

The Merkel Mail

Thursday, August 20, 1987 . . . Merkel, Texas

28 cents

MISD trustees adopt 1987 budget that calls for two cent tax decrease, adopts scales

The Merkel school board met Tuesday night and decided to lower local property taxes here two cents.

Trustees set the local maintenance rate at 95 cents and set the local debt service rate at 10 cents. The \$1.05 total tax rate is two cents lower than the 1986 rate of \$1.07.

There were a few changes made in the preliminary budget board members looked at earlier this month. The district adopted a new salary schedule for aides, custodians, cafeteria employees, mechanics and maintenance personnel. Board members also added \$5,000 for two ice machines at Merkel and one in the Tye cafeterias. That figure also included glasses so the cafeterias could begin serving iced tea.

The budget was also changed to allow more money to be spent on teaching supplies. Merkel High received an additional \$4,000, Merkel Middle School \$4,000, Merkel Elementary \$5,000 and Tye Elementary \$3,000.

The budget also allows for \$2,000 to be spent on new girls basketball uniforms and included additional funds in curriculum for achievement tests at each grade level. The budget also maintained the present salary schedule and benefits for all MISD teachers but did not include funding any pay steps beyond state maximums.

MISD is budgeted to spend \$4,579,608 this year. Of that, \$1,252,475 will come from local taxes, \$2,943,250 will come from state funds, \$214,051 from federal funds, \$60,000 from other sources (lunch room, ticket sales, etc) and \$109,832 from debt service revenue.

MISD has a surplus of \$1,067,032 as of August 31, 1987 and expects to have a surplus of \$1,095,521 August 31, 1988.

The only trouble the board had agreeing on the budget was in the amount of pay raises for department supervisors. Board member David Seymore made a motion, that died for a lack of a second that only one of four department supervisors be given a pay raise. The board passed, on a 4-3 vote, a motion that funded a 5 percent

TOTAL BUDGET FOR ALL AREAS

Local Maintenance Revenue	\$1,252,475
Revenue from State (all sources)	2,943,250
Federal Funds	214,051
Revenue from all other sources	60,000
Debt Service Revenue	109,832
Total Projected Revenue	\$4,579,608
Projected Fund balance as of 8-31-87	\$1,067,032
Total Expenditures Budgeted for 87-88	\$4,551,119
Projected Fund balance as of 8-31-88	\$1,095,521

pay raise for Gerri Dunlap, and three percent raises for Hayden Reeves, Leon Harris and Elizabeth Wilson.

Board members also decided Tuesday night to forgive penalty and interest on a tax account because of a mistake by the Taylor County Central Appraisal District. A Jones County woman owns some mineral rights that are located within MISD. In late 1986, she received a statement from the central appraisal district for 1985 back taxes with penalty and interest. She had not previously received any statements from the district. She paid the taxes but did not pay the penalty and interest.

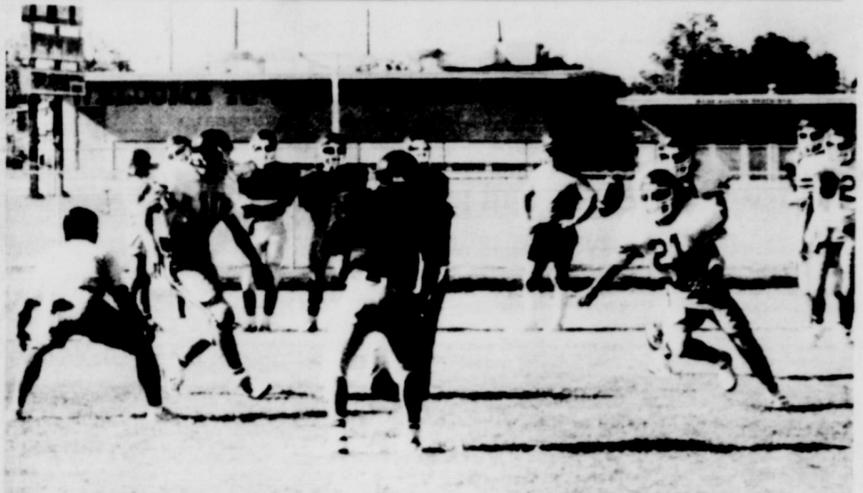
The appraisal district told MISD superintendent James Logan they had made a mistake on the account and the board decided to forgive the penalty and interest debt.

Following a two hour executive session, board members hired Ken Law as a middle school coach and teacher and accepted the resignation of Becky Smith as a kindergarten teacher at Merkel Elementary. The board also agreed to hire Debbie Roberson as an aide to Curriculum director David Laman and Merkel High principal Robert Damron. The district received 21 applications for that position.

MHS students will not need to pick up 1987-88 schedules until first day of school

MHS students will not need to pick up their class schedules before school starts this year. Class schedules will be handed out in the gym from 8:00 until 8:30 a.m. the first day of school, Tuesday, Sept. 1st, according to Merkel High principal Robert

Damron. In the past, students had been asked to pick their schedules up before school starts but Damron told *The Mail* Tuesday "There will be a lot less confusion and it's easier on the office staff to have everyone pick them up at the same time."



§ Merkel Badger quarterback Kenneth Jowers [10] pitches out to Moreno [21] lays down a block. Friday. The Badgers were getting ready. Staff photo

Badgers travel to Coleman Friday as the 1987 football season begins

Saying his Merkel Badgers are ready to start hitting someone other than their own teammates, coach Dick Lepard and his 1987 crew will travel to Coleman Friday for their first scrimmage.

The scrimmage will get started at 6 p.m. with the JV taking the field first and the varsity should get started between 7:00 and 7:15. The varsity will go 20 plays on offense and defense, take a break and then go another set of 20.

Coleman runs out of the I and Power I formation, the same offensive look the Badgers will face in Sweetwater and Anson. Coleman defenses out of a split six formation.

Lepard told *The Mail* Tuesday "We don't have any major injuries up to now and the kids have shown a real good attitude so far. We will be carrying 30 players on the varsity and we will know after the scrimmage who those 30 players are."

He said the offense is coming along better than it did early in the season last year and he found it hard to believe the season was already here. "When you play Sweetwater the first game, you had better get yourselves ready early," he added.

The Badgers will have the luxury of having linemen only

going one way this year and said he thinks they will be more effective. He said the line has performed well and the backfield in intact from last year's 6-4 team.

The coach added "I think we will be able to match up talent for talent with any team in the district. The best team doesn't always win, there's a little more to it than that. Right now, they look like they are working as a team and they have been a pleasure to coach."

The Badgers will host Winters here at 6 p.m. August 27th and then will travel to Sweetwater in their season opener Sept. 4th.

Boosters plan Monday ice cream supper

The Merkel Badger Booster Club officers for 1987-88 are Bob Brandon- president, Virgil Jones-vice president, Pat Brandon secretary & treasurer and Bill Sloan-reporter.

Booster memberships for this

year are \$10 per family. A cap or visor is \$12.50 and a cap and a visor is \$15.

Their next meeting will be Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Badger Stadium. A community wide ice cream supper is planned and

everyone is invited to come and meet the Badger athletes.

Everyone is urged to get a purple or gold shirt as we prepare for the season opening football game with Sweetwater Sept. 4th. Purple Power!

Trent travels to May Friday

by W. E. Dulaney

The defending District 4 Zone champion Trent Gorilla's have started workouts under the direction of new coaches Doug Gore and Ed Donahugh.

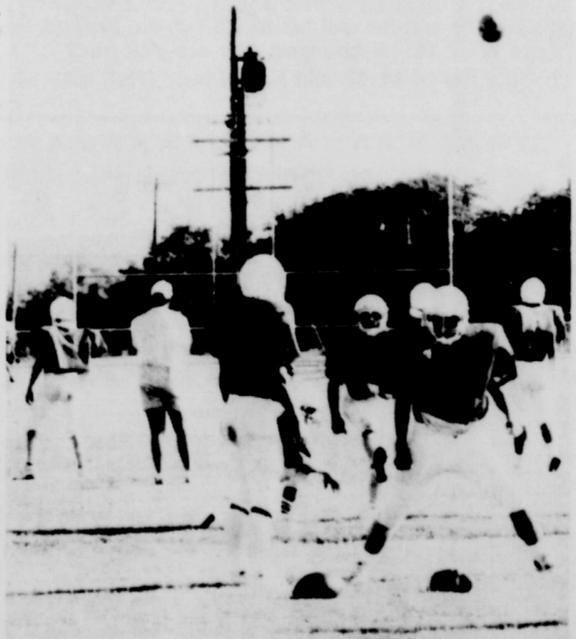
The Gorilla's are working out twice a day in preparation for their scrimmage with May Friday.

