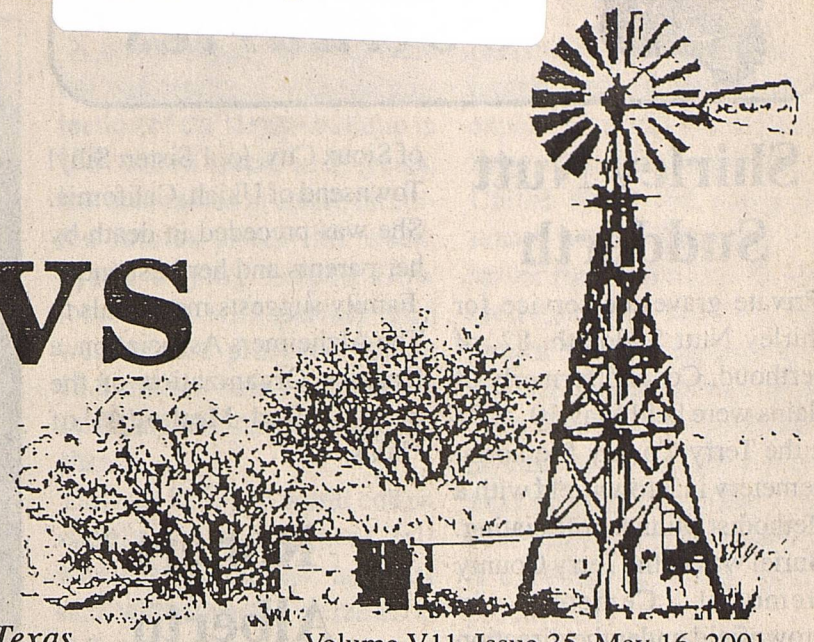


Cowboy Country News

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

Volume V11, Issue 35, May 16, 2001



Property Owners Receive 2001 Value Notices

Texas property owners have the right to information about changes in their property's value by local appraisal districts. On May 11, 2001, Yoakum County Appraisal District mailed 6,260 appraisal notices showing the owners their 2001 proposed values.

Saundra Stephens, chief appraiser of the district, reminds property owners that the notice of appraised value is not a tax bill. "Please do not pay from this notice," Stephens said.

Stephens emphasized the importance of the notice and the key information that it contains for a property owner. "A property owner has the right to appeal to Yoakum County Appraisal Review Board on any disagreement with the property's value, exemptions, ownership and other areas," she said.

The appraisal review board, more commonly called "ARB" is an independent panel of citizens responsible for hearing and settling protests from property owners who disagree with some action by the appraisal district.

What should a property owner look for on the notice? "Look at the proposed value for 2001," Stephens said. "The notice shows the land's value and any improvement value for the property for the current

year." An improvement is a building, structure or any other type of fixture to the land.

The appraisal notice also includes current year information on exemptions granted to the property. It provides last year's value, too.

Notices to property owners whose values increased more than \$1,000 will also include "estimated" taxes. These "estimated" taxes are based on the new value & last year's tax rate for each taxing entity. Generally, taxing units will set the final 2001 tax rates in August and September. The appraisal district does not set the rates.

Stephens ask that a property owner look carefully at the legal description and mailing address to be sure that there is no mistakes. "We send all mobile home owners (personal property) a notice. If you no longer own the mobile home, or any type property that you receive a notice for, now is the time to let us know. If the notice contains an old address, please provide the appraisal district with the current address. The post office forwards mail to a new address for a short time only, and tax bills do not go out until October, Stephens said.

A property owner is responsible for informing the ap-

Turn to Page 2, "Appraisal"

Criminal Cases In County Court

Five criminal cases were heard in County Court on May 9, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

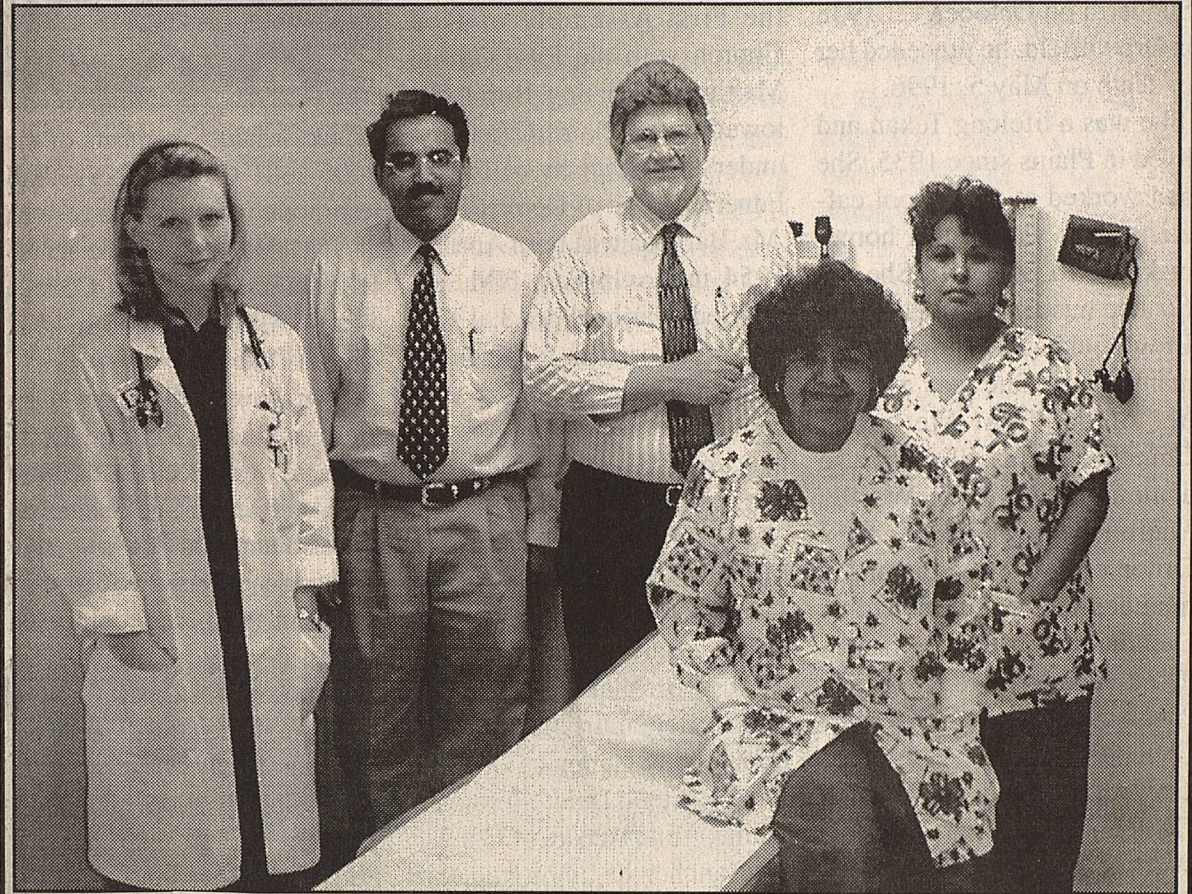
Ruben Valentine Mauricio Jr. pled guilty to driving with a suspended license. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$210 court costs.

