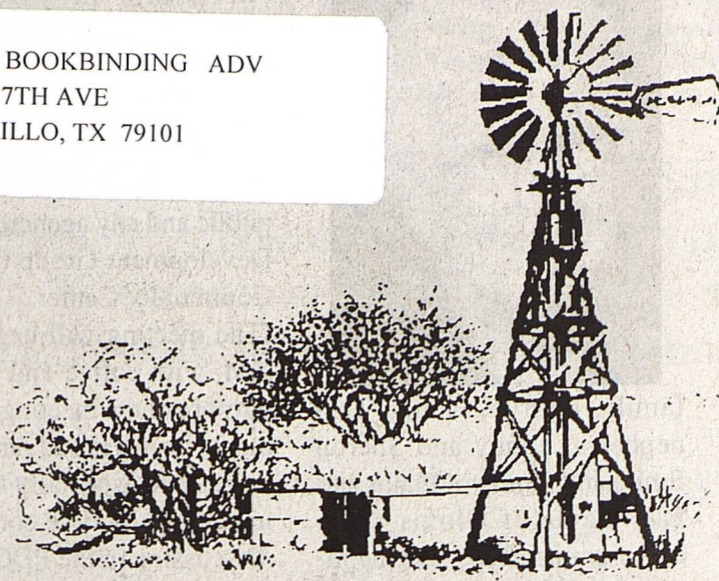


Cowboy Country News

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

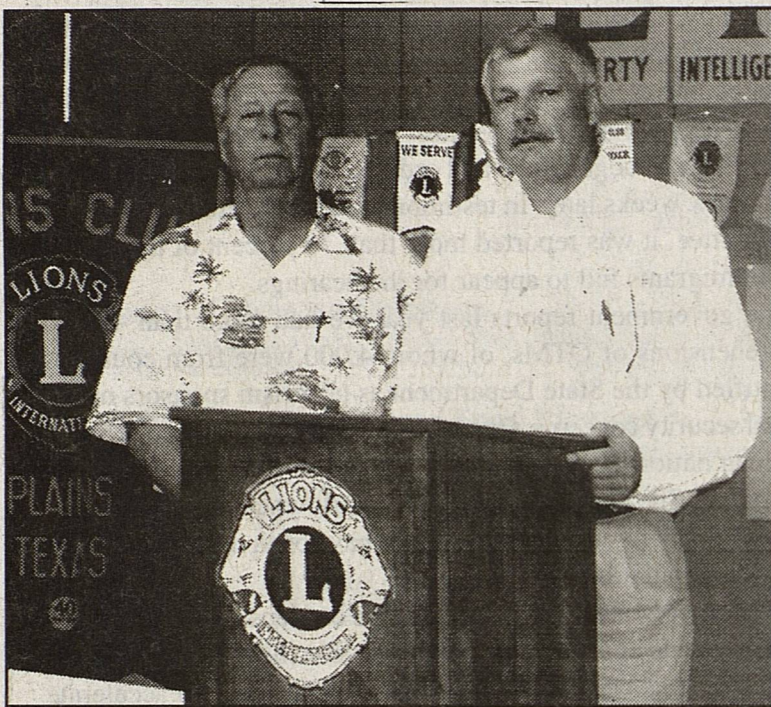
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Volume XI, Issue 49, August 24, 2005

No One Enjoys High Electric Bills

Including Lea County Electric's
General Manager and Board



LCEC Board member Terry Davis and General Mgr. Gary Hurse

Lea County Electric Cooperative General Manager Gary Hurse last week told Plains Lions Club members, "I'm well aware none of you folks are enjoying higher electric bills from the Cooperative. I don't like mine either, and our Board members aren't enjoying theirs." Terry Davis, long time Plains resident and member of the Cooperative Board who was in the audience, agreed with Hurse's observation on rising rates.

Hurse was guest speaker for the Lions, and he apologized for earlier canceling appearances because of business trips to Washington, D.C. He said, "Plains and Plains people are important to us. Its vital the Cooperative is familiar with this community, its needs and plans, and we feel its important we take part in your activities, and provide you with the very best service we possibly can."

He explained the current and ongoing spike in power costs, and referred to a letter of explanation enclosed in the Cooperative's August 15 billing to Plains customers. LCEC currently has a contract with Xcel Energy, which has coal fired generation plants in the Amarillo and Muleshoe area, where the cooperative's power originates. A disruption in railines has caused a shortage of coal for these plants, resulting in some use of higher priced natural gas for power generation. This in turn means the cooperative must pay Xcel more. The letter clearly states, "Fuel costs are passed along to LCEC members without mark-up or profit to the Cooperative. Fuel costs are passed on to members in accordance with the rate tariff approved by the New Mexico Regulatory Commission and the Texas Public Utility Commission".

Hurse told the Lions "Our earlier contracting with Xcel has been very beneficial to our members. The contract period will expire in the near future, and I assure you, your Board and I will be ready for some serious negotiang when renewal time gets here".

Asked if the ongoing, extensive national media touting of renewable energy options had any chance of alleviating power costs, Hurse said, "The most reported option is wind power. The concept is sound, but what is often overlooked or ignored is, the wind does not blow all the time. If everything depended on wind power, what do we do when its calm?" Hurse closed by telling the Lions he would be seeing more of Plains people in the future.

Assessment Notices To Arrive Soon

Abilene - Boll weevil eradication assessment notices were recently mailed to cotton producers in the Western High Plains eradication zone.

The assessments are based on information cotton producers provide the Farm Service Agency when they certify their

crops. If growers find an error in the information on their billing, they will need to correct the information at their local FSA office and forward the corrected information to the Foundation.

Payment is due September 30, See NOTICES, Page 3

10th Watermelon Round Up Time Just Around The Corner Planning volunteers expect biggest, best yet

Yoakum County Connection members and Round Up volunteers met for a final planning session August 16 at Plains City Hall. Connection members and Round Up committee chairs gave update reports on their assignments for the September 3 day long fun bash.

The melon seed spitting contest should draw attention - \$50 first place prize money will be awarded in four categories.

The information booth near the bandsatnd will offer an interesting door prize this year, according to chair Sheila Stephens. City Hall employees are working to improve the electrical power system for food booths and on stage entertainment music and announcements.

At the meeting time a few arts and crafts booths were still available for the big Saturday party on the square.

Local melon growers will again furnish watermelons. Many will be sold to auto traffic on the southside of the Park near City Hall as a Connection fund raiser, and hundreds more melons will be sliced and offered free throughout the day to the thousands of expected visitors. Barbara Wright will head up the melon sales, and Toni Jones will again oversee the melon cutting by volunteers from Brownfield and Plains.

Local James Altman has again



Here's what its all about - the finest watermelons you ever laid a lip to!!

organized day-long musical entertainment, including Michael Earnest and his band, Under the Double Eagle Band, the big hit Cactus Cuties girls, First Baptist Choir, vocalist Sunny Helms, Scars & Stripes, and the talented Hobbs NM Star Dance Academy.

Terry Davis, again heading up the Classic Car Show, expects another great turnout of stunning old cars, and says ticket sales for the 1962 Thunderbird raffle are moving fast. The T Bird has a book value of \$12,000 to \$15,000.

There will be another big Brisket, Ribs and Chicken Cookoff in Stanford park under direction of Lisa Woods. Dottie Mayes will again chair the kids games and petting zoo.

Denver City's Chamber of Commerce this year will oversee the always colorful and often wacky watermelon decorating contest, with generous cash prizes donated by local banks. Melvin Dearing again organizes the Fun and Toddler Runs, Mary Lou Sherrin will oversee the horseshoe pitching contest, with \$100 cash prize. 1

Local Connie McWhirter has secured the presence of two watermelon queens - Lacy Jones, the daughter of well known Guy and Teretha Jones and grand daughter of Anderson Produce's Jerri and Dero Anderson will be here as reigning Texas/Oklahoma Watermelon Queen, and will be joined by Stephanie Duda, the reigning National Watermelon Queen.

Connection members urge all area residents to encourage out of town friends and family to attend the 10th Round Up - They are sure to enjoy it.

Judge makes it official - leaving office at end of current term

Prior to the opening of Commissioners Court Monday, Country Judge Dallas Brewer furnished the Editor of CCN a typed statement reading as follows;

"After 20 years of service, it is time for me to step down as your county judge at the end of this term. It has been a real privilege and honor to represent the residents of Yoakum County. I have enjoyed my time in office and will continue to do the job you have elected me to do.

For those interested in seeking a county office, filing dates are December 2, 2005 through January 2, 2006.

Local Artist To Show In Lubbock Gallery

In the August 17 issue of CCN, complete results of the Yoakum County Art Association show were featured. One participating member artist's name seemed to appear quite frequently in both painting and photography honors lists. Her legal name is Suzy Powell, but she signs her name, and her art work, Suzy 'Pal'. Her watercolor paintings and photographs earned 14 places in the list of top achievers in the annual show and sale.

Many of Suzy's watercolor works will be on display soon at the Asbury Gallery in Lubbock. The reception and show is scheduled for Friday, September 2, from 6 PM to 9PM at the gallery on the third floor of the Asbury Building, located at 2005 Avenue T.

As a young girl she was always "drawing and doodling on everything in the house". Later, in her 30's, she started



working with oils, only to learn she was allergic to them. She worked with pencil and pastels, but began to focus her efforts on her favorite medium, watercolors.

She is basically self-taught, although she has taken a few classes and attended workshops of area well known art-

ists. Her artistic talents have been featured in many local venues. She produced the calendar cover for the County's Historical Society in 2002, the painting for the Lea County Electric Cooperative annual report, western and Christmas scenes for Coffee City USA in See Suzy Pal, Page 2

Services held for Sallye Shoemaker

Sallye Shoemaker of Plains passed away Saturday, August 20, 2005 in Denver City.

She was born Oct. 16, 1916 in Yoakum County to Arthur and Eva Lena Davis. She met the love of her life, Lynn Shoemaker, and they were married September 19, 1938 in Lovington, NM.

Sallye attended schools at the Bledsoe ISD in Yoakum County and graduated from Lubbock High in 1934. She attended nursing school at the Lubbock Memorial Hospital.

In the early 70's she retired from the General Telephone Company where she worked as a supervisor. She moved to Plains in 1980 from Butte Falls, Ors. She was a member of Plains Methodist Church.

Sally loved to travel extensively with the ABC Bank Ladies and her friends. She will be remembered as always providing everyone with a great time and loved to show pictures of her trips. Her family remember her as being a devout Democrat.

Those left to cherish her memories include; two nieces, Sandra Ellison and family and Sheila and Bo Stephens and



family, both of Plains; Two nephews, Lanny and Sheron Smith and family of Plains and Bill Davis of Clovis, NM; eight great-nieces and nephews, and 18 great-great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one brother, one sister, her parents and her husband.

Graveside services were held Monday, August 22 at the Plains Cemetery, with Rev. Rick Doyle officiating and Rev. Cameran Givan assisting.

The family asks memorials be made to the building fund at Plains Methodist Church, Box 396, Plains TX 79355 or the Macular Degeneration Assn.

Personal services were provided by Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors/Plains Memorial Chapel.

SPC offers new degree

South Plains College is now accepting students for the fall semester in the associate of arts in teaching degree program.

The two year program has an articulated agreement with Texas Tech-College of Education and pending agreements with Lubbock Christian University and Wayland Baptist University. The agreement would allow the students

graduating from the program to enter the universities at junior level status in a teacher education program.

Both the education and math education classes are offered on the Levelland campus during the day and Reese Center in the evenings. For more information, contact Annette Smith, 806-894-9611, ext. 2173.

Yoakum SWCD plans Program Development Group Meeting here

The Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District invites the public and any agencies with interest to participate in a Program Development Group (PDG) meeting to be held at the Plains Community Center.

The meeting will begin Wednesday morning, August 31 at 8 AM, with coffee and donuts served starting at 7:30 AM. The purpose of the meeting is to request participation and invite comments from a broad range of local agencies, organizations, businesses and especially farmers and ranchers that have an interest in natural resource conditions and needs.

Discussion in the PDG will help the Local Work Group (LWG) led by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District. The LWG will make recommendations on resource concerns to be addressed, eligible practices, cost share rates, and ranking for county based funding.

One of the guiding principles of the 2002 USDA Farm Bill is conservation districts programs are locally led. Through stake holder meetings, local citizens and producers are given an opportunity to help local conservation leaders set conservation program priorities. These meetings are open to the public.

EQIP was established in the 1996 Farm Bill to provide a single, voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers to address significant natural resources concerns. Nationally, it provides technical and financial assistance to address these concerns.

Administered by the NRCS, EQIP was reauthorized in the 2002 Farm Bill and awards cost share and incentive practices which provide significant environmental benefit. In Texas, NRCS provides funding to each county to address local high priority resource concerns.

For more information call the USDA Service Center in Plains at 806-456-3703 ext. 3.

Services held for Laura (Ellis) Rushing

Laura Ann Ellis Rushing died in Kerrville August 18, 2005. Services were held at Trinity Baptist Church August 22, and burial was held Tuesday, August 23 at Tahoka Cemetery.

She was born December 31, 1932 at home in Three Lakes, Texas, to James and Thelma Ellis.

She grew up in Plains among a large family. She attended Texas Tech and achieved a de-

gree in education. She taught mainly in kindergarten for 27 years.

Survivors include her children, James Michiel Rushing, Austin, Cecil Jay Rushing, Trophy Club, and Terri Ann Rushing, Atlanta, Georgia; a brother, James Hickerson Ellis, Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Condolences may be sent to www.grimesfuneralchapels.com

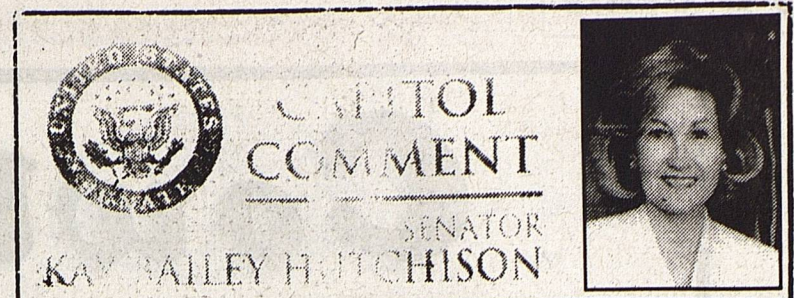
From Page Two, Suzy Pal

Tyler, designed the fund raising T-Shirts for Yoakum County Connection for 2002-2005. She was also featured in " One Woman Shows " at Lubbock's Barnes & Noble Bookstore in 2003 and 2004.

