

Apples of Gold
 LOVE—It is only the forgiving who are qualified to receive forgiveness.

National Ag Awareness Week
Laugh, Cry...It's Dry
 Page 10

Inside
 Obituaries Page 2
 Chamber News Pages 3
 School News Pages 4 & 5
 Official Records Page 6
 Anniversaries & Engagements Page 7

The Winters Enterprise

Serving Winters and North Runnels County

Volume 11, Issue 12

Thursday, March 23, 2000

Winters, Texas

50¢

Lanny England family and Eugene Kasberg Jr., honored at Agri-Plex Ag Day



RUNNELS COUNTY FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR
 Lanny and Mandie England, Luke and Julie

Cody Cook & Kayla Jansa receive Pat Lee 4-H Memorial Scholarships

Honors were bestowed on Lanny and Mandie England of Winters, Eugene Kasberg Jr. of Miles, and Cody Cook and Kayla Jansa, both of Rowena, at Agri-Plex Ag Day, Tuesday, March 14, 2000, at Ballinger.

The Lanny England family of Winters was named as the Farm Family of 2000.

A lifetime Winters area resident, Lanny attended Cisco Junior College and graduated from Texas Tech in 1967 with a bachelor of science degree in Agronomy. Following school, he worked for DeKalb Seed Company until 1975 when he returned to the Baldwin community to farm and ranch with his dad, Bade England.

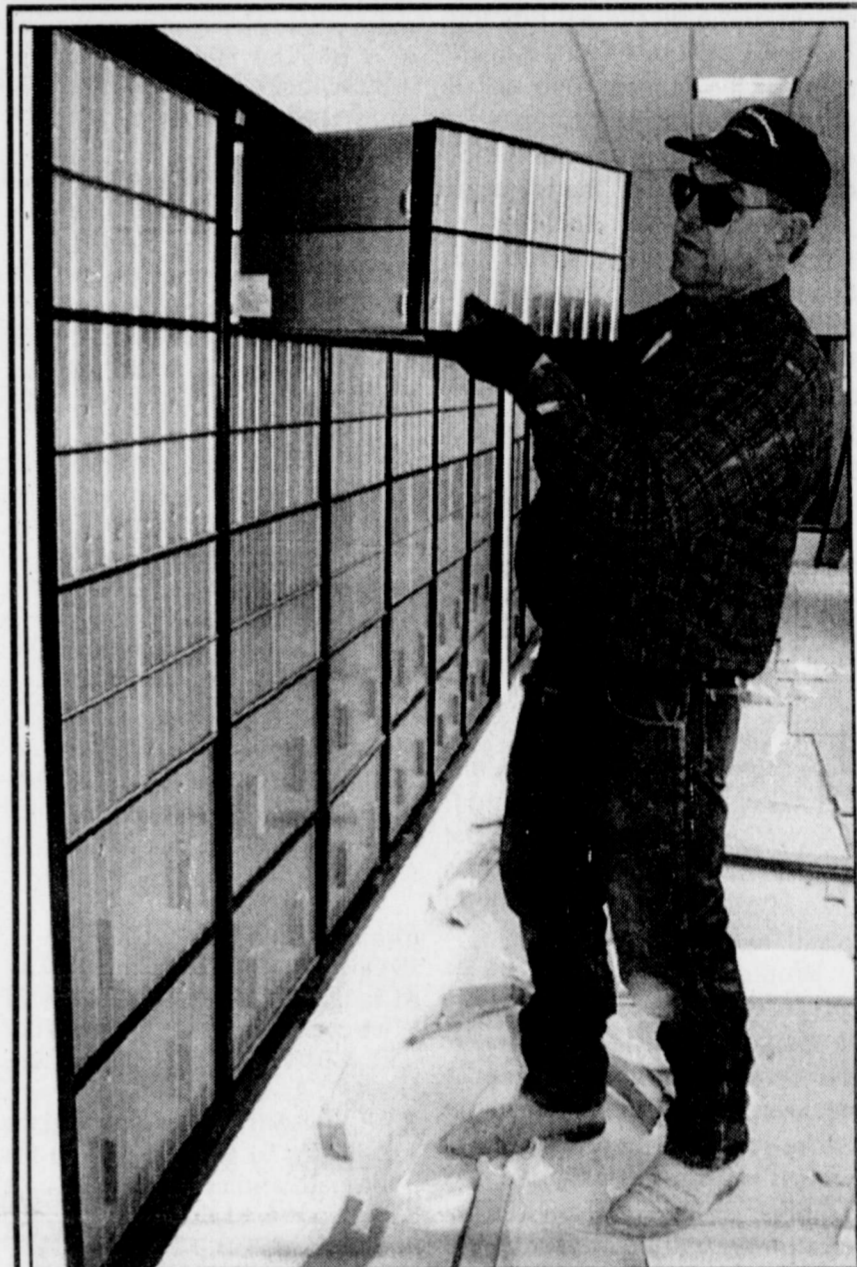
Lanny has been on the North Runnels Water Board since 1987 and has served as president since 1991. He previously served two years on the first Producer Board that initiated the Boll Weevil Eradication Program in the Southern Rolling Plains area, and is currently a gin delegate represent-

