



THE FIGHTING BUFFALOES
Masthead designed by Barbara J. Sowell

Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

"A Caring Community"
THURSDAY, October 12, 2000



ROBERT E. HOWARD MUSEUM
Price 50¢

92nd YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 29

Municipal Swimming Pool in Cross Plains

Is there a possibility of having a swimming pool in Cross Plains? That is the question at hand.

At the City Council meeting on October 3, the council members were asked about putting in a municipal swimming pool for the City of Cross Plains. Although there were concerns about the drought and funding, the council members did agree to look into the issue.

We are all aware of the drought in Texas, but a project of this magnitude will take a tremendous amount of time, research and analysis to complete. Therefore, we pray that by that time our drought situation will have been ended.

The other concern is the amount of people willing to pay to have the privilege to enjoy a swimming pool. That is the reason that you might have seen the "petition" around town. This is a poll to show the city

council members that the community of Cross Plains would love to have a city swimming pool. Everyone is encouraged to sign their name to one of the sheets that are located at businesses throughout Cross Plains.

A municipal pool would be beneficial to everyone young and old. This is an excellent opportunity for the entire family to enjoy clean healthy fun. A swimming pool is an excellent source of exercise. With water aerobics and swimming lessons, all ages will be able to enjoy the pool.

There will also be additional jobs available for the summer months. With this in mind, please show your support for this project. Please sign your name to one of the polls and will see what happens at the next City Council meeting November 7.

Submitted by Terry Thomas



LOCAL HIGGINBOTHAM'S EMPLOYEES — Debbie Reed (from left), VonDell Bailey, Rickey Apple, Vernon Smith (Manager) and Ray Worley.

History of Higginbotham's Given in Conjunction with Founder's Day Sale

The local Higginbotham's will be celebrating their Founder's Day not only with a big sale, but with free hot dogs and chili being served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, October 12. Everyone is invited to stop by the store and enjoy hot dogs with them.

A history of the store has been prepared as follows: John James Higginbotham and wife, Lucy moved to Dublin with 4 of their 12 children in 1880. At the time of his death in 1883, he owned an interest in a general mercantile business called Higginbothams & Sons.

John James' sons, J.M. Higginbotham and Bolivar

Higginbotham, opened their first store in DeLeon in 1881.

In 1917, the company was reorganized into Higginbotham Bros. & Co. J.M. was Vice-President and another brother, R.W. Higginbotham was President. The general office was located in Comanche in 1917, and remains there today.

R.W. Higginbotham moved to Dallas in the early 1900's, and went into the manufacturing of overalls and housedresses, that were sold in Higginbotham's stores.

Many families from our area have
See Higginbothams Page 8

Early Voting for General Election Begins Oct. 23

Early voting for the November 7, 2000 General Election will take place at three locations throughout Callahan County beginning Monday, October 23.

Early voting will begin Monday, October 23 at 8:00 a.m. at the polling locations in Baird at the County Courthouse Room #107, in Clyde at the Justice of the Peace office and in Cross Plains at the Justice of the Peace office.

Early voting will be held each business weekday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. through Friday, November 3.

The Tuesday, November 7, 2000 General Election will take place from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at seven precinct polling places in Callahan County. Those polling locations include:

- Precinct #1 Clyde Lions Club at FM 18 and Rusk Street.
- Precinct #2 Eula Lions Club at FM 603 South.
- Precinct #3 Baird Activity Center, at 228 Walnut.
- Precinct #4 Cross Plains Community Center at 9th & Beech.
- Precinct #5 Putnam Community Center at 120 West Travis.
- Precinct #6 Clyde Southside Baptist Church at FM 604 South.
- Precinct #7 Oplin Community Center at FM 2926 & FM 604 South.

Callahan County registered voters can also vote by absentee ballot if they qualify.

Who Can Absentee Vote in Texas? To vote early by mail, a voter must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Have a sickness or disability which keeps him/her from getting to the polls; or
2. Be 65 years old or older on

election day; or

3. Expect to be absent from his/her county during early voting and on election day; or

4. Be confined in jail.
How Can I Acquire an Absentee Ballot?

Those wishing to vote early may apply to receive an early ballot by mail on or after the 60th day before an election. Voters can obtain application forms for voting by mail from the Office of the Secretary of State or from the county voting clerk. It is not necessary to use the preprinted application form, but any request for an early ballot by mail must:

- Be in writing;
- Be signed by the applicant (or by a witness if the applicant cannot sign);
- Include the applicant's name;
- Include the applicant's address of permanent residence;
- Include the address to which the ballot should be mailed;
- State the reason for voting early (NOTE: If the applicant's reason for voting early is expected absence from his/her county, an out-of-county mailing address must be provided);
- Give the type of election and the election date; and in a primary election, indicate which party's ballot is being requested.

How Do I Return the Absentee Ballot and What is the Deadline?

In order to be counted, an early ballot must be received by the clerk before 7:00 p.m. on election day. ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE MAILED. DO NOT HAND CARRY. ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 31, 2000.

Regional conference opportunity for community leaders

A regional conference for community leaders is set for October 18 at the Abilene Civic Center. Sponsored by Texas Midwest Community Network, the annual conference is titled, "Regionalism — Pulling Together" and is open to city, chamber of commerce and economic development leaders throughout the region.

The annual conference is an opportunity for community leaders and interested citizens in the region to find solutions to many problems and concerns of rural towns. Seminars will offer information in the areas of community based planning, alternate sources of finding and spec buildings for economic development, planning for water needs, tourism ideas and chamber of commerce tips for success.

In addition to seminars, the conference offers a luncheon, silent auction, information expo, entertainment and ample time to network with community leaders from neighboring towns. Colonel James Long, Vice Commander, Dyess AFB is the luncheon keynote speaker.

City officials, chamber of commerce volunteers and economic development boards are encouraged to take advantage of the an-

nual regional conference. Registration is \$30 and includes all activities. Make reservations by calling the TMCN Office 915-676-0329. Conference partners are AEP-West Texas Utilities, Abilene Regional Medical Center, Hendrick Health System, Southwestern Bell, TXU Electric & Gas and West Central Texas Workforce Development Board.

Texas Midwest Community Network, formed in 1994, is a regional organization for enhancing quality of life through economic development, tourism promotion, legislative awareness and regional education. The organization represents 42 communities in the Abilene trade area. Member cities

See Conference Page 8



WINNER OF WATT MATTHEW AWARD — Helen Groves

Winner Named for Watt Matthew Cowboy Days Spanish Gourd Award

The Albany Chamber of Commerce announced that the winner of the 2000 Spanish Gourd Award presented annually at Watt Matthews Cowboy Days is Helen Kleberg Groves. LL Governor, Rick Perry, Chairman of the Spanish Gourd Committee, informed Ms. Groves and the Albany Chamber of the selection which will be formally presented at Watt Matthews Days activities on October 21.

Ms. Groves will be the fourth recipient of the coveted award given each year to an individual who typifies the life-style of the late beloved Watt R. Matthews of Lamshead Ranch at Albany. The award is symbolized by a silver replica of the Spanish Gourd Brand

which was one of Watt's favorites. Past winners include: John Justin, Bob Green and Dolph Briscoe.

Helen was raised on the famous King Ranch which her father Robert Kleberg, Jr. operated for 56 years. She has served on the Board of Directors of the King Ranch, established Silverbrook Farms in Virginia and Silverbrook Ranches in Texas, brought Santa Gertrudis cattle to the East Coast and contributed to the development of the American Quarter Horse.