Her artistic talents have been featured in Watercolor Magic, Artists Sketchbook, and North Light magazines.

She signs her works Suzy Pal, not Powell, and told this writer " Way back there, when my husband Kenneth and I were in school, he would send me notes, and they were addressed Suzy Pal. I guess it has stuck pretty well."

She stays busy in her studio in the back yard of their home, and she teaches both adults and children. Her website address is www.suzypal.com.



With the savage bomb attacks in London, the world was put on notice terrorists are continuing their jihad against the peaceful free people of the world and trying to destroy freedom. Because these murderers have often stated their goal is to attack Americans in our homeland, we have to continue our efforts to improve our domestic security.

A key element in any plan to keep America safer is prevention of terrorists and their weapons from entering our country in the first place. This is why, ever since 9/11, Congress has been providing increased resources to make our seaports, airports and land border crossings more secure. This is vitally important in the valley region. After all, Texas is widely known as America's 'Third Coast' because of its long gulf shorelines; it has 1,254 miles of shared border with Mexico. Terrorists as well as violent drug gangs are trying to penetrate our borders more and more.

Al-Qaeda's number one man in Iraq, Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi, has said his goal is to attack Americans in our homeland, and suggested smuggling in through Mexico. Already, investigators report finding Qurans and prayer mats in border areas of Arizona.

Currently, our policy requires our border agents to handle Mexican illegal immigrants differently from those who come from other countries, who are known by the acronym OTM, or, Other Than Mexican. Amazingly, most OTM individuals are set free on personal recognizance and ordered to appear for court hearings a few weeks later. In testimony before the House Judiciary Committee, it was reported more than 70 percent of those illegal immigrants fail to appear for the hearings.

The government reports last year we had more than 44,000 apprehensions of OTMs, of whom 4,000 were from countries identified by the State Department as terrorism sponsors or national security concerns. One of them was Farida Ahmed, a South African national who officials believe is a high level Al Qaeda operative. She was heading to New York when apprehended in McAllen, but how many of her allies have been released to blend into the population?

What complicates efforts to make the border safer is the explosion of people and goods traveling between the U.S. and Mexico. This trade has been part of our history, but began to accelerate with the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1996.

Texas roads and rails carry most of America's NAFTA trade. Our challenge is to properly screen the huge amount of people and goods which cross our border each year well enough to provide good security while being efficient enough to allow trade to continue to flourish.

To improve security we must provide sufficient resources and personnel to do the job. This was a key reason why I successfully fought to restore funding to increase the number of border patrol officers to the full 2,000 authorized in the Intelligence Reform bill.

We cannot physically screen every single container in our nation's vast economy, but we can certainly screen more than we do at present, and can set up a system to coordinate methods of identifying shippers and materials. We can also use large scanners, canine teams and other methods to determine whether containers are carrying weapons, narcotics, explosives, currency or people.

We can also do a better job of monitoring Texas' substantial cross border truck traffic. A single truck booth on the border may handle 3.9 million vehicles per year. To address this problem, we are beginning a pilot program using Radio Frequency Identification Devices (RFIDs) on the vehicles. If the program proves successful, we should think about speeding up adoption of these devices.

Some people think we can solve our problems by simply slamming the doors on our borders. We in Texas know better, and I am committed to working with residents in the valley to come up with solutions which will allow our commerce and prosperity to increase even as we improve our nation's security against the terrorists and drug traffickers who threaten our way of life.

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MEMBER 2005

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Cowboy Country News

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E-Mail us at ccn@crosswind.net

ID # 017574 Ph. 806-456-8451 Fax 806-456-2010

Local girl grad at Tarleton

Staci Tuggle Carey graduated May 7, 2005 from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas. She

graduated with Cum Laude honors and a grade point average of 3.65. She received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Staci is the daughter of Randy and Edith Tuggle. Her proud grandparents are William and Helen Worsham and Dorris and Louise Tuggle, all of Plains.

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Mobile 806-592-1319

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Property Tax Rates in

This notice concerns 2005 property tax rates for Yoakum County. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

	General Fund	Farm to Market/ Flood Control Fund	Special Road/ Bridge Fund
Last year's tax rate:			
Last year's operating taxes	\$ 7,582,714	\$ 1,335,143	\$
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 342,060	\$ 0	\$
Last year's total taxes	\$ 7,924,774	\$ 1,335,143	\$
Last year's tax base	\$ 1,920,029,369	\$ 1,916,965,009	\$
Last year's total tax rate	\$.43232 /\$100	\$.07297 /\$100	\$ /\$100

This year's effective tax rate:			
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 8,298,831	\$ 1,398,279	\$
= This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 2,539,138,986	\$ 2,535,802,866	\$
= This year's effective tax rate for each fund	\$.32683 /\$100	\$.05514 /\$100	\$ /\$100
Total effective tax rate	\$.38197 /\$100		

(Maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings)

This year's rollback tax rate:			
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 7,956,950	\$ 1,398,279	\$
= This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 2,539,138,986	\$ 2,535,802,866	\$
= This year's effective rate	\$.31337 /\$100	\$.05514 /\$100	\$ /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$.33844 /\$100	\$.05955 /\$100	\$ /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$.01355 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ /\$100
= This year's rollback rate for each fund	\$.35199 /\$100	\$.05955 /\$100	\$ /\$100
This year's total rollback rate	\$.41154 /\$100		

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If Yoakum County adopts a 2005 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$.38197 per \$100 of value, taxes would decrease compared to 2004 taxes by \$ 200.00

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Perm. Improve:	Balance
General		\$ 150,000
R&B Prec.		\$ 1,922,265
Jury		\$ 1,928,188
		\$ 111,438

Schedule B - 2005 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
	\$ 275,000	\$ 69,335	\$	\$ 344,335
(expand as needed)				
Total required for 2005 debt service			\$ 344,335	
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A			\$ 0	
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources			\$ 0	
- Excess collections last year			\$ 0	
- Total to be paid from taxes in 2005			\$ 344,335	
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only _____ % of its taxes in 2005			\$ 0	
- Total Debt Levy			\$ 344,335	

Schedule D - State Criminal Justice Mandate (For Counties)

The Yoakum County Auditor certifies that Yoakum County has spent \$ 44,512 in the previous 12 months beginning August, 2004 for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Yoakum County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at YOAKUM COUNTY COURTHOUSE
 Name of person preparing this notice Jan Parrish
 Title Tax Assessor-Collector
 Date prepared August 19, 2005



Another bit of that weird Canadian humor

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**NOTICE
of Vote on Tax Rate**

Yoakum County
 conducted public hearings on a proposal
 to increase the total tax revenues of
Yoakum County
 from properties on the tax roll in the preceding
 year by 8 percent
 on August 19th at 5:00 pm and August 22nd at 1:30 pm.

The Yoakum County Commissioner's Court
 is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that
 will result in that tax increase at a public
 meeting to be held

4:00 - 6:00 pm on September 1, 2005,

in the District Courtroom of the Yoakum
County Courthouse

From Page 1, NOTICES

Payment is due September 30, but a two percent discount is available to growers who pay the full assessment by September 15.

Growers with failed acres are eligible to receive a rebate on those acres completely destroyed prior to the final certification date. Qualifying acres must remain free of all hostable cotton until a killing freeze to receive the rebate.

To aid WHP growers who have been affected by adverse weather conditions, the TBWEF is offering payment extension agreements for producers whose accounts are current.

"For those having difficulty paying their assessment, help

is available by contacting the assessments department and arranging an extension agreement," said Chief Financial Officer Tina Ballard.

Producers entering into an extension agreement must make a ten percent down payment, and they will be charged a late fee of one percent per month until their accounts are paid. This late fee begins on the date the signed agreement and down payment are received by the Assessments Department. Producers who are delinquent in payment and who do not have an extension agreement are subject to a late fee of 1.5 percent per

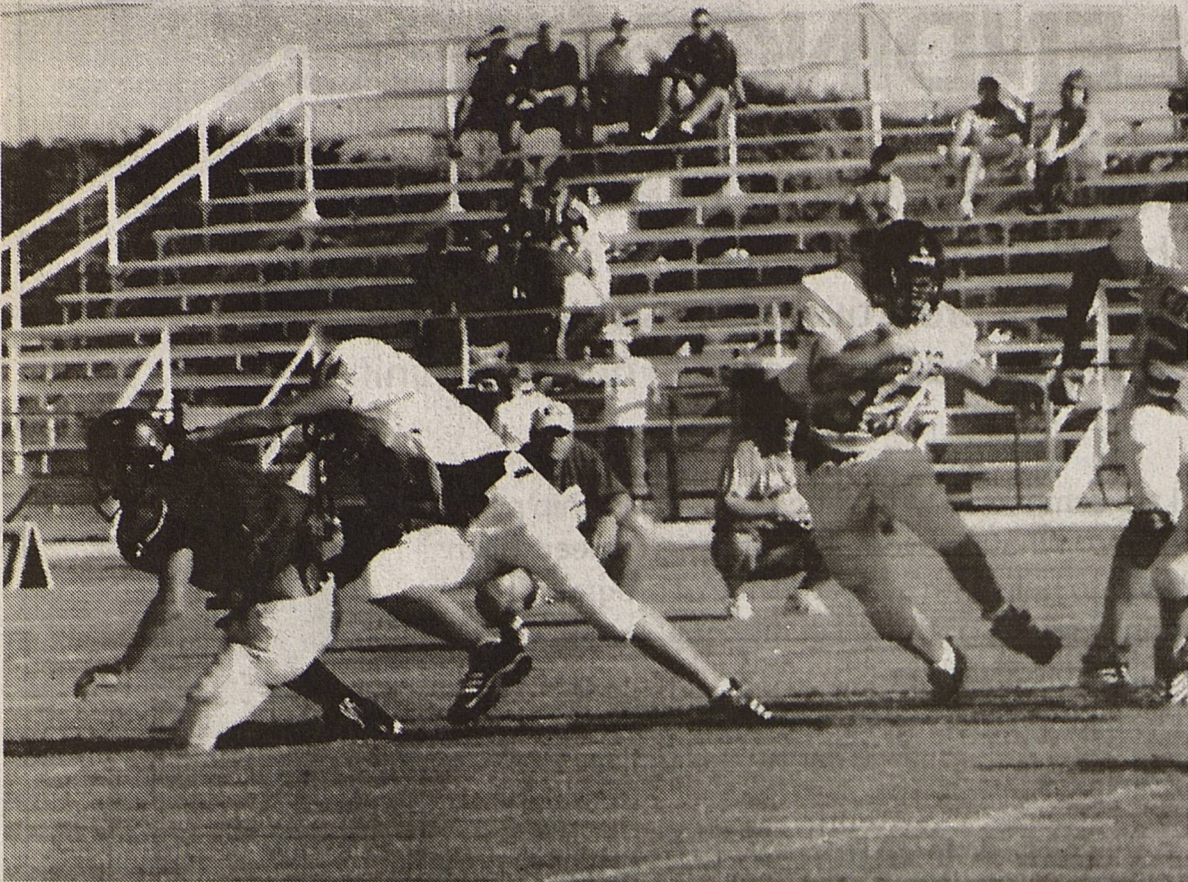
month. Producers with extension agreements have 150 days to pay their accounts.

For more information contact the Assessments Department in Abilene at 866-672-2800.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation is a non-profit, grower-initiated and funded organization dedicated to eliminating the cotton boll weevil from the state in the most cost effective and environmentally responsible manner.

The Western High Plains Zone includes Yoakum, Gaines, Andrews, and parts of Lynn and Terry counties.

Cowboys look good in Smyer scrimmage



This excellent action shot was taken by Levelland News-Press sports writer and photographer Joe Gonzales, assigned to cover the Smyer and Plains scrimmage last week. We thank him and his Publisher Stephen Henry for their generosity. The running back in the photo is Cody Mayes, the blocker on the left is Casson Curtis, and a portion of quarterback Blake O'Quinn is at far right. Head Coach Blake McWhirter reported he and the coaching staff were well pleased with the Cowboys performance in the pre-season scrimmage. "The guys showed lots of effort and desire in the scrimmage. They are working hard, and we're all looking forward to our first game, and a successful season."

County Clerks review session bills on fees

In the August 22 session of Commissioners Court, District Clerk Vicki Blundell and County Clerk Deborah Rushing reviewed a number of house and senate bills passed in the recent legislative session which would impact both their offices fees for services. Both House and Senate bills featured changes which will, in general, increase fees for both offices customers and in some cases, the court.

Tax Collector Jan Parrish asked the court to approve rescinding a recent bid and payment for Lots 14-15 in Denver City. The high bidder paid \$3900 for the property, thinking the legal description on the bid notice included a mobile home. It was learned the property was only a vacant lot. The court approved refunding the buyer's check

Yoakum County Hospital staff members sought court approval of a contract with Allergy Practice Consulting. The contract would ensure a reliable and local source of various serums for local patients use, which could be formulated and administered here. The contract was approved.

The re-stating of the court's intention to increase the tax rate over the effective tax rate was approved. It had been earlier stated as .040720 per hundred, and was changed to a rate of .041154 per hundred

JV Volleyball Report

On August 9 the Plains Cowgirls JV team was defeated 24-26 and 13-25 by Brownfield JV. The team was led by Kimber Williams and Amber Friesen with the most service points, Lauren Hise with the most blocks and digs, and M'Leah McKinzie with most assists. The team was also led by Amber Friesen, Kimber Williams and Reyna Gallegos with most hits. On August 13 the team beat Midland Christian FR 25-12 and 25-6. The team was led by Kimber Williams with most hits and Lauren Hise with most blocks. The team next lost to Midland Christian JV 17-25 and 19-25. The team was led by Reyna Gallegos with most service points, Lauren Hise with most hits and blocks, and M'Leah McKinzie with most assists. Amber Friesen and M'Leah McKinzie led the team with the most serve aces. On August 16 the team beat Lubbock Christian JV 20-25, 25-21 and 25-16. Lauren Hise had the most service points and serve aces. Reyna Gallegos had the most hits, kills and blocks. Elizabeth Perez, Kimber Williams and Reyna Gallegos led the team in digs. On August 20, the team lost to Estacado JV 24-26, 25-12, 25-19 17-25 and 15-17. The team was led by Reyna Gallegos with most service points and digs, Kimber Williams with most serve aces, Lauren Hise with most hits, kills and blocks, and Elizabeth Perez with most assists.

