

The Castro County News

75th year—No. 36

Dimmitt, Texas, Thursday, December 9, 1999

50¢

14 pages plus supplements

Winter storm paralyzes travel in county



OFF-ROAD VEHICLE—This 1996 Blazer belonging to Norma Velasquez of Dimmitt slid off the road Sunday afternoon on SH 86

on the west edge of Dimmitt. No one was injured, and the vehicle had no damage, according to Velasquez.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

One of the biggest snowstorms in recent memory settled over the county Saturday, bringing from five to 12 inches of snow and creating travel headaches, power outages and other problems.

Power outages were reported Saturday in isolated spots in and around Dimmitt. Nazareth residents were without electricity from about 10 a.m. Saturday through 9 Sunday morning.

Some who live in the country were still powerless Monday and Tuesday as crews worked to replace and repair hundreds of power poles and lines which had snapped.

The storm moved into the Texas Panhandle Friday night, starting with rain which turned into snow during the overnight hours.

By the time the sun came up Saturday morning, a blanket of white covered the ground and roads in the county. The snow continued to fall throughout the day, and wind gusts of up to 35 miles per hour created deep drifts and visibility problems, forcing the Texas Dept. of Transportation (TxDOT) to close all Castro County roads Saturday afternoon.

There were numerous deep drifts on the roadways and that was the initial cause of the problem Saturday, according to the sheriff's department.

Later, a layer of ice formed on the snow-packed roads, and travel became treacherous.

The first county road to be closed was State Highway 86 west of Dimmitt to the Parmer County line. That stretch of road was closed at 1 p.m. Saturday after emergency crews reported deep drifts and visibility of less than a quarter of a mile.

US 385 north of Dimmitt also was closed at 1:25 p.m. after reports that the road in the La Posta area was almost impassable and traffic was reduced to one lane.

Several motorists were stranded in those areas after they lost control of their vehicles on the snow-packed roads. It is unknown how many people were stranded in the storm, but luckily, no one was seriously injured, according to the sheriff's department.

Around 1:30 p.m. Saturday, sheriff's deputies reported zero visibility on State Highway 86 west of Dimmitt. Five minutes later, TxDOT closed all roads in Castro County.

At that time, drifts over a foot deep were reported in some areas, making it difficult for rescue workers and law enforcement personnel to get to the stranded motorists.

Emergency crews in four-wheel drive vehicles searched the roads,

picking up stranded motorists and transporting them to Dimmitt where they could weather out the storm. The vehicles were recovered later after the storm was over.

Tractor-trailer rigs had a difficult time negotiating the slick roads, but that didn't stop them from going around the road closure signs. Several lost control and the trucks jackknifed, winding up in the ditch or in deep drifts, especially on FM 1055 near the feedlots.

Most roads in the county were closed for at least a half day and some, like State Highway 86 east to Nazareth, was still closed through Sunday as TxDOT worked to clear the stretch of road.

Two Dimmitt residents volunteered their time and equipment (tractors, etc.) to help pull the trucks and other vehicles out of the snow banks as the storm started to weaken late Saturday afternoon.

Snow

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	67	35	
Friday	59	28	
Saturday	62	29	1.00
Sunday	32	14	.12
Monday	36	13	
Tuesday	42	19	
Wednesday	53	27	

December Moisture 1.12
1999 Moisture 32.81

Readings taken every day at 7 a.m. at KDHN, official National Weather Service recording station for Dimmitt.

Wet spring, good hatch could mean more pheasants for hopeful hunters

While pheasants are expected to be plentiful this season, it might be difficult for hunters to scare up the prey this weekend when pheasant season officially opens in Castro County.

That's because a series of winter storms are expected to move into the area. The first storm was expected today (Thursday), while another was predicted for Saturday night through at least Monday.

Even if the predicted storms bypass the area, last weekend's winter storm could still create some travel

problems if the ground doesn't dry out so hunters can negotiate the dirt roads.

Pheasant season officially opens 30 minutes before sunrise Saturday and hunters will be stalking the ring-necked birds through the end of the season on Dec. 26.

Daily bag limit is three cock pheasant per day with six in possession. Hens are off limits to hunters, according to Texas Parks and Wildlife Regulations.

The pheasant population could be double what it was a year ago, when the area was suffering from a severe drought, according to Danny Swepston of Canyon, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. wildlife biologist.

But Swepston is quick to add that the bird numbers are still well below what they once were.

"A lot of the farmers I've talked to think the bird prospects look better than they have in the past few years," said Tony Leibel of Hart, who is one of the planners of the Hart Lions Club's organized pheasant hunt. "I know I saw several birds along the road Saturday during the snow storm."

N. Dean Johnson with the Nazareth Lions Club also thinks the bird populations will be up this year.

"We hear prospects are good. As you drive down the roads, you can see a lot of birds. We're looking for a great hunt," Johnson said. "I think the hunters could smell that it was a good year for pheasant—we've had a lot of calls we had to turn down because we were full."

Organized hunts

There are three organized hunts in Castro County, and each hunt is already full, according to organizers.

The Hart Lions Club is expecting 130 hunters Saturday's and each paid

\$150 for the hunt on opening weekend. After opening weekend, hunters can still hunt on the reserved land for a \$100 per gun fee.

The 130 hunters is the club's limit, according to Leibel. Those hunters will receive a souvenir cap, a full breakfast and the right to hunt on approximately 10,000 acres of land Saturday and Sunday.

Hunters are expected from El Paso, Houston, Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Boulder, Colo., and other areas, according to Leibel.

The breakfast, which will be served from 5:30 to 8 a.m. at the Hart School Cafeteria, will be free to those signed up for the club's hunt. Others may enjoy the meal for \$4 per plate. The menu will include scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, biscuits, hash browns, gravy, juice, milk and coffee.

During the breakfast, the Hart Volunteer Fire Dept. will sell chances for a 1187 Remington 12 gauge shotgun to be raffled off after the meal. Tickets are \$3 per person, according to Leibel.

The Nazareth Lions Club will host 145 hunters on opening weekend, and each paid \$125 for the right to a guided hunt on selected lands Saturday. Members of the Lions Club and the Nazareth Volunteer Fire Dept., will serve as guides on Saturday. The hunters will be allowed to hunt on that land Sunday, but no guides will be available.

The club is still receiving calls from hunters hoping to get in on the guided hunt, but the 145 is all the club will accept this year. Hunters are expected from Dallas, Houston, Midland-Odessa and other downstate areas, Johnson said.

(Continued on Page 13)

Area and local leaders hear about new phone company

Three representatives from Dimmitt attended a meeting Nov. 30 in Amarillo and received information about dba Communications, LLC, which is proposing to purchase 260 telephone exchanges from GTE/Contel.

The meeting was hosted by the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, and two representatives of dba spoke to representatives of city, school, county and other entities.

Attending from Dimmitt were Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Sava,

Dimmitt City Manager Don Sheffy, and DISD Curriculum Director Doricell Davis.

Sava said the dba representatives, Bob Paige and Bob Mathew, emphasized

(Continued on Page 2)

Hackleman seeks reelection to post

Billy Hackleman of Dimmitt announced this week that he will seek reelection to the office of Castro County Tax Assessor-Collector, subject to the March Democratic Primary.

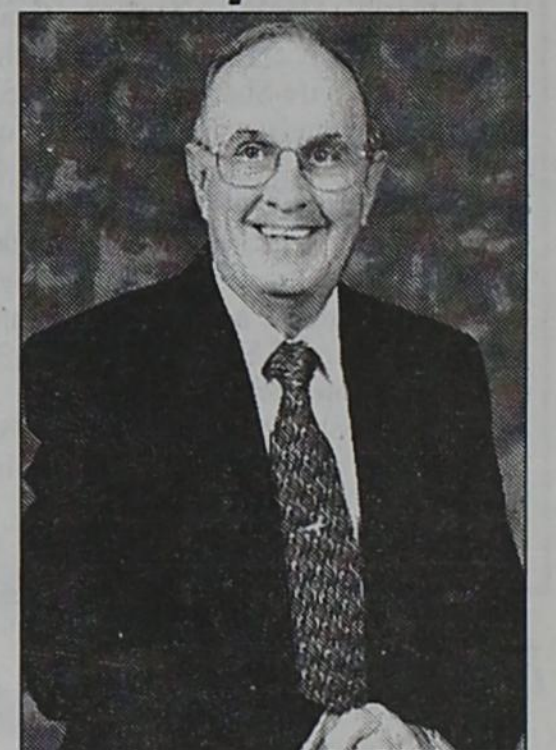
He was first appointed to the office on July 1, 1981. He won election by the voters in 1982, and has continued in office since that time.

A native of Castro County, Hackleman said his main goal as tax assessor-collector is "to try to run a friendly, courteous tax office."

The duties of the office include collecting auto registration fees, motor vehicle sales tax, car title fees and alcoholic beverage license fees, and serving as the county's voter registrar. The office also collects title fees for boats and collects sales tax and registration fees for boats.

Hackleman said his three-person staff keeps the office open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., including during the noon hour, each Monday through Friday.

"I will do my best to carry out the



Billy Hackleman

duties of the tax assessor-collector in a friendly, impartial and professional manner," Hackleman said. "I solicit and would greatly appreciate your vote."

Dobbs seeking return to constable's office

James Dobbs is running for reelection to the position of Castro County Constable, subject to the March Democratic primary election.

He has served as constable for 13 years, having first taken office in mid-term in 1987. He has been re-elected to the office ever since.

Dobbs moved to Castro County with his family in 1938, then lived in Hereford for a while, before he and his wife, Doris, built a house in Summerfield in 1970. They have three daughters.

His duties as constable include serving legal papers, including citations, warrants and subpoenas. He patrols the county, answers calls, investigates burglaries, and assists other law enforcement officers as needed.

Dobbs said that he has gone to training schools throughout his tenure as constable, including 90 hours of training this year.

He is a life member of the West Texas JP and Constable Association and has held offices in the association. He also is a member of the Texas JP and Constable Association.



James Dobbs

"There are two things a peace officer has to do—preserve the peace and protect the people," Dobbs said. "That is what I have tried to do."

"I've enjoyed serving as constable, and I like working with the people of Castro County. I would appreciate the consideration of the voters at the March primary."

Second holiday shopping event is slated tonight

If the weather allows, holiday music will fill the air in downtown Dimmitt as the Chamber of Commerce sponsors its second holiday shopping event of the season.

The "Second Celebration" will begin at 6 p.m. with performances by the fourth, fifth and sixth grade choirs from Dimmitt Middle School and the DMS sixth grade band. The choir performs under the direction of Elaine Hazel while Teresa Carlisle conducts the band.

The celebration will center around the gazebo and several stores around the square will be open late for holiday shopping.

"Come hear the music and enjoy the young people of our community in concert," said Dimmitt Chamber Executive Director Bill Sava. "This is what a hometown Christmas is all about."

In the event of inclement weather, the activity will be canceled before students leave school and notices will be posted at the gazebo.



ANGEL TREES are now set up in the three banks in Dimmitt and local citizens are urged to participate in the project by fulfilling a Christmas wish for underprivileged boys and girls in the county. Sponsored by the Castro County Ministerial Alliance and administered through Panhandle Community Services, the project seeks to provide toys for 101 children who were selected from the almost 200 who applied for the project. Citizens are asked to take a paper cutout "angel" from one of the trees, buy the gift requested

by the child listed on the angel, and return the gift and the angel to the PCS office as soon as possible. Participating banks are First United Bank, First Bank, Muleshoe, Dimmitt Branch, and Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union. Helping set up the "Angel Tree" at the HTFCU are (from left) PCS employee Jerry Peña, credit union manager Mike Huseman, and ministerial alliance members Larry Gilliam, Jeff Addison and Aaron Reed.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

What's cooking?

In Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth Schools

Here are the breakfast and lunch menus for the Dimmitt, Hart and Nazareth schools for Dec. 13-17.

DIMMITT Breakfast

THURSDAY: Pancake on a stick with sausage, fresh banana and milk.
FRIDAY: Cinnamon rolls, fruit cocktail and milk.

MONDAY: Granola bars, orange juice and milk.
TUESDAY: Toasted English muffin, apple juice and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Rice Krispie treats, orange wedges and milk.
THURSDAY: Corn Pops cereal, fresh bananas and milk.

FRIDAY: Breakfast burrito, grape juice and milk.

Preschool-First Grade Lunch

THURSDAY: Nachos with cheese, mixed vegetables, honeydew melon, jalapeno peppers and milk.
FRIDAY: Red Baron Pepperoni Pizza, potato wedges, apple slices and milk.

MONDAY: Hoagie submarine sandwich, savory green beans, honeydew melon and milk.
TUESDAY: Italian spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic bread and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Steak fingers, French fries, pineapple sunset salad and hot rolls.
THURSDAY: Nachos with cheese, Mexipinto beans, plums, jalapeno peppers and milk.

FRIDAY: Turkey and dressing surprise, mashed potatoes with gravy, savory peas, tossed salad, hot rolls, pumpkin pie, cranberry sauce and milk.

Second-12th Grade Lunch

THURSDAY: Nachos with cheese, barbecued chicken or fruit and cheese plate; mixed vegetables, potato salad or vegetable medley; tossed salad, haystack finger salad or honeydew melon; hot wheat rolls, Fideo Mexicano or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.
FRIDAY: Choice of Red Baron Pepperoni Pizza, red beans and rice or enchiladas; potato wedges, corn on the cob or refried beans; tossed salad, fresh spinach salad or apple slices; cornbread, tortilla chips or crackers; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

MONDAY: Choice of submarine sandwich, barbecued beef on a bun or beef taco; savory green beans, baked potato or mashed potatoes; hamburger salad, taco condiment salad or honeydew melon; hot cheese rolls, Spanish rice or corn tortilla; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.
TUESDAY: Choice of Italian spaghetti, fajitas with sautéed onions or poor boy beef steak; country rice dressing, potatoes au gratin or butter beans; tossed salad, orange wedges or potato salad; garlic bread, hot wheat rolls or flour tortilla; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

WEDNESDAY: Choice of steak fingers, chicken pot pie or green enchilada casserole; French fries, mixed vegetables or refried beans; tossed salad, pineapple sunset salad or cucumber and tomato salad; hot rolls, Arroz Mexicano or tortilla chips; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.
THURSDAY: Choice of nachos with cheese, grilled chopped steak or beef stir fry; Mexipinto beans, lyonnaise carrots or Chinese-style vegetables; tossed salad, cantaloupe or plums; assorted muffins, hot cheese rolls or Spanish rice; and chocolate milk, white milk or punch.

FRIDAY: Turkey and dressing surprise, mashed potatoes and gravy, savory peas, tossed salad, white hot rolls, pumpkin pie, cranberry sauce and milk.

HART Breakfast

THURSDAY: Waffles, assorted fruit juice, variety of cereal, toast and milk.
FRIDAY: Ham, biscuit, variety of cereal.

graham crackers, raisins and milk.
MONDAY: Sausage, biscuits, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice and milk.

TUESDAY: Cinnamon rolls, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice and milk.
WEDNESDAY: Breakfast pizza, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice, graham crackers and milk.

THURSDAY: Waffles, assorted fruit juice, variety of cereal, graham crackers and milk.

FRIDAY: Scrambled eggs, biscuits, hash brown potatoes, variety of cereal, assorted fruit juice and milk.

Junior High/High School Lunch

THURSDAY: Choice of hamburger with potato chips, burrito or enchilada casserole; corn, salad, fresh fruit, pineapple pudding, ice cream and milk, punch or tea.
FRIDAY: Choice of hamburger with potato chips, chicken sandwich with chips or barbecued rib sandwich with chips; pinto beans, sliced pickles, lettuce, tomato, peaches, gelatin dessert, ice cream and milk, punch or tea.

MONDAY: Choice of corn dog, burrito or pizza; lettuce, tomato and pickles; fresh fruit, peaches, gelatin dessert and milk, punch or tea.
TUESDAY: Turkey with bread stuffing, turkey gravy, wheat bread, cranberry sauce, green beans, cherry cheese pie, fruit salad, and milk, punch or tea.

WEDNESDAY: Choice of beef stew, toasted cheese sandwich or deluxe burrito; gelatin dessert, peaches, salad, banana pudding and milk, punch or tea.
THURSDAY: Choice of burrito, pizza or lasagna with ground beef; wheat rolls, salad, peaches, green beans, gelatin dessert and milk, punch or tea.