Her six children were raised on King Ranch properties - Buck and Doe Run Valley Farms in Chester County, Pennsylvania where the family fox hunted, raised cattle and

See Groves Page 10

Cross Plains Blood Drive, October 12

The semi-annual Blood Drive to benefit the citizens of Cross Plains will be held Thursday, October 12, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Mobile Blood Bank will be located in the Food Plaza Parking Lot on Main Street.

Everyone is encouraged to donate blood. The number of persons who donate blood is credited to an account for Cross Plains. This account can be accessed if a citizen of Cross Plains or the surrounding area should need a blood transfusion.

Please mark this date on your calendar and remember to "Give Blood for All the Right Reasons". Call Dannes Turner at (254) 725-6141 for additional information.

Trail Ride Rescheduled for Saturday

Hey ya'll! On the account of the change in the weather, we had to cancel the trail ride, but we are planning on this Saturday morning since it's suppose to be in the 70's. Great riding weather!

You come on out and join in the fun. We'll have a great time! We are looking forward to seeing you there! You don't have to be a member of the Cross Plains Roping Club to come. Come one, come all!

Submitted by Druella Eppard



CHAMBER WELCOMES NEW BUSINESS — The Old Windmill Trading Post was honored with a ribbon cutting. Pictured are Julene Franke (front, from left), Ava Dodd (owner), Sandra Jones and Terry Thomas; Rolan Jones (back, from left), James Nichols and Ray Dodd.

Old Windmill Trading Post Now Open

The Old Windmill Trading Post, located west of the blinker light on Highway 36, was welcomed to the community by the Cross Plains Chamber of Commerce with a ribbon cutting ceremony last week.

Ava Dodd is the owner of the new business venture. Some interesting items available include picture water fountains; angel fountains, Mexican pictures; Marlo handbags (animal prints); Chimenea outdoor

fireplaces; silk flower arrangements; walking sticks (locally made); blankets; onyx; jewelry; and antiques.

Katrina Mireles was the winner of the Chimenea.

The Old Windmill Trading Post is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday thru Saturday; 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday; and closed Monday.

Ava invites everyone to come by and get acquainted. See all the unique items offered!

Associate Broker Joins Jones Real Estate

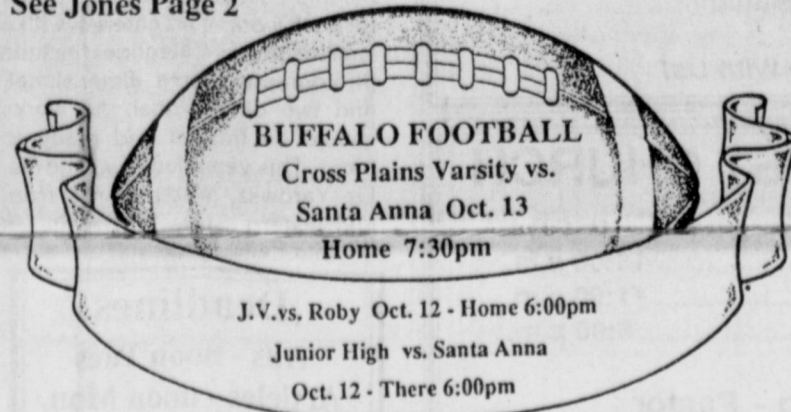
Jones Real Estate is proud to announce its association with ex-Cross Plains student, Bill Freeman. Bill was raised in the Pioneer area and graduated in 1953. Bill and wife, Billie, have two daughters, Kayla and Kami, and one boy, Kerry. The have five grandchildren, two girls and three boys.

After graduating from high school, Bill started in the oil field supply business in Cross Plains with McNeel Supply, owned by Pat McNeel and Pat, Jr.

After seven years in the oil field supply business, he entered the banking business for twenty-two

years and was on the board of directors of various banks for eighteen years.

See Jones Page 2



J.V. vs. Roby Oct. 12 - Home 6:00pm

Junior High vs. Santa Anna

Oct. 12 - There 6:00pm

CITIZENS STATE BANK
Cross Plains, Texas



Your Hometown Bank
Since 1931

Member FDIC

Presents:
"What's Inside"

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Colonial Oaks News	Page 3
Courthouse News	Page 2
County Roads	Page 12
Obituaries	Page 2
Sample Ballot	Page 10
Student Review	Page 4

Courthouse News

COUNTY COURT Roger Corn, presiding
Miscellaneous Filings
David M. Gonzales, Ct. I - evading arrest, Ct. II - assault.
Richard L. Willis, driving while license suspended, (DWLS).

Obituaries

Eddie Roy Grisham
Eddie Roy Grisham, 74, died Thursday, Oct. 5, 2000, at an Eastland hospital.
Services were held at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Edwards Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Shawn Brewer officiating, burial was in the Eastland City Cemetery.

Blanche Byrd Elected President for the Auxiliary of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts

The Sixtieth Annual State Meeting of District Directors of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts was held in Fort Worth on October 2, 3, 4, 2000. O.B. Byrd, Chairman of the Pecan Bayou Soil and Water Conservation District, was a delegate from Brown County to the annual meeting.

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW (USPS 138-660) DON TABOR, PUBLISHER VANDA CREECH, EDITOR CROSS PLAINS REVIEW



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Selected Scriptures

Concerning Your testimonies, I have known of old that you have founded them forever. - Psalm 119:152 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away. (Jesus) - St. Matthew 24:35

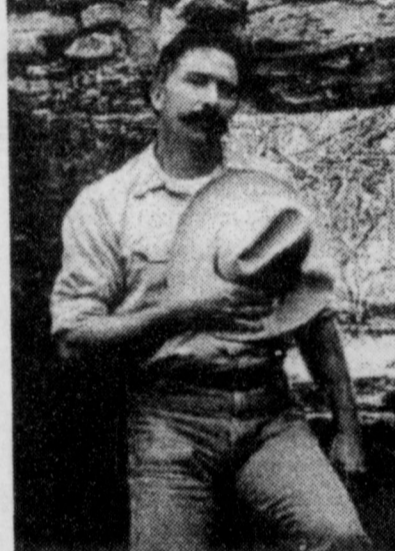
Paid Advertising-Irma Miller

County Judge Roger Corn Proclaims October Breast Cancer Awareness Month

An estimated 11,500 Texas Women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2000, and about 2,600 women will die with the disease. Nationally, breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women.

C.P. Library Invites You to an Evening With Mike Blakely

Mark Tuesday evening, October 24, on your calendar now for 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. The Cross Plains Public Library brings another in its series of "Meet the Author."



MIKE BLAKELY Plan to come and come early! There will be a crowd.

Big Country Art Association annual art competition at Grace Museum

Big Country Art Association announces its annual competition at The Grace Museum. Entries will be taken on Thursday November 16th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday November 18th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Deadlines Ads - noon Tues Articles - noon Mon.

COLEMAN LIVESTOCK AUCTION COMMISSION CO., INC. Family Owned & Operated Since 1961 Hwy. 84 North P.O. Box 875 Coleman, Texas 76834 915/625-4191

Man looks at outward appearance but the Lord looks within" FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Van Service Available - Call (254) 725-7694 N. Main (Hwy. 206) Cross Plains, Texas

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 10th & Main Cross Plains (254) 725-7629 9:45 a.m. Bible Study Opportunities For All Ages

CHURCH DIRECTORY

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 9TH & AVE D. CROSS PLAINS WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 A.M. BIBLE CLASS 10:30 A.M. REV. HENRY GRUBBS, PASTOR EVERYONE WELCOME

Living Water Ministries Fellowship Full Gospel—Non-Denominational—Apostolic Restoring And Equipping The Saints Colleen Anderson Sunday Morning 10:00 a.m. Maxey Evans Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m. Youth Pastors - James & Glenda Tidwell For Information Call (254) 725-6800 1-800-252-3629

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Evening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time 7:00 p.m. Joe Coppinger, Pastor (254) 725-7730 Church (254) 725-6266 Friendly Church Bible Teaching

ROWDEN BAPTIST CHURCH Hwy. 36 at Rowden - 12 mi. west of Cross Plains SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 a.m. Pastor: Carl Mauldin Come Worship With Us!

