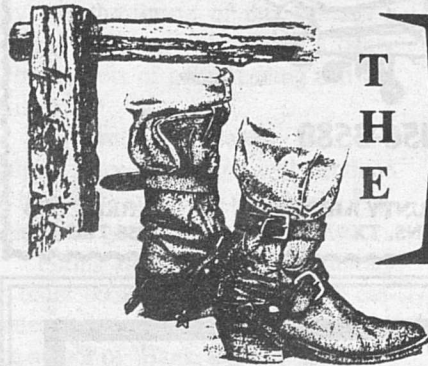


Plains Library  
Box 419  
Plains, TX 79355



# THE PLAINS PRIDE

PLAINS, YOAKUM COUNTY, TEXAS

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 4

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1993

30¢

## Plains athletes to compete at Regional Meet

Plains Cowboys and Cowgirls competed last weekend in district track events. The Cowboys earned advancement to regional contests in five events with alternates in two others. The Cowgirls will move on to Regional in three events.

The Plains Men's Team won the District Track Meet at Forsan with 125 1/3 points. The Cowboys scored 22 and 1/3 points in the Field Events. Stony Garland scored 16 points with his first and third place medals.

The Cowboys again showed their strong points in the distance races and hurdles. The distance men scored 58 points while the hurdlers marked up 14 points even with Junior Lira falling on the Intermediates. The 1600 Meter Relay Team was second in their race.

David Corrales and Edward Escobar finished in the one-two spots in the 3200 meter run with times of 10:45.1 and 11:02.2, respectively. Corrales ran the 1600 in 4:46.9 for another victory with Escobar finishing third with 5:25.2. He will be alternate in that event.

Michael Sainz will compete at regional in the 400 meter dash after winning first place with 51.9. In the 800 run, Sainz and Lenny Morrow finished one-two with Lee Roy Vasquez coming in fourth. Their times, 2:03.7, 2:08.3 and 2:16.7 respectively, qualify each for regional.

Stoney Garland advances with a new record, 155'7" in the discus. He is alternate in shot put with his third place throw of 45'8 1/2". Vasquez is alternate in pole vault with a third place 10'6".

Junior Lira, Morrow, Sainz and Scotty Rains finished second with 3:34.0 in the 1600 relay to also qualify for regional.

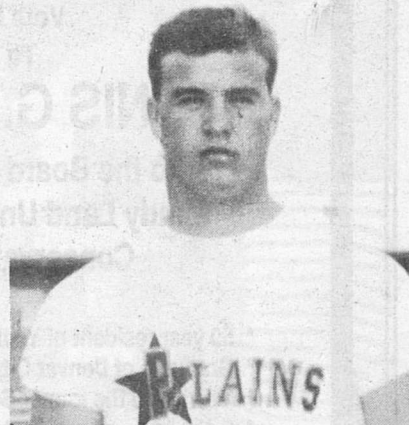
Other results included:

400 meter relay, 6th, 46.9, Lira, Rains, David Bitolas and Brian Wilson.

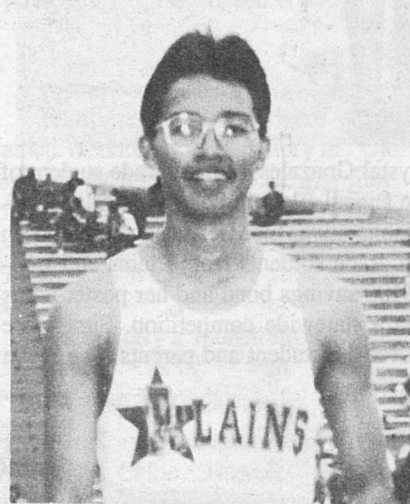
1600 meter run, 5th, 5:25.2, Vasquez.

800 meter run, 4th, 2:16.7, Vasquez.

...continued to Page 4



STONEY GARLAND, junior, throws 155' for a third place finish in the Discus Throwing Event at the San Angelo Relays and breaks a 28-year-old Plains' record of 137'8" set in 1965 by Jack Lowe.



MICHAEL SAINZ, senior, placed second in the 800 run in San Angelo with new PHS record of 1:55.9.



DAVID CORRALES, junior, finished second in the 3200m run with a time of 9:59.4, breaking Andy Ortiz's 1982 school record of 10:11. David also placed second in the 1600m run with 4:40.1 at the San Angelo District Meet.

## 'Fallback Plan' could affect Plains School

What happens if Proposition 1 does not pass? State Rep. Scott Hochberg, D-Houston, has an answer to that question. He is proposing what he calls a "fallback plan" that would consolidate 259 smaller districts into 80 new, larger districts throughout Texas.

"This is the 'What if Proposition 1 fails?' plan," Hochberg told reporters.

"I know of no other alternative."

The consolidation plan, HB 769, would require "full consolidation - football teams and everything," Hochberg said. The county education district arrangement, which would be made legal by Prop. 1, consolidates only school district tax bases.

Under Hochberg's bill, now being considered by a House committee, ev-

ery school district with more than \$280,000 in taxable property per student would be required to merge with one or more adjacent districts.

Worried about being caught unprepared, school districts across the state are contemplating a worst-case scenario: Proposition 1 fails, and the Legislature is unable to agree on Hochberg's plan or any other constitutional system before June 1. Officials in some districts are talking to bankers about loans they might need if state District Judge Scott McCown freezes the \$1.45 billion owed to Texas public schools. Other districts have changed employee pay schedules and moved up the dates of commencement exercises and the last day of school.

Passage of Hochberg's bill would prevent school closure, but the changes it incorporates would be drastic. Districts slated to be consolidated include the following:

Brownfield and Meadow, Terry County; Denver City and Plains, Yoakum County; Frenship, Lubbock and Lubbock-Cooper, Lubbock County; Ropes and Sundown, Hockley County; Seagraves and Seminole, Gaines County; and Whiteface Consolidated, Cochran County.

