

## Softball games

Haskell JV-V vs Windthorst  
Fri., March 23, 4:30 p.m.  
at Windthorst  
Haskell JV-V vs Hawley  
Tues., March 27, 5 p.m.  
at Haskell

## Baseball games

Haskell JV at Anson Tourney  
Thurs., March 22  
Haskell JV at Merkel Tourney  
Sat., March 24  
Haskell JV vs Hawley  
Mon., March 26, 4:30 p.m.  
at Hawley  
Haskell V vs Hawley  
Tues., March 27, 4:30 p.m.  
at Haskell

## Calendar

### Rule banquet

The Rule Chamber of Commerce will hold their 53rd annual banquet Mon., March 26 at 6:30 p.m. A meal will be served by the Rule Junior Class and their parents. Entertainment will be by a group of Rule 4-H members. Man and Woman of the Year will be presented. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased from members or at the door.

### Immunizations

The Texas Dept. of Health in Stamford will hold an immunization clinic Fri., March 23 at the Haskell National Bank Community Room in Haskell. Clinic times are from 1:30 to 4 p.m. For more information call 325-773-5681.

### Skywarn class

The annual Skywarn storm watchers class will be held Mon., April 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Haskell Fire Station. Anyone interested in weather watching is invited to attend. The class is presented by the National Weather Service, San Angelo and sponsored by the Haskell Volunteer Fire Department.

### Taylor's Team

Taylor's Team will hold a fund-raising Super Sonic Day Sat., March 24 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Haskell Sonic Drive In. A coupon for a free Route 44 drink and other coupons will be given for a donation to Taylor's Team and Autism Speaks, organizations helping to raise money for a cure for autism.

### Little Dribblers

All Little Dribblers teams will play Sat., March 24 beginning at 10 a.m. A concession stand will be available offering a hamburger deal consisting of a hamburger, chips, candy and a drink for \$5.

### Krispy Creme

Calvary Baptist Church of Haskell will sell Krispy Creme donuts on the square Sat., March 24 beginning at 8 a.m. Proceeds benefit the summer Mexico Mission trip.

### Society to meet

The Haskell County Historical & Genealogical Society will meet Mon., April 2 in Haskell City Hall at 6 p.m.

### Josselet reunion

The descendants of Victor J. and Catherine Josselet will gather Sat., April 7 beginning at 9 a.m. the Haskell Civic Center. If you have any changes since the last meeting, contact Julia Harrell at juwlstex@netscape.net.

### Homecoming

The Haskell-Mattson-Weinert-Rochester Schools homecoming will be held Sept. 21-22.

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## Shop your hometown merchants

# The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 121-NO. 12, ©MARCH 22, 2007

"The People's Choice"

8 PAGES-ONE SECTION-75 CENTS

## 1939 Lincoln Zephyr voted as People's Choice

A top of the class 1939 Lincoln Zephyr owned by Sam Tyra of Abilene was the People's Choice winner at Saturday's annual Haskell Volunteer Fire Dept.'s Car Show.

Fine weather, lots of activities, bargains and beautiful cars brought a large crowd to town to enjoy the day.

The Best of Show entry was the 1967 Ford Galaxie 500 owned by Danny and Bobbie Bowman of Plainview.

Traveling the farthest distance was Danny Miller of Spring to show his 1969 Chevy El Camino.

Sixty-nine entries were judged on presentation, cleanliness, paint and interior quality. Class winners included:

Cars Pre-'64: 1. Sam Tyra of Abilene, 1939 Lincoln Zephyr; 2. Wayne Burrow of Breckenridge, 1955 Ford Crown Victoria; 3. Steve Williams of Vernon, 1956 Chevy Bel Air.

Cars '65 and up: 1. Danny and Bobbie Bowman of Plainview, 1967 Ford Galaxie 500; 2. David Craft of Wichita Falls, 1966 Shelby GT 350H; 3. Gary McLondon of Wichita Falls, 2001 Chevy Corvette.

Antique Cars, Trucks thru '50: 1. Gladys Patterson of Breckenridge, 1926 Chevrolet coupe; 2. Joyce Sparks of Chandler, Oklahoma, 1965 Pontiac 4 door sedan; 3. Gerald Melton of Panhandle, 1941 CMG COE RV.

Street Rods Pre-'49: 1. Hollis Chandler of Snyder, 1933 Plymouth 4 door; 2. Darrell Riding of Burleson, 1948 Chevy Fleet Master Street Rod; 3. Chase Gauger of Albany, 1937 Chevy 5 window coupe.

Older Pickups Pre-'84: 1. Robert Snyder of Albany, 1972 Chevy Cheyenne; 2. Charles Patterson of Breckenridge, 1920 Chevy pickup; 3. Chris Crosson



**RACING FINALISTS**—Jordan Westerman of Abilene, front left, finished second with his #20 car in the Hot Wheels races held during the Haskell Fire Department's annual car show last Saturday. Elizabeth Bowers with her #12 car

took home the first place trophy. Conducting the races were Haskell fireman, back l-r, Scott Kennedy, Wes Alsabrook and Dax Pueschel. All car show trophies were donated by Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative.

of Abilene, 1982 Chevy S-10.

Pickups '85 and up: 1. Josh Barbee of Haskell, 2002 Dodge pickup; 2. Jack Gilpin of Weinert, 1996 Chevrolet Silverado; 3. Bonnie Denton of Colorado City, 1930 Ford panel.

Sport Compact: 1. Tony Gallardo of Abilene, 1999 Mazda Protege.

Motorcycles: 1. Don Ballard of Haskell, 2002 Honda Goldwing 1800 cc.; 2. Randy

Shaw of Haskell, 1989 Honda Goldwing; 3. Mike Harper of Hamlin, 2000 Yamaha Venture.

Restoration in Progress: 1. Kenneth Jarred of Haskell, 1971 Mercury Cougar; 2. Sammy Nason of Electra, 1969 Chevy Nova; 3. Casey Moeller of Haskell, 1950 McCormick WN9.

In the children's Hot Wheels races, Elizabeth Bowers of Haskell placed first with car #12 and Jordan Westerman of Abilene

took second with car #20.

The Texas Pedal Pullers held a sanctioned Pedal Pull Sat., March 17 in conjunction with the Haskell VFD Car Show.

Boys and girls that qualified to compete at the State Championship Pedal Pull Aug. 11 in Henrietta will receive qualification letters in July. Results from Saturday's pull are as follows.

4-year-old (40 lbs.): 1. Ray

Villanueva.

5-year-old (90 lbs.): 1. Haley Alsabrook; 2. Brody Frierson; 3. Jordan Westerman; 4. Colton Chandler; and 5. Heavenly Perez.

6-year-old (140 lbs.): 1. John Anderson; 2. Evan Walker Green; and 3. Logan Tyler Steele.

