

Plains Library
Box 419
Plains, TX 79355



The Plains Pride



Plains, Yoakum County, Texas
JUNE 8, 1986

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 10

TWENTY FIVE CENTS



LIONS CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS were awarded to Bobby Livengood and Terrie Spears. Dick McGinty made the presentation.

Three Offices To Be Decided In Saturday's Election

Yoakum County residents are going to the polls Saturday, June 7 for a run-off election to determine the name of the County Judge, County Treasurer and Justice of the Peace for Precinct One.

Candidates still seeking office of

County Judge are Dallas Brewer and H.K. Henniger.

Toni Jones and Gary Don Ford are running for the Treasurer's post.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct One will be either Billie Blundell or A.G. Brantley.

Girls' Basketball Tourney Underway In Snyder

Play began this week in the annual Girls National Tournament with Plains major and junior league All-Stars participating in the basketball action. The event began Wednesday in Snyder.

Wednesday's action found Evadale Regional meeting Crowell at 11:45 a.m. Plains All-Stars took the court at 1 p.m. to face SW Louisiana. Cross Roads Regional drew the bye.

Majors got into action Thursday with Crowell and SW Louisiana meeting at 6 p.m. Plains and Cross Roads Regional played ball at 7:15.

If the Plains Juniors won in their first game, they were scheduled to play at 2:15 p.m. Friday against the winner of the Evadale Regional-Crowell victors and Cross Roads Regional. Another win Friday would send them to the finals Saturday at 1 p.m. A loss Wednesday would find them taking on the losers of the Evadale Regional and Crowell game in a 9:15 a.m. clash Thursday.

A win by Plains Majors Thursday would match them against the bye drawing Evadale Regional. Game time would be 8 a.m. Friday and a

victory would find them in action again Friday at 6 p.m., with a win there putting them in the finals Saturday at 4:45 p.m.

Should the Major All-Stars lose in their opening game, they would meet the losing team of Crowell or SW Louisiana.

(Results of games already played were not available at press time).

Luna Children To Sell Sno-Cones

Lora and Alex Luna, children of Craig and Nora Stewart, are among Plains' newest "merchants". The youngsters opened May 24 and are offering the public thirst quenchers and treats.

Offering Hawaii Ice, sno-cones, ice cream, ocean water and pickles, the busy youngsters also have a new thirst quencher called a "Knock Out". They invite everyone to come by and try the new treat.

Set up on the street back of Pay-N-Save Grocery Store, the little business is opened 11 a.m. until 11 p.m. seven days a week. Mondays are "special" days with sno-cones offered at half-price.

Scholarships Presented To PHS Graduates

Commencement exercises were held Sunday afternoon in the high school auditorium for 31 members of the Class of 1986.

Special recognition was given several students. Mrs. Mike McClure presented Plains Fine Arts Club's Vera L. Smith Memorial Music Scholarship to Julie Culwell. Michael Earnest and Terrie Spears received the Yoakum County Council Scholarships presented by Mrs. Gary Jones.

Ruth Diaz and Jody Harris, Girls

State and Boys State recipients, were recognized by Mrs. Casey Jones and Dick McGinty, respectively. Plains Charter Chapter of American Business Women's Association presented scholarships to Toni Lowrey and Rosa Morales. Presentations were by Mmes. Wayne Lee Davis and Richie Cullins.

McGinty also made the presentation of Lions Club scholarships to Bobby Livengood and Terrie Spears.

Summer Volleyball Camp To Be Held June 30-July 1

Dates have been set for a two day summer volleyball camp at Plains High School. There will be two divisions to allow both junior high and high school girls to attend.

Eligibility is limited to those girls who have not played in a varsity contest.

The camp will be led by Baton Rouge Volleyball Club. Staff members who will be conducting the Plains camp will be former collegiate coach Ruth Nelson and Rose Magers, 1981-84 United States Olympic player.

Leaders will demonstrate the latest techniques that are used by the world's top players.

