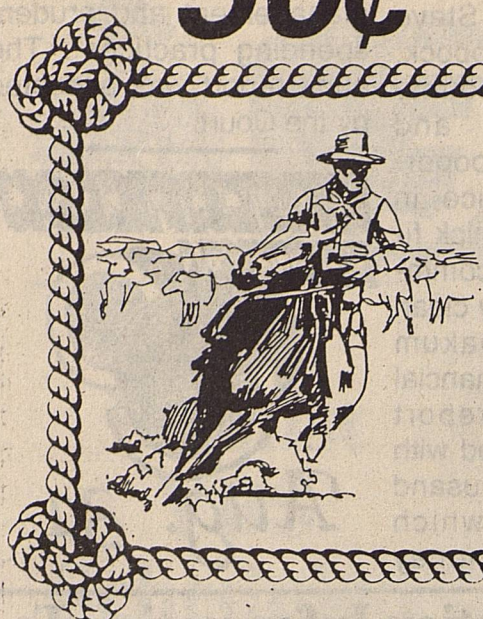


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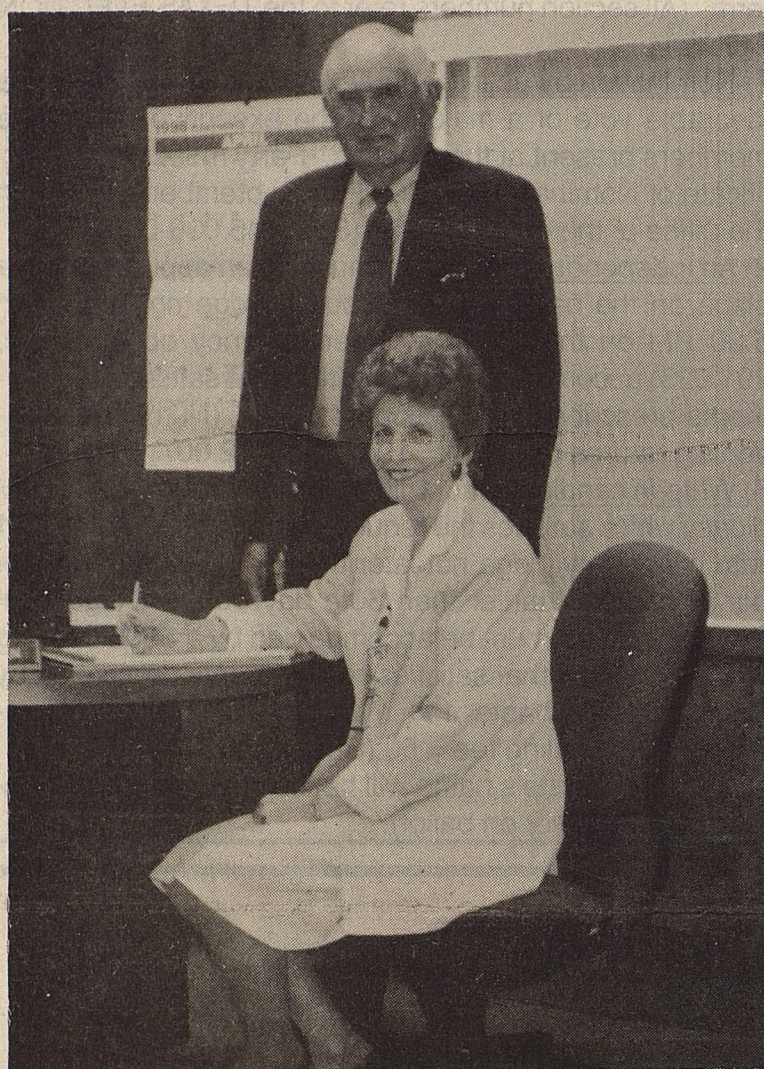
# Cowboy Country News



Published each Wednesday at the County  
Seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas.

Volume 2, Issue 39, Wednesday, June 5, 1996

## Ruby Bruton Honored At Farewell Party



Judge Dallas Brewer bids Ruby Bruton adieu at her last session of Commissioner's Court.

Ruby Bruton, who retired as County Clerk June 1, was honored with a farewell reception by fellow courthouse employees and friends last Friday, May 31.

A 22 year veteran County elected official and employee, Bruton chose not to run for re-election in the November election.

Interviewed by phone this week, when asked what her immediate retirement plans were, she said, "I'm just going to do a lot of the things I enjoy. I have always enjoyed doing needlepoint, something I learned from Blanche Dyer when she was in office here, and I also enjoy working in my flower beds. Working full time, I just couldn't spend the time on my hobbies I wanted to."

As a retiree, she will have more time to spend with her also retired husband Wendell, a former El Paso

Natural Gas employee. Ruby served as County Clerk some 13 1/2 years, and also as District/County Clerk when the two offices were one. She also worked four years in the County Auditor's office prior to her election to office in 1979. She has resided in Denver City since 1970.

She considers her County work experience enjoyable and rewarding. She reported she enjoyed serving the public, and working with the other County employees and officials. She confided she did not like, however, the pressure and stress which accompanied her Court-house experiences.

A large number of fellow employees and friends visited her during the farewell party to wish her well.

## Grand Jury and County Criminal Court Action

The Yoakum County Grand Jury returned three true bills of indictment last Wednesday, May 29.

Carl Dean James, Denver City, was indicted on a first degree felony charge of murder. James allegedly stabbed a Seagraves man last March, who later died from the wounds. His bond was set at \$30,000.

Stephanie Ann Kresbach was indicted on a second degree charge of Arson, and her bond was set at \$5,000. The indictment stemmed from an incident last February when Kresbach allegedly set fire to her family home, west of Denver City, for insurance purposes.

