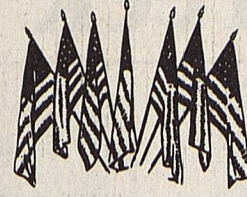


BAZE, BOOKBINDING
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AMARILLO, TX
10/2001 10/2002 2 79101 0514

Cowboy Country News



God Bless America!



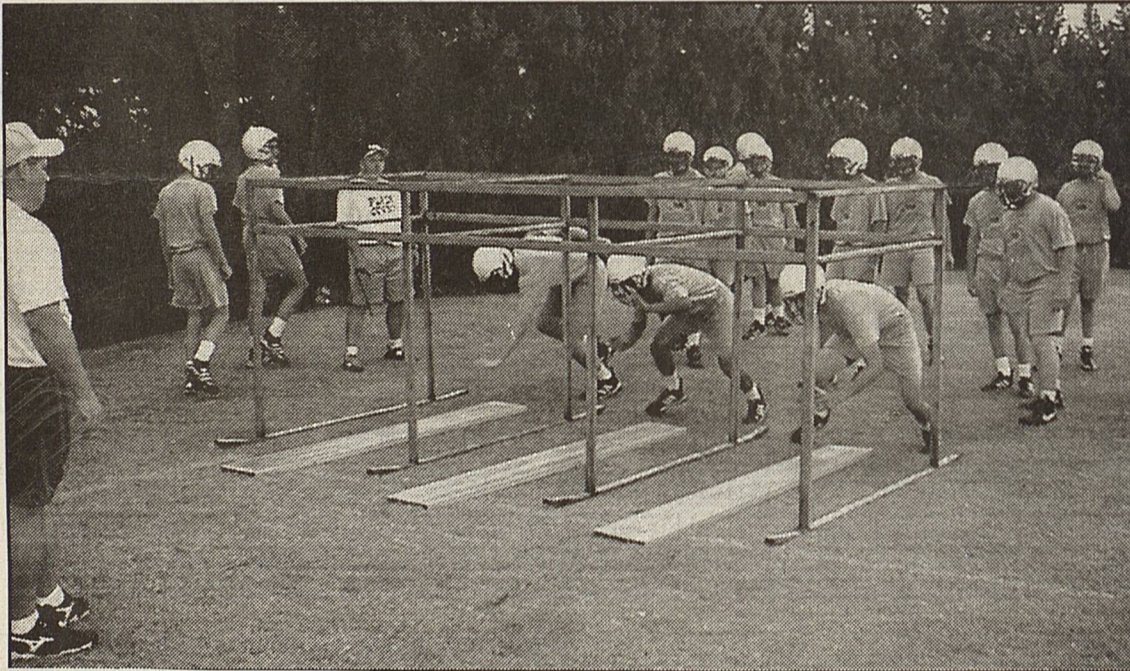
Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume V111, Issue 47, August 14, 2002

It's pant, puff, sweat time again for Cowgirls and Cowboys



The Cowgirls are hard at work honing their volleyball skills in two-a-day workouts in the gym



It's conditioning, learning offensive and defensive skills, and more conditioning for the Cowboys

Annual county picnic honors employees service

The annual Yoakum County picnic in the County Park featured burgers, all the trimmings and ice cream for all county and hospital officials and employees.

Those presented with longevity awards included the following; County:

5 years - Woody Lindsey, Rick Dickson, Lola Elam, Deborah Rushing, Michael McPherson, J. R. Slentz.

10 years - Faye Nelms, Ben Coston, Pat McNabb, William

Upchurch, Joni Hancock, Liz Chandler.

15 years - Dallas Brewer, Ted Welch, Hazel Lowrey, Anna Gonzalez, Jess Gass, Sue Holder.

20 years - Dewayne Merritt, Joe Martinez Jr., Lisa Switzer, Fermin Rivas.

Hospital, Clinic:

5 years - Noelia Esqueda, Johnnie Box, Rosa Gutierrez, Janet Andis, Janie Nunez, Tracy Ochoa, Josie Nerios

10 years - Donna Manzano



Criminal cases in County Court

Three cases were heard in County Court August 7, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Eugene Medina Ortega pled guilty to evading arrest/detention. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay a fine of \$200, \$255 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will spend 36 hours in jail, serve 24 hours community service, and pay \$200 court appointed attorney fees. Warren New served as his attorney, and Sheriff Deputy Larry Murphree was investigating officer.

Zelma Louise Leverett pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana. She will spend 14 days in jail with credit for one day served, and surrender her driver license 180 days. Warren New was her attorney.

Pedro Garcia Serrano pled guilty to a first DWI, breath test .225/.224. He will spend 60 days in jail with credit for 19 days served, and surrender his license one year. Warren New was his attorney.

Producers Requested To Tell TBWEF About Spray Activities

Cotton producers use several insecticides to control pests in their fields, such as Furadan for aphids. Texas Boll Weevil Eradication officials request that growers contact their district office with information on when a field has been treated with any chemicals and what chemicals were used.

Although fields that have been treated must be posted, contacting eradication personnel will help ensure that employees take necessary precautions to protect their health and safety when working in these fields.

The Foundation also wishes to avoid unnecessarily treating fields, as some of the pesticides growers use provide control of boll weevils. For more information, growers may contact their local eradication office.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation is a non-profit, grower-initiated and funded organization dedicated to eliminating the cotton boll weevil from the state in the most cost effective and environmentally responsible manner possible.

Yoakum County Watermelon Round-Up 7th Annual Brisket And Chili Cook Off

The seventh annual Yoakum County Brisket and Chili Cook-Off will be held Saturday, August 31, 2002 at Stanford Park, Plains, Texas. The Cook-Off, held each year in conjunction with the Yoakum County Watermelon Roundup, will commence with the Cook's meeting at 6:00 P.M. on Friday, August 30, 2002.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the first and second place winners in each category. The Traveling Trophy will be awarded to the Grand Champion Team, determined by overall point totals in both categories. To qualify for the Championship Trophy a team must enter both meat divisions.

Cook sites are on the first choice basis beginning at 5:30 P.M. on Friday, August 30, 2002. Yoakum County Precinct Three Commissioner, Ty Earl Powell, is making Stanford Park available and overnight camping is permitted. Water, electricity, as well as restrooms are accessible.

An entry deadline for the event is August 28, 2002. To request information or additional entry forms, please contact Jim Brown at (806) 456-2788 office or (806) 891-0449 cell.

