

Big Savings At Duncan & Son's Annual Clearance Sale

JANUARY

Clearance Sale

Starts Thursday, January 14th



- ★ Men's Coats
- ★ Boy's Coats
- ★ Men's Sweaters
- ★ Boy's Sweaters

- ★ Women's Coats
- ★ Girl's Coats

1/2 off

- ★ Ladies' Sweaters
- ★ Infant's Coats
- ★ Ladies' Quilted Robes
- ★ Dog-Gone-Its Long Sleeve
- ★ Infant's Warm-ups

1/3 off

Buster Brown
One Lot
1/3 Off

Ladies' Fall Shoes
1/3 Off

Girl's Flannel Gowns & P.J.'s
1/3 Off

Movie Star Flannel Gowns & P.J.'s
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Extension Spec. Reviews 1981 Agri. Year

(By Bill Braden, Communications Specialist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service)

1981 seemed to offer a lot of hope for Texas farmers and ranchers as the new year unfolded. Almost anything had to look good after the disastrous drought of the previous year. Producers who had managed to survive financially were ready to play their cards again in one of the biggest gambles going-agriculture.

The Livestock Picture
1981 did not get off to a good start, for the most part. The winter months were mild, which was a blessing to livestock producers faced with short hay supplies due to the drought-shortened 1980 crop. Then spring rains came with regularity over the state, a sign of things to come. Grazing conditions got off to a good start over virtually all of Texas and continued throughout most of the year. Some ranchers in western areas acclimated grazing conditions to be the best in about 20 to 25 years. However, too much rain at times also caused problems for livestock producers.

All in all, then, the livestock picture generally was good in Texas except for one major drawback—prices. The cattle market, which was down as the new year dawned, continued on its sluggish path. Cattlemen kept looking for the slightest hint that things might get better. General indications pointed to some positive signs—fewer cattle on feed, continued low total cattle numbers, and a possible turnaround in the economy with a new Administration. But the upswing in prices didn't come until mid-year, and then prices gave way to only mild and short-lived.

Many cattlemen are holding on "by the skin of their teeth," still waiting for an improved cattle market. Traditional heavy fall marketings were light, and cow counts had not been excessive as ranchers try to hold on to what they have, hoping that things will be better next spring. Unfortunately they have plenty of hay to overwinter their herds because a bumper crop was harvested this year although some was lost to heavy rains and flooding. With a generally mild winter forecast for this part of the country, most cattlemen should be in good shape for the coming year. But how long can they continue to face low prices? And, how long will feedlot operators continue to stay in business when they are losing so much per head on every animal fed?

The Crop Picture
Cattlemen were not alone

with price problems in 1981. Farmers ran a tight ship. The past two years have been in sharp contrast to each other as far as the crop production picture is concerned, and each time farmers have come away as the losers.

In 1980 farmers saw their crops ravaged by drought. The few that managed to have something to harvest got top dollars. This year is a different story. Farmers generally harvested bumper crops but the prices they got were near or below their cost of production. A case in point is the fact that cotton deficiency payments (the difference between the market price and the government target price) likely will be paid for the first time since this concept was devised in 1974.

1981 crops got off to a good start because of spring rains although these came a little late in some areas. Once the rains started, some were too heavy and injured too long, and often were accompanied by damaging hail. And, to add to the woes of farmers in coastal areas, wet fall weather hampered harvest operations, causing further crop losses.

Despite the problems in some areas, Texas farmers harvested record yields of wheat, corn and grain sorghum and better-than-average yields of cotton, rice, peanuts and most other crops. But the good news ended at the marketplace.

Why the low prices for farm commodities? It's generally a problem of oversupply due to bumper-crops in this country as well as abroad. Many grain warehouses are filled to the brim. Unless something unforeseen happens to sharply reduce supplies in the coming months, the outlook for significant price improvements for farm commodities in 1982 will remain bleak.

The Year Ahead
A lot of things are

weighing on the minds of farmers and ranchers as 1982 returns to those who produce the food and fiber for this nation and for many other countries as well.

With more and more money to feed and bodies to clothe, those farmers and ranchers who can manage to survive the current financial crisis may be in for better times in the years ahead. And so the gamble continues.