NIMROD BAPTIST CHURCH Sponsor: Pioneer Baptist Church Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Bill Armstrong - Pastor

Deadlines Ads - noon Tues Articles - noon Mon.

Cross Country Results For Oct. 7th ACU Cross Country Classic

Cross Plains had 32 students competing in cold & wet weather at ACU.
Varsity Boys Division (3 miles "A" "AA")

*14th	Nick Dimitri	18:47.12
22nd	Josh Hopkins	19:13.23
23rd	Andy Bennett	19:14.27
34th	Kyle Wilson	19:40.58
35th	Ryan Mack	19:41.12
50th	Randy Duncan	20:23.85

91 Runners
Cross Plains won 5th place 104 points
* denotes those who received medals

Varsity Girls (3200 meter "A")

*6th	Christin Hyles	14:57.60
*13th	Shena Thomas	15:30.73
24th	Jennifer Turner	15:56.01
29th	Danielle Marion	16:07.98
38th	Jennifer Young	16:35.30
40th	Amanda Kitchens	16:52.38
47th	Tessa Wyatt	17:09.69
50th	Angela Swift	17:15.95
58th	Melanie Chesshir	18:15.13
65th	Judy Mauricio	21:42.59

65 Runners
Cross Plains won 2nd place 89 points
* denotes those who received medals

Junior High Boys (3200 meter)

23rd	Kyle Kitchens	14:20.54
24th	Elias Bennett	14:21.14
28th	River Dillard	14:31.51
29th	Thomas Dimitri	14:35.82
37th	Dusty Cooper	15:09.94
62nd	Aaron Phillips	16:34.22
86th	Garrett Stephens	20:44.26

89 Runners
Cross Plains won 4th place 103 points

Junior High Girls (1600 meter)

47th	Katie Mack	7:52.49
63rd	Kali Phillips	8:09.19
74th	Kelsee Richards	8:22.33
83rd	Naomi Isbell	8:41.17
84th	Stephanie Edington	8:41.61
88th	Jesse Norris	8:47.30
93rd	Nicole Clark	8:51.45
98th	Amber Duran	9:03.24
107th	Dayna Bennett	9:35.18

114 Runners
Cross Plains won 11th place 288 points

**Next meet Big Country Jamboree on Saturday, October 14, 9:00 a.m. at Seabee Park.

Junior Varsity Loses First Game of Season

By TERESA KOENIG

The Junior Varsity team dropped their first loss to Roby last Thursday on the Lions' field. Captains were Ryan Mack, Cole Koenig and Casey Pack.

Bufs lost the coin toss and kicked to the Lions, who got off to an early start with 6 points. When the Lions kicked off to the Bufs, Brandon Jones ran for 25 yards. Jose Mauricio and Jordan Durant made some moves for the offense before giving the ball over on downs. The Lions fumbled and the Buff recovered. Klay Wilson rushed for 25 yards to get the offensive momentum going. However, they Bufs had to give the ball over and Chris Harris punted. The score at the end of the 1st quarter was 13-0 Roby.

Harris carried the ball to the 35 yard line for the Bufs on the kick off. Offensive action included a couple of quarterback keepers from Ryan Mack and carries from Harris, Mauricio and Durant. Two small passes completed to Durant and Dickson moved the ball. Bufs called a time out with 1:31 remaining in the half. In a last ditch effort, a pass from Mack to Pack completed the only touchdown of

the evening.

In the second half Pack carried the ball to the 45 yard line and Durant got the 1st down. A couple of runs from Durant and a keeper from Mack transpired before turning the ball over to the Lions on downs. The Lions fumbled and Kevin Scott recovered for the Bufs, but once again had to punt. The ball went back and forth throughout the 3rd quarter.

The Bufs dominated the 4th quarter, getting within 2 yards of the endzone with a 35 yard pass to Dickson and carries from Mauricio, Durant and Harris. They got within yards of the goal line, but just couldn't score. The game ended 13-6 Lions.

Defense Leaders - (Tackles) Koenig 10; Durant 7; Wilson 7; Scott 4; Duncan 4; Wooten 2; Gardner 2; Dickson 1; Pack 1; Harris 1

Assists - Duncan 5; Pack 3; Wooten 3; Koenig 2; Mauricio 2; Scott 1; Bennett 1; Wilson 1; Durant 1; Phillips 1

Sacks - Duncan 1
Offense Yardage - Durant 10 for 58; Mack 2 for 4; Dickson 3 for 55; Harris 4 for 39; Wilson 6 for 14; Pack 1 for 20.

Win a Trip to Washington D.C.

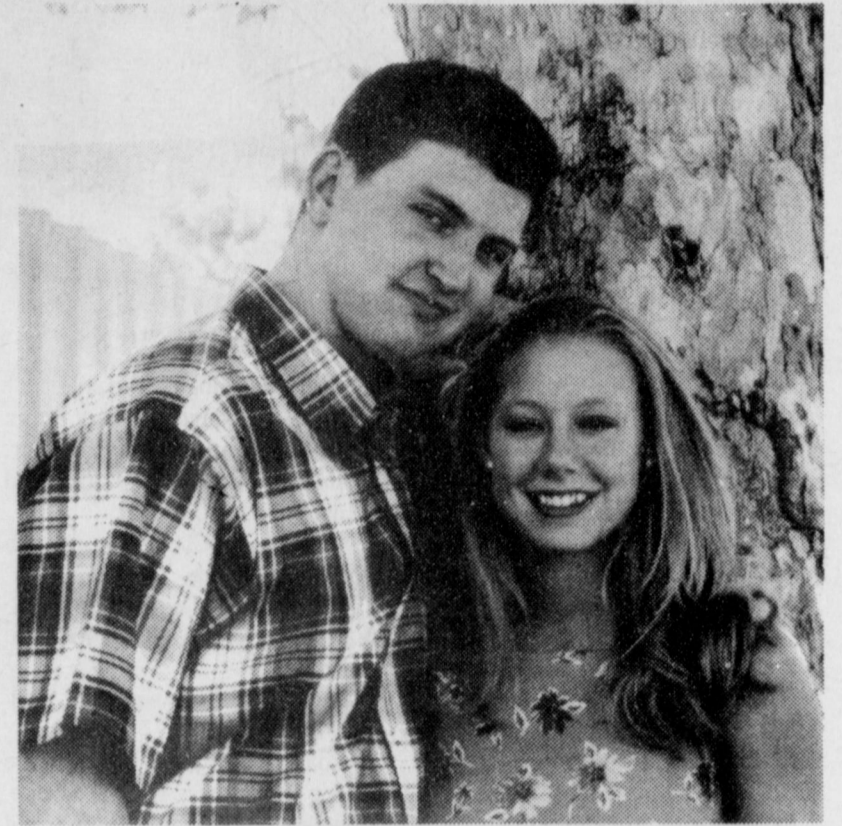
Taylor Electric Cooperative would like to invite all are high school students to participate in our Youth Tour contest. You will be required to give a 5 to 8 minute speech on the topic chosen for the contest. The contest date is Tuesday, October 24th at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at our office in Merkel. Two winners and a runner-up will be selected by the judges and the winners will go on a

12 day all expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. next summer. You will travel to our nation's capitol with hundreds of other Youth Tour winners from across the state. You will have a chance to visit numerous historical sites, plus make many new friends. This is a wonderful and fun opportunity, so come join for our Youth Tour contest. Please call Linda Jones at 1-800-992-0086 for more information.

