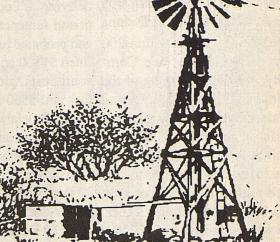
Cowboy Country

News



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

VolumeV, Issue33, Wednesday April. 28, 1999

Good Samaratins have not become extinct

An entire family is at ease and returning to normal life, thanks to the efforts and concerns of two area men, and the work of the Yoakum County Sheriff Department. On April 21, an elderly gentleman stopped at Palmer's Station near the Tokio CoOp Gin. He entered into a discussion with store owner Joe Palmer and area farmer Jim Sherrin, and the two realized he was in a very confused state of mind. He thought he was in the state of Arizona.

They called the Sheriff Department here, and Deputy Jerry Howard drove to the store. The gentleman's name, according to documents in his wallet, was Harold Stevens, a resident of Yuma, Arizona. In an interview Friday, Howard said the man's wallet also carried several phone numbers and addreses of relatives, probably placed in the wallet by the family. Howard brought Mr. Stevens to the jail office here, and while Stevens watched TV and snacked, calls were made to the numbers.

A daughter, Sherry Hiler, in Delta, Colorado, began crying in relief when she learned her dad had been found and was safe. A son, Larry Stevens, also in Colorado, was notified. He arranged for a commercial flight to Lubbock. Fortunately, Sheriff Department Lieutenant Lisa Switzer was in Lubbock on department business that same day. She was able to pick Larry up at the airport and bring him here where he was reunited with his fa-

Mr. Stevens was driving an Oldsmobile Cutlass when he turned up at Palmers store. The vehicle was brought to the sheriff office, and Deputy Howard said credit card receipts for gasoline, food and lodging indicated he had driven from Yuma, across Arizona, New Mexico, with stops at Sierra Blanca and AA meetings. Brownfield before showing up here.

His daughter Sherry and son Larry said they had been sick with worry since his disappearance from Yuma on April 18. They said they and law enforcement officials had been looking for him in southern Arizona and California and Mexico, just a few miles to the south. They felt sure he had probably met with some type of foul play, and had nothing but words of praise for Palmer and Sherrin's role in bringing their father to the safety of the sheriff department.

Before Larry left with his dad in the Cutlass, he expressed his appreciation to Howard and Switzer and the entire department. Ironically, both he and his dad were retired sheriff deputies, Larry serving in Oklahoma, Mr. Stevens in Arizona.

County and **District Court** criminal cases

In County Judge Dallas Brewer's Court last week, six criminal causes were heard.

Tammie Lewis, 29, pled guilty to DWI charge (subsequent) in which a blood test was refused. A 90 day jail term was suspended and probated 18 months. He must pay court costs of \$199 and was fined \$750. He must surrender his license 180 days, complete a repeat offenders program, install an interlock device on any driven vehicle, attend AA weekly, and undergo counseling and alcohol/drug dependency evaluation. Attorney was Mark Fasmire.

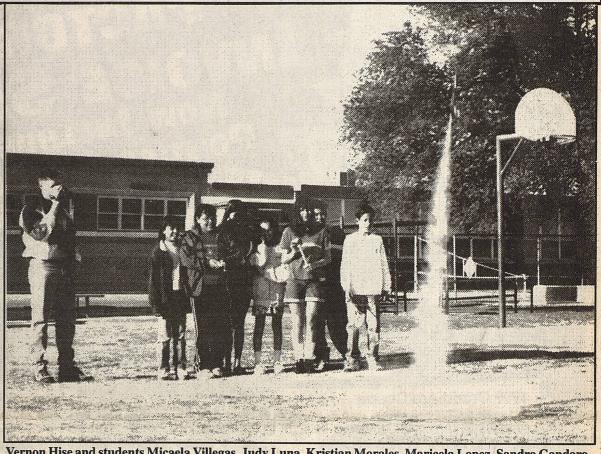
Aurelio Hernandez Larrea, 30, pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay \$214 court costs and \$250 fine, serve 100 hours community service, spend 72 hours in county jail, and attend weekly

guilty to asault causing bodily injury. He must pay a \$250 fine, \$184 court costs, and \$830 restitution to Bruton Service Company. He must serve 80 hours community service, at-

Turn to Pg.2. Court Cases

6th Grade Science Students Discover "New Heights"

Newton was right - what goes up must come down



Vernon Hise and students Micaela Villegas, Judy Luna, Kristian Morales, Maricela Lopez, Sandra Gandara, Isaac Gonzales and Aldo Fierro are still focused on the ground when rocket is already airborn.

week spent part of Wednesday fire works, and an electronic re-photographer, engrossed in atmorning firing off a series of rockets built by the students.

Hise said the rockets are constructed of common items found

Tony R. Moreno, 23, pled Mr. Vernon Hise's class, while chute constructed of twine and the air.

of a Cape Canaveral rocket harms way when the rocket fell launching the Space Shuttle is feet from him, much to the dearound the house. The rocket absent when the small rockets light of Hise and the students. body and stabilizing tail fins are are fired by the students. There cardboard, paper and glue. In- is only a hissing whoosh, and the

Sixth grade science students in side the rocket is a tiny para-rocket soars some 400 feet into

guilty to driving while license not reaching outer space, are plastic from garbage sacks. The Normally, the little parachute was suspended. He was fined learning about the thrills and only items purchased for the pops out and floats the rocket to \$250 and will pay \$184 court wonders of rocket powered project are the small, solid fuel earth for the studenststo retrieve. type B engines, similar to those Last Wednesday, one parachute Russell Loyd Smith, 37, pled The 30 some odd students last used in propelling bottle rocket failed to open, and the CCN mote controlled firing device. tempting to capture the scene on The mighty, earth shaking roar film, had to scurry to get out of

LCEC goes all out to celebrate 'Fifty Years Of Cooperation'



The cooperative served barbecue and all the trimmings to almost 1,000 hungry members and guests

When Lea County Electric tendance figures, and their distribution lines, causing out-Cooperative decided to cel- comments and many guests', ebrate it's 50th birthday, they the birthday event was a hit.

