

# Post Notes

## Community Christmas Sing

The First United Methodist Church will host the annual Community Christmas Sing on Wednesday, December 8 at 7 p.m. Groups or individuals wishing to perform 1-2 selections, please contact either Patty Kirkpatrick at 495-2668 or Pixie Grisham at 495-2942 no later than Monday, December 6.

## Caprock Music Parties Set

The Caprock Cultural Association will host a music party at the Post Community Center. Performance slated for December 4 include the Batten Family, Talk of the Town, Lonnie Joe Howell and his harmonica and Audrey Pounds Hunt. This event will run from 7-10 p.m. Admission will be free of charge; donations will be accepted.

## Aguilar Fund Set at Wells Fargo

A fund has been established at Wells Fargo Bank in the name of Christina Aguilar, the 15-year-old daughter of Lupe and Cindy Aguilar who received a new liver November 9 at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. After struggling many years with a failing liver, Christina now has a chance at a long and healthy life; however, the family must remain in Houston for approximately two months. Although most of Christina's medical expenses are covered, the family needs assistance with lodging, meals, fuel, utilities and other needs since Lupe Aguilar is unable to work at this time. All donations will be appreciated. Anyone interested in sending cards or greetings may send them in care of Texas Children's Hospital, c/o Ana Christina Aguilar, PICU Bed #23, 6621 Fannin St., Houston, TX 77030. E-mails may be sent to greetings@texaschildrenshospital.org.

## Post High School Dinner Theatre

Post High School will feature various One Act Plays, on December 6 & 13 at 7 p.m. in the Post Community Center. Tickets for the dinner and show are \$10. You must RSVP and purchase a ticket for a specific night. For more information and to buy tickets call the Post High School office at 495-2770.

## Account Set for Cowley Family

A special account has been established at Citizens Bank to help assist the Cowley family. Rani received 2nd and 3rd degree burns last Wednesday and is in ICU at University Medical Center. These funds will help assist the family with medical bills.

## Theatre Presents "A Christmas Story"

Garza Theatre proudly presents "A Christmas Story" directed by Laura Bryan. Seven performances only beginning December 3-5, 10-11, & 17-18. Call for reservations at 495-4005. Box office hours are Monday-Friday from 12:30-5:00 p.m.

## Girl Scouts plan Brownie Bonanza

All new troops and first-time campers are invited to participate in a weekend of outdoor exploration and adventure at Brownie Bonanza Dec. 10-11 at Camp Rio Blanco. Participants will have a chance to learn outdoor skills such as hiking, how to tie special knots and how to build an edible fire. Cost will be \$15 per girl, \$10 per adult, and registration deadline is Nov. 23. Any adult registered with troops attending is eligible to attend Brownie Age Level training during this event for an additional \$5. For more information, contact Summer Littlejohn at 806-745-2855.

## 2005 EQIP Program Development Group Meeting

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service invites the public to participate in the Program Development Group meeting to be held at the Post Community Center in Post, Texas. This meeting will be on Wednesday, December 8 at 8:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to make recommendations for the 2005 EQIP Program, such as eligible practices, cost share rates, and ranking.

## Highway traffic collections help to enrich County and State by \$28,282.75 in October

by Tim Burnett

Garza County Justice of the Peace Courts collected \$28,282.75 during the month of October largely from highway travel and traffic fines issued, according to official reports. The fund raising program, operated by Garzy County in coordination with the State of Texas, took advantage of travelers who were accused of violating State Transportation Codes.

Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 collected \$9024.50 which included 142 misdemeanor cases, while JP Court Precinct 2 reported \$28282.75 involving 120 misdemeanor cases.

State and county code enforcement officers are "just doing their jobs" by enforcing the traffic code, but what was sold to the public in the 1920s for "safe" roads, is now a huge money making scheme for corporate governments.

The State of Texas gradually shifted the public perception of the Code's underlying scope so that all travelers appear required to register their automobiles with the State of Texas. A study into the underlying scope of the Texas Transportation Code has revealed exactly who is required to register their automobiles with the State.

The exact scope of the Texas Transportation Code was discovered by allowing it to narrowly interpret itself according to its strict construction. The scope of the Transportation Code is "Transportation."

The term "Transportation" is not defined in the Texas Code. According to the United States Transportation Code and Black's Law Dictionary, the term "Transportation" is defined as transportation by a carrier for hire.

Use of the roads and highways for the purpose of "transportation for hire by carriers" was what fell under the scope of the Code. Even to this day, the Code protects the traveling public by regulating vehicles using the roads for the purpose of "Transportation."

The registration requirement falls within the limited scope of the Transportation Code. The only automobiles that are required by law to be registered with the State are those that use the roads for the purpose of transporting for hire: for example, busses, cabs, freight carriers, etc.

The simple question remains: will the county courts throw out all cases where peace officers attempt to enforce the Transportation Code upon automobiles that do not fall within the limited scope of the Code, and are not voluntarily registered with the State?

## Vote recount conducted for District Attorney race

Results from a recount of votes in the 106th Judicial District attorney's Nov. 2 election will be published in next week's Post Dispatch.

The recount, called for by candidate Brian L. Kingston, was scheduled for Tuesday morning, according to county/district clerk Jerry Hays. Results were expected Tuesday afternoon, too late for the Dispatch's pre-Thanksgiving press time.

Kingston, who challenged incumbent Ricky B. Smith in the election, went through the Secretary of State's office to request the recount. According to reports, fewer than 50 votes separated the two candidates when the ballots of all four counties were tabulated.

The 106th Judicial District is comprised of Garza, Lynn, Dawson and Gaines counties.

Locally, Smith received 932 votes and Kingston had 751 ballots cast in his favor.

# The Post Dispatch

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## GHD directors look at building new clinic

The Garza County Hospital District board of directors is considering the construction of a new clinic facility as part of a package deal designed to help lure a new physician to the community.

During their Nov. 18 meeting, hospital district officials met with PNS representative Paul Acreman, who indicated that the physician who recently visited is "leaning toward Post," but has visited a couple of other locations.

As part of his monthly report, Acreman said that after talking with the physician, he has several ideas that might help make the Post opportunity more favorable. Those ideas include:

- Offering a stipend — \$1,000 to \$2,000 per month — until the candidate's completion of his residency in about eight months. Acreman said this is not an unusual practice and this offer has been made by at least one of the other two locations the candidate is eyeing.
- Offering a signing bonus. Although PNS has not made this a practice in the past, Acreman said it might be a possibility. He suggested that since the board has already authorized a relocation package — reimbursement of up to \$10,000 — that it might consider offering the difference between the moving expenses and the \$10,000 as the signing bonus incentive.
- Enabling the new physician to seek forgiveness of at least a portion of his student loans through a program such as the National Health Service Corp. Such a move is a two-step process that first requires site approval. PNS has already filed the application for site approval.
- Providing a "more modern, more easily accessible and more easily maintained facility" for the clinic. Acreman said the candidate has asked that at the end of some specified period of time — perhaps at the end of the initial agreement period or when a self-sustaining practice has been achieved — that the board commit to working with an architect to begin planning for a new clinic building.

"You can assure him that Garza County wants the same thing," said board member Fred Howell. "We would love to have a really nice, modern, new facility."

"Yes, we would," said board president Ray Bagby.

