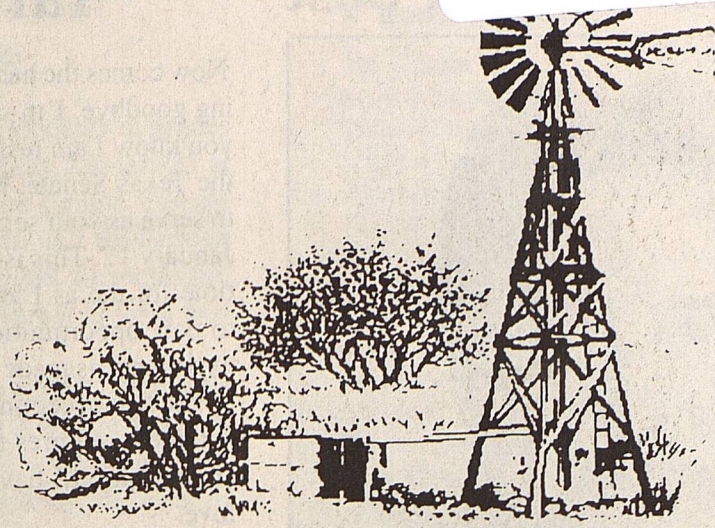


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Cowboy Country News

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

Volume X, Issue 18, January 14, 2004



52nd Junior Livestock Show starts here January 29

Dozens of Yoakum County 4-H and FFA youngsters will soon be busy putting the final grooming touches to steers, lambs, goats, rabbits and show pigs, prepping for the annual County Livestock Association show and sale.

Schedule Of Events:

Thursday, January 29;
Swine weigh-in 9:00 AM - 12 Noon
Lamb weigh-in 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Goat weigh-in 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Steer weigh-in 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Friday, January 30:
Lamb Show 8:00 AM
Rabbit Check-in 8:30 AM
Goat Show 8:30 AM
Rabbit Show 10:00 AM
Steer Show 11:00 AM
Market Gilt Show 12:00 PM
Market Barrow Show After Gilts
Saturday, January 31;
Buyer's Luncheon 11 to 12 noon, PISD cafeteria
Presentation of Queen Contestants 1:00 PM
Premium Sale 1:30 PM
Cowpatty Bingo

The 2004 Livestock Association officers are Danny Williams, Pres., Casey Clark, V.P., Jimmy Bearden, Sectry. 2004 Directors include Chris Chambliss, Tracy Moore, Kevin Gibson, Mike Roberts, Rick Gibson, Bill Rowe, Brady McConal

and Lanny Wood. The Advisory Committee members are Joe Pierce, PISD Ag Sciences Instructor, Eric Harrell, Denver City Ag Science, and Arlan Gentry, County Extension Agent-Ag.

2004 Queen Contestants are Leah Gibson, Denver City FFA, Skylar Keese, Plains FFA, and Ashli Hunter, Plains 4-H

Hard working show officials include Mike Smyers, auctioneer, Pct. 1 Commissioner Woody Lindsey, announcer, Lesa Wood, record keeper, Bill Helwig awards M.C. and Dottie Mayes, buyers luncheon.

Last year Lea County Electric Cooperative was the top auction purchaser and received the Platinum Award, while Plains State Bank and M & H Well Service received the Gold Award for purchases totaling over \$4,000 each.

Generous donations play important roles in the annual show. This year the Grand Entry in Denver City donated the bracelet going to the Queen. Floral arrangements for the queen contestants and the Queen were made by Christy Brink's Imane'n That shop in Plains. The Livestock Association is donating \$250 cash for the Queen ticket raffle. The Eddins-Walcher Company furnished all banners, rosettes and ribbons for decorations and the exhibitors, while Lamesa Printing donated the covers for the show programs.



PHS Cowgirls, in white, in fierce battle for loose ball in recent game against Wellman
More action shots inside

Many 2004 issues settled in Court

Nineteen agenda items were covered in the January 12 lengthy but routine session of Commissioners Court.

Tax Assessor/Collector Betty Rivas reported \$917,712 taxes were collected in the month of December, and predicted January would be another good revenue month.

Sheriff Don Corzine described a recent jail episode in which a very violent prisoner did extensive damage to one of the local jail cells, requiring electrical and other repairs to the cell. The Sheriff reported the Terry County Jail, where Plains prisoners are housed when the local lockup is over legal capacity, will not keep violent prisoners. Corzine reported he managed to place the violent prisoner in the Dickens County jail, a large facility able to handle over 500 prisoners. A housing agreement with the Dickens jail was approved allowing Yoakum to place violent prisoners there for a \$38 per day fee.

The sheriff next introduced John Anthony Stephenson and sought the court approval of deputation for Stephenson to replace John Matus who recently retired from the Deputy force. Stephenson's deputation was approved. He was recently a sheriff deputy in Cochran County. Deputation was also approved for Carla Cook as an office deputy.

A lease agreement between the County and Denver City School District for the D.C. Girls Softball field was approved. The school district is paying all expenses of building the new field.

All holidays for the year 2004

were approved. The mileage rate paid county employees for out of county car travel expense was set at 35 cents per mile, the same rate paid by the State. The

compensation rate for jury service was set at \$7 per day for appearing, and \$14 per day for

Turn To Page 2,
COMMISSIONERS

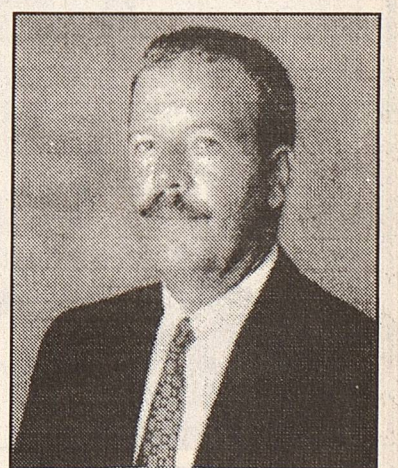
Judge Moore seeks return to office

District Judge Kelly G. Moore (R-Brownfield) has filed for re-election to a third full term as Judge of the 121st District Court covering Yoakum and Terry Counties. Appointed to the office by then Governor George W. Bush in 1995, Moore was elected to full terms in 1996 and 2000.

During his tenure as Judge, Moore had attained membership in The College of the State Bar of Texas, a program designed to enhance and maintain professional skills and quality of service to the public by attorneys through significant voluntary participation in continuing legal education. Moore has been active in the Judicial Section of the State Bar of Texas, having served on numerous committees and is a Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation.

Moore was appointed in 2000 by then Governor Bush to serve as Presiding Judge of the Ninth Administrative Judicial Region, an administrative position which provides support to judges in 45 counties.

Moore's judicial duties include presiding over all cases, whether criminal or civil, filed in the District Court in Yoakum or Terry County. Moore is also the juvenile judge in Terry County.



In addition to his judicial duties, Moore serves on the Juvenile Board of each county and is responsible for the establishment of Community Supervision and Corrections Departments for the District. "Serving as the 121st District Judge has been challenging, but very rewarding," said Moore. "I pledge I will continue in faithful and impartial performance of the duties of the office."