The Lea County Fairgrounds was the weather, before, and in Lovington was the scene of during the celebration. The an impressive exhibit of Lea freakish misty, drizzly weather County Electric Cooperative's drifting through the area Friday Golden Anniversary bash last night and on into Saturday ing, "We really regret this un-Saturday, and in terms of the morning played havoc with a fortunate weather problem. It cooperative's membership at- number of the cooperative's called many of our service

ages west of Lovington, and east in portions of their Gaines did it right - They Celebrated! The only downside of the day and Yoakum County customer

Billy Royce Medlin, President of the LCEC Board of Directors, told CCN Saturday morn-

people out around 1 a.m., and lots of those guys are still out there working to fix the outage." He and LCEC officials were forced to make the decision to cancel many entertaining and exciting outdoor events, including a 'Linemans Rodeo'.

Weather put a damper on another featured part of the program. Former Dallas Cowboy football defensive stars Charlie Waters and Cliff Harris were scheduled to be at the Fairgrounds around 11 a.m. A series when they finally arrived.

During the business section of of the year, for both cities.



of frantic cell phone calls be- Veteran Board Members Jack McMillan, Dist. 7, and J.W. 'Lefty' Spears, tween the celebrities and LCEC Dist. 4 were returned to office by their district's members

people discovered weather, cessful negotiations between J.W. 'Lefty' Spears, District 4, of the most successful projects since 1969.

the meeting, general Manager Two LCEC Board members, members attended the meeting. Mike dreyspring reviewed the Jack McMillan, Vice-President Yoakum County Sheriff Jim company's very successful ser- of the Board, representing Dis- Rice, not a member of the covice to some 6,403 member/cus- trict 7 in the cooperative's sertomers.. He described the suc- vice area, was returned to office.

plane problems, all led to their LCEC officials and the City of serving as Secretary /Treasurer, two hour late arrival. Neverthe- Plains Council, which ulti- was also re-elected. McMillan less, a large contingent of Cow- mately led to the sale of the city has been a board menber since boy fans were on hand to cheer utility system to LCEC, as one 1972, and Spears has served

A good contingent of Plains

Turn to Page 5, 'LCEC'

From Page 1, 'Court Cases'

tend a batterers prevention pro- was Paul Mansur. by Jason and Colton Smith.

the State Boot Camp Program, guilty to possession of mari- chard Clark represented the

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and does not retain jurisdiction juana. A two year state prison State in both courts.

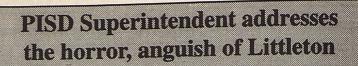
to assault, harass, stalk or com- Reyna, 36, pled guilty to the of \$325, and was fined \$1500. municate or come within 200 delivery of cocaine. A ten year He must serve 120 hours comfeet of the residence of Deanna prison sentence was suspended munity service. He was repre- The Eastern New Mexico Uni-Blair Smith, come within 200 and probated ten years. She was sented by Attorney Lacy. feet of Bruton Service Com- fined \$1500 and must pay \$246 Tony Joe Diaz, 26, agreed to a rodeo at Clovis April 17and pany, or within 200 feet of the court costs, plus \$350 attorney modification of his community 18. Three local youngsters en-Denver City elementary and fees and \$560 restitution to the supervision from a prior cocaine tered in the show. Blake Parrish kindergarten schools attended DPS safety lab. She will remain possession cause. He must per-placed 9th in 9-12 year old calf-Edward Joe Smyers, 18, pled able in a substance abuse felony nity service, attend weekly AA Marcey House finished 9th in true to the state's motion to pro- punishment facility, for at least meetings, submit bi-monthly girls 16-19 year old pole bendceed with adjudication of guilt 90 days and no more than one urine samples for 6 months, and ing. Brett Squyres won the 13in a habitation burglary cause. year. Attorney was Frank Lacy. must pay \$200 attorney fees. He 15 year old team roping in He was sentenced to five years In 121st District Court presided was represented by Attorney 8.699, and also placed 6th in in prison. The court recom- over by Judge Kelly G. Moore, Warren New. mended placing the defendant in Johnny William Kelly, 38, pled Criminal District Attorney Ri- 9.371.

over the defendant. Attorney sentence was suspended and probated 5 years. He must pay gram. He was also ordered not Janie Reyna, aka Janie Padilla \$186 court costs, attorney fees

in county jail until space is avail- form at least 150 hours commu- touching with time of 14.475.

High Plains Junior Rodeo

versity Rodeo Club sponsored ribbon roping with a time of



Are our schools safe? No one can guarantee any place is completely safe, yet schools are still the safest place to be. They are much safer in terms of violence, and many more children are injured and killed at home from abuse than in schools. the streets of our country are still much more violent than schools. Our schools are safer in terms of accidents as well; there is no comparison if we talk about traffic accidents, but also think of the number of times you or your child were injured at school pecause of a minor mishap, compared to injuries you have sustained at home or work. Our school board, administrators, teachers and employees are continually working to make and keep our schools safe from accidents and violence. They must be supported. Students must be provided with clear boundaries and learn to operate within these boundaries. Our society must help set, support and model these boundaries.

I sat stunned as I first heard the news, then watched the news coverage of Columbine High School. Once again, a few students with no moral character or conscience have destroyed lives and families.

I began to reflect on the possible reasons for such an act. Once again I am afraid we are missing the real message. I continue to hear blame being focused on the instruments of destruction instead of the user of the instruments. Once again we choose to avoid the issue of providing real moral guidance for our children. Once again we will choose to legislate morality by eliminating inanimate, unthinking objects.

The point is this; as parents, we must make the effort to monifor our children's activities and provide proper guidance. This means we must spend time with our children, time at home, time at school and church activities, time working and time playing. We must accept the fact saying "NO" is something our children must hear, and learn to accept. "No" teaches our children restraint. It reinforces the fact anything and everything is not OK, and starts setting in their minds limits which cannot be exceeded.

We need to provide limits to things our children watch and read. When a child can watch every kind of violent act on television, any type sexual deviation, any type immoral behavior on TV, the movies, the internet, and in print, is it any wonder they are confused and unable to determine the difference between fantasy and reality?

When you add to this the lack of moral guidance many children receive at home, the lack of moral public role models, the inability of legislation and litigation of the schools to provide moral guidance, the seeds of destruction are sown and begin to germinate. These bad seeds sprouted and were harvested in Littleton, Colorado.

