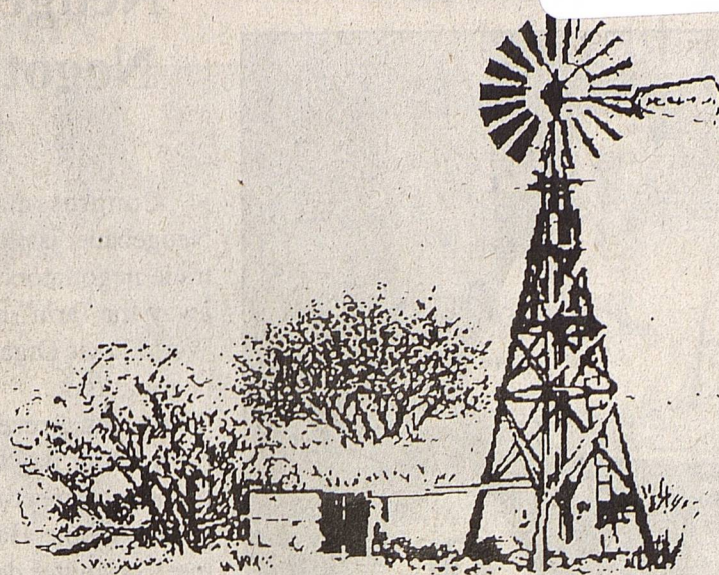


Cowboy Country News

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

Volume X, Issue 3, September 24, 2003



First Yoakum County Hospital Foundation Golf Tournament A Big Success

The Yoakum County Hospital Foundation's first annual golf tournament on September 17 was a big success, drawing some fifty players, and was supported by a very impressive list of sponsors and donors.

The Foundation, only formed in May, 2003, is a fund raising organization generating tax-deductible donations from individuals and businesses, to better the operation of the local hospital. The Foundation is neither a Hospital or County organization. Its Board consists of two Plains residents, two Denver City residents, one hospital board member, and the hospital administrator. Current members of the board are Jim Barron and Wilma Powell, Plains, and Joe Kay, Dale Carter, Edith Kidd and Clay Taylor, Denver City.

The Foundations first golf tournament was held at the county course, and drew some fifty entrants in a four person scramble format.

The top four teams in the event included; First: Jim Bullard, Doak Enabit, Barbara Wright, Gary Dyer and Don Parrish,

with 59 score. Second: Dora Alvarez, Robert Manchuca, Robert and Erma Soto, 59. Third: Wade Roberts, Russell Dial, Clay Taylor, Carmela Davis, 59. Fourth: Gary and Scott Luker, Mike Jones, Mike Click, 60.

Helping make the first tournament a success were South Plains Physicians Associates, Covenant Health Systems, CJR Contractors, Arapaho Health Care Resources Yoakum County Hospital Home Health, Luker Pharmacy Mgt., James Balch, MD, Denton-Renfroe, Paulger Dermatology, Joe McKay-JDMA, Durbin & Co., Wilma & Ty Earl Powell, Retail Merchants, Diagnostic Mgt., Garner's Yamaha, Willie McCormic, Michael Reed, Children of the Pioneers, Midwest Health Care Linen.

Almost two dozen donors provided generous gifts, services or prizes to the tournament contestants.

The Foundation expressed its sincere gratitude to the donors, sponsors, and all workers in the tournament.



First Place Team, Jim Bullard, Doak Enabit, Gary Dyer, Don Parrish, Barbara Wright.

Commissioners Court in routine session

In the September 22 session of Commissioners Court, an E-9-11 and database maintenance interlocal agreement was approved with South Plains Association of Governments, required every two years after 9-11 events.

Mike Fears, Director of Economic Development in Denver City, delivered a review of activities of the Development Board the last 12 months. The Home Buyers Incentive Program assisted in 13 first time homebuying families, with ten children enrolled in school, achieve ownership of their homes. Fears also reported the development of a new housing project just off Highway 214 and adjoining the Santa Fe addition, the future building site of six new, 1750 square foot homes, to be built with assistance of tax incentives from the City of Denver City and free from sales tax on locally purchased supplies and materials in their construction. He also reviewed progress on the new Rubber Chipping Plant being constructed north of the town. February 1 is target date for completion of the project. Fears said efforts are underway to possibly attract a manufacturing or molding plant to the area, to use the process crum rubber.

Turn To Page 2, Commissioners

The Plains High School Cross Country team which won the state title in 1993 under the tutelage of now retired Head Track Coach Everett McAdams will be honored at halftime of the Cowboy Homecoming game against Ralls this Friday, September 26.

Members of the team able to attend the homecoming events, and Coach McAdams, will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the year they first won the District title, then Regional, and then the Class A Crosscountry state championship. Those team members present are invited to a hamburger cook out at Coach McAdams home at six PM before the Ralls game.

Cross Country running became a part of the Cowboy and Cowgirl sports venue in 1987, and the Cowboys have recorded a remarkable record of achievements since then.

They earned District championships in 1987, 88, 89, 90, 91, '92, 93, 94, 95, 98 and 2002. They were declared Regional

Lengthy session of County Court

Nine criminal cases were heard in the September 17 session of County Court, Judge Dallas Brewer presiding, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Eric Joseph Mendoza pled guilty to criminal mischief, over \$50, less than \$500 damage. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$250, must pay \$211 court costs, restitution of \$50 and \$25 time payment fee. A charge of vehicle burglary was adjudicated. He will spend 24 hours in jail, with credit for 6.5 hours, and serve 24 hours community service. Investigating officer was William Gardner, Denver City Police.

Jon Erik Yzaguirre pled guilty to theft, more than \$50, less than \$500. His 120 day jail term was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$200, must pay \$211 court costs, \$40 restitution to Sulema Gonzalez, and \$25 time payment fee. He will serve 24 hours community service. Investigating officer was Patricia Valdez, Denver City Police.

Juan Tarango Coronado Jr. Pled guilty to assault causes bodily injury. A 90 day jail sen-

Turn to page 2, 'County Court'

PHS '93 State Champ Cross Country Team To Be Honored at Homecoming



The '93 State Champions: Front, Lenny Morrow, David Corrales (3rd place indiv. medal), Orlando Ortiz. Back, Jacob Lester, Ralph Ramirez, Joe Valdez, Jeremy Dearing, alternate, Edward Perez (not shown), and Coach McAdams

Champions in 1990, 91, 92, and '95, and the State Championship ten years ago in 2003.

