



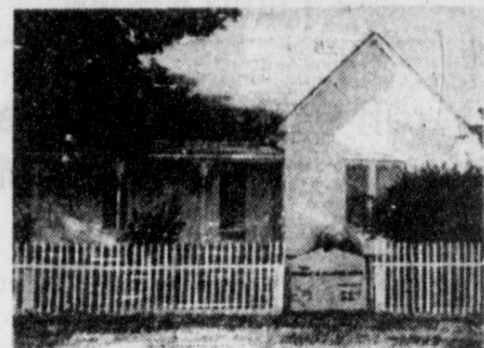
THE FIGHTING BUFFALOES
Masthead designed by Barbara J. Sowell

Cross Plains Review

CROSS PLAINS' OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION

"A Caring Community"

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2000



ROBERT E. HOWARD MUSEUM
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91ST YEAR

CROSS PLAINS, CALLAHAN COUNTY, TEXAS 76443

NUMBER 49



EDITOR'S NOTE: Barbie Creach, wife of Dr. Curtis Creach our local veterinarian, brought this wonderful poem by for me to use in my column. Besides sharing a common name (pronunciation the same), we have children who have experienced special health problems. I have been asked many times if Curtis was my son, etc. No he isn't, but I would certainly claim this sweet family for my very own. Read the following poem and discover the meaningful message within. **Vanda Anderson-Creech**

I asked God to take away my pain.
God said, no.
It is not for me to take away, but for you to
Give it up.

I asked God to make my
handicapped child whole.
God said, no.
Her spirit was whole, her body was
only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.
God said, no.
Patience is a by-product of
tribulations; isn't granted, it is
earned.

I asked God to give me happiness.
God said, no.
I give you blessings.
Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain.
God said, no.
Suffering draws you apart from
worldly cares and brings you closer
to me.

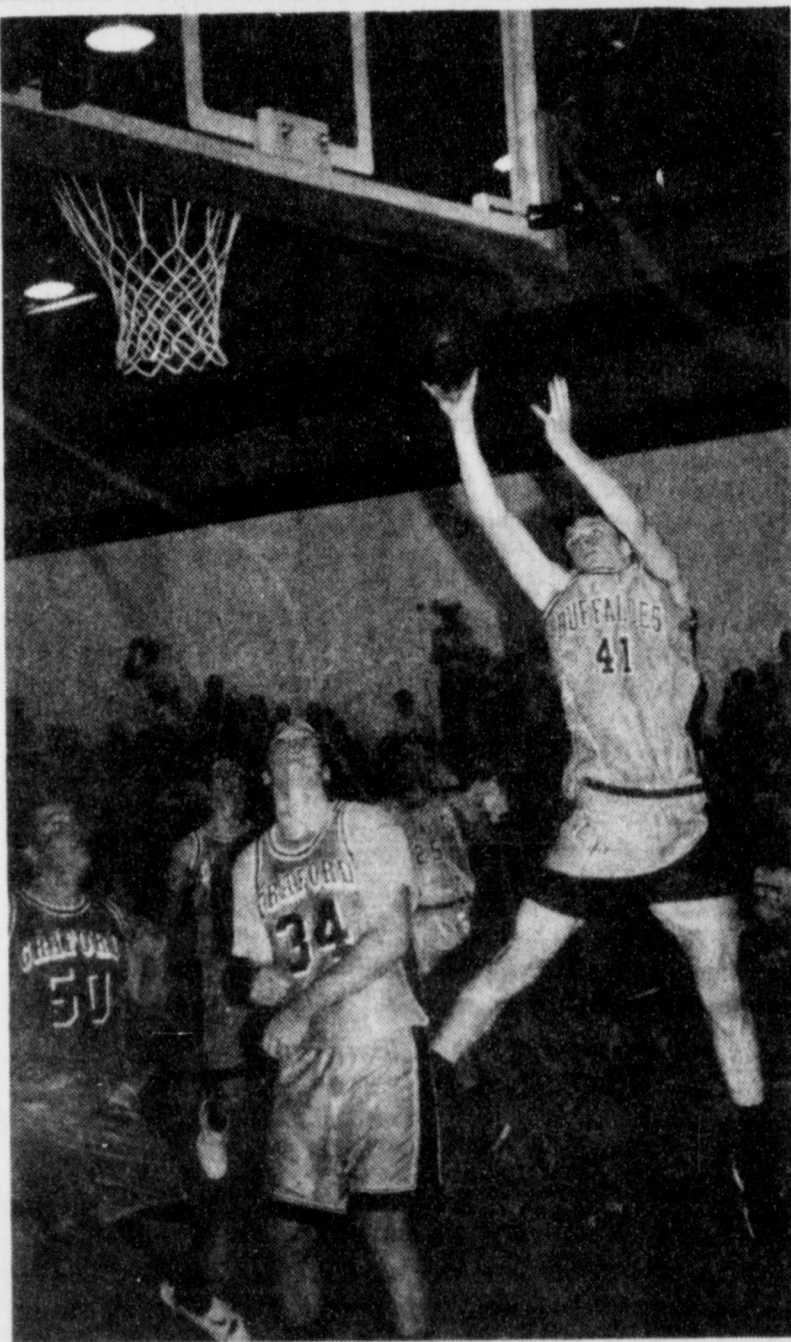
I asked God to make my spirit
grow.
God said, no.
You must grow on your own, but I
will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I
might enjoy life.
God said, no.
I will give you life so that you may
enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE
others, as much as he loves me.
God said...Ahhhh, finally you have
the idea.

The test of faith is not merely in
trusting God, but in trusting God
when all hope has disappeared.

Charles Stanley



CLASS A PLAYOFF ACTION—
Cross Plains High School varsity
basketball player Joe Dillard,
number 41 at left, goes up for a
shot during the Cross Plains/

Graford Class A playoff game held
in Eastland Friday, February 25.
The Buffaloes closed out a suc-
cessful basketball season Friday
with a 57-38 loss to Graford.

See basketball article on Page 5.

Tradesday Information Announced by Garden Club

The Cross Plains Garden Club will
sponsor their **THIRD ANNUAL**
Tradesday on March 25. It will be
held on the bank lot behind the Dairy
Queen in Cross Plains.

Vendors and individuals may rent
a space for \$15; if electricity is
needed, the charge will be another
\$5.

Come one, come all and rent your
booth space while spaces are still
available. Suggestions for booths
are numerous! Some possibilities
are crafts, dolls, car parts, antique
jewelry, garage sale items, food and/
or soft drink bars, baby furniture,
curios, small toys, balloons, plain
or logo t-shirts, pottery, or books.
You name it, rent a booth and pitch
your wares! Other suggestions
include Easter rabbits, retail sales,
ceramics, unusual dishes, vases any
collectables, tools, plants, etc. No

pornographic items will be allowed.
Food booths such as hot dogs,
sandwiches, and other finger foods,
usually go over well. Chips, pies,
cakes, corn dogs, and other similar
items are also popular. Lots of folks
get thirsty so soft drink or lemonade
stands are always welcome. On
cold March mornings hot coffee is in
high demand.

The Cross Plains Garden Clubs
booths will include flowers, bedding
plants, pot plants and other garden
pertinent items.

To rent a space or for more
information you may call Bob or
Barbara Powell at 254-643-2404.
You may pay your rental fee when
you set up on Saturday morning.

We wish to thank Citizens State
Bank of Cross Plains for the use of
the lot for our **TRADESDAY**
SALE.

Submitted by Kay Mosley, II VP

Rowden Baptist Church to open mission

Rowden Baptist Church is to open
as a mission of Pioneer Baptist
Church with its first service on
Saturday, March 4, at 6:30 p.m. with
a special music program led by
Heaven's Jubilee, a men's group
from Abilene.

Carl Mauldin, formerly of
Rowden, will be the mission pastor.
Sunday, March 5th, at eleven a.m.,
will be the first worship service.

Pioneer Church wishes to thank
Tony and Judy Steele for use of the
building and property, Pioneer
members who helped to restore the
building, Robert Watson from
Rowden, and others who will help in
the future.

Open House
Planned for Cross Plains Volunteer Fire
Department & E M S Facilities
Saturday, March 11th
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Come View Recently Completed
Construction
Everyone Is Cordially Invited!

Cross Plains Roping Club Meeting Set for Monday, March 6

The Cross Plains Roping Club
rescheduled their meeting for
Monday, March 6, at 7:00 p.m. at the
local roping arena.

Topic of discussion will be the Bull
Buckout, Cook-off, Dance and

Senior Bull Buckout on April 15th.
All members are encouraged to
attend, as well as non-members who
are interested in joining or helping.
Submitted by Frankie Hyles, President

Filing for City Council Positions Began Feb. 21

Filing applications for City
Council positions began February
21 and the deadline to file is **March**
22, 2000 at 5:00 p.m.

Applications may be obtained at
the City Hall during regular office
hours Monday through Friday and
should be filed there.

The two year terms of Mayor Ray
Purvis and councilmen, Ray
Womack and Jerry Cassle, are
expiring. Purvis has already filed for
re-election as mayor and Cassle for
councilmen. A new face in the
election is Dean Dillard, who has
filed for councilman.

One Source Health Center Held Annual Community Advisory Council Meeting

By **VANDA ANDERSON-
CREECH**
Editor

One Source Health Center in Cross
Plains held their Annual
Community Advisory Council
Meeting last Friday, February 25.
Employees and community
members were treated to a luncheon
at Jean Feed's Barn.

Representatives of the One Source
Health Center were Sue Conley,
Chief Operations Officer, Tammy
Means, Rural Health Clinic
Director, Shanna Perkins, Family
Nurse Practitioner, Beckey Smith,
LVN, and Debra Childers, Medical
Assistant. Community members of
the advisory committee in
attendance were Gene Dillard,
Maryann Blair, Kathy Anderson,
Frances Wolf, James Wolf and
Vanda Creech.

Mrs. Means presented the Mission
Statement; Purpose of the
Committee; Purpose of the
Evaluation; Clinic Services; Clinic
Volume Figures; Staff
Competencies; Health Care
Policies; Auditing; 2000 Goals (as
set by the staff); Medical Record
Sample; and Program Review.

The group discussed positive
aspects of the clinic for the
community, as well as problems
experienced.

One Source Health Center plans to
implement a diabetes screening and
education program. Also more
community involvement is
projected through blood pressure,
cholesterol, triglyceride screenings,
etc. An Annual Women's Health
Month will be implemented in the
near future.

Local Food Pantry to open Mon., March 6

By **VICKI DILLARD**

The Missions Committee of the
First United Methodist Church is
very honored to announce the grand
opening of our local food pantry on
Monday, March 6. We and all of our
volunteers do this with love for our
community.

This service is to assist those
needing help with supplying food to
their families. Applicants need to
bring a recent utility bill with name
and physical address.

The Food Pantry is located inside
the Multi-Purpose Center (8th and
Beech). Hours of operation are

See **FOOD PANTRY** page 6

Early Voting For Republican & Democratic Party Now Underway

Early voting for both the Demo-
cratic and Republican Party pri-
mary elections is now underway at
three voting locations in Callahan
County.