We regret not having photos of the Cowgirls recent Estacado game. Plains Coaching staff were concerned the camera flash would be a distraction

County Court Cases Heard

On August 17, two criminal cases were heard in County Court. Dallas Brewer was presiding Judge, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Donny Jo Gumfory pled guilty to 'duty striking a fixture on highway. Charges of driving with suspended license, bail jumping and failure to appear were admitted. DPS Trooper Robert Smith was investigating officer.

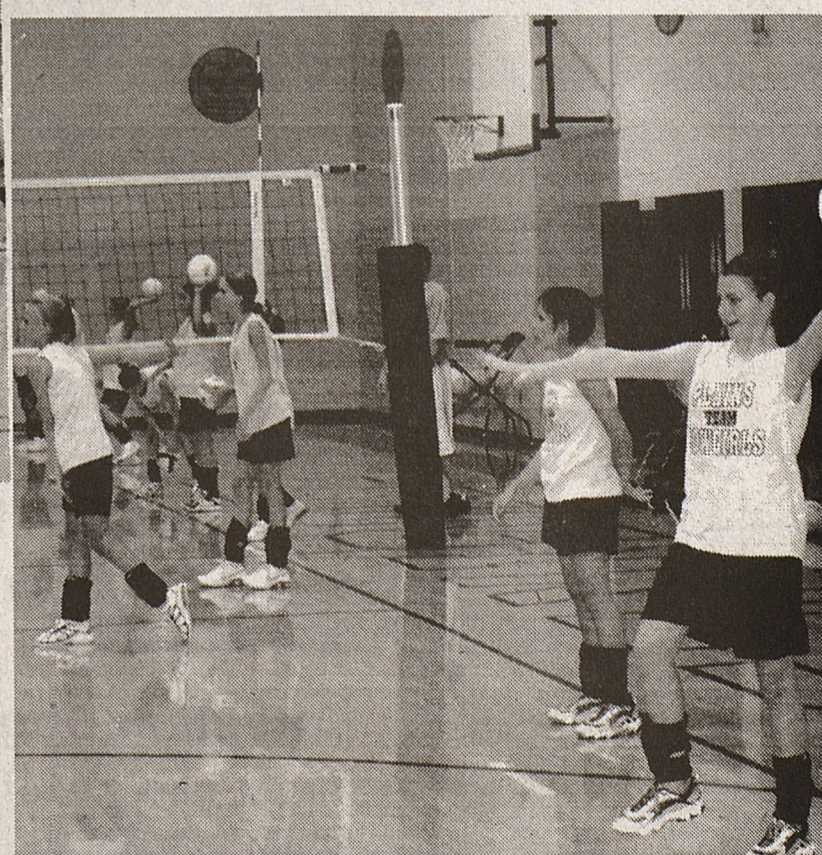
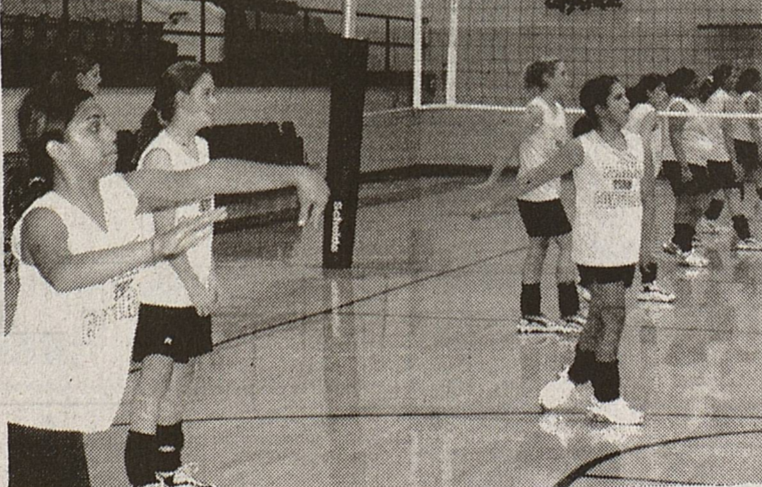
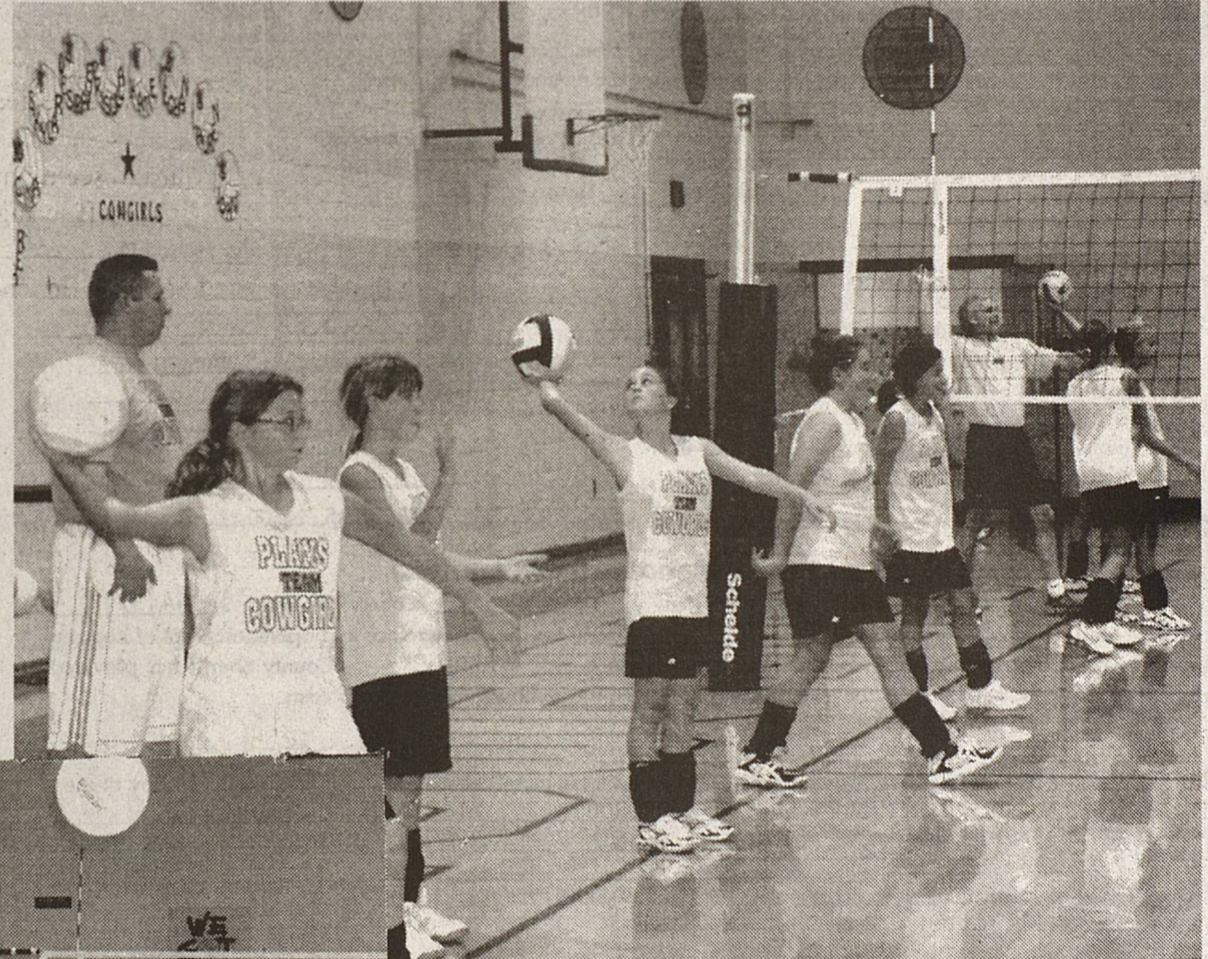
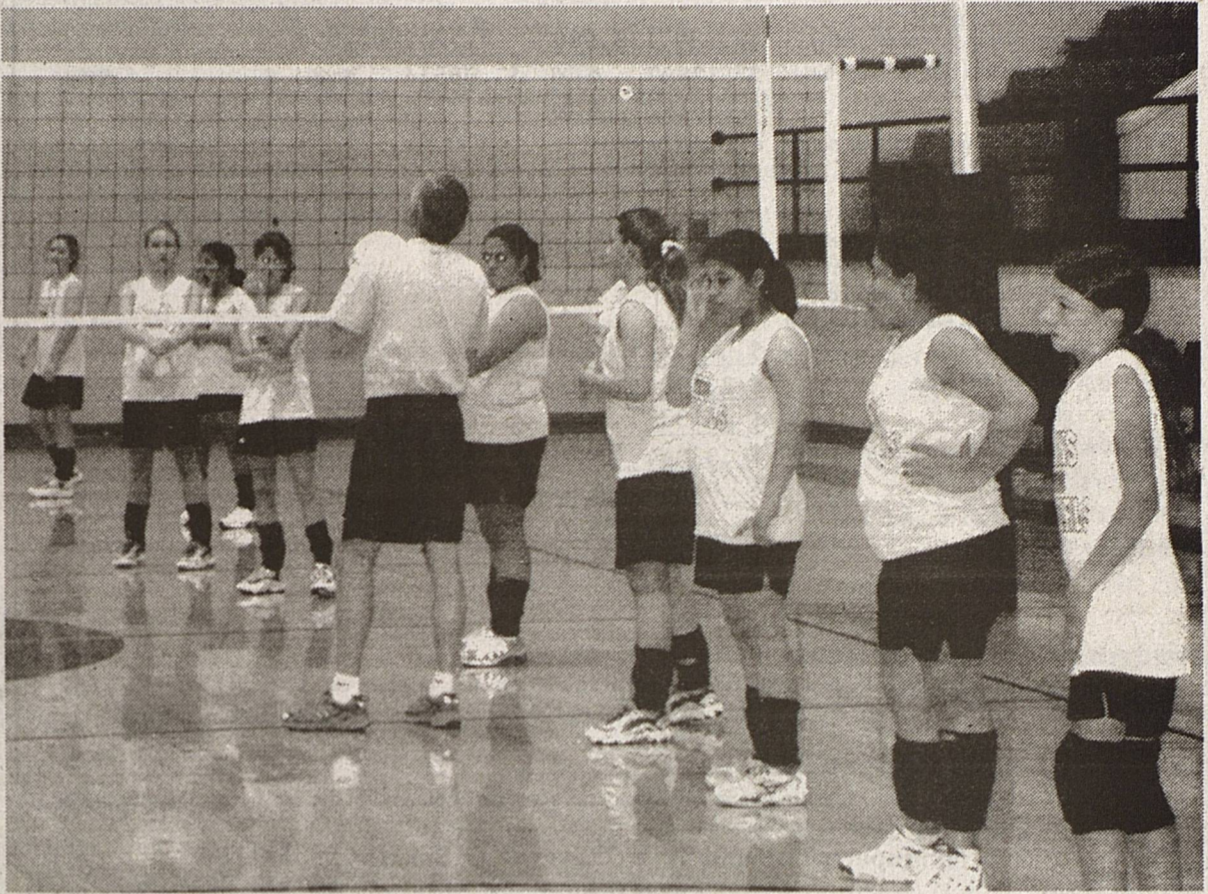
Cody Harrison Smith pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$241 court costs. Investigating officer was Trooper Robert Munsell.

Student of The Week

This semester's first Student of the Week is Araceli Mendoza, a junior at PHS and the daughter of Manuel and Lucy Mendoza. She was nominated by Treon Ortega, who said, "Dependability is an asset in a person that is irreplaceable. When missing, all other traits are irrelevant. Araceli is hard working and dependable. She communicates well and works diligently on her school work. She makes student council a better organization."



Coaches Cain, Eddelman put Jr. High VB girls thru paces



Urgent news for people who took

VIOXX

Many VIOXX users have been at increased risk for serious cardiovascular injuries, including strokes, heart attacks, blood clots and even death. If you or a loved one took VIOXX, and had any of these problems, call us now toll free at 1-800-THE-EAGLE for a free consultation. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.

GOLDBERG & OSBORNE
1-800-THE-EAGLE
(1-800-843-3245)
www.1800theeagle.com

Open 7 days a week

VIOXX Heart Attacks, Strokes & Sudden Cardiac Deaths
Celebrex®-Bextra®

In 2004, VIOXX was recalled due to increased risks of heart attacks, strokes and cardiac deaths of VIOXX users. According to recent studies, CELEBREX & BEXTRA, both COX-2 inhibitors, similar to VIOXX, may have similar risks of heart attacks, strokes and deaths. In 2005, a medical study found that VIOXX users suffered FIVE (5) times as many heart attacks as people on an older pain reliever naproxen. Recently in a letter to the FDA, Merck's own study stated that 14.6% of VIOXX patients experienced cardiovascular troubles. VIOXX lawsuits are being filed throughout the US.

If you or a loved one have taken VIOXX, Celebrex or Bextra and suffered a heart attack or stroke OR a family member has died due to a sudden cardiac death, then call us for a Free Case Evaluation. Applicable Filing Deadlines and Statutes of Limitations to apply. Call now to get a Free Confidential Consultation. Don't wait!

Call Toll Free 1-800-468-4878

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HOUSTON, TEXAS

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www.Vioxx-Lawyers.com

CFI Local Orientation
Dallas, Laredo & El Paso
Week of August 29th

2004 Earnings

AVG. SOLD:	TOP SOLD:	TOP TEAM:
\$49,950	\$70,526	\$154,222

\$0.05 NE Bonus Pay! Class A CDL Required!

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www.FrenkelFirm.com

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J.G. Wentworth means CASH NOW for Structured Settlements!

Lifelines & Styles

New Baby Boy!



