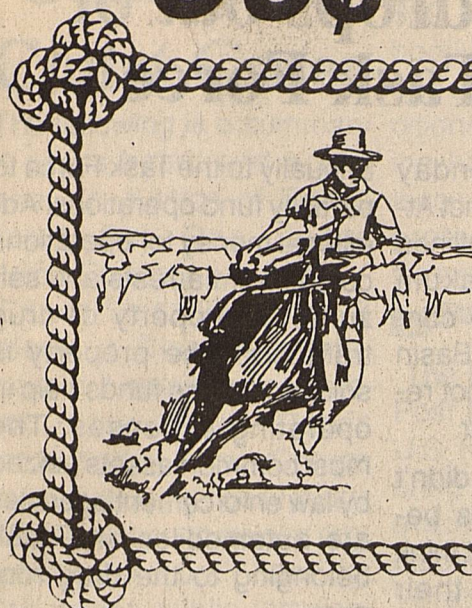


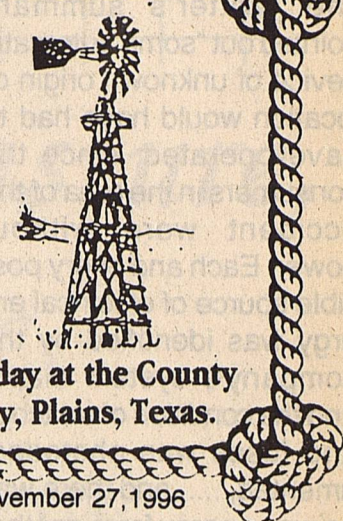
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Cowboy Country News



Published each Wednesday at the County
Seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas.

Volume III, Issue 13, Wednesday, November 27, 1996

Expiring CRP contract acreage still eligible for program

College Station, Nov. 18;

One of the questions that has been raised concerning the new Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) rules is whether acreage in expiring contracts - contracts that cannot be extended according to law - will be eligible for enrollment under the new rules expected to be out early in 1997.

The answer is yes, if the criteria for either the continuous sign up or the practices in place under the new rules are met.

Landowners who wish to continue participating in the CRP should take a look at the practices now eligible for continuous sign up, and consider what might fit their operations. Landowners should also become aware of the new CRP rules, to prepare for re-bidding their CRP acreage that will be expiring.

For all CRP participants, looking ahead and planning will help landowners make the transition to the new pro-

gram rules. The CRP is still the Department of Agriculture's primary program for controlling soil erosion, saving some 694 million tons of soil each year. This program also creates wildlife habitat, enhances wetlands, protects environmentally sensitive lands from pollution damage, enhances flood protection efforts, and improves environmental quality for millions of Americans.

No other conservation program is as large, is designed to run as long as the CRP. In addition, the CRP is fully funded. The only limitation on the program is a Congressionally mandated 36.4 million acre cap on nationwide enrollment at any one point in time.

For further information and details on CRP, continuous sign up, and the proposed new rules, landowners should contact the local USDA Farm Service Agency office.

PISD Receives Rating

Plains ISD recently received its 1995-96 AEIS (Academic Excellence Indicator System) report from the Texas Education Agency. This report evaluates the performance of a district by comparisons of TAAS scores, the dropout rate, and the attendance rate of public schools within the state. The four levels of accreditation status and ratings are: Exemplary, Recognized, Academically Acceptable, and Academically Unacceptable.

The report compares our local scores with scores throughout the state in the areas of math, reading, and writing. The Plains ISD has a "recognized" status for the 1995-96 school year. Copies of the AEIS Report are available for review at the superintendent's office and the Resource Center. Parents and the public in general are invited to come review the report. If there are questions about the report, please feel free to contact any of the building principals or the superintendent.

'Yoakum County Connection' Receives Recognition

A 1996 "Texas Alliance Salutes Award" was won by Yoakum County Connection at the state meeting November 13-16 in Temple, Texas. The wood painted original plate was presented to Linda Powell and Ann Hartman at the noon November 14 luncheon, held in the Cultural Activities Center, by Jim Bob McMillan, Local Arts Agency Specialist representing the Texas Alliance for Education and the Arts. Yoakum County Connection was started as a dream of the Yoakum County Art Association in January of 1994 when McMillan encouraged the group to set goals. Officially chartered in August of 1996 with the help of L. J. Sanders of Plains, the Connection sponsored the successful Watermelon Round-up held Labor Day weekend on the courthouse square in Plains. In addition, the Connection won first with the 5k poster and Connection logo designed by Reverend Rick Doyle of Plains. Firsts were also garnered with the Round-up brochure and T-shirt. Second places were won by the 5k T-shirt and poster "A Music Celebra-



Linda Powell & L.J. Sanders with 'Award Plate'. Ann Hartman was unavailable for photo.

tion." Ann Hartman donated a Mexican scene painting from San Angelo and Midland. The next meeting of the Yoakum County Connection will be December 2 at Charlie's Restaurant in Denver City at 11:30 a.m. Ideas and input are encouraged. A needs assessment developed by Mr. Peter Fox, President and CEO of the Texas

Alliance suggested these goals for Yoakum County: Economic Development with usage for empty buildings, improve community looks, creative incubation program, and tourism program, develop art programs through education for all ages, and entertainment for all ethnic groups.

Meet the Cowgirls-Cowboys night

A large and enthusiastic crowd of supporters turned out last week for the annual "Meet The Cowgirls and Cowboys" night, sponsored by the Athletic Boosters Club. Coaches David Williams and Steve Osborn introduced each Varsity and Junior Varsity player.



Front, L-R; Robin Squyres, Tessa St. Romain, Kyley Bearden. Rear, L-R; Sandi Warren, Kayla Redman, Jolyne Burgess, Kassie Lowe, Lindsey Six, Shawna Box, Shyloh Winn.



Front, L-R; Jamie Caballero, Shawn Cullins, Joe Luna, David Flores, Eric Estrada. Rear, Tanner Blount, Chris Willett, Travis Bennett, Adam Dominguez.

County Court Meets

This Monday's session of Commissioner's Court saw the awarding of bids for re-roofing a number of County owned buildings, an agenda item tabled in last week's session. Buildings to receive roofing work included Dr. Boyd's Clinic, the Civic Center, and Tax Office, all in Denver City, and the Library, Pct. 3 Barn, and Courthouse and Jail here in Plains. Repairs for these projects totaled \$ 127,876. The Court requested the two contractors present to resubmit repair bids on the Community Building, South Plains Public Health Building, Denver City, and the Plains Youth Center.

