# Cowboy Country



# **Appeals Court affirms** guilty verdict in 121st **District Court case**

On February 24, 1999 in a jury trial before Judge Kelly G. Moore in District Court here, Miguel Soto was found guilty of tampering or fabricating Melendez, on night duty in with physical evidence.

The jury found Soto guilty as charged, and the defendant requested the court to assess punishment. Judge Moore sentenced Soto to twenty years in state prison.

counsel to appeal the convic- had no ID. tion and sentence. Recently Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark, who represented can, and testified Aragonez ( the state in Soto's trail, re- Soto) smelled strongly of althe Seventh District Court of "a few shots of tequila." Soto Appeals in Amarillo which af- was arrested for DWI and two firmed the conviction of Soto, traffic offenses, and the passenwho was also known by 17 ger was arrested for public in-

The Appeals Court document reviewed the entire court transcript, and detailed their affirming decision with some of the following details;

Sheriff Deputy James Denver City, observed a Ford Bronco speeding. He activated his overhead lights and video camera, and stopped the Bronco on a dead end road. The defendant, when asked for identification, told Melendez Later, Soto requested his he was Isidro Aragonez, but

> Melendez observed a passenger in the car discard a beer

Turn To Page 2, 'Guilty'

## **Assault with** deadly weapon case

In District Court April 11, Juan Jose Perez-Andrade pled guilty to aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Judge Kelly G. Moore ordered adjuducation of guilt deferred, five years community supervision, a \$1000 fine and \$20 court costs, and appointed attorney fees of \$250, and 240 hours of community service. Bill Helwing was his attorney, and the Border Patrol placed on hold on the defendant.

A 10 year prison sentence against Lorenzo Carrillo for attempted murder was ordered suspended.. The defendant successfully completed the Texas Boot Camp program.

He will serve 10 years under community supervision, was ceived a lengthy report from cohol. Soto admitted he'd had fined \$1000, must pay \$141 court costs, attorney fees totaling \$500, and \$43,016 restitution. His attorney was Warren

> Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state in both cases.

# City visited by unusual traveler



J.P. McMullen is not your ordinary vacation the interview. He said whenever he enters a new traveler. He's biking across the nation, from the Pacific Ocean beach to (hopefully) the Atlantic Ocean Beach at Bar Harbor, Maine.

The personable bicyclist calls Devon Pennsylvania home, but he spends many months a year in an environment few if any Yoakum Countyites are even vaguely familiar with.

Since 1992, he has lived and worked on the ice slopes of Anartica, northern Greenland or off Barrow, Alaska. He is employed by a private contractor supplying services to the National Science Foundation, or oil exploration and development companies.

Asked what prompted him to pedal his "Hard Rock " mountain bike across the country, he said, "For thirty of the last thirty six months I worked on ice, in some pretty drastic conditions. When my rotation, or vacation time came around, I just decided to do it. It's something I've thought of for many years."

He was spotted here in the Post Office by Claude Addison and Kenneth McGinty. A phone call from McGinty to CCN resulted in state on his journey he stops in the first town and writes family members, including some young nieces and nephews waiting for the chronicles detailing his trip.

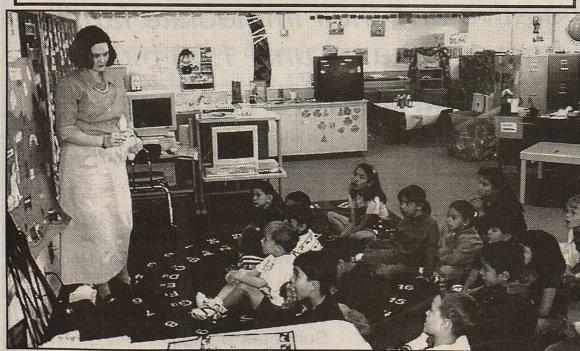
He pedaled away from the Pacific on March 18, and hopes to arrive in Maine mid-July. After spending time with a sister and her family there, he will return to Pennsylvania to visit his parents, and then make preparations for another tour of duty on the South Pole at the NCS Research Station there.

McMullen has no pre-planned schedule. " just get on my bike and take off. Usually fairly early afternoons I will start looking for possible campsites." He said a number of people along the highways had invited him to sleep over on their property. He carries all his camping, cooking gear, water and food on the bike. Every few days he will seek a place to wash his clothes and "Really cleanup."

Asked if he was a dedicated cyclist belonging to a club, he said, "No, when I bought this bike, I had to learn all over to ride!"

# It's never too early to teach character development in kids

**Extension Service program reaching** kindergarteners here



Jo Beth Cromer and Character Counts! Kindergarten students

Plains Elementary Kindergar- With colorful artwork de-Extension Service.

Twice on Thursday mornings "Character Counts!" sessions Beth Cromer. The cornerstones of the innovative program are the 'Six Pillars Of Character', trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

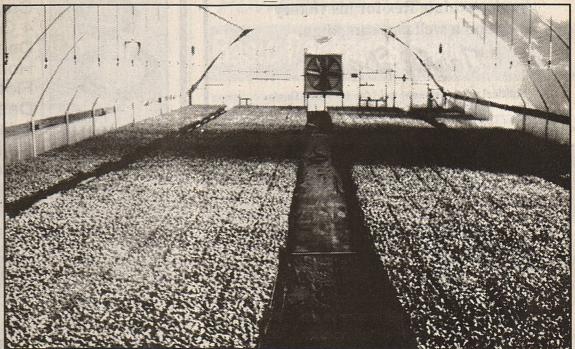
ten students are not only ben- signed by the extension office, efitting but enjoying a charac- Cromer is able to portray aster building program spon- pects of each pillar of characsored by the Yoakum County ter. She asks the youngsters their interpretation of the scenes depicting everyday life and events in our community, are presented to the youngsters and tells them both the good by FCS Extension Agent Jo side and the bad side of attitudes and actions in all six characteristics.

