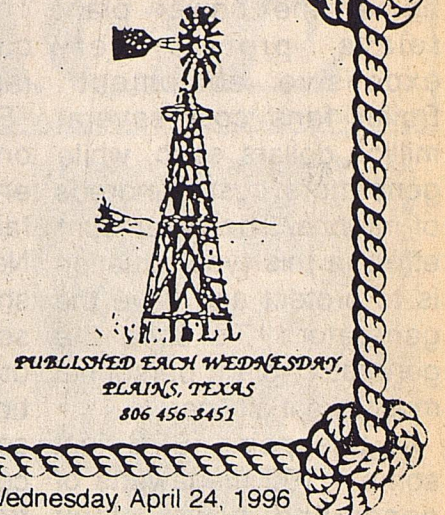


# Cowboy Country News



Volume 2, Issue 33, Wednesday, April 24, 1996

## 'When The Lights Go Out'

Life Goes On Without Electricity, But Not Very Pleasantly

An often repeated statement following the 'Great Blackout' occurring on April 16 had many residents saying, "Old so-and-so is always talking about the Good Old Days, but he surely wasn't too thrilled to be without electricity for five hours the other day".

When some 800,000 people in a huge area stretching from El Paso to Lubbock, and from Seminole to Kansas suddenly found themselves without power Tuesday morning, and without telephone communication in many areas, we were all dramatically reminded of what a tremendous role electricity plays in our day to day activities, and how difficult life is in it's absence.

Michael Dreyspring, Managing Director of Lea County Electric Cooperative, the supplier of electricity to Plains and a large portion of Yoakum County, attended a meeting in Lubbock last week, hosted by Southwestern Public Service, the investor owned utility which sells electricity for distribution to Lea County Electric. Officials of SPS arranged the meeting to clarify events occurring in their distribution system which led to the huge outage.

Dreyspring shared information gathered at the meeting with CCN this weekend, and the following is a chronological explanation of the serious

event. It should be remembered, all of these events occurred in just a matter of seconds, much faster than this article can be read.

Just prior to the devastating event, SPS lost a generator at it's Jones substation to a 'flash-over', a critical loss which would be repeated with even more ominous results on April 16.

SPS officials said routine cleaning maintenance of insulators at the Tolk substation south of Muleshoe, in which de-ionized water is used to wash away dirt, sand and debris, created a flash-over, a phenomenon in which electricity tracks over the insulator and goes directly to ground, causing a 'fault'. At that time, the number 2 generator at Tolk went off line as a result of the voltage drop caused by the fault. In a chain like reaction, huge fans used to force air into the boilers, which produce steam to run the generators experienced problems. The fans are equipped with relays for protection against voltage drops created by the fault, and they went off line, forcing the boiler to go off-line also. The boiler vented steam into the atmosphere, and the generator then dropped out of service.

Mr. Dreyspring explained these events led to even greater problems. "Just like

Turn to Page 2,

**'Power Failure'**

## County Court Meets

Yoakum County Commissioners Court met Monday, April 22 to discuss and take action on seven agenda items.

Commissioner Barron reported Corina Estrada declined to serve on the Child Welfare Board after being appointed last week. He reported Janie Ramos had accepted his appointment to that position, and the Court approved the appointment.

Three new 'Dry Hydrant' locations were announced for the County. Commissioner Barron reported Royce Blair was furnishing a site in Precinct 3, and Commissioner McWhirter reported Dan Wall and James Earl Brown offered sites in Pecinct 4. The Court approved contracts with the three individuals pending receipt of the actual contracts.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark reported his office expenditure for Kleenex was disapproved for payment by Auditor Hazel Lowrey. The auditor explained her guidelines considered Kleenex a personal item rather than an approved office supply item. Clark countered by saying in his handling of many criminal cases, particularly those involving young offenders, it was common for mothers to break down, needing the Kleenex. Judge Brewer reported it was very common for him to supply Kleenex to women going through the

Turn to Page 4,

**'County Court'**

## Jr. High Girls Win District Zone Meet Here

Boys Take Third Place



Front, L-R: Kimbe Jones, Tanya Hernandez, Kari Guetersloh, Krystle Blundell, Shay Allsup, Amanda Garcia, Lexi Warren. Back: Lensey Cullins, Kelli Osborn, Patti Ruiz, Anne Palmer, Kristen Gray, Frances Cordova, Audra Ellis, Wendy Hernandez, Velvet Canada, Coaches Linda Haragan and Michell Arnold.

The Junior High girls scored an impressive come from behind team victory in the final track meet of the season last Thursday. They edged second place O'Donnell by eight points for their win in the five team event.

The Junior High finished a very credible 3rd in their last meet. Individual results featured on page 3.

## Funding For Drug Force May Change

After the conclusion of this week's Commissioners Court, Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark delivered an informal report on probable funding changes for the Permian Basin Drug Task Force. Yoakum County is one of the 24 counties making up the drug fighting force.

Clark reported the Task

Force is currently being funded by Grant money, and from the sale of forfeited and seized assets from convicted drug felons, the most common asset being automobiles.

In the past, if the grant money, plus the seized asset money, was not enough to meet the Task Force's annual operating expenses, any shortage would have come from the coffers of Ector County, the original

grant funds applicant.

Ector County officials wish to change this funding procedure, and will not be responsible for any future operating shortages.

Clark said the 24 counties making up the Permian Basin Task Force will be asked to absorb any dollar shortage with a formula based on County population.

Turn to Page 4,  
**'Task Force'**

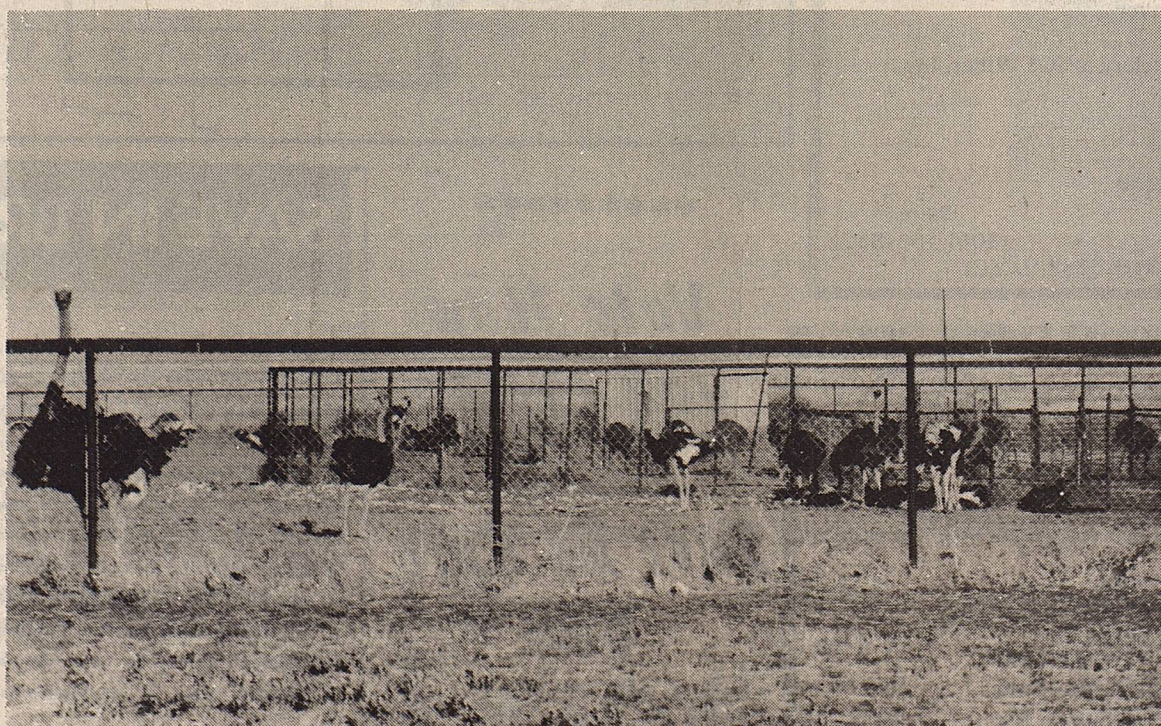
## PISD Trustee Election Scheduled

Plains Independent School District will conduct a school trustee election on Saturday, May 4, 1996, from 7 AM until 7 PM in the foyer of the school auditorium. Two district places are up for election, District 3 and District 4. Only residents of those two districts are eligible to vote for the candidates who are on the ballot in their particular district. There is no at-large district up for election this year. Please refer to the maps on page

Turn to Page 2,

**'School Election'**

## Big Bird Is Curious



This big bird at the Shofner "Kilimanjaro Ostrich Farm" seemed anxious to pose for it's photo last week. As we moved around the circular pen, it followed, poking its long neck and heard over the fence as if to say, "here I am, take my picture, please". Note the many young chicks in pen.

