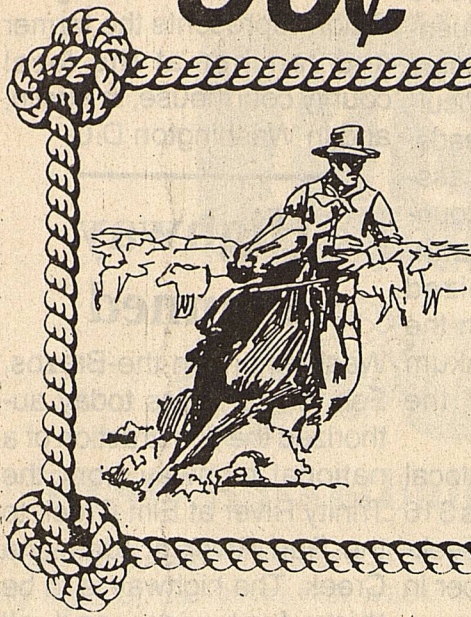
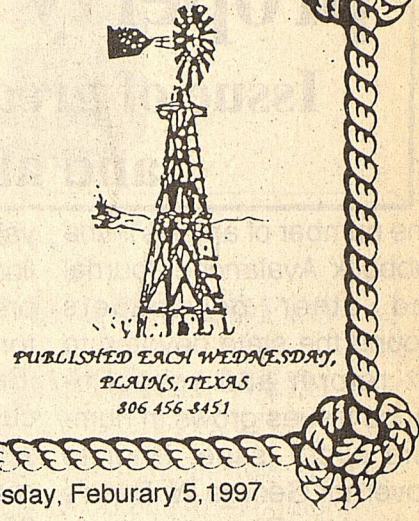


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Cowboy Country News



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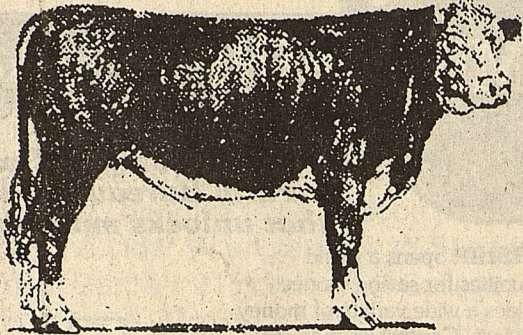
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Volume III, Issue 23, Wednesday, February 5, 1997

Livestock Show Plans Announced



The 45th Annual Yoakum County Livestock Show will be held February 6-8, 1997. There are 137 exhibitors entered in this year's stock show, and approximately 350 livestock entries are expected.

In addition to livestock divisions for swine, lamb, steer, heifer and rabbit, the Livestock Board has authorized a goat division at this year's stock show.

The 1997 Livestock Show Queen candidates are Alecia Bearden, representing the Denver City 4-H Club, Michelle Smith, representing the Denver City FFA Club, Jennifer Lollar, representing the Plains 4-H Club, and Krystal Sellers, representing the Plains FFA Club. The winning queen candidate will be announced on Saturday, February 8, 1997 and will be crowned by the 1996 Livestock Show Queen, Lisa Parrish.

Following is a schedule of events for the 1997 Livestock Show:

Thursday, February 6, 1997
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Swine Weigh-in

12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Lamb Weigh-in

1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Goat Weigh-in

2:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Steer Weigh-in

Friday, February 7, 1997

8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m.
Judging Steer Classes

8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Judging Swine Classes

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Judging Lamb Classes
(or immediately following Swine Show)

3:30 p.m.
Judging Goat Classes
(or immediately following Lamb Classes)

Saturday, February 8, 1997

8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Rabbit Check-in

9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Judging Rabbit Classes

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Photography Session
(All Champions, 1st and 2nd place animals)

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Buyer's Luncheon

1:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Awards Ceremony and Queen Presentation

1:30 p.m.
Premium Sales

Company promoting sunflower contracts

Red River Commodities, Inc., hosted a well attended noon meeting here last Wednesday to promote the planting of and contracting sunflowers during the coming growing season. Several dozen producers attended the catered meal and discussion of the alternative crop for the area.

Red River spokespeople said there are 550 to 600 million pounds of sunflowers harvested in the U.S. each year. The company currently controls about 200 million pounds of this production, but will soon acquire another sunflower contracting firm, and the acquisition will boost their control to roughly half the total production.

Red River deals only in "Confection" sunflowers, the type produced for human consumption. In the 70's and 80's there were numerous local producers growing the

to European markets. The seeds which do not meet confection standards are sold for birdseed.

Red River speakers said the company is currently offering a contract price of seventeen cents for the confection standard seeds, and ten cents for the under standard 'birdfeed' seeds. A split price option is also available.

Producers who are interested in the sunflower contracts wanting additional information should contact the company at 806-763-9747, or 1-800-763-9740.

plants, but they were the varieties grown for extracting sunflower oil. It was pointed out sunflowers are a native plant, introduced to our ancestors by Native Americans. Speakers said roughly 65% of the nation's confection sunflower production is destined for export overseas, mainly

Texas Farm Bureau's 307,560 member families can look back on 1996 as one of the organization's most successful years regarding state, national and regulatory affairs.

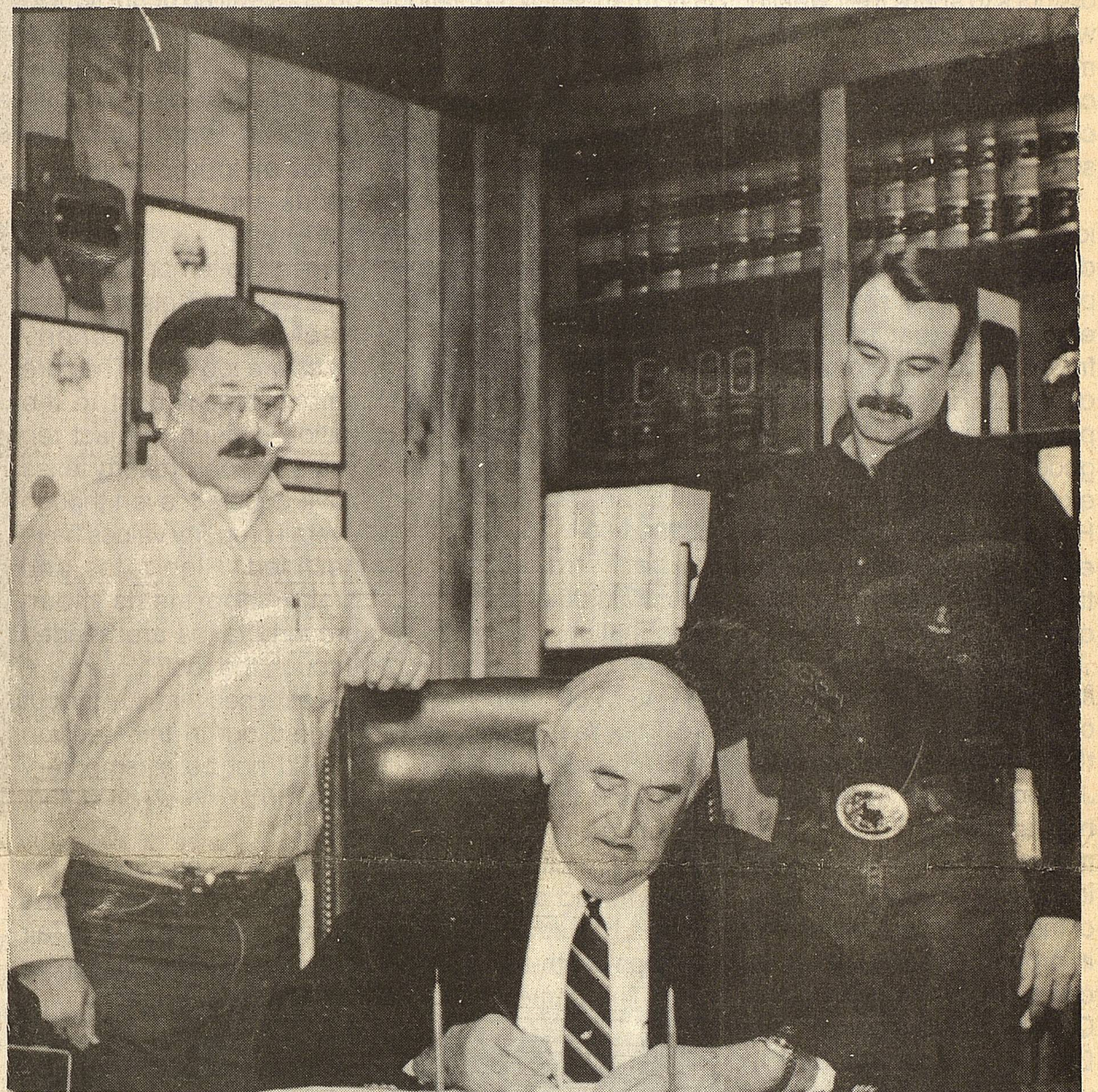
Many groups are envious of TFB's previous legislative accomplishments, especially considering the fact that the organization is probably involved in more issues and work directly on more bills than any other association in the state.

