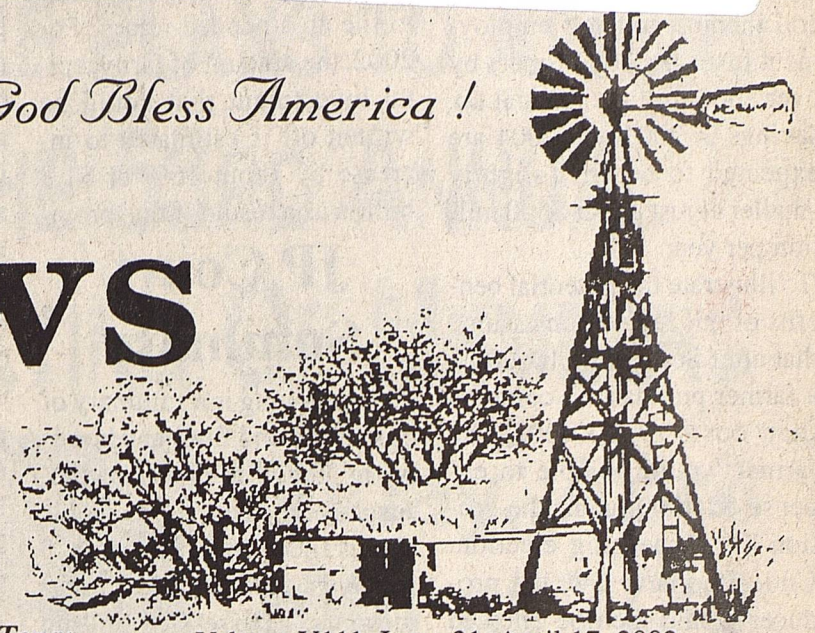


Cowboy Country



News

God Bless America!



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

Volume V111, Issue 31, April 17, 2002

It's the season to "SOAR"

Precipitation Enhancement program to operate from new hangar here



Meteorologist Duncan Axisa center of photo, explains electronic workings of computers copying and enhancing radar images of area storm clouds suitable for cloud seeding

Last week Sandy Land Underground Water District hosted an open house meeting in the district's new aircraft hangar at the county airport, attended by ag producers, water district officials and some dozen interested folks from neighboring Lea County, New Mexico.

Gary Walker, Sandy Land consultant and project manager of the Southern Ogalala Aquifer Rainfall program (SOAR), described the features of the new, spacious hangar which can house two or more twin engine aircraft, and includes a room which can be utilized by an aircraft mechanic. A separate office houses computers and radar equipment which captures images from the large radar dome outside the hangar.

Walker told visitors SOAR was originally organized for area cloud seeding to enhance area rains over Yoakum, Terry

and Gaines counties. He thinks several more contiguous counties could participate in the program, possibly as early as 2003.

The number of visitors from Lea County are evidence that county is very interested in the program, and could at a future date become a member of SOAR. Walker explained this would be very beneficial for the Texas counties now in the program. "Many of our seedable clouds start forming and growing over western and southwestern Lea County, and if we could work on them there, our chances for rainfall here would be greatly strengthened."

Recently hired Duncan Axisa, the program meteorologist who will work out of the office in the new hangar, used a Power Point presentation to explain what is needed in a cloud suitable for seeding with silver iodide, either on top of

the cloud or under the cloud's base. The cloud must be colder than 0 degrees centigrade, but ice free, and have updraft winds of at least 200 feet per minute.

He also used an overhead display of a recent storm in the San Angelo area, captured by the local radar, and then computer enhanced to show the flight path of aircraft seeding the large storm clouds.

Walker told the audience, "We have verifiable records of other precipitation programs to our south and west, covering years of cloud seeding work. We KNOW it works, and we have the data to prove just how well it works." He is hopeful this spring and summer will feature more suitable clouds to work with. Last season such clouds were very few and far between because of a persistent strong high in the area.

New Tax Relief for Farmers and Ranchers

According to John Fuston, State Executive Director for the Texas Farm Service Agency, there is new legislation that offers immediate tax relief through additional depreciation in farm or ranch equipment and property.

The most significant provision for farmers is a 30% additional first year depreciation allowance. Signed into law by President Bush on March 9, 2002, the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002, is retroactive to 2001 allowing capital investments from the previous year be depreciated.

Under current law, farmers, ranchers and other small businesses can immediately deduct up to \$24,000 of the cost of investment in qualifying machinery and equipment. This is scheduled to increase to

\$25,000 by 2003. The remaining amount is depreciated under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS).

In addition to the existing expensing provision, the Act provides an additional first year depreciation deduction equal to 30% of qualified property for investments made after September 10, 2001 and before September 11, 2004. Most depreciable farm or ranch property would be considered qualifying property, including farm machinery and equipment, crop storage facilities and single purpose agricultural and horticultural structures.

