

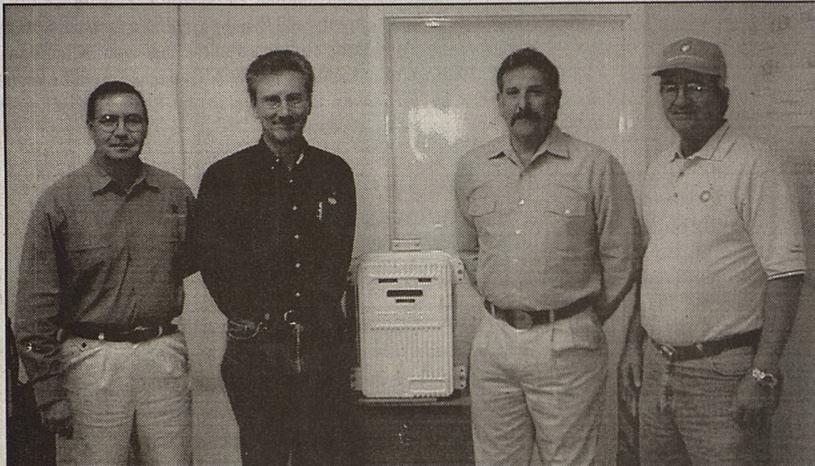
Cowboy Country News



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

Volume V1111, Issue9, October 30, 2002

BP America boosts city and school



City Administrator Ed Hansen, BP America's Bruce Johnson, Mayor Shane McKinzie, BP America's Alton McGinty at presentation of Flow Meter to the City.

The oil and gas firm, BP America, recently gave valued assistance to the City of Plains, and Plains ISD. The city received a state of the art 'Flow Meter' which automatically records natural gas coming into the city. The machine registers gas pressure, temperature and volume, and will replace an outdated device which records data on a round chart, and must be read and recorded on a daily basis. City Administrator Ed Hansen explained, "The new Flow Meter will give a more detailed look at our natural gas supply. We will be able to program a lap top computer in which we can download the Flow Meter, and then print out the information whenever we want to. BP America's generous gift of the device will be a very useful, and we greatly appreciate their generosity. They even have per-

sonnel on their staff who can install the software in the lap top for us."

BP America also gave a helping hand to the school district here. A large supply of 2-3/8" tubing was donated to the high school, and will be used in the ag shop by FFA students for a variety of projects. They also donated a speaker system to be installed in the Athletic Department's weight room.

BP America personnel who organized the donations include Bruce Johnson, Production Supervisor of Denver City operations, Mike Brock, Production Superintendent of Southeast New Mexico Operations, Vicki Wright, Surplus Material Manager, and field personnel Glen Hays and Alton McGinty.

Producers selling cotton must obtain endorsement from TDA

Abilene - Western High Plains producers who recently sold cotton and were given a check with the Texas Department of Agriculture named as a joint payee must obtain an endorsement from TDA before cashing or depositing the check. Endorsements may be obtained at the TDA and Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation locations listed below, ONLY these offices will process these checks. In general, assessments must be paid before an endorsement will be given, but if other parties are named on the check, producers should call one of the offices listed below to learn what procedures to follow.

Although both TDA and the Foundation will make every attempt to be as accessible as possible to producers, they are highly encouraged to call before going to any office. This will help ensure someone is available to assist them and their visit can be handled efficiently.

TDA staff will be available, Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 am to noon and at other times with an appointment.

TDA Locations:
Austin headquarters- 512-463-7593
Valley region- 956-787-8866
Corpus Christi- 361-851-2745
South Texas Region- 210-820-0288
North Texas- 214-631-0265
West Texas Lubbock- 806-799-8555
Weevil Foundation offices:
Abilene headquarters- 866-672-2800
Western High Plains, Plains- 806-456-4113
Western High Plains, Brownfield- 806-755-2617
Western High Plains, Seminole- 915-757-1261
Permian Basin, Lamesa- 806-872-0778
Southern High Plains Zone, Lubbock- 806-771-3121
Southern High Plains District- 806-771-4617

No CCN
November 20 -
It's Our
Vacation
Time !!

Criminal cases in County Court

Nine criminal cases were heard in County Court October 23, with Judge Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Clark representing the state.

Fernando Prieto Moreno pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .166/.151. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail with credit for 46 days served. Investigating officer was DPS Trooper Brad Taylor.

Daniel Lawrence Kennedy pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .108/.112. A 120 day jail sentence was suspended and probated. He will spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 10 hours served. He was fined \$600, must pay \$226 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. A charge of evading arrest was adjudicated. He must serve 24 hours community service and complete the DWI first offender program. Investigating officer was Sheriff Deputy Kenley Powell.

Leanna Corral pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior consumption of alcohol by a minor, 3rd enhanced. She will spend 30 days in jail with credit for 18 days served.

Cesar Quintana Lopez pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .170/.177. He will spend 30 days in

Turn to Page 2,
'Criminal Court'

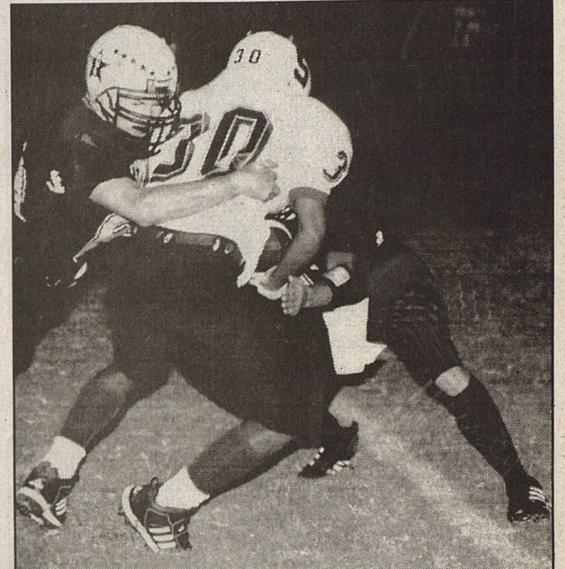
Roughnecks rough up Cowboys 42 - 7

The Cowboys once again experienced the bitter taste of defeat last Friday when the Sundown Roughnecks came to town.

The Cowboys took the opening kickoff, but could make no headway on the ground or through the air. Following a very short punt, the Roughnecks drove 42 yards in ten plays, to score their first TD. They led 7-0 midway of the first period.

The Cowboys received the kickoff at their 40. On third and nine to go, fullback Nick Hays found a gaping hole over left guard and out ran the defenders for six points, and Mario Bonilla's kick tied the game 7-7.