Early voting for both party pri-
mary elections is taking place from
8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each
business day. The early voting lo-
cations include the Justice of the
Peace office in Clyde, the Justice
of the Peace office in Cross Plains

and County Courthouse Room
#107 in Baird.

Registered voters can vote in ei-
ther of the two party primary elec-
tions at the three voting locations
in the county. Early voting will
conclude in the county March 10.

The Democratic Party Primary
Election and the Republican Party
Primary Election both will take
place on Tuesday, March 14.



TEXAS AUTHOR ENLIGHTENING — Elmer Kelton, prominent
Texas author, entertained a large crowd at the book review sponsored by
the Cross Plains Public Library.

Kelton Book Review Well Attended Last Tuesday

By **BILLIE LOVING**

One hundred thirty-five people
attended a book review in Cross
Plains! Is that a story or is that a
story! And we could add, "despite
lightning, thunder and rain." The
fact that the popular writer Elmer
Kelton was the guest speaker
brought folks from at least eight
other towns. Kelton's amusing

stories as he reflected on how he got
into the writing business kept the
audience laughing throughout the
evening. No doubt some would-be
writers were inspired to keep trying,
despite early failures.

The library board and staff are
proud of the fact that citizens of
Cross Plains are welcoming the
bringing of writers of Kelton's
calibre to our town. Keep watching.
There will be more.

Love Fund Established For Local Couple Involved in Auto Accident

A Love Fund has been established
at Citizens State Bank for David and
Dinah Keathley who were involved
in an auto accident on Tuesday,
February 22 on Interstate 20 near
Weatherford.

The couple's vehicle hydroplaned
and went off an embankment. David
and Dinah suffered hip injuries and
Dinah underwent surgery
concerning internal injuries. David
is currently at home, while Dinah
remains hospitalized at John Peter
Smith Hospital in Fort Worth. She is
expected to the home possibly by the
end of this week. Dinah is employed
by Greenwood Insurance in Cross
Plains.

Contributions will be utilized for
medical expenses incurred. Your
generosity and continued prayers for
a speedy recovery would be greatly
appreciated by the Keathleys.

**CITIZENS STATE
BANK**
Cross Plains, Texas

Your Hometown Bank
Since 1931
Member FDIC

Presents:
"What's Inside"

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TexScan	Page 9

March 9, Cross Timbers Southern Baptist Association Meeting

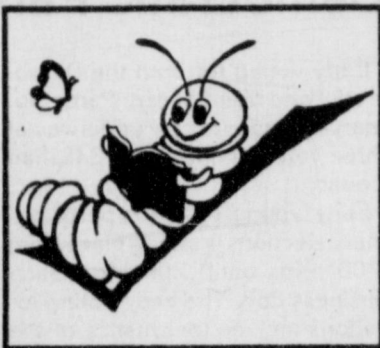
Glorify Baptist Church located at 100 Ave. D in Cross Plains will host the March 9th meeting of the Cross Timbers Southern Baptist Association. The Executive Board Meeting and WMU Meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. Supper will be served at 6:00 p.m.

The evening program will begin at 7:00 p.m. Special music will be presented by the singing group "REJOICE". The speaker will be Dr. Daryl Eldridge, professor of

Christian Education at Southwestern Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

George Mack Taff, pastor at Glorify, invites area churches to attend this informative meeting on the role of Sunday School, Bible study and discipleship training in the church.

For more information about the meeting contact Dwaine Clower, Association Moderator at 254-725-7574.



Hey! Check this out. We have support! Last week we were flailing around in mid-air. Thanks, Vanda and Deborah

Library Notes February 21-25

Statistics:
Books:
 Cross Plains 81
 Abilene 9
Audio:
 Cross Plains 4
 Abilene 2
Interlibrary Loan: 2
 LAP 24
 Total 122
Memorials: For Tom Jackson - George and Patsy Friend; for Mrs. Halsell - Judy Luter and Mary and Reginald Gaggino; and for Bobby Dillard - Kathryn and Jack Tunnell.
Donations: Tim Dill - time and labor; Books: Nelda Holmes and Laticia and Linda Chandler.

For Internet Connection
 Call Vanda or Deborah
 Cross Plains Review
 254-725-6111

Obituaries

Russell Mosher

CUBA, ILL.—Russell L. "PeeWee" Mosher, 78, of Cuba, Illinois, died at 11:30 p.m. Saturday, February 19, 2000, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Danville, Illinois.

Born April 11, 1921, in Cuba to Floyd Jr. and Catherine Mahr Mosher, he married Marian D. Reese on April 21, 1946, in Indiana. She died May 7, 1997.

He was also preceded in death by three brothers and one sister.

Surviving are four sons, Russell "Pete" of Cuba, Paul of Pompano Beach, Florida, John "Jack" of Ankeny, Iowa and Joseph of Des Moines, Iowa; two daughters, Mary Ann Harris of Laurel, Montana and Linda Reed of Cross Plains; 19 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and one sister, Mary Voss of Indiana.

Throughout his life, he worked at various maintenance jobs.

A World War II Army veteran, he was a 38-year member and past commander of Russell Smith American Legion Post 533 in Cuba and was a life member of Canton Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1984.

He was a member of Cuba Christian Church.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 24, at Cuba Cemetery where military honors were accorded by his VFW and American Legion posts. The Rev. Amy Wharton officiated.

Memorials may be made to Canton VFW Post 1984 or Cuba American Legion Post 533.

Albert G. 'Bud' Minnick

Albert G. "Bud" Minnick, 86, of Abilene died Sunday, February 27, 2000, at 8:40 p.m. in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene after a lengthy illness.

Services were held Wednesday, March 1, 2000, at 2:00 p.m. at The Wright Colonial Funeral Home

Chapel with Paige Baize of Wingate officiating. Burial was in Fluvanna Cemetery.

Mr. Minnick was born November 26, 1913 in Thurber. He married Sue Wallace February 1, 1947 in Brownfield. She preceded him in death March 1, 1999. Mr. Minnick and his wife worked for Dean Hagler, Inc. for many years as commercial painters and vinyl hangers. He was an Army veteran of World War II.

He was also preceded in death by two brothers, Vernon Minnick and Doc Minnick.

He is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Susie and Tommy Rogers of Cross Plains and Patsy and Eddie Steihl of Pasadena; two daughters, Linda Kay Riddle and Carol Dowden both of Abilene; two sisters Sissy Wooten of Lubbock and Wanda Bradley of Midland; three brothers, Bull Minnick of Big Spring and John Minnick of Midland; nine grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. He is also survived by special friends Bill Moore of Baird and the Thurman's of Clyde.

Clyde Leon Smith, Sr.

COMANCHE COUNTY—Clyde Leon Smith, Sr., 84, died Friday, February 25, 2000.

Services were held at 10:30 a.m. Sunday at the Stag Creek Cemetery with Roy Newell officiating, directed by Higginbotham Funeral Home of Rising Star.

Mr. Smith was born in Brown County. He married Maggie Irene Armstrong in 1936; she preceded him in death. He was a farmer and a carpenter.

Survivors include two sons, Billy Weaver Smith, Clyde Leon Smith, Jr., both of Abilene; two daughters, Judy Erickson of Wichita, Kansas, Sandra Harris of Rising Star; two brothers, James W. Smith, Jr. of Early, Herman Smith of Winters; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren.

Courthouse News

COUNTY COURT Roger Corn, presiding Misdemeanor Filings

Eddy L. McCracken, theft of property by check.
 Edward Smyers, theft of property by check.
 R. L. Rolan, theft of property by check.
 Carolyn P. Rose, theft of property by check.
 Helen Kelcy, theft of property by check.
 Scottie L. Hood, theft.

Misdemeanor Minutes

Scott Simmons, plea of guilty to assault, 1 yr. probation, \$300 fine, \$214.25 court costs, request for transfer from Callahan Co. to Runtells Co. granted.
 Courtney Sholar, plea of guilty to theft of service, 1 yr. probation, \$50 fine, \$264.25 court costs, \$430.16 restitution, request for transfer from Callahan Co. to Wise Co. granted.
 Joe Havner, plea of guilty to DWI, 12 days in jail, \$100 fine, \$214.25 court costs, motion to dismiss to driving while license suspended (DWLS) granted.
 Amand Drexler, transfer request from Callahan Co. to Caldwell Co. granted.

Marc Welch, plea of guilty to driving while intoxicated (DWI), 2 yr. probation, \$800 fine, \$242.25 court costs.

David Smith, plea of guilty to DWI, 2 yr. probation, \$400 fine, \$214.25 court costs.

Charles Clinton Carlile, plea of guilty to deadly conduct, 1 yr. probation, \$100 fine, \$242.25 court costs.

James Johnson, plea of guilty to DWI, 10 days in jail, \$200 fine \$214.25 court costs.

Glenn Smith, 2 yr. probation, \$400 fine, \$242.25 court costs, \$353 restitution.

James Wesley Bradshaw, motion to dismiss to DWLS granted, pled to no drivers license.

Emma Shackelford, motion to dismiss to theft of property by check granted, paid restitution.

Dennis Austin, motion to dismiss to theft of property by check granted, paid restitution.

Earl DeLano Hughes, motion to withdraw as surety and application for warrant granted.

Carl E. Stowers, motion to dismiss to theft of property by check granted, sentenced to prison on other charges.

Scottie Hood, plea of guilty to theft, 15 days in jail, \$100 fine, \$217.25 court costs.

Vicky Perrie, motion to dismiss to theft of property by check granted, case adjudicated with Coleman Co. case.

Marriage Licenses

Joel William Stewart and Mandy Anne Hitt, both of Clyde.

42nd DISTRICT COURT John Weeks, presiding

Civil Filings

Shelly Renee Castleberry and Kevin Dale Castleberry, divorce.

New Holland Credit Co. vs. Ricky S. Hasha, default on note.

Mary L. Matheny and David L. Matheny, divorce.

Melissa Hawley and Darren Hawley, divorce.

Ex parte petition of Charles Wood, expunction.

Civil Minutes

Rhonda LeAnn Pelletier and Gary Lee Pelletier, divorce granted.

Vanderbilt Mortgage & Finance, Inc. vs. Chester Chapman and Nancy Chapman, plaintiff shall have foreclosure of manufactured home.

Amanda Janine Cokonougher and Brian Jay Cokonougher, order to dismiss granted.

Criminal Minutes

Sandra Caffey, plea of guilty to DWI, 4 yrs. in prison, \$750 fine, \$229.25 court costs.

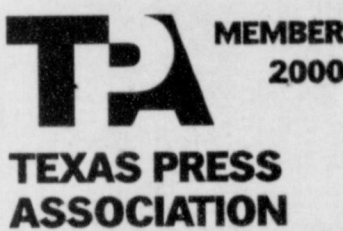
Christi L. Walters, plea of guilty to burglary of a habitation, 5 yr. probation, \$2000 fine, \$199.25 court costs, \$755 restitution.

Colonial Oaks Services

Believer's Fellowship will conduct worship services at Colonial Oaks Nursing Home on Sunday, March 5, commencing at 3:30 p.m.