PISD Athletic Department assignments announced

Plains ISD Athletic Director Blake McWhirter has finalized the athletic department's job assignments for all coaches, including some new faces. Assignments for all UIL approved sports include these positions;

FOOTBALL: Coach Larry McMinn returns as head Cowboy Coach and offensive coordinator. Coach McWhirter will be defensive coordinator and work with the offensive linemen. Coach Kevin Bartley will work with the quarterbacks and defensive secondary, as well as the Junior Varsity defense. Coach Michael Davis will be assigned to the defensive secondary, and coach the JV offense. Coach Edwin Brink will head up the 8th grade Wranglers, and assist with varsity receivers and defensive tackles. Coach Todd Davis will work with varsity linemen and defensive ends, and coach the 7th grade Wranglers.

BASKETBALL; New Girls basketball coach Treasure Thaggard will head up the varsity Cowgirls, and will assist with Junior Varsity Volleyball. Coach Michael Davis moved up from Junior Varsity boys basketball coach to the head man position with the Varsity Cowboys this year. He will also serve as boys and girls head tennis coach.

VOLLEYBALL; Michelle Lusk returns as head coach of the Cowgirls, and will assist with the JV girls basketball program and girls track. Thomas Rotunno, hired this summer from Brownfield, will work with all junior high girls sports. Linda Haragan will also assist.

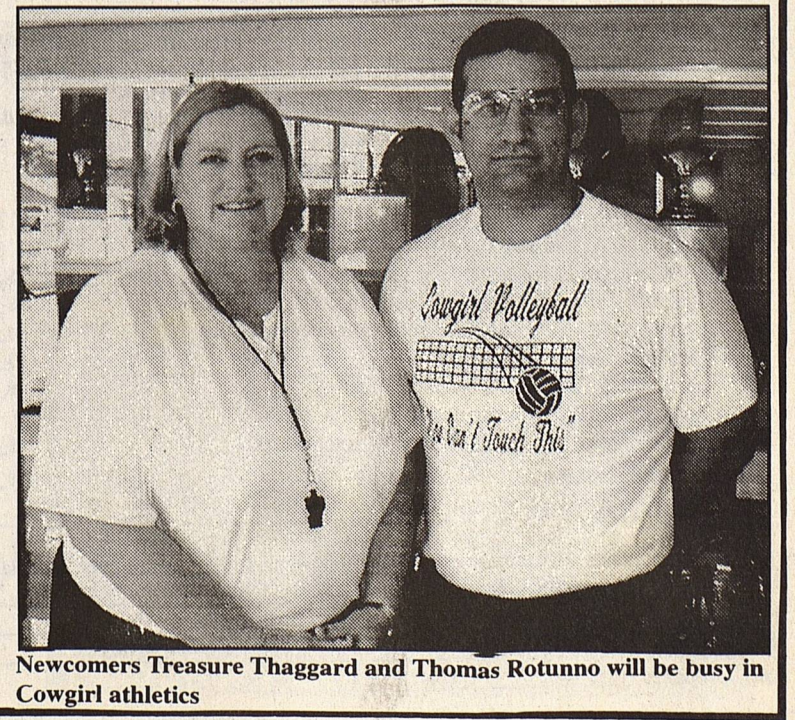
TRACK; Linda Haragan will again be in charge of the high school girls track program, and Blake McWhirter will be head man for the Cowboy track team. Todd Davis will be in charge of the Cross Country sport.

BASEBALL; Kevin Bartley will return as head man of the Cowboy baseball program, and will be assisted again by Coach Todd Davis.

GOLF; Coach Sandra Foster will again be head coach of both the Cowboy and Cowgirl golf teams.

