



founded 1970

THE BULLSHEET

Official News Bulletin of the
Texas DX Society
An ARRL Affiliated Club



May 1986
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Number 5

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Columns by: KN5H, WA9VLI, K2TNO, AA5Y, WOAYL

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING NOTICE- The Texas DX Society meets the second Friday of each month except when changed by the Board of Directors. The next regular meeting will be on Friday, May 9th, at the Bellaire Hospital Professional Building, 6550 Maple Ridge at 7:30 p.m. There will be door prizes at the meeting. Last month's winners were N5EA and W5LLU. The May meeting's program will feature Ken, NZ5I who will discuss "Packet Radio."

BULLSHEET MAILING LIST- It is the club's desire to provide the Bullsheet free to all amateurs in the area with an interest in DXing and/or contesting. If you would like to receive our newsletter, simply send your name, call, and mailing address to the Texas DX Society, P.O. Box 540291, Houston, Texas 77254-0291. Visitors at the regular club meeting can request the monthly newsletter by providing their mailing address on the sign-in sheet. Articles or other newsworthy items from club members and other interested amateurs are hereby solicited by your editor.

WEEKLY DX & CONTEST NET- Just a reminder that each Tuesday night at 9:00 p.m. the Club sponsors a net on 147.96/.36. Participation by non-members as well as members is welcomed. The purpose of the net is to facilitate the exchange of DX, contest, and Club information within the amateur community. Your active support of this activity is encouraged.

UPDATED CLUB ROSTER AND TELEPHONE LIST- In the June issue, we will publish the roster compiled by K5TU. Please inform Kim if you do not want your phone numbers listed.

DX REPORT
(de WA9VLI)

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLAND-

Two stations still active. CE9AM appears regularly on 14210 2300 UTC. And HFOPOL is operating from King George Isl. thru the end of October. QSL to SP5PWK.

ETHIOPIA-

ET3PG has been showing up on 21219 around 1500 UTC. QSL to P.O. Box 22976, ADDIS ABABA.

SUDAN-

ON7IT/ST will be operating through the end of July. Listen for this one on 14190-14210 about 2200 UTC. Also 6T2MG continues to show up on 14196 around 2300 UTC operating QRP.

SAIPAN-

W9GW/AHO should be active April 20-26, 10-80 meter CW.

THAILAND-

HS4AMS has appeared on the W7PHO net (14227), a sign that Thai stations may now have permission to operate apart from major contests. Hope we hear more!

CLIPPERTON ISLAND-

FOOXX DX-PEDITION is on schedule starting May 3rd. All operations will be split, listening up. XMIT frequencies should be CW: 1827, 3505, 7005, 14020, 21020, and 28020. SSB: 1827, 3795, 7080, 14180, 21295 & 28595.

REVILLA GIGEDO-

A short 24 hour operation will be attempted by the Clipperton gang if permits are obtained in time. Listen for them April 28th, starting 0000 UTC.

MACQUARIE ISLAND-

If you still need this one, look for VKOSJ between 7160-7185 starting 0900 UTC.

VATICAN-

HV1CN now has a complete new rig - KW/TS940/antennas. Maybe they will be more active (thanks IOXXR for the tips.)

General Band Openings: Local DXers report 10 meter activity with Japan around 0230-0300 UTC. 15 Meters seems to be opening to the Indian Ocean around 1500-1600 UTC. 20 meters is still yielding a good crop of Siberian Russians over the pole between 0300-0400 Z. Mongolia, China, and Taiwan may appear on 20 meters during this same time period. If you are itching to try out that new 30 meter antenna, listen for JA's around 0800 UTC. On 40 meters, some rare ones have been spotted from the Indian Ocean about 0230-0300 UTC.