"We have 20 kids out and they have all been looking good. I am really impressed with they way they work together and their attitudes," said Coach Gore. "I can honestly say they have the best attitude of any team I have ever worked with and I am really optimistic about the season, it should be a good one," he added.

The Gorilla's have six of 12 returning starters led by a Dave Campbell honor roll selectee Lewis Knapp at running back. All-district quarterback Doc Carriker, all-district lineman Brian Massey and All-District safety Jason Massey, along with Mike Payne and Lee Hunt are the returning starters. Other players to keep a close eye on are Chris Jones and senior lineman Scott O'Kelly, who is returning after being out for two years with a knee injury, and Keith Oden.

After the scrimmage in May, Lueders-Avoca comes to Trent for a scrimmage Aug. 28th and the Gorillas open their season Sept. 4th at Grady.

If the Gorilla's make the play-off's and win the zone competition, they will likely play # 1 ranked please see page 2



§ The Trent Gorilla's were busy getting ready for their season opening scrimmage at May Friday and will host Lueders-Avoca next Friday. § The Gorilla's are hoping to repeat in the playoffs again this season. Staff photo

Readers asked to participate in survey

What do you think of the news media and advertising?

Published on Page 7 in this issue of *The Merkel Mail* is a 20 question survey in which the public is given the opportunity to answer the above question.

Those questions are seeking to determine advertising, reading and listening habits, as well as the

public's opinion of the news media. And although its not necessary to answer every question, there space provided for local respondents to further detail their viewpoints.

The names of respondents are needed to verify the authenticity of returns, but the identity of each

will be protected on a totally confidential basis.

Conducted by a statewide marketing interest, results of the poll could well determine the nature of advertising this area reads, sees and hears in the future.

Readers are requested to consider participating in this survey.

Local Soccer registrations end Saturday

You still have time to register your child on one of many local soccer teams. The final registration day is Saturday. Forms are available at our office. Players

are needed for a new Under 10 girls team here, as well as players under 6 (male and female) and boys under 10.

The registration deadline is Saturday.

If your child has not played soccer in the Big Country Soccer Association, a birth certificate will be required.

Badgers, Gorillas, Christmas . . . more

by Cloy A. Richards

You'd never know it by the weather, but it's almost my favorite time of the year again.

It's when I start noticing the local dove population (which by the way looks extremely good) and I find myself at Badger Stadium, looking in on the Badgers (which also look real good).

The Badgers start their 1987 campaign Friday as they travel to Coleman for a scrimmage. The team should be leaving around 3:30 Friday and the action gets underway with the JV's at 6 p.m., followed by the varsity at around 7.

Trent will be traveling to May Friday as they start their 1987 campaign.

Both teams have been mentioned as playoff contenders for this season. Now that's nothing new over in Trent, but playoffs and the Merkel badgers are two phrases in a sentence I am not quite used to, although I love the thought.

The Badgers will be big on the lines and quick in the backfields. They have some big shoes to fill in the middle defensively and it looks like they have managed to do so.

It ought to be a great season for both local teams and I hope they

receive outstanding fan support. Let's have big crowds in Coleman and May Friday.

The Chamber of Commerce has begun work on community Christmas decorations and are asking for a little help.

With the help of Merkel High art teacher Pat Neff, and her students, the town will look a lot better come December. They are asking for a little help.

Baby food jars are needed to mix paints in. If you happen to have some around, please take them to the high school or by the Chamber office.

Trent's district should be tough

Fort Hancock in the bi-district round of the playoff. Fort Hancock is the defending state champion and return 10 of 12 starters from a team that beat Trent 60-25 last year.

The Gorilla's should have a battle this year with Jayton, Highland and Ira for the two playoff spots.

Jayton is ranked # 2 in the state and is the favorite. They have two all-state players returning to a club that posted an impressive 12-1 record last year. The Jaybirds are led by All-Stater's Stevan Morales and Andy Sumner, along with quarterback Toby Kyle.

Even though Highland has just three returning lettermen and one starter returning, look for the Hornets to be in the district race this year. The Hornets are led by running back-linebacker Gary

Fullwood who along with Joe Mendez hope to improve their 5-4 record of last year.

Ira loses three All-State players but do have three offensive and two defensive starters returning from a 4-4-1 outfit. The Bulldogs are led by running back Lancer Hughes who has picked up over 1,200 yards rushing in six games. Linebacker Justin Spradlin also returns.

Blackwell has been down the last few years but return 13 lettermen to try and improve their 2-8 record of last year. The Hornets are led by linebackers Andy Lee and James Sanderson.

McCaulley was missing on a few cylinders last year enroute to a 2-8 record. The Eagles have 11 returning lettermen and hope to improve that record this year under the leadership of running back Mark Marshall and quarter-

back Brad Rees.

The Hermleigh Cardinals were winless in 1986 but have returning starters and could cause some headaches before the year is over. The Cardinals are led by quarterback-linebacker Rodney Foster and also look for running back-linebacker Ben Smith for leadership.

Individual players from District 4 East to keep an eye on are Stevan Morales and Andy Sumner of Jayton, Lancer Hughes and Justin Spradlin of Ira and Anoy Lee of Blackwell, who all have been picked on the Six-Man honor roll by Dave Campbell's Texas Football.

The Six-Man pre-season Top 10 includes (1) Fort Hancock, (2) Jayton, (3) Christoval, (4) Lohn, (5) Bynum, (6) New Home, (7) Newcastle, (8) Guthrie, (9) Three Way and (10) Gorden.



§ The Division 1 UGSA All-Stars held an ice cream supper and received their trophies at South Park Monday. The girls and their coaches are [first row from left] Jeanette Lanford, Tammy Clark, Rebecca Hobbs, Rebecca Evans [second row] Jenny Brownie, Sheri Hammond, Sandra Juarez, Christina Danielski, Jessica McKee, Tabi Reed, Terri Brazelton and coach Jamie Hellums and coach Arnold Evans. Tabi Reed was named to the All-Tournament team in Midland. Staff photo

MISD rates within State averages

Last year, trustees in the 1,061 local school districts adopted budgets totaling \$12.2 billion and levied local property taxes totaling \$5 billion to pay for it. The state provided \$4.8 billion of foundation aid, and the remainder was funded by local school lunch and other fees, federal aid, bond sales and other revenue.

Locally, MISD's tax levy last year was reduced by 13.6 percent for the 1986-87 school year, as compared to an 8.2 percent increase for the average school district in Texas.

The figures come from the latest issue of **Bench Marks for 1987-88 School District Budgets in Texas**, an annual publication of the Texas Research League, an Austin-based, education corporation engaged in governmental research.

School budgets adopted last year called for spending an average of \$3,086 per student for current operations plus \$281 for interest and repayment of debt and \$464 per student for capitol outlay. MISD's budget provided for \$2,801.54 per student for current operations, \$85.42 for debt service and \$164.06 per student for capitol outlay based on the 1,464 students enrolled in the Fall semester of 1986.

The average salary for classroom teachers paid by MISD in 1986-86 was \$20,436. The average among all school districts in Texas was \$24,487 per classroom teacher.

At MISD, the average salary for administrators was \$37,379 and \$22,327 for other professional support employees (librarians, counselors, nurses, supervisors, etc.).

Four dollars in five were spent for salaries. Statewide, payroll expense averaged \$2,506 per student, as compared to \$2,333.25 here. Payroll expense is a combination of salary levels and staffing patterns.

Taxpayers provided one teacher for 14.3 students here compared to a statewide pupil-teacher ration of 1 to 17.4. Because of small classes, especially at the high school level,

and abbreviated teaching schedules, many classes have more than the average number of students.

The average school district imposed a property tax at the rate of 79.3 cents per \$100 of appraised value, which value averaged 93.8 percent of market value (selling price). The "true tax rate" was 74.3 cents (79.3 times 93.8 percent) statewide. Locally MISD imposed a rate of \$1.07 while property was appraised at 96.7 percent of its market value making the true rate of \$1.035 per \$100 of market value (selling price).

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NEW CLASSIFIED AD RATES
New classified ad rates are now in effect. Ads paid in advance will be \$3 for the first 18 words and 15 cents for each additional word. Ads placed by phone will be \$3.75 for the first 18 words and 15 cents per word over 18. If charged ads are not paid for in 30 days, an additional billing fee of \$1.50 will be added. THE MERKEL MAIL

DWAYNE'S FOODS
NOW OPEN
I-20 WEST OF TRENT
GROCERIES-DELI-
GAS-DEISEL
GRAND OPENING
8/24/'87

Merkel Elementary school sets Thursday orientation - open house

Merkel Elementary school will host a PTO meeting and an orientation August 27th.