ing Wingate Gin for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program of the Southern Rolling Plains. Lanny also served in the past years as a house captain for Christmas in April.

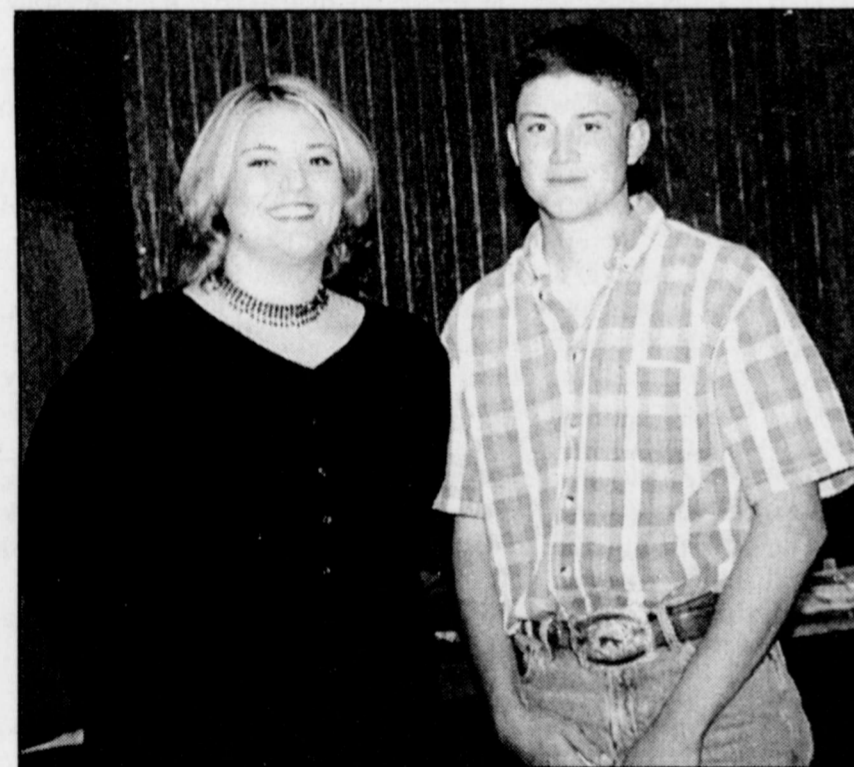
Mandie Armstrong England is from the Corpus Christi area. She graduated from Texas A&M University in 1977 with a bachelor of science degree in Entomology and in 1979 with a masters in Entomology. She was then hired by Texas Agricultural Extension Service as entomologist in Runnels and Tom Green counties where she worked nine years, 1979-1988. Her "Turnrow Tidbits" radio program and newsletters were common in all farm households.

It was on a cotton turnrow that Mandie met Lanny England, not only to later be her husband but also her best friend. Lanny and Mandie married in 1988 and spent their honeymoon in Mexico touring farms. Mandie left her Extension entomologist position later that year.

