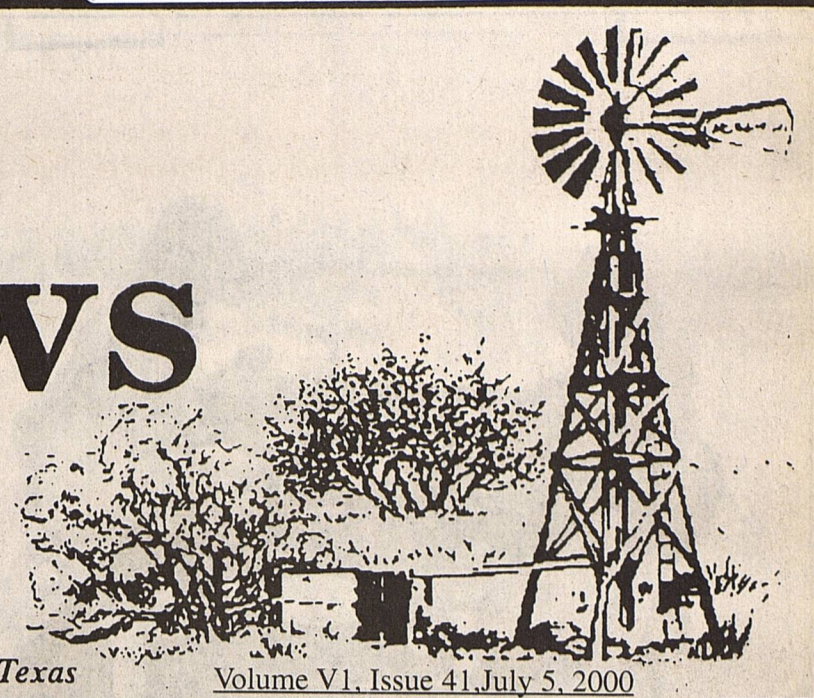


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Cowboy Country News



Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas Volume VI, Issue 41, July 5, 2000

Remembering Independence Day



Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence? Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. What kind of men were they? Twenty four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well the penalty would be death if they were captured.

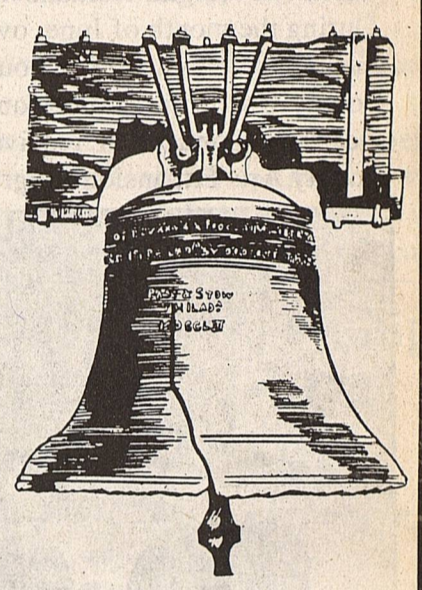
Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags. Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward. Vandals or soldiers looted the property of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton. At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson Jr. noted the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson farm for

his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and grist mill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later he died from exhaustion and a broken heart. Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble rousing ruffians. They were soft spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more. Standing tall, straight and unwavering, they pledged... "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave us a free and independent America, and we should remember, freedom is NEVER free.



Deregulation prompts electric power providers to study alternative sources

Lea County Electric Cooperative among suppliers doing homework on options

In our society, electrical power is a commodity taken for granted by most. It is a commodity found in our homes, offices, factories, where we shop, where we play. We want something illuminated, heated, cooled, energized, we flip a switch and think no more about it. It's just there.

A number of factors are producing serious thought about traditional central station electric power generation however. Recent news stories have detailed how both a rapidly growing population and national economy have increased demand for electric power very close to the available supply. In peak demand situations, usually caused by extreme weather conditions, the demand may exceed availability, and brown outs can occur, already predicted for this summer in several large metropolitan areas.

Another issue raising questions in many minds in the electric power industry is deregulation of the industry. The full scope of a completely deregulated industry can only be predicted now, but major change is inevitable.

Many power providers, including Lea County Electric Cooperative, are carefully studying these issues, and possible alternatives to central station power generation. Allan Brown, LCEC Director of Marketing and Member Services, returned recently from a conference in San Diego, California. A topic drawing the attention of electric cooperative representatives there was new power production ap-

proaches, including utilizing fuel cells. A fuel cell is an electrochemical device that converts commonly available fuels directly into electricity. Brown said the type fuel cell drawing most scrutiny from electric cooperatives is utilizing propane or natural gas. Hydrogen is extracted from the fuel stock and enters the fuel cell, which like a battery has a negative and positive electrode.

Hydrogen molecules are fed to the negative electrode, and split in two, forming protons and electrons. The electrons flow out of the fuel cell as electricity. The protons travel to the positive electrode, where they combine with oxygen brought into the fuel cell from the air. A chemical reaction creates molecules of water and heat; Brown said, "It sounds very complicated, but it can be simplified by thinking of a fuel cell as an alternative way to produce the total energy requirements for a home - electricity, heat for space heating, and hot water from one fuel."

He said fuel cells are now in operation in many areas of the country. "They offer a number of advantages to end users. They are environmentally friendly, requiring no combustion or burning, thus no polluting emissions. They are ideally suited for rural or remote locations, or for powering residences in areas where rates are high or costly to serve. Another very large advantage in fuel cell use is they do not produce voltage spikes."

Brown said a typical residential

fuel cell would be approximately 3 feet by 4 feet and 4.5 feet tall, and would provide some 3 KW power, with a battery storage capacity of 7 KW to handle peak loads up to 10 KW. "The cost for such a cell would be well below \$10,000, and that figure needs to come down." He added, "Costivity is relative, however. If a rural resident needs to bring a new electric line to a source five miles from a transmission line, the cost of getting electric power to the site could cost some \$15 thousand."

He thinks the price of fuel cells will come down as commerce and industry find more uses for them.

Brown said a major concern of electric power providers, including LCEC, is reliability of service because of the lack of new generating facilities. "To build a new, large, state-of-the-art generating facility is a terribly expensive proposition. This construction has virtually stopped."

Brown said Lea County Electric was organized in 1949, and has experienced many changes in the industry. "Our board of directors and staff are clearly aware deregulation of the industry is here, and we have to live with it. Our goal is to exercise due-diligence in seeking every opportunity to bring high quality, reliable power at the lowest possible cost to our member-owners. Part of that diligence is looking at all potential forms of energy supply. The cooperative wants to continue as a major player in helping shape the future for our members needs."

