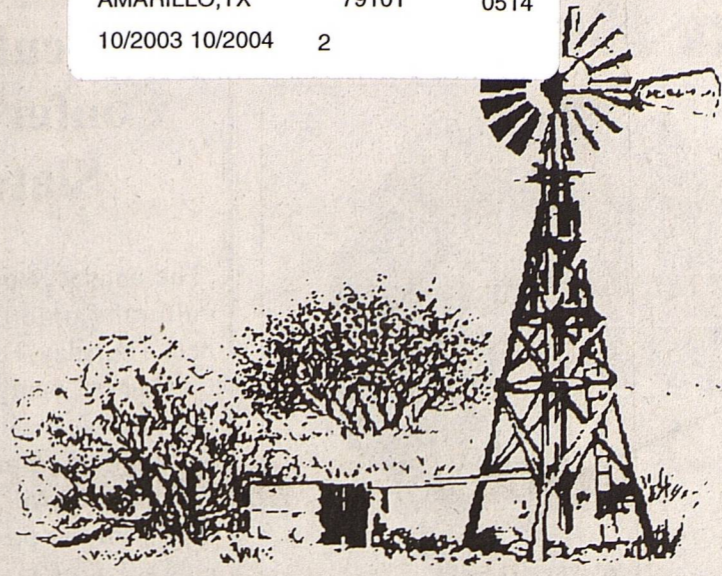


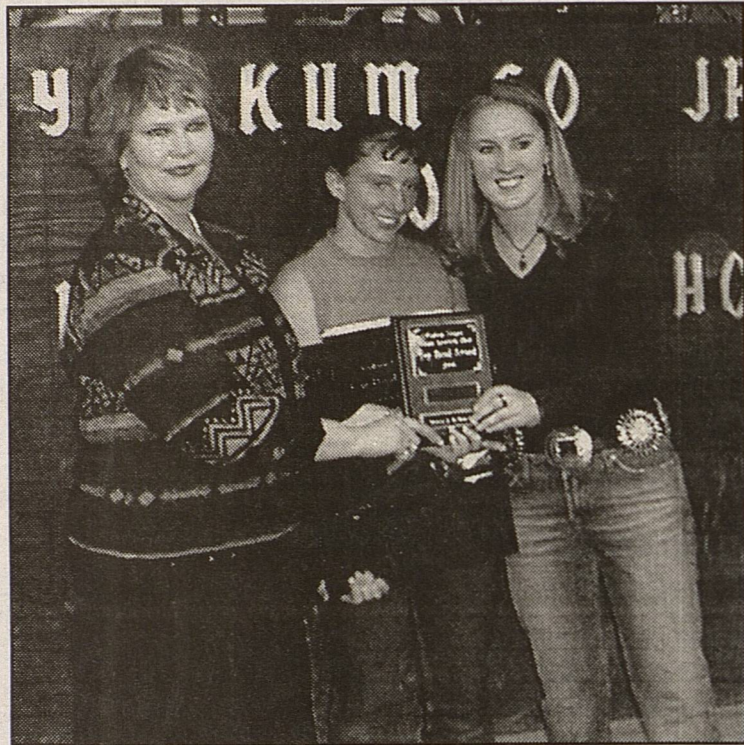
# Cowboy Country News

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

Volume X, Issue 21, February 4, 2004



## 2004 Livestock Show



Debi Helwig with 2003 Top Hand Jennifer Lewis and 2004 Top Hand Kaitlyn Moore



Danny Williams, left, presents plaque to Jim Barron and wife Jo Ann. The 2004 Livestock Show was dedicated to former Commissioner Barron



2004 Livestock Show Queen Leah Gibson presented with rose bouquet by Kaitlyn Moore.

### 52nd Annual Event Another Success Story

While the officials of the Yoakum County Livestock Association may have been a bit disappointed in a lesser number of show animals entered in the show this 52nd year, the quality of entries continued to be excellent. Dozens of 4-H Club and FFA Club members again did an outstanding job of getting their entries ready for the competition, and performed extremely well in their show-

manship routines.

Bill Helwig, who again emceed the final day presentation of awards ceremony, was correct when he gave credit for the success of the livestock show not only to the association, but to countless other volunteers, and contributors from both county communities.

This year's show was dedicated to Jim Barron, who served 24 years as County

Commissioner of Precinct 3, where the livestock show complex is located. A copy of the dedication printed in the show brochure and read at Saturday's ceremonies before the stock sale, can be found on Page three.

The following is summary of the show results. Only the top four places are listed for lambs, goats, rabbits, steers, swine gilts and swine barrows.

#### LAMBS:

Class 1, Finewool:

1. Luke Maxwell - BC
2. Cole McLeroy - RBC
3. Luke Maxwell

Class 2, Finewool Crosses:

1. Chelsey-Anne Bearden -BC
2. Chelsey-Anne Bearden, RBC
3. Chelsey-Anne Bearden-

Class 3, Lt. Wgt. Med. Wools-

1. Macy Roberts
2. Megan Robinett

Turn To Page Three

### 2004 conservation practices planned at local meeting



Donald Gibbons of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Donald Burgess, Chairman of the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District, headed a discussion of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) at a January 27 meeting in the Plains Community Center. This is the second year EQIP funds have been distributed for funding at the county level. Interested producers had the opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns of how the 2004 EQIP funds were to be administered by the Local Work Group (LWG), com-

prised of the Yoakum SWCD Board of Directors, FSA County Committee & CED, NRCS Designated Conservationist, Yoakum Extension Agent, Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Commissioners Court. The LWG is charged with approving the list of conservation practices to be funded and set cost-share rates for the approved practices. Contact the local NRCS office for questions and answers about the 2004 EQIP program and approved conservation practices.

