

Cowboy Country News

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

Volume V11, Issue 46 Aug. 1, 2001



Redistricting Board holds final meeting Redistricting plans for House, Senate approved

Austin - Redistricting plans for the State House of Representatives and Senate were adopted last Tuesday by the Legislative Redistricting Board (LRB). Representative Gary Walker (R-Plains) was in Austin for the hearing and afterward, expressed his disappointment with the manner in which the final hearing was conducted.

"I'm very concerned the best interests of the citizens of Texas were not served through the

process I witnessed at the meeting of the LRB. Amendments were adopted without the public ever having the opportunity to comment on them. The recommendations of well respected senior legislators such as Senator Duncan and Senator Bivins were categorically ignored, despite evidence their suggested changes might have been best for the county in question," commented Walker. Under the redistricting plan adopted for the House of Rep-

resentatives last week, Representative Walker would be paired with Representative Delwin Jones (R-Lubbock) in a district including Gaines, Yoakum, Cochran and Hockley counties, and part of Lubbock. Jones and Walker are the only two Republicans paired under the plan, approved by a vote of 3 to 2, with the three statewide elected officials, Attorney General John Cornyn, Comptroller Carole Keaton Rylander, and Land Commissioner David Dewhurst voting in favor. House Speaker Pete Laney (D-Hale County) and Lieutenant Governor Bill Ratliff (R-Mt. Pleasant) voted no. Walker said he had anticipated the three statewide officials would be able to pass whichever plan they chose.

"I expected the House plan we voted on in May would not be approved by the LRB. I did not, however, expect rural Texas to be shortchanged. Harris County

Turn to Page 2,
"Redistricting"

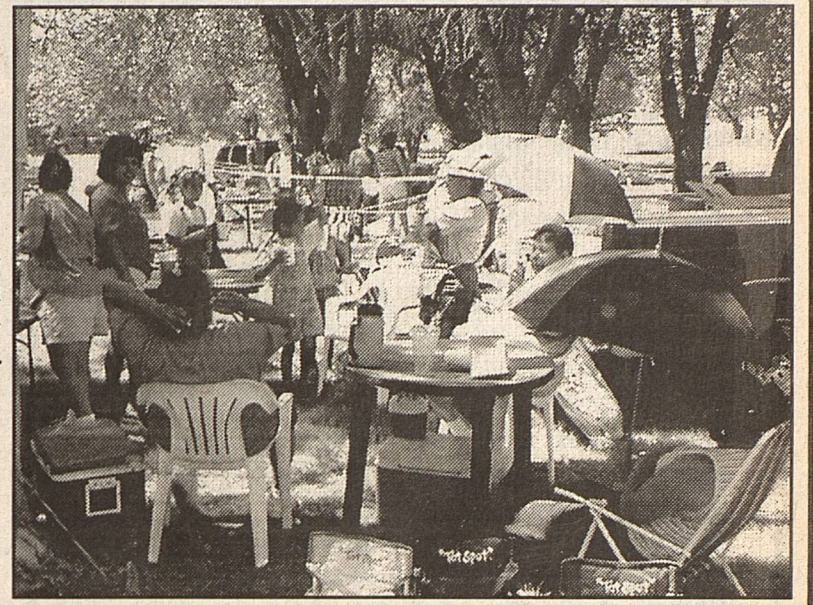
Yoakum County Connection is seeking "parking attendants" for the September 1 Watermelon Round Up. This year traffic will again be re-routed on Cowboy Way (U.S. Highways 82/380), and west or east bound traffic will travel one block south of the courthouse complex, along 11th Street. Round Up visitors will be able to enter a reserved parking area covering two blocks on Cowboy Way immediately east of the new courthouse, and two blocks west of the old courthouse. The 'Connection' is seeking a city or county organization to supervise these parking areas, for which the organization could charge a parking fee as a fund raising effort. Both the east and west areas would have to be supervised from 8 a.m. until the Round Up concludes at 6 p.m., at which time all vehicles would have to leave the areas.

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

Jamica 2001

Sacred Heart Catholic Church's annual Jamica in Stanford Park July 22 drew large, day long crowds for food, fun and entertainment.