Also Amarillo, Potter County; Bledsoe and Morton, Cochran County; Bovina, Farwell and Friona, Parmer County; Canyon, Randall County; Dimmitt, Castro County; Hereford, Deaf Smith County; Muleshoe and Three Way, Bailey County; and Wildorado, Oldham County.

## 'Hands of Healing' is theme of SWCD Stewardship Week

Emphasizing that the greatest influence on the environment comes from individuals doing ordinary, thoughtful tasks in their neighborhoods, the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District is encouraging individuals and local school, camp, church and organization leaders to join the nationwide observance of Soil and Water Stewardship Week, April 25-May 2, 1993.

The conservation district, which works throughout the year on soil and water conservation measures, is providing literature, educational materials and speakers encouraging individual responsibility and care for natural resources. The local district is one of nearly 3000 conservation districts nationwide that work with the National Association of Conservation Districts to encourage the wise use of natural resources through the annual week-long observance.

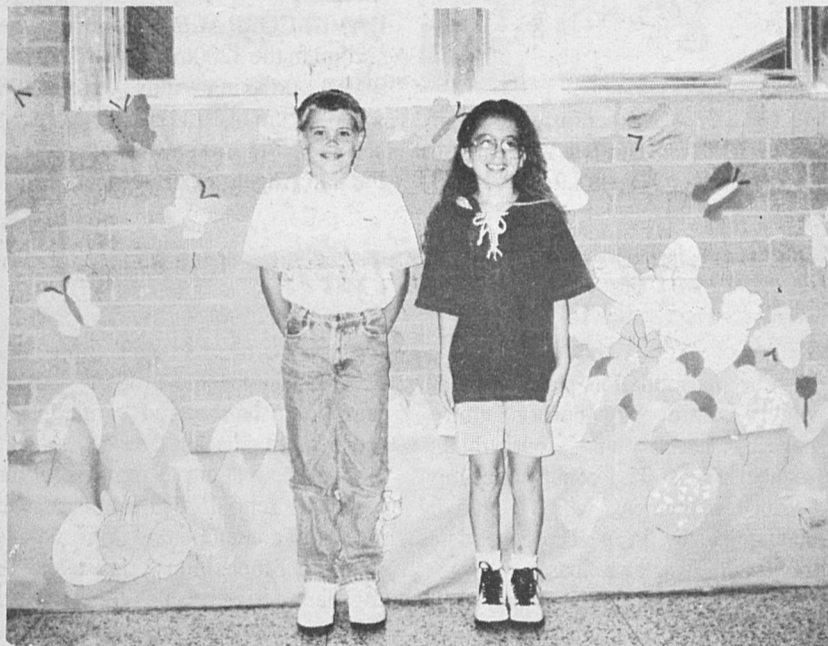
The District will provide to interested civic clubs and other groups a video program illustrating how people can use their hands to heal and maintain the environment. Book markers listing ten ways a person can act to conserve our natural resources are being placed at the county libraries. The County Conservation Farmer of the Year will be announced May 6.

L.J. Sanders, chairperson of the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District, said he hopes Stewardship Week will challenge individuals to begin, or continue, individual conservation actions that heal the area in which they live. "The fact that you may now run less water to brush your teeth is just as important to our environment as a builder installing sediment control basins in a major urban development. Both require individual action...both make a difference," said Sanders.





FIRST PLACE POSTER WINNER - Krystal Gonzales, second grade student of Plains Elementary, won first place in the annual Electric Safety Coloring Contest sponsored by Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Her poster was chosen from entries by second, third and fourth grade students from Plains and Lovington and Tatum, NM. She receives a \$100 savings bond and her poster earns the right to compete at Santa Fe, NM in a statewide competition. First place there will win a trip to Washington, D.C. for the student and parents. She is the daughter of Abel and Yolanda Gonzales.



RECEIVE HONORABLE MENTION - Tanner Hamm and Brianna Garza were named for honorable mention in the Electric Safety Coloring Contest sponsored by Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### DEAR EDITOR

#### THREE EXAMPLES

In the world today, it is common for someone to see something they want and to take it by force. We consider this robbery.

If one government sees another country they want to control and invades the other country, we call it aggression.

In Texas, when the legislators see tax funds that they do not control but are controlled by the local school districts, they decide to confiscate the funds. That is called Robin Hood.

Please tell me which of these three examples are of the correct moral values to teach our children.

Dean Richardson

## SAFE AT HOME!



Springtime means baseball time — and it's also time for an outdoor electrical safety check-up.

Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

- Make sure extension cords used outside are specifically marked for such use.
- When you're using electrical cleaning equipment and power tools outdoors, be sure cords are the three-wire kind.
- Make sure your outdoor work area is dry when you use electrical appliances and tools.
- Check outdoor receptacles — does each outlet have its own waterproof cover?

For more tips on playing it safe, please contact us. We'll be happy to help you make it safe at home!

## LEA COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

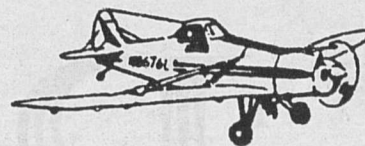
"OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE"

Lovington & Tatum, NM

Plains, TX

## Two J-S Flying Service

Aerial Applicators



(806) 456-3580

JACK COBB  
456-7452

YOAKUM COUNTY AIRPORT  
PLAINS, TX

MIKE COBB  
456-7165

To The Voters of Yoakum County  
Vote May 1st  
To Elect

## DENNIS G. HARRISON

to the Board of Directors of  
Sandy Land Underground Water  
Conservation District

- \* 50 year resident of Yoakum County
- \* Graduate of Denver City High School
- \* Married to the former Sue Ann Wyatt
- \* 3 children - all residents of Yoakum County
- \* 7 grandchildren - all residents of Yoakum County
- \* Owner of Harrison Well Service, Inc.
- \* Served on numerous boards in our county, always trying to serve for the people with their benefit in mind.
- \* Will strive to keep our county a better place to live