FRIDAY: Choice of sub sandwich, tuna salad sandwich or hot dog on a bun with chili; shredded cheese, salad, potato chips, gelatin dessert, fresh fruit, peaches and milk, punch or tea.

NAZARETH Breakfast

THURSDAY: French toast and sausage, cereal, orange juice and milk.
FRIDAY: Breakfast tacos, cereal, orange juice and milk.

MONDAY: Cinnamon roll, cereal, orange juice and milk.
TUESDAY: Pancake and sausage on a stick, cereal, orange juice and milk.

WEDNESDAY: Sausage and biscuit, cereal, orange juice and milk.
THURSDAY: French toast sticks and sausage, cereal, orange juice and milk.

FRIDAY: Breakfast taco, cereal, orange juice and milk.

Lunch

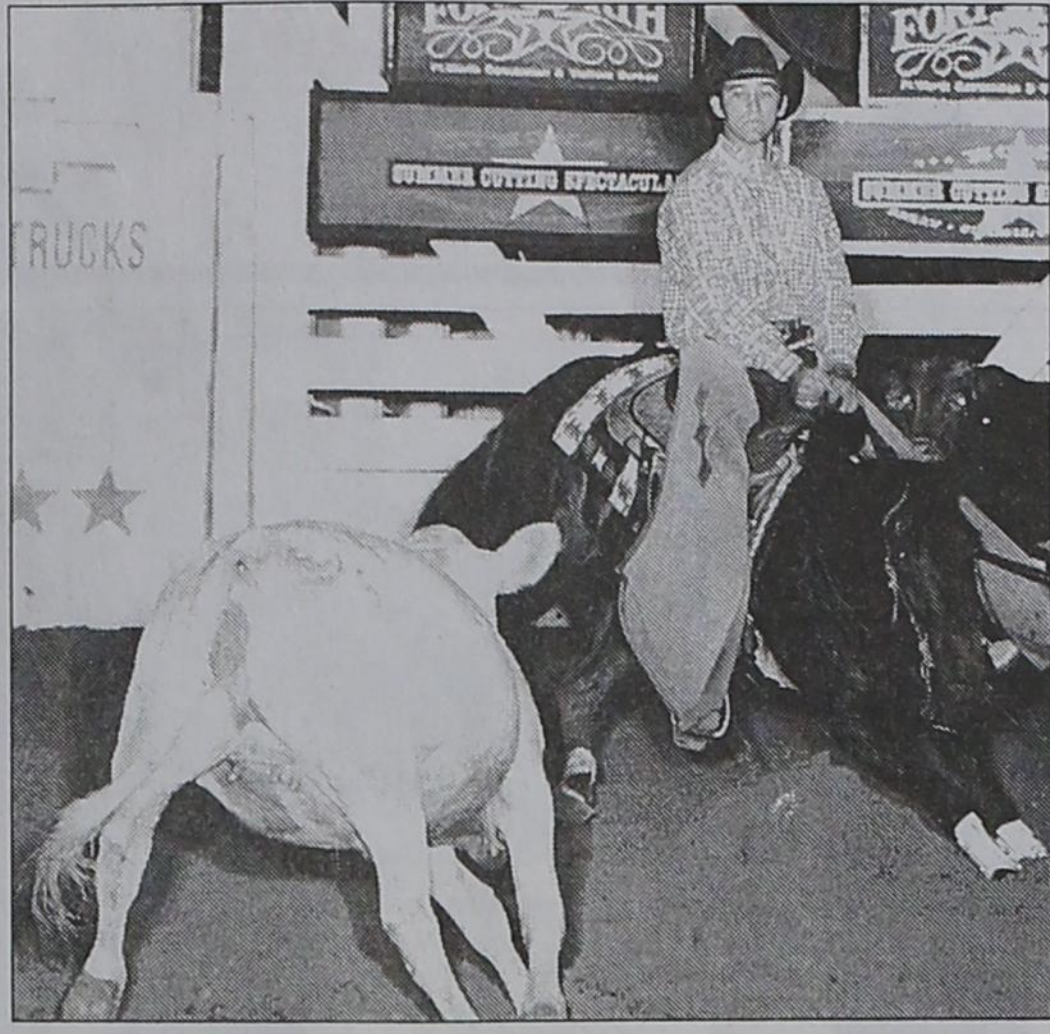
THURSDAY: * Sloppy Joes or corn dog, tossed salad, fried okra, pineapple, applesauce and milk or juice.
FRIDAY: * Chicken spaghetti and roll or hamburger and French fries, tossed salad, corn, peaches, pudding and milk or juice.

MONDAY: * Nacho or corn dog, tossed salad, beans, pears, cobbler and milk or juice.
TUESDAY: * Corn dog or chicken strips, tossed salad, chicken rice, fruit cocktail, cookies and milk or juice.

WEDNESDAY: * Frito pie or hamburger and French fries, tossed salad, cornbread, green beans, grapes, dessert and milk or juice.
THURSDAY: * Hot turkey sandwich or pizza, tossed salad, corn, peaches, pineapple and milk or juice.

FRIDAY: * Soft taco or hamburger and French fries, lettuce, Mexican salad, applesauce, peanut butter bar and milk or punch.

* Items designated with an asterisk (*) will be served to elementary school students.



Toby Crow

Toby Crow will compete Friday in National Cutting Horse Futurity

Toby Crow will be competing for a grand prize of \$15,000 in the National Cutting Horse Association Futurity's Limited Open Division Friday at the Will Rogers Arena in Fort Worth.

Crow qualified for the second go-round with a score of 215 in the National Cutting Horse Futurity's Open Division, held Nov. 29 in Fort Worth. In the second go-round, Crow earned a score of 214.50. That combined score of 429.50 qualified him for the Limited Open, which is for professional riders who made it to the second go-round but who have not yet won \$50,000.

A total of 533 were entered in the Open Division and 240 advanced to the second go. Of those 240, 67 were entered in the Limited Open and 10

qualified for the Limited Open finals. Crow is currently sitting fifth out of those 10 qualifiers.

Crow qualified on PB Peppys April, a 3-year-old cutting horse owned by Billy Cogdell of the Tule Ranch. Crow also rode PB Nevada, owned by Penny Cogdell Carpenter of Silverton, and he earned 211 points with that mount in the first go-round.

Crow, a 1996 graduate of Dimmitt High School, trains horses professionally for Billy Cogdell of the Tule Ranch. The ranch specializes in breeding, raising and training cutting horses.

Crow is the son of Lanny and Belinda Crow of Friona, formerly of Dimmitt. This is his second year to compete as a pro.

Planned Parenthood consolidates clinics

Planned Parenthood of Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle has consolidated its offices to provide a broader range of services. Patients will no longer be seen at its Dimmitt office. Patients who transfer their records to the Hereford or Tulia Planned Parenthood offices will be offered free services.

After a period of transition, Texas Healthy Steps Screening services will be available for children. In addition, a full array of family planning, sexually transmitted disease prevention, contraceptive and mid-life services will be offered to the community.

The goal of Planned Parenthood remains the same—to make every child a wanted child and every family a healthy family.

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 800-230-7526.

On the Go with Martha Jo Hyman, 647-2255

People spend snow days in different ways.

The cowboys have no choice. They try to keep the cattle as still as possible. Any sudden noise or movement will send them scurrying and it could take days to locate them.

I caught up on my ironing. Others visited the local library and caught up on their reading.

There are those who got all of their baking finished for their neighbors, friends or for the ill.

There are those who played board games or dominoes.

As usual, there are those who just cannot stay inside as advised by the weather bureau.

I had a birthday on Saturday after Thanksgiving. Jo and Bill surprised me with a cake and a "7" for the age. I taught those girls well!

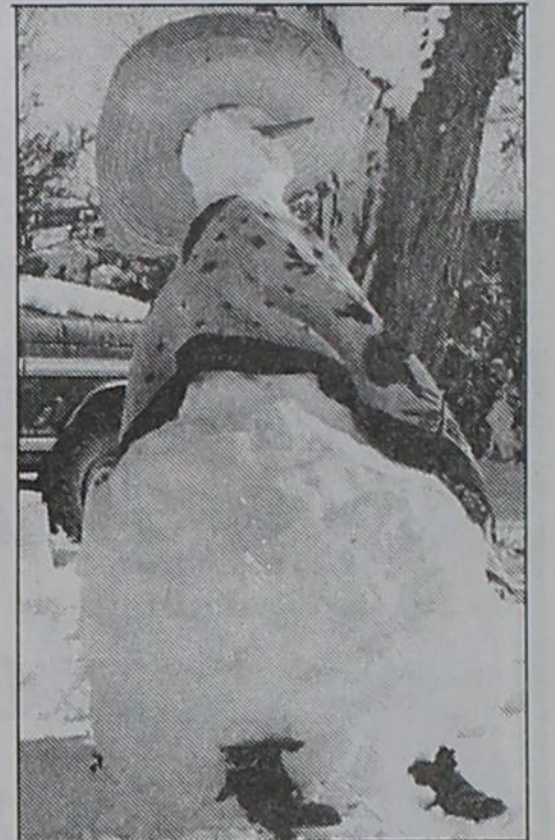
Several celebrated Polly Simpson's birthday. We met at El Sombrero and had lunch with her. Those attending were Marvin and Gwen Bryant, Doris Flynt, Bill and Katherine Birdwell, Merle Arthur, Houston and Doris Lust, Tommie Sue Nisbett, Martha Rhynes, Shirley Wise, Mildred Bradford, Alice Cowen, the guest of honor and myself. We all had a good time.

I stayed with Curtis and Leigh Durbin during the storm. He is prepared should the electricity go out for any length of time.

Aubrie Durbin celebrated her second birthday. Her party was short

and sweet because of the snow. Her guests were Lena and Ben Duesterhaus, Denia Durbin and Margie Durbin. She had a great time blowing out her candles.

My old school friend, Delores Webster, came down from Hereford and took me to lunch for my birthday. We ate at the Bridal House in Plainview. We had a good visit and caught up on our families.



VISIONS OF A WARMER CLIMATE—This snowman at 205 S. Front Street in Dimmitt wears a serape, sombrero and boots as he turns his pinto nose into the wind to see what's going to happen next. The weatherman says more snow.

If you wish me to serve the medical needs of you or your family at the emergency room, hospital or clinic, please notify the receptionist, nurse or doctor. You may call the clinic at 647-2194, the hospital at 647-2191 or my home at 647-5256—and I still make house calls.

Bill D. Murphy, M.D.

Computer skills to be taught here

An essential computer skills class will be presented in Dimmitt next Thursday, Dec. 16, by Dan Cowan of Accelerated Learning Center of Amarillo.

Two classes will be held in Dimmitt, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Both will be conducted at Rhoads Memorial Library.

Cost for the class is \$69 per person, and the fee is payable at the door. To reserve a seat in the class, call (888) 320-5552.

"The three-hour class covers computer skills that everyone needs," said Cowan. "For reasons I fail to understand, very few computer users are learning the latest techniques developed by Microsoft to handle routine tasks such as downloading files from the Internet, copying files, and organizing your files into folders and subfolders. That's what we teach, plus a whole lot more."

Accelerated Learning Center has taught thousands of computer students in over a dozen states.

"Our class cuts to the core and teaches material that will take most computer users years to learn on their own. In just one session, students learn techniques that they will use for a lifetime."

The class is suitable for all beginning and intermediate computer students. Each student will be given a laminated reference guide that will probably be the student's constant companion for all Microsoft applications. This permanent guide gives the simple keystrokes that separate the computer competent person from the person who lacks computer skills.

For more information about the class, call (888) 320-5552.

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<p>Ladies' Rockies & Roper JEANS \$15⁹⁹</p>	<p>Hundreds of Men's and Women's SHIRTS \$10 & \$15</p>	<p>Roper HEELS DOWN Roping Tennies \$49</p>																																	
<p>BOOTS... Hundreds of TONY LAMA SECONDS \$45 & \$65 (Reg. Leather) (Exotics)</p> <p>Tony Lama SUPER ROPERS \$89</p> <p>Tony Lama & Justin FULL QUILL OSTRICH & CAIMAN ALLIGATOR \$399</p> <p>Tony Lama 18" top BUCKAROOS \$139</p> <p>Tony Lama SMOOTH OSTRICH \$179</p> <p>Panhandle Slim TALL TOPS \$89</p> <p>Panhandle Slim LIZARD & SMOOTH OSTRICH \$99</p>	<p>Papa Joe sez: It's the Biggest Sale ever!</p> <p>Bailey FELT HATS</p> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: small;"> <tr> <td>2X & 3X</td> <td>reg. retail</td> <td>Joe's SALE PRICE</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>reg. \$132</td> <td>\$99</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">BUY 1 GET 1 - 1/2 PRICE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5X</td> <td>reg. \$169</td> <td>\$99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7X</td> <td>reg. \$289</td> <td>\$109</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10X</td> <td>reg. \$330</td> <td>\$159</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20X</td> <td>reg. \$429</td> <td>\$200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30X</td> <td>reg. \$569</td> <td>\$300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100X</td> <td>reg. \$750 cream</td> <td>\$400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100X</td> <td>reg. \$750 black</td> <td>\$550</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100X</td> <td>reg. \$750 natural</td> <td>\$550</td> </tr> </table> <p>Resistol BLACK GOLD 20X reg. \$425 Joe's \$325</p> <p>High 7 Buckaroo Open crown, 5" brim reg. \$298 Joe's \$112</p> <p>Natural 4" brim reg. \$185 Joe's \$99</p>	2X & 3X	reg. retail	Joe's SALE PRICE		reg. \$132	\$99	BUY 1 GET 1 - 1/2 PRICE			5X	reg. \$169	\$99	7X	reg. \$289	\$109	10X	reg. \$330	\$159	20X	reg. \$429	\$200	30X	reg. \$569	\$300	100X	reg. \$750 cream	\$400	100X	reg. \$750 black	\$550	100X	reg. \$750 natural	\$550	<p>Large group Montana Silver BUCKLES & JEWELRY 1/2 PRICE</p>
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Happy Holidays

People



Reception is planned for Welch Home Place

The Welch Home Place is planning a reception at the Welch Home Place Outpatient Center at 103 Front Street on Dec. 17 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. to welcome Dr. Eric Olson and Dr. Curtis Thurman. The public is invited.

The two will serve as staff psychiatrists and are both Board Certified Psychiatrists. They will be sharing the schedule of patient care at WHP.

Olson is a graduate of the University of Texas Houston Medical School. He has a private practice in Lubbock and is affiliated with Covenant in Lubbock.

A graduate of the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Thurman is a consultant for Central Plains MH/MR rural psychiatric services and is medical director of the Permian Basin Community Center at Odessa.



A WARM GESTURE—Residents of Canterbury Villa now have 42 new, hand-made lap robes to keep them warm this winter, thanks to members of the Friendship Quilters Guild. Here, Brent Meyers (left), new administrator of Canterbury Villa, accepts the lap robes from a delegation of

guild members. Making the presentation, from left, are Claudine Langford, Bonnie Davis, Joyce Davis, Doris Lust, Tommie Sue Nisbett, Yvonna Hays and Jean Robb. The lap robes were presented at Canterbury Villa's annual Cake Auction recently.

Photo by Don Nelson

Chamber banquet set Jan. 22

2000: A *New Beginning.com* is the theme for this year's Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce banquet, which will be held Jan. 22, 2000, at the Expo Building in Dimmitt.

The annual event recognizes the city's Citizen of the Year, Citizen Through the Years, Chamber Member of the Year and Teacher of the Year. Nominations for these awards are now being accepted at the Chamber of Commerce office, located at 115 W. Bedford Street in Dimmitt.

Tickets for the event are on sale now, according to Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Sava.

"Traditionally, we mail two tickets to each of our members unless they have specified differently, and we bill our members for those tickets at the time the tickets are mailed," Sava said. "We count the number of tickets being used by our members and the number of additional tickets requested to determine how many meals are required for the banquet."

"Then on the Wednesday before the banquet, we guarantee that the Chamber will pay for the preparation of that number of meals. This is why we ask that our members let us know by the Wednesday before the banquet if they do not plan to use their tickets. It is also the reason we ask them to pay for their tickets if they fail to notify that they are not attending before we order the meals," Sava said.

Tickets will be mailed to Chamber members with their January newsletter, Sava said. Those not planning to attend are asked to return the tickets to the Chamber before Jan. 19, 2000.

Sava said two businesses have already approached him about decorating a table for this year's banquet.