Jaime Vasquez, Plains, received a true bill of indictment on a charge of second degree felony aggravated assault. Vasquez was allegedly involved in an incident last March in Denver City, in which he used a wooden table leg as a lethal weapon against a Denver City man. The incident was apparently a confrontation between some twenty individuals from both Plains and Denver City.

A first degree felony conviction can range in punishment from life confinement in prison or any term not more than 99 years, or less than 5 years and an optional fine not to exceed \$50,000.

A second degree conviction can lead to prison confinement for not more than 20 years, or less than 2 years, and optional fine up to \$10,000.

All felony bond indictments are set by Judge Kelly G. Moore.

In other Courthouse criminal case action, held in County Court presided over by Judge Dallas Brewer, Ernest Orona Castillo, 22, pled guilty to a subsequent DWI charge. He was sentenced to 90 days in jail, suspended and probated 18 months. He was fined \$750, must pay \$227 Court costs, will spend 30 days in jail with

## Welcome Rain, Not So Welcome Hail Returns

Young cotton crop damaged again

Yoakum and many other South Plains counties were once again visited by beneficial thunderstorm produced rains Sunday evening, which unfortunately also produced damaging hail, some of it severe. Not enough time had passed at press time to fully assess total damage to cotton producers, but it is evident thousands of acres of crop were destroyed.

In an unusual weather pattern, the storm system, covered by the Doppler Radar systems in Lubbock, moved into the area late Sunday afternoon in a generally north to south path.

Apparently the local fire siren sounding in Plains late that afternoon was prompted by the TV storm warnings, for local Sheriff Department Officers didn't detect any funnel clouds associated with tornadoes.

The large storm continued to the south, and apparently did more damage to residential and business property in Denver City than here. It eventually crossed into Gaines County, causing severe crop damage between there and the New Mexico state line.

It is known at this time several producers lost their entire irrigated crop. One local reported he lost six circles under irrigation, while his dry land farm, where rainfall was desperately needed, received less than two tenths of moisture.

Farmers losing cotton acreage in this latest storm



This Ford Pickup had the misfortune of being outdoors in Denver City Sunday night. Photo may not reveal full glass damage, which looked like shotgun pellet damage, and a hood resembling a vandal wielding a ball pien hammer.

generally received enough in last week's issue of rainfall to make their fields CCN. The additional too wet to move replanting moisture will make most of those late planters a bit more optimistic in the still young season, while many irrigation producers have found another bitter pill from Mother Nature to swallow.

According to Danny Bell, State Line Insurance, and Jim Brown, Ag Insurance Plus, both providers of Federal Crop multi peril insurance coverage for cotton, and excellent board producers, crop adjustors will start assessing the damage probably next week, and the total extent of crop loss will not be known for some time.

As additional information is received about the total area acreage losses, we will furnish them to you.

Following last Saturday's badly needed rain on dry land cotton acreage, this 12 row planter on a Roger Bennett farm just north of Tokio fills up with Treflan solution prior to planting.



### Please Notice !

The Next issue of Cowboy Country News will be **ONE DAY LATE**. We are taking a few days off to attend a family reunioun. If you normally receive your paper On Wednesday, look for it on Thursday, and for out of town subscribers, your copy should arrive one day later than normal. Thank you for your indulgence. Gary & Holly Dyer.

Turn to page 2,  
'COURT'



From page 1,  
**'COURT'**

two days credit. His driver's license was suspended 180 days, must pay \$178.79 restitution, and attend A.A. twice per month instead of performing community service.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the State in both District and County Court proceedings.

Flora Nell Lisenbee, AKA Flora Nell Dawson, charged with burglary of a habitation on April 4, 1995, pled guilty to the lesser included offense of criminal trespass of a habitation, a class A misdemeanor. She received a 12 month suspended and probated jail term, was fined \$700, will pay \$154 Court costs and appointed Attorney Fees of \$250. She must also par restitution of \$2509, and supervision fees of \$480.

## It Happened In Texas... In June

June 13, 1691- Father Damian Massanet and Mexican soldiers founded San Antonio.

June 10, 1821- Moses Austin dies, leaving work of establishing Texas colony to his son Stephen F. Austin.

June 6, 1849- Fort Worth established on west fork of Trinity River, site of present city; abandoned because of Indian threat Sept., 1853  
June 9, 1894- First major oil discovery in Texas at Corsicana.

## Tax group asks, "What's a better way to fund our schools?" Critics of rising property taxes for schools prompt poll of citizens

The controversy over state funding for the public school systems may not be at the boiling point, but it has never ceased to simmer following the State Supreme Court's upholding the notorious "Robin Hood" plan last year.

An Associated Press article in Monday's *Avalanche Journal* reported many Houston area school district superintendents complaining about a still uneven playing field, a malady which was promised to be solved with the Supreme Court decision.

The always burning question, "Must we continue raising taxes on property owners in the state to finance our schools?", may not have an answer at the moment, but it at least is being addressed.

In April, Governor George W. Bush appointed a 17 person panel to learn the answer to the question, "Are the people of Texas mad enough about rising property taxes to seek other methods of financing our education system?"

The panel will conduct its first public hearing in El Paso on June 14. Bush was recently quoted as saying if there is "no collective will of the people" expressed at these hearings, he will not push for property tax reform. On the other hand, if the

citizenry presents a loud enough, strong enough demand for tax reform for our school funding method, he will push the legislators in the next session to consider an alternative tax source.

He has stated numerous times he is still strongly opposed to a state income tax, and is not seeking a tax increase of any kind, only an equal exchange which should be revenue neutral. Among proposed alternative sources for education dollars is an increase in the state sales tax rate, and a value added, or business activity tax. The State currently raises some \$10 billion in property taxes.