The Court approved advertising for bids for a new 3/4 ton heavy-duty pickup to be used by Tadd Knight, County Ag Extension Agent. The purchase will be funded with 1997 budgeted funds. Bids were also authorized for a new track type loader, either a purchase or lease purchase. The loader will be used by the County Landfill. The County will receive some \$15,000 from the

Turn to page 2,
'County Court'

Lea County Electric absolved in accident investigation

Michael Dreyspring, General Manager of Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc., conducted a meeting in the company's headquarters in Lovington last Thursday. Invited to the meeting were staff of the Lovington Leader and Cowboy Country News newspapers, and radio station KLEA.

Dreyspring reported the exhaustive investigation of the tragic double fatality accident occurring August 8, 1996, had been satisfactorily concluded. Two Cooperative employees, Jackie Noack and David Palmer were killed while trying to restore electrical service to a south eastern portion of Lovington. At the time of the accident, a summer thunderstorm was occurring in the area.

The accident was investigated by the State of New Mexico's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau. In addition, Lea County Electric hired the firm of SGS Witter, Inc., Consulting Engineers and Planners, from

Albuquerque and Lubbock to fully investigate the tragic accident.

In Robert Witter's eight page summary of the results of his investigation, he concluded there were three distinct possible causes for the electrocution; 1-A suspect 'weak link' breaker somehow closed, allowing electricity to travel thru a downed line in the pool of water the two men were working in that evening. This theory was discarded by both Witter and the NM Osha investigators. Only reduced voltage could have occurred at the fault scene, probably too low for the fatalities. The reduced voltage would also have been greatly dissipated in the 4 to 5 inches the men were in.

Possibility 2- Somehow, another source of electrical energy from the Cooperative's system energized the area of the downed

Turn to page 2,
'Accident'

From page 1,
'Accident'

line. Witter's summary pointed out "some automatic device of unknown origin or location would have had to have operated, since the consumers in the area of the accident were without power. Each and every possible source of electrical energy was identified by the company's system maps, and the condition of switches and fuses was photodocumented, and there was no way energy from another source could have caused this accident".

Possibility 3- The men were electrocuted from a nearby lightning strike. Witters report continued, "Eyewitnesses place Mr. Noack and Mr. Palmer at the accident scene at the time of a very close, intense lightning strike". He also reported a residence very near the scene had severe lightning damage to electrical equipment inside. "The most conclusive evidence was the melting of the downed conductor wire to a barb wire fence just north of where the two men were found - the melting of the conductor could occur only after the line was down".

Witter concluded in his summary report, "In my opinion, the electrocutions of Mr. Noack and Mr. Palmer were a result of a lightning strike while the two men were walking toward the takeoff pole to disconnect the downed single phase primary line".

The State Occupational Health and Safety Bureau wrote the Cooperative on September 30. Part of the letter read, "The inspector did not identify any conditions to

which your employees were exposed which were in violation of health and safety standards or regulations on the day of the inspection".

Dreyspring said the favorable reports on the accident were a great relief for everyone employed by the company. He reported the company has spent some \$500,000 in the last six years on safety training and equipment. The Cooperative has recently instituted a procedure of "severe storm warning" to their line and service personnel, based on warnings from the National Weather Service, and safety procedures and policies will continuously undergo review and updating. "We are committed to providing our employees the safest workplace environment possible", he added.

From page 1,
'County Court'

Landfill near the end of the year, and that money, plus the value of an older loader trade-in will serve as the down payment. The bid proposal specifies no payments to be made on the loader until January, 1998.



Grand Jury hands down indictments on insurance scam here

Last Friday the Yoakum County Grand Jury returned four indictments against a Dallas man accused of defrauding two elderly women in an insurance scam, Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark announced Monday.

Richard Sommers Moreland Jr., 36, of Dallas faces two indictments for securities fraud, one for theft and one for securing execution of a document by deception. Moreland, a licensed insurance agent, was free on bond Monday afternoon pending setting of another bond based on the indictments.

Texas Department Of Insurance investigators, and Dallas and Denver City police officers Moreland on October 17 on charges involving an 87 year old woman who invested \$187,000 in securities sold by Moreland. The indictments involve this and one other case that were investigated under a joint effort of TDI, the State Securities

Board and the Criminal District Attorney's office here.

Earlier this month, Clark announced the appointment of TDI Fraud Unit attorneys Laura Perkins and Dale Barron as special assistant criminal district attorneys to assist in the Moreland case. These appointments and one in Bryan are the first under a program initiated by Insurance Commissioner Elton Bomer that offers specialized help to district attorneys who want to intensify prosecution of insurance fraud in their counties.

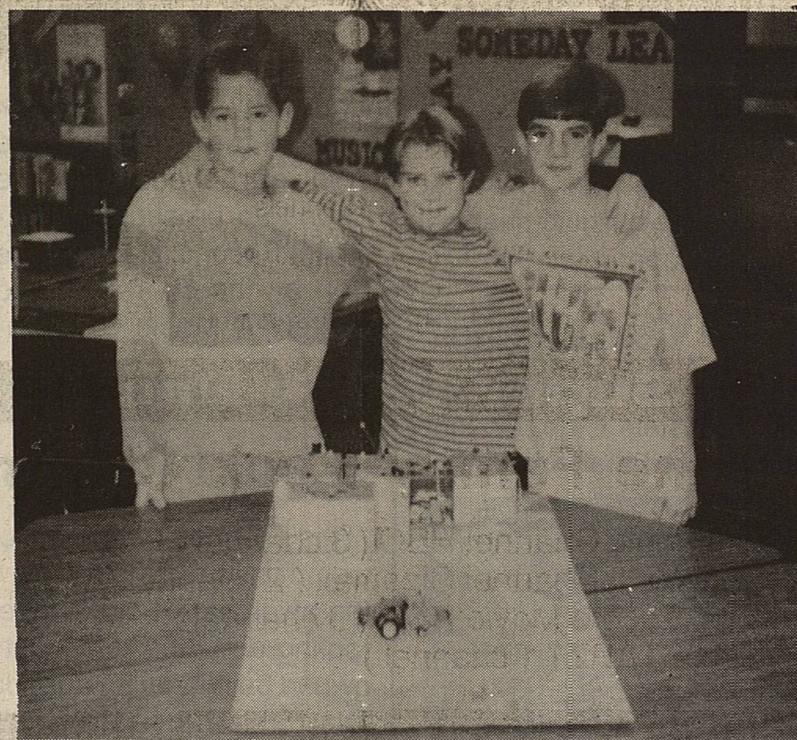
No hearing or trial dates have been set on the indictments.



