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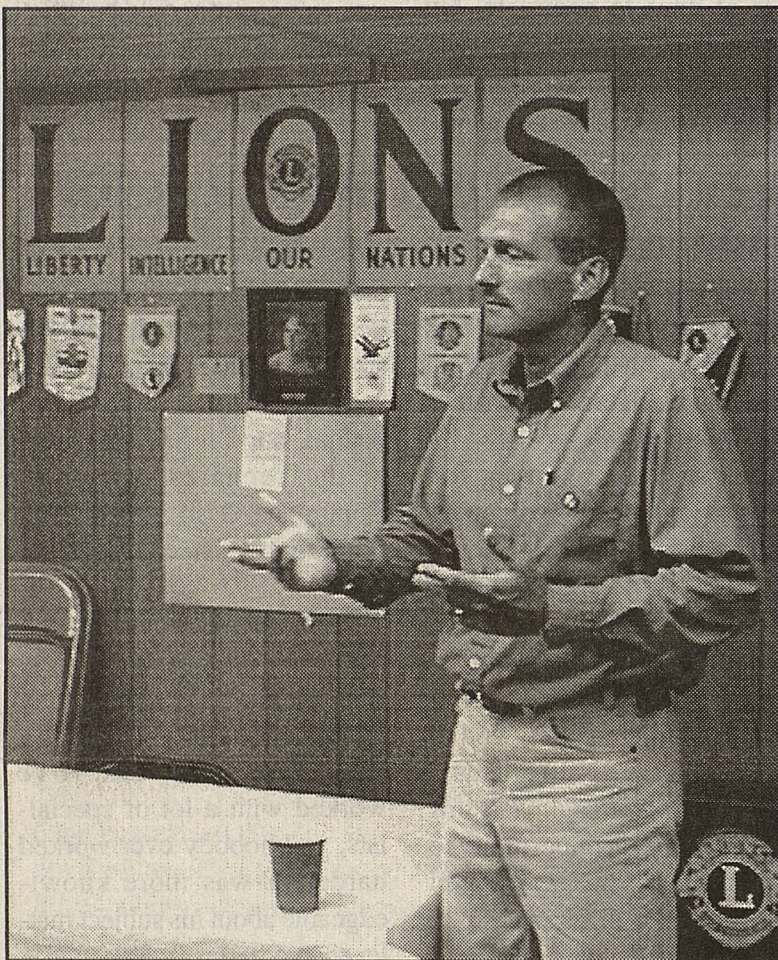
Cowboy Country News

Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume V1, Issue 34, MAY 10, 2000



Lions hear update on Girlstown



Dan Adams explaining operation of Girlstown, USA

Plains Lions Club members last Thursday heard Dan Adams, Administrator of Girls Town USA describe the ongoing success of the home for girls from troubled backgrounds located near Sundown and Whiteface.

Adams said Girls Town is licensed as a basic care facility for teen girls aged 13 to 18. Currently 54 girls call the facility home, and attend public schools at Whiteface. The operation is unique in its funding. The Girls Town operation is one of five entities stemming from the original Cal Farley Boys Ranch, all organizations operating on private donations and an endowment worth some \$400 million. The current Girls Town budget is \$2.5 million, with another budgeted half million dollars for improvements and additions. Adams said a new housing unit at the operation will be completed in 2000, the home for an additional 12 girls. A new Chapel is scheduled for opening in 2001.

Adams said girls now are accepted at the home mainly from families living in this general area of Texas and New Mexico. "The closer their families are, the more likely it is for the girls to continue to have some contact with family members. Virtually all the enrolled girls are from homes with serious social problems."

Adams said the new, incoming girls usually have little or no self esteem, and most suffer from the "Whipped Puppy" syndrome... they would prefer to be at home, longing for conditions which simply don't exist within their family. Some girls need more supervision than others, and discipline in their new environment is necessarily strict. Adams said in the past, girls running away from the facility was all too common, with most similar homes for either boys or girls averaging around two runaways per month. He said in the last eight months, none of the Girls Town residents had attempted to flee.

A number of housing units on the Girls Town campus house the youngsters. Both husband and wife teams and shift workers oversee activities of the girls in the housing units. Adams said the girls attending Whiteface schools take part in the same activities as all the other students including all girls sports, and UIL activities. Three Girls Town students performed in the one act play Whiteface performed in Austin.

During their senior year, the girls engage in activities out of the classroom which will help them become self reliant and self supporting. Many find part time jobs, learn to operate vehicles and other skills necessary when they leave the home for the real world.

The Plains Lions annually donate money directly to the girls for personal clothing during the Christmas season.

