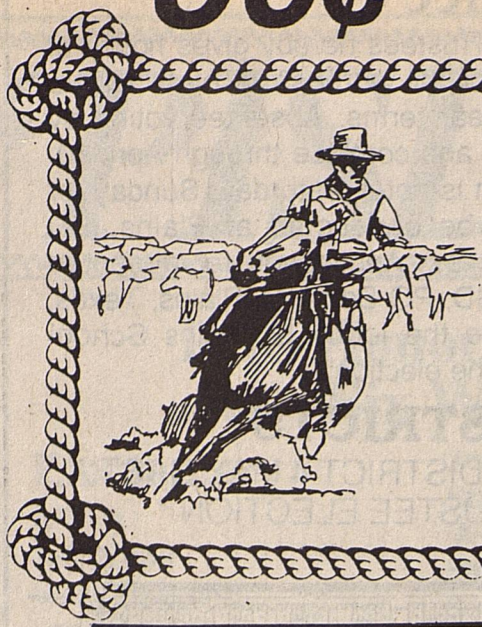


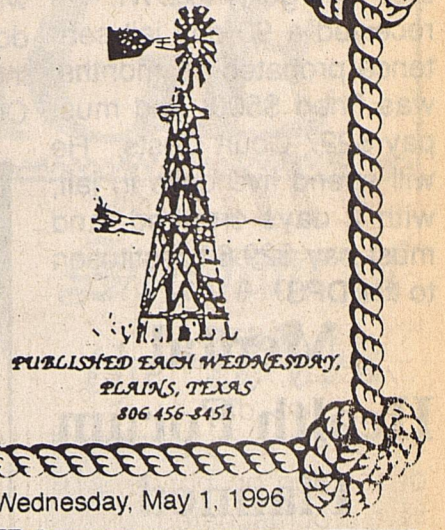
50¢

Cowboy Country News
P. O. Box 179
Plains, Texas 79355
Address Correction Requested

BULK RATE
US POSTAGE PD
PLAINS, TX
PERMIT #21

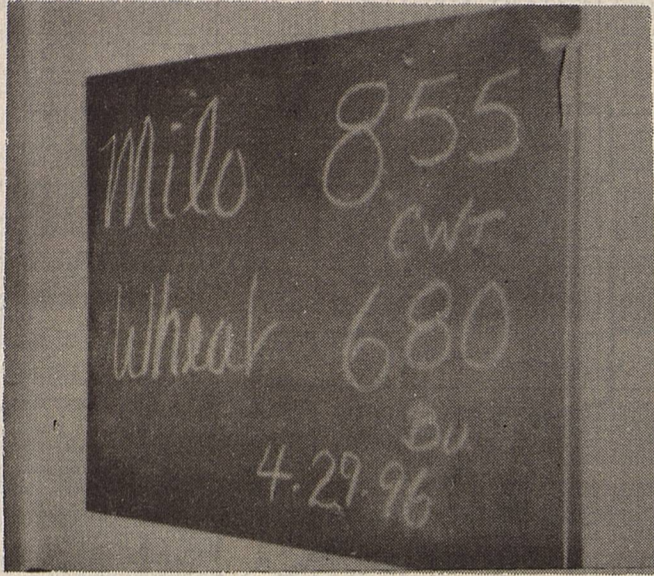


Cowboy Country News



Volume 2, Issue 34, Wednesday, May 1, 1996

"... And I Don't Have A Pound Of Either."



The photo here of the farmer's price for milo and wheat at Anderson Grain Monday morning reflect the apparent short supply of all the major grains worldwide. No one interviewed can ever recall a higher price for milo. The \$6.80 bushel price

of wheat translates to \$11.33 per hundred weight. The more pessimistic local producers are predicting, "as soon as some harvester starts greasing up his combine, the board price will drop to half those figures." Perhaps.

Trustees Agree To Resignation Of Pete, Linda Simmons

The PISD Board of Trustees met in a special called session Monday, April 29, for the purpose of considering a resignation agreement of Superintendent Pete Simmons, and Kindergarten Teacher Linda Simmons.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:35 PM, and came out into regular session at 8:17 PM.

Stanley Ashburn moved and Danny Bell seconded that the resignation of the Simmons' be accepted. Randy Tuggle moved and Dwayne Canada seconded that the motion be postponed indefinitely or at least

until the next meeting. After discussion, the motion to postpone action failed, with Canada and Tuggle voting for, and Ashburn, Bell, Tim Addison, Anna Gonzalez and Brad Palmer voting against.

The vote on the original motion to accept the agreement passed, with Canada, Ashburn, Bell, Gonzalez and Palmer voting for.

The following is a reproduction of the Resignation Agreement, and was furnished to CCN with the knowledge and consent of the Board.

Agreement For Resignation

PLAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, acting herein by its board of trustees, and M.R. (PETE) SIMMONS, JR., and LINDA SIMMONS, agree as follows:

1) Subject to the terms set forth herein, Pete Simmons hereby resigns his employment with the District, effective on June 30, 1997, and Linda Simmons hereby resigns her employment with the District, effective on May 24, 1997. No further documents of resignation are required. The District hereby accepts the resignations upon the terms and conditions set forth herein.

2) Until the effective date of the resignations, Pete Simmons and Linda Simmons will continue their employment duties with the District as required by, and shall be paid therefor in accordance with, their current contracts, state law, and board policies.

3) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District hereby grants to Linda Simmons a developmental leave of absence to be taken by her during the Spring semester of 1996-97 school year, during which time she shall have no teaching or other work assignments. Her salary and other benefits shall continue as provided by her current contract.

4) Pete Simmons will perform all superintendent duties required by him by law, his current contract and board policies, provided, however, that during the Spring semes-

Turn To Page 7, Resignations

Criminal Cases Heard In District, County Court

Two criminal cases were heard in Judge Kelly G. Moore's 121st District Court on April 23. Joseph Aaron Reynolds, 18, pled guilty to the charge of burglary of a building. He received a two year state jail sentence probated five years, and was fined \$1,250. He must pay \$171.50 Court Costs, plus restitution of \$1,307.02 to the Denver City School District, and \$1,069.38 to Travelers Insurance Company. He was represented by Attorney Bonnie Ericson.

Joseph Thomas Peeples, 18, pled guilty to burglary of a habitation on January 9. He received a probated five year prison sentence. He must perform 240 hours of community service, fined \$1,500, must pay \$171.50 Court Costs. He was represented by Attorney Jimmy Hammons.

On April 24, six criminal cases were heard in Judge Dallas Brewer's County Court.

Saul Franco Escontrias, 34, pled guilty to DWI. He received a deferred 30 day jail term, was fined \$100, must pay Court Costs of \$100, and a restitution fee of \$50 to the DPS.

Jason Lawrence Luther, 22, pled guilty to a DWI charge. He received a 60 day jail sentence probated 12 months, was fined \$455.69, must pay Court Costs of \$227, and as a condition of probation, must serve 72 hours in jail with 13 hours credited. He must also attend AA twice monthly, and pay \$44.31 restitution to the DPS.

Raymond Vasquez, Jr., 22, pled guilty to the charge of DWI. He received a 30 day jail term deferred six months, was fined \$250, and must pay Court Costs of \$157.

Victor Arnold King, 52, pled guilty to DWI charges on Feb. 10, 1996. He was sentenced to 90 days in the County jail, fined \$500, and must pay Court Costs of \$227.

Juan Perez, 18, pled guilty to DWI. He received a 90 day jail term probated 12 months, and as a condition of probation, will serve 10 days in jail with one day credited.

Turn to page 2, 'Criminal Court'

P.I.S.D. Receives Outstanding Academic Achievement Awards



Lauren Hise, Ernesto Mendoza, Amber Friesen, Larry Caballero, Trent Hawthorne, Lauren Davis, Katie Winn, Zachary Ramos, Rubi Castillo, Jacob Garza & Joani Bell.

Plains school students routinely win individual awards for academic excellence in the Literary Skills; Math - Reading - Writing - Science. They also do well in sports events, evidenced by their season ending standings in football, basketball, volleyball and track.

It was announced last week, and celebrated on Wednesday, April 24, the Plains Independent School District had achieved unprecedented honors for all three of its campuses, Elementary, Middle School (Jr. High), and Senior High, in last year's TAAS test scores.

The always critical Texas

Educational Association

TAAS (Texas Academic Achievement Scores) are not only a vitally important method of assessing school youth's progress at specific levels, their grasp of communications, math, science, plus their daily attendance habits, and school drop-out levels, they play an important role in how individual school districts are graded and even funded. The higher a district scores in the TAAS tests has a direct bearing on funding formulas for the district; This is a no-nonsense method of rewarding schools, teachers, and the students for their

dedication and hard work.

The entire PISD school system turned out in the main auditorium to learn of their achievements and honors. The Trumpet section of the State Champion Cowboy Marching Band performed the National Anthem, followed by Kindergarten students of Linda Simmons, gaily decked out in the State of Texas Star and Bars, led the Pledge of Allegiance to both the U.S. and State.

