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Cowboy Country News

SINCE AUGUST 31ST, 1994

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

Volume V, Issue 5, Wednesday Oct 14, 1998



Area Ag Harvest is gaining momentum

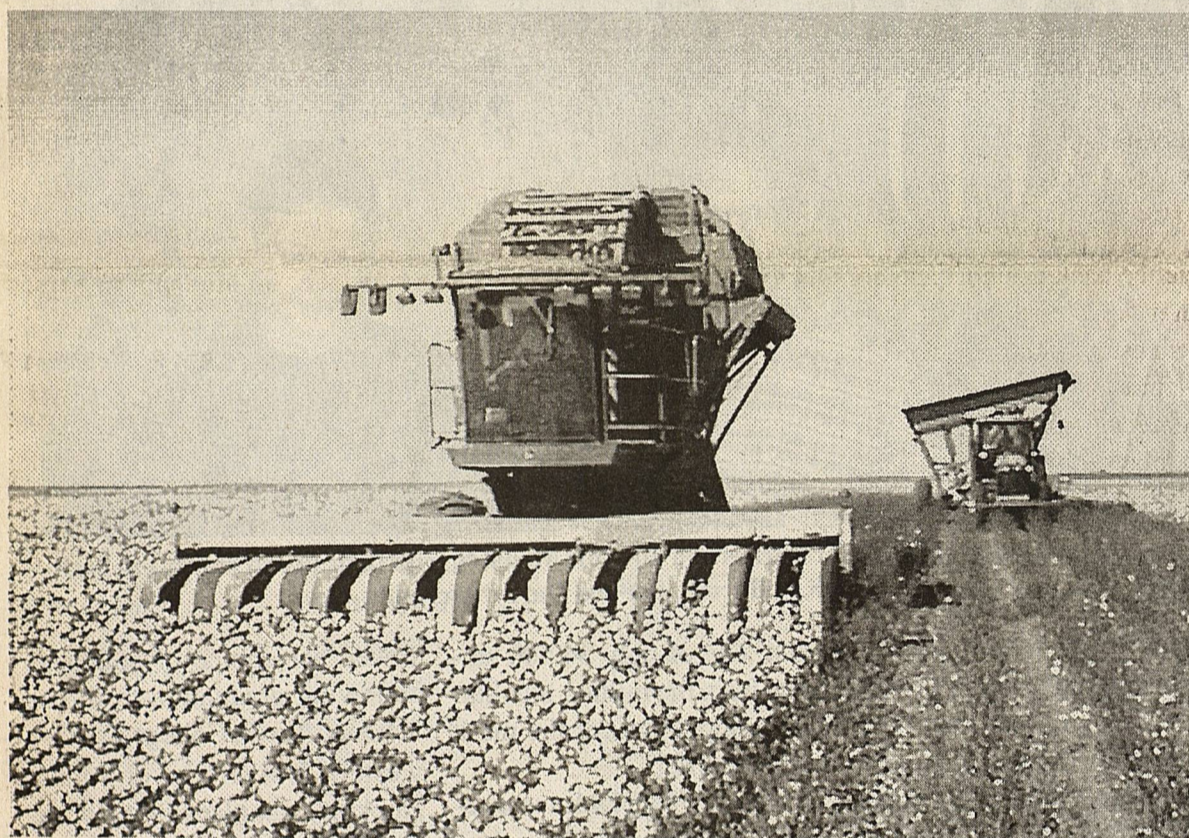
The 1998 crop year will in all probability be one many area ag producers will be more than happy to forget. Plagued by a serious drought throughout the growing season, irrigation wells pumping off, high winds, hail, a record breaking heat wave, insect infestation, and sluggish commodity prices, producers are eager to finish harvesting peanuts, watermelons, cotton, chilis and milo. Ever the optimists, they hope to be able to settle with their lenders and creditors, and start anew in 1999.

An indication of how difficult the year has been is revealed in figures obtained from the local FSA office. A total of 142,270 acres of Yoakum

County land was planted to cotton this spring. Of that total, 77,504 acres was non-irrigated, or dryland cotton. 76,923 of those dryland acres failed, leaving only 581 acres on FSA books.

Growers of irrigated cotton didn't escape completely unscathed; 64,766 acres were originally planted under water systems, and some 1,700 acres of watered cotton failed when overworked wells began pumping off.

While too early into the peanut harvest, it appears certain this year's crop will not set any production records. Most producers blame the extreme heat of the summer months, and some insect damage for the less than average yield.



Eight row John Deere cotton stripper, trailed by tractor and boll buggy, in a field of good irrigated cotton on one of Brad Palmer's farms.

County Landfill is Five Years Old

The Yoakum County Solid Waste Disposal facility between here and Denver City received its first load of waste on October 11, 1993. During its first five years of operation, a total of 33,770 tons of waste has been dumped, processed and covered at the sprawling facility.

Manager Gary Walker explained the landfill charges the cities of Plains and Denver City and others a fee of \$5 per ton to handle their waste. Other landfills in the area, including city, county, or privately owned and operated, charge anywhere from \$30 to \$40 per ton. The landfill has saved county taxpayers a significant amount of money.

County Judge Dallas Brewer said in an interview, "I feel the Commissioners Court decision to approve the landfill is one of the more important accomplishments the court has made since I have been in office. There is absolutely no doubt it has benefited all county residents, an at a very modest and reasonable cost."

In 1993-94, the landfill pro-

cessed 5614 tons of waste, and the annual tonnage has gone up each year since then. Gary Walker was able to secure a permit to dig additional pits, or trenches, for the disposal of construction materials resulting from weather related events such as hail storms and tornadoes. In July, 1996, a severe thunderstorm with very heavy hail tore through Denver City, destroying or severely damaging many buildings and residential roofs. During the months of July, August and September, the new "C&D" pits received almost 2,300 tons of destroyed construction materials, mainly shingles from damaged roofs. If the permit had not been obtained for this type material, the conventional waste receiving pits would have been drastically overcrowded.

If the landfill charged \$35 per ton, like many in West Texas do, county users would have paid almost \$1.2 million. The landfills operating budget for the last five years has been about \$825,000, which indicates the facility has benefited county

residents to the tune of almost \$400,000.

COC Election

There will be a special meeting October 21, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. at the Plains Community Center for the purpose of informing the producers of Yoakum County of the nomination and election process of the County Committee. All persons are encouraged to attend.

The Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (the ACT) requires the Secretary to establish 3 to 5 member county or area committees that are fairly representative of the producers in the County. In addition, the ACT requires the Secretary to solicit and accept nominations from organizations representing the interests of socially disadvantaged groups.

This is a very important meeting and we would like to see everyone that can possibly attend to be there, alone with your spouse. It is important that all entities be represented.