7-year-old (180 lbs.): 1. Hannah Feldman.

8-year-old (330 lbs.): 1. Austin Alsabrook; and 2. Landon continued on page 8



**MONEY STOP**—On Fri., March 16 at approximately 11:40 a.m., Trooper Brody Moore made a traffic contact on a southbound truck tractor about seven miles north of Haskell on U.S. 277. During the course of the traffic stop, Trooper Moore discovered reasonable suspicion of possible criminal activity, so he obtained consent to search the truck. During the course of his search, Trooper Moore discovered two duffel bags holding vacuum-sealed bags, which contained what appeared to be a large amount of cash. Trooper Moore and Haskell County Chief Deputy Winston Stephens placed both occupants of the truck into custody. David Trujillo, 54, and Jose Ordenez, 43, both of El Paso, were placed in the Rolling Plains Detention Center on first-degree felony charges of money laundering. Punishment for a first-degree felony can range from 5-99 years of prison and up to a \$10,000 fine. A DPS K-9 alerted on the money, which indicated that it had been in the area of illegal drugs at some time. The total amount of the seizure was more than \$1,013,000 dollars, which will be held in an interest bearing account until the disposition of the criminal case. Trooper Moore was assisted by Haskell County Sheriff's Office, DPS Narcotics, ICE, DEA, and the IRS. Shown with the seized money are, l-r, Haskell Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Winston Stephens, Sgt. Jodie Tullos, Trooper Brody Moore, DPS Sgt. Investigator Anthony Bennett and Sheriff's Deputy Jason Torres.

## Homemade pipe bomb proves to be a hoax

Haskell Police Chief Tom Bassett, has reported that about 5:29 p.m. Mar. 13, Haskell County 911 received a call from a citizen who stated that a suspect had been drinking, was suicidal, and had a pipe bomb in his possession. He stated that the man was a Vietnam war veteran, and that he was a demolition expert.

The suspect was last seen headed east on North 11th Street, heading toward U.S. Hwy. 277, and was wearing a black jacket. Responding to the call, Police Officer Mathew Cunningham observed the suspect in the middle of a block on North 11th. Exiting his patrol vehicle, Cunningham began talking with the suspect, giving him verbal commands. Asked if he had a pipe bomb on his person, the suspect said yes. Cunningham advised him to put the bomb on the ground, which the suspect refused to do.

Cunningham then advised

Trooper Brody Moore to advise Haskell Police Chief Tom Bassett of the situation. Cunningham and Sheriff's Deputy Jason Torres switched out attempting to calm the suspect, who removed the object from his jacket pocket and threw it on the ground.

Chief Bassett contacted Sgt. Mark Watson of the Abilene Police Department's Bomb Squad. Three officers of the squad responded. Upon arrival they determined that the device was a hoax, made to resemble fragmentation devises. The hoax bomb was placed into the Haskell Police Department evidence room.

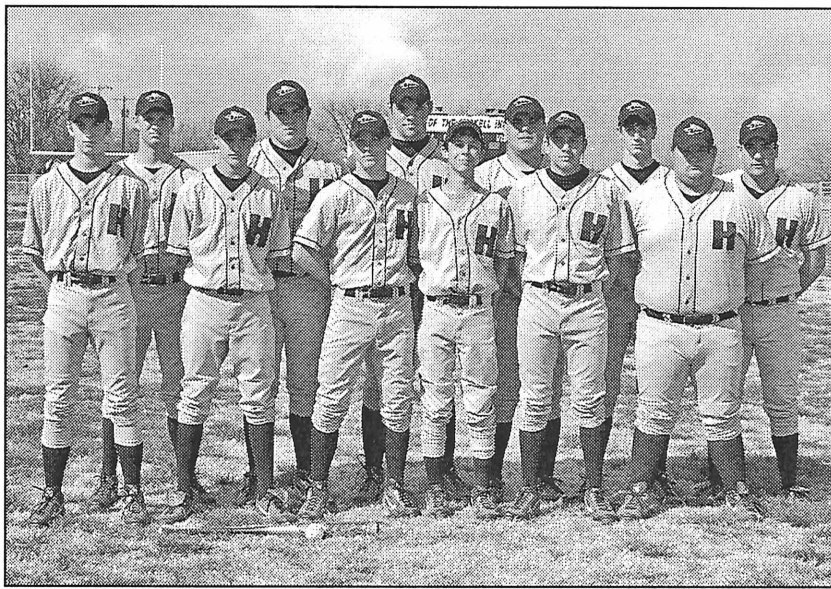
Transported by Sheriff's deputies to the Rolling Plains Jail for possession of a prohibited weapon, the suspect was identified as Clifton Nugent.

Chief Bassett commended officers Moore, Torres and Cunningham for their handling of the situation.

FOR NEWS ITEMS OR TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 864-2686



**2007 MAIDEN SOFTBALL TEAM**—Members of the Haskell Maidens softball team are I-r, Coach John Foster, Stephanie Grand, Kayla Tidrow, Chambray Bartley, Amber Bingham, Alexa Roberts, Jerrica Escobedo, Aston Rutkowski, Natalie Lopez, Paige Wheatley, Kellye Tidrow, Coach Betsy Coleman and Lacey Peiser.



**2007 INDIAN BASEBALL TEAM**—Members of the Haskell Indians baseball team are I-r, Steven Fillmon, James Haggard, Tyler Rodriguez, Clyde Frierson, Travis Adams, Gary Frierson, John English, Billy Lusk, Anthony Hernandez, Weston Rutkowski, Rylie Tatum and Josh Kimmel.

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**Cattle Market Report**

The market at the Haskell Livestock Auction was on a run of 754 head of cattle at its sale on Sat., Mar. 17, according to B.D. Rainey, reporter. 64 sellers and 41 buyers were present.

341 steers and bulls. 252 heifers. 157 cows and bulls.

Cows: fat, .38-.43; cutters, .41-.47; canners, .35-.41.

Bulls: bologna, .57-.68, feeders, .75-.95.

Steers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.45-1.85; 300-400 lbs., 1.31-1.40; 400-500 lbs., 1.29-1.39; 500-600 lbs., 1.23-1.29; 600-700 lbs., .93-1.23; 700-800 lbs., .8950-1.0650; 800-up lbs., .89-1.00.

Heifers: medium and large frame No. 1 200-300 lbs., 1.20-1.30; 300-400 lbs., 1.15-1.20; 400-500 lbs., 1.12-1.15; 500-600 lbs., .95-1.0250; 600-up lbs., .88-1.00.

Bred heifers: medium frame 550-810.

Bred cows: young to middle aged 650-880; aged or small, 425-650.

Cows with calves: medium frame No. 1 young and middle aged, 800-1000; older, 630-800.

