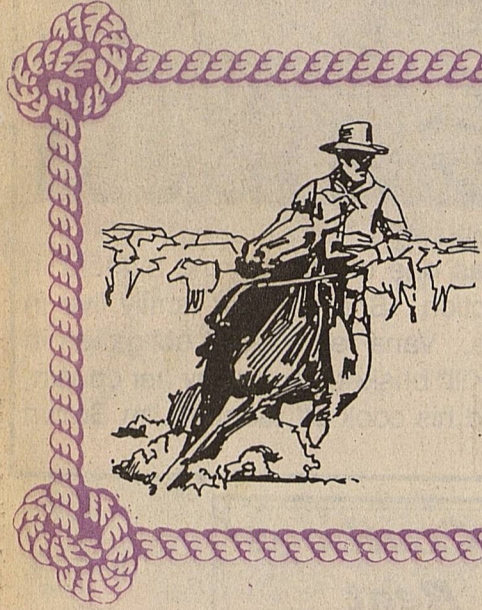
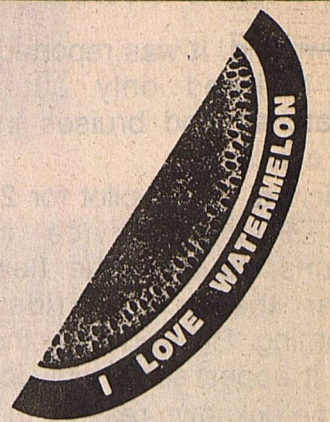


Congratulations,

'Yoakum County Connection'!

1st Watermelon Round-Up Huge Success



Cowboy Country

Starting Our 3rd Year

News



Published each Wednesday at the County
Seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume 3, Issue 1, Wednesday, September 4, 1996

Plains EMS Group Honored

The Plains Emergency Medical Service volunteers received special recognition at an awards meeting of the South Plains EMS Chapter (SPEMS) in Lubbock on August 24. The volunteer members from Plains, including Joe and Freda Humphrey, Manuel and Corina Estrada, Pam Redman and Brenda Wauson, were presented with an impressive plaque from SPEMS which reads, "In honor of your contribution and dedication to excellence in Patient Care and Service to your community. Plains EMS, Basic Life Support Service of the Year, 1996".

Our community owes a debt of gratitude to this volunteer group, who must spend many hours in intensive training and on-going Medical Service training, attend regular group meetings, and be on call for duty on a regular basis. As of August 28 this year, the local EMS personnel have responded to 37 emergency and standby calls for their services. There are 15 counties in the South Plains EMS Chapter, stretching from Yoakum County to Hale County in the north, and from the New Mexico border to King County to the east.

County Criminal Court Cases Heard

A total of four criminal cases were heard in County Court on August 28. Dallas Brewer was the presiding Judge, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the State. Angel Villegas Martinez, 23, pled guilty to a DWI charge. He received a 60 day jail sentence.

Turn to Page 4,
'Court Cases'

First Ever Watermelon Event Draws Great Crowd



The 5-K Race started the Round-Up Saturday Morning

The fledgling Yoakum County Connection, less than one year old, and scores of other citizen volunteers had learned a valuable lesson when the dust settled after this Saturday's first Watermelon Round-Up and Musical Concert. There are no deep, dark, profound secrets of success in organizing a large civic affair such as the Round-Up; First, come up with a 'do-able' idea. Second, get a few core people interested in the

project. Third, go to work, and work long and hard, and keep the faith in the idea. That's exactly how the Watermelon Round-Up became an instant success in its public debut Saturday. If there was one big surprise generated by the event, it was the unanimous opinion expressed by dozens of officials and volunteer workers at the day long, fun filled event; No one we talked to ever dreamed the Round-Up would draw the huge

crowd it did. While there was no accurate method of accounting for the number of people attending, more than one group believed at least 1,000 visitors were present around noon Saturday, and many more arrived that afternoon. It would seem very reasonable to 'guesstimate' some 1,200 to 1,500 visitors enjoyed the ten hour event.

The product responsible for the Round-Up theme, Turn To Pg. 2,
"Melon Round-Up"

Spray Plane Pilot Had Lady Luck Riding With Him



Late last Thursday afternoon, an aerial application 'Air Tractor' plane, belonging to Mackenzie Flying Service of Brownfield, crashed in a field of Milo belonging to Randy Tuggle of Plains. The crash site was a mile west of the Trout Grocery store, and roughly one-half mile south

of Highways 82-380. Details of the accident are sketchy, and FAA officials continue to investigate the crash. The plane, piloted by Roy Cooper of Brownfield, had been spraying a field of peanuts belonging to Russel Lepard southeast of the crash site. Apparently

there were no witnesses to the crash. It was reported Cooper got out of the demolished aircraft and walked to the highway, where he was picked up by a motorist, and taken to the hospital in

Turn To Pg. 2,
"Plane Crash"



A small portion of the crowd listening to day long live music

Cont'd from Page 1,
'Plane Crash'

Brownfield. It was reported he suffered only cuts, scratches and bruises in the accident.

Michael Cobb, pilot for 2-J's Flying Service in Plains, reported he flew over the scene Friday morning. He said from the air it appeared to him, for some unknown reason, the aircraft's left wing struck the ground, cart wheeling the plane on the ground,

and coming to rest some fifty to sixty feet away, pointed in the opposite direction it was originally flying.

Miraculously, the cockpit of the craft was relatively undamaged, except for the shattered portion of the front windshield. One landing gear strut was torn off the plane, the other was pointing skyward, and the radial engine was ripped from the fuselage.

Because of the lack of specific details of the crash,

a number of speculative theories continue to circulate. One report indicates the pilot thinks he hit a patch of 'dead air', causing a sudden dip in altitude, while another mentions the possibility of aileron controls freezing up.

One fact is very clear; Mr. Cooper is one very lucky pilot.



Cont'd from Page 1,
'Melon Round-Up'

the rapidly fame gaining Yoakum County watermelons, were in abundance at the gathering. No official count was made of the melons, but according to the number of bins delivered to the grounds, the crowd devoured or bought some 300 to 400 of the incredibly sweet watermelons. They were very generously donated by local producers Eddie Earnest, Jerry Hartman, Macky McWhirter, and the Anderson Produce Company, now very busy shipping melons from Plains all across the nation.

The old Courthouse grounds were hard pressed to accommodate the many booths present. 65 Arts and Crafts booths attracted shoppers, and 17 booths took care of the crowds hunger and thirst with a variety of treats,

including a novel 'Watermelon Lemonade'.

A thorough pre-event distribution of news of the event went out to a large number of area newspaper, radio and television media, and undoubtedly helped bring many out of towners to the Round-Up. We saw representatives from Lubbock's KMAC and KLBK at the event, and there may have been more media coverage. KMAC's Lee Barron, Ag show host, said he was very impressed with the first ever Round-Up.

The weather cooperated wonderfully, with a cloudy, cool morning, greatly helping the distance runners in the kickoff event at 8 a.m., a 5K run, followed by a 1K Fun Run Walk. The two events drew 45 contestants, many from out of the county and state. A further indicator of the great planning of the event was the always popular

"Cow Patty Bingo" event, with 100 'Bingo' squares drawn on the street, and then releasing a cow, in this day's case a black steer, into a penned area over the 'Bingo' board, the animal expected to make a 'deposit' on the winning \$10 per ticket numbered square. The steer must have rehearsed it's role, for it did it's duty in a remarkably short period of time, and the marked square paid the winner \$960.