Surprisingly, a very small number of School Board Trustees and candidates

Turn to page 4, 'PISD Awards'



Front, L-R, Principals Ronnie Watkins, Junior High, Joel Haragan, Elementary, Steven O'Quinn, High School. 2nd Row, L-R, Superintendent Pete Simmons, State Representative Gary Walker

Cont'd from page 1,
'Criminal Court'

Jose Alfredo Yanez, 22, also pled guilty to DWI. He received a 90 day jail sentence probated 18 months, was fined \$500, and must pay \$227 Court Costs. He will spend five days in jail, with 2 days credited, and must pay \$29.64 restitution to the DPS.

Mental Health Forum Planned

The Yoakum County Mental Health Center and Advisory Board are hosting their Spring Forum on Thursday, May 9, 1996, at 7 PM in the Plains Community Center. The purpose of this forum is to let residents of Yoakum County know more about the various services

available to them. Everyone is encouraged to bring questions they may have in relation to mental health. There will be refreshments and door prizes. Speakers will include Treon Cobb Ortega, Center Manager, Sharon

Newell, Yoakum County Case Manager, Clay grizzle, Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program Manager, Marsha Stanton, Psychiatric R.N., Steve Rivas, Catholic Family Services, and Candy Seaton, Hospice.

AGRIFACTS

CORN
Statewide corn production averaged 114 bushels per acre in 1995, 3 bushels less than the previous year. Production decreased 9 percent from last year to nearly 217 million bushels.

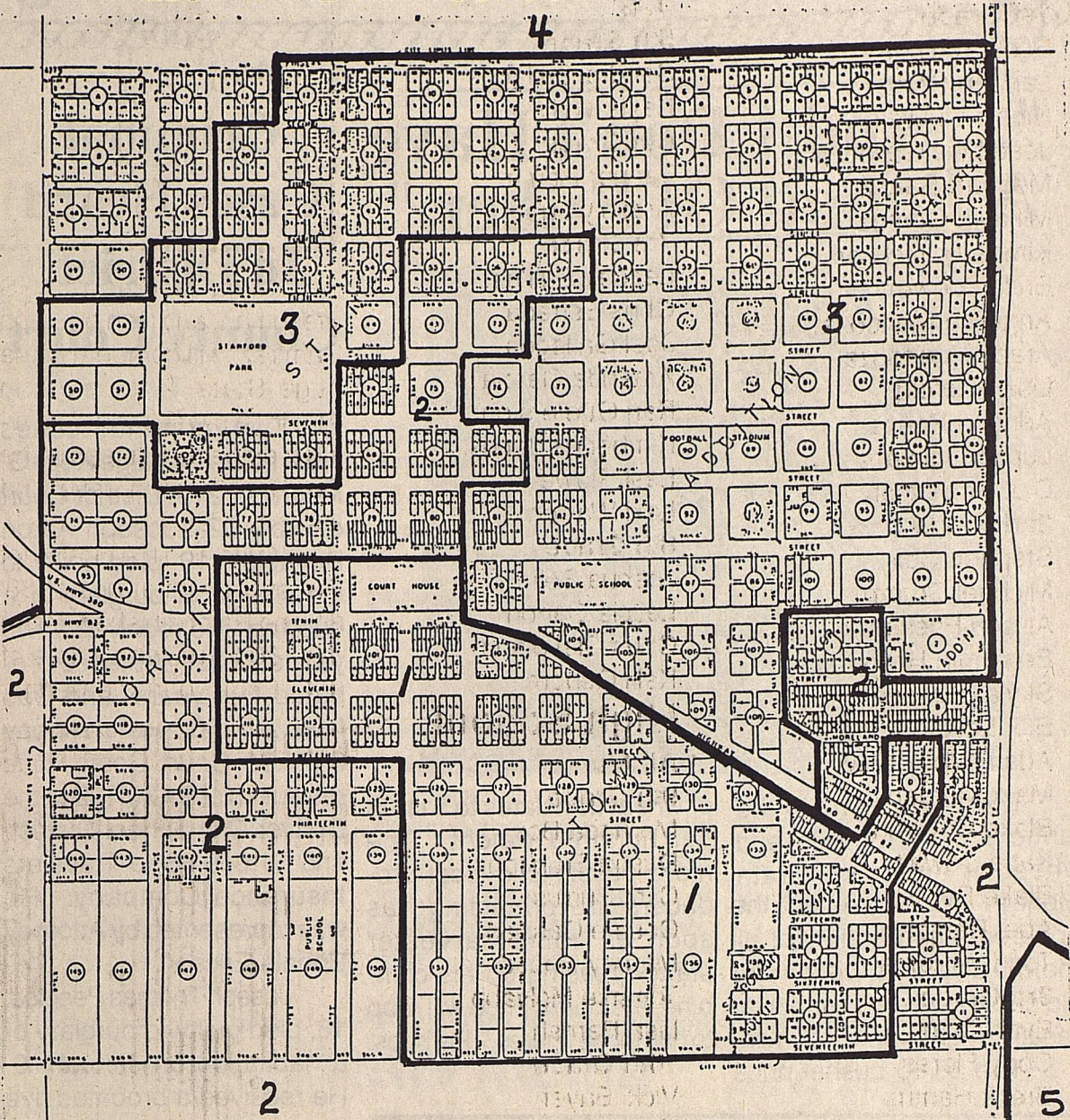
1995 Texas Corn Production	
Rank in U.S. #10	97% all other states
Acres harvested 1.9 million	
Total production value \$704 million	
Total U.S. Production	

*** Legal Notice ***

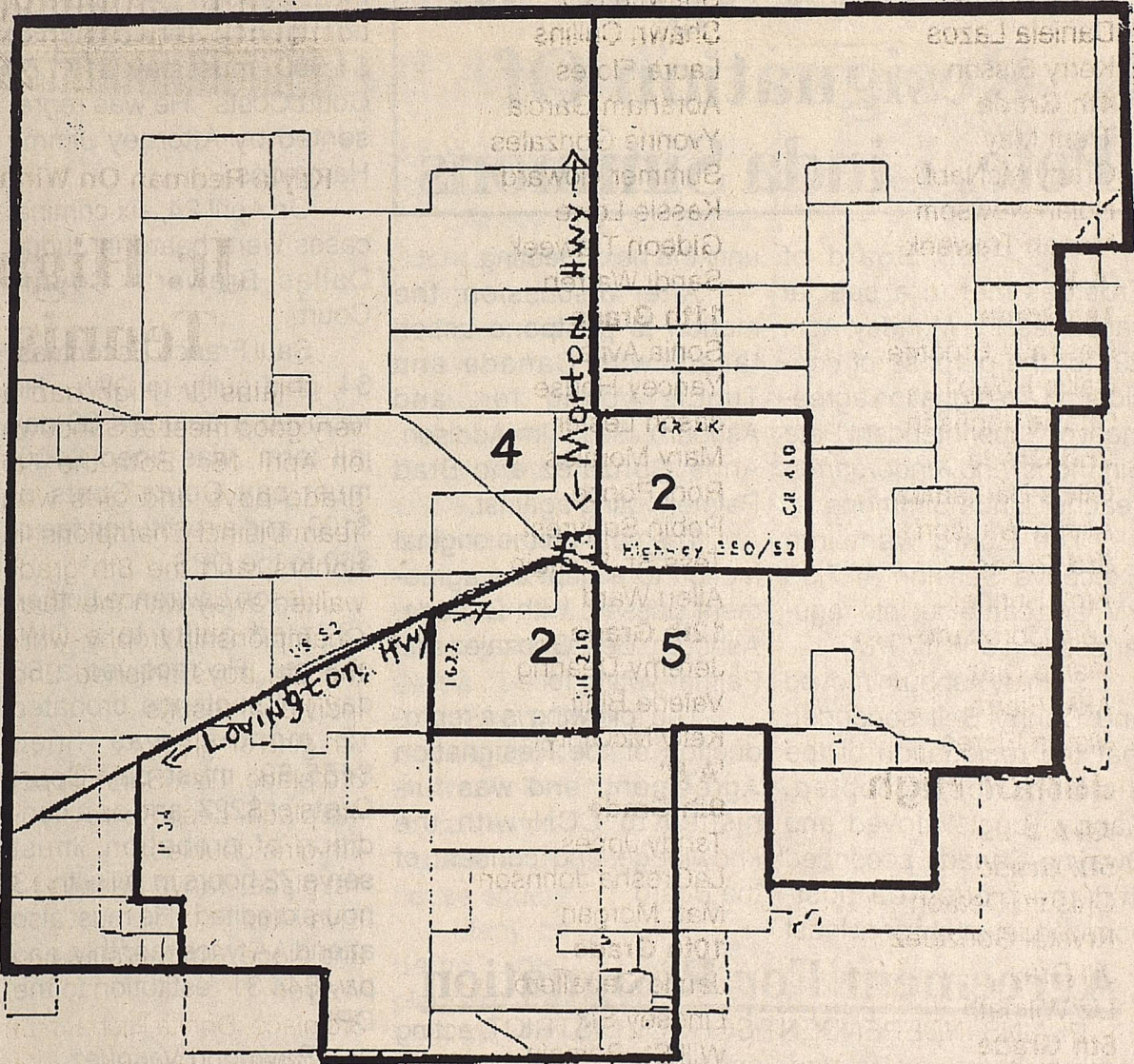
The Plains Independent School District Board of Trustees hereby gives notice of a regular election to be held on May 4, 1996, for the purpose of electing two trustees (District 3 and District 4) for full three year terms. Absentee voting by personal appearance will begin on April 15, 1996, and continue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

P.I.S.D VOTING DISTRICTS

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



Districts located within the City of Plains;



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

Now you know how your kids feel when they go to the mall.