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**Haskell Co. Gin Report**

March 15, 2007 (final)

Haskell	
Haskell County Gin	1,661
Haskell Co-op Gin	1,009
O'Brien	
O'Brien Co-op Gin	18,183
Rule	
Rule Co-op Gin	2,785
Weinert	
Griff's Gin	1,383
Weinert Gin	2,331
Total bales	27,352

**Storm sirens**

The City of Haskell will test the storm sirens at noon on Fridays.

**Shop Haskell First**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT  
**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**  
 SPECIAL ELECTION MAY 12, 2007

**PROPOSITION 1 (SJR 13)**

SJR 13 would amend the Constitution to authorize the legislature to adjust the public school ad valorem tax or tax rates for taxpayers who are aged 65 or older, or are disabled, and who are owners of an exempted homestead. The amendment would thereby allow the legislature to provide tax relief to such elderly or disabled taxpayers who did not receive tax relief as a result of the school tax rate reduction passed in the 79th Legislature, 3rd called session.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for public school purposes on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect any reduction in the rate of those taxes for the 2006 and 2007 tax years."

Published by Secretary of State Roger Williams.

**Obituaries**

**Frances Arend**



**FRANCES AREND**

Funeral services for Frances Arend of Haskell were held Sat., March 17 at Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church in Haskell. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Arend went home to be with our Lord and Savior Tues., March 13.

The daughter of the late Claude E. and Pearl Pruitt Blackwell, she graduated from

Paint Creek High School in 1942 and attended Scoggins Beauty College in Abilene. She was a beautician and owned her own shop for almost 50 years. In 1992 she received her Real Estate and Brokers license and practiced for nearly 12 years in Haskell.

She married Lee Stephens of Hawley in 1942 and they had two daughters. She later married Al Arend of Haskell and they had one son. She was a long time active member of Central Baptist Church of Haskell. When it closed, she moved her membership to First Baptist Church, where she is still a member. She was a resident of Haskell Healthcare Center for the past three years.

She was preceded in death by one daughter, Norma Louise Stephens in 1948; one son, Randell Arend in 1985; her husband, Al Arend in 1985; her parents; brothers, Monroe Blackwell and Elmer Blackwell, both of Stamford, Carl Blackwell of Carlsbad, New Mexico, and

Billy Joe Blackwell of Palo Pinto; and sisters, Madlyn Capps of Ruidoso, New Mexico and Della Pearl Shelton of Stamford.

Survivors include one daughter, Myra Lynn Stephens Rainey and husband, Bill of Haskell; grandchildren, Donna Rainey Birchum of Abilene, David Lee Rainey and wife, Stephanie of Keller, Cory Dean Arend and wife, Tracy of Houston, and Jana Elaine Arend of Fort Worth; great grandchildren, Brent Birchum of Annapolis, Massachusetts, Bryan Birchum of Abilene, Sydney Arend and Caris Arend, both of Houston, Mackensie Rainey and Landon Rainey, both of Keller; one sister, Betty Brueggeman of Stamford; one aunt, Jean Gilcrease of New Orleans, Louisiana; one uncle, Alvin Ulmer of Sagerton; several nieces and nephews; and the wonderful staff and residents of Haskell Healthcare Center where she made her home the past three years. PD. NOTICE

**Joan Darden Meier**



**JOAN MEIER**

Funeral services for Joan Darden Meier, 72, of Haskell

were held Fri., March 16 at First Baptist Church in Haskell with Rev. Greg Gasaway officiating. Burial was in Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Mrs. Meier died Tues., March 13 at Haskell Memorial Hospital.

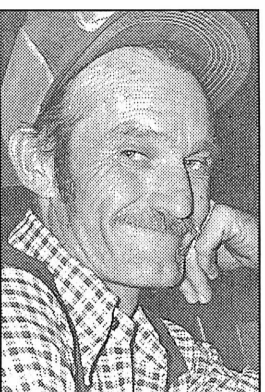
Born Dec. 11, 1934, she was the daughter of the late Henry and Ordria Darden of Haskell. She was a homemaker and retired from Rice Springs Care Home in 1999 after 29 1/2 years. She was a member of First Baptist Church. She was a Sunday school teacher for a number of years and was involved in many

other church activities. She was not only a devout Christian but a loving wife, mother, grandmother and mother-in-law. She always put other's needs before her own.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a grandson, Ryan Meier.

Survivors include her husband, Clarence Meier; two sons, Royce Meier and wife, Lesa, and Dwayne Meier, all of Haskell; three grandsons, Christopher Meier, Justin Meier and Dillon Meier; one granddaughter, Ashley Meier; and a sister, Jerene Baker and husband, Sam. PD. NOTICE

**Jerry Don Butler**



**JERRY DON BUTLER**

Funeral services for Jerry Don Butler, 60, of Old Glory were held Tues., March 20 at Sweethome

Baptist Church in Rule with Rev. Randy Hatfield officiating. Burial was in Bomarton Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Robison Funeral Home of Rule.

Mr. Butler died Thurs., March 15.

Born Sept. 29, 1946 in Seymour, he was the son of James and Joyce Purdue Butler. He married Kathleen (Kathy) Sherrell Aug. 27, 1966 in Irving. She preceded him in death Jan. 29, 1997. A lifelong farmer and rancher, he was a member of Sweethome Baptist Church where he served as deacon for many years. He was a very kind and gentle man to his family and everyone else he came in contact with. He will be truly missed by

all who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathy; his parents; and a sister, Joan Elizabeth Butler.

Survivors include daughters, Tammy Sorrells and husband, Paul of Haskell, Cheryl Gibson and husband, John of Anchorage, Alaska and Bridgett Foreman and husband, David of Rule; grandchildren, Christi Thompson and husband, David of Denton, Jeremy Sorrells of Arlington and his fiancée, Kendra Scheets of Rule, Robin and Kurtis Gibson, both of Anchorage, Alaska and Rodney and Rebecca Foreman, both of Rule; brother, James R. Butler and wife, Jane of League City; numerous other relatives and close friends. PD. NOTICE

**Dee Ann Ballard**

Graveside services for Dee Ann Ballard, 51, of Haskell were held Mon., March 19 at Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Home of Haskell.

Ms. Ballard slipped from the bounds of this earth March 15 at Haskell Memorial Hospital.

Born Feb. 3, 1956 in Haskell, she was a 1974 graduate of Haskell High School. She attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and for a short time in the early 1980's worked at the Abilene Reporter-News, leaving only to start a family in 1982. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church for 40 years. Family was the most important part of her life. To her children and grandchildren, she was

devoted and will be dearly missed by those closest to her. Being a mother was her full-time job that seldom left room for anything else, however she enjoyed writing and found relaxation in music.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Alvin and Freddie Ballard and Charles and Ima Friebele; and brother, Charles Ballard.