On a state level, TFB President Stallman was appointed to a property tax advisory committee appointed by Governor Bush to evaluate the opinion of voters about property taxes across Texas. He was the only representative of agriculture.

Property Tax relief will be the priority issue of the Texas Farm Bureau in the 1997 legislative session. Members must make their representative award of their wishes. Another priority issue will be the protection of the Private Property Rights law passed in the last session. Many groups will be expected to either weaken or exclude themselves from its provisions.

Nationally, 1996 turned out to be a banner year for TFB and its interests. In April, the President signed into law the Federal Agriculture and Improvement Act of 1996 (1996 Farm Bill). The law provides farmers the flexibility to plant for their profits in the marketplace. It does not penalize producers for not planting a particular crop. The TFB Farm Program Advisory Committee had recommended additional flexibility in its policy proposals to both TFB and AFBF. In particular, President Bob Stallman was appointed to the 21st Century

Farm Bureau successful in state and national issues



Ron Craft, left, and Tim Addison watch Judge Brewer sign Farm Bureau Proclamation.

Commission on Agricultural Policy by House Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts. This Commission was created by the Farm Bill to evaluate the future of agriculture policy and the role of government of Agriculture.

In other organization carried out in 1996:

* Worked with Senators Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison, as well as Congressman Bill Archer, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, on legislation exempting the first \$100 in dues exempt from income

tax. This legislation had a significant impact on the income situation of not only the state Farm Bureau, but those at the county level.

* Farm Bureau has long sought to have health insurance premium for sole proprietorship be deductible from income taxes. This year, the 30% threshold was increased and will incrementally increase to 80% over the next 5 years.

* Played a key role on

Turn to page 2,
'Farm Bureau'

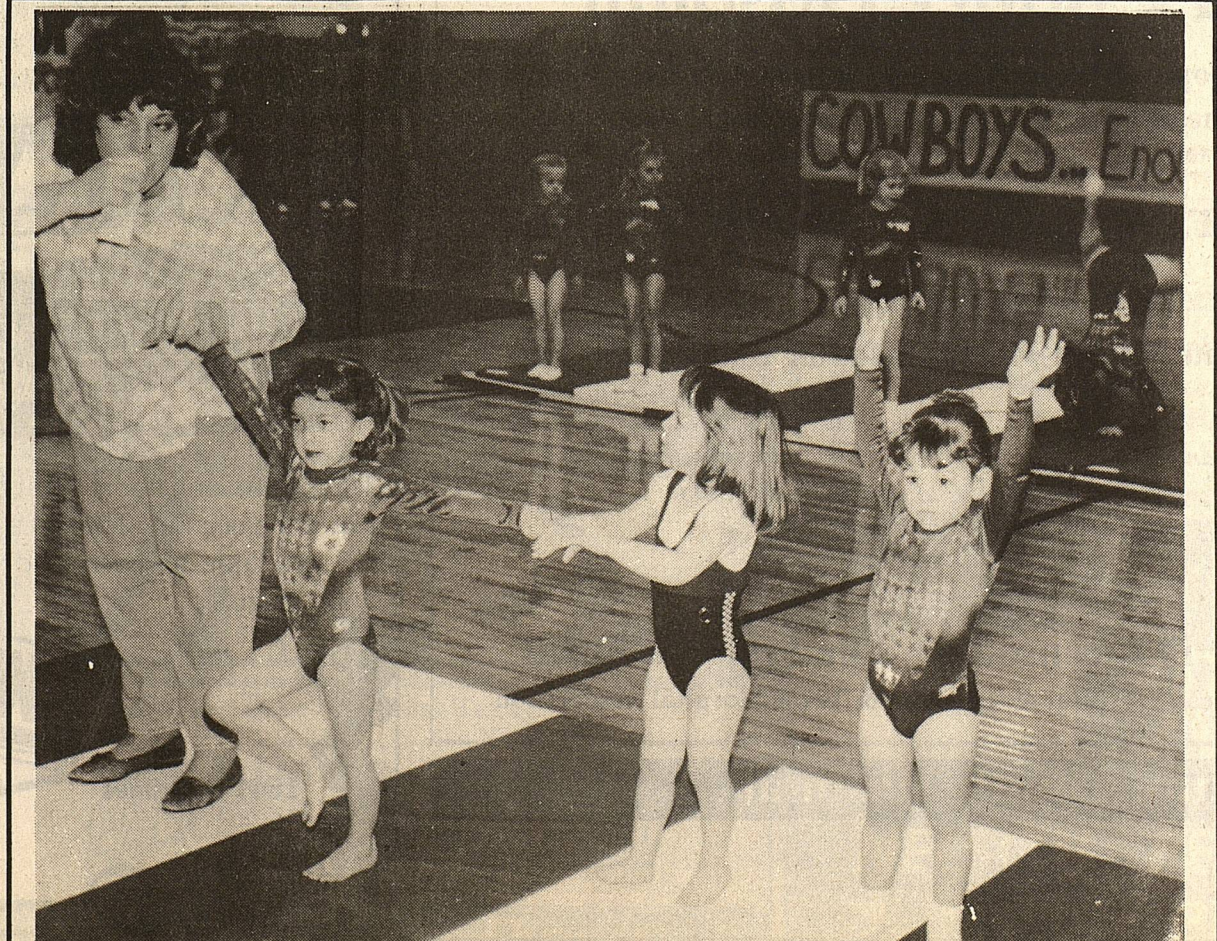
Court ok's D.C. Pool Plans

Commissioner's Court on Monday saw plans designed by West Texas Consultants, Inc., for the construction of a new swimming pool building to be built in Denver City's Stuffy Moorehead Park. The old building had been condemned by the Health Department. The project was approved by the Court in an earlier session.

