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Cowboy Country News

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

Volume V1, Issue 19, January 26, 2000



Guilty pleas abundant in county, district court

In a District Court session presided over by Judge Kelly G. Moore on January 18, Greg Stanton pled guilty to causing an accident involving personal injury or death. The defendant also waived his right to a jury trial. Stanton signed statements indicating on July 15, 1998 he was the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident causing injuries to Donna Follis and Donald Mullins Jr. He also admitted leaving the scene of the accident without identifying himself or rendering assistance to the injured.

Judge Moore accepted the guilty plea, and gave the defendant a five year sentence in state prison, suspended and probated 5 years. He was fined \$1000, and was ordered to pay restitution totalling \$59,360 to the injured couple, and covering medical expenses in Denver City, Lea County Regional Hospital, and medical sources in Lubbock. He was represented by Attorney Bill Wischkaemper.

In County Court presided over by Judge Dallas Brewer on

January 19, Juan Angel Ibarra pled guilty to unlawfully carrying a weapon. His 90 day jail sentence had been met with 103 days served. A \$500 fine had been paid at \$50 per day in jail, and he must pay \$184 court costs.

David Laureles pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior assault causing bodily injury cause. A 60 day jail term had been met with 97 days time served. He was represented by Attorney Paul Mansur.

Lionel Navarro Jr. pled guilty to a first DWI. A 120 day jail term was suspended and probated 12 months. He will pay \$199 court costs and a \$700 fine with time payments. He will serve 72 hours in jail with credit for 24 served, must attend AA meetings and perform 24 hours community service. His Attorney was Bill Helwig.

Raymond Ryan Bernal pled guilty to consumption of alcohol by a minor, third or more offense. A 30 day jail sentence

Turn to Page 2, 'Guilty Pleas'

Toni Jones named Citizen of Year

Toni Jones, Yoakum County Treasurer, was named by the Plains Chamber of Commerce it's nominee for Citizen of The Year honors at Thursday evening's 15th annual Chamber Banquet. In presenting Jones, Emcee David Brunson described Jones as a person "Willing to go the extra mile." She is an active member of Tsa Mo Ga, the Chamber, 4-H, Child Welfare Board, Yoakum County Credit Union, First Baptist Church, Stateline FCE, Treasurer of the local Salvation Army, and administers the community benevolent fund for Christmas food and gift baskets for the needy.

She is a past president of the County Treasurer's Association of Texas, was named 'Outstanding County Treasurer of the State' in 1999, and is currently Vice President of the Texas Association of Counties. She has been a resident of Plains since 1960. She and husband Gary have two daughters, Amy and Stacy, and grandson Brice.

Bill and Debbie Helwig honored the Citizen of the year with a night of lodging at Hotel Garza, and meals and theatre tickets to a Post Theatre production.

The annual chamber event was another example of small town cooperation and dedication to hard work. The Tsa Mo Ga Study Club decorated the school cafeteria for the event. Banquet tickets were produced and sold by Sylvia Martinez at City Hall, Kathy Jones at Sandy Land designed and produced the programs. Door prizes were generously donated by local and area merchants, firms and individuals. Donors included Lea County



Chamber Pres. David Brunson presents Toni Jones award

Electric, Richardson Insurance, Yoakum County Connection, Doug's Specialties, Dairy Queen, Renaissance Productions, Yoakum County Art Association, Sellers Ag Supply, Allsup's, Gary and Frankie Walker, Cowboy Country News, Sara Jane Shelton and Plains State Bank.

The evening's featured entertainment, "magic By Montgomery," aka Monte Holder, utilized several participants from the audience, and the acts drew plenty of ooohs and aaahhs.

The Invocation was given by Bill Helwig and Jim Barron offered the Benediction.

Widening project for 11th Street underway

Traffic to be rerouted for next Watermelon Round Up in September



County motor grader removes dirt for street resurfacing

The September annual Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up will be held in a greatly expanded, and safer area. A joint project of the City of Plains, County Precincts 3 and 4, and the Yoakum County Connection, will make Pioneer Plaza Park, across the street from the present courthouse square site, available for vendor booths and Round Up events.

11th Street, starting on the east where it intersects with Cowboy Way, will be widened to approximately 40 feet. The wider thoroughfare will extend west to Avenue C, then turn north to re-intersect with Cowboy Way, or Highways 82 and 380.

During the Saturday Round Up event, traffic from the east and west will be routed around the main site, allowing pedestrians and vendors safe passage from the courthouse site to Pioneer Plaza.

City Administrator David Brunson said a number of water and gas meters along 11th Street will be relocated. Precinct 3 Commissioner Jim Barron said the State Highway Department has already granted verbal approval for the project, and the official permit should be issued shortly. He expects final surfacing of the wider street to be complete with warmer weather, probably sometime in April.

'Field Of Dreams' getting face lifting for baseball season

The two year old Plains High Baseball Park is getting a face lift in preparation for the season opener against Lovington on February 26.

Recently four truck loads of clay type soil were trucked here from the Eunice, NM area, and spread on the infield and pitchers mound to firm up that playing area. Grass was re-seeded around the perimeter of the field in areas blown out and infested with grass burs. The

impressive lighting system installed after last years premier season will get a real test, with most of the games scheduled for 5 or 5:30 P.M. starting times.

Head Coach Eddie Carter said eight players from last year's team will return to action. They are seniors Alex Tarango, Jeremy Morphis and Josh Bell, juniors Brett Squyres, Jerry Rivas, Adam Garcia, sophomores Jared Bell and Joseph

Rodriguez

Also signed up for the season are sophomores Sergio Sandoval, and freshmen Justin Chambliss, Josh Curtis, David Garza and Angel Ruiz.

Plains High will compete in the district comprised of Coahoma, Post, Tahoka, Olton, Morton and Hale Center. In last years first season the Cowboys were 6-6 in district action, and 11-9 overall