KNOWLEDGEABLE OF OUR PAST

COMMITTED TO OUR PRESENT

CONCERNED ABOUT OUR FUTURE

Your vote and influence will be appreciated.  
Yours truly,

*Dennis G. Harrison*

Pol. Adv. paid for by DENNIS G. HARRISON, DENVER CITY, TEXAS 79323



## High school "helpers" to help with Summer Reading Program

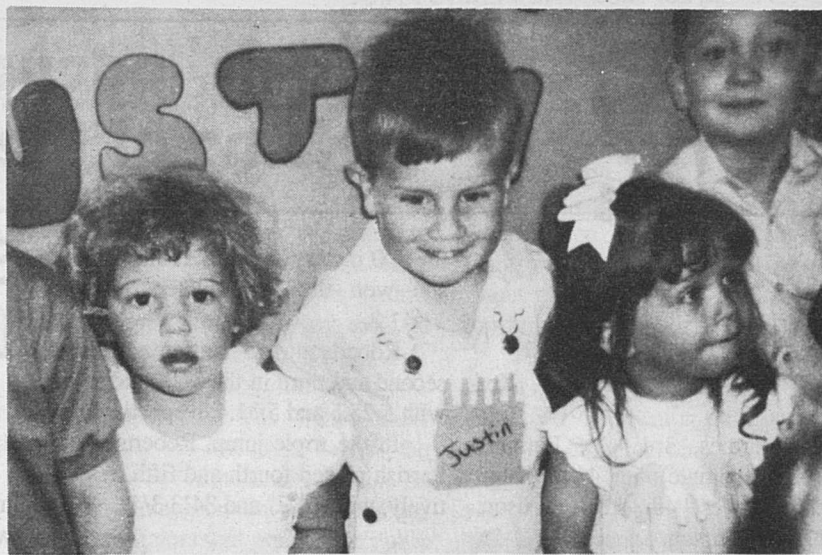
"Lions and Tigers and Books, Oh My!" is the theme of this summer's reading program at Yoakum County Library. Lots of good reading and fun is in store.

A number of senior girls are helping after school and will continue to help this summer in the library. Personnel are grateful for their assistance.

Forms are available at the library to order books, posters, books on cassettes and tee shirts by John Erickson, the author of "Hank, the Cowdog."

A number of new books have arrived at the library including:

"Individual Guide to Grants" by Margolin; "The Fascinating Girl" by Andelin; "Customizing Your Van" by Caiati; "Raising Earthworms for Profit" by Shields; "Supreme Court of the United States" by Reilly; "Hydroponic Gardening" by Bridwell; "Guinness Book of Records, 1993" by Matthews and "Physics Made Simple" by Freeman.



AMBER FRIESEN AND JUSTIN PERRY celebrate birthdays at Filmtime Wednesday. Miss Friesen is three years old and Mr. Perry is four.



BULLETIN BOARD PREPARED - Brandy Lester and Kim McClure stand beside the bulletin board Kim decorated for the summer reading program at Yoakum County Library.

THE PLAINS PRIDE: The Plains Pride (USPS 757-130) is published weekly at 716 Main Street, Olton, Lamb County, TX 79064. Second Class Permit paid at Olton, TX 79064 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Plains Pride, P.O. Box 774, Olton, TX 79064-0774.

## Vote May 1 for JIM JACKSON

As Director of  
Sandy Land Underground Water District



As a farmer in Yoakum County, water quality, as well as quantity, is a great concern. I would appreciate the opportunity to help protect this resource.

(Political adv. paid by Jim Jackson)

## FILMTIME

Filmtime youngsters were entertained Wednesday with a story of "Old MacDonald's Farm" and viewed films on "Old MacDonald Duck" and "Three Little Pigs." Songs of the day were "Deep and Wide" and "Jesus Loves Me."

Justin Perry's fourth birthday was celebrated, along with Amber Friesen's third birthday.

Others attending were Todd Williams, Callie Howell, M'Leah

McKinzie, Tiffany and Timothy Randall, Challie Johnson, Amber and Allison Friesen, Katie Winn, Reyna Quintana, Paige Hollensed, Blake Parrish, Kimberly Jackson, Lauren Davis, Nick

and Alice Curtis, Casson Curtis, Zachary Ramos, Ryan Crump, Jordan Chambliss, Abel Ramos, Chris Loya,

Jacob Brink, Britnee Duran, Lexus Reyes, Michael Crump and Lauren Hise.

### On May 1, Vote **Against** bringing back the Statewide Property Tax.

*This is how Proposition 1 will be worded on the May 1 ballot:*

"The constitutional amendment allowing limited redistribution of ad valorem taxes for schools, authorizing the legislature or local school districts to set a minimum tax rate in county education districts, and placing a cap on the ad valorem taxes levied by a county education district."

FOR

AGAINST

This is how Proposition 1 would be worded if the Truth In Advertising laws applied to proposed legislation.

"The constitutional amendment allowing the Legislature to redistribute among school districts an evergrowing amount of ad valorem (property) taxes as it sees fit, authorizing the Legislature to raise the minimum tax rate in county education districts without a vote of the people in any one of three ways so the Legislature can determine at a later date how it wishes to implement this new taxing power, by vote of the Legislature, by vote of the unelected County Education Boards, or by vote of your local school districts that are successful so that unsuccessful districts cannot be outspent, purposely omitting language that would end the court battle over school funding, and finally making it possible for any one of the three taxing entities to double the current rate of taxation without a vote of the people to \$2.50 per \$100 valuation, or \$2,500 per year on a \$100,000 home."