**CCN Wishes You
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Thanksgiving!**

6th Grade Project Winners

Junior High Sixth graders recently read the novel, "The Girl Who Owned A City", a tale of a killer virus sweeping earth, sparing only children 12 and under. Chaos reigns, until one girl conceives the idea of a fortress providing the children safety and shelter. The students formed into small groups, asked to imagine the situation existed right here in Plains. They were assigned the project of designing a fort like structure where the survivors could live in safety, with all the needs of everyday life. The winners of the contest project, group 6A, are shown here with their fort design; L-R, Justin Chambliss, Chisum Deaton, and Ryan Swann.



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County drops out of 'Drug Task Force'

In an interview Monday morning, Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark outlined the reasons Yoakum County's membership contract with the Permian Basin Drug Task Force was not renewed for another year.

"The basic reason I didn't sign the contract was because the County didn't think they were getting their money's worth" from the task force. Clark said Sheriff Jim Rice shared this assessment with him. Commissioner's Court had earlier budgeted \$6400 which was to be used for membership in the Task Force, but that money has not been spent.

Clark said a factor leading to his and Sheriff Rice's decision was the structuring of the Task Force. 23 counties in the Permian Basin organization each contribute funds

annually to the Task Force to partially fund operations. Additional money for operations comes from arrests and seizures of property of drug traffickers. The property is sold, and these funds help in operating expenses. The most common assets seized by law enforcement agencies are automobiles and cash belonging to the drug runners.

Clark said the Task Force has been concentrating their drug discovery and arrest efforts in areas with more auto traffic, particularly along very busy interstate highways. Since Yoakum County has relatively little traffic, and no interstates, the Task Force has not been active enough here to justify continuing membership in the organization.

Erosion is a state-wide concern

Soil erosion caused by water is the major concern in North Central and East Texas; erosion caused by wind is the major concern in the High Plains; and the Low Rolling Plains and South Texas are susceptible to both. Soil erosion decreases land productivity and contaminates reservoirs and rivers with sediment and chemical pesticide residue.



Source: United States Department of Agriculture—
Natural Resource Conservation Service

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development

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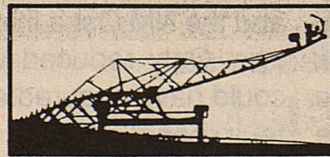
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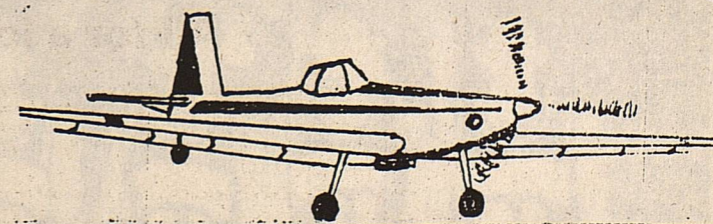


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County JP Court Cases

The following is a summary of cases heard and action taken in Justice of Peace Court, Pct. One, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding; Cases filed; 28 traffic, 3 felony, 1 Class A misdemeanor, 1 emergency protection order issued. Bonds set; Motion of Surety/Charge assault causing bodily injury, \$2500. Motion to revoke probation, held until hearing. Two cases public intoxica-

tion, \$500 each. Theft under \$50, \$5000. Assault causing bodily injury, \$2000. DWI, 2nd offense, \$1500 plus conditions of bond. Assault causing bodily injury/family violence, \$1500 plus emergency protective order. Criminal trespass, \$1500.

The local American Legion Post has ordered 12 dozen U.S. Flags to be used in honoring deceased service veterans. The flags will be placed in the cemetery on Veterans and Memorial Days.

It Happened In Texas In November

Nov. 6, 1526-Cabeza de Vaca's Navarez expedition shipwrecked on Texas Gulf Coast.
Nov. 7, 1835- Consultation issued 'Declaration of causes for taking arms against Santa Ana'.
Nov. 26, 1864- First balltele of Adobe Walls.
Nov. 7, 1922- Edith Wilmans of Dallas elected as the first woman member of the House of Representatives.
Nov. 21, 1948- Oil discovered in Scurry County, marking last "Boom Town" in the state at Snyder.
Nov. 24, 1963- Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, shot and killed by Jack Ruby in Dallas.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Nov. 18, 1996

The Parish Council of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Pep, Texas would like to take this opportunity to thank one of your citizens, Pierre (Pete) St. Romain, for his twenty-five years of support.

Tradition at Pep has been Thanksgiving, German sausage, turkey, dressing, and all the trimmings. Mr. St. Romain has always called in sausage orders, driven to Pep on Wednesday, and picked up his order as well as those of others from his community. The Pep community has come to treasure his friendship, as well as appreciate his support of the Pep Thanksgiving Festival. The citizens of Plains should be proud to have such a kind, caring, and generous person as Mr. St. Romain.

Thanks again to Mr. St. Romain, and we look forward to seeing him on Wednesday, November 27th.

Pep Parish Council

Happy Thanksgiving!

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"Texas, Our Texas"



"Texas, Our Texas", the Fourth Grade musical production directed by Cynthia Blair, was presented in the Auditorium on October 29, and was attended by over 200 guests and family members. The patriotic salute to our state honored the early settlers, and featured decorations and costumes in red, white and blue. Solo's were performed by Cody Flores, Breck Hamm, Jamie Covarrubias, Daniel Lazos and Brandon Hise.

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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

Basketball Recap

PHS Cowgirls; The Cowgirls won a close one against Post last Friday night, 36-34. Coach Osborn said he was proud of the girls defensive play, holding Post to just 15 points the first three periods, and feels the team's conditioning is slowly getting in 'game shape'. Kayla Redman had 12 points followed by Tessa St Romain 11, Kyley Bearden and Kassie Lowe 3, Shyloh Winn, Lindsey Six and Jolyne Burgess 2, and Sandi Warren 1. Redman was top rebounder with 11 grabs, and St. Romain and Winn had 5 each.

