

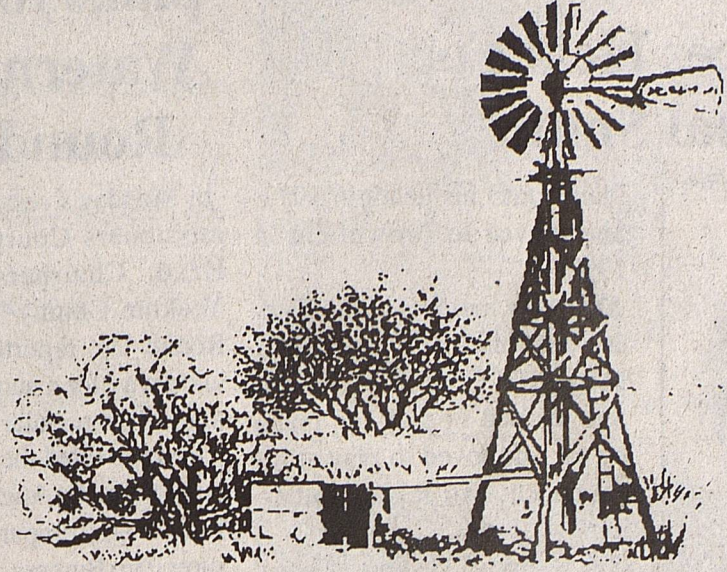
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# Cowboy Country News

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

Volume V1111, Issue 29, April 2, 2003



## PISD slates meetings to discuss budget, cost savings plans, bond election

The Plains ISD has scheduled two public meetings to air plans for the May 3 election which will elect three board members ( See map and explanation on page 4), and will pass or disapprove issuance of \$2,160,000 in bond funds to be used for maintenance and operations of the school district, and save local tax money from going to the state in the form of recapture. Superintendent James Haynes told CCN last week, " The board wants to encourage district residents to attend one of the two meetings. I will deliver a brief presentation of our current financial situation, and explain planned budget cuts and other cost saving strategies. We will also further explain why the board felt it necessary to call for passage of the revenue bonds. Following this presentation, we will take questions from those attending the meeting and do our best to answer all of them." The first public meeting will be at 8 PM April 7 in the school's Resource Cen-

ter, followed by another meeting April 24, same time and place.

Haynes reported he will meet with all school staff members April 2 to explain the two public meetings, and answer any staff questions.

Earlier this year, the board authorized offering all eligible teachers an early retirement incentive package, requesting those eligible for and interested in the package to make their decision known by March 25. Haynes reported three teachers and/or coaches have agreed to accept the offer, coaches Larry McMinn and Linda Haragan and elementary teacher Anne McGinty. " These three staff members classroom or coaching staff positions will not be replaced by new hired personnel. This will amount to a significant reduction in our salary expenses. In addition, Gary Davis has been appointed to the position of High School Counselor, and his prior assignment will also be absorbed for addi-

tional cost savings."

Asked what would happen if voters turn down the sale of the M & O bonds, Haynes replied, "It means it will be impossible for us to continue with our present programs in all three of our campuses, and we are convinced this will not be a good thing for the district."

