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Cowboy Country News

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



Volume III, Issue 52, Wednesday, Aug. 27, 1997

City takes action to lower all local residential electric billing rates

A series of special and regular City of Plains Council meetings has produced good news for residents.

On June 19, 1997, the Board of Trustees of Lea County Electric Cooperative adopted a resolution to seek a rate reduction for the Cooperative's members within the City of Plains by applying the Cooperative's existing Texas rates to all of its corresponding customer classifications within the City.

In a special meeting August 19, the Council unanimously approved the Cooperative's request to lower rates for their customers. The effective date for the new rates is September 1, although it is not known at this time when the Cooperative's billing process will first reflect the lower rates.

During the following regular meeting on August 25, the Council voted to lower electric rates for its City system customers, the rates to match Lea County Electric's new lower

rates. City Administrator David Brunson said the rate reductions by both entities will be quite apparent on their customers electric bills. "The average residential customer here uses about 655 kilowatt hours (KWH) of electricity per month. Under the old rate structure, both the Cooperative and City customers, the average bill for that consumption of power would be \$46.63. The new rates will lower that amount to \$38.34, a savings of \$8.29 per month, a 17.7% reduction.

Another piece of good news for tax payers was produced during the Monday night meeting. Last year's tax assessment rate of .515 cents per \$100 valuation was lowered in the 1997-98 City Budget to .4891 cents per \$100 valuation.

Administrator Brunson said the Council approved an adjustment in the City Sewer rates, a department which has suffered financial losses for a number of years.

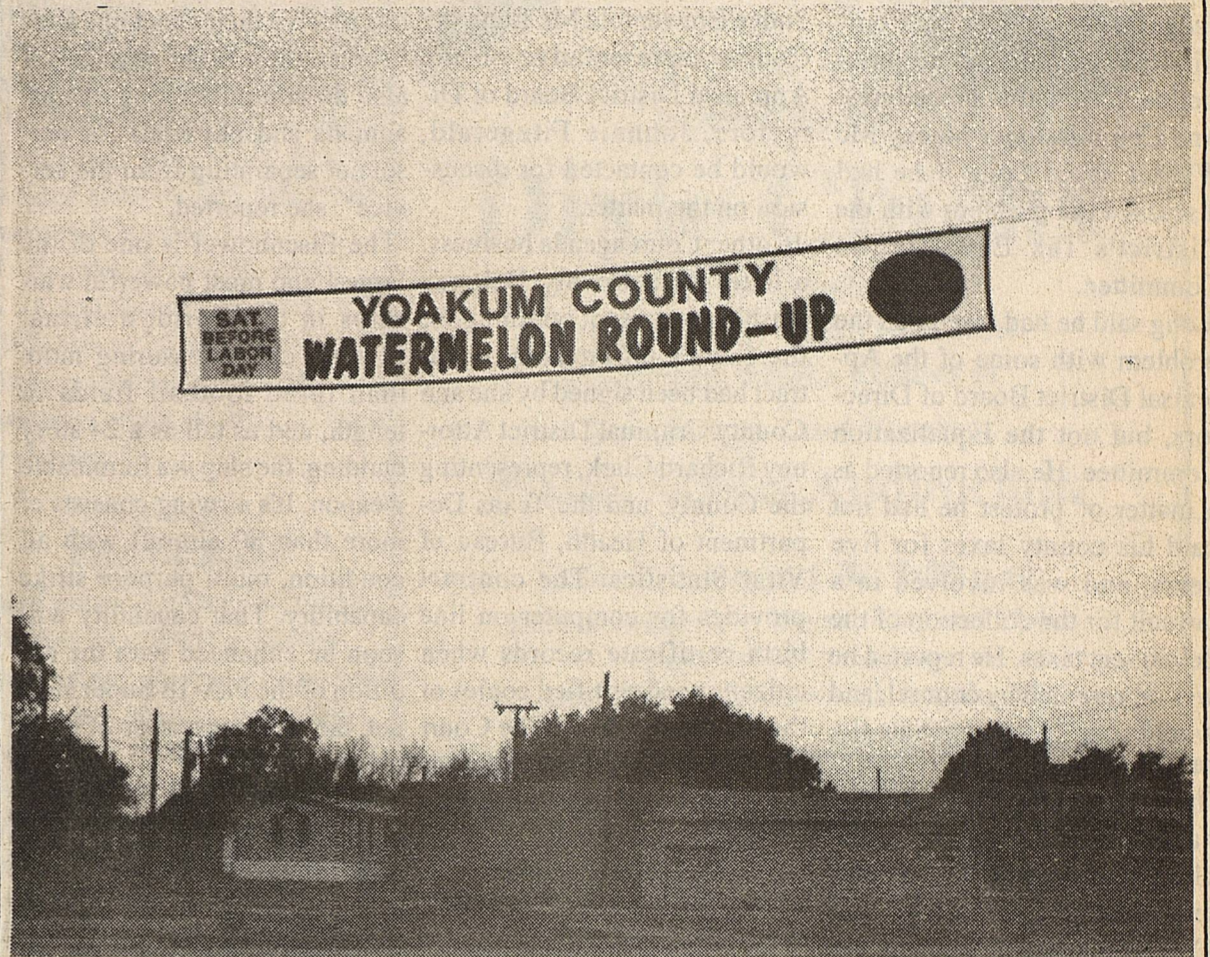
The three recent special and regular Council meetings have been well attended by a number of City residents. In discussing the recent decisions with some of the visitors, they expressed their approval of the Council's actions on the lower electric rates.

Council members Kent Welch and Shane McKenzie both expressed their pleasure with approving the Lea County Electric rate reduction proposal, and being able to lower electric rates for the City's customers as well. Terry Davis, a Cooperative Board Trustee, said he was appreciative of the Council's decision, and knew it would benefit city customers.

Earlier this year, Lea County Electric had responded to the City's request for proposal of a possible buyout of the City Electric distribution system. Their purchase offer was rejected by

Turn to Page 3,
'Electric Rates'

It's almost time for #2 !



When the Second Annual Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up kicks off this Saturday morning on the Courthouse Square, the months of planning and preliminary work by dozens of members of the Yoakum County Connection and countless other volunteers will hopefully result in a repeat success of the first Round Up last August. No official count of last years attendance was possible, but reliable estimates indicate at least two to three thousand visitors took in the day long festival, celebrating the County's famed watermelon production.

This years event should be even bigger and better, with more entertainment, games, food, music and exhibition booths. The celebration gets underway Saturday morning with the start of the Chili and Brisket Cookoff at 8 a.m. in Stanford Park, and the 5 Kilometer Run at 9 a.m. just north of the Courthouse. A complete Round Up schedule can be found on page seven of this issue of CCN.

If you have not already invited your out of town relatives and friends to attend the Round Up, you owe it to them to do so TODAY!

Watch For Aircraft On Cemetery, Airport Road



Because of construction work on runways at the Plains airport, aircraft are currently using the county road leading to the cemetery and airport for landing and take offs.

In an emergency session of Commissioners Court at 1:30

p.m. Thursday, the court approved the use of the county road by aircraft during the construction period.

Warning signs about the aircraft are in place on the road, and when aerial spray planes of GB Aerial Application and Two J's

Flying Service use the road, flaggers will be on hand to warn motorists of the planes.

All motorists using the road are urged to be on the lookout for aircraft on the road. It is not known at this time how long the runways will be unavailable.

Lions hear report on trip to Africa

At last week's Thursday Lions Club meeting, guest speaker Darrell Bethany of Denver City told members and guest of some of his experiences on a church sponsored trip to Ghana, Africa. At the time of his trip he was Pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church.

He related the long, tiring jet flight included a stop in Lagos, Nigeria, where he said it was very obvious many of the people and most officials were not overly fond of whites. At one government check point, a guard stuck a loaded AK-47 assault rifle to his throat before examining his papers.

He said the atmosphere in the nation of Ghana was completely the opposite, and both officials and ordinary citizens went out of their way to welcome him, and all of them were greatly interested in his preaching and teaching efforts. Some of the unusual places where he preached included the courtyard of a jail, schools, hospitals and numerous government build-

ings. He reported one Ghanaian Judge held up the proceedings he was presiding over to welcome him to his court.



Darrell Bethany displays paper published in Accra, Ghana

Bethany said Ghanaian children were like all children, very curious; "The younger ones would tag along beside me, and many times they would take my hand and rub it vigorously, to see if the 'white' would rub off".