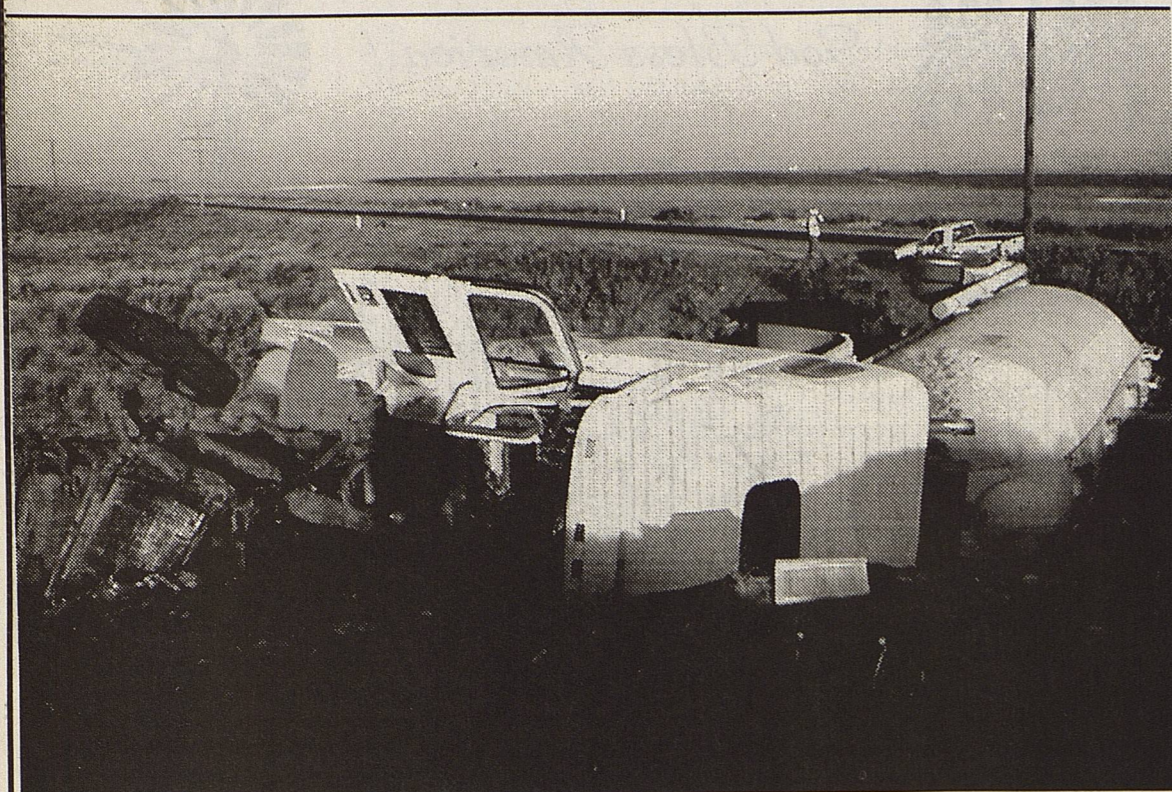


Michael Davis promoted to head Cowboy basketball coach



Newcomers Treasure Thaggard and Thomas Rotunno will be busy in Cowgirl athletics

Multi-Vehicle Wreck



This demolished tractor rig, pulling a trailer load of Potash from mines near Carlsbad, was involved in a multi-vehicle wreck involving loose cattle on US 82 about 5 miles west of Plains Saturday night around 10 PM. DPS Troopers Brad Taylor and Chris Malloy were unavailable Monday to supply details of the wreck. According to numerous personnel called to the scene, it is thought a vehicle plowed into the loose cattle, and then the truck struck that vehicle and the cattle, immediately followed by another vehicle plowing into the melee. Six of the cattle were killed. Sheriff department personnel responded to the wreck, along with Troopers Taylor and Malloy, the Plains Volunteer Fire Department and EMS team, and the EMS team from Denver City. The truck driver, suffering leg cuts, had to be rescued from the truck with jaws of life tools, and at least three other people were transported to Yoakum County Hospital with unknown injuries. Other details unavailable at deadline time.

Interesting Letter From Former Resident

Dear Holly and Gary:
Your presence was sorely missed at the recent West Texas Press Association Conference hosted by Bob Dillard of Fort Davis. Bob, as program chairman and incoming president, had an outstanding program planned, second to none. We were in hopes that you two would be able to attend. Remember that summertime temperatures in the Davis Mountains are not the same as in the Pecos/Barstow part of Texas! Additionally, the summer rains in our area have kept the daytime temps to a minimal.

We enjoyed having Gene and Joyce Dow of Seminole stop by for a brief visit and did some reminiscing about the Sam Malone era of the Sentinel's publication. We would have done the same had you been present, for we recall when Editor Hale's "The Headache," as The Yoakum County Review was commonly called, reached our mailbox weekly on the rural route, delivered by Eva Tubb and later by someone in the T.E. Coke family.

Mrs. Dovie (Eubanks) Moreland also served as editor of the Plains newspaper, but that was before I could read. Mrs. Moreland was my fourth grade teacher, and she also taught my late mother Martha (Camp) Anderson.

Newspapers were our primary means of being informed of happenings since we did not have a television and could listen to our radio (powered by an auto battery) only periodically.

Furthermore, I chuckled to myself as I read with interest the excellent open letter that Superintendent of Schools Haynes offered in the July 31 issue of CCN. I thought of how SIMPLE our lives had been during the early Forties whenever I was an elementary pupil enrolled in the Plains Rural Schools. I cannot imagine thoroughly cleaning 65 bathrooms! (Believe me, I get enough experience at our bed and breakfast with the 13 that we have.)

I shall never forget the day that our classroom routine was interrupted, because indoor plumbing had become a reality. In fact, each of the elementary classes was escorted to the newly constructed rest room area—boys on one side and girls on the other—for a lesson on how to use and flush a commode. Then we were shown how to wash our hands with soap and dry with a paper towel, something that we could not do whenever we used the outhouse. Many of the children did not have indoor plumbing in their homes until after World War II; therefore, this orientation was necessary. My uncle and aunt John Thomas and Mable (Morris) Camp, as custodians, had the 'privilege' of being the first to clean and stock nor do whenever we used the outhouse. Many of the children did not have indoor plumbing in their homes until after World War II; therefore, this orientation was necessary. My uncle and aunt John Thomas and Mable (Morris) Camp, as custodians, had the 'privilege' of being the first to clean and stock these newly built restrooms.

The lowered drinking fountains in the old elementary school's hallway, instead of outside on the school's grounds, were considered to be a luxury; and at last we younger children did not have to squeeze in between the older students to try to get a drink. I had had plenty of practice at attempting this fete whenever I visited the elementary school with one of me older cousins who had "voluntered" my participation in several school programs prior to my being enrolled as a pupil. Mother once recounted of her experiences of drinking from a common dipper from a water bucket during her years in the Plains schools.

The fleet of school buses consisted of four (or five), I believe. A small bus took the fewest of the school's residents towards Bronco/State Line; the bus with the largest seating capacity took those living in the vicinity of

Tokio; another bus was added for those living towards Morton; another bus took those living towards Sligo/Bennett; and finally the bus that I rode, driven by Joe Walden and later by my uncle J.A. "Dad" Rushing, headed south of Plains to the Dixon Ranch for the McCann children and ended on the Allred road for relatives of the George Haywoods who lived north of the Pete Smiths (The Culwell boys later became a part of our group.) All of the drivers were MALES, and I can remember one instance when our bus sat on the roadway near the G.W. Cleveland Ranch in a lake of water because the bus' engine had flooded out due to a sudden downpour; so there we were, stranded. We children remained calm, imitating the driver, because we knew that someone would come to our rescue. No one was in danger.

I don't recall who was responsible for the over-all vehicle maintenance but remember that each of the drivers did their own routine maintenance.

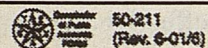
The school grounds had no grass in 1941, and the playing area for the DAYTIME football games consisted primarily of caliche! Both areas were improved quickly.

We had no cafeteria but took our sack lunches to a room where one of teachers was assigned to oversee us during the noon hour.

Both my husband Jay Ward and I are former educators, having taught or served in the administrative capacity collectively for over forty years. We are in no way trying to diminish Mr. Haynes' outstanding report. We just wanted to reflect with nostalgia some thoughts of yesteryear in Plains, Texas, USA.

Anna Beth (Anderson) Ward

Our sincere
Thanks go to
Anna Beth



50-211
(Rev. 6-01/0)

2002

Revised Property Tax Rates in

Yoakum County

This notice concerns 2002 property tax rates for Yoakum County. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

	General Fund	Farm to Market/ Flood Control Fund
Last year's tax rate:		
Last year's operating taxes	\$ 6,304,112	\$ 1,108,127
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 0	\$ 0
Last year's total taxes	\$ 6,304,112	\$ 1,108,127
Last year's tax base	\$ 1,997,247,685	\$ 1,994,110,185
Last year's total tax rate	\$.31564 /\$100	\$.05557 /\$100
This year's effective tax rate:		
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 6,303,336	\$ 1,108,119
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 1,714,205,798	\$ 1,711,106,178
- This year's effective tax rate for each fund	\$.36771 /\$100	\$.06476 /\$100
Total effective tax rate	\$.43247 /\$100	
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearing	\$.44544 /\$100	

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 6,303,336	\$ 1,108,119
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 1,714,205,798	\$ 1,711,106,178
- This year's effective operating rate	\$.36771 /\$100	\$.06476 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$.39713 /\$100	\$.06994 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100
- This year's rollback rate for each fund	\$.39713 /\$100	\$.06994 /\$100
This year's total rollback rate	\$.46707 /\$100	

Statement of Increase/Decrease
If Yoakum County adopts a 2002 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$.43247 per \$100 of value, taxes would decrease compared to 2001 taxes by \$ 37.00

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
General	576,040
Road & Bridge Precincts	1,390,862
Jury	11,490
PI	264,764

Schedule B - 2002 Debt Service
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

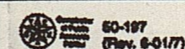
Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
(expand as needed)				
Total required for 2002 debt service				0
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				0
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources				0
- Excess collections last year				0
- Total to be paid from taxes in 2002				0
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only % of its taxes in 2002				0
- Total Debt Levy				0

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at Yoakum County Tax Office, Ave G & Cowboy Way, Plains, Tx.

