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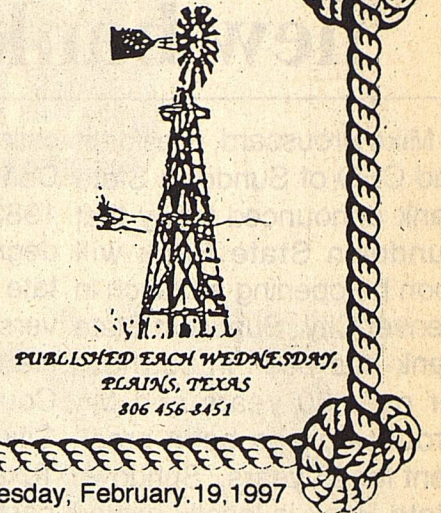
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Cowboy Country News
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Cowboy Country News



Volume III, Issue 25, Wednesday, February 19, 1997

Both parties in proposed purchase of City's electric system committed to fair and equitable negotiations

Speedy decision on proposal is not expected

The Plains City Council heard a proposal by Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (LCEC) for the right to become the sole provider of electric power for the City at the Council meeting Monday afternoon, February 10. The proposal would include LCEC purchasing and modifying the City's existing electrical system, and a possible lowering of electric rates for residential and commercial customers now being served on the city system.

In lengthy discussions with the City Administrator and Council spokesmen, and with Michael Dreyspring, General Manager of LCEC on Thursday last week, it is apparent both parties in the negotiating process have a common goal. Mayor T.J. Miller, Councilman Kent Welch and Administrator David Brunson stressed they would carefully evaluate any LCEC proposals to determine what the best course of action is for the City of Plains residents. Welch said, "We

will take no steps in any direction unless we are convinced any decision will benefit all the people who live here". Mayor Miller added, "We would like to have as much public input as possible about this proposal and possible acquisition. I invite any resident to contact me, any council member, or Administrator Brunson with any of your questions about the issue as we go through the negotiating process".

Mike Dreyspring echoed this viewpoint. "We consider the people of Plains our neighbors, and definitely want the excellent relationship between LCEC and the City of Plains to continue. As we start this negotiation process, we will strive to include in our proposals what we consider fair and reasonable for every Plains citizen, and at the same time, consider the same issues for our Cooperative members. If we are successful in our efforts to become Plains' sole provider of electric service, we will do

everything possible to serve Plains people economically, efficiently and reliably".

The City officials indicated they would probably not make any counter proposals or suggestions until after the annual planning conference to be held in Lubbock February 22. Jerry Cass Stevens, Executive Director of the South Plains Association of Governments, will moderate the session, offering help to the Council and Staff develop comprehensive plans for the coming year's operation of the City.

Both LCEC and the City officials feel it would be premature to report in any detail possible numbers and dollar amounts involved in the proposal, as the numbers are already being revised. CCN will continue to follow proposal developments. A strong likelihood is for the City to take no action until receiving professional advice from either an engineering or consulting firm.

Stanford Park very scenic following snows



Criminal cases heard in County Court

Three criminal cases were heard in County Court on February 12, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding. Criminal District Attorney Richard

Clark represented the State. Gerardo Manzano, 27, pled guilty to a first offense DWI charge. He was sentenced to 60 days in jail, suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$500 and will pay \$227 Court costs. He will serve 72 hours in jail, with 12 hours credit for time served. He must also pay \$67.28 restitution to DPS, attend counseling at Lubbock Regional Counsel on Drug/Alcohol abuse, and successfully

complete the Texas DWI Education Program at his expense.

Bobby Trevino, 20, pled guilty to Assault. He received a 90 jail term, suspended and probated 18 months, was fined \$500, must pay \$157 Court costs, and serve 72 hours in jail, with credit for 16 hours served. He must also

Turn to page 2,
'Criminal Court'

Two snows last week bring joy for kids, smiles on ag producers and ranchers faces



These youngsters enjoying a tractor tire inner tube ride down the main hill in Stanford Park last week may have had the most fun following two days of snow falling. but they will not ultimately benefit nearly as much as the farmers and ranchers of the county, desperately needing 'seed moisture' to start the 1997 crop year, and rangeland grass production. A definite measurement of the snow falling on Wednesday and Thursday last was impossible to calculate because of terrain and wind blowing conditions, but it is apparent the county received anywhere from eight to eleven inches of snow, providing incalculable benefits to ag producers.

Search for new PISD Superintendent draws large number of hopefuls

The first step in the lengthy search for a new Superintendent for Plains Independent School District came to an end Friday, 14, the final deadline for accepting applications and resumes for the position. According to the Superintendent's office, a total of 83 applicants had applied for the position.

Some of the qualifications the Board of Trustees required of applicants included a successful background in implementing a strong instructional program, skills in personnel management and in staff evaluation, knowledge of school finances and the ability to develop a cost effective budget, ability to implement strong, fair and consistent discipline. Experience as a superintendent and high school principal is preferred, and the Texas Superintendent Certification is mandatory.

Among the conditions of employment outlined in the PISD published brochure outlining the employment opportunity, fringe benefits were listed as negotiable, the

salary range is \$60,00 to \$80,000, the contract length is negotiable, and pre-employment physical exam is required.

The Board of Trustees will conduct the first round of interviews with applicants March 4 thru March 11. The second round will be April 1-4, and visitation of finalists in their home district will occur April 7 thru April 11. The final selection date is scheduled for April 14, and the latest date to assumed the office's duties will be no later than July.

Don't Forget!
Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, February 20, 7:00 p.m., school cafeteria. Please bring a Large covered dish - everything else furnished

Emergency farm loan applications being a accepted

Applications for emergency farm loans for losses caused by adverse weather are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office in Seminole, FSA Ag Credit Manager Richard Young said today.

