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Cowboy Country News

God Bless America!



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

Volume V111, Issue 29, April 3, 2002

Llano Estacado Bayou?



This scene Saturday morning following earlier morning area rains is remindful of East Texas or Louisiana, but is run-off water from Stanford Park flooding the draw just west of the Cowboy baseball field.

Plains ISD to lose business manager Eric Banfield accepts position with Belton ISD

Eric Banfield, Business Manager for Plains Independent School District, recently submitted his resignation to the district's Board of Trustees, informing them he had accepted that same position with Belton Independent School District, a 5A district with some 6,600 students. Banfield and his wife Sue have been employed by PISD fourteen years. She is a teacher in Plains Elementary, and will teach at Belton in Sparta Elementary. PISD Jim Haynes told CCN "We all hate to see Eric and Sue leave. He has been an excellent Business Manager, a guy who truly pays attention to his work. He makes sound business decisions, and they are based on what is best for our school district. More importantly, perhaps, he is a good, moral and honest man, one we here will truly miss. Sue is a profes-

sional, dedicated teacher, and I'm sure she will do well at Belton. We certainly can't fault them for their decision, it's a very positive step in Eric's career, and the entire school staff wish them both well." Banfield said he accepted the job in Belton on March 14. "Sue and I both have a sense of sadness about leaving Plains and this school system. People here have truly welcomed and accepted both of us, and we will miss lots of friends. This is a very big step in my professional career, and I look forward to the many challenges I am about to face." Eric said one factor in accepting the Belton job was the location, much nearer to the couples families in both the Dallas and Austin areas. Superintendent Haynes said the district is actively seeking replacements for the Banfields',

Local DQ earns kudos from contest



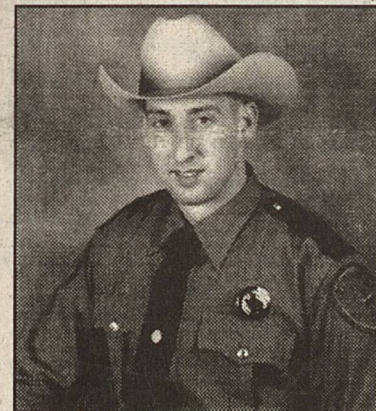
Parrish Chapman, right, and Ford Miller, representing the 16 store chain of Chapman Dairy Queen stores in West Texas and Eastern New Mexico, flank local DQ personnel Becky Luna, Rosie Gallardo and Esthere Martinez, members of the management team of the Plains store. The DQ, under leadership of General Manager Rosie Gallardo, was recently honored for the store's Semi-Finalist finish in the company wide "Sparkle's Contest". Additional photo of the DQ team and details of contest inside.

New Trooper Coming To Plains

Chris D. Malloy of Colleyville graduated recently from the Texas Department of Public Safety's 120th Training Academy. Trooper Malloy will be assigned to the Highway Patrol in Plains. "September 11 reminded us we live in a dangerous world," said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of the DPS. "These men and women will now join the front lines in the war against crime here in Texas."

Governor Rick Perry addressed the graduating class at Toney Burger Center in Austin.

DPS assistant directors Lt. Col. Frankie Waller and Lt. Col. David McEathron also participated in the ceremony along with DPS training officers.



The 27 week school is the longest continuous training academy offered by any law enforcement agency in Texas, and one of the longest in the nation. The cadets entered the Academy in September and completed 1,214 hours of instruction, more than twice the training required by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education. The students received instruction in criminal law, traffic law, arrest procedures, accident, first aid and other law enforcement subjects, as well as classes aimed at developing self esteem and goal setting skills.

County's 2007 Centennial needs historical input

The Yoakum County Historical Society and Yoakum County Wordsmiths are making plans to celebrate the county's 100th birthday in 2007, and to make the celebration successful, they need your help. They have just begun seeking stories and photos from residents, regardless if they have lived in the county five years or 75 years. As these stories and photos are received, the organizations will start compiling them into a format which will reflect the personal view of the creation and growth of the county. The Historical Society and Wordsmiths officers are developing plans to present the personal stories and old photos in a graphic collection, possible display them in a historical, special edition calendar, and possibly used in the production of a historical, fictional play. To assemble the historical information, the two organizations have prepared a questionnaire with suggested questions about county residents personal and family histories. Some of the suggested topics include 'when did you come to Yoakum County,' 'how did your family make a living,' 'what hardships do you remember in your life,' 'what was your most difficult hardship in the county,' 'who is the most unique person you met in the county.'

Yoakum County was founded in September, 1907, and named for Henderson Yoakum, pioneer author, jurist and veteran of the Mexican War. While 2007 may seem a long ways off, residents are urged to start now compiling their family histories. A copy of the Historical Information Sheet and Suggested Historical Questionnaire can be found inside.

Plains High sweeps field in District UIL meet

The old cliché, 'Dynamite comes in small packages' could well apply to Plains High students competing in academic competition held here in last week's District 3-AA UIL Academic meet. Plains High, with the smallest enrollment of the six school districts, literally walked away with top honors in the day long, grueling academic competition. District 3AA is comprised of schools from Coahoma, Colo-

rado City, Forsan, Seagraves, Stanton and Plains. In the UIL meet, teams from the six schools scored a total of 1,360 points in the 24 academic categories. Plains High scored top honors with 559 points, forty-one percent of the total points scored!

The chart featured here indicates the strong showing Plains students made in the 24 tough events. Individual performances may be found inside.