"I will renew my efforts to find ways to shorten the time required for resolution of legal disputes, to encourage peaceful settlement of legal disputes through mediation and other forms of alternate dispute resolution and to reduce the overall costs of litigation through effective case management.

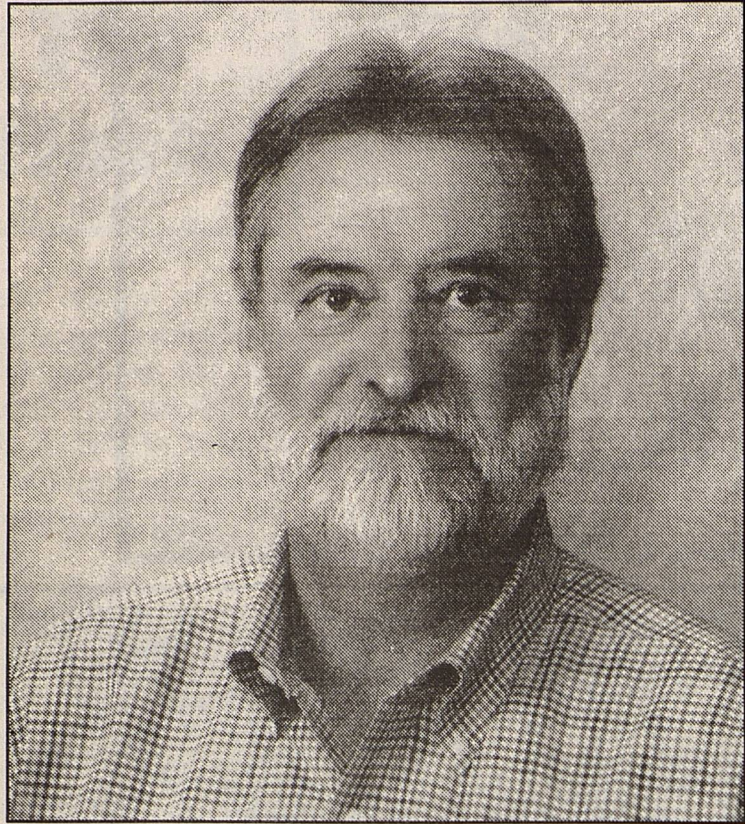
"Finally, I will continue my efforts to bring swift and sure resolution to criminal cases filed in the District."

Annual county agriculture valuation report

Commodity	Estimated 2000	Estimated 2001	Estimated 2002	Estimated 2003	Projected 2004
	(\$1,000's)				
Crops					
Rye	0.0	283.0	0.0		
Wheat	305.0	1,551.0	2,190.0	215.00	1,200.00
Hay	144.0	432.0	826.0	831.00	768.00
Sorghum	33.0	296.0	1,227.0	435.00	600.00
Cotton	17,615.0	12,794.0	40,613.0	28,350.00	40,500.00
Cottonseed	4,324.0	2,369.0	7,798.0	5,760.00	6,480.00
Peanuts	15,430.0	16,839.0	13,509.0	13,293.00	6,300.00
Soybeans	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Sunflowers	58.0	22.0	28.0	94.00	60.00
Food Corn	0.0	158.0	0.0		
Melons	0.0	786.0	466.0	400.00	300.00
Vegetables	0.0	1,305.0	647.0	251.00	0.00
Watermelon	11,340.0	16,292.0	7,942.0	3,714.00	3,750.00
Pecans	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.00
Alfalfa	0.0	0.0	215.0	109.00	105.00
Cowpeas	0.0	408.0	82.0	0.00	0.00
Guar	0.0	295.0	99.0	59.00	0.00
Other Crop	619.0	835.0	0.0	0.00	0.00
Livestock Totals					
Milk Total	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other Beef	1,250.0	1,500.0	1,525.0	1,910.00	2,120.00
Goats	6.0	7.0	35.0	30.00	28.00
Hogs	35.0	50.0	45.0	0.00	0.00
Other Ag					
Horses	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Hunting	5.0	6.0	6.0	5.00	5.00
Other Ag. Related	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Subtotal	51,235.00	56,444.00	77,459.00	55,605.00	62,394.00
Gov't Payment (CRP)		2,556.00	2,567.00	2,559.00	2,559.00
Other Gov't Payment		12,321.00	14,231.00	30,096.00	25,000.00
Total w/Government	51,235.00	71,321.00	94,257.00	88,260.00	89,953.00

This estimation of value of Yoakum County's agricultural economy is prepared each year by Arlan Gentry, Agricultural Extension Agent of the Texas Cooperative Extension Service. All estimates are shown in thousands of dollars.

Swann announces for Pct. Three Commissioner post



Rex Swann

"I would like to announce my intentions to run for the office of Yoakum County Commissioner Precinct 3, in the March 9 Democratic Primary. I am a life time resident of Yoakum County, having graduated from Plains High School in 1967, West Texas State University in 1972, and have farmed and ranched in Yoakum County since 1975.

"I believe in a hands-on approach, with a conservative common sense direction. My office would be open to all concerns, opinions, suggestions and inquiries.

"I look forward to a personal visit with each and every voter and will be asking for your support in the upcoming March 9 primary."

From Page 1, Commissioners Court

raising salaries for life guards at county pools. He proposed \$6 per hour for 1st year guards, \$7 per hour for returning guards, and \$7.50 per hour for head guards. Commissioner Coston moved to

Senator Teel Bivens farewell column

Now comes the hard part: Saying goodbye. I'm sure most of you know I am resigning from the Texas Senate. My last day to serve as your senator will be January 12. This is an exciting time for me as I look forward to new opportunities. But this experience is made bittersweet by the fact accepting a new assignment requires me to leave an institution I have grown to love.

Serving in the Texas Senate has been the most intellectually stimulating experience of my life. I am proud of the many things we in the Legislature have accomplished over the past fifteen years. However, the work of the Legislature never ends and as I depart from that august body it has some hard work ahead of it.

There are critical issues that must be addressed in the realm of public education, most significantly student achievement and school funding. In student achievement, we must raise the bar on our accountability system. The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) is the most effective way we have for evaluating the effectiveness of our public school system and finding out where improvement needs to be made. However, I will concede as we proceed with the TAKS we must maintain the balance that allows the test to be an incentive for our students and not an impediment.

Public school finance is a marquee issue every session and there is an urgent need for the Legislature to work on it again as soon as possible. Hopefully, the governor will call a special session in the spring of 2004. I regret I will not be in attendance. I anticipate when lawmakers gather to attempt to restructure our school finance system, all the cards will be on the table, both on the spending side and the revenue side.

Something must be done in the area of business taxation. You won't resolve the entire school finance dilemma by simply re-vamping the corporate fran-

chise tax, but it's clear that particular tax no longer serves its purpose. The tax has largely become a voluntary tax as businesses increasingly find ways to avoid paying it. The corporate franchise tax is further undermined by the fact the Texas economy has changed dramatically since the tax was enacted almost a hundred years ago. We need a business tax that fairly reflects the underlying economy of the state.

In 1997, then Lt. Governor Bob Bullock stopped me in the hall and asked me what was the most important item for that Legislature.