Late in the period, the Cowboys again showed some offensive life, and moved the ball to Sundown's 24, where a fourth down effort failed. The Roughnecks promptly completed a 73 yard pass play from Snead to



Grady McNabb, left, and unidentified Cowboy nail a Roughneck

Garza for a 73 yard score, and the kick put them back up 14-7 going into the second quarter. In their next possession, Hays again found running room over his left guard, gaining 25 yards,

but a fumble the next play stopped their drive.

In their next possession, another fumble set Sundown up

Turn to Page 4,
'Cowboys'

Anti-Drug Prevention Week features impressive program here



PISD students got an up close look at the National Guard high-tech helicopter, under the eye of Drug Dog Audie.

The local Llano Estacado Drug Task Force, with plenty of outside help, presented interesting and dramatic programs at both the Denver City and Plains schools last week, urging youngsters to face up to facts - illicit drugs can not only land you in jail, or prison, but can destroy lives and families.

Personnel from the local drug task force taking part in the multi programs included Rick Dickson, Lisa Switzer and Jan Parrish. They were joined by a crew of National Guard pilots manning one of the Guard's helicopters used in the war on drugs. The chopper is one of

several based in Austin, but working throughout the state. They are used in reconnaissance and interdiction operations. They have worked closely with Llano Estacado personnel six times on drug missions in this area.

They are often used in surveillance of anhydrous ammonia storage tanks. The chemical is one of the key ingredients used in manufacturing Methamphetamine, or "Speed". The ammonia is often stolen from farm storage tanks, and Llano Estacado personnel report thefts of the ammonia have been drastically

reduced since the helicopters started their missions.

Task Force chief Rick Dickson spoke to students about the dangers of drug use. Another dramatic testimony was delivered by a husband and wife team, the man currently in rehabilitation after some 25 years of drug abuse. They testified his drug addiction was so strong it had completely taken over his life.

One of the Llano Estacado team greeted students dressed as Drug Dog Audie, and was a big hit with the younger kids.

From Page 1,
'Criminal Court'
 jail with credit for 32 days served. Investigating officer was Sheriff Deputy Curtis Coffman.

Anastacio Castillo Hernandez pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .085/.091. He will spend 30 days in jail with credit for 27 days served. Investigating officer was Brad Taylor, DPS.

Marcedonio Gutierrez Avila pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .230/.226. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail with credit for 18 days served. Investigating officer was Brad Taylor, DPS.

Zachary Brent Mensch pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$350, must pay \$211 court costs, \$140 restitution and \$25 time payment fee. He must attend weekly Narcotics meetings, surrender his license 180 days, serve 24 hours

community service, and complete the drug offender program. Investigating officer was Chris Malloy, DPS.

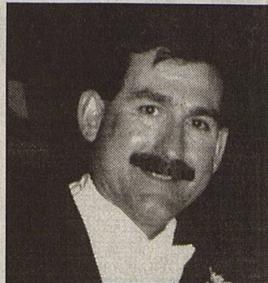
Ricardo Ramirez Ramirez pled guilty to assault causing injury to a family member. He will spend 30 days in jail with credit for 24 days served. Investigating officer was Deputy Inoe Valdez, and Warren New served as his attorney.

Brent Joe Sellers pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .136/.130. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay a \$500 fine, \$226 court costs, \$200 court appointed attorney fees and \$25 time payment fee. He must complete the DWI first offender program. Jail time and community service waived because of disability. Investigating officer was Deputy Kenley Powell, and his attorney was Jack Stoffregen.



Obituary

Services Held For Tim Vaughn



Funeral services for Tim Vaughn, 43, of Shallowater were held at 2:00 pm., Wednesday, October 23, 2002 at First United Methodist Church in Shallowater with Reverend Jay Stinson officiating and Reverend James Brinkley assisting. Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home. Mr. Vaughn passed away Sunday, October 20, 2002 at Childress Regional Medical Center in Childress. He was born April 14, 1959 at Lubbock and graduated from Shallowater High School. He

DWI case heard in District Court

In 121st District Court October 15, Judge William R. Shaver presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state, Jose Alfredo Aguirre pled guilty to a third or more DWI. A five year state prison sentence was suspended and probated 5 years. He must pay \$317 court costs, \$1500 fine, and \$25 time payment fee. An assault caus-

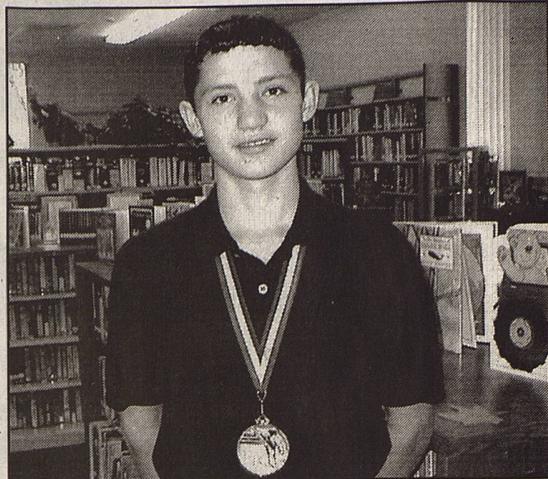
ing bodily injury to a family member was dismissed. He will spend 10.5 days in jail, attend weekly AA meetings, complete the DWI repeat offender course, and surrender his driver license 180 days. David Martinez was his attorney, and Sheriff Deputy Kenley Powell was investigating officer.

married Shari Dyer January 16, 1999 at Lubbock. He worked as a crane operator from Trumble Crane for over 13 years. He is a lifelong resident of Shallowater. He was an officer for the Lubbock trail riders, a member of the American Motorcycle Association, and a member of the Texas State Championship Enduro Circuit. He was also a member of the First United Methodist Church in Shallowater. His mother Patsy Vaughn preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife Shari Vaughn of Shallowater, 2 stepsons, Jordan Chambliss of Shallowater and Justin Chambliss of Plains, one sister, Julie McComas of Shallowater, one brother, Marshall Vaughn of Amarillo, his father Scott Vaughn of Shallowater.

Family suggests memorials be sent to the Jordan Chambliss scholarship fund, P.O. Box 1012, Lubbock, Texas 79408.

