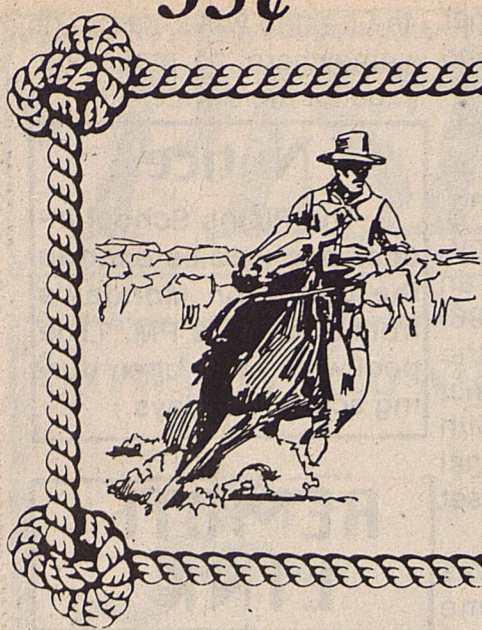


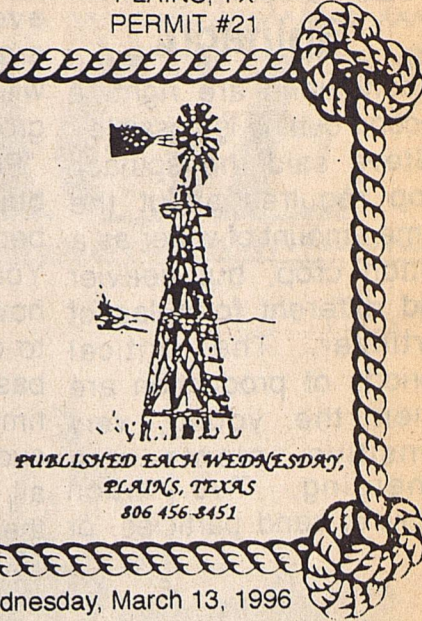
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Cowboy Country News



Volume 2, Issue 27, Wednesday, March 13, 1996

'POPEYE' May Be Pleased With Spinach Planting

Adding to the diversification- and revitalization of the County's agricultural scene is the current planting of some 60 acres of spinach, on the Brad Palmer farm some two miles north of the New -Tex Gin. Not the first planting of the crop in the area, following successful years of production in the southern irrigated areas of the county, Palmer and other producers are looking at Spinach as an alternative cash crop.

Palmer's current crop, according to Foreman Steve Jones, requires intensive ground care before the expensive seeding process. Planted on former cotton ground, the land is deep broken, then land planed for uniformity to prevent puddling of the plants under irrigation. It is then marked and listed for 80" beds, followed by a rod-weeding and chiseling in of fertilizer process. Next, the beds are rolled flat, immediately in front of the following drill planter.

Some 12 to 15 pounds are seeded, with seed costing \$5 to \$6 per pound. The seed, smaller than milo seed, average some 49,000 to the pound, and the desired rate of planting is 13-16 seed per foot of ground.

It should require some 60-



Seed bed being rolled, packed in front of planting drill

80 days before the spinach is ready for harvest, according to Jones. "The crop is contracted to Bush Produce, of Muskogee, Oklahoma. They come in with their cutting equipment and crews, and their transport 18 wheeler trucks, and should make their first cutting about the time we are planting cotton, depending on weather conditions."

The crop is normally cut late in the afternoon and evenings, as it must be transported to Muskogee for canning no later than 24 hours after cutting. Depending on the moisture content of the spinach, and size of the truck, the crop must often be "tromped

down" in the truck by employees the producer must provide, to insure a full 48,000 pound normal load.

Jones said the optimum annual production is some 10 to 12 tons of spinach per acre. The first cutting normally accounts for the bulk of the production, and

Turn to page 2,

'Spinach' P.I.S.D. Board Of Trustees Meeting

Plains School Board of Trustees met in regular session the evening of March 4. All seven Board members were present, as well as Superintendent Simmons, Eric Banfield, Steve O'Quinn, Ronnie Watkins, Joel Haragan, and Arlon Alexander.

Prior to the meeting, a school finance workshop was held. During the regular meeting, the following agenda items were discussed, with the following actions taken;

The previous month's meeting minutes were approved, and all bills were approved for payment.

Cindra Box was appointed election Judge in the May 4 Trustee election, and approved Vaughn Culwell as alternate Judge.

The proposed school calendar was approved, and board members cast ballots for the election of Education Service Center Board of Directors.

The local policy supplement to UPDATE 50

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'School Board'

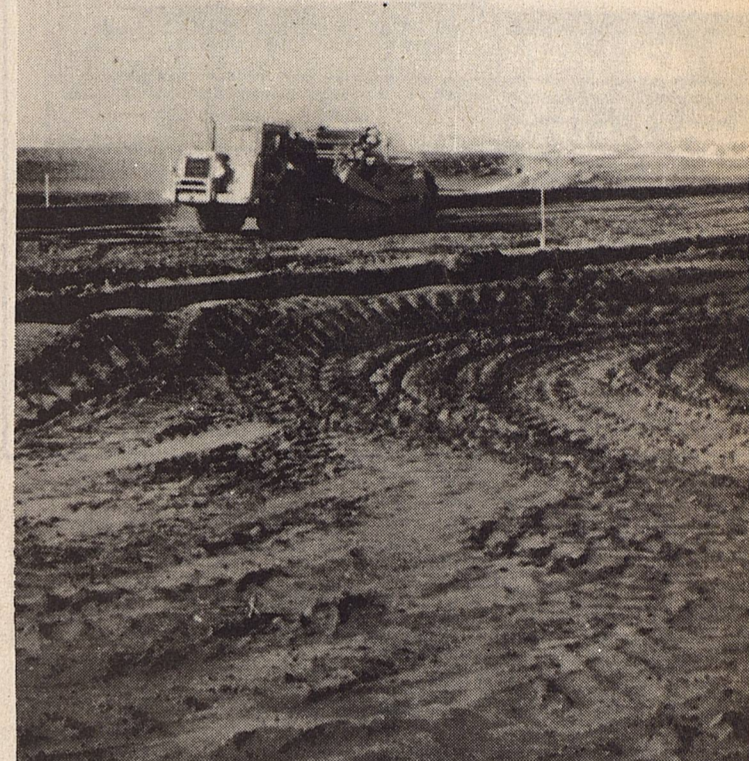
Large Project Underway At Disposal Plant

Thousands of cubic yards of dirt are being excavated, moved and sculpted at the City's sewage disposal facility northeast of town.

West Texas Paving Company of Lubbock is the contractor for the project, which saw the scrapers, dozers and maintainers fire up the middle of last month.

The large and expensive project is not something the City's fathers relished starting, but was mandated by the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC) earlier.

The original sewage treatment and disposal system was designed to receive a maximum of 90,000 gallons per day of affluent, but the average discharge into the two ponds was exceeding 100,000 g.p.day. When the City was told by TNRCC to come up with a larger facility, a detailed study and design plan had to be formulated and approved by various state agencies. Realizing the expense of the 'must do' project, the



Scraper moving earth from bottom of pit to rim.

City applied for, and \$400,000. In addition to the eventually won approval of original grant, the City was a \$250,000 Community Development Grant in 1992.

Crossing all the T's and dotting all I's in the almost two inch thick manual detailing each planned step of the project took almost four years before the final State approval was granted.

The entire project will cost

Two additional pits are being constructed to the

Turn to page 2,

'Disposal'

Walker Named To House Sub-Committees

Representative Gary Walker, District 80, was informed last week he has been appointed to three subcommittees of the Committee On Natural Resources by Chairman David Counts.

The interim subcommittees are designed to allow legislators to study projects and issues which will be on the agenda of the next session of the Legislature when it convenes.

Walker was named to the subcommittee for On-Site Wastewater Treatment Program.

He was also appointed Chairman of the Small Community Financing For Water Supply subcommittee. Both are five member committees.