CROSS PLAINS REVIEW

(USPS 138-660)
 DON TABOR, PUBLISHER
 VANDA CREECH, EDITOR
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CHURCH DIRECTORY

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

10TH & MAIN CROSS PLAINS (254) 725-7629
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

Wayne Lenz - Pastor 725-4577 • Jason Kempf - Youth & Music Minister

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9TH & AVE D. CROSS PLAINS
 WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 A.M.
 BIBLE CLASS 10:30 A.M.
 REV. HENRY GRUBBS, PASTOR
 EVERYONE WELCOME

Living Water Ministries Fellowship

Full Gospel—Non-Denominational—Apostolic
 Restoring And Equipping The Saints
 Colleen Anderson Sunday Morning 10:00 a.m.
 Maxey Evans Wednesday Evening 6:30 p.m.
 Youth Pastors - James & Glenda Tidwell
 For Information Call (254) 725-6800
 1-800-252-3629

COTTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Time 7:00 p.m.

Joe Coppinger, Pastor (254) 725-7730 Church (254) 725-6266
 Friendly Church • Bible Teaching

BELIEVER'S FELLOWSHIP

Inner-denominational—Evangelical
 EAST HIGHWAY 36
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.
 Bob Wallace, Pastor (254) 725-6607

CROSS PLAINS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
 ----- Treasurer's Report for 1999 -----

BEGINNING BALANCE 01-01-1999	\$	7250.12
RECEIPTS - 1999		
GIFT DEPOSITS	7991.52	
INTEREST ON NOW	204.05	
INTEREST ON CD'S	3871.32	
GRAVE OPENING PERMITS	3075.00	

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$	15141.89
PLUS BALANCE 1-1-1999	7250.12	
TOTAL RECEIPTS & BALANCES		22392.01
DISBURSEMENTS - 1999		
MIKE PRITCHARD	\$	5500.00
POSTAGE & SUPPLIES	107.09	
EXTRA JOBS		
SAVING DEPOSIT BOX	20.00	
SAND	205.00	
CEMETERY BOOKS	146.58	
F&T & OTHER	620.00	

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$	6598.67
ENDING BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1999		15793.34

Cross Plains Masonic Lodge No. 627

Stated Meeting
 1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
 http://xlodge627.tripod.com
 http://www.gltexas.org
 Sec. (254) 725-7530

PRAY FOR RAIN
 WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
 6:00 IN FRONT OF CITY HALL

Special Sunday at Hwy. 206 Baptist Mission
 Lunch after morning service
 Singing to follow by "GLORY BOUND"
 also
 Local Talent Will Be Featured
 Larry Briley from Breckenridge will be speaking later in the day.
 Everyone is welcome to have a day full of fun and fellowship!

Selected Scriptures

Be surety for Your servant for good; do not let the proud oppress me. Psalm 119:122
 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory. Ephesians 1:13, 14
 Paid Advertising—Irma Miller

SHANE DEEL for COUNTY ATTORNEY

*Recent trial and appellate experience
 *Willing to take on tough cases
 *Courageous enough to treat all persons equally
 *A history of success and accomplishment

Pol. Ad. Shane Deel Campaign 526 Swenson Rd. Clyde, TX 79510

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 Cattle Sale Every Wed., 11:00 a.m.
 BOBBIE EDINGTON 915/625-2091 BOB EDINGTON 915/625-5026 DAN EDINGTON 915/625-2829

"Circumstances Do Not Make You, They Merely Reveal You!"

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Van Service Available - Call (254) 725-6459

N. Main (Hwy. 296)
 Cross Plains, Texas
 Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
 Worship - 10:45 a.m.
 Dr. Richard Chaffin, Pastor

Sunday's Sermon
 "People Don't Change, Do They?"

Colonial Oaks Nursing Home News

By: Linda Merritt

All of us here at Colonial Oaks want to let the Cross Plains Buffaloes know that we are backing them and wishing them the very best of luck during this baseball season. Their first game is Friday against Evant. Go get 'em Buffs!

Our thoughts and prayers for Dacia Denton who is in the hospital. We're praying for a fast recovery for Stormie's mother, Judy Jones, who was in a car accident.

Appreciation to Merylynn Golson for the delicious biscuits and to Ruby Casle for the marshmallow pies and to Sheri Kitchens for the cookies.

Victor Long was our winner for a free meal from Jack's Place. Thanks Wanda and Jack.

Margaret Clark proudly announces that she has a new great-granddaughter. Congratulations Margaret.

Donie and Alton McCowen, David McGowen, Bobby Jack McCowen and Jo Rhodes visited with Raymond McCowen.

Mary Dawson from Tuscola, Anne Lindahl from Yukon, Oklahoma, Nikki Meador from Irving, Beth Meador, Amber Parker, Dub Meador, Taylor and Bethany Parker

visited with Nan Stiles.

Lavena Peppler from Denton visited with Minnie Swann.

Z.L. and Joan Bullard from Clyde, Charlene McGowen from Brownwood, Liz McCarty visited with Kate McCarty.

Betty Beggs visited with Ila Mae Marshall.

Lurene McNutt visited with Louise Richardson.

Betty Faught from San Saba, Peggy and Kelsey Hillard from Sonora visited with Ruby Harrell.

Activities during the week were:
Monday: Bingo winners were Victor Long (2), Louise Richardson, Maxine Crisp and Falba Shofner (2). Exercise class.

Tuesday: Art class, popcorn social and Skip-Bo games.

Wednesday: Sing-a-long with Bob Wallace. Exercise class.

Thursday: Manicures and ball toss.

Friday: Bingo winners were Minnie Swann, Howet Wilson (2), Falba Shofner, Victor Long and Vera Beldyeu. Sit-down-basketball.

Sunday: Believer's Fellowship.

To love and be loved is to feel the sun from both sides.

Quips, Clips & Comments

By: Kay Mosley

"DON'T LET GO!"

That is some pretty good advice-- in more ways than one. It is some of the best advice I've ever had.

It seems to be a natural instinct in SOME people; that if they fall over a cliff but part-way down they manage to grasp onto a tree, to "Don't Let Go!" HANG ON!!

Likewise when times are hard, money is low, things aren't going well, you're on the verge of trouble so that you can't see the bottom of the barrel and it seems there's no end in sight, don't let go or give up. Just HOLD ON!! Remember nothing lasts FOREVER. It may seem like forever but really it isn't. When I was a young girl, I used that philosophy to survive those scary hair-raising rollercoaster rides. Of course to the youth of today, a rollercoaster probably looks pretty tame. Survive those rides I did, though I often wonder if I'm still scared, 'cause my hair still is standing on end and is

turning white fast. No kidding, it looks like I stuck my finger in a light socket; especially in the mornings when I first get up. I look in the mirror and yeeeiough-gh-gh, I scream in terror at the reflection looking back at me. Don't let go! Hold on!

Can you keep a secret? Take this scenario. Someone, usually a friend tells you something in confidence, and asks you to please do not tell anyone else. Do you tell the secret or do you HOLD ON and DON'T LET GO!

Sometimes to keep a confidence is a very difficult thing to accomplish! Many friendships, relationships, and families have been broken up and/or destroyed by someone breaking a confidence. Remember "DON'T LET GO!!" Of that secret, that tree over the cliff or that urge to run from trouble. You will be glad in -- THE END!

3-Cross Plains Review March 2, 2000

Ma & Pa

By James Nichols

I always enjoy receiving correspondence from readers. This is one of my favorites.

Dear James,
I am sending this to you to help Vandalize Mrs. Screech a bit more.

Best regards,
D.L. from Little Rock, AR

Roadkill Cafe - Nebraska - Texas

Roadkill Motto: You kill it. We grill it.

Eating food is more fun, when you know it was killed on the run.

Menu Items: Center Line Bovine, Chicken that Didn't Cross the Road, Chunk' Skunk, Smidgen of Pigeon,

Road a LaMode, Shake'n Bake Snake, Swirl'o Squirrel, Whippoorwill on the Grill, Rigor Mortis Tortoise

This part is my favorite. Do you know why you seldom, or never, see a dead crow along the highway? According to the old husband's tale, crows that are feasting on roadkill are smart enough to station one of their numbers up high in a tree. A "Lookout" if you will. From there he can see all oncoming vehicles.

Whenever he sees one approaching, he hollers, "Cah" which sound like a Bostonian yelling "Car!"

Thanks for the correspondence. Hey Donald, Vanda wanted you to know she has your number!

Burkett News

By: Lovera Strickland

Linda Brady, secretary-treasurer of the Burkett Adams Cemetery Association, has reported donations recently received as follows:

Ken and Terri Hunter, Leif and Kristin (In Memory of Jack Strickland) \$25; Mrs. Bill Hunter \$30; Anonymous I/M of Jack Strickland \$30; Claudia George \$5; Lovera Strickland and Eureka and Jody Whitley I/M of Randy Beall \$40; Lovera Strickland I/M of Ivan Clark \$20; Dick and Sharon Koenig I/M of Tye Brown \$20; Gail Wilson I/M of Modcen McKinney \$20; Lovera Strickland I/M of Tye Brown \$20; Roland and Gail Wilson I/M of Cleo Porter and Modcen McKinney \$50; Billie and Joy Slack I/M of Modcen McKinney \$20; Barbara and Andy Young I/M of Tye Brown \$20; Bruce Adams I/M of Jack Strickland and Tye Brown \$40; R.E. Harris I/M of Ernest, Lida, Wayne and Katherine Harris \$40; Mike and Linda Brady I/M of Tye Brown and Modcen McKinney \$25; Pete and Carleé Golson; Liz and

Low Golson and Bob and Beth Kleiber I/M of Cleo Porter \$30; Lovera Strickland I/M of Cleo Porter \$20; Eureka and Jody Whitley I/M of Cleo Porter \$20; Roland and Gail Wilson I/M of Cleo Porter \$25; Mike and Linda Brady I/M of Cleo Porter \$20; Anonymous I/M of Cleo Porter \$30; Burkett Church of Christ I/M of Cleo Porter \$25; M/M Thad Sansing I/M of Cleo Porter \$20; Rodney and Lois McCarty I/M of Tye Brown \$25. Each donation is greatly appreciated. The money goes for the upkeep of the cemeteries.

Allen and Tootie Rhoads of Breckenridge and Eddie and Michele Strickland visited Lovera Strickland Sunday evening.

Tommy Gene Burns of Breckenridge visited Lanette Burns Sunday.

Eddie and Michele Strickland spent the weekend in Snook visiting Tami Priddy and Morgan. Eddie reported it was pretty and green down that way.

Pioneer News

By: Pioneer Quilting Club

Oliver and Frankie attended the Rising Star Musical Thursday night. Friday they traveled to Brownwood to see Mrs. Jean Fore. She is doing good. She has been moved to the nursing home on Indian Creek Road. Friday night they attended the Cottonwood Musical. Saturday they attended the Brownwood Musical at the lake.

While they were in Brownwood, they visited Mr. and Mrs. Leland Martin.

Glenda Phillips attended Krista's birthday skating party at Early. She got to take care of Logan which she enjoyed. She has been going to see Krista play basketball on the PeeWee basketball team. They are lots of fun to watch. Glenda went with Charlene Chesshir to Abilene for Charlene's doctor appointment last week. They visited with Charlene's sister, Christine. Charlene was unable to be at quilting today. She had to go back for more tests.