"Duh, Lt. Governor Bullock, it's property tax reform," I confidently replied.

"You're wrong again, Bivens," he responded. "It's water."

As was so often the case, the always prescient Bob Bullock proved to be right on the mark. 1997 was a landmark year for water policy in Texas and I believe state lawmakers face many more battles over water. In fact, I would predict water will be the dominant issue in the 21st Century for the Texas Legislature. Each passing day, water is becoming less available and more valuable. Because the allocation of scarce resources in society is what government is all about, it is my strong hope the Legislature, and not the courts, will determine water policy for Texas.

There will always be an abundance of issues to be addressed by the Legislature. That's as it should be. I will miss being in that arena, but I am deeply grateful you, the people of Senate District 31, have honored me by allowing me to participate for so long. You gave me a place at the table permitting me to have a hand in shaping policy of great importance to this state. I hope the fact you elected me five times indicates you agreed with the legislative decisions I made at least most of the time. I thank you for your support over the past decade-and-a-half. It has been a pleasure to serve you.

JP Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases heard and bonds set in Pct. 1 Justice of Peace Court, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

Cases filed:

- 296 traffic cases
- 1 minor in consumption alcohol
- 1 open container alcohol in vehicle
- 1 possession of drug paraphernalia
- 2 juvenile statements and magistration
- Bonds set:
- 5 cases motion to revoke probation-held until hearing
- Issuance of bad check- \$650 bond
- Issuance bad check- \$500
- Motion to proceed with adjudication of guilt- \$10,000
- Theft by check- \$500 cash bond
- No drivers license- \$200
- 2 cases use of equipment for anhydrous ammonia- \$5000
- 2 cases possess/transport chemicals with intent to manufacture controlled substance- \$7500

- Possession of controlled substance- \$5000
- 2 cases unlawfully carrying a weapon- \$1500
- Possession drug paraphernalia- \$500
- Injury to child, bodily injury- \$6500
- Possession controlled substance- \$10,000
- DWI, third or more- \$10,000
- Bail jumping, failure to appear- \$7500
- Possession of marijuana- \$500 bond
- 2 cases possession of child pornography- \$50,000
- 4 cases bail jumping, failure to appear- \$1000
- 2 cases bond forfeiture- \$500 cash bond.
- 2 cases release of surety on theft of service- \$500
- Driving with suspended license- \$500
- Failure to maintain financial responsibility- \$200

Tim Willis enters commissioner contest



"My name is Tim Willis. I am running for Yoakum County Commissioner Precinct 3 as a Republican. I have lived in Yoakum County since 1965. I graduated from Plains ISD in 1979. I worked in Denver City until April, 1985 when I returned to Plains to open Willis Auto and Tire, which I continue to operate. Since starting my business, I have completed several Small Business Administration management courses.

"If elected as your commissioner, I plan to turn over operations of Willis Auto to my sons in order to devote my time fully to the county. I am a member of First Baptist Church, Plains. My family and I are actively involved in the church and its missions, including the Top Of Texas Disaster Relief program.

"My wife Kim and I have seven children who have all attended Plains ISD, and have two currently attending. Kim is a high school teacher for Denver City ISD. I will appreciate your vote and support in the coming election."

Vote For Karen Bearden



Tax Assessor For Yoakum County

Republican Candidate

Your Support Will Be appreciated

Paid Pol. Ad by Karen Bearden, PO Box 935, Plains, Tx.

TPA MEMBER 2003
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Elect Jan Parrish
for Tax Assessor-Collector

Prepared To Work For You Vote March 9 Republican Primary
Political Ad Paid For By Jan Parrish, Plains, Texas

Bovine bonanza

Texas cowboys have precious cargo in their care. Texas leads the nation in its number of cattle operations, or places with at least one head of cattle at any time during the year, and in the value of its cattle and calves.

Top 10 states, 2002		Value of all cattle and calves, 2003 (in billions)	
Number of cattle operations			
1. Texas	151,000	1. Texas	\$8.4
2. Missouri	68,000	2. California	\$4.9
3. Oklahoma	60,000	3. Nebraska	\$4.5
4. Tennessee	51,000	4. Kansas	\$4.3
5. Kentucky	46,000	5. Oklahoma	\$3.5
6. Wisconsin	38,000	6. Wisconsin	\$3.3
7. Iowa	34,000	7. Missouri	\$3.0
7. Kansas	34,000	8. South Dakota	\$2.9
9. Arkansas	30,000	9. Iowa	\$2.6
10. Minnesota	29,000	10. Colorado	\$2.0

Cerebral Palsy NO FEE FOR FIRST VISIT

Cerebral palsy may be caused by professional neglect during prenatal care or childbirth. Its causes may include premature birth, birth trauma, and neonatal asphyxia (lack of oxygen). Call us for professional insight.

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Doctor-Lawyer in full time Law Practice
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1-800-460-0606
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CAPPOLINO CERTIFIED AS ABOVE AND OTHERS NOT CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

Harvest shows eradication working

ABILENE - As the cotton harvest wound up across the state, some Northern Rolling Plains growers were extolling the virtues of boll weevil eradication. One grower recently sent the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation a photograph he took on his father's home near Childress.

"Here is personal proof of what boll weevil control can do. Never have we made such a beautiful crop with cotton to the very top," wrote Bryan Crook. "If we had this 20 years ago, I would still be on the farm fulltime."

The photo shows cotton harvesting equipment in the middle of a field of wall-to-wall cotton. Crook is employed by the Farm Service Agency.

He wrote that his father, Don Ray Crook, has never been more proud of a crop. "In our part of the country, there really isn't an alternate crop to replace cotton as a cash crop. And we can produce cotton," Crook added. "We just could not af-

ford to put out all the chemicals it was taking to beat back the boll weevils.... because of what you do, many families may be able to keep their farms."

Crook wasn't the only one singing the praises of eradication. Don Rummel, who recently retired from Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas A&M, said his nephew, Tony Cox, was able to produce three bales per acre on his cotton farm located near Wellington. "We absolutely never would have been able to do that if we'd had weevils," Rummel said.

The Northern Rolling Plains began eradication in 1999. That year, foundation pheromone traps captured more than a million weevils in just the diapause phase. Trapping that year began in August. The following year, a full season's worth of trapping caught more than 3 million weevils. In 2003, only 80 weevils were captured all year.

Destination College For Parents

There will be a free workshop for parents of students in grades 8 - 12 to learn about college preparation Saturday, January 31 at 9:30 AM in the Region 17 Education Service Center. Parents attending will learn about college preparation and application tips, information on transcripts, application essays, financial aid, useful web sites, and invaluable tips from current college students.

The workshop will be presented by Hope English, Advanced Academics Coordinator with the Plainview I.S.D. She has presented this information to hundreds of area students and parents, and the program is especially valuable for making the road to college smoother, smarter, and profitable in terms of scholarships and time and money saved.

The Region 17 Education Service center is located at 1111 W. Loop 289, near 19th and Franklin and across from Resthaven Cemetery.