The long, ten hour day of continuous entertainment, events and contests was topped off that evening at 7:30 with "To Yoakum County With Love", an outstanding musical program in the school auditorium. Featured vocalist was former resident of both Plains and Denver City, Amy Clark Synatzske, accompanied by noted pianist Clint Barrick of Lubbock. Featured pianist was acclaimed Jack Harman of Denver City. The three highly talented musicians entertained the audience with musical selections ranging from classic opera, to western, swing, religious, Broadway and pop.

A brief recap of all the events of the Round-Up

Last Rites for Estalee Knight

Funeral services for Estalee Knight, 67, of Brownfield was held at 10:30 AM, Monday, September 2, 1996 in the First Baptist Church, Brownfield, with the Rev. Kenneth Flowers, Pastor, officiating. Interment followed at Terry County Memorial.

Mrs. Knight died August 30, 1996 at Methodist Hospital after a sudden illness.

She was born September 9, 1928 in Randall County, TX. She moved with her parents, Lee F. Pearson and Carrie Townsend, to Swisher County where she was raised. She graduated from Happy High School in 1945. Married Harvey K. Knight, Sr. on February 16, 1947 in Salem, TX. She attended Wayland Baptist College, South Plains College, and graduated from Texas Tech in 1973. She was a member of the Eastern Star, Terry Twirlers and First Baptist Church. She was a school teacher for 7 years in Brownfield and was a L.U.T.C.F. agent with National Farm Life for 15 years, retiring in 1995.

Survivors include her husband; two daughters, Shere Forbes of Brownfield, and Carla Tyler of Levelland; one son, Dale Knight of Plains; 1 brother, Wayne Pearson of Tulsa; nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Lee Allen Knight, in 1957.



can be found on page 4. It would be impossible to acknowledge each and every person taking part in making this community event such a great success. To each person who had the tiniest of roles in the affair, to the true movers and shakers who put ideas into action, to the donors and contributors - all of you know who you are - our hearty and sincere congratulations, for a big job extremely well done! Let's have a bigger and better Round-Up next year!



Long Trip To Buy Brisket



Bo, Vana Hawkins, Morris Rushing

Vana Hawkins was one of the winning bidders in Saturday's brisket auction. She and her family live in Ponca City, Oklahoma. Vana felt a bit of obligation in bidding on the "Road Kill" brisket, cooked by her cousin, Morris J. Rushing, and his cook off team of Jim Brown and Herschel Smith.

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Abernathy**

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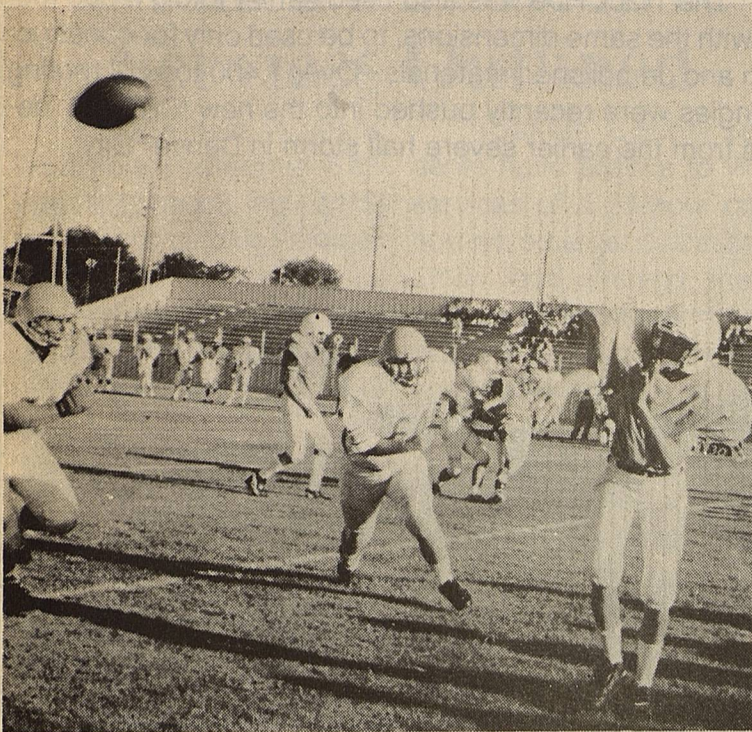
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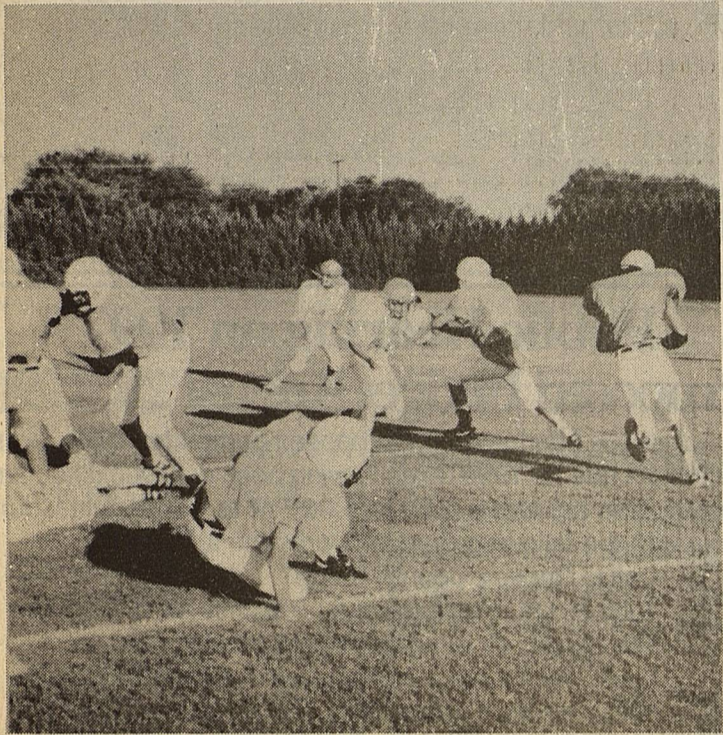
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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