Earlene Burge's brother, Rudolph Brown, and wife, Sarah, spent the weekend with her. They attended church Sunday and left for home that afternoon. Earlene's daughter Jessica Stultz and husband Jack visited them Sunday afternoon. Earlene and Bobby Nell Brown went to the Cottonwood Musical Friday.

The Quilting Club missed some of their members Tuesday. We hope they're all able to be back with us next week. Our guest was Cody Hounshell. She brought some of her quilt tops. Some of us bought one. We were glad to see her and hope she comes back soon.

Cowan and Laverne Hutton spent

from February 4 to February 18 at Porter working in the sojourner program with the church there. Since their return home, Tabitha Jordan, Tamara Young and little Rachel, Scott, Samantha, Sandy Hutton and Danny have visited them.

A couple weeks ago, James and Jean Alexander and May Jones visited with their brother-in-law Jay and June Hughes. We had a great time talking about old times and current things. While there, Jay and June's son, dropped by. We had not seen them in a while. It was soooo good to be with them again.

Visitors for the weekend at James and Jean Alexander's were their children Jim, Marla, Will and Ashley. It was a very busy weekend for all.

For folks in the Pioneer area, do not forget about our water. We have until March 10 to get our deposits in. Anyone interested that is not on the list needs to call "Westbound" in Cisco.

We are all thankful for the 1/2 inch rain we received Tuesday night. Everything has turned a little green. Congratulations to the Buffs and Lady Buffs on their basketball season. It was a great one. You all did so very well. Now we go on to baseball and track. The community is always behind you.

There is PeeWee basketball for the 3rd through 6th grade. It is fun to watch. Everyone come on out and show your support for this program.

Word of Wisdom #24: He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has. Epictetus

OH BABY

IT'S A GIRL

Cory Nolan Yates is proud to announce the arrival of his baby sister, Shana Brooke Yates born Tuesday, February 22, 2000, in Abilene Regional Medical Center. She weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 18 inches long.

Parents are Misty and Chris Yates.

Maternal grandparents are Janice and Jimmy Kelly. Paternal grandmother is Carolyn Yates.

Maternal great-grandparents are Margaret and Tom Clark and Billie and Bill Kelly. Paternal great-grandparents are Joyce Barton and Bettye and Morris Cavanaugh.

Are Poinsettias Poisonous?

The poinsettia plant myth is just that - a myth. The holiday plant is pretty and pretty safe, at least in amounts the average toddler is likely to ingest. The AMA lists nothing more than occasional vomiting from ingesting the otherwise harmless leaves. It is unlikely a child or animal will eat more than one bite as the taste is bitter and the flavor is awful. Pets may have a severe reaction. It is still wise to call your poison control center if you are concerned.

Your better health is our concern.

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CROSS PLAINS, TEXAS

BREAKTHRU

By Bob Pipes, preacher
Cross Plains Church of Christ
433 N. Main At 12th
(254) 725-6117



Josh Billings said it well: "Love looks through a telescope; envy, through a microscope."

Another "habit of a loving heart" is to rejoice in others' good fortunes, rather than being resentful and envious. "Love does not envy," 1 Corinthians 13:4b.

The Bible is chock-full of examples of envious people and the terrible plight it always brought them. Begin with Cain who couldn't stand his brother being commended by God for offering a more excellent sacrifice. A less remembered story, I am sure, is found in the book of Esther - about a man named Haman, whose envy of another, Mordecia, led him to the gallows he had prepared for Mordecia!

It's really a matter of focus - and whether we're "looking through a telescope or microscope." We must look for the good, expect the best, be appreciative for what we do have instead of moaning about what someone else has and we don't. Happy is the person who can see things the way one person's wife did: he kept lamenting their loss in a business deal until she said, "If you can count your losses in (just) money, you haven't lost (so) much."

Willard Tate writes, "Most of my life, I thought I had to blow out another person's candle to make my own burn brighter. But when I recall that I'm loved with an everlasting love, that I'm a child of the living God and worth the life of Jesus to redeem, then I begin to love others without feeling jealous and envious of them."

Remember, "Love does not envy..." - love looks through a telescope in order to see good, rather than a microscope in order to see the bad. Come look at Jesus' words with us this Sunday morning in regard to even loving our enemies, Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday Morning Bible Class...9:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship...6:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning Worship...10:45 a.m. Wed. Evening Bible Study...7:00 p.m.

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Vote For Bill Underwood For Commissioner Precinct 3 Eastland County

I have filed as a Democratic candidate for Eastland County Commissioner for Precinct 3. Having lived in Eastland County all my life and attended school in Gorman, I now live about halfway between Gorman and Rising Star.

After school I was employed by Huffstutler Construction in Comanche doing road and conservation work for several years. I began farming full-time in 1980 and custom harvesting. In 1991, I began part-time employment for Precinct 3, where I have worked full-time for the past 3 years.

Having worked in these occupations, I have experience working with you the public, and farming 500 acres of peanuts, I understand working from a large budget. At this time I no longer have any farming or construction interests and would be a full-time commissioner, if elected.

If given the chance to be your county commissioner, I will work hard to improve the county roads and maintain as low a tax rate as possible. The county barn will remain in Rising Star, where I will be available to you everyday.

Your vote and support is greatly appreciated.

Bill Underwood

Pol. Ad. Pd. by Bill Underwood, Rt. 1 Box 181, Carbon, TX 76435

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1999-2000 VARSITY CHEERLEADERS—supporting the Fighting Buffaloes, Buff and Lady Buff Basketball and Buffalo Baseball. Left to right: Jodi Payne, Candice Bailey, Emily Winfrey, Marian Hix, Jennifer Turner and Shena Thomas; sitting, Vanessa Webb, Brandi Richey. (Photo courtesy of Insights Photo)

Special evening planned for 3rd and 4th graders

A special evening is planned at Cross Plains Elementary School on Tuesday, March 7. The evening will begin with Third and Fourth Grade Parent Accelerated Reading Night in the elementary building from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Then the High School Library will be the location for the PTO meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. On the agenda are discussion of progress of the playground shelter project funded by PTO and the spring fund-raiser. In conjunction with the spring PTO meeting, there

will be a Parent Night and Book Fair. The book fair will be featuring student responses to literature as well as showcasing some of the original writings of Cross Plains Elementary school students. The book fair will also consist of displays of the favorite books of the elementary students and short "book talks" presented by elementary students about their favorite books. Following the students' presentations, Kaye Price-Hawkins will present a review of her book,

Random Acts of Literacy. Random Acts of Literacy presents stories that piece together the literacy of life-changing turning points. The personal sharing of one woman's reflections will inspire readers to tell the stories that belong to them. Calling on moments in her childhood, the experiences of her children and grandchildren, Kaye Price-Hawkins presents the literacy of these moments through poetry, songs, musings and prose. Using the letters of the title, chapter headings fall into place with a chosen quote to begin the chapter and space for the reader to write personal reflections at the end. Copies will be available for purchase and Kaye Price-Hawkins will sign copies. Ten percent of the sales will be donated to the elementary library. An educator for 28 years, Kaye Price-Hawkins is a language arts consultant for Region 14 Education Service Center. She has published articles, poetry and teacher materials; however, Random Acts of Literacy is her first book.

School announces fund-raiser

Our school has selected the following as one of our fund-raising programs for this year.

We are fortunate to have found an organization that will purchase empty inkjet printer cartridges from us.

They purchase the following cartridges:

They pay \$2 for the following cartridges:

- Apple Stylewriter M3240G/A, M8041G/C
- Canon BC-01, BC-02, BC-05, BC-20, BC-60, BX-2, BX-3
- Hewlett Packard 51625A, 51626A, 51629A, 51629G, C1823A, C1823D
- Lexmark 1380619, 1380620
- Panasonic KXFA150
- Xerox 8R7638, 8R4055

They pay \$1 for these cartridges:

- Brother IN-700
- Canon BC-06, BC-23
- Compaq 337710-001, 337709-001, 337711-001, 337715-001

- Hewlett Packard 51633A, 51633M, 51641A, 51645A, 51645G, 51649A, 51649G, C1816A, C6614A
- Lexmark 1361760, 12A1960, 12A1970, 12A1980, 12A1990, 1382050, 132060, 1361400, 15M0120
- Xerox 8R7881

This program is a safe, simple, quick, easy, profitable, guaranteed way of raising funds for our school. Empty inkjet printer cartridges can be collected from printers at home. Parents are also encouraged to collect cartridges from their places of employment and from their co-workers. Cartridges should then be brought to the school collection site.

This program is based on the premise that we can earn funds for our school and help recycle at the same time. This gives us the opportunity to take part in protecting our natural resources by cutting down on the amount of trash in landfills.

We will collect these cartridges throughout the entire school year. *When the empty cartridges are brought to school, it is recommended that they be put in a Ziploc bag to prevent any possible leakage on hands, clothing, bags, etc.* When we receive 100 or more empty cartridges we will send them off for our payment.

With your assistance this is going to be an extremely profitable way to raise money for our school. Thank you for your continuing support.

School board candidate workshop offers information/insight

WICHITA FALLS—Area school board candidates and interested citizens can learn more about the demands and rewards of school board service at a candidate workshops, Thursday, March 9, 7-9 p.m. at the Region 11 Education Service Center (3001 N. Freeway, Fort Worth); and Tuesday, March 14, 7-9 p.m. at the Region 14 Education Service Center (1850 Highway 351, Abilene).

The workshop will provide interested community members and individuals thinking about running for the board with a better understanding of what is involved in being elected and serving as a trustee. Experienced school board members will explain board members' key responsibilities and outline the qualities necessary for effective service.

Topics to be covered include the school board's duties and responsibilities, important ethical practices during board service, how board members are accountable for the education of students, and keys to responsible campaigns. Participants will also view *A Call to Service*, a Texas Association of School Boards' video highlighting many aspects of board service and featuring several experienced school trustees.

The workshop is open to anyone. Admission is free. For more information, call Kathy Dundee at TASB, 512-467-0222 or 800-580-8272, extension 6171.

SCHOOL MENU

MARCH 6-MARCH 10

BREAKFAST

MONDAY—Oatmeal, toast, assorted juice and milk.

TUESDAY—Sausage, biscuit, gravy, assorted juice and milk.

WEDNESDAY—Pancakes, bacon, assorted juice and milk.

THURSDAY—Cereal, toast, assorted juice and milk.

FRIDAY—Breakfast bread, yogurt, assorted juice and milk.

LUNCH

MONDAY—Pizza, salad, corn, rosy applesauce and milk.

TUESDAY—Turkey & noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, peaches and milk.

WEDNESDAY—Chicken enchiladas, pinto beans, corn bread, pineapples and milk.

THURSDAY—BBQ on bun, okra, black-eyed peas, cobbler and milk.

FRIDAY—Submarine sandwich, chips, salad, pickles, ice cream and milk.

Jordan Cattle Auction - Brownwood

February 22, 2000

Receipts totaled 728 head. Stocker steer & heifer calves & yearlings sold steady to strong. Demand remains good. Stocker cows also remain steady while cow & calf pairs sold \$20 to \$35 lower. Packer cows & bulls sold \$1 to \$3 higher.

