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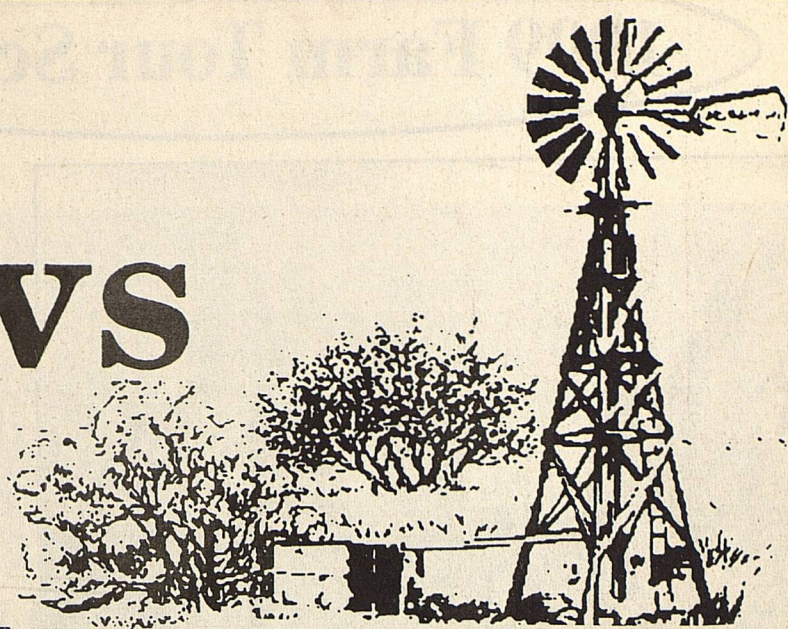
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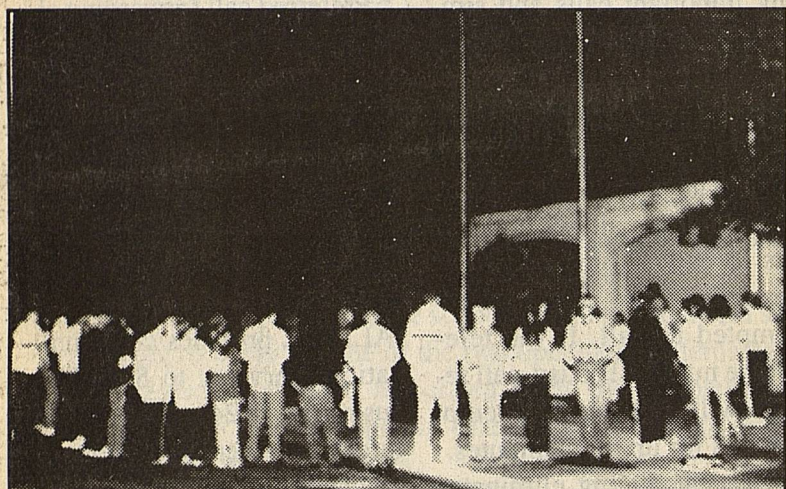
Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume V1, Issue 2, September 22, 1999



Meeting at the pole

Students, adults share early morning in devotional gathering



Plains students circled in front of flag poles

Last week some 100 Plains High and Junior High students gathered at the flag poles near the school resource center, joined by over thirty adults, to share "Meet Me At The Poles" day, observed by millions of others across the nation, to encourage student and community non-denominational prayer for our students, schools and country.

The group of students here heard an opening prayer, followed by testimonies from many other students, expressing their hopes for continued closeness and love among their ranks, and how students reaching out to other students could have a positive effect on all their lives. The adults joined hands in a circle across the street, and offered their hopes and prayers as they were motivated to.

The early morning was cool and very dark; following the voluntary meeting, a student was heard to say, "I feel light and warm now."

Criminal cases in County Court

Five cases were heard September 15, 1999 in County Court with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Jose Tagle Torres, Jr. pled guilty in a plea bargain to purchase/furnish alcohol to minor.

He was sentenced to serve 180 days in jail with credit for 64 days served. He must pay a fine of \$500.00 to be paid out in jail at \$50.00 per day and pay Court cost of \$184.25.

