Cowboy Country

News

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

Rodeo, Reunion Issue



Over 250 years of Yoakum County history - G.W. Cleveland, Wilma Powell, Jessie Criswell were all born in the county. None of them would admit when. They were featured in the Saturday parade.



BAZE,BOOKBINDING

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48th Rodeo Royalty - Queen candidate 1st runner-up Chelsi Wagnon, 2000 Rodeo Queen Elizabeth Clanahan, newly crowned 2001 Queen Kayla Willis, and 2nd runner-up Jessica Rodriguez.

Roping Club honors memory of Bill Winn

The Plains Roping Club paid their respects to the late Bill Winn during Denver - Representative Gary "The issues before state legisthe Saturday night performance. The rodeo announcer read the follow- L. Walker will play a key role latures today are challenging," iff Don Corzine requested the lar unit in Littlefield before ing brief review of Bill's roping skills, and his dedication and service to in developing and shaping key said Walker. "I'm honored by approval of funding for a K-9 coming to the sheriff departthe club, as a competitor and elected offical;

"The Plains Roping Club wants your attention, please. We are about to dedicate this 48th annual Plains Rodeo to the memory of a very special cowboy. It's been said the sport of rodeo often evolves in the blood of many future cowboys and cowgirls. There's no doubt this blood was present when Bill Winn was born in 1928. His survivors say when he was old enough to carry and sling a lariat rope, he was roping his parents calves from the ground, a pasttime they were not too fond of... the calves would eventually feed the family. When Bill was old enough, he started using the rope from horseback, and family, friends and neighbors were amazed... they said," This kid is good!"

In his teens, Bill started getting serious with his roping. Early on, he was good enough, qualified enough to join the RCA, the fore runner of today's Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association. Bill roped extensively in Texas rodeos, and also traveled far, to Washington state, Oregon, California, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Louisiana. He was making money, something hard to do in the early and mid 1940's.

In 1947, Bill Winn and some other cowboys journeyed west into New Mexico to help promote a rodeo they planned to compete in. It was a trip never completed. A terrible car accident left Bill very seriously injured, another cowboy dead. Bill's injuries were extensive. He spent weeks in local hospitals, then months in re-hab at Big Spring. When finally released, he returned to his favorite calling, calf roping. He was not the same roper. His body, particularly his right arm, never regained the strength required to properly toss his rope, or throw a calf.

In 1948, Bill joined the Plains Roping Club, founded in 1942. He took part in many club events, and would serve as Roping Club Vice-President, then President, and later worked the arena as flag judge in roping events. His injuries finally took him from horseback, and he served as one of the official timers in the announcers booth so many years the members can't remember how long.

Perhaps one of the finest tributes to Bill came from a fellow Cowboy from Brownfield, who wrote the following to Bill's wife Zareta follwing Bill's death; "I wish you and your family could have seen Bill when he reached his peak at about 18 or 19. I truly believe if he had not been in that car accident he could have been the world champion calf roper. He was as good as Troy Fort and Toots Mansfield, and improving every time he came out of the chute. He was just so fast tying his calves."

Bill married Zareta in 1950. They lived the life of a farm couple in Yoakum and Terry counties. They would raise four children, daughters Irita and Val, and sons Tony and Chris. Both sons were active in the roping club for years. Bill was extremely proud and fond of his family, and especially his grandchildren. Bill left us last October, and he is sincerely missed by all who knew him.

The roping club is extremely proud to dedicate this 48th Plains Rodeo to one of it's hardest workers and most ardent supporters, Mr. Bill Winn," The announcer then asked familiy members in the audience to stand and be recognized. A fitting tribute.