Walker currently serves on the permanent Natural Resources Committee. That entire group will address issues affecting the Lower Colorado River Authority and Edwards Aquifer prior to the next full session.

Walker's other permanent assignment is on the Agriculture and Livestock Committee.

Grand Jury Hands Down Indictments On Seven

The Yoakum County Grand Jury last week indicted seven individuals on a total of eight felony charges prepared by Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark.

Bond amounts for the individuals were set by District Judge Kelly G. Moore.

David Zuniga was indicted on a charge of forgery. He is accused of issuing a forged check in the amount of \$380 to Richard Beard. His bond was set at \$2500 for the State Jail felony.

Sally Ann Crooks, a/k/a Sally Ayers Redding, Sally Ann Ayers and Sally Ann Redding, was also indicted for forgery. She is charged with passing a \$40.14 check purportedly signed by Morris Lowe on September 21, 1995. Her bond was also set at \$2500.

Steven Carl Caldwell was indicted on a charge of subsequent DWI, a third degree felony. He was previously convicted of DWI charges in the State of Oklahoma in May and October, 1991, and again in March, 1993. He was

arrested here on another DWI charge while operating a vehicle on Texas Highway 83 on November 25, 1995. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Eloy Lopez, a/k/a Eloy Montanez, was indicted on two felony charges. In cause #1765, he was charged with engaging in organized criminal activity, a first degree felony. He is accused of conspiring with Francisco Hernandez, a/k/a Frank Hernandez, and Eddy Dominguez, and Jonas Gonzalez in a robbery of the Allsup's Store in Denver City on December 12, 1995. Lopez is also named as the assailant who fired three shots at the store clerk, Henry Don Knox, during the robbery. Bond in this cause was set at \$7500. In cause #1764, Lopez was indicted again on the charge of criminal attempt of capital murder, another first degree felony charge. He was charged with firing three shots from a .22 caliber pistol at Knox

Turn to page 2,

'Grand Jury'

Lions Hear Of Changes In Electric Utilities Roles

Michael Dreyspring, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Lea County Electric Co-Op, Lovington, addressed the Plains Lions club at last week's 'Bring a guest' meeting.

Dreyspring, who assumed duties at Lea County Electric last year, following association with Cooperatives in Arkansas and other locations, spoke briefly about changes which have occurred in the wholesale side of electric energy supply. Following great growth in demand for electricity during the 1960's and 70's, huge electric generating facilities were built across the nation, including tremendously expensive nuclear plants.

In the early 1970's, the Arab oil embargo forced a drastic reduction in oil and

gas use here, and successful conservation programs saw not only a decreased demand for those fuels, but for electric energy as well.

Owners of the new, huge generating plants, facing reductions in sales to electric company distributors, began raising prices for their product to the point consumers rebelled, protesting ever rising costs, leading to many states creating utility commissions which were granted the authority to regulate prices and price increases for electricity.

He also described a growing movement now aimed at deregulating the retail side of electric utilities. He said momen-

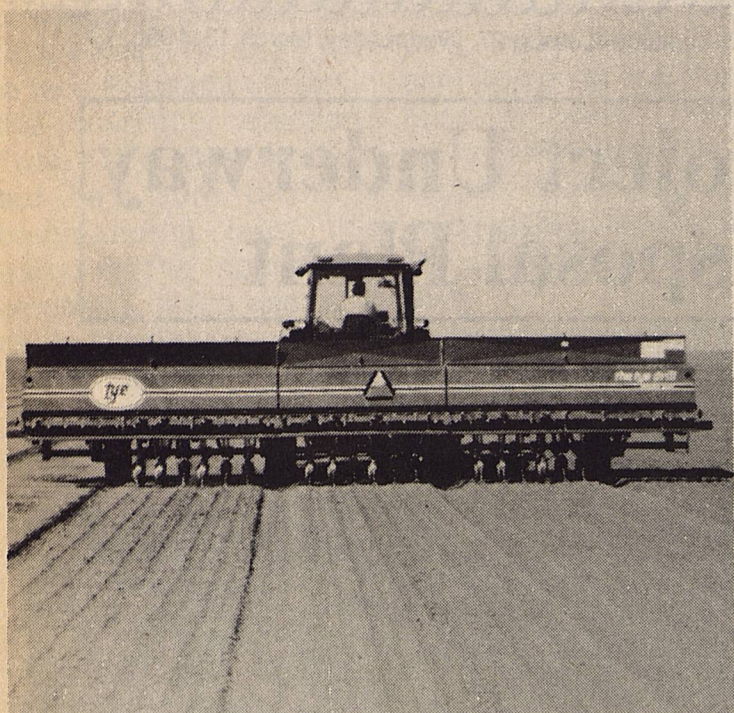
Turn to page 2,

'Lion's Club'

Cont'd from page 1,
'Spinach'

if conditions are right, a second cutting is possible. Steve said the spinach crop requires about the same amount of water as a cotton crop, but heavier and different formulas of fertilizer. The critical periods of production are when the young, very sensitive plants are emerging. Too much blowing sand particles, or

even 'puddling water' around the young plants will burn, or destroy their growth. "Popeye's" favorite muscle building food will never become the prime crop in Yoakum County. It could, however, add significantly to diversification of our Ag base economy. Not the first time the crop has been successfully grown here, in all probability it won't be the last



Drill putting seeds in ground at precise depth

April 15 Deadline For Filing Business Tax Renditions

AUSTIN: In accordance with state law, Texas businesses must render their property with county appraisal districts by April 15. To render is to list the taxable property that businesses owned or managed as of January 1, 1996.

"While state law requires business owners and operators to render, any property owner—including homeowners, farmers and ranchers—may render their property with county appraisal districts," State Comptroller John Sharp said.

"Property owners who render are in a better posi-

tion to exercise their rights as taxpayers," Sharp noted. "They are ensuring that the appraisal district has their correct address so they will receive notices of any actions that affect their property or tax bills."

"If the tax collector cannot deliver a tax bill because of an incorrect or old address, the property owner is responsible for paying the taxes, plus late payment penalties," Sharp added.

State law requires anyone who owns or manages income-producing personal property on January 1 to render with the local appraisal district. An exception is a

business that receives the freeport exemption for manufacturing cotton stored in a warehouse.

"For example, businesses must report their inventories, furniture and fixtures, machinery and equipment and other tangible personal property by filing this annual report," Sharp said. "Appraisal districts use the reports to set business property values. When a business owner doesn't render his or her property, the chief appraiser estimates the value."

Sharp also announced that property owners who had property damaged by a storm, flood or fire last year may file a special decreased value report that could lower their final tax bills. Property owners may file the decreased value report about their property's condition on January 1, 1996.

Property owners may ask the chief appraiser for additional time—through April 30—if the owners can demonstrate good cause. The chief appraiser must grant owners of property regulated by the Public Utility Commission or the Railroad Commission an extension to April 30 to file the reports and may extend the deadline another 15 days if the owners request it in writing and show good cause.

On the renditions, property owners can record their opinions of their property's value. By stating their opinion, property owners make sure that the appraisal district sends them a notice before placing a higher value on their property. This notice allows property owners the time to gather information to protest the appraisal if they believe the appraisal district's value is too high.

If more than one appraisal district appraises a property, the property owner should render in each appraisal district office. Taxpayers may contact the county appraisal district office for the rendition forms,

or they may call the Comptroller's property tax hotline at 1-800-252-9121.

Cont'd from page 1,
'Lion's Club'

tum is growing to eventually reach the same type deregulated industry which long distance telephone companies now operate in. He described how it could be possible in the near future for an electricity user to have a choice of electricity supplying companies, much as consumers can choose their long distance provider.

Dreyspring described how Lea County Electric has for years supplied many thousands of college scholarship funds to graduating high school seniors in both New Mexico. The funds are derived from unclaimed 'dividend' checks from prior years margins, mailed to former customers who have moved and can't be located by the company.

Some 30 people enjoyed the meal and meeting. Guests present included Vaughn and Carolyn Culwell, Dreyspring and his wife Sabra, Steven O'Quinn, Terry Davis, Frankie Walker, Jim Brown, Morris Rushing, Norman Head, Mary Jo St Romain, Holly Dyer, Lois Miller, and Wilma and Ty Earl Powell.