CONTEST CORRAL
(de KN5H)

The TDXS-sponsored Armadillo Run is just around the corner and will be here before you know it. I hope everyone is ready to roll and work the piles. Your contest chairman will be traversing the Arkansas hills in the KB5FU mobile Marriott. Rumor has it Galen is ready to claim a freq on 20 with a secret power amplification device. Regardless, try to have a safe weekend wherever you end up.

The first running of the NCJ QSO parties was a smashing success. A summary of the TDXS effort is shown below. Thanks to all who got on to work the gang.

I was informed that I neglected to mention Richard, K5NA's excellent victory in the ARRL 160M Contest. Sorry about that and belated congrats from TDXS.

The November Sweepstakes results are now official. A summary of activity is shown below. (Looks like we owe NTCC a beer fest- ed.)

1985 .SWEEPSTAKES

<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>
N5JJ #3 USA	N5DU #9 USA
W5WMU #4 USA	NR5M #10 USA
K5LZO #6 USA	
K5GN #10 USA	

Other participants included K2TNO, W5ASP, AK5B, K5DX, K5GB, KN5H, KB5FU, KC5CP, K5WA, KE5FI, KE5IV, KESTF, & K5RVK.

Some Rumors....

<u>NCJ CW QSO PARTY</u>	<u>NCJ SSB QSO PARTY</u>
K2TNO 533/150 = 80K	KN5H 871/120 = 104K
KN5H 485/166 = 80K	N5EA 363/ ? = ??
K5GN 361/138 = 50K	
NZ5I 289/137 = 40K	K5LZO 1643/230 = 378K
K5DX 220/ 97 = 22K	
W5ASP 391/ ? = ?	
N5JJ ? ?	
N5EA Threw away logs	
K5LZO 1093/249 = 274K (Multi-multi)	

COMING ATTRACTIONS...

May 10	CQ-M
May 17	6 Meter Spring Sprint
May 17	Mich. QSO Party
May 24	CQ WW WPX CW Contest

FINALLY...

As some of you may know I am the Armadillo Run coordinator for the state of Texas. We have approximately 75% of the state covered. Please take note of the enclosed map and get with me if you have a question about your area (or lack of one).

KN5Hose

CORRESPONDENCE

412 Alamo
El Campo, Tx.
March 6, 1986

Dear Tx. DX Society Members:

Texas Weekly Magazine. February 22, 1986 published this Armadillo Eggs recipe. I felt your members needed this recipe so ample amount of eggs could be prepared for the run in May and each person could eat at least one for good luck for the week end.

ARAMADILLO EGGS

½ pound grated Monterey Jack cheese	15 medium to small canned jalapeno peppers slit and seeded
½ pound of bulk hot Texas sausage	Shake 'N Bake for pork
½ cups buttermilk biscuit mix	2 eggs

Mix together cheese and sausage. To this add biscuit dough. Divide the dry biscuit mix into 3 equal parts, adding each part separately. The mixture will be stiff and should be kneaded several times. The cheese and sausage will hold the dough together. Set aside.

Meanwhile, stuff each pepper with a piece of cheese and pinch the pepper closed around the cheese. Now, pinch off a bit of the cheese-sausage mixture and pat it into a flat pancake about ½-inch thick.

Place the cheese stuffed pepper in the middle of the pancake and wrap the pepper completely with dough, making sure that all the edges and ends are sealed completely. Roll the dough-covered pepper back and forth in your hand to mold into an egg shape.

Roll the pepper in Shake "N Bake for Pork until coated. Dip "eggs" in beaten eggs and then in the shake-bake mixture again. Bake the "eggs" in a 300 to 350 degree oven for 20 to 25 minutes. They can be frozen before baking.

Contributed by Carol Barclay, Portland, Tx.

73,
Ella, WOAYL

The Texas Independence trail passes through the following counties.

Harris	Goliad	Caldwell
Galveston	Karnes	Bastrop
Brazoria	Wilson	Fayette
Matagorda	Bexar	Washington
Jackson	Guadalupe	Austin
Calhoun	Gonzales	Fort Bend
Victoria		

See Map below for the actual route. Remember, you must be on the official trail to qualify as Armadillo County.