Brock Joe Braden was born June 27, 2005. He weighed 6 pounds 6 ounces. His proud parents are Keith and Darcy Braden. Grandparents are Joe and Joyce Pierce, Plains, and Wilbert and Joyce Braden of Midkiff. Great grandparents are Mrs. James Warren, and Mr. and Gilbert and Mrs. Rhuey Pierce, all of Plains

Yoakum Soil & Water Conservation District
2nd Annual

Ladies Farm Tour

September 13
9 am - 2 pm

Lunch provided at noon
TOURS FOOD DOOR PRIZES

Transportation by
Mustang Country Chevrolet
RSVP by September 9, For more
info, call 806-456-3703, ext 3
806-592-1426
1305 Cowby Way, Plains TX 79355

You're invited to a
Wedding Shower honoring

Amber Ellis

(Bride-Elect of Tanner Blount)

Sunday, September 4, 2005
Home of Jo Lena Wall

Selections - Target, Pier 1,
Nelson's, Image 'n That, Bayer

To The people of Yoakum County

I would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets from me during the rodeo. I would also like to thank those who did not buy from me for their support in many other ways. A big thank you to the Chamber of Commerce for asking me to run as their representative. It was a lot of fun and I enjoyed it. Thank you again, and mau God Bless Each Of You.
Callie Howell

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Plains, Texas

Sunday School
9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Evening Program
6:00 P.M.

Seniors Corner

It is good to see Ione Johnson has returned safely from her holiday to the northern part of our U.S. She is back to her usual morning walk around our city, greeting people and picking up cans others have thrown aside. What an admirable example she sets for the rest of us.

We welcome Mary Flores back after a vacation. She reports it was a time spent with relatives who are ill and needing moral support. Mary is a good one to fill that position. Her family is fortunate, we wish them well.

Our thanks to J.C. and Dortha Futch for sharing their fresh cucumbers and squash with all of us. Things just taste better when picked from our own gardens.

As we have enjoyed having our family around us this week with all of their vitality, youth, laughter and wisdom, I realize as I look into the mirror, that by no stretch of the imagination could the word 'young' ever be applied to me again. I am old! At first there is a desire to mourn. The losses are many; strength, easy energy, vigor, elasticity, muscle tone, skin tone, conventional beauty - a whole world is gone. No wonder I mourn. The task now is to keep mourning from turning into envy - envy of those still young, envy of that whole life I once knew. When I get beyond that and say "let go, farewell", it becomes possible to step back and and think I have had my world and time. It happened and it exists in my heart and memories and no one can take it from me and I can truly rejoice in the lives of fulfillment my children are enjoying; I can feel pride in their ability to meet the dark clouds in their worlds head on and with hope. As generations mingle and intermingle, we realize anew what a wonderful plan God had when he created families.!

Bill groves is spending some time in the local hospital. We shall be looking forward to seeing him and Eunice in the lunch line again. Ed Kistelich is off to higher country in search of a good fishing hole these days. He says he plans to stay away a month. Have a good vacation Ed, and we all expect a multitude of fish when you return.

I'd like to share some thoughts from an article that came across my desk. Maybe there's a message in it for all of us. Consider the BUZZARD. If you put a buzzard in a six foot by eight foot pen, open at the top, the bird which can fly will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is a buzzard begins flight with a 10 or 12 foot run. With no space to run, it will not even attempt to fly.

Think about the BAT. It can't take off from a level place. It can only shuffle along helplessly until it finds some slight elevation, where it can throw itself into the air - then it can take off like a flash!

Then there is the BUMBLEBEE. If dropped into an open container it will remain there until it dies. It never sees the means of escape in the opening in the top but persists in seeking a way out where none exists.

Then there are the PEOPLE. In many ways there are people like the buzzard, the bat, the bumblebee. They are struggling about with all their problems and frustrations, not ever realizing all they have to do is look up!

Thought for Today; "There is a time to be born and a time to die, says Solomon, and it is the memento of a truly wise man, but there is an interval between these two times that is of infinite importance."

Yoakum County Hospital

Is searching for dynamic professional people
to join our healthcare team
Great Benefit Packages * Shift Differential
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Home Health RN
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7 pm until 7 am. Fax resume to
Joyce Tedford, 806-592-2891

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Make this year the most exciting, enriching year ever for you and your family. Share your world with a young foreign visitor from abroad. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from France, Spain, Germany, Thailand, Mexico, Denmark, Japan, or Italy as part of your family for a school year and make an overseas friend for life.

For more program information or to select your own exchange student from applications with photos, please call:
Marcy at 1-800-888-9040 WORLD HERITAGE IS A PUBLIC BENEFIT, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
www.world-heritage.org

Watermelon Round Up Melon Decorating Contest Rules

1. Entrant must live in Yoakum County or within 10 miles of county line.
2. Awards of \$200 savings bonds go to age groups juniors, 0-9; youth 10-20; adult 21 and up. Any age group is eligible for best of show for \$400 savings bond.
3. Winners must verify savings bonds have the correct name, address and social security number with donor banks.
4. A whole or parts of real watermelon of any variety may be used.
5. No restrictions apply on decoration material but must be in good taste. Chair will determine if inappropriate in case of dispute.
6. Painting or carving may be done on the watermelon(s).
7. Contestant is responsible for a prop if needed to hold melon in certain position.
8. Contestant must leave melon on display from 10 AM until 5 PM on day of contest. Disposal of melon or materials will be handled by chair if contestant does not claim it.
9. Only one entry per person; entry form must be filled out when entering contest. Forms will be available at information desk when entering the contest.
- 10 A nameplate may accompany entry if it adds to understanding of decorations.

Doctors to probe drop in Texas' vaccination rates

The nation's largest medical association has pledged to investigate the cause of the decline in vaccination rates for Texas toddlers. "Texas children are getting severely ill and dying from diseases, preventable had the child been immunized," said Texas Medical Association President Robert Gunby, MD. "What's more tragic is, Texas vaccination numbers are running counter to the National trend".

Whilenational vaccination rates for children 3 and under are increasing, Texas rate dropped from 78.1 percent in 2003 to 75.4 percent in 2004. Texas now ranks 48th of 51 states, ahead of only Oklahoma and Nevada. Out of 20 counties surveyed nationwide, Texas ranked at the very bottom of the list -El Paso 20,

Dallas 19, Bexar 18. Houston ranked sixth out of seven cities nationwide in the study.

"Texas physicians are leading the charge to increase efforts to protect children from deadly, preventable diseases," said Dr. Gunby. TMA will investigate possible causes of the serious challenge to the public health including;

- * The impact of the state's new 'conscientious objector' law, allowing parents the option of not vaccinating their children but threatening communities with deadly diseases.
- * The impact of fewer children covered by the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
- * Impact of vaccine shortages.
- * Lack of coordination between public health departments, private physicians, schools and day care centers.

Come Welcome Sawyer 'Creed' Frerich

Son of Michelle and Mitch
Born June 28, 2005
Sunday, September 4, 2 - 3:30 pm,
Home of Veeann Carter
Selections;
Target and www.babiesrus.com

Hicks Air & Appliances

Heating/Air Conditioning
Appliances/Carpeting
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TRANE "It's hard to stop a TRANE"

From The Hack

From my thoughtful California source of wit and wisdom:

Once again the Washington Post has published the winning submissions to its yearly contest in which readers are asked to supply *alternate meanings* for common words - and the winners are:

1. Coffee (n) - the person on whom one coughs.
2. Flabbergasted (adj) - aghast over how much weight you have gained.
3. Abdicate (v) - to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach
4. Esplanade (v) - To attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. Negligent (adj) - a condition in which you absent-mindedly answer the door in your negligee.
6. Lymph (n) - To walk with a lisp.
7. Gargoyle (n) - Olive flavored mouthwash.
8. Flatulence (n) - emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
9. Balderdash (n) - A rapidly receding hairline.
10. Willy-nilly (adj) - Impotent.
11. Testicle (n) - A humorous question on an exam.
12. Rectitude (n) - the formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.
13. Pokemon (n) - A Rastafarian proctologist.

14. Oyster (n) - A person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddishisms.

15. Frisbeeterianisms (n) - the belief that when you die your Soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.

16. Circumvent (n) - An opening in the front of boxer shorts worn by Jewish men.

Oy Boy!

A babber shop installed a robotic barber. A man comes in for a haircut, and as the robot started cutting his hair it asked the customer, "What's your IQ?" The man said 130, so the robot started talking about astronomy, brain surgery, investments, nuclear physics and so on. The customer thought, "Hey, this is really cool."

Another man came in for a trim and the robot asked his IQ, and the customer told him 100. The robot began talking about football, the latest movies, new books, cooking steaks, and the customer thought, "Hey, this is OK!"

A third customer came in and sat down for a trim and the robot asked his IQ, and the man told him 70. The robot then said, "So, I understand you Democrats are really excited about Hilary running for the presidency?"

My almost sincere apologies to the few of you!

Back to the Washington Post. They also conducted a contest for readers to take any word from the dictionary and alter it by adding, subtracting or changing just one letter for a

About The New Electronic Sign

Personnel at City Hall have graciously agreed to assist the Chamber of Commerce by taking orders for advertising on the new sign in Pioneer Park.

NO TELEPHONE ORDERS will be accepted. An order form is available at City Hall, and the following information must be written on the form; Date, Name, Address, Phone #, Dates for the ad to run. The message must be written on the form with a maximum of 14 spaces per line of type. Three message frames is maximum length of ad, for a maximum total of 42 spaces per frame. Maximum time for ad to run is one week (seven days). Cost of each ad is \$15. **ALL ADS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE AT TIME OF TURNING IN AD ORDER.**

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completely different definition. Here are the winners;

1. Bozone (n) Substance surrounding stupid people stopping bright ideas from penetrating. It shows little danger of breaking down in the near future.

2. Cashtration (n) The act of buying a house, rendering the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period.

Sarchasm (n) The gulf between user of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Osteopornosis (n) a degenerate disease. (you may have to think about this)

Beelzebug (n) Satan in the form of a mosquito in your bedroom at three AM which can't be cast out.

Caterpallor (n) The color you turn after finding half a grub in the fruit you've eaten.

Well, what did you think of the (again) failed 'lege' session? OOOOPSS. I'm sorry, I didn't mean to make you throw up! Now the Guv is going to solve all our problems with tax reform, school finance, etc. ad-nauseum. Yeah. That's like the guy falling off a 20 story building and as he passed the 6th floor a friend yelled at him, 'so far you're doing OK!' I am reminded of these definitions of politicians- " Like a bullfrog, what ain't stomach is head, and that's mostly mouth." And, " Like a cockroach. It's not what he eats and carries off, it's what he falls into and messes up".

CORRECTED NOTICE

The Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District will hold a meeting at 11 AM on Wednesday, August 31, 2005, at the District office located at 1012 Avenue F, Plains, Texas, to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2005. The proposed tax rate is .0081 per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District by 7.98%.

CHILD CARE

In my home. * Take to and pick-up at school
 * Drop-Ins Welcome
 * Accept any age
Call Me!!
 456-8345
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LIONS CLUB



Plains Lions Club

BROOM & MOP SALE
 Courthouse Yard
 Thursday - September 8, 2005
 Starts: 7:00 AM

For More Information or to Place Your Order Contact:

BROOM AND MOP SALE DAY

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PLAN TO COME BY

Help The
 Blind Help Themselves
 AND
 Help our Club
 Help Our City

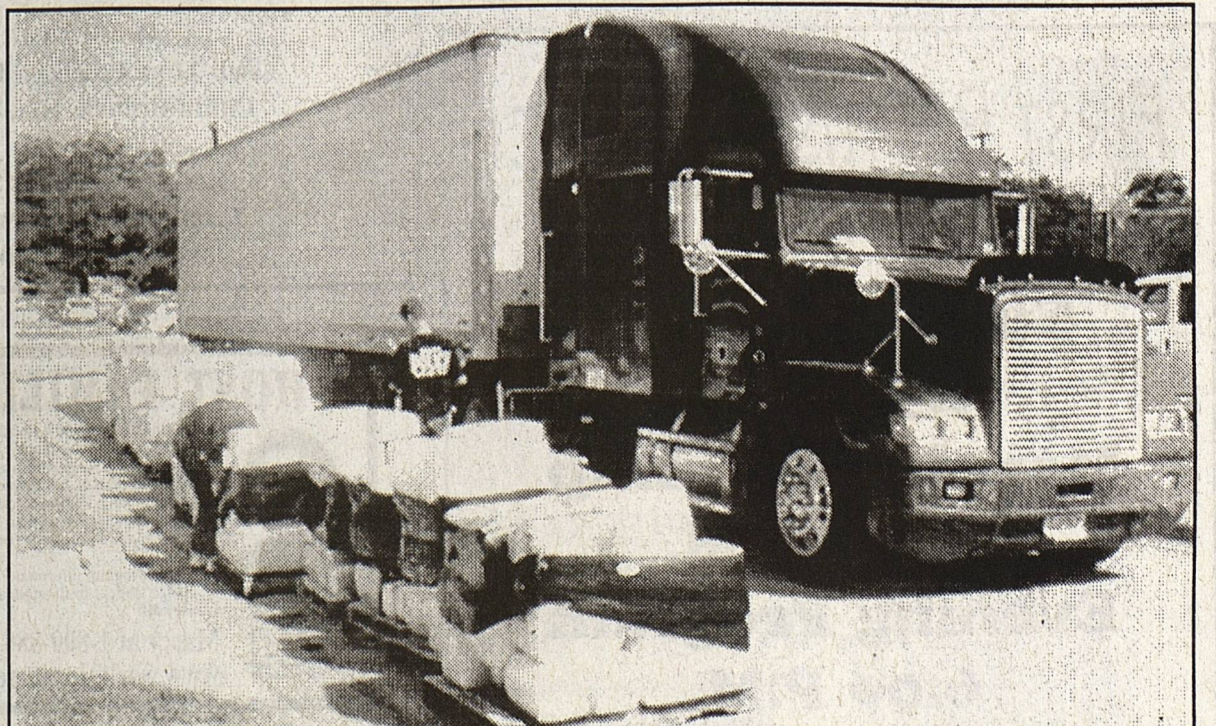
CARAVAN SALES FOR THE BLIND

ARTICLES MADE BY THE BLIND

Dope Runners "On The Road Again"



These DPS photos illustrate why Texas Troopers recently made record seizures of illegal drugs on the state's roads and highways. Sixteen wheeler trucks crammed with bales of marijuana, and fake auto tires packed with cocaine.