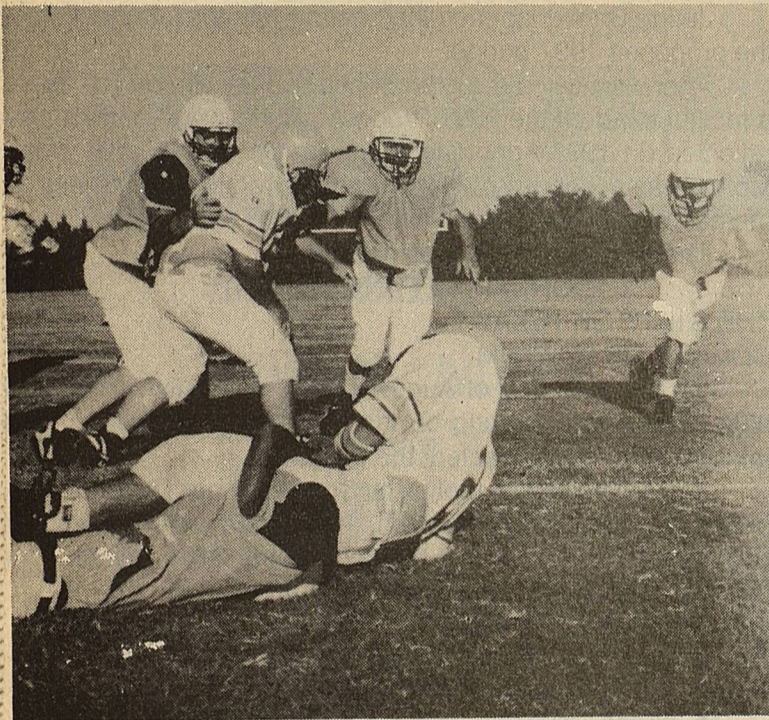
JV Action Against New Deal



Quarterback barely gets this pass away



Sweep to right gains good yardage



Defense looked good on this play

Cowboys Face Abernathy In Season Opener

The long anticipated PHS football season gets underway Friday, September 6, when the Cowboys journey to Abernathy for an 8 P.M. contest.

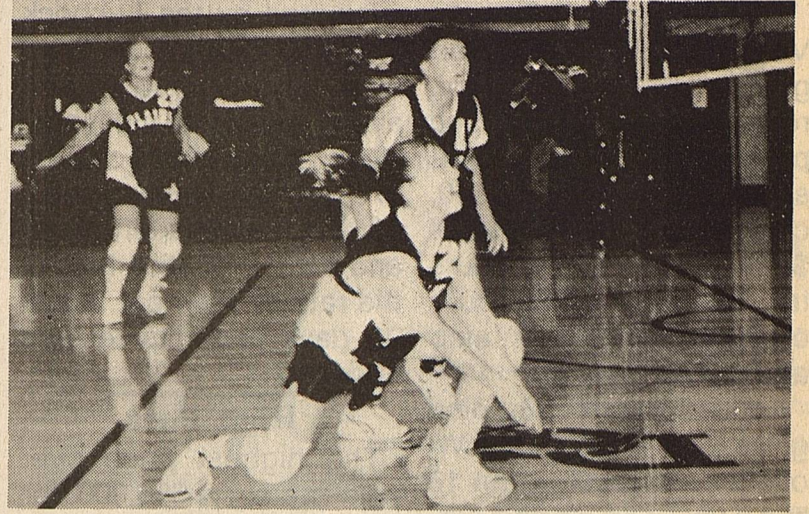
In a brief interview Tuesday with Head Coach Larry McMinn, he reported Abernathy's two recent scrimmages had been scouted by PHS officials, and said, "They have a very good football team," and said the Cowboys must be ready for a solid, strong effort.

Coach McMinn thinks the '96 Cowboys greatest asset is their quickness. On the down size, team depth is limited by the number of

team members, and the Cowboys are not overly large this season.

The team has played two pre-season scrimmage games, facing Sudan and then New Deal. The coach said he was well satisfied with both meetings, and was "very well pleased and proud of the team's efforts."

Competing at the new 2'A level presents a real challenge to the Cowboys. Coach McMinn thinks, "Our toughest competition will probably come from the 'Three S's': Seagraves, Shallowater, and Sundown," but the Cowboys must focus on each weekly opponent, one team at a time.



Warren prepares to dig one out



Cowgirls defending the net

Volleyball Summary

Jr. High

On August 26, the 7th & 8th grade Lady Wranglers faced teams from Denver City. In game 1, the 7th 'A' team fell to the D.C. girls 11-15 and 10-15. The 7th 'B' girls were also downed, 13-15 and 3-15. In 8th grade action, the Lady Wranglers fared much better. The 8th 'B' team lost the first match 13-15, but came back to win the next two games 15-5

and 15-9. They lost their first two games to Lubbock Coronado 11-15 and 9-15, then faced Big Spring. They fell to the Lady Steers 13-15 and 12-15. They had much better results in the next series against Tahoka. They dropped the first game 15-17, but came back strong to win the series 15-6 and 15-6.

Sr. High

The Cowgirls had a good outing against Lub-

Cowgirls In Action



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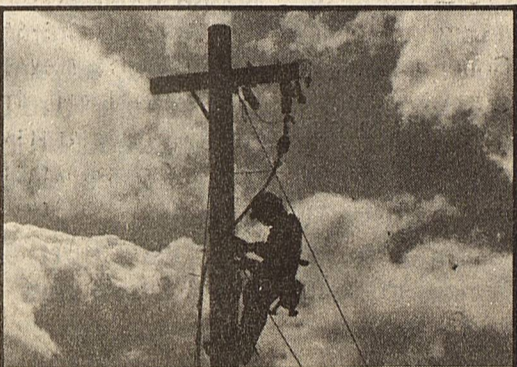
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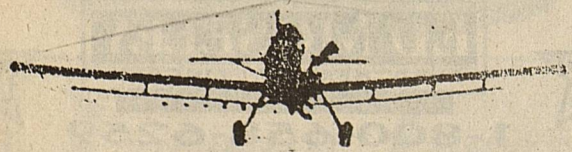
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Cont'd from Page 1,
'Court Cases'
 suspended and probated 12 months. He will serve 72 hours in County jail, with 15 hours credited, must pay a \$500 fine, Court costs of \$227, and attend weekly AA meetings.
 Hermenegilda Rascon Verdugo, 36, also pled guilty to DWI. He too received a suspended and probated 60 day jail sentence, was fined \$500, charged with Court costs of \$227, will serve 72 hours in jail with 11 hours credited, and must also attend AA meetings.

Paul Morales, 36, pled guilty to a subsequent DWI offense. He received an 18 month sentence, suspended and probated 18 months. He was fined \$750, must pay \$235 Court costs, and will spend 15 continuous days in jail with one day credited. His driver's license was suspended for 180 days.
 Ricky Lee Lunsford, 38, pled true to the State's

motion to revoke probation of a previous DWI charge. He was ordered to serve 90 days in jail with 12 days credit, to pay \$500 in delinquent probation fees, and must attend DWI Repeat Offenders Program at his expense. He must be evaluated by the Lubbock Regional Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse and attend weekly AA meetings. He must pay a total of \$200 in appointed Attorney fees, \$500 for delinquent fine, and \$280 Probation fees at the rate of \$164 per month 30 days after his release from jail.

High Pork
 The highest price ever paid for a pig is \$56,000, for a cross bred barrow owned by Jeffrey Roemisch, Hermleigh, Texas, bought by Bud Olson and Phil Bonzin in 1983.

Low Donkeys
 Lowest price ever paid for livestock was at Cape Providence, Africa, in 1934, where donkeys sold for less than 5 cents each.

Round-Up Highlights

Biggest Melon-100 lbs, grown by John Loewen, wins \$500 Savings Bond from Plains State Bank.

The auction of briskets in the Cook-Off raised \$930. Ross Hilburn's team from Denver City took 1st place in the Cook-off, and 2-J's Flying Service, Plains, won second place honors. Other teams entered were: Rushing's Raiders, Precinct 1, Precinct 4, Kenneth McGinty, and Wayne Sisson. Brisket purchasers in the Auction included Dennis Harrison, Debbie Rushing, Anderson Produce, J.R. Slentz, Vaná Hawkins, Jim Barron, & Pay - N - Save Food Stores.