PHS Cowboys; The Cowboys had an easier time with Post, on top 65 - 38. Tanner Blount led the scoring with 24 points, Joe Luna had 18, Chris Willett 9, Jamie Caballero 6, Eric Estrada 4, and Travis Bennett and Shawn Cullins had 2 each. Coach Williams said Blount, Luna, Willett, Bennett and Estrada had outstanding defensive efforts, and added, "We are finally coming together and understanding our game".

JV Cowgirls; The JV girls had a convincing 43-16 win against Midland Christian on Nov. 19. Jessica Flores led the scoring with 7 points followed by Kristen Gray, Candace Bowers and Patty Ruiz, 6 each, Anne Palmer and Tandi Jones 4, Kelli Osborn and Maranda Box 3, and Krystle Blundell and Rebecca Robertson, 2 each. They didn't fare as well against Post, falling 37-24. Patty Ruiz had the hot hand this game, scoring 8, Kelli Osborn 3, with Flores, Blundell, Gray, Palmer, Bowers and Jones having 2 points each.

JV Cowboys; The younger Cowboys had a good opening game against the Muleshoe JV, leading the scoring in all but one period for a 62-48 win. David Luna had 14 points, Matt Morgan, Will St. Romain and Alex Tarango had 10 each. Coach Davis was especially impressed with their hustle on defense, and looks forward to improvements each week.

8th Lady Wranglers; The 8th girls downed their Tahoka counterparts 47-22. Kim Willis led the scoring with 8 points, followed by Lexi Warren 7, Roxy Fuentes, Elva Ruiz, Michaela Traweek, Lesli Rowe 2 each, and Kimbe Jones had one.

7th Lady Wranglers; the 7th girls also came out on top of Tahoka, 24-21. Analiesa O'Quinn canned 9 points, Nancy Koncaba had 5, Julie Gonzales and Arasley Luna had 4 each, and Becky Coronel scored 2.

8th Wranglers; The 8th grade boys downed Tahoka 34-20 in their opening season game. Kelsey Blundell had 10 points, Adam Garcia 8, and Brett Squyres 6. Adam Garcia stood out on defense, Joel Gallegos and Brett squyres rebounded well, and Kelsy Blundell won hustle honors.

7th Wranglers; The younger Wranglers had tough going against Tahoka, falling 43-31. Jared Bell scored 16 points, Joseph Rodriguez 8, and Tanner Hamm had 3.

Student of the Week



PHS Student of the Week is Tessa St. Romain, a Senior, and daughter of Joe and Elouise St. Romain. She was nominated by Mr. Friesen, who said, "Leaders have to take risks others are afraid to take. These risks usually end up with the leader gaining either ridicule or glory from their peers. I see at least two qualities which peg Tessa as a leader. First, her enthusiasm for life, second is her ability to motivate others. These qualities are quite apparent on the marching field as well as in the classroom. I hope she continues to use these qualities to not only benefit herself, but others as well".



Coach David Williams and very young Cowboy, son Jaxon

Turkey Decorating Contest

Plains Elementary First Graders and their families recently decorated turkeys in a class project. They have been available for all students to view in the halls. The judges had a hard time deciding as they all were creatively decorated. Thanks to all who participated in the annual event.



Mrs. Ramos' First Grade Class. Standing (L to R) Lauren Hise, 1st; Chris Loya, Elias Carrillo, Hon. Men.; Trent Hawthorne, 6th; Jacob Rivera, Doug Conway. Sitting—M'Leah McKinzie, 3rd; Mareta Trent, 4th; Jesus Becerra, Katie Winn, Zachary Ramos, 2nd; Rubi Castillo, 5th.



Mrs. Davis' First Grade Class. Back row: Tina Unger, Juan Lara, Maria Andazola, Larry Cabellero. Second row: Cory Byran Hon. Men.; Colby Ortega, 6th; Edna Luna, 5th; Amber Friesen, 3rd. Front row: Lauren Davis, 2nd; Marissa Melendez, 1st; John Tyson. Not pictured is Matthew Jimenez, 4th.



Robin Squyres and young Cowgirl, niece Darian



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Youth Center Pool Results

The Plains Youth Center and Jason Garcia finished pool tournament held on November 16 and 17 drew a good response, and Center Director Bobbie Payne reported the following results of the two day meet. Saturday's Doubles competition was won by Derek Brunson and Tony Lazos. Kelsey Blundell and Jason Garcia finished second, and Mike Bell and Alex Tarango took third.

On Sunday, the Singles winners included Stanley Caballero, first, followed by Jason Garcia, second, and Dustin Six, third. All of the winners received trophies for their efforts.



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Senior Citizens Corner

Anyone need about a ton of nice fresh tree leaves? If so, come visit my yards. The leaves are free, just rake and take!

Yesterday we had our annual Thanksgiving Lunch. It goes without saying, the Turkey and Dressing was good. Some of our many guests included Jim and Jo Ann Barron, Judge Smith with two guest, and included at the VIP table were our excommissioner, Bob Thurston and new commissioner J. R. Slentz. A big welcome to all and come back next year.

Recently returned from a nice vacation are the Greers.

Darlene Clevenger has had a short stay in the local hospital.

Loy Black has been in a Lubbock Hospital, but is now in the local Hospital.

Center Activities Monday -

Line Dancing - 9:30 am

Pool/Games 6:30 pm;

Wednesday-

Line Dancing - 9:30 am

Tatum Pool Tournament-

10:00 am MST;

Thursday -

Closed for Thanksgiving; &

Friday -

Closed for Thanksgiving

We invite everyone to visit the pool room and see the new pool table the players are so proud of. It was purchased with funds from the Monday night tournaments and line dancing classes. We have plenty of room now, and anyone interested in learning or playing pool is invited to come join in the fun.

Today (Thursday) is the Great American Smokeout. Hope everyone remains smokeless for this one day, and finds it so easy they quit.

Our wish for everyone is a Happy, Healthy Thanksgiving Day with Family and Friends, and safe driving wherever you go.

See you next week, Smitty

Thought for the week

Love is not getting, but giving. It is sacrifice. And sacrifice is glorious.