Since the provision is retroactive to 2001, farmers and ranchers can immediately benefit

Turn to Page 2,
'Tax Relief'

Criminal cases in County Court

Eight criminal cases were heard in County Court April 10, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Keni Dawnette Beck pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana. She was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred, must pay a \$250 fine and \$255 court costs, serve 24 hours community service and complete the out patient TAIP program. Her attorney was Bill Helwig, and investigating officer was Rick Dickson, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force.

Jeremy Scott Hix pled guilty to a first DWI, B.T. .110/.111.

Turn to Page 2,
'Court'

'Romeo & Juliet' Wins Area Title, Advances To Regional Competition

OAP To Present 'Night Of Dramatic Delights'

Plains High School will make it's fifth appearance in six years at the Region 1 - AA UIL One-Act Play contest on Friday, April 19th at Cullen Auditorium on the campus of Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas.

Rather than presenting the traditional "dinner theatre", the cast and crew will perform the play for the community on Tuesday, April 30th in a slightly different format. The public is invited to attend "A Night Of Dramatic Delights" featuring Shakespearian desserts. The show will began at 7:00 p.m. and desserts will be served afterward. Tickets will be \$5 and are available from any member of the cast or crew.

The Plains production of William Shakespeare's ROMEO AND JULIET won the school's sixth consecutive district title three weeks ago, which qualified them to compete in the area competition in Post on April 6th, at the area contest level. Advancing with Plains was Post High School's production of THE SHADOW BOX.

Senior Tanner Hamm was selected as the best actor at the area contest for his portrayal of Romeo. Senior Allison Butler, who plays the role of Juliet, was named to the all-star cast, while senior Annaliesia O'Quinn and freshman Payton Bean were named to the honorable mention all-star cast for their portrayal of the Nurse and Mercutio.

The Plains production was directed by Gary Davis and assisted by Ray Portillo. The company included Annaliesia O'Quinn, Allison Butler, Tanner Hamm, Kerry Sisson, Joseph Martinez, Payton Bean, Breck Hamm, Jarod Newland, Jordan Bean, Ryan Swann, Brant Huerta, Liz Wilmeth, Moriah Traweek, Kelly Bowers and Stacie Alldredge.

The regional contest in Abilene will include six of the 24 Con-

ference AA productions that remain in competition throughout the state. Shows will begin at 4:00 p.m. on Friday afternoon, April 19th. The performance order, which was determined by a blind draw, will be: Mason High School - Crimes of the Heart, Plains High School - Romeo & Juliet, Stinnett: West Texas High School - Arsenic and Old Lace.

Turn to Page 2,
'Romeo & Juliet'

PHS athletes advance to Regional Meet



Moises Gonzales, right, congratulated by Coach McWhirter and Trey Cleveland after 400 relay leg in district meet. He had a big day, winning the 100, then the 200 and setting a new school record time of 22.10. He will go to regional in both events, joined by Chris McGinty who won the shot put with a toss of 50' 1/4", Richard Diaz, winner of the 800 run, and Cowgirls Manuela Villegas, second in the 800 with a new school record time of 2:38:17, Moriah Traweek, second in both the 100 dash and 300 hurdles.

'Connection' committees busy with plans for Watermelon Round Up

Dozens of volunteer workers are busy finalizing plans for the 7th annual Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up, scheduled Saturday, August 31. At the April 9 Connection meeting, Round Up Chair Jeannete Head reported on committee assignments and scheduled events for the big celebration.

Arlon Gentry will direct a new event, a "Kiss The Pig Contest." Other assignments include Dottie Mayes supervising the 4-H Petting Zoo, Debbie Pollard will chair the Arts and Crafts booths, and Carolyn Culwell will be in charge of food booths. Ted Welch and Mike Smyres are planning the brisket/chili cook off contest, and are hoping to get the chili event sanctioned this year to earn points for entering other contests.

James Altman will again be in charge of arranging for day long, live music. A new event this year will be the Yoakum County Wordsmiths watermelon poetry contest, in which eight \$50 savings bonds will be awarded. Deadline for receiving poetry entries is May 15, and winners will have their poetry published in the 2002 Round Up Tabloid. Rules for the contest may be obtained from Chrisy Brink, Plains, or Connie Webb, Denver City. The brochure for the 2002 event was designed

by Brenda Canada's advanced computer classes at Plains High. 6,000 will be printed. Sheila Stephens will host the hospitality room, and L.J. Sanders will assist Yoakum County Hospital in placing signs announcing the Round Up.

Dean Richardson will be in charge of the information booth, and Terry and Wadonna Davis will chair the Classic Car Show, in which over 150 entries are anticipated. The Denver City Chamber of Commerce will supervise the Decorated Melon Contest, and Denver City firefighters will conduct the Seed Spitting contest.