PISD in quest for broadened technological skills

Three campuses using computers, networking and Internet to provide data and information

Last Thursday afternoon the total enrollment in Plains ISD three campuses totaled 573 students. A tally of computers accessible by the students showed 119 PC's, not counting those used in school administration and business offices. That translates to a computer for every 4.82 students, a far higher ratio than most other school districts. If these numbers seem excessive, even an extravagant use of taxpayer funds, you might want to think again.

It is almost impossible to read a newspaper or news magazine, or watch a TV business program which does not mention the growing shortage of skilled workers with strong math and science backgrounds, and computer science skills. In today's business world, it is impossible to find a viable field of commerce in which computers do not play an important role. Even fast food outlets, notorious for



You're never too young to log in on a computer. First grade students shown accessing the Grolier Encyclopedia for information. Seated, Jasmine Mares, clockwise, Emelia Gallegos, Kenyon Powell, Federico Villegas, Eva Friessen, all students in Mrs. Morris' class.

their low salaries and wages, utilize computers. If a high school student has no computer skills by graduation, their employment and future financial prospects will look very bleak. The PISD Board of Trustees and Administrators are striving to ensure that all students graduate with the necessary computer skills by graduation, Turn to page 2, "Computers"

City receives payment for electric system



Left to right, Plains City Council members Owen Schneider, Kent Welch, Pam Redman, Bonnie Earnest, Shane McKinzie, and Lea County Electric Cooperative General Manager Mike Dreyspring.

On October 1, The City Of Plains was presented a \$245,458 check from Lea County Electric to culminate the cooperative's purchase of the previously city owned electric system. \$76,794 of the check represented the purchase price of the physical system itself, and the \$168,664 balance represented the franchise fee on 2% of the estimated electricity sales for the next 25 years.

The City will also receive another franchise fee monthly payment based on estimated power sales. The fee will increase if electric sales increase over the estimated dollar amount. Also attending the Council meeting was Rodney Smith, accountant for the cooperative. Mike Dreyspring said city electric customers should receive their first Lea County Electric bill around November 10. Mr. Dreyspring reminds city customers who experience power outages, or other problems with service, to call one of the numbers listed in Lea County Electric's ads in CCN, and not Plains City Hall.

City Administrator David Brunson said in all probability most of the funds from the sale would be used to develop additional water sources for the city system.

Lea County Electric explains credit policy to ag customers



Tim Thompson, seated far left, flanked by Gary Walker and Mike Dreyspring, discusses credit problems with Lea County Electric local producer customers

Last Wednesday, State Representative Gary Walker opened a meeting of cash strapped agriculture producers and their electric service provider, Lea County Electric. Walker said he had learned a number of producers were having problems making monthly electric power payments to the cooperative, because of cash flow difficulties.

Mike Dreyspring, General Manager of Lea County Electric, said he understood the dilemma facing farmers; harvesting is just now getting underway, and their crops have not been marketed. He said the Cooperative agreed to attend the meeting because "We want to listen to you and learn. We want to try to ease your financial problems, but we must continue to abide by some stringent rules

established by both New Mexico and Texas Utility Commissions."

Tim Thompson, Credit Manager for the Cooperative explained some of the ways farmers could possibly receive extension periods on over due bills. He said this years delinquency rate in Yoakum County is up from most years, because of the extremely dry and hot weather, and producers pumping wells more.

He told the producers he would attempt to consider each individual case on its own merits. He said in some cases it may be possible to turn on individual meters instead of all of them. "Obviously, we are not going to deprive a member of electricity if it jeopardizes getting his crop out, or finish watering before harvest. If producers can't har-

vest, we know he sure can't pay us."

Mike Dreyspring said his organization is well aware of the adverse conditions faced by producers this year. "Irrigation in Yoakum and Gaines County represents the lions share of our rural business. We are vitally interested in water usage and the water levels in both counties."

Cooperative Board Member Terry Davis urged local producers who are having problems paying their electric bills to contact Mr. Thompson. "We will do everything possible to help our customers over this rough period."

Dreyspring added, "Lea County Electric is much more liberal and lenient in it's collection policies than most other electric providers I'm aware of."

From page 1, "Computers"

ing to give every student in the district at least fundamental instructions in computer skills and knowledge.

The districts computers in all three campuses are now networked; a student or teacher can now sit at a computer and "talk" with other computers around the campus. Teachers can now enter attendance records and daily grade reports which are electronically transmitted to appropriate administrative PC sites.

The most exciting aspect of the network computer program is it's ability to provide instant data for the individual student classes. Junior high instructor Vernon Hise said the computers are invaluable tools in developing additional research materials on any school subject. He said he is using his science class computers and the Internet to graphically explain scientific subjects, including weather maps, and Doppler radar images of weather patterns. He said "We'll be able to be in contact with the space shuttle, even send the astronaut crews E-Mail."

High school Principal Steven O'Quinn said the networking and Internet access will benefit every student and teacher in that campus, and will not only make the instructors job easier, but more effective. "These kids today are not nervous or apprehensive about setting before a computer, and it's exciting to see how eager they are to use the PC's, and improve their skills."

High school Technology instructor Robert Canon heads up an interesting, and in the future, a very lucrative training course. Nine high school students are engaged in learning the intricacies of actually installing a computer network system. The program, co-sponsored by Sysco Systems, teaches the students everything they need to know about networking systems. Students who have successfully completed two years of the course will be able to take an exam sponsored by Sysco Systems. Those passing the exam will be prime employment prospects for jobs with starting salaries ranging from \$30 to \$40 thousand annually.

Computers are being utilized even in elementary school. In Mrs. Morris class of 17 first

graders, the PC is a valuable, and fascinating learning tool for the youngsters. Recently one of her students, Brock Carter, brought to class a hog nose snake his dad had caught. Mrs. Morris accessed the Grolier Encyclopedia on her PC, pulled up the description and photo of the snake. The hog nose snake was referred to as "harmless", Morris said "That's a new word for most of these kids, and I had Brock use harmless in a sentence for his homework assignment."

The first graders are also following the travels of 'Keiko', the Orca Whale which was released in the ocean following it's starring role in the movie "Free Willie". Mrs. Morris said the elementary students are taking part in the "Year of the Ocean" project, which stresses conservation of the seas and the value of oceans as a vital food source. "Most of these children have never been near the sea. It would be very difficult to explain this subject to them without the Internet displays and graphics."

See related article, "TECH WORKERS" on page 7

County Criminal Court

In County Court October 7, Manuel Martinez Villegas pled guilty to a first offense DWI. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months. A \$600 fine and court costs of \$184.25 will be paid with time payments. He will serve 72 hours in jail, must complete the DWI First Offender's program, and attend weekly AA meetings.

James Reyes, 24, pled guilty to a subsequent DWI charge. His \$475 fine and \$199.25 Court Costs will be met with time payments. He will spend 30 days in jail with credit for one day served. His license will be suspended 180 days,

and he must install an ignition interlock device, complete the DWI repeat offenders program, attend AA meetings and perform 80 hours of community service. He was represented by Attorney Jerry Corbin.

