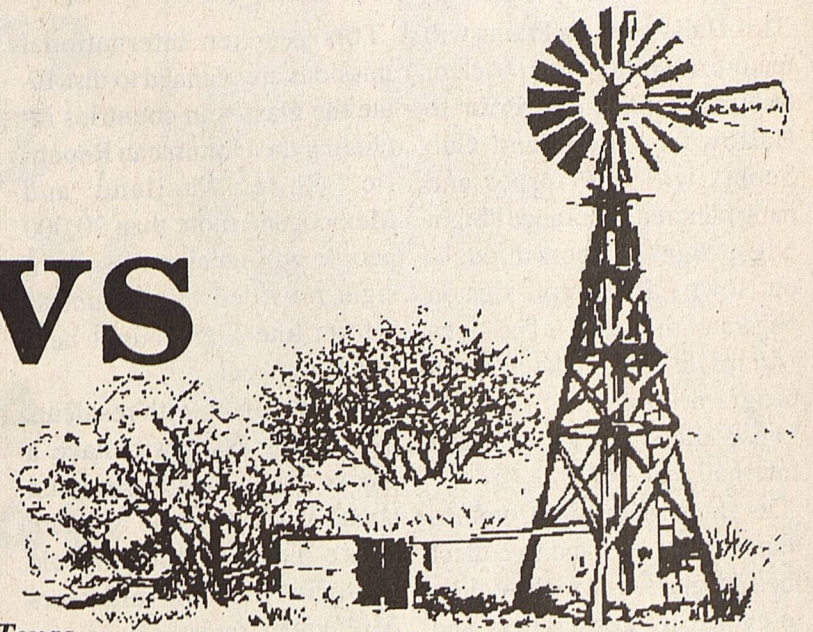


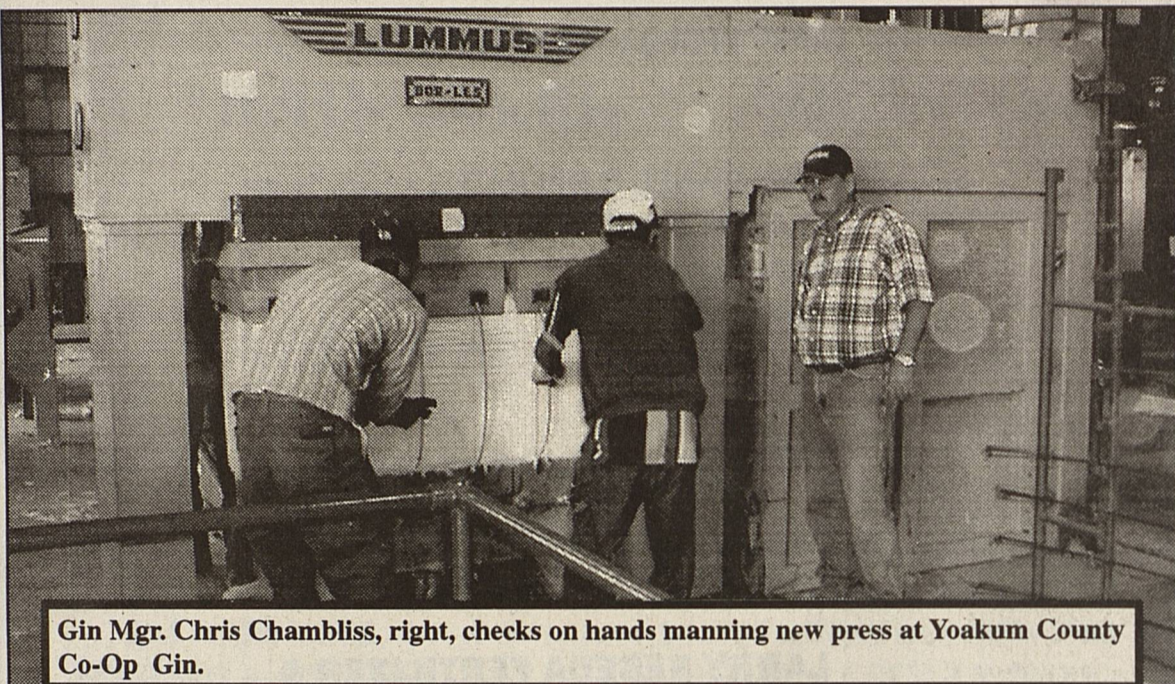
Cowboy Country News

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

Volume V1111, Issue 8, October 23, 2002

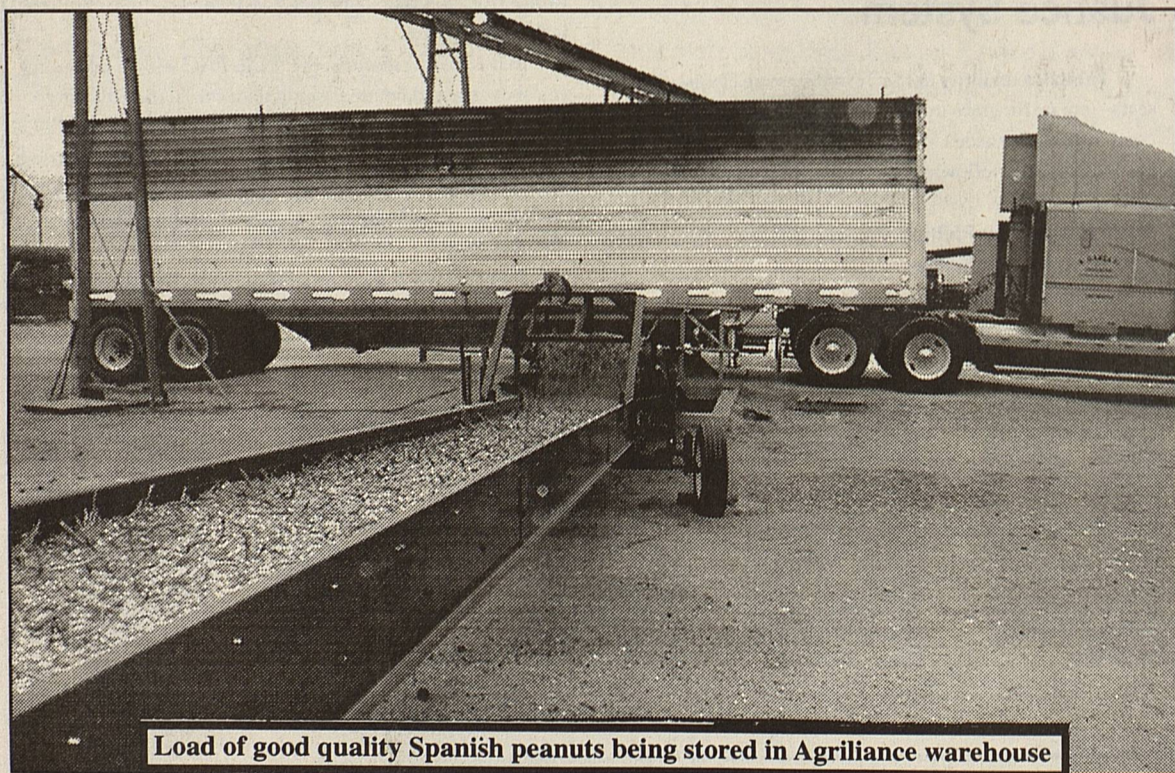


Early harvest yields bringing smiles to producer faces



Gin Mgr. Chris Chambliss, right, checks on hands manning new press at Yoakum County Co-Op Gin.

While it is far too early in the fall harvest of the county's staple crops, cotton and peanuts, to predict any type of record yields for the year, most irrigated growers of the two commodities are expressing their pleasure with the harvest to date. A few days of scattered and light rainfall last week halted cotton stripping and peanut combining, but machines are again running. Area gin management report cotton coming in is of excellent grades, and yields look good. Peanut handlers report good yield figures on Valencia, Spanish and Runner varieties of the legume. There appears to be enough milo in the county to open at least one grain elevator, and those producers are hoping for a late freeze to mature the crop.



Load of good quality Spanish peanuts being stored in Agrilliance warehouse

DPS Promotes School Bus Safety

National School Bus Safety Week runs from October 20-26 as school districts and law enforcement combine to highlight important safety issues.

In many locations this year, DPS troopers will be running special enforcement operations targeting dangerous driving around school buses. Motorists can be fined up to \$1,000 for passing a bus while its alternately flashing red warning lights are activated.

"A school bus is carrying our most precious cargo, and other drivers should treat them accordingly," said Charley Kennington, DPS program administrator for school bus transportation.

Statistics show that students are most likely to be injured or killed when boarding or getting off school buses. Three students died while getting on or off school buses in 2001 and 2000

"This also is a time for school districts to reinforce safe bus driving and loading and off-loading procedures," said Kennington. "Nearly half of all students hit are struck by the bus shortly before, during or after boarding or exiting the bus."

Even with 1.4 million Texas children riding school buses daily, they remain one of the safest forms of transportation accounting for less than one half of one percent of all traffic crashes.

There have been no student fatalities on Texas school buses since 1991, but the numbers of injury producing wrecks during that same time period increased 41 percent, while injuries rose 63 percent.

Charley Kennington can be reached at 254-759-7111.

Secretary Shea certifies numbers for November Election

Texas Secretary of State Shea recently announced the official figure for the number of registered voters eligible for the November 5 General Election. The certified number of voters is 12,569,738, meaning 81% of Texans over the age of 18 are now registered. This is an increase of 351,574 over the official tally for the March 12 primary election. By way of comparison, 12,365,235 Texans were registered in the November 2000 general election. Between March and November of 2000, 752,474 new voters were added to the rolls.