Dates and times for sessions are as follows: June 30-July 1, 9-11:30 a.m. High School; 12 noon-2:30 p.m. High School; and 3:30-5:30 Junior High.

Cost for the camp is \$25 for junior high girls; \$40 for high school girls.

To enroll or for more information call Coach Charles Cain at 456-7157 or high school principal Robert Parks at 456-7498.



"COME BY AND TRY ONE" suggest the new owners of the local Sno-Cone Stand, located on the street back of Pay-N-Save Grocery Store. Operated by the Luna children, Alex and Lora offer half-price specials on Mondays, and will be open from 11 a.m. until 11 p.m., seven days a week.

THE PLAINS PRIDE

Joe & Debbie Alcorta - Publisher/Editor

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—YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION RATES—
Yoakum County & Surrounding Counties, tax included\$15
Elsewhere, tax included\$16

County Farmers Invited To Run For County Committee

Eligible Farmers in Yoakum County are invited to become nominees for the Farmers Home Administration county committee, FmHA County Supervisor Ross W. James announced today.

As a result of the 1985 farm bill, two of the three members of FmHA county committees must be elected. The third member is appointed by FmHA. The Yoakum County committee assists the FmHA county office in reviewing applications for FmHA farm loans and on other farm credit matters.

Generally, farmers who are residents of the county, but not FmHA borrowers are eligible to become nominees for the FmHA county committee.

"Farmers in this county, serving on the committee, can play an important role by assisting in the process of loan applications and reviews," said Mr. James.

For this first election only, two members will be elected at the same time. One will serve a one-year term of office and the other will serve two years. In the future, all terms of service will be for three years each on a staggered basis.

Nominating petitions must be returned to the FmHA Yoakum County office by Friday, June 13, 1986.

Additional information and application forms for those who are interested in becoming nominees for the county committee are available at the FmHA county office, 605 9th Street, P.O. Box 547, Plains, TX 79355.

Commissioners Court

Yoakum County Commissioners Court met June 2 in special session. All members were present.

Approval was given to employ Robert Higgins in the Sheriff's Department effective June 1 at a salary of \$1,963.59 for a six months probationary period.

Rev. Robert Gilpin was appointed to replace Patti Lindsey on the Child Welfare Board.

The Court voted to advertise for bids on a microfilm system for the Child Welfare Board. Bids are to be received by June 23.

Jim Warren of Plains Insurance Agency met with the group to submit a proposal of 25 percent down and eight or nine payments with no interest. Present policy was voted cancelled immediately.

Commissioners also approved the transfer of \$7,360 from Permanent Improvement, Major Repairs to Justice of the Peace 2, extra hire.

Accepted by the Court was the Sub-division plat of Energy Park, lots 27 through 51, in NE/4 Section 764, Block D, JH6 and dedication deed.

Only one bid was received and opened on paving and seal coating streets and roads in Precinct 4. Ronnie Zahn Paving Incorporated's bid was accepted without opposition.

Jim Barron was appointed delegate to NACO's 51st Annual Conference in Clark County, Nev. Johnny Fitzgerald was named alternate.

An allocation of Bank Franchise Check in the amount of \$5,110 was received and will be divided between the four precincts.

Bills and extra hire were read and approved for payment.



FIRST TO RECEIVE AWARDS -- Gina Lewis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis, was the first to read 10 books in the summer reading club at Plains Library. She received a certificate and Sesquicentennial transfer, shown on her T-shirt.

Summer Reading Program Begun At Plains Library

Yoakum County Library in Plains opened the summer reading program Monday morning with clowns and balloons but a downpour of rain moved the program inside. Readers may continue to sign-up for the program all summer.

The first 98 readers completing 10 books will receive certificates and transfers for their T-shirts. After that, readers completing 10 books will receive only the certificates. "Celebrate Texas" is the theme of the 1986 reading program.

For patrons' enjoyment, the

library has videos, movies, stereo cassettes, film strips, books, periodicals and such. The library also has an opaque machine for use by patrons.