Representative Sales

Ricky Taylor	Rising Star	1 Str 460 @ 115.00
Lee Ranch	Brownwood	17 Strs 446 @ 108.00
Lee Ranch	Brownwood	7 Strs 536 @ 105.00
Lee Ranch	Brownwood	1 Hfr 496 @ 93.00
Ethel Hill	Brownwood	1 Str 570 @ 95.00
Massey Ranch	Lohn	1 Hfr 275 @ 124.00
Lynda Hallum	Early	1 Hfr 375 @ 105.00
Sam Steel	Brownwood	1 Hfr 430 @ 103.00
Jack Riley	Comanche	1 Hfr 565 @ 84.50
Jack Riley	Comanche	4 Hfrs 718 @ 73.00

Weight	Steers Price	Helpers Price	Slaughter Bulls
150-300	1.08-1.29	1.05-1.43	45-52
300-400	1.02-1.25	1.03-1.29	Slaughter Cows
400-500	94-1.17	95-1.18	28-42
500-600	92-1.07	85-1.05	Bred Cows
600-700	72-86.50	80-90	410-600
700-800	70-75.50	70-77	Pairs
Replacement Price		81-88	560-800

Band Booster Meeting Mon., March 6

The Band Booster's monthly meeting will be held Monday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. in the band hall.

All band student parents are invited to attend.

WE LAMINATE

Small Item	\$1.00
5 1/2 x 8 1/2 Item	\$1.50
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Cross Plains Review

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NURSING HOME ABUSE

As for-profit corporations have taken over the nursing home market in Texas, the motivation to make bigger and bigger profits has slowly drained resources away from patient care. In fact, a GAO Report disclosed in a Congressional investigation in March of 1999 found that 40% of nursing homes (in California, Texas, Pennsylvania and Michigan), cited for patient abuse and neglect, were repeat offenders in recent years. As a result, Texas has seen a wave of injuries and deaths involving nursing home neglect and abuse.

If you, or your loved ones, have been a victim of nursing home abuse, you might have a claim against the nursing home for negligence. The Schmidt Firm is proud to announce its experience in cases arising out of nursing home abuse. For more information on our firm, please visit our website at www.schmidtlaw.com. Please call if you are in need of a free consultation.



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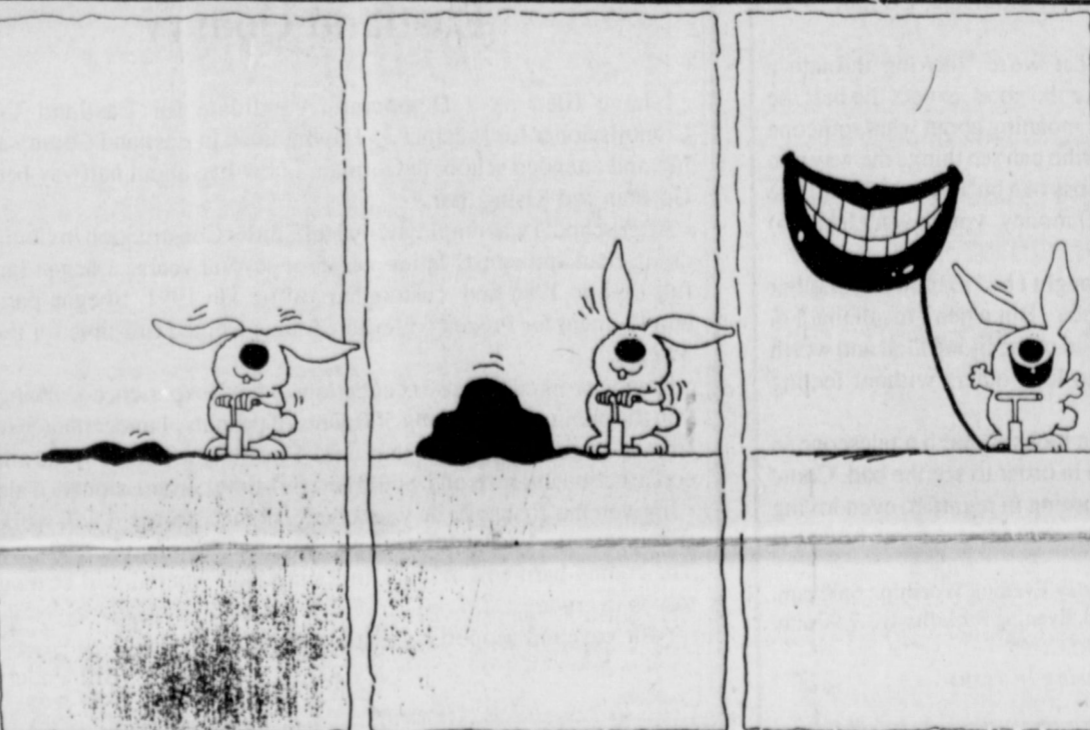
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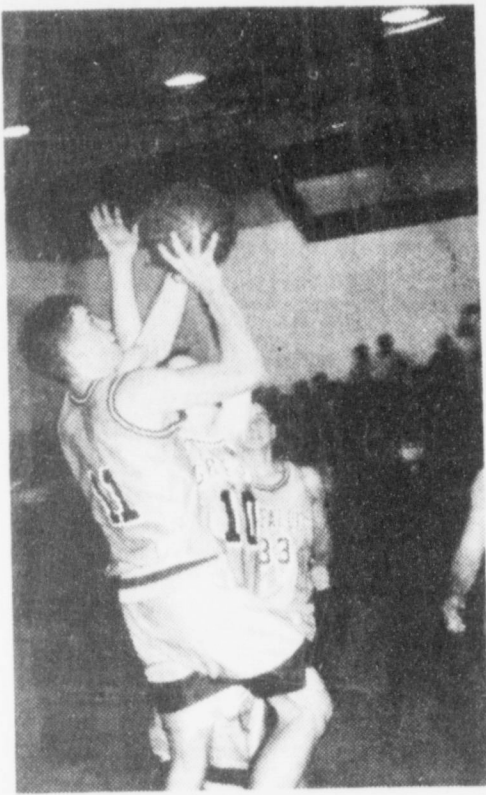
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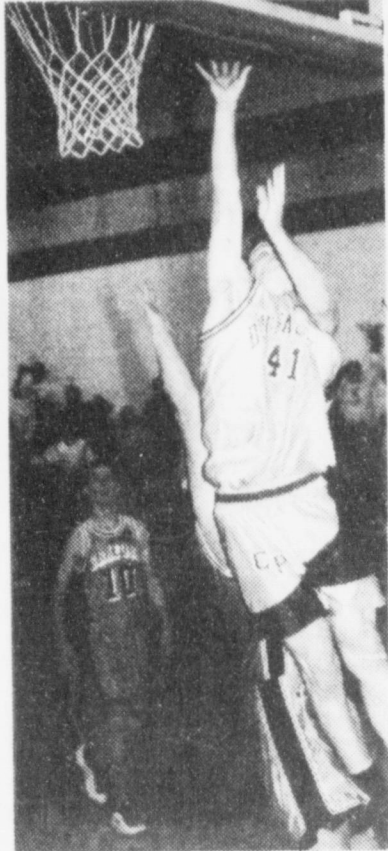
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Cross Plains Class A playoff action



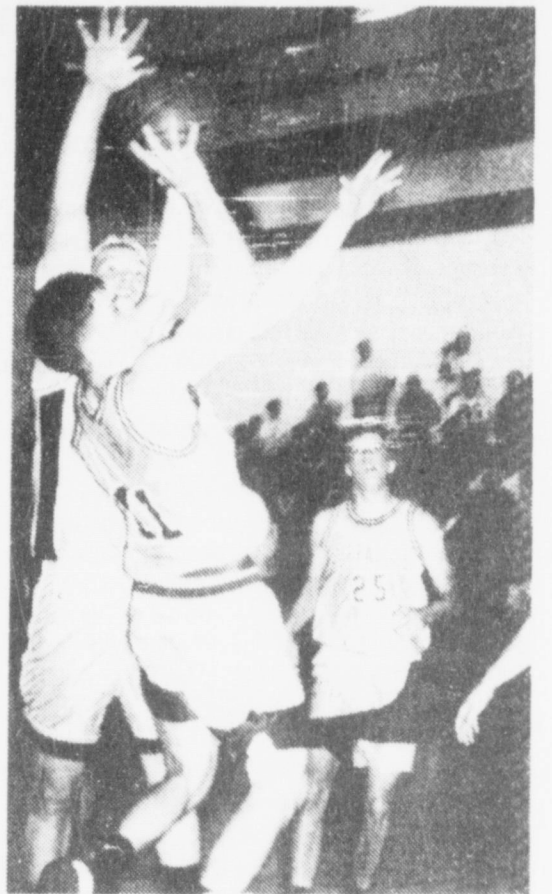
#11 Jody Pancake in white



#41 Joe Dillard in white



GETTING SOME ADVICE—Cross Plains High School boys basketball coach Cody Chandler, kneeling at right, speaks to his squad during a time out in the fourth quarter of the Cross Plains/Graford Class AA playoff game. The Buffaloes closed out the season Friday, February 25 after a 57-38 loss to Graford.



#11 Jody Pancake in white



#25 Coby Richards in white



#11 Jody Pancake in white



#21 Cody Reed in white



#25 Coby Richards in white

Buffaloes season comes to an end

By COACH CODY CHANDLER

If you follow Cross Plains Basketball, you know that the varsity boys team was participating in the UIL State playoffs. With an opening round match-up against the Huckabay Indians, the Buffs would have their hands full. Not only was Huckabay an all basketball school, but they beat the Buffaloes by 37 points in a scrimmage to start the season. This was probably to our advantage, because as far as we were concerned, we had nothing to lose. The first half started off very well with the Buffs taking an early 5-2 lead. From that point until the end of the first half, the Indians dominated the game. The half-time score was Huckabay 31, Cross Plains 18.

With a 13 point deficit, the Buffaloes seemed to relax. Just as they had done all year, the Buffs spotted a lead and then fought back to make a game out of it. The lead had been trimmed to four by the end of the third quarter, sparked by the bench play of John Peters. The third quarter ended with the score of 36-40. At that point the Indians were beginning to look tired, and the Buffaloes took advantage of that weakness. As the game wore on the Buffaloes continued to come back until the game was tied at 44 on a free shot by Joe Dillard. The last few minutes were probably the most exciting minutes of the year for our team, and I know they were for the coaches. With the Buffs ahead by one, and 6 seconds left to go, Huckabay had a chance for the last second win. The shot missed, Cody Reed got the rebound, and the Buffaloes won the Bi-District Championship 47-46. Other outstanding performers were Coby Richards (defense), Brandon Mahler (rebounding) and Jody Pancake (scoring).

In the area game, the Buffaloes would take on the Graford

Jackrabbits, another all basketball school with a lot of talented young players. This time the Buffaloes came out prepared and took a big lead on the overconfident Jackrabbits. With great defense and a more patient offense than we have had all year the Buffaloes took a 13-6 first quarter lead, capped off by a half court shot at the end of the quarter by Jody Pancake. Joe Dillard paced the first half offense scoring 8 of his 10 points during the half. As the second quarter went along, Graford began to warm up from the outside cutting the lead to 3 by the end of the half. The half time score was 24-21 Cross Plains.