The fund raising event featured good food, live music, rides and games for the kids, even a volleyball tournament. More photos inside.



PHS 2001-02 Cheerleaders Earn Gold At UCA Camp



Back Row: Jamie Covarrubias, Jessica Rodriguez. Front: Stacie Alldredge, Keri Hansen, Allison Butler, Jill Gray

Plains High School was represented very well by its cheerleading squad this summer. The six-member team attended a Universal Cheerleading Association Camp held at McMurray University July 10-13. During the camp, the girls received a spirit stick each day for being prepared and arriving for classes early. They also received one excellent and eight superior ribbons during nightly evaluations of materials learned.

Topping the week off was an awards ceremony Friday, where this year's PHS cheerleaders won several trophies. The squad won the Home Pom Routine competition for a dance they created and learned before the camp. They also were

the Camp Champs for the Xtreme Dance Routine taught and evaluated during the week. They received a Superior Squad over all, and won the most coveted award at the camp - the Leadership Award. All 17 squads at the camp voted, and the PHS Cheerleaders were selected as the team which worked the hardest, had a great attitude, helped other squads, and provided the best role models for the other squads. The girls worked very hard at least nine hours each day to learn new material, discover strengths on which to build their team, and prepare to lead the Cowboys and Cowgirls into a spirited and successful 2001-02 school year. Their sponsor is Jill Rotunno.

County Court criminal cases

Eight criminal cases were heard in County Court July 25, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark representing the state.

Veta Mares pled guilty to driving while license was suspended. The defendant must pay \$100 court costs, obtain proof of insurance, and pay \$100 reinstatement fee to the DPS. Arresting officer was Deputy Inoe Valdez, Yoakum County Sheriff Department.

Frank Parra Jr. pled guilty to possession marijuana, less than two ounces. He was fined \$100 and must pay \$210 court costs. He must complete the drug offender program at his expense, and surrender his driver license one year. Investigating officer was Inoe Valdez.

Louis Escobar Jr. pled guilty to possession of marijuana, two ounces or less. His fine was \$100, and he must pay \$255 court costs. He must complete the drug offender program. Investigating officer was Sheriff Deputy Curtis Coffman.

Roy Alton McGee Jr. pled guilty to theft by check-aggregated. A one year jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He will make time payments on \$214 court costs. An assault causing bodily charge was adjudicated. He must complete the batterer treatment and outpatient drug treatment programs, and serve 80 hours community service.

Investigating officer was Rick Dickson, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force.

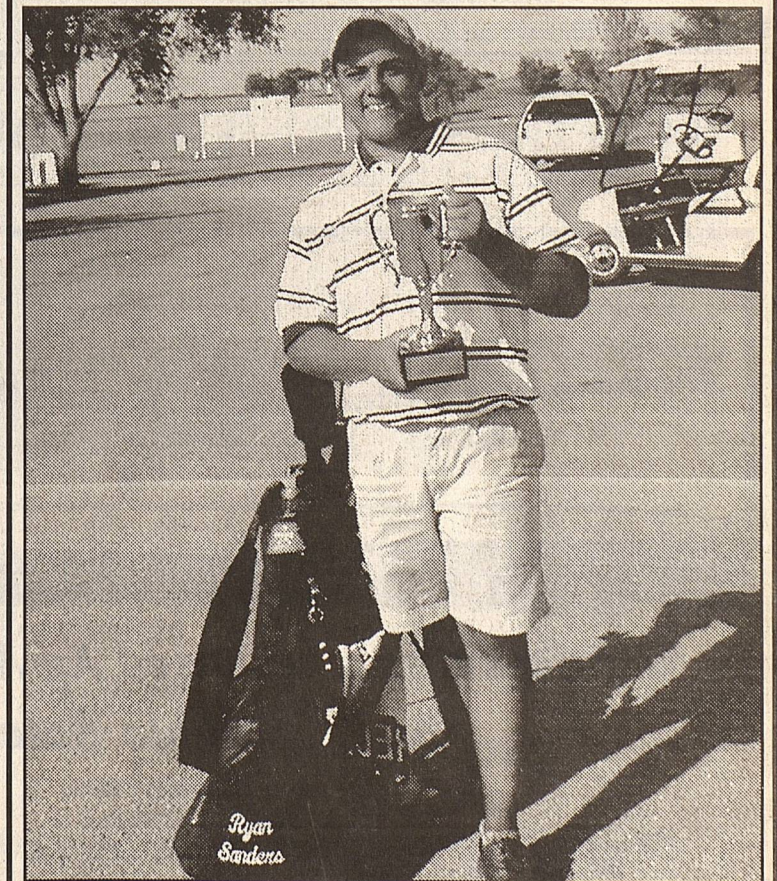
Ryan Cole Ply pled guilty to an accident involving damage to property. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. \$210 court costs and a \$200 fine will be met with time payments. He must pay \$40 supervision fees, perform 24 hours community service, and pay \$612 restitution to Brenda Lozano. Inves-