1999/2000 Personalities



MR. & MISS C.P.H.S., 1ST RUNNER-UP MOST BEAUTIFUL & MOST HANDSOME, MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED — Brandi Richey and Coby Richards



1ST RUNNER-UP MR. & MISS C.P.H.S. AND MOST HANDSOME AND MOST BEAUTIFUL — Jaden Winfrey and Vanessa Webb



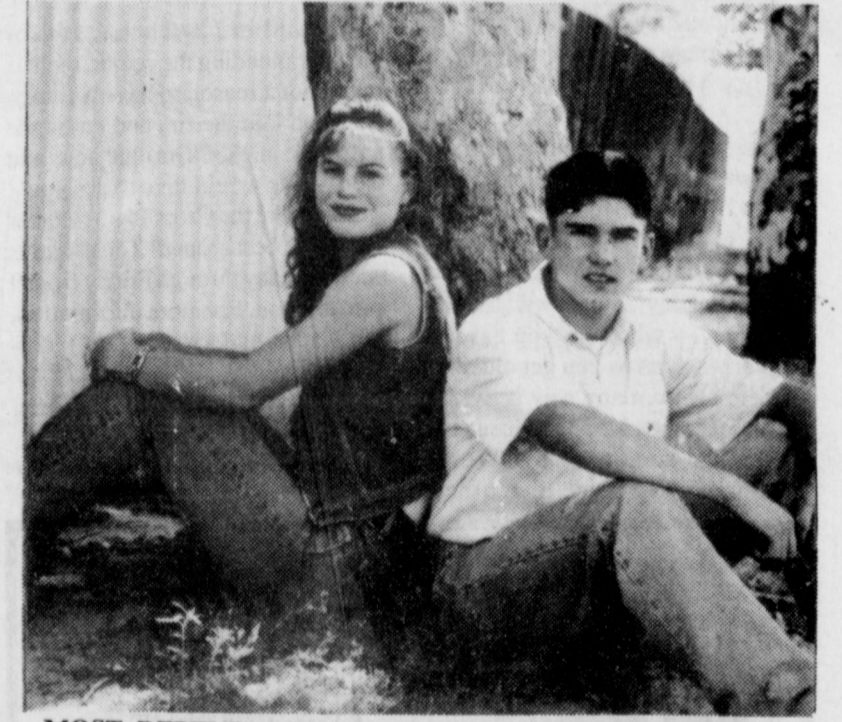
2ND RUNNER-UP MR. & MISS C.P.H.S. — Jody Gosnell and Mary Jo Nickerson



2ND RUNNER-UP MOST BEAUTIFUL AND MOST HANDSOME — Tessa Wyatt and Jody Pancake



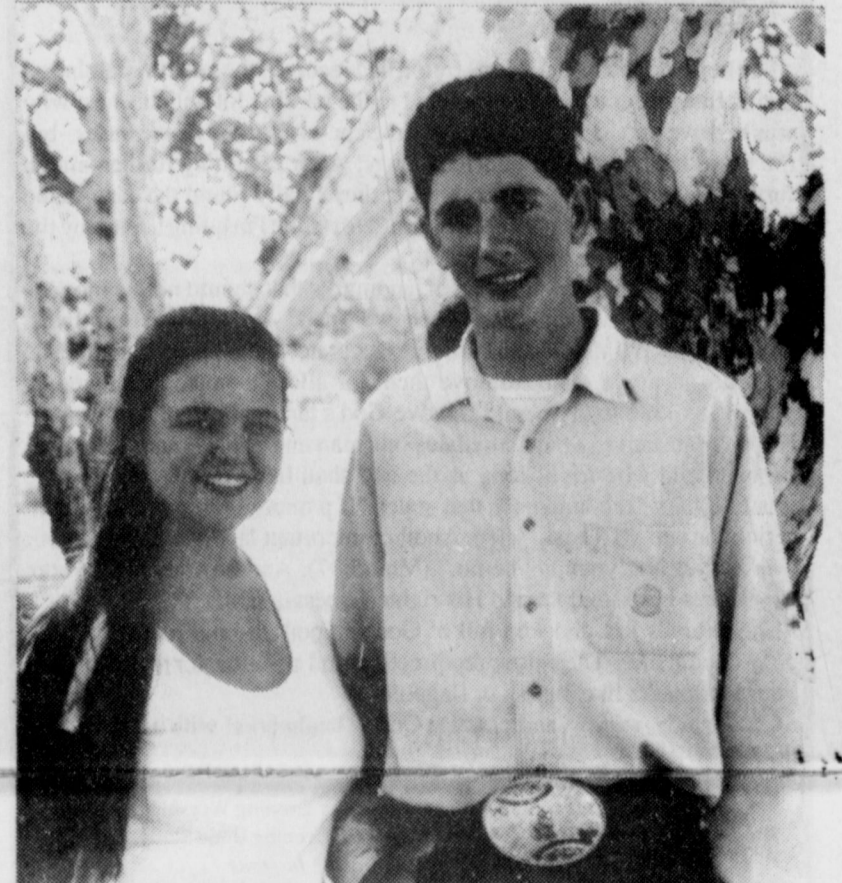
MOST FRIENDLY & MOST SPIRITED — Candice Francy and John Peters



MOST DEPENDABLE — Brandi Richey and Nicholas Dimitri



MOST FLIRTY — Clint Bailey and Candice Bailey



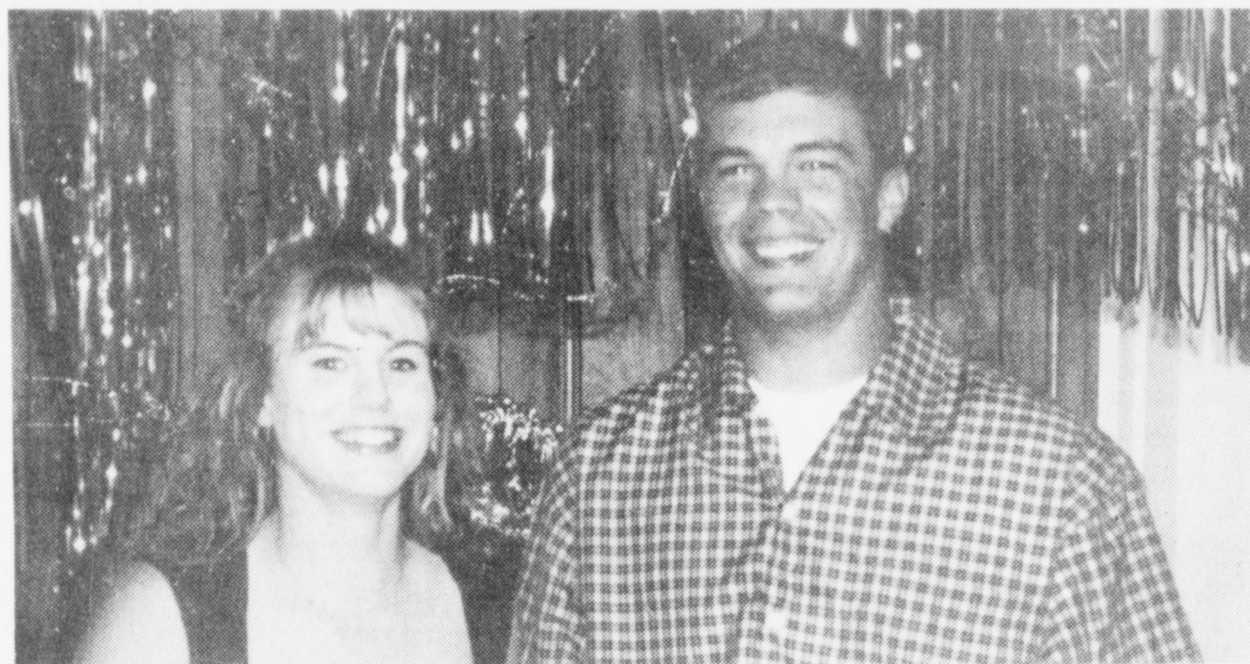
MOST TALKATIVE — Marian Hix and John Peters