The second half would be a completely different story as the Buffalo starters began to get tired and not be able to keep up the defensive pressure that had given us the lead to begin with. Once the defense started to drag, the offense wasn't far behind. Senior guard Coby Richards played probably his most impressive defensive game as he held Graford's leading scorer to just 6 points in three quarters. The third quarter ended with Cross Plains trailing 31-34. The fourth quarter started with a three point basket by the Jackrabbits, and the game never got any closer. The Buffaloes continued to give the effort on defense, but still had trouble scoring any points so that they could catch up. Junior forward Cody Reed played one of the better games he had played all year by contributing on the defensive boards as well as taking the ball to the basket for a game high 10 points. A lay-up by Reed with 3:30 remaining in the game cut the lead to 9 but it quickly went back to double figures. Again, Brandon Mahler was relentless on the boards and tossed in 5 points. The game ended with lots of fouls and a few more made shots taking the lead to 19 points, but the final score doesn't tell the whole story. The final score was Cross Plains 38, Graford 57.

5-Cross Plains Review March 2, 2000

Crop Insurance Deadline Nears For Texas Farmers

Oklahoma City, OK — Ronald L. Berryhill, Director of the Risk Management Agency's Regional Office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma reminded farmers that they only have until March 15, 2000, to take advantage of an estimated 25 percent premium discount on higher levels of crop insurance protection.

"We're trying to make higher levels of protection affordable," said Berryhill. "Farmers should contact an agent immediately to discuss coverage options on crops insurable in their county."

In addition to higher levels of coverage, the catastrophic level of

insurance protection (CAT) is also available to producers. For only \$60 per crop county, farmers may obtain a low level of protection. Limited resource farmers may not have to pay the \$60 fee for CAT coverage if they fill out a waiver available from their crop insurance agent.

Farmers who need more information about sales closing dates or their insurance options should contact a crop insurance agent. A listing of crop insurance agents is available at local Farm Service Agency offices or at <http://www.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/>.

Power Wheelchairs Available

Miracle on Wheels makes available Power (Electric) Wheelchairs to non-ambulatory Senior Citizens (65 years old and up) usually at no out-of-pocket expense if they qualify. No deposit required. The electric wheelchairs are provided to those who can not walk and can not self-propel a manual wheelchair in their home or

independent living quarters and who meet the additional qualifications of the program. This service may also be available to the permanently disabled of any age.

Please call 1-800-749-8778 or visit our web site at www.durablemedical.com for more information on the details of this program.

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Football Hall of Famer Sammy Baugh Chairs Boy Scout "Gridiron Greats" Initiative

Former Redskin quarterback legend Sammy Baugh signed on as Honorary Chairman for the Boy Scouts of America's "Gridiron Greats" membership initiative for the Chisholm Trail Council; a strategically located, nine-county area of service headquartered in Abilene. The goal of Gridiron Greats is to increase traditional scouting membership in the southern United States by 50,000 youth and 2,000 units. In West Texas, this means recruiting volunteers.

"As I see it, the obstacle we have to overcome in our area is just plain apathy among potential adult leaders," Baugh says. "We have kids lined up to participate, but can't get adults to volunteer those few nights a month to help build character and values in our youth. I hate to lose; especially when character is at stake. That's why I'm volunteering. I want to do anything I can to help."

The Chisholm Trail's Scout Executive, John Clark, echoes those comments, "We truly have some of the finest scout leaders in my 23 years of experience in scouting. But, these men and women are increasingly few and overburdened; they need help. We've lost membership because of a negative trend in volunteering and it's hurting youth programs. An adult does not have to have a child in Scouting or previous Scout experience. Adult volunteers benefit not only through leadership training, but through civic participation, fitness programs, child abuse awareness training, drug abuse prevention training, self awareness, and much more. If a person does not feel he or she can commit to weekly Cub or Boy Scout meeting, we have critical volunteer positions as members of unit committees. The committees meet monthly and guide the local program."

Donor Appreciation Luncheon

The Donor Relations Department of West Texas Rehabilitation Center (WTRC) said "Thank You" in more than 100 languages on Friday, February 18, 2000, at a Donor Appreciation Luncheon. The luncheon was held to honor the generous friends who donated items for the Telethon Auction 2000, which raised more than \$122,000 for the mission of WTRC.

The WTRC Chuck Wagon cooks, Archie Jobe and Larry Farr, prepared fajita with all the trimmings for lunch, and Janet Ardoyno and her son Jonathan, long time recipient of WTRC services, gave a short presentation. Jonathan Ardoyno and Jim Pethis, President/CEO of West Texas Rehabilitation Center, presented certificates to the donors.

Tarleton Lists Fall Honor Roll, Distinguished Students

STEPHENVILLE, TX — The A Honor Roll and Distinguished Student list for the Fall 1999 semester has been released at Tarleton State University.

Dr. B.J. Alexander, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at the University, released the names of students recognized from both the Stephenville and Killeen campuses. Students listed on the A Honor Roll have a 4.0 grade point ratio (GPR) on the 4.0 system and are taking a minimum of 12 hours.

Distinguished Students include freshman and sophomore students who have a minimum GPR of 3.25 with no grade lower than C, and juniors and seniors who have a minimum GPR of 3.50 with no grade lower than C and are in good standing.

A Honor Roll, Distinguished Students Fall 1999

BAIRD - Julie K. Patterson
 CLYDE - Rickey Don Odell A, D
 CROSS PLAINS - Justin Craig Richey, A, D; Deanna Besselaar D
 RISING STAR - Randal M. Jones D, Tonya D. Stover D

The "Gridiron Greats" initiative will run through December 31, 2000, culminating in a "Superbowl" party to recognize top volunteer efforts. The top three volunteer "recruiters" among current adult Scouters will receive "game balls" signed by Mr. Baugh, and units achieving the most growth will be inducted into the "Hall of Fame."

Truly a Southern Region phenomenon, Gridiron Greats has been embraced by football players and coaches alike. Other regional Gridiron Greats Chairmen include Mack Brown (UT), Houston Nutt (UA), Tommy Bowden (SC), Carl Torbush (UNC), and Phillip Fulmer (UTenn). All are committed to fostering growth in character through Scouting.

Boys in first through fifth grades or ages seven to ten, may join a Cub Scout pack and be assigned to a den, which is usually made up of boys in a neighborhood who form a natural play group. Cub Scouting emphasizes involvement between the boys and their parents, adult leaders, and friends.

Boy Scouting is available to boys who have completed the fifth grade and who are age 11 through 17. The program achieves the BSA's objectives of developing character, citizenship, and personal fitness by focusing on a vigorous program of outdoor activities.

Venturing is a program for young men and women who have completed the eighth grade and who are age 14 through 20. The program emphasizes team leadership, life-skills development, outdoor and high-adventure activity, spiritual studies, and other areas of interest to the crew members.

"Be a player if asked," says Baugh, "make a difference. Try it for one year. Someone will show you what to do, it won't take a lot of your time, and you'll have as much fun as the kids."

To learn more about scouting programs or to be an adult volunteer, contact the Chisholm Trail Council at (915) 677-2688.

Kelley candidate for Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Presiding Judge

Clyde High School graduate Connie J. Kelley is one of four Republican candidates seeking the statewide office for Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Presiding Judge in the Tuesday, March 14 Republican Primary Election.

Kelley, a 1974 graduate of Clyde High School, is the daughter of Bracie Kelley and the late W.T. "Bill" Kelley of Clyde.

Born in 1955 in Abilene, Kelley grew up in Clyde and was a member of the CHS Bulldog Band where she played trumpet.

After graduation from high school, she enlisted in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged in 1976. She received her B.A. with honors from the University of Texas in Austin in 1980 and graduated from the UT Law School in 1983. Kelley was licensed by the State Supreme Court to practice law in November 1983.

Kelley continued working for an Austin attorney who had employed her during law school and then opened her own law office about one year later. In 1986, Kelley was licensed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas and in 1990 in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. She has practiced criminal law since 1988.

This is her first attempt at public office. Kelley said she's concerned about the direction the Court has taken over the years. "I want to bring stability to the law and unity to the Court. The past few years the Court has repeatedly overruled established judicial precedent, substituting personal opinions of a few judges for decades of legal wisdom. I will seek to uphold the law—not make it. If new laws are needed, our legislators can pass them. I will respect the rightful limits of my power and encourage others to do the same," Kelley said.

In 1990, she was a stalking victim and her experience ended only after the stalker was jailed for criminal trespass. In 1994, Kelley was court-appointed to represent an indigent charged with violating the first stalking law. "I convinced an appellate court to strike down the law as being unconstitutional



CONNIE J. KELLEY
 ...Republican candidate for Court of Criminal Appeals, Presiding Judge

vague. I then volunteered to co-author a new stalking bill that would be enforceable," Kelley said.

Kelley added, "I worked with representatives from the offices of Governor Bush and Senator Moncrief, prosecutor and defense attorney organizations, and battered women to draft a new stalking bill. Together we created a proposal which became the first law passed in 1997."

Kelley married Warren Tucker in 1991. Her husband is employed by the state of Texas as a stock analyst for the Teacher Retirement System. The couple has a seven-year-old daughter, Kelley Tucker.

The nominee of the Republican Party's Primary Election for the Court of Criminal Appeals, Presiding Judge will face a Democratic Party challenger in the November General Election.

Early voting for the Republican and Democratic Party Primary Elections is continuing now through March 10 at three locations in Callahan County. Those early voting sites are at the Clyde Justice of the Peace office, the Justice of the Peace office in Cross Plains and Room #107 at the County Courthouse in Baird.

Housing Loans Available to Qualified Applicants

The Texas USDA Rural Development Agency has Housing Loan Programs available to assist qualified very-low, low, and moderate-income applicants in the construction or purchase of a home.

These loans require no down payment or mortgage insurance and can be made for up to 100 percent of the market value of the property. In some cases, this allows for financing of the closing costs.

Loan terms are from 30 to 33 years, with fixed interest rates. Payment assistance is available. Based on family size and income, the interest rate could be as low as one percent.

The agency also administers Home Repair Loans and Grants for qualified very-low income owner-occupants.

Grant funds of up to \$7,500 are available for homeowners age 62 and over who cannot repay a loan.

The grants must be used to remove health and safety hazards such as repairing roofs, heating, electrical, plumbing systems, water and waste disposal, installing screens, window, insulation and other items to make the home safe.

Home repair loans up to \$20,000 may include similar purposes as the grant, but may also be used to modernize and bring a home up to standards, make changes for conveniences, add a room, remodel or make overall improvements to the home.

The loan term can be up to 20 years, with a fixed one percent interest rate.

For information concerning these programs, contact the Rural Development office at 2608A Hwy. 377 South, Brownwood, or call (915) 643-1585, extension 4.



MORE INFORMED ON CHIROPRACTIC CARE—Devin Koenig (right), Doctor of Chiropractic, addressed the Kiwanis Club of Cross Plains recently regarding chiropractic care. He operates Cisco Family Chiropractic and was the guest of Charlie Ross, Kiwanis program chairman.

FOOD PANTRY

Mondays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

We welcome all interested in helping with this project and those wanting to just come by to see what this is all about. For information call Betty Edwards at (254) 725-6510.

El comite de misiones de la Primera Iglesia Metodista tiene el placer de anunciar el estreno de despensa de comida. Se abrirá el 6 de marzo.