It's all here. Everything your lawn and garden could possibly need—from lawn tractors to accessories. And right now when you visit your John Deere retailer, you'll find the things you need are at a price you can afford. Offer ends July 1, 1996.

NO INTEREST,* NO PAYMENTS* or **7.9%*** APR available until October 1, 1996.

GT242 Lawn and Garden Tractor
• 14-hp. OHV engine
• Tight 20-inch turning radius
• 38-inch cutting width
• Heavy-duty, 6-speed in-line shift transaxle



Walk-Behind Mowers

\$349

14PZ Walk-Behind Mower
• 5-hp, 4-cycle engine
• 21-inch cutting width
• Bagger attachment included
• Zone-start



Hand-Held Products

\$20 off

21C & 21S Line Trimmers
• 21.2cc, air-cooled, 2-cycle engine
• Priming bulb for fast start
• 16 & 17-inch cutting widths
• Dual-exit, semi-automatic feed



\$30 off

172 Hedge Clippers
• 21.2cc, air-cooled, 2-cycle engine
• Heat-treated, double-reciprocating blades
• 17-inch, double-sided cutting blade

30 If for any reason you're not happy with your John Deere walk-behind, ride-on, or residential front mower within 30 days of purchase, just bring it back. We'll give you a full refund. Or an exchange.



Nothing Runs Like a Deere

Service Parts

\$1996

Home Service Kit
• 2 quarts John Deere TurfGuard Oil
• Fuel filter
• Air filter
• Oil filter



Lawn Tractors

\$63 per month
LX172 Lawn Tractor
• 14-hp. OHV engine
• 38-inch cutting width
• 20-inch turning radius



NO INTEREST,* NO PAYMENTS* until October 1, 1996

\$1996
STX38 Lawn Tractor
• 5-speed transmission
• 13-hp. OHV engine
• 38-inch cutting width
• 15-inch turning radius



M1/M7/M/GX/GT

TEXAS EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC.



Lovington Hwy., Plains 806-456-2877

*All offers end July 1, 1996 and are subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Revolving Plan, for non-commercial use only. 10% down payment required. After promotional period, for major purchases over \$5000, finance charge will begin to accrue at 13.9% APR. For major purchases between \$1500 and \$4,999.99, finance charge will begin to accrue at 14% APR in TX, and 15.4% APR in N.M. For regular purchases, finance charge will begin to accrue at 14% APR in TX and 19.8% in NM. Rates in effect on March 1, 1996. See local dealer for current rates. A \$0.50 per month minimum finance charge may be applied to unpaid balances. 7.9% rate available only on selected models for terms of 24 months. Other special rates and terms may be available, including installment financing and financing for commercial use. Taxes, freight, set-up and delivery not included.

BUICK

chevrolet

Geo

Ray Young

Mustang Country
Chevrolet-Buick-Olds, Inc.
604 W. Broadway
806-592-5471

Bobby Trent Motorplex, Inc.
400 W. Broadway
Trent Motor Company, Inc.
806-592-2174, 915-758-3626

OLDSMOBILE

FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP
Symbol of Superior Service

CHRYSLER
Plymouth
Dodge

Vote How You Prefer
.....
Just Be Sure You VOTE!

SAVE IN BROWNFIELD!!

95 Town Cars	.....	.5 in Stock!
93 Cowboy Conversion 4x4 Suburban, Quad Captain Chairs, Extra Plush! #6000A	.....	\$21,950
95 Grand Marquis LS, V-8, Power Seats, Rear Wheel Drive, Keyless Entry, All Power #6006A	.....	\$18,350
95 F-150 SuperCab XLT, Two-tone Blue, Running Boards, Captain Chairs, Console #2165A	.....	\$15,950
95 Cougar XR7, Executive Package, Champagne Color P2153	.....	\$14,450
92 Lincoln Town Car, Medium Blue with Leather Interior #P2172A	.....	\$11,950
95 Ford F-150 Reg. Cab, Texas/Oklahoma Special, Air, White w/ Red Cloth Interior #3030A	.....	\$10,850
94 Nissan Pickup, 4 Cyl. 5-Speed, Air, NissSmall Truck w/ 29K Miles #5085A	.....	\$8,750
90 Silverado Reg. Cab, 1/2 Ton, 350 V-8, Auto., Windows, Locks, Cruise #3049B	.....	\$8,350
92 Buick Skylark, Quad 4, Auto., Black, Power Windows & Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette #6032B	.....	\$7,395
90 Mustang LX, Bright Red, Auto., Sunroof, Power Windows & Locks, Cruise, Cassette	.....	\$6,695
90 Oldsiera, V-6 Auto., Tilt, Cruise, Power Windows & Locks, Sport Rack #P2206	.....	\$6,595

All plus TTL

ED MOSELEY
FORD MERCURY LINCOLN

CALL OUR PREQUALIFYING HOTLINE —
1-800-260-6869
TOP DOLLAR FOR TRADES...
FINANCING AVAILABLE
1-800-658-6259

'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

PHS Honor Roll 5th - Six Weeks

Elementary

All A's

1st Grade

Scott Addison
Landon Craft
Nicole Culwell
Jose Luis Gallegos
Meghan Garcia
Mikayla Gomez
Kimberly Jackson
Erika Loewen
Angelica Mendoza
Araceli Mendoza
Lisa Neufeld
Adriana Ponce
Lupita Quintana
D.J. Robertson

2nd Grade

Stephen Cox
Michael Crump
Allison Friesen
Benjamin Hays
Skylar Keese

B.J. Lester

Adam McCravey

Mark Morgan
Blake O'Quinn
Katie Oswald
Blake Parrish
Abel Ramos
Todd Williams

3rd Grade

Evan Cain
Cody Flores
Breck Hamm
Brandon Hise
Brant Huerta
Daniela Lazos
Kerry Sisson

4th Grade

Trent May
Grady McNabb
Nolan Newsom
Moriah Traweek

'A-B'

1st Grade

Desiraye Broome
Callie Howell
Challie Johnson

2nd Grade

Olivia Barrientez
Alisha Wauson

3rd Grade

Amy Brintle
Lela Coronado
Marlie Diaz
Aldo Fierro
Mayra Flores

Junior High

All A's

5th Grade

Chisum Deaton
Krystal Gonzalez
Jill Gray
Liz Wilmeth

6th Grade

Ky May
Annaliesa O'Quinn
Scott Tirrell
Becky Wilmeth

7th Grade

Emily Blair
Aaron Cain
Ashlei Mason
Adrienne Ramoz

8th Grade

Krystle Blundell
Candace Bowers
Velvet Canada
Elizabeth Casillas
Audra Ellis
Jessica Flores
Kristen Gray
Wendy Hernandez
Fermin Luna
Kelton Mason
Laura Morales
Anne Palmer
Patti Ruiz
Kyle Sisson

Jason Swann

Staci Tuggle

'A-B'

5th Grade

Sandra Gallegos
Kayla Willis

6th Grade

Tanner Hamm
Arasely Luna

7th Grade

Lensey Cullins
Chris Estrada
Joel Gallegos
Amanda Garcia
Kari Guetersloh
Kimberlee Jones
Lesli Rowe
Lexi Warren

8th Grade

Joshua Bell
Leticia Canon
Chris Cleveland
Kelli Osborn

High School

All A's

9th Grade

Maranda Box
Dustin Brunson
Clint Burrus
Cosme Casillas
Marcey House
Tommie McNabb
Lisa Parrish

10th Grade

Vicki Bayer
Heath Bowlin
Shawna Box
Shawn Cullins
Laura Flores
Abraham Garcia
Yvonne Gonzales
Summer Howard
Kassie Lowe
Gideon Traweek
Sandi Warren

11th Grade

Sonia Avila
Yancey House
Jason Lester
Mary Morales
Roni Ponce
Robin Squyres
Tess St. Romain
Allen Ward

12th Grade

Jeremy Dearing
Valerie Blair
Kelly McGinty

'A-B'

9th Grade

Tandy Jones
LaCresha Johnson
Matt Morgan

10th Grade

Jamie Caballero
Lindsey Six
Will St. Romain

11th Grade

Kyley Bearden
Kristi Guetersloh
Arthur Hernandez
Lyndi Rowe

12th Grade

Steven Vasquez

Cowboy-Cowgirl Track



Kayla Redman, PHS Freshman, and Senior Ralph Ramirez, will compete in the huge State Track meet in Austin this weekend, following their performances in the Regional meet in Levelland last Saturday.

Kayla won the girls' Shot Put event with a toss of 36' 3", and Ralph finished 2nd in the 1600 Run with a time of 4:49.6. To our knowledge,

Kayla is the first PHS girl to qualify for a State final event. Our Congratulations to both!

Other PHS individual efforts included Valerie Blair, 5th, 3200 run, and 7th, 16700 run; Josh Traweek, 6th, 200 run; Jeremy Dearing, 4th, 800 run; 1600 Relay, Josh Traweek, Jesus Hernandez, Wayne Willett, Jeremy Dearing 3:29.8, 4th place.