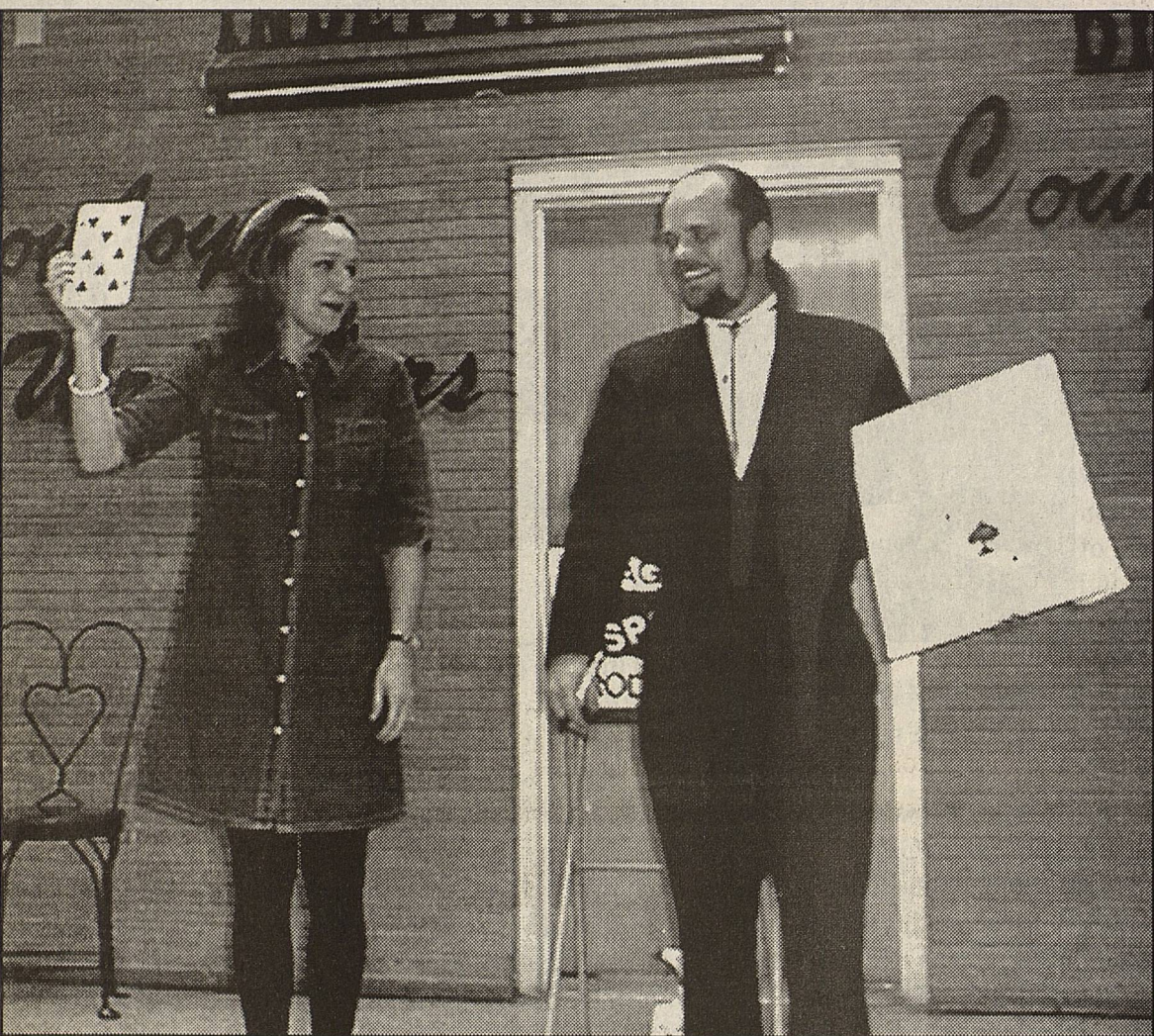


PISD employees Robert Loya and Shane McKinzie shown tilling in clay on infield

Chamber Banquet Magic Scenes



Holden Welch was a very willing volunteer for 'Magic By Montgomery'



Ashley Davis appears a bit skeptical of the quick handed Monte

* NOTICE OF BID PROPOSALS *

Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive written competitive bid proposals for the purchase of (1) CT Scan for the Yoakum County Hospital, until 4:00 P.M. Wednesday, February 9, 2000. Proposals will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in regular session of Commissioners Court on Monday, February 14, 2000. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Mr. Ed Rodgers, Administrator, Yoakum County Hospital, 412 Mustang Avenue, PO Box 1130, Denver City, Texas, 79323, Phone 806-592-2121. Write "PROPOSALS-CT SCAN" on the envelope, seal and mail or deliver to Ed Rodgers, Hospital Administrator, Yoakum County Hospital, 412 Mustang Avenue, POP Box 1130, Denver City, Texas, 79323. Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Working With Your Bank To Protect Your Credit

Banks are asking customer's help in protecting the confidentiality and sensitivity of account data, due to the increasing number of identity theft incidents.

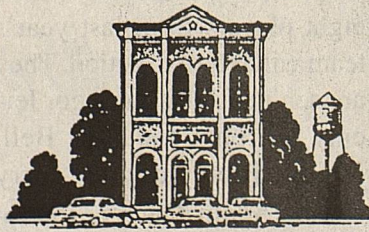
Identity theft, a federal crime, occurs when someone appropriates your personal information without your knowledge and assumes your identity to commit fraud.

How can someone secure information needed to access your records? Con artists are known to use publicly available material to obtain confidential information when calling financial institutions pretending to be you.

Once they have accessed your identity, they can apply for credit cards, open checking accounts and establish phone services under your name. Using your identity, they are able to write bad checks and use your credit cards with no intentions to pay; therefore, tarnishing your good credit with delinquent bills you know nothing about.

You can minimize your risk by following these tips:

- Check your credit record regularly. You should order



Tips from your Community Banker

report from the three credit reporting agencies each year to make sure all information under your name is correct.

- Pay attention to billing cycles and follow up with creditors if bills do not arrive on time. Most con artists change the billing address on your accounts to buy them some time before you recognize a problem with your bill.
- Before revealing personal information ask how that information will be used and if it will be shared with others. If so, can you keep your file confidential? Remember you can always refuse to give out your personal information.
- Only give your Social Security number if absolutely necessary.

This piece of detailed information can open many doors for identity thieves. Do not include your number on your checks.

- Make sure credit offers you get in the mail, such as pre-approved credit cards, are torn and disposed of properly.
- Limit the amount of cards and identification information you keep with you. If your wallet gets stolen, notify your bank and creditors immediately and call credit bureaus to put a "fraud alert" on your file.

Sit down with your bank representative and ask about privacy policies and information practices. You should be aware of what type of information can be offered over the phone, to whom the bank will provide that information and what forms of identification will be required for all your financial accounts.

Being aware of your credit status and communicating with your bank can protect you against identity thieves.

Provided as a public service by the Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT)

From Page 1, 'Guilty Pleas'

was suspended and probated 180 days. He must pay \$225 court costs and fine of \$250, will lose his drivers license 6-days, attend the first offenders program and undergo alcohol/drug evaluation.

Guadalupe Sanchez pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He will spend 45 days in jail with credit for one day served, must pay court costs of \$199 and was fined \$200.

Crystal Tenneil Bishop pled guilty to a first DWI. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. A \$500 fine and \$225 court costs were assessed. The defendant will spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 11 hours served, must complete the first offenders DWI program and attend AA meetings weekly.

Mida Villareal pled guilty to making a terroristic threat. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay court costs of \$199, serve 24 hours community service, and complete the BIPP program.

Manuel Soto III pled guilty to a first DWI offense. A \$500 fine and \$225 court costs will be met with time payments. He will spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 11 hours served. He must complete the DWI first offender program and serve 24 hours community service.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the State in both courts.

Army's digital 'Dog Tag'

The Pentagon will provide every G.I. with a wearable data storage device. Soldiers will wear their personal information carriers (PICs) around their necks with their regular dog tags.

The matchbook size device, dubbed a digital dog tag, weighs only two grams, and contains a soldier's complete medical history. Doctors in the field can easily insert the PIC into a laptop computer at a Battalion Aid Station to obtain and then update a soldier's medical records.

What Latest Crash Tests Results Mean For Auto Insurance Premium

Crash tests conducted recently by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety on large family and luxury cars offer Texans an opportunity to reevaluate insurance rates.

"The results of the crash tests are obviously very important for consumers and vehicle manufacturers alike because as manufacturers improve their design there will be fewer deaths and injuries," said Brian O'Neil, president of Insurance Institute for Highway Safety in Arlington, Virginia. "In turn, there will be fewer insurance claims. The reality of auto insurance is that rates are based on actual claims experience."

Variables used to determine auto insurance rates include claims experience, vehicle make and model, driver age and place of residence. Rating variables and the weighting given those variables may vary between companies, which explains why there is such a wide disparity, or variance, in rates available for identical policies.

"If one insurer has significantly higher claims than another within a given category, that company's premiums are probably going to be much higher for drivers fitting that profile," said Willy Graves, president of Progressive County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas. "Therefore, rates can vary a lot from company to company. It really pays to shop around."

