

Columbus

Sale Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m.

**Livestock
Co., Inc.**

Todd L. Keaton, owner

Top Dollar For Your Cattle Every Time

Office Phone: 979-732-2622

1064 Reese Lane
Columbus, TX 78934Home: 979-865-2584
Mobile: 979-885-8647

We will be on the air at KULM, Columbus, Wednesdays from 6:30 to 6:45 a.m. and Thursdays, live at ring side, from 2:00 to 2:15 p.m.

If we can help you with marketing your livestock, please call Todd Keaton at 979-865-2584.

If you need a truck, trailer or men to work cattle, we're as near as the phone. Out of town, call collect; your calls are welcome. Try us on your next shipment.

Call Todd Keaton, residence 409-865-2584. "At your service 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we appreciate your business."

Columbus Livestock is located at 1064 Reese Lane, Columbus (same exit off I-10 west, Exit 698, turn right on Reese Lane). Stop in at the "Auction Barn Cafe".

Receiving cattle on Wednesday at new location; receiving pens remain the same.

Same competitive market... Same unbeatable service... New "state-of-the-art" facilities to serve You, the seller.

We appreciate your business!

**Market Report
for Aug. 24, 2000**

Animals on hand: cattle, 2557; one horse.

Number of sellers: 335.

Packer cows: higher dressing util-

ity and cutter cows, 40-46¢ per lb.; lower dressing utility & cutter cows, 36-39¢ per lb.; thin cows, 28-35¢.

Packer bulls: heavy weight bulls, 49-54¢; utility cutter bulls, 44-48¢; cows tested, 245.

Stocker/Feeder - Calves/Yearlings

Steers #1: 200-300 lbs., \$1.40-1.50; 300-400 lbs., \$1.20-1.38; 400-500 lbs., 99¢-\$1.10; 500-600 lbs., 90-98¢; 600-700 lbs., 84-89¢; 700-800 lbs., 79-83¢.

Steers #2: 200-300 lbs., \$1.20-1.39; 300-400 lbs., \$1.05-1.15; 400-500 lbs., 88-97¢; 500-600 lbs., 81-89¢; 600-700 lbs., 77-83¢; 700-800 lbs., 70-76¢.

Heifers #1: 200-300 lbs., \$1.20-1.35; 300-400 lbs., \$1.00-1.11; 400-500 lbs., 92-99¢; 500-600 lbs., 85-91¢; 600-700 lbs., 77-83¢; 700-800 lbs., 70-76¢.

Heifers #2: 200-300 lbs., \$1.10-1.19; 300-400 lbs., 88-98¢; 400-500 lbs., 84-91¢; 500-600 lbs., 78-84¢; 600-700 lbs., 70-76¢; 700-800 lbs., 64-70¢.

Good stocker cow/calf pairs, \$700-810 by the head; med. cow/calf pairs, \$625-690 by the head; common cow/calf pairs, \$540-620; good stocker cows & heifers, \$575-675; med. cows & heifers, \$440-560.

Calf market, steady to a little stronger; cows/bulls, steady.

Comptroller says early signs indicate successful tax holiday

Texas' second annual Sales Tax Holiday appears to have been even more successful than last year, Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander said.

"Judging by media accounts and an informal survey of shopping mall managers, families across Texas headed for malls and department stores in droves to stock up on back-to-school clothes for the kids, and clothes for mom and dad, too," Com-

troller Rylander said.

At stores offering layaway plans, shoppers responded positively to an administrative change Comptroller Rylander made this year: eligible items placed in layaway during the Sales Tax Holiday can be taken out later without having to pay sales tax. "This change enables hard-working families with limited budgets to pay for their purchases a little bit at a time and still receive the tax break," Comptroller Rylander said.

"The actual amount of tax saved by hard-working Texans will not be known until late October," Comptroller Rylander said. "Most retailers don't report August sales tax until September, and some don't report until October. When all of the numbers are in, I am confident they'll exceed last year, when shoppers spent more than \$400 million on tax-free clothes and shoes and saved \$32.6 million in sales tax."

"The Sales Tax Holiday helps families stretch their budgets just when they need it most—the back to school shopping period," Comptroller Rylander said. "In the future I want hard working Texans to realize even more savings by expanding the tax-exempt list to include even more items, such as backpacks and sewing supplies that mommas use to make clothes-fabric, zippers and buttons."

"I will recommend to the Legislature that the Sales Tax Holiday last longer than just three days, to give people more time to take advantage of this well-deserved tax relief," Comptroller Rylander said.