Several books were given this month in memory of Laura Lamb Johnson. The library also received Plains telephone directories from 1955. These were given by Opal Smith.

Library personnel have been pleased to display Roland Taylor's bronze works. Now on display is Joan Warren's "Ricken-Brack" work.

Pointers For Parents

A brochure called "Tips Against Tampering" is available free from the Proprietary Association, which represents manufacturers and distributors of nonprescription medication such as pain relievers, cold medicines, antacids and many more. For a free copy you can write to the PA, Office of Public Affairs, 1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

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8-6

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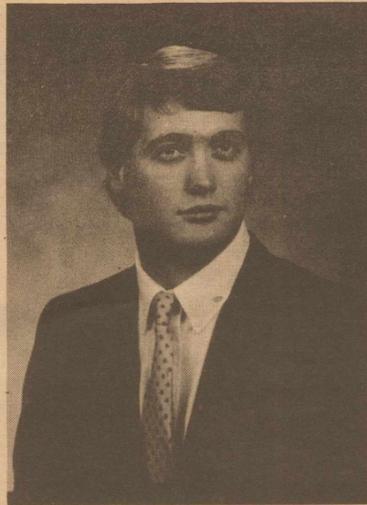
Regular

Class Reunion Being Planned

Efforts are underway to organize a ten-year reunion of the Class of 1976. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 2 in conjunction with the Old Settlers Reunion. The meeting room of the library has been reserved for 2 to 4 p.m. Persons interested should contact Donna Miller, 4003 Huaco Lane, Waco, TX 76710, 806/755-8198 home or 817/772-3632 office.

Addresses are needed for Ignacio Bernal, Ricky Carlile, Roger Crain, Jesse Sellers and Yolanda Vasquez. Anyone knowing of teachers or other students associated with the class is invited to extend those persons invitations or mail their addresses to Miss Miller.

Miss Miller requests persons to respond and indicate whether or not they plan to attend.



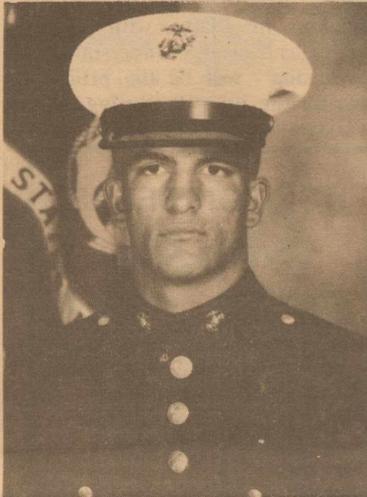
KIRK WILLIAMS

Kirk Williams Is Graduated

Kirk Williams, son of Mary Dale Williams of Plains and Charles Williams of Tokio recently graduated with honors from Texas Tech University.

Earning a bachelor of science degree in agronomy, he received Agronomy Faculty Awards for highest academic achievement as a freshman, sophomore, junior and senior. At TTU's Agriculture Honors Banquet, he was recognized as outstanding student in crops and horticulture departments.

Williams is employed with ICI Americas as a research field assistant for the summer. He will attend Oklahoma State University in the Fall, working toward a Master's Degree.



MARINE TO COME HOME
--LCPL Brian Lee Lemley will arrive home June 20 after completing training in Okinawa. He has had the opportunity to visit the Phillipines, Tokyo, Japan and South Korea. While in South Korea, he fulfilled a mission called "Operation Team Spirit '86". He will celebrate his twentieth birthday June 26. He is the son of Leonard and Julia Lemley.

Pictures used in The Plains Pride are returned to the Yoakum County Library in Plains, where they are kept on file. You may pick them up at your convenience, during regular library hours.

—Thanks, TPP

ENERGY TIP...

Use cold water to operate your food disposal. This saves the energy needed to heat the water and is recommended for the appliance. Grease solidifies in cold water and can be ground up and washed away.