One alternate plan - dedicate all of the net lottery proceeds to poor school districts.

sponsored by Texans Against Robin Hood Taxes P.O. Box 595808 Dallas, Texas 79359  
Van Archer, treasurer phone (214) 713-4839 Pol. Adv. paid for by H.A. Richardson





# Plains Independent School District Home of the Cowboys & Cowgirls

## Track

...continued from Page 1

400 meter dash, 6th, 55.9, Ken McAdams.

300 hurdles, 3rd, 43., Jimmy Robertson (alternate); 5th, 44., Wilson.

110 hurdles, 4th, 16.5, Wilson; 5th, 17.5, Robertson.

100 meter dash, 5th, 12.3, Rains.  
High jump, 6th, 5'8", Wilson.

The Plains Junior Varsity had four freshmen on their team and they scored 94 points. They placed third out of 11 teams.

Coach McAdams was very pleased with the way the teams competed for the championship. "These young men gave everything for the team, not themselves. I think of track as a team sport and I love the things that the Cowboys have accomplished this season in track!"

Placing second was Smyer with 89 points, O'Donnell with 79 points came in third; followed by Garden City with 65 points; Sterling City, 57 points; Anton, 38 1/3; Water Valley, 26; Whiteface, 25; Irion County, 18 1/3; Ropes, 18; and the host team finishing 11th place with 17 points.

The Cowgirls tied for third with 60 points in the girls' meet, a competition of 11 teams.

Ogla Ramirez took the district championship win in the 1600 meter run with 5:59.52. She finished second in the 3200 run with 13:06.16, to qualify for regional in both events.

Rhonda Cowart won first in the 400 meter dash with 63.27.

Also qualifying for regional was the 1600 meter relay team of Amy Crutcher, Shandy Willett, Stacey Jones and Cowart. They finished second with 4:26.40.

Other results included:

400 meter relay, 3rd, 54.77,

Margie Gonzales, Cowart, Willett and Crutcher.

800 meter dash, 4th, Crutcher.

Other members of the team are Dusty Beckham, Lisa Ward and Mary Ann Gonzales.

## Junior High teams finish third in District

Plains Junior High tracksters finished third in the district meet with 94 points. Smyer won with 112; Whiteface had 95.

The 1600 meter relay won first with 4:04.7. Members are Jason Robertson, Ralph Ramirez, Kirk Parrish and Jeremy Dearing.

In the 400 meter run, Dearing and Parrish took the top two wins with runs of 57.5 and 59.1, respectively.

Parrish won first in the 110 hurdles with 19.8 and Ramirez captured

the 800 meter run with 2:18.5. Robertson won the 3200 meter run with 11:41.2.

Robertson and Ramirez finished second and third in the 1600 meter run with 5:25.5 and 5:31.4, respectively.

In the triple jump, Robertson and Parrish placed fourth and fifth, respectively, with 34'7" and 34'3 3/4".

## School Events

MONDAY - TAAS Reading/Math Test (May 3-7) - Fourth Grade; Texas School Book Fair - Resource Center; First Grade Swim Olympics.

TUESDAY - Second Grade Swim Olympics; United Blood Services Blood Drive - Student Council 2-6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY - TAAS Test - Eighth Grade; Third Grade Swimming Olympics

THURSDAY - TAAS Test - Eighth Grade; Employee Picnic - Yoakum County Park - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY - State UIL Academic Meet - Austin; Track - State Qualifiers Meet - Abilene

SATURDAY - State UIL Academic Meet - Austin; State Technology Meet - Waco; State Band Contest - Austin



### BREAKFAST

MONDAY - Toast, oatmeal, grape juice and milk.

TUESDAY - Toast, donut, apple juice and milk.

WEDNESDAY - Toast, scrambled eggs, orange juice and milk.

THURSDAY - Pancakes, syrup, butter, fruit punch and milk.

FRIDAY - Toast, cereal, pineapple juice and milk.

### LUNCH

MONDAY - Tuna salad sandwiches, potato chips, carrot sticks, Kosher spears, peaches and milk.

TUESDAY - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, black-eyed peas, tossed salad, hot rolls, peanut butter, honey and milk.

WEDNESDAY - Hamburgers, lettuce, pickles, onions, French fries, fruit, brownies and milk.

THURSDAY - Mr. Rib, pinto beans, cabbage slaw, cornbread, cherry cobbler and milk.

FRIDAY - Roast w/gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, Jell-O and milk.

## School Board okays driver's ed.; Larry McMinn to be instructor

School board members met April 19 in regular session.

Participation in the USDA Commodities Agreement was approved as was the list of transfer students for 1993-94.

Summer driver's education was okayed with a fee set at \$120 for classroom instruction and driving and \$100 for driving only. Larry McMinn will be instructor. He will be paid \$12 per hour.

Gary Six was appointed TASB delegate with Rickey Bearden as alternate.

Trustees accepted a bid from Bluebird for the 71 passenger school bus on a lease with option to purchase plan. A bid from Pollard Ford was accepted for a car and pickup.

The board also accepted a bid from Calvary Baptist Men for the 35 passenger 1980 Bluebird bus. All bids for the 1988 Caprice Classic were rejected.

Administrative reports were given and the board entered executive session. Reconvening in regular session the board accepted the resignation of Betty Rushing.

DON'T FORGET TO  
EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE  
IN THE MAY 1ST ELECTION

**DQ Treats & Eats**

**Peanut Buster® Parfait**  
DQ® soft serve loaded with hot fudge and Spanish peanuts.  
**\$1.29**

**The Dude\***  
Chicken Fried Steak Sandwich.  
**\$1.29**

On Sale April 19-May 2, 1993

©Reg. TM Am. D.Q. Corp. \*Reg. TM Tx D.Q. Op. Coun. ©Tx. D.Q. Op. Coun. At participating Dairy Queen stores.