### Criminal cases in County Court

Eight criminal cases were heard in County Court January 28, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Rochard Clark representing the state.

Armando Arenivas pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana. A 30 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$500, must pay \$211 court costs, \$140 restitution to DPS and \$25 time payment fee. He will serve 24 hours community service, complete the drug offender program, surrender his license 180 days and surrender his license 1180 days. Robert Smith, DPS, was investigating officer and Bill Helwig served as his attorney.

Jesus Enoc Terrazas pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$241 court costs on plea day. Robert Munsell, DPS, was investigating officer.

Turn To Page 4, County Court

### Gov. Perry sets Senate special run-off elections

Governor Rick Perry has set Tuesday, February 17 as the date of the special run-off election to fill the vacancies for Senate District 1 and Senate District 31. Both senate districts were left vacant with the resignations of Senators Bill Ratliff and Teel Bivins.

County Clerk Debbie Rushing/Spears reported early voting for the special runoff election starts here February 9 and ends February 13. Local voters will vote only in the District 31 election, the district consisting of Andrews, Bailey, Cochran, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Howard, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Martin, Midland, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman and Yoakum counties. Early voters here will vote at the Clerk's office in the Courthouse, and at the branch Tax Office in Denver City.

The February 17 in person voting will be held here at the Yoakum County Library, and in Denver City at the Tax Office. Election day voting hours are 7 AM until 7 PM.

### Council studies economic development options

Former City Administrator David Brunson and Muleshoe Economic Development Coordinator Janet Claborn were invited guests at the January 26 meeting of the Plains City Council. Brunson, now the City Manager in Muleshoe, and Ms. Claborn described to council members here and other guests how the City of Muleshoe and the town's economic development corporation operates.

Growing the local economy through city sponsored economic development projects has recently been a topic of considerable discussion by the council. They are searching for input indicating the feasibility of calling a special economic development sales tax election some time in the future. Other items on the council agenda included an operations report from City Administrator Ed Hansen. There was also discussion about allowing animal pets running loose in the city. Bonnie Earnest was appointed a representative to the Yoakum County Family Literacy program. In Executive Session the council approved the performance evaluation of the City Administrator.

**Chamber of Commerce Banquet**  
**Friday, February 20, 7 PM in school cafeteria.**  
**Barbecue dinner by Johnnies of Odessa,**  
**\$7 per person. Your donated door prizes**  
**may be left at City Hall. Special guest speaker**  
**is Dr. Steve Smith, 1980 PHS graduate.**

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Karen Bearden**



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For Yoakum County**  
**Republican Candidate**  
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**Sandyland  
Agricultural  
Conference  
Slated**

The annual Sandyland Agricultural Conference will be held Thursday, February 12 at the Gaines County Civic Building located at 402 N. W. 5th Street in Seminole, Texas. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the program beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at approximately 3:30 p.m. This year's conference will focus on the Production of Cotton and Peanuts. Variety Trials, Disease Control, Fertility, Control of Pink Bollworm, Insect Management, Water Quality and Quantity, Weed Control, Market Outlook, Peanut Production Quality & Flavor Issues, and Crop Research are just a few of the Cotton and Peanut topics that will be discussed. Those attending will also gain information on Small Grain Production, Pesticide Applicator License Requirements, Pesticide Laws & Regulations, and updates from the National Peanut Board, Farm Service Agency, and Llano Estacado Underground Water District. Licensed pesticide applicators will receive 5 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEU's) toward their Pesticide License Requirements (pending TDA approval) for attending this conference. Local and surrounding businesses will be allowed to set up booths with educational and promotional information, etc... Anyone wanting to reserve a booth space should contact the Gaines County Extension Office at (432) 758-4006.



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Vicki Blundell, District Clerk  
Courthouse, Second Floor  
Cowboy Way and Avenue G  
Plains, Texas  
Phone (806) 456 - 7453

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**Rex Swann**

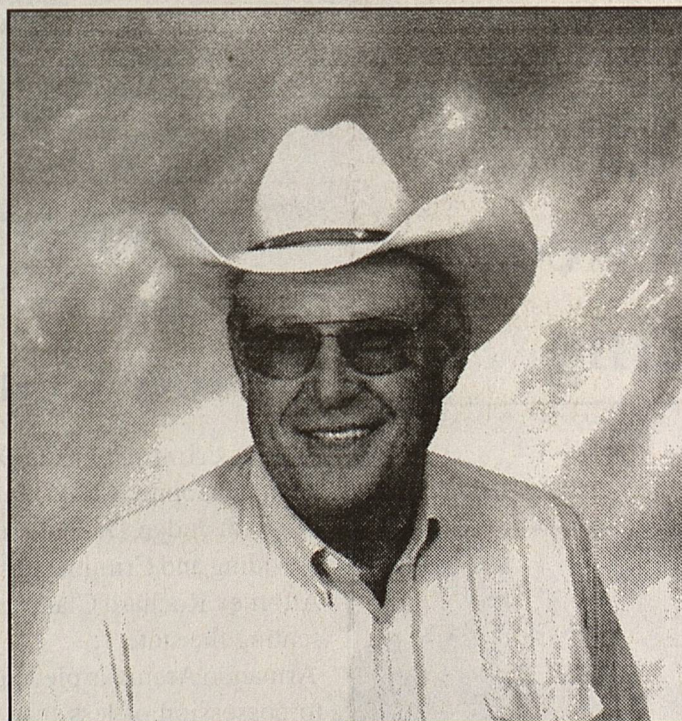
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Democratic Candidate  
March 9, 2004