Chili Cook-Off contestants included: Jim Warren, Ross Hilburn, Morris Rushing, Butch Gayle, Denver City 4-H, and Plains 4-H. First place went to Denver City 4-H, and Plains 4-H finished second.

Cow Patty Bingo was won by Jerry Morphis and David Brunson.

5-K Run, 1-K Fun Run Results: Women's 5-K Run overall winner was Cassie Dearing with a time of 24:40. 40 & over = Patti Deanda. 30 & over = Marsha Bennett. 14-19 Cassie Dearing. Men's 5-K Run overall winner was Bob Jackson with a time of 15:52. 50+ = Bill Rogers. 40-50 = Al Gardner. 30-39 = Bob Jackson. 20-29 = Lebert Powell. 14-19 = Jason Kaap. 13 & under = Mario Hernandez. Women's Fun Run-Walk: 60+ = Virginia Sanders. 40-50 = Gale McDonnell. 20-39 = Julie Culwell. 10-13 = Jessica Brown. 9 & under = Danielle Guetersloh. Men's Mile Fun-Run Results: 9 & under - Daniel Estrada. 10-11 = Benny Lowen. 12-13 = Mario Hernandez.

Monster Digging Project

A massive excavation project continues at the Yoakum County Landfill. A large 'Track Hoe', leased for digging new dump pits recently permitted for special use, is being utilized to dig a series of straight walled pits, which will be used for dumping trash on extremely windy days.

The pits are approximately 22 feet deep, 20 feet wide, and 260 feet in length.

The Track Hoe was also used earlier to dig a 300 foot pit with the same dimensions, to be used only for construction and demolished materials. Over 1,400 tons of roofing shingles were recently pushed into the new 'C&D' pit, debris from the earlier severe hail storm in Denver City.



County Court Meets

Commissioners' Court met Tuesday, September 3. Agenda items discussed and acted on included approving advertising for bids on a new motor grader for Precinct 4, with trade-in of a 1982 grader.

The Court approved Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark's request to promote Vicki Blundell to the full time position of First Deputy effective September 1.

They also approved

promotion of Freda Humphrey from Third Deputy to Second Deputy in the Auditor's office.

Another promotion was approved, advancing Kay Swann from Third Deputy to Second Deputy in the County Judge's office, effective September 1.

The Court also discussed how best to utilize insurance money received for the recent hail damage to several county buildings.

SPC To Offer Bottom Line Farming Class in Seagraves

Levelland: South Plains College will offer a course in Bottom Line Farming Sept. 9-19 in Seagraves to help area farmers learn more about borrowing to meet federal requirements.

The class will meet at 6 P.M. weekdays in the Seagraves High School Library under instruction of Karen Harlan.

A Farmers Home Administration law requires that all FHA direct and guaranteed borrowers complete and pass educational courses involving agricultural finance and agricultural production.

Cost is \$350 per person. Enrollment is on a first-

come, first-serve basis. Class size is limited to 25 persons per class.

Ron Presley, SPC assistant professor of agribusiness, developed the curriculum in conjunction with the Texas A&M Extension service and Texas Rural Communities.

The course includes 36 classroom hours and covers such topics as goal setting and priority management, interpretation and use of financial statements, strategic planning, operational planning and other practical aspects of farm management.

For more information, contact Harlan at 546-3200.

Plains Lions Club Meets Thursday, Sep. 5, Noon, At The Scout Hut

THE CITY OF PLAINS

WILL CONDUCT A

PUBLIC HEARING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1996

ON THE PROPOSED

FY96-97 BUDGET

THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD AT 5:00 P.M. AT THE PLAINS CITY HALL

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Public Hearing on 1997 Proposed Budget August 29, 1996

A public hearing on the proposed budget for 1997 and to set the tax rate for 1996 taxes, having been duly published and posted, was held from 4:00 to 6:00 PM in the District Courtroom with the following members present, to wit:

Dallas Brewer, County Judge
 John Avara, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
 Jim Barron, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
 Macky McWhirter, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4
 Julia Lemley, County Clerk

Others present for all or part of the hearing:
 County Auditor Hazel Lowrey

Judge Brewer opened the hearing with the introduction of the proposed 1997 budget.

After discussion of the proposed budget, Jim Barron made a motion to adopt the 1997 Proposed Budget with changes as reflected on 1997 Adopted Budget on file with County Clerk. Motion was seconded by Bob Thurston. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

The following Order was passed.

ORDER SETTING TAX RATE
 THE STATE OF TEXAS)
 COUNTY OF YOAKUM)

On the 29th day of August, 1996, at a duly posted and advertised public hearing on the proposed 1997 budget and tax rate, there is transacted, the following:

It is ORDERED on motion by Commissioner Thurston, seconded by Commissioner Barron, and carried with all members present voting in favor that the tax rate per \$100 valuation for tax year 1996 be set as follows:

\$.03703 Debt Service
 \$.40197 Ad Valorem Maintenance and Operation
 \$.10100 Farm-Market-Lateral
 \$.54000 Total Tax Rate

PASSED AND APPROVED this 29th day of August, A.D., 1996.


Dallas Brewer
 Dallas Brewer, County Judge

ATTEST:

Julia Lemley

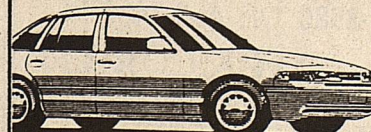
Julia Lemley, County Clerk

The hearing adjourned at 6:00 PM.




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Femme Friends



Women's Protective Services Outlined

For the past 11 years, Women's Protective Services of Lubbock, Inc. (WPS) has been providing services to victims of family violence and continue to be the sole organization that assists the needs of such victims in your county.

WPS Outreach Coordinator, Carol Harmon will be holding office in the Old Elementary School at 412 W. 5th on Tuesdays from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Appointments can be made by calling the hot line number, **1-800-736-6491**. The local phone number to WPS is 592-8392.

WPS is dedicated to providing community education to reduce and/or prevent incidents of family violence while creating a safe and supportive environment for the victim. Mrs. Harmon welcomes the opportunity to speak to community groups concerning family violence.

Yoakum County residents have access to WPS services of a 24-hour crisis hot line, emergency transportation, food, clothing, shelter and medical attention, individual and group counseling, employment and housing referrals, legal advocacy, counseling for children, support from other women who share similar experiences, parenting programs, and a Batterer's Intervention Program for both male and female offenders.

A woman is battered every 9 seconds. Uniform Crime Reports for 1995 reported 50 family violence calls in Yoakum County; only 39 of these victims received services from WPS. Through greater community awareness and increased community involvement, WPS hopes to increase direct services and crisis intervention to abused victims.

Judge's Remarks To Musical Audience

The following is the text of a welcome address from Judge Dallas Brewer prior to Saturday night's musical program.