## Successful School Celebration

Plains ISD will hold a Successful School Celebration on Wednesday, April 24, 1996 at 1:15 p.m. in the school auditorium. At the celebration, the Governor's Successful School Awards earned by each of the PISD campuses for performance on the TAAS exams last year will be given. PISD was one of the few districts in the state with all its campuses recognized with Governor's awards. Along with the Governor's certificate goes a cash award to be used at the discretion of the campus for academic improvement.

Also, the PISD migrant team will be receiving an "All State" team recognition for their work with migrant students last year. Representative Gary Walker will present the awards on behalf of the Governor and will speak to the students about the importance of continued academic excellence. PISD students will be taking the TAAS exams for this year the following week. The public is urged to attend this recognition of outstanding work on the part of our teachers, students, and community.



**Cont'd from Page 1, 'Power Failure'**

the circuit breakers in your home, the power plant relays protect very expensive equipment". Boiler fans cost several million dollars each, while generators cost hundreds of millions. The paramount effort in this type situation is to protect and save the generators. To save the generator, plant personnel must take it off line.

At this point, SPS lost some 1,100 megawatts of generating power, their total output at that time some 2,800 megawatts.

Emergency plans were initiated by SPS to induct power from alternate sources, including Public Service of Oklahoma (PSO) and El Paso Electric. The tie-line connecting SPS to the Oklahoma supplier could not carry that large a load, and relays tripped to prevent the line burning down.

At this point, still just moments from the initial failure, the SPS system "twisted out", a seldom used term describing a large utility such as SPS being disconnected from the remaining power grid in the U.S. The SPS system was becoming 'Unstable'. This refers to Frequency; All U.S. electric service companies operate at 60 cycles alternating current, or 60 sine waves

per second. While voltage can go up or down small amounts, frequency levels must stay at 60 seconds. The SPS system's frequency was deteriorating rapidly.

SPS, temporarily relying on emergency sources of energy from generating facilities in Oklahoma and New Mexico, was suddenly shut-off from these power sources. Ultimately, in a dramatically brief period of time, all other supplying sources of energy to SPS cut their ties, to protect their frequency levels.

As the day progressed, Herculean efforts by SPS, and all its power consumers, including Lea County Electric, and SPS' suppliers in the huge knocked out area, would get back on-line. Hospital facilities could draw huge breaths of relief, school's could properly function, telephones would again ring.

Mr. Dreyspring, following the Lubbock meeting, said the Lubbock meeting, said "Lea County Electric will continue to monitor the SPS evaluation. If Lea County Electric can determine an area where SPS can make improvements in either the reduction of risk or similar outages, or expediting the restoration of power in future emergencies, Lea County Electric will work with SPS officials in any beneficial manner".

Mr. Dreyspring also advised the Cooperative will strive to update its disaster recovery plan, and continue to work with all the communities it serves in planning for future problems.

**Cont'd from Page 1, 'School Election'**

2 for the boundaries of District 3 and District 4. District 3 residents will have Danny Bell and Jeff Redman on the ballot, and District 4 residents will have Brad Crump and Wayne Sisson on the ballot. Persons not residing in either District 3 or District 4 will not cast ballots this year. Early voting by personal appearance begins on April 15 and ends April 30. Early voters should come by the school business office from 8 AM until 4:30 PM during this time. Those wishing to vote by mail should send their request to Gail Holley, Plains ISD, Box 479, Plains, Tx 79355. If you wish to view a larger map of the voting districts, please feel free to come by the school business/Superintendent's office anytime during the school day.

Ever wake up feeling so good you spend the day worrying what's wrong with you?

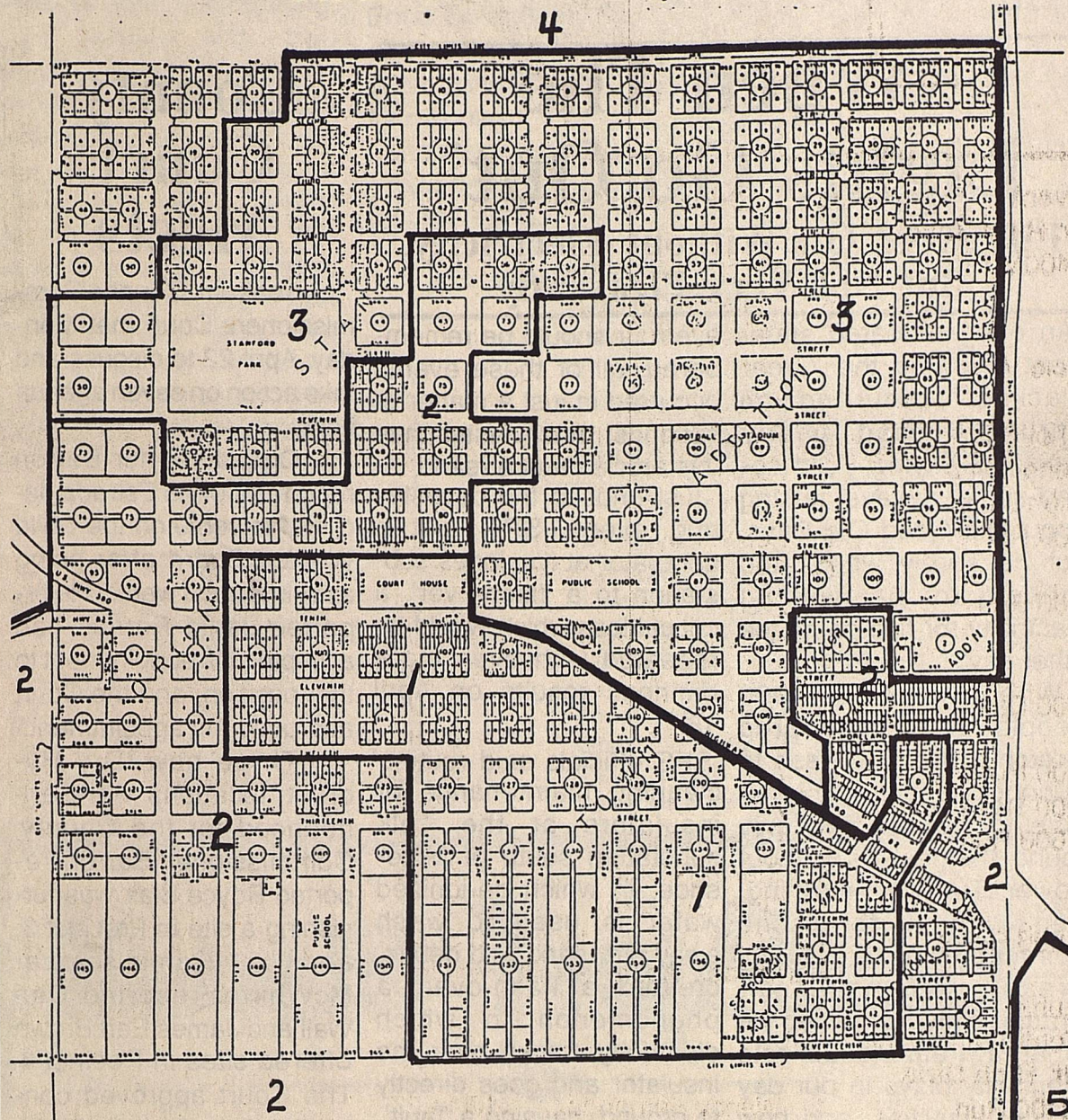
**\* Legal Notice \***

The Plains Independent School District Board of Trustees hereby gives notice of a regular election to be held on May 4, 1996, for the purpose of electing two trustees (District 3 and District 4) for full three year terms. Absentee voting by personal appearance will begin on April 15, 1996, and continue through April 30, 1996, from 8:00AM to 4:30PM on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. Absentee voting will be conducted at Plains ISD Administration Office, 1000 10th St., Plains, Texas. Application for absentee ballots should be mailed to Gayle Holley, Plains ISD, PO Box 479, Plains, Texas, 79355. The polling place for all districts will be the lobby of Plains School Auditorium from 7:00AM to 7:00PM on the day of the election.

