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Cowboy Country News



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

Volume V1111, Issue 25, March 5, 2003

New City Water Tower Plans Put On Indefinite Hold

City Administrator Ed Hansen attended a grant application review session February 21 in Lubbock, called by the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) to grade grant requests from 33 towns in the South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) for various community improvement projects. The review committee is made up of appointed members of SPAG. The City of Plains had submitted a grant application for \$250,000 for construction of a new city water tower to replace the 76 year old tower now in use. The city had earlier been informed the tower did not pass a recent inspection by the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and would have to be completely renovated or replaced with a new tower.

Hansen told CCN, "When all the grant app's are graded, they are sent to Austin for a final review, and normally the state board will approve some three to five of the very top graded requests. Unfortunately, our application did not grade that high."

The city, and other communities submitting grant requests must now wait two years, or cycles, before submitting another application. Asked what happens when TCEQ, the agency

originally giving the old tower a failing inspection, return on a follow up inspection. Hansen explained, "We show them we submitted a grant request, and were turned down. We then get a 'grace period' of the two year cycle. We will actually be allowed three cycles, or six years trying to get a grant approved. At the end of six years, TCEQ can then step in and tell us we must use what funds we have for replacing or refurbishing the old tower, and we must seek other means of financing either project."

Hansen said the current city budget calls for depositing \$2,400 per month in a savings account. If after the six year wait for a grant approval, those funds could be used for the water tower project. If not sufficient for the remodeling or new construction of a tower, the City Council would probably have to call for a bond issue for the balance of funding.

The city will again submit another grant application at the end of the two year cycle. Another large question will undoubtedly arise at the end of the first two year wait - will the State of Texas have enough funds to continue to award this type of grant funds?

It's Batter Up! Time Again



2003 Varsity Cowboys: front, Armado Ramirez, Brandon Davis, T.J. Cordova, Nick Hays. Back, Arnold Cordova, Ryan Martinez, Evan Cain, Kevin Bartley II, Miguel Cordova. Not present for photo, Richard Diaz. Junior Varsity team photo inside.

Area farmers who miss updating bases and yields will be out of luck

Farmers who wait until after April 1 to update their bases and yields as a part of the new farm legislation may be left out in the cold, according to Farm Service Agency Executive Director Gary Six. April 1 is the deadline for updating bases and yields. June 1 is the deadline for signing contracts.

The last time bases and yields were established as part of farm legislation was in 1985. On each farm bill since then, those bases and yields have carried over.

Six reported, "Yoakum County has paid out approxi-

mately \$5 million in Direct and Counter-Cyclical payments under the new farm program. The county is approximately 75% complete in sign-up for the new farm program, and we're working hard to finish by the April 1, 2003 deadline. We're asking producers to please not ignore or forget the April 1 sign-up date, nor the March 31 sign-up date to designate peanut bases."

These dates will not be extended, and if missed could result in loss of valuable benefits afforded by the new farm program.

15 criminal cases heard in District, County Court

In the February 24 session of District Court, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, six criminal cases were heard.

Brandi Gabrielle McCown pled guilty and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred for possession of more than one gram, less than four grams of methamphetamine. She will be under five years of community supervision, will pay a \$1000 fine at \$17 per month, \$140 restitution, \$223 court costs. A cause of carrying a .25 cal. pistol was adjudicated. She must attend weekly Narcotics meetings, complete the TAIP outpatient program and serve 240 hours community service. Warren New was her attorney, and

investigating officer was Deputy Curtis Coffman

Nicolas Dean Jeffrey pled guilty to delivery of marijuana, adjudication of guilt deferred. He will be under community supervision five years, was fined \$1000, must pay \$217 court costs and \$140 restitution. He must also testify truthfully against all co-defendants and complete the TAIP program. Antonio de la Cruz, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force was investigating officer, and Bonnie Ericson was his attorney.

Judy Lynn Dunn pled guilty to possession or transport of chemicals with intent to manufacture methamphetamine, a

second degree felony. She was sentenced to ten years in state prison. The state waived enhancement. Causes of possession of controlled substance and failure to identify were adjudicated. Warren New was her attorney, and DPS Trooper Brad Taylor was investigating officer.

Jose Alfredo Velasquez Jr. pled guilty to unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. When defendant is released from Texas Department of Criminal Justice from a Gaines County cause, he will spend 180 days in jail or until space is available in a substance abuse treatment facility for no less than 90 days or more than one year. Jack R.

Stern served as his attorney.

Vicente John Torres pled guilty to delivery of cocaine. He must pay delinquent fine and attorney fees of \$105, \$120 supervision fee, \$30 restitution fee for \$583 total, plus pay additional \$200 attorney fees at per month. He will spend 180 days in jail with credit for 24 days. Paul Mansur was his attorney.