tigating was trooper Robert Shugart, DPS.

Nancy Rodriguez pled guilty to assault causing bodily injury. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. She must pay \$190 court costs, complete the batterer treatment program, and serve 80 hours community service. Investigating officer was

Turn to Page 2,
"Crime"

Club Champion



Ryan Sanders hold the Yoakum County Golf Club's championship trophy following last weekends tourney. He won the championship flight with a two day total of 140. He is a senior at Denver City High, the son of Ricky and Veronica Sanders. Ray Roberts was second in the championship with 143, followed by Jim Brown, 144.

Students Converge In Washington, D.C. For Annual Youth Tour



Kristopher Terry and Annaliesa O'Quinn at the Capitol

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) hosted over 1500 students from across the country at the 38th Annual Government In Action Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., June 14th through the 26th. Lea County Electric representatives Kristopher Terry and Annaliesa O'Quinn joined over 100 other students from New Mexico and Texas to travel by bus from Dallas to Arlington, Virginia. Terry, 16, is the son of Johnny and Nancy Colwell of Tatum, NM, and is a junior at Tatum High School. O'Quinn, 16, is the daughter of Steve and

Rennette O'Quinn of Plains, Texas, and is a senior at Plains High School. Kristopher and Annaliesa were chosen from five finalists after interviews by a three judge independent panel in April of this year.

"Awesome!" is how Kristopher described his trip. "A once in a lifetime opportunity to see Washington, D.C. The trip was well organized and the new friends I met are great." A fan of President Lincoln, Kris enjoyed visiting the Ford Theater. Kris adds, "I think it would take a week to see everything in the Smithsonian, it's so huge!"

Annaliesa says she enjoyed every aspect of the Washington, D.C. trip. It was both educational and fun, and I got to meet a lot of new friends." The National Cathedral was Annaliesa's favorite spot.

During the week long tour of our nation's capitol, Kristopher and Annaliesa toured the Smithsonian Institute, both houses of Congress, the Library of Congress, the FBI, and the Supreme Court as well as various historical monuments including Arlington Cemetery, the Iwo Jima Memorial, the Viet Nam Memorial, the Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, and the National Cathedral.

Each year Lea County Electric Cooperative's Government In Action Youth Tour competition is open to all area high school students whose parents or grandparents have an active membership with the Cooperative. The competition consists of three short essays and interviews by an independent panel.

From pg. 1, Redistricting was given 25 House seats, one of which came at the expense of our rural areas. I think there was a real opportunity for these officials to give Texans a plan representing the variety of issues facing our state. I am sincerely disappointed with the plan adopted, because I feel it will have the effect of diluting rural representation in the future."

From Pg. 1, CRIME Kenley Powell, D.C. Police Bobby Carl Manahan pled guilty to marijuana possession, less than two ounces. He was fined \$180, must pay \$210 court costs, complete the drug offender program, and will surrender his driver license one year. His attorney was Ron McClaren.

Jimmy Ryan Robertson pled guilty to purchase and furnish alcohol to a minor. A 30 day jail sentence was suspended and probated six months. He was fined \$100, and will make time payments on \$210 court costs.

NOTICE

The City of Plains will conduct a

BUDGET HEARING

Monday, August 13, 2001

on the proposed FY 2001 - 2002 Budget

This hearing will be held at 5:00 p.m.