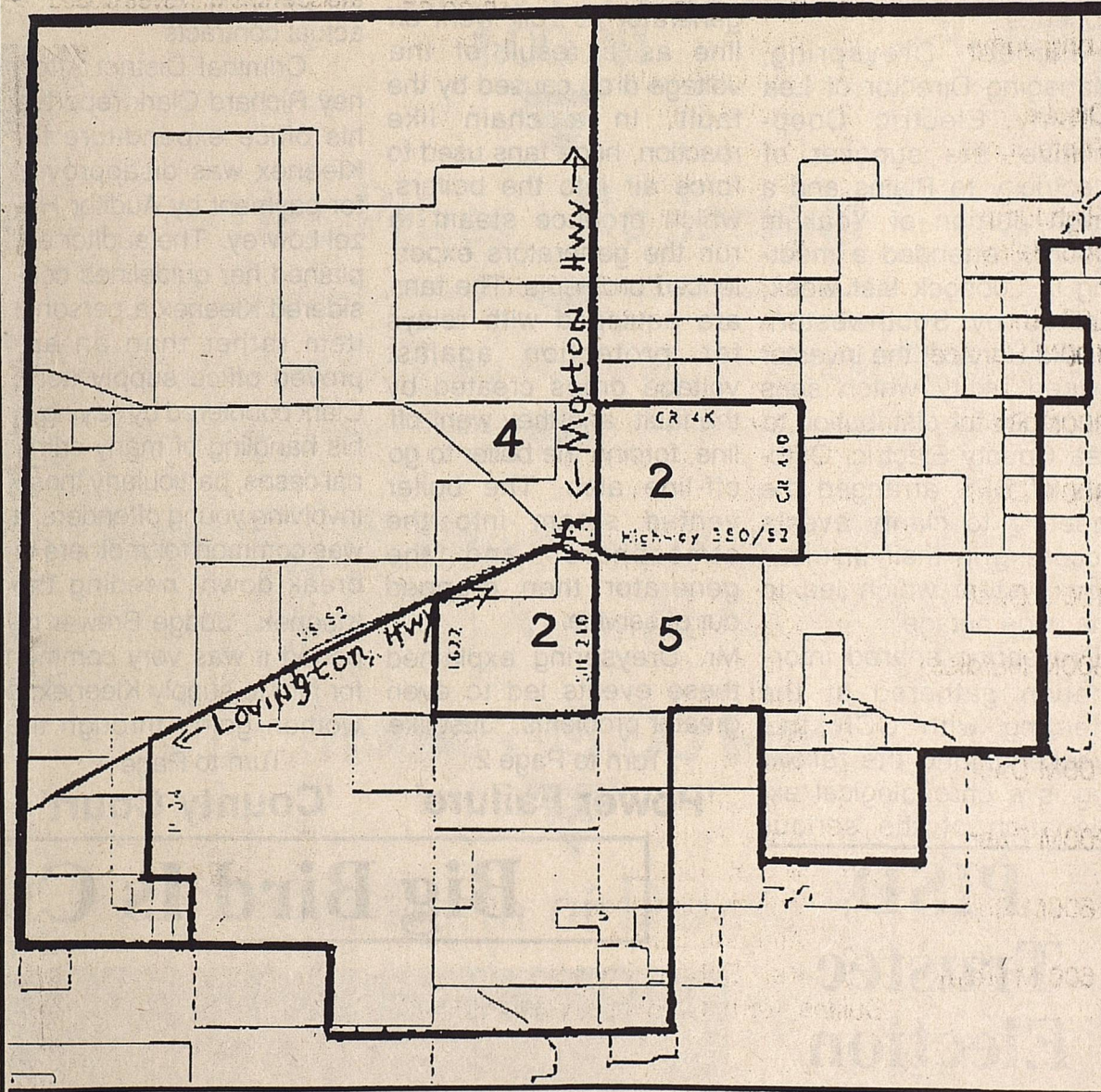
**P.I.S.D VOTING DISTRICTS**

**\* VOTERS RESIDING IN DISTRICT 3 AND DISTRICT 4 MAY CAST A BALLOT IN THE MAY 4 SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTION \***

Districts located within the City of Plains;

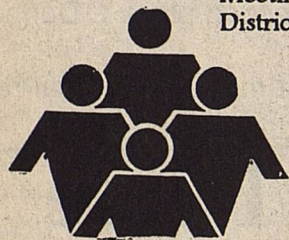


District 4 is located largely out of the city limits of Plains;



**Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Our Business Is Your Business!**

We encourage you to come visit with us during our Annual Meeting when we will be electing two (2) trustees, one from District 2 and one from District 5. Hope to see you there!



**ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**  
Friday, April 26, 1996  
7:30 p.m. (MST)  
Pannell Auditorium  
Lovington, New Mexico



**REGISTRATION**

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Lea County Electric Coop, Lovington  
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Pannell Auditorium, Lovington

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| Iced Tea Pot             | Twin Window Fan                           |
| AM/FM Stereo System      | Electronic Insect Control                 |
| Ice Cream/Yogurt Freezer | Igloo Cool Roller                         |
| Visions Cookware         | 3-Speed Mixer                             |
| Clothes/Fabric Steamer   | Shop Vac                                  |
| Weaver Cookwear          | Fryer                                     |
| Food Dehydrator          | 4 Quart Slow Cooker                       |
| Power Can Opener         | Iron                                      |
| Drill                    | Shellbaker                                |
| Telephone/Clock/Radio    | Telephone Answering System                |
| Snackster                | Jig Saw                                   |
| Electric Griddle         | Cordless Telephone                        |
| Food Slicer              | Circular Saw                              |
| Oscillating Fan          | Crock Pot                                 |
| Radio/Cassette           | Cordless Screwdriver                      |
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95 F-150 SuperCab XL, Two-tone Blue, Running Boards, Captain Chairs, Console #2165A .....	\$15,950
95 Cougar XR7, Executive Package, Champagne Color P2153 .....	\$14,450
92 Lincoln Town Car, Medium Blue with Leather Interior #P2172A .....	\$11,950
95 Ford F-150 Reg. Cab, Texas/Oklahoma Special, Air, White w/ Red Cloth Interior #3030A .....	\$10,850
94 Nissan Pickup, 4 Cyl. 5-Speed, Air, NicSmall Truck w/ 29K Miles #5085A .....	\$8,750
90 Silverado Reg. Cab, 1/2 Ton, 350 V-8, Auto., Windows, Locks, Cruise #3049B .....	\$8,350
92 Buick Skylark, Quad 4, Auto., Black, Power Windows & Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette #6032B .....	\$7,395
90 Mustang LX, Bright Red, Auto., Sunroof, Power Windows & Locks, Cruise, Cassette .....	\$6,695
90 Olds Ciera, V-6 Auto., Tilt, Cruise, Power Windows & Locks, Sport Rack #P2206 .....	\$6,595

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# 'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

## Cowboy-Cowgirl Track



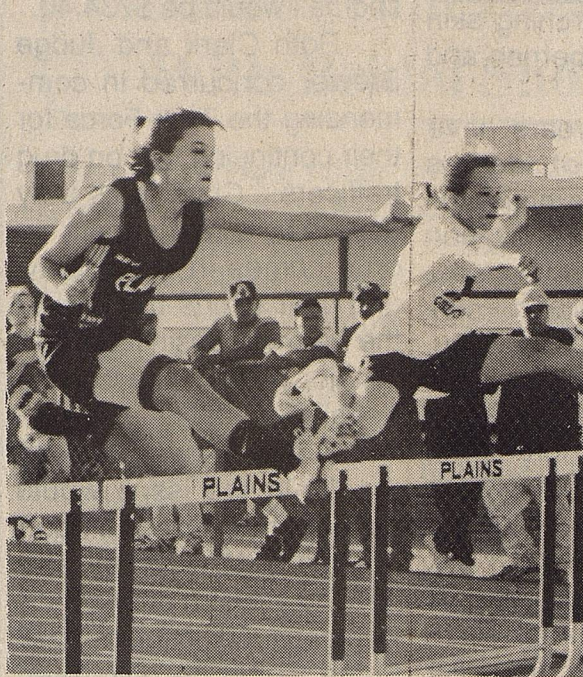
Event	Place	Contestant	Time/Distance
<b>Jr. High Boys</b>			
2400M Run	2	Marcos Hernandez	8:55.84
	4	Louis Hernandez	9:19.75
	6	Kelsey Blundell	9:31.94
Pole Vault	1	Chris Estrada	7'6"
	5	Adam Garcia	7'6"
Shot Put	5	Armando Luna	35'5-3/4"
Long Jump	2	Fermin Luna	17'1/2"
High Jump	2	Fermin Luna	5'6"
400 Relay	2	Felipe Reyna, Adam Garcia, Aaron Cain, Fermin Luna	50.05
800 Run	2	Felipe Reyna	2:20.92
	3	Marcos Hernandez	2:26.03
	5	Chris Estrada	2:39.25
400 Dash	1	Fermin Luna	57.02
	5	Chris Willis	64.81
300 Hurdles	6	Aaron Cain	53.66
200 Dash	4	Adam Garcia	26.56
1600 Run	3	Kelsey Blundell	5:51.84
	4	Sterling Deaton	5:55.32
	5	Greg Gonzales	5:59.44
1600 Relay	1	Felipe Reyna, Marcos Hernandez, Adam Garcia, Fermin	3:56.90