Cont'd from page 1,
'Grand Jury'

during the robbery in the previous cause. His bond in this cause was set at \$100,000.

Debra Sue Hart, a/k/a Debra Massie, was indicted on a theft charge, a state jail felony, more than \$1,500 but less than \$20,000. The indictment read in part, "\$2,000 in cash, from Texas Long Term Care Management, Inc., DBA Canterbury Villa,

the owner thereof, with intent to deprive the owner of the property." Her bond was \$2,500.

Joseph Arron Reynolds was indicted on a charge of burglary of a building, another state jail felony. The charge arose from an event of January 2, 1996, when a building of the Denver City School District was illegally entered with intent of theft or criminal mischief. His bond was set at \$15,000.

Mark Almond Harr was indicted on the same grounds as the previous case during the same attempted burglary this last January. Harr's bond was also set at \$15,000.

Cont'd from page 1,
'Disposal'

north and south of the present storage and treatment pits. A 175'X525' treatment pond (engineers refer to it as a 'Facultative Lagoon') covering 2 acres is being created on the north side, and a new effluent storage pond measuring 250'X525', covering three acres, is being scraped out to the south. Both tanks are required to be sealed with three feet of clay on the bottoms.

The project, which is being hampered by the extremely dry and hard earth to be moved, is expected to take 4 to 5 months to complete. When finished, the facility can accept up to 160,000 g.p. day of effluent pumped from the city, adequate for many years, unless Plains enjoys a 'sudden boom' in population.

The treated water will continue to be used by adjoining land owner Kenneth McGinty in irrigating various crops on his 86 acre plot watered by a center pivot system.

City Administrator David Brunson, conducting a tour of the project, said "We are fortunate to have the 86

acre farm in it's location, for the treated water has to go somewhere, to make storage for more water."

Notice

The Plains School indoor pool will be open to the public on Monday's from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. (The pool will not be open during school holidays.)

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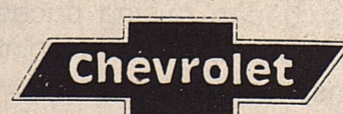
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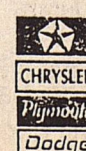


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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

Cowboy-Cowgirl Track



Junior High - Whiteface Meet Mar. 7

GIRLS; The Lady Wranglers did very well in their first event of the season, taking first place honors in competition against eight other schools.

Individual Results:

Krystle Blundell	2nd	800M Run	2:48
Velvet Canada	1st	100M dash	14.28
Kristen Gray	1st	100 Hurdles	18.38
"	1st	300 Hurdles	53.85
Kari Guetersloh	2nd	Long Jump	13'9"
"	4th	Triple Jump	27'
Wendy Hernandez	3rd	2400 M run	10:11
"	3rd	1600 M run	6:50
Kelli Osborn	6th	100 hurdles	19.73
Anne Palmer	4th	100 M dash	14.44
Patty Ruiz	1st	Triple jump	28'11 3/4"
"	3rd	Long jump	13'8 3/4"
"	3rd	200M dash	30.34

400 Relay 1st 56.38

Velvet Canada, Anne Palmer, Kristen Gray, Patty Ruiz

800 Relay 1st 2:01:84

Velvet Canada, Krstle Blundell, Anne Palmer, Patty Ruiz

1600 Relay 4th 5:14:44

Kari Guetersloh, Kelli Osborn, Lensey Cullins, Krystle Blundell

The complete roster of Lady Wranglers includes: Shay Allsup, Krystle Blundell, Candace Bowers, Velvet Canada, Frances Cordova, Audra Elles, Amanda Garcia, Kristen Gray, Kari Guetersloh, Mendy Hernandez, Kimbe Jones, Kelli Osborn, Anne Palmer, Elva Ruiz, Patty Ruiz, Tanya Vasquez, Lesli Warren, Kim Willis, and Autumn Deaton, Mgr.

Wrangler Boys Track Team

Field Events:

High Jump	Fermin Luna	6th	5'2"
Discus	Josh Bell	6th	
Long Jump	Fermin Luna	2nd	17'8"
Pole Vault	Chris Estrada	2nd	6'9"

Running Events:

400 Relay	Plains	2nd	50.6
Aaron Cain, Felipe Reyna, Adam Garcia, Fermin Luna			
1600 Relay	Plains	1st	4:10.8
Marcos Hernandez, Felipe Reyna, Adam Garcia, Fermin Luna			
2400 Run	Kelsey Blundell	4th	
	Louis Hernandez	5th	
1600 Run	Greg Gonzales	2nd	
	Joel Gallegos	5th	
800 Run	Felipe Reyna	1st	
	Marcos Hernandez	3rd	
400 Dash	Fermin Luna	1st	
200 Dash	Adam Garcia	4th	
Team Score		2nd	

Coach Brink was very pleased with the Wranglers effort and performances.

Boys Jr. Varsity

Field Events:

Shot Put	Derek Brunson	1st	38'6"
	Adam Dominguez	3rd	
	Steven Bunch	4th	
Discus	Steven Bunch	1st	106'
	Adam Dominguez	2nd	
	Derek Brunson	3rd	

Running Events:

3200 Run	Josh Bayer	4th	13:13
1600 Run	Josh Bayer	4th	6:06
800 Run	Chris Willett	2nd	2:26.3
400 Dash	Vincent Delgado	4th	59.7
	Gideon Traweck	6th	62.3
400 Relay	Plains	2nd	49.1
Vincent Delgado, Lee Tyson, Tanner Blount, Chris Willett			
1600 Relay	Plains	2nd	4:06.5
Vincent Delgado, Gideon Traweck, Tanner Blount, Chris Willett			
Team Points		97	Great job for the meet

Boys Varsity

The Plains Cowboys did a great job. The 1600 Relay had to make up the 7-1/2 points behind going into the Relay, the last event. Both Relays ran very well and Brad Seaton had a very fine day. Jeremy Dearing ran a great 53.1 on the 1600 Relay. Coley Burgess had a great performance in shot and Discus. The team finished in first place with 135-1/2 points. I'm proud of the Cowboy Team. Coach McAdams

Field Events:

Shot Put	Coley Burgess	1st	44'1/2"
	Chase Clanahan	3rd	41'8 1/2"
High Jump	Brad Seaton	6th	5'4"
Triple Jump	Brad Seaton	6th	34'7 1/4"
Discus	Coley Burgess	2nd	124' 1/2"

Running Events:

3200 Run	Jamie Caballero	2nd	11:31
	St. Romain	6th	12:52.7
800 Run	Jeremy Dearing	2nd	2:11.8
110 H Hurdles	Brad Seaton	2nd	17.8

100 Dash	Kirk Parrish	2nd	11.37
400 Dash	Wayne Willett	2nd	54.6
	Jesus Hernandez	5th	56.8
300 Hurdles	Brad Seaton	1st	44.8
200 Dash	Josh Traweck	1st	23.9
1600 Run	Jamie Caballero	3rd	5:19.1
400 Relay	Plains	1st	44.9
Jesus Hernandez, Wayne Willett, Josh Traweck, Kirk Parrish			
1600 Relay	Plains	1st	3:38.8
Josh Traweck, Jesus Hernandez, Jeremy Dearing, Wayne Willett			



Final baton exchange, girls 400 Relay.