The PTO meeting starts at 7 p.m. and the orientation will start at 7:30.

Students will be able to find out their classroom assignments, fill

Middle school open house Sept. 1

The Merkel Middle School will be holding an open house Sept. 1st. The event will start at 6:30 p.m.

MHS senior photos are Aug. 29th

MHS Seniors will have class pictures made Saturday, August 29th.

Girls photos will be taken from 8 until 10:30 a.m. and boys will be taken from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Country & Western musical here Saturday

A country & western musical is planned at South Park Saturday starting at 6:30 p.m.

No concessions will be available

out various school forms and meet their teachers at that meeting.

If you have a child entering kindergarten and have not previously registered, you need to do so before the school year starts Sept. 1st. You may register your child at the elementary school office between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

and parents of Middle School students are asked to meet in the middle school gym.

Group photos will be taken in the afternoon.

All seniors who attended Merkel High last year will receive a letter and new Seniors are asked to bring a \$10 deposit and a white shirt or blouse.

and area musicians will be attending.

Everyone is welcomed to attend.

OUR WINDOWS ARE DARK BUT WE ARE STILL HERE OPEN 8 - 6 M - F 8 - 5 SAT 121 EDWARDS 928-5012 MERKEL DRUG

\$149⁹⁵
HOOVER® Decade 80™ Upright
 • Includes 5 Pc. Attachment Set
 • 30' Cord Wrap W/Release
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 • 15 Qt. Top-Fill Bag
 • Edge-Light Cleaning
 • HI-PERFORMANCE 6 AMP MOTOR With Power Surge™ Switch
 • 4 Position Rug Adjustment W/Indicator
 • Full-Time Edge Cleaning
 • Positive Agitation™

\$199⁹⁵
HOOVER® concept one™
Self-Propelled Cleaning System
 • Quadraflex™ agitator
 • Brushed edge cleaning
 • 16 qt. disposable bag
 • Automatically adapts to most carpet

\$49⁹⁵
HOOVER® Lightweight Quik-Broom™
 • Perfect for fast touch-up cleaning
 • Glides on carpet or hard surface floors easily
 • Large throw-away bag holds don't touch the dirt

\$59⁹⁵
HOOVER® Convertible Cleaner
 • All steel handle
 • Powerful 4.8 Amp. motor
 • 9 qt. disposable bag
 • 2 position rug adjustment

WE HAVE ALL OF THE HOOVER BAGS IN STOCK!

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STARBUCK FURNITURE

QUALITY HOOVER PRODUCTS NOW SALES PRICED TO FIT EVERY BUDGET!

Newsbriefs

Speakers available

In celebration of the 200th anniversary of the U. S. Constitution, a speaker's bureau has been established to serve the Big Country area.

If your group would like to hear a presentation concerning the U. S. Constitution, contact the chancellor's office at Abilene Christian University at 915-674-2204.

There will be no fee charged for the speakers and they are willing to talk to any group, including students, social and service clubs.

Country club reward

The Merkel Country Club is offering a \$350 reward for the

arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for damagins the greens at the golf course.

If you have information, call 928-5514.

New store in Trent

Dwayne's Foods, owned and operated by longtime Trent resident, Dwayne Watson, opened for business August 14th.

The newly built store located about one mile West of Trent on I-20 at exit 261, has a full line of groceries and meats along with a full-service deli and ice cold soft drinks. Along with groceries, Dwayne also sells Texaco Gas & Diesel products.

Owner Dwayne Watson told The

Mail "I have been in and around the Trent area for as long as I can remember. I graduated from High School here and had a small truck stop in this same location from 1964 until 1974. After I closed the truck stop, I worked in the oil fields until deciding to open this store."

Dwayne's Foods will have their grand opening the week of August 24th with specials on nearly everything in the store and Dwayne invites the surrounding area in to sample his prices.

by W. E. Dulaney

Shugart's have daughter

Steve and Robbie Shugart of Trent would like to announce the birth of their first daughter, Shiloh Marie was born Aug. 16th at Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene. She weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces. Both mom and her

daughter are resting well.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Duane Shugart of Merkel and maternal grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Freeman of Trent.

by W. E. Dulaney

Holmes, Crystal Malone, Kevin Sanford, Kyle Whisenhunt, all of Merkel and Kevin Sanford of Trent.

by W. E. Dulaney

truck," said Chief Davis.

by W. E. Dulaney

TISD hires teacher

As reported in last week's Mail, a contract has been offered for a new science teacher for the Trent ISD.

Karla Cross of Sam Houston Middle School in Graland accepted the position.

With the hiring of Mrs. Cross, the TISD has completed their faculty roster for the 1987-88 school year.

Trent firemen busy

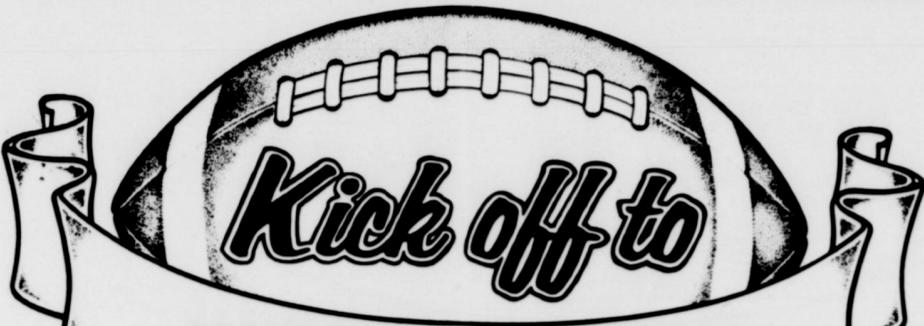
The Trent Volunteer Fire Department was summoned Aug. 11th to a truck fire at Noodle Dome Road and I-20.

The one-ton truck which was used to clean grase traps was in flames when volunteer firemen Sam Jones, Chris Simpson and fire chief Odie Davis arrived.

The bed under the tank was wood and ignited from the tailpipe exhaust. The tailpipe of the truck had been bent upwards causing the exhaust to hit the floor. We used right at 2,000 gallons of water to extrniguish it and the only damage was to the bed of the



If you need a trivet for a hot pot, wrap some foil around several thicknesses of newspaper.



Kick off to

MERKEL & TRENT FOOTBALL



GO BADGERS

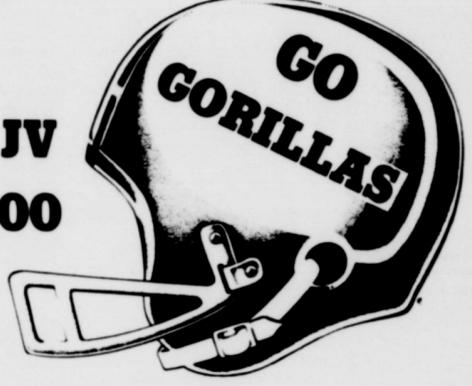
FRIDAY AUGUST 21

MERKEL VARSITY & JV

AT COLEMAN AT 6:00

TRENT AT

MAY AT 6:00



GO GORILLAS

THE FOLLOWING MERCHANTS SUPPORT LOCAL FOOTBALL

AGRO TIRE TRACK CO.

ANDY DON HART, CPA

BEN FRANKLIN STORE

DWAYNE'S FOODS

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

MAIN STREET DEPARTMENT STORE

MERKEL DRUG CO.

PALMER PONTIAC & GMC

P & L AUTO PARTS

SEYMORE INSURANCE

STARBUCK FURNITURE

TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOP

WYLIE TRUCK STOP

Classifieds

FOR SALE

Good clean top soil Caliche, base, gravel, septic and drives, backhoe work, cleanups Call 928-5634.

12-TFC

For Sale: Executive type metal desk, chest type freezer. Also black-eyed peas \$3 per bushel. Call 736-6166.

34-11p

For Sale: 1984 Buick Century Olympic special 4 doors, power steering, power brakes, am-fm stereo, cruise air, below list call 928-3713.

34-11c

For Sale: Clarinet for \$100, also trombone for \$100. Call 928-5704 or 928-4703.

33-11p

For Sale: 1982 Grand Prix, Brogham, diesel \$2,500. Call 928-4566.

33-21p

For Sale: Gemeinhardt flute \$250 or best offer. Call 928-4566.