Walker To Serve On Legislative Committee

national legislative committee. shown in helping to address the The National Conference of State Legislatures recently named Representative Walker to serve on the the Assembly on State Issues' Science, Energy and Environment Resource Committee. ASI, comprised of several committees studying specific policy issues, serves as a major exchange forum for the ideas and information among state legislatures. Each state legislature consequently benefirs from the experiences

of other states in shaping pub-

lic policy, experimenting with

new laws, and managing the

legislative institution.

policy issues as a member of a the confidence NCSL has important issues of our time." ASI holds three meetings each year, providing an exchange of information through timely and relevant work products and through networking opportunities for legislators and legisla-

"NCSL's committees provide our organization with valuable information and direction," said NCSL Executive Director William Pound. "The issues examined by ASI are vitally important to lawmakers across the nation."

> **Turn To Page Four** "Gary Walker"

Sheriff Department to sponsor K-9 unit

gust 6, Yoakum County Sher- having been in charge of a simiunit for his department. He explained private donors had already made funds available for the purchase of the dog and extensive training, but the purchase of the dog would have to be made with a county check. He requested the county to issue the \$7000 check for the dog, and advance travel funds for the training session near San Antonio, and he would deposit a like amount of the private funds with the county auditors office. The court unanimously approved the request. Sheriff Corzine told the court Deputy Curtis Coffman would be the officer in charge of the K-9 unit. Coffman has exten-

In Commissioners Court Au- sive experience in K-9 work, ment here.

The dog is a German Sheperd, and will be a multi-purpose animal, working narcotics, tracking and officer protection roles. Coffman will leave for the Hill Country Dog Center August 12, where he will assist in final training of the dog for two to three weeks. Sheriff Corzine said he feels Coffman and the dog will be very valuable assets to the sheriff department and county citizens.

Other items on the agenda included approving full time employment of Marvin Bruce Durham as a roadhand in Precinct 3, and approval of the Tax Assessor/Collectors's report indicating collection of \$30,484 in taxes during the month of July.

Criminal cases in **County Court**

Four criminal cases were heard in County Court August 1, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding.

James David Simmons pled guilty to possession of marijuana, less than two ounces. He was sentenced to adjudication of guilt deferred, with 12 months community supervision, a fine of \$250, \$210 court costs and \$140 restitution to DPS. Conditions of supervision include 24 hours community service, 36 hours in jail with credit for two hours served. His attorney was Eric

Turn to Page 2, "Court Cases"



Nineteen members of the Winn familiy attended the final Saturday performance of the rodeo, dedicated to the late Billy Winn.

Two vehicle collision spells trouble for LCEC



Lea County Electric Cooperative crews work to replace a junction pole felled in a mid-morning, two vehicle collision last Wednesday north of the New Tex Gin along the stateline highway.

From Page 1, "Court Cases"

Augesen, and Rick Dickson, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force was investigating officer. Francisco Javier Yanez pled guilty to a first DWI, breath test .151/.152, A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months.\$225 court costs and a \$600 fine will be met with time payments. He will spend 72 hours in jial, with credit for 2 hours served.He must attend weekly AA meetings, perform 24 hours community service, and complete the DWI first offender program within 180 days. Arresting officer was Sheriff Deputy Kenley Powell.

Gregory Gonzales pled guilty to a first offense DWI, blood test 0.13. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. Time payments will be made on \$225 court costs, and he was fined \$500. He must attend weekly AA meetings, complete the DWI first offender program, serve 24 hours community service, surrender his driver license 90 days, install an interlock device on any vehicle driven, and pay \$113 restitution to Yoakum County Hospital. Investigating officer was DPS Trooper Brad Taylor, and his attorney was Mark Hocker.

Ernesto Tarango Mendoza pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury to family member. A 90 jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He will make \$25 payments on \$210 court costs. He must complete the batterers treatment program, and serve 80 hours community service. Investigating officer was Roger Holguin, Denver City Police. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state in all cases.

Dallas, Oct. 5, 1899 - The first automobile ever seen in Texas drove into Dallas today, its route marked by barking dogs, frightened animals and startled people. Named the St. Louis, the machine belongs to E.H. Green of the Texas Midland Railroad. It cost about \$1250

Four County Shared Services Arrangement gives special education help

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

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 who attend public schools, private schools or home schools. needs services, call 806-637-8448 or your local school district for more information.