Eddie Trinidad pled guilty in a plea bargain to driving while intoxicated. His 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 18 months. He must pay Court cost of \$199.25 and

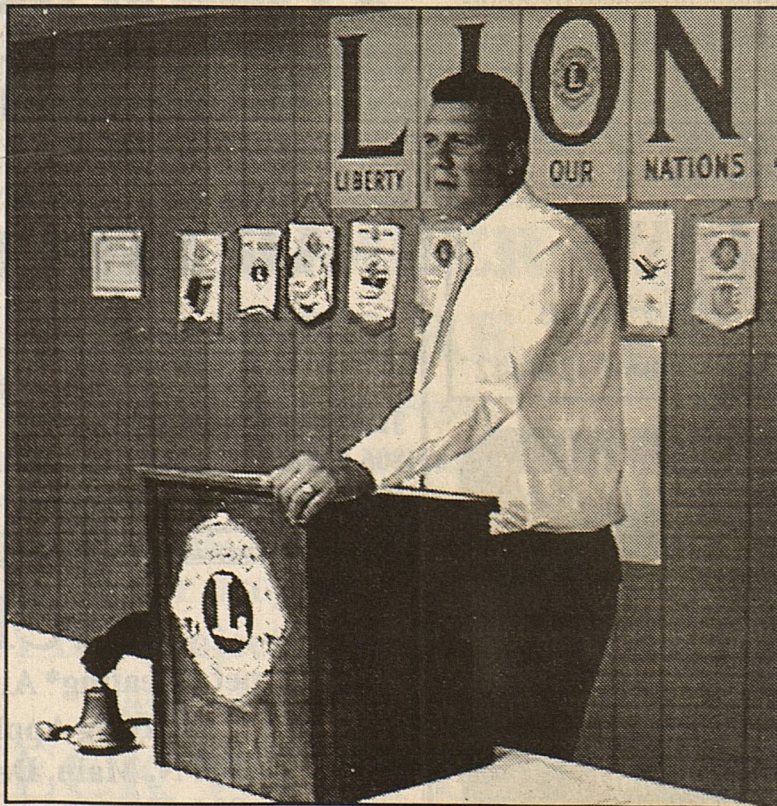
Turn to Page 2, "Court"

Coach Williams tells Lions athletic department's goals

Head Cowboy Basketball Coach and Plains ISD Athletic Director David Williams talk to the Plains Lions Club last Thursday was positive and upbeat, and could be summarized with one sentence: "We want our athletic teams to be winners, but more importantly, we want our student athletes to be winning students!"

Williams, in his second year as head of the schools athletic programs, said as a high school student athlete at Seminole, he and most all of the other students were eager to get away from the small town atmosphere. After college, he said, "My first teaching and coaching job was at Dell City, not exactly known as a booming metropolis."

He described the class 3-2A District Plains competes in as



very tough, very competitive, down, the basketball record at Stanton, Seagraves and Sun-

Turn to Page 2, "Coach"

Bearden named 'Farmer of Year'

Annual farm tour successful despite wet, muddy conditions

The annual county farm tour was successful despite wet, muddy conditions in the fields from earlier downpours. The event, organized by the Yoakum County Ag Committee of the Ag Extension service and Soil and Water Conservation District, visited five sites which demonstrated the diversity of the local agricultural economy.

Following the tour and a catered lunch, County Judge Dallas Brewer introduced local producer Rickey Bearden as the "Farmer of the Year". Bearden has been farming here 26 years, and this year was farming 4,166 acres. He has been named to many important posts over the years, including President of the county Farm Bureau, a trustee of the school board, a member of several committees of Plains Cotton Growers, a director and multi-committee member of Cotton, Inc., as the current chairman of the Western High Plains Boll Weevil steering committee, and a board member of the Texas Pest Management Association. He was named Yoakum County Outstanding Young Farmer in 1985. He is also a Deacon in First Baptist Church here.