Luna  
Total Team Points - 124

<b>Jr. High Girls</b>			
2400 Run	1	Wendy Hernandez	10:14.27
	2	Lensey Cullins	10:34.85
	4	Amanda Garcia	12:00.85
Long Jump	1	Patti Ruiz	13'9-1/2"
	5	Kari Guetersloh	12'3"
Discus	2	Shay Allsup	79'8"
Triple Jump	2	Patti Ruiz	29'6"
	3	Anne Palmer	28'7"
High Jump	2	Kelli Osborn	4'6"
400 Relay	2	Kristen Gray, Velvet Canada, Anne Palmer, Patti Ruiz	55.25
800 Run	2	Krystle Blundell	2:52.08
100M Hurdles	2	Kristen Gray	17.16
	5	Shay Allsup	19.86
800M Relay	2	Velvet Canada, Anne Palmer, Krystle Blundell, Patti Ruiz	2:02.30
400M Dash	3	Lensey Cullins	73.79
	5	Kimbe Jones	78.65
	6	Tanya Vasquez	80.50
100M Dash	1	Patti Ruiz	13.85
	6	Kari Guetersloh	14.97
300M Hurdles	1	Kristen Gray	51.94
	5	Kelli Osborn	62.43
	6	Shay Allsup	66.41
100M Dash	1	Patti Ruiz	13.85
	6	Kari Guetersloh	14.97
200M Dash	2	Anne Palmer	29.64
	3	Velvet Canada	30.02
1600M Run	1	Wendy Hernandez	6:16.48
	5	Amanda Garcia	7:10.74
1600 M Relay	3	Kelli Osborn, Lensey Cullins, Kemi Jones, Krystle Blundell	5:05.88

## More Track News

In a warm up meet for regional qualifiers last week, Kayla Redman tossed the shot 34' 1" for a 3rd place win, and Valerie Blair took 6th place in both the 1600 and 3200 run. Jeremy Dearing ran a 2:10 800 for 5th place, and the 1600 Relay team, Josh Traweek, Wayne Willett and Jeremy Dearing took 3rd with their best time of the season, 3:30. At a South Plains College meet, Kayla again tossed the shot 34' 1" for 1st place, and the Cowboy 400 Relay team, Wayne Willett, Jesus Hernandez, Josh Traweek and Kirk Parrish, took 1st place with a time of 44.68.



Kelli Osborn clears 1st hurdle



Kristen Gray wins her heat



Shay Allsup tosses shot



Marcos Hernandez in good 800



Sterling Deaton is determined



Krystle Blundell 2nd in 800



Shay & Kelli at last hurdle



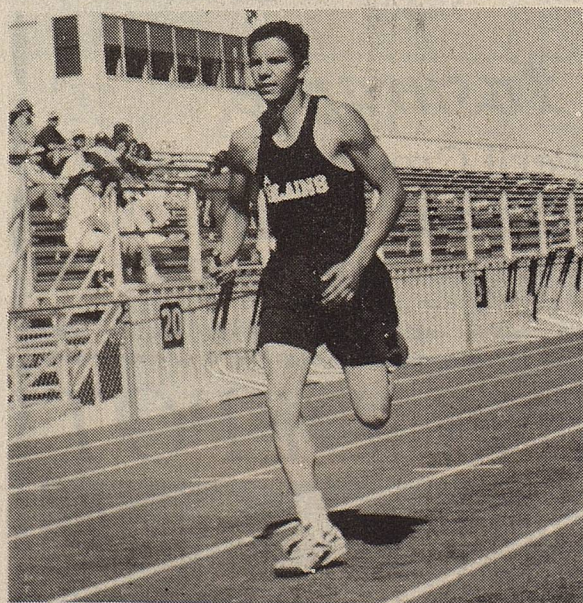
Lensey 2nd in 2400



Velvet Canada in 200



Kimbe Jones lets it fly



Fermin Luna in good 400



Felipe Reyna finishes strong

## Student of the Week

Yvonne Gonzales was selected for student of the week. She is a sophomore and is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Aldaberto Gonzales.

Yvonne was nominated by Mrs. O'Quinn.

"A quote borrowed from an unknown author helps describe this wee's student of the week. A portion of the quote reads: 'Every job is a self-portrait of the person who did it.' This particular student autographs her work with excellence and pride. She works hard every day. She worked hard in UIL, and I appreciate her efforts as I know her other teachers also do.



**Remember -- P.I.S.D. Board of Trustees Election May 4!**

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Cont'd from Page 1,  
**'County Court'**

probate process following the death of their husband. Auditor Lowrey indicated she did not wish to pay for any item which is not considered a bonafide office expense. Following considerable discussion, the Judge told District Attorney Clark he would be advised at a later date the Court's decision.

Judge Brewer read a letter to the Court from the Directors of the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District. They requested the Court to restore the County share of their operating budget to \$7,000, which was reduced to \$5,600 when the Court cut all budget items by 20%. The letter explained the additional \$1,400 was needed by the District to pay for additional staff hours created by recently announced changes in the CRP program. After considerable discussion, it was voted to table the matter for one week, allowing the Court to contact the District's board of directors for more information.

Richard Clark briefly discussed a non agenda item, possible changes in funding the Permian Basin Drug Task Force. See special article on page one.

Following addressing the agenda items, the Court entered into Executive Session to discuss the County's liability situation while conducting work on personal property with Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark.

**Lions Meet, Hear Of Government Waste**

The Plains Lions Club met Thursday, April 18. In a brief business session, the club voted to reserve a food booth for the upcoming Watermelon Festival, scheduled for August 31. Lion Debby Rushing volunteered the use of her husband's state of the art barbecue pit for the event, and also volunteered the services of her husband Morris Jay to man the cooker.

A slate of Club Officers was elected for 1996-97. President Rick Doyle will continue in that office, Jerry Morphus was named First Vice President, L. J. Sanders will continue as Vice President, Pierre St. Romain is Lion Tamer, and Debby Rushing was selected Tail Twister.

The club viewed a video labeled "The Waste Watch Journal", detailing many examples of the federal government frivolously wasting taxpayer's money on often unnecessary and foolish programs.

One example cited known drug and alcohol addicts receiving sums of government aid thru the Social Security system. Some 250,000 known addicts receive over \$1.4 billion in monthly checks each year. The film chronicled how the vast majority of them make no effort at drug rehab programs, and promptly spend their average \$500 monthly checks on alcohol and illegal drugs.

Another segment detailed Government grants totalling \$551,000 spent on studying 'Stress In Plants', and the USDA spending

\$260,000 researching skin disease of cranberries and blueberries.

The last few years have seen billions of dollars spent around the nation on construction or renovation of Federal Courthouses. The federal facility in Foley Square, New York City, cost over \$1 billion, a mind boggling figure for a building the majority of the Judiciary of the City agreed was not needed. Not so, said the New York Congressional delegation. "You need it, and we're going to give it to you, like it or not".

The film depicted several federal building projects in which the average square footage construction cost should have been around \$97. Instead, many of the courthouses and other federal buildings went up at over \$200 per square foot.

Still wonder why taxes travel in only one direction. ....UP?

Cont'd from Page 1,  
**'Task Force'**

The Task Force currently faces a projected shortfall of \$68,000 as of the May 31 fiscal year end. Yoakum county's .0108% share of the shortfall would be \$734.40.

Both Clark and Judge Brewer concurred in commending the Task Force for their continuing war on drug traffickers. Clark feels they have had a real impact on drug crimes in the county, and their efforts throughout the Permian Basin have had a major, positive effect on the illegal drug trade.

Judge Brewer advised the Court the issue would appear on next week's Court agenda, and a formal proposal to assist in emergency, stop-gap funding for the Task Force would be discussed and acted on.