Elementary teachers McGinty, Hawthorne and Banfield are excited about the program, and the response the K kids give to the sessions.

The youngsters are given materials to take home for their parents to share in the character building effort.

The program has national backing. 4-H and the National Association of Family and Community Education are members of the Character Counts! Coalition, which has been endorsed by the U.S. Congress, over 40 states, and 450 cities, counties school districts and chambers of commerce.

# A World Of Watermelons!



The greenhouse shown here is literally crammed with Seedless and All Sweet watermelon plants, and a twin greenhouse adjacent to this will soon be full of the plants. The two

will soon be stocked. Over 2800 trays in the two houses will contain almost 281,000 plants. Weather permitting, melon planting in the area will start around May 1.

From Page 1, 'Guilty'

The next day Melendez reviewed the videotape from his patrol car while preparing his case report. The video camera had also recorded everything Soto and the passenger had said to each other and to Deputy Melendez. The recording was translated from Spanish and contained the following exchange;

Soto - I thought you had thrown it away.

Passenger - Thrown it? How? Soto - You can't take it out right now?"

Passenger - I am tired.

Soto - Tired? I am going to get it really bad. I'm on probation. Oh well. Hide that damn thing! Passenger - Where do I stick

Soto - In the back of the seat. In the very middle of it. In the middle... all the way to the botgo to hell!

Passenger - I put it in the very

middle of the seat.

Soto - Did it stick? Put it as far as you can. Why didn't we take it out... for that damn thing. So what.... who gives a damn!"

Hearing the tape, Melendez and another officer went to his patrol car and pulled the bottom seat out to discover a plastic bag containing five smaller bags of cocaine. The passenger later pled guilty to possession of cocaine, and Soto was convicted for tampering with evidence.

The Appeals Court document reviewing the affirmation of the conviction contained over four pages detailing court cases sufficient to support the jury's guilty decision.

The case is an example of good police work, effective prosecution, a logical jury decision, and a higher court decision affirming all this. It could also be considered suitable material for the tom. Leave it there so that it can popular TV program, " America's dumbest criminals."

#### **Rex Swann wins** Republican runoff election

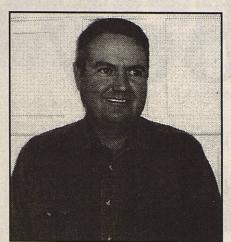
Rex Swann said laughingly last week, "They're not calling me 'Landslide' Rex!" He was referring to the final vote count in last Tuesday's runoff election against his Democrat opponent Terry Davis for PCT. 3 Commissioner.

Swann edged Davis 65 - 60 in the race, and will go up against Democrat candidate Ty Earl Powell for the job in the November general election.

An oddity of the runoff election occured when absolutely no votes were cast for either candidate in Denver City's Pct.

# John Gray

**Candidate For** Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees, District 5



I believe we are extremely fortunate to have the school system we have in Plains. I would like to play a strong role in continuing the legacy of our excellent school system

Your Vote and support will be **GREATLY APPRECIATED!** 

Political advertisement paid for by John Gray

#### Tools for knowledge workers

In 1920, the Model T Ford was student performance, the state the epitome of American technology. It was made up of 60 percent energy and raw materials and 40 percent new ideas, according to economist and author Peter F. Drucker.

Today, the computer chip is Asia as well. the quintessential American technological advance. It is made up of only 2 percent energy and raw materials and 98 percent new ideas.

This dramatic rise in the significance of new ideas illustrates the dramatic rise in demand for knowledge workers. knowledge workers that requires us to step up to the plate and deliver what ever incentives are necessary to bring our citizens up to the level the modern economy demands.

We must create an education the brightest and best for our system that is seemless and unbroken, a system that rewards excellence and decries failure, so Texas and every Texan can prevail in the new century. We must think in terms of K-16 and beyond. WE SHOULD:

Raise the bar on student performance. While the state's K-12 student accountability sys- future for all Texans. tem has done an excellent job Carole Keeton Rylander, of helping school districts raise Texas Comptroller Public Accounts

should reinforce its commitment to even higher academic standards. This generation must compete not only with people from New York and California, but Europe and

Direct more of every education dollar into the class room. Only 51 cents of every dollar now finds its way into the classroom. That is unacceptable. We need to provide the research and technical assistance to help school districts streamline their operations so It is this increased demand for that every possible dollar goes directly into the classroom where it belongs.

Attract, retain and reward good teachers. Texas needs good teachers, and we must find ways to attract and keep children, our most precious

Together, we embark on our journey into this new century. Together, we will set a high standard for the reaffirmation of the Texas spirit. And this standard must include policies that improve education: the key to unlocking the door to the

# 51ST ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS Saturday, April 22nd

# Lea County Fairgrounds

**Registration:** 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., MDT Friday, April 21st,

at Lea County Electric Coop in Lovington

10 A.M. to 12 Noon MDT Saturday, April 22nd

Lea County Fairgrounds in Lovington

The business portion of the meeting will begin at 1:00 P.M.

Two Trustees will be elected:

One from District 1 and one from District 6.

Michael A. Dreyspring **President & General Manager** 

Lunch will be served to members of the Cooperative and their immediate families from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. 2000 ANNUAL MEETING DOOR PRIZES

# Thank You

I appreciate each and every vote in the runoff election. I want to express a heartfelt

THANKS

to you. I would also like to congratulate Rex for his victory and a well run campaign.