Nosotros y todos los voluntarios hacemos esto con amor para nuestra comunidad.

Este servicio es para ayudar a los

que necesitan ayuda para poner comida en la mesa para su familia. Los aplicantes necesitan traer una cuenta reciente de luz o agua que tenga el nombre y direccion.

La despensa de comida esta localizada dentro del Multi-Purpose Center en la Calle Ocho y Beech. El horario es lunes a jueves a las diez de la mañana hasta las dos de la tarde.

Bienvenidos a todos los interesados en ayudar con este proyecto y a los que quieran venir a ver. Para mas informacion, favor de llamar a Betty Edwards al 725-6510.

West Texas Utilities announces changes in operations

ABILENE, (February 22)—West Texas Utilities Company is announcing operational changes to position the company for the start of retail competition in Texas.

We will be discontinuing our merchandise program by the end of September," said WTU President and General Manager Paul Brower. "Additionally, our area offices will be used more exclusively for operational purposes."

Brower said that after September, WTU local offices will no longer provide traditional customer transactions, including bill payments. He noted that customers will continue to have company access through its Customer Service Center, which provides service 24-hours a day, 7 days a week via a toll-free telephone number.

In the Clyde WTU office, only one customer service representative will be affected, according to WTU Communications Consultant Linda Caton. Caton said the position of Cindy Gotschall in the Clyde office will be done away with. She said hopefully, Gotschall will be offered a position elsewhere in the company.

"A changing business environment and changing customer needs are reshaping our business," Brower said. "WTU will continue to work in partnership with communities through its economic development activities, volunteerism, contributions and customer service. The company is following an industry trend in making use of new technologies to provide more options in customer service."

Under utility restructuring, companies must separate into three different businesses (1) retail electric provider (2) wire companies and (3) generation companies.

Brower said that to promote fair competition, utilities must sepa-

rate their operations. This requires a reevaluation of the services offered by WTU. As a result, WTU's merchandise program no longer fits with its business priorities.

He added that now WTU customers have more options in paying their bills, including:

- Mail.
- Automatic bank drafting using the Direct Advantage Plan.
- The Internet (www.csw.com), which provides a full range of customer services, including bill payment, connect/disconnect requests and program information.
- Pay Stations in many communities.
- Credit card or ATM card via the telephone using the ChoicePay Plan.

"If you have a question regarding bill payment or want to know the location of the nearest pay station, you should contact our toll-free Customer Service Center at 1-888-216-3490," said Brower. "There are many changes on the horizon that will give customers more choices in how they conduct business with us. The one thing that will never change is our commitment to customer service."

West Texas Utilities Company, a subsidiary of Central and South West, is still planning a merger with American Electric Power. The two companies are still facing regulatory approval from two agencies. The merger is still set for the spring of 2000.

Caton said after the merger is completed, the two companies should begin a restaffing process.

The Cross Plains WTU office will be included in the closings. See details in next week's issue.

Letter To The Editor

Sheriff Eddie Curtis
 Callahan County
 432 Market Street
 Baird, Texas 79504

Re: Jail Inspection

Dear Eddie:

Congratulations on another year well done. Once again you and your staff are to be commended for all your hard work and dedication. On February 25, 2000, The Commission of Jail Standards performed a jail inspection on our 100 year jail. There were no deficiencies noted upon the review by the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards.

On behalf of the Commissioners, I would like to say, Congratulations. We could not have passed another inspection without the hard work and dedication each one of you illustrates.

Sincerely,
 Roger Corn
 Callahan County Judge

Cross Plains native earns academic honors at Howard Payne

BROWNWOOD—Cross Plains native Jarad Richards was named to the president's list for the 1999 fall semester at Howard Payne University.

Students must receive a grade point average of 4.0 for the president's list.

He is the son of Monty and Melissa Richards.

Political Calendar

The Cross Plains Review is authorized to publish the following political announcements for the Callahan County office filings in the Democratic Primary Election set for Tuesday, March 14, 2000.

For Callahan Attorney Allen Wright Shane Deel

Pol. Adv. by Allen Wright County Attorney Campaign Fund, 6000 County Road 203, Clyde, Texas 79510

Pol. Adv. by Shane Deel, 526 Swenson Road, Clyde, Texas 79510

All political calendar advertising for the Democratic Primary Election is payable in advance, at a cost of \$100.00. A free press release and photograph will be published one time with each announcement.

Want To Write Your Elected Officials?

Here are their addresses:

Austin
 George W. Bush, Governor, Room 200, State Capitol, Austin, TX 78711

Jim Keffer, District 60 State Representative, P.O. Box 2910 Office #E2.802, Austin, TX 78768-2910 or call (512) 463-0656

Washington
 Bill Clinton, President of the United States, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20000

Charles Stenholm, Congressman, 17th Texas District, 1211 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515

Phil Gramm, U.S. Senator, Room 370 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-4302

Kay Bailey Hutchison, U.S. Senator, Room 703, Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-4301

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Two File for Re-election to Cross Plains I.S.D. School Board

Tony Wyatt and Donnie Dillard have filed applications for re-election to the Cross Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees.

There are two three year terms expiring (Wyatt and Dillard) and a one year term completing Leon Nixon's three year term.

Applications may be filed at the superintendent's office in the Cross Plains High School. During Spring Break, March 13-17, the office will be closed. If you need an application call (254) 725-7458. Deadline to file is March 22, 2000, at 5:00 p.m.

PSBRA BULLRIDING RESULTS AT CLYDE NOTED

The results from the PSBRA sanctioned bullriding held in Clyde, Texas February 27, 2000 are as follows:

1st Round: 1st Russell Tucker of Kingsland, TX-77 points on Samford's 6X Goofball; 2nd Jimmy Nail of Clyde, TX-73 points on Robinson's Redspot

2nd Round: 1st Kenneth Mckee of Wollforth, TX-82 points on Heard's Freckles; 2nd J.R. Black of Pflugerville, TX-68 points on Heard's Old Yeller; 3rd Jimmy Nail of Clyde, TX-52 points on Heard's Wedo (opted not to take ride)

Average: 1st Jimmy Nail of Clyde, 2nd Kenneth Mckee, 3rd Russell Tucker of Kingsland, 4th J.R. Black of Pflugerville

Year End Standings:
40-49 year old-1st Jimmy Nail of Clyde-65 points; 2nd Kenneth

Mckee of Wollforth-55 points; 3rd Russell Tucker of Kingsland-45 points; 4th J.R. Black of Pflugerville-35 points.

50 and over: 1st George Heard of Early-10 points

March Schedule: 3-12-00 Belton, Texas; 3-19-00 Stephenville, Texas; 3-26-00 Mullin, Texas;

Contractors: Monty Samford of Eula, TX; Will Robinson of Clyde, TX; Irene Heard of Early, TX

Judges: Gary Jones of Sweetwater, TX; Rickey Walker of Abilene, TX; Kyle Hamm of Abilene, TX

Bullfighter: Joe (BULLBAIT) Kennedy Lampassas, TX

All PSBRA members would like to thank all the fans for their support at Clyde and to look for another PSBRA bullriding in Clyde in April.

Sincerely and Thank You,
Jimmy Nail PSBRA President

Texas Forts Trail column

Five companies of the Eighth Infantry, under the command of Colonel Thomas Staniford, arrived on the banks of the San Saba River on March 14, 1852, and established Fort McKavett in Menard County. Orders issued by the military commander in Texas specified the new post location at the headspring of the San Saba River. The camp was begun, though by May a more suitable site was chosen about two miles downriver. By the following August, almost 200 officers and enlisted men were stationed at Fort McKavett.

On March 18, 2000 Fort McKavett will be hosting a day of living histories. Visit this isolated post and be a part of life in the 1850's and 1860's. Soldiers in period uniform, artillery, sutlers, and much more will be a part of this educational and entertaining event. For more information and a complete schedule of events, contact Fort McKavett at 915-396-2358.

Speaking of education and entertainment, Fort Griffin State Historical Park this month offers two unique opportunities to learn more about our culture — traditions and attractions. Branding is a well-known activity to most of us here in West Central Texas, but on Saturday, March 11, youth from across Texas will learn the in's and out's of branding — why it is done, how it is done, etc. These young people will have the "hands on" experience of the branding of the state of Texas' longhorn calves. The mystic and romance of ranching brought to life in an educational setting. Also, on March 25, Fort Griffin hosts a star gazing party — giving everyone a chance to learn more about one of our biggest attractions —

that beautiful West Texas sky!

Another March attraction — RATTLESNAKES! Remember that the key to tourism is that anything can be an attraction. Sweetwater hosts the World's Largest Rattlesnake Roundup March 10-12. You have never seen anything like this! It is a must!

All of the forts in the Texas Forts Trail Region offer a host of activity that is both educational and fun for the entire family. For a complete Spring 2000 Calendar of Events at the Forts and surrounding communities call Lisa Sanders at 915-677-7241 or email at lsanders@chamber.abilene.com.

We invite everyone to discover the beauty of West Texas while learning about our unique culture and heritage.

Special thanks to Texas Forts Trail Board Member Dr. David Coffey of the McWhiney Foundation, for the historical information for this article.

Experience the Excitement of the Texas Frontier, travel the Texas Forts Trail. The Texas Forts Trail is a heritage tourism partnership of the Texas Historical Commission, in conjunction with the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, the Texas Department of Economic Development, and Texas Commission on the Arts, and local chambers of commerce and visitors bureaus. For more information on the Texas Forts Trail and a complete calendar of events, please contact Lisa Sanders, Regional Coordinator at 915-677-7241 or to receive a free brochure please call the Abilene Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-800-727-7704 or the San Angelo Visitors Information Center at 1-800-375-1206.

Rep. Stenholm's Ag Talk

By Charlie Stenholm
February 25, 2000

Agriculture committee Agenda for 2000

In the wake of the agriculture crisis facing the nation's producers, the House Agriculture Committee will hold a series of hearings this year on federal farm policy. Hearings will be held in 10 areas across the country, including Washington. The first hearing will take place on Monday, March 6, in Lubbock.

The Commodity Exchange Act (CEA) expires this year, and the Agriculture Committee will spend a good part of the year working on the reauthorization of this law. The U.S. Grain Standards Act also expires this year and must be reauthorized.

Last year, the House passed legislation to reform crop insurance. The Senate has not yet completed action on this legislation but is expected to do so sometime this spring. Differences in the two versions will have to be resolved before the legislation can be sent to the President and signed into law.

For two years running, Congress has found it necessary to provide emergency income assistance and will probably do so again this year. In fact, emergency spending topped \$15 billion in 1998 and 1999.

This is a clear indication that the 1996 Farm Bill does not provide an adequate safety net and that Congress needs to develop a long term policy that provides comprehensive protection.

This spring, I will be offering my proposal to establish a program of supplemental income payments (SIP). Supplemental income payments would be made to producers of wheat, feed grains, cotton, rice and oilseeds when the current year's national gross revenue of a commodity falls, for example, below 90% of the average national gross revenue of the previous five years for that commodity.

My policy is needed to address low prices and is designed to provide counter-cyclical relief to folks actually producing a crop, and to avoid distorting planting decisions.

