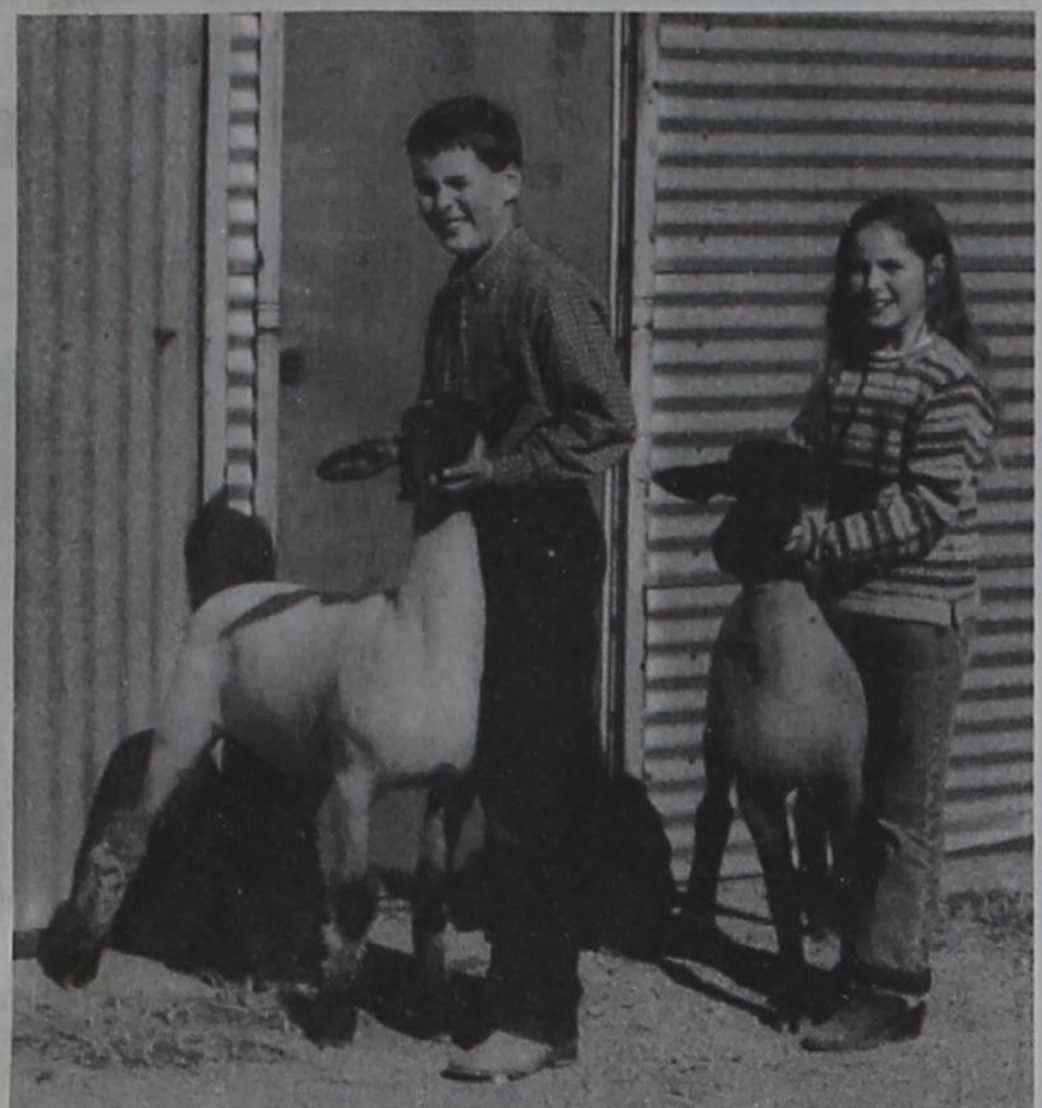


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The Post Dispatch

76th Year Number 32 USPS 439-620 © 2002 The Post Dispatch Newsstand Price 50¢ Thursday, January 10, 2002



Southland 4-H Club members Clint McDaniel (left) and his sister Haylee McDaniel were busy last Saturday at the 4-H show barn, getting ready for this year's Garza County Junior Livestock Show and Sale, Jan. 17-19.

2002 Stockshow Set for January 17-19

The Garza County Jr. Livestock Show and Sale will kick off with weighing-in of animals between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 16. The Swine show is set for Thursday, January 17, 6:00 p.m. On Friday, January 18, the Heifer and Steer shows will begin at 6:00 p.m., Lamb Show at 7:00 p.m., Goat Show at 8:00 p.m. and the Pee-Wee Goat Show at 9:00 p.m.

The Awards program will begin at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, followed by the Premium Sale. After the sale the association will serve an Appreciation Lunch. There will be a concession stand with a variety of choices open each day of the event.

Junior Stelzer, President of G.C.J.L.A. for 2002, encourages everyone to attend and support the youth of Garza County.

Garza Theatre's Willy Awards January 19

The Garza Theatre will officially put a wrap on its 2001 season with the annual Willy Awards Gala to be held Jan. 19.

This year's festivities will break tradition and will begin at 6 p.m. at the Hotel Garza, where finger foods and drinks will be served. There, guests may participate in the silent auction and vote on the year's Best Set Design and Best Program Design.

From 7:15-7:30 p.m., participants will be asked to make their way from the hotel to the Garza Theatre, where the remainder of the evening's festivities will take place.

On the theatre's Main Stage, entertainment will be provided and winners of the silent auction will be announced. The highlight of the evening — the unveiling of the Willy Award winners — also will take place.

Cost per ticket is \$15 per person, and reservations should be made by Jan. 15. Reservations may be made by calling the Garza Theatre box office at 495-4005 either during regular business hours — weekdays from 12:30-5:30 p.m. — or via telephone. Individuals making reservations by phone are asked to leave their name, phone number and number of guests in their party.

Windbreak trees available from SWCD

The Garza County Soil and Water Conservation District is taking orders for windbreak trees.

Producers may choose from a variety of evergreen (conifers) and hardwood tree species.

Some of the conifer species available include Afghanistan pine, Austrian pine, Easter Red Cedar and Pinyon pines.

Hardwood varieties include Catalpa, Desert Willow, Green Ash, Hackberry, Honeylocust (thornless), Mulberry (fruiting) and Naking Cherry.

Other varieties of both hardwoods and conifers also are available. Producers also may order wildlife packets for quail, pheasant, deer, turkey and squirrel.

Quantities are limited. Anyone interested in placing an order should do so as soon as possible.

Texas Sports Hall of Fame recognizes Post's Norm Cash

Delivering what he said "might be the shortest speech in the world," local resident Clyde Cash will stand in for his brother, the late Norm Cash, when he is inducted posthumously into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame Feb. 26 in Waco.

"It'll be a special honor to do it," Clyde Cash said, "but it'll be something else to be standing there in front of all those people."

Cash and his wife Sue and daughter, Dusty Osborn, plan to be on hand for the event, as does Norm Cash's daughter, Julie Hargraves of San Angelo.

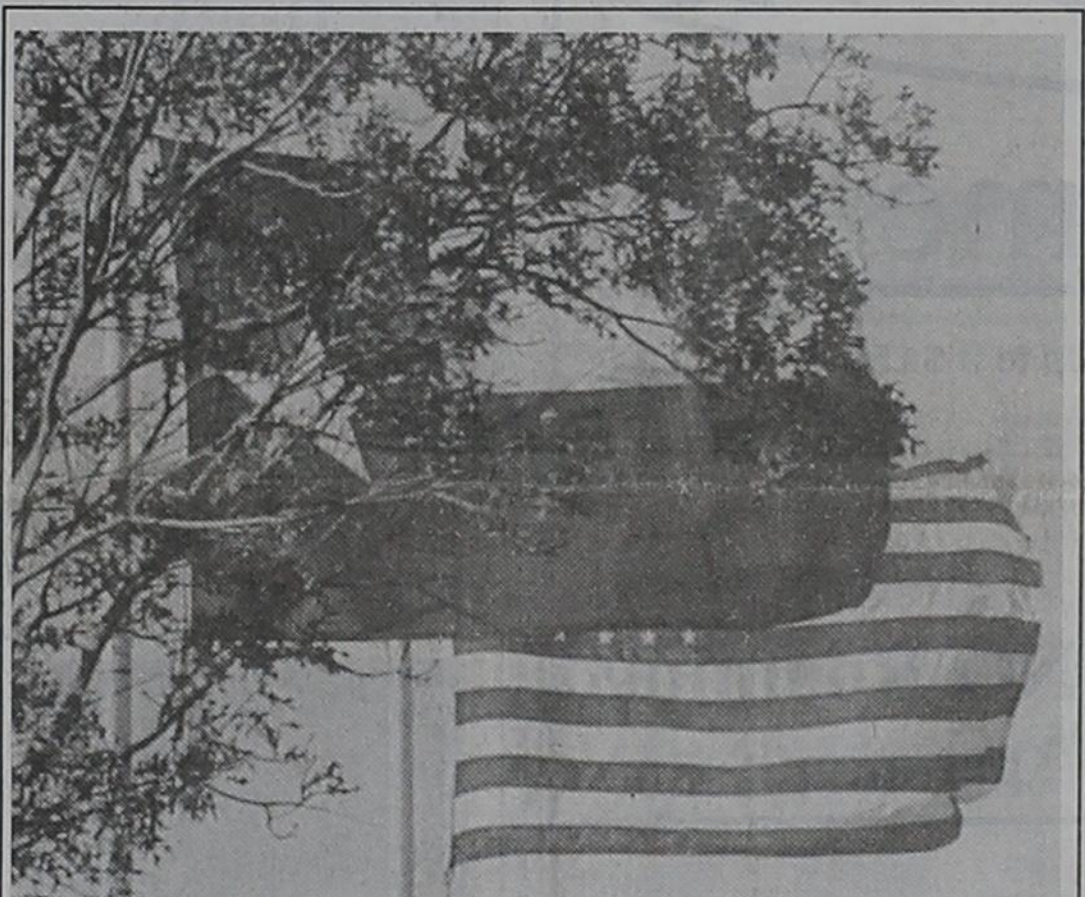
Norm Cash will be one of seven inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame during the ceremony. Joining the four-time all-star and 1961 American League batting champion on the induction roster will be former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman; NASCAR champions Bobby Labonte and Terry Labonte of Corpus Christi; Pro Football Hall of Fame cornerback Dick "Night Train" Lane of Austin; 11-time Pro Bowl offensive lineman Bruce Matthews, a longtime player for the Houston Oilers; and another longtime Oiler, nine-time Pro Bowl lineman Mike Munchak.

Inductees were selected by a 21-member panel of the Texas Sports Writers Association.

Norm Cash first began making noise as an athlete at Post High School where he was a halfback for the 'Lopes in the 1950s. From there, he spent 17 years in the major leagues as a first baseman with the Chicago White Sox (1958-59) and Detroit Tigers (1960-74). He was an American League all-star in 1961, 1966, 1971 and 1972 and hit a team-high .375 in the 1968 World Series when the Tigers downed the Cardinals in seven games.

Norm Cash retired with 377 career home runs and a .271 batting average.

He died at the age of 51 when he drowned in an Oct. 12, 1986, boating accident in Michigan.



It's a Blustery Day ...

Windy conditions and weather switching from cold to warm and back to cold again has kept local folks on the edge lately. Stiff southerly breezes last week were a sign of an advancing cold front. Oh well, that's the way it is out here in West Texas. (Photo by Tim Burnett)

TPA Member Texas Press Association

Post Notes

Power House church offers musical

A special musical by the Highlights of Lubbock will be held Saturday, Jan. 12 at 8 p.m., sponsored by the Power House Church of God of Christ, 619 Pine Street. The public is invited.

Little Dribbler meeting set Sunday

An organizational meeting of the Post "Little Dribblers" will be held Sunday, Jan. 13 at 2 p.m. at the Wells Fargo bank community room. All who are interested in helping with the youth basketball program are urged to attend.

VFW sets Friday dance

The Post VFW is hosting a "DJ" dance Friday from 8 p.m. to midnight. Friday and Saturday features DJ and Karaoke from 9 to 11 p.m.

Reception for new minister Sunday

The Post Church of Christ is hosting a reception for its new minister Travis Sweet and his wife Jeanne on Sunday, Jan. 13 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the home of Don and Joyce Tatum, 116 N. Avenue P. The public is cordially invited.

Former PHS choir members sought

If you were a member of the Post High School choir during the years Mr George Willson served as choir director, please contact Margie (Harrison) Maestas at 495-0225 or e-mail to maestas@nts-online.net.

Free Texas Forum January 15

A monthly meeting to discuss a new Texas constitution will be held Thursday, January 15 at Chapa's Family Restaurant beginning at 6 p.m. The "Free Texas Forum" will include answers to questions about Texas Constitution 2000 and plans for its ratification. Call 495-0122 for more information.

Booster Club offers special calendar

The Post Antelope Booster Club is taking orders for 2002 calendars commemorating the 2001 Post Antelope football season. Each month will have a different photo at the top as a reminder of the great accomplishments by the team. The calendars are \$25 each and may be ordered by calling Larry Mills at 495-3726 before January 25.

Barbara Reece scholarship fund

The Barbara Reece Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established with an account at Wells Fargo Bank in Post. The scholarship fund will be used toward the advanced education of a PHS graduating senior. Those interested in contributing to the scholarship fund should call Carol Short at 495-2804.