Kayla Redman On Winners Platform At Levelland

Jr. High District Tennis Results

Plains Jr. High had a very good meet at Sundown on April 16. Both the 7th grade boys and girls won Team District Championship honors, and the 8th grade walked away with the Team Championship trophy, while the 8th boys finished 2nd. Individual results:

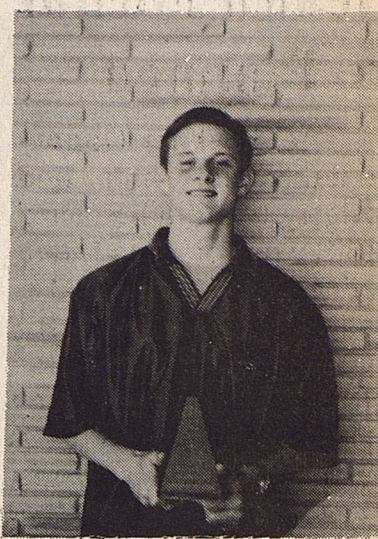
7th girls singles:
3rd place, Lisa San Filippo
4th place, Lesli Rowe
7th girls doubles:
1st place, Tanya Vasquez & Elva Ruiz
2nd place, Emily Blair & Lexi Warren
3rd place, Donita Richardson & Michaela Traweek
7th boys singles:
1st place, Greg Gonzales
3rd place, Sterling Deaton
7th boys doubles:

1st place, Adam Garcia & Aaron Cain
2nd place, Kelsey Blundell & Dustin Six
3rd place, Brett Squyres & Eddy Gallegos
8th girls singles:
1st place, Velvet Canada
8th girls doubles:
1st place, Jessica Flores & Laura Morales
2nd place, Patty Ruiz & Wendy Hernandez
3rd place, Candace Bowers & Autumn Deaton
4th place, Beth Perry & Leticia Canon
8th boys singles:
2nd place, Justin Bennett
8th boys doubles:
2nd place, Jeremy Humphrey & Rustin Knight
4th place, Colt Winn & Josh Bell

PHS Industrial Tech Students Score Big In Regional

Instructor Robert Canon's Industrial Technology students entered in Regional competition at the meet in Odessa last Saturday walked away with many honors. The following exhibitors all qualified for the State event to be held May 3-5 in Waco; Cosme Casillas, 1st place; Pat Tirrell, two 3rd places; Lee Tyson, two 2nd places; 1st and 2nd place for Lee David Hernandez; Heath Johnson, two 1st places, 2nd place and 3rd place; Josh Traweek, two 1st place and 3rd place; Edward Escobar, four 1st places; Valerie Blair, two 1st places, 2nd place and 3rd place; Steve Vasquez, four 1st places, 2nd place.

Student of the Week



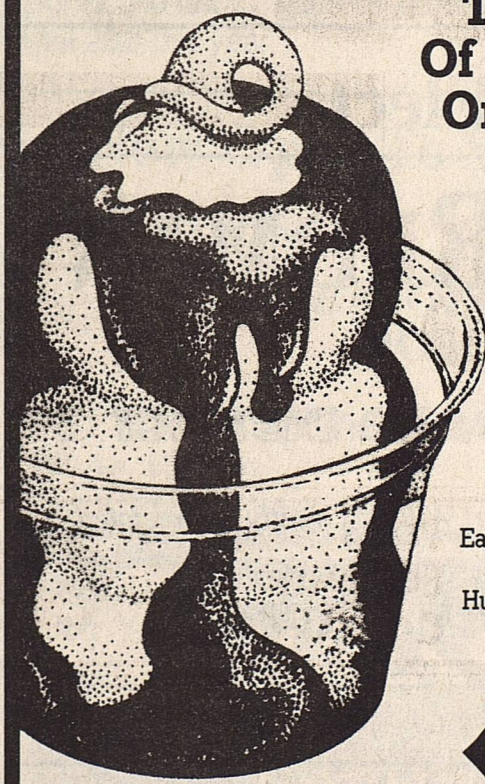
Matt Morgan is a freshman and the son of Mr. & Mrs. Byron Morgan. He has been selected as the Student of the week, nominated by Mr. Davis.

Matt is well-rounded and has matured as the year has gone by. He keeps his grades up in the mid 90's and is very active in class discussion. He is a good athlete and has put PHS on the map nationwide with his music skills.

**VOTE
MAY 4**

Big Bigger Biggest!

Three Sizes
Of DQ Sundaes
On Sale Now!



59¢
5-oz.

79¢
7-oz.

99¢
10 1/2-oz.

Each with your choice of a delicious topping. Hurry, this offer will melt away soon!

Dairy Queen

On sale April 29-May 26, 1996.

At participating Dairy Queen® stores. ©Reg. U.S. Pat. & Tm. Off. Am. D.Q. Corp.

Garage Sale
Saturday, May 4th
Time: 8 - 4
808 Ave. H (Behind Elementary School)
2 Lazy Boys, Music Machine, Clothes, Shoes, Toys, Decorating Items, Make-up, Shelves, Bed Frame & Box Spring, Trampoline, Pool with Pump, Adding Machine, Jewelry, & Much More

**Associated Farmers
Delinting, Inc.**

THE COTTON BRED FOR WEST TEXAS
.....BY WEST TEXANS!

EXPLORER™ ROCKET™

Tommy & Terry Thrash
office: 1-800-292-7333

G. B. AERIAL APPLICATION, INC.

David & Sarah Guetersloh
Office/Home 456-6300
Mobile Phones:
David - 456-7536 Sarah - 456-7974

Cont'd from page 1,
'PISD Awards'

for the May 4 Election were present for the distinguished awards ceremonies, certainly as important as a sporting event or U.I.L. contest. Kathy Bell, wife of Board member Danny Bell was present while he attended another meeting, and candidate Wayne Sisson, District 4, was also present.

Superintendent Pete Simmons reported all three campuses had achieved outstanding TEA honors; Both Junior High and Senior High achieved "Recognized Campus Awards", and each were presented with an award from Governor George W. Bush, including \$1000 checks to be spent as the campuses desire. Plains Elementary went a step further, winning the very highest rating of "Exemplary Campus", and another \$1000 award. Simmons reported the entire District missed an all around rating of "Exemplary Campus" by mere 'inches'... one student in high school missed the required goal by only one point, and just two Junior High students failed to make the required levels, again by mere points. In the entire State school system, a mere 80 school districts were rated Exemplary in all three campuses.

State Representative Gary Walker presented individual awards to Principals Joel Haragan, Elementary, Ronnie Watkins, Junior High, and Steven O'Quinn, Senior High.

In his address to the students and audience, Representative Walker congratulated both the faculty and student body for their outstanding academic success, and their



Gloria Covarrubias receives award, recognition for work with migrant school students

many achievements and honors in extracurricular activities; He mentioned the honor winning PHS Cowboy Marching Band, the achievements of all the sports teams, individual honors achieved by athletes, musicians and scholars, the great showing by the U.I.L. Literary teams both last year and the current year.

In a theme urging commitment in the student bodies of all three campuses, Representative Walker told the young students, "None of you, and none of us, at this point in time, know for sure what the future holds for any individual. We DO know, however, that the future will be better, more rewarding, more satisfying, if we concentrate on NOW. I urge you to realize that NOW, what you as individuals do NOW, will make you better citizens NOW, but more importantly, your efforts NOW will reward you, and us, your fellow citizens in the years to come. I urge you to

continue to put forth the great academic efforts you've earned these awards with. Your continued commitment and efforts will reward you in greater ways as you mature... we will all be rewarded".

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, Superintendent Simmons addressed the entire student body, telling them of the importance of the TASS Tests looming next week. In almost a sports rally type appeal, Simmons told the students their individual efforts and scores would have a direct and important bearing on the financial future of the school district, urging them to do their best, use and exercise their brains as dedicatedly as they would in an equally important sports event. He had the assembly cheering before they returned to class.

The following is a brief summary of pertinent achievements and passing percentages of the three campuses during the 1994-95 school year;

ELEMENTARY:
4th Grade TAAS scores;
Reading - 93% - Up 14 pts.
Math- 100% - Up 42 pts.
Writing- 97% - Up 12 pts.
3rd Grade Taas Scores;
Reading - 100%-up 24 pts.
Math - 100% - up 26 pts.
JUNIOR HIGH:
MATH;
5th - 81% - up 12 pts.

Way To Go, PISD

6th- 94%- up 17 pts.
7th- 96%- up 22 pts.
8th- 84%- up 33 pts.
READING;
5th- 92% - up 19 pts.
6th- 98% - up 24 pts.
7th- 93% - up 2 pts.
8th- 97%- up 11 pts.
WRITING;
8th- 84% -up 8pts.
Two new TAAS score fields were added this year;
8th SCIENCE- 90%, state wide results 77%.
8th SOCIAL STUDIES- 69%, state wide results 65.9%.
HIGH SCHOOL:
SOPHOMORES-
WRITING-100%-Up 19.2%
READING- 96%Up 19.1%
MATH- 88%- Up 26.5%
Additionally, in PHS, the attendance level averaged 97% compared to 95.7% in 1993-94, and the dropout rate decreased to .7% in 1994-95 compared to 4.7%.
An outstanding performance by both students, faculty and administrators of all three campuses.

