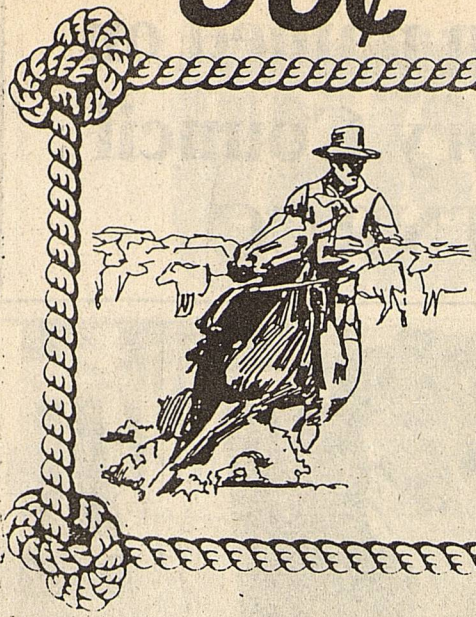


50¢

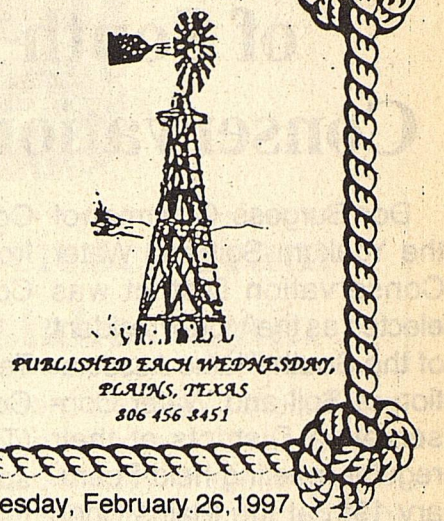
BULK RATE
US POSTAGE PD.
PLAINS, TX
PERMIT #21

BAZE, BOOKBINDING
514 W 7TH AVE
AMARILLO, TX 79101 0514

Cowboy Country News
P. O. Box 179
Plains, Texas 79355
Post Office Correction Requested



Cowboy Country News



Volume III, Issue 26, Wednesday, February 26, 1997

Chamber names Lattrell McDonnell 'Citizen of the Year'



Front; Kade Ellison. Middle row; Rachel Ellison, Lattrell McDonnell, Suzanne Smith. Back; Michael Ellison, Bobbie McDonnell holding Ky Ellison, Kay Ellison, Olan Smith

A good crowd of Plain's youth of the community, her boosters attended the Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet February 20, and heard Chamber President David Brunson present Librarian Lattrell McDonnell with a plaque recognizing her as "Plains Citizen of the Year". The well kept secret was highlighted by a large number of her family, who remained hidden from her until the announcement was made. Brunson recognized Ms. McDonnell's commitment and dedication to the

involvement in encouraging reading skills, and her zeal in maintaining a quality library offering many programs and opportunities for all citizens. The Banquet featured a new format this year. Instead of a guest speaker, The Whiteface High School Choir presented a musical program which stirred the crowd with a medley of patriotic songs. The twenty five talented girls

Turn to Page 4,
"Chamber Banquet"

District Court cases heard

Two cases were heard in the 121st Judicial District Court, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding. Criminal District Richard Clark represented the State.

Davy McDaniel, 41, pled true to the state's motion to revoke Community Supervision ordered for a prior involuntary manslaughter conviction. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison with credit for 331 days already served in jail. He was also fined \$2500 and must pay \$67.50 Court costs. He was represented by Attorney Jerry Corbin.

Juan Guzman, aka Johnny Guzman, 61, pled guilty to a third or more DWI charge. He received a three year prison sentence, probated for three years. He was fined \$1000, and must pay \$251 Court costs. He will serve 60 days in jail with credit for two days served. His drivers license will be suspended 180 days, and he must attend AA meetings every week. He must also install an interlock ignition device on any motor vehicle driven by the defendant within 30 days of release from jail. He was represented by Attorney Byron Chappell.

'Vine Of The Times'

Grapes are the purple passion of two Yoakum County families



Hoss, LaVerne, Nolan, Janice, Neal and Nichole Newsom

Earlier this year, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram honored the Hoss and LaVerne Newsom and Neal and Janice Newsom families for their vineyard expertise. Both families received plaques from the newspaper at its annual Farm and Ranch Awards ceremonies in Fort Worth. The plaques read, **Fort Worth Star-Telegram 1997 farm and ranch awards Recognized among Texas' best in WINE GRAPES 'Hoss' and LaVerne Newsom Neal and Janice Newsom Families and Staff NEWSOMS' VINEYARDS Yoakum County**

The Telegram also sent Staff Writer Worth Wren Jr. and Photographer Ralph Lauer to the Newsom vineyards to interview the families and capture their operation on film. The following article and the photo here appeared in the Jan. 26 issue of the Star-Telegram:

"A 1915 promotional pamphlet crowed about Yoakum County's grassy plains as a near paradise for farmers, saying vegetables and melons are profiting many growers. Today, some veggies and melons are profiting many growers, but what's a paradise without grapes?"

"Growing grapes in this area 65 miles west of Lubbock remains the province of the pioneering Newsom family. 'Hoss and his wife LaVerne, and son and daughter in law Janice planted their first vines in 1984.

"Today, they remain Yoakum County's only commercial grape growers, part of a still infant Texas grape and wine industry. Regardless, experts say, the quality of the Newsom's cabernet

sauvignon grapes rival that of French and Californian growers. And profits have started to bubble to the surface. "The Newsom's are among the best grape growers in the country, if not the world", says George Ray McEachern, a horticulturist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

"Of the family's 25 manicured vineyard acres, more than 18 have reached production stages. Small portions feature muscat white, merlot red and other varieties.

"We were hearing all these

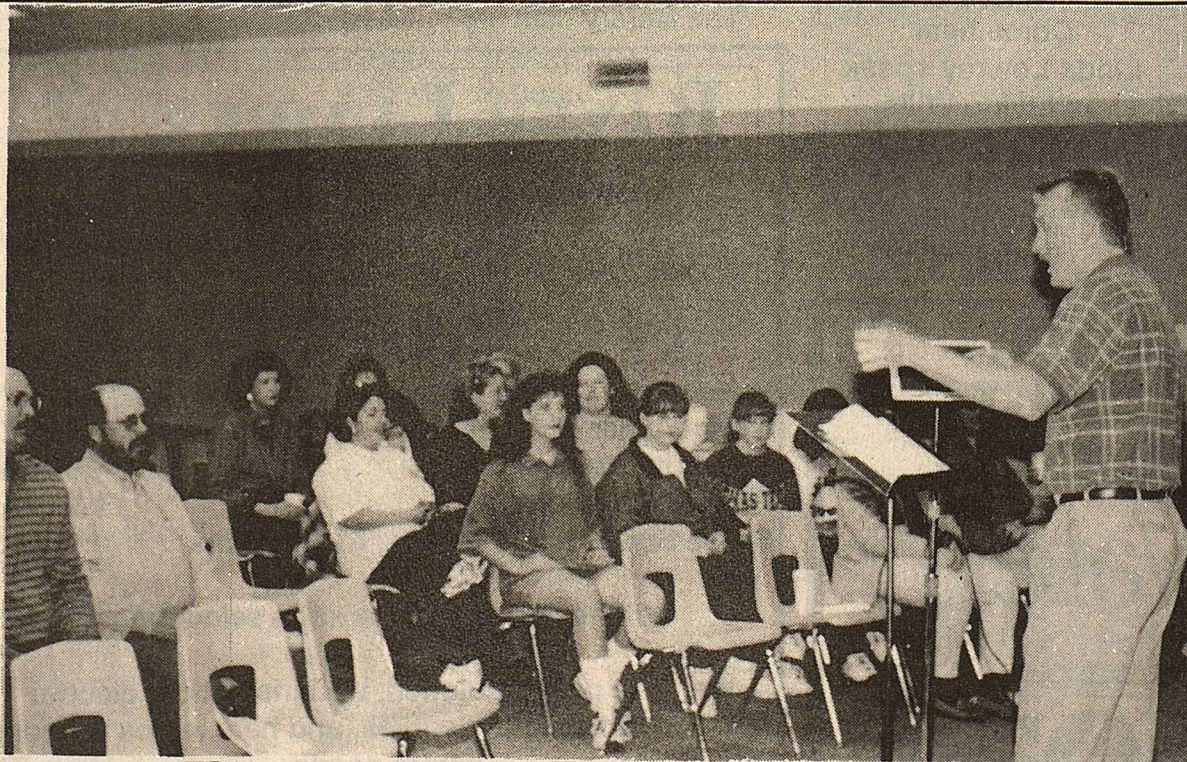
stories about how much grapes were worth after they actually got into production, and it sounded too good to be true, says Neal, 42. "So we were trying to figure out what's the catch. I guess it's the hard work".