Nothing can make you happier...or richer in spirit...than making a difference in the life of another. Truly the chance to give is a gift itself.

Community Happenings

Opening of the Christmas Season will be held at the Pioneer Plaza Park, Dec. 4th 5:45 pm. with the lighting of the Christmas Tree. The Cowboy Band will be playing Christmas Music, Santa Clause will bring candy, and photo of children will be taken for canned food donations. The annual event is sponsored by the Plains Chamber Of Commerce.

The Plains Chamber of Commerce will meet at 7:00 am. Tuesday Dec. 3rd At Johnnie's Restaurant. Come as a visitor. Come and join us, we need you.

Lions Club will meet Thursday, December 5 at noon. Lions Club Buuilding.

First United Methodist Church will have their Christmas Program Sunday Dec. 8 at 6:00pm. There will be a Pot Luck Supper following the program, and the public is invited.

Milton and Jimmie Bayer will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on December 7, 1996.

The Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District is once again sponsoring an essay writing contest for senior students at Plains and Denver City High Schools. All senior students are eligible to enter the essay contest. Contest winners from each school will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for 1st Place and a \$500 scholarship for 2nd Place to the college(s) of their choice. [A minimum of ten (10) essays must be submitted before a second place scholarship is awarded.]

The topic of the essay should relate to an evaluation of the water situation in our area and contain proposals for future conservation of that water. The criteria for the contest is:

1. A minimum of 1000 words.
2. Typed and double spaced with parenthetical footnotes.
3. References must accompany paper in the form of a bibliography page. Reference material may be acquired from the Sandy Land U.W.C.D. office located in Plains.
4. Cover sheet containing; student's name, essay title, local high school, and date
5. The essays are due no later than **April 16, 1997.**

Winners last year consisted of: Valerie Blair and Kelly McGinty from Plains and Josh Smith and Johnathan Mock from Denver City.

For further information, please contact the District office at (806) 456-2155.



In 1995, the Postal Service processed 181 billion pieces of mail, about 580 million pieces a day. The national delivery network now reaches nearly 128 million addresses.

Food, Christmas Toy Donors Needed!

The Community's annual Food and Christmas Toy distribution is now underway. The questionnaire below is being distributed around town. If you know of any needy families or children, see that they complete the form, NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 6. Volunteers are needed to sort and distribute donated food and toys. If you have questions, call Teresa Howard, 456-8794. The gifts will be distributed December 21.

Christmas Assistance Questionnaire

Name-----
 Address (include directions if necessary)-----
 Phone#-----
 Number of adults in home who are employed--
 Employer-Name & phone-----
 Do the children attend Plains Schools?-----
 List Children's name, sex & ages below:
 Name-----age-----sex-----
 Does your family need; food-----Toys-----
 Both-----
**** NOTE ****
Deadline to receive questionnaire Dec. 6!!

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Norman & Judy Head, Owners

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 (Across from old Courthouse) 806-456-2152

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99¢ Deposit
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Pay 'n Save
Tuesday,
Dec. 3,
 photo hours 9am until 6pm

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Darlene's

Dress Shop

Starting Now, Our

Going Out Of Business Sale. EVERYTHING must go...come in NOW while selections are good!

Use Your Credit Card, We Accept Discover, Master Card And Visa.

Darlene's - BeautyControl Cosmetics

110 N. Main 592-9524 Denver City, TX

★ Deck the halls with

Festive Foods

A FREE demonstration featuring recipes, tasting and holiday ideas.

Tuesday, December 3
5:30 p.m.

Community Center

Plains

Sponsored by SPS and the Yoakum County Extension Service.

Hurry! There is only a short time left for you to buy your 30 Years of Festive Foods Cookbook.

Space Limited!
 Please pre-register by calling 456-2263.

Make the smart energy choice - use electricity wisely!

CHRISTIE PARE
 SPS Home Economist
 5-4244-9-96.930.1

SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

We Need Your Input

The Plains ISD school board would like to have the input of the community, school personnel, students, and businesses in developing a profile for the professional and personal characteristics of the next superintendent. The board has appointed individuals from these different segments of the community to seek and listen to the suggestions from others throughout Plains for the type of person desired. There will be meetings of these various groups in the next few weeks.

The Board will formally be advertising for the superintendent opening on January 6, 1997. The deadline for accepting applications will be February 14th. The superintendent will be hired at the regular board meeting on April 14th.

Members of the superintendent profiling committee are as follows:

Arlon Alexander	Pat McNabb
Steven O'Quinn	Roni Ponce
Yvette Ramos	Yancey House
Vernon Hise	Johnnie Fitzgerald
Richie Cullins	Mary Jo St. Romain
Sarah K. Burrus	John Kitto
Recorder—Gail Holley	

The duty of the profiling committee is to "assist the board in the development of the superintendent profile prior to the application deadline".

Suggested prompts for developing the superintendent profile are the following questions.

1. What are some professional characteristics you would like to see in the new superintendent?
2. What are some personal characteristics you would like to see in the new superintendent?
3. Of the important traits of a superintendent, which would you like attention given to first?
 - > curriculum and instruction
 - > finance
 - > communication
 - > personnel
 - > board relations
4. If you had five minutes to spend with the new superintendent, what would you say to him/her?

The above questions are designed to help all people in the community begin to develop in their minds the type of person needed to lead our school so that the children of Plains will have a good education, become good citizens, and enjoy the learning experience.

Meeting schedule for Profiling Committee;

Monday, Nov. 25- Meet with Maintenance Personnel, Cafeteria personnel and Secretaries, 4 p.m., Resource Center; Tuesday, Dec. 3- Meet with Professional Personnel, 4 p.m., Resource Center; Thursday, Dec. 5- Meet with community citizens, 5 p.m., cafeteria. The public is encouraged to attend the community meeting Dec. 5. If unable to be present, feel free to offer suggestions in writing or give them verbally to a profiling committee member.

County Tax Assessor-Collectors in Seminar at Texas A&M

COLLEGE STATION— Some 200 county tax assessor-collectors and their deputies from across the state came to College Station to participate in the 14th Annual County Tax Assessor-Collectors' Continuing Education Seminar. The seminar was held in the College Station Hilton Conference Center, Nov. 17-20, 1996, near the Texas A&M University campus.