Edgar Omar Garcia Diaz, 22, on probation for a prior DWI charge, had his community supervision extended 180 days, must pay a supervision fee of \$40, and attend weekly AA meetings.

Angelica Lopez Davila, 31, pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. A \$250 fine and \$184.25 Court Costs will be met with time payments. She must also complete the B.I.P.P. program.

Leno Reyna Aguilar, 18, pled guilty to burglary of a vehicle.

His 180 day jail sentence was suspended 24 months, and he will pay Court Costs of \$184.25. He will be confined in the Roloff Homes Light-house program in Corpus Christi for 1 year. He was represented by Jerry Corbin.

Albino Sainz Jr., 38, agreed to modification of his community supervision from a prior assault charge. His supervision will be extended 180 days, he must pay a \$40 monthly supervision fee, and complete the B.I.P.P. program.

Eugenio Oviedo Olivas, 35, pled guilty to a first DWI charge. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. A \$600 fine and \$199.25 Court Costs will be met with time payments. He will serve 6 days in jail with credit for one day served.

PHS students honored for scholastic achievements



Plains High Seniors (seated) Clint Burrus and Tommie McNabb, with their proud parents in background, L-R, Tommy and Sarah Kay Burrus, Pat and Darryl McNabb.


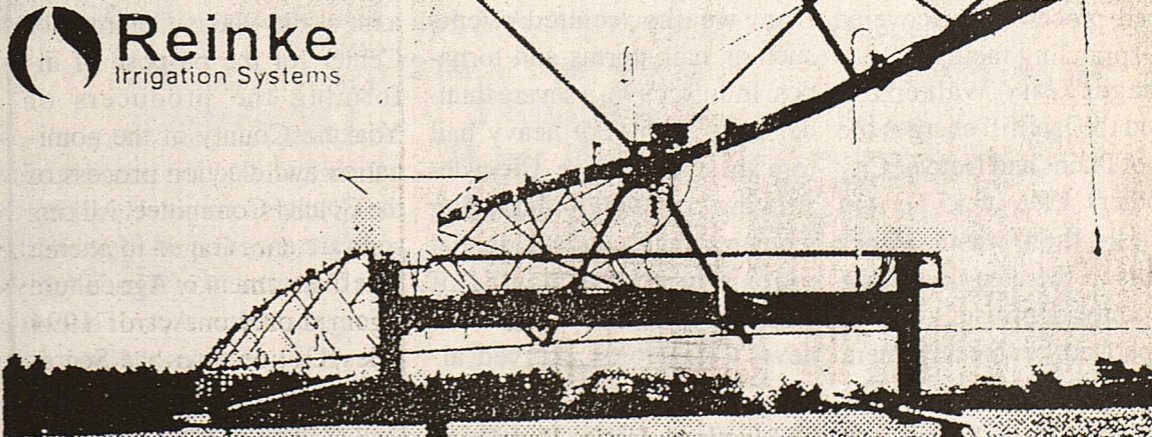
Plains High School was recently notified two of it's 1998-99 Senior students had been named to the rolls of the prestigious National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Clint Burrus was one of some 15,500 students selected as a semi-finalist in the 44th annual scholarship program, selected from almost 1.2 million students from over 20,000 high schools across the nation. Fellow senior class member Tommie McNabb was named a commended student in the compe-

dition, one of only 34,500 students from the million plus student competitors for the merit scholarships.

Burrus and McNabb were selected for the honor from their test scores on the 1997 Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test. Burrus will be able to continue in the scholarship competition, and if he is selected in the top 7,600 finalist group, he will be eligible for at least one of several types of monetary scholarships, worth over \$28 million. Tommie Mc Nabb has nar-

rowed her choice of colleges following graduation to three schools, Austin College, Southwestern University, or Johns Hopkins, and plans to major in Bio-Medical Engineering. Clint is eyeing the University of Texas, Southwestern University and Duke University, and hopes to major either in journalism or anthropology.

According to PHS Cousellor Arlon Alexander, Clint is the first PHS student to be named a semi-finalist in the scholarship competition.

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PISD Honor Roll

First Six Weeks

Elementary 'A' Honor Roll First Grade

Claudia Andazola
Natalie Butler
Brock Carter
Sydney Cueto
Emilia Gallegos
Martin Hamm
Natalie Haynes
Jacob Loewen
Miguel Lopez
Hector Luna
Troy Parrish

Veronica Perez
Victoria Valverde
Morgan Willis
Taylor Banfield

Ernesto Calderon
Brandon Craft
Kristen Davila

Kimberlee Garcia
Brett Hawthorne
Abigail Hernandez

Adam Longoria
Ignacio Lozano
Nathan McCravy

Alex Penner
Arturo Ruiz
Shyann Vantine

Katelynn Young
Second Grade
Chris Addison

Wyatt Dearing
Reyna Gallegos
Derek Garza

A.J. Martinez
Zachary Ramon
Skyler Sainz

Eva Unger
Lydia Whitzel
Brianna Conway

Landon Ernest
Christopher Garza
Zachary Guerra

Jonathan Mindieta
Maria Ruia
Crystal Tarango

Holden Welch
Kimber Williams
Third Grade

Maria Andazola
Joani Bell
Douglas Conway

Lauren Davis
Amber Friesen
Lauren Hise

Juan Lara
M'Leah McKinzie
Colby Ortega

Jacob Rivera
Katie Winn
L'Shae Arnett

Chandra Carpenter
Ryan Crump
Britnie Duran

Trent Hawthorne
Matthew Jimenez
Cody Mayes

Marissa Melendez
Zachary Ramos
John Tyson

Fourth Grade

Scott Addison
Landon Craft
Jose Luis Gallegos
Kimberly Jackson
Ericka Loewen
Araceli Mendoza
Caitlin Carter
Nicole Culwell
Meghan Garcia
Challie Johnson
Angelica Mendoza
Adriana Ponce

'A-B' Honor Roll First Grade

Jacob Brink
Jonathan Lira

Second Grade

Priscilla Luna

Third Grade

Curtis Arteaga
Flor Lara
Sergio Olivas
Jacob Garza
Chris Loya

Fourth Grade

Steven Dominguez
Magareta Martens
Lisa Neufeld

Junior High 'A' Honor Roll

Fifth Grade
Michael Crump
Allison Frieson
B.J. Lester

Able Rios
Casson Curtis
Reagan Haynes
Adam McCravy

Michael Therwanger
Sixth

Evan Cain
Cody Flores
Breck Hamm

Kerry Sisson
Marlie Diaz
Mayra Flores

Brandon Hise
Seventh

Austin Keesee
Trent May
Moriah Traweck

Eighth

Jordan Bean
Jill Gray
Liz Wilmeth

ALLA's and 1 B

Fifth Grade
T.J. Cordova
Skylar Keesee
Blake O'Quinn

Sixth Grade

Payton Bean
Seventh Grade
Grady McNabb
Nolan Newsom
Helen Neufeld
Manula Villegas