Hoss, 68, reports good to excellent profits from their vineyards since the first major harvest in 1989. "he's going to work me to my grave", says a laughing LaVerne.

"Hoss and LaVerne operated a cotton gin for 20 years

Turn to Page 2,
"Vine of the Times"

" Let All Heaven Rejoice "



Vocalists hard at work rehearsing Easter musical pageant

The community choir is in the final countdown of hard work in preparation for the second Easter musical pageant to be presented in the school auditorium at 7 p.m. March 5. "Let All Heaven Rejoice", the celebration of the risen Christ following his crucifixion, should be even more spectacular than the first presentation two years ago. Patrick Hamilton, the production director, said some six dozen or more vocalists will take part in the presentation, about ten more than in the original musical. Another ten volunteers are laboring behind the scenes on props, decorations, lighting and sound. "Let All Heaven Rejoice" promises to be as spectacular and stirring as the original version, a program to be enjoyed by all ages in the community.

PISD Board of Trustees extend administrator employment contracts

Election set for three Board places

In a regular meeting on Monday, February 17, the PISD Board of Trustees unanimously approved extending the employment contracts of Eric Banfield, Don Weems, Steven O'Quinn, Ronnie Watkins and Arlon Alexander. Banfield's contract was extended one year, Weems' probationary contract was extended to a two year term, and O'Quinn, Watkins and Alexander received one year extensions beyond their current contract periods.

A school board election was approved for May 3, 1997. Three Trustees terms of office are expiring; Anna Gonzalez, Dist. 1, Tim Addison, Dist. 5, and At-Large 6, Brad Palmer. It was reported all Board

members had completed three hours of orientation on the Texas Education Code. First year member Wayne Sisson received local orientation in his first 60 days of service. All Board members have exceeded the five hours of needs-based training, and Sisson exceeded the ten hours of required training. It was voted that the school's matching annuity funds, after three years, may be moved out of a fixed account into an investment alternative account that may offer higher rates of return, but with possible risk.

Eric Banfield gave a financial report, and Weems, Watkins, O'Quinn and Alexander delivered administrative reports.

Don Burgess new V.P. of South Plains Conservation Districts

Don Burgess, Chairman of Conservation Board and the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District was elected as the Vice-President of the South Plains Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts at their regular meeting held February 19th at the Plains Coop Oil Mill in Lubbock, Texas. Vic Bozeman of Idalou, Texas was elected as President. Mr. Bozeman is a member of the Lubbock Soil and Water Conservation District.

24 Districts (each having a 5 member board) from the South Plains make up the South Plain Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This Association meets twice a year and each director brings back to their District information from the Texas State Soil and Water

From Page 1, "Vine of the Times"

before selling it in 1977. Neal then ran the gin, and later an aerial spraying service. The trio began farming cotton, grain and melons, and raising cattle in 1978. "When we started farming, I had a tractor and he had a tractor", LaVerne says.

When Janice married Neal, she became a farmhand too. She still runs machinery and drives trucks to help with harvests. "The fun part for me is when the grapes are at their peak, making grape jelly, says Janice, 38. Neal and Janice farm cotton, grain,

Wayne Wyatt, High Plains Underground Water District Manager stated that plans to continue with the program and include Yoakum County and will be forthcoming. "We will have to seed clouds over New Mexico in order for the rain to be effective in Yoakum County," Wayne said. Coordination with New Mexico is currently underway.

"Hoss says a three year startup runs, conservatively, about \$6000 per acre for preparation and materials,

planting, building wire trellises, and installing irrigation. It excludes expensive land and water wells.

"It's going to take five years for that return on investment to start coming back, but you can get that back nearly every year once it starts rolling", says Neal. The returns have been impressive so far.

Since 1989, Neal and Janice's 10 mature acres of grapes have contributed an average 20 percent of gross revenues from a 1700 acre farming operation, and typically 30 percent or more of the profit

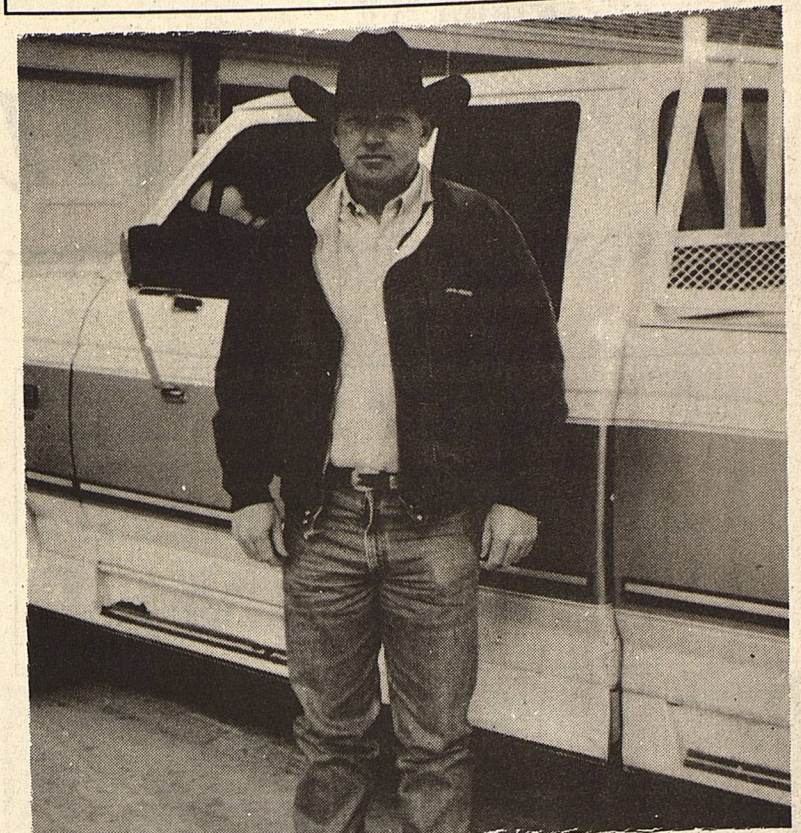
"For 10 years their harvests have averaged more than 2.5 tons an acre, compared to a 1.7 to statewide cabernet average. Neal and Janice figure the grapes will more than finance college for their daughter, Nichole, 14, and son Nolan, 11.