Boot Camp tour earns suspended sentence

In a District Court jury trial May 1, presided over by Judge Kelly G. Moore, Vidal Zarate Garcia received a suspended sentence of five years for a burglary of a habitation cause. The defendant had successfully completed a term in the Texas Boot Camp Program. He will be under community supervision five years, must pay \$296 court costs, a fine of \$1,000 and \$500 attorney fees. He must also perform 240 hours community service, and attend weekly AA meetings. He was represented by Attorney Warren New, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Vacation Time For CCN!
We are taking a little time off, and will NOT print the MAY 31 issue of CCN

47th Annual Rodeo Queen Candidates



The three local organizations which make up the Plains Rodeo Association have announced their choices for this years annual Rodeo Queen Candidates. Shown left to right above are Allison Butler, a PHS sophomore representing the Chamber of Commerce. She is the daughter of Bill and Daina Butler. Candace Bowers, a senior, will represent the local Roping Club. She is the daughter of Tim and Donna Bowers. Elizabeth Clanahan, also a sophomore, represents the Plains Lions Club. She is the daughter of N.C. and Beth Clanahan.

The girls will soon be working hard selling tickets, with each ticket representing a vote for

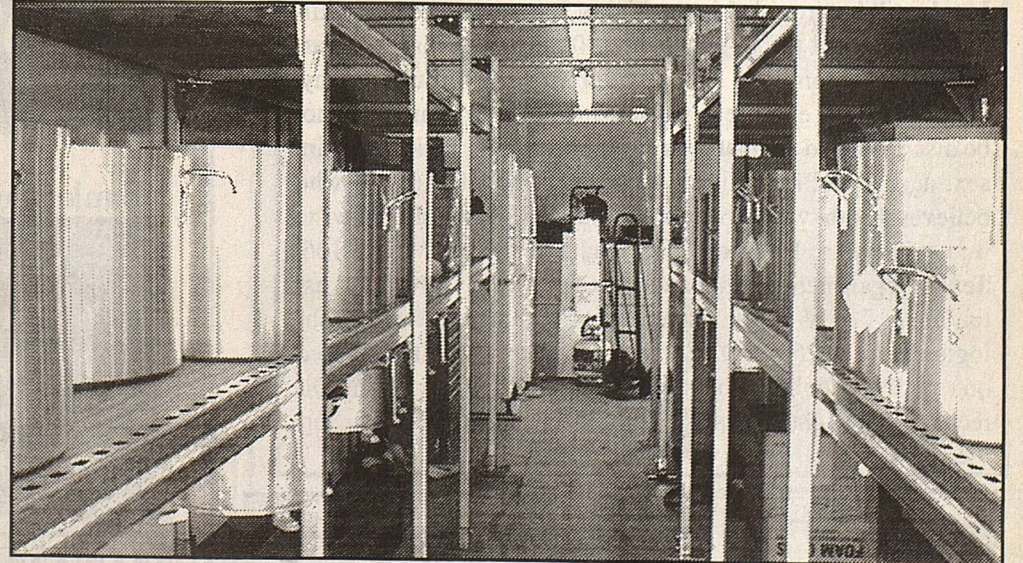
the coveted Rodeo Queen's crown. The Queen contest is the largest fund raising event for the rodeo and Old Settlers Reunion each year, and the three day celebration probably could not function without their efforts, and the generosity of local supporters. When these three young ladies approach you with tickets, please be generous.

At last week's Chamber of Commerce meeting, Chamber President David Brunson reported final plans are being made for the August 3rd, 4th and 5th rodeo, and the big barbecue lunch in Stanford Park at noon Saturday, August 5th.

Disaster Relief Trailer Ready To Roll

The ambitious program started several months ago at First Baptist Church is in the stretch run of completion. While a few more wrinkles will be added to the interior of the impressive Disaster Relief Trailer, parked in front of the Church Sunday morning, it could be on the road in hours if an emergency arose, ready to daily feed thousands of victims of storms or other disasters throughout the country.

The relief feeding program involving the state of the art 'traveling mess hall' is a joint effort by FBC, the American Red Cross, and the Southern Baptist Convention and Texas Baptist Mens organization. There are now nine such trailers in the state, and the tenth is being completed.



The 28 foot trailer is powered by an electric generator driven by a Kubota diesel engine. The self contained unit is capable of feeding 10 to 15 thousand people daily. Some 30 FBC men have taken Red Cross and Texas Baptist Men training in the operation of the relief trailer. Dozens of volunteers worked on completing the interior work on the custom built trailer.

The unit will soon be stocked with long life food staples, and a water purification system will be installed, capable of purifying 20 gallons of water per minute. Pastor Bill Wright told CCN, "We all pray the trailer will never be needed, but if a disaster occurs, and people need food, we're ready to help."

\$ 12 Billion In State School Taxes

Average '99 school tax rate remains same - first time in 15 years

Texas independent school districts (ISDs) reported to the Comptroller's Property Tax Division (PTD) a total of almost \$12 billion in 1999 school property taxes. This \$651 million increase was about 6% above the 1998 total school taxes. The 1999 average statewide tax rate remained almost the same as in 1998, the first time that has occurred in 15 years.