The program is free, provided by the Region 17 Service Center, but interested parents must call Debbie Stennett or Vicki Morris at the Center to register in order to prepare materials. The number is 806-792-4000. Please call by January 23.

GT Students prepare travel fair

Plains schools will have a Travel Fair presented by Gifted and Talented classes from grades 5 and 6. Performances will be January 21-23, 2:50 - 3:30 pm in the school resource center. The public is invited to attend. Places exhibited include Austrakia, Egypt, France, Japan, Trinidad, and the states Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Maine and Nevada. Each student has researched a state or country of his/her choice for this project.

Elementary Honor Roll

'A' Honor Roll

1st Grade
 Marissa Alvarado
 William Boyles
 Daitlyne Broome
 Perla Corrales
 Kristian Cueto
 Riley Earnest
 Deidrick Fehr
 Clayton Gass
 Karina Loya
 Brock McWhirter
 Iris Mejia
 Kasidee Taylor

2nd Grade
 Colby Bearden
 Jaston Brink
 Eiliza Cabellero
 Chastity Chavez
 Cameron Knight
 Taylor Michaleson
 Brittney Roper
 Herman Sawatzky
 Jacob Sawatzky
 Kelli Sellers
 Zachery Wilkins
 Bailey Winn

3rd Grade
 Merrit Crump
 Vanessa Cueto
 Elizabeth Davilia
 Whitney Davis
 Katie Dearing
 Isaak Fehr
 Autumn Friesen
 Abraham Peters

Matthew Ramos
 Haley Welch

4th Grade
 Adriana Corrales
 Marya Cueto
 Dakota Earnest
 Denise Tarrango

'A-B' Honor Roll

1st Grade
 Arista Davis
 Dora Gallegos
 Kay'd Lamar
 Trevor Locklin
 Halee Lowrey
 Elizabeth Martinez
 Annie Peters
 Micah St. Romain
 Brennan Whitzel

2nd Grade
 Brianna Coffman
 Daniel Cueto
 Miguel Garcia
 Lucas Hernandez
 Nancy Peters
 Percy Sosa

3rd Grade
 Marina Corrales
 Salvador Corrales
 Johnathan Davis
 Stacy Loewen
 Joseph Sainz

4th Grade
 Taylor Fitzgerald
 Zachary Larnar
 Brooke Wilson

NOTICE OF CONSOLIDATED PRECINCTS

Notice is hereby given to the registered voters of Precinct #303 and #404 that these precincts have been consolidated for this election only.

Election Day voting on Tuesday, January 20, 2004 in the Special Election for State Senator for District 31 will be conducted at the **Yoakum County Library, 901 Ave G., Plains, Texas 79355.**

For questions or assistance please contact the County Clerk's office at the Courthouse in Plains or call 806/456-2721.

Deborah L. Rushing
 Yoakum County Clerk

AVISO DE PRECINTO CONSOLIDADO

Por lo presente se les da aviso a los votantes registrados del Precinto #303 and #404 que este precintos se ha consolidado.

La votacion en la eleccion **Special Election for State Senator for District 31** se mane jara en **Yoakum County Library at 901 Ave G., Plains, Texas 79355.**

For questions or assistance please contact the County Clerk's office at the Courthouse in Plains or call 806/456-2721.

Deborah L. Rushing
 Yoakum County Clerk

Yoakum County Plains Clinic

Amir Memon, MD

and

Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

See us for your Weight-Loss and Tobacco addiction problems

TEXAS HEALTH STEPS

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8 am.-5pm.

Will take walk-ins Appointments preferred
 Please call 806-456-6365

Elfida Lazos Winkler



for Tax Assessor-Collector

"Your vote & influence are greatly appreciated."

Make experience count! ★ Tome en cuenta la experiencia!

para Asesor-Collector de Impuestos
 "Pido y agradezco su voto e influencia."

(Pol. adv. paid for by Elfida Lazos Winkler.)



Local Contractor Goes Crazy..... And Gives Away \$42,000

(Mild weather creates opportunity for West Texas homeowners)

Rick Ankerholz
 Money Giver

Forty-two local home owners are able to buy a new Premier or Deluxe home comfort system with no money down and get a check for \$1000*. And it gets better!

If your air conditioning and heating system is over 10 years old you might be able to get a new home comfort system without taking a dime out of your pocket. More about this in a moment.

Right now you might be asking yourself "What's the catch? Otherwise, how can he make an offer like this?"

There is no catch. But there is a special circumstance I'll explain... you see, several times a year I buy home comfort systems "in bulk" instead of the "onesy, twosy" like most contractors do. And why do I do this? It's simple. I do it to give myself extra leverage when I go in to "jawbone" the manufacturer into giving me lower prices.

My Problem Is Your Opportunity

Because of the mild weather, I have 42 overstuffed Premier and Deluxe home comfort systems that I must move out of inventory. And here is my problem. Most people only replace their old, inefficient heater after it breaks down!

But, due to the mild weather people are not running their heaters so none are breaking down. So I had to create a program so financially advantageous... that homeowners with old air conditioners and heaters would come out ahead by replacing them before they broke down.

Another thing, these 42 home comfort systems are brand new 2004 models. They are not seconds, blem or standard "builder" models. And have a full 10 year parts and labor warranty.

Just Think

If your air conditioner or heater is over 10 years old the money you save on your electric bill could offset the monthly investemnt on your new system. It's almsly like "having your cake, and eating it too."

Iron Clad Guarantee

I'm so confident you will save 20% on your electric bill (I'm projecting more like 30% to 50%) that I will pay you Double the Difference if you don't the first year.

There's no way you can lose. If these systems weren't among the best on the market, I couldn't afford to make such a promise

Here's How

Just call Judy at (432) 758-5000 and she will set up an appointment for your free survey. My Comfort Advisor will come and measure your home to determine the proper size and explain this special offer. Don't forget, I only have 42 home comfort systems. When they're gone, this \$1,000 offer also ends.

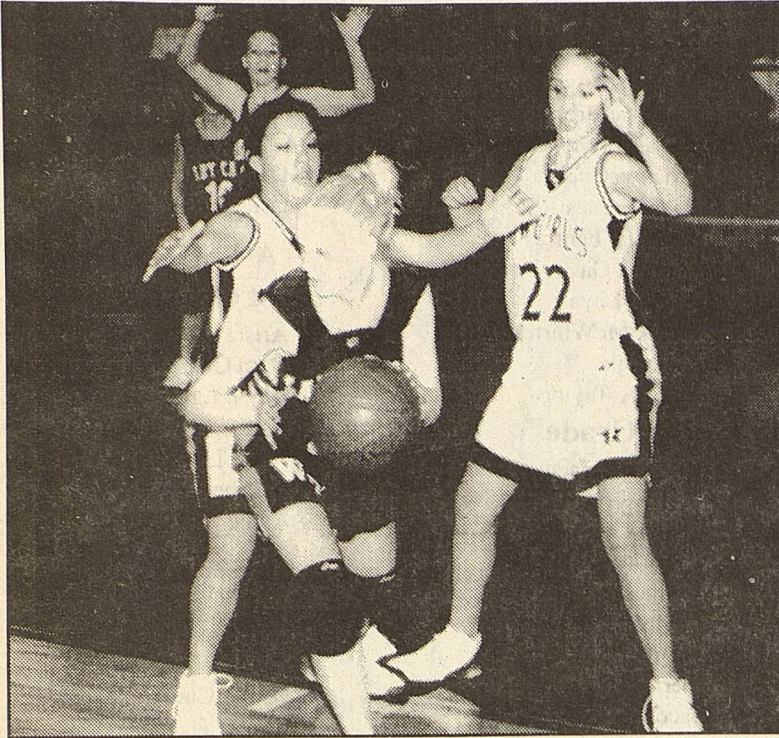
No Obligation

Even after he explains the installation of over stocked home comfort systems, there is no obligation on your part. If you decide you don't want to take advantage, that's OK. I want you to have a surprise gift worth \$50 because you are kind enough to give me the opportunity to solve my "bulk buy" problem. I want you to think well of A-Tech Air Conditioning and Heating even if you don't buy.