33-TFC

Vacation special: 1983 Southwind 25 foot motor home. Loaded, must see 928-3713.

34-11c

For Sale: Nice Marlette 12 X 60 mobile home. Lots of built ins, is set up and skirted. Lot rent is cheap. Must sell. Call 928-5966.

34-21p

MISC.

CASH for used air conditioners, any type, any condition. Amerine Mechanical 928-4876.

17-TFC

Granny's Playhouse Day Care Center Open 6 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Hot lunch & snacks provided. For more information call 928-4904 or come by 207 Orange.

25-11c

JOB WANTED: 38 year old vet wants a job as equipment operator, tractor driver, ranch-farm hand. Call 928-4966.

33-21p

Help Wanted: MISD is seeking applicants for a bus mechanic. Call 928-5122 or come by the bus barn.

34-TFC

Earn excellent money in home assembly of work. Jewelry, toys & others. FT & PT available. Call today 1-518-459-3546. Toll refundable Dept B6692 24 hours.

34-31p

Handy Man. Try me, I may be able to help. All types of clean up jobs, trash, garage, small repair jobs. For any job around the house, inside or out, call 928-3373.

34-11c

Would like to do housekeeping. Please call 928-4566.

33-TFC

Own your own apparel or shoe store, choose from: Jean/ sportswear ladies apparel, mens, children/ maternity large sizes, petite dancewear/ aerobic, bridal, lingerie or accessory store. Add color analysis. Brands: Liz Claiborne, Gasoline, Healthtex, Levi, Lee, Camp Beverly Hills, St. Michele, Chaus, Outback Red, Genesis, Forenza, Organically Grown. Over 1,000 others. Or \$13.99 One Price Designer, multi-tier pricing discount or family store. Retail prices unbelievable for quality shoes normally priced from \$19. Top \$80. Over 450 brands, 4,600 styles. \$14,800 to \$26,900. Inventory, training, fixtures, grand opening, airfare, etc. Can open 15 days Mr. Loughlin (612) 888-6555.

25-TFC

We make hydraulic hoses. P & L Auto Parts 135 Edwards 928-4738.

25-TFC

Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon closed meetings are Tuesday & Thursday at 7 p.m. at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church.

P & L Auto Parts is open from 7:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. each Saturday at 135 Edwards.

TFC

Hollis Home repair. Painting, plumbing, paneling, floor tile, sewer service, evaporative cooler service. C. J. Hollis 928-4108 in Merkel. Formerly with Conner Construction.

25-TFC

Home-Farm-Ranch Maintenance and repair, concrete, carpentry, fences, tree trimming, hauling, mowing, reasonable rates. 928-4986.

33-21p

KEEP COOL! Did you know we service all brands of cooling systems, central air, window units, evaporative coolers, etc? We also sell used air conditioners. Call us at **Amerine Mechanical 928-4876.**

TFC

Germania Insurance Company. For your insurance needs. Locally represented by Donna Carter 928-5348.

TFC

KIDS KORNER DAY CARE CENTER. 2nd & Oak, open Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Call 928-4381.

TFC

FUN: Learn square dancing with Country Cousins Club at the Wagon Wheel in Tye. Sept. 3rd 8 p.m. First lesson is free. 692-5549.

34-11c

Skippy's Convenience Stores are now accepting applications for managers, assistant managers and clerks in the Trent and Merkel area. Must have home telephone, reliable transportation, willing to work evenings and weekends, polygraph. No previous sales experience necessary but must have good work history. Good benefit package and the opportunity for advancement. Applications available at I-20 and FM 1965 in Trent and 1207 N. 7th in Merkel.

33-21c

Reliable childcare in my home, days, evenings and weekends. Lots of activities. Good meals and snacks, take to and pick up at Merkel Elementary. Please call on Sunday 928-3363.

34-11p

Adorable kittens, six weeks old, different colors, one female and 5 males. Also, 4 month old white kitten. Free to a good home. Merkel Vet Clinic 928-5235.

REAL ESTATE

House for sale in Trent: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, living room, dining room, kitchen, utility room, steel siding, storm windows, carpet, central air & heat, built in range & oven, dishwasher, water well. Cyrus Pee Realtor 928-5613.

31-TFC

For Sale: 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, all brick, all electric, home near school. Central heat and air in the middle to 2 lots, ask for Dorothy 696-4484 or 696-7634.

For Sale: 2 story, large living room, dining room, kitchen, master bedroom & bath, down stairs large upstairs, 3 bedrooms, bath, lots of storage room on corner lot, priced to sell. Cyrus Pee, Realtor 928-5613.

20-TFC

Ads work!

For Sale: 3 bedroom, 1 bath, living room, kitchen. Frame house on 3 acres. 4 1/2 miles North of Merkel. Toombs Real Estate 928-4144.

25-TFC

For sale: 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, on 2 lots, well insulated, vinyl siding, 1 block from High school call 696-3624 or 512-896-2141 or 512-896-2259.

17-TFC

Austin stone house for sale at 308 Rose in Merkel. Call 928-5921 or 928-4144.

10-TFC

Abandoned Homes! Take over payments, 100 available. Call collect 0-806-763-4051.

34-41c

Very nice old brick, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home near school. Central heat & air. Priced in the 40's. Ask for Dorothy 696-4484 or 696-7634.

34-31c

For sale: 46 acres of choice land very near Merkel on paved county road. Good home site or development. Water easement. Meters available. Lasseater Realty 915-677-3756.

34-21c

House for sale at a bargain: 2 bedroom, kitchen, living room, 1 bath, has central heat, all furniture and appliances stay. Call Cyrus Pee, Agent 928-5613.

17-TFC

FOR RENT

Equal Housing Opportunity

Shannonside Apartments 3, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments, all electric, central heat & cooling. For more information, call 928-5038.

25-TFC

1,2 & 3 bedroom mobile homes. Rents start at \$185 and \$200 is the highest rent. Mobile home lots for rent near school \$50 per month. West end of S 7th. Call 928-4973.

23-TFC

For rent: \$200 per month, 2 bedroom, mobile home, carpeted, central air & heat, stove & refrigerator, fenced yard, call 928-5251 or 928-5052.

23-TFC

For rent: 3 bedroom house in the country. Plenty of privacy. Call 928-5189.

34-11p

GARAGE SALES

Garage Sale at 605 Rose Street, Friday & Saturday 8:30 until? Small table, fans, mens & womens clothes and boys clothing, lots of misc. Some pot plants.

34-11c

Garage sale in Trent all day Friday and all day Saturday. Mobile home 1/2 block North of the Baptist Church. Lora Pate.

34-11c

3 family garage sale 402 Lois, Thursday, Friday & Saturday - weather permitting. Nice clothes for the entire family. School clothes, shoes and little extras for back to school students. Sizes ranging from boys 6 to women's 16. Sweaters, pants, tv, typewriters, adding machine, dishes, pots & pans and miscellaneous items. 8 a.m. until?

34-11p

4 family garage sale: tools, cars, clothes, furniture and misc. Saturday only 8 a.m. until? 812 S 11th.

34-11p

Porch sale: 208 Rose Thursday, Friday & Saturday 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

34-11p

Patio sale: Friday & Saturday 8:30-5 only, variety, lots of teen clothes at 708 Yucca.

34-11c

Yard sale: at 705 Rose Friday 8-5. Persian & Himalayan kittens \$50. Toys, books, towels, dishes, wicker chair, black leather Harley jacket size 40, much more.

34-11p

Garage sale: sleeper couch, stereo, mens & womens clothes-full size also misc. items at 508 Lois, Friday & Saturday.

34-11p

Garage Sale: 701 Oak Street Friday, Saturday & Sunday: furniture, clothing, lawn mowers, stereo components, books, fabric, patterns, saddle, car & kitchen misc.

34-11p

Need school clothes? Repeat garage sale, new things added, lots of boys clothes, S 2nd & Lois Thursday & Friday.

34-11p

Yard sale at 210 Runnels (behind Shell station). Lots of good school clothes, baby items, lots of home furnishings, Shellcraft and misc. Friday & Saturday 8-4.

