



Hard at work are Baptist Church members Roger Birdwell and Darrell Stancik with Scott Mattingly, director of Colorado County Habitat For Humanity

Locals Help With Habitat Build

Most people's Saturday mornings tend to be full of all manner of activities, from cleaning the house to mowing the yard to sleeping late.

For several members of First Baptist Church in Eagle Lake, "building hope" can now be added to that list.

Over a total of five Saturdays (along with a few Wednesday mornings), church volunteers joined forces with the Colorado County Habitat for Humanity organization to construct a new home in Weimar for a deserving family.

This is the fifth occasion in which FBC and Habitat have come together to offer their time, tools and abilities to build a new residence.

This project, like many of the others, began with only a foundation. From there, workers framed walls, hoisted rafters and secured roof decking. In the end, the entire framework for a new house was complete.

Because of their time and efforts, boards and nails came together to provide that which we all long for, a place that we can call home. And for FBC volunteers, their work is simply an outpouring of a faith that calls for giving.

Chris Thacker, the local congregation's pastor, says, "The love of Christ compels us to serve with whatever gifts we've been

granted. And that love can take on many sounds. Sometimes it sounds like a word of mercy or a song of praise. In this particular case, the love of Christ sounds like hammering nails."

The Colorado County Habitat for Humanity is always looking for groups and individuals to help volunteer. If you're interested, please call: (979)-732-5677.

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Open Monday -Friday • Full Service Market

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Over My Shoulder

A monthly review of the livestock market by J.D. Sartwelle, Jr.

August was another eventful month for our industry; with fed cattle up sharply for the month, miserable weather for most, political defeats and worries, and finally U.S. beef back in Japan, while others continue to play footsie, and yet another BSE cow in Canada.

The weather is still the big thing on most producers minds; the rainy patterns of late June-July slowed except in some parts of eastern New Mexico and the Texas Panhandle where moisture was welcomed even though it came in a sporadic way.

The Coastal Bend area of Texas was still in the best physical shape than any other area and the drier weather even made it better for making hay and gathering crops spurred by the earlier summer rains.

Continued dry weather saw the central areas of the state begin to prematurely move calves and a good many of their mothers; while northeast Texas and southern Oklahoma begin to see wholesale movement of cows out of the pastures.

In the Coastal Bend area, the rice boys saw near record yields, the corn boys say they saw 160 bu corn and good milo yields and the cotton boys are even talking about three bale cotton.

In most other areas, the crops have been some where between below average to a disaster.

On the political front, once again the death tax could not overcome another Senate procedural vote and the horse slaughter bill will be in the House and Senate

shortly after Labor Day when the August break is over.

Canada is wrestling with their 8th BSE case, Japan took their first U.S. beef at the beginning of the month, Korea is still inspecting plants, Hong Kong reinstated three plants for export purposes and Guatemala open their borders to all U.S. beef under 30 months, with the bone in or out.

But they can get the best deal of all with fewer restrictions on their specs.

In the feedyards, the month started on a strong note after the feedyard boys got over their initial shock of the July cattle on feed report.

The first week saw an excellent cash trade volume and a six bit increase in the market with a top of \$81 for the best cattle.

The cash cattle either led or followed a rising choice meat trade and an upward pace to the futures.

By the end of the second week, the fed cattle added a whopping \$5 to prices, choice beef was up over \$7, select beef up over \$9, with the near month August futures closing up \$4 for the week coupled with good increases to the October and December futures.

August said goodbye to the summer doldrums and saw an early cyclical fall upswing that the traders believed has some permanence when they looked at over \$90 December futures.

The third week of the month, stood still price wise, as most everything traded water while once again trading good volume.

Then bloody, the last week of

the month, saw a large volume of cash cattle trading another \$3.50 higher for the week with the best cattle trading at a \$92.50 top and saw the August futures close at \$90.23 while October and December both traded over the \$93 mark.

We certainly need a strong fed cattle market and beef demand that can support it all if we are to weather the weather.

All the while, in the country and at the markets, with plenty of cow and bull beef on the market because of many areas being forced to liquidate, market runs became un-seasonably large in all but the coastal bend region where runs remained fairly normal.

Many folks not only sold down on their cowherd but prematurely began the sell off of calves regardless of weights.

For the most part, the slaughter cow and bull market remained relatively even throughout the month while the calf trade remained in strong hands.

The current year calf crop is on the ground and counted in inventory numbers; they won't be as big as they ordinarily are, but the head count is there.

The yearling boys will figure out how to grow them on low priced grain and roughage, or better yet, green grazing that could develop if we shifted patterns and receive some timely early

fall rains.

With as many cows as have been sold, we'll have a smaller calf crop next year so maybe some of the light weight calves being sold now will fit into next year's picture.

The hog boys looked at high forties-low fifties pricing for the month, and should be helped in the meat case by higher priced beef.

A shift in our weather patterns would be welcomed as a return to normal fall moisture would sure help as some folks would plant green grazing to make up for a lack of or shortage of hay and begin to heal up some of our grasses before we face a winter.