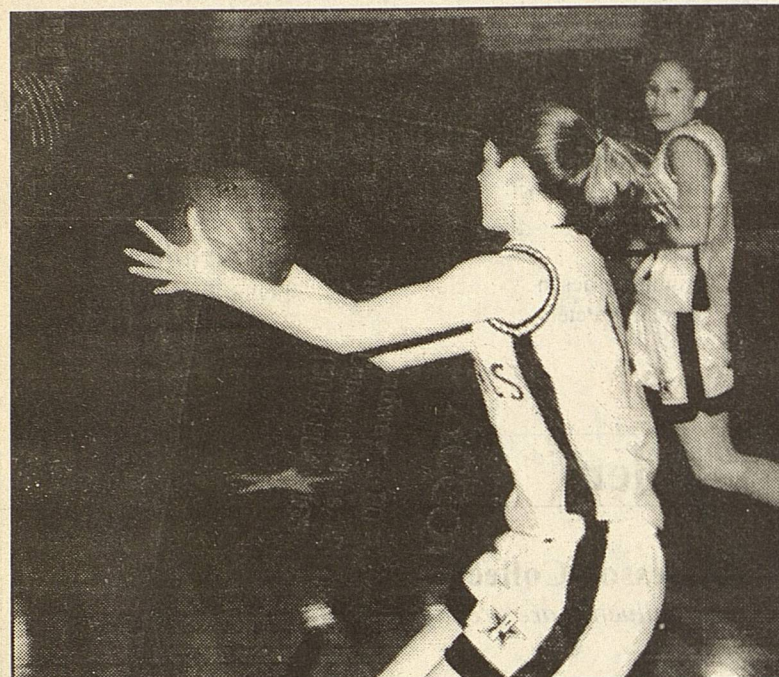
Give me a call now at (432) 758-5000. Thank you for reading this rather long ad. I hope you will profit greatly because of it.

A-Tech Air Conditioning and Heating
 1 - 432 - 758 - 5000
 Texas License #TACLB014209E
 TX. Dept. licensing & regulation
 1 - 800 - 803 - 9202

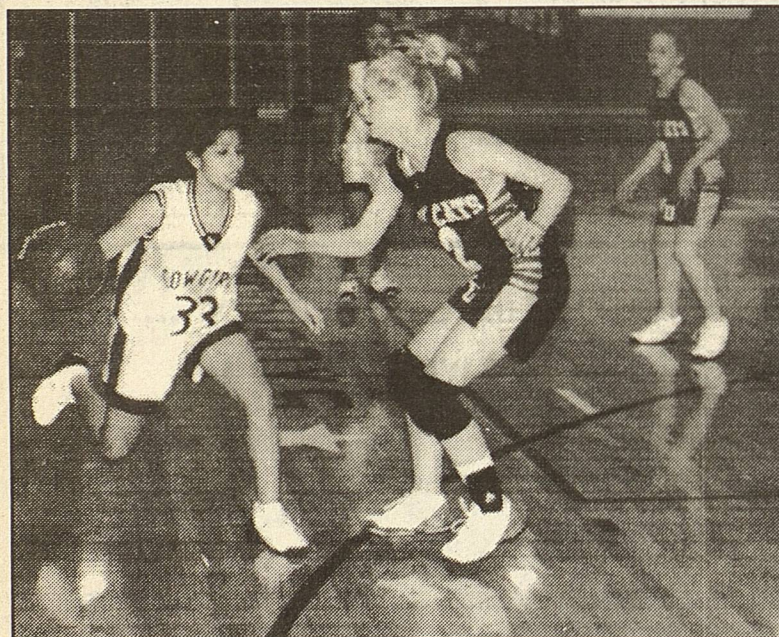
Cowgirls vs Wellman scenes



Meghan Garcia, Desiraye Broome block Wellman player



Moriah Traweck grabs pass



Daniela Lazos works the ball inside

PISD Sports Summary

*** Readers and all PISD Coaches. Events in the last few weeks have played havoc with our schedule, and I apologize for our poor reporting.. If all coaches will try to have your material ready by 8:30 AM each Monday I will pick it up and try to stay current. Thank you.

Jr. High:

7th Lady Wranglers-The younger girls traveled to Smyer and lost a squeaker, 14-13. Scoring were Mari Ruiz 6, Yesenia Loya, Lydia Whitzel and Crystal Tarango 2 each, Roxanne Barrera 1.

8th Lady Wranglers- The 8th girls improved their record to 8 and 1 with a big 47-16 win over Smyer. Lauren Davis and Joani Bell combined for 40 points, Reyna Gallegos added 5, and Katie Winn 2.

7th Wranglers- The younger Wranglers improved their record to 6-2 with a 31-22 district win over Smyer. Chris Gonzales led the scoring with 14 points, followed by Chris Addison 6, Derek Garza, Skylar Sainz, Zack Ramon and Dylan Hunter 2 each, A.J. Martinez 1.

8th Wranglers- The 8th boys lost their first district game when Smyer made 2 free throws in the last three seconds to win by one point. Cody Mayes was top scorer with 6, Rudy Gonzales and Zachary Ramos 5 each, Mario Sigala 4, Juan Lara 2, Kurt Alldredge 1.

High School:

JV Cowboys- The young Cowboys fell 36-31 to Wellman. Coach Brink a one-point third period put them in a hole they could not climb out of. Scott Addison topped scoring with 7 points, T.J. Cordova 6, Landon Craft and Todd Williams 4, Blake Parrish and Brant Huerta 3, B.J. Lester and Michael Therwhanger 2.

Another nigh of cold shooting spelled their doom when Friona downed them 49-31. Brant Huerta managed 8 points, Breck Hamm 6, John Wagnon and Todd Williams 4, Abel Ramos and T.j. Cordova 3, B.J. Lester 2, Scott Addison 1.

Varsity Cowgirls- The Cowgirls earlier fell to Wellman 56-37. On January 6, they came within 3 points, losing 41-38 by limiting their top scorer to only three baskets. Desiraye Broome topped scoring with 13, Meghan Garcia 9, Morales 6, Jesenia Suarez 4, Sandra Gandara 5, Moriah Traweck 1. They bounced back with a huge win over District foe Morton, 64-62. Jesenia had 17 points, Desiraye 14, Sandra 10, Moriah, Regina Mofales and Meghan 5, Micaela Villegas, Sarah Martinea and Micaela Villegas 2.