INVITATION FOR BIDS

The City of Plains will receive bids for Water System Improvements - Distribution Pump Station, until 4:00 p.m. on September 7, 2001 at City Hall, Plains, Texas. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time. Bids will be considered at the regular City Council Meeting on September

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as

- Installation of piping, fittings and valves
- Installation of three horizontal centrifugal pumps
 - Metal Building (Alternate Bid Item)

Bid/Contact Documents including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at West Texas Consultants, Inc., 305 N. W. Avenue "C", Andrews, Texas 79714.

Copies of Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$25.00 with the Engineer for each set of documents obtained. The deposit will be refunded if the documents and drawings are returned in good condition within 10 days following the bid opening.

A Bid Bond in the amount of 5% of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Plains may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

The City of Plains reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by the City of Plains for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidders qualifications prior to the contract award.

CITY OF PLAINS

T. J. MILLER, MAYOR

JP Court Review

The following is a summary of cases heard, fines and bonds set in Pct. 1 Justice of Peace Court, Judge Melba Crutcher presid-

Cases filed; 56 traffic cases, 3 felonies, 2 posession of drug paraphenalia, 1 minor consuming alcohol, 1DWI, minor, 2 public intoxication. Bonds and Fines:

Resisting arrest/search- \$500 bond.

Posession controlled substance, \$7000 bond. Unlawfully carrying weapon, \$1000 bond. False ID - \$500 bond.

Possession controlled substance (2) \$5000 bond. Driving, suspended license, \$500 bond.

Possession drug paraphenalia, \$500 bond. Aggravated assault, deadly

weapon, \$5000 bond. DWI, \$1000 bond. Driving under influence of liquor, minor, \$500 bond.

Consumption of alcohol, minor, \$200 fine.

Motion to revoke probation, Gaines County, \$2500 bond. Failure to appear, \$2500 bond. Theft by check (2), \$500 bond. If you know of a child who Hinder apprehension/prosecution, \$1500 bond.

> Bail jumping, \$1500 bond. Unlawful consumption alcohol by minor, \$250 fine. public intoxication (2), held for

Border Patrol. Public intoxication (2), \$500

bond.

DWI, \$1500 bond. Forgery, governemt instru-

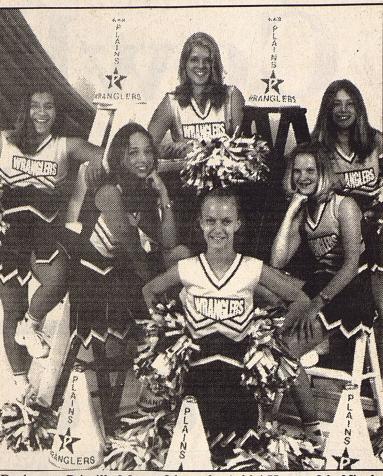
ment/money/securities, \$5000

Theft over \$20,000, nder \$100,000, \$5000 bond.

Evertt & Estelle McAdams became grandparents for the first time when Lacy & A'ndrea McAdams became proud parents of Grace Estelle Sunday, July 29, at St. Mary's Hospital, St. Louis, Mo. She weigehd 8lbs 3 oz & was 21 " long. She can be seen at

www.growingfamily.com

Jr. High 2001-02 Cheerleaders



Back row-Priscilla Mares, 8th grade, Ashlei Hunter, 8th, Nicole Culwell, 7th. Middle-Desiraye Broome, 7th, Caitlin Carter, 7th, Front-Callie Howell, 7th

Why Take The Risk?

It was an unnecessary risk suggesting a potential disaster for Texas Agriculture. That was the feeling of not only the Texas Dept. of Agriculture and the Governor's office, but also of farmers, ranchers and industry representatives across the state.

