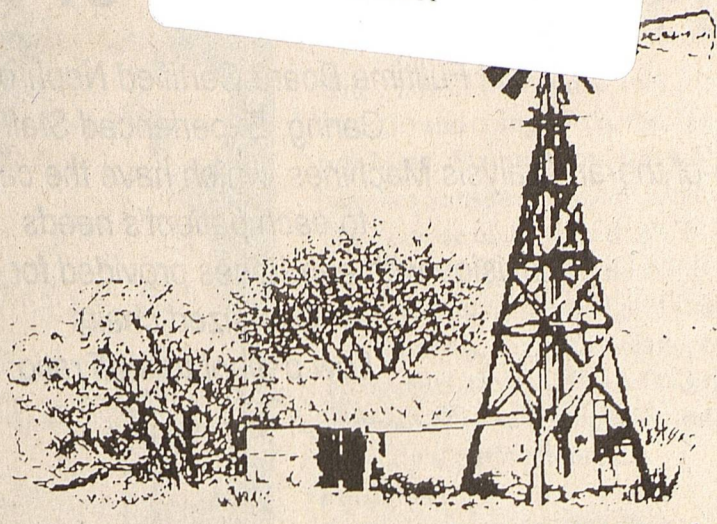


Cowboy Country News

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

Volume XI, Issue 8, November 3, 2004

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Superintendent clarifies PISD Rollback Election

“Plains ISD will be holding a tax rollback election on December 2, 2004. There seems to be some confusion about why the district is having this election.

“Plains ISD abides by state law when developing a budget for their district, adopting that budget and setting a tax rate. The law is outlined in a document entitled “Truth-in-Taxation Guide for Setting Tax Rates 2004.” The law requires the district’s budget be developed by August 20th and adopted no later than August 31st. The law also requires that the district tax rate must be adopted no later than the 60th day after receiving the certified appraisal roll, or September 30th. The district set the tax rate on September 13th, 2004. At that time the district also called a rollback election for October 30th, 2004, a date that was determined by following the guidelines set out in the Truth-in-Taxation Guide provided to the district.

“After the October 30th date was set, the district was contacted by the State

Comptroller’s office to tell us the information about setting rollback election dates had changed. After a conversation with the Secretary of State’s office concerning the new law, the district set the new date for the election to take place on December 2, 2004, which was the earliest date the new law would allow.

“The Plains ISD school board and administration are working extremely hard to provide an excellent education for our students. As one taxpayer recently said, their heartfelt desire is that the present students of Plains ISD will have the same opportunities her children had as students years ago.

“The Plains ISD board, administration and staff appreciate the support the community has shown in the past, through the payment of taxes and the backing of our programs, students and staff. We feel sure the community will continue to support the district.”

James Haynes,
Plains ISD Superintendent

Criminal Cases In District Court

Four criminal cases were heard in District Court October 20, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

In a cause of theft, more than \$1,500, less than \$20,000, Carie Jo Luther pled guilty and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred. She will be under community supervision five years, was fined \$2,500, must pay \$293 court, restitution of \$4,711, and \$300 court appointed attorney fees. She will serve 120 hours community service, pay \$50 monthly supervision fees, and must truthfully testify against Linda Mendoza. She must return a 1995 Dodge van in good condition to the Criminal District Attorney’s office by November 19, the sale proceeds of which will be credited to restitution. Investigating officer was Sheriff Deputy David Bryant, and

Turn To Page 4,
DISTRICT COURT

ADVENTURE IS NOT DEAD

North Carolinian logs amazing travel record



Bernie rides his mule, Woody, and his horse Magnolia pulls the small cart containing provisions and gear

By John Graham,
Publisher, Lovington Leader

Bernie Herberts, 35, brought his dog and pony show through Lovington last week. But his best friend isn’t a dog - it’s a mule - a mule named Woody. Man, mule and pony made their way into Lovington last week at the top speed of two miles per-hour. Harberts rides Woody, the 15 year old mule, and Magnolia, a 10 year old pony, pulls a light cart with all their camping gear and belongings. But, what brings a man from Statesville, North Carolina to the point of looking at the world on the shoulder of a highway while the rest of mankind speeds by at 70 mph?

Harberts is a tree farmer and former steeplechase rider by trade, who has a way with horses and animals. He has a four year engineering degree in paper and wood, but, at age 30, decided to re-evaluate his life. “I decided to take a look at where I was going.”

He had earlier thought of sailing around the world 15-20 years ago, and in 1987 spotted the boat that would carry him, “Sea Bird”, sitting in muddy water, semi-abandoned. He decided at that moment he would take his trip around the globe by water.