ROJO Agricultural Services

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CFI Local Orientation

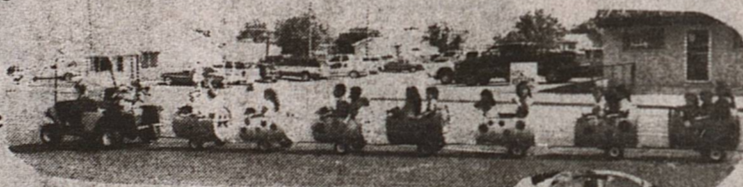
Dallas & Laredo
 Week of August 22nd
 AVG. SOLO: **\$49,950** TOP SOLO: **\$70,526** TOP TEAM: **\$154,222**
\$0.05 NE Bonus Pay! Class A CDL Required!
 Now hiring student grads.
 Starting 26¢, potential increases to 36¢ in 1 year.
1-800-CFI-DRIVE cfidrive.com
 (1-800-234-3743)

2005 Watermelon Roundup Activities

James Altman, Activities Chairman

Brother Cameron Givan, Master of Ceremonies

Saturday, September 3, 2005



8:00 a.m.
 Until 8:45 Register for Fun Run NW of Old Courthouse
 Brisket Cook-Off starts - Stanford Park
 9:00 a.m.
 Flag Ceremony/Pledge of Allegiance, Cody Mayes/National Anthem - Stage
 Toddler & Fun Runs(sponsored by Agrilience) start - NW of Old Courthouse
 Decorated Melon Contest Entries - Information Booth
 Classic Car Show starts - Front of school
 Books open for Team Roping - Plains Rodeo Arena
 9:15 a.m.
 First Baptist Church Choir - Stage
 9:45 a.m.
 Scars & Stripes, Hobbs - Stage
 10:00 a.m.
 Team Roping - Plains Rodeo Arena
 11:00 a.m.
 Sunny Helms - Stage
 Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest (Jr High through Adult) - Front of New Courthouse
 (\$50 prize/1st Place in each category)
 12:00 p.m.
 Star Dance Academy, Hobbs - Stage

1:00 p.m.
 Queen Presentation
 "Kiss a Pig"
 Cactus Cuties - Stage
 Watermelon Awards & Recognition Ceremony - Stage
 2:00 p.m.
 Cowpatty Bingo - Front of Crosswind Enterprises
 B.J. Bood, fiddler - Stage
 3:00 p.m.
 "Kiss a Pig"
 Horseshoe Pitching Contest - Pioneer Park (\$100 prize/1st Place Team)
 Cowpatty Bingo - Front of Crosswind Enterprises
 Under the Double Eagle Band - Stage
 4:00 p.m.
 Cook-Off Winners Announced - Stage
 Michael Earnest Band - Stage
 5:00 p.m.
 To Be Announced - Stage
 6:00 p.m.
 Final Announcements - Stage

All Day Entertainment
 Rock Climbing Wall/Train Ride-Front of New Courthouse
 Rockin S Pony Express - East of Courthouse
 Petting Zoo - Pioneer Park
 Sports on Air Carnival
 Greenie the Clown

All activities subject to change. Latest schedule changes available at Information Booth.
 Port-a-Potties between Library & Old Courthouse, Car Show, Rodeo Arena

10th Annual Watermelon Roundup

Plains, Texas
 Highway 82/380

Saturday
 September 3
 2005

Yoakum County
 Home of the most
 delicious watermelons
 you've ever tasted!



Lacy Jones

National Watermelon Queen 2005

The National Watermelon Association crowned their 2005 National Watermelon Queen, twenty-one year old Stephanie Noel Duda of Mission, Texas. Stephanie was the Texas/Oklahoma Association Watermelon Queen in 2004.

Stephanie is the daughter of Darrell and Barbara Duda of Mission, Texas. She is a student at The University of Texas at Austin majoring in Government and Communication.

"It is a true joy to do a job in which I promote a product I take pride in and represent people whom I respect and call friends," says Stephanie. As National Watermelon Queen, Stephanie will travel extensively throughout the United States, promoting the watermelon industry.



Welcome back, Stephanie

What-A-Melon Javi Farms McWhirter Farms Border Farms

SPONSORS OF THE NATIONAL WATERMELON QUEEN
AND
THE TEXAS-OKLAHOMA WATERMELON QUEEN



Congratulations
Texas/Oklahoma Watermelon Queen
2005

Lacy Jones

Daughter of Guy and Teretha Jones
Granddaughter of Terri and Deroy Anderson

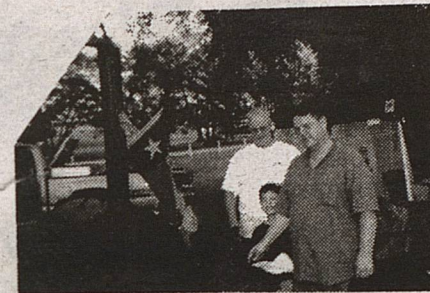


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Associated Farmer's
Delinting, Inc.

Littlefield, Texas

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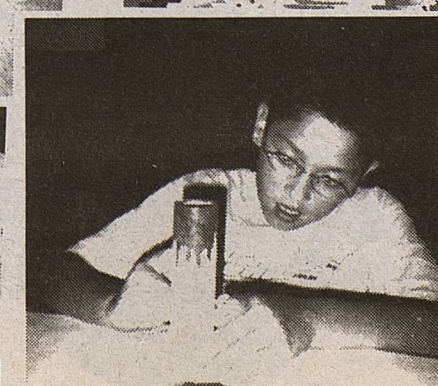
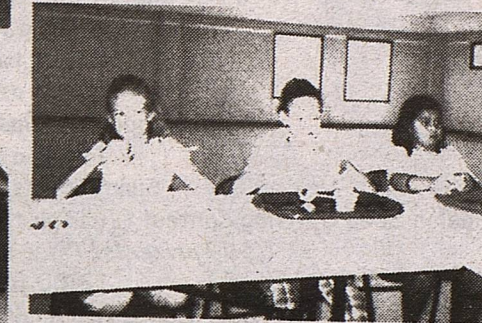
www.afdseed.com



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WE PROUDLY SUPPORT
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WATERMELON ROUNDUP!
THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

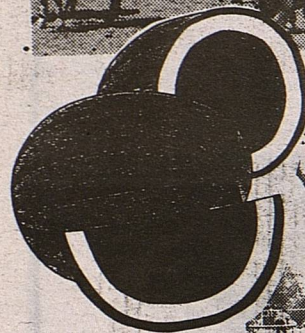


Attebury-Williams, LLC
Peanut Buyer for Clint Williams Company

Chris Elkins, Manager

806-456-2306 Office

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Congratulations
to the
Volunteers and Participants
who make the
Roundup such a Success!!!



FIRST NATIONAL BANK

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806 637-2531
Your Hometown Bank.

Festival Fever

Charity Kostedt - DC
Rhymed 1-4

We have a festival every year -
And for the Watermelon Fest, we all cheer.

The Watermelon Fest, we love so much...
All the fun and games add just the right touch.

I wish that watermelons could stay and play...
Oh, those things just make my day.

This special fruit caught my heart...
From the beginning - the very start!

To me there's always some special reason -
For this huge, gigantic fruit to be in season.

I love my dad, mom, sis, and brother,
But the watermelon, I love like no other.

Now, watermelons make my tummy do its best imitation of
a hummer -

And the Watermelon Fest puts a wonderful end to my
summer!

McWhirter Family Farms

Plains, Texas
806-456-2133



What-A-Melon beginnings...

Lalitos

Knowing this year's
ROUNDUP will be
a most successful event!!!!



Sunday, 11:00-2:00
Tuesday thru Friday, 11:00-9:00
Saturday, 11:00-8:00
Closed Mondays

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

For take-out orders call 456-2233

WATERMELONS
Caroline Rodriguez - DC
Free Verse 1-4

WATERMELONS WATERMELONS ARE SO JUICY.

WATERMELONS WATERMELONS ARE SO FRUITY.

ROUND AND ROUND WEIGHT FIVE POUNDS.

GREEN AND GREEN LOOKS SO CLEAN.



PLAINS BAIL BONDS

JEROME HEAD
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CONGRATULATIONS

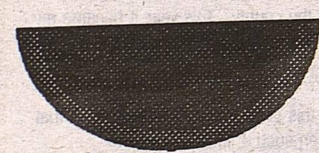
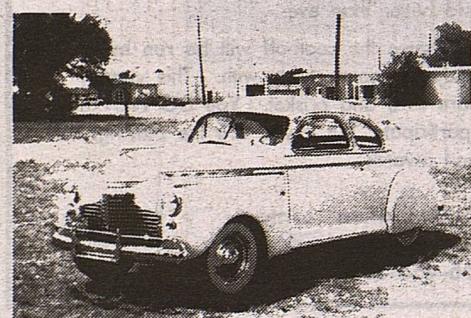
TO THE

10TH ANNUAL WATERMELON ROUNDUP
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2005

CHEVROLET • BUICK • HUMMER
scoggin-dickey



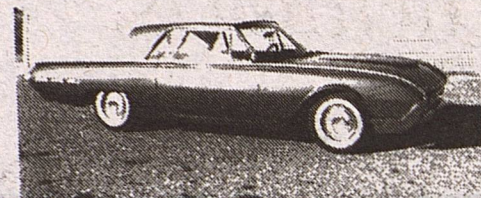
5901 Spur 327 • PO Box 64910 • Lubbock, TX 79464-4910



Hop on for Good Time
at the

10th Annual Watermelon Roundup!

2005 Watermelon Roundup Car Show



This 10th Annual Classic Car Show promises to be a good one. We have many interesting and beautiful cars, trucks, and cycles returning from past years, and many new participants coming with their interesting entries. We are pleased to celebrate this 10th Annual Car Show with a car raffle. We are selling tickets for a 1962 T-bird to be given away September 3, 2005, the day of Watermelon Roundup. Each ticket is \$20.00, and you can contact Terry Davis at 456-6789, Shane McKinzie at 456-8397, or Charles Cain at 456-7157. Tickets are also available at the Extension Office and at several businesses in Plains and Denver City. The proceeds from this raffle will be used for the Yoakum County Kids; Summer Programs. We are looking forward to all of you car people shining up those treasures on wheels coming to the show, and we hope that you spectators will come and enjoy the show with us. We are thankful for all of the participants that have come all these years, and for the wonderful show team year after year, and for the sponsors that have made the show possible.

Thank you all,
Terry and Wadonna Davis



Have a cool day
at the
Roundup!

1105 Cowboy Way
Plains, Texas
806-456-7188

Weekdays: 7:30 to 10:00
Fri thru Sat: 7:30 to 11:00



WATERMELON ROUNDUP 2005 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

- Overall- Jeannette Head**
- Arts and Crafts- Joni Hancock/Debbie Pollard**
- Food Booths – Jeannette Head and Edith Kidd**
- Seed Spitting – Fire Department**
- Melon Decorating – Denver City Chamber of Commerce**
- Hospitality Room – Linda Powell**
- Cow Patty Bingo – Ty Powell**
- Car Show – Terry & Wadonna Davis**
- Team Roping – Jerry Parrish**
- Barbeque Cook Off – Lisa Switzer**
- Stage Entertainment – James Altman**
- T-Shirt Etc. – Sue Randall**
- Sliced Melons – Toni Jones**
- Kids Games/Petting Zoo – Dottie Mayes**
- Kiss the Pig – Dottie Mayes**
- Horseshoe Pitching – MaryLou Sherrin**
- Run/Toddler Runs – Melvin Dearing**
- Info Booth – Sheila Stephens**
- Tabloid – Linda Harris/ Joni Hancock/ Jeannette Head**
- Brochure – Linda Harris**
- Poetry Contest – Yoakum Co. Wordsmiths**
- Publicity – Jeannette Head – Gary Dyer – Linda Powell**
- Logistics – Terry Howard**
- Melon Selling – Barbara Wright**

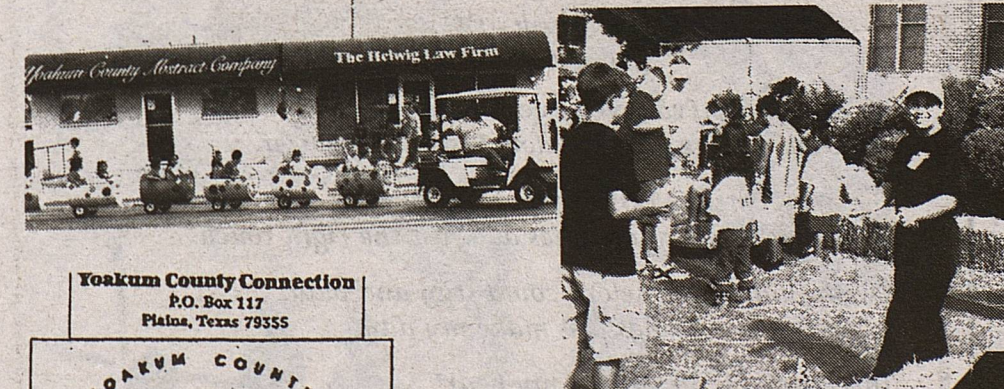
2005 SUMMER YOUTH ART PROGRAM

Wild about the Arts 2005 was once again a great success. We explored many artists' techniques, from Post-Impressionism to Cubism. Classes ranged from finger-painting, mosaic crosses, quilling, paper mache sculptures, robot models, assorted jewelry making projects, being a portraitist, air art and many others. We also used literature as a focus in many of our classes by incorporating books into the classes. Art is more than just something to look at! We can learn and have fun with it, too!

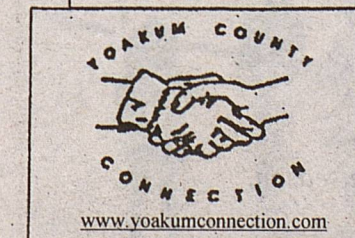
The instructors for classes were: Kim Thompson, Kim Willis, Heather Parrott, Yvette Ramos, Lisa Garza, Delores Davis, Rita Coronel, Debra Brown, and Abel Ramos

Thanks to the Commission of the Arts for the funding of a \$350 grant to help finance this program. A special thanks to the City of Plains, Yoakum County Precincts, and the Denver City Community Building for providing their buildings for the Yoakum County Connection Summer Youth Art Program. Also, thank you to the Yoakum County Libraries, and the DC Press for their support with advertising and registration.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Janie Ramos at Yoakum County Connection, P.O. Box 358, Plains, Texas 79355.



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Ads in this tabloid are:
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If you would like to advertise
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The Watermelon Roundup
806-456-3566

Dear Friends,

This year's Watermelon Roundup and Tabloid are dedicated to all of you who have volunteered your time and resources to making this event a wonderful success year after year for the last ten years.