PHS Ex In SPC Ceremony Honoring Slain Texas Peace Officers

Levelland: Josie Garza from Brownfield and Brian Wilson from Plains, South Plains College law enforcement majors, will serve in a student honor guard Thursday (May 2) honoring Texas' peace officers killed in the line of duty in 1995.

They will participate in an Peace Officer Memorial Day Ceremony sponsored by the SPC law enforcement club at 9:30 a.m. at the SPC flag pole, near the college's main entrance on College Avenue.

Student honor guard members will fire a 21-gun salute. The names of slain peace officers will be read, and the SPC flag will be lowered to half-mast. A reception will follow in the SPC Petroleum Technology-Law Enforcement Building.

Among those memorialized will be Rudy Gonzales, a 1992 graduate of SPC's law enforcement academy and deputy for the Lubbock County Sheriff's Office, who was killed Feb. 25 in a head-on collision in Lubbock while responding to an emergency

call. Gonzales will be honored along with the six peace officers in Texas who died in 1995.

Special recognition will also be given to federal officers who died in the Oklahoma City bombing, according to Larry Nichols, SPC professor of law enforcement.

Honor guards from a number of law enforcement agencies throughout the South Plains area have been invited to attend, along with families and friends of deceased peace officers. A scholarship fund has been established in Gonzales' memory at SPC. The SPC student honor guard is currently being trained by Randy Fesperman, assistant professor of law enforcement technology, and James Richey, instructor in law enforcement.

Persons wishing to make a donation to the Rudy Gonzales Scholarship Fund at SPC should contact the SPC law enforcement program at 894-9611, ext. 2291.



The Outstanding PHS Band's Trumpet Section Stirs The Auditorium Audience With Rendition Of 'The Star Spangled Banner'.

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

- Elect -

JEFF REDMAN

FOR

SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 3

Your Vote & Support Will Be Greatly Appreciated

MAY 4TH ELECTION

Paid for by Jeff Redman - Plains, Texas

State Line Insurance

Multi-Peril Crop ** Crop Hail

Danny Bell

Office-456-3521 Home-456-6325
Mobile-456-7517

Two J-S

FLYING SERVICE

AERIAL APPLICATION SPECIALISTS

LUBBOCK 793-5004
PLAINS OFFICE --- 456-3580 OR 456-7436

MIKE COBB JACK COBB
456-7165 << HOME >> 456-7452
456-7511 << MOBILE >> 456-7512

PLAINS DEPOT

New Merchandise Arriving Daily!

Come in and find just the right Easter outfit for you, your children and your husband.

We still have a Sale Rack

Laundry and Dry Cleaning Now Accepted for Delivery to Brownfield on Monday, Returned here each Thursday PM

Bayer Lumber and hardware

Now that spring is here,
Pray For Rain!

Meanwhile, prepare yourself to make it happen. Come to

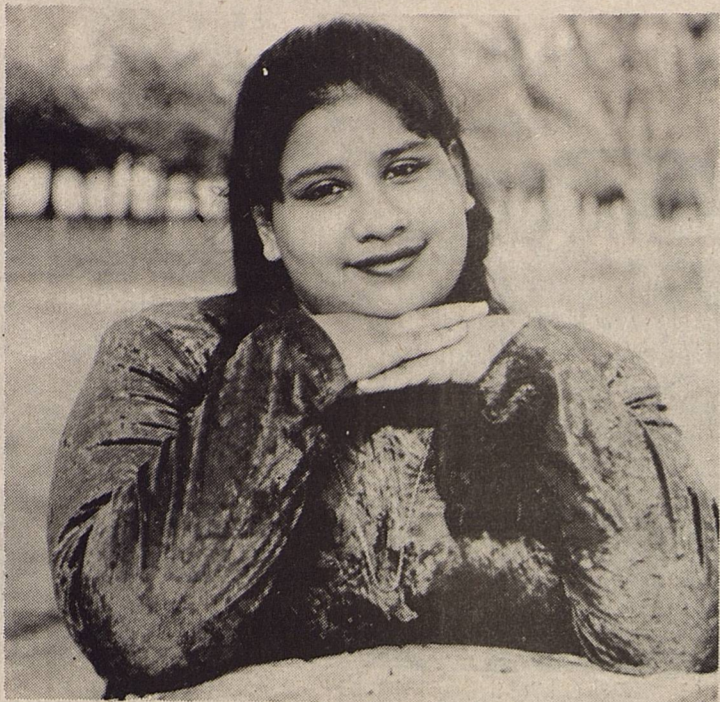
BAYER LUMBER

for garden hoses, hose mending parts, sprinklers, gloves, potting soil, fertilizer, and your plumbing and gardening needs.

Prayer is good, so keep up the faith.

Bayer Lumber & Hardware
1018 Ave. E
Plains, TX 79355 ----- (806) 456-4800

Femme Friends Page



Thank You!

I would like to take this time to thank everyone that helped my parents and me with the cleaning and cooking for my Quinceanera. It made my 15th birthday very special. And thanks to all the sponsors that helped with my cake, dance, dress, decorations, invitations and all my gifts.
The Martinez Family,
Johnny & Ester, Melissa, Ryan and Marina Martinez

Wedding Shower Planned

For: Vince Fitzgerald & Shelly Williams
Place: Mrs. Vernon Hise
Time: 2 - 3:30 PM

Selections: Nelsons, Dillard's, Renaissance, Plains Depot, Bayer Lumber, Cinderella Shop Service Merchandise, Interior Motive-Brownfield

The Arts:

In 1994, 91,555 people saw the outdoor musical drama TEXAS presented each summer in Palo Duro Canyon in the Texas Panhandle. Since 1966, TEXAS has welcomed 2,574,992 out of town visitors traveling from every state and more than 100 foreign countries. TEXAS contributes more than \$12 million to the Panhandle region's economy each year, with an annual economic impact of over \$84 million. Texas News in 1994

Senior Citizens Corner

"Garage Sale" -- the ongoing topic for this coming week! In addition to the Garage Sale, there will be a Bake Sale with lots of goodies, a jewelry sale with lots of things to make you pretty, or for Mother's Day Gifts.

The Sale is Saturday, May 4, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Baked goods and donated items need to be in by 3 p.m. on Friday, so they can be marked. Anyone wishing to help with the sales, contact Wanda Black. Also included in the sale will be items made by the Ceramic Girls. So come, look, buy and help a good cause.

New faces this past week are Royce and Jewel Hemmline and dr. Charles Self, a guest of Elmer and June. A big welcome to each.

Reba Baker still not well. Also Mary Terrel is in Memorial Hospital at Seminole. Fay Sorrells has had more illness!

We received a letter from Maxine. All were happy she is regaining her spontaneous spirit. There is an address in the office for anyone wishing to send a card or personal message.

Some dates to remember: Thursday, May 2 - Gail Balcar to help with insurance claims, 11 a.m. Friday, May 3, Line Dancing 9:45 a.m. and last chance to bring in your donated items for the Sales.

Our thanks to E & H Fire and Safety, and Five star for reflectors for our vans.

The city council reminds us that our Center will have a booth at the Watermelon Festival at Plains on Aug. 31. We need to be making items for the booth. It sounds like a long way off, but time flies.

See you next week,
Smitty

VOTE MAY 4

Tsa Mo Ga Meeting

The Tsa Mo Ga Study Club met April 22, with a conservation theme recognizing 'Earth Day', 'Arbor Day' and 'Keep America Beautiful', all April events.

Cindy Poole, Conservationist with the local Natural Resources Conservation Service, presented a film, "Hands of Healing", depicting community wide conservation efforts and practices to preserve and care for our land. She also distributed literature offering tips on water conservation in the home, and other resource conservation material.

City Administrator David Brunson addressed the Club on the role the County Landfill plays in serving both Denver City and Plains. The facility is currently handling an average 20 tons of waste daily, and the City of Plains pays \$5 per ton to dispose of its waste, a very minor charge compared to many other Texas communities.

Mary Jo St. Romain served refreshments to the members and guests. The next meeting will feature a Federation workshop, and installation of Club officers, on May 13.

TAKE NOTE



Deadly rays

Latest sun warning

OUR DESIRE FOR THAT TANNED LOOK is literally killing us. There were 11.2 new cases of melanoma for every 100,000 white women in 1992 compared with just 5.9 cases in 1973. That's a 90% increase. There was an even higher jump—150%—in the number of new cases among white men in the same time period. In 1992 there were 16.7 new cases per 100,000 white men compared to just 6.7 cases in 1973. (Melanoma is rare among blacks.)

Engagement Announced



Gary Stowe of Presidio and Irita Winn of Lubbock announce the engagement of their daughter, Juhree Anzoinlette to Greg Alan Corman, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Corman of Burlington, Colorado. The couple will marry August 17 in Lubbock. The bride-elect attends Texas Tech and is employed by Dillard's. The future groom attends Texas Tech.



The Plains Garden and 4-H Clubs met Thursday, April 25th to plant a tree in observance of Arbor Day. The cottonwood planted can be found on the east side of the new courthouse lawn. National Arbor Day was celebrated on April 26th this year.

