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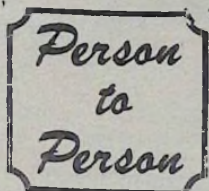
HELOTES ECHO

VOLUME XXVII NUMBER 21

HELOTES, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS THURSDAY, AUGUST 18 - AUGUST 25, 1988

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Public Hearing Set On 32% Tax Hike



Mike and Clea Mikel will be honored at a 45th Anniversary Party in the Scenic Loop Youth Club on Sunday, Aug. 21, beginning at 6:30 p.m., by their friends and neighbors in Grey Forest. In charge of the party are Sandra Fischer and Karla and Linda Withrow.

Helotes Park Estates artist No. Nelson has an exhibit of her San Antonio Missions watercolors in the San Antonio Airport gallery. They will hang until Sept. 6. Nora invites everyone to stop by when passing through the airport.

Mrs. Mabel Weaverling of Boerne will demonstrate the painting of primroses at the Saturday, Aug. 20 meeting of the Comfort Porcelain Art Club, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Educational Building of the Comfort Episcopal Church. Club membership is from throughout the Hill Country. A display of porcelain art by the club is on exhibit through August in Bandera's Frontier Museum.

The San Antonio Alumnae chapter of Phi Mu will meet Saturday, Aug. 27, at 12 noon in the home of Kathy Durham, 107 Painted Post.

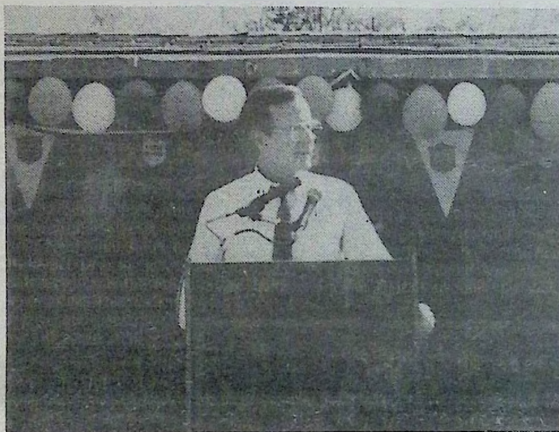
Mrs. Ella Dunford of San Geronimo has returned from a two-week visit with relatives in Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Zepeda of Bandera Road have had as house guests their daughter, Elaine, and her husband, Brig. Gen. Robert Flores, and their family, of Virginia. They all attended the graduation of one son, Kenneth, from Texas A&M University last week.

The Grey Forest Utilities will celebrate their twentieth anniversary on Friday, Aug. 19, with a dinner in the headquarters of the gas utility company.

The annual Lee Family Reunion will be held Sunday, Sept. 4, at the Lee Ranch behind Grey Forest. All descendants of Shelly Lee and their families and friends are invited.

George Bush In Helotes



Vice President George Bush - now Republican candidate for President - came to Helotes in the Spring of 1983 to campaign for a Republican candidate for Congress from Bexar County. He spoke on the patio of Floore Country Store. It was a sunny and cool day and Bush arrived a little before noon. Secret Service men were all around, and a helicopter flew overhead. In thirty minutes Bush got back in his car to return to San Antonio.

UTSA Names New Athletic Director

Bobby Thompson, director of athletics at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, was named the new athletic director at The University of Texas at San Antonio. President James W. Wagener has announced. The appointment is effective Sept. 12.

Thompson has been responsible for the organization and administration of the athletic department at Nebraska-Omaha since 1985. In addition to managing the entire athletic department, his duties included fund raising, promotions and marketing.

In making the announcement, Wagener said, "I am pleased that UTSA has been able to attract someone of Bobby Thompson's proven ability to become director of intercollegiate athletics. Mr. Thompson comes to UTSA with very strong credentials including service as athletic director for more than eight years at three different universities.

"He places the academic

accomplishments of student athletes ahead of the won/loss record and he has demonstrated his ability to organize and manage an athletic program, including budget preparation and control during a period of major budget reductions.

"Mr. Thompson has been very effective in marketing and promotion of athletic programs and events, and he has a successful record as a fund raiser. I am convinced that Bobby Thompson is a the best person to lead the UTSA athletic program at this time, and I am very optimistic about our future in this area."

From 1978 to the present, Thompson has held three previous athletic director positions. Before working at Nebraska-Omaha, he was director of athletics at both the University of South Dakota and Fort Hays State University. At Fort Hays he also served as head football coach. In 1983-84, Thompson was a

(Continued On Page 13)

New Budget Still

In Workshop Stage

Property owners in the City of Helotes will have a chance to tell the City Council what they think of the proposed 32% increase in taxes in the 1988-89 budget at a public hearing on the budget at 7 p.m., Thursday (tonight), Aug. 18, at the city hall.

Mayor Pro Tem Niels Jensen said recently that the tax would have to be raised from 14.3 per \$100 valuation to 18.9 cents to cover the tentative budget.

Wednesday the total amount of the proposed new budget was not available at the City Hall. The proposed budget is still in the workshop stage, and the tax increase may not have be 32%, a city hall spokesman said. The current budget, which will run out on Sept. 30, was about \$310,000 for all city services.

Jensen said the proposed increase would cost a homeowner with a \$100,000 house an additional \$46 per year. Among the additional expenses in the coming fiscal year would be two new police cars "at about \$14,000," he said.

After the public hearing Thursday night, the City Council will meet again on Monday, Aug. 22, for an additional budget workshop, in the City Hall beginning at 7 p.m.

Then on Thursday, Aug. 25, the Council will hold its regular second meeting of the month at 7 p.m., followed with a public hearing at 8 p.m. on the proposed rate increase.

This Council meeting and public hearing will be held in the PARC Building of the Helotes Hills United Methodist Church in order to accommodate the expected crowd.

The proposed increase in taxes in Helotes is only one of the tax increases facing property owners here.

The Alamo Community College District has announced an impending jump of 38 per cent, going from 4.75 cents per \$100 valuation to 6.56 cents. Bexar County is talking about going up from 19.8 cents to 24 cents. Northside School District officials say they will have to go from 72.1 cents to 82.9 cents. The VIA Metropolitan Transit sales tax would go up one-half cent to finance a domed stadium in San Antonio. Also expected to go up is the Edwards Underground Water District tax.

The Grey Forest City Council had a budget workshop Tuesday night, and does not plan a tax increase.

At an earlier session the Helotes City Council approved a new ordinance controlling the burning of trash and brush. It requires that citizens get a permit before burning. Adverse weather can void the permit.

Trail Riders Due Here Saturday

An all-girl Pony Express Trail Ride from Bandera is scheduled to arrive in Helotes at Floore Country Store Saturday morning, Aug. 20, at about 11:30 o'clock.

They will stay here for lunch before leaving for Sea World of Texas at 2 p.m.

The ride is to promote Bandera's Labor Day celebration.

Honored At Reception



Stacey Cleaveland, Miss Helotes 1987, who recently won the title of Miss South Texas 1988, was honored at a fund-raising reception in Helotes State Bank on Thursday, Aug. 11, hosted by the Helotes Festival Association. She will compete in the Miss Texas pageant in Fort Worth next June. A 1988 graduate of Taft High School, she will be a freshman this Fall at UTSA.

Mrs. Stemen Dies At 82

Mrs. Lucille M. Stemen of Prue Road, well-known and beloved in the Helotes area, died in her sleep on Friday, Aug. 12, and was buried Monday, Aug. 15, from Helotes Hills United Methodist Church with interment in Sunset Memorial Park. She was 82.