Galen Burl Ballard II pled guilty to possession of marijuana, less than two ounces. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay \$35 restitution to the DPS, and time payments will be made on a \$250 fine and \$210 court costs. His driver license will be suspended one year, he must complete the drug offender program, attend weekly AA (narcotics) meetings, and serve 24 hours community service. Arresting officer was DPS Trooper Robert Shugart.

Socorro Ayala pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .091/.087. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay \$225 court costs and a \$500 fine, serve 72 hours in jail, attend weekly AA meetings and complete the DWI first offender

Turn to Page 3, "Crime Cases"

Full time physician coming on board at Plains Family Health Clinic



L-R, Physician's Assistant Jo Lena Wall, Dr. Memon, Hospital Administrator Ed Rodgers, Receptionist Hope Coronado, LVN Carolina Rivas, seated

Doctor Amir Memon will begin general practice in Plains on May 15 at the Plains Family Health Clinic as a primary care physician. Ms. Jo Lena Wall has performed a remarkable job in operating a rural health clinic in Plains, and provides excellent care to her patients in Plains and Denver City. Jo Lena will continue her practice in the clinic, and Dr. Larry Boyd will remain as Medical Director.

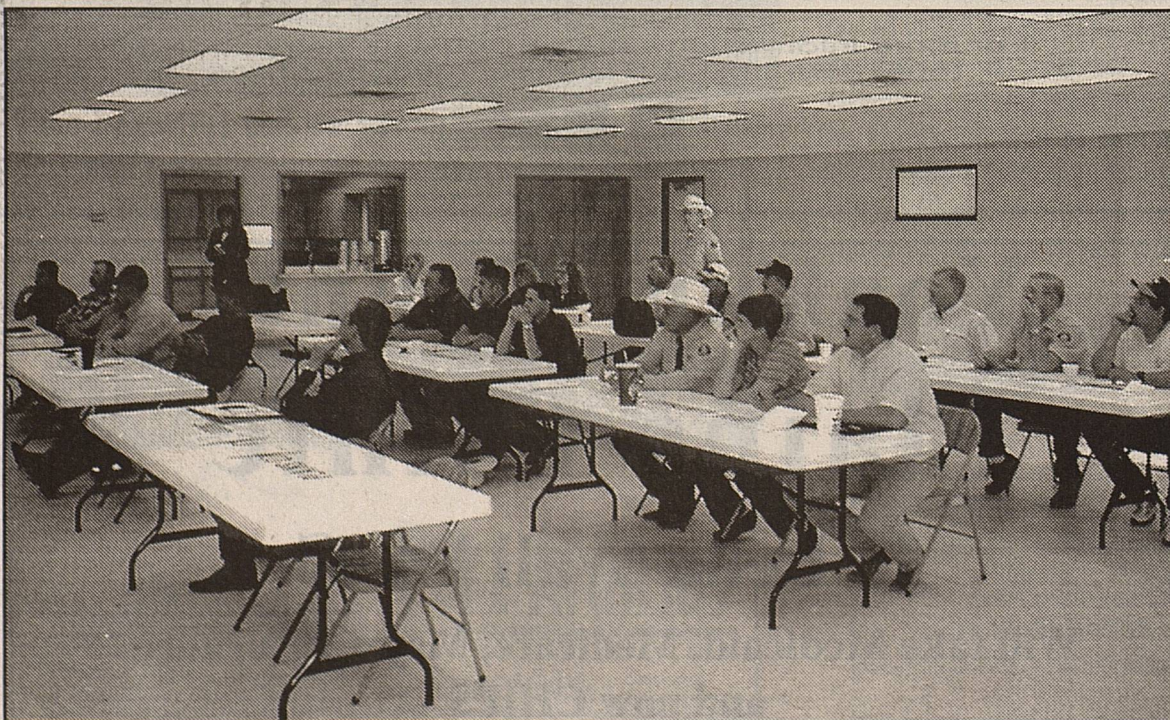
Dr. Memon comes as a highly trained physician. After completing medical school in Pakistan, he received his residency training at Mount Sinai Medical School of Medicine in New York. Dr. Memon then took additional training in hypertension (high blood pressure) and kidney

disease from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. The last eight months he has worked in the Diabetes Center in Midland. The doctor is certified in internal medicine and board certified in nephrology.

He "is looking forward to working with the Yoakum County community, and is confident his skill and training will be valuable in this service." Dr. Memon and his family currently reside in Midland, but plans to move to Denver City in the near future.

The Yoakum County Hospital Board and Commissioner Court are confident this new venture will enhance a good situation in the Plains area.

Officers updated on law enforcement issues in two day meet here



Some two dozen law enforcement officers attended a two day meeting here last week. Sheriff and Police Department officials from Yoakum County, Denver City, Plainview and Seminole attended the informational conference, sponsored by the South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG), and hosted by the Yoakum County Sheriff Department.

Sergeant Rodney Rodriguez, Lubbock County Sheriff Department, was the instructor for

the day long session Thursday. He focused on two areas of particular concern to law enforcement agencies; Cultural diversity, and hate crimes/criminal gang activity.

Rodriguez explained the big role cultural backgrounds play in law officials dealings with the public. "We need to have a good, broad understanding of different cultures when we deal with the public. If we don't understand the great diversity of our area peoples' culture, it

makes effectively dealing with them very difficult, if not impossible."

He said the ongoing legislative session in Austin is addressing hate crime issues, but the final verdict is not yet in on the issue. He told CCN criminal gang activity is not necessarily on the rise, but it certainly exists, and the larger the community, the more gang members

Turn to Page 2, "Law Officers"

County works to refund tax overpayment

The County Auditor and Treasurer office are busy tabulating and writing refund checks to tax payers who were over billed for Farm to Market Lateral road taxes. The mixup was a result of a typographical error in the order for the tax rate, resulting in a total overpayment of over \$330,000.

In Commissioner Court Monday, Treasurer Toni Jones and Auditor Hazel Lowrey reported they had contacted the county's tax attorney, who suggested the court set a minimum amount for tax refund checks. They told the court many checks would have to be written for just a few cents, and would probably go uncashed.

Pct. 2 Commissioner J.R. Slentz and Judge Dallas Brewer suggested tax payers were entitled to the refund, pointing out "we made the mistake, not the tax payers." The court agreed to set a minimum of \$1 on the refund, but if people wanted paid for a lesser amount, they could sign an application for any lesser amount.

Ag producers face good news, bad news in battle against insect pests

According to Scott Russell, Texas Agricultural Extension Agent for Integrated Pest Management in Terry and Yoakum Counties, area ag producers are facing a good news/bad news scenario in their never ending war against crop insect pests.

In Russell's latest IPM Newsletter, he reports sighting high numbers of thrips now in alfalfa, wheat pastures, weed patches and residential lawns. Russell warns, "As the wheat dries, the alfalfa is cut, the winter weeds die, the thrips will migrate, and newly emerging cotton will be attractive hosts.