Yoakum County is one of several contiguous counties recently named by Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman eligible for loans to cover part of actual production losses resulting from drought, high winds and excessive heat which occurred from October 1, 1995, through September 19, 1996 and continuing. Also eligible for loans are actual production losses resulting from hail and flash flooding occurring on May 18, 21 and June 2, 1996.

Farmers may be eligible for loans up to 80% of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue in business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75%. "As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least

Turn to page 4,
'Emergency Loans'

Sundown State Bank to open new bank in Denver City

Mike Broussard, President and CEO of Sundown State Bank announced today that Sundown State Bank will soon be opening a branch in Denver City. Sundown State Bank has been in business for over 30 years and Mr. Broussard has been president for 25 years. Sundown State Bank is locally owned and known for their expertise in oil and ag lending. They believe in supporting the local economics of their branches. They have offices in Sundown, Levelland, Brownfield, and soon Denver City.

Mr. Broussard also announces the hiring of Mr. Doug Brown and Mrs. Melinda Bullock. Mr. Brown will be Executive Vice-President and Branch Manager. He is married and has two

children. He graduated from Denver City High School in 1983 and received a BBA degree in Finance/Real Estate from Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. He has worked for Yoakum County State Bank of Denver City and later Norwest Bank Texas of Denver City for the past 8 years. He brings with him Mrs. Bullock, who will be his Secretary. Mrs. Bullock is married with 2 children. She graduated from Plainview High School in 1984 and has 12 years of experience in banking.

Mr. Broussard also announced the election of Mr. Brown and Lee Kidd to the Board of Directors of Sundown State Bank. Lee's parents, Willard L and Jean Kidd, moved to Denver City in 1942. In 1951, they

started W.L. Kidd Oilfield Service, a trucking company in Denver City. In 1970, Lee and John Thomas purchased the company, and operated it until 1993. At that time a multi-business merger created Five Star Consolidated, another oilfield service firm, now managed by Wayne Harper. Kidd retains an interest in the company and is a member of it's Board of Directors. He is also a Director of the Texas Ranger Association, and the Brazos River Board. Lee and his wife Edith have four daughters and five grandchildren.

Mr. Broussard believes Mr. Kidd, Mr. Brown and Mrs. Bullock will be great assets to the bank, and will serve the community and county in the Sundown State Bank tradition

Final Services Held for Judy Ann Tingle



Funeral services for Judy Ann Tingle, 44, were held in the Bryan Funeral Home Chapel in Henderson at 2:00

p.m. on Wednesday, February 5. Services were conducted by Bro. Robert A. Brock and Rev. Eddie Tingle. Mrs. Tingle passed away on February 1 following a brief illness.

She was born May 26, 1952, in Panola County, attended high school in Henderson, Texas, and had been a resident of Rusk County most of her life.

She married Burton L. Tingle Sr. on November 18, 1971. The couple are former residents of Plains. Her father in Law, S.L. (Sherm) Tingle is a resident here.

She is survived by her husband, of Joinerville; A daughter, Kristen Tingle of Henderson, a son, B.J. Tingle of Houston; a step daughter, Michelle Tingle Haggler of Longview, and numerous nieces and nephews

Court OK's new vehicle for Sheriff Department

Commissioner's Court approved the purchase of a new 1996 model Chevrolet Caprice for the Sheriff's Department Monday morning. The winning bid was submitted by Mustang Country in Denver City. A 1992 Caprice was traded-in, for a net difference price of \$14,633. The only other bid submitted was from Smith Ford in Slaton, on a 1997 Ford with a net difference price of \$19,999.

The Court approved an agreement between the county and West Texas Centers for Mental Health-Mental Retardation, a 23 county state approved MHMR organization. The agreement calls for the county to furnish the organization an office building in Denver City, with the organization furnishing all supplies and equipment for it's operation. The Tax Assessor/Collector report showing tax receipts in January totalling \$6,102,897 was approved.

JP Court case review

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

Cases filed included 32 traffic, one Texas Parks and Wildlife, and 9 juvenile criminal mischief cases.

Bonds and fines were set in these amounts;

Motion to revoke probation-held until hearing.

DWI, 1st offense- \$1000 bond.

Theft by check- \$1500.

No driver's license- \$92 fine

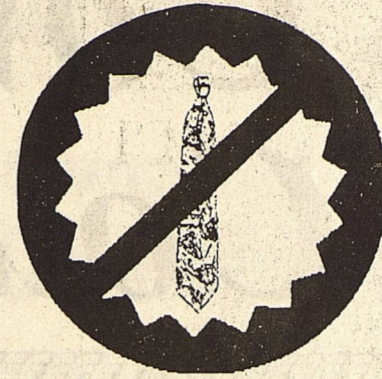
Non approved use of equipment- \$53 fine.

Issuance bad check-\$562 fine plus restitution.

Theft over \$50, under \$500-\$2000 bond.

Driving while license suspended-\$500 bond.

The 'No Tie Guys'



are coming to Denver City... SOON!

When our temporary facility opens around the middle of March, we will be able to serve our many friends and customers in Yoakum County.... here at *HOME* in Yoakum County!

We are especially eager to meet and serve *New County* friends and customers. Watch for our opening date, then come by, say 'Howdy', and have a cup with us!

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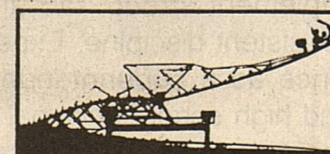
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Jim Warren
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From page 1, 'Criminal Court'

his expense, and perform 80 hours of community service. Two other causes were adjudicated.