SWCD takes orders for trees

The Garza County Soil and Water Conservation District is taking orders for windbreak trees. Producers may choose from a variety of evergreen (conifers) and hardwood tree species. Call Oneita Gunn at 495-2056, extension 309 visit the Natural Resources Conservation Service office at 210 West Main in Post. The office is open 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Volunteer firemen chili supper

The Post Volunteer Fire Department annual "Chili Supper" is set for Saturday, February 9 at the fire station. Donations are accepted.

Grandma Brag Pages

Grandmothers are reminded that the annual "Grandma Brag Pages" will be published this year in the February 14 edition of The Post Dispatch. The deadline for photos is Friday, February 8. Entries may be dropped in the front door mail slot at the newspaper office at 123 E. Main. The cost is \$10 per photo, with a limit of two children in each photo. Please include names of grandchildren and grandparents and a phone number of submitter.

Moms in Touch in Post

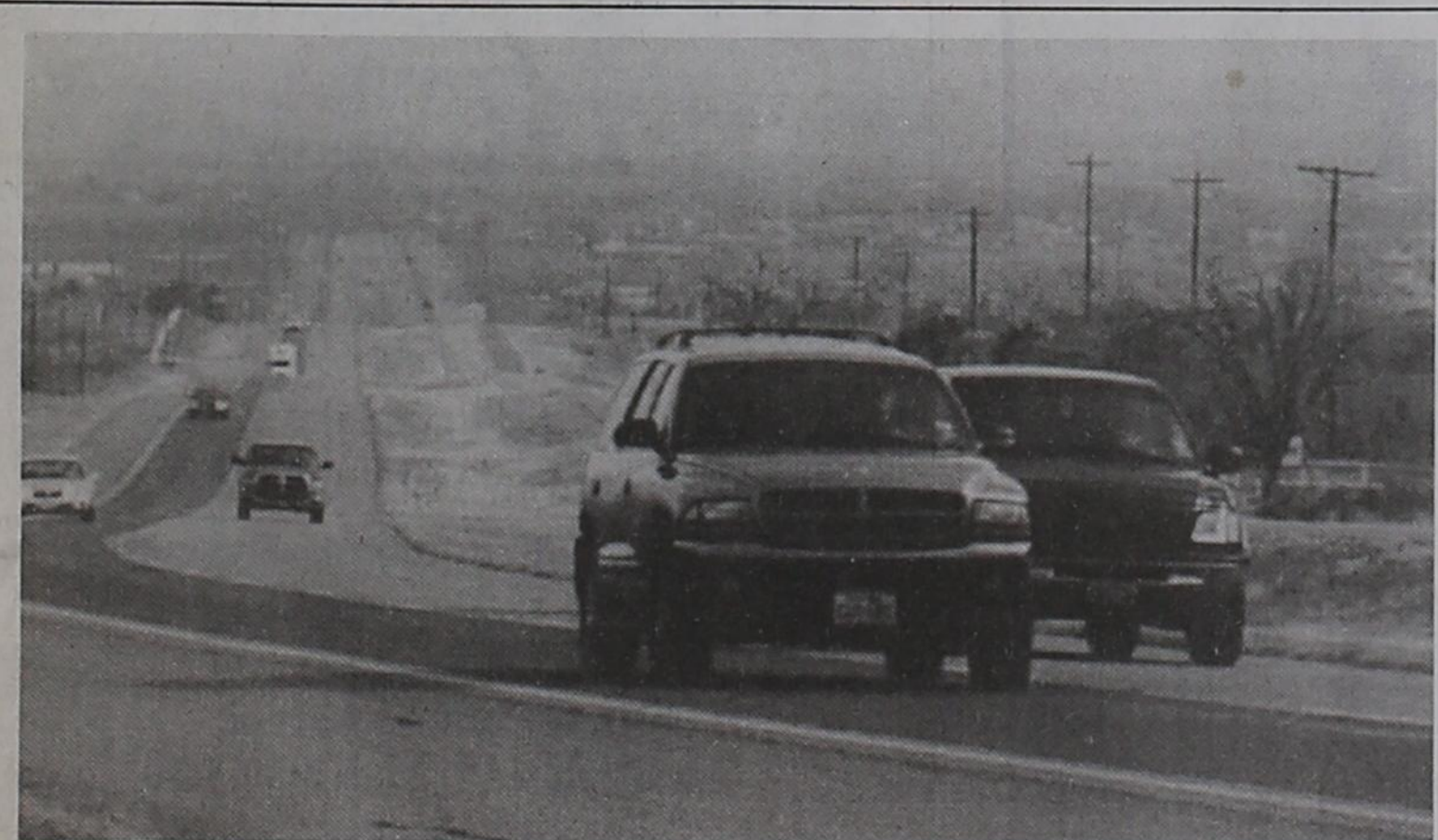
Women who would like to stand in the gap for children and schools are encouraged to become involved with "Moms In Touch International." There will be an informational meeting Thursday, January 10 at 7 p.m. at the CitizensBank community room. For more information, call Debbie Brownlow at 495-1919 or Kellie Macy at 495-2861.

Post ISD trustees studies TAAS test, fiscal year changes

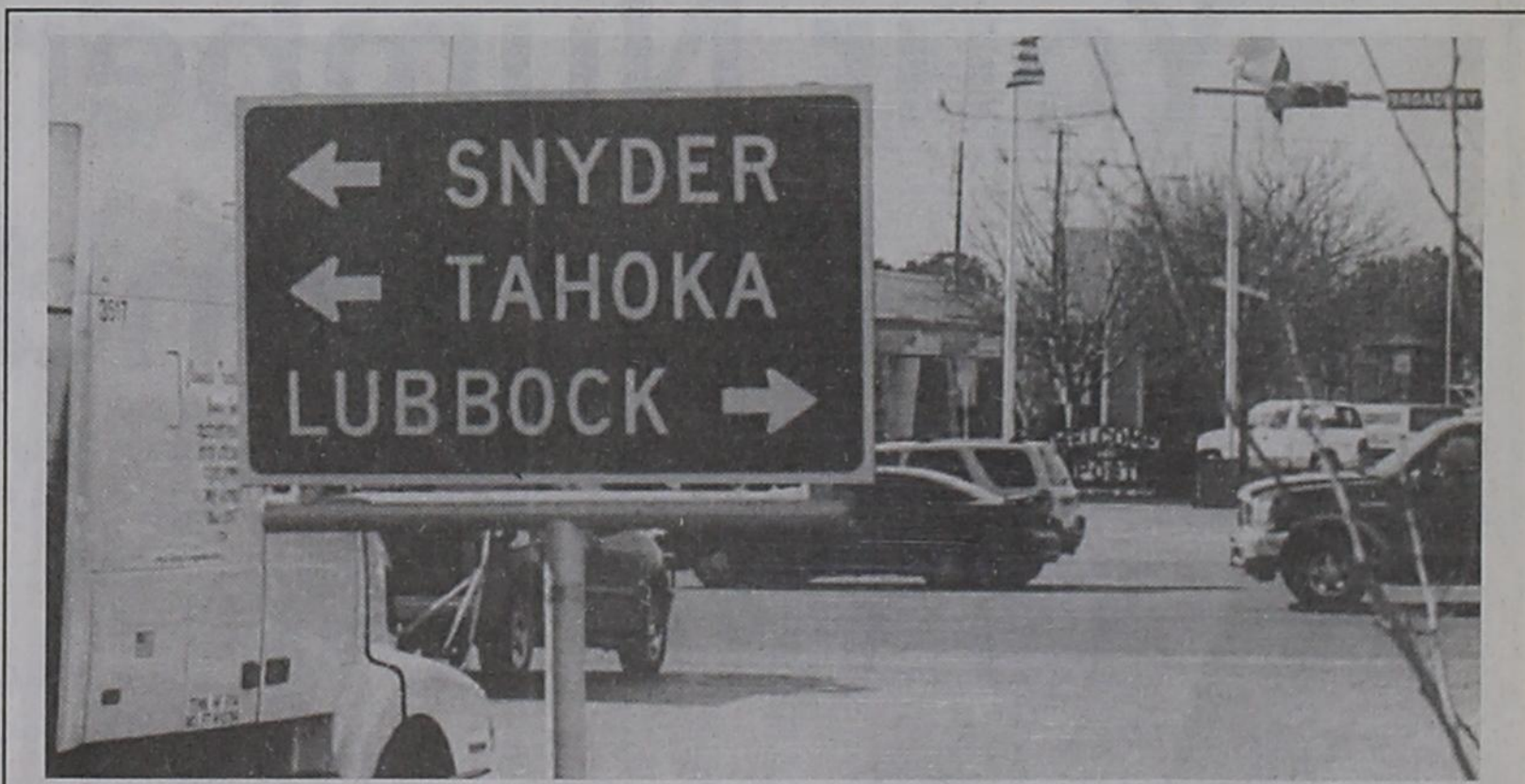
Trustees for the Post Independent School District will meet tonight, Jan. 10, to work through several agenda items.

After hearing routine reports and handling monthly business, the school board will discuss TAAS test strategies and a possible change in the school district's fiscal year.

Also on the agenda is the calling of a board election for May 4 and an executive session in which employment of personnel and substitute teachers may be discussed. Any action deemed necessary in the closed door session will be taken in open session.



Thousands of cars and trucks a day roam up and down the caprock through Post during big weekend holidays. It's a sign of the times. (Photo by Tim Burnett)



U.S. Highways 84 and 380 were crowded over the past few weeks with busy travelers headed to and from holiday visits. Local travel industry businesses report brisk sales. (Photo by Tim Burnett)

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Methodist Women enjoy luncheon

The 1st United Methodist Women met Dec. 18 in the Fellowship Hall. A salad luncheon was enjoyed by the members and several guests.
The business meeting was conducted by outgoing president Mary Edwards. New officers were elected for 2002, and they are as follows: Carolyn Black, president; JoAnn Miller, vice-president; Pat Bilbo, secretary/treasurer; and a program committee consisting of Mary Lynn Bell, chairman; Linda Couch; Shirley Stice; Mary Edwards; and Patti Kirkpatrick.
Other business included plans for Women's Sunday on Jan. 6 and continued support for the Interfaith Hospitality Network in Lubbock.
The program was presented by Rhonda McCarty of Midland and George Rishmawl of Palestine.
Members attending were Joy Dickson, Jeanette Edwards, Black, Miller, Couch, Billy Bilbo, Kirkpatrick and Mary Edwards. Guests were Regina Bell, Dr. James Bell and McCarty and Rishmawl.
The group's next meeting will be on Jan. 22 at 10 a.m. in the church fellowship hall.

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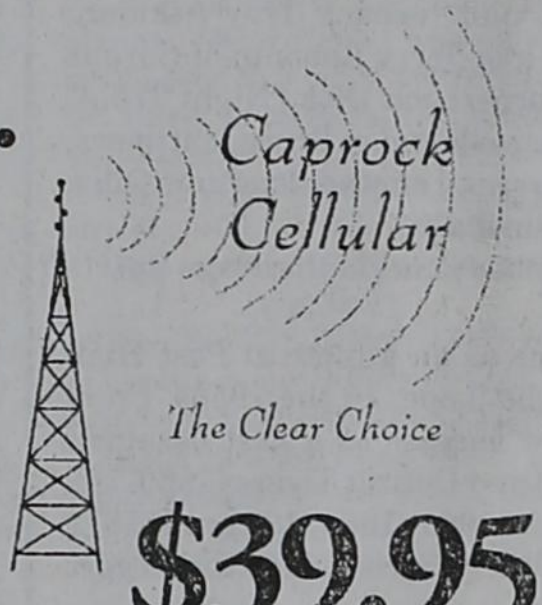
**Pennell, Moore announce
March 2 wedding**

Mr and Mrs Marlon Moore and Mr and Mrs Joe Pennell proudly announce the engagement of their children, Amanda Leigh Moore and Seth Macklin Pennell. The couple is to be married March 2, 2002 in Stephenville, Texas.

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Poka Lambro offers scholarship

Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative Inc. is not accepting applications for three \$2,500 scholarships to be awarded in March. Entry deadline is March 5.
The son or daughter of any member of Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative Inc. graduating from an area high school is eligible to apply. Scholarship recipients are selected based on academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and financial need.
Applications have been sent to area high schools and may also be obtained from Poka Lambro.
Scholarship presentations will be made at the corporation's annual membership meeting in March.
For more information, contact Amy Preston at 1-800-422-2387.