Additional tax committee meetings will be held in 13 other Texas cities, including Lubbock and Midland/Odessa, but no dates other than the El Paso hearing are scheduled.

The tax committee is expected to report what the public's "tax pulse rate" is to Governor Bush in September, and the Legislature convenes in January. It will be interesting to see if the solons in Austin have a clear message from Texans about school funding taxes after the first of the new Year... but more interesting to see if they want to hear it.

## County Court Hears Good Audit Report

Yoakum County Commissioner's Court met Monday, June, to consider an abbreviated agenda list of items.

The court received a valuation report on all county owned buildings for insurance coverage purposes. The report reflected updated replacement costs, actual cash appraisal values, and the current valuation of the insured county property. To allow ample time for the Court to evaluate the appraisal, the matter was tabled until next week's meeting. The current insurance coverage is renewable August 1.

The Court approved a performance bond for Julia Lemley, recently appointed interim County Clerk who replaced retired Ruby Bruton. Deputy Clerk deputations for Faye Nelms, Sheron Smith and Gerald Smith were also approved.

An extensive report on the 1995 County fiscal audit

was presented by Steve Sawyer, CPA of Lubbock. He commended county employees, staff and officers for their cooperation and assistance in compiling the inch thick financial report. He commented, "This is a very clean audit report. Yoakum County is in good financial condition. The report shows the year ended with the county \$300 thousand in the black, which indicates good money

management and prudent spending practices". The audit report was accepted by the Court.



## General Election Information To Fill Unexpired Term In Office

The office of COUNTY CLERK, UNEXPIRED TERM, must be placed on the ballot for the General Election to be held on November 5, 1996, due to vacancy in the office created by resignation for retirement.

The following applies to candidates for the unexpired term. (All section numbers refer to the TEXAS ELECTION CODE.)

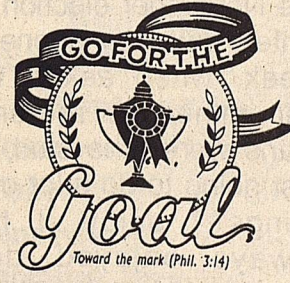
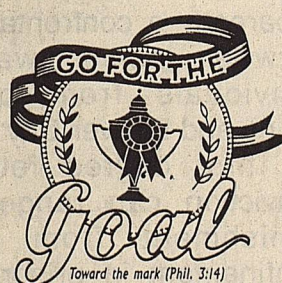
- 1) **Nomination by political party:** A person must receive a favorable vote of a majority of the executive committee members present at the meeting. Party must file the Certificate of Nomination by 5:00 PM, September 6, 1996, in the office of the county clerk. (Sec. 145.036-037)
  - 2) **An independent candidate** must file an application for a place on the ballot with the county judge not later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day after vacancy occurs (Sec. 201.023) accompanied by a petition that satisfies requirements prescribed by Section 141.062. (Number of petition signatures required = 104 (Sec. 142.007))
  - 3) **Write-in candidate** must file a declaration of write-in candidacy which satisfies the requirements of Section 141.031 with the county judge not later than 5:00 PM on September 6, and not earlier than 30th day before (August 7). The declaration must be accompanied by a \$600.00 filing fee. (or petition that satisfies requirements prescribed by Subchapter C Chapter 141. Number of signatures for petition-in-lieu of filing fee = 50 (Sec. 172.025))
- Write-in candidate's name will be included on list of write-in candidates (not on ballot).

**Hey, clubs, churches, school classes, groups, organizations.... more food booths are needed to make the Watermelon Roundup a success! Call Inetta Teaff or Betty Estep today for more information!**

## Announcing Our Annual Vacation Bible School!

Join us for our KICKOFF PARADE thru town Saturday, 10:30 AM, June 8. VBS is for babies thru 6th grade youngsters, any Church denomination. VBS starts Sunday evening, 5:30 - 7:00PM, Monday thru Thursday 9:00 -11:30 AM, and Thursday evening is family night at 7 PM.

### Enroll Your Child Now



## First Baptist Church of Plains

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## Two Locals In Awards Ceremony At SPC

Levelland, Tx.-- Two students from Plains were among 150 students honored for scholastic achievement for 1996 during a recent Awards Assembly at South Plains College.

"We salute these students who have demonstrated outstanding qualities of scholarship, leadership and citizenship as recognized by the students, faculty and administration at South Plains College," said Dr. Gary McDaniel, SPC President. "This is a way to honor the students who have made a significant contribution to campus life."

Plains recipients are Jay Rushing, Outstanding Sophomore Mathematics Student and David R. Stanley Memorial Award, and Ken McAdams, Who's Who at SPC. Rushing is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Morris J. Rushing, and McAdams is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Evert McAdams.

(Editor's Note) - last week's news release from South Plains College, because of an incorrect address, failed to include Brian Paul Wilson as a recent SPC Graduate. He graduated there along with four other ex-PHS students, and received an Associate Applied Science Degree in the field of Law Enforcement. Brian is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Wilson, former Plains residents.

## Summer FCA Schedule

Steve Osborn, PISD sponsor of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes advises all members and prospective members FCA will meet through the summer months each Thursday evening at 8 PM in Stanford Park. All members are urged to attend, and bring a prospective member.