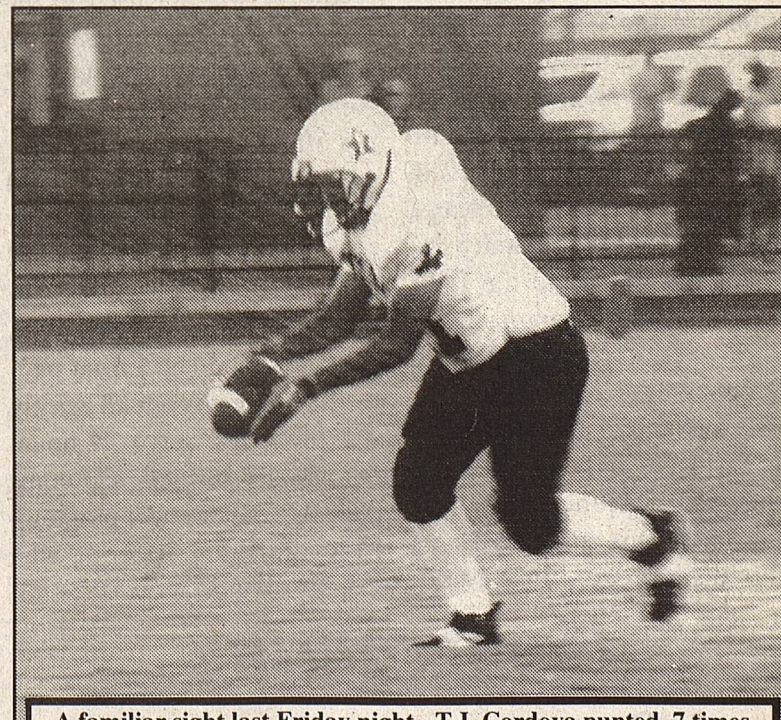
Their record in the State 2nd. 1993, State Champs. Meetis is equally impressive: 1994- 3rd, 1995 - 2nd. 1998 - 1990 - 2nd. 1991 - 2nd. 1992- 5th.

Tough Wildcats down Cowboys 39-0

It's a long bus ride to Wink from Plains... and much further coming home after a 39-0 pounding by the highly rated Wildcats. More than one Cowboy coach expressed their relief at being able to keep the final score no more than it was in the tough outing.

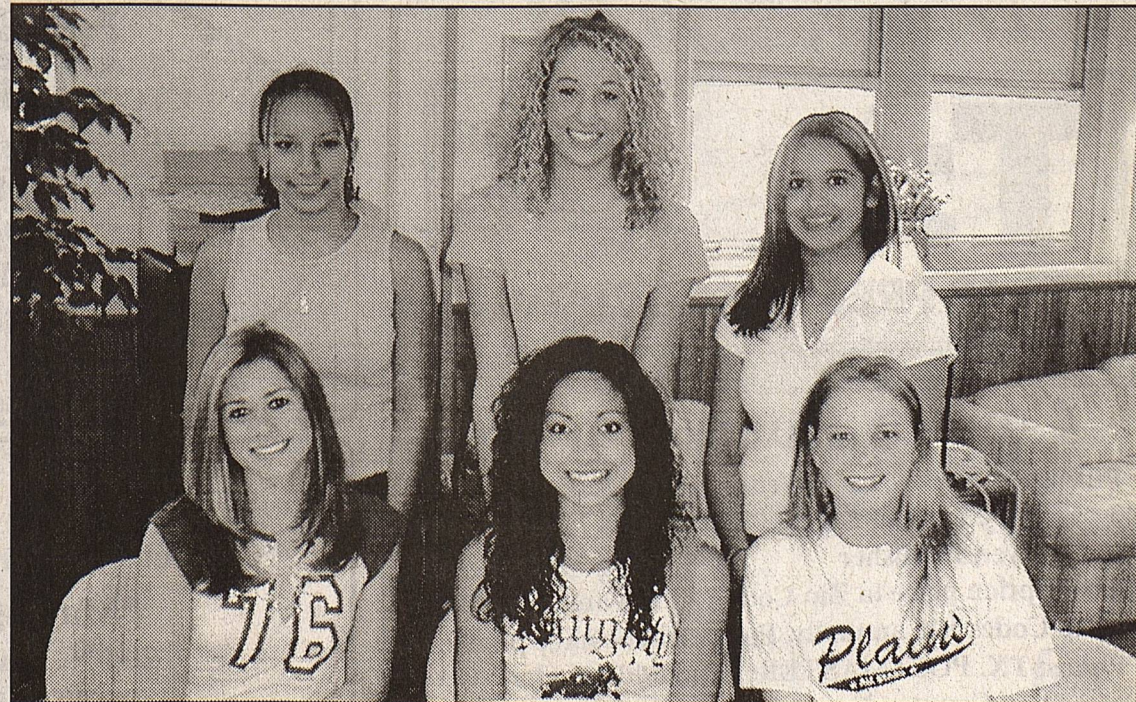
The Cowboys could only muster a total of 70 yards offense, compared to the Wildcats 379. For the first time this season the Cowboys were unable to complete a pass in eight attempts, while suffering two interceptions.

The dismal statistics and final score not withstanding, view- Turn to Pg. 2, Cowboys



A familiar sight last Friday night - T.J. Cordova punted 7 times

Meet the 2003 Homecoming Royalty



The Senior Queen candidates shown seated here are Moriah Traweck, Manuela Villegas and La Shonda Diamond. One will be named 2003 Queen at the Ralls game here Friday at 7:30 PM. Duchesses standing are Araceli Mendoza, Fr. Skylar Keesece, Soph. and Jamie Covarubias, Jr.

Lions hear economic advice



Eric Caswell, a native of Brownfield and a Texas Tech graduate now representing the Edward Jones company, was guest speaker at the local Lions Club noon meeting last Thursday. Despite the predominate gloomy image of the economy and future investing in the economy, Caswell told the Lions there are multitudes of opportunities for average American citizens to take advantage of today. He cited significant changes resulting from recently passed tax legislation, including lower tax rates on income, repeal of the so called 'marriage tax', and significant and beneficial changes in many personal investment plans. He cited a common malady in many average households; "We've always been advised to buy low, sell high, yet in reality, most of us do exactly the opposite - when we feel really good about the good economy, we usually buy high, and often have to sell low when the economy sours."

From Page 1,

entence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay \$211 court costs and \$25 time payment fee, serve 80 hours community service and complete the batterer's prevention program. Investigating officer was Patricia Valdez.

Arnoldo Reyna pled guilty to driving with suspended license. He was fined \$250, must pay \$211 court costs, and spend 72 hours in jail with credit for 19 hours. Warren New was his attorney, and Sheriff Deputy Curtis Coffman was investigating officer.

Krystal Shari Moreno pled guilty to a first DWI, b.t..086/.087. A 120 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months/ She was fined \$500, must pay \$226 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. She will serve 72 hours in jail, with credit for 10.5 hours served, attend weekly AA meetings, serve 24 hours community service, and complete the DWI first offender program. Investigating officer was DPS Trooper Brad Taylor.