Lisa Parrish finishes strong for 2nd place



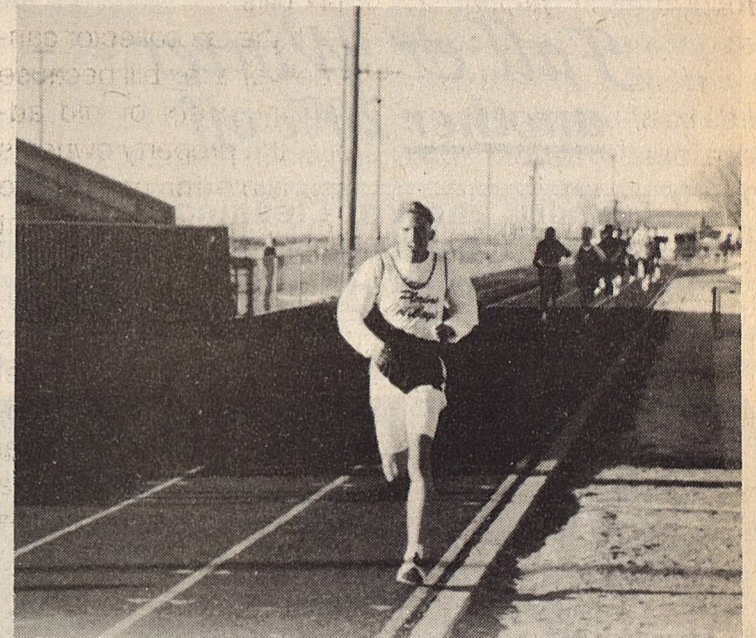
Brad Seaton in 110 Hurdles



Jamie Caballero kicks for 2nd in 3200



Kirk Parrish Anchors 1st place 400 Relay



Jeremy Dearing nears tape in 800

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Senate Farm Bill A "Sell Out,"

Says TFU President

(Waco): The farm bill passed by the U.S. Senate last week was termed a "sell out of American farm families and Rural America to the special interests of agri-business and a license for a few corporations to further dominate the marketing, processing and trading of agricultural commodities" by Texas farmers Union President Wes Sims. The farm organization spokesman expressed concern that the Agricultural Transition Act--also known as the Freedom to Farm Act--would escalate the move of U.S. agriculture away from its system of independently owned and operated family farms.

Sims stated, "There are unacceptable provisions in the Agriculture Marketing Transition Act which will do great harm to Texas agricultural producers and Rural America," for the following reasons:

*Farmers cannot stay in business with loan rates of \$1.89 per bushel corn, \$2.58 per bushel wheat, \$5.26 per bushel soybeans, 52 cents per pound cotton, and \$6.50 cwt rice prices, which this program effectively mandates through similar Commodity Credit Corporation loans.

*Decoupling program payments from commodity prices and yields will set a precedent which is politically indefensible. Taxpayers will not tolerate this approach in a farm bill.

*There are no allowances for acreage reduction programs in years of over production.

*There are no provisions for Farmer Owned Reserves to protect national food security and ensure abundant food and fiber in this country.

*World market prices for commodities will drop dramatically, causing undue financial stress on farmers worldwide and on domestic lending institutions.

*There are no allowances for an Emergency Livestock Feed Assistance Program.

*Land values will be devastated, as will the rest of Rural America's infrastructure.

*Farmer input or public debate has not been allowed to formulate this bill.

Farmers Union supports the retention of the current permanent farm law safety net and the reauthorization of nutrition, conservation and rural development programs.

"The bottom line is that the Agricultural Transition Act will drive down commodity prices, lower farm income and make it difficult for young farmers to enter production agriculture," said Sims. "We will urge President Clinton to veto the proposal if it reaches his desk."

"Beyond the devastating economic impact this proposal would have on rural communities, we need to question the long-term consequences of a food supply controlled by a handful of multi-national corporations. We also need to ask ourselves if such a system of food production is worth the environmental degradation and the loss of rural businesses and infrastructure," said Sims.

California's Economic Woes Brought Businesses, Residents To Texas

(Austin): State Comptroller John Sharp reported that California has lost thousands of businesses and residents in the 1990s--many of them to Texas--and offered a list of the top 10 lessons the Lone Star State can learn from the West Coast's recent signs of recovery.

"Long viewed as a land of opportunity, the old song 'California, Here I Come' had begun to sound more like 'California, There I Go,'" Sharp said. "But their economy is bouncing back, and the actions they've taken to improve their business climate could be instructive for Texas."

Sharp reports California was plunged into its deepest recession since the Great Depression by cutbacks in aerospace, military and construction jobs in the early 1990s.

"The freeways were filled with U-Hauls as 1.5 million folks fled the Golden State," Sharp said. "The reason was clear: California had let its economic competitiveness slip."

Sharp said the price of doing business skyrocketed in California during the past decade, including a heavy tax burden and expensive regulatory compliance, permitting, workers' compensation and health care insurance costs. The educational

system had also deteriorated, in large part because of funding cuts in the wake of Proposition 13. In addition, businesses and government had also failed to work together.

"These factors placed California at a cost disadvantage in relation to competing states, including Texas," Sharp wrote in the article. "The state's high corporate and personal income taxes created a strong disincentive to invest."

California has recently moved to correct these problems by providing tax incentives for business expansion, streamlining the environmental permitting process and reforming workers' comp.

"In beginning to rebuild its economy, California is facing up to the structural problems that had created an unfavorable business climate," Sharp said.

Texas has an advantage over California, whose per capita tax burden is 25 percent higher. Texas has no personal income tax, and a franchise tax, at 4.5 percent of a company's earned surplus, that is much lower than California's corporate tax rate.

"Still, California's recent experience holds lessons for Texas to help maintain our economic competitiveness,"

Sharp said.

*Diversify the economy to avoid relying too heavily on any one industry.

*Keep real estate affordable by minimizing regulations that drive up the costs of construction.

*Ensure that state and local taxes don't penalize hard work and productive investments, maintain competitive corporate tax rates and provide incentives for new and expanding businesses.

*Keep marginal tax rates on personal income low and make taxpayers equal partners in developing coherent, long-term tax policies.

*Streamline the regulatory process to provide one-stop permitting, predictability and accountability.

*Control the costs of workers' comp, health insurance and other mandates on employers.

*Invest in education and in public safety and transportation infrastructure.

*Foster cooperation between the public and private sectors to expand business investment.

*Regularly review the effectiveness and efficiency of programs to ensure that they provide high-quality, low-cost customer service

*Base planning policies on realistic revenue and cost projections.

County JP Court

The following is a summary of cases heard in County Justice of Peace Court, Precinct One, with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding:

- 69 Traffic cases
- 1 Disorderly Conduct
- 3 Public Intoxication
- 1 Failure to Identify

Bonds set:

- Burglary of a habitation, \$10,000 bond
- 4-charges of Burglary of a building, \$2,500 bond each
- 2-Driving while intoxicated, \$1,000 bond each
- Failure to identify, \$460 bond
- Speeding, DPS Warrant, \$210 bond
- Violate promise to appear, \$240 bond
- Driving while license suspended, \$500 bond
- Motion to revoke probation, held until hearing

It Happened In March In Texas

Mar. 4, 1836: Sam Houston elected Commander of Texas Armed Forces.

Mar. 6, 1836: Santa Anna captures Alamo after 13 day siege.

Mar. 3, 1837: U.S. recognizes Republic of Texas as an independent nation.

Mar. 26, 1918: Gov. Wm. P. Hobby signs Primary Suffrage Bill, giving women right to vote in Texas primary elections.

Mar. 18, 1937: New London school explosion kills hundreds of children.

Mar. 14, 1964: Jack Ruby found guilty of killing Lee Harvey Oswald.

California—Here It Comes

This partial list of relocations and expansions reflects the diverse range of businesses that have moved from California to Texas in recent years.