To be sure, we must have tough laws to deal with violence, but the solution to our problems of violence in this country lies in the adherence to the Ten Basic Laws from which all others are taken. God made them, and if we live by them, and teach them to our children, our country, and our schools, will be better, stronger and safer.

James Haynes, Superintendent, Plains ISD



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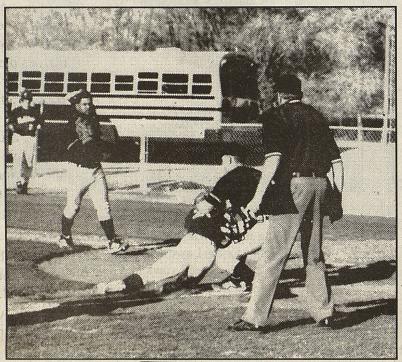
Cowboy Baseball Action

In recent diamond action, the Cowboys scored back to back victories. They downed Morton 10-5 with lots of good hitting. Adam Garcia, Steven bunch and Aaron Cain got doubles, and others with hits included Josh Bell, Alex Tarango, and Vincent Delgado. Gerry Rivas pitched the first three innings, and Steven Bunch took the mound the last four.



Coach Carter yells Aaron Cain towards home plate

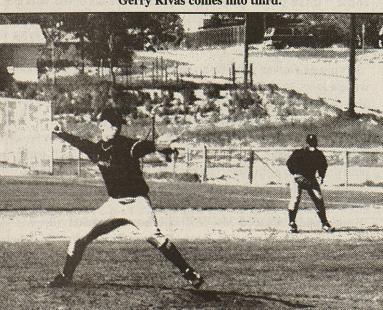
In the next home game, the Cowboys out classed Hale Center 4-1. Bunch led the hitting with a home run, double and two singles. Delgado had a double and two singles, Cain a double and single. Rivas got two hits and Jose Bell had a single. Bunch was on the mound 5 innings, relieved by Rivas in the last two.



Steven Bunch in a tussle tagging runner out at home



Gerry Rivas comes into third.



Steven throws, Gerry Rivas blows bubble on 1st.



"Vinnie" Delgado flies into third after good hit.

Tech Department Shines at Regional

The Industrial Technology Department of Plains High School attended Regional Competition Saturday, April 24, 1999, at Odessa High School. Eight students participated with a total of 27 projects. The students who participated were; Joshua Bell, Leticia Canon, Tandi Jones, Albert Lopez, Armando Luna, Ross Nixon, Felipe Reyna, and Stephanie Vasquez.

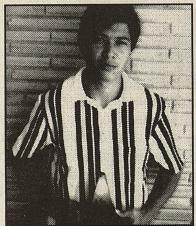
Placing at Regional Competition were as follows; Joshua Bell, two 2nd places, Leticia Canon two 1st places and a third, Tandi Jones, 1st place, Armanda Luna, 2nd and 3rd places, Ross Nixon 1st and 2nd places, Felipe Reyna, 1st and 2nd places, Stephanie Vasquez, two 1st places. GOOD LUCK May 7-8 at the State Contest in Waco.

PHS Track Regional Qualifiers

Cowgirl qualifiers include Kayla Redman, Amanda Garcia, Wendy Hernandez, Michaela Traweek, Ann Palmer, Kristen Gray, Krystle Blundell, and Lisa Parrish. Cowboys going to the meet are Steven Bunch, Jared Bell, and Felipe Reyna.

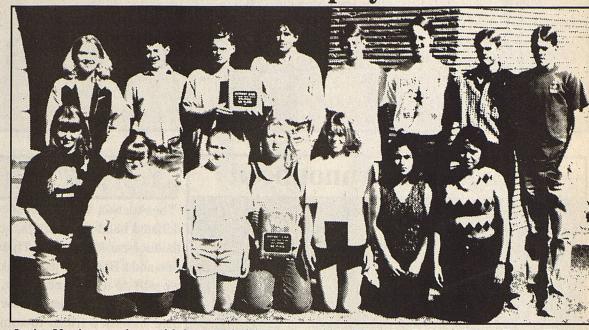
LEARN Inc. of Educational Opportunity Center from Lubbock will be at PHS all day May 4 to help Seniors with financial aid. They have made 54 contacts this year with Seniors and or their parents, and some past PHS graduates who have decided to attend college.

PHS Student of the Week



Student of the week is David Granados, a junior and the son of Salvador and Maria Granados. He was nominated by Mrs. Lusk who said, "See- 300-500 word essay to submit ing much, suffering much, and studying much, are the three pillars of learning.' Anonymous. " I believe this week's student of the week has started down the road of success. He thirty were chosen as Finalis experiencing the 3 pillars of ists. learning each and every day. He is a very hard worker in class and on the track.

PHS Tennis Teams display their 'GOLD'



Junior Varsity members with boys and girls team trophies. Front, L - R, Lesli Rowe, Becky Wilmeth, Ragan McGinty, Nicole Haynes, Lexi Warren, Elva Ruiz, Tanya Vasquez. Back - Elizabeth Clanahan, Jason Swann, Jarod Newland, Taylor Gray, Eric Nixon, Tyrel Tyson, Tanner Hamm, Jeremy Diamond.



Varsity members with girls team trophy and boys and girls District Champion trophy. L - R, Sterling Deaton, Jessica Flores, Patty Ruiz, Laura Morales, Wendy Hernandez, Velvet Canada, Greg Gonzales. Back - Dustin Brunson, Dustin Six, Rustin Knight, Clint Burrus not pictured.

TASSP Honors Clint Burrus

Clint Burrus, a Senior at Plains High School, has been selected by the Texas Association of Secondary Principals (TASSP) as a Finalist in the TASSP Academic Excellence Award Program.

This is the tenth year TASSP has conducted the program to recognize high school seniors for their outstanding academic achievements.

Over three hundred senior students were nominated by their high school principals based on the student's scores on the SAT or ACT test, overall academic grade point average, pursuit of advanced diploma, and other evidence of exceptional academic ability. Each student was asked to write a monitored with the application. From this group of outstanding young scholars, twenty were chosen for the TASSP all State Academic Team and

As a Finalists in the TASSP awards program, Clint is to be congratulated for his superior scholarship.

U.I.L. State Meet Bound!

