



2007 Rice Raider Marching Band

Front row, from left: Jessica Godley, Megan Bartlett, Porshia Morris, Brittany Parker, Jessica Walzer, Annicia Williams, Ashley Cope-Mendez, Natalie Klimple, Falin Braden, Carmen Saenz. Second row, from left: Lindsey Sommer, Frank Cisneros, Sarael Valdez, Zachary Yanez-Alvarez, Katie Moss, Robert Hernandez, Eddie Losoya, Taylor Bujnoch, Keith Llanes, Christopher Kucera, Brittani Bartlett, Clarenca Weeks. Third row, from left: Macesly Thomas, Tyler Al-Obaidi, Jacob

Galvan, Nayeli Diaz, Brian Kallina, Gregory Wesselski, Kayla Llanes, Samuel Spaulding, Kathryn Salazar, Sarah Saenz, Brittney Cummings, Crystal O'Mary. Back row, from left: Alan Arellano, Kris Talton, Garrett Neubauer, Ricky Duque, Terrance Shorter, Casey Mayfield, Bianca Perez, Haley Jones, Jacqueline Vazquez, Amber Duque, Jennifer McDonald, Elda Vazquez.

Over My Shoulder

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

August was another one of those moisture months that made the month end about like it started; ie, in pretty good shape over most or the state.

Weather activity extended to the Southeast where they received much needed moisture and to the north where violent weather and rainfall did lots of harm.

Cattle markets throughout the month were good and getting better, grain yield prospects were being re-evaluated, the political climate was still as bad as ever but little harm done because of summer recess, while the export situation saw more good news at the end of the month.

Scattered showers throughout the month, some of it spurred by tropical activity, was hit or miss for most of the month and caused problems with the hay boys and

the farm boys gathering declining quality milo and corn.

In the coastal bend the rice boys got started and cut when they could around the showers with most of them finished up by the end of the month with good prospects for a second crop.

Cowboys, once again, had to work around shower activity if they wanted to make hay or get anything else done.

On the export front, late in the month, Korea who had suspended meat inspections when unauthorized product was found in a shipment, announced that they would resume meat inspections on shipments already in the country.

Hopefully their business will resume and get back on the right tract. The Japanese are coming closer and closer to accepting current world science by taking

product under 30 months instead of the current 20 month criteria.

In the feedyards, with fewer placements and larger marketings the last two months the picture has changed.

Total beef production is expected to decline particularly in light of fewer slaughter cows being sold.

Cow slaughter for the past two months is running significantly less than last year due to dramatically improved range conditions in the heart of the country and improving conditions in the south and southeast.

Fed cattle that started the month at the \$90.00 level ended at a strong \$93.00 plus level. By end of August several of the far out months in the futures trade, traded over the dollar mark and fueled the feedlot boys tanks.

Meanwhile in the country and at the markets runs were seasonally light while cowboys didn't feel the pressure to do anything.

Pastures and nursing cows are in excellent condition and calves are getting bigger by the day. Calf prices ended the month in a strong position and should remain that way into the new month.

Prices on the better steer calves at months end saw the three weights trading into the dollar forties and fifties, the four weights into the dollar thirties and forties, the five weights closing in on a dollar twenty while the

six weights traded well over the dollar mark.

Slaughter cow and bull prices after being a little wishy washy at mid month seemed to reflect fewer supplies of processing and grinding meats and ended in a strong position.

The better lean cows at month's end traded past the mid-fifties, the cutter cows into the low fifties and the canner cows into the forties.

Some of the experts believe that we'll see fewer cows and bulls on into the fall and that we should see prices remain strong.

In the pork complex, large kill

numbers were being handled by consumption and stocks going into freezers but by months end slipped back to where most top weights were selling mid to high forties to very low fifties.

The market has been bolstered by increased prospects for increased trade with China

It'll be time to begin planting fall grazing grains and rye grass; bet it won't be too dry to plow. The fall months are on us now and one of these days it might even cool off a bit and see the humidity go down. How do we complain when it's as good as it is, right now?



Pictured above are some of the children that attended the Texans - Cowboys pre-season game with the Old Skool Organization on Saturday, Aug. 25.

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