Karen Williams is organizing the horseshoe pitching contest, and Melvin Dearing will chair the fun run. Russell Jones will schedule television coverage of the Round Up, and Lori Vantine will arrange for radio promotion of the event. Linda Powell is working on billboard advertising art, and Gary Dyer will handle newsprint promotions.

Alltel Communications will sponsor the fun run and horseshoe pitching events. Linda Harris will publish the promotional tabloid. Volunteer workers are still needed, and can contact Chair Jeannete Head at 45-MELON. The public is urged to invite friends and relatives to the Round Up, and this year's celebration should be even bigger and better.

**From Page 1,
'Tax Relief'**

sion. This should reduce Federal income and self employment taxes paid by farmers by over \$500 million. Annual tax savings in 2003 and 2004 are expected to be only slightly smaller at just under \$500 million per year.

To illustrate the potential benefits of this legislation assume that after September 10, 2001, a farmer purchases a combine that costs \$1000,000. The farmer would be able to expense \$24,000 under the section 179 expensing election. Under the new law, the producer would then be allowed an additional first year depreciation deduction of \$22,800, which is equal to 30% of the remaining cost (basis) of \$76,000 (\$100,000-\$24,000). Finally, the remaining cost (basis) of \$53,200 (\$76,000-\$22,800) could be depreciated under the current depreciation rules.

This would permit an additional depreciation deduction of \$7,980. Thus, the producer would be able to deduct a total of \$54,780 of the \$100,000 investment in the first year. This is an increase of \$19,380 as a result of the 30% additional first year depreciation provision. Assuming the producer is in the 15% Federal marginal income tax bracket, the Federal income and self employment tax savings would equal \$5,440.

Fuston said, "Although this is not a farm program, our agency administers many programs to support farm and ranch income and we want to make sure that producers are aware of this legislation so that they can take advantage of the tax savings." Fuston added that producers should consult with their accountant to discuss the application of the new legislation so their individual situation.

from the change on their 2001 returns although they may need to file an amended return. For 2002, the amount of farm capital investment that could be written off is estimated to increase by about 15% or \$1.8 billion as a result of this provision.

JP Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases filed and fines and bonds set by Judge Melba Crutcher, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1. Cases filed: 46 traffic cases, 5 felony cases, 2 class B misdemeanors, 1 possession of drug paraphernalia, 3 public intoxication, 1 minor in consumption of alcohol.

Bonds Set: fugitive from justice-\$5,000 bond. Bond forfeiture/possession of controlled substance-\$10,000 cash bond. Possession of drug paraphernalia-\$300 fine. Public intoxication-\$250 fine. Driving while intoxicated-1st-\$1,000 bond. Ride not secured by safety belt-\$200 bond. 2 charges-possession of marijuana- 2 ounces-\$500 bond. Possession of drug paraphernalia-\$200 fine. 2 charges-unlawfully carrying weapon-\$1,000 bond. 2 charges-assault causes bodily injury-\$1,500 bond. Unlawful consumption of alcoholic beverage by minor-enhanced-\$500 bond. Terroristic threat-\$1,500 bond. 3 charges-burglary of habitation-Gaines county-\$250,000 bond. Harboring runaway child-\$500 bond. 2 charges-motion to revoke probation-held until hearing.

Austin, Mar.25- Electric lights will soon be installed in the capitol. Eight 'electroleers' to be placed in the two legislative chambers will cost approximately \$1232, according to the Comptroller. Light globes will cost \$1 each, but no store here handles them.
The Texas News, 1891

**From Page 1,
'Court'**

A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated six months. He will make time payments on \$226 court costs and \$500 fine, serve 72 hours in jail with credit for 12 hours served, attend weekly AA meetings, and surrender his license 90 days. He must install an interlock device on any driven vehicle, serve 24 hours community service, and complete the DWI first offender program. His attorney was Joe Nagy Jr., and investigating officer was Joe Ramos, Denver City Police.

Victor Molina Castruita pled guilty and was sentenced to reduced lesser included offense of assault, Class C misdemeanor. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$255 court costs. Paul Mansur was his attorney, and William Gardner, D.C. Police was investigating officer.

Roderick Raymond Rodriguez pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana. Adjudication of guilt was deferred. He must serve 6 months community supervision, pay \$250 fine, \$211 court costs and \$140 restitution to Texas DPS. He must serve 24 hours community service, and testify truthfully against a co-defendant, serve 24 hours in jail, and attend weekly narcotics meetings. Paul Mansur was his attorney and investigating officer was Rick Dickson.