The building will be approximately 1130 square feet. The Court approved advertising for construction bids on the project, and will receive bids on February 28, and take action on March 3. David Young, Engineer with West Texas Consultants, said he thought the building could be constructed for \$45 to \$50 per square foot. At \$50, it would cost \$56,500, and a fence and covered patio area would raise the total cost to about \$64,000. The project must be finished by May 15.

A proposed maintenance contract with Dover Elevator Co. was rejected. The Court will seek legal advice on insurance liability questions on any new agreement.

Turn to page 4,
'County Court'



These little darlings ready to entertain crowd at basketball game halftime last week

Legislators busy exploring property tax reform issues

Issue of great importance to schools and all county residents

The number of articles in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal and other newspapers around the state devoted to tax reform and school finance issues grows in numbers every issue. Prior to Governor George W. Bush's State of the State address to the 75th Legislature, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock had indicated his support of tax reform and possible abolishment of the notorious "Robin Hood" law, forcing so called rich school districts to share their wealth with poorer districts. He said more than half of the so called rich districts have per capita income well below the state average.

"This pokes a hole in the idea that many so called rich districts are filled with rich people", Bullock said. "Property wealth that can come from a major industry, a plant or oil wells does not mean the people are rich. That is as good a reason as any to re-examine the state's Robin Hood school funding law. It's evidence the system is not the fairest way to fund education."

Bullock cited figures showing many rich districts per capita income is well below the state average. The Jayton district in Kent County has tax values of \$3,779,721 per student, but per capita income of only \$15,945. One of the most striking diversions in property wealth versus income can be found in Webb County. Webb Consolidated District has \$1,111,915 in valuations per student, but a per capita income of only \$11,289.

A more drastic example can be found right here in Yoakum County. The 1990 Census report shows residents of the Plains District had a per capita income of only \$10,597. That low figure may have risen some since the Census was taken, but there has definitely not been any drastic change.

According to the local Appraisal District office, the PISD property tax valuation is \$391,431,870. Mineral

valuations make up \$4.7 million (rounded) of this, and real property valuations account for \$1.08 million (rounded).

Based on these figures, the current \$1.50 per hundred school tax rate, the maximum rate allowed, produces \$5,871,478 in school funding taxes for the district.

Robin Hood mandates a cap on per student spending per year. Very complex regulations and formulas used in the state's Weighted Average Daily Attendance regulations (WADA) govern the exact amount of tax money each district can keep. In January of this year, PISD enrollment stood at 508 students. WADA formulas take into consideration students with special needs for specific programs, and district's can adjust their enrollment figures to fund those programs. PISD's WADA enrollment is now 1,000 students, and under Robin Hood, the maximum a district can spend per student is \$280,000.

That translates to \$280,000,000 of the district's tax valuation, indicating an excess tax base of \$111,431,780. Applying the \$1.50 tax rate to that figure produces \$1,671,476 in taxes, and those taxes are currently being recaptured by the district's 'partner' schools in Brownfield and Presidio. These so called poor schools are happy with the arrangement. The same cannot be

said for local taxpayers or PISD officials.

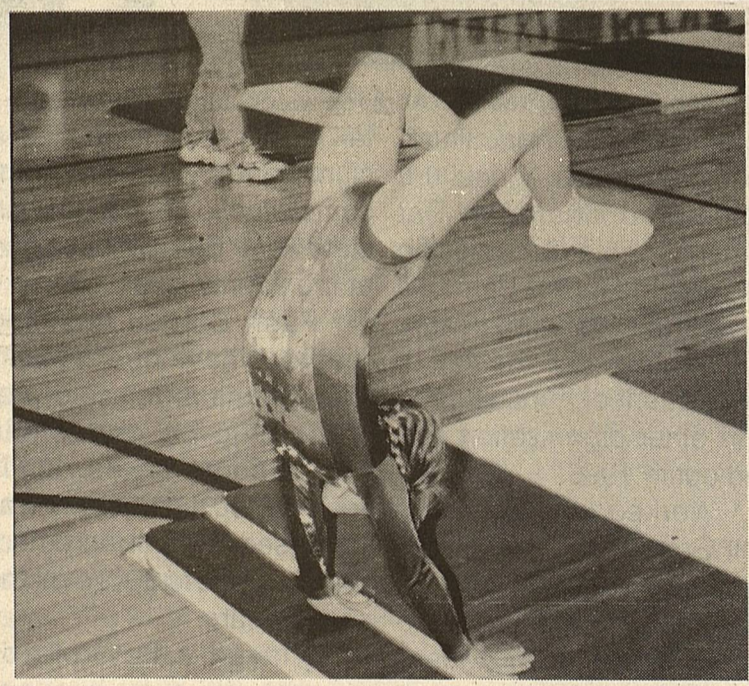
A quick read of the many articles and news releases stemming from Austin indicates a large number of the Legislature favor some form of tax relief, but the issue will face stiff opposition from several sectors.

Certain business factions are expected to oppose the proposed changes in their tax structures. Professionals, such as attorneys and doctors, will no doubt fight to keep their fees free from the proposed change in the sales tax law, bringing their services under taxation as most all other sellers of goods and services in the state.

When Governor Bush addressed the Legislature last week, he said "Property taxes are too high. They are among the highest in the nation. During the last ten years, school property taxes have doubled, even though overall property values have declined. High rates and higher appraisals mean property taxes are headed through the roof."

He stressed that any tax cut worked out in this session should not be a temporary step, and binding on school district's.

It will be interesting to follow the Legislature's efforts to solve the dilemma of fair and effective financing of our public school system



Young 'Royal Bouncer' flies at basketball halftime show

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From page 1, 'Farm Bureau'

eliminating the Delaney Clause from federal food safety regulations. The law was changed to a limited risk/benefit standard in a major improvement for the scientific community as well as the regulated public. The Delaney Clause, passed four decades ago, was perceived as too inflexible for good food safety policy.

The Texas Farm Bureau Friends of Agriculture (AgFund) had a success rate of approximately 85% during the election cycle. Of that figure, three new congressional elections were won, one new state Senate seat elected, and a new farmer legislator elected. Politically, the Farm Bureau is stronger than anytime in recent history.

On Wednesday, January 29, County Judge Dallas Brewer signed a proclamation designating February 3-7 as "Farm Bureau Membership Week" in Yoakum County.

The week is a part of a statewide observance during which country Farm Bureaus will make a special effort to enroll new members, according to Lanny A. Smith of Plains, president of the Yoakum County Farm Bureau.

Steve Jones of Plains is chairman of the membership committee which is responsible for membership acquisition and maintenance.

"The Texas Farm Bureau,

with more than 300,000 member families, is influential in both state and national affairs on behalf of agriculture," the proclamation reads. "Farm Bureau is a grass-roots organization. Its foundation is the county unit. There are 211 organized county Farm Bureaus in the state include the Yoakum County Farm Bureau," the proclamation states.

Lanny Smith said the local county Farm Bureau has 316 member families and is seeking to exceed that number in 1997. He said that the Farm Bureau is a general farm organization that seeks to improve the income of farm and

the organization represents the farmer and rancher at the local county courthouse, in Austin, and in Washington D.C.

Highway Planned

Washington-On-the-Brazos, Feb. 5. Congress today authorized the construction of a national highway from the Trinity River at Elm Creek to the Red River at Kiamisha Creek. The highway is to be thirty feet wide, and all stumps must be cut to within twelve inches of the ground.

The Texas News, Feb., 1844

MEMBERSHIP is the key...