A special note of appreciation goes to Linda Powell, Ann Harman and L.J. Sanders for their foresight and ability to make the Yoakum County Connection a reality. From the first meeting to the present time, the Connection has been a vital part of our communities and county.

The Watermelon Roundup came about because they could see a need to have an event that the whole county could and would participate in. The Yoakum County Art Association came up with the idea to have a watermelon festival. Ann Hartman was the chairman for first two years and did such a great job that we have had to work really hard to keep up to the standards that she set. I hope that we haven't disappointed her.

Without the dedicated committee chairman and workers (you know who you are) we would not have been able to keep up the good work and growth that we have seen.

I hope your picture is on one of the pages in this paper, if not please don't feel neglected. You know who you are and what you have contributed to our success and we honor you.

Sincerely,

Jeannette Head
Jeannette Head

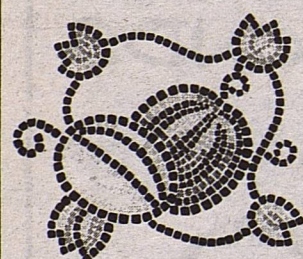


Barbecue Cook-Off

Don't forget the Yoakum County Watermelon Roundup Cook-Off is now sanctioned by the "Lone Star Barbecue Society" of Arlington, Texas. This year's cook-off will be bigger and better than ever.

We will provide each cook a guarantee the cook-off will be run by a definite set of rules with which they are comfortable with. This year's categories are: chicken, pork spare ribs, and brisket. You DO NOT have to be member of Lone Star to participate, but if you are the placings will count toward Lone Star's year-end awards.

For more information, contact
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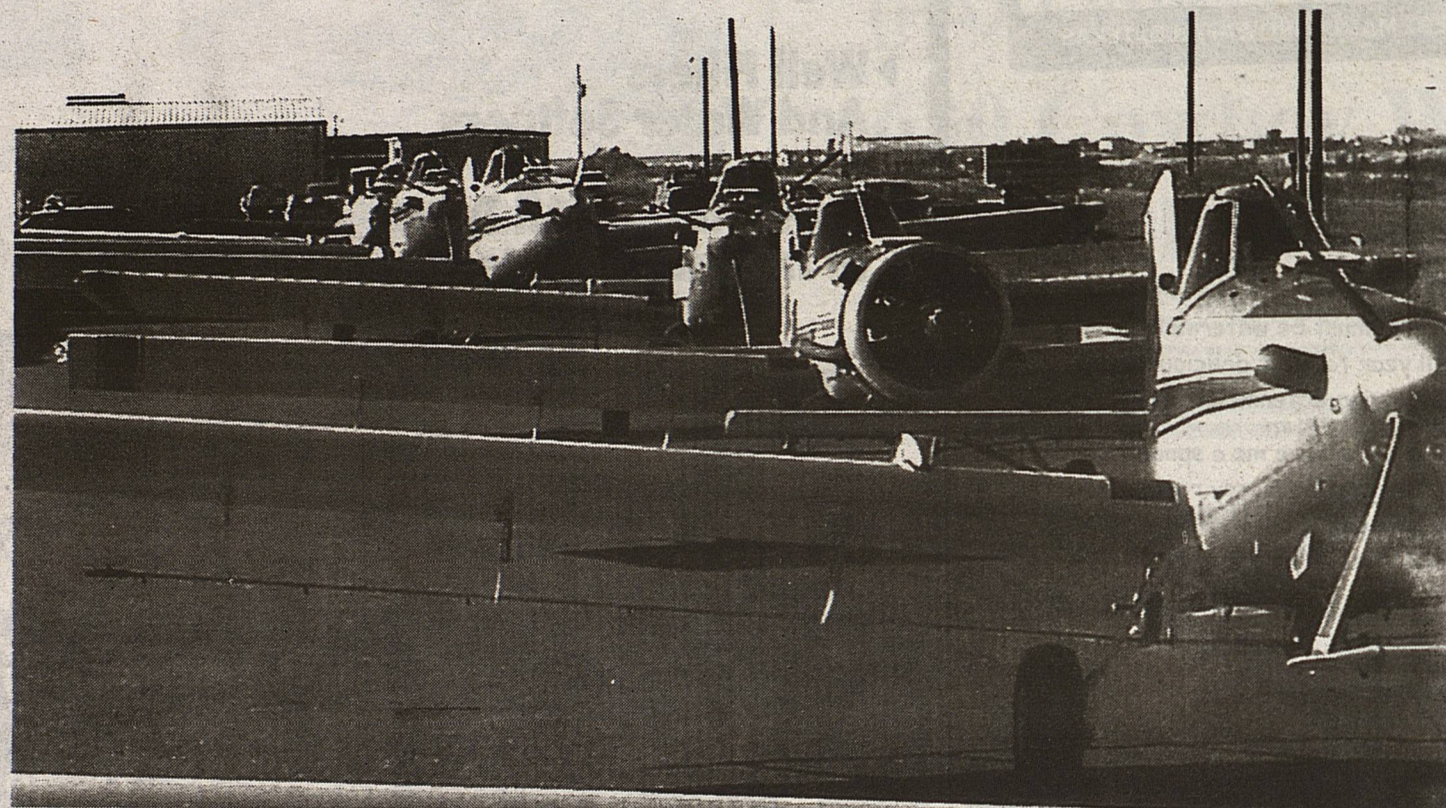
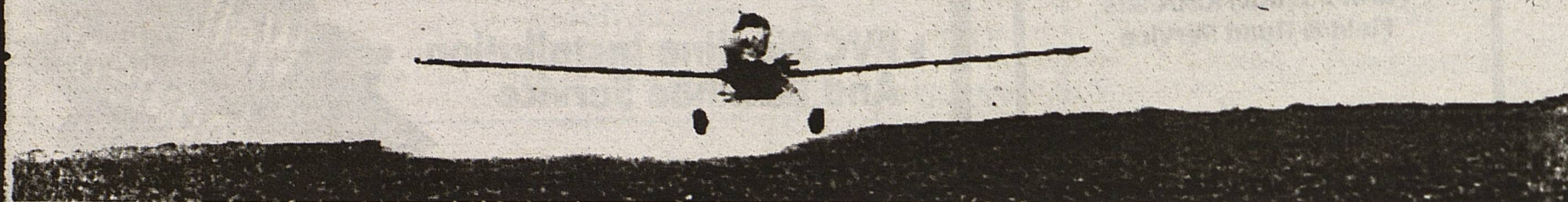
Ten years ago a group of community-minded citizens of Yoakum County incorporated a vision for expanding the art and cultural opportunities for the youth of the county. This year it became my honor to serve as the President of this organization which has become known as the Yoakum County Connection.

It is because of the efforts of this group of people that the Annual Watermelon Roundup has been such a success for nine consecutive years. This 10th Annual Roundup will definitively prove to be the biggest and best yet. Congratulations to the many volunteers who have put in many hours of work in preparation for this Labor Weekend event.

Congratulations and a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who is involved in this endeavor.

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Once there was a watermelon,
Now it is no more,

I cut it up and ate it,
Then I ate four more,
Tasty red juice...sugar sweet...dribbled from my lips
As I finished the last piece, I kissed my finger tips.

Clarissa Zorrilla - PHS
Rhyming 9-12



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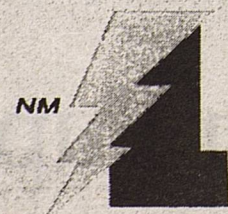
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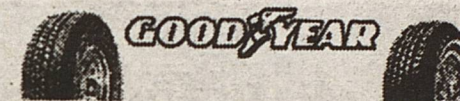
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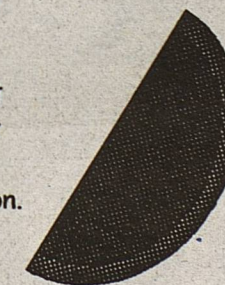
*Cameron Butler-DC
Rhymed 1-4*

What is that growing on the vine?
It's big and green, must be watermelon time.
I've waited all year for this delicious treat
The joy of eating watermelon meat.

Give me slice, or give me a spoon
I need a napkin, getting messy real soon.
Some use salt and think that's neat
Not me, not me, I love it sweet.

Most times it's red
Sometimes it's yellow
Color is not important
To this little fellow

Just give me the meat
That is always a treat
I'm always gellin'
When eating watermelon.



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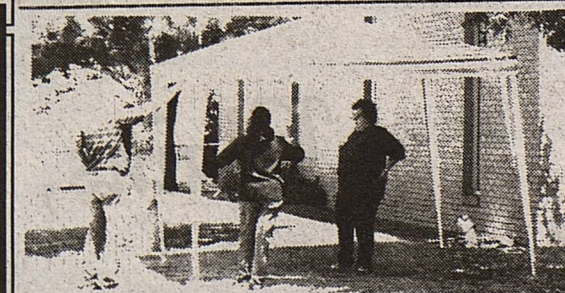
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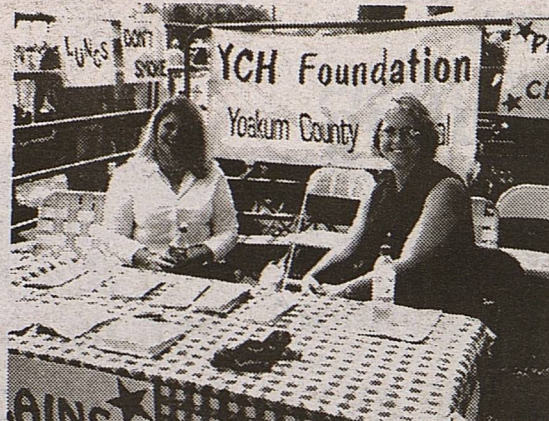
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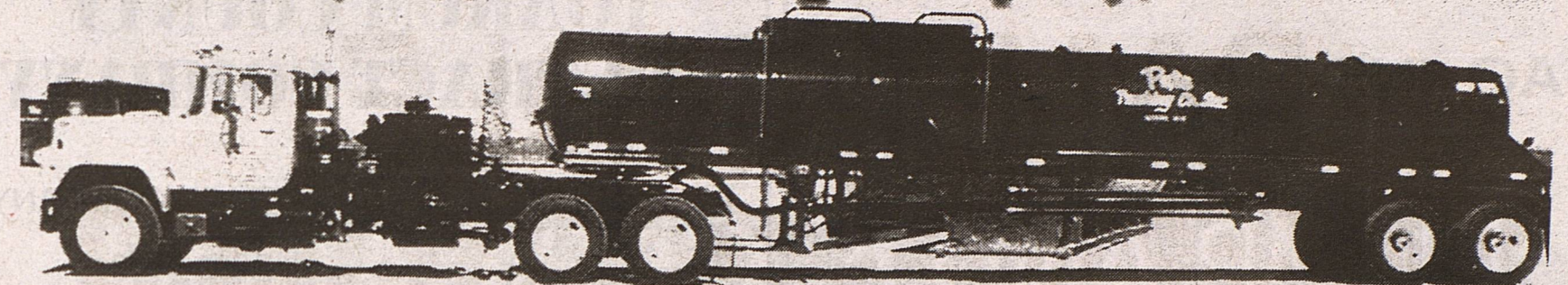
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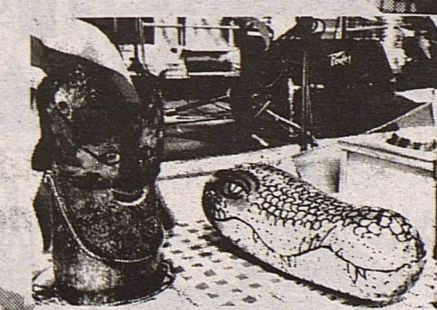
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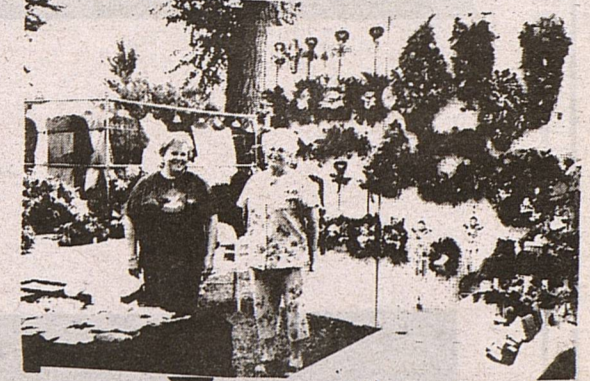
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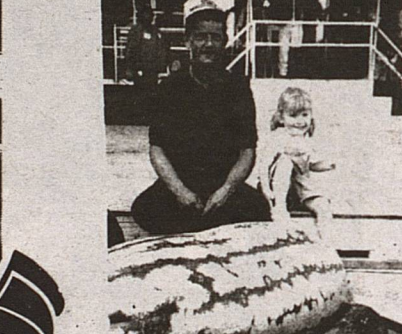
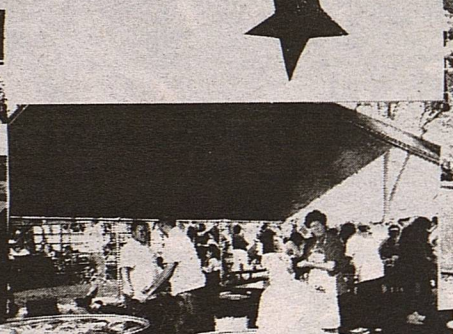
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My Time in the Sun
 Vernon Hise - Plains
 Adult Free Verse

Aaahh, the sun is brilliant as I raise my head from my dark night's sleep.
 The giver of life, so warm and comforting, bringing me up from my grave.
 I lay dormant for so long, yearning for a chance to be,
 And now I have awakened to a bright new life.

All around me I see those like me, straining to stand upright
 And find their place in the world.
 Wondering if they will become someone who is wanted and needed,
 Or someone to be ignored and discarded by society.

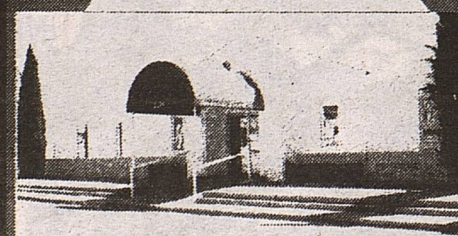
It has been so long now since someone has paid any attention to me.
 I feel tired. My heart is heavy. My strength is gone.
 But I know that soon, someone will come to rescue me.
 A long, cool drink of water will soothe my weary soul.