Company	Type of Business	Number of Employees	New Home in Texas
1988			
Communications Technology Corp.	Telecommunications equipment	20	Farmers Branch
Graham Magnetics	Magnetic tape manufacturing	400	Graham
Industrial Models Inc.	Reinforced plastic mold parts	85	Gainesville
Johnston Pump General	Equipment for petrochemical, power, pulp and paper plants	370	Brookshire
Marin-Decker Totco Instrumentation	Instruments for oil drilling rigs	220	Cedar Park
Old El Paso Foods	Food canning	297	Anthony
1989			
Cybertek Computer Products	Computer software	300	Dallas
Smith International Inc.	Oil field equipment	575	Houston
U.S. Rubber Inc.	Conveyor belts	40	Conroe
1990			
Allergan Inc.	Pharmaceutical products	324	Waco
Calavar Corp.	Aerial work platforms	300	Waco
1991			
Capital Group Inc.	Mutual funds service center	507	San Antonio
Fuel Harvesters Equipment Inc.	Wood waste grinders and screeners	20	Midland
Jacobs Electronics Inc.	Automotive electrical components	90	Midland
1992			
Apple Computers	Customer support services	730	Austin
Cal-Tex Protective Coatings	Specialty plant sealants	42	San Antonio
Control Products Corp.	Aerospace manufacturing	118	Grand Prairie
1993			
Associated Spring	Springs	150	Dallas
Bridgeport Truck Manufacturers	Garbage truck bodies	31	Bridgeport
Carrier Corp.	Air conditioner manufacturing	950	Tyler
Henley International Inc.	Therapeutic equipment	65	Sugar Land
Integrated Cargo Management Systems	Intermodal cargo tracking device	4	San Antonio
Maxxim Medical - Henley Div.	Exercise equipment/physical therapy	50	Belton
Peterbilt Motors Co./Paccar	Motors	380	Denton
Santa Fe International Corp.	Contract drilling services	114	Dallas
1994			
Danka/Omnifax	R&D of multifunctional products	700	Austin
Menasco Aerosystems	Landing gear	498	Euleless
TIG Insurance	Insurance	1,800	Dallas/Fort Worth
1995			
HPD Medical	Medical products manufacturing	12	Amarillo

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Economic Development Corp. of Los Angeles County and Site Selection magazine.

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Fall & Winter -
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Femme Friends Page



Steve and Kristi Jones and big sister, Haley of Plano are happy to announce the arrival of Kourtney Brielle, Monday, March 4, 1996 at 3:12 PM weighing 10 lbs., and 20-1/2 inches long.

She is also welcomed by her maternal grandparents Bo & Sheila Stephens of Plains, and her great grandmother, Louise Smith of Tahoka. Also her paternal grandparents Wayland & Margaret Jones of Floydada, and her great grandmother, Frances McClure of Floydada.

Senior Citizens Corner

Good news this week- Snow! Not much, but a bit of hope.

A visitor this week was Eunice Harris of Midland. She is Carman Wilson's sister.

The Snow Birds go south for winter, but Tax Time brings them home. Spencer Randolph and Lorene Flippin are back from the valley.

Georgie Hubbard is home from Lubbock Hospital. We all wish her a complete recovery. Also Reba Baker is back in her home.

Our condolences to the families of Leona Parson and Juanita Moore. Both ladies are former member of our Senior Citizens.

- Coming up next week:

Line dancing every Mon., Wed., and Fri. at 9:30 AM

March Anniversaries and Birthdays will be recognized on Monday, also the Senior of the Month.

Mon. at 6:30 PM- game and Pool night

Marge Freeman, AARP Tax Program 9:00 AM on Mon.

Every day is Garage Sale day. There is a large assortment of size in clothes and lots of other things.

Last pool tournament- 8-Ball won by Bob Fillipand, Jean Poage. 9-Ball won by Ireta Davis and Bob Fillip.

Lets all wish for more snow or rain, and less wind and cold.

See you next week, Smitty

Fine Arts Monthly Meeting

The Plains Fine Arts Club met March 7, 1996 in the Clubroom, with hostesses Beth Ann Cain and Melba Crutcher. Ad delicious spaghetti dinner was served to members Mrs. Christy Brink, Beth Ann Cain, Melba Crutcher, Carolyn Culwell, Sandra Ellison, Judy Fitzgerald, Tana May, Frankie Walker and Allene Carhohan and guest, Bill May. After the meal Bill May recited several original poems to the Club, the first entitled "Fine Arts Club." They were enjoyed by all.

The meeting was called to order by Judy Fitzgerald, president. After the roll call and reading of the last minutes, the Club voted to have a booth at the Watermelon Festival on August 31, 1996. The Club voted to spend \$1,000 for Music Scholarships this year, and Michelle Hawthorne was accepted as a new member. Frankie Walker was the lucky lady for the hostess gift.

The next meeting will be April 4, 1996 at 7 PM in the Clubroom, with hostesses Karen Baucom, Linda Simmons and Sandra Ellison.

Sandra Ellison, Recording Secretary



Shower Dates

March 23rd - Heather Bowlin
Place: Jo Ann Barron
Time: 9:30 to 11:00 AM

March 24 - Michelle Lowe
Place: Judy Fitzgerald
Time: 2:00 to 3:30 PM

April 13 - Scotty Raines
Place: Karen Bearden
Time: 2:00 to 3:30 PM



L-R, Wayne House, John Chisum, Tech grad student who assisted in raising Reserve Champion Steer, Randy Airhart, Lamesa, breeder of calf, Dennis Poole, Borden County Agent, who purchased calf for the House's, and Marcey House



Marcey House, Plains FFA exhibitor, had a great experience at the recent Houston Livestock Show. Her 'All Other Breeds' steer took Reserve Champion honors, and sold for \$27,000, \$15,000 of which found a place in her pockets.

She displayed the steer during a performance at the Houston Rodeo, before a crowd of 55,000, including former President George Bush and wife Barbara. When the show wound down, she had another exciting experience. She and her parents, Wayne and Phyllis House, were booked on the plane to Lubbock carrying the Texas Tech Lady Raider basketball team. She got autographs from the entire team and coaches. Quite an experience for a high school student.

Hospital News

Dismissals:
Gladys Sides
Ronda Courtney
Elsie Curtis

I would like to thank the many people of Yoakum County for supporting me in the February Junior Livestock Show 'Queen Contest'. Thanks Again!

Lisa Parrish

(We apologize to Lisa for failing to run this thank you earlier)

Darlene's

We now have
Teddy Angels

Come in and shop around.
The New Spring Line Has Arrived!

Bridal Selections:

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Cody Williams & Lisa Pendleton

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505-396-5119

Plains, TX - Holly Dyer 806-456-8451

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PERSCRIPTION

Pharmacy

County Court Meets

County Commissioners Court met Monday, March 11. A number of agenda items were discussed, with the following actions taken.

The Tax Assessor/Collector's monthly report was presented and approved, showing tax receipts of \$95,061.30

Action on a petition from Fina Oil to lay, operate and maintain a pipeline under county roads was postponed until March 18.

The County Treasurer's report was presented and approved.

A report was given by Betty Estep and Ann Hartman on the Yoakum County Connection (Y.C.C.) plans for a first Watermelon Festival, to be held on the Courthouse grounds Saturday, August 31. The festival is a Y.C.C. effort to promote the county and its assets and features. The event will closely follow the format by sponsors of the Pumpkin Festival in Floydada. Booths are planned to display arts and craft projects of County residents, and possibly some outside exhibitors. The event will be family oriented, with numerous contests and games for all age groups. It is hoped the planned annual event will have a positive effect on promoting both the arts as well as the County economy. Mrs. Hartman requested County approval to use the grounds, and have access to electricity for display and food booths. The Court approved the request. Commissioner McWhirter requested the diversified agricultural crops, including peppers, chiles, peanuts, and onions be featured in the program, as well as locally grown watermelons.

An amended Investment Policy was approved. New laws passed since adoption of the original 1985 policy required new language and format to be included in the revised policy. The County Investment Board is currently comprised of Treasurer Toni Jones, Chairman, Judge Dallas Brewer, Pct. 3 Commissioner Jim Barron, and Auditor Hazel Lowrey. Commissioners will serve on the Board in a rotation schedule.

Commissioner Barron reported on a National Association of Counties Conference he attended in Washington, D.C. last week. He attended a number of workshop sessions on subjects and projects affecting County government. The delegates to the conference also heard addresses from Housing and Urban Development Henry Cisneros, Transportation Frederico Pena, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, and President Bill Clinton.

