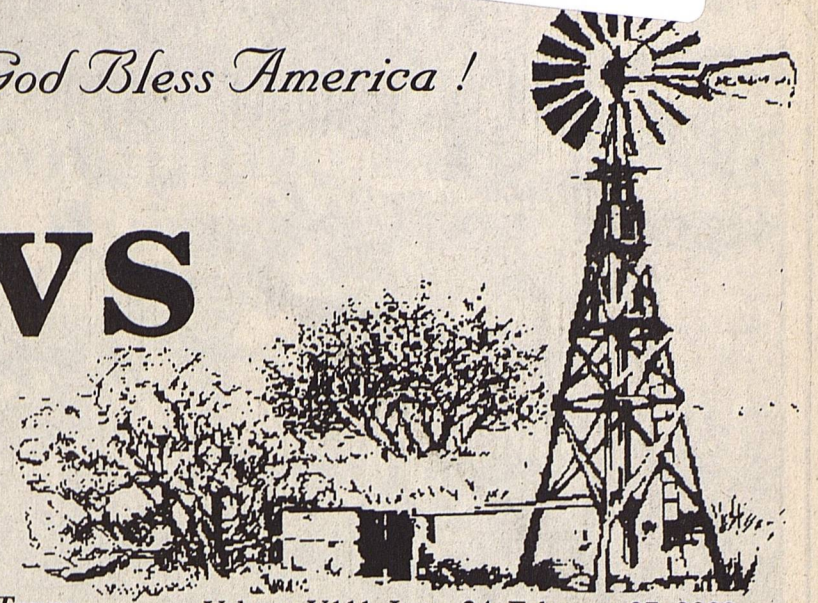


Cowboy Country

News

God Bless America!



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

Volume V111, Issue 24, February 27, 2002

Widening of U.S. 82 being explored

Improved infrastructure key to economic development in local areas



Mike Dreyspring, center, with Lions Johnnie Fitzgerald, Vaughn Culwell, Melba Crutcher and Vicki Blundell

Mike Dreyspring, General Manager of Lea County Electric Cooperative and President of the Lovington, New Mexico Economic Development Corporation, told Plains Lions Club members last week, "Whatever we can do to stimulate business interest in our area of South-eastern New Mexico and the South Plains of Texas is to our mutual benefit."

His visit to the club's Thursday meeting was the first of efforts by the Lovington EDC to explore possibilities of stimulating interest of citizen groups in Tatum, Artesia, Lovington, Cloudcroft, Plains and Brownfield to prompt the Highway Departments of both states to consider making US Highway 82 a four lane passage from Brownfield to Cloudcroft.

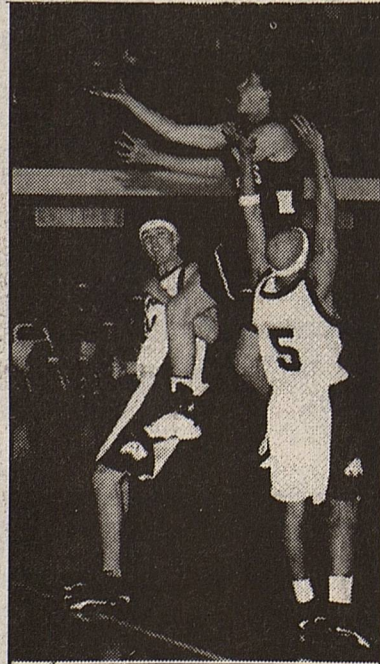
Dreyspring related current problems in Lovington stemming from a number of over-the-road trucking firms not serving that city because of current road conditions. He admitted the New Mexico highway officials have

expressed little interest in major improvements of US 82, but are doing major improvements in other areas. "I will try to arrange meetings like this one in those other communities, and if enough interest is shown in the idea, I think a coalition of citizens and officials from all these towns could go to work presenting our ideas to both state highway departments," Dreyspring said.

The EDC President said he was aware many small, rural communities, particularly those with predominant agricultural economies have suffered recently, but, "I have also seen indications of many working families desiring to relocate from large, congested urban areas to smaller, quieter communities like ours. Anything we can do to stimulate and expand our local economies to attract these people is a huge, positive step."

A number of Lions expressed their interest and willingness to possibly help form such a coalition.

Last Hurrah for Cowboy basketball



Jared Bell soars for shot

In a bitter-sweet ending to the season, the Cowboys fell to Tahoka last week in Bi-District action. The Cowboys were up by two points with just seconds to go, but a desperate three point shot went in for the Dogs 54-53 win.

Politics heat up with early primary voting underway

The looming Democrat and Republican Primary Election ballots this year offer voters a virtual smorgasboard of political choices. Texas voters have two strong Hispanic Democrat candidates, Tony Sanchez and Dan Morales, vying for the opportunity to take on incumbent Republican Governor Rick Perry for the state's number one job. Closer to home, Incumbents Gary Walker, R, Plains, faces Delwin Jones, R, Lubbock for the State House seat of newly created District 83.

County races are also drawing attention. Veteran County Treasurer Toni Jones, D, Plains, is being challenged by Denver City's Barbara Wright, R. The race for Commissioner of Precinct 2, mandated when J.R. Slentz announced his retirement from the post, has drawn interest and a field of hopeful candidates. Denver City's Jim Maynard will face Steve Slentz as Republican candidates for the job, while Democrat hopefuls Ben Coston, Danny Moore and Leland Tucker are campaigning for Democrat votes.

Other names appearing on ballots as unopposed candidates include; Melba Crutcher, Justice of Peace, Pct. 1, Troy Scott, Justice of Peace, Pct. 2, Dallas Brewer, County Judge, Jack Cobb, Commissioner, Pct. 4, Richard Clark, Criminal District Attorney, Vicki Blundell, District Clerk, and Debbie Rushing, County Clerk.

District Court crime cases heard

In 121st Judicial District Court February 19, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, four criminal cases were heard. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Jerome Geronimo Yzaguirre pled guilty to DWI, third or more. A ten year prison sentence was suspended and probated 10 years. Time payments will be made on a \$1500 fine and \$237 court costs. An assault causes bodily injury charge was adjudicated. He will serve 160 hours community service, and attend weekly AA meetings. He will remain in jail up to 180 days or until space is available in a Substance Abuse Felony Punishment Facility (SAFPF), complete the drug offenders education program, attend and complete anger management counseling provided by Women's Protective Service. David Martinez was his attorney, and

Turn To Page Two, COURT CASES

USDA announces Guar Grant Funding

Southwest Guar Cooperative Association, located in Terry County, will receive a \$500,000 value added agricultural product market development grant from USDA Rural Development announced Bryan Daniel, Texas State Director. USDA Rural Development is charged with assisting rural communities by administering programs targeted to strengthening the economy and infrastructure of rural areas.