Terry Davis

Political advertisement paid for by Terry Davis, Box 294, Plains, TX 79355

# It's Time To Order **Band Booster Calendars!** Order forms available at Lowe's and the Library

Deadline for all orders May 1st

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# Wheels Up..... First Flight In **Cloud Seeding Plan Here**



The Cessna 340 shown here just lifting off the gist stationed at the Littlefield radar site. Yoakum County Airport recently was piloted The two pilots scouted an area west of the northby Gary Walker, with David Guetesloh as al- west portion of the county, and later flew into the ternate pilot. The plane was fully equipped with cloud seeding portion of neighboring Lea County iodide flares and acetone wing burners to seek New Mexico southwest of Plains.. possible moisture bearing cumulus clouds build- Walker reported by time they arrived in the posing west of Yoakum County. The project was resible treatment area, high winds had dissipated the ported in a recent issue of CCN.

bearing cloud system came from the meteorolo- cells forproductive seeding purposes.

cloud formation. Seasonal winds and lack of heat The report of the building and possible moisture have inhibited building the larger, growing cloud

## **Texans Favor Roadside Call Boxes**

Survey Says Most Willing to Pay Extra for Increased Safety

AUSTIN - A recent survey presented to the Texas House Committee recently held hearings Transportation Committee finds that Texans support construction of an emergency roadside call box tion and related traffic problems system and are willing to pay extra resulting from the North American for the increased safety.

Gerald Ullman of the Texas Transportation Institute at Texas A&M University told the part of a four county pilot project. Committee that although there has been an increase in cellular phones accident or experienced car trouble in the past few years it "is not in remote locations have used the decreasing the usage of the call emergency telephones to call ambu-

Mike Cobb

456-7165

456-7511

The House Transportation to discuss possible solutions to Texas' growing roadway conges-Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA.)

According to Ullman, there are now about 100 call boxes in use as

Drivers who have been in an lances and tow trucks.

**Jack Cobb** 

456-7452

456-7512

The Transportation Institute surveyed 300 people from the six largest Texas cities. Ullman told legislators that 95 percent of those surveyed thought expanding the emergency roadside call boxes statewide was a good idea. Most also said that they would be willing to pay \$1.46 on their annual motor vehicle registration in order to fund the expansion.

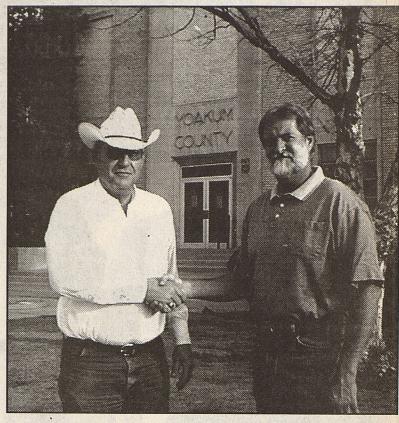
The report indicated that most people who opposed the idea were under the impression that most Texans have cell phones. In fact, only 25 percent of Texans currently own them according to Ullman.

It is estimated that stalls, vehicle breakdowns and other incidents cause more than half of the freeway congestion in Texas. A call box system allows law enforcement agencies to respond more quickly to these problems and get the traffic moving again.

# Opponents, but still friends

The two remaining candidates for the commissioner job in county precinct 3 willingly agreed to pose for the above photo following the recent runoff election. Republican candidate Rex Swann defeated his challenger, Terry Davis, and will face Democrat candidate Tv Eal Powell in the November General Election.

Ironically, both candidates farm, have extensive livestock interests, and even " neighbor" in some of their ag interests. Possibly even more unusual, both men had warm words for the other in the recent primary election, and have vowed to continue their friendship, regardless of the vote count in November.



#### Youth Violence In The U.S. And Texas

Youth violence and school safety have been major concerns for parents and community leaders for several years. Texas Legislature enacted the Safe Schools Act, which created alternative education programs away from the local schools to serve students who commit serious or violent offences, such as aggravated assault, arson, or possession of firearm. In 1999, the 76th Texas Legislature, through SCR 79, ordered a joint inquiry by several state agencies into the root causes and prevention of youth violence in the state of Texas. As part of the joint inquiry, the Texas Legislative Council's statistical research staff was asked to evaluate existing data to provide a realistic picture of the incidence of youth violence; Studies generally show declines in recent years in the overall rates of juvenile violence crime arrests and juvenile violence behaviors in the schools, both in the nation and in Texas. These studies suggest relationships between the frequency of violence and certain characteristics of the school (such as size of enrollment) or student demographics (such as gender and ethnicity), but are not conclusive enough to identify target populations for intervention. While overall rates are declining, the incidence of youth violence is still substantial, and the recent surge in the number of incidence resulting in or having the potential to involve multiple fatalities

adds to the urgent need to under-

stand and find solutions for the

problem of youth violence. More

reliable and specific data on ju-

venile violent behaviors at the local level are needed to allow policy makers to initiate legislative actions to reduce the incidence of youth violence.

The national rate of juvenile violent crime arrests dropped six percent between 1993 and 1997. Of the 10 most populous states, Texas and Georgia had the largest reductions in juvenile violent crime arrest rates, 21 percent and 22 percent, respectively.

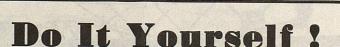
In Texas, statistics on school related crime incidents are collected and maintained at the school district level by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) under the federal Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. Every January, school districts report to the TEA the number of incidents for each specific program indicator; the totals are then summarized at the state level and reported annually by the TEA to the U.S. Department of Education. These data do not lend themselves to comparison or analysis because (a) the data are self reported by the school districts; (b) some indicators have a lot of missing values, making the comparison of data between years unreliable; (c) some school districts have reported inexplicable changes in the number of incidents

from one year to the next; and (d) the financial incentive of awarding schools with Title IV funds based on the incident rate may encourage some schools to include even borderline cases. Currently, TEA officials are automating the database system, which may help to improve the quality of future

Data on violence in schools are also collected by TEA's Youth Risk Behavior Survey, obtained in 1998 from 2,863 high school students in 51 school districts. Data indicated \*11.7 percent of the students reported carrying a weapon to school \* 5 percent reported being threatened with a weapon on school property \* 13 percent indicated they had been in physical fights on school property \*a significant number reported they felt unsafe about going to school.