He told the Lions the poverty stricken country's cooking and food were not high on his list of favorites, and he lost over thirty pounds there in two weeks. He

said the Ghanaian churches are lively places, with the members chanting, singing and dancing when they took up the day's collection. "They would take their coins and bills, and stick their hands deep in a very large bowl, and told me our donations are between us and God".

He reported former President Jimmy Carter is still a big hero in the nation, for federal assistance given to Ghana when he was in office, and TV personality Oprah Winfrey is easily the favorite American person in the country.

Bethany said inflation is rampant in Ghana. At the time of his trip, their currency unit, called 'Cedis', were being exchanged at the rate of 1,250 to one US dollar. Because of the relative cheapness of many goods and services in Ghana, he reported a Seminary student there could attend school an entire year for \$1,000 US dollars.

His flight home, eastbound with the sun, lasted 36 hours, with the sun shining all the way.

Join us at the Watermelon Round Up for fun, music, & food

Court hears complaint of unequal valuations

In Commissioners Court Monday, Denver City resident and businessman Jimmy Long addressed the court on what he considers unfair and unequal valuation of personal property in the county. He distributed literature to the Court he reported was obtained from the local Appraisal District office showing what he maintains is unequal and unrealistic valuations of a number of business firms in Denver City. Long maintains tax valuation of his property is out of line compared to a number of the firms contained in the literature. Judge Brewer pointed out Commissioners Court had no jurisdiction in valuation procedures, and Commissioner Macky McWhirter asked Long if he had discussed the problem with the District's Tax Equalization Committee. Long said he had discussed the problem with some of the Appraisal District Board of Directors, but not the Equalization Committee. He also reported as a matter of protest he had not paid his county taxes for five years, and was involved in a lawsuit for the collection of the delinquent taxes. He reported he was represented by counsel, and would soon try to negotiate the settlement of the suit. Included in the material Long handed to the Court was a brochure dealing with Texas property taxes, prepared by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

A portion of the document contained the following paragraph: "All property must be valued and taxed equally and uniformly. This applies to similar types of property-for example, all residential homes-and to differing types of property-for example, commercial properties and utility properties. No single property or type of properties should pay more than its fair share of taxes". Long said this was the basis for his protest, and noted "For every \$100,000 lost in appraisal valuation, the county loses \$2,000 in tax revenue". Judge Brewer told Mr. Long the Court's representative on the Appraisal District Board of Directors, Johnnie Fitzgerald, would be contacted for discussion on the matter. In other Court agenda business, a letter from County Deborah Rushing was read, outlining for the Court's information a contract had been signed by she and County Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark, representing the County, and the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. The contract provides for computer on line birth certificate records when citizens need certified copies of the documents here. The Court voted to accept the contract, noting it will simplify and speed up accessing the records.

Some grow with responsibility; many others just swell.

Tammy Lowrey onboard USS Eisenhower

Tammy Lowrey, daughter of Jerry Lowrey of Tokio and a 1994 graduate of Plains High School, is currently aboard the Norfolk, Virginia based aircraft carrier, the USS Dwight Eisenhower.

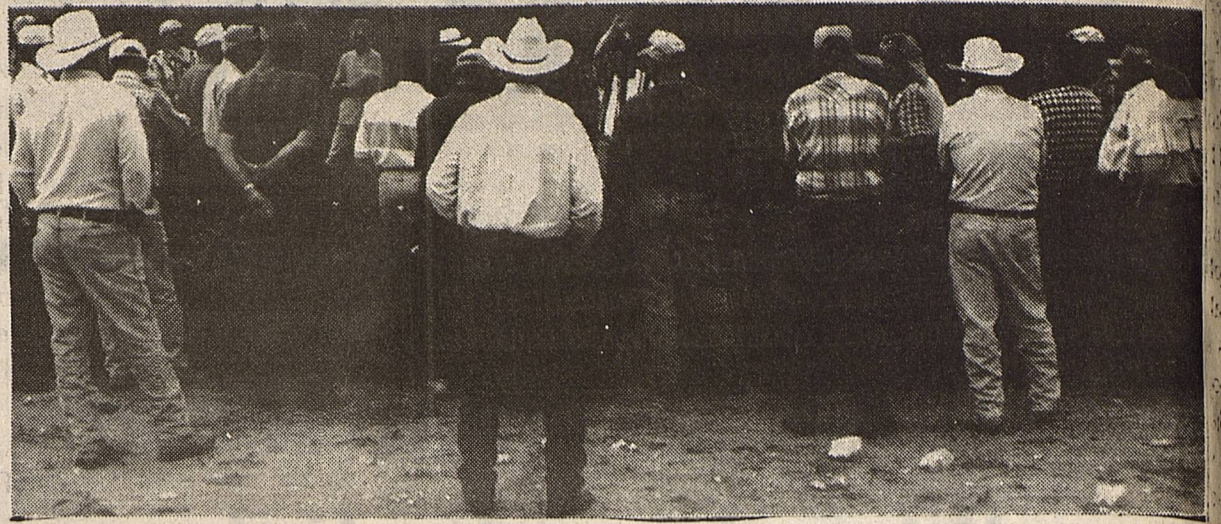
Lowrey said she joined the Navy to gain experience as a medical technician. Her research on military service indicated the Navy offers one of the best medical programs. Petty Officer 3rd Class Lowrey is a hospital corpsman who provides health care to more than 5,000 Navy men and women aboard the Eisenhower. "I work in aviation medicine, where pilots receive their checkups after I screen their flight physicals. I also do commissioning exams, annuals and physicals for personnel separating from the service", she reported.

The Eisenhower is one of the largest and most powerful warships in the world, a virtual floating city. Measuring more than three football fields in length, and as tall as a 24 story building, the ship is a formidable weapon. It's airwing consists of more than 80 aircraft with all condition, multi purpose strike capability. That capability will soon be enhanced with the addition of the F/A-18 Super Hornet, the next generation of night strike aircraft.

The hospital corpsman said, "I was promoted to third class petty officer after only a year in a Navy competitive rating. I've learned to take care of people, and I will take the knowledge and training I've learned with me in the future". When her military obligation is complete, she expects to attend college, obtain a degree, and settle down again in Texas.

Navy Public Affairs Center, Norfolk, Va.

Producers hear current crop assessed on field day tour



Area producers hear Dr. Randy Boman assess a county cotton field.

Several dozen agricultural producers toured county cotton and peanut production sites last Monday on the Ag Extension Service sponsored Field Day. Dr. Randy Boman, Area Extension Agronomist, assessed this year's cotton crop as slightly above average, but probably not as good overall as the 1996 crop. Phillip Kidd, Extension Agent-Integrated Pest Management reviewed

current and predicted insect problems cotton producers face this year (See Kidd's column on page three). Dr. Mike Schubert, Extension Peanut Specialist, described this year's peanut crop as better than average. All of the specialists indicated both the cotton and peanut crops currently need more heat units, and a late frost and freeze to reach maximum yields.

The area of Gaines, Dawson, Terry and Yoakum counties are experiencing rapid growth in acres planted to peanuts. Estimates indicate as many as 90,000 acres in the four counties are planted to the nuts. In Terry County alone, peanut acreage increased from some 7,500 to more than 25,000 acres, with even more acreage probably going to peanut production in 1998.

Assault, drug cases heard in District Court

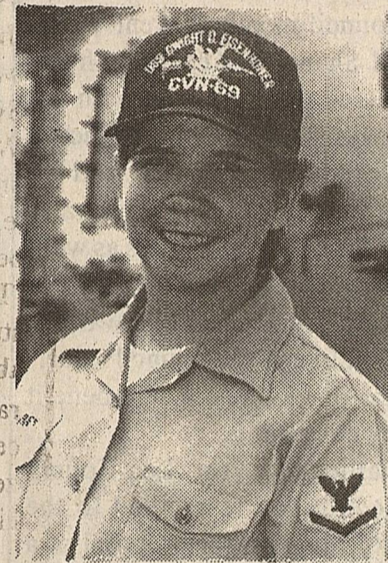
Three criminal cases were heard in the 121st Judicial District Court on August 21, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Raymond Montes Arenivas, 33, pled true to the State's motion to revoke Community Supervision, stemming from the offense of possession of heroin. He was sentenced to five years in the State prison system, with credit for 174 days served in jail, and must pay restitution of \$3,923.90 to T.M.L. Workers Compensation. He was represented by Attorney Warren New.