Roving Sands, a joint military operation of the U.S. and NATO countries, has been an annual training execcise since 1994. But this year, with troops and equipment from Germany, Great Britain and the Netherlands scheduled to participate in the June training, Ag Commissioner Susan Combs was concerned.

Great Britain and the Netherlands had reported cases of foot and mouth disease, and large military equipment from these countries was scheduled to land at Texas ports then shipped more than 800 miles to West Texas and and New Mexico.

"We truly support the military and their efforts at this vital training, and know it is important for the readiness of NATO troops," Combs said. " But it was equally important not to drive equipment across Texas and run the risk of foot and mouth contamination."

Combs began working with the Governor's office, the White House and the state's congressional delegation. Individual farmers and ranchers and groups like the Cattle Raisers Association and Texas Farm Bureau voiced their concerns about the equipment crossing Texas. In May, the Secretary of Defense restricted large military equipment from Great Britain and the Netherlands from participating in the exercise.

The Defense Deaprtment allowed troops from those countries to be air landed at the training site after extreme caution was taken to er troops and personal equipment posed no threat.

With no confirmed cases of the disease in Germany, their equipment was allowed to off-load at Beaumont, but inspectors rejected it because of improper cleaning. "The problem with the German equipment supported our concerns about transporting it across the state," Combs said. "From the outset, agriculture wanted to know, 'why take the risk'?"

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Plains Independent School District offers vocational programs in Agriculture, Home Economics, and Industrial Arts. Admission to these programs is based on need, interest, and ability.

It is the policy of Plains Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Plains Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocation programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator/ 504 Coordinator, James Haynes, at P.O. Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355, (806) 456-7401.

FORMA DE MUESTRA

Plains Independent School District ofrece programas vocacionales en Agricultura, y Economia de Casa, y Artes Industriales. La admision a estos programas se basa en necesided, interes,

Es norma de Plains Independent School District de no discriminar pr motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o activades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de

Plains Independent School District tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para informacion sobre sus drechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Titulo IX/el Coordinador de la Seccion 504, James Haynes, P.O. Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355, (806) 456-7401.

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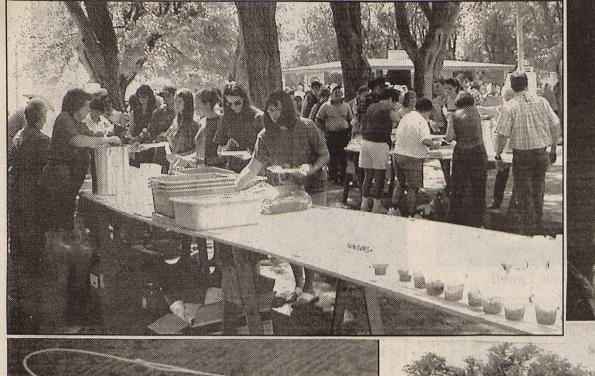
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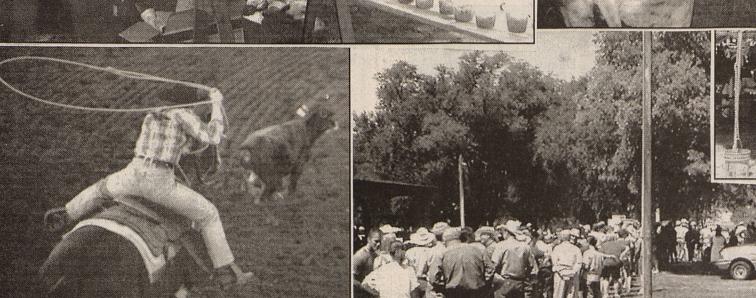
" Its hard to stop a TRANE"