The board suggested the initial contractual term should be two years, unless the candidate balks and sees such a short-term offer as too short a commitment. Acreman said he would talk to the physician candidate to determine his thoughts on such an offer.

Bagby said he would contact the hospital district's attorney about how the offer regarding the construction of a new clinic facility should be worded.

In other business, board members:

- Opted against adopting a resolution to accept a retainer agreement with the law offices of Philip Mack Furlow. Instead, the board members agreed they would likely save money by working out an arrangement whereby Furlow would handle the district's legal matters "as they arise."
- Received the PNS clinic report for the month ending Oct. 31. A total of 583 visits were recorded, compared to 559 in the previous month. Procedures numbered 931, compared to 849 during the month of September. Charges generated totaled \$47,520, compared to about \$41,500 in the previous month. Patient collections were at \$26,881 (\$23,900), expenses were at \$35,686 (up \$2,200 from the previous month), with a deficit of \$8,800 (\$9,500 in September).
- Agreed to leave it up to the board president to determine the board's nomination for representative to the Garza Central Tax Appraisal District board of directors. Anominee is needed to complete Southland Independent School District representative Larry McDougal's unexpired term.
- Paid the monthly bills.
- Agreed to dispose of antiquated surplus property.
- Received the indigent care report. The program ended the month with 13, compared to 15 at the end of the previous month. Eight clients were screened. Expenses totaled \$654.08.

The board's next regular meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. Dec. 16 in the Citizens Bank Community Room.

## PHS offers dinner theatre

Post High School will offer a dinner theatre as part of this year's holiday fare. Performances are set for 7 p.m. Dec. 6 and Dec. 13 at the Community Center.

The program's first segment will include scenes from "Greater Tuna," "Little Women," "Our Crazy, Mixed-Up Language" and "The Sympathetic Psychiatrist," as well as the songs "Because I'm Blonde" and "Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B." The second segment will focus on the one-act play, "Antic Spring."

The production will be served up in conjunction with a meal comprised of an Italian main course, green beans, salad, rolls and dessert. The PHS Jazz Band will provide dinner music.

Performers include Courtney Copeland, Ericka Cravy, Colter Creech, Kenny Garay, Brant Guthrie, Brandon Hernandez, Kyle Kirkpatrick, Claire Kirkpatrick, Jeneé Lott, Emily Marcum, Bailey Odom, Hayley Massey, Jonathan McGregor, Kelsey Sanderson, Jared Smith, Sterling Smith, Laurel Tatum, Jerin Tyler, Josie Whisenhunt and Jace Pollard. Crew members are Natasha Cotter and Sierra Ortiz. Sterline Marcum serves as director.

Tickets for the dinner and show are \$10 each. Contact the students or the PHS office at 495-2770 to purchase tickets (must RSVP and purchase a ticket for a specific night).

## Child suffers from burns

Three-year-old Rani Cowley, who sustained second- and third-degree burns over 27 percent of her body in an accident earlier this month, remains in Lubbock's University Medical Center Stepdown Burn Unit. The child is undergoing treatments to her back and legs that were burned in an accident involving a wood-burning fireplace, according to her aunt, Camille Blevins.

Rani is the daughter of Tabatha and Joey Cowley. A pair of funds to assist the Cowley family with medical expenses have been established. CitizensBank is accepting contributions in Rani Cowley's name and the Rani Cowley Medical Account has been set up at the West Texas Federal Credit Union in Lubbock.

## 'A Christmas Story' opens December 3 at Garza Theatre

The Garza Theatre is gearing up for its presentation of "A Christmas Story" Dec. 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 17 and 18.

Directed by Laura Bryan, the play is based on the movie by the same name and "In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash." Cast members include Stan Tucker, Michael Porter, Laura Bryan, Lori Holt, Ryan Opton, Bill Woodward, Nolan Bryan, Grayson Young, Taylor Garland, Tanner Britton and Bethany Ratliff.

Performances are set at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. The Sunday matinee show is set for 2:30 p.m.

Tickets, available at the Garza Theatre box office, cost \$9 for adults and \$6 for children ages 6-12.

For more information, contact the theatre at 495-4005.



## Foggy weather blankets Post

Heavy fog covered Post and the surrounding counties last weekend, slowing down careful travelers to a crawl. Travelers and local citizens may have caught a glimpse of this hazy silhouette of the C.W. Post statue bathed in lighted fog (Photo by Tim Burnett)

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|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
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| Kyle Kirkpatrick  | Claire Kirkpatrick |
| Jeneé Lott        | Emily Marcum       |
| Bailey Odom       | Hayley Massey      |
| Jonathan McGregor | Kelsey Sanderson   |
| Jared Smith       | Laurel Tatum       |
| Jerin Tyler       | Josie Whisenhunt   |
| Jace Pollard      | Sterling Smith     |

## "Remember When We Cooked?" signing Dec. 4

Kay Davis, one of the authors of "Remember When We Cooked?" will autograph cookbooks at the Main Street Mercantile from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 4.

Davis and six friends, all home economists for Southwestern Public Service, have created a cookbook of personal favorite recipes collected from years of presenting cooking schools. These women developed professional and personal friendships that have lasted years after the company for whom they once worked eliminated their home economist positions.

"Even with the fast-paced lifestyles many families have today, we still find food to be the center of most social and family get-togethers," said Davis.

"This cookbook project has helped us stay in close contact with each other and has been a creative outlet for our natural interests and training," said Christie Pare.

"One goal we had in creating this cookbook was to encourage and assist families in spending more time together in meal preparation. We have included some wonderful recipes that are quick and easy to prepare for families on the go," said Melinda Paxton.

Three of the authors reside in Lubbock. Davis is a Lubbock County Extension Agent who holds a master's degree in nutrition from Texas Tech. She also is a licensed dietitian. Pare holds two degrees in home economics education from Tech and teaches food safety for Lubbock-based United Supermarkets. Paxton earned her degree in home economics from Tech and she and her husband own and operate Merry Maids in Lubbock.

Other members of the group are Deane Bim and Jan Stevens Davis of Amarillo, Connie Moyers of Clovis, N.M., and Gail Simmons, a former resident of Hobbs, N.M.

## Girl Scouts of Caprock offer special December events

The Girl Scouts of Caprock are offering several events and activities during the month of December.

Daisy Girl Scouts are invited to participate in Christmas Around the World from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 4. Girls will have a chance to experience different Christmas cultures from throughout the world by singing songs, making crafts and playing games. Cost is \$3 per person, which includes supplies, drink and patch. Registration deadline is Nov. 18.

Brownie Girl Scouts and their mothers can participate in an international holiday celebration Dec. 16 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Participants should bring their mother or favorite adult female and be prepared to "visit" several different countries to experience their traditions. Cost is \$8 per couple, plus \$3 per additional Girl Scout. Registration deadline is Dec. 2.

New troops and first-time campers are invited to Camp Rio Blanco for a night of outdoor exploration and adventure during Brownie Bonanza. The

event will be held from 7 p.m. Dec. 10 until 3 p.m. Dec. 11. Girls will learn how to tie different knots, build edible fires, hike and be creative with bandanas. Cost is \$15 per girl, including program supplies and two meals, and \$10 per adult. Registration deadline is Nov. 23.