Marcelino Garcia Perez, Jr., 38, pled guilty to the charge of aggravated assault against a peace officer. He received a five year prison sentence, suspended and probated five years. He was fined \$1500, must pay \$200 court appointed attorney fees and \$171.50 court costs. He was

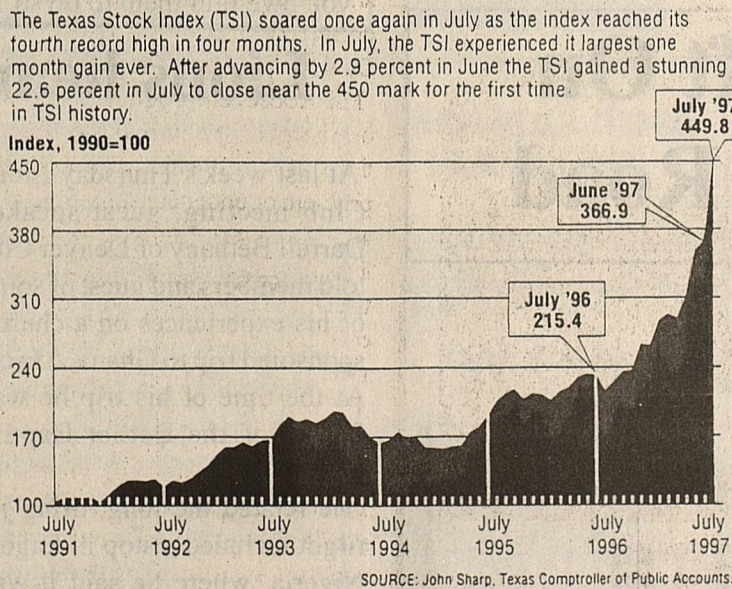
sentenced to 60 days in jail, with credit for 48 days served. He must perform 320 hours community service, attend AA weekly meetings, complete the batterers intervention prevention program and submit to urinalysis, all at his expense. He was represented by Attorney Jerry Corbin.

Arnold Garza Cordova, 31, pled guilty to cocaine possession. He received a two year prison sentence, suspended and probated 5 years, was fined \$1500, must pay \$250 court appointed attorney fees, \$140 restitution to the DPS Lab, and court costs of \$181.50. A charge of possession of 2 ounces or less of marijuana was adjudicated. He must serve 30 days in jail with credit for one day served, perform 120 hours community service, attend weekly AA meetings, and obtain drug/alcohol dependency evaluation and submit to urinalysis.



PO 3 Tammy Lowrey US Navy photo

Texas Stock Index



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IPM UPDATE

by Phillip Kidd
Extension Agent-IPM

Recent rainfall will be adequate to finish the cotton crop throughout most of Terry and Yoakum Counties. Some areas have received as much as five inches of rain the last two weeks. Total rainfall for the year was 14.5 inches at the TTU Production Lab north of Brownfield as of August 18.

A second flury of bollworms has prompted treatment in many area fields. Pyrethroids are generally the products of choice at this time. The treatment threshold ranges from 7500 bollworms per acre, depending on the stage of the cotton.

If aphid numbers appear to be increasing (and they generally are) and the field needs to be treated with a pyrethroid, producers should consider tank-mixing with an aphicide.

TDA issued a section 24C for Furadan 4F in cotton August 15. This product is currently the most effective (99% reduction in this year's test) and probably the cheapest available product for aphid control. Save this product for rapidly building or economical aphid infestations. Though shown to be 99% effective, there is still that 1% left out there. If we overuse Furadan, the entire population will soon be composed primarily of genetic clones of the 1% it failed to control. This process is called "selection", and is why many of the previously effective materials no longer provide adequate control. ALWAYS alternate products when making multiple applications.

Don't be afraid of the "harder" weevil materials after cutout. They provide some of the cheapest and most effective weevil control. Other pests, including aphids, should be considered secondary at this point. Keep in mind, many products used for aphid control, such as Bidrin and Lorsban are also effective on weevils. If, however, weevils are building out of control, go straight to the 'hard stuff' and worry about aphids later.

A Watermelon Field Day will be held at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center in Lubbock on September 5, starting at 10 a.m. All watermelon growers and agribusiness people are invited, and will see 17 seedless melon varieties, 17 standard hybrid varieties, and plastic mulch culture system with drip irrigation.



**School has started...
please drive carefully,
& protect our kids!**

Aggieland is smartest place in state, report says

An Associated Press article in a recent issue of the Austin American Statesman should warm the hearts of all present and past Texas A&M Aggies, and give pause to all those Aggie jokes.

Bryan-College Station, the home of Texas A&M University, is the smartest community in Texas and the fourth-smartest nationwide, according to the Aug. 18 edition of Fortune magazine.

Communities were ranked by the percentage of population holding a four-year college degree.

Heading the list was Iowa City. Iowa, home of the University of Iowa, with 20 percent. Stamford, Conn., home of the University of Connecticut, followed with 17.6 percent. Third was Champaign, Ill., home of University of Illinois—Urbana/Champaign with 17.8 percent. Tying Texas A&M for fourth, with 17.2 percent, was Bloomington, Ind., home of Indiana University.

**Reminder...
Chamber of
Commerce meets
Tuesday, Sept. 9,
7 am, Johnnie's**

Bryan-College Station was the highest-ranked of four Big 12 university cities listed in the ranking, including Lawrence, Kan., Boulder, Colo., and Columbia, Mo. Those cities are home to the universities of Kansas, Colorado, and Missouri.

The study was conducted by Moran Stahi & Boyer, a consulting firm that specializes in business location selection. It concluded that so many Midwestern cities made the list because people attend state universities and then "stay because of the low cost of living and abundance of jobs."

Joe Brown, city of Bryan spokesman, said that while Texas A&M's proximity definitely helped, another factor was the high number of college graduates who work for the school districts and other government entities.

So what does it all mean?

According to firm consultant Will Heam, "Companies dependent on formally educated employees might do best in these locations."

From Page 1,
'Electric Rates'

the Council, and they no longer express an interest to acquire the system. Brunson reported two other electric companies, Southwest Public Service and West Texas Utilities, have shown interest in the City system, but formal offers have not been presented to the City.

The Council will continue to study a number of options available to secure lower wholesale rates, and are seriously concerned with protecting the citizens' sizable investment in the city owned electric system.

'The New Deal'

Appealing to the "forgotten man at the bottom of the economic pyramid", Franklin D. Roosevelt in his campaign set forth a program of economic nationalism and social reconstruction already popularly known as the "New Deal".

The Roosevelt program is based on the philosophy that the function of government is to meet "the problem of under consumption, of adjusting production to consumption, distributing wealth and products more equitably, and adopting economic organizations to the service of the people..."

Herbert Hoover has predicted if the New Deal should come to power, "the grass will grow in streets of a hundred cities, a thousand towns; the weeds will overrun the fields of millions of farms."

THE TEXAS NEWS,
November, 1932

Music Celebration Following the Watermelon Round Up



Featuring the

Dixie Chicks

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Saturday, August 30, 7:00 p.m.

Tickets available at Denver City and Plains

Chamber of Commerce

Adults \$10 Children 12 & under \$5

McGinty Named Assistant Ag Extension Agent


Commissioners of Howard County have tentatively approved Brandon McGinty, 24, of Plains to become the new assistant county extension agent for agriculture.

McGinty is a recent graduate of Tarleton State University and, according to County Extension Agent David Kight, has good experience in cotton production and grew up as a fourth generation farmer/rancher.

"Brandon was raised on a farm and ranch operation and also grew up as part of the 4H youth project," Kight said. "His first day on the job will be August, 25."

Agricultural experience for McGinty includes a 14-week internship with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Mitchell County (Colorado City) working with cotton, 4-H animal projects and range land. Other experiences for McGinty include working in entomology, as a ranch manager and with the artificial insemination of beef cattle.

McGinty was recognized as the Outstanding senior in agriculture while at Tarleton State, received the Star Greenhand award while at Plains High School and was a 10-year member in 4-H.