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Assembly Of God
Pastor Erral Hainer

Church of Christ
Ray Young

First Baptist Church
Pastor Bill Wright

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Fr. Glen Rosendale

First United Methodist Church
Pastor Rick Doyle

Templo Bautista Nueva Vision
Pastor Jose Rodriguez

Darlene's Dress Shop

Brighten Belts & Accessories

T-Shirts with or without a Collar

New Merchandise Every Week

Lawman & Outlaw Shorts

BeutiControl Cosmetics

Get it all under one roof, beautifully displayed at

Darlene's
110 N. Main Denver City, Tx.
592-9524

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

Yoakum County Clinic

Each Thursday

Office Hours 1-4 PM

Appointments are preferred!
Please call 456-6365 or 592-9501

Your Business Is Appreciated

For All Your Pharmacy Needs
1-800-658-9604



Our Toll-Free Number Is For Your Convenience

NELSON
805 Tahoka Rd.
Brownfield, Texas

PERSCRIPTION
Pharmacy

Renaissance flowers & gifts

M-F 456-3939 10-5:30

* NEW *
Painted Metal Pictures & Baskets

* Graduation - May 24th

SPRING FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Congratulations to teachers, administrators, board, parents for Plains students' successes in contests & testing! You make it happen!

Selections:

Vincent Fitzgerald & Shelly Williams

Reminder

Booths for county Groups, Clubs and Individuals at the **August 31 Watermelon Festival** may be reserved until **May 25**. At that time, they will be available to out-of-area groups. Booths are only \$25. For Arts & Crafts booths, contact either **Inetta Teaff, 456-4022** **Sonya Reed, 592,3249;** Food - **Betty Estep, 456-4424;** Entertainment - **Jo Jackson, 732-8455;** Game Activities, **Debbie Garland.**

Sophs Score Well On TAAS Tests

Writing 100%, Reading 97%, Math 82%

Plains ISD received excellent results from the tenth grade Exit Level TAAS test April 23. Students scored 100% in writing, 97% in reading, and 82% in mathematics.

A total of 39 sophomores took the test. All students passed the writing portion of the test, which consisted of 40 multiple choice questions and a written persuasive paper.

The writing is graded on a holistic grading scale of 1-4, with 4 being the highest score. Of the 39 Plains students taking the test, 24 sophomores scored 4's, there were fourteen 3's, and one 2.

All students but one passed the reading section

of the test and all but seven passed the math portion of the test.

The high scores in all three areas of the test exempted 13 students from having to take the TASP test to enroll in college classes.

The state scale score required to be exempted from TASP, which must be taken by all students who enroll in more than nine hours of college classes, is 1780. Plains students averaged 1950 overall on the scale score. They also had to score an 89 in reading and 86 in math to be exempt from the TASP. These scores should give the school another "recognized" rating from the state.

Library Filmtime



Twenty-four children attended last week's Filmtime at the local Library. They played two games and watched a movie. Cindy Poole, Conservationist with NRCS here, presented a puppet show explaining Soil and Water Stewardship Week. County Judge Dallas Brewer was also present to sign a proclamation naming this week Soil Stewardship Week. Those in attendance were: Troy Parrish, Gretta Poole, Alfredo Martinez, Rhaela Stall, Brett Hawthorne, Hannah Crump, Jason Durham, Kevin John Gass, Sherman Gressett, Dakota Earnest, Holden Welch, Haley Welch, Kelsey Curry, Elizabeth Cox, Cody Friesen, Rhaemi Stall, Jacob Brink, Merrit Crump, Cristal Tarango, Isaac Doyle, Berkleigh Gressett, Landon Earnest, Hunter Welch and Emily Davis.

Yoakum County Hospital

Providing the people of Yoakum County a well-rounded, modern health care program for 46 years.

Quality Care For Neighbors, Not For Numbers

A 24 bed short term, acute hospital with the following complete services:

- *Physical Therapy
- *Surgery, Recovery and Critical Care
- *Obstetrics
- *Respiratory Therapy
- *Diagnostic Radiology
- *Monthly Cardiology Clinic
- *Monthly Urology Clinic
- *Laboratory Service
- *24-Hour Emergency Department

Yoakum County Is Licensed By The State Of Texas and is a member of American Hospital Association & Texas Hospital Association

COWBOY COUNTRY NEWS
Circulation Department
P.O. Box 179
Plains, Texas 79355

Your Paid-In-Advance subscription to the COWBOY COUNTRY NEWS EXPIRES ON THE DATE SHOWN ON THE LABEL.

The current annual rates for the COWBOY COUNTRY NEWS are:

1 Year	In Yoakum County	\$15.00
	Elsewhere in Texas	\$15.00
	Outside Texas	\$15.00

Please return this card with your payment to insure proper credit.

Thank you.

If your subscription to CCN expires this month, you should receive a notice like above in the mail. If you know your subscription expires at the end of May, and DON'T receive this notice, please call us, 456-8451. If in doubt about the expiration date, check the mailing label on your paper. An example of a subscription expiring this month will read, "5/95 - 5/96". Thanks for your prompt renewal.

Dates To Remember

Chamber of Commerce Meeting Tuesday, May 7, Johnnie's Restaurant, 7 AM
Fine Arts Sacred Music Festival May 19, 2 PM, First United Methodist Church

Thought For The Week

If a man is in Christ he becomes a new person altogether--the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.
II Corinthians 5:17



Remember This Old Beauty?



Johnnie Fitzgerald does. This old two story edifice was his home for several years in the early 1940's. The house was originally built by Lum Hudson, the first Sheriff of Yoakum County. The two story home had about 1800 square feet of living area. It was later sold to Fred Cox, who sold it to John E. and Dillie Fitzgerald in 1940.

In 1948, the house was torn down, and much of the lumber was salvaged and used in the house where the Terry Davis family now lives.

A 1942 Chevrolet sits in front of the house in the photo. It's location was on the north side of the Brownfield Highway, roughly one half mile north of Fitzgerald's cattle sign stands.

To The Voters of Yoakum County

Are you guilty of voter apathy? Webster's New World Dictionary defines apathy as:
(1) lack of emotion
(2) lack of interest; listless condition; unconcern; indifference

Even if you do not have children or grandchildren in our school system, you still have a huge interest--your tax dollars.

The next few years will be critical in the funding of our school systems. Let's continue to improve the quality of education for our future generations.

I URGE and ENCOURAGE you to exercise your RIGHT and PRIVILEGE to vote for the candidate of your choice in the May 4th School Board Election.

Sincerely,

Wayne Sisson

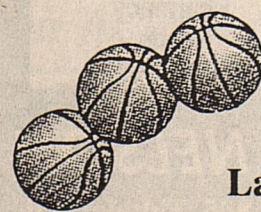
Candidate, PISD Board of Trustees, Dist. 4

A Special Thank You

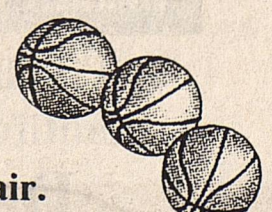
to all who made it happen for The Plains Little Dribblers and Plains All Stars !! Whether it was time, money or material items, it was all for a good cause, and we had a very good year. Thanks to these very special people;

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Texas Equipment Co. | Eddins Walcher Co. |
| Anderson Grain | Amoco Production Co. |
| Yoakum Co. CoOp Gin | Annie's Mini- Mart |
| Tokio CoOp Gin | Walker Sims Oil Co. Inc. |
| Lea County Electric | Allsup's, Plains |
| Plains State Bank | Sellers Steak House |
| Donna's Photography | Wilson Supply Co. |
| Associated Farmers Delinting | Melissa Garcia |
| Paul New | Lowe's Pay 'n Save |
| Richardson Insurance | Western Pump Service |
| Two J -s Flying Svc. | Brad Palmer |
| Higginbotham Bartlett | State Line Insurance |
| West Texas Gas, Inc. | City of Plains |
| ARCO Permian | David Lollar |
| New Tex Gin, Inc. | Yoakum County, Pct 3 & 4 |

Plains Little Dribblers



- Danny Bell, Pres.
- Donna Bowers, Sect./Treas.
- Chris Winn, Girls V.P.
- Carlos Howell, Boys V.P.
- Ladonna Diamond, Concession Chair.
- Tammy Sellers, Concession Chair.



Cont'd From Page 1, Resignations

ter of the 1996-97 school year, such responsibilities will be limited to board meetings, administrator coordinator, dealing with appeals at superintendent level, budget administration, and advising trustees and employees, it being agreed by the District and Pete Simmons that from January to June, he will be serving as chairman of the Small Rural Schools Finance Coalition (SRSFC) and as a result will assume obligations to the SRSFC and its members. The amount of time to be spent by Pete Simmons on such responsibilities shall be determined and measured in his reasonable judgment, it being understood by the District that Pete Simmons will spend a substantial part of his time attending to such responsibilities which will involve and require Simmons' presence and involvement away from Plains. The Board acknowledges that Pete Simmons can serve as chairman of the SRSFC without interfering with the performance of his duties as Superintendent under this Agreement and his current contract. Pete Simmons may use the school district computer, phone, pager and fax machine in fulfilling his SRSFC responsibilities.

5) Pete Simmons may receive compensation and benefits from SRSFC or other consulting opportunities during the Spring of the 1997 legislative session, in addition to his salary and benefits from the District.

6) Other than as provided herein, the employment contracts of Pete Simmons and Linda Simmons shall remain unchanged and as modified by this agreement shall govern and control the employment relationship between Pete Simmons, Linda Simmons and the District. Any terms contained in Pete and Linda Simmons' current contracts which conflict with the terms set forth herein shall be rendered null and void.