Mrs. Stemen was a charter member of the Helotes Hills Church, and a member of the Silver Belles, the Birthday Club and the American Association of Retired Persons.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester Stemen, with whom she owned and operated Stemen's Card Company and a printing business on Fredericksburg Road. Mr. Stemen died on March 7, 1980.

She is survived by two daughters, Virginia Salling of Rockport and Lolita Poehlmann of San Antonio; one son, Keith Stemen of Canyon Lake; eight grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

Mr. Wheeler Dies At 74

Travis W. Wheeler, 74, died at his home on the Madla Ranch on Thursday, Aug. 11, and was buried Tuesday in the Madla Cemetery following services at the Helotes Independent Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary S. Wheeler; two daughters, Lillian Blakley and Janie B. Wheeler; a son-in-law Jimmy Blakley; one sister, two brothers, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

His body lay in state in the Max Martinez Chapel Sunday and at the Helotes Independent Methodist Church on Monday. Officiating at the funeral service was Brother Donald Stone of the Helotes church.

Death came rapidly to Mr. Wheeler after he suffered a heart attack early in the evening of Aug. 11. The EMS technicians of Helotes Volunteer Fire Department responded to the call for assistance.

Demski Campaign Goes National

Dr. Robert Demski of Helotes Park Estates continues his campaign against the obscenity, violence and perversion in rock music lyrics, plus the danger of hearing loss due to the loudness of the music.

He is quoted in the July issue of Reader's Digest and had articles printed in two recent national newsletters of the American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, as well as in Adolescent Medicine.

He also is to be heard on a Radio America broadcast to be carried by 230 stations in the U.S. plus Armed Forces Radio worldwide.

About three-quarters of the earth's fresh water is frozen in glaciers and ice-caps.

Lampmans At Grange Meet



Mr. and Mrs. C.J. Lampman of FM-1560 near Helotes wore these sweat shirts with the Junior Grange logo at the 54th annual session of the Texas State Grange last week in Boerne. Mr. Lampman is State Master of the Grange. Mrs. Lampman is Worthy Pomona of the National Grange. They will attend State Grange meetings in Arkansas and Oklahoma in October and the national convention in California in November.

Hill Country To Be Scene Of Triathlon

Dave Scott has been called the Babe Ruth of triathlons. Considered the premier endurance athlete on the planet today, Dave Scott is the six-time winner and undisputed master of the Ironman Triathlon. On Sept. 10, Scott will be at the starting line of the 3rd Annual Texas Hill Country Triathlon (THCT) which will take place at Canyon Lake.

The Texas Hill Country Triathlon has been selected as the 1988 Long Course National Championship and largest qualifying event in the United States for the prestigious Ironman Triathlon World Championship. Over 750 triathletes from across the United States will be in San Antonio to compete in this

City's first major, world class endurance event.

The Texas Hill Country Triathlon consists of a 1.5-mile swim, 48-mile bike, and 10-mile run.



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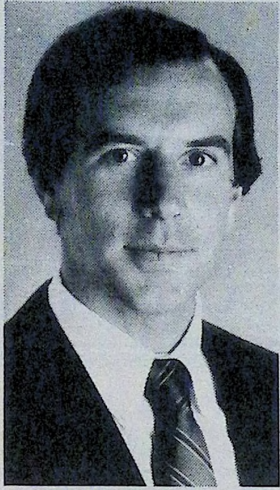
- ☐ Bankruptcy
- ☐ (Chap. 7 & Chap. 13)
- ☐ Personal Injury
- ☐ (Auto Accidents)
- ☐ Wills, Estates & Probate
- ☐ Divorce & Adoption
- ☐ Worker's Compensation
- ☐ (on the Job Injuries)
- ☐ Leon Valley Traffic Tickets
- ☐ & Municipal Court cases

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I am in general practice and licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas, The Federal District Court for the Western District of Texas, The U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals and The U.S. Supreme Court. I am not a specialist and not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in any of the listed areas of practice.

Space Scientist



Dr. J. Hunter Waite, Jr., has joined the Southwest Research Institute staff as assistant director of the Department of Space Sciences in the Instrumentation and Space Research Division. Waite comes to the Institute from NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, where he was an astrophysicist from 1981 to 1988. He received a bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Alabama, and master's and doctoral degrees in atmospheric science from the University of Michigan.

Grant To Fund

Rural Bus Service

The Alamo Area Agency on Aging at the Alamo Area Council of Governments has received a \$274,000 grant from the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation to operate a public transportation system within 11 area counties: Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina and Wilson.

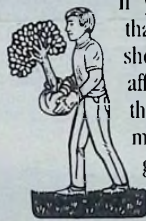
Authorized by Section 18 of the Urban Mass Transportation Act, these funds are targeted to non-urbanized areas of populations less than 55,000. The new system, scheduled to begin August 15, is to provide the residents of such areas both intracounty transportation for a minimal fare. The program may be utilized for travel needs involving medical, senior-center visiting, shopping, bill paying and other purposes.

For more information contact Alamo Area Agency on Aging staff members Frank Adamo or Barbara Hughes at the Alamo Area Council of Governments, 225-5201.

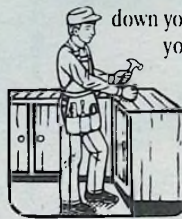
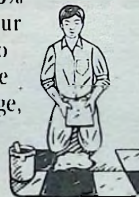
The Bell-X-1 was the first plane to officially exceed the speed of sound. It was flown on October 14, 1947 by Major Charles E. Yeager. The plane was nicknamed "Glamorous Glenn."

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What's Yellow, Black

And Has 144 Feet?

AUSTIN — Summer vacation is just about over and kids across the state will be returning to school, many of them aboard big yellow and black school buses. One of the most common sights on the state's roadways during the school year, these buses can carry from 71 to 83 seated students on any given trip each day, depending on bus style.

Texas Safety Association encourages parents to remind their children about school bus safety rules.

Last year in Texas 1,685 accidents involving school buses were reported that resulted in 1,085 injuries. Although nine fatalities were attributed to these accidents, none were passengers on the buses. In 1986, the 1,696 accidents involving school buses accounted for 1,022 injuries and five deaths.

Since many school bus accident victims are struck by vehicles while waiting for buses, children should be reminded to:

- Line up away from the road and wait for the approaching bus to come to a complete stop before entering the roadway to board.

- Avoid pushing and shoving.
- Use the grab handle when boarding and move directly to a seat.

While the bus is in motion, children should:

- Avoid horseplay.
- Refrain from shouting or making loud noises that could distract the driver.
- Remain seated for the entire trip, even when the bus is approaching its destination.

Upon arrival at the bus's destination, children should:

- Exit the bus in a quiet and orderly manner.

- Walk about 12 feet to the front of the bus so the driver can see them, and wait until the driver signals them before attempting to cross the street.

- Remember that although it is against the law for vehicles to pass a school bus that is loading or unloading passengers, some drivers still do. Students should check both ways on any street before crossing.

One of the most often asked questions regarding school buses is, "When is it legal or safe to pass a stopped school bus when its lights are flashing?" According to the Texas Motor Vehicle Laws Uniform Act [6701d, Sec. 104b]: "The driver of a vehicle upon a highway with separate roadways need not stop upon meeting or passing a school bus which is on a different roadway or when upon a controlled-access highway and the school bus is stopped in a loading zone which is part of or adjacent to such highway

and where pedestrians are not permitted to cross the roadway."