Lonnie Collier, 46, pled guilty to a first DWI (BTR) charge. His 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months. He was fined \$500, must pay \$227 Court costs,

and serve 72 hours in jail with 7 hours credited/ He must also complete the Texas DWI Education Program, and attend weekly AA meetings.

successfully complete the Batterer's Intervention Prevention Program (BIPP) at

* The Postal Service handles 40 percent of the world's mail volume. Japan, the second largest carriers of cards and letters, handles 8

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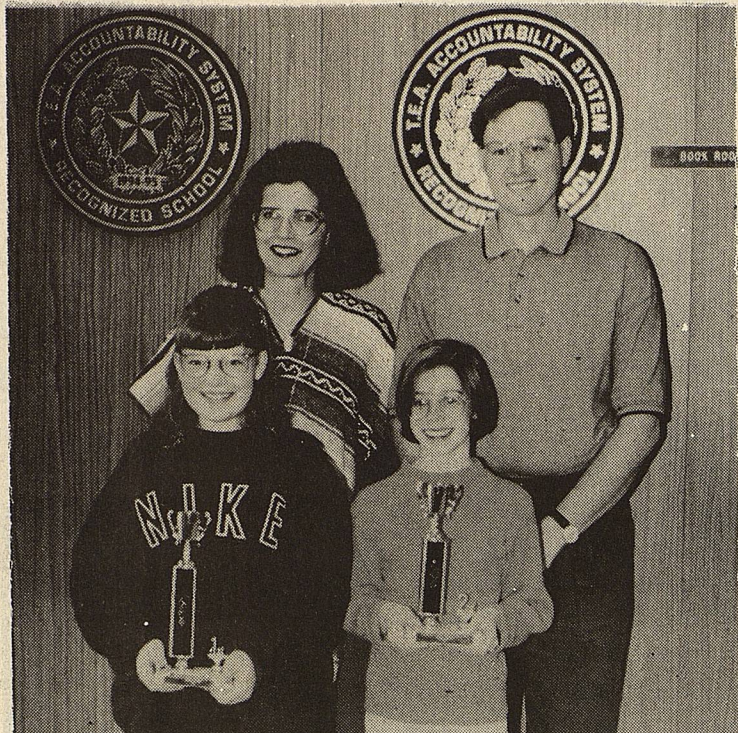
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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

YSWCD Announces Poster & Essay Contest Winners



Poster contest winners APRIL WILMETH and MORIAH TRAWEEK, with Linda Powell and Vernon Hise.



Essay winner SONIA AVILA with Melisa Dorsett, L, and Linda Powell



Essay winner YVONNE GONZALES with Mary Ellen Robertson, L, and Linda Powell

The Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District is pleased to announce the winners of their annual Conservation Poster and Essay contest. The poster contest was open to boys and girls under the age of 12, and does not jeopardize Texas Interscholastic league eligibility. Themes for the contests were 'Harmony: People and Places', and 'Backyard Stewardship'. A total of 29 posters were entered from Plains and Denver City

schools. Poster contest results: 1st- **APRIL WILMETH**. 2nd- **MORIAH TRAWEEK**. Their cooperating teacher was Vernon Hise, Plains Jr. High. Winners of the Essay contest were **SONIA AVILA**, PHS Senior, and **YVONNE GONZALES**, PHS Junior. Cooperating teachers were Melisa Dorsett and Mary Ellen Robertson.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

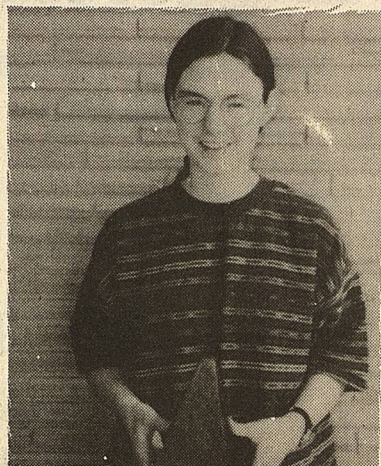
Third 'Quiz Bowl' scheduled

The 3rd Annual PHS Quiz Bowl kick off Tuesday, Feb. 18, and the intellect contest will continue until the winning class team is determined. Contests Tuesday & Wednesday start at 10 AM. The final, championship round will be held Friday, February 21, with the top student team taking on the faculty team for bragging rights.

- Black Team**
 Freshman
 Kristin Gray
 Anne Palmer
 Kelton Mason
Sophomores
 Maranda Box
 Clint Burrus
 Tommie McNabb
Juniors
 Heath Bowlin
 Yvonne Gonzales
 Vicki Bayer
SENIORS
 Yancey House
 Coley Burgess
 Jacob Lester