A study conducted by Progressive earlier this year found that Texans could be saving an average of \$689 every six months on auto insurance if they just took the time to compare rates. The study showed the same driver could receive a quote of \$1,501 for a six month auto insurance policy from one company and quote of \$812 for the identical policy from another company.

Regardless of insurer, your auto insurance premium will be based in large part on the

following factors:

- *Your driving record. Drivers with multiple moving violations or at fault accidents are statistically more likely to file future claims. As a result, their premium rates will be higher than those for drivers with clean records.
- *Geographic location. A vehicle operated in a large city is more likely to be stolen or damaged than a vehicle operated in rural Texas.
- *Age. You might be an extremely safe 18 year old driver. The fact remains, however, that your peers file more claims than drivers in other age categories. As a result, you probably will be viewed as a higher risk.
- *Gender. Most auto insurers have had better claims experiences with female drivers, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. This is particularly true among unmarried drivers and those under 25 years of age.
- *Miles driven. The more you drive, the more likely you are to have an accident or file a damage/theft claim.
- *Vehicle. The make and model of your vehicle plays a huge role in determining your premium. A new Chevrolet Camaro can represent a significantly greater risk in terms of theft, vandalism and repair costs than an older, less expensive vehicle.

Obviously, there's not much you can do about your age or gender. And marital status, home location and miles driven can be difficult to control. That's why it pays to shop around and check rates from several insurers.

For more information or questions contact Jonathan Klein, Progressive Insurance at 512/464-1223 or Terry Young, Road-Poland Associates at 512/472-4122.

January 1800; J.Q. Adams wrote to William Vans Murry noting the different political ideals of Napoleon and Washington.

PSB

Plains State Bank

Announces the new
*Plains Advantage Account**

- This account offers:
- *No Minimum Balance Requirements
 - *No Monthly Service Charge
 - *Free Checks

Open a new *Plains Advantage Account** today!

Plains State Bank has been serving Yoakum County and the surrounding area for over 43 years. We are independently and locally owned. All decisions are made locally!

All new *Plains Advantage Account's* opened with funds not currently on deposit at Plains State Bank will receive 6-months free rental on a safe deposit box.

*The *Plains Advantage Account* is a "truncated" account. Minimum deposit to open the *Plains Advantage Account* is \$100.00.

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601 9th Street Plains, Texas
(806) 456-2022

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Local candidates draw for ballot positions



Shown left to right, Debbie Rushing, County Clerk, explains rules to county candidate Cody Flore, Rex Swann, Hershel Smith, Terry Davis, Betty Rivas, Jeff Lowrey and daughter Haley.

Last Friday afternoon, many of the county candidates for local offices gathered in the Courthouse for the ritual drawing for positions on the Democrat and Republican March Primary ballots. Following are the results reported by County Clerk Debbie Rushing;

Democrat Ballot:

Sheriff -
(1) Jimmie Rice

Tax Assessor/Collector-

(1) Jeffrey Lowrey
(2) Betty Rivas
Commissioner, Pct. 3-
(1) Ty Earl Powell
(2) Evaristo "Cody" Flores
Constable, Pct 1-
(1) Shirley Dene Rafferty
Constable, Pct 2-
(1) Gordon S. Sefcik
Party Chairman -
(1) Billy Ray Moore
Republican Ballot:
Sheriff -

(1) Don Corzine
Tax Assessor/Collector-
(1) Suann Parrish
Commissioner, Pct. 1 -
(1) Woody Lindsey
(2) Eddie Coker
Commissioner, Pct. 3-
(1) Terry Davis
(2) Hershel Smith
(3) Rex Swann
(4) Greg D. Mc Cravey
Party Chairman -
(1) Kathy Jones

Lea County Electric Negotiates Reduction In Wholesale Power Cost

Members of Lea County Electric Cooperative will soon receive the benefit of a near \$1 million wholesale rate decrease throughout 2000. The savings - to be passed through to all members of the Cooperative in New Mexico and Texas - is the result of many months of negotiations between several rural electric cooperatives in eastern NM and west Texas and their wholesale power provider Southwestern Public Service (SPS) of Amarillo, Texas. "The time and effort that went into negotiating this rate decrease underscores our commitment to provide our members the best in power quality and reliability at the lowest possible cost," said Mike Dreyspring, LCEC General Manager. The new wholesale rate became effective January 14.

The agreement is good for 12 months, but Dreyspring sees the short duration as beneficial to the Cooperative. "The only thing certain in the electric util-

ity industry these days is uncertainty; changes in the industry could provide us with new opportunities to reap additional savings for our members when we head back to the table with SPS in another year," said Dreyspring.

Customers' monthly bills will be reduced by approximately \$.001 per kilowatt-hour. This adjustment represents a savings of approximately \$.70 per month on an average monthly residential bill of 690 kWh.

Beginning last October, the Cooperative began a pass-through of \$946,000 in savings realized through a wholesale settlement agreement with SPS. That refund amounts to \$.00118 per kWh and should take about eight more months to disburse to the Cooperative's membership.

Lea County Electric Cooperative is under contract to SPS to purchase all of its wholesale power requirements through 2014.

willow, prefer dry conditions during the winter. Plants native to moist environments will need supplemental irrigation during these dry periods.

For many of the trees and shrubs grown in our landscapes, the most critical time for irrigation is in the late winter as the buds begin to swell. This may be more than a month before growth begins, and this is the time when small absorbing water and nutrients. If the soil is too dry at the time these new absorbing roots form, the roots may die and the plant will have a difficult time beginning growth in the spring. Other times in the winter, however, water is also necessary. Water is lost through twigs and stems, even when leaves are absent. This water must be replaced. Evergreens which have leaves through the winter lose even more water which must be replaced to keep the plant alive.

When the soil is frozen, it is difficult to successfully irrigate plants. Before the soil freezes and during warm periods when the soil thaws, it is possible to irrigate. Fortunately, when the soil is cold, the water is lost less rapidly and the plants need less water.

Hydrogen Sulfide training set

Hydrogen Sulfide Safety Training, a 3 hour course to meet safety requirements for work in the oil field, is scheduled February through May at South Plains College.

Cost is \$10 and classes will meet 6-9 p.m. in the Petroleum Technology-Law Enforcement Building, room 106. Instructor is Paul Harbin.

Winter Landscape Watering

The question often arises this time of year as to just how often should I water my landscape plants during the winter? Can I stop watering until spring?

Here in Yoakum County whether or not to water depends on the weather and on the plants in your landscape. If the soil remains moist due to rains and snows, little irrigation will be

required. But, in West Texas, the winters are often dry enough that the soils will dry for significant periods of time in the winter. In that case, the decision to water depends on the plants. Plants adapted to dry winters, those well adapted to xeriscapes, will need no water. Some plants native to dry environments, such as the desert

Yoakum County Junior Livestock Show & Auction
January 27, 28, 29
Be There !

Did You Know?



Yoakum County Hospital Is
A Part of Your Community
A Part of Your Life
A Part of Your Security

Did you know...Yoakum County Hospital collected in excess of \$3.3 million in 1999? These dollars statistically turn over five times in Yoakum County. That is an infusion of almost \$17 million into our economy! Your support of your hospital is mutually beneficial.

Did you know...Yoakum County Hospital supports 60 employees with a payroll expense of \$2,136,185? Your hospital is important to the existence of three physicians' clinics and two pharmacies. Total employment for your

hospital and affiliated local "trickle down" is 91 employees. Your hospital is one of the major employers in the county. Every four jobs supports three more jobs in the community for a total of 159 positions in Yoakum County.