Jeweler, an event for Junior Girl Scouts, will be held Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. or from 2-4 p.m. at the Science Spectrum. Participants will have a chance to discover jewelry-making techniques and get creative with beads. Cost is \$10 per girl, including badge, or \$13 per girl for workshop and museum time. Registration deadline is Nov. 18.

Junior Girl Scouts are invited to the Science Spectrum Camp-In from 6:30 p.m. Dec. 3 until 9 a.m. Dec. 4. During the evening, campers will enjoy hourly rotations of science demonstrations, hands-on workshops, free time in the museum and an Omni movie. Cost will be \$22 per girl, including patch Camp-in T-shirts will be available for \$8 if pre-ordered or \$10 at the event. Registration deadline is Nov. 19.

Non-Girl Scouts are also eligible to register (except for Brownie Bonanza and Christmas Around the World). There is a one-time registration fee of \$10 in addition to the cost of the event. Financial assistance is available upon request. For more information, contact the Caprock Council office at 806-745-2855 or 806-296-7295 in Plainview.

## Births

**Hunter Charles Gossett**  
Kaitlyn Gossett is proud to announce the birth of a brother, Hunter Charles Gossett, at 9:54 a.m. on Nov. 15, 2004 in Lubbock.

The infant weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 20 inches long at birth.

Parents are Ed and Jill Gossett of Lubbock. Grandparents are Barbara Gossett of Post and the late Sonny Gossett and Kay Welborn of Bedford. Great-grandparents are Virginia Gentry of Slaton, Charles Kenneth Bellamy of New Ulm and the late Helen Bellamy, Vera Gossett and Robert Mock.

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## Cynthia Thurman helps cancer fundraising

The creative offering of a former Post resident was part of a recent fundraising effort for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Cynthia Thurman, a 1971 graduate of Post High School and daughter of Carter and Sybil White, began quilting about a year ago. Earlier this year, while browsing an issue of American Patchwork & Quilting magazine, she spotted an advertisement for the Quilt for a Cure Challenge. The challenge to create a pink-and-white quilt block to be used in a quilt to be auctioned off in October to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Thurman told the Plainview Daily Herald that the ad made her think about her mother-in-law, Charlotte Thurman, who is a breast cancer survivor.

"I wanted to make a quilt block to honor her," she told the Plainview reporter. "Charlotte does so many nice things for everyone around her. I thought this would be an opportunity to do something nice for her, and I liked the idea of helping raise funds for breast cancer research."

Thurman fashioned a machine-pieced design that embraced her mother-in-law's passion for horses and western items. The block's primary image: a western boot.

The challenge drew more than 24,000 quilt block entries, but Thurman's was one of the handful to be included in the quilt auctioned off Nov. 4 on eBay.

Thurman created a duplicate of the quilt block that now serves as a wall hanging in her mother-in-law's home.

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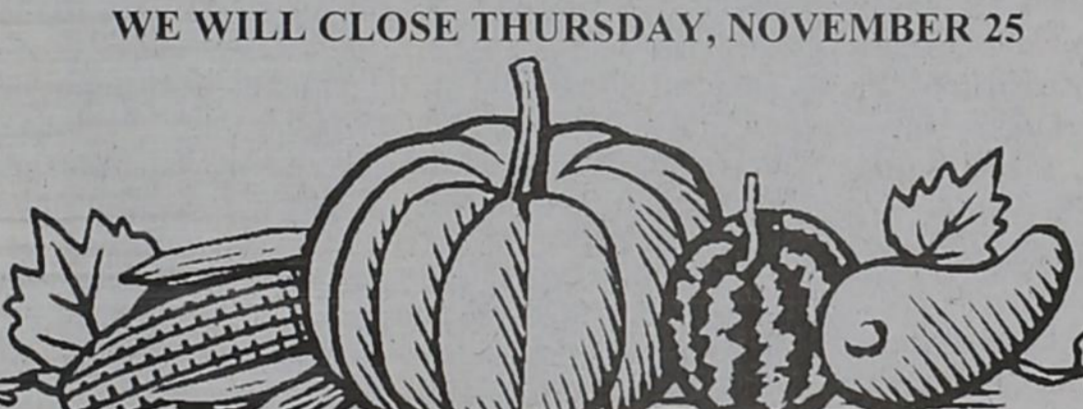
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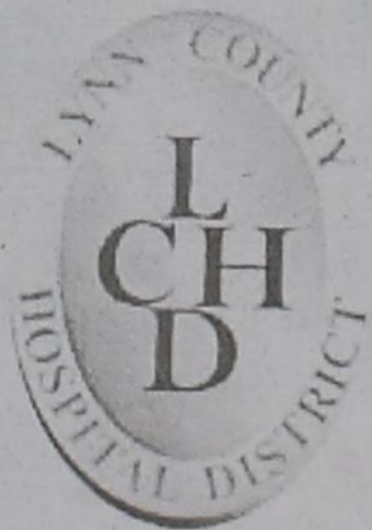
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A Caprock Cultural Association Event



**Recent Post Pee Wee Football in Snyder**

The Post Pee Wee Football team took on the Snyder Dolphins during recent football action in Snyder. Austin Fields (24) carried the ball for more yardage with the help of teammates (left to right), Jake Wischkaemper (82), Michael Guerra (55), Earnest Saldivar (33), Chess Postel (10) and Aaron Macy (12). (Photo by Kelly Macy)

**2005 EQIP Program Development Group Meeting**

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service invites the public and any agencies with interest to participate in Program Development Group meeting to be held at the Post Community Center in Post, Texas. This meeting will be on Wednesday, December 8 at 8:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to request participation and invite comments from a broad range of local agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals that have an interest in natural resource conditions and needs.

address significant natural resource concerns. Nationally, it provides technical and financial assistance to address natural resource concerns. Administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), EQIP was reauthorized in the HYPERLINK "http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farmbill/2002" 2002 Farm Bill and

awards cost share assistance to projects which provide significant environmental benefit.

For more information, call the USDA Service Center office in Post at (806) 495-2056 x 3. Service center locations and program information can be found on the Texas NRCS website at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov.

The discussion in the Program Development Group will help the Local Work Group, led by the Garza County Soil and Water Conservation District, to address county based funding for the FY2005 Environmental Quality Incentives Programs (EQIP). The LWG will make recommendations on resource concerns to be addressed, eligible practices, cost share rates, and ranking for county based funding.

One of the guiding principles of the 2002 USDA Farm Bill is that conservation programs are locally lead. Through stake holder meetings the public is given an opportunity to help local conservation leaders set program priorities. These meetings are open to the public.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was established in the 1996 Farm Bill to provide a single, voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers to

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**A Prayer Of Thanks**

Bless all of our friends and neighbors who have supported us so loyally this past year. You are truly wonderful people who deserve only the best.

Happy Thanksgiving to one and all!

We'll be closed  
Thanksgiving Day  
Thursday, November 25



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**The Post Dispatch**

**Holiday Deadline Schedule**

| Deadline                          | Issue Date          |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 5 p.m. Mon., Nov. 22              | Nov. 24             |
| 5 p.m. Fri., Dec. 17              | Christmas Greetings |
| 5 p.m. Mon., Dec. 20              | Dec. 23             |
| Office Closed Dec. 24 thru Jan. 2 |                     |

Thanksgiving is a time for reflecting on our blessings and enjoying family and friends in this great nation, the land of liberty and freedom.