He is the son of Ray and Joyce Bearden, and he and his wife Karen are the parents of son Tracy, a student at Wayland Baptist University, and Daughter Kylee, a junior at Angelo State University.

The tour group, traveling in



buses donated by Plais ISD, made the first stop at the Boll Weevil Eradication District office at the airport. Eradication Zone Manger Darrell Dusek and District Manager Joe Barnes demonstrated how computers are following weevil eradication spraying flights on each cotton producing field in the district, chronicling the efficiency of each aircraft on every flight.

The tour groups next stop was at the vineyard owned and operated by Hoss and LaVerne Newsom. They inspected the grape plants, saw the mechan-

ical grape harvester the Newsom's bought this year, and sampled some of their Cabernet Sauvignon, Orange Muscat and Merlot wines bottled by Cap*Rock Winery in Lubbock, where their grapes are contracted each year.

The tour included a stop at a field of dry-land Guar grown by Dell Knight, one of many alternative crops planted after earlier hail storms destroyed many fields of cotton.

A stop at one of Rickey Bearden's farms offered a demonstration of how different varieties of cotton have produced

this year, and at a Don Parrish field, the tour group learned of the benefits of BT Cotton, genetically engineered to be very effective in deterring a number of types of boll worms.

The catered meal, prepared by River Smith's, was furnished by the four county banks, Plains State, Sundown State, Norwest, and Denver City Bank. Other contributors to the tour and program included Associated Farmers Delinting, Senniger Irrigation, Ag Insurance Plus, and Tokio CoOp Gin

Cowboys return to winning ways, down Wink 19-8

The Cowboys made a pleasant discovery last Friday night in the Wink Wildcat stadium - a productive, point scoring offense. In the season first win, they trotted off 245 yards on the ground, 69 yards thru the air, and converted almost 43 percent of their third downs, a very credible 6 of 14.

The Cowboys got off to a fast start. The front linemen supplied good blocking to allow Steady gains and first downs by Jared Bell and Moises Gonzales, from the 35, Moises scooted across the goal for their first score, and Aaron Cain's gave the 'Boys a 7-0 lead.

When the Wildcats received the kickoff, they ran one play, and on the second Alex



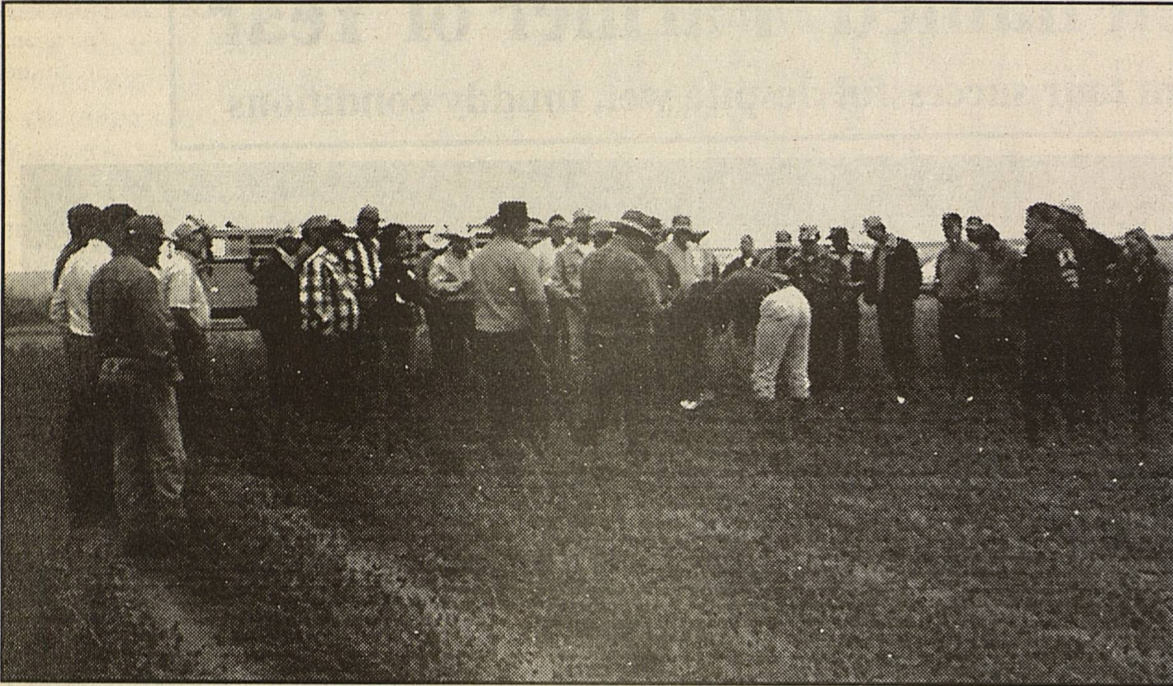
Josh Bell, 8, leads Moises Gonzales around the corner