New "888" Toll-Free Code Being Introduced

Last summer, ALLTEL notified telephone customers that the supply of available "800" numbers was being depleted because of increasing customer demand. In response to this demand, the telephone industry has es-

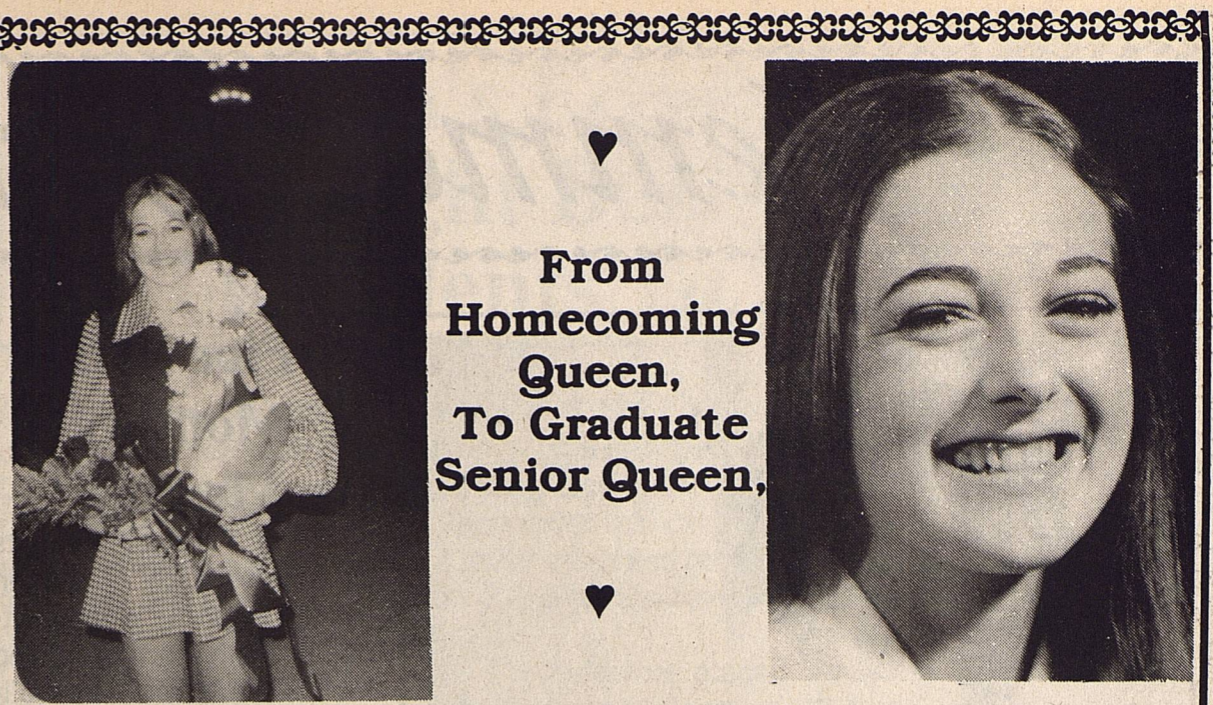
established a new, toll-free code---"888". Toll-free "888" numbers are now available for assignment.

According to Terry Beeler, vice president for ALLTEL's Texas operations, customers will start to see toll-free numbers which will consist of a 1+888+ the seven digit number. "These new "888" toll-free numbers will enable customers to enjoy the same benefits provided by "800" numbers--accessibility to a business; affordability; personalized, easy-to-remember telephone numbers; good advertising; plus much more," stated Beeler.

The introduction of the new "888" toll-free code will not affect existing "800" numbers. However, Beeler reminds customers they may need to reprogram certain office phone systems and equipment to accommodate the new, "888" toll-free numbers. ALLTEL notified customers last summer of this change in order to provide as much advance notice as possible.

ALLTEL Corporation is a telecommunications and information service company. ALLTEL subsidiaries provide local telephone service, cellular service, information services and related services.

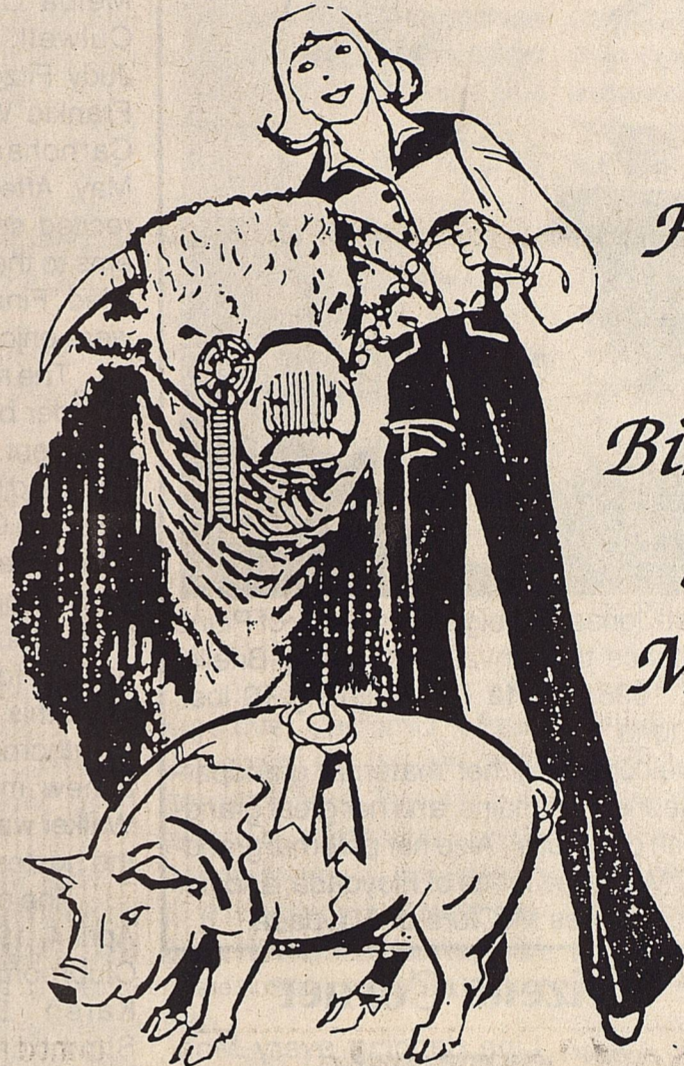
No election results available at press time. All County voting records will be reported in the March 20 issue.



From Homecoming Queen, To Graduate Senior Queen,

To This Type Queen!

Are You On The Right Path?



Happy 40th Birthday, Sara Mason!

May Your Piglets Be Many, Many, Many!

WE'VE GOT A HEALTHY, HOMETOWN ATTITUDE

Three good reasons for visiting St. Mary Family Healthcare Centers.



Larry Boyd, M.D.

Christopher D. Cotton, M.D.

Bodindr Thepchatri, M.D.

With the addition of Christopher Cotton, M.D. and Bodindr Thepchatri, M.D., there are now three good reasons at three convenient locations to visit St. Mary Family Healthcare Centers. Doctors Cotton and Thepchatri join Dr. Larry Boyd in providing complete healthcare for your entire family during every stage of their life. So, the next time you or someone in your family needs to see a physician... remember St. Mary Family Healthcare Centers.

St. Mary Family Healthcare Center
Denver City

Larry Boyd, M.D.
Family Practice and Obstetrics
614 W. 4th Street
806-592-9501
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Christopher D. Cotton, M.D.
Family Practice and Obstetrics
419 N. Avenue F
806-592-2792
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Bodindr Thepchatri, M.D.
Internal Medicine with an emphasis in Family Practice
415 Mustang
806-592-3591
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Other locations include:
Abernathy, Amherst, Andrews, Brownfield, Clovis, Hereford, Hobbs, Lamesa, Levelland, Littlefield, Muleshoe, Plainview, Seminole, Snyder and Spur.