Another common insect pest seen in abundant numbers this year of flea hoppers and lygus bugs, and he urges cotton producers to closely monitor their fields before damage occurs.

The IPM Newsletter also reports soy bean looper moths in unusually large numbers. Crops these moths feed on include alfalfa, peanuts, tomatoes, corn and soybeans. The

larva are 'inchworm' appearing worms.

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation monitor their traps for beet armyworm (BAW) moths, and trap catches in early April were much higher than year 2000 figures. Russell says the last trap count showed a decline in numbers, but warns producers to carefully monitor fields as cotton plants develop. He warned, "Two factors would have to be present to result in a significant problem like last year; Abundant weed hosts and droughty conditions.

The bright spot in Russell's Newsletter was a report on a detailed sampling of overwintering cotton bollweevils at eight sites in each county. Three one-square meter samples of leaf litter and debris was collected at each site, then sifted with a mechanical tumbler, followed by a hand count of weevils.

Turn to Page 3, "Insects"



Obituaries

Shirley Nutt Sudderth

Private graveside service for Shirley Nutt Sudderth, 82, of Berthoud, Co. and formerly of Plains were held May 10, 2001 at the Terry County Memorial Cemetery in Brownfield with a Methodist Minister officiating. Burial was in the Terry County Memorial Cemetery in Brownfield under the direction of Head Family Funeral Home. She died Monday May 7, 2001 at Longmont, Colorado. She was born August 11, 1918 in Mohomet, TX., to the late R.G. Nutt, Sr. and Lucy Williams.

She married Homer T. Sudderth on October 12, 1938 in Brownfield, he preceded her in death on May 5, 1996.

She was a lifelong Texan and lived in Plains since 1935. She had worked at the school cafeteria. She was also a homemaker and a farm wife. She and her late husband farmed in the Brownfield and Plains area for many years. She was a member of the First Methodist Church in Plains. She was also a member and Past Worthy Matron to Plains Chapter #862 Order of Eastern Star and a member of the Turner Home Demonstration Club. She enjoyed sewing, gardening, and cooking her wonderful German Chocolate Cake.

Survivors include: Son: Randy Gordon Sudderth of Fort Worth, Daughters: Brenda S. Powell of Longmont, Co. and Annette Cooke of Rio Rancho, New Mexico. 7 Grandchildren, 8 Great Grandchildren. 2 Brothers: R.G. Nutt, Jr. of Brownfield and James L. Nutt

of Sioux City, Io. 1 Sister: Sibyl Townsend of Ukiah, California. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Family suggests memorials to The Alzheimers Association, a Hospice Organization or the First United Methodist of Plains.

Robert Alberto Barbosa

Robert Alberto Barbosa, 47, of Denver City died Monday, May 7, 2001 in Edinburg, TX.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 pm., Thursday, May 10, in the First Assembly of God Church with the Rev. Ouidio Martinez officiating. Burial followed in the Plains Cemetery, under the direction of Ratliff Funeral Home of Denver City. Mr. Barbosa was born April 9, 1954 in Lovington, NM. He married Maria May 13, 1977. He was a foreman for Zachary in Edinburg, Tx. He was a member of the Sendero Assembly of God Church in Seagraves.

Survivors include: His wife: Maria; 3 daughters: Angie James, Cynthia Moroles and Roberta Barbosa all of Denver City; 4 brothers; Ramiro of Plains, Benjamin of Lubbock, Fernando & Zaragosa of Austin, ; 4 sisters: Linda Bernal of Plains, Anita Acosta of Hobbs, Ida Sanchez of Lovington and Norma Garcia of Lubbock; 4 grandchildren.

Pallbearers: Ramiro Barbosa, Benjamin Barbosa, Fernando Barbosa, Zaragosa Barbosa, Larry James & Michael Bernal.

From Page 1, "Law Officers"

exist.

In the Friday session, Officer Kevin Ryan, now with the Buffalo Springs PD, but slated to soon join the Lubbock County Sheriff Department, addressed the growing crimes of domestic violence and serious child abuse. Ryan says domestic violence is one of the most prevalent crimes in our society today. He said law enforcement officers now have a different agenda when investigating this

violence, which usually but not always has a female family victim. "Officers now want to protect the victim, ensure her safety, but they treat the situation more like a serious crime scene, with more emphasis seeing the perpetrators serving jail time. Officers want to help the victims find professional help from protective service advocates, and find new lives not dependent on continuing violence."

PHS basketball trio excels in All-Star game



Three standout members of the 2000-2001 Cowboy basketball team were recently honored with an invitation to play in the annual Barbara Evans-Odesa College Senior All Star Game held at Odesa College.

Shown above, PHS Seniors Adam Garcia, Dustin Six and Eddy Gallegos were selected to the West All Star Team, facing Seniors on an East Team. The Cowboys, representing one of only two Class AA teams in the game, competed against 3A, 4A and 5A players from around West Texas.

In the hotly contested game, the West team finally won in overtime, 91-88. Dustin was one of the starters in the contest, and Adam and Eddy both saw lots of action throughout the game.

A pre-game highlight was a Three Point Shot competition among the All-Stars, and a Slam Dunk Contest. Adam won second place in the three point shooting. Dustin entered the slam dunk, and in the preliminary round, was in second place. In the finals, he managed five consecu-

From Page 1, "Appraisal"

praisal district of the correct mailing address. A property owner is liable for additional penalties and interest on a tax bill not paid timely.

Not everyone will receive a notice. Notices will be sent only if there is a ownership change, a value change or the property has been rendered, Stephens added, "If you did not get a notice and want 2001 information about your property, please call the appraisal district at 806-456-7101. The general deadline for protesting to the ARB is June 11, for this year.

utive legal dunks in the one minute time limit to take first place in the contest.

Adams plans to attend South Plains College in the Fall, Eddy will attend Midland College, and Dustin will enroll at Texas Tech.

USDA-NRCS Recognizes "Conservation Across Texas"

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is using "Conservation Across Texas" as its central theme to recognize the importance of conservation on private lands. In a statement issued by USDA-NRCS State Conservationist John P. Burt, the initiative continues to encourage all Texans to reflect on the importance of natural resources in our daily lives and how everyone has a stake in conservation. "Our abundant natural resources of soil, water, air, plants, and animals continue to provide us with a healthy environment," Burt said. "The wise use of these resources sets us apart from every other country in the world. Private landowners in Texas have built one of the strongest conservation programs in the country. Their dedication to a better environment is the heart and soul of the conservation movement. But we still have much to do as more pressures are brought on our natural resources."

In Texas, NRCS works with 216 local Soil and Water Conservation Districts to address local resource issues. As part of the recognition initiative, various local activities may coincide with Earth Day or other related celebrations in Texas. These will include conservation tours, displays, educational programs, environmental awareness, and other events.