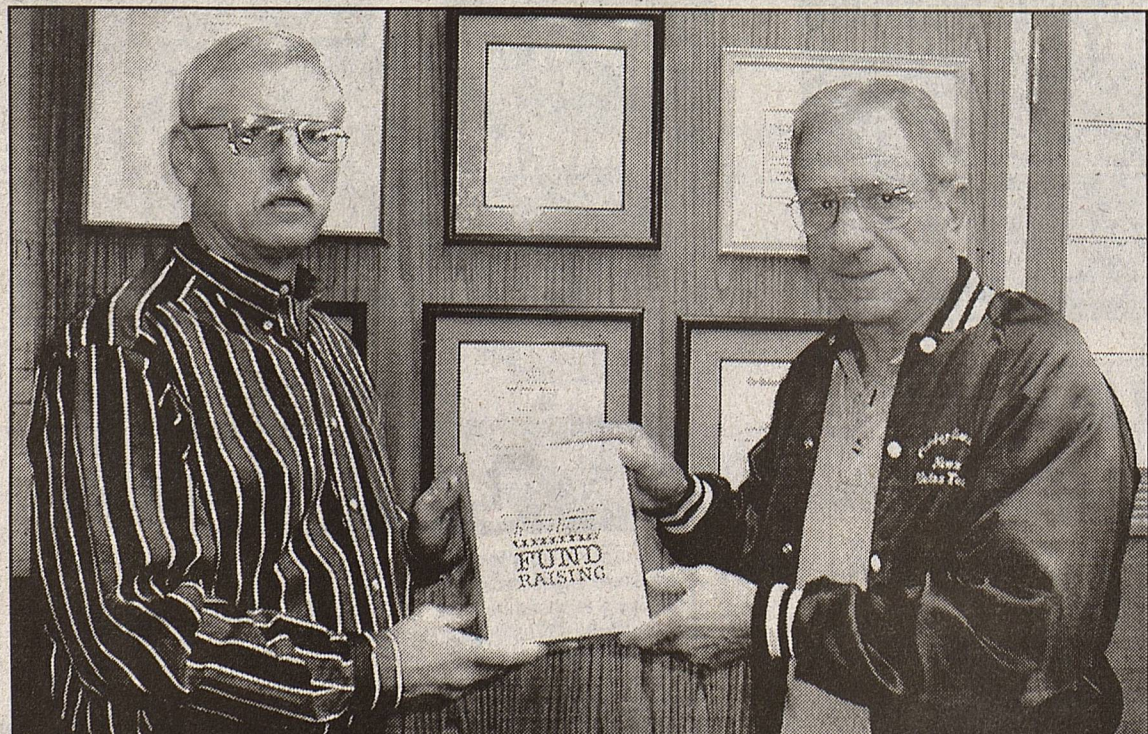
Marcelino Garcia Perez Jr. agreed to the state's order modifying community supervision from a prior assault against a peace officer cause. He will stay in jail here until space is available in the Residential Relapse Treatment Program at the Clover House in Odessa, and will remain there at least 90 days. He must pay additional appointed attorney fees of \$200 at \$20 per month.

In the February 26 session of County Court, Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, nine criminal cases were heard.

Rolando Hurtado pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury to family member. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months. He must pay \$256 court costs, complete a batterer's treatment program and aftercare counseling, attend weekly AA meetings and serve 80 hours community service. Investigating officer was Patricia Valdez, Denver City Police.

Ubaldo Porrás Garcia pled true to DWI, b.t. 162/176. He will be jailed for 60 days with credit

7,200 Krispy Kreme donuts come to Plains



PISD Superintendent Jim Haynes is shown receiving a box of Krispy Kreme donuts from Chamber of Commerce President Gary Dyer, part of the sweet things donated to the school to observe Teacher Appreciation Week. These are a small portion of the 600 dozen Krispy Kremes brought to Plains from Amarillo by Carolyn Culwell and Melissa Dorsett. PISD students had received orders for 592 dozen donuts from locals, and the profits from the sale will help fund a World Strides trip to Washington D.C this summer for Plains Jr. High and High School students.

Plains ISD School Board Election Slated

The Plains Independent School District Board of Trustees is calling a board election for May 3, 2003, for three positions on the school board. The three positions up for election are District #1 (Incumbent Ramon Diaz), District #5 (Incumbent John Gray), and At-Large #6, (Incumbent Brad Palmer). Mr. Diaz and Mr. Palmer have already applied for a place on the ballot.

Persons desiring to apply for a place on the ballot may do so at the school superintendent's office at 1000 Tenth Street, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The last day to file for place on the ballot is Wednesday, March 19th. Personnel of Plains ISD will be on Spring Break March 17th through March 21st. If an individual wishes to apply for a place on the ballot March 17th, March 18th, or March 19th while the school offices are closed, he/she should call one of the following people to begin the application process; Jim Haynes (456-6661), Sarah K. Burrus (505-398-6137), Gail Holley (456-7014), or Bill Butler (456-2474)

Turn to Page 2, 'Court'



Obituaries

Services Held For Harry Richardson

Services for Harry Richardson, 69, of Plains were held at 2:30 p.m., March 2, 2003 at Denver City Church of Christ with Skip Rodgers officiating and Bruce Bennett assisting.

Burial was in Plains/Yoakum County Cemetery under the direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors in Brownfield. He died Thursday, February 27, 2003, in Lubbock.

He was born February 4, 1934, in Terry County. He married Dean Andrews in 1955 in Lorenzo. They moved to Yoakum County in 1964 from Lovington, MN. He was a member of the Lions Club.

Final Services For Lindsey Bates

Chapel Service for Lindsey Bates, 78, of Morton were held March 4, 2003, at 2:00 pm. at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel in Morton with Reverend Cecil VanHoose of First Assembly of God Church in Plains, Tx. officiating.

Burial was in the Enochs Cemetery, Enochs, TX.

Mr. Bates died Saturday, March 1, in Levelland. He was born December 18, 1924 in Stigler, Ok. He married Carol Janet Dane in Enochs, Tx on July 3, 1950. He was a parts salesman and a member of the Enochs First Baptist Church. He moved to Morton from Carlsbad, NM in 1990, then to

Chamber of Commerce and was Republican County Chairman for nine years in Plains. He was an agent for Farmers Insurance Group for 31 years.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Carolyn Richardson in 1983.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Andy of Earth; a daughter, Donita Richardson of Plains; two brothers, Carl "Dick" of Hobbs, NM and Joe of Sunnyside; an Aunt; Berneice Castleberry of Lovington, NM and two grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to New Mexico Children's Home, 1356 Highway 236, Portales, NM 88130.

Levelland in 2000. He was preceded in death by his wife Carol in 1972, 1 son and 2 sisters and his mother, Vannie Slaten, September 22, 2001.

Survivors include; 1 son, Larry Gene Bates of Chico, TX; 1 sister, Nina Cartwright of Levelland, TX; 7 brothers, Kenneth, Ben and Vernon Slaten all of San Diego, CA.; Billy Slaten of Georgia, John Slaten of San Angelo, TX and Tommy Slaten of Checotah, OK. 3 grandchildren, Jeremy and Justin Bates of Amarillo, TX and Jenny Bates of Carlsbad, NM 2 great grandchildren.