ST. MARY FAMILY HEALTHCARE CENTERS • DENVER CITY

PISD Students Earn Honors From County Conservation District

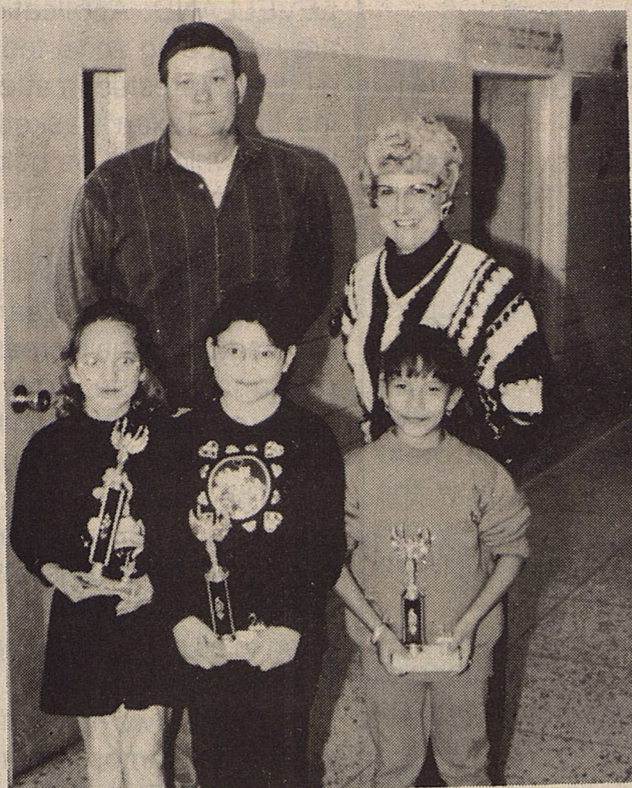
The Yoakum County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors is pleased to announce the winners of their annual Conservation Poster and Conservation Essay contests.

The poster contest was open to students under 12, and does not jeopardize Texas Interscholastic League eligibility. The two themes for the posters were "The Living Waters" and "Harmony- People and Places". The three top winners were first graders Desiraye Broome, daughter of Gary and Martha Broome, (1st), Angelica Mendoza, daughter of Romelia Mendoza, (2nd), and Araceli Mendoza, daughter of Manuel and Lucia Mendoza, (3rd).

The essay contest was for students 18 or under. The top three winners received \$50 Savings Bonds, and their essays were forwarded to the regional office for further judging. The 300 word or less essays were on the theme, "Soil and Water Conservation".

The three winners were Kristi Guetersloh, daughter of Kay Swann and Kevin Guetersloh, Sonia Avila, daughter of Mario and Margarita Avila, and Jamey Garland, son of Debbie Garland.

Congratulations to all six students.



Neal Newsom and Olivia Robertson with Desiray Broome, Angelica Mendoza and Araceli Mendoza



Phillip Carter with Kristi Guetersloh, Sonia Avila and Jamey Garland

Three Cowgirls Named to All-Dist. Basketball Team

Three members of the District second place winning Cowgirl Basketball were recently selected to the All-District team.

They are Junior Kyley Bearden, Junior Tessa St. Romain, and Freshman Kayla Redman. What is particularly encouraging about the selection of the three is they will all return for action next year. They are to be congratulated for their hard work and achievements.

Cont'd from page 1, 'School Board'

concerning district employment policies was approved, and the recently advertised bid received from Hemphill Bus Sales, Inc. was accepted for the purchase of a 1996 Blue Bird bus.

It was voted possible suggestions for a policy concerning the extra-curricular participation of certain students be researched.

It was approved for the school district to pay the cost of the advanced placement exam for college credit for students who score a minimum of three on the test.

A financial report was received from Eric Banfield, and administrative reports were heard from Principals O'Quinn, Watkins and Haragan, and Counselor Arlon Alexander.

The board convened in executive session at 9:32, and reconvened in regular session at 10:19. It was approved that contracts of all professionals on all three campuses be extended as recommended by the administration.

The board accepted the resignations of Jack and Karen Baucom.

The Austin colonies will start the new year with a population of 5,665 persons, according to a census recently completed. This figure reveals a truly remarkable achievement for a ten-year period. It is estimated that about a thousand land titles have been issued in the Austin colonies.

The Texas News, August 25, 1832

Cotton Conference Slated

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service of Yoakum County will be hosting the Yoakum County Cotton Conference which will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 1996 at the Plains Community Center with registration at 8:30 a.m. The program is scheduled to conclude with a noon meal sponsored by Sellers Ag Supply of Plains. Two CEU's will be offered to all private applicators in attendance.

Dr. Jim Leser, Extension Entomologist, will be on hand to provide information on the current status of the boll weevil in Yoakum County and discuss management strategies for the coming crop year.

Dr. Dan Krieg, Professor and noted Cotton Physiologist from Texas Tech University, will speak on a variety of topics that affect cotton production in Yoakum County.

Next on the program will be Mr. Wayne Huffaker of Tohoka, who is serving as Chairman of the High Plains Boll Weevil Steering Committee. Mr. Huffaker will address producers' concerns over the Boll Weevil Diapause Spray Program.

Concluding the meeting will be Mr. Phillip Kidd, Yoakum/Terry Counties IPM Agent, who will provide an update on the Yoakum/Terry Counties Integrated Pest Management Program which will begin this growing season.

Any interested persons should make plans to attend this informative event. For more information contact Yoakum County Extension Agent Tadd Knight at (806) 456-2263.

Keeping an eye on Texas

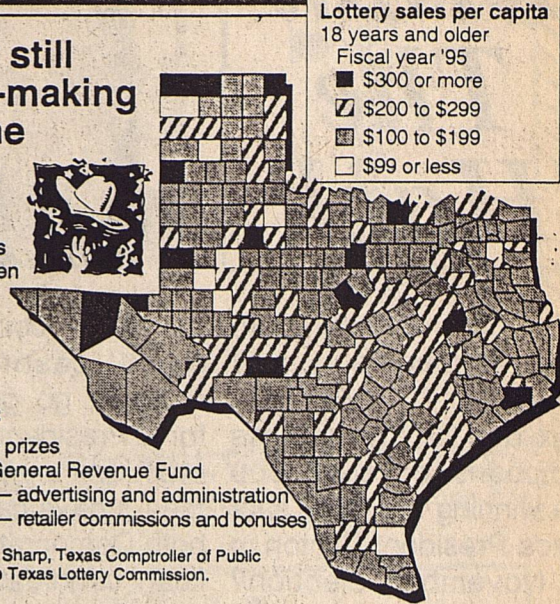
Lottery still money-making machine

Texans spent more than \$3 billion to play the Texas Lottery between September 1994 and August 1995.

Where the money goes:

\$1.7 billion — prizes
\$1 billion — General Revenue Fund
\$188 million — advertising and administration
\$159 million — retailer commissions and bonuses

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and the Texas Lottery Commission.



Coach Jack Baucom To Retire

Coach Jack Baucom has announced his retirement after 36 years in public education, 34 years as a varsity basketball coach in Texas. Baucom's outstanding career included 32 years in Coleman and the past four years at Plains. As a varsity coach, Baucom compiled a career winning percentage of .758, winning 754 games while losing only 260.

Following is a breakdown of some of the statistics of this man's outstanding career:

--Record: Total 754 wins, 260 losses. District play 320 wins, 80 losses

--34 years as Head Coach average won/loss was 22 wins and 7 losses per year

--.758 winning percentage

--29 of the 34 years, Baucom had 20 or more victories, four of those were more than 30

--22 district championships, 13 regional tournament appearances, and 1 state tournament appearance

--the last four years at Plains, he has a combined record of 102-26, a district record of 37-5, a playoff record of 13-4, having taken the Cowboys to the regional tournament in each of his four years here.

--His 34 years included coaching teams in Class 3-A, 2-A, and 1-A schools.

While coaching at Coleman from 1968-75, Baucom held the dual role of head football and head basketball coach. He led the Bluecats to two district titles and a co-championship in his tenure as a head football coach.

Plains superintendent Pete Simmons, who began his career as a Baucom assistant from 1968-73 in Coleman, said of Baucom, "Jack Baucom is one of the finest gentlemen and possibly the truest example of a coach I have ever been associated with in my career.

He not only was a consistent winner on the playing field, he was a winner in life. He taught literally hundreds of young men the values needed to succeed in life.

His players are all better men today for having had the opportunity to both learn how to win in a game, but more importantly how to succeed in the more difficult arena called 'life'.