Turn to Page 4, "Cowboys"

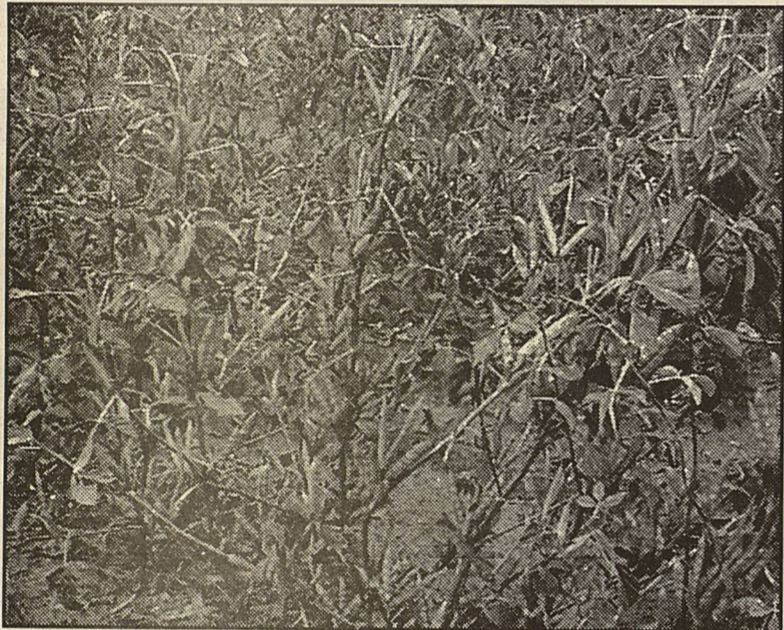
1999 Farm Tour Scenes



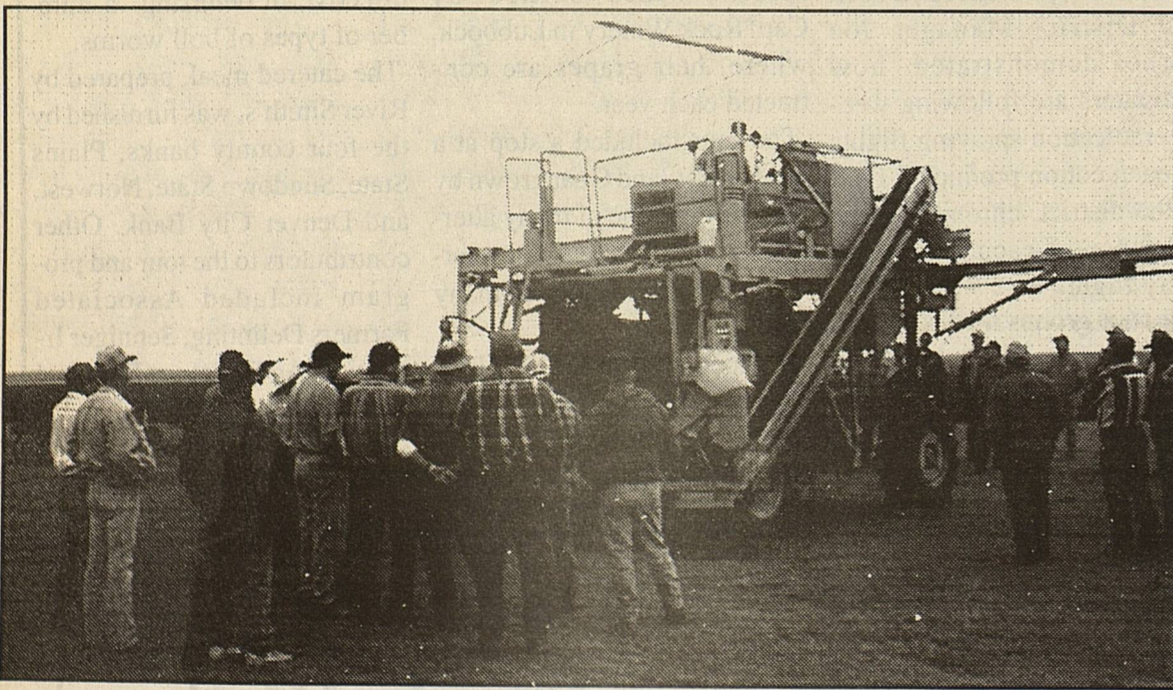
The tour started at the Dist. Weevil Eradication office, with demonstration of electronic tracking of spray planes