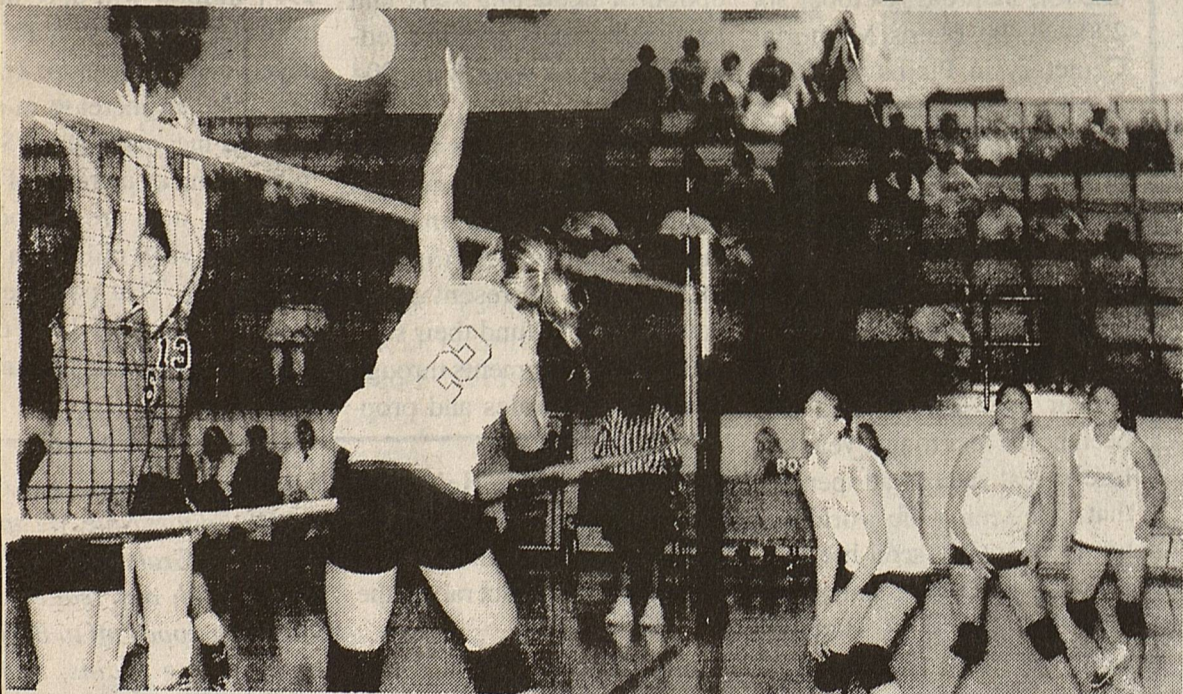
He had spent very little time in a sail boat before his trip, but never the less, he left Oriental Marina in North Carolina November, 1988 in a 34 foot Colvis steel cutter he bought for \$12,000, and spent the next 4 1/2 years making his way around the globe on earth’s oceans.

He burned up the transmission on the engine just out of St. Thomas in the Caribbean and ended up spending time there training horses and giving clinics to raise money to repair his boat and continue on his way. Buying and training horses became his on and off again job the next few years. He would leave the boat in a port and fly back to St. Thomas to train horses to finance his trip.

Harberts spent a year and half in New Zealand working with herders and absorbing some of the local accent which he still has today. At one point in his trip he spent 65 days at sea, from South Africa to St. Johns in the Caribbean, without contact with the outside world - no radio and no satellite connections. He watched three full moons come and go. On June 1, 2003 he arrived back at Oriental Marina, where he started more than four years before.

TURN TO PAGE 2, ADVENTURE

Cowgirls claim district championship



Action shot at recent practice game with Brownfield. Cowgirls take on McCamey for bi-district crown in Andrews Thursday night, Nov. 4, 7:30 PM. Full team photo inside.

Cowboys fall to Eagles 35 - 6

The Cowboys visited their old foe Seagraves Eagles last Friday, and despite a good effort and virtual standoff first half resulting in a tight 7-6 Eagle lead, were outgunned the final two periods.

Taking the opening kickoff, the Cowboy offensive line blocked effectively to allow Evan Cain to complete a 15 yard pass to Tyler Caffey for a first, followed by a quick burst up the middle by Todd Williams for 36 yards and another first down with the ball on the Eagles 17. A fumble would give the ball to Seagraves on

their 29, and the Eagles stayed on the ground for three consecutive first downs, and a final 35 yard dash for the goal line, and the kick gave them a 7-0 lead.

Midway through the quarter the Cowboys started a drive from their 35. Cowboy linemen opened holes off right tackle and left end for Caffey to get a first down, who then tossed a 11 yard pass to Blake O’Quinn for another first. Cowboy linemen blocked very effectively for backs Caffey, Williams and Ramiro Martinez to grind down the field, with Williams circling

his left end for the final 6 yards and the score. T.J. Cordova’s extra point kick was blocked. But the Cowboys were back in the hunt, 7 - 6.

Three minutes into the second period, Seagraves would score again to go up 14-6. With the ball again, the Cowboys showed life with a first down run by Williams, a dash by Cain moved the ball to the Eagles 25, but a fumble on the next play dashed hopes for another score. At the half Seagraves led 14-6.