Name of person preparing this notice: Betty N. Rivas
Title: Tax Assessor Collector
Date prepared: 08-06-02

Three day weather forecast by Duncan Axisa, Meteorologist for S.O.A.R.

DATE	WEATHER	TEMP (°F)	WIND (mph)	RAIN (inches)
Today	Mostly cloudy and slight chance of TS	88/65	E bec SE 15-20	< 0.25
Thursday	Partly cloudy and warmer	93/68	SE 10-20	Nil
Friday	Partly cloudy	94/68	SE 10-20	Nil



50-107
(Rev. 6-01/0)

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Yoakum County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 8.0 percent. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held on August 19th at 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
FOR the proposal: Dallas Brewer, Woody Lindsey, Ty Earl Powell, Jack Cobb
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: J R Slentz

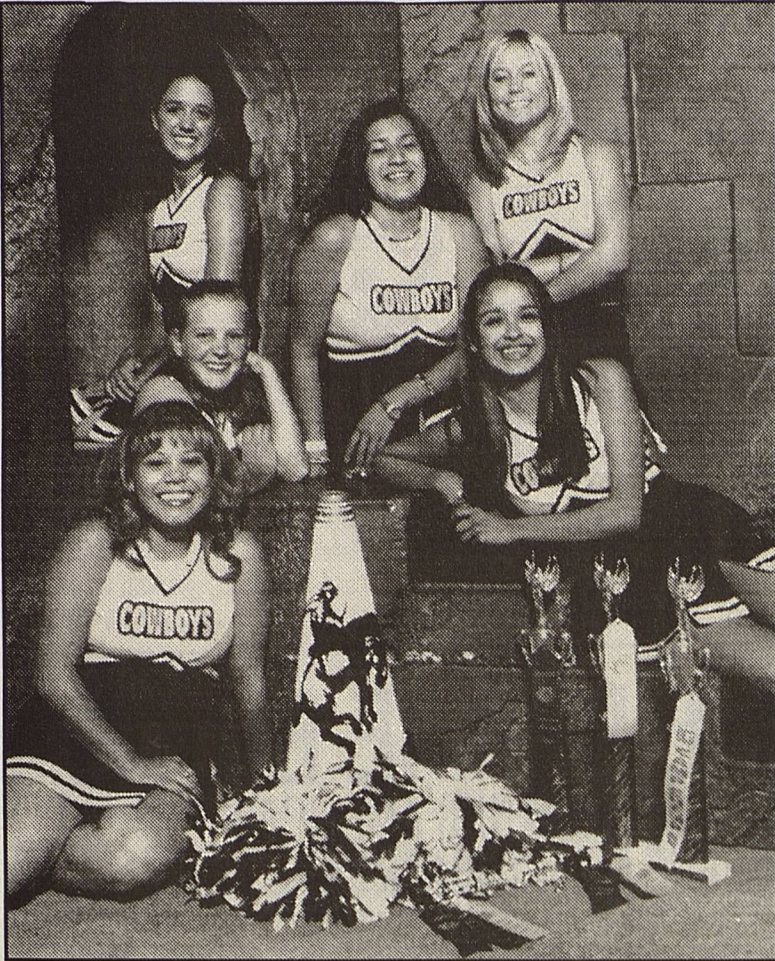
The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	Last Year	This Year
Average residence homestead value	\$ 38,904	\$ 37,888
General exemptions available (amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 38,904	\$ 37,888
Tax rate	.37121/\$100	.46707/\$100
Tax	\$ 144.41	\$ 176.96

Under this proposal, taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$ 32.55 or 22.5 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would increase by \$ 0.09586 per \$100 of taxable value or 25.8 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

Criminal Justice Mandate (for counties):
The Yoakum County Auditor certifies that Yoakum County has spent \$ 27,296 in the previous 12 months beginning August 1, 2001, for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The Yoakum County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

Something to cheer about!



The Varsity Cheerleaders had a successful year representing Plains High School at University Cheerleading Association camp in Abilene at McMurry University. The squad, composed of freshman Priscilla Mares, sophomore Jamie Covarrubias, junior Lashonda Diamond, and seniors Jessica Rodriguez, Keri Hansen and Jill Gray, came home with a total of three trophies and a spirit stick, as well as some individual awards. The group, led by Keri Hansen, choreographed their own original dance routine to perform in the Home Pom Competition, and UCA judges chose them as the winner of this contest. The girls also won the trophy for having the best adaptation and performance of the Xtreme Routine, taught at camp. Because they received superior evaluations every evening on the new material learned each day, the Plains cheerleaders won a trophy for Superior Squad. The Spirit Stick award was earned by being on time to every session, showing enthusiasm, perseverance and motivation to learn. Two of the girls also achieved the status of UCA All-Star Cheerleaders. By trying out on the last night of camp, Jill Gray and Jamie Covarrubias were chosen to be a part of the national all-star cheerleading squad. The girls have the opportunity to march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade this November. These young ladies are anxious to use the skills learned at camp this summer to make Cowboy and Cowgirls athletic competitions more exciting, and to show their support for their classmates throughout the coming school year!

Let There Be Light !



Lea County Electric Cooperative employees used one of their larger bucket trucks recently, performing a check on the towering floodlights at Cowboy Stadium, preparing for the upcoming football season.

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Justice Of The Peace Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases filed and fines and bonds set by Judge Melba Crutcher, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1.