"I am delighted the 81% of eligible Texans have made the decision to register to vote. Voting is both a privilege and a responsibility, and I hope Texans will now follow through and take those voter registration certificates to the polls," She said. Texas enjoys one of the highest rates of voter registration in the nation. The state pioneered motor-voter, and instituted on-line access to printable registration applications, both aimed at increasing voter registration numbers.

"The people we elect in November will be representing Texans and their families on the federal as well as the state levels. We, as a nation, are going to face difficult decisions on a range of issues during the coming year. Folks need to understand, by not voting, they are letting someone else make decisions for themselves and their families," Shea said.

Early voting begins October 19 - October 21, varying by county, and continues through November 1. On election Day, November 5, polls will be open from 7am to 7 pm.

PISD Strikes Gold!

By James Haynes, Superintendent

The Plains ISD administration and board recently received notification all three schools and the school district had received additional awards from the Texas Education Agency for high performance on indicators of performance other than those used to assign accountability ratings. The awards are called the Gold Performance Acknowledgements.

All three schools and the district received an attendance award that was attained by having a yearly attendance percentage of 96% for the district, 96% for the High School, 96% for the Middle School and 97% for the Elementary School. The overall average for the district was 97.1%. This can be compared to the state attendance average of 95.5%

Plains High received two other Gold Performance awards for the students enrolled in the Recommended High School Program and for the students' College Readiness performance. There are three graduation programs offered for students who graduate from Texas Public High Schools; the Minimum Program, Recommended Program, and the Distinguished Achievement Program. Plains High School received a Gold Performance Award for the Rec-

ommended Program because 51% of the students were enrolled in the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement Program. The High School received the College Readiness Gold Performance award because 81.6% of our students did not have to take the TASP College Readiness test because of their high performance on the Exit Level TAAS test.

Plains Middle School received two additional Gold Performance Awards for the students' Comparable Improvement in Mathematics and for the percentage of students who passed the End-Of-Course Algebra exam in eighth grade. Once again the eighth graders who took the End-Of-Course Algebra exam had 100% of the students pass. The percentage of students who had had to pass to qualify for the award was 90%.

Because of the level of performance at the schools, the district received Gold Performance Awards in Mathematics, End-Of-Year Course Algebra, College Readiness and Recommended High School Program.

Our administrators, teachers and students are to be commended for these awards. They work extremely hard every day. This is just another indication, along with the Exemplary rating earned by the district, that proves how well we are doing.

Cowboy woes continue - downed by 'Lopes 54-2

It's quite possible the Plains Cowboy footballers are learning the old song which contained the lyrics, "Nobody knows the sorrows I know."

One of their older competitors, the Whiteface Antelopes, demolished our crew in a lopsided 54-2 rout Friday last.

The Lubbock AJ reported Plains managed 9 first downs to Whiteface's 10, while our pressbox computer stats gave the Cowboys 10 to the Lopes

13, but little did that matter; The Antelopes managed 352 yards total offense to the Cowboys 186.

Whiteface scored in all four periods of play - four times in the first quarter for a 26-0 lead. In the second quarter, they pressed their lead to 33-0, when the Cowboys had their sole moment of glory when the

'Lopes snapped a fourth down ball over the end zone for a two point safety. Unfortunately, with only 32 seconds before the half, the 'Lopes intercepted a Cowboy pass for a 71 yard touchdown and 40-2 lead at the half.

The Cowboys then managed a

credible drive with line blocking to allow Nick Hays and Todd Williams to manage two first downs and move the ball to the Antelopes 32, but a fumble negated the drive,

In their first possession of the third quarter, Whiteface quickly racked up another score to go up 47-2.

In the final period, the Cowboys started a drive with 7 minutes on the clock, and good blocking sprung Bartley, Williams and Hays loose for a series of firsts, but a pass interception stalled the drive and led to the end of the disaster.

Turn To Page Four,
"COWBOYS"

Jr. High, JV Cowboy action shots inside



Wrangler Cody Mayes gains good yardage against Whiteface in 16-16 tie last week

Local Lions, Cub Scouts to make 'Fright nite Sight nite'

This Halloween in Plains will feature a bit more than trick or treating youngsters. Prior to Halloween, Lions and Cub Scouts will join forces and hang hundreds of orange "Sight Night" signs on doors throughout town (See sample sign on page 5 of this issue). The signs will invite you to take part in a program started in 1999 by Lenscrafters and Lions Clubs International.

On Halloween night, volunteers will be on hand to collect the old glasses, which will be re-cycled by Lenscrafters and eventually distributed free to the needy in developing countries.

This year ten international missions are planned to distribute the glasses in countries including the Dominican Republic, Chile, Thailand and Mexico, and more than 20,000 people will receive the gift of sight provided by volunteer efforts like Sight Night here this Halloween.

Most all homes with residents using eyeglasses will have a pair or two of old glasses lying about. If yours is one of them, please play an important role in Sight Nite - if volunteers don't knock on your door, you may leave the glasses at the Tax Appraisal Office, or Richardson Insurance.