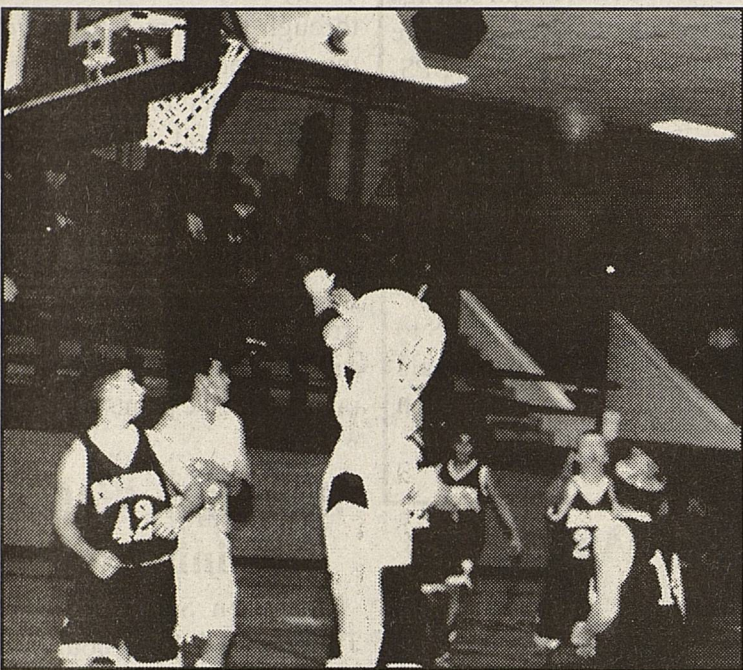
Did you know...there were 4,616 visits to our emergency room last year? Some encounters represent critical care, accidents, industrial accidents, heart attacks, strokes and other health problems. As a level IV trauma center, quality standards in training and equipment are always available.

412 Mustang Ave. - Denver City, Texas 79323 - (806) 591-2121

Cowgirl, Cowboy action versus Coahoma



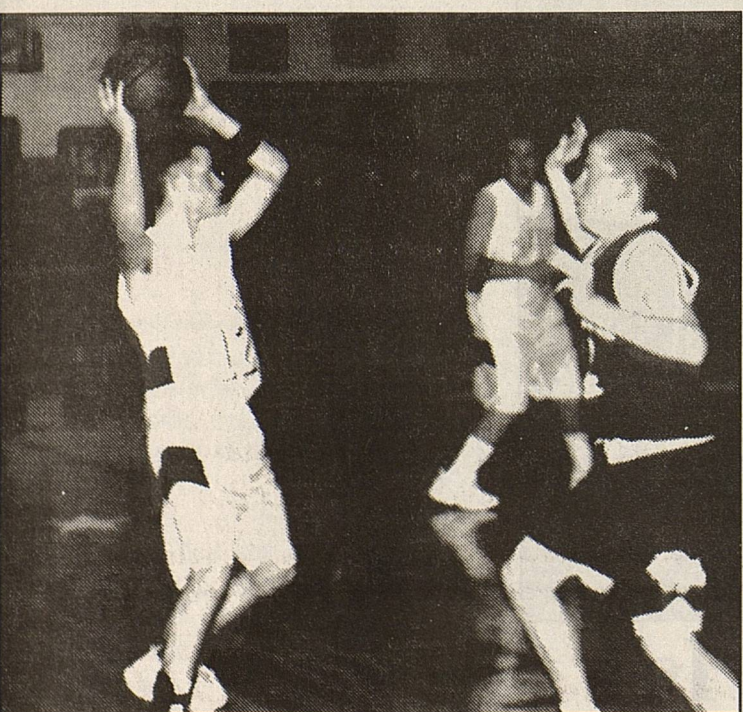
Chelsi Wagnon takes foul shot



Dustin Six goes high for incoming ball



Kristen Gray finds herself hemmed in



Patrick McGinty studies how to go around, over or under

PISD Basketball Recap

Junior High:

7th Girls - The younger girls were swamped by Seagraves last week, 40-13. Jesenia Suarez and Lela Coronado managed 5 points each, Prisma Ortiz had 2, and Kristian Morales 1.

8th Girls - The older girls got a little closer to Seagraves, going down 20 - 10. Scoring results unavailable.

7th Boys - The younger Wranglers lost a close contest to Seagraves, 29-26. Evan Cain led the scoring with 11 points, Scott Bruton, Cody Flores and Kelby Johnson had 4 each, Isaac Ramon 1.

8th Boys - Unavailable

High School:

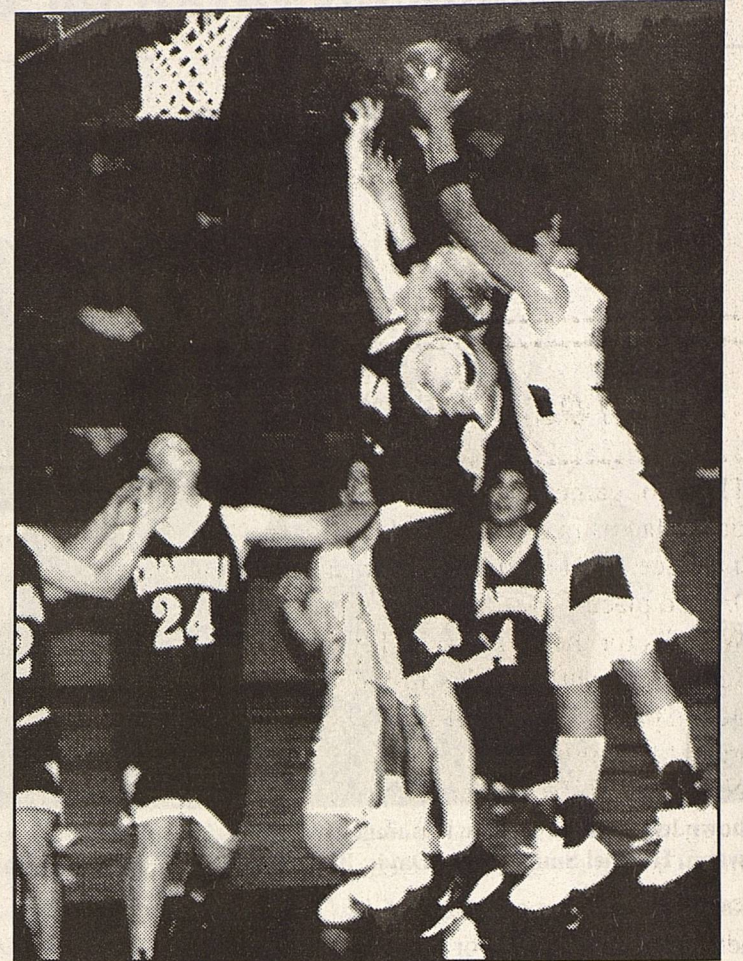
Freshmen Boys - Seagraves came out on top of the Frosh Cowboys 34-23, mainly from a very cold first half. Jonathan DeLa Rosa scored 7 points, Angel Ruiz 5, Kelly Bowers 4, Ryan Swann and Miguel Coronado 3 each, Noel Castillo 1.

JV Cowgirls - The younger Cowgirls played hard against Coahoma, but fell behind late in the final period to lose 45-30. Chelsea Blount had 13 points, Mandi Rogers 6, Kerri Hansen and Arasley Luna 4 each, Jessica Rodriguez 2, Mackenzie Winn 1. Stanton proved even tougher, and they were downed 59-36. Chelsea had 10 points, Mackenzie 7, Kayla Wills 6, Jessica 5, Liz Wilmeth 4, Jill Gray 3, and Arasley 1.