The Day of Judgment has arrived! Pick me! Pick me!
 Will I make the grade? Will I be found worthy? Pick me! Pick me!
 As big, strong arms gently cradle me tight, I'm assured that he has noticed, and
 That he has reserved a special place just for me. I have been redeemed!

Whisked away to a far away place, my heart beats with excitement.
 I know for me, the end is near.
 I am comforted, knowing I will make a difference in the lives of many today
 As I give all that I am for these strangers.

Iced and sliced, I sit ready and waiting for a child, or a man, or a fancy dressed lady
 Whose mouth I'll delight, and whose chin I'll dribble down.
 And as they spit, without giving a thought, the cycle of life will be completed.
 And I'll lay once again, a watermelon. Waiting for the spring sun.

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Watermelon Poem

Scott Addison - PHS
 Rhymed 9-12

Watermelons here and watermelons there,
 Happy people are everywhere,
 They've come to enjoy the fest and fun,
 Under a blanket of bright, warm, sun,
 A slice of sweet melon should do the trick,
 Red, yellow, seedless, take your pick,
 Laughter and music fills the air,
 People relaxing without a care,
 The car show gets me in the groove,
 I bet that Corvette can really move,
 Cross country runners think it's really fun,
 To come and compete in the Watermelon Run,
 A wonderful rodeo is here in town,
 The bulls buck the cowboys up and down,
 So if you're in Plains a couple days before Labor Day,
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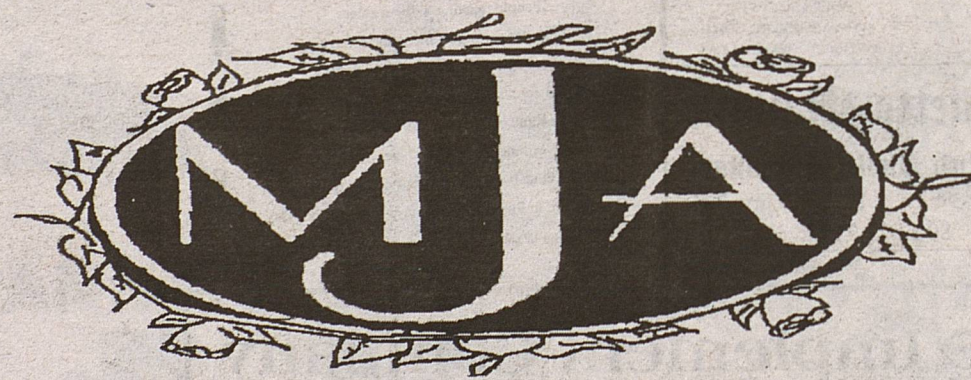
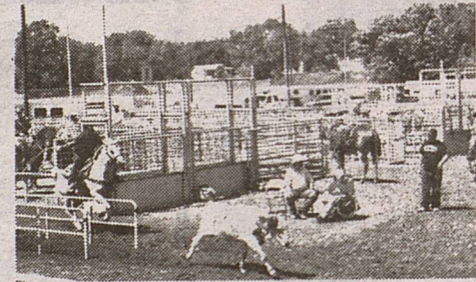


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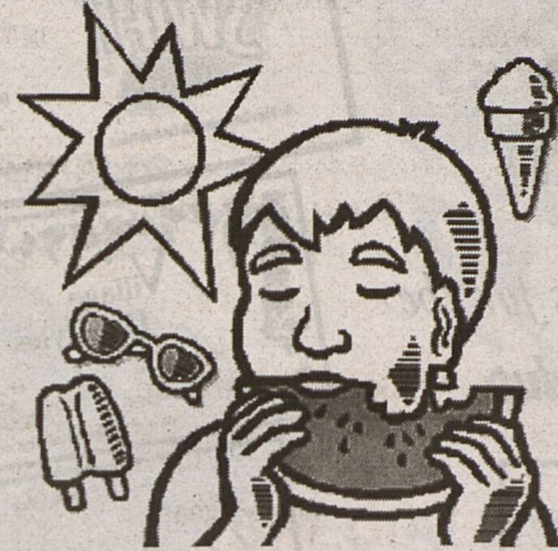
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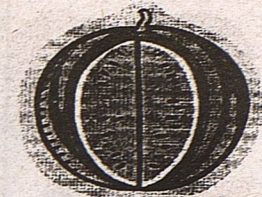
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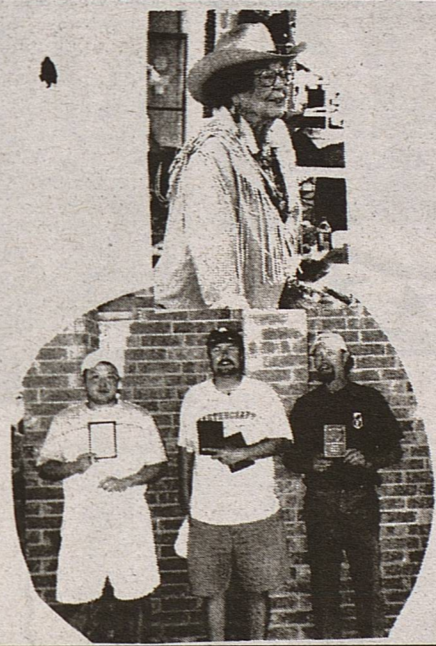


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You will grow with the warmth and love
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And so you will be the love of man
You will nourish and prosper
And all who partake
Will live happily ever after



Elias Carrillo - PHS
Free Verse 9-12

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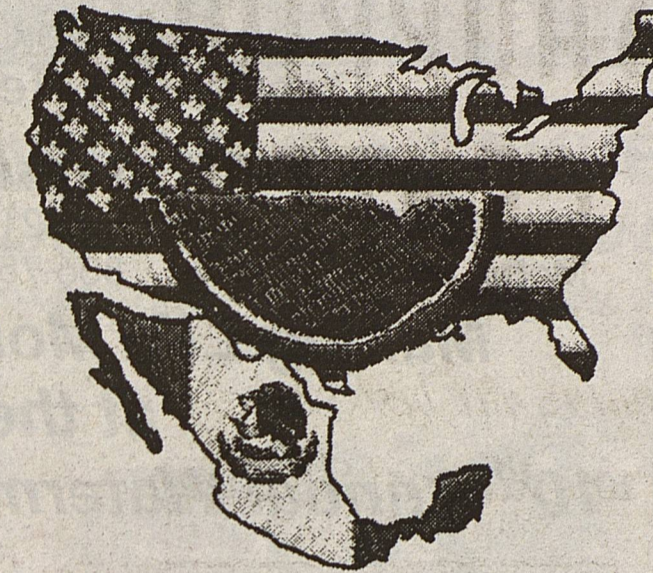
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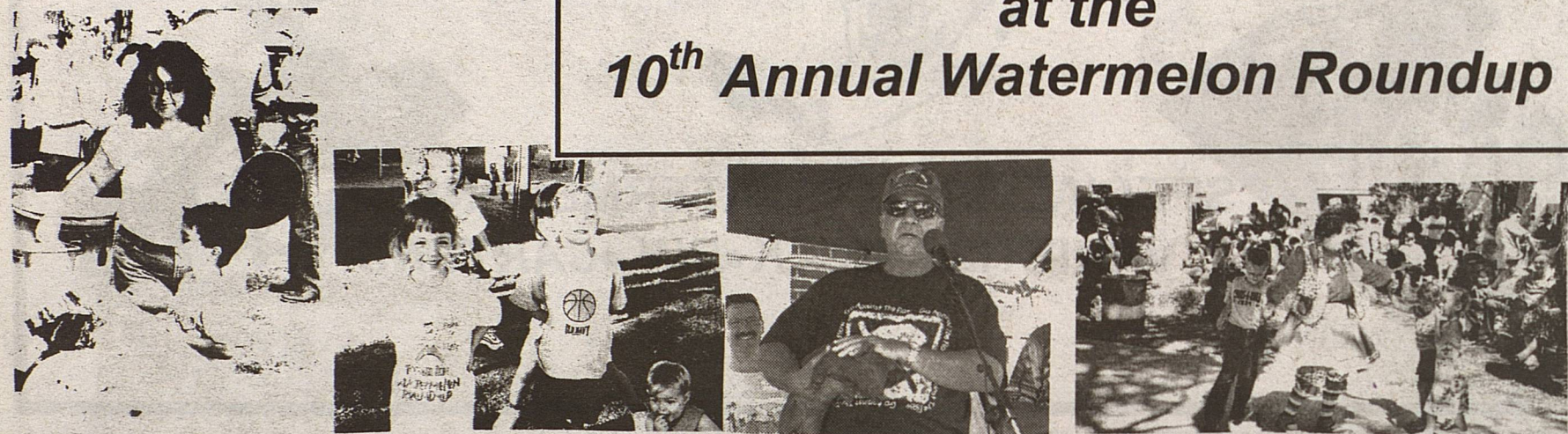
Watermelon Poem
By Erika Loewen - Plains

Chairman's Choice

Green are the vines
Crawling all around
Attached are the melons
Growing on the ground

Red, ripe, and sweet
Are this county's best eats
It is a big bumper
They only grown in the summer

When we see the light and green striped
Our eyes start to bulge
For we know that they are ripe
The watermelons we want to indulge



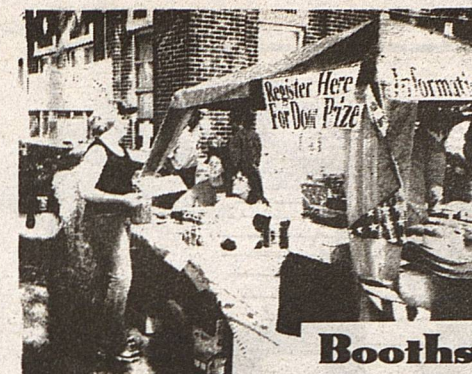
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Making Life More Pleasant
at the
10th Annual Watermelon Roundup



Booths



Decorating Contest



Petting Zoo



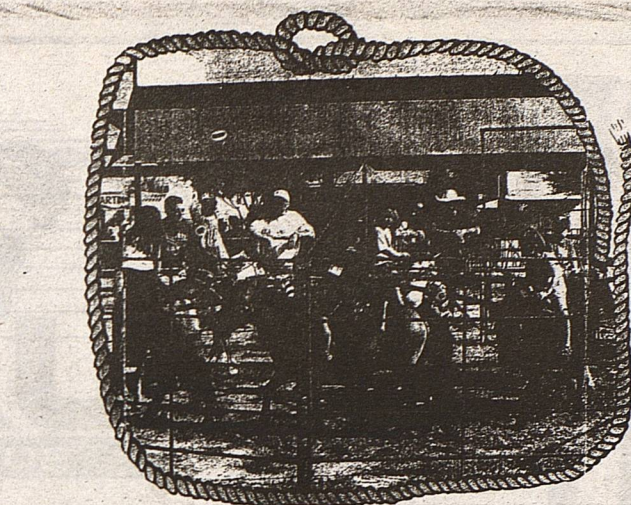
Seed Spitting



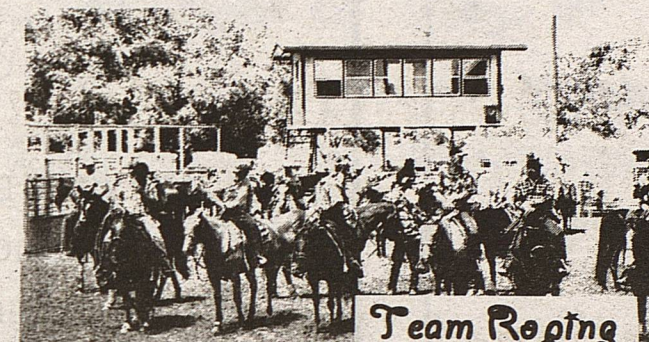
Kids Games



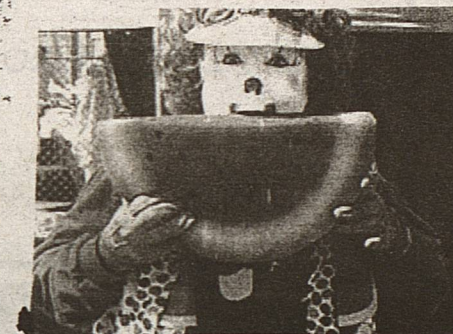
Train Rides



Pony Rides



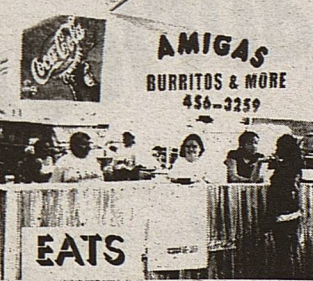
Team Roping



Car Show



Climbing Wall



EATS



Fun Run



Come & Go



Cook-off



Carnival



Stage Show

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Gene Boyer, Office Manager

Any way it's sliced
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will be the **GREATEST!**

Quality Service, Quality Care

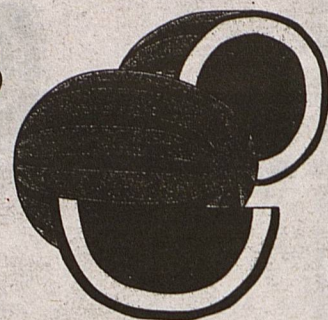
Preneeds and Monuments



WATERMELON

Healthy and Delicious

Everyday!



Watermelon isn't just for summertime picnics – try it at breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack time.

National Watermelon Association History



The National Watermelon Association was organized in 1914. Originally it was called the "Melon Distributors Association," but as the organization grew and the goals became more defined, the name was changed (in 1945) to the "National Watermelon Growers & Distributors Association". In 1979, Growers & Distributors was dropped from the name, resulting in the current "National Watermelon Association."

NWA has members in 30 states and Canada - with chapters in North and South Carolina, Maryland-Delaware, Georgia, Alabama, Missouri, Florida, Texas-Oklahoma, California, Arizona, Indiana, Illinois.

The purpose of the Association is to promote the best interests of the Watermelon Industry from production to consumption. NWA is constantly seeking improvements in the growing, grading, handling, transportation, distribution and sale of watermelon.