Starters on 2000 Cowboy team?



Cowboy football head coach Larry McMinn doesn't think so. The 2000 - 2001 PHS cheerleading squad does have high hopes to boost the team throughout the long, tough season. Last week they donned full football uniforms (a process which seemed to take considerably more time than the male players) for a photo op. They plan to have color photos blown up, and mount them in the Cowboy dressing room, hopefully spurring the team to winning ways. Shown left to right are Lensey Cullins, Allison Butler, Keri Leigh Hansen, Chelsi Wagnon, Kari Guetersloh, and Kim Trent.

Rains restore faith of producers

At 8 AM Monday, official National Westher Service gauges at City Hall recorded .32 inches of rainfall Friday evening and Saturday morning. The latest precipitation brings the total for June to 6.87 inches, and 9.37 inches for the year.

Word of mouth reports indicate all portions of Yoakum County have received rain this month.

Apparently the northwest corner of the county has seen the spottiest and least amount of moisture.

Conversations with farmers and ranchers Saturday revealed some unusual reports of precipitation; One producer farming north of US 82/380 near

Tokio has recorded over 14 inches this month; A 6 inch rain gauge at Circle 12 Gin was running over one recent morning from rain falling during the night. Another producer reported the immediate area he farms had received less than two inches all month.

Remarkably, there has been little hail damage during the wet month.

There is a down side to this good news. Fields have been so wet it has been difficult if not impossible to put tractors back to work, and noxious weeds in cotton, peanuts, watermelons and other crops have shown amazing growth.

District, County Court Criminal cases heard

In 121st Judicial District Court June 26, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, Benny Ralph Vasquez entered a plea bargain guilty plea to a third or more DWI cause.

A ten year prison sentence was suspended and probated ten years. He was fined \$2,500, and will pay \$237 court costs. A county court harassment charge was adjudicated.

Vasquez must serve 160 hours

Turn to Page 3, 'Court Cases'

Young craftsmen learn many skills



The young people shown here were totally absorbed in learning how to create, assemble and color a honey bee last Friday morning in the final class of the Summer Youth Art Program 2000. Boys pictured include Chase Ortega, Holden Welch, Jose Luis Gallegos, Colby Ortega and Hunter Welch. Girls shown are Amelia Gallegos, Jasmine Mares, Haley Welch and Abigail Hernandez, assisted by Jessica Henry.

During the month of June, over a dozen courses and classes were held here and in Denver City, enjoyed by scores of youngsters aged 5 to 17. The program was originated by Yoakum County Connection some four years ago, with assistance from the Texas Extension Service. The 'Connection' received funding assistance from Texas Rural Communities and the County Arts Expansion Program of the Texas Commission on the Arts



Family Land Heritage applications available

Texas Department of Agriculture is accepting applications for the 2000 Family Land Heritage Program. The annual program recognizes farms and ranches that have been in continuous production by the same family for 100 years or more.

This year, TDA has added 150 year and 200 year farm and ranch designations to further honor the families who continue to make strong contributions to Texas agriculture.

Deadline for submitting applications is November 15. Applications can be obtained by writing Debbie Ellis, Texas Dept. of Agriculture, PO Box 12847, Austin, Tx 78711

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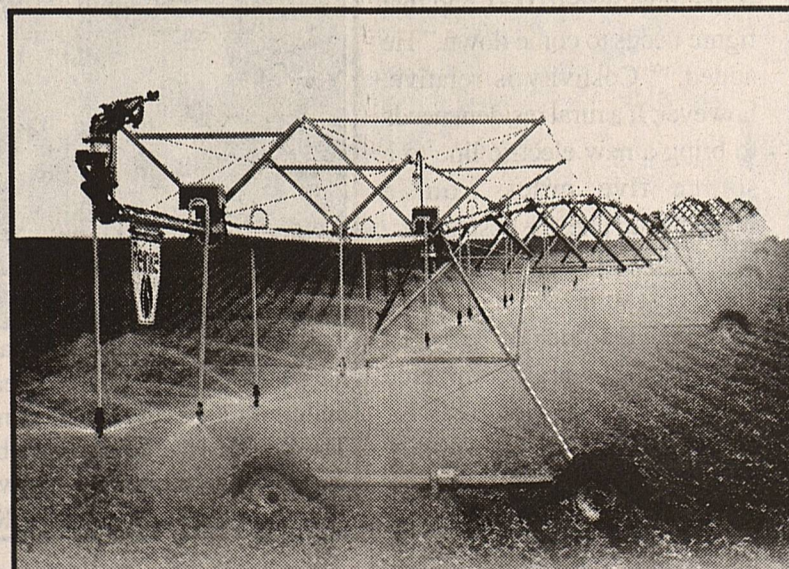
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Plains Youth Center

Pool Tournament Friday July 7th, Grades 7-12 Students and Adults 8:30 pm. till over. Trophies are given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Saturday July 8th, Grades 7-12, 8:30 pm. singles. Doubles follow singles until its over. Trophies are given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.



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Yoakum County Art Association

24th Art Show and Sale Slated

A special meeting of Yoakum County Art Association was held at Charlie's Restaurant on June 27, 2000. Marlene Gibson, president, welcomed the 16 members and guests Stacy, Rachel, and Sara Smith. Dues are \$15.00 per year and are used to defray demonstrator expenses. Juried Show Chair

Inetta Teaff passed out information on the August 4th and 5th Show to be held in the Avenue G Art Building in Plains.

Volunteers for the show were signed up and reminded to be present for hanging entries on August 1st. The 24th annual show and sale is held in conjunction with the Plains Old Settlers'

Reunion and Rodeo. Purchase Awards may be booked by contacting any art club member. Student entries have no entry fee. Members pay \$3.00 and non members pay \$5.00 entry. Bill Hagerman from Midland, Texas will be judge the event.

by Linda Powell

YOAKUM COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION 2000 SHOW AND SALE

JULY 31 - AUGUST 5, 2000
ART BUILDING - AVE. G, PLAINS, TEX.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: FRI. AUGUST 4, 12:00 P.M. TIL 6:00 P.M.
SAT. AUGUST 5 10:00 A.M. TIL 4:00 P.M.