In other words: When approaching a stopped school bus from the opposite direction on a highway, a driver need not stop if: 1) the school bus is on a frontage road, 2) the opposing lanes are separated by a median strip 10 feet in width (Turn lanes are not considered median strips!), or 3) the opposing lanes are separated by a permanent barrier.

In either case, only vehicles traveling in the same direction as the school bus must stop. Vehicles may pass in the same direction if the bus is in a controlled loading zone adjacent to the traffic lanes, and where pedestrian crossing is prohibited. But it's still safer to stop.

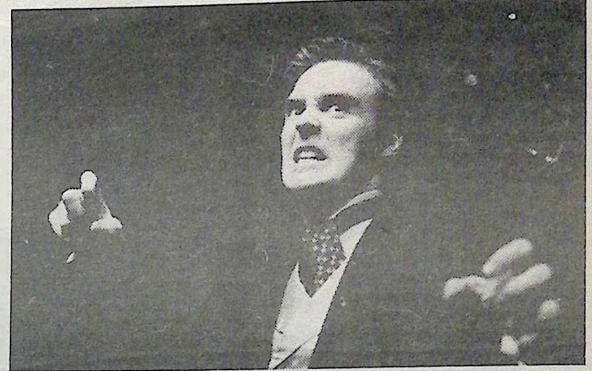
Parents should review other basic pedestrian safety rules with their children in preparation for their daily trips to and from school.

Booklet Offers Tips On College Costs

In just 10 years, the average cost of attending a public college or university is estimated to reach \$40,000 and will climb to well over \$50,000 in 15 years. The cost of attending a private institution will be double or triple that. The need for effective savings strategies has never been greater.

There are a number of things parents can do to offset these soaring costs, according to a helpful new booklet published by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in cooperation with the accounting firm of Coopers & Lybrand, "Planning Now for College

Actor as Actor



David Beeler is appearing in a production of his play, "Booth," in the San Antonio area this week. A resident of Kerrville, Beeler will return to drama school in London this fall. "Booth" will be performed Sunday, Aug. 21, through Thursday, Aug. 25, in the 24th Street Experiment Theater on Alamo Plaza. Two performances were given this week at the Krause House in Bulverde. "Booth" is based on the life of Edwin Booth, 19th Century American actor. Beeler took it to London last year and was well-received.

Costs" identifies savings plans as well as innovative ways to minimize taxes. For example:

- Income shifting allows parents to transfer assets to their children though a custodial account or trust. The benefit is that income earned on these assets is generally taxed at a lower rate, so savings accumulate faster.

- Other alternatives for funding a college education include tax-advantaged investments such as government bonds, annuities, IRAs, life insurance and appreciating assets.

For copies of this helpful guide, send \$3.00 to: Planning Now, P.O. Box 2155, Washington, D.C. 20013.

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Beware the Yellow Blob



A freak accident last week on Loop 410 near the IH-10 intersection saw a hose burst on a truck putting yellow plastic paint striping on the Loop. The paint spewed over several cars, and one woman driver had to be hospitalized. Here employees of the painting contractor clean up the mess.



In the big traffic jam that resulted when Loop 410 was closed by the paint, one of the trapped autoists was Bob Mathis of San Antonio Ranch. He jumped out of his car and took these pictures. This is a closeup of the yellow Blob as it flowed into a median ditch.



Andrew Johnson was the only ex-President to be elected to the United States Senate.

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Exotics Becoming Integral Part Of Ranches

Since their introduction in the 1930's, exotic big game have become an integral part of many ranches attempting to diversify their enterprises.

Unfortunately, exotics also have become an unwanted component on some ranches due to their expansion from initial release sites, according to Dr. Stephen Demaris, research scientist, Department of Range and Wildlife Management, Texas Tech University.

"The supposed advantages and disadvantages of these animals are legendary," Demaris said.

Positive aspects of exotic big game include a year-round income, preservation of endangered species, filling open niches or "rangeland jobs," and aesthetics, he said.

The legal status of exotics allows

harvest at the landowners' discretion, he explained. The prospect of year-round cash flow can be attractive when compared to enterprise efforts and revenues concentrated during the fall native hunting seasons.

The expanding domestic market adds an important new component to this enterprise by allowing sales of females and young males for meat, he said.

The preservation of endangered species often can be accomplished more easily in the United States than in developing countries, due to economic factors, he added. Efforts to raise black rhino in Texas are a good example of this, Demaris said. A niche is an ecological concept related to a species' specialized requirements for food, cover and space, he said. A niche can be considered open if all the necessary requirements for a species are present but are not being used by native wildlife, he explained.

The ring-necked pheasant, introduced into the United States from Asia, is an example of successfully filling an open niche, he said.

The fourth positive aspect, aesthetics, relates to the pleasure people get from seeing these

animals, he added.

Negative aspects of exotic big game include competition with other animals, uncontrolled spread, disease complications, and interbreeding with native wildlife.

Competition for limited resources will result in harm to one or both species. For example, aoudad sheep compete with mule deer for available food supplies in the Palo Duro Canyon, Demaris explained.

Additionally, the uncontrolled spread of exotics can be a problem for landowners that do not desire

their presence. About one-third of the exotics in Texas currently are not behind game-proof fencing,

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Every million years an entire thin surface layer of the Moon's soil is turned over 100 times by meteorites that land on the planet.

Marla Wallace, Joseph Greene Wed

Marla Lynn Wallace, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wallace of Circle S Drive, and Joseph Herbert Greene of San Antonio were married Saturday evening, Aug. 13, in Trinity United Methodist Church. The groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Theodore A. Greene of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Officiating at the wedding were Dr. Luster Lockett of Helotes Hills United Methodist Church and the Rev. Charles W. Baker, Jr., of North Carolina.

Mrs. Marsha Josseland, sister of the bride, was matron of honor, and Theodore A. Greene, father of the groom, was best man.

The bridesmaids were Mrs. Ginger Jackins, Valerie Girard, Brandi Diehl, Mrs. Linda Smith, Miriam Frey and Betsy Greene. Groomsmen were Byron Taylor, Neal Anderson, Marc Tawil, Kenneth T. Roberson II, Michael Austin and Clayton Wallace.

The flower girl was Jenny Logan, and the ring bearer Daniel Potter.

Jack Ormand was the organist, and Lori Killian sang.

The wedding reception was at the Colonies House, and then the bride and groom left on a wedding trip to the Poconos Mountains.

Marla was graduated from John Marshall High and currently is a senior at UTSA and a part-time employee of State Farm Insurance. The groom is a graduate of North Carolina State University, where he earned a master's degree in electrical and computer engineering, and now is employed as a research engineer in the Space



Mrs. Joseph Herbert Greene

Sciences Division of Southwest Research Institute.

Birthday Party To Honor 14,000

One of the largest birthday parties ever held in San Antonio — with more than 14,000 honorees — is scheduled for Sunday, August 28 at Humana Women's Hospital — South Texas, 8109 Fredericksburg Rd., as a benefit for the March of Dimes.

Scheduled from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., "Celebrating Birthdays" honors the 50th Anniversary of the March of Dimes, the 4th Anniversary of Humana Women's Hospital — South Texas and the birth of more than 14,000 babies at the hospital in the past four years.

All the children of San Antonio, as well as those born at the hospital, are invited to enjoy traditional birthday games, clowns, refreshments, magicians, the Buppets and face painting.