**DEAR EDITOR:**

As the May 1 vote on the propositions concerning our schools draws near, I would like to take a moment and express a few thoughts. First of all, we must realize that Proposition 1 does not deal with school finance as a whole, but only deals with the issue of equity. The Supreme Court has made it very clear that some form of equity must be achieved to satisfy the Edgewood decision.

Over the past two years much work has been done, and many compromises have been met, as poor schools fought for more, and rich schools fought to maintain. Many ideas have come down the line, such as consolidation, caps on revenue, and statewide sharing of mineral and utility wealth, just to name a few. As we all know, any of these would be devastating to Plains schools. Many people have fought long and hard to keep caps out, to have a small amount of unequalized enrichment, to limit recapture, but most important to maintain our tax base. Proposition 1 allows for all of this, while also satisfying the equity issue.

This does not happen painlessly. We must all sacrifice, including our school. Higher taxes must be paid, and cuts in spending must be made. Also, we must not think for a minute that this is the end of the fight. We must all stay in touch with our representatives, both state and local. They must know, that the property owner cannot keep footing the entire bill. They must know that we believe our kids are Texas' most valuable resource, and the pathway to our future.

In closing, I would like to say, not to believe everything you read, including this letter. Take time to find out the facts and figures. Talk to someone, call your Senator or Congressman. Look at both sides, figure what it is worth to have your children or grandchildren go to school at Plains, and I believe you will join with me in voting for Proposition 1, on May 1st.

Thank you,  
Jerry Parrish

**Baseball Association discusses up-coming season**

An organizational meeting was held recently for parents of the summer league baseball players. A number of things were discussed, including try-out schedules which were held April 24 and April 25, with the deadline for all former players being Wednesday, April 28. The season will open Thursday, May 6 and end Tuesday, June 15, if no make-up games are needed. All-Stars will be announced at the last game, but will not begin practice until June 20, as required by the District.

Denver City refused a request to play practice games against the Plains teams. Coaches had asked if their teams could somehow have more games during the season.

Plains will host the District Tournament starting July 5, 1993. Other teams participating will be Seagraves, Brownfield, Denver City and Ropesville. The All-Star Coaches Meeting is set for June 27 in Lubbock.

This season the games will be played on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. T-Ball games will begin at 6 p.m. at the Little League Park with the other two leagues, instead of the Pony League Park as in previous seasons. T-Ball play will be limited to one hour with the second game beginning at 7:30. The Minor League will have a one and a half hour time limit. The first game of a Minor League double-header will begin at 6 p.m. with the second game starting at 8 p.m. In the event the inning cannot be completed in the allotted time period in either T-Ball or Minor League games, the score will resort back to the score at the end of the last complete inning.

T-Ball will be allowed to have three coaches on the field to help coach. This year instead of using the 10 run rule per inning, teams will play until three outs are made or one complete batting order has finished. Coaches will keep line-ups only. No books will be kept in the dug-outs. Each batter will get three pitches from their own coach to hit before the tee is set up for the batter.

The Minor and Major Leagues will be allowed two coaches and one

scorekeeper in the dugout or on the field. Each Major League team will have at least 10 players, (this number may increase when the total number of players are determined). It is against Little League Rules for any team to play with less than nine players.

The practice locations will be the same as last year. The T-Ball teams will practice on the grass east of the boys gym. The Minors will practice on the school playground west of the band hall. The Majors will practice on either the Little League or Pony League field.

The District has issued letters on emphasizing the rule of NO TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL products of any kind will be allowed on the field at any time. Umpires and Officers will be instructed to ask anyone violating this rule to leave the field at once.

Due to the danger of cars passing and the limited vision of drivers on the hill beside the press box and the fact that children play and chase foul balls in this area, the League has made arrangements to block off traffic. The street will be barricaded beside the press box. Traffic driving north down the hill will have to turn left onto the street behind the school. Cars will be allowed to park beside the field but will have to enter and exit to the north by the football field. There will be a sign and flashing light at the top of the hill to warn traffic of the dead end.

The Plains League has decided to run the Concession Stand itself this year. Schwan Frozen Foods has been approached about ice cream treats. A parents' work schedule will be worked out after the rosters are chosen and schedules set.

There will be a nine and 10 year old post-season tournament offered. Coaches have volunteered to take a team if any are interested.

The player fee has remained at \$15. To this date, all team sponsors have returned except two. To sponsor a team and have the business's name printed on the team-shirts cost \$140 per team.

The question of selecting an As-

sistant Coach before the teams are drafted was discussed. A 10-year-old Coach's son must be drafted in the fifth round, with an 11-year-old in the fourth round; and a 12-year-old in the third round.

The required age of any T-Ball player is six or seven years old on Aug. 1, 1993. Minor League players must be eight or nine years old on Aug. 1, 1993; and Majors, 11 or 12 years old on Aug. 1, 1993. A player who is 10 years old on Aug. 1, 1993 may be drafted to the Majors or selected on a Minor's team. This decision is strictly up to the parents of the individual player.

The bleachers will be moved from the Stock Barns back to the Little League Park. County Commissioner, Macky McWhirter has agreed to raise the outfield fence to 10 ft. before the District Tournament. This will move Plains' field closer to the qualifications of Little League.

Zane Johnson will check into finding a regulation T-Ball to use instead of a regular baseball.

Pres. Johnson has been in touch with Coca-Cola of Hobbs, NM about sponsoring an electronic scoreboard for the field. They offered to pay for half this year or would write it into the budget for all the price next year. David Bunch moved to purchase the scoreboard this year with Coca-Cola's help and seek additional sponsors to help pay for the other half, so it will be available for the District Tournament. David Brunson seconded the motion and it carried.

The Plains League will be able to keep all of the proceeds made from the District Tournament Concession Stand. The District Office furnishes the medals and umpires for the event.