May you have a blessed and wonderful Thanksgiving!

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# Opinions

## POLITICALLY CORRECT By Jim Huber



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**TA** Member Texas Press Association 2004

## Iraq and Roll

by Bill O'Reilly  
Madonna recently told the BBC that she wants American troops out of Iraq right this minute and she's, like, serious. Although there is no truth to the rumor that the diva is being considered for Colin Powell's position should he leave the Bush administration, Madonna is paying attention to world events and wants everybody to know it.

The problem here is that Madonna's desire is pretty much shared by most Americans. Who the heck actually wants U.S. forces in Iraq? No sane person can be happy Americans are targets there. So the issue becomes a simple question: For the sake of national security do U.S. troops have to be in that chaotic country? Three reasons say yes. First, if we withdraw from Iraq, the country will likely be run by terrorist sympathizers who will cooperate with Al Qaeda and neighboring Iran. If it were a movie, it might be called "Taliban Two: The Return of the Maniacs."

Two, a civil war could break out inside Iraq, and the bloodbath would be brutal. Any Iraqi who cooperated with the U.S. or Britain would be in grave danger. The Kurds would probably break away, and the chaos would be unbelievable.

And three, no country would ever trust America again when called upon to actively help us fight terror. Also, if the U.S. bails out of Iraq, it would be seen as a major victory for the terrorists and the jihadists would take the offensive even more aggressively against the West.

Now, I don't want to upset Madonna with a whole bunch of cause-and-effect analysis. She has enough on her plate spending enormous sums of money and tending to her image. The woman simply does not need the burden of complicated thought.

But for the rest of us who would like some security in this world, the Iraq war is a frustrating, history-defining experience that requires patience and discipline. We are, indeed, caught between Iraq and a hard place. This situation is crucial for the world.

Unfortunately, most of the world doesn't care. Western Europe, Russia and China simply don't want to get involved, even though a terrorist-friendly Iraq would cause massive problems for everyone. This apathy is maddening, but it's reality.

So what's the Bush administration to do? The American public is not going to sit by for years and watch body bags come home even if the administration continues to bar the press from showing them. Thus, the president must develop a cohesive timetable for the Iraqis to take over their own defense. As long as the Iraqi people think we will fight their battles for them — they'll let us. Some sense of urgency must be imposed on the Iraqi people by their leaders. Perhaps, Iraqis should be shown a TV documentary on how the South Vietnamese are living these days. Maybe we call it "Police State Blues."

So I hate to admit this, but Madonna and I share some common ground. I want to get our soldiers out of Iraq as well. But unlike the Material Girl, I live in the real world. And, unfortunately, that world is a complicated and terrifying place.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the book "Who's Looking Out For You?" To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com). This column originates on the Web site [www.billoreilly.com](http://www.billoreilly.com). COPYRIGHT 2004 BillO'Reilly.com.

## And thereafter, economic lunacy

by Walter E. Williams  
Here are a couple of newspaper headlines following Florida's bout with hurricane disasters: "Storms create lucrative times," St. Petersburg Times (Sept. 30, 2004), and "Economic growth from hurricanes could outweigh costs," USA Today (Sept. 27, 2004). The writers, Joni James and Barbara Hagenbaugh, might have been listening to economists like Steve Cochrane, director of regional economics at Economy.com, a consulting firm in West Chester, Pa., who told USA Today, "It's a perverse thing ... there's real pain, but from an economic point of view, it is a plus."

Why are Florida's hurricanes a "plus"? It's simple. According to St. Petersburg Times reporter Joni James, "Construction creates thousands of jobs, insurance provides for billions in consumer purchases, and new facilities built to higher standards might help offset future storm-related losses."

This kind of reasoning, often put forth by poorly trained economists, doesn't even pass a simple smell test. Think about it this way. Using Cochrane's statement, if "from an economic point of view, it (hurricanes) is a plus," would the country have been even better off if the entire East Coast shared Florida's damage and destruction? If it would have been a plus for the East Coast, what about hurricane destruction for the entire nation east of the Mississippi? Almost anyone with a speck of brains would recognize that equating economic growth with destruction is lunacy.

French economist Frederic Bastiat (1801-1850) wrote a pamphlet "What Is Seen and What Is Not Seen," in which he says, "There is only one difference between a bad economist and a good one: The bad economist confines himself to the visible effect; the good economist takes into account both the effect that can be seen and those effects that must be foreseen." In the case of Florida's hurricane disaster, what is seen is the employment associated with rebuilding. What is unseen is what Floridians would have spent the money on and the benefits therefrom had there not been hurricane destruction.

Bastiat wrote a parable about this that has become known as the "Broken Window Fallacy." A shopkeeper's window is broken by a vandal. A crowd

forms, sympathizing with the man, but pretty soon, the people start to suggest the boy wasn't guilty of vandalism; instead, he was a public benefactor, creating economic benefits for everyone in town. After all, fixing the broken window creates employment for the glazier, who will then buy bread and benefit the baker, who will then buy shoes and benefit the cobbler, and so forth.

Those are the seen effects of the broken window. What's unseen is what the shopkeeper would have done with the money had the vandal not broken his window. He might have employed the tailor for purchasing a suit. The broken window produced at least two unseen effects. First, it shifted unemployment from the glazier, who now has a job, to the tailor, who doesn't. Second, it reduced the shopkeeper's wealth. Explicitly, had it not been for the vandalism, the shopkeeper would have had a window and a suit; now, he has just a window.

The broken-window fallacy was seen in a column written by Princeton University professor Paul Krugman after the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, "After the Horror" New York Times (Sept. 14, 2001). He wrote, "Ghastly as it may seem to say this, the terror attack — like the original day of infamy, which brought an end to the Great Depression — could do some economic good." He went on to point out how rebuilding the destruction would stimulate the economy through business investment and job creation. Again, do the smell test. If Krugman is right, wouldn't the terrorists have done us a bigger economic favor if they had destroyed buildings in other cities?

Maybe we shouldn't be so harsh on these reporters and economists in light of the fact that they didn't receive training at George Mason University's Economics Department, where there are no bad economists.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).

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## Self defense best for individual rights

**A Reply to a Gun Control Critic**  
by Scott McPherson  
Editor's Note: The following is a letter addressed to Future of Freedom Foundation.

I'm curious: nowhere in that article on Gun Control does it mention Canada. We've "always" had gun control, in one form or another. It's never been possible for someone to walk in off the street and out with a firearm twenty minutes later.

So if gun control is so heinous and detrimental, why is our crime so vastly smaller than yours and why is our population so much less paranoid?

I'm sorry, but going through your site, it seems to me to be less about "freedom" of a people as a whole and more about individual freedom — and that leads to anarchy.

Thank you, C.H.

Scott McPherson responds:

Thank you for contacting the Future of Freedom Foundation. The Foundation always welcomes questions and comments from our readers, and I will do my best to respond to your satisfaction.

My first response would have to be to your final point. You wrote, "going through your site, it seems to me to be less about 'freedom' of a people as a whole and more about individual freedom — and that leads to anarchy? Well, you're sort of right."

The mission of FFF is to promote limited government, free markets, private property, and individual rights. To speak of the "freedom of a people as a whole" is completely baseless unless those people are protected by some moral structure which shields them from the arbitrary use of force by others — including their own governments.