A Timely Observation

*Editors Note-The following was written by Mr. Stephen Henry, publisher of the Levelland & Hockley County News-Press

I was visiting with a friend, Al Ehrler, Monday and he voiced strong opposition to the demonstrators who are protesting President George W. Bush and the upcoming war with Iraq. He asked why we don't stage a demonstration praising President Bush and the tough decisions he has to make as the leader of the free world.

I told him that while I totally support his idea, everyone is so busy that they wouldn't show up. I based that answer, in part, because of the turn out we have every year on the courthouse lawn for the National Day of Prayer. We claim to be a Christian community, yet only a handful show up each year to show solidarity with one another.

I thought about that answer through the evening. How many people would show up for a rally supporting our president and our nation? How many people would actually take the time to show solidarity for our nation and its mili-

tary men and women in this time of peril? If there was ever a time to show support for our president and our nation, it is today!

I was proud of our community when it flew Old Glory daily for months after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2002. A handful of our residents have continued to fly their flags. Shouldn't we all be flying our flags today?

If you believe that the decisions our president is making are correct, take a few minutes and send him a letter of support today. His address is: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20500. The quicker way is to send a letter electronically to: www.whitehouse.gov. The White House phone number is (202) 465-1414.

If you believe that our military deserves our support, send a soldier a letter today. If you love our nation, and all it stands for including the right to dissent, start flying your flag again today!

Veneman Announces First Phase of Sign-up Dates For Ag Assistance Act Benefits

In the first phase of agriculture assistance implementation authorized under the Agricultural Assistance Act of 2003, Agriculture Secretary Ann. M. Veneman today announced that sign-up for the expanded Livestock Compensation Program, (LCP), will begin April 1, 2003. Veneman said the implementation team is working on details regarding other program benefits and said information about these other sign-up dates will be announced in the near future.

USDA has also launched a website, located at www.usda.gov, that provides producers one location for details on these programs, questions and answers, allows for comments and suggestions on program implementation, as well as other information on USDA agriculture assistance.

"USDA is committed to providing these disaster program benefits to producers as quickly as possible and today's announcement is the first step in meeting those expectations," said Veneman. "Our implementation team is examining ways to cut the red tape and expedite the process where possible and the new website provides the ability for producers to make suggestions on how we might work more efficiently in meeting that goal."

LCP sign-up will begin and April 1 and is scheduled to end early June, 2003. The Act expands LCP by including additional counties that were approved under a Secretarial disaster designation or Presidential disaster declaration for damages and losses due to any natural disaster.

Previously under LCP, a county must have been named as a primary county under a Secretarial disaster designation between Jan. 1, 2001, and Sept. 19, 2002, only for drought. The Act expands LCP to make eligible any counties that were requested as primary disaster areas under a Presidential or Secretarial declaration by Feb. 20, 2003, and that were subsequently approved.

To be eligible for LCP assistance, a producer's livestock operation headquarters must be physically located in a county with a qualifying disaster designation. Eligible livestock are cattle, sheep, goats, and buffalo, as well as catfish. Counties named as contiguous counties are not eligible for the program. LCP payments will be based on

losses per head or number of eligible livestock and catfish.

Agriculture Assistance Act signed into law on Feb. 20, 2003, authorizes total disaster aid estimates at \$3.1 billion for producers suffering from natural disasters and related conditions. USDA will announce sign-up as quickly as possible for other assistance provided by the Act, including the crop disaster program that reimburses producers for qualifying crop losses in either 2001 or 2002 due to damaging weather or related conditions; \$250 million for the Livestock Assistance Program to reimburse producers for grazing losses; \$60 million for sugarcane producers; \$60 million for sugar beet producers; and \$50 million for the cottonseed industry.

From Page 1, 'Court'

for 12 days served. Warren New served as his attorney.

Kassi Nicole Gonzalez pled guilty and was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred for theft of \$50 or more but less than \$500. She must pay \$211 court costs, be under community supervision six months, and serve 50 hours community service. Investigating officer was Sheriff Deputy Inoe Valdez.

Roberto Perez pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He was fined \$200 and must pay \$211 court costs. Investigating officer was Brad Taylor, DPS.

Herman Fehr Hildebrand pled guilty to purchase or furnish alcohol to a minor. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He will spend 36 hours in jail with credit for 18 hours served, was fined \$600 and must pay \$211

Jeremy Scott Hix pled guilty to a second DWI, b.t. .104/.98. He will spend 60 days in jail with credit for one day served, was fined \$600, must pay \$211 court costs and surrender his license one year. Investigating officer was Brad Taylor, DPS, and his attorney was Warren New.

Casey Clark Chambliss pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$211 court costs. Investigating officer was Deputy Larry Murphree.

Salvador Cueto Corrales pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury to family member. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months. He was fined \$250 and must pay \$211 court costs and \$25 time payment fee, and \$200 court appointed attorney fees.

He must serve 80 hours community service, attend weekly AA meetings, and complete the batterer's prevention program. Warren New served as his attorney, and investigating officer was Deputy Curtis Coffman.

ATTENTION All Plains and Yoakum County Residents

Beth and I have learned many families who wanted to use Mark. A Jones Funeral Directors and PLAINS MEMORIAL CHAPEL did not know how to reach us in a time of need.

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We sincerely appreciate all the families who have attempted to use our family services and Plains Memorial Chapel.

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High School Students Earning College Credit

Texas has its share of higher education institutions, and some students can't wait to attend them. In fact, some Texas students aren't waiting, they're earning college credit before they graduate from high school.

Texas boasts 140 public and independent higher education institutions, including 50 public community college districts, 31 public four-year colleges and universities. Earning a baccalaureate degree can take longer than four years, though. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) reported in November 2001 that fewer than half of the students who enter Texas colleges, 49 percent, earn a baccalaureate degree within six years.

Some students hope to get a jump on their degrees by earning college credits before they've received high school diplomas.

Students have a number of options for earning college credit while still in high school. One way is by taking College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. According to the College Board, which administers the tests, CLEP exams cover material often taught in undergraduate courses, such as history and English literature.

Students do not have to take prerequisite courses to register for CLEP exams, and more than 2,000 accredited colleges and universities nationwide accept the exams for course credit. Each school sets its own guidelines for applying CLEP credit.