ARMADILLO RUN '86
(de KN5H)

Here are the assigned counties in Texas as we have them at press time. Operators, you must put your assigned counties on 20 meters (see the rules); you can do any additional ones you wish. Stay-at-homes, get on and, help the mobiles out with those QSO's.

<u>NSRP</u>	<u>KD5SP (SSB)</u>	<u>KC5M</u>	<u>NV5I (SSB)</u>	<u>N5IWA (SSB)</u>
Smith	Hardman	Kaufman	Harris	Lamar
Gregg	Wilbarger	Van Zandt	Waller	Red River
Harrison	Wichita	Henderson	Ft. Bend	Bowie
Panola	Clay	Navarro	Austin	Delta
Rusk	Foard	Ellis	Colorado	Hopkins
Cherokee	Baylor	Freestone	Wharton	Franklin
Anderson	Archer	Limestone	Jackson	Titus
Houston	Throckmorton	Leon	Victoria	Morris
Nacogdoches	Young	Madison	Goliad	Cass
Shelby	Jack	Robertson	Fayette	Camp
Sabine	Stevens	Falls	Gonzales	Marion
San Augustine	Palo Pinto	Milam	Guadalupe	Upshur
Angelina	Parker	Lee	Bexar	Wood
Trinity	Erath	Bastrop	Frio	Rains
Walker	Sommervall	Williamson	La Salle	
San Jacinto	Hood	Bell	Zavala	<u>W5QLD (SSB)</u>
Polk	Johnson	Lampasas	Dimmit	Dimmit
Tyler	Comanche	Burnet	Maverick	La Salle
Jasper	Hamilton	San Saba	Kinney	McMullen
Newton	Bosque	Llano	Edwards	Live Oak
Orange	Hill	McCulloch	Real	Bee
Hardin	Coryell	Mason	Val Verde	Goliad
Liberty	McLennan	Concho		Refugio
Montgomery	Knox	Menard	<u>K5RVK (SSB)</u>	Aranasa
Chambers	Haskell	Kimble	Harris	San Patricio
Jefferson	Shackelford	Madison	Fort Bend	Nueces
	Callahan	Mills	Galveston	Kleberg
<u>WA5DTK (SSB)</u>	Eastland	<u>WA9QNI (SSB)</u>	Bazoria	Jim Wells
Kinney	Coleman	Zapata	Matagora	Duval
Uvalde	Brown	Jim Hogg	Wharton	Webb
Medina	<u>K8BBH (SSB)</u>	Brooks	Colorado	
Bexar	Montague	Kenedy	Fayette	<u>KC5CP</u>
Wilson	Cooke	Starr	Cadwell	Grimes
Atascosa	Grayson	Hidalgo	Gonzales	Brazos
Frio	Fannin	Willacy	Lavaca	Waller
Zavala	Hunt	Cameron	Jackson	Washington
Maverick	Collin		Calhoun	Austin
Karnes	Rockwall	<u>W5LLU (SSB)</u>	Victoria	Burleson
	Dallas	Hays	De Witt	Fort Bend
<u>WN5MBS (SSB)</u>	Denton	Blanco	Bexar	
El Paso	Wise	Gillespie	Comal	
Hudspeth	Tarrant	Travis	Kendall	
Culberson			Bandera	
			Kerr	
			Guadalupe	

WHAT HATH GOD WROUGHT
(de K2TNO)

These words, sent from the United States Supreme Courtroom to Baltimore, Md. ushered in the era of electric telegraphy. The day was May 24, 1844, and Samuel F. B. Morse, who through the years had become well acquainted with Murphy finally began to realize the taste of victory.

