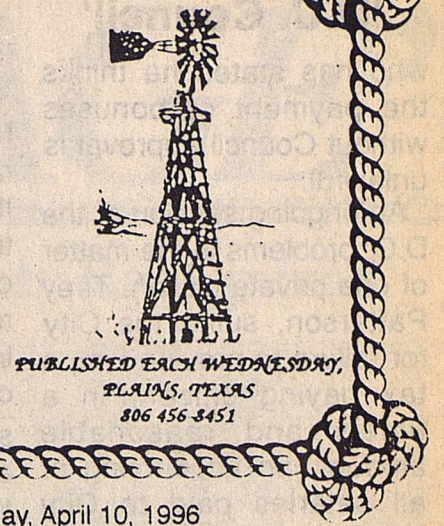


# Cowboy Country News



PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY,  
PLAINS, TEXAS  
806 456-8451

Volume 2, Issue 31, Wednesday, April 10, 1996

## Just Commentary; What In The World Is Going On Down South?

If you recall the long playing, smash hit Broadway musical, "Music Man", and later Hollywood production of the same name, you will remember Robert Preston singing one of the first tunes, "There's Trouble In River City". The same lamenting song could be playing in our neighbor City to the south; "There's Trouble in D.C."

For months now, trouble has been brewing between the City Manager, The City Council, private citizens and oil field companies. To say the problems are miniscule, likely to go away soon, is asking belief in the Tooth Fairy.

To date, there have been articles about the ongoing controversy in the D.C. Press, The Lubbock A-J, Odessa American, Hobbs News Sun, and reportedly even in the Houston Chronicle about the debacle.

Seem's it all started with an ill advised and conceived plan for the City to buy the production assets of Shell Oil Company, take-over the operation of that rather large entity, reap the profits, and then be able to dole out construction and maintenance jobs to local independent contractors, rather than Shell's anointed benefactor, Poole, Inc. The idea had merits... it would certainly aid Denver City's faltering economy, a casualty of the "Oil Patch Blues" facing virtually all small oil field towns in Texas. Unfortunately, Shell Oil said, more than once, "No, we are not for sale. Period"

With this information in hand, the City of Denver City decided to plow ahead, hired a consulting firm to explore possibilities of the acquisition, did a feasibility study, of sorts, to determine if the proposal could work. Apparently, according to published reports, it would not.

The City's Attorney, Jerry Corbin, tendered a letter of resignation to the Council, citing among other reasons for his disassociation, the group's choice not to listen to his advice and refusal to not publicly discuss ongoing matters in the controversy.

Next came the matter of a threatened lawsuit against the City by the firm they had retained to pursue the

feasibility of the Shell buyout plan. According to reports in the Denver City Press, the Council failed to pay the firm for services in the prescribed time frame; The City said, No, they didn't supply us with a qualified and acceptable buyer in the time frame. That question, as we understand, is still in litigation.

In coffee shop parlance, the next episode was the City's controversial annexation of certain Shell Oil production properties just south of the City limits, reported as the "City's efforts to enforce the same safety standards on producing oil wells just outside the City limits as required of Shell's producing wells within city limits". Shell admitted different safety standards existed for the different operations, but claimed both areas fully adhered to State mandated requirements for public safety.

Just months later, the City dropped the annexation. The City Manager, Roy Hohstadt was quoted in the DC Press as saying, "We will miss the estimated \$100,000 in tax revenues the Shell annexation would have paid us". Hmmm... we thought the annexation was prompted by the Council's concern for safety measures.

The Feasibility Study Consulting Firm's threat of suing the City for non payment was negated when the City struck first, bringing suit against the firm to gain venue here in Yoakum County if a trial is necessary.

In the meantime, City Manager Hohstadt drew the ire of many citizens when it was learned he had awarded city staffers, and himself, over \$30,000 in bonuses without Council approval. He felt "they deserved" the bonuses for the hard work and overtime spent in locating cuts in the city operating budget. Apparently, some of the cuts were used in funding the ill fated Shell buyout study, which reportedly cost over \$240,000.

That move has been the concern of numerous area newspaper columns, and at least one City Councilman, Sid Reinert,

Turn to Page 2,  
**'D.C. Council'**

## County Court Meets

County Commissioners Court met Monday, April 8. A number of agenda items were discussed, with the following actions taken:

The County Tax Assessor/Collector's report for March was presented by Deputy Sheila Stephens, accepted and approved by the Court. The report reflected tax receipts of \$27,980 for the month.

Commissioner Jim Barron recommended replacing Jennifer Beckham on the Plains Youth Center Board with Pat McNabb of Plains. A replacement for Ty Earl Powell to the Board is also being sought.

A bid approved by the Yoakum County Hospital Board for the purchase of a remanufactured anesthesia machine was presented by Hospital Administrator Ed Rogers. BRE Corporation offered the machine to the Hospital for \$18,995, and the bid was accepted by the Court.

A contract with Rex Swann for locating a new dry hydrant on his farm along the Allred Road was approved. Additional hydrant wells are still needed in the southeast portion of the County.

An agreement with Compliance Plus, a drug testing firm in Lubbock for random testing of County employees, mandated by governmental regulations, was executed by the Court.

## Lea County Electric Provides Two New Rate Options

Lea County Electric Cooperative has filed with the New Mexico and Texas Public Utility Commissions two new rate options for interruptible electric service for irrigation and large industrial customers. The program, scheduled to begin June 1, 1996, is made possible through the Cooperative's participation in their wholesale supplier's Wholesale Interruptible Load Management Program. The program is designed to offer credits to customers, under specific rates, who sign a contract permitting load interruption by the Cooperative.

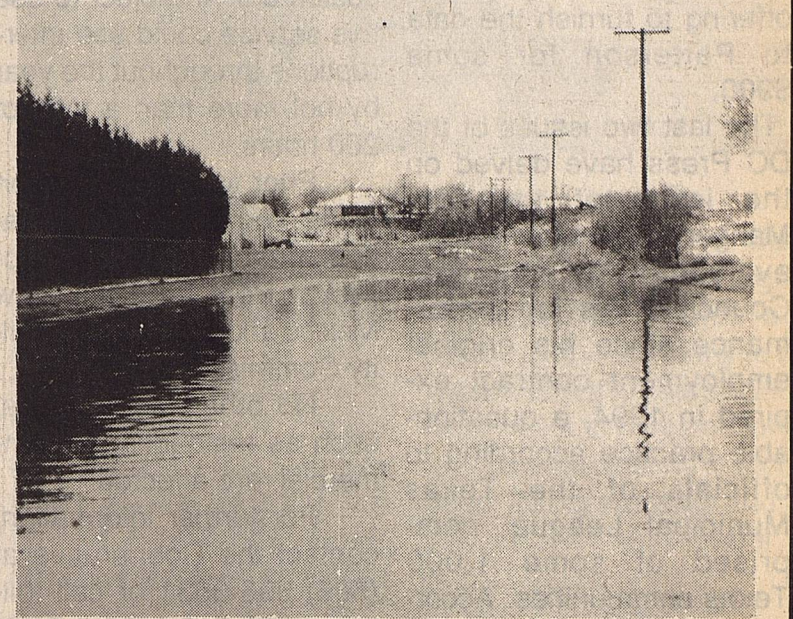
Turn to Page 2,  
**'Rate Options'**

## Little Rain, Snow, Beat Sandstorm Everytime

How encouraging, how great it was on Good Friday, April 5, keeping with the spirit of Easter, we received our first measurable precipitation of the Year. According to Hershell Smith, who reports the weather via certified measuring instruments to the Weather Bureau in Lubbock, a combined snow and rain last Friday put some 1.01 inches of moisture in our thirsty ground. Not a minute too soon... as we recollect, this is the greatest amount of moisture we've had since September last.

All Ag producers were overjoyed with the help of Mother Nature, but all fully realize the desperate need for more rain, more underground "seasoning" if the 1996-97 crop is to be a financial success. For dryland producers, it is an absolute necessity... for irrigation producers, it can spell the difference between a mediocre and good, crop.

Is the 'Drouth' over? Not with this one display of moisture... Let's just hope and Pray it's the harbinger of a good, WET SPRING!



How Long's it been since you saw water standing in Plains Streets?