ENTRY DATE: MON, JULY 31. 5:00 P.M. TIL 7:00 P.M. WORKING & OUT OF TOWN ARTISTS. TUES, AUG. 1, 10:00 A.M. TIL 3:00 P.M. NO ENTRIES WILL BE EXCEPTED AFTER 3:00 P.M. ENTRY FEE IS \$5.00 PER ENTRY FOR NON-MEMBERS. NO LIMIT TO NUMBER OF ENTRIES AND ALL ARTISTS ARE INVITED TO ENTER. CRAFT ROOM - \$3.00 FOR MEMBERS & \$5.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS.

ELGIBILITY: LIMITED TO THOSE WORKS NOT PREVIOUSLY ENTERED IN YOAKUM ART ASSOCIATION COMPETION. CRAFTS MUST BE MADE BY THE PERSON ENTERING THEM.

JUDGING: THURS. AUG. 3, 9:30 a.m. THIS IS RESTRICTED TO APPOINTED PERSONNEL.

JUDGE: BILL HAGERMAN, MIDLAND, TX

PRIZES: FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD, AS WELL AS HONORABLE MENTION WILL BE AWARDED RIBBONS IN ALL CATAGORIES. CASH AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN ONLY IN ORIGINALS AND PHOTOGRAPHY. THEY WILL BE \$100.00-BEST IN SHOW, \$25.00 FIRST PLACE, \$15.00 SECOND PLACE, AND \$10.00 THIRD PLACE. BEST IN PHOTOGRAPHY \$50.00. BEST IN CRAFTS \$50.00. THESE WILL BE PRESENTED AT 3:30 P.M. SATURDAY, AUGUST 5.

CATEGORIES: ORIGINALS, PHOTOGRAPHY COPIES, GRAPHICS, CLASSWORK COPIES, CLASSWORK ORIGINALS, AND STUDENTS (NO FEE FOR STUDENTS). CRAFTS: WOOD, FIBER, AND OTHERS.

DIVISIONS: LANDSCAPE, STILL LIFE, PORTRAITS, WILDLIFE, AND MINIATURES. MINIATURES CAN BE NO LARGER THAN 5X7. NOTHING LARGER THAN 30X40/ WATERCOLORS AND PASTELS WILL BE COMBINED AS NEEDED.

SALESROOM: FOR CLUB MEMBERS ONLY AND MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE ENTRY IN COMPETITION. EACH ENTY MUST HAVE AN ENTRY FOR M ATTACHED TO EACH ITEM, WITH A PRICE, NAME AND NUMBER, AND ALSO LISTED ON THE LONG ENTRY FORM.

PURCHASE AWARDS: SELECTED WED. AUG. 2 FROM 9:00 A.M. TIL 2:00 P.M., BY LOCAL BUSINESS AND PRIVATE PATRONS. ONLY AUTHORIZED MEMBERS ALLOWED IN THE ART BUILDING AT THIS TIME AND DURING JUDGING.

DOOR PRIZES: DRAWN AT 4:00 P.M. ON SAT. AUG. 5th. THESE WILL BE PAINTINGS BY CLUB MEMBERS ONLY, AND CAN NOT BE SOLD BEFORE THE DRAWING. \$75.00 WILL BE PAID TO THE ARTISTS WHOSE PAINTINGS ARE SELECTED.

CRITIQUE: THURS. AUG. 3, 1:30 TIL 3:00 P.M.

RIBBONS AND AWARDS PRESENTED AT 3:00 P.M. SAT. AUG. 5.

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The following people have been chosen to serve as Petit Jurors for the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas, to appear at the Courthouse in Plains at 9:00 A.M. on the 10th day of July, 2000.

Plains Jurors: Mr. Miguel Guerra, Ms. Christina G. Guerra, Mr. Isais Campa Sigala, Mr. Hershel R. Smith, Ms. Sylvia G. Gomez, Ms. Lola Elam, Mr. Jerry Lee Willett, Mr. Nrigido Vega Marquez, Mr. Heath Brannon Bowlin, Mr. Able Gonzalez, Ms. Patria Altman, Ms. Karen Renee Williams, Ms. Margaret Nell Brian, Mr. Clois Cecil Massey, Ms. Nancy Moreno, Ms. Romania Brown, Ms. Carolyn Culwell, Ms. Maggie Spears, Ms. Jaime Orona, Mr. Michael David Payne, Mr. David Guetersloh, Mr. Henry J. Gonzales, Mr. Fred Ramos, Ms. Karen Bearden, Mr. Kevin Ron Craft, Ms. Laurel Head Vantine

Denver City Jurors: Mr. Noel G. Barrientos, Ms. Michelle Shirley Cook, Ms. Tammy Darla Rogers, Mr. Arliss Gene Williams, Ms. Sharon Isreal McAdams, Mr. Douglas M. Payne, Mr. Woodson W. Lindsey, Mr. Jerry Wayne Rolston, Mr. Clinton R. Bowman, Mr. Melton C. Brian, Mr. Victor Lozoya, Mr. Alan Dwayne Archer, Mr. Misael Yanez Escalante, Ms. Gloria E. Galvan, Mr. Roberto Marquez Lozano, Ms. Wanda Todd Smith, Ms. Cecilia Rodriguez Salazar, Mr. Gerardo Barrientos Villegas, Mr. L. Kim Moore, Ms. Remigia Hernandez, Mr. James Gilbreath, Mr. Wayne E. Kostelich, Mr. Albert William Eldred, Ms. Nohelia V. Portillo, Ms. Elizabeth Yanez Jabalera, Mr. L. C. Brasuel, Ms. Hope Trinidad, Ms. Carla Deanne Clark, Ms. Melanie G. Eldred, Ms. Marilyn Mansur, Mr. Lionel Gonzalez, Mr. Arnulfo Longoria, Ms. Rebecca Ann Brunip, Ms. Gloria L. Kidd, Mr. Gary Don Freeman, Mr. C.C. Henson, Mr. Billy Ray Beard, Mr. Bodindr Thepchatrri, Mr. Juan G.

Terry & Yoakum County IPM Update

By Scott A. Russell, EA - IPM

General Situation:

We have continued to receive record amounts of rainfall. The most recent rains have been very scattered with amounts across the two counties varying from one inch up to four inches in isolated locations.

Plant growth and development continues at a somewhat slower pace as overcast skies have kept temperatures a little cooler. Fields in the scouting program range from pinhead to one third grown squares. Replanted cotton should be off to a good start due to the moisture. Irrigation has begun in some fields.