"The Yoakum County Art Association began working in 1984, with the Texas Alliance for Education and Arts, to form an umbrella entity for Yoakum County. We had talent, leadership, some money, and many needs. Yoakum County was filled with many groups and individuals working for a common goal: the improvement of the quality of life within the County. These groups often worked without community or coordination within the county, but all had a common goal. By naming a broad based, county-wide group, called the "Yoakum County Connection", we were able to combine many of these efforts in a more streamlined and effective cause. This effort has received the blessings of our city councils, chambers of commerce and the commissioners court. The Yoakum County Connection hopes to connect ethnic groups, civic and cultural groups, and youth groups within the county, resulting in better activities, sharing of resources and participation from county residents. The 8500 residents of Yoakum County can be proud of who

we are, where we live, and dream for a brighter future, thanks to the realization of this effort.

"Our eight new directors serving either 1 or 2 year terms are; Dallas Brewer, Ann Hartman, Linda Powell, L.J. Sanders, Kathy Clark, Jim Millsap, Alonzo Hernandez, and Ron Hatfield.

"In January of 1997, four more directors will be elected for 3 year terms by dues-paying civic groups and businesses. During the first 5 months of 1996, Mr. Peter F. Fox with the Texas Alliance of Education and the Arts, interviewed over 100 county residents to research our goals and needs in Yoakum County. The Yoakum County Connection board hopes to address these concerns. We hope you will participate and work for an economically healthy, proudly growing, and culturally aware tomorrow. Our children and grandchildren deserve no other."

The Judge then introduced Dusty Briscoe, Texas-Oklahoma Watermelon Queen, and recognized Ann Hartman, Chairman of the Watermelon Round-Up, and L.J. Sanders, Finance Chairman for their roles in the event.



HOWDY!

By: *Kathy Adair*



SETTING LIMITS FOR CHILDREN

Parents set rules and limits for their child's behavior to show they love and care for their child. Limits are like guard rails on a bridge. They provide protection and security for the child, as well as teach him to take responsibility for himself.

Setting limits requires being positive, firm, consistent and having realistic expectations. When parents set limits they:

- Teach children to avoid danger
- Help children to attain socially acceptable behavior (to have regard for others as well as for themselves)
- Show children they care for them
- Help children control themselves
- Put a sense of organization into a child's world
- Help themselves and their children know what to expect of each other

A few rules and limits that the child can understand are important to his security. While the two-year old can not be expected to stay away from the candy dish within reach, certain appropriate limits can be set, such as "only Daddy can give you candy", or "you may have grapes instead." As the parent removes the candy away from the child or the child away from the candy, briefly explain why this is not the best thing for the child, and distract him with the grapes, toy or activity.

Parents can deal with the toddler's natural defiance by making most decisions themselves. Begin to help them learn to make choices on food or clothing -- "Do you want apple juice or grape juice?" (not "What do you want to drink?") or "Do you want to wear this red shirt or this blue shirt?"

When setting rules or imposing limits, parents should try not to become trapped in a battle of wills. They may win the battle at the expense of the child's curiosity, enthusiasm, and self-esteem, or they may lose to a determined child's tantrums and negativism. When this new independence comes to the toddler, parents inevitably worry about spoiling. An independent one-year-old is not spoiled, but probably does not understand the rules or limits. Parents should select and impose as few limits as possible. These limits should be reasonable in relation to the child's age and ability, stated positively and imposed firmly and consistently.

Insecurity about the tasks of parenting and parental guilt can cause parents to have low expectations of their child. Children need well-defined and consistent limits. They forget easily and therefore need many repetitions or answers from their parents. Parents may become unrealistically patient and hesitant when they need to be firm. When rules are being established, the child's developmental level and his style need to be considered; the rules should be reasonable, protective, consistent and enforceable. Children will keep checking the limits until they are sure you really mean to keep them.

Wedding Shower

A Wedding Shower honoring Chris & Andrea Payne is planned for September 8, 1996 at the Clubroom - Plains 2 to 4 PM

Band Boosters

There will be a 'Special' Band Booster Meeting at the Library Sept. 4, 5:30 PM to discuss this year's project.

Kay Swann

Announcing the Opening of Mustang Dry Cleaners

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Thank you Plains and Denver City for your show of community spirit for the Watermelon Round-Up.

Wall & Table Decorations - Priced Right...
New - large root jar candles \$19.99
* Make your space smell great

Be thinking of Homecoming on -- October 4 --

And the rains have come... For this we give thanks.

Selections:
Rosie Kay (Wauson) & Chris White
McWhirter Baby
Chris & Andrea Payne

CCN Took Nine Dozen Photos At The Watermelon Round-Up.



Travis Sanders beats Grand-maw Virginia to finish line.



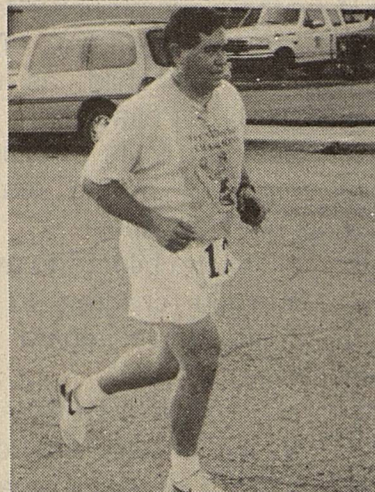
This young Miss announced at the finish of the 1-K, "I'm a little tired now".



Dawn Garland, Joy Osborn chugging home in 1-K.



13 year old Mario Hernandez won his age division in the 5-K race here, trotted over, joined the 1-K, and won his division again!



The 5-K winning runner blistered the course in 15:52; This gentlemen blistered his feet for last place in about 48 minutes.



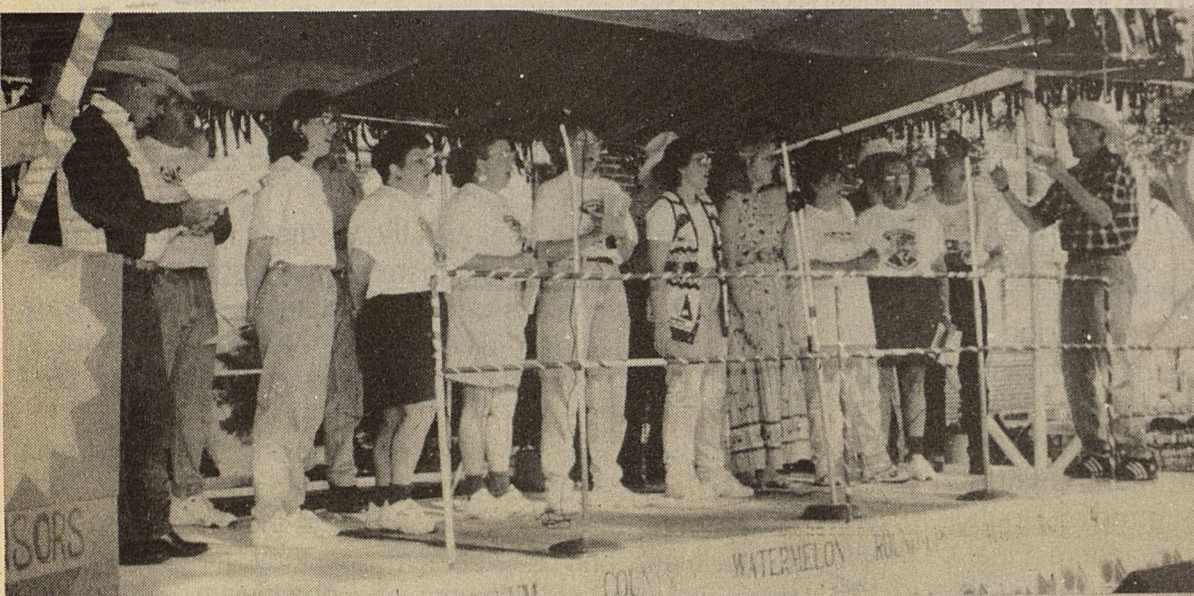
Jessica Brown happy to finish!