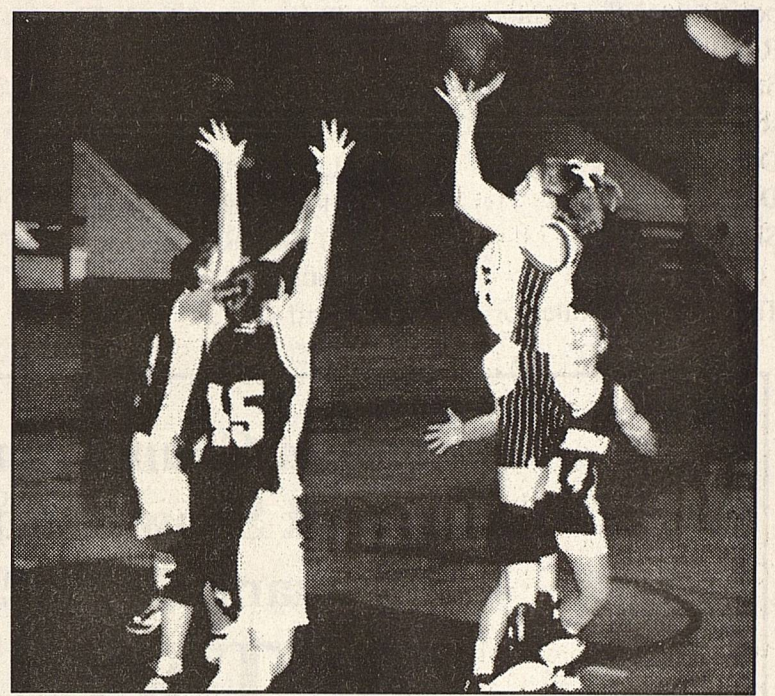
JV Cowboys - The younger Cowboys extended their season record to 13 wins, 4 losses, and stand 3 - 0 in district play. They downed Coahoma 59-51, with Moises Gonzales leading scoring with 21, and Jarod Newland had 18. They next felled Stanton 45-32. Jarod had 17 points, and Aaron Cain 15.

PHS Cowgirls - The Cowgirls had a night of cold shooting against Coahoma, going down 49-29. They shot 26.5% from the floor, and 39.1% free throws. Candace Bowers and Krystle Blundell shared scoring honors with 9 each, Annaliesa O'Quinn 4, Anne Palmer 3, Kim Willis 2, Kristen Gray and Lexi Warren 1 each. Kristen had 6 steals, and Candace had 4 rebounds. They were next downed by Stanton 64-45, with cold shooting again the big problem. Krystle managed 11 points, Candace had 8, Lexi, Kristen and Anne had 7 each, Annaliesa 1. Annaliesa and Candace pulled down 7 rebounds each, and Krystle had 7 steals.

Cowboys - The Cowboys downed district opponent Coahoma 63-47. Eddy Gallegos poured in 18 points, Josh Bell had 15, Dustin Six 11, Justin Bennett 7, Jared Bell 4, Alex Tarango and Fermin Luna 3 each, and Patrick Mc Ginty 2. They next traveled to Stanton, and in a game marred by almost a 4 to 1 margin of penalties against the Cowboys, were downed 55-48. Only 7 Cowboys made the scoring column; Patrick and Eddy had 10 each, Kelsey Blundell 9, Josh 8, Jared 6, Dustin 3, and Justin 2.



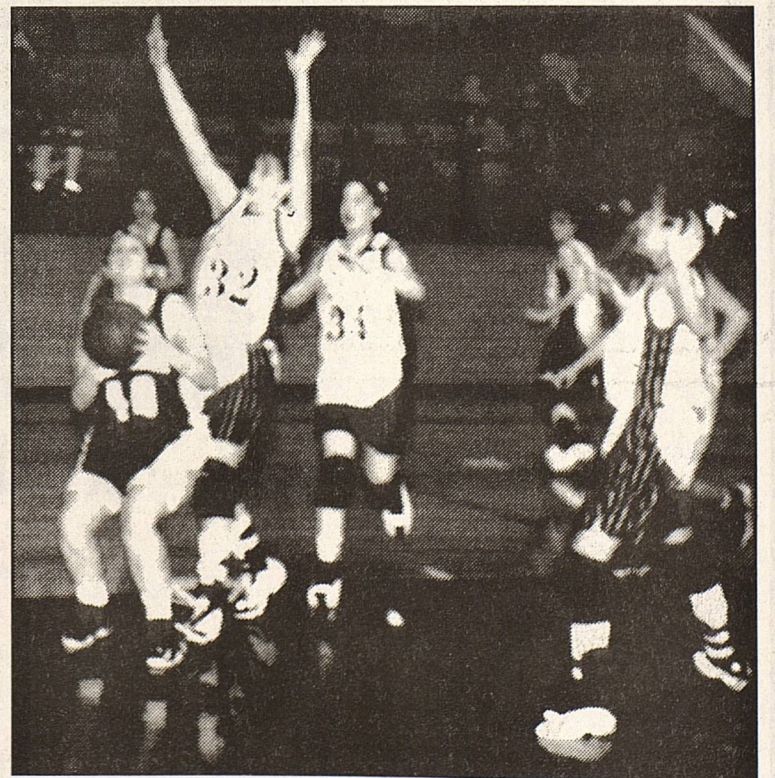
Eddy Gallegos soared to make this shot



Annaliesa O'Quinn takes jump shot



Josh Bell made this lay up



Cowgirls swarm Coahoma player under basket

Student of the Week

PHS student of the week is Lisa San Filippo, a junior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kitto. Lisa was nominated by Mr. Brink, who said, "It is my pleasure to nominate this week's student of the week. Lisa has been in my classes for two years and always has something to add to our discussion. She brighten's up our morning class and makes great breakfast burritos !



UIL Journalism Results

There were contestants from 28 schools, 1A-5A, competing in this meet at Andrews January 22. All contestants competed and were ranked together. PHS

student results included; Head-line Writing-Lesli Rowe-5th place, Editorial Writing-Anne Palmer-5th place.

**Go,
Cowgirls,
Cowboys !**

"ATTENTION" Would You Like To Help?

Plains Cub Scouts are needing donations to purchase a derby car- race-track, for Plains. Donations are tax deductible. You can make your donations to Plains State Bank or Call Cristy Brink 806-456-6333.

TPA MEMBER 2000
Cowboy Country
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TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Lifelines & Styles

Senior Citizens Corner

The pool games on Wednesday were well attended. Winning for the ladies in 8 ball were Jean Poage 1st place, Ilene Fillips 2nd place. In 9 ball June Hannaman won 1st place and Margaret Ort 2nd place.

Winners for the men in 8 ball, 1st place Joe Trijillo, 2nd place Cookie Bancett. Winners in 9 ball, 1st place Bob Fillips, 2nd place Sparkey Sparks. It's a day of fun, and other Seniors are urged to get involved.

New faces at the Center this week were Benny Connaly, Clare Doggett and Jerry Patterson. Jay Nolans sister, Dorothy visited. Ireta Davis had surgery on Wednesday. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Our condolences to the family of Betty Moore. Her funeral was Friday January 21.

The ones who receive lunches delivered at home, and the ones who ride the bus each say are missing the regular driver. Layne resigned the job due to health reasons and will be greatly missed by everyone.