CONCLUSION

While available statistics on youth violence in the nation and in Texas show declines in recent years, the level is still substantial, and the recent surge in the number of incidents resulting in or having the potential to involve multiple fatalities adds to the urgent need to understand and find solutions for the problem of youth vio-

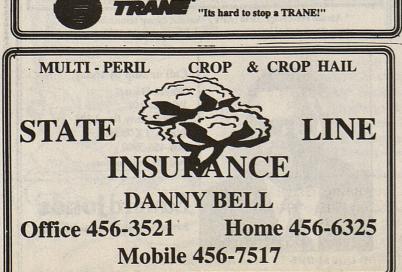


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#### Trojan Women Heads To Austin For UIL State Meet



The Plains High School one act play, The Trojan Women, won the Region IAA UIL One Act Play contest in Abilene on Friday and earned the right to compete at the state meet in Austin.

Mr. Charles Hukill of McMurry University in Abilene selected Stinnett: West Texas High School's production of Teahouse of the August Moon to advance with Plains to the state contest, which will be conducted at the University of Texas in Austin on May 5. Lisa San Filippo, a junior at Plains High School, was named as the best actress in the region for her portrayal of Trojan Queen Hecuba. She is the second Plains actress to win that award in recent years. Lindy Rowe won the title in 1997 for her portrayal of Maurya in Riders to the Sea.

Eight other locals were honored with individual acting awards at the regional contest, which was held on the campus of Abilene Christian University. Lensey Cullins and Emily Blair were named to the All Star cast, while Annaliesa O'Quinn, Michaela Traweek, Nicole Haynes, Lesli Rowe, Autumn Deaton and Elizabeth Clanahan were selected as Honorable Mention All Star cast members for their work as the Trojan Women chorus.

219 AA schools began competing at the district level all across the state in March. The top eight plays now meet in Austin to compete for the state title. The UIL will determine the order of performance this week, but early indications were that Plains would perform in the 3rd spot at 5:40 p.m., followed by West Texas at will be six other schools competing. Among those will be: test are \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students.

Kingsville Academy High School performing The Boys Next Door, Comfort High School performing Edith Stein, Diana: New Diana High School performing The Voice of the Prairie, Harelton High School performing We All Fall Down, Aubrey High School performing The Insanity of Mary Girard, Grandview High School performing And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson.

Students involved in Plains production as; Dustin Six, Kyle Sisson, Jason Swann, Jill Gray, Lisa San Filippo, Lensey Cullins, Emily Blair, Krystle Blundell, Taylor Gray, Tanner Hamm, Jarod Newland, Jordan Bean, Chris Gscheidle, Annaliesa O'Quinn, Elizabeth Clanahan, Michaela Traweek, Autumn Deaton, Nicole Haynes, Lesli Rowe, Mandi Rogers, Donita Richardson, and Kayla Willis. Assisting Mr. Davis this year is Mr. Ray Portillo. The Trojan Women, which was written by Greek playwright Euripides in 410 B.C., details the events that occurred following the end of the Trojan War, when the Greeks destroyed the city of Troy and took all of the Trojan women into slavery.

Each participating school at the state meet, will be allotted 100 tickets to the contest. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket to the state meet, please contact Mr. Gary Davis at Plains High School in order to be put on a waiting list. Once all family members of the one act play company have had the opportunity to purchase tickets, the remainder will be sold on a "first come, 6:30 p.m. In addition to Plains and West Texas High Schools, there first served" basis. Tickets to the UIL State One Act Play con-

#### **PHS District Golf Recap** Cowgirl team going to Regional

The Cowboy and Cowgirl golf 257. Liz, Allison and Autumn teams competed in district ac- were all named to the All Distion on the tough Gaines County course April 4. The Cowgirls finished second in District standings behind Tahoka, beating out Coahoma and Stanton and qualifying for Regional play in Baird.

The girls two round scores included Liz Wilmeth, 217, Allison Butler, 225, Autumn Deaton 232, Leticia Canon 248, and Mackenzie Winn,

ID#017574

trict Team.

The Cowboys finished fourth in the tourney behind Post, Tahoka, and Stanton.

In the two day event, Kelsey Blundell shot 166, Aaron Cain 178, Dustin Six 180, Jared Bell 188, and Colt Winn 107 for one round only. Kelsey and Aarin qualified for the All District

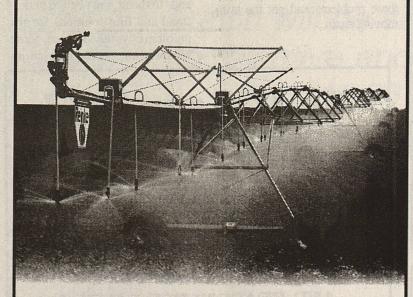
A camera malfunction last week resulted in some eight school photos being unexposed. In a future issue of CCN we will feature photos of the girls Regional bound golf team, the FFA Judging Team, District golfers Kelsey Blundell and Aaron Cain, and Eddy Gallegos, named All-Regional in basketball



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### **PHS Technology Students** Going To State

The Plains Industrial Technology Students attended a Regional Contest Saturday at Odessa High School. The following students have qualified for the State Contest to be held May 5th and 6th

Armando Luna placed 3rd in Mechanical Drafting.

Albert Lopez, Isaac Gonzales, Alex Tarango, and Jose Ramirez placed 1st in Mass Production.

Albert Lopez, Isaac Gonzales and Alex Tarango placed 1st with a group project.

Nicole Newsom, Leticia Canon, Sandra Luna, and Israel Moreno placed 1st in Mass Production. Nicole also placed 1st in woodworking and two 3rd places in Mechanical Drafting. Leticia had four 1st places in woodworking and Architectural Drafting and a 2nd place with a woodturning.