April 1722: Mission Nuestra Senora del Espiritu Santo de Zuniga founded about two miles from the presidio of Nuestra Senora de Loreto at Matagorda Bay. Mission moved twenty-five miles inland to the Guadalupe River near Victoria four years later. In 1749 the mission was moved to Goliad.

**War Brings Problems Home**

Austin, December 26, 1861: Governor Francis R. Lubbock yesterday signed a bill making liable for military duty all white male inhabitants of Texas between the ages of 18 and 50.

Excepted from compulsory military service are postmasters and mail carriers, judges of the Supreme and District Courts and clerks of these courts, the Secretary of State, the Comptroller and Treasurer of the State, chief justices and clerks of county courts, all officers of the Confederate States, engineers and conductors of railroads, officers and crews of steamboats, sheriffs, and officers of the penitentiary.

The Texas News, January 4, 1863

Austin, February 10: The special session of the legislature called by Governor Francis R. Lubbock is now busily engaged in a search for means to meet the state's financial obligations, and for ways in which the state can make a more generous contribution to the military forces of the Confederacy. The fact that the Confederacy needs additional soldiers is not an indication that Texas has been slack in the matter of supplying men.

In his message to the legislature, Governor Lubbock pointed out that this

state has furnished the Confederate armies with ninety infantry regiments, thirty-three cavalry regiments, and numerous specialized units. Texas has supplied the Confederate armies with 62,000 men, and an additional 6,500 men are serving in the military forces of the state.

The Governor estimated that not more than 27,000 men between the ages of sixteen and sixty remain in the state, and these men are to be organized into units for service in case of an emergency.

The legislature has been asked to appropriate a sizeable sum of money for the support of the families of Texan soldiers and to set up a hospital fund for the care of sick and wounded Texan soldiers in Confederate Army. The legislature will probably double the tax rate, but this will not prove a serious burden to the people, as Confederate money is now circulating at a great discount.

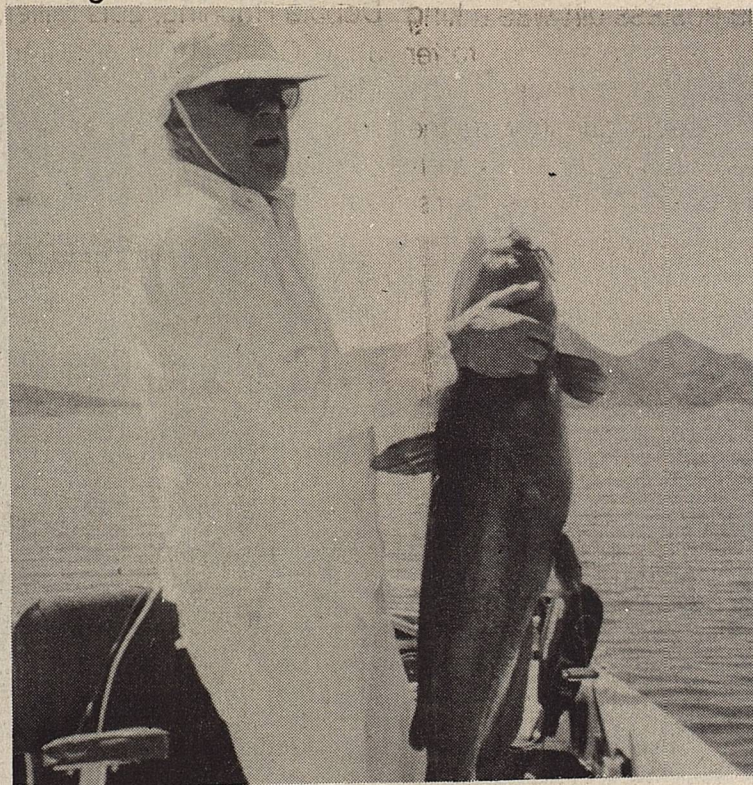
The blockade has seriously interfered with our supply of goods, and the legislature has before it petitions for the granting of charters to numerous companies for the manufacture of goods of many kinds.

The Texas News, December 1, 1863

**A Very Surprised Bass Fisherman!**

On a recent trip to Mexico's Lake Novillo, south of Hermosillo, Postmaster Norris Jones was tossing a plastic worm for bass, when "I thought a train hit it. It

didn't take long to figure out it wasn't a bass." The fish weighed a hefty 40 pounds, a pretty good load for a bass rig.



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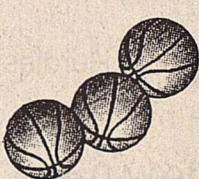
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 **Attention All 3rd -12th Grade Girls!**  
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# Femme Friends Page

## Barron - Ashburn Plan July Wedding



Traci Barron and Jeff Ashburn along with their parents announce their engagement and approaching marriage.

Traci is the daughter of Larry and Jerri Barron of Denver City and the granddaughter of Wayne and Peggy Barron of Lubbock and Dean Loerwald of Plainview.

Jeff is the son of Stanley and Sheila Ashburn of Plains, and the grandson of Wanda Marlow of Denver City and J.B. and Wanda Ashburn of Plains.

Traci is a candidate for May graduation from the Methodist School of Nursing and is employed by St. Mary's Hospital of Lubbock.

Jeff is a graduate of Texas Tech University and is employed by Brownfield CCA.

The couple will be married July 20, 1996 at the First Methodist Church in Denver City.

## Ashlee Winn Honored With Bridal Shower

A bridal shower honoring Ashlee Winn, bride-elect of Michael Davis was held Sunday, April 14, in the home of Mrs. Vaughn Culwell.

The Registering Bride's book was made by Mrs. Sheila Stephens.

On the serving table was an ecru lace cloth over burgundy with a centerpiece of silk greenery with burgundy silk roses, a picture of the bride and groom, crocheted bride doll belonging to the bride's maternal great grandmother, the late Mrs. Dillie Fitzgerald. Nuts were served from a dish belonging to the bride's paternal great grandmother, the late Mrs. Irene Camper. A fruit plate with dip was served from a bowl belonging to the groom's maternal grandmother, the late Mrs. Clara Williams. Italian Cream cake was served by Mrs. Linda Wall, the punch was served by Kay Swann. Other appointments were crystal and silver, burgundy and cream napkins were used.

The bride was presented with a corsage of silk burgundy and cream roses. The hostess gift was a king size Ralph Lauren comforter and the centerpiece.

Special guests were the bride's maternal and paternal grandmothers, Mrs. Melba Fitzgerald and Mrs. Zaretta Winn. The groom's mother, Mrs. Dolores Davis, his sister Mrs. Raynee Andrews of Portland, his sister-in-law and nieces, Mrs. Cindy Davis, Lauren & Whitney. Other relatives attending were: Mrs. Linda Huddleston of Canyon, Miss Diane Fitzgerald of Lubbock, Mrs. Johna DeBusk & Dru of Idalou, Mrs. Mavis Montgomery of Brownfield, Juhree Stowe of Lubbock, Mrs. Larry Chapman, Jackie & Tracy of Muleshoe, Mrs. Heather Stowe & Savannah of Lockney. Relatives from Plains attending were Mrs. Martha Palmer, Mrs. Charlotte Palmer & Anne, Mrs. Becky Winn, McKinzie, Katie, and Bailey, and Miss Valerie Winn.

Approximately 100 guests registered from Denver City, Muleshoe, Brownfield, Lubbock, Plains, Idalou, Lockney, and Portland.

Hostesses were Paula Cullins, Jonnie Green, Linda Wall, Sonnie Stephens, Sheila Stephens, Sandra Ellison, Connie McWhirter, Sue Alexander, Mary Wilmeth, Jan Lester, Willie Mae Engle, Kay Swann, Debbie Rushing, Lois Miller, Jean Craft, Paula McMinn, Mary Pettigrew, Jerry Warren, Frankie Walker and Carolyn Culwell.

## Haragan - Speck To Wed



Linda Haragan of Plains announces the engagement and approaching marriage of her son, Christopher Lance, to Julie Gwyn Speck, daughter of Danny and Sherry Speck of Knox City.

Lance is a 1992 graduate of Knox City High School and a senior at Angelo State University, majoring in Kinesiology teacher and a coach.

Julie graduated from Knox City High in 1993, she is a junior at Angelo State University, majoring in Kinesiology and minoring in mathematics. She plans to be a personal fitness trainer.

Lance and Julie are both cheerleaders at ASU. Lance is also an instructor for Universal Cheerleader Association.

The couple plan to be married August 17, 1996 at the Foursquare Church in Knox City.

## Library Filmtime

Attendance for the regular Filmtime on April 17, 1996 was low with only 11 children there to enjoy the special program. Jingles (Jim Barnett), a local clown came by to do magic tricks and read a story to the children.