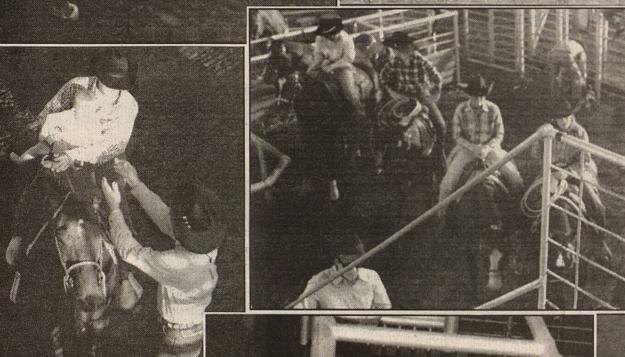




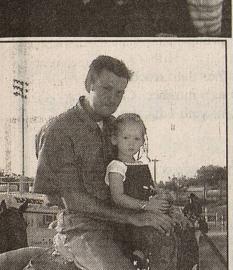


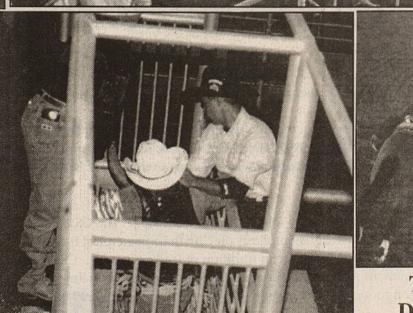
















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will again be re-routed on Cowboy Way (U.S. Highways 82/ 380), and west or east bound traffic will travel one block south of the courthouse complex, along 11th Street. Round Up visitors will be able to enter a reserved parking area covering two blocks on Cowboy Way immediately east of the new courthouse, and two blocks west of the old courthouse. The 'Connection' is seeking a city or county organization to supervise these parking areas, for which the organization could charge a parking fee as a fund raising effort. Both the east and west areas would have to be supervised from 8 a.m. until the Round Up concludes at 6 p.m, at which time all vehicles would have to leave the areas.

Yoakum County Connection is seeking "parking attendants"

for the September 1 Watermelon Round Up. This year traffic

For more information on this project, contact City Administrator David Brunson at City Hall, or at 456-2288.

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Yoakum County Art Association & Sale

This year's Art Association and Sale was held in the School Resource Center, and drew good crowds of art lovers and buyersupporters. Some 250 entries were entered in the multi-category

Some of the artists and their works are shown here. The next issue of CCN will feature more artists and a listing of all win-



Best In Show Painting - 'America the beautiful', J.D Keel, Seagraves



1st Place -' Meet me in the garden '- Susie Powell



1st Place - 'Blues on lookout', Eileen Fillipp



1st Place - Crafts, Drop Leaf Table, Marlene Gibson

From Page One, "Gary Walker"

Walker said the committee Waste Legislative Group. agenda would be full. The committee on Science, Energy and lators and legislative staff in the Environmental Resources nation and its territories and serves as a forum for members commonwealths, is a bipartisan to exchange information and organization representing the hear about federal activities that interests of the states. NCSL may require state action.

The committee has two subgroups: The High Level Radioactive Waste, Interim Storage and Transportation Working Group, and the Low Level

NCSL, composed of all legiswas founded in 1975.

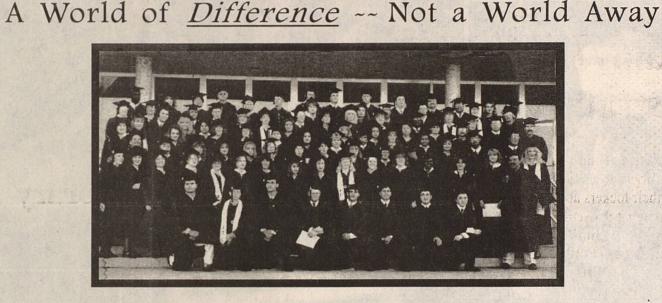
> Only In Texas

Brewster County is six times larger than the state of Rhode Island. It is 42 times as large as the smallest county in Texas, Rockwall