About 36% of Texas school districts reduced their local adopted tax rates, while 35% of the districts increased their rates.

The school property value reports are for 1,035 school districts. The reports do not include school taxes by special county equalization districts and South Texas ISD.

The state's largest urban districts accounted for 29 of the total '99 school taxes. While Houston ISD's '99 tax rate was the same as in '98, its total tax levy rose more than 8% to exceed \$755 million. Dallas ISD gained 10% in total taxes to total \$700 million, keeping the same rate as in '98. Both districts saw a strong economy adding properties to their tax base.

With a '99 tax rate increase of less than 3%, Plano ISD saw the largest increase in total taxes at 15%, reaching almost \$326 million, while Austin ISD's taxes exceeded \$455 million, a 14% increase over '98.

The 50 largest ISDs, or 5% of all districts, accounted for 60% of the total '99 school taxes. Humble dropped its tax rate 8.3%, and total taxes declined almost 5%. Denton ISD was second with a rate decrease of 8.1%, but gained almost 3% in total taxes.

The '99 average statewide tax rate remained

almost the same at \$1.452 per \$100 of value. The '98 average was about \$1.451 per \$100 in value. The average rate calculation used adopted tax rates divided by the number of ISDs reporting.

The adopted '99 tax rates ranged from a low of \$0.8344 per \$100 in Glen Rose to a high of \$1.8929 in Allen ISD in Collin County. For the second year, Lake Travis ISD had the second highest tax rate at \$1.8884, lower than \$1.9452 in '98.

Taxpayers in 374 districts - about 36% - reduced their tax rates. Some 297 districts, about 29%, kept the same rate as in '98. Another 364 districts, or 35%, saw their tax rates rise in '99. School property tax rates may consist of two parts: a maintenance and operations (M&O) rate and an interest and sinking fund (I&S) rate. The M&O rate covers general operating costs. The I&S rate, usually the debt rate, is used to repay a district's debt.

State law places a tax rate cap of \$1.50 on M&O rates. School boards in 154 ISDs, about 15%, adopted an M&O rate at the rate cap, compared to 106 ISDs, 10%, in 1998. 305 ISDs have rates between \$1.40 and \$1.50

About 37%, 382 districts, do not have a debt rate for repaying obligations. Of 653 ISDs with debt rates, seven districts have a debt rate of more than \$0.40. Plains ISD's M&O tax rate is \$1.50 per hundred of value, and no debt. The tax rate for 1999 is the same as in 1998.

* Material for this article courtesy Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Carole Keeton Rylander

Stanford Park gets face lift



Precinct 3 employees have been busy over a week clearing many undesirable shade trees from Stanford Park. Hershel Smith and Greg McCravey said many of the stately elms throughout the park were dead, with many more damaged or dead limbs dangling from live trees.

The dead trees and limbs are not only unsightly, but unsafe in the event of high winds when people are present in the park. The employees expect the large project to take a number of days to complete, but hope the rejuvenated park will be ready to host hundreds of visitors to the Old Settlers Re-

union August 5.

The dead trees and limbs are being hauled to the city dump site just west of town, and added to the growing pile of wood there. Next fall's homecoming bonfire should be truly spectacular.

Foundation hires new program director

ABILENE - Charles T. Allen has been hired to be the program director of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, said Lindy Patton, executive director.

Allen, an entomologist with the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service in Monticello, Ark., succeeds Osama El-Lissy in the position that oversees the technical aspects of eradication in Texas. El-Lissy is now operations officer for cotton pest programs at USDA.

Allen graduated from high school in Junction and attended Texas Tech University, where he earned a bachelor degree in biology and a master degree in entomology. He obtained a doctorate in entomology from Louisiana State University.

From 1981-1996, Allen worked with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Weslaco and Fort Stockton. He joined the Arkansas Cooperative Extension service in 1996.

He has done extensive research and has published in a wide variety of journals and

other publications, and has served as an editor for the *Journal of Cotton Science*. He has also served on a number of entomology-related task forces and committees.

Allen said he is looking forward to joining the Texas eradication effort in the United States. "One of the board members told me, 'I believe if I were an entomologist and had the chance to join an endeavor like this, I'd jump at it,' and of course that's exactly what I believe," Allen said. "In this job, I'll have an opportunity to participate in a project that will really make a difference."

He said he believes the Texas eradication program has been demonstrated to be effective, and he won't need to make changes in the way the program operates. "I'd like to stay with something proven," he said.