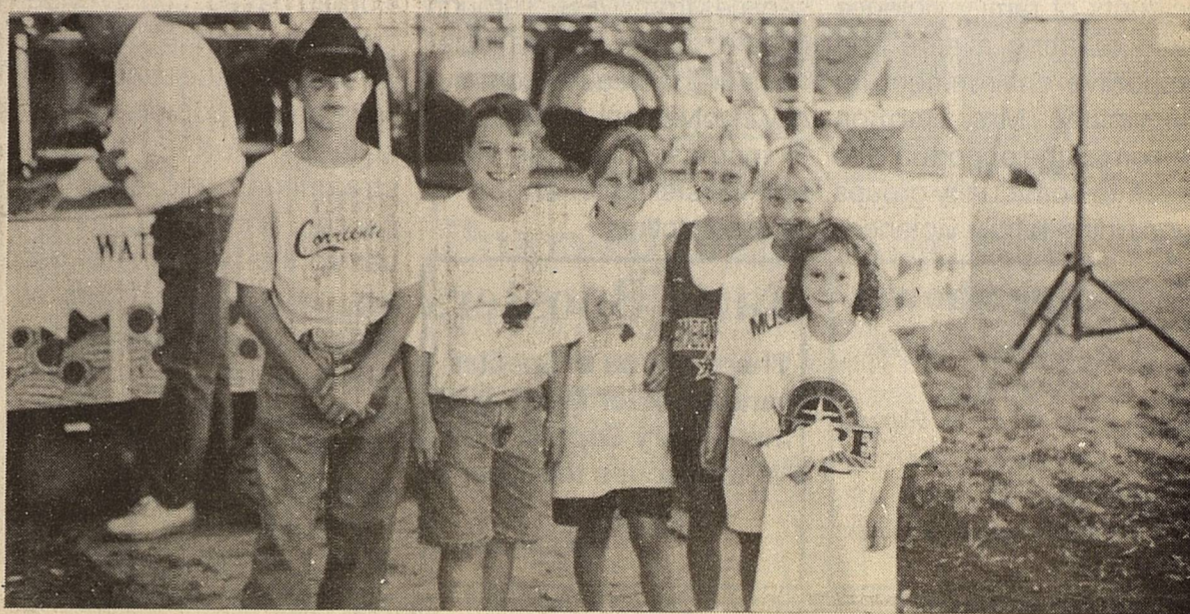
Several tons of free watermelon slices were handed out Saturday.



KMAC's Lee Barron Likes Miss Bell's 'Watermelon Crawl' routine.



Patrick Hamilton led the Baptist Choir in an outstanding performance



Denver City 4-H kids and check for 1st place in Chili Cook-Off



This young Miss was a bit shy modeling her watermelon dress.



Texas-Oklahoma Watermelon Queen Dusty Renee Briscoe & Keith Earnest



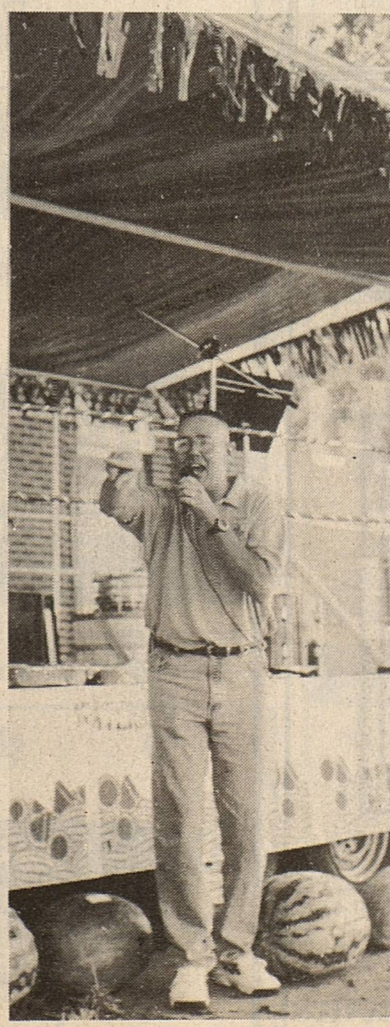
Ross Hilburn and winning Brisket Cook Off team



These young ladies weren't a bit shy in their melon finery.



J.R. & Marjie Slentz & auctioned brisket



Steve Osborn was a great auctioneer



Jordan Chambliss shows winning form in seed spitting contest

Here Are A few Of The Fun Scenes Saturday.