Alexander Basquez pled guilty to first DWI, b.t. refused. A 120 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$600,

'County Court'

must pay \$225 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He must complete the DWI first offender program, spend 3 days in jail with credit for 6 days, serve 30 hours community service and attend weekly AA meetings. Bill Helwig was his attorney, and Robert Shugart, DPS was investigating officer. Justin Gabriel Gonzalez pled guilty to driving with suspended license. He must pay \$241 court costs and \$100 fine. Robert Smith, DPS, was investigating officer.

Rolando Enriquez Castro pled guilty to first DWI, b.t. .150/.140. A 89 day jail sentence had been met with 89 days credit. He was released to the U.S. Border Patrol. Bill Helwig was his attorney, and Deputy Kenley Powell was investigating officer.

Alfonso Gomez Muniz pled guilty to a first DWI. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He was fined \$600, must pay \$226 court costs and \$25 time payment fee. He will attend weekly AA meetings, serve 24 hours community service, and complete the first offender program. Investigating officer was Deputy John Matus.

Homecoming

Queen ceremony
Friday, 7:30 PM



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2003

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Neugebauer: Failed WTO Negotiations Did Not Fail Texas Farmers

Congressman Randy Neugebauer is pleased the U.S. trade negotiators, "didn't give away the farm" at last week's World Trade Organization trade negotiations.

Neugebauer recently returned from a four day trip the WTO ministerial meeting in Cancun as part of the House Agriculture Committee delegation. The U.S. negotiating team included the Secretary of Agriculture, Ann Veneman and the U.S. Trade Representative, Robert Zoellick.

Neugebauer went to the WTO negotiations to promote and defend the concerns of West Texas farmers who are increasingly victimized by unfair trading practices in other countries; he was encouraged that U.S. negotiators held their ground. Neugebauer called his experience eye-opening.

"The world is really starting to understand the importance of U.S. agriculture, U.S. Cotton, and U.S. Textiles. Fair trade is more important than free trade. The U.S. is not prepared to give away the farm when it comes to trade negotiations," Neugebauer said. "Our West Texas farmers must be protected and that's one of the issues we discussed in Cancun. While free trade has economic benefits, fair trade is more critical to expanding export markets for American farm products, and that's the message I delivered to our negotiating team."

The meetings came to an

From Page 1, 'Commissioners'

A resignation request from Troy Scott, Justice of Peace Pct. 2 and current Emergency Management Coordinator to step down from the coordinator position was accepted. Sheriff Don Corzine spoke to the court and described the tremendous amount of detailed work involved in the coordinator position, mandated by the Federal Homeland Security Act. Judge Brewer told the court he was very familiar with the scope of the coordinator's position and work, and suggested to the commissioners it may become necessary for the four precincts to find funds available for a county paid coordinator. "The Homeland Security Act requires all of this work and detail be carried out, and it appears to me we may be looking at a full time position to get it done."

abrupt conclusion Sunday when four African countries submitted a proposal that would eliminate the U.S. cotton program. Neugebauer said Zoellick tried to persuade those country's representatives to broaden their proposal, but the talks fell apart at that point.

Neugebauer said while agriculture was not the cause for the failure of negotiations, it was important to note that the U.S. came to Mexico with the willingness to ambitiously move forward on the three pillars of agriculture trade-domestic subsidies, export subsidies, and market access.

"Agriculture had a strong voice at the trading table and that is the most important thing. The skill of the negotiating team ensured that these meetings would in no way result in a bad deal for U.S. agriculture and our farmers," Neugebauer said.

Neugebauer also discussed with Agriculture Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte the possibility of hearings to assess the WTO negotiations after Cancun. One possible hearing will focus on types of subsidies and trade barriers that developing countries maintain in their own markets.

Neugebauer sits on the Agriculture Committee's Subcommittees on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, Specialty Crops and Foreign Agriculture Programs, and Livestock and Horticulture.

A request from Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark for approving employments and salary of Becky Garcia from part-time to full-time as third deputy clerk in his office was approved.

Notice

Edgewater Broadcasting Inc. has applied before the FCC on 08/22/03 for a new construction permit to rebroadcast KLVW, WESTODESSA, TX channel 204 from 4 3/4 MI N OF INT OF HWY 214 & HWY 83 DENVER CITY, TX on channel 284 with 75 watts, serving DENVER CITY, TX.



CAPITOL COMMENT

U.S. SENATOR

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON



Raising Awareness...

Did you know that September is the official 'Hug a Texas Chef' month? Or that October was 'Go Nuts Over Texas Peanuts' month? Texas calendars offer fun celebrations, lively holidays and unique festivals, but in addition to the more lighthearted causes, the first months of fall have two sobering causes to trumpet as well: prostate and breast cancer awareness.

According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for women. More than 211,000 women will be diagnosed in 2003, nearly 14,000 of them in Texas. Thirty nine thousand will die this year. Prostate cancer is the second most common cause of cancer deaths in American men. In 2003, it is estimated that more than 220,000 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed, 13,200 in Texas. Nearly 29,000 men in the U.S. will die from this disease this year.

Although these statistics are disturbing, there is hope. Both cancers have this in common: early detection means better chances for recovery.

Breast Cancer...

Early detection and treatment are the best strategies in decreasing the chances of having to remove the breast and preventing death. Mammograms are the best way to find breast cancer at an early stage, when treatments are most effective. They are not fool proof, but after 40 years of research, mammograms are the best way to detect breast cancer. Regular self exams coupled with clinical breast exams are the first line of defense. Women in their 20's and 30's are at low risk for breast cancer, but should have regular breast exams at least every three years. For women age 40 and older, annual mammograms are recommended. Women with increased risk of breast cancer because of family history, or past incidences of cancer, should talk to their doctor about

the best course of action.

Prostate Cancer...

In the last decade, prostate cancer has become the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer in men. The National Prostate Cancer Coalition assesses the chances of getting prostate cancer are one in three if you have just one close relative, such as a father or brother, with the disease. The risk is five-fold with two close relatives, and with three, it's 97% certain you'll get prostate cancer. Thirty percent of new cases occur in men under the age of 65. African American men are at special risk for the disease. They have the highest rate of prostate cancer in the world, nearly 60% higher than in white males and double the mortality rate.

The American Urological Association encourages routine testing for prostate cancer for men who are over age 50. If there is a family history of the disease, regular testing should begin at age 40. A healthy diet and regular exercise are also believed to help reduce the risk of developing prostate cancer.

Researching a Cure...

In addition to a proactive approach to our own health care, it is critical to support cancer research.

There are hundreds of organizations, public and private, that are working round the clock to study causes, treatments and preventative measures for all cancers. In Congress we recently fulfilled our commitment to double the budget of the National Institutes of Health, which houses the National Cancer Institute (NCI), our nation's cancer research arm. With a nearly \$5 billion annual budget, NCI scientists are working with leading organizations to help stop these diseases in their tracks. With the government working hand-in-hand with private industry and researchers to fine a cure, and the public doing its part to prevent and detect these disease, we will put cancer behind us,

Blood Drive

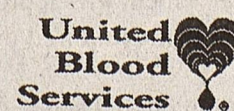
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Yoakum County Hospital

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Concealed Handgun Licensee Course Scheduled

A concealed handgun licensee course is scheduled September 26-27 at South Plains College in Levelland.