LEA COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Watch

—“Our Family Time”—

every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.

On

KLBK Channel 13
featuring *Rex Boyles*

Pulpit Minister/Sunset Church of Christ in Lubbock

Two From Plains On Dean's List

Two students from Plains, Steve Rivas and Brent Stephens, were among 280 students named to the dean's honor list for the spring semester at South Plains College.

Students must maintain a minimum 3.25 grade point average while carrying a minimum 12 semester hours in order to be eligible for the dean's honor list.



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Church Training: 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship: 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
1202 Ave G
Louis Crenshaw, Pastor
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship: 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Choir: 6:00 p.m.

ANTIOCH BAPTIST
Lovington Highway/State Line
Neil Parks, Pastor
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
(Texas Time)

TOKIO BAPTIST
Tokio, Tx.
Alton West, Pastor
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Church Training: 6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship: 7:00 p.m.

**PLEASANT HILL
UNION ASSEMBLY**
Pleasant Hill
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Night: 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night: 7:30 p.m.

HILLSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
1502 Copeland Ave
Les Carey, Minister
Bible Class: 9 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC
1301 11th Street
Father Tom V. Parampl
Sunday
Holy Mass: 9-10 a.m.
C.C.D. Class (Bible Study): 10-11 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 8-9 a.m.
Wednesday
Holy Mass: 8 p.m.
Baptism Instruction: 7 p.m.
Marriage Counseling: 9 p.m.
C.Y.O.: 7 p.m.
C.C.D.: 4 p.m.
Ultrea: 9 p.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 7 p.m.

Friday
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: 8 p.m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
1102 Ave J
L.D. Hinson, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening: 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
902 Ave D
Interim Pastor - Rueben Ward
Sunday School: 9:45
Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Church Training: 8:00 p.m.
Evening Worship: 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

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CHOYA DON YOUNG & PENNY ELANE DALE

To Be Married

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Sparks of Seminole announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Penny Elane Dale, to Choya Don Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Young of Bronco.

A June 7 wedding is planned in the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sparks. The future bride is a 1986 graduate of Seminole High School. Young graduated from Plains High School in 1985. He is engaged in farming.

The couple will be at home along the Stateline south of Bronco.

Mobile Home Summer Survival

Mobile homes lack the ventilated attic space, overhangs and insulation that make it easier to cool a site-built home. But that doesn't mean that mobile home residents have to suffer with summer heat. According to Mary Dale Williams, County Extension Agent, mobile home owners can make minor improvements that will increase comfort and help maintain reasonable energy costs.

If your mobile home doesn't have large trees shading it, add arbors and trellises to support vining plants that will provide shade. Low-cost, easy-to-build trellises are especially effective on east and west facing walls where summer heat is intense. We have a recent list of suitable quick growing vining plants in the Extension office.

When the roof can't be shaded, coat it with light colored or aluminized treatment so that most of the sunlight will be reflected. To protect windows from direct exposure to the sun, use light colored draperies or reflective film for glass on west facing windows.

Home improvements can help, but a family's lifestyle will affect cooling costs and summer comfort. Run appliances in the morning or late evening when it's coolest. When you do run washers, ovens and other major appliances, shut the air conditioner off and run the range exhaust hood over the stove to exhaust the heated air directly to the outside.

By investing in a fan to circulate air, it will also be possible to set the thermostat between 78° and 80° and still maintain comfort.

Clutter Topic Of TEHA Program

Dorothy Jones was hostess May 27 for a meeting of Turner Extension Homemakers Club.

Roll call was answered with "Some things I need to throw away". Jerri Lollar presided over the meeting. Mary Dale Williams directed a program on "Clutter Control".

Eight members, one guest and the Extension Agent attended.

Next meeting will be in the clubroom in Plains with Velma Dearing as hostess. "Understanding Advertising" will be the program topic for the June 10 meeting.