Local youth claims division title in International Tae Kwon Do meet

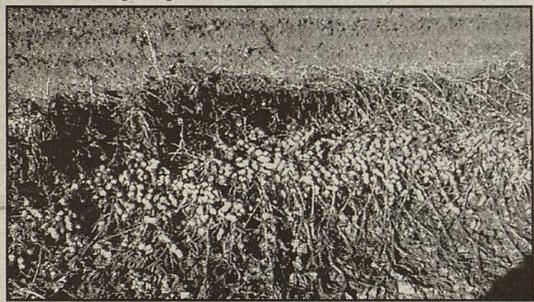


Chandon Loya won the first place gold medal in his age group of the 22nd annual International Tae Kwon Do meet recently in Fort Worth. He competed against 14 finalist contestants in the finals. Over 800 youths competed in the big event. Chandon, a home-school student and the son of Alfred and Sonya Loya, has been taking Tae Kwan Do classes at the Sang Kim school in Lubbock some three years.

Weather woes for county producers



The cotton shown above is obviously stringing out from recent rains, which also does not help the pricing grade. The peanuts shown below are typical of many dug irrigated circles yet to be harvested, and will deteriorate greatly if the rainy weather persists, predicted at the time we go to press.



Getting a share

More than 600 public, academic and state agency libraries belong to TexShare. Most are small public libraries serving less than 10,000 people.



| | Number of Libraries |
|---|---------------------|
| Public Libraries serving a population less than 10,000 | 245 |
| Public Libraries serving a population of 10,000 - 25,000 | 100 |
| Public Libraries serving a population of 25,000 - 50,000 | 56 |
| Public Libraries serving a population of 50,000 - 100,000 | 28 |
| Public Libraries serving a population of 100,000 - 200,000 | 17 |
| Public Libraries serving a population more than 200,000 | 14 |
| University Libraries with fewer than 2,000 employees | 28 |
| University Libraries with 2,000 - 10,000 employees | 46 |
| University Libraries with more than 10,000 employees | 11 |
| Community College Libraries with less than 2,000 employees | 16 |
| Community College Libraries with 2,000 - 10,000 employees | 29 |
| Community College Libraries with more than 10,000 employees | 7 |
| State Government Agency Libraries | 37 |
| Total Libraries | 634 |

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MEMBER 2002

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**PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF AUTOMATIC
TABULATING EQUIPMENT**

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment that will be used in the GENERAL
Election held on NOVEMBER 5, 2002
will be tested on NOVEMBER 1, 2002 at 1:00 P.M. at YOAKUM COUNTY
(date) (time) (location)
COURTHOUSE to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Deborah L. Rushing
Signature of Officer
DEBORAH L. RUSHING
YOAKUM COUNTY CLERK

**AVISO PUBLICO DE PROBAR
EL EQUIPO PARA TABULAR AUTOMATICAMENTE**

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para tabular automáticamente que se usará en la Elección GENERAL
se llevará a cabo el 5 de Noviembre de 2002
se probará el 1 de Noviembre de 2002 a las 1:00 P.M. en Condada de Yoakum
(fecha) (hora) (sitio)

Deborah L. Rushing
Firma del/la Oficial
Deborah L. Rushing
Yoakum County Clerk

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

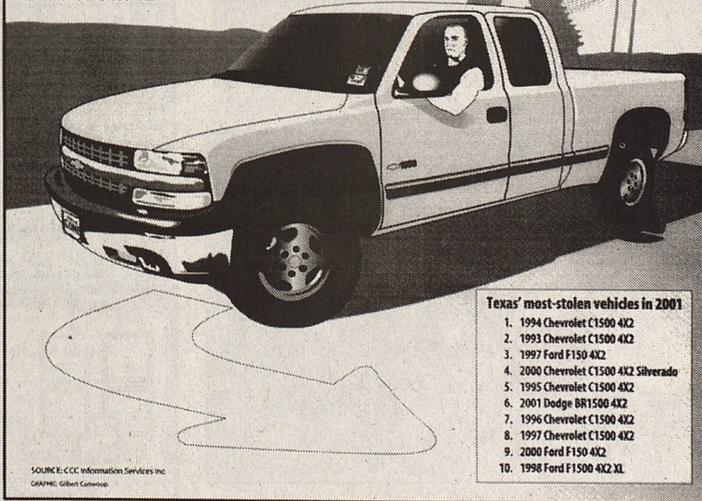
PLAINS STATE BANK IS ACCEPTING BIDS ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

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For information or to obtain a bid form, contact Plains State Bank at (806) 456-2022, 601 9th Street, Plains, Texas 79355. The deadline for receiving bids is 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 24, 2002. Bids will be opened Friday, October 25, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. Plains State Bank reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

You Might Try Locking It

Texas is for trucks, and car thieves know it. In 2001, the car stolen most often nationwide was the 1991 Toyota Camry, but in Texas all of the 10 most-stolen vehicles were trucks. Twenty of the 25 most-stolen vehicles in Texas in 2001 were pickups. The most popular target: the Chevrolet C1500 4X2.



- Texas' most-stolen vehicles in 2001**
1. 1994 Chevrolet C1500 4X2
 2. 1993 Chevrolet C1500 4X2
 3. 1997 Ford F150 4X2
 4. 2000 Chevrolet C1500 4X2 Silverado
 5. 1995 Chevrolet C1500 4X2
 6. 2001 Dodge BR1500 4X2
 7. 1996 Chevrolet C1500 4X2
 8. 1997 Chevrolet C1500 4X2
 9. 2000 Ford F150 4X2
 10. 1998 Ford F1500 4X2 XL

Charles

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**From Page 1,
'Cowboys'**

for another score and 21-7 lead. Late in the period, Kevin Bartley hit Justin Chambliss with a 17 yard pass, and runs by Bartley and Todd Williams produced another first, but the drive was stopped forcing a punt to Sundown's 10 yard line.

On the next play, Roughneck QB Snead turned the right corner for a 90 yard run, and at halftime they were up 28-7.

Early in the third quarter Sundown mounted a drive to the Cowboys eight yard line, but Mario Bonilla recovered a fumble there to put the Cowboy offense on the field again. Almost incredibly, the Cowboys fumbled the ball on the second play from scrimmage, and midway through the third period the Roughnecks increased their lead to 35-7.

In their first possession in the final period, the Roughnecks mounted a ground attack which produced their sixth TD and the

final 42-7 win.

With four minutes on the clock, runs by Richard Diaz and Bartley produced first downs, but the Cowboys finally had to give the ball up with only two minutes on the clock.

Computer stats show the Cowboy offense had 147 yards on the ground and 97 in the air. They lost four of four fumbles. Hays gained a total of 109 yards. Bartley completed 5 passes for 97 yards, Zach Broome and Armando Ramirez each had two receptions, Chambliss one. Leading tacklers included Nolan Newsom, Bartley, Isaac Ramon, Bonilla, Hays and Grady McNabb. Bonilla was credited with two QB sacks, Hays and McNabb shared one.

The Cowboys travel to Smyer this Friday - they're battered, bruised and down, and they need your support in the final two games of this long season.