**Commissioner Ptc. 3**

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Political Ad Paid By Ty Earl Powell, Box 605, Plains TX 79355

**JP Court  
Summary**

January 23, 2004 The following is a summary of cases heard and bonds set in Precinct 1, Justice of the Peace Court, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding. Cases filed: 86 traffic cases. Bonds set:

- Violate restriction on occupational license-\$500
- 2 cases-Racing on highway-\$500
- Motion to adjudicate/aggravated assault-\$2,000
- Driving while intoxicated-\$1,000
- 2 cases-Driving while license suspended-\$500
- Assault causing bodily injury-\$1,000
- 2 cases-Motion to revoke probation-bond denied
- Bond forfeiture-\$5,000 cash bond
- Bail jumping and failure to appear-\$10,000
- 2 cases-Public intoxication-\$500
- Indecency with a child-\$25,000
- Possession of marijuana-\$500



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**Cowboy Country News**

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# 2004 Stock Show Scenes

3. Megan Robinett  
 Class 4, Med. Wgt-Med Wools-  
 1. Marty Roberts - RBC  
 2. Macy Roberts  
 3. Marty Roberts  
 4. Marty Roberts  
 Class 5, Hvy. Wgt. Med. Wools  
 1. Chelsey-Anne Bearden, BC  
 2. Macy Roberts  
 2. Marty Roberts

**GOATS:**

- Class 1:  
 1. Lisa Gibson  
 2. Kallie Clark  
 3. Sara Horn  
 4. Kallie Clark  
 Class 2:  
 1. Paige Williams  
 2. Logan Wood  
 3. Paige Williams  
 4. Kallie Clark  
 Class 3:  
 1. T.J. Kitchens, Grand Champ.  
 2. Logan Wood  
 3. Logan Wood  
 4. DaNae Loyd  
 Class 4:  
 1. T.J. Kitchens, Res. Grand Champion  
 2. T.J. Kitchens  
 3. Logan Wood  
 T.J. Kitchens

**RABBITS:**

- Class 1 - Jr. Fancy Does  
 1. Brett Hedden  
 Class 2- Sr. Fancy Does  
 1. Kandice Toney- Best Opp.  
 2. Cody Mayes  
 3. Julie Hix  
 4. Callie Howell  
 Jr. Fancy Bucks:  
 1. Natalie Butler  
 2. Paige Williams  
 3. Natalie Butler  
 4. Clayton Gass  
 Class 4- Sr. Fancy Bucks:  
 1. Callie Howell  
 2. Kandice Toney  
 3. Shyann Vantine  
 4. Julie Hix  
 Class 5- Sr. Commercial Does  
 1. Sara Horn  
 2. Grady McNabb  
 3. Kameran Loya  
 4. Kameran Loya  
 Class 6- Sr. Commercial Bucks  
 1. Kevin Gass Best Of Show  
 2. Grady McNabb  
 3. Cody Mayes  
 4. Kandice Toney

**STEERS:**

- Class 1- European Breeds  
 1. Austin Keese, Grand Champion  
 2. Skylar Keese, Reserve Champion  
 3. Luke Sellers  
 4. Leo Sellers

**SWINE:**

- Gilts - Durocs  
 Class 1, Lt. Wgt. Durocs:  
 1. Halee Lowrey - Best of Class  
 2. Michael Therwhanger, Reserve Best Class  
 3. Ashli Hunter  
 4. Randon Lance  
 Class 2- Hvy. Durocs  
 1. Austin Bachman  
 2. Harley Brasuel  
 3. M'Leah McKinzie  
 4. Hannah Sutton  
 Hampshires:  
 Class 3, Lt. Wgt:  
 1. Kristen Knight- Best of Class  
 2. Blu Brumley  
 3. Wyatt Beard  
 4. Dylan Hunter  
 Class 4, Med. Wgt.  
 1. Harvey Brasuel  
 2. Randon Lance  
 3. Adriana Ponce  
 4. Matt McKinzie  
 Class 5, Hvy. Wgt:  
 1. Kandice Toney, Res. BC  
 2. Matthew Ellis

3. Hannah Sutton  
 4. Lisa Gibson  
 Yorkshires:  
 Class 6, Lt. Wgt.  
 1. Sierra Harrel  
 2. Makenzie Patton  
 3. Julie Hix  
 4. Randon Lance  
 Class 7, Hvy. Wgt.  
 1. Cameron Knight, Best of Class  
 2. Hannah Sutton, Res. Best Class  
 3. Christy Tedford  
 4. Amanda Hiller

- Light OPB  
 Class 8:  
 1. Harley Brasuel, Best of Class  
 2. Blu Brumley, Res. Best of Class  
 3. Amanda Hiller  
 4. Broedy Burris

- Dark OPB:  
 Class 9, Lt. Wgt  
 Kassidy Moore, Best of Class  
 2. Chase Gibson  
 3. Halee Lowrey  
 4. Makenzie Patton  
 Class 5, Lt. Wgt Yorkshires  
 1. Sierra Harrel, Best of Class  
 2. Callie Howell  
 3. Kerry Sisson

4. Cassandra Coronel  
 Class 6. Hvy. Wgt. Yorks  
 1. Sierra Harrel, Res. Best of Class  
 2. Randon Lance  
 3. Leah Gibson  
 4. Chase Guetersloh  
 Class 7, Lt. Wgt. Dark OPB  
 1. Cheyenne Durham  
 2. Kerry Sisson  
 3. Cassandra Coronel  
 4. Kerry Sisson  
 Class 8, Hvy. Wgt. Dark OPB  
 1. Harley Brasuel, Best of Class  
 2. Kaitlyn Moore, Res. Best of Class  
 3. Kassidy Moore  
 4. Kaitlyn Moore