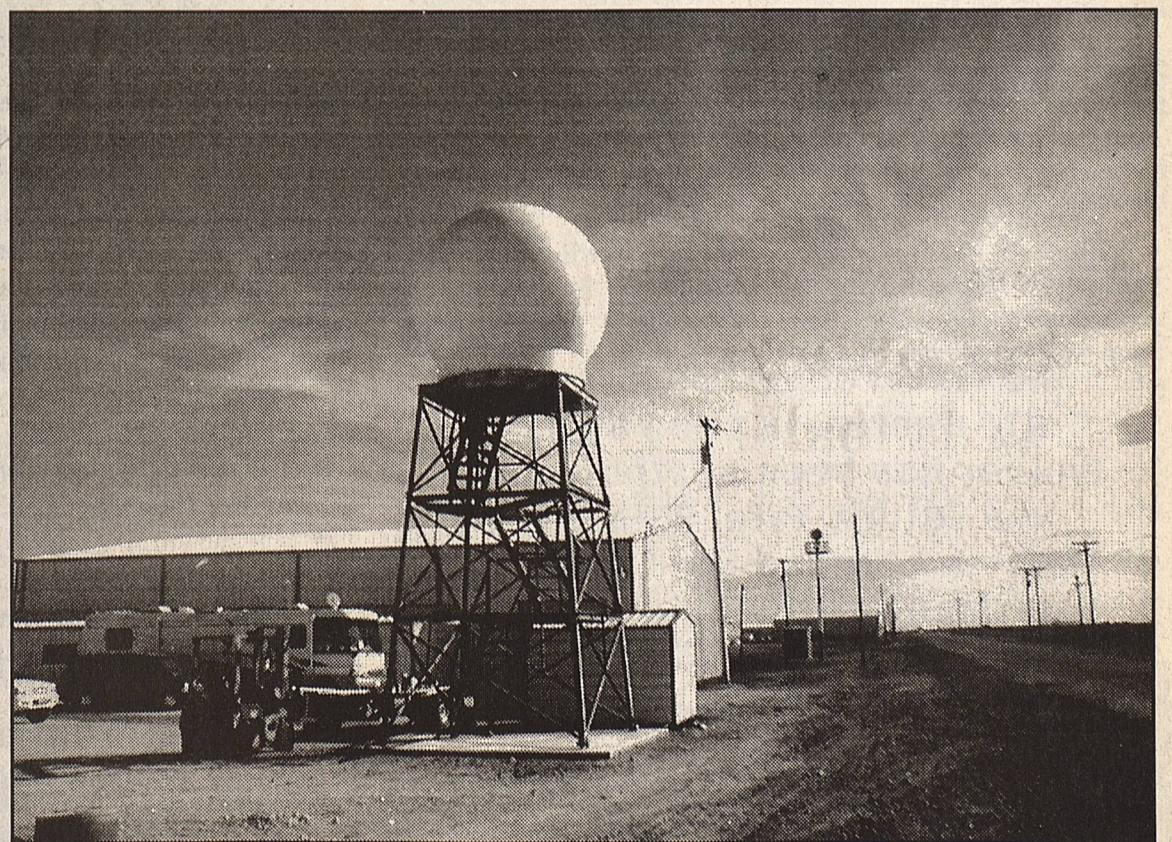
Southwest Guar Cooperative Association will build and operate a guar bean processing facility in Brownfield, Texas, that will crack the beans to extract the gum. Guar beans are a drought tolerant legume that grows best in a semi arid climate. The facility will purchase the beans from cooperative producers and serve the needs of both producers and manufacturers. They anticipate being able to process 47.5 million pounds of guar beans annually. Guar meal is used in cattle feed and guar gum is an additive in

foods such as barbecue sauce, cereal, cheese spreads, drinks, ice cream and prepared food. The gum is also used in oil fields to re-establish depleted wells. Over 100 million pounds of guar beans are imported into the United States annually. Approximately ten jobs will be created when the facility is fully operational.

"USDA Rural Development provides access to credit to rural communities that might be suffering from lack of employment opportunities for their residents," said Daniel. "Financing small businesses is one of the most important things the government can do to help a community."

Loans and grants are available to rural communities of fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operated on a nonprofit basis and Indian tribes that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms are eligible for assistance.

Radar installation at county airport to enhance cloud seeding in area



The Southern Ogalalla Aquifer Recharge project headquartered here will soon have a new, and very high-tech "eye on the clouds" at the county airport. At press time, representative's of Clark's General Services of Fresno, California, were optimistic they would have a state-of-the-art radar installation on line and operational by the end of this week.

The radar unit will be used to monitor potential rain produc-

ing clouds suitable for seeding with Sandy Land Water District's aircraft based here. The radar will be able to scan a radius of some 125 miles.

Sandy Land currently has a contract with Yoakum, Gaines and Terry counties for the precipitation enhancement program, entering its third year of operation. Gary Walker, Consultant with Sandy Land, said the three counties contain approximately 2.2 million acres.

"Our aircraft is fully capable of servicing at least 3 million acres, and we are currently discussing extending our seeding operation to portions of Lea and Roosevelt Counties in southern New Mexico." Walker said extending the seeding operation to the west would be both logical and beneficial for the three Texas counties. "A great deal of potential

Turn To Page Two, RADAR



This pile of rubble was all that remained after County Precinct 3 personnel demolished the old bath house at the county pool in Stanford Park. West Texas Concrete submitted the low bid to construct a new, 1200 square foot building, and work should start on the project in the next few days.

Texas wineries spring up like grapes on a vine

Texas wines have been around for centuries, but since the 1970s have grown from a curiosity and a hobby into a \$100 million industry.

Spanish missionaries first planted wine grapes near El Paso in 1662 according to Texas Wine Marketing Research Institute (TWMRI) at Texas Tech University. For centuries, wine growing in Texas remained more a hobby than anything else, but several varieties of wine grapes thrived in the state, keeping alive the hope bigger and better things were to come.

TWMRI divides Texas into three regions, and contained within those are six wine growing areas. The Pecos County area contains the largest amount of wine growing acreage for a single county, more than 1,000 acres. That's almost a third of the wine grape acreage in the state and twice that of Lubbock County, which ranks second for a county. The Texas High Plains, all or part of 22 counties are the second largest wine growing area in the state. The Texas Hill Country, about 15,000 square miles, is the largest wine growing area in the nation.

1976 was the first year wine production numbers in Texas were tallied. Texas' four wineries produced roughly 7,000 gallons of wine.

By 1982, 11 wineries were operating in Texas, and in 1983 they topped the 100,000 gallon plateau, producing 142,000 gallons. The



number of wineries doubled from 1983 to 1990, from 13 to 26, but production increased more than seven times, topping one million gallons.

Production peaked at 1.7 million gallons in 1997 but dropped slightly in the years to follow. St. Genevieve Winery production of wine grapes in Pecos County was so phenomenal in 1997 it pushed production numbers well beyond what the industry can normally produce, even today.

TWMRI reports the 40 wineries in Texas produced more than 1.2 million gallons in 2000. Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs says the wine and wine grapes produced by Texas vineyards are an extremely valuable crop, returning an average yield of about \$1800 per acre. While 1.2 million gallons of wine was not a record for production, it was the state's most profitable wine grape crop. The industry contributed more than \$105 million to the Texas economy

in 2000. It is expected the 2001 production numbers will show another good year.

Employment in the wine industry has also grown. 40 wineries in 46 locations statewide employ more than 1500 people and contribute more than \$105 million to the state economy.

St. Genevieve in Fort Stockton is the largest winery in the state, capable of producing some 60 percent of the state's wine in a single year.

TWMRI's Dr. Tim Dodd says the number of wineries is climbing. "I see another 15 wineries opening in the next few years, most being relatively small. There are more people than ever interested in wineries and taking courses on wine. There's lots of interest throughout the state."

Ag Commissioner Combs says, "I believe our grape growers allied with our wine makers present real opportunities in Texas that can equal the enormous and positive impact the industry has made in California on agriculture and tourism." She would like to see the Texas wine industry create what she calls a "Texas Napa" to attract tourists, and their dollars, to Texas.

Services held here for Mark Barron

Services for Mark Erwin Barron, 60, were held at two PM Tuesday, February 26, 2001, at First Baptist Church, Plains, with Reverend Glenn Harlin and Reverend Bill Wright officiating. Interment followed at Plains Cemetery under direction of Brownfield Funeral Home.