"These are businesses that haven't done a table before," Sava said. "They feel like participating is good advertising and promotes good community relations. The fact that they are getting ready must mean that it is time for all of us to begin thinking about how we're going to do our own tables."

Sava asks that those planning to decorate a table contact him as soon as possible.

FBC children's choir will present Christmas musical

The Children's Choir from First Baptist Church of Dimmitt will present a Christmas musical, *WWW Christmas Online.COM* Sunday at 6 p.m. at the church auditorium.

The public is invited to attend and enjoy this expression of Christmas, said a spokesperson for First Baptist Church.

The unique musical will help you rediscover the true meaning of Christmas by telling the story through modern-day high-tech ideas. Drama and music will be utilized by the children in this presentation.

Natives of New Guinea sometimes wear ceremonial masks that are 19 feet high.

Schulte gets PLA award

Sara Schulte, a Nazareth High School senior, has been nominated to compete in the national Principal's Leadership Award scholarship program (PLA), sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School principals (NAASP). Herff Jones, Inc., funds the Principal's Leadership Award program.

Deborah Clinton, principal of Nazareth High School, announced the nomination, which places Schulte in the national competition. There will be 150 national PLA winners chosen this spring to receive \$1,000 college scholarships.

"Sara has a great desire to achieve the goals that she has set for herself," said Clinton. "She is a top-notch student and is very active in the school's affairs."

Principals in high schools throughout the country could nominate one of their student leaders.

Nominees were selected based on their leadership skills, participation in service organizations and clubs, achievements in the arts and sciences, employment experience, and academic record. They also were required to write an essay.

"Sara has demonstrated exemplary achievement in her academic work and service to her school and community," said Gerald N. Tirozzi, NAASP executive director. "She's a fine example of the outstanding caliber of young people in America's high schools."

While a student at Nazareth High School, Schulte has been student council president, senior class president, National Honor Society president, and yearbook editor. She has also been a member of FHA and FFA, and has been very active in basketball, tennis, and cross-country, serving as a captain for all three sports and advancing to state in two of the three. She has also been a regional qualifier in UIL academics, and has much involvement in community activities as well.



JUST ME AND MY SNOWMAN—Keenon Doss of Dimmitt shows off the snowman he built Sunday afternoon at his home on Oak Street in Dimmitt.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Nazareth FHA sets holiday home tour

The homes of five Nazareth families will be featured on a holiday home tour sponsored by the Nazareth FHA on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Featured homes will be those of Mark and Judy Kleman, Leroy and Jenny Schulte, Charley and Beverly

Hill, Jimmy Schulte and Father Peter Otto.

Tickets for the event may be purchased at the door of any home on the tour.

The FHA will be selling poinsettias and home baked goods during the tour.



Making Holiday Plans?

Remember to use the Country Club of Dimmitt for your Holiday Parties! Call 647-4502 for reservations.

We will be OPEN LATE THURSDAY

Come in and check out our Christmas Specials!

Tots and Teens

647-2650 • 101 E. Bedford, Dimmitt

Beat the weather—stay home to shop!

We will be **OPEN LATE THURSDAY NIGHT** for the "Second Celebration" **WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU!**

The Village Shop

204 W. Bedford, Dimmitt 647-2450

You are invited to a Bridal Shower honoring **Carla Petty** bride-elect of **Jason Wooten** Saturday, Dec. 11 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the home of **Jan Baca** 1613 W. Bedford, Dimmitt

Selections at Coleman Pharmacy, Just Imagine, Running M Bath Shop, Seale Florist and The Village Shop.

With each believing the other to be a giver of love, a sharer of sorrow, a bringer of joy, and a reason for life,

Jill Lynn and Kris Zachry together with their parents Mr. and Mrs. John Davis and Mr. and Mrs. David Keith request the honour of your presence as they exchange marriage vows on Saturday, the eleventh of December nineteen hundred and ninety-nine at five o'clock in the evening First United Methodist Church Dimmitt, Texas



A Delicious Gift Idea from the members of **W.I.F.E.** (Women Involved in Farm Economics)

Beef Gift Certificates

They may be purchased in any amount at First United Bank of Dimmitt and First Bank of Muleshoe, Dimmitt Branch and redeemed at participating local food stores.

Help support our local Beef Industry!

Band concert set for Sunday

The Dimmitt school bands will present their annual Christmas Concert Sunday, weather permitting, starting at 2 p.m. at the Dimmitt High School auditorium, and the public is invited to attend.

Performances will begin with the fifth grade band, followed by the sixth grade bands, the junior high band and the DHS Bobcat Band.

The bands are directed by Harold Hinsley and Teresa Carlisle.



A 'COOL' GIFT—Kraft Foods gave a \$38,000 grant to the High Plains Food Bank, headquartered in Amarillo, and part of the funds were used to purchase this large commercial produce cooler for use by the Castro County Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry in Dimmitt. The pantry is administered through the Dimmitt office of Panhandle Community Services. Celebrating the receipt of the cooler in Dimmitt last Thursday were (from left) PCS employee Lorena

Corales, alliance member Jeff Addison, Dimmitt Mayor Wayne Collins, PCS employee Stella Devers, Cerestar Plant Manager David Bone, alliance member Tom Mullins, PCS employee Esther Espinosa, alliance member Ed Freeman, food bank spokesperson Janie Singleton-Davis, alliance member Rusty Dickerson, PCS area supervisor Johnny Raymond, alliance member Aaron Lee, and PCS employee Jerry Peña. Photo by Linda Maxwell

Murillo is deployed to Bosnia

Army Spec. Jose A. Murrillo is one of approximately 2,900 soldiers assigned to the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) at Fort Drum, Watertown, N.Y., who has deployed to Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Forge (OJF).

OJF is a NATO-led joint, multinational peacekeeping mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It is part of a continuing effort by the US in support of the United Nations mission to maintain peace and stability in the region in compliance with the Balkan Accords.

The division soldiers' mission in Bosnia is to deter hostility, stabilize and maintain peace by ensuring a safe, secure environment, and are replacement troops for the 1st Cavalry Division based at Fort Hood.

Murillo is an infantryman normally assigned to the 31st Infantry.

He is the son of Margarita and Guadalupe Murillo of Dimmitt.

Extension to offer hunter safety classes

The Castro County Extension Service will offer a hunter safety class if enough individuals are interested.

Those interested in taking the class, which is required to obtain a Texas or out-of-state hunting license, should call 647-4115 and visit with Extension Agent Pammy Millican.

The hunter safety course will be taught by Anthony Mays and he needs to know exactly how many are interested in taking the course.

The explosive nitroglycerin was actually first introduced as a headache remedy.

The 60,000 pound Brontosaurus had a brain the size of a softball.

Hear
The First United
Methodist Church
Morning Worship Service
Sundays, 10:45 a.m.
On KDHN 1470

Plainview ELC to be implemented Feb. 29

The Dimmitt to Plainview Expanded Local Calling will be implemented on or before Feb. 29, according to petitioning coordinator Betty McClure of Dimmitt.

McClure said she spoke with a representative of the Public Utilities Commission of Texas, and was informed of the target date.

The Dimmitt to Plainview ELC petition was separated from the other Dimmitt ELC petition for expanded calling to Amarillo, Hereford, Canyon and Tulia, since the Plainview exchange is in another LATA (Local Access and Transport Area) from Dimmitt.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. serves the Lubbock LATA in which Plainview is located, and had to receive Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approval before transporting calls across LATA boundaries.

FCC approval has been given and

the toll-free calling should be in place by Feb. 29.

In a related matter, McClure said a PUC spokesperson told her that people in Amarillo who call Dimmitt may have to pay a toll charge if their local service provider is not GTE/Contel. She said they may be able to dial Dimmitt numbers di-

rectly without the 1-806, but they may still have to pay a toll charge.

McClure said she was told that Amarillo phone subscribers can select what company they want for their local service provider, and if they select GTE/Contel, then calls to Dimmitt would not incur a toll charge.

Church Directory

- New Hope Memorial Baptist**
300 NE 7th, Dimmitt
Bobby Starlings.....647-2889
- Sunnyside Baptist**
Sunnyside
Bennie Wright.....647-5712
- First United Methodist**
Hart
Kelly Inman.....938-2462
- La Asamblea Cristiana**
400 NW 5th, Dimmitt
Manuel Rodriguez
- First United Methodist**
110 SW 3rd, Dimmitt
Rusty Dickerson.....647-4106
- Iglesia De Cristo**
E. Lee & SE 3rd, Dimmitt
Pedro A. Gonzalez
- Immaculate Conception Catholic**
1001 W. Halsell, Dimmitt
Fern Couture.....647-4219, 647-0105
- Jesus and the Love of God Church**
(Bilingual) 301 NE 7th, Dimmitt
Felix Sanchez.....647-3668

Praise to thee, my Lord, for all thy creatures.
—St. Francis of Assisi

Attend the Church of Your Choice

- Church of God of the First Born**
611 E. Halsell, Dimmitt
- St. John's Catholic**
Hart
Fern Couture.....647-0105
- Church of Christ**
SW 4th at Bedford, Dimmitt
647-4435
- Rosa De Saron**
411 NE 6th, Dimmitt
Maria Castaneda.....647-5598
- First Baptist**
302 Ave. G, Hart
Aaron Reed.....938-2316

- Abundant Life Family Church**
113 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
Tom and Kay Mullins
- First Assembly of God**
300 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
Larry Gilliam.....647-5662
- First Baptist**
1201 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Howard Rhodes.....647-3115
- Lee Street Baptist**
401 SW 2nd, Dimmitt
Jeff Addison
- First Christian**
600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
- La Iglesia De Dios Del Promojenito**
East Halsell Street, Dimmitt
- Presbyterian**
1600 Western Circle Drive, Dimmitt
Connie Nieto.....293-7361
- Holy Family Catholic**
Nazareth
Peter Otto.....945-2616
- Hart Church of Christ**
416 Avenue H, Hart
Aaron Lee.....938-2267

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301 SE 2nd, Dimmitt
647-3531
- Cerestar USA Dimmitt Inc.**
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945-2223
- DeBruce Grain, Inc.**
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647-2802
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- Dimmitt Ready Mix**
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Backhoe & Ditching Service
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- Dodd Gin**
Dodd, off FM 1055 on CR629
806-965-2311
- Flagg Fertilizer Co.**
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Flagg Intersection • 647-2241
- Hart Producers Co-op Gin**
Monty Phillips, Manager
938-2189
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.**
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Flooring, Garden Supplies
109 N. Broadway, Dimmitt • 647-3161
- E.M. Jones Ditching**
North Hwy. 385
647-5442
- Lockhart Pharmacy**
107 E. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-3392
- Lowe's**
Pay & Save Foods
410 Broadway, Hart • 938-2312
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Fri & Sat. 11 a.m.-midnight
216 S. Broadway, Dimmitt • 647-4233
- Red X Travel Store**
320 S. Broadway
647-4510
- Texas Equipment Company, Inc.**
Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
647-3324
- Westway Trading Corporation**
North Hwy. 385, Dimmitt
647-3138

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Water from private wells to be screened Wednesday

The Castro County Extension Service is sponsoring a water well screening day for area residents on Wednesday in the basement meeting room at the courthouse in Dimmitt. This well screening day is designed to inform private water well owners and users on the condition of their well water, and of possible contamination from two common contaminants—fecal coliform and nitrate.

The presence of fecal coliforms in water indicates that feces (bodily waste from humans or animals) may have contaminated the water. Water contaminated with feces has microorganisms present that can cause a number of "waterborne" diseases such as cholera, typhoid and dysentery. Nitrates in ground water at levels of 10 milligrams per liter (parts per million) is considered unsafe for human consumption. Nitrate levels above 10 milligrams per liter can disrupt the blood's ability to carry oxygen through the body. Nitrate is converted to nitrite, which combines with hemoglobin, the chemical that

carries oxygen in the blood, to form methemoglobin. Oxygen can not bind with methemoglobin, therefore; oxygen is not carried throughout the body. As a result, oxygen starvation occurs. This condition is called methemoglobinemia. If left untreated, death may result. Infants less than six months in age and young livestock are most susceptible.

The cost of the screening is \$3 per sample and you should contact the Castro County Extension office by calling 647-4115 to receive an approved water sampling bag and instructions for taking your well water sample. It is very important that only sampling bags from the Castro County Extension Office be used and all instructions for proper sampling followed to insure accurate results.



AWARD WINNING OFFICE—The Dimmitt office of H&R Block won an award for Region 37 for the largest increase in business in small town offices for 1998. Office personnel include (from left) employee Mary Lou Lumbra, owner Reba Holt and receptionist Glenna Holt. *Photo by Linda Maxwell*

Dimmitt H&R Block office receives award

On Nov. 16, Reba Holt of Dimmitt, owner of the H&R Block Income Tax Preparation Service office in Dimmitt, was honored with a plaque given to her by Bob Brum, West Texas franchise director, representing H&R Block Region 37 which includes Texas and Oklahoma.

Holt has owned the Dimmitt office since December 1996 and has increased the business each year. The largest increase was for the tax year 1998. Holt credits her increase on the changes she has made in her office. Those changes included extending the office's open hours during tax season, acquiring Mary Lou Lumbra as her assistant to help

Lubbock at one of the required classes H & R BLOCK provides for their preparers. Holt has owned the Dimmitt office since December 1996 and has increased the business each year. The largest increase was for the tax year 1998. Holt credits her increase on the changes she has made in her office. Those changes included extending the office's open hours during tax season, acquiring Mary Lou Lumbra as her assistant to help with tax preparation and bi-lingual services, and adding Glenna Holt of Friona as her receptionist and Marshall Young of Dimmitt as a part-time employee.

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4-H'ers plan sign-up for stock show

4-H'ers with livestock projects they plan to enter in the 2000 Castro County Junior Livestock Show should plan to fill out their entry forms Jan. 10-14, 2000. "During this week, please come by the 4-H office and sign up for this year's county stock show. All entry fees are \$15 per animal," said Castro County Extension Agents Pammy Millican and Benny Martinez. Judges for this year's stock show are Billy Copeland for lambs, Galen McCune for swine and Greg Jones for steers. For more information, contact Millican or Martinez at 647-4115.

DSEC preparing for Y2K

Electric utilities around the country are taking steps to make sure the lights stay on as the turn of the century approaches. The Y2K problem has been widely discussed and solutions have been offered and implemented. Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative is no exception. "Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative has initiated "Year 2000" assessments and remediations," said DSEC Executive Assistant Mike Veazey. "We believe this program will prepare our company to handle any problems with the coming of the new millennium."

DSEC has a comprehensive checklist of steps toward "Y2K readiness." These steps, begun many months ago, have been to inventory, assess, test, repair or replace, retest, and plan for contingencies. Veazey stated that DSEC has done assessments in all of the following areas: computer hardware and software, communications systems, critical systems, substations, and metering equipment. No major problems have been identified in DSEC equipment. Company computers have been repaired or replaced to satisfy Y2K compliance. "Much of our distribution system is mechanical and is less sensitive to Y2K problems because there are few digital controls and relatively few embedded chips in our equipment," Veazey said. Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative is also very much aware of the interconnected nature of power supply and delivery. "We are connected to New Century Energies, Southwestern Public Service's parent company, for generated wholesale power, and they, in turn, are connected to regional electric power grids. There are also many supply and delivery points all along the line, from the manufacture of our

bucket trucks to the sophisticated equipment at power generation stations," Veazey said. "The delivery of electric power is the result of the efforts of these many different and diverse organizations. Of course, Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative has no control of these various organizations and we cannot assume responsibility should one or more of these systems fail for one reason or another. "We are, however, in constant contact with our wholesale power providers and our distribution material suppliers concerning the possibility of Y2K glitches in their equipment. They have assured us that everything humanly possible is being done to alleviate any Y2K problems on their systems. "Although no one can make 100% guarantees as to what will happen when the new century arrives, Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative is taking any and all prudent steps to help keep the lights on at the arrival of the new millennium," he said. "As always, the number one priority of our cooperative is keeping the lights on whether the problem is the Y2K bug, a tornado, an ice storm, a blizzard or an evening thunderstorm."

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For more information concerning Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative's Year 2000 readiness disclosure, call 364-1166 or toll free at 1-800-687-8189.

The 67th Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of **Dimmitt Consumers** will be held at the **DIMMITT CITY HALL MEETING ROOM** Monday, Dec. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to hear the audit report, elect two board directors, and transact any business that may come before the board. Door prizes will be awarded.