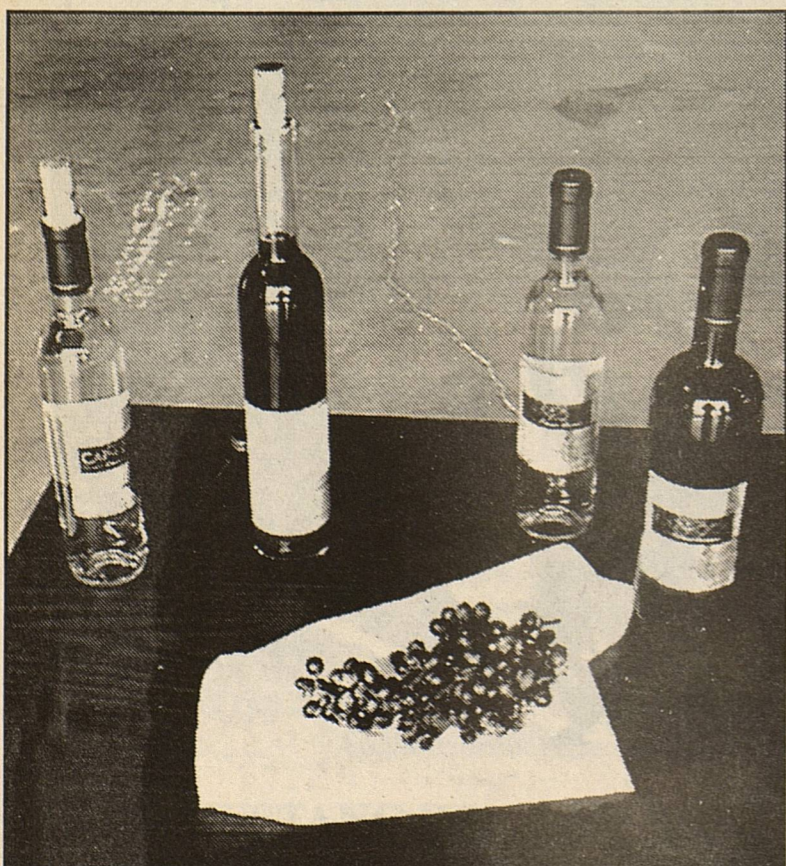
Tour stopped for briefing on qualities of Guar for an alternative crop



This is a close-up of the strange looking Guar plant



Tour takers were impressed with Newsom's grape harvester



Newsom grapes and the finished product

From Page 1, "Coach"

Tahoka. "If we are going to successfully compete, we're going to have to completely leave behind our old class 1A mentality. We can't take a breather attitude, we will have to work harder for each sporting contest."

He described his outlook on guiding student athletes as a "3-D approach; There must be *Discipline* - Our kids must want to win, but win without regret for any of their actions in the contest. In other words, winning with honor. Winning requires *Dedication* - there must be maximum effort in all contests, but also in each hour and day of practice. There must be sincere *Desire* - a burning desire to be a champion in a championship effort, on and off the field or court."