Mr. Barron, the son of Thomas H. (Tom) Barron and Marguerite Barron, died Friday night, February 22. He was born in Lamesa, Texas September 20, 1941. He attended Plains schools, Eastern New Mexico University and Texas Tech University. He served in the U.S. Army with the 101st Airborne Division. He was a 32nd Degree Mason, and Past Master of Plains Lodge Number 1281. He farmed and ranched in the Plains area and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Plains.

He is survived by his mother of Plains; Three brothers, Jim and Darrell Barron of Plains, and Tom Barron Jr. of Seminole.

From Page One, RADAR

nate over those New Mexico counties, and especially those over the southern half of Lea County. If we come to an agreement, we could have an opportunity to work those clouds in their first life. If we can induce them to build there, then enter our three Texas counties, it would be an ideal scenario."

The complex radar site features the familiar white dome on top of its mounting tower and contains the dish inside which rotates to image clouds in the area. Data is then transmitted to the adjacent and new aircraft hangar, where it is down loaded to a computer and monitor set-up. Walker said a registered Meteorologist will be stationed here to monitor the computer data and alert pilots of potential seeding targets. "He will be on duty when our season normally starts, around April 1, and usually lasts until September 15."

If the New Mexico counties come on board, they will share in the expense of the operation and the meteorologist's salary, and either furnish their own aircraft or pay SOAR for the use of theirs in any seeding flights. He related there is also a possibility other Texas counties could share in SOAR's project. "Dawson, Andrews and Martin counties were included in our original seeding permit, and they could one day be involved in our efforts."

From Page One, COURT CASES

investigating officer was William Gardner, Denver City Police.

Salvador Zamago pled guilty tampering with a governmental record. A five year prison sentence was suspended and probated five years. He will make time payments on a \$1000 fine, \$208 court costs and \$250 court appointed attorney fees. He must serve 160 hours community service. His attorney was Warren New, and Ruben Trevino, Texas DPS was investigating officer.

Carol Maroquin Perez agreed on the state's motion to modify community supervision from a prior cocaine possession cause. Defendant will spend 180 days in jail or until space is avail-

able SAFP for not more than one year or less than 90 days. After phase two of the treatment plan, defendant must make \$30 monthly payments on \$1048 restitution, and \$11 monthly payments on \$368 court appointed attorney fees.

Christopher Brit Marion agreed on modifying community supervision from a prior Burglary of a building cause. He will remain in jail until space is available in the Ray D. Anderson correction facility in Brownfield for no less than one month or more than 24 months as an alternative time in jail or prison. Upon release he must make \$20 monthly payments on court appointed attorney fees.

Homestead Exemptions Save Tax Dollars

"A property owner can still qualify for the homestead exemption if part of the residence is rented out or used for other purposes, such as a home business," Stephens said. "And the home will not lose its exemption if the owner moves away temporarily, so long as he or she intends to return and doesn't claim another homestead exemption elsewhere."

Texas law provides several types of exemptions for homeowner's. For school tax purposes, there is a \$15,000 general homestead exemption for all homeowner's and an additional \$10,000 exemption for those 65 or older or disabled. The Denver City ISD offers a local option \$13,333 exemption for those over 65. The Plains ISD offers a local option additional \$10,000 for those over 65.

The school tax exemption for those 65 or older provides a special property tax 'ceiling' for school taxes. While the market value of an elderly person's home may fluctuate with the market, the school taxes cannot increase above the tax amount in the first year that person qualified for the exemption.

The ceiling can increase, however, if the owner adds an improvement, other than normal maintenance or repair. When that happens, the new improvement is taxed at its current market value and the current tax rates. The new taxes are added to the previous tax ceiling to create a new ceiling.

Senior citizens may transfer their tax ceiling to a new home. The homeowner transfers the percentage of school tax paid on the former home, based on the last year the homeowner qualified that home for the over 65 tax ceiling, to the new home. The new tax ceiling is calculated to have the over 65 homeowner pay the same percentage of tax paid as on the former home.

For example, if an over 65 homeowner currently has a school

tax ceiling of \$100, but would pay \$400 without the tax ceiling, the percentage of tax paid is 25 percent. If the school taxes on the new home are \$1,000, the new tax ceiling would be \$250, or 25 percent of \$1,000. The homeowner may request a certificate from the appraisal district where the former home was located that gives this information to the appraisal district where the new home is located.

Homeowner's should notify the chief appraiser when they no longer qualify for the general, over 65, or disabled homestead exemptions. A 50 percent penalty is added to delinquent home taxes if homeowner's fail to notify the appraisal district and receive homestead exemptions to which they are not entitled.

Other types of taxing units, counties, cities and special districts, may offer different homestead exemptions. Counties must offer a \$3,000 general homestead exemption on the portion of the county tax levied for farm to market roads or flood control. Yoakum County and Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District also offer \$25,000 over 65 exemption. Plains and Denver City offer \$7,500 over 65 exemption.

Taxing unit may also offer a local option exemption based on a percentage of a home's appraised value. In 2002, any taxing unit can exempt up to 20 percent of the value of each qualified homestead. No matter what percentage of value the taxing units adopts, the dollar amount of exemption for any home must equal at least \$5,000. Plains ISD is the only taxing unit in Yoakum County that offers the 20 percent homestead exemption.

For more information, homeowner's may contact the Yoakum County Appraisal District at 500 Cowboy Way, Plains, Texas or call 806-456-7101.

The fund raiser lunch for State Representative Gary Walker has been postponed to a future date. Please watch CCN and the town marquee for the new date