Students also can take Advanced Placement (AP) courses as part of their high school curriculum. AP courses are higher level academic high school classes for which some colleges award credit. The College Board also administers the AP program. AP defines what qualifies a class as an AP course, and any school can offer the courses.

Students don't earn college credit just by taking the courses, though. Students must take the AP exam for each course, then colleges decide how they'll award credit.

If a college accepts an AP exam score for credit, the savings can be substantial. The cost for each AP exam is \$80. THECB reports that the average cost in 2002-03 for tuition and fees for a three-semester hour course is \$675 at a Texas public university and \$225 at Texas community college.

High school students also can

earn college credit by taking articulated courses. Articulated courses are primarily career and technology high school classes. Generally, a two year college enters into an agreement with a student district stating the college will accept specific courses for credit if a student enrolls at the college in a technical field of study after graduation. The college applies the credit toward an associate of applied science degree or a certificate. This is called local articulation.

Hank Madeley, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) acting director of career and technology education, says more than 700 of the state's school districts have agreements with colleges.

Students also can take concurrent enrollment classes. Concurrent enrollment, also known as dual enrollment in college courses before they graduate from high school. Students can use the course credits to satisfy high school requirements and apply the credit to a college transcript.

In 2000-01, more than 38,000 high school students in Texas took concurrent enrollment courses. Those students passed and received credit for 94 percent of the concurrent courses they took. Rey Garcia, executive director of the Texas Association of Community Colleges, says nearly all Texas colleges allow dual enrollment. Some colleges, especially in urban areas, waive tuition and fees.

Unlike AP or articulated courses, concurrent enrollment students must pass or get an exemption from the Texas Academic Skills Program, the exam that Texas students must pass to take college level classes in math, reading and writing.

Whether a student takes a CLEP exam or enrolls in a special class, the result is the same, a jump start on college. Garcia says that providing these options and showing students they can be successful on the college level can be a tool for getting more children involved in higher education.

"The notion of earning college credit in high school is very appealing for a number of students and parents," Anderson says. "For many students, it gives them the opportunity to earn college credit early, and it allows them to do it at a much lower cost."

Mucky water leak at Plains Post Office



City employees never relish or enjoy water leaks, but when one was discovered in the alley west of the Post Office, city employees Alex Barrientes and Jerry Dominguez were very grateful for a warm weather day for a change.

4-H Stock Show Results

Nine Yoakum County 4-H members attended the annual San Antonio Stock Show February 5-15 exhibiting goats, lambs, steer, barrows and gilts, according to CEA-AG Arlan Gentry. In the breeding gilt show, Kristen Knight had a 1st and a 5th, and won a scholarship for having the Champion Landrace Gilt. In the Junior Lamb Show, Chelsey-Anne Bearden placed 5th and Maci Roberts placed 10th, both making the sale. Marty Roberts also exhibited a lamb. Logan Wood participated in the Junior Goat Show. Skye Sellers exhibited in the Junior Steer Show. Amanda Hiller, Kaitlyn

Moore and Cassidy Moore participated in the Junior Barrow Show.

Seven 4-H'ers participated on the San Angelo Stock Show February 15th-22nd. T.J. Kitchens had two 3rd place goats. Landra and Logan Wood also exhibited goats. Kristen Knight had the Reserve Grand Champion Barrow, a 1st place barrow and a 3rd place gilt. Kaitlyn Moore had a 8th place barrow. Cassidy Moore and Maretta Walker also exhibited barrows. Congratulations to all these 4-H'ers for their accomplishments and good luck to those attending the Houston Livestock Show.

PISD Spring Break March 17- 21

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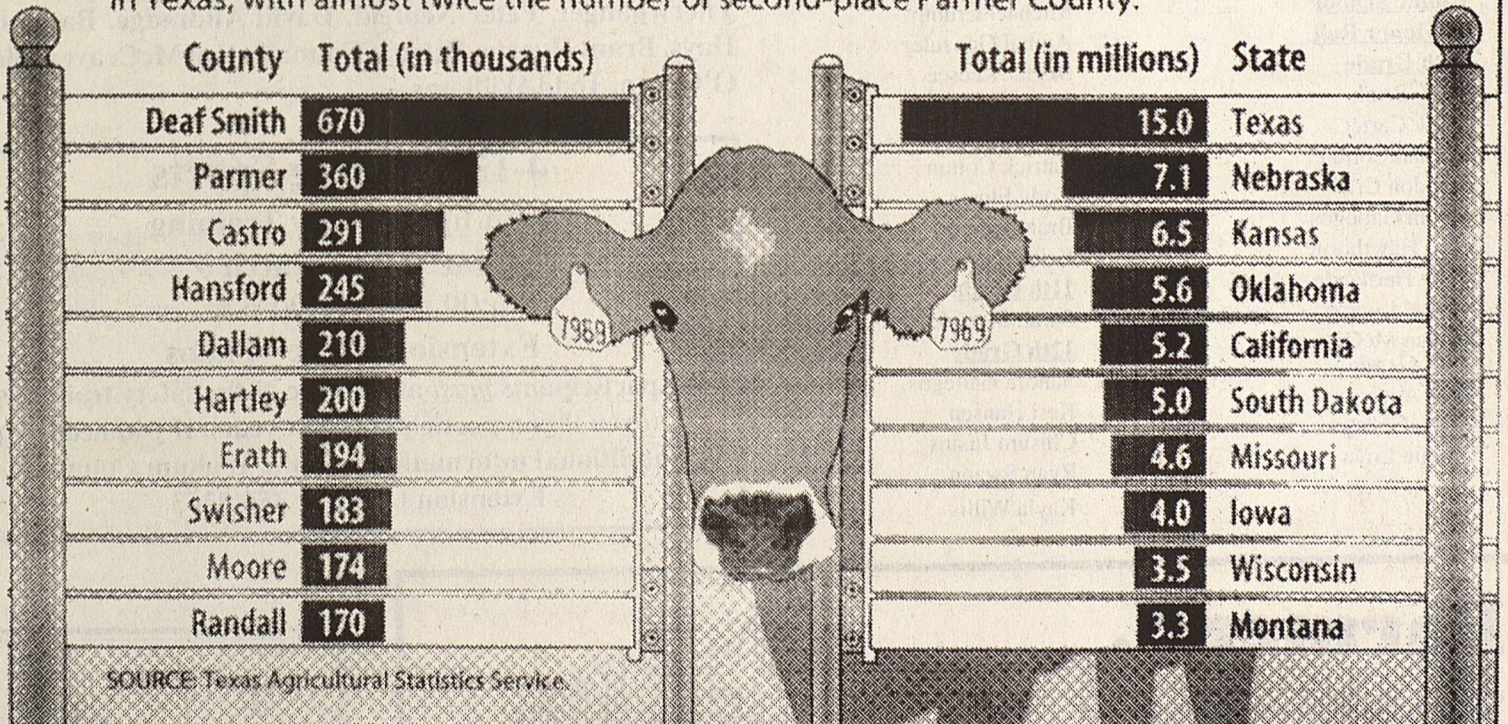
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Where's the beef?