Those attending were Troy Parrish, Gretta Poole, Rhaela Stall, Brett Hawthorne, Hannah Crump, Jason Durham, Kelsey Curry, Alfredo Martinez, Rhaemi Stall, Jacob Brink and Merrit Crump.

## Wedding Shower Planned

**Sunday, April 28**  
For: Darce Pierce  
Place: Connie McWhirter  
Time: 2:00 - 3:30

**Sunday, April 28**  
For: Randy Kennedy  
Place: Linda Wall  
108 Ave. G  
Time: 3:30 - 5 PM

Selections: Nelsons, Dillard's, Renaissance, Plains Depot, Bayer Lumber, Cinderella Shop.



**Larry C. Boyd, M.D.**  
Family Practice & OB

**Yoakum County Clinic**  
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Office Hours 1-4 PM

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## Senior Citizens Corner

Dark Tuesday! Isn't it strange that one utility we take for granted, and rely on so much, can make so much difference? Without electricity it was almost a day of "nothing at all."

Here at the Center we relied on candles. Just for a day everyone enjoyed a candlelight meal.

Wednesday was a busy day. The pool tournament was well attended. Also the DC Line Dancers entertained with three numbers. Both activities were enjoyed, and a big Thank You to those who participated! Contestants came from Seagraves, Livingston, and Tatum.

Thursday the Line Dancers performed in Midland and visiting their Senior Center.

The blood pressure girls were with us on Wednesday also.

Mary Terrell is in Seminole Memorial Hospital. We wish her a speedy recovery. There's a special place in all our hearts for "little Mary".

Dates to remember:  
Wednesday, 24th - Tatum Pool Tournament at 1 PM MST  
Thursday, 25th - Gail Ballor 11:30 to help with insurance claims.

Friday, 26th - Line Dancing 9:45 AM.

Did you know we are on TV? Our menus and activities are on Cable 19. So turn your TV on and Thanks to U.S. Cable for this spot.

Meals are every day Mon. - Fri. at 11:30. If you are a Senior, we urge you to come.

Remember the Garage Sale. Lots of items to choose from!!

See you next week, Smitty

## Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Assembly Of God  
Pastor Erral Hainer

Church of Christ  
Ray Young

First Baptist Church  
Pastor Bill Wright

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
Fr. Glen Rosendale

First United Methodist Church  
Pastor Rick Doyle

Templo Bautista Nueva Vision  
Pastor Jose Rodriquez

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## P.H.S. 2nd In Huge Regional U.I.L. Meet



Front: Tommie McNabb, Shawna Box, Back: Brad Friesen, Shawn Cullins, Yancey House, Heath Bowlin, Richie Cullins.

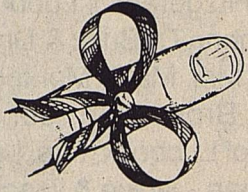
The PHS U.I.L. Literary over 1500 students. First Team had an outstanding meet at Levelland, finishing in second place competing against 75 other 1-A schools, and attended by

Calculator Individual	1st	Team
	2nd	Heath Bowlin
	3rd	Shawna Box
	6th	Tommie McNabb
Number Sense Individual	1st	Team
	1st	Shawn Cullins
	2nd	Shawna Box
	4th	Yancey House

## Marketing Club Meeting

There will be an organizational meeting for the Yoakum County Extension Marketing Club on Tuesday, April 30 at 7:30 a.m. in the Clubroom adjacent to the County Extension Office in the Old Courthouse. Dr. Jackie Smith, Extension Economist with Texas A&M, will be on to discuss marketing strategies with the group.

Any interested persons should contact Tadd Knight, County Extension Agent-Agriculture at (806) 456-2263.



## District Criminal Court

Three criminal cases were heard in 121st District Court, with Judge Felix Klein presiding in the absence of Judge Kelly Moore. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the State. Steven Carl Caldwell, 42, pled guilty to a subsequent DWI offense occurring November 15, 1995. He was sentenced to seven years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, fined \$1,500, and must pay \$251.50 in Court Costs. He was represented by Attorney Jerry Corbin.

Gilbert Martinez, 39, pled guilty to a March, 1994, reduced charge of possession with intent to deliver 200

grams or more, but less than 400 grams of cocaine. He was sentenced to ten years in the State penal system, fined \$5,000, and must pay \$179.50 Court costs. He was represented by Attorney Ray Fargason.

Mark Almond Harr, 19, pled guilty to burglary of a building. He received a two year jail sentence probated five years, was fined \$1,500, must pay \$171.50 Court costs and restitution of \$4,752.81.



## \*Reminder\*

Booths for county Groups, Clubs and Individuals at the August 31

### Watermelon Festival

may be reserved until May 25. At that time, they will be available to out-of-area groups. Booths are only \$25.

For Arts & Crafts booths, contact either Inetta Teaff, 456-4022; Sonya Reed, 592,3249; Food - Betty Estep, 456-4424;

Entertainment - Jo Jackson, 732-8455; Game Activities, Debbie Garland.

## Watermelon Festival Contest

Help the Yoakum County Connection name the August 31st Watermelon Festival. Entries must be submitted by Wednesday, May 1, to Plains or Denver City Public Libraries or mailed to P. O. Box 38, Plains, TX 79355. Winner will receive a \$50 savings bond and be formally recognized at the festival. For more information call Ann Hartman at 592-2515 or Linda Powell at 456-3939.

Please Elect

# Wayne Sisson,

## PISD School Board Trustee District 4

*"I am sincerely interested in seeing our School System*

*continue striving for Excellence*

*In Education !"*

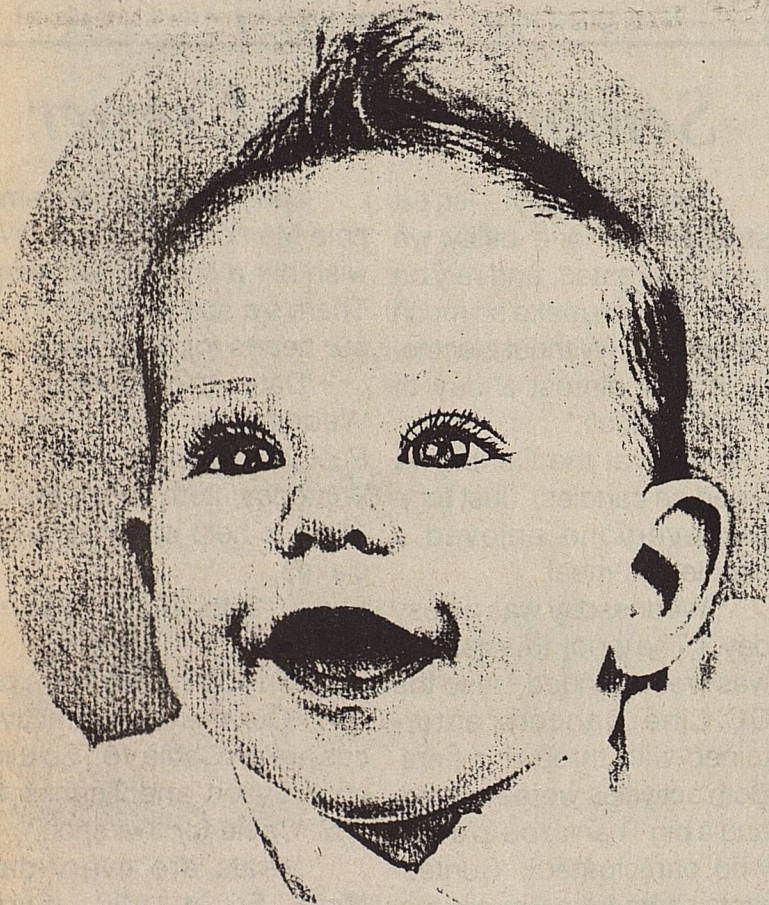
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Early Voting Is Now Taking Place thru April 30