These students have worked hard and are looking forward to State Competition. The projects will be on display after State Competition in the Yoakum County Connections Building in Denver City.

#### Thank You!

A sincere thanks to each and every Plains High Booster who helped us run another successful Cowboy Relays. There is no way the annual meet could come off in the manner it does without your efforts. The entire Athletic Department of Plains High School sincerely appreciates your annual efforts! **Blake McWhirter, Track Coach** 

## Wrangler **District** Track Results

7th Boys: Scott Bruton - 1st discus, 124' 11", 1st Shot Put, 39' 6.5", 4th 100 M dash, 13.11

Evan Cain - 2nd pole vault, 7', 3rd 300 Hurdles, 53.06 Breck Hamm- 4th pole vault,

9:50, 3rd 1600 Run, 6:10 Patrick Cotton-1st 1600 Run, 6:08, 3rd 800 Run, 2:43.65 Eddie Ortega- 2nd 400 dash, 63.72

400 Relay- Kelby Johnson, Eddie Ortega, Evan Cain, Scott Bruton, 4th, 54.06

Scott Bruton, Evan Cain, Eddie Banner. Ortega 4th, 4:33 8th Boys:

Richard Diaz- 1st 400 dash, 55.8, 100 100 dash 2nd, 11.85, 200 dash, 2nd, 25.4, Triple Jump, 6th, 32'5" Armando Ramirez- 1st 1600

Run, 5:51.1, 2400 Run, 1st,

Jerry Granados-2400 Run, 6th, 10:07.82

Grady McNabb- 300 Hurdles 4th, 49.15, 110 High Hurdles 5th, 20.05

## **FFA Judging Team Scores High In Meet**

The PHS Livestock Judging Team consisted of Chris Cleve-Peyton Bean- 3rd 2400 Run, land, Jeremy Humphrey, Jeremy Ponce and Dustin Sellers attended the South Plains College Judging Contest, and competed in judging cattle, pigs, and sheep.

With eighty teams participating in the big contest April 7th, Plains managed to walk away 1600 Relay- Kelby Johnson, with the Reserve Champion

Jeremy Ponce received a reward for being the seventh high individual out of 320 judges.

> **Judging Team** Photos **Next Week**

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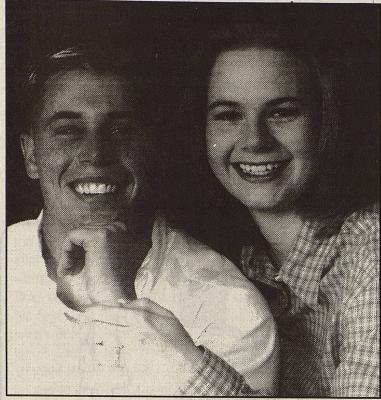


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Edward Jones

# Lifelines Styles

#### **Engagement Announced**

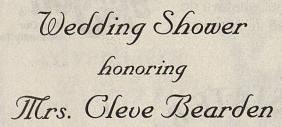


Mr. and Mrs. Dale Thompson Brownfield. of Brownfield announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Jamie Michelle, to Heath Brannon Bowlin of Plains, son of Pat Bowlin of Plains and Bobby Bowlin of Morton. The couple will be married at 6:00 pm., Saturday, August 12th in the Calvary Baptist Church in Ltd.

The bride elect is a graduate of Brownfield High School and is attending South Plains College. She is employed at United Supermarket. The groom elect is a graduate of Plains High School and is attending Texas Tech University. He is employed at JKC

## It's Planting Time Again! Bev's Nursery

**Now Open Tuesday thru Saturday** 9 A.M. to 7 P.M. 804 3rd Street



(nee Jessa St. Romain) Saturday, May 13, 2000 10:00 - 11:30 am. in the home of

Mrs. Rickey Bearden

Selections: Dillard's, Target, Nelson's and Bayer's

## **TSA MO GA Celebrates Federation Day**

guest speaker at the April 10 meeting of the TSA MO GA Club. She is a past president of Texas Federation of Womens Clubs. Editor of Texas Clubwoman Magazine and president of GFWC South Central Region.

The theme of Ms. Green's address was 'Friendship', and she declared the art of friendship is life's most precious gift. She said the General Federation of Women's Clubs is the largest international service organization of volunteer women in the world. The Texas Federation has a membership of 8,057 in 300 clubs.

Special guests at the meeting

Bettye Green of Tahoka was included Loretta Tekell, Lucille Smith of Tahoka, eight members of Denver City's Tejas Study Club, including Kim Whipple, club president, and Sandra Harmon, president elect of the Caprock District Federation.

Hostesses for the meeting were Wilma Powelll and Mary Jo St. Romain. The theme for the April 24th meeting will be 'Community Conservation Outreach', and guest speaker will be Darrell Dusek, Zone Manager for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation here. Hostesses will be Martha Palmer and Betty Rushing.

#### **Young Tumblers Soar**

The Acrospirits Division 2 Team did it again at the Levelland Region XI National Qualifying Meet at the Texan Dome. They won the Tumbling Team Award and Trampoline Team Award and placed 2nd in the Double-Mini Team Award. The meet at the Dome hosted 465 athletes from all over Texas and was hosted by the Tumbe T's of Brownfield and Air Extreme of Lubbock.

Coaching for the Acrospirits were Sherry Mulkey, Will Green, Kellie Earnest, and J'Lyn Adams. Representative Judges for the team were, Billie Willis, Susan Miller, Robin Adams, Tim Pendleton, and Chris Estrada x-1-4-x. Leslie Easterling.