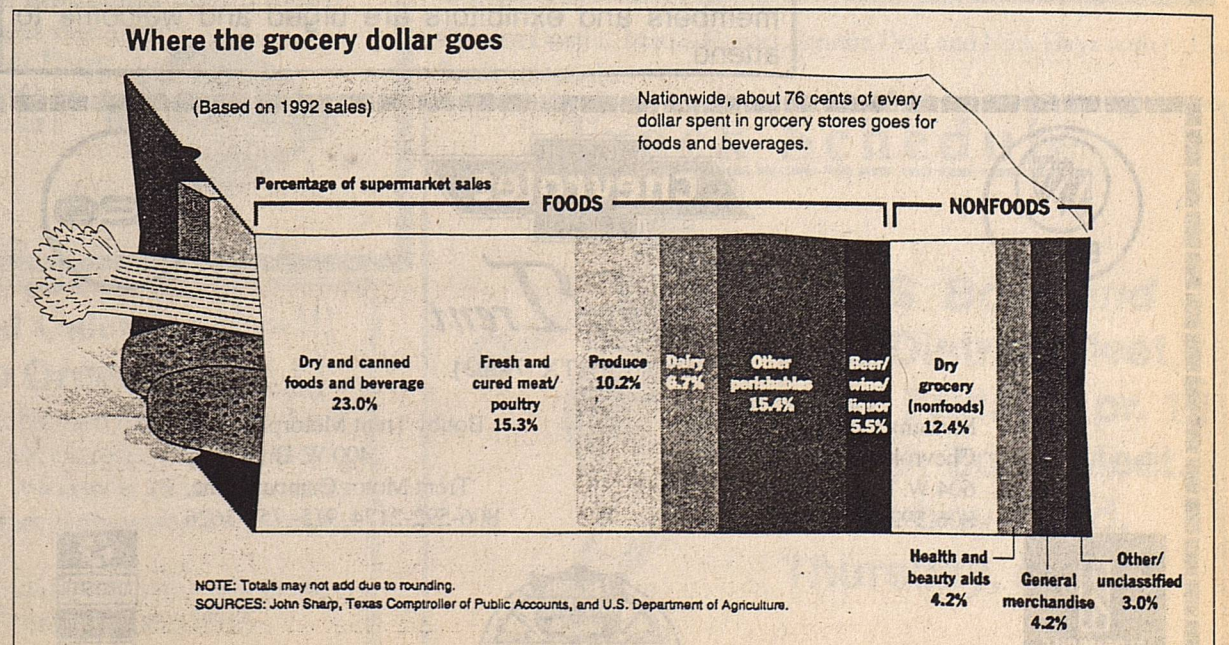
Snowy scene in Stanford Park last Friday.

## Texas Appetites Create Huge Industry

The more than 7,500 retail food stores which make up the Texas grocery industry accounted for more than \$23 billion sales in 1994, and according to John Sharp, State Comptroller, "when the 1995 sale figures are in, that record will probably be broken." Sharp noted "grocer's net profit margins are lower than most industries, about 2 percent, they earn their money from the huge volumes of sales they generate". He also said

grocers are seeking a competitive edge by expanding the size of their stores. Older stores typically contain about 35,000 square feet, while the new 'Super Stores' occupy 70,000 square feet or more. The San Antonio based H-E-B grocery chain is now the 21st largest private company in the nation, according to Forbes magazine. From it's one store origin in Kerrville, the company now has

230 operating stores in 100 locations, a payroll of 42,000 employees, with \$5.2 billion in sales during 1995. Other large companies include Randall's, 49th largest private company in the country with more than 10,000 employees, and Brookshire grocery, with 93 stores. The nation's largest grocery chain, Ohio based Kroger's, is a major player in Texas also.



Cont'd from Page 1,  
**'D.C. Council'**

who has stated he thinks the payment of bonuses without Council approval is unlawful.

An ongoing session of the D.C. problems is the matter of one private citizen, Tiry Patterson, suing the City for failure to provide him, a tax paying citizen, in a timely and reasonable amount, an accounting of all salaries paid to City employees over a certain time span. The City told Patterson it would cost him some \$18,000 for overtime spent in tabulating all the figures. Patterson retained Counsel, sued, and at last reporting, the City is now offering to furnish the data to Patterson for some \$900.

The last two issues of the DC Press have delved on the issue of the City Manger's lack of an official evaluation by the City Council of his job performance since his original employment contract expired in 1994, a questionable practice according to officials of the Texas Municipal League, comprised of some 1,000 Texas communities. According to The Press, His contract expired in 1994, a matter he failed to inform the Council about. Mayor Royce Hemmeline, quoted in a recent issue of the D.C. Press, said of the issue, he sees no need of an evaluation and vote on Hohstadt's performance; "I think if an old Boy's good, keep him for the rest of his life", adding, "I don't know whether a (a formal council evaluation and vote on Hohstadt's performance) is required by law or whatever, but as long as thing's are rosy, there's no need to evaluate him".

Perhaps, I truly think if this ongoing situation had occurred in our very humble little City of Plains, it would not be an ongoing, expensive proposition for the cities tax payers. It would have been resolved way before now. There's an excellent chance we would have fired our City Administrator and petitioned for a sweeping recall election of all officials.

The City election this May in our neighboring city to the south will be very interesting, with three individuals seeking council seats, and making no bones about their intentions to oust Hohstadt if elected. The three hopefuls are Dr. Larry Boyd, John Madden and Kenny Harris.

Cont'd from Page 1,  
**'Rate Options'**

Cooperative Manager, Mike Dreyspring, stated the rate filings will begin to move the Cooperative in the direction of pricing electricity according to use. "These interruptible rate options for irrigation and large industrial customers provide choice," says Dreyspring. "Customers can realize credits on their bills if they can utilize electric power that is interrupted."

The interruption period for irrigation customers will be the months of June through August for a maximum of 120 hours. Industrial customers who elect to use this service could see interruptions throughout the year by not more than a total of 200 hours.

Prior to implementation of the program, the Cooperative must first receive approval from both the New Mexico and Texas Public Utility Commissions.

No other rate classes, such as residential or commercial, are affected.

For further information, contact the Cooperative at (505) 396-3631 or call toll-free 1-800-510-5232 (LCEC) between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., MST.

**WPS  
Training To  
Be Conducted**

The Yoakum County Office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service will be sponsoring a Federal Worker Protection Standard Training on Tuesday, April 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at the Plains Community Center. This training will be for both employers and employees with the employee portion being taught in English and Spanish. This training will enable chemical handlers to receive their EPA Green Chemical Handler Card. Two CEU's in Laws & Regulations will be administered.

For more information contact Tadd Knight, County Extension Agent-Ag at 456-2263.

**Labor Stats  
For State  
80th House  
District**

Monthly statistical data furnished State Representative Gary Walker by the Texas Employment Commission covering employment statistics for the sprawling 80th House District contain a few oddities.

The District, comprised of Andrews, Dawson, Gaines, Hockley, Loving, Martin, Reeves, Terry, Winkler and Yoakum Counties, has a work force of 50,217, with 3,529, or 7%, being unemployed, compared to the statewide 6.2 average.

The most populous county, Hockley, with 11,284 workers, has a relatively low 5.5% unemployment rate, while Loving County, least populous county in the entire state, has an unemployment rate of 13.3% - a startling statistic, until one considers there are only 83 in the county labor force, and 11 of these are seeking jobs.

Yoakum County, 7th in population in the ten county District, has an unemployment rate of only 5%, ranking third lowest in the District.

According to the TEC report, almost 600,000 Texans were unemployed in February.

**Eye on Texas**

**Income tax refunds**

More than 1.8 million Texans applied for income tax refunds under the Earned Income Tax Credit program in 1994. EITC refunds may be sent to:

- Families with two or more children, with a gross income of no more than \$26,873. The maximum refund could be \$3,110 in this category.
- Families with one child who have a gross income of no more than \$24,396. Maximum refund: \$2,094.
- Families consisting of adults between the age of 25 and 64 with no children with a gross income of less than \$9,230. Maximum refund: \$314.

To inquire about the Earned Income Tax Credit:

- Visit your local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) center
- Call IRS toll-free: 1-800-829-1040
- Call the Texas Comptroller's EITC hotline: 1-800-277-8383.

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and the Internal Revenue Service.

**Livestock Association  
Annual Meeting Set**

The Yoakum County Livestock Association will hold its annual meeting Tuesday, April 16, at 7:00PM in the Plains Community Center

Checks will be dispersed from the proceeds of the 1996 Yoakum County Junior Livestock Show, following a brief business session. All Association members and exhibitors are urged and welcome to attend.



A group of First United Methodist faithful observing Sunrise Services in Stanford Park Easter morning.



In Easter finery, youngsters attend 'Children's Church at First United Methodist last Sunday Morning.

**Moving  
Sale**

**301- 7th Street  
Residence of  
Charley & Helen Pope**

Extra nice - modern Piano,  
Small Deep Freeze,  
Bedroom Furniture,  
Living Room Furniture,  
Television, Sets of Dishes,  
Assorted Dishes,  
Lots of odds & ends

**Friday, April 12,  
9: a.m. - 2: p.m.  
456-6694  
Absolutely  
No Early  
Birds!!**

**Building Cooperation --  
A Power In The Land**

Lea County Electric Cooperative is part of the rural electric systems forming a network of power in the land. But, we have another kind of power besides electricity -- the power of cooperation -- the power of hands, hearts, and minds joined together to help one another.

Together we have been able to bring electric service to the nation's rural areas and create millions of jobs nationwide. Together, we have helped to build a powerful network of cooperation in communities helping to make life better in rural America.

Our job, however, is far from over. The times are changing and so our needs. A new era of progress and cooperation lies ahead of us. But in order for our history of success to continue, we need you, our members, to continue working hand in hand with us as we plan for and face the future.

We encourage you to come visit with us during the Cooperative's Annual Meeting set for Friday, April 26, 1996 at the Pannell Auditorium in Lovington. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will include the election of two (2) trustees, one from District 2 and one from District 5. Hope to see you there!