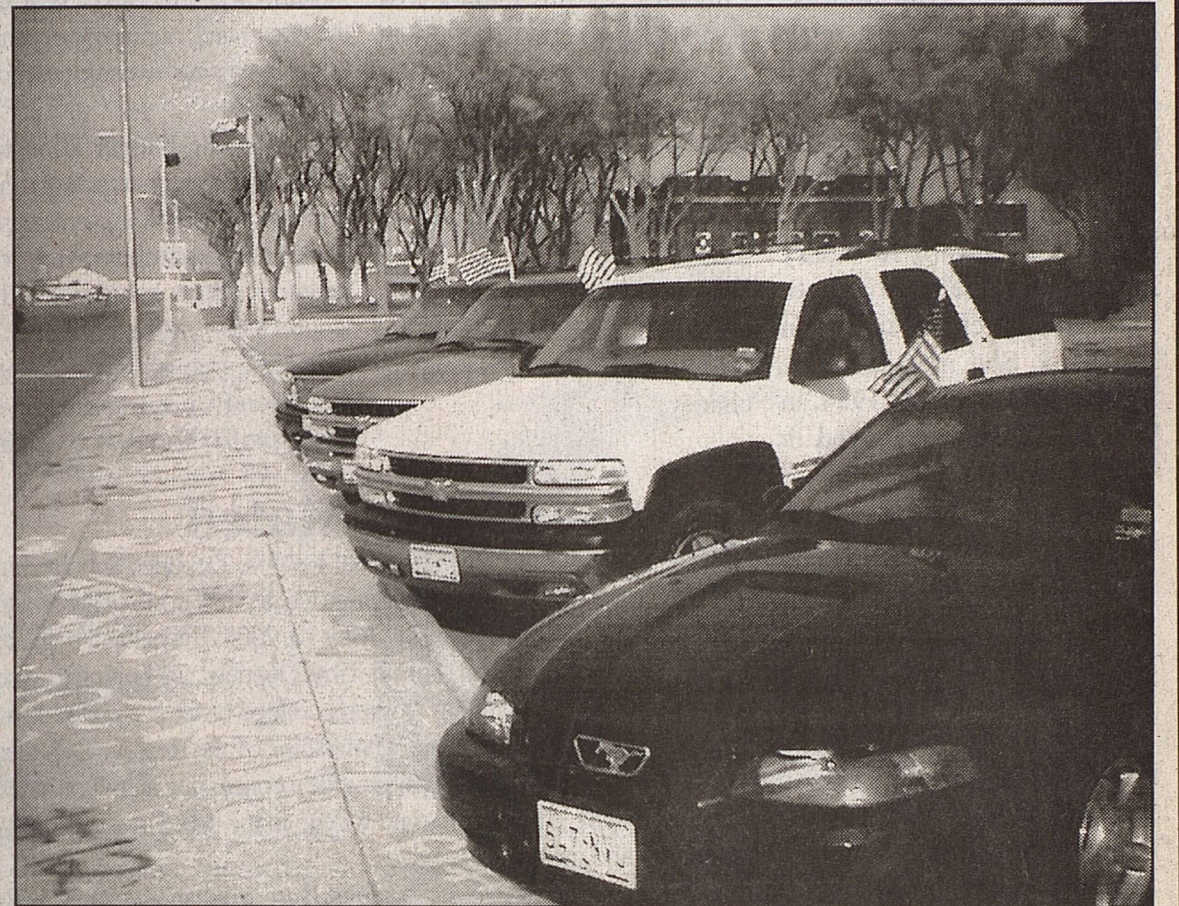
## Criminal cases in County Court

In the March 26 session of County Court, Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state, two criminal cases were heard.

Marque Scott Morin pled guilty to possession of less than two ounces marijuana. A 30 day jail sentence was suspended and probated six months. He was fined \$250, must pay \$211 court costs and \$70 restitution fee to the DPS. He must attend weekly AA (narcotics) meetings, serve 24 hours community service and complete the drug offender education program. Investigating officer was Trooper Brad Taylor, DPS.

Martin Flores Saenz pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t. .170/.160. A 120 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$500, must pay \$226 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 42.5 hours served, serve 24 hours community service, attend weekly AA meetings and complete the DWI first offender program. Investigating officer was Trooper Chris Malloy, DPS.

## Proudly Flying Our Colors



The four staffers in the County Clerk's office displayed their support of our armed forces people battling Saddam's regime in Iraq by flying mini United States flags on their vehicles parked at the courthouse. Vehicles shown belong to County Clerk Debbie Rushing, and Deputy Clerks Lola Elam, Judy Addison and Karen Bearden.

## Plains City Council recognizes value of Yoakum County Sheriff Department's 'Canine Deputy'

Sheriff Don Corzine reported the Yoakum County Sheriff Department has received its annual contribution from the City of Plains Council. The contribution provides important funds to be used for feeding, equipment, continuing training, veterinarian bills and other special needs of the department's canine deputy.

In return, Yoakum County's Canine Deputy, Famca, continues to serve by tracking suspects or lost citizens, sniffing out drugs and backing up her human co-workers. In the year

and half she has served the county, she has more than proved her worth.

Famca's first official act with the county was locating a lost child. She has, on numerous occasions, tracked suspects attempting to escape apprehension by law enforcement officers. She continues to participate successfully in the Sheriff's department ongoing effort to thwart drug problems in the county.

In her spare time, Famca and her handler, Deputy Curtis Coffman, visit schools, service

club meetings and other gatherings to inform county citizens of their abilities and their efforts.

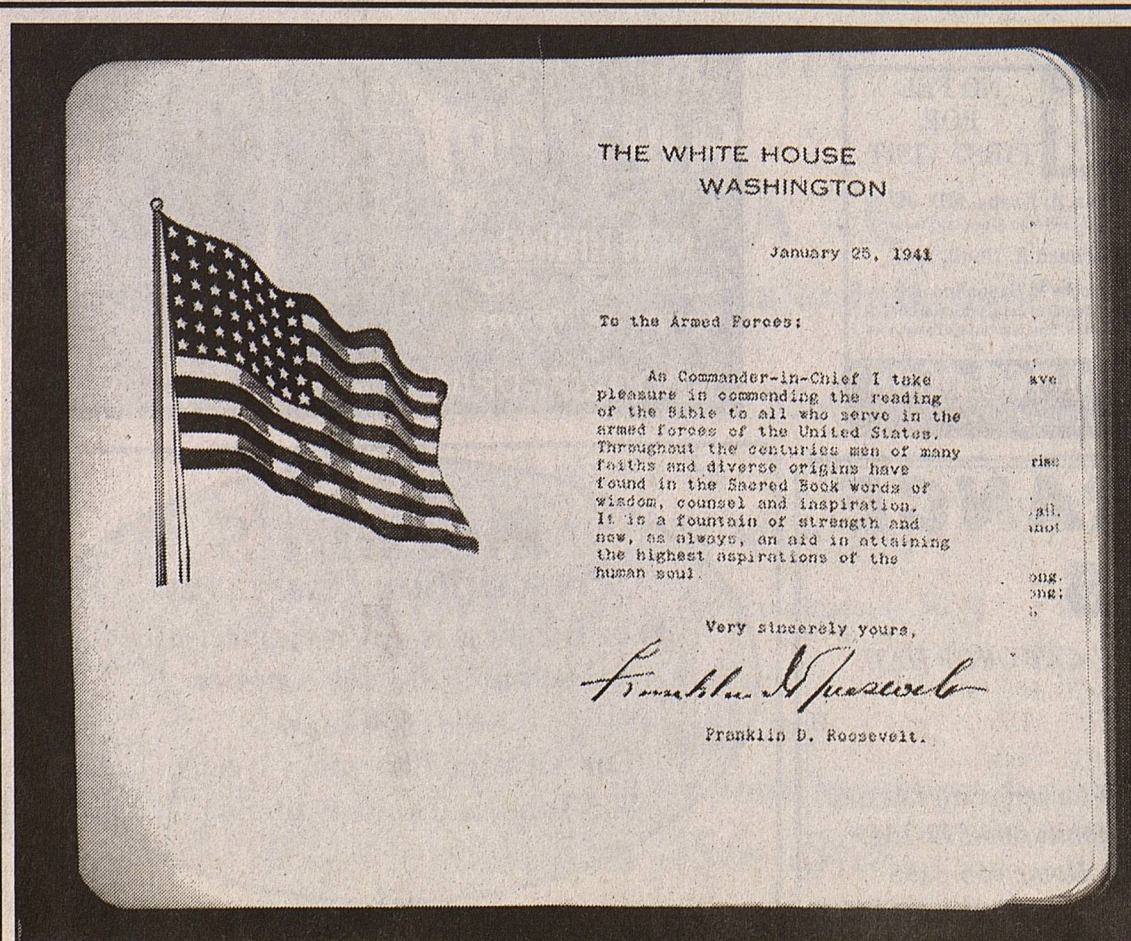
Individual and company contributions are also important to Famca's upkeep. This upkeep, and the affection of her fellow deputies is all the pay she receives, and all she asks.