Morse was returning to the United States from England in 1832, when he learned at a dinner conversation that electricity could be sent instantly over any known length of wire. From that moment on, he was on fire with the idea of the electric telegraph. He patented the Morse code in 1840, and for years all telegraph messages, most news and even sporting events were transmitted by Morse Code.

I can remember when telegraphy was used to transmit baseball games from the field to the studios where announcers recreated play. My dad, listening to the plays going over the wire in the depot would "predict" what the announcer would say next. He had a remarkable degree of accuracy.

Morse was born on April 27, 1791 and his birthday was recently celebrated by the members of the Morse Telegraphers Club. These guys, many of whom made their living with Morse Code love CW equally as much as some of our Club members. Each year, on Morse's Birthday, Western Union opens a wire to the club members and the sound of telegraphy is again heard throughout the land. This is real key clicks.

There is a big difference between American and International Morse, but the biggest difference is between CW and the telegraph sounder. The most common amplifier for a sounder was a Prince Albert tobacco can. I don't remember which disappeared first, tobacco cans or the sounders.

The history of telegraphy and its uses through the years makes for some pretty interesting reading. There are nearly 500 amateur radio operators in the Morse Telegraph Club, the dues are \$5.00 per year and if you want additional information, see me or write the Morse Telegraph Club, Inc., 1101 Maplewood Dr., Normal, Ill., 61761.

FIELD DAY PREVUE

(de W5SJS)

It's 3 A - Demney farm -Go-for-it-BTTW-No Prisoners-Field Day time for TDXS coming up in June. I need to know what antennas you have which belong to the club, and what others (+ rotators) you have that we can use.

HOW TO OPERATE THE SSB ARMADILLO RUN

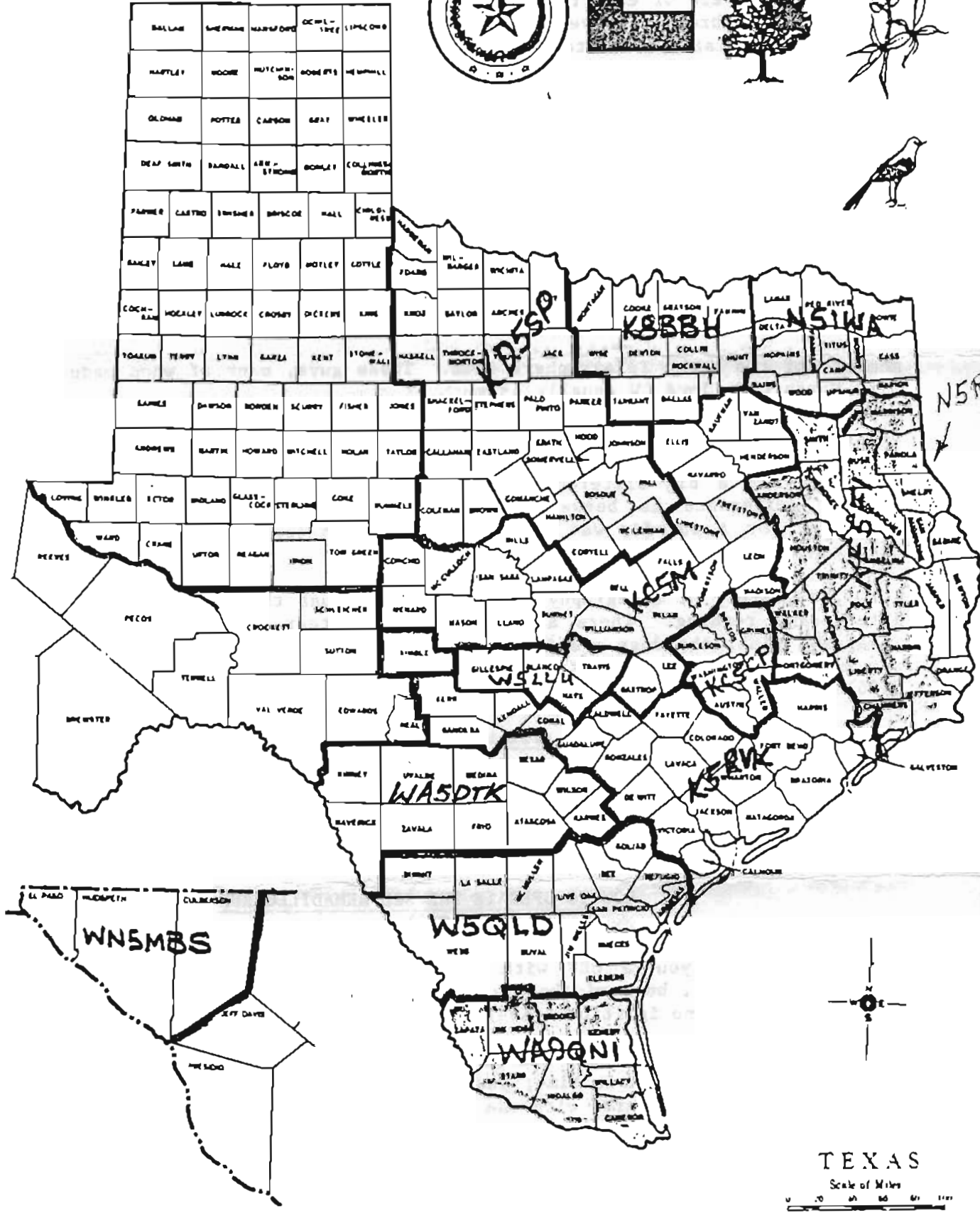
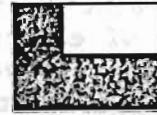
(de K2TNO)