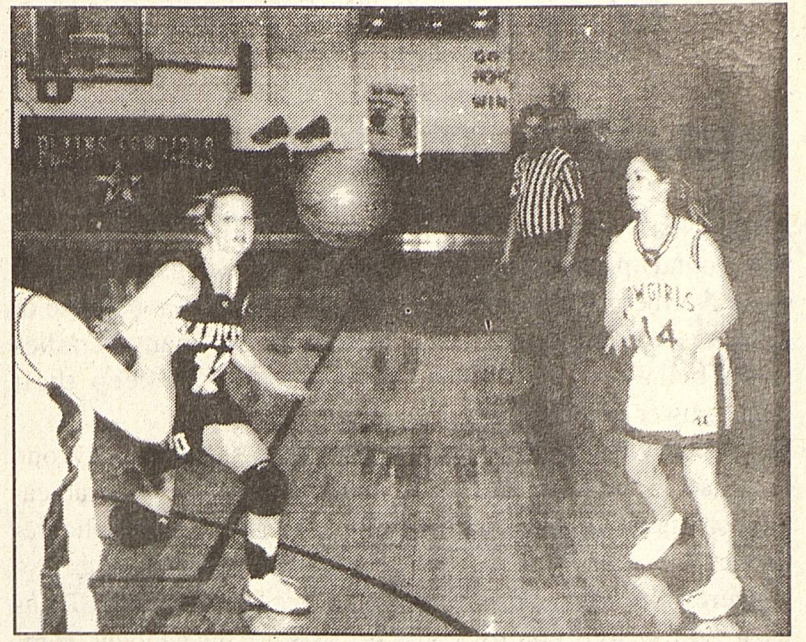
Cowboy Power Lifting Coahoma Meet:

Competing in a 20 team meet, the Cowboys finished in 5th place, bested by 2A and 3A schools. Individual results; Sr. Adam Guerrero- 1st, 165 lb. class- 1115 total lbs. 2nd overall outstanding lifetr. Jr. Scott Bruton, 2nd in 220 class. 890 total. Jr. Brant Huerta, 2nd in 275 lb. class, 965 total. Sr. Arnold Cordova

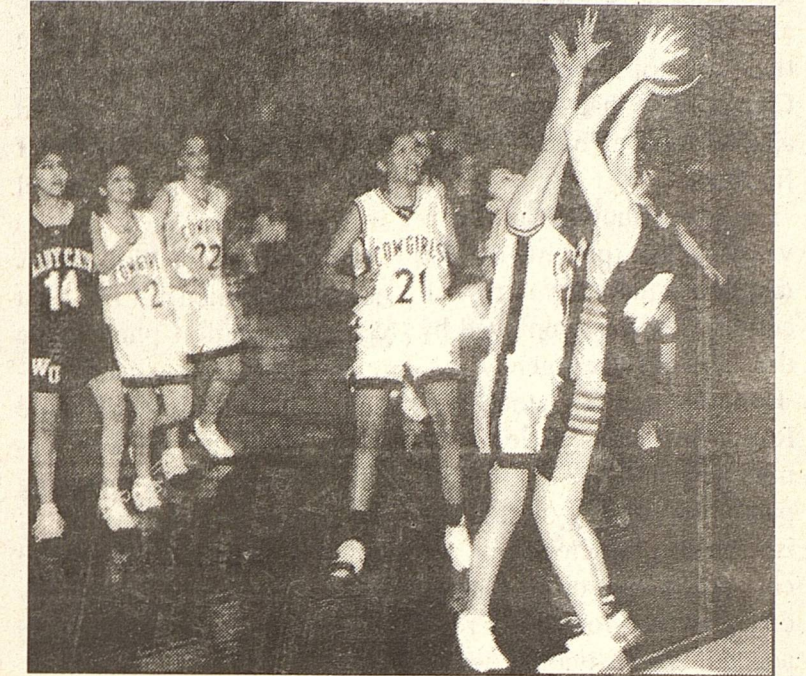
3rd 148 lb. class, 865 total. Sr. Brandon Davis, 4th 132 lb class, 660 total pounds. Reagan Haynes, 12th in 181 class, 735 lbs. total. Armando Ramirez, 14th 165 lb. class, 780 total.



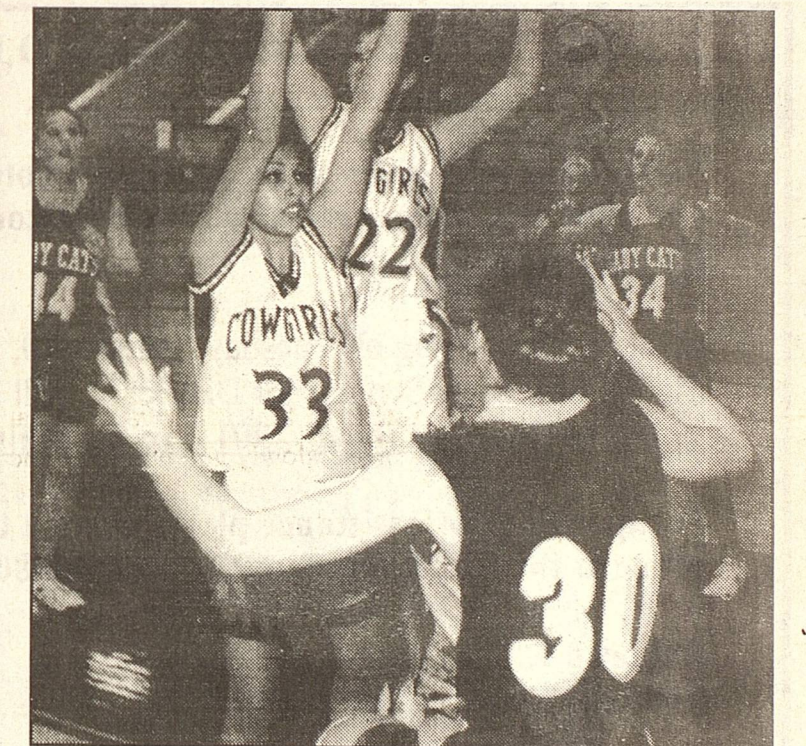
Desiraye Broome goes up for shot



Moriah fires ball inside



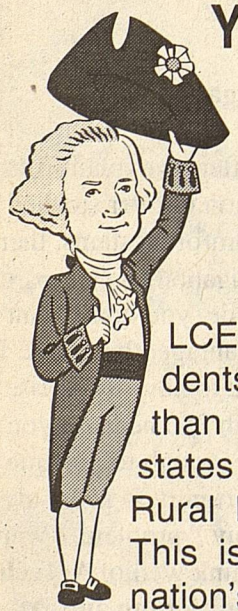
Michaela Villegas tries to block shot



Cowgirl defense

Hey High School Students!