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4th Six Weeks PISD Honor Roll

Elementary

'A' Honor Roll

First Grade

Claire Carpenter
Chasity Chavez
Daniel Cueto
Lucas Hernandez
Cameron Knight
Adora Ramos
Brittney Roper
Herman Sawatzky
Jacob Sawatzky
Kelli Sellers
Perdy Sosa
Anthony Torres
Zackery Wilkins
Bailey Winn

Second Grade

Marina Corrales
Salvador Corrales
Merrit Crump
Vanessa Cueto
Johnathan Davis
Whitney Davis
Katie Dearing
Autumn Friesen
Rebecca Garcia
Stacy Loewen
P.J. Pnado
Karla Powell
Matthew Ramos
Joseph Sainz
Haley Welch

Third Grade

Troy Alldredge
Adriana Corrales
Mayra Cueto
Dakota Earnest
Taylor Fitzgerald
Carolina Hernandez
Zackary Lamar
Hubter Parrott
Denise Tarango
Brook Wilson

Fourth Grade

Stephanie Addison
Kelbi Bartley
Jaxon Bean
Forrest Booth
Hannah Crump
Cody Friesen
Kristen Knight
Chase Ortega
Hunter Welch

'A-B' Honor Roll

First Grade

Colby Bearden
Eliza Cabellero
Second Grade
Nicholas Alvarado
Jacob Neufeld
Kailey Vasquez

Third Grade

Greg Anazola
Mariela Martinez
Fourth Grade
Roberto Reyna
Middle School
'A' Honor Roll

Fifth Grade

Jacob Brink
Brock Carter
Hannah Cotton
Brandon Craft
Emilia Gallegos
Brett Hawthorne
Abby Hernandez
Miguel Lopez
Nathan McCravey
Sixth Grade
Chris Addison
Reyna Gallegos
Yesenia Loyola

Seventh Grade

Kurt Alldredge
Ryan Crump
Amber Friesen
Lauren Hise
Zachary Ramos
John Tyson

Eighth Grade

Caitlin Carter
Landon Craft
Erika Loewen
Angelica Mendoza
Araceli Mendoza
Colby Wilmeth

All 'A' IB Honor Roll

Fifth Grade

Natalie Haynes
Ignacio Lozano
Troy Parrish
Sixth Grade
Holden Welch

Seventh Grade

Maria Andazola
Douglas Conway
Lauren Davis
Trent Hawthorne
Eighth Grade
Joe Luis Gallegos

High School

'A' Honor Roll

9th Grade
Allison Friesen
B.J. Lester
Ramiro Martinez
10th Grade
Payton Bean
Evan Cain
Marlie Diaz
Mayra Flores
Breck Hamm
Brandon Hise
Kerry Sisson

11th Grade

Stacie Alldredge
Cendy Lopez
Grady McNabb
Helen Neufeld
Nolan Newsom
Carmen Ponce
Moriah Traweck
Manuela Villegas
April Wilmeth

12th Grade

Megan Allsup
Kevin Bartley
Jordan Bean
Chelsea Blount
Mario Bonilla
Kelly Bowers
Elda Fierro
Jill Gray
Nick Hays
Manuel Ramoz
Mandi Rogers
Liz Wilmeth

All 'A' IB Honor Roll

9th Grade
Michael Crump
Anibal Gonzalez
Skylar Keesee
Abel Ramos
10th Grade
Patrick Cotton
Cody Flores
Brant Huerta
Kristian Morales

11th Grade

Sarah Martinez
12th Grade
Sandra Gallegos
Keri Hansen
Chisum Justus
Ryan Swann
Kayla Willis

PISD SPORTS

O'Donnell Track Meet:

Cowgirls -

Discus: Kayla Willis 2nd, 82'4", Daniela Lazos 60'1" (her best)
800 Meter Dash- Manuela Villegas 3rd, 2:38.31. Micaela Villegas 6th, 2:51.

100 Hurdles- Jamie Covarrubias 4th, 20.40

800 Relay- Jill Gray, Chelsea Blount, Kayla Willis, Manuela Villegas 4th, 2:01.32

1600 Meter Run- Micaela Villegas 3rd, 6:33.25. Ashley Vantine 5th, 6:48.

Cowboys-

400 Relay- 2nd place, 45.22- Nick Hays, Kevin Bartley, Arnold Cordova, Chase Howell.

800 M Relay- 3rd place, 1:36- Nick Hays, Kevin Bartley, Arnold Cordova, Chase Howell.

3200 Meter - 3rd, Armando Ramirez, 11.25. 6th, Brandon Davis, 11.55.

800 Meter- 1st, Patrick Cotton, 2.09

400 Meter- 3rd, Patrick Cotton, 55.8

110 Hurdles- 2nd, Nick Hays, 16.38

300 Hurdles, Arnold Cordova 44.8

1600 Meter- 4th, Brandon Davis, 5.17, Armando Ramirez 5th, 5.23

Shot Put- 5th, Isaac Ramon 41' 5"

The Varsity team scored 73 points against 14 other teams.