Children's librarians with the San Antonio Public Library will read

Susan Koenig

To Show Art

The Artist's Alliance of San Antonio will present an exhibit of original paintings and drawings by Susan Koenig, titled "Studies of a Place." The exhibit will be presented at the Gallery, 112 Losoya, Aug. 19 through Sept. 11.

An opening reception honoring the artist will be held at the Gallery on Friday, August 19, 1988, from 6 to 9 p.m. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited.

children's stories and coordinate sing-a-longs.

An eight foot by eight foot birthday card, a huge birthday cake and other traditional birthday activities will be ongoing.

Children will make wishes and sign the birthday card welcoming all the future babies to be born at Humana Women's Hospital — South Texas.

Candles purchased for the cake will benefit the research activities of the March of Dimes. Candles on the cake will be lit at 2 p.m.

Fashion FORECAST

Questions and Answers

Denim Fashions Take On All Shapes

Q. How can I be on the cutting edge of fashion without being "model" thin?



A. Timeless denim in the latest style can offer an effortless and economical way to look up-to-the-minute. Fortunately, one clothes manufacturer—Gitano Sportswear—offers an array of styles in denim that focus on body flattering simplicity. For a good fit, the company features its PS Collection which is proportionately sized to fit all body types—whether junior, missy or plus size. Denim has long been the foundation of the company's sportswear line and denim separates in new silhouettes are the focus of the exciting new collection.

Jeans, skirts and jackets in denim are the foundation of a variety of looks this season and make a good way to form the basis of an affordable, versatile wardrobe which can be updated from one season to the next.

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Participants can taste muffins, burgers, snacks, and main entrees prepared with oats. Registered Dietitian Donna Sears will present the program.

Each participant will be charged \$5. Space is limited, so call to make reservations. To register for the cooking class, call 271-2557.

The Lipid Center at Humana Hospital — Metropolitan will host, "Oat Meals: A Heart-Healthy Alternative," on Tuesday, Aug. 23 at 11:30 a.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 24 at 6:30 p.m.; and Thursday, Aug. 25 at 6:30 p.m. Classes will be held in The Lipid Center, 1230 Brooklyn Avenue.

*To capture those moments
that come only once...*

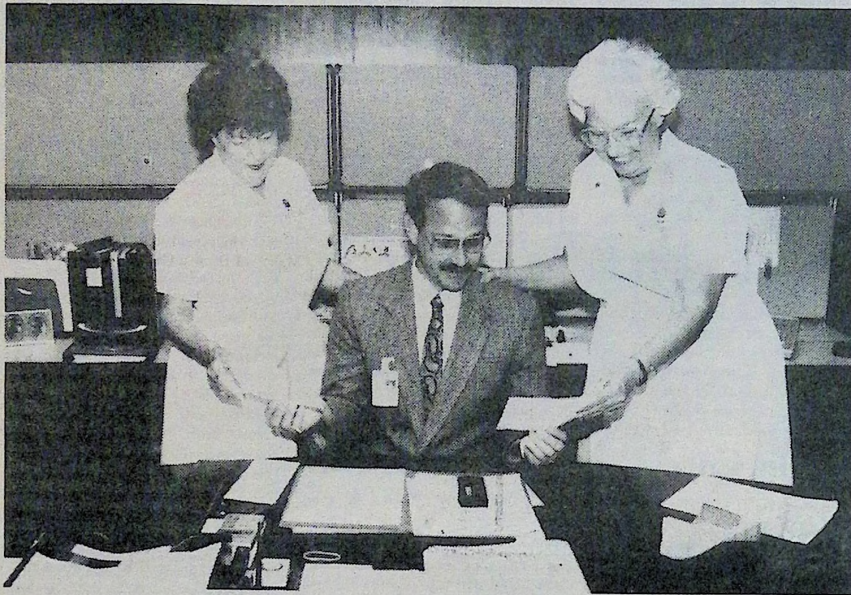
"A Reflection of Time"

Photography by William Jerry

For information call: 647-0546



Helping Methodist Hospital



Members of the Blue Bird Auxiliary at Methodist Hospital, Mrs. Anne Wood (left), treasurer, and Mrs. Betty Fite Thorne, president, present checks totaling \$149,389 to the hospital's administrator, John E. Hornbeak.

Weatherizing Help Available

Low-income homeowners or renters who are 60 years of age or older, handicapped or migrant/seasonal farmworkers can increase energy conservation and reduce

their utility bills by weatherizing their homes with assistance from the Alamo Area Council of Governments.

Volunteers Needed For Stroke Study

Heart disease can lead to stroke, which many people don't realize.

Researchers at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio are seeking volunteers with a certain type of heart problem for a large study of stroke prevention.

San Antonio researchers are leading a nationwide study seeking ways to prevent strokes in persons with an abnormal heart rhythm called atrial fibrillation. One in three persons with this disorder will suffer a stroke at some time, according to statistics.

Atrial fibrillation affects an estimated 1 million people in the U.S. It is diagnosed by recording a tracing of the heart's rhythm on an electrocardiograph.

Atrial fibrillation can contribute to formation of blood clots in the heart. If a clot is formed, the heart can pump it out, where it may block a blood vessel. If the blood vessel is in the brain, the clot can cause a

Stroke. Atrial fibrillation increases a person's chance of having a stroke five to six times over that of a person without the problem.

Men and women with atrial fibrillation or an irregular heart-beat they think might be atrial fibrillation are invited to call research coordinator Anne Leonard, RN, at (512) 694-5161. Screening will take place at the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital or Medical Center Hospital in San Antonio. Researchers will work closely with the patient's private physician.

The study will continue for approximately three more years.

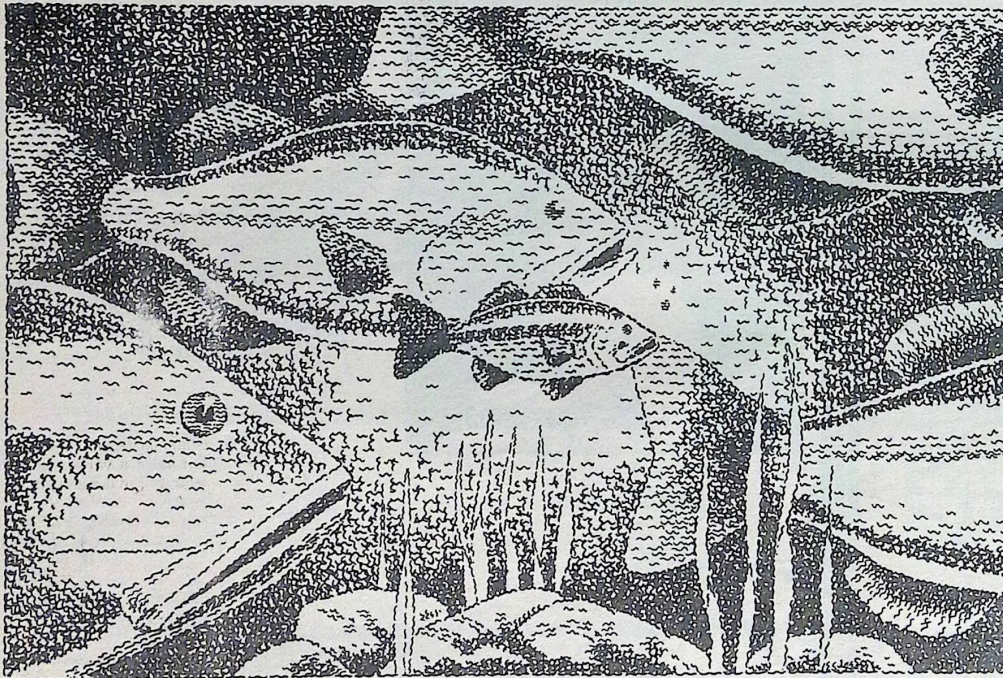
Nationwide, more than 600 people already are participating in the study, but 1,000 more volunteers are needed. The project is comparing aspirin and an anticoagulant to see which may be effective in helping atrial fibrillation patients avoid stroke.