At the Plains City Hall

The Public Hearing is available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance to attend this hearing, please contact City Hall at 456-2288 at least 4 hours in advance of the hearing.

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for providing milk for its school lunch program beginning August 16, 2001. Proposals will be received until 1:00 pm., August 6, 2001 at the Business Office. Plains ISD will accept proposals from venders for its Annual Contract for Teaching and Instructional Materials until 1:00 pm., August 6, 2001, at the Business Office. Proposals should be addressed to Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains ISD, 1000 10th Street, P.O. Box 479, Plains, Texas, 79355. For information, please call (806) 456-7483. Plains ISD reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, to waive all technicalities, and to contract with the vendor that represents the best value to the district.

Position open for part-time social worker at Yoakum County Hospital. BASW preferred. Job requires working with patients, families, physicians, drug companies, and clinic and hospital personnel. Initially it is planned to work one or two days a week and adjust to the community needs. Experience in dealing with government programs, social work or insurance would be helpful. Send CV and or an application to Administrator, PO Box 1130, Denver City, TX 79323. (E.O.E)

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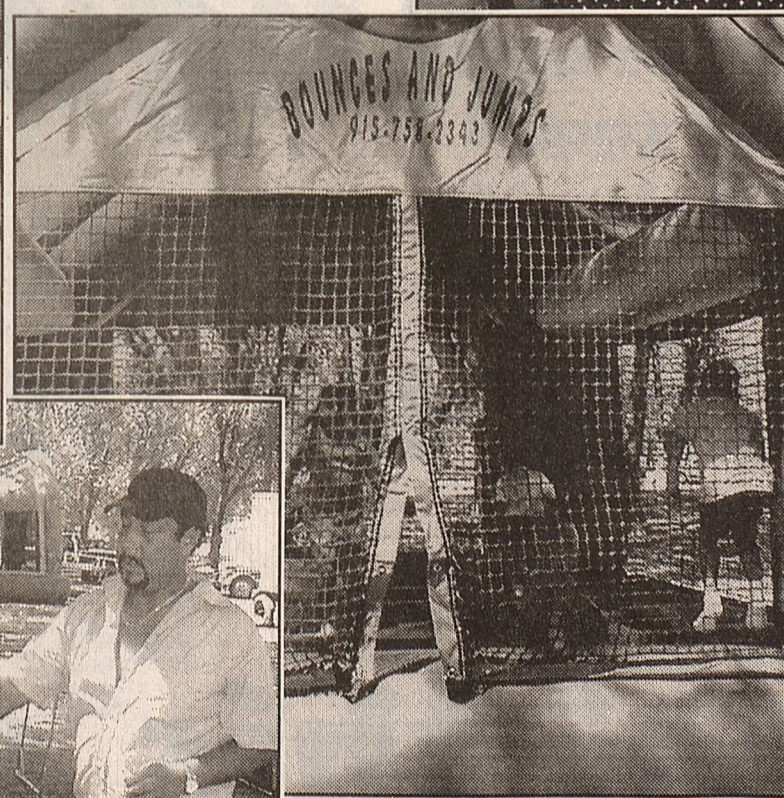
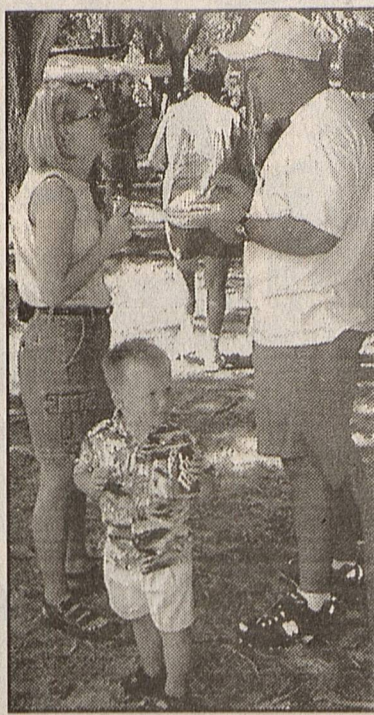
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More Jamaica Scenes.....



And A Good Time Was Had By All!