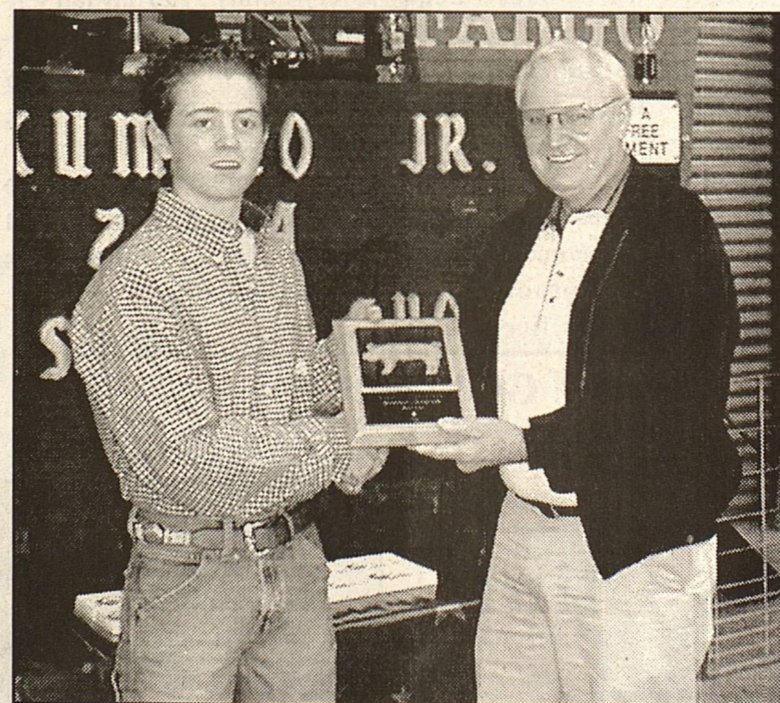
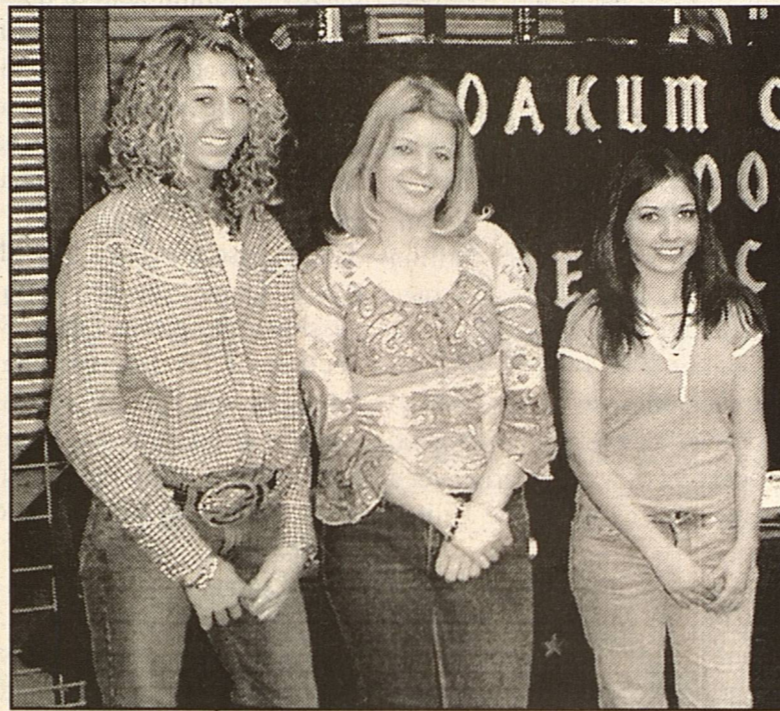
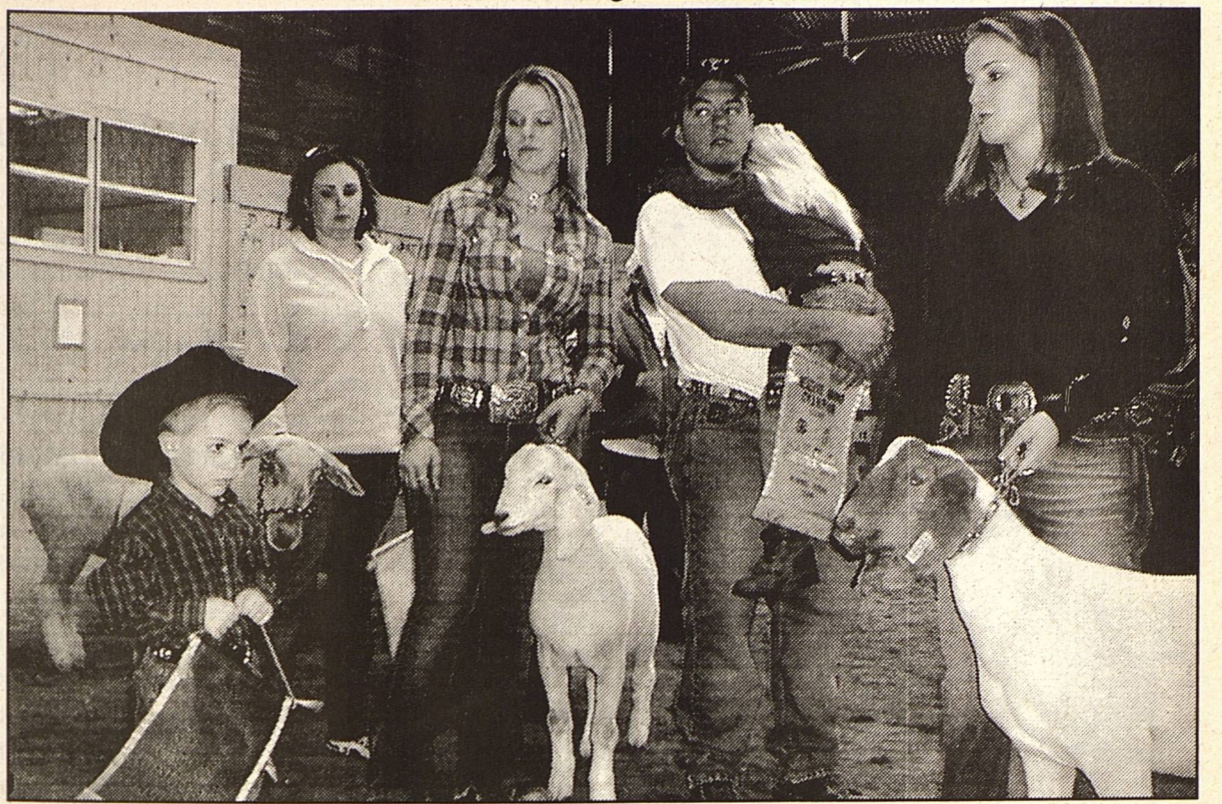
- Class 9, Lt. Wgt Crosses  
 1. Sierra Harrel  
 2. Matthew Merritt  
 3. Megan Robinett  
 4. Dylan Hunter  
 Class 10, Med. Wgt Crosses  
 1. Kristen Knight, Grand Champion  
 2. Cameron Knight Res. Best of Class  
 3. Reagan Haynes  
 4. Maretta Trent