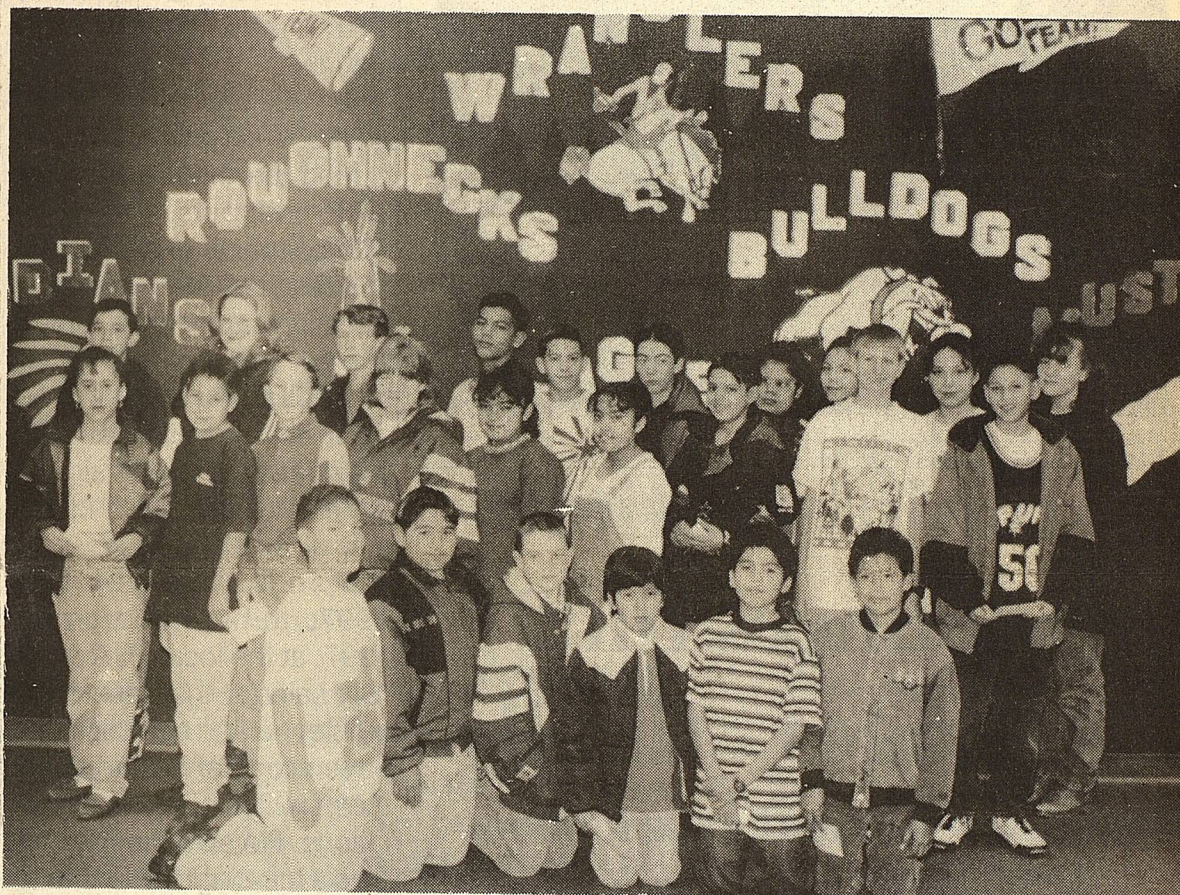
- Gold Team**
 Windy Hernandez
 Joshua Bell
 Jason Swann
 Dustin Brunson
 Lisa Parrish
 Marcey House
 Shawn Cullins
 Shawna Box
 Doug Rushing
 Mary Morales
 Roni Ponce
 Lyndi Rowe

PISD Student of the Week



Tommie McNabb, a sophomore and the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Darrell McNabb, is this week's student of the week. She was nominated by Mrs. O'Quinn, who said, "She autographs her work with excellence. Many student's work hard to achieve success, but she always seems to run the extra mile to do her best. She soaks up knowledge, doesn't say a whole lot, but when she does, everyone is interested in what she has to say. I admire and respect this student, a real winner!"

26 Students have Perfect Attendance Record at Middle School



For the past two and half years, the Plains Middle School has maintained better than a 97% attendance record, while the state average is only 94%. Mr. Ronnie Watkins, Middle School Principal,

expressed his congratulations to the students, and offered his thanks to their parents for their continued support of the school. The

26 youngsters were given coupons for a free 'Blizzard' from the local Dairy Queen, compliments of the school.

- 5th Grade**
 Arnold Cordova
 Gerardo Granados
 Austin Keesee
 Cendy Lopez
 Mike Lopez
 Trent May
 Armando Ramirez
6th Grade
 Krystal Gonzalez

- Nick Hays
 Mandi Rogers
 Angel Ruiz
 Shandi Sellers
7th Grade
 Rebecca Carrillo
 Ashley Gonzalez
 Nathan Hays
 Ky May
 Humberto Olivas

- Liz Ramirez
8th Grade
 Kelsey Blundell
 Martha Casillas
 Jason Garcia
 Greg Gonzales
 Albert Lopez
 Eric Nixon
 Kim Willis

PLAINS HIGH SCHOOL TRACK SCHEDULE--1997

Saturday	March 1	O'Donnell
Friday	March 7	Wink
Friday	March 14	Plains
Saturday	March 22	Seminole
Friday	March 28	Seagraves
Saturday	April 5	Sundown
Friday	April 11	Shallowater- Dist.
Saturday	April 19	Plains--Reg. Qual.
Friday/Sat.	April 25-26	Abilene--Reg.
Friday	May 2	Abilene--State Qual.
Friday/Sat.	May 9-10	Austin--State

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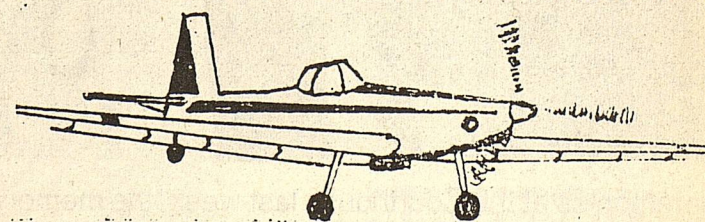
State Line Insurance