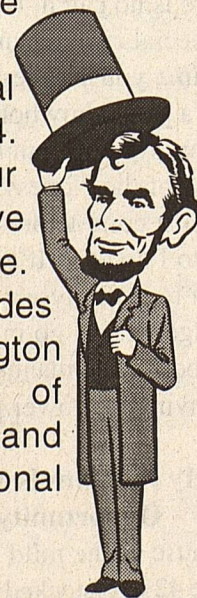
Where will you be this summer?
You could be in Washington, D.C.,
Courtesy of
Lea County
Electric Cooperative, Inc.!



LCEC will be sending two local high school students on an all-expense-paid trip to join more than 1,400 high school students from 37 states in Washington, D.C. for the National Rural Electric Youth Tour, June 10-18, 2004. This is the chance of a lifetime to tour our nation's capital, visit personally with legislative leaders, and see where history has been made. The Government-in-Action Youth Tour includes visits to the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mount Vernon, all the National Monuments and more!

For more information contact Allan Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631 or (800) 510-5232.

You can now apply on line at www.leacountyelectric.coop! Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office. Applications due by February 13, 2004.



ATTENTION

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Lea County Electric Education Foundation is currently accepting applications for scholarships to be awarded for the Fall 2004 semester. The Scholarships are renewable up to 8 consecutive semesters, for a total of \$4,000.00!

Eligibility criteria are as follows:

Available only to active members (and immediate family) receiving service from LCEC.

Applicant must maintain a 2.50 GPA on a 4.00 scale and be considered a full-time student.

Applicant must submit two letters of reference (see application for important details) and demonstrate a coherent degree plan.

Applications must be received no later than February 13, 2004.

For more information contact Allan Brown at the Cooperative's Lovington office at 396-3631 or (800) 510-5232. You can now apply on line at www.leacountyelectric.coop! Applications are also available at your high school or any LCEC office.

Lifelines & Styles

Art Club Meets

The Yoakum County Art Association met January 6, 2004. The meeting was called to order by President Jeanette Head. Betty Estep, treasurer gave the financial report. Everyone agreed that the Christmas party held at Wilma Powell's home had been a success.

The door prize provided by Jeanette Head, artist of the month, was won by Ineatta

Teaff. Then Shelia Stephens introduced Sharon Pickett from Brownfield. Sharon demonstrated how to do a floral painting in watercolors using a limited palette of only three colors.

Refreshments were served by Betty Estep and Ineatta Teaff. Next month, Carol Peterson of Lubbock will demonstrate watercolor on gesso paper. Visitors are always welcome.

SPC Announces Plains Honor List

Levelland, Texas - Joshua Bell, Chase Howell, Carmen Mendoza, Hayley Ponce, and Jessica Rodriguez from Plains have been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2003 semester at South Plains College.

Students named to the Dean's Honor List must maintain a minimum 3.25 GPA while carrying at least 12 semester hours of college-level work with no

failing grades.

"SPC is always pleased to announce the names of students who have made the college's honor rolls. They are to be commended for maintaining excellent grades and for representing SPC, themselves and their families so well," said Dr. Kevin Sharp, vice president for academic affairs.

Five lifesavers for the New Year

It's that time of year when people make resolutions. You know the vows: clean out the garage, keep in better touch with friends and family, save money.

But there are some health and fitness resolutions that could save your life, according to Texas Commissioner of Health Eduardo Sanchez, M.D.

"If people would remember to do just five things, they could live longer, healthier lives," Sanchez said. The five are: Eat smart; get fit; get shots; get checkups and screens; and don't smoke. Each of these suggestions alone is good for anyone to consider, Sanchez said. But together they provide a solid plan to help a person get healthy and stay that way.

First, more than 60 percent of the people in Texas are overweight or obese. Preliminary analysis by the Texas Department of Health (TDH) suggests that overweight and obesity cost an estimated \$10.2 billion in 2001 in Texas.

Healthy benefits come, nutritionists say, if people eat five to nine servings of fruit and vegetables a day. Other good choices include eating whole grains; taking smaller portions; selecting lean meat, fish and poultry; and reducing or eliminating fat, fried foods, sugar, and salt.

In addition to an improved immune system, people who eat smart may avoid or delay problems such as diabetes, high blood pressure, elevated cho-

lesterol and triglycerides (fats in the blood) that can lead to heart disease and stroke.

Think about ways you can start slowly and build your activity level. Just 30 minutes of moderate to brisk exercise daily can strengthen your heart.

Getting shots is something many adults don't think about; but pneumonia, one of the most serious infections for seniors, is easily prevented with a vaccine. While an influenza vaccine can't always completely cover all strains circulating, it does provide protection, and is especially important for those at risk of serious complications or death.

Getting checkups and screens. Many people don't visit a doctor until a problem occurs. This procrastination can be deadly.

Pap smears, mammograms and cholesterol exams can detect cancerous activity early when treatment is most effective. Tests for cholesterol, triglyceride levels and blood pressure, along with a family history, can indicate if you are at risk for heart disease.

And finally, it's been repeated often; but again, smoking is bad for your health. Tobacco use can lead to deadly diseases such as lung cancer, emphysema and stroke. When quitting, ask your doctor if nicotine replacement products are a good idea, get a friend to remind you of all the benefits of being smoke-free, and be patient, many people quit several times before they kick the habit for good.

PHS Students of the Week



First student is Cendy Lopez, a senior and the daughter of Miguel and Martha Lopez. She was nominated by Mrs. Canada, who said, "It is when we forget ourselves we do things most likely to be remembered." With a positive outlook, a smile on her face and the determination to finish any task given her, that's Cendy.



Second student is Brandon Hise, a Junior and the son of Vernon and Debra Hise. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." I believe Brandon has this type of character, and great character can lead to great leadership. I think he exhibits this trait in the classroom and in sports he participates in. Good character produces winners."

Seniors Corner

We start this column wishing you a day of ordinary miracles; a fresh pot of coffee you didn't make yourself; an unexpected phone call from an old friend; green stoplights as you travel; the fastest line at the grocery store; a good sing-along song on the radio, and your keys right where you left them.

Birthday and Anniversary celebration rolled around again this week and we saw Raymond Singleterry, Ken White, Madge McCubbin, and Billie McDonnell smile for the camera as they were recognized. As the celebrants were called to pose for the photographer, Susan and Frank Guerrero and Jean Sparks stood to be recognized. Congratulations to all.

Jose C. Domingo and Walter Holland continue to be hospitalized as we type this column. We hope to report they are home again and improving by time next week rolls around.

Our sympathy is extended to Walter Holland and family on the death of his daughter, Linda.

Leo Daniel was accompanied by his wife Dinger and his son Larry when he arrived to play pool on Monday night. A special welcome to these folks. We were glad to see Bob and Eileen Phillip back to join the group. We always miss those of our pool playing group who are unable to attend. We need each one.