	Spelling & Vocabulary	8	35	21	6
Other Academic Events	Science	32			
	Ready Writing	8	17	27	6
	Number Sense	6			
	Mathematics	21			
	Literary Criticism		4	37	
	Current Issues & Events	37	6	4	37
	Computer Science				
	Computer Applications				
	Calculator Applications	4	11	6	
	Accounting				
Journalism	One - Act Play Contest	8	36	29	20
	Journalism Team				
	News Writing	8	8	12	5
	Headline Writing	6	10	12	4
	Feature Writing		4	10	30
	Editorial Writing		27	4	10
	Speech Team Score				
	Prose Interpretation	8	10	18	10
	Poetry Interpretation	12	8	18	18
	Persuasive Speaking				
Speech	Informative Speaking				
	Lincoln - Douglas Debate				
	Cross - Examination Debate	20	10	16	37
TOTAL SCORE	172	143	373	559	
	COAHOMA	172			
	COLORADO	143			
	FORSAN	373			
	PLAINS	559			
	SEAGRAVES	52			
	STANTON	61			

Communications top Court Agenda

In Monday's session of Commissioners Court, Mark Brown, representing Venture Communications of Lubbock, proposed renting or leasing space on the county radio tower located just west of Town to carry his company's pager signals. He said pagers are the most economical form of electronic communications, and use of the tower would allow paging service throughout the county, and particularly benefit health care personnel. He assured the court a contract would include full liability coverage protecting the county from any damage claims.

Brown said his company is now renting or leasing tower space from ten cents per tower foot to fifty cents. A 395 foot tower in Dawson County is rented for 27

Turn to Page 2, COURT

Far from the *FINISH*

Texas racing fans not slowing down

NASCAR roared back to Texas in 1997, almost three years after track owner Bruton Smith announced plans to build a superspeedway in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

The opening of Texas Motor Speedway (TMS) in Denton County marked the return of big time auto racing to the Lone Star State. Fans of all ages turned out in record numbers, and attendance continues to rise.

NASCAR (the national association for stock car auto racing) first brought its premier series to Texas in 1979 and 1980, with two events at the Speedway near College Station. With the coming of TMS, Texas race fans finally have an event of their own. But NASCAR fans weren't the only ones to benefit.

When TMS hosted the first event in 1997, capacity stood at 150,000 and every seat was sold. Permanent seating has been expanded another 4,800 seats, and the 1999 NASCAR Winston Cup race drew the largest crowd to ever attend a sporting event in Texas. Add in 194 luxury suites and the track infield, and a race day crowd can top 200,000.

Sarana Winfrey, TMS media director, said, "We always say people who don't like racing haven't been to one. We easily have more than a million people come through the gates every year. When you have 110,000 people for the NASCAR Busch series race on Saturday and over 200,000 for the Winston Cup race the next day, that's a pretty good start!"

TMS is a year round facility with a gift shop, tours, a NASCAR driving school open to the public - for a price.

In 1994, the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Department estimated the economic impact of TMS on the local economy. The report projected the facility, when fully operational, would add about \$111 million annually to the Dallas/Ft. Worth regional economy.

Seven years later, Sports Business Journal reported the 2000 NASCAR 'race weekend' (actually about four to five days) alone generated more than \$165 million.

This isn't money spent at the speedway - it's money spent on hotels, motels, restaurants and shopping. Not every fan reserves a hotel room, though.

"We'll camp close to 40,000 people on TMS grounds over a NASCAR weekend," Winfrey says. "That's bigger than lots of towns around here."

Taking care of that kind of crowd requires everything from extra security to basic essentials such as food and drink. At least one national grocery chain will set up a temporary store on the site to serve race fans. These amenities create a substantial number of temporary jobs.

"TMS employs around 100-150 full time personnel during the year," says Winfrey, "but when it comes to an event

weekend, that number usually rises close to one thousand, including volunteers. Look at it this way; they'll seat 60,000 to 65,000 people for a Dallas Cowboys game. Well, we'll park 60,000 CARS for a race. That kind of effort takes lots of people."

The popularity of motor sports in the United States has exploded in the last decade. NASCAR has led the way, reporting increases in attendance of nearly 65 percent during the 1990's. More than 6.5 million fans attended Winston Cup races alone last year.

Leading the field

There are more than 1,300 race tracks in the U.S. and Texas has more than any other state. The two-mile oval track at Texas World Speedway is one of only seven tracks at least two miles long in the country and is home to various racing clubs as well as TV commercial shoots.

State	Track total
Texas	93
California	91
Pennsylvania	76
New York	67
North Carolina	66
Indiana	66
Illinois	63
Ohio	62
Michigan	59
Tennessee	55

SOURCE: 2000 statistics, <www.chasinracin.com>

Tradeoff Proven Between Taxes, Economic Growth

How strong is the relationship between Texas' economic growth and its tax burden? Numerous studies from the United States and around the world indicate it is stronger than anyone may have previously believed.

In a new study released today by the Texas Public Policy Foundation, acclaimed economist Richard Vedder, Ph. D., finds that international scholarship has concluded that lower tax burdens lead to greater economic growth and prosperity.

"In fact, several decades of studies by economists confirm the proposition that the higher the level of taxation, the lower the rate of economic growth," said Vedder. His study, available on the Internet at <http://www.tppf.org/tax/part2.pgf>.

Among several dozen other scholars and studies, Dr. Vedder cites the work of the National Bureau of Economic Research president Martin Feldstein of Harvard concluding that "the deadweight burden caused by incremental taxation, may exceed one dollar per dollar of revenue raised, making the cost of incremental government spending more than two dollars for each dollar of government spending."

Vedder notes that "there is mounting evidence that high taxes reduce job opportunities and sometimes lead to higher unemployment." On the other hand, a lower tax burden can stimulate high rates of individual income growth, he said



This City backhoe, with help from County loaders and trucks, made short work of demolishing and removing the old City Hall building. Dirt work is now being completed at this site for pouring cement for the new city facility. Actual construction work is scheduled to start soon.

From Page One, COMMISSIONERS COURT

cents per foot. The court asked Clark to present a sample contract which could be studied by legal counsel.