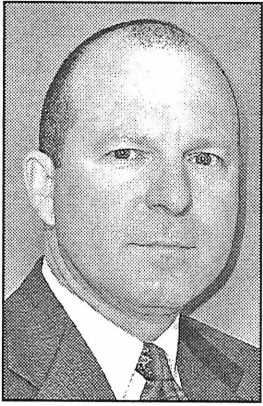
Survivors include her parents, Tommy and Marianne Ballard of Haskell; her children, Justin Leek, Sam Leek and wife, Whitney, all of Haskell, and William Brueggeman of Weinert; two grandchildren, Lauryn Crane and Kurt Leek, all of Haskell; and many others who thought of her as a mother and friend. PD. NOTICE

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# Greenwood named head of Abilene's DRI



**DICKIE GREENWOOD**

Rochester native, Dickie Greenwood, who has been named President/CEO of Disability Resources, Inc., an Abilene facility that provides training jobs and housing for 50 developmentally disabled adults, will begin his new responsibility on April 2.

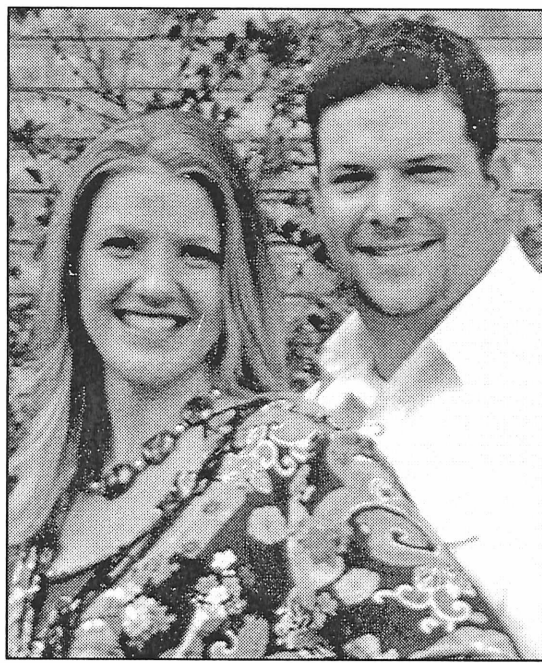
DRI's board chairman, Martha King, said Greenwood's

extensive experience in banking and strong management skills have prepared him for the new position. He will be stepping down as the branch president of American State Bank-Merkel. Of the new job, Greenwood said, "I'd like to provide a better life for those we are serving at DRI."

The graduate of Rochester High School and Tarleton State University, is a graduate of the Texas Savings and Loan School at the University of Texas, and has 25 years of banking experience in Haskell, Stamford and Merkel.

In Haskell, Greenwood was Senior vice-president of Haskell National Bank from 1996 to 2005, and was a member of the Haskell Chamber of Commerce and Haskell Rotary Club, Director of Haskell Memorial Civic Center, Haskell Industrial Foundation, Haskell Ministerial Alliance and other organizations.

Greenwood and his wife, Melissa, have two children.



**JOSI L. HEIL - JAMES C. HODGIN**

## Couple plans June wedding

John and Debra Heil of Stockdale announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Josi L. Heil, to James D. Hodgkin, son of Lonnie and Sara Hodgkin of Haskell.

The bride-elect is the daughter of the late Mary Ellen Alexander. She is the granddaughter of the late Bill and Marie Heil and the late Roy and Ruth Alexander, all of San Antonio.

The prospective bridegroom is the grandson of the late J.C. and Sue Yearly of Haskell and the late Fred and Winnie Hodgkin of

Rochester. Heil is a 1996 graduate of Bandera High School and a 2000 graduate of San Antonio College. She is employed by Precision Orthodontics of San Antonio.

Hodgin is a 1996 graduate of Haskell High School and attended Texas Tech University. He is employed by Stericycle Inc. of San Antonio.

The couple plans a June 30 wedding at United Methodist Church in La Vernia with a reception following at the New Berlin Community Center in New Berlin.

## Book Fair to be held March 26-30

A Scholastic Book Fair is being sponsored by Haskell Elementary School beginning Mon., March 26 through Fri., March 30. The book fair will be in the Haskell Elementary library each day from 8 until 4:30, and until noon on Friday. The fair will be for students in kindergarten through the eighth grade, teachers, families, and the public. This year's theme is Book Fair Beach. Everyone is invited to the

"Family Event" on Thurs. evening, March 29 from 4:30 until 6 p.m. Families will have a chance to shop together, enjoy refreshments, and win book fair products for students. All students must be accompanied by an adult at this event.

For more information on the book fair or being a book fair volunteer, call 864-2654, ext. 309.

## Hee Haw to play Mar. 29-31

The Sagerton Community has begun making preparations for the annual Sagerton Hee Haw, to be held March 29-31 beginning at 8 p.m. each evening. Music and singing will be presented an hour before the Hee Haw program begins.

Tickets for the Friday and Saturday performances went on

sale Fri., March 16. Orders may be placed by calling 940-997-2688 or come to 1825 FM 1661, Sagerton, for tickets. Tickets are \$5 each.

Plate lunches, sandwiches, and pies will be for sale in the cafeteria from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m.

## Spring Fling set

by Jane Rowan

CEA/FCS, Haskell County Experience spring in style—Texas 4-H Conference Center Style! "Down By the Seashore!" Sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension, Spring Fling is for people 50 and over.

Meet new friends at the Texas 4-H Conference Center on Lake Brownwood and make the most of the best years of your life. Experience great food,

comfortable living, educational and recreational activities and a qualified, professional staff.

Come visit the Texas 4-H Conference Center April 23- 27.

Call the Haskell County Extension office at 940-864-2658 or 864-2546. You may also e-mail the Texas 4-H Conference Center at Texas4-H Center@ag.tamu.edu for registration information.

Sign-up deadline is April 13.

## Art club meets

The Brazos West Art Association met Mon., March 12 in the Haskell National Bank Community Room for a night of food, fellowship and viewing of members art works.

Attending were Marsha

Whittemore, Betty Hook, Donna Clayton, Betty Berry, Henri Strauss, Nelwyn Beakley, Adaline Laird, Fern Livengood and Peggy Middlebrook.

Hostesses were Bobbie Harrison and Donna Clayton.

# Gibson Music Studio

## GRAND OPENING

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## Around Town

By Joyce Hawkins

Lona Mae Phelps of Haskell, Jacky and Sandra Sanders of Aledo, and Walter and Sue Cox of Naples, recently returned home after a trip to Eager, Arizona, where they visited their sister, Ethelyn Slade, and most of her family. On Sunday they attended church with the family to hear Ethel's grandson Preston Andrew

Slade speak. He is going to Chili to serve as a missionary for two years. They went to Phoenix, Arizona to visit their Aunt Melba Kim and cousins Billy Kim and his sister, Donna and Pauline Slade. They spent the night with their sister, Ethel and Darwin Slade, on the way back home.