Turn To Page 4,
COWBOYS

New Early Vote Record By County Voters

As an illustration of the importance Yoakum County voters placed on this year’s election, a new county record was set for early votes cast here and in Denver City from November 18 until 5 PM Friday, November 29.

County Clerk Debbie Rushing reported the old early vote participation record was established in 2000 during the previous Presidential election, when 1,154 votes were cast. When the early vote polls here and in Denver City closed at 5 PM Friday, November 29, a total of 1,614 votes had been cast.

CCN debated delaying our print day to Wednesday morning to report election results, but because of reports of election day problems and irregularities in ominous numbers, we considered it possible if not probable the election final outcome would not be available for who knows how long.

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PLAINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE P. O. BOX 364 PLAINS, TEXAS 79355

Plains Chamber of Commerce is initiating a fund raiser to replace the marquee sign that is located south of the courthouse. At this time we are taking orders for bricks that will be used at the base of the new sign. The price of a brick will be \$50.00. The brick can have up to three lines with a maximum of 16 letters and spaces per line.

Please complete the form below and return to the address above with your check in the amount of \$50.00 for each brick ordered. This is not a war memorial, but you can honor a veteran if you wish. We would like family names, clubs and businesses (with the date of establishment), events, in memory of, and anything that might be a part of the history of our town.

DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 31, 2004. All monies will be refunded in the event that we do not receive enough money to complete this project. Any donation will also be appreciated.

PLEASE PRINT YOUR INFORMATION.

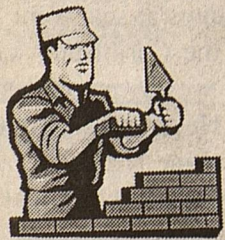
Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

ORDERED BY _____ DATE _____

CHECK NUMBER _____ CASH _____



Cowboy Country News

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CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



The year 2004 marks two important milestones for young Texans. Eighteen year old Texans will they get their chance to cast their first ballot in a Presidential election. Secondly, for the first time since these young men and women were born, Texas taxpayers can again take advantage of a major federal tax write off. President Bush recently signed into law restoring the ability of Texans to deduct their state and local sales taxes from their federal income taxes for fiscal years 2004 and 2005.

Simply put, the law reinstates the sales tax deduction, which has been dropped in a 1986 overhaul of the tax code. The 1986 legislation allowed residents of states with income taxes to deduct the taxes they paid to support their state governments, while Texans were denied a similar deduction for taxes paid to support their state government. The reason was solely because Texas and six other states did not levy an income tax and relied primarily upon the sales tax.

Services held for Beth Pippin

Beth Pippin of San Antonio passed away October 25, 2004 in San Antonio. Ms. Pippin was born October 17, 1972, to John and Judy Pippin in Akron, Ohio. Mrs. Pippin was a Roman Catholic.

Those left to cherish her memories include her father, John and wife Sue Pippin of Cincinnati, Ohio, and her mother Judy of San Antonio; her grandmothers, Ruth Pippin of Denver City and Mildred Rice of San Antonio; A son, Evan Pippin of San Antonio; two brothers, Timothy Pippin of Tampa, Florida and Carson Pippin of Douglas, Georgia.

Graveside services were held at 2 PM Saturday, October 30, 2004 at the Plains Memorial Cemetery in Plains with Mr. Bob Fred officiating.

Personal services are being provided by Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors, Plains Memorial Chapel.

FROM PAGE ONE, ADVENTURE

It seems Harberts likes the slower pace in life, and had been home less than a year before he realized he had spent all that time seeing the world but never really seen his own country, the United States.

On March 15, 2004, Harberts launched a new mission - simply to travel from the North Carolina seashore to the mountains. His only transportation and companionship - his mule and pony. But, when Bernie got to the Carolina mountains, he didn't stop. He longed to see where his grandfather homesteaded in Chickasha, Oklahoma. After spending September in Oklahoma, he has now set his sights on the west coast, where he will meet up with a buddy and take on another sailing adventure, destination yet

The result of that change eighteen years ago was to force 55 million Americans, or nearly one in five, to pay more than their fair share of federal taxes. This measure costs Texas families itemizing their deductions an average of \$408 per year.

Since I came to the Senate, I have worked with my colleagues and sponsored legislation to restore the state sales tax deduction. Today, I am pleased to announce this victory for tax equity.

The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (HR 4520/S. 1637) includes language to allow a state tax deduction. This will give Texas taxpayers and those living in the six other states without a state income tax the option of deducting state and local sales taxes on their federal income tax returns in 2004 and 2005.

The 1986 change was not fair to those citizens living in states which do not levy income taxes. Local voters, through their elected representatives, have chosen to fund their state and local governments through income taxes, sales and prop-

erty taxes, or some combination of these systems. It is simply not right for the federal government to provide favorable treatment to one system of taxation and not the others.