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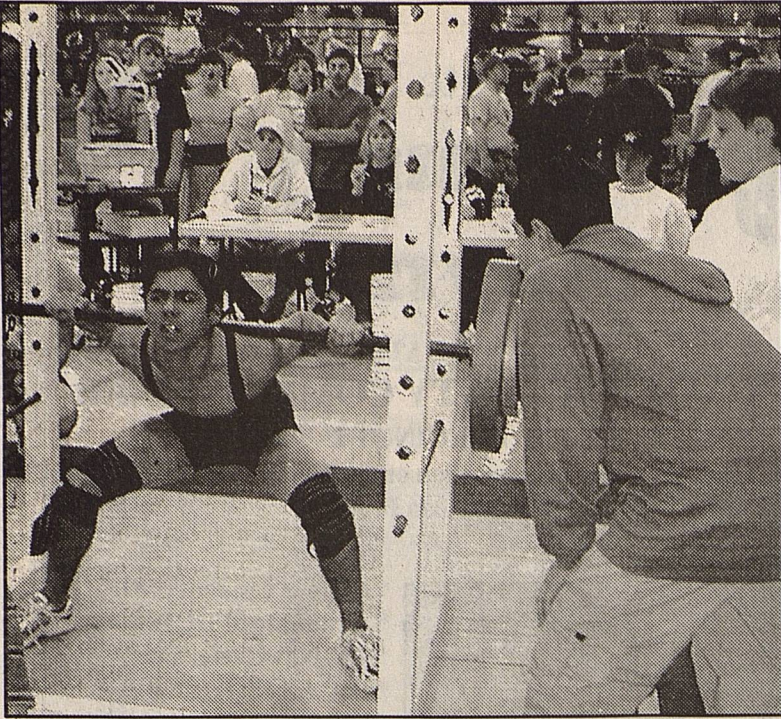
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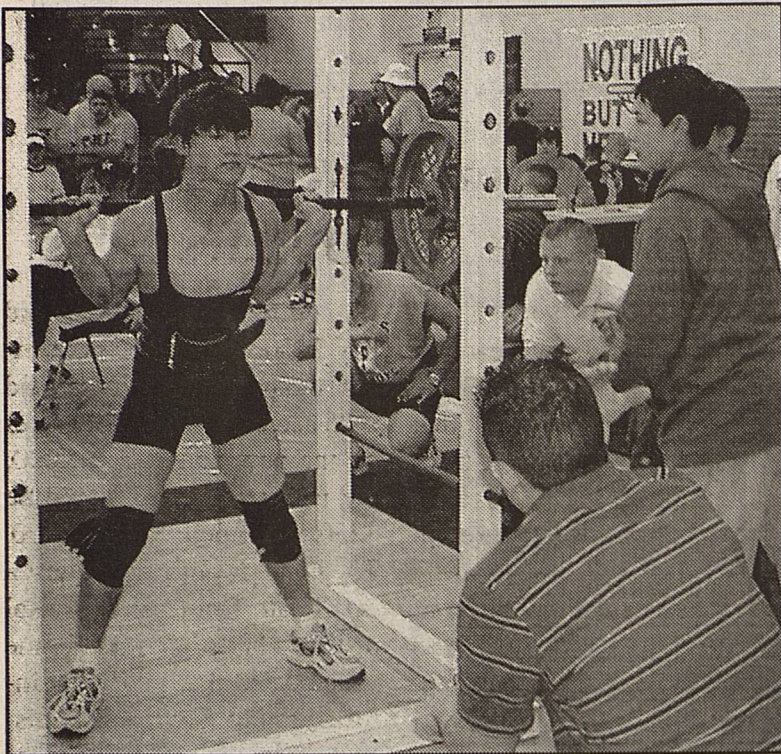
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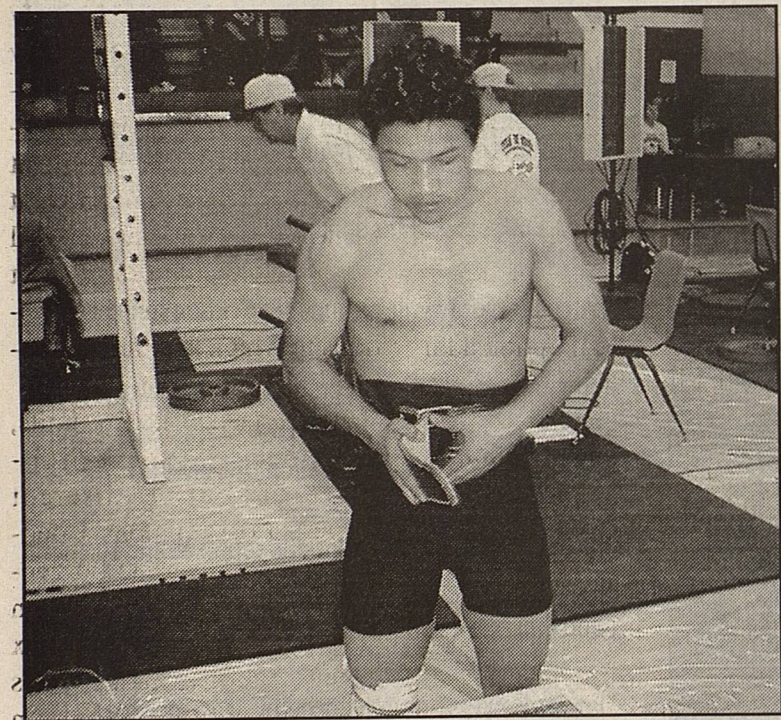
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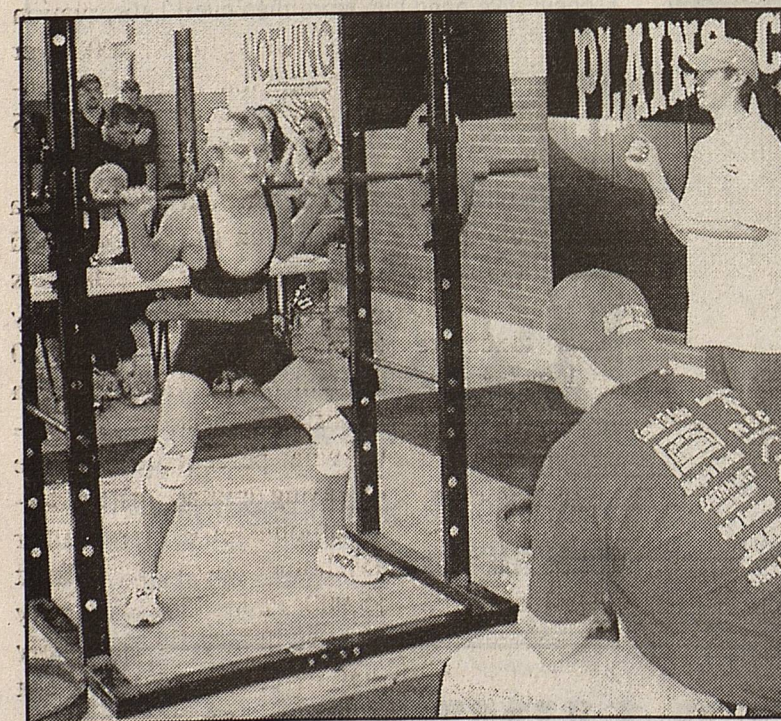
Arnold Cordova ready to come up from squat



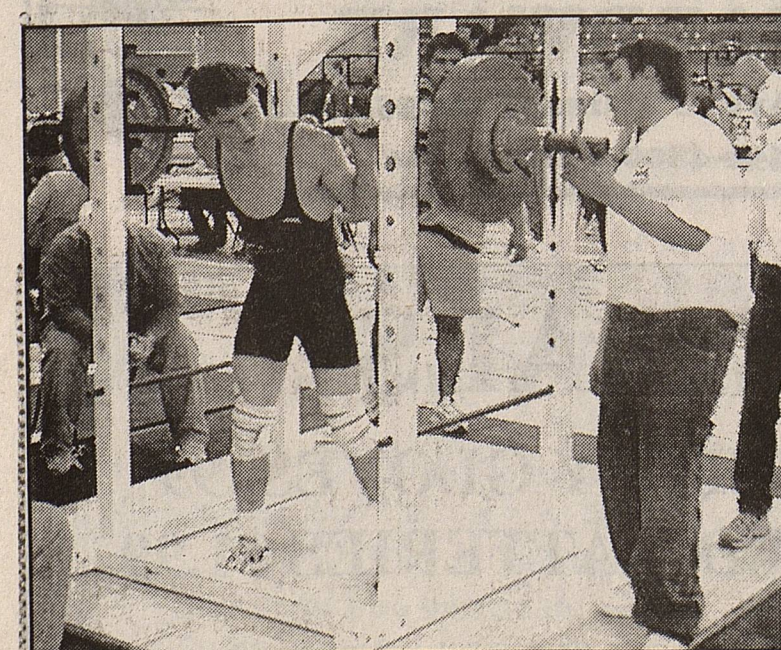
Chris Hansen holds steady for the judge



Jose Ramirez cinches belt tight, then tighter



Chisum Justus got the judge's approval with this lift



Nick Hays replaces weights after good lift

Cowboys do well in big power lift meet here

Plains High hosted a Power Lift meet Saturday, February 23, and competed against 14 schools from 1A, 2A and 3A districts, and finished third over all, just behind Brownfield and Coahoma. Individual performances included (total pounds); 114 lb. class- Chisum Justus, 580#. 132 lb. class- Chris Hansen, 855 #. 148 lb class- Arnold Cordova, 780 #. 165 lb. class- Manuel Ramos, 1045 lbs. 181 lb. class- Louis Escobar, 1035 lbs.