"We feel the judges scores were a lot lower at this meet, but we still had a good bunch qualify for the National Championships to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio for the Level 5-10 and St. Louis, Missouri for the Jr./Sr. Team during the end of June and July." said Coach Sherry Mulkey and Will

Individual Winners: \*denotes National Qualifier Tumbling/ Trampoline/Double-Mini/ Synchronized Trampoline-Dakota Earnest 2-2-2-x, Courtney Miller 3-1-1-x, Jana Nelson 8-18-8-x, Landon Earnest 1-2-1-x, Taylor Miller 1-Gore, Chris Estrada, J'Lyn 2-4-1. Daniel Estrada 9-2-4,

#### Past Art Guild Spring Art Show

This years art show judge will be Jean Badger. Entries will be taken Tuesday, April 25 9 am. to 6 pm. Wednesday April 26th 9 am. to 12 noon. Judging: Thursday afternoon reception 7-9 pm. Algerita Art Center, Post, Tx.

Call 806-495-3493 0r 4000 for more info



First United Methodist Church 1202 Avenue G - Plains Schedule of Worship Services for Holy Week Good Friday - 7:00 PM Sunrise Service - 7:00 AM (at the Park) Breakfast at Church - 7:45 AM Children's Easter Egg Hunt 8:30 AM Sunday School - 9:45 AM Easter Cantata & Message - 10:45 AM

#### Fitzgerald and Carter Wed



A double-ring traditional ceremony was held in the First Baptist Church of Plains, Tx. on February 26, 2000, uniting Vee Ann Fitzgerald and Philip Scott Carter in marriage with Ray Young minister of Hillside Church of Christ.

The bride, escorted by her father, Vennum Fitzgerald, wore an ivory matte satin gown by Alfred Angelo.

The bodice had a simplified Queen Anne neckline. The bodice front and back were heavily appliqued with alencon lace that was beaded with pearls and crystal sequins. The long tapered sleeves were appliqued with alencon lace and cut outs. Pearls and crystal sequins highlighted the lace. Pearl buttons added to the wrist decoration. The bodice tapered into a 'V' at the waistline. The cathedral train flowed from the princess style gown. A wide band of scalloped alencon lace decorated the edge of the gown and train. The lace was studded with pearls and crystal sequins. The headpiece was a crown of pearls with veil accented with pearls flowing below waist length. The bride carried a bouquet of lilac lilies, shades of pink roses, and babies breath.

In keeping with tradition, the bride carried a handkerchief belonging to her mother, given by her parental grandmother. The bride borrowed her maternal grandmothers gold wedding band. For something new was the brides gown and she wore a blue garter for something blue.

Serving as Maid of Honor was Vonda Jones of Lubbock, with Shelley Fitzgerald of Denver City and Vicky Bell of Brownfield serving as bridesmaids. The attendants wore eggplant and lace bodice dresses with chiffon empire skirts, complemented by rosettes and chiffon trains. They carried fresh flower bouquets made of shades of pinks and lilacs.

Maegan, Maudie and Mallory Olenik of Lubbock, nieces of the bride served as junior bridesmaids and flower girl. Their dresses were lilac satin with lace overlay on the bodices, complemented by rosettes.

The bridesmaids carried fresh flower bouquet and the flower girl carried a silver basket accented with small roses and ribbon. Silk rose pedals were thrown by the flower girl.

The groom was dressed in a black full Tuxedo, featuring a lilac vest and bow tie over a white shirt.

Todd Shafer of San Angelo, Tx., served as best man. Groomsmen wore black tuxedos, with lilac vests over white shirts accented by lilac bow ties. Serving as groomsmen were Don Burgess of Plains and Mario Avila of Lubbock, Tx. Ring bearer was Ryan Mirluaney of Lubbock, Tx. dressed in the same attire as the groomsmen. Serving as ushers were Nick Olenik of Lubbock, Tx., John Charlton also of Lubbock, Tx., Allan Jones also of Lubbock, and Jay Smith of Memphis, Tennessee.

Prelude selections were played by pianist Dana Shafer of Garden City, Tx. She also played the traditional wedding march as the bride came down the aisle. Vocalists were friends of the bride and groom. Several selections were sung by the groups during the wedding ceremony featuring Vince Fitzgerald, Melba Crutcher, Carmela Davis and Gary Davis as soloists.

A reception was held in the Fellowship Hall following the ceremony. The bride and grooms cakes were made and decorated by the bride and brides mother.

Vee Ann is the daughter of Vennum and Judy Fitzgerald of Plains. Her grandmother is Pansy Palmer of

Philip's parents are Joe and Carolyn Carter of Ira, Tx. His grandparents are Penny and Beil Stone of Weatherford, Tx.

Vee Ann is a graduate of South Plains College and Methodist School of Nursing. She is employed by South Plains Public Health as Director of Nurses.

Philip is a graduate of Texas Tech University and San Angelo State University. He is employed by the U.S.D.A-N.R.C.S.





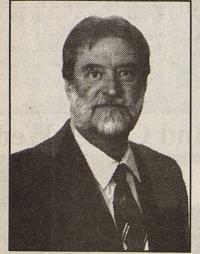
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# Rex Swann



#### THANK YOU!

A sincere thanks to all the people who showed their concern by voting in the April 11 runoff election, and to Terry Davis for running a clean, hard fought campaign. I intend to continue campaigning on qualifications, hard work, and a sincere concern for Yoakum County and the voters of Precinct 3.

Republican Candidate For

# Yoakum County Commissioner **Precinct 3**

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What Is Diabetes?

What Is Diabetes?

Diabetes is a disorder in which the body is unable to store and use food energy properly. The main source of fuel for humans is a simple sugar called glucose. During digestion, the pancreas produces insulin, which converts food into glucose to provide energy.