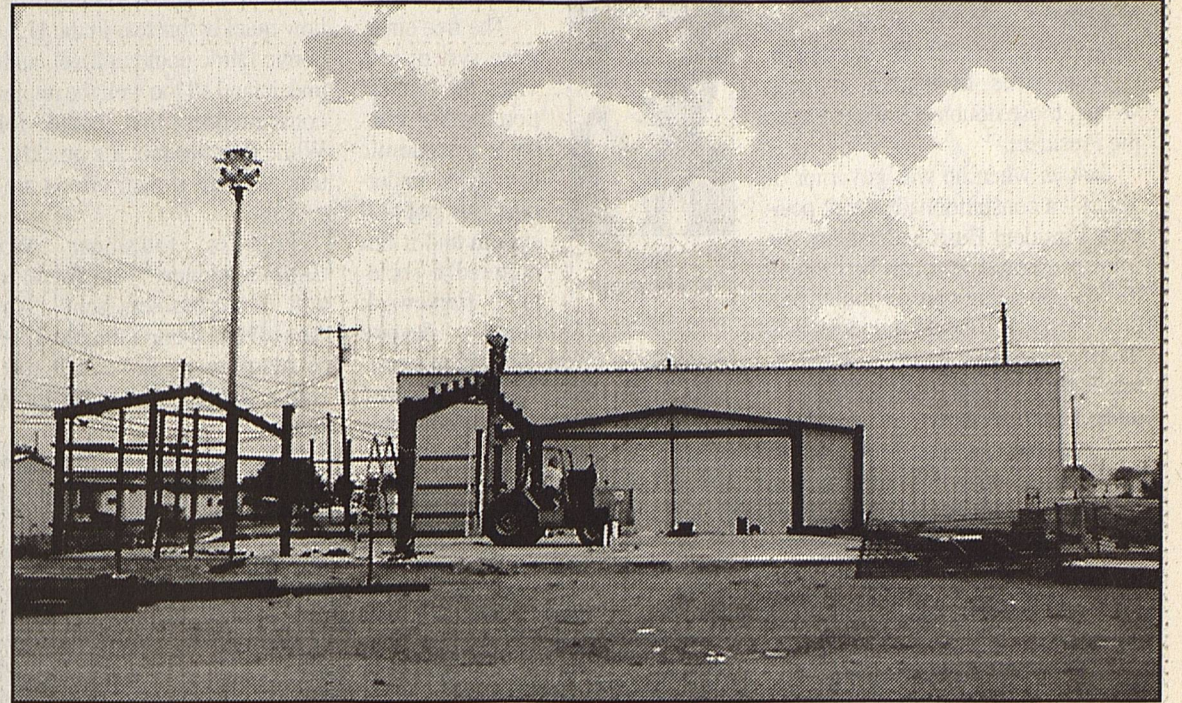
Cases filed:

- 47 traffic cases
- 1 - felony case filed

Bonds set:

- Fail to identify/fugitive from justice-\$1,000 bond
- Driving while intoxicated-1st-El Paso County-\$810.25 fine
- Driving while intoxicated-1st-El Paso County-\$10,000 bond
- Evading arrest/detention-\$500 bond
- Assault causing bodily injury-\$1,500 bond-emergency protective order
- 2 cases-Motion to revoke probation-held until hearing
- Driving while intoxicated-1st-\$1,000 bond
- Theft by check-\$500 bond
- Bail jumping and failure to appear-\$5,000 bond
- Public intoxication-2nd-\$1,000 bond
- Driving while intoxicated-3rd or more-\$2,500 bond+ interlock device ordered
- Bail jumping and failure to appear-\$1,000 bond
- Failure to identify fugitive from justice-\$500 bond
- Unauthorized use of motor vehicle-\$3,500 bond
- Public intoxication-\$500 bond

Steel going up on new City Hall



Workers were busy last week raising the structural steel for the new City Hall building. The project was delayed because of a glitch occurring between the contractor and the steel manufacturer

Obituary

Services Held For Marlene Ellen Gibson

Marlene Ellen Gibson, 64, passed away August 9th, 2002 after a long, brave battle with cancer. She was born June 28, 1938 to Earl and Florence Chrest of Bowbells, North Dakota. Marlene was raised in Bowbells and graduated from Coteau High School in 1956. She attended Minot State Teacher's College and was a school teacher until she met and married Kenneth Gibson in 1959. They moved to Texas in 1961.

Marlene was an active member in the Denver City Church of Christ and the Yoakum County Art Association. She enjoyed gardening, painting, time with her grandchildren, and many hours on the phone chatting with family and friends. Her mother, Florence Chrest, and

a sister, Donna, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband, Kenneth of Denver City, her sons: Ken Gibson Jr. and his wife Kumiko of Japan, Kevin Gibson and his wife Janet of Denver City, her daughter: Konni Marlene Brown and her husband Roger of Midland, her dad: Earl Chrest of North Dakota, three brothers: LaVern Chrest and wife Norma, Laurie Chrest and wife Maureen, Junior Chrest and wife Joan all of North Dakota, and two sisters: Elaine Smith of Colorado, Earlene Wiseman and husband Roy of Washington, and numerous cousins, nieces & nephews. Marlene is also survived by eight grandchildren who she loved dearly

and bragged of often; Chelsie, Casey, Rusty, Jennifer, Amanda, Chase, Larissa, and Kalina.

Marlene was truly blessed in this world with friends and family who dearly loved her and will miss her greatly.

Services were held August 12, 2002 at 10:00 am. at the Denver City Church of Christ with Skip Rodgers officiating. Burial followed at the Denver City Memorial Park under the direction of Ratliff Funeral Home. Family visitation was August 11 from 6:30 pm. to 8:00 pm.

The family requests memorials be made to the New Mexico Christian Children's Home.



Athletic Booster Club meeting
Monday, August 19, 6:30 pm
in the school cafeteria.
Be There !!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 Plains, Texas

WEE CARE Registration
Deadline-August 19th
Classes start
September 3rd
For more information call
456-3661 or 456-5374

Show your spirit and support for the Cowboys and Cowgirls! Have the Cowboy logo painted on your driveway, sidewalk, or fence for \$15.00.
Contact Karen Williams at 806-456-1404.
Sponsored by Plains Athletic Boosters.

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 You can be debt free years sooner with a Debt Management Plan from FCCS.
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 Diseases may occur 30 to 50 years after exposure to asbestos. Many workers were exposed from the 1940s through the 1970s. Industrial workers and spouses (washing clothes) are among those at risk for mesothelioma, throat cancer, or lung cancer. Call us for professional insight.
 Ryan A. Krebs, MD, JD (Doctor-Lawyer in full time Law Practice)
 Richard A. Dodd, L.C.
 Timothy R. Cappolino, P.C. Board Certified Personal Injury Trial Law & Civil Trial Law, Texas Board of Legal Specialization
1-800-460-0606
 www.abestoslaw.com

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
Wednesday, August 21st at 11 AM
 Near Abilene, Texas
 in Windmill City, Merkel, Texas

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 REALTORS AUCTIONEERS APPRAISERS

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 49± Lots ranging in size from 50± x 128± up to 1 1/2± acres as individual lots or in combination of lots (H20 Frontage). Also selling 10 contract for deed notes, Merkel West Office/Residence with 3 bed/2 bath and a nice 2 bed/2 bath home.
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Corporate America Must Get Its House In Order

Some critics are dismissing as too little too late President Bush's call for heightened corporate integrity and new criminal penalties for law-breaking executives. In addition to being wrong, those doubters underestimate the President.