Meet Best Lifts awards went to (114 to 165 class) Manuel Ramoz, Squat, and Chris Hansen, Bench Press.

PHS students place in UIL Journalism meet

Three PHS students placed in four events at a practice UIL Journalism meet at Midland College Friday, February 22. Annaliesa O'Quinn placed fourth and Mandi Rogers placed seventh in feature writing, and Grady McNabb placed eighth in both editorial and headline writing. The Journalism Team will compete again March 2 in a practice meet here at PHS.

Bush and Venneman Kick-Off 4-H Club Centennial Anniversary

President George W. Bush and Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman joined 4-H members from Texas and the Metropolitan Washington area to officially inaugurate 4-H's 100 year anniversary at a White House meeting late yesterday. "As a former member of 4-H, I know first hand the value of this outstanding youth development program," said Veneman. "For 100 year, 4-H has provided unique opportunities for its members to learn, to grow and to work cooperatively in their communities and for their country. President Bush's continued support of 4-H and other youth development programs demonstrates this Administration's commitment to young people and to their education."

USDA has also approved \$1.4 million for the National 4-H Council, the national, private sector nonprofit partner of 4-H and the Cooperative Extension System, to develop a cooperative development educational program. The program will provide individuals with an in depth understanding of how agribusiness related cooperatives play an important role in increasing profitability and global competitiveness for ranchers, farmers, and entrepreneurs. "4-H has been a leader in helping youth develop leadership and technical skills in all parts of the nation," said Veneman. "These funds will contribute to 4-H's important role in providing young people with quality education and development programs."

Thank You for Your Continued Support



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State Representative District 83

Early Voting: February 25-March 8

GOP Primary: Tuesday, March 12th

Pol. Ad. by Walker for West Texas Campaign, PO Box 64333 Lubbock, Texas 79464 Mike Broussard, Treasurer

Texas' civil justice system among worst in nation

U.S. Chamber survey shows need for additional lawsuit reform

In his State of the Union address, President Bush ranked economic recovery alongside the war on terrorism and homeland security as this nation's most pressing challenges. A single word summed up his economic stimulus strategy: Jobs.

But some states will find the business of creating employment - a crucial element in President Bush's equation for prosperity - much more difficult to achieve than others, according to a recent survey by the United States Chamber of Commerce. Unfortunately, Texas could be one of those.

The national Chamber ranked all 50 states based on the perceived fairness, or reasonableness, of their civil justice systems by surveying 824 senior attorneys at companies with annual revenues of at least \$100 million. In simple terms, the survey gauged the likelihood of a business becoming a victim of excessive or frivolous lawsuits.

Ranked 46th, Texas' legal climate is the fifth worst in the nation, according to the list, just above Louisiana. Alabama and West Virginia round out the bottom five with Mississippi home to the worst civil justice system.

U.S. Chamber President Thomas Donohue explained the tie between curbing excessive lawsuits and job creation: "It should come as no surprise that most businesses take into account a state's liability climate when making decisions. The degree to which a state is willing to protect business owners from money-hungry, class-action lawyers is the degree to which they'll find business eager to work there."

Perhaps no business is being mistreated more than the small businessmen and women we entrust with our



Bill Hammond

health care - Texas physicians. Lawsuits against doctors have driven malpractice insurance rates into the fiscal stratosphere. The state's largest provider of malpractice insurance left Texas in December. The situation is literally driving doctors out of business.

Gov. Rick Perry is working on the problem and the Texas Association of Business & Chambers of Commerce supports his efforts. In fact, medical malpractice tops a 10-point lawsuit reform agenda TABCC will take to the Texas Legislature in 2003.

This issue needs immediate attention, just look at the results of the Chamber study. Texas failed to be listed as a "top" state in any of the 10 categories, and it ranked among the "worst" in six, including overall treatment of tort cases, treatment of class action lawsuits, punitive damages, judges' impartiality, and jury fairness.

Corporate America determines - to a large extent - whether this state will enjoy stable jobs with good pay and benefits. Just as important is small business. The potential for ruin from an overly litigious civil justice system is even more ominous for them, given the limited financial resources they can dedicate to legal expenses.

Tort reforms the Texas Legislature enacted in 1995 are under attack, and those assaults will intensify.

Plaintiff lawyers, for example, view Enron's bankruptcy as the poster child for rolling back reforms, arguing they are too restrictive - even as slews of those same attorneys,

lawsuits in hand, clog the halls of the Harris County courthouse seeking restitution for employees and lucrative fees for themselves. We must not allow a financial collapse to become the impetus for a string of new, bad laws.

Gov. Perry routinely alerts voters to the threat, saying recently, "Trial lawyers are a bright lot, and they are very creative. And they are always looking, searching for new themes to strike it rich."

Business is always a prime target. A majority of the executives surveyed - 78 percent - said a state's litigation climate affects important decisions like where to locate or to do business. Today's business picture is tricky enough without subjecting your company to a state known for excessive litigation and crippling legal outcomes.

The corporate lawyers even offered some free advice: State policy makers who care about economic development should improve two areas in their civil justice system - tort reform and punitive damages.

The U.S. Chamber's study clearly shows that to ensure economic growth, job creation and expanded state revenues, state leaders must make their legal systems fairer. Given the study's results, that will be a massive undertaking for Texas. We must begin now to move Texas off the "worst" list, with our goal always being to make the "best" list.

I offer my help.
 Hammond is president and CEO of the Austin-based Texas Association of Business & Chambers of Commerce (TABCC), which represents 140,000 employers and 200 local chambers of commerce in this state.

Farm Price Barometer

December 2001

Commodity	Current Price	Parity Price	Percent of Parity
Crops			
Barley (bushel)	\$2.19	\$6.39	34
Corn (bushel)	1.92	6.54	29
Cotton, Upland (lb)	.298	1.66	18
Flaxseed (bushel)	4.50	11.20	40
Oats (bushel)	1.77	3.74	47
Peanuts (lb)	.189	.673	28
Rice (cwt)	4.09	26.70	15
Sorghum Grain (cwt)	3.31	11.20	30
Soybeans (bushel)	4.13	14.20	29
Wheat (bushel)	2.89	9.58	30
Livestock			
Cattle (cwt)	64.20	157.00	41
Hogs (cwt)	33.60	102.00	33
Lambs (cwt)*	54.10	172.00	31
Dairy/Poultry			
Eggs, (dozen)	.590	1.54	35
Milk, All (cwt)	13.60	31.90	40
Milk, Mfg. (cwt)	12.40	29.03	43

* Lamb prices are one month behind all other prices in this analysis

Note: Percent of parity represented by current market prices is shown under commodity titles. Parity is the price farmers would receive if farm prices had increased at the same rate as expenses, using 1910-14 as a base period. USDA statistics available online at www.nass.gov.

We Get Letters

Dear Editor,

As many of you know, this year's redistricting process did much to compromise the legislative representation of rural Texas. As it now stands, we are facing the loss of at least one representative from West Texas. That's why it's so very important the citizens of Yoakum County make it to the polls for the Republican Primary Election on March 12.

Gary L. Walker of Plains has represented us admirably in the legislature at Austin the last eight years. Now, he is paired with his friend and fellow Republican, Delwin Jones of Lubbock. Mr. Jones is apparently a good man, but he does not have the same connection with rural areas and issues Gary Walker does.

I want to be sure no portion of newly created District 83, and particularly Yoakum County, is

left behind. Those of us who live in this county depend on Lubbock for so many things, but they also depend on us. Gary Walker is aware of this. I know he has worked hard and diligently for our county's two school districts, and he certainly has been a friend to our local agricultural producers.