The change was wrong for another reason: Texans should not be taxed on our taxes. The restoration of the sales tax deduction will not force Texas taxpayers to keep a shoebox filled with a year's worth of sales receipts, unless they choose to do a full itemization. Instead, they will be able to use sales tax tables compiled by the Secretary of the Treasury to determine the amount of the deduction to which they are entitled. These estimates will take into account the taxpayer's state of residence, filing status, number of dependents, adjusted gross income, and state and local sales tax rates. It is important to note that Texans will want to hang onto receipts for big ticket items such as boats, cars, or trucks. The new law allows a taxpayer to write off the taxes on those large items in addition to the amount they derive from the sales tax tables.

This relief for Texas taxpayers took a lot of work, and was the result of bipartisan cooperation in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. Congressman Kevin Brady (R-Woodlands) and House Majority leader Tom DeLay (R-Sugar Land) led the effort in the House. In the Senate, I found many Republicans and Democrats who understood this was a matter of tax fairness.

The Texas economy will also benefit from fixing this flaw in our federal tax system. The average family of four will save \$928 in federal taxes each year. This means, according to the Texas Comptroller, more than \$974 million will stay in the hands of Lone Star State taxpayers and will lead to; 21,798 new jobs, an increase in state sales tax income of about \$49.7 million, and an increase of \$1.2 billion in state gross product, including \$819 million in new investment. That positive impact explains why I am committed to making this deduction permanent.

to be determined. He's now over halfway across America and in a few days will be crossing another mountain range, the Rockies.

Bernie and his animals can make 15 to 20 miles per day, and he says he can get by on about \$130 per week. "It's not about how much money you have, it's really about how much you can cut back."

He relies on the hospitality of folks along the way for a place to set up camp every night. He carries a five pound teepee and a three pound wood burning stove to survive the elements. He says he likes the slow pace and really doesn't get lonely. He describes himself as "very self contained, very comfortable being in solitude without being lonely. I've felt a lot more alone at the office Christmas party."

Harberts has a web site where you can read more about his travels at www.riverearth.com.

*CCN Editors Note. We appreciate John Graham sharing this article with our readers. We had been tipped off to Bernie's approaching Plains, and his plans to spend the night here in Stamford Park, where I intended to interview him Monday morning. A lengthy phone call and other plan changes made me miss him and he journeyed as far as New Tex Gin to spend the night. Tuesday morning, I passed Bernie, Woody and Magnolia on my way to Lovington to print last week's issue. We appreciate calls about Bernie's journey.

The oldest Texas cattle brand still in use is the Crossed W, brought to Liberty and Chambers counties in the 1820's by Taylor White, the first American cattle king in Texas. His descendants still use it

TDA Endorsements Needed

Western High Plains producers who recently sold cotton and were given a check with the Texas Department of Agriculture named as a joint payee must obtain an endorsement from TDA before cashing or depositing the check.

Endorsements may be obtained at the TDA and foundation locations listed below. For other office locations that may be nearer to you, call Abilene Headquarters at (866) 672-2800.

In general, assessments must be paid before an endorsement will be given, but if other parties are named on the check, producers should call one of the offices listed below to find out what producers to follow.

TDA and the foundation will make every attempt to be as accessible as possible, but producers are highly encouraged to call before going to any office. This will help ensure someone is available to assist them and that their visit can be handled efficiently.

TDA staff will be available Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 a.m.-noon and at other times with an appointment.

West Texas Regional Office, Lubbock, (806) 799-8555
 Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Offices: Western High Plains Zone Office, Plains (806) 456-4113
 Western High Plains District Office, Brownfield, (806) 755-2617
 Western High Plains District Office, Seminole, (432) 758-1261

DA warns, Beware Of Super Bowl Scams

With the approach of the annual Super Bowl, it has come to the attention of the Yoakum County Criminal District Attorney Office several persons are planning 'Super Bowl Boards' with an item or items to be awarded to the winner. This, however fun and harmless as it may seem, actually constitutes Gambling Promotion, a violation of Section 47.03 of the Texas Penal Code, a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and/or fine of up to \$4000.

Last year a resident of Yoakum County offered a pickup truck in a similar contest. Before the winner could claim his prize, however, the pickup had been sold by the contest promoter. He was arrested and jailed. The penal code does make allowances for similar contests operated by registered non-profit organizations.

The common office football board is usually not illegal if no one person promoting the contest receives a benefit from the outcome. It's a winner take all game. For example, if the squares are fifty cents each then the winner or winners will receive \$50. The promoter receives nothing. You are encouraged not to participate in the illegal contests and make sure the board you sign up for is just for fun and no one person will receive gain for the game. Besides, participation in illegal gambling is also a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$500.

From Page 1, DISTRICT COURT

Warren New served as her attorney.