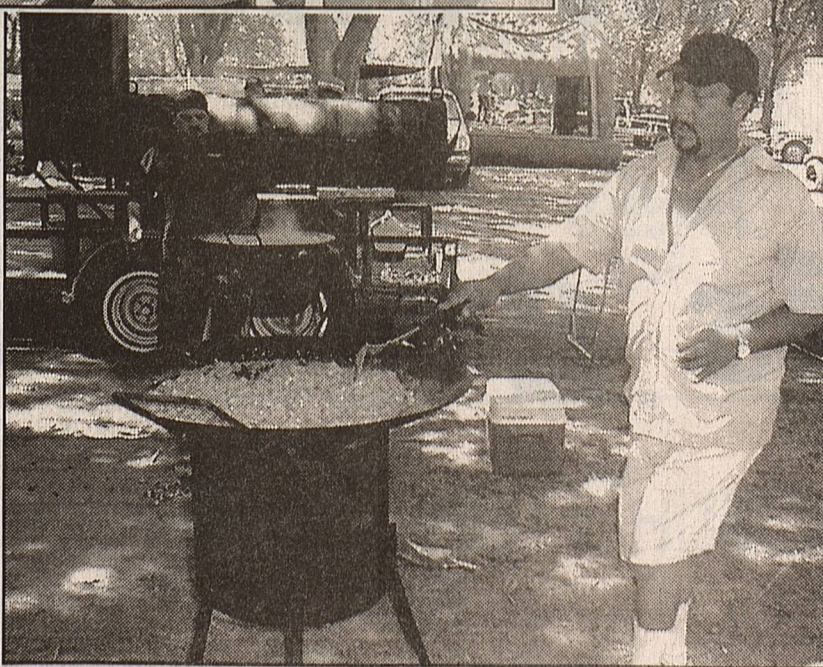
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Lifelines & Styles

Local Student Helps Design Mission To Mars

Annaliesa O'Quinn of Plains was one of 200 Texas high school students who spent six days at the Johnson Space Center in Houston using their math and science skills to design a human mission to Mars this summer.

O'Quinn was nominated by State Representative Gary Walker to be a part of a unique educational experience, called the Texas Aerospace Scholars Program. The program is the result of a partnership between NASA-JSC and the State of Texas to encourage students to pursue engineering options in school.

After being nominated,

O'Quinn began the program with twenty four weeks of distance and web based learning experiences that culminated in a six day long visit to JSC in Houston. O'Quinn and her teammates used their imagination, coupled with math and science skills, to develop a plan for how humans will get to Mars and then to live and work on the planet's surface.

Their expertise came from a series of classroom sessions, field trips, hands on projects, and assistance from JSC employee mentors, provided them with insight into the challenges of living and working in on another world.

3rd Annual Sales Tax Holiday Benefits Texas Families

Representative Gary L. Walker (R-Plains) reminds Texas' families they will be able to buy clothes and shoes tax free during the third annual back to school Sales Tax Holiday August 3rd through 5th, 2001.

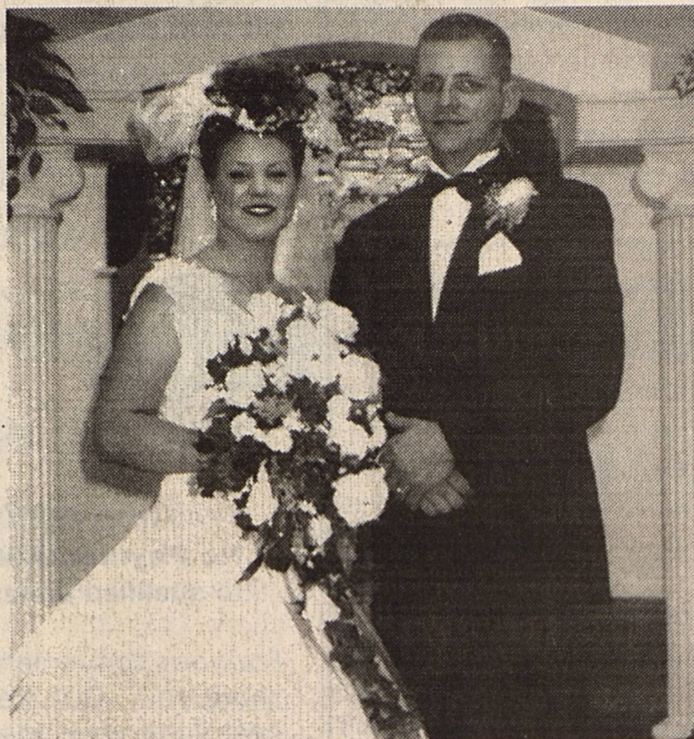
Rep. Walker said the Texas Legislature created the annual Sales Tax Holiday as a way to give Texas families timely tax relief and save every dollar possible. Starting at 12:01 am. on Friday, August 3rd, through midnight on Sunday, August 5th, 2001, families will be able to purchase most shoes and clothes priced under \$100.00 for both children and adults with out paying state or local sales tax, explained Walker.