Birth

**Catherine Lydia
Tidwell**

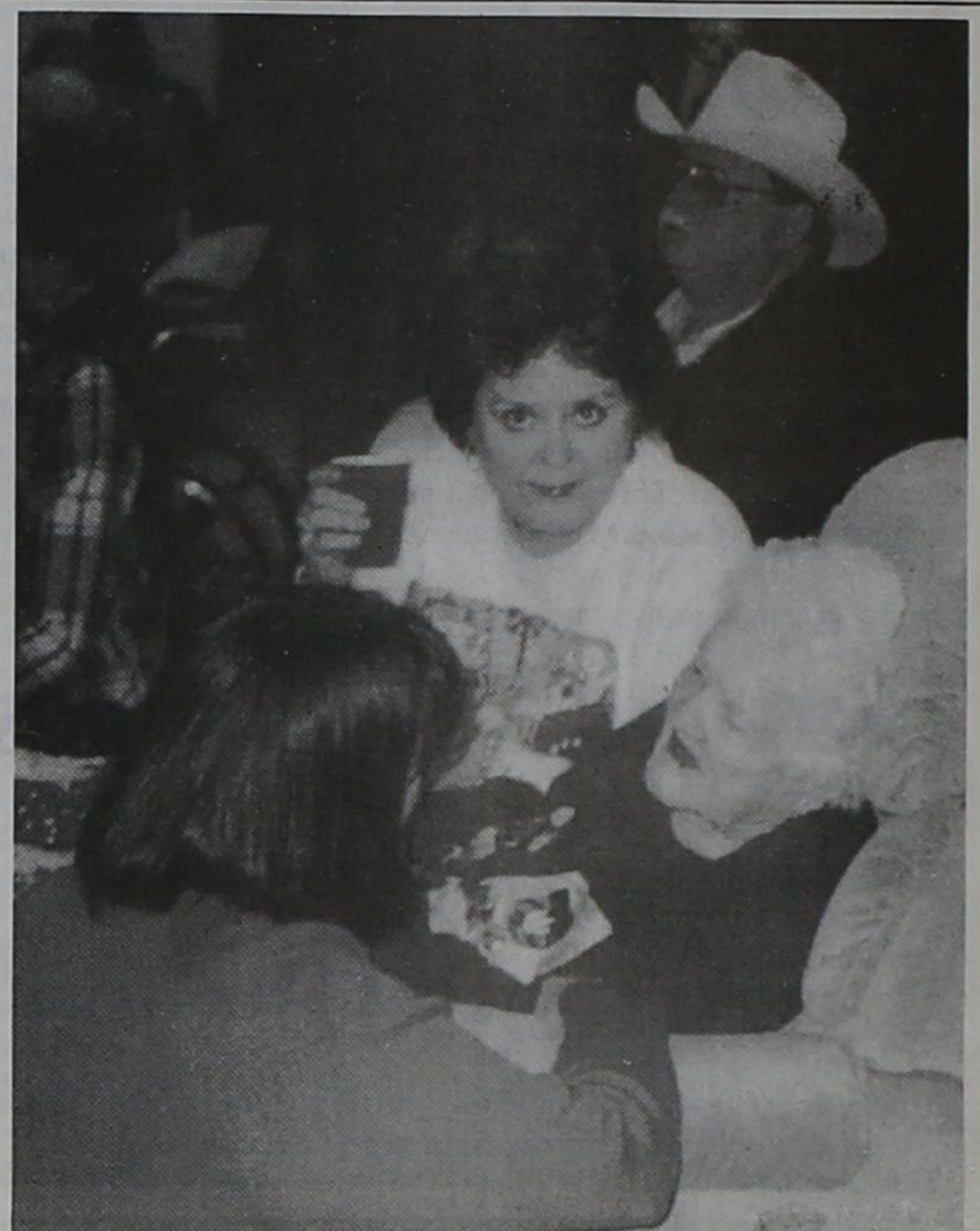
Catherine Lydia Tidwell was born Saturday, January 5, 2002 at 8:52 a.m. to Steven and Celia Tidwell. She was born at Portsmouth Naval Hospital in Portsmouth, Virginia.
Steven serves with the U.S. Navy at Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia.
Proud grandparents are Birdie Gonzales and Javier Galvan of San Angelo, Texas, and Wesley and Anita Morris of Post, Texas.



Catherine Lydia Tidwell

Jazmin Patel

Toral Master and Subhash Patel of Post proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Jazmin. She was born at Lubbock's Highland Hospital on October 24, 2001, weighing seven pounds and three and one-quarter ounces.



Vada McCampbell (center) gets some family attention during Golden Plains Care Center's Christmas party last month. Mrs McCampbell shared time with her daughter Judy Bush and son-in-law Jerry Bush (right). (Photo by JoAnn Stelzer)

The Post Dispatch
Local News & Sports

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Although he is regularly asked to do so, God does not take sides in American politics.

—Sen. George Mitchell

Obituaries

Octavio M. Gomez

Services for Octavio M. Gomez, 73, of Post were conducted at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 4, 2002, at the Holy Cross Catholic Church with Father Malcolm Neyland officiating. Burial followed in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

Rosary was said at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 3, in the funeral home chapel.

He died Tuesday, Jan. 1, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. Born Feb. 27, 1928, in Mexico, he married Micaela de la Paz Sept. 25, 1950, in Mexico. He worked on farms most of his life and had been a resident of Post for the past 11 years. He was a Catholic.

Survivors include his wife, Micaela of Post; four sons, M.P. Gomez, Antonio Gomez and Rocky Gomez, all of Post, and Octavio Gomez Jr. of Texoma, Texas; one daughter, Erika Armendariz of Seminole; five brothers, Carmen Gomez of El Paso, Pascacio Gomez and Manuel Gomez, both of Mexico, and Eliseo Gomez and Jose Gomez, both of Midland; three sisters, Evangelina Gomez, Balvina Ronquillo and Rosa Valenzuela, all of Mexico; 17 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Grace Penney

Private graveside services for Grace Marie Penney, 56, of Littlefield were conducted at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2002, in the Littlefield Cemetery under the direction of Hammons Funeral Home.

She died at 3:35 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock following a lengthy illness.

Born Nov. 9, 1945, at Bartlesville, West Virginia, she graduated from Groom High School and had lived in Littlefield for 20 years. She was manager of the Jolly Roger Convenience Store. A Baptist, she attended the Parkview Baptist Church.

Survivors include six brothers, Billy Algeo of Guacomola, Tex Algeo and Joe Algeo, both of Columbus, Ohio, Howard Algeo of Nashville, N.C., Charles Algeo of Bartlesville, West Virginia, and Ernest Algeo of Altus, Okla.; three sisters, Rosalie Safford of Huntington, West Virginia, Betty Aikey of Columbus, Ohio, and Ruth Sullivan of Concord, North Carolina; and two special friends, Janie Stanaford and Charlene Jones, both of Littlefield.

Gerald S. Burley

Services for Gerald S. Burley, 62, of Slaton will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, 2002, in the First Baptist Church in Post with the Rev. Raymond Ochoa of Slaton, Templo de Alavanza officiating. Burial will follow in the Terrace Cemetery under the direction of the Hudman Funeral Home.

He died Tuesday, Jan. 8, in Slaton. Born Sept. 23, 1939, in Broadus, Montana, he married Kathleen Butler April 24, 1968, in Mexico. He served as a production foreman in the petroleum industry for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen Burley of Slaton; his mother, Eveline Burley of Broadus; four daughters, Kyran Moore of Post, Darlene Boyd of Alvin, Texas, Teresa Stokley of Houston and Beverly Soria of Billings, Montana; four sons, Danny Burley of Miles City, Montana, Wesley Burley of Billings, Montana, Vincent Burley of Shelby, Montana and Kerry Burley of Slaton; two sisters, Ethel Zuelsdorf of Rock Spring, Wyoming, and Elaine McAfee of White Sulphur Springs, Montana; 23 grandchildren; and 11 great-grand-



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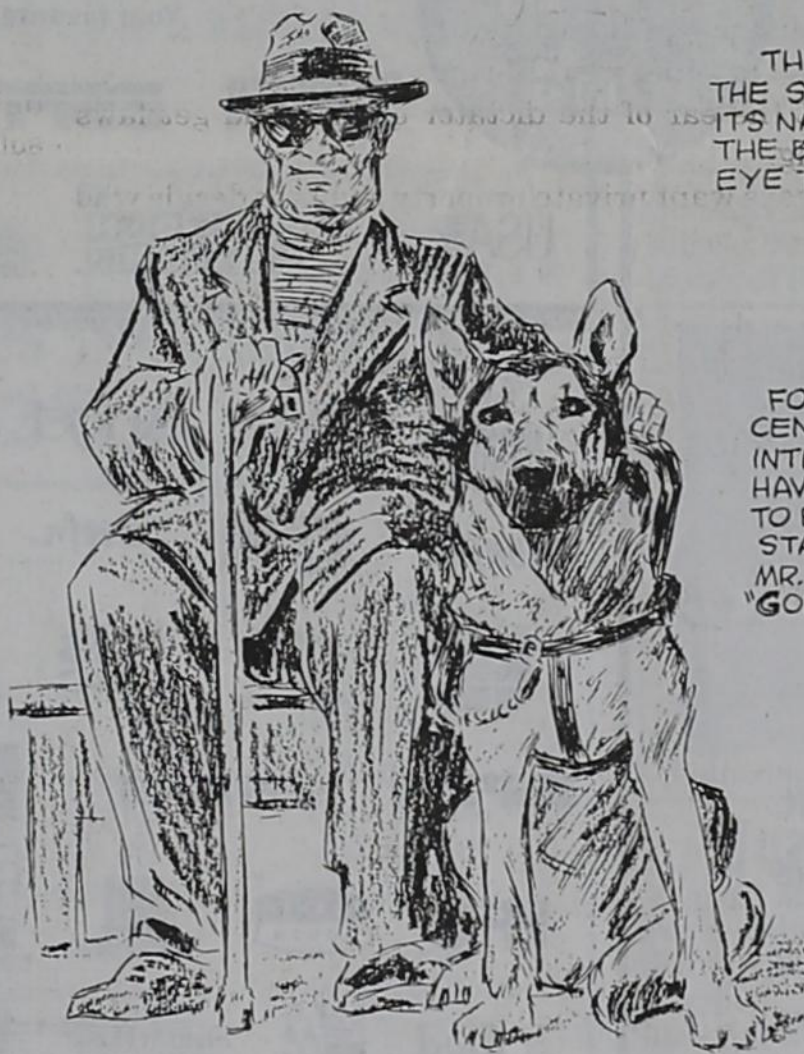
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Calvary Baptist Church	210 E. 6th, 495-2342	Lighthouse Christian Center Church of God	314 N. Ave I, 495-2237
First Baptist Church	402 W. Main, 495-3554	Power House Church of God and Christ	Pine Ave.
First Baptist Church, Wilson	628-6333	Disciples of Christ	
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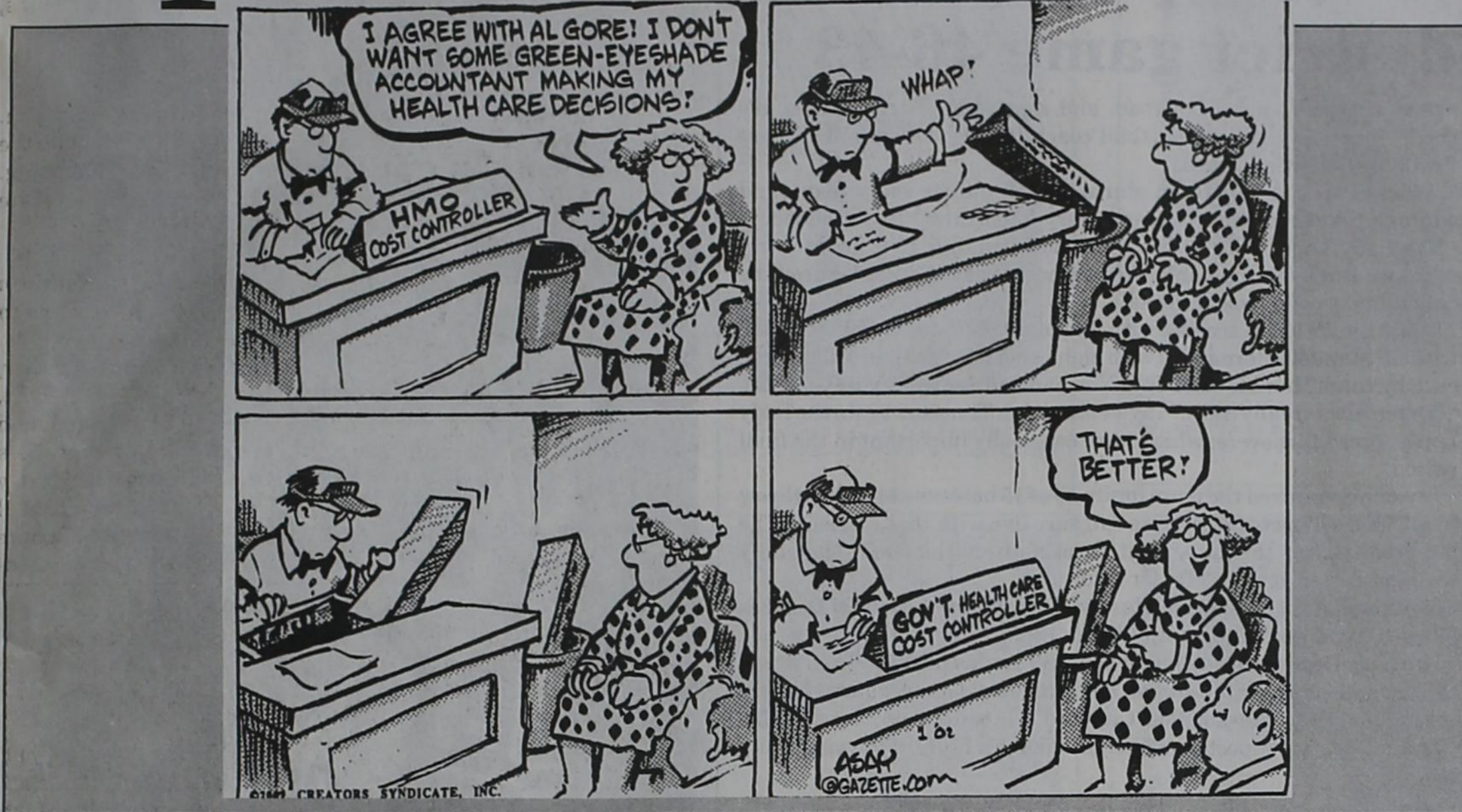
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Opinions



And thereafter, who may harm whom?

by Walter E. Williams

Webster's Dictionary defines harm as: to hurt, damage, injure. People who don't or can't think believe that government should step in to prevent one person from harming another, such as in the case of tobacco smoke. But harm is a two-way street, and it's a daunting task to determine whether one harm is more important than another.