Manuel Ramos Castruita in a plea bargain and order modifying supervision from a third or more DWI had community supervision extended for five years. He will stay in jail 180 days or until space is available in the Ray D. Anderson corrections facility at Brownfield, where he shall remain not less than one month or more than 24 months. All provisions of the January 2002 original order will remain in effect. David Martinez served as his attorney.

Tracy Lynn McClellan pled guilty to possession of controlled substance, more than one gram, less than four. A 10 year prison sentence was

suspended and probated 10 years. He was fined \$1500, must pay \$498 appointed attorney fees, \$140 restitution to DPS and \$25 time payment fee. He must serve 160 hours community service, surrender his driver license 180 days, remain in jail up to 180 days or until space is available in a Substance Abuse Treatment Facility for no less than 90 days or more than one year. Investigating officer was Investigator Lisa Switzer for the Criminal District Attorney office. His attorney was Jimmy Hammons.



Halloween Night Of Horrors



Monster & not so excited young 'Treater'



Two Big Ghouls, One Little Bored Girl



She didn't try to scare, just used charm



He was proud of FANGS, she thought he was WEIRD

UIL Math/Science Team Results

The Plains Math and Science team traveled to Sweetwater October 30 and competed in the Texas State Technical College Practice Meet. Plains competed with 7 other A - AAA schools. The Number Sense team placed 2nd. The Calculator team placed 1st. The Science team placed 3rd. Plains finished as the second place Sweepstakes team behind AA Ballinger. The following students competed; Kurt Alldredge, Lauren Davis, Amber Friesen, Douglas Conway, Joe Luis Gallegos, Allison Friesen, B.J. Lester, Adam McCravey, Blake O'Quinn, Evan Cain, Breck Hamm, Brandon Hise and Kerry Sisson.

Individual performances:

Freshmen:

Kurt Alldredge 6th NS, 2nd Sci. Douglas Conway 9th Science Lauren Davis 6th Math, 7th Science Amber Friesen 5th Cal, 2nd Math, 1st Sci.

Sophomores:

Joe Luis Gallegos 2nd Math, 1st Science

Juniors:

Allison Friesen 9th NS, 1st Cal, 7th Math, 5th Sci. B.J. Lester 6th Cal, 9th Math, Adam McCravey 9th Science, Blake O'Quinn 7th NS, 8th Cal, 8th Math

Seniors:

Evan Cain 3rd Cal, 6th Science Breck Hamm 8th Math, 7th Sci. Brandon Hise 1st NS, 1st Cal, 1st Math, 1st Science. Kerry Sisson 3rd NS, 6th Math, 4th Science.

In A - AAA Brandon Hise had the top Number Sense, Calculator and Math score and the 3rd highest Science score. Allison Friesen had the 2nd highest score in Calculator.



An entire FAMILY of treaters



Two more Ghouls, and a lovely Princess

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In the second half, Cowboy defenders Michael Crump, Scott Bruton and Martinez played tough to stall the Eagle attack, but the Cowboy offense was bogged down, forcing a Bruton punt. Another Eagle drive started at their 37, and seven plays later a one yard plunge up the middle and two point conversion put Seagraves up 22-6.

With 5 minutes left in the third quarter, The Cowboy line opened holes for Cain. Caffey and Williams to gain two first downs, but the drive stalled at the Eagle 35. They quickly passed and rushed downfield to another score and 29-6 lead at the start of the final period.

The Cowboys would manage a couple of first downs in their possession on runs by Cain and