Eighth Grade

Kelly Bowers
Krystal Gonzalez
Kayla Willis
Sandra Gallegos
Mary Hamm

High School 'A' Honor Roll

Ninth Grade
Ragan McGinty
Annaliesa O'Quinn
Becky Wilmeth

Tenth Grade

Emily Blair
Andrea Haynes
Elva Ruiz
Chris Estrada
Lesli Rowe

Eleventh Grade

Velvet Canada
Kristen Gray
Laura Morales
Patty Ruiz
Jason Swann
Jessica Flores
Wendy Hernandez
Anne Palmer
Kyle Sisson
Staci Tuggle

Twelfth Grade

Maranda Box
Clint Burrus
LaCresha Johnson
Lisa Parrish
Dustin Brunson
Norma Delgado
Tommie McNabb
Ofelia Trevino

ALLA's and 1 B

Tenth Grade
Roxy Fuentes
Taylor Gray
Kimbe Jones
Matt Willis
Amanda Garcia
Kari Guetersloh
Nancy Luna

Eleventh Grade

Josh Bell
Candace Bowers
Chris Leggett
Krystle Blundell
Leticia Canon
Angie Longoria

Twelfth

Steven Bunch
Cassie Dearing
Cosme Casillas
Tandy Jones



Buffalos gore Cowboys 40-6



David Luna, 12, Cosme Casillas 55, blocking for Kyle Sisson

The Stanton Buffalos gave a graphic demonstration last Friday night why they are defending state 2A champions. With only three starters missing from last years team, they are still plenty potent. Neither the Cowboys or Buffalos could move the ball in their first possessions. The second time the Buffs had the ball, Cowboy hopes soared when Joel Gallegos covered a Statnton fumble. Those hopes were dashed when a Cowboy pass was

picked off and carried across the goal for the first TD, and the point after kick put the Buffs up 7-0.

The Cowboys managed to grind out a first down in their possession, then stalled. The talented Stanton quarterback completed a 13-0 at the end of the first quarter.

With the ball again, the Cowboys managed two first downs on runs by Adam Garcia and a pass completion from Blount to David Luna, but the drive stalled, Alex Tarango got the



Unidentified Cowboy brings down Stanton's big tight end as Brett Squires, 33, and 12, David Luna speed to assist.

punt off, but it was returned for the third Buff touchdown. A two point conversion put them up 21-0.

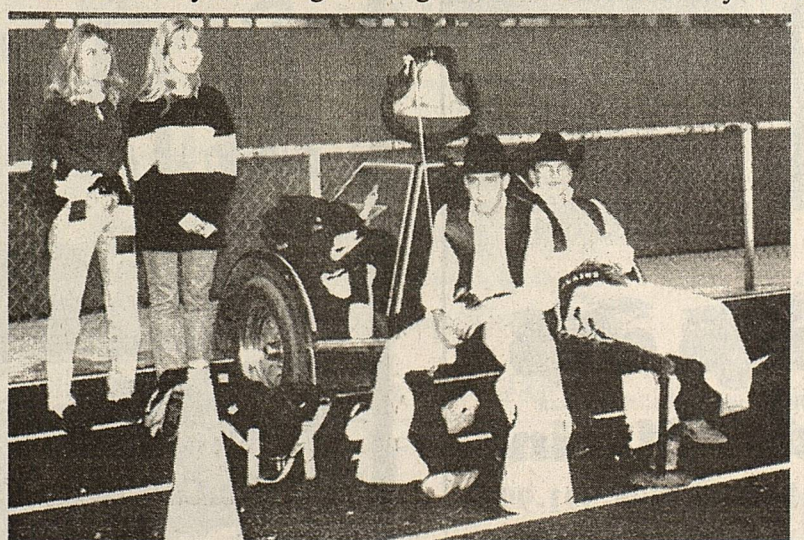
The Cowboys game deteriorated even more from that moment on. A Tarango punt was taken at the 41, and returned for an apparent touchdown, but the officials called it back on a penalty. The Buffs were not to be denied, and two pass completions and runs later, crossed the goal again, and made the PAT for a 28-0 lead.

The Cowboys managed to

make a first down in their next possession, but on the next play, an errant pass was picked off to set up the Buffs at the 41, where a pass completion led to their 5th touchdown and a 34-0 halftime lead.

The Cowboys kicked off to the Buffs at their 34. They quickly ground out big gains running and in seven plays, pushed the ball across for a dismal 40-0 lead.

Late in the final period, the Cowboy's sole bright spot in the game occurred when they held



Relaxed Bell Ringers Taylor Gray and Chris Cleveland prior to kickoff. Krystle Blundell and Anne Palmer in background.

the buffs and took the ball on their own 10 yard line. The line provided some good blocking to allow Adam Garcia to move the ball to the 45. Three plays gained only one yard, but on a desperation fourth down call, Vincent Delgado dashed 44

yards for the Cowboys sole score of the long night and a hard to take 40-6 loss.

They will host Tahoka in the next district action at 7:30 Friday night. BE THERE!

**Beat
Tahoka!**

Jr. High Football update

7TH WRANGLERS; The younger Wranglers downed Stanton 12-8 last Thursday. Richard Diaz accounted for the first touchdown on a 36 yard quick pitch. He also scored the other TD on a screen pass from Trent May. Coach Davis said the team had their best defensive effort of the year, and in one effort prevented Stanton from scoring on four downs inside the five yard line. The team is now 1-0 in district play, and 1-2 for the season.

8TH WRANGLERS: The 8th graders had tougher going against Stanton, going down 32-20. Angel Ruiz racked up two TD runs and scored an extra point. Nick Hays scampered 70 yards on a bootleg for the Wranglers final score.

Cross Country Summary

COWGIRLS: The girls had a good meet at Sundown, with the team finishing in 6th place. Krystle Blundell placed 20th in 14.52, Wendy Hernandez 25th, 15.0, Kristen Gray 27th, 15.0, Lisa Parrish 46th, 15.25, Cassie Dearing 79th, 16.14, and Anne Palmer 18.59.

COWBOYS: The boys ran strong in the Sundown meet and claimed the team championship. They were tied with Shallowater, but their 6th runner, Ramon Hernandez, edged out their 6th runner for the win. Felipe Reyna had his best race of the season, and claimed first place honors with a time of 18:10. Other finishers included Luis Hernandez 16th, David Granados 17th, Luis Delgado 26th, Manuel Hernandez 30th, and Ramon Lozano, 38th. Great effort by the Cowboys.

Students of the Week



Student of the week is LaCresha Johnson, a senior, and the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Zane Johnson, she was nominated by Mrs. Pettigrew who said, "LaCresha is a very enthusiastic self-disciplined deserving young lady. She sets goals for herself and then goes about obtaining them. Although her senior year load is light, she manages to stay very busy. She can be seen out and around the campus running errands for teachers and helping out in the office. She is taking a class via the internet from South Plains College where she plans to attend after her wedding this summer.