Let's list just a few instances of harms and decide whether they should be banned. When handheld calculators were invented, manufacturers of slide rules were harmed. They were run out of business. When chain hardware stores like Home Depot and Lowes opened, many neighborhood hardware stores were run out of business. When I married Mrs. Williams, other women were harmed by a reduction in the number of highly desirable men to marry.

I enjoy smoking, and you might find it an abomination and worry about the health effects of secondhand smoke. If I'm stopped from smoking, I'm harmed by a reduction in my pleasure and you're benefited. If I'm permitted to smoke, I'm benefited and you're harmed.

There are literally thousands of examples of how people harm one another. No one but an idiot would make an attempt to objectively determine which harm is more important than the other and should be banned by government. Thus, we're confronted with the question: What is it that decides what kinds of harm should be permitted? How is it decided who may harm whom?

In a dictatorship, it's the dictator who decides. In a democracy, it's mob rule. How is it decided in a free society? In a free society, the question of who may harm whom in what ways is decided through private property rights.

Harming another by rape, murder and robbery should be prohibited because it violates private property rights. We own ourselves. Thus, rape, murder and robbery are private property rights violations.

In the case of the handheld calculator producer harming the slide ruler producer, it's property rights that decides. The calculator producer owns his materials and skills. Customers have private property rights to their money. That means they have the right to spend it purchasing calculators. The slide ruler producer has no right to force customers to purchase his product. While the calculator producer has a right to harm the slide ruler manufacturer by offering a more desirable product, he doesn't have the right to harm him by burning down his factory. That would violate the slide ruler manufacturer's property rights.

What about cigarette smoke harming others? In a free society, as opposed to a dictatorship or mob rule, the matter is resolved through private property rights. If you own property, be it your house, restaurant, airplane or workplace, another does not have the right to smoke on your property without your permission.

Alternatively, in the house, restaurant, airplane or workplace that I own, another doesn't have the right to prohibit smoking. If you don't like the fact that smoking is permitted in my restaurant, you can go elsewhere. Similarly, I can do the same if you don't permit smoking.

Of course, if there's dictatorship or mob rule, and I can get the ear of the dictator or mob, a law can be written to require you to allow smoking. You say, "Williams, that would be unfair." It's no more unfair than when people get the ear of the dictator or mob and get laws written to ban smoking.

A free people will always want private property rights to decide who may harm whom. It's less arbitrary, more certain and less subject to political whims.

To find out more about Walter Williams, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Taking a stand for justice, not tribunals

by Jacob G. Hornberger
Future of Freedom Foundation

We have taken a firm stand against President Bush's military tribunals.

See, for example, "Military Tribunals: Another Step Away from Our Principles" <http://www.fff.org/comment/ed12011.asp> and "Emergencies, Military Tribunals, and the Constitution" <http://www.fff.org/comment/ed1101k.asp>

In a recent conversation I had with Sheldon Richman, he raised an interesting question: Why are the president's supporters not instead calling for the summary execution of terrorists and totally dispensing with the idea of military tribunals?

The process that the president has set up (without the approval of Congress) is that he makes the initial determination as to whether a person is a terrorist, and then that determination triggers a trial before a military tribunal. But as everyone knows, the president is a good, honest, and conscientious man.

Before determining whether a person is a terrorist, he will closely examine all the evidence and will arrive at a good-faith conclusion as to whether the person is a terrorist or not. Why would the president's supporters want a military tribunal second-guessing his determination?

Don't they trust the president to make the right decision? Surely they wouldn't suggest that President Bush would falsely accuse an innocent person of terrorism, would they? What happens if there's a "runaway" military tribunal — one that decides that the president has wrongfully accused an innocent person of terrorism?

Wouldn't that humiliate, demean, and insult the president in the eyes of the world? Why would the president's supporters want to put him in that position?

Who do they trust to make the better and wiser decision — our democratically elected president or a military tribunal composed of soldiers?

If they trust their president more than military officials, then why are they calling for military tribunals instead of summary execution of people that our president has determined to be terrorists?

For our part here at FFF, we'll continue calling for the executive branch, including the president, to do the accusing and prosecuting, and the judicial branch, including juries, to do the judging, just as our Founders envisioned when they brought the federal government into existence with the Constitution.

His noblest fantasy had little to do with elves and wizards

by Vin Suprynowicz

I'm hardly the first to note that Professor J.R.R. Tolkien's modern classic "Lord of the Rings" — or the new and successful film now born thereof — have a strong and unusual political subtext.

"The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring," which opens tomorrow, is a terrific movie about politics," wrote James Pinkerton of Long Island's Newsday on Dec. 18.

"Why?" the columnist continued. "Because it's about power. And that's what politics is all about: power — and the temptations that confront the powerful. Always. And there's no real solution, at least not in this world."

Mr. Pinkerton's premise is correct, though whether he is equally correct in his cynical conclusion has (I would argue) yet to be determined. Prof. Tolkien — the author taught ancient Anglo-Saxon language and literature at Oxford for half a century — certainly gave his mythical hero another option.

Pinkerton appears to be no fan. He objects that to get to the political point of Tolkien's work — crafted after the author saw his beloved and bucolic England twice wrecked, and probably changed forever, by the paroxysms of world war — "The movie watcher must wade through three hours of mostly mumbo jumbo about hobbits and halflings, elves and orcs, and listen to dialogue such as, 'I will bind myself to you, Aragorn of the Dunedain. For you I will forsake the immortal life of my people.'"

I believe that in the film version the elf princess actually settles for the considerably less tongue-twisting, "I would rather spend one mortal life with you ..." But one could just as well complain that to get to the point of the average detective movie one must wade through hours of sleazy people waving guns at one another and uttering unlikely dialogue about "homeboys," "smack," and "blow."

For the beautiful Arwen (Liv Tyler, charmingly enough) to give up her immortality out of love for the very mortal future king is indeed a notable sacrifice. Since the breakneck pace of Peter Jackson's film takes out as little time for romance as did the original novel — Prof. Tolkien did not lean toward bodice-rippers — and with the current production already running to three hours, Mr. Pinkerton would surely agree we can spare little additional time for hand-holding in the orchard.

But what lingua franca would he have preferred to hear from such essentially medieval characters: "Hey, hot stuff, spare me a little tongue time?"

Tolkien's surefootedness in the cadences of the genre stemmed from his ability to recite "Beowulf" and the Icelandic sagas from which his mythic creations flowed ... in the original language. (It's reliably reported he would actually hold conversations in Anglo-Saxon, a language otherwise thoroughly dead, at table with his students of an evening in the college dining hall. And when his editors complained that he had used the wrong plural for "dwarf" — the 1938 Oxford English Dictionary preferring "dwarfs" — who but Tolkien could have replied, "Yes, I have changed my mind since I

wrote the dictionary?") But the true greatness of this trilogy (yes, there are two more movies to come) arises from the deft way the author managed to bind in a theme otherwise alien to those great precursors, as surely as Sauron bound his subjects with the "gift" of the Rings of Power.

For most great English literature has been about restoring proper government power (always favoring the legitimacy of the ancestors of whatever patrons were footing the bill) — read the thanes of Shakespeare's "MacBeth" arguing that any foible can be forgiven in a king so long as he can rule with a strong hand, preserving the land from anarchy.

But "The Lord of the Rings" is not about restoring the metaphorical Ring of Power to the rightful king. Rather, we see Frodo the ringbearer — an open-faced hobbit in homespun making the most seemingly unlikely champion, except for the fact that hobbits are the creatures in all Middle Earth least likely to be seduced by the promise of power — offer the ring to each of the good wizards and elf queens and royal heirs of his world, in turn.

Those who succumb to temptation come to bad ends. The test of goodness and worth — in this film as in the book — is the ability to say "No" to the offer of unlimited power, to declare, as does Gandalf the Gray (Ian McKellen), "Oh, I would use this ring in an attempt to do good. But through me, it would wield a terrible power. ..."

Frodo's quest is not to deliver the One Ring to the right king, but rather to haul it back to the mountain of fire where it was forged in darkness, and destroy it.

What's that? Not merely to reassign government power to its rightful heirs, but to reduce and limit it for all time? To declare that the solution is not merely to make sure "the right party" manipulates the existing levers of power, but rather that such unrestricted power is to be banished from the globe for good, setting men free to seek their own mortal (albeit often misguided) destinies?

This is the conclusion Prof. Tolkien drew after watching Europe wracked by 30 years of (briefly interrupted) total war between the struggling factions of fascism and collectivism.

It's also — coincidentally enough — what America's founders attempted 215 years ago, when they set about constructing a government "of limited powers, sharply defined."

Do most of our present-day rulers still share that vision? Is it a common thing to walk into a federal court these days and find a judge scratching his head and declaring, "You know, the defendant has a point — I can't seem to find any specifically delegated power in Article I Section 8 of the Constitution for the Congress to enact laws or create agencies to meddle in this field of human endeavor, at all. I thereby rule this entire section of the federal code to be unconstitutional and null and void, and order the agency whose agents have brought these charges to be dissolved forthwith. Issue yourselves severance checks, turn out the lights and lock the doors; case dismissed?"

Of course not. Because the Libertarians and Constitutionalists who argue in America today that the goal and raison d'etre of this government from its founding was to limit central power in order to maximize individual freedom, get about as much respect and attention from today's swordbearers — anxious to centralize everything from bank account reporting procedures to airport security — as did Tolkien's little hobbits from the dark lord Sauron.

Our eventual success today — against such a fearful array of forces, once supposed to stand as "checks and balances" one against another — looks about as likely as that of little Frodo's lonely pilgrimage to Mordor.

Time will tell. Till then, we can always go see the movie. Vin Suprynowicz is assistant editorial page editor of the Las Vegas Review-Journal. Subscribe to his monthly newsletter by sending \$96 to Privacy Alert, 561 Keystone Ave., Suite 684, Reno, NV 89503 — or dialing 775-348-8591. His book, "Send in the Waco Killers: Essays on the Freedom Movement, 1993-1998," is available at 1-800-244-2224, or via web site www.thespiritof76.com/wacokillers.html.

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Sports



Tandi Humble (left) hounds a Ralls ball handler during defensive action early in the game at Ralls last Friday night. The Lady Lope defense kept Ralls in tow in the 46-43 win.



Manuela Hernandez (23) takes the inside lane to the basket for the Lady Lopes in their 46-43 win at Ralls last Friday.



Kelly Moore (21) and Emily Smith (25) put up an aggressive defense against the Lady Rabbits at Ralls last Friday night. The Lady Lopes won the game 46-43.

Lady Lopes win first district game 46-43

"Any time we win on the road, and especially district games, it's good," Post Lady Lope basketball coach Ron Taylor said about last Friday's 46-43 win at Ralls.

"When district competition starts, it's all 0-0 for every team, and winning that first district game is very important," Taylor added.

The Lady Lopes started out a bit slow, trailing 10-0 in the early minutes. But by the opening of the second period they had erased the deficit and slowly took the lead.

Emily Smith led in scoring with 12 points, followed by Kelly Moore with 11, Manuela Hernandez with eight, seven by Meagan Mills, three each by Tandi Humble and Nikki Norman and two by Kaycee Gorman.

"Defense was really a key," Taylor observed. Time and again the Lady Lopes forced turnovers, which were especially important in the final period.

Taylor also praised the team for its 10 of 15 baskets at the free throw line. "That's 67 percent, and we can sure live with that," he said. The big problem was the 26 percent shooting from the field. "Hopefully we'll get better at that," Taylor said.

In other district competition last week, Tahoka edged New Deal 33-32 with Sundown tripping up Idalou 34-27.

The Lady Lopes took on Sundown here Tuesday night and will travel to Tahoka Friday for the second district game. Get live game reports throughout the contest on Post City Radio, broadcast on Classic Cable Channel 12, www.postcityradio.net and at 97.7 FM (community radio).