HORIZON SEEDS

All Types of Grain Sorghum Seed

(for more information)

Call 456-4852
Ken McGinty

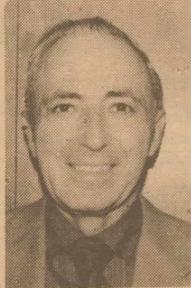
To Report Information On Missing Persons Contact

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SHOOTING STARS - left to right, front row, Darce Pierce, Leslie Gonzales, Andrea Salas and Brandy Lester. Second row, Mindy Lewis, Stephanie Cole, Janice Herrera and Kemi Cobb. Coach is Bruce Lester.



FILLIES - left to right, back row, are Janie Cowart, Neivas Sainz and Ronnie Cowart, coaches. Middle row, ltr, is Angelica Tarango, Jennifer Day, Bellen Coronado and Jodie Gayle. Front row, ltr, is Rachael Prieto, Sandy Sainz and Rhonda Cowart.



RICOCHETS - left to right, front row, Olga Ramirez, Juanita Valenzuela and Cindy Aguilar. Second row, Jo Lena Powell, Monica Flores, Nancy Tekell, coach and Rene McElrov.



SURESHOTS - left to right, front row, Amber Bryan, Mary Anna Gonzales and Rachel Arispe. Second row, Misty Willett, Selena Humphrey, Shandy Willett and Heather Bowlin. Back row, Coaches Ranece Humphrey and Paula Willett.



ACES - left to right, front row, Lora Luna, Molly Martinez and Holly DeFries. Second row, Leticia Vasquez, Tara Shipp, Amy Jones and Ashlee Winn. At back, coaches Craig Stewart and Anthony Asebedo.



COWGIRLS - left to right, Sue Ann Gomez and Tammy Lowrey. Second row, Jennifer Earnest, Penny Green, Amy Crutcher and Stacey Jones. Coaches are Steve Lowrey and Jerry Lowrey.



Plains Independent School District

From The Superintendent's Desk

DEAN ANDREWS



The first week of summer vacation has begun and we are still competing in activities from the 1985-86 school year. The days of yesteryear when school ran from September to the middle of May are long gone. School is continuous year round these days.

Melissa Welch competed in the State Twirling Contest in Austin on Monday, June 2nd, and received a three rating. This is a very fine rating for a freshman student. We congratulate Melissa for her achievement. Melissa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kent Welch.

Our F.F.A. Talent Team will be competing for the State Championship in Amarillo on July 16-18, 1986. Members of the team are: Brad McWhirter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Macky McWhirter; Michael and Keith Earnest, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Earnest; Kenley Powell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Powell; and Chad Wall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wall. Joe Pierce is their sponsor and credits himself with developing their musical talents. We wish them great success in Amarillo.

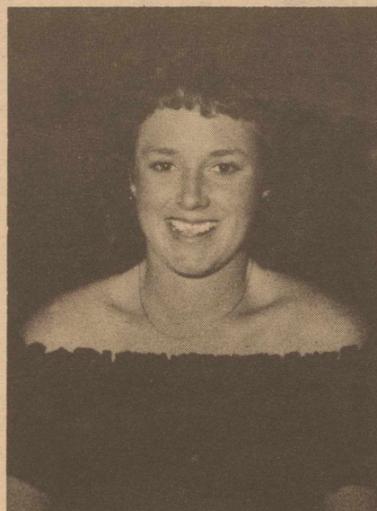
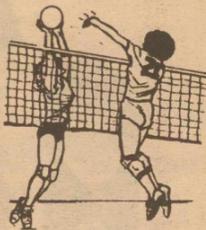
Two weeks ago I suggested that we pray for a good rain and higher oil prices. The rains came!

PHS Volleyball Camp

Junior High & High School Girls

June 30-July 1

(see story p-1)



JULIE CULWELL

Julie Culwell Earns Scholarship

Julie Culwell was awarded the 1986 Vera Smith Memorial Music Scholarship during commencement exercises Sunday afternoon. The presentation was by Kay McClure, president of Plains Fine Arts Club.