It is vitally important to all of us here to have support in Austin for our small, rural communities. It has been reported Mr. Jones does not feel the counties in District 83 are important in this election, and is concentrating his efforts in his share of Lubbock County.

I hope you will help me show Mr. Jones the rural people in District 83 are a force to be reckoned with. The Republican Primary is our chance to stand up and be heard from.

Sincerely,
James T. Haynes

Vote For Jimmy Maynard

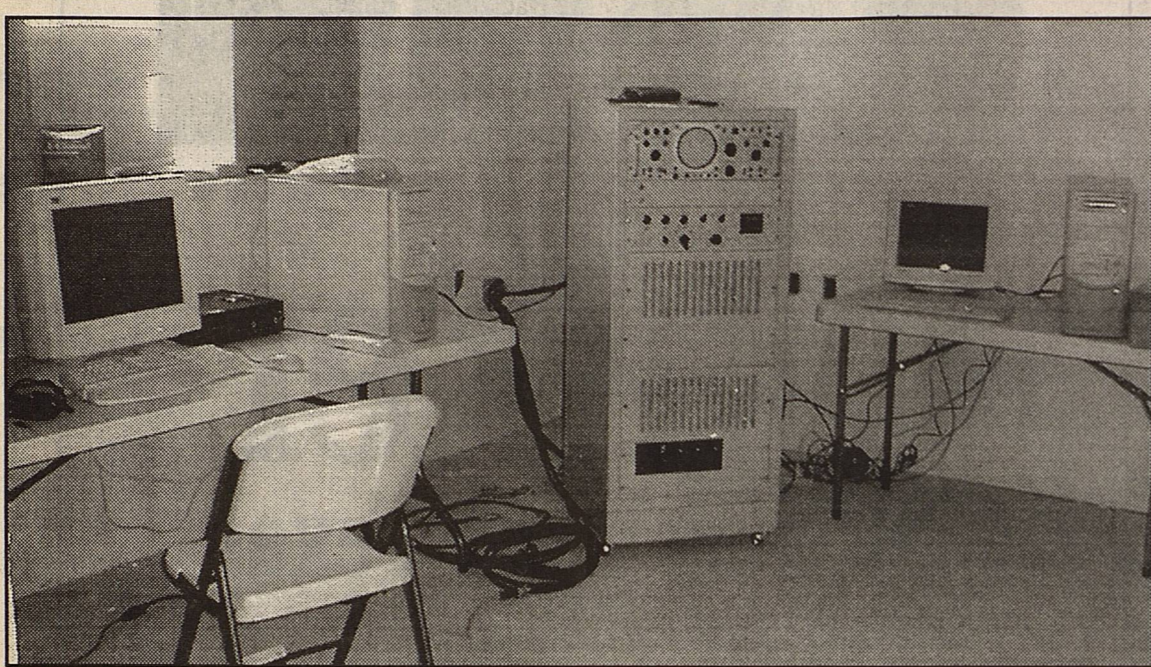
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YOAKUM COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 2
Subject to action of the March 12
Republican Primary



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- * U.S. Navy Veteran
- * D.C.I.S.D. Trustee for 12 years
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Some of the computers and control panels to be used in tracking possible rain-bearing clouds with new radar at county airport.

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Delwin Jones
REPUBLICAN

Texas House of Representatives
DISTRICT 83

*Delwin Jones is ranked 9th in seniority out of 150.
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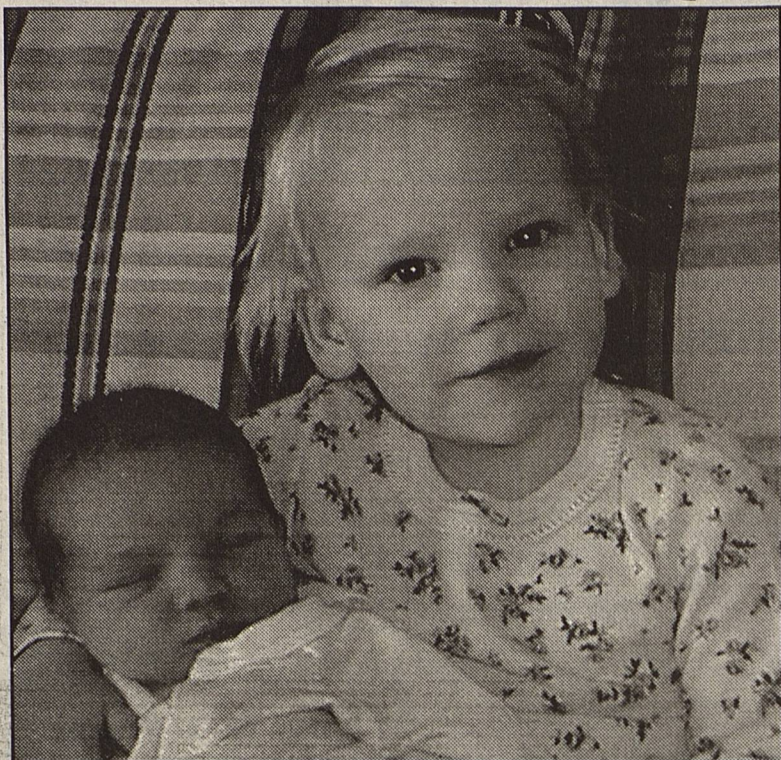


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New Baby In Town!!



Amanda Dusek is proud to announce the birth of her little sister, Kendall Ann. Kendall was born on February 14, 2002, at 5:05 pm., and weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz. and was 21 inches long. Proud parents are Darrell and Shannon Dusek.

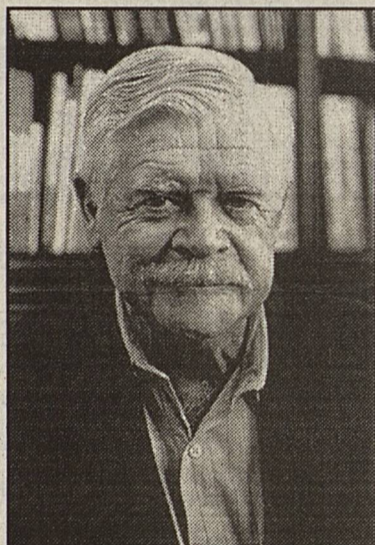
"Living and Working Entrepreneurially" Subject of CSW's Free Enterprise Dinner

College of the Southwest will honor this year's Trustee of Free Enterprise at its annual Trustee of Free Enterprise Dinner on Thursday, March 7, at 6:00 pm. at the Hobbs Country Club.

This year's keynote speaker, who also is this semester's Entrepreneur in Residence, is Mr. John E. Hughes, Board Chair and former president and CEO of The Coleman Foundation. The Coleman Foundation, of Chicago, is a private, independent foundation engaged in a range of philanthropic programs, including its most high profile program, *Entrepreneurship Awareness and Education*.

CSW's Entrepreneurs in Residence program brings some of the business world's most proven entrepreneurial minds together with the College's students and faculty, and allows them to interact in the classroom.

The fund-raiser dinner will be hosted by CSW's Students in Free Enterprise team. This dinner allows the College and the SIFE team to celebrate the work of outstanding free enterprise contributors, educators, and citizens in our community. Net revenue from the dinner



enables the SIFE team to continue in their efforts to promote free enterprise ideas and principles.

Mr. Hughes is CSW's third Entrepreneur in Residence. In addition to recognizing this year's Trustee of Free Enterprise, special recognition will also be given to the Outstanding Advisory Board Member and the Outstanding Free Enterprise Educator.