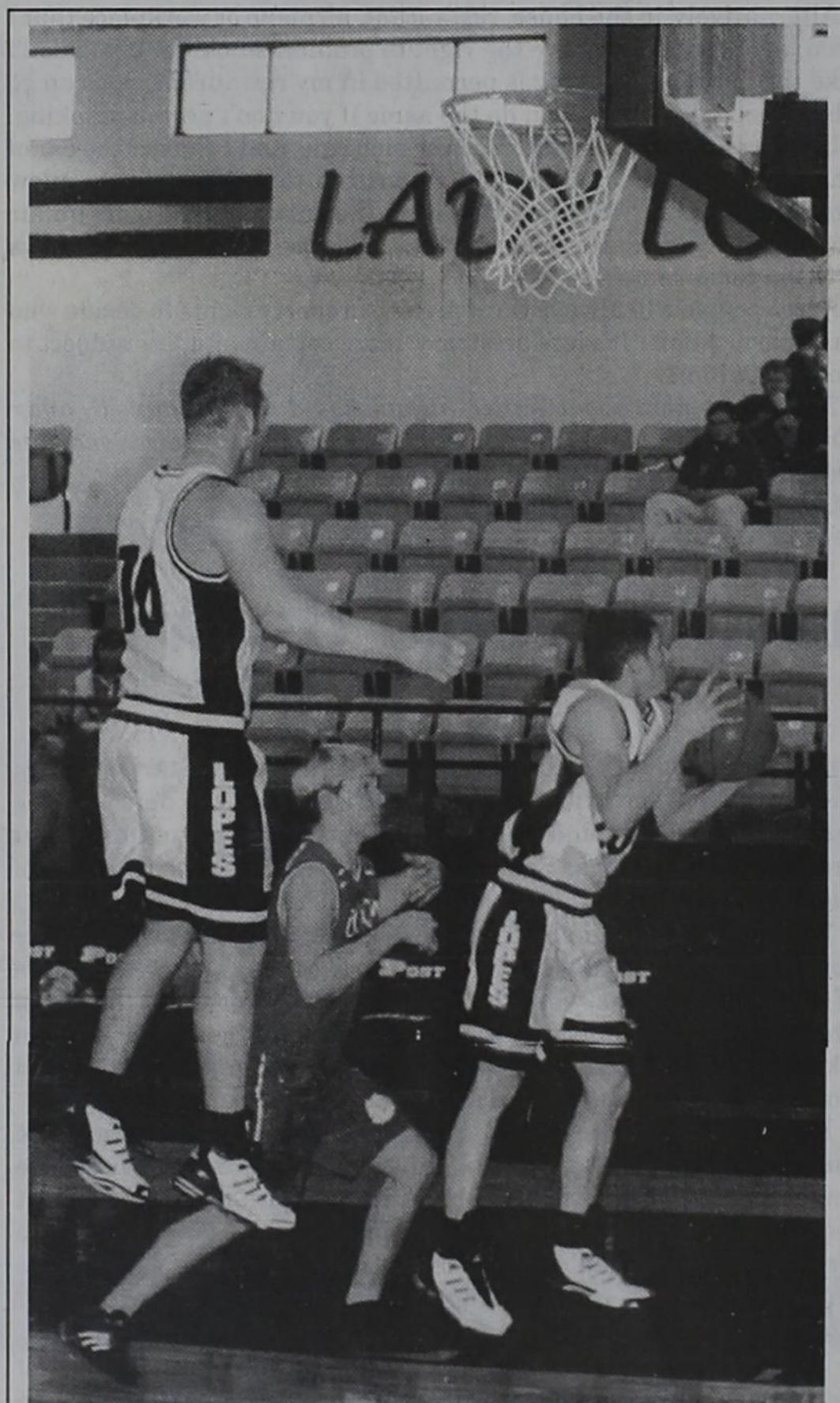
'Lopes handle Coahoma 30-27

In great defensive game last Saturday afternoon in Post, the Antelope varsity basketball team held on to a three point lead to win 30-27.

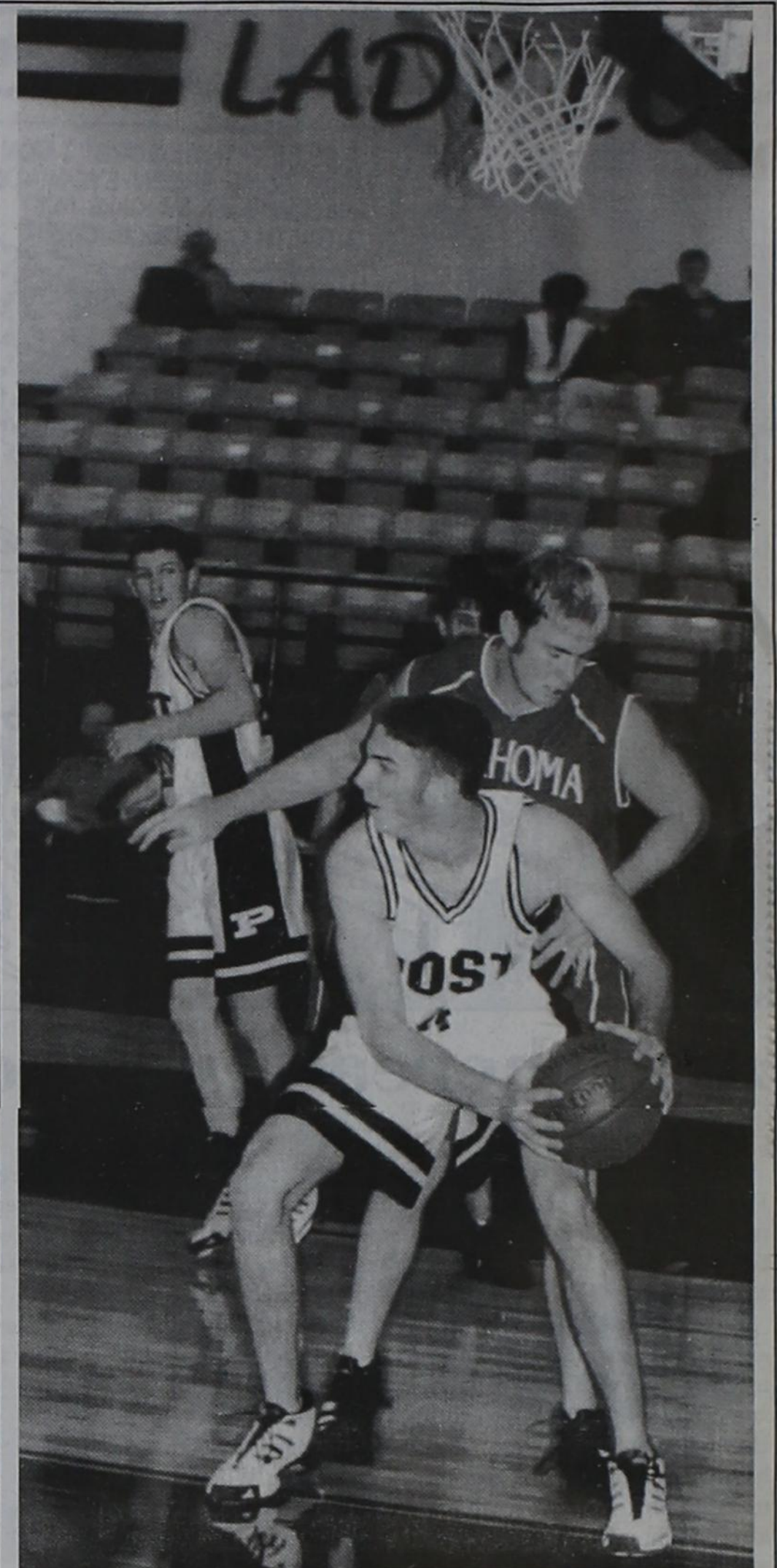
"We're proud of these guys," coach Dane Vickers said, "they played an outstanding defensive game and played our game at the end to seal the win."

Jarrett Vickers led the team with 10 points, with Michael Huff and Kenny Ratke getting seven and Mitchell Mills collecting six. "We shot 55 percent at the free throw line," coach Vickers added, "and in tight ball games, it's the free throw that makes the difference."

The team took on Slaton here Tuesday night, then travels to Tahoka for its first district matchup Friday. Get live game reports on Post City Radio (Classic Cable Channel 12, www.postcityradio.net or 97.7 FM).



Brody Robertson (right) takes control of the rebound for the Post Antelope varsity basketball team as Michael Huff (left) jumps into the action. The varsity 'Lopes took 30-27 win over the visiting Coahoma Bulldogs at Antelope Arena last Saturday afternoon.



Jarrett Vickers (4) out-muscles a Coahoma Bulldog for the rebound early in the game here last Saturday. The 'Lopes put together an impressive defense, winning the game 30-27.

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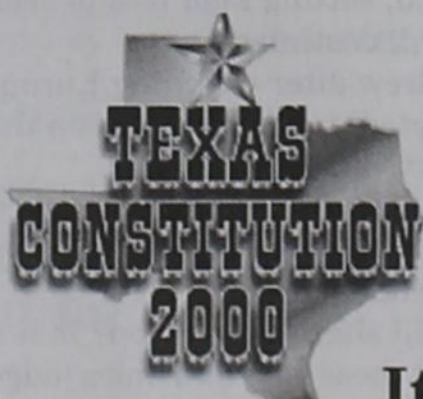
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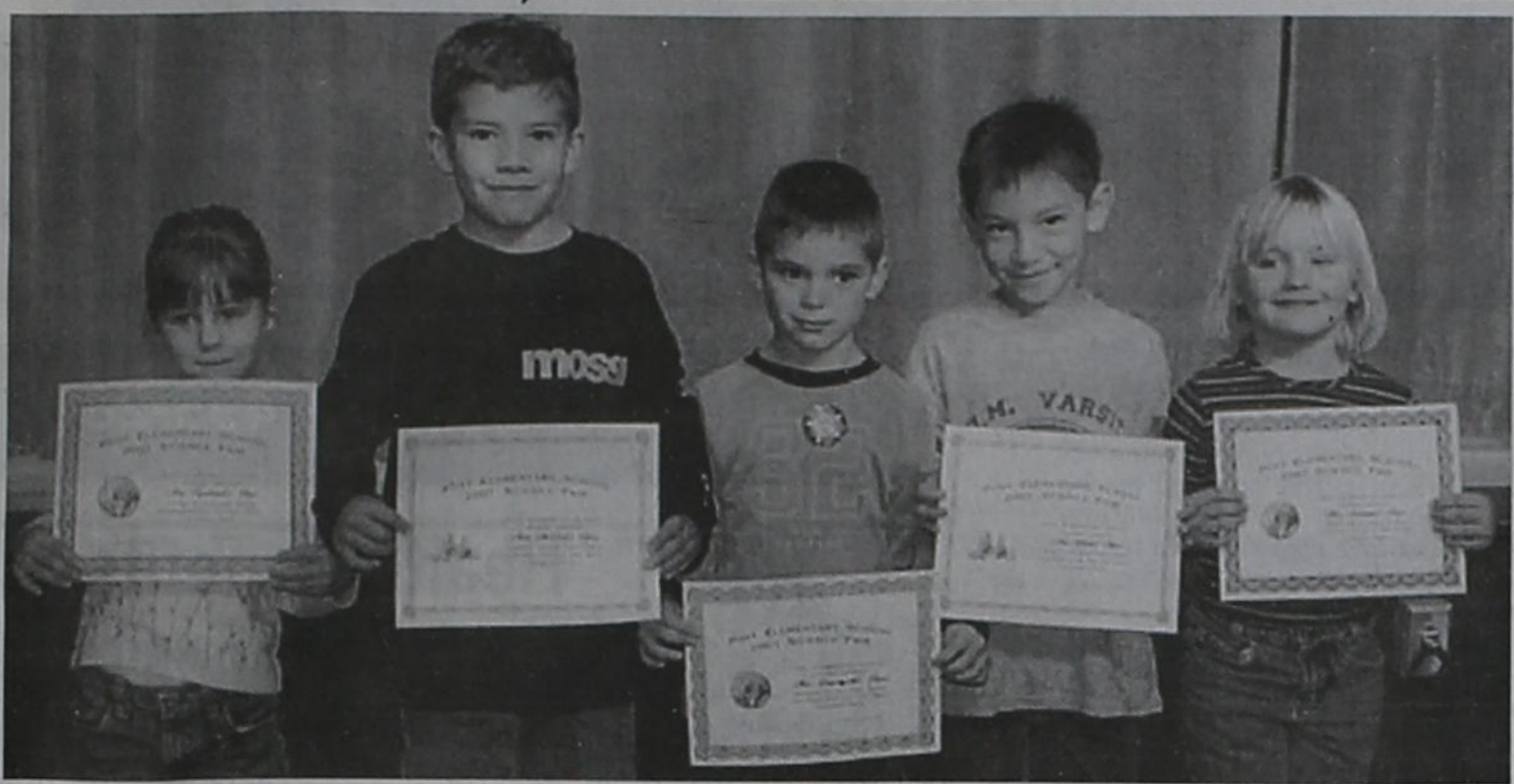
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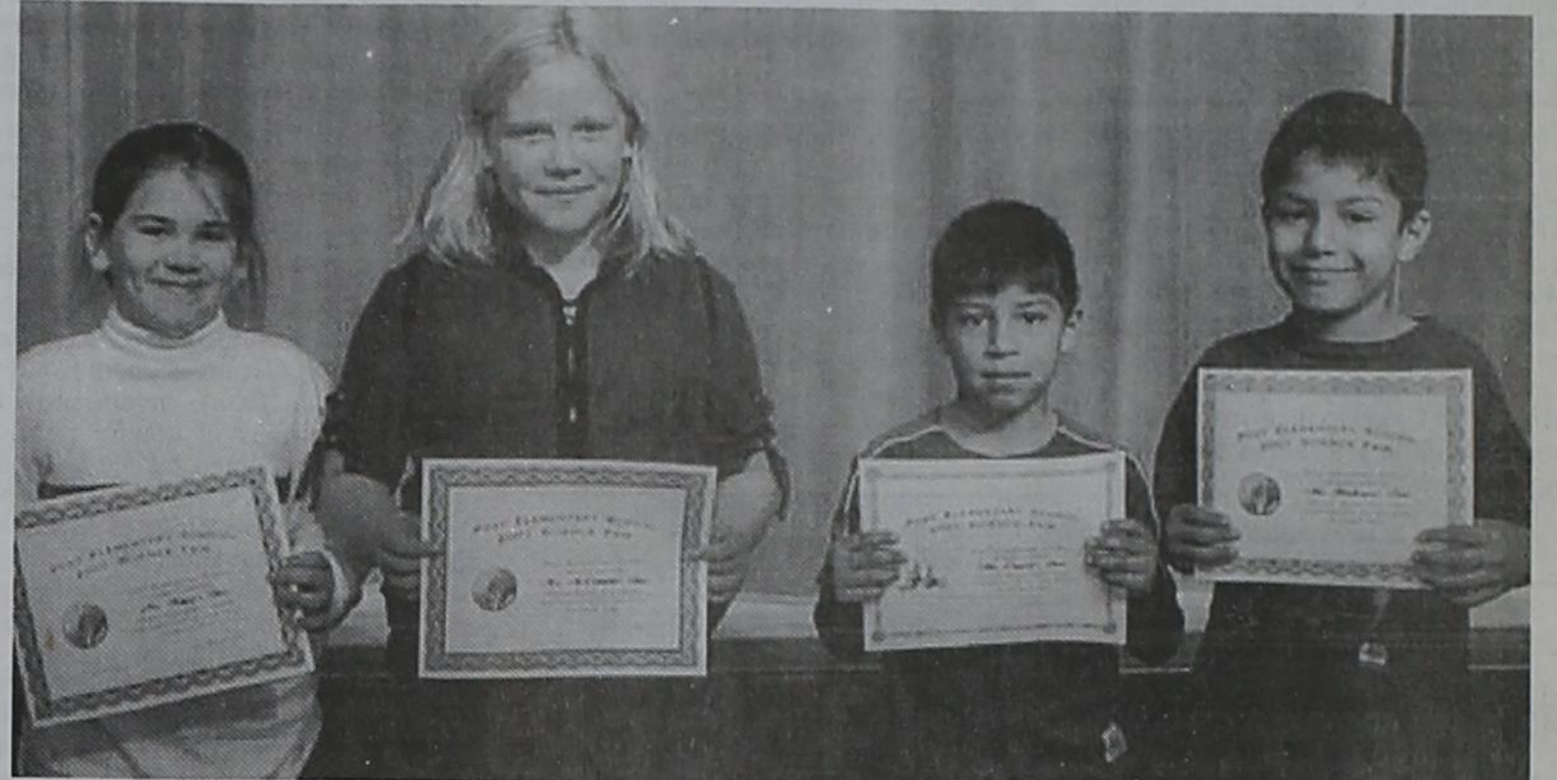
Post Elementary School First Grade students accepting awards for their class in the recent Science Fair are (left to right): Macie Merritt for Mrs. Copeland's Class, Third Place; Aaron Macy for Mrs. McCook's Class, Tie Fourth Place; Vance Blair for Mrs. Davenport's Class, Second Place; Justin Hodge for Mrs. Aten's Class—Tie Fourth Place; Chelci Hair for Mrs. Norman's Class—First Place. (Photo by Shellee Odom)