**LEA COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**  
"Owned By Those We Serve"  
Michael A. Dreyspring, General Manager

Lovington (505) 396-3631      Talum (505) 398-2233      Plains (806) 456-3322  
Toll-Free for Convenience of Members/Consumers is 1-800-510-5232 (LCEC)

**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

**BUICK** **Chevrolet** **Geo**

**Bobby Trent**  
{Denver City, TX 79323}

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

**FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP**  
Symbol of Superior Service

**CHRYSLER**  
Plymouth  
Dodge

**OLDSMOBILE**

# 'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

## Cowboy-Cowgirl Track



### Eagle Relay at Seagraves

Event	Place	Contestant	Distance
<b>Varsity Girls</b>			
Discus	6	Redman	93'2-1/2"
Shot Put	3	Redman	34'3"
3200M Run	3	Blair	13:34.75
400 M Relay	6	Bearden, Redman, Winn, Asebedo	
800 M Dash	3	Parrish	2:41.13
100 M Hurdles	4	Bearden	17:41
800 M Relay	6	Bearden, Winn Burgess, Redman	2:02.83
1600 M Run	3	Blair	6:29.77
1600 M Relay	4	Parrish, Dearing Guetersloh, Burgess	5:12.33
Team Totals	6th	41	
<b>J.V. Boys</b>			
3200 M Run	4	Bayer	13:14.99
400 M Relay	3	Delgado, Tyson, Blount, Pierce	48:72
800 M Dash	2	Willett	2:20.24
110 M Hurdles	4	Blount	19:77
100 M Dash	1	Pierce	12:09
	5	Traweek	12:35
400 M Dash	1	Tyson	59:08
200 M Dash	2	Pierce	25:59
1600 M Relay	1	Delgado, Tyson, Blount, Willett	4:00.45
Shot Put	6	Bunch	
Team Totals	3rd	94	
<b>Varsity Boys</b>			
Shot Put	1	Clanahan	47'2"
High Jump	6	Parrish	5'8"
3200 M Run	1	St. Romain	12:12.54
	2	Caballero	12:19.77
400 M Relay	4	Blount, Hernandez Traweek, Parrish	45:58
800 M Dash	1	Dearing	2:06.20
	3	Ramirez	2:08.53
	6	Hernandez	
100 M Dash	6	Parrish	11:75
400 M Dash	2	Traweek	53:53
	3	Blount	53:63
	4	Hernandez	54:19
200 M Dash	3	Parrish	24:17
1600 M Run	2	Ramirez	5:19.05
	3	St. Romain	5:31.09
1600 M Relay	1	Traweek, Caballero Dearing, Blount	3:51.83
Team Totals	2nd	113	



## U. I. L. Results at Sudan Meet

Eleven 1-A schools participated in the U.I.L. Meet held at Sudan on Saturday, March 30. Plains overall standing was second only to O'Donnell. Listed below are the results:

Informative Speaking	5th	Stephen Bitolas
	6th	Barney Tobar
Persuasive Speaking	1st	Billy Braswell
Poetry Reciting	1st	Lyndi Rowe
News Writing	4th	Clint Burrus
	6th	Maranda Box
Feature Writing	4th	Yvonne Gonzales
Headline	2nd	Tommie McNabb
Business Accounting	3rd	Valerie Blair
Calculator	1st	Shawna Box
	2nd	Heath Bowlin
	3rd	Tommie McNabb
Computer Science (Team)	3rd	Jeremy Dearing, Valerie Blair, Stephanie Aguilar
Current Events Writing	5th	Tommie McNabb
Mathematics	4th	Shawna Box
	6th	Heath Bowlin
Number Sense	1st	Shawn Cullins
	2nd	Yancey House
	4th	Shawna Box
Science	1st	Johnny Don Davis
	5th	Heath Bowlin
	6th	Derek Brunson
Chemistry	1st	Johnny Don Davis
Spelling	4th	Vicki Bayer

## Jr. High Poets Recognized

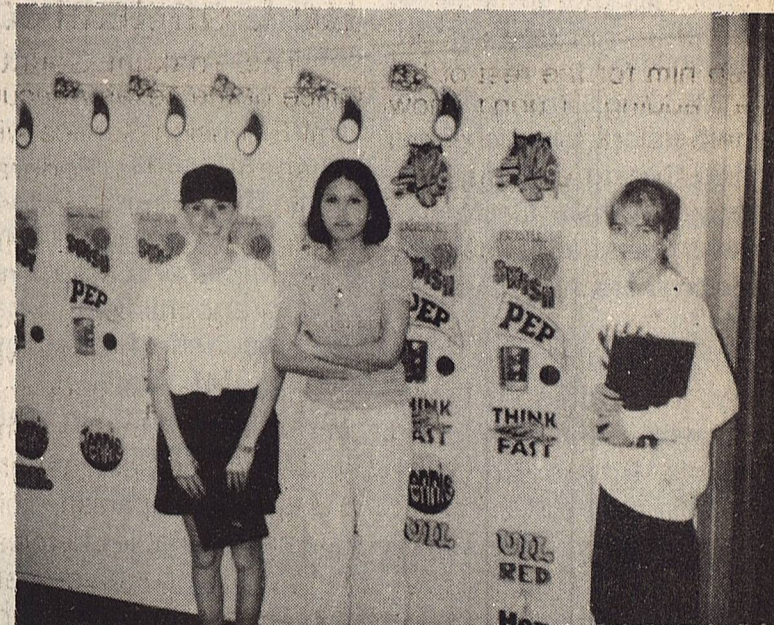


Arasely Luna, Ragan McGinty, Ky May

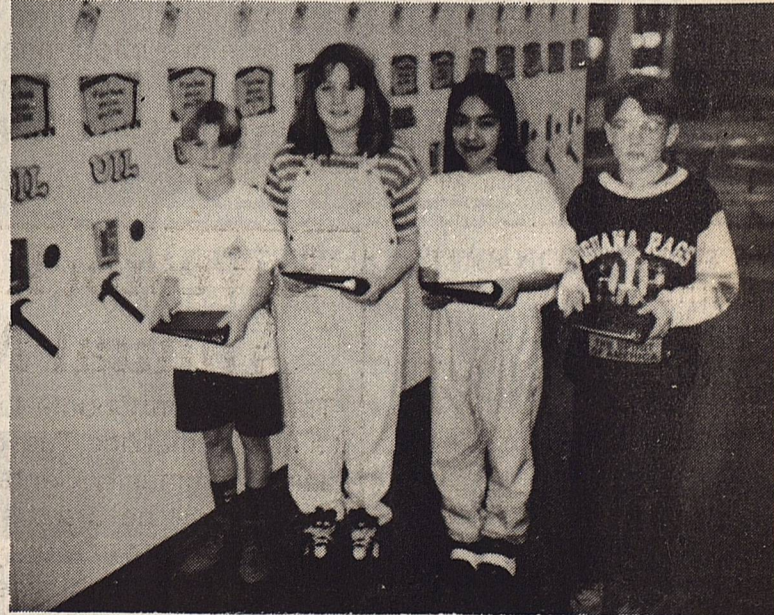
Recently, three Jr. High North Carolina. Ky May, students at Plains Jr. High, Arasely Luna, and Ragan McGinty had poems accepted for publication. Sixth Grade students in Saundra Foster's English class wrote poems that were then submitted to the Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans, Inc. in Asheboro, which went to print on March 31. Congratulations to these three young students and to their teacher, Miss Foster.

## Jr. High Preps For U.I.L. Competition

The Middle School has been a hot bed of activity, with teachers urging U.I.L. competing students to greater efforts preparing for the meet. Recently all the student lockers were decorated with art work to stir enthusiasm for the coming contest.



Krystle Blundell, Patti Ruiz and Lensey Cullins among decorated lockers.



Chisom Deaton, Mandi Rogers, Joanna Diaz and Nick Hays with U.I.L. Study materials.

## Meet Our Newest Combo Member!

The DQ® Steak Finger Country Basket® Combo!

**\$2.99**  
Four-piece Combo



Now you can make your DQ® Steak Finger Country Basket® a combo! That's four juicy, tender steak fingers. Creamy country gravy. Crisp fries. A slice of Texas toast. And a big 21-oz. drink. The DQ® Steak Finger Country Basket® Combo. Baskets have never sounded better! On sale for a limited time at Dairy Queen.®



On sale April 1-14, 1996.

## Order Your Band Calendar Now!!!

The Deadline To Order is April 12

Order forms may be obtained from: Pay-N-Save, The Plains Public Library, Mr. Morgan, or by contacting any band booster officer. The cost is \$5.00 for a family listing. Memorials and other listings are available for \$50 each.