Sheriff Corzine added, " On behalf of Famca and the entire Sheriff Department, we extend our gratitude to the citizens of Plains and the administration and the Plains City Council for your continued support."

## We Need Readers Help!

We want to feature a front page article featuring local service men and women currently in our nation's armed forces as a small token of our appreciation for their service to our country. We know a number of these young people are currently in the Middle East, involved in the permanent removal of Saddam Hussein and his brutal regime, and of others who will soon be deployed to the scene of battle. These men and women represent US, and they deserve our recognition.

We need names, addresses, branch of service, rank, their division, ship, air base locations, brief descriptions of their job duties, all the data you can supply, in order for us to honor these kin, friends, patriots. We especially need photos, preferably in uniforms. ( No e-mail photos, please!) Please **HELP US IMMEDIATELY!** We need this information on active duty personnel as well as Reserve and National Guard personnel. You can help boost the morale of the guys and gals who serve us.



A recent article in the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported on a small Bible, lost for almost sixty years, and originally carried by an American soldier fighting in Italy during World War II, and finally returned to its owner, W.C. Cline, by an Englishman, Fred Fisher. The story caught local Vaughn Culwell's eye and jogged his memory of another Bible, identical to the one pictured in the A-J article. This scanned image of the G.I.'s Bible was taken from the Bible Vaughn's Uncle, Robert L. Culwell, carried in that same war when Robert served with the U.S. Army in Europe. He served in an Infantry Division, and after his discharge remained in the Army Reserves for many years. During that war all G.I.'s deployed overseas were given one of the three by five inch Bibles.

## Can your child's car seat pass inspection?

Yoakum County Hospital personnel recently partnered with the Injury Prevention Coalition of Lubbock to conduct inspections of childrens car seats in the hospital's parking areas. Twenty four vehicles were checked for approved car seats, and the results were not encouraging; only five children in the vehicles were being safely transported.

Ten car seats were graded inadequate, while 14 vehicles carrying children did not have any car seats. The Injury Prevention Coalition works with hospitals around the South Plains in the safety inspections. Cooperating hospitals agree to supply approved car seats when they are found inadequate or missing entirely.

Hospital personnel volunteering for the check-up included Rhonda Lehnert, Joy Tedford, Carol Corzine, Clay Taylor, Nancy Bernal, Jerry and Donna Lindt, Patricia Vasquez, William Gardner, and members of the Dietary and Maintenance Departments.

The Coalition will conduct a similar inspection in Plains. CCN will announce details of the service when available.



# Obituary

## Services Held For Opal Smith



Graveside services for Hattie Opal Smith, 96, were held at 2 p.m., Saturday at the Yoakum County Cemetery with the Reverend Ken Horn officiating. Services were under the direction of Mark A. Jones Funeral Directors/Plains Memorial Chapel. She passed away March 20, 2003, in Brownfield. Mrs. Smith was born June 18, 1906, in Stamford to Henry Elanzo and Mary Elizabeth Jones. She attended school in Stamford. She married O.D. Smith on October 28, 1934, in Brownfield and they lived in

Plains until his death in 1973. She moved to Brownfield in 1996.

She was a member of the Eastern Star and the First United Methodist Church in Plains. She learned to play the piano by ear and loved to play at local dances and family gatherings.

She is survived by three nieces, Rita Mae Snodgrass of Lubbock, Marie Snodgrass of Brownfield, and Dorothy Mae Page of Brownwood; three nephews, Gene Jones of Lamesa, Bob Cheek of Evadale, and Ralph Jones of Lamesa; a host of great nieces and great nephews.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Leslie Jones of Lamesa and Lucretia Cheek of Plains.

The family suggests memorials to the Yoakum County Library in Plains or to a favorite charity.

## Court hears plans for 8th Watermelon Round Up

In Monday's session of Commissioners Court, Jeannette Head, Chairperson of the Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up, reported plans are underway for a successful running of the popular festival.

Head provided the court with a budget for the August 30, 2003 Round Up, prepared by Treasurer Pam Burgess. She reported "The event has been financially successful, but it is expensive to stage. Our major source of income is from sponsors ads in the tabloid publication we publish, and we took in some \$10,000 last year. On the other hand, our major expense is for advertising we use to promote the event."