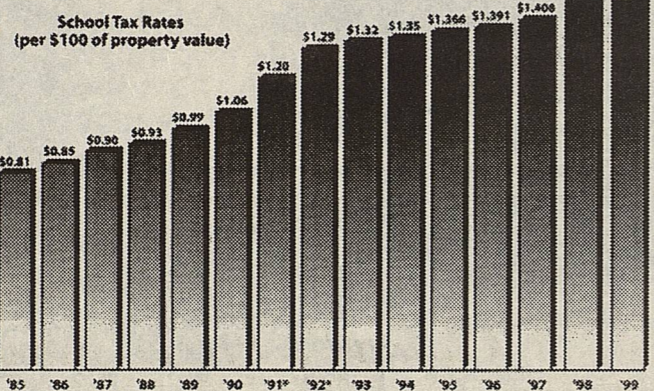
Allen said he's glad he'll be part of a team in the eradication effort. "I'm under no illusion I'm alone in this," he said. "I'll feel intimidated for awhile, but I'll have the help of the Technical Advisory Committee, Osama, the current program personnel and all the staff."

"You couldn't have found a better person anywhere," said Zan Matthies, Pecos County Extension Agent. "He was a specialist here, and I've worked with a lot of specialists, and nobody ever worked harder or was more knowledgeable about his subject matter than Charles."

"We were very pleased with the quality of all applicants," said Jim Brown of Midland, chairman of the committee charged to find a program director.

School Tax Rate History from 1985 to 1999

While the average school tax rate in Texas has increased by more than \$0.64 from 1985 to 1999, the average rate remained almost the same from 1998 to 1999. Shown below are the average school tax rates per \$100 of property value for the last 15 years. These rates were computed by dividing the total rates by the number of school districts. Tax years 1991 and 1992 are the combined average tax rates for ISDs and the county education districts (CEDs) operating at that time.



* Combined ISD and CED rates
Source: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Property Tax Division

J P Court

May 5, 2000- Precinct One, with Justice of the Peace Melba Crutcher presiding there were 27 traffic cases, 1 felony case, and 1 disorderly conduct case filed.

Bonds set: Bail jumping and failure to appear-\$5,000.00 bond. Aggravated assault with deadly weapon-\$10,000.00

Unlawfully carrying a weapon-\$2,000.00 bond. Burglary of a habitation-bond denied. Alias Capias theft-\$500.00 cash bond. Driving while license suspended-\$500.00 bond. Driving while intoxicated-2nd-\$1,500.00 bond plus interlock device order. Driving while intoxicated-

1st-\$1,000.00 bond. Failure to appear-Theft by check-bond denied. Motion to revoke probation-held until hearing. Injury to a child-\$5,000.00 bond. Criminal mischief-\$1,000.00 bond. Disorderly conduct-\$150.00 bond.

May in Texas - State of Coahuila and Texas created by Mexican Constitution, 1824. Fort Parker attacked by Indians, Cynthia Ann and John Parker taken captive, 1836. Battle of Palmetto Ranch, last of the Civil War, fought near Brownsville, 1865. Prohibition ratified by 36th Legislature, 1924.

* Legal Notice *

The Plains Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program to be held in conjunction with summer school from June 5th - June 30th. Meals will be provided in the Plains School Cafeteria to children from ages 1 through 18 at 1000 Tenth Street, Plains, Texas, from 12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday. People who are eligible to participate in the program must not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or political belief. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to: Director, Civil Rights Division, MC W-106, Texas Department of Human Services P.O. Box 149030, Austin, Texas 78714-9030 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington D.C. 20250. NOTE: Discrimination complaints based on religion or political beliefs must be referred only to the Director, Civil Rights Division, Texas Department of Human Services.



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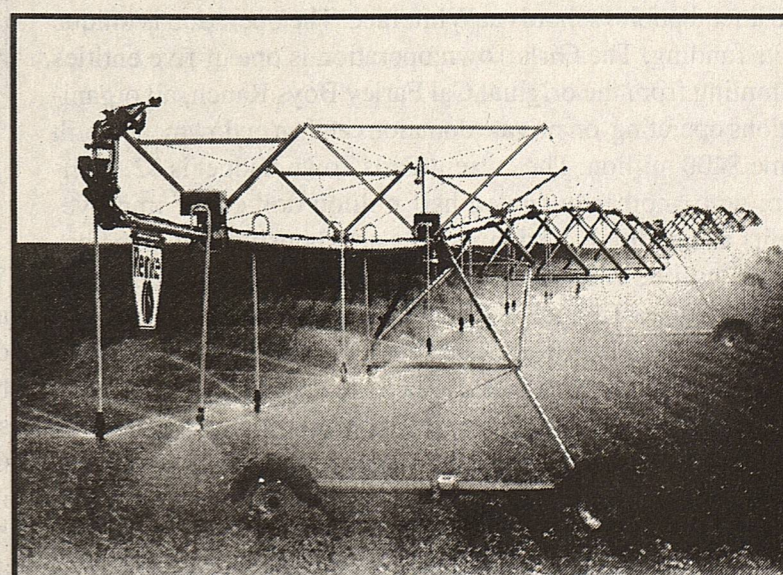
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PHS takes 3rd in state UIL meet

The Plains High School UIL Team again put up impressive numbers in the very competitive State UIL Academic meet in Austin last weekend. They finished with 74 total points, behind first place Salado, 85 points, and Lindsay, 77 points. Senior Kristen Gray anchored the team effort with 51 individual points. Individual performances in all events included;

- Mathematics** - Kristen Gray, 2nd place.
- Number Sense** - Kristen Gray, 2nd place.
- Number Sense Team** - Kristen Gray, Annaliesa O'Quinn, Amanda Garcia, 3rd place.
- Headline Writing** - Annaliesa O'Quinn, 1st place.
- Computer Applications** - Kyle Sisson, 5th place.
- Calculator** - Kristen Gray, 1st place.
- Science** - Kristen Gray, 4th place.