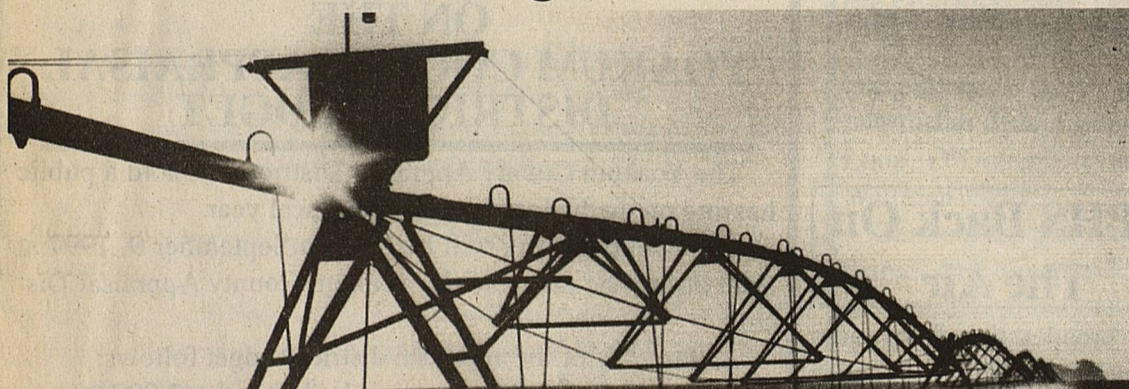
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3. Long-Term Low-Rate Financing

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Or

4. NO PAYMENT UNTIL JANUARY 1999

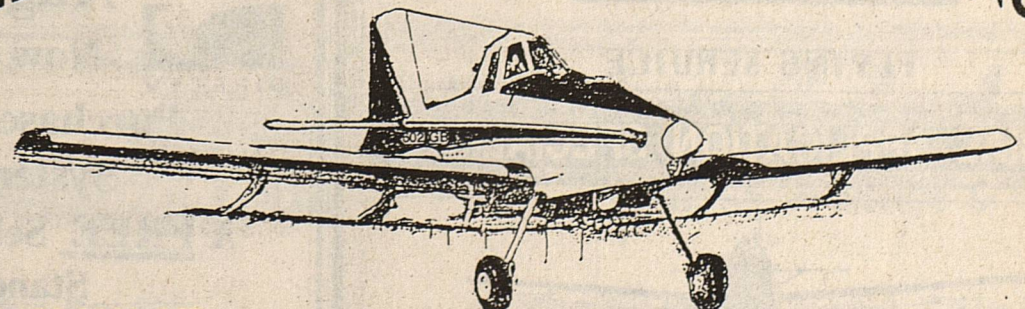
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Liquid Application

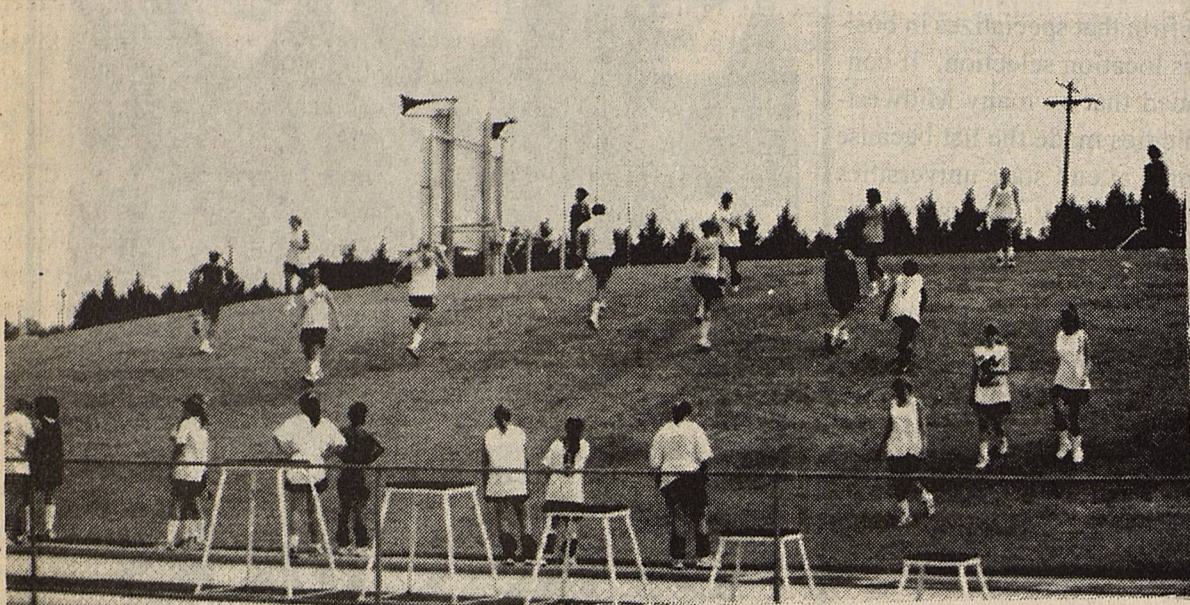
David and Sarah Guetersloh



P.I.S.D Activity Page



Volleyball Girls Conquer "Mount Agony"



Something new was added to the PHS Girls Volleyball Program earlier this year, and the young athletes were not exactly overjoyed with the new wrinkle. They had to "run the hill" on the north side of Cowboy field as part of their physical conditioning routine. At first glance, the hill is not very long or steep, but after repeated running, even skipping up the slope, it takes on the aspects of Mt. Everest. Head Volleyball Cheryl Scott said the exercise would strengthen the girls legs, and hopefully cut down on knee injuries, and added, "Besides, why should we let the boys out for football have all the fun"?

PISD Volleyball Rosters

SEVENTH

Megan Allsup
Chelsea Blount
La Shonda Diamond
JoAnna Diaz
Elda Fierro
Crystal Garcia
Sandra Gallegos
Krystal Gonzalez
Jill Gray
Isamari Guzman
Jessica Knight
Jill Krebsbach
Kimberly Martinez
Jessica Rodriguez
Mandi Rogers
Shandi Sellers
Kayla Willis
Liz Wilmeth
Mackenzie Winn
Manager: Elizabeth Rodriguez

FRESHMAN

Tanya Vasquez
Lexi Warren
Kari Guetersloh
Michaela Traweck
Frances Cordova
Kim Willis
Kimberlee Jones
Amanda Garcia
Nicole Haynes
Leslie Rowe
Emily Blair
Roxy Fuentes

Varsity

Patty Ruiz
Summer Howard
Velvet Canada
Jessica Flores
Kayla Redman
Monica Lazos

EIGHTH

Dominga Avila
Erica Bell
Allison Butler
Elizabeth Clanahan
Becky Coronel
Wendy Fierro
Julie Gonzales
Ashley Gonzalez
Nancy Koncaba
Arasely Luna
Carmen Mendoza
Esmeralda Moreno
Annaliesha O'Quinn
Liz Ramirez
Josie Ramos
Chelsi Wagnon
Becky Wilmeth
Manager: Ragan McGinty

Coaches: Terry Petty and Linda Haragan

JUNIOR VARSITY

Tanya Vasquez
Kari Guetersloh
Shay Allsup
Staci Tuggle
Autumn Deaton
Kimberlee Jones
Laura Morales
Rebecca Robertson
Audra Ellis
Marcey House
Elva Ruiz

Varsity

Candace Bowers
Sandi Warren
Lindsey Six
LaCresha Johnson
Jolyne Burgess

Coaches: Head Coach Cheryl Scott & Assistant Coach Michell Lusk

PHS Volleyball Recap

The following is a summary of recent JV and Varsity Volleyball games and tournament action: JV - In the JV girls first outing against Lubbock High on August 19, They were downed in straight sets 12-15 and 9-15.

They next played in the Monahans Tournament. The fell to Monahans 11-15, 10-15 then came back to down Colorado City 15-2, 5-15 and 15-2, then stopped Kermit 17-15, 7-15 and 15-8.

Coch Lusk said, "The girls are working hard and adjusting well to high school volleyball. Their transition from offense to defense is getting better and better, and they are playing with more confidence".

Varsity: In the Cowgirls opener August 19, they faced Lubbock High and lost a close one, 12-15, 15-7 and 15-17. In the Monahans tournament, they won over Presidio 15-8, 15-6, but were stopped by Marathon 6-15 and 8-15, and by Fabens 11-15, 14-16.

Coch Scott said "the girls improved with each game, and are starting to play with more power, really hitting the ball hard. They're staying focused, and are really working hard".

We are unable to feature the Students of the Week because the school's polaroid film doesn't work

School Calendar & Menu

Thursday; Breakfast- waffles & syrup or breakfast bars, fruit punch, milk.

Lunch- Chicken enchiladas w/ salsa, beans, Spanish rice, crackers, apple cobbler, milk.

Friday; Breakfast- Cereal & toast or breakfast bars, orange/pine-apple juice, milk.