Cotton fleahoppers are beginning to appear in area fields, most are not at economic lev-

els. But this means we need to monitor squaring cotton carefully. Adult fleahoppers are about 1/8 inch long and pale green in color, nymphs resemble adults. Fleahoppers move rapidly when disturbed and feed by sucking sap from tender young plant parts including pinhead sized squares.

Cotton Boll Weevils:

Boll weevils have been found in fields this week. Reports are that these weevils have indeed begun to feed on squares. This did result in the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation (BWEF) treating this particular field. It is still important to monitor fields even with the BWEF trapping around the field, as cotton reaches third grown squares it may be more attractive to weevils than the traps. As these weevils gather in a field they will produce an aggregating pheromone drawing other weevils into the field and thus detracting from the trap.

Worms:

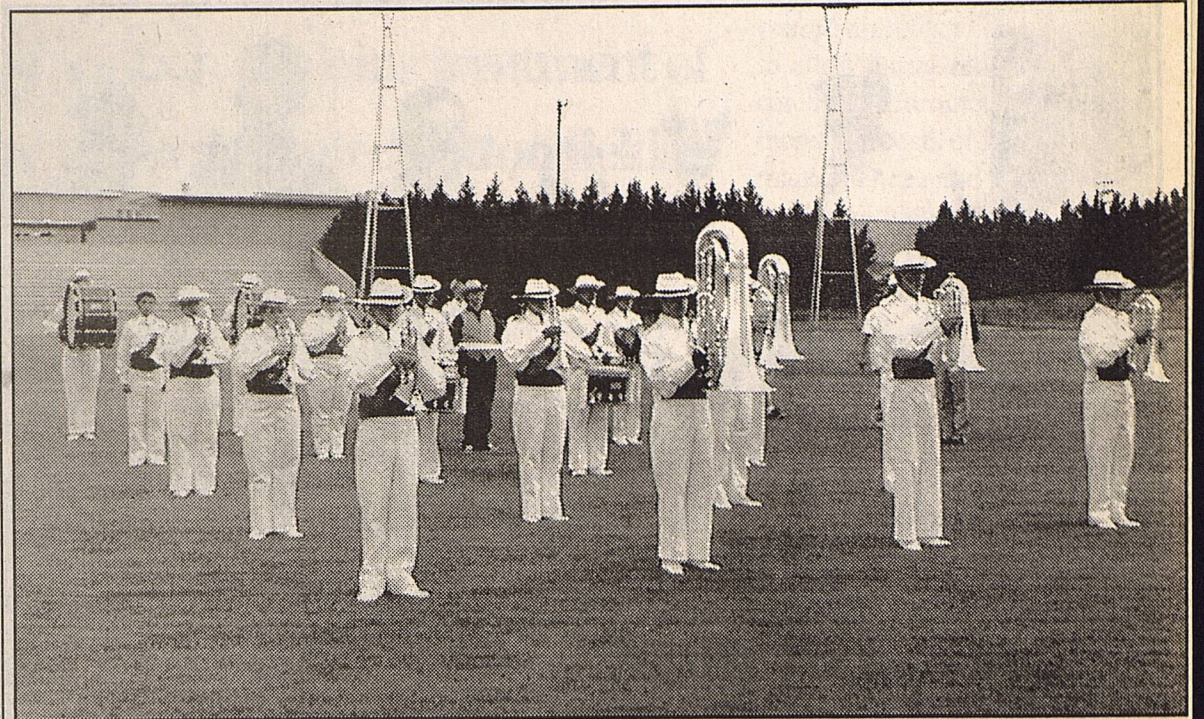
Economically damaging infestations have continued to be found in local fields. Reports indicate beet armyworms are present as well as bollworms and budworms. In most instances it has been bollworm/budworms which have required treatment. It is important to monitor fields for bollworm/budworm activity as there are reports of egg lays as high as 10,000 eggs per acre. However, treatment decisions should not be made on egg count alone. Mortality of eggs and newly hatched worms due to temperature and or predation can be significant. Scout fields every three to five days monitoring the plant terminals and squares for worms. In pre-bloom cotton, chemical control may be required when 15 to 25 percent of green squares are damaged and small worms are present. After bloom, treatment may be justified when 5,000 or more worms per acre are present. Control measures are most effective when worms are less than 1/2 inch in length, therefore monitoring is critical.

J P Court Review

June 30, 2000 - The following is a summary of court cases heard and fines/bonds set in Precinct One, with Justice of the Peace Court, Melba Crutcher presiding. There were 45 traffic cases and 1 felony case filed. Bonds set: 3 cases - Assault causing bodily injury - \$1,500.00 bond. Driving while intoxicated 1st - \$1,000.00 bond. Driving while intoxicated - subsequent - \$1,500 bond + interlock device. Unsafe speed - \$100.00 bond. Failure to report - \$200.00 bond. Theft by check - \$1,500.00 bond. Fugitive from justice - \$3,000.00 bond. Failure to appear - Consumption of alcohol by minor - \$1,000.00 bond. Bond forfeiture - Consumption of alcohol by minor - \$500.00 cash bond. Consumption of alcohol by minor - 3rd - \$500.00 bond. Motion to revoke probation - no bond. Bail jumping and failure to appear - \$1,500.00 bond. Bond forfeiture - DWI - \$1,500.00 cash bond.



Legend of Texas performs here



Chris McGinty

Members of the Legend of Texas Drum and Bugle Corp are shown doing their stuff at Cowboy Stadium last Friday evening. Forty talented high school musicians have been touring this summer, and came here from performances in several California sites. The student musicians are from Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

The group feature precision marching and a girl rifle squad. The director called on the various sections of the band to demonstrate their talents, then the entire Corps performed a number of stirring works.

In the precision marching demonstration, the director shouted out quick paced marching orders, keeping a close eye on the group. If one or more faltered, they were ordered off the field. The elimination process continued until only one marcher was left on the field - Plains High student Chris McGinty, the only Cowboy Marching Band member touring with Legend of Texas.

From Page 1, 'Court Cases'

community service. He will be jailed ten days or until space is available in the Brownfield Regional Court Residential Treatment Center for a term of not less than one month and no more than 24 months. He must pay for all room and board, medical expenses and personal items. Upon completion of the CRTC program, he must attend weekly AA meetings, complete the DWI repeat offenders program, have his license suspended 180 days, and install an ignition interlock device on any vehicle he uses. His attorney was Ruth Cantrell.