Eager runners ready to start 1-K



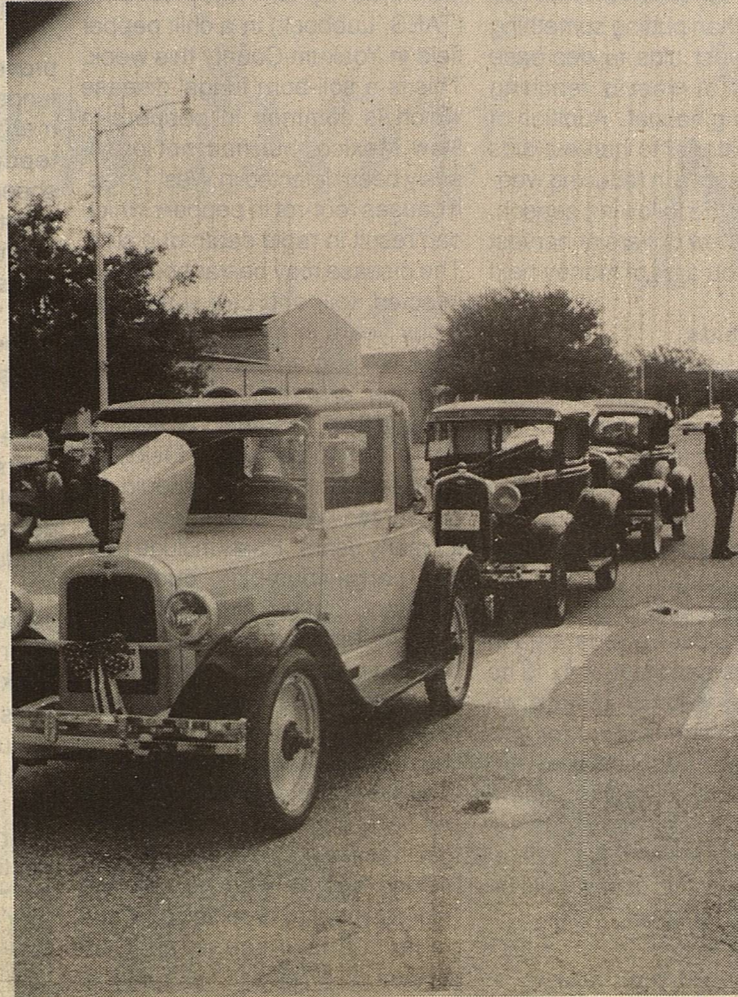
Alltel held Open House



Happy Little Miss and her balloon



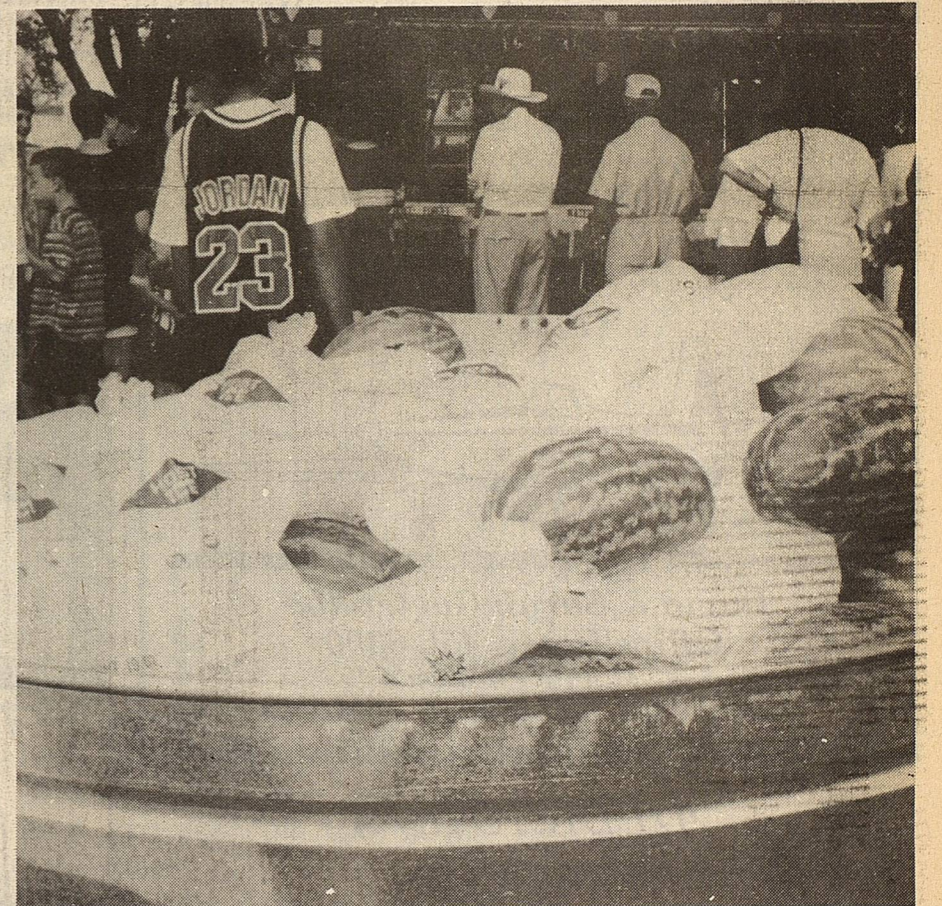
Crash dummies don't faze this cutie



Impressive Model A's



65 booths with every type Arts & Crafts



Tons & Tons of cold watermelons



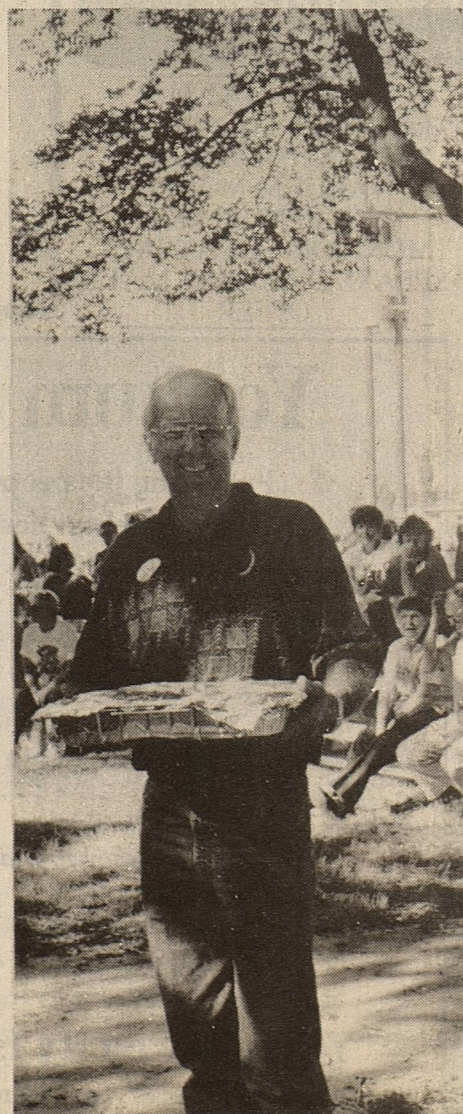
Debbie rushing gets \$150 Brisket from Jerry Morphis



Danielle Guetersloh wins her division in 1-K



Sisters Jessy & Lacy Jones, champ seed spitters



Jim Barron & Auctioned Brisket



Classy model & melon costume



Tara Chambliss & brisket sold to Anderson Produce

From The Hack



IPM Update

Phillip Kidd,
Extension Agent - IPM

Boll Weevils

Migration of weevils is increasing across the area, as older cotton has cut out and weevils are searching for high quality food (fresh 1/3-grown squares). Small bolls should be sampled in area fields rather than squares at this time. Treatments may be justified when 15% of the small bolls sampled have been punctured.

The last effective bloom date, or the last day a white flower will produce a harvestable boll, is generally 25 August in this area. Therefore, protection of any fruit younger than an eight-day-old boll is not economically justified at this time. Bolls are considered safe from weevil damage when they are 15 days old, or quarter size in diameter. The last harvestable bolls will be 15 days old on September 8. I would not recommend treatments for weevils after this date, other than putting something in with harvest aids to decrease the number of weevils reaching overwintering habitat. Addition of a weevil material to harvest aids is highly effective in reducing weevil pressure the following season. Spending a few dollars at harvest may save you a lot of money next year.

Cotton Aphids

Aphid populations appear to be leveling off in most area fields. The occurrence of parasitized aphids, or 'mummies', is common and I have heard they have crashed in some fields, but I do not recommend relying on them to crash rather than treating at this time. When aphids crash, it generally occurs over a wide area in a very short period of time. The cloudy, cool weather pattern we are experiencing is ideal for cotton aphid reproduction and survival, and it appears this pattern is going to hold in our area for another five to seven days. Therefore, control of this pest should be economically justified.

Beet Armyworms

Treatable populations of beet armyworms (BAW) are now present in many area fields. The highest populations appear to be in the Brownfield and Union areas.

Some fields have been treated and adequate control has been achieved. Be cautious about treating for this pest because adequate control is difficult to achieve and it is quite expensive (\$15 to 25 per acre). Monitor BAW populations closely. They are currently feeding primarily on leaves, but can quickly move to fruit.

Bollworms

Bollworm larvae and egg counts have been low this week, and development of treatable populations is becoming more unlikely. Although the current weather pattern would tend to promote worm survival, the supply of small fruit for these worms to get started on is quickly decreasing. Small bolls are still not safe from these worms, but the value of this fruit is now relatively low. Therefore, treatment thresholds should be raised to 10,000 to 12,000 small larvae per acre.