Steel Sculptures To Be Shown

The steel creations of El Paso sculptor James Drake will be featured in the latest exhibit at the Teaching Gallery of The University of Texas at San Antonio. The exhibit opens Monday, August 29, and will continue through Friday,

September 23.

Drake is known for his steel installations, which are said to reflect his ideas and his environment. The UTSA exhibit will include steel sculpture and drawings.



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First GIFT Twins Get To Go Home

San Antonio's first set of twins conceived by the GIFT fertility procedure have gone home from Methodist Hospital.

Julia Michelle and David Matthew were born Aug. 1 about dinnertime to a San Antonio couple, Laura Garza and her husband, Steven. The pair have been married five years, and for about half that time have wanted to start a family.

Her obstetrician, Dr. George Stern, sent her to Dr. Linda Ellsworth, one of the specialists in Methodist's program for infertile couples.

Besides being an obstetrician/gynecologist, Dr. Ellsworth is also a reproductive endocrinologist. In addition, she is the only member still in San Antonio of the original UT Health Science Center team which developed the GIFT

technique here in the Alamo City. GIFT (gamete intra-fallopian transfer) is now the most successful of the fertility procedures used worldwide.

It was Dr. Ellsworth, with Dr. Stern assisting, who performed the GIFT procedure which resulted in the Garzas' twin "miracle" babies.

The birth was a natural one. After spending two weeks in Methodist's labor and delivery unit trying NOT to have the twins too prematurely, Mrs. Garza says the babies took charge with a week still to go. And in just over four hours, they had arrived.

Her tiny son, who weighed in at 5 pounds, 15 ounces, is going to grow up to be a real gentleman, she says. "He just said 'ladies first' — and waited for his little sister (4 pounds, 10 ounces) to be born before him."

Credit Card Donations Aid MDS

SAN ANTONIO — The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and MasterCard International, Inc. are teaming up to make supporting the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon more convenient than ever this year. "Thanks to MasterCard International for the first time you can make credit-card pledges to the Telethon even before the show goes on the air," according to Denise Reasonover, San Antonio Telethon Pledge Center Coordinator.

"All you have to do is dial 1-800-FIGHT MD. Starting at 3 p.m. (CST) on Saturday, September 3, and continuing even beyond Telethon sign-off on Labor Day, MasterCard operators will be available to take credit-card donations charged to MasterCard, Visa, or American Express.

Last year, MDA collected more than \$2 million in credit-card Telethon pledges.

Trail Riders To Help Fund Drive

The Old Spanish Trail Riders are "on the rise again" during their 2nd Annual MDA Benefit Ride co-sponsored by the Lone Star Brewing Co., on Aug. 27.

Registration will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 26 at the Cowtown Dance Hall in Lytle. Music for the registration dance is by Larry Beers.

The 24 mile cross-country ride will begin with coffee and donuts at 8 a.m. on Saturday, and end at the K.P. Corral at Hwy. 16 and FM 476. Lunch will be available at minimal cost and a BBQ supper and dance featuring the Rhythm Mavericks is included in the \$15 adult and \$8 for children 6 to 15 minimum donation for the ride.

Prizes will be awarded for the oldest and youngest riders on horseback, the riders who collect the most donations and the person who traveled the greatest distance.

The MDA research programs are made possible through the year-round generous community support of local fundraising programs which are spearheaded each year by the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon, seen locally on KENS-TV 5.

The 23rd edition of the Telethon will be broadcast live from Caesars Palace in Las Vegas on Sunday, September 4, starting at 8 p.m. (CST).

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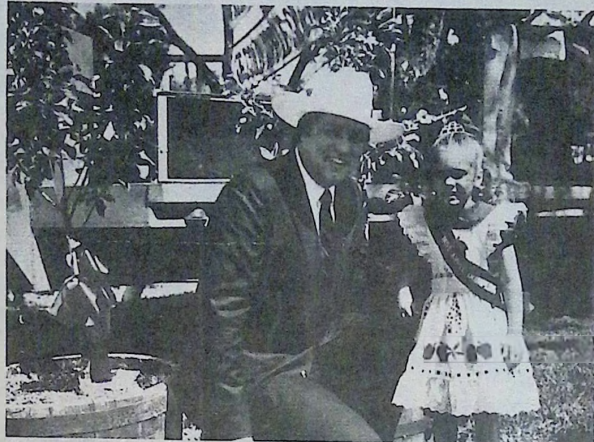
(MEDINA)--"Texas has long been number one in cattle, cotton and oil. Now, we're ready to take on all comers for the title of America's best apple producers. The folks here in Medina will lead that fight by serving as the official 'Apple Capital of Texas,'" Deputy State Agriculture Commissioner Mike Moeller said here.

Moeller, the second highest ranking official at the Texas Department of Agriculture since 1985, made the comments at the Texas International Apple Festival being held here.

"The title of Apple Capital is not a gift, because the folks of this Hill Country community have earned this recognition. During the past few years, some modern-day Johnny Appleseeds have planted 20,000 rapidly maturing dwarf apple trees. This year area growers will reap some of the fruits of their labor. In fact, Central Texas should harvest around 7,500 bushels of fruit. But that bounty is only a small bite of what growers anticipate. By next season, weather cooperating, production levels should rise to 30,000 bushels of fruit," Moeller said.

"Of course, the best thing about these Texas apples is the taste. Most of the apples sold during the summer months come from storage. They may look good, but eating a cold storage apple is about as exciting as eating week-old bread. These fresh Texas apples have 40 percent more sugar than any storage apple. Because of our warmer climate, Texas can produce its apples at a time when other states are still waiting for their crop. The development of the apple industry is healthy for both consumers and this area's local economy.

"Much of the research which lead to commercial-level apple production in this area was conducted by horticulturist Dr. Loy Shreve of the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center in Uvalde. Thanks to Dr. Shreve's experiments with dwarfing root stock, growers can now grow high quality apples as far south as the Rio Grande Valley. The use of dwarf apple trees offers growers the chance to produce fruit a full three years faster than full-size trees.



Deputy Agriculture Commissioner Mike Moeller is shown with Tracy Ann Lautzenheiser, who was named Miss Apple Dumpling for the Texas International Apple Festival in Medina.



Apple growers offered their products during the Texas International Apple Festival held in Medina recently. During the last few years, 20,000 rapidly maturing dwarf apple trees have been planted in this Hill Country community.

Almaraz Gets Fulbright Grant

Dr. Felix D. Almaraz, Jr., a history professor at The University of Texas at San Antonio, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to visit Argentina, where he will study and teach the history of the Spanish borderlands. He will leave for the northern Argentina city of Rosario on Aug. 25, and plans to return to San Antonio in late November.

Almaraz will be working at the Catholic University of Argentina, a century-old university known for its history institute. He will be teaching a graduate course on the history of the Spanish borderlands, which includes the areas of northern Mexico, Texas, and the Southwestern United States.