According to Rep. Walker, in addition to the holiday on the state's sales tax of 6.25%, every community in Texas has also chosen to waive their local sales taxes, which will save taxpayers an additional 2% in most areas.

Rep. Walker, explained the sales tax exemption on shoes and clothing also includes baby clothes, belts with attached buckles, cowboy and hiking boots, choir robes, coats and wraps, diapers for adults and babies, dresses, jeans, jogging apparel (bras, suits, and shorts), pajamas, raincoats and ponchos, shirts, socks, suits, underwear, and work clothes and uniforms. The sales tax holiday does not cover jewelry, accessories, handbags, or specialty sportswear items, noted Walker. Further, Texans will not be charged with sales tax on tax exempt items placed on lay a way for future purchase or bought from lay a way during the Sales Tax Holiday.

Rep. Walker went on to say during the three tax free shopping days, Texas families are expected to save \$31.2 million in state sales tax and \$8.4 million in local sales taxes.

Ancinec / Mercer Wed



Jana Brooke Ancinec and Martell Ernest Mercer were married at 7:00 pm., June 30th at Rosanky Baptist Church, Rosanky, Texas. Reverend John Abraham officiated.

Maid of honor was Gabby Cruces, bridesmaids were Afton Ancinec and Crystal Futshik. Best man was Brandon Hannusch, groomsmen were Trevor Ancinec and Sam Mercer.

Parents of the bride are Brad and Vicki Ancinec of Plains and John and Jan Beech of Leander, Texas. Parents of the bridegroom are Chester and Virginia Mercer of Smithville, Texas. Grandparents of the bride are Joe and LaVerne Ancinec of Plains and Duck and Joker Ward of Denver City.

After a wedding trip to Hawaii, the couple will live in Rosanky, Texas.

Squyres Wins HPJR Roping Title

Brett Squyres participated in the High Plains Jr. Rodeo Finals in Clovis, NM, July 17th thru July 21st. Brett entered the finals in 4th place in tie down calf roping and 14th in ribbon roping.

Brett won the first round of the 16-19 year old tie down with a time of 9.50 seconds, and was 6th in ribbon roping. Amazingly, Brett then posted the exact same time in the second round, good enough to win with another 9.50 seconds, and moved Brett from 4th to Year End Champ in tie down calf roping. Points gained in the second round and average in the ribbon roping moved him into the top ten.

Brett won a clock for having

the fastest calf roping time of the rodeo, plus a new saddle blanket given to each first round event winners. Brett received a silver charm zipper pull with "HPJRA 2001" for finishing in the top ten in the All-Round Cowboy standings, and was presented two beautiful Red Bluff Trophy Buckles, one for the average winner in the finals and one for the Yearend Calf Roping Champion. He will also receive checks for the first place finishes, Brett finished just out of the top ten in Team Roping and plans to begin Steer Wrestling in college this fall to have another event. Brett will attend Jr. College on a Rodeo Scholarship and study Ag.

Senior Citizens Corner

It has been pretty busy around the Center this week. We have a bake auction planned for Wednesday, August 29th before Labor Day Weekend. It will start at 12:30 pm. after we get through with lunch. Everyone come and join in. We have lots of fun at the bake sale every year.

Oh by the way when I was writing my article last week there was a miss print on the price of the under 60. It was supposed to be \$4.00.