"The Newsoms sell their grapes to Cap*Rock Winery of Lubbock. Cap*Rock uses juices exclusively from the Newsoms grapes to produce its limited 'Reserve' cabernet sauvignon. The dark, dry ruby-garnet red wine often beats its French and American counterparts in tastings. The Newsom's juice routinely comprises 40 to 60 percent of Cap*Rock's blended cabernet. *Wine and Spirits Magazine* ranks Cap*Rock's 1991-93 vintage among the best USA cabernet buys.

"Their 1996 yields hit record highs, averaging 4.3 tons an acre from Hoss and LaVerne's eight acres. "Grapes love our hot days and cool nights", Hoss said. To reap such fine results, they planted their vines four feet apart instead of the conventional eight. They borrowed from their cotton experience; When planted in denser rows, cotton plants deliver fewer but higher quality fiber bolls per plant. "We figured the same thing would work for grapes", Hoss said. It worked better. With twice the plants, the closer spacing adds protection against the area's biggest threat, freeze damage"

Quite a success story, for a first time ever venture.

Jackson named on Advisory Council to TNRCC



Jim Jackson

Local Ag producer Jim Jackson was recently named to the Texas Water Well Drillers Advisory Council, which works closely with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) on ground water irrigation issues. The appointment was made by TNRCC Commissioner Barry Mc Bee.

Several factors in Jackson's background led to the appointment. He has extensive experience farming in both Central Texas and here in the Southern High Plains areas. In Central Texas, irrigation water is usually shallow and usually light, while in this

area it is normally deeper and more abundant.

He currently farms some 3000 acres in the production of cotton, peanuts, small grains, watermelons and various vegetables.

He and his wife Jo live just south of town in a recently constructed new home. They have two children, Keith, 14, and Kimberly, both PISD students.

On February 6, Jackson attended a Water Well Driller Advisory Council meeting in Waco with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

patrons and residents to help promote the need for computers in all libraries, with access to the Internet. A world of information is available to library patrons, if this technology was available.

Children attending Filmtime included; Kevin John Gass, Rhaela Stall, Kelsey Curry, Autumn Friesen, Lexus Jimenez, Lariah Johnson, Hunter Welch, Katelynn Young, Jasmine Whitzel, Carolina Hernandez, Merrit Crump, Troy Parrish, Raegan Young, Isaac Doyle, Rhaemi Stall, Sean Curry, Cody Friesen, Kristie Lopez, Dakota Earnest, Haley Welch, Michael White, Brennan Whitzel, Shelby Covarrubias, Hannan Crump, Marina Martinez, and Charity Hainer.

Library News

The library has acquired a new punch and bind machine, used for punching and binding books or manuscripts, with different sizes of rings. Cost of using the device is determined by the number of pages punched and bound.

I.R.S. tax forms for tax year 1996 are now available at the library.

Mother and Grandmothers—we have a number of new 'Mother Goose' books available for your young ones including illustrated Mother Goose stories, rhymes and poems.

The literary staff urges all

Chamber Banquet Scenes



Part of EMS crew with plaques for dedicated service



Whiteface Choir with red, white & blue gloves

Conservation Reserve Program Meeting

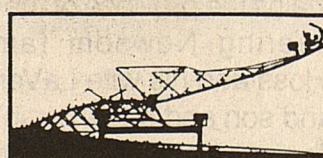
Sponsored by
FARM SERVICE AGENCY
Guest Speaker
CINDY POOLE
Yoakum County District Conservationist
Thursday, Feb. 27, 7:00 p.m.
PLAINS COMMUNITY CENTER
456-2132 or 456-3703

The school swimming pool is now open on Monday evenings, 6:30 to 8:30 to the general public, and Tuesday evenings are for ladies only, 6 to 7 p.m.

Do you have your house in order?

Come hear
Linda Lowrey speak on Living Wills
March 3, 5:30 p.m.
Plains Community Building

I CAN HELP YOU MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR Water



HELPING YOU MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR RESOURCES

JACK SPEARS
Drilling Company

Water Well Drilling & Pump Service
456-4925 - 456-3845

Jim Warren
Sales Manager - 456-7444

BAYER LUMBER & HARDWARE

WINTER SPECIALS

Select Split Cowhide Gloves	\$3.95 pr.
Cotton Liner Gloves	.99 pr.
Miniature Knives	.99 ea.
Folding Scissors	1.99 ea.
Swiss Style Pocket Knives, Asst. Colors	1.25 ea.

✓ Check out our new knife selections.

We have pipe insulation, wall insulation, electric heaters, pipe heating cables, and heat lamps for your winter needs.

Be sure to plug in your heat tapes before you need them.

BAYER LUMBER & HARDWARE
1018 AVE. E
PLAINS, TX 79355
(806) 456-4800

State Line

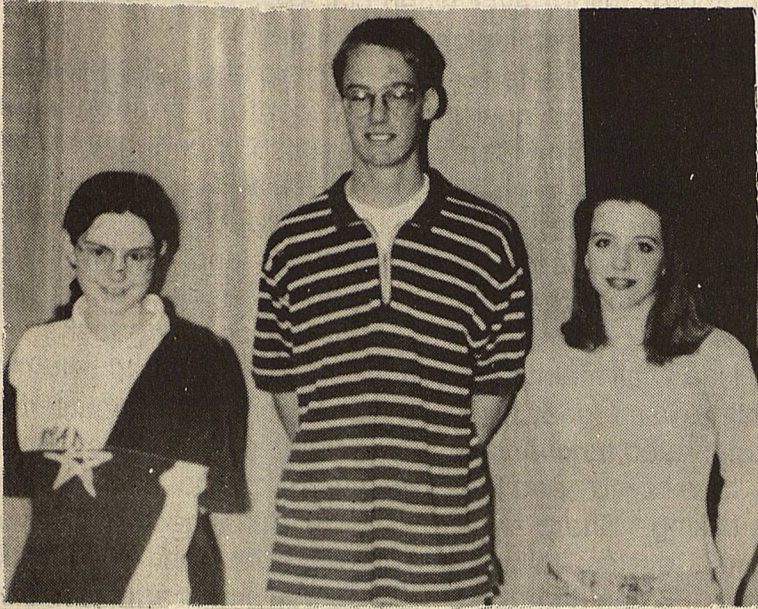
Insurance

Multi-Peril Crop ** Crop Hail
Danny Bell

Office-456-3521 Home-456-6325
Mobile-456-7517

'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

Some 'Quiz Bowl' questions real stumpers



Tommie McNabb, Clint Burrus, Maranda Box, winning Sophs

The third annual PHS Quiz Bowl saw the Sophomore team of Maranda Box, Clint Burrus and Tommie McNabb give the faculty team all they could handle in the final session, but the faculty team of Eddie Carter, David Williams and Gary Davis hung on for a very narrow margin win. The Sophomores had earlier prevailed over the Junior team of Shawna Box, Heath Bowlin and Derek Brunson in the semi-final matchup.

If you think the questions asked the students and faculty are "no brainers", consider some of these choices, and remember, you have just thirty seconds for your answer. What is the fourth root of 81?

What would be the atomic number of an isotope of Carbon-12?

Who was the seventh U.S. President?

Which planet has the largest moon in relation to the planet's size?

How many protons are in a water molecule?

In what country did the famous mathematician Euclid live?