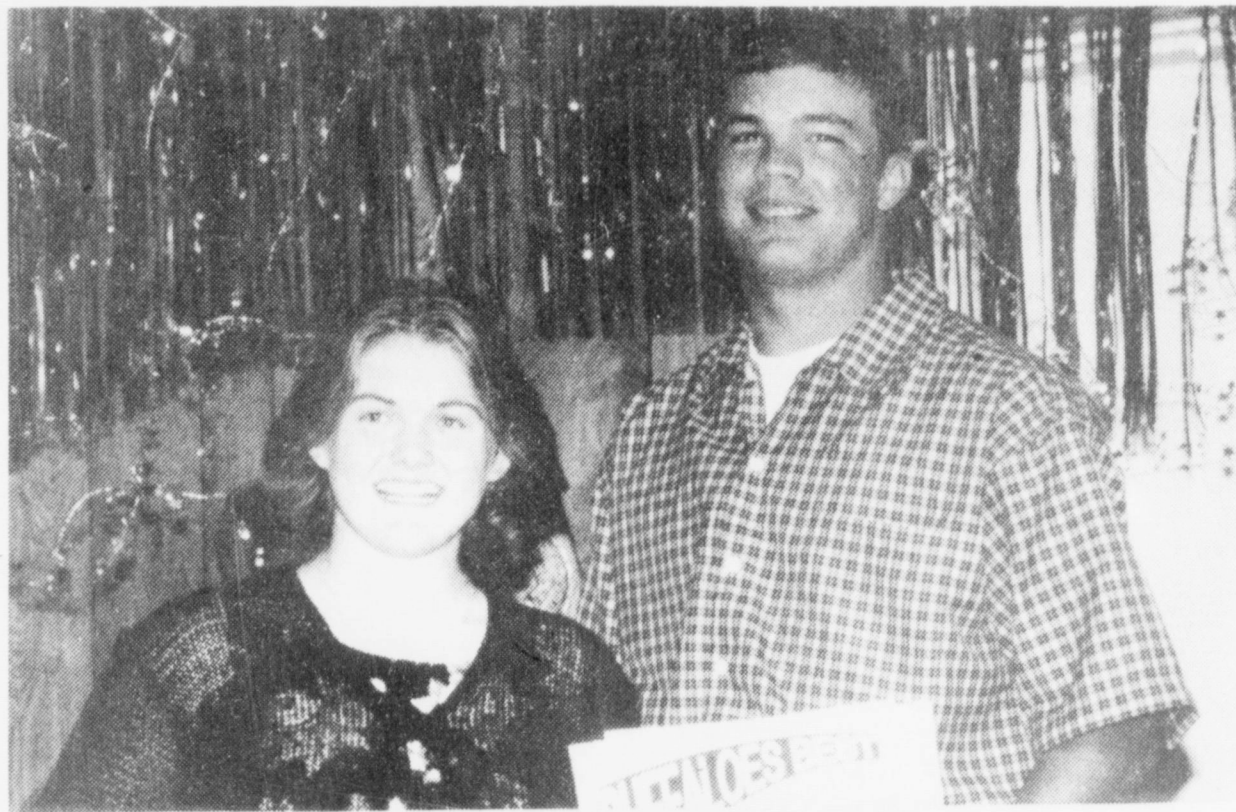
MOST PREPPY — Seth Potter and Shena Thomas

1999/2000 Athletic Awards

5-Cross Plains Review October 12, 2000



ATHLETES OF THE YEAR & BUFFALO ACADEMIC AWARD IN MEMORY OF SCOTT CHESHER — Brandi Richey and Coby Richards



BUFFALO BEST TENNIS — Sarah Nixon and Coby Richards



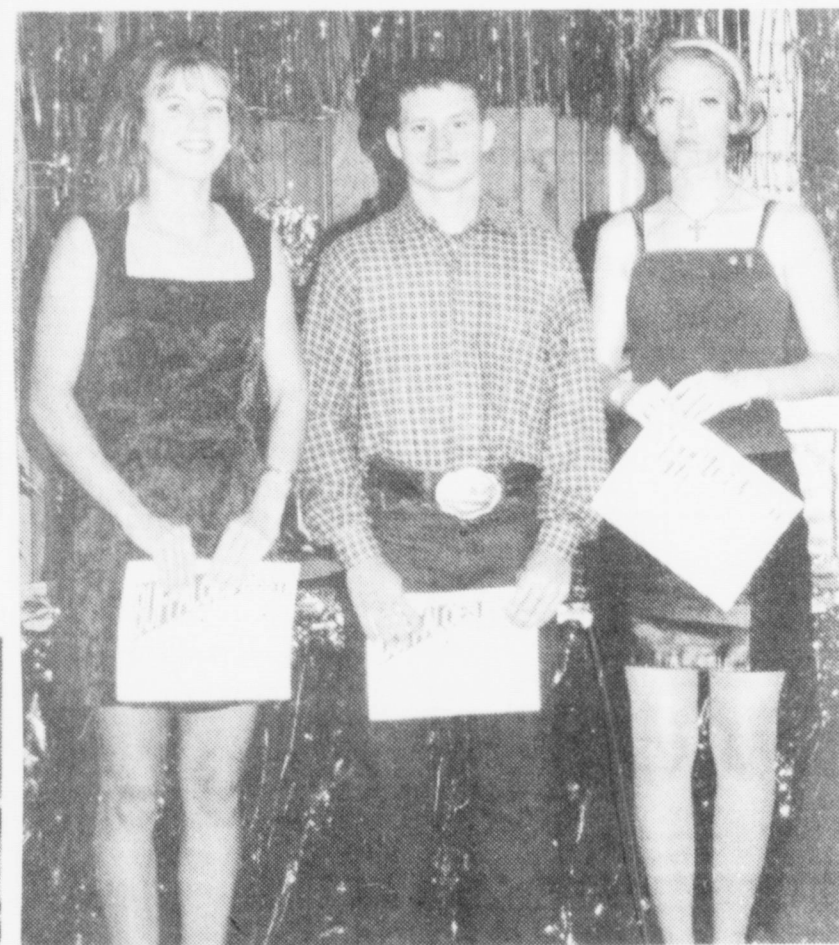
GIRLS BASKETBALL AWARDS — Jennifer Turner-MVP (from left), Brandi Richey-Defensive Player and Candice Francy-Offensive Player



BUFFALO BEST TRACK — Chris Kitchens, Brandi Richey, Candice Francy and Brandon Mahler



110% AWARD IN MEMORY OF BILLY BROWN — T.J. Harris (from left), Nick Dimitri and Shena Thomas



BUFFALO BEST CROSS COUNTRY — Brandi Richey (from left), Josh Hopkins and Brittany Bennett



FOOTBALL AWARDS — Coby Richards- MVP (from left), Jaden Winfrey-Defensive Player, Chris Kitchens-Offensive Player and Tony Beggs-Defensive Player.