Junior Varsity:

1600 meter- 4th, Aldo Fierro

3200 meter- 1st., Aldo Fierro, 5.30

400 Relay- 3rd, 49.37, Ramiro Martinez, Michael Crump, Anibal Gonzales, Todd Williams

400 neters- 1st, Michael Crump, 59.1

110 Hurdles- 2nd, Ben Hays, 19.6

300 Hurdles 2nd, Ben Hays, 48.05

100 Meters- 1st, Todd Williams, 12.57

100 Meters- 2nd, Anibal Gonzales, 12.81

800 Relay- 3rd, Ben Hays, Ramiro Martinez, Anibal Gonzales, Todd Williams, 1:46.07.

The JV Cowboys scored 90 points against 14 other teams.

Student of the Week



Student of the week is Adam Guerrero a junior and the son of Esther Guerrero. Adam was nominated by Mrs. Canada, who said, "My nomination for student of the week is a future five star chef with a positive attitude and a strong desire to learn. He comes into the classroom with a happy smile, ready to work, and always does his best. He is a dedicated member of the power lifting team and is always willing to help others."

UIL Journalism Results

PHS Journalism competitors earned a total of 63 points to win first place team honors at the Saturday meet here, competing against students from 1A-5A schools.

Senior Mandi Rogers was first in news writing and second in

feature writing. Senior Liz Wilmeth won first in news writing and second in editorial writing, sixth in news writing. Junior Grady McNabb was third in editorials, sixth in headline writing, and Cody Flores was fifth in feature writing.

Old Mill Trade Days Events March 7, 8 & 9

When visitors arrive at the next Old Mill Trade Days in Post, March 7, 8 & 9, they will be met with the widest variety of arts and crafts, antiques and collectibles to be found in West Texas.

More than 250 vendors display their unique products and services in the buildings and on the grounds of the historic Postex Mill, which in its heyday produced the world famous "Garza Sheet". American entrepreneur C.W. Post founded the Postex Mill in the early days of his 'utopian' city, nestled just below the Caprock in Garza County. Entertainment on the Rainmaker Stage will feature 'pneuel' on Saturday and Lubbock radio station FREE 107.3 doing a 'live remote'. On Sunday, the 'Rendition Quartet' will be strolling along the streets performing their unique style of music. And, don't forget, OLD MILL TRADE DAYS' streets are lined with top quality food vendors for hungry and thirsty visitors.

Visitors entering Post on U.S. Hwy. 84 or U.S. Hwy 380 will find OLD MILL TRADE DAYS near the intersection of U.S. Hwy 84 and Texas Highway 207.



JV Cowboys: Front, Blake Parrish, Abel Ramos, Michael Therwhanger, Peter Neufeld, David Alldredge. Back, Ben Hays, Brant Huerta, Patrick Cotton, Adam McCravey, Blake O'Quinn, Todd Williams

4-H Shooting Sports

Sign-up & Safety Training

March 4 or March 6

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Extension Office - Plains

All participants *must* attend one of the safety trainings (even if you participated last year). If you need additional information, call the Yoakum County

Extension Office at 456-2263.

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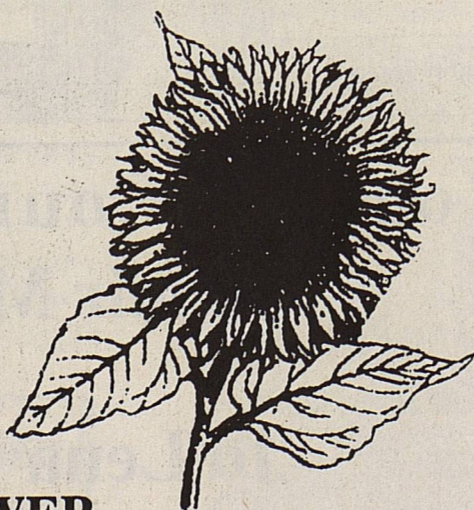
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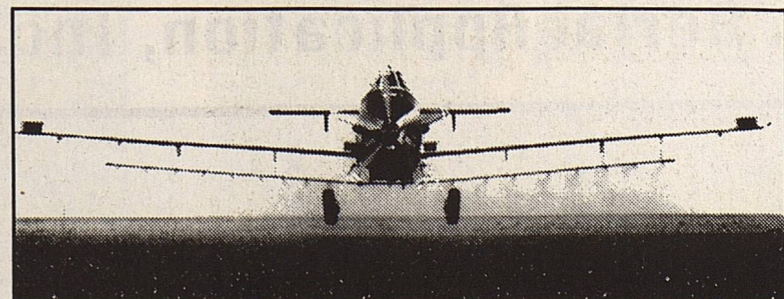
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Lifelines & Styles

Senior Citizens Corner

Remember when our parents and grandparents stated that they had only an 8th grade education? Well check this out: Could any of you have passed the 8th grade in 1895? These selected questions are taken from the 8th grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, Kansas (home sweet home). They were taken from the original document on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, Kansas.

Let's consider Grammar: A. Give nine rules for the use of capital letters. B. What are the principal parts of a verb? C. What is punctuation? Give rules for the principal marks of punctuation. Arithmetic: A. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15.00 per acre, the distance around which is 640 yards? B. Find bank discount on \$300.00 for 90 days (no grace) at 10%. C. Write a bank check, a promissory note, and a receipt. History: A. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided. B. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion. C. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Peen, Howe? Orthography (spelling): A. What is meant by the following: alphabet, phonetic, etymology, and syllabication? B. Give two rules for spelling words with a final 'e'. Name two exceptions under each rule. C. Name ten words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication. Geography: A. Describe

the mountains of North America. B. Describe the movements of the earth and give the inclination of the earth. C. Name all of the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.

Did you get an A+? Somehow this gives the saying, "She/he had only an 8th grade education" a whole new meaning, doesn't it?

Our seniors looked good in the invitational pool tournament this time. Lovington took home only one winner while seven prizes were won by our own players. Carl Davis and Hoot Gibson won Men's 8-ball. "Lucky" Harmon took first place in the nine ball while the second place prize went to Lovington. June Hanneman and Ireta Davis were first and second place winners in both 8-ball and 9-ball for the women. Good job, folks!