It was great to see Sylvia back this week after recuperating from knee surgery. We have missed her smiling face during the time she has been gone. This seems the proper place to state again how proud we are and how thankful we are for each of the members of our staff at the Center. They worked short handed over the Christmas holiday, but each was willing to wear several hats as needed and things went along very smoothly, with delicious meals served on time; people being bussed to the places they needed to go; home delivered meals served as usual; and all of our reports to SPAG being made on time. Congratulations to a wonderful staff! Food for thought; A car company can move its factories to Mexico and claim it's a free market. A toy company can outsource to a Chinese sub-contractor and claim it's a free market. A major bank can incorporate in Bermuda to avoid taxes and claim it's a free market. We can buy HP printers made in Mexico, shirts made in Bangladesh, we can purchase almost anything we want from many different countries, BUT, Heaven help the Senior Citizens who dare to buy their prescription drugs from a Canadian or Mexican pharmacy.... that's called un-American!

Thought for today; "Our lives are not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath."

*My mother advised me,
achievement is the knowledge
that you have
studied and worked hard and
done the best in you.
Success is being praised
by others, and that's nice
too, but not as satisfying.
Helen Hayes*

LUBBOCK, TEXAS - Jody Price of Plains has been named to the President's List at Lubbock Christian University for the fall semester of 2003. In order to be considered a part of the list, a student must be taking a minimum of 12 semester hours and achieve a 4.0 grade point average or better for the entire semester.

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Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

Evening Program

6:00 P.M.

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From The Hack

Did you spot the article in Saturday's Lubbock A-J detailing plans to stiffen that city's ordinance on tattooing and body piercing? The Lubbock Board of Health is updating rules and regs to get in line with state laws.

A tattoo parlor will now be prohibited from tongue splitting, the art of slicing the tongue up the middle to give it a forked look. If no more forked tongues are allowed, will this reduce the number of lies people with forked tongues tell?

Instead of the legal age of 21 now required to get a tattoo, 18 year olds may now have colorful snakes, daggers, skulls and naked bodies permanently etched into their skin, which should cheer all parents immensely.

The art of stitching ears to make people look elf-like will be sternly frowned upon, and I am wagering there will immediately be a hue and cry of discrimination from folks who already have the elfish looking ears.

A tattoo establishment can now be closed if the owner or operator is discovered under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Those in the tattoo business probably gave a sigh of relief when they learned there was no law forbidding one receiving a tattoo while drunk. I would wager at least 85 percent of all males sporting those works of art were under the influence of demon rum when they decided to beautify their skin. I am very intimately acquainted with one foolish male who lives on Copeland Avenue in Plains, America who was most emphatically under that influence when he requested and paid for his skin to be permanently beautified.

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I continue to be overwhelmed with my experiences following Holly's journey. I was in the gym here last Friday shooting basketball photos, when a tall, perfect stranger approached me, held out his hand, said "I am B.H. Bean from Walters, Oklahoma, and I get your paper. I just wanted to meet you, tell you I enjoy the paper, and offer my sympathies on the loss of your wife".

It dawned on me, I had just received his renewal check, with a note enclosed, explain-

ing he too had experienced the loss of a spouse after more than forty years, and how incredibly difficult it had been for him. He told me he wanted to continue getting CCN so he could keep up with his son Monty's family and grandsons here. We had a little chat which left both of us a bit damp eyed, and I was very appreciative.

Also had a call from the good widow wife of a good old Pecos and Barstow buddy. She lost Bob a few years back, and she readily agreed with me... only those who have lost a true soul mate of many years can possibly understand this particular type grief.

I did have one other call from the Pecos past. a bit more on the upbeat. Talked to a couple I shared space with on the 1950 graduation stage at Pecos, got stroked into joining the Navy with Bill Cooksey in 1951, later shared space on the church floor where he and Jo were married. Jo wanted me to know she and gal friends would be convening in Ruidoso in February, and it might be a good time for me to come spend a day and night in Pecos with Bill so we could tell lies and play golf.

I casually asked how much room rent he would charge, and his gruff voice broke in, "The room rent will be the same as last time you were here, which you failed to pay, and I've already contacted our local eatery joints advising them not to take your check or credit card, and you know all my honest golfing friends here are waiting for you, one or two with deadly weapons, but come on down, we'll have a good time and lots more fun when you leave."

God Bless All Good Friends!

A little eight year old girl was watching her parents dress for a formal night out. When she saw her father putting on his tuxedo, she said, "Daddy, you shouldn't wear that black suit."

"And why not, sweetheart?" he asked.

She solemnly replied, "Cause you know it always gives you a headache the next morning!"



PHS Cowboys battle for the ball against Friona last week

A little goes a long way

Cotton has far more uses than just clothing and Q-tips. A typical 500-pound bale of cotton can make any one of the following:

- 215 Jeans
- 249 Bed sheets
- 409 Men's sport shirts
- 690 Terry bath towels
- 765 Men's dress shirts
- 1,217 Men's T-shirts
- 1,256 Pillowcases
- 2,104 Boxer shorts
- 2,419 Men's briefs
- 3,085 Diapers
- 4,321 Mid-calf socks
- 6,436 Women's knit briefs
- 21,960 Women's handkerchiefs
- 313,600 \$100 bills

SOURCE: Texas is Cotton Country, Texas A&M University Cotton Program, <http://aggiecotton.tamu.edu/funfacts.htm>

Yoakum County Connection

December 12, 2003
P.O. Box 117
Plains, Texas 79355

Thanks for your continued support of the ARTS in Yoakum County with your donations of time and money to Yoakum County Connection. We (YOU) sponsored the Denver City High School Art Show in May under the direction of LeAnn Romines. Janie Loya Ramos organized and supervised our wonderful Summer Youth Arts Program in the month of June in both Denver City and Plains. Mid-America Arts Alliance helped fund 568 participants enrolled in the 21 different FREE classes. Prize money was donated to the Denver City Chamber of Commerce for their July 4th celebration.

The eighth Annual Watermelon Round-Up under Jeannette Head's capable leadership was held August 30 on the Plains Courthouse Square. Music, booths, cars, roping and games kept the gigantic crowd busy. On October 15 and 16, in conjunction with the public schools and Texas Commission on the Arts, Harm's Marionettes Production entertained children in Denver City and Plains.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 15, 2004 at 7:00 PM at the Connection Building in Denver City. Entertainment, refreshments and door prizes will be provided. Board members will be elected and discussion on goals for our group will take place. Your input and energy are desired and needed. Please make plans to attend and keep our youngsters (and oldsters) participating in the arts. To paraphrase JFK, "Art can nourish the roots of our culture." Yoakum County roots grow strong with your willingness to give, and give again. Our gratitude overflows.

L.J. Sanders
L.J. Sanders
Honorary Director

Please complete the form below and return it with membership dues to:
Yoakum County Connection P.O. Box 117, Plains, TX 79355

- 2004 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
- Class 1 Annual Dues \$25.00 Individual or Non-Business Family
 - Class 2 Annual Dues \$50.00 Business, Farm, Ranch with LESS than 5 full-time employees
 - Class 3 Annual Dues \$100.00 Club, Organization, Business, Farm, Ranch with MORE than 5 full-time employees

Individual, Group, Business Name _____
Street Address or Mailing Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Voting Representative _____
Suggestions for 2004 activities or changes from 2003 _____

Above response can also be made in person at the January 15, 2004 Annual Meeting 7:00 PM at Connection Building at Denver City, Texas

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