Just as when he was governor of Texas – a constitutionally weak position, President Bush understands the immense power that can be brought to bear from high-profile bully pulpits. President Bush also understands the free enterprise system – and consequently America's way of life – is under stress, perhaps as never before.

Corporate criminals need to go to jail. That's why we support the President's proposals. Congress should quit fussing over whether those proposals are too much or too little and immediately endorse the following:

- The Corporate Fraud Task Force, which recently met for the first time, and will have the full force of the federal government behind it and be capable of moving quickly to address wrongdoing.

- Investor protections featuring quarterly access to critical information written in "plain English" so that investors can make informed decisions about a firm's financial performance, condition and risks.

- CEO accountability that includes doubling fraud penalties, holding executives responsible for corporate financial statements, barring wrongdoers from executive positions, and prompt public disclosure by corporate leaders of stock transactions for personal gain.

The threat of terrorism has changed life in this country – in some ways dramatic, in some ways subtle. But the threat posed by the recent revelations of corporate wrongdoing is no less dangerous and maybe even more insidious. It has shaken some of this nation's largest businesses and eroded consumer and investor confi-



Bill Hammond

dence in our economy.

The free enterprise system provides the foundation for this country's economic activity. It underpins our political system and it has nurtured a societal framework that – despite blemishes – offers this nation's residents unparalleled opportunity and personal freedom. It is central to this country being the most prosperous and powerful in the world.

A few – but significant – number of bad actors have poisoned this nation's economic well. WorldCom, Enron, Xerox Corp., Tyco International Ltd., Global Crossing, Adelphia Communications and others have become synonymous with business practices labeled "dishonest, arrogant, and greedy." Civil and criminal investigations, and bankruptcy filings fill the headlines.

A huge segment of the damage is easily measured. Tens of thousands of people unemployed through no fault of their own, the retirement funds of millions of people decimated – dreams shattered, and financial markets at post-Sept. 11 lows as spooked investors divert capital – the lifeblood of our free enterprise system – from U.S. corporations as they ponder how many more fiscal scandals are going to erupt.

But the greater damage – the longer-term threat – is the suspicion, bewilderment and even anger with which much of the public now views Corporate America. Hard-working Americans will demand hard answers when their latest 401(k) statements reveal that their child's college fund has evaporated, that retirement is out of the question, that their savings are gone.

Some politicians and regulators from the President on down realize how quickly this tear in the U.S. economic fabric could unravel, and they understand all too well the unpleasant consequences that could follow. While they are moving quickly, only time will tell if their efforts are successful.

Populist folksinger Woodie Guthrie, admittedly no friend in his time of big business, sang, "Now as through this world I ramble, I see lots of funny men. Some will rob you with a six-gun, some with a fountain pen."

Who does more harm to society – the robber who snatches \$6,000 from the neighborhood bank, or the CEO, top executive or accounting firm official who "cooks the books," purposely misstates earnings and expenses, and in the process cripples or bankrupts a multi-billion-dollar U.S. corporation and – criminal and civil misdeeds notwithstanding – undermines our way of doing business in this country? Most crooks have a reason for their actions, a way to explain away their crime. None is acceptable.

President Bush's proposals, coupled with current statutes, hold the potential to deter and – if necessary – punish dishonest executives who view Corporate America as their low-risk, high-yield path to illicit wealth.

Corporate America must also clean its own house. It is time for the honest, dedicated, scrupulous business leaders – who are the vast majority – to step forward and set the example that will restore confidence in our free enterprise system. There is a lot riding on their performance. After all, the United States has not prospered for 226 years by accident.

Bill Hammond of Austin is president and CEO of the Texas Association of Business, a broad-based, bipartisan organization representing more than 140,000 small and large Texas employers and 200 local chambers of commerce.



Learning offense assignments during two-a-day workouts

Youth Center Pool Tournament Results

SINGLES:

Manuel Ramoz 1st
Tray Cleveland 2nd
T.J. Cordova 3rd

DOUBLES:

Manuel Ramoz, Jose Ramirez 1st
Brant Huerta, Tray Cleveland 2nd
Angelica Mendez, Clorissa Zorrilla 3rd

STUDEN-ADULT:

Brant, David Huerta 1st
T.J., Terry Cordova 2nd
David Escobar, Larry Longoria 3rd

A German immigrant, Freidrich Ernst, planted the first tobacco crop in Texas and manufactured the first cigar.

*** NOTICE ***
THE CITY OF PLAINS WILL CONDUCT A BUDGET HEARING
Wednesday, August 28, 2002
ON THE PROPOSED FY 2002-2003 BUDGET
The hearing will be held at 7:00 PM at the Yoakum County Community Building, 1006 Avenue G
The Public Hearing is available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance to attend this hearing, please contact City Hall at 456-2288 at least 4 hours in advance of the hearing.



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School Starts Monday, August 19, 2002

Cowboy Country News

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E-Mail us at ccn@crosswind.net
ID# 017574 Ph. 806-456-8451 FAX 806-456-2010

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Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

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Wednesday 8-12
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Please call 806-456-6365

MEMBER 2002

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Lifelines & Styles

Senior Citizens Corner

Opal and Ray Roberts went to Lubbock to help her sister and husband celebrate a golden anniversary this week.

Billie O'Neal reports having a great week end in Ruidosa.

Welcome luncheon guests who have not been here for awhile are Gene and Margie Moore, Lois Aulds, Eunice and William Groves, and Joe Nevarez who has been away touring Texas and New Mexico.

Charlie Gillis reports a wonderful and restful time in the Colorado Rockies last week.

Harley Evans and Mickey Hayes returned from a lengthy trip to the Northwest. Harley attended a fifty-eight year class reunion in Myrtle Point, Oregon, and they went from there on into Washington to visit family and friends.

Maggie Powell enjoyed a visit from her daughter-in-law and granddaughter from east Texas last week. They also visited with G.W. Cleveland and accompanied him to a family reunion while they were here.