Juan Pena pled guilty to evading arrest or detention. A 60 day jail sentence had been met with 171 days time served. A \$500 fine and \$211 court costs will be paid out in jail at \$50 per day. Joe Nagy Jr. was his attorney, and Charlie Higgs, D.C. Police, was investigating officer.

Victor Manuel Talamantes pled guilty to a first DWI, B.T. .107/.102. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. A \$500 fine and \$226 court costs will be met with time payments. He must pay \$117 restitution to DPS. He will attend weekly AA meetings, serve 24 hours community service, spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 11 hours served, and complete the DWI first offender program. Heath Justin Hill pled guilty to

**From Page 1,
'Romeo & Juliet'**

Panhandle High School - The Shadow Box, Sonora High School - Marvin's Room. Two schools will advance from regional to the UIL State One-act Play Contest in Austin. The state meet for Conference AA will be held in the McCullough Theatre on the campus of the University of Texas.

a first DWI, B.T. .097/.092. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. Time payments will be made on a \$500 fine and \$226 court costs. He will spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 9

hours served, complete the DWI first offender program and perform 24 hours community service. Brad Taylor, DPS, was investigating Officer.

Martin Rodriguez Lujan, pled guilty to a first DWI. A fine and

court costs will be paid with time payments. He will serve 72 hours in jail with credit for 10 hours, attend AA meetings, complete the first offender program, and serve 24 hours community service.

Cashing in

There's no denying Americans love sports. But America's past time aside, the top money-makers in the big-time world of sports were nearly all

from auto racing in 2000, according to *Street and Smith's Sports Business Journal*. The DirecTV 500 race, held in Texas, made the top 10.

Event	Sport	Location	Economic Impact (in millions)
Indianapolis 500	Auto racing	Indianapolis, Ind.	\$336.6
Daytona 500	Auto racing	Daytona Beach, Fla.	\$240.0
Brickyard 400	Auto racing	Indianapolis, Ind.	\$219.5
Super Bowl XXXIV	Football	Atlanta, Ga.	\$215.0
United States Grand Prix	Auto racing	Indianapolis, Ind.	\$170.8
DIRECTV 500	Auto racing	Fort Worth, Texas	\$165.2
Goracing.com 500	Auto racing	Bristol, Tenn.	\$119.6
Food City 500	Auto racing	Bristol, Tenn.	\$80.5
Kentucky Derby	Horse racing	Louisville, Ky.	\$60.0
Winston 500	Auto racing	Talladega, Ala.	\$42.4

SOURCES: National Association of Sports Commission, SportsBusiness Journal research, Smith Travel Research, International Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus Foundation.

Romeo and Juliet Cast & Crew



Push is on for expansion of U.S. 82 to four lanes

In Commissioners Court April 15, a resolution was signed by the court, urging the highway departments of Texas and New Mexico to consider widening U.S. Highway 82 to four lanes, from Brownfield to Alamogordo, New Mexico. The court resolution joins similar resolutions approved by the Plains Chamber of Commerce and the Plains Lions Club. The City of Plains is expected to approve a similar resolution at its next council meeting.

In March of this year, Mike Dreyspring, General Manager of Lea County Electric Cooperative and President of the Lovington Economic Development Corporation, met with the Plains Lions and Chamber, suggesting a coalition of government entities and civic organizations along the U.S. 82 corridor work together to promote the highway project as a means of fostering economic development for all communities along the route. Dreyspring will be contacting similar officials and organizations in

Artesia, Cloudcroft and Alamogordo. When he has all the resolutions supporting the proposal, a delgation will formally contact officials in both states highway departments.

In other court action, a construction bid for a pavilion building in Denver City's Stuffy Moorhead park was awarded to Fryar Construction. The \$63,000 bid covers all materials and construction costs.

The Treasurer's monthly report for March showing a \$10,534,306 total balance of all accounts was approved. The Treasurer's investment report indicated less than two-percent interest was currently being earned from county investments.

A change order was approved for \$5,992 additional funds to complete the bathhouse under construction at Stanford Park.

The court approved a resolution suggested by the Texas Association of Counties exempting county property taxes on certain travel trailers. Be-

cause of confusion about the current law covering the trailers, it was suggested owners contact the Tax Assessor/Collector office, or the County Appraisal District office if they have questions about their tax status.

TSSWCB Announces New Web Site

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) has announced the latest redesign of their agency Web site. The purpose of the redesign was to construct a site easier to use, while creating greater eye appeal for members of the agency as well as the general public.

"We wanted our new Web site to convey the message of our agency, be easy to use and look great to our visitors," said Kris Parker, Director of External Customer Relations, TSSWCB.

Soil and water conservation district directors can log on and see dates for upcoming local meetings and activities and view their district information. For more info visit <http://tssweb.state.tx.us>.

EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE FOR THE MAY 4, 2002 CITY OF PLAINS GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE CONDUCTED EACH WEEKDAY AT THE TEMPORARY PLAINS CITY HALL IN THE EMS/FIRE DEPT. BUILDING, LOCATED AT 1104 AVE. G, PLAINS, TEXAS. EARLY VOTING HOURS ARE BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. AND 5:00 P.M. BEGINNING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2002 AND ENDING TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2002. THE PURPOSE OF THE GENERAL ELECTION IS TO ELECT (1) MAYOR AND TWO (2) COUNCILMEMBERS.

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Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 5:00 pm

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

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

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Evening Program 6:00 pm.

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

County 4-H'er Wins Big In San Angelo



Nine year old Yoakum County 4-H member Kristen Knight made history for the second time in less than a month with her swine project, capturing the Reserve Grand Champion Market Barrow award at the San Angelo Junior Livestock Show.

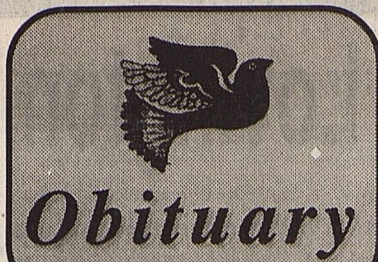
Miss Knight's pig, named "Payday" sold for \$5,300 in the Junior Livestock Auction "Sale of Champions", breaking the previous record for a Reserve Champion. Only a month age Miss Knight won the coveted Grand Champion award with her swine project at the San Angelo Junior Livestock Exposition, establishing a new record of \$57,000 at the event.

Miss Knight also made the San Angelo Premium Sale with her second place heavyweight crossbred barrow named "Little Jimmy", bringing home a prize of \$1,100. "I will use the money I make with my 4-H pigs to attend college at Texas Tech someday," she stated.

Kristen is the daughter of Tadd and Scotta Knight of Plains.

Red Cross Lifeguarding Class Offered

Sundown School pool is offering a Red Cross Lifeguarding class. It will be a three day class held on April 26, 27, & 28. The hours will be: Friday 5 to 9 p.m., Saturday 8:30 am to 8:30 pm, and Sunday 1:30 to 9:00 pm. The cost will be \$125 (includes book) per student. If you are interested in participating in this class please contact Betty Monger at the Sundown School Pool at 229-3021 ext. 226, during school hours. After hours and weekends call 229-8871.



Services Held For Hulen Dawson

Services were held for Hulen Dawson, 79, of Denver City at First Assembly of God Church in Denver City at 3:30 p.m. April 9, 2002 with Rev. Ronnie Lunsford officiating. Burial was in Gaines County Cemetery in Seagraves under the direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors of Seagraves.

He was born March 24, 1923 in Hector, Arkansas and passed away April 7, 2002 in Denver City.

Mr. Dawson attended school in Parkdale, Arkansas. He married Hazel Morley February 16, 1944 in Parkdale, Ark. He moved to Seagraves in 1963 from Boydale, Ark. He was a farmer in the Denver City area and retired in 1985.

He is survived by 3 daughters: Altha Weir of Denver City, Flora Dawson of Denver City and Nellie Glover of Midland. 3 sons: James Dawson of Post, Bill Dawson of Cortez, NM and Jimmy Dawson of Denver City. 3 brothers: Ardath Dawson of Bakersville, Ca., Charles Dawson of Camas, Wa. and Elton Dawson of Clayton, La. 15 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife in 1996, 1 son, Gerald Dawson and 1 granddaughter, Sandy Williams.

Lea County Electric Cooperative

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE 53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Friday, April
26th at 7:30
p.m. (MDT)

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Plains Memorial Chapel

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Sunday, April 21, 1 PM to 4 PM
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Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors

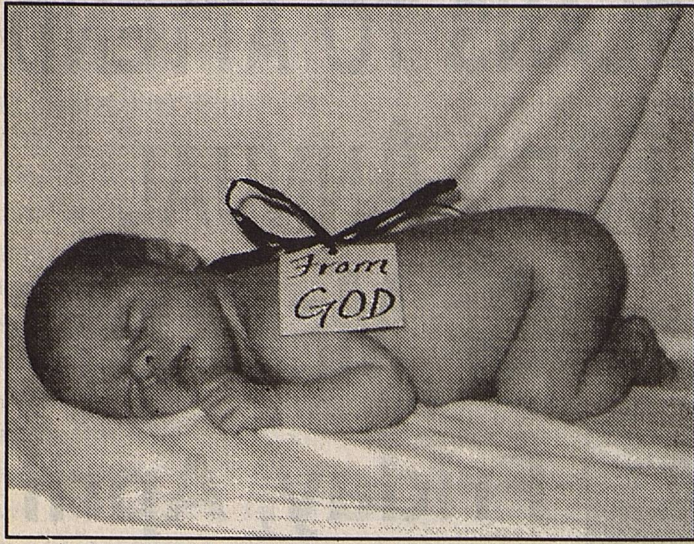
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It's A Girl!