Williams placed special emphasis on student athletes earning respect in their contests, and especially respect for their efforts in the classroom, and neither aspect of respect could be earned without pride in their individual efforts.

He told the club of the school's new athletic trainer, Adelita Gonzales, a Tech graduate now working for Sports Care of Covenant Care's St. Mary Hospital. "She is very talented, dedicated, and the athletes think a great deal of her." The trainer is contracted to visit Plains ISD two days a week plus on game day.

From Page 1, "Court"

pay \$250.00 restitution to Eva Quezada and \$7,991.48 to State Farm Insurance Co.

Romeo Marquez Gonzales pled guilty in a plea bargain to possession of Marijuana. He was sentenced to serve 4 days in jail with 4 days credit. He must pay a fine of \$250.00 and Court cost of \$200.25

Isreal Talomares Martinez pled guilty in a plea bargain to assault causes bodily injury. He was sentenced to serve 12 days in jail with credit for 12 days served. He must pay a fine of \$250.00 and Court cost of \$198.25.

Jeffery Shane Henderson a/k/a/ Jeff Henderson pled guilty to theft by check. His 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. He must pay court cost of \$214.25 and pay a fine of \$150.00. He must also complete the batterer's treatment program and serve 24 hours community service.

He was represented by Attorney Ray Lopez.

ALLTEL Adds New Calling Features For Two Communities

ALLTEL has added several new enhanced calling features for telephone customers in Plains and Higginbotham, Texas.

The features include caller ID deluxe, call return, repeat dialing, anonymous call rejection, caller ID on call waiting, call selector, selective call acceptance, selective call rejection and preferred call forwarding.

"These features offer customers more convenience and greater control of their incoming phone calls," said Karen Froehlich, vice president of ALLTEL's North Texas wireline operations. "In addition, these features also help prevent customers from missing important calls and simplify their busy schedules."

* Caller ID deluxe lets customers view a caller's telephone number and name on a display unit prior to answering.

* Call return allows customers to call automatically the last party who called or attempted to call. If the telephone number is busy, call return will continue to attempt the call for up to 30 minutes.

* Repeat dialing eliminates the frustration of busy signals and constant redialing by automatically dialing a number, for up to 30 minutes, until a connection is made.

* Anonymous call rejection allows customers to block calls from telephone numbers that have been blocked from appearing on that customer's caller ID.

* Caller ID on call waiting lets customers view a caller's telephone number or name and telephone number on a display unit while the customer is on another call. In order for this service to work, customers also must receive call waiting.

* Call selector alerts customers to calls from selected phone numbers by a distinctive ring.

* Selective call acceptance and selective call rejection allow customers to create lists of telephone numbers from which to accept or reject incoming calls.

* Preferred call forwarding allows customers to forward calls from specific phone numbers.

For more information, or to sign up for any of the enhanced features, customers can contact an ALLTEL customer service representative at 1-800-452-5354.

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Keeping an eye on Texas

Rah! High school mascots rule

The ten most popular high school mascots or team nicknames in Texas are:

| Mascot scoreboard | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Teams | Number of teams | Teams | Number of teams |
| #1 EAGLES | 64 | #6 Mustangs | 32 |
| #2 Bulldogs | 56 | #7 Hornets | 27 |
| #3 Wildcats | 47 | #8 Cougars | 25 |
| #4 Tigers | 42 | #9 Lions | 26 |
| #5 Panthers | 39 | #10 Indians | 22 |

Some of the more unusual school mascots include: Grandview Zebras, Itasca Wampus Cats, Springtown Porcupines, Progresso Red Ants, Hamlin Pied Pipers, Knippa Rockcrushers, Hutto Hippios, Killen Kangaroos, and Port Lavaca Sandcrabs.

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, (www.window.state.tx.us), and Kent Gilley's Texas High School Mascots Page.

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TRANE "It's hard to stop a TRANE!"