It is individuals that require protection. We at FFF are of the opinion that individuals are best protected under a system of individual rights, and that by protecting individual rights you best guaranty the protection of "people as a whole."

If you're interested, I would recommend reading Ayn Rand's Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal and The Virtue of Selfishness as a start to better understanding the concept of individual rights.

Regarding your conclusion, "and that leads to anarchy," I couldn't disagree more. Anarchy is a system where no government exists, there is no moral recognition of individual rights, no private property, and no rule of law. This term is best applied to Somalia or even Communist Russia.

It does not, however, apply to a libertarian society based on individual rights, private property, and the rule of law — all supported, it should be noted, by a government limited and dedicated to preserving just those institutions. Your conclusion lacks logical foundation.

We strive for moral government. Regardless of your opinion of our philosophy you cannot claim that it calls for no government.

You opened your comments by referring to an article on gun control. I do not know of which article you speak, and so cannot comment on any statements in particular, but I can speak to the general gun control argument. You wrote that Canada has "always" had gun control, in one form or another. It's never been possible for someone to walk in off the street and out with a firearm twenty minutes later.

I'm not sure what conclusion you're hoping we'll reach from that particular statement.

Even when Canada's gun control laws were (relative to today) lax, the crime rate in that country was low relative to the United States because the United States has historically had a higher crime rate. The important question is

whether the presence of firearms is the cause of that high crime rate and whether gun control is a proper policy to adopt in combating crime.

To my knowledge, the most comprehensive look at guns and gun control laws in the United States (complete with international comparisons) has been done by Dr. Gary Kleck, in his book Targeting Guns: Firearms and Their Control. (Far from being a "right wing gun nut" Kleck is, by his own admission, a liberal Democrat who supported Al "Gun Control" Gore in the 2000 general election), which reaches the general conclusion that any connection between guns and crime is, at best, tenuous.

Kleck's conclusions were vindicated when the Centers for Disease Control admitted late last year that their "independent" analysis found no known link between any US gun control laws and a reduction in violent crime. (It should also be noted that the CDC is notoriously anti-gun).

Of particular interest to you may be an article published in the Fall 2004 "Journal of Firearms and Public Policy," published by the Center for the Study of Firearms & Public Policy, written by Gary Mauser, a Canadian and, according to his bio, "a Professor at the Faculty of Business Administration and the Institute for Urban Canadian Research Studies at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia."

Mr. Mauser's article, titled "The Failed Experiment: Gun Control and Public Safety in Canada, Australia, England and Wales," is a thoughtful indictment of the gun control mentality in those countries (and this one, for that matter) that views gun control laws as the great panacea for crime and guns as evil, despicable objects. I will quote Mr. Mauser at length.

After evaluating the failure of gun controls in England, Wales, and Australia, to reduce violent crime (in fact he, like many others, observed that crime in general, including violent crime, has actually been rising in those countries following passage of their gun control laws) Mauser writes, "In the 1990s, sweeping changes were made to the [Canadian] firearms laws, first in 1991 and then again in 1995. Licensing and registration are still being phased in." However, "The contrast between the criminal violence rates in the United States and in Canada is dramatic. Over the past decade, the rate of violent crime in Canada has increased while in the United States the violent crime rate has plummeted... [emphasis added]"

"[The United States provides a valuable point of comparison with Europe and the Commonwealth for assessing crime rates because the criminal justice system in the United States is unique. Not only are criminal penalties typically more severe in the United States, often much more severe, but also conviction and incarceration rates are usually much higher. Perhaps the most striking difference is that the United States is one of the few countries to encourage qualified citizens to carry concealed handguns for self defence. During the past few decades, while Britain and the Commonwealth were making firearm ownership increasingly difficult, more than 25 states in the United States passed laws allowing responsible citizens to carry concealed handguns. There are now 35 states where citizens can get such a handgun permit... As surprising as it may seem to casual observers, these new laws appear to have caused violent crime rates to drop, including homicide rates." [emphasis added]

Mr. Mauser cites the work of John Lott at this point. I strongly recommend his excellent book, More Guns, Less Crime.

I quote again, at length, from Mr. Mauser: "The homicide rate has been falling as fast or faster in the United States (compared with Canada)... The homicide rate in the United States has fallen

from 10.5 per 100,000 in 1991 to 6.1 per 100,000, while the Canadian rate has fallen from 2.7 per 100,000 to 1.8.

"The contrast between the rate of criminal violence in the United States and that in Canada is much more dramatic. Over the past decade, the Canadian rate of violent crime has increased while, in the United States during the same time period, the rate of violent crime has slid from 600 per 100,000 to 500 per 100,000."

"Only the United States [compared with Canada, Australia, England and Wales] has witnessed a dramatic drop in criminal violence over the past decade... If the goal is deterring criminal violence, perhaps it is time for Commonwealth countries to encourage more individual self-reliance."

You wrote that "Canada's crime is 'vastly smaller' than the United States. This is a trend that pre-dates gun control, not the coup de grace that gun control supporters have long believed it to be. We can learn a great deal more from watching the crime rates in England, Wales, Australia, and Canada (all Western, industrialized countries with historically low crime rates) dramatically rise, as they have been, following the introduction of gun control and disarmament of the general population, than we can from making specific crime-rate comparisons with the United States."

Such comparisons may serve their (perhaps intended) purpose of making the citizens of these countries feel morally superior to citizens of the United States... but it makes for tragically flawed policy making.

Finally, you asked why "if gun control is so heinous and detrimental" as Canadians "so much less paranoid" than Americans. I reject your premise. Michael Moore may have won an Academy Award, and that may make him a good documentary film maker, but it does not make him a social scientist.

I own guns, but I would not consider myself paranoid. In fact, it was only while living in the United Kingdom for two years, where I was not allowed to own a gun, that I worried a great deal about crime.

Now I live in Virginia, where citizens have the right to carry handguns concealed (with a permit) or even openly (no permit needed). I don't carry a gun — mostly because I feel so much safer knowing that so many people around me are carrying guns.

Further, would you say that Canada's estimated 2.3 to 4.5 million (legal gun-owners, who own between 8 and 15 million guns, are automatically simply by virtue of their owning a gun, paranoid? That is an unfounded generalization unworthy of 5 million people, let alone 280 million.

I appreciate your taking the time to read my lengthy response, and hope that it has helped you better understand the Future of Freedom Foundation's position on gun control. We contend that guns help people protect themselves from violent criminals, and that when access to guns by the general population is curtailed, decent and innocent people suffer.

This position is not only moral, but practical. Rising crime in Canada, England, and Australia, following so closely on the heels of their recent experiments with radical gun control measures, would seem to prove our point.

Scott McPherson is a policy advisor at The Future of Freedom Foundation. Send him email.

**Any organization, which derives its existence on the basis of theft, is unworthy of support by any who value morality.**



# Yesteryears

Compiled by Donna Jones from the files of The Post Dispatch

### 10 Years Ago

#### November 30, 1994

Monday, November 28 the Commissioners Court and the City Council met with three men from different corporations to discuss the building of a juvenile facility in Post.

Lost oil and gas revenues in Garza County last year were over \$80 million dollars.