Marc Traweck, representing Plains EMS, told the court the county now has ten certified Emergency Medical Technicians, and urgently need a radio repeater installed on the same county tower. He said present equipment is so dated it is virtually impossible for EMS and Sheriff Department personnel to communicate. New radio equipment would cost approximately \$10,000. The court requested Traweck to submit a firm price proposal for the equipment, and agreed contingency funds would be available for the purchase.

In other court business, a low bid from Mustang Country in Denver City for the purchase of a new Chevrolet 2002 pickup for Precinct 2 was approved. Sale price of the unit was \$15,125 with trade-in of a 1989 pickup.

The court approved advertising for bids on various used county equipment now stored in the courthouse basement, and includes old computers,

copiers, furniture and other equipment. The equipment can be seen at the courthouse by contacting Judge Brewer or Maintenance Superintendent Danny Steffens. Bids must be received by 10 AM on April 19.

The court also approved making AFLAC Supplemental Insurance available to all county employees through payroll deductions.

Early voting for run off election
8 am - 5pm
April 1 thru April 5

ELECTION CALENDAR

Listed below are the major dates concerning the upcoming City Council General Election to be held on Saturday, May 4, 2002.

PURPOSE
 To elect one (1) Mayor and two (2) Councilmembers. Those with expiring terms are: Mayor T. J. Miller and Councilmembers Shane McKinzie and Pam Redman.

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE
 Thursday, April 4, 2002 is the last day to register to vote in the May 4, 2002 City Council General Election. Voter Registration is at the Yoakum County Courthouse Tax Office.

EARLY VOTING
 By Personal Appearance - Wednesday, April 17, 2002 through Tuesday, April 30, 2002. At the temporary Plains City Hall in the EMS/Fire Dept Building at 1104 Ave G from 8:00 a.m until 5:00 p.m.

ELECTION DAY
 Saturday, May 4, 2002
 At the Yoakum County Community Building, 1006 Ave G
 Polls open from 7:00 a.m until 7:00 p.m.

OFFICIAL BALLOT NO. _____

APRIL 9, 2002
 DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY RUN-OFF
 ELECTION BALLOT
 (ELECCION PRIMARIA DECISIVA DEL PARTIDO DEMOCRATICO)

INSTRUCTIONS: Vote for the candidate of your choice by placing an "X" in the box to the left of the name.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

Victor Morales
 Ron Kirk

Precinct # _____

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If this Notice does apply to you, you may be eligible to opt out of the LP national siding class action settlement if you wish by filing an Opt Out Request form with the LP Siding Litigation Claims Administrator. If you do opt out of this class action settlement, you will no longer be eligible to receive any benefits under the settlement agreement. You would be permitted, however, to pursue whatever legal remedies may be available to you.

The deadline for filing an Opt Out Request form is June 17, 2002. To request additional information from which you can determine whether you are eligible to opt out of the class action settlement or to request either a Claim Form or an Opt Out Request form, you may contact the LP Siding Litigation Claims Administrator. If you have damaged LP siding that is eligible for compensation under the settlement agreement and desire to file a claim, you must complete a Claim Form and return it to the LP Siding Litigation Claims Administrator postmarked on or before December 31, 2002.

For information contact: LP Siding Litigation Claims Administrator
 P.O. Box 3240 Portland, OR 97208-3240
 Toll-Free: 1-800-245-2722 www.lpsidingclaims.com

Honoring a fallen comrade



Last week the Plains Volunteer Fire Department received word the Roswell, New Mexico Fire Department would be transporting the casket of their fallen Chief, killed in a bizarre accident in Lubbock, to his resting place in Roswell. In respect for the fellow firefighter, members of Plains Volunteer Fire Department deployed all six of their vehicles to form an Honor Guard passing through our county. Two of the units met the Roswell Truck carrying the casket at Tokio, and led it to Plains, where it was met by two more department trucks. They proceeded to the state line at Bronco, where the department's other two trucks paid their respects. Firefighters manning the Plains vehicles were Alex and Michael Barrientes, Charles and Donna Diamond, Jerry Dominguez, and Tony Perez.

Historical Commission slates conference

The Texas Historical Commission (THC), in association with Preservation Texas and the Texas Historical Foundation, invites all preservationists, historians, students, community leaders and Texas history buffs to the 2002 Annual Historic Preservation Conference April 18-20 in Abilene.

"Frontier Folklore: Preserving the Lone Star Legacy" is the theme for this year's conference at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Abilene. This year's

theme honors what is truly unique about Texas and its citizens-its folklore.

New this year is a training workshop for county historical commissions, tours of preservation projects designed to give participants ideas to take home and more sessions for small museums. Experts in archeology, downtown revitalization, heritage tourism and community assistance will be on hand to answer questions. Keynote speaker is Dr. Frank Vandiver,

president emeritus of Texas A&M University and distinguished military historian.

For more information, visit the THC web site at www.the.state.tx.us or contact the Marketing Communications Division at 512/463-6255.

Macon, Ga. - President Jefferson Davis and his party have been captured by Union troops near Irvinville. Included in the Davis party are John H. Reagan and Francis Lubbock. Reagan served as postmaster general in the Confederacy and Lubbock has been aide-de-camp to Davis for a year.

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Historical Questionnaire Information Sheet

We would like you to contribute your story, whether you've been here for five years or fifty. Please answer as many questions as possible, but it is not essential to answer them all. Suggested 'questions' may be picked up at Yoakum County Libraries in Plains or Denver City. These questions are to get you started writing your personal story about Yoakum County. Feel free to add additional pages if more space is needed. This information may be used in a collection of stories compiled to create a very personal view of the creation and growth of Yoakum County. Aspects of them may also be used in the production of a historical fiction play to be presented at Yoakum County's Centennial Celebration in 2007. Although every effort will be made to remain true to the content, we reserve editorial rights. Photographs may be used in such a collection of stories or in the production of a Yoakum County Calendar, with proceeds going to the Yoakum County Historical Society.