See AG DAY, page 8



NEW POST OFFICE BOXES are being installed in the new facility on Main Street by J. Jenkins of H&J Mechanical, Inc. of Rule. Jenkins said his company hopes to have construction of the new post office completed in about three weeks.



PAT LEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS
 Kayla Jansa and Cody Cook of the Rowena 4-H Clubs

WISD trustees approve funds for new band uniforms, renew contracts

With the approval by WISD trustees to spend \$10,000-\$12,000 from next year's budget, the WHS Blizzard band will be decked out in new uniforms next football season.

Total cost of the seventy uniforms will run around \$17,000, with \$5,000 being paid by the Band Boosters organization.

During their regular meeting Monday night, trustees also voted to employ the professional personnel listed below under terms of term contracts for the 2000-2001 school year:

Jerry Awalt, David Evans, Marta Hollowell, Dorothy Reed,

Martha Shepard, Chris Bearden, Charles Murphy, Robert White, Regina Newsom, Mary Beth Ahrens, Melissa Boyd, Sherry Cavazos, Lou Ann Hatler, Brilla Magee, Cathy Oliver, Colleen Radillo, Cheryl Sneed, Cindy Davis, Nancy Evans, Susan Mostad, Sharon Rice, Lori Smith, Kenneth Fowler, Biff White, Vanessa Richards, Connie Tounget, Becky Airhart, Dawn Bryan, Karen Colburn, Marlene Hogan, Jody Meyer, Chris Parramore, Bette Raymond, Teressa Tekell, Laura Dees, David Hale, Antonio Ramirez and Roy

See WISD, page 3

North Runnels Hospital seeking candidates for May election

Sign-up through April 5

North Runnels Hospital Board positions for directors Tobin Burns, Carla Harris, and Dale Montgomery will expire in May.

Anyone residing within the North Runnels Hospital District may file as a candidate.

Beginning Friday, March 24, persons desiring a candidate's application may obtain one at the administrative offices of North

Runnels Hospital, Hwy. 153 East, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Deadline to accept applications is April 5.

Early voting by personal appearance begins April 12 and ends April 26 at the administrative offices of the hospital.

Ballots by mail should be requested from Teresa Davis, North

See HOSPITAL, pg. 2

WPD organizing neighborhood crime watch

The Winters Police Department is seeking cooperation from residents and concerned citizens in the city limits of Winters, to organize a network of neighborhood crime watch groups.

All interested persons should contact Chief Carey Ballentine or Community Resource Officer James Kipness at the Winters Police Department, 754-4121, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

According to Ballentine, "The department is looking forward to working with the citizens in our city to combat crime. Remember that with your help, the Winters Police Department can make Winters a safer place to live for all of us."

Project Graduation—

Fish Fry slated Sunday, Mar. 26

Project Graduation 2000 will host a Fish Fry on Sunday, March 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the

See PROJECT, pg. 1



WHS ONE ACT PLAY cast and crew include (back row, l-r) Oscar Luz, Kayla Colburn, crew members Shane Colburn and Guy Slimp, Kelli Slimp and Wes Calcote. Seated center are John Bahlman and Julie Paske. Sitting at front are Mandy Pritchard (left) and Candess Johnson. Not pictured are Meagan Nitsch, Jared Airhart, Darci Lindsey, Cassandra Johnson and Rebecca Scates. Winters performed "Teach Me How to Cry" in zone competition at Coleman tonight, but results were not available at press time on Tuesday. The students are under the direction of David Evans, assisted by Kayleen Bergman and Nancy Evans.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