Lillie Hart accepts a certificate on behalf of the Caprock Photographers for first place in the invitation and newsletter category for small towns. The award was presented by JoAnn Mock who accepted the award at the Texas Association of Arts Awards in Austin.

"Starmaker", a television talent showcase hosted by Steve Davis and Jane Prince Jones, will kick off it's first show with a live television taping at the Tower Theatre in Post December 2.

Four Garza County 4-H's participated at the District 2 4-H Food Show recently in Levelland. They include Barrett Scrivner, Matthew Ramsey, LaRinda Ledbetter and Camille Blevins.

### 20 Years Ago

#### November 28, 1984

Construction on the Post Housing Authority project at Ave. S and 15th is beginning to come together as construction crews work through good and bad weather. When finished the housing will be available to the elderly.

The Post Bold Gold Antelopes capped off the third straight Bi-District Championship football season last Friday night, losing the Area Championship to Littlefield 14-6 at Brownfield.

The home of Mrs. Bobby Cowdrey, route 3, was the scene of a bridal shower honoring Miss Jackie Lee Adair, bride-elect of Steve White.

Jackson's Cafeteria offers private dining and banquet facilities for all occasions! Our new private meeting room is ideal for small groups or up to as many as 150 and there is no extra charge for the use of our rooms. Call Don or Michelle to arrange your next party.

Derrick Dunn attended the 4-H Gold Star banquet in Lubbock recently. He and Korren Payton were Garza County 4-H Gold Star honorees.

Cub Scout Pack 314 Den 2 enjoyed having Nick Vukad speak on the history, importance, and proper handling of our U. S. Flag. Cub members include Cody Collier, Chris Cornett, Kelly Line, Rynn Sappington, Mario Tobias, Coty Wheeler, and Brant Windham.

### 30 Years Ago

#### November 28, 1974

Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Kennedy Jr., were honored with a Golden Anniversary Novemeber 17 in the Community Room. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy were married in Sweetwater on November 9, 1924, and have lived in Garza County for 50 years.

The Short Hardware store here has been sold, and the change of ownership will effect a lot of local lives. James Pollard, who is in his fifth year as Post High School principal, has formed a corporation with Earl Chapman and purchased the hardware store from Silas Short. Short plans to begin studying for the ministry in February. The resignation of Pollard from a 20-year school career will call for some promotions in the Post school administration. Supt. Bill Shiver announced he has reassigned Billy Hahn, junior high principal here for the last six years, to take over as high school principal and Bud Davis, a junior high teacher will fill the duties of the junior high principal.

The O. S. Ranch Benefit Steer Roping and Art Exhibit in September raised \$21,500 for West Texas Boys Ranch at San Angelo.

Airman Clifford D. Laws, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Laws of Post has graduated at Keesler AFB, Miss., from the U. S. Air Force aircraft radio repairman course conducted by the Air Training Command.

### 40 Years Ago

#### November 26, 1964

Southland: Seniors Rodney Callaway and Beverly Stolle were elected "Mr. and Mrs. SHS". Also elected by the high school student body were Julia Cisneros and Joe Hall, "Best Personality" and Marian Eckert and Don Altman, "Most Athletic".

The Garza County Community Chest will launch its 1965 fund drive Monday with a goal of \$10,200. Mrs. Irby G. Metcalf Jr. and Dave Sanford, are campaign chairman and vice chairman, respectively.

With sophomore Ronnie Pierce hitting for 38 points, the Post Antelopes basketball squad opened their 1964-65 season on a happy note here with a 56 to 48 win over the Spur Bulldogs.

The Post Church of Christ was the scene of the wedding of Miss Sandra

Lee Veach and Deljuan Wilson, November 7. Mrs. Jean Jones was matron of honor and Mrs. Barbara Tatum was bridesmatron. Dural Wilson of Slaton served his brother as best man. Carl Meeks of Slaton was groomsmen.

### 50 Years Ago

#### November 25, 1954

Pauline (Polly) O'Neal, six-year-old Post girl, prepares to leave by automobile Friday for El Paso - her first stop en route to Hollywood to make a movie short with actress Greer Garson for the Gonzales Warm Springs Foundation's annual theater fund drive.

Cinemascope, the revolutionary new method of photography and projecting in motion pictures, will make its first appearance in Post Dec. 12 and 13, on the Tower Theater screen. John N. Hopkins, manager announced the first Cinemascope picture to be shown here will be "Hell and High Water," starring Richard Widmark.

Garza County's first Community Chest fund campaign will be "kicked off" here Monday, with teams of workers in Post and other county communities seeking to meet the \$9,739.40 goal by Dec. 4. Dean A. Robinson, county superintendent of education, and Ted R. Hibbs, manager of Southwestern Public Service Co. here, are chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, for the fund campaign.

A son, Dale Leslie, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Walls in Garza Memorial Hospital Nov. 19.

Popper-Packaged Popcorn is now available in food markets over the country. The popcorn comes in its own disposable foil paper ready for popping on the kitchen stove. When the foil blows up like a balloon, popcorn is ready.

### 60 Years Ago

#### November 23, 1944

Corp. Arlien E. "Hootus" Windham, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Windham is the Soldier of the Week. He was one of the Garza county boys who was in on the invasion of France landing there the 8th of June. "Hootus" is a graduate of Post High school where he was a popular student. He is now with the famous 90th Infantry Division.

The Addax: The Sophomore and Senior class have both donated \$5 to the Red Cross, other classes are urged to do the same; The 8th grade had a rummage sale, they made about eight dollars for their treasury. Eleanor Boyd and Faye Ruth Hamilton worked on the sale.

The YWA of the First Baptist church reorganized after several months of waiting for a sponsor. Mrs. Inez Hartel was selected by the young women of the Baptist church. Officers elected were president, Jerry Osborne; vice-pres., Frances Terry; secy-treas., Agnes Windham; program chairman, Emma Jo Panter; and reporter, Maxine Tucker.

Private Ray Warren of Post recently was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement in action while serving with Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army in Italy. Warren, a member of a field artillery battalion of the 91st "Wild West" Division demonstrated courage and prompt action in evacuating wounded personnel to safety. Ray is the son of Rufus Warren.

# Wildcats dominate 'Lopes 23-6

by Wes Burnett

The Post Antelopes closed out a great football season Friday night at Amarillo, scratching and fighting until the final whistle in a 23-6 loss to the Canadian Wildcats at the Area Championship.

Unable to mount sustained offensive drives, the 'Lopes relied on a strong defense to keep them in the game, trailing by 10 points at halftime. But the defense was on the field the majority of the game, and in the end could not stop the Wildcats from scoring in the second half.

The lone Antelope touchdown came midway through the fourth quarter, set up by the recovery of a Wildcat fumble at the Canadian 21 yard line. The four play drive featured a pass completion from quarterback Sterling Smith to Kenneth Garay at the three yard line. Jett Lott punched into the end zone for the score.

The two point conversion pass attempt failed, leaving the 'Lopes behind 23-

6 with 7:30 left on the game clock. The defense did its job, forcing a fourth down punt. The 'Lope offensive drive started with 5:48 at the Post 29 yard line. The eight play drive got into Wildcat territory, but stalled on a penalty, an incomplete pass, a quarterback sack and two incomplete passes.