Industrial Technology students shine in Waco state meet

PHS Industrial Technology students competed in the prestigious state meet in Waco May 4th through 6th, and came away loaded with honors. Individual awards included:

- Armando Luna, 2nd, Auto CAD drafting
- Nichole Newsom, 2nd, Auto CAD drafting, 1st, cedar chest
- Alex Tarango, Isaac Gonzales, Albert Lopez, Jose Ramirez, 1st, mass production- desk clocks.
- Albert Lopez, Isaac Gonzales, Alex Tranago, 1st (Best in State) entertainment Center.
- Michale Newsom, Leticia Canon, Sandra Luna, Isreal Moreno, 2nd, Mass production-Bathroom organizers.
- Leticia Canon, 2nd, Auto CAD project, 1st Vase, 1st Spoon cabinet, 1st Steamer trunk, 1st(Best in State) Dear Horn Pen.

Jr. Hi District Tennis

GIRLS:

- 7th Singles - Sandra Gandara, 3rd
- 7th Doubles - Kristian Morales, Jaime Covarrubias, 1st
- 8th Singles - Sara Martinez, 1st
- 8th Doubles - Helen Neufeld, April Wilmeth 1st, Cindy Lopez, Kimberly Ternt, 2nd.

BOYS:

- 7th Singles - Evan Cain 1st, Cody Flores, 3rd.
- 7th Doubles - Payton Bean, Breck Hamm 2nd, Brant Huerta, Cole Krebsbach, 3rd.
- 8th Singles - Grady McNabb, 2nd
- 8th Doubles - Armando Ramirez, Larry Escobar, 1st, Richard Diaz, Mike Lopez 3rd.

Happy Birthday, Grandan!

Morris Lowe will celebrate his **90 th Birthday Sunday, May 14 .** Joining family and friends wishing **Morris 'Happy Birthday'** was a special birthday card from **President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton.** The entire family join in singing, "Happy Birthday!"

One Act Play has rough time in Austin

PHS' region winning one act play, "Trojan Women" found much tougher competition at the state meet. Eight 2A schools competed for the top three spots in the competition, and Plains excellent production failed to make the final three.

Cast, crew and director could salvage a little pride, however; Taylor Gray achieved Honorable Mention in the All-Star Cast, and Lisa San Filippo was named an All-Star Cast member.

PHS Student of the Week

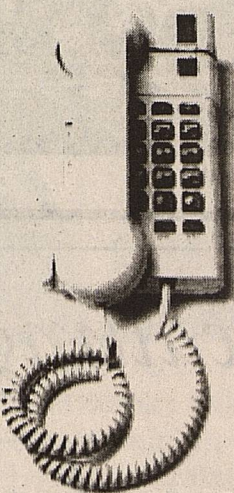
This week's Student of the Week is Jessica Rodriguez, a freshman and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Rodriguez. She was nominated by Mrs. Lusk who said, " Things I admire about this student; She is talented. She is real. She is brave. She is true to herself. She is Loyal, She never gives



up. Just a few of the things I admire most about Jessica. If she needs to know more - if she ever needs reminding, please let me know!"

Big Events at PHS :
Academic Achievement Awards 7 PM Thursday, May 11, Auditorium

Athletic Awards Banquet, Tuesday, May 16, 7 PM in the Cafeteria.
Be There !



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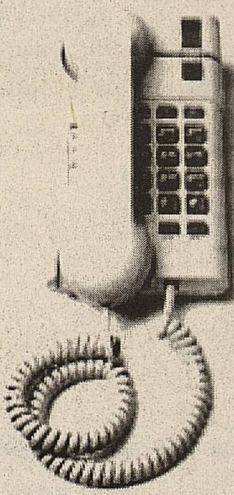
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El bloqueo de llamadas con recargo está disponible para aquellos clientes con ingresos bajos que califiquen para dicho servicio. Existen recargos por servicios de emergencia (9-1-1) según los recargos gubernamentales.

Las personas con ingresos bajos que sean elegibles para los programas de asistencia para teléfonos Lifeline y Link-Up pueden ser elegibles para descuentos de estos cargos de servicios básicos a través de planes de asistencia específicos del estado.