District, JP Court cases heard

In District Court October 15, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, Wallace McLaurin III pled guilty to a third or more DWI. A six year prison sentence was suspended and probated six years. He was fined \$1000, must pay \$280 court costs and time payment fee of \$25. He must attend weekly AA meetings, serve 160 hours community service, surrender his driver license 180 days, complete the DWI Repeat Offender program, and the TAIP Outpatient program. Warren New served as his attorney, and DPS Trooper Chris Malloy was investigating officer.

In Pct. One Justice of Peace Court October 17, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding, Michael Ja-

son Fields was found guilty by jury of speeding, 87 in 65 mph zone. He must pay \$104 fine and \$56 court costs by November 16. Sgt. Nancy Baize, Yoakum County Sheriff Department, was investigating officer.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state in both court sessions.

Criminal cases in County Court

Criminal cases were heard in County Court October 16, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the

state.

Victoria Bobbie Sanchez pled true to a charge of marijuana possession, less than two ounces. She was sentenced in the order to proceed with adjudication of guilt to loss of deferred status and finding of guilt. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. She must attend and complete the TAIP Outpatient program and complete the CPS plan of service. Her license was suspended 180 days. She must pay \$486 restitution to Sonic Drive-In, complete the drug offenders education program. A criminal mischief cause was adjudicated.

Robert Garcia pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior criminal trespass of a habitation cause. Defendant will spend 90 days in jail with credit for 37 days served. Terroristic threat and failure to appear causes were adjudicated.

Marcos Herrera Hernandez pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI cause. A 90 day jail sentence had been

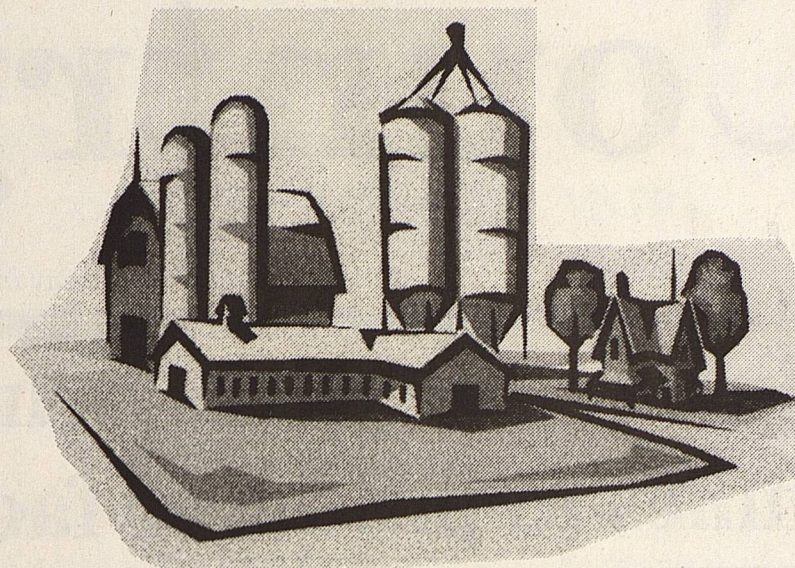
met with 156 days served. Assault causing bodily injury to a family member and evading arrest causes were adjudicated.

Joel Alexander Garcia pled guilty to evading arrest. A 30 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 6 months.

He must pay \$211 court costs and serve 30 hours community service.



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MEMBER 2002

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Week Off.
We publish
Again
November 27

Supreme Court Races Critical to Future of Civil Justice System

This fall a majority of the Texas Supreme Court—five seats—are up for grabs in what is expected to be the most competitive statewide election since 1994. The TCJL PAC has endorsed the following candidates for the high court:

Chief Justice Tom Phillips
Justice Wallace Jefferson
Justice Michael Schneider
Justice Margaret Mirabal
Judge Dale Wainwright



Tom Phillips



Michael Schneider



Dale Wainwright



Wallace Jefferson



Margaret Mirabal

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These candidates are highly qualified, experienced jurists who will continue to build the court's reputation for scholarship, integrity, and impartiality. It is vitally important for all Texans to go to the polls on November 5 and vote for these excellent judicial candidates.

In the coming months, the TCJL PAC will be informing you about the candidates, issuing slate cards, and engaging in other programs to increase voter turnout in these and other judicial races. We will be asking for your help in getting the word out to your friends, colleagues, and families about the importance of these races and the differences between the candidates.

We could never have succeeded in electing the fine judges Texas has enjoyed for the last decade without your help. Thank you for all you have done in the past and will do in the future to assure the best possible judiciary for Texas.