Yoakum County Historical Society and Yoakum County Wordsmiths.

I agree that the facts listed below may be used in a collection of family stories, or aspects of them (using fictitious names) may be used in the production of a play to be presented for the county's centennial celebration in 2007. Photographs may be used in such a collection or in a calendar to be used as a fund raiser for the production of the play.

Name _____

Date _____

Printed name, address and telephone number

Photographs are welcomed and encouraged, but please present only copies which will not need to be returned. Please identify and date subjects of such photographs, if possible. The Yoakum County Historical Society and the Yoakum County Wordsmiths will not be responsible for lost photographs.

This signed sheet must be returned in order for us to use your story!!

Please return this signed sheet and your pictures or questionnaire to one of the following addresses:

Judge Dallas Brewer's Office

Yoakum County Courthouse

Plains, TX 79355

Connie Webb

Yoakum County Sheriff's Office

1010 N. Main, Denver City, TX

P.O. Box 38

Plains, TX 79355

Grace New

1321 N. Ave. E

Denver City

For information, you may call:

Mary Jo St. Romain 806-456-8855

or evenings: Connie Webb 806-592-7774

June 3rd is the deadline for photographs!!

Historical Questionnaire

1. When did your family come to Yoakum County? Why?
2. Who were the members of your family?
3. Where did your family live? Where was your first house located and what was it like?
4. How did your family make its living?
5. Where did the members of your family go to school? To church?
6. What did you do for recreation?
7. What particular hardships do you remember about your early life in Yoakum County?
8. What celebrations do you remember most?
9. What are your memories of your most humorous incidents in Yoakum County?
10. What were your most frightening experiences in Yoakum County?
11. Do you remember an especially difficult year in terms of storms, droughts, etc?
12. Who is the most unique person you have met in Yoakum County? Why?
13. What is your most outstanding memory of Yoakum County?
14. What makes Yoakum County special to you?

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PHS individual results in District UIL Meet

Editorial Writing:

4th - Chris Hansen
3rd - Liz Wilmeth

Headline Writing:

1st - Annaliesa O'Quinn
2nd - Grady McNabb
4th - Evan Cain

News Writing:

1st - Liz Wilmeth
3rd - Chris Hansen

Feature Writing:

1st - Annaliesa O'Quinn

Poetry Interpretation:

1st - Allison Butler
3rd - Mandi Rogers

Prose Interpretation:

1st - Jordan Bean
4th - Payton Bean
6th - Tanner Hamm

Spelling & Vocabulary:

2nd - Sandra Gallegos
6th - Elizabeth Rodriguez
TEAM - 2nd - Galleagos, Rodriguez, McNabb

Informative Speaking:

4th - Jarod Newland

Computer Science:

1st - Colt Richardson
2nd - Elizabeth Clanahan
4th - Becky Wilmeth

TEAM- 1st - Clanahan, Wilmeth, Richardson

Persuasive Speaking:

1st - Jordan Bean

Number Sense:

1st - Annaliesa O'Quinn
2nd - Jill Gray

3rd - Brandon Hise

TEAM - 1st - O'Quinn, Gray, Hise

Ready Writing:

3rd - Sandra Gallegos
6th - Liz Wilmeth

Literary Criticism:

2nd - Colt Richardson
4th - Allison Butler
6th - Patrick Cotton

Math:

1st - Annaliesa O'Quinn
3rd - Jill Gray

4th - Brandon Hise

5th - Jordan Bean

TEAM - 1st, O'quinn, Gray, Hise

Computer Applications:

1st - Evan Cain

2nd - Breck Hamm

3rd - Nolan Newsom

Current Issues/Events:

2nd - Colt Richardson

TEAM - 2nd - Richardson, Wilmeth, McGinty

Accounting:

1st - Jill Gray

2nd - Becky Wilmeth

4th - Wendy Fierro

6th - Elda Fierro

TEAM - 1st- Gray, Wilmeth, W. Fierro

Calculator :

1st - Jill Gray

2nd - Annaliesa O'Quinn

3rd - Jordan Bean

4th - Brandon Hise

TEAM- 1st - Gray, Bean, O'Quinn

Lincoln-Douglas Debate:

4th - Elizabeth Clanahan

Science:

2nd - Jordan Bean

3rd - Annaliesa O'Quinn

4th - Nolan Newsom

6th - Evan Cain

TEAM: 1st- Bean, O'Quinn, Newsom

One Act Play:

All Star Cast - Annaliesa O'Quinn, Elizabeth Clanahan
Honorable Mention - Tanner, Breck Hamm

* Plains production of Romeo & Juliet advanced

PISD Track Summary

Sundown Meet Results

7th Grade Girls:

First Places - 400 M dash, Desiraye Broome, 200 M dash, Desiraye Broome, 29.18. 1600 M Relay- 4:55.10- Meghan Garcia, Alice Curtis, Caitlin Carter, Desiraye Broome
2nd Places - Shot Regina Morales. Long jump- 13'1", Desiraye Broome Discus- 59'9", Lisa Neufeld.

3rd Places- 100 Hurdles- 21.22, Nicp:e Culwell. 100 Dash- 14.95, Alice Curtis.

800 relay- 2:12.33, Meghan Garcia. Alice Curtis, Angelica Gomez, Araceli Mendoza. 300 Hurdles- 61.76, Caitlin Carter
4th Place- Shot- Nicole Culwell

5th Places- 800 run- 3:13.25 Nancy Lozano. Long Jump- Alice Curtis, 12'6". Discus, Regina Morales. 400 relay- 61.93, Lisa Neufeld, Angelica Gomez, Hallie Cotton, Araceli Mendoza.