- March 23-11:30 a.m., Senior Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 6 p.m., 4-H Method Demonstration Training, Extension Office, Ballinger
- 6 p.m., One Act Play, Zone Competition, Coleman High School
- March 24-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 4 p.m., Varsity Baseball at Coleman
- 4:30 p.m., Softball vs. Lorraine, Winters City Park
- 7:30 p.m., Cowboys for Christ, Drasco
- Varsity Tennis at Big Lake
- JV Tennis at Colorado City
- Boys JV and Varsity Track at San Angelo
- Jr. High UIL Academic Meet, Goldthwaite
- March 25-7 p.m., Winters Squares, Community Center
- State Powerlifting Meet at Ft. Hood, Killeen
- Varsity Tennis at Big Lake
- JV Tennis at Colorado City
- Boys JV and Varsity Track at San Angelo
- Girls Track at Abilene Christian University
- March 26-11 a.m.-1 p.m., Project Graduation Fish Fry, WHS Cafeteria
- 7 p.m., Kids Crusade, Somebody Cares Ministries
- March 27-9:30-10:30 a.m., Social Security Rep, Housing Authority
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 5:15 p.m., Winters 4-H Club, Catholic Church Fellowship Hall
- 6 p.m., City Council, City Hall
- 6 p.m., Weight Watchers, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 7 p.m., Wingate Masonic Lodge
- 7 p.m., Winters VFW & Auxiliary, Post Home
- 7:30 p.m., School Board, WISD Administration Building
- District UIL Academic Meet, Early
- March 28-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- Noon, Lions Club
- 4:30 p.m., Softball at Wall
- 4:30 p.m., Varsity Baseball at Eula
- Girls Golf at Goldthwaite
- 5-6:30 p.m., Pioneer Club, First United Methodist Church
- 7 p.m., WVFD, Fire Station
- March 29-7 a.m., Industrial Board, Chamber of Commerce Office
- 11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- March 30-11:30 a.m., Sr. Citizens Meal, Sr. Citizens Activity Center
- 2 & 6 p.m., Census Testing, Winters Housing Authority
- 5 p.m., Z.I. Hale Museum Board
- 6:30 p.m., Women's Service League, First United Methodist Church
- District UIL Academic Meet, Early
- Jr. High UIL Band Concert, Ballinger



Jessie & Al Collom
March, 2000

Al and Jessie Collom celebrate golden wedding anniversary

A.J. and Jessie Kennedy Collom celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Saturday, March 4, 2000. The couple was married March 4, 1950, at the First Methodist Church in Winnfield, Louisiana. Jessie graduated from high school in Winnfield and Louisiana Tech University. Al is a graduate from high school in Crews and Southern Methodist University. He served in the U.S. Navy as a radio operator aboard the U.S.S. Pittsburgh during World War II. Both had very interesting careers working for NASA at Johnson Space Center in Houston. Jessie was an accountant and Al was an aerospace engineer. They worked in the same building for many years. From eating lunch together and bumping into each other in the elevator or hallway, they were frequently together, as they continue to be. While at NASA, Al worked on all the Apollo missions, including the Soyous docking and the lunar excursion module, as an interface control liaison representative between Johnson Space Center in Texas and Kennedy Space Center in Florida. He was also a shuttle payload integration specialist. The Colloms made their home in Dallas and Friendswood until retiring to the Crews community about 12 years ago. They have two sons, Larry and wife Bobbie, and Keith and wife Karen; and two grandchildren, Amanda and Courtney, who all live in the Crews area. Jessie and Al spend all the time they can visiting with their family. They are active in the First United Methodist Church. In retirement, Al takes care of his cattle and Jessie is active in the Eastern Star as well as local bridge clubs. After a memorable celebration on their 50th anniversary with their children and grandchildren, Jessie and Al spent several days sight-seeing in the Hill Country. Later this spring, they will go on a cruise aboard the Majesty of the Seas, where they will visit such ports as Miami, St. Thomas, St. Martin, and San Juan, Puerto Rico.