7) The District will not assign or alter Pete Simmons' duties or the assignment of Linda Simmons to developmental leave as set forth in this agreement and in their current contracts.

8) Expressly as part of the consideration for this agreement, Pete Simmons and Linda Simmons hereby release and discharge the district, all of its employees and agents, and the board of trustees, both individually and in their official capacities from any and all claims, demands and causes of action of any kind or character which may or may not have accrued in his or her behalf to the date of this agreement, whether known or unknown. The District and the board likewise release and discharge Pete Simmons and Linda Simmons from any and all claims, demands and causes of action of any kind or character which may or may not have accrued in their behalf against Pete Simmons and/or Linda Simmons, whether known or unknown. The phrase "known or unknown" or the words thereof, do not mean any act in direct violation of any federal or state penal statute. Further, neither party releases any other party from any claim, action or suit against such party which would give rise to an action against the other party for contribution and/or indemnity.

EXECUTED this 29th day of April, 1996.

PLAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: **Brad Palmer**

President, Board of Trustees

Commissioners Vote To Restore YCSWCD Funds

County Commissioners Avara moved to restore the \$1,400 funding which was seconded by Commissioner Jim Barron. In following discussion, Barron said when he earlier discussed the \$1,400 budget reduction with then Board President L.J. Sanders, he did not realize the 20% cut would primarily affect salaries of the District staff. No other departmental salaries were cut in the 'budget trim back.' Commissioner McWhirter related he was a strong advocate of the SWC District, and had benefited from many of their services, but as a representative of all the people in the County, he felt it would not be fair to restore the approved 20% budget cut unless all the other cuts were rescinded also.

The reduction was part of the Court's efforts at the first of the year to reduce County spending across the board by 20%.

Powell compared her appeal to the siege of the Alamo or the battle of Waterloo in its urgency, saying if the SWCD Board request for the \$1,400 failed, the conservation role the group plays in the county would suffer, if not fail.

She pointed out the district has a small operating budget, \$16,400, and 90% of that amount is tabbed as salaries for part time secretaries Olivia Robertson and Emma Gonzales. She read a twenty point list of pertinent facts about what the District does to promote conservation in our agricultural sector. She also pointed out other area county SWC District staff are paid by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services, but not in Yoakum County.

Powell told the Court of a number of generous contributions and donations, including funds from Yoakum County Coop Gin, Eddie Earnest, New-Tex Gin, L.J. Sanders, Tokio Co Op Gin, but said, "We cannot rely on donations in continuing our programs."

Commissioner John

McWhirter and Thurston voting no. In the final vote, the Court voted 3-2 to restore the County share of the District budget to the original \$7,000 amount. Commissioners McWhirter and Thurston voting no. In other agenda matters, the Court approved a resolution pledging the County's pro-ratio share of 1.08% of matching funds to Ector County, to be used only in case of a shortfall in funding of the Permian Basin Drug Task Force, reported in last week's edition of CCN.


The Court accepted a bid from Danny's Service Company in the amount of \$3,456 for asphaltting a Precinct 3 street in Denver City.

A lease and severance agreement on a new hangar building built by G & B Aerial Application at the County airport was approved.

Texas History In May... It Really Happened

May 25, 1690-San Francisco de los Tejas founded, first of the East Texas missions.
May 1, 1718-Mission San Antonio Valero, the Alamo, founded.
May 7, 1824-State of Texas and Coahuila created by Mexican Constitution.
May 19, 1836-Ft. Parker attacked by Indians, Cynthia Ann and John Parker taken captive.
1840-Council House fight in San Antonio, 30 to 40 Indians slaughtered.
May 8, 1846- battle of Palo Alto, first in the Mexican War, won by Gen. Taylor near Brownsville.
May 9- Resaca de Palms, second battle, won on Texas soil.
May 12, 1865-Battle of Palmetto Ranch, last battle of Civil War, fought near Brownsville. May 30-Texas surrendered to the Union.
May 16, 1888-Present State Capitol opened.
May 19, 1891-Rice Institute chartered.
May 19, 1916- Pres. Woodrow Wilson orders militias of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona mobilized on Mexican Border.
May 24, 1919- Prohibition amendment adopted by the state's Legislature.
 Texas is dry again-for awhile.
May 28, 1923- West Texas gusher, 'Santa Rita # One' comes in, providing eventual funding resources for the establishment of the permanent University Fund to endow the University of Texas and Texas A & M.

"Ya Know I Love Ya, Man!" Happy 50th



FLOWERS OUTWEST
 State Line - Lovington Hwy. 732-8611

Bedding Plants
Fruit Trees
Tomato & Pepper Plants
Other Varieties

Asparagus & Strawberries

We are committed to new & different ideas that seem hard to find!

Spring Things
 Tomato Plants, Pepper Plants, Bedding Plants, Roses, Geraniums, Garden Seed, Soil Conditioner, Garden Fertilizer, Potting Soil, Spring Bulbs

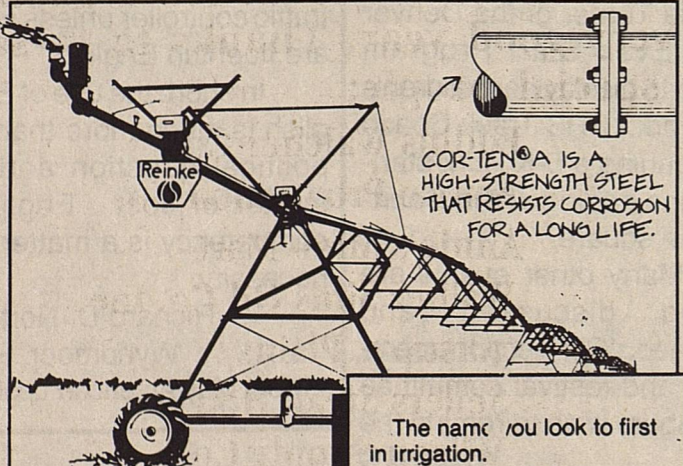
IRON will make your lawn greener!
 No Burn Formula...Long Lasting

Free use of spreader with purchase of fertilizer

ferti-lome®
SONNY'S FEED & SUPPLY CO.
 The Plant & Animal Folks
 1001 West Main Brownfield, TX 637-2815

REINKE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

The Reinke Electrogator® 600 Series



COR-TEN® A IS A HIGH-STRENGTH STEEL THAT RESISTS CORROSION FOR A LONG LIFE.

The name you look to first in irrigation. It's not easy to keep making the best systems better, but that's what Reinke has done with the Electrogator 660 and 665.

Both of these Reinke Systems feature the very best of the Electrogator technology like 1-hp. special irrigation motors, 6" or 6-3/4" O.D. Cor-Ten® a mainline pipe plus many more standard features that deliver unmatched performance.

The Reinke Electrogators also offer the widest variety of sprinkler packages available. And every system is backed by a comprehensive warranty package.

Look first to Reinke for performance and reliability. Let us tell you more about Reinke's 600 Series Electrogator with Cor-Ten A.

WIDEST SPRINKLER SELECTION IN THE INDUSTRY.

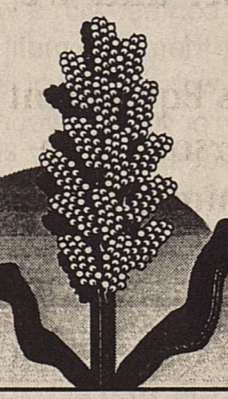
-JACK SPEARS-Drilling Company
 WATER WELL DRILLING & PUMP SERVICE
 456-4925 OR 456-3845
 Jim Warren, Sales Mgr.
 456-7444

1989, Reinke Mfg. Co., Inc. Cor-Ten A is a Reg. TM of U.S. Steel Electrogator is a Reg. TM of Reinke Mfg.

A G R I F A C T S

GRAIN SORGHUM

Sorghum is planted across Texas, with high-producing counties located in the High Plains and South Texas. The 1995 sorghum crop, at nearly 41 billion pounds, was down 52 percent from 1994.



1995 Texas Sorghum Production	
Rank in U.S.	#2
Acres harvested	2.4 million
Total production value	\$382 million
Total U.S. Production	28% Texas

Source: Texas Agricultural Statistics Service and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service
 Graphic: Agricultural Communications, The Texas A&M University System

P S B

Plains State Bank

Independently and locally owned.

Serving Plains, and Yoakum & adjoining counties for 38 years.

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

From The Hack



The Bride and I love birds; We have three books of identity of Texas birds. Even so, now and then we spot one we can't identify, like yesterdays blue/black bodied beauty, about the size of a Finch, with both black and white stripes over it's body sides. You spotters out there, what was it?

Another fascinating thing about birds; Their common names. Why is it they are all named after humans? Like, you know, Grebes and Loons. Sounds like past schoolmates. The red-throated Loon was probably named after my High School Principal, Mr. Hudson, who was permanently red throated from screaming at kids.

How 'bout the Blue Faced Booby? Had to be named after some dolt choking on a nacho at Abuelo's, preying for a Corona Extra, never mind the lemon.

One of my favorite seashore birds is the 'Old Squaw/ Bufflehead'.... for some reason, the Bride really resents me trying to refer to her in this manner, descriptive of a beautiful salt water shore bird.