The parents reviewed the financial statement. It was agreed that if additional sponsors are not found for the cost remaining on the scoreboard, the league will raise the funds at the concession stand, which will include selling the old All-Star shirts that need to be replaced.

**BRAD CRUMP - CANDIDATE FOR SCHOOL BOARD**

- BORN AND RAISED IN COMMUNITY
- GRADUATE OF PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL
- GRADUATE OF TEXAS TECH
- MARRIED WITH TWO CHILDREN
- WILLING TO LISTEN TO YOUR INPUT AND SERVE

**YOUR VOTE WILL BE APPRECIATED. THANK YOU.**

POLITICAL ADV. PAID FOR BY  
BRAD CRUMP, BOX 868, PLAINS, TEXAS 79355



AMONG THE BEST - Jason Smith, at right, back row, is shown with other South Plains College track and field athletes who are pictured here with World Class Olympic runners Carl Lewis and Mike Marsh at the Texas Relays in Austin. Jason, a Plains graduate, is the son of Hershel and Debbie Smith.



## Linebarger offers details concerning school finance

If the voters of this state will take the first step, I am ready to take the second," State Rep. Libby Linebarger, D-Manchaca, said last week as she laid out a detailed school-finance proposal premised on voter approval of Proposition 1 on the May 1 ballot.

Linebarger, chair of the House Committee on Public Education and co-chair of SAVE OUR SCHOOLS, proposes abolishing the 188 county education districts (CEDs) in operation today. She would replace them with 253 "education funding districts" that would not have the taxing or administrative authority of CEDs.

"We're going to eliminate at least \$3.2 million in wasteful administrative bureaucracy by doing away with CEDs and changing the way recaptured funds are distributed," Linebarger said. Under her proposal, EFDs will "function" only where recapture occurs.

In other words, if there are not recaptured school districts in a county, collection and redistribution of local taxes will not take place, according to Ms. Linebarger. Only in counties where school districts are wealthy enough to be recaptured will any money exchange hands. Most redistributed funds will remain within county boundaries, she concludes. Excess funds will be sent directly to the state.

Seventy-six school districts, out of a total of 1,048 will have money redistributed solely within their county boundaries. Another 40 will send money directly to the state.

Linebarger also proposes to eliminate the mid-year proration of state aid, which has hobbled school district budgeting and planning efforts the last several years by basing state aid for the coming biennium on this year's tax rates. If districts raise taxes above their current rates, they will not receive additional state aid for doing so.

"The reality is that the court said we must bring all property into the system," Linebarger said. "We can do that by recapturing funds from wealthy districts or by consolidating school districts to neutralize wealth. This proposal assumes that Proposition 1 passes. If it fails, then some version of one or more of the consolidation bills pending in my committee is our only avenue."



Marc and Carmaleta McWilliams of Lubbock would like to announce the arrival of a daughter born at 11:01 a.m. April 13 in University Medical Center in Lubbock. The little miss weighed seven pounds one ounce and measured 19 and seven-eighths inches long. She has been named Courtnee Marie. Grandparents are Charles and Helen Pope, Paula McWilliams of Denver City and James McWilliams of Level-land. Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. M.B. McDonnell of Plains and Lois McWilliams of San Angelo.

## Family honors bride-elect

A family party hosted by aunts of the prospective groom honored Miss Michelle Furr, bride-elect of Doug Warren. The event, hosted by Jana Melvin of Mesquite, NM, Joetta Willis of Brownfield and Joyce Pierce of Plains, was held in the home of James and Jerry Warren, grandparents of the groom-to-be.

Miss Furr is the daughter of Elaine Furr of Eunice, NM.

Special guests were mothers of the couple, Mrs. Furr and Lela Warren.

Others attending were Belinda Callaway of Eunice, NM, sister of the honoree; Carol Warren of Rotan; Tyler and Kaci Willis of Brownfield; Darce Pierce, Mary Lou Parks and Janelle Cobb, all of Plains; and Kristi and Kemi Cobb of Lubbock.

**AMERICAN DIABETIC ASSOCIATION**  
Texas Affiliate  
9430 Research Bldg. 2  
Suite 500  
Austin, Tx. 78759

**NATIONAL KIDNEY ASSOCIATION**  
OF WEST TEXAS  
5211 Brownfield Highway  
Box 4  
Lubbock, TX 79407

**INFORMATION NEEDED:** Name of memorial recipient. Name and Address of family of the memorial recipient. Name and Address of persons sending the memorial.

## Dear Editor

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports Propositions 1 and 3 on the May ballot as the best achievable way to provide a fair system of funding the state's public schools. In the League's view, the most important feature of Proposition 1 is that it would limit state access to local property taxes while creating a framework for using those taxes fairly. Accordingly, the proposition is our best hope for achieving a system that is equitable and that lays a sound basis for adequate funding.

The Texas Constitution gives the state responsibility for running an efficient system of public schools. The Texas Supreme Court has ruled that to achieve the required "efficiency" the revenue per pupil must be "substantially equal" in all districts when they have the same property tax rate. The only way to do this without astronomical expenditures of state money is to allow a small portion of locally-raised tax revenues to be transferred from property-rich districts to property-poor ones.

Proposition 1, if passed, would establish a mechanism for the legislature to do this. Fortunately, the proposition would cap the redistribution at 2.75% of the total of state and local money spent on education. This all-important feature would limit the amount of locally-raised revenue to which the state would have access. It would prevent the state from using property taxes to achieve adequacy and would force it instead to eventually restructure its own revenue system.

The League of Women Voters believes it is essential that there be a balance between state and local funding of our schools because it enables local districts to retain responsibility and local control. But as long as property taxes play a part, the Court has ruled

there must be a substantial equalizing of the funding they provide. We believe Proposition 1 provides a good method to achieve equalization.

Voters are also understandably concerned about what this might do to their property taxes. What will happen is determined by how much money the state is willing or able to put into the system. This is a decision made by the legislature in its biennial appropriations process. Local school districts will still retain the option to raise or lower their own property taxes, depending on what they see their own needs to be.