Almaraz said the university has outlined the topics they would like him to stress in the course. In addition to typical subjects such as the history of the Franciscan missions in the borderlands, he has been asked to emphasize Texas history, including the establishment of the Republic, its annexation as a state, slavery and secessionist sentiment, and post-Civil War Reconstruction.

"They want more about Texas than we normally teach in a class like this. They are really interested in Texas, more so than I expected," Almaraz said.

Almaraz will also have the opportunity to travel. The university has asked him to conduct seminars at the University of Mendoza located in the foothills of the Andes and at the National University of the Northeast.



The car pictured on the back of the ten dollar bill is a 1926 Hupmobile.

Now Is The Time To Avoid Heat Stroke

Heat-related illnesses, a deadly possibility during the sweltering days of August, are usually avoidable with advanced planning and good common sense, says a local emergency physician.

"It is especially important for the very young and the elderly, particularly those who are already ill or on medication, to take steps to combat this seasonal illness," says Dr. Jacques A. Roy, medical director of the Emergency Department at Humana Hospital - San Antonio.

Some 4,000 people die annually of heat stroke in the United States; 80 percent of this group are over 50 years of age.

Dr. Roy warns that the elderly are particularly susceptible to heat-related illnesses because their bodies are incapable of adjusting efficiently to temperature extremes.

The elderly should take care to avoid exertion, such as strenuous gardening or recreation, on hot and humid days, he says. Those taking vacations in warmer climates may be wise to take time to adjust to the warmer weather before undertaking rigorous activity.

"Children are far more prone to heat stroke than we previously thought," says Dr. Roy, an emergency physician for over seven years. "Their high level of activity and their inability to dissipate heat efficiently make them susceptible." Heat stroke is the second leading cause of adolescent death on the playing field, following only spinal injury.

Heat stress is potentially deadly for those who suffer from diabetes, heart, lung or kidney diseases, or any condition that causes weakness or fever, says Dr. Roy.

"Persons taking tranquilizers, sedatives, diuretics, drugs such as those prescribed for Parkinson's disease and muscle spasms, or some heart and blood pressure medications that alter the ability to sweat need to consult with their physician on the possible effects of heat," he emphasizes.

Obesity, alcoholism and slowed circulation are other contributing

factors to heat-related illnesses, he says.

Dr. Roy indicates there are a number of common sense rules to avoid heat stress:

- Don't wait until you are thirsty to drink water. If a person is under a doctor's care, check to see how much water should be taken. Athletes and overweight persons may have to drink more than a gallon of water per day.

- Avoid drinking alcohol, which is dehydrating, or sugary beverages, which decrease gastric emptying. Alcohol can promote a sense of well-being, making the drinker less aware of the danger signs of heat stress.

- Don't consume hot or heavy meals which may add to the heat in the body.

- Use air conditioning if you have it, or go someplace that does such as a mall, library or movie theater.

- If you don't have air conditioning, use a fan to keep air moving during the day. Air movement will help the body keep cooler by speeding up the rate at which body sweat evaporates.

- Indoors wear light-weight, loose-fitting clothing. Outdoors wear a hat or use an umbrella.

- Take cool baths or showers or drape wet towels or ice bags on the body. Water removes extra body heat 25 times faster than cool air.

- Minimize the amount of strenuous physical activity, especially that which is directly in the sun or in the hottest times of the day. Early morning or the evening are the coolest times for sports activity.

"It is also very important to learn the early symptoms of heat stress," says Dr. Roy, "and to maintain contact with others who can recognize the symptoms."

Changes in mental status, stumbling or clumsiness, headache, nausea, dizziness, excessive sweating or lack of sweating, muscle cramps, fatigue and vomiting may be warning signs of a possible heat-related problem which may require a person to seek medical advice, says Dr. Roy.

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Rams Coach Puts Emphasis On Defense

Going with the adage of defense wins football games, Marshall Coach David Visentine is loading up personnel on defense.

"I'd like us to be dominating on defense," Visentine said. "Whether we can or not, I don't know. We've taken some players from offense and moved them to defense."

Visentine hopes the moves can move the Rams up in the standings. The goal is to go over .500. The Rams have been 5-5 and 4-4-2 the past two years.

"Right now, we're probably middle of the pack (in District 30-5A)," Visentine said. "We'll do a little better than some people are anticipating."

"I feel comfortable with where we are right now. We still have a million miles to go."

Visentine said the team size is average but quickness and a strong, positive attitude will compensate for size. A problem in consistency should work itself out soon.

"We're not staying with our blocks on offense," Visentine said. "We're making good initial contact but we're not staying with it. Defensively, we've made marked improvements in pursuit. The secondary has no returning

starters. That's a tough position to play and if it's inexperienced, you can double that."

Visentine hopes to add some offensive punch with more passing this year. There will be new faces in the passing game with Adam Fillinger at quarterback and Steve Sgarzy, Terry Porter, Chris Torres and Don Smith as receivers.

"Fillinger has gone beyond our expectations at this point," Visentine said of the all-district defensive back last year. "He's a real strong leader and, this is the best strong surprise, he's throwing the ball exceptionally well. He's stepped up and taken charge."

"Our receivers are doing a great job. We are much further along in our passing game than we were at anytime last year. I'd like to say we'll throw 35 to 40 percent of the time and a lot of that will be dictated by our opponent. We'll have the ability to throw it 50 percent of the time if needed."

Things might get a little confusing in the offensive huddle with two Chris Torres. "Fast" Chris Torres will share the wingback spot with Don Smith and "Big" Chris Torres is penciled in at tackle.

Tailback is set with returning Darrell Hall. Joe Verdi and sophomore V.J. Villarreal will split time at fullback and Sgarzy and Porter will alternate at split end.

Dan Persyn, a senior guard, is the only returning offensive lineman. Rob Getz (6-7, 240) is one tackle and 220-pounder Mike Murray is the center. The other guard spot is Alan Flowers but Reggie Nieuw and Bill Wetzel are pushing for playing time. The tight end is a battle among Mike Norman, Morris Jefferson and Chuck Clark.

The two transplanted defensive players are Todd Johnson at end and Troy Nahart at tackle. Both started on the offensive line last year.

Charlie Jones, who started some last year, will be the other end and



Marshall head coach David Visentine keeps an eye on the Rams practicing football.

Trent Bryant, up from the junior varsity, will be the other tackle. Sal Cardenas and Roger Martinez will push for time at the tackles.

The linebacker squad is headed by all returning all-district linebacker Steve Basore. Chip Woods and Shane Watts will also start at

linebacker.

The starting secondary will have Gabe Macias and Scotty Gonzales at the defensive halfbacks, Julio Rodriguez at monster and Charles Harrison at safety. Backups will be Barry Bobby, Kyle Stein, Armando

Flores and Jack Nelms.

Macias will handle the kicking chores. The punting is between Alan Lynch and Charles Harrison.

"We want to have as strong a defense as we possibly can," Visentine stated.

Two Teams Win Titles

Abiding Presence and Hope Lutheran claimed championships in the coed softball leagues of the Northwest Ecumenical Athletic Association.

Abiding Presence defeated Zion Lutheran Green for first place in the Tuesday Coed League. Abiding Presence finished with a 11-1 record and Zion Green was second at 10-2.

Hope Lutheran won the Friday Coed League with an 11-2 mark while Zion Lutheran Gray was second at 9-4. Zion Purple was third at 7-5.

Volleyball Action Gets Underway

The high school football season takes the spotlight the first weekend of September but volleyball has a two-week jump on action.