"In promoting 'Conservation Across Texas', we have a real opportunity to recognize the valuable work voluntary conservation has accomplished in this state," Burt said. "For example, water quality and quantity concerns many Texans. Conservation on private lands keeps the water clean and protects this precious natural resource. We are fortunate that the conservation movement has had a positive impact on our environment. People need to develop an appreciation for what has been done and the significant benefits for all Texans."

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First-Ever Voter Registration Initiative Aimed At High School Seniors

Secretary of State Henry Cuellar, working in collaboration with more than 3,000 high schools across the state, today unveiled a voter outreach effort, The Young Graduate Initiative, directed at more than 220,000 graduating high school seniors. All high school campuses will have received by today a graduation card containing a voter registration application for each graduating senior.

This innovative program is unique in Texas history. The graduation card is geared to a young adult population and a postage paid, official state voter registration application form is attached. Similar programs in California, Florida and other states have been well received by young adults.

"By stressing the importance of voting to our younger generation, we will teach them that voting is a privilege afforded to adults in a democracy," Secretary Cuellar said. "Soon, these students will be making decisions that will affect their lives, and this is an excellent way to motivate them and help them mold their future." By law, high school principals are required to distribute voter

registration cards to students who are or will be 18 years of age or older during that school year. Secretary Cuellar has suggested the registration cards be distributed and picked up at graduation rehearsals, but is encouraging high school principals to distribute the cards however they deem appropriate.

This campaign will play a major role in Secretary Cuellar's attempt to increase voter registration among the voting age population from the current 77.5 percent to at least 85 percent within the near future. Currently, of the state's 14.96 million residents who are eligible to register to vote, only 11.6 million have followed through with their responsibility. Ideally, Secretary Cuellar would like to see 100 percent involvement from the voter population, and said he is doing everything possible to encourage voter registration participation.

"We are excited about this partnership with Texas educators and hope we can teach our seniors one more important lesson about the value of participating in our democracy," said Secretary Cuellar.

World Team Members



Taylor Miller and Landon Earnest

Two area boys have been named to the USA Gymnastics World Team. Taylor Miller of Denver City and Landon Earnest of Plains were officially named at Wichita, Kansas, the site of the third and final team trial. Points are earned according to placings. Only the top four athlete's in their age group are named to the US Team.

Taylor will be competing as the number 1 seed in floor after a strong showing in Greensburg, North Carolina and again in Wichita.

From Page 1, "Insects"

vils present.

The survey reported on the percent of the sites infested, total weevils per acre, and total live weevils per acre.

In 1999, the first year of the area bollweevil eradication program, Terry County sampling showed 87.5% site infestation. The 2001 survey showed 0% infestation. Here in Yoakum County, the 1999 survey showed the same 87.5% infestation, with the 2001 survey indicating 12.5% infestation.

Russell told CCN, "We haven't made the bollweevil surrender yet in this war, but the Texas Bollweevil Foundation people have done a great job in reducing weevil numbers throughout this area."

From Page 1, "Crime Cases"

program, and serve 24 hours community service. Arresting officer was William Gardner, Denver City Police.

Robert Garcia pled guilty to consumption of alcohol, third enhanced offense. He was sentenced to jail for 60 days, with credit for 68 days served.

Donnie Lee Ford pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior DWI cause. He was sentenced to 22 days in jail with

Landon will have the opportunity to compete in all four events where he is ranked 1st on Double Mini, 3rd on trampoline and 3rd on floor.

Landon and Taylor are also the top ranked synchronized trampoline pair.

The World Championship's are to be held July 26 - August 6th in Odense, Denmark. The boys compete for the South Plains Acrosports and are coached by Sherry Mulkey, Will Green and Kellie Earnest.

credit for 22 days served, and must pay \$376 on a delinquent fine, and \$280 community supervision fees.

Cotton Market Weekly

A bleak supply and demand outlook, coupled with the protection of the largest buildup in U.S. cotton stocks in 35 years, has maintained pressure on cotton futures prices this week. Trade buying helped slow losses, but with perfect crop weather and prospects for an 18.8 million bale crop, traders said further losses might be ahead.

USDA's U.S. and world cotton supply/demand figures fell within expectations, analysts said, with projected increases in U.S. old and new crop carryout figures. Carryout for 2000-01 rose to 5.5 million bales from 5.0 million, with 2001-02 carryout projected to reach 6.3 million bales. The department pegged 2001-02 U.S. cotton production at 18.8 million bales.

USDA arrived at the 18.8 million bale U.S. crop estimate by starting with the March planting intentions figure, projecting a harvest area based on 1991-2000 average acreage abandonment by state and applying a 10 year average yield. A report on actual U.S. cotton plantings will not be released until June 29, therefore, the first production estimate for the year based on field inspections and surveys will be released in August.

U.S. exports next season are projected to rebound to an im-

pressive 9.0 million bales, the largest since 1994-95, due to expanded world consumption, large exportable supplies in the United States and strong pre-season sales. One market observer mentioned that the ineffectiveness of the U.S. farm program in stimulating exports this season has raised skepticism that such a sizable surge in exports could be achieved next season, particularly in a year when foreign consumption is expected to match foreign production.

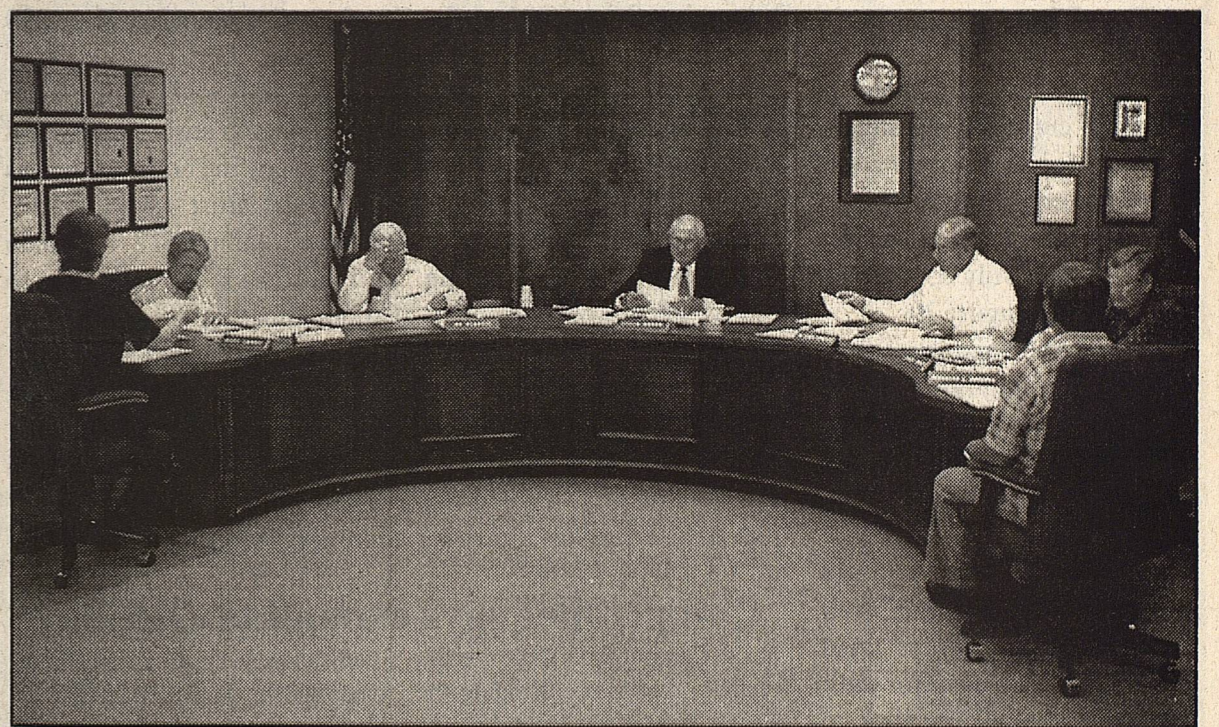
World cotton figures also matched trade ideas as USDA estimated 2001-02 world cotton production and consumption in balance at 93.0 million bales. Meanwhile, others have projected world production will outpace consumption.