Early September rains could definitely help our fall native grass grazing and maybe even allow some folks the opportunity to make more badly needed hay.

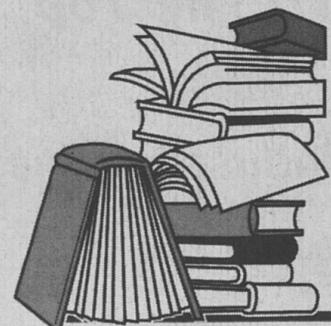
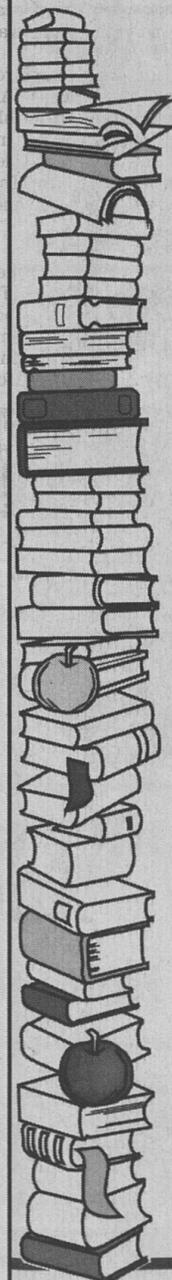
Want Ads Work Wonders!

27th Annual Study Club Auction Benefiting The Wintermann Library

Saturday, September 16th at the Eagle Lake Community Center

SILENT AUCTION AND DINNER 5:00-6:45
LIVE AUCTION 7:00-9:00
DRAWING THROUGHOUT THE EVENING
Fish Fry Provided by The Chamber of Commerce \$7.00 a plate
Bakery Booth 5:00 till 9:00

There is something for everyone!
Bid on Rodeo tickets, Antiques, Dinners, Collectibles, Handmade items, Astro tickets, plus many more items!
Come and support your local library and enjoy an evening of fun!



July Oil And Gas Statistics Reported

July Permits to Drill

The Railroad Commission issued a total of 1,547 original drilling permits in July 2006 compared to 1,313 in July 2005.

The July total included 1,347 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 38 to re-enter existing well bores, and 162 for re-completions.

Permits issued in July 2006 included 280 oil, 437 gas, 783 oil and gas, 40 injection, zero service and seven other permits.

June Crude Oil Production Texas preliminary June 2006 crude oil production averaged 879,239 barrels daily, down from the 894,253 barrels daily average of June 2005.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for June 2006 is 26,560,960 barrels, a decrease from 26,845,369 barrels reported during June 2005.

July Oil and Gas Completions

In July 2006, operators reported 319 oil, 846 gas, 41 injection and one other completion compared to 208 oil, 433 gas, 10 injection and one other completion during July 2005.

Total well completions for 2006 year to date are 7,482 up from 5,841 recorded during the same period in 2005.

Operators reported 1,643 holes plugged and zero dry holes in July 2006 compared to 531 holes plugged and zero dry holes in July 2005.

June Natural Gas Production Texas oil and gas wells produced 423,051,832 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for June 2006, down from the June 2005 preliminary gas production total of 428,538,346 Mcf.

Texas production in June 2006 came from 136,326 oil and 73,149 gas wells.

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Todd Keaton, Owner 979-732-2622
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 31
CATTLE ON HAND-2007
HORSES-1 GOATS-0 DONKEY-0
OF SELLERS-320

PACKER COWS
Higher dressing utility & cutter cows 45-52
Lower dressing utility & cutter cows 38-44
Thin Cows 30-37

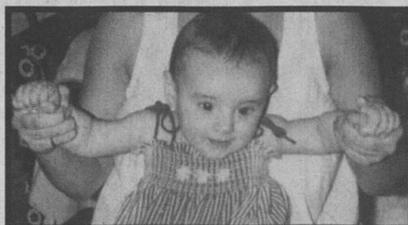
PACKER BULLS
Heavyweight bulls 53-62
Utility cutter bulls 47-52

STEERS	#1	#2
200-300 lbs	160-190	130-157
300-400 lbs	145-165	123-144
400-500 lbs	128-145	115-126
500-600 lbs	115-127	105-114
600-700 lbs	110-117	96-108
700-800 lbs	104-112	93-103

HEIFERS	#1	#2
200-300 lbs	140-162	128-142
300-400 lbs	125-143	116-124
400-500 lbs	118-128	108-114
500-600 lbs	107-118	98-106
600-700 lbs	99-109	88-98
700-800 lbs	90-99	82-89

STOCKER COWS	
Good Stocker Cow/calf Pairs	800-925
Medium Cow/calf Pairs	650-790
Common Cow/calf Pairs	575-645
Good Stocker Cows & Heifers	650-725
Medium Stocker Cows & Heifers	475-625

Subscribe Today!



Belated Happy Birthday
With each memory, let our hearts be reminded, that nothing can ever take away the beauty

we have known for, Heather remains a part of us forever.

Love,
Peggy, Bingo, Ashley,
E.J., Sarah & Racheal