Membership in Texas Farm Bureau is a key that unlocks many doors.

MEMBERSHIP opens a world of opportunities for saving money. TFB provides a wide variety of money saving services. Contact your county Farm Bureau office for more details.

MEMBERSHIP opens the doors of decision makers in Austin and Washington. TFB's grass roots structure and policy development process reflect the thinking of Texas agriculture.

MEMBERSHIP unlocks the door of opportunity. In TFB problems are solved. Outcomes are influenced. TFB works for better living in rural Texas.

Unlock the door to a brighter future. Contact your county Farm Bureau office today.

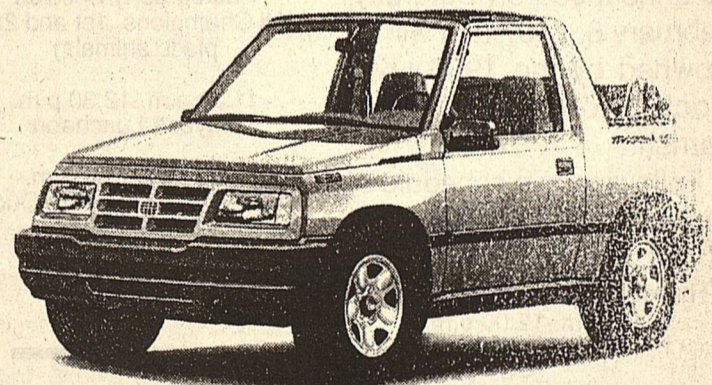
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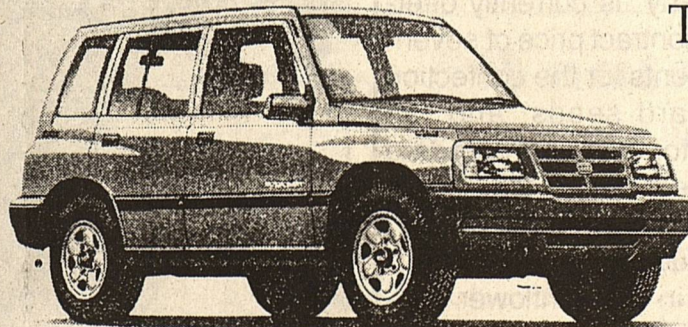


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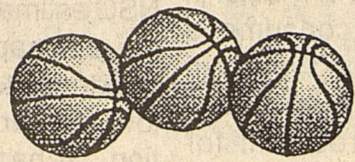
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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'



PISD Basketball Recap

Jr. High-7th Lady Wranglers; The young girls had rough going against Sundown last week, falling 39-14. Nancy Koncaba and Arasley Luna managed four points each, Annaliesa O'Quinn had 3, Ashley Gonzalez 2, and Chelsi Wagnon 1.

8th Lady Wranglers; The 8th grade girls were also stopped by Sundown, 34-23. Lexi Warren and Kimbe Jones led the scoring with 7 points each, followed by Kim Willis with 4, Tanya Vasquez 3, and Lensey Cullins with 2.

7th Wranglers; The 7th grade boys were the only PISD team to post a win last week. They downed Sundown 30-27. Jared Bell got half the points, 15, followed by Joseph Rodriguez, Tanner Hamm and Moises Gonzales, 4 each, Jeffrey Lollar 2, and Chris McGinty, 1. Good job, boys!

8th Wranglers; The older Wranglers fell to Sundown 55-44, despite Adam Garcia's 21 points. Joel Gallegos had 9, and Armando Luna 8. Coach McAdams said Sterling Deaton and Joel had good defensive and rebounding games.

JV Cowgirls; Shallowater game results not furnished.

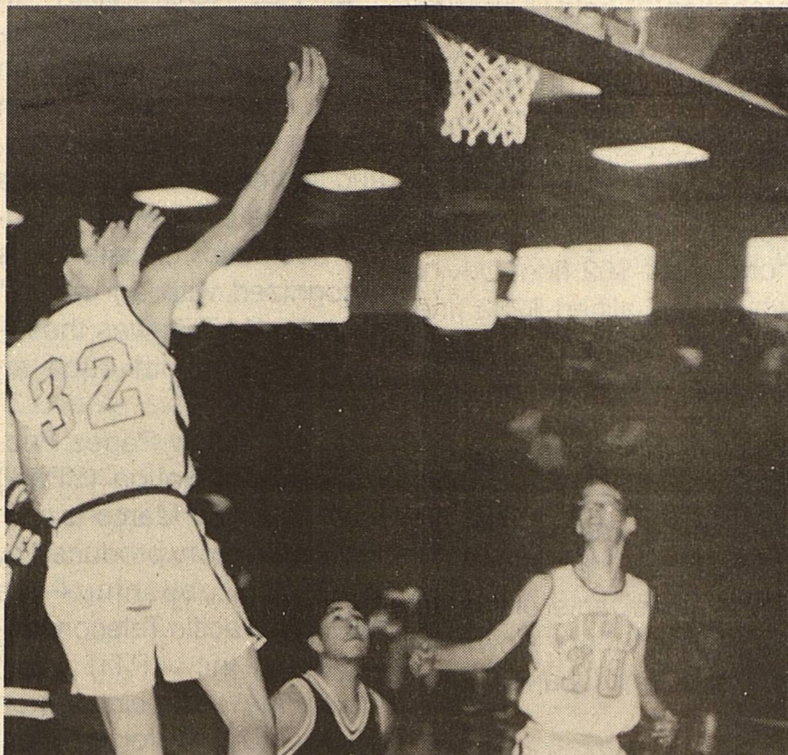
The younger Cowgirls fell to Seagraves 44-25. Jessica Flores was top scorer with 6 points, Anne Palmer, Rebecca Robertson and Patti Ruiz each had 4, Krystle Blundell 3, Kristen Gray 2, Tandi Jones 1.

JV Cowboys; The JV boys lost a tough one to Shallowater 61-57. Fermin Luna topped the scoring with 16 points, Clint Burrus had 14, Matt Morgan 10, Alex Tarango 8, Mike Bell 5, and Colt Winn, Cosme Casillas each had 2.

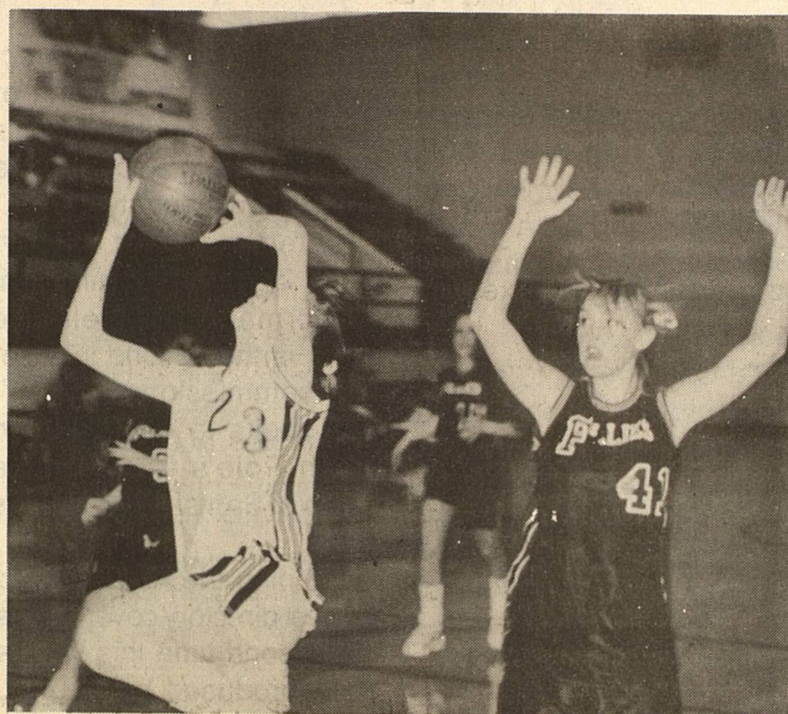
They lost another squeaker to Seagraves, 61-58. Mike led the scoring with 14 points, Matt had 12, Fermin 8, Cosme 8, Clint 6, Josh Bell 4, Kyle Sisson, Alex and Colt each scored 2.