Presented annually, the \$200 scholarship is given to the student who has given outstanding musical contributions to the community.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Culwell, Miss Culwell was a member of the PHS Cowboy Band four years and co-recipient of the John Phillip Sousa Award as a senior. She is a member of the First Baptist Church Youth Choir.

Honor Roll Announced

Honor rolls for Plains Junior High School for the third six weeks of the spring semester are announced by Principal Jimmy Connor. Asterisk denotes the student as having no grade lower than 90.

5th Grade - Brad Ashburn*, April Horn*, Brandy Lester*, Keri Powell*, Betsy Blair, Sarah Knapp and Darce Pierce.

6th Grade - Rakesh Patel*, Wade Redman*, Tara Shipp*, Trey

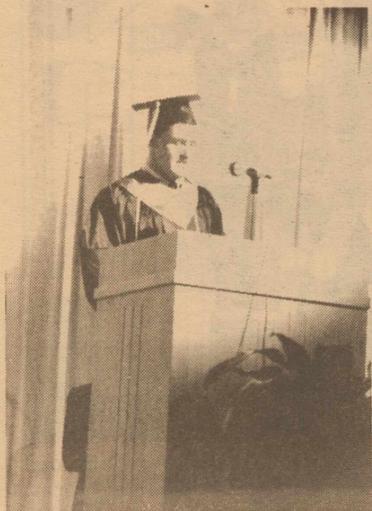
Cowart, Joe Martinez, Lacy McAdams, Brandon McDonnell, Jo Lena Powell, Jason Smith and Ashlee Winn.

7th Grade - Wendie Alexander*, Dain Guetersloh*, Layne Morrow*, Matt Record*, Vee Ann Fitzgerald, Clint Parks and Monte Pierce.

8th Grade - Dan Canada*, Nieves Garcia*, Lance Morrow*, Sally Burrus, Anthony Day and Henry Gonzales.



Graduation 1986





DR. STEPHEN SAUNDERS presented a program on chiropractic services, during the May 22 meeting of the American Business Women's Association. Dr. Saunders is associated with Atchley Chiropractic Clinic in Lovington, N.M. Pictured with Saunders is Mrs. Vaughn Culwell, Program Chairman for ABWA.

Chiropractor Leads Program During ABWA Club Meeting

Dr. Stephen Saunders of Atchley Chiropractic Clinic in Lovington was guest speaker May 22 at the regular meeting of Texas Plains Charter Chapter of ABWA in the Heritage Room of Yoakum County Library.

Presenting interesting facts on chiropractic treatments, Dr. Saunders conducted a question and answer session following the program.

Cindy Davis presided over the meeting. A report was given on the Ways and Means project, the giveaway of a diamond ring designed and made by Randy Brantley of Bayless Jewelry of Brownfield. Dr. Saunders drew the winning ticket with the ring going to Tony Michelleto of Denver City.

Members voted to give scholarships to two members of the Plains graduating class, Toni Lowrey and Rosa Morales. The club also voted to contribute to the National Scholarship Fund of American Business Women's Association, the Stephen Bufton Memorial Educational Fund.

Attending were a special guest, Deanna Shoemaker and members, Linda Cole, Paula Cullins, Carolyn Culwell, Cindy Davis, Dolores Davis, Raynee Davis, Linda Lowrey, Jean Patton, Debbie Smith, Linda Wall and Clara Williams.

Next meeting will be Monday, June 16 at 7 p.m. in the Heritage Room. Any interested person is invited.



Delbert Martinez

1986 Graduate
Western Hills High

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in the Future*

Congratulations,

Rico, Morena
Ricky, Joe, Alice & Lorie

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3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Brick, 2 Car Carport, Central Heat/Air. Corner Lot.

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Car Garage, Brick. Fenced Yard, on Corner Lot. Central Heat/Air.

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath w/Fireplace. Fenced Yard, Corner Lot. Sellers Will Pay Closing Cost.