Timmie Johnson - Calendar Chairman - 522-6448  
Dawn Dearing - President - 456-3545  
Jerri Lollar - Secretary/Treasurer - 522-6521

## SHOWERS OF SAVINGS

84 Mazda RX7, Bright Red, Sunroof, 5-Speed	\$3,750
90 Dodge Dynasty, Auto., Cassette, Tilt, Cruise, Power Windows & Locks #6007A	\$4,895
90 Olds Ciera, V-6 Auto., Tilt, Cruise, Power Windows & Locks, Sport Rack #P2206	\$6,595
90 Mustang LX, Bright Red, Auto., Sunroof, Power Windows & Locks, Cruise, Cassette	\$6,495
92 Buick Skylark, Quad 4, Auto., Black, Power Windows & Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette #6032B	\$7,395
90 Silverado Reg. Cab, 1/2 Ton, 3.30 V-8, Auto., Windows, Locks, Cruise #3049B	\$8,350
94 Nissan Pickup, 4 Cyl. 5-Speed, Air, Nice Small Truck w/ 29K Miles #5085A	\$8,750
91 F-150 SuperCab XLT, 302 V-8, Auto., Blue & White, Extremely Nice w/ Only 61K Miles P2195N	\$10,850
95 Ford F-150 Reg. Cab, Texas/Oklahoma Special, Air, White w/ Red Cloth Interior #3030A	\$10,850
94 Taurus GL, White with Beige Cloth Interior, Only 25K Miles, All Power Equipment #P2207	\$11,950
92 Lincoln Town Car, Medium Blue with Leather Interior #P2172A	\$11,950
93 Dakota Ext. Cab Truck, V-8 Auto., Red & White, Power Windows, Locks, Tilt, Cruise #2231B	\$12,550
94 F-150 XLT 4x4, Reg. Cab, 302 Auto., Power Windows, Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette #7014A	\$12,750
95 Cougar XR7, Executive Package, Champagne Color P2153	\$14,450
95 Windstar Mini-Van, Dual Air Conditioning, Privacy Glass, Dual Radio Controls #P2211	\$16,350
95 F-150 SuperCab XLT, Two-tone Blue, Running Boards, Captain Chairs, Console #2165A	\$16,452
95 Grand Marquis LS, V-8, Power Seats, Rear Wheel Drive, Keyless Entry, All Power #6006A	\$18,350
93 Cowboy Conversion 4x4 Suburban, Quad Captain Chairs, Extra Plush! #6000A	\$21,950

All plus TAX

CALL OUR PREQUALIFYING HOTLINE --  
1-800-260-6869

**ED MOSELEY**  
FORD MERCURY LINCOLN

TOP DOLLAR FOR TRADES...  
FINANCING AVAILABLE

1-800-658-6259

## Track Schedule



**P H S Boys and Girls District Meet, Sudan, Friday, Apr. 12**  
**Jr. High Zone Meet, Cowboy Field, Thursday, Apr. 18**

## Final Rites For Ben Liles

Funeral services for Ben Liles, 75, of Plains, were held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, April 8, in the First Baptist Church of Plains, with the Rev. Glenn Harlan and the Rev. Bill Wright officiating. Interment was in the Loop Cemetery under the direction of Connally Funeral Home of Seagraves. Viewing was held in the Plains Memorial Chapel.

Mr. Liles passed away Saturday, April 6, in St. Mary's Skilled Nursing Center in Lubbock. He was born in Gaines County, January 19, 1921 to Jess E. Liles and the former Alice Mitchell. He was married to Margaret Hutchinson in Las Cruces, New Mexico on October 20, 1947. He was a life long Texan as well as a farmer, and he had been an employee of Yoakum County and the state of Texas. He had resided in Plains since 1959 after moving there from the Ashmore Community. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Plains.

He is survived by his wife of the family home: two sons, Rick Liles of Big Spring and Gary Liles of Dallas. Also surviving are two daughters: Shirley Perrin of Rocky Hill, Connecticut and Sandra Arndt of Crestone, Colorado. There are seven grandchildren.

Mr. Liles is also survived by two sisters: Madean Blair of Big Spring and Juanita Fancey of Visalia, California. He was preceded in death by three brothers, Artie, George, and J.E.

Pallbearers were John Gray, Tim Addison, Greg McCravey, Dennis Crutcher, Johnnie Fitzgerald, and Royce Randall.

## Final Services Held For Maurine Bean

Funeral services were held in the Rochester First Baptist Church at 11 AM Friday, April 5, 1996, for Mrs. W.R. (Maurine) Bean, a long time resident of Plains. Reverend Jim Williams, Pastor, Rule First Baptist, and Reverend Troy Culpepper of Rochester officiated, assisted by Reverend Mack Streun of Brownfield. Mrs. Bean died on April 3 in Brownfield Regional Medical Center following a lengthy illness.

She was born in Rule, Texas on Feb. 18, 1917, and attended schools in Rule, New Mid And New Cook, all communities in Haskell County. She and Wiley Rader Bean were married in Rochester on July 10, 1934.

The couple moved to Plainview in 1957, to Olton in 1958, and to Plains in 1968. They farmed here until Wiley's retirement. Both were members of the Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband Wiley R.; a son, Jerry Bean of Brownfield; a sister, Mardel Roberson, Rochester; Three brothers, Sammy White, Knox City, Lloyd White, Littlefield, Floyd White, Ft. Worth; three grandsons, Michael Bean, Brownfield, David Bean, Ft. Worth, and Terry Bean, Monahans, and five great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, D.I. White.

Interment was in the Rochester Cemetery.

## Plains Lions Hear Of PISD Great State Report Card

The Plains Lions Club heard High School Principal Steven O'Quinn describe the recent evaluation of our local school system by the State of Texas as one of "overall excellence". The annual report, mandated by the State Legislature, rates all schools, elementary, junior high and high school on a variety of academic standards, including TAAS tests (Texas Assessment of Academic Skills) in grades 3 thru 8 and 10, attendance and dropout rates, and complicated formulas for grading high school students in reading, writing, mathematics, and college admission tests.

O'Quinn reported the Plains Elementary School received an 'Exemplary Rating', the top classification; Junior High was rated 'Recognized', the second highest classification, as was Senior High. O'Quinn related the high school missed the coveted 'Exemplary' rating by only two percentile points, the equivalent of only one student in the entire high school meeting all academic standards.

He also reviewed the outstanding record of P.H.S. students in their extra-curricula activities, including all sports, band and U.I.L. competitions.

For a number of years, Plains sports teams have been in the upper ranks of season end ratings around the state. The Cowboy Marching Band, two time State Champions and perennial area honor winners, the outstanding U.I.L. competitors in math, science, and literary events, should be a source of pride for the entire community, the Principal said.

O'Quinn was accompanied to the meeting by two PHS young ladies who reported to the Lions on the recent trip to Washington, D.C. over the Spring break by some 16 students and their sponsors, Malissa Rogers and Mary Wilmeth.

Tandi Jones and Jennifer Lollar reported the fast and furious 4 day trip was "fantastic". The group crammed in visits to the FBI Headquarters, Tomb of the Unknowns, the National Cathedral, the Treasury Bureau, Washington Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, the Smithsonian, Korean Memorial, the nation's Capitol, attended a Senate and House session, were photoed with State Rep. Larry Combest, Ford Theater Museum, the Lincoln, Jefferson and Iwo Jima Memorial, Kennedy Center, Mount Vernon and the White House.

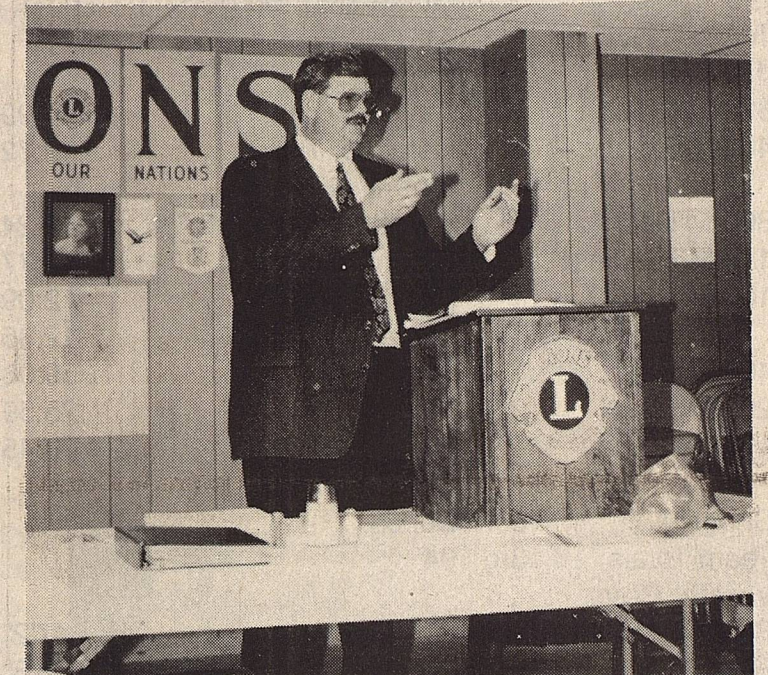
Tandi reported she was awed by the number of homeless persons on the streets of the Capitol city, the beauty of the historic spots she saw. Jennifer was awed by the Iwo Jima Memorial and the statue of Lincoln in his memorial. Both girls expressed their amazement and dismay at not being able to buy a 'Dr.

Pepper" anywhere, "Once we left Dallas!".

The Lions Club briefly discussed and approved a motion to support the "Yoakum County Connection" planned watermelon festival scheduled for August 31, and will sponsor a food or crafts booth at the event.