Post Elementary School Pre-kindergarten students accepting awards for their class at the recent Science Fair are (left to right) Gilbert Flores for Mrs. Gafford's PM Class, First Place; Chelby Baker for Mrs. Gafford's AM Class, Second Place; Kaegan Eagle for Mrs. Pena's AM Class, Tie 3rd Place and Kortnee McKee for Mrs. Pena's PM Class—Tie 3rd Place. (Photo by Shellee Odom)



Post Elementary School Second Grade students accepting awards for individual projects at the recent Science Fair are (left to right) Janelle Delgadillo, Second Place; Luke Cravy, Third Place; Rebekah Horton, Fourth Place; Anthony Bishop — First Place (tie); Dakota McDonald — First Place (tie). (Photo by Shellee Odom)



Post Elementary School Second Grade students accepting awards for their class at the recent Science Fair are (left to right) Hannah Kirkpatrick for Mrs. Haney's Class, First Place; Brittany Bruton for Mrs. McDonald's Class, Third Place; Edgar Ortiz for Mrs. Daniell's Class, Fourth Place; Jacob Perez for Mrs. Henderson's Class—First Place. (Photo by Shellee Odom)



Post Elementary Third Grade students accepting awards for individual projects at the recent Science Fair are (Back row first—left to right) Phenysia Rutherford, Second Place (tie); Abby Holly, Second Place (tie); Tanner Hadderton, Third Place; Gregory Striblin — First Place (tie); Amber Wilson — First Place (tie); Jonathan Perez — First Place (tie). (Photo by Shellee Odom)



Post Elementary School Fourth Grade students accepting awards for individual projects at the recent Science Fair are (Back row first—left to right): Samantha Pearson, Second Place; (tie) Kristin Leach, Third Place (tie); Mysty Ayala, Third Place (tie); Chasiti Rutherford — Second Place (tie); Quinton Valdez — Second Place (tie); Giles Dalby — First Place (tie); Michael Porter — First Place (tie); Clint Windham — First Place (tie). (Photo by Shellee Odom)



Post Elementary School Fifth Grade students accepting awards for individual projects at the recent Science Fair are (Back row first—left to right): Adam Meredith, Sixth Place; Stacy Bocko, Fifth Place; Susan Littrell, Fourth Place; Alex Hart — Third Place; Lyndsey Capps — Second Place; Jakelin Delgadillo — First Place. (Photo by Shellee Odom)



VFW Ladies' Auxiliary members serving at the recent Christmas party for children are (left to right) Lora Yoder, Ruth Walls and Melvis Taylor. (Photo by JoAnn Stelzer)

PET TALK

So you think your horse is healthy from head to toe? You may want to think again, especially about those "toe" areas.

Even if your horse receives annual veterinary checkups and sees the farrier every six weeks, you may still have trouble when it comes to ensuring healthy hooves.

One of the most common problems with horse hooves is thrush. Fortunately, thrush is easily prevented and treatment is easy and relatively inexpensive if you catch the symptoms early, says Dr. Christina Russillo, a veterinarian at Texas A&M University's College of Veterinary Medicine.

"Thrush is a degenerative condition of the hoof that develops when excess moisture and bacteria invade the sole of the hoof," says Russillo.

"It typically affects the frog (the triangular shaped structure on the bottom of the hoof) and the sulci (the grooves on either side of the frog) of the hoof. A moist environment, unhygienic stable conditions and poor hoof care all contribute to thrush," she adds.

Russillo says the symptoms of thrush are easy to detect. It is characterized by a foul smelling, black discharge in the sulci of the frog. Typically, the bottom of the hoof becomes soft and crumbly. In advanced stages, thrush can cause lameness if the infection extends into sensitive hoof tissues. Affected horses, in this case, may flinch when the hooves are picked (cleaning the hooves by loosening debris with a pointed implement).

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James and Laverne Aten
Terri and Randy Williams
Mike and Julie Aten
Larry Don Lee

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Christmas projects. It is impossible to list all of your names. Thanks especially to "Santa" and the "elves" who helped deliver food packages and gifts.
Ladies Auxiliary VFW

I want to thank my family and friends for all the calls, cards, visits and the prayers while I was sick. To Vera, Wayne, Chris and Rodney for the kindness, comfort and effectiveness they showed me, in the ambulance, I say a big thank you.
I also want to thank Renie, Eddie and Sandy for all the help at the hospital and since I've been home.

Most of all I want to thank my husband Herbert for calling 911 and for always being there when I need him.
Love all of you,
Lois Walls

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DRIVERS: OTR DRIVERS needed. Class A CDL w/experience required. Good work record, clean MVR. Call today, Marten Transport, Ltd., 1-800-395-3331 or visit our website, www.marten.com on pay and benefits. Call now for Holiday Bonus (Limited time only).

DRIVERS: SOLOS UP to 34 cents, teams up to 48 cents, Contractors .81 cents all miles. Lease options available (Zero down.) Holiday orientation pay. Burlington Motor Carriers, 1-800-684-3144.

DRIVER TRAINEES NEEDED! Major Carriers now hiring. Drivers can earn \$600-\$800/week. No experience needed. 15 day CDL training. Tuition reimbursement. Great job and benefits. 1-800-562-9696 Non CDL holders only.

DRIVER - TRUCK DRIVERS Wanted! TransForce is hiring drivers. CDL training available. Highly competitive wages and benefits. Call 1-800-806-8072.

TANGO TRANSPORT, INC., seeking Owner/Operators for flatbeds/vans in your area. Contact John Osborne at 1-888-408-2646 or Jerry Shepherd at 1-888-878-2646.

500FASTCASH.COM

Short term loans up to \$500.00. We want your business. To apply: 1-800-290-8288. Loans by County Bank, Rehoboth Beach, DE (FDIC), Equal Opportunity Lender.

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NEED A COMPUTER but no cash? You're approved. Financing guaranteed. No cash needed today. Bad credit okay. No credit check - no credit turn-downs. 1-800-947-7988, www.pc-credit.com

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WOLFF TANNING BEDS - Affordable, Convenient. Tan at home. Payments from \$25/month. Free color catalog. Call today, 1-800-842-1305, www.np.etstn.com

HELP WANTED

AVON - WANT AN office with all the comforts of home? Work at home! Avon representatives work when and where they choose. Let's talk. 1-888-942-4053.

COMPUTER, INTERNET PEOPLE wanted to work online. \$125-175/hour potential. Full training. Vacations, bonuses and incentives. Bilinguals also needed. 53 countries. Free E-Book: www.ProfitPC.net

REAL ESTATE

FORECLOSED HOMES--NO down payments! 3-4 bedrooms from \$25,000. Gorgeous homes Bank direct. For local list: 1-203-838-8200, 7 days till 11pm. Search www.foreclosureLand.com. Fee.

Call this newspaper to advertise statewide and regionally or call 512-477-6755

Garage Sales

Saturday, 10 'til 6 1/2 miles west on Hwy 380, brick house on right.

Household and shop tools, misc. Fri. and Sat., 403 Osage Dr., 9am-?

Pets and Supplies

Puppies to give away. 310 W. 14th or call 495-3412.

Free puppies! Blue heeler/german shepherd mix. Call 495-1614 or leave message for Mr. Henry at 495-2770.

Lost and Found

Found: Female dog, heeler, at 107 Ridge Rd. Owner or interested claimant call 495-2184.

Legal Notices

Public Notice of Changes in Election Precincts

Pursuant to Section 42.035, Texas Election Code, the Commissioners Court of Garza County, Texas, herein provides notice of changes in county political boundaries as adopted by the Commissioners Court, and as precleared by the United States Department of Justice on the 10th day of December 2001.

Interested individuals may review the adopted changes in the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours.

The changes in county election precinct were necessitated by redistricting of County Commissioners Court precincts in compliance with the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. Section 1973, also known as the Voting Rights Act, following the release of 2000 census data. Changes in county election precincts were designed to achieve numerical balance between the four commissioners court precincts, and to insure the voting rights of all citizens of Garza County, Texas.
Jerry Hays, County Clerk

Homes for Rent

Want to rent 3 BR house. Call 799-5300 or 793-3296.

Mobile Homes for Rent

3 bedroom trailer for rent. \$300.00 per month. Call 778-7534.

Acreage for Sale

240 acre farm land, 7 miles west of Post. Call 210-648-7689.

1.4 A, large shop, 4/10 mile east of city limits on Hwy 380, \$75,000 (make offer). Two-80 A. farms, McAdoo, \$475/A.
Farrar R.E.
806-894-4386

89.2 acre pasture, 4 miles west of Post on Hwy 380, waterwell, fence, new barn and livestock pens. Call 781-8186 or 327-5319.

Notice to Contractors of Proposed Texas Highway Improvement Contracts

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
District: Lubbock

Contract 0558-01-007 for MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION in GARZA County will be opened on February 5, 2002 at 1 p.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 5563
State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
District Office(s)

LUBBOCK DISTRICT ENGINEER
135 Slaton
Lubbock, TX 79404
Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin.

Health Benefits For The Entire Family

Only \$70* Per Month

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If you have Medicare or Private insurance, you may be Eligible to receive your, **DIABETIC SUPPLIES & RESPIRATORY MEDS,** nebulizers, albuterol & ipratropium **AT NO COST TO YOU!!**
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Don't let just anyone work on your expensive computer. Make sure they're an A+ Certified Technician.

For complete computer repair and network installation, along with complete cellular service.

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Great Investment Property, Income Potential. Call for details. 207 E. Main.

REDUCED TO SELL! Mobile Home, 3 BR, 2B, C-H/A, double carport, storage bldg, fenced yard, 1 1/2 lots, 812 W. 14th St.


NICE LOCATION! Frame, 3/2/1/1, C-H/A, family room, storage bldg. Special incentives for the buyer! 113 South Avenue Q.