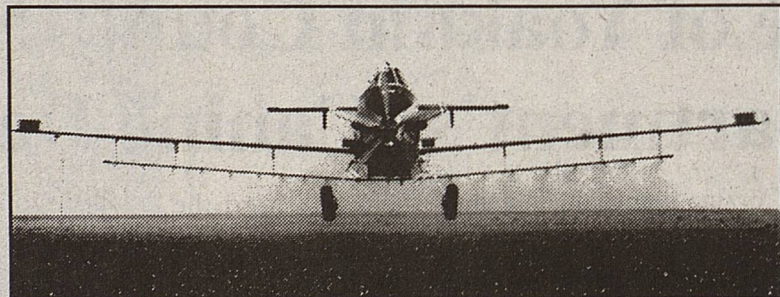
She said the budget allocates \$2,000 this year for attracting more professional day-long entertainment. Head paid tribute to the volunteer workers who make the Round Up a success, over 700 Plains and Denver City residents. The Round Up is expected to attract some 8,000 to 10,000 visitors.

## Scholarship Shoot Out Slated

The Yoakum County Reserve Deputies wish to announce the 1st Annual Reserve Deputies Scholarship Shoot Out. The fund raising event will be held at the Denver City Trap Range located just north of the Nolan Smiley Little League Compound. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2003. Events will begin at 9:30 and continue all day. The Reserve Deputies, with the help of the Full-Time Deputies, are hoping to raise enough money to award scholarships to those who are planning to attend college or an accredited Law Enforcement Academy. Recipients who qualify will be awarded the scholarships by the Reserve Deputies Scholarship Committee. The local 4-H Shooting Sports Program will provide a concession stand for lunch and snacks throughout the day. All proceeds from the concession stand will go to the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. Contestants will be shooting for cash and merchandise prizes.

There will be all skill levels participating, ranging from very young to adults. Bring your shotgun and shells or just come to watch and have a bang-up good time!

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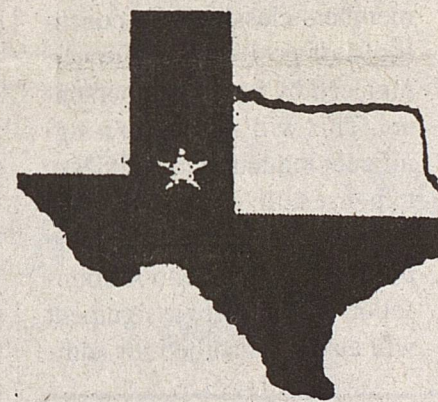
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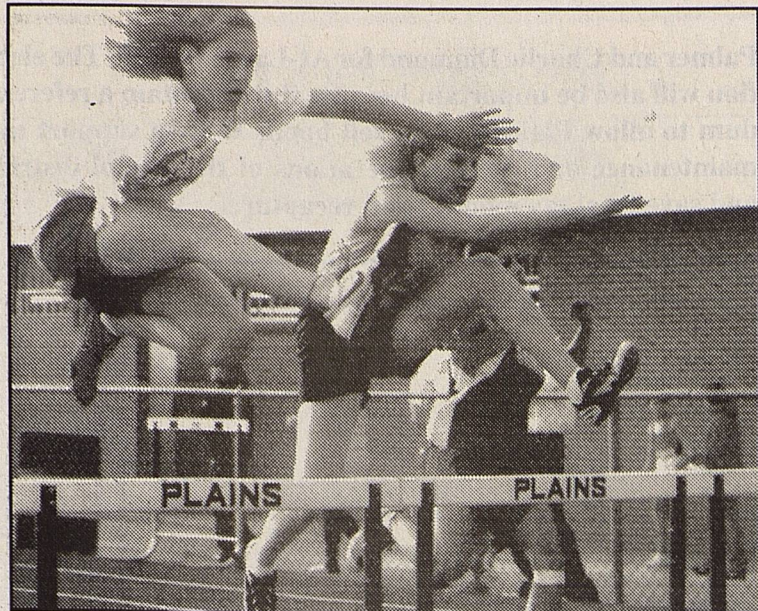
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Home 456-3195

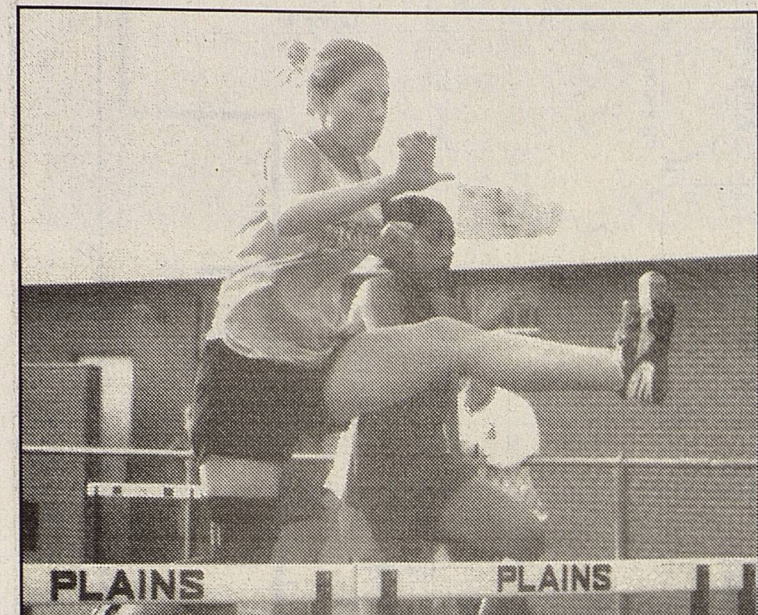
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Caitlin Carter, center, clears first hurdle