34-11p

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Taylor NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of a certain Execution issued out of the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, of the 28th day of July, 1987, by Writ of Execution of said 42nd District Court of Taylor County, for the sum of four thousand eight hundred sixty four & 23/100 Dollars and costs of suit, under a Judgement, in favor of GOGGANS & SONS INC. in a certain cause in said Court, No 38,827-A and styled GOGGANS & SONS INC. vs. SONNY JONES aka WILLIAM F. JONES INDIVIDUALLY AND dba ADVANCE EXPLORATION placed in my hands for service, I, JOHN W. MIDDLETON

as Sheriff of Taylor County, Texas, did, on the 3rd day of August, 1987, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, described as follows, to-wit:

Bradley Replat of Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9, A portion of North Park Addition, recorded in Vol. Y, Page 638, Taylor County Deed Records January 9, 1964. Being a replat of a portion of Lots 4, 5, 6 and 9 and all of lots 7 and 8 Block 9, North Park Addition, which is recorded in Volume Y, Page 638, Deed Records of Taylor County, Texas, and being out of Section 85 T & P RR Co. Block 14, Taylor County, Texas, and levied upon as the property of SONNY JONES aka WILLIAM F. JONES INDIVIDUALLY dba ADVANCE EXPLORATION and that on the First Tuesday in September, 1987, the same being the 1st day of said month at the Court House door, of Taylor County, in the City of Abilene, Texas, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., by virtue of said levy and said Writ of Execution, I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said SONNY JONES aka WILLIAM F. JONES, INDIVIDUALLY dba ADVANCE EXPLORATION.

SALE WILL BE HELD AT 10:00 A.M. SALE WILL BE FOR CASH ONLY.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English Language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale in The Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor County.

Witness my hand, this the 5th day of August, 1987.

JOHN W. MIDDLETON, Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas by Frank Solis, Jr., Deputy 105-33-31c

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: JOHNNY WHEELER, Address Unknown, Respondent: GREETINGS: -YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable 326th District Court, Taylor County, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the motion of BILL DALE HARRIS, Movant, filed in said Court, No. 86-1923-C and styled HELLER FINANCIAL, INC. FKA TEXAS HELLER WESTERN vs. THE FASHION MAKER INC, dba L. C. MAKER ET. AL, placed in my hands for service, I, JOHN W. MIDDLETON as Sheriff of TAYLOR COUNTY, Texas, did, on the 30th day of July, 1987, levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor County, Texas, described as follows, to-wit: 42.5 PER CENT INTEREST LOTS 3,4,5, 6,7 AND 8 BLOCK 13, SCOTT HIGHWAY PLACE AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ABILENE, TAYLOR COUNTY, TEXAS and levied upon as the property of L. C. MAKER et al and that on the first Tuesday in September, 1987, the same being the 1st day of said month at the Court House door of TAYLOR County, in the

City of Abilene, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., by virtue of said levy and said WRIT OF EXECUTION I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said L. C. MAKER et al.

THE COURT has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child's interest which will be binding upon you, including the appointment of a managing conservator.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at Abilene, Texas, this the 31st day of July, 1987.

Rilla Mahoney, Clerk 326th District Court Taylor County, Texas By JoAnn Lackey, Deputy (Seal) 34-11c-89

6 Room House on 3 lots Plenty of shade trees Completely renovated \$25,000 By Owner call 862-6354

TILE • SHAKE • WOOD • COMPOSITION

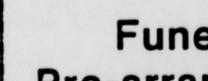
BILLY E. CLARK ROOFING CONTRACTOR

Rt. 3, Merkel, TX. 79536 915-846-3281

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS SEYMORE INSURANCES

Auto, Property, General Liability, Crop, Health, Life, Disability, Tax shelters, Retirement, Educational Plans

102 Edwards 928-5379



Funeral Pre-arrangement The last and most loving bequest for your family.

Let us help **STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME**

201 Edwards 928-4711

City of Abilene, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., by virtue of said levy and said WRIT OF EXECUTION I will sell said above described Real Estate at public vendue, for each, to the highest bidder, as the property of said L. C. MAKER et al.

-THE SALE WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 A.M. SALE WILL BE FOR CASH ONLY.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English language, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceding said day of sale, in THE MERKEL MAIL, a newspaper published in Taylor County.

Witness my hand, this 30th day of July, 1987.

John W. Middleton, Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas by Eddie Swanson, Deputy (Seal) 32-31c

ARE YOU PUTTING ME ON? MAKE THE CONNECTION FOR SAFETY! A MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSPAPER AND THE DPS TROOPERS

MOVING AGAIN? Available now CHERRY STREET APARTMENT & SELF STORAGE UNITS. Many available at competitive prices 6X10, 10X10, 10X15, 10X20, and 10X30's. You lock it, you keep the key. \$15 deposit, low monthly rates. 701 Cherry Street Merkel 928-4336.

MOVING AGAIN? Available now CHERRY STREET APARTMENT & SELF STORAGE UNITS. Many available at competitive prices 6X10, 10X10, 10X15, 10X20, and 10X30's. You lock it, you keep the key. \$15 deposit, low monthly rates. 701 Cherry Street Merkel 928-4336.

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OPEN FOR BUSINESS

**CHECK OUT
OUR EVERYDAY
LOW PRICE**

SPECIAL OFFER SPECIAL DELUXE CANADIAN BACON COMBINATION
12" **\$3.69**
TOMBSTONE PIZZA

GRAND OPENING
COMING SOON



\$1.29

PLUS TAX
6 PACK

\$4.99

PLUS TAX
HOT ONLY CASE



PAPER TOWELS
59¢



REG \$1.05
46 OZ

99¢



\$2.19
18 OZ



IT HAS BEEN A LONG, HARD CLIMB—
THANK YOU ALL FOR MAKING IT
POSSIBLE... WE AT HANDYS
SAY WELCOME TO OUR
NEW STORE!!



12 OZ
\$1.59



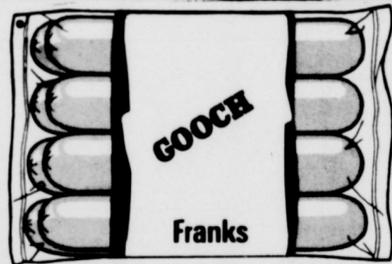
16 OZ
1 LB PACK
\$1.89

SUPER BUYS

PRODUCE

GARDEN FRESH

- CARROTS CELLO BAGS **5/\$1.00**
- BANANAS LBS **4/\$1.00**
- TOMATOES LBS **3/\$1.00**
- AVOCADOS **6/\$1.00**
- CANTALOUPE LBS **3/\$1.00**
- POTATOES 5 LB BAG **89¢**



89¢
12 OUNCE
PKG

**BE SURE &
LOCATE OUR ALL NEW
CONVENIENCE FUN CORNER WHERE
YOU CAN STILL PURCHASE YOUR
DRINKS, TOBACCO, CANDY,
SANDWICHES, SWEET ROLLS, GUM,
ICE, ETC. JUST PAY & RUN!**

**ALL NEW
FOUNTAIN
DRINKS!**

GOOCH SLICED SLAB **BACON \$1.59** LB
MERKEL LOCKER PLANT **SAUSAGE \$3.65** 2 LB PKG



6 PACK
HOT ONLY
\$1.39
PLUS TAX

PRESTON GAL
FRUIT DRINK 93¢



18 OZ
REG \$2.45

\$1.97



32 OUNCE
REG \$1.97

\$1.79



REG \$1.41

\$1.29



SALT-FREE
Dash
REG \$2.05

\$1.79

SALT-FREE 2.5 OZ
EXTRA SPICY 2.25 OZ
LEMON HERB 2.5 OZ

GOLDEN
CREME STYLE **CORN**
16 OZ **39¢**

PRICE SAVER
EVERYDAY LOW PRICE

TOMATO
SAUCE
8 OZ **29¢**

GANDYS
ICE CREAM 1/2 GAL
\$1.69

SHURFRESH
HOMO MILK GAL
\$1.99

WHOLE PEELED
TOMATOES
DEL MONTE 14 OZ **69¢**

STEWED
TOMATOES
MEXICAN OR ITALIAN STYLE
DEL MONTE 16 OZ **69¢**

**HANDY
FOOD STORE**

1400 N 1ST
928-4912
WE ACCEPT FOOD
STAMPS & COUPONS

Riggan's hold annual reunion

The descendants of the late Ulysses and Permelia Ann Riggan met again this year, at the Embassy Suits in Abilene August 8th and 9th for their reunion.

Different games besides "42" and dominoes were played this year.

Church services were held Sunday morning, followed by picture taking, looking at old photos and swimming for the youngsters.

Attending were: Gold Riggan and Harold Riggan of Lamesa-his daughter Carey and three children from Washington; Gerald & Lucille Riggan & Nat of Lamesa; Jerry & Gina Riggan & two children of Lubbock; Mike & Clovia Talley & 2 children of San Antonio- their aunt Pearl Perkins & husband Cal; Tim & Gail, Casey & Nicole Riggan of Midland; Nathan Riggan, Lew & Darlene Nicole and Laura Riggan of Colleyville; Lew Jr. & daughter; Larry & Shari Riggan & 2 children from Grapevine; Linda & Bill Bailey & 2 children of Fort Worth.