Student of the Week is Jessica Flores, a Junior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Flores. She was nominated by Mrs. Lusk who said, "She is an excellent role model for her fellow students in the classroom and in the court. She has a superb work ethic and a great attitude. She also reminds me of a quote I found; "If you can't be a highway, be a trail. If you can't be the sun, be a star. It's not by the size that you win or fail; Be the best of what you are."

*Congratulations
Girls!*

Jr. High Cheerleaders



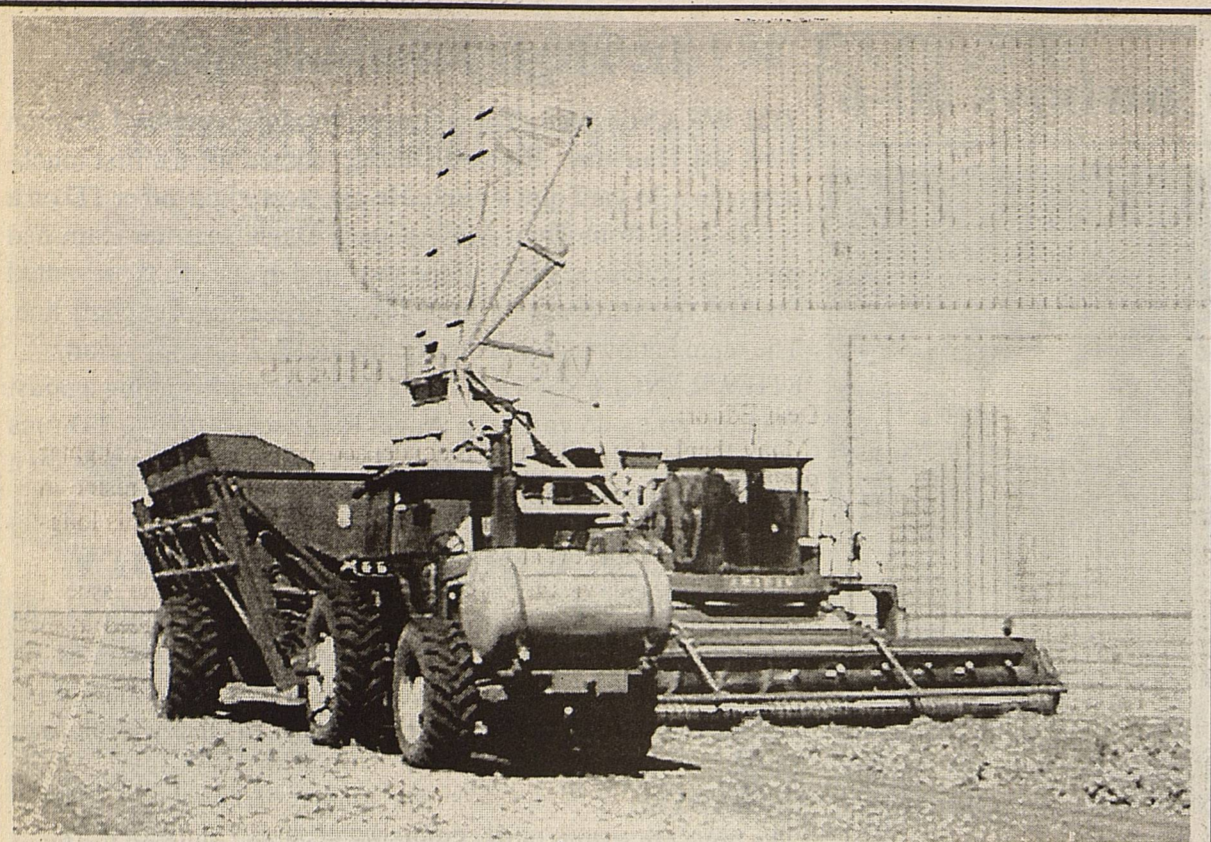
Back Row, Mackenzie Winn, Jill Gray, Kayla Willis
Front Row, Mandi Rogers, Sarah Martinez, Jessica Rodriguez

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Large, and expensive, eight row peanut combine dumps its load of thashed nuts in buggy for trip to conveyor belt loading semi trucks in field of Brad Crump.

SWCD elects New Directors

The Annual Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District Director's Election was held on October 1, 1998, in the Plains Community Building. Two new directors for Zone 1 and Zone 2 of Yoakum County were elected. Larry Nelson and Danny Bell are the new SWCD Board members. Larry Nelson represents Zone 1 of the district and replaces Kent Smith, who resigned earlier in the year. Danny Bell represents Zone 2 of the district and replaces Larry Morrow, who retired after 4 years service on the board. The five members serving on the district board of directors are responsible for district policies and procedure for carrying out the district program within the framework of the Texas Soil Conservation District Law. Other directors are Don Burgess, Dan Wall, and Cindy Gray.

The election was held under the direction of Linda Powell, chairman; Emma Tobar, secretary; Johnnie Fitzgerald and Ty Earl Powell, tally clerk.

Among visitors were Representative Gary Walker from Plains and Dayton Elam from Gaines County, who both spoke at the election.

City Water Well Update

The second City of Plains water well drilled on recently acquired section 423 is looking good, according to City Administrator David Brunson. "The drilling crew completed the required 36 hour pumping last week. During the last 24 hours, the well pumped 700 gallons per minute. The water

has cleared up, shows very little sand, and has a good taste," Brunson reported.

The pump was set at 126 feet, and the water level was at 48 feet below the surface. During the required pumping, the level did not drop below 73 feet.

At the time of the report, plans called for the start of drilling on the third well site, 1000 feet west of the second well.

Brunson said bids for pipeline materials will be advertised in the near future to construct a water transmission line from the site to the city distribution system just west of town. City employees will finish the labor to lay the new line.

Development work continues at the first new well site. When all three of the badly needed wells are developed, they will be cemented, and work on the water line can start.

Burglary Case in District Court

On September 30, Wallace Lynn Longley, 38, pled guilty to a charge of burglary of a building. A two year prison sentence was suspended and probated five years. He was fined \$2500, and must pay \$186.50 court costs. He must reimburse Crime Line \$50 and serve 120 hours of community service. He must also pay half of \$923.81 restitution to Jerry Parrish, with joint and several liability if Jackie Thomas Tarwater fails to pay his half of the restitution. The two were involved in the burglary of Parish's barn where several saddles were stolen.

