time watching the TV.

It is believed that commercials play another role in the TV-cholesterol link. After watching one tempting food commercial after another, youth who watch the tube for long periods of time are influenced to eat high-cholesterol levels. Research shows that people who regularly view such ads consume more calorie-and fat laden snacks than usual.

Considering these new findings and other evidence, parents of children who spend hours in front of the television should try to curb this habit. The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests limiting television time to no more than two hours a day and encouraging children to participate in after-school activities that require physical exertion.



The six foot kangaroo has a less than 1 gram baby; the blue whale a nearly 10 ton one.

People who suffer from seasonal allergies already know that the season started early this year.

Their sneezing, itching and congestion told them so.

"The pollen that brings misery to sufferers appeared early due to a mild winter," said Dr. David P. Huston, associate professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

"Of course, some people suffer almost year round from such allergies because they live in temperate climates where the pollen count remains high most of the time," Huston said.

In temperate areas, tree pollens usually are heavy in March, succeeded in the coming months by pollens. January and February are relatively irritant-free for many areas.

"Air pollution compounds the problem," Huston said. "Chemicals and smoke can definitely aggravate allergy symptoms."

Some people are afflicted with perennial allergies in addition to seasonal allergies.

"These are the people allergic to things which, unlike a specific pollen, are present in their environments year-round," Huston said.

Many people are allergic to the dander of animals they keep in their homes.

Others have what is commonly called a dust allergy but is in fact a reaction to contaminants found in dust. Roaches and mites contribute heavily to this.

Molds are also common causes of allergic reactions. Air conditioning systems and air ducts frequently harbor these allergy villains.

"Avoidance is clearly the best of all alternatives," Huston

said, "But we have to be realistic. Avoidance is not always possible."

Over-the-counter relief is available for allergies that cause runny noses, itchy eyes and congestion. Those most commonly used are antihistamines, but they can cause drowsiness.

Prescription drugs, including antihistamines that do not cause drowsiness, are available through physicians.

"Allergy shots are not necessarily the first line of therapy," Huston said. "The shots do help some people, but they should be reserved for patients whose allergy symptoms cannot be

adequately controlled in other ways."

Allergies and allergy-like reactions can result from conditions other than pollens and perennial irritants. Foods, for example, can be a source of allergies, and some dyes and other substances can cause allergic-like reactions.

Careful screening by allergists can help people pinpoint the causes of their suffering, Huston said.

A free brochure entitled "Living with Allergies" is available by writing to "Living with Allergies," Baylor College of Medicine, P.O. Box 130567, Houston, Texas 77219.



Baking soda mixed with water can remove coffee and tea stains from china and plastic dishes.

FROM AT&T BELL LABORATORIES

NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK
April 21-27

COMMUNICATIONS WORD SEARCH

BY HOLLY BIGELOW MARTIN

Communication has always been important to people. Scientists and engineers have developed technology to help us communicate better and faster across longer distances than ever before. Now, people can not only talk to each other over the telephone, but they can send computer files, read electronic bulletin boards, and even pay their bills over telephone lines. Soon, communications companies will be able to send hundreds of video channels over the telephone line to your house.

All the telephones, computers, fax machines, switches, and the lines that connect them are called the communications network. The network changes the sound of your voice and the data from your computer to electronic signals. Sometimes these electronic signals are changed to light particles, or photons, using tiny, powerful lasers. The photons travel superfast for hundreds or thousands of kilometers through hair-thin glass strands called optical fibers. At the other end of the fiber, the photons get changed back into electrical signals. Finally, the signals become the sound of your voice in your friend's telephone, or letters and numbers that show up on her PC.

The number of calls, faxes and computer messages is growing rapidly. To meet this demand, scientists and engineers are creating digital switches that can each handle a trillion bits of information every second. This corresponds to almost 200 fax messages, 660,000 video conference calls, or 6,600 high-definition TV channels.

Someday, you may be one of the thousands of scientists and engineers at AT&T Bell Laboratories who are working to make communications faster, easier and cheaper. To get started, find and circle these words about communications technology. The words are listed from top to bottom and left to right... how many can you find? (Hint: The 32 words hidden in the puzzle are found around the borders of this article.)