Tickets for the Trustee of Free Enterprise Dinner are \$50 per person. For tickets or more information, call Terri Blandin at 392-6561, extension 1014, or come by the College at 6610 Lovington Highway, Hobbs, New Mexico.

Senior Citizens Corner

Well here it is another month nearly gone. Where does the time go?

We are still opened 5 days a week and are still enjoying all the ones who are attending our center.

We really like to see the clients come in and take part in all the center's activities, or just to see them come in to enjoy a moment of companionship with others.

We would like to take time to welcome Florence Eady, Rojean Therwanger, Johnny and Ester Nevarez, Mary Robenson who all visited our center this last week.

Our Pot Luck night went very well. The Harvestor's were with us and put on a great show for the ones that came on Valentine's night. They always enjoy coming to play for the Seniors and their guests.

We want to send our love and condolences to the family of Marcy Nelson. Marcy will be missed by everyone here at the center. She was a person who was always willing to help anyone out when she could. She

would help in the serving line and attend to helping the ones in the dining area who needed assistance with their drinks. Marcy also was a senior companion, this organization allows seniors to sit with other elderly people in their homes, so the family can run errands or maybe they just need someone to help out. Marcy was a great person and a great helper.

We would like to remind you that if you are not present Thursday's or Friday's to sign up for the following week, you may call the center early Monday morning to let us know that you will be attending the daily meals in the dining room. We do this so that we can have an idea in the kitchen of how many will be here that day, so we don't run short. We want to please all who come.

Once again we want to extend our welcome to all the senior citizens from around our area. Please come and have a great time with us all.

Till next week,
Wanda B.

Kids Eat More When Served Heaping Helpings

Keeping kids' mealtime portions under control could be helping pint size diners avoid super sized appetites and whop'er waistlines.

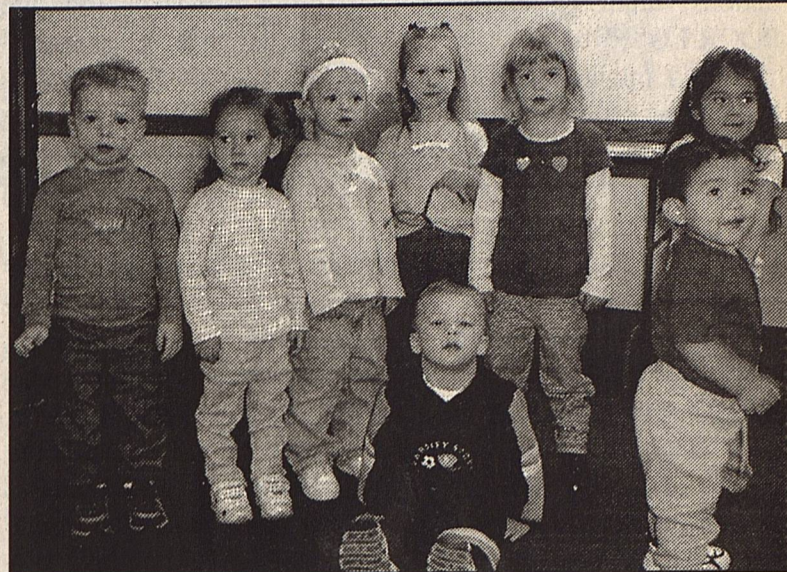
In a study of how serving sizes affect the food intake of young children, Baylor College of Medicine researcher Dr. Jennifer Fisher found that preschool children at 25 percent more macaroni and cheese on days their lunch plates contained a 'double order' of this kids' favorite.

And, because they didn't compensate for the extra entree calories by cutting back on

other foods served with lunch, their total lunchtime calories jumped by 15 percent.

"These findings suggest that regular exposure to 'super sized' portions encourages overeating among children," said Fisher, a behavioral nutrition researcher with the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor. "These findings are also warning flags, because we know that families today eat out much more often than in the past and that away from home portions keep getting larger."

Valentine Day Party at Filmtime



Pictured are, Back row: Hagen Lowrey, Kaitlynn Wilson, Hannah Lowrey, Mesa Davis, Madison Davis, Bailey Rios. Front row: Peyton McWhirter, Evan Rios. Not pictured: Jentry Wall, Amanda Dusek and Jonas Coronel.

There were 11 children present for the Valentine's Day Party at Filmtime on Wednesday, February 13th, 2002. The mother's supplied decorated cookies and drinks and all the children exchanged valentines.

New Books At The Library

FICTION:

Three Weeks In Paris. Barbara Taylor Bradford, *Eureka*. William Diehl, *Willow*. V.C. Andrews, *Southampton Row*. Anne Perry, *Catch As Cat Can*. Rita Mae Brown, *Shadow Warriors*. Tom Clancy, *The Happy Room*. Catherine Palmer, *Sinister Heights*. Loren Estleman, *The Summons*. John Grisham, *Channeling Cleopatra*. Elizabeth Scarborough.

NON FICTION:

The Lessons Of Terror. Caleb Carr, *The Deeper Wound*. Deepak Chopra, *Sports Injuries*. Robin Roberts, *A Death In Texas*. Dina Temple-Raston, *From The Ashes: A Spiritual Response To The Attack On America*. collected by the Editors of Beliefnet, *The Age Of Terror: America And The World After September 11*. edited by Strobe Talbott, *Little Miss Dynamite*. the life and times of Brenda Lee. Brenda Lee.

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Daffodil Day Festival - Celebration 2002
Saturday, March 2, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Round Rock Senior Center,
205 E. Main St. (across from library), Round Rock

- Food Booths
- Baked Goods
- Crafts
- Entertainment
- Auction (1:00 p.m.)
- Door Prizes

F R E E

- For the Kids
- Coloring Books
- Candy
- Balloons
- Face Painting

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Morning Worship - 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 5:00 pm

Wednesday Connections
Food, Fellowship & Study
5:30-7:30 pm

Other Opportunities
Fitness/Exercise Class - 5:30-6:30 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays

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Wednesday
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Supper
6:00 pm. Zombies
7:00 pm. - RA's, GA's, Mission Friends,
Sanctuary Choir Practice

From The Hack

How about those Winter Olympics!! Team USA surprised the universe. And enraged a few non sympathetic nations, which I casually label POOR LOSERS!

Thrills a minute - Ski jumpers soaring off that lift, reaching what I thought were astronomical heights, but then my perception was marred by the announcers stating, because of the slope of the entire course, they never exceeded 10 to 12 feet. Hard to believe - if true, why did so many of them crash and burn when they finally touched Terra Firma?

I even enjoyed the fiasco of the pairs skating fiasco, ending in both the Russian and U.S. pair winning the Gold. The French judge, in my humble opinion, based not on vast knowledge of the fine points of the artistic event but on 20/20 vision, was bribed with something illegal, unholy, or habit forming.

The one individual great segment of the games for me was the almost Three Stooges episode of the speed skaters, where four of the whizzers bumped, then thumped, then crashed to the ice, allowing the last place Aussie skater to speed home for the Gold, tongue in cheek saying, " Stuff Happen..."

For sheer adrenalin pumping exhilaration, almost thrombosis prompting excitement, however, nothing could compete with the CURLING EXTRAVAGANZA. You know, that heart throbbing deal where even elderly types are allowed on an icy surfaced course where they very carefully, very slowly release a round, squatty

looking object resembling a squashed down medicine ball with an awkward looking handle. This cumbersome missile probably approaches speeds of four feet per 43 seconds, and this remarkable velocity is attained only with the help of the non-thrower of the flat, firm medicine ball thing, a partner in this nerve tingling event, called a sweeper, I think, for I fell asleep shortly after the first thing was launched. On a re-run, I watched someone called, maybe, a sweeper, for I was still half asleep, and this person was furiously brushing the ice surface the thing was traveling on. Why, I don't know, for the ice looked perfectly pristine to me, and the tubby looking object was sailing along just fine while I prayed it reached its target before the games finally ended.