In County Court the same day, presided by Judge Dallas Brewer, Shannon Keith Allen pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces of marijuana. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. A \$250 fine and \$210 court costs will be met with time payments. A charge of unlawfully carrying a weapon was adjudicated. He must serve 24 hours community service, successfully complete his GED, and will have his drivers license suspended one year. His attorney was Bonnie Ericson.

South Plains Food Bank, Phillip Morris Recognize Welfare To Work Program Graduates

Lubbock leading the way in combating hunger and fostering self-reliance

Lubbock, Texas---The South Plains Food Bank, Inc., a non profit hunger relief organization, and Phillip Morris Companies Inc. honored the inaugural graduating class to Texas Tech University's *Welfare to Work-Hospitality Skills Training* program at a luncheon today.

The *Welfare to Work-Hospitality Skills Training* program is a collaboration between the Texas Workforce Commission and the South Plains Food Bank and the Texas Tech University RHIM program. The twelve week program is designed to prepare welfare recipients to work in the hospitality industry. A total of sixty students in three cycles will be trained this year. Phillip Morris previously made a \$10,000 grant to the South Plains Food Bank, to help make the Hospitality Skills Training program possible.

"We envisioned the *Hospitality Skills Training* program as a way to help needy citizens become confident and self reliant through training," said Andrew Tolbert, *Welfare to Work* program direc-

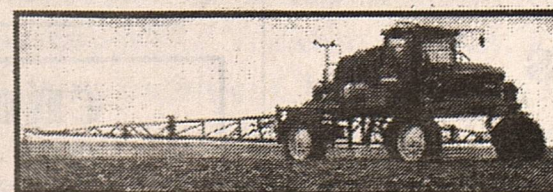
tor. "The initial grant from Phillip Morris allowed us to supplement our state and federal funding for the program and get it off the ground."

Phillip Morris also announced at the luncheon a \$50,000 award to the South Plains Food Bank and a \$50,000 *Doors of Hope* grant to Women's Protective Services, for their hunger relief and domestic violence support programs.

"All of these organizations are doing innovative, exciting things to help the community," said Russell Laird, Director of Agricultural Relations for Phillip Morris. "We are pleased to be able to commit \$100,000 to these efforts."

"The *Welfare to Work* program is another example of the outstanding creative thinking and community collaboration that is going on in Lubbock," said Laird. "Phillip Morris commends the outstanding teamwork demonstrated by these organizations, and is proud to be a partner of their efforts to meet the needs of the South Plains."

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15 Year Of Service Earns A Reception



Janelle Brantley, Yoakum County Farm Bureau secretary for 15 years, was honored at a retirement reception at the County Office on June 1, 2000.

Shown with Janelle are Board Members; Steve Jones, Wayne Lee Davis, Board President, Lanny Smith, Ron Craft, Don Parrish, and Jeff Roper.

Janelle played a large role in the success of the Yoakum County Farm Bureau. She will be missed. *the entire Board and Staff*

* Guest Editorial *

The following article is courtesy of Logan Cooksey, now a student at Midland College and a writer for the school's newspaper. The views are the authors. We thought the article was deserving of publication because, (A) it is completely thought provoking, and (B) the talented young writer was 17 and a student at Andrews High School when it was penned. Hopefully, it will encourage some of our PHS aspiring journalists.

'We need to be encouraged to question and create'

"Education is part of human life. We, unlike animals, have little mental programming from birth. People depend on either their parents - or their community - to teach them the way of life.

From pre-school through college, schools teach students the skills they need to be a part of the community. These skills enable them to become businessmen, lawyers, doctors and politicians - the people who make society possible.

The problem with American education is it doesn't always excel in teaching creativity. Instead of concentrating on the real human talents - our ability to question and create - the American educational system too often teaches to accept things the way they are.

In high school, when students could develop the ability to think for themselves, teachers too often concentrate on teaching how to follow orders and guidelines. Students in high school are prepared for a world full of limitations and lack of personal freedom. Rather than being taught to overcome these barriers, they are taught how to fit their lives and ideas within them.

The scholastic system does not need to be completely reinvented, but educators need to put more emphasis on teaching students to question and create. Given the world we live in, it seems counter productive to do anything else.

They should be taught there is definite room for improvement in the world, and they possess the capabilities to make these improvements. They should be taught to value their own ideas and learn to apply them.

If everyone became a free thinker, though, the world would fall apart. Without the cogs, the society machine would come to a halt and anarchy would rule. But, if the high school curriculum was changed to promote individual thought, society would advance at a much faster pace than it is now.

Let's not repeat our ancestors mistakes of shunning geniuses as heretics, only to call them "ahead of their time" 200 years later. We can make this world a better place, but only if everyone is willing to let it change."

By Logan Cooksey

Domestic Ticks Can Carry Deadly Livestock Disease

For years, ranchers, veterinarians and livestock health officials have been vigilant for foreign ticks capable of carrying dangerous animal diseases. That's not enough, admonishes Dr. Pete Teel, a Texas A & M University tick specialist who says Texas' homegrown ticks also could transmit deadly infections.

"If infected tropical bont ticks from the Caribbean introduced heartwater into Texas, our native Gulf Coast tick could become infected, making disease eradication extremely, if not nearly impossible, to wipe out," said Dr. Teel. He described heartwater as an acute and usually fatal tick-borne disease that effects ruminants such as cows, sheep, goats and deer.

Dr. Teel is building a database and "mapping" the migration of native ticks, particularly the Gulf Coast tick. He points out that this tick lived only 50-100 miles inland until the 1960s, when it was detected in Kansas and Oklahoma. Since then, it has been found in 50 of Oklahoma's 77 counties, and in 19 of Kansas' 105 counties. "We can fight an outbreak of a tick-borne disease more ef-

Tina Bruton, 30, of Plains died Tuesday morning, June 27, 2000 at University Medical Center in Lubbock. Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm. Friday at the First Assembly of God Church in Denver City, with Reverend Ronnie Lunsford officiating. Burial followed in the Denver City Memorial Park under the direction of Ratliff Funeral

Home. Mrs. Bruton was born June 20, 1970 in Denver City. She married Kevin Bruton August 29, 1985 in Plains. She lived in Hobbs, NM for a year prior to moving to Plains. She was a minister of the Assembly of God Church and a member of the Ministerial Alliance. While she lived in Denver City she worked with the youth.