- Class 11, Hvy. Wgt. Crosses  
 1. Kristen Knight  
 2. Matthew Ellis  
 3. Chase Guetersloh  
 4. Elias Carrillo

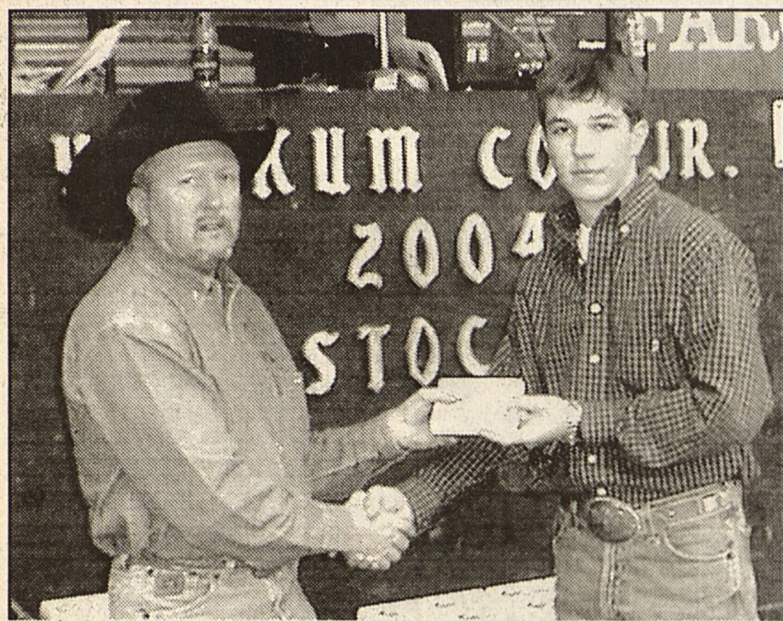
- Class 10, Hvy Wgt.  
 1. Kaitlyn Moore, Res. Best of Class  
 2. Kassidy Moore  
 3. Halee Lowrey  
 4. Makenzie Patton  
 Class 11, Lt. Wgt Crosses:  
 1. Matthew Merritt  
 2. Ashli Hunter  
 3. Ashli Hunter  
 4. Blu Brumley

- Class 12, Med Wgt.  
 1. Cameron Knight, Grand Champion  
 2. Kinsey Beard  
 3. Adriana Ponce  
 4. Halee Lowrey  
 Class 13, Hvy. Wgt:  
 1. Kristen Knight, Res. Best of Class  
 2. Julie Hix  
 3. Cameron Knight  
 4. Michael Therwhanger  
**BARROWS:**  
 Class 1, Lt. Wgt Durocs  
 1. Matthew Ellis, Res. Best of Class  
 2. Maretta Trent

3. Arturo Sanchez  
 Class 2, Hvy Wgt. Durocs  
 1. Michael Therwhanger, Reserve Champion  
 2. Kandice Toney  
 Cody Mayes  
 4. Cassandra Coronel  
 Class 3, Lt. Wgt Hamps:  
 1. Ashli Hunter  
 2. Cheyenne Durham  
 3. Matthew Merritt  
 4. Adrianna Ponce  
 Class 4, Hvy. Wgt. Hamps  
 1. Reagan Haynes, Best of Class  
 2. Michael Therwhanger, Res. Best of Class  
 3. Jack tedford  
 4. Kim Trent



More local exhibitors at livestock show



Combs addresses water treaty woes with Fox

In November, Agriculture Commissioner addressed Mexican President Vicente Fox face-to-face in Austin at a Capital meeting about Mexico's 1.3 million-acre-foot water debt to the United States.