Insurance

Multi-Peril Crop ** Crop Hail
Danny Bell

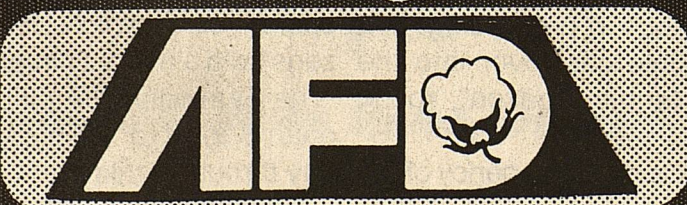
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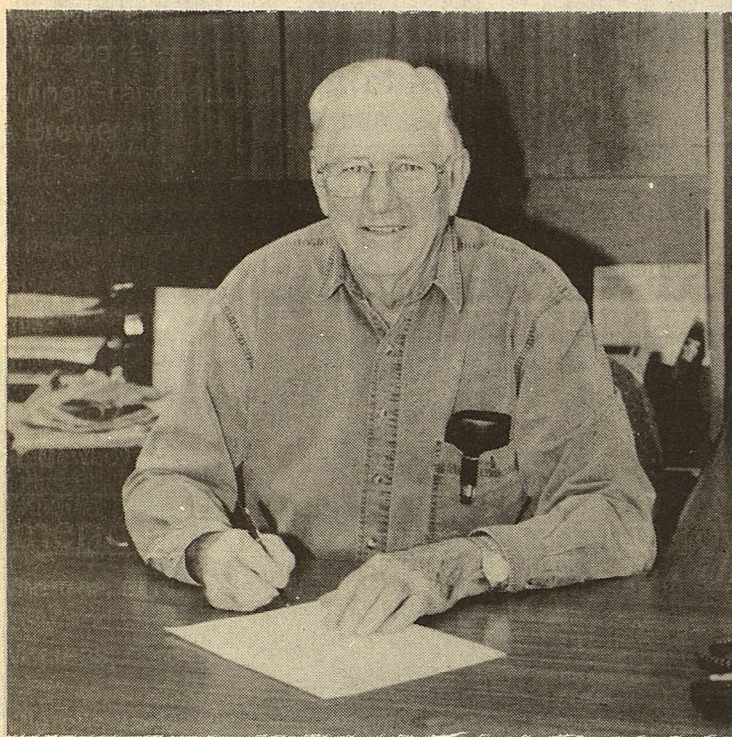


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American Heart Month Proclamation

"Whereas, about 954,000 Americans die each year from heart disease and stroke, and
 "Whereas, cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer in Texas, and
 "Whereas, lack of physical activity is a risk factor for heart disease, and
 "Whereas, only 22% of all Americans get enough exercise to achieve cardiovascular fitness, and
 "Whereas, the American Heart Association is committed to public education about heart disease and stroke and this year urges everyone to "Get in on the Action!" by making physical activity a part of their daily lives, and
 "Whereas, the American Heart Association is committed to the support of ongoing medical research to advance knowledge in the areas of prevention and treatment of heart disease and stroke, and
 "Now, therefore, I, T.J. Miller, Mayor of the City of Plains, proclaim the month of February as American Heart Month. I urge all citizens to get in on the action by making physical activity a daily part of their lives. I also urge all citizens to support the lifesaving mission carried out by the Yoakum County American Heart Association volunteers during February. Contributions of time and money will help in the fight against heart disease and stroke. During 1996 Yoakum County raised nearly \$5,000.00. I urge citizens to help the American Heart Association, Yoakum County meet it's goal of raising \$3,000.00 during American Heart Month." Given under my hand this 14th day of February, 1997.

T.J. Miller
 Mayor, City of Plains



Administration announces final CRP rules - finally

Producers still in the dark about official payment amount

On February 12, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced in Washington the final regulations for USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The plan follows the Clinton Administration's pledge to redesign the program to target the most envi-

ronmentally sensitive croplands in the nation. "Under the new CRP, we will protect 36.4 million acres of our most sensitive lands", Glickman said. "The days of enrolling vast amounts of productive farmland are over. We will select the acreage to

enter the program after reviewing each submitted offer from the pool of eligible land. We will enroll only the most environmentally sensitive lands to ensure we get the most environmental benefits using the fewest dollars possible".

The three primary goals of the CRP are erosion reduction, improvement of water quality and enhancement of wildlife habitat. There are millions of acres of cropland that could provide outstanding water quality or wildlife benefits, yet would not be eligible for the CRP based solely on their erodibility.

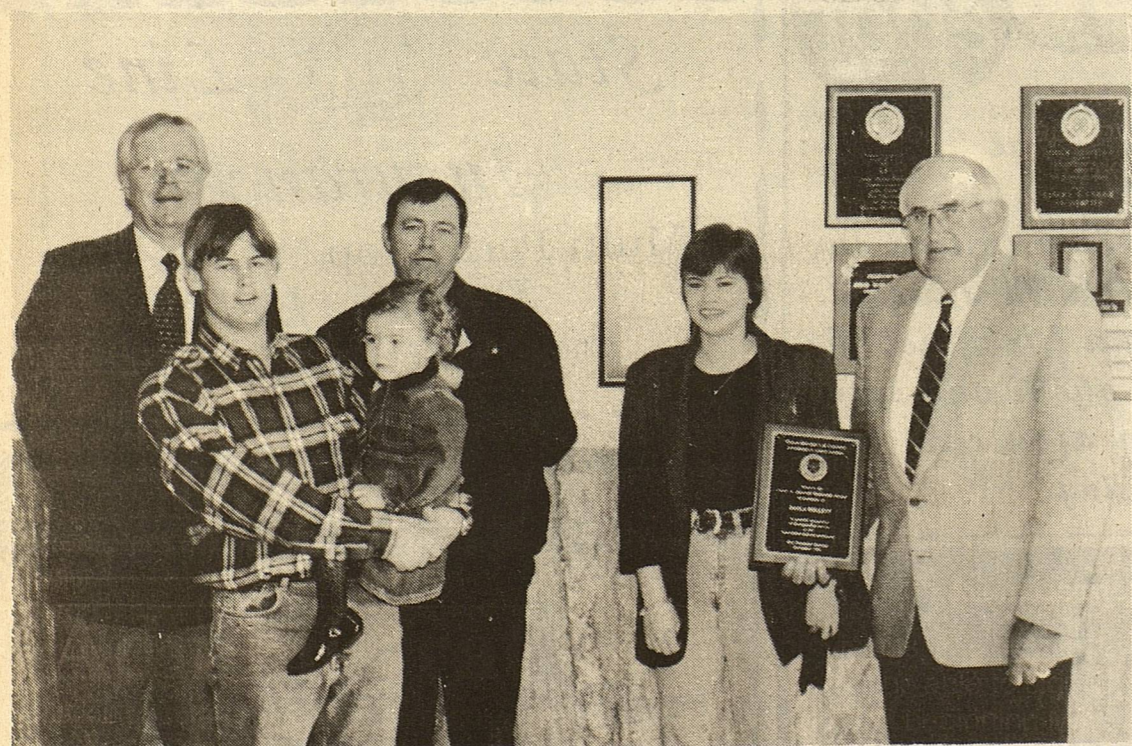
USDA will rank all eligible CRP offers using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI). The EBI is used to evaluate and rank offers based on the potential benefits of enrolling the land in the CRP.