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Brick. Fenced Yard on Corner Lot. \$12,000 Under Appraised Price. Make Us An Offer!!

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Excellent Building Site — ¼ Block Northeast Part of Plains.

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—Wayne House—
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—Yvonne Spencer—
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Nominate Your Dad



for

Plains "Father of the Year"

In 50 words or less, write down

"Why your Dad should be chosen as

'Father of the Year'.

Those nominated for 'Plains Father of the Year' must live in or near the Plains community.

Prizes & Special Recognition will be given to the winner. Letters should be left at the Plains Library. All entries must be in before 3 p.m. Wednesday, June 11. Letters may be mailed to The Plains Pride, Box 1139, Plains, TX 79355, but must be postmarked no later than Wednesday, June 11.

New Arrivals

Dana and Ace Hamm announce the arrival of a son born May 6 at 12:40 p.m. in Lubbock's Methodist Hospital. The little fellow weighed six pounds 12 ounces and is 19 3/4 inches long. He has been named Breck Taylor. He has a three-year-old brother, Tanner. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Patton and Mr. and Mrs. L.D. Hamm, all of Brownfield. Mrs. Evadean Van Buskirt of Brownfield is his great-grandmother.

Gwen and Wayne Carter would like to announce the arrival of a grandson, Jared Wayne Carter. The little lad was born April 28 in Huntsville General Hospital in Huntsville to Ginger and Randy Carter of Coldsprings. He weighed nine pounds one and a half ounces. He was 21 inches long. He has a sister, Amy Sue, three and a half. Mrs. Maye Weed is the little one's great-grandmother.



Filmtime

Filmtime for pre-school children at Yoakum County Library will not be held until school begins again. The May 28 program concluded the year. Denis King presented a program, accompanying himself on the guitar as he sang several songs.

Films will be shown at the library during the summer and videos may also be viewed.

Filmtime May 28 also featured the film, "Pedro" about a small airplane. Outdoor games were played and ice cream cones served.

Attending were Marcey House, Scott Sears, Chris, Kim and Kayla Willis, Donita Richardson, Leslie Rowe, LaCresha and Skyler Johnson, Ragan McGinty, Dawn Garland, Tommie and Grady McNabb, Ty Shearman, Steven Bunch, Kyle Kight, Amy Wauson, Aaron Cain, Kristen Gray, Lee Schrader, Lisa Parrish, Tandi and Kimberly Jones, Staci Tuggle, Brett Squyres, Stephanie Vasquez, Jason Kelton, Kaleb, Joshua and Daniel Clay, Gray and Jordan Parr, Lensey Cullins and Jeremy and Joel Horn.



2241

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Denver City.

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Wet Weather Blight Can Damage Cotton Seedlings

Ascochyta or wet weather blight is a disease that periodically causes serious problems in young cotton on the Texas High Plains. Outbreaks generally follow extended periods (3 days or more) of rainy, cool weather in late May or early June. Infestations are more likely to occur in young plants that were damaged by hail or blowing sand.

The disease is caused by a fungus that overwinters in the soil on old crop residues. The splashing action of rain drops enables the fungus to reach the stems and leaves. Usually, the return of warm, open weather effectively stops the development of the disease before serious plant infection occurs.

When the proper weather conditions (cool, cloudy, wet) occur, however, the fungus survives and becomes established in leaf and stem tissues. Leaf infections start as small round purple to brown spots or lesions. These rapidly grow in size and eventually unite with other spots. The centers of these spots become tan or ashy colored and may fall out as the tissue dies. In severe infections, dark elongated lesions may also develop on stems and leaf petioles. Under conditions favorable to the disease, these lesions can encircle (girdle) the stem and kill the plant but this type of damage is not common in West Texas.

In a matter of days this disease can destroy most of the plant leaf tissue and even kill many seedlings. As the disease develops the stand of cotton seems to disappear as the leaves begin to discolor and break off. This tends to give the impression that the entire field has been literally destroyed by the disease.