Complete results from last weekend's Regional UIL meet in Abilene were unavailable at press time. PHS Principal Steven O'Quinn was able to release the names of students definitely qualified for the prestigious state meet in Austin. They include; **Number Sense Team** Kristen Gray, Jr.

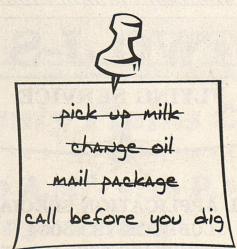
Calculator Team

Clint Burrus, Sr. Annaliesa O'Quinn, Fr. Clint Burrus Tommie McNabb, Sr. Kristen Gray

Feature Writing Computer Applications Leslie Rowe, Soph. Kyle Sisson, Jr.



Cowboys whoop it up after Morton win.



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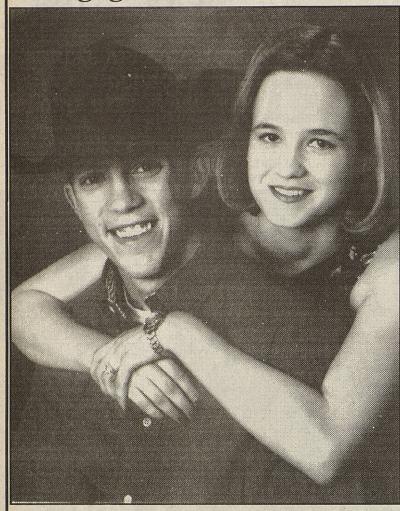
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Engagement Announced



Mr. and Mrs. Monte Fields of Paducah, Texas would like to announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Michelle, to Michael Kipp Blount, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Blount of Plains, Texas.

The wedding is planned July 17, 1999 at the Church of Christ in Paducah, Texas.

Dirt Gardeners Meet

Gardening through the sum- Velma Dearing. mer and transplanting was the program presented to the garden club by Velma Dearing, April 21, at the regular meeting of the club. Many interesting ideas were brought out on growing flowers as well as vegetables. Refreshments were

served by Ita Young. Those attending were Dean Richardson, Ruby Sellers, Ita Young, Kay Canon, Jackie Willis, and

No one can arrive from talent alone. God gives talent. Work transforms talent into genius

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Senior Citizens orner

The Auction was a real success. Our thanks to everyone who donated hand made crafts, new and usable household items and the nice cakes and pies. Thanks to all who helped with the Auction and a Big Double "Thank You" to the Auctioneer. Stay ready, we will do it again next year.

The '42' Tournament is always fun. Be sure and remember the date and ask a friend to come join in. There's always room for another table.

Althea Scott is recuperating in Lubbock Hospital.

Bruce and Ann Gram are back for a few days. They said it snowed on their "Spring Break" at Cloudcroft.

Maxine Pardue and Mildred Rawls are visiting a few days from San Angelo.

The Denver City Pool Tournament was well attended. They had 2 new people join in the games.

Woody and Patti Lindsey ate lunch with us on Monday. We had a lot of visitors for the Turkey and Dressing meal and attend the Auction. Visitors are always welcome.

> See you next week, Smitty

Activities:

Wed.: Line dancing 10 a.m., Tatum pool tournament 1:00 p.m.

Thurs.: Memorial Health B/P 10:30 a.m. Fri.: Line dancing 10 a.m.

Local flower, gift shop now under new management



Vickie Delgado shows gift items to Holly Dyer

The former Lavender Patch flower and gift shop on Cowboy Way is still alive and well, thank you. The owners, David and Cherie Sanders, with other interests, made arrangements with a former employee, Vickie Delgado, to keep the business open and act as manager. Vickie is now operating the firm as "The Flower Patch".

Vickie, who had some prior experience with various crafts, assisted prior owner Linda Powell for seven years when the business was named the "Renaissance". Vicki said, "Linda taught me a great deal about handling flowers over those years, for which I am now especially grateful."

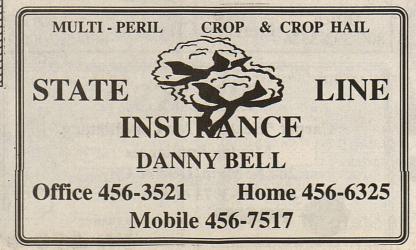
Vickie and Vincent Delgado have two children graduating from Plains High this May, Vincent Jr. and Norma.

The Flower Patch hours are 10 to 5 Monday through Friday, and 9 to noon on Saturday.

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Lowe - McKaskle Wedding **Vows Exchanged**



The Baker Building in Lubbock, Texas was the setting for the ceremony in which Daphne Eevon Lowe and Mike McKaskle exchanged wedding vows. The couple shared vows in a double ring ceremony before family, friends and Rev. Derek Osburn on April 17, 1999 at six

The bride is the daughter of Joel and Debra Lowe of Plains, and the granddaughter of Jack Lowe and the former Cora Lowe, and Alfred and Faye Bearden of Plains. The groom is the son of Charles and Jan McKaskle of Stanton, Texas.

Decorations for the ceremony included large iron urns filled with fresh blush roses, pink and blue hydrangeas, pure white lilies, fresh lavender, heather and peonies. The balconies were draped with green vinery.

The Seraphim String Quartet played 'Ave Maria' for the seating of grandparents and mothers, and 'Canon In D' for the Brides Maids processional as they walked along the balcony and down the stairs, 'The Bridal Chorus' for the brides processional. 'O Perfect Love' accompanied the unity candle lighting, and 'Wedding March' for the

Given in marriage by her parents, the Bride was escorted along the balcony, encircling the first floor and down the winding staircase by her father, Joel.

The Bride's dress was a Mori Lee Gown. The princess style train with full skirt and long tulle train was accented with appliques, pearls and sequins. The fitted waist bodice was elaborate lace appliques, pearls and sequins. Lace shoulder straps and a romantic Victorian style corset lace were featured on the back of the dress. The Bride chose a triple tiered Tiara full, the headpiece accented with pearls across the crown. The Bridal Bouquet was a nosegay arrangement of fresh pink roses, heather blue hydrangeas and spring flowers tied with satin ribbons.

Serving as flower girls were Joani Bell, cousin of the bride. She wore a long, straight, soft pink dress to match the bridesmaids. She also carried a spring bouquet of spring flowers, and was escorted by the ring bearer, Travis Horstman, nephew of the Groom.