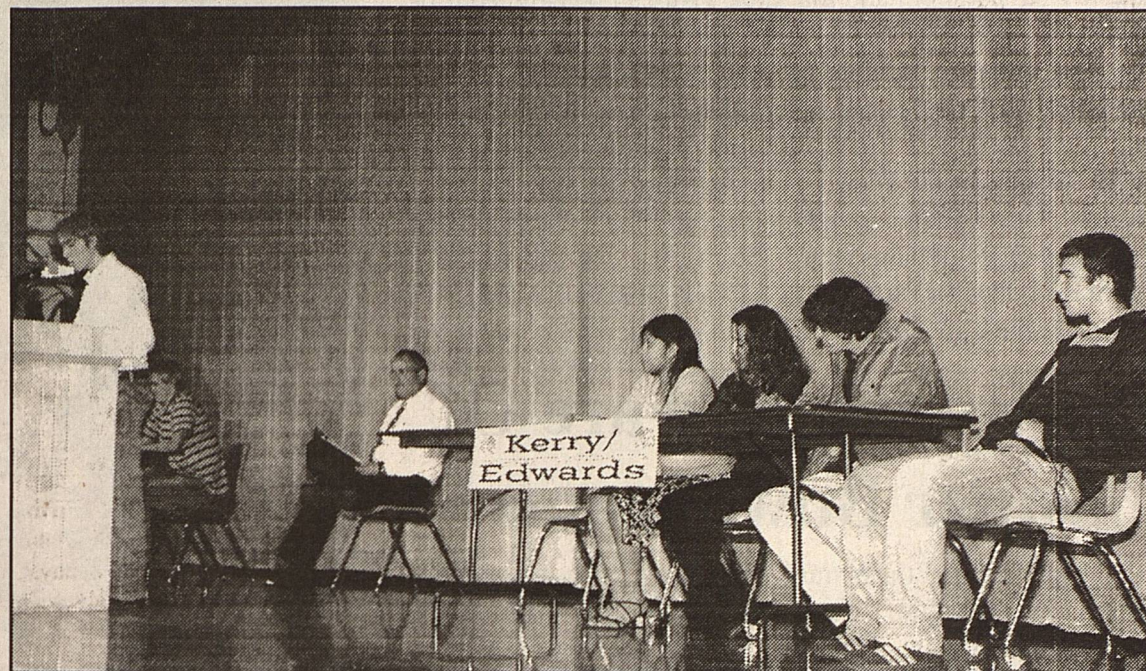
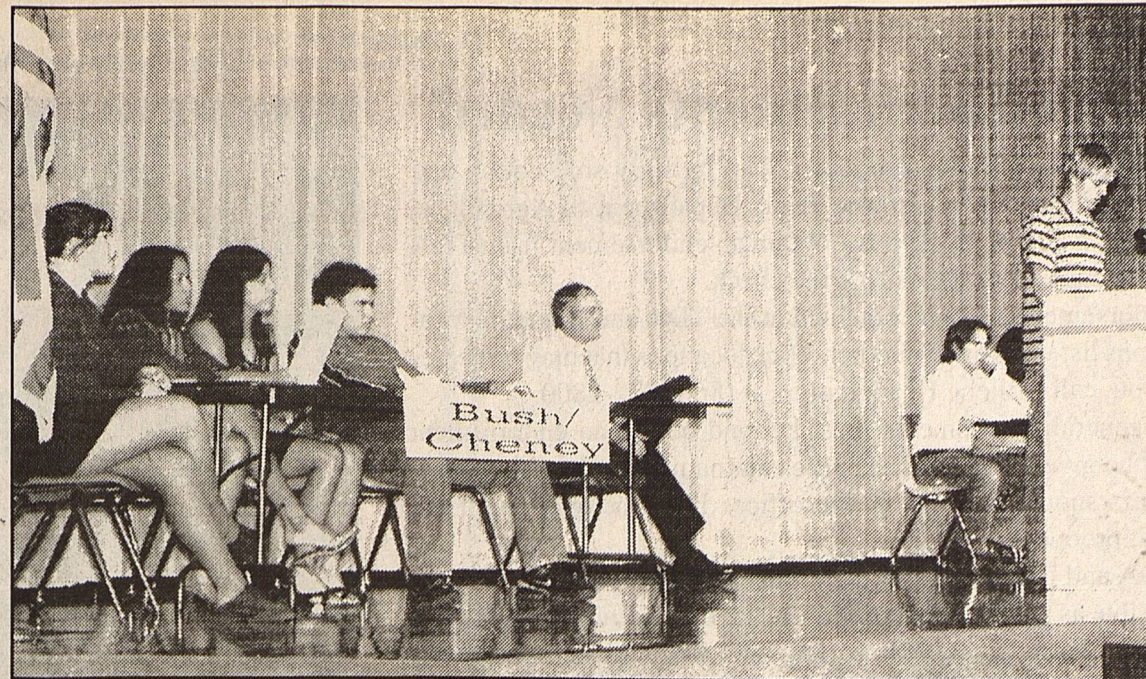
Caffey, and a 11 yard pass from Cain to Patrick Cotton, but had to give the ball over to the Eagles when a fourth down rush failed. The Eagles had the ball on their 37 and reeled off four quick first downs, and a three yard run produced their score in the final 35-6 game.

The Cowboys had 248 yards total offense, 205 on the ground. Caffey had 87 yards in 17 carries, Williams 88 in 12 runs. Cain 45 in 7 carries. The stat sheet showed leading Cowboy tacklers were Cain, Isaac Ramon, Caffey, Bruton, Martinez and Crump.

The Cowboys end their 2004 season here against O'Donnell Friday at 7:30 PM. They could use your presence to show your appreciation for their efforts throughout this tough schedule!

The PHS Great Debate

PHS students participated in a government debate over the 2004 Presidential election this Monday. Participants in Mr. Brink's Government class consisted of; Democrat party, Breck Hamm, chairman, Daniela Lazos, Mayra Flores, Patrick Cotton and Tyler Caffey. Republican party, Evan Cain, chairman, Cody Flores, Kristian Morales, Jesenia Susarez and Whitney Caffey. The debate involved topics including defense, war on terrorism, economy and taxes, education, and in addition, the 19th Congressional race between Republican Randy Neugebauer and Democrat Charlie Stenholm. After the debate, ballots were sent to each class to vote for the president and congressman. When the votes were counted, George W. Bush received 103 votes, John Kerry 18. Randy Neugebauer drew 82 votes, Charlie Stenholm 39 votes. An interesting experiment in good citizenship.