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Krispy Kreme Donuts Coming

The Denver City High School Senior Class of 2003 will be selling Krispy Kreme Donuts on Saturday morning, October 26, 2002, at Lowes Grocery Store in Plains and at the high school gym in Denver City. Donuts will be arriving in Denver City at approximately 6:30 AM. The Senior Class will bring 200 dozen donuts to Plains and will be ready for business around 7:30 AM. Donuts will sell for \$6.00 a dozen. Proceeds will go towards Project Graduation 2003. For more information, please call Judy Thompson at 592-2580 or 592-6444.

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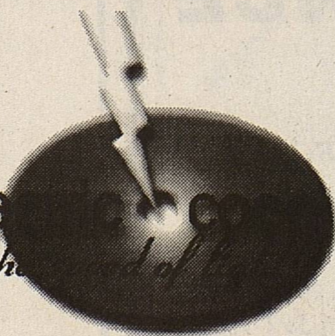
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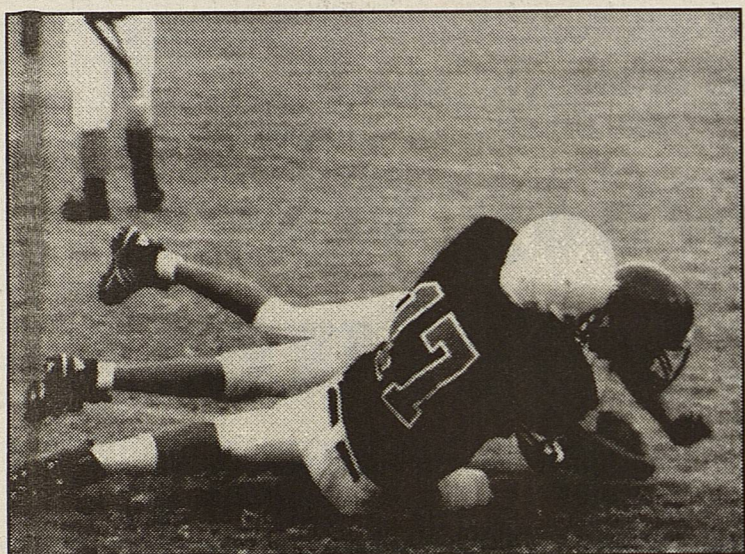
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Wrangler Kurt Alldredge hopes to stop Antelope runner



Wrangler ball carrier Cody Mayes has blockers out front



Landon Craft de-horns an Antelope



Antonio Martinez had hands full trying to stop Whiteface's BIG runner

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From Page One, "Cowboys"

Computer stats included the following; Freshman Todd Williams had 90 yards rushing in 19 carries. Zach Broome led receivers with 2 catches, Richard Diaz had one for 26 yards. Mario Bonilla and Ryan Martinez led defensive

tackling, and both had tackles for lost yardage.

The Cowboys face always tough Sundown this Friday here---- They can certainly use YOUR SUPPORT!!!

PISD Sports Capsule

Football:

Jr. High Wranglers- No Whiteface game results available. Final score was 16-16.

JV Cowboys- The younger Cowboys took on the Bovina Broncos here last Thursday, and made a great effort, but came up just short, 24-20. The Broncos scored early in the first period, and were threatening again near the half, when Ramiro Martinez made an interception to stop the drive and a 8-0 score at half time. In the third period, Bovina took a 16-0 lead. Cowboy Arnold Cordova made a good, 60 yard run to the 3, then made it into the end zone for the TD. Extra point try failed to make the score 16-6 going into the final quarter. In the final period, the Broncos pushed the score to 24-6. Blake O'Quinn connected with Payton Bean for a touchdown toss to up the score to 24-12. On defense, Michael Therwhanger recoved a Bronco fumble to set up a five yard run by Cordova for the TD. O'Quinn then hit Patrick Cotton for a two point conversion and 24-20 score. Game highlights included 135 rushing yards and two touchdowns by Cordova, Michael Crump had 44 yards on the ground. O'Quinn threw for 77 yards, Bean caught a 35 yard TD ball, Cotton had four receptions and recovered an on-side kick.

Volleyball:

Jr. High Lady Wranglers-

7th Girls- The youngest Lady Wranglers extended their winning streak to ten games by beating Denver City 15-12, 15-6. Their season record is now 12 wins, 2 losses. Maria Andazola and Marisa Melendez were credited with great spot play in the latest win. Their final game is Saturday, October 26.

8th girls- The 8th Lady Wranglers had tough times with Denver City - the 'A' girls fell 9-15, 91-5, and the 'B' girls were dropped 2-15, 715. They too end their season with games against Brownfield Saturday.

JV Cowgirls- The younger Cowgirls had a good outing against Whiteface last week, winning 15-2, 15-3. Micaela Villegas scored 5 serves, Kim Trent 7, Allison Friesen 9. "They have really come together as a team, and we are very proud of them," Coach Thaggard said.

Varsity Cowgirls- Coach Lusk said the Cowgirls struggled against Whiteface, but put it together to come out on top 15-7, 15-11 to win their first district game.