PHS Cowgirls; The varsity girls fell to Shallowater 75-43, with 23 turnovers leading to 22 Shallowater points. Sandi Warren was the leading scorer with 10 points, followed by Kyle Bearden and Kayla Redman with 7 each, Lindsey Six had 6, Shyloh Winn 5, Kelli Osborn 3, Tessa St Romain and Jolyne Burgess 2 each. Sandi and Kayla each had 7 rebounds. The Cowgirls were stopped by Seagraves 59-45. Kyle had the hot hand and scored 13 points, followed by Kayla with 8, Tessa, Sandi, Lindsey and Jolyne each had 5, Shyloh 3, and Kelli 1. Lindsey grabbed 8 rebounds, and Kayla had 7.

PHS Cowboys; The varsity boys also had a tough week. They first were defeated by a good Shallowater team 82-65. 23 turnovers did not help their cause, though they played better in this meeting than their first matchup. Joe Luna topped the scoring with 16 points, Travis Bennet and Jason



Fermin Luna going for layup



Kristen Gray gets around defender for shot

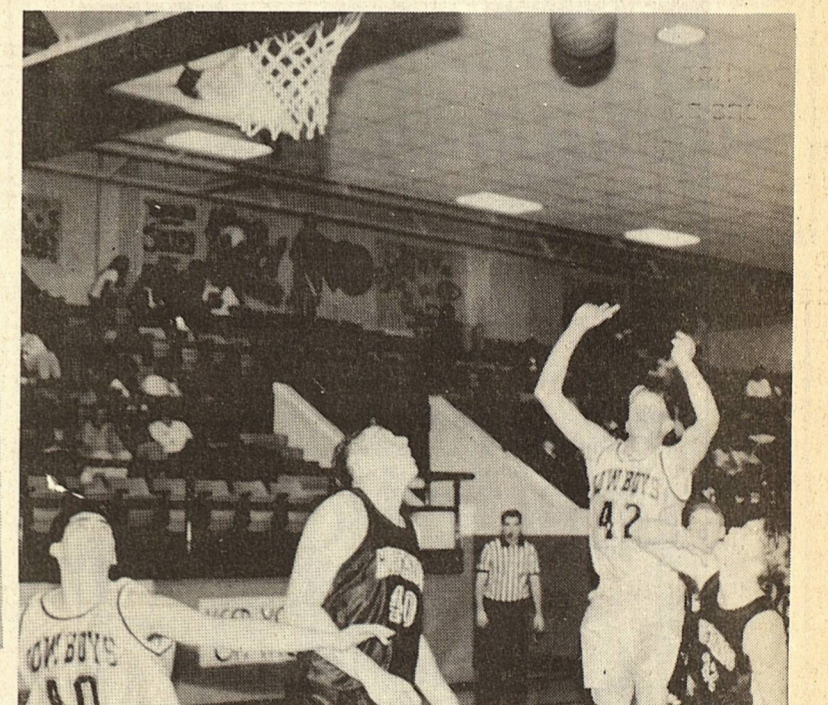
Redman had 14 points each, Tanner Blount 11, Will St Romain 4, Chris Willett, Jamie Caballero and Adam Dominguez 2 each. They were next dropped by Seagraves 68-63. Jason scored 25 points and had 11 rebounds, Tanner had 17 points, Joe 9, Shawn Cullins 6, Jamie 3, Adam 2, and Chris 1.

Ho - Hum.... PHS Math/Science team scores another Sweepstakes win!

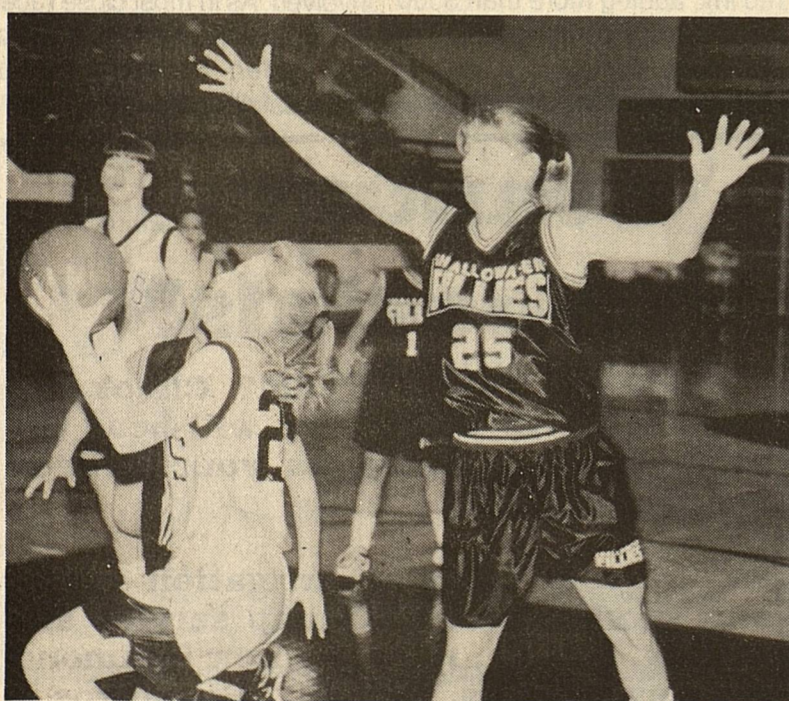
The Match/Science/Computer Science teams scored their seventh sweepstakes victory in their eighth competition against Class 1, 2, and 3A schools at Lubbock Coronado last Saturday. The Number Sense and Calculator teams took first place, the Math and Science Team was 5th, and the Computer Science team won 2nd. Individual standings include: **Number Sense**-Kristen Gray 1st, Clint Burrus 2nd, Maranda Box 7th, Shawna Box 2nd, Heath Bowlin 7th, Shawn Cullins 1st, Yancey House 3rd, Jacob Lester 6th. **Calculator**- Kristen Gray 1st, Clint Burrus 4th, Tommie McNabb 1st, Maranda Box 5th, Derek Brunson 9th, Shawna Box 5th, Heath Bowlin 1st, Shawn Cullins 4th. **Math**-Kristen Gray 1st, Clint Burrus 4th, Tommie McNabb 10th, Derek Brunson 9th, Shawna Box 6th, Shawn Cullins 3rd. **Science**-Kristen Gray 2nd, Clint Burrus 6th, Tommie McNabb 8th. Derek Brunson 6th, Shawna Box 6th, Yancey House 7th. **Computer Science**-Clint Burrus 4th, Tommie McNabb 5th, Jacob Lester 3rd. CONGRATULATIONS.... AGAIN!