I know there were equally exhilarating moments during the games, because the Bride told me there were. I am, however, a very light viewer after 9 PM, but a heavy snorer.

I knew it had to happen. It was inevitable. They've built a huge, new super-duper-whooper Wal Mart in Hobbs. I visited there this week and I was awed. I mean, this sucker is BIG!

From time to time I have casually mentioned in this space my observance of unusually large numbers of, uh, well, very over weight people frequenting the old Wal Mart facility. As I strolled the aisles of the new store, it dawned on me I was seeing many familiar people - not their faces, their bellies and butts. My first thought was, did the Wal Mart people just move the old customers when they moved all the stuff from the old to the new store? I soon decided that couldn't be, for there were even MORE obese wonders in the new aisles.

I spotted a guy wearing a tag reading ' Asst. Mgr. of Questions Dept.', and asked him a question - ' Why did you build this new store?' He looked at

me as if I was from Mars, and said, " We had no choice. We had to build a larger store. The old one was so full of over weight, over broad people they were demolishing our display shelves, knocking stuff down, breaking things, it was costing us a fortune to do business."

I peered at the swarming hordes passing by and told him it appeared to me there were still lots of overly plump people milling around. He nodded his head sadly and agreed. " Yes, we're still inundated with excess tonnage. We made what may be a fatal mistake. We did far too much advertising about our new super store. If we had kept it secret, we'd probably be able to cope with our normal amount of fat, but now we're getting customers from Carlsbad, Andrews, all over the place. I'm afraid we're going to again suffer collateral damage woops, gotta run, that fat lady in Aisle 4B just knocked over the entire display of Miracle Whip!"

In the year 2000, 363,325 babies were born in Texas, a four percent increase from 1999, according to the Texas Department of Health. For the third straight year, the names Jose and Emily head the list of the ten most popular names for all Texas children born in 2000.

The five most popular names for baby boys are Jose, Jacob, Michael, Joshua and Christopher. For girl babies, the leaders are Emily, Ashley, Hannah, Madison and Alexis.

What does all this mean? To me it means those names are much more appealing than those of some of the kids I grew up with. I knew a boy named Asa, one named Horace Beauregard, a girl named Prunella, and another girl lovingly bestowed with the name Bessabelle.

**Don't Put It Off !
Early Voting For
Primary Elections
Is Taking Place
NOW !
February 25
Through March 8.**

Yoakum County Connection needs a Summer Youth Arts Program Director, to be paid \$2500 for planning/supervising workshops in Plains & Denver City. The workshops have been provided in the month of June in the past. The person chosen would need to apply for Texas Commission on the Arts grant funding and able to work with people, particularly youth. Please send resume to PO Box 117, Plains TX 79355 by March 22. For info or questions, call LeAnn Romines, Denver City, or Linda Powell, Plains

Heating bills putting the freeze on winter funds?

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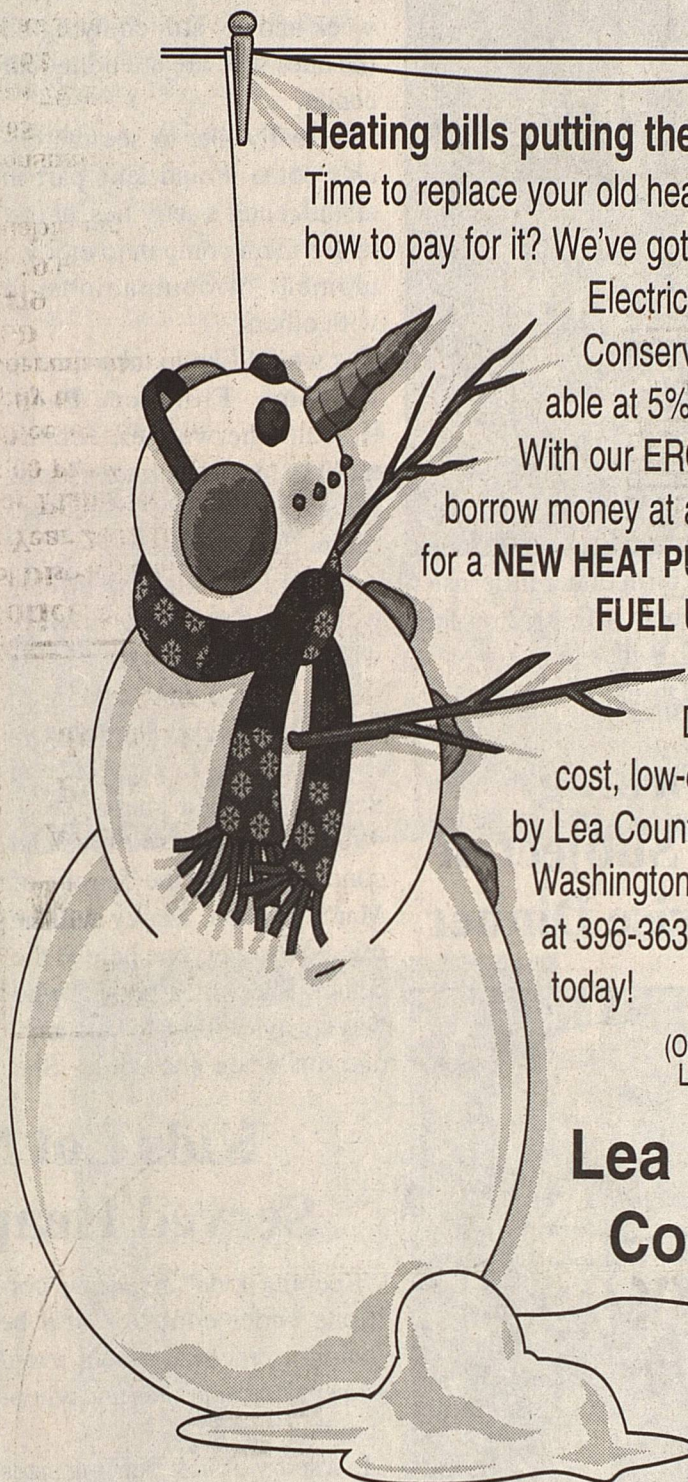
Don't settle for your old, high-cost, low-efficiency heating system! Stop by Lea County Electric at 18 W.

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* Legal Notice *

The Plains Independent School District, Plains, Texas, is accepting bids for the following: Year 2002 Improvements (Roof Repair) for Plains ISD.

All bids must be submitted by 3:00 PM local time, 7 March 2002 at the Superintendents office, or sealed bids may be mailed directly to:

James Haynes, Superintendent
Plains ISD
PO Box 479
Plains, Texas 79355

Plans and Specifications are available and may be acquired from:

Grimes and Associates, Consulting Engineers
PO Box 65
Wolfforth, Texas 79382
806-863-2462

A pre-bid conference will be held at 3:00 pm, local time, 28 February 2002. All interested parties should meet at the Superintendents Office, Plains, Texas. The Plains Independent School District Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and waive all formalities.

RN/LVN WANTED

Yoakum County Hospital has an immediate opening for a RN/LVN on the 3 - 11 and 11 - 7 shift. We offer competitive wages with experience increases, vacation and sick leave, free health insurance, and a retirement plan. Interested individuals should contact Nancy Chamberlain or Joyce Tedford, Yoakum County Hospital, 412 Mustang Avenue, Denver City, Texas, 79323, 806-592-2121. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

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