Well, did you score 100%? No? Here are the answers;

Three
Six
Monroe
Pluto
Ten
Greece

PISD Honor Roll

First Grade-All A's

- Joani Bell
- Douglas Conway
- Lauren Davis
- Amber Friesen
- Cody Mayes
- Zachary Ramos

Second Grade:

- Scott Addison
- Jose Luis Gallegos
- Meghan Garcia
- Kimberly Jackson
- Angelica Mendoza
- Adriana Ponce
- D.J. Robertson
- Kristina Unger

Third Grade:

- Michael Crump
- Ben Hays
- B.J. Lester
- Mark Morgan
- Katie Oswalt
- Sara Wiebe

Fourth Grade:

- Evan Cain
- Cody Flores
- Brandon Hise
- Kerry Sisson

A-B Honor Roll

First Grade:

- Curtis Arteaga
- Rubi Castillo

Second Grade:

- Challie Johnson

Third Grade:

- Casson Curtis

Middle School - All A's

Fifth Grade:

- Trent May
- Grady McNabb
- Moriah Traweck

Seventh Grade:

- Ky May
- Annaliesa O'Quinn
- Becky Wilmeth

Eighth Grade:

- Emily Blair

- Chandra Carpoenter
- Ryan Crump
- Brintle Duran
- Lauren Hise
- Marissa Melendez
- John Tyson

- Landon Craft
- Kimberly Gonzalez
- Margareta Martens
- Araceli Mendoza
- Lupita Quintana
- Stetson Sellers
- Jose Villegas

- Allison Friesen
- Skylar Keesee
- Adam McCravey
- Blake O'Quinn
- Abel Ramos
- Todd Williams

- Marlie Diaz
- Breck Hamm
- Brant Huerta

- Elias Carrillo
- M'Leah McKinzie

- Lisa Neufeld

- Blake Parrish

Sixth Grade:

- Krystal Gonzalez
- Jill Gray

- Lexi Warren

- Ashlei Mason
- Lesli Rowe
- All A's, 1 B-Sixth:
- Chisum Deaton
- Sandra Gallegos
- Seventh:
- Jared Bell
- Eighth:
- Aaron Cain
- Lensey Cullins
- Roxie Fuentes
- High School- All A's:
- Ninth Grade:
- Joshua Bell
- Candace Bowers
- Velvet Canada
- Leticia Canon
- Autumn Deaton
- Audra Ellis
- Jessica Flores
- Kristen Gray
- Wendy Hernandez
- Tenth Grade:
- Maranda Box
- Dustin Brunson
- Clint Burrus
- Cosme Casilla
- Cassie Dearing
- Eleventh Grade:
- Vicki Bayer
- Heath Bowlin
- Shawna Box
- Derek Brunson
- Shawn Cullins
- Laura Flores
- Abraham Garcia
- Twelfth Grade:
- Sonia Avila
- Coley Burgess
- Yancey House
- Jacob Lester

- All A's, 1 B-9th:
- Krystle Blundell
- Fermin Luna
- Patrick McGinty
- 10th:
- La Cresha Johnson
- 11th:
- Conchetta San Fillipo
- 12th:
- Kyley Bearden
- Arthur Hernandez

- Matt Willis
- Ryan Swann
- Liz Wilmeth
- Ashley Gonzalez
- Taylor Gray
- Kimberlee Jones

- Chris Leggett
- Kelton Mason
- Laura Morales
- Anne Palmer
- Patti Ruiz
- Kyle Sisson
- Jason Swann
- Staci Tuggle

- Marcey House
- Tandi Jones
- Tommie McNabb
- Lisa Parrish

- Dolly Gonzales
- Yvonne Gonzales
- Summer Howard
- Kassie Lowe
- Gideon Traweck
- Sandi Warren

- Mary Morales
- Robin Squyres
- Tessa St. Romain

- Jessica Newsom
- Kelli Osborn

- Matt Morgan
- Pat Tirrell

- Roni Ponce
- Lyndi Rowe

PHS Math/Science Team wins Sweepstakes again

For the eighth time this season, the High School Math/Science UIL team brought home the coveted Sweepstakes trophy from the meet in Idalou Saturday, where they competed against eleven other teams. The Number Sense team came in second place, the Calculator team was first, Math team second, Science team second, and Computer Science team was second. Individual results included;

Number Sense- Kristen Gray 1st, Maranda Box 3rd, Clint Burrus 1st, Marcey House 4th, Tommie McNabb 5th, Heath Bowlin 6th, Shawna Box 3rd, Shawn Cullins 2nd, Yancey House 2nd. **Calculator-** Kristen Gray 1st, Maranda Box 3rd, Clint Burrus 2nd, Marcey House 8th, Tommie McNabb 1st, Heath Bowlin 1st, Shawna Box 4th, Shawn Cullins 6th, Yancey House 5th. **Math-** Kristen Gray 1st, Maranda Box 5th, Clint Burrus 1st, Marcey House 6th, Tommie McNabb 3rd, Heath Bowlin 4th, Shawna Box 6th, Shawn Cullins 3rd, Yancey House 6th. **Science-** Kristen Gray 3rd, Maranda Box 3rd, Clint Burrus 1st, Tommie McNabb 9th, Heath Bowlin 3rd, Shawna Box 6th, Shawn Cullins 8th. **Computer Science-** Clint Burrus 6th, Tommie McNabb 2nd, Yancey House 5th.

Tracksters off and running



Jesus Hernandez & Wayne Willett get comfortable with baton pass



Kristen Gray & Missy Asebedo practice relay handoffs

Your Business Is Appreciated

For All Your Pharmacy Needs
1-800-658-9604



Our Toll-Free Number Is For Your Convenience

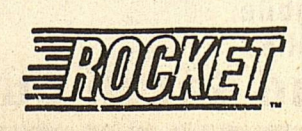
NELSON PERSCRIPTION Pharmacy
805 Tahoka Rd. Brownfield, Texas

Associated Farmers Delinting, Inc.



Now till April 1... Special discount rates on Rocket & Explorer seed. Call us or see your ginner NOW and save a bundle on your '97 seed!
1-800-292-7333

THE COTTON BRED FOR WEST TEXAS
.....BY WEST TEXAS



PHS Student of the Week

Velvet Canada, a Freshman and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Canada, is the student of the week. She was nominated by Mrs. O'Quinn, who said, "She isn't content to just do the work. Each day it is evident she puts thought into her assignments, and doesn't just go through the motions of turn-



Brownfield Hwy. (456-7112) Plains, TX



We have started our final "SELL DOWN"

to reduce inventory before renting our Present space to Lalito's Restaurant - come in NOW for great bargains! We will continue our cell phone and satellite TV business after our final closing.

Constable receives certification



Olivia Robertson, Pct. 2 Constable, is shown receiving her certificate from Sgt. Don Freeman, member of the education committee from the Texas Justice Court Training Center at Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos. Olivia completed the thirty six hour seminar for newly elected Constables in January. The seminar also included twenty hours of Civil Process as provided by rules declared by the Court of Criminal Appeals. There were 136 constables in attendance, and 111 were newly elected.

From Page 1,
"Chamber Banquet"

sang with the enthusiasm and obvious pleasure of a much more mature group, and the stirring patriotic pieces were appropriate for the red, white and blue decorated cafeteria.

The choir was directed by Gail Smith, a teacher in the Whiteface ISD. She and her two daughters, Ashley and Monica, played an impressive medley of patriotic numbers on their three flutes.