Speaking for the local Farm Services Administration office, Gary Six said last week "While there are abundant rumors of producer and landowner payment amounts circulating, we have received no official word on the exact payment amount for approved CRP land in Yoakum County".

The 1997 agricultural appropriations act effectively precluded the extension of any CRP contracts. Producers with contracts expiring September 30, 1997, may offer their acreage for re-enrollment if the land meets the basic eligibility criteria. In addition to land eligible under the continuous CRP sign-up provisions, eligible landowners will be able to sign up for the CRP beginning March 3, 1997, through March 28, 1997, at the local FSA office.

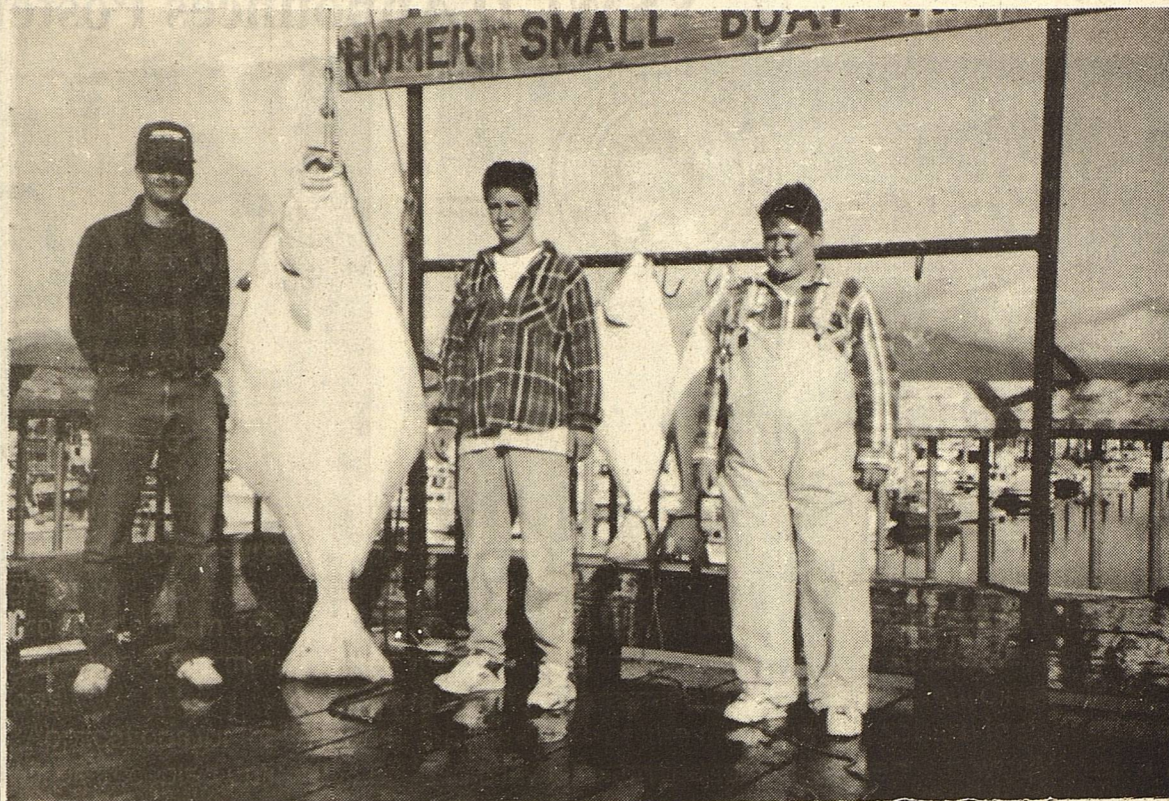
Six said (at the date of this article) he and his office staff have not received training in the new CRP rules and regulations. He said the FSA will hold a meeting in the community building on February 22 at 7 p.m. to discuss the CRP with all eligible county landowners. "Hopefully, by that we will have knowledge of all the new regulations in the program, and will also be able to officially tell the owners what the maximum payment schedule will be for Yoakum County".

Paula Willett Remembered



In ceremonies at the Courthouse last week, the memory of Paula Willett was honored by County Judge Dallas Brewer and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark. The Willett family was presented with a plaque recognizing her services in the District Attorney's office as Office Manager, and as an official in the State District Attorney Association. Shown in the photo above are, left to right; Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark, son Wayne Willett holding Granddaughter Sierra, Paula's husband Jerry, daughter Shandy, and Judge Dallas Brewer

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Livestock Association remembers Margaret Box



Last Friday, Yoakum County Livestock Association Director Jim Brown presented family members of the late Margaret Box two plaques honoring her memory. A former teacher in the Plains school system, Margaret was very active in the County 4-H clubs, one of the groups taking part in the annual Junior Livestock Show and Sale. One of the plaques will be placed on the wall of the new concession stand in the livestock show barn.

From page 4, 'Emergency Loans'

a 30% loss of production to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan", Young said. Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance Program will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Applications for these loans will be accepted until May 26, 1997, but farmers should apply as soon as possible. De-

lays in applying could create backlogs in processing, and possible carryover into the new farming season", Young said.

FSA is a credit agency of the US Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who are US citizens and to farming part-

nerships, corporations or cooperatives in which US citizens hold a majority interest. The Seminole FSA office is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

* The Postal Service owns 6,962 buildings with 174 million square feet and leases 27, 626 buildings with 92 million square feet. If they relocated, it would fill all of Chicago's office and industrial space.



Femme Friends



HOWDY!