Mr. & Mrs. A.J. Collom
March 4, 1950

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Don Gray renew marriage vows

In celebration of their 10th anniversary, Belinda (Arroyo) and Jerry Don Gray of Abilene renewed their Christian marriage vows in a double ring ceremony on Saturday, March 18, 2000, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Abilene. Father Bob Bush officiated the ceremony. The couple was originally married September 14, 1990, in Abilene. The bride is the daughter of Frank and Rosalinda Arroyo of Abilene. She is a 1989 graduate of Winters High School and attended Aladdin Beauty College where she received her Texas cosmetology license. Parents of the groom are Bobby and Patsy Gray of Winters. Jerry Don is a 1989 graduate of Winters High School and attended Texas State Technical College in Sweetwater. He is employed by Lowes' Home Improvement as a delivery specialist. Mary Helen Castillo, aunt of the bride, of Waxahachie, was maid of honor. Leroy Castillo, uncle of the groom, of Waxahachie, served as the best man. The wedding party included Marissa Gray of Abilene as flower girl, Meagan Gray of Abilene as arrais bearer, Britni Martinez of Waxahachie as ring bearer, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Arroyo of Abilene as padrinos of champagne and arrais. Also Mr. and Mrs. Enrique Martinez of Winters as padrinos of the readings, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Castillo of Waxahachie as padrinos of marriage and the cake, and Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Arroyo of Austin as padrinos of the lasso. Vocalists were Thui Lyn and her mother, Kim, both of Abilene, who sang "The Wedding Song." Following the ceremony, a reception was held at J.C. Harwell's in Abilene. Guests in attendance were Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Gray of Winters; Katie, Alyssa, and Matthew Gray of Winters; Mrs. Paul Nombano of San Angelo; Tina Nombano of San Angelo; and Robert Ruiz of Winters. Also present were Malisa, Britni, and Jordan Martinez of Waxahachie; Antonia Castillo of Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Terry Green of Abilene; Nicole and Cory Green of Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Arroyo of Austin; and Mr. and Mrs. Enrique Martinez of Winters.



Shanasi Womack & Charles Wade

Shanasi Womack, Charles Wade to marry in June

Russell and Charlene Womack of Little Rock, Arkansas, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Shanasi Dawn Womack of Dallas, Texas, to Charles Louis Wade of Irving. Charles is the son of Garland and Margie Wade of Abilene and Diana and Larry Rozmen of Abilene. The bride-elect is a graduate of Arlington Heights High School in Fort Worth and received a bachelor of science degree with a specialization in elementary education from Texas A&M University. She is currently employed by Hickman Elementary within the Garland I.S.D. The prospective bridegroom is a graduate of Abilene High School and attended Texas Tech University, Armstrong State University in Georgia, and Savannah College of Art and Design. He is employed by Sabre. A June 3, 2000, wedding is planned at Heritage Square of Collin County in McKinney, Texas.

Stefanie McGallian & Simon Camacho to marry in June

Wesley and Karen McGallian of Wingate announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Stefanie Sharee, to Simon Toby Camacho of Ballinger. The bride-elect is a junior at Winters High School. The prospective bridegroom is a 1998 graduate of Ballinger High School and is employed by the Coke County Juvenile Detention Center in Bronte. A June 4, 2000, wedding is planned at two o'clock in the afternoon at the Winters City Park gazebo.

Classifieds Get Results

Wingate family in need of items for home— Shower planned March 31 for Janet McMorris

A miscellaneous home shower is planned Friday, March 31, at 6:30 p.m. at the Wingate Lions Club building for the Janet McMorris family. The McMorris home was totally destroyed by fire Friday, March 10. They lost everything and had no insurance. Items sought include a washer and dryer, small appliances, clocks, sheets & pillow cases (twin and full size), bedspreads, pillows, pots & pans, dishes, silverware, etc. Funds have been established at the Security State Banks in Wingate and Winters. Anyone willing to donate is asked to drop their items by the Lions Club building or contact LaVoy McNeill at 743-2433. Please give whatever you can.