Classes will meet 7-10 pm. September 26 and 8 am. -7 pm. September 27 in the SPC Law Enforcement Petroleum Technology Building, Room 115. Advance registration is required.

Cost is \$70 for new applicants and \$35 for renewal applicants. Ammunition will be furnished. Participants need to bring two magazines for a semi-automatic handgun and driver's license and should not bring handguns to class without instructor approval.

The state required introductory course is necessary to carry a concealed handgun in Texas and is for first time and renewal applicants. The course covers

use of force/public contact with law enforcement, non-violent dispute resolution, weapons storage and safety practices, range safety, basic marksmanship, handgun use and evaluation, handgun proficiency and concealed handgun license requirements and restrictions.

Participants must pass a final written exam, which demonstrates knowledge and proficiency of minimal standards. The course also requires a proficiency demonstration at the SPC firing range.

Instructor is Joe Wise, assistant professor of law enforcement. Formal registration will be completed at the first class session.

To pre-register, contact the SPC Law Enforcement Office at 894-9611, ext. 2356.

Other YCHF Tourney Winners



Robert Manchuca, Dora Alvarez, Erma Soto, & Robert Soto 59



Russell Dial, Wade Roberts, Carmela Davis & Clay Taylor, 59

Texas State Fair Ropes In Visitors, Revenues



When the first State Fair of Texas opened in 1886, tourists didn't have access to <www.BigTex.com> to find out the latest on the fair's attractions. Back then, the fair didn't even have Big Tex, the 52 foot tall talking cowboy that is the fair's instantly recognizable symbol. In 1886, the fairgrounds only covered 80 acres, and 14,000 people showed up on opening day.

By 2002, about 3 million people visited the State Fair each year, now located at 277 acre Fair Park in Dallas, and its annual attendance makes it by far the largest fair in North America, according to Amusement Business magazine's annual survey.

"We expect to attract another 3 million in 2003, which will have an economic impact of roughly \$350 million in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex," said Nancy Wiley, the fair's vice president of marketing and public relations.

Such an enormous job requires a year round, permanent staff of about 40 employees who work for a 55 member non-profit corporate board, State Fair of Texas Inc., and a 15 member executive committee.

The fair always opens with a parade in downtown Dallas. From the parade on September 24, 2003, until the fair's end 24 days later on October 19, the staff ensures that thousands of details are covered.

The fair offers food and drink to visitors at about 200 different locations on the fairgrounds.

"We have everything from full service restaurants to push carts," said Wiley.

On the midway, patrons can spend the fair's 50 cent coupons on about 75 rides and

amusement attractions, such as Tina, the world's tiniest horse, or the tallest Ferris wheel in North America, the 212 foot Texas Star.

"We have all kinds of exhibits too, from mom and pop exhibits with 10 by 10 foot booths to the 80,000 square foot building that holds the auto exhibits of General Motors, Fords and Chrysler, with their latest models and experimental concept cars," Wiley said.

The largest single day attendance record for the fair was set in 1966 with 345,469 visitors, according to the Handbook of Texas Online, an online encyclopedia of Texas sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association and the University of Texas.

For the 2003 fair, organizers anticipate spending \$40.5 million to put on the event and expect \$44.5 million in revenue.

Any money left over after paying expenses each year is reinvested in improvements and preservation projects at Fair Park, which the city of Dallas owns.

About 54 percent of the fair's revenue comes from admission, parking and miscellaneous sources. General admission in 2003 will be \$12, and the price for seniors (age 60 and over) and children under 48 inches tall will be \$8.

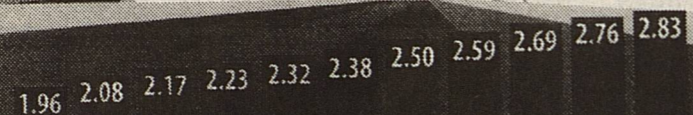
"Corporate sponsors play a big role," said Wiley. In 2002, about 60 sponsors spent close to \$3 million on entertainment and events, and even more on in-kind contributions, such as advertising or producing a variety of attractions.

For example, Texas Utilities offers a nightly laser show, and Chevrolet sponsors well known musicians and singers on the fair's main entertainment stage.

Fueling up

Fuel taxes have historically generated billions for Texas road projects.

Fuel taxes in billions of dollars*



* Combined fuel and diesel taxes.

Regulate Doctors, Paper Begs

The present session of Congress has under consideration a proposal

to regulate the practice of medicine in the Republic. The Telegraph and Texas Register stated the need for such legislation in this manner;

"These pseudo MD or Drs. are more dangerous than hostile Indians, and not considerably less numerous. More brave men have fallen under their hands than the rifles of the Caddos, Wacos and Comanches ever reached. We had rather see a company of armed Mexicans in battle array than a squad of these grave gentry, parading with their Pandora boxes of pills. Some of these impostors are distinguished by the vast medical knowledge acquired in a livery stable, cook shop, or tanning vat.

"Such a quack was recently flourishing as a second Aesculapius in a Brazos River village, who a few months ago was a shoemaker in Tennessee! Failing in the wholesale business of soles, he emigrated, and give the devil his due, was disposing of souls at the lowest price, charging only victuals for a dose of medicine!"

In view of this type of medical practice, surely the Congress will appoint an examining board before the end of the year.

The Texas Press
December, 1837

Texas at a Glance

An Industry with Teeth

Fascinating and frightening to some, the alligator is the basis of a booming industry in Texas. Texas has the third-largest number of alligator farms in the nation, with 29 licensed farms and 44,000 alligators in captivity in 2003, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). Louisiana leads the nation with 122 licensed alligator farms.

Alligator farming is a \$10 million industry in Texas, said Amos Cooper, alligator program leader for TPWD. That figure comes from estimated sales of hides and products made from hides, including boots, purses, belts and other items.

The first alligator farmer in Texas was licensed in Rockport in 1986 with 206 alligators. By 2001, Texas alligator farmers harvested or killed and sold hides for leather from 20,806 alligators, down from 28,775 during 2000.

Texas farmers harvested fewer alligators in 2001 than in previous years. The number of alligators harvested in 2002 is not expected to exceed 30,000 due to decreased production by two major farmers, who are improving old farms to meet economic demand, according to TPWD.