Student of the Week

Student of the Week is Colby Wilmeth, a sophomore and the son of Jet and Gay Wilmeth. He was nominated by Coach Eddleman, who said, "Colby is a great young man who portrays the six pillars of character each and every day. He is an excellent student, always does his best, and he believes in hard work and perseverance."



'A' Honor Roll

9th Grade

Kurt Alldredge
Maria Anazola
Ryan Crump
Amber Friesen
Lauren Hise
Zachary Ramos
John Tyson

10th Grade

Scott Addison
Landon Craft
Jose Gallegos
Erika Loewen
Nancy Lozano
Araceli Mendoza

Lisa Neufeld
Adriana Ponce
Colby Wilmeth

11th Grade

David Alldredge
Michael Crump
Casson Curtis
Allison Friesen
Reagan Haynes
Skylar Keesee
B. J. Lester
Ramiro Martinez
Adam McCravey
Blake O'Quinn
Blake Parrish
Abel Ramos

Todd Williams

12th Grade

Payton Bean
Evan Cain
Patrick Cotton
Cody Flores
Mayra Flores
Breck Hamm
Brandon Hise
Brant Huerta
Kerry Sisson
Micaela Villegas
'A-B Honor Roll'
9th Grade
Joani Bell
Jordan Williams

10th Grade

Chandon Loya
Angelica Mendoza
Mario Ruvalcaba

11th Grade

Tyler Caffey
Lela Coronado
Daniela Lazos
Kristian Morales
Prisma Ortiz
Isaac Ramon
Claudia Reyna

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Class Date and Time: AFAP

Saturday, November 20th

Re-certification:

8:00am - 5:00pm

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Location:

West Texas Lifestyle and Rehab Center
608 West 4th St.
Denver City, TX 79323
For Directions Call: (806) 592-9280

Fee: \$70.00

\$50.00 for re-cert

Contact: Jeff Savage (214) 818-0366 Arthritis Foundation, North Texas Chapter

Prerequisites: See attached application

*****NO WALK-INS WILL BE ALLOWED*****



District winning Cowgirls include, front, kneeling, Katie Winn, Prisma Ortiz, Kristian Morales, Jamie Covarrubias, Daniela Lazos, Sandra Gandara; Standing, Jesenia Suarez, Joani Bell, Desiraye Broome, Skylar Keesee and Micaela Villegas, and Coaches John Harris and Blake Eddleman.

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Senior Citizens Corner

SPRING FORWARD-FALL BACK! It's that time again! Be sure to set those clocks back on Saturday night so you won't oversleep on Sunday morning.

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! You hear those words everywhere you turn these days. Most of us are beginning to sigh with relief when we think of a week from now when it will all be a thing of the past once more. I have wondered if the preliminary weeks before election time have always been as they are now? If history serves me correctly, it appears that they slipped George Washington into place back there in 1789 without much ado and apparently he did a pretty good job of serving our country. We took advantage of the early voting privilege this year so it is done, but if you haven't been to the polls yet, be sure to exercise this opportunity (and responsibility) that accompanies our American way of government.

Next on our list of 'biggies' for the week is Halloween! Regardless of its pagan origins, this holiday has become a very special time for our children. Through careful planning over the years it has developed from a sometimes destructive and mischievous night to one of fun for everyone, we older ones as well as the youngsters. We enjoy the moment as we see the excitement in the eyes of the little, unidentified Halloween visitors. We used to look for ghosts, goblins, witches, and pumpkins when the doorbell rang, but now it is a never ending parade of unbelievable and mysterious beings who hold out their sacks for 'trick or treats.'

We were all delighted this week to see Mola Morehead, from Oklahoma; and Ruby Kennedy, from Brownfield, come into the Center for lunch and to touch base with old friends. They both looked well and assured us that they are doing well where they are now.

Other visitor's names appearing on our list were Loy Smith, Joe and Imogene Deaton, and Juanita Wright who is getting out again after a time of illness. Darwin Hobbs was accompanied by his lovely wife, Lela Mae, at lunchtime one day. Each of these people is welcome anytime.

On another day Bob and Robbie Sturdivant along with Rev. Steve Brooks, were guests of Moray Clark at lunchtime. On that day Mary Newman and her son visited us from Seminole, and from Denver City the Schusters (W.H., Jr. and Diane) joined us for lunch. Do come again, folks.

Gladys Thomason and Billie McDonnell were the winners in the '42' tournament on Tuesday afternoon. There is always room for more players. If you enjoy playing dominoes, come join us.