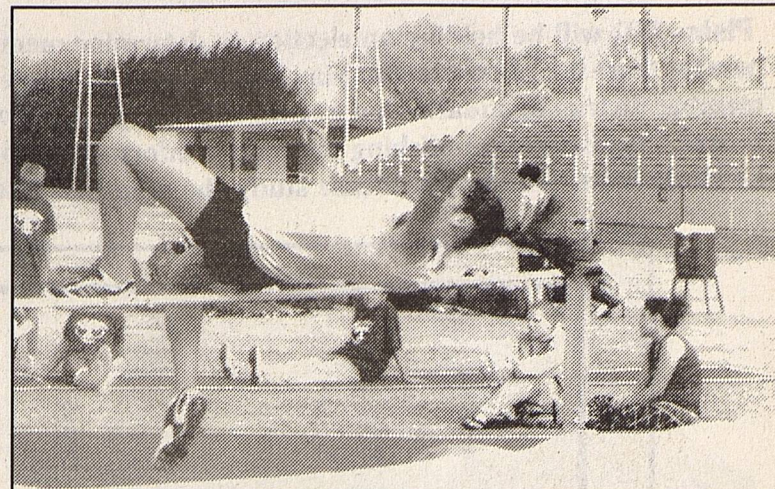
Nicole Culwell starts 100 M Hurdles



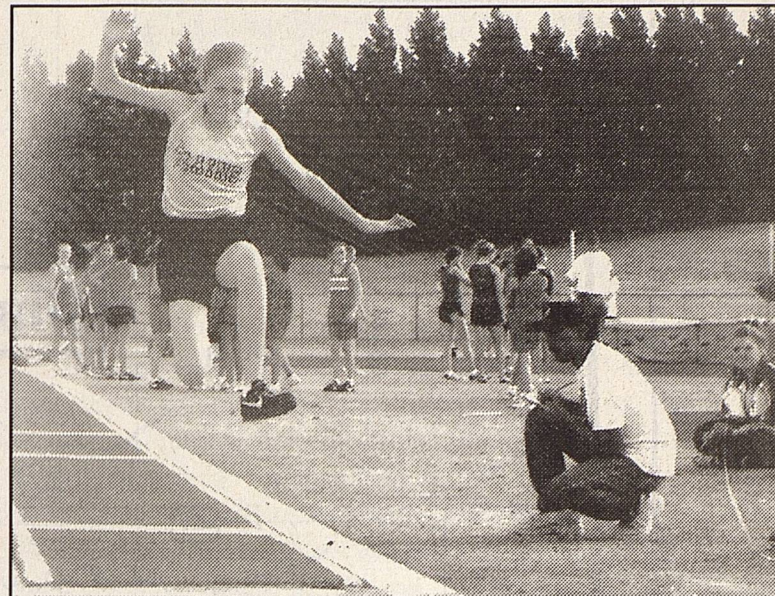
Cody Mayes was first in long jump

## PISD Sports Summary

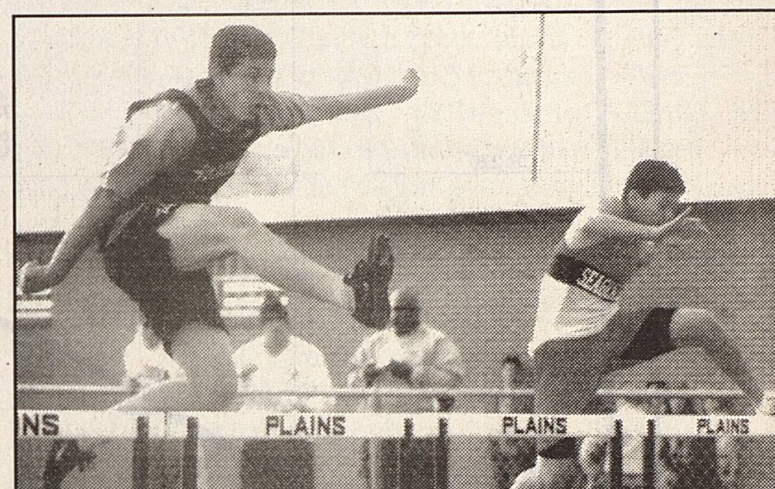
Track:  
 Jr. High Girls Meet here March 27:  
 The girls won first place honors competing against five other schools and in miserable conditions. They scored 144 team points  
 400 Relay- 1st, 55.33- Katie Winn, Joani Bell, Meghan Garcia, Desiraye Broome.  
 800 Relay- 3rd, 2:08.46- Lauren Davis, Angelica Gomez, Yesica Calderon, Araceli Mendoza.  
 1600 Relay- 3rd, 4:44.40- Katie Winn, Meghan Garcia, Caitlin Carter, Joani Bell  
 100 Dash- 1st Desiraye Broome 13.95, Joan Bell 2nd 14.68  
 200 Dash - 1st Desiraye Broome 28.23, Katie Winn 4th, 29.31  
 800 Run- 5th, Lauren Davis 3:07.31  
 1600 Run- 6th, Nancy Lozano 7:32.25  
 100 Hurdles- 1st Caitlin Carter 2nd 20.29, Nicole Culwell 4th  
 300 Hurdles- 1st Caitlin Carter 58.85  
 High Jump- 2nd, Desiraye Broome 4'2"  
 Triple Jump- 3rd Katie Winn 27'11"  
 Long Jump- 2nd Katie Winn 13'11"  
 Shot Put- 2nd Angelica Mendoza 31'4"  
 Discus- 2nd M'Leah McKinzie 69'4", Angelica Mendoza 3rd  
 1600 Run- 5th Laure Hise, 8:48.46  
 High Jump- 4th Lauren Hise 3'10"  
 7th Wranglers: (Seagraves beat the boys out of first place by only one point)  
 100 Dash- Mario Sigala 3rd, 14.29  
 200 Dash- Juan Lara 1st, 27.51  
 1600 Run- Zach Ramos 3rd, 6:32.87, John Tyson 3rd, 4th, 6:40.14  
 2400 Run- Zach Ramos 4th, 10:13.98, John Tyson 5th, 10:35.69  
 110 Hurdles- Sergio Olivas 1st, 22.46  
 300 Jurdles- Sergio Olivas 1st 53.49, Cody Mayes 2nd 54.25  
 400 relay- 1st, Zach Ramos, Juan Lara, Mario Sigala, Cody Mayes 54.92  
 800 Relay- 1st, Mario Sigala, Juan Lara, Jurt Alldredge, Cody Mayes 1:56.21  
 Pole Vault- Cody Mayes 2nd, 6'6"  
 Long Jump- 1st Cody Mayse 14'5", Juan Lara 2nd 14'1.75"  
 8th Wranglers:  
 100 Dash- Johan Cueto 2nd, 12.64, Antonio Martinez 6th, 13.71  
 200 Dash- Mario Ruvalcaba 1st, 25.62  
 400 Dash- Chris Loya 1st, 61.12  
 800 Dash- Scott Addison 1st, 2:26.72, Steven Dominguez 2nd, 2:40.19  
 400 Relay- 2nd, Johan Cueto, Chris Loya, Landon Craft, Mario Ruvalcaba  
 800 Relay- 2nd, Antonio Martinez, Scott Addison, Landon Craft, Steven Dominguez 1:53.71  
 1600 Relay- 1st, Chris Loya, Johan Cueto, Scott Addison, Mario Ruvalcaba  
 High Jump- 4th Chris Loya, 4'8"  
 Pole Vault- Chris Loya 2nd, 7'6"  
 Long Jump- 2nd Mario Ruvalcaba 14'10"  
 Triple Jump- 1st Mario Ruvalcaba, 3rd Johan Cueto  
 Shot Put- 4th Antonio Martinez, 5th Joe Anthony Rivera  
 Discus- 6th Antonio Martinez.  
 The 8th Wranglers finished 2nd in the meet with 142 points.