Los servicios básicos son ofrecidos a todos los clientes en los territorios de servicio de ALLTEL, según las tarifas, normas y condiciones especificadas en las tarifas de la compañía. Si tiene cualquier pregunta acerca de los servicios y beneficios de ALLTEL*, póngase en contacto con un representante de servicio a los clientes de ALLTEL llamando al 1-800-452-5354.

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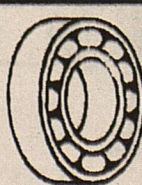
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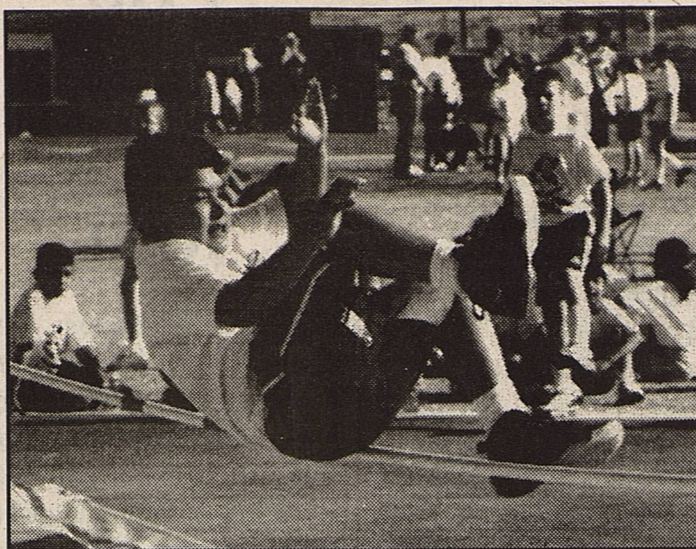
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Plains Elementary Track Meet Action Shots



Nicole Culwell clears high jump bar



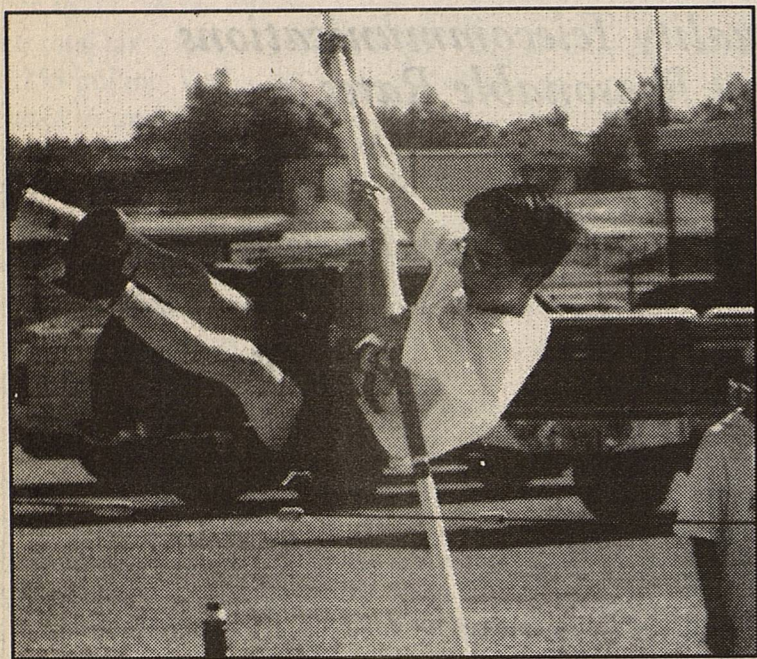
A.J. Martinez is over the bar.



Cap hides Shelby Covarrubias eyes, but not her smile in the softball toss



Mercedes Torres put lots of effort in her throw



Chris Addison soars in pole vault



K-Girls show good form off starting line in dash



Callie Howell cleared bar except for her left foot



Possible future Olympians in 50 meter dash

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Art Association Meets

The Yoakum County Art Association met May 2, at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Court House Clubroom in Plains with Susie and Kenyon Powell of Plains as demonstrators on Mosaic Art. They displayed several pieces made from both tile and glass on wood, ceramic tile and plaster of paris. The birdbaths drew the 13 other present members praise. Artist of the Month Wadonna Davis donated the door prize made by Evertt McAdams. Mary Nokes was the lucky recipient. The

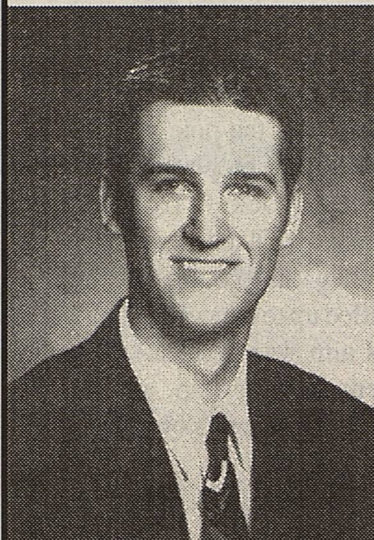
club's scholarship applications are soon due. Entries for the Yoakum County Watermelon Round-Up are coming in. Due date is the 19th of May and any county resident may enter and have a chance at winning the \$100.00 donated by Yoakum County Connection. Hostesses Pat McNabb and Mary Nokes served cookies and soft drinks. The next program is June 6th on doll making by B.J. Ayers of Denver City. Visitors are welcome.