Court OK's management fee payment to St. Mary's

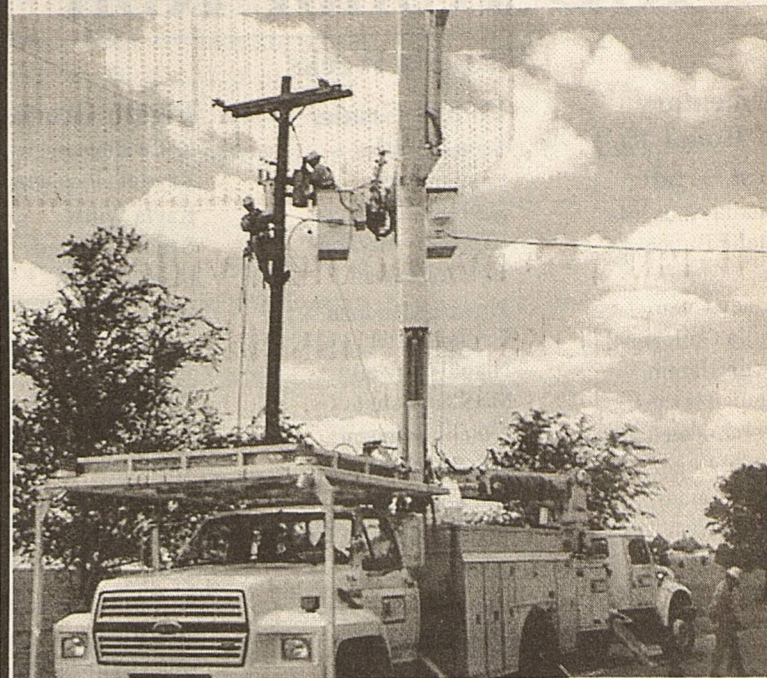
In Monday's session of Commissioners Court, St. Mary's Yoakum County Hospital Administrator Ed Rogers and spokesmen from St. Mary's reviewed portions of the contract between the County and Hospital which had caused some confusion about payment of management fees to St. Mary's. Apparently part of the language in the contract is unclear about the actual intent of the contract, and differences in accounting techniques had caused problems in determining the fee amount.

Commissioner J.R. Slentz pointed out the hospital has shown vast improvements, and he, as a hospital board member, was entirely satisfied with St. Mary's role in overseeing the operation. After some discussion, it was voted to approve payment of \$106,329 in fees to St. Mary's. That amount represents the additional amount due the hospital for 1996 and 1997 operations.

The Court also approved a resolution supporting the planned economic development project in Denver City to bring a 500 bed prison there.

Advertising for bids for the purchase of a new 1999 1/2 ton pickup for Precinct Two was approved.

We're checking things out!



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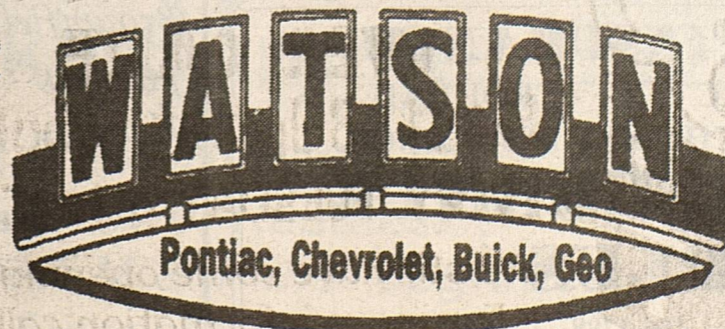
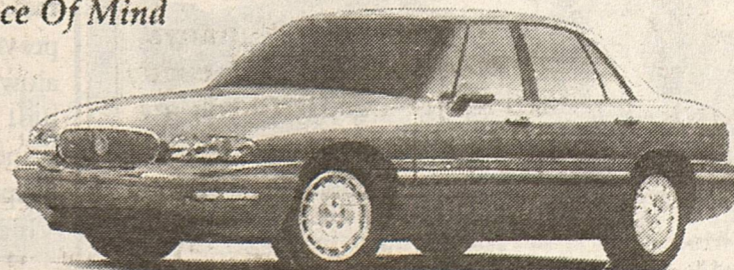
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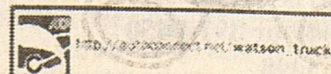
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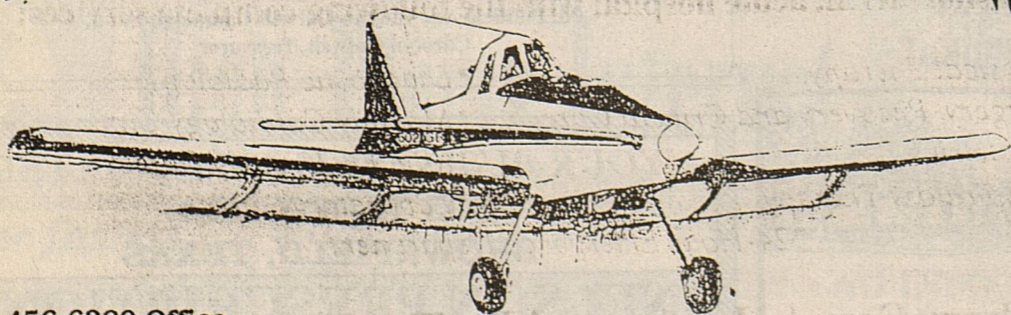


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Books on Cassette; Low Country by Anne Siddons, The First Eagle by Tony Hillerman, Come Spring by Julie Garwood, The Man Who Listens To Horses by Monty Roberts.

Videos; Return To Lonesome Dove, Godfather, 2001: Space Odyssey, Clockwork Orange, Airforce One, First Ladies of the United States, Winner Never Quits, Discovering The Internet, Using E-Mail on the Internet, How to Build a Web Page 1 & 11, Learn to use Netscape, Speeches by Famous Men, Harlem Globtrotters.

Fine Arts Club Meets

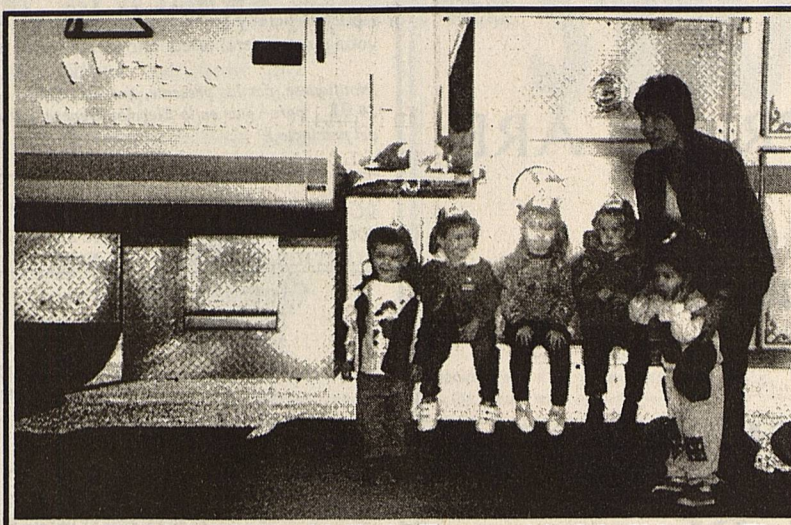
The Plains Fine Arts Club met Thursday night, October 1, 1998, in the home of Mrs. Martha Palmer. Co-hosting the event were Mrs. Judi Addison and Mrs. Melissa Roper. The club members were served a delicious dinner consisting of quiche, fresh fruit, croissants, and cherry cheesecake for dessert.