6th places- High Jump- Araceli Mendoza, 4'. Shot- Clarissa Zorilla. 100 dash- 15.47, Hallie Cotton. 100 Hurdles- Caitlin Carter, 21.44 800 run- 3:25.23, Regina Morales. 400 Dash- 83.97, Nancy Lozano. 200 Dash- 32.36, Meghan Garcia. 1600 Run- 7:42.87, Erika Loewen. 7th place- 800 Run- 3:33.88, Callie Howell.

8th Girls:

2nd Place- Discus, 66', Priscilla Mares. Shot- 30'9", Priscilla Mares. 3rd Place- High Jump- 4'4", Skylar Keesee.

4th Place- 100 Hurdles- 20.00, Skylar Keesee. 300 Hurdles, 65.91, Skylar Keesee.

6th place- 100 Dash- 14.82, Maribel Mendias. 200 Dash- 34.57, Maribel Mendias

7th Boys:

2400 M Run- Jose Villegas 1st.
400 M Relay- 4th- Johan Cueto, Jose Villegas, Landon Craft, Mario Ruvalcaba

800 Run- Scott Addison 3rd

100 M Dash- Johan Cueto 5th

200 M Dash- Mario Ruvalcaba 2nd

1600 Relay- Johan Cueto, Jose Villegas, Scott Addison, Mario Ruvalcaba, 2nd.

Shot Put- Antonio Martinez 4th

Discus- Antonio Martinez 2nd

Long Jump- Mario Ruvalcaba 1st.

With only seven members on the 7th boys team, they managed to score an impressive 72 points.

8th Boys:

2400 M Run- Abel Ramos 3rd

1600 M Run- Abel Ramos 2nd

110 Hurdles- Todd Williams 3rd, Ben Hays 5th

400 Relay- 3rd, Ramiro Martinez, Ricardo Cueto, Todd Williams, Michael Crump

100 M Dash- 6th, Ricardo Cueto

400 M Dash- 2nd, Michael Crump 2nd

300 M Hurdles- 3rd, Casson Curtis

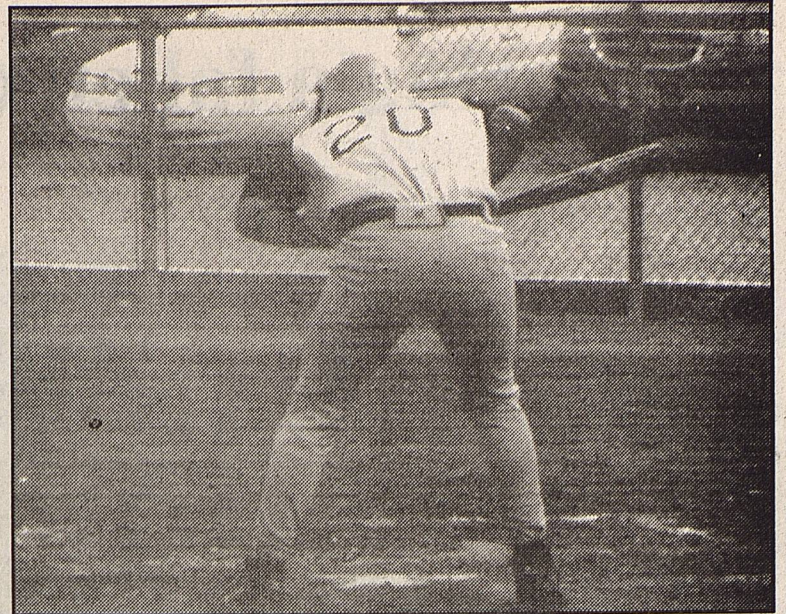
1600 M Relay- 3rd- Todd Williams, Casson Curtis, Ramiro Martinez, Michael Crump

Discus- 3rd, T.J. Cordova

Pole Vault- 1st, Casson Curtis. 2nd David Alldredge. 3rd Ben Hays

High Jump- 3rd Todd Williams, 6th Casson Curtis

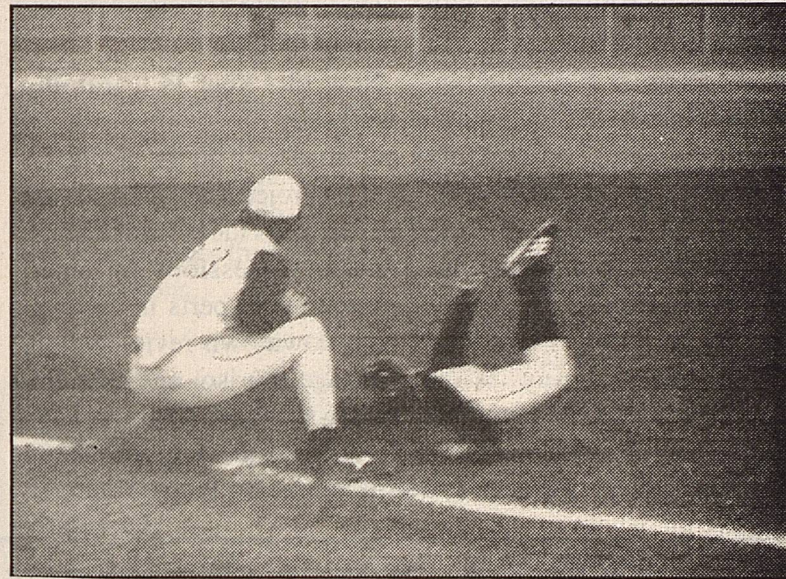
The 8th Wranglers had a fine showing with 98 team points.