Tandij Jones, Jennifer describe Washington D.C. trip



Steve O'Quinn details PISD accomplishments

**Associated Farmers Delinting, Inc.**



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

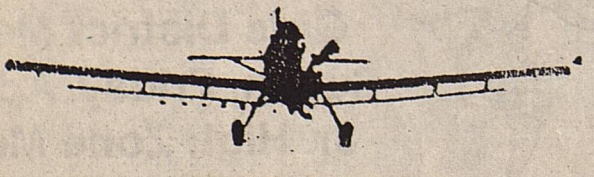
**EXPLORER** **ROCKET**

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

**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

**PSB**

**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

**State Line Insurance**

Multi-Peril Crop \*\* Crop Hail

**Danny Bell**

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

**PLAINS DEPOT**

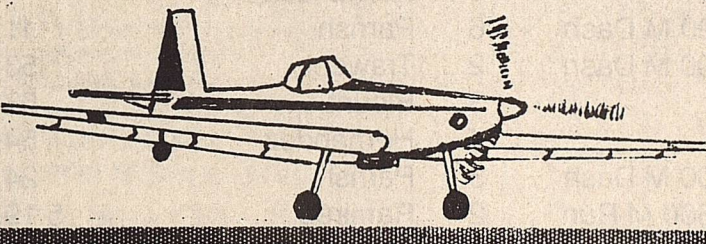
New Merchandise Arriving Daily!

*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

**G. B. AERIAL APPLICATION, INC.**



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

**BAYER LUMBER AND HARDWARE**

**Winter Specials**

- Outside Faucet Cover \$2.95
- Wrap-On Insul-Foil Pipe Insulation 1/8" X 2" X 15' \$4.99 roll
- Wrap-On Fiberglass Insulation 3" X 35' \$3.35 roll
- 25' Lufkin Measuring Tape 1" \$8.95 ea.
- 250 Watt Heat Lamps Clear \$3.45 ea.

1018 Ave. E ----- PLAINS, TX  
456-4800

# Femme Friends Page



John Kitto, Manager of Lowe's Pay 'N' Save, is shown with Kathy Mindieta, drawing prize winner of a Kelvinator 15 cu. ft. Kelvinator freezer in a recent promotional contest.

## Senior Citizens Corner

The month of March left on a quiet note - no wind. April picked right up and it's blow, blow, blow!! Wonder where our April showers are.

Recent visitors for a lunch at the Center were Jerry Everett, Sue Smith, Wanda Switger and Modelle Hamitt.

A new regular member is Joyce Trantham, recently retired from SPS. Welcome and we hope she will come everyday. We need all the retirees and those staying home to come to the Center.

There is much going on to keep anyone busy for most of a long day. There is a sheltered place to walk, games, crafts, fellowship and of course Food!

About one hundred people came and enjoyed the Fund Raising Supper.

Our Director has been on the ailing list, but is back at the Center now.

Condolences to the friends of Beulah Derrington.

April 11, Lovington pool tournament at 10 a.m. MST

Gail Ballenc, 11 a.m. to assist with insurance problems.

April 12, Line dancing, 9:45 a.m.

Lunch every day at 11:30 a.m. Everyone welcome and we hope to see you soon.

See you next week, Smitty

The Plains High School Class of 1986 will hold a ten-year reunion on October 4 & 5.

## Library Filmtime

Thirty-six children went to Stanford Park for their annual Easter Egg hunt sponsored by the local Library. Before going to the park, the children had a regular program of songs, games, and two movies.

Children in attendance were: Troy Parrish, Elizabeth Cox, Kevin John Gass, Alfredo Martinez, Jacob Brink, Shermin Gressett, Kirstie Loper, Lydia Whitzel, Landon Earnest, Jasmine Mares, Rhaela Stall, Alex Penner, Jonathan Penner, Brett Hawthorne, Ashley Hainer, Raegan Young, Mariana Martinez, Chloe Carpenter, Kelsey Curry, Greta Poole, Isaac Doyle, Zachary Ramon, Jaston Brink, Berkleigh Gessett, Lexus Jimenez, Jasmine Whitzel, Dakota Earnest, Jason Durham, Rhaemi Stall, Heather Penner, Samantha Delarosa, Brandon Craft, Charity Hainer, Katelynn Young, Emily Davis, and Sammy Melendez.

## Shower Dates

**Saturday, April 13**

Baby Shower For: Bailey Jo Stephens

Place: Linda Wall 108 Ave. G

Time: 10 - 11:30 AM

**Saturday, April 13**

For: Scotty Rains

Place: Karen Bearden 702 2nd St.

Time: 2 - 3:30 PM

**Sunday, April 14**

For Ashlee Winn

Place: Carolyn Cullwell 1002 1st St.

Time: 2:30 - 4 PM

**Sunday, April 28**

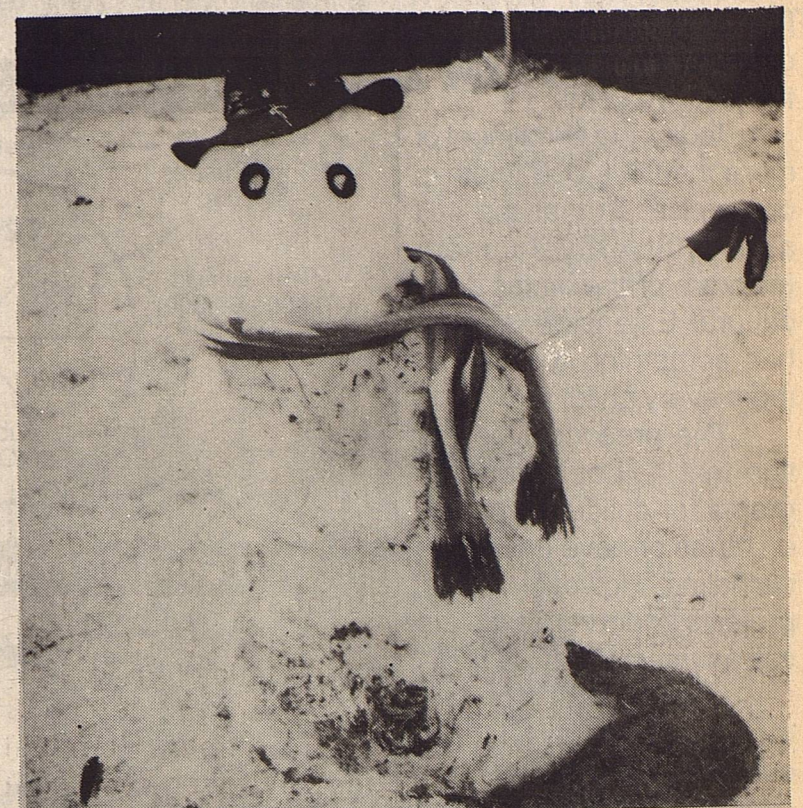
For: Randy Kennedy

Place: Linda Wall 108 Ave. G

Time: 3:30 - 5 PM

Selections: Nelsons, Dillard's, Renaissance, Plains Depot, Bayer

Lumber, Cinderella Shop



## Only Snowman Of The Year?

Last Friday's scant covering of snow made building snow people a bit difficult for local youngsters. This snapshot shows a yard devoid of any more snow, and this guy's outer coat just a bit dirty and grassy. Still, building a scruffy looking snowman is much more fun than having no snow at all.

## AGRIFACTS

### SPRING ONIONS

Onions produced in Texas are the first "fresh" onions in the market each spring. Producers concentrate on sweet onion varieties, such as the Texas 1015 Supersweet. Texas annually produces about a third of the U.S. spring onions harvested from April through July.

### 1995 Texas Onion Production

Rank in U.S. #1

Acres harvested 14,200

Total production value \$3.8 million

40% Texas

Total U.S. Production

## Announcing the opening of Bev's Nursery

*New Plants Galore!* Tomatoes, Peppers, Flowers, Trees, Shrubs, much more.

Get Your Green Thumb Going!

Hours: 9 - 7, Closed Fridays  
802 3rd St. -- Plains -- 456-7132

## Darlene's

Now Your Denver City 'BeutiControl Dealer!'

Haines Hosiery Sale  
March 24 - April 7  
25% Off

## New Arrivals Daily!

### Selections:

Janel Yarbrough & Chris Brock - April 14  
Christi Towles & Den Sessions - April 20  
Dion Hancock & Mike Rebstock - April 21

110 N. Main, Denver City, Tx.  
592-9524

All Major Credit Cards Accepted

## BeutiControl

Are you looking for BeutiControl in your town? This could help you.

Hobbs, NM - Debra Watkins  
505-392-7440 - (Please Leave Message)  
Lovington, NM - Nellie's Beuti Salon  
505-396-5119  
Denver City, TX - Darlene's  
806-592-9524  
Plains, TX - Holly Dyer 806-456-8451

### BeutiControl Cosmetics

THE WORLD'S PREMIER SKIN CARE AND IMAGE COMPANY™

Holly Dyer  
Box 447  
Plains, Tx. 79355

(806) 456-8451

\*Color Analysis

\*Skin Care and Cosmetics

\*Instant Image Makeover© Set

\*Business Presentations

Personal Image Profile©

Licensed Cosmetologist

image CONSULTANT



### 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

## 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

## Catfish!

1st United Methodist Church will serve a Catfish Sunday Lunch April 14 at the Intermediate School Cafeteria, 1001 Ave.F, Denver City -- 11:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Adults \$5.00 Children \$3.00  
Come & Enjoy

## April Tanning Special!

Start your summer tan now.  
Only ~ \$25 ~ for unlimited hours this month.