Unfortunately, Fox did not provide any reassurances that Mexico would make good on it's water debt even though northern Mexico had experienced torrential rains a month earlier. Combs said that due to October floods, Mexico had ample water available and could easily make a 5000,000-to7000,000-acre foot payment from the Amisted and Falcon International reservoirs without any harm to its cities or farmers. In fact, at the time of the meeting, reservoirs in northern Mexico had a combined storage of 4.3 million acre-feet - the largest storage volume in a decade.

Under a 1944 U.S.-Mexico treaty, Mexico is required to deliver an average of 350,000 acre feet of water yearly over a five-year cycle to the United

States, mainly from the Rio Conchos Basin in Chihuahua. Also under the treaty, the United States must deliver 1.5 million acre-feet of water per year to Mexico from the Colorado River. Since 1992, Mexico has failed to fully meet its treaty obligations resulting in the current water debt and creating a \$ billion economic loss and an estimated 30,000 lost jobs in the Rio Grande Valley.

At the November meeting, Fox made no commitment to making a large payment on Mexico's water debt. Instead, Fox said he would have to gather more information on the water needs of northern Mexico.

Combs also met Dec. 10 with Arturo Duran, the new commissioner-designate of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, to brief him on Texas agriculture's concerns about the continuing water debt owed by Mexico.

From Page One, County Court

Chisum Miles Justus pled guilty to evading arrest or detention. He was fined \$250 and must pay \$211 court costs. A second cause of unlawful consumption of alcohol by minor was adjudicated. Bill Helwig was his attorney and investigating officer was adjudicated.

Joel Rascon Verdugo pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$211 court costs. Deputy Kenley Powell was investigating officer.

Juan G. Mata Sr. pled guilty to assault causes injury/family. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$250, must pay \$200 appointed fees, \$211 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He must serve 24 hours community service and complete the batterer's treatment program at his cost. His attorney was Bill Helwig, and Deputy Curtis Coffman was investigating officer.

Benito Longorio III pled guilty to evading arrest or detention. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$250,

must pay \$211 court costs, \$200 appointed attorney fees and \$25 time payment fee, and must serve 24 hours community service. Deputy Coffman was investigating officer and Bill Helwig was his attorney.

Spencer Don Deaton pled guilty to first DWI, b.t. .147/.142. A 120 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months. He was fined \$600, must pay \$300 appointed attorney fees and \$226 court costs. He will spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 17 hours, must attend weekly AA meetings, complete the DWI first offender program. Investigating officer was Chris Malloy, DPS, and Bill Helwig was his lawyer.

Lee David Delarosa pled guilty to assault causes bodily injury/family. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months. He must pay \$211 court costs, \$25 time payment fee and \$50 supervision fees. He must complete the batterer's treatment program at his cost. Deputy Coffman was investigating officer.

GO! GO! GO!  
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PISD Basketball Update

Jr, High:

7th Girls - The 7th girls improved their recortopped scoring with 12 points, followed by Mari Ruiz and Hetaher Parrot combined for 12, Yesenia Loya and Kimber Williams had 4 each, Vanessa Martinez had 2,

\*th Girls- Lauren Davis was top scorer with 21 points in the 8th girls big 38-12 win over Anton. Joani Bell put up 8, Reyna Gallegos 6, Katie Winn 4.

JV Cowboys: The younger Cowboys fell hard to Morton, scoring only 2 points to Morton's 26 in the first period. Landon Craft managed 12 points, followed by Scott Addison 6, TJ Cordova and David Alldredge 5 each, Abel Ramos and Blake Parrish 1 each. They were later downed by Sundown 47-33, doomed by a 3 point 3rd quarter. Scott and Lando managed 10 points each, Blake 5, John Wagnon and Abel 3 each, Todd Williams 2,

Varsity Cowboys: Facing the number two ranked team in the state January 27, the Cowboys were bombed 93-37. Scoring included Evan Cain 10, Zach Broome 9, Brandon Hise 8, Richard Diaz 4, Blake O'Quinn and Cody Flores 2 each, Kerry Sisson and Payton Bean 1 each. Next was a wild and wooly loss to Sundown, 67-59. The Cowboys led 33-26 at the end of the first half, but only scored 5 points the third period. They managed 21 points the final quarter, but not enough to beat the Roughnecks. Zach Had 16 points, Richard and Evan 15 each, Brandon 5, Blake and Cody 4, The Cowboys are now 2-4 in district play.

Varsity Cowgirls: The Cowgirls had a great game January 27, downing Morton 57-48, " by keeping cool in the hot moments and stopping Morton's fast break", sald Coach Thaggard. Desiraye Broome topped scoring with 20, Sandra Gandara had 16, Regina Morales 10, Daniela Lazos 4, Meghan Garcia 3. They did not fare as well against Sundown, losing 78-46. Regina Morales topped scoring with 13, Desiraye had 12, Meghan 9, Sandra 4, Micaela Villegas and Prisma Ortiz 3 each, and Jesenia Suarez 2.

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Waiting for the sale to start, the little cowpoke on left may have been just a bit leery by all the goats

# Lifelines & Styles

## Seniors Corner

The following incident renews our suspicion that our minds improve as time goes by. Last year an 82 year old senior lady had the old windows in her house replaced with double-insulated, efficient windows. Last week she received a call complaining that the work had been done for a year and the bill had not been paid. She hastily reminded him the salesman had assured her that within a year's time the windows would pay for themselves.

It's good to see Royce Hemmeline back for lunch after a stay in the hospital. I understand Maggie Powell is also home again after her surgery.

Duncan Ashmore is taking a turn in the hospital this week, however, and Rene Carrasco continues to be in Children's Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. News reports indicate that he is well enough again to resume his treatments.