JV's Patrick Cotton tries to move the ball after reception



Arnold Cordova tries to breakaway from bronco



Cordova picks up a few yards on the ground



JV's T.J. Cordova tries to steal Bronco's jersey



JV Cowboys swarm Bovina runner

Go Cowgirls, Cowboys!

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Service Outcome as defined in the Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 270, is to promote better mental and physical health for older people through nutritious meals and socialization. This is why everyone who is able to be up and about is encouraged to come to the Center, our congregational meal site, for a noon meal and a time of fellowship with others. Home delivered meals are for those who are homebound and unable to come to the Center. The caretaker for such a person is also eligible for a home deliveries meal if he/she is over sixty or a spouse. TDOA Standards indicate that everyone else must come to the Center to partake of their meal. This directive eliminates anyone who comes to pick up a meal and take it home to eat it there. All meals at the Center and to the homebound are at a suggested donation of \$2.00 for each serving.

Thanks to Paul Sweitzer, Layne Black and Wanda Black for taking a turn at the registration desk these past few weeks. Thanks to Wanda also for the new bulletin board on which to display our menus and activity calendars.

A house cleaning has also been accomplished on our Senior Center Officer Registration Board revealing a bright yellow appearance as you enter the doorway. Stop to see who those are who serve in these capacities. They would appreciate any suggestions you may have and any compliments on their efforts would also be welcome.

Winners in the Bingo Hour this week were Lenore Matus, Chris Humphrey, Marsene Beattie, Thelma Smith, Lorene

Randolph, Inez Turner and Cresencia Gurro. Some chose prizes to take home while others chose free meal tickets. There is a suggested donation of \$1.00 to join this activity, as there is for the '42' Domino tournament twice monthly and the Pool and Game night each Monday at 6:30. Everyone is encouraged to participate in these activities.

The first balloon ride at the Albuquerque festival turned out a bit disappointing for Maidelle Mitchell when she discovered, after rising aloft into the wild blue yonder, that her directions were turned 180 degrees and the sun was coming up in the West. She assures us that it still very exciting and she recommends it for everyone.

It was good to see Lenore Matus was back for lunch on Monday after a lengthy bout of sickness.

Faye and Coy Black are back in town after their long siege in Lubbock. Faye reports she is feeling well and will be going back for testing in November. She appreciates everyone's concern and prayers.

Walter Holland has also been doing some time in the hospital. When he was missed at his usual spot in the coffee shop, some cmony suggested that he must have lost sight of the water tower and lost his way to their daily rendezvous. We're glad you're back home, Walter.

Mary Gibson and June Hanneman won the 9-ball and 8-ball Women's Tournaments in Lovington, NM, this month.

Spencer and Lorraine Randolph headed to Amarillo and Oklahoma City this week to visit relatives.

Blair - Noggle Wed



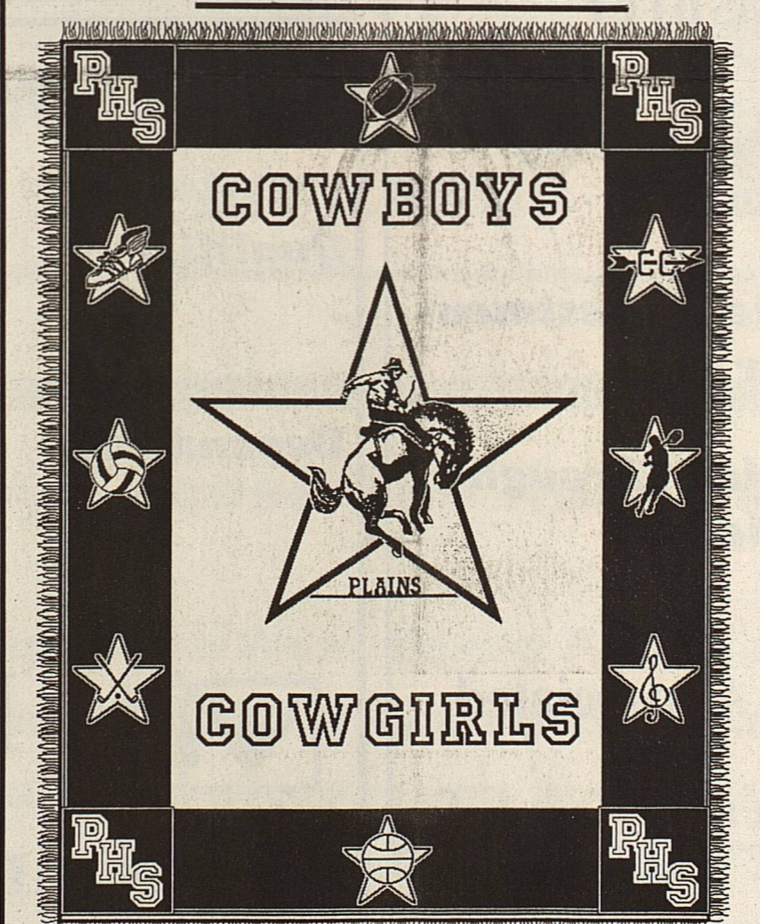
Valerie Blair, daughter of Royce and Cynthia Blair of Plains, and Bryan Noggle, son of Gary and Lesa Noggle of Perryton, were married July 26, 2002 in Canyon, Texas. The wedding took place in the J. H. Hill Chapel on the campus of West Texas A & M University at 6 o'clock in the evening. Charles Coulter of San Antonio officiated the double ring ceremony. Music for the wedding was provided by Vienna Conspiracy, Chamber String Quartet Amarillo. The bride entered the chapel with her father, Royce Blair, to the strains of "Trumpet Tune" by Clarke. The bride's mother, Cynthia Blair, sang "Sunrise, Sunset" to begin the service. The bride's sister, Emily Griffin, sang "I'll Be There" as the service concluded. Both were accompanied on piano by Robin Buford. The bride wore an ivory gown of beaded and sequined chantilly lace with beaded spaghetti straps and a lace edged chapel train. She wore an ivory tulle veil and carried pink and ivory roses.