Sometimes you have to move fast to elude wild pitch



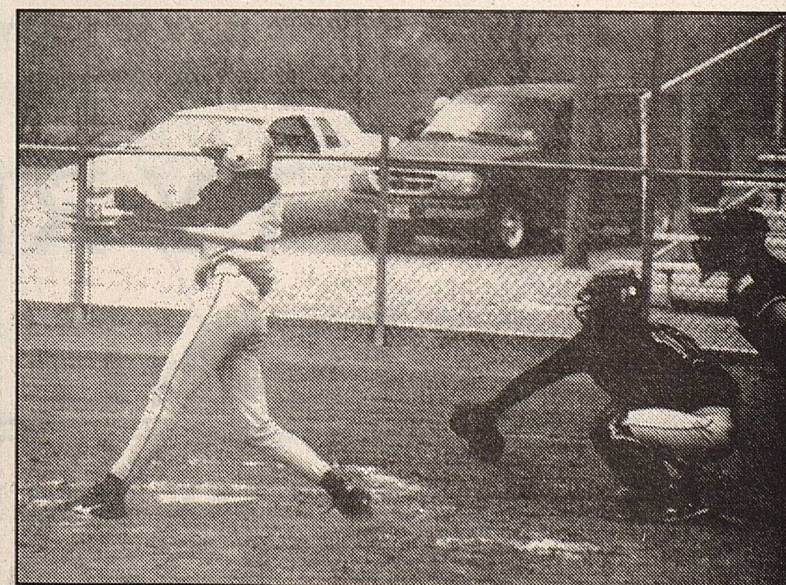
Kevin Bartley was called out on this slide at home



The Cowboys yelled OUT... The Ump yelled SAFE!



Bartley in relief pitching



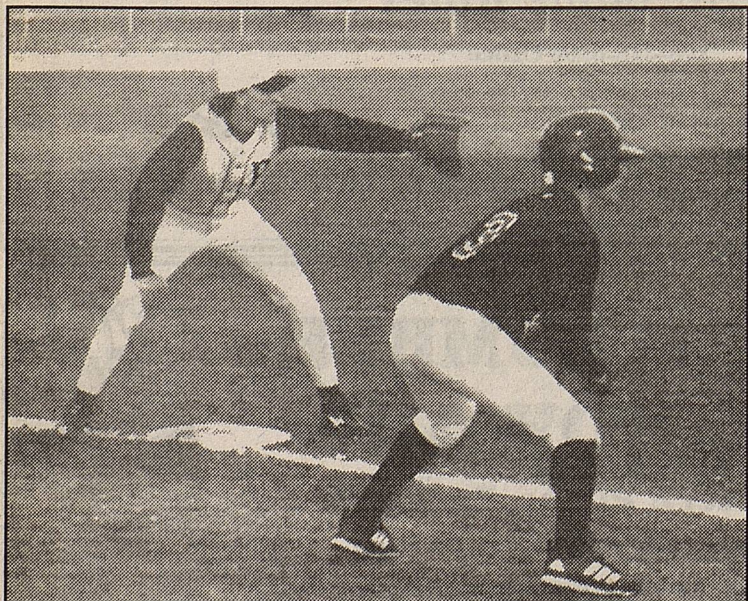
A Cowboy takes a fierce cut at ball

Cowboys vs Colorado

Because of Easter Break, stats unavailable at press time



One for all, all for one



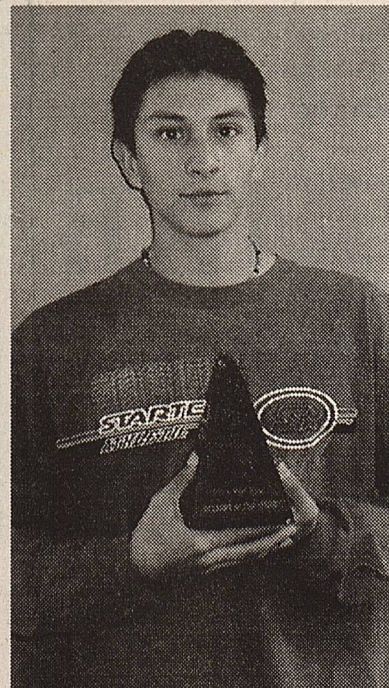
Jared Bell hopes to pick off runner at third

Student of the Week

Student of the week is Joseph Martinez, a sophomore and the son of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Martinez. He was nominated by Mr. Portillo, who said, "A man is not paid for having a head and hands, but for using them." Elbert Hubbard

"Many times we take advantage of our gifts and talents. These are elements that create keys for success. Life is not just about hard work but also about spirit, enthusiasm, and motivation. Without these things, work is simply work. Our student of the week has a spirit in him that allows him to overcome obstacles and to set goals. He does a lot of behind the scenes work in the programs he is involved in. I see nothing but great potential in this student and hope that he will continue to work hard and never give up. He has been a great student leader and is always willing to do work no one else will volunteer for. His respect for his

directors, teachers, and peers shows in his enthusiasm. And once he is motivated, he works to the bitter end."



Cowboy Baseball
April 5 -
Colorado There
April 9 -
Coahoma Here
Games 5:30 PM

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Lifelines & Styles

TSA MO GA Hears History Of Faberge Eggs

In its Art Education/Appreciation theme meeting March 25th, TSA MO GA Club members learned of the history of the famed Faberge Egg collection. Marie Taylor Neff, director of the OS Ranch Foundation Museum in Post, spoke on the history of the renowned eggs. Some 650 Faberge eggs are in the collection from many countries, with more than 100 on display at the museum. The museum is open to the public, and there is no admission charge. The Faberge eggs originated in Russia during the 11th Century. The priceless eggs represent the Resurrection, and new life. Among the eggs Neff displayed at the meeting was an emerald

green stone covered egg, and when opened, displayed butterflies on velvet standing six inches tall. Wilma Powell and Mattie Field hosted the meeting. Special guests were Yoakum County Art Association members Marguerite Barron, Betty Estep, Mary Dale Forbus, Lisa Gentry, Yvonne Morgan, Linda Powell and Inetta Teaff. TSA MO GA members at the meeting included Carolyn Culwell, Dolores Davis, Terri Hansen, Michele Jones, Toni Jones, Ann McGinty, Betty Rushing, Elouise St. Romain, Mary Jo St. Romain, Sarah Jane Shelton, Valeria and Zareta Winn and guest Helen Thompson.