The Marshall Rams open the football season with a non-district contest against East Central at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2, at Northside Stadium. The Taft Raiders take to the field at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, against Brackenridge at Alamo Stadium.

Thursday, Aug. 18 — Volleyball: Marshall vs. Churchill, 6:15 p.m. Taylor Field House; Taft vs. Lee, Taylor, 7:30.

Friday and Saturday, Aug. 19-20 — Volleyball: Marshall in Harlandale Tournament; Taft in San Antonio Independent School District Tournament.

Tuesday, Aug. 23 — Volleyball: Marshall at Smithsonian Valley, 7 p.m.; Taft at Edison, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 24 — Volleyball: Madison at Marshall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 25 — Volleyball: Memorial at Taft, 7 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, Aug. 26-27 — Volleyball: Marshall at Northeast Tournament; Taft at South San Tournament.

Tuesday, Aug. 30 — Volleyball: Taft at Southwest-x, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 31 — Volleyball: Marshall vs. Holmes-x, Taylor, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 1 — Volleyball: Marshall at Harlandale-x, 7 p.m.; Taft vs. Houston, Taylor, 5 p.m.


Friday, Sept. 2 — Football: Marshall vs. East Central, Northside, 7:30 p.m.; Volleyball: Marshall and Taft in Northside Tournament.

Saturday, Sept. 3 — Football: Taft vs. Brackenridge, Alamo Stadium, 7:30 p.m.; Volleyball:

Marshall and Taft in Northside Tournament.

Tuesday, Sept. 6 — Volleyball: Taft vs. Holmes-x, Taylor, 6:15 p.m.; Marshall vs. Jay-x, Taylor, 7:30 p.m.

x-denotes district game.



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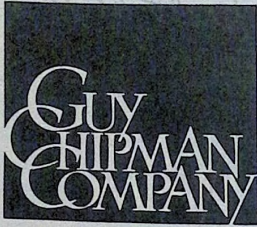
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SASA Steps Up Home Loans

San Antonio Savings Association (SASA) has changed the name of its Mortgage Banking Division to the Home Loan Division. The announcement was made by SASA's chairman and chief executive officer, W. W. ('Bo') McAllister III.

Says McAllister, "SASA was founded in 1921 to help people save money and to help them buy homes. We are still doing exactly that; the new name reflects more accurately the fact that this division exists to help customers realize their dreams of home ownership."

According to Terry Mendenhall, executive vice president and manager of SASA's Home Loan Division, the change was made in conjunction with SASA's continued

expansion of home lending services, such as PhoneBank.

Says Mendenhall, "With this new service, we can answer general

questions about rates, financing plans and terms as well as give personalized information about monthly payments, points, fees and qualifying based on income and all at the customer's convenience."

SASA's PhoneBank operates 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Those interested in further information about home loans from SASA can call the Home Loan Division at 525-5308 or PhoneBank at 525-5090.



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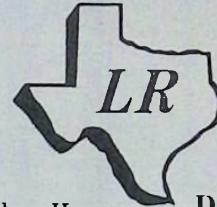
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In celebration of La Quinta's 20th Anniversary, all rooms will sell for \$20 plus tax (one to four guests) on the night of Slumber Party USA. Six dollars of that amount will be donated to Make-A-Wish. The goal is to fill more than 20,000 rooms in 200 La Quinta Inns in 29 states and raise more than \$100,000.

Slumber Party USA is La Quinta's first national fundraising

event for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, a non-profit charity whose purpose is to grant the wishes of children up to the age of 18 who have life-threatening illnesses. La Quinta is a national sponsor of the foundation, a network of 6,000 wish volunteers for 122 chapters and divisions operating in 41 states. Founded in 1983, the organization has granted 6,000 wishes and is now the nation's largest non-profit, wish granting charity.

Interest in model railroading as a hobby began after the Chicago World's Fair of 1933-34. Model railroad exhibits at the fair spurred this interest.

Corral Classified Ads

Corral classified ads minimum \$2 for 10 words, 10 cents for each additional word. All display ads on this page at regular rate of \$3 per column inch. Mail copy with check to: Helotes Echo, P.O. Box 228, Helotes, Texas 78023 or bring to ECHO office at 15350 Scenic Loop Rd. or call 695-3613 for assistance.

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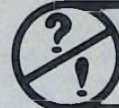
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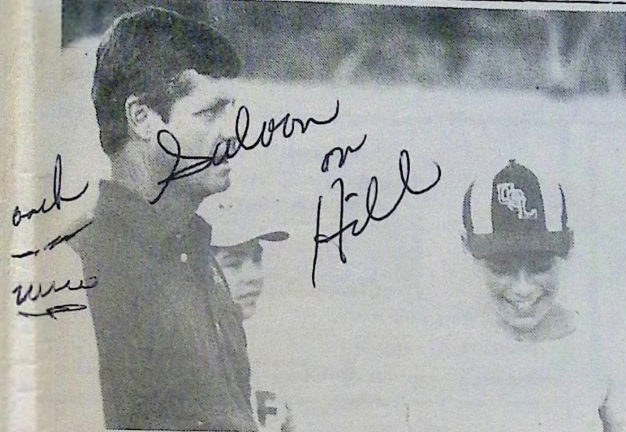
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Taft head coach Mike Haynes takes a breather during two-day football practices.



Photos by Charles Olmsted

Taft assistant coach David Hovda explains football techniques.

Raiders Have Many New Faces

The football players are at Taft High School and so is the potential. Now, it's just a question of the players living up to their potential.

The Raiders will be a junior team this year trying to better their 6-3-1 performance from a year ago. Coach Mike Haynes expects some growing pains from his varsity group of 41, which includes just 13 seniors.

There will be plenty of new faces, especially on offense where only three starters return.

"Our lack of offensive experience will be a real learning process," Haynes said. "We're improving but we've got a lot of learning to do. Our success depends on how quickly we learn and mature."

"We have a good, aggressive

defense. I hope we can come along fast enough on offense to take the pressure off the defense and become balanced."

Besides the inexperienced offense, the other nagging question concerning Taft is numbers which translates into depth. There are 41 players listed on the varsity squad.

"Injuries could be a key factor in our success," warns Haynes. "If we get hurt, we'll even be younger. The ones who would be filling in behind the starters are sophomores."

Most notable among the new offensive faces will be at quarterback. Gone is John Miller, who capped off his high school career with a touchdown in the Oil Bowl game last month. Miller had been the quarterback since Taft opened its doors in 1985.

Fighting for the quarterback spot are Mark O'Malley, Chris Derby and Bobby Sandoval. Haynes said O'Malley is working with the first team.

"All three complement each other," Haynes noted. "O'Malley is the most balanced at running the ball, executing the offense and throwing. Sandoval has the strongest arm, and Derby is good at executing the option."

"We're trying to establish a balance between the passing and running games," Haynes continued. "Our offensive line is improving every day. We're doing some fine-tuning. The potential is there at the receivers and quarterback. We just haven't been doing it long enough to do it well enough."

The quarterback's targets include Andrew Johnston, a sophomore flanker, and Chris Lara, a junior split end.

The three returning offensive starters are Joe Lopez, a junior, and Johnny Castenada, a senior, at the guards and Dyrone Brodbeck, a junior tailback. Brodbeck will also see some action at free safety and will handle the kicking and punting chores.