PISD Sports capsule

Football:

Junior High- The Wranglers fell to district opponent Sundown 27-8. Coaches said despite the score, they were proud of the tough play of the defense, with Antonio Martinez and J.L. Vasquez the leading tacklers, and fumble recoveries by Scott Addison, Zachary Ramos and Joe Anthony Rivera. Cody Mayes scored the only Wrangler TD, following the blocking of JL Vasquez, and Mayes also ran the two point conversion. Because of work on the track here, the game against Smyer will be played there at 5 PM Thursday.

JV Cowboys- The young Cowboys were defeated by Sundown 24-0. Game report unavailable.

Volleyball:

7th Lady Wrangler report unavailable.

8th Lady Wranglers- The 8th girls season ended on a sour note last week, with the 'B' girls losing to Brownfield 10-15, 13-15, and the 'A' girls 8-15, 4-15. Coach Haragan said, "The girls learned skills that will help them in high school volleyball. They have lots of potential, and I have enjoyed working with them the last two years."

JV Cowgirls- The younger Cowgirls ended the season on a high note, downing Whiteface 15-2, 15-4. Kim Trent had 4 serves, 2 aces, Sarah Martinez 4 serves, 1 ace, Lashonda Diamond 5 serves, 1 ace. Coach Thaggard reported, "They executed sound fundamentals, tremendous hustle and great teamwork. I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching these young ladies this season - they did a great job!"

Varsity Cowgirls- The Cowgirls took District 4-1A honors by defeating Whiteface 15-2, 15-3. Coach Lusk said, "They played a very smart TEAM match, taking advantage of given opportunities. The girls and I would like to thank Coach Bartley for doing a great job announcing; Ashley Vantine for beautifully singing the National Anthem; Junior Lira for calling lines; The Ruff Ryderz, student body, community and staff for their spectacular support!"

Cross Country:

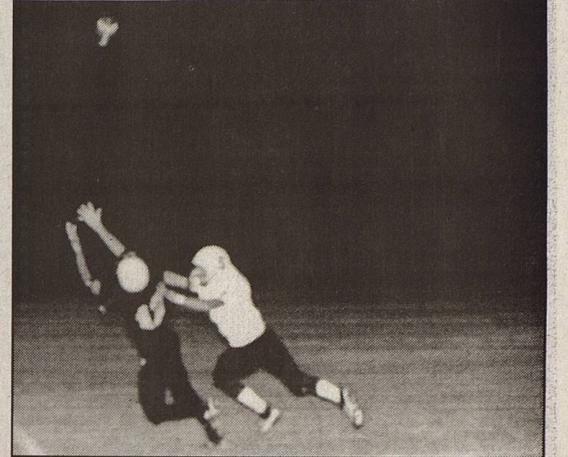
The Varsity runners claimed district 4-1A honors by winning the 12 team district meet, including state sixth ranked Hart. Captain Armando Ramirez led the Cowboys with a 4th place finish, followed by Jose Ramirez 6th, Payton Bean 10th, followed by Chisum Justus, Jonathan DeLaRosa, Adam Guerrero and Arnold Cordova. They won the meet by one point!. In the JV meet, Abel Ramos claimed 1st place, Brandon Davis 3rd, Daniel Estrada 11th. The only Cowgirl runner, Ashley Vantine, finished 4th. The Jr. High Wrangler girls results included Desiraye Broome the lead runner, followed by Lauren Davis, M'leah McKinzie, Meghan Garcia and Nicole Culwell. Jr. High boys results included Zachary Ramos 6th, followed by Rudy Gonzales, Steven Dominguez, and Kurt Alldredge. The Cowboy runners compete in regional competition Saturday, November 2.

**Go Cowgirls,
Cowboys !**

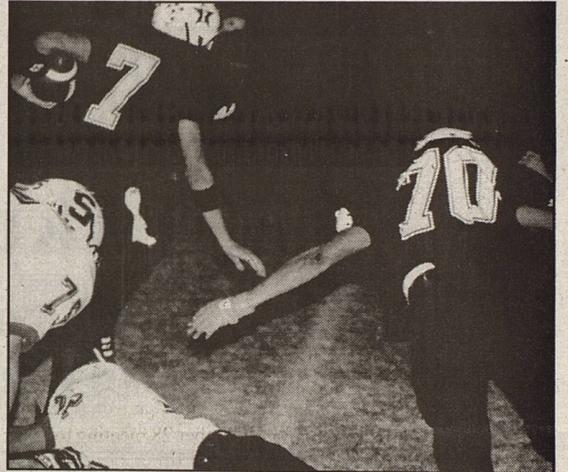
With scary ghouls and goblins on the way, the Texas Dept. of Public Safety is reminding Texans to be safe and responsible this Halloween. "Halloween is a fun time for children and adults, but often people act or drive carelessly, or are not aware of their surroundings," said Col. Thomas Davis, DPS Director. On Halloween 2000, there were 546 injuries and 11 fatalities in Texas. Motorists are urged to drive slowly in neighborhoods, and to be on the lookout for trick-or-treaters. Some safety tips ; wear light colored costumes, preferably with reflective material-avoid masks, use face paint instead-travel in groups, with adult supervision- avoid homes without visible porch lights- Take all treats home for adults to inspect before eating.



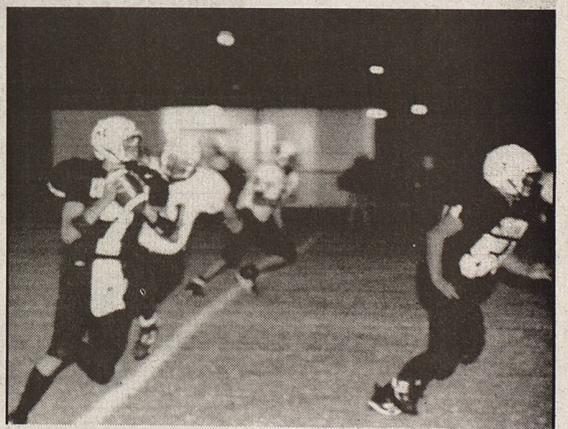
Nick Hays speeds downfield with Cowboys only touchdown



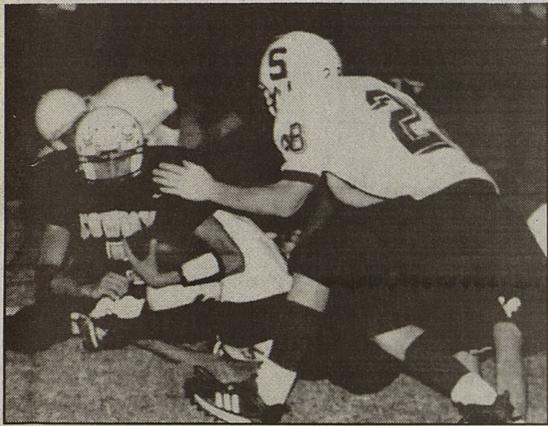
Zach Broome made good effort on high pass