He is a tribute to the coaching profession. He deserves the privilege of retiring, but it is unfortunate that other athletes will not benefit from learning from this true WINNER. Plains is fortunate he came our way for four years."



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HOME TO BE AUCTIONED R.E.C.D., formerly

FmHA, is holding a public auction on April 2, 1996 to sell the property located at 604 East Fir, Denver City, Tx. The sale will be held at 10:00 A.M. at the Yoakum County Courthouse at the south front entrance. A special price reduction will be in effect at the sale. For information, please contact RECD at 806-743-7641, or write to RECD, Room 224, Federal Bldg., 1205 Texas Ave., Lubbock, Tx. 79401

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From The Hack



Man, oh man, what an oracle it seems I am! Remember in January when one of my fearless predictions covered Bob Dole winning the GOP spot to face President Clinton in the November election? True, not a done deal yet, but he's sure off to a commanding lead this early in the nominating process... which seems to go on for centuries.

Why am I so under impressed by his standing so far? I never said I was for the man, I just thought he would win the GOP nomination. Period.

Another question - why is it so hard for me to decide how I will vote when the November big deal comes around? Regrettably, in my case, this is another of far too many years recently in which I have cast my ballot AGAINST one party candidate rather than FOR the other. Why is it so many of us regard the Party choices so semi-favorably?

In all honesty (and for this I shall probably be stoned

out of the county), I can't recall casting a truly positive, go get 'em, vote for a President since JFK's election in 1962. Since then, I have cast ballots for both Democrat and Republican candidates, none of whom have brought my support to an irresistible, passionately boiling point of support and enthusiasm.

One thing for sure you will not learn from reading this column..... No way will you learn how I plan to vote. Not cause I'm keeping a big dark secret.... I honestly don't know yet. I am positive this attitude absolutely INFURIATES, yes, INFURIATES, OUTRAGES, OFFENDS, and CAUSES ULCERS IN THOSE STILL DEMANDING ABSOLUTE ALLEGIANCE TO PARTY CANDIDATES ONLY! For some perverted reason, that makes me feel GOOD.

**Grin...
Smile...
it won't hurt a bit!**

Editorial Opinion

"Support The Republic Of Texas!"

Did you happen to see the two column ad in last week's Lubbock A J, with the above heading? We're still puzzling this thing out.

It stated emphatically, "It has been discovered Texas was never legally annexed as a state. Proper legal process has been completed (and the International Court at the Hague has been notified) which re-establishes Texas' Independence as a Republic, separate from the United States".

What? Say again? When did this astounding event occur? I must have slept thru the day of this discovery.

The ad goes on to glowingly describe all the great benefits which will pour down on us, and how the horrors stemming from our being governed by the Federal government will simply disappear since we are now an Utopian Republic.

"No more federal agencies to deal with, like EPA, OSHA, ATF, IRS, UN Treaties, etc., etc. No federal agents or judges telling us what we can and can't do with our land. No forced immunization of our children, nor property taxes for Republic citizens. A system of common law based on self responsibility. No IRS collections, the freedom to decide your children's education system, and you will own your home, land and automobile, versus merely having a certificate of title", so read the new Land Of Honey type ad.

I hate to sound just a tad skeptical, but a few questions are nagging me; OK, so no more IRS. A pleasant thought, but something tells me it will be replaced by some other agency, say, the RRS - the Republic Revenue Service, for you can bet the farm some agency will be around to demand tax dollars from you. You think the Federal agents and judges won't be replaced by REPUBLIC agents and judges to mandate land use? As to OWNING homes, land and autos, if certificates of title are done away with, what do we do to prove ownership? Paint big signs on our roofs telling the world this house is owned by Joe and Jane Doe? Rivet metal signs on our cars claiming ownership? Erect ten foot electrified fences around our land, with ownership signs posted every ten feet? The thing about a system of common law based on self-responsibility? Pardon me, I thought that was what we've had all these years, in the form of the U.S. Constitution, which the Texas constitution is closely drawn from.

No more forced immunization's of our school children? I can remember when I thanked God for mandated polio immunization, small pox vaccinations, other life saving and future guaranteeing health measures prescribed for our kids. The final insult to common intelligence, I suppose, read a "sound money system based on Texas' natural resources, hence, a strong economy". Do some really ill informed, if not down right simpletons believe we, the 'MIGHTY REPUBLIC OF TEXAS' could compete against a National economy, much less the world market, which we greatly depend on, in order to proudly state. "We are a separate Republic now".

We could, of course go on. I choose not to dignify such really simple thinking. For every so called plus idea the ad outlines, there are dozens of legitimate rejections.

I suppose the most startling thing about the ad was, there was absolutely no plea for money for their campaign. It merely described the next meeting place, and urged public attendance at the three time weekly meetings across Texas planned for future months.

Now, want to make a bet... Attend one of these meetings, and I'll give odds they ask you to get your check book out to help support this dribble.

Basketball Camps Set For June, July At SPC

LEVELLAND: Applications are now being accepted for all girls interested in attending Lady Texan Basketball Camp, which will be held in June and July at South Plains College.

A second week will be offered again this year to accommodate the increased demand for the growing camp, open to all girls in fifth grade through high school.

The camps, under the direction of South Plains College women's basketball coach Lyndon Hardin, are open to all girls in fifth grade through high school.

"We feel we have one of the better camps around," said South Plains College women's basketball coach Lyndon Hardin, director for the camps which will be held June 16-21 and July 14-19.

"We try to keep a small ratio between instructors and campers. It's a good environment to learn fundamentals."

The purpose of the camps is to provide an opportunity for girls and young women to improve their basketball skills in a fun environment. The fundamentals of basketball are stressed, with sportsmanship, team play and self-confidence emphasized as well.

"We're not going to make them great players in a week," Hardin said, "but we give them a good foundation! We're going to work hard on basketball skills. It's not a recreational camp, but they have fun too."

The camps will be held in Texan Dome on the SPC campus. Other facilities for use by the campers are an indoor swimming pool, indoor racquetball courts and tennis courts. In addition, campers, also may spend time at the SPC Student Center, which features a video arcade, pool and ping pong tables and a giant-

screen television.

Camp participants may commute daily from their homes or spend the week on campus in the college residence hall.

The cost of the camp is \$200 for overnight campers, \$165 for day campers who eat in Texan Hall and \$100 for day campers who do not eat in the dining hall.

Included in the camp fee is instruction, insurance, awards and entertainment, as well as certificates, a personalized camp t-shirt and a basketball for each participant.

The camp schedule will include ball handling, dribbling, passing and shooting drills, along with scrimmages, tournament games and individual instruction.

Hardin, in his 13th season at the SPC helm, was named the Junior College Coach of the Year by the Texas Basketball Coaches Association in 1992. During the 1993-94 season, he recorded his 200th career victory at South Plains.

Camp applications will be accepted as they are received and should be returned as soon as possible. A \$75 deposit should be sent with the application, and the remaining balance will be due at the time of registration.

Registration will be held on June 16 and July 14 at 2 p.m. in Baker Center, with camp activities concluding at 3 p.m. on June 21 and July 19.

The deposit is nonrefundable after May 24 and July 5, and a \$20 charge will be made on all refunds.

For more information, contact Hardin at (806) 894-9611, ext. 2224, or write: Lady Texan Basketball Camp, South Plains College, 1401 S. College Avenue, Levelland, TX 79336.

A Classified Ad This Size Cost Your Only \$10.00 Per Issue

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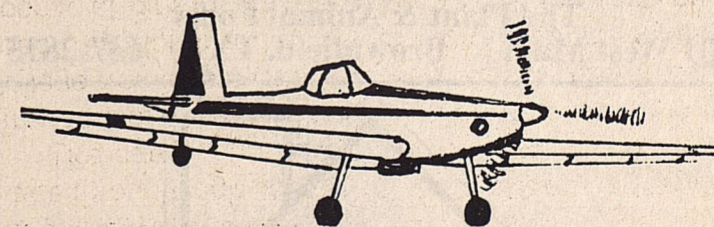
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