Survivors include her husband; a son, Scott Bruton and a daughter, Tiffany Bruton, both of the home; her father, Leon Kelley of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf; her Mother, Peggy Roberson of Denver City; 2 brothers, Melvin Kelley of Denver City and Larry Kelley of Bahrain; a sister, Tammy Cox of Hammond, La.

Obituaries

Services Held For Tina Bruton

TDA awards first GOTEPP projects

With projects as diverse as beef training seminars for chefs in Poland, market development for high beta carotene maroon carrots and the promotion of Christmas trees, the Texas Department of Agriculture has awarded the first GO TEXAN Partner Program grants to help increase the sale of Texas agricultural products.

GOTEPP is a matching funds program enacted during the last legislative session to promote Texas ag products and commodities. The program creates partnerships between TDA and producers, commodity groups, cooperatives and small businesses that may apply to the department for funding to promote their Texas products.

Matching funds required from participants double money available to promote Texas agriculture. Fifteen percent of a project's total cost is used for generic GO TEXAN brand promotions, and the GO TEXAN logo will appear on each project's printed promotional

material.

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs called the grants an indication great things are in store for Texas agriculture. "Farmers and ranchers are facing some of the lowest commodity prices in 20 years. This is a positive sign Texas agriculture is alive, well and taking off in exciting new directions," Combs said.

The projects will act as catalysts to create sales and educate consumers about the availability of Texas products. Some of the firms and associations receiving matching funds grants include Beefmaster Cattlemen, Huntsville; Craft Brewer's Assn, Lewisville; De Coty Coffee Co., San Angelo; Doguet's Rice, Beaumont; J & D Produce, Edinburg; Products from the Prairie, Amarillo; Texas Beef Council, Austin; Texas Nursery & Landscape Assn., Austin; TexaSweet Citrus Marketing, Mission; Texas Wine and Grape Growers; Younger Bros. Sausage, Amarillo.

fectively, if we know where susceptible ticks live," said Dr. Teel. He urged livestock producers, veterinarians and others to send tick specimens for identification to the state federal laboratory of the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

"Adult Gulf Coast ticks, which prefer animals' head and ear regions, appear in June, and populations peak from August through October," he said. "It's 'prime time' for collection and submission." He reminded ranchers to check not only domestic livestock, but exotic hoofstock as well.

Free 'ectoparasite collection vials' or submission kits for ticks and maggots (worms) are available from TAHC inspectors or the TAHC Area 1 office in Amarillo at 1-800-658-6526, feed stores, county agents of veterinarians. The kits, which include a short questionnaire, are pre-addressed and may be mailed at no cost.

South Plains College Summer Events

Summer Testing Date Set For Associate Degree Nursing Program

A summer pre-entrance exam has been scheduled July 14 for persons wishing to enroll this fall in the associate degree nursing program at South Plains College in Levelland.

Students successfully completing SPC's two year associate degree nursing program will receive an associate of applied science degree and will be eligible to apply to take the State Board Exam (NCLEX) for registered nurse licensure.

Testing is scheduled 9:00 am. -noon in the nursing computer lab in the Technical Arts Building. Fee is \$25.00

To preregister, contact the SPC Office of Guidance and Counseling at 894-9611, ext. 2366 or 2368.

Registration July 10 For SPC's Second Summer Session

July 10th is registration date for second summer term classes on both the South Plains College Levelland campus and the SPC Reese Center campus in Lubbock.

Enrollment times are 3:00 - 6:00 pm. in the Women's Gym on the Levelland campus, and 3:00 - 6:00 pm. in the Administrative Offices, Building 1, on the SPC Reese Center campus.

The SPC Reese Center campus, an educational extension center located at 9730 Reese Blvd. in Lubbock, offers freshman and sophomore college level courses in academic transfer and selected technical areas during the late afternoon and evening hours. SPC Levelland, located to 1401 S. College Avenue in Levelland, is a comprehensive two year community college which offers a wide variety of academic transfer and technical courses.

Late registration is July 11th - 12th.

Classes begin July 11th at both locations, and final exams are scheduled August 10th.

SPC Lubbock offers one summer session, now underway.

To obtain a summer 2000 class schedule or find out more information, log on to the college web site at www.spc.cc.tx.us or phone SPC at 894-9611, ext. 2374 or the SPC Reese Center campus at 885-3048, ext. 2902.

Registration Continues For Basic Peace Officer Night Academy

Registration is continuing for a Basic Peace Officer Night Academy, which begins September 5th at South Plains College in Levelland.

Registration deadline is August 4, 2000.

The 560 hour course is designed to meet requirements set by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) for persons who wish to take the state peace officer licensing exam.

Classes will meet 5:30 - 11:00 pm. Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays through August 8, 2001 in the SPC Petroleum Technology Law Enforcement Building.

For more information, contact the SPC Law Enforcement Office at 806-894-9611, ext. 2291.

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Dancers perform traditional and tribal dances at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Sunday morning. The dancers, from the Denver City Parish Church, make regular appearances at the church here. While photos were being taken, the dancers leader and drummer offered spare costumes to Plains spectators, but had few takers to perform in the mesmerizing and colorful ritual.

Senior Citizens Corner

Boy how time does fly! Here it is the last of June 2000 is already half gone.

Remember; Line dancing Monday, Wednesday and Friday every week. Pool is every day Monday through Friday and Monday nights. Every week, oil painting and ceramics, crocheting or whatever suits you. Also, we have exercise machines and walking in the long hall and gym. Our continuous garage sale is closed for now. **WE WILL HAVE OUR BIG ALL DAY GARAGE SALE ON SATURDAY JULY 8th.**

Can't forget the dominoes and bridge games and a class on bridge playing. If you are interested in learning bridge Wanda Switzer is a very good teacher. June Hannaman is teaching line dancing and she is a very good teacher also.

Don't forget the good food Monday through Friday, you can't get so much so good any-

where for the price. Steve and Peggy Hicks ate lunch with his mom Thelma today at the Center. We are always glad to see the youngsters coming to visit.

Inez Turner and Mola Moorehead were the winners in '42' tournament this week. Congratulations to both.

Our prayers and thoughts go to the ones in the hospital here and Lubbock or anywhere else our people are.

Our condolences, prayers and love to the Harrell family on the loss of Robert, also to the Brutons and Kelleys on the loss of Tina.