Now, there are other type birds, many of them descriptive of characters I know on the golf course; How about 'Worm Eating Warbler'.... sounds like Bob Blundell to me! There's the 'American Coot', which could describe all males over 50 wearing shorts on the course.

Further browsing thru the bird reference books revealed a "White-Rumped Sandpiper", a perfect word the picture of some lady we played golf behind last year; Clad in shorts, her

legs were certainly reminiscent of a sandpiper, while her..... Oh, well, forget it.

In doing serious research for this article, we developed a problem; We discovered a Texas bird non quotas familiarus - a 'Flammulated Owl'. Honest. Page XXVI, "Field Guide To Birds Of Texas"

I asked the Bride what in the world a flammulated owl was.... for moments, she appeared numb, engrossed in serious memory... then her face brightened, she beamed, "Oh yeah, I remember now, daddy told us that was a screech-owl which had flown thru a pine forest fire, and only had three tail feathers, a beak and a screech to navigate on".

Other Birds listed in the book which really pique my interest..... the 'Beardless Flycatcher"- no other flycatcher is listed with a beard, what's the deal?

Our books are crammed with exotic names of Texas exotic birds.... the Yellow Breasted Sap Sucker; the Black-Eared Bushtit; The Nocturnal Goat Sucker; The Tufted Tit Mouse; The Red-Cockaded Woodpecker; The Limpkin (sounds like one of my old uncles); and of course, my favorite Texas bird, the extremely rare elf owl/ buff breasted sandpiper/ brown creeper/limp tern/ yellow breasted chat, a crossbred developed after years of research by Polly Rushing in an effort to find some feathery creature his dog Roger would retrieve.

Witnessed part of the second Tournament of the year at Y.C. Golf Course. I had planned on entering

the event, but a severe injury prevented me from doing so; I had a painfully ruptured and herniated ego when I could find no partner to play with. What does this tell me... the other golfers do not realize or recognize my skills and expertise? They do not wish to frivolously throw their money away linking their name with mine? They have no desire for fame and fortune? Something is wrong here.

Golf is a really weird game; You enter a partnership tournament with a friend, slapping backs, good old buddy-buddy stuff. After 18 holes, the situation may have degenerated to scenes I witnessed Sunday evening; "You dumb expletive, I told you to use a 7 instead of an 8 iron!"

Or, as Buddy Hanna once expressed to me, "I don't know how my luck could be so bad... I'm like that character in the Little Abner comic strip, with a permanent, dark, rainy cloud over my head... All the partners I get to play with are the sorriest putters in the universe, maybe the entire #1-\$^*+#!-#* galaxy"

*** FOR SALE ***
7300 SERIES MAX EMERGE PLANTER- 8 ROW, VACUUM MODEL W/CHEM BOXES, MONITOR. SEE AT JACK SPEARS DRILLING. MAKE OFFER

Massey Ferguson, Kubota, Bush Hog Shredders, Lilliston Peanut Combines & Rolling Cultivators, UFT & Lorenz Minimum Tillage Equipment, Baker disc & Switch Plows, & Much More.
Terry County Tractor
637-4569 Brownfield

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

"Walker, Texas Rep"

Well friends, things are abuzz here at the Capital. There are meetings on appropriations, property taxes, transportation and the lottery. It is a busy time, but I am doing my best to serve the folks of District 80.

The Capital is also abuzz with news from Washington. In the past few weeks Congress has finally signed a farm bill. I am chairing a subcommittee at the request of the speaker and chair of the Agriculture and Livestock committee to review the Farm Bill and determine its affects on Texas agriculture.

We will hold one meeting in conjunction with Texas A&M in Lubbock June 21 through the 22. I encourage each and everyone of you to come and listen to the expert testimony lined up to spell out the effects of the "Freedom to Farm Legislation."

One of the new provisions of the farm bill is a one-time sign up period May 20 - July 12. Growers who miss the deadline will be ineligible for the farm programs for the next seven years. I urge everyone to be mindful of this crucial deadline.

As the summer months rapidly approach, many of you are planning family va-

cautions. I have a word of caution to those planning to visit state parks. Starting May 1, state park visitors will be charged on a per person basis versus per carload. These fees will go into a \$186 million park renovation and repair fund.

Admission fees will range \$1 to \$5 per person with most parks charging an average of \$2 per adult. Children under 12 will still be allowed free admission as will certain seniors and disabled persons.

I know some may think, "Here we go again with the government squeezing more money from us," but according to the state auditors office, Texas Parks and Wildlife operates with the leanest budget of any state agency. I think this minor assessment will go a long way to ensure that our children will be able to enjoy the valuable resource of our state parks.

Another subject would like to visit with you about is that of organ donation. I strongly believe in the importance of this program. There are more than 2,000 Texans between the ages of 1 and 55 who are in need of some type of organ transplant. In an attempt to curtail this staggering number Gov. Bush

has proclaimed this week organ and tissue donor week. Join with me in supporting the Governor's initiative and help to give the gift that keeps on giving.

As promised in recent articles, I have more Texas trivia facts. It is important for all Texans to know interesting tidbits that make up the history and legacy that has made Texas the Lone Star state.

One important Texas trivia fact is the meaning of the colors in the Texas flag. Red is for courage, white is for liberty and blue is for loyalty. These are traits all good Texans should have.

Many of you may know that Ann Richards was not the first female Governor of Texas, Ma Ferguson was back in 1932. However, her nickname did not come from the fact that she was an endearing mother, but rather from the culmination of her initials, Miriam Amanda.

I hope that these are things you can have fun with. Remember, if there is any question or suggestions that you have for me please call or write. It is through your comments that I can serve the needs of West Texans.

Until next time, your friend in the legislature, Gary L. Walker

August Watermelon Festival Plans Are 'Full Speed Ahead'

The 'Yoakum County Connections' first project, a watermelon festival on Saturday, August 31 on the Courthouse grounds, is moving closer to reality. The festival committee met recently and reported on progress and plans for the event.

Suggested names for the festival will be judged at the May 6 meeting, with the winning entry receiving a \$50 Savings Bond donated by Mary Jo St. Romain. A costume contest with a watermelon theme or motif is planned, with judging of kindergarten or younger youngsters, grades 1-3, 4-6, 7 and up, and 18 years of age and older classes. Contestants may act, dance or sing while modeling their costumes.

Mapping of the grounds for booths is complete, with 72 booths bring planned. Cost per booth is \$25, and County residents and organizations have until May 25 to reserve a booth, before they are made available to

out of county groups or individuals.

Denver City Girl Scout leader Diane Osborn plans for her Scouts to man an information booth. A brisket barbecue and chili cook off is planned. The Plains Lions Club recently donated \$25 to start a fund for postage, T-Shirts, Caps, Trophies and Advertisement. Other donations are welcomed and encouraged. A 'Largest Melon' growing contest is planned. Stacia Turner of the Denver City Even Start Program plans to display her children's art work. PHS Track Coach is planning a 5-K Run, starting and ending at the Courthouse square.

Many other events are being discussed and planned. 'Connection' members and festival committee members wish to remind the

public their help is needed, to make the first Watermelon Festival a successful County project. There is something for all volunteers to help with!

English A Must

The answer to "Should Congress Make English The Official U.S. Language?" (Big Issues, March) did not address one important issue. English is becoming the de facto language of world commerce, technology and economics. You cannot conduct financial trade, fly an aircraft across borders or be an air traffic controller unless you are fluent in English.

In short, the use of English is much more than a political question and a matter of cost. English competency is a matter of necessity.

Richard D. Norton
Wyndmoor, Pa.
From May American Legion

W. E. (Red) BERRY

Real Estate
DENVER CITY, TX.



Specialist in Residential, Commercial
Farm & Ranch Properties

Gary Dyer Olivia Robertson
456-8451 592-2786

W. E. BERRY, BROKER - 210 N. MAIN
Res. 915-758-5200 - Off. 806-592-3523



Hicks

MAYTAG

Carpet
Appliances
Heating &
Air Conditioning

It's Hard To Stop A Trane

204 n. Main, Denver City
806-592-3973 or 592-3930

Cowboy Country News
P.O. Box 179
Plains, TX 79355
Office 806-456-8451
Fax 806-456-2010

Published each Wednesday, Plains, Texas
by Holly and Gary Dyer. Subscription Rate \$15.00 per year.
Call for Advertising Rates.



Insurance Plus

Announces Good Rates Available For Crop Hail,
Many Basic And Specialty Crops....Coverage
Available On Irrigation Systems and Farm
Equipment

James F. (Jim) Brown

Off. 456-2788 Fax 456-2792
Home 592-3490 Mobile 456-7365

DELICIOUS !!

TEXAS LEAN

CHICKASAW TRADING CO.



BEEF JERKY

A TRUE TEXAS MADE PRODUCT OF
CHOICE, LEAN BEEF, HICKORY SMOKED 8-
10 HOURS, WITH NO ARTIFICIALS ADDED.
CONTAINS NO FAT OR CHOLESTEROL, AND
MAKES A GREAT GIFT PACK! CALL US FOR
PRICE AND PACKAGING INFORMATION.

CHICKASAW TRADING COMPANY
592-3515, DENVER CITY, OR
1-800-848-3515