Best In Show Photography - ' Indian Ocean', Wadonna

Best In Crafts - ' Garden Basket Quilt', Helen Beal, Plains



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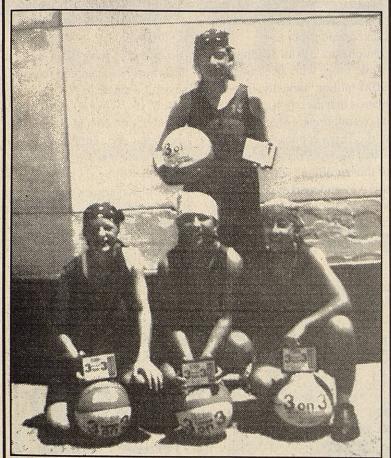
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Lifelines Styles

Outlaws win 3 on 3 tournament



The Yoakum County Outlaws traveled to Amarillo recently to compete in the 5th annual '3 on 3 Basketball Challenge Tournament', and the team came home with the GOLD! Shown on front row, Shoni Fuqua, Meghan Garcia, Regina Morales, back, Natalie Franco. The girls coaches were Jim and Sol Quintanilla.

Plains High School registration scheduled

Registration for Plains High School students will be Thursday and Friday, August 9 and 10, in the high school fover. Students are strongly urged to attend and review their class schedules, and choose their lockers at these assigned times:

Thursday, August 9 - Seniors 10 am -12 noon Juniors 1 pm - 3 pm.

Friday, August 10 - Sophomores 10 am - 12 noon Freshmen 1 pm - 3 pm.

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Cordially invites you to grow in Christ with us!



Sunday Schedule Sunday School - 9:45 am Morning Worship - 10:45 am Youth Fellowship & Study 4:30-5:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal - 6:45 pm Sundays **Wednesday Connections** Food & Fellowship - 5:30-6:30 pm Bible Study - 6:30-7:30 pm Other Opportunities

Fitness/Exercise Class - 5:30-6:30 pm Tuesdays & Fridays Afternoon Bible Study - 5:15 pm Thursdays God loves you and so do we! Come grow in Christ with us!

African Bee Alert

tural Extension Service and ings, old and run down bee Terry/Yoakum County Inte- hives and hollow tree limbs or grated Pest Management Pro-trunks. If you notice bees gram, released the following swarming, avoid them. For statement on August 1;

bees have been confirmed in Honey Bee website - http:// ties. As a result, area residents should pay more close attention to their surroundings while out- NOT remove bees; you must

Locations which are particu- firm for that service." larly inviting to Africanized

Scott Russell, Texas Agricul- bees include abandoned buildmore information on these "Recently Africanized honey pests visit the Africanized Lubbock and Cochran Coun- lubbock.tamu.edu/ahb or contact our office, 806-637-4060. The Extension Service does

contact a licensed pest control

Free Poetry Contest Open

ternational Library of Poetry nition. and entry is free.

published or not, can be a win- enter ner," stated Christina Babylon, www.poetry.com contest director. "When people The International Library of test, they realize their own po- ganization in the world. etic works of art can win cash

Owings Mills, MD. - The In- prizes and gain national recog-

has announced \$58,000 in To enter, send ONE original prizes will be awarded this year poem, any subject or style to in the International Open Poetry International Library of Poetry, Contest. Area readers, particu- Suite 19912, 1 Poetry Plaza, larly beginners, are welcome to Owings Mills, MD 21117. The try to win their share of over poem should be 20 lines or less, 250 prizes. Deadline for the and the poet's name and address contest is October 31, 2001. should appear on the top of the The contest is open to everyone page. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the internet "Any poet, whether prviously by October 31, 2001. You may

learn about our free poetry con- Poetry is the largest poetry or-

New at the Library

FICTION:

The Fourth Hand.-John Irving The Bishop and the Beggar Girl of St. Germain-Andrew Greeley A Theory of Relativity-Jacquelyn Mitchard

The Rose Legacy- Kristen Heitzmann Sweet Boundless- Kristen

Heitzmann In His Arms- Robin Lee Hatcher The Company- Arabella Edge Open Season- C.J. Box Juniper Tree Burning- Goldberry