Vivian Hollis to celebrate 90th birthday March 25

The children of Vivian Hollis Workman will have a reception to celebrate her 90th birthday on Saturday, March 25, 2000, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Hall located at 600 6th St. in Ballinger, Texas. An invitation is extended to all her many friends to come and help the family celebrate this very special lady on this very special birthday. This is a celebration, therefore, please no gifts, just your company. Mrs. Workman was born March 28, 1910, in Coryell County, Texas, to Myrtie Alice and William Arthur Mitchell. The family moved to the Pumphrey Community in 1916. Hollis attended public school at Puckett, Independence, and Winters. She married Albert Ray Workman June 2, 1929, who preceded her in death March 3, 1974. She and her husband lived in several places in and around Runnels County, and in 1943 bought their farm in the Hatchel community where Hollis continues to live. Ten children were born to this union. Those children and spouses are Curtis and Ruby Redman of Wiley, Eldon "Shorty" and Kay Workman of Odessa, Don and Myrtie Bales of Hatchel, Arthur "Butch" Workman of San Marcos, Dorothy Wadsworth of Ballinger, Gene and Mary Piel of Del Rio, and David and Brenda Workman of Hatchel. Three children are deceased: James Ray, Earl Dean, and Jimmy Lee Workman. Hollis has 24 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and another due this month.

Leslie Pruser-Duggan
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Dr. Troy Carter, a member of Texas Midwest Eye Center in Abilene, has joined with North Runnels Hospital and Dr. Mike Bacigalupi, to offer cataract surgery in Winters. Patients can now be evaluated, have surgery with complete post-op care and never leave Runnels County. Please call North Runnels Hospital today to schedule an eye exam and cataract screening with Dr. Bacigalupi.

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Celebrating National Agriculture Awareness Week in West Texas; it's a laugh and cry...dry situation

by Deb Pritchard, Assistant Editor

The boss lady gave me a writing assignment this week—write something up for National Agriculture Awareness Week, March 19-25.

Now I know agriculture plays a major role in this area's economy (or lack thereof), but she might just as well have said I want you to cover the B.A.S.S. Masters' fishing tournament at Elm Creek Reservoir this weekend, or write about the ever increasing demand for flood insurance in West Texas.

Now please don't get me wrong as I write this story. My husband is a farmer, as are two of his brothers, his father, and his grandfather. I grew up in the country on the corner of my grandpa's farm.

This world has to have farmers—how else would we survive? Absolutely everything from food to clothing, to daily essentials like soap, paper, crayons, toothpaste, and Dr. Pepper all revolve around agriculture.

SOMEONE has to do the job, and a good many of the men in this area believe it's up to them. It's a way of life—farmers wouldn't know how to function in any other profession.

I believe that some way, somehow, there has to be green blood coursing through a farmer's veins. To them, the smell of fresh mown hay or newly plowed sod, and believe it or not—manure, surpasses even the aroma of mom's homemade apple pie straight from the oven.

While cultivating a cotton field some five or so years ago, Johnny was so proud (nearly to bursting), when our son Colby, who was just four at the time, stared out the back window of the tractor and then turned to him and said, "Isn't that pretty daddy?" It's a genetic thing, passed from generation to generation...

There is nothing better than the life of a farm family—the country, the earth, and nature...but folks, things are bleak here in West Texas—and we've got to find some humor in the agricul-

tural situation every now and then or we would n't be fit to live with.

Let's think about it—it's a pretty sad day when the American farmer gets paid more from disaster and insurance payments for NOT making a crop, than he's made harvesting the last two or three seasons combined.

So when a press release came to the office from Susan Combs, commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture, concerning Ag Week, I had to chuckle to myself as these little barbs and sarcastic comments went through my head while I read it. Combs included some great facts about Texas agriculture that I didn't know—and quite honestly am real proud of.

For instance: **Agriculture is the second largest industry here, employing one out of every five working Texans.** (Now personally I would use the word "working" loosely, since most of the area's farmers haven't been in the fields in months.)

...second-largest industry in Texas, producing 16 percent of the gross state product and generating \$80 billion to the Texas economy. (You reckon that's because all those producers are juggling \$80 billion worth of loan notes back and forth between all their area banks?)

Texas is the leading producer of cotton and cattle. (Leading? Now that's a hoot, what with the recent drought and all...)