Please join  
a gathering of friends  
of  
John and Jan Gannaway  
Anita Herren and Lucile Gannaway  
To meet and celebrate the marriage of  
Jim and Maryam Gannaway  
Saturday, March 24, 2007  
2 - 3:30 p.m.  
In the home of Anita Herren  
706 North Avenue L  
Haskell, Texas

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Anna Rieger and Chris Doan  
Leslie Grand and James Jeanes  
Nicole Urbanczyk and Levi Pate

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& Nutritional Needs

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REGULAR PRICE

**Doctor's Day**  
Fri., March 30

Show your appreciation to your favorite Doctor with a gift from  
**The Drug Store.**

**Bridal Registry**  
Anna Rieger and Chris Doan  
Libby Leatherwood and Mitchel Payne  
Leslie Grand and James Jeanes  
Brittany Lindsey and Zack Coker  
Chelsea Ramaekers and Geoffrey Phemister  
Bergen Peiser and Josh Webb  
Tracy Mathis and Scott Mueller

**Baby Shower Registry**  
Justin and Brittany (Sheedy) Coker

Mark Your Calendar!  
**Health Screenings**  
Performed by Calvert Home Health  
Friday, April 27  
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Call 940-864-2673 or come by for prices and to make an appointment.

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Sat. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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# OPINION

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



## HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

### Interim director takes charge of Youth Commission

AUSTIN—The Texas Youth Commission board of directors resigned March 16 under pressure from the Texas Legislature.

The board's final act was to submit a plan to fix problems at the agency that led to recent reports of sex abuse, beatings and neglect of confined youths. After submitting the plan at an emergency meeting, the board turned over its duties to the agency's acting director, Ed Owens.

Even before lawmakers gave the board votes of no-confidence and filed related legislation addressing failures of the agency to meet its obligations, perhaps the loudest voice for swift change was that of Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst.

"I believe the resignation of the Texas Youth Commission board and the submission of a rehabilitation plan will finally allow us to begin making real progress toward reforming the TYC," Dewhurst said.

The lieutenant governor, who is co-chair of the Legislative Audit Committee, said the plan will be reviewed, as will the just-released state auditor's report on the TYC.

Officials will take "whatever action is necessary to protect the children and restore the public trust in this agency," Dewhurst said.

Owens publicized a list of pledges he intends to fulfill as interim director. A few of those pledges are these:

- To centralize human resource functions to include criminal background checks for new hires and to collaborate with the Department of Public Safety in conducting monthly notifications of employee arrest;
- To make it so new employees are hired through a central hiring office instead of at TYC facilities.
- To demand that abuse, neglect and exploitation, and complaint policies be redrafted to include review and approval by designated executive staff with notification to the executive director; and
- To restructure programs to be age appropriate and match the psycho-social stage of confined youths.

### Speaker creates education panel

House Speaker Tom Craddick on March 16 announced the formation of the House Select

### Committee on Higher and Public Education Finance

The nine-member, bipartisan committee's task will be to improve public and higher education finance policy so Texas will do a better job of preparing students for college and entering the workforce.

Craddick said improving college and workforce readiness "is immensely important for increasing Texas' competitiveness in the global market."

Committee Chairman Dan Branch, R-Dallas, said, "It's critical that we get this right. We must continue to supply an educated workforce, so employers will keep relocating to Texas."

### Senate passes utility reforms

The state Senate on March 15 approved a package of electric utility reforms lawmakers hope will bring more affordable rates to many Texas households.

The legislation, authored primarily by Sen. Troy Fraser, R-Marble Falls, also discourages market price manipulation and has safeguards to protect low-income, elderly and critical-care customers from having their power cut off.

"Electric rates are out of control and we need to reel them back in," said Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville.

The Senate passed a Lucio amendment that would require power companies to refund any unfair overcharges to customers, pending review by the Public Utility Commission and the state attorney general.

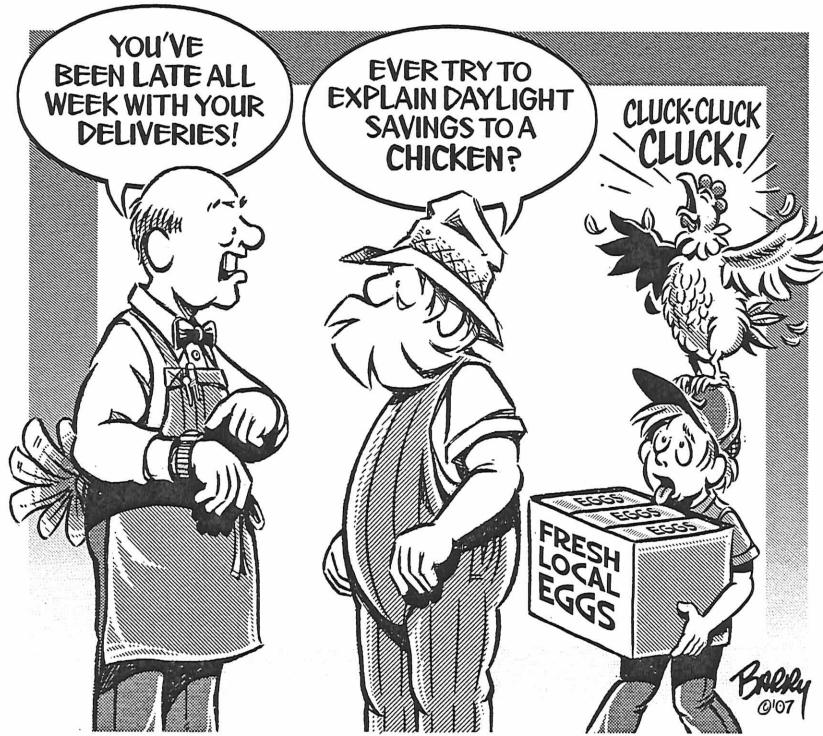
Customers reportedly paid \$70 million in overcharges because of market manipulation by power company TXU in 2005.

The legislation next moves to the House for consideration.

### Effects foreseen in CHIP funding

The way some House budget writers see it, increasing funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program by \$78 million means cutting other programs that mostly benefit the needy.

According to figures by the House Appropriations Committee, cuts of about \$25 million to Medicaid, plus cuts to breast and cervical cancer programs, community mental health crisis centers, substance abuse programs, foster care programs, and independent living centers would make up the difference.



## Automatic garage doors

Automatic garage doors have sensors preventing them from closing when an object is in the way.

These sensors are important, so don't remove them.