Serving as Maid Of Honor was Kassie Lowe of Levelland, the Bride's sister. She wore an ankle length, straight ,high waist, soft pink dress with a slit side. The back featured a Deep V accented with earings given by the Bride, and carried a nosegay of flowers similar to the Bride's.

Bridesmaids included Ms. Michelle Lowe, Bracketville, Ms. Andrea Helmer, Ft. Worth, Ms. Rena McElroy, Borger, and Ms. Stephanie Kinnibrugh, Austin.

Serving as Best Man was Mr. John Mark Matthews of Lubbock. Groomsmen included Scotte Terrel, Keller, Aaron Holt, Lubbock, Clint Anderson, Big Spring, and Chad Wells, Stanton. Ushers were Robert Hitt, Lubbock, and Shane Terrel, Lubbock.

The Bridal cake was a tiered white, with pink roses topped with a white garden gate. The serving table held a silver punch bowl andtrays of nuts and mints. The cake was served to guests by Brandi Gayle and Kemi Cobb, friends of the bride and groom.

The Grooms cake was of chocolate icing decorated with green grapes and Cand M's in the center., and served by Candace Matthews and Dawn Porter, friends of the couple.

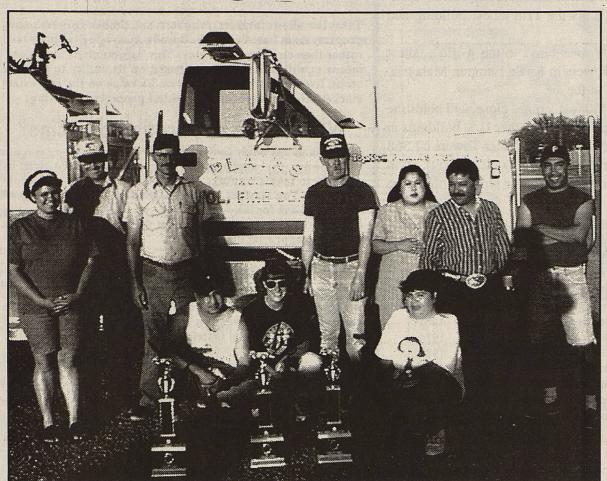
Following the ceremonies, in a room filled with fresh spring flowers, the wedding party and guests danced to music of the 'Music Man'

After a seven night honeymoon in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, the couple returned to their home in Abilene, Texas, where the Bride is employed as a Registered Nurse at Hendrick Medical Center, and the Groom is attending Hardin Simmons University's school of physical therapy.

Lea County Electric

meeting scenes

Plains Firefighters bring meet trophies home



Kneeling, Alex Barrientes, Donna Diamond, Sally Wright. Back row, Susan Barrientes, time keeper, Allen Altman, James Wright, Charles Diamond, Terri Balderas, Honorio Balderas and Michael

The Plains Volunteer Fire Department and La-hoses to hydrants and trucks and getting the dies Auxilary members were one of nine area hoses ready to spray water. community fire fighting units competing in a The mens team, Firechief Charles Diamond, skills contest at Lamesa recently.

The Plains ladies team, with only three mem- Alex and Michael Barrientes, also brought home bers, faced a considerable handicap, competing a third place trophy in the six man hose relay against other six member teams. Donna Dia- event, similar to the ladies event, but with larger mond, Terri Balderas and Sally Wright earned and heavier water hose. third place honors and trophies in two events, the women's hose relay and six lady pump race. Seminole, Denver City, Crane, Pecos, West Both contests involve speed, strength and dex- Odessa, Wink and Brownfield. terity used in laying out and connecting water

Allen Altman, James Wright, Honorio Balderas,

Other area towns represented at the meet were summer term 9 a.m. - noon and

Extension Service.

"Many Treasures serve as investment officers for their counties," explained Richard Avery, Extension specialist. "As well as serving as custodians of public finance, some sonnel officers."

The Institute of County Gov- 9611, ext. 2374 or 2375, SPC ernment was created by the 61 Lubbock at 806-747-0576, st Texas Legislature, and provides informational, educational and technical assistance 0576, ext. 2902.

operative, told CCN, "My background in Lea County, and especially Lovington, made me want to be here with these good people." Another Yoakum County official present was Debbie Rushing, County Treasurer. In a conversation with Mike Dreyspring, LCEC General Manager. she said, "I know what a major role Lea County Electric plays in our county, and I'm really impressed with your support of our school and it's students. The financial assistance you provide for our young people is invaluable."

From Page 1,

'LCEC'

County Treasurer Toni Jones was also spotted among County Officials attending the meeting, and she too expressed appreciation for the cooperative's role in supporting our youth.

SPC Summer Registration Announced

Registration for summer terms at South Plains College Levelland and Lubbock will be May 27.

Registration for SPC summer classes at the Reese Center will be May 25-26.

SPC Levelland, 1401 S. College Avenue in Levelland, will have registration for its first summer session and ten week courses 3-6 p.m. May 27 in the Women's Gym. SPC Lubbock, 1302 Main St. in Lubbock, will have registration for its 3 - 6 p.m. May 27.

Reese Center sign up times are 5 - 7:30 p.m. May 26-26 in Building 820 at the center, 9730 Reese Blvd.

Summer 1999 class schedules are now available.

Classes and late registration begin June 1 at all three loca-

For more information, contact SPC Levelland at 806-894ext. 4660 or 4606 or the SPC Reese Center at 806-747-

Terry Davis, LCEC Director, being interviewed by radio station person-

County Electric employees Su Ann Parrish and Mary Ward were 'told' to be present to lend a hand

Plains City Administrator David Brunson, seated, and Sandy Land's Kathy Jones:, center. were "volunteered' to assist with registration. Lea

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Wednesday Night May 5th 6:30 P.M. FBC Fellowship Hall

Graveside Service held for **Evelyn Stroup**

Graveside services for Evelyn Stroup, 87, of Plains were held April 23, at 11:00 a.m., in the Denver City Cemetery with Reverend Bill Wright officiating. She died April 20, 1999 at Yoakum County Hospital, Denver City. Ms. Stroup was born and was a homemaker.

Survivors include: a son, Carl Stroup of Plains, Tx., a daughter, Patricia Moody of Brookeland, Tx., a brother, Clayton Fitty of Rosenberg, Tx., six grandchildren, eight treasurers serve as county pergreat - grandchildren.