## Plains High School Honor Roll

Final 6 weeks

### All A's

9th grade:  
Maranda Box  
Clint Burrus  
Marcey House  
Tommie McNabb  
Lisa Parrish

10th grade:  
Vicki Bayer  
Heath Bowlin  
Shawna Box  
Yvonne Gonzales  
Summer Howard  
Lindsey Six  
Sandi Warren

11th grade:  
Sonia Avila  
Kiley Bearden  
Yancey House  
Jacob Lester  
Mary Morales  
Roni Ponce  
Robin Squyres  
Tessa St. Romain

12th grade:  
Stephanie Aguilar  
Valerie Blair  
Johnny Davis  
Jeremy Dearing  
Kelly McGinty

### All A's, 1 B

9th:  
Dustin Brunson  
Cosme Casillas  
La Cresha Johnson  
Tandi Jones

10th:  
Laura Flores  
Abraham Garcia  
Dolly Gonzales  
Kassie Lowe  
Gideon Traweck

11th:  
Kristi Guetersloh  
Arthur Hernandez  
Lyndi Rowe  
Allen Ward

12th:  
Kirk Parrish  
Greg Salas  
Josh Traweck  
Steve Vasquez

## Junior High

### All A's

5th grade:  
Jill Gray

6th grade:  
Tanner Hamm  
Nathan Hays  
Ky May  
Annaliesia O'Quinn  
Scott Tirrell  
Becky Wilmeth

7th Grade:  
Emily Blair  
Aaron Cain  
Lensey Cullins  
Kimberlee Jones  
Ashlei Mason  
Dustin Six

\*\*\*\*\*

8th Grade:  
Joshua Bell  
Krystle Blundell  
Candace Bowers  
Velvet Canada  
Audra Ellis  
Jessica Flores  
Kristen Gray  
Wendy Hernandez  
Fermin Luna  
Kelton Mason  
Laura Morales  
Nichole Newsom  
Anne Palmer  
Patty Ruiz

Kyle Sisson  
Jason Swann  
Staci Tuggle

### All A's, 1 B

5th:  
Chisum Deaton  
Sandra Gallegos

6th:  
Jared Bell

7th:  
Kelsey Blundell  
Chris Estrada  
Amanda Garcia  
Gregory Gonzales  
Kari Guetersloh  
Adrienne Ramos  
Lesli Rowe  
Lexi Warren

8th:  
Leticia Canon  
Chris Cleveland  
Kelli Osborn  
Patsy Salas

## JP Court Cases Heard

The following is a summary of cases heard in Precinct one Justice of Peace Court, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

36 cases filed;  
36 traffic, 2 Class A Misdemeanors, 1 Public Intoxication.

The following bonds were set by Judge Crutcher;  
Criminal mischief (2), \$500 each.

No drivers license, \$200.  
Minor in possession, \$200.  
Unsafe Speed, \$200.  
Motion to revoke probation, \$3000.

Issuance of bad check, \$125.63 fine.

Issuance of bad check, \$177 fine.

Public intoxication, \$232 fine

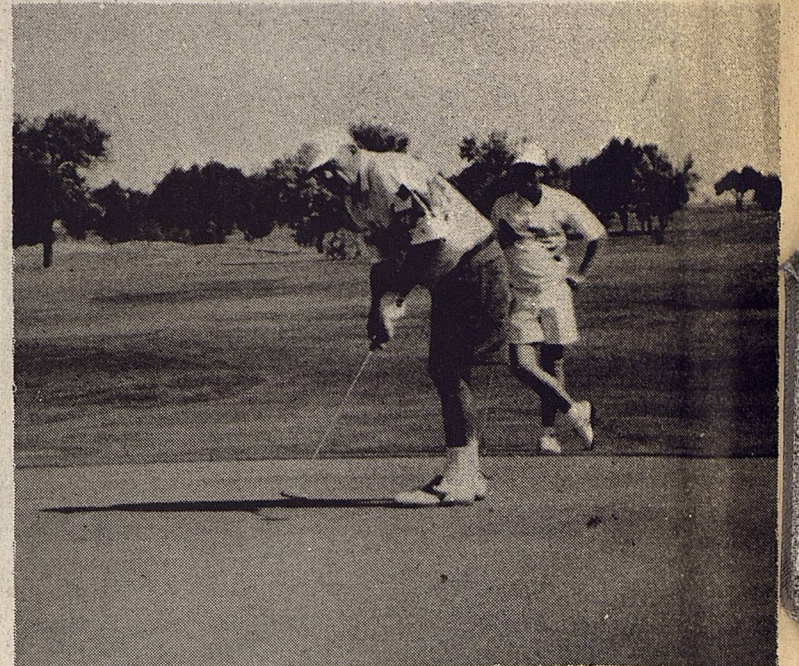
Assault, \$1500 bond.

Assault, \$1500 bond.

Motion to revoke probation, held until hearing.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Shots & Missed Shots Scenes from weekend scramble at County Course



Bob Blundell tries to stare one in the hole, with son Chris helping



Buddy Hanna displays world famous form, while Bill Bovell tries to suppress chuckle



Jim Brown drives the ball better than he putts



Billy Don Guetersloh displays good shoulder turn, slight deformity of belly

## Tournament Results

Championship Flight- 1st-Steve Evans, Ricky Gregory, 127  
2nd-Doug Brown, Rodney Deaton, 132. 3rd-Ramie Gilstrap, JR de los Santos, 132  
First Flight- Ray Roberts, Lonnie Arnold, 134. 2nd- Brad Cochran, Lynn Young, 136. 3rd-Bob Hawkins, Hal Singleton, 138.  
2nd Flight - Paul New, Bill Qualls, 140. 2nd- Jim Maynard, Dale Carter, 143. 3rd- Bruce Fletcher, Mike Smyers, 144.