Year	Sales of tags* to farmers	Sale of alligator farmers' licenses
2001	\$83,224	\$5,200
2000	\$115,100	\$6,400
1999	\$113,396	\$6,200

* Refers to sales of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) tags. In 1983, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service changed the classification of the American alligator under CITES. The classification means the alligator is not threatened or endangered in its native U.S. range, but the sale of its products must be regulated, via tags or documentation, so that similar species in other parts of the world are not sold illegally as American alligators.

SOURCES: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Southern Regional Aquaculture Center.

Year	Number of alligators harvested
2001	20,806
2000	28,775
1999	28,349
1998	24,017

SOURCE: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Yoakum County Plains Clinic

Amir Memon, MD
and
Jo Lena Wall, PA - C

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Cowboy - Wildcat action



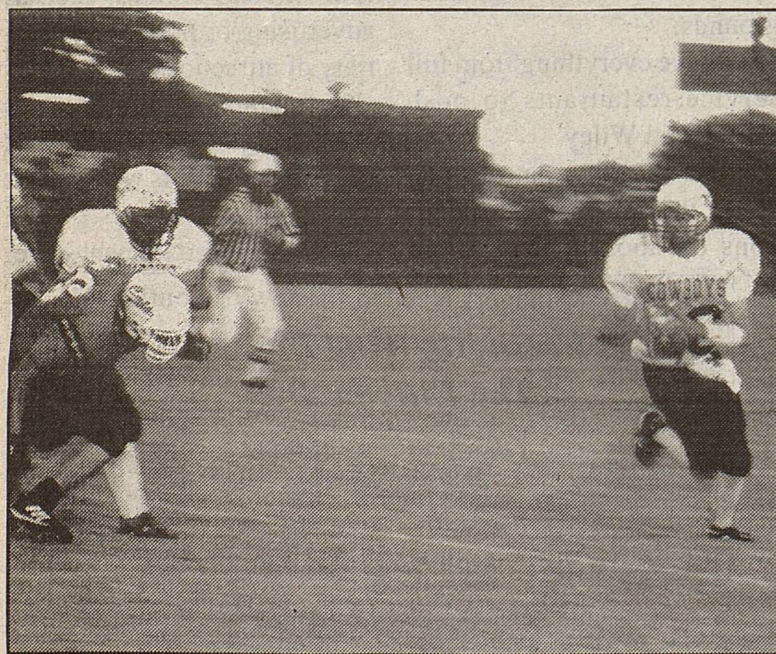
Cowboy defenders bury a Wildcat runner



A pair of Cowboys converge on a Wink back



Richard Diaz tries to elude Wink defense



Evan Cain tries to make the left corner

From Page 1, Cowboys
ing the game film Saturday morning did produce some Cowboy positives; They suffered no fumbles, T.J. Cordova punted the ball 7 times for a 32 yard average, Armando Ramirez and Ryan Martinez had tackles for lost yards, while Grady McNabb and Nolan Newsom were other leading Cowboy tacklers.

Cross Country Update

The Cowboy cross country team finished second out of more than 20 teams at the Olton Invitational. The Cowgirls were fourth competing against 13 teams. Sundown, a state qualifier last year, won the meet by only 16 points over the Cowboys, who beat Hart, last year's alternate team to state.

The Cowboys were led by Jose Villegas and Abel Ramos, who were 3rd and 7th in a field of 75. Payton Bean, Armando Ramirez, Scott Addison, Patrick Cotton and Brandon Davis rounded out the Cowboys top seven, all finishing better than 25th. Chandon Loya, Arnold Cordova and Adam Guerrero rounded out the runners.

For the Cowgirls, Manuela Villegas was 16th in a field of 120 runners, with Micaela Villegas 19th. Other Cowgirls in order were Stacie Alldredge, Ashley Vantine, Kim Trent and Lamanda Sainz

In the Junior High division, Zachary Ramos was 5th and Brandon Loya fished 45th, and Lauren Davis captured 25th place.

The Cowboys and Cowgirls will run at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock this weekend. Junior High has the week off.

Wrangler Football Update

The 7th and 8th Wranglers opened their season against Sudan on September 10. John Tyson scored the first TD and Chris Addison threw the two point conversion to Cody Mayes. On the kickoff, the ball hit a Sudan player and bounced back to the Wranglers. Mayes scored in a good drive, but the two point play failed. Sudan was able to score, but the Wranglers came right back and Mayes scored on a 55 yard run. Tyson made the two point run and the Wranglers were up 22-6. In the second half, the 7th grade Wrangler defense could not hold the Hornets, and Sudan scored to make it a 22-14 game. Mayes would score again in the fourth period, and Addison passed to Zach Ramos for a 2 point play, and when the final whistle blew the Wranglers were 30-14 winners.

On September 18, the 8th Wranglers found the Wink Wildcats too much to handle. Early in the game, they led 24-0, but in the second half, the defense came alive and did not allow a single Wildcat point. The Wranglers only score came when Cody Mayes broke free from scrimmage for an 80 yard touchdown, and Chris Addison added two points with a pass to John Lara. Rudy Gonzales had an outstanding defensive play when he jumped in front of a receiver for an interception. In a special 5th quarter, the 7th Wranglers played the Wildcats for an outstanding 14-0 win. Jonathan Mindieta scored both touchdowns, and Chris Gonzales took the pass from Addison for the 2 point conversion. One of the TD's resulted from an interception and run by Zach Ramon to the 5 yardline, setting up the second Wrangler score.

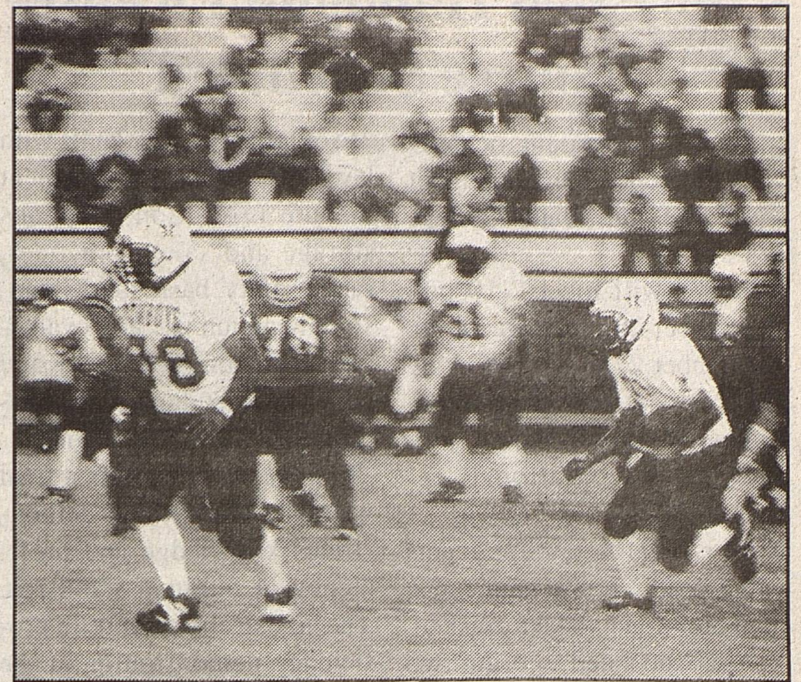
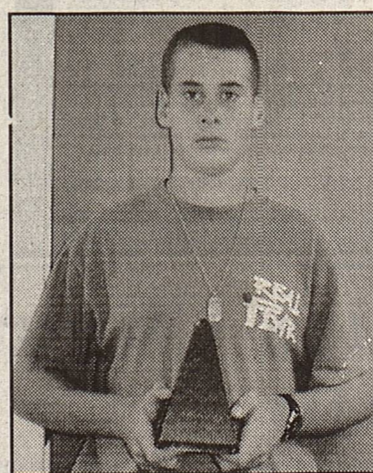
J V Volleyball Tournament