Taking part was Wanda Smith, Yoakum County Tax Assessor-Collector. The training was conducted as a program of the V. G. Young Institute of County Government of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System, in cooperation with the Tax Assessor-Collectors Association of Texas and the Office of Continuing Education of Texas A&M University.

Wanda Smith, said "county tax assessor-collectors can prepare to meet future challenges—and do a better job today, by taking part in professional certification by successfully completing continuing education courses. Those attending all sessions of the November seminar received 2.0 continuing education units from Texas A&M's office of Continuing Education and 12 continuing education units from the State Board of Tax Professional Examiners."

Discussions covered a wide range of timely topics, including: Working with the Legislature; Property Tax Refunds; RTS Boat Registration; Manufactured Housing; Sales Tax; Internet training; Motor Vehicle Workshops and Management Practices for the Tax Office.

Keynote speaker on the program was: Captain Mark Warren, Texas Dept. of Public Safety, Austin.

The 1996-1997 officers of the Tax Assessor-Collectors Association of Texas are Max Wheeler, Palo Pinto County, President; Mark McLelland, Liberty County, President-elect; Bill Shanklin, Angelina County, Vice-President external; Joyce Gray, Iron County, Vice-President internal; J. R. Moore, Montgomery County, Secretary/Treasurer; and Carol Autry, Randall County, Immediate Past President.

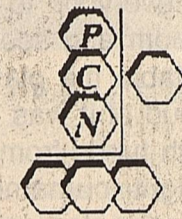
Plains Independent School District will accept bids to re-roof a portion of the main campus until 2:00 pm, December 9, 1996, in the Administration Office. The specified roofing system is flood coat. Bids will be opened and read at that time. Information can be obtained by contacting Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains I.S.D. Box 479, Plains, Tx. 79355 or by calling 806-456-7483. Plains I.S.D. Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids and to waive all technicalities.

While I was unopposed in the recent election, I sincerely appreciate the support you showed for me on the ballot. Your Tax Office personnel have a total of 97 years experience, and your vote was not only for me, but the entire office, and we all thank you!



Betty Rivas, 18 yrs., Sheila Stephens, 18 yrs., Wanda Smith, 23 yrs., Dorothy Johnson, 18 yrs. Not pictured, Sheila Ashburn, 12 yrs., Betty Rushing, 8 yrs.

Wanda Smith
Yoakum County Tax Assessor/Collector
Political ad paid for by Wanda Smith



PLATEAU CELLULAR NETWORK

Christmas Promotion

Beginning November 15 and continuing through December 31, PLATEAU CELLULAR NETWORK will be waiving activation fees, plus giving a one time \$25 airtime credit for all new activations which will be reflected on the January bill. This is a total customer savings of \$50 !!

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The Plains Depot
902 Brownfield Rd. 806-456-7112

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Comfortable control of power is a benchmark quality of the 1996 Regal—indeed, it may be the most comfortable sports sedan ever built. The very advanced seating provides long distance relaxation and support, and a rich array of significant standard features underscores the pleasures of powerful V6 performance. Safety is a comfort also, and Regal is fully committed to it with features such as anti-lock brakes and dual air bags. A six-way power driver seat with reliner, and silky smooth Dynaride® suspension offers a luxurious ride coupled with crisp handling.

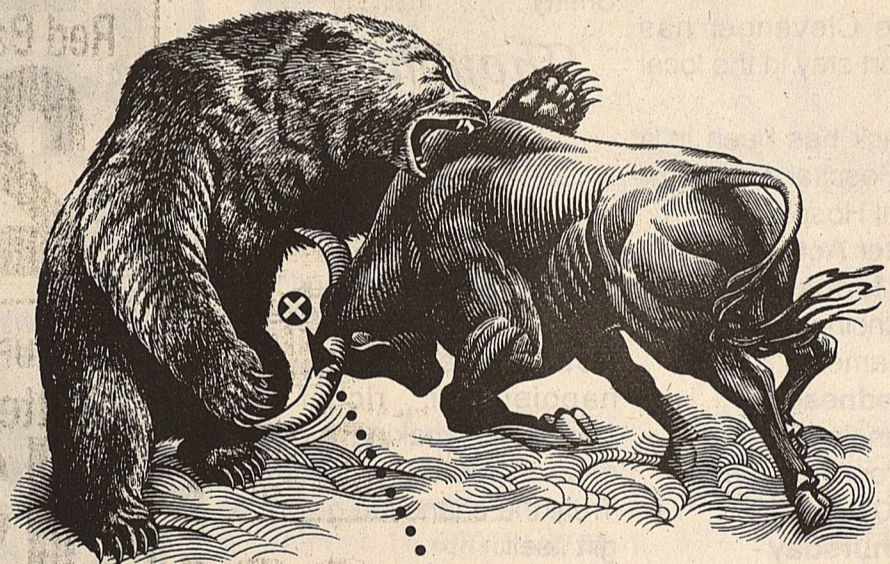
Free Turkey Dinner for your family when you buy a new vehicle by Nov. 26th!



Buick says "No more '96 model Regals available!"

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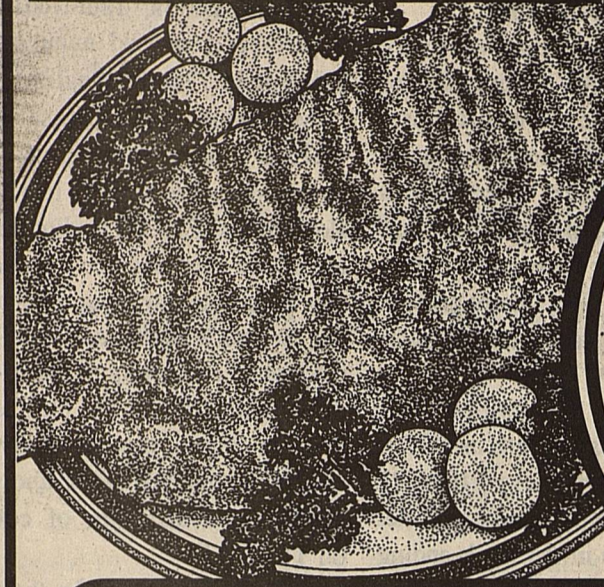
\$25,000 minimum required to open. \$25,000 minimum daily balance is required to avoid monthly service charge of \$10. The interest rate may be changed at any time after the account is opened. The Annual Percentage Rate Yield is valid as of November 11, 1996, and is paid on all balances. Fees may reduce earnings. © 1996 Norwest Bank Texas, N.A. Member FDIC.