Never allow anyone near a moving garage door. You can operate electric garage doors manually by pulling the release cord at the top of the door near the control box. Always use caution.

The springs on garage doors require periodic lubrication. The springs are under considerable tension and require special tools and knowledge for accurate and safe servicing. If your garage door requires major adjustment or repair, contact a professional for help.

## From Out of the Past

From the files of The Haskell Free Press

### 10 Years Ago March 20, 1997

The Tarleton State University Baseball Team and the McMurry University Baseball Team will play in Haskell. Congressman Charlie Stenholm will throw out the first pitch.

The College of the State Bar of Texas recognized Judge Charles Chapman during an awards luncheon in Austin.

The Haskell boys tennis team won the championship in the Electra Invitational Tennis Tournament. Chris McSmith was first in the singles division. Beau Klose and Kevin McSmith played in the consolation bracket.

### 20 Years Ago March 19, 1987

Receiving the Arrow of Light Award at the Blue and Gold Banquet were Matt Perry, Blake Henshaw, Mathew McFadden and Jonathan Tatum.

Larry Reid, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Reid, was selected to the Texas Six Man Coaches Association basketball All Star Team.

Mrs. Newt Rash of Abilene and Anna Mae Roberts of Haskell visited with their cousin and niece, Mildred Guess.

On the Haskell High School honor roll were Julie Nanny, 9th grade; Loutina Hadaway, 10th grade; Sharla Jetton and Michael Rodriguez, 11th grade; and Scott Burris, Patricia Henry, Kelly Klose and Julie Roewe, 12th grade.

### 30 Years Ago March 17, 1977

The 10th Annual Trail Drive sponsored by Haskell Livestock Auction had approximately 40 riders to assist in driving the steers from the Ken Lane Farm south of Haskell to the auction barn where they were sold.

The Haskell Indian Band was recognized for their success in winning Sweepstakes at both the Sweetwater Band Festival and UIL competitions. Band director is Wendell Gideon. John Cox serves as band president. The Sweepstakes award was the band's first since 1962, and the first time a Haskell band had won two consecutive sweepstakes honors.

### 40 Years Ago March 16, 1967

Dave Rubinoff appears in concert at the Haskell High School gymnasium. Rubinoff is a graduate of the royal Conservatory in Warsaw, Poland.

Mrs. Tom Paul Barnett spoke to members of the Rotary Club about her visit to her homeland of Germany.

Mr. and Mrs. Belton Duncan visited in the home of their son and family, Mr. and Mrs. David Duncan, Laura and Kristi in Nashville, Tennessee.

### 50 Years Ago March 21, 1957

A rabbit drive was conducted in the Plainview community southwest of Haskell. Jackrabbits have become so numerous in that section that they are doing considerable damage to grain crops.

The Seniors of Haskell High School are busy with rehearsals for their play, "Headin' for a

Weddin.'

Mattson Rural High School hosted its second track meet.

A community singing program was held at the Central Baptist Church.

R.R. (Ray) Lusk, was elected president of the Texas Public Employee Association of District 8.

Alta McGuire made the 1956-57 fall semester honor roll at Sul Ross State College. McGuire is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Josselet of Weinert.

### 100 Years Ago March 23, 1907

Contractors have the walls of the first story of the Masonic Building up and are putting in the timbers for the second story floor.

Zuma Jenkins of Taylor, who arrived here just a few days ago, has purchased 320 acres of land seven miles north of town for \$6,300.

The greater part of the material for the bridge to be built over the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos River west of Rule has been shipped.

F.C. Wilfong has graded up the street from the northeast corner of the square to the Wright Hotel. This is a job the public will appreciate the next time it rains, as there was a low place along this street.

F.M. Todd returned from a business trip to New Mexico. He had to ride to Stamford on a flat car from Albany.

## USDA intends to extend or re-enroll CRP contracts

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns has announced new results of the recent opportunity given to Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) participants to re-enroll or extend their contracts, which are set to expire between 2007 and 2010. An estimated 23.2 million acres out of 27.8 million acres of eligible CRP contracts are expected to be re-enrolled. An estimated 4.6 million acres in CRP contracts will exit CRP between 2007 and 2010. Of the 4.6 million acres, approximately 1.4 million acres are located in major corn producing states.

"The percentage of landowners choosing to remain in CRP is consistent with what we have seen in the past, despite speculation that re-enrollment would drop significantly due to high corn prices," said Johanns. "We are closely monitoring interest in CRP re-enrollment, planting projections and demand for commodities to determine the most appropriate future actions in administering the Conservation Reserve Program," Johanns said.

The 4.6 million-acre estimate includes all general sign-up expiring contracts that were not extended or re-enrolled under last year's offer. It does not include acres under expiring continuous sign-up contracts, which will be eligible to be re-enrolled during the final contract year.

Last year, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) contacted more than 317,000 CRP participants with these USDA Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) contracts to determine their interest in continuing in CRP. FSA, which implements CRP on behalf of CCC, divided the group into 2007 expirations and 2008-10 expirations. The 2007 expirations included 15.7 million eligible acres out of 16 million total expiring acres.

The 2008-2010 expirations included 12.1 million eligible acres out of 12.5 total expiring acres.

Last spring, FSA asked CRP participants with CCC contracts set to expire in 2007 to confirm their interest in re-enrolling or extending by paying a compliance fee. A recent review of the data shows CRP participants have paid the fee on 89 percent of the acreage, or 13.9 million acres of the 15.7 million acres set to expire in 2007.

Of the 13.9 million acres, landowners decided to extend or re-enroll 13.1 million acres in CRP contracts so far. Before approving re-enrolled or extended contracts, FSA must ensure that the required cover is maintained and that other contract provisions are met. In addition, participants must demonstrate show that they meet eligibility requirements for the new enrollment period. In the case of re-enrollments, updated rental rates will apply.

Last summer, CRP participants with CCC contracts expiring in 2008 through 2010 were asked to express their interest in re-enrolling or extending. To date, these contract holders have paid the compliance fee covering 83 percent of the acreage, or 10.1 million acres of the 12.1 million acres set to expire. Tables showing state and county acreage for which the fee has been paid for 2008- through 2010-expiring contracts are available at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=cpr&topic=cpr>.

Updated tables based on the latest fee payment data for 2007-expiring contracts are also available at the same site. Acres with compliance fee payments do not represent final approval to stay in the program.

Final figures of producers who sign contracts may vary. FSA has estimated a revised schedule of contract expirations, based on compliance fee payments and data on contracts accepted for re-enrollment and extension. It can be found in the Monthly Summaries posted on the "CRP Statistics" Web page at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=cpr&topic=css>.

Also included in the summaries is a state table showing acres of 2007-expiring contracts that have been approved for re-enrollment or extension and recorded in the CRP contract database. FSA will update the estimates as CRP participants make their final decisions known.