LOVELY SPACIOUS BRICK! 3/3/2, formal dining & living areas, large family room/FP, game room, sun room, C-H/A, other amenities include: great kitchen, utility area, built-ins, abundance of storage, 2 lots on corner. 815 W. Main.

LOTS & ACREAGES AVAILABLE!


35 Acres +/-, CALL FOR DETAILS
42 +/- acres, U.S. 84 FRONTAGE
2 lots at 601 W. 11th. REDUCED!

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Anne Sims

Real Estate • (806) 495-3171



Erickson announces for judgeship

Bonnie Erickson, an attorney in Seminole, has filed in the Republic primary for the office of district judge for the 106th Judicial District, which covers Dawson, Gaines, Lynn and Garza counties.

Erickson served as Gaines County attorney, prosecuting misdemeanor cases, and served as an adviser to the commissioners court. She has represented the City of Seminole as city attorney and has been active in the State Bar of Texas, having served on the Grievance Committee for District 16B and director of the State Board of Directors for District 16.

Erickson has been recognized for her service to the State Bar and the legal profession by two presidential citations and recognition as the outstanding third year director for the Board of directors. She served as chairman for the Standing Committee for Legal Services to the Poor in Civil Matters; co-chairman for the Board Committee for Legal Services to the Poor; worked to reorganize the Lawyer Referral Service for State Bar; and serves on the Agricultural Law Standing Committee.

She was recognized by the West Texas Legal Services as the Rural Attorney Volunteer in 1994.

Erickson's work as an attorney has involved a general practice of family law, criminal defense, land disputes, real estates, probates, wills, child protective cases and transactional law.

She has practiced law in Gaines County since receiving her law license in May 1981. She graduated from the University of Chattanooga, now part of the University of Tennessee, with a bachelor of arts degree and received her law education at Texas Tech, graduating in December 1980.

A longtime Gaines County resident, Erickson is a graduate of Seminole High School. She is a member of the Seminole Rotary Club, the First United Methodist Church and is active in the Seminole Booster Club, where she served as an officer.

She and her husband Lester have six children, all Seminole school graduates, and 11 grandchildren.

Erickson announces for judgeship

Bonnie Erickson

If you want it SOLD -- not just listed, call Mitchell Real Estate

- NEW LISTING: 3 BR/1 BA, CH/AC, completely remodelled. 515 W. 8th. Possible owner financing.
- NEW LISTING: 3 BR/2 BA, CH/AC, large gameroom, LR/DR & Utility, 1 car garage, 916 W. 8th.
- All On Hwy 84:
1.2 Acres with Building
- REDUCED! 3 BR/2 BA, CH/AC, great yard, 610 W. 12th
In Contract
- 2 BR/1 & 1/2 BA, CH/AC, brick and great location, 407 W. 8th
In Contract PRICE REDUCED
- 3 BR/1 BA, 2 car garage, CH/AC, close to downtown, 306 W. 10th
- HOME WITH 3 apartments, great rental potential, 122 N. Ave. S **PRICE REDUCED**
- 6.43 Acres - Cedar Hills Addition.
- City Lots for Sale - Robinson Addition **DOWNTOWN:**
• 2 buildings on W. Main, owner will finance for right party.
• 1 & 1/2 Lots in Justiceburg for sale, South half of Lot 5 & all of Lot 6, Block 73.

Make an Offer

"Years of experience and four salespeople to serve you"

Kim Mills - 495-3719 Barbara Hardin - 495-3987

Mike and Wanda Mitchell - 495-3104 or 495-5515 or 495-5146

Judge Carter Schildknecht seeks election

District Judge Carter T. Schildknecht has announced she has filed as a Republican candidate for election to a full four-year term as judge of the 106th Judicial District.

Schildknecht has served in the position since Aug. 31, following an appointment to the bench by Gov. Rick Perry. She stepped into the position following the resignation of former Judge George H. Hansard.

"While I must run for office in order to continue to serve as judge, I am committed to preserving the integrity and independence of the judiciary and will not allow politics to sway my actions," said the district judge, whose four-county jurisdiction includes Dawson, Gaines, Lynn and Garza counties.

"It is an honor and privilege to serve the people of the 106th District. I am proud of the steps I have taken to initiate a case management system that will promote the efficiency and promptness of the administration of justice in this court. The implementation of this system will provide the court an effective method to handle the backlog of approximately 2,000 cases as well as the new cases being filed every day."

Schildknecht said she is dedicated to the job.

"I will diligently manage the court in a manner that provides for the disposition of cases within established time standards that are expected of the court," she said. "I understand that respect must be earned, and I hope that the work I am doing to make this court more efficient and effective will earn your respect."

The judge said her top priority is to "follow the law and do what is right in the impartial performance and administration of justice."

Schildknecht is a 1959 graduate of Lamesa High School and earned her bachelor's and law degrees at Texas Tech University. Prior to her appointment to the district judge's post, she was a practicing attorney and partner of Remmer, Snell & Schildknecht in Lamesa.

Before becoming an attorney, she owned, directed and taught at the Lad and Lassie School in Lamesa for 20 years.

Schildknecht's professional associations include the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Bar Foundation, the State Bar College, the Council of School Attorneys, the Lames Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

Her list of volunteer work is lengthy, including service to the Dawson County United Way, teen court, Rotary Club, chamber of commerce, industrial foundation and historical society.

An active member of the First Presbyterian Church, Schildknecht and her husband Ellis have been married for 18 years and have two children and three grandchildren. She is the daughter of the late Toots and Ed Tinsley.

Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
by Tumbleweed Smith

Bootleggers, braceros & bronc busters



Jim Baum was mayor of Colorado City fourteen years, longer than any other mayor of that city ever served. "The most rewarding thing about those years was the interplay I had with residents who would come to me when they had a problem or a suggestion, and their faith in me that I could do something about the situation," says Jim.

Jim Baum has owned radio station KVMC in Colorado City long enough to have it paid for. He has interviewed just about everybody in Mitchell County on his morning "Community Closeup" program.

"There is absolutely nothing like oral history," says Jim, "especially oral radio history because you hear their voices. The listener can conjure up his own impression of what that interesting person looks like. People have their own colorful ways of telling their stories. Radio and oral history are made for each other."

He likes getting residents to share memories of their growing up.

"They have stories about selling water out of a barrel on a horse-drawn wagon or about the first airplane they ever saw. Or they have a story to tell about when they landed at Normandy on D-Day. You just draw so much courage and faith from them. They've been there and done that and they have the right to tell you about it."

He figures he has some two thousand tapes of interviews. He has them numerically and alphabetically cross-indexed to make them easy to find.

"One of the great delights is having somebody call me at the radio station and tell me that I was the only one to interview their father or grandmother and could they please have a copy of that tape. I'm so glad to give it to them free of charge."

Jim wrote a newspaper column for ten years devoted to the history of Mitchell county. He made history come alive in his column by mentioning personal anecdotes from people. One column was about a cheese factory in the nearby community of Loraine.

An employee there lost the top of his 1937 class ring from Loraine High School into a vat while he was working. Three years later Kraft Cheese returned the top of his ring to him.

Jim has written a book entitled *Bootleggers, Braceros and Bronc Busters*, based on stories from people he has interviewed.

"They're always talking about the rugged individualism of West Texans," says Jim.

"We've had our share of colorful individuals around here. Like Pop Snyder, an oil man who used to speed through town in his open car. One day he was stopped by the chief of police who told Pop he would have to give him a speeding ticket. Pop asked what it would cost. The chief said 5 dollars. Pop gave him a ten dollar bill and said he would be coming back the same way in a little while."

Jim has possibly chronicled the history of his community better than any other broadcaster. And I personally know of no other broadcaster who has worked harder or enjoyed his work more than Jim Baum.

Free Texas Forum offers insight into new Texas Constitution

A monthly meeting to introduce a new Texas constitution to Garza County citizens will be held Tuesday, January 15 at Chapa's Family Restaurant beginning at 6 p.m. The "Free Texas Forum" is designed to explore the benefits of ratifying Texas Constitution 2000.

"Almost everyone agrees that Texas needs a new constitution," Free Texas Forum organizer Wes Burnett emphasizes. "The current constitution is simply beyond comprehension, there are more than 300 amendments, and it's a hodge podge of tiny print that even noted jurists have trouble deciphering."

Burnett was one of the delegates to the Texas Constitutional Convention of 1997 which began drafting a new Texas constitution on July 4, 1997. Delegates met monthly on weekends, formally adopting Texas Constitution 2000 at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park in December 1998.

"It was a long, tedious and at times rancorous task," Burnett explains, "but the final product was worth all the effort." Delegates determined to write a constitution that would be simple to read and easy to understand. "We even declared the name of the dictionary we used to define words," Burnett added, "so that there will be no question as to the meaning."

One of the difficulties of the current Texas constitution is the constant bickering and judicial interpretation of the constitution. "When Texans read Texas Constitution 2000, they will see the power of simplicity and plain English," Burnett said.

Burnett also emphasized that Texas Constitution 2000 is based on the principles defined by Thomas Jefferson in the American

Declaration of Independence. "We took those principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and put them in plain words to make sure no one ever misunderstands what we mean by the right of liberty ... for example, and the right of self defense or the right of property ownership."

Some of the key factors of Texas Constitution 2000 include the abolition of all taxation, the reorganization of government with strong control at the county level along with specified limitations of government functions.

"A serious flaw in today's form of government," Burnett emphasized, "is the legislative concept of plenary power. Current Texas government units operate under the assumption that they may do whatever they wish to do, as long as the constitution doesn't forbid it. Texas Constitution 2000 abolishes that abuse of government power by specifying in clear terms the absolute limit of gov-

ernment functions and power."

The new Texas constitution authorizes individual citizens to file charges with county grand juries against any government official or officials who take action beyond the limits of their specified functions. "The beauty of this new constitution is the ability of ordinary citizens to stand up to abusive government," Burnett added.

"We'll be meeting the third Tuesday every month," Burnett said. The meetings are open to anyone interested in learning about the potential benefits of ratifying a new Texas constitution. "We'll have a bite to eat, socialize a bit and then open up discussion about the document."

Copies of Texas Constitution 2000 will be made available, and it is also easily downloaded from the internet from www.tcrf.com. For more information, call Burnett at 495-0122.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor Policy: We require all letters to be signed. Letters may be edited for brevity, grammar and punctuation.

New Years Resolutions...

I didn't make any. Why make a bunch of commitments I probably won't or can't make?

Webster's says: Resolution means "the act of process of reducing to simpler form," "to deal with successfully: clear up," "to make progress from dissonance to consonance."

That's a lot of stuff to commence with at midnight on any night. A group I belong to don't recommend going far out on the limb to far. Making promises to myself and to God can be risky in the process of recovering from alcoholism.

It took 45 years to get myself in this position, so would it not be impossible to make all the necessary corrections within myself in only a few seconds at midnight December 31st? I read somewhere that a good way to keep ones word, is to not give it. I learned while practicing alcoholism to don't "never say never."

Somewhere in the Bible it says when I make a promise, I have made a covenant to myself, someone else, and to God that I am gonna do something and will continue to carry it through.

I don't want to make that kind of commitment and worry about the risk that I might take a step backwards.

As far as "the act of reducing to simpler form," I am already about as simple as I can get. I like being mediocre, "more at edge; of moderate or low quality; ordinary." I don't want to be on the top shelf, lot of the time things on the top shelf seems to get dusty.

At the same time, I don't want on the bottom shelf either, that's where we keep the junk. I believe I want to be on one of the middle shelves.

I believe instead of making New Year Resolutions, I will call it Setting Some New Goals for this year. All those years of practicing the art of alcoholism, I became very good at procrastinating. Seems like I just never got around to doing some of the daily requirements of life. Haphazardness becomes a way of life for a drunk.

Life becomes a habit. Most of the habits are useless. Bad habits like bill paying, housekeeping, taking care of old debts. Ever day I tell myself "I'm gonna do this, or I'm gonna do that." Seems like days go by and I don't do anything.

Bookkeeping is a very bad habit I have. I don't keep track of nothing.

For about the last 6 months I have been working on myself. I believe it is now time to start working on some "New Year's Goals." I have no promises that I will accomplish anything, but if I say I probably will, then I probably will. If I say maybe, then I may not.

But I believe #1 goal will be to continue to get better at treating folks like I would prefer to be treated. #2 would be next choice of becoming debt free, other than monthly bills and insurance. I have never been debt free in my 57 years. I want to experience that. I do not owe so much that I cannot clear it all up within the first few months of the year. For a recovering alcoholic, debts are like a thorn in the side.

I see a lot of bankruptcy hearings in the A-J paper. I'm in no doubt that its necessary for some people that are really in a crunch. Paw always told me "you made the debt, you pay it". I catch myself ever day remembering something Mom or Paw told me.

During my drinking years I don't recall taking much heed to what they told me. Sometimes I wish I could hear it again. My intentions are to impress no one but myself and God. There is a good many things I have going on that needs immediate attention. My "goals" are to yet started, not tomorrow, not next week, but NOW.

Another goal is to see my daughter through college. I can't help her with that, owing my paycheck to someone else. The latter is gonna soon become history as soon as I can get it accomplished.