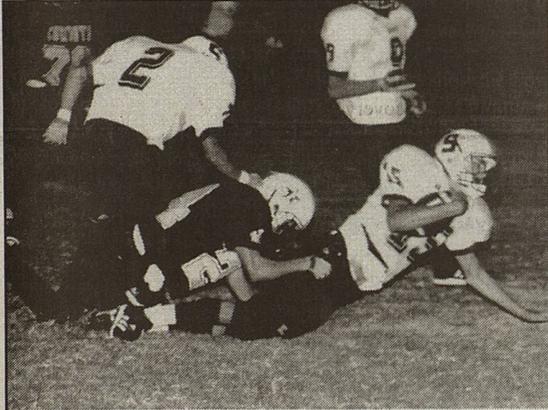
Bartley, 7, runs, Mario Bonilla, 70, blocks



Angel Ruiz, right, blocks for Bartley's pass attempt



Kevin Bartley brought down by rough Roughnecks



Chase Howell stops Sundown runner



Two lines collide

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INTRODUCING...
Trick or Trunk!!
Thursday
October 31st
6-8 p.m.
Plains ISD Parking Lot
Come join the halloween fun
and pick up lots of yummy treats.
Hayrides 50 cents
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Plains Student Council
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Plains Cowboy Band Receive 20th Division One Rating



The Plains Cowboy Band competed at the UIL Region 16 Marching Contest on October 19th in Plainview. The band did an outstanding job, receiving the 20th Division One Rating. This year's show is titled: Myths of War, music from Carmina Burana, Excalibur, The Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, and Mars: the Bringer of War. Ray Portillo is in his fifth year of teaching at Plains ISD and says the students here continue to strive for the highest. "The students and parents this year are awesome! They want the very best and it is very evident in their practice and work ethics. Thank you band Students and Band Parents for a great season!"

This year's seniors shown here from Left to Right: Kim Martinez, Mandi Rogers, Krystal Gonzales, Kayla Willis, Isamari Guzman, Liz Wilmeth, Elizabeth Rodriguez & Jordan Bean at back. They opened the trophy together.

TSA MO GA Meets

Sally Burrus Doherty presented TSA MO GA members with an enlightening program on childbirth education October 14.

Doherty, who holds a bachelor of science degree, offers services as a 'doula', a professional labor assistant to help expectant mothers with childbirth education, parenting classes, and breast-feeding support. She works independently and through UMC in Lubbock. Her job includes meeting couples at the hospital at delivery time and providing any assistance they need from the onset of labor until the new mother is situated in a hospital room following birth.

A former teacher, Doherty received training in Dallas during the summer to begin this new career. The term 'doula' in

Greek means 'to assist' or 'servant'. Doherty is the daughter of Sarah Kay and Tommy Burrus and the granddaughter of Sarah Jane Shelton.

Members also recognized October as Breast Cancer Awareness month.

The club will sponsor a trunk of candy for the Plains Student Council 'Trick or Trunk', an alternative to trick or treating this year. Members are asked to bring a sack of candy to the October 28 meeting to assist in this project. The 'Trick or Trunk' will be held October 31 in the gym parking lot at the high school.

Members are also reminded to turn in their Innisbrook wrapping paper orders at the October 28 meeting which will feature Yoakum County Extension Agent Debra Pollard.

New Books At The Library

FICTION:
Up In A Heaval...Piers Anthony, **Tricky Business...**Dave Barry, **The Solace Of Leaving Early...**Haven Kimmel, **No One To Trust...**Iris Johansen, **The Murder Book...**Jonathan Kellerman, **I'll Take You There...**Joyce Carol Oates, **Death Of A Stranger...**Anne Perry, **The Crush...**Sandra Brown, **Blood Orchid...**Stuart Woods, **Chasing The Dime...**Michael Connelly, **The Janson Directive...**Robert Ludlum, **The Last Girls...**Lee Smith, **O Is For Quarry...**Sue Grafton.
NON FICTION:
Get Wise! Mastering Math Skills...David Frieder, **Get Wise! Mastering Grammar Skills...**Mandie Rosenberg, **Flowers White House Style...**Dottie Temple.

Senior Citizens Corner

Next to Christmas, Halloween is the most commercialized celebration in the United States. This ancient festival originated far from North America and centuries before the first European set foot on this continent. Today, however, we celebrate it as a time to recognize and appreciate our children. So once again have your treats ready when the doorbell rings and excited children, bearing all kinds of faces and costumes, happily chant "Trick or Treat".

Thelma Smith has spent this past week entertaining her brothers, one of whom is from the state of Washington and the other is from Oklahoma City. She says they visited their mother, who resides in Lubbock, one day.

Rita Peeler is out of town for awhile as she supports her grandchild in sports activities in a locale outside of Denver City.

Have you considered a crocheted gift for someone for Christmas? Lenore Matus quietly attends to preparing a crocheted bedspread as she waits for lunch to be served. Stop by and hear her incredible story of the beautiful bedspreads and Afghans she has turned out for family and friends.

A ceramic gift is also a welcome surprise for the holidays. Visit the ceramic room and see the different gift items you can make family and friends. Maggie Powell, Melba Gale, or Wanda Black will be glad to assist you in choosing items of green ware, color of paint and answer any question you may

have regarding this enjoyable and useful hobby.

Well, Slim and Vanette Cochran did it again! Slim reports catching forty delectable catfish during their two week east Texas holiday, but apparently none of them survived the fishermen's hearty appetites to be shared with local friends.

The Fergusons and Mooses headed out in good motor home style for a two week vacation. We will be expecting some good stories when they return. Marsene Beattie sent the week end in Lubbock visiting her son there.

Gladys Sides and Mickey Hayes were chosen to serve on the Site Council during the next year. We all appreciate those who volunteer to work in this capacity.

We miss Hazel Akin at table three. She reports that she is undergoing a battery of x-rays and stress tests in Lubbock and is awaiting news of the results. This kind of treatment necessitates several trips to Lubbock but Hazel emerges with her usual positive spirit.

VOTING TIME: Don't overlook your responsibility to go and vote. Early voting makes this a convenient opportunity to voice your personal choices.

Opal Jefferson is manning the registration desk this week. It's nice to walk in and see her smiling face.