Trenity Grace Wall was born March 19, 2002 to Chad and Jo Lena Wall weighing 6 lbs. 5 oz. and 19 1/2 inches long. Jentry is proud big sister along with grandparents Dan & Linda Wall and Ty & Linda Powell. Great grandparents include Wilma Powell, Lloyd & Maxine Grau, and Nolan & Thelma Jones.

SPC First Summer Registration May 29

Registration for the first summer term at South Plains College begins May 29. Registration is 2-6 p.m. May 29 at the SPC Levelland campus. Enrollment is 3-7 p.m. May 30 at the Reese Center campus in Lubbock. Classes at both locations begin June 3, and late registration

is June 3-4. A variety of Internet classes will be offered, along with on-site college courses. Summer 2002 class schedules are also available. For more information, access SPC's website at www.southplainscollege.com or contact SPC at 806-894-9611, ext. 2570 or ext. 2375.

T-Shirt Design Contest

The Denver City Art Association is accepting entries for the Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up T-Shirt Contest, with the deadline for entries on April 29th. Design must be an original design on larger than 8 1/2 " x 11" and must have Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up and the date of August 31, 2002 on it. Yoakum County Connection reserves the right to make changes to the winning design

as it deems necessary. Yoakum County Connection is awarding \$100.00 cash for the top design selected by the judges. For more information call Sue Holder at 806-592-2960 after 5:00 p.m. Mail unfolded entries to Denver City Art Association at P.O. Box 854, Denver City, Texas 79323, or hand deliver to Bayer Lumber in Plains or the Chamber of Commerce in Denver City.

VA Lowers Copayments For Outpatient Care

On December 6, 2001, a new regulation was put into effect that sets up a three-tier copayment system for outpatient care. Veterans who have been making copayments for outpatient health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will have lower bills, and in some cases, no bills at all, under the new rules. The first tier of the copayment system will be for preventive care visits and will cost veterans nothing. This care includes flu shots, laboratory tests, certain radiology services, hepatitis C screenings and numerous other preventive services. Primary care outpatient visits comprise the second tier and will require a copayment of \$15. The last tier includes specialty outpatient care, like outpatient surgery, audiology, and optometry and will cost \$50. The copayments do not apply for the treatment of medical problems that are officially recognized as "service connected". For nonservice connected conditions, the outpatient copayments apply primarily to veterans enrolled in Priority Group 7. "This is great news for veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "It eliminates barriers for veterans to get the preventive care they need and will lower the cost of health care for many."

Lovington Chamber of Commerce

presents the 12th Annual

Spring Gala

Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday,	2	Sunday,
April 20	0	April 21
9 am ~ 5 pm	0	noon ~ 5 pm
LEA COUNTY	2	LOVINGTON
FAIRGROUNDS		NEW MEXICO

Featuring~
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Jewelry ~ Apparel ~ Ceramics ~ Fabrics & a Variety of Food Booth
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For More Info.
Lovington Chamber of Commerce
505-396-5311

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Candidate for Mayor, City of Plains

Political Ad Paid For By Shane McKinzie

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Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