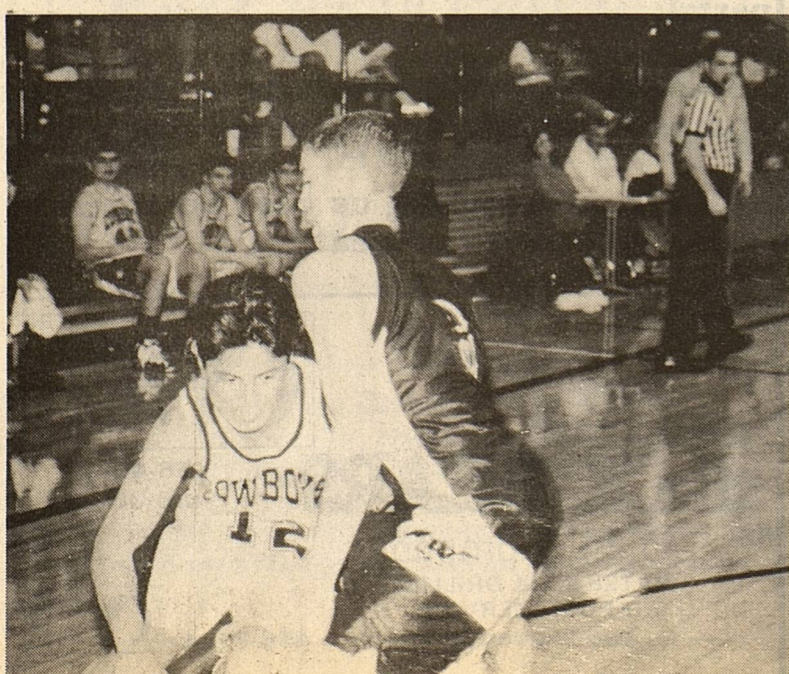
Kayla Redman goes high for shot



Adam Dominguez watches Jason Redman's shot

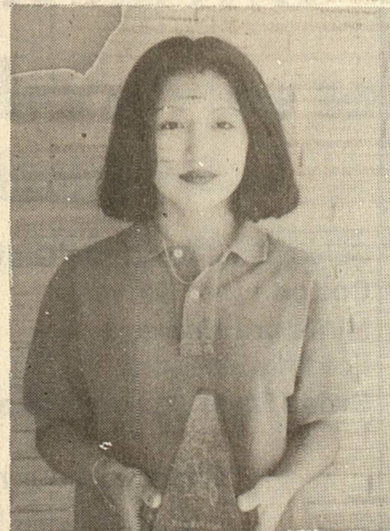


Sandi Warren going for the net



Joe Luna drives for the basket

PHS Student of the Week



Missy Asebedo

Missy Asebedo is this week's Student of the week. She is a Junior, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Coronel.

She was nominated by Mrs. Dorsett, who said "As a teacher, it is so refreshing to see students who are willing to learn no matter what the circumstances. If a job is difficult, these students ask questions until they understand the concepts. Missy is one of those students. No matter how hard, she does it. No matter what the task, she gives it her all. She is a pleasure to have in class and to be around."

* As of April 10, 1996, the Japanese paid 74 cents and the Germans 67 cents for First Class Mail. America's 32 cents for First Class Mail is among the lowest in the industrialized world.

* Fortune Magazine listed the Postal Service 33rd on a list of the world's largest corporations. In FY 1995, a record net income of \$1.8 billion was earned.

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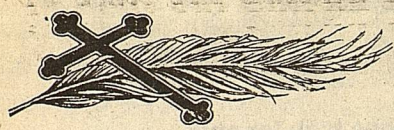
Final Rites Held for Sharon Idell Murphey

Funeral services for Idell Murphey, 81 of Plains, were held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, February 3, at First Baptist Church in Plains. The Rev. Bill Wright, pastor, officiated. Interment was in Plains Cemetery under the direction of Connally Funeral Home of Seagraves. She lay in state in the Plains Memorial Chapel in Plains.

Mrs. Murphey passed away Friday, January 31, at her residence in Plains. She was born October 28, 1915, in Comanche, Texas, to William Sweatman and the former Rhoda Arminda Nelson. She married T.J. Murphey, November 21, 1936, in Rule, Texas. She was a homemaker, an LVN nurse, and a member of the First Baptist Church in Plains.

Survivors include their daughters: Kay Chandler of Plains, Carolyn Garner of Lubbock, Kathleen Kinsey of Odessa. Also surviving are two sisters: Allivelle Cartledge of Abilene, and Summer Gillum of Austin. She also leaves eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers for the services were Ron Craft, Larry Murphey, Claude Addison, Buddy Brantley, Macky McWhirter, Joe St Romain, Jim Barron and Mike McClure.



JP Court Cases

The following is a summary of cases acted on in Justice of Peace Court, Precinct One, with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

Forty One traffic cases were filed, one felony, one minor in possession of alcohol, one emergency protective order, one Parks and Wildlife violation, and one inquest hearing cases were heard.

Bonds were set in the following cases; Driving while license suspended-\$500; Un-

lawfully carrying a weapon-\$2000; Assault causing bodily injury-\$1500; Minor in possession alcohol-\$65.50 fine; Public intoxication-\$185 fine; Hindering secured creditor-\$10,000; Motion to revoke probation(2)-held till hearing; Parole violation-Held until hearing; Assault causing bodily injury-\$3000, 24 hours detention; Fail to maintain financial responsibility (2)-\$500 bonds; Record of duty status not current-\$62 fine; Driving while disqualified-\$232 fine; Theft by check-\$1000 cash bond; Forgery-\$6500.

Services held for Royce Trout

Graveside services were held for James Royce Trout, 69, at Plains Cemetery Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., under direction of Brownfield Funeral Home. Reverend Bill Wright, pastor of First Baptist Church, Plains, officiated. Mr. Trout passed away on February 2, 1997, while in Lea County Regional Medical Center.

Mr. Trout was born on April 19, 1927, at Tokio, Texas. His parents were Joseph R. Trout and the former Nona Helms.

He married Betty Springer on February 20, 1949, in Plains. He was an Army veteran of World War II and Korea. He was a graduate of Plains High, a member of the First Baptist Church here, and farmed in Yoakum County until retiring in 1981.

He is survived by his wife Betty; two sons, Reggie of Brownfield, and Lowell of Albuquerque; a daughter, Rhonda McDaniel of Hobbs; and two brothers, Lowell of Bonham, and Charles of Big Lake.

From page 1, 'County Court'

The Treasurer's monthly financial report was approved, showing a cash balance of \$5,086,071 on hand at the end of December. The Court also approved an amended 3rd quarter investment report, and the 4th quarter report also.

The Court voted to support a resolution to be sent to members of the 75th State Legislature seeking their support for rural economic development through air transportation.

Remember....
The Preston Murphey family - The Idell Murphey family - The Trout family - The Graham family

ALLTEL Wins First In Directory Cover Contest

LITTLE ROCK, ARK—In the movie business, excellence is recognized with an Oscar. In television, it's an Emmy; in music, a Grammy; and in theater, a Tony. In the telephone directory publishing business, excellence is recognized with an "APPY" award. ALLTEL was the recent recipient of such an award.

At the Yellow Pages Publishers Association (YPPA) convention, in Marco Island, Fla., a directory produced by ALLTEL Publishing—the 1995-96 Pacific Telecommunications Inc., (PTI) *North Pole, Alaska Directory*—won the Gold APPY for the best directory cover in the telephone directory publishing industry.