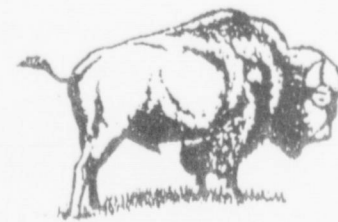


BUFFALO BEST GOLF — Toni Mae Wyatt and James Ross

Attention Cross Plains Athletic Booster Club

Cross Plains Athletic Booster Club meets every Monday night in the gym foyer at 6:00 p.m. The Booster Club needs your support for every sport. We encourage everyone to come and participate.

There are 30 Homecoming caps left for \$10.00 each and regular Booster Club caps are now \$7.50. Contact Greg Turner at (254) 725-7755 or Dannes Turner at Citizens State Bank or Debbie Reed at Higginbothams if you would like to purchase a cap.

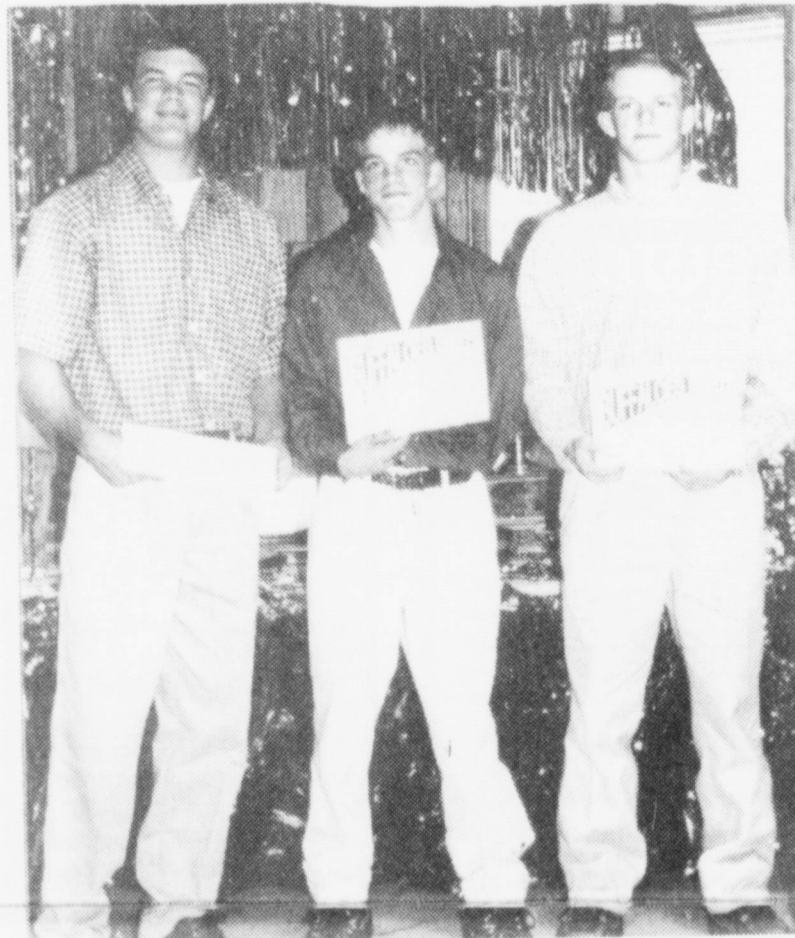


October 16- October 20
BREAKFAST

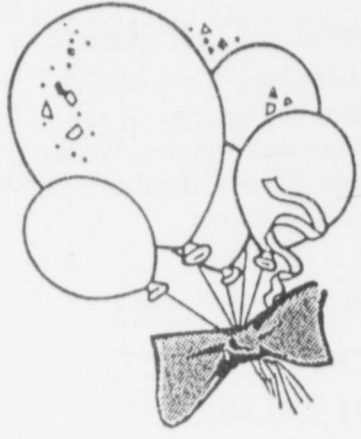
- MONDAY--Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Biscuit, Assorted Juice
- TUESDAY--Cream of Wheat, Toast, Assorted Juice
- WEDNESDAY--Pancake, Sausage, Assorted Juice
- THURSDAY--Cereal, Toast, Assorted Juice
- FRIDAY--Cinnamon Rolls, Assorted Juice

LUNCH

- MONDAY--Chili Beans, Crackers, Salad, Mixed Fruit
- TUESDAY--Chicken Strips, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Honey
- WEDNESDAY--BBQ on Bun, Pinto Beans, Okra, Cobbler
- THURSDAY--Pizza, Salad, Corn, Rosy Applesauce
- FRIDAY--Hamburger, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Fries, Cookie



BOYS BASKETBALL — Coby Richards-Defensive Player (from left), Jody Pancake-MVP and Joseph Dillard-Offensive Player. Joseph Dillard also received the Charles Barnard/Jesse Sibley Award

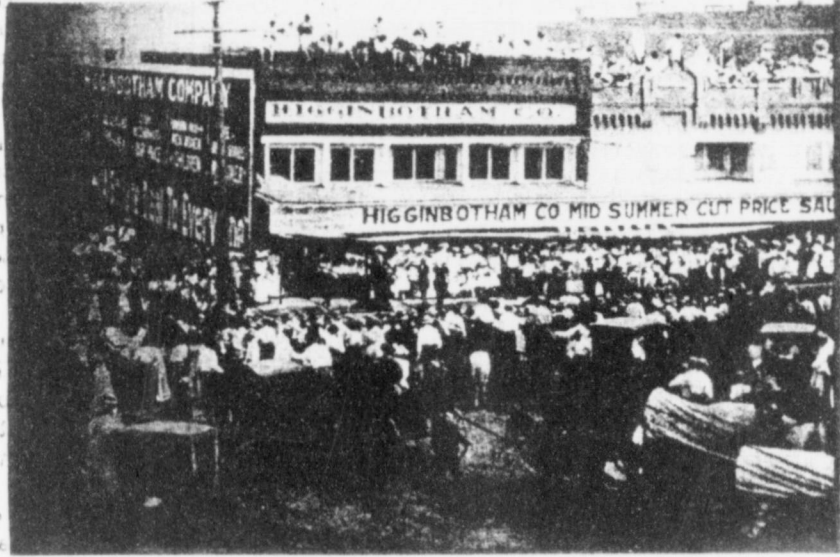


Higginbotham's

1881-2000

FOUNDERS DAY SALE

OCTOBER 12, 13, & 14



Higginbotham's circa 1898

FREE
POPCORN
DOOR PRIZES
GIVE-AWAYS

FOUNDERS



Rufus Wilson Higginbotham Sr.



Joseph Martin Higginbotham Sr.

3 Day Sale

2X4 Studs
\$1.89
picked up price

Do it Best
Quality Paints.