In the Denver City J.V. Volleyball Tournament last week, the younger Cowgirls were downed in both their games. They fell to Greenwood 17-25 and 18-25. They played tough against Lubbock Cooper, but were downed 21-25 and 20-25.

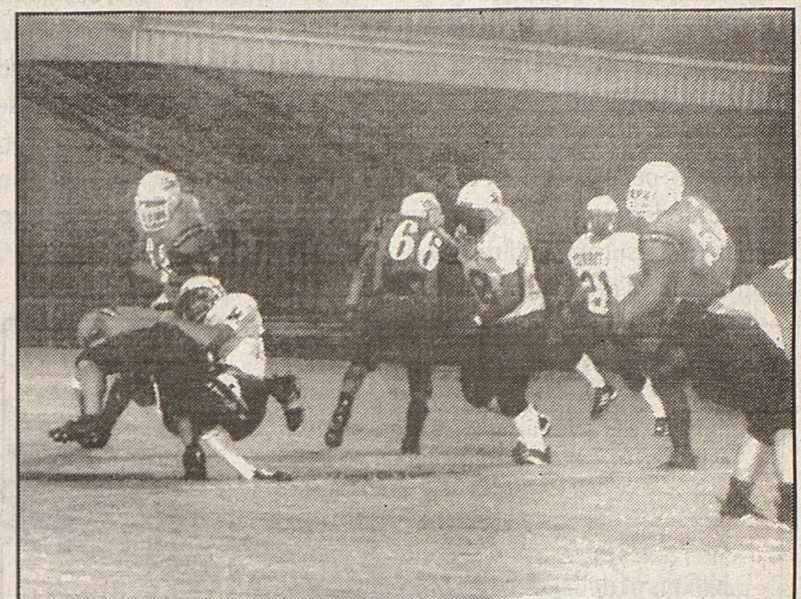
Coach Taggard outlined highlights, which included the great set plays by Priscilla Mares, and blocking by Desiraye Broome and Allison Friesen

Student of the Week

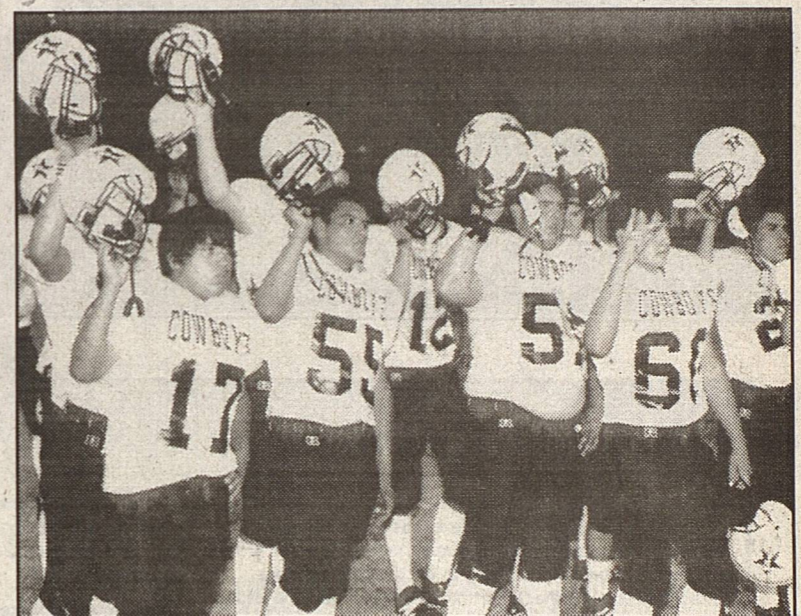
Student of the week is Adam McCravey, a sophomore and the son of Greg and Sherri McCravey. He was nominated by Ms. Weisgerber, who said, "Hard working, always prepared, and a great leader are just a few descriptions of the student! He shows determination and energy in all that he does. He doesn't allow others to make choices for him, he follows his own beliefs and always works very hard to attain his goals!"



Ryan Martinez, 78, lead blocks for Todd Williams



Unidentified Cowboy nails a Wildcat



Downed Cowboys salute their fans



Even the Cowboy Band wore long faces

Beat Ralls !!

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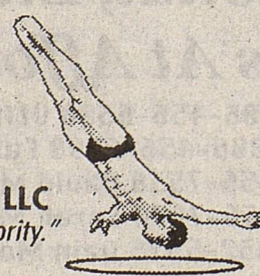
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7:30 PM
Friday,
September 20,
prior to
Homecoming
game
against
Ralls

Lifelines & Styles

Saving Ourselves From Obesity

The warnings come every day now: Obesity is now linked possibly to the development of Alzheimer's. A million kids already have developed cardiovascular problems. Two out of three Americans are overweight or obese and, soon, 70 percent will be. The cost of treating obesity and obesity-related health problems is about \$123 billion per year at a time when costs for taking care of our senior citizens is also increasing. Obesity is linked to about 63 million doctor visits every year. Few of us in public policy anticipated this problem 20 years ago. Yet the threat is real for millions of Americans who will suffer the torment of illnesses engendered by obesity. The threat is real for all society, not just for those who are overweight, because obesity will soon put the medical care system at risk.

What are we to do? The wave of obesity that will surely sink us if we do nothing did not appear overnight, and nothing can be gained from blaming anyone. Almost every facet of society bears some responsibility for the crisis that we now recognize as a serious threat to America itself.

The first step is to make sure that everyone knows that a direct link between obesity and disease and illness exists. As a medical doctor and as the state's commissioner of health, I am not sure that everyone understands the connection. If you are overweight or becoming obese, the chances increase that you will develop diabetes, which can cause blindness, the loss of limbs and a host of other ailments, none of them subtle.

An overweight or obese person also increases his or her chances of developing cancer. And the chances of developing a bad heart. And high blood pressure. And depression. It used to be that being overweight was a cause for mirth

and humor. Not these days. Being overweight is a cause for serious concern: It shortens life.