Treasurer Jones attends Seminar

Toni Jones, Yoakum County March 31, 1912 in Mitchell, Treasurer, joined more than Louisiana. She married Bob 200 county officials at the 27th Stroup on June 30, 1928, in County Treasurers continuing Mikeover, Arkansas, he pre- education seminar April 12 at ceded her in death in August, Texas A & M. The event was 1975. Her parents also pre- hosted by the V.G. Young Inceded her in death. Ms. Stroup stitute of County Government, has lived in Plains since 1975 part of the Texas Agricultural



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The changing face of Texas

almost 375,000 from 1997 to in metropolitan areas. Nevada.

In terms of the absolute num- even more striking.

most populous state. The State equal. Comptroller's office estimates at The state's population is also population at 2.3 million, up compared to other states.

Census Bureau figures indicate more than 50% since 1990. Of in the 1990's.

1998: It is expected to reach 20 Recent forecasts indicate the 22nd tallest in the world. million by 2000. The Lone Star total Texas population in 2025 is faster than all but four states, the number of additional Texans Each tower looms 1,483 feet in the air.

California saw a larger increase, of immigration and varying rela- all in China. with a 485,000 person rise. That tive fertility rates among racial/ growth, however is not as no- ethnic categories is that Texas table as the Texas gain, as the becomes a "minority majority '97 population base in Califor- state in the next 10 to 15 years. nia was about 66% larger than Non-Hispanic Whites will be-Texas' "97 base, meaning Cali- come a minority in Texas. By fornia is growing slower than 2030, it is estimated the numbers of non-Hispanic Whites Texas is currently the second and Hispanics will be about

the end of 1998 the population aging. The number of Texans was about 19.8 million; Of that aged 18 or older is expected to total, 11.2 million are non-His- grow from 13.3 million in 1995 panic White, 5.8 are Hispanic, to 19.8 million (73%) in 2025. 2.3 ar non-Hispanic Black, and Despite the apparent contradic-0.5 million are other race/ tion of growing numbers of eldethnicities. Census Bureau esti- erly, the state will continue to April 23, 1999 - The followmates say the state's immigrant have a relative young population

Towering Over Texas

The ten tallest buildings in Texas rank among the 100 tallest in the world. All ten towers are in Houston or Dallas. All but one were built during the 1970's and 80's; a latecomer was constructed

the Texas population grew by these people, almost 85% lived Texas' tallest is Chase Tower in Houston, formerly Texas Commerce Tower. At 1,002 feet, it is the 11th tallest building and

None of Texas' skyscrapers comes close to the world's tallest State's 1.9% annual growth rate may reach 28.9 million. While buildings, the twin Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Arizona, Colorado, Georgia and is notable, the changes in the Chicago's Sears Tower, at 1,450 feet, comes close, and holds the composition of the populace are U.S. title, and ranks third worldwide. The other U.S. buildings in the world top ten are the two World Trade Center Towers (1,368 ber of persons added to the The population is becoming in- and 1,362 feet) and the Empire State Building (1,250 feet), all in state's population totals, only creasingly diverse. The effects New York City. The other four buildings in the world's top ten are

Texas rank	U.S. rank	World rank	Texas buildings*	Location	Year built
1001716	11	22	Chase Tower	Houston	1982
2	13	26	First Interstate Plaza	Houston	1983
3	21	35	NationsBank Plaza	Dallas	1985
4	23	41	Transco Tower	Houston	1983
5	28	42	Renaissance Tower	Dallas	1974
6	50	71	Bank One Center	Dallas	1987
7	51	75	NationsBank Center	Houston	1983
8	58	83	Republic Center	Dallas	1992
9	59	85	Heritage Plaza	Houston	1987
10	69	98	Southwest Bank of Texas	Houston	1980
	*Current names of buildings are used				

JP Court Summary

ing is a summary of cases heard and bonds set in Justice of the Peace Court, Precinct 1, with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding. Cases filed - 32 traffic cases filed, 2 felony cases

filed. Bonds set - 3 cases Assault against public servant -\$1000 bond. Theft over \$20 and under \$500 by check - no bond. 2 cases - Fugitive from justice - held until transported. Driving while license suspended - \$500 bond. 8 cases -Issuance of bad check - \$500

"Productivity appraisal" may lower the property taxes on your farm, ranch or timber land!

Texas law allows farmers, ranchers, and timber growers to pay property taxes based upon the "production value" of their land rather than on its market value. This "productivity appraisal" means qualified land is taxed based on its ability to produce crops, livestock, or timber-not on its value on the real estate market. And it can mean substantial property tax savings.

When is the application deadline?

If your land has never had a productivity appraisal or you are a new owner, you must apply to your local appraisal district by April 30 to take advantage of this benefit on your 1999 property taxes. You may get up to 60 extra days if you have a good reason and ask for it by April 30. If you miss this deadline, you may still be able to apply, but you will pay a penalty. Check with your appraisal district office.

Do you need to reapply annually?

If your land already receives agricultural or timber productivity appraisal, you normally don't need to reapply unless the chief appraiser requires you to do so. If a new application is required, the appraisal district will notify you by mail.

For more information, call or come by:

Yoakum County Appraisal District (806) 456 - 7101

We'll be happy to answer your questions and provide you a free copy of

> "Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities" Or contact:

Comptroller's Property Tax Division P.O. Box 13528 Austin, TX 78711-3528

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Texans take care of Texas

Earth Day is April 22 this year, and since the first Earth Day held in 1970, a generation has grown up learning to protect the environment.

Texas Environmental Facts

88% of Texas households reported saving cans bottles, or newspapers for recycling.

64% of Texans report leaving yard trimmings on the lawn all or most of the time.

54% of Texans reported choosing a product made of recycled materials over a regular product "all or most of the time" when both have an equivalent price.

54% of Texans favor the "pay as you throw" program for garbage pickup.

39% of Texans report taking hazardous waste to collection facilities "all or most of the time."

Texans report that they recycle aluminum cans "all or most of the time," followed by paper (39% of the time), plastic (31%), tin cans (26%), and

For more information on how you can help call: 1-800-CLEAN-UP.

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SOURCES: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us), Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, 1997 Survey of Environmental Behaviors and Attitudes of Texans, and 1996 Texas Environmental Survey (Rice University).