Marjorie's Coiffures  
456-2015

### 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



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

## Extension's 4-H Program Has Something To Offer Every Youth

College Station: The Texas 4-H program is reaching more children than ever before, with membership increasing by 44 percent over the last two years.

Today, the enrollment of more than 628,000 youth is one indication that the 4-H and Youth Development Program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service has something to offer almost every child.

The preconceived notion that 4-H only has programs for children who live on farms or have animals is dwindling. However, animal projects and rural Texas are still an integral part of 4-H.

The majority of 4-H members actually live in suburbs and cities—62 percent. Nearly 26 percent live in towns and only about 12 percent live on farms and in rural areas.

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Prairie View A&M University Cooperative Extension Service, both part of the Texas A&M University System, offer 4-H programs that are appealing to a more diverse, broader cross section of young people. They are children in preschool through 12th grade. Their racial makeup is reflective of the state's population. About 45 percent of members are White; 33 percent are Hispanic; 20 percent are African/Americans; more than 1 percent Asian; and less than 1 percent Native American.

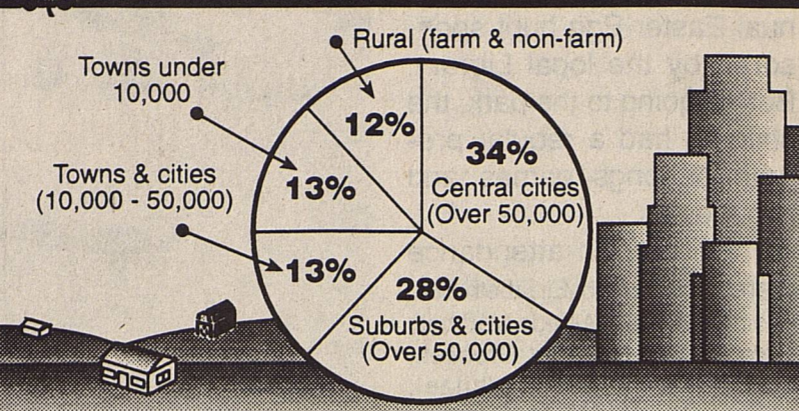
From a variety of projects that combine education with hands-on experience to capture the minds of young people, 4-H members learn to make decisions, solve problems, set goals, get along with other people and deal with failures and setbacks through positive and productive activities.

Young people can enroll

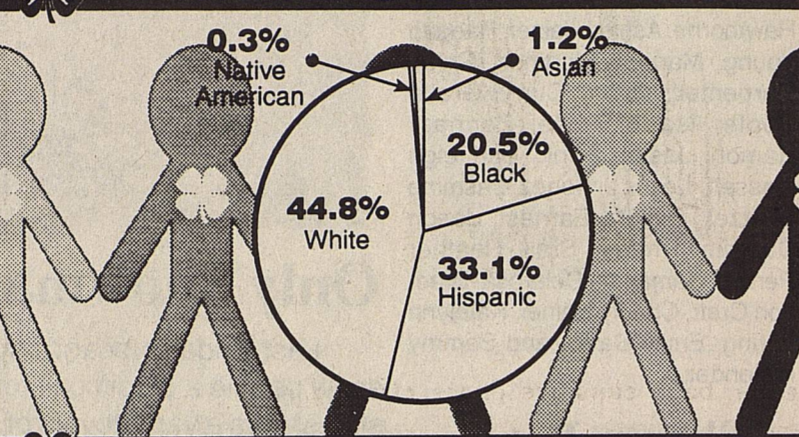
### Texas 4-H Enrollment for 1995

The total enrollment for 1995 was 628,172. This number represents 15.7 percent of all Texas youth between the ages of five and nineteen.

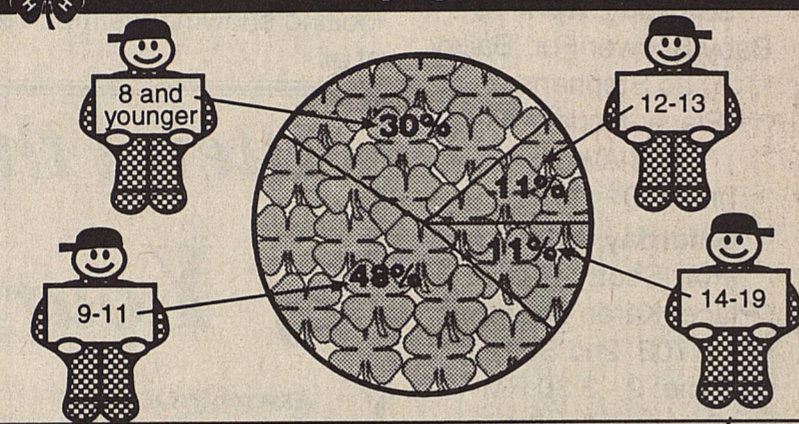
#### 4-H Enrollment by place of residence



#### 4-H Enrollment by racial/ethnic groups



#### 4-H Enrollment by age



Source: Texas Agricultural Extension Service  
Graphic: Agricultural Communications, The Texas A&M System

in 4-H by joining a community or school 4-H club, by participating in a short-term, special-interest group or by enrolling in a 4-H School Curriculum Enrichment Project. Members choose from more than 40 projects that focus on science and technology and building life skills.

Special-interest groups, which allow 4-H educators to explore new and creative ways to reach youth, have

grown in popularity. These programs are structured to meet special needs for a specific amount of time when and where there is interest. Enrollment in these groups more than doubled over the last year from 58,618 to 153,800.

In 1912 when farming was practically the only way of life in Texas, Zeta Gandy of Milano joined the Girls Tomato Club, the state's first 4-H girls club. Today, at 94,

Gandy still talks about how she learned to can tomatoes and other vegetables - an important and necessary storage method during those times.

The first 4-H Gold Star Award recipient, 84-year-old Lorene Russell Ludwig of New Braunfels, said that in the early 1920's, "4-H was a way of life. It is so much a part of me."

Most former 4-H members like Bill E. Carter, president of Carter Financial Management in Dallas, feel the same way.

"Of the many things I can reflect upon in my life is the 4-H organization," he said. "The 4-H program has taught me responsibility, how to deal fairly with other people and to set and maintain the highest personal standards."

Behind every child there is a caring adult -- a parent, one of more than 54,000 volunteer leaders in Texas, a county Extension agent, a businessman or someone else devoting time and energy to make a commitment to the future of that child.

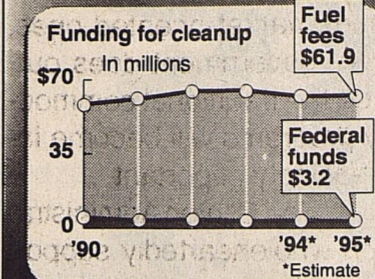
One uniqueness of the program is that it becomes part of the community through collaborative efforts with other groups and individuals. People from all walks of life invest in the future of 4-H youth, and donors contribute valuable grants, scholarships and support to help children succeed in life.

Texans as well as Americans are constantly looking for ways to ensure that our next generation produces responsible, productive individuals. One organization that has been doing that for 80 years and continues to strive to "make the best better" is the 4-H youth development program of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

## Keeping an eye on Texas

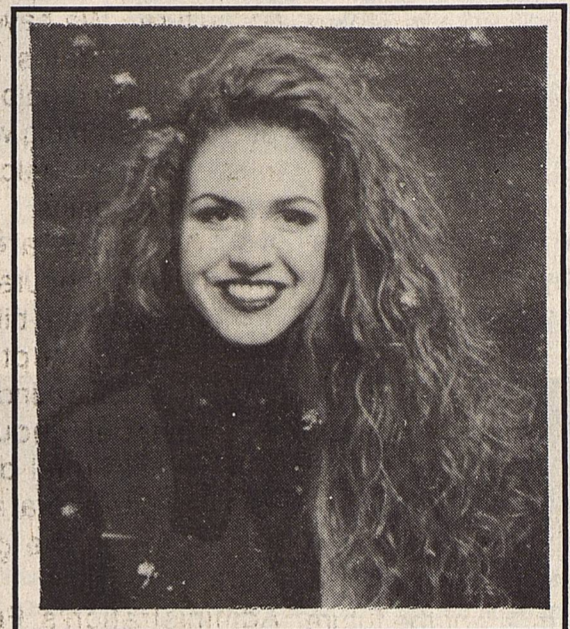
### Funds to clean up underground leaks

Funds to clean up Texas' 585 leaking underground storage tanks are gathered from state fees on the sale of gasoline and other fuels, as well as from federal funds.



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

### You are cordially invited to an afternoon of Classical Vocal Music Recital



**Amy Clark Synatzske**  
Master of Music candidate Texas Tech University  
With Christina Meister, pianist  
**April 20, 1996, 2:00 PM**  
First Baptist Church Sanctuary  
Denver City, Texas  
Reception following in Fellowship Hall

## A variety of homestead exemptions could lower your property taxes!

A homestead exemption lowers the property taxes on your home by lowering its taxable value. If your home is valued at \$50,000 and you receive a \$5,000 homestead exemption, your home will be taxed as if it were worth \$45,000.