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Danny Rice, Manager
217 E. Bedford 647-4134

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\$2,000 DONATION—Cerestar USA, Dimmitt, has made an \$800 donation to the Castro County Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry in Dimmitt, and has pledged an additional \$100 per month for the coming year. The pantry is administered through the

Dimmitt office of Panhandle Community Services. Here, PCS employee Jerry Peña (left) and PCS area supervisor Johnny Raymond (right) receive a check from Cerestar Plant Manager David Bone.

Photo by Linda Maxwell

Panhandle-Plains Production Credit Association is formed

The Amarillo and Plainview Production Credit Associations, two prominent farm credit institutions providing credit service to over 1,300 farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses in the Panhandle and South Plains, have merged.

The merger, as approved by their stockholder-borrowers, became effective in October.

"We are fortunate to serve this highly productive and diversified lending territory which makes a major contribution to the agricultural economy of Texas and the nation," said Carroll Haygood, the Association President.

Geographically, Panhandle-Plains PCA serves a 20-county chartered territory in the western two-thirds of the Panhandle and upper South Plains covering 20,000 square miles. The Association has \$146 million in assets.

"We believe our stockholders will benefit from combining the strengths of these organizations that include a \$30 million capital position," said Troy Christian of Farwell, board chairman of the Plainview PCA and new board chairman of Panhandle-Plains PCA. He further added that when considering efficiencies gained in operations, the association is expected to be positioned for the competitive nature and service needs of agriculture lending of this area.

Mike McLain of Gruver, Amarillo PCA's Board Chairman and now Vice-Chairman of Panhandle-Plains PCA, reports that the merger met the board's philosophy of combining two strong associations with a contiguous territory while maintaining the regional identity of this significant agriculture production area.

He further added "We will still know our stockholders and have a good understanding of their needs."

Panhandle-Plains PCA is headquartered in Amarillo with regional credit offices in both Amarillo and Plainview. Other credit offices are located in Dimmitt, Dumas, Floydada, Friona, Muleshoe, Olton, and Tulia.

The Dimmitt office of the Panhandle-Plains PCA has an important role in the association's overall business of providing credit services to farmers and ranchers, according to information from the association. Currently the office serves approximately 115 stockholder/borrowers in Castro County and surrounding areas.

The importance of Castro County to the state's agricultural economy is also highly significant, according to the association. The 1997 census of agriculture reports total agriculture sales of \$668,439,000 to lead the state in total sales. Sales of \$89,798,000 were from crop production with another \$578,672,000 from livestock sales including cattle feedlot sales.

Haygood, the former president of Amarillo PCA, further added that the association has 31 employees including 18 loan officers, and most of the staff are existing employees with significant experience.

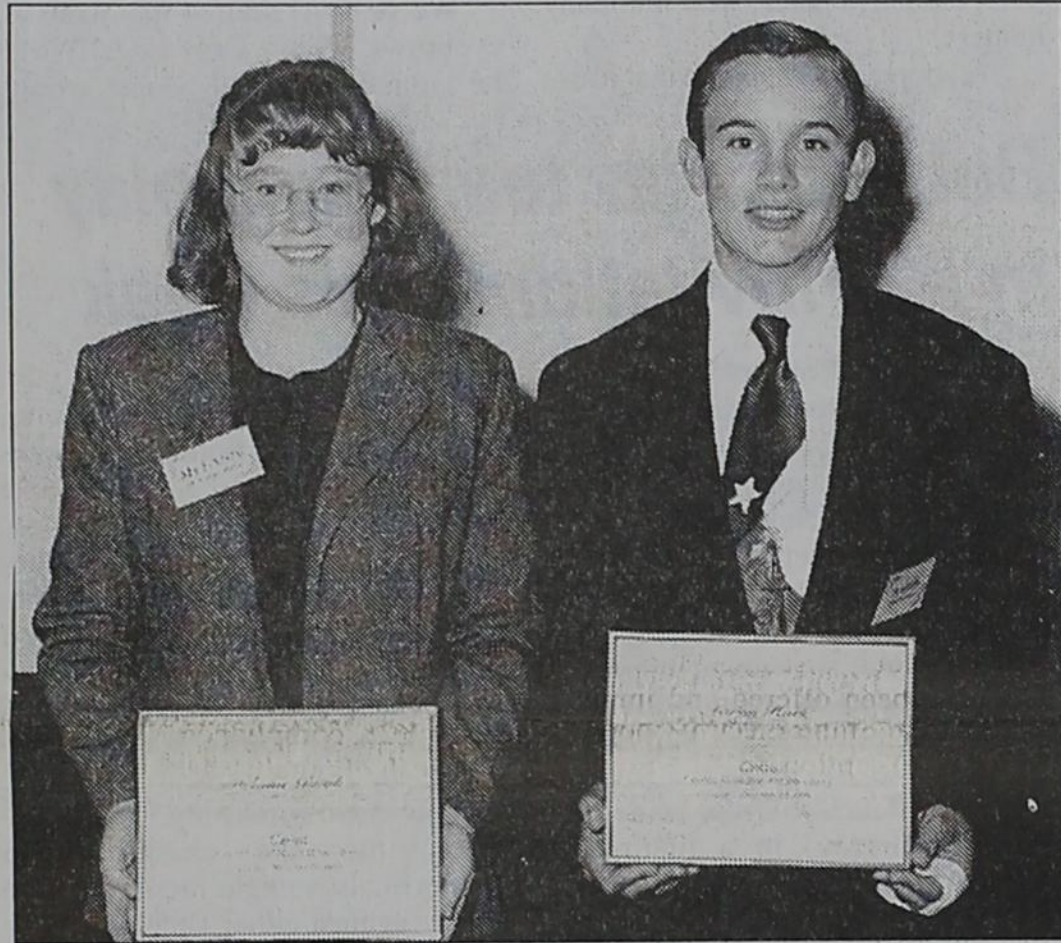
Effective with the merger, Mark L. Kleman was promoted to vice president and manager of the Dimmitt office. Kleman has 10 years experience with PCA. Accounting duties in the Dimmitt office will continue to be handled by Edna Sanders, who was worked with PCA for seven and a half years.

This lending cooperative is a Farm Credit System Institution independently owned and controlled by its stockholder-borrowers. There is a nine-member board of directors, eight of which are stockholders. Short and intermediate term loans are

made to producers with loan funds obtained from the Farm Credit Bank of Texas and from the association's own capital surplus. Panhandle-Plains PCA is one of 11 production credit associations in Texas, New Mexico, and Louisiana affiliated with

the 10th Farm Credit District.

Nation-wide all farm credit institutions inclusive of Federal Land Bank Associations and other lending cooperatives provide 35 to 40% of all loan funds to agricultural producers.



CASTRO COUNTY 4-H'ERS MELANIE BOOK AND AARON HART were recognized at the District 2 Gold Star Banquet held in Lubbock. The two were honored as Gold Star winners for Castro County. "We are extremely proud of both of our Gold Star winners for all of their 4-H accomplishments as well as all of their other accomplishments," said Benny Martinez, Castro County Extension Agent. The Gold Star award is the highest award available to 4-H members at the district level.

Cornett named Student of Week

Tyler Cornett, son of Tad and Cindi Cornett, has been named the Student of the Week in Mrs. Damron's and Mrs. Spring's rooms at Dimmitt Middle School.

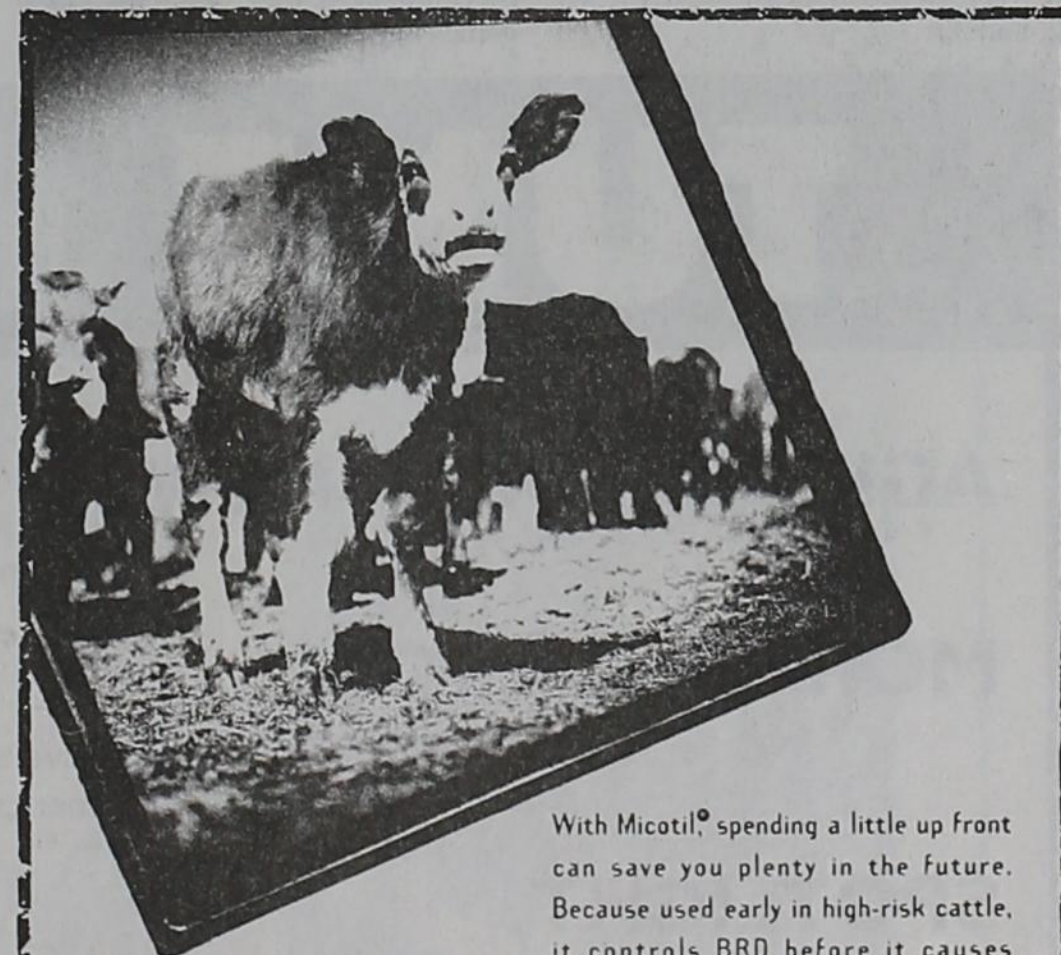
Cornett was born in Lubbock and his birthday is Nov. 24.

His favorite food is a hamburger and his favorite book is *Where the*

Red Fern Grows. He likes dogs.

Cornett says he is good in sports and he wants to be a better student in English. He likes the teachers at Dimmitt Middle School.

When he grows up, Cornett wants to be a pro football player. He admires his grandmother.



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New Century Energies discloses Y2K readiness

New Century Energies reported recently that the company is ready for the Y2K transition, and does not expect any disruption of services to customers.

Comprised of three primary operating utilities, including Southwestern Public Service Co. based in Amarillo, NCE Year 200 Program Manager Robert C. Ray said, "We believe the likelihood of Y2K-related failures is minimal, and we do not expect the transition to cause electricity or natural gas outages for our customers on Dec. 31 or thereafter."

Ray reported that the company reached completion of work on all critical systems and equipment in June, and work has continued on low-priority systems, testing and contingency planning.

"Even though we feel confident that our systems are ready to make the Y2K date transition today, we will continue our comprehensive testing and contingency planning through the remainder of the year," Ray said.

Ray said the company has completed Y2K reevaluation and testing on 91 high-and medium-critical application systems (involved in energy supply, customer information and records, and internal accounting and financial reporting). These systems have been tested and are back in service under normal operating conditions. He said work has also been completed on low-critical systems and vendor upgrades have been installed on over 600 hardware and software products.

Ray reported that all critical embedded systems are considered Y2K ready, including 44 generating units. Also, all major power plants are now operating in the Year 2000.

"By moving clocks forward, we were able to verify reliable operation under future dates," Ray said. "We intend to leave these plants operating under 'future time' until well after the New Year's transition."

Key suppliers for the company have been monitored to gauge their Y2K readiness levels, and will continue to be monitored before, during and after the Dec. 31 transition date.

Although problems are not expected, Ray said the company has developed response procedures for "worst-case Scenarios" such as a loss of communications or a disruption in the national electricity grid.

"We have identified additional staff and technicians who will be on site Dec. 31 to help deal with any unexpected issues," Ray said. "We also will have media information centers staffed that evening in several cities to help communicate any necessary updates or information to the public."

The company's original estimate for the cost of the Y2K preparedness

program was \$25, and was later revised to \$18.5 million, with the most recent estimate set at \$16.5 million.

For additional information and

final updates, call the company's Y2K hotline at (303)294-2000 or visit the company's web site at www.ncenergies.com/y2k

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8 p.m.

Castro County Expo Building, Dimmitt

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- '99 F150 XL PICKUP, 21910.....\$15,882
- '97 GRAND MARQUIS, Leather, 21865.....\$15,628
- '96 CONTINENTAL, 21908.....\$14,614
- '96 MYSTIQUE, 21650.....\$7,994
- '98 RANGER, 35340P.....\$13,993
- '97 F250 CREW CAB, Diesel, 21915.....\$17,025
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Sports



HAPPY HUNTERS—Three hunters from Michigan show their near-limit of mallard and pintail drakes on the last day of a five-day "dream trip" of hunting ducks and geese on Castro County's playa lakes. On the left is Scott Gray and on the right is his brother, Matt, who does playa-lake

research here as a PhD candidate in Texas Tech's Range & Wildlife Management program. In center is the younger men's uncle, Barry Pratt. They described the waterfowl hunting here as "fantastic," and said they also enjoyed the people and the food here. *Photo by Don Nelson*

Michigan waterfowlers praise the hunting here

By DON NELSON

Ernest Hemingway wrote of the great goose hunting *Up in Michigan*, a state famous for its lakes and wild-life.

So why would three sons of Michigan come all the way to Castro County, Texas, to hunt ducks and geese?

"There's fantastic hunting here—some of the best in the country," said Barry Pratt, who spent five days here last week with his two nephews, Scott and Matt Gray.

Pratt is a district circulation manager for the daily *Flint Journal*, and Scott Gray is a deputy sheriff. Both men live in Flushing, Mich., near Flint, and both are champion duck callers.

Matt Gray is already known to a few local residents. He's a doctoral candidate in Texas Tech's Range & Wildlife Management program, and spends six months of the year doing research on playa lakes in Castro County.

Matt was the "front man" for the trio's dream trip.

"I like to take a trip a year, and I've been wanting to come here for years," Pratt said. "It intrigued me—the playa lakes, with not many hunters.

"As soon as Matt landed that job at

Tech, I called him, and he said, 'Come on down'."

They had not been here long before they had a pair of flat tires.

"We went into Kenny Paxton's place (Paxton Tire & Service), madder than a hornet over those flat tires, and Kenny kinda took us under his wing.

"Matt had already gotten permission for us to hunt on three or four different lakes, then Kenny helped us out and got permission from some of his friends. We got to hunt on six or seven different lakes."

In fact, the men said, Paxton and his wife, Anne, and Nanu Patel and his wife, Veena, at the Sands Motel became "like family" to them during their week here.

"Kenny and his wife even had us out to dinner on our last night here," Pratt said. "Nanu and Veena set us up with extra storage space for all of our decoys, and he ran me downtown to find freezer space for our birds. Where else can you get taken care of like that?"

The men's main interest here was ducks. And that puzzled a few of the locals.

"We've never seen so many raised eyebrows," Barry Gray said. "We'd be around town and people would

ask us what we're doing here and we'd say, 'We're hunting ducks,' and you'd see the eyebrows shoot up and they'd say, 'You're WHAT?'"

They bagged five species of ducks here—mallards, pintails, greenwing teal, American widgeons (also called baldpates), and northern shovelers. They also got their limits of Canada geese several days.

(They were careful about both their bag and possession limits on the various species.)

How does waterfowl hunting in Castro County compare with Michigan's?

"I've hunted in about 12 different states and a couple of provinces of Canada," Pratt said, "and this is just fantastic hunting here."

"There are definitely a lot more birds here and a lot less hunters than where we live," Scott Gray said. "Up there, we've got places where we hunt where on a weekend there'll be a hundred people hunting in a hundred mapped-out parts in a small managed area. It's very competitive hunting, with a lottery type system.

