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Softball games

JV-V Maidens OPEN
Fri., April 4
JV-V Maidens vs Anson
Tues., April 8, 3:30 p.m.
at Anson

Baseball games

V Indians vs Aspermont
Fri., April 4, 4:30 p.m.
at Haskell
JV Indians vs Eula
Mon., April 7, 4:30 p.m.
at Haskell
V Indians vs Anson
Mon., April 7, 4:30 p.m.
at Anson

Golf

Indians and Maidens at
Shady Oaks Golf Course,
Baird, Mon., April 7
8 a.m. - District Tourney

Track

JV-V Indians, V Maidens
Anson, Thurs., April 3
Jr. High Indians, Maidens
Cisco, Sat., April 5 (District)
JV-V Indians, V Maidens
District Track Meet, Haskell
Tues., Apr. 8 & Thurs., Apr. 10

Calendar

Revival

Revival at Iglesia Bautista El Calvario, 600 S. 7th in Haskell will be held April 24-27. Chad Ezell of Breckenridge Cowboy Church will preach April 24. Crox Quintanilla of Wounded Christian Ministries will preach April 25-27. Services are bilingual and will begin at 7 p.m.

Lodge meeting

The Sons of Hermann Lodge meeting will be held Sun., April 6 at the Irby Hall. The hall will open at 2 p.m. for dominoes. The meeting begins at 3 p.m. The meal will be sandwiches and desserts.

Rule report cards

Parents of students in grades 6 through 12 are asked to come by Rule School Wed., April 9 from 3:40 until 5 p.m. to pick up their child's fifth six weeks grade report card. Parents need to check in at the high school office upon arrival for instructions. K through 5 reports cards will be sent home as usual.

Youth baseball

Haskell Youth Baseball, now associated with Texas Teenage Baseball, will offer these leagues: coach-pitch 5-6 year olds, midgets 7-9 year olds and freshmen 10-12 year olds. League age is as of July 31, 2003. Registration is now being accepted. Tryouts for midgets and freshman will be April 19. Entry forms are available at Haskell Tire or Sport-About. Fees are \$15 per person or \$20 for two. For more information call Steven or Gina Foster at 864-2900 or 864-3273.

Queen's pageant

Entries for contestants in the Wild Horse Prairie Days Queen's pageant are due April 3 at 5 p.m. at First National Bank of Haskell or to the Haskell County Extension Office. Entry forms are available at county schools, First National Bank of Haskell or Haskell County Extension Office.

Study Club trip

Haskell Progressive Study Club will travel to Oklahoma City and tour the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Oklahoma City National Memorial at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building Thurs., April 10. A chartered bus will depart about 7 a.m. and return about 10:30 p.m. Call Julia Harrell at 864-3983 to join the group. Tickets are \$40 and include the bus ticket and all admission tickets.

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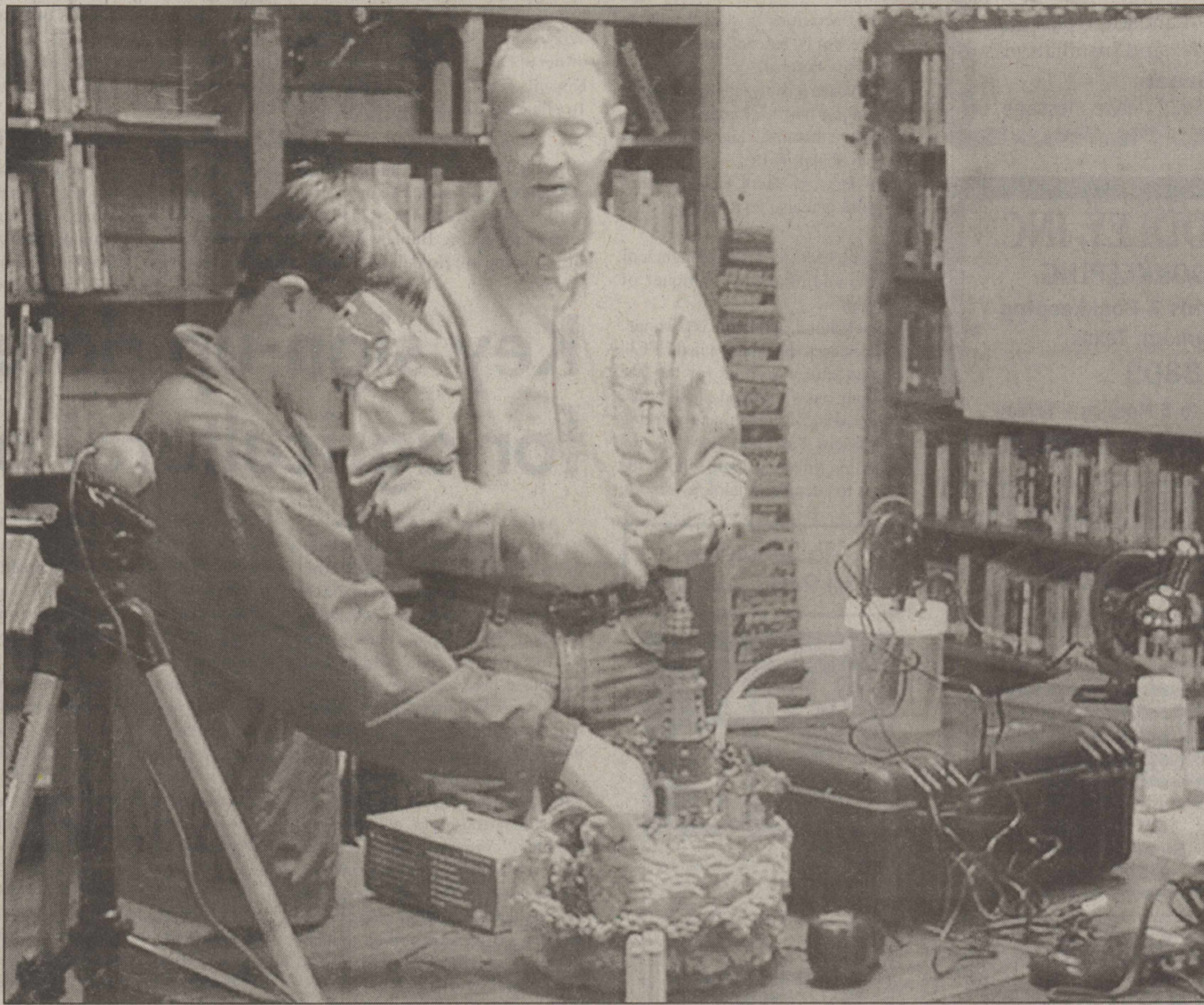
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The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 117-NO. 14, ©APRIL 3, 2003

"The People's Choice"

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WATER EXPERIMENT STUDY-Paint Creek 7th grade student Mike Gordy works with Dr. Jon Hunter of Texas A&M University in the "Wings Across Texas" program in which students tested the impact of acid rain, excess fertilizer, heating, silt and

stagnation on the quality of water and its immediate and long-term environmental effects. The presentation is a partnership involving Texas A&M, the Texas Rural Systemic Initiative and the National Institute of Environmental Health Services.

Area couple on mission in Vermont

By Mary Kaigler

Church planters, H. B. and Jo Graves of Knox City, left Thurs., April 3 on a five month stay in Vermont, where they will be in mission to establish a new church in the county seat city of Chelsea. The Graves will be living and working from their new "Mission Mobile," a Wilderness Fleetwood RV, acquired recently with the help of contributions from family and friends of their mission work. A dedication service for the new vehicle was held at the couple's home in Knox City, Sat., Mar. 29.

Last year they spent several months in another small Vermont city, "just over the mountain" from Chelsea, where they started a new church of five members. It has now grown to twenty-five members. The new church in Chelsea will be meeting in private homes until they

can obtain a store building in which to meet.

The Graves will be teaching and working in mission with six other churches through the Green Mountain Association, under partnership with the Texas Baptist General Convention. At this time, they said, there are only 22 such Baptist churches in Vermont.

Jo Graves was raised in the country around Knox City, near the area of the Spike Box Ranch. She and her late former husband were involved in mission work as church planters for 37 years. After losing their spouses, she and evangelist H. B. Graves, who grew up in Mexia and preached his first sermons when he was eighteen, met through their mutual interest and mission work in spreading the Gospel. Jo's daughter, Julia Shroyer, lives in Lubbock. Her son, James Maddox, lives in Waco.

H. B.'s son, Ben, lives in Massachusetts. His daughters, Tori Caparoon and Phoebe McGuire, live with their families in Haskell.

While the Graves are in Vermont, H. B. will also be teaching a seminary extension course at a local church building and conducting a series of tent revivals. He is a graduate of the Baptist Seminary in Newburg, Indiana. He has done mission work in countries on every continent in the world, except Africa. In September, after they return from Vermont, he will go to Aalborg, Denmark, where he will help conduct a city-wide crusade with International Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In Vermont, Jo Graves will also lead a Women's Bible Conference, a two day retreat at a center they helped to build last year, which is on the

order of the one in Lueders. At Easter, she plans an egg hunt and celebration for the children of the area.

Through their work and time in Vermont, the Graves have found a number of rewarding, on-going friendships which they treasure, and they are looking forward to spending another five months in the area before returning to West Texas in August.

As they prepared to leave in the new "Mission Mobile," they expressed hearts filled with sincere appreciation and thanks for the contributions making it possible, and the hopes that "each person will consider their gift as an investment; a new church will be started in Chelsea, Vermont for the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Haskell's One Act Play advances to area

The Haskell High School One Act Play performance of "The Attempted Murder of Peggy Sweetwater," won the district award and high praise from the judge, Mar. 20, during competition at the Anson Auditorium.

Seven schools presented plays. Haskell and Stamford will advance to the next level of competition.

Awards received by the local school's cast included Honorable Mention for Jaelyn Drinnon and Chase Seelke, and All Star Cast for Drew Garrison and Zack Coker. Meagan Wallace received an award for All Star Crew. Other cast and crew members were Caleb Hudgins, Josh Webb, Alexis Reed, Aaron New, Christi Sorrells, Jimmy Rineker, Debbi Long, Leon Goudeau and Andrew Silvas.

The group has been practicing

since January. Their director is Jamie Davis. Kathy Garrison assisted with dialect practices.

The Haskell play will be performed April 5, during area competition at Anson Auditorium. The plays start at 10:00 a.m., with Haskell's scheduled third in succession, which should be about 11:45.

Hairgrove photo wins award

Haskell High School student, Ross Hairgrove has been awarded Honorable Mention for his sports photo, "Eddie Loyd Pauses," in the Texas Professional Communicator's High School Journalism Contest.

Announcement was made of the winners at the TPC Annual Conference held in Huntsville, Sat., Mar. 29. Jack Tinsley, Fort Worth

City wide Cleanup Apr. 14-19

April 14-19 has been set aside by the Haskell City Council as City Wide Clean Up Week in Haskell. All citizens are asked to gather up, clear out and remove debris and trash from their property in an effort to make the community a safer, neater and more desirable looking place.

During the week, two trailers will be available for half day use only, for those who do not have their own trailer or means of hauling off trash. Residents should call ahead to the city office to reserve a trailer. It will be delivered to the property and picked up by the city.

Large, bulky items such as furniture will be picked up if they are placed in the alley beside the dumpster. Brush and recyclable items may be taken to South 2nd and Ave. A. Items that will not be accepted during cleanup week are chemicals, tires, batteries, anything with freon, asbestos, any roofing materials or paint.

Personal trailers and trucks hauling loose trash must be covered with a tarp. Bulky items such as lumber, tin, etc., must be tied down.

For cleanup week only, free dumping will be available at the land fill for citizens of Haskell only. Persons dumping at the landfill may be asked for proof of residency, such as a water bill.

Election to be held for Dist. 7

Sat., May 3, three trustee will be elected to the Haskell CISD board of trustees. Single member districts 4, 5, and 7 are up for election this year. Election day voting will be in Haskell National Bank Building from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Early voting will be from April 16 through April 29 at the Haskell CISD administration office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Incumbents Joe Yates in single member district 4, and Mike Jordan in single member district 5 are running unopposed, and the election for these districts will be cancelled.

In single member district 7, current trustee, Dr. Tom Hairgrove, has chosen not to run for another term. Three candidates filing to run for this position on the board are Steve McGuire, Jim McTasney and Robert Tribbey.

To be eligible to vote in this trustee election you must live in single member district 7. Each single member district is listed on the right hand portion of your voter registration card under "Schools."

If there is a question of which single member district you live in, you may contact Bobby Collins in the Haskell County Tax Collection office at 940-864-2181. For all other questions regarding the election, contact the Haskell CISD central administration office at 940-864-2602 ext. #100.

newsman, was speaker for the event. The TPC, (formerly Texas Press Women), is an affiliate of National Federation of Press Women. One of the goals of the organization is to highlight and broaden interest in high school journalism. Eighteen Texas high schools participated in this year's contest, with 237 entries.

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Students visit Rotary Club

Doug Silvas is the son of Racheal and Johnny Silvas of Haskell. He attends the Four Square Church.

Among his favorite things to do are drawing and painting.

After finishing high school he plans to live in California and attend the Art Institute of San Diego.

 Alfred Ozuna is the son of Martha and Freddie Ozuna of Haskell.

He attends St. George Catholic Church.

His activities in school include one year of JV baseball and two years in varsity baseball.

Favorite leisure activities for him are riding his '87 Ranger, hanging with his "homies," and jamming to Typac Shakur/R.I.P.

After high school, he wants to go to work and also go to college.

 Kim Rodriguez is the daughter of Gloria and Marcello Rodriguez of Haskell.

Her church affiliation is Catholic.

In school she is active in the FFA. Favorite activities for her are hanging out with friends, taking care of her son, Zachariah, and working at Modern Way Food Store.

After finishing high school she plans to attend cosmetology school.

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Obituaries

Sydney Joe Hester, Sr.

Funeral services for Sydney Joe Hester Sr., 70, of Rule were held Fri., March 28 at First Baptist Church in Rule with Elder Dale Turner, Sue Rowlett, Hospice Chaplain and Rev. Josh Stowe officiating. Burial was in Rochester Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Robison Funeral Home of Rule.

Mr. Hester died Wed., March 26 at his home. Born Oct. 23, 1932 in Rochester, he was the son of Roy Lee and Allie Bristow Hester. He married Joyce Beauchamp Nov. 10, 1950 and has resided in Haskell County since 1987. He was a police officer in Brownfield for 18 years where he was a Detective and Lieutenant. He retired from the State of Texas DHS as a welfare fraud investigator. An instructor for SPAG, he taught Law Enforcement classes at South Plains College. He was Terry County's first juvenile probation officer and co-owner of Designs by Hester. He was past president of the Kiwanis Club in Brownfield, past vice president of Toastmasters Club in Brownfield, member of Texas Police

Association since 1958, past president of Rule Chamber of Commerce, former member of Rule Lions Club, and had served on the Rule City Council. He was elected Man of the Year in Rule in 1995. He was a member of the Rule First Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce Beauchamp Hester and his mother-in-law, Bertie Beauchamp, of the home; son, Sydney Joe Hester Jr., of Navasota; daughter, Peggy Barrier of Arlington; brother, Alton Hester of Knox City; four grandchildren, James Hester of UAA South Korea, Shawn of Hempstead, Sydney of Arlington and Sherry Woolwine of Enid, Okla.; three great-grandchildren; two uncles, Bobby Hester and wife, Rowena, and Calvin Hester, all of Haskell; aunt Betty Joe Heitsch and husband, Chester of Bastrop.

Memorials may be made to Hendrick Hospice Care, P. O. Box 1922, Abilene, Texas 79604-9938 or a favorite charity. PD. NOTICE

Gabriel James Barrera

Funeral services for Gabriel James Barrera, infant son of Michael and Antonia Crane Barrera, were held Tues., April 1 at First Assembly of God Church with Rev. J. C. Amburn officiating. Burial was at Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Survivors include his parents; brother, Matthew L. Barrera; grandparents, Ben and Nina Barrera, Charles Crane, Ida Crane Phillips and Ronnie Phillips; great grandparents Antonia Trevino and Albert Alvarez; Angelita Barrera, Tony Trevino and Evelyn Crane; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. PD. NOTICE

Key sign-up dates set for agricultural programs

Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman has announced key sign-up dates for programs under the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003, including the crop disaster assistance program. Veneman said that sign-up for the crop program, which will reimburse producers for qualifying crop losses in either 2001 or 2002, will begin June 6, with payments to begin shortly thereafter.

"The Department is committed to getting assistance into the hands of affected producers as soon as possible," Veneman said during a briefing with reporters from the USDA radio studios. "Our timetable is several weeks ahead of previous disaster aid packages, even though this is a more complicated bill to implement."

To expedite the process, Veneman said the department is working to cut regulatory red tape by going directly to final rules where possible and implementing many regulations through a single, expedited "mega regulation."

Crop disaster payments must be calculated using the same formula used for the 2000 crop year. This means crop losses for 2001 and 2002 will be valued using the price election for Actual Production History crop insurance policies, or if that price is not available, a 5-year average.

Crop disaster payments are also subject to a formula which states that the sum of (1) the value of the crop not lost, (2) the disaster payment, and (3) the crop-insurance indemnity

cannot exceed 95 percent of what the crop's value would have been, if there had been no loss. Crop disaster payments will be reduced if the 95 percent limitation is exceeded. The value of the crop not lost and the 95 percent limitation will be valued at either the Actual Production History price election or the NASS season-average price, whichever is higher. Specific details will be available from local Farm Service Agency offices, USDA Service Centers and on the web at <http://www.usda.gov>.

Other key assistance program details include:

*\$60 million in hurricane-loss assistance for sugar cane growers and cooperatives will be provided in May;

*sign-up for the \$50 million cottonseed program will begin after completion of the 2002 crop ginning season, which occurs around May 1;

*\$60 million in disaster related assistance for the sugar beet industry, with sign-up beginning in June;

*\$250 million Livestock Assistance Program that will reimburse producers for grazing losses will begin in July.

The Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and the Tobacco Payment Program (TOPP) already are in place, with sign-up for TOPP underway and LCP sign-up slated to begin April 1.

USDA also is issuing refunds to eligible producers who were assessed payment reductions last year for haying or grazing on lands enrolled under the Conservation Reserve Program. These refunds will total \$16.4 million to producers in 28 states.

"This is one more way to assist affected producers," Veneman said. "The refunds will go to farmers and ranchers who were hardest hit by last year's drought."

Another important date is the June 2 closing date to sign completed contracts for the 2002 and 2003 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program.

Commissioners' Court report

At the Haskell County Commissioners' Court special meeting Mon., Mar. 24 the Court approved the sale of one lot at 103 Main Street in Rochester by the Appraisal District to Ray and Betty White.

In other matters before the court,

the setting of values for county buildings for insurance purposes was tabled.

The meeting was recessed at 11:00 a.m. to allow commissioners to assist Haskell 5th graders in touring the County Courthouse.

Goudeau, Burgess named to All-Region

All Region Basketball Team Haskell High School athletes Leon Goudeau and Ryan Burgess

were recently named to the second team All-Region by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches.



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ADDICTION STUDIES—Paint Creek 6th grade students recently worked with Dr. Jon Hunter and Adam Hunter of Texas A&M University and the "Wings Across Texas" program focusing on addiction to nicotine and the high cost of supporting the smoking habit. Pictured front, l-r, are Faith Silvas, Will Brueggeman, Tabitha Schonerstedt, Caleb Whitfield, Ariel Blair. Back, Adam Hunter, Guy Bruce, Marty Hall, Dr. Jon Hunter, Jerica Ticer and Kolby Moon.

Debate team vies at state

After winning 1st place in district Debate competition, Haskell High School students Drew Garison and Caleb Hudgins advanced to state competitions on Mar. 9.

The first day of the debate tournament in Austin consisted of four rounds of debate, with teams

matched up so that the greatest number can be eliminated on day one. Only 16 teams are able to advance to the second day of competition when the octofinals are held. Facing fierce competition, with 62 teams vying for first place for 2A schools, the Haskell team of Garison

and Hudgins were pleased to break to that second day; a great accomplishment for their first trip to the state tournament.

The team was accompanied by their coach, Jamie Davis, Meagan Wallace who worked as a timekeeper, and Kathy Garison. They were met in Austin by Jerry Don and Donita Hudgins.

Haskell's teams have practiced after school and at local tournaments with Benjamin, Rochester and Munday, who all went to Austin. Benjamin came in second in the state in 1A, and Rochester missed making the octofinals by two speaker points.

Coach Jamie Davis expressed appreciation to the parents of the Haskell UIL students for their support in the school's events, and to the Haskell CISD administration for being helpful with debate camp arrangements and making it possible for the students to practice almost all year around. "We are looking forward to an even bigger and better forensics team in 2003-2004," she said.

Daniels, Hamm to marry May 31

Kellie Elizabeth Daniels and Christopher Wade Hamm announce their engagement and approaching marriage. The bride-elect is the daughter of Johnny and Jodie Daniels. Grandparents are Arvil and Donna Davis and Jack and Mae Daniels. Great grandmothers are Vina Lou Moore, Reva Poer and Virginia Daniels.

The prospective bridegroom is the son of Audie and Jo Ann Hamm and Jo Dean. Grandparents are Johnny and Mary Hamm of Meridian. His great grandmother is Bonnie Wilks of Clarksville.

The bride-elect is a senior at Tulsa

High School and plans to graduate in May and attend Amarillo College of Beauty in Amarillo after graduation. She is employed at El Burrito.

The prospective bridegroom is a senior at Tulsa High School and plans to graduate in May. He is employed by the Tulsa Independent School District. He has enlisted in the United States Army and will be leaving for service June 25.

The couple plan a May 31 wedding at three o'clock at Ceta Canyon Church Camp Retreat Center. After training, the couple will reside in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

A surprise birthday party for Joyce Hawkins was held Saturday at Rodriquez Inn. All of her eleven living children were in attendance.

They are James and Shirley Hawkins and children, Deana Rhelms, children Jordan, Justin and Jeffrey and Lana Brewster of Wichita Falls; Kevin and Melinda Hawkins and children, Zachary and Lauren of Abilene; Gary and Yvonne Huffines of Dimmitt and daughter Keri Magby and son Taylor of Lubbock; Clayton Hawkins of Haskell; Darlene Conn and children David and Denice Conn and girls Sabrina and Amber, Daniel Conn, Julie Cochran and son Dawton; Gary and Vickie Hawkins, Margaret Tatum and children Creora, Christopher and Melissa and children Zachary, Garret, Taylor and Kristlyn of Haskell; Johnny and Cathy Hawkins of Jarrell; Floradean Cockerell and son Jimmy and friend Barbara of Early; Bobby and Darlene

Hawkins of Lewisville; Sammy and Peggy Hawkins and children, Michael and Britney of Aspermont and Friends Leroy and Reba Stiemans of Eastland.

Cody Blair and daughter, Abbie of Megargel were visitors with grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Blair over the weekend.

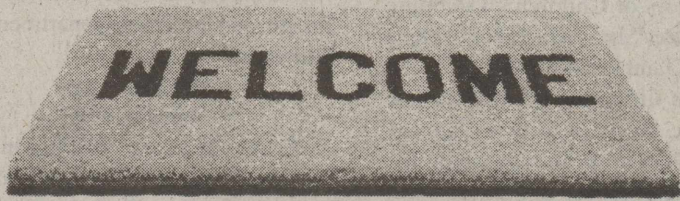
Bobby and Darlene Hawkins of Lewisville spent the weekend with his mom, Joyce Hawkins.

Mrs. Chucky Castillo of Lewisville visited with Mr. and Mrs. John Castillo over the weekend. She and her mom went to Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Huffines of Dimmitt visited several days last week in Haskell.

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STAR PARTICIPANTS—Members of the Paint Creek ISD chapter of FCCLA recently attending the Region II conference were among students participating in the STAR Events. From the left are: Chapter advisor, Darlene Hopkins, Maggie Brzozowski, Kasey Duniven and Hattie Walton, Paint Creek FCCLA chapter president.

Students attend conference

Members of the Paint Creek ISD chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America were among 1100 delegates attending the Region II Conference held in Fossil Ridge, (Fort Worth), Feb. 28-Mar. 1.

The youth developed theme, "FCCLA: A Fiesta of Opportunities," was carried out through workshops and general sessions. Members discovered ways to become actively involved in issues facing today's youth. Some of the issues addressed were: scholarships, team building, personality profile, date rape, eating disorders, STOP the violence, community service, depression, stress management, leadership, STAR Events, underage drinking, public speaking, self-esteem and attitude check.

STAR Events (Students Taking Action for Recognition) are competitive events in which members participate at the regional meetings and can qualify for state. These events allow members to

showcase their life skills in different areas of competition.

Participating in the STAR Events in the Focus on Children category from Paint Creek were Maggie Brzozowski, Kasey Duniven and Hattie Walton. As president of the Paint Creek chapter, Walton served

as the voting delegate. She also accepted a Region II Community Service, Ready/Set/Read, and PALS/YES recognition certificate on behalf of the Paint Creek chapter. Darlene Hopkins, Paint Creek's FCCLA chapter advisor also attended the conference.

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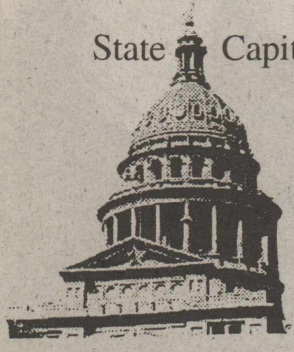
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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Mike Cox

Lawmakers eye rainy day fund for state budget

AUSTIN—Austin gets its share of precipitation each spring, but lately the daily forecast has included the likelihood of a heat wave of discussion over what to do with the state's rainy day fund—use it to help ease Texas' budget crisis or let it grow for an even wetter day.

Though the state's top three leaders have all said they want to handle the \$9.9 billion budget deficit by cutting expenditures and not raising taxes, 23 of the Senate's 31 members appeared to be leaning toward coming up with a funding package of non-tax revenues rather than resorting to draconian spending slashes.

Prominent on the radar is the notion of tapping into the so-called rainy day fund, an emergency account created by a 1988 constitutional amendment.

"It's my belief that in order to pass an appropriations bill that we can get the votes for in the floor of the Senate, we will need to use the non-tax revenues that we have been discussing," said Sen. Teel Bivins, R-Amarillo, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

If no new revenue sources are developed, it would take a 12.5 percent cut in services to balance the budget. State officials have said that would be a bone-deep cut.

Ways to raise revenue without raising taxes under consideration include borrowing against the state's tobacco lawsuit settlement endowment, putting off payment of selected public education expenses and using some of the state's \$1 billion rainy day fund (a proposal that clouds up Comptroller Carol Keeton Strayhorn's disposition.)

Strayhorn's office administers the fund, but she can't prevent it from being used. That's up to the Legislature, though it takes a three-fifths vote to do it.

House Appropriations Committee chair Talmadge Heflin, R-Houston, has proposed using the fund, but

writing into the budget bill a payback provision.

Something borrowed....

Best quote of the week was something borrowed, but still memorable. Gov. Rick Perry, in a speech to the Texas Daily Newspaper Association, cautioned against using one-shot revenue sources (read: the rainy day fund) or bookkeeping tricks to make up for the projected budget shortfall.

Solving the money shortage by changing accounting methods, the governor said, reminded him of Wimpy in the Popeye cartoon series.

"It's the same as saying, 'I will gladly pay you Tuesday for a hamburger today,'" Perry quoted hamburger addict Wimpy.

If the answer to the state's financial woes lies in Popeye, what the Texas economy really needs is a rush order of spinach.

Northeast Texas search continues...

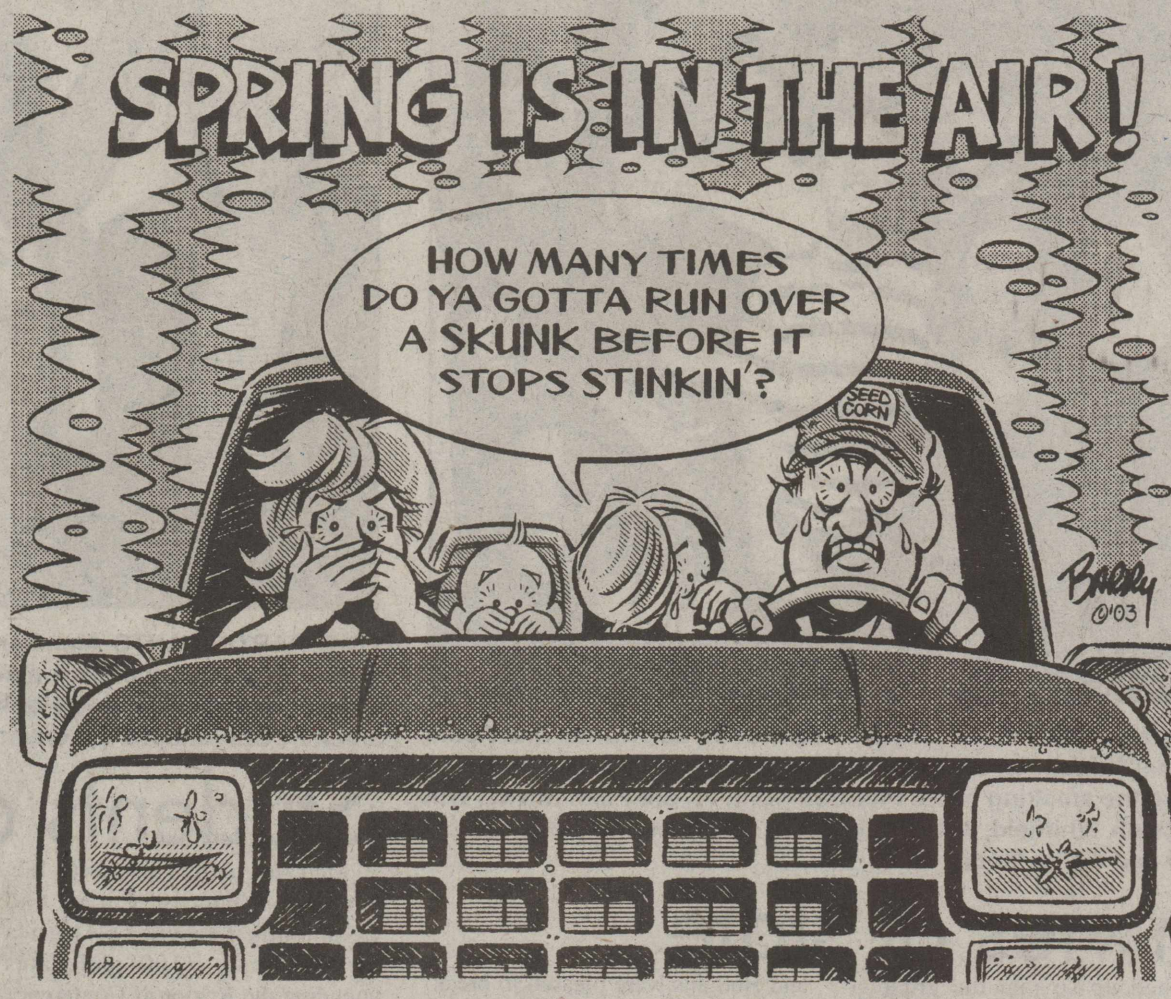
Though most of the media scrutiny has been diverted to the war in Iraq, another concerted campaign continues in Northeast Texas—the search by state and federal personnel for space shuttle debris.

Two months after the loss of the Columbia, more than 5,000 people are still looking for pieces of the lost spacecraft.

Nearly a quarter million acres in 41 counties have been searched, an effort that has resulted in the recovery of 27,537 pieces of debris. And that constitutes only 55 percent of the area needing to be covered.

In addition to ground personnel, 36 helicopters and 10 fixed-wing aircraft have been involved. Eight dive teams, including the Department of Public Safety's team, have done 1,083 dives in Toledo Bend Reservoir and Lake Nacogdoches.

States agencies still involved include the DPS, Texas Forest Service, Texas Department of Health, the Attorney General's office and two state universities, Stephen F. Austin and the University of Texas.



From The Inside Out

By Mary Kaigler

Who is this Mystery Reader?

We were born in Hendrick Hospital in Abilene.

I am married for 29 years and have two sons.

I attended school at Paint Creek ISD and college at Texas A&M College when it was all male and all military.

No one knows that I illegally sneaked across the East/West German border to take pictures of the double fence being built between the two countries with a mine field in between. Also, no one knows that my first date was during my first year in college, and that I was once interviewed on national TV in the series "The Big Picture."

I really have no favorite TV show, but enjoy science fiction shows when I get to see them.

I enjoy most all kinds of music that I can understand the words to which are sung rather than blasted at my brain. My favorite types are folk, old Country Western, and smooth Oldies, particularly WW II songs.

I have several favorite songs and it is almost impossible to name just one. A couple of my favorites are "Scotch and Soda" by the Kingston Trio and the little known "Man Walks Among Us," by Marty Robbins.

My favorite pastimes, when I have time to enjoy them, are wood carving, brass sculpture, singing and playing my uke with friends at hootenannies, and visiting with friends over the Internet or in person. I'm learning to enjoy genealogy.

The last book I read was *We Were Soldiers Once and Young*, concerning Landing Zone X-Ray in

Viet Nam. I am currently reading *Citizen Soldiers*, which is a composite of letters and thoughts from various veterans of WW II.

My favorite place to live in Texas is Haskell County, but my favorite place to visit would be San Antonio.

I guess my favorite vacation spot in the world would have to be Germany (like I go there a lot).

I would like to think that my best quality is my interest in my friends and in my community and its welfare.

My worst quality has to be that I do procrastinate more than I wish I did.

I love people, but dislike people who are not honest and open with me or fool me into thinking they are something they are not. I enjoy an open and honest relationship with everyone, even if we disagree. Very few of my good friends agree with me on everything.

My greatest accomplishment has to be convincing my bride of 29 years that she needed to be by my side through this life. Sometimes, I think she must wonder how I pulled that off and why she agreed.

To me, Haskell is more than home (and I have lived in other parts of the world). It has been proven to me over and over that the people here honestly care about each other and help in any way they can, even if it means simply to contact you and say hello or to take a minute and simply listen to you and read between the lines.

When I was a young man, the thing I disliked the most about Haskell was that everyone knew how

your life was going. As an older man, the thing I love most about Haskell is that everyone knows how your life is going, and cares.

Update

Last week's Mystery Reader was Jo Cox of Haskell, native of Illinois, who is married to Haskell native, Wallace Cox, Jr.

After graduating from Illinois Wesleyan University, Jo came to Texas on a scholarship to Texas Christian University to establish a sorority on campus. She met a family whose son, Dan Barfield, became a Presbyterian minister in Rule and Throckmorton and knew Wallace Cox, a young bachelor in Haskell. A blind date was set up for Wallace and Jo by the friend, who was dating a girl in Abilene. The foursome went to the Abilene State Park on their date. Jo and Wallace found they had much in common; both were Methodists and both Republicans. Jo credits coming to Texas and marrying Wallace as her greatest personal decision.

The Cox's raised five children in Haskell. Sarah Snailum is a 6th grade teacher in Arlington, Dr. Emily Cox is a projects manager for Express Scripts Pharmaceutical in St. Louis, Missouri, John Cox is Chief Finance Officer for BMC Software in Houston, Paul Cox is a missionary with O. M. S. in Madrid, Spain, and Elliot Cox is a salesman for Bill Wilson Motor Company in Snyder. The couple has four grandchildren, with another on the way.

Jo's major in college was in social work. She taught special education in Haskell junior and senior high school for ten years. For the last twelve years, after going back to college to receive certification, she has been an Education Consultant in special education for Region 14, out of Abilene, which serves 43 school districts. There are 14 regions in the state of Texas. In her work, which she says she loves, she travels to conferences, workshops and to individual schools on request, distributing materials, etc.

The Cox's enjoy traveling to visit their children, sharing hospitality in their home and attending cultural arts programs. They are patron members of the Old Jail Museum and Art Center in Albany, the Grace Museum and the National Center for Illustrators of Children's Literature in Abilene. She is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority.

As is fitting for her chosen line of work, Jo loves to drive her car, and prefers to do so rather than fly, when she goes back to Illinois to visit her 91-year-old mother. She recently drove to visit daughter Emily in St. Louis, and says it is a place she loves.

Although she is not now planning to leave the work she is engaged in, and loves, she nevertheless is already looking forward to being involved in some positive volunteer human services further down the road.

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 years Ago April 1, 1993

Don Kretschmer, chairman of the Noah Project Advisory Committee, welcomed cash contributions from four Haskell organizations. They are Abe Turner, of the American Legion, Rosemary Brown of Bailey Toliver Chevrolet and Olds, Louetta Davis of West Texas Utilities and Mike Cook of Lone Star Gas Co.

Several organizations in Haskell County competed in the eighth annual "Great Texas Trash-Off," including the Weinert Homemakers Club, The Texas Chiefs Model Airplane Club and the Rule Lions Club.

Missy Davis of Haskell was named to the Texas Intercollegiate Athletic Association All-Academic basketball team.

20 Years Ago April 7, 1983

Bill Pringle, former Haskell High School coach, has been named head track coach and assistant football coach at Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

The employees of Rice Springs Care Home hosted a salad supper honoring Faye M. Jetton, upon her retirement as the Director of Nurses.

Rule High School entrants piled up an impressive 232 points to outrun all competition in District 10A U.I.L. Competitions at Vernon Regional Junior College.

Weinert students swept first, second, and third places in U.I.L. Debate category at Vernon Regional Junior College.

30 Years Ago April 5, 1973

The Rule Bobcats won first place and qualified for regional competition at the District 18-B track and field meet held in Rochester.

Danny Smith is the Indian of the Week after his performance at the Red Skin Relays at Comanche. Danny placed second in discus by tossing it 137 feet.

The Haskell Maidens won the High School and Junior High divisions of the Anson track meet. The girls won the high school division with 116 points.

40 Years Ago April 4, 1963

Six Haskell youths, selected for their leadership, character, integrity, and scholarship, have been accepted for participation in Boy's State on the campus of the University of Texas. They are Barry O'Neal, Eddie Smart, Joe Thigpen, Martin Rueffer, Chas. Chapman, Sammy Larned.

A. R. (Pete) Eaton, of Rule, was presented an award as outstanding soil conservationist in the Wichita-Brazos District.

Dale Carroll, of Weinert High School's basketball team, has been named recipient of the Coach's Trophy annually presented to the "Most Consistent" member of the basketball squad.

50 Years Ago April 2, 1953

J. E. Walling, Jr., wholesale oil distributor and butane dealer of this city, was named a director in American Lloyds Insurance Company of Texas, an organization formed several years ago by butane dealers of the state.

Construction work was started on a modern new brick building to be occupied as a supermarket by Cecil Gregory's Piggly-Wiggly food store, located at the corner of Ave D. and North Second.

Mary Jo Jones was in Austin as a representative of the Hardin-Simmons Chapter of Future Teachers of America. The representatives visited the House of Representatives, Senate, and the Texas Department of Education.

100 Years Ago April 4, 1903

T. A. Rudd, a stockman of Stonewall, was in Haskell and closed a trade with John E. Robertson for the latter's ranch in Stonewall County, which consisted of four sections of school land held under lease.

Hardy Grissom went to Abilene to enter the competitive examination for appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Chapman, Hadaway recognized by College

District Judge Charles Chapman and Haskell attorney, Shane Hadaway, were among 4330 attorneys recognized as members of the College of The State Bar of Texas, during its Annual Awards Luncheon, Mar. 14 in Dallas.

The College is an honorary society made up of lawyers who strive to keep their legal knowledge

and skills at peak levels through attendance of an extraordinary number of continuing legal education hours; at least twice the required minimum. Established in 1982 by the Supreme Court of Texas, the College counts in its ranks most of the leaders of the legal profession in Texas. Only about six percent of Texas lawyers qualify to become members.

Haskell CISD Comments

by Billie McKeever Assistant Superintendent

"From out of the past, those thrilling days of yesteryear, comes, No, not the Lone Ranger—but Haskell Exes basketball.

Can exes from odd numbered years beat those from the '88 and '96 boys' teams that went to state? Who has stayed in the best shape? Will anyone have to be given oxygen?

Find out the answers to these and other questions April 19 when the Haskell CISD Educational Foundation will host Exes Basketball Games at the high school gym.

The girls' game will begin at 6:30 with the boys' game following.

Players from even graduation years will play odd years.

To register to play, exes may call Billie McKeever at 940-864-2602 Ext 102 or Shane Hadaway at 940-864-2434.

Registration may also be done on the school's website at www.haskellcisid.net. Click on alumni basketball registration. An entry fee of \$10.00 will be due before your game starts. It includes the cost of your game shirt.

In conjunction with the games, trophies from past years will be sold in a silent auction. They will be on tables in the foyer and bids may be made before and during the games. Bidding will end at the final buzzer of the boys' game.

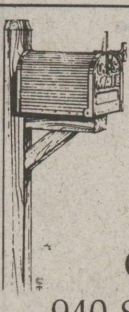
Hospital

Admissions

Delma Matthews, Haskell
Janie Kennedy, Haskell
Allen Strickland, Haskell

Dismissals

Roy Fain, Wanda Foster, Robert Kirksey



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MEMBER 2003
 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

This issue mailed Wed., April 2, 2003



THIRD BASE-Calina Kendall plays on base and also pitches for Haskell Maiden's softball team. Photo by Bill Blankenship



SHORT STOP-Morgan Cox is ready for action in the field for the Haskell Maidens' softball team. Photo by Bill Blankenship



FIRST BASE-Whitney Hise plays at first base for the Haskell Maiden's softball team. Photo by Bill Blankenship



PITCHER-Samantha Steele pitches for the Haskell Maiden's softball team. Photo by Bill Blankenship



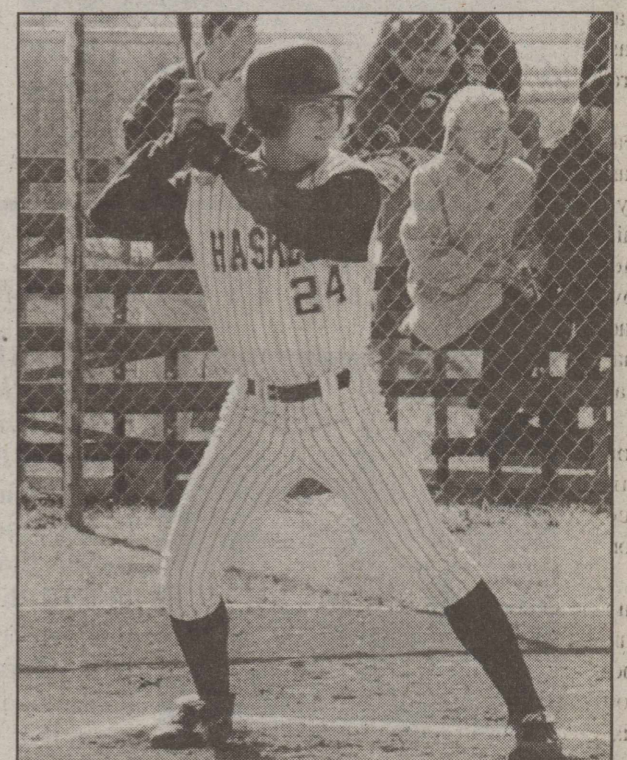
VARSITY TRACK-Haskell's Brittany Rutkowski runs the 100 meter low hurdles at Hamlin. Photo by Bill Blankenship



LOYD ALOFT-Eddie Loyd runs the triple jump for Haskell at the track meet in Hamlin. Photo by Bill Blankenship



CATCHER-Heath McCulloch catches for the Indians in their game with Hawley, Mar. 28.



JEANES AT BAT-Haskell Indian, James Jeanes, stands at bat in the team's game with Hawley.



MAIDENS TRACK-Haskell Varsity team placing 2nd in the 1600 meter and 800 meter relays at the Piper Relays in Hamlin, are: back row, l-r, Mollie Mcknight and Whitney Wallace; front, Brittany Lindsey and Leslie Grand. Photo by Bill Blankenship

Area track results

Piper Relays At Hamlin

Boys
High jump: 1. E.Loyd, Haskell, 5-10.
Triple jump: 2. E. Loyd, Haskell, 42-4.
800: 1. Kolt Kitley, Rule, 2:04.41
400: 2. T. Kitley, Rule, 52.66
Mile relay: 3. Rule, 3:33.62
Girls
Triple jump: 3. Wallace, Haskell 31-9
800 relay: 2. Haskell 1:52.26
Mile relay: 2. Haskell 4:18.03

Highland Relays at Highland

Boys
The Paint Creek team was 7th with a total score of 26.
Shot Put: 1. Bilba, Paint Creek, 41-2 1/2; 3. Hobbs, Paint Creek 37-10 1/4
Discus: 2. Hobbs, Paint Creek 110-5
Girls
The Paint Creek Girls team scored 12th with 0 total points.



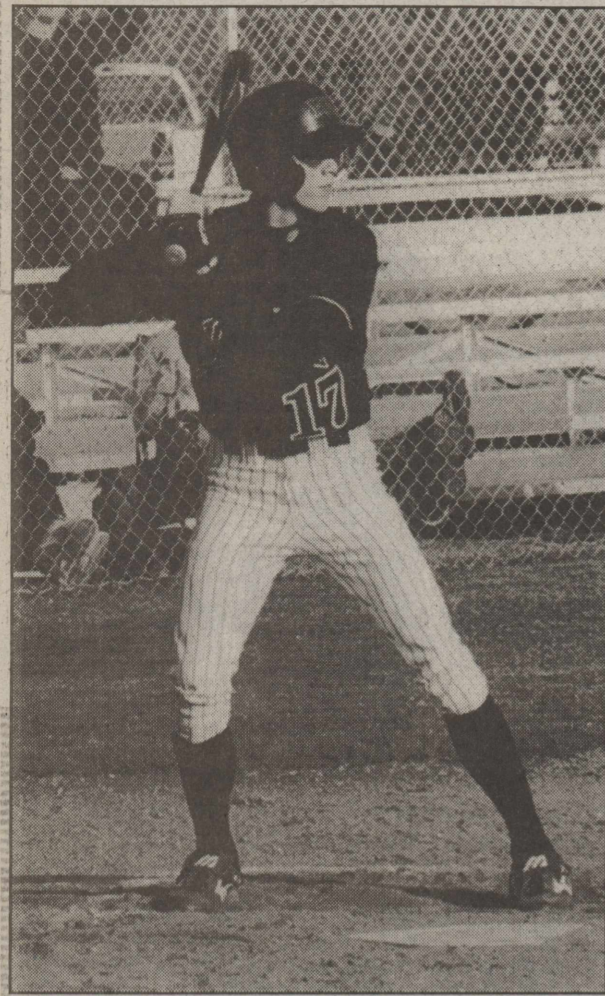
VARSITY BASEBALL-Haskell's team and coaches are: front, l-r, Brad Blanks, Austin Coker, Ronald Chapman, James Jeanes, Heath McCulloch, Alfred Ozuna. Back, Coach Mark Adams, Kendall Mitchell, Jon Dulaney, Eddie Loyd, Josh Webb, Chase Seelke, Omar Payan, Coach Kent Colley. Photo by K...

Go Indians! Go Maidens!

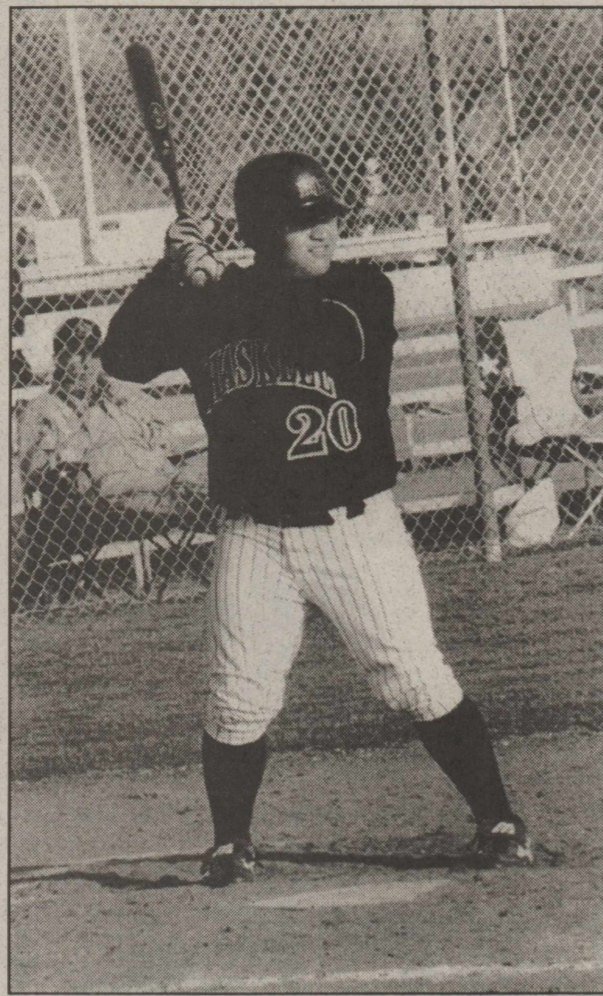
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Haskell

Josselet Reunion set Sat., April 19
It's time to get ready for the Josselet Reunion scheduled Sat., April 19 at the Haskell Civic Center beginning at 9 a.m. with coffee, juice, donuts and registration.
This year along with the adult auction, an auction for the children will also be held. Children are asked to bring a toy, game or stuffed animal for their auction.
An Easter egg hunt will be held for children 12 years and younger. A head count is needed, so those participating should call Debbie Brister at 940-864-2192.
Meat, beans and bread will be provided for the meal. Those attending should bring salads, vegetables or desserts.
Plans are being considered for a new cookbook. All interested in having recipes included in the new book should bring two or three or their favorite recipes.
See ya, April 19th!

50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50
50 I may
50 look 18,
50 but I'm
50 really
50 **50!**
50
50 Happy Birthday, Kenny!
50 April 3
50
50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50



AT BAT—Haskell Indian, Brad Blanks, is ready to take the pitch in the game with Eastland.



BATTER UP—Alfred Ozuna is at bat for the Haskell Indians in their game with Eastland.

City Council report

At the regular meeting, Mon., Mar. 24, the Haskell City Council awarded the liability and property bids to Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.

Changes were made to water deposit, inspection and related fees. In compliance with requirements of Texas Department of Health, the city will begin doing inspection of property when water is turned on. Cost of the inspection fee is \$20.00. The refundable residential water deposit fee was increased from \$20.00 to \$50.00. The high water-usage deposit fee was increased from \$100.00 to \$150.00. Business water deposit fees stayed the same. The recollection fee increased from \$10.00 to \$25.00.

A contract amendment was approved with North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority to assure the minimum amount of water they can supply the city.

It was decided by the city that the old theater property and the property on South First East would be leased. The week of April 14 was set as City Wide Clean up Week.

ECC Calendar and Menu

Mon., April 7
Lunch—Meatballs, brown gravy/ onions over noodles, lima beans/ham bits, spinach, tomato slice, cornbread, cherry cobbler, milk, tea, or coffee

Wed., April 9
11:00 a.m. Outreach Health Services blood pressure check
Lunch—Beef/lasagna, buttered carrots, green beans, sliced onion/

tomatoes, garlic toast, apricot cobbler, milk, tea, or coffee

Fri., April 11
Lunch—Mesquite broiled chicken, Texas potatoes, pinto beans/ham bits, Southern style greens, onion slices, yeast rolls, yellow swirl cake, milk, tea, or coffee

Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

Haskell School Menu

April 7-11
Breakfast
Juice and milk are served daily on the breakfast menu.
Monday: Breakfast on a stick
Tuesday: Breakfast pocket
Wednesday: Cereal, toast
Thursday: Blueberry muffin
Friday: Peanut butter and jelly sandwich

Lunch
Milk and iced tea are served daily at the Secondary campus. Milk is served daily at the Elementary School. Secondary campus: Choice of entree or baked potato with cheese

and ham.
Monday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, corn, garlic breadsticks, sliced pears
Tuesday: Chili dogs with cheese, tater tots, baby carrots/ranch dressing, pineapple tidbits
Wednesday: Popcorn chicken/gravy, mashed potatoes, broccoli with cheese, hot roll, fruit salad
Thursday: Soft tacos/cheese, chips/salsa, pinto beans, garden salad, cookie
Friday: Choice: hamburger or tuna fish sandwich, lettuce/tomato/pickle spear, French fries, orange wedges

This Week's Devotional Message:



THE BIBLE CONTAINS A TIMELESS RECIPE FOR THE GOOD LIFE

Despite the march of progress and all the latest inventions that mark our ever-changing lifestyles, there are some things that remain constant; because they cannot be improved upon. One of these is a good recipe that has been preserved intact through the years, because it is made from the finest ingredients. However, the most famous of all classic recipes is found not in a cookbook, but in the Bible; where we learn that ideal human behavior has not

changed through all the centuries of recorded history. Even in our space age, there is no replacement for honesty, kindness, industry; a spirit of cooperation, compassion for the less fortunate and the love and worship of God; among other things. This recipe for a good life appears in any version of the Scriptures, with easy-to-follow directions; and any further explanation you might need is available at your house of worship.

ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

- HASKELL**
- East Side Baptist Church**
David Page, pastor
Sun. 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
600 N. 1st East, Haskell
 - Christian Church**
Dusty Garison, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
 - New Vision Family Worship Center**
James Rincker, pastor • 864-5438
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.
East Hwy 380, Haskell
 - Trinity Lutheran Church**
Gary Bruns, pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30
Hwy 380 East, Haskell
 - Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**
Art Flores, Interim pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
607 S. 7th, Haskell
 - First United Methodist Church**
Allen Brooks, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell
 - First Assembly of God**
Rev. J.C. Amburn
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - St. George Catholic Church**
Father Michael Melcher
Sat. Mass 7:15 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.
901 N. 16th, Haskell
 - Church of Christ**
Brett Anderson, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 10:30 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - First Presbyterian Church**
Steve Beatty, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell
 - Trinity Baptist Church**
Tony Grand, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.
401 S. Ave. D, Haskell
 - Hopewell Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell

- Greater Independent Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell
- New Covenant Foursquare**
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell
- Mission Revival Center**
Rev. William Hodge
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell
- First Baptist Church**
Kevin Hall, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell
- Church in the Park**
Rev. Tim and Suzann Townsend
Sun. Morn. 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Gazebo or Pavillion
- PAINT CREEK**
- Paint Creek Baptist Church**
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
Paint Creek
- WEINERT**
- First Baptist Church**
Chris Powell, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
- Weinert Foursquare Church**
Rev. Robert Harrison
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.
Weinert
- ROCHESTER**
- Church of Christ**
Steve Willis, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
West on Main Street, Rochester
- First Baptist Church**
Jackie Brem, pastor
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
500 Main, Rochester
- Union Chapel Baptist Church**
Rev. Clarence Walker
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Rochester
- O'BRIEN**
- O'Brien Baptist Church**
Kyle Gulledege, pastor
Sun. 9:45 a., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p, Wed. 6 p.m.
O'Brien

- Faith Chapel of Rochester**
Katherine Byrd, minister
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.
Hwy 6, Rochester
- First United Methodist Church**
Dolan Brinson, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Rochester
- SAGERTON**
- Sagerton Methodist Church**
Melissa Bemis, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.
Sagerton
- Faith Lutheran Church**
Deborah Nissen, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Sagerton
- RULE**
- First Baptist Church**
Josh Stowe, pastor
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
1001 Union Ave., Rule
- Primitive Baptist Church**
Dale Turner Jr., pastor
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule
- Church of Christ**
John Greeson, minister
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
811 Union, Rule
- First United Methodist Church**
Tommy Wilson, pastor
Sun. Morn. Worship 10 a.m.
1000 Union Ave., Rule
- Primera Iglesia Bautista**
Alfa y Omegs
Manuel Marin, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
500 Elm Street, Rule
- Sweet Home Baptist Church**
Bill Trice, pastor
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a., 11:00 a., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.
Gladstone Ave., Rule
- West Bethal Baptist Church**
Rev. Robert Sweet
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
300 Sunny Ave., Rule

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Help Wanted

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE
position available. Competitive pay scale with benefits. Please apply in person at Brazos Valley Care Home, 605 S. Ave. F, Knox City. 12tc

HELP WANTED: Convenience store in Old Glory. Part-time/Full time. Apply in person. 13-14p

SENIOR LIVING PROPERTIES
are equal employment opportunity employers. We are dedicated for quality of care for the elderly. Currently we have the following openings. Qualified personnel may apply in person. Weekend LVN. Charge Nurse; Certified Nurse Aide; Certified Dietary Supervisor; Cook; Haskell Healthcare Center, 1504 N. 1st Street in Haskell, TX 79521. Phone 940-864-8537. Fax 940-864-8040. Contact Stanley Song, Administrator or Cindy Guess, DON. 14-17p

NOTICE
The deadline for Classified Advertising is 5 p.m. on Mondays.
Haskell Free Press

Help Wanted

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS for all positions at Sonic Drive In, Haskell. Apply in person. 25tc

PART RN needed for weekend coverage. Apply in person at Teakwood Manor, 1003 Columbia St., Stamford. 33tc

HIRING EFFICIENT JD Service Tech. Base + commission with benefits. \$40,000 plus. 940-422-4534. 14tc

TEAKWOOD MANOR has an opening for full time split shift LVN. Please contact Vickie at Teakwood Manor, 1003 Columbia, Stamford, EOE. 14tc

WES-T-GO now accepting applications for cashier. Apply in person at store, 400 N. Ave. E. 11-14c

For Rent

FOR RENT: Nice one bedroom apartment. CH/A. Cable/water paid. 940-256-4642. 14-15c

TAX PLANNING

Written By
Richard E. Rodgers, CPA



CHECK WITHHOLDING AND ESTIMATED TAX PAYMENTS FOR 2003

If you expect a large tax refund this year, or if you've already received one, chances are you're happy. But why give the government an interest-free loan? Why not keep more of your money and invest it throughout the year for your own benefit? Whether you pay your taxes through withholding or you make quarterly estimated tax payments, you can take steps now to ensure that you don't receive a large refund on your 2003 taxes—and that you don't owe a lot of money either.

Your tax bill in 2003 could vary from last year's tax for many reasons. If you or your spouse get a new job or leave a job this year, your income may change. Perhaps your eligibility for the various tax credits, exemptions, and deductions that are available will change this year. If your income decreases or if you can take advantage of any of the tax breaks to reduce your taxes, you may be able to lower your tax withholding or quarterly payments and put more money in your pocket now. The opposite is true if your income rises or you lose eligibility for a deduction, exemption, or credit. In that case, you may have to increase your withholding or quarterly tax payments.

To adjust your withholding for 2003, ask your employer for a new Form W-4, and take the time to complete it carefully.

If you make quarterly tax payments, you should be aware of a change in the requirements for 2003. If your income is greater than \$150,000, the prior-year safe harbor rule for 2002 required that your estimated tax payments and withholding add up to 112% of your 2001 tax liability. This year you'll meet that safe harbor requirement by paying 110% of your 2002 tax.

For help in determining your correct withholding or estimated tax payments, contact our office.

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VARSITY SOFTBALL—Haskell's softball team and coaches are: front, l-r, Veronica Vasquez, Eden Thomas, Whitney Hise, Samantha Steele and Melody Kennedy. Back, Coach Amanda Willeford, Jacklyn Escobedo, Brittany Rutkowski, Morgan Cox, Whitney Wallace, Calina Kendall, Kristen Rodela and Coach Shawna Faircloth. Photo by Kis

Calendar

Sheriff's posse

The Stamford Junior Sheriff's Posse will meet Thurs., April 3 at 6 p.m. at the Cliff House in Stamford.

Team in Training

Support the Team in Training in their fight against leukemia and lymphoma by calling Bill Markunas at 864-8903. Donations for the Lake Tahoe 100 miles bicycle ride for Dalton, Cojo and Virginia may be made at 3 Ave. B, Haskell.

City wide cleanup

Haskell's city wide cleanup is set April 14-19. Trailers will be available by reservation. Free dumping for Haskell residents will be allowed at the landfill. Large items will be picked up that are left by the dumpster. All trailers and pickups must be covered by a tarp with all bulky items securely tied down. Hazardous items will not be accepted. Contact City Hall for more information, 864-2333.

3-on-3 tourney

The Paint Creek Seniors Class of 2003 will host a 3 on 3 basketball tournament Sat., April 5 to benefit their senior trip. Two divisions: men and women ages 15 and up will play at least three games. Teams will consist of four members. Deadline for entry was March 25. A concession stand will be available.

Hazardous waste

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will provide disposal of banned or unwanted pesticides, household hazardous waste, properly rinsed plastic pesticide containers, used motor oil, oil filters and lead acid batteries free of charge Mon., April 7 in Stamford at the Farmer's Co-op Gin from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call Brandon Anderson, Haskell County Extension Agent at 864-2658.

Exes game

Haskell exes wishing to play in the Educational Foundation Exes basketball game April 19 may register by calling Billie McKeever at 940-864-2602 ext. 102, Shane Hadaway at 940-864-2434 or at www.haskellcised.net. A silent auction for old trophies will be conducted during the game. Entry fee is \$10. Girls play at 6:30 p.m. followed by the boys game.

Society to meet

The Haskell County Historical & Genealogical Society will meet Mon., April 7 in Haskell City Hall at 7 p.m.

Sr. Citizens banquet

Haskell CISD and Haskell Co. Commissioners Court will sponsor the Senior Citizens Senior Banquet Sun., April 6

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Civic Center. Tickets are free to those over 60, and \$5 for all others. Tickets are available at the Experienced Citizens Center, Haskell CISD Administration office, The Drug Store, any Commissioner and the County Judge.

Antique tractor show

An antique tractor show is set Sat., April 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Richardson's in Haskell. Events will include a slow tractor race, tractor parade and events around the square.

Social Security

A representative from the Social Security Administration will be in Haskell at the old City Hall annex, 305 N. 1st, Thurs., April 3 at 9:30 a.m.

Jossette reunion

The Jossette reunion will be held Sat., April 19 at the Haskell Civic Center beginning at 9 a.m. Many activities are planned including auctions and an Easter egg hunt.

**All deadlines
are 5 p.m.
Monday**

USDA announces refunds

USDA has announced that it will begin issuing refunds of \$16.4 million to eligible producers who were assessed payment reductions in 2002 for emergency haying or grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage. The refund is another key element of relief authorized by the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003 and applies only to 2002.

Producers enrolled in CRP are permitted to hay and/or graze livestock on CRP land under certain natural disaster conditions. When haying and/or grazing is permitted, producers are assessed a reduction in CRP annual rental payments, as required by law, to account for the areas hayed or grazed. In 2002, more than 1,825 counties were authorized for the benefit nationwide, and more than \$16.4 million was collected in payments reductions.

FSA will make the refunds to eligible producers as soon as possible. Estimated refunds in Texas are \$557,511.

CRP emergency haying and grazing provides additional feed and

forage to producers who lose their hay stocks and grazing lands due to natural disasters. Emergency haying and grazing was permitted nationally in 2002 due to widespread and extreme drought and other natural disaster conditions. Generally, to be approved for haying or grazing, a county must have suffered at least a 40-percent loss of normal moisture and forage for the preceding four-month qualifying period.

Under CRP, producers voluntarily retire environmentally-sensitive cropland for 10 to 15 years. In return, FSA makes annual rental payments to producers and shares the cost of establishing approved conservation practices.

Book fair set April 7-11

The annual Scholastic Book Fair is being sponsored by Haskell Elementary School, beginning Mon., April 7 through Fri., April 11. The book fair will be in the elementary library and will be for students, teachers and the public. This year's book fair theme is "Clued Into Reading."

Join the book fair adventure and help promote reading for our children. These great books encourage children to be excited about reading and learning—the keys to future success. Book fair hours are 8:00 to 4:30 daily and until noon on Fri. Everyone is invited to the "Family Event" on Thurs. evening, April 10, from 4:30 until 6:00, for a good time of book browsing, refreshments and a chance to win book fair merchandise.

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Sat., April 26

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

after the Richardson's Antique Tractor Parade

WHERE: Gazebo

Northeast Corner of the Square

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| Haskell Tire & Appliance | Rattlesnake Racing |
| Kay's Cleaners | McGee's Lumber Yard |
| Modern Way Food Store | Mainstreet Antiques |
| Personality/Slipper Shoppe | Horizon's |
| Richardson's/True Value/NAPA | The Klothesline |
| Smitty's Auto Supply | Embellishments |
| Sport About of Haskell | The Lunch Box |
| The Carousel | Don's Rustic Arts |
| The Drug Store | Cripple Creek Mercantile |
| Bassing Jewelry | Simple Elegance |
| Federal Land Bank | Butterfly Hugs |
| The Haskell Free Press | Glory Be! |
| Computer Solutions | Professional Pampering |
| Wild Horse Trading Post | The Toaster |
| Radio Shack | Sugar and Spice |
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| Sue's Flowers, Gifts & Photography | Lex's Treasures |
| Double A Drive Inn | Haskell Veterinary Clinic |

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