USDA does not plan to conduct a general sign-up for Fiscal Year 2007 or 2008. However, continuous sign-up of high-priority buffers, wetlands and other initiatives, as well as Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, will continue. USDA encourages farmers and ranchers to consider these opportunities.

CRP is America's largest and most effective private-lands conservation program, with more than 36 million acres enrolled. Under CRP, farmers and ranchers plant grasses and trees in crop fields and along streams. The plantings stop soil and nutrients from washing into regional waterways and contaminating the air. They also provide habitat for wildlife. Over its 20-year history, CRP has amassed a wealth of benefits for the United States at an average cost of less than \$49.00 per acre annually. Through Jan. 2007, CRP has restored two million acres of wetlands and two million acres of buffers. CRP effectively reduces soil erosion across the United States by 454 million tons each year.

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# Street scenes from Saturday's car show



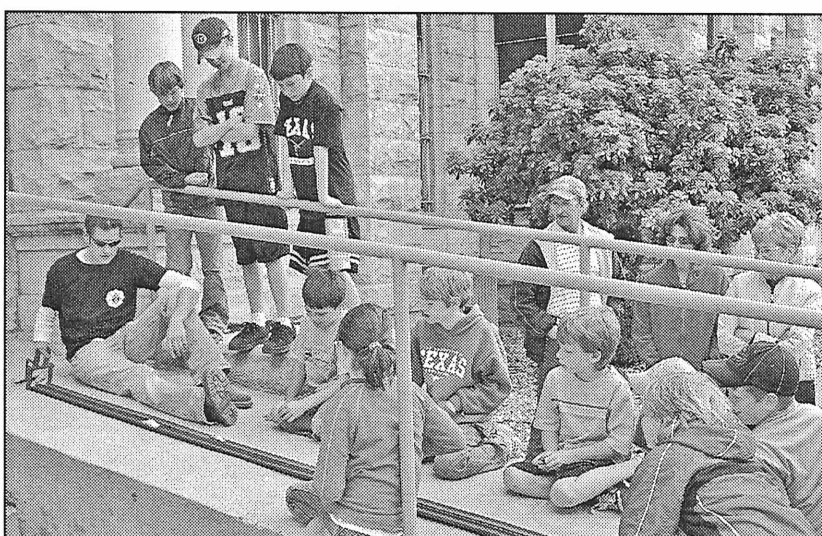
**BEST OF SHOW AND 1ST PLACE CARS '65 AND UP—1967 FORD GALAXIE 500, DANNY AND BOBBIE BOWMAN OF PLAINVIEW**



**1ST PLACE MOTORCYCLES—2002 HONDA GOLDWING  
DON BALLARD OF HASKELL**



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**1ST PLACE PICKUPS '85 AND UP—2002 DODGE, JOSH BARBEE OF HASKELL**



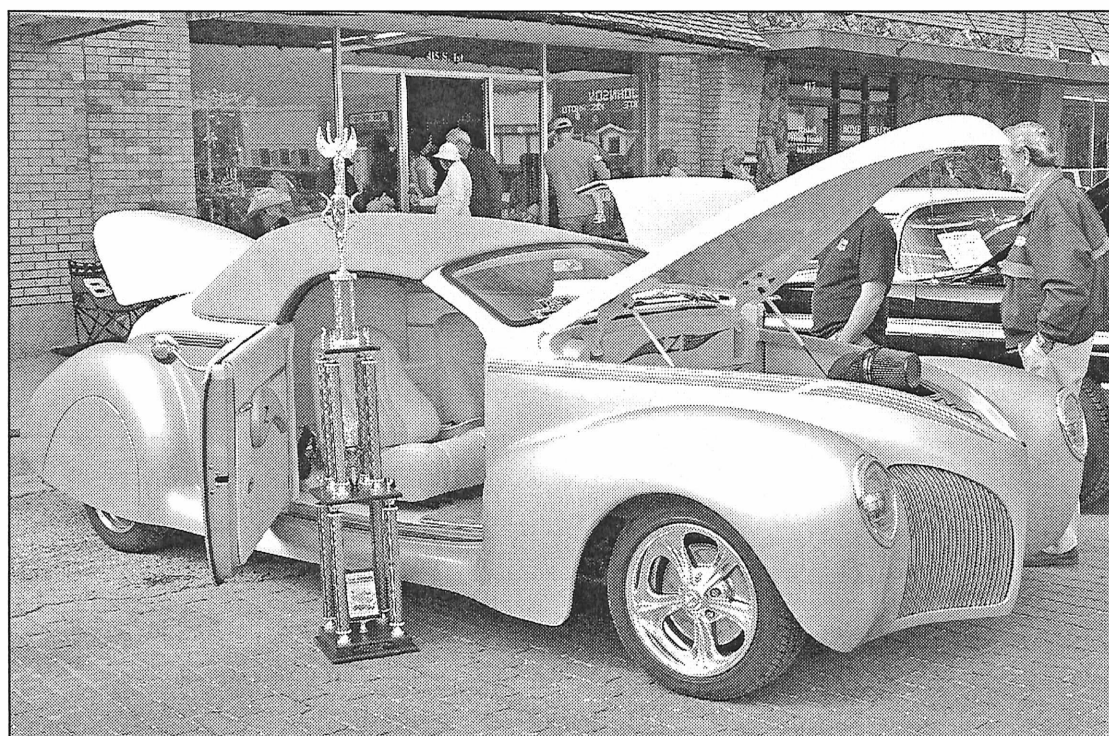
**FARTHEST DISTANCE TRAVELED—1969 CHEVY EL CAMINO, DANNY MILLER OF SPRING**



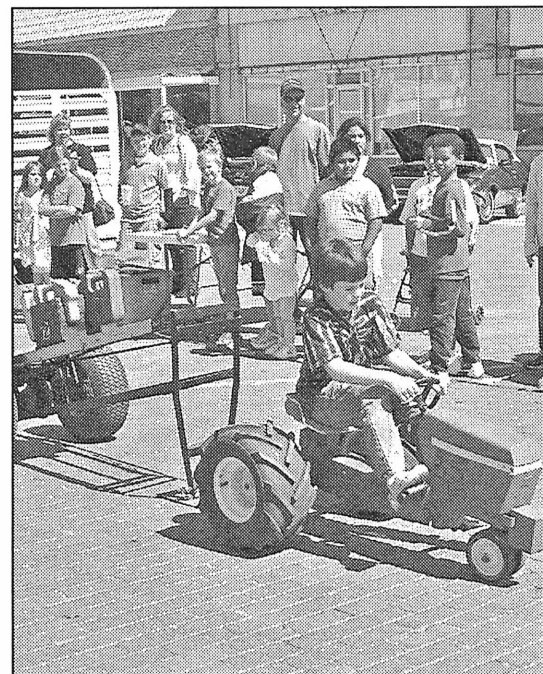
**1ST PLACE OLDER PICKUPS PRE-'84—1972 CHEVY CHEYENNE, ROBERT SNYDER OF ALBANY**