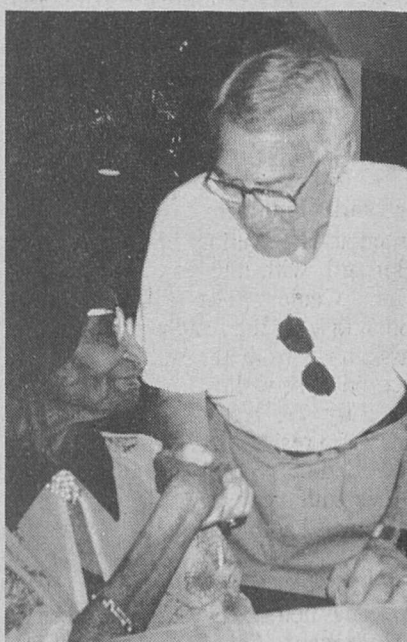
The Comptroller's office contacted shopping malls in Dallas, Houston, Austin, El Paso and Brownsville. Mall managers statewide reported crowds and sales up to three times higher than a typical August weekend. Some mall managers estimated crowds and sales were even bigger than the records set during last year's Sales Tax Holiday. Many had more shoppers than the day after Thanksgiving, the traditional start of the Christmas shopping season.

Many retailers who were caught off guard last year by shoppers' response to the Sales Tax Holiday were better prepared this year, stocking more merchandise and adding staff.

Telecheck, a Houston-based check acceptance company, reported that purchases paid by check increased 5.4% in Houston and 5.1% in Austin compared to last year's Sales Tax Holiday weekend. San Antonio sales increased 4.8% and Dallas-Fort Worth sales rose 4.6%.

Comptroller Rylander's toll-free assistance line received 328 calls Saturday and Sunday from retailers and shoppers who had questions about the Sales Tax Holiday. That is about the same number of calls received last year. No major problems were reported.

Shoppers said they were more aware of the Sales Tax Holiday this year and more familiar with the list of tax exempt items. They said they postponed back-to-school shopping to take advantage of the Sales Tax Holiday—just what Comptroller Rylander likes to hear.

**Conic celebrates
112th birthday**

Dr. C.E. "Woody" Woodson, retired physician from Wharton, shakes the hand of his former patient, Maude Conic, during her 112th birthday celebration held Aug. 18 at Avalon Place in Wharton where she is a resident.

Mrs. Conic is the oldest living citizen in Wharton.

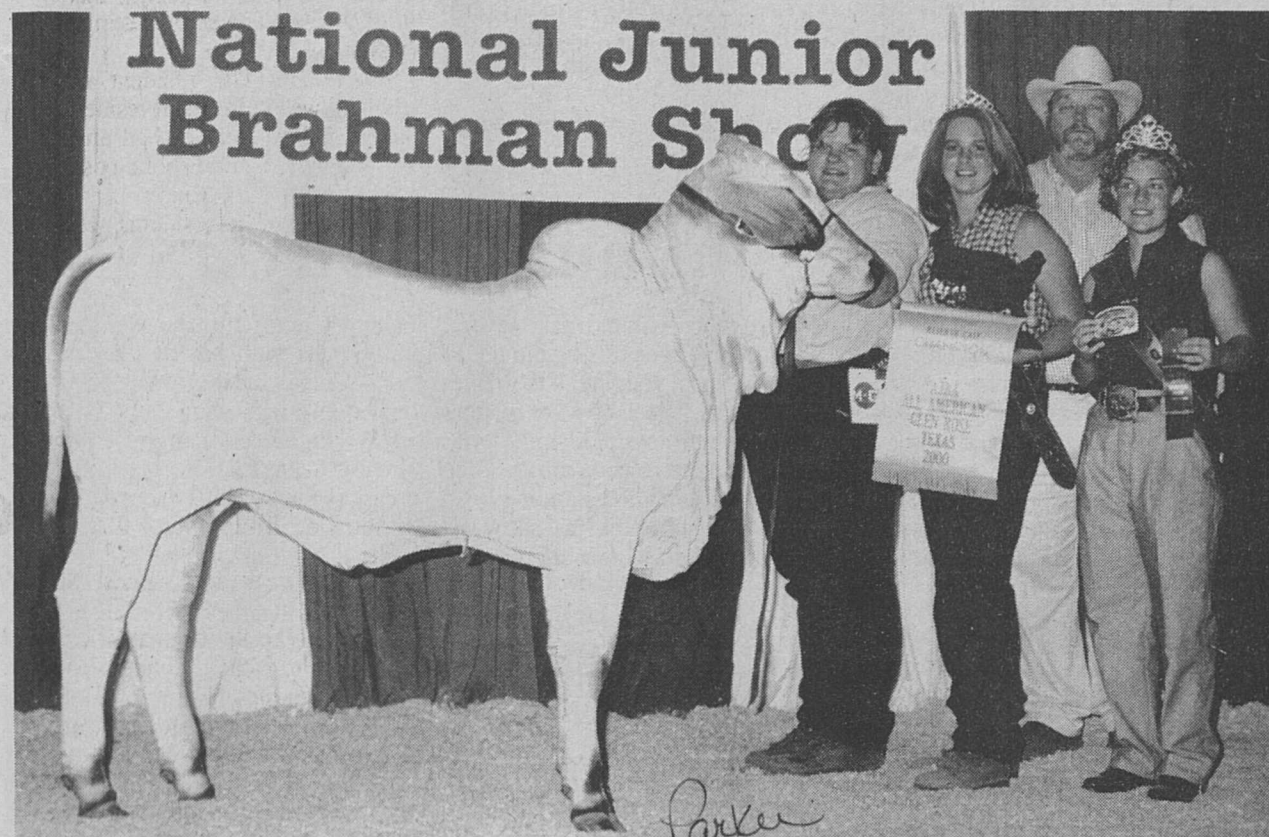
Representatives of various organizations came by to wish her well. The party lasted all morning.