Effective public awareness campaigns are critical. Yet addressing the problem of overeating and lack of exercise will not be as easy as it was to address smoking or drunk driving. Ordinances against smoking and laws against driving drunk result in penalties and fines. In their absence, it will be harder to convince individuals to reform their personal eating habits and to engage in physical activity.

The effectiveness of getting the message about the link between obesity and illness is a central concern because, by far, many more Americans are overweight and obese than there are smokers or drivers who drive drunk.

The second step involves concentrating on school-age children who are now developing their life-long eating and exercise habits. More than enough opportunities exist for local school districts, parents, local officials and leaders to make their contributions in the fight against obesity by making sure that instruction on good nutrition and physical activity are incorporated into a daily school curriculum and practiced at home.

We should be able to turn our schools into places where children can learn habits early that will avert the dangers of obesity. If we can do that, we can look back at the current obesity threats as only the temporary bulge in the snake that ate the horse.

If we fail, history may look back on these days as the time when we did not act to prevent and obvious threat. And when our much vaunted medical care system broke down. And when we turned our backs on our seniors. And on our children's future.

**School Day Pictures will
be taken, Tuesday,
October 7, 2003**

First United Methodist Church
1202 Avenue G - Plains, Texas
456-3727



Sunday Schedule
Children's Choir - 9:45 am
followed by Sunday School
Adult Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am

**If God is your co-pilot,
You need to switch seats!**

Children's Choir



The Compassionate Children's Choir of Plains United Methodist Church recently presented 15 bags of school supplies for students of Plains Elementary school to Principal Vernan Hise. The children use their Sunday School donations for fund raising projects.

Pictured with Mr. Hise are Kevin John Gass-Forrest Booth-Jentry Wall and Trevor Lewis, not pictured are Clayton Gass, Braeden Lewis and Trenity Wall.

2003 Communities That Care

Yoakum County Hospital was recently named one of the 2003 Communities That Care by the Texas Rural Health Association (TRHA). The presentation was made at the Rural Texas Awards Luncheon on the final day of the joint conference sponsored by TRHA and Texas Rural Partners, Inc.

The TRHA Communities That Care Award recognizes rural communities that have gone the extra mile for its citizens by implementing a health care project that has made a difference both for the people and the

community it serves. The award consists of a stone memorial and a tree, generously donated by the Texas Forest Service.

TRHA President Don McBeth of Lubbock stated, "It was an honor to recognize Yoakum County Hospital at our annual conference in August. We hope that they will display their award prominently so that it may serve as a reminder of the great achievement they have made in providing access to healthcare in rural Texas."



What About?...

When a child dies, it is a tragic, tragic thing. It doesn't matter what the circumstances, it's still the loss of a child. Someone's baby.

You know, in God's timing each of us will be called home...well, if you are a Christian. Of course being a Christian, makes me consider heaven my home.

When it is our time, none of us are ready unless we have suffered in this world with pain, sickness, and other physical problems. But, God knows what is ahead. When a child dies, I can't help but think what God saw in that child's life that would not be good. That might be a tragedy in life, molestation, severe sickness or what ever. But God knows. I think when God takes a child, he is sparing a family or sparing that child something bad in the future. I just have to believe that

God knows what each one of us will do, what road we will take, and who will come into our pathways.

You know, when a child dies, another one of God's children has gone home. I just believe that children are the 'apple of God's eye' so to speak.

He wants and needs them there to praise him, make heaven a more beautiful place, and He loves children.

You know, God's word says for us to not keep his children from Him. We are to allow his children to come to Him.

I think many times we have lots of thoughts on that passage, but couldn't it pertain to death also? Couldn't God want his children to come to him when He sees a problem up ahead?

So many questions for Him when we see Him...

Until next time.
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Home 456-3195

Senior Citizens Corner

AMERICA: Joe Smith started the day early having set his alarm clock (Made in Japan) for 6:00 a.m. While his coffeepot (Made in China) was perking, he shaved with his electric razor (Made in Hong Kong). He put on a dress shirt (Made in Sri Lanka), designer jeans (Made in Singapore), and tennis shoes (Made in Korea). After cooking his breakfast in his new electric skillet (Made in India), he sat down with his calculator (Made in Mexico) to see how much he could spend today. After setting his watch (Made in Taiwan) to the radio (Made in India), he got in his car (Made in Germany) and continued his search for a good paying AMERICAN JOB! At the end of yet another discouraging and fruitless day, Joe decided to relax awhile. He put on his sandals (Made in Brazil), poured himself a glass of wine (Made in France), and turned on his TV (Made in Indonesia), and then wondered why he can't find a good paying job in AMERICA...

Fraulein Ralston and Genevieve Gordy are both recovering in the local hospital at this time. Lenore Matus will remain in Odessa for a few weeks and Alfredo is back with us in the kitchen. We miss each one who is unable to attend the daily luncheon.

Several pieces of furniture from Bertie Smith's home have been donated to the Center. We wish to thank Roger Carrasco and A.J. Rodriguez for moving these things for us. These young men are from Gloria's family.

Raymond and Shirley Powell, Marsene Beattie's son and wife, came to Denver City for the

high school reunion last weekend. She reports a good visit with them during that time. Elmer and June Hanneman have also been enjoying an extended family reunion with their children and grandchildren this past week.

The 'Strive For Five' program totals out at \$535.00 this week. We thank everyone who has made donations to this fund raising effort for the Center. The donations have come from individuals as well as businesses. Thanks to each one as we continue this new program. Your help is sincerely appreciated.

It was delightful to see Frances Womack at the Center several days this past week. Mary and Jessie Newman, Rita Jackson, and Ruby Kennedy were also welcome visitors. Sara Rodriguez, Stella Montez's mother, had lunch one day as well as Stanley Dahm, a VA representative from Lubbock, who was a guest of Elmer Hanneman. Mary Lou Allen from Lovington came to join the line dance exercise group on Monday. On Tuesday, we were pleased to see Linda and Eddie Coker come in at lunch time as well as Antonio Mendoza who stayed for lunch with Frank and Susan Gurrero.

The new hours for the computer class are 5:00 pm. to 7:00 pm. , Mondays and Thursdays. The group attending report that they are enjoying the instructional help received during the class time.

Thought for today: "I've learned that under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved."

THE FLOWERS ARE BACK

Plains ISD Green House is back in business!!
Fall flowers and plants will be arriving Wednesday morning (9-24-03). Green House hours are as follows: Wed. & Thurs. 12:30 pm to 3:15 pm.
Also if you would like to place orders in the future for decorated Poinsettias please let us know; Christmas is around the corner!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Plains, Texas

Sunday School
9:30 am.
Morning Worship
10:45 am.
Evening Program
6:00 pm.