**1ST PLACE SPORT COMPACT—1999 MAZDA PROTEGE, TONY GALLARDO OF ABILENE**



**PEOPLE'S CHOICE AND 1ST PLACE CARS PRE-'64—1939 LINCOLN ZEPHYR, SAM TYRA OF ABILENE**



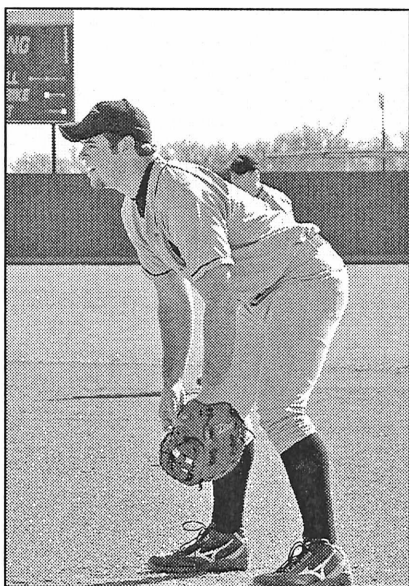
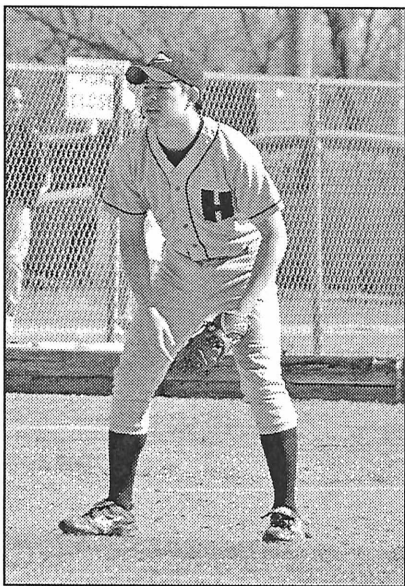
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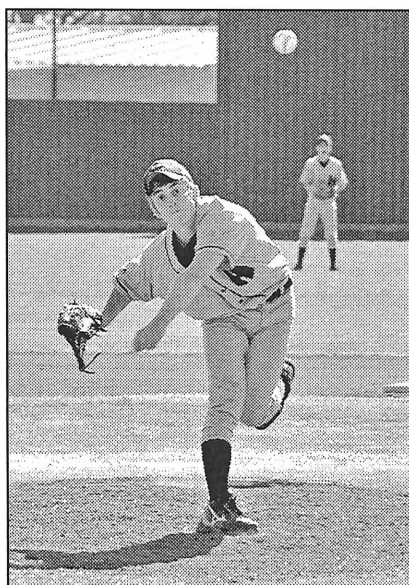
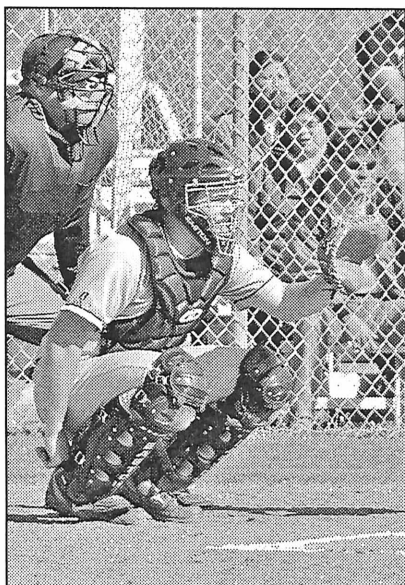




**GRANDDAD'S FAVORITE**—Granddads weren't the only ones that found this 1915 Ford Touring Car with its almost complete original tool kit an interesting and fun entry at Saturday's Haskell Fire Department's Car Show. The mostly unrestored historic car belongs to Robert Kelly of Midland.



**INFIELD**—Greg Guzman, third baseman, left, and Gary Frierson, first baseman, take on the Anson Tiger team Fri., March 16. The Tigers took the win 7-4. Photos by Bill Blankenship



**INDIANS**—Clyde Frierson, catcher, left, and Steven Fillmon, pitcher, compete against Anson Fri., March 16. The Indians fell to the Tigers in a 4-7 score. Photos by Bill Blankenship

## West Texas Brangus Breeders to hold sale Sat., March 24

The West Texas Brangus Breeders Association will hold a sale Sat., March 24 at 10 a.m. at Abilene Auction in Abilene beginning with females followed by bulls.

The sale will include 70 selected brangus bulls, 50 registered females, pairs, bred cows, bred heifers, open heifers, 500 commercial, selected pairs, bred cows, bred heifers, and choice open replacement heifers. For information or a catalog contact Tommy Milliorn at 325-698-7014 or 325-338-3610 after business hours; or Sammy Pierce at 979-865-1410.



DAVID MIDDLETON

## Middleton to coach TABC game

Bringing yet another honor to Haskell High School girls basketball coach David Middleton, and to Haskell, Middleton has been selected to be one of the coaches for the small school (A, AA and AAA) All-Star Games in San Antonio, May 3-4-5 at the TABC (Texas Association of Basketball Coaches) Clinic.

The game will begin at 3:00 pm, Fri., May 4 at Trinity University in San Antonio.

Having spent forty years in coaching, Middleton said, "It's a real thrill for me at this stage of my career, to participate in this game."

He will carry Haskell girls' basketball assistant, Teresa Martinez, to San Antonio with him to the games, and said he is glad for her to have the opportunity to go. "I think it will be a great experience for her," he said.

This past season, Middleton posted his 800th career win in the annals of coaching, and was named "Coach of the Year" in Dist. 5AA.

### Bricks

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The common brick is sized to fit in a person's hand. This makes installation more efficient and easier for the mason.

Color, texture, size and pattern are all important factors to consider when choosing brick.

Bricks should fit tightly together. If you find any loose bricks or cracks, contact a professional to have them repaired.

## Car Show results

continued from page 1

11-year-old (430 lbs.): 1. L.J. Pardee. Hammon; 2. Elizabeth Bowers; 3. Alexia Melton; and 4. Austin Curran.

9-year-old (380 lbs.): 1. Taylor Hunt; 2. Jacie Klose; and 3. Bryan Evans.

10-year-old (480 lbs.): 1. Max Weise; 2. Toby Castorena; and 3. Shawn Myers.

12-year-old (480 lbs.): 1. Levi Grand; 2. James Bowers; and 3. Connor Pardee.

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