Also, Mary Harris, Jerry & Wanda Harris, Roger, Mary & Tommy Harris, Al & Betty Sue and Mari Sue Dickey & Pam Hutchins & 2 sons all of Houston, Gloria & Dolly Christine Stone of Spring; Larry & Sharon Bankhead and three children of Burkburnett; Kenny & Denise Gerren and son of Rockdale; Gary, Julia and David Harris of Tuttle, Okla.; Leona Conley of Merkel, Doyle & Bootsie Conley of Ft. Stockton; Bettye Conley of Merkel; Ricky and Cathy Conley & son; Steve & Kim Conley & 4 daughters of Abilene; Bob & Jeanette & daughter of Abilene; Stan & Kelly Conley of Midland.

Also, Pete & Elsie Swinney, Sweetwater and her sister Flora Murrell & Willie May Riggan, King of Abilene; Keith & Cheryl Derrell and Dana Riggan, Mildred & Tammy & Sunny Riggan, Danny Riggan of Austin, Lena V. Riggan of Tempe, Arizona, L. D. Wayne & Brian Riggan of Arizona, Bill & her mother Dodie and her husband Don, all of Merkel; Doris Roush of Nevada and Shirley & Angelo & Tina of Arizona.

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32ND
BIRTHDAY
BOBBY
WE LOVE YOU**



**GUESS WHO'S
40
AUG. 22ND
WE LOVE YOU
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**





Dale Hammond

YOU CAN TAKE COMFORT IN KNOWING THAT IF THEY SHOOT AT US WITH A MISSILE WE SOLD THEM IT'S BEEN BUILT BY THE LOWEST BIDDER!

Allen-Brandt wed in local ceremony

Lisa Allen, daughter of Lou David and Rhoda Allen of Merkel and Bodie Brandt, son of Marvin and Ann Brandt of Iowa Park were married July 31st at 8 p.m. at the Merkel Church of Christ with Bob Brandon, pastor, officiating.

Angie Allen, sister of the bride was Maid of Honor. The groom's father was the Best Man.

Guests were ushered by Clay Cotton of Abilene. Natalee Cravens, daughter of Logan and Linda Cravens of Merkel, was the flower girl. Kasey Toliver, son of Larry and Susie Toliver of Merkel, was the ring bearer.

The reception was hosted by the bride's parents in the Fellowship Center. Parents of the bridegroom hosted the rehearsal dinner at Pug & Leo's Restaurant here.

After a honeymoon in Oklahoma, the couple will reside in Iowa Park where the groom is employed by M J Oil Company.



Mrs. Bodie Brandt

Stallo-Hays repeat vows Aug. 15th

Deborah June Stallo and Terry Lynn Hays were married at the First Baptist Church here Aug. 15th. Pete Knight officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Ben Stallo and the late Ben Stallo of Merkel. The groom is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Sid Hays of Braymer, Missouri.

Serving as matron of honor was Darla Bellville of Abilene. Bridesmaids were Menja Caughman, of St. Louis, Kay Harris of Merkel and Jo Ann Land of El Paso, all sisters of the bride. The bride's nieces, Amy & Angie Land of El Paso served as flower girls. Candelights were the bride's nephews, Tim & Mike Harris of Merkel.

Serving as best man was Rick Duport of Abilene. Groomsmen were Joe Hays, brother of the groom of Braymer, Missouri and Jeff Elliott and Rick Rapson, both of Abilene.

Ushers were Jackie Binze of Merkel and Mike Jeffers, brother-in-law of the groom, of Braymer, Missouri.

The bride is a graduate of Merkel High School and is employed by the Texas Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Abilene.

The groom is a graduate of Braymer High School and is also employed by the Texas Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Abilene.



Mrs. Terry Hays

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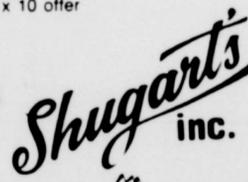
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CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: 1980 CHEVROLET,
TWO DOOR VIN# 1P-
87LAL557323 OR THE
UNKNOWN OWNER
OR ALL OTHER PER-
SONS CLAIMING ANY
INTEREST IN A 1980
CHEVROLET AUTO-
MOBILE

Parties in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause:

You (and each of you) are hereby commanded to appear before the 104th District Court of Taylor County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse of said county in the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 48 days from the date of the issuance hereof; that is to say, at or before, 10 o'clock A.M. on the 7th day of September, 1987, and answer the petition of plaintiff in Cause Number 17,686-B, in which THE STATE OF TEXAS (Plaintiff) VS 1980 Chevrolet automobile (Defendant) filed in said Court on the 20th day of May, 1987, and the nature of which said suit is

as follows: The State of Texas is seeking a forfeiture of a 1980 CHEVROLET, VIN # 1P-87LAL557323 bearing TEXAS license UDK422, which vehicle was registered to CAROLYN GUERRA of ABILENE, TAYLOR, County, Texas, and which was seized by officers of the VAL VERDE County District Attorney's Office on May 19, 1987 in VAL VERDE County, Texas, while it was being used in the transporting for delivery of MARIJUANA AND COCAINE.

All is more fully appear from Petitioner's Original Petition in file in this office, and which reference is here made for all intents and purposes.

WITNESS, DISTRICT CLERK of the District Courts of TAYLOR County, Texas.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in the City of Abilene, Texas, this the 17th day of July, 1987.

Rilla Mahoney, District Clerk, Taylor County, Texas By Patricia Henderson (Seal)
31-4tc-85

Texas is seeking a forfeiture of a 1976 CHEVROLET P / U, VIN CCL-146S130023 bearing Texas license 2568JX, which vehicle was registered to ANTONIO MURILLO of 2425 GREEN, ABILENE, TAYLOR County, Texas, and which was seized by officers of the 350th County District Attorney's Office on May 21, 1987, in TAYLOR County, Texas while it was being used in the transportation for delivery of MARIJUANA.

All is more fully appear from Petitioner's Original Petition on file in this office, and which reference is here made for all intents and purposes.

WITNESS RILLA MAHONEY, DISTRICT CLERK of the District Courts of TAYLOR County, Texas.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in the City of Abilene, Texas, this the 17th day of July, 1987.

Rilla Mahoney, District Clerk, Taylor County, Texas By Patricia Henderson, Deputy
31-4tc-85

Trent school figures compare well to averages

Last year, trustees in the 1,061 local school districts adopted budgets totaling \$12.2 billion and levied local property taxes totaling \$5 billion to pay for it. The state provided \$4.8 billion of foundation aid, and the remainder was funded by school lunches and other fees, federal aid, bond sales, and other revenue.

Locally, Trent ISD's tax levy last year was up by 13 percent for 1986-87 as compared to a 8.2 percent increase for the average school district in Texas.

The figures came from the latest issue of **Bench Marks for 1987-88 School District Budgets in**

Texas an annual publication of the Texas Research League, an Austin-based, educational corporation engaged in governmental research.

School budgets adopted last year called for spending an average of \$3,088 per students for current operations plus \$281 for interest and repayment of debt and \$464 per student for capitol outlay. Trent ISD's budget provided for \$4,218.10 per student for current operations, \$233.19 for debt service and \$53.93 per student for capitol outlay based on the 191 students enrolled for the fall semester of 1986.

The average salary for class-

room teachers paid by Trent in 1985-86 was \$21,333. The average among all school districts in Texas was \$24,487 per classroom teacher.

In Trent ISD, the average salary for administrators was \$36,717 and 0 for other professional support employees (librarians, counselors, nurses, supervisors, etc.)

Four dollars in five were spent for salaries. Statewide, payroll expenses average \$2,506 per student, as compared to \$3,125.69 at Trent. Payroll expense is a combination of salary levels and staffing patterns.

Taxpayers provided one teacher

for each 9 students in Trent compared to a statewide pupil-teacher ration of 1 to 17.4. Because of small classes, many classes have more than the average number of students.

The average school district imposed a property tax at the rate of 79.3 cents per \$100 of appraised value, which value averaged 93.8 percent of market value (selling price). The "true tax rate" was 74.3 cents (79.3 times 93.82 percent statewide). Locally, Trent ISD imposed a rate of \$995 while property was appraised at 113.8 percent of its market value making the true rate \$1,132 per \$100 of market value (selling price).