### Who qualifies for an exemption?

Anyone who owned a home on January 1st (and used it as their primary residence on that date) is entitled to a \$5,000 homestead exemption to lower their school taxes this year...and it doesn't matter if your home is a house, condominium or mobile home. (Counties, cities and special taxing districts may also offer homestead exemptions.)

### Are other exemptions available?

If you're disabled—or if you're 65 years old or older—you are entitled to an additional \$10,000 school tax exemption on your home. And if you qualify for the over-65 exemption, you're also entitled to a permanent, locked-in "ceiling" on the school property taxes on your home. (The ceiling does not apply to county or city property taxes, and those entities may offer other exemptions.) The over-65 homeowner's exemptions and school tax ceiling transfers to the surviving spouse, if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of death and lives in and owns the home.

### Do I have to apply each year?

No. If you had a homestead exemption on your home in 1995, you won't need to reapply for 1996 unless your chief appraiser requires it. However, if you haven't received an exemption on your present home—or if you've moved to a new home—you'll need to file for an exemption for 1996. And if you turned 65 or became disabled during 1995, you need to file for the additional exemptions.

### When and where should I file?

File applications by April 30 at your appraisal district office. If you need more time, contact us at:

YOAKUM COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT  
BOX 748  
PLAINS, TEXAS 79355  
(806) 456-7101

For more information, stop in or call for a free copy of

**"Texas Property Taxes: Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities"**

Or contact:  
Comptroller's Property Tax Division  
P.O. Box 13528  
Austin, TX 78711-3528

A public service announcement courtesy of this newspaper.

### Pruning Demonstration At Newsom Vineyard

Dr. George McEachern, Viticulturist Texas A&M Extension Service gave a grape pruning demonstration at D.C. Newsom's vineyard north of town, attended by some two dozen interested spectators.

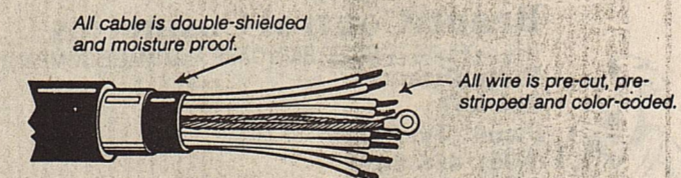


Dr. McEachern hand prunes vine



D.C. Newsom uses power trimmer

## REINKE DOES MORE TO KEEP SYSTEMS SAFE AND SIMPLE.



Reinke has more experience manufacturing reversible 3-phase center pivot systems than anyone else in the world. Systems that continue to set the standard for safety and convenience. Reinke was the first to use metal shielded electrical cable. All fingertip controls are wired through a 110V circuit. Through common sense engineering Reinke still requires only

15 amp fuses in the main control panel of their standard length systems, compared to 25 or 30 amp fuses required by other manufacturers. Let us show you how common-sense electronics and other unique "Reinke Differences" make Reinke systems simple to operate, safe for the operator, and more reliable for your resources.



456-4925,  
456-3845.

Drilling Company  
WATER WELL DRILLING & PUMP SERVICE  
Jim Warren, Sales Mgr. 456-7444



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

## Glickman Pledges Swift Implementation of New Farm Law

Washington, April 4, 1996: Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman today pledged that the U.S. Department of Agriculture would work quickly to implement the farm bill passed by Congress last week and signed today by President Clinton.

"Now that the farm bill is law, the next critical round of work begins implementation," Glickman said. "Congress left us in a very tight time crunch. Producers have been patiently waiting for information about how these new programs will work. I pledge that this department will do everything in its power to disseminate information to the public as quickly as possible."

"I remain concerned that this bill fails to provide an adequate safety net for family farmers," Glickman said. "While we implement the new farm bill we also will continue to seek innovative ways to improve the farm safety net and help producers manage risk."

"While commodity programs remain central to any farm bill, much of the future of agriculture and rural America will be determined by other factors," Glickman said. "This bill recognizes the Administration's policy priorities -- to make sure we

put enough resources into conservation practices. As agriculture continues to move away from restrictive government programs to more market-oriented ones, what government does outside the traditional commodity programs will become increasingly important.

"The Clinton Administration wholeheartedly support the bill's conservation provisions," Glickman said. "Congress has responded to our proposal that conservation and environmental programs be extended, made simpler, and made more workable for agriculture. We have made tremendous gains in conserving highly erodible cropland and stemming wet land loss. This bill helps safeguard those gains."

"We also are very pleased with the rural development title of the bill. Congress has accepted the Administration's principle that we must put enough resources into rural development to enable rural areas to participate in the growing world market. The Administration's Fund for Rural America, created by this bill, will help direct money into vital rural infrastructure and research projects that will help rural America meet the challenges of the future."

## County Onion Acreage Increases

Over half a dozen local ag producers are adding to the diversity of crop production in the Plains area, with several hundred acres of onions recently planted. Both onion sets and seed have recently gone into the ground, and all the planters are now asking for Mother Nature's cooperation and a decent market price.



A small portion of the planting crew installing onion sets northwest of town.



It's a labor intense, back sensitive chore planting sets.



A 30 acre plot of just planted onion sets.

## Phone Wiring Plays Big Role In Service

It's probably not every day that you think about the telephone wires running through the walls of your home or office. But if you're thinking about building or remodeling in the future, you may want to consider some of the advanced functions you would like your telephone service to perform.

It is the responsibility of the home owner to arrange for the home's wiring, so you may want to make plans with ALLTEL to assure that the wiring is installed properly to meet all of your communication needs. Prewiring for telephone service is done after the electrical service has been roughed in, and before the dry wall is installed.

With more home owners requiring multiple lines for fax machines, computer modems, or children's phones, you want to assure that your home has adequate wiring. If wiring is not done properly in these homes, expensive re-wiring costs could occur.

A little planning with ALLTEL on the wiring of your home or office will assure that your interior telephone wiring plan meets your needs. If you have questions about prewiring your home or office, please call your ALLTEL business office.

## 'WALKER ... TEXAS REP'

Friends, as promised, more has come down the pike about taxes. And as believed, there is more to come. Governor Bush has recently appointed a task force to travel around the state and get citizen views on taxes. Kudos for you, George. I believe this is exactly the type of governing that Texans have been hungering for.

On the note of "what Texans want," a recent report from State Comptroller John Sharp, shows a drop in food stamp rolls. Sharp attributes this decline to the recently instituted "Lone Star" card (LSC). The LSC works much like your bank card or any debit card. This program has streamlined the accounting and accountability of food stamps. I believe this "sharp" thinking has encouraged would-be criminals to think twice about food stamp fraud.

Small community financing is another issue that Sharp and the Legislature are keeping a close eye on. I chair a subcommittee on the issue. We will discuss ways to improve rural financing beginning with our first meeting April 18. I appreciate any views that you have

regarding this crucial issue. It is important that rural communities get their fair share of state funds.

On a lighter note, I would like to share some interesting things about Texas and Texans. I believe that knowing Texas history is almost as much fun as being a Texan.

Recently, the Academy of Motion Pictures gave out the much coveted Oscar Awards. It is a little known fact the golden figure is named after a Texan, Oscar Pierce. A relative of Pierce's was an intern for the Academy when they first awarded the Oscars. When the prototype arrived, the young lady exclaimed, "That looks like my uncle Oscar!" and the name stuck.

Another little known fact about a great Texan, Jim Bowie, is that he didn't invent the Bowie knife. Although he is accredited with much of the popularity of the knife, it was actually his brother who forged the knife and gave it to Jim.

Well, I hope that I have imparted some knowledge that you can share at work or coffee shop.

Until next time,  
Gary L Walker,  
Texas Rep.



## Before you get out your shovel, dig this ...



Getting ready to put up a new fence? Install additional water lines? Or lay the foundation for that much needed warehouse? Then dig this information.

Before you get out your shovel, please call us to determine the exact location of telephone lines on your property.

The cost to repair lines each year is significant, but the problem can be avoided with a phone call.

Please don't hesitate to call ALLTEL, and we will be happy to help you locate our lines. We need your help to keep your lines of communication open.

**ALLTEL**

# From The Hack



It's hard to explain; Why in the world am I thinking about dove hunting, when it's just the middle of April?

Maybe because I'm seeing the male doves already chasing their choice of mates, supposedly their life mate. As amorous as these males get, for some reason I am suspicious of this theory.

Anyway, I have been thinking of dove hunts past, the game bird I cut my young teeth on, when with a \$12.95 single shot .410, I slew my first dove at the tender age of nine, best I remember.

By time I was freed from high school, I had a passion for shooting at the fast flying targets, and an equal passion for eating their tenderly fried breasts accompanied with dove gravy.... inexperienced as I was with other pursuits as an ex-student, I thought it was as near to Nirvana as I would ever get, except of course, for that other occupying habit, girls.

Over the years, I would become part of a group of equal fanatic dove hunters around Pecos and Barstow my age. There could be as many as ten of us, maybe only four to six. We had hunting privileges on a ranch near Barstow with many windmill tanks, all attracting great flocks of birds each afternoon.