by Linda Powell

New Books At The Library

Fiction: *Summer Gone*..David Macfarlane, *Before I Say Goodby*..Mary Higgins Clark, *The Patient*..Michael Palmer, *Blind Spot*..Judy Mercer, *The Wedding*..Danielle Steel, *Wicked Widow*..Amanda Quick, *After The Fire*..Belva Plain, *Greenwich*..Howard Fast, *The Gutbucket Quest*..Piers Anthony, *The Best American Mystery Stories Of The Century*..Tony Hillerman, *Listen To Your Heart*..Fern Michaels, *The Heir*..Johanna Lindsey, *The Greatest Player Who Ever Lived*..J. Michael Vernon, *The Prayer Tree*..Annie Jones, *Friendship Cake*..Lynne Hinton, *Standoff*..Sandra Brown. **Non-Fiction:** *Women's Health Concern Sourcebook*..Edited by Heather Alred, *Environmentally Induced Disorders Sourcebook*..Edited by Allan Cook, *The Death Of Innocence*..John & Patsy Ramsey, *The Slim Fast Body-Mind-Life Makeover*..Lauren Hutton, *Flowers Are Forever*..Kathy Lamancus, *Strong Women, Strong Bones*..Miriam Nelson, *Failure Is Not An Option*..Gene Kranz, *A Heart Like His*..Beth Moore, *Things Pondered*..Beth Moore.

Winn Receives Degree



Ladd Winn received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Lubbock Christian University, December 18, 1999. He is the son of Tony and Lynne Winn of Plains.

Plains Student Inducted Into Education Honor Society

Vernon Hise, an education major from Plains, was among 31 student scholars inducted in to the Lubbock Christian University Chi Chi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education last week. This honor society recognizes education students who have completed at least 60 hours and have an overall GPA of 3.5 or above. An individual becomes a member of the Society by invitation from the LCU chapter whose members have approved the candidacy. Such an invitation is based on high academic achievement, a commitment to education as a career, and a professional attitude which assures the member's steady growth in the field of education. Personal at-

titudes toward life and teaching are also considerations.

Lubbock Christian University is a liberal arts institution of higher learning dedicated to providing a quality education in a Christian environment. LCU was among only six Texas schools to be named in the John Templeton Foundation Honor Roll of Character Building Universities. LCU offers 30 bachelor's degree programs and four master's degrees with an average enrollment of approximately 1500 students. Hise is currently Principal of Plains Elementary.

We Get Letters

To the fine people of Plains-America,

After a year of illness and surgeries, I was encouraged to apply for medical retirement. I did this 3-31-00 and was told it would take 3 or 4 months before I would know if it was approved. May 1-00 I got a letter saying I was approved. May 2-00 my boss called, saying I would be checked out and retiring May 3-00. May 3, 2000 I retired, it happened so fast I had no chance to say goodbye. Plains is my second home or home away from home. I really enjoyed getting to know Plains and the great people there. I think I can call most of you friends, not just customers. I will miss you.

Norris Jones

**Reminder:
Mother's Day
Is May 14th**

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Remember
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Day



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Notice To Parents

2000-2001 Pre-Registration

Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten

Pre-Registration Dates: Tuesday, May 9, 2000,
Wednesday, May 10, 2000, Thursday, May 11, 2000
8:30 am. until 3:00 pm.

Note A los Padres

2000-2001 Pre-Registro
Pre-Kinder & Kinder

Fecha del Pre-Registro: Martes, Mayo 9, 2000,
Miercoles, Mayo 10, 2000, Jueves, Mayo 11, 2000
8:30 am. hasta 3:00 pm.

DBAB Musical

Go, Go Jonah!

First Baptist Church

Wednesday, May 17th

7:00 p.m.

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Price's range from \$5.00 to \$100.00 (Tax not included in price)

Balloon's are \$1.00 & \$3.00

Come by and see the selections you can pick from, or have one special made for you. All you need is call or come by and give me a price range, and I will do the rest.

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Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 8-5

Wednesday 8-12 noon

Thursday & Friday 8-5

Will take walk-ins.

Appointments preferred.

Please call 806-456-6365

From The Hack

I continue to be amazed by our school system. I spend more time prowling the halls of the three campuses than you can imagine, and the quality of the education our young people are exposed to is still gratifying, after almost six years of covering the source.

This is being written Wednesday evening, prior to the state bound One Act Play crew and cast departure at 5:30 a.m. Friday. Sorry, guys, I had more important things to do than get down there and film your departure.... like necessary sleep for an old man.