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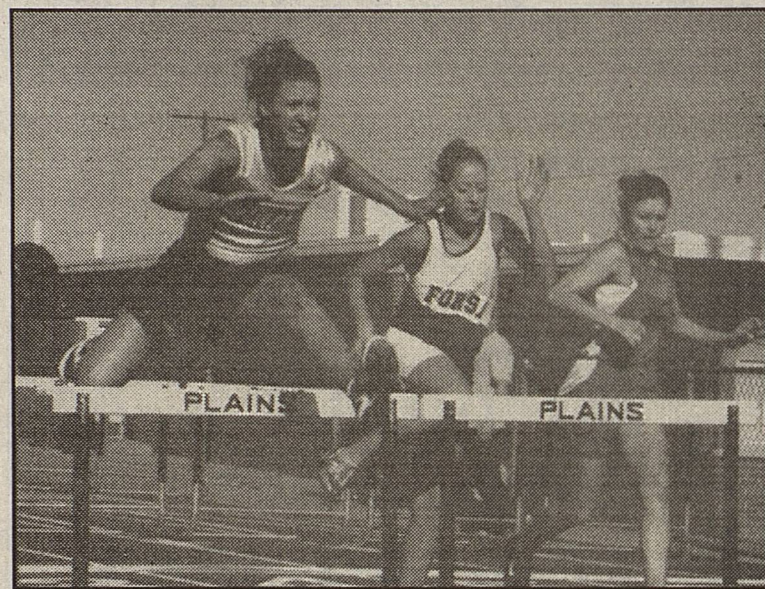
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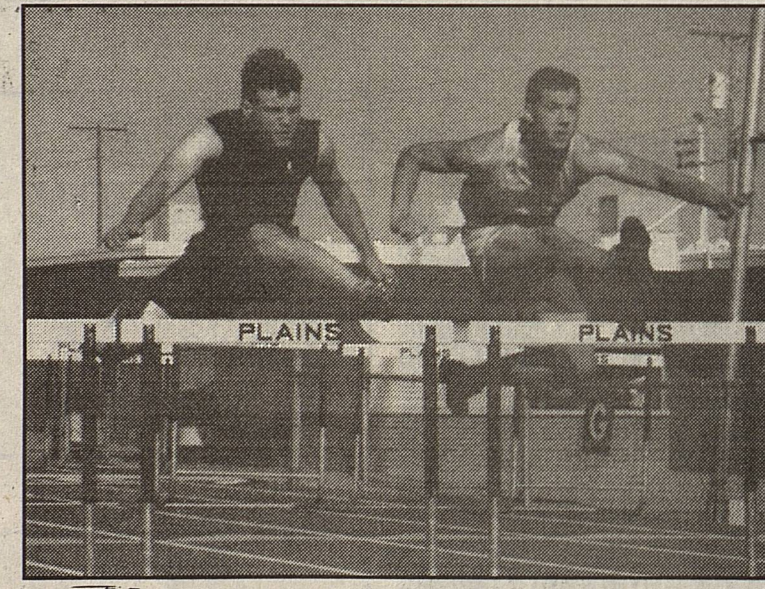
Chris McGinty's winning shot put effort



Moriah Traweek wins heat in 100 dash



Jill Gray is determined in 100 hurdles



Nick Hays in 100 M hurdles

PHS Sports Review

District Track Meet April 12:

Cowgirls-

(1st and second place winners advance to regional meet)
 800 M Run- Manuela Villegas 2nd, 2:38.17 - new school record
 100 M Dash- Moriah Traweek 2nd, 13.41
 800 M Run- Micaela Villegas 4th, 2:50.41
 1600 M Relay - 4th, 4:29.22- Kayla Willis, Jessica Rodriguez, Manuela Villegas, Moriah Traweek.
 100 Hurdles- Jill Gray 5th, 19.04
 Discus- Kayla Willis 5th, 86'10"
 800 M Run- Prisma Ortiz 6th, 2:53.06
 800 Relay- 6th, 1:58.17, Kayla Willis, Manuela Villegas, Jill Gray, Jessica Rodriguez.

Cowboys-

3200 Run-Armando Ramirez 4th, Payton Bean 5th, Brandon Davis 6th.
 800 Run- Riachrd Diaz 1st, 2:07.78
 110 Hurdles- Nick Hays 5th, 17.39
 100 Dash- Moises Gonzales 1st, 11.29
 300 Hurdles- Chase Howell 5th, 43.96
 200 Dash- Moises Gonzales 1st, 22.10, Joseph Rodriguez 5th, 23.64
 High Jump- Chase Howell 4th, 5'10"
 Shot Put- Chris McGinty 1st, 50' .025"

Golf, Dist. Meet April 11.

Cowgirls- The Cowgirls finished second in district and will advance to the Regional meet in Baird. Individual results for two rounds-

Liz Wilmeth, 205, Mackenzie Winn 211, Allison Butler 232, Mandi Rogers 233, Jill Gray 260.

Cowboys- The Cowboys finished fourth in district at Big Spring. Scores included Evan Cain 180, Isaac Ramon 189, Chase Howell 191, Tanner Hamm 208. Medalists Cody Flores 191, Brandon Hise 203

Tennis- District meet at Seagraves:

JV Cowboys: Singles- Evan Cain 2nd, Cody Flores 2nd

Varsity Cowboys- Singles- Tanner Hamm 2nd, advances to regional in Abilene

Doubles- Jarod Newland, Kelly Bowers 4th.

Varsity Cowgirls- Singles, Jessica Knight 4th.

Student of the Week

Student of the week is Liz Ramirez, a senior and the daughter of Nicolas and Josefa Ramirez. Liz was nominated by Mrs. O'Quinn, who said "If you need a lift, or just a hug, this student is one that will fill the bill. Liz always has something pleasant to say, she never passes you in the hallway without speaking, and lots of times you get a special hug from her. She works hard everyday and has a wonderful attitude and

outlook on life. She has been a pleasure to have at PHS these past few years."



Prisma Ortiz, Manuela Villegas share lane in 800 run start



Kayla Willis hurls the discus



Daniela Lazos dashes home

Go Cowgirls, Cowboys!