"There's nothing like this in Michigan at all," he continued. "It's very enjoyable to hunt with no one else around to mess up your hunting.

"And here, you have the opportunity to find the birds, get permission from the land owners, and just hunt 'em. That's one of the most enjoyable parts of the hunt here—the land owners are just wonderful. 'No problem,' they'll say, 'just respect our land.'"

"You don't find that in Michigan. You can't get permission hardly at all, anywhere."

(The three men expressed their special thanks to land owners Kent Gabel, Richard Hunter, Dan Nelson, Steve Nutt and Bill Potts.)

"We've had some lifetime memories here, and we saw thousands and thousands of birds," Pratt said. "It can't get any better than that. I would say it compares quite well with Manitoba, Canada, and with Kansas. I've seen things like a thousand pintails on a playa lake here. You don't see that anywhere else.

"And the land! Matt had told us what the land was like. It's flat and it's beautiful, and these sunrises have been just beautiful.

"And the food. You guys have got steaks here to kill for!

"And wonderful people—you couldn't get better people."

"Yeah," Scott chimed in, "there's a bunch of other good stuff to come here for besides just the hunting trip."

Pratt and Scott Gray spent two days driving from Flushing, Mich., to Dimmitt. They hunted with Matt here from Monday through Friday, then spent Saturday and Sunday driving home.

As his brother and uncle loaded up Friday for their return trip to Michigan, Matt Gray commented, "I'm sure they'll be back next year."

THE CASTRO COUNTY NEWS PRESENTS

POWER POINTS

THE ULTIMATE FOOTBALL CONTEST

WIN \$1,000.00 WEEKLY

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WEEK 14	
Games of Dec. 12 - 13	
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15	
14	
13	
12	
11	
10	
9	
8	
7	
6	
5	
4	
3	
2	Free points -- No college
1	Free point -- No college

136 TOTAL POINTS

Name _____

Address _____

City, State(zip) _____

Day Phone() _____

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HOW TO PLAY

Select a winner from each of the week's games, listed below. Select in descending order of your CONFIDENCE in your choices. Win points at left for each correct selection toward possible total of 136 points. See complete rules below. You must be at least 8 (eight) years old to enter. To enter, clip along dotted line, then place game entry in POWER POINTS container at co-sponsor's retail outlet(s). Entrants must list name, address and phone number below.

LIMIT: You may enter only once weekly.

DEADLINE: 2 P.M. FRIDAY

TIEBREAKER 1 Total points scored (both teams) in COWBOYS game.

TIEBREAKER 2 Total offensive yards (both teams) in this game.

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Arizona at Washington	NY Giants at Buffalo
Atlanta at San Francisco	Philadelphia at Dallas
Baltimore at Pittsburgh	St. Louis at New Orleans
Carolina at Green Bay	San Diego at Seattle
Cleveland at Cincinnati	Minnesota at Kansas City
Detroit at Tampa Bay	Denver at Jacksonville
Miami at NY Jets	
New England at Indianapolis	

LOCALLY WIN \$20 WEEKLY!

Deposit Your Entries at Castro County News 108 West Bedford by 2 p.m. Friday

POWER POINTS OFFICIAL RULES

- Object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points as you can. Simply review the week's schedule of games, listed on entry form, and decide which game you are SUREST of picking a winner in. Write the name of your projected winner on the 16-point line. If that team wins its game that week, you win 16 points. Write the name of your second-surest winner on the 15-point line, and so on down to the 1-point line, which game you figure to be a toss-up. Next, fill in Tiebreaker 1, the total points scored by both teams in the week's designated game. If this step fails to produce a winner, the judges will apply Tiebreaker 2, total offensive yardage from scrimmage in this game. If a winner still doesn't emerge, a drawing will be held among those contestants still tied. Decisions of the judges are final. The weekly statewide winner of the contest will receive \$1,000.
- Any entry form that does not contain a legible name, address, etc., will be disqualified.
- Entries that fail to forecast a winner from each and every game will be disqualified, as will entries that fail to distinguish between the Jets and Giants of New York and other similar teams.
- No points are awarded on tie games or in case any game is not played for any reason during its scheduled week.
- Entering POWER POINTS constitutes permission by contestant for his or her name and photograph to be used for news and reasonable promotional purposes at no charge.
- Employees of this newspaper and their immediate families are ineligible to participate.
- Any inquiry about or protest of weekly results must be made by noon on the Friday following the announcement of winners.
- No purchase necessary. Facsimile game entry forms will be accepted. Enter contest by dropping entry form into POWER POINTS container at participating co-sponsors.
- Weekly deadline for entry will be 2 p.m. Fridays except when noted otherwise on weekly entry form.
- Neither this newspaper nor any co-sponsor will be responsible for illegible entry forms or those lost, stolen or damaged in any way.
- Limit one entry per person per week. Each entry must represent the original work of one entrant; "group" entries, "systems" or other attempts to enter multiple entries will be disqualified. Filing out extra forms and putting your friends' and relatives' names on them violates this rule. Any such entries are destroyed prior to grading.
- Contestants must have reached the age of eight (8) years by the Sunday of any week's play.

Bobcats, Naz teams will play in I-27 Invitational this week

The Dimmitt Bobcats and Nazareth Swifts and Swiftettes will be competing in the big I-27 Invitational Tournament this weekend in Abernathy, Hale Center and New Deal.

The Bobcats open tournament play today (Thursday) against Trinity at 1:30 p.m. at Hale Center.

The Swifts' first-round opponent will be Abernathy's junior varsity, and tip-off will be 4:30 p.m. today (Thursday) at Abernathy.

The Swiftettes will face Littlefield today (Thursday) in a first-round matchup at 12 noon in Hale Center.

If Dimmitt wins today (Thursday), the Bobcats will meet either Hale Center or Muleshoe in a champion-

ship quarterfinal game at 7:30 p.m. tonight (Thursday) at Hale Center. Losers of the two first-round games will meet Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Hale Center.

The Swifts will play either Whiteface or Littlefield in the second game, with the championship quarters slated for 10:30 a.m. Friday at Abernathy and the consolation quarters planned for 1:30 p.m. Friday at Hale Center.

For the Swiftettes, a win over Littlefield this morning will move them into the championship quarterfinals tonight at 6 at Hale Center against either Hale Center or Tulia. A first-round loss would drop the Swiftettes into the consolation bracket, where they would face the Hale Center-Tulia loser Friday at 9 a.m.

DHS artists are displaying their work now

The Dimmitt High School Art Club is sponsoring an art show featuring original works by students studying art in the fall semester.

The students' work will be displayed at Rhoads Memorial Library through Friday and the art may be viewed during regular library hours. The public is invited to attend.

This year, there are three levels of art represented in the show: Art 1, Art 2, and Art 3/4.

TUNE IN!

AGRICULTURAL NEWS	6 to 7 a.m.
	and 12:15 to 12:50 p.m., M-F
MORNING SHOW	7 to 8 a.m. daily
	Weather forecast, local news, birthdays, anniversaries, American Folk Song, school lunch menus, Great American Farmer, Good Neighbor
SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL TALENT	8 a.m. daily
MARKET REPORTS	40 past the hour, starting at 9:40 a.m., M-F

KDHN 1470

Bobbies finish a basket short in games at Levelland tourney

The Dimmitt Bobbies came so close to winning two games in the Levelland Tournament, but they finished a basket shy against Idalou in the first round last Thursday and wound up two-points short in Friday's consolation semifinal with Slaton.

Idalou handed the Bobbies their first loss in the tournament, using a big second quarter to take a lead that held up through the waning minutes for a 42-40 win.

Idalou held an 8-7 lead in the first period, then extended that edge to a 27-18 lead.

Dimmitt got on track in the second half and managed to outscore Idalou 22-15, but the Bobbies ran out of time in their comeback bid.

Carol Summers paved the way for the Bobbies attack with an 11-point performance last Thursday.

Summers also chipped in 11 points while Heather Black added 14 in a 51-49 overtime loss to Slaton in the consolation semifinal Friday.

After taking an 18-11 lead in the first quarter against Slaton, Dimmitt allowed the Lady Tigers back into the game in the second quarter and held a slim 28-26 lead after the first 16 minutes.

Slaton outscored the Bobbies 8-7 in the third and 8-7 in the fourth quarters to send the game into the bonus frame, then managed to claim a two-point lead in the extra period

for the win.

Dimmitt was scheduled to face El Paso Burgess Saturday morning in the seventh-place game, but poor weather conditions forced a cancellation of the game.

Breast cancer screening is set for Jan. 6

A breast cancer screening clinic will be held at Plains Memorial Hospital in Dimmitt on Jan. 6, 2000, and appointments are now being accepted.

Those who wish to have an exam should call 1-800-377-4673 or (806) 356-1905 to schedule an appointment.

The clinic is being conducted by the Women's Center of the Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer Center and Baptist/St. Anthony's Health System.

Participants will receive a low-cost screening that includes a mammogram and instruction in self-examination by a registered nurse.

Funding is available through the Texas Dept. of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women.



CASSIE BIRKENFELD of Nazareth drives the lane and hits a short jumper against Perryton last Thursday in first-round action of the Canyon Classic. The Swiftettes beat Perryton, but fell to Canyon in the second round. Nazareth's third-place game was canceled because of the weather.

Photo by Dwayne Acker

Naz girls fall to Canyon in tournament semifinals

The Nazareth Swiftettes dropped their first game of the season Friday night, losing to the nationally-ranked Canyon Lady Eagles, 63-31, in the championship semifinals of the Canyon Classic.

The loss to Canyon dropped Nazareth into the third-place game with Tascosa, but that game was canceled Saturday because of the weather.

The Swiftettes had qualified for the semifinals with a 61-42 win over Perryton in first-round action last Thursday.

In that first game, Nazareth jumped out to a 16-8 first-quarter lead, using an aggressive full-court pressure defense to rattle the taller Rangerettes.

Nazareth would claim a 29-16 lead at halftime and led by as many as 15 in the third quarter before the Perryton girls, led by 6-0 post Courtney Nowlin, started a comeback.

Perryton outscored Nazareth 20-10 to cut the Swiftette lead to three by the end of the third quarter, then managed to tie the game early in the fourth before the Swiftettes called a time out, regrouped and switched to a slower-paced game.

Nazareth hit a couple of three-pointers to regain its lead and the Swiftettes never looked back, using a 22-6 fourth-quarter surge to put the game away in the final minutes.

Leading the Swiftettes' attack

against Perryton was Shawna Gerber, who had 20 points. Cassie Birkenfeld added 16 for Nazareth.

Gerber was the Swiftettes' top offensive performer against Canyon Friday night, finishing with a team-high 14 points.

Canyon held a 12-6 lead after the first quarter and was up 27-11 at the break. Over the second half, the powerful Lady Eagles outscored Nazareth 20-36 for the win.

The Swiftettes' defense held Canyon to its fewest points in the tournament a 63, and they scored more than any other team the Lady Eagles faced in the tourney. In the first round, Canyon topped Muleshoe, 100-22; then the Lady Eagles beat Panhandle, 86-26.

Nazareth group plans steak meal

The Nazareth Museum will sponsor a steak supper and raffle on opening day of pheasant season, which is Saturday.

The meal, which includes steak, baked potatoes and all the trimmings, will be served from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Nazareth Community Hall.

Cost for the meal is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the museum.

Good Luck, Bobcats

in the **Abernathy Tournament!**

FIRST GAME: Bobcats vs. Trinity

Thursday, 1:30 p.m., at Hale Center

Schedule and Scores

Dec. 9-11 Abernathy Tournament (Boys), Abernathy
 Dec. 17—Frona, There
 Dec. 18—Lubbock Coronado, Here
 Dec. 28-30—Caprock Tournament, Lubbock
 Dec. 31—Littlefield, There
 Jan. 4—Slaton, Here
 Jan. 7—Muleshoe (Boys), There
 Jan. 7—*Perryton (Girls), There
 Jan. 11—*Tulia, Here
 Jan. 14—*River Road, There
 Jan. 18—*Sanford-Fritch, Here
 Jan. 21—*Dalhart, There
 Jan. 25—*Tulia, There
 Jan. 28—*Perryton, Here
 Feb. 1—*Sanford-Fritch, There
 Feb. 4—*River Road, Here
 Feb. 8—*Dalhart, Here
 Feb. 11—*Perryton (Boys), There
 Feb. 25-26—Girls Regional, Lubbock
 Mar. 3-4—Boys Regional, Lubbock
 Mar. 2-4—Girls State, Austin
 Mar. 9-11—Boys State, Austin

Bobbies

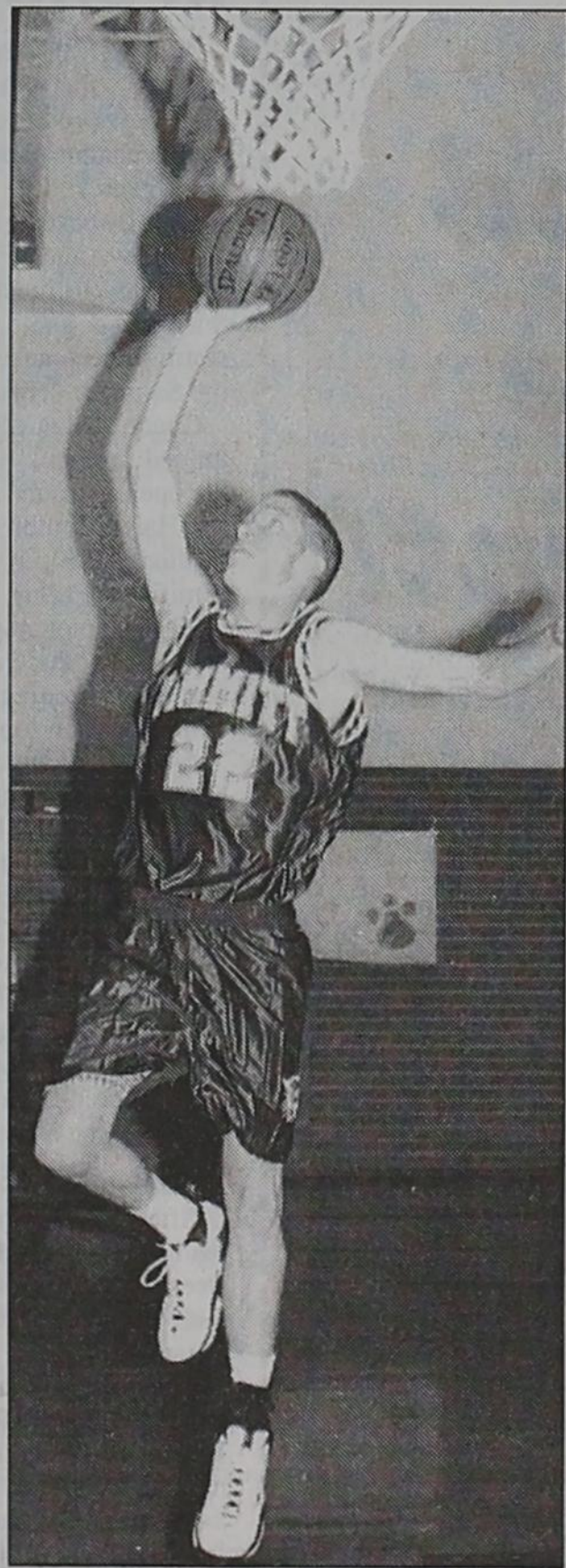
32, Randall 56
 32, Levelland 37
 31, Borger 66
Queen's Classic
 27, Plainview 66
 62, Vega 69
 55, Hale Center 40
 35, Hereford 49
Levelland Invitational
 40, Idalou 42
 49, Slaton 51
 57, Muleshoe 59
 Season Record: 1-9

Bobcats

54, Randall 61
 69, Levelland 60
 67, Borger 60
 74, Farwell 57
 60, Hereford 33
Pioneer Classic
 67, Estacado 66
 47, Hale Center 50
 78, Muleshoe 72
 Season Record: 6-2



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| Don's Wrecker Service & Body Shop | Dimmitt Thriftway/Dimmitt Market |
| El Sombrero Restaurant | Tidwell Spraying Service |
| First United Bank of Dimmitt | Town & Country Insurance |
| Gary's Engine & Machine | Western Ford-Lincoln-Mercury |
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| Don Hargrove Construction | |

Swifts are young, but experienced

The Nazareth Swifts are incredibly young this season, but most of those young players boast a lot of varsity experience and Coach Mike Scarbrough hopes that experience will carry his team deep into the playoffs again.