I like living the good life, but right now it ain't good enough. I gotta make it better. The only thing I've found so far that I don't like about living the good life is, now my conscience bothers me sometimes. So to me, Goals will work better than promises.

Happy New Year Everybody....
O.L.(Ferg) Ferguson

You don't make a poem with ideas, but with words.
—Stéphane Mallarmé



Post Team Cheerleaders in front of the GCJLA banquet recently are (back row, left to right) coach Steffi Norman, Melinda Vega, Lauren Gonzales, Ashleigh Harris, Renee Storie, Lyndsey Capps, coach Sunny Martinez, (middle row) Sierra Hodges, Gloria Martinez, Victoria Zubia, Vanessa Zubia, Lyndsey Morrow, (front row) K'Lynn Hair, Laura Quintana, Alysa Morrow, Kensley Hair, Miranda Hair and Brittany Brain.

The Post Dispatch

Post City Radio



Elephants can't jump. Every other mammal can.

An Invitation to our annual Willy Awards

You are cordially invited to join us for the Garza Theatre Annual Willy Awards
Saturday, January 19
6 to 7:15 p.m. - Hotel Garza (finger foods, drinks, visiting, silent auction)

7:30 to 7:30 p.m. - Relocate to the Garza Theatre
7:30 p.m. - Garza Theatre Main Stage (entertainment, announcement of silent auction winners and awards ceremony)

\$15 per person, with reservations in advance by January 15, call the theatre box office at 495-4005.

Help us honor and recognize those who have kept the magic alive during the 2001 theatre season!



<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Valley tree</p> <p>5 computer person</p> <p>6 TXism: "whipper snappers"</p> <p>7 TX county named for ___ Lamb</p> <p>8 historic Galveston hotel</p> <p>17 TXism: "no flies on ___ (pretty)"</p> <p>18 this Fort Worth zoo is oldest in TX</p> <p>21 boot width</p> <p>22 TXism: "happy as a pig in ___"</p> <p>23 Academy Award statuette was named for this TX Oscar</p> <p>24 "give me a ___ tobacco"</p> <p>29 TXism: "wouldn't touch that with ___foot pole"</p> <p>30 Dallas news radio AM station at 1080</p> <p>31 TX-born admiral Nimitz (init.)</p> <p>32 TXism: "she could charm a bird ___"</p> <p>34 TXism: "high tail it"</p> <p>35 ___ Ormy, TX</p> <p>36 in Rockport, TX ___ Museum</p> <p>37 TX students aren't allowed to ___ in school</p> <p>38 kitchen flooring</p> <p>39 TXism: "___ you can blink an eye"</p> <p>41 tire grooves</p>	<p>42 Denton university primarily for women</p> <p>43 famous TX buffalo hunter Capt. Billy</p> <p>44 TXism: "teensy ___"</p> <p>45 TXism: "tall hog ___ the trough" (important person)</p> <p>46 TXism: "___wit" (dummy)</p> <p>47 arcade coin</p> <p>48 TXism: "___ judge in court"</p> <p>50 ABC newswoman Lisa from Dallas' WFAA-TV</p> <p>51 TXism: "lit ___ (left)"</p> <p>52 TX Jeannie C.'s "Harper Valley ___"</p> <p>53 Japanese diner</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>14 useful</p> <p>15 raced</p> <p>16 TXism: "cute as a bug's ___"</p> <p>19 soft drinks</p> <p>20 TX Jaclyn Smith TV movie: "Jacqueline Bouvier ___"</p> <p>22 TXism: "as much chance as a ___"</p> <p>28 Hayden Fry left UNT for the ___ Univer. ___</p> <p>29 TXism: "___ to the teeth"</p> <p>26 TXism: "as welcome as a skunk ___ picnic"</p> <p>27 Great Storm of 1900 was ___ natural disaster in TX history</p> <p>34 scrambler QB Tarkenton</p> <p>35 capital of Austria</p> <p>37 reproduction</p> <p>38 mesquite and maple</p> <p>40 TX talk in the Texas Crossword</p> <p>41 Sam Houston wed Tiana, daughter of chief Ole-loc-___</p> <p>44 TXism: "you ___ out your welcome"</p> <p>47 golfer's bronzing horn" (amateur)</p> <p>49 insensitive person</p>	<p>The Original TEXAS CROSSWORD by Charley & Guy Orbison Copyright 2000 by Orbison Bros.</p>
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Yesteryears

January 8, 1992
10 Years Ago

Cynthia Poole Black graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Texas School of Pharmacy in ceremonies held in Austin at the Marriott Hotel Ballroom last month. Garrett and Clint Chapman welcome home their baby brother, Tyler Flynn, born January 2 at Methodist Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Storie wish to announce the birth of their daughter, Angela Renae, on December 24 in Lynn County Hospital.

Sgt. James Lee, a 1993 graduate of Post High School has a photo that is sure to hang on his parent's living room wall for a long time. He attended a parade and happened to get his picture taken with General Norman Schwarzkopf. Lee and his family are expected to spend 30 days of vacation time with family here in Post.

January 7, 1982
20 Years Ago

Jack King began his new duties as president of the First National Bank Monday succeeding Larry Willard who resigned the position last May to enter the oil business in Wichita Falls.

Postings: The future of our city-county airport appears bleak unless the city council and county commissioners court pick up the ball on the needed \$300,000 runway project and run with it.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy McCallister announce the birth of a son, Matthew Tait, born January 3, in Methodist Hospital.

Theft of six guns from a Post Home and the burglary and vandalism of the Justiceburg Baptist Church highlight a busy week for the sheriff's department.

The Garza Co. Commissioners Court recently adopted a resolution opposing test drilling for possible underground disposal of atomic waste in the West Texas area.

January 6, 1972
30 Years Ago

Clovis Tucker has purchased Farmer's Texaco Service station business from Ira Farmer and will operate it under the name "Tucker Texaco".

A Civil Air Patrol squadron was established at a meeting here on Tuesday night and a charter has been applied for. The group adopted the

name "C. W. Post Squadron" in honor of the town's founder. The squadron will be affiliated with other CAP squadrons in emergencies, especially those involving aircraft, here and elsewhere.

The Randall Construction Co. of Amarillo has been awarded the contract for building Wacker's new store on the site of the one destroyed last September in the most disastrous fire in this town's history.

Dee Justice, a student at the Dallas Institute of Mortuary Science, returned to Dallas Sunday after spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mason Justice.

January 11, 1962
40 Years Ago

Charles Ostrander, formerly of San Angelo, has purchased the Post Bowling Center from Caprock Bowling, Inc. a corporation with several Lubbock physicians as principal stockholders. He is continuing the operation of the 12 alleys under the name, Post Bowling Lanes.

Bryan J. Williams, the man who brought orderly residential development to Post, today announces his fifth new restricted addition-Ridgefield.

Two poker players shot each other to death here early Saturday morning in a blazing gun duel. Witnesses say Sam Skeif left the room to get more money but returned with a .370 Magnum pistol shooting Roosevelt Steel. Mr. Steel then returned fire with a .38 revolver.

January 3, 1952
50 Years Ago

Shytlers Implement company has announced the date of the annual John Deere Day, Thursday, January 31st, has been set aside as the day when Shytlers will play host to its many friends throughout the county.

A film on "How To Survive An Atomic Attack" was shown to the Tuesday Rotary club by John Lott.

Post citizens are alarmed over an apparent filth allowed to collect in their town. Many concerned citizens are duly worried about a polio epidemic. Post alleys and back streets are lined with outhouses, outdoor cess pools, cow lots, horse lots and chicken lots. So a campaign will be started to get the city cleaned before its too late.

Mr. and Mrs. John Booth, of San Pedro, Calif., became the parents of a son, Michael John, Dec. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Maxey are the maternal grandparents.

7th A, B teams win

Post's seventh grade A boys team logged a 32-23 win over Ralls Monday evening.

Post fell behind early in the game but made a strong comeback in the third and fourth quarters to grab the win.

"A lot of what these kids are doing in practice is starting to show up in the games," Coach Dane Vickers said. "They really play hard."

D.J. Baiza was a strong presence in the game with 14 points for Post. Bryan Creech had seven points while Wilson Cash had six. Edgar Garay and David Nichols each scored two points, and Asa Rutherford scored one point.

The seventh grade B team also came away with a win, defeating Ralls 5-2.

Heath Fellhaur scored all five of Post's points. Others playing in the game were Adrian Nava, Mark Ayala, Justin Logra and Zack Witcher.

"These kids got the court time they needed to improve," the coach said. "They played well and they played hard."

7th girls whip Ralls 33-6

Post Middle School's seventh grade girls had no problems handling Ralls in a 33-6 game.

The score remained close through the first quarter, but the Lady Lope defense took over in the second quarter, limiting the opponents to a single point in the final three periods of the game.

Leading scorer for the game was K'nell Dalby with eight points, followed by Larissa Halford with six and Sarah Kirkpatrick with five points. Steffi Norman and Jackie Hays each had four points, while Gabby Paiz, Kylie Easterling and Keisha Odum each scored two points.

The win puts the team at 4-2 in district play.

The Lady 'Lopes will play Sunday in Post Monday.



A Dutch striking is when a clock chimes every hour on the half-hour, but with a different tone from when it chimes on the hour. Got that?

8th A, B teams beat Ralls

Post's eighth grade points pulled off a two-point win over Ralls Monday, winning 34-32.

The Lopes led scoring in each of the quarters.

Scoring was led by K. Garay with nine points and S. Smith with eight points. I. Barbosa had five points, while S. Norman and Zubia each had four points. J. Pollard scored two points, and K. Meredith and Merritt each had one point.

"This was a very physical game which we love to play," said Coach Dane Vickers. "The kids did what they needed to do to win."

Meanwhile, the eighth grade boys B team also logged a win, outscoring Ralls 12-8.

Justin Harris had six points to lead Post's scorers, while David Vega had four points and Vince Robles had two points.

"This was great for these kids because we have so many eighth grade boys playing basketball," the coach said. "Super game and a super win for these kids."

8th girls outscored

Ralls slipped past the eighth grade Lady Lopes 36-25 in a game played Monday.

Ralls jumped out to a 9-4 lead in the first quarter but really stretched their lead in the third quarter by outscoring Post 14-6.

Laurel Tatum led scoring for Post with eight points, followed by Alana Zubia with five points and Alisha Reiter with four points. Jenee Lott, Courtney Copeland, Rosana Orona and Erin Wartes each had two points.

The loss knots the Post squad at 3-3 in district play.

The team will take on Sundown Monday evening.

Freshmen edge Ralls

The Post High School freshmen boys slipped past Ralls 27-23 in a game played Monday.

Post led at the close of the first quarter 8-5 and widened that lead in the second and third quarters. In the fourth period, however, Ralls ignited a comeback attempt, outscoring the Lopes 9-4, but the rally wasn't strong enough to overcome the lead built by Post earlier in the game.

Cole Easterling scored nine points to lead scoring for Post. Jordan Tatum and Chris Curb each had six points, while Zack Lopez and Casey Williams both had three points.

"The kids played well, played hard and had a lot of fun," said Coach Vickers. "Super win."

JV girls trounce Ralls

Post High School's junior varsity girls team trounced Ralls 49-24 in a game played Jan. 4.

Post poured in 18 points and denied Ralls any scoring in the first quarter. Scoring was more even in the remaining quarters, but the damage was done, allowing Post to pull out the win.

Logan Gregory topped Post scorers with a total of 12 points, followed by Meagan Hoover who scored 11 points, including a pair of three-point shots. Donae Dalby and Lyndee Strawn each had eight points, while Terri Curtis and Patricia Hester each had three. Courtney Short added one point to Post's total score.

The game marked the team's first venture into district play, and according to their coach it was "a good win."

Post will play at home Tuesday against Sundown and Friday at Tahoka.

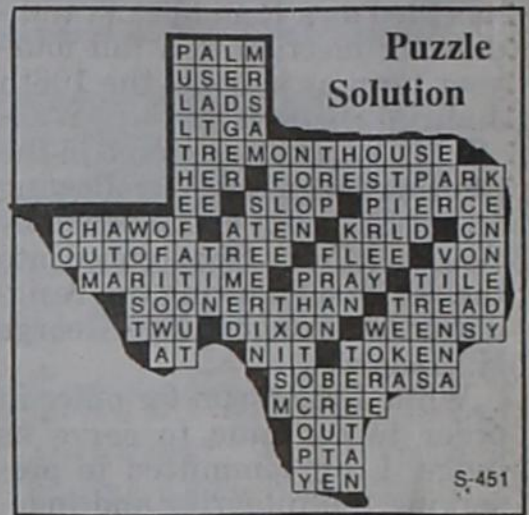
JV boys slip to Coahoma

Post High School's junior varsity Lopes dropped a 52-36 game to Coahoma earlier this month.

Coahoma jumped out to an 18-6 lead at the end of the first quarter. Although Post came back with a strong offensive showing, it wasn't enough to overcome the first quarter deficit.

Lead scorers for Post were Russell Merritt and Mark Norman, each with eight points. Tony Garay had seven points, while Jarrad Grisham had six points. Anthony Merrell scored three points and Coco Valdez and Mitch Holly each added two points to the total.

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Santa (Sam Tuttle) and helper Lora Yoder (center) treated Golden Plains residents to a Christmas party, assisted by the Ladies' Auxiliary VFW. (Photo by JoAnn Stelzer)

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