I'll assume you're QRV with your mobile rig installed - good, comfortable operating position, boom mic/headset, lap board log table, and a rig that works and hears well (i.e., no ignition noise). You're not in there yet? GET BUSY, MAN!

Plan a route in advance, and be sure the driver knows the way. You can pick up extra counties if you have time; just sneak across into the new one and park. Make up a set of 3X5 index cards with the county name in BIG LETTERS. Below the name, put the next county's name.

The driver is responsible for finding the county line and switching the cards correctly. It's helpful also to put the estimated time of arrival on the card (driver's best guess) as you proceed so when stations break and say "Next county?" you can quickly say "10 minutes to San Saba," or whatever.

Start a new log page (county name on it in advance) for each county. For those



TEXAS
Scale of Miles
0 20 40 60 80 100

of you who will be crossing Armadillo County (The Texas Independence Trail), there is a special rule that allows you to send both counties, and it counts more points to the other station. So, give both county names. (The rule is there to allow people to stop on the county line and send both; in the case of Armadillo County you're always on the county line, so send both names).

Keep advertising; when things get slow send things like "5 minutes to Ellis County." Then when you hit the new one, start by a long call such as "new county, new county - Ellis County, Texas, Ellis County, Texas. QRZ County Hunters Contest from K5RVK mobile."

It's obviously going to be tough holding a frequency on 20 SSB. That's why it's crucial that you keep transmitting as much as possible. One trick is to try to attract some loud fixed stations to follow you along. Ask stations occasionally if you're in the clear, how's your signal, etc.