Nazareth got a late start in the gym because the Swifts advanced to the regional playoffs in football, but the Swifts' success on the field has spurred them to seek success on the court, too.

Only two seniors are included on this year's roster—6-0 post players Cameron McLain and Stanton Wethington. Both are returning starters.

The rest of the roster features five sophomores and two freshmen.

Of those sophomores, two are returning full-time starters from last year—5-10 twin guards Kade Wilcox and Ky Wilcox. Another sophomore, 6-0 post Daryl Pohlmeier, was a part-time starter last year.

Two other sophomores on the list, 5-9 guard Blake Birkenfeld and 5-10 guard Jase Merritt each earned valuable varsity experience when they were freshmen a year ago.

Newcomers to the Swifts' roster this season are 6-3 freshman post Eric Schilling and 6-0 freshman guard Tyler Ehly.

Scarbrough plans to use McLain



Swifts' Tip-off

and Wethington as his starting post players, with the Wilcox twins starting at the guards. Birkenfeld gets the starting nod at point guard.

"We're still young, even though we've got a lot of experience. We had some good participation this summer and we've invested quite a bit of time in the season already," Scarbrough said. "This year we're going to stress improvement in our

post game. We feel like we have to have more balanced scoring to take our game to the next level.

"We have high expectations of ourselves with the returning varsity experience. So far, our effort and attitude have been good—we're just trying to get healthy."

McLain has been on varsity for three years and Scarbrough says he's one of the team's best post defenders. A year ago, McLain chipped in around four points per game.

"Cameron is a good leader, he's quick and he's a good all-around athlete," Scarbrough said.

Wethington, who averaged about six points per game last year, is expected to provide a lot of strong rebounding inside.

"Stanton's a great leaper and he's a physical player inside. We hope to get a little more point production out of him this season."

The Wilcox brothers are both sound, all-around players who could be among the team's top scorers.

Kade Wilcox led the team in scoring last year with an 18-point-per-game average. Ky Wilcox averaged 11 points last year.

"Kade is a good shooter and ballhandler. He's one of our top scorers, and we hope he'll develop other areas of his game," Scarbrough said. "Ky is also one of our top scorers. We hope he'll take on an even bigger role as a scorer and rebounder this season."

Birkenfeld is a solid player who is fundamentally sound and Scarbrough says he makes good decisions on the court.

"Blake's a tough defender and he can shoot the ball," Scarbrough said.

Pohlmeier should see a lot of playing time and Scarbrough said he's looking for more production out of the post player this year with a year of maturity.

"Daryl's a sound post and he's becoming more physical. He plays good post defense," Scarbrough added.

Merritt gained a little bit of varsity experience a year ago, and that should be a plus for the Swifts as he will see action off the bench. Merritt's strengths are defense and good fundamental skills.

Schilling brings "much-needed size as well as a strong inside threat" to the Swifts' lineup, according to Scarbrough. He can score inside, but he's also a threat to bury shots from the outside and three-point range.

Ehly is quick and is a good defen-



THE NAZARETH SWIFTS might be young, but most of the team members logged valuable varsity minutes last year. Team members are (from left)

Blake Birkenfeld, Ky Wilcox, Tyler Ehly, Cameron McLain, Eric Schilling, Stanton Wethington, Daryl Pohlmeier, Kade Wilcox and Jase Merritt.

Photo by Brenda Schulte

sive player, and Scarbrough hopes he'll mature quickly and develop into someone he can look to for some quality play off the bench.

"Overall, I think our shooting as a team may be stronger from top to bottom," Scarbrough said. "Some of that has to do with maturing, the work over the summer and the talent of the freshmen coming in."

"Defensively, we're still going to attempt to play man-to-man. We felt like we laid the foundation for a solid defense last year. To be successful, we're going to have to be one of the better defensive teams in the state. I do think that our defense is an area in which we've shown improvement."

"We may run some full-court and three-quarter man presses and we might trap a little in the half-court, it just depends on who we're playing. Last year we played a lot of full-court man, trying to keep pressure on the ball and take the other team out of their rhythm."

Scarbrough describes the members of this year's squad as a "cohesive unit. They're tight and they're driven to be successful. But even though we've got a lot of experience, we're still young. We need to develop some depth at the guard positions and our post play and rebounding needs to improve."

"We would like to continue the success we had last year and build upon that."

The Swifts have a tough non-dis-

trict schedule, comprised mainly of teams from higher classifications. The Swifts also are in a couple of tough tournaments, including the big I-27 Invitational and Caprock ABC Holiday Tournament. Scarbrough hopes those tough games will pay off in the long run.

The district schedule is tough, too, with several of the teams returning a lot of talented, experienced players.

"I think our district race is going to be a little stronger because a lot of teams return a lot of experience," Scarbrough said. "Hart has a good core of solid players back and they're going to be tough. Sudan and Springlake-Earth also have some experienced players returning and Vega should be improved. I think the district is going to be stronger overall."



IN FLIGHT—Dimmitt's Daniel Flores (20) takes off and sinks a shot over the head of Hale Center defenders Friday in a championship semifinal game at the Pioneer Classic in Plainview. Flores and the Bobcats fell to the Owls in overtime, 50-47. Dimmitt was scheduled to face Muleshoe for third place, but that game was canceled because of the weather. On Tuesday, the Bobcats and Mules met in a regular season game and Dimmitt won in triple overtime. Also pictured is Dimmitt's Taylor Matthews (13).

Photo by Carter Townsend

Bobcats split two games in shortened tournament

Although it was cut short by the weather, the Pioneer Classic in Plainview provided the Bobcats with some valuable experience in a pair of close games.

The Bobcats got two rounds in Thursday and Friday, and were scheduled to meet Muleshoe in the third-place game when the snowstorm forced cancellation of much of the Saturday schedule.

Coach Alan Steidle's Bobcats topped Lubbock Estacado, 67-66, in the opening round Thursday and lost to Hale Center in an overtime thriller, 47-50, in the championship semifinals Friday.

Hale Center and Plainview were able to play the championship game Saturday evening, with Plainview coming out on top, 62-52.

As it turned out, a third-place game between Dimmitt and Muleshoe probably would have warmed the Hutcherson Center up Saturday. The Bobcats and Mules met in a regular-season game here Tuesday night and took it to a triple overtime before the Mules prevailed, 78-73.

Dimmitt's Daniel Flores, who rang up a hefty 53 points, 15 rebounds and 13 credits in two games, was named to the all-tournament team.

Bobcats 67, Estacado 66

After working their way to a 16-13 lead in the first quarter, the Bobcats stretched it to 34-21 by halftime, then held off a second-half charge by Estacado to take the win in their opening-round game.

An 18-8 second quarter put the Bobcats in the catbird seat, and they needed every bit of their 13-point halftime pad as the Matadors struck for 21 points in the third and 24 in the fourth.

The Bobcats maintained their steady scoring pace in the third (15) and fourth (18), and it turned out to be enough for the victory, if not enough to cure nail-biting.

Flores burned the nets for 34 points, including five of 10 three-point shots, to lead all scorers. He also grabbed eight rebounds and had seven credits.

Sammy Prieto led the Bobcats in floor play with 12 credits

Bobcats 47, Hale Center 50

In the championship semifinals, the Bobcats built a slow-but-sure 20-11 halftime lead over Hale Center, but the Owls came back in the second half to tie it at 42-42 before the final buzzer, then won the overtime battle 8-5 for a 50-47 win.

Dimmitt's full-court defense held Hale Center to only three field goals in the first half—all of them by Jared Horsford. The rest of the Owls' first-half points came on scattered free throws.

Meanwhile, Prieto scored two field goals, Keevin Sanders swished one and Flores sank a trey to give Dimmitt a 9-4 advantage in the first period. Flores warmed up with five more points in the second quarter, while Matthews scored four and Daniel Proffitt two to extend Dimmitt's advantage to 20-11 by halftime.

The Bobcats increased their output to 14 points in the third—mostly on baskets by Flores and Matthews—but Hale Center's Nick Shaver, Gene Ford and Jason Needham led a 20-point charge that cut Dimmitt's lead to three, 34-31.

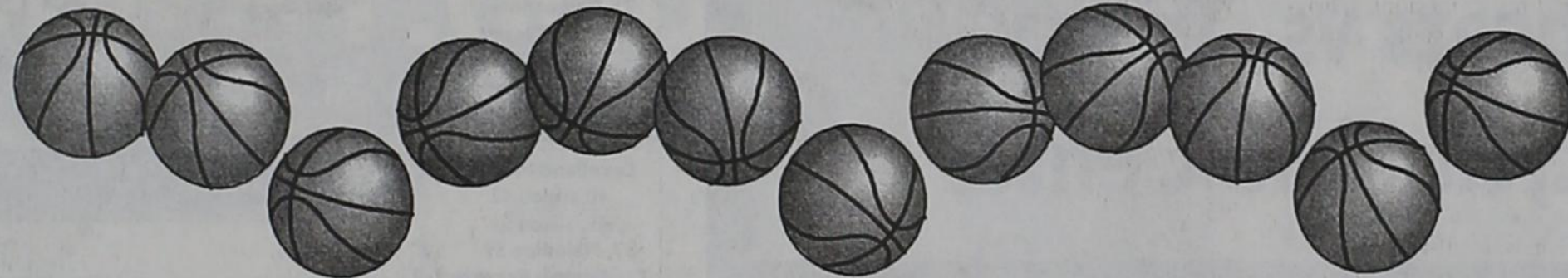
Dimmitt could muster only eight points in the fourth, with two field goals by Matthews and one by B. J. Hill, plus free throws by Hill and Sanders, while the Owls closed the gap with 11 points, led by Tyson Johnson's five, to knot the score at 42 by the buzzer.

Ford paced the Owls in overtime, scoring five of their eight points. Flores notched all five of Dimmitt's OT points.

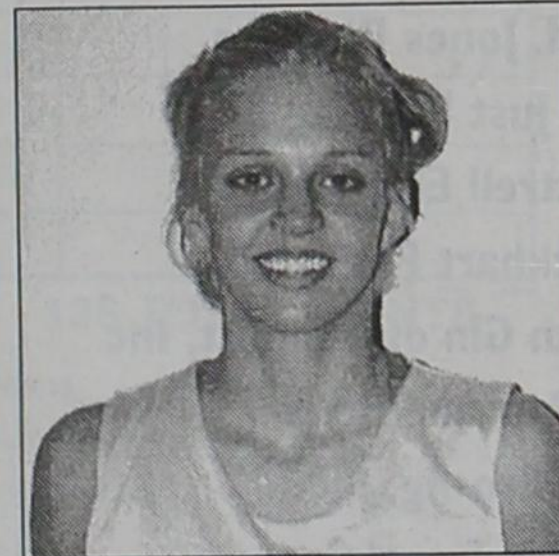
MEET THE NAZARETH SWIFTS

Cameron McLain	6-0	Post	Sr.
Stanton Wethington	6-0	Post	Sr.
Daryl Pohlmeier	6-0	Post	So.
Ky Wilcox	5-10	Guard	So.
Kade Wilcox	5-10	Guard	So.
Blake Birkenfeld	5-9	Guard	So.
Jase Merritt	5-10	Guard	So.
Eric Schilling	6-3	Post	Fr.
Tyler Ehly	6-0	Guard	Fr.

Head Coach: Mike Scarbrough
Assistant Coach: Rick Price and Buster Brown



Cassie Birkenfeld
Senior Guard



Sara Schulte
Senior Forward

Good Luck, Swiftettes and Swifts in the I-27 Tournament!

SWIFTETTES FIRST GAME: Swiftettes vs. Littlefield, Thursday, 12 noon, at Hale Center
SWIFTS FIRST GAME: Swifts vs. Abernathy JV, Thursday, 4:30 p.m., at Abernathy

TUESDAY: Swiftettes & Swifts vs. Tulia, There

NAZARETH, TEXAS ★ HOME OF CHAMPIONS!

- Agro Distribution, L.L.C.
- Kent Birkenfeld Seed Co.
- Castro County Hospital District
- Castro County News
- Cerestar USA, Inc.
- Chubby Buns II
- Dale's Auto & Salvage
- Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative
- First United Bank of Dimmitt

- Hereford Texas Federal Credit Union
- Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.
- Nazareth Booster Club
- Naz Stop
- George Nelson Trucking, Inc.
- The 19th Hole
- Pro-Ag, Inc.
- Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt
- Thriftyway Supermarket/Dimmitt Market

Rivera wins Chamber's \$100 drawing

Teresa Rivera and Cecilia Rodriguez, both of Dimmitt, and Patti Kern of Nazareth were winners in the Dec. 2 drawing for Dimmitt Dollars.

The holiday give-away is sponsored by the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce.

Rivera, who registered at Seale Florist, was the \$100 winner for the week. Rodriguez and Kern, who both registered at Alco, won \$10 apiece.

That trio joins Betty Burnett (\$100 winner), Dan Goldsmith and Kelly Taylor (\$10 winners), who were winners in the first drawing on Nov. 18.

Additional drawings for Dimmitt Dollars will be held on Friday, Dec. 16 and Dec. 23, with \$120 in local shopping certificates to be awarded each week.

Signs are displayed in the windows of participating merchants, and additional information is available at the Dimmitt Chamber of Commerce, 647-2524.

Wilcox Memorial Classic Jackpot is slated for Saturday

The Aaron Wilcox Memorial Classic Jackpot will be held Saturday and Sunday at the quonset barns adjacent to the Expo Building in Dimmitt.

The lamb show will be held Saturday. This year organizers have added a swine show to the event, and it will be held Sunday.

Entry fees for the lamb show are \$20 per head if received by 8 p.m. Friday or \$25 if received on Saturday.

Animals will be allowed into the barn at 6 p.m. Friday. Weight cards will be due by 9 a.m. on Saturday. The show is slated to start at 11 a.m.

Entry fee for the swine show on Sunday is \$20 per head if entries are received by 5 p.m. on Saturday. Late entries will be charged \$25.

Youngsters may bring their swine projects to the barn beginning Saturday at 5 p.m. Weight cards are due by 10 a.m. on Sunday. The pig show will start at 12:30 p.m.

Only Texas exhibitors will be allowed to compete in the show, and all must be 4-H or FFA members. All exhibitors must be academically eligible according to UIL rules.

For more information about the show, contact Jim Wright at 647-2477 (home) or 647-6897 (mobile), Pammy Millican or Benny Martinez at 647-4115, or Jerry Mathis at 647-3105.

Nazareth

with Uirgie Gerber, 945-2669

Once more we are to be thankful for electricity as we were without again due to the blizzard that we were really not ready for. We did receive several inches of wet snow that we needed.

Saturday evening mass in Holy Family Church was a beautiful candlelight service, and since the power was still out Sunday morning, that service was also by candlelight.

The retreat for high school students and the Christian Mothers Christmas party on Sunday were both canceled due to bad roads.

Cyril and Mitzie Brockman and Rose Mary Ramaekers hosted their Santa party on Wednesday with a very good crowd attending. Donations were accepted for the Holy Family Charity Fund in memory of their parents, Leonard and Alma Conrad, and their aunt, Cecilia Herzog.

This weekend, the Nazareth Museum Group will host its annual steak supper and raffle. The meal will be served Saturday evening. The "seasoned steaks" were great last year, so come out and enjoy one this year with the pheasant hunters.

Family and friends attended the marriage celebration of Kelly Jean Jones and Jarrod Dale Brown Saturday afternoon at the First Baptist Church in Happy. A reception followed at the Larren Jones' home in Nazareth.

Prayers are asked for Florene Brockman, Lori Huseman, Sue Schneider, Leonard Gerber, Leonard Wilhelm, Anna Huseman, Paul Venhaus, Gene Schacher, Alvin Anderle and Virgil Brockman.

The growl of the male Howler monkey sounds like the roar of a lion.



RIDE 'EM, COWBOY—Greg Fuller is a bullrider for the Men's Rodeo Team at Texas Tech University, where he is a student, and he has captured top honors in two major rodeo events this fall. Fuller is the son of Nancy and Bruce Fuller of Dimmitt. *Courtesy Photo*

Fuller captures phenomenal title

Greg Fuller of Lubbock, a student at Texas Tech University, has won top honors at two major rodeo events.

Fuller, 21, is the son of Nancy and Bruce Fuller of Dimmitt. He is majoring in ag communications at Tech. He is attending school on a rodeo scholarship and is the bullrider for the Texas Tech's Men's Rodeo Team, along with Indian Nation bullrider Andy Thomas, an architecture major who came from Arizona to join the team.