## AGRIFACTS

### COTTON

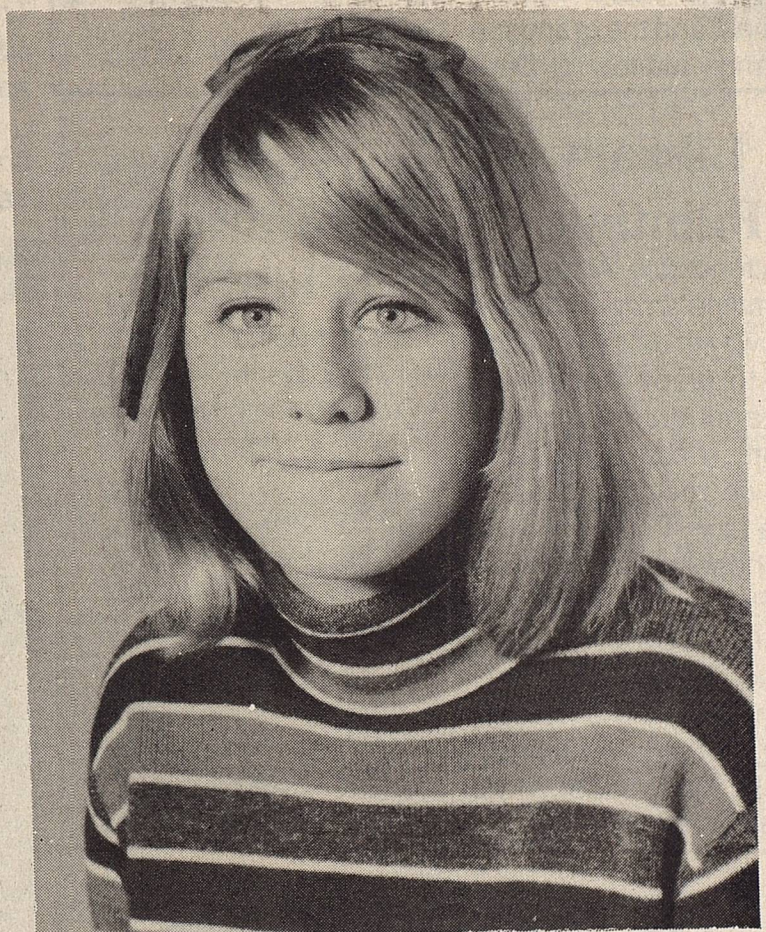
Cotton is the single most valuable crop grown in Texas, which has led all states in cotton production since 1880. Upland cotton producers harvested 4.5 million bales of cotton in 1995, down 8 percent from 1994. Overall, the crop turned out smaller than expected except in some isolated areas around the state.



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Old....  
Just Getting  
Better !!



Happy  
BIRTHDAY  
FROM  
YOUR  
YOUNGER  
Husband !





# 'Texas Tomorrow Fund' Produces Astounding Results

(Austin): State Comptroller John Sharp announced that Texas parents and grandparents have purchased \$372 million in prepaid college tuition contracts for 41,000 Texas youngsters, locking in the future costs of these children's college tuition at today's prices.

"We're still verifying the applications we've received, but so far it looks like the parents and grandparents of more than 41,000 children can now rest easy knowing that they'll be ready for college when their kids are," Sharp said.

In addition to tallying the final number of Texas Tomorrow Fund contracts, Sharp said he has noticed some interesting trends in the first round of participants.

"The college Class of 2018 is the single biggest group of beneficiaries," Sharp said. "Eleven percent of the contracts purchased this year were for students who will graduate from college 22 years from now."

"Overall, children from kindergarten through the sixth grade accounted for nearly half of all the future

college students signed up," Sharp said.

The initial enrollment period for the Texas Tomorrow Fund, which allows families to prepay the full costs of their children's college tuition and fees, ran from January 2 through April 1.

Sharp noted that Texans enrolled in the program have until May 1 to make their first payment. Those payments may be made in a single lump sum, in monthly installments over 5- and 10-year periods or in monthly installments until the prospective college student graduates from high school.

"Although Texas Tomorrow Fund families aren't required to name a specific school when they sign up, more than half of the parents and grandparents who purchased contracts this year named a specific college or university as their first choice," Sharp said. "And if their needs change later, they know that they can simply shift plans under this flexible program. In fact, some families have already done so."

Sharp said that one of

the surprises he found was the number of Texas Tomorrow Fund contracts purchased for high school seniors.

"We really didn't expect the first prepaid tuition plans to be used as early as this summer," Sharp said. "But it makes sense even for them, since tuition and required fees are expected to jump by as much as 11 percent between this year and next."

Four Texas Tomorrow Fund plans are available, including up to two years at any public junior college; up to four years at any public senior college or university; a combination junior-senior college plan for up to two years each; and up to four years at any private college or university in Texas.

Parents or grandparents who would like to receive information about the Texas Tomorrow Fund before the next enrollment period are urged to call toll-free at 1-800-445-GRAD. His staff has already answered more than 168,000 calls to the hotline.

Hillside Church of Christ  
Presents

In Pursuit of

# God

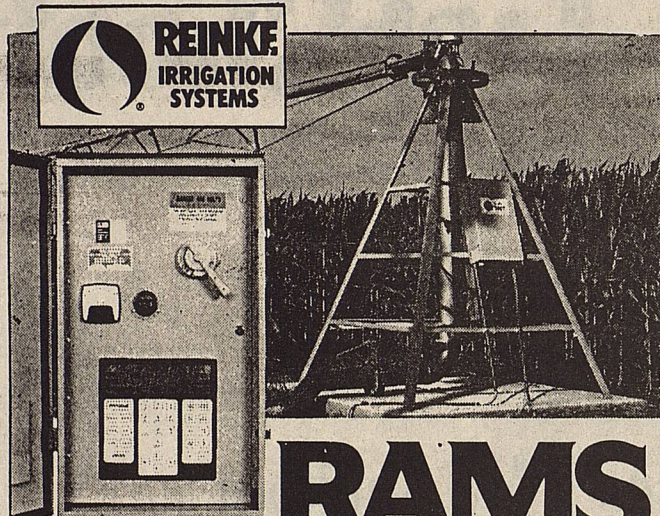
with Jimmy Sportsman  
of Ruidoso, New Mexico

Sunday April 28 - Wednesday May 1

Sunday: Bible Class 9:00 am Morning Worship 10:00  
Evening Worship 7:00  
Monday thru Wednesday nights: 7:30

15th and Copeland

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## Call Before You Dig

Are there utilities buried on your property? Chances are the answer is yes, whether it is power lines, gas lines, water pipes, cable TV lines, or telephone lines. Since this is a busy time for outdoor work, it is important to keep buried cable in mind if you or someone you've hired is digging on or near your property.

ALLTEL is encouraging all customers to call the Company's office before you start to dig. A service technician will be happy to come out and identify the exact location of our lines on your property. The call is free and so is the visit to locate the cable.

Puncturing a cable line

cannot only be costly...it can be dangerous, too. Additionally, telephone lines can be the lifelines for emergency services such as hospitals and fire or police departments. Cutting a cable could prevent customers or one of their neighbors from reaching these emergency services.

"Any time telephone service is disrupted, it's inconvenient for everyone involved," said Terry Beeler, vice president-operations. "That's why we want to avoid any unnecessary interruptions."

Customers wishing to make an inquiry about the location of buried telephone lines may call ALLTEL at 1-800-982-2280.



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## Keeping an eye on Texas

**Music greats**  
Texas stars shine in music halls of fame.

**Texas legends and their birthplaces:**

**Country Music Hall of Fame**

- 1 Gene Autry, Tioga
- 2 Vernon Dalhart, Jefferson
- 3 Lefty Frizzell, Corsicana
- 4 George Jones, Saratoga
- 5 Hubert Long, Poteet
- 6 Willie Nelson, Abbott
- 7 Tex Ritter and Jim Reeves, both from Panola Co.
- 8 Hank Thompson, Waco
- 9 Ernest Tubb, Crisp
- 10 Grant Turner, Abilene
- 11 Bob Wills, Kosse

**Rock and Roll Hall of Fame**

- 12 Buddy Holly, Lubbock
- 13 Janis Joplin, Port Arthur
- 14 Roy Orbison, Vernon
- 15 T-Bone Walker, Linden

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Music Office, Country Music Hall of Fame, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Texas Almanac.