"Use of 93.0 million bales worldwide is a difficult figure to justify, especially as the U.S. market is struggling this year," one market observer said. "This demand may not be apparent in the next six months, but I suspect low prices will stimulate demand and we'll reach 93.0 million bales." Additionally, one observer felt USDA could have raised U.S. and world production more than it did with an increase in acreage around the world expected by most analysts.

Mother Nature In Her Glory



This beautiful but rather ominous looking thunderhead was pictured over Plains last week during the rainy spell. The cloud produced no rain or problems here, and continued building and moving northeast



Commissioner's Court in session this Monday. From left to right, County Auditor Hazel Lowrey, Pct. 1 Commissioner Woody Lindsey, Pct. 2 Commissioner J.R. Slentz, Judge Dallas Brewer, Pct. 3 Commissioner Ty Earl Powell, Pct. 4 Commissioner Jack Cobb, and County Clerk Gerald Baker.

May 18, 1852: Fort Ewell established on the southern bend of the Nueces River at the junction of the San Antonio and Laredo roads; abandoned on October 3, 1854, and troops transferred to Fort McIntosh.

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Junior High Honor Band Performs

On April 18, some 150 Junior High area students traveled to Seagraves to perform in the 2001 South Plains Honor Band. Thirty of Plains Middle School's finest represented the band program, spending the day rehearsing for the evening concert in the Seagraves school auditorium. Students were chosen for the band based on their dedication and hard work in class. Clinicians for the two Honor Bands were PISD Directors Ray Portillo and Georgann Weisgerber. "It was great having so many parents attend the concert. We thank you for your support of the band program, and the students thank you for your outstanding representation of our school district throughout the day," Ms. Weisgerber said.



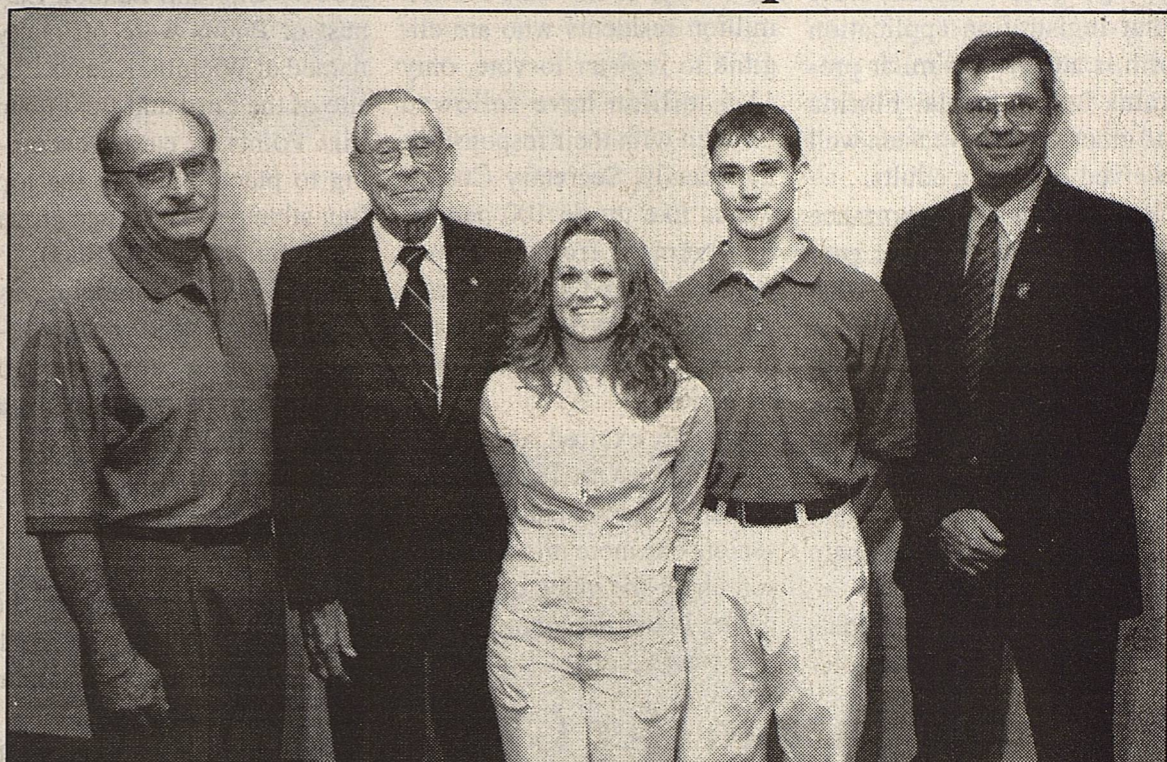
Band members pictured, L-R, Front Row- Jacob Rivera, Ryan Crump, John Tyson, Lauren Hise, Katie Winn, Marissa Melendez, L'Shae Arnett. Middle row- Trent Hawthorne, Cody Mayes, Elias Carrillo, Stetson Sellers, Kurt Alldredge, Angelica Gomez, Erika Loewen, Callie Howell, Douglas Conway, Colby Wilmeth. Back- Juan Lara, Challie Johnson, Scott Addison, Landon Craft, Hallie Cotton, Steven Dominguez, Lisa Neufeld, Caitlin Carter, Dennis Penner, Araceli Mendoza, Nancy Lozano. Not pictured- Angelica Mendoza and Lauren Davis.

Student of the Week

PHS Student of the Week is Amanda Garcia, a senior and the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tony Gomez. Amanda was nominated by Mr. Friesen, who said, "Amanda is an involved student. She is a hard worker. She is dedicated to perform her best in everything she does. She has excelled in academics, band, track and volleyball. She has performed at the state level in academics and band. She has worked at the youth center, and helps in her church. I appreciate the time she has spent helping our school and community."



Plains API Scholarship Winners



Winners of the American Petroleum Institute scholarship at South Plains College stand with members of the South Plains Chapter of API after a recent reception to honor the recipients. (From left to right) Coleman Williams and Charles Miller of API, Leticia Cannon, Kyle Session and Dr. Kelvin Sharp, vice president of academic affairs at SPC. Leticia is a PHS graduate, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cannon, and Kyle also a PHS graduate, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Session.