Carmen Wilson, who used to be our dining room hostess, has fallen and broken her hip. She has been transferred from the local hospital to Lubbock to continue her recovery.

Student's of the Week



Student of the week is Breck Hamm, a sophomore and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ace Hamm.

He was nominated by Mrs. Thaggard, who said, "He exemplifies all the traits of a strong character and is a great student in the classroom. He works very hard in football and is a good citizen of the community."



Student of the week is Kim Martinez, a senior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Martinez.

Kim was nominated by Mrs. Jones, who said, "To try, work hard, and never give up, would be a motto of this week's student of the week. She is such a willing individual and has the prettiest smile and personality. I have thoroughly enjoyed having her in class and as a student council officer."

Have a Happy & Safe Halloween

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NOTICE!
We Will Not Publish The November 20 Issue Of CCN. We Are Taking A Week Off. We Publish Again November 27

Plains Chamber of Commerce Welcomes New Members
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Tuesday - November 5th, 2002

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Defending Defense In Texas

The American military is facing a new round of base closures, and Texas military installations are preparing to prove their worth. Originally scheduled for 2003, the next federal Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) will occur in 2005.

To prepare for the possibility of Texas military installations being included in the next BRAC, Texas Gov. Rick Perry appointed eight people in March 2002 to fill expiring terms on the nine person Texas Strategic Military Planning Commission (TSMPC). The term of the ninth member carried over from the previous TSMPC. The Legislature created TSMPC in 1995 to assess the needs of Texas' military installations and learn how the state can help bases and the communities they support, ensure their long term future.

"With military bases playing such a big economic role in so many of our Texas cities, we need to be ready for the next round of base closures," Perry says. He adds that the bases' current missions as well as their ability to take on new challenges will help determine whether they are affected by the 2005 BRAC.

According to a U.S. House of Representatives report, 45 military installations nationwide have been shut down since the first round of BRAC in 1988. Following the end of the Cold War, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) sought to streamline the military by

eliminating excess materials and installations and maintaining a smaller, more modern fighting force.

Three more BRAC rounds followed in 1991, 1993 and 1995, with the fifth originally scheduled for 2003. In December 2001, however, the House and Senate decided to delay the next BRAC until 2005. George O'Kelley, director of the Office of Defense Affairs for Texas Economic Development (TxED), says the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, played a role in that decision.

"The BRAC was scheduled for 2003 until September 11 happened, and then it was moved back to 2005. The rationale (was that) we don't want to jump up and close something right away that we may need in the war on terrorism," says O'Kelley.

Texas is home of 17 installations and more than 225,000 military personnel, including members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard and the Reserve. It is a \$49 billion industry for the state that State Sen. Troy Fraser says cannot be taken for granted.

"The military as a business may be the most important business we have in Texas," Fraser says.

"Our goal is to identify ways to make Texas bases better before they are compared to lots of other bases in other states," says Ehrie. "We need to reinforce our position, and we need to do this now. The 2003 Leg-

islature is going to be very important. This preparation needs to start then. 2005 is going to be too late."

According to DOD, Texas lost almost 7,000 military jobs in the first four rounds of BRAC, and almost 27,000 military and civilian jobs combined, a light impact compared with California's loss of more than 93,000 jobs, but the TSMPC wants to prevent further losses. "We've lost some good facilities," Ehrie says, "like Reese AFB in Lubbock and Carswell AFB in Fort Worth. We should have been more progressive, more proactive in keeping our bases."

President Bush will appoint a nine member BRAC Commission in March 2005 that will present its list of recommendations by September 8, 2005. TSMPC expects the president to approve or disapprove the list by September 23, 2005. If the president approves the list and he can only approve or reject the entire list, the U.S. Congress must then also approve or reject the list.

Texas has a strong military tradition. Texas is home to historic military installations such as Fort Bliss (El Paso), Fort Sam Houston (San Antonio) and Fort Hood (Killeen); the latter is the largest U.S. military installation in terms of development, with more than 40,000 soldiers.

Notice For Bids

The State Of Texas County Of Yoakum

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10 AM Friday, November 15, 2002, for the purchase of (2) New 'Police Package' vehicles with or without trade in of (1) 1999 Crown Victoria and (1) 2000 Chevrolet Impala.

Bids will be received with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, November 18, 2002. Bid price will be paid from 2003 budgeted funds.

To inspect the trade-ins, please contact Sheriff Don Corzine, PO Box 189, Plains, Texas 79355 or call 806/456-2377.

For bid forms and specifications, please contact the Yoakum County Auditor, PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355 (806/456-2422) or Sheriff Don Corzine, PO Box 189, Plains, Texas 79355 (806/456-2377.)

Sealed bids should be marked "NEW VEHICLES-SHERIFF" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains, Texas 79355. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

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

Notice For Bids

The State Of Texas County Of Yoakum

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10 AM, Friday, November 15, 2002 for the purchase of new carpet for the Yoakum County Hospital.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court Monday, November 18, 2002. Bid price will be paid from 2002 budgeted funds.

For bid forms and specifications, please contact the Yoakum County Auditor, PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355 (806/456-2422) or Clay Taylor, Yoakum County Hospital Administrator, 614 W 4th St., Denver City, Texas 79323 (806/592-3917).

Sealed bids should be marked 'CARPET-HOSPITAL' on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/Cowboy Way and Ave. G, Plains, Texas 79355. No Fax Copies Will Be Accepted.

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

CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Every vote counts, in 1649, a margin of one vote cost King Charles I of England his head. In 1800, one vote made Thomas Jefferson our third president. In 1845, one vote annexed the Republic of Texas to the United States. And in 1941, the Selective Service Act, otherwise known as The Draft, was passed by a margin of one vote just weeks prior to the attack at Pearl Harbor.

History is rife with examples of the importance of a single vote, and the Presidential election of 2000 reminded us once more the importance of a functioning, democratic election system.

Voting is a right and privilege of all citizens in a free society, and Americans expect that their votes will be counted fairly, accurately and in a timely fashion. Congress recently made important strides toward that end by passing much needed election reform legislation.

Our election procedures are woefully behind in keeping pace with modern day technology. The bill Congress passed will help modernize our election system by providing nearly \$4 billion in funding over the next three years to help states replace and renovate outdated voting equipment, reduce voter fraud, train poll workers and upgrade voter lists.

The bill ensured greater accessibility for voters, while reducing opportunities for voter fraud. New voters who choose to register by mail must now provide proof of identity at some point in the process. And voters will be required to include either their driver's license number or the last four digits of their Social Security number on their voter registration form. The bill permits voters to review their selections and make corrections before casting a final ballot. It also provides funding to help ensure the voting system is fully accessible to those with disabilities. And voters who get to the polls and find out their names do not appear on a registration list, will now be permitted to cast provisional ballots. However, in order to guard against voter fraud, no provisional ballot will be counted until it is

properly verified as a legal vote under state law.