The League also supports Proposition 3 because the state should help local school districts that face overwhelming construction needs. The proposition would also help meet the Court's mandate to address facilities as part of an efficient financial plan.

If these two amendments are adopted, the state will be much closer to having a truly equitable finance system that will benefit all citizens. Evelyn P. Bonavita, President League of Women Voters of Texas

## Dean Richardson gives floral program

Deanie Richardson directed a program on floral arranging and displayed five arrangements for members of Plains Dirt Gardeners Garden Club recently.

Plans were made for a family luncheon in May. Other discussions and plans concerned the club's project for marking unmarked graves in Plains Cemetery. If persons have information about any unmarked grave, please contact a member of the club.

Blueberry muffins and Cokes were served by Florence Bookout.

Others attending were Ruby Bilbrey, Velma Dearing, Martha Guetersloh, Wilma McDonnell, Burve Overton, Mary Lou Parks, Bea Pippin and Ita Young.

GLADIOLUS BULBS		4/\$1.00
CANNA BULBS		75¢ EACH
ELEPHANT EAR BULBS	SMALL	69¢ EACH
ELEPHANT EAR BULBS	LARGE	\$3.99 EACH
YELLOW ONION SETS		\$1.25 BAG
DR "X" ROACH SPRAY		\$3.99 CAN

**BAYER LUMBER**  
1018 AVE E  
PLAINS, TX 79355  
456-4800



**VOTE**

**STEVE JONES**  
*Plains City Council*

(Pol. Adv. paid by Steve Jones)





**Teel Bivins Reports:**

*What happens if Proposition 1 fails?*

What happens if Proposition 1 and 3 on the constitutional amendment ballot fail? Some have argued that Texas schools will close. While I don't agree that would occur immediately, it's certainly a possibility. If the propositions fail, the Legislature would have 30 days to address school funding. Two previous attempts by the Legislature were found unconstitutional by the courts. That's why we felt that amending the constitution would be the most logical way to extricate the state from the ongoing Edgewood litigation.

If the Legislature fails to adopt a statutory fix, state District Judge Scott McCown has indicated that on June 1 he would enjoin the state from furnishing funds to local school districts. If that occurs, it's likely the governor would call a special session to try again. That's because state funds are distributed to local school districts on the 25th of each month. Therefore, the Legislature would theoretically have 25 days to come up with a solution.

The problem, of course, is the Legislature has been attempting to arrive at a solution for four years. The idea that it could now do so in 55 days seems unlikely.

If the Legislature is unable to reach a solution by June 25, the injunction would take effect. This would have the immediate affect of ending summer school programs in most Texas school districts. Moreover, it would create a planning and budgeting crisis for every school district.

Judge McCown has stated that he has no interest in formulating a court-ordered plan. However, if the Legislature fails to act, he may have no choice.

Without a constitutional amendment, the options available to Judge McCown are no broader than those available to the Legislature. It's safe to say that if any of the options available were palatable they would have been enacted by the Legislature before this time.

One option, advanced by former Speaker of the House Gib Lewis in last December's special session, is massive consolidation of school districts. This type of consolidation required to address the Edgewood mandates is not simply consolidating a large number of small school districts within a county into one large school district, but rather consolidating poor school districts with wealthy ones. While there are 1,050 districts in Texas that exist for no other reason than historical happenstance. Texans have steadfastly opposed the notion of large-scale consolidation. Advocating consolidation of school districts in the Legislature is tantamount to advocating communism in the halls of Congress.

In the Edgewood III opinion, the Supreme Court found that the creation of CEDs violated the state Constitution because Texans weren't allowed to vote for the authorization of the district and for a tax rate. Therefore another

statutory option would be to "fix the CEDs" by allowing people within each CED to vote on its creation. The problem here, of course, is that it's entirely likely the voters in at least some of those districts wouldn't vote to create the CED. Even if the voters in all 188 CEDs voted for their creation, there's the further problem of ensuring that they would vote a tax rate providing at least a minimum level of funding for public education within the CED.

Under our current system of school finance, each school district provides about 50% of the total cost of funding education in Texas. Many have argued that the state should shoulder a far greater portion of the load by funding at least 80%. If the state did so, there would be less reliance on local property taxes, resulting in less inequity in the total funding system. However, the state would have to add about 5 1/2 cents to the sales tax which is already one of the highest in the nation or adopt a 6% personal income tax. As you might guess, neither of these proposals could garner a majority vote in the Legislature. It should be noted here that it's extremely doubtful a state judge could order any type of plan forcing the Legislature to raise taxes.

Another option would be to put a cap on the amount that could be spent per student in Texas. For example, a law stating no district may spend more than \$3,500 per student would create substantial equity in the system. However, such a move would send an incredibly bad message to the rest of the country and artificially limit what is probably the highest priority of all Texans: the education of future generations.

There may be other constitutionally permissible and politically feasible options. However, after four years of struggling with this issue, the Legislature has not found them. It's easy to criticize these proposed constitutional amendments. It's been my experience that after visiting with opponents for 20 minutes or so they almost always arrive at the conclusion that these proposed amendments are the least disruptive way to get out of court and let us focus on truly important education issues, such as student performance, accountability, drop-out rate and safe campuses.

**Plains '42' Club holds fellowship**

Senior Citizens "42" Club met recently for a pot luck supper and evening of "42" and Skip Bo.

Jo Harbour brought a birthday cake for those celebrating April birthdays, Edna Chambliss, Annette Cleveland and Johnnie Layton.

Eighteen persons attended, including one guest, J.J. Thompson of Denver City, grandson of the Harbours.