The Plains Emergency Medical Service volunteers were recognized during the event. President Brunson told the audience the local EMS group were recently honored by the South Plains EMS Association as the outstanding service group of the year in the association. EMS personnel present for the recognition included Manuel Estrada, Freda and Joe Humphrey, Pam Redman, Anna Luna and Charles Diamond.

Thirty one door prizes were handed out during the evening. Donors of the prizes included Anne's Mini-Mart, Bayer Lumber, Cowboy Country News, The Lavender Patch, Doug's Specialties, Vaugh & Carolyn Culwell, Gary & Frankie Walker, Richardson Insurance, Yoakum

County Farm Bureau, Seller's Ag Supply, Lalito's Restaurant, and Lowes Pan 'n Save Grocery, and New Tex Gin.

Errol Hainer, Pastor of the Assembly of God Church, performed both the invocation and benediction. The tables were decorated by Judy Deaton and her PHS Homemaking students, and programs for the banquet were prepared by Kathy Jones of Sandy Land Underground Water District.

Final Rites Held For Juanelle Green

Juanelle Marie Clanahan Green was born November 21, 1937, in Yoakum County, tp Opal and Noel Clanahan. She was a graduate of Plains High School and Jessie Lee's Hair Design Institute. She married Bennie Joe Green June 19, 1955. They resided in Lubbock Texas from 1956 until 1971 when they moved to Midland. She went to meet her savior February 23, 1997 at Midland Memorial Hospital.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, February 26, 1997 at the First Baptist Church in Plains. Reverend Jim Mosley officiated, assisted by Reverend Bill Wright.

Burial was held in the Terry County Memorial Cemetery, in Brownfield, Texas.

She was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Midland. She was preceded in death by her father and mother, and a brother, A.C. Clanahan. She is survived by her husband; A daughter, Sherrie Ireland of Lubbock; Two sons, Tommy Green of Benica, California, and Kenneth Green of Midland; One sister, Joyce Bearden of Tokio, Texas; One brother, N.C. Clanahan of Plains, and five granddaughters, Kristin, Courtney, Caitlin, Kayln and Shelby.

Arrangements were under direction of the Brownfield Funeral Home

Court studies request for new brush fire fighter truck

The County Commissioner's Court heard a request Monday from Plains Volunteer Fire Chief Charles Diamond for the court to consider the purchase of a special 'Brush Fire Fighting' truck. Diamond said the unit is needed to combat grass roadway, pasture and CRP grassland fires in the area, which have been more prevalent during the recent drought periods. He distributed advertising materials showing several models of the trucks, ranging in price from \$59 to \$76 thousand dollars. The Court told Mr. Diamond the proposed purchase would be considered in the Court's Budget Planning session later this year.

Sheriff Jim Rice requested the Court to approve the purchase of a new automobile for his department's use, equipped with a standard police package. The bid advertisement, including trade-in of a 1994 Chevrolet Caprice unit, will be accepted until March 14, and action will be taken on the bid March 17.

Treasurer Toni Jones monthly report for January showing a current balance of \$7,497,682 was approved.

Commissioner MacWhirter reported a soil conservation request from Ross Harrell for a fire lane, which was approved by the Court.

Feb. 26, 1888- Goddess of Liberty placed atop the Capitol dome.

A computer 'Time Bomb' is ticking away

(AUSTIN)--Saying that Texans could face the largest computer failure ever when the clock strikes midnight on January 1, 2000--fewer than three years from now--State Comptroller John Sharp today called on businesses and governments to work together to ensure a smooth transition into the next century.

"Nearly all mainframe computers used today for routine automated functions contain a 'time bomb'--and the clock is ticking," Sharp said. "Potential system failure, if not averted, could cause chaos for private businesses and public agencies all across Texas."

Sharp said the two-digit code used in computer technology to denote the year in a date poses problems for automated databases and information storage systems. When computers are asked to recognize January 1, 2000--in code, 01/01/00--many may conclude that the 00 means 1900, while others may default to 1970 or 1980.

"In the worst case, computers could crash, destroying valuable information records," Sharp said. "Public officials and business leaders should step up their efforts to make sure their operations remain on-line after the turn of the century."

This much-publicized Year 2000 problem--commonly called Y2K--was first discovered in the 1970s, when computer systems set up to calculate 30-year home mortgages malfunctioned.

"The computers failed to registers the year 2000 properly," Sharp said. "As the new millennium crept closer, more systems that process data into the future began to report similar problems."

Sharp said it remains unclear what will happen to computer systems throughout Texas on the first day of the next century, but he applauded the Department of Information Resources (DIR) for leading state government's efforts to address the problem.

DIR has identified 35 state computer systems as "fatal," meaning that their operations will cease on January 1, 2000, and another 378 computer systems as "critical," meaning they will produce incorrect results beginning on that day.

"These computers deliver a wide range of services, from emergency communications to benefit payments,"

Sharp said. "If agencies don't begin to address this challenge right away, it will soon be too late."

Sharp said the Texas Higher Education Coordination Board's computer system maintains a student loan database and oversees payments to community colleges throughout the state. A failure of this systems could prevent students from attending classes and disrupt vital financial assistance for community colleges.

Sharp also said the end-of-the-century challenge presents an opportunity for businesses and public agencies to re-evaluate their computer systems and identify the upgrades needed for handling future processing tasks.

"As we come to rely more and more on computer technology, every agency, university, local government, and private business will have to weigh the cost of upgrading old equipment against the cost of buying new systems," Sharp said.

Trustee Election

Plains Independent School District will hold a school trustee election on May 3, 1997. The deadline for applying for a place on the ballot is March 19th. Any eligible citizen who wishes to run for the school board should come by the business/superintendent's office and apply for a place on the ballot in District #1, District #5, or At-Large #6. Each of the current trustees (Anna Gonzalez--District #1, Tim Addison--District #5, and Brad Palmer--At-Large #6), have applied for a place on the ballot.

Anderson Grain goes on auction block



A large crowd of local and out of town prospective buyers attended last Friday's forced auction sale of the Anderson Grain facility here. The sale was ordered by the

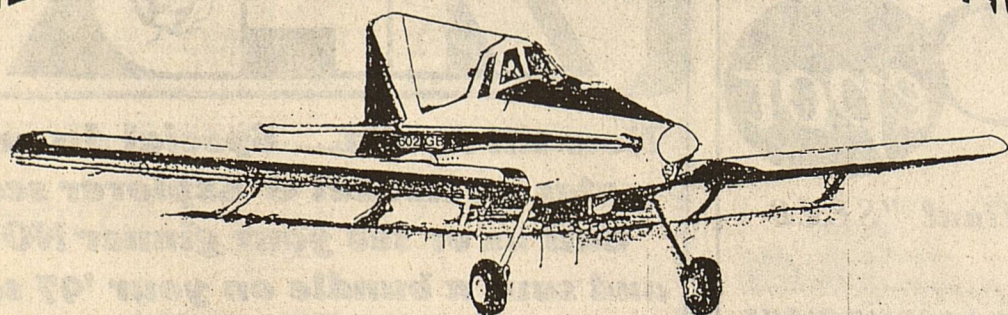
Lubbock District Bankruptcy Court.

The sale included land and all the grain storage equipment, fertilizer equipment, tractors, loaders, pickups and

trucks, and generated several hundred thousand dollars for the financially stressed company and it's creditors. Details of the event are very sketchy and cannot be confirmed at press time, but Terra, Inc., a large agricultural fertilizer company, apparently submitted the top bid for the grain facility and the land. Almost twenty other Anderson properties were also auctioned off last week.