Desiraye Broome was second in High Jump



Lauren Hise soars in long jump



Sergio Olivas out front in Hurdles



Juan Lara takes baton from Zach Ramos in 400 Relay

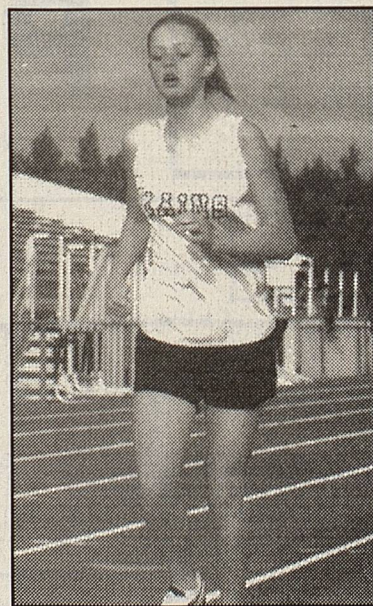


Katy Winn in first leg of 400 Relay

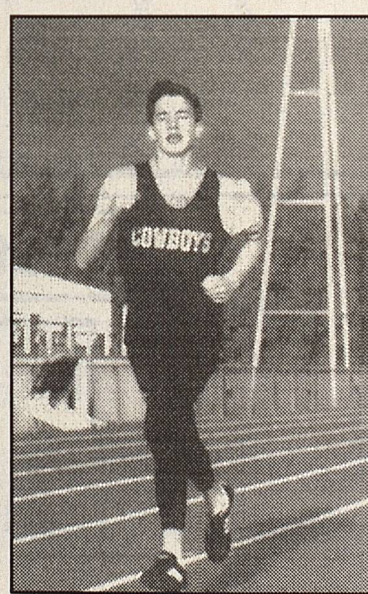
## UIL Academics

Plains High School students combined for 330 points last week to win the school's seventh straight UIL Academic Meet Championship.  
 Plains competed with students from 11 other district schools in District 4A in Sudan last week to win the top trophy. Students who finished first, second, or third in individual events and all first place teams will advance to regional competition in Levelland April 11.

The one act play Opal, also advanced to the area contest scheduled for Lubbock Christian University Saturday. Individual results in later issue.



Lauren Davis finishes 800 Run



Scott Addison won the 800 Run

More sports stats in future issue

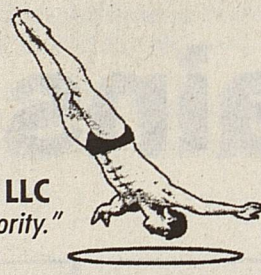
Aaron Cain was named to the College of Engineering Honor Roll at the University of Texas at Arlington for the fall semester. To make the College of Engineering Honor Roll, a student must obtain a GPA of 3.0 or above. Aaron is a sophomore at UTA majoring in aerospace engineering.