Photo Courtesy of Avalon Place

Did You Know...

•In Malaya, the lime tree is a patron of actors but miners are forbidden to bring the fruit of the tree into the mines.

•In England and parts of America, it is believed by some that if your nose itches, you will become angry, see a stranger, kiss a fool or be in danger.



Heather Shanks, at left, is pictured with E3 Miss Lady Barb Manso 929-Reserve Calf Champion Grey Female 2000 All-American National Junior Brahman Show along with Judge Ron Gelvin of Cary, N.C., and American Junior Brahman Association Queen and Princess.

Photo Courtesy of Debbie Shanks

Shanks compete in livestock shows

Brandon and Heather Shanks, son and daughter of Eugene and Debbie Shanks of Eagle Lake, traveled to Glen Rose, Texas, to participate in the Texas Junior Brahman (TJB) Show and the All-American Junior Brahman Show July 16-22.

Heather exhibited the reserve calf Champion Grey Female at the All-American Junior Brahman Show and earned second place in her Showmanship class.

Brandon and Heather competed for these titles with 237 exhibitors from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas, who were exhibiting 547 head of cattle.

Brandon is a past officer and member of the Rice FFA Chapter and received the Margaret Watkins and Harry P. Gayden Texas Brahman Association Scholarship of \$500 for his participation and academics while in the TJBA.

He was also awarded the American Junior Brahman Association Scholarship of \$1,000. Brandon

earned third place in his Showmanship class at the All-American.

He is off to A&M while you can look for Heather to be participating the next two years with the Rice FFA. She currently serves as treasurer and is a junior at Rice High School.

Both are members of the TJBA and the American Junior Brahman Association where they have been involved for the past eight years.

Good luck to Brandon with his future education and to Heather, keep up the good work!