I must share this bit of wisdom with you that I am sure all seniors can appreciate and maybe our younger contemporaries need to think about: A Parallel on Aging. Do houses age like people do? Sometimes I think they may, for they, like us, appear to change with every passing day. As fleeting years go rolling by and paint begins to peel, the chips of wood start breaking off. I know just how they feel. When plumbing lines all start to clog and water won't go through, I feel I can sympathize for I have been there too. When sagging walls begin to bulge, the rafters creak and groan; I tell the aging, aching house it dose not stand alone. Whoever said time heals all things most clearly failed to see. Instead of healer, could not time the source of our problems be?

Thought for Today: When you worry and hurry through your day, it is like an unopened gift, thrown away. Life is not a race. Take it slower. Hear the music before the song is over.



On September 11th, the fourth grade students at Plains Elementary had a special lesson about 9/11. They also made a 44-meter long paper chain to help remember the events of that day. Coach McAdams allowed them to observe some paintings that he had done as a tribute to the thousands of heroes from that day.

Storytime At The Yoakum County Library

The weekly Storytime was held on Wednesday, October 27 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting started with Toddlerobics followed by the pledges to the United and Texas flags. The group then sang several songs, Kim Gass read the book, The Pumpkin Blanket. Each girls and boy then made their own pumpkin blanket to cover a pumpkin which they received as favors.

Ghost cookies and milk were served while the boys and girls watched a video: Clifford's Big

Halloween. There was a short discussion about Halloween and safety rules one should follow when going Trick or Treating. Austin Robertson celebrated his fourth birthday. Everyone enjoyed singing 'Happy Birthday' to Austin.

Those attending were Trenity Wall, Ivey Davis, Allie Williams, Austin & Kaitlyn Ward, Joshua Hoecker, Austin Robertson and Yairah Garcia. Adults also present were Jimmy Robertson, April Ward and Kim Gass.



What about?

Beth and I took the grandson, Byron to the South Plains Fair. We had a wonderful time seeing him attempt to feed the elephants without them touching his hand, the rides, exhibits, and all the other fun things like FOOD to enjoy.

As we walked through some of the buildings, we began to see people's name we know.

People like Pat McNabb had won an Honorable Mention, 3rd place and a 2nd place and Dolores Davis.

We also saw Treon Ortega and Elsa Moya with 2nd place ribbons, Colby Ortega and Sara Horn also with ribbons and all of them from Plains.

Also from Plains we saw the work of Kevin and Clayton Gass each getting 3rd place.

We saw Cooper Carlisle had earned a 1st and 3rd place ribbons, Barrett Carlisle with a 1st and Mrs. Maxine Cato got a 1st, all from Meadow.

And of course Alecia McCulough got a 1st with L.H. Clark a 2nd, and M.C Bearden got a 3rd all from Denver City.

Then a lady from Brownfield who several people were talking about her wonderful work, Freddie Tatum get-

ting 4-1st places and 2-2nd places, and Mrs. Leota Hinson got several 1st places along with Freide Meeks getting 2-1st and 2-2nd, Emeline Crutcher got 2-3rd places and an Honorable Mention, Carol A. Corett got many first place ribbons, Rayron Barron got a 1st and 2nd place.

Then the Barron family with Seth in the Youth Division for Seagraves getting a 1st place with biscuits, his mom Monetta got at least two 1st for her cooking, his granddad Ray Johnson got a 2nd for his biscuits and Ray's wife Linda got 2nd and an Honorable Mention for their cooking.

And we saw Meghan O'Rourke in the Youth Division with her sewing item getting Best of Show.

I know we could not have seen all the items and I am sorry we don't have space to name all the categories, but these people did a wonderful job and put in lots of hard work to earn these honors!

People who are involved in the arts or any other creative activity is to be held in high esteem as a wonderfully God given talent.

Congratulations to all we saw and those we have missed!

Until Next Time!
Mark A. Jones
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2003 WPS Achievements

- Served 4,801 women and children.
- Answered 4,112 crisis calls.
- Provided 213,001 social service referrals.
- Helped 1,612 women with legal advocacy.
- Offered 2,910 hours of individual counseling.
- Conducted 8,212 support group sessions.
- Assisted 117 women gain employment.

WPS Mission

It is the mission of WPS to reduce and prevent the incidents of family violence in West Texas by providing emergency shelter to women and their dependent children. It is also the mission of WPS to help clients build healthy and promising futures by providing them with the emotional support and life skills to overcome the pattern of violence that has dominated their lives.

WPS Programs

- Crisis Intervention
- Job Readiness Services
- Legal Advocacy
- Social Service Referral
- Counseling
- Children's Programs
- Case Management
- Community Education

WPS Territory

WPS serves a primarily rural, 10,500 square-mile region comprising the 12 West Texas counties of Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Garza, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Terry, and Yoakum.

We hope you will continue to assist us in our commitment to battered women and their children with a gift of \$25, \$50, or MORE to 2004 Operation Lifeline and help us continue to keep our program strong during these complex times.

Fritzi Moreman, Executive Director
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