Another strong defensive effort got the ball back for the offense with 2:10 on the game clock ... the drive got the 'Lopes to the Wildcat 36 yard line before being snuffed out with an interception of a Smith pass attempt to Garay at the 10 yard line.

The 'Cats ran out the final 34 seconds.

The Antelopes could muster only 35 yards offense and one first down in the first half. Canadian defenders limited the Antelopes to 94 total yards total offense, with negative seven yards rushing and 101 yards passing.

The Antelopes completed the season with a 9-3 record, capturing the District 5AA and Bi-District Championship trophies.

## Lady Lopes edge Cooper 57-46

On November 18, the Post Lady Lopes defeated Cooper at Antelope Arena by a score of 57-46. The Lady Lopes jumped out in the first quarter with 21 points while Cooper scored 12. The Lady Lopes went inside to Nikki Norman who scored 9 of her game high 19 points.

The scoring was close the rest of the way, 12 - 10, 12 - 8, and 12 - 16. Nikki Norman, Patricia Hester, Rachel Gray, and Sarah Kirkpatrick all scored in double figures for the Lady Lopes. Patricia Hester hit the boards and pulled down 8 rebounds. Jenee Lott played good defense and had 5 steals in the game.

Scoring for the Lady Lopes were, Norman 19, Gray 13, Hester 11, Kirkpatrick 11, and Lott 3. Rebounding for the Lady Lopes were Hester 8, Lott 5, Gray 5, Hoover 5, Copeland 5, Kirkpatrick 3, and Norman 3.

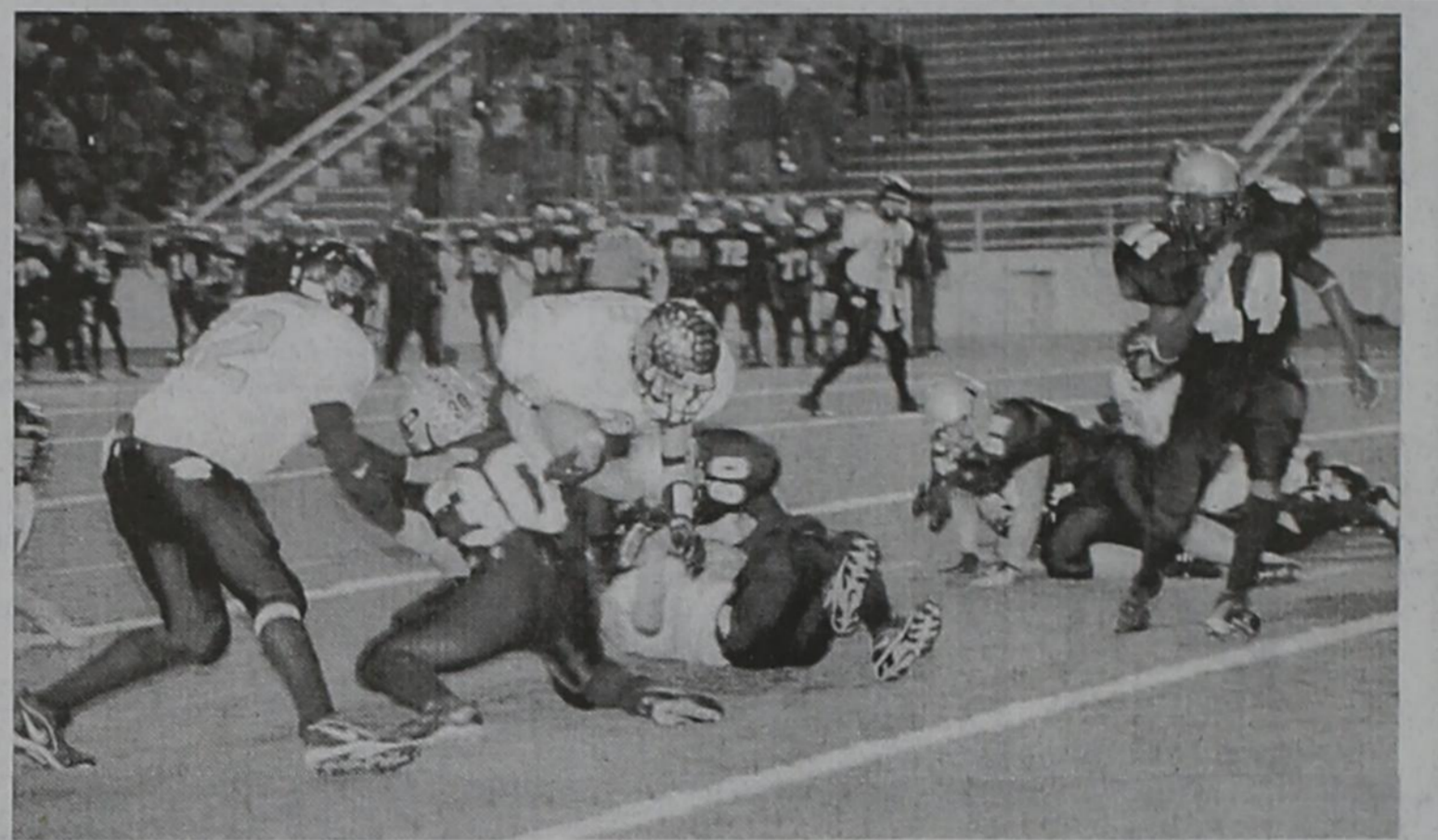
Assists include Lott and Gray with 3 each, Hoover, and Hester 2, Wilson, Kirkpatrick, and Norman 1.

On the defensive side making steals in the game were Lott 5, Kirkpatrick 3, Norman 2, and Gray and Hoover 1. Lott, Copeland, and Norman each had a blocked shot.