Gloria, our site director, is staying in Lubbock with her son, Rene, during this time. Here at home everyone is rallying around to help take up the slack until her return and in the meantime all are continuing to pray for Rene's healing. If you have not yet found a way to be part of this support team, the Center has established an account for Rene at the Wells Fargo bank. We will be accepting contributions at the Center in a donation box in the dining room or, if you desire a receipt, take your contribution into the office where you will be given an acknowledgement receipt. You may also go directly to the bank to make your contribution. The tellers will be made aware of the account for Rene and can accept your contribution.

Billie O'Neal and Inez Turner were the winners in the "42" tournament this week. This is a fun time. If you are a "42" player, come on and join us.

Joe Navarez has returned home for awhile and Shirley Mosser has come to spend a few days in Denver City. Newcomers, Pablo and Esperanza Portillo, are also welcome visitors this week.

You missed a real treat if you did not join the Monday night pool and game players. Elsie White treated all of us to fresh-from-the-oven armadillo eggs! You just haven't lived until you've tried these! I am waiting for the recipe so I can try them at home. Thanks to Harley, Layne, Bruce for filling in for Gloria with the announcements each day, and a special thanks to Ann Holland who has kept things running smoothly in the office. Sylvia Lozano has also pinch hit in the office to help out along with her usual duties as van driver, which includes bring to the center and taking home those who depend on riding the bus each day. She also finds time during the lunch hour to deliver a hot lunch to about thirty-five seniors who are homebound at this time.

Be sure to join your friends to help celebrate the February birthdays and anniversaries at lunchtime on Monday, February 2.

Thirty years makes a difference...1974 - Long Hair, 2004 - Longing for hair: 1974 - Going to a new, hip joint, 2004 - Receiving a new hip joint; 1974 - Rolling Stones, 2004 - Kidney Stones; 1974 - The Grateful Dead, 2004 - Dr. Kevorkian; 1974 - Acid Rock, 2004 - Acid Reflux; 1974 - Trying to look like Marlon Brando or Liz Taylor, 2004 - Trying not to look like Marlon Brando or Liz Taylor



This rabbit received lots of attention at the stock show

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## Tsa Mo Ga Club hears roles first responders play here

Tsa Mo Ga members were presented an informative program by three community leaders in the fields of disaster relief, emergency medical service, and the volunteer fire department at the January 26 club meeting.

Marc Traweek, representing Texas Disaster Relief, Curtis

Coffman, president of the Plains EMS and Fire Chief Charlie Diamond gave a picture of how their organizations fit into the community, the county, and throughout the state.

Traweek noted the Disaster relief group from Plains is known nation and worldwide for its efforts helping the Red Cross and Salvation Army feed large groups of people during times of emergency. The group started in late 1999 in the middle of the Y2K scare when several men got together to decide how to feed the people of Plains should there be a disaster. The group has since worked through the Texas Baptist Men and traveled to fires in Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico, and the floods in Houston three years ago, to feed up to 20,000 meals per day. Their self con-



Jerry Lollar works concession stand window at stock show while her kitchen helper crew in background take a quick Photo-Op break.

tained unit is manned by volunteers who represent all age groups, all walks of life and all faiths. Following the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center, the group sent five teams to New York City to work on Staten Island and send meals to ground zero. "We usually work with the Red Cross. They provide the food, we cook it, and they deliver it to the site," Traweek said. The group is always looking for additional volunteers. A training session is set for February 21 for anyone interested in being part of the organization.

Coffman noted the emergency medical service just received "glowing reviews" during a recent Texas Department of Health inspection, with zero deficiencies. He stated local emergency service has changed

from "load and go" to becoming a "rolling emergency room." The nine full-time workers who man the ambulance at any time have acquired levels of certification, including six months of classes going through clinical rotations. This group is made up of 100 percent volunteers and the organization is always looking for more. Coffman credited the city with allowing continuing education for its members and helping keep up to date equipment.

Diamond, who has been fire chief 12 years, was proud to announce the fire department service has helped the town achieve an insurance rating of SEVEN, a very good rating which helps keep home insurance premiums down. He related volunteer members have

undergone extensive fire training at Texas A&M University to be prepared for any local emergencies, and more will receive training this year. The department is credited with assisting other agencies when needed, and Diamond said communication and get-togethers with members of the Permian firefighting organization is an important part of the group's yearly activities. Tsa Mo Ga Club will be making donations to the three volunteer groups.

Following the program, members made plans to host the PHS Class of 2004 at a Senior Dinner February 9.

Hostesses for the meeting were Martha Palmer and Betty Rushing who used toy firemen, emergency vehicles and fabric for the centerpiece.

## New items at the Library

### FICTION

- The Cat Who Talked Turkey...* Lillian J. Braun  
*Hush Puppy...* Laurien Berenson  
*Watchdog...* Laurien Berenson  
*Where Is He Now?* Jennifer Greene  
*Codex...* Douglas Preston  
*Key of Knowledge...* Nora Roberts  
*Key of Light...* Nora Roberts  
*Key of Valor...* Nora Roberts  
*Midnight Pass...* Stuart Kaminsky  
*New Spring: The Novel...* Robert Jordan  
*Sight of the Stars...* Belva Plain  
*Sunny Chandler's Return...* Sandra Brown  
*Truth or Dare...* Jayne Krentz  
*No Badge, No Gun...* Harold Adams