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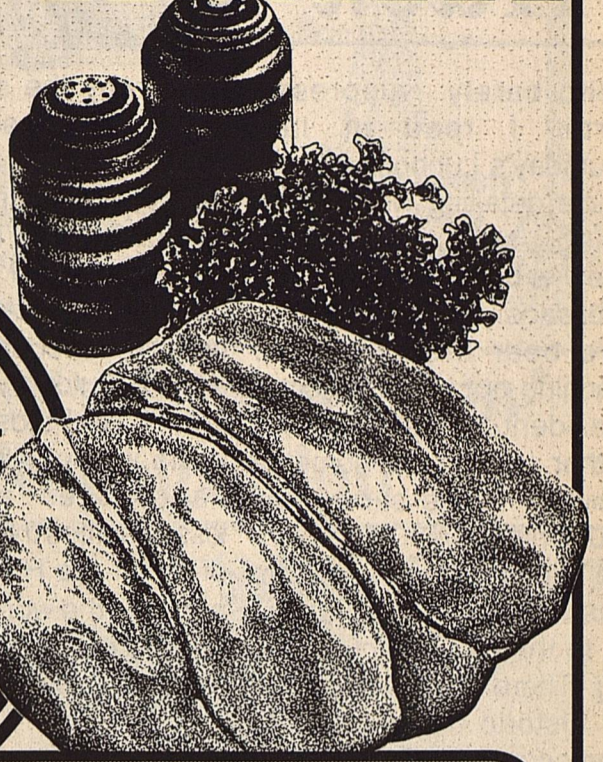
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Lowe's HOLLY JOLLY Holiday Savings

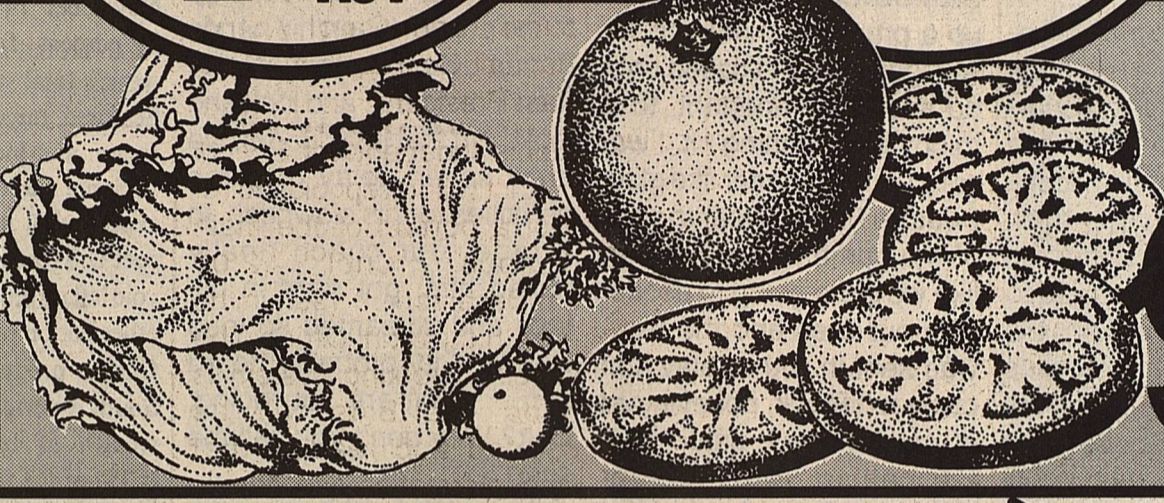


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AMERICAN BEAUTY ELBO RONI OR
Thin/Long Spaghetti 10 oz. pkgs. **2 \$1** For

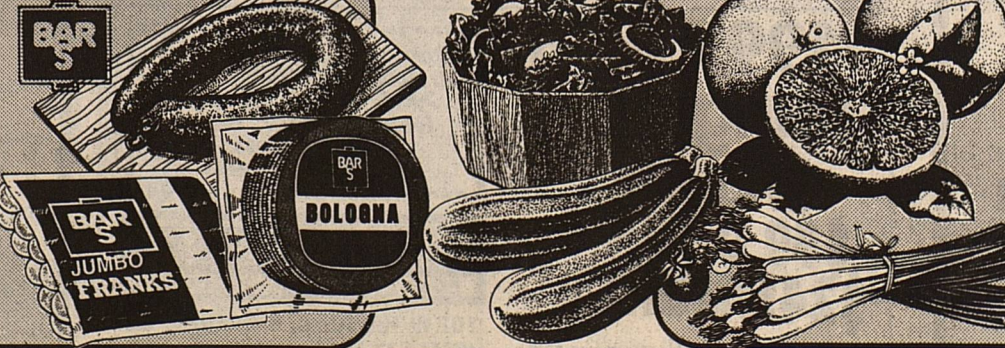


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Meat Franks **99¢**



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 Caesar or Italian Salad **1.69**
 Green Onions 4 Bunches For **\$1**
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From The Hack



With barely suppressed mirth, I read in last Thursday's Lubbock A-J the article detailing Newt again being selected House Speaker by the prevailing Republicans. He was quoted, "We bear the burden of reaching out to a Democrat President and saying, 'Together, we can find common ground'. In the same 'hug your enemy vein, The Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle, S. Dakota, cozied up to the GOP faithful, saying "There really is perhaps an historic opportunity for Democrats and Republicans to work together. And our choice is this; We can legislate or we can recriminate". The A-J article said even Bill Clinton is anxious for a buddy-buddy relationship between parties; "We're in this boat together, and we have to paddle it together". Probably going to get flak for this, but my thought is, "If anyone believes, REALLY believes this, I have some prime property in south Cochran County I would like to sell you, complete with lovely ocean beaches and challenging snow ski slopes. I would be willing to wager the Bride's Social Security check, come about six to eight months after all are sworn in in January, it's back to the trenches and total Party warfare. The GOP warhorses will be after Clinton with a vengeance for Whitewatergate, the Travel Expense debacle, his possible philanderings. Demo Senate Chief Daschle will have completely forgotten his earlier unity pledges, and will be swinging his political axe at every GOP Senate head in sight. Old Newt the newt, if he survives all the ethics charges surrounding him, and he probably will, will resort to his vinegary, no, acidic tongue, and paint Bill and Billary as vile a color as possible.