CSW Registration In Progress

College of the Southwest in Hobbs is currently registering students for the summer and fall semesters. Summer Session I begins June 4; Summer Session II begins July 5; and Fall 2001 begins August 20.

Students who have enrolled at CSW before may visit the admissions office from 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Friday.

Students who are currently enrolled should contact their advisors and determine what classes are necessary for their degree plans. According to CSW Registrar Glenna Ohaver, all students should register as soon as possible because classes are filling up quickly.

For more information about College of the Southwest or registration, call 505-392-6561 or 800-530-4400 or come by the campus at 6610 Lovington Highway.

Calling All Texas Artists

All artists who are residents of Texas are invited to apply to Artists Harvest 34th Annual Exhibit & Sale to be held November 3&4, 2001 at the Crockett Center, 6301 Hwy 290 East, Austin, Texas

This event is Austin's Fall Fine Arts Tradition! Exhibitors are chosen by a jury of three arts professionals to ensure an exhibit of exceptional quality. All media is allowed-fine crafts as well as fine art. Slides showing the quality of the artist's work are required. Applications may be obtained by calling 512-473-3866 and leaving your name and address or e-mail to artalive@texas.net. You may also download applications from the Artists Harvest web site: <http://artalive.home.texas.net/>.

Austin Artists Harvest, Inc. is a Texas nonprofit corporation, which has received tax exempt status under IRC Section 501 (c)(3). Businesses wishing to be a sponsor of this event should call the Executive Director at 512-473-3866 for more information. Artists Harvest's mailing address is P.O. Box 80546, Austin, TX 78708-0546.

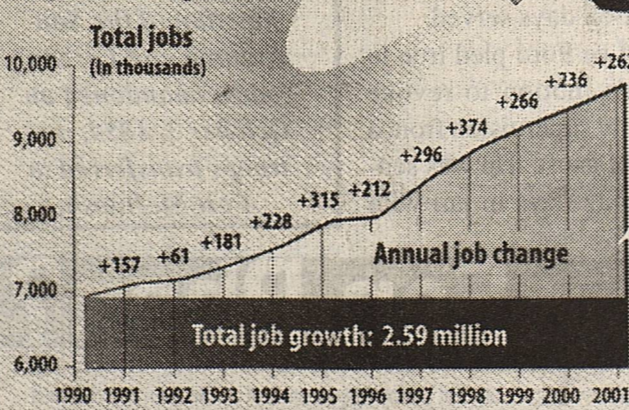
Comptroller says expand tax holiday

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander proposes expanding the sales tax holiday and adding items to the exempt list would save Texas taxpayers \$46 million from 2001 to 2003. "The sales tax holiday is a tremendous help to hardworking Texas families. By expanding the holiday from three days to five and adding exempt items, the sales tax holiday will be less of a traffic jam and save Texans more hard earned dollars for their families," Rylander said.

Items added to the tax exempt list include buttons, zippers and fabrics for clothing, school supplies, back packs, bike helmets, elbow and knee pads, baby and childrens car seats.

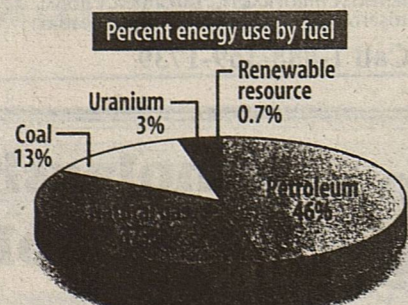
Jobs jump

Texas added more than 2.5 million new nonfarm jobs since 1990 due to business expansion within the state and companies moving here.



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rious George at the Fire Station to Clayton Gass's fourth birthday. Those attending were Bailey Winn, Samuel and Daniel Cueto, Brianna Coffman, Micah St. Romain, Clayton Gass, Jentry Wall, Claire Costume Party while Kim Gass Carpenter, Kasidee Taylor, Madison Davis, and Amanda Dusek.

3rd Annual Kimberly Newland Memorial basketball tournament.
5 on 5 outsiders tourney May 26.
Entry fee \$100
Girls & Boys divisions Plains High Gym.
To register contact Jan Newland, 456-2187 or 456-7445, or Marc Johnson, 456-2174 or 456-7445. All proceeds go to Kimberly Newland Scholarship Fund

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What Happens Before Emergency Help Arrives Might Save Someone's Life

Lights flashing. Sirens blaring. Emergency crews on the run. Comforting sights and sounds to those needing help.

But the time between the call to 911 and the arrival of an emergency team can seem like an eternity of fear and indecision when someone is ill or injured.

Minutes count in an emergency, and what people do before EMS arrives makes a significant difference to an injured or ill person, according to Kathy Perkins, chief of the Bureau of Emergency Management at the Texas Department of Health (TDH).

When you call 911, Perkins said, "you access the emergency care system and its personnel, available by telephone everywhere in Texas 24 hours a day. But until a trained team arrives, there are things people can do to help."

Recognizing an emergency is the first step in getting assistance for an ill or injured person. Most people consider auto crashes, severe chest pains, obvious broken bones and serious burns to be emergencies. But not all emergency situations are so apparent. Call 911 immediately if any of these conditions are present: *Serious bleeding; *Unconsciousness; *Neck or spine injuries; *Signs of a heart attack including uncomfortable pressure or fullness in the chest or chest discomfort with lightheadedness, fainting, sweating or shortness of breath; *Unexplained paralysis; *Burns; *No indication of breathing; *Choking; *Broken bones; or *Head, chest or abdominal injuries.

Common sense and knowing the victim also are important to assessing an emergency. "Fac-

tors such as stressful events, a pre-existing medical condition or abnormal behavior may signal that a person is in an emergency situation," Perkins said.

How you make the 911 call also is important. Stay calm or have someone else make the call. Give the 911 dispatcher any information requested. This information usually includes the address or location of the emergency, your name and the telephone number at your location, name of the injured or ill person and information about the illness or injury. Stay on the phone with the dispatcher until you are told to hang up. Send someone to wait near the street or in the parking lot to direct the ambulance to the victim.

Do not move the injured or ill person unless the person is in immediate danger. Do not allow the person to eat or drink anything or to smoke. Keep the person calm and still.

"While we can be proud of the emergency medical services in Texas," Perkins said, "prevention is still the best way to avoid needing help." Safe, healthy lifestyle habits include: *Wearing seat belts and buckling children into child safety seats; *Being sure that all children 12 and under ride in the back seat; *Driving at safe speeds; *Avoiding alcohol and drug use while driving; *Keeping immunizations current; *Eating right and exercising regularly; *Keeping guns and poisons locked in a safe place.

To receive a copy of TDH's brochure "When Minutes Count: A Citizen's Guide to Medical Emergencies," contact the TDH Bureau of Emergency Management at 1100 W. 49th St., Austin 78756, or call 512-834-6700.