- Warning Signs of Diabetes
- \* Frequent urination \* Unusual thirst
- \* Extreme hunger
- \* Unexplained weight loss
- \* Excessive fatigue
- \* Irritablity
- \* Blurred vision
- \* Severe headaches

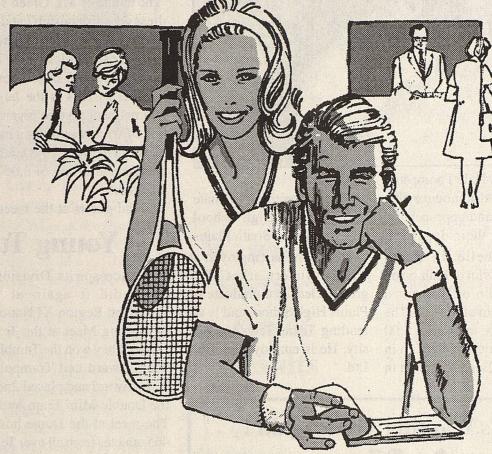
- \* Tingling or numbness in hands or feet
- \* Bleeding gums
- \* Recurring skin, gum or blad-
- der infections \*Itchiness
- \* Severe abdominal pain
- \* Impotence
- Risk Factors Persons who fit one or more
- of the following factors are at increased risk of developing diabetes:
- \* More than 40 years of age
- \* Overweight \* Lack a regular exercise rou-
- \* Family history of diabetes
- \* Experiencing physical or

emotional distress

- \* Low levels of HDL ( high density Lipoproteins) or high triglycerides (fatty acids)
- \* Pancreatic or auto-immune
- disease \* A history of gestational diabetes (for women)

#### **DWI** Case

April 12, 2000-With Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Richard Clark representing the state, Grayson Wren Howard in a plea bargain pled guilty to a DWI 1st BTR. He was sentenced to serve 60 days in jail suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay court cost of \$199.25 and a fine of \$500. He must serve 72 hours in jail with credit for 19, attend AA meetings, successfully complete a DWI 1st Offenders Program, and serve 24 hours of community service.



Our town. You work here. You play here. You live here. So do we. You have a personal stake in its future. So do we. Together we should invest our hard-earned money here.

Your money goes right to work for you. And right to work for our community too. The money you invest with us stays right here in town... generating new homes, recreational centers, schools, local improvements... loans for farmers and businessmen... more jobs, more growth.

We're dedicated to the fundamental principle that what's good for you is good for our town too. And we're good at what we do.

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MEMBER FDIC

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#### \* LEGAL NOTICE \* STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Lea County Electric Cooperative is the recipient of Federal assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration, an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture which provide that no person in the United States on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap shall be excluded from participation in, admission or access to, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any of this organization's programs

Lea County Electric Cooperative's nondiscrimination compliance efforts will be coordinated by Janette Faris. Manager of Administrative/Personnel Services. Any individual, or specific class of individuals. who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination, may obtain further information about the statutes and regulations listed above from and/or file a written complaint with this organization; or the Secretary, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D. C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE: The cooperative will accept employment applications at any time regardless of whether there is a vacancy at the time the applicant applies. Applications will be considered active for six (6) months and kept on file for two (2) years.

A limited number of summer jobs will be open to full-time students (at least 18 years of age). Students interested should contact the Cooperative for more information.

#### **Forrest Services Held**

Memorial services for Harold He is survived by his wife, Susan Gage Forrest were held Satur- Glover Forrest; two sisters, Lois ( day, April 15, at Grace T.J.) Miller of Plains and Imogene Lutheran Church in Lilly Lake, Glover of Lubbock; seven nieces Illinois. He was born Novem- and one nephew. He was preceded ber 9, 1932 in Plains, and died in death by his mother Sallie Lynn April 9, 2000 at his home in Forrest, his father Harold Gage Elburn, Illinois.

He was raised in Plains and L.Forrest and a nephew. was a graduate of Plains High Graveside memorial services will School. After serving in the Air be held at the Plains Cemetery at Force, he lived and worked in a later date, following burial of the Texas, Ohio, Pennsylvania and ashes in a family plot New Jersey.

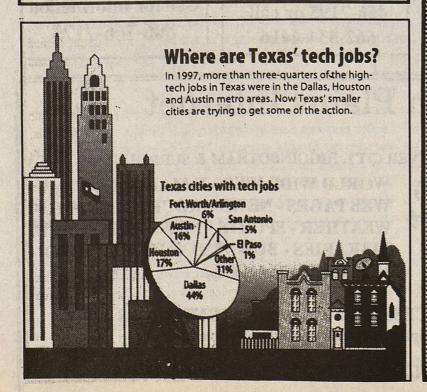
Forrest Sr., one sister, Sallie

#### **Locals Are Rodeoing**

ciation season began in Andrews on April 8th and 9th. This year there are five Plains competitors. All five placed in the top in their respective events in the first rodeo of the summer. Troy Parrish, son of Don and Suann competed in his first High Plains rodeo. He won a 6th place in the Poles in the 8 and Under Division. Brother Blake Parrish, who is in the 9 to 12 age division, placed in four of his events. He won a 4th place in Calf touching, another 4th place in the Breakaway roping, and a 6th place in the ribbon roping. Marcey House, who competes in the 16 to 19 year old girls division, is the daughter of Wayne and Phyllis House and is currently a student at LCU. She won a 4th place in the Ribbon Roping and a 5th place in the Poles. Kimberlee Jones, a Junior at Plains High School and daughter of Steve and Kathy Jones competes in the 16 to 19 year old girls division as

The High Plains Rodeo Asso- a rookie this season. She placed 9th in the Barrels to open the season. Brett Squyres, also a Junior at Plains High School and the son of Newell and Peggy Squyres, has moved up to the 16 to 19 year old boys division as a rookie this season. In his first ever Chute dogging competition, he places 3rd with a respectable time of 5.462 seconds. Brett also placed 9th in the tie down calf roping and 10th in the team roping with his partner Trey Wheeler of Lovington, New Mexico. Brett has been the Region II High school rodeos several weeks. At the Ft. Stockton rodeo held March 26th he won a 4ht place in the tie down calf roping with a time of 10.6 seconds. The Odessa High school rodeo was held on April 1st and 2nd and Brett placed 7th in calf roping on both Saturday and Sunday and 9th in team roping with his partner Jacob Kelly from Iraan. There will be 14 HPJRA rodeos finishing at the Finals in July in Clovis, N.M.