See you next week,
Smitty

Activities: Wednesday; Line Dancing 10:00 am., Tatum Pool Tournament 1:00 M.S.T. Thursday; Memorial Home Health B/P 10:30 am. Friday; Line Dancing 10:00 am.

New Books At The Library

Fiction:

High Tide...Jude Deveraux, **The Wind From The Hills...**Jessica Stirling, **Battle Born...**Dale Brown, **Wake up Little Susie...**Ed Gorman, **A Map Of The World...**Jane Hamilton, **Miracle And Other Christmas Stories...**Connie Willis, **Monster...**Jonathan Kellerman, **A Walk To Remember...**Nicholas Sparks. **Non-Fiction:** **John Glenn: A Memoir...**John Glenn, **Women's Moods: What Every Woman Must Know About Hormones, The Brain, and Emotional Health...**Deborah Sichel, M.D. **Memorial: My Name Is America: The Journal Of James Edmond Pease, a Civil War Union soldier...**donated by Lethel & Loma Jones in memory of Elijah Hinkle.

New Baby Girl !

Zoe Victoria Wilson-Born January 4, 2000 at 10:49 am. in University Medical Center, Lubbock. She weighed 6 lb. 9 oz. and was 19 3/8" long. Parents are Brian and Margie Wilson of Lubbock. Grandparents are J.B. & Dianne Wilson of Stephenville, Tx; Victoria Comacho and Raphael Rodriquez of Bronx, NY. Great grandmothers are Johnavie Porter of Stephenville, TX; Carmen Rodriquez and Mona Cruz of Pureto Rico

*Do you feel like you are stuck in a rut?
Do you feel like you are on a boat that is adrift at sea?
Come and find a new sense of direction and experience
God's LOVE and GRACE in a NEW WAY.
visit
First United Methodist Church
1201 Avenue G - Plains
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship - 10:45 A.M.
You'll Be Glad You Did!*

Lowe-Frerich Announce Engagement



Michelle Lowe and Mitch Frerich are proud to announce their engagement. Michelle is the daughter of Joel and Debra Lowe, and the granddaughter of Alfred and Faye Bearden and Jack Lowe, all of Plains. She is a 1991 graduate of Plains High School. She received her B.A. in Psychology from Texas Tech University in 1995 and her Masters in Education-Counseling from Sul Ross State University in 1999. She is a Special Education Teacher in Del Rio, Texas. Mitch is the son of Raymond and Gaylene Frerich of Brackettville, Texas. He is a 1990 graduate of Brackett High School and attended Angelo State University. He is an Engineer for the Union Pacific Railroad. The couple plan to marry March 4, 2000 in Brackettville.

*You are invited to a
wedding shower honoring
Vee Ann Fitzgerald
bride-elect of
Philip Carter
on Sunday, February 6, 2000
from 2:00 to 3:00 P.M.
in the home of
Mrs. Tommy Box
Selections at Nelson's Pharmacy-
Dillard's-Linens and Things*

Yoakum County Library Filmtime

January 19, 2000-Those attending filmtime at the Yoakum County Library were as follows; Micah St. Romain, Daitlyne Broome, Regan Young, Silas and Jaxon Williams, Percy, Sol and Sieanna Sosa, Colby Bearden, Lucas Hernandez, Merrit Crump, Macy Banfield, Mesa Davis, Autumn Friesen, Taya Hamilton, Whitney Davis and Marina Corrales. The group enjoyed playing "Ring Around the Roses" and singing "I'm a Little Teapot," "ABC Song," "If You're Happy and You Know It," "Five Little Monkeys," and "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." The boys and girls enjoyed two books; A Tale of Tails and All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir and a video entitled Animal Senses. The pledges were given to the United States and Texas flags to end the program.

Baby Shower
for infant daughter of
Brian & Margie Wilson
on Saturday January 29th
from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
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Elementary School Achievers



Chandra Carpenter



Katelynn Young

Chandra Carpenter, a 4th grader in Plains Elementary and the daughter of Chemayne Johnson, is currently the top achiever in the school's Accelerated Reading Program, and has earned 250 points in the educational program.

Katelynn Young, a 2nd grader and daughter of Ray and Sonya Young, was the top fund raiser in the school's fund raising program to benefit St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Katelynn collected \$186 from donors during the school's money raising event. Our congratulations to both young ladies.

SPC Commercial Music Program Schedules 25th Anniversary Festivities

South Plains College will celebrate the 25th anniversary of one of the most innovative music programs in America education March 2-4 with a live television performance, reunion concert and a salute to the man whose vision began it all a quarter century ago.

Nathan Tubbs, who served SPC 23 years as a college administrator before retiring in 1981, will be honored during a special recognition ceremony March 3 for his role in helping to establish SPC's pioneering program in commercial music.

The festivities began March 2 with a performance at 7:30 p.m. of Thursday Nite Live, and Austin City Limits style live television show which features the talent of students in the program. The show will also be broadcast to cable viewers in Levelland, Littlefield, Brownfield and Morton. Tubb is one of the show's most ardent supporters and can be found in the audience the first Thursday night of each month for the monthly show.

An evening celebrating Tubbs' accomplishments is set for 7:00 p.m. Friday, March 3, in the same location, the Tom T. Hall Studio in the college's Creative Art Building. The three-day slate of festivities will also focus on former students in the program. "We want to involve as many former students as possible to ply in the jam session and in our reunion concert" said Ed Marsh, associate professor of music and one of the event's organizers. We encourage these former students to contact us as soon as possible. We have a web-site set up through the college's web-site address at spc.cc.tx.us or students can email emarsh@spc.cc.tx.us, he noted. Interested persons can also contact SPC beginning Jan. 3 at 806-894-9611 or write the college at 1401 S. College Ave, Levelland Tx 79336

January 1800; House considered a bill allowing for a means of communication between the U.S. and foreign countries.

Garden Club Meets

The Plains Garden Club met Tuesday January 18, with President Jackie Willis presiding.

Pete Lindsey of Brownfield, Texas gave a very interesting and informative program on "Weed & Insect Control." Pamphlets on the subject were given to those attending.

The December "Operation Christmas Card" was reported to be a success.

President Jackie Willis is moving, and Debbie Morphis will assume the office of president.

The next meeting will be Tuesday February 15 at 9:00 am. in the clubroom.

Attending were: Debbie Morphis, Ruby Sellers, Jackie Willis, Velma Dearing, Dean Richardson, and Ita Young.

Hint: Prune shade trees and remove damaged branches. Remove 80 to 85 percent of cane growth on grapes. Apply horticultural oil to eliminate scale insects from fruit trees.

A Special Thank You!



L-R, Billie Blundell, Virginia Sanders, Holly Dyer, Toni Jones, Betty Estep, Inetta Teaff, Bonnie Earnest, Wadonna Davis, Wilma Powell, Connie McWhirter.

A very special 'THANK YOU' to the above for their talent and participation in Tsa Mo Ga's 'GIVE OUR REGARDS TO BROADWAY'. I also wish to thank Gary Dyer, CCN Editor, for his excellent coverage of this Spectacular Revue!
SINCERELY, BILLIE BLUNDELL, DIRECTOR (???)

The Congressional Medal Of Honor

In 1861, shortly after the outbreak of the Civil War, Congress authorized a medal recognizing members of the military for gallantry in action, and other soldier like actions. Hundreds of Union forces were given the award, while the Confederacy gave no awards to any of their troops, considering all of them heroes.

In 1916, Congress reviewed qualifications for receiving the nation's highest military award. Other medals were created, in descending order of recognition of bravery, and the supreme honor of recognition became The Medal Of Honor.