Engagement Announced



Mr. and Mrs. Wade Brannon of Silverton announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Lori Michelle to Brandon McGinty.

McGinty is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McGinty of Plains, TX.

The couple plan to wed June 30, 2001 in Silverton. Miss Brannon is a 1996 graduate of Silverton High and attended West Texas A&M University.

Mr. McGinty is a 1996 graduate of Tarleton State University and is currently employed by Texas Agriculture Extension Service in Briscoe County.

Contact Lubbock

Beginning in April 2001, all calls made to 1-800 SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433) from the 806 area code will be answered by trained volunteers and staff members of CONTACT Lubbock, Inc., a 24 hour listening and crisis line.

Texas ranks 36th in the nation for its suicide rate. But with suicide being the third leading cause of death among 15-24 year olds, and the 8th leading cause in the United States, we want to let the people of the South Plains know that help is available.

CONTACT Lubbock will celebrate its 30 year anniversary this summer, marking three decades of crisis intervention service. What began as a local listening line has now grown into a multi service agency that offered free services to 43,004 Lubbock area callers last year.

While CONTACT deals with all kinds of crisis calls, such as abuse, loneliness, emotional problems, depression, callers needing assistance and even those having interpersonal relationship problems, CONTACT Lubbock fielded 164 suicide calls in the year 2000. By taking on all 1-800 SUICIDE calls for the 806 area code, the agency expects to at

least quadruple its number of calls. The goal is prevent a potential suicide or reduce the risk of suicidal behavior.

Debbie Frapp, executive director of CONTACT Lubbock said, "We really don't know what to expect, so we're gearing up for at least four times as many suicide calls as we had last year. It may be more, or it may be less. But we're ready for whatever happens."

CONTACT Lubbock, Inc., will handle all calls from Plains, Denver City and other area towns.

Trooper Richard Cottle Fund

The Texas Highway Patrol Association opened an account Wednesday with Compass Bank to collect funds for the family of Trooper Richard Cottle. Trooper Cottle was killed while on duty, in a car accident Wednesday morning near Waco. This is part of the Association's "Remember our Friends" project. This account is open for donations, which will assist the Cottle family with financial strain incurred from their loss. The Texas Highway Patrol Association will also distribute ten thousand dollars from the Death Benefit Fund to the Cottle family.

Senior Citizens Corner

This is Thursday, May 9th and we are still going strong. Working the garage sale, visiting, line dancing and doing ceramics. I have not had a chance to get back in ceramics the last two weeks. The food is still good.

Remember the bus will pick up the ones who cannot drive or do not have a car or any means of transportation. Sylvia will take people to the store to buy groceries, to the Post Office or the Doctor's office. You must call before 10:00 AM. to ride the bus. She gets most of the people to the center by 10:30. Most of the time she makes 2 runs as she can only take 6 passengers at a time.

Pool and games on Monday nights 6:30 till 9:00 or so, also everyday. On the 3rd Wednesday of every month is the pool

tournament.

Line dancing is Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 - 11:00.

Our condolences and prayers go to the Webb family on the loss of Martha. She was a very special lady. She always had a smile for people.

There is a donation of \$2.00 for each person 60 and over and \$4.00 for all under 60.

When you bring cloths and all to the garage sale, please be sure they are clean and usable. Remember if you need cards to send to birthdays, sympathy or get well we keep a good supply at the center.

There was a good group for birthdays on Monday. There was a good crowd of visitors and regular members.

Till Next Week,
Wanda B.

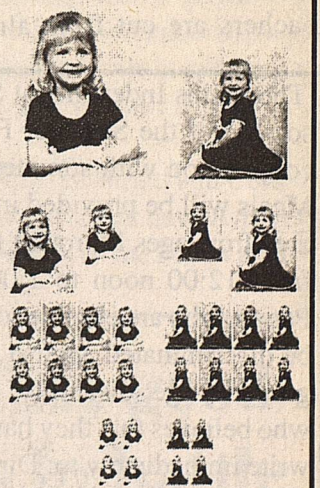
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Bulletin Board

We are planning a Remembrance Board for persons serving in the Military. If there is someone in your family from Plains serving we would like to have a picture to display. If there is someone in your family from elsewhere we would be glad to have them listed along with their address and place of service. Please bring this information to the church office or give to Connie McWhirter.

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Sunday Schedule

Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am
Youth Fellowship - 5 - 6:00 pm
Wednesday Connections
Food & Fellowship-5:30-6:30 pm
Eve. Bible Study - 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Other Opportunities

Afternoon Bible Study - 5:15 pm Thursdays

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From The Hack

Over the years, it has become apparent to me I have theories. I'm not sure when the process of developing theories started, but it could have been as early as the third grade. It was quite plain to me the good teacher always asked me the toughest questions of anyone in the class, most of which were indeed incomprehensible. I once asked her, "Miss Fit, why do you always ask me the hardest questions?"

She smirked, which was her best effort in smiling, and said, "Why, Gary, because you look intelligent." Immediately, 19 other students fell out of their chairs, screaming, rolling on the floor with hysterical laughter. At that moment, I formulated my first theory - 98.2% of teachers are retarded (lest any PISD teachers are reading this, and particularly any administrators, we're talking eons ago, and this couldn't possibly apply today, here, now, ever.)

I later perfected a theory about GOD. I was always EAGER to go to Sunday School each week, especially after my grandmother threatened no Sunday lunch nor supper if I failed to be there to sing, "Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus", when we kids would always STAND UP on cue. Well, most of us. I failed to stand up on cue one Sunday morn, diligently trying to find the Book of James, quite sure it was right after First Kings, when the shrill Soprano teacher we had shrilled, "Stand UP, Stand UP, Gary, you, you misguided twerp!" The theory I developed that day was, Sunday School teachers are cut from almost

identical cloth as public school teachers - a bit short fused at times.

One of my very best theories concerns why God allowed development of Rutabagas and Brussels Sprouts. I surmised after thoroughly pouring through Genesis, God was still just a bit ticked off about Adam and Eve's conduct, even after he sentenced them to become The future US. He was still upset, and after considerable thought, snapped his fingers and said, "I got it! I'll invent rutabagas and brussels sprouts, and mandate they eat the swill, to make them more responsive to my commands. Ha! That'll teach them a lesson."

The lesson has certainly worked for me - I wouldn't touch an apple for anything, fearing a helping of rutabagas and sprouts on the next menu.

I also have a theory about Social Security. I think Franklin Delano Roosevelt, inheriting a terrible depression from the other guys, sat around evenings having a drink with his pals and cronies and said, "I've Got It! We'll take a teeny-weeny bit of the working slob's pay checks, put it in a savings account, and if they live long enough, we'll let them have a little of it back each month. Tough stuff if they die before they get it all."

One of the cronies, also imbibing Bourbon, said, but Mr. President, what if there's not enough money in the account to pay everyone?"

I'm convinced FDR said, "Oh well, we'll think of something. Perhaps we'll have an Allan Greenspan invented by then. Pass me the jug, will you?"