I anticipate the House Agriculture Committee will also consider legislation to: 1) restore the USDA Secretary's authority to extend marketing assistance loans for six months; 2) re-establish the farmer-owned reserve, and 3) raise or "equalize" loan rates.

Congressman Stenholm represents the 17th District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives and is the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Agriculture.

Nostalgia Night Planned at CJC Fri. and Sat., March 3-4

The Cisco Junior College Jazz Band will be hosting the college's annual Nostalgia Night Friday and Saturday nights, March 3rd and 4th at the Mobley Hotel in Cisco. Dinner will be served each night beginning at 7:00 p.m.

After dinner you can relax and enjoy listening and dancing to tunes of the 40's, 50's and 60's. Familiar favorites from the Jazz Band will include songs such as "In the Mood," "When I Fall In Love," and "Take the 'A' Train. When the Jazz Band takes a break, you will be entertained by the CJC Singers. This section will include the men of the choir singing the Beach Boy's hit, "Fun, Fun, Fun," while the ladies will sing "You Don't Own Me," recently featured in the movie, First Wives Club. The lovely Wrangler Belles will also be on hand to entertain you with their dancing.

The cost for the dinner and snow is \$10. Reservations are required. Please call the CJC Switchboard at 254-442-2567 to make reservations. Be sure to inform the operator if you have a birthday or anniversary you would like to celebrate with the CJC Jazz Band.

Smith encourages parents to take a pro-active approach. Research has shown that if parents are successful in relaying family values as it relates to sexuality, teens will think more about abstinence, the number of sex partners, and using contraception.

"During a very difficult time in her life, the most important resource a pregnant teen will have is her family," Smith said. "If she knows her parents will support her no matter what happens, she will most likely never think about abandoning her baby."

CJC Forming Native American Performing Group

Cisco Junior College will be forming a Native American Performing Group beginning the fall semester of 2000. Scholarships of up to \$400 per semester will be offered to individuals interested in Native American dancing and singing.

The performing group will take part in community and college events. The group will participate in parades, local and area pow wows and other appropriate venues.

"We are happy to be able to offer this opportunity for individuals to

attend college and pursue their interest in Native American future," says Dr. Roger C. Schustereit, CJC President. "We hope to have a full-time director for this new program by May of 2000. Until then, interested students should contact me," adds Schustereit.

Schustereit can be contacted as follows:

Cisco Junior College
RR 3, Box 3
Cisco, TX 76437
254-442-2567, ext. 111
rschustereit@cisco.cc.tx.us

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FOR SALE—Large round bales of Coastal \$40 each; Ford tractor; Heston 10-40; 2-horse trailer; drill Call (254) 725-6465. 49-11p

GARAGE SALES

ESTATE SALE—Cathreen and Travis (June) Bond First Sale Saturday, March 4, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.; 1-20 to Ranger; 1st exit FM 2461, 4-1/2 miles from Ranger. Sale consists of nice furniture, household goods, antiques, guns, collector knives, Imperial Carnival glass. For more information call (254) 647-3970. 49-11p

GARAGE SALE—on 880, 1 mile north of Cottonwood, Friday and Saturday, refrigerator w/warranty, large Sears heater, butane 25 gallon cylinders w/gauge, jeans, lots of other items, (254) 725-6888. 49-11c

CARD OF THANKS

Card of Thanks
To our many friends of this caring community, we thank you for your love and concern given to us during our recent illness.
Our prayer for you is God will bless you as you have so sweetly blessed us.
Roy & Marie Stambaugh

Card of Thanks
The board and staff of the Cross Plains Public Library say, "Thank all of you for your attendance at the Kelton review last Tuesday evening." Your support of these functions is an inspiration. We are proud of our town.

Card of Thanks
Thanks to all the wonderful people for the food, phone calls, flowers, visits, and kind words that were given on behalf of our beloved husband, daddy, papa and brother, Bobby Dillard. A special thanks to Bro. Lenz, Bro. Coppinger and Vondal Hutchins, for the beautiful service, to Sarah Brashear and Leslie Horan for all the time they spent working to serve our food and the visits.
All the love shown to us made his passing much easier to bear.
May God's richest blessings be upon you.
Eddie Faye Dillard
Sharon & family
Bobra & family
Randy
Vondell Bailey & family

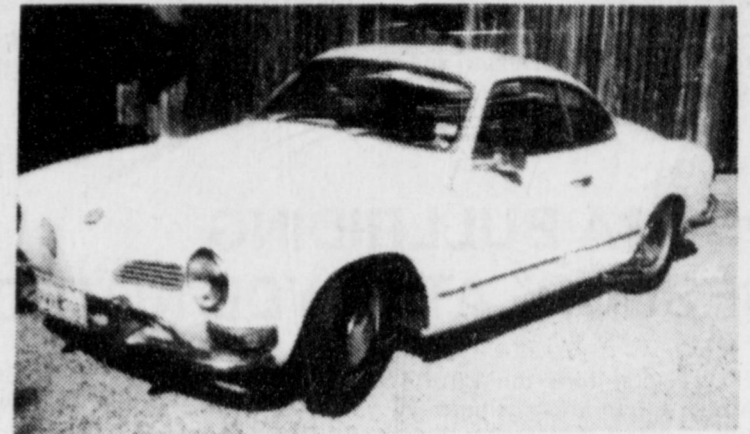
Card of Thanks
I wish to thank each one who has been so nice and thoughtful of me while I was sick.
A special thank you for your prayers, cards, visits and food. There is no place like the people in Cross Plains. I thank God for each of you.
I love and appreciate all of you.
Ora Breeding

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160 ACRES & HOME. 3 BR-1B with dining and breakfast room combination. Central H/A, marble shower, Jacuzzi tub, & walk-in closets. Custom cabinets and countertops. Beautiful breezeway. 2-car garage. Chain-link fenced yard. 2 tanks, 2 water wells, & 5 outbuilding, excellent deer, turkey and quail hunting. Located 9 miles Southeast of Burkett. \$219,000.

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Doug Hagemeyer
Gerry L. Holly
Michiel Bates
Donna Kaye Chambers
Grady Ramey
Sue Carroll

MARCH 7

Mrs. D.C. Hargrove, Jr.
Billy Black
Diane Bowden
Juanita Free
Carl Corley
Ann Holland
Shelly Gray
Bill Rutledge

MARCH 5

Mrs. Dwayne Wilson
Dannes (Dickson) Turner
Loy Don Black
Benson Dale Clark
John Prentice
Sylvia Switzer
Edith Sorrell
Steve Hargrove
Francis Staggs
Mike Peacock
Betty Fisher
Gary Wayne Callaway
Carol Rogers
Kelly Austin
Kelbi Shecotah Hyles
Bobby Clarkston

MARCH 8

Jane Rowan
Dee Ann (Coppinger) Key
Jerril Whiteside
Jennifer Johnston
Betty P. Bean
Mrs. R.W. Purvis
Paula (Allen) Keeney
Cameron Taylor Hillburn
Adrian Leon Slaymaker
David Melder
Ella Lee

MARCH 9

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James Letney
Chris Kitchens
Mrs. Bill Smoot
Edgar Sessions
Rene Aiken
Merrie Hopson
Gerald Stephens

MARCH 10

Donald James Couch
Rainey Blue Bacon
Gloria Peninger
Jerry Wayne Calhoun
Carl David Scott
Turner Simpson
Glenda (Gould) Callaway
Duane Thomas

MARCH 6

Marie Fletcher
Mrs. Gene Wilcoxon
John Chesshir
Becky (Stone) Wood
Jerry Tate
Reuben McCowen
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People ask me how I got started writing "COUNTY ROADS."

I tell them it was that one day — a beautiful day more than ten years ago in the postcard scenery of Eastern Washington State apple orchard country.

That day, I wanted to get into my garden, and catch up on laundry. MyKeeper had plans to bale hay for a neighbor down the road. He needed a part for the baler, or the tractor. In those days, fresh from the city, I didn't even know the difference.

We got the parts in town, and passed my daughter and grandkids driving the opposite direction. Three blocks later something CLUNKED. It was the clutch.

So much for baling. MyKeeper limped the car home and headed back to town for car parts in the old farm pickup. I started the first load of laundry.

About a half hour later, I looked out the window to see why he was honking and whistling coming up the driveway.

The cows were out. Actually, they were in. In my garden. Trampling the veggies and flowers. We tried to swish them out, but they just got excited and trampled all the faster.

MyKeeper was rattling the grain can to get their attention, when something streaked around the corner.

Chubaka was loose. The dog was tied while we looked for a home for him, after his family left my daughter holding his leash and drove away while she entertained children in a parks program. Chubaka was NOT a farm dog.

I ran after Chubaka. Chubaka ran after the cows, then jumped into the goat pen, and then into the garage.

In the garage was a chick. The first of 12, his mama was so proud of him she paraded him around, forgetting the other 11 eggs. I took him away so she'd pay more attention and set on the others.

Poor chick. I slammed the garage door on Chubaka and the chick. The escape artist didn't break out of there until we got the cows back in their pen.

MyKeeper found a long cable to replace the long rope Chubaka had chewed, and now we knew why his owners said his nickname was Chewy.

I nabbed Chewy and tugged him toward the tree. He laid down with his feet in the air. While I was wrestling the dog to the tree. I heard a shout. MyKeeper looked like he'd reached the end of HIS rope as he pointed to the house and sputtered. "Give me the dog!" "Quick!" he blubbered. "run upstairs and turn off the water!" I bounded across the yard and up the stairs. But it was not the kitchen water faucet.

It was a busted pipe in the wall. Water was cascading down the back of the two-story house, flooding the yard, and rivering into the basement.

Still holding Chewy. MyKeeper hollered at me to go turn the water "shut-off."

"There's a water shut-off?" I answered.

It was a sight, watching a near frantic man hopping and dragging an upside down dog to the water shut-off in the front yard.

I'm fighting the rapids of the river in our back yard, trying to get to the basement door, when out of the corner of my eye, I catch white fluff and a blur of speed.

One of our own five dogs yipped and ran to get out of the way of the pickup rolling into the garage wall, the hood still up, dragging with it the grinder that only the day before, MyKeeper had set into it's concrete base.

It could've been worse. The pickup would have gone straight past the back door and over the four foot retainer wall if it had been parked a little straighter.

Well, the cows were penned, the goats were calmed, Chewy was chained, the chick survived, the water was turned off, the basement was flooded, the car is forgotten, the pickup can't roll any farther...

MyKeeper and I are staring at each other with our mouths gaping open, when he said, "I'm going to go bale hay."

He got on the tractor and drove away, leaving me waving at the receding picture of the man and his tractor.

I thought to myself, this is a different life. Now you know why I write CountyRoads. It's THERAPY. Great therapy for a crazy life.

The garden and the laundry were forgotten. I went to bale, too. Water. Out of the basement.

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Scranton Musical Saturday

The musical will be held Saturday, March 4, at the Scranton Community Center. The kitchen will begin serving at 5:30 p.m. Anita Webb will be serving Bar-B-Que on a bun and homemade pies. If you

want to contribute a pie or sandwiches, it is appreciated.

All area musicians are invited to play. You may call (915) 692-2057 to reserve a time. Mark Ray will be emcee.

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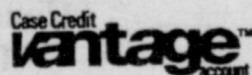
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