Lunch- Smoked ham, bar BQ sauce, potato salad, Ranch Style Beans, watermelon, milk.

Monday, 9-1- School Holiday.

Tuesday, 9-2- Volleyball, Tatum/Lovington, 9th, JV, V, at Tatum, 4:30pm MDT.

Thursday, 9-4- Football, Abernathy, JV, there, 8 pm.

Friday, 9-5- Football, Varsity, Abernathy here, 8 pm. Volleyball, Clovis Tournament.

Saturday, 9-6 - Volleyball, Snyder Tourn., 9th, JV. Volleyball, JV, Levelland, here, 11 am. Clovis Tourn. continues.

MENU:

Tuesday, 9-2- Breakfast- donuts & toast or breakfast bars, apple juice, raisins, milk.

Lunch- Taco Bell bean burritos, Mexican corn, carrot sticks & dip, crackers, cobbler, milk.

Wednesday, 9-3 - Breakfast- Cinn. toast or breakfast bars, raisins, OJ, milk.

Lunch- Cheeseburger, fritos, fruit cocktail, peanut butter cookies, milk.

Thursday, 9-4 - Breakfasts- pancakes & syrup or breakfast bars, fruit punch, milk.

Lunch- Steak fingers, green beans, buttered carrots, hot rolls, vanilla wafers, milk.

Friday, 9-5 - Breakfast- Cereal & toast or breakfast bars, orange/pineapple juice, raisins, milk.

Lunch - Pork Chops & gravy, rice, tossed salad, rolls, watermelon.

KPHS Back On The Air

Live broadcasting from radio station KPHS, 90.3 FM, began Monday morning at Plains High.

Senior broadcasters include Kipp Blount, first period, Tanya Hernandez, Jonah Moreno and Chris Willett, second period, Jamie Caballero, Kassie Lowe and Lindsey Six, third period, Heath Bowlin and Shawna Box, fourth period, Shawn Cullins, Gideon Traweck, fifth period, Monica Lazos and Christy Ruiz, sixth period, and Conchetta San Filippo and Tony San Filippo, seventh.

The day's broadcasting includes a variety of music and a schedule of school activities and news

1997 Cowboys Football Roster

NO.	NAME	POSITION	CLASS	WT.
1	Will St. Romain	WR	Sr.	150
7	Tanner Blount	QB	Jr.	150
8				
10	Kyle Sisson	QB	Soph.	135
11	Isreal Moreno	WR	Fr.	120
12	David Luna	WR	Soph	150
17	Abraham Garcia	QB	Sr.	180
20	Adam Garcia	B	Fr.	130
21	Chris Willett	B	Sr.	180
22	Eric Luna	B	Sr.	160
24	Joel Gallegos	B	Fr.	160
28	Jesus Hernandez	B	Sr.	170
32	Fermin Luna	B	Soph.	150
33	Brett Squyres	B	Fr.	140
40	Vincent Delgado	WR	Jr.	140
44	Jeremy Morphis	TE	Soph.	150
48	Mike Bell	B	Jr.	200
51	Armando Luna	T	Fr.	230
52	Josh Bell	C	Soph.	170
54	Dustin Brunson	G	Jr.	200
55	Cosme Casillas	T	Jr.	160
60				
62	Shain Bearden	G	Jr.	240
65	Isaac Gonzalez	T	Soph.	170
67	Chris Willis	T	Soph.	170
70	Chris Gscheidle	T	Fr.	170
71	Heath Bowlin	C	Jr.	170
72	Jeremy Ponce	T	Soph.	160
74	Steven Bunch	G	Jr.	180
76	Derek Brunson	T	Sr.	210
78	Skyler Johnson	T	Fr.	170
79	Alex Tarango	G	Soph.	210
80	Marcus Hernandez	WR	Fr.	160
83	Jesus Garcia	E	Soph.	140
85	Sterling Deaton	WR	Fr.	100

COACHES; Larry McMinn, Edwin Brink, David Williams, Evert McAdams, Michael Davis.

CHEERLEADERS; Shawna Box, Shyloh Winn, Maranda Box, Krystle Blundell, Autumn Deaton, Kari Guetersloh. Sponsor-Karol Morgan

COWBOY BAND DIRECTOR; Byron Morgan.

DRUM MAJORS; Juanita Rodriguez, Cassie Dearing.

The Cowboys open the season here against Abernathy Sept. 5, 8 p.m.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE YOAKUM COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BUDGET

The Yoakum County Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on the budget for the 1998 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on September 9, 1997 at 2:00 PM in the office of the Yoakum County Appraisal District.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

*Total amount of the appraisal budget is \$242,098.00.

*The total amount of decrease from the current year's appraisal budget is \$8,660.

*The total number of employees compensated in the 1998 budget will be 2 full-time employees.

*The total number of employees under the current budget is 2 full-time employees.

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the appraisal district.

By final approval by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, the budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts and cities served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the budget is available for inspection in the office of each of the governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the Appraisal District Office.

**YOAKUM COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT
500 COWBOY WAY
PLAINS, TEXAS 79355
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Femme Friends



HOWDY!

By: *Kathy Adair*



Snack Time Can Be Fun Time--Check-out These Recipes

When kids come home from a long day at school, they're often ready for a snack. But teats don't always have to be cookies and milk. Parents can make eating healthy and fun—all it takes is a little imagination and preparation.

It is important to involve your children in all aspects of food and snack plans, including making lists, shopping and preparation.

Kids will be more likely to eat fruit salad or other healthy snacks if they took part in preparing them. If your children are too young to prepare a snack by themselves, make snack preparation an evening pastime.

Fresh fruits and vegetables are beneficial because they are rich in many nutrients that children need to support growth and development. Serving them as snacks can also make up for the missed serving in regular meals.

Including kids in the preparation is easy. It may involve cutting up fresh fruits and making a yogurt dip or making homemade pizza that will be ready to bake for lunch the next day.

Preparation also can be fun. Cutting foods into fun shapes like triangles and circles makes the food more appetizing. Also, after cutting up fruits and vegetables, let kids store them in plastic bags or colored plastic wrap. Place snacks in the front of the fridge so they are easily accessible to kids.

Encouraging children to eat fruits and vegetables now means kids are off to a good start.

Making healthy choices more available to children makes it easier to incorporate good food into their daily lives. It is important to realize that food habits made when you are young will affect food choices made as an adult.

Fruit Salad

Ingredients:

combination of favorite fruits

What to do:

Wash fruit, cut into pieces or fun shapes, place cut fruit in a bowl, add a sm. amount of orange or lemon juice to prevent browning,, mix together with a spoon

Fruit Dip

Ingredients:

1 cup orange juice, 1/2 cup apple sauce, 1/4 tsp. of cinnamon, dash of nutmeg, 1 cup vanilla or strawberry yogurt. Mix all ingredients and chill. Serve with fresh fruits of any kind.

Rainbow Vegetables

Ingredients:

tomatoes, carrots, yellow peppers, broccoli, purple cabbage

What to do:

Wash, then cut up fresh vegetables into fun shapes and arrange in rainbow shape and serve with dip made of non fat yogurt and vegetable mix.

Strawberry Milkshake

Ingredients:

three to five fresh strawberries, 1/2 large ripe banana, sliced

1 cup skim milk

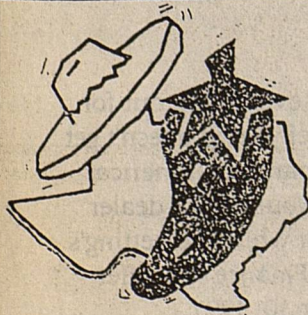
What to do:

Combine all ingredients in a blender. Process until thick and smooth. Makes 2 1/2 cup servings.

Part-time clerical position.

Must be computer literate and have experience with word processors, Quicken programs, spreadsheets, bookkeeping and payroll. Salary dependent upon experience.

Send resume to Yoakum SWCD, P.O. Box 420, Plains, Texas, on or before September 10, 1997.



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New Book at the Library

"1997 World Almanac"
"1997 Information Please Almanac"

"The Texas Challenge Population Change and the Future of Texas"

Erma Bombeck—"A Life in Humor"

"Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul"—101 Stories to open the ears and rekindle the spirits of women

"Storm Warning" by Billy Graham

Library patrons are reminded that they will be fined for overdue books and videos. Both may be rechecked if necessary, but if they are not, fines will be levied.