A Kiss To Remember-Teresa medeiros

A Cold Case-Philip Gouervitch Tell No One- Harlan Coben Bronze Horseman-Paullina Simons

NON FICTION: John & Caroline- Their Lives In Overstreet

Pictures- James Spada One Tattered Angel- Blaine Yorgason Unnderstanding the Male

Temperament- Tim Lahaye Welcome To The Funny Farm-Karen Liname Recipe Hall Of Fame Dessert Cookbook- Quail Ridge Press Feathers From My Nest- Beth

Quotable General (Bobby Knight)-Monte Carpenter Terry Bradshaw-It's Only A

Moore

Excel 2000 For Windows For **Dummies-Greg Harvey** The Evangelist: The world impact of Billy Graham- Lewis Drummond

Public Enemies- John Walsh Forever And Ever, Amen-Paul

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Mr. Willis is likely to associate with other attorneys in the handing of this matter

IRST BAPTIST CHURCH Plains, Texas

Wee Care registration is in progress for the coming year. If you would like your child to attend Wee Care please contact Melissa Hamilton - 456-5081 or the church office 456-3661. Wgg Care will begin Sept. 4, 2001

Birthday Celebration



Ita Parks Young and Mary Lou Parks were honored with a birthday celebration, given by Janelle Cobb and Lela Warren, daughters of Mary Lou. Ita and the late Neil Parks were cousins. Hamburgers and all the trimmings were enjoyed by some 25 relatives in the Warren family backyard. Mary Lou's seven great grandchildren sang Happy Birthday to the honorees.

Senior Citizens Corner

This is August 1st... seems like just yesterday I was writing July 1st! Ray and Jauwauce Stephenson had their son Joe and his family at the Center one day last week. Gloria is gone and Pat Altman is taking her place. Mary Moya is back after visiting her son in Colorado.

Stella and Mary Flores did a good job, with others helping, and of course Alfredo Salinas and Sylvia Lozano did their jobs real well also.. Mary Nelson helps in the serving line.

Shirley Mosser is back with us after her surgery last week. She will be moving this weekend. We wish her happiness and good health. We will

The line dancing, pool and dominoes are still going strong, the bridge players also. Hope Faye Black will soon be back with good health. Our prayers, love and condolences to the families of Howard Webb and Nadine Goldston, Till next week... Wanda B.

Jamica Raffle Winners

Fermin Luna ... \$100 Linda Herrera ... \$100 Flor Lara ... \$100 Sara Fierro ... \$400 Eric Banfield ... \$800 Congratulations!!





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From The Hack

gust issue of Texas Monthly Magazine which should be reparticularly West Texans, even sobering article is about WAfuture LACK of water.

impression I am a rabid Texas Monthly fan and touting the thief of my literary efforts, virtues of the publication, be assured, I think it is a very well often I violently disagree with some of their views, particularly those of the flaming, bleeding heart liberal nature.

I could detect nothing of this nature in the article, entitled hand you, too. "Boone Pickens wants to sell you his water." It does take a healthy swipe at that Tycoon's goal of acquiring huge water rights in the Panhandle of our state, then selling it to thirsty The entire writing goes much further than that, however.

Don't just take my word for it crowd!" - read it! This is truly food for A memorable scene at the rodeo some serious thought.

golf occasionally with a Denver City resident, whom I shall politely describe as, rude,

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crude, and grossly overweight. If Weight Watchers, Lean Cuisine or Ultra Slim Fast were aware of his presence, they would be beating his door down to add him to their customer list. There are two main reasons I refer to this character in this disparaging manner; One, he consistently steals my money when we play golf. There is an article in the Au- Two, he invariably tells me, AFTER I have paid him, of course, "By the way, I enjoyed quired reading for all Texans, your column in your paper last week." The first time he told more particularly, all agricul- me this I was puzzled - I knew tural irrigation producers. The he wasn't a subscriber, and asked where he read CCN. "At TER. More specifically, the the County Library, of course. You don't think I'd pay fifty In case someone is under the cents for the thing, do you?"