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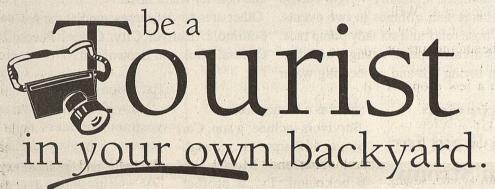
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"National Tourism Week", the Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau is hosting the first annual "Be A Tourist in Your Own Backyard" day! YOU are our most valuable assets and we want to introduce you to all of the many exciting things there are to see and do in and around the City of Lubbock. Who says there's nothing to do in Lubbock? Bring the family out and see for yourself what we have to do here!

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• Free Tickets to Up coming events Sponsored by the

Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Just Look At All There Is To Do!

> These businesses will be open and ready to welcome all visitors.

> > Arboretum/Municipal

Garden Center: 4215

State Historical Park

Prairie Dog Town Machenzie Park 4th St. &

Ranching Heritage

4th St. & Indiana Ave.

Collections Library

The Museum of Texas

Tech University
4th St. & Indiana Ave.

15th St. & Detroit

Southwest Collection/Special

2401 Landmark Drive

& Art Center Arboretum: 4111

University Ave.

Lubbock Lake

Landmark

University

American Wind Power Lubbock Memorial

Breedlove Dehydration

1818 N Mik Blvd Buddy Holly Statue &z

Walk of Fame 9th St. & Ave. Q.

Cap Rock Winery Woodrow Rd. 1/2 mile east of 87 South

Depot District 19th St. & IH-27

FM 1585, 3 miles east of US of IH-27 South

Lubbock Fine Arts 2600 Ave. P

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by Gary Walker Dist. 30

Appropriations Bill Passes House

HB 3050 arrived on the House floor Tuesday and was passed. The legis-

lation will greatly increase the effectiveness of the Texas Agricultural

finance Authorith, providing millions of dollarl more in loans to Texas

farmers for variety of important agribusiness enterprises while also tight-

ening creditworthiness requirements. HB 3050 would allow loans to be

made to such entities as tht Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program and

the Texas Forest Service, which may need financing from TAFA as a

The Young Farmer Loan Guarantee program would be used more

effectively than before because of a streamlined loan application,

increased maximum loan amounts and an expanded eligibility defi-

nition. This program is critically needed to help young Texas start

and continue farming and ranching, as the average age of a farmer

Broadening the types of businesses eligible for loans would help

result of drought.

From The Hack

It is so interesting, so intelleclocal Table of Wisdom. It's like being freshened by a breath of Newton, Galileo, Michaelangelo out of sight." or other genius types.

In a visit last week, I casually asked what was a good remedy for those fat, ugly, white grubs doing a job in our bermuda grass. I said Diazanon didn't seem to be working, and one visiting genius replied, "Of course not. Diazanon is at the top of the grubs list of favorite foods. Couple years ago, I gave them three consecutive doses in my back yard, and kept finding bigger patches of dead grass. I dug around, and those suckers had gotten so fat on the stuff they looked like bullfrogs. They were so big and vicious they fought back when I tried stomping 'em. A couple actually jumped out of the ground and tried to attack me."

This brought on a lively discussion of other types of yardwork, eveidently not high on anyone's lists of favorite pastimes. One visitor to The Table said, "Well, you can believe it or not, but I finally found the surefire cure for dandelions. You take an eyedropper, and drop a few drops of brake fluid on the plant, and they almost scream in pain before they wither up and die, right before your eyes."

Another chum agreed, saying "Yes sirree bob, it sure does work, that I can testify to. Of course, I don't use it no more. I'd pulled into our garage last year and I didn't have no brakes. Didn't do the garage much good, either."

Texas gophers. One guy said Cowboys, they've turned old, tered, like one of the family.

JACK

SPEARS

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he'd "wore out a shotgun trying to shoot 'em, and I stopped when my neighbor filed charges on me for killing his Rottweiler

Another intellectual type piped up, "Don't waste no money buying those little plastic windmill doodads you stick in the ground to scare the critters away. I put six out one breezy day, and the next morning, four were laying tually stimulating, to visit the on the ground with the wood stick part gnawed off, and the other two had been pulled down knowledge from Sir Isaac some new gopher holes, plumb

I'll wager our backyard will soon look much better after all these priceless tips.

Seated in the huge building holding Lea County Electric's huge crowd of people stuffing and it makes me feel all that. FOR SALE - Antique desk suittheir faces with huge portions much older!" She then left. a tie, and the front part of his County bunch.

frontal baldness when he was pair came striding in. such a wrecker for the Cow- A true report - Harris, always a boys in past glory days, I stud- bit larger than Waters, still has ied him a bit, and finally admit-wisps of very nice, silvery hair, ted, "I'm not sure. He's a long an almost unnoticable small way off, but he could be, I just bulge around his belt level, still don't know."

the man, and finally gasped, man, looks as though he still then, and he's gotten so, well, of his original dark, curly hairs, 45, he's older than I am, so what sive looking pair of Ostrich He's better preserved than I I wish the young lady I enjoyed

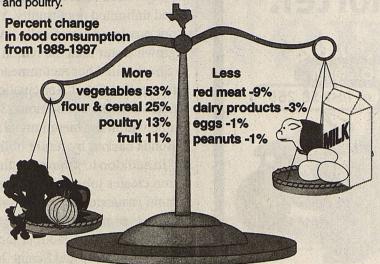
rather have dandelions than the Knowing better than offering two. It would have been nice if wrecked pickup I got when I sensible argument to a woman, she'd known those two guys I told her she was still a very have survived very well, as she attractive young lady, sure that has. would reassure her.

"Oh, yeah, sure, 45 years old, Thinking of doing an 'Want

Keeping an eye on Texas

Texans eat more veggies

A decade ago, consumers ate more red meat, dairy products, eggs and peanuts. By 1997, we were eating 99 more pounds of the major food commodities, but preferred more vegetables, grain products, fruits and poultry.