The PTI *North Pole Directory* features a painting of Santa Claus and one of his elves checking a book to see who's been "naughty or nice." Created by artist Robert Gunn in a style reminiscent of Norman Rockwell, the cover is the second in a series commissioned by PTI that seeks to capitalize on North Pole's fame as the home of Santa Claus and his elves.

Winning the APPY award for best directory cover marks the second time this year a book produced by ALLTEL has won a major industry-wide cover contest. In July, the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications

Companies (OPASTCO) awarded a cover designed by ALLTEL, the *North Willamette Valley Directory*, from Oregon, the best cover award in its category.

"Appealing covers are considered an important factor in determining a consumer's preference among different telephone directories," said Ken Beach, president for ALLTEL Publishing. "We are very proud to have worked with PTI to make their Santa Claus book such an award-winning success story."

ALLTEL Corporation is a customer-focused, information technology company that provides wired and wireless communications and information services.

Fatal Firearm Accident Rate at Low

The National Safety Council released its "Accident Facts 1996 Edition," and the NSC estimates that for 1995, the per capita fatal firearm accident rate fell to an all-time low; 0.5 per 100,000 population. It had been 0.6 since 1986. From the all-time high recorded in 1904 (3.4) the new figure represents an 85% decrease.

The number of fatal firearm accidents for 1995 is estimated at 1,400. With an occasional upward bump here and there, the annual number of fatal firearm accidents has been declining for several decades.

Texas politics have always produced oddities

In T.R. Fehrenbach's masterful book on Texas history, the author portrays politics and politicians from Pre-Republic days to the 20th century. One character older readers will recall is W. Lee O'Daniel, former Governor and U.S. Senator.

"In 1938, in a 13 man primary, W. Leo ('Pappy') O'Daniel of Fort Worth polled more than half the votes. A flour merchant who sold by radio, he had discovered a substitute for promises to tenant farmers; playing country music over the airwaves. Despite anguished howls that he sold politics like flour, he reached more people. His major program was a promise every aged person would receive a state pension.

"In office, he dropped bait and switched. The proposal was watered down to offer only pensions to the needy over 65, and then only enough to raise their total income from all sources to \$30 per month. He had to propose a sales tax, under a different name, but it was recognized anyway. The pension was approved, but the Legislature destroyed all revenue bills. O'Daniel, like every Texas Governor, wallowed in vetoes and red ink, adding more than \$500 million to the deficit in the general fund.

"After much controversy, the

(tax) burden was shifted heavily to oil, gas, tobacco and alcohol, producing a wry joke later that a citizen who neither smoked, drank or drove a car was unpatriotic; he did not support his state.

"Morris Sheppard died, creating a U.S. Senate vacancy in 1941. Pappy chose to run for the vacancy. He defeated a serious minded young candidate, Congressman Lyndon Johnson by only a few hundred votes.

In 1948, Pappy chose not to run for office again. Former Governor Coke Stevenson opposed Lyndon Johnson for the Senate seat. "In an acrimonious campaign, each man tried to prove he was more conservative than the other. In the end, personal spite settled the contest. A south Texas political boss switched his controlled Mexican vote from Stevenson to Johnson, who won by a delayed report from the infamous "Box 13" (and later was tabbed 'Land-slide Lyndon'). This vote was probably manufactured. The US Senate, with certain wisdom, refused to interfere, and a federal court gave the race to Johnson by eighty-odd votes. There was probably no injustice involved. As in most close races in Texas, Johnson men had not defrauded Stevenson, but successfull outtrauded him"



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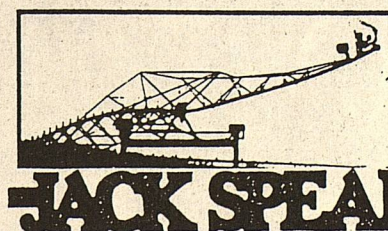
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Femme Friends



HOWDY!

By: Kathy Adair



COOKING WITH LOW-FAT DAIRY PRODUCTS

Low-fat plain yogurt works well as a substitute for sour cream in cold dips. It can be used to stretch mayonnaise in cold slaw, tuna and potato salads and dressings. Try half yogurt and half mayonnaise. Yogurt can also be used in place of sour cream in cooking food, but it tends to separate and become watery. You can overcome this by whisking some flour into yogurt before cooking. Better yet, whenever possible add yogurt to cooked foods after removing them from the heat source. An excellent imitation sour cream can be made by whirling low-fat cottage cheese, along with several tablespoons of skim milk or yogurt, in a blender until smooth. This makes a delicious base for vegetable dip and is a good replacement for ricotta cheese and sour cream in casseroles.

Kids Learn about fighting No. 1 killer

Elementary school students in Plains will again be participating in *Jump Rope For Heart* in February.

This traditional American Heart Association event has been sponsored for 17 years. Students participating in the *Jump Rope For Heart* even learn the importance of exercise and correct diet, which combats heart disease.

They also get pledges from family and friends to raise money for further research and education on problems with heart disease. Most families are affected in

some way with the No. 1 killer in our nation, and these children learn early what to do about fighting it.

They make a big difference in the future, helping the American Heart Association lower the incidence of this killer.

Another important thing these students learn is the importance of community service, and spreading the word. The Yoakum County division of the American Heart Association encourages everyone to be generous when a *Jump Rope For Heart* student asks for a pledge.

Judy Sisson,
A.H.A. Board Member

New Books at the Library

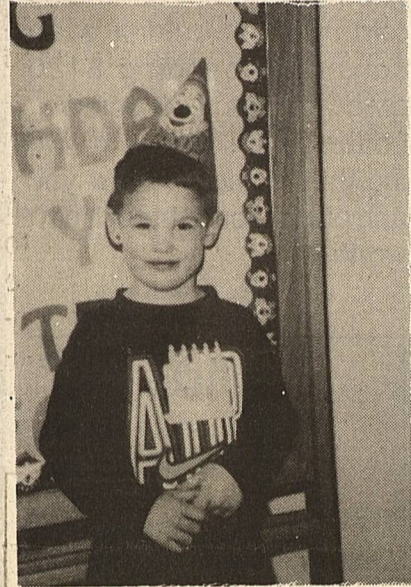
- Fiction**
 Escape with the Dream Maker by Morris
 Guardian Angle by Garwood
 Pledge by Peart
 Secret Affair by Bradford
 Key to Midnight by Koontz
 Another Fine Myth by Asprin
 Errands by Guest
 Hornet's Nest by Cornwell
 Honor Farm by Westermann
 Prayers For the Dead by Kellerman
 Vegas Rich by Michaels
 Wizard's 1st Rule by Goodkind
 Buffalo Palace by Johnston
 Cause of Death by Cornwell
 Hope Valley War by Thoene
 Shining by King
 Silent Witness by Patterson
 Small Town Girl by Spencer
 Stand by King
 Over the Misty Mountains by Morris
- Non-Fiction**
 Streisand Her Life by Spada
 Blues All Around Me—Auto-
- biography of King
 George Strait by Bego
 Clint Eastwood by Schickel
 Life of Nelson A. Rockefeller by Reich
 Patton A. Genius For War by D'este
 Mrs. Ike Memories by Eisenhower
 Reflected Glory the Life of Pamela Churchill by Smith
 My Sergei A Love Story by Gordeeva
 Crisis Years Kennedy and Krushchev by Beschloss
 Life 60 years a 60th Anniversary Celebration by Editors of Life
 Memories of Gomez—a History of Gomez
 Viking Ships by Atkinson
 High Plains Farm by Chamlee
 Happiness Is a Choice For Teen by Meier
 Joy I'd Never Known by Dravecky

Library Filmtime

There were twenty-one youngsters that attended Filmtime on January 22, 1997. They thoroughly enjoyed three songs, two games, two movies, and one book. On top of all the activities that took place this week, they also celebrated Troy Don Parrish's 5th Birthday! His mom brought delicious cookies and punch for all the children to enjoy.