He is not only a thief at golf, a grossly overfat, way over grey bearded, he is also on my list of produced magazine, but all too those to get even with. One of these days, I'm going to write something about you in my column, Jim. You might also want to double check the quality of the next folding money I

> Comments from the Rodeo-Reunion weekend; A young boy in the parade staging area Saturday morning screaming,

" No, mom, I won't ride the cities willing to meet his price. float... I wanta be on the street picking up all the c andy these dumb kids are throwing to the

- Pat McNabb and daughter Tommie in the area behind the Enough serious matters. I play chutes, snapping photos like mad, until a soon to appear bull rider strolled in, and began disrobing to his riding gear. They were gone like a flash. It was a really good three day party - and the Bride escaped jail time again.

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On The Level

with Donald Haley **USDA/NRCS**

nitrogen, wrapped in onion skin,"

As a fertilizer comparison, Robby

says his cotton usually averages

about 60-70 units of nitrogen ap-

He usually rotates cotton behind

onions. He says he has averaged

1100 pounds of irrigated cotton

behind onions and 650 pounds

with a cotton-after-cotton rotation. He attributes this not only to prob-

able nitrogen build-up, but to large

amounts of residue put back into

Robby considers a good onion

yield to be 1100 sacks per acre.

A sack is 53 pounds, which

Natural Resources

says Robby.

plied.

the soil.



Conservation Service " An onion is mostly water and

In Las Vegas, the bigger the wager, the bigger the win. Reversely, the bigger the gamble, the more you stand to

If you ask Robby Guetersloh, that last part sounds a lot like growing onions! And with an operating cost of over \$1000 per acre, it doesn't take long for the game to get interesting!

In Robby's operation, onion transplants (plants 8-10 weeks old) are shipped in from Phoenix, and hand planted one inch deep and four inches apart on 90 acres - that's right, hand planted in mid-March through April

With the cost of transplants and the labor intensive planting, you stand at \$680 per acre. That's up front, on the table, got a crop in the ground money! Now it's time to roll the dice. Add in the costs of equipment, fertilizer, water, harvest, land/lease payments, fighting weeds, insects and disease and about a million other seen and unseen expenses, and the roulette wheel is spinning!

Robby plants three varieties of onions, yellow, red and white, with amounts of each dependent on yearly

Yellow onions mature earlier than the red, with the white maturing last. Harvest began this year on July 2.

By way of comparison to cotton, not only are onions more labor intensive, but nutrient and water intensive as well. After 'bulbing', Robby says onions require from 2 to 4 inches of water per week, depending on heat and wind, with 2 inches the norm. Cotton requires about 1 inch per week. Robby puts out 100 units of phosphate and 30-40 units of nitrogen prior to planting. This is followed by 200-300 units of nitrogen applied during the growing season.

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sacked onions per acre.

Onions are Texas' leading vegetable crop, with sales over\$70-\$100 million annually. The estimate is that the onion industry has to the Texas economy.

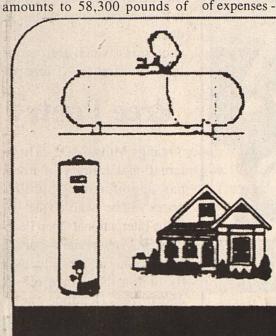
The Farmers Prayer is that some of those millions will filter down this way and market price will allow at least a chance at recovery of expenses - and a little left over in the game.....

is always nice.

So, the dice have been thrown, the wheel has spun and the cards have all been dealt.

You've worked, planned, an overall impact of \$350 million sweated, prayed and cussed, and you hope for a little luck against the odds.

> And like Robby says, sometimes you win, sometimes you lose, but if you're gonna play, you gotta get



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Aztec Rental Center of Victoria, Texas! 9:30 am*Sat*Aug 25*702 King Arthur @Hwy 77 Tents*Excavators*Ditch Witches*Banquet, Party & Costume Liquidation

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