Ushers were Tobin Randolph, friend of the groom, Devin Brown and Scott Griffin, brothers-in-law of the bride. The groom's sister, Laura Noggle kept the registry table.

The reception was held at the Alumni Banquet Hall on WTAMU campus. Tables were set with small bouquets of pink and white Shasta daisies on small mirrors. Special friends of the couple served traditional bride's cake and German chocolate groom's cake as dessert after the wedding dinner.

Following the reception the couple left in a stretch limousine for a bed and breakfast inn in Amarillo followed by several days in San Antonio. They make their home in Canyon, Texas where Bryan is a student of economics as WTAMU and Valerie is a teacher.

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SPC Center For Teaching And Learning Named Best In State

The South Plains College Center for Teaching and Learning has been named the best program of its kind in the state by the Texas Association for Developmental Education.

The TRADE Exemplary Education Program Award was presented this month during the College Academic Support Programs Conference in Fort Worth and is based on student outcomes, evaluation data collected, retention rates, overall rates of students completing reading courses, pass rates of the Texas Academic Skills Program and Center faculty and staff credentials and accomplishments.

SPC was also the top ranking college in Texas for the third year in a pilot study measuring student improvement in developmental education.

"It's imperative now with the diversity of learning styles that we have a center like this, where students can learn to be successful in their study skills and be successful in education in general," said Dr. Kelvin

Sharp, vice president for academic affairs. "The faculty and staff in the Teaching and Learning Center have done an outstanding job, and it's an honor for them to be recognized throughout the state." The reading program at the SPC Reese Center campus in Lubbock was also included in the award.

"This is recognition of the tremendous team we have in the Learning Center and Reese as well as the support provide by the administration," believes Dr. Gail Platt, Center director.

More than 5,400 SPC students received help and more than 47,000 contacts were made in the Teaching and Learning Center during the academic year 2000. Students had access to tutoring, independent study labs, computer lab with 80 computers and access to the Internet, reading courses, workshops and seminars, noted Dr. Platt. The number of students and contacts more than doubled from the previous year due to installation of the student computer lab.

Sight Night volunteers will be in your neighborhood during trick-or-treat to collect used glasses and sunglasses.

Sight Night is a community service project sponsored by LensCrafters and Lions Clubs International. The eyeglasses collected will be repaired, classified by prescription, and given to people in developing countries who need glasses, but cannot afford them.



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I'm looking forward to seeing all of you! Pat Bowlin

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Other Opportunities
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On The Level with Donald Haley USDA/NRCS

Heard of any good deals lately?
 How about this one – reimbursement of 50 cents on the dollar for a properly installed and needed conservation practice!

This program is offered through the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB).

The Yoakum SWCD has received funds for approved conservation practices, under the direction of the Yoakum SWCD Board of Directors, for Water Quality Management Planning in 2002.

Technical assistance is provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the TSSWCB.

Approved practices are eligible for a 50 percent cost-share (not to exceed the limit set by Yoakum SWCD) following successful completion and certification by NRCS / TSSWCB.

The amount of funds each producer may receive is based upon the total number of eligible producers who apply and the type of practice approved by the Yoakum SWCD.

Recent practices have included brush control, irrigation pipeline, Low Pressure In Canopy (LPIC) and Low Energy Precision Application (LEPA) sprinkler conversions.

Applications thus far in 2002 include shinary brush control and LPIC (Low Pressure In Canopy) sprinkler conversion.

As you can see, approved practices by the Yoakum SWCD are going to be those conservation practices that will increase the efficiency of water usage.

Selected producers will work under the guidance of a certified Water Quality Plan and be subject to the practice guidelines and requirements of that approved plan.

What's that mean?
 In a nut shell, it means that

the producer will be required to follow a rotation (high residue crops such as wheat/grain sorghum in rotation with cotton, peanuts, guar, etc) based on the needs of the particular soil type of the farm and manage those residues to control soil erosion and maintain / improve soil quality.