Fuller won over \$9,000 in cash and prizes at "The World's Largest Bull Riding Event," held Nov. 26-27 in Farmington, N.M. He competed against over 200 of the world's top bullriders, winning out with 89.5 points for his ride on Glen Southwick's bull, #234-Red Rum.

Top Professional Bull Riders and Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association stock from around the southwest was contracted for the event by Casper Baca, a world-renowned professional stock contractor. The event was sponsored by Coors Beer, Best Western Inn & Suites, Top Deck Night Club and KOBTV.

Fuller is currently ranked in the top four in the Southwestern Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. He hopes to qualify for this year's College National Finals, which will be held in Casper, Wyo.

Fuller also recently won top honors at the Texas Tech 50th Anniversary Rodeo, held at the Livestock Pavilion at the South Plains Fair Grounds Oct. 21-23 in Lubbock.

He won first in the bullriding event with a total of 153 points from his two rides.

After a 69-point ride in the long-round from the Friday morning slack, Fuller came back to the short-round on Saturday night in the last hole. He scored 84 points in the short-round on Dee Latham's bull, #560 Tango.

Fuller also participated in the rodeo ceremonies at the beginning of

each performance by presenting a riderless horse in memory of the late Jack Auffer, a well-known Lubbock resident who was the owner and operator of the Lubbock Horse Auction and a strong supporter of rodeo.

Fuller and his cousin, John Fuller, both were friends of Auffer and had worked for him at his horse auction barn.

The Tech rodeo was the last rodeo for the fall semester.

"This win means more to me than anything else I could accomplish at Texas Tech," Fuller said. "Not only was it my college's 50th anniversary year, but it had more sentimental value than that."

Fuller said his great-aunt, Christine Hickman, affectionately known as "Auntie Cricket" by all of his family, was a strong supporter of the Texas Tech Rodeo Association. Her son, Dub D. Parks, was a member of the Tech Rodeo Team and helped the team win the National Title in 1954. He was known as an all-around cowboy, and had served as president of the Texas Tech Rodeo Association that same year. The rodeo arena at Fourth and Quaker in Lubbock was named after Parks, who was killed in an automobile accident in 1956. The arena still remains today.

Board decides to lock gates at 4-H Center

The board of directors overseeing the Castro County 4-H Livestock Center has decided to lock the front gates and all doors to the facility.

Those who plan on using the 4-H Center should call the Extension Office at 647-4115 to make special arrangements to have it unlocked.

For more information about the new procedures and rules about use of the facility, contact the Extension Office.

Weather cancels Saturday games in Friona Invitational Tournament

The Nazareth Swifts and the Hart Lady Horns dropped their first games in the Friona Invitational before rebounding with second-round wins Friday.

Each was slated to play for the consolation championship Saturday, but the games were canceled because of the weather.

The Hart Longhorns faced two tough challenges in the tourney, falling to Farwell and Canyon. Their seventh-place game with Sudan was also canceled due to the weather.

Swifts

The Nazareth boys stepped onto the court for their first game of the season last Thursday, and after a slow start, they gave Happy everything they had, coming up just short of a win.

The Cowboys poured it on in the first half before Nazareth got into a groove, but the early Happy lead was too much and the Cowboys posted 61-56 first-round win.

Happy jumped out to a 25-10 advantage in the first quarter and controlled the game by a 43-21 count at halftime.

Nazareth battled back with a tough defensive effort in the second half, limiting the Cowboys to seven points in the third quarter and 11 in the fourth. Meanwhile, the Swift offense finally got on track late in the game, scoring 13 in the third quarter and 22 in the fourth to narrow the gap considerably before time expired.

Nazareth was led by Kade Wilcox, who finished with 10 points.

In Friday's consolation semifinal, Nazareth overcame a 25-17 first-quarter deficit to take a 31-30 halftime lead over Sudan. Nazareth extended its halftime margin in the third quarter, then held off a late Sudan rally for a 62-55 win.

Eric Schilling attacked the Sudan defense for 20 points while Ky Wilcox added 14 for the Swifts, who improved to 1-1 with the win.

Lady Horns

The Hart girls had one big offensive quarter against Farwell's Lady Blue last Thursday, but it wasn't enough to shut down the AA power and Hart fell, 45-78.

Farwell held an 18-6 lead after the first eight minutes of play, but Hart matched the Lady Blue almost

basket-for-basket in the second period and trailed 39-25 at halftime.

Farwell took control in the second half, though, outscoring Hart 39-20 for the big win.

Geneva Finch scored 18 points to lead the Hart girls.

Finch also was the top scorer for the Lady Horns in the consolation semifinal game on Friday. Her 19-point performance was one of three double-figure scoring efforts by the Lady Horns.

Vanessa Carrasco finished with 13 while Lacie Curry added 10 as Hart topped Bovina, 59-48.

Trailing 18-12 in the first quarter, Hart settled down in the second stanza and the Lady Horns were in control by halftime, leading 30-27. It was all Hart after that.

The Lady Horns outscored Bovina 15-10 in the third quarter and 14-9 in the fourth to pull off the win.

Longhorns

The Hart Longhorns attempted a fourth-quarter rally against Farwell, but a big second-quarter slump sealed the Longhorns' fate and

Farwell claimed a 60-45 win.

The Steers held a two-point edge after the first quarter, but blew open the game in the second when they outscored the Longhorns, 23-9.

Hart couldn't regain the lost ground. Farwell went on to add 26 points to its total in the second half. Hart also would pick up 26 points, but the second-quarter deficit was too much to overcome.

Hart's Jeremiah Velasquez was held to nine points in the game, and he was the team's top scorer last Thursday.

In Friday's game, Hart had its hands full with Class AAAA Canyon, but the Longhorns battled to the end, eventually falling to the bigger school, 66-41.

Canyon posted 20 points in the first period and held Hart to 9. It was a nine-point game at halftime, thanks to a strong offensive effort by Hart in the second quarter, but Canyon's offense took control in the second half, reeling off 32 points while its defense held Hart to 16 for the win.

Jacob Reyna and Velasquez combined for 27 of Hart's 41 points, with Reyna finishing with 14 and Velasquez chipping in 13.

Pheasant Hunters!

You are invited to join us at
Country Club of Dimmitt

for
HAPPY HOUR

on **Friday, Dec. 10** from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
and on **Saturday, Dec. 11**, for Happy Hour
with hors d'oeuvres and music
from 12 noon to 1 p.m.

647-4502



Good Luck, Ladyhorns and Longhorns!

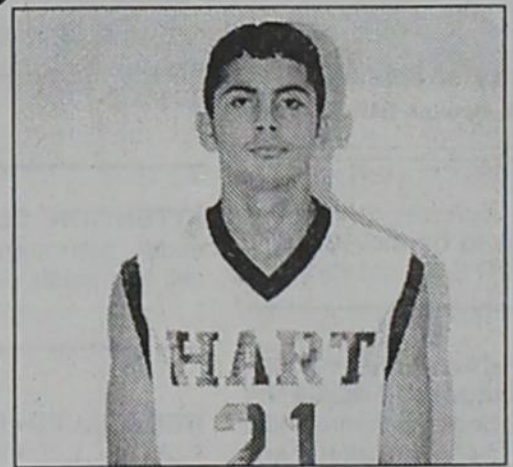
in the
Lockney Tournament

Thursday, Friday and Saturday

TUESDAY: Ladyhorns & Longhorns vs. Bovina, Here



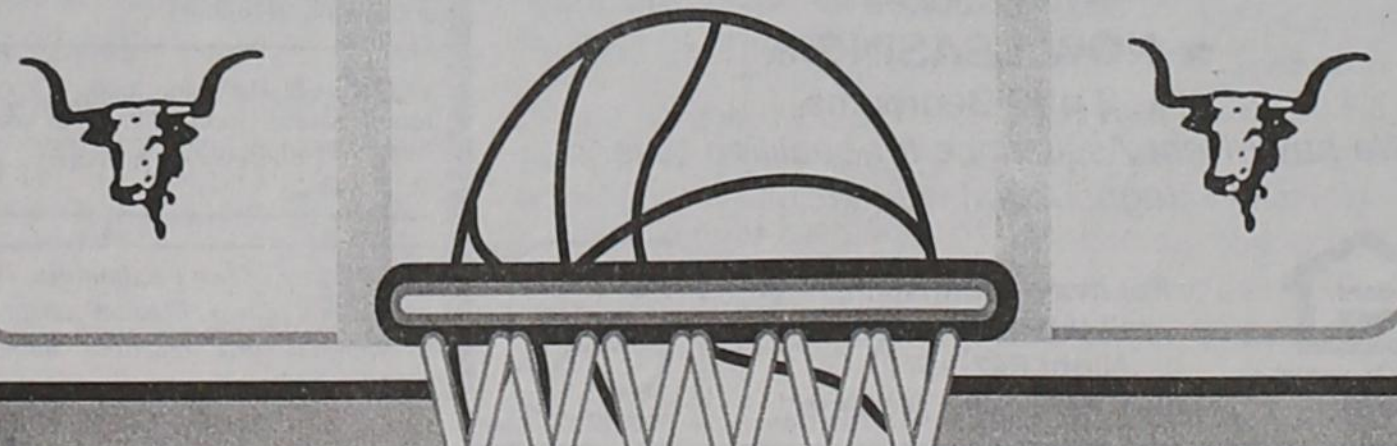
AMANDA ETHRIDGE
Sr. Guard



JACOB REYNA
Soph. Point

We're proud of our Ladyhorns and Longhorns!

- | | |
|---|---|
| Cargill AgHorizons | Insurance Solutions, Inc. |
| Castro County Hospital District | Pay & Save Food |
| Dimmitt Thriftway/Dimmitt Market | Schaeffer, Sutton, Schaeffer & Myatt |
| Hart Booster Club | Triple A Pump Co., Inc. |
| Hart Producers Co-op Gin | Wilbur-Ellis |



Hereford Aquatic Center HOLIDAY SPECIAL

25% OFF ALL PUNCH TICKETS AND PASSES!

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

(Punch tickets may be used toward parties!)

Hereford Aquatic Center
Shawn Frye, Manager 363-7144

SEASONS GREETINGS

Classified Advertising Buy, Sell or Trade



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE
All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; or any intention to make any such reference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that the dwellings advertised in the newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

1—Real Estate Homes & Land

ONE OF DIMMITT'S FINEST! Three large bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, basement, office, outstanding kitchen, living and dining. Lots of extras. Must see to appreciate. \$155,000.

CLOSE TO SCHOOL—Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, isolated master. \$68,500.

GREAT CURB APPEAL—Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, super storage, sprinklers. Reduced \$67,500.

NEW HEAT AND AIR—New roof, three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths. Lots of potential. \$55,000.

ALMOST IN COUNTRY—Beautiful three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, den with fireplace, living and dining. \$117,000.

FOUR BEDROOMS, 2-3/4 baths, excellent living with fireplace, dining and kitchen. Great shop and two bedroom rental. \$225,000.

GREAT FIRST HOME! Need some love and care. **SOLO**

GOOD FIXER UPPER! Two bedrooms, one bath on corner. **SOLO**

WELL DECORATED! Three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, new well and septic.

WATCH NEXT WEEK for more listings, or give us a call anytime.

GEORGE REAL ESTATE
S. Hwy 385 647-4174
Jimmie R. George, Broker
Mobile, 647-7942
Mary Lou Schmucker.... 945-2679

J-Cross INVESTMENTS
304B W. Bedford, Dimmitt

GREAT TWO BEDROOM and one bath home, one car garage, central heat, refrigerated air and built-ins in kitchen. \$36,000.

LARGE FOUR BEDROOMS two bath, large country lot, close to town and on pavement. Call for the details.

WE HAVE OTHER PROPERTIES available—call us. Also, if you want to sell your property, we would greatly appreciate you allowing us to sell it for you.

Call Kenny Doss, Agent, 647-3248 or Jerry Cartwright, Broker, 647-2302

HOUSE FOR SALE to be moved. 647-2241. 1-18-tfc

HOME FOR SALE—Nice three bedroom, one bath, one-car garage home at 208 NW 12th St., Dimmitt. Brick, with fireplace, central heat and air. 945-2435 after 5 and weekends. 1-35-2tp

3—Real Estate For Rent

Azteca Complex APARTMENTS
910 E. Jones
★ NOW LEASING ★
1, 2 or 3 Bedrooms
We have Rent Assistance for qualified tenants (agricultural workers)

For more information, call (806) 647-3406
Night 647-2677
Miquel Velasquez, Manager

1—Real Estate Homes & Land

MORRIS PROPERTY GROUP
Scott Morris, Broker

331 ACRES CRP, south of Nazareth, 4-bedroom house, 2 bath, 2-car garage, 2 storage sheds. Sold together or separately. \$165,500.

LEE STREET—Two bedrooms, two bath, two-car garage, large kitchen and living room, beautiful patio. \$47,500.

THREE BEDROOMS, one bath, laundry room, carport, large building in back. \$40,000.

WEST OF DIMMITT. Five bedrooms, three full baths, basement, extra large two-car garage, large kitchen with lots of storage, brick. \$120,000.

TEN ACRES with house north of Dimmitt. Three bedrooms, two baths, all highway frontage. \$85,000.

NEWLY REMODELED, three bedrooms, one bath, one-car garage, \$45,000.

COMMERCIAL OFFICE SPACE—1200+ sq. ft., three offices, receptionist area, two bathrooms, coffee bar, easy access to a bank, lots of parking. \$45,000.

1950 SQ. FT. BRICK OFFICE BUILDING, corner lot, abundant parking, nice location, \$117,500.

112 W. Bedford, Dimmitt
647-3734, Office

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
Buy two commercial buildings at a much reduced price and get 15 lots with a view overlooking the Hereford golf course in addition. Buildings have rail facilities and multiple uses.

3/2, 2 STORY HOME, w/basement, between Hereford and Dimmitt in the Easter Community. Central heat and air, office space, 2 sheds perfect for 4-H/FFA animals, many extras. Shown by appt.

SCOTT LAND COMPANY
Ben G. Scott (806)647-4375 day or night

\$500 DOWN ON REPOS. '98 Clayton 16 x 80, shingle roof, lots of extras, like new. 1-800-830-3515. Sale price \$32,900, \$500 down, \$32,400 to finance. 11.5 APR, 360 months, \$320 month, with approved credit. 1-32-5tc

REPOS, REPOS. MUST SELL. \$1,000 and up. Bring your cash and save. Over 40 to choose from. Call 1-888-539-7780. 1-32-5tc

2000 MODEL 16—Wide, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, only \$1,000 down, \$171.74 month. Save thousands. 1-800-830-3515. Se habla Español. \$18,900 to finance, 10% APR, 300 months with approved credit. 1-32-5tc

2000 MODEL 28 x 80 under \$49,900. \$2,500 down, payments \$398.50 month. Call Bell Mobile Homes, 1-800-830-3515. Se habla Español. \$47,400 to finance, 9.5 APR, 360 months with approved credit. 1-32-5tc

NEED A NEW HOME? We trade for almost anything. Call Bell Mobile Homes. 1-888-539-7780. Se habla Español. 1-32-5tc

ATTENTION CLAYTON BUYERS. No middle man markup. Ask us why we can sell for thousands less. 1-888-539-7780. 1-32-5tc

REMODELED HOME for sale by owner. 727 Oak. 1,600 square feet, large kitchen and living area. 647-4332. 1-33-3tc

3—Real Estate For Rent

CRP AND STALK SHREDDING. 25-foot Flail shredder Call Lonnie Huseman, 945-2458 or mobile, 647-7663. 10-25-tfc

3—Real Estate For Rent

ONE BEDROOM HOUSE for rent. Living room, kitchen, bath, laundry room with hook-ups for washer and dryer. Stove, refrigerator furnished. Wall heater, A/C. 808 SW 6th, Dimmitt. Call 647-5641 or 647-2036. 3-36-tfc

TWO-BEDROOM house for rent. 647-5559. 3-29-tfc

FOR RENT: Ruidoso condo. 3/3, sleeps eight. Call Debbie at (505) 420-6700 or (806) 285-3053. 3-30-tfc

Stafford Apartments
Call 647-2631 or 647-3696 evenings

DIMMITT SENIOR CITIZENS APARTMENTS
622 N.W. 5th
ONE AND TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR RENT
Call 647-2638
S&S Properties

5—For Rent, Misc.