Hey, why the skepticism? You don't think so, you think it's going to be a fun filled, love your other party neighbor, patty cake session the next four years? Can you remember one? As near as I recall we ever came to such a political utopia was in World War II, and those four plus years weren't all marked by handshakes and blown kisses across the party aisles of either the House or Senate. Like the words about the fat lady at the opera singing, Party Politics aren't over till they're over.

Did you see the 'sports moment' on the tube a few days back, when the college quarterback comes up to the line of scrimmage, carefully looks the defense over, then crouches, reaches under the posterior of his teammate to take the snap, and then, the guard, not the center, raises up, slaps his QB's hands away, and points to his right, to the real center, who is still waiting to snap the ball? Pretty hilarious. I guess all those big, burly linemen's bottoms look pretty much the same.

That reminds me of another vaguely familiar episode I was involved in. It was 1947, and my Pecos high team traveled to Seagraves for the next to last game of the season. There were only 1, 2, 3 and 4A schools then, and we were 2A, and expected to stomp the lowly Seagraves Eagles quite handily. The trip from Pecos to Seagraves on the old six cylinder yellow school bus lasted an

eternity. I could have written the Book of Genesis in long-hand by time we arrived at Eagle Stadium. One of those South Plains phenomenons had occurred just prior to our arrival, in the form of a blue norther. The wind was howling, and it was bitter cold, and actually was below freezing by half time.

The three guys working the marker chain all wore old Air Force leather, sheep lined flight suits to combat the bitter cold, and I could see half a dozen metal drum trash cans burning on the enemy sidelines, and I wondered if they contained the tires from our yellow school bus, and we would be stranded there at the North Pole forever.

Whatever they were burning, I longed to have my hands and face over, instead of standing on the icy sidelines, running a play in now and then. Several times I offered up a prayer of thanks to the Almighty I wasn't called on to do anything important, that might entail getting hit. I was sure I would shatter like glass I was so frozen. Near the end of the game, when it looked like we were going to escape with our lives and the win, I was sent in with a play, and our quarterback, not ever one of my favorites, said, "Nah, I'm calling your number, you're gonna enjoy some of this stuff too". When he handed the ball off to me, there was absolutely no danger of a fumble, no matter how hard I got hit. I had so much 'stickum' on my hands, when I was promptly knocked down I tried to hand the ball to the Ref, and couldn't let go

of it. It was glued to me. There we stood, wrestling with the ball, and he was cussing under his breath, "let go, Let go of it, you little idiot!", until another Zebra blew the whistle and marched off five yards against us for delay of game. But that's not the story I started out to tell. Shortly after the start of our season, our coaching staff had the brilliant idea of changing our entire offensive scheme. The 'T Formation' was relatively new that year (that should tell you how long ago this occurred). We had run the single-wing scheme for centuries, but now, our quarterback was up there sticking his hands under the center's rump for the ball every down.

Back on the sidelines again for the duration of the game, I became aware of something unusual happening. Our quarterback would hustle up to the center, insert his hands in that delicate position, and then look about, and look and look.... In that last quarter, we drew seven delay of game penalties for his slowness. In a rage, our coach finally pulled him, got right in his face and screamed so loud Denver City probably heard him, "What are you doing, Dolt? Why don't you call the snap?!!!" I almost felt sorry for our guy. He looked on the verge of tears, and mumbled, "Gee, Coach, I'm sorry, That's the warmest spot on the field, and I'm just trying to thaw my hands out".

TELCOT[®] Report

For the Week Ending November 21, 1996

The technicals ran the market this week as it closed higher four out of five days. According to one analyst, the market will continue to trade on technical motivations until some significant news about demand appears.

Market expectations were very high for USDA's export sales report as some in the industry predicted it would reflect buying activity last week when prices plunged, establishing a new seasonal low for December cotton futures. In fact, many private calculations placed export sales above 250,000 bales.

However, the market was somewhat disappointed as USDA reported export sales of 1996-97 U.S. cotton only increased a net 95,000 bales in the week ending November 14, down more than 50 percent from the previous week's total of 198,100 bales. Featured buyers were China, Japan and Indonesia.

Some market watchers believe exports will increase as they expect U.S. cotton to fill some of the void left by production shortfalls in other cotton producing countries. Cotton production in Pakistan, South America and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) of the former Soviet Union has decreased due to a combination of adverse weather and insect pressure in those countries. Pakistan's cotton production, pegged at 7.6 million bales in October, was reduced to 7.1 million in USDA's November estimate.

The U.S. Domestic Consumption Report, which normally captures the market's attention, was

overshadowed by this week's export report. The U.S. Census Bureau said U.S. mills used cotton at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate of 10.79 million bales in the month of October. The number was almost identical to September's revised annualized usage of 10.77 million bales.

Meanwhile, spot cotton sales on TELCOT have been strong, although domestic activity has been slowlately. TELCOT trading hours have been extended one hour each day to facilitate trading. According to one analyst, sales on the electronic marketing system appears promising for the near term due to good market activity, expanding export sales and the increasing availability of cotton on TELCOT.

Sales on TELCOT for the five trading days ended November 21 totaled 98,425 bales, up from the previous week's figure of 73,632 bales. Average daily prices received by producers on the electronic marketing system ranged from 63.42 to 64.67 cents per pound.

Recently, Texas cotton has been in demand for its high quality as adversities in other countries have caused a shortage of high grade cotton. "The quality of this year's Texas crop is exceptional and the high grade cotton will fill a need in the export market," an analyst said. "This is a significant accomplishment in moving customers away from the old short staple mind set and nearer to the acceptance of the cotton Texas growers are producing today," he added.

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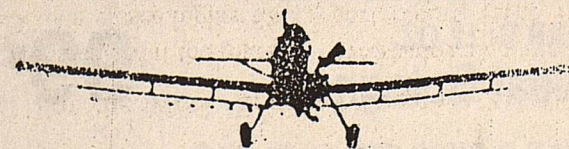
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Starting in January, need sitter on Monday & Wednesday
Must have transportation to pickup up kids at school. Approx. 3.5 to 4 hours weekly. Call 456-6494.

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