Jane Dostal
On Dean's List
At Texas A & I



Jane Dostal

Twenty-two Texas A&I athletes compiled 3.0 or better grade point averages during the fall semester, and eight of these were named to the Dean's List or Honor Roll.

Belinda Edwards, junior basketball player from Spring Hill, led the group with a perfect 4.0 average.

Doug Tait, senior trainer from Port Lavaca, had the second best average at 3.90, and he also made the Dean's List.

Jane Dostal, junior basketball player from Eagle Lake, had a 3.765 GPA and was one of three athletes on the Dean's List. Jane is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dostal of Eagle Lake.

Duck, Goose and Dove Seasons End Sunday

Quail, Snipe, Squirrel Only Legal Targets After Sundown Sunday

The 1981-82 hunting season is fast drawing to a close with ducks, geese and dove going out of season at sunset this Sunday, January 17th ending a season which has been described as "a good one."

Many of the ducks and geese have moved from this area due primarily to the fact that many thousands of acres of good grazing have been plowed in anticipation of rice, sorghum and soybean planting. Also water for the birds is rather limited, causing many of the birds to move on down to the coast.

Nevertheless good hunting is anticipated for the final weekend of the duck and goose season and hundreds of hunters are booked to try their luck in this area, known nationally as the "Goose Hunting Capital Of The World."

Ducks, geese and dove

will remain legal from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset through this Sunday, Jan. 17th.

After that date, the only legal targets will be quail and jackpine, with both of these seasons continuing through Sunday, Feb. 14th.

Jackpine is in season through Feb. 14, 1982, with a daily bag limit of eight and possession limit of 16. The

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S P O R T S

Jill Frank, Sports Editor

No. 1 State Ranked Columbus Invades Rice This Fri. Night

Columbus Cardinal basketball coach Mike Benedict can farm at least five teams in District 22AAA that are going to make this year's league competition a real "horse race" but as far as Rice Raider coach Jack Grammer can see, as well as the rest of the District coaches, there might be a horse race, but "there is only one horse running."

Cardinals Are "Only Horse" In Boys Dist. Race, Says Grammer

Fort Worth Star-Telegram. The Cardinals will invade Raider Gym this Friday night to battle Rice at 7:30 p.m. Prior to the game, the junior varsity Raiders will battle Columbus at 5:30 followed by the varsity girls game between Columbus and Rice at 6:00 p.m. It should be an exciting night of basketball action as the defending State champion Raiders host a likely candidate for this year's title.

Raiders Girls, Columbus Battle At Rice Fri., 6 PM

Next Tuesday the Raiders will host Bellville in Raider Gym at 7:30 p.m. following the Raider girls' contest. Although Benedict, whose Cards are currently 18-1 on the season and 3-0 in league, has sluffed off the States top ranking at having very little meaning, the facts can't help but substantiate the decision.

BOWLING

Moonlighter's League After the holiday break in the Moonlighter's League at Sealy John Garza came back last Thursday with a 228-576 series to lead scoring.

Raider Girls Edge E. Bernard

The Raider girls topped their District record at 4-0 on Tuesday night of this week breezing by East Bernard 53-21. The Raiders got a good balanced attack to insure the win with Gloria Amos scoring 15, Mable Blanton 13 and Pam Banks 12.

Sheridan Girls Win In Flatonia

The Sheridan Raider girls knocked off Flatonia on Thursday night of last week to up their season record to 5-1 on the year.

Back the Raiders

Boys' & Girls' Teams Playing Important Dist. 22AAA Games

Next Two Games In Raider Gym
GIRLS: 6:00 Fri., Columbus 7:30
BOYS: 6:00 Tues., Bellville 7:30

Junior Varsity Boys' Game Fri., 5:00 P.M.
Junior Varsity Girls' Game Tues., 5:00 P.M.
Don't You Dare Miss 'Em!

Eagle Lake Headlight
Keep up with all the activities of the Rice School District by reading the Headlight

Conservation Districts Fight Soil Erosion

(By Soil Conservation Service)
Soil and Water Conservation has become exceedingly important. It is destined to be a major issue that will face the United States in the 1990s and beyond.

Fri. Deadline For Soil Essay, Poster Contest

Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District officials remind that this Friday, Jan. 15th is the deadline for entries in the annual essay and poster contest.

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