#### Finding a phone service that fits your budget

Your family's effort to reduce the monthly telephone bill can have a positive impact on your wallet when you find a service that compliments the household's calling needs. To pinpoint the lowest long distance rates, you will want to look beyond advertisements.

Hidden costs? Rate restrictions? There are very important questions to consider when choosing a long distance service.

Look For Hidden Costs · Make sure you are not required to pay a monthly fee or surcharge to receive a special low rate.

· Look to see if there is a minimum charge for each call. If every call has a 50-cent minimum, a twominute call will cost you 50 cents. Also, be cautious of those "20 minutes for a dollar" plans, you could be paying a dollar for a oneminute call or a message you leave on an answering machine.

· Watch for climbing rates. If calls up to 20 minutes are a dollar, what is the rate after that? You may find that the rate increases dramatically.

#### Check Restrictions on Rates

· Some rates only apply at certain times of the day or on certain days of the week. Know these times, so that you are not overcharged for a call made outside the specified time frame.

· Is the special deal available for all long distance calls? Some plans are limited to either out-of-state or in-state calls. It is necessary to find the rates for all the calls you anticipate to use and factor them in when choosing a plan.

· Verify if promotional rates are constant or an introductory offer. Then, find out when the special plan will end and what the rates will be after the promotion.

#### Consider Pre-Paid Calling Cards

· To stay within a budget, you can pre-pay your calling time at the first of the month by using a card. This way, you can regulate calls to agree with . the fixed dollar amount paid.

· When you buy a pre-paid phone card from the store, you bought a telephone service not a product. The store doesn't control the quality of the service. You may want to buy an inexpensive card first to test out this calling method.

· Check out the rates for domestic and international calls included in the card's package. If you can not find the rate, call the phone card's customer service number. Be aware that very low rates may indicate poor customer service.

· Find out if you are charged for calls that are not answered or busy. · Inspect the expiration date. Most cards expire one year after its first use or are considered active

until the allocated time is used. • Is there a disclosure about surcharges, monthly fees or a rateper-minute fee? Some cards add a

surcharge to the first minute of use and others charge an activation fee for recharging cards.

Beware of Comparative Claims · Take a second look at ads that claim to be 50 percent lower than the basic rate. The "basic rate" can be the highest available, leaving you with no real savings.

#### Read the Small Print

Each long distance provider has its own deals and it is your responsibility to read the details from all the companies your are considering before you make your decision.

#### Monitor Your Monthly Bills

· Pay attention to your bill to make sure your being charged for what you signed up for. If you find a mistake or do not understand your bill, you should call your provider for an explanation.

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For almost six years now I have stalked the halls - Whoa that doesn't sound right at all. I have TROD the hallowed halls of Plains campuses in pursuit of news tidbits. I usually start at the Super's office, to high school, next stop resource center, then middle school, and end up at elementary. I am seeking news info from students, teachers or administrators.

On one of these recent sojourns, I progressed to Middle School, and could not find the subject person I needed to talk to. Secretary Johnnie Green told me if I would wait in the Commons Area (I hope that description is almost right) she would track the missing party down..

Now, half this very large area is devoted to student lockers, row after row. The other half contains round tables where the students gather at off-class times.

I cooled my heels at one of the

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Call 806-456-2877 for interview appointment tables. Soon, I heard activity in the locker area, and then this angelic little girl's voice proclaim breathlessly, " After the ballgame we were walking to the car, and John ( maybe it was Bob, Jobe, Asa, Ralph, Isaac, Ezekiel or Absolom, I don't recall) said he wanted to kiss me, and he did!"

"OOOHH, wow!" this other little voice cooed, "That's super cool! What happened then?"

"Well, after I got my breath back, I slapped him. You know, I slapped him, but not really very hard."

"Oh come on! Why slap him?" "Well, you know, Mom told me to slap the first fresh little guy who kissed me.

"Oh, man, bummer!", the other voice wailed.

I wasn't eavesdropping, I was just there. I never caught a glimpse of the little lovelies. It sure did bring back some memories, though.

When I was a big, bad, bold 8th grader, I managed to weasel my way through to this exquisite fellow 8th grade girl and talk her into escorting her, with family of course, to a school dance. It was pretty ludicrous, because I danced like a mentally deficient ostrich, while she was a vision of rhythm and grace on her lovely little feet.

When the thing was finally over, I was exhausted and humiliated by my nauseous performance on the gym dance floor. Nevertheless, I realized I had one final chance to make Miss Queen aware of my worth.

Once out of sight of her parents probing eyes, in the dark of the parking lot, I blurbled and panted, "Would you let me kiss you goodnight?", my heart roaring like one of the F-16's frequently in our skies, my lungs seeming to gasp for air, knees trembling and other strange things happening to my anatomy.

Miss OOOMMMPHHH smiled at me, and said, "Why of course," calm, cooled and collected.

I almost fainted. Shaking, almost hyperventilating, sweating, I'm sure, I pressed my quivery lips to hers, my final thought, "Oh, Lord, the moment has come! I am in Paradise!"

You know what happened? Miss Heaven slapped the snot out of me! Stunned, smarting, I gasped "What's wrong, what did I do wrong?

I recall her smiling sweetly, patting my blistered cheek and purring. " Nothing's wrong. Momma just told me to smack the first boy to kiss me!"

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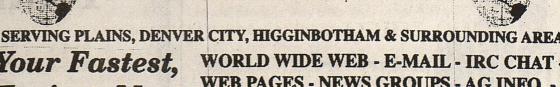
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