S TELEPHONE PLU
P A T A L K V P H O T O N
S C R E E N O T G V R C P
O H C P C D I I B I T H L
F I L E T I C C O D E A U
T P A F R S E A T E S N C
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LET ME GET MY HAT
BY DENNIS POOLE

**WHY TEXAS COWS
HAVE FEWER CALVES**

Today's career-minded woman isn't the only one postponing motherhood. Lots of Texas beef cows aren't birthing every year either.

The goal in beef cattle is for every cow to have a calf every 365 days. But in the real world of practical production, the better managers achieve about 75 percent of that. Poor managers do well to get 60 percent of their cows to calve at all.

Solitude on freewheeling ranges versus the confines of motherhood isn't the issue with cows, however. More likely, good food and a healthier lifestyle would make calving easier for the state's beefy babes.

The best operations in Texas compare favorably with any other area as far as reproductive efficiency goes. But the average in Texas, and in the entire southern part of the United States, is lower than that of the North.

Lots of beef cows--about 16 percent of the nation's total--live in Texas. Those 5.4 million Texas beef cows produced about 13 percent of the calves born in the United States last year.

But that's nothing compared to what the cows could be doing given a little effort from managers.

Some ranchers claim they have a 90-95 percent calf crop. But what they do is cull

out any cows that don't have a calf, and those cows aren't counted. So the average may be 80 percent.

Reproductive efficiency is a big issue for the Texas cattle industry, because a rancher carries the expense of a cow all year and it is costly if she doesn't calve.

Part of the problem may be environmental effects on the animals, since low calving rates are common across the South.

It's hotter and more humid in the summer, and some of the breeds are not well adapted to that.

But such factors are relatively minor concerns.

Nutrition is the biggest reason across the board for inefficient reproduction. The second is poor management from the health viewpoint, things such as proper worming and vaccinations.

That being so, experts have toyed with everything from cottonseed meal to aspirins figuring the effect on reproduction.

So far, it all boils down to food.

Most problems are due to the lack of adequate forage and the failure to supplement. Ranchers leave cattle out on the range to eat what they can get. You can't blame them. If you own 40,000 acres and the cattle are scattered over a large area, it's hard to do otherwise.

When supplemental

feed is provided, it sometimes contains elements that adversely affect reproduction.

Cottonseed meal, a by-product of the state's second major agriculture component, can impact beef cattle reproduction, for example.

Until recently, the common belief was that cattle could detoxify gossypol, a toxic pigment that occurs naturally in cottonseed. That's true only up to a point.

Two changes in the cottonseed industry have impacted cattle feed: the widely adopted cottonseed processing method, solvent extraction, leaves more

gossypol in the meal than the previous heat-pressure technique; and, new cotton varieties are being bred for higher gossypol because it repels insects, thus reducing a farmer's dependence on chemicals.

Research found that as little as 2 pounds of solvent-extracted cottonseed meal can affect the reproductive ability of both bulls and cows.

Experts recommends not feeding that type of cottonseed meal to bulls and to females only if a winter supplement is needed.

A rancher can stop feeding solvent-extracted cottonseed meal

after the winter, and not see a negative effect on the operation.

But such cottonseed meal fed over longer periods can cause fragility of the red blood cells in females as well as degenerative embryos.

One-third of the embryos were degenerating if the animals were receiving large quantities of solvent-extracted cottonseed meal. A rancher must be certain not to use that kind of meal for embryo donor cows.

Attention to nutrition in the beef herd is the key to increasing productivity. Timely supplementation can affect the bottom line dramatically.

OUTDOORS

**FISHIN' TIPS
FROM THE TRACKER®
PROS**



Larry Nelson

Here's a tip to increase performance from your outboard engine. Consider one of the newer designed, four-blade propellers.

Props like the O.M.C. Shooter are designed for better acceleration out of the hole. They get the boat on plane faster than most conventional three-blade props.

Most operators feel they get a more stable ride and have better mid-range acceleration with four-blade props. A combination over and through the hub exhaust design provides much of the performance from the four-blade prop.

The trade off might be a loss of 2 or 3 miles per hour of top end speed for the better hole-shot provided by the four-blade prop.

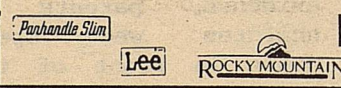


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