## Happy Father's Day Sale!

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With Any

## Father's Day

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\*\*\*\*\*

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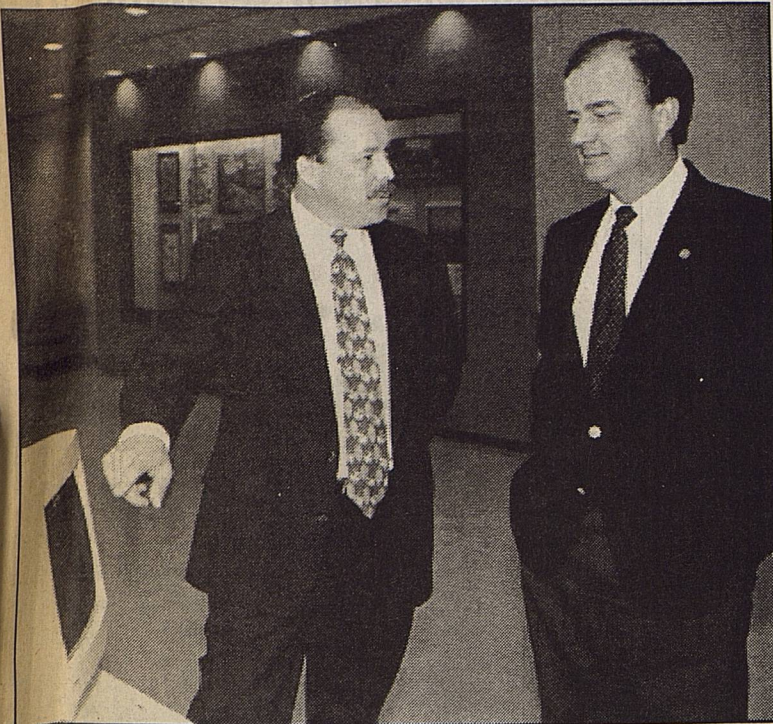
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### Sharp's "smart bomb" for Medicaid fraud



State Comptroller John Sharp and Joe Brown of the Austin-based technology firm of Berkom USA discuss a new computer program they are developing to detect fraud, waste and abuse in the state's Medicaid system. The neural network technology, first proposed by Sharp, uses "smart bomb" technology similar to that used by the United States Armed Forces in the Middle East to identify enemy targets—in this case, Medicaid providers who fit suspicious billing practices profiles. In a preliminary test run, the program flagged hundreds of providers in 15 Texas counties, and analysts determined that more than half were worthy of further investigation into their billing practices.

### Keeping an eye on Texas

**Outlet malls headed West**

Shoppers in West Texas and some areas of the Rio Grande Valley will see outlet malls open for the first time in 1996. The 15 new malls planned to open this year will almost double the state's current 17 outlet malls.

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and Joy of Outlet Shopping.

### \* Legal Notice \*

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for providing insurance for its group health insurance program beginning September 1, 1996. Proposals will be received until 1:00 p.m. on July 16, 1996 at the Business Office. Proposals will be opened and read at that time. Proposals should be addressed to Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains ISD, 1000 - 10th Street, Box 479, Plains, TX 79355. For questions or other information, please contact Eric Banfield at 806-456-7483.

## Denver City preps for 'Fly-In breakfast

The annual Fly-In Breakfast will be held at the Denver City Airport this Saturday, June 8. Serving will start at 7 AM and will continue throughout the morning.

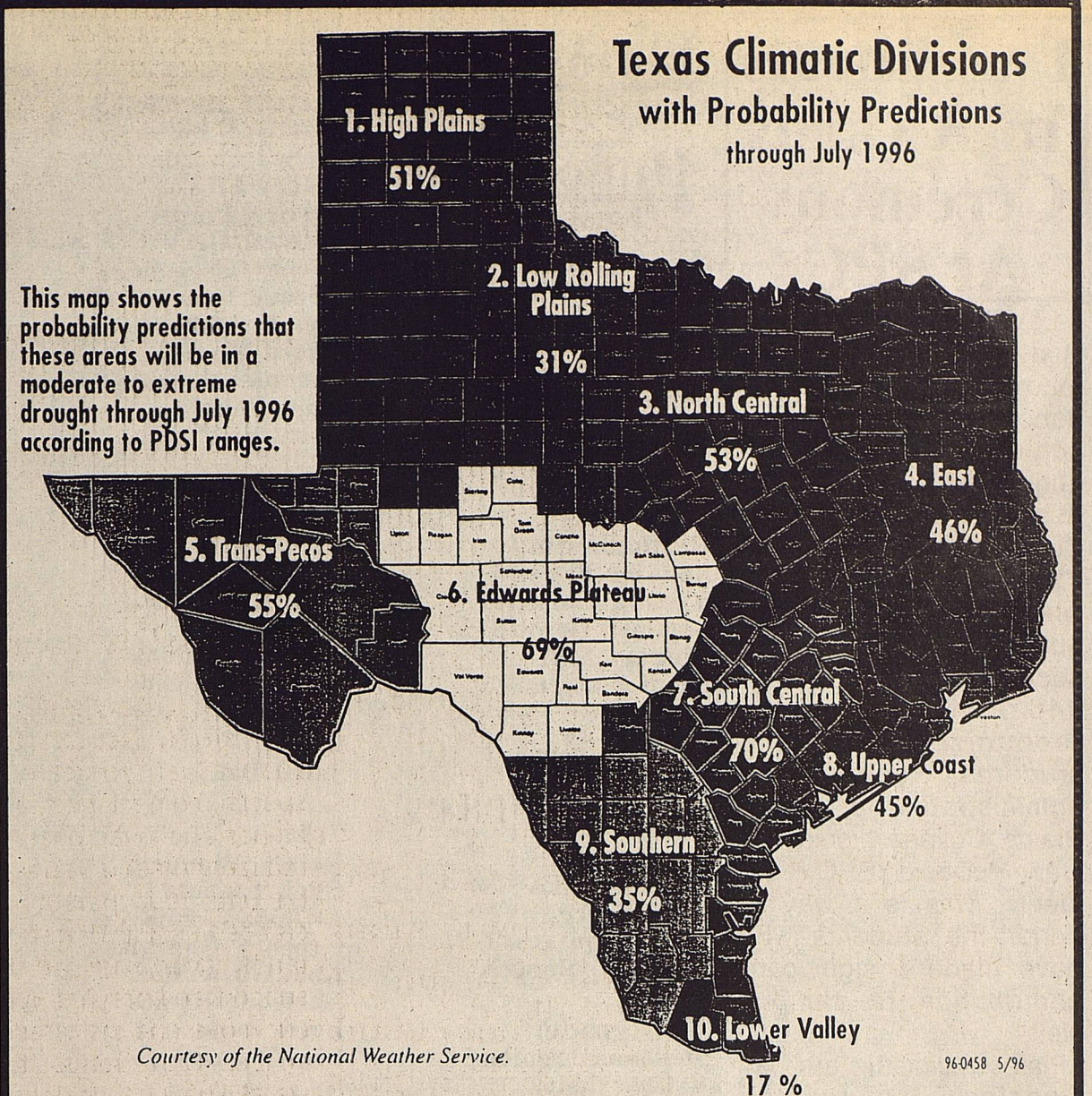
Sponsored by the local Airport Board, the activities and cooking is handled by some eight to ten volunteers. J.R. Slentz is the Director of the event this year.