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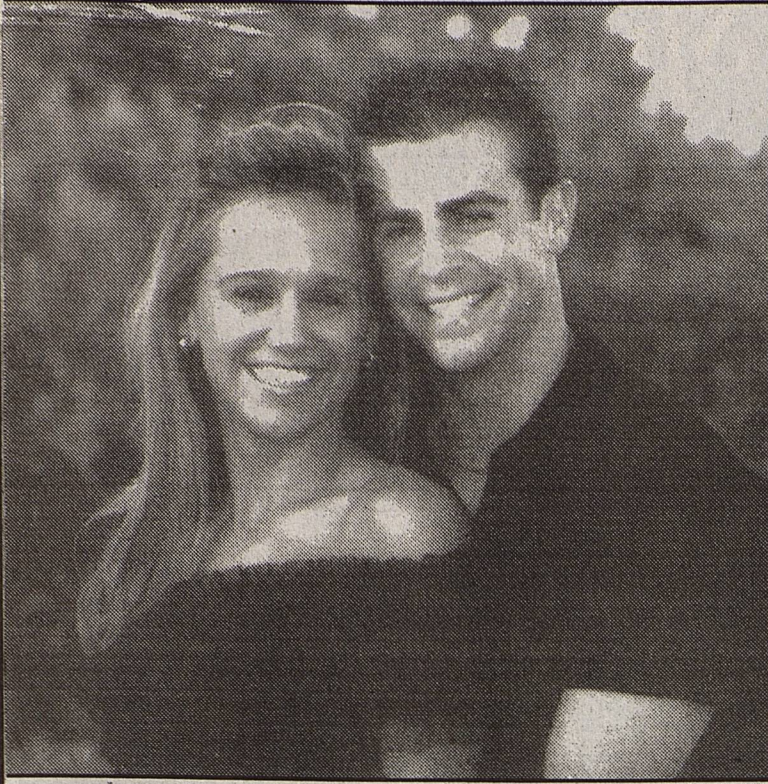
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## Wedding Planned



Tony and Lynne Winn of Plains announce the engagement of their daughter Shyloh Sheyenne Winn to Shane Ivy Winfield son of Tom and Diane Winfield of Arlington.

The couple will marry August 23 at the Texas Tech Market Alumni Center. The bride elect, a graduate of Plains High School, attends Texas Tech University and will graduate in May. The future bridegroom, a graduate of Arlington High, attends Texas Tech University and will graduate in August.

## Senior Citizens Corner

An interesting item on longevity that is worthy of note here is while it has long been known that social contact is beneficial for seniors, it has been proven now that it is in "giving" through this medium, not just "receiving", that brings the most beneficial results.

Our sympathy goes to the family of Mary Hinkle who was a part of the senior center family for many years. Ladies please take note! The Covenant Health System's Community Outreach Mobile Mammography schedule for April, 2003, indicates they will be in Denver City on April 17. The incidences of this disease increase with age, as we are told that 84% of breast cancer deaths occur in women over fifty years of age. You may call this toll free number to make an appointment 800-388-6266. They will be in our community again on May 14th. We will try to remind you again as these dates draw nearer.

A heartfelt thanks from all of us here at the center to United Way and to the City of Denver City for their generous contri-

bution to the operation of our center. We would be unable to function without this additional funding, and we want to publicly tell you that we truly appreciate it.

Ann and Gloria spent Monday in Lubbock at a meeting concerning budgets for the next year. Now comes the lengthy task of preparing our yearly anticipated budget for SPAG's approval.

Gene Boyer had lunch with us one day last week when he came dressed as someone from the Middle East. While the headgear was admittedly fetching, the nose took the prize. I think the whole thing was a definite improvement. Charlie, Eileen Fillipp, June Hanneman, and Stan Wright were the Denver City winners in this month's pool tournament. Lovington took home all of the other prizes.

Charlie Gillis entertained everyone one day last week when he came dressed as someone from the Middle East. While the headgear was admittedly fetching, the nose took the prize. I think the whole thing was a definite improvement. Charlie, Eileen Fillipp, June Hanneman, and Stan Wright were the Denver City winners in this month's pool tournament. Lovington took home all of the other prizes.

Eileen Fillipp, June Hanneman, and Stan Wright were the Denver City winners in this month's pool tournament. Lovington took home all of the other prizes.

*You are invited to a wedding shower*

*honoring*

*Jandi Jones bride elect of Matt Moore on Saturday, April 12, 2003 from 10:00 to 11:30 am. in the home of Mrs. Vaughn Culwell 1002 1st street, Plains, Texas selections at Penney's-Dillard's-Target-Nelson's*

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**Sunday Schedule**  
Children's Choir - 9:45 am  
followed by Sunday School  
Adult Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Morning Worship - 10:45 am

**Running low on faith?  
Stop in for a fill-up!**

## TSA MO GA Club Meets

Southern Ogallala Aquifer (SOAR) meteorologist Duncan Axisa presented a video and information on the rain enhancement program in Yoakum County to Tsa Mo Ga members at the club's March 24 meeting. Axisa, who is the resident meteorologist for the year old program that also includes Terry and Gaines counties, explained the cloud seeding program and its benefits. Axisa said that immediate results of the program are hard to see in a severe drought like West Texas has experienced over the past few years.

"We are in a severe drought," Axisa said. "There is only a small portion of clouds that can be seeded effectively. Clouds are scarce here. We are not drought busting."

By using radar and special equipment set up at the airport, Axisa studies clouds and formations in the area. Available clouds conducive to producing rainfall are "seeded" to make the rainfall more efficient for the area. When not cloud watching, Axisa is also in-

involved in research to further the program's development and productivity.

"When you compare non-seeded to seeded clouds you can see the difference," he said, and cited data from over 800 clouds that have been researched around Texas.