A First for university features Plains Freshman Coed



Jennifer Lollar, center of photo, and other Fresmen members of Hardin Simmons Cowboy Band. With Jennifer is Laticia Gonzales, the only other coed band member

Jennifer Lollar, a 1998 May graduate of PHS and now a Freshman student at Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, recently helped make history for the school. The renowned Hardin Simmons Cowboy Band decided to open its ranks to female students this year, the first time in its 75 year history.

Jennifer told her parents of the school's decision, and said she was going to apply for one of the two openings for females. She said she was stunned, and elated, when she was picked as one of the new "Girl Cowboys." The other girl chosen, also a freshman, is Laticia Gonzales.

Jennifer is the daughter of David and Jerri Lollar, and was a member of the Plains Cowboy Marching Band five years. Her musical experience continues in 'the Cowboy mode.'

Farmer's Union OK's Combest's review of farm program

Texas Farmers Union (TFU) President Wes Sims applauded House Agriculture Committee Chairman Larry Combest, R-Texas, for his announcement to hold hearings early next year to examine current farm policy.

Combest announced plans to comprehensively review the federal farm program in January 2000 to see if current policy is meeting the challenges brought on by the farm crisis.

The news comes on the heels of the National Farmers Union legislative fly-in, which brought roughly 300 farmers and ranchers from around the country to Washington, D.C., September 12-15 to lobby for improvements to the so called Freedom to Farm law.

"We applaud Chairman Combest for stepping forward and recognizing the need to reexamine the Freedom to Farm law," said TFU President Wes Sims. "Producers in Texas have for some time been calling for real solutions to the farm crisis. We need to address

Last week's rains didn't bring smiles to ALL faces



This field of hail destroyed cotton west of Plains off Highway 380 was photographed Friday afternoon. Very, very few bolls were left on the stalks. An up-to-date count of lost acres was not available at presstime.

problems in the farm program in order to keep family farms and ranches in business."

TFU has been leading the efforts to fix underlying structural flaws in the current farm program. The organization has long advocated a stronger safety net to buffer producers from price volatility. TFU is pressing for a more counter-cyclical safety net mechanism that would trigger relief during low price periods.

TFU is also advocating full funding for the cotton Step-2 program. Cotton prices have hit

near historic lows in the past year due to large stocks. Estimates are that stocks at the end of the year will be more than 5 million bales.

The organization is also pushing for tools to deal with large grain supplies, a primary factor leading to low prices. Since 1996, ending stocks of wheat have more than doubled, soybean stocks have tripled and corn stocks have quadrupled. TFU is advocating programs such as an emergency conservation reserve to better manage large grain supplies.

In addition, the secretary of agriculture should be given adequate authority and resources to respond to economic and production disasters in agriculture.

Homecoming Bonfire Thursday, 8 PM. Be There!

'69's First All-Star volleyball team honored

At this year's Texas Girls Coaches Association in Austin, Texas the very first Girls All Star Volleyball Team was honored between games. Seated second from the left ex-coach Joyce Pierce was called to the center court and presented a long stem red rose from 3 of the 1999 West All Star Team members and a trophy presented by Dr. Bill Farney, ex-president of the U.I.L.

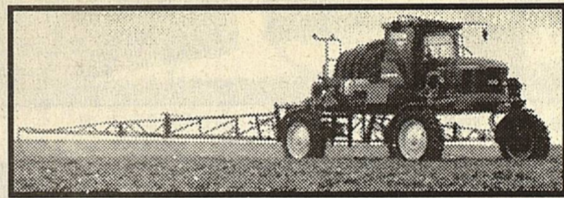
After the accolades the '69' team was given a standing ovation. "It was a fun and emotional evening for all the team members and their families. I was one of the setters for the Red Team and we defeated the Blue Team 9-15, 15-4, 15-9. What a great Memory!", Pierce said.

Former team mate Charlene Gayle Davis and Coach Wanda Armstrong were unable to attend this event.