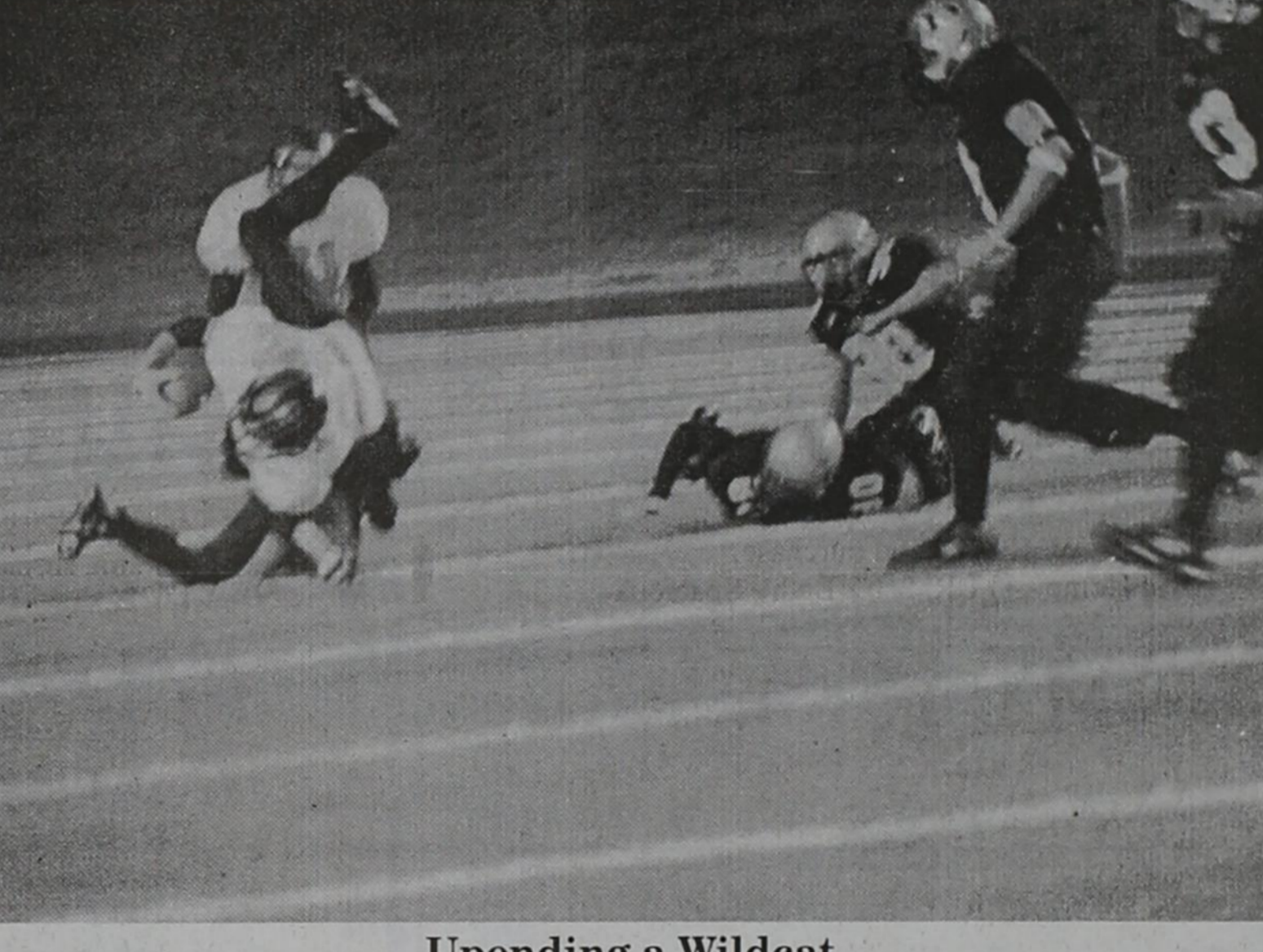
Lockney edges Lady Lopes On November 19, the Lady Lopes made a trip to Lockney. The first half found the Lady Lopes in a close game but were down 28 - 25. In the second half Lockney had a hot hand. The Lady Lopes played hard but cold shooting could not keep them in the game, losing 68 - 50.

Highlights for the Lady Lopes included 14 points by Sarah Kirkpatrick including one three point goal, 9 out of 12 free throws and 4 steals. Rachel Gray pulled down 11 rebounds and 4 steals. Nikki Norman made 8 out of 9 free throws. Meagan Hoover made a three point goal.

Scoring for the Lady Lopes included Kirkpatrick 14, Norman 8, Gray 7, Hoover 7, Tatum 5, Lott 4, Wilson 3, and Hester 2. Rebounding for the Lady Lopes were Gray 11, Lott 8, Tatum 5, Hester 4, Kirkpatrick 4, Norman 3, Dalby 3, and Wison 1. Making assists were Hester 3, Gray and Kirkpatrick 2, and Gregory and Dalby 1. Defensively with steals were Gray and Kirkpatrick 4, and Lott, Gregory, Hoover, and Hester 1. Lott and Tatum and a blocked shot each.



**Antelope Defense in Action**  
Jett Lott (30) and Jonathan McGreggor (80) bring down a Canadian Wildcat runner in action at Amarillo last Friday night. Joining in the defensive effort are Blake Nichols (55) and Chris Reed (44). Photo by Gena Lott.



**Upending a Wildcat**  
An unidentified Post Antelope upends a Canadian Wildcat during the Area Championship game at Amarillo's Dick Bivins Stadium last Friday evening. The 'Lopes ended their story-book 2004 football season with a 23-6 loss, recording a 9-3 season record. (Photo by Gena Lott)

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**ACROSS**

- TXism: "blaze the trail"
- TXism: "got as much to do as a hibernating bear"
- filmed in TX: "Zapata!"
- "make \_\_\_ even dozen"
- TXism: "couldn't find hide \_\_\_ hair of him"
- a Cherokee chief
- Port Arthur has "Mardi \_\_\_ gala"
- outward appearances
- 21 elected county prosecutor (abbr.)
- TX singer Thompson
- famous TX square dance caller Golden
- it precedes tequila in distillation
- Dr. Pepper started at Waco's "\_\_\_ Drug Store"
- "that is" abbr.
- TXism: "fits like hide on \_\_\_"
- \_\_\_ Park, TX
- 37- newspaper: "El \_\_\_ Texas"
- 39 popular TX fruits
- "take \_\_\_ breath"
- 44 leave the tracks
- 45 \_\_\_ Paso, TX
- 46 TX actor Busey
- 47 in Fannin Co. on hwy. 69
- 49 two-steppers
- 52 TX Tarzan Ron

**DOWN**

- TXism: "let \_\_\_ rip!"
- TX Freddie Fender's "Before the Next \_\_\_ drop Falls"
- 55 TXism: "\_\_\_ summer squash"
- 58 detaches from mom
- 59 black cuckoo
- 60 "surf the \_\_\_"
- 61 dir.: to San Antonio from Abilene (abbr.)
- 14 Ranger broadcaster Nadel (init.)
- 15 this Holliday killed his first man in TX
- Lake El \_\_\_ ("The King's Salt")
- Tech "Red \_\_\_"
- 20 drowsy
- 24 LBJ line: "\_\_\_ fella Murkins"
- 25 past UH BB star Elvin (init.)
- 26 TXism: "useless as a saddle on a \_\_\_"
- 27 Nacogdoches: "The \_\_\_ of Texas"
- 28 TXism: "got a mind like \_\_\_ trap"
- 29 "Doomsday" LB \_\_\_ Jordan
- 31 \_\_\_ Rio, TX
- 32 TXism: "big biscuit in the pan" (abbr.)
- 33 country singer Jimmie who had Kerrville home
- 38 Jerry Jones jet
- 40 TXism: "\_\_\_ like ants out of a burning stump"
- 41 TX rancher Chuck Norris film (abbr.)
- 42 person from Lubbock Co. town
- 48 Travis \_\_\_ a line in the dirt at Alamo
- 50 Abilene Reporter-
- 51 Chester, TX named for this pres. (init.)
- 56 tilts
- 57 country roads

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Phil & Windy Mathews  
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Post Bold Gold Antelope Offense

Quarterback Sterling Smith gets set to complete a pass as the Post Antelope offense looked for scoring opportunities at Amarillo last Friday against the Canadian Wildcats. In the action are Jonathan McGregor (80), Jett Lott (30), Smith (14), Israel Beggs (71) and Zach Witcher (62). The 'Lopes closed out a 9-3 season in its 23-6 loss to the Wildcats in the Area Championship. (Photo by Gena Lott)

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& Jenée  
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|-------------------|------------|
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| Idalou .....      | 9-1 .....  |
| Shallowater ..... | 5-5 .....  |
| Roosevelt .....   | 4-6 .....  |
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| Abernathy .....   | 4-6 .....  |
| Slaton .....      | 1-9 .....  |
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