Aging Expert Advises a "Balanced TV Diet"

Just as people sometimes eat too much, they can also overindulge in their "TV Diet." "Many older individuals, particularly those who live alone or who don't get out of their homes as much as they once did, look at their television as a source of comfort," said Dr. Robert Roush, an associate professor at the Huffington Center on Aging at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. To avoid becoming a TV junkie, Roush recommends getting involved in other activities. For example, read a book, listen to music, or take a class in something that you've always wanted to learn such as flower arranging, playing an instrument, computers, art or yoga.

Eye Drops May Offer Relief For Women With Dry Eye

While menopause causes mood swings in most women, others can't shed a tear. "Women who have severe cases of dry eye feel as if they have grains of sand in their eyes," said Dr. Steven Flugfelder, a professor of ophthalmology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Hormonal changes associated with this stage of life can cause some women as they age to develop dry eye, a condition in which the eyes become dry and itchy, and in some cases, cease to produce tears. Baylor is using cyclosporin eye drops to treat dry to treat dry eye as part of a six month, multicenter, phase III clinical trial, open to most post-menopausal women over age 65. Currently over the counter lubricants are available to help relieve dry eye irritation, however they do not help people with severe dry eye.

*Bridal Shower honoring
Miss Candace Bowers Bride Elect of
Steven Bunch
Saturday, April 13, 2002 10-11:30 a.m.
in the home of Mrs. Charlotte Palmer
Stalene Hwy. Plains, Texas
Selection: Lubbock: Target, Dillards, Einens X Things
Brownfield: Nelson's Plains: Bayer's*

First United Methodist Church 1202 Avenue G - Plains



Schedule of Holy Week Services

Maunder Thursday
Holy Communion - 6:30 PM

Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service - 6:30 AM
(on the hill in Stanford Park)

Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Morning Worship - 10:45 AM

D. Q. Semi-Finalist 'Sparkler' Team



The local Dairy Queen work team includes, front row, Jonathan De La Rosa, Jesus Garcia, Julie Gonzales, and back, Pradexis Nieto, Becky Luna, Mrg. Rosie Gallardo, Ester Martinez and Mario Bonilla.

They competed against 15 other Dairy Queen stores in a 'Sparkler 2002' contest. The contest was based of four daily objectives—a sparkling clean restaurant—a good, clean appearance and pleasant, courteous employees—fast, accurate

service—fresh, high quality products.

Secret judges made unannounced, periodic inspections of all stores, and graded on the four objectives. The local store placed second in the contest with Semi-Finalist recognition. The employees received recognition awards, assistant managers received plaques, and Manager Rosie Gallardo received a plaque, cash award, and a new television for her supervisory efforts.

Art Show Scheduled

The Denver City Art Association will hold its annual Art Show and Sale, April 2nd through April 6. The show will be in the Yoakum County Connection Building, 118 N. Main. Judging will be on Wednesday, April 3, with the Judge's critique from 5:30 to 6:00 pm.

The Show is open to the public from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. An awards presentation and reception will be held at 4:00 p.m. Saturday.

*We learn from experience.
No one ever wakes her second baby just to see it smile
Grace Williams*

Poetry contest slated for all age groups

Yoakum County Connection and Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up Committee will sponsor a Poetry Contest for both school students and adults. The contest will be directed by the Yoakum County Wordsmiths.

Eight overall winners will each receive \$50 Savings Bonds. Winning works will be published in the Watermelon Round Up Tabloid, and will be read at the Round Up on August 31.

Poetry categories will include both Rhymed, Metered poetry, and Free Verse. Both categories are open to Plains and Denver City school students, grades 1 thru 4, grades 5 thru 8, and grades 9 thru 12, with adults eligible for both categories. The theme of each poem submitted should be watermelons,

with the word 'watermelon' used at least once. Each poem will be limited to 24 lines. The writer name address and phone number should be on a separate cover sheet.

Deadline for receiving all entries is May 15. Poems may be mailed to PO Box 38, Plains TX 79355, or delivered to Christy Brink at Marjorie's Coiffures, 604 11th St, Plains, or to Connie Webb, Yoakum County Sheriff Office, 1010 N. Main, Denver City.

Yoakum County Wordsmiths meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7 PM in the Yoakum County Connection Building in Denver City.

Help promote watermelons - submit your poem, you may win fifty bucks!



State Representative Warren Chisum from Pampa, chair of the House Environmental Regulation Committee, takes a drive in a Ford Think Neighbor, an all-electric, zero-emissions vehicle, at the capitol launch of a new statewide clean air campaign called "Drive Clean Across Texas."

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Wednesday
 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Supper
 6:00 pm. Zombies
 7:00 pm. - RA's, GA's, Mission Friends, Sanctuary Choir Practice

From The Hack

It's no secret here - our farmers are having a tough time - maybe the following farmer jokes stolen from the Leveland-Hockley County News Press will bring a grin to some of them;

A farmer walked into a federal office building and asked, "Is this the headquarters for the war against poverty?"

"Yea, it is," replied the secretary. "Good," the farmers replied "I want to surrender."

A little girl visited her uncle's farm last summer and after begging for hours, was finally taken to see the cows being milked.

At supper that evening when her mother noticed the glass of milk at her daughter's place was left untouched, she said, "Baby, why didn't you drink your milk?"