Those attending included: Kevin John Gass, Rhaela Stall, Kelsey Curry, Carolina Hernandez, Cody Friesen, Lexus Jimenez, Dakota Earnest, Jacob Brink, Adam Nixon, Hannah Crump, Isaac Doyle, Rhaemi Stall, Sean Curry, Jaaron Bell, Autumn Friesen, Kristie Lopez, Lariah Johnson,

Jaston Brink, Jasmine Whitzel, Merrit Crump and Troy Don Parrish.



Troy Don Parrish

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Amanda Koncaba will be honored with a baby shower in the home of Bobbie Gayle Feb. 16, 2 to 3:30pm. Selections at Plains Depot, Kids Space, Nelson's Pharmacy



A Sincere Thank You

To so many for your expressions of love and caring during the time of loss of our loved one. A very difficult time was made easier by you, our friends and neighbors. A special thanks to the First Baptist Church, and to each and everyone in Ann's support group, who helped her so wonderfully.
 Buster & Anita Graham

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Mark Your Calendar Now! Plains Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held the evening of Feb. 20. Watch CCN for future plans & details

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LET ALL HEAVEN REJOICE

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

If you saw the Passion Play performance in 1995, you know you will not want to miss this outstanding performance by the Plains Community Choir. This joyous celebration of Easter will be presented at 7 p.m. on March 5, at the school auditorium. Plan now to attend, and tell your friends and neighbors!
 For more information, contact Director Patrick Hamilton, 456-3661

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From The Hack



One of our daughters, Dolores, had serious spinal column surgery last week in St. Mary's Hospital. Two vertebrae had to be repaired, involving considerable drilling, sawing, and steel bolting of her spinal column. Not a very fun thing at all, especially since the surgeon had to open an incision in her stomach to reach the work area, which of course called for the pushing, shoving around of her internal organs to get to the spine. It was also necessary to take a bone marrow specimen from her hip bone to replace in the spinal area. Her Physician told her before hand, "you will be very sore and tender for some time, because we really had to push and shove and maul your insides around, in order to get to your spine" He also told her she would have no feeling in the leg which the bone marrow specimen was taken from for sometime. To date, he has been very accurate, especially about the pain and discomfort, but her prognosis for recovery is good.

When the Bride and I visited her, I could not help but be amazed at how well she was taking the miserable situation, obviously very uncomfortable, no, hurting, but still able to smile, even chuckle, but she warned me, "Don't make me laugh hard like you usually do, don't be crazy, or I'll kill you!"

Man, you talk about being serious and compassionate. I spent the rest of the day doing just that.

I also humbly learned, all you macho men types... we are all a bunch of whining, miserable cowards when it comes to enduring pain, compared to our female counterparts.

Way to go, girl, we're proud of you.

There was a very interesting, and humorous article in the Friday Wall Street Journal, about, what else but humor. Staff Writer Cynthia Crossen contends humor, jokes, that is, have been around since Cro-Magnon man times. "Humor is no less than an oral history of mankind. But what exactly is mankind? 'Maybe in order to understand mankind we have to

look at the word itself', writes humorist Jack Handey. 'Basically it's made up of two words - 'mank' and 'ind'. What do these words mean? It's a mystery, and that's why so is mankind'."

Crossen contends ancient Rome probably had "The Honeymooners" Ralph Kramden and Ed Norton counterparts - two blue collar guys who repaired the aqueduct.

She thinks the Pilgrims told jokes, but didn't spend too much time on them, because they were religious zealots too busy trying to survive, but the jokes they told were basically the same as today's - except today's don't include the word 'Ye' in them.

Crossen says drunks, lawyers, marriage and negotiations at the Pearly Gates have been subjects for jokes for centuries - Three doctors arrived to meet St. Peter. The first, a pediatrician, was welcomed, as was the next, a cancer specialist. St. Peter asked the third what his field was. "I work for an HMO", the doc said. St. Peter tapped something into his computers, then said "OK, you can come in, but you have to leave after three days."

She reports a dumb blonde joke now may bring retaliation - 'What's the difference between a computer and a dumb blonde? You only have to punch information into a computer once'. That may bring a retort - "What's the difference between a man and a catfish? One is a bottom-feeding scum sucker, the other is a fish."

Earlier generations had different tastes and subject matter. They probably wouldn't appreciate a yuppy joke - A car clips off the open door of a yuppie's BMW. Cops arrive, and the Yuppy whines, "look what happened to my Beemer". The cop says, "You yuppies make me sick. You're so worried about your car you haven't even noticed your left arm was ripped off." The yuppy screams in anguish, "Oh God, what happened to my Rolex?"

And one liners have probably been around since right after Adam and Eve; Horse goes into bar, bartender asks, "Hey, why the long face?"

Hope you are not one interested enough in Cyronics to have invested in one of the few firms offering this service- Cyronics, in case you're unfamiliar with the term, is the practice of paying someone to freeze your remains after death, in the hope medical science will discover ways to bring you back to life in the future. Boy, talk about optimism... or is it vanity?

Anyway, I recently read where the few firms offering the expensive service are not exactly on the Fortune 500 list of biggies- to date, the count stands at about 70 people who have opted to place their remains on cold storage, betting on the come, so to speak. One firm charges a cool (maybe that should be 'frigid') \$120 grand for perpetual cold storage.

For some reason, the whole idea leaves me cold. Why would I want to come back the way I am now? The Bride echoes this sentiment, about me, of course; She says if she ever sees me after my passing, she hopes it will be a Heavenly re-uniting, where all of my "rough spots have been shined up." She also told me, "I wouldn't even consider spending \$120 grand freezing your scrawny bottom, even if it was in writing they could thaw you and put you back here. It ain't worth it."

Bid Notice

Plains Independent School District will accept bids to re-roof a portion of the main campus until 2:00 pm, February 19, 1997, in the Administration Office. Bids will be opened and read at that time. The specified roofing is flood coat and lava rock. Information can be obtained by contacting Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains I.S.D., Box 479, Plains, Tx, 79355, or by calling 806-456-7483.

Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids and waive all technicalities.

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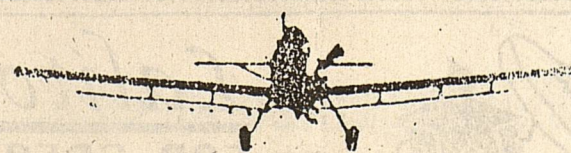
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Feb. 23, 1836- Santa Anna and his Mexican army surround the Alamo.

Feb. 24, 1836- Col. Wm. B. Travis letter from the Alamo; "I shall never surrender or retreat".

Feb. 11, 1842-Only recorded mutiny in the Texas Navy occurred while the *San Antonio*

was docked in New Orleans. U.S. authorities arrested mutineers, who were hanged.

Feb. 21, 1846- Texas Legislature elected Sam Houston and

Thomas J Rusk to U.S. Senate.

Feb. 15, 1877- About 40 cattlemen met under a great oak at Graham to organize the Northwest Texas Cattle Raisers Assn. The chief aim of the organization was to stop cattle rustling.

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