American citizens living overseas, and especially members of our Armed Forces stationed abroad, must be certain their votes will be counted. Military members and their families should have utmost confidence that while they put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms, their ability to participate in our democratic system is not compromised. This legislation will further solidify that confidence.

The bill requires states and the Secretary of Defense to implement a series of voting improvements for military and overseas voters. For instance, the Defense Department will ensure that a postmark or other official proof of the mailing date is provided on each absentee ballot collected at an overseas location or vessel at sea under its jurisdiction. This creates a standard by which all state can receive and tally the ballots of our men and women in uniform.

Another provision is the establishment of the Election Assistance Commission. The Commission will serve as a central clearinghouse for new technologies, procedures and policies regarding the administration of Federal elections. In addition, the Commission will conduct studies dealing with key election issues such as ballot designs for federal elections.

One element this bill does not legislate is a uniform poll closing time. News organizations have projected winners often before polls have closed, possibly affecting potential votes. Closing the polls at a uniform time would help avoid the kind of preliminary projections that can sometimes depress turnout and inappropriately sway voters. The new Commission will conduct studies to address some of those concerns.

When Americans go to the polls, we cast our ballots with the knowledge we live in the greatest democracy on Earth. Passing an election reform bill was an important step toward strengthening our national election system and ensuring it is worthy of the democracy it helps to shape.



Anti-Drug Red Ribbon Rally Day around the state



More than 1,000 5th and 6th graders from Across Texas converged on the state capitol for a Red Ribbon Rally, sponsored by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, to celebrate their decision to live drug-

free lives. Clad in special T-shirts with red ribbons, students waved American flags and carried an anti-drug banner as they marched from Congress Avenue to the south steps of the capitol.

Supreme Court Races Critical to Future of Civil Justice System

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

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



Tom Phillips



Michael Schneider



Dale Wainwright



Wallace Jefferson



Margaret Mirabal

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

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

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

Political Advertisement Paid For By Paul New

Taking The Taks

Since 1993, the state of Texas has used the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) to measure student performance and hold schools and school districts accountable for the quality of education they provide. The TAAS is riding off into the sunset in 2002, however, and the state will unveil a new test in 2003: the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).

The TAAS was critical not only for students, who had to pass an exit level test administered in grade 10 to graduate, but also for school districts. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) rated schools and districts based on their students' overall scores on the TAAS, as well as the scores of various ethnic groups and economically disadvantaged students.

Districts were rated in one of four categories: Exemplary, Recognized, Academically Acceptable and Academically Unacceptable. Schools received, Acceptable and Low Performing.

TEA released its 2002 ratings on August 1. One hundred forty three districts received the highest rating of "Exemplary," down from 178 in 2001. On the other hand, 1,908 campuses received the Exemplary rating in 2002, up from 1,571 in 2001.

TEA rewarded and penalized schools and districts based on their TAAS performance, and the same will be true of TAKS. Exemplary performance on TAAS earned additional funding from TEA. In 2002, TEA awarded about \$500,000 to various districts for gains in student performance.

"The monetary rewards weren't the main drivers," says Don Long, operations coordinator for TEA's Division of Student Assessment. "The goal was to be rated as Recognized or Exemplary. The ratings themselves have value to the schools, which can show if they

are making progress."

In 2002, TEA used the TAAS and annual dropout rates to establish its ratings. In 2003 and beyond, the agency will base its ratings on TAKS scores, high school completion and other state and federal requirements. Since the first statewide TAKS will not take place until February, April and May 2003, TEA will not evaluate performance for 2003 until December, after the commissioner of Education announces the final performance indicators and accountability standards for 2004 and beyond.

After the commissioner announces the new standards, TEA will use them to evaluate district performance. Initially, TEA will award districts the equivalent of a pass/fail grade, based on whether or not they meet the new standards. TEA will not use the Exemplary, Recognized, Academically Acceptable and Academically Unacceptable ratings for 2003. Campuses will not be rated individually until 2004, though they will be told if they meet 2004 standards.

Teachers agree that TAKS is more comprehensive test, says Jay Levin, spokesperson for the Texas State Teachers Association.

"You have a greater potential for assessing higher level learning skills with TAKS, particularly at the high school level," Levin says.

"However, because it is more

comprehensive, it also has the potential of at least increasing the dropout rate.

"We think the score required for passing the test should be placed initially so that you don't have a sudden 10 or 20 percent surge of kids dropping out because they can't get past the exit level test."

"We have an ongoing concern, and this goes back to the birth of TAAS, that a single standardized test shouldn't be the sole determination for whether a student advances a grade," Levin says.

The 1999 Legislature ordered TEA to create TAKS to more accurately gauge knowledge of the state's new TEKS curriculum. In November 1999, TEA began creating the new assessment program. According to TEA, nearly 7,000 teachers served on one or more of the committees responsible for developing the new assessments.

By spring 2003, students will be taking the TAKS in grades three to 11. Different subjects will be tested at different grade levels. If students do not pass the final test, they will not graduate. The exit level test will include Algebra I and Geometry, which were not on the TASS exit level test. Levin says this is a particular concern because a lot of students are taught math and science by teachers who are not certified to teach those subjects.

The ratings game

Accountability ratings for Texas school districts and campuses varied from 2001 to 2002, but the changes coming in 2003 and 2004 will likely have much more far-reaching effects.

| Districts | 2000-01 ratings | 2001-02 ratings |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Exemplary | 178 | 143 |
| Recognized | 471 | 425 |
| Academically Acceptable | 390 | 454 |
| Academically Unacceptable | 1 | 17 |
| Suspended for Data Inquiry | 0 | 1 |
| Campuses (including charter schools) | | |
| Exemplary | 1,571 | 1,908 |
| Recognized | 2,327 | 2,400 |
| Academically Acceptable | 2,469 | 2,070 |
| Academically Unacceptable | 100 | 162 |
| Suspended for Data Inquiry | N/A | 1 |

SOURCE: Texas Education Agency.



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New wind power projects impact state's economy

Texas is emerging as a surprising world leader in wind power. Fewer than six years after the state's first commercial utility-scale power plant was installed north of Van Horn, wind power is bringing about a general economic boom for rural Texas, delivering royalty income to landowners, substantial tax revenue for schools, and creating quality long term jobs.