The remainder of the offensive lineup will have college prospect Neal Leach, (6-3, 255, senior) and Russell Hoff, a junior, at the tackles; Sean McKenzie, a junior, at center; George Decker, a junior, at tight end; and Carl King, a senior, and

Trey Brown, a junior, sharing fullback duties. Sophomore Ryan Williams will play tailback.

The Raiders' defensive lineup will be young but it is an experienced group. Four of the six returning starters are juniors. They are Todd Shipman at tackle, Randy Ayres and Chris Sanchez at cornerbacks and O'Malley at free safety. The two senior returnees are Walter Heinig at inside linebacker and Carl King at the linebackers.

Ernie Sierra, a senior, and Eric Burno, a junior, are pencilled in on the line with Chris Tencza and sophomore Paul Cantu expected to see action.

The remainder of the starting lineup will be Kevin Roles and Pete Mann at linebacker and Wayne Saldana and Eric Patterson in the secondary. Patterson is another potential college prospect, according to Haynes. Ricky Munoz will see time at linebacker.

Once again, the District 30-5A race will be tough. Clark and Jay seem to be the early favorites along with consistent Holmes. The district has dropped from nine to seven members for football which means two additional non-district games. Haynes said he sees the non-district games as time to work on fine-tuning and working out kinks.

"We have a lot of ifs as we go into the season," Haynes said. "We'll find out about the ifs soon."

UTSA--

[Continued From Page 1]

division manager at the Oil Field Service Company in Oklahoma City.

Earlier in his career, between 1966 to 1978, Thompson was an assistant football coach at Oklahoma State University, University of Idaho, West Texas State University and Kansas State University. He began his career as athletic director and head football coach at Altus (Okla.) High School in 1961.

Thompson received a master's degree in education and administration from the University of Idaho in 1972, and a bachelor's degree from Friends University in 1961.

Pet Vaccination Set Saturday

The Humane Society of Bexar County will be beneficiary of all proceeds from a pet vaccination clinic, Saturday, Aug. 20, from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m., at Pets First Veterinary Center. The Center is located on 2277 N.W. Military Hwy., near Military and Lockhill Selma.

Vaccinations against common dog and cat diseases will be offered at base costs, from \$5 to \$10.

Dr. Wayne Eldridge and Dr. Chris Pinney, organizers of the clinic, point out that dogs and cats — even those kept indoors —

invariably come into contact with viruses and other disease — causing organisms carried in the air, in dust, on clothing and by other animals.

Humpback whales sing in accents which indicate where they're from — the Virgin Islands, Bahamas or Puerto Rico, for instance.

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SAN ANTONIO — The Police Department will hold an auction of motor vehicles unclaimed by the former owners. The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at the Police Storage Lot, 3625 Growdon Road on Wednesday, August 24, at 10 a.m. Vehicles may be viewed Wednesday morning prior to the auction between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

The "Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act" which grants authority for the sale of these vehicles also provides to the purchaser a vehicle free and clear of all liens. This entitles the purchaser to register the vehicle and receive a certificate of title.

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UTSA Cross Country Teams Ready To Go

The award-winning University of Texas at San Antonio men's and women's cross country teams will open the season at the Rio Invitational on Sept. 24, as part of an eight-meet schedule announced by Head Coach Shawn Flanagan.

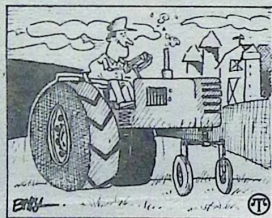
Highlighting the schedule is the UTSA Invitational to be held Sept. 30 at the school's cross country course. The men and women will both travel to meet at Southwest Texas State, Oct. 14; Iowa State, Oct. 16; Texas A&M, Oct. 20; Texas-Austin (held in Georgetown), Oct. 21; and Houston Baptist, Nov. 4. The men will go for their second consecutive Trans America Athletic Conference (TAAC) championship on Oct. 29 at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

Besides the TAAC champion-

ship, last season was a very successful one for the UTSA men's team, which scored unprecedented victories in the Rice, UTSA and Texas A&M Invitationals, and a fifth place finish in the District VI championship meet. Jose Iniguez was the TAAC Runner of the Year, while Flanagan was voted TAAC Coach of the Year.

The 1987 women's team narrowly missed making the nationals at the district meet when they finished one place away from qualifying. That performance was preceded by a victory at the Texas A&M Invitational, a second-place finish at the UTSA and Rice Invitationals, and a third place finish at the Texas Invitational. Jody Dunston achieved All-American status last season by finishing 19th at the national meet.

Putting Food On The Table



For more than two million American farmers and ranchers, putting food on our table is a business, not just a way of life. Agriculture and related industries constitute the country's biggest business, accounting for more than 20 percent of the Gross National Product and employing more employees than the automotive and steel industries combined.

Knowing how to raise a crop, however, is only a small part of being successful in agriculture today. The modern farmer relies as much on marketing savvy and financial management skills as he does on equipment and fertilizer. He also relies on credit: borrowed capital used to put the new crop in the ground, bring it in from the field and get it to the market.

Adequate supplies of reasonably priced credit have helped U.S. farmers to become the most efficient producers in the world. The average American farmer produces enough food and fiber to meet the needs of 116 people.

Agricultural producers in the U.S. hold about \$141 billion in borrowed capital, nearly two-thirds of which is used to finance farm land.

The rest is used primarily for operating expenses, equipment purchases and capital improvements—the major ingredients needed to run the business and make a profit.

The significance of credit to American farmers and ranchers has increased dramatically this year as a result of the 1988 drought, which has scorched some 40 per-

cent of the country's farm land. Those producers that have loans will be working closely with lenders to see their way through this difficult period. Of those who don't, many will be financing feed purchases for the first time to keep their herds alive through the summer and into next year.

Drought conditions aside, the average farmer with gross agricultural sales greater than \$40,000 has business assets valued at nearly \$900,000, according to USDA. In Iowa, for example, that farmer will invest an average of \$140 a year in land, machinery, labor, seed, fuel, fertilizer and pesticides to grow an acre of corn. With a total investment in one year's crop of about \$126,000, it's not surprising that

credit plays such an important role in the industry.

"Moving capital from Wall Street to rural America is critical to a strong farm economy," explains H. Brent Beesley, head of the Denver-based Farm Credit Corporation of America. "That's why we have the farmer-owned Farm Credit System."

Over the years, the Farm Credit System has brought hundreds of billions of dollars back to rural America in the form of loans to



The San Antonio Spurs Coyote takes a close look as former Spur Paul Griffin gets into the swing of things for Multiple Sclerosis Society's First Annual Corporate Celebrity Golf Challenge. Left are Spurs forward Ed Nealy and Spurs Executive Vice President Russ Bookbinder. The South Texas chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society is sponsoring two golf tournaments in August. One is the Corporate Celebrity Golf Challenger, and the other is the Longest Day of Golf. For more information, contact Linda Castleberry at 735-9366.

farmers, ranchers and cooperatives. This borrowed capital comes primarily from the sale of Farm Credit System bonds and discount notes to investors in the nation's capital and money markets.

Today, the Farm Credit System supplies nearly one-third of the country's total farm debt through a nationwide network of Farm Credit System banks and associations. With \$52 billion in loans outstanding, the system serves some 600,000 farmers, ranchers and cooperatives.

In the wake of perhaps the most difficult economic period in agriculture since the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987. Among other things, the new law authorizes up to \$4 billion in financial assistance for the Farm Credit System. Signed by President Reagan earlier this year, the 1987 Act assures that farmers and ranchers will get the credit they need to feed the nation—good news for agriculture and the American consumer.

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