RENT TO OWN
NEW TV'S, VCR'S & APPLIANCES
No credit checks.
KITTRELL ELECTRONICS
647-2197 Dimmitt

6—For Sale, Misc.

CELL PHONES! CELL PHONES! 400 minutes for only \$39.99. Comes with free Nokia 918 cell phone in leather case, car and home chargers. Call Richard, 806-292-9500. CellularTOUCH authorized CellularONE dealer. 6-23-tfc

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PECAN FIREWOOD
938-2206

9—Farm Equipment & Supplies

Would like to trade a 20 HP submersible for a 30 HP submersible. Call 938-2206.

1972 GIFFORD HILL 360 Ten-Tower sprinkler with drops. 1974 Gifford Hill 360 Ten-Tower Sprinkler with drops. Lima portable generator with I-H motor. (806) 249-2493. 9-36-3tp

10—Agricultural Services

CUSTOM SWATHING and baling. Call Roy Schilling, 647-2401. 10-31-tfc

CUSTOM FARMING: No-till, drill, mini-till, tillage equipment. Kenneth or Ashley Heard. (806) 945-2270 or (806) 627-4623. Mobile, 667-7980 or 647-7981. 10-8-tfc

DRIVE TO OWN - No \$ down, no credit check. 96-99 Prosleepers/condos. 80¢ all miles. Company drivers up to 35 cpm. 10,000 miles/month guaranteed. Two years Class A-CDL OTR experience. Call New Apple Lines today. 1-800-843-8308/1-800-843-3384.

DRIVERS - EXPERIENCED OR truck school grads. CDL-A. Now hiring OTR drivers. Earn up to 39 cpm. Great benefits. Start ASAP. Owner/operators, 105 cpm. MPG Application, 1-800-689-5065.

TRITICALE HAY for sale. 1,700+ lb. round bales. Good amount of grain in heads. \$65/ton. (806) 627-4209. 11-36-4tp

HAY FOR SALE: Small square bales. Oats, \$3.75; alfalfa, \$4.95. Nazareth Feed and Supply, 945-2291. 11-17-tfc

DRIVERS - FLATBED - Specialty haulers wanted. Experience pays. Up to 37 cpm. *RN western/48 states. *401k, medical, dental, life. *3 years OTR/1 year flatbed. Owner/operators welcome! Call Al, 1-800-290-2327. Combined Transport.

DRIVERS - INEXPERIENCED? TRAINING available. North American Van Lines has tractor trailer 48-state hauling opportunities for owner!

The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances: if there is any reaction, both are transformed.
-Carl Gustav Jung

12—Farm Produce

FARM FRESH PECANS
938-2206

13—Livestock, Pets

ALASKAN MALAMUTE puppies for sale. AKC registered. Seven weeks old. (806) 938-2022. 13-36-1tc

14—Automobiles

20—Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED FEED TRUCK driver needed. Country Cattle Feeders, Dimmitt, Texas 647-5641 or 647-2036. 20-36-tfc

SWISHER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL is accepting applications for the following positions: RN—full-time night shift for acute care; and RN & LVN—PRN status in home health and acute care. Please send resume to Swisher Memorial Hospital, Attn: Human Resources, PO Box 808, Tulia TX 79088; (806) 995-8268. 20-35-2tc

THE CASTRO COUNTY FARM Service Agency is accepting applications for temporary positions of Program Technician and part-time field compliance person through Dec. 17, 1999. The program technician's duties will involve clerical and filing duties. Computer skills and experience will be an asset, but not required. The field compliance person's duties will involve land and grain bin measurements, and will be on a subject to call basis. FSA is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for appointment on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Applications may be picked up at the Castro County FSA Office, 114 W. Belsher, Suite A, in Dimmitt, Texas. 20-36-1tc

HELP WANTED—Water well rig helpers and rig helpers. Must have a valid Class B CDL License and good driving record. Call Big T Pump Company at (806) 364-0353 or apply in person at Big T Pump, East New York Avenue, Hereford, Texas. 20-36-2tc

IN-HOME BABYSITTER needed. Monday-Friday after school. 647-0342, after 5. 20-36-1tp

CARD OF THANKS
Thanks to everyone who remembered us with cards, calls, food, gifts and your attendance at our 60th wedding anniversary celebration. Thank you.
ED AND BETTY FREEMAN
24-36-1tc

The island of Jamaica is so-called from the Arawak Indian words Xaymaca, meaning island of springs.

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



TexScan Week of December 5, 1999 ADOPTION

ADOPTION: Note: It is illegal to be paid for anything beyond medical and legal expenses in Texas adoption. **ADOPTION: YOUNG, FINANCIALLY** secure couple (both teachers) adore children and each other. We'll cherish your baby, provide happy, loving household and abundant life. We care about you and want to help. Call us at our home, Joanne/Doug, 1-888-888-2990.

ALLISON AND GRAHAM from UK wish to adopt newborn or twins to share a loving, secure, happy family life near London. Call 0-800-648-1807.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
MARS/NESTLE/ETC. - Established vending route. Will sell by 12/19/99. \$8,875 minimum investment. \$2,000+ monthly income. Lease available with good credit. Ready Routes, Inc., 1-800-637-7444.

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS! Set your own schedule. Control your own income. Sell from home, at work, through fundraisers. Be an Avon Representative. \$20 Start-up. Call 1-888-942-4053.

DRIVERS WANTED
ATTN DRIVERS: FLEETWOOD Transportation hiring long-haul flatbed drivers. Peterbuilt equipment. Guaranteed home time and complete package of benefits. Also need long-haul owner operators. Please call 1-800-458-4279.

COMPANY DRIVERS AND Owner Operators. Call today and ask about our great new compensation and bonus packages! Boyd Bros., 1-800-543-8923 (OOs call 1-800-633-1377). EOE.

DRIVE TO OWN - No \$ down, no credit check. 96-99 Prosleepers/condos. 80¢ all miles. Company drivers up to 35 cpm. 10,000 miles/month guaranteed. Two years Class A-CDL OTR experience. Call New Apple Lines today. 1-800-843-8308/1-800-843-3384.

DRIVERS - COVENANT TRANSPORT *Coast to coast runs *Teams start 35c-37c *\$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced company drivers. For experienced drivers and owner operators, 1-800-441-4394. For graduate students 1-800-338-6428.

DRIVERS - INEXPERIENCED? TRAINING available. North American Van Lines has tractor trailer 48-state hauling opportunities for owner!

Call before noon Tuesday to place your classified ad:

647-3123

What your ad will cost:
✓ The first time your ad runs it will cost at least \$5 (25 cents per word with a \$5 minimum).
✓ Each consecutive time you run your ad with no changes, it will cost 25 cents per word with no minimum.
✓ A Card of Thanks will cost \$7.50.

- Where to find ads:**
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| 1. Homes and land for sale | 14. Automobiles for sale |
| 2. Farms for sale | 15. Recreational vehicles |
| 3. Homes and apartments for rent | 16. Auto parts and supplies |
| 4. Things people want to rent | 17. Business opportunities |
| 5. Miscellaneous items for sale | 18. Services |
| 7. Garage sales | 18A. Insurance |
| 8. Household goods for sale | 19. Students seeking work |
| 9. Farm equipment and supplies | 20. Help wanted |
| 10. Agricultural services | 22. Notices |
| 11. Feed, seed and grain for sale | 23. Lost and found |
| 12. Farm produce for sale | 24. Cards of thanks |
| 13. Livestock and pets | 25. Legal notices |

20—Help Wanted

CANTERBURY VILLA OF DIMMITT has immediate openings for CNA's, LVN or RN. Flexible hours and competitive wages. Apply at 1621 Butler Blvd. 20-35-2tc

THE CASTRO COUNTY NEWS needs a person to work about three hours a day in afternoons. Duties include "stuffing" inserts, clean-up, deliveries. Driver's license required. Call 647-3123 between 8 and 5.

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24—Card of Thanks
CARD OF THANKS
Thanks to everyone who remembered us with cards, calls, food, gifts and your attendance at our 60th wedding anniversary celebration. Thank you.
ED AND BETTY FREEMAN
24-36-1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Carrol Deanna Hasley, Deceased, were issued on Dec. 1, 1999, in Cause No. PB-2358, pending in the County Court of Castro County, Texas, to: CARLA SUE LEVERMAN.
The residence of the Independent Executor is Littleton, Hamilton County, Colorado; the post office address is c/o Rex W. Easterwood, Attorney at Law, PO Box 273, Hereford, Texas 79045.
All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 1st day of December, 1999.
REX W. EASTERWOOD,
Attorney for the Estate
25-36-1tc

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McDaniel's record book recognized as 'outstanding'

Rusty McDaniel, a member of the Flagg 4-H Club in Castro County, has earned state recognition for his 4-H Record Book focusing on his work in the Horse Club.

The honor of being recognized as one of the top record-keeping 4-H members in the state is bestowed on only 47 of the more than 63,000 state 4-H members.

McDaniel and the other 46 honorees were recognized for outstanding community service, leadership, project work and record keeping skills through 4-H at the Texas 4-H Record Book Honor Awards Banquet on Oct. 23 at the Texas State Capitol in Austin.

Over 210 people, including state officials, county Extension agents and Texas Agricultural Extension Service administrators were present to celebrate in the successes of each of the 4-H members.

"To be awarded this honor, a 4-H member must be a well-rounded 4-H'er in club work with outstanding community service, leadership and record keeping skills," said Toby Lepley, Extension program specialist. "They must have submitted a record book at the county level and that entry must have advanced through the county, district and state levels. Out of the 400-plus books that are judged at state competition, these are the top 47."

The event was hosted by the Texas 4-H Youth and Development Program and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service with award sponsorship provided by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, 4-H Family Life Scholarship Fund, Winchester Olin Corporation, Texas 4-H

Youth Foundation, Texas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Epsilon Sigma Phi Professional Organization, TAEX Specialist Association, Texas County Agricultural Agents Association, Texas Quarterhorse Association, Texas Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, Morrison Milling Company and Texas Pork Producers.

"We are extremely proud of Rusty for all his hard work and accomplishments," said Castro County Extension Agent Benny Martinez. "Rusty's accomplishments in 4-H are a result of an exciting nine-year career. His 4-H career is a great example of all the opportunities available in 4-H to youths from 8 to 19 years of age."



Rusty McDaniel

City gets 'clean' audit report

The City of Dimmitt received a "clean" audit report from Henry Ramaekers of Brown, Graham & Co., as reported at the Monday night meeting of the Dimmitt City Council.

Ramaekers said there were no areas that needed attention and complimented the city staff on their good work and help with the audit process.

He also gave the council a "pat on the back" for getting the city's bonded indebtedness paid off during the past fiscal year, as he had recommended in a previous audit to save the city some money on the interest on the bonds.

Ramaekers reported that he found no instances of non-compliance with accepted auditing standards and no material weaknesses in the internal controls that are in place.

In another matter, the council voted to go out for bids on a new bulldozer for use in the city landfill. The current bulldozer is in need of repairs, and the council voted to see what a new one might cost compared with the cost of the repairs.

Council members also voted to accept a bid on a new police car. The only bid received was from Western Ford of Hereford for \$20,882.55 after trade-in allowance. City Manager Don Sheffy told the council that the city has a fleet number issued by the Ford Motor Co., and that enables them to get a bid price that is "pretty close to the state contract price."

Sheffy gave the council an update on the city's status in applying for funding for improvements to the city airport under the Aviation Capital Improvement Program for fiscal year

2000 through 2002. The program provides for 90-10 funding, with the city providing 10% of the cost of the project.

In his manager's report, Sheffy was very complimentary of city workers in their response to the snow problems the city had.

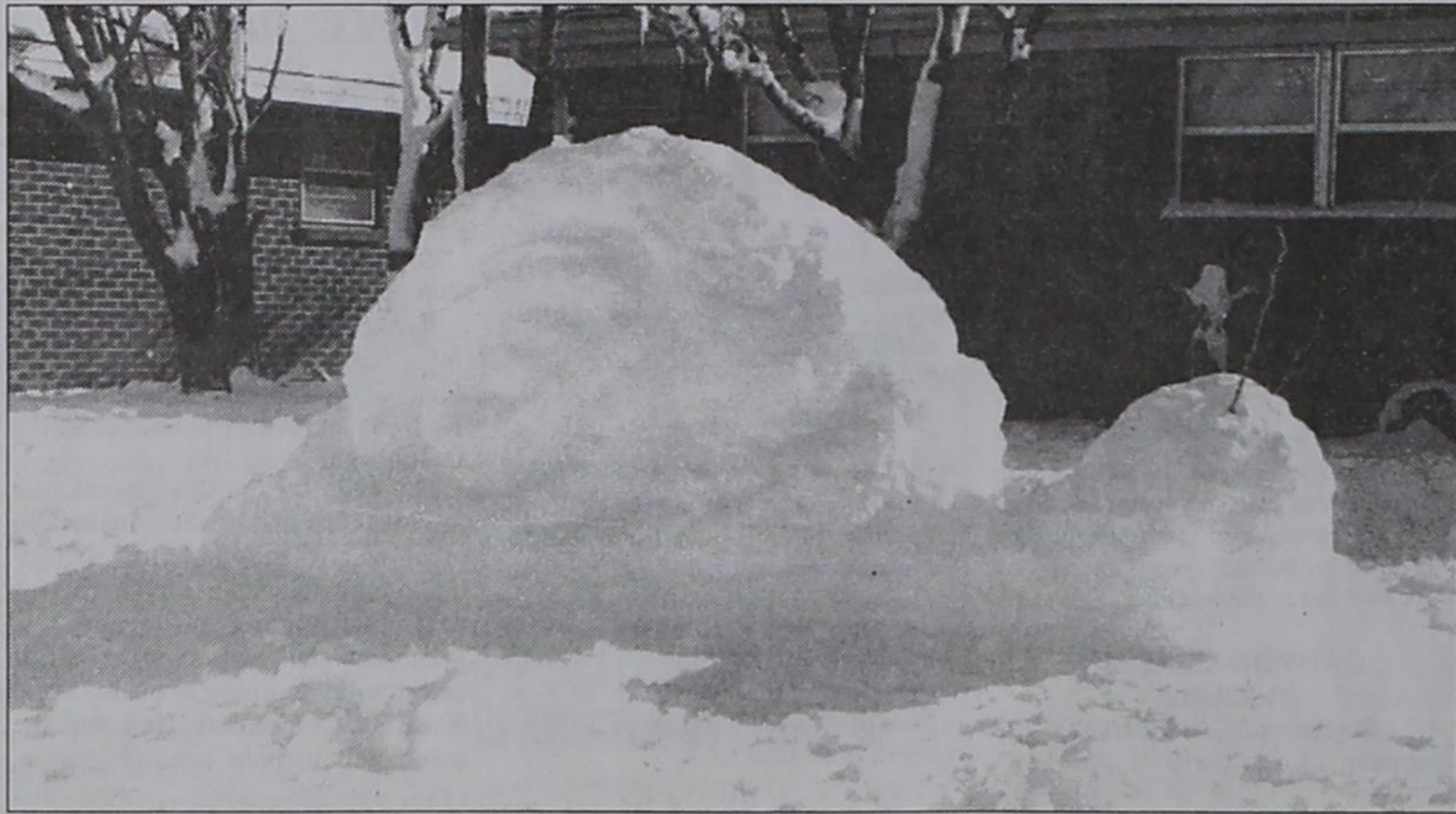
He particularly praised Saul Arce and Juan Almanza of the works department for the long hours they put in on Sunday. He said they first worked on a broken water line at the First United Methodist Church, then helped with snow removal at the schools until dark.

Sheffy said someone at the Cerestar plant called about 9 p.m. to report that their water pressure was low, so Arce and Almanza drove out to the south water field to check the wells. The power was out.

Sheffy said Deaf Smith Electric Cooperative promised to give the well field a number one priority, and service was restored about midnight. He said wells in town were turned on to take up the slack in the water supply for the city, but it was not enough to cover Cerestar, too. Also, he said some fuses were blown when the wells were turned on and those had to be replaced.

Michelangelo took 4-1/2 years to paint the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

In the summer about 500,000 tons of water plunge over Niagara Falls every minute.



A SLICK, SLOW SNOW SNAIL was on display at 717 Oak in Dimmitt Sunday afternoon. The figure was sculpted from the generous snowfall that temporarily paralyzed the area Saturday and Sunday and still had things slowed down a little on Monday. It is expected to be followed by more of the same today (Thursday) and Saturday. Photo by Linda Maxwell

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