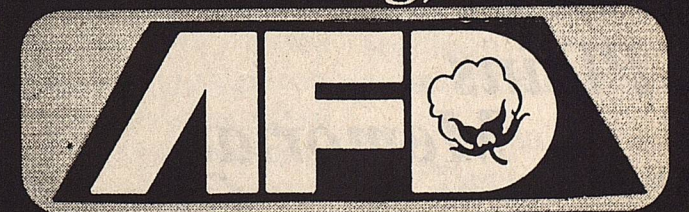
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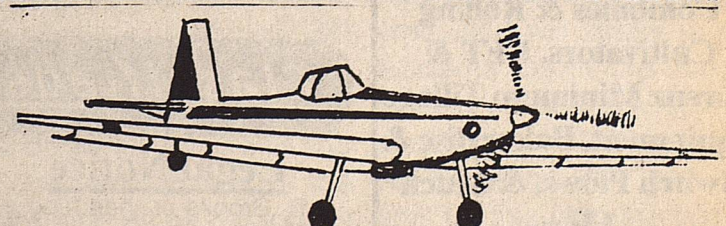
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# From The Hack



## Chronology Of A Near Disaster:

Tuesday, April 16, 10:15 AM; Print day for CCN. Always a bit hectic, depending on how much I have procrastinated, putting things off till the last minute, according to the Bride. We're scheduled to take the paper to Lovington in a little more than two hours, and for once, we're in pretty good shape... need to finish one special Ad, do the page numbers, check for some of the typos (we always leave a few, partly because we're lax, partly to give Jim Barnett something to do), when, ZAP, no juice, no computer.

No, I cannot repeat my first shriek of anguish. Visions of a trashed computer system raged thru my head. I frantically dialed City Hall. Ring, ring, ring. What is this, some sort of Holiday? The Bride and Diane Brown are standing there in shock, watching me frantically look for my keys, and then burn rubber to C.H. Gotta find out why we have no power!

I charge thru the door, and Suann Parrish and Pam Rowe must have thought it was a hold-up... they threw their hands up in the air in sync, and with perfect timing announced, "We didn't do it, we don't know what's wrong!". They sounded like a perfect duet. I probably did make a frightening spectacle. My blood pressure was probably pumped up enough to boost the Space Shuttle into orbit, and I could have been frothing at the mouth a small amount.

I next scorched a path to Lea County Electric, and Jeanette Head and other employees narrowly escaped my wrath when I was headed off in the parking lot by Don Burgess, who

also had a bit of drivel running down his chin, telling me, "The phones are all out, you gotta find a cellular phone that doesn't use a 456 prefix number!". Great. Only the Lord has one of those... wait... Maybe Jim Brown. I almost run over a pedestrian in front of the bank speeding to his office. I spy him, lollygagging with our daughter Debby Rushing, in Gary Walker's office.

I leap out of the pickup before it stops, slip on gravel and severely burn my unmentionable backside skidding up to the door. Nonchalantly, Brown ambles out in slow motion, grinning like a retarded oaf, and in a slow as syrup drawl asks, "Hey, Dyer, what's going on?". I instantly hate him for his lack of urgency.

I pant out my problem, threatening to return with a gun if he doesn't hook up his antique 638 cellar phone in the next three seconds.

Always a bit slow, you can almost see comprehension seeping thru Brown's cranium... power outage... no phones... COMPUTERS! It is now his turn to blaspheme, bitterly cursing fate, thinking of his own IBM plaything with all his insurance goodies stored in its innards. He speed dials Lea County Electric about 87 times in four minutes, and MIRACLE, finally gets thru somehow.

Not their fault, they assure us, sue Southwest Public Service.

Brown and I sit in his filthy pickup, tears imminently close. He finally looks at me, and says, like a true philosopher, "Whadda you think... wanna start drinking?". Naturally I nod yes, but tell him I can't. The Bride is still at home. And

some how, we have to get this paper printed today.

I creep home at 13 miles an hour, feeling like fate has taken a savage bite out of the most tender spot of my aging anatomy.

We wait. We wait. We wait. Of course lights, phones, computers are finally restored to use. We only lost one item out of hard drive, something none of had the slightest clue about anyway. We printed late that PM.

I will report one very positive aspect of the episode. Michael Dreyspring, the Managing Director of Lea County Electric Co-Op, displayed a great deal of class and concern by personally calling on us just minutes after power was restored all over town. He explained the major catastrophe which occurred at the SPS generating plant south of Muleshoe, apologized for the inconveniences caused when electricity for our use, purchased from SPS, was so suddenly cutoff. Lots of executives would not have thought of such a class act. Thanks, Mike.

OK, I may not have seen it all, but after Thursday evenings edition of CNN News, my horizons have broadened considerably. The broadcast featured an 'Academy Award' type extravaganza for the (pant, gasp, be still, my heart) ladies cosmetics industry.

Fascinating. Awards were given for a new nail cover-upper... an exotic blend of black blended with red... to my untutored eyes, it looked like day old dried blood. Never-the-less, it won an award, some sort of sexy looking glass statue of a scantily clad, superbly sculpted female anatomy. Honest, the statue looked much better to me than the goop on a girls fingernails.

Then there was the kiss proof lipstick. No, no, not to mean it was unmissable... when applied to a luscious

\*\*\*\*\*

### \*NOTICE\*

The new Lea County Electric Cooperative toll free number is now operative. Customers and prospective customers may now call the company without charge by dialing 1-800-510-5232. In another effort to improve service and convenience for customers living in or joining business in Texas, the Lovington business office is now open and taking these toll free calls one hour earlier, 8am, Texas time.

looking female model, as appeared in the segment, it would not TRANSFER to KISSEE. I think that's right, the one getting bussed. No trace of incriminating evidence, in some unseemly circumstances. This I could see some merit in... especially 20 or 30 years ago. Nope, make that 35, just in case the Bride stoops to read this mess. There were other awards which sort of mystified me - exfoliating formulas, for example. Now, DE-foliating, I am familiar with. You defoliate plants, like cotton. Exfoliating, the Bride explained, is sorta like chemically removing a layer of dead skin, particularly around the facial areas. Bet you hairy chested male types never thought dead skin was such a big deal, did you? I hear the subject of dead skin of any type is still the paramount subject of choice among those of the weaker sex frequenting beauty parlors each week. Especially the middle aged-married types. Hmmm.

I felt like I had lost an old friend when it was announced Monday Columnist Erma Bombeck passed away. She was 69, a rev-

elation to me. For some reason I had the impression she was much younger, probably because of her never faltering sense of humor.

She loved to poke fun at modern society in general, but had even more fun ridiculing her own kids, her husband, and especially herself. I've always had a theory; one's sense of humor rating could stand great improvement if one can't see something amusing, puzzling, or hilarious about one's self. Erma Bombeck recognized and poked fun at her own short comings in a masterful manner.

The last Bombeck column I read dealt with two of her favorite subjects; kids and

school, "If all the innovative teaching techniques" guaranteed to improve education during the last 20 years actually worked, kids could now phone in for instruction. They could press 1 for the teacher, 2 for the school nurse, and 3 for the field trip schedule. The drop-out rate among parents - yes, parents - has been phenomenal during these two decades. They can't help their kids with homework because they don't understand the question. Math is a foreign language, and don't even think about talking technology to a couple with a household of clocks that blink all the time.

## Jr. High Tennis Tournament

- 8th Grade**  
 Girls Singles Champion - Velvet Canada  
 Girls Doubles - 3rd Place - Jessica Flores & Laura Morales  
 Boys Singles - 3rd Place - Justin Bennett  
 Boys Doubles - 3rd Place - Rustin Knight & Jeremy Humphrey  
**7th Grade**  
 Girls Doubles - Champions Elva Ruiz & Tanya Vasquez  
 Girls Doubles - 2nd Place Lexi Warren & Emily Blair  
 Boys Singles - Champion - Greg Gonzales  
 Boys Singles - 2nd Place - Sterling Deaton  
 Boys Doubles - Champions Kelsey Blundell & Dustin Six  
 Boys Doubles - 2nd Place Aaron Cain & Adam Garcia

# Benefit TrapShoot

April 27, 1996  
1:00 PM

No Prizes - No Jackpot

All Money Goes To Tony Keel Electric Wheel Chair Fund

Browning 12 Gauge Automatic Shotgun  
To Be Given Away At 5:00 PM

Tickets - \$5.00 Each

1 mile North of Denver City,  
Turn East on FM 1939 go 3 miles.

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## Now Open To Serve You Plains Memorial Chapel

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Farm Safety Monthly Memo  
Falls are one of the most common causes of injuries to farm children. Kids don't fear heights and love to climb. Silos, grain bins and other tall structures should be off-limits to your children.

### Classifieds

#### Legal Notice

E.B. Brooks Jr. has filed a rule 37 permit to re-enter the No. 1 Fouts in Sec. 575, Block D, J.H. Gibson Survey, Yoakum Co., Texas. The location of this well is 1207' FNL and 155' FWL of Sec. 575.

Massey Ferguson, Kubota, Bush Hog Shredders, Lilliston Peanut Combines & Rolling Cultivators, UFT & Lorenz Minimum Tillage Equipment, Baker disc & Switch Plows, & Much More.  
**Terry County Tractor**  
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