Agriculture offers careers in biochemistry, communications, computers, engineering, processing, research, animal health, livestock pharmaceuticals, and banking, to name a few. (Now banking is a fact! My husband spends more time in the bank than in the fields. "His bankers" are always wanting to "visit" with him about "farm finances" and the outlook on his crops.)

Each year Texas produces enough leather to export 8 million pairs of boots. (If they're relying on West Texas the past

few years, that would have to be 8 million pairs of baby boot-ies.)

Each year Texas produces enough cotton to make 1.3 billion pairs of jeans. (Shoot, we've been lucky to produce a nice sized box of Q-Tip cotton swabs from this area.)

Beyond growing and processing, farmers are delving into technological innovations like precision farming... (farmers are sittin' in turnrows on the tailgates of their pickups looking out over their fields and know "precisely" where their crops should go.)

...drip irrigation... (for sure that's all you're gonna get around here is a "drip" of moisture—and that may be pushing it!)

...optical scanners... (I don't even think one of those could find this year's wheat crop.)

...and robotic harvesters. (To heck with the robotic harvesters—I'd just like for my "real life harvester" to have something to harvest!)

Each Texas farmer grows enough food and fiber to feed 128 people—94.3 in the United States and 33.7 abroad. (But "he" can't make a decent enough income to feed a family of 5.)

The agriculture industry is looking for ways to endlessly continue putting food on the tables of the world. (We'd just like to put food on our own tables each day!)

That is the vision of Texas producers, whose heart and livelihoods are entrenched (buried to the neck and about to go under) in the larger-than-life industry.

Texas is the leading state in the U.S. in the number of students studying agriculture among university and high school students. (Have these kids lost their minds?! Since they were old enough to walk, have they not watched their fathers, uncles, and grandfathers struggle to make a living off the land?)

That's just it—they have watched their fathers, uncles, and grandfathers struggle to make an honest living...and they're proud.

They've watched them work this land, and in a good year, watched them harvest snow white cotton and amber waves of grain.

They've watched them raise enough cattle to make those boots and put beef on the table.

It's in their blood, and I for one, thank God that it is! Farming is a hard way of life—but it's a good way of life—one I'm happy my children are being raised in.

I can laugh and make a joke about it every once in a while, but as cotton planting time draws nearer—there's still no moisture, except for the occasional tear I allow myself to cry in private. Entire herds of cattle and sheep are being hauled off to the auction barns.

As we celebrate National Agriculture Awareness Week here in West Texas, you can bet every farmer, wife, and even child is very aware...

Perhaps little Jordan Busher summed it up best, as the First Baptist Church pre-schoolers said grace before their snack on Sunday morning.

...and God please send us some rain, so we can buy some more cows, so we can sell them, so we can buy some more food...

AMEN!

College Savings & Preparation Process: A Seminar & Evaluation 7 PM • March 30
Runnels County Courthouse District Courtroom
sponsored by TAES & Runnels County Extension Programs Committee

"Cloud of Dust"
by Brad Paisley and Chris DuBois

West Texas forecast more of the same.
Sunny and mild—no chance of rain.
That old John Deere tractor
ain't moved in days.
Oh, but he's out there climbin' back on,
Because he's yet to admit
That his crops are all gone.