Last year some 350 people attended the 'meals on wings' affair, with over fifty airplanes landing for the event. Most are from the state of Texas, but occasionally out of state pilots drop in for a heart breakfast and camaraderie.

## Lordy, Lordy, look who's 40!

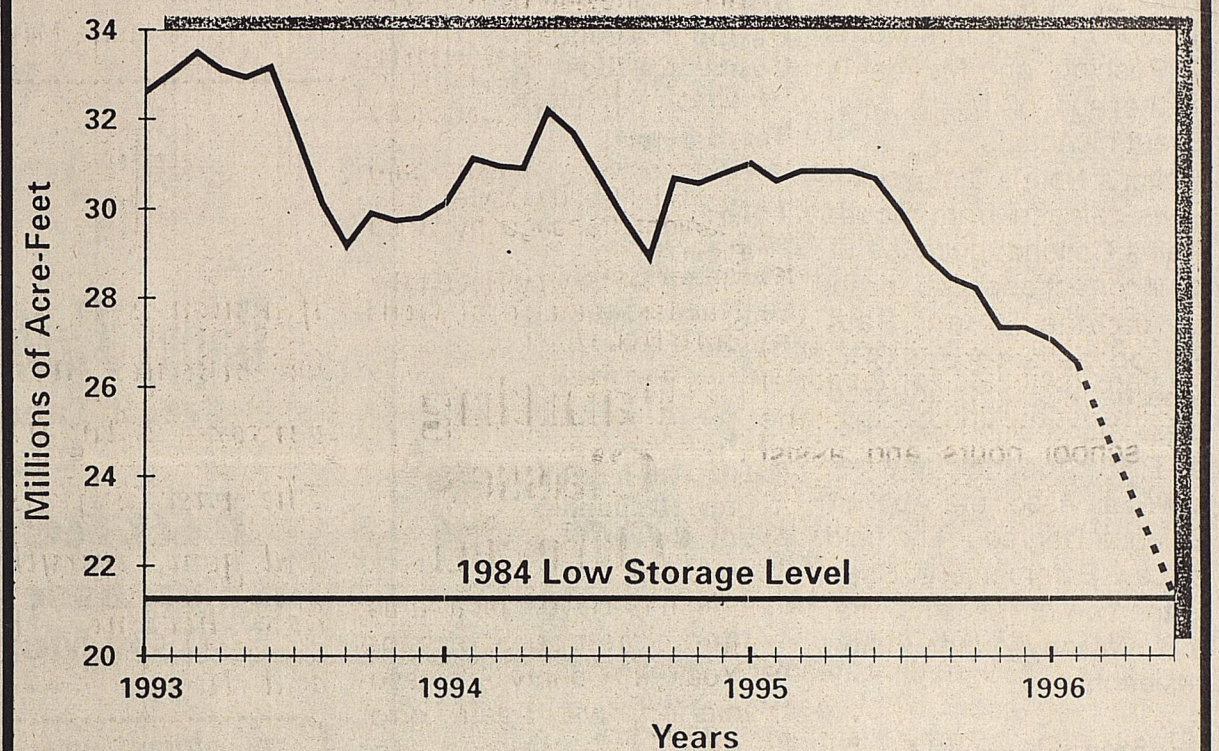


**Happy Birthday, We Love You**



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# Femme Friends



## First Baptist VBS Scheduled

The annual First Baptist Church Vacation Bible School gets underway Saturday, June 8, with a big parade starting at the school complex at 10:30 AM. All youngsters are urged to participate in the parade, either riding bikes or on the hay wagons. Antique tractor buffs and restored auto fans are invited to join the parade, which will end in Stanford Park.

Those attending the picnic lunch in the park are asked to bring sack lunches of their choice, and the Church will furnish drinks for all.

The annual VBS, which has averaged some 120 young students the last few years, is again directed by Marc Traweek this year. Marc said the VBS is open to all age youth, from 'bed babies' thru the 6th grade. Parents bringing the younger babies (to age 3) are expected to remain at the church during the school hours and assist with the events. He also reminded the public the event is open to proper age youngsters from all church denominations.

If any VBS student needs transportation to the daily sessions, parents should contact the Church office to make arrangements for the Church bus to pick them up.

volunteer teachers and helpers are needed for the event, which encourages attendance of youngsters from all church denominations.