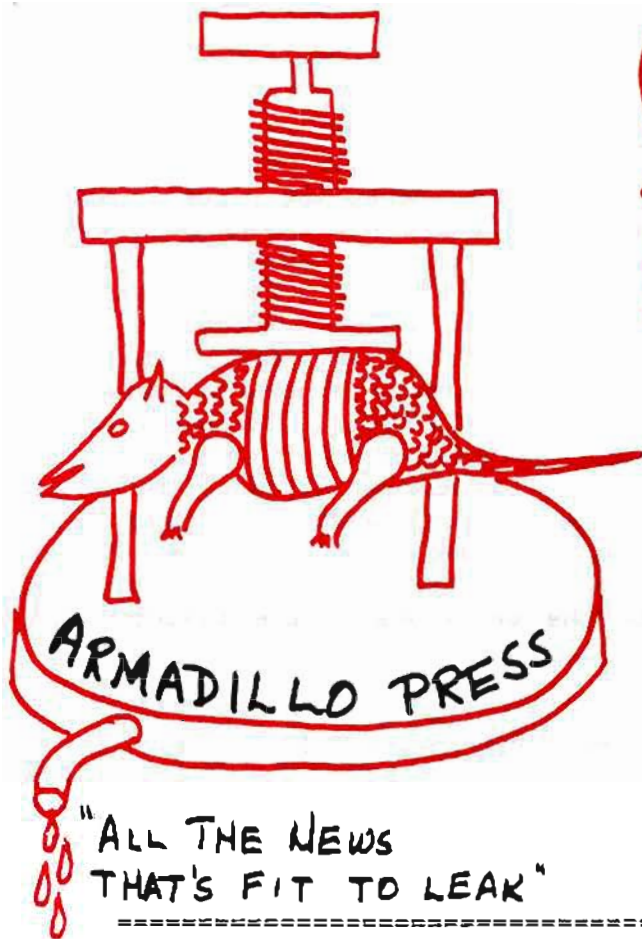
There is a minimum of 30 minutes you must spend in your assigned county. The rate probably won't stay high for the entire time, but you can help by being fast. Try to get at least a couple of letters of someone's call each time you QRZ. When the rate is fast (each time you enter a new county), for goodness sakes don't yammer away with "Good luck in the contest, old man" and all that extraneous crap. The casual stations not in the contest will be attracted by pileup; the more stations call you the better chance you have of holding the frequency.

Don't use "cute" phonetics; they will only slow you down.

Finally, be sure the driver knows there's a big, tall whip on the car and he/she must avoid overhanging trees. While refueling the car, try to pick a pump island that doesn't have an overhanging metal roof because they de-tune your antenna tremendously.

How do you spot Texas county lines? That's one of the toughest parts of mobile county-running, believe it or not. Here are some tips, courtesy of KB5FU:

1. A County line is marked by a white vertical board with both counties named on it. These signs are off the side of the road, frequently beyond the drainage ditch. The signs are usually on either the NORTH or WEST side of the road, rarely on the South or East.
2. You can tell your distance to the county line as follows. Every highway in Texas has a road sign every mile, alternating the side of the road. So, a road sign appears on your side every TWO MILES. Below the road sign is a small green sign with a white number on it. If you're heading away from the county seat towards the county line, the number tells how many miles it is to the line. When heading towards the county seat, the numbers tell the miles to that town. Watch for these green signs and you can estimate easily when to spot the white county marker pole.
3. Hint: Galen says the counties always have different road contractors from each other, so the type of road surface usually changes abruptly at exactly the county line.
4. Dead reckoning: You can see from the above that the driver has to have a good feel for the map. It helps if the operator keeps his eyes peeled also, when the team knows they're close to the line.



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WARC BANDED ARMADILLO SIGHTED NEAR MAGNOLIA

Biologists at the Armadillo County Extension Service reported today that a rare WARC-banded armadillo was captured as it crossed the highway between Nixon and Normangee. The 'dillo had the usual nine bands, plus three additional ones. "These additional bands are really wierd," said biologist K2TNO. "They have been added between existing bands and seem to serve no particular function during normal life. However, it seems that on some week-ends when there is very high activity on the regular bands, parasites and other weak creatures migrate to these bands seeking a quiet place to CQ."