Shirley Mosser was a welcome guest at lunchtime part of this week.

Even with the touch of winter outside, the dining room remains full each day. Gloria reported that we average around seventy in the dining room and are sending out nearly thirty daily meals for home delivery at this time.

Charlie Gillis and Ireta Davis were the lucky winners of the '42' tournament Tuesday.

The Board of Directors approved a recovering project this week for two of the pool tables that received daily wear. We expect to see them finished during the month of March.

Congratulations



Seaman Sharla Vantine, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Matus and granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Head of Plains. Sharla graduated January 17, 2003 from the Naval Basic Training Center at Great Lakes, Ill. She has been assigned to Lackland Air Force Base to receive training as a Military Police Officer.

While at Lackland A.F.B. Sharla will be trained in all areas of law enforcement. Her family is very proud of her & her commitment to serve her country.

Baby Shower

Honoring

Michael Blaize McKanskle

Son of Mike & Daphne (Lowe) McKaskle

Sunday, March 9th at VeeAnn Carter's Home

1090 HWY 214

2:00-3:30 pm.

Selections at Target, Toys R Us, Nelson's

TSA MO GA

Yoakum County Sheriff's Deputy Curtis Coffman and his K-9 dog Famca (pronounced 'Fem-ca') presented an informative program to TSA MO HA members at its February 24 meeting.

The public affairs program focused on club and community awareness of crime prevention and issues of violence.

Coffman, who has over 13 years in law enforcement, is proud of the German Shepherd who is his constant companion at work and at home. Famca is his fourth canine partner. "She has built a good reputation," Coffman said, of Famca's work in narcotics patrol. "Plains is a well known route for drugs." Coffman said the county does have a narcotics problem and cited over 40 searches per month to which he and Famca respond, many coming from the Texas Highway Patrol, resulting in seized money and narcotics.

The dog's natural ability to track scents and alert on specific odors of drugs and persons is what makes her invaluable to local agencies. Famca has also helped find a lost child by using the scent of the child's clothing. Coffman also knows of other dogs that have been used in locating missing Alzheimer's patients.

The five year old dog was imported from Holland and was trained in Dutch and receives her commands from Coffman in that language. Coffman met her at the airport when she first arrived in Texas and he trained with her in San Antonio. Famca was trained in four days in narcotics work.

She is a dual purpose canine in narcotics protection and regular patrol duties. "She patrols with me constantly and we work everyday to keep the dog proficient in her duties," Coffman said.

Famca was bought with funds donated to the country. The cost for the dog was \$8000. She has earned the highest credentials in canine training, obtaining the International Police Organization rating of IPO-3, according to Coffman.

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Got A Dollar In Your Pocket? Bet You Don't Know Much About It!

** From the Internet, Author Unknown

Take out a one dollar bill. The one dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. This so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It is actually material. We've all washed it without it falling apart. A special blend of ink is used, the contents we will never know. It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look.

If you look on the front of the bill, you will see the United States Treasury Seal. On the top you will see the scales for a balanced budget. In the center you have a carpenter's square, a tool used for an even cut. Underneath is the Key to the United States Treasury. That's all pretty easy to figure out, but what is on the back of that dollar bill is something we should all know.

If you turn the bill over, you will see two circles. Both circles, together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved.

If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the West or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything.

"IN GOD WE TRUST" is on this currency. The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, "God has favored our undertaking."

The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, "a new order has begun." At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776. If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also on the Parade of Flags Walk-

way at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the centerpiece of most hero's monuments.

Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean.

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, "E PLURIBUS UNUM", meaning, "one nation from many people."

Above the Eagle, you have thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one.



Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think on this: 13 original colonies, 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in the Latin above, 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum", 13 stars above the Eagle, 13 bars on that shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 fruits, and if you look closely, 13 arrows. And, for minorities: the 13th Amendment.

I always ask people, "Why don't you know this?" Your children don't know this, and their history teachers don't know this. Too many veterans have given up too much to ever let the meaning fade. Many veterans remember coming home to an America that didn't care. Too many veterans never came home at all.

March 7-9
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followed by Sunday School
Adult Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am

If your headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns!

From The Hack

To dispel any possible rumors leading to misunderstandings, I am going to OFFICIALLY report the Bride had her follow up colonoscopy exam last Thursday.

The results, praise the Lord, and according to Dr. Ruiz, who discovered her colon cancer in January, 2002 - "She's completely clear of any cancerous possibilities. I found one tiny polyp, which I removed during the exam. Your wife is in great shape!"

This verdict came in some four hours after we arrived at Yoakum County Hospital, which naturally seemed at least 14 hours to us. Bride told me, when she came around enough to understand what was going on, "I wanted to hug the Doc and all the nurses around me! It was like a giant elephant had been sitting on me, and now it was gone!"

I promise you, the elephant on her could not have been larger than mine.

To add to a perfect morning, when Dr. Ruiz made his final check on her, he announced, "Her belly is still full of gas. She has to get rid of most of it before I let her go home."

Three nurses were in the room, and I decided it was time for

me to slink cowardly away. I heard instructions being given, nurses cheerfully giving advice, procedures being administered, followed shortly after by cheers, "Way to Go!", and "Oh, man, that was a perfect TEN!"

About ten minutes later, we headed home.

We sincerely thank all of you for expressing your concerns for us these last 13 months!

TRAGEDY:

Jesse Jackson is visiting a primary school and he looks in on one of the classes. The kids are in the middle of a discussion related to words and their meanings. The teacher asks Rev. Jackson if he would like to lead the discussion on the word "tragedy".

The illustrious leader asks the class for an example of a tragedy.

A little boy stands and offers, "If my best friend, who lives on a farm, is playing in the field and a runaway tractor comes along and knocks him dead, that would be a tragedy."

"No," says the great genius Jesse Jackson, "That would be an accident."

A little girl raises her hand. "If a school bus carrying 90 children drove off a cliff, killing everyone inside, that would be a tragedy."

"I'm afraid not," explains the exalted spiritual leader. "That's what we would call a great loss."

The room grows stone silent. No other kids volunteer.