By: *Kathy Adair*



CONSEQUENCES AS A PARENTING TOOL

Consequences can be a useful tool for parents to have in their parenting tool box. Parents need to know how to use consequences for molding and shaping children's behavior.

Consequences are at work all the time. We run into them everyday - on our job, at home, with friends, on so on. If we don't get our work done, the boss criticizes us. If we don't remember to let the dog outside, he leaves a calling card. Consequences affect all of us, positively and negatively.

As parents, it helps to understand why giving consequences to our kids is so essential. Consequences teach kids to think. Consequences help children learn that their actions lead to results, both positive and negative. They learn that life is full of choices and the choices they make greatly influence what happens to them.

Knowing how to use consequences to teach kids is so important. If consequences have the power to change behavior, it makes sense that we should use them to benefit our kids.

The basics of using consequences with children include the following.

Be clear. Make sure your child knows what the consequence is and who and what he or she did to earn or lose it.

Be consistent. Don't give a big consequence for a behavior one time and then ignore the same behavior the next time.

Be brief. This is especially true with younger children. Clear messages usually get lost when you lecture.

Follow through. If you set up a deal for your child to earn a positive consequence, be sure he get the reward after he's done what he needs to. Likewise for a negative consequence.

Be as pleasant as possible. This is generally easier when you give positive consequences. But, when you give negative consequences, keep it in mind, as well. Yelling and screaming are not effective. Kids can't hear your words, they can only hear your anger. The following is a list of positive consequences that parents can use that cost no money.

- Stay up late
- Stay out late
- Have a friend over
- Go over to a friend's house
- One less chore
- Extra TV (or video game) time
- Sit at the head of the table
- Messy room for a day
- Sleep downstairs or outside
- Shorter study period
- Extra night out with friends
- Permission for a special event



- Pick a movie
- Stay up late reading
- Time with Mom and Dad
- Use car
- Extra phone time

Senior Citizens Corner

As I write this on Thursday, "Old Man Winter" is really showing his powers. Yesterday, locally it was roll-overs. Last night on TV, it was slippery ice causing wrecks. Lets all be careful here at the Center.

Recently Dae Clements was honored as "Senior of the Month." Visiting him that day were his granddaughter Holly and her daughters, Mallory and Laureen. Also Jeff Ewoldt, all from Wichita, Kan.

Visiting on Wed. were Phyliss and Henry Cheatwood, who treated us to a half hour of music and song.

Back at the Center after being hospital patients are Vennie and Ross Shook, Fay Bishop and Smoky Altman. We are happy to have them back. Ella Mae Black is home after a hospital stay.

Next weeks activities:

Mon. Line Dancing at 9:30 a.m., Livingston Hearing Aid at 9:30-10:30 a.m., Pool/ Game at 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Line Dancing at 9:30 a.m., Medical Arts B/P 11:00 a.m., Pool Tournament at 10:00 a.m.

Thurs. Miracle Ear at 10:00-12:00 a.m.

Fri. Line Dancing at 9:30 a.m. Site Council Meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Lunch every week on Mon. thru Fri at 11:30 a.m.

Remember the Auction on the 27th. It begins at 12:00, right after lunch. Everyone is urged to bring a "home made" item and a few spare dollars. Have fun and help a good cause. The things you made could be wood work, art, house hold items, pillows or just things your hands create. So lets all get busy and make-a-sale-item.

See you next week, Smitty

'Women in Agriculture'--Business Management Program

The "Women in Agriculture: Business Management Program" is scheduled for February 19-21, 1997, Lubbock Holiday Inn Civic Center, 801 Avenue Q. Lubbock, Texas. The Program was developed for farm and ranch women working on or off the farm, as well as women who run their own farm and ranch business.

Its focus is on helping participants gain insights into and a broader understanding of the business management issues involved in running a farm or ranch operation. The program will provide the opportunity for participants to interact with and share experiences with other women who have similar interests.

The program is presented by the Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas A&M University.

If you would like to see an agenda, schedule and/or obtain a registration form, contact the NRCS office at 1303 Cowboy Way, Plains, Texas or call 456-3703.

Thank You

The Yoakum County F.C.E. Council, State Line F.C.E. Club, and Turner F.C.E. Club wish to say "Thank You" to all of you who helped make our concession booth at this year's livestock show a success.

We appreciate everyone that came by. We will try to have our serving line improved by next year.

We are so proud of the New Concession built this year by Yoakum County Commissioners.

Looking forward to a great 1998 Stock Show.

Thanks!
Dorothy Jones—Sec. Treas.
Yoakum Co. F.C.E. Council

Thank You

The family of Judy Tingle would like to thank all of you for your expressions of love and kindness in our time of need
Burton Tingle and family

Wedding Plans Announced



Johnna Kay Brown Summers and Dean Wallace Birkes, both of Pampa, plan to wed March 8, 1997, in First United Methodist Church at Pampa.

The bride-elect is the daughter of the late Johnnie and Barbara Brown of Plains. She graduated from Plains High School in 1984 and received her B.A. in Journalism from Texas Tech in 1987. She is currently employed as an English teacher at Pampa High School.

The prospective bridegroom is the son of Darlene and Wallace Birkes of Pampa. He graduated from Pampa High School in 1985, received his B.S. Theatre Arts degree from West Texas A&M University in 1991, and his M.A. Speech/Theatre Arts from Oklahoma State University in 1993. He is currently employed as a theatre arts and speech teacher at Pampa Middle School.

School Lunch Menu

Wednesday- Feb 19

Breakfast: Cinn. Toast, Raisins Orange Juice, Milk.

Lunch- All American Cheeseburger, Chips, Mixed Fruit, Peanutbutter Cookies, Milk.

Thursday -Feb. 20

Breakfast: Waffles or

Cereal, Raisins, Fruit Punch, Milk.

Lunch -Stew, Pinto Beans, Kosher Spears, Cornbread, Apple Cobbler, Milk.