We have several items in the

garage sale we are going to let go at a very low price. So come on down Monday the 30th and see what you may want.

Our condolences, love and prayers go out to the family of Velda Dorthy. She will be missed very much.

Shirley Mosser is in UMC in Lubbock, remember her in your prayers and her children also.

Winners in '42' were Inez Turner and Gladys Thomason.

Until Next Week,
Wanda B.

Fall Registration Preparation Steps Listed

Students planning to attend South Plains College this fall need to provide a completed application for admission and official high school or college transcripts from institutions previously attended.

There's no application fee.

"We need their application for admission, so we can get the information into the system," said Andrea Rangel, dean of admissions. "If they have not applied prior to registration, it will take them that much longer to go through the registration process," she explained.

Fall registration is August 22 at SPC Levelland and August 23-24 at the Reese Center in Lubbock for classes offered at Reese and the Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center. Registration permits are re-

quired for registration between 8:30 am. and 4:00 pm. August 22 and 23.

Students should bring a pen, pencil, valid Texas driver's license, and tuition and fees, which are due at registration.

Fall class schedules list specific registration times on each campus and can be accessed on line at SPC's website, www.southplainscollege.com or by contacting SPC.

Catalogs for 2001-2002 are now available.

After completing an application for admission, students can request a registration permit by contacting the campus they plan to attend, either SPC Levelland, 894-9611, ext. 2375, at the Reese Center in Lubbock, 885-3048, ext. 2902.

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

From The Hack

A three year old went with his dad to see a litter of kittens. On returning home, he breathlessly informed his mother there were two boy and two girl kittens in the litter. "How did you know?" his mother asked. "Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replied. "I think it's printed on the bottom."

For weeks, a six year old boy kept telling his first grade teacher about the baby brother or sister expected at his house. One day, his mother allowed the boy to feel the movements of the unborn child. The lad was obviously impressed but he made no comment. Furthermore, he stopped telling his teacher about the impending event.

The teacher finally sat the boy down and asked, "Tommy, whatever became of that baby

brother or sister you were expecting at your home?"

Tommy burst into tears and confessed, "I think Mommy ate it!"

Our buddies from Pecos assured us they had a good time during their visit last week. The Bride and I have returned to our normal routine. Thank God.

We are back to scrubbing the potty just once a week instead of three times a day. She has again stored the good silver wherever she stores it. I now am again sleeping on my favorite bed and pillows. I no longer have to rush things when I go to the bathroom, nor do I have to labor long hours in broiling heat frying catfish outdoors.

My former high school and ex-navy friend and I played golf one day, the only time during their stay I got a bit put out with him. He had the gall to state unequivocally, "I think it's hotter on this golf course than the one at home." He must be getting a bit senile, for he seems to forget I too remember Pecos in July - even Hades is somewhat more pleasant. He didn't exactly endear himself more to me when he also beat me one stroke in 18 holes. He

managed to take home six bucks from the local henchmen we played with, and mumbled he should move to Yoakum County, where the "living is so easy." Bad mistake, Bill... these guys will remember that like an elephant.

The two Brides went to Lubbock. Bill and I made money at golf - they spent money at Steinmart, Abuelo's, and probably other locations not confessed to us. I bet neither Bill nor I get even a swift glimpse of next months credit card bills. We had what I consider a fairly even swap of gifts - they brought us six Pecos cantaloupes, I gave them about 15 pounds of Yoakum County onions, cheerfully stolen from one of the Guetersloh's. All in all, a good visit. Bride and I are already looking forward to re-visiting them, when it's their time to do all that potty scrubbing.

Had another interesting Sunday School session recently. Our mentor was trying to get the message over to us Aids and Acne have things in common,

but yet drastically differ. To add to the confusion, someone threw in the malady of Leprosy. I half expected someone to toss Lupus in the grist mill, or possibly Elephantitis, but the mentor finally restored order. He

would have restored order much quicker had he not once more mis-spelled a few words he scrawled on the blackboard, or, whiteboard, in this case. I really thought EVERYONE knew how to spell GOD. When

he scrawled GAD, I thought he was making an exclamation of disgust, or something. Our teacher, to his credit, is really a nice guy - but his sister is much better looking!

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