Since Ascochyta blight tends to attack young plants in the early part of the growing season, its damage is frequently associated with -- or mistaken for -- seedling disease. Generally, young plants already infected with seedling disease are more susceptible to Ascochyta blight. However, even strong, healthy seedlings can develop blight infections, especially if they're subjected to wind and sand abrasion prior to the onset of cool, wet weather.

In evaluating blight damage, first consider how the planting came up to a stand. If emergence was rapid and uniform with good early growth, then the crop should have a good strong root system and has the potential to recover quickly even though leaf damage may appear extensive. On the other hand, a slow emerging, slow developing crop is apt to have a higher mortality rate and sustain more permanent damage that limits recovery and yield potential.

Next, make a stand evaluation by digging up all the seedlings in a 3 to 5 foot space of row at several random locations in the field. It's better to dig, rather than pull the plants to get a good look at the taproot and secondary root systems of the plant. Examine each seedling and discard those with obvious root and stem damage.

Check the terminal buds for new

growth. If there is healthy green tissue visible in the bud area, the plant has the potential for rapid recovery with the return of warm, open weather.

In making the final stand count, include the obviously healthy plants as well as plants that may have missing or damaged leaves but have clean roots and stems and evidence of new growth in the terminal buds. If the count averages 2 or more plants per foot of drill and there aren't too many skips more than 2 to 3 feet in length, the stand is adequate for near optimum production.

Currently, there are no recommended chemical treatments for the control of Ascochyta blight. Warm sunny weather, protection from wind and sand and tillage to allow aeration and evaporation of excess moisture constitute the best control measures. Generally, once the sun breaks out and the temperatures rise, the spread of the disease will stop. At this point it's important to provide protection against blowing sand and break up the crust to allow aeration and more rapid warming of the soil.

Because disease damage symptoms can develop rapidly, the first impulse is to destroy the sickly looking crop and start over. Too often the decision to replant is based more on emotion than on a hard-nosed evaluation of the crop condition. The best approach to Ascochyta blight problems is to make a good stand evaluation after the return of warm, open weather. If the stand is adequate, give the crop 4 or 5 days to "react" before making the final decision regarding replanting.

Texas Tourist Development Agency



Mari Schnell
P.O. Box 12008
Austin, Texas 78711
512/463-7400

'Operation Assist' Offered

The Farmers Home Administration office in Yoakum County will begin immediately to participate in "Operation Assist", Ross W. James, County Supervisor, announced today.

"Operation Assist" is a new effort by FmHA to help farmers obtain guaranteed operating loans. County Supervisors for FmHA will take completed farm credit applications to local banks or other lenders, along with the farmer wishing to apply for a guaranteed loan.

"We will hand-carry the applications, and personally introduce the applicants to our local lenders," said James. "We will present a complete loan package, including cash flows, financial statements and appraisals. If necessary, we will make a commitment to work with the lender to do an interest buy-down. We will do everything we can to help the lender, and the borrower, by committing to guarantee the loan at our maximum 90 percent."

While direct operating loan funds are used up in some areas, there is still nearly \$800 million available for the guarantee program. County FmHA officials hope the lenders will make operating credit available under the guarantee, with most of

the paperwork done beforehand by FmHA.

Borrowers and lenders interested in an FmHA guaranteed loan should contact the FmHA county office.

Young Farmers To Meet Monday

Plains Young Farmers will meet at 8 p.m. Monday in the ag shop. Guest speaker will be Linda Shoemaker Lowrey.

Interested persons are invited.

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JUNIOR ALL-STARS are back row, ltr, coaches, Neivas Sainz, Ronnie Cowart and Janie Cowart. Middle row, ltr, Penny Green, Jennifer Day, Heather Bowlin, Amy Crutcher, Jodie Gayle and Belen Coronado. Front row, ltr, are Rhonda Cowart, Shandy Willett, Sandy Sainz, Angelica Tarango, Misty Willett and Amber Bryan.

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