Phytophthora in Peppers

Phytophthora capsici was identified by Dr. Terry Wheller (TAES, Lubbock) in a chili pepper field in Yoakum County this week. This is a soil-borne fungal disease which is common in peppers in New Mexico, but had not previously been detected in West Texas. It causes root-rot in peppers which can result in rapid death of plants. The disease may be transported in infected soil, and can survive for many years in the soil. The disease will also spread with the flow of water and through cultivation within a field. Control cost is in the range of \$40 per acre. Fields infected with this disease should not be planted back to a suitable host for many years. Hosts include pepper, carrot, pumpkin, cucurbits, eggplant, tomato, etc.

At this time we are not sure how this pathogen was transported into these fields. Any equipment used in infected fields should be cleaned before entering other fields to prevent the spread of infected soil. Any equipment used by custom harvesters, etc. out of New Mexico should also be cleaned prior to entering area fields. If you believe this disease may be present in a pepper field, please contact my office so I can evaluate the distribution of the problem.

Sheep Referendum Scheduled

College Station: The U.S. Department of Agriculture will conduct a second referendum on the sheep and wool promotion, research, education and information order on October 1.

In-person voting will take place in the county Extension office. Voters may request an absentee ballot from the county Extension office that serves the voters residence or, if the voter is a business entity, the office that serves its main office or headquarters.

County Extension offices may only fill requests for absentee ballots from Aug. 26 through Sept. 17. Completed absentee ballots must be received in the county Extension office by close of business on Sept. 27. Ballots will be counted on Oct. 16.

If the referendum is approved, the program would be funded by a mandatory assessment on domestic producers, feeders and exporters of live sheep and greasy wool. The assessment would be one cent per pound on live sheep sold and two cents per pound on greasy wool sold. Importers would be assessed a one cent per pound on live sheep, the equivalent of one cent per pound of live sheep for sheep products as well as two cents per pound of degreased wool or the equivalent of degreased wool for wool and wool products.

An earlier referendum was carried out on Feb. 6, 1996 but Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman determined that the results were invalid because the procedures were applied incorrectly and inconsistently.

Eligible voters must have been a person engaged in the production, feeding or importation of

sheep or sheep products during the calendar year of 1994. The USDA defines a person as an individual or legal entity (a corporation, partnership or estate), or a group of individuals with a joint ownership interest in sheep (a family, cooperative or an association). All 4-H or FFA members who owned sheep in 1994 are eligible to vote.

In this referendum, each person has only one vote. Spouses who jointly own sheep are considered a family and are not entitled to two votes even in community property states such as Texas.

No one is authorized to register or to vote on behalf of an individual voter.

Raw wool is exempt from assessment, and importers who imported only raw wool is not eligible to vote.

Questions about voter eligibility, verifying the volume of production, challenges, the challenge resolution process, appeals of eligibility determinations, ballot counting, reporting and related topics should be made to county FSA offices.

Questions about voting procedures may be asked at the county Extension office.

Any other questions about the referendum may be referred to Kenneth R. Payne, Agricultural Marketing Service, Washington D.C., toll-free (888) 265-8110.

PISD Bulletin

Sept. 4-10

Thursday: Football, Abernathy, JV, Here, 6 PM
Friday: Football, Abernathy, V, There, 8 PM
Saturday: Volleyball, Brownfield, V, There, 11 AM
Volleyball, Snyder, JV & 9th Tournament, There, TBA
Monday: Volleyball, Levelland, 7th & 8th, A & B, Here, 4:30 PM
Tuesday: Volleyball, Brownfield/Andrews, JV/V, Brownfield

I am having problems at home. No, No, not the Bride and I. My trouble source is our commode.

Commodes, as you know, are supposed to be user friendly. Mine has definitely turned anti-social. The appliance is, of course, a very necessary piece of equipment. It is a place of refuge, if nothing else, for me to visit when the Bride says it is time to clean off the table and do the dishes. It is an easy chair, of sorts, where I have spent hours reading fascinating material all my long life.

It has suddenly decided to be stubborn. No more does it happily swirl the water away and rapidly refill itself. Sometimes it only fills half way. The lever and mechanism inside the tank has decided to be cranky. Sometimes it refuses to work at all, sometimes it won't shut off, and the water runs an eternity. It's quite disturbing.

This is one situation I shall definitely remedy. I am not about to give up the refuge which affords me a place to meditate, to consider the mysteries of life, to ponder profound issues.

I shall purchase a new potty, if all else fails. I'm not about to give up my only

safe refuge when it comes dish washing time.

We received an astounding letter last week from one Jeanine St. Romain, former Plains Resident now enjoying life in Virginia Beach, Va., a regular visitor at the annual Plains Rodeo and Old Settlers Reunion.

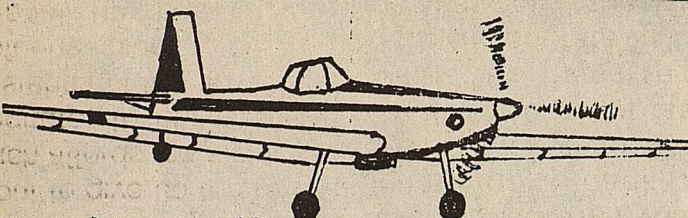
The PHS graduate, the very first Lions Club Queen, a former Girl's State Candidate, sent CCN a letter so flattering I felt sure she addressed the wrong newspaper.

I mean, really, this lady really confused me. Her accolades so impressed me I told the Bride, "The girl sent the letter to the wrong town and wrong paper". "No", the bride responded, "It's addressed to us."

Then I had a clue. When Jeanine paid her annual visit to the Rodeo and Old Settler's Reunion, the Bride must have loaded her down with spouse's favorite Blackberry Wine.

Jeanine, thank you sincerely for your very nice epistle. You are a faithful reader, and I promise your subscription rate will not increase for the next two months. Thanks again, babe.

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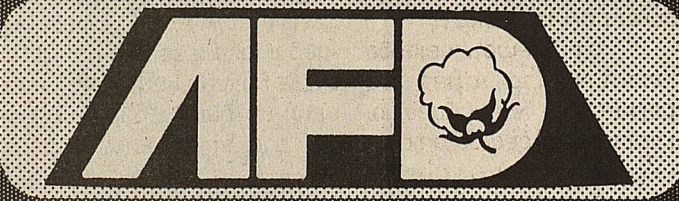
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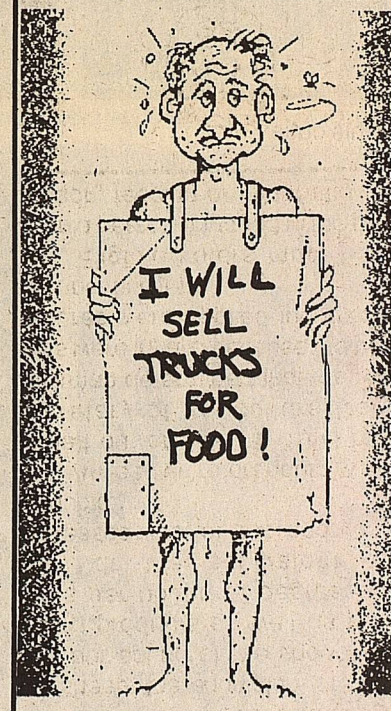
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