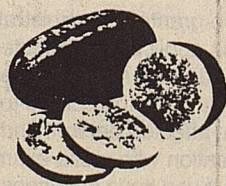
Following the kickoff parade Saturday, the first VBS session is scheduled for 5 to 7:30 PM, and with morning sessions 9 to 11:30 AM Monday thru Thursday. The final session will be a family night Thursday evening at 7 PM. The public is invited to attend and participate.

## New Books At The Library

Runaway Jury by John Grisham  
Her own rules by Barbara Bradford  
Children of the Dust by Clancy Carlile  
Escape & Suicide of John Wilkes Booth by Finis Bates  
Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich  
No Shirt, No Shoes, No Problems by Jeff Foxworthy  
Notorious by Janet Dailey  
People of Lightning by Kathleen Gear  
Riding Shotgun by Rita Mae Brown  
Runestone by Don Coldsmith  
Malice by Daniel Steel  
Too Long at the Dance by Mike Blakely  
Woman Who Walked Into Doors by Roddy Doyle  
Starlight Passage by Anita Bunkley  
Sibling Society by Robert Bly  
Standard Catalog of World Paper Money

## Painting Classes Offered

Jimmie Bayer, local artist and member of the Yoakum County Art Association, will again offer painting classes for anyone interested in instructions. Classes will start June 4, and continue thru the month of June. For schedules and more information, call Jimmie at 456-4567, or at work, 456-4800.



## A Letter To The Community

Dear Family & Friends,

The event we have all been waiting for is upon us. Chris has successfully completed his computer programming course with a 93 average and an internship at Nations Bank, and we want to share this special moment with all our friends and loved ones. We realize not everyone can be with us in person, but can be in spirit. We want to thank everyone for their support and prayers during our move and the stress of school. Chris made it, as we all knew he would!

His graduation will be on June 28, 1996, 7:30PM, at the Bristol Suites, NW corner of Coit and LBJ (I-35).

Claudia Miller



*If a man is in Christ he becomes a new person altogether; The past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and New.*

## DQ, Library Sponsor Reading Program

Yoakum County Library and Dairy Queen are jointly sponsoring the 1996 summer reading program entitled "Read To Me".

The program started May 28, and will continue thru July 26. Certificates will be issued to children completing the required 10 books. There are two divisions of participating children; those of school age, and those will have books read to them.

A drawing will be held July 26, and the winning school child will receive a gift book bag, while the winning 'listener' will receive a stuffed bear.

Rosie Gallardo, manager of the local DQ, will issue coupons to youngsters who complete the required reading, which they may exchange for a free ice cream cone.

The Library staff urges all eligible youngsters to take part in the program, and wishes EVERYONE HAPPY READING!



## Senior Citizen's Corner

Then corner this week will be short and sweet - No news!

Hope everyone had a nice Memorial Day weekend.

Seems everyone enjoyed the nice rain. It was not a drought breaker, but a big help to everyone.

Our condolences to the families of Nollie French and Ina Jones.

Playing pool with Paul Sweitzer this past

weekend were Leo Outha from Gillette, Wyoming, and Joe Procheaska of Rapid City, S.D. Welcome to the out of staters.

Next week's activities are; Mon.-Line dancing, 9:45am. pool and games, 6:30pm. Wed.- Line Dancing, 9:45 am, Generations B/P 11:00-11:30am. Thur.- Gail Ballow, help with insurance claims, 11:30am. Fri.- Line dancing, 9:45 am. Lunch every day 11:30am. See you next week, Smitty

## Wedding Announced

Mr. & Mrs. Joel Lowe request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Michelle Devon, to Bret Alan Baker son of Mr. & Mrs. Gene Baker, on Saturday, the 8th of June, at 4:00 PM in the First Baptist Church of Plains. A reception will follow in the Community Building.

## Common Sense Summertime Tips For Gals

Watch that skin... it tends to get oilier in summer's heat... Lightening up on makeup will help.

Step up your exercise program, but drink lots of water!

Take advantage of all the delicious fruits and vegetables.... they're good for you!



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Ray Young

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Pastor Bill Wright

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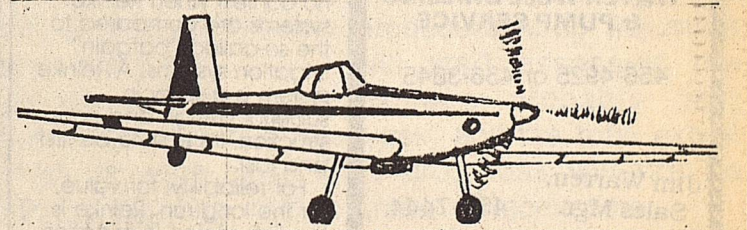
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## From The Hack



By time this is read by you late readers, the annual trek to the Bride's family reunion will be another historical event. By Sunday, we should be homeward bound, if we again survive all the food, fellowship and frolics of the East Texas Clan. It still amazes me the very small town of Joaquin (tinier than Plains) survives this bash.

I have been a member of this family ritual only 25 years, but haven't made all the gatherings.

It was once held outdoors, complete with a tortuous fish fry, normally in East Texas heat and 129% humidity, and I was always one of the fish cookers. I was also the only participant of this torture who sweated, being a extremely wary of this West Texas clod who arrangement; I am not at all sweated at the mere sight

of a damp towel, or even a moist Kleenex. No More; Intelligence has finally settled into the Piney Woods, and they now sensibly gather in air conditioned Bank Community Rooms, the President of which is extremely worried about notes some of my brothers-in-law have endorsed. My thinking is, and probably his too, 'don't kill 'em with a heat stroke cooking for kinfolks, keep 'em inside till we collect!'