THE PLAINS PRIDE  
MEMBER 1993

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

**Vote For  
Cyndy Koncaba**

**Plains School Board Place #7**

Your Vote and Support Will Be Greatly Appreciated

Political Adv. paid for by  
Cyndy Koncaba, Rt. 1 Box 44, Tokio, TX 79376

**Vote  
May 1st  
to elect  
Bonnie Earnest  
to the  
Plains City Council**



**I would like the opportunity to serve the citizens of Plains. This community and its needs are important to me. I will work for the betterment of Plains and for its citizens.**

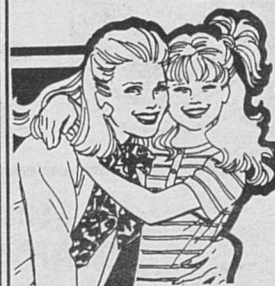
EARLY VOTING by personal appearance is April 12-27.

(Political Adv. paid for by Bonnie Earnest)

*Remember....*

**Mother's Day**  
is

**Sunday, May 9**



**Yoakum County  
Florist & Gifts**

Denver City 592-8067



**AN OPEN LETTER  
TO THE CITIZENS  
OF YOAKUM COUNTY**

FROM SENATOR JOHN T. MONTFORD

The immediate fate of our schools lies not in our hands, but in yours.

Proposition 1 on the May ballot stems from repeated Texas Supreme Court orders for the state to equalize funding available to all school districts that levy similar tax rates.

The legislature was given until June 1, 1993 to correct the current inequities or state and county education district funds could no longer be distributed to local districts. Proposition 1 is the school finance amendment which allows the state to meet these court requirements. Passage of Proposition 1 assures that schools will not close on June 1.

This proposition assures that all school districts are within the system by allowing the state to redistribute local property tax revenue to equalize funding for schools. Under the proposed amendment, the amount of money redistributed can equal no more than 2.75 percent of the total state and local funding for schools. An estimated \$400 million will be shifted each year from wealthy districts to poor districts. Only 10 percent of the state's 1,000 plus districts, with six percent of the students will have their money redistributed under this amendment and most of this money will be shared only within the county education district.

Under Proposition 1, the county education district ad valorem tax rate is capped at \$1 per \$100 valuation of taxable property and the combined CED and local tax rate for maintenance and operation remains at \$1.50 per \$100 valuation as currently set forth in the state constitution.

Distribution of the available school fund on a per capita basis is not changed.

If this amendment is defeated on May 1, lawmakers will have 30 days to draft a new funding plan, but the outlook will not be good for schools. A state income tax and/or massive consolidations are the only other alternatives available that will satisfy the courts.

I genuinely believe the judge will cut off funding for schools and I believe there will be massive consolidation of rural districts if this amendment does not pass.

This amendment will do the least harm to the wealthy districts while helping the poorer districts in the state. It is the best alternative available at this time.

Passage of Proposition 1 will allow us to get past the school finance issue and concentrate in improving the quality of our schools throughout the state. Our children are our most important resource and we must do whatever it takes to provide them with a quality education.

**FOR SALE**

FOR SALE - 10 Acres 1 1/2 miles East of Plains. Call 456-4685 or 456-7465. 3/4tc

**Notice**

BEAUTI CONTROL cosmetics. Call 456-8451. 49/tfc

The test of a vocation is the love of the drudgery it involves.

—Logan Pearsall Smith



PRICES EFFECTIVE  
APRIL 28-MAY 1, 1993

PLAINS

SHURFINE TUNA  
6 1/8 OZ 59¢

**GOTTA HAVE IT** ALL TYPES PEPSI-COLA  
\$1.99  
6 pack 12 oz cans

MAMA ANGELINA'S COMBO PIZZA  
5 INCH SIZE FOR ONLY  
79¢

VALLEY FARE  
TOILET TISSUE  
4 PACK 79¢

AJAX LAUNDRY DETERGENT  
32 OZ. BOX \$1.49

ALL FLAVORS GATORADE THIRST QUENCHER  
32 OZ. BTL. 99¢

BATHROOM TISSUE SOFT 'N GENTLE  
4 ROLL PKG. 99¢

SHURFINE GRAVY OR CHUNK STYLE DOG FOOD 20 LB. BAG \$3.99  
SHURFINE CUT GREEN BEANS 16 OZ. CAN 39¢

COMBO OF THE MONTH  
BARBECUE BEEF SANDWICH & A 16 OZ. COKE  
FOR ONLY 99¢

SHURFINE PAPER TOWELS 2 PLY 69¢  
STAR KIST TUNA 6 1/8 OZ 69¢

HAM, EGG & BISCUIT  
FOR ONLY 79¢  
SHURFINE TOMATO SAUCE 8 OZ 25¢

HOT FOODS MENU		AVAILABLE AT ALL ALLSUP'S LOCATIONS
BARBECUE BEEF SANDWICH	99¢	9 PIECE BOX CHICKEN \$5.99
BARBECUE PORK RIBS (LB.)	\$3.99	BEEF & CHEESE CHIMICHANGA \$1.19
BARBECUE WHOLE CHICKEN	\$3.99	(MEAD) CORN DOG 69¢
ALLSUP'S BURRITO	79¢	DELICIOUS HAMBURGER 69¢
BREAKFAST BURRITO	99¢	WILSON HOT LINKS 99¢
BURRITO BEEF & SALSA	\$1.19	SAUSAGE ON A STICK \$1.39
DELICIOUS CHEESEBURGER	89¢	SAUSAGE & BISCUIT 79¢
CHICKEN FRIED STEAK	\$1.59	SAUSAGE EGG & BISCUIT \$1.09
3COUNT CHICKEN STRIPS	\$1.49	SAUTEYA SAUSAGE 99¢
W/POTATO WEDGES/CHICKEN (2 PC.) BISCUIT	\$1.99	4 COUNT STEAK FINGERS \$1.00

CALL IN ORDERS WELCOME CHECK OUR WEEKLY SPECIALS