Visit www.watermelon.org for easy recipes, nutritional information, fun ideas, facts and just about everything you should know about watermelon!

National Watermelon Promotion Board

1595 S. Semoran Blvd., Suite 1540
Winter Park, FL 32792
407-657-0261

SUNDOWN

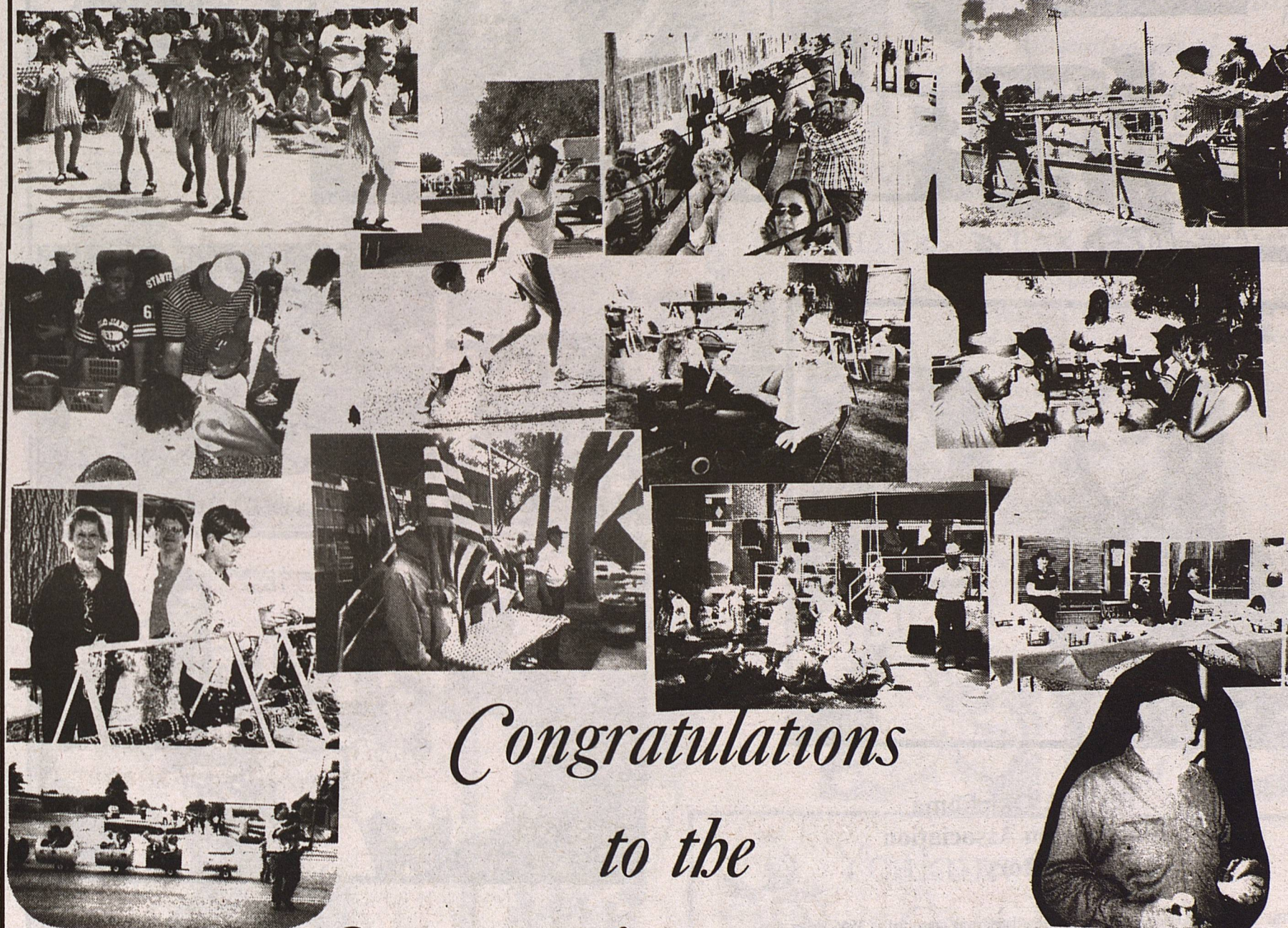
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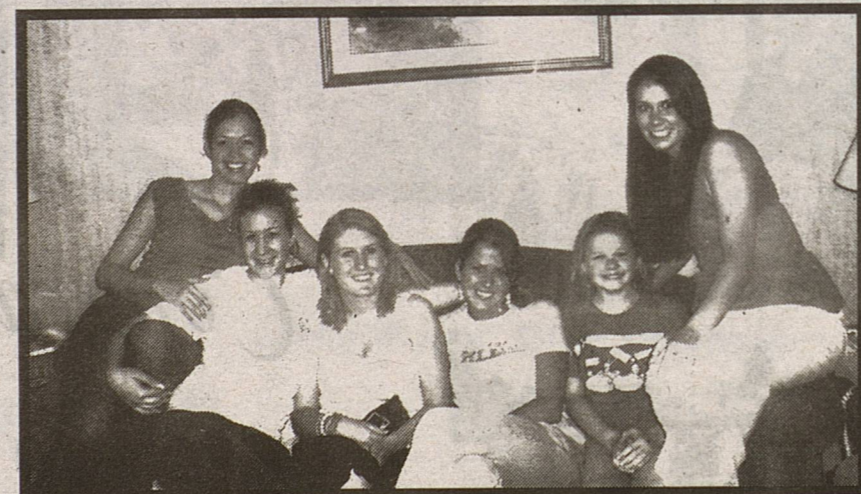
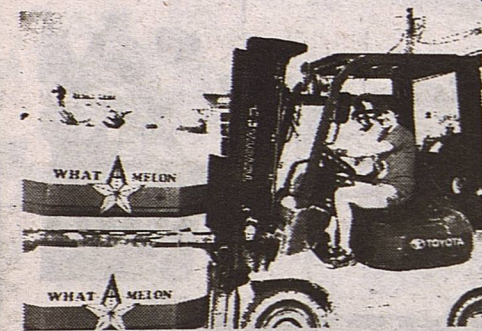
10th Annual Watermelon Roundup

Saturday, September 3, 2005



ANDERSON PRODUCE COMPANY

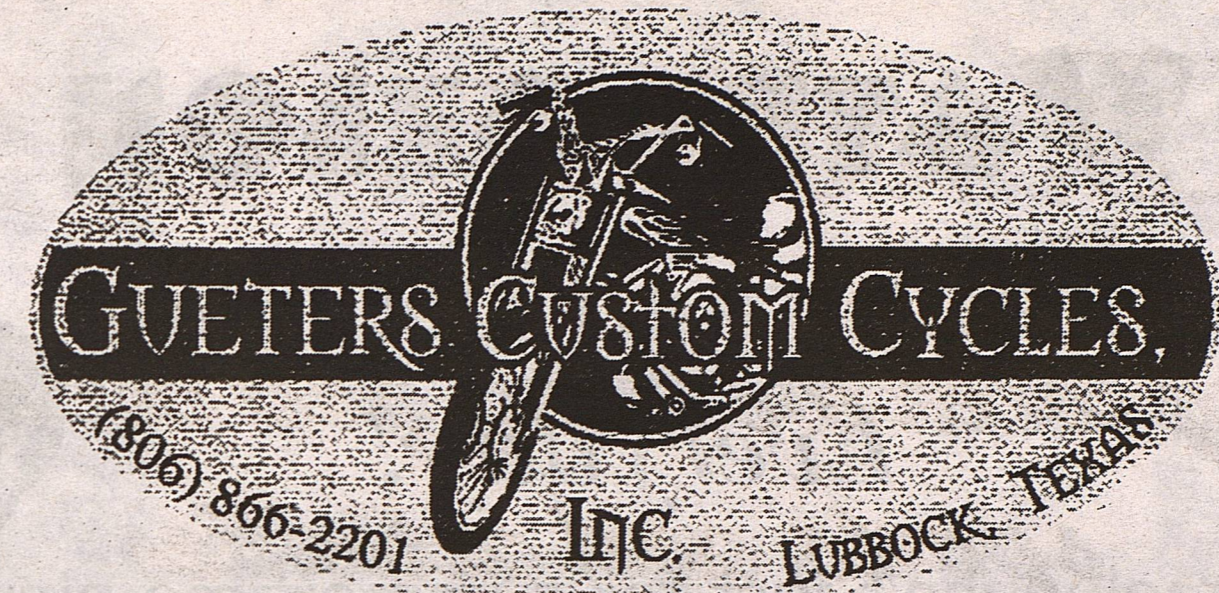
2302 N. Closner • Edinburg, Texas 78541 • (956)381-1421 • Fax (956)381-1282



Texas & Oklahoma Watermelon Association History

The Texas & Oklahoma Watermelon Association was organized in 1966, under the name of Texas Watermelon Growers and Distributors Association. In 1978 the name was changed to Texas Watermelon Association to better reflect the scope of the membership, and chartered as a non-profit organization in 1979. In 1986 the name was changed to the Texas & Oklahoma Watermelon Association thereby better defining the Association. The Texas & Oklahoma Watermelon Association is a chapter of the National Watermelon Association made up of nine state chapters, with membership in 30 states and Canada, totaling over 700 members.

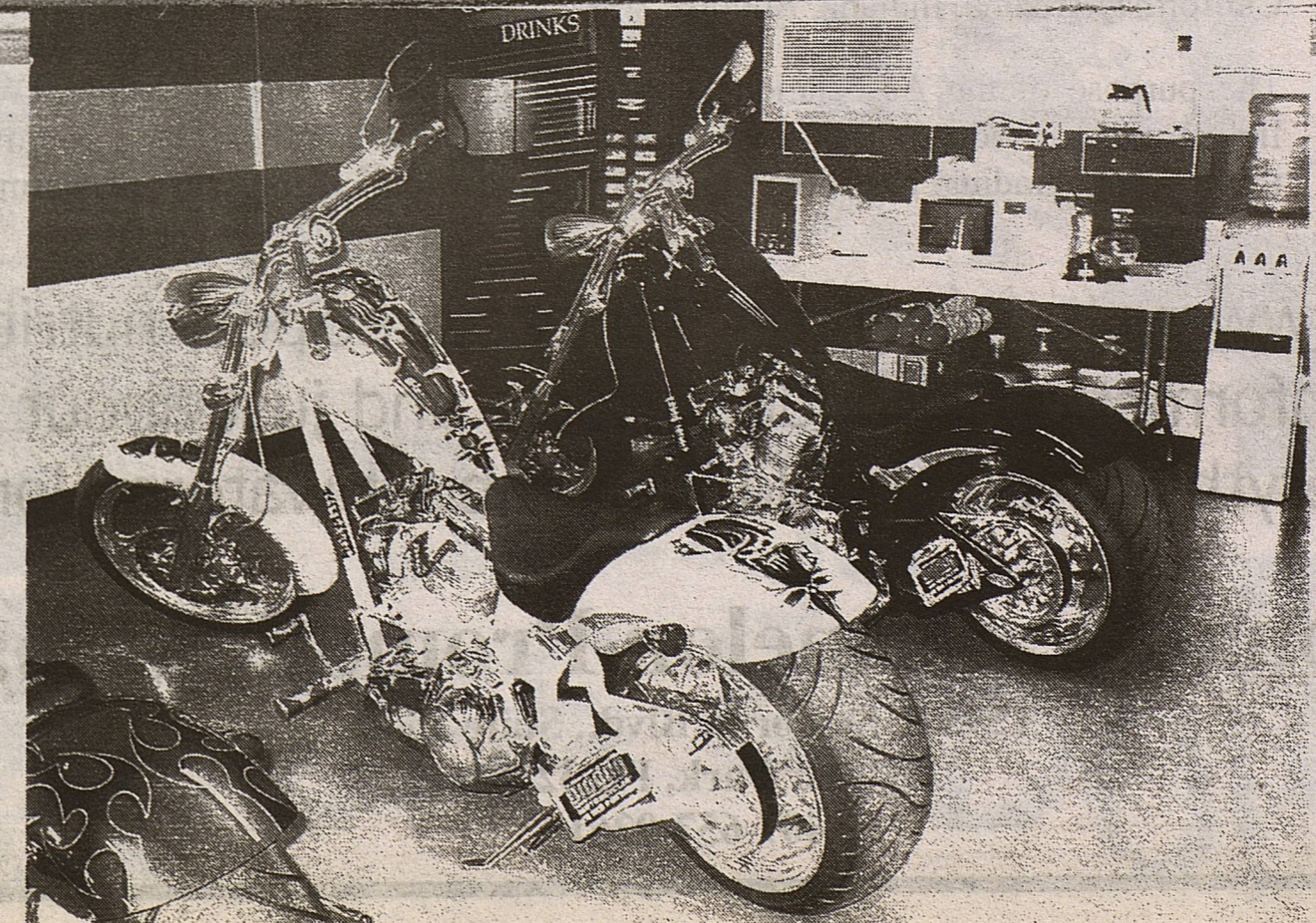
Everyone at Anderson Produce would like to thank all of you at the Yoakum County Watermelon Roundup.



Dain Guetersloh, Owner

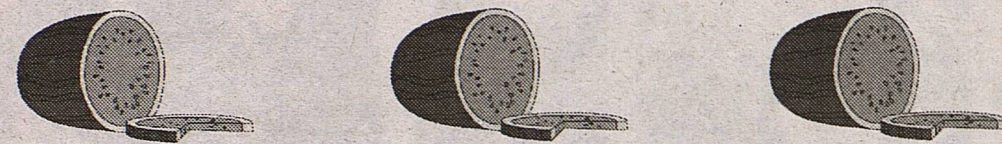
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Denver City Press

*Every week we bring you the news,
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*We are pleased to sponsor the
annual Watermelon Festival and
hope to see you there on Satur-
day, Sept. 3, 2005*

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*Derek Corzine
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*Marysun Roblez
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*Mara Fortner
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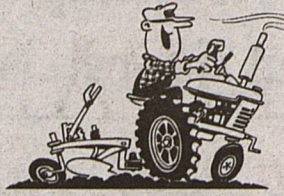
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Welcome you
to the
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Chris Chambliss, Manager

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Mobile 806-456-7510



These pages are dedicated to all the volunteers (too numerous to name) that have played a part in getting the Roundup started and have kept it going for 10 successful years!



If you would like to be a volunteer next year contact Jeannette Head at (806) 456-3566.