"The cost of gasoline for the postal service rises more than \$1 million when the price rises a cent."

G.B. AERIAL APPLICATION, INC.
Professional Aerial Applications



806-456-6300 Office
806-456-6790 Fax
806-456-7536 David Mobile
806-456-7974 Sarah Mobile
806-790-3420 Dain Mobile

**Dry Application
Liquid Application**

David and Sarah Guetersloh

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service is now accepting applications for a part-time Secretary (20 hours/week). This position includes a full benefit package.

Interested persons may pick up an application during regular business hours at:
**Terry County Extension Office
209 South 5th Street
Brownfield, TX**

Deadline or submitting application:
5:00 p.m., Friday, February 28, 1997

Texas Agricultural Extension Service is an equal opportunity employer.

CHICKASAW TRADING CO.



TEXAS

LEAN
Beef Jerky
...and Turkey

TEXAS LEAN
SMOKED

TURKEY BREST STRIPS

NUTRITION FACTS

Serving Size 1 oz. (28g)			
Calories - 70 • Fat Calories - 5			
Percent Daily Values (DV) are based on 2,000 calorie diet.			
Amount/Serving	%DV	Amount/Serving	%DV
Total Fat 1g	1%	Total Carb 1g	1%
Sat. Fat 0g	0%	Dietary Fiber 0g	0%
Cholesterol 70mg	23%	Sugar 1g	2%
Sodium 580g	24%	Protein 13g	

CHICKASAW TRADING CO.



Denver City, Texas,
592-3515, or
1-800-848-3515

Femme Friends

Brand New Baby Boy!



New arrival Connor David held by grandfather David, with father Chad

Chad and Buffie Guetersloh are the proud parents of Connor David Guetersloh, born February 6, 1997. He weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and measured 21 1/4 inches long. Equally proud paternal grandparents are David and Sara Guetersloh of Plains.

Letter from a PISD Ex

"Gentlemen, I attended school at Plains during the 1952-1953 school year. I was in the 8th grade at the time (scheduled for graduating class of 1957).

This experience had a meaning for me far out of proportion to the time I spent there.

My parents were divorced in the summer of 1952, and we left Whitharrall. My mother sent me and my two little brothers to (Plains) live with my aunt, Blanche Malmstern. She operated the Modern Beauty Salon there.

I think my aunt must have told everyone in town about my brothers and me. The kids there befriended us, and made us feel at home; even in August, before school started, we felt right at home.

Those were the nicest kids I ever knew. Some older, some younger than us.

I would like to know when Plains is having a school reunion. I would like to see some of those people again. Sincerely,

Jerry Bessire

* Editor's note - The address on Jerry's letter addressed to the school is; 509 Stamford, Lubbock, Tx. 70403

Some of you ex-classmates need to contact him.

Senior Citizen Corner

The good snow was so Welcom, now (Thurs.) it is raining. We need the moisture but not the leaks. Its been bad for the roofers, but hopefully the leaks are stopped.

We have had visitors this week. Velda Dorthays visitors were her son, Marcel and her Brother-in-law, John Dorthey from Illinois. Howard Webbs sister, Ruth Gray from Dallas. Zelma Boone has a friend from Crosbyton, formally from Spur, Flora Smith visiting her and coming to the Center. We are happy to have new faces.

Wed. was a big day for the pool tournament.

Doc Clements is in Methodist Hospital. Jay Noble is home from St. Marys, and doing fine. We hope for both a speedy recovery.

Next weeks activities:

Mon. Line Dancing at 9:30 a.m., Board Meeting 12:30 p.m., Pool/Games 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Line Dancing at 9:30 a.m. Tatum Pool Tournament at 1:00 p.m.

Thurs. Auction of home made items at 12:00 p.m.

Fri. Line Dancing 9:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited to attend the Auction. We have a real Actioneer and it will be fun. It will start as soon as the noon meal is over. Come eat lunch and enjoy the auction.

See you there!

Smitty

I would like to Thank everyone who supported me for Stock Show Queen.

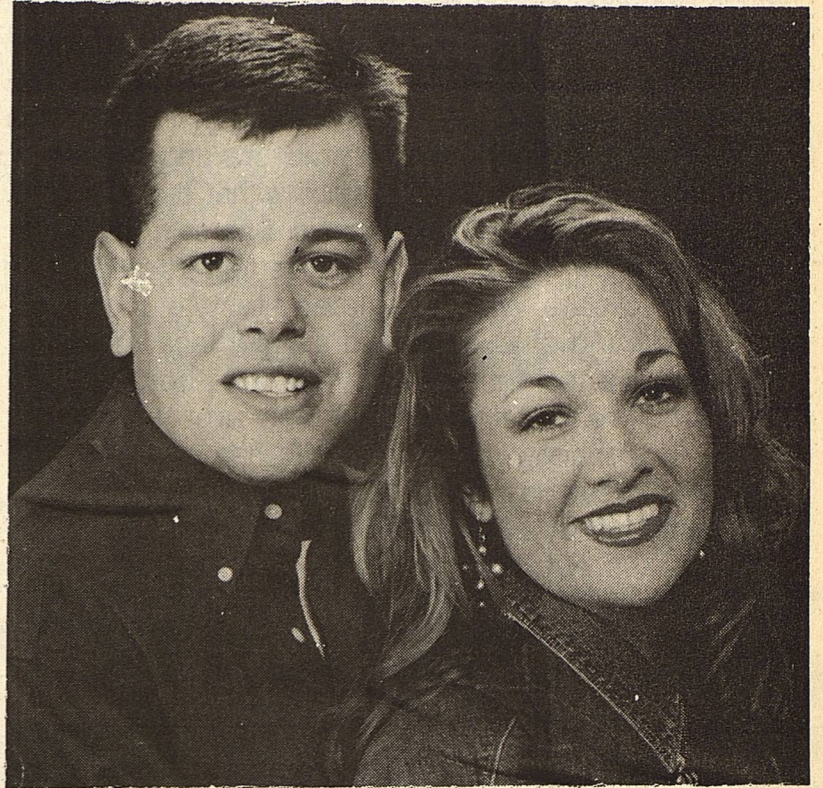
Congratulations to **KRYSTAL SELLERS** on winning the title of 1997-98 Queen.

Love,

Jennifer Lollar

Thought For The Week
Oh that you had paid attention to my commandments! Then your prosperity would have been like a river, and your success like the waves of the sea.

Wedding Plans Announced



Mr. & Mrs. Boyce Redwine, Dumas, announce the engagement of their daughter Staci Denise, to Steven Earl Lowrey. Steven is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Roy Lowrey of Plains.

The couple plan to be wed April 5 in Las Vegas, in the Tropicana Hotel's Island Wedding Chapel.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Dumas High School, and plans to graduate in August from West Texas A&M with a degree in elementary education. The prospective groom is a 1990 PHS graduate, and attended South Plains College in Levelland. He is a self-employed farmer.

Bridal Shower for Staci Redwine

(bride-elect of Steve Lowrey)

Saturday March 8, 1997

108 Ave. G (home of Linda Wall)

2:30-4:00 p.m.

Gift Selections at

Taylors

Dillards

Interior Motives, Brownfield

Local Merchants

Plains Dirt Gardeners

Meet

The regular monthly meeting of the Plains Dirt Gardeners was held February 19, with eight members present. Following a short business meeting, members discussed the work needed to be done at the Plains Cemetery.

program on dried designs and arrangements. Pruning of roses and other plants was also discussed.