From The Hack

I was actually a bit reluctant to take part in the Yoakum County Hospital Foundation golf tournament last week. I'd heard there would be no prize money involved, which sounded to me suspiciously like a Baptist Church event. Despite the opinions of many of you, I am not 100% Certified Stupid - I decided to play because of one and only one minor consideration; The hospital runs ads in this paper. Regularly. For money. Each month. And to date, their checks have all cleared the bank the very first time presented. I wrote them an entry fee check that Wednesday morning, and silently prayed *mine* would somehow make it through the bank.

Everything started on a good note. I was given a players bag of freebies, some of them actually useful and semi-valuable, unusual for some tournaments I've been in. One unusual item in the bag - 49 little packets of sunscreen, which I suspicion were pilfered from the hospitals dermatology quarters.

I was introduced to part of my team by my pal Beverly of the YCH staff, a pair of guys she whispered to me were referred to as Covenant Med Systems version of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, but called in person Jim and Doak.

Very personable, very friendly, asking politely about my background, my wife's health, how many kids and grandkids we have (they believed neither number - most of the time neither do I), and finally, "Can you hit the dam ball?"

I could not reply, for at that time the fourth member of our team showed, and I was stunned! I knew this female person quite well, but she advised she would severely harm tender portions of my anatomy

if I mentioned her in this column, so I can only report she is tall, blonde, has played local golf forever, and has been working with numbers in the courthouse a bit less than a year.

Tee time arrived, and we hurried to number one tee box. I was a bit amazed when we handily parred the hole, thanks to my superb putting. We were on the way to hit our second shot on the second hole when we heard hollering behind us, and some idiot was whipping and spurring his golf cart, yelling, "Wait For Me!"

Jim and Doak asked, "Who's this fruit?"

I'm a bit leery about revealing his name, too, but he's a Plains farmer, flies airplanes, serves on a water district board, has two boys in school, and his wife works for the hospital.

He slams on the brakes, and gasps, "The rest of my team didn't show up. They said I could join you guys."

The two Lubbock guys whispered, "You mean we get five players, everybody else gets just four?"

"Don't worry about it. I've seen this guy play. It's still a four person team, believe me! I just hope we've got the collective strength to carry his butt all day long," I whispered to them.

Almost incredibly, we continued to do well... No, extremely well. I personally thought my performance was brilliant, but I was not about to ask for a vote on the question.

On the next to last and very crucial hole, we managed to get our second shot on the green, but on top of a hill which to me looked like one of those Olympic Game giant ski jump towers, the hole almost too far away to be seen. The female partner gulped, "Uh, who wants to be first?" I pretended to be tying my shoes, Tom was busy re-arranging his underwear, and Doak was on his knees by the fringe, pretending to repair divot marks.

The water district guy bounced up, the one and same guy we had carried and drug around the course all day like a large dead carcass, gaily announcing, "I'll go first..."

maybe I can help you guys some more!"

Some more, I puzzled? Well, you know the rest of the story. He smacked the ball, it flew down the slope, hit the cup, and somehow jumped inside for a very crucial birdie! He high fived us until he fell over in exhaustion.

On the final hole, where the days longest drive contest would be decided, our female partner truly smacked one down the middle, astounding four almost unbelieving males. We hurried to her ball, which rested at least ten yards further than all the other drives of the day. I was astounded, and in nothing but admiration, shouted, "My God, we've been playing with a female gorilla all day!"

It is fortunate I am still fairly agile, allowing me to dodge the club she hurled at me in warp speed, hard enough to snap in two on my borrowed golf cart. I really didn't worry too much about it, however, knowing she had easily won the long drive contest prize, a new, expensive Nike driver, which I suspicion her husband is secretly using any time she cannot play.

A real interesting tournament. No one was more amazed at our first place win than yours truly. We even talked the officials into giving the Klutz water district guy a new Calloway golfbag, just like us other four real golfers!

With semi-apologies to all.

Country words of wisdom stolen from Stephen Henry's Levelland/Hockley County NEWS-PRESS;

Don't name a pig you intend to eventually eat.

Life is much simpler when you plow around stumps.

Mortgaging a future crop is like saddling a wobbly colt.

A bumble bee or wasp is much faster than a John Deere tractor.

Trouble with a milk cow is she won't stay milked.

Don't skinny dip in a pond with snapping turtles.

Words that sink into your ears are whispered, not yelled. Meanness doesn't just happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies. It

messes with their head.

Don't sell your mule to buy a plow.

Two can certainly live cheaper than one if one doesn't eat.

Don't corner something meaner than you.

You catch more flies with honey than vinegar, assuming you really want to catch flies.

Man is the only critter who feels the need to label things as flowers or weeds.

It doesn't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

Don't go hunting with a fellow they call 'chug-a-lug'.

It's impossible to un-say a cruel thing.

The truly best sermons are lived, not preached.

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from Mrs. Essie Webber's estate

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	August 2003			Rate
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State of Texas	11,095.1	10,348.0	748.1	6.7
Ablene	61.5	58.8	2.7	4.4
Amarillo	118.4	113.4	5.0	4.2
Austin-San Marcos	796.9	751.8	44.8	5.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur	186.2	168.4	17.8	9.6
Brazoria	116.2	105.6	10.6	9.1
Brownsville-Harlingen	148.3	132.5	15.8	10.6
Bryan-College Station	80.9	78.8	2.1	2.6
Corpus Christi	186.6	174.0	12.6	6.8
Dallas	2,075.2	1,928.4	146.8	7.1
El Paso	307.1	276.9	30.2	9.8
Fort Worth-Arlington	984.8	922.0	62.8	6.4
Galveston-Texas City	126.8	115.7	11.1	8.8
Houston	2,367.1	2,203.4	163.7	6.9
Killeen-Temple	125.1	118.2	6.9	5.5
Laredo	82.1	76.5	5.6	6.8
Longview-Marshall	108.7	101.4	7.3	6.7
Lubbock	132.8	127.6	5.2	3.9
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	224.5	194.0	30.5	13.6
Odessa-Midland	128.2	120.7	7.5	5.9
San Angelo	51.7	49.8	1.9	3.7
San Antonio	854.9	806.8	48.1	5.6
Sherman-Denison	53.0	48.9	4.1	7.7
Texarkana		Data Not Available		
Tyler	98.0	93.3	4.7	4.8
Victoria	46.1	43.7	2.4	5.1
Waco	108.1	102.3	5.8	5.4
Wichita Falls	66.7	63.0	3.7	5.5

NOTICE FOR BIDS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10: A.M., Friday, October 3, 2003, for the sale of laboratory equipment: (2) Coagulation instruments and (1) Urinalysis instrument for the Yoakum County Hospital. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, October 6, 2003. For a list of the equipment and more information, please contact Clay Taylor, Hospital Administrator, 412 Mustang Ave., Denver City, Texas 79323 or call 806/592-2121. Sealed bids should be marked "HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge, Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456/ Cowboy Way and Avenue G., Plains, Texas 79355. NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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