Earth Day Musical Slated For April 30

Fourth graders at Plains Elementary School are busy preparing the theme musical, EARTH DAY, by Carmino Racosa. The performance will be in the high school auditorium at 10:00 A.M. April 30. The public is invited. Plains Elementary music teacher, Mrs. Cynthia Blair, is directing the program.

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From The Hack

Early last Sunday morning, I boredly watched an outdoors episode of deer hunting, and was immediately reminded of my last pursuit of those antlered trophies.

Fresh out of the Navy in early 1955, a group of my Barstow, Texas buddies invited me to join in a hasty Whitetail hunt in Central Texas. "Where," I innocently questioned. The leader of the pack replied, "Who knows or cares? We need a deer to grind into sausage for Thanksgiving, and they got 'em all over the Hill Country."

Sounded reasonable, and next noon, we jumped in a '53 Ford, four hunters, three 30.06's, and a puny .22 magnum carried by the guy who never cleared 10th grade. He was warned not to shoot at anything larger than a mouse or squirrel, and then only if he was within fifty feet.

We ended up in a small town near Fredericksburg, about 2:00 am, the exact locale unknown, for none of us were capable of reading, much less intelligent

conversation, possibly under the influence of bad water we'd imbibed in Mason or somewhere.

Early the next morning we met with a surly ranch owner who owned the lease we proposed to eliminate all antlered deer from. He looked us over, and snorted, "God save me, I'm leasing my stuff to the scummiest looking group since Carpet Bagger days in 1866!"

We finally found our way to the lease. With enough noise to rout Saddam from Baghdad, we leaped out, unpacked and loaded our lethal weapons. The idiot with the .22 magnum promptly shot a mockingbird, for which he was soundly cursed the rest of the trip. We knew it was horribly unlucky to kill a mocker, and we were right.

Well aware I was the most capable hunter in the group, I quickly spotted the tree I would crawl, and from which I would assuredly bring down the trips trophy buck. Instead, I met a momma possum half way to my loft who hissed, clawed and spat enough for me to retreat to lower ground, in a rush.

Moments after I made sure I was still alive after the fall, I heard a big rifle go off, and seconds later, a horrifying scream. My first thought was, "Oh, my God, Clyde has shot Asa," or

vice-versa, for both were rather clumsy with firearms.

Minutes later after I raced to rescue whichever surviving comrade, I found Clyde, sobbing pitifully. Expecting the worst, I screamed, "Is Asa dead?"

Clyde sobbed, "No, he ain't dead, I was shooting at a nice buck, and hit a wasp nest instead, and I been bit all OVER!"

Displaying my deep and sincere concerns for my fellow mates, I fled the scene of the wasps still swarming over him.

The entire two days went like this, the highlight being when Asa shot a sun basking turtle on a log in the lease's stock tank. A 30.06 does not leave much of a turtle at close range to convert into turtle soup. Two days of beaner-weiners, crackers, Coors and Aspirin, we were headed home, and no deer were tied to the '53 Ford.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ita M. Young, Deceased, were issued on March 19, 2002, in Cause No. 1399, pending in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas, to: JAMES D. COGBURN.

The residence of the Independent Executor is Hobbs, Lea County, New Mexico; the post office address is:

c/o Bruce L. Harlan
Attorney at Law
PO Box 1149

Littlefield, Texas 79339

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 2 day of April, 2002.

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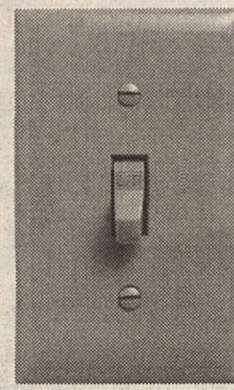
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TSSWCB Offers Resources to Districts, Schools, Public Organizations

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) offers a large selection of conservation related videos to the public for loan. Over 150 videos are available at no charge to soil and water conservation districts, public and private schools, and public organizations.

"The video library is a resource that we want the public to take advantage of," said Kris Parker, Director of External Customer Relations. "These are great learning tools on most every subject in conservation."

In addition to the video library, the TSSWCB offers two hands on educational models to loan. The Watershed Model shows students the effects of non point source pollution and how it makes its way to lakes and streams. The Groundwater

Flow Model shows a cross section of soil layers and illustrates how pollutants can travel in groundwater.

"Both educational models give the students a very clear picture of how pollution affects us and why it is important to take care of our land," Parker said.

The videos and models are available for a two week long period. The resources can be ordered by contacting your local soil and water conservation district or by contacting the TSSWCB Public Information and Education Department at 254-773-2250. A list of resources are available on line at <http://www.tssweb.state.tx.us/infoed/resources.html>.

The TSSWCB is a state agency that administers Texas' soil and water conservation law and coordinates Texas' soil and water conservation programs around the state.

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