Present for the meeting were Ruby Bilibrey, Kay Cannon, Wilma McDonnell, Debbie Morphis, Burve Overton, Mary Lou Parks, Deanie Richardson and Ita Young.

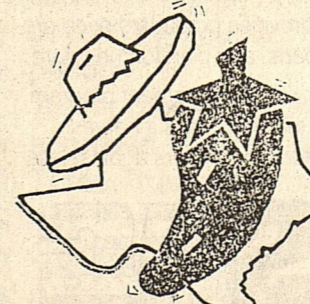
Club meetings are held the month, and visitors are always welcome.

LET ALL HEAVEN REJOICE

From Heaven's Throne, The Angelic Celebration Of Easter!

If you saw the Passion Play performance in 1995, you know you will not want to miss this outstanding performance by the Plains Community Choir. This joyous celebration of Easter will be presented at 7 p.m. on March 5, at the school auditorium. Plan now to attend, and tell your friends and neighbors!

For more information, contact Director Patrick Hamilton, 456-3661



Lalitos
FOR GREAT MEXICAN FOOD

We close at 2 p.m. Sundays, and reopen Tuesday, 11 a.m.

806-456-2233

HOWDY!

By: Kathy Adair



Drivers Have Responsibility When They Get Behind the Wheel

Chances are that the majority of citizens over the age of 15 spend part of every day in a car—driving to school or work, riding with friends, or going places with family members. Since motor vehicles are such a large part of everyday life, vehicle occupant safety should be a top priority.

Department of Public Safety records indicate that the majority of motor vehicle crashes are due to driver error. What can be done to reduce driver error? Reducing driver error must start with individual drivers pledging to buckle up and not drink and drive.

First of all, it is recommended that all occupants buckle up. When worn correctly, safety belts reduce the chance of death or serious injury by about 50 percent.

Lap/shoulder safety belts provide more protection than lap belts alone. Lap belts must be worn low on the hips, not across the abdomen. The shoulder belt should be worn over the shoulder and across the collarbone in a diagonal direction. Never put the shoulder strap under the arm or behind the back. Everyone should remember that safety belts are the primary restraint and should be worn even when the vehicle is equipped with an airbag.

Impaired driving is one of the leading causes of death in America. All individuals who choose to drink should find alternate transportation. Individuals can take a cab, bus, or call a friend to drive them where they need to go.

Choosing a designated driver is important if one chooses to drink. Cities have designated programs for individuals at reduced cost. Nothing can ever make up for the devastation an individual will feel if he or she causes a fatal crash. An excellent slogan to remember is: "If you drive, don't drink. If you drink, don't drive."

Always remember drivers have the responsibility of keeping themselves free of alcohol and having everyone in the vehicle buckle up every time. Think of all the lives that can be saved by increasing seat belt usage and decreasing drunken driving.



Hicks

Carpet
Appliances
Heating &
Air Conditioning

It's Hard To Stop A Trane

204 n. Main, Denver City
806-592-3973 or 592-3930



Cowboy Country News

PO Box 179, Plains, Tx 79355
806-456-8451 Fax 806-456-2010

Gary and Holly Dyer, Publishers. Subscription rate for 793 & 794 Zip Codes \$15 per year. Other Zip Codes \$18. Published each Wednesday. Call for advertising rates



Our new sign out front is finished. Inside, it's a mess! We're cleaning, painting, decorating, re-arranging.

But come on in, browse and visit - we'll make you welcome

Cherie Sanders

'The Lavender Patch'

806-456-3939

Larry C. Boyd, M.D.
Family Practice & OB

Yoakum County Clinic

Each Thursday

Office Hours 1-4 PM

Appointments are preferred!
Please call 456-6365 or 592-9501

From The Hack



You're probably one of the misguided who think I really love writing this swill column each week. Wrong. I suffer from total frustration because what I really want to do is write Country and Western music. You know, where the really big bucks are. With the mass marketing of C & W hits today, one gold record can put you in a modern day gold strike scenario.

I really think I can do it, too. I have some dandy titles already worked out. My first production would be entitled, "Momma, I got pregnant at the FFA Pig Sale", and I think Tammy Wynette would leap all over the opportunity to record it. I feel another sure smash would be, "Hey, Mr. bartender, don't let me step on my hand again tonight", and I know for a fact George Jones is panting to do it.

The opportunities are unlimited. "It's hard to hitchhike with two amputated thumbs" is a perfect natural for Randy Travis, and Willie Nelson has offered to keep me in tequila, golf balls and out of trouble with the IRS if I will just write "Take this tax return and shove it", provided we use fictitious names in publishing the thing.

Opportunities abound - how about "Blackberry wine is fine before you dine" by Tom T. Hall, with the Bride assisting on the lyrics. Another sure thing would be "Political contributions not accepted unless in cash, under the table" by a host of Capitol Hill singers.

I feel I have the talent to achieve fame in this field; I just don't know how to write music - once past Do-La-Ti, I'm lost. If any of you musical scholars want to collaborate, under your name, of course, just give me a call. I'm almost positive Nashville will be calling.

Why do women pick on men, constantly remind them of their inferiority? Local County Extension Agent Kathy Adair addressed the Lions Club last week, and the theme of her talk was how to live with a healthy heart. Right off the bat, she told us men are more subject to heart disease than women. My immediate thought was,

"Of course, men have bigger hearts, built for compassion and love. The bigger the heart, the bigger target it is for problems and diseases".

She blew that theory to smithereens. She said, "because of stress factors and other related lifestyle problems, and simply because of the way their bodies are built, men are much more prone to heart disease and heart attacks than females".

She went on to say, "Let's face it. God created women second, and he was much more experienced the second time around. Overall, women have bodies which are easier to keep healthy than men, and they have a much higher level of pain tolerance."

Here we go again, this pain tolerance thing. Yes, we guys know we couldn't... no, WOULDN'T, experience the pain of child birth. Long as we have a lovely female partner willing to stand it, why should we? And I suspicion a lot of the talk about gals being tougher than guys when it comes to bearing pain is just female chauvinism. Last week I was deathly sick with what I felt sure was a rare and dangerous variety of the flu. Sore throat, itchy eyes, runny, no, gushing nose, aches all over my body, you know, almost at death's door. I had already eaten a dozen or so miracle drug pills, and simply couldn't stand it any longer. I remembered my old granddaddy's favorite prescription... when all else fails, take a little warm whiskey and go to bed.

I poured myself a modest nine ounces of the elixir, figuring if a 'little whiskey' was good for you, a bunch would cure anything. I had just belted it down when the bride walked up and said, no, screamed, "What are you drinking that stuff for? It's only three in the afternoon!"

I told her, quite reasonably, I thought I was near death, probably had 108 fever, felt like my body would just shatter all over. She was all sympathy. "Oh, stop your sniveling and whining... you just have a little head cold. Now put that bottle away and get back on your computer, you big sissy".

Just try and tell me that's not female chauvinism.

Health Insurance For Children of Texas

More than 4.5 million Texans lack health insurance. One in every three are children, most from low income families. Far too often, these kids go without the treatment they need until health problems develop that pose a threat to their futures, and to Texas taxpayers.

Uninsured children are five times more likely to wind up in an emergency room, where the cost of their care is much higher than in a Doctor's office. They are four times more likely to require a hospital stay because of delayed treatment.