Low Low Prices



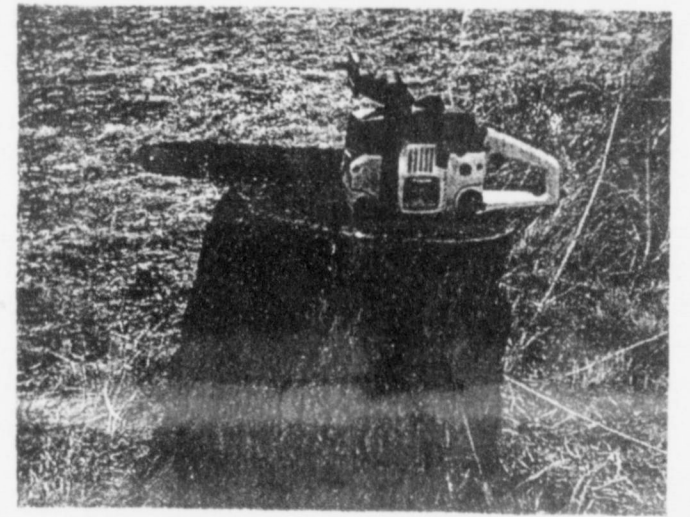
Interior latex
flat wall
\$9.81



Interior latex
semi-gloss
\$11.81

*Changing to meet the
needs of our customers.*

DEWALT
High Performance Industrial Tools



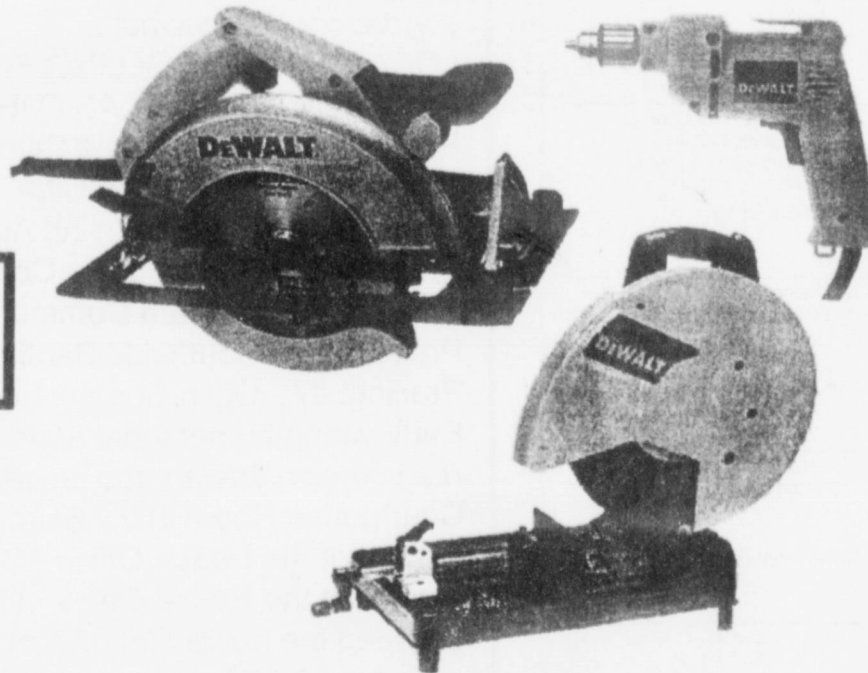
Poulan Gas Chain Saw

\$89.95

model#1950

See your local
Higginbotham's
for in store specials

Check out our Farm & Ranch Supplies



TXI
Higginbotham's
Concrete Mix
80 lb bag
\$1.99
picked up price

9-Cross Plains Review October 12, 2000

HBC

Big Tin Barn/Higginbotham's

12x12
Ceramic Floor Tile
.79

801 N Main
Cross Plains, TX
254-725-6151



Higginbotham's 2000

County business can apply for state tax breaks

AUSTIN—Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander today released a list of 224 counties where businesses can apply for hundreds of millions of dollars in state tax breaks next year.

"Each year I review the economic health of each county and I am pleased to announce this important, new list of counties eligible for these tax breaks," Comptroller Rylander said.

Comptroller Rylander praised the sponsors who crafted the law in 1999—Senators Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, David Sibley, R-Waco, Royce West, D-Dallas, and Representatives Brian McCall, R-Plano, and Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville. She also hailed the work of Senators Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, Eliot Shapleigh, D-El Paso and Representative Yvonne Davis, D-Dallas.

"Without the exceptional efforts of these individuals, this monumental tax break program would never have seen the light of day," she said.

The franchise tax credits include a research credit, a job creation credit and an investment credit.

"All three tax credits are real and businesses large and small will benefit," Comptroller Rylander said. "The total dollar amount of the tax breaks will depend on how many businesses take advantage of this tremendous tax credit program."

"My vision for the 21st Century is paychecks and jobs for Texans; limited government and unlimited opportunity" she said. "These credits fit with my vision for Texas."

Research Credit
The research credit is available to firms that perform qualified research in Texas. It is based on the firm's annual increase in research activities during the prior year.

Four percent of qualified research expenses will be credited for tax reports due through the end of 2001. That credit will increase to five percent for tax reports due in 2002 and after.

Job Creation Credit
Companies that create jobs in selected counties may qualify for a job credit equal to 25 percent of the wages paid to new hires in their first year of employment.

To qualify, a corporation must create at least 10 jobs, pay at least 110 percent of the county's average weekly wage, pay health benefits and be engaged in manufacturing, warehousing, wholesale distribution, computer services or research.

The credit is limited to 50 percent of the firm's tax liability in the year that credits are claimed. Unclaimed credits may be carried over for a maximum of five years.

Investment Credit
Corporations that invest at least \$500,000 in machinery and equipment can qualify for a franchise tax credit equal to 7.5 percent of that investment.

This credit, too, is limited to 50 percent of the firm's tax liability.

The Strategic Investment Area (SIA) is a collection of counties and sub-county areas where job creation, investment and research activities by businesses can lead to franchise tax credits. The SIA is determined each September by the Comptroller's Office, and the determination is effective for business activity in the following calendar year.

Comptroller Rylander determined that of the state's 254 total counties, 224 fall wholly or partially in the state SIA for calendar year 2001.

Of those counties, 114 qualify for full-purpose SIA designation based on their relative unemployment rate and per-capita income.

This designation will permit firms engaged in manufacturing, warehousing, wholesale distribution, computer services or research to apply for job creation and investment credits, as well as the research credit bonus.

Another group of 106 counties, including Callahan County, qualify only for the limited-purpose SIA designation based on their population. Corporations engaged in agricultural processing in these counties can apply for the job creation and investment credits.

"Businesses should be eager to take advantage of this generous tax credit plan which will create good-paying jobs for hardworking Texans," Comptroller Rylander said.

Rep. Stenholm's Ag Talk

By Charlie Stenholm
October 6, 2000
Ag Spending Bill Includes
Emergency Rural Community
Water Assistance

Members of the House and Senate have completed action on an agriculture spending bill for the coming year, preparing the way for a final vote on this legislation in the House sometime next week.

This legislation, which funds U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the nation's agriculture programs, includes \$3.5 billion in emergency relief funds for producers.

Water relief remains first and foremost in the minds of many folks in our area. As this legislation worked its way through the House, I asked for at least \$100 million in grants and loans to help meet the nation's water needs. This program will be administered through USDA's Rural Development office.

There is no doubt how critical such assistance is right now. There are at least 28 rural communities in Texas that have water systems that are inadequate or incapable of meeting the current and future water needs of their residents.

Texas currently has 129 communities that have water restrictions on their residents due to the drought. There are 95 counties in Texas that have been declared disaster areas, including 13 in our 17th Congressional District. Virtually all of the remaining 19 counties of our District are eligible for assistance.

I worked hard to get this funding included in the final bill and I would like to commend the county leaders for their leadership and work on this critical issue.