In a low voice, her daughter whispered, "Mother, if you knew where it came from, you wouldn't drink it either."

Two farm wives were talking about the problems their husbands were having on the farm. After one wife said her husband couldn't sleep at night, the other wife said, "Despite the cotton market, my Johnny sleeps like a baby."

"Really?" The first wife asked, a bit surprised.

"Yes," the second wife answered. "He sleeps for two hours, wakes up and cries for 30 minutes, sleeps two hours, cries for 30 minutes..."

A big city couple had just

moved to a small rural community and they asked a neighboring farmer for some advice.

What, they inquired, would be good to plant in a spot that gets very little rain, has too much late afternoon sun, has clay soil and is on a rocky ledge?

"Well," replied the farmer thoughtfully. "How about a nice flagpole."

A farmer arrived at the Pearly Gates where St. Peter asked if he had done anything of particular merit during his life.

"Well, I can think of one thing."

St. Peter asked him to continue.

"Well, I once came upon a gang of bikers who were threatening a young woman."

"I directed them to leave her alone, but they wouldn't listen. So, I approached the largest and most heavily tattooed one. I smacked him on the head, kicked his bike over and ripped the ring out of his nose. I told him, 'Leave her alone or you'll have to answer to me.'"

St. Peter was impressed. "When did this happen?" "Just a few minutes ago."

Easter Sunday reminded me of a memorable egg hunt I took part in as a second grader. The day of the hunt grandmother dutifully gave me a sack to bring my eggs home in, with the words "Get as many as you can... we can have lots of egg salad!" (She gave me this order for we were still in the last stages of the Great Depression, and eggs cost real money!)

When the hunt started, what seemed like thousands of screaming kids raced around the grounds looking for eggs dropped from a rabbit (yes, I still believed that). Apparently other moms and grandmoms had given the same orders to their kids, because it got serious. I saw at least a dozen fights, even a couple between girls who seemed starved for eggs. I think some of the teachers were even hunting eggs. I had about seven in my sack, and sat it down to climb a tree for another and

saw a much bigger kid race by, grab the sack and race away. I got home with the one egg from the tree, and tearfully told my story, and granmaw was all sympathy.

"Gimme the egg... we'll save it, cause I didn't know rabbits laid them in trees."

* Notice For Bids*

The State of Texas County of Yoakum

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10:00 A.M., Friday, April 19, 2002, for the sale of Used Equipment in the Courthouse Basement.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, April 22, 2002.

To inspect the equipment or for further information, please contact Dallas Brewer, Yoakum County Judge, or Danny Steffens, Maintenance Supervisor, Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, Texas, or call 806/456-7491.

Sealed bids should be marked "USED EQUIPMENT" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge, Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/ Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains, Texas 79355. **NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

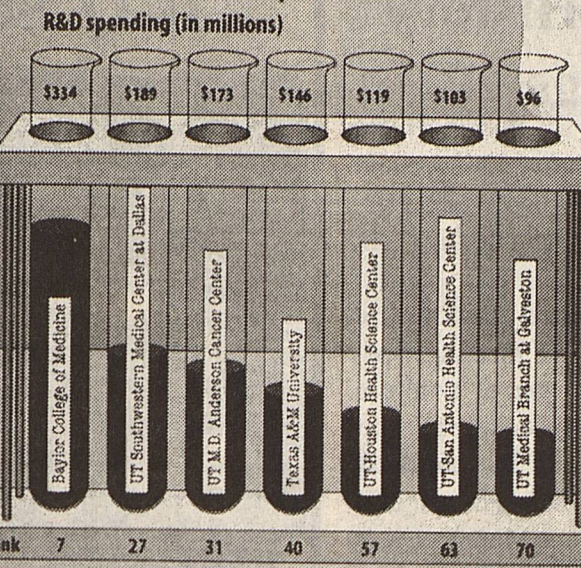
Searching for Cures

When it comes to looking for cures, Texas is near the top in medical research. Each year, the National Science Foundation ranks institutions of higher learning by how much they spend on research and development. The Baylor College of Medicine leads a list of Texas institutions that were ranked in the top 100 in 2000.

The Baylor College of Medicine spent more than \$334 million on research and development in 2000, led the nation in biological sciences spending and was 14th in the medical sciences. In total medical spending, Baylor leads notable medical schools such as Harvard, Duke, Yale and Stanford.



Texas schools in the top 100 in 2000



SOURCE: National Science Foundation. GRAPHIC: Gilbert Comings

Legal Notice

Plains Independent School District will accept competitive sealed proposals for the purchase and installation of two 25 ton capacity curbed rooftop heating/cooling package (HVAC) units for the school auditorium and one 10 ton capacity HVAC split system for the band hall. Proposals will be accepted until 3:00 p.m., April 17, 2002, in the Administration Office. Proposals will be opened and read at that time. Information can be obtained by contacting James Haynes, Superintendent, Plains I.S.D., Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355 or calling 806-456-7401.

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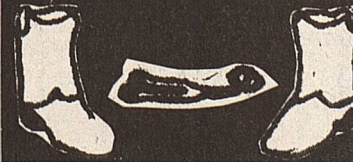
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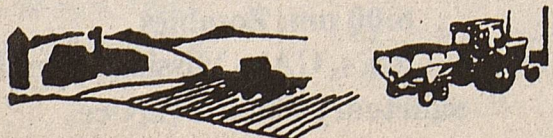
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Yoakum County Connection needs a Summer Youth Arts Program Director, to be paid \$2500 for planning/supervising workshops in Plains & Denver City. The workshops have been provided in the month of June in the past. The person chosen would need to apply for Texas Commission on the Arts grant funding and able to work with people, particularly youth. Please send resume to PO Box 117, Plains TX 79355 by March 22. For info or questions, call LeAnn Romines, Denver City, or Linda Powell, Plains

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