Construction of a Texas wind farm requires intensive effort of up to 300 workers during a six to twelve month period. Combined with Texas based manufacturing and services, the Texas wind industry employed more than 2,500 workers in 2001. After construction, wind plants retain employees to manage and operate the site for the life of the wind farm.

Wind power plants typically lease land and pay the landowners a share of their revenue. Annual royalty payments are usually about 2.5% of gross income, or roughly \$2,000 per wind turbine. During the next 25 years, the current crop of Texas wind farms is projected

to make royalty payments in excess of \$60 million to Texas landowners.

Capital-intensive wind power plants pay substantial property taxes. Even in the early years, the Texas wind industry is providing millions annually to support public education in communities across the state, as this sample of estimated payments to local school districts in several counties reflect:

* Pecos County- (Iraan-Sheffield ISD, Buena Vista ISD)- \$ 4,809,000.

* Upton County- (McCamey ISD)- \$2,750,000.

* Taylor County- (Trent ISD)- \$1,131,000.

* Carson County- (White Deer ISD)- \$856,000.

The current crop of wind projects already in Texas are projected to pay more than \$200 million over their lifetime to support various county services, hospitals, fire departments, water districts, and community colleges as well as the local school districts.

The assessed value of currently operating wind power farms in the state is some \$ 780 million. Electric power generated at Texas wind farms amounts to over 1,100 Megawatts - one megawatt equals a million watts, or a thousand kilowatts.

Largest Wind Power Projects in the U.S.

| Rank | Name | Location | Size (MW) |
|------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 1 | King Mountain | McCamey, TEXAS | 278.2 |
| 2 | StateLine | Washington/Oregon | 262.0 |
| 3 | U.S. Windpower | California | 161.0 |
| 4 | Desert Sky | McCamey, TEXAS | 160.5 |
| 5 | Green Ridge Power | California | 159.9 |
| 6 | Woodward Mountain | McCamey, TEXAS | 159.7 |
| 7 | Trent Mesa | Sweetwater, TEXAS | 150.0 |

Sources: Virtus Energy, AWEA

Attention all residents of the City of Plains:
The Fire Protection Key Rate for the City of Plains will improve from a 9.9 to a 7 rate effective November 1, 2002. This lower rate should result in lower premiums on Home Owner Insurance Policies. All city residents with this type policy should notify their insurance agents of this improvement. Citizens with questions may call City Hall, 456-2288

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From The Hack

I have been amazed, perhaps astounded, as has the Bride, at the response we have received, face-to-face, in phone calls and e-mail, expressing care and sympathy following the death of our daughter Shari Vaughn's husband Tim.

The Lubbock A-J carried the obit, and news of the tragedy and services were naturally unavailable to us before last week's issue of CCN.

This small town we call home has what I consider an amazing 'news-net'. Following the A-J obituary, and after we had informed a very few friends of the event, it seemed everywhere I went, people would express their shock and sympathy for Shari, Jordan, and the entire family. As I write this, Thursday evening after Tim's services and burial yesterday, the phone calls and verbal expressions of sympathy continue.

Quite naturally, we continue receiving questions about why a healthy, robust man of 43 died. Here is what we know.

Tim and Jordan were both heavily into the sport of dirt bike motorcycles, running in "Enduro Racing", a lengthy event held on open land by many association riders of various age groups. Tim pulled off the course at a 'pit stop' area for a drink of water, and appeared in great shape. Minutes later, other racers came upon Tim and his bike, and he was unconscious. EMS was called, they responded, but Tim was gone by time they reached a hospital in Childress.

As you have probably read, Tim was only 43. This fact was so hard for all of us, family and friends, attending his Wednesday PM services. It dawned on Holly and I while we were at the long Wednesday ordeal, we both have flesh and blood kids older than Tim, our son-in-law That's a pretty sobering thought. We were all impressed by Jordan's older brother, Justin Chambliss, a PHS Senior, who played an important and impressive support role for Jordan and his Mom.

Holly and I, all our family, Tim's family and friends, sincerely appreciate all your kind thoughts and deeds.

As Halloween approaches, I think of all the kid activities planned here, most of them an effort to keep them out of serious trouble. When I was a youngster, kids were not so pampered, best I recall.

I happened to spend a Halloween holiday in Eden at my grandparents. I ran with a bunch in my 9-10 year old age group. A day or so before the Spook event, several of us decided on a plan of 'Fright' action. We lived near a widow, pretty ancient, who had the reputation as the meanest spirited crone in town. Rumors abounded about her... she'd been kicked out of church for punching the choir director for his orchestration of Amazing Grace.... she despised the Red Cross.... rattle snakes were scared of her, for she might bite them.

One of our co-conspirators, noted for his exact planning abilities (he would later attend A&M and flunk out his fresh-

man year), drew up this plan: We would sneak up to her bedroom window, he would start moaning in agony as loud as one can moan, Moon Avery would shriek as loud as he could, Spoonhead Mullins would make a violent strangling, gagging noise, and I would scream Help Me, Help Me. I drew this role for I was an excellent screamer.

We sneaked up to her lighted window, and the action began. The moan... the shriek... and then all Hell broke loose. We clearly heard her gravelly voice thunder through the closed window, "You little (expletives) had better clear out or this 12 gauge shotgun's gonna clear you out!!!!"

Have you ever seen a covey of quail blast off under your feet at the speed of light? That's exactly what we perpetrators looked like. I was never noted as a speedster, but I'm sure that night I ran faster than Jesse Owens or Bullet Bob Hayes ever dreamed of.

I raced across town to my grandparents, put on my most innocent face when they asked how the night had been and quietly intoned, "It was OK, I just got tired of bobbing for apples and came home early. I'm going to bed early."

* The prospective father-in-law asked, "Young man, can you support a family?" The surprised groom to be replied, "Well, no. I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will just have to take care of yourselves."

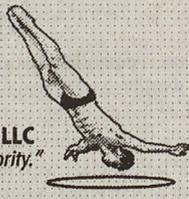
* The 8 year old asked his grandad how old he was. Granddad said, "39 and holding." The boy asked, "How old would you be if you let go?"

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In an effort to accommodate our customers during the harvest season, B.E. Implement Partners, LTD., Brownfield, is providing a **PARTS DROP** for your convenience. New Tex Gin has been designated as one parts drop site Monday through Saturday during the harvest season. Another parts drop site will be on the west side of Eddins-Walcher in Plains. Following the harvest season, drops will be made Monday through Friday only. B.E. Implement offers an extended inventory of parts from John Deere, KMC, Amadas and Hesston for your needs. To place orders and for information regarding the drop sites, call our Parts Department, 806-637-3594 before 5 PM daily. B.E. Implement is pleased to do all it can to make this harvest season as smooth and effortless as possible!