Reportedly, the also state bound UIL Academic scholars were to leave later on the same morning. I guess that proves once and for all they are smarter than the Thespians. I have to admit, however, some of the Thespians also compete in the academic meet

When I was in high school, the U.I.L terminology confused me. I thought it referred to some type labor union on the East Coast. I recall we had a junior and senior class play, but it didn't entail statewide competition, Thank God. I played a second starring role in the junior class extravaganza, expecting calls from university drama departments, possibly a Hollywood agent or two. I was still waiting for the call when somehow I graduated the following year. I was so dismal I wasn't even asked to return as a cast member my senior year. I had a talk last week with a high school administrator about a student. The administrator said the subject student we were discussing had plenty of smarts, more than enough to

to be in the top five academically of his (or her) class, but simply didn't feel pressured to really bear down and study hard to truly excel, as he (or she) was capable of. The administrator then confessed, " I was the same way my last couple of years of high school, I just coasted, knowing I would be OK at graduation time."

Guess what ? I coasted too. I would be surprised if many of our adult readers didn't make the same confession.... well, we need to realize there are a few out there whom are totally unfamiliar with the truth, and would testify with raised hands they strived their very best all four years . Ho Hum.

This class of seniors, the prior class of PHS seniors, and all the senior classes since we have been publishing CCN have truly impressed me. They have achieved goals any school would be proud of, and I am proud of them. I salute each and all.

Okay, last week we poked a bit of fun at blonde women. Upon threat of death, I have to do these rebuttals;

How many honest, intelligent caring men does it take to do the dishes? Both of them..

How does a man plan for the future? He buys two cases of beer..

Why are dumb blonde jokes so short? So men can remember them.

What do you call a woman who knows where her husband is every night? A widow.

When do you care for a man's company? When he owns it.

What are women's four favorite animals? A mink in the closet, a jaguar in the garage, a tiger in the bedroom, and an ass to pay for it all.

Why are married women heavier than single women?

Single women come home, see what's in the fridge and go to bed. Married women come

home, see what's in the bed and go to the fridge.

How do you get a man to do sit-ups? Put the remote control between his toes.

What did God say after creating man? I must be able to do better than that!

What did God say after creating Eve? Practice makes perfect.

Man says to God, " God, why did you make women so beautiful?" God says, " So you would love her." " But God," man says, " why did you make her so dumb?" God says, " So she would love you."

I spent a couple of hours Friday AM shooting pictures of the elementary kids at their annual track meet, fun day, whatever they call it. It was truly fun, if you consider barely controlled chaos and mass confusion fun,

Trying to organize pre-K through 4th graders for such a large outdoor event is comparable to my attempting to explain nuclear fission or IRS laws.

I was preparing to photo the 2nd grade boys 100 meter dash, standing just behind the start line, when I swear I heard the following; This little guy said, " Oh, man, I gotta go to the bathroom BAD!". The next lane runner just whispered to him, " Don't worry, run real fast, you'll dry off by the end."

A very small, darling little girl, a kindergarten cutie sporting a baseball cap on her head, was entered in the softball throwing event. She could hardly contain her eagerness until ex-Track Coach Everett McAdams gave

her the OK to throw the ball. She determinedly flung the thing with all her 44 pounds. You would be stunningly amazed to believe how bad a 'softball' hurts when it hits you. It hurt worse when it hit ME!

One of the more interesting events at the meleé was the pole vault. I wasn't able to be there when the girls vaulted, which I suppose is just as well, considering most of the young male performances. One guy, in the fourth grade, I think, and just slightly over-weight, hustled down the track, stick in hand, determination written all over his young face, concentrating on the Vee where the pole goes in the hole, to then propel him skyward like a rocket from Cape Kennedy. That's the theory.

When this youngster finally puffed up to the pole setting Vee, his aim was perfect - the pole went into the trap, and he attempted to soar skyward. Only problem was, his hands slipped all the way down the pole and he crashed into the Vee head down, but rose, still grinning! A great morning!

Have you ever dreamed of owning your own mini ranch or farm? Here's your chance. 35 acres of bare land outside Plains & Denver City, Tx. Now under CRP with 8 more years available. Pay out \$800.00 will sell for \$9,000.00 call Cash Watkins 501-571-1175

*** Notice For Bids ***

The State of Texas
County of Yoakum

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10 A.M., Tuesday, May 16, 2000, for renovation of the X-ray department at Yoakum County Hospital.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court Monday, May 22, 2000. Bid price will be paid from 2000 budgeted funds.

For bid forms and specifications, please contact the Yoakum County Auditor, PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355 or call 806/456-2422 or you may contact Mr. Clay Taylor, Yoakum County Hospital Financial Officer, PO Box 1130, Denver City, Texas 79323, 806/592-5484. Sealed bids should be marked " Bid-Hospital" on the envelope and mailed to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/Cowboy Way and Ave. G. Plains, Texas 79355. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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