High temperatures continue, and it doesn't appear that "mother nature" is going to grant relief any time soon. Several inches of rain would accomplish much more in the short-run than any legislation could do.

But regardless of the weather forecast, we need to be looking at long-term solutions to our water problems, and I am hoping that emergency funds this year will help get that ball rolling.

In addition to \$100 million for Water and Waste grants and loans, the legislation includes the following: \$80 million for the Emergency Conservation Program; \$75 mil-

lion for Community Facilities grants and loans \$473 million for dairy assistance \$490 million for livestock assistance \$10 million for the livestock indemnity program; \$20 million for wool and mohair and \$1.6 billion crop loss quality loss disaster assistance.

The legislation takes a modest step toward lifting the ban on food and medicine exports to Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea and Sudan. More clearly remains to be done in this area.

USDA to issue CRP Payments
Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman has announced that payments of more than \$1.4 billion are being processed to eligible producers under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

This program will pay an average of \$4,833 per farm on over 290,000 farms. The CRP is a voluntary program in which producers let sensitive crop land sit idle for 10 to 15 years.

In order to qualify, the enrolled land must be highly erodible, contribute to a serious water quality problem, or provide substantial environmental benefits if devoted to certain specific conservation uses.

The state of Texas currently has 4 million acres of land enrolled under CRP out of a national total of 31 million acres.

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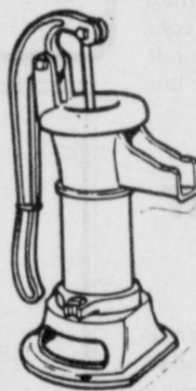
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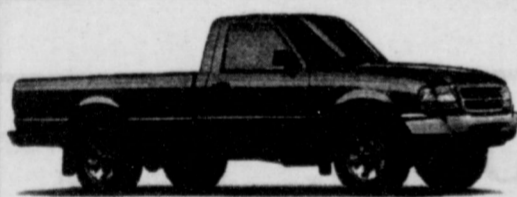


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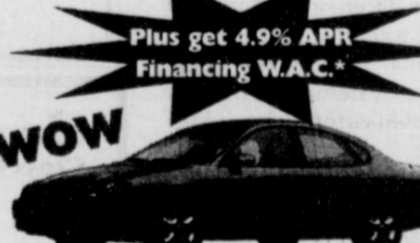
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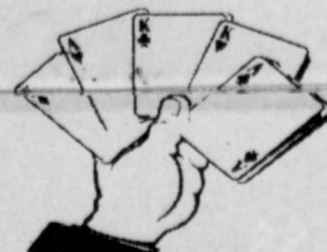
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COUNTY ROADS by Ginny Greene

Chicken Stories, Part I Cold chicken...

The hen kept to her nest, even as the weather turned suddenly cold. The north wind prowled the land with its lips pursed, searching for gaps and crevices to whistle through. The wind perfected its howling and hissing after long hours of practice, finding every unpatched crack and knothole.

The hen sat stoic, refusing to leave her eggs unattended. I carried pails of hot water from the house to break up the frozen water in their trough. All the other hens came running and dipped their beaks into the warm water, tilting their heads up to let the water trickle down their throats. But the little hen wouldn't budge from her nest for any temptation — not her favorite grain, or a sip of warm water.

The kids and I had noticed the little Banty coming on broody. For more than a week we had left her eggs in the nest while we gathered the others.

A Banty is the most wonderful little mother. Most of the other breeds and crossbreeds are refined for production. The broodiness is bred out of them so they'll keep laying. But a Banty hen can barely be prodded off her nest when she decides it's time to set a clutch of eggs. She'll take only tidbits of sustenance, then skitter back to the nest. Whether she herself is cold or not, the damp body heat beneath her is the exact environment needed for the viability of her eggs.

The shrieking north wind sent a chill down my spine. Its blustery

blasts pierced the gaps of the Banty's corner nest, ruffling her feathers. The only cackle was the wind, laughing at her misery.

In great sympathy, I went round back of the chicken house and patched the holes for her. Spreading flat a large cardboard box for insulation, I quietly tacked it to the back wall and around the corner. It was sufficient to cut off the brutal attack. The wind huffed its disgust and went to play nasty somewhere else.

My efforts pleased me, and I left the little hen to happily set her eggs till a hopefully warmer day when baby chicks would be mature enough to peck their way into the sunlight.

Next morning, though, I found she had abandoned that nest. Farther along the wall was a new dent in the hay. She had scratched out another nest, more to her liking, and in it was one fresh egg. Nothing could entice her to return to the abandoned clutch of eggs.

Blowing meanly across the new nest was a cold shaft of wind. It's tone changed when I came around the corner. I just know it was scolding me.

Many lessons like this have taught me how much learning and serving are cloaked in the words "have dominion." What do I know? I was just trying to help. And what would a creature of absolutely no brain have to teach me?

I didn't know the little Banty hen and the North Wind were in cahoots together. Tough as it may have been for her, she knew a cold draft of moving air is better for her maternity room than a warm but stagnant corner nest.

© Ginny Greene 2000

White-tailed deer seminar set for October 24th

The recent cooler temperatures have turned many Big Country residents thoughts to the upcoming white-tailed deer season which opens for rifles November 4. Deer are an important component of renewable natural resources in Texas. The white-tailed deer is the major game species, measured by hunter participation and money spent on the sport. In recent years, hunters have harvested more than 450,000 head each year. Perhaps no wildlife species has more universal appeal than the white-tailed deer.

Many people are interested in deer - ranchers, rural landowners, farmers, nature lovers, gardeners and even suburban homeowners. But their perspectives are not the same. Nature lovers like to see many animals that are gentle and easy to observe. Hunters want hunting opportunities, primarily for bucks. Farmers and gardeners may just wish that the deer would feed on something besides their crops. Ranchers may view deer as potential sources of revenue.

Healthy deer herds have several common attributes such as big antlers, prime body condition, productive does, good fawn survival, rapid growth, and early maturity of young.

To address a few of the above topics and help local enthusiasts prepare for the approaching season, the Callahan County Extension Service has scheduled a White-Tailed Deer Seminar for Tuesday, October 24, 2000. The seminar will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Baird Activity Center located at 208 Walnut in Baird, Texas. There is a \$2.00 admission that automatically qualifies participants for a chance at an 200# automatic deer feeder to be given away at the end of the program. There will be several other door prizes.

Steve Jester, of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department will be on hand to discuss white-tailed deer biology, census techniques and harvest strategies. Vance Wallace, local Game Warden, will discuss current legal aspects for hunters. Kent Mills, with Ezell Key Feeds, will discuss nutritional requirements of deer, compare feed supplements, and discuss different feeding concepts used with white-tailed deer. Greg Simons, professional guide with Wildlife Systems, will discuss hunting strategies through a guides perspective.

Regardless of your level of interest in white-tailed deer, this program has something for you. You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn more about the most popular big game animal in Texas. For further information on the program contact the Callahan County Extension office at (915) 854-1518.

Sincerely,
Robert Pritz
County Extension Agent

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article was referred to as "another one of Coach Mac's (McConal) success" stories. Randy Stephenson graduated from Cross Plains High School in 1993 and from the Art Institute in Dallas in 1995. After working for SportsTown and Oshman's Super Store, he opened STAR Tennis on July 1 of this year. This article appeared in the Fall Advertising Supplement to the *Dallas Morning News*. Shortly before its publication, Randy was contacted by the new Lakes Tennis Academy in Frisco to do contract stringing and to be their on-site stringer during their pro-am tournaments. **Vanda Anderson-Creech**

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