Anyway, we have been invited to stay with my very

nice sister-in-law and her constipated husband. She tells us the rent won't be exhorbitant, thanks to her Spouse Zig's benevolence. I am already on guard, sure our Visa Card limit will

withstand what we will face once Zig tabs up the bill.

At the huge family gathering, we will be eating very well. Prior to the big day, Zig has promised gruel for breakfast, cold franks for lunch, and imported California figs with Yogurt for supper. I promise to return to West Texas skinnier than before. In the event Satan, or one of my Scruggs kin, should hold a .45 to my head if I don't accompany him (or her) to Shreveport, to check if the three gambling boats are still afloat and operating, I will probably be forced to report a factual account of my experience watching him (or her) try their hand tempting Lady Luck in the various games of chance - provided the Bride will advance me a few bucks.

## SPC To Offer Summer Hydrogen Sulfide Course

South Plains College will offer one-night classes in hydrogen sulfide training this summer beginning June 17.

Classes will meet 6-9pm in the SPC Petroleum Technology- Law Enforcement building, room 108. Additional classes are scheduled July 15 and Aug. 12.

The course is primarily designed for oil field workers who must meet requirements by the Texas Railroad Commission to have knowledge of the gas. The class will cover all

aspects of hydrogen sulfide, its detection, safety procedures and use of safety masks.

Formal registration and payment of fees will be completed at the class meeting. To pre-register, contact the South Plaimns CEU office, 894-9611, ext. 2341.

## 'Walker, Texas Rep'

Dear Friends,

As you well know, Texas is being hit by one of the worst drought seasons ever recorded. In fact, there are areas of Texas that have gone without so much as an inch of rain this year. I know I can't legislate rain, I wish it was that easy. However, there are many things going on in Austin to help us manage this crucial situation.

Rick Perry, State Agriculture Commissioner, through his excellent leadership, has initiated a number of programs to help agriculturists survive this drought. Projections from the Department of Agriculture forecast a potential economic loss of \$2.4 billion in Texas agriculture sales.

Perry, with the aid of the Governor, has managed to gain assistance from two federal emergency feed programs for more than 190 Texas counties. Many of these have been designated as federal disaster zones, thereby entitling them to certain federal funds. These funds are available in the form of low-interest loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Non-Insurable Assistance Program (NAP).

In a valiant strike for Texans, Perry urged the US Department of Agriculture to allow haying and grazing on CRP land. By opening the more than four million acres Texas has in CRP, ranchers will have more land to use for grazing, and perhaps reduce the threat of fire hazards.

Two innovative plans the Commissioner has come up with are the Hay Hotline (1-800-687-7564) and the Cattle Hotline (1-800-660-COWS). These programs allow for valuable interchange between those looking to buy or sell cattle or hay in a timely manner. In the short time these programs have been in place, more than 200 Texans have been helped.

Commissioner Perry, I'd like to thank you for your effort and initiative in helping to keep farmers and ranchers ahead of the game.

Another innovative program is the "Cloud Seeding Initiative". Although cloud seeding has been around more than 20 years, it has been given new life. Several counties in West Texas are studying the possibility of reinstating this technique to gain some rainfall. The process of cloud seeding involves spraying silver iodide into cumulus clouds, thereby sparking rain. It may sound like a long shot, but it's better than no shot.

As I wrap this up, I would like to ask each and everyone of you to use a little common sense as we weather thru this drought. Let's water our lawns in the cool of the dawn or dusk. Let's not water the concrete, cause it ain't gonna grow, and remember, conserve water whenever possible.

If I can be of assistance helping you with these programs, don't hesitate to call. My district office number is (806) 456-7470 and my Austin number is (512) 463-0678.

UNTIL NEXT TIME, PRAY FOR RAIN, AND CARRY AN UMBRELLA.

GARY L. WALKER  
State Representative,  
District 80

## Farmers Don't Like Idea Of Plowing Cotton Under

The recent proposal of the Federal Farm Board to reduce the cotton surplus by plowing up each third row has met with little support in Texas. An

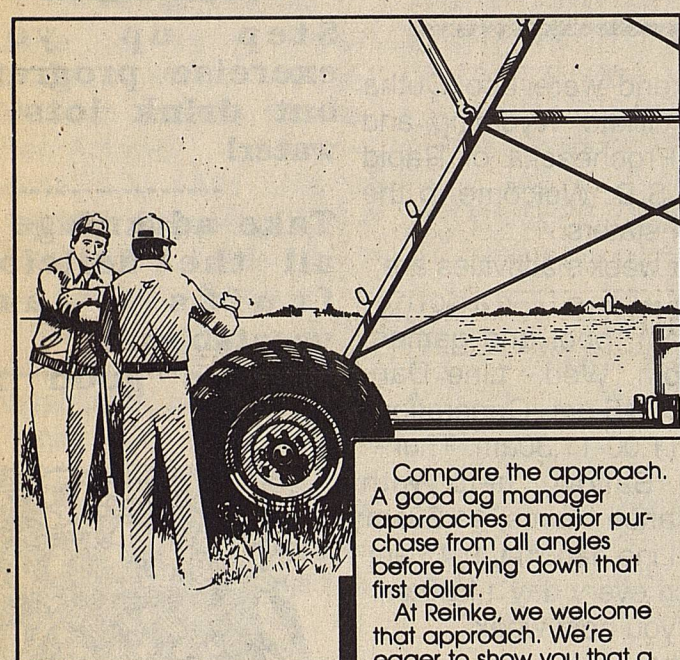
editorial in the Dallas News seems to reflect the attitude of Texas farmers. The title of the editorial is "The Board Goes Daft". However, with prices below the cost of production and the surplus mounting each year, some method of reducing production will have to be found.

*The Texas News,*  
Oct. 10, 1931

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