Senior Citizens Corner

Scanning the local newspapers, Mr. Bo wrote about First Jobs, and The Hack remembered school teachers. Here at the Center we complain about hot weather, and hang around and enjoy the air conditioning. August should begin to cool down, but Gee, 90 plus everyday!

Returning from cool places are Sam and Fay Bruton who have just a buck! Who knows, it may be visited his sister Dixie Cortez, Colorado. Also Billie O'Neal who enjoyed a reunion and several days with relatives Smitty.

Reception for Robertson and Tobar

Olivia Robertson has resigned and will be moving to Austin and Emma Tobar will be going back to school full-time. The Yoakum SWCD and local NRCS office will be hosting a come and go reception for these two ladies on August 28th at the NRCS office, 1303 Cowboy Way, Plains, TX from 12:00—2:00. Please come by and wish them well in their future endeavors.

in New Mexico.

On Wednesday, Suzie Parrish surprised us with a nice visit, and I believe she plans to be back next Wednesday. It's always nice to see old friends.

Fay Sorrells in local hospital Tuesday, Carl Fulbright is home from Lubbock Methodist.

The Watermelon Festival is just days away. Make plans to attend! We will have a booth, and everyone is invited to help support it. A VCR will be won by someone at the Round Up. Tickets for the VCR are available at the Center, and will be sold all day at the booth, and some lucky person will have a new VCR for just a buck! Who knows, it may be you or me!

The welcome mat is always out...see you next week,

and everyone is invited to help support it. A VCR will be won by someone at the Round Up. Tickets for the VCR are available at the Center, and will be sold all day at the booth, and some lucky person will have a new VCR for just a buck! Who knows, it may be you or me!

Four County Shared Services Arrangement Gives Special Education Help

The Four County Shared Services Arrangement provides special education services for student from birth to age 22 who live in the Brownfield school district as well as Denver City, Loop, O'Donnell, Plains, Seagraves, Seminole, Tahoka, and Wellman-Union.

Services are provided for the speech, visually or hearing impaired, and also provided for the learning disabled, emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded and for students with health or physical disabilities.

If you know of a child who needs services, call (806) 637-8448 or your local school district for more information.

Peppers & Peas!

Now ready—long green, roaster, Jalapeno, Bell and Serrano peppers, Blackeye and purple hull peas, and much more!

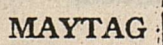
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A Pastor's Forum

The Mending Wall

"I saw a pasture yesterday, filled with sweet lavender. The sun's rays layered a shimmering glow across waves of tiny purple heads gently nodding. Some of them bumped into an ancient decaying wall built long ago by careful hands, whose purpose was surely to protect the field, giving room for living things to be born...and grow."

My heart filled with tears as I watched a farmer run his hands over the wall, soothingly patting a stone or two. He then looked out over the field and smiled. Reaching down and picking up a fallen piece, he prudently positioned it into the wall, turning it over and over to make it fit—perhaps not the way it did long ago, but a different way...and a good one.

Now butterflies can flourish protected from the wind, and the seed the birds scatter will not wash away in tomorrow's rain. I can return tomorrow and bring my children to smell the lavender and feel the sun's warmth on their skins.

I just wanted you to know, that yesterday, I saw you at the mending wall and I was healed."

Walls are funny things. We all build them. Sometimes we build walls around ourselves to protect us from being hurt. When we feel threatened, we often build a good tall, sturdy wall. We build it so well, that no one can penetrate it.

If walls are meant to protect us, who should we build them? If we build them too strong, too wide, too deep, we risk keeping out not only the good things and people who are meant to enrich our lives, but also the ones who would be helped by knowing us. We risk becoming set in our ways, unwilling to meet change or life's challenges, or unwilling to give someone else a chance.

On the other hand, if we set no boundaries around what is precious to us, we risk having what is ours taken away. We risk being hurt.

Sometimes, we need to tear down our walls and rebuild them in light of God's love and protection. It is never an easy thing to do, and there may be much give and take in the process, but the outcome will be a better way.

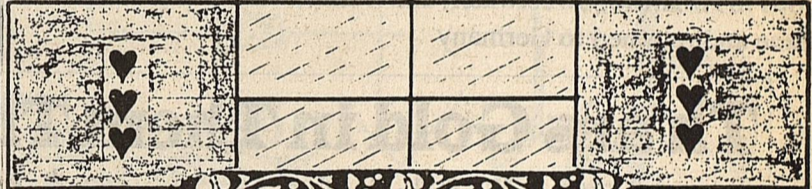
Nancy Moore, Pastor

Wellman United Methodist Church

WORDS OF WISDOM



What you have tried and what you have accomplished have created the foundation on which you now stand. As you build your dreams, remember to seal your work with character and open every door of opportunity with integrity. If you will do these things, you will reap the rewards you deserve.



Welcome To The Lavender Patch

Watermelon Round Up extra long night shirts are here... great to sleep in! We will be open during the Round Up, 9am till..... VISIT OUR ROUND UP BOOTH!

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Comptroller lists where Texas stands among states

State Comptroller John Sharp has issued the 1997 version of "Texas, Where We Stand", his annual ranking of state government spending, taxing, employment and other categories to show where Texas stands among the other fifty states. "We are asked each day where we stand compared to other states, and that's why we publish this summary of comparative facts and figures", Sharp said.

Texas' unemployment ranking has improved to 14th nationally, down from 6th place in 1996. The state ranks 5th for the number of federal food stamp recipients, an improvement over its 4th place ranking last year, due to an improved economy and the success of The Lone Star electronic card.

Texas currently ranks 6th for the percent of people living in

poverty, an improvement over last year's 4th place ranking.

"Job growth here is outpacing the national average, and our economy is expected to continue to grow at a moderate but steady rate into the next century", Sharp said. "By compiling these rankings, we are able to offer state leaders, policymakers and taxpayers a quick overview of how Texas compares to other states".

Texas outranks all other states in cattle, farms, crude oil and natural gas production, and Sharp said, "We export more products to Mexico, and we have more public school teachers - 240,000 - working in more school districts - 1,044 - than many nations".

Texas now ranks 25th in per-capita education spending by state and local governments, up from 29th in 1992, and child support collections per capita have grown, and the 40th place current ranking is up from 48th in 1991, rankings with room for improvement in both categories. Sharp said the information contained in "Texas, Where We Stand" is compiled from a variety of federal and state agencies, private sector groups, and non-profit organizations.

Rodeo drew lots of out of towners



Uta and Klemens Remfort, of Guetersloh, Germany, in the concession stand one night at the rodeo

The annual rodeo here always attracts a number of visitors, and this year's 44th show was no exception. In an earlier issue of CCN a pair of visitors from France and India were featured. Shown here are two more long distance travelers who took in the rodeo, a couple from Guetersloh, Germany, a name quite familiar here in Plains.

Klemens and Uta Remfort reported they had always wanted to see Texas, and they managed to take in a sizable portion of it. Their itinerary included Houston, Galveston, San Antonio and El Paso. There, they somehow heard about the Plains rodeo, and traveled to Denver City where they rented a room, and drove to Plains for the 'wild west show'. They ended up their Texas journey with stops in Amarillo, Sweetwater, and Dallas, where they boarded a plane and returned to Germany

Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high 94 degrees, overnight low 66.

THURSDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 91, overnight low 67 degrees.

FRIDAY: Variable clouds, showers & thunderstorms, high 92, overnight low 64 degrees.

SATURDAY: Partly cloudy, periods of sunshine, high of 89, overnight low 64 degrees.