Friday-Feb 21

Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Orange/ Pineapple Juice, Milk.

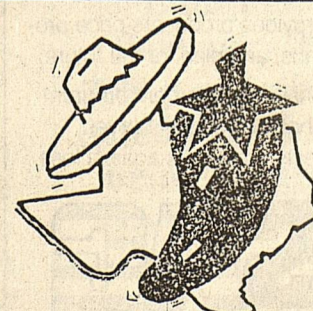
Lunch: Chicken Fried Steak w/Gravy Broccoli and Rice Casserole, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Pear Halves, Milk

LET ALL HEAVEN REJOICE

From Heaven's Throne, The Angelic Celebration Of Easter!

If you saw the Passion Play performance in 1995, you know you will not want to miss this outstanding performance by the Plains Community Choir. This joyous celebration of Easter will be presented at 7 p.m. on March 5, at the school auditorium. Plan now to attend, and tell your friends and neighbors!

For more information, contact Director Patrick Hamilton, 456-3661



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From The Hack



I have wracked my semi-brain in the days following last week's publication of this rag, trying to find something semi-amusing, and was at the desperation stage until a coffee drinking session at the DQ this weekend. This guy comes in, real excited, and says, "The wife and I spent the weekend in Midland, and we're going back soon as possible, but with a loaded camera this time! We were driving around with friends, and passed by this humongous Baptist Church, and right out there in front, on their big marquee thing, we read 'Dr. Gary Dyer, Pastor'."

It caught me a bit off guard, but I confessed, "Yes, I've been doing a bit of moonlighting down there on the Sabbath". That met with absolute cold silence, apparently a bit hard to believe for the faithful intelligentsia who gather there each Sunday morn. Finally, this Geezer, not real old, but a Geezer, never the less, said, "Well, I don't doubt it a minute -- them Baptist's always like to preach sin, fire and brimstone, and I guess you know about as much about them subjects as anyone here". It's comforting to know you have faithful followers.

I'm certainly glad I didn't read about all the furor some of the non-meat eaters, the "Veggie Freaks", the 'Save the animals for the National Geographic, not the dinner table' fanatics caused in the media during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. You know, when we roast the big old turkey, or a big chunk of the big old pig, and eat ourselves into a stupor before falling asleep in the favorite chair, couch or on the rug. Those holidays.

I read where some folks actually retch when they see the naked bird being shoved in the oven, screaming, "Oh, Lord, please, please don't burn that poor birds flesh!" Yes, and some parents have brain washed their kids to sob hysterically when they see a ham being cooked, pleading, "Oh, please, please, don't cremate 'Porky Pig', he's my favorite guy on the Saturday comedies!"

I also read where certain

misguided zealots create fake turkeys and pigs for the holidays out of swill such as tofu, bean curd, or soy meal, patting, pressing the garbage into the shape of the real things to 'save the animals'. Lemme tell you something... come the fall and winter holidays, I want a big old bird, denuded of his foliage, or a big chunk of the posterior of a porker adorning my table, patiently awaiting my carving knife, and don't worry about it, you sickos, my cholesterol and my heartburn are my business, and I don't care how you describe all those little black and brown chunks in the giblet gravy... They're FOR ME!

I played flog - no, it's golf, actually, this weekend with the elder Dean of Attorneys of Denver City, Mr. Paul New. I salute him with the 'Mr.' title in fear he might find reasons to sue me. He and I were playing our usual handicap vs. handicap game (I suspicion his is overly inflated), and with the other cuthroat bandits in the group, he and I were paired as partners on occasion. I managed to make a remarkably long put, while his partner, and he proceeded to spit a copious amount of Beechnut chewing tobacco on my new golf shoes.

A bit perturbed, I said, "Paul, I'm your partner, why'd you spit on me"? He patted me on the back, and said, "Gary, my boy, never think for a moment I purposely let the wind carry old 'Beech' onto your lovely shoes... and dismiss it from your mind if you have any notion at all it was because of our personal bet. Simply an act of old Mother Nature, or perhaps the Almighty, I feel certain. And too, my boy, should I remind you, I have a copy of the divorce proceedings your lovely Bride fleshed out for me some time ago, requiring only my signature to start the ball rolling, so to speak".

I am not completely stupid. I extended my other foot, and said, "Mr. New, would you like to spit on this one too"? The Plains Bandits I was with were even worse... they carried loaded guns.

Chamber banquet plans finalized

The Plains Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held in the school cafeteria at 7 p.m. Thursday, February 20.

Entertainment for this years event will be furnished by the Girl's Choir of Whiteface High School, under direction of Gail Smith.

The Chamber will furnish meat, drinks and bread for the meal, and the each family attending is asked to bring a large covered dish of their choice.

The community's 'Outstanding Citizen of the Year' will be announced, local members of the EMS will be recognized, and many door prizes will be drawn for. **BE THERE!**

Notice For Bids

The State of Texas County of Yoakum

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10:00 a.m., Friday, February 28, 1997, for the construction of a pool building at Stuffy Moorehead Park in Denver City, Texas.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, March 3, 1997.

For bid forms and specifications, please contact J.R. Slentz, 700 W. Cedar, Denver City, Tx. 79323 (806-592-3287) or Mr. James Thompkins, West Texas Consultants, Inc., 501 W. Industrial, Midland, Tx 79701 (915-685-3800).

Sealed bids should be marked "BID - POOL BUILDING" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/Cowboy Way @ Ave. G, Plains, Texas 79355. No FAX copies will be accepted.

Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any and or all bids.

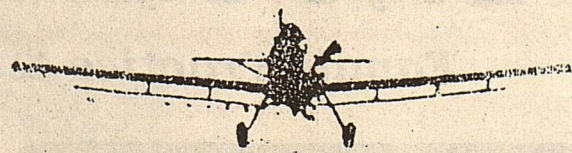
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