Gladys Thomason was busy entertaining two of her daughters from out of town last week. She says they played dominoes until the wee, small hours every night. She didn't report who

was the winner.

Two ladies were present to celebrate their birthdays on Monday. They were Zelma Boone and Sandra Wells. We look forward to seeing their photos on the Birthday Board. Congratulations, Ladies.

A note of appreciation goes to Wanda Black who faithfully keeps the Birthday Bulletin Board current and attractive.

Rev. Harold and Vera Brown are in Kansas this week visiting a son and attending a special ordination service of a young friend in Kansas City. This young man began his walk with the Lord under their ministry in that area several years ago.

While there appears to be a host of negatives about reaching those 'golden' years, one of the many great positives is the time to pause for reflection on our past. Whether good or bad times appear in those shadows, and most lives have a pretty good mixture of the two, it is high on the list of subjects for meditation.

Thought for today: "A successful marriage isn't in finding the right person; it's being the right person." (See Ephesians Chapter 5)

Ladies Night Out

Ladies, here is your chance to get out for an evening with the girls, while supporting a good cause. Women's Protective Services presents Jeff Bailey Thursday, October 10 at the Cactus Theatre (1812 Buddy Holly). He will be accompanied by the Lubbock, Texas Rhythm Machine as well as some special guests. Festivities begin at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now. Jeff has appeared on several Cactus Nostalgia Nights and Old Tim Gospel

Nights. He captivates audiences with his vocal talents by singing songs by Roy Orbison and Elvis Presley, just to name a few. Jeff is also one of the infamous JD's (short for Juvenile Delinquents).

Ladies Night Out is sure to be fun and entertaining. Complimentary refreshments will be served. Don't hesitate, get your tickets today. For more information, please call WPS at (806) 748-5292 or the Cactus Theatre at (806) 762-3233.

Catholic Family Service, Inc. of Amarillo is in need of couples who are interested in fostering and/or adopting children with special needs who are currently in the Texas Foster care system. Training for prospective families will be held on August 17th at the Mahon Library 1306 9th Street in Lubbock from 9:00 am. to 6:00 pm. The Pride Training will be held in one of the conference rooms of the Library. Both husband and wife need to attend the session. Single applicants are also welcome. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age and, if applicable, married for at least two years. Please contact Danny Wampler at 1-877-924-kids or Susana Garcia at 806-637-1118 or 806-543-2818 (mobile number) to make your reservation.

First United Methodist Church
1202 Avenue G - Plains, Tx.
456-3727



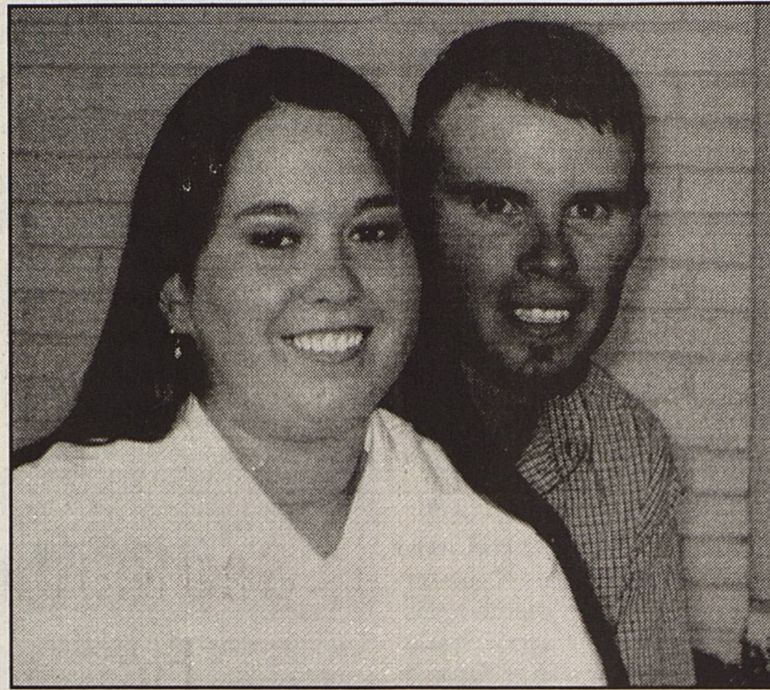
Sunday Schedule
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm

Wednesday Connection
Food, Fellowship & Study
5:30-7:30 pm

Other Opportunities
Fitness/Exercise Class - 5:30-6:30 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays

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Stowers-Dearing Wed



Mr. Roy Lee and Dorothy Stowers are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter Jessica "Jess" Summer Stowers to Jeremy Thomas Dearing, son of Mr. Melvin and Dawn Dearing. The happy couple were wed on July 20, 2002 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Jess is a graduate of Bovina High School and attended South Plains College. She is employed as a medical transcriptionist for J.L.S. Transcription in Lubbock.

Jeremy is a graduate of Plains High School and attended Texas Tech University. He is employed as an engineer with Texas Department of Transportation in Plainview.

The couple live in Lubbock, Texas

Watermelon Decorating Contest Rules

1. Entrants must live in Yoakum County or within 10 miles of county line.
2. Awards of \$250.00 savings bonds go to age groups juniors, 0-9; youth, 10-20; adult, 21 and up. Any age group is eligible for Best of Show for a \$500.00 savings bond; age group does not matter.
3. Winners must verify that savings bonds have the correct name, address, and social security number with donor banks.
4. A whole or parts of real watermelon of any variety maybe used.
5. No restrictions apply on decoration materials except must be in good taste. Chair will determine if inappropriate in case of dispute.
6. Painting or carving may be done on the watermelon (s).
7. Contestant is responsible for a prop if needed to hold the watermelon in a certain position.
8. Contestant must leave watermelon on display from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on the day of the contest. Disposal of melon or materials will be handled by chair if contestant doesn't claim it.
9. Only one entry per person; entry form must be filled out when entering contest. Forms will be available at the information desk when entering the contest.
10. A nameplate may accompany entry if adds to understanding of decorations.

PRIZES

Junior Division-\$250.00 savings bond (sponsor; Plains State Bank)

Youth Division-\$250.00 savings bond (sponsor Plains State Bank)

Adult Division-\$250.00 savings bond (sponsor: Well Fargo Bank)

Best of Show-\$500.00 savings bond (Sundown State Bank)

We Get Letters

Dear Holly and Gary,

Just a short note to let you know that you have been in my prayers, I do hope your treatments have gone well and you are well on your way to full recovery.

I enjoy the newspaper so much, it keeps me in touch with old friends, but I just can't understand why they look so much older than me!!