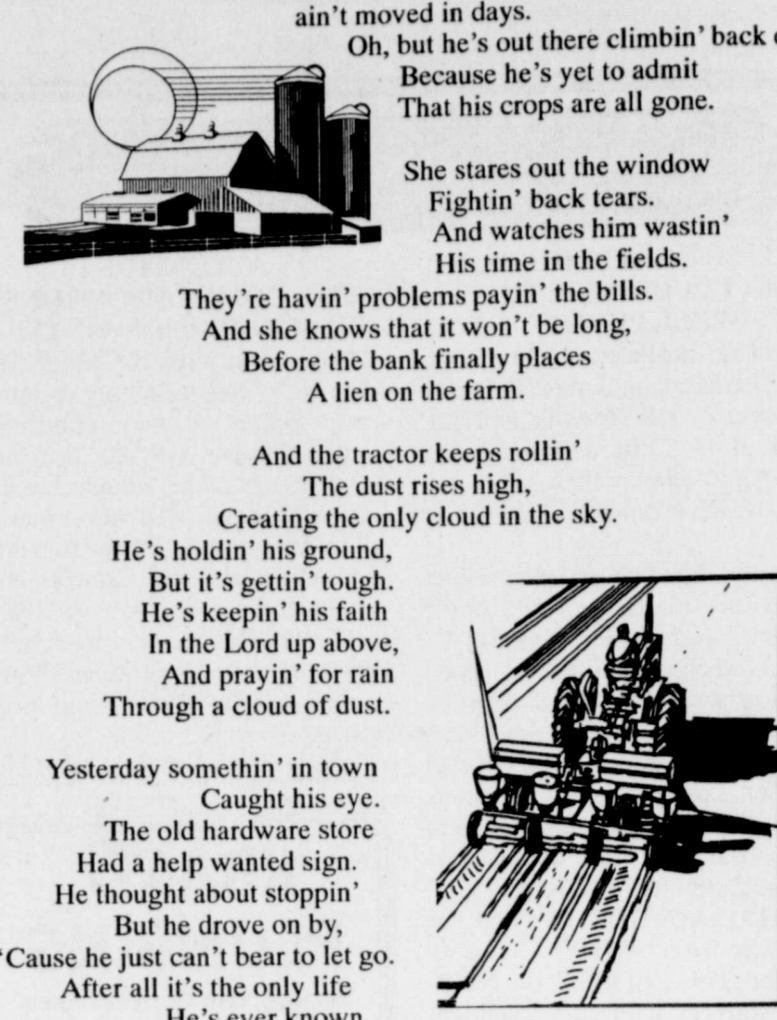
She stares out the window
Fightin' back tears.
And watches him wastin'
His time in the fields.
They're havin' problems payin' the bills.
And she knows that it won't be long,
Before the bank finally places
A lien on the farm.

And the tractor keeps rollin'
The dust rises high,
Creating the only cloud in the sky.
He's holdin' his ground,
But it's gettin' tough.
He's keepin' his faith
In the Lord up above,
And prayin' for rain
Through a cloud of dust.

Yesterday somethin' in town
Caught his eye.
The old hardware store
Had a help wanted sign.
He thought about stoppin'
But he drove on by,
'Cause he just can't bear to let go.
After all it's the only life
He's ever known.

Yeah, he's holdin' his ground
But it's gettin' tough.
He's keepin' his faith
In the Lord up above,
And prayin' for rain
Through a cloud of dust.

West Texas forecast more of the same,
Sunny and mild—no chance of rain.



Farm Bureau to award four \$2,000 college scholarships

This year Texas Farm Bureau is offering four \$2,000 college scholarships to seniors who are graduating from high school this spring and intend to pursue a degree in agriculture. Scholarships will be awarded \$500 per semester for four semesters.

The Young Farmer and Rancher Scholarship program is in its second year and is pleased to increase the number of scholarships from two to four. Texas Farm Bureau is able to do this because of generous support of the YF&R silent auction which

is held each year at the annual meeting. The scholarship program is funded totally by YF&R fund-raising activities.

To be eligible for this scholarship, the student must be a graduating high school senior, must pursue a degree in agriculture, and must be a member of a Farm Bureau family (father, mother, or legal guardian memberships qualify—grandparents, siblings, or other relatives' membership may not be used). Membership must remain in good standing for the duration of the scholarship.

In addition to the County Farm Bureau office, applications may be obtained by visiting the Farm Bureau website at <http://www.txfb.com>, or by calling 254-751-2286.

Deadline for applications is June 1, 2000. Applications must be postmarked no later than June 1 and may be mailed to: Texas Farm Bureau YF&R Scholarship, P.O. Box 2689, Waco, Texas 76702, Attention: Si Cook.

Scholarship recipients will be announced no later than July 1, 2000.

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"I can read a hoss's mind by lookin' in his eyes, and this 'un don't think much of me."

© Ace Reid
3/19/2000

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J.P. Doodles