The creature was dissected carefully with knife and fork by local gourmet K5LZO, who said "it tastes just like every other dead armadillo I've eaten this week." Chuck, the owner of the Thunderclap eatery on Route 149, plans to offer the WARC-banders on the menu at his establishment. He says the new menu will be a big boon to the local economy. "Hell, we gotta hire truckers and drivers to go out and run over these critters on the road so we can serve them." He's open for business nightly except on Tuesday thru Monday in alternate weeks beginning with the second Friday of each odd month. "Our attentive waiters watch the road in both directions while you eat your armadillo platter in our air-conditioned comfort," said Chuck.

IT'S ONLY A HOBBY

Somewhere on the Texas Independence Trail (TDXS): Advancing with Armadillo County's crack Lumberyard Division, this reporter watched today the assault upon a lightly-defended QTH. This small time DXer (hence the place's name of "Hamlet") gamely opened fire with a TA-33jr at 33 feet, and backed it up with a TS-520. He was hopelessly outgunned as TDXS fired salvo after salvo from a battery of Alpha 77's aimed by KLM 6el yagis at 140 feet. The softening up lasted until about dark on 20 meters, when the next attack commenced using short-skip stuff. Forty-meter dipoles and their 76 PA three-holers did terrible damage and the TDXS speech processors spread a deadly barrage of splatter up and down the Hamlet's TS520 front-end. Finally, the shock troops, armed only with Bencher paddles and memory keyers moved in for the kill. Firing 40 wpm bursts of "5NNTX" as they ran, the column advanced toward the Hamlet's redoubt. A straight pin through the coax silenced the ancient TA-33, but sporadic side tone oscillator activity continued from inside the QTH. A courageous race down the driveway brought the multi-multi platoon into the shack where they came face to face with the delirious little pistol, still clutching the business end of his Vibroplex. He was taken captive, to be led away to the Funny Farm for questioning.

This reporter offered him a hand getting Procomms off his head, but he'd been heterodyned once too often. You could see plainly the marks on his ears where the Woodpecker had taken its awful toll. Babbling the quaint jargon of all little pistols, he looked me in the eye and said with a said look, "QRL, QRL PSE QSY." I couldn't bear to watch as he got up slowly and went sharpen his pencils for the last time.

ARMADILLO COUNTY SEMI PRO RADIOSPORTING
TEAMSET, 358,600 to 266,500

The local radiosporting lost a close match last night to a fired-up team from W6. Team captain Joe, W5ASP was knocked out of the game early trying to catch a popped-up TR8 on 3502. Team doctors say he suffered a slight maladjustment of his keying fingers, but should be able to play on Friday night against the 5N2 all-stars. "It was just a tough catch," said Joe after the game. "The guys in the pileup pushed me about 525 Hz out of position, and before I could recover my balance I'd landed smack dab on top of W3LPL. I don't think Frank meant to hurt me, but his exchange nearly bent me double."

The Fighting Armadillians, whose record is now 0-377, were in the contest all the way and only saw the game get out of hand with one hour to go. At that time a sporadic E opening allowed the W6 team to score 57,000 unanswered points before WA7NIN emptied his bench. "It really makes you wonder what you have to do to win in this game," said power hitter NR5M. "With all the talent on this team we just have to put this game behind us. I know we'll get back on the beams soon."

Attendance was off again this week. "We need to play better to attract back the thousands of former wives who used to support our team," said one player. "There's too much attention being paid to our jobs and families," said another. "How can we do well when we only spend eleven hours a day thinking about radi.".

The team has done well in the draft in the past two seasons. Manager K5L20 was asked to comment on his strategy for using the new talent. "Nobody is secure for next season. We've red shirted NM5L and NA5R, and NM5M is

questionable due to a pulled ham string. We have some excellent younger players we're developing. They just need a few more games to get their confidence. They're aggressive, too. NT5D reminds me of a young KO**, he has the equipment to go all the way but he needs to QSY less and learn to read pileups better." Chuck promised that his winter mini-camp would help him set the lines up for the Sprints: "I think I've got them fired up now, and we'll be electrifying to watch," said Chuck.