About two PM, we would assemble, decide which windmill we would hunt, and set the rules; Number

One rule- whoever gets a limit of birds first with the least number of shells wins a case of beer supplied by the losers. Number two rule- all hunters would be carefully inspected and tallied for their ammunition as they descended to their spots around the tank. Number Three rule- If you shot some idiot in the path of your bird, you had to take him to the hospital, but not pay his bill. Anyone stupid enough to get in front of a 12 gauge shotgun deserves to pay his own bills.

The only problem rule was number 2, the amount of ammunition each shooter could carry. I have never seen so many clever, devious, lying cheaters in my life as that bunch of Nimrods. No one was supposed to have more than a box, 25 shells at the start. Ha!

There were attempts to hide shells in boots, false pockets in jeans and shirts. One guy, tabbed sleaze ball Sam, taped shells to his calves, and remained undiscovered several trips till the pain of ripping the rounds off his hairy legs made him scream and curse loud enough one trip to be discovered.

Another innovative member of the gray feather club once secreted four shells in the crown of his hunting cap. He would have been undiscovered if someone had not asked him a question requiring him to

shake his head in a violent "NO!". Rattling brass has a distinctive sound.

I once tried to secret a few rounds in my water jug after wrapping them carefully in cellophane. Didn't work. Almost swallowed the first one when I took a drink, and when I finally managed to slip one out and chamber it in my gun, it went, very weakly, whoomp, and the birdshot dribbled about three feet out the barrel of my gun. Very embarrassing.

You think stuff like that still goes on in our younger generation of hunters?

## Texas - The Land

At the start of the first Chapter of "Lone Star," T.R. Fehrenbach's epic history of Texas, he writes;

In the beginning, before any people, was the land: an immense region 265,000 square miles in area rising out of the warm muck of the green Gulf of Mexico, running for countless leagues of rich coastal prairies, forests, and savannahs; reaching out hugely 770 miles from boundary to boundary south to north and east to west, to enclose a series of magnificent, rising limestone plateaus, ending in the thin, hot air of blue-shadowed mountains.

714 Pages later, the author is concluding his great work;

The history of Texas, and the people of Texas, were American history and American people, and in part, a part of the story of the world.

The people change, as they must change. The first settlers called themselves Texians, and their descendants, and all those who

took part in the great conquest, are properly called Texans. In another hundred years, perhaps, the reality of the frontier will be as remote to Texas residents as the American frontier is to residents of Massachusetts, where not one in seven people is descended from stock that killed an Indian. Already certain Texas chauvinisms are dying; Texans are revising their own mythology.

When they have lost it altogether, and when the office-working, car-driving Texan is completely indistinguishable from his Northern counterpart, the history of Texas, as Texas, will be done.

In the end, perhaps after all people, will be the land. It was stubborn soil, and it was difficult to destroy. Men tore it, gouged it, cut down its forest cover and plowed up its shielding grasses, yet most of it remained. The rivers were dammed, but they were still there. The seas of grass were cut by endless pasture fences, but the land itself, and the sweeping, rising, majestic plateaus were bedded in limestone too solid to remove. Nor would cities ever cover all of them, because when God made Texas, He made water scarce. Already, under the plateaus, the deep-driven wells were running dry. More plowed fields would shrink, more thick green-and-brown grass grow over the humus made by eons of bison bones. In many places, man had already begun a long retreat.

This land shaped those who lived upon it more than they changed it. In Americans, it made feelings they could not articulate.

Yet the land was too big even for big men to develop and destroy. He fenced it, dammed it, threw his cattle over it in prodigal hordes; he farmed it, and in drouth and shattering hail and cold, cursed Nature and Nature's God. Yet all these acts were in their own way acts of love. The Anglo-Saxon laced this soil with his own and other men's blood; it would take his bones, and monstrous artifacts, and still remain.

The sun would remain, while men must die. The moon would rise again, while civilizations fell. In the end would be the earth. Texas, under any name, would go on forever.

## Wheat Losses Show Need To Certify Yields For Crop Insurance

Dallas: Predicted wheat crop losses from the Texas drought demonstrate the importance of farmers' recording yield history with their insurance agents to protect themselves against similar disasters.

"This 45-day period lets farmers upgrade their coverage, even though they've already passed the deadline to buy crop insurance," said Dr. Ken Stokes, economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in Dallas.

"It's not too late to report the yields that can improve your coverage if you record higher yields than carried now in your policy. For instance, if the closing date was March 15, a farmer still has until the end of April to certify yields for last year, or even several previous years. The bleak outlook for wheat is a reminder to take advantage of this little-known provision in crop insurance laws."

Stokes also cautioned farmers that they'll get no disaster payments for crops covered by insurance.

"There's still time to certify your yields. Either calculate your own yields or get help from your local FSA office or private insurance agent."

"Not only that, it's free," said Stokes. For catastrophic (CAT) policyhold-

ers, CAT coverage levels could increase without a premium increase. In a buy-up situation, the premium may increase slightly, depending upon reported yields.

"In many cases, taking the time to calculate and report historical yields may greatly increase coverage compared to producers who don't report their yields," continued Stokes.

"Most areas of Texas still have time to provide records," said Benny James of Southwest Crop Insurance in Honey Grove, Texas. "The 45-day period just isn't well known. Producers can also certify yields from previous years and replace transitional or determined yields, as long as they are for consecutive years."

Stokes added, "An entire community suffers significant economic impact when crop disasters hit an area where farmers hadn't certified their yields under CAT."

"As we've seen in recent weeks with drought and fire, until we can control the elements, going without adequate crop insurance is too big a risk to take, especially when there's an extra 45 days to turn in those records."

Local FSA offices or a private insurance agent can check on individual special provisions for each insured crop.

### Keeping an eye on Texas

#### Texas polluted: Superfund sites

Texas' most polluted soil, surface and underground water are in 77 areas designated as state or federal Superfund sites. Most are a result of industrial activity or illegal dumping and are in varying degrees of repair.

**Number of Superfund sites in Texas' counties\***

aldrin	chlorinated solvents	low level radioactive waste	petrochemical wastes
aliphatic and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons	chromium	magnesium	petroleum hydrocarbons
antifreeze	copper	mercuric chloride	phenols
aromatic and chlorinated hydrocarbons	creosote	mercury	potassium sulfate
aromatic and halogenated hydrocarbons	DDT	metals	sludges
arsenic	dieldrin	methyl ethyl ketone	solvents
arsenic compounds	endosulfan	nickel	sulfates
asbestos	ethylbenzene	organic chemicals	tin
barium	fuel oil residues	organic compounds	toluene
benzene	HCl acid	organic solvents	trichlorethylene
BHC	heavy metals	pesticides	uranium
brake fluids	herbicides	PCBs	vinyl chloride tars
cadmium	high explosives	PCPs	VOCs
chlorinated hydrocarbons	hydrocarbons	pesticides	waste paint
chlorinated pesticides	inorganic compounds		zinc
	isobutyl alcohol		
	lead		
	lead wastes		
	lindane		

\* Federal sites current as of Winter 1993-1994, State: December 31, 1995.  
SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

**Hicks Carpet Appliances Heating & Air Conditioning**  
 It's Hard To Stop A Trane  
 204 n. Main, Denver City  
 806-592-3973 or 592-3930

**Now Open To Serve You Plains Memorial Chapel**  
 Norman & Judy Head, Owners  
 910 Ave. E, Plains P. O. Box 340  
 (Across from Old Courthouse) 806-456-2152

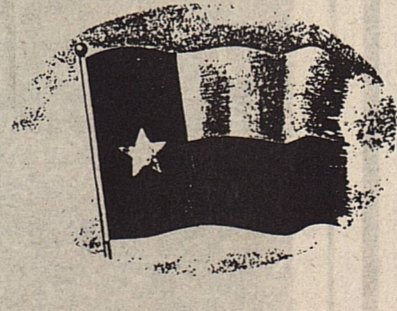
**Classifieds**  
 Massey Ferguson, Kubota, Bush Hog Shredders, Lilliston Peanut Combines & Rolling Cultivators, UFT & Lorenz Minimum Tillage Equipment, Baker disc & Switch Plows, & Much More.  
**Terry County Tractor**  
 637-4569 Brownfield

**Only \$148.54 Mo.\***  
 2BD/2BA with only \$1,000 Down-- This one will go Quick!  
 Young's Mobile Homes, Hobbs, NM 800-388-0987  
 60 mo. term

**FOR SALE**  
 319.7 Acre Irrigated Farm in Yoakum County, With Two Electric Valley Systems. Existing Loan Can Be Assumed.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**W.E. 'Red' Berry Real Estate**  
 592-3523  
 Home 915-758-5200 or Gary Dyer, Agt., 456-8451

**\*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.

**Legal Notice**  
 E.B. Brooks Jr. has filed a rule 37 permit to re-enter the No.1 Fouts in Sec. 575, Block D, J.H. Gibson Survey, Yoakum Co., Texas. The location of this well is 1207' FNL and 155' FWL of Sec. 575.



**Ag Insurance Plus**  
 Announces It's New PLAINS Office Location  
**607 9th Street**  
 James F. (Jim) Brown  
 Off. 456-2788 Home 592-3490  
 Fax. 456-2792 Mobile 456-7365

**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