SOURCES: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.bx.us), and U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service.

of barbecue at the cooperative's What was amusing about this large drawers. huge annual meeting last Sat- was, the guy sitting by himself Four Poster Bed - 101 years old urday, I had a rather different at the 'Big Cheese' table was perfect for antique lover. conversation with a young lady NOT Cliff Harris. I never did Now is the time to have your Gnawing brisket and sausage, IRS agent who'd weezled his to take home. she asked, "Look up there at the way in for a freebie before fil- Wanted-50 girls for stripping main head table. That guy with ing papers on some of the Lea machines in factory.

bald head, do you think that Anyway, giving up on Harris could be Cliff Harris, the Dal- and Waters appearance, already las Cowboy guy supposed to be announced late because of airplane problems, on my way out Recalling Cliff indeed had a of the building, here the famed

looks likehe could knock you out She almost sobbed, studying of your jock. Waters, never a big "Oh, God, I hope it's not! I retains his playing weight, and loved all those Cowboys back has absolutely every single one old looking, and OH, OH, I'm a flat belly, and the most expendoes that make me look like? boots on his feet I've ever seen. lunch with could have seen the

All this brainy discussion led three kids, grandkids, here I am Ad'? Here are some to avoid to another yard pest, our West wanting to see my favorite Lost, small apricot poodle, neu-

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able for lady with thick legs and

sitting directly across from me. learn his identity. Probably an ears pierced and get an extra pair

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farmers and ranchers diversify and cushion themselves against economic fluctuation caused by drought and shifting commodity prices. For example, a rancher could branch into the feed store business, or other agriculture related businesses. This loan program would help agriculture related businesses expand and diversify their markets.

Also of interest is the passage of HB 3328, which would allow the Texas Department of Transportation to increase the daytime maximum speed limit on certain rural highways to 75 miles per hour. Ten other states have adopted the 75-mile-per-hour rural highway speed limit, and no evidence of an increase in traffic accidents, injuries, or fatilities has been reported. The increase would apply only to passenger cars, motorcycles, cars and light trucks towing trailers less than 26 feet long, and cars and light trucks towing trailers designed and used to transport livestock.

My bill allowing school buses to travel the posted speed limit when transporting students to and from extracurricular events passed the House on second reading Thursday. We hope to have it on its way to the Senate by early next week.

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955 lbs
867 lbs
867 lbs
867 lbs
530 lbs
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320 lbs
321 lbs
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6445 lbs
435 lbs
435 lbs
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785 lbs \$220/hd \$220/hd \$220/hd \$85.25 \$70.25 \$91.50 \$94.00 \$103.00 \$95.00 \$95.00 \$67.00 \$75.50 BIK BIK RWF BIK RWF RWF \$41.60 \$42.00 \$40.50 \$36.90 \$41.00 \$39.00 \$41.10 \$40.75 \$40.50 \$39.50 \$42.50

BULLS
Red 1800 lbs \$51.50
Char 1020 lbs \$53.00
WF 2030 lbs \$47.25
WF 2175 lbs \$47.50
Char 1930 lbs \$44.00
GOATS & SHEEP
Wether 135 lbs \$52.00
Wether 170 lbs \$44.00
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2 Nannys 107 lbs \$63.50/hd
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Billy Kld 55 lbs \$44.00/hd
Billy Kld 55 lbs \$44.00/hd
Klds 40 lbs \$40.00/hd

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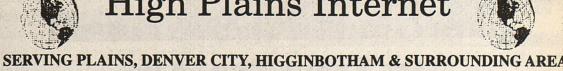
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Massive highway improvement plan being studied for border

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander testified before the Senate Border Affairs Committee on her recommendation to take adbantage of a new financing mechanism and the importance of jump starting infrastructure along the border.

"My vision for Texas," Rylanders said, "is limited government and unlimited opportunity. Yet the people along the broder have not pros[ered significally, even though the Texas economy has grown faster than the nation as a whole.

She detailed her recommendations to use a federal funding option called Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicles (GARVEES), that will make an additional \$700 million of highway funds available within the biennium. GARVEES are highway construction Bonds backed by future obligations of federal highway funds.

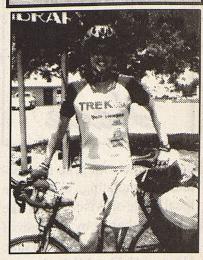
"In addition to improving the infrastructure, highway construction creates jobs," Rylander said. "If \$700 million of GARVEE bond issuance were spent on highway projects over a two year period, as many as 6,000 construction jobs would be created, and just as many indirect jobs,"

Senate Bill 966 and Senate Joint Resolution 45 would authorize Tx DOT to use GARVEES to issue bonds for highway projects in the border area. "Tx DOT has identified more than 30 priority transportation corridor and border infrastructure projects needed to handle ever growing trade and traffic in the region. It could take five or more years for all the projects to start, and decades more for them to be completed.

Rylander said, "It doesn't take a traffic engineer to know Texans, especially those depending on cross-border trade, cannot afford such a long wait. My proposal offers an exit from this waiting game." Utilizing GARVEE bonds would allow Texas to meet transportation needs and solve gridlock problesm faster; Highway users to benefit much sooner; The state to spread the cost of road construction over the road's useful life, thus part of the cost is borne by future users.

"Texas highways make money for the state. In 1997, the value of US exports shipped by truck to Mexico totaled \$55 billion."

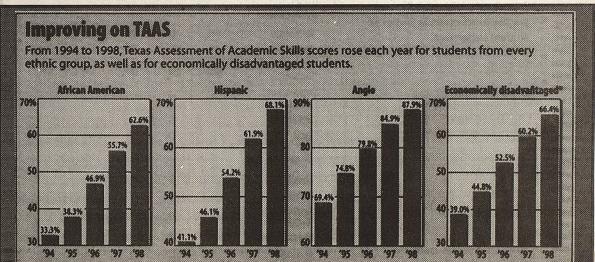
Coast to Coast on two wheels



Plains was visited recently by a rather unusual visitor. Tyler Durham, 20, dipped the rear wheel of his Trek bicycle in the Atlantic Ocean on March 8, and intends to dip the front wheel in the Pacific somewhere in California.

Tyler paid a brief visit to the County Library here and became acquainted with staffers Lattrell McDonnell, Dolores Davis and Pat McNabb. He also talked his way into some time on the library computer and internet, the method he uses to keep in touch with a buddy he intends to meet in California.

He carries a bedroll and camp gear, but said he hadn't used it since he entered Texas. "People have been great about putting me up and feeding me."





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