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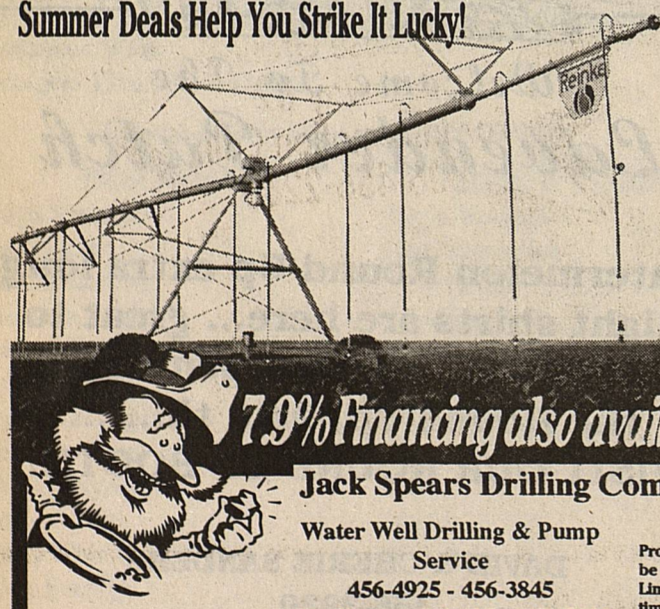
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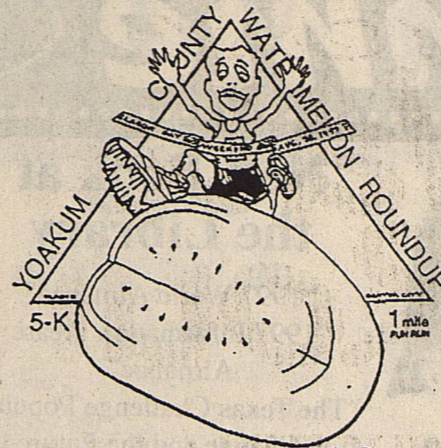
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Yoakum County Hospital

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Yoakum County Watermelon Roundup



5K Run and 1 mile Fun Run or Walk

Date: Saturday, August 30, 1997
Time: 9:00 AM CST
Place: Yoakum County Courthouse, Plains, Texas.
Entry Fee: \$10 (Free T-shirts to the first 100 entries)
Registration: Send the bottom section of this form to Watermelon Roundup, Box 117, Plains, TX 79355 or register on August 30th from 7:00-8:45 AM.
Awards: Medals will be given to the top three finishers in each age group.

* Sponsored by Norwest Bank, Denver City *

5K Run		Fun Run or Walk	
Male	Female	Male	Female
13 & under	13 & Under	9 & Under	9 & Under
14 thru 19	14 thru 19	10 thru 13	10 thru 13
20 thru 29	20 thru 29	14 thru 19	14 thru 19
30 thru 39	30 thru 39	20 thru 39	20 thru 39
40 thru 49	40 thru 49	40 thru 49	40 thru 49
50 thru 59	50 thru 59	50 and older	50 and older
60 and older	60 and older		

NAME: _____ EVENT: 5K [] FUN RUN []

ADDRESS: _____ AGE: _____ PHONE: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ MALE [] FEMALE []

T-SHIRT SIZE: small [] medium [] large [] XL [] XXL []

In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I, the undersigned, assume full and complete responsibility for any injury or accident which may occur to me during the event, and I hereby release the sponsors, promoters, and all other persons and entities associated with the event from liability for injuries and damages sustained by me whether same be caused by negligence of the sponsors, promoters, or other persons or entities associated with the event, or otherwise. Further, I hereby grant full permission to the sponsors, promoters, and all other persons and entities associated with the event to use any photographs, videotapes, motion picture recordings or any other record of this event involving me for any purpose whatsoever.

Signature (parent's signature, if a minor)



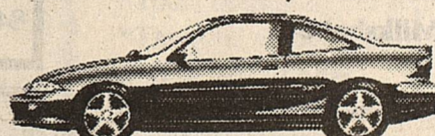
Invite Your Friends & Family... Come Have Some Fun & Watermelon With Us, Saturday, Aug. 30!



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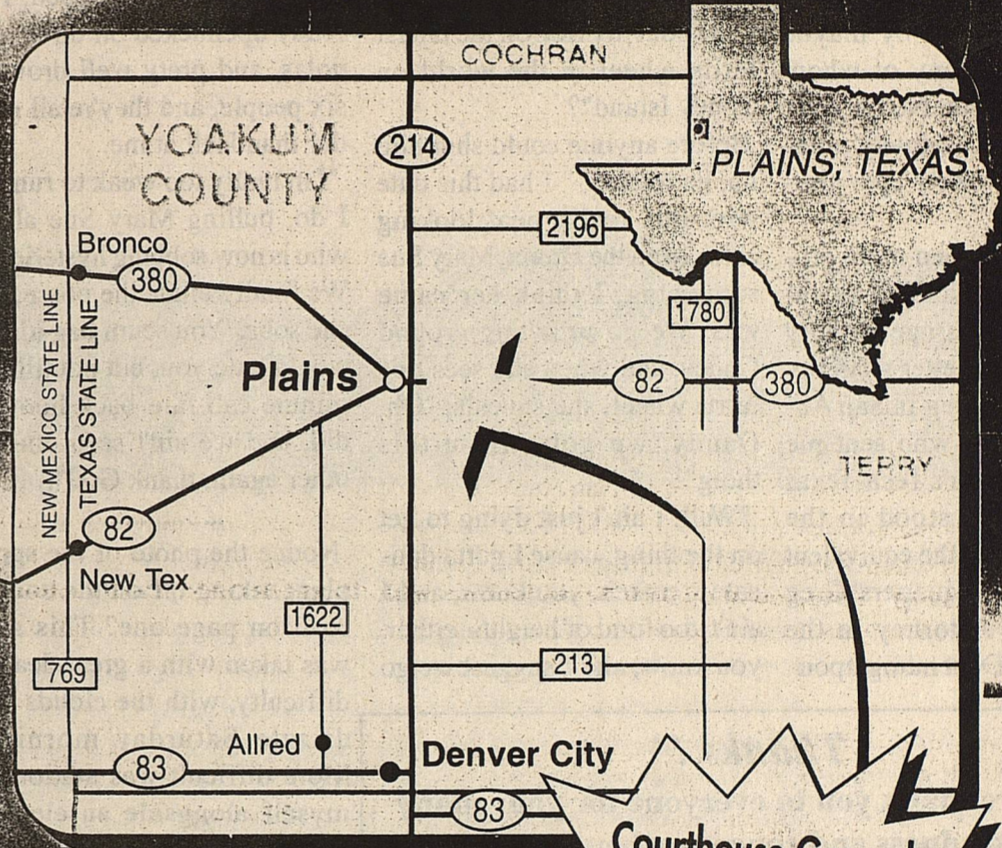
YOAKUM COUNTY
Watermelon Round-Up
 FAMILY FUN DAY • LABOR DAY WEEKEND
AUGUST 30, 1997 9AM-6PM

YCC
YOAKUM COUNTY CONNECTION
 ARTS & CRAFTS
 CLASSIC CAR SHOW
 5K RUN

YOAKUM COUNTY
Watermelon Round-Up

FAMILY FUN DAY • LABOR DAY WEEKEND • AUGUST 30, 1997 9AM-6PM

- ▲ Arts & Crafts Show
- ▲ Brisket/Chili Cook Off
- ▲ Cow Patty Bingo
- ▲ Melon Rolling Contest
- ▲ 5K Run
- ▲ 1M Fun Run
- ▲ Live Entertainment
- ▲ Antique Tractor Show
- ▲ Classic Car Show
- ▲ Watermelon Olympics
- ▲ Melon Eating Contest
- ▲ Seed Spitting Contest
- ▲ Watermelon Recipes
- ▲ Style Show
- ▲ Costume Contest
- ▲ The Great Melon Growing Contest



**Courthouse Grounds
 Highway 82
 For Information Call:
 806-456-2288**

The excitement continues Saturday nightHear & enjoy *"The Dixie Chicks"*
 7:00 p.m., School Auditorium