Sorry to miss the Old Settlers Reunion, but as you know Gary, I had a very important golf tournament to attend. Myself and two other ladies played in a 3 Lady Scramble in Idabel, OK. We shot a 2 day total 65-66=131 and came in 5th and no money. But I did win a 'Closet to the Pin'. 136 yd. par 3 and was 9 inches from the hole won a whole \$25.00 got a little of my entry fee back. Tell all my friends and family hello for me. Please continue 'From the Hack', it brightens my day and laughter heals the soul.

Sincerely,
Jan James

Four County Shared Services Arrangement Give Special Education Help

The Four County Shared Services Arrangement provides special education services for students from birth to age 22 who live in the Brownfield, Denver City, Loop, New Home, O'Donnell, Plains, Seagraves, Tahoka, and Wellman-Union school districts.

Services are provided for the speech, visually or hearing impaired, and also provide for the learning disabled, emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded and for students with health or physical disabilities who attend public schools, private schools, or home schools.

If you know of a child who needs services, call (806) 637-8448 or your local school district for more information.

Look for opportunity. You can't wait for it to knock on the door. You might not be home. Ginger Heath

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- Johnette/Paul Mansur
- Judge Dallas Brewer
- Plains Memorial Chapel
- Christy Brink
- Yoakum County Connection
- Jerome Head
- Vaughn/Carolyn Culwell
- Mary Dale Forbus
- County Clerk Debbie Rushing
- Dottie Mayes

From The Hack

Did you catch the article in the Lubbock AJ's Monday edition about the annual watermelon feast provided Texas Tech football players as sort of a celebration of the end of the grueling two-a-day practice sessions? It seems for some 30 years Red Raider teams have been feted with a cold watermelon feast by various groups and individuals appreciative of their work prior to the tough football season coming up.

One paragraph really caught my eye; "Macky McWhirter from Plains has been the grower and provider (of the melons) for many years. He has a commercial operation that ships produce all over."

Now wait a moment! The writer expects me to believe Macky furnishes watermelons to the Red Raiders, with him a Baylor University alum who bleeds bright green if only slightly nicked? Get a grip. This cannot be the Macky Mc I know.

I once asked Macky if it would be OK if Bride and I visited one of his melon patches for a few free samples. His exact reply was, "If I find you in one of my fields, I will probably shoot high with my .30-06 over your wife. I will, however, be bore sighted on your goozle if I even see you thump a melon!"

McWhirter has long been semi-affectionately known in Yoakum County as the original scrooge. When he plays golf (not very well, by the way) he marks his ball on the green with a penny, a lousy copper penny.

Once he dropped such coin and couldn't find it. Play was held up 27 minutes while he frantically searched for the coin. A fellow player finally dug a penny from his pocket and offered it to Scrooge, who huffed, "No, I want my own penny. It's my lucky coin. I made a ten foot putt with it once, longest I've ever made."

Beginning to sense why I was suspicious about his generosity with the melons? I re-read the article several times, and the light finally burned for me. Nowhere in that key paragraph did the writer state Macky GAVE the hundreds of melons to the Red Raiders.

Now it's crystal clear to me. He made a few more bucks!

This column has frequently featured some rather strange, if not down right bizarre sayings uttered by a very nice, charming local lady. The utterances were secretly furnished to me by a very large, muscular male, who always threatens me with bodily harm if I reveal the sources of the lady's faux pas tidbits. The lady recently celebrated a son's wedding to a lovely young thing. Following exchanging vows, the young couple departed for the site of their first night of wedded bliss. Something happened, I can't remember what, but the groom was unable to carry his bride across the threshold. When mom learned of this tragedy, she cooed, before witnesses, "Oh, dear, Hubert (not the youngman's name), it's a shame you weren't able to throw your honey through the door!"

Absolutely true story. Cheerfully stolen material; Little Tim was in the garden filling in a hole when his neighbor looked over the fence. Interested in what the young-

ster was doing,, he politely asked, "What are you up to there, Tim?"

"My goldfish died," Tim replied tearfully, without looking up, "and I've just buried him." The neighbor was concerned. "That's an awfully big hole for a goldfish, isn't it?"

Tim patted down the hole, then replied, "That's because he's inside your stupid cat!"

In our last Sunday School class, we were perusing God forming Adam from clay, and breathing life into him through his clay nostrils. I immediately knew this had to happen in the Garden of Eden, for even God couldn't blow air through the allergy filled nose of anything in West Texas. Our teacher told us about God making a woman from Adam's rib, and asked what we thought God had in mind with a woman. A female student piped up, "He knew Adam had to have a woman to tell him what to do!"

NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS) COUNTY OF YOAKUM)

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10:00 A.M., Monday, August 26, 2002, for the sale of (1) used 1997 Dodge Grand Caravan.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, August 26, 2002. Bid price will be paid from 2002 budget funds.

To inspect the trade in, please contact Ty Earl Powell, Commissioner, Precinct #3, P.O. Box 120, Plains, Texas 79355 or call 806/456-4371.

For bid forms and specifications, please contact the Yoakum County Auditor, P.O. Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355 (806/456-2422) or Ty Earl Powell, Commissioner, Precinct #3, P.O. Box 120, Plains, Texas 79355 or call 806/456-4371.

Sealed bids should be marked "USED VEHICLE-PRECINCT#3" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge, Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456/Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains, Texas 79355. **NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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50-280 (Rev. 4/00)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Plains Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:30 p.m. August 26, 2002 in the Administration Office of Plains Independent School District. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates					
	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.35	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.35	\$ 12,009	\$ 0.00
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 2.17	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.17	\$ 20,655	\$ 0.00
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.50	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 14,278	\$ 0.00

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence		
	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 35,215	\$ 34,010
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 13,215	\$ 13,484
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.50
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 178.40	\$ 202.26
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 23.86

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$ 2.23. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$ 2.23.

Fund Balances	
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,550,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0.00

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Plains Independent School District offers vocational programs in Agriculture, Home Economics, and Industrial Arts. Admission to these programs is based on need, interest, and ability.

It is the policy of Plains Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Plains Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocation programs. For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator/504 Coordinator, James Haynes, at P.O. Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355, (806) 456-7401.

FORMA DE MUESTRA

Plains Independent School District ofrece programas vocacionales en Agricultura, y Economia de Casa, y Artes Industriales. La admision a estos programas se basa en necesidad, interes, e habilidad.

Es norma de Plains Independent School District no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o activades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Deprechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Emmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

Plains Independent School District tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para informacion sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Titulo IX, y/o el Coordinador de la Seccion 504 James Haynes, P.O. Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355, (806) 456-7401.

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