The Great Rev scans the room, asks, "Isn't there someone here who can give me an example of a real tragedy?"

Finally at the back of the room a small boy raises his hand. In a quiet voice he says, "I can. If a jet carrying the very Reverend Jackson and Mrs. Jackson were struck by a guided missile and blown to smithereens, that would be a real tragedy."

"Fantastic! Wonderful!" exclaims Jackson. "That's right! Can you tell me why that would be a tragedy?"

"Well," says the young boy, "because it certainly wouldn't

be a great loss, and I think it wouldn't be an accident either."

When one makes some sort of verbal mistake in public it's called a Bloop. The following are some of the best I've discovered. And for you lilly white Puritans who may be offended, take it up with our library - that's where I discovered them. You know, they call it that old thing, Free Speech: TV commercial - "Visit our modern laundromat. All ladies who dropoff their clothing will receive prompt attention."

Radio - "Try 7-UP.. you'll recognize it, with the big seven and U P after!"

TV Literary Host - "I'm sorry, our time is up. This is your story teller leaving Don Quixote sitting on his ass until next week."

TV Show Contestant - "I'm a maid for a family of four boys, two girls, one adult and one adultress."

Local commercial - "Friday is poultry night, and all ladies present will receive a free goose!"

Newscaster - "President Carter is suffering from painful hemorrhoids, and is being treated by his Physician, Rear Admiral..... that is, uh William Lookass... that's Lukash!"

Weatherman - "That's the

weather from Anchorage. Now I'll take a quick leak out the window to see if it's freezing outside our studio."

Game Show contestant - "I work for the Pittsburgh Gas Company, and at least 90 percent of the people in Pittsburgh have plenty of gas."

Cooking Show - "Today we are going to make a lovely spice cake, with special emphasis on how to flour your nuts."

Station Promo on Literary Classics - "Please stay tuned now for the presentaion of Charles Dickens immortal classic, "The Sale Of Two Titties!"

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**Texas at a Glance*

The Wild West

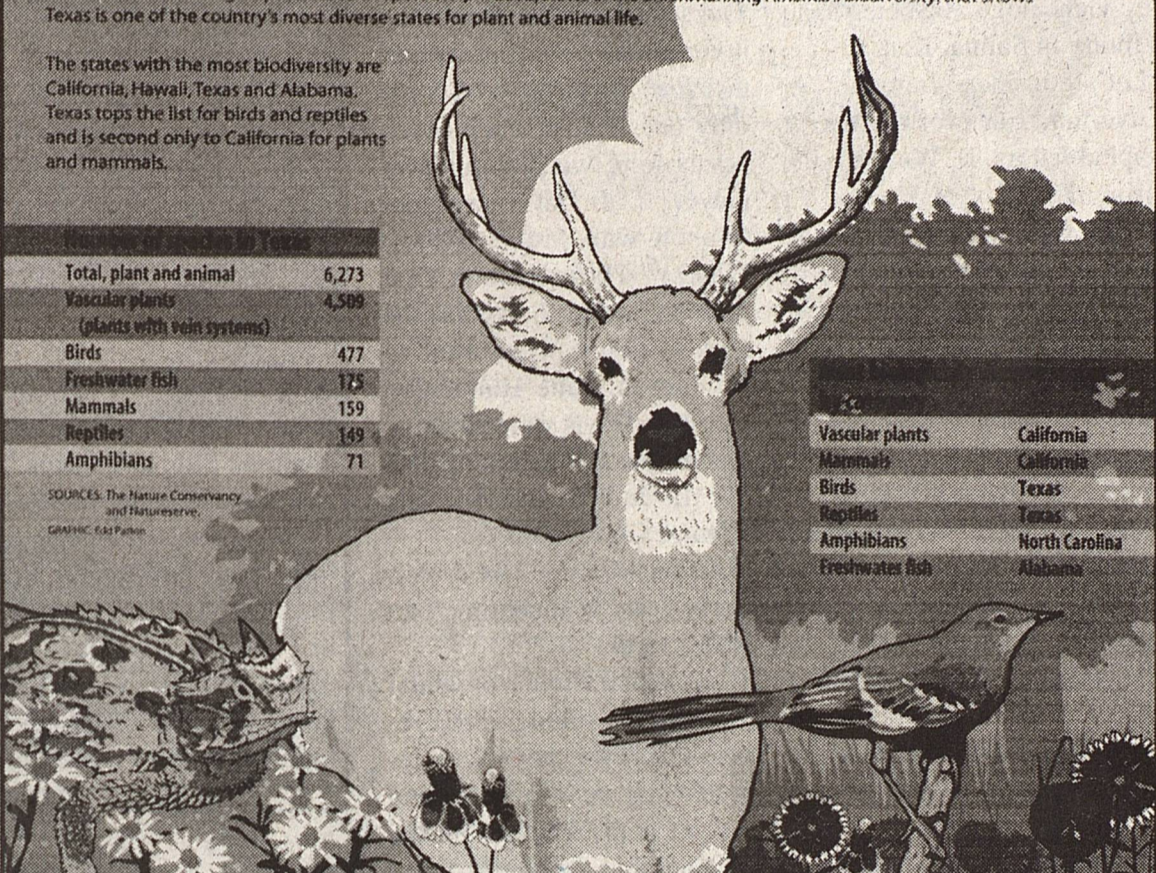
The U.S. boasts more than 200,000 species of flora and fauna, according to conservation groups The Nature Conservancy and NatureServe. The two groups released a report in April 2002, *States of the Union: Ranking America's Biodiversity*, that shows Texas is one of the country's most diverse states for plant and animal life.

The states with the most biodiversity are California, Hawaii, Texas and Alabama. Texas tops the list for birds and reptiles and is second only to California for plants and mammals.

Total, plant and animal	6,273
Vascular plants (plants with vein systems)	4,509
Birds	477
Freshwater fish	175
Mammals	159
Reptiles	149
Amphibians	71

SOURCES: The Nature Conservancy and NatureServe. GRAPHIC: Gail Patten

Vascular plants	California
Mammals	California
Birds	Texas
Reptiles	Texas
Amphibians	North Carolina
Freshwater fish	Alabama





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