### NONFICTION

- Texas Indian Trails...* Daniel J. Gelo  
*Gifts from the Heart...* Better Homes & Gardens  
*It's More Than Music...* Bill Gaither  
*From Emeril's Kitchens...* Emeril Lagasse  
*A Primer on Prostate Cancer...* Stephen Setu  
*Understanding Skin Problems...* Linda Papadopoulos  
*The Chronic Bronchitis & Emphysema Handbook...* Dr. Francois Haas  
*The Harvard Medical School Guide to Taking Control of Asthma...* Christopher Fanta

### 100 Questions & Answers about Melanoma & Other Skin Cancer.

Dr. Edward F. McClay

### The Do's and Don'ts of Hypoglycemia...

Roberto Ruggiero

### AUDIOBOOKS:

- Chocolate Girls...* Annie Murray  
*Not Between Brothers...* David Maruin Wilkinson  
*A Romantic Way to Die...* Bill Crider  
*Texas Cooking...* Lisa Wingate  
*The Visitor...* Lori Wick

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It's hard to stop a TRANE

# From The Hack

I was pleasantly surprised by Super Bowl umpteenth. I was prepared to witness the Patriots utterly demolish the Pumas, Leopards, Camels, whatever the Carolina team is called. They did look pretty pathetic most of the first half, but New England didn't exactly shine and sparkle either. The second half, after of course I had thrown up, gagging over some of the halftime garbage, was a pretty exciting two quarters.

Once again, however, the most outstanding Super Bowl minutes were those featuring commercials costing about a jillion per nano-second. My favorite was the wintry, snowy night scene, the guy and his date in a horse drawn sleigh, and as she snuggles beside him, she gushes, "Oh, this is so romantic!" He mumbles some response, opens a handy beer cooler, and you guessed it, hands his hot little date an icy Budweiser. She pants, "OOOHHH, this is romantic too!" as she takes the cold one. About that time, the horse's tail flies straight out, and the stupid animal... well, how shall I put this, to elicit the least amount of stink, so to speak.... The horse mightily breaks wind.... expels gas.... forcefully.... the camera than pans back to the hot date... She is *really* hot now, her clothing soiled, and a suspicious dark spot is prominent on her nose. It is crystal clear her night of romance is over for good. I loved it! It was much, much more entertaining and memorable than the crap Janet

Jackson spewed forth at half-time. Amazing, isn't it, the Network Moguls chose her as one of the prime-half-time stars for the Bowl, when her brother is coming up for another prime time appearance in a criminal court. His talent appears to be just a bit darker than hers.

I cannot remember the sponsor of another of my favorites, but it featured an opening shot of three young lads, each with a bar of soap stuffed in their mouth. A fourth kid appears, no soap in his mouth. A little more footage, and dialogue reminding viewers filthy language is punishable, when all of a sudden this absolutely sexy and obviously fabulously expensive auto appears on the scene, and the soapless mouth kid plainly but silently screams, "Holy \_ \_ \_ \_!!!" The next scene features kid number four with a bar of soap in his mouth.

February 14 routinely signals to many dysfunctional males it is time to recognize the female love of your life with a special Valentine Day recognition - a lovely rose display, a gift certificate to her shop of choice, a fancy box of candy, or if you really want to make points, a Furr's Cafeteria gift certificate, though this is seldom appreciated by gals under 65.

To this dysfunctional male February 14 marks the anniversary the US Navy was blessed by the recruitment of one Charles Gary Dyer, age 18, in 1951, and a few short but very horrible few weeks later convinced him it is entirely possible to encounter the tortures of Satan and His Kingdom Hell while still here in the flesh on Mother Earth.

I must be either (1) becoming maturely wise and comprehending, or (2) senile and foaming at the mouth, because looking back at those four years of Navy Blue, they don't seem so bad. It was not all fun and games, but I truly would not trade for the experience now. What? Would I do it all over again? YOU IDIOT!! Not unless you made me 18 again.

A tough old Texas cowboy once told his grandson if he wanted to live a long life, the secret was to sprinkle a little gun powder in his oatmeal every morning. The grandson did this religiously and lived to the age of 93. When he died, he left 14 children, 28 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren..... and a 15 foot hole in the wall of the crematorium.

A first grader couldn't stop talking about the recent fire at his school. "I knew it was going to happen," he said. We've been practicing for it all year".

Three buddies die in a car crash, and they find themselves at an orientation meeting in Heaven. Each man is asked, "When you're lying in your casket and friends and family are mourning, what would you most like to hear them say about you?"

The first man says, "I'd like to hear them say I was a great Doctor and family man." The second man says, "I'd like to hear I was a wonderful husband and school teacher who made a huge difference in childrens lives."

The third man says, "I'd like to hear them say, 'Look! He's moving!'"

# Start The Presses !




Leader publisher John Graham and his installation crew take a breather from their labors. Behind Graham are his two sons Tyler and Jaron, plus press operator Mike Hatfield.

Graham says, "It was a lot of hard work, but we're up and running, and we'll gradually do more and better work as time goes on." The eight units will allow the Leader to print as many as 32 pages in a run, provide more versatility in printed products, and allow full color runs if desired.

During the two year period the press units were thoroughly repaired and rebuilt, and to show the Leader's allegiance to the Lovington school system, the line of press units were all re-painted, Wildcat Blue, naturally!

The first issue of CCN came off the Lovington Leader's rather "seasoned" four unit printing press the last week of August, 1994. This issue was printed on an eight - count 'em - unit press, and the Leader crew are justifiably proud of their new set-up.

Publisher John Graham actually bought the Harris Vanguard units two years ago, but first thing first - the Leader building had to be expanded 50 feet to accommodate putting the eight unit press together, which now stretches out to an impressive 72 feet.

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