I saw in the weekend Lubbock A-J the temperature was predicted to reach around 95 here Wednesday. The Bride and I are leaving early Wednesday morning for Pecos, and I am fairly positive the thermometers there will reach at least 115 if its 95 here.

Friends there invited us down to spend a night and couple of days at their abode, allowing Bill and I to play golf, the Bride and Jo to do whatever women do while hubbies whack the ball. I am sure their activities will include spending money.

The visit allows me another excursion on the Pecos golf course, which I know for a fact was not designed by God nor Robert Trent Jones. It's a 12-hole, and even teeny little kids still using crayolas know golf courses are supposed to be either 9 or 18 holes in length. Things are just different in Pecos.

I am quite sure my buddy who extended the invitation wants my company, but he really prefers my money. He told me in the telephone invitation, "We can start about 1 PM Wednesday, that's when what we call the GEEZERS all gather for a big match." How flattering to be invited to join the GEEZERS. It wouldn't surprise me a bit if each and every GEEZER normally shoots about 78, and he has me matched with one. The reason I suspicion this, his invitation also included the warning, "Uh, by the way, bring money. Plenty of money." Oh well, I'm not too worried. He religiously promised me they are all honorable and honest men. That's good - show me a sucker who doesn't cheat, I'll show you a sucker I can beat!

You may be asking why I am casting all these aspersions upon those who have invited to share their bed, breakfast, and hopefully Kool-Aid and lunch and supper. Number one reason, I know this guy quite well, Number two, he is a paid up subscriber for another year and 112 days, four hours and 26 minutes. He will not receive this issue of CCN until AFTER we leave his hospitality on Thursday. You think I'd risk all the freebies by letting him know these thoughts before we get there?

A bit of seriousness. What do you think of the monumental screwup in the Timothy McVeigh terrorist bombing case? Here's your opportunity

to voice your thoughts on the now ongoing case, after McVeigh's full, graphic confession, including his cruel assessment of children's bodies blasted to bits as "collateral damage".

I personally think far more attention should be addressed to investigating very obvious FBI incompetence in failing to turn over written evidence to the defendants attorneys. Due process of law requires equal access to ALL evidence for both the prosecuting and defense team of attorneys. The FBI obviously flubbed this badly.

Will the defense access to this information result in a new trial?

Very possibly. Will the new evidence result in a reversal of the guilty verdict?

My personal opinion begs the question, how could it possibly exonerate Timothy in view of his emphatic statement of guilt without any apparent remorse? You know, the guy virtually said, "I did it, I'm glad I did it, I needed to do it, and tough stuff about all the carnage it created for hundreds of families, and innocent victims."

What do YOU think. I would really, truly be happy to receive some of your personal thoughts on this subject. If you want them in a future issue of CCN, send them to PO Box 179, Plains, Tx 79355, or e-mail at ccn@hiplains.net. We

do require your name, address and phone number. The sooner the better for publication, but we know this issue will be around for much too long.

Any married man should forget his mistakes - There is absolutely no sense in two people remembering the same thing.

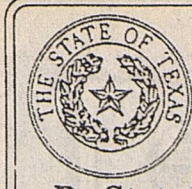
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Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for the purchase of Athletic Supplies for the 2001-2002 school year, until 1:00 p.m., May 18, 2001 at the Administration Office. Proposals should be addressed to James Haynes, Superintendent, School Athletic Supplies Proposal, Plains ISD, 1000 10th Street, Box, 479, Plains, Texas 79355. For questions of other information, please contact Blake McWhirter at 806-456-7445. Plains I.S.D. reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, to waive all technicalities, and to contact with the vendor that represents the best value to the district.



Walker, Texas Rep

By State Representative Gary Walker, Dist. 80

On Monday, May 7th, the House of Representatives passed a redistricting plan, after a full day of debate. I voted for this plan, because it is the best way to insure rural Texas will be well represented in future legislative sessions. I feel my job in Austin is to represent what is best for my constituents, so redistricting was more than merely a partisan issue for me. Under this plan, our district could not remain the same, but would be split up. Some of the counties would be in districts currently represented by Chairman David Counts (D-Knox City), Representative Buddy West (R-Odessa), and Representative Pete Gallego (D-Alpine). The district I could represent would consist of Gaines, Yoakum, Terry, Lynn and part of Lubbock County. There are still several possible scenarios for redistricting and most of them depend on what action the Senate and Governor Perry take on the bill.

This week, I was proud to pass SB1175, which deals with the administration of the weather modification program. Currently, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commis-

sion has jurisdiction over this program. Under the bill I passed, the Agriculture Commission would now have oversight. Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs has been very gracious and willing to work with me on assuring that the Ag Department is adequately equipped to handle the administration of this program, which I feel is of vital importance to West Texas. This bill has been passed by both houses and is on its way to Governor Perry for his review. I am hopeful he will sign it into law.

May 10th marked the last day for the House Bills to be considered. For the next two weeks, until session is adjourned, we will only be considering Senate Bills. The last night the House Bills were considered, we were on the floor of the House debating bills until well past 1:00 am. I have a few Senate bills I will be carrying for the Senators who represent our district. Session will last for only a few more weeks, and then I will be returning home. I enjoy my time in Austin, but I am sincerely looking forward to returning to my friends in West Texas.

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- Texas has the largest road network of the 50 U.S. states.
- Texas' international airports are among the busiest in the world: Dallas/Fort Worth ranks third in total passenger traffic; George Bush Intercontinental in Houston is one of the fastest growing.
- Texas has 27 commercial airports in 24 cities. More than 90 percent of the state's population lives within 50 miles of an airport.
- Of the state's 29 coastal and inland water ports, the Port of Houston is the largest and handles more foreign cargo than any other port in the United States.
- Forty-four railroads operate on almost 12,000 miles of mainline track in Texas. More than 280 million tons of freight are shipped by rail throughout the state each year.
- Three of the 10 largest U.S. cities—Houston, Dallas and San Antonio—are in Texas.
- The number of people employed in Texas manufacturing industries surpassed 1 million in 1994. Texas has added more new manufacturing jobs since 1990 than any other state.
- The gross state product of Texas was an estimated \$740.1 billion in 2000, third among the 50 U.S. states.
- Two-thirds of all trade between the United States and Mexico passes through Texas, which shares a 1,248-mile border with Mexico.
- Texas is the nation's second leading exporter. In 1999, Texas exported more than \$91 billion worth of products to foreign markets.

SOURCE: Texas Department of Economic Development.

The Plains Independent School District announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program to be held in conjunction with summer school from June 4th - June 29th. Meals will be provided in the Plains School Cafeteria to children from ages 1 through 18, at 1000 Tenth Street, Plains, Texas from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. on Monday through Friday. People who are eligible to participate in the program must not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, or political belief. Anyone who believes that they have been discriminated against should write immediately to: Director, Civil Rights Division, MC W-106, Texas Department of Human Services, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, Texas 78714-9030 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. NOTE: Discrimination complaints based on religion or political beliefs must be referred only to the Director, Civil Rights Division, Texas Department of Human Services.

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