The medal was to be awarded to one... "Who shall in action involving actual conflict with the enemy, distinguish himself conspicuously by gallantry, and intrepidity at the risk of his life, above and beyond the call of duty."

Strict qualifications, multiple witness testimony was now required to earn the beautiful medal, suspended on a shiny bright blue ribbon adorned with stars of the union, around the recipients neck.

Following adoption of the new, stringent rules, only 123 Medals Of Honor were approved in World War I, only 434 in World War II, when over 4.34 million Americans were in uniform, 131 were awarded in the Korean War, and in the much longer Vietnam War 240 medals were awarded.

Sadly enough, the great minority number of the stirring awards were made to survivors of those conflicts... the majority were made posthumously.

TELCOT[®] Report

A WEEKLY SUMMARY OF COTTON MARKETING NEWS

The market's brief surge is being attributed to a variety of reasons ranging from dry conditions in the key growing state of Texas, the lower than expected net long position of speculative funds in the weekly NYCE spec/hedge data and the robust performance of the Cotlook A Index cotton prices. Concern mounts as the drought continues in Texas, and record high temperatures have been recorded in parts of the Texas High and Rolling Plains and the Coastal Bend. Producers in these areas would welcome winter precipitation to replace valuable soil moisture and freezing temperatures to kill overwintering insects. Excessively dry conditions have hampered land preparation in some sections, and many producers are waiting on moisture before doing any field work. However, progress in the state has not been halted completely as some farmers in the areas

that received snow and rain late last year have been preparing the ground for spring planting. More cotton acres could be planted in the U.S. in the upcoming year as analysts noted last week's rise in new crop prices might make cotton more appealing. December cotton futures rose above 60.00 cents per pound last week. "Sixty cents begins to tease back new acreage," said a broker in the U.S. Delta. "I use the word tease because it's still not a great price," he explained. Also, market watchers believe many U.S. farmers likely will be planting more cotton because of government support programs like loan deficiency payments. World cotton supplies also might rise as foreign growers, expected to plant less cotton because of low prices, may change their minds after seeing a recent rise in U.S. and world prices.

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Special Education students Cassie Coronel and Matt McKinzie are pictured in front of the Junior High building, ready to launch a helium filled balloon on a breezy day last week. Mrs. Hansen, their Aide, said the youngsters were excited about watching the balloon soar. It contained the following message; " God Loves You! If you find this balloon, please call the Plains, Texas Junior High", with the school phone number.

Marcey House on LCU Dean's List

Marcey House of Plains has been named to the dean's list at Lubbock Christian University for the fall semester of 1999.

In order to be considered a part of the dean's list, a student must be taking a minimum of 12 semester hours and achieve a 3.5 grade point average or better for the entire semester.

Lubbock Christian University is a liberal arts institution of higher learning dedicated to providing a quality education in a Christian environment. LCU offer 34 bachelor's degree programs and four master's degrees with a record enrollment this year of approximately 1500 students.

Thank You

Dear Yoakum County Friends,

In an attempt to thank everyone who assisted our family during our accident and mine and Ragan's recovery, I am afraid of missing someone. I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for every prayer, thought, visit, and many kindness that have been expressed. It is a very humbling experience to know how this community and the entire county supports it's people in times of need. I am still hearing stories of people and their expressions of love while I was still in the hospital. The first four or five days I do not remember, but I am convinced the prayers are what pulled me through. Thank you for that!!! I am recovering well and hope to be back to normal routine before long. I started physical therapy on Jan 18 in D C.

God bless you each and every one!!

Ann McGinty and family.

Hospital considering purchase of 'Cat Scan'

In Monday's session of Commissioners Court, Yoakum County Hospital Administrator Ed Rogers said his Board of Directors had been considering acquiring CT scan equipment for the hospital. "We are convinced there is a definite need for the Cat Scan equipment, and feel it will be a source of considerable revenue for us. We are now sending from eight to fifteen patients to other hospitals for cat scans each month."

He said the board was requesting commissioner's court approval to advertise for bid proposal on a re-manufactured unit. He reported preliminary inquiries for a suitable unit indicated a minimum price of \$85,000. The unit would be housed in a permanent site in the hospital, which would require some renovation of part of the facility.

The court approved the request, and will open bids on February 9, and take action February 14.

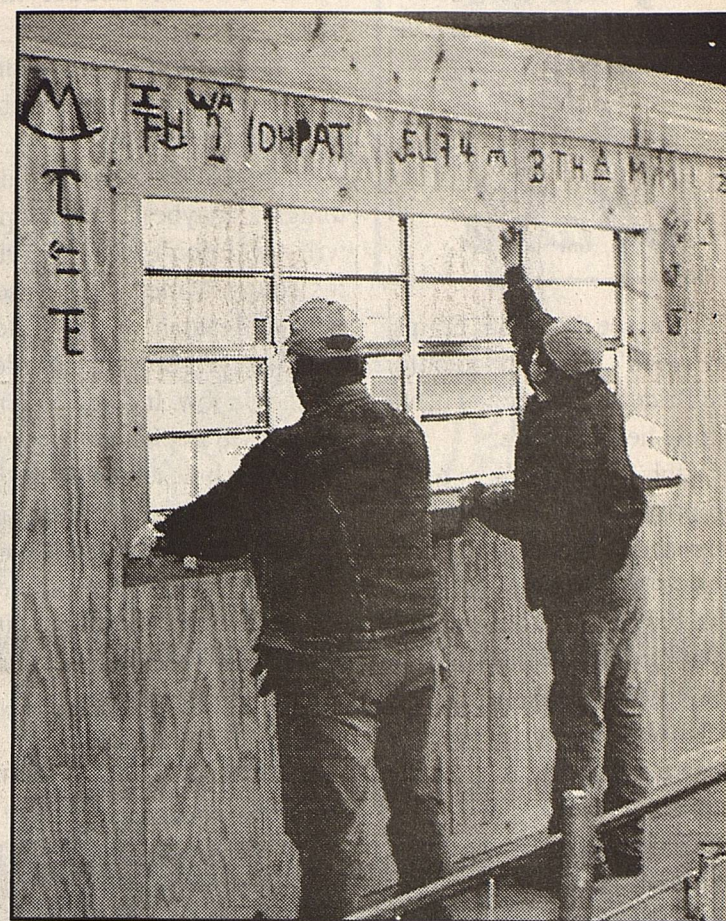
A low bid from Wilson Mo-

tors of Snyder was accepted for a 2000 model Ford 150 pickup to be used at the County Landfill. Bid price was \$14,560 without trade-in.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark asked for approval to change employment status of Stephanie Ashburn from 3rd deputy to 2nd deputy. He said she was now handling duties of the former 2nd deputy, Elfida Winkler, who resigned on January 10. The request was approved.

Character contributes to beauty. It fortifies a woman as her youth fades. A mode of conduct, a standard of courage, discipline, fortitude and integrity can do a great deal to make a woman beautiful.

Prepping for Livestock Show



Pct. 3 employees have been getting the showbarns ready for this week's Junior Livestock Show. Joe Martinez and Alfred Jimenez are shown putting the shine on the concession stand.

Ron Klinger, Ph.D.