The report points out that the calculation of a true tax rate based on market value rather than appraised value enables a valid comparison of tax levels with other schools. In 1986, the true tax rate exceeded \$1 in 196 school districts in Texas.

The tax on a house in the Trent ISD that would sell for \$80,000 would have been \$839. If the homeowner were eligible for homestead exemptions, the tax would have been \$787, and if a owned by a person 65 years or older, the tax on an \$80,000 house in Trent would have averaged \$682, or less if subject to a tax freeze.

Revenue lost from exemptions exceeded a billion dollars. To balance school budgets, the revenue lost from exemptions was imposed upon other taxpayers in the school district.

Local property taxes plus state aid was \$5,102 per student in Trent ISD as compared to \$3,075 statewide. The primary purpose of state aid is to equalize state and local tax resources among schools. In 1986-87, tax resources ranged from less than \$2,500 per student in 30 districts to more than \$10,000 in eight districts.

While driving through the surrounding area, I have noticed several houses and businesses flying the American flag. This show of patriotism is refreshing. It shows that people still respect America and are proud of the country they live in. But, some people take advantage of this privilege. They often fly a flag that is tattered, torn or in disgusting condition. The flag is a symbol of our great country. A country that has endured for over 200 years. The flag deserves treatment worthy of its lofty status. A torn and tattered flag gives the impression that the flyer of the flag feels the country is on its last leg. By flying a torn and tattered flag, you are meaning to show your patriotism but instead you are showing a lack of respect for American traditions and a lack of understanding of what makes Old Glory the most glorious flag in this world. I am sure that the people who fly these old flags are not purposely flying them to show disrespect. They just don't realize that they are showing a lack of patriotism instead of what they intended to show, a love of our great country.

by W. E. Dulaney

Trent cowboys/cowgirls busy lately

It was a busy two weeks for Trent cowboys and cowgirls July 29th through Aug. 16th. The Trent rodeo connection competed all over the Big Country and was highly successful.

In Brig Spring, D. J. Bland finished 3rd in the boys 8 & under

barrels and 4th in the 8 & under goat hair pulling. Kaci Bland was 5th in the 8 & under girls barrels. Also competing was Brandon Bland.

The Abile AJRA Rodeo found Dee Bland, Brandon Bland, Chad Sipe and Brett Sipe competing.

Trent took home five place buckles from the Cross Plains Junior Rodeo. Chad Sipe placed 1st and Dee Bland was 2nd in the boys 8 & under poles. Bland was also first in the 8 & under barrels. Kaci Bland was 2nd in the 8 & under poles for girls. Chad Sipe was 1st in boys 8 & under goat hair pulling, was 1st in boys 8 & under glags and breakway roping. He also won the all-around buckle for boys 8 & under.

In the barrel racing world championship in Snyder, Dee Bland was 5th in the first go-round.

Dee Bland and Brett Sipe competed in the National AJRA in Snyder. Dee was 5th in the 12 & under barrels Monday and 7th Tuesday. Dee was 5th in the poles on Tuesday and 5th in the barrels on Thursday.

Brett Sipe was 5th in the 12 & under poles Monday and 5th in the barrels Thursday.

After one more rodeo in Snyder next week, area cowboys and cowgirls will be off until next spring.

by W. E. Dulaney

Trent school supply list

The following is the school supply list for Trent Elementary students:

Kindergarten

1 School box (or old cigar box), 2 pencils, crayons, scissors (safety cut scissors), glue, 12 X 18 manilla paper, 1 large box of Kleenex, school mat (for rest period) and a school bag.

First Grade

Two writing tablets for manuscript, 1 Big Chief tablet, school box, 1 box crayons (16 count or more), 1 bottle Elmer's glue (no paste, please), 2 regular sized pencils, scissors, large box of Kleenex, 1 package of 12 X 18 manilla paper.

Second Grade

Notebook paper, notebook, 2 # 2 pencils, large box of crayons, map colors, glue, pointed scissors, inch centimeter ruler, supply box.

Third Grade

Wide-ruled notebook paper, 2# 2 pencils, 2 grading pencils (no pens), 1 box of colored pencils for maps, 1 pair of scissors (sharp points), 1 box of crayons (at least

16 colors), 1 large eraser, 3 folders with brads and pockets (asst. colors), 1 small bottle Elmer's glue all (blue label), 1 plastic dishpan (not basket), 2 boxes tissues (200 count), 1 plastic ruler (metric & standard).

Fourth Grade

Two # 2 pencils, pen with eraser, notebook paper, ruler, crayons, scissors, glue, red marking pen, small plastic dishpan.

Fifth Grade

One box crayons, map colors (small set), crayon markers, 4 # 2 pencils, 2 black or blue pens (erasable), glue, scissors, ruler (metric & standard), 2 spiral notebooks, paper, 3 folders, 1 3-ring notebook, 2 boxes of Kleenex, 1 red pen.

Reed-Joyce plan November wedding

Jacki Linn Reed of Austin and Thomas Edward Joyce, also of Austin, plan to be married in November.

Jacki is the daughter of John C Reed of Trent and Tom is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Joyce of Phoenix.

The bride elect is a 1977 graduate of Trent High School and a 1983 graduate of Texas Tech University. She is a financial aid officer at Saint Edward's University in Austin.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Northern Arizona University and works as a claims representative for the St. Paul Companies in Austin.

WTU plans rebates

West Texas Utilities Co. plans another refund to its retail customers in December of this year.

The company was to file a request Monday with the Public Utility Commission of Texas requesting permission to refund a total of \$3.8 million in retail revenues collected in excess of actual fuel costs during the months of December 1986 through July 1987. The total includes \$3.4 million actual fuel costs savings, plus \$400,000 in interest.

Glenn Teaff, WTU local manager, said recently negotiated contract revisions reflecting the continued soft price of natural gas makes the refund necessary.

"As our cost for boiler fuel went down, we simply over-collected under the fuel rate approved by the PUC," Teaff said.

This will be the sixth refund made to WTU retail customers since the summer of 1985. The fuel rates charged to customers have been adjusted five times since 1985, but the price of natural gas, WTU's main power plant boiler fuel, has continued to decline.

WTU's base rates have not changed since December 1984.

Hays resting at home following surgery

Merkel High Senior Lynn Hays is now at home following an emergency apendectomy operation Monday.

He is feeling fine and recovering nicely.

MISD staff ice cream supper planned

An ice cream supper will be held for all MISD personnel and their spouses at Heritage Hall tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 p.m.

Local Survey

YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONNAIRE is seeking valuable insight into this community's reading, listening, viewing and shopping habits. Please complete these 20 questions (or any part of them), clip out this form and return it by mail to the address listed below. Your information is vitally needed to determine an accurate profile of local opinions as regarding the media. Replies are confidential.

1. DO YOU USUALLY LISTEN TO THE RADIO? YES NO
2. WHICH IS YOUR FAVORITE RADIO STATION? _____
3. DO YOU READ THE NEWSPAPER? YES NO
4. WHICH IS YOUR FAVORITE NEWSPAPER? _____
5. DO YOU SUBSCRIBE TO CABLE TV? YES NO
6. WHICH IS YOUR FAVORITE TV STATION? _____
7. DO YOU READ CIRCULARS RECEIVED BY MAIL? YES NO
8. WHICH DO YOU READ AND RETAIN THE LONGEST?
 - Ads printed as a part of the newspaper
 - Ad sections inserted in the newspaper
 - Ads in the mailed circulars
9. DO YOU THROW-AWAY MAIL CIRCULARS WITHOUT READING THEM? YES NO
10. DO YOU THROW-AWAY NEWSPAPER AD INSERTS WITHOUT READING THEM? YES NO
11. DO YOU THROW-AWAY THE NEWSPAPER WITHOUT READING IT? YES NO
12. DO YOU REDEEM COUPONS FROM THE NEWSPAPER? YES NO
13. DO YOU REDEEM COUPONS FROM CIRCULARS? YES NO
14. IF YOU READ NEWSPAPERS, DO YOU VOTE? YES NO
15. WHERE DO YOU OBTAIN THE MOST INFORMATION ABOUT ELECTIONS?
 - Radio Newspapers TV Others
16. WHAT IS THE BEST SOURCE FOR LOCAL NEWS?
 - Radio Newspapers TV Others
17. WHICH WOULD YOU PREFER FOR RETAILERS TO CARRY THEIR ADS?
 - Radio Newspapers TV Others
18. WHAT IS THE BEST SOURCE FOR LOCAL INFORMATION?
 - Radio Newspapers TV Others
19. WHICH PROVIDES THE MOST VITAL SERVICE FOR YOUR AREA?
 - Radio Newspapers TV Others
20. WHAT IS YOUR MAJOR CRITICISM OF ADVERTISING TODAY? _____

CLIP AND RETURN TO

LOCAL SURVEY
4302 Everest
Austin, Texas 78727

Name _____
Address _____
City and Zip _____

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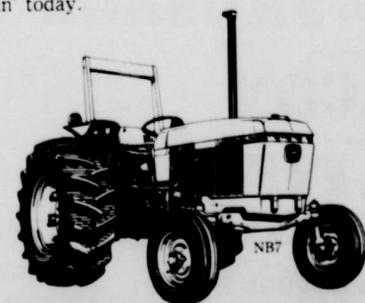
8.5% Fixed rate financing (up to 60 months), with life and physical damage insurance, on new John Deere 40- to 95-hp 50 Series Tractors.