Our Center is open to all Seniors of Yoakum County not just Denver City. We are proud of our Center and want to thank the Commissioners and Judge for all they do and all they provide for us. Especially to J.R. for he is the overseer of the Center.

Till Next Week,
Wanda B.

Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation explains treatment of sprinkler irrigated cotton fields

Sprinkler irrigated fields present a special challenge in eradication efforts because the water can wash insecticide off the plants, diminishing its effectiveness.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation has developed guidelines to maintain the program's efficiency with the least amount of interference to the producer's operations.

"If a crop has reached pin head square and trap catches indicate the need for a field to be treated, growers who use sprinkler irrigation systems will be given two options," said Charles Allen, Foundation program director.

"Growers will be first asked if they are willing to shut off their irrigation units for 24 hours, which would allow the insecticide to adhere to the plant leaves and allow it to do its work," Allen said.

If growers would prefer to leave their units running, the position of the pivot or lateral-move boom will be marked with a stake at the time of application, he said. Two days after application, the pivot or boom's position will be marked again, and the cotton irrigated by sprinkler would be retreated.

"This allows growers to irrigate continually while still effectively reducing weevil populations," Allen said.

Growers with questions about these procedures should contact their district offices or call Foundation headquarters.

A Different Side Of Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping takes different forms throughout Texas, from old tires to junk vehicles, various items lie strewn or hidden in the brush and bar ditches of Texas roadways. Whether it's a farm to market road or a U.S. highway, you almost expect to see litter...plastic bags...trash...dead cattle.

That's right, cattle. Although carcasses are not normally associated with litter, they are being seen along the rights of way throughout the northwestern region of our state, and it's costing taxpayers up to \$500 per animal to bury the remains.

These animals are not the result of some road raged drivers; they are victims of natural causes, typically in the more rural areas. Years ago, rendering plants would make "milk runs", traveling county roads and state highways, picking up

the remains. Ranchers and farmers would drag the deceased animals to the roadside to allow easier removal of the carcass. Unfortunately, with the increased costs of fuel, vehicle maintenance, and manpower, rendering plants cannot afford to continue this service. Leaving the carcass along the roadside, however, is actually a form of illegal dumping. According to the Texas Health and Safety Code, the person responsible can be cited with a Class B misdemeanor for both the illegal transport and illegal disposal; of a dead animal. If convicted, a person may face a fine or jail time.

When it comes to disposing of dead animals, there are a few other options available. The first is to bury the animal on the property where it died; second, is to arrange disposal with one of the landfills in the area which is permitted to receive dead animals; or finally locating a mixed waste composting facility which can and will compost the dead remains. All of these options will have some costs involved, as well as certain regulations that must be followed. The Lubbock regional office of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission can assist you in locating facilities to accept animal remains and keep you informed of any state regulations which must be observed. You can contact the local office at 806-796-7092.

Dead animals need to be disposed of properly as soon as possible to reduce health risks as well as maintain the aesthetic appeal of the state. There are so many positive aspects to living and traveling in rural Texas, it's time to keep the roadways free from decaying livestock.

Independence Day 1845; Texas Convention formally accepted annexation offer from U.S. Congress. Constitution for the state adopted.

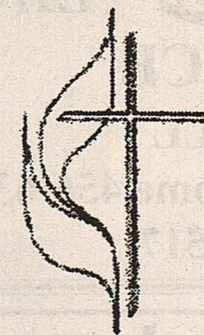


Another view of the PHS Cheerleaders at photo op. A bystander quipped, "They look much better than they play football."

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Yoakum County & City of Denver City
July 7, 2000, 1:00 pm, At Precinct No.2 Yard
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Items to be auctioned off include hospital equipment and items from various departments of Yoakum County. A partial list of items and category of items include: Chairs, Tables, Computers, Lab Equipment, X-ray Machine, Indoor Miniature Golf Course, Trash Cans, Doors, 100 Watt Mobile Radio Units, 5 Watt Walkies, Printers, Motorola Paging System, Photo Development Equipment, 40 Watt Mobile Radio, Typewriters, Dumpsters, Water Meters, Sewer Pumps, Generators, and Vehicle (s).

The equipment and supplies can be inspected between 10:00 am and 12:00 the day of the auction. Terms are cash or check at the time of the auction and purchases must be removed before 5:00 pm. Everything is sold as is and all sales final. Any item not sold or picked up will be put in the trash (discarded). Items may be added or withdrawn.

From The Hatch

I read an article recently detailing efforts by publishers of dictionaries to update their works to include hundreds of new words never listed before. Some of the offerings include 'energy bar', 'megaplex', 'fashionistas', 'Gen Y'ers', and 'E-tailing'.

Unfortunately, the article did not reveal the definitions of the words. Is energy bar what I think it is, something to chew on containing all sorts of vitamins and stuff incredibly good for you but tastes like a 47 day old cow patty? I'm guessing megaplex is something man made of staggering proportions, like, you know, humongous. Fashionistas, I'm laying odds on, are rather odd types whose particular fetish is fashion, like an ear ring dangling from nose, nostril or nipple. Forgive me, I don't have a clue what or whom Gen Y'ers are - just a shot in the dark, but could it be the misspelling of Gin Yeamers? I'm fairly sure (but no, this is NOT my final answer) E-tailing means tracing something electronically; but on the other hand, could it mean a parade of elephants holding tails with trunks?

The article reported many new slang phrases would be featured in forthcoming editions. My favorite listed was "dead cat bounce." My first thought was that's what happens when you drop a cat off a ten story building who has previously successfully lived nine lives. I was a bit surprised to read it actually means a temporary re-

covery in stock prices after a steep decline.

I had a brief but terribly stimulating and informative visit to the famed Table of Wisdom recently. The hot topic being discussed by the astute faithful was the boll weevil eradication program.

One Sage whined, "I just don't see how there could be no weevils left in the whole county. There's so many of them trappers and counters running around in Dodge pickups looks to me like they'd already squashed all the weevils there was." Another venerable Seer forcefully said "Ahh, don't be so goofy, there's only 56 of them pickups, they couldn't squish all of 'em. I tell you what, though, they're putting out so many of them yellow and green traps I bet they don't have to do much spraying, cause all the weevils are gonna be in them jillion traps." A third contributor added, "Yeah, and what weevils the traps missed they could take all those spare posts they mount the traps on and use 'em as clubs on the few the traps missed."

I departed feeling great satisfaction in my newly found wisdom.