Texas House Speaker Laney has made this a priority, and wants to provide more children with health children without costing the state more money. State Representative Hugo Berlanga's House Bill 3 would set up a public-private foundation to provide affordable health insurance for children whose parents earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, the government health insurance for the poor, but too little to buy insurance on their own. If approved, this non-profit corporation would offer school aged children and their siblings access to quality health insurance. The low income

The Preston Murphey family names were not furnished to us when we published the 'Thank You' notice earlier. Those names are Sidney Murphey, Jimidene Hoffman, Geraldine and Steve Willis, Carol and Bill Green, and Beverly and Tom Pugh.

xxx WANTED xxx
Native grass, Improved grass, Wheat or Rye pasture for grazing. Cattle placed on the gain. Rendezvous Cattle Co. D.B. Damell Seymour, TX 817-888-3585 Mob. 817-256-8723

Ever wonder how your federal tax dollars are spent?

The following chart, from the January 3 issue of *The Kiplinger Washington Report*, is a comparison of federal spending in Fiscal year 1988, during the Reagan administration, compared to this year's federal budget. Because of the tremendous impact agriculture has in our area of the state, of particular interest is the column devoted to ag spending in the table.

Gov't Programs	Fiscal '97		Fiscal '88	
	Spending (in billions)	Share Now	Spending (in billions)	Share Then
Social security	\$367	22.4%	\$219	20.6%
Defense	\$266	16.3%	\$290	27.3%
Net interest on the debt	\$239	14.6%	\$152	14.3%
Medicare (minus premiums paid)	\$190	11.6%	\$79	7.4%
Medicaid	\$95	5.8%	\$30	2.8%
Federal pensions	\$71	4.3%	\$47	4.4%
Transportation	\$40	2.4%	\$28	2.6%
Veterans	\$39	2.4%	\$29	2.7%
Education	\$29	1.8%	\$18	1.7%
Housing subsidies	\$28	1.7%	\$14	1.3%
Food stamps	\$28	1.7%	\$13	1.2%
Health research and planning	\$26	1.6%	\$14	1.3%
Unemployment payments	\$25	1.5%	\$14	1.3%
Families, dependent children	\$20	1.2%	\$11	1.0%
Law enforcement	\$20	1.2%	\$9	.8%
Supplemental security income	\$19	1.2%	\$11	1.0%
Low-income tax credit	\$19	1.2%	\$3	.3%
Environment and resources	\$18	1.1%	\$15	1.4%
Int'l, including foreign aid	\$18	1.1%	\$11	1.0%
Science and space	\$18	1.1%	\$11	1.0%
Nutrition programs	\$13	.8%	\$7	.7%
Agriculture	\$8	.5%	\$17	1.6%
Disaster relief	\$3	.2%	N/A	N/A
Other (Energy, Commerce, etc.)	\$36	2.2%	\$21	2.0%
TOTALS (after rounding)	\$1.63 trillion	100%	\$1.06 trillion	100%

working families would be enrolled in a pool, with each paying according to their income.

I would also recommend taking this legislation a step further. Parents paying court-ordered child support are required to provide their children with health insurance, too. My plan provides affordable children's health insurance, at no cost to tax payers, and gives the state a unique opportunity to recover a significant amount of Medicaid costs for children under child support orders.

State law should enable the Attorney General to collect medical support payments from parents whose kids lack private health insurance. This would save money by requiring parents to support their children's health needs

Keeping an eye on Texas

Who's behind the wheel?
More than 1.6 million drivers turned in their out-of-state licenses for a Texas driver's license between 1990 and 1997, with Californians at the front of the line, exchanging 223,478 licenses.

Licenses turned in for Texas drivers' licenses, January 1990 through January 1997 (in thousands)

Wash. 28, Mich. 41, N.Y. 49, Pa. 28, N.J. 28, Va. 51, Colo. 61, Kan. 41, Mo. 44, Ill. 66, Ind. 30, Ohio 40, N.C. 30, Ga. 46, Ark. 46, Tenn. 33, Fla. 103, La. 101, Texas 223.

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and Texas Department of Public Safety. * States with more than 25,000 licenses.

Country Step up Kitchen!
Nice 14'x80', 3BD/2Bth, 8 foot ceilings, Jack & Jill bedrooms for the kids. Factory Storage under Kitchen. This home won't last long. Call 1-800-388-0987 Young's Mobile Home Sales, Hobbs. DLR.0001

Public Notice
This is to give notice of intent to introduce in the 75th Legislature, regular session, a bill to be entitled 'Act relating to the election of Directors of the Sandy Land Underground Water District.

Affordable Double Wide!
1997 Model, only \$220 per month. Wow! Only \$220 per month. Includes glamour bath, upgrade carpet, white wash cabinets, 20 year roof, 20 year siding. Call today and ask for Daniel 1-800-388-0987 Young's Mobile Home Sales, Hobbs 10% 8.5 ARM, 360 mo. DLR.0001

HEAT PUMPI
Roman Tub, Upgrade Refrigerator, Bay window, mini-blinds, upgrade carpet, dishwasher, your Dream Home! Only \$242, you pick the colors. Call 1-800-388-0987 Young's Mobile Home Sales, Hobbs 10%, 9% ARM, 360 mo. DLR.0001

For Sale
4.27 acre lots fronting airport road, east side. For more details, call 806-456-2905

Land For Sale
630 ac., W. Gaines Co. - 4 wells, 4 pivot systems - 283 acres in CRP - \$300 ac., possible owner financing with good dwn. pmt. W.E. Red Berry Real Estate home 915-758-5200 Off. 592-3523 Gary Dyer, Agent- 456-8451

No Down Payment!
Push it in, pull it in, drag it in! We will trade for anything of value. Cars, motorcycles, washers, dryers. Just to help you out call 1-800-388-0987 Young's Mobile Home Sales DLR.0001

Massey Ferguson, Kubota, Bush Hog Shredders, Lilliston Peanut Combines & Rolling Cultivators, UFT & Lorenz Minimum Tillage Equipment, Baker disc & Switch Plows, & Much More.
Terry County Tractor
637-4569 Brownfield

House For Sale
2 BR (could be 3), 2 BA, 4 outbuildings, on 11.48 acres, irrigation water & pipe, many trees! call 806-456-4945

Drastic Price Reduction!
1410 2nd St. Now Just \$79,900 Updated 3BR, 2 Baths, living area & room for formal dining, circle drive, 2 car garage. Call 456-4915, or Kay Sutton Realtors, Kathy Phillips, 1-800-658-6376

Two J-S
FLYING SERVICE
AERIAL APPLICATION SPECIALISTS

LUBBOCK 793-5004
PLAINS OFFICE --- 456-3580 OR 456-7436
MIKE COBB JACK COBB
456-7165 << HOME >> 456-7452
456-7511 << MOBILE >> 456-7512

W. E. (Red) BERRY
Real Estate
DENVER CITY, TX.
W. E. BERRY, BROKER -- 210 N. MAIN
Res. 915-758-5200 - Off. 806- 592-3523

Specialist in Residential, Commercial
Farm & Ranch Properties

Gary Dyer 456-8451 Olivia Robertson 592-2786

Guaranteed Revenue for Cotton Producers?

USAG's Crop Revenue Coverage (CRC) provides producers price protection to pursue marketing goals, secure loans, and plan for the future. CRC offers security and flexibility for your risk management program with a guaranteed dollar per acre coverage that increases if harvest prices are high. At the same time, CRC protects producers against loss from low yields.

For more information call your local USAG agent today!
Jim Brown
456-2788
Home 592-3490

USAG
INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
Subsidiary of Acceptance Insurance Companies, Inc.