It means a soil test in each field at the beginning of the contract in order to arrive at some common sense yield goals and subsequent fertilizer recommendations for that year's crop.

After the initial soil test, soil testing will be required every three years on irrigated acres and every 5 years on dryland.

The TSSWCB recommends that the contract be in effect for one full crop rotation plus two years, which means six years in most cases.

These required contract items are common sense elements that most Yoakum producers are already doing anyway.

This is a broad-based explanation of the Water Quality Management Planning assistance offered through the Yoakum SWCD.

If you're interested and my explanations have caused more questions than they've answered, please stop by or call the office for more details.

And like my ole' Grandpappy used to say... "good deals are like high cotton prices...they don't hang around long!"

Early voting for the General Election will continue here at the County Clerk's office in the courthouse, and at the County Tax Office in Denver City until 5 PM November 1.

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From The Hack

*** FLASH ***

We have just received word both the chief political campaign offices of incumbent Governor Rick Perry and challenger Tony Sanchez are in a state of panic. Unconfirmed reports indicate both camps are running seriously low on supplies of mud, which is, of course, the favored ammunition being fired back and forth by each candidate's campaign committee.

Folks, this is serious stuff. How, in God's name, can the politicians even continue the campaign until the November 5 election date, if they do not have sufficient mud?

I heard a rumor just today Democrat candidate Sanchez is now quite miffed when he learned Rick Perry had cinched a deal with oil field specialists Halliburton and Schlumberger, who deal with drilling mud quite extensively, guaranteeing Gov Perry would have their undivided attention and barrels and barrels of the stuff to sling toward Sanchez these last few frantic weeks.

But then I next heard the rumor Sanchez had acquired exclusive

dredging rights to the Rio Grande river, for all practical purposes 80% dry. In the still semi-wet portions of the Rio, he would dig the gooey stuff as fodder for his campaign, to be slapped every where in the state. As soon as he is elected, of course, he will replace the Rio's mud with funds borrowed from The International Land Bank. He can't get it from his own bank. I asked our printer if he could possibly print this column in an appropriate color. "I'm sorry, we just don't have Texas mud in our inventory of colors." PITY!

Ever get the feeling you've seen all this before - you know, the dejavu thing? The more I watch television coverage of (A) the impending, proposed action against Saddam Hussein and his weaponry of horrors, (B) the endless war in Israel between those sworn to defend it and those sworn to destroy it, and (C) even the domestic terror the unknown sniper on the East Coast is causing, I am continuing to see attempts by the media, paticularly television, decrying restraints our governmental agencies are placing on 'Our Right To Know!

I have enough mileage behind me to know beyond a shadow of a

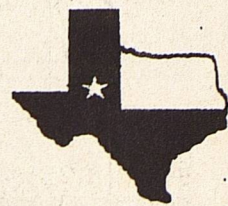
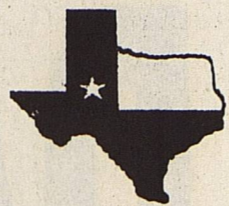
doubt, there are critical periods in time in which the exalted media does NOT have the right to know each and every tidbit of information concerning operations crucial to the lives of those involved.

TV talking head commentators are bemoaning they are not privy to all information about the deadly sniper in the Washington DC area. That is hogwash - let them know, the world, and the sniper knows.

Remember World War II? There was widespread criticism in the media for not knowing the details of the Allied forces invasion of Normandy in June, 1944. How stupid could the Allies have been to leak it to the press? There was grumbling after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in August, 1945. Should the government have advised them of the plan, cautioning, "Shhh... don't tell!"

Get a grip - I believe the administration and our military have a few more smarts about what they are doing than NBC, CBS, ABC, FOX, even exalted CNN - When it's important enough for you to know, and after we've kept it from you long enough to complete our mission, we'll tell you.

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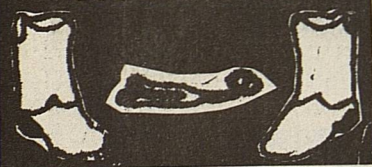
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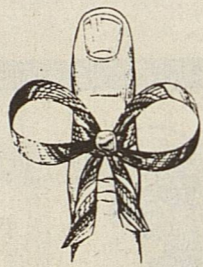
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Travis to command in San Antonio

Gov. Henry Smith has ordered Col. William B. Travis and thirty men of the regular Army to report to San Antonio, where Travis will replace Col. James Neill as commanding officer. Neill recently resigned due to bad health.

Since the regular army now numbers only 60 men, Travis will bring half the army when he comes to this post. Col. Neill has taken no steps to carry out Gen. Sam Houston's order to abandon the city. Instead, he convinced the officer who brought Houston's order, Col. James Bowie, that San Antonio must be held at all costs.

The Texas News, Feb., 1836

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