Last year five million acres in Texas and New Mexico were seeded. Axisa reports that last year there was an increase of 51,454 acre feet of water with the three million acres seeded through the program.

Following the conservation program, Tsa Mo Ga members were given a report from the March 22 district convention in Tahoka. The club received eight first place and five second place awards for programs and projects for the prior year. The club's yearbook also received an "Outstanding" mark and will advance in club competition.

Carloyn Culwell was program coordinator and hostesses for the meeting were Elouise and Mary Jo St. Romain.

## Garden Club Meets

The Plains Garden Club met Tuesday, March 24 in the Library, with Kay Canon, President, presiding.

After the business session a program on "Flower Design" was presented by Ruby Sellers and Dean Richardson using spring flowers in each arrangement.

New officers elected for the upcoming 2003-2004 year were Velma Dearing, President, Ruby Sellers, Vice President, Dean Richardson, Secretary, Donita Tyson, Reporter.

A date for the 'Pilgrimage', a

yearly event, will be set at the next meeting.

Dean Richardson received a 'Crown Jewel Award' certificate from the Texas Garden Clubs. This award was for her outstanding lifetime achievements in gardening. Dean was honored at the Lubbock Garden & Arts Center. She is a National Council Flower Show Judge.

Our next meeting be April 21 in the Library. Visitors are welcome.

HINT: It is time to dig and divide summer and fall flowering perennials this month.

### Bridal Shower

*honoring Valerie Evans  
Bride Elect of Jason Robertson*

*Sunday April 27, 2003*

*2:20 pm. - 4:00 pm.*

*in the home of Debbie Smith*

*500 4th Street, Plains, TX*

*Selections: Linens & Things, WalMart*

**April 4-6**

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## Engagement Announced



Tommy and Cindra Box of Plains, Texas are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Maranda Leigh, to Troy Arron Larsen, son of Kit and Chris Larsen of Kelseyville, California. Ms. Box is the granddaughter of the late Tom and Margaret Box of Plains, Texas, and the late Earl and Kathryn McDermott of Levelland, Texas. The bride elect is a 1999 graduate of Plains High School and a 2001 graduate of Abilene Christian University. She is currently working as a counselor for River Oak Center for Children in Sacramento, California. The prospective groom is a graduate of Kelseyville High School and is currently attending California State University at Sacramento, where he will graduate in May. The couple will be married Saturday, July 12, 2003 at the Westmont Christian Church in Lubbock. A reception will follow in the Pavilion at the County Line Restaurant.

## Student Greenhouse Project

**WHAT: Bedding plants & vegetables**

**WHERE: Plains School Greenhouse**

**WHEN: Monday & Tuesday morning 8:30-11:30 am.,  
Thursday & Friday 1 - 3:30 pm.**

**Please tell all your friends, family, & neighbors to come to the School Greenhouse for their flowers & vegetables.**

**PLAY ZONE ARCADE**

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Plains, Texas

**Sunday School**

**9:30 am.**

**Morning Worship**

**10:45 am.**

**Evening Program**

**6:00 pm.**



## From The Hack

If you're a WW II or Korean War vet, you're familiar with Spam - not necessarily fond of it, but very familiar. I read a humorous Spam story in the latest American Legion mag; A Navy sailor in the Pacific evidently grew tired of Spam, swiped a can from his ship's galley, tied it on a string and let it down the barrel of a five inch gun. A Japanese kamikaze attack occurred, and all the ships 5 inch guns blazed away. The Spam loaded gun shell missed the a Zero, but the Spam crashed through the cockpit, killing the pilot. Don't know if this can be verified, but if you were a Spam hater, sounds reasonable to me.

When I learned the military brass ok'd allowing some 500 media types to go along with our military forces in the Iraqi conflict, my first thought was, Man, if you weren't so old, what an experience that would be! Riding with the troops, seeing an Abrams tank blast away with it's huge gun while speeding across the desert, watching Navy and Air Force jets drop smart bombs

with surgical precision. But then I read in a Texas Press publication the experiences of a journalist picked to be one of the 500 covering the war. At a ' Media Boot Camp' he learned of all the ways one can be killed in Ireaq, artillery shells, sniper fire, land mines, cluster bombs, even friendly fire - plus the threat of nerve agents. He reported before they could get out of the boot camp, they had to be able to don a gas mask in nine seconds. Reporters, photographers have to move across country the way their fellow soldiers' do, which includes marching with a huge pack. Just yesterday I listened to a reporter broadcasting from an Air Force C-130 air tanker, carrying about a jillion gallons of flammable stuff to refuel Army choppers. Nice, soothing assignment.

Then I began having other questions. I'm reasonably sure the journalists in the desert don't get passes to go into town on weekends to visit gin mills and wild, wild women. Spirits are forbidden to the Iraqis, and from the looks of most of them on TV, the women should be too.

After considerably more thought, I have decided being old is not all that bad.... If I had gone over there to cover the war, I most likely would have been run over and killed by a mean, wild camel.

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### NOTICE FOR BIDS

THE STATE OF TEXAS)  
COUNTY OF YOAKUM)  
The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 8:30 A.M., Thursday, April 17, 2003, from interested firms for LINEN SERVICES for the Yoakum County Hospital. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, April 21, 2003. Bid price will be paid from 2003 budgeted funds. For bid forms or information, please contact Clay Taylor, Hospital Administrator, 412 Mustang Avenue, Denver City, Texas 79323, or call 806/592-2121. Sealed bids should be marked "LINEN SERVICES" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge, Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456/Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains, Texas 79355. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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