Or 0.0% financing for one year from the day you buy, or cash discount in lieu of waiver.

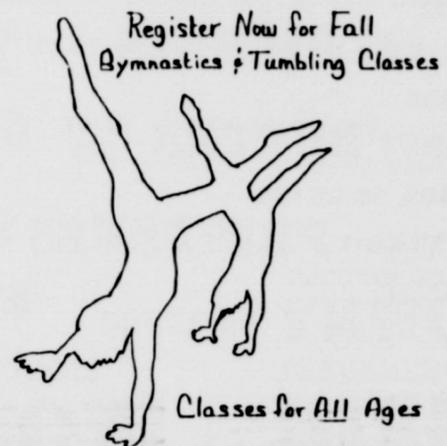
Stop in today. And ask us about additional pass-along savings to help you get the best deal possible.

NOTE: Deals available at participating dealers. John Deere financing subject to approval of credit. (Insurances not included in Minnesota.)

Start dealin' today.



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Gymnastics & Tumbling Classes

Classes for All Ages

When: After school from 4-5 pm
Where: Fit'n Firm 123 Kent - Merkel
Cost: \$20 a month, one class a week

For more information call or come by Fit'n Firm, #928-4026 or call Karen Fuller 928-5561

Hope to see you soon!

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Aug. 19, 20, 21 & 22
STORE HOURS
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CLOSED SUNDAY

TOOTHPASTE
CREST
6.4 OZ TUBE \$1.49

COWBOY MUGS
FULL PEANUTS
FISHER \$2.19
12 OZ SIZE

SPILLMATE TOWELS

JUMBO ROLL **59¢**

REYNOLDS **FOIL WRAP**
25 FT. ROLL **69¢**



LIPTONS ASST **POTATO & SAUCE**
PKG **79¢**

PARADE **FLOUR**
5 LB BAG **59¢**

KRAFTS **VELVEETA CHEESE**
1 LB BOX **\$2.09**

COUNTRY CROCK **SPREAD**
3 LB TUB **\$1.49**

FROZEN FOODS
CITRUS HILL **ORANGE JUICE** 12 OZ CAN **99¢**
WITH CALCIUM
AUNT JEMIMA ORIGINAL **WAFFLES** 10 OZ **89¢**
CHAPOLA 10 OZ **STRAWBERRIES** **59¢**
PARADE 16 OZ EA **CUT BROCCOLI BAG** **93¢**

ASSORTED **COCA COLA** 2 LITER **98¢**
FRANKLINS **CRUNCH 'N MUNCH** 5 OZ BOX **79¢**

COOKING OIL **CRISCO**
64 OZ JUG **\$2.49**

KRAFTS **MIRACLE WHIP**
32 OZ JAR **\$1.59**

BORDEN **ICE CREAM**
1/2 GAL CRTN **\$1.69**

VAN CAMPS 7.5 OZ **BEANEE WEENERS** **59¢**

KRAFTS **CHEEZ WHIZ** 8 OZ ASST **\$1.29**
KEEBLER 12 OZ BOX

VANILLA WAFERS **\$1.29**

DUNCAN HINES 12 OZ BOX **BROWNIE MIX** **93¢**

VLASIC **H. B. DILL PICKLES** 16 OZ **79¢**

PARADE **PEANUT BUTTER** 18 OZ JAR **\$1.29**

PARADE 18 OZ JAR **STRAWBERRY PRESERVES** **\$1.29**

FABRIC SOFTNER **DOWNY** 64 OZ JUG **\$2.09**

DETERGENT **GAIN**
42 OZ BOX **\$1.69**

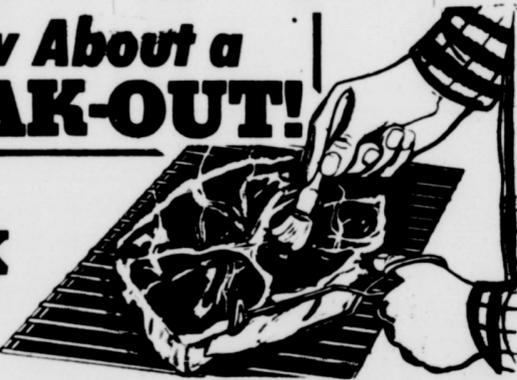
LIQUID **IVORY**
32 OZ JUG **\$1.49**

CREAMY **CRISCO**
3 LB CAN **\$1.89** 2nd \$2.09 1 LIMIT

COFFEE **FOLGERS**
1 LB CAN **\$2.19** 2nd \$2.49 1 LIMIT

INSTANT TEA **LIPTON**
3 OZ JAR **\$2.39**

How About a STEAK-OUT!



CHOICE BEEF **CHUCK STEAK**
LEAN BONELESS **\$1.73** LB

CHOICE BEEF **CHUCK ROAST** BONELESS LEAN LB **\$1.69**

CHOICE BEEF **SIRLOIN STEAK** BONELESS LEAN LB **\$2.89**

GOOCH B R **FRANKS** ALL MEAT 12 OZ PKG **99¢**

GOOCH B R **SMOKED SAUSAGE** 12 OZ PKG **\$1.39**

BIG COUNTRY **BACON** SMOKED CURED LB **\$1.39**

GOOCH B R FROZEN **STEAK FINGERS** 12 OZ PKG **\$1.59**

FREEZER PACK 1
5 LBS GROUND BEEF
5 LBS PORK CHOPS
5 LBS CHUCK ROAST
5 LBS FRYERS
TOTAL WEIGHT 20 LBS **\$30.99**

FREEZER PACK 3
5 LBS GROUND BEEF
5 LB. FRYER LEG QTRS.
5 LBS CHUCK STEAK
5 12 OZ GERMAN SAUSAGE
TOTAL WEIGHT 19 LBS **\$28.89**

FREEZER PACK 8
5 LBS GROUND CHUCK
5 LBS CUBE STEAK
5 LBS CHUCK STEAK
5 LBS SIRLOIN STEAK
TOTAL WEIGHT 20 LBS **\$42.99**

PARADE **FRUIT COCKTAIL** 303 CAN EA **69¢**

ASSORTED QT **GATORADE DRINK** **83¢**

DEL MONTE 303 CUT **GREEN BEANS** **2/89¢**

GREEN GIANT W.K. 12 OZ **NIBLETS CORN** **2/89¢**

PARADE **SWEET PEAS** **2/79¢**

PARADE 303 **WHOLE TOMATOES** **2/89¢**

VEG ALL 303 **MIXED VEGETABLES** **2/89¢**

RANCH 303 **STYLE BEANS** **2/79¢**

BETTY CROCKER **TUNA HELPER**
7 OZ BOX **\$1.33**

HORMEL **SPAM**
LUNCH MEAT
12 OZ ASST CAN **\$1.29** 2 LIMIT

LIBBY'S 5 OZ CAN **POTTED MEAT** **89¢** 2 FOR

RED PLUMS

SANTA ROSA SWEET **39¢** LB

FRESH **BELL PEPPER** **2/39¢**

SEEDLESS **RED GRAPES** LB **69¢**

TEXAS-NEW CROP **GOLDEN YAMS** LB **59¢**

SEEDLESS **WHITE GRAPES** LB **69¢**

GOLDEN **BANANAS** LB **35¢**

YELLOW **ONIONS** LB **23¢**

TEXAS **RUSSET SPUDS** 10 LB BAG **\$1.49**

DOUBLE GIFT BOND STAMPS EACH WED'S WITH \$5.00 IN TRADE OR MORE

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS
CARSON'S SUPER MARKET
Fresh Vegetables Best Meats in Town
Merkel, Texas
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITY