

Christmas events to be held downtown Saturday

The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 118-NO. 51, ©DECEMBER 16, 2004

"The People's Choice"

14 PAGES-TWO SECTIONS-50 CENTS

Basketball games

HASKELL
JV-V B-G vs Cisco
Fri., Dec. 17, 4 p.m.
at Haskell

Calendar

Holiday hours

The Haskell Free Press will close Wed., Dec. 22 at 5 p.m. for Christmas holidays.

Santa is coming

Santa will be in downtown Rochester Fri., Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. He will have fruit bags and will visit with each child while in town.

Rochester dinner

Rochester will host its community dinner at the Rochester Fire Hall Sun., Dec. 19 beginning at 11 a.m. Turkey, dressing, ham, sausage, all the trimmings and dessert will be served. Take-outs will be available for the elderly and shut-in only. Call Bob Easterling or City Hall for a delivery. The meal is free, but donations will be accepted. Volunteers are needed to make desserts, serve and clean up.

Band concert

The Haskell Indian band will present a Christmas concert Thurs., Dec. 16 at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Haskell.

Holiday hours

The Haskell Co. Appraisal District will be closed Dec. 22-24 for Christmas holidays.

Farewell reception

Brandon Anderson, Haskell County Extension Agent, will be honored with a farewell reception Wed., Dec. 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the County Extension Office, 101 S. Ave. D in Haskell.

Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., Dec. 18 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell. Volunteers are needed.

Lighting contest

Rule Chamber of Commerce will sponsor their annual Christmas lighting contest for homes and yards. Entry deadline is Fri., Dec. 17. Entries may be made by calling Rule City Hall at 996-2214. Judging will be conducted Sun., Dec. 19. Prizes will be \$50 for first place, \$35 for second place and \$25 for third place.

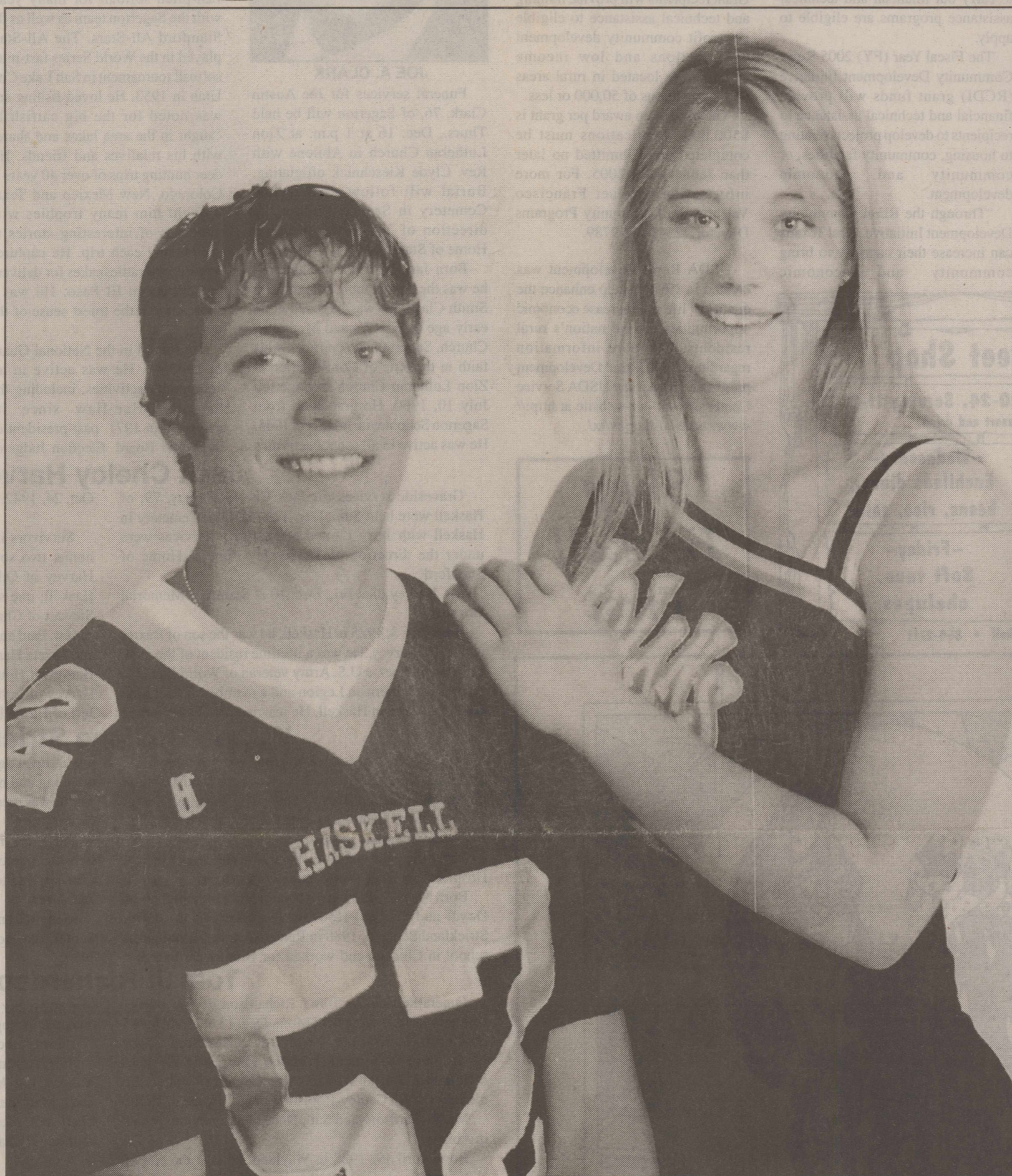
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Goodfellows Donations

The Haskell Goodfellows are accepting donations for Christmas boxes to be distributed to needy families this holiday season. Boxes will be delivered on Dec. 24 to those who have been selected to receive them. Those with donations of food, contact a Lions Club member, toys and clothing may be taken to the Haskell Fire Dept.; and cash donations may be sent to The Haskell Free Press, P. O. Box 555, Haskell, TX 79521.

Anonymous.....	\$50
In memory of Carl Wheatley.....	\$100
In memory of Allene Wheatley.....	\$100
Elouise and Dudley Perrin, in lieu of Christmas cards.....	\$50
In memory of Edna Burnett by E. H. Burnett.....	\$25
Total this week.....	\$325
Previous total.....	\$150
Total to date.....	\$475



FOOTBALL FAVORITES—Recently chosen by their peers as the 2004 Haskell High School Football Hero and Football Sweetheart

are Aaron New, son of Mike and Teresa New, and Kerri Newton, daughter of Phillip and Fonda Newton. Photo by Bobbie Johnson

Drawings set Sat.

Four drawings will be made at the County Courthouse gazebo Sat., Dec. 18, at 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 2:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m.

The amounts of the drawing are to be determined by donations and gift certificates from Haskell merchants. Haskell Bucks will be awarded to drawing winners, along with gift certificates. These will be given away in increments of \$25.00.

Lighting to be judged

Judging for the annual Haskell Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting of homes and businesses will be held on Mon. and Tues., Dec. 20 and 21. On those nights, lights should be turned on during the hours of 7:00 and 9:00.

First, second and third place and honorable mention will be awarded for residences and businesses.

Forehand qualifies for marathon

In Saturday's 2004 Dallas White Rock Marathon and Relay, 36-year old Shannon Forehand, a pharmacist from Stephenville and son of Chet and Jeannie Forehand of Haskell, placed 4th out of 332 runners in his 35-39 age groups. He placed 37th overall out of 3,171 runners.

Running the 26.2 miles in 2 hours, 56 minutes, qualified him for the 109th Boston Marathon to be held in April, 2005.

Forehand is a 1986 graduate of Weinert High School. His mother is employed by Haskell Memorial Hospital. His father, a former Weinert and Rochester coach, is now an instructor at Rochester ISD.

Married and the father of two children, Shannon Forehand has been training only about a year. This was the first time he has ever run the full marathon.

Area officials train for disaster preparedness

Sat., Dec. 4, a group of Haskell and area individuals, meeting as a local emergency planning committee, spent several intense hours at a Haskell County Emergency Management Exercise sponsored by the Department of Emergency Management and Texas Department of Public Safety. As an exercise scenario, they were presented the following information to consider:

It's a pleasant Saturday morning in Haskell on Dec. 4, 2004. It's cloudy and 45 degrees with a southwest wind at 15 mph. Local residents are busily doing the things they busily do on a Saturday morning between Thanksgiving and

Christmas. One resident is even mowing a lawn one last time (he hopes).

*Many are gone to Abilene, Lubbock, or elsewhere shopping.

*Some are rehearsing banquets, plays, etc.

*The football team has a shot in the playoffs, so coach is "drilling 'em hard."

*County Judge Davis is in Austin at a meeting he could not avoid.

*Several people in Haskell today antiquing and what-have-u.

*There's always somebody working farm business in town.

Few people notice the small plane that flies low over Haskell since this happens frequently with crop dusters on their normal pattern. However, at 10 a.m., as the plane flies north over town, the pilot releases an unknown liquid as the engine sputters. The direction of flight is toward the airport. The pilot remains airborne as far as the prison unit, then crashes through the north fence of the prison unit, and begins to burn. Observable or reported contamination begins at South 6th St. and South Ave. C., and includes the High School, and much of Ave. C. and D., to, and including, the school grounds and practice field. Contamination continues to the crash scene.

Many of the witnesses report that

the plane was a crop duster.

Many adults and teen are watching football practice from their cars in the parking lot, and now are trying to get the liquid off their cars, clothing, children, cats, etc.

Learning ways of managing such an emergency disaster scenario as this in Haskell, during the day the local group met in several sessions led by Steve Reddish, Regional Liaison of the Dept. of Emergency Management.

Those attending the meeting and the entities they represented were: David Davis, Haskell County Judge; Jerry Stocks, Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept., City of Haskell; Randy Shaw, Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept., EMS, Haskell Memorial Hospital; Casey Caldwell, Haskell EMS; Sam Watson, City of Haskell, EMS, Fire Dept.; Bill Steele, Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept.; Travis C. Floyd, Knox County Judge; Ronnie Brown, Knox County EMS; Sheila Kuchler, Knox

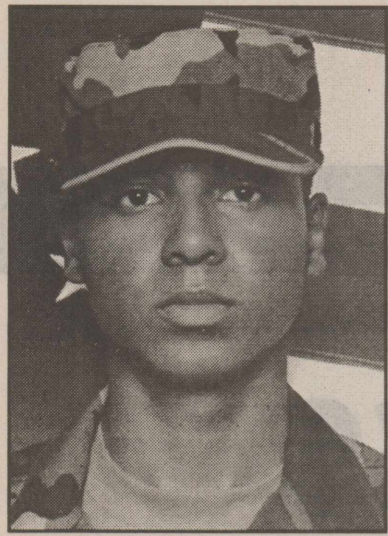
County Hospital; Pat Harris, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; Linda Latham, Haskell Memorial Hospital.

Jill Watson, Rolling Plains Regional Jail and Detention Center; Lee Ann Fraser, RN, Director of Nurses, Stonewall Memorial Hospital; Shalena Hodge, Administrator, Stonewall Memorial Hospital; Carol Reddish, Dept. of Emergency Management; Robert

continued on page 8



DISASTER MANAGEMENT MEETING—Steve Reddish, Regional Liaison of the Department of Emergency Management, right, speaks to the local and area emergency planning committee representatives in Haskell, Dec. 4, during an emergency management exercise in how to handle a local disaster.



OTIS L. THOMAS

In the Service

Otis L. Thomas, son of Lola Thomas Billington of Haskell and Lawrence Thomas of Cleburne, recently graduated from the U. S. Army basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

He received an award for Highest Physical Training of the cycle. He was also named Platoon Leader, and received the Award of Excellence from the Commanding General, A. J. Turner.

Thomas will remain at Fort Jackson until February.

USDA announces availability of rural grant funds

Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, has announced the availability of \$6 million in grant funding to support rural economic and community development efforts. Qualified private, nonprofit and public intermediary organizations proposing to carry out financial and technical assistance programs are eligible to apply.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) grant funds will provide financial and technical assistance to recipients to develop projects relating to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development.

"Through the Rural Community Development Initiative, rural Texans can increase their capacity to bring community and economic

development opportunities to local communities," said Daniel.

Funds may be used to provide technical assistance on how to create and operate a revolving loan fund, establish and manage cooperatives, or provide training on how to conduct homeownership education classes. Grant recipients will provide training and technical assistance to eligible nonprofit community development organizations and low income communities located in rural areas with populations of 50,000 or less.

The maximum award per grant is \$500,000. Applications must be completed and submitted no later than January 25, 2005. For more information, contact Francisco Valentin, Jr., Community Programs Director, (254) 742-9789.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to help enhance the quality of life and increase economic opportunities for the nation's rural residents. For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact any USDA Service Center or visit our website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

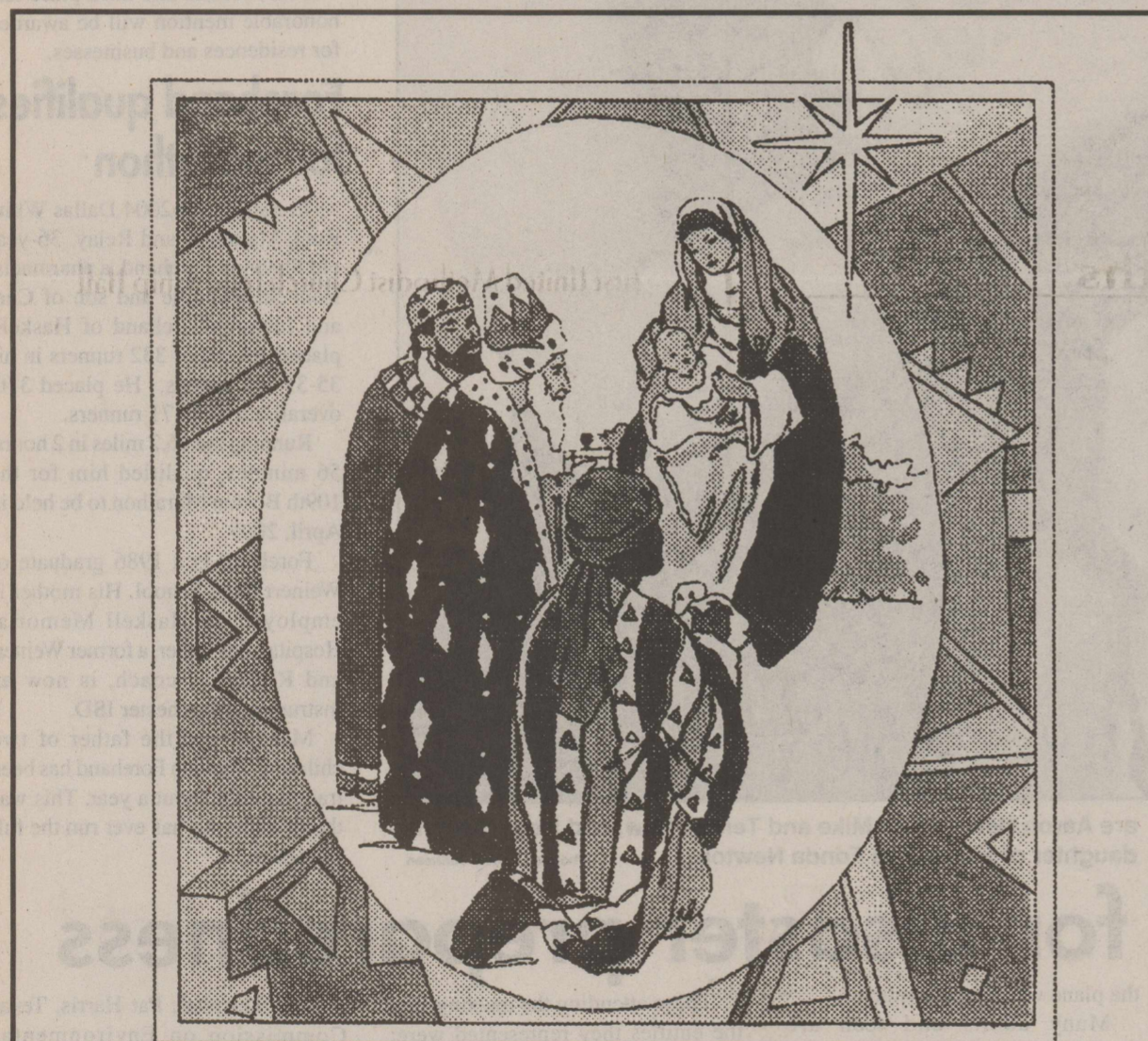
Carla's Sweet Shop

Lunch Menus for Dec. 20-24. Serving 11-2.
All meals include dessert and drink.

~Tuesday~ Pork Chops, Baked Potato, Red Beans	~Wednesday~ Enchilada dinner, beans, rice, salad
~Thursday~ Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans	~Friday~ Soft taco, chalupas

507 N. Ave. E • Haskell • 864-2711

**Shop
Haskell
First**



Come Let Us Adore Him

Putting the People of Our Community First

Welcome to Our

Open House

All Day Wednesday, Dec. 22

~ Holiday Banking Hours ~

Christmas: Closed All Day, Fri., Dec. 24 and Sat., Dec. 25

Regular Banking Hours resume Mon., Dec. 27

New Year's: Closed Sat., Jan. 1

Regular Banking Hours resume Mon., Jan. 3

First National Bank Haskell

200 South Avenue E

Haskell, Texas 79521

940-864-8555

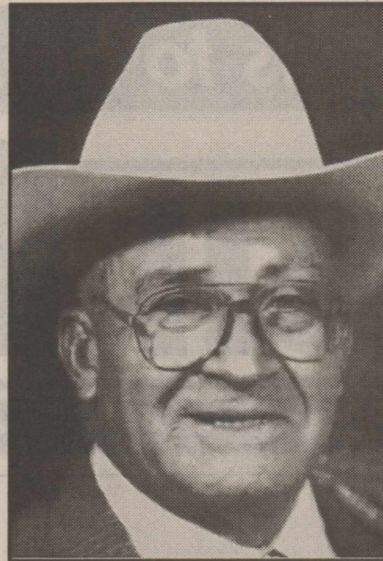


Other Convenient Locations to Serve You:
First National Bank Munday - Stamford - Rochester



Obituaries

Joe A. Clark



JOE A. CLARK

including UIL, tennis, softball and six-man football.

He married Dorothy Baitz of Old Glory July 23, 1946 at Zion Lutheran Church, Sagerton. They made their home in Sagerton where he was engaged in farming and ranching. To supplement the farm income, he managed the Sagerton grain elevator, the cotton gin, owned and operated Clark's Grocery, did custom combining and was a contract oilfield pumper.

An avid sportsman, he played fast-pitch softball for many years with the Sagerton team as well as the Stamford All-Stars. The All-Stars played in the World Series fast-pitch softball tournament in Salt Lake City, Utah in 1953. He loved fishing and was noted for the big catfish he caught in the area lakes and shared with his relatives and friends. His deer hunting trips of over 40 years in Colorado, New Mexico and Texas brought him many trophies with hundreds of interesting stories to accompany each trip. He captured hundreds of rattlesnakes for delivery to habitats in El Paso. He was a sportsman in the truest sense of the word.

He served in the National Guard in 1943-45. He was active in all community activities, including the Sagerton Hee-Haw since its inception in 1971, past president of the Water Board, Election Judge of

Precinct 4 for over 20 years and past president of the Community Improvement Program, a lifetime member of the Texas Cowboy Reunion Old-timers Association, and a member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Abilene.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers; one sister; and one grandson.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy of Sagerton; daughter, Patsy and husband, Don Bivins of Haskell; son, Ray A. and wife, Nancy Clark of Stamford; daughter, Peggy and husband, David Adler of Ann Arbor, Michigan; brother, Charles Clark of Sagerton; five grandchildren; one step grandson; and seven great grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be grandsons: Tom Bivins, Rick Plemister, Sgt. Phillip Clark, Christopher Adler and Jeremy Willis; Milton Schmidt, Vernon Youngquist and Clancy Lehrmann.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jack Jones, Alvin Ulmer, Kraig Kupatt, Oscar Schkade, John Fred Phillips, John Glenewinkel, Robert Stephan, Melvin Rogers, John Beal, Mark and Becky Cotton.

Memorials may be made to Sagerton Cemetery Fund, Sagerton, Texas 79548 or the Building Fund of Zion Lutheran Church, 2801 Antilley Road, Abilene, Texas 79606. PD. NOTICE

Jack Chelcy Harvey

Oct. 24, 1942 in Haskell.

Graveside services for Jack Chelcy Harvey, 79, of Haskell were held Sun., Dec. 12 at Willow Cemetery in Haskell with Jerry Larned officiating. Services were under the direction of Tankersley Funeral Home of Stamford.

Mr. Harvey died Fri., Dec. 10 at Stamford Memorial Hospital.

Born Feb. 3, 1925 in Haskell, he was the son of Baxter and Ruby Harvey. He was a lifetime resident of the area, a retired butcher, a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, a member of American Legion and a member of East Side Baptist Church in Haskell. He married Alta Faye Larned

Survivors include his wife, Alta Faye Harvey of the home; two sons and daughters-in-law, Jackie and Joy Harvey of Odessa and Bennie and Connie Harvey of Haskell; one sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and John Stewart of Chattanooga, Tenn.; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Paul and Carol Hollar of Chandler, Ariz. and Cecil and Joveta Harvey of Abilene; four grandchildren, Debra Harvey of Houston, Michael Harvey of Fort Worth, Paul Harvey of Lubbock and Paula McClendon and husband, Jeff of Haskell. PD. NOTICE

Wanda Doyle Strickland

Funeral services for Wanda Doyle Strickland, 65, of Haskell were held Tues., Dec. 14 at First Baptist Church in Haskell with Dr. Troy Culpepper officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home.

Mrs. Strickland died Sun., Dec. 12 at Hendrick Medical Hospice Care after a long battle with cancer.

Born May 20, 1939 in Jayton, she was the daughter of Doyal and Christal Hoover. She married David Jim Strickland Sept. 16, 1988 in Reno, Nevada. She attended school in Chicago and worked for Braniff Airlines and

was a travel agent. She was an avid bridge player, loved traveling and being with friends.

She was preceded in death by her father and one brother, Craig Correll.

Survivors include her husband, David of Haskell; stepson, Wesley David Strickland of Sherman; mother, Christal Brandon of Abilene; one half brother and several half sisters.

Memorials may be made to Hendrick Cancer Treatment Center, c/o Hospice, 1900 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79605. PD. NOTICE

Tom J. Richardson

Funeral services for Tom J. Richardson, 76, of Abilene, formerly of Rule were held Mon., Dec. 13 at First United Methodist Church in Rule with Rev. Shane Brue, pastor of St. James United Methodist Church in Abilene officiating. Burial was in Rule Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Robison Funeral Home in Rule.

Mr. Richardson died Sat., Dec. 11 at a nursing center in Abilene.

Born April 19, 1928 in Wayland, he was the son of N.A. and Sarah Ethel Richardson. He graduated from Breckenridge High School. He married Wanda Neal June 24, 1952 in Odessa. He was retired from Dowell after

working many years as a sales representative and district manager throughout Texas and Louisiana.

He was preceded in death by a son, Larry Richardson.

Survivors include his wife, Wanda Neal Richardson of Abilene; one brother, N.A. Richardson of Abilene; one sister, Maurine Donham of Wichita Falls; brother-in-law, Charles B. Neal of Naples, Florida; and one grandson, Anthony Richardson of Henderson.

Memorials may be made to Pulmonary Rehab at Hendrick Medical Center, 1900 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79606 or the donor's favorite charity. PD. NOTICE

Cattle Market report

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 587 head of cattle at its sale on Sat., Dec. 11, according to Gary Tate, reporter. 58 sellers and 38 buyers were present.

Packers \$2 to \$4 lower. Stockers steady to \$3 lower.

Cows: fat, .40-.48; cutters, .38-.54; canners, .25-.35.

Bulls: bologna, .55-.65; feeders,

.80-.95; utility, .52-.62.

Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.35-1.70; 300-400 lbs., 1.25-1.38; 400-500 lbs., 1.12-1.34; 500-600 lbs., 1.05-1.20; 600-700 lbs., 1.00-1.15; 700-800 lbs., .90-1.07; 800-up lbs., .84-.95.

Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.20-1.60; 300-400 lbs., 1.15-1.28; 400-500 lbs.,

1.05-1.20; 500-600 lbs., .92-1.15; 600-up lbs., .75-1.00.

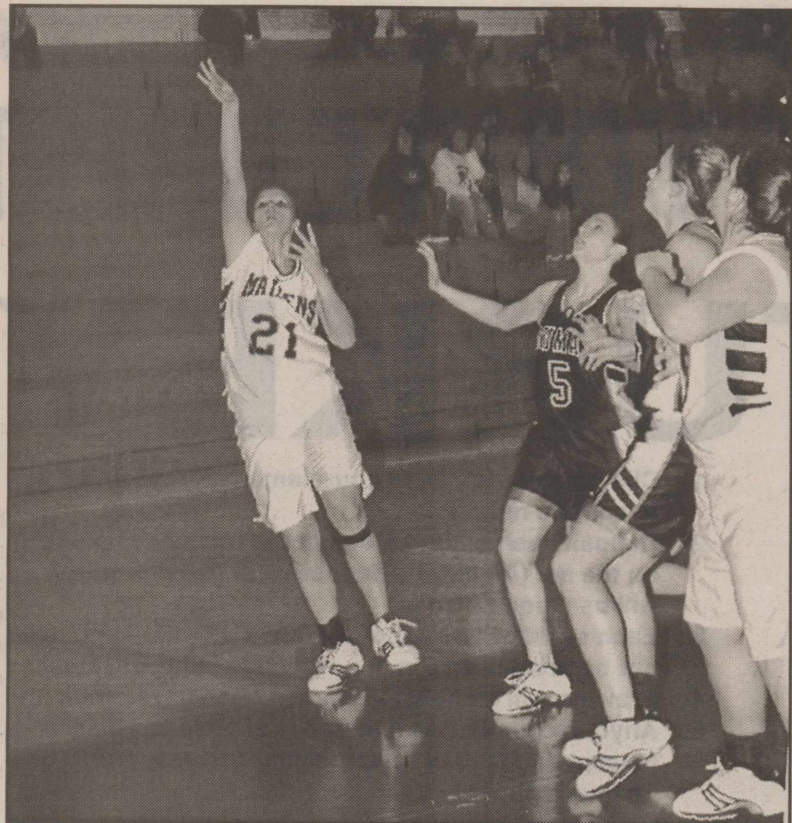
Bred heifers medium frame, 650-850.

Bred Cows: young to middle aged, 850-975; aged or small, 675-800.

Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 975-1250; aged or small, 750-925.

**Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve
11:00 p.m.
at
Trinity Lutheran Church
Throckmorton Hwy.**

We invite you to share with us
the worship service
And the beautiful music of Christmas.



VARSITY GIRLS AT VERNON—Haskell's Monica Buerger #21, scores in the Maidens' 45 to 35 winning game with Dumas at the Vernon Tournament.
Photo by Bill Blankenship

Prepare for cold weather

As Canadian weather moves south into Texas for a winter stay, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) advises people to take precautions against the cold. Freezing temperatures, chilling winds, ice storms and snow can create severe problems for people more attuned to heat indexes than chill factors.

Hypothermia, the severe or prolonged loss of body heat, begins when a person's body temperature falls below 95 degrees. Because the temperature drop may be gradual, and an early symptom of hypothermia is mental confusion, the victim may not know a problem exists. TDH officials warn that vulnerable people can die from the effects of cold weather.

Last year, exposure to excessive cold resulted in 28 deaths in Texas.

People most susceptible to hypothermia include those 60 and older, infants and small children, the sick, those taking certain prescription drugs or drinking alcohol, the homeless, auto or boating accident victims and those unable to find temporary shelter in cold weather.

Often an older person's metabolism is slower than that of someone younger, which means less body heat is generated. Or the older person may already be in poor health and taking medications that can alter their awareness of dangerously low temperatures.

People 60 and over may not perceive or respond to cold as readily as younger people because the body's natural alarm signal—the reflex of shivering that increases blood flow—lessens with age. Some hypothermia victims die because they simply are unaware of gradual temperature changes.

Also, some people, especially those living on low incomes, may not turn up their thermostats, fearing high heating bills.

To reduce potential dangers:
*Watch for hypothermia symptoms including confusion, drowsiness, slurred speech, a drop in blood pressure, shallow breathing and a pinkish tint to the skin. Anyone with these symptoms related to cold temperatures is in immediate danger.

*Check on elderly or ill people, especially if they live alone or in isolated areas.

*Wear loose-fitting clothing in layers, gloves and a face cover to block the wind if you must be outside. Stay dry.

*Be extremely cautious in the

wind. A strong wind, even in only moderately cool weather, can cause a wind chill far below freezing.

*Remember, too, that animals can die if left outside in extremely cold weather. Provide them a warm environment, out of the chilling wind. Be sure they have access to food and that their water is not frozen.

Winter storms may cause power outages, and food safety can be a problem. If you lose power for more than four hours, take the following precautions with refrigerated food products:

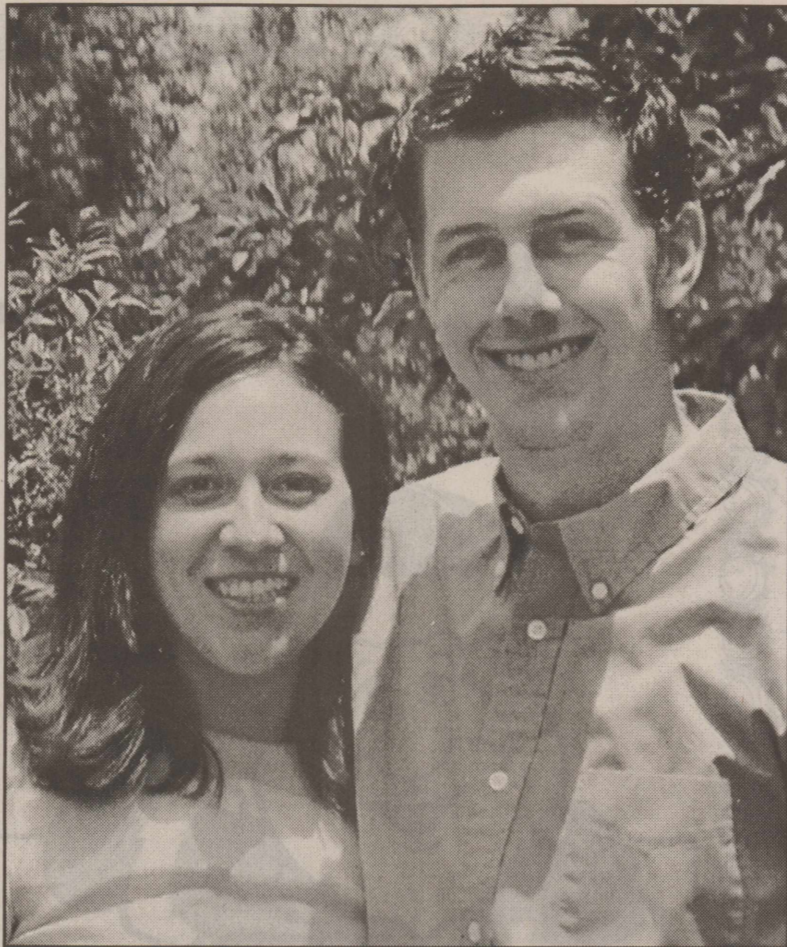
*Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible.

*Discard any potentially hazardous foods such as meats, eggs, dairy products and leftovers that may have exceeded 45 degrees. When in doubt, throw it out.

*Any frozen food that has thawed but not exceeded 45 degrees should be prepared as soon as possible. Do not refreeze.

Wind chill refers to the cooling effect wind has on the skin. Not only can wind chill cause rapid body heat loss, it also can cause frostbite—causing actual freezing of tissues. Frostbite can occur in 15 minutes or less at wind chill values of 18 or below.

TDH officials warn that no one should underestimate cold weather and should dress appropriately. Anyone planning outdoor activities in cold weather should check local weather forecasts for information.



LYNDSLEY REYES — KEVIN PATTON

Reyes, Patton plan January wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Rueben Reyes, III of San Antonio, have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Lyndsey, to Kevin Patton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Patton of Haskell.

The bride-elect is a May, 2004 graduate of Texas A&M University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. The prospective

bridegroom is a candidate for graduation from Texas A&M University in May, 2005, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering.

The couple is planning a wedding, Jan. 15, at the All Faith's Chapel on the campus of Texas A&M.

Garden Club holds Christmas meeting

The Haskell Garden Club met Thurs., Dec. 9 at the Haskell National Bank Community Room to enjoy festive, delicious food and visiting for their Christmas meeting.

Tables were decorated with a collection of Santas and greenery.

Attending were Melyn Wittenborn, Jane Powers, Martha Spitzer, Florence Alexander, Betty LeFevre, Tinka Nelson, Lois Ann Ballard, Martha Hertel, Paula Renegarbe and Frances Bowen.

Births

Janice Caddell Billington and Kenneth Billington of Haskell announce their birth of their son, Za'rance Dontrell Konya' Billington born Fri., Nov. 26 at 4 p.m. in Abilene Regional Medical Center, weighing 6 lbs. 2 oz.

He was welcomed home by big brother, Issac Sanchez.

Grandparents are Linda Caddell

and Johnie and Gussie Billington, all of Haskell.

Aunts are Lisa Espinoza, Tina Caddell, Syreeta Finley of Haskell and Aunt Regina Billington of Lubbock, whose birthday he shares.

Cousins are Ja Vour and Te Yanna Finley; Celeste, Jonah and Jacob; and Alexis Espinoza.

Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

Quillie Lackey enjoyed a surprise 90th birthday party Sat., Dec. 4 hosted by Bobby and Pat Jenkins and Ramona Lackey at the Jenkins home.

Grandchildren, great grandchildren, two great great grandchildren, sisters, brother, other relatives and friends were in attendance.

Mrs. Lackey's only children, Barbara Jenkins and Johnny Lackey are both deceased.

She enjoyed a wonderful afternoon in the company of those attending. She also enjoyed the many gifts, cards and letters sent for her on this special occasion.

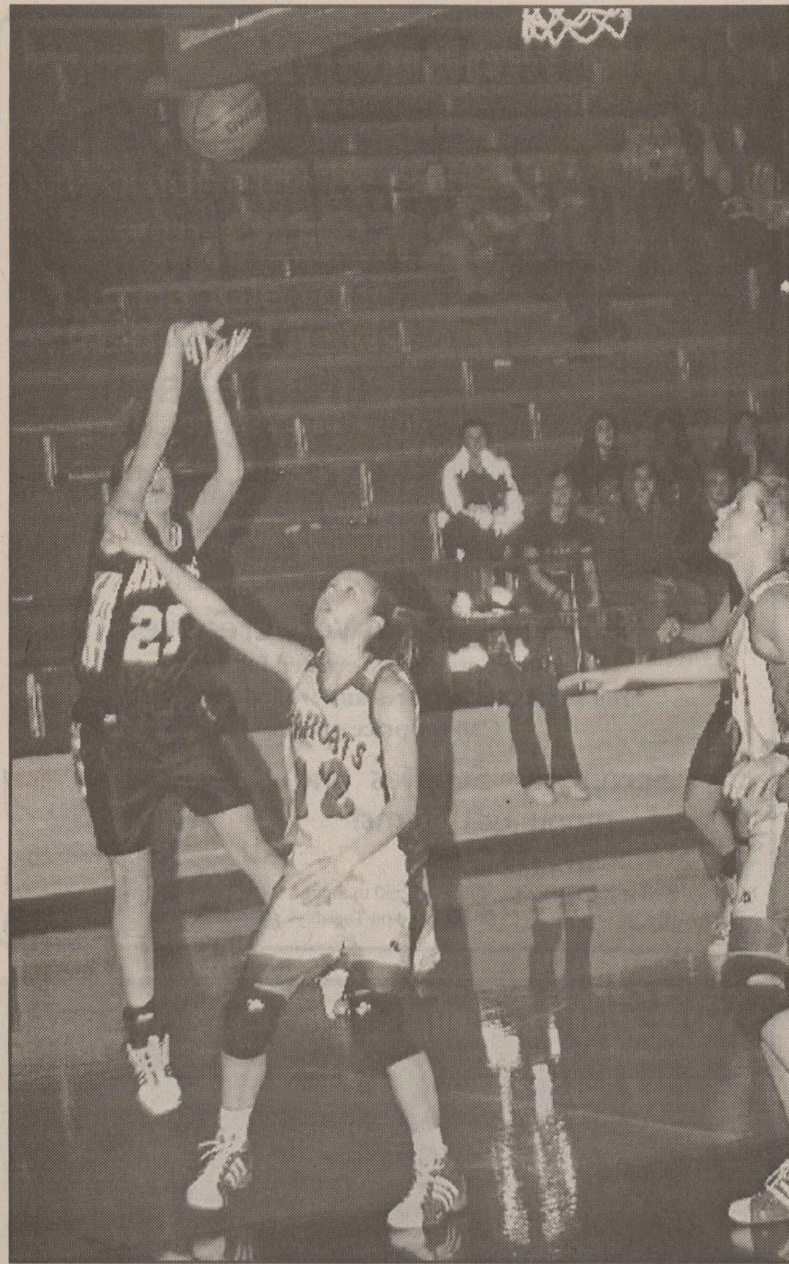
Holiday Headquarters
Gifts for Her:
*All Ladies Apparel
*Bowls, pie plates, serving pieces
*Inspirational and friendship gift items
25% off
Good Times
UNLIMITED
512 N. 1st
940-864-6133

County Extension Agent
Brandon Anderson
will be honored with a
Farewell Reception
Wed., Dec. 22
from 2 to 4 p.m.
at the
Haskell Co. Extension Office
101 S. Ave. D, Haskell
Everyone is invited to
join us as we show
our appreciation to
Brandon for his
contributions to
Haskell County
during the past five years.

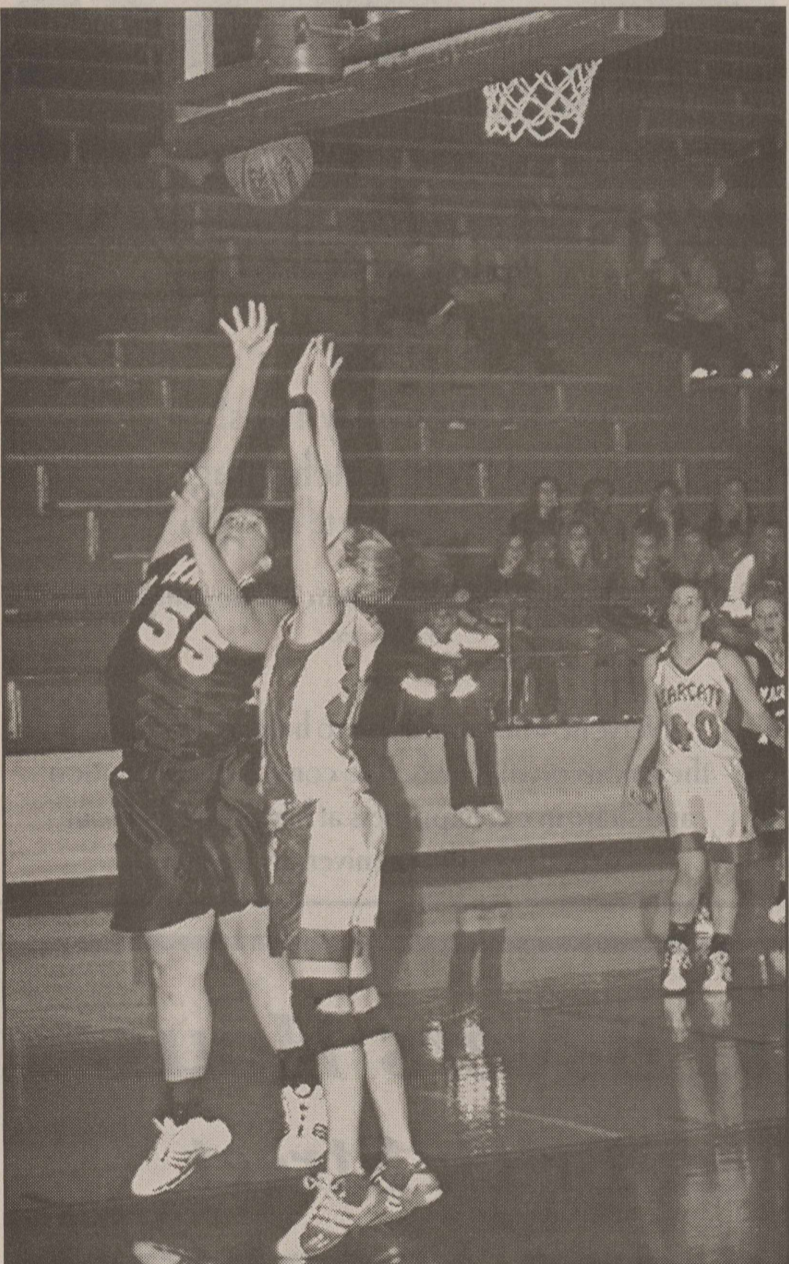
Rainey's Scrapbook Store
408 North First • Haskell, Texas • 940-864-5119
Crop Station Create-a-Bag
Reg. \$89.95
\$59⁹⁹
No Free Time? Not Very Creative?
Custom Scrapbooks created for you!
You supply the pictures and we'll do the rest!
Call for price quotes.
Scrapbook Supplies and many gift items!
Store Hours
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 12:30 to 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Usually closed on Tuesdays

Tom and Mary Kaigler, 1944
It's Been Sixty Years!
And We're Celebrating!
Sun., Dec. 19, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
at the
First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
Haskell, Texas
Everyone who would like to help us celebrate the joyous event is invited to come to the reception and share in our happiness at having reached our sixtieth wedding anniversary together.

The Bevers House
on Brick Street
Bed and Breakfast
Come by and visit us at an old-fashioned
Christmas Open House
Sunday, December 19
2 to 4 p.m.
311 N. Avenue F
Abe and Ruby Turner, innkeepers
940-864-3284
Thanks for twelve successful years!



BEARCATS AND INDIANS-Mollie McKnight #25, goes up to score in the Haskell Maidens' game with Ballinger at the Vernon Tournament, Fri., Dec. 10. Photo by Bill Blankenship



UP AGAINST A BEARCAT-Haskell Maiden, Morgan Acosta #55, takes action against the Ballinger Lady Bearcats in their game at the Vernon Tournament. Photo by Bill Blankenship

Auto Home Life INSURANCE

Wouldn't life be easier with **one agent** to handle your insurance needs?

Whether you have a claim, need to change coverage or just have a question, Farm Bureau Insurance is really convenient. You always call the same office and receive prompt, professional service from your own personal agent. Plus, with our competitive rates, you may even save money.

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Helping You is what we do best.

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Texas Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co
Texas Farm Bureau Underwriters
Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Co
Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co
Farm Bureau County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas
TX2ML0426

WIN YOUR CHRISTMAS TURKEY

Santa Bucks!

1. Clip out the ads, fill in your name, address and telephone number.
2. Deposit each ad in the box at the business listed on the ad. (All entries deposited in the wrong box will be disqualified.)
3. Each store will award one FREE TURKEY - you need not be present to win, no purchase is necessary.
4. Drawing will be held December 23, 2004, at noon.
5. Anyone over 16 years of age is eligible to enter (except employees at participating stores and this newspaper.)

Christmas Saturday, Dec. 18

*10 a.m. *12 Noon *2

Sponsored by Haskell Chamber of Commerce and Haskell Park

Name _____
Address _____
Phone No. _____

SALE 20% off

Winter Coats, Christmas Sweaters, Sweat Shirts & Vests

30% off Brighton Handbags

1/2 price Brighton Shoes

(Select Group)

30%-60% off Sale Room Clothes

Personality-Slipper Shoppe
940/864-2501 • 864-3051
South Side of Square
Haskell, Texas

Christmas

BAKERY DELIGHTS

Order Your Holiday Cakes and Pies Early Baked Fresh Daily Fruit Cakes

Pumpkin Pies
Pecan Pies
Cream Pies
Pumpkin and Banana Bread

Carla's Sweet Shop
507 N. Ave. E • Haskell, Texas

Name _____
Address _____
Phone No. _____

Christmas Sale

All Apparel and Shoes on sale

Super Discounts throughout the Store!
Everything 20-30% off

Just in time for Christmas!
If you can wear it ~ **It's on SALE!**
Where Winners Shop

Sport-About of Haskell 940-864-3891
402 N. 1st

We accept Discover, VISA, AMEX, MasterCard

Name _____
Address _____
Phone No. _____

Bailey Toliver

Ford

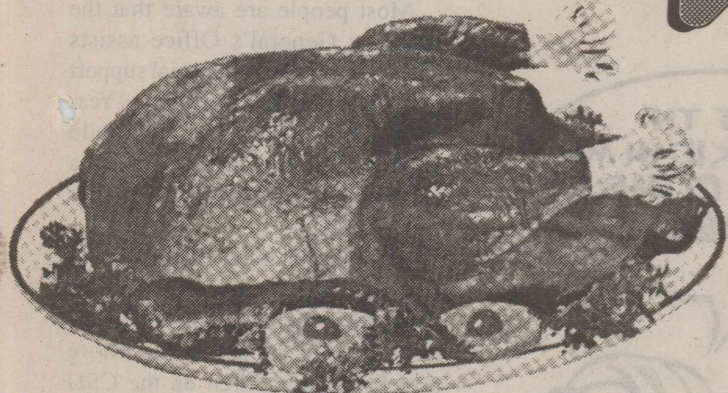
LOW Interest Rates Still Available!

940-864-2611
800-749-5576
209 S. Ave. E
P.O. Box 1057
Haskell, Texas

It's a great time to select a new vehicle! Let us help you today!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone No. _____

CHRISTMAS WIN



Drawings

4 Drawings

12*2 p.m. *4 p.m.

Participating Haskell Merchants

Deli Grill Open til 10 p.m.!

STAR STOP

706 N. 1st • Haskell • 864-2062

New Items!

Beef Taquitos with cheese **\$1.69**

Frito Pie with chili and cheese **\$1.69**

Nachos with cheese **\$1.69**

Nachos with chili and cheese **\$1.89**

Name _____
 Address _____
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Area basketball scores

Girls
 Haskell 53, Eula 33
 Scoring for Haskell: Kendall 15, Buerger 12, Newton 8, McKnight 8, Pannell 4, Wallace 2, Acosta 2, Tribbey 2.
 JV score: Haskell 35, Eula 25.

 Trent 44, Rule 32
 Scoring for Rule: Smith 19, Brown 6, Lisle 4, Johnson 3.
 JV score: Trent 37, Rule 26.

Rule Booster Club Tournament
 Haskell JV 39, Bryson 28
 Scoring for Haskell JV: Ortiz 11, Peiser 9, Tidrow 6, Garcia 5, Chavez 4, Medford 2, Lopez 2.
 Rule 50, Lueders-Avoca 39
 Scoring for Rule: Smith 28, Brown 10, Scheets 4, Kittley 4, L. Johnson 2, Lehmann 2.
 Aspermont 61, Haskell JV 26
 Scoring for Haskell JV: Ortiz 8, Lopez 5, Medford 2, Bird 2, Peiser 2, Armenta 2, Chavez 2, Garcia 2, Grand 1.
 Roby 40, Rule 22
 Scoring for Rule: Smith 15, Scheets 4, Lehmann 2, Brown 1.
 Rule 47, Haskell JV 31
 Scoring for Rule: Smith 26, Lehmann 6, Lisle 4, Miller 4, B. Johnson 3, Brown 2, Scheets 2.
 Scoring for Haskell JV: Medford 10, Ortiz 6, Peiser 4, Chavez 4, Lopez 3, Tidrow 2, Garcia 2.

Vernon Invitational
 Haskell 45, Dumas 35
 Scoring for Haskell: Kendall 20, McKnight 10.
 Vernon 61, Haskell 38
 Scoring for Haskell: Buerger 16, McKnight 10.
 Ballinger 45, Haskell 31
 Scoring for Haskell: Kendall 12.
 Maroon Bracket All-Tournament Team MVP: Calina Kendall.

Boys
 Haskell 48, Eula 30

Scoring for Haskell: Webb 11, Foster 10, Hodge 8, Mitchell 5, McCulloch 5, Chavez 4, Frierson 3.
 JV score: Eula defeated Haskell.

 Rule 70, Trent 35
 Scoring for Rule: Brown 25, Carreon 12, Saucedo 12, Kittley 10, Dudensing 8, Pace 3.
 JV score: Rule 62, Trent 21.

Rule Booster Club Tournament
 Bryson 45, Haskell JV 33
 Scoring for Haskell JV: Bitner 8, Agraz 5, Rincon 4, Castillo 3, Long 3, Villareal 2, Adams 2, Guzman 2, Alvarez 2, Rutkowski 1, Frierson 1.
 Rule 71, Lueders-Avoca 26
 Scoring for Rule: Brown 20, Kittley 14, Pace 12, Saucedo 12, Carreon 10, Dudensing 2, Simpson 1.
 Aspermont 65, Haskell JV 19
 Scoring for Haskell JV: Rodriguez 5, Rincon 2, Agraz 2, Adams 2, Guzman 2, Alvarez 2, Bitner 2, Rutkowski 1, Castillo 1.
 Rule 45, Roby 44
 Scoring for Rule: Pace 10, Carreon 9, Kittley 8, Dudensing 7, Brown 6, Saucedo 4, Simpson 1.
 Haskell JV 59,
 Lueders-Avoca 49
 Scoring for Haskell JV: Rutkowski 19, Rincon 16, Agraz 6, Adams 6, Bitner 4, Gonzales 2, Castillo 2, Alvarez 2, Long 2.
 Rule 66, Bryson 59
 Scoring for Rule: Kittley 21, Pace 12, Carreon 10, Brown 10, Saucedo 8, Dudensing 5.

Vernon Invitational
 Vernon 74, Haskell 56
 Scoring for Haskell: Hodge 12, Mitchell 11, Webb 11.
 Paducah 61, Haskell 48
 Scoring for Haskell: Mitchell 16, McCulloch 10.
 City View 69, Haskell 55
 Scoring for Haskell: Webb 16.

ECC Calendar and Menu

Mon., Dec. 20
 11:00 a.m. Blood pressure check
 Lunch—Chicken, dressing and gravy, green beans, candied yams, cranberries, yeast rolls, red velvet cake, milk, tea, or coffee

Wed., Dec. 22
 9:15 a.m. Movie and popcorn

Lunch—Beef a roni, Spanish cabbage, pinto beans and ham, sliced pickles, onion slices, cornbread, Mississippi mud, milk, tea, or coffee

Fri., Dec. 24
 Closed
 Announcements begin at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch.

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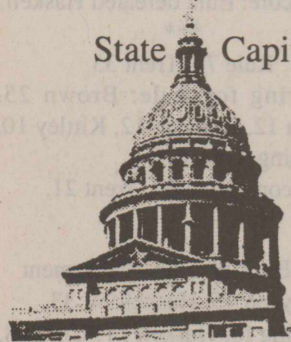
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OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Mike Cox

Water issues to heat up in 79th Legislature

AUSTIN—Except when dry spells force homeowners to cut back on their yard watering, most Texas urban dwellers tend to see their glass as half-full. But not a farmer depending on water for his livelihood.

Though more than 80 percent of Texans live in the big cities, agricultural interests still consume most of the state's water, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs told a Lubbock conference on water issues last week. That sets up a rural versus urban battle for water rights that will get legislative attention during the next session, she said.

"A lot of interesting things are happening," Combs said at the meeting. "It's going to be a significant water session."

Bills filed...

As of last Friday, 226 bills have been prefiled in the House and another 104 bills prefiled in the Senate in preparation for the Jan. 11, 2005 start of the 79th Legislature. No water rights measures have surfaced yet.

During the 78th Legislature, lawmakers filed 5,592 bills of which only 1,383 passed. The governor vetoed 48 bills.

Farmers Insurance settles...

Ordered by the state to reduce its homeowner policy rates by 17.5 percent, Farmers Insurance—with about 10 percent of the state's homeowners market—has reached a settlement with the State Department of Insurance.

Under the agreement, which Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor said would prevent expensive litigation, Farmers' new and existing customers will receive a 5 percent rate cut. Existing customers will receive a 15 percent one-time discount when they renew.

Meanwhile, State Farm Insurance, which has about 30

percent of the Texas market, is continuing to contest a state-ordered 12 percent rate rollback.

As the appeal process plays out for State Farm, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst has asked Senate Business and Commerce Committee chairman Sen. Troy Fraser (R-Marble Falls) to look for ways to "further reduce the cost of homeowners insurance for the working families of Texas."

Audit assesses state workforce...

A report just released by the State Auditor's Office shows the average state worker earns \$32,681 a year. The report says state pay lags significantly behind the private sector and even other state governments.

Turnover rate is 15 percent, with workers younger than 30 leaving at a 30 percent rate. Older employees tend to stay on because they are nearer retirement. In fact, the report said, employees approaching retirement age are the majority at most state agencies.

The good news for the 142,394 state workers across the state is that Sen. Todd Staples (R-Palestine) has filed a bill for an across-the-board pay raise.

Finance Committee chairman Sen. Steve Ogden (R-Bryan) also has said he supports more money for state employees, who have not had a pay hike since 2001.

"Don't know nothing 'bout history..."

At the Star of the Republic Museum at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park, museum staffers ask visiting school students a few questions about Texas history to assess their level of understanding.

From the museum's latest newsletter, here are a few examples:

- Q: "Who was Sam Houston?"
- A: "The guy they named San Antonio after."
- Q: "Who were the first Texans?"
- A: "Adam and Eve!"
- Q: "What did the Indians eat?"
- A: "Indian food."



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www.barrycartoons.com

From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

10 Years Ago December 15, 1994

Winners at the Cub Scout Cake Bake by members of Haskell's Pack 136 in these categories were: Wes Steele and Ross Bullinger (tie), biggest cakes; Leon Goudeau, smallest cake; Casey Judd and L. J. McCulloch (tie), best tasting cake; Scott Kennedy, ugliest cake; Blake Goss and Charlie Smith (tie), most unique cake; Nathan Webb, tallest cake; Geoffrey Phemister, judge's choice cake; Eric Lewis and Josh Webb, cakes displaying Cub Scout spirit; and A. J. Shaw, biggest flop cake.

Stephon Brockington, a junior from Haskell, made the ALL-TIAA Second Team from Midwestern State.

Ryan Byrd of Rochester earned the prestigious Swine Showmanship award at the Rochester Jackpot Swine show.

Navy Airman Recruit Christopher H. Green, son of Robbie Harris of Haskell, graduated from the Aviation Structural Mechanic Hydraulics Maintenance Course at Naval Air Station Memphis in Tennessee.

The E. L. Hilliards attended the Country Cousins Christmas dance at the Wagon Wheel. Leon Ivey was square dance caller. Maxine Ivey was country line dance caller.

20 Years Ago December 20, 1984

Helen Allison won Grand Champion pie in the Haskell County Pecan Show. Reserve Grand Champion was Lois Redwine. Grand Champion in cakes was Frances Fischer and Reserve Grand Champion was Alice Yates. In Youth Pies, Jill Jennings won a red ribbon.

Service badges were presented to four members of the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department. Receiving badges were Satch Lusk, 40 years; E. J. Stewart, 35 years; Wayne Wainscott, 25 years; and Wilbert Klose, 20 years.

The Society of Distinguished American High School Students awarded Marcy Michelle Davis of Tennessee a certificate signifying the honor of membership and authenticating registration in The Society of Distinguished American Students. Davis is the daughter of David Davis of Haskell and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Britt Moon, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Davis, and great granddaughter of Ethel Sego, all of Haskell.

The Throckmorton Greyhounds 50-49. Leading scorer was Ronald Campbell with 15 points, followed by Rob Mickler with 13 and Keith Medford with 12. Campbell led in rebounds with 10, followed by Mickler with 9.

30 Years Ago December 19, 1974

H. V. Woodard with Woodard Farm Sales in Haskell returned from a special tour of Hesston Corporation in Hesston, Kansas.

County Judge B. O. Roberson presented retiring county employees with plaques during their Christmas party. Receiving plaques were Slover Bledsoe, Artie Bradley, Jessie Vick and E. C. Collins.

J. C. Short received a five year pin, Wilburn Klose received 10 year pin and Dugan Starr received a 35 year pin at the annual Christmas party for members of the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department and their wives.

Over 500 persons attended the open house held by First Federal Savings and Loan Association. Ruby Hobbs of Haskell was winner of the \$100 savings account given as a door prize.

40 Years Ago December 17, 1964

Seven members of the Haskell High School Indian Band were among some 80 musicians selected in the All-District band for Region II of the Interscholastic League. They included Larry Long, Wayne Cadenhead, David Follstaedt, Ken Barnett, Harold Ivy, Randy Wiseman and Lon Barnett. Chosen from Rochester were Alma Williams, Mickie Reid and Belinda Gauntt.

Weinert's Larry Cunningham and Paint Creek's Larry Edwards were named to the District 5 6-man All-District football team.

Bonnie Howard of Haskell was named an All-Tournament selection at the guard position in the Dyess AFB invitational girls' basketball tournament. Carolyn Fischer was chosen one of two Tournament Princesses to serve with Queen Marsha Mund of Eldorado.

John Martinez was chosen as the Haskell Junior High Football Hero and Joe Josselet for High School. Patricia Toliver was the team's choice as Junior High Football Sweetheart of the Year with Janice Burson as High School's choice.

50 Years Ago December 16, 1954

New member of the staff of the Haskell County Hospital was Bobbie C. Herd, R.N.A., who has been employed as anesthetist and superintendent of nurses.

Julie Massey, McMurry College sophomore from Munday and the niece of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Josselet of Weinert, was named Athletic Sweetheart.

Members of the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department entertained their wives and invited guests with a supper and entertainment program. A special feature was the presentation of a gift of appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cousins in recognition of his valued service as a member of the department, and for her work with the Auxiliary.

Lavon Rogers of Hardin-Simmons University, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Gibson, Sr. of Sagerton, preached in the Sagerton Methodist Church.

100 Years Ago December 17, 1904

E. A. Williams sold his shop and residence to M. R. Hemphill.

The little folks had an oldtime candy pulling at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Cummings.

Santa Claus has for his assistants at Terrell's, Mrs. A. E. Brockman, Docia Winn and Cora Lemmon.

J. F. Gunn and Prentiss Gunn of Bell County, brothers of Mrs. Robert McCullough, were here this week on a visit and also prospecting the country while here.

From the AG

By Greg Abbott

How the AG Helps Parents Meet Their Children's Medical Needs

Most people are aware that the Attorney General's Office assists parents in obtaining financial support for their children. In State Fiscal Year 2004, the Attorney General's Child Support Division (CSD) collected a record-breaking \$1.677 billion for Texas children.

You may not know that my office also addresses a child's health care needs by including medical support in each child support order. More than 655,000 children on the CSD caseload are subject to a child support order that includes a provision to provide medical support. Access to health care is essential to a child's well-being. For that reason, Texas law requires that each child support order address medical support in addition to child support. In crafting the child support order, courts consider the cost and quality of health insurance that may be available to the parents, so that each child receives the best possible coverage.

In many child support cases, the parent without custody is ordered to provide health insurance for the child through a policy available from the parent's employer or membership in a union, trade association, or other organization.

If the custodial parent has comparable coverage that is available at a lower cost, the courts will order the noncustodial parent to pay additional child support to cover the cost of the health insurance premium for the child.

If neither parent is able to obtain private health insurance at a reasonable cost, the custodial parent is ordered to apply on behalf of the child to a government-funded medical program such as Medicaid or the state Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The cost of the CHIP premium is added to the noncustodial parent's monthly child support payment.

In addition, both parents may be required to pay a percentage of "out-of-pocket" medical expenses that are not covered through insurance. The percentage is determined by the financial circumstances of each parent. If neither parent has private insurance and the children are not eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, the courts will order the noncustodial parent to provide cash medical support in addition to the monthly child support payment.

When the noncustodial parent is ordered to pay cash medical support, a notice of income withholding is sent to the employer according to the same procedures for withholding regular child support payments from the parent's paycheck. If the parent is ordered to provide insurance through the employer, the employer is required to enroll the child in health insurance coverage and withhold the necessary premium payments from the parent's income.

The Child Support Division surveys Texas employers about private health insurance provided to their employees. By matching the names of children who are subject to medical support orders with employer data, my office has enrolled close to 330,000 children over the last two years in employer-provided dependent health care coverage.

Enrolling children in private health insurance represents a significant cost savings to the state of Texas. The Child Support Division found that over half of the children my office enrolled in private insurance were also covered by Medicaid. This information allowed the Health and Human Services Commission to recover \$17.4 million from private insurers and pharmacies for services Medicaid paid, but was not required to cover. In addition, the Attorney General's Office collected \$10.4 million in cash medical support for families on Medicaid and distributed those collections to the Medicaid agency.

To find out more about services offered by the Attorney General's Child Support Division, visit the agency Web site at www.oag.state.tx.us. Or you can contact your local Child Support field office. Consult your local directory for listings.

Indoor humidity may contribute to stuffiness

by Jane Rowan

Haskell Co. Extension Agent

If you feel stuffy after a couple hours at home, it might be more than allergy season. It could be indoor humidity.

Both persistent respiratory problems and static electricity are symptoms of a house with humidity levels out of balance. Air that's too wet causes condensation, frost or ice

inside your home. These might show up inside windows, as damp spots, mold, or sweating water pipes.

Air that's too dry can cause static electricity in clothes and carpets.

For more information on indoor air quality, visit Extension's Family and Consumer Sciences Web site and click on the link to Housing and Environment.

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This issue mailed Wed., Dec. 15, 2004

Letters to the Editor

Dear editor,
I would like to thank everyone who donated to our Jump Rope For Heart jump-a-thon this year. The kids collected \$5,405.05, and I am extremely proud of them.

I would especially like to thank the kids, as well as their parents, for sharing them with me and allowing them to collect donation for this wonderful cause. A special thanks also goes out to the local merchants for their continued support and contributions. With all of us working together, we are able to make a big difference!

Thanks again,
Tiffany Thomas
P.E. teacher/Jump Rope For Heart Coordinator

Dear editor,
Over the past five months my wife and I have experienced several situations that have helped us to adjust to our new church and home in Haskell. However, no event really provided that acclimation to our new community of Haskell until the Haskell County Community Choir's presentation of *Bethlehem Morning* this past weekend.

At the presentation, we were overwhelmed with the sense that we were now a part of a community. Not only did the musical provide a sense of community for us, but it also served as a sort of spiritual launch for us into the Christmas season.

I would like to express my gratitude to those who sang so beautifully, and those who worked behind the scenes so diligently, for presenting so wonderfully to our community, the message of the birth of our Savior.

Sincerely yours,
Pastor Danny Manross
East Side Baptist Church

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WILD HORSE Trading Post, your Radio Shack dealer, is now a distributor for RADA cutlery. 419 S. 1st., Haskell. 864-2200.47-51c

FOR SALE: Computer, \$200; 2 computer desks, \$50 and \$65; 2 office chairs, \$50 each. OBO. 940-864-2073. 50-51p

FOR SALE: Livestock bedding. Approximately 10 cu. ft. \$5 per bag. See Sam at Modern Way or call 864-3763. 50tfc

FOR SALE: 2 vaccum cleaners, hospital bed, lift chair. Day, 940-864-2661. Night, 940-864-3630. 50-51p

SHELLED PECANS for sale. 400 N. 3rd. Oris Gibson. 51-52p

FOR SALE: Electric cook stove. Good condition. \$150. Call Jody 864-2489. 51p

Miscellaneous

HOUSE LEVELLING and foundation repair. No payments until work is satisfactorily completed. David Lee & Co. 625-675-6369. 6tfc

CUSTOM FRAMING. Country Friends and Frames, 101 N. Swenson, Stamford. 325-773-2661. Complete framing needs. Closed Mondays. 51c

Wanted

WANT TO BUY: Mobile home in Haskell or Knox County. Will move. 940-658-3160. 50-52c

Help Wanted

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

PRICE SPRINGS' Care Home is making a difference. We are looking for LVNs and CNAs, various shifts; and a full time cosmetologist, hourly pay. Call Shandra at 864-2652 for information. 51c

NOW HIRING: Certified Nurses Aides for the 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. shift and the 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. shift. Contact Vickie Wilhelm. 325-773-3671. 48-51c

INSTRUCTORS—needed for Haskell High after school program; help kids get to college or learn a pre-employment skill; Temporaries Plus 325-676-7179. 51tfc

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For Rent

FOR RENT: Furnished rooms for rent. Nightly, weekly. Call Lone Star Lodging 864-2238. 21tfc

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF DRAFT FEDERAL OPERATING PERMIT

DRAFT PERMIT NO.: 037 APPLICATION AND DRAFT PERMIT. AEP Texas North Company, P.O. Box 660164, Dallas, Texas 75266-0164, an Electric Services facility, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a Renewal of Federal Operating Permit (herein referred to as Permit) No. 37 to authorize operation of the Paint Creek Power Station. The site addressed by the application is located 16 miles southeast of Haskell on Farm-to-Market 2082, Haskell County, Texas. This application was received by the TCEQ on December 17, 2003.

The purpose of a federal operating permit is to improve overall compliance with the rules governing air pollution control by clearly listing all applicable requirements, as defined in Title 30 Texas Administrative Code § 122.10 (30 TAC § 122.10). The permit will not authorize new construction or authorize the area to increase emissions. The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the

You know you're getting old—when you stop looking forward to your next birthday. People keep telling us we have the best prices in the Big Country on leather sofas and recliners. Sofa prices start at \$669. Kinney Furniture in Stamford. 51c

application and has made a preliminary decision to prepare a draft permit for public comment and review. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the area must operate. The executive director recommends issuance of this draft permit. The permit application, statement of basis and draft permit is available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ Central Office, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. E, First Floor, Austin, Texas, the TCEQ Abilene Regional Office, 1977 Industrial Boulevard, Abilene, Texas, and the Haskell County Clerks Office, 1st Ave. D, Haskell, Texas. At the central and regional office, you may also review and copy all relevant supporting materials for the draft permit, as well as the New Source Review permits which have been incorporated by reference. Any person with difficulties obtaining these materials due to travel constraints may contact the TCEQ Central Office file room at (512) 239-1540.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list for this application by sending a request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. Those on the mailing list will receive copies of future public notices (if any) mailed by the Chief Clerk for this application.

PUBLIC COMMENT/NOTICE AND COMMENT HEARING. You may submit written public comments or request a notice and comment hearing on the draft permit. Comments relating to the accuracy, completeness and appropriateness of the permit actions may cause a change to be made to the draft permit.

A person who may be affected by the emission of air pollutants from the area may request a notice and comment hearing. The TCEQ may grant a notice and comment hearing on the application

if a written hearing request is filed within 30 days after publication of the newspaper notice. The purpose of a notice and comment hearing is to provide an opportunity to submit comments on the draft permit. If a notice and comment hearing is granted, all individuals that submitted written comments or a hearing request will receive written notice of the hearing. This notice will identify the date, time and location for the hearing.

A notice of proposed final action that includes a response to comments and identification of any changes to the draft permit, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments, a hearing request, or requested to be on the mailing list for this application. This mailing will also provide instructions for public petitions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to request that EPA object to the issuance of the proposed permit. After receiving a petition, the EPA may only object to the issuance of a permit which is not in compliance with its applicable requirements or the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 122.

Written public comments and requests for a notice and comment hearing should be

submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 and received within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our Web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from AEP Texas North Company at the address in the first paragraph or by calling Mr. Kris Gaus at (214) 777-2896. 51c

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LAKESHORE SITES: Lake Stamford on 4 lots. Extra Clean 3 bedroom, 2 bath double wide. 3 bedroom, 1 bath stucco with metal roof.
907 N. AVE. L. Large, clean home. Ready to move into. 4 bedroom, 2 bath, C/A. Large storage. Water well. Fenced yard. Price reduced.
1401 N. AVE. I. Priced reduced again to sell today. 3 bedroom, 2 bath rock home. Beautiful rock fireplace, C/A. Privacy fence. 12 pecan trees. Dog kennel. Carport. 1605 DERRICK DR. Beautiful home, built in 1995. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Lots of amenities.
LAKESHORE SITES: Mobile home with large addition on 4 lots. Central H.C. Also 3 window units. Fireplace, six ceiling fans. Two car carport. Fenced yard. Garden plot. Nice landscaping.
1307 N. AVE. L. Nice home. Great condition. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. C/A. 2 living areas. Cellar, water well, storage building. Corner lot. Priced reduced to sell.
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103 N. Ave. E.
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1-800-658-6342
or call
Robert Tribbey 256-1400
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Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 0157-04-042 for LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT in HASKELL County, etc. will be opened on January 11, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.
Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
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State Office: Constr./Maint. Division, 200 E. Riverside Dr., Austin, Texas 78704. Phone 512-416-2540.
Dist/Div Office(s): Abilene District, District Engineer, 4250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas 79604-0150. Phone 325-676-6800.
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin. 51-52c

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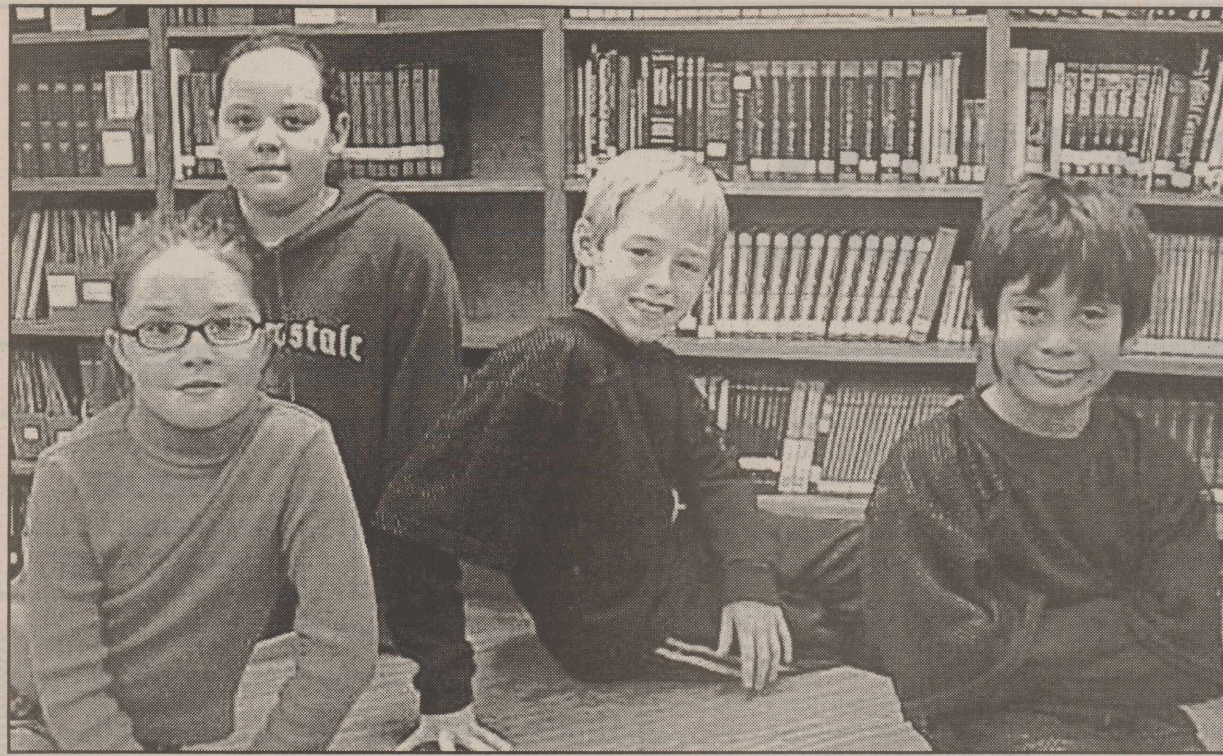
The family of Meta Rueffer wishes to thank everyone for their words of comfort, cards, flowers and food sent during our time of sorrow. A special thanks to the doctors and nurses of Haskell Memorial Hospital.

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TOP JUMP-A-THON COLLECTORS—Haskell Elementary students raising the most donations in the recent Jump Rope For Heart drive were: l-r, second grader, Abbi Alsbrook; fifth grader, Felysha Walker; fourth grader, Cole Casey; and top overall money collector, third grader Gus Estrada of Rochester, with \$419. Altogether, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grades collected \$5,405.05 for the fund.

Students raise \$5,405.05 jumping rope for AHA

Fri., Nov. 19, the Haskell Elementary 159 students in grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 participated in the 10th annual Jump Rope For Heart jump-a-thon. The 100 students who collected donations raised \$5,405.05 for the American Heart Association. These funds will be used to help fight heart disease and stroke, the nation's number one and number three killers. "This year's event was a big success," said Tiffany Thomas, P. E. teacher/Jump Rope For Heart coordinator. "With all the other extracurricular activities for the kids to be involved in now, they have still been able to

maintain collection levels over \$5,000, and I think that says a lot about how hard the kids are working. I am very proud of all the jumpers and we all had a lot of fun."

For the third year in a row, the fourth grade collected the most donations of all the grades involved. For all of their hard work and effort, the fourth graders, and their teachers, will receive a pizza party before the Christmas break.

All of the students participating in the event received a certificate and sticker. The students collecting

donations will receive prizes from the American Heart Association (AHA) for their efforts. The top collectors in each grade will also get extra incentives from some of the local merchants around town.

The top collector for the fifth grade was Felicia Walker, and the top collector for the fourth grade was Cole Casey. Top collector for the third grade, as well as the overall top money collector was Gus Estrada of Rochester, with \$419. Finishing out the top collector group was second grader, Abbi Alsbrook.

Sue Betts wins 500th basketball game

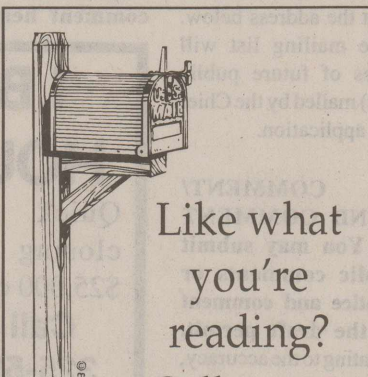
Sue Betts, A&M Consolidated High School basketball coach, recently won her 500th game when the Lady Tigers beat Magnolia 69-65.

As one of 26 active girls basketball coaches in Texas with at least 500 wins, the recent win gave Betts a 500-212 record in her 23rd season as Consolidated's head coach.

The daughter of Mrs. Cleo Gann of Rule, and a 1967 graduate of Rule High School, Betts attended West Texas State in Canyon. She came to Consolidated in 1975 as head volleyball coach and assistant basketball and track coach. Since taking over as head basketball coach in 1982, her teams have won 10 district championships and reached the playoffs 16 times. Also serving as athletic director, she has sent 22 players on to play college basketball.

After thousand of miles of bus rides, dozens of thrilling victories and agonizing losses, Betts says she still loves the game she fell for as an elementary student at Rule more than 40 years ago.

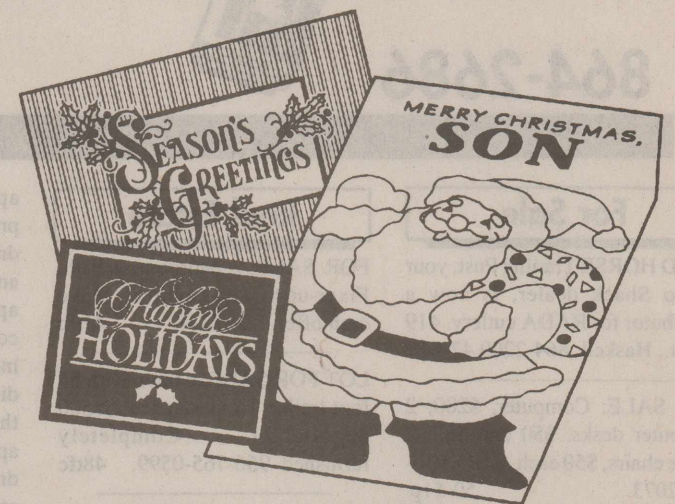
"The thing that keeps you going is the love of the game," she said. "Basketball has been my life from the fifth grade up. I've not known anything else."



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Disaster

continued from page 1

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Stacia Leach, Haskell Co. Attorney Office, David Halliburton, Haskell Co. Sheriff; Tom Bassett, Haskell Police Dept.; Kenny Thompson, Haskell County Commissioner, Pct. 3; Jimmy Lisle, Haskell Elementary Principal, HCISD; Leslee Hudsicker,

Health Service Adm., Rolling Plains Detention Center; Joe Yates, FNP, Health Care, Haskell; Bryan McCulloch, Haskell CISD; and Charlotte Welch, RN, Director of Nurses, Haskell Memorial Hospital.

ALLSUP'S

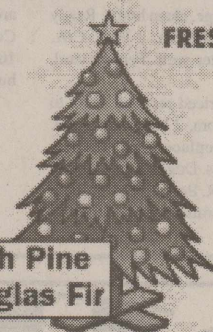
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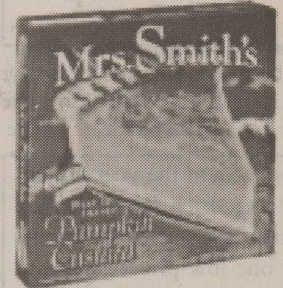


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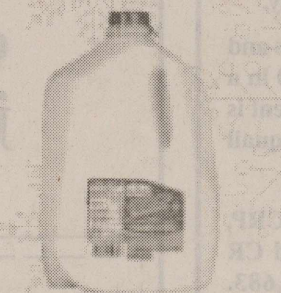
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Scholarship to honor Haskell couple

The W.V. and Mattie Muriel Felker Memorial Scholarship has been established at South Plains College, Levelland, in honor of two longtime Haskell residents and successful entrepreneurs.

The scholarship was established in the Felkers' honor with a \$24,000 donation by their son, Dr. Mike Felker, chairperson of the English Department and professor of English at SPC, and his wife, Elizabeth Kay Brandt, a teacher in the Ropes Independent School District and part-time SPC instructor.

This is the largest gift ever awarded to the SPC Foundation by a current SPC employee. Dr. Felker and his wife endowed a similar scholarship in 1996 in memory of Brandt's parents, Karl and Helen Brandt.

Dr. Felker's parents, although highly successful in the business world, were unable to achieve their own dreams of a college education. However, they made sure their two sons, Michael and Walter Viars Felker, Jr., went to college.

"This scholarship will help SPC students get the college education that my mother and father wanted, but could not have," explained Dr. Felker. The scholarship is designed to assist non-traditional students at SPC who have been in the workforce full time for five or more years. The donation will help close the gap in scholarship funds specifically targeted at students age 25 and older who want to go back to college.

Walter Viars Felker, born in Hood, Texas, in 1903, had to drop out of school in the eighth grade to help support four brothers and a sister. He later ran a restaurant with one of his brothers and then opened a men's clothing store in Haskell, which he operated shortly until before his death in 1986.

Mattie Muriel Walling, born in Haskell in 1912, found that her parents could not afford to send her or her siblings to college when they graduated from high school. Following her marriage in 1933, Mrs. Felker and her sister, Francis Lane, owned and operated "Lane-Felker," a high-fashion women's

clothing store, for more than 50 years. The store was once called "our only competition in Texas" by Stanley Marcus of Neiman-Marcus. Mrs. Felker died in 2003.

Interest from the gift will provide up to \$500 a semester for one full-

time student or \$250 a semester for two part-time students, said Dr. Felker.

"It's great and very humbling to see a department head and faculty member respond in this way to help students," said Dr. Gary McDaniel,

SPC president. "Dr. Felker sees how important it is to help students go to college. It's also a great thing he has done in honoring his parents, to make sure their name will be remembered year after year as students are enabled to attend SPC."



FELKER MEMORIAL ESTABLISHED—Dr. Gary McDaniel, right, retiring president of South Plains College in Levelland, accepts a \$24,000 check from Dr. Mike Felker, SPC chair of the English Department and professor of English, establishing a memorial scholarship in honor of Felker's parents, the late W. V. and Mattie Muriel Felker, longtime residents of Haskell. Felker, his wife, Elizabeth Brandt, and his brother, Walter Viars Felker, Jr., left, established the fund to assist non-traditional students achieve a college education.

Weathers Whys

NEXRAD Radar

Q: You hear the term NEXRAD radar a lot. What is it?

A: It's an acronym for Next Generation Radar, says Michael Hammer of Texas A&M University (remember that radar itself is an acronym for Radio Detection and Ranging). "NEXRAD is an advanced radar system because it not only detects the presence of precipitation, but also the movement and motion of it," Hammer explains. "This is vitally important because it gives meteorologists the opportunity to predict where a storm is headed and where severe storms—and tornadoes in them—might be likely to form. NEXRAD originated in Oklahoma City in 1988. Using the Doppler Effect, which uses radio waves to measure changes in objects moving toward or away from a point, NEXRAD gives us a good idea of what is happening inside a storm."

Q: How is NEXRAD set up?

A: There are 158 NEXRAD radar systems around the country, Hammer adds, and each one has a maximum range of about 250 nautical miles (287 miles). "The NEXRAD system is operated by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and it gives us detailed information about severe weather events such as tornadoes, hail and high winds, the possibility of flash floods, heavy snowstorms and even where wind shear might form. All of this is important to the general public and the military as well."

The NEXRAD system is so sophisticated that it emits a signal and gets return signals about 1,300 times every second. It helps meteorologists prepare advance warnings—in the last 10 years, tornado warnings have increased from a lead time of just 5 minutes to about 12 minutes today."

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by Jane Rowan

Haskell Co. Extension Agent

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Inspect the ladder, and make sure it is placed on a firm, level surface. There are different types of ladders for different chores. Make sure you choose the correct one for your task.

Electricity can be dangerous too. Replace any damaged plugs or cords to keep from getting shocked. Use fire resistant decorations and turn off lights before going to bed.

Most importantly, always use common sense.

For more information on safety issues visit <http://fcs.tamu.edu>.

Wishing you a Beautiful Holiday Season
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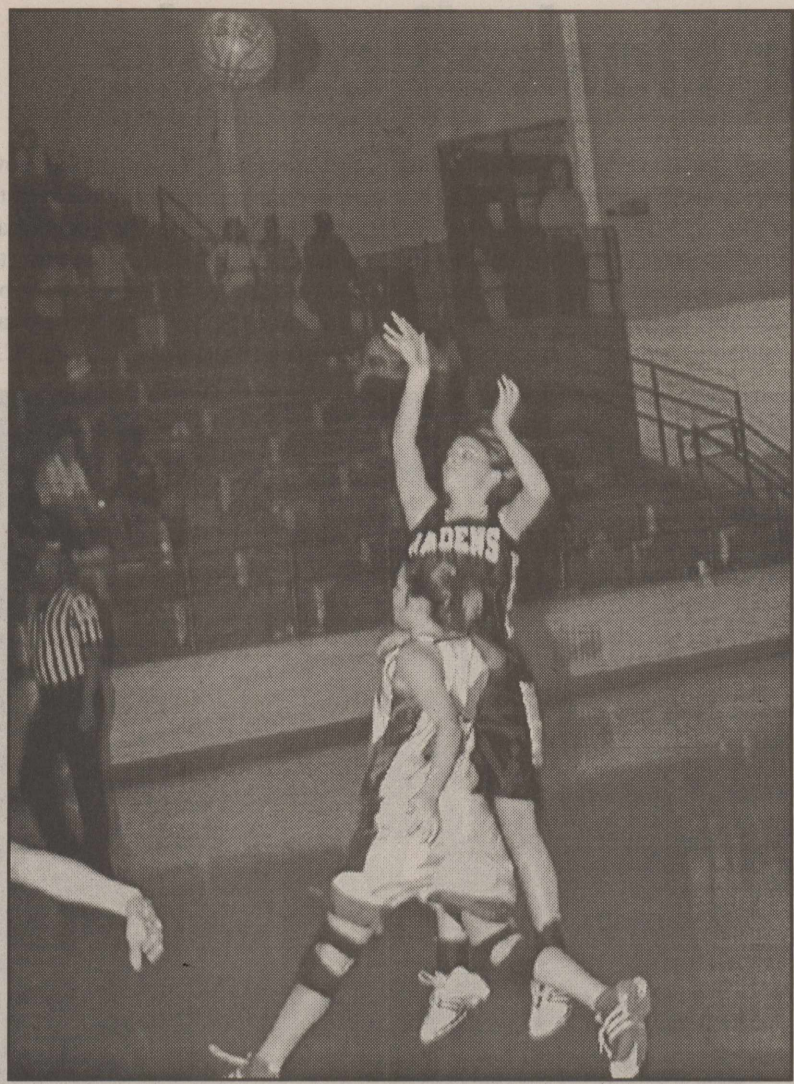
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Haskell - Richardson's	940-864-8551	2:00-3:00 p.m.
Anson - Farmers Co-op Gin	325-823-3122	4:00-5:00 p.m.

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BATTLING BALLINGER—Haskell's Calina Kendall #5, rises to score against the Bearcats at the Vernon Tournament, where she was named to the All-Tournament Team. Photo by Bill Blankenship

Dry weather and dandruff

Snowflakes aren't the only flakes falling this time of year. The combination of cold winds outdoors and dry, heated air indoors can wreak havoc on your skin and scalp. The result is dry, itchy skin and dandruff. Doctors at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas say there are some things you can do to ease this seasonal discomfort.

Dandruff is a skin disorder caused by the excessive shedding of dead skin cells from the scalp. It causes itching and those embarrassing white flakes that settle on your shoulders. Dr. Paul Bergstresser, UT Southwestern's chairman of dermatology, says there isn't a cure for dandruff, but it can be controlled.

Most people find relief from over-the-counter dandruff shampoos. Look for shampoos containing tar as an active ingredient. These shampoos help restore moisture balance to the scalp, which reduces flaking. If the dandruff persists, or if you also have redness and greasy scaling on your face, eyebrows, or eyelashes, you may need to see a dermatologist.

You can help ease winter dryness by treating your skin. Take shorter showers with cooler water. When you get out of the shower, gently pat your skin with a towel until it's not quite dry, and then immediately put on a moisturizer.

You may find it helpful to add moisture to your home with a vaporizer or humidifier, especially in cold, dry climates.

Elementary students compete at UIL event

Tues. and Thurs., Nov. 9-11, Haskell Elementary students were among students from Munday, Rotan and Hamlin, attending the Munday Invitational Academic Meet, where students from grades 2-6 competed against each other for first, second and third place medals, and fourth, fifth and sixth place ribbons. Individual and team points were recorded.

Haskell teacher, Trish Johnson, coached the Art contest for grades 4-6. The fourth grade team of Ashley Adams, Maci Colley, Morgan Frierson and Madison Mayfield, placed first. Representing fifth grade, and placing third, were Sterling Bird, Garrett Brueggeman and Felysia Walker. Winning first place were sixth grade Art students, Maegan Kimbrough, Ashlee Short and Dawn Skinner.

The sixth grade Calculator team, coached by Bonnie Fouts, consisted of Codi Foster, Nathan Meredith, Jessica Rodriguez, and Dawn Skinner. Skinner placed third, Meredith fourth and Foster, first. The Haskell team also placed first.

Coached by Rhonda Hanson, four second graders entering but not placing in Creative Writing were: Crissy Bassett, Breezy Gibbs, Reagan Hadaway and Riley Meinzer.

Fifth graders entering the Dictionary Skills event were Paige Glover, who placed fifth, and Stewart Ulrich. Sixth graders Sara Weise, Nathan Meredith, Rosa Nieto and Bailey Fillmon placed third as a team, with Nieto winning first place in the district. Tonya Cypert coached both teams.

Debbie Earles coached the fifth and sixth grade Listening teams. Jasmine Klose, who placed fifth, and Brady Leach made up the fifth grade team. Competing on the sixth grade team were Angelica Gonzales, Kacey Strickland, Clarissa Walker and Kelsie Adams.

On the fifth grade Maps, Graphs and Charts team were Jamie Flye, Clint Howard, Andrew Rodriguez and Zachary Wyrich. Howard placed fifth in district. The sixth grade team consisted of Kelsie Adams, J. J. Aguilar, Angelica Gonzales and Sara Weise. Gonzales placed third, and Weise placed sixth. The sixth grade team placed second in the district. Both teams were coach by LaKay Gibbs.

Rosa Nieto, Rosa Fernandez, Daren Wilson and Rosebud Wright were coached by Bonnie Fouts in the sixth grade Mathematics contest. Nieto placed fourth.

The Music Memory teams were coached by Melodee Christian. The third grade team was made up of Nate Dever, Emily Fouts, Elizabeth Flores and Christina Villa. They placed first in the district. The fourth grade Music Memory team included Ashley Adams, Maci Colley, Cailey

Foster, Carson Hadaway and David Newton. They also placed first in the district.

The fourth and fifth grade Number Sense teams were coached by Stacie Everett. The fourth grade team of Maci Colley, Cailey Foster, Morgan Frierson and Madison Mayfield placed second as a team. Colley and Mayfield both won first place in district, with a tied score. Fifth graders who competed included Koby Foster, Garrett Brueggeman, Jasmine Klose and Felysia Walker. They placed second as a team. Individual winners were Klose in sixth place, Brueggeman in fourth place and Walker in third place.

Bonnie Fouts coached the first place sixth grade Number Sense team of Codi Foster, Nathan Meredith, Jessica Rodriguez and Ashlee Short. Foster placed second and Short placed third as individuals.

Caron Yates coached the fourth grade Oral Readers, Shelby Dunnam, Cailey Foster, Carson Hadaway and Preston Morrow. Sixth grade Oral Readers, also coached by Caron Yates, included Bailey Fillmon, Codi Foster, Ashlee Short and Dawn Skinner. Placing as individuals were Short sixth, Skinner fourth and Foster second.

The fifth grade Oral Readers, coached by Trish Johnson, included Lisa Hibbitts, Laycee Tullios, Stewart Ulrich and Felysia Walker.

Melodee Christian's third grade Ready Writers included Marlee Andrada, who placed fifth; Nate Dever, who placed first; Kaley Mathis, and Baleigh Lopez, who won sixth place in district competition.

The fourth grade Ready Writers, coached by JoNell Roberts were Carson Hadaway, Maci Colley, Cailey Foster and Ashley Adams. Hadaway placed second, Foster fourth and Adams sixth.

Mackenzie Thomas and Sasha Walker competed in the fifth grade Ready Writing contest, coached by Tonya Cypert. Sixth graders included Bailey Fillmon, who placed fourth, Angelica Gonzales and Codi Foster, who placed third in district. They were also coached by Tonya Cypert.

Paula Everett coached the fifth grade Social Studies students, including Toni Brown, Jasmine Klose, who placed sixth, Kelsey Strickland, who placed fourth, and Sasha Walker, who placed fifth. Also coached by Everett were sixth graders Ashlee Bullard, Leslie Crosson, Cheslee Hearn and Clarissa Walker. Bullard placed fourth in district competition.

Third grade Spelling contestants coached by Donna Waggoner were Daniel Contreras, who placed sixth, Dana Rodriguez, who placed third, Shelton Toliver, who placed second, and Aaron Waggoner. The team placed first in the district.

JoNell Roberts coached the fourth grade Spelling contestants, Carson Hadaway, David Newton, Madison Mayfield and Kalyn Wheatley. Hadaway placed first in the district. The team won second place.

Sherry Adams coached both fifth and sixth grade Spelling contestants. Placing third, the fifth grade team consisted of Lynna Billington, Lisa Hibbitts, who placed fifth, Brady Leach, who placed sixth and Sara Duncan. Sixth graders on the Spelling team were Angelica Gonzales, Sara Weise, Leslie Crosson and Ashley Bullard. Gonzales placed first, Weise placed sixth. The team placed second in district.

The second grade Oral Readers, coached by Caron Yates were Brianna Bell, Jessica Boggs, Gus Estrada and Colton English.

With 490.82 points, Haskell elementary students took second place at the meet.

Debbie Earles acted as elementary UIL director.

Santa and Christmas is Coming to Haskell! Spend Saturday on the Square December 18

Attend the **Santa Buck Drawings Saturday, December 18** at 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Northeast Corner of the square at the Gazebo
 YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!

- 🎁 Pictures with Santa 1 to 4 p.m.
- 🎁 Storytime with Mrs. Claus 3 p.m.

*Sales *Shopping *Special events

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Merry Christmas from the HASKELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND LOCAL MERCHANTS

Gin Report

Dec. 13, 2004 Haskell

Haskell County Gin	700
Haskell Co-op Gin	115
O'Brien	
O'Brien Co-op Gin	9,000
Rule	
Rule Co-op Gin	1,725
Sagerton Gin	0
Weinert	
Griff's Gin	318
Weinert Gin	1,024
Total Bales	10,882

HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH... AT HOME!
 Brought to You By:
Haskell Home Health Agency

Misty McMeans
 RN, BSN

Dear Misty,
 How do I chose a home health-care agency?

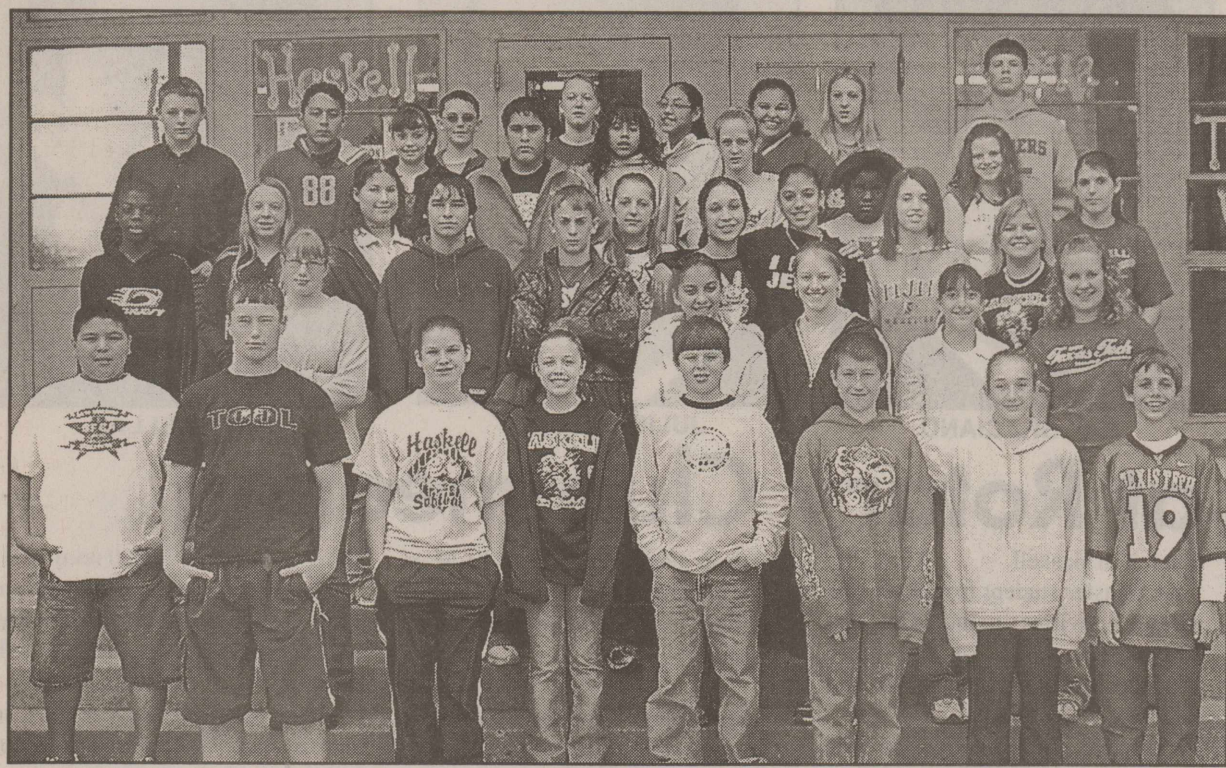
- Consult your physician, they know your needs and work regularly with home health-care agencies.
- Gather information. Here are some questions you can ask:
 1. Is the agency certified by Medicare? Does it participate in the Medicare payment plan?
 2. How long has the agency been in operation? In light of current Medicare changes this is probably the most important factor for choosing a home health agency. Yes, it's true Medicare intends to close the doors of many home health agencies—the last to open will most likely be the first to go.
 3. What services are available?
 4. How are staff members chosen? What training do they receive? How many RNs, LVNs, Aides, etc. on staff?

What questions regarding home care do you have for the nurse? Send your questions to Haskell Home Health Agency, 417 S. First, Haskell, TX 79521 or call 940-864-5074 or 1-877-864-5074.

HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH—AT HOME is brought to you by Haskell Home Health Agency providing home care services in Haskell, Knox, Stonewall, Throckmorton and Jones Counties

MAKE A BUNDLE
 CALL 864-2686
 SELL THOSE UNWANTED ITEMS
 The Haskell Free Press

Haskell Junior High competes at District UIL meet



JUNIOR HIGH UIL PARTICIPANTS—Haskell Junior High students participating in recent UIL events were: l-r, front row: Scottie Rodriguez, Cody Wyrick, Brooke Bullinger, McKenzie Barrington, James Williams, Luke Terry, Aubrey Bassett and John English. Middle row, Derrick Coleman, Veronica Benton, Miranda Johnson, Ashley Meier, Justin Meier, Stephen Fillmon, Brittany Garison, Brie Torres, Faith Silvas, Molly Agraz, Hope Reid, Shayla Session, Hanna Wallace, Claire Isbell, Jordan Burson, Lauren Newton, Paige Adams and Kimie Hutchinson. Back row, Will Brueggeman, Tommy Rodriguez, Lauren Lampe, Tyler Reese, Brett Siegfried, Kayce Wilcox, Haley Chavez, Lonnie Alvarez, Katie Grand, Shambrie Rodriguez, Lisa Rodgers and Callen Pittman. Not pictured is Ethan Frierson.



8TH GRADE UIL WINNERS—Haskell Jr. High School 8th grade UIL winners were: front row, Will Brueggeman, Hope Reid, Brittany Garison, Paige Adams, Kimie Hutchinson, John English and Steven Fillmon. Back row, Cody Wyrick, Faith Silvas, Molly Agraz, Shayla Session, Hanna Wallace, Haley Chavez and Brett Siegfried.



7TH GRADE UIL WINNERS—Haskell Jr. High School 7th grade UIL winners were: front row, l-r, Jordan Burson, Lisa Rodgers, Miranda Johnson, Lonnie Alvarez, Lauren Lampe and Shambrie Rodriguez. Middle row, Ashley Meier, Brooke Bullinger, McKenzie Barrington, Brie Torres, Aubrey Bassett, Kayce Wilcox, Veronica Benton and Katie Grand. Back row, Callen Pittman, James Williams, Derrick Coleman and Ethan Frierson.

The Haskell Junior High competed in the District 6-A East Zone District University Interscholastic League Academic Meet hosted by Munday Junior High, Nov. 9 and 11. The East Zone is made up of teams from Hamlin, Haskell, Munday and Rotan.

Academic judges this year are Jodi Andress, Betsy Coleman, Jill Druesdow, Tracy Frierson, Keith Medford and Betsy McManamon.

"Our 7th and 8th graders did a great job of representing their school," said Tracy Frierson, Junior High UIL coordinator, "A lot of extra time goes into preparing for UIL, and these kids and their coaches should be commended for their efforts."

Events, participants and places won by Haskell students were:

Art: 7th grade—2nd Place Team, Lonnie Alvarez, Katie Grand, Lauren Lampe, Kayce Wilcox.

8th grade—3rd Place Team, Molly Agraz, Brittany Garison, Hope Reid, Brett Siegfried.

Calculator: 7th grade, Shambrie Rodriguez, 1st place; Ethan Frierson, 5th place; Brie Torres, Kayce Wilcox. 2nd place Calculator team, Rodriguez, Frierson and Torres.

8th grade, Brittany Garison, 4th place; Hanna Wallace, 5th place; Kimie Hutchinson, 6th place; Shayla Session. 2nd place Calculator team, Garison, Wallace, Hutchinson.

Dictionary Skills: 7th grade, Brooke Bullinger; 1st place, Tyler Reese.

8th grade, Faith Silvas; 1st place, Hope Reid; 2nd place, John English; 3rd place, Haley Chavez. 1st place Dictionary Team, Silvas, Reid, English.

Editorial Writing: 7th grade, Aubrey Bassett, 4th place; Brooke Bullinger, 5th place; Jordan Burson.

8th grade, Faith Silvas, 3rd place; Paige Adams, 6th place; Brittany Garison.

Impromptu Speaking: 7th grade, McKenzie Barrington, 1st place; Kayce Wilcox, 4th place. Lauren Lampe.

8th grade, Lauren Newton, 4th place; Paige Adams, 5th place; Will

Brueggeman.

Listening: 7th grade, Aubrey Bassett; 2nd place, Jordan Burson; 3rd place; Katie Grand, Miranda Johnson. 3rd place Listening team, Bassett, Burson, Grand.

8th grade, Claire Isbell and Shayla Session.

Maps, Graphs & Charts: 7th grade, Derrick Coleman, Katie Grand, Lauren Lampe, Scottie Rodriguez.

8th Grade, Faith Silvas and Shayla Session.

Mathematics: 7th grade, Brooke Bullinger, 4th place; Lisa Rodgers, 5th place; James Williams, Ethan Frierson. 2nd place Mathematics team, Bullinger, Rodgers and Williams.

8th grade, John English, 4th place; Lauren Newton, 6th place; Kimie Hutchinson, Will Brueggeman. 2nd place Mathematics team: English, Newton and Hutchinson.

Modern Oratory: 7th grade, Aubrey Bassett, 6th place.

8th grade, Paige Adams, 1st place.

Number Sense: 7th grade, Brooke Bullinger, 6th place; Shambrie Rodriguez, Ethan Frierson, James Williams. 3rd place Number Sense Team: Bullinger, Rodriguez and Frierson.

8th grade, Will Brueggeman, John English, Kimie Hutchinson.

Oral Reading: 7th grade, Kayce Wilcox, 4th place; McKenzie Barrington, 5th place; Jordan Burson, Lauren Lampe.

8th grade, John English, 1st place; Lauren Newton, Will Brueggeman, Luke Terry.

Ready Writing: 7th grade, Brooke Bullinger, 2nd place; Aubrey Bassett, 4th place; Jordan Burson, Miranda Johnson.

8th grade, John English, 1st place; Will Brueggeman, Faith Silvas.

Science: 7th grade, Brooke Bullinger, 5th place; Ethan Frierson, Callen Pittman, Shambrie Rodriguez. 3rd place Science Team, Bullinger, Frierson and Pittman.

8th grade: Brittany Garison, 4th place; Cody Wyrick, Steven Fillmon. 3rd place Science team, Garison, Wyrick and Fillmon.

Social Studies: 7th grade, Ethan Frierson, 4th place; Derrick Coleman, Scottie Rodriguez.

8th grade, Faith Silvas, Hope Reid, Claire Isbell, Steven Fillmon.

Spelling: 7th grade, Aubrey Bassett, 1st place; Ashley Meier, 4th place; Veronica Benton, 6th place; Derrick Coleman. 2nd place Spelling team, Bassett, Meier and Benton.

8th grade, Haley Chavez, Justin Meier, Hope Reid and Tommy Rodriguez.

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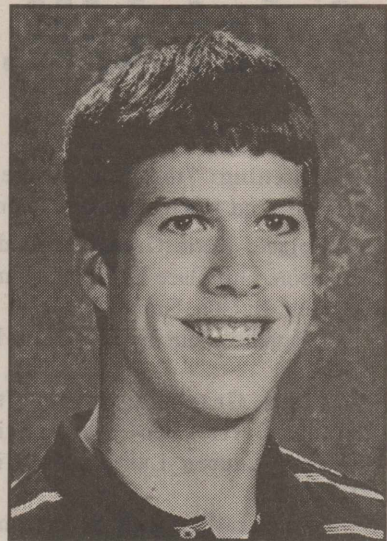
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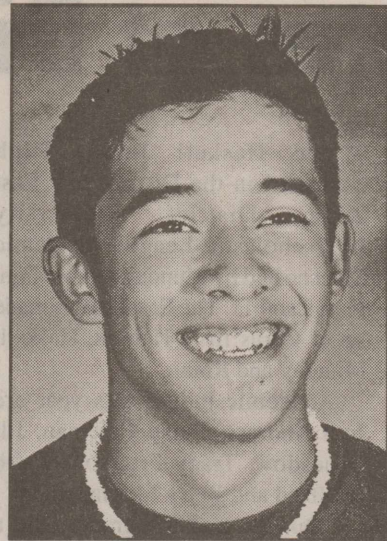


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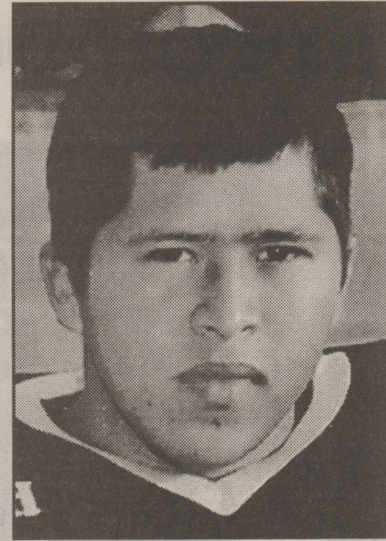
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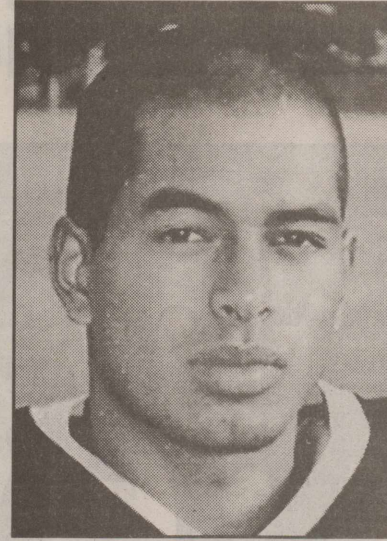
BRAD BLANKS



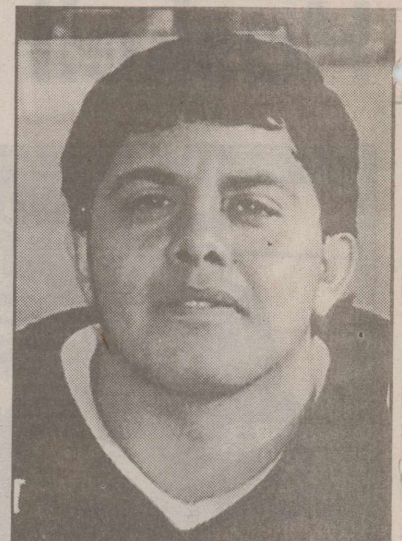
JIMMY FUENTES, JR.



RAY GRACIANO



JULIO SOLANO



RAY CUELLAR

Local students visit at Rotary Club meeting

Brad Blanks is the son of Terry and Susan Blanks of Haskell. He is a member of the Church of Christ. In school he is active in UIL, football, baseball, National Honor Society, Student Council and Fellowship of Christian Students. His favorite pastime activities are hunting and camping, computers (internet/games), and baseball. Special awards and recognitions he has received are: 1st Team All-

District defensive secondary, football, 2004; 2nd Team All-District pitcher, baseball, 2004; 1st Team All-District utility player, baseball, 2002; 8th place, Regional Ready Writing, 2003-2004. After finishing high school, he plans to attend Abilene Christian University or Texas A&M University. Jimmy Fuentes, Jr., is the son of Jimmy and Idalia Fuentes of Rule. He attends East Side Baptist

Church in Haskell. A transfer student from Rule, his school activities include One Act Play, Fellowship of Christian Students, track, basketball, UIL and band. Special recognitions he has received are Most Talented Boy (Rule), Haskell Band Beau. Among his leisure-time activities are playing guitar, making music and leading worship at church for youth. After finishing high school, he

plans to attend West Texas A&M or Hardin-Simmons University, and to continue to do something with music or acting. Ray Graciano is the son of Juanita Graciano of Weinert. His church affiliation is Catholic. At Haskell High School he is active in football and baseball. His special recognitions include being an honor student. Among his favorite things to do are playing football and basketball. After finishing high school, he plans to attend South Plains College, and to become an auto mechanic.

going to Regional in 800 relay. His favorites leisure activities are hunting, playing football, cooking out, fishing and hanging out with friends. After finishing high school he plans to attend South Plains College, and is considering going into diesel mechanics. Ray Cuellar is the son of Maria Martinez of Haskell. He attends St. George's Catholic Church. In school he is active in football and track. Special recognitions he has received are as All-District football, 1st Team nose guard, and Regional Qualifier in track. Among his favorite things to do are hanging out with friends, listening to music and watching movies. After finishing high school he plans to go to college and learn to be a coach.

This Week's Devotional Message:



GIVE THANKS FOR ALL THE BLESSINGS THAT WE HAVE

We don't appreciate our health
Until it's here no more,
And anything we've known as wealth
We manage to ignore.
We take advantage of our friends
With selfishness and greed,
But then we try to make amends
If ever we're in need.

And when it comes to loved ones dear,
Whom we've relied upon,
We often hurt them while they're here,
Then grieve when they are gone.
So let's be thankful for the things
The Lord saw fit to give:
The blessings that His goodness brings,
As long as we shall live.

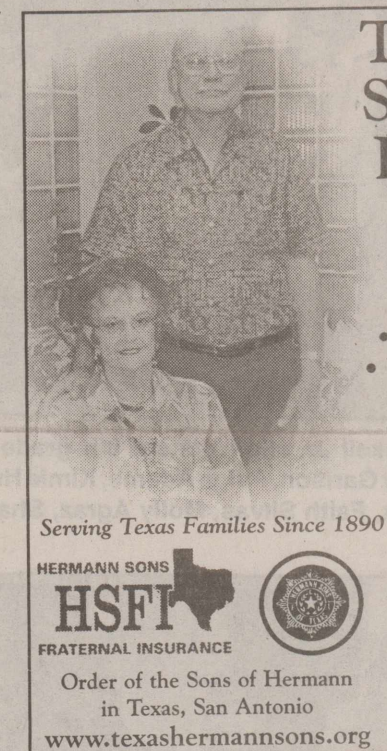
ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

HASKELL
East Side Baptist Church
 Danny Manross, pastor
 Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 600 N. 1st East, Haskell
Christian Church
 Dusty Garison, minister
 Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 107 N. Ave. F, Haskell
New Vision Family Worship Center
 Joe and Loretta Stullir, pastors
 864-3465
 Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7:00 p.m.
 East Hwy 380, Haskell
Trinity Lutheran Church
 Ron Rennegarbe, 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.m., 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.m., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell
St. George Catholic Church
 Father George Roney
 Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.
 901 N. 16th, Haskell
Church of Christ
 Brett Anderson, minister
 Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 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.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.
 114 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.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 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.m.
 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
 Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:55 a.m., 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
Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church
 Dr. Gibbie McMillan, Interim pastor
 Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. Wed. 6 p.m.
 1303 N. Ave. I, Haskell
WEINERT
First Baptist Church
 J. C. Baker, 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.m., 10:45 a.m., 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.m., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 Rochester
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
 Philip Houston, 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.m., 11:00 a.m., 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.m., 10:40 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 811 Union, Rule
First United Methodist Church
 Wendall Ferguson, pastor
 Sun. Morn. Worship 8:30 a.m.
 1000 Union Ave., Rule
Primera Iglesia Bautista
 Alfa y Omegas
 Manuel Marin, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.
 500 Elm Street, Rule
Sweet Home Baptist Church
 Bill Trice, pastor
 Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.
 Gladstone Ave., Rule
West Bethal Baptist Church
 Rev. Robert Sweet
 Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.
 300 Sunny Ave., Rule
PAINT CREEK
Paint Creek Baptist Church
 Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.
 Paint Creek
O'BRIEN
O'Brien Baptist Church
 Jim Reid, pastor
 Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 6 p.m.
 O'Brien

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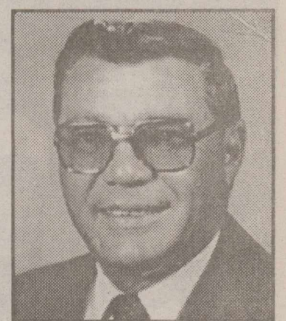
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TAX PLANNING

Written By James E. Rodgers, CPA



RECENT TAX LEGISLATION AFFECTS BUSINESSES

There's change in store for business owners, thanks to the *American Jobs Creation Act of 2004* signed by President Bush on October 22. Among other provisions, this new law includes a new deduction for manufacturers, depreciation changes, revisions to S corporation rules, and tax breaks for farmers.

Manufacturers. Tax subsidies for exporters are eliminated and replaced by a new deduction for manufacturers. Initially, the deduction is 3% of the lesser of (a) qualified production activity income for the year, or (b) taxable income for the year. The deduction is gradually phased in until it reaches 9% in 2010. It is limited to 50% of annual wages paid.

The new law defines 'manufacturer' very broadly. The IRS will issue guidelines for what 'production activities' qualify for the deduction. Among the companies that could qualify are those engaged in construction, civil engineering, architectural services, energy production, software production, farming, and food processing.

Depreciation. Companies are allowed to immediately expense the cost of up to \$102,000 of qualified property purchased for business use in 2004. Under prior law, this expensing limit was scheduled to revert to \$25,000 in 2006. The new law extends the larger limit through 2007, but limits first-year expensing for SUVs purchased for business use to \$25,000.

Another provision provides that the cost of qualifying restaurant property and specified leasehold improvements to commercial property can now be recovered over 15 years instead of 39 years.

S corporation rules. The number of shareholders an S corporation can have is increased from 75 to 100. Family members can elect to be treated as one shareholder.

Farmers. A retroactive change gives farmers up to four years to replace livestock sold due to weather related conditions.

Please call us to discuss these changes and others in the new law that could benefit your business.

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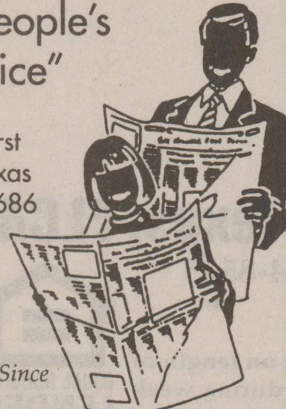
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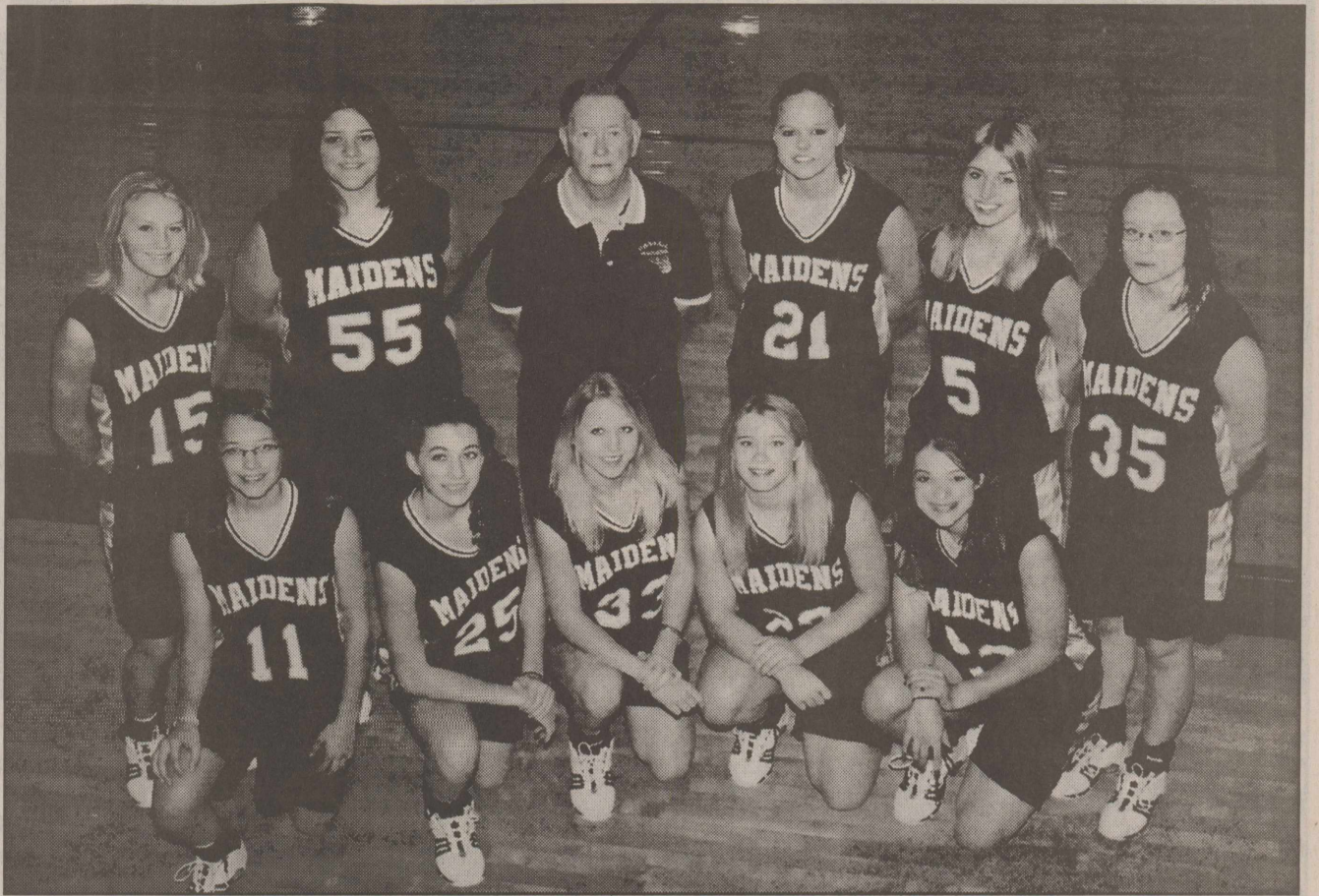
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Haskell INDIANS L

Fri., Dec. 17 • 5 p.m.
JV & Varsity Boys
vs Cisco
at Haskell



HASKELL MAIDENS: Front, l-r: Chambray Bartley, Mollie McKnight, Robbyn Tribbey, Kerri Newton and Lindsay Pannell. Back: Whitney Wallace, Morgan Acosta, Coach David Middleton, Monica Buerger, Calina Kendall and Brianna Wheatley.
Photo by Bobbie Johnson



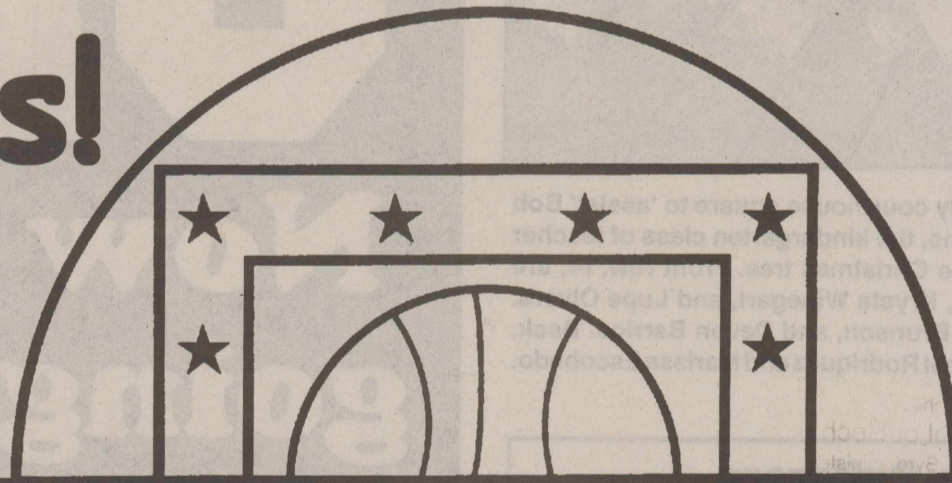
HASKELL INDIANS: Front, l-r: Ryan Davis, Kevin Kilgore, Ryan Ashley, Jakaan Hodge, Ramon Cueller and Kory Foster. Back: Coach Lolo Martinez, L.J. McCulloch, Kendall Mitchell, Nate Webb, Augustine Lara, D.J. McCulloch, Miquel Chavez, Gary Frierson and Coach Toby Villa.
Photo by Bobbie Johnson

Haskell MAIDENS L

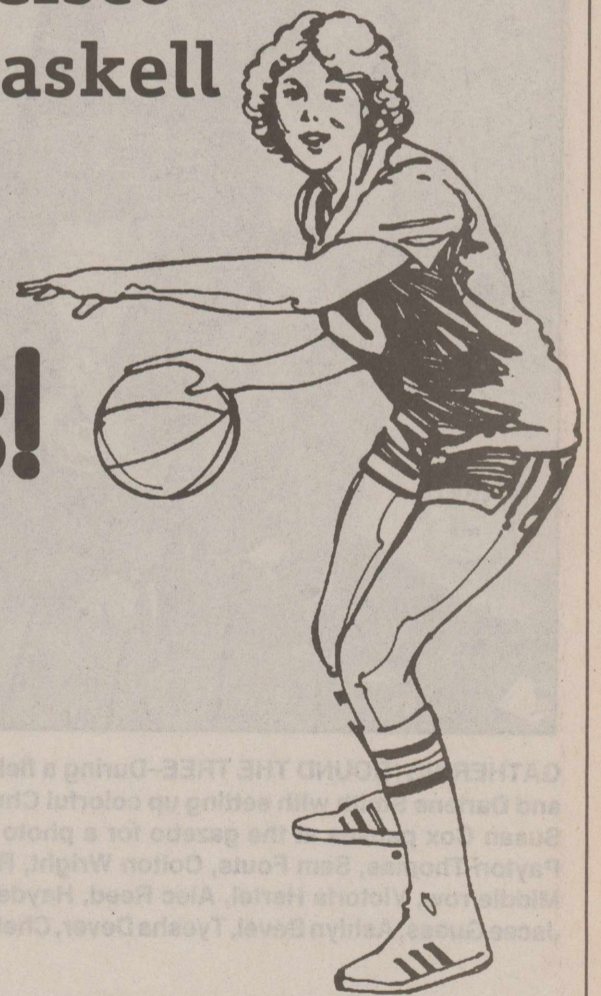
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JV & Varsity Girls
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at Haskell



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MERRY CHRISTMAS FRIENDS—Happy Haskell Kindergarten students with their teacher, Kristi Gibson, standing far right, enjoy their afternoon visit on the courthouse grounds with Bob Smith, who welcomed them as part of the crew putting out holiday decorations. Front row, seated l-r, are Alex Alvarez, Amber Alexander, Melissa Sandoval, Erin Garison, Angelica Green, Hayden Leach and Bryce Rodriguez. Standing, Kylie Adams, Austin Alsbrook, Shawn Parenti, Emma Sanders, Isaiah Alvarez, Hannah Grand and Lincoln Strickland.



GATHERING 'ROUND THE TREE—During a field trip to the county courthouse square to 'assist' Bob and Darlene Smith with setting up colorful Christmas decorations, the kindergarten class of teacher Susan Cox pauses at the gazebo for a photo session under the Christmas tree. Front row, l-r, are Payton Thomas, Sam Fouts, Colton Wright, Richard Rodriguez, Krysta Winegart, and Lupe Olvera. Middle row, Victoria Hertel, Alec Reed, Hayden Hudson, Dylan Brunson, and Devon Barrios. Back, Jacee Guess, Ashlyn Bevel, Tysha Dever, Chelsea Chavez, Michael Rodriguez and Marissa Escobedo.



SANTA'S HELPERS—Haskell Kindergarten students in teacher Rhonda Lisle's class pose with the big, jolly Santa Claus figure while helping Bob Smith decorate the courthouse square for Christmas. Front row, Chase Gibson, Natalie Contreras, Braydon Smith, Kaylee Glover and Manuel Carranza. Middle row, Melisa Rock, Amber Conn, Alys Stewart, Madaline Williams and Zachary Strickland. Back, Lane Burson, Macey Coker, Gabriella Mendoza and Frankie Masias.

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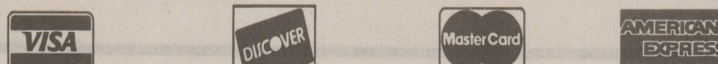
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