I continue to get mail, conventional and E-mail, from folks attending my recent 50th high school reunion, most of whom I still cannot remember except for some ill timed or obscene event they were involved in. Most of them say, "Boy, I was surprised at how well you look! You've really taken care of yourself!" That type epistle was from the male gender classmates. The other messages invariably read, "I am so sorry you have been in such poor health. Surely you're wife could have taken better care of you. I know I could have if I had been attached to you, but forgive me, Thank God I never

was." Guess which gender those messages stemmed from?

I did have one very truthful message; "Until the reunion it had really not dawned on me how old I have become. I looked around and looked at mostly those strange faces we went through school with, and it slowly seeped through my brain.... we truly ARE getting old. I just wish, now that it's over, we had held some type oldest guy and gal vote at the reunion. I am terrified to think of me mentioning my choice of oldest looking female candidate, cause I remember too well how mean some of those gals could get. I just wish I could have cast my vote for you as most decrepit looking guy. I know you would have been a shoe-in!"

It's a lovely feeling to know you still have friends fifty years later!

* A kindergarten teacher gave her class the Show & Tell assignment of bringing something to represent their religion. The first little boy went to the front of the room and said, "My name is Benjamin. I'm Jewish. This is the Star of David."

The second little boy spoke from the front, "My name is Thomas and I'm Catholic. This is the Crucifix."

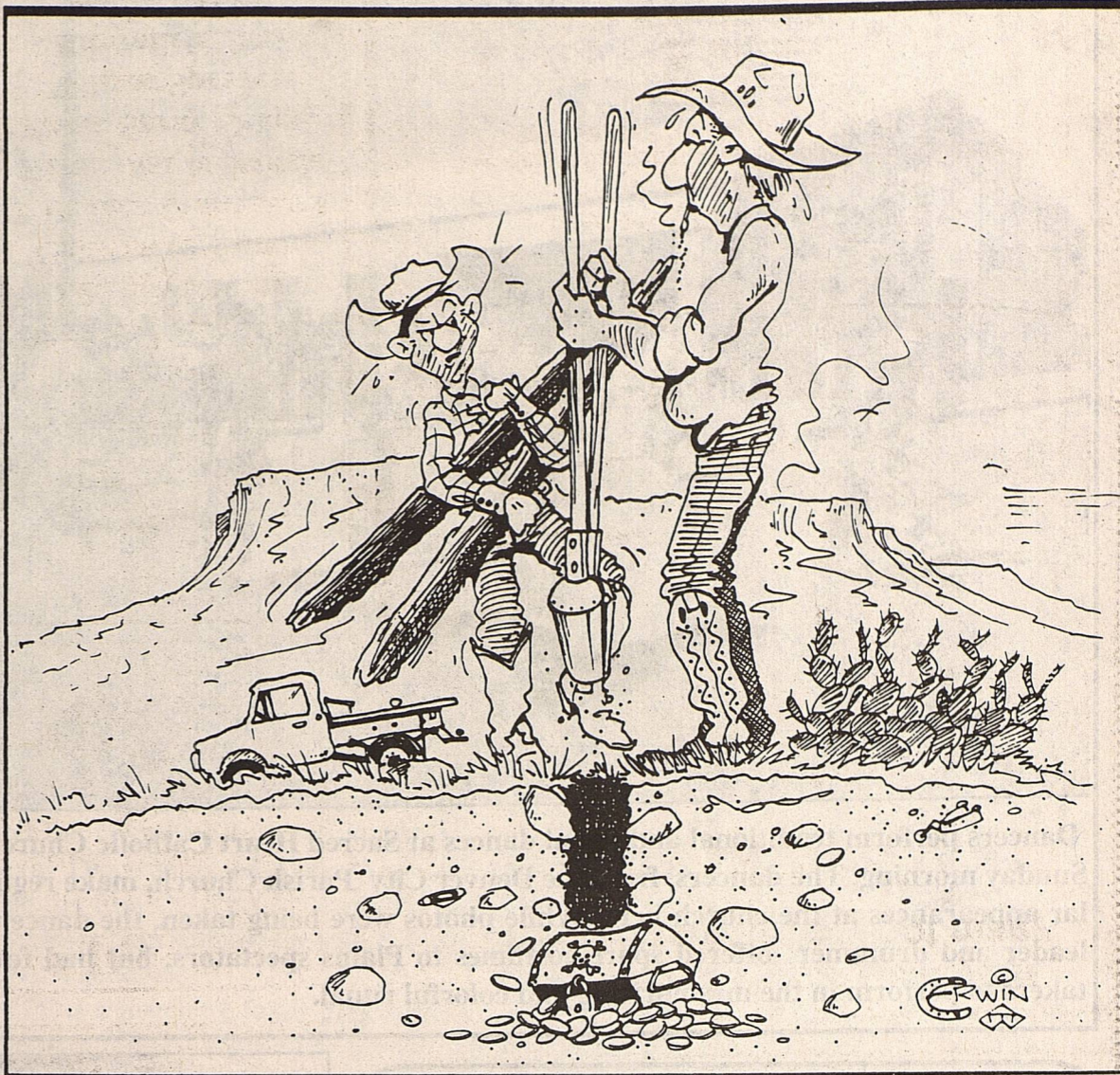
The third boy announced, "My name is James. I'm a Baptist, and this is a casserole."

* A business man boarded a plane and was seated next to a very elegant woman wearing the largest, most stunning diamond ring he'd ever seen. He asked her about it and she answered, "This is the Klopman diamond. Yes, it is very beautiful, but there is a terrible curse that goes with it." The man asked, "What's the curse?"

"Mister Klopman." * A man asked his doctor if he thought he would live to one hundred. The Doc asked,

HOOVES & HORNS

BY A.W. ERWIN

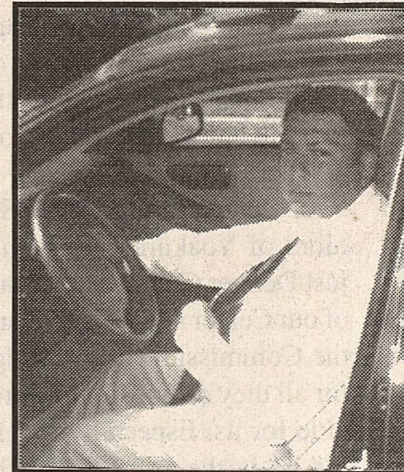


"Awww, that's deep enuff, no cowboy ever got rich diggin' post holes."

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