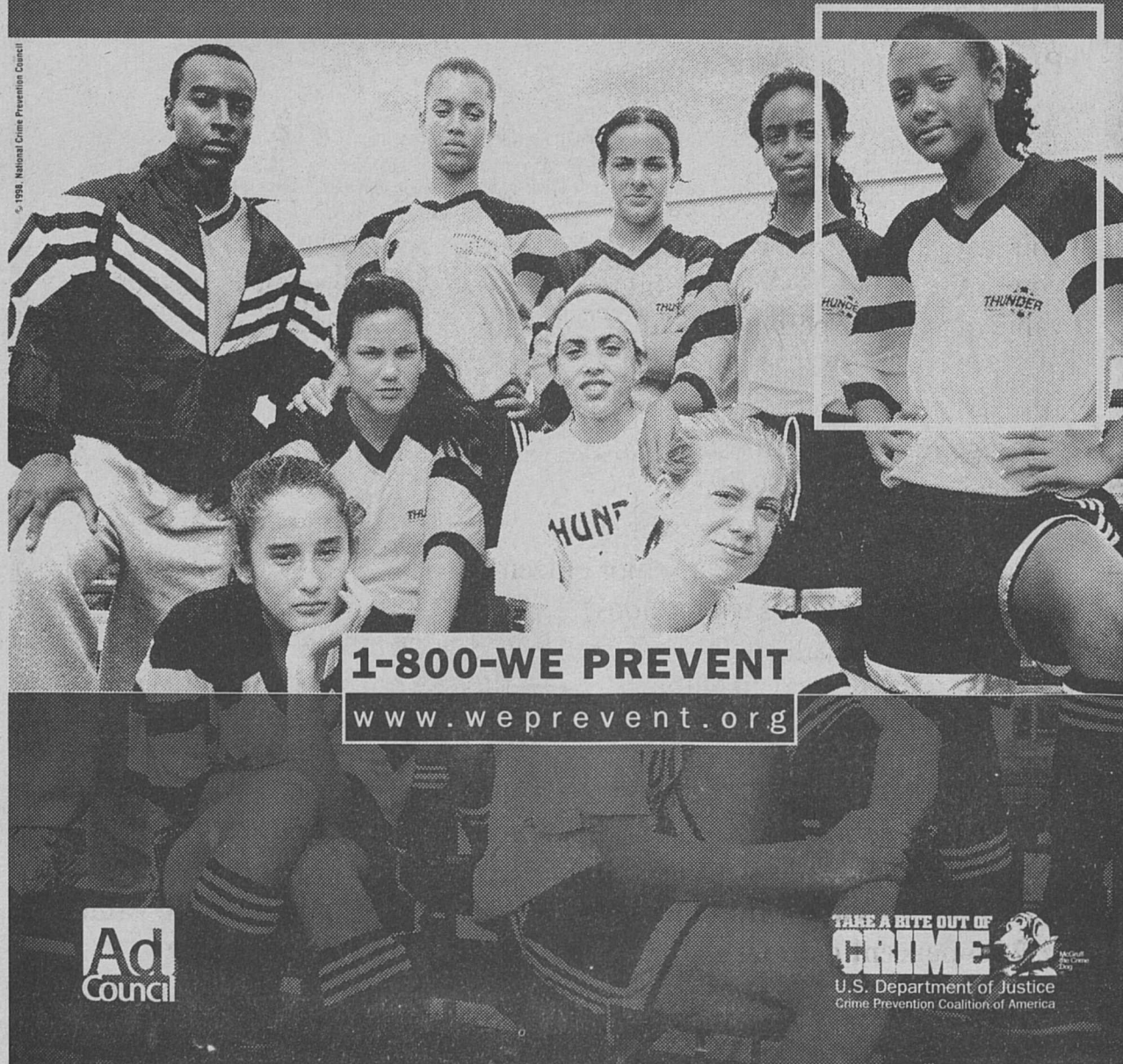
**She's a gang leader...
with a goal.**

Theresa was looking for acceptance but all her friends were in gangs. For Theresa, it was just a matter of time. Choosing between gang life and soccer wasn't easy. But thanks to adults like you and after-school programs like these, she's now devoted to her teammates — learning new skills, self esteem, and the confidence to lead.

**LESS CRIME IS
NO ACCIDENT**

It takes you — and programs that work.

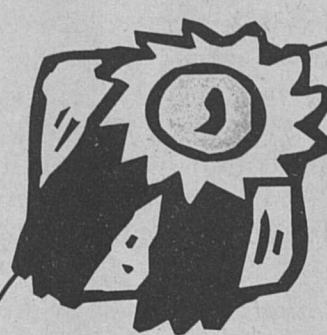
Call 1-800-WE PREVENT, and we'll send you a free booklet on how you can support programs in your community that keep kids away from crime and crime away from kids.



1-800-WE PREVENT
www.weprevent.org

Ad
Council

TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME
U.S. Department of Justice
Crime Prevention Coalition of Justice

**Calling all Students...
The Secretary of State and
this newspaper want
your opinion!**

While you may not be old enough to vote, Secretary of State Elton Bomer would like you to tell him why you think *your parents* should vote in the November 7th election. His job is to encourage voter participation in Texas. Secretary Bomer asks that you join other Texas students in writing an essay titled: "Why My Parents Should Vote." Winning entries will be displayed in the Texas State Capitol through the November 2000 election. Winners will also be announced in a news release and at a media event held at our State Capitol. Students who write the winning essays will be invited to appear at this Capitol media event.

Please think about this important topic and send Secretary Bomer your essay. And, if you need help writing your essay, talk to your mom or dad about the importance of voting!

Project
V.O.T.E.
Voters of Tomorrow through Education

Entry Divisions: Grades K-5(100-300 words),
6-8(400 words or less) and 9-12(500 words or less)

Due Date: Entries must be postmarked by October 6, 2000.

**"Why My Parents Should Vote"
Essay Contest**

Student Name _____
School/Grade _____
School District _____
Home Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Parent or Guardian Daytime Phone _____

Mail entries to: The Office of the Secretary of State, Executive Division
Attention: Essay Contest, P.O. Box 12697
Capitol Station, Austin, Texas, 78711

The Secretary of State's essay contest is generously supported by this newspaper.