Keynote speaker who is a family psychologist, author of *The Common Sense No-Frills, Plain-English Guide to Being a Successful Dad*, and founder of the Center for Successful Fathering



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Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Plains High School Gym
for Grades 5-12

7:30 to 8:00 A.M. Breakfast in Foyer
8:00 to 11:00 A.M. Workshop

Thursday, February 3, 2000

Denver City Kelley Elementary
for Grades Pre-K - 3
7:30 to 8:00 A.M. Breakfast
8:00 to 11:00 A.M. Workshop

Denver City Intermediate
for Grades 4 - 12
5:30 to 6:30 P.M. Supper
6:30 to 9:30 P.M. Workshop

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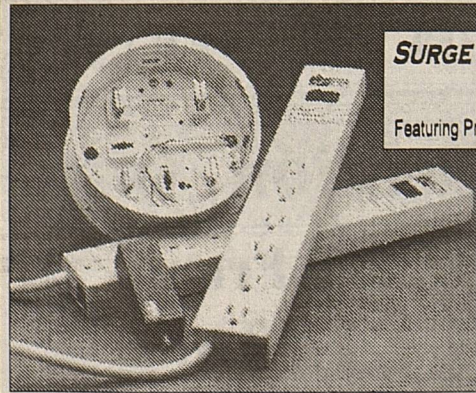
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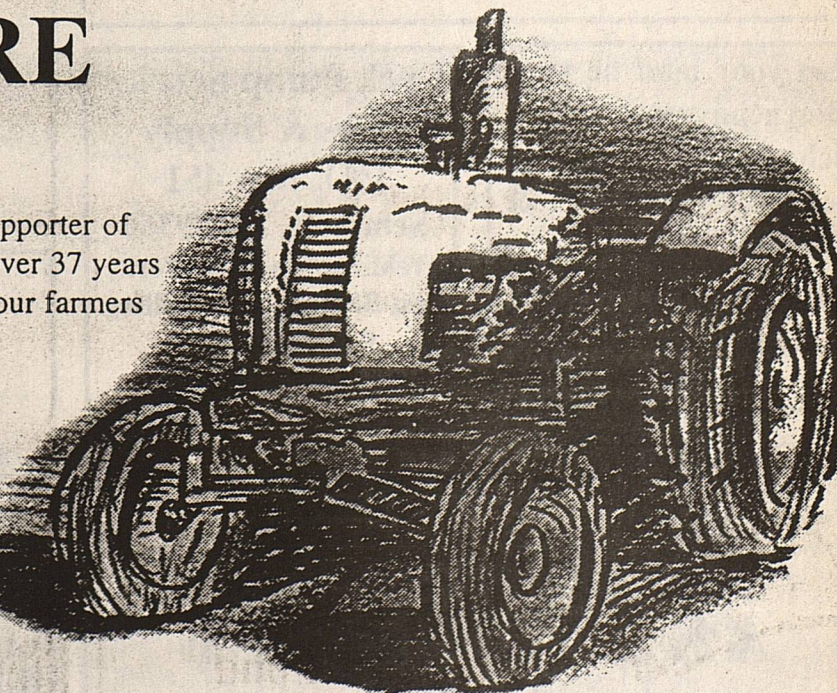
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TRANE "Its hard to stop a TRANE!"

From The Hack

Did you see the Lunar Eclipse last week? Very spectacular. The Bride and I watched it, and it drew her response; "Oohh, the moon's so red!" I replied, "That's because it's supposed to be red, you know, cause of the shadow on it." She gasped, "A red moon is the perfect sign of death." "Whose?," I asked. "I don't know. Someone. Maybe someone we know. Maybe someone we like. Maybe some one we really love."

"Bosh", I replied. "Probably a dog or cat will be squashed in the street while it's red, maybe a catfish will run out of steam in the Mississippi, maybe a Prairie Dog will get devoured by a Rattle Snake, but nobody we know is going to die because of the red moon!" "What do you know", she wailed. "I think someone close to us is in mortal danger. I'm scared!" "Bosh and bull stuff", I an-

swered. "It's a pretty common occurrence, and they told us it would be a bit redder this time."

"I know, and that's cause somebody's gonna die tonight! I'm really terrified!"

"Of course someone will die tonight... maybe 47,000 people will die. I don't know, maybe it's cousin Minerva the miser, or Aunt Beulah, the shoplifter, it could even be your retarded brother in law. It could also be that cursed gopher eating your Day Lillie bulbs. It could be the IRS Nerd that keeps calling you. It could be one of your fellow students who flunked 7th grade Texas History with you, I don't know, but YES, someone will die tonight", I screamed at her.

She simpered a smile at me and said, "See, I told you so!"

From D.R., via E-Mail: Enlightenment.. or, growing up; Age 6 - I've learned I like my teacher because she cried when we sing ' Silent Night'. Age 7 - I've learned my dog doesn't like broccoli either. Age 9 - I've learned when I get my room the way I like it, Mom makes me clean it up. Age 15 - It's hard to admit, but I'm secretly glad parents are strict with me. Age 24 - I've learned brushing my child's hair is one of life's

great pleasures. Age 29 - I've learned wherever I go, the world's worst drivers follow me there. Age 42 - I've learned there are people who love you, but just don't know how to show it. Age 48 - I've learned children and grandparents are natural allies. Age 53 - I've learned growing a garden is worth more than a medicine chest of pills. Age 63 - I've learned life sometimes gives you a second chance. Age 72 - I've learned everyone can use a prayer. Age 82 - I've learned even when I have pain, I don't have to be one. Age 92 - I've learned I still have a lot to earn.

I saw a pretty good ad in a copy of the Levelland paper recently, and I'll bet it's effective. The advertisement read;

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Ron Klinger, Ph.D.
Presidente del discurso quien es un psicólogo, autor de *The Common Sense No-Frills, Plain-English Guide to Being a Successful Dad*, y fundador del Centro de Padres con Exito

Interpretando en español por el Dr. Klinger será Alphonso Rincón, Director de Programa de Desarrollo de El Centro de Padres con Exito.

Ron Klinger **Alphonso Rincón**

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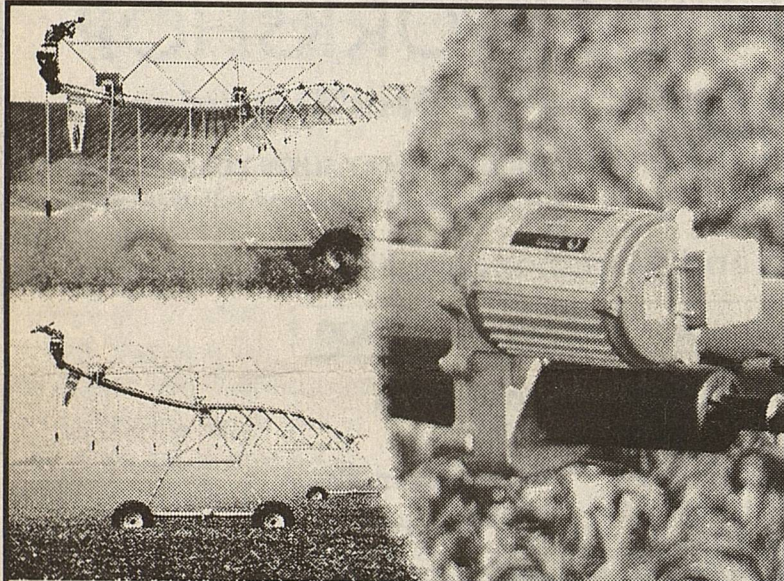
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Jueves, 3 de febrero 2000
Escuela Elementary de Denver City Escuela Intermediate de Denver City
Para Grados Pre-K - 3 Para Grados 4 - 12
7:30 to 8:00 A.M. Almuerzo 5:30 to 6:30 P.M. Cena
8:00 to 11:00 A.M. Taller 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. Taller

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