Entertainment was provided by member Mrs. Melba Crutcher. She sang several of her favorite gospel selections

and did an outstanding job.

Members present included Judi Addison, Sue Banfield, Beth Ann Cain, Melba Crutcher, Carolyn Culwell, Dolores Davis, Sandra Ellison, Donna Friesen, Debra Hise, Martha Palmer, Janie Ramos, Melissa Roper, Frankie Walker, Rayla Williams, Sonya Young, and associate members Christy Brink and Annette Cleveland.

The club's next meeting will be November 5, 1998.



FBC's "Wee Care" kids, with Kathy Haynes, visited the Volunteer Fire Fighters and truck recently.

TSA MO GA Begins Club Year

TSA MO GA Club members met at the ranch home of Crip Henard, for their first club meeting, September 28, for their "Texas Heritage" program. Co-hostess was Bobbie Gayle. Members, husbands and guests were served a Chuck Wagon Supper, catered by Smoke Hogue, Lovington, New Mexico.

Crip, the program coordinator, introduced a very special cowboy and friend, Tuffy Cooper of Monument, New Mexico, a noted rancher, champion roper, cowboy poet and storyteller. Tuffy entertained new and long time friends with his magic tricks, poetry and exciting stories of his cowboy life. Crip couldn't forget another friend, Betty Rose Cooper, Tuffy's

wife. She presented her with a handmade beautiful petty-point rose picture.

The program was concluded with "A Cowboy Prayer" read by Rusty Henard, composed by Sarah Shelton. Rusty is the grandson of Crip Henard.

TSA MO GA's next club meeting, will be for their International Affairs program. JoLena Wall will speak and show slides of her month long Medical Mission in Catacamas, Olancho, Honduras, Central America. JoLena has recently received her medical degree and is now Physician Assistant for Dr. Larry C. Boyd, MD. Hostesses Betty and Debbie Rushing are looking forward to all members attending the meeting at the clubhouse.

We Get Letters

Dear Editor:

Many thanks for publishing a condensed version of our daughter Revis' wedding, as several of our family and friends who reside in Yoakum County were appreciative of getting to read about this long-awaited, memorable event.

How refreshing it was to read about Paul New in that same issue. I remember the Blackie Edwards-Jeff O'Keefe incident alluded to in the feature article about Mr. New.

Also, thanks for the info about windmills. Several years ago during a visit to my birthplace near Plains, I mentioned to Linda Powell an idea about promoting tourism to that area: "A Windmill Tour", with some history about these fascinating wind-powered machines that spelled "L-I-F-E" for those of us who had no nearby streams, no cisterns and no electricity to help get the water to the surface for human, animal and plant use. Those were the days!

Wasn't Brownfield once known as the Town of Windmills? I believe that the East Texas town of Palestine (named by some of my Parker ancestors) had that slogan as well. Why couldn't Yoakum County also adopt the slogan as Texas' County of Windmills? This was certainly an accurate description of the county during my youth.

I looked in my Yoakum County history book for your name--no success. If you are descended through the G.P. Beane line, I would be glad to relate an event to you concerning Judge Beane. He and Mrs. Beane were very fine people. I have met their daughters Florine Hayes and Blanche Dyer, and my husband Jay and I lived as neighbors to Blanche during the summer of 1955 whenever we stayed with Mrs. Bessie Fort McCravey shortly after her husband Walter's death.

Please give my regards to former classmate and dear friend, Latrell McDonnell.

Best wishes for continued success,
Anna Beth Anderson Ward (Mrs. J.W.)

Senior Citizens Corner

We have had some busy days at the center this week.

Birthday and Anniversaries-Monday was a birthday. Many birthdays and two couples had anniversaries. Visitors for the day were William and Madge McCubbin, Trina Tovar, Bill and Jean Dayhirst.

On Tuesday Shirley Watson and nurses were here to give flu shots. We say a big "Thank You, Shirley" for this service.

Other visitors of the week were Ester and John Navarez, Shirley Sasson, Julie Lemley, Joe Navarez.

Our condolences to the families of Roy Akin, Mola Moorehead and Kathy Raley.

These cool nights are a bit of a change from our summer heat.

Don't forget the Auction. Anyone wishing to help out feel free to bring your own favorite cake or pie to be auctioned off, or any useful items you

wish to dispense of for the auction.

The 'Pot Luck' supper is always fun with lots of calories added.

Everyone is welcome everyday at the center, and to these special events.

See You next week,
Smitty

Filmtime

This week there were 17 children in attendance, they were: Clayton Gass, Autumn Friesen, Whitney Davis, Adriana Corrales, Jamie Gonzales, Blaine Altman, Greg Andazola, Vanessa Andazola, Aron Cox, Kristie Lopez, Sammy Melendez, Johnathan Davis, Cynthia Rodriguez, Cami Rubio, Christopher Rodriguez, Shelby Covarrubias, Sierra Willet.

This is Fire Prevention Week, and local fire fighters Charles and Donna Diamond and Vickie Delgado presented a program on what to do in case of a fire. Mrs. Hawthorne, with the preschool morning class, also attended the program, and all were able to examine the department's fire truck.

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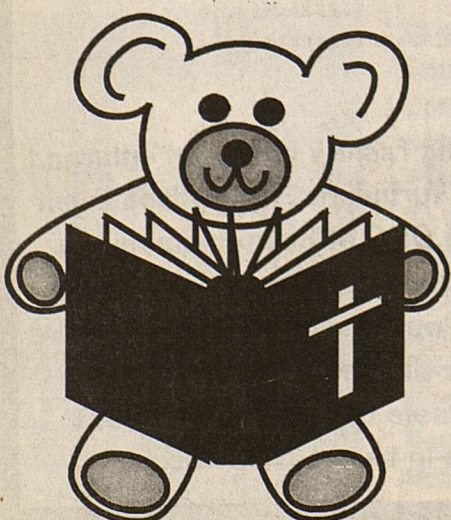
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General Election Notice

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION
 (AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)

To the registered voters of the County of Yoakum, Texas:

(a los votantes registrados del Condado de Yoakum, Texas.)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., November 3, 19 98, for voting in a general election to elect Members of Congress, Members of the Legislature, and state, district, county and precinct officers.

(Notifíquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitados abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 3 de noviembre de 19 98 para votar en la Eleccion General para elegi Miembros del Congreso, Miembros de la Legislatura, y oficiales del estado, distrito, condado y del precincto.)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES
 (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

ELECTION PRECINCT	NAME OF FACILITY	STREET ADDRESS	CITY
101	Precinct 1 Building	139 E. Broadway	Denver City, TX
202	Community Building	West 15th St.	Denver City, TX
303	Yoakum County Library	901 Avenue E	Plains, TX
305	Yoakum County Library	205 E. 4th St.	Denver City, TX
404	Corral Youth Center	911 Avenue C	Plains, TX
406	Tax Office (Branch)	122 W. 4th St. (W. 4th @ Ave. B)	Denver City, TX

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at: **County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, Plains, TX**
 (La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en: **TX Yoakum County Tax Office, Denver City, TX**)

(location) (sitio)

Recommended but not required

between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on October 19, 1998

(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el día 19 de Octubre, 1998)

and ending on October 30, 1998 (y terminando el día 30 de Octubre, 1998)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
 (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan enviarse a:)

Deborah L. Rushing
 (Name of Early Voting Clerk)
 (Nombre del Secretario de la Votacion Adelantada)

P.O. Box 537
 (Address) (Direccion)

Plains 79355
 (City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on:
 (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el:)

October 27, 1998
 (date) (fecha)

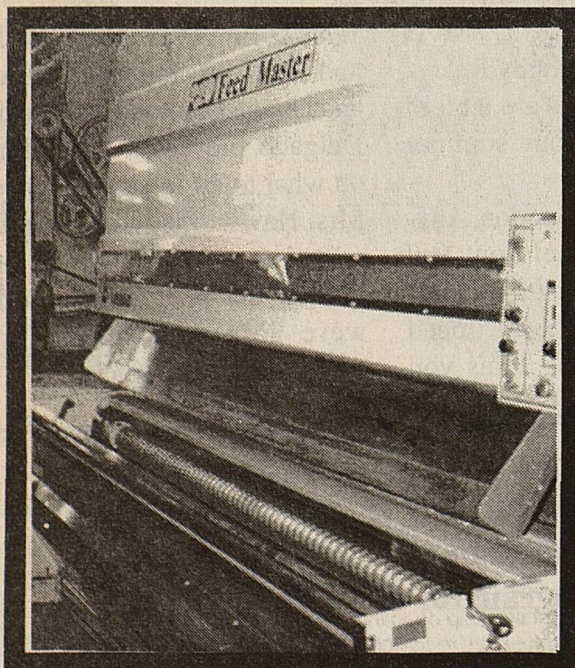
Issued this the 7 day of October, 19 98.

(Emitada este día 7 de Octubre, 19 98.)

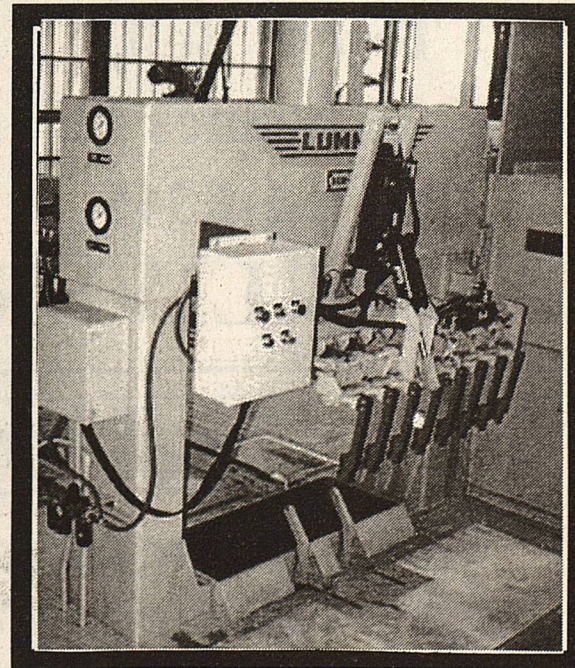
Dallas Brewer
 Signature of County Judge (Firma del Juez del Condado)

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From The Hack



Miraculously, I survived another of the Bride's annual family reunions. I rediscovered the pleasures of traveling 600 miles to the site, too many of them on those impossibly narrow, devoid of a paved shoulder, one lane East Texas Highways, which are simply death traps waiting for the event to happen.

The return home leg of the odyssey was even more pleasant, being buffeted all day long by last Sunday's high cross winds the entire way. We got out of the Blazer in the carport, and my better half asked, "Why are you walking like that?" I said, "Like what?", and she said "Like funny, dumb looking, kinda staggering, and clutching your fists in front of you."

I was still fighting the wind, motion sick, I guess, still trying to hold the blazer in the road.

The elder brother in law, he of chronic irregularity fame, insisted we play a fairly new golf course about 50 miles distant, which suited me fine, until he added, "You need to be at my house at 5 AM. We'll eat breakfast, and get down there by our 7 AM tee time." I realized then his mind had finally slipped away from him... No, make that LEAPED away from him. I told him no one played golf that early, and he assured me if we didn't start early, the heat and humidity would make us wish we had. For once, he was cor-

rect. By 8:30, my new golf shirt looked like it had been in the soak cycle, and my dockers made one wonder if I hadn't undergone an unfortunate social error. The course was truly beautiful. I did not register any birdies, but I did score one squirrelly. I hit an iron into a short par three, and a red squirrel happened to dash under my ball as it descended toward the green and then the furry critters open until Saturday morning, so I thought it might be prudent to stuff him under some empty Coors cans in a trash barrel.

The following morning I allowed myself to be talked into driving to Shreveport to see the new Horseshoe gambling boat and 600 room hotel. Actually, all I really wanted to do was look the hotel over, but when I let them park the Blazer and walked through the hotel doors, I realized I had made a wrong turn somehow, and was already inside one of the three decks containing those gambling dens of iniquity. I stopped at a busy dice table to ask directions for the way out, and somehow, a hundred dollar bill fell from my pocket and fluttered to the green cloth of the table with all those numbers scattered about, and this guy behind the table quickly pushed a stack of red chips in front of me, telling me "Good Luck!".

He must not have been sincere, for the only luck I had you would normally wish on your worst enemy.

Saturday, the day of the reunion proper, which I feel should be called "The Great Pig Out", or "Stuff Your Gut Like You're On Death Row", was really something. The Bride was chosen this year to emcee the thing, and when she wound down, she asked an impromptu band to do 'Amazing Grace'. I'll wager you were not aware there are 89 verses of the old Hymn, were you? The band was composed of three of her nephews, two playing guitars (only one in the right key), and I swear, another who was thumping merrily away on a plastic slop jar with the wooden handle of a pot scrubber... seems he forgot his regular drums. They were far too modest to have a name for their musical organization, but one of the nieces of the Bride whispered in my ear, "They oughta be called 'The Yodeling Yokels of Yuckville'."

Once again the big spread meal was great, even if I did have trouble identifying some of the dishes... I know one item featured crawdads and jalapeno peppers, the peppers outnumbering the 'dads at least three to one.

I very carefully kept track of the elder brother in law's trips through the serving line, and when everyone was through and completely sated, he was sitting at a table looking like a taxidermist's rendering of a yorkshire hog. I told him I had spotted him in the line seven times.

"Not so," he vehemently denied, I never go through more than four times!"

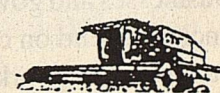
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