Watermelon Round Up Schedule Of Events

Friday, August 29, 6:30 p.m. - Chili & Brisket Cook-Off chefs meeting, meat passed out to contestants, Stanford Park.	11:30 a.m. - Watermelon Recipe Demonstration, Club Room. Lyndie Durham, Fiddler, stage.	3:00 p.m. - Cow Patty Bingo, Water Target Shooting, 12 and under, new Courthouse. Bill Henson & New Hardtimes Band, stage. Chili Cookoff judging, Gazebo, Stanford Park.
Saturday, August 30, 7:00 am - Register for 5-K Run until 8:45 a.m., northwest of old Courthouse	12:00 Noon - Pecos Valley Yodelers, stage. Watermelon Panel Discussion, Club Room.	3:30 p.m. - Brad McWhirter Singers, stage
Saturday, 8:00 am - Brisket, Chili Cook-Offs start, Stanford Park. Watermelon judging until 10:00 am, Pioneer Park.	12:30 p.m. - Watermelon Recipe Demonstration, Club Room.	4:00 p.m. - Car Show Awards, stage. Brisket judging, Gazebo, Stanford Park.
9:00 a.m. - 5K Run starts. Baptist Church Choir on stage at old Courthouse. Classic Car Show, Old Tractor Show, front of school	1:00 p.m. - Watermelon awards and recognition ceremonies, stage. Dunking Booth, 5 chances \$5, front of courthouse. Vine to Rind, It's Watermelon Time, Club Room.	4:30 p.m. - Cookoff winners announced, brisket auction, final announcements, stage.
9:30 a.m. - The Rubies, on stage.	1:15 p.m. - Dog Obedience Demonstration, east of new Court House.	7:00 p.m. - Music Celebration, THE DIXIE CHICKS, school auditorium.
10:00 a.m. - New Hard Times Band - stage. Watermelon Crawl, Puppet Show, Club Room. Tow Sack Race, front of new Courthouse. Until 2 p.m. - Petting Zoo, east of new Courthouse.	1:30 p.m. - Mexican Hat Dancers, stage area. Watermelon Recipe Demonstration, Club Room.	
10:30 a.m. - Watermelon Recipe Demonstration, Club Room.	2:00 p.m. - Becky Mingus & New Hardtimes Band, stage. Watermelon eating contest, front of new Courthouse. Watermelon Crawl, Puppet Show, Club Room.	
11:00 a.m. - Fashion Show, stage. Fashion Show exhibit, Club Room. Watermelon rolling contest, front of new Courthouse.	Until 3 p.m. - Obstacle Course, 12 yrs. and under, front of Courthouse.	
	2:30 p.m. - Watermelon Seed spitting contest, new Courthouse. Watermelon Recipe Demonstration, Club Room.	

We Hope You Won't Miss A Single Event !!!



From The Hack



Man, talk about a thrill... we finally received an E-Mail message over the Internet hookup! I must admit my initial elation was somewhat dampened when I read this firm in Pocatello, Idaho, was threatening Civil Court action against us for non-payment for services back in April of this year. Since the Bride is the one responsible for shaking up all our bills in a slop jar, then drawing a portion of them out to determine which lucky creditors get paid each month, I showed her the electronic letter, and she shrugged, and said, "You dolt, they've got the wrong firm... this thing is addressed to 'The Cowboy Gazette' in Spotted Liver, Montana'." What a relief! The 'Gazette' is probably some cheap and shoddy little six or eight page rag passing for a newspaper, produced in some little podunk village, supported by maybe 1400 people, many of whom have yet to master Ned in their first primer. Absolutely nothing like our weekly epic journal. My relief was even more profound when I stumbled on another E-Mail message the very next day, this a letter from my young cousin Greg in San Antonio, the same who sent me tickets to last year's Tech-Texas game, where I stood in the men's room line the equivalent of one and a half quarters. Greg is a Federal Attorney in the Alamo City. Depending upon

your outlook on such matters, he is married to another Fed Attorney, Janet., and I am giving Vegas odds she is sharper than he is. This is based only on my occasional viewing of He vs. She Lawyers in confrontations on the tube.... the feds always win. You do understand, cousin Janet, I am writing this only because I do not know you as well as Greg, and am trying to smooth our way under your dining table, should we ever get to San Antonio. Thanks, Greg.

I'm preparing to tell you an absolutely true tale, as truthfully told to me and others many years ago, while incarcerated in the service of the U.S. Navy. Stationed on Guam for five months in 1954, a group of us 'swabs' were poking quarters in the laundry and drying machines, when this guy from New Jersey spoke up; "Did I ever tell you about my ride on the tallest ferris wheel in the world on Coney Island"? Before anyone could shut him up, he related, "I had this date with this really neat looking chick from the Bronx, Mary Sue something, I think her name was. We go prowling around Coney, and when she sees this ferris wheel, she squeals, "Oh, Danny, we gotta ride this thing!" "Well, I ain't just dying to get on the thing, cause I gotta delicate stomach, you know, and I ain't too fond of heights, either, you know, and I suggest we go

get a hot dog, or let me try to hit the bell with the hammer thing, you know? Mary Sue squeals again she's gotta ride this thing, and I'm thinking.. well, maybe I give in now, maybe she gives in later, you know?"

"I give the guy fifty cents for the tickets, he buckles us in, and I'm already feeling bad, with my feet on the floor. The dam thing takes off, Mary Sue is squealing, hugging me, and I'm really hugging the bar holding us in, and the only thing keeping me from screaming and puking is the warmth of her person pressed all over me, and for about five seconds, I am in Nirvana, then it hits me... Nice as she feels and smells, I'm gonna get sick. I hate to pull away from the lovely parts of her rubbing on me, and all I can do is gurgle, "Sorry, I gotta go... Yaarrkkkuughhoogghh" and laugh quite a stream of stuff on the people in the third gondola down from us above. They scream in disgust, I scream again "Yaarrkkkuughhoogghh", and hit another gondola full of people with only a slightly lesser stream of stuff, and before the idiot down on the ground can get the stupid wheel stopped, I already upchucked on three gondolas, and pretty well drowned six people, and they're all madder than Hell at me. "I'm really too weak to run, but I do, pulling Mary Sue along, who is now sobbing hysterically. We finally elude the posse, and she sobs, 'You scum bag idiot, I would hate you, but not till you gimme cab fare back home'. I did, and we ain't seen one another again, thank God".

Notice the photo of the spray plane taking off on the county road on page one? This shot was taken with a great deal of difficulty, with the clouds and drizzle Saturday morning. More difficult was stationing myself alongside an electric utility pole by the road, focusing on the hurtling aircraft coming at me about 700 knots per hour, it seemed. The photo dispels my thoughts at the moment, "This idiot is going to tear his left wing on the pole I'm standing behind, and we're all going to die a fiery death, with insecticide all over our bodies!"

It was only after we had the film developed it became apparent the pilot, ignorant as he may be, missed the utility pole by at least 22 inches. Only the developed film convinced me of this fact, and I am still certain there are many other ways of making a living.

The old radio comedian Fred Allen once said, "I'd rather have a full bottle in front of me, than a prefontal lobotomy".

Browner says EPA won't regulate farmers

Carol Browner, Environmental Protection Agency administrator, last week finalized the rules for the Clean Air Act. New standards are now set for ozone and particulate matter (PM). EPA is required by law to review these standards every five years to determine whether the latest scientific research indicates a need to revise the standards.

Browner, testifying before the Senate Agriculture Committee, stated that the new scientific study supported stricter requirements to the standards.

For particulate matter, EPA is adding new standards for particles smaller than 2.5 micrometers in diameter. EPA will keep the present rules that govern the PM-10 standards, but will change the criteria to add more flexibility for states to meet the requirements for agriculture.

Browner assured the committee that the new standards—specially those for soot—would not harm farmers.

She stated, "These new air quality standards will not require any farmer to change the way he does his job."

Responding to questions from lawmakers, Browner went on to say, "EPA is not going to regulate farmers as a means of reducing fine particulates in the air."

On ozone pollution, she said, "Reduction of ozone pollution should save farmers \$500 million annually by reducing crop damage to soybeans, wheat, cotton, and peanuts and increasing yields."

Browner assured the committee that the rules are aimed at major power plants and large industrial facilities.

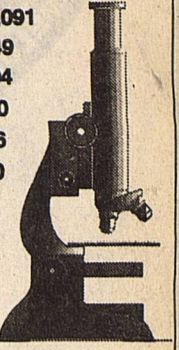
"If agricultural production is any part of the air pollution problem at all, it is, at best, a very small part," she said.

Keeping an eye on Texas

Texas schools spend billions on R&D

While Texas public universities are known for educating students, more than a billion dollars is spent each year on research and development, with expenditures for 1996 totaling \$1,265,786,060.

Fields of research and development at Texas public schools and health-related institutions	Percent increase, 1991-96	Expenditures in 1996
Medical Sciences	46%	\$435,314,994
Engineering	31%	\$227,614,478
Biological, other Life Sciences	14%	\$169,293,106
Physical Sciences	6%	\$116,625,645
Environmental Sciences	24%	\$109,407,242
Agricultural Sciences	47%	\$67,915,091
Social Sciences	64%	\$31,755,549
Computer Sciences	38%	\$30,023,904
Education	116%	\$20,438,330
Business Administration	24%	\$15,278,086
Mathematical Sciences	59%	\$14,017,280
Psychology	44%	\$9,186,559
Arts and Humanities	-10%	\$6,836,120
Law and Public Administration	8%	\$5,003,972
Other non-science activities	14%	\$3,681,097
Other sciences	253%	\$3,394,607



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

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Thanks!

A sincere thank you to everyone for your many acts of kindness and concern when I was in the hospital, and I especially appreciate your prayers during my illness.

Sincerely, Wilma McDonnell

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