Front row seated left to right; Rhonda Anderson Demel, Katy High; Joyce Warren Pierce, Plains High; Sherry Newberry Coward, West Orange High; Debbi Reynolds Dunlap, Midland Lee High; Janice Stanford Hickman, Midland Lee High; Susan Glaze King, Midland Lee High; Jan Briggs, Red Team all star coach, Phillips High (now West Texas High School at Stinnett); Becky Graves Hughes, Arlington High; Helen Esparza Cortez, Buena Vista-Imperial High; Carolyn Simms Appell, West Orange High; Jill Wendell Mandel, Phillips High; Dianne Rodriguez Ferrufino, Harlandale High, San Antonio; Gladys Heinsohn Schneider, Harlandale High; Margie Austin, high coach, Arlington High.

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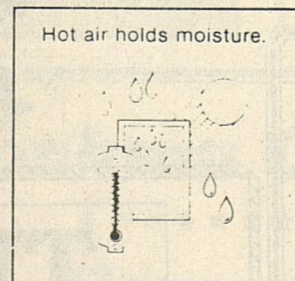
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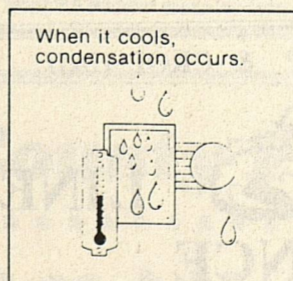
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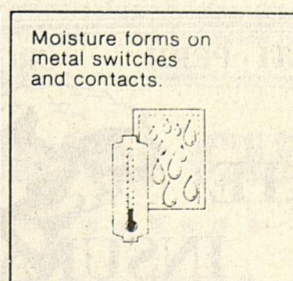
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PISD Volleyball Summary

Junior High:

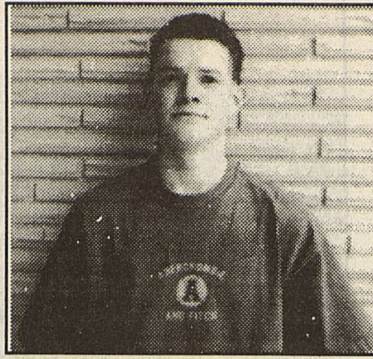
7th Lady Wranglers - Against Tahoka Sept. 13 in their first district contest, the young girls won both their matches, 15-7, 15-7, and 15-2, 15-1. Coach Haragan said their serving, hits and passes all were much improved. On Sept. 18, competing in the Brownfield Tournament, the girls won the Consolation Trophy. In their opener, they fell to Midland Christian the second time this year, 15-4, 15-10. They came back strong against Cooper, 15-10 and 16-4. They won the final match and consolation honors against Brownfield Red 15-17, 15-7, and 17-15.

8th Lady Wranglers - The older Lady Wranglers also started district play against Tahok, and found the going rough, losing 13-15, 15-4, and 2-15. In the Brownfield Tourney, they also fell to Midland Christian 15-6, 15-10, and were beaten by Cooper for consolation honors. Cowgirl JV - On September 14, the JV Gold Team downed Cooper 15-11 and 15-9. The JV girls fell to Cooper 14-16, 3-15, but bounced back to down Estacado 15-2, 15-2. At the Sept. 18 D.C. Tournament, the Gold Team opened with a loss to Seminole, 15-7, 15-13. They came back to beat Brownfield 15-13, 15-2, then downed D.C. 15-9, 15-2. Liz Wilmeth had 12 straight serves in the first D.C. game. The regular JV team fell to Greenwood 15-10, 15-13. The next beat LCHS 15-6, 15-6, and followed with a 15-8, 15-7 win over Levelland. Tanya Vasquez had 6 straight serves twice in the second game, and the girls brought home the Consolation Trophy.

Varsity Cowgirls- At the Cooper Dual Meet Sept. 14, the Cowgirls fell to Estacado 15-9, 14-16, 10-15. Patty Ruiz had a season high 37 digs. The faced Cooper next and came out on top 7-15, 15-13, 15-11. Laura Morales had 3 aces and 18 assists.

Facing Presidio Sept. 18. the Cowgirls won handily, 15-13, 15-9

Student of the Week



Student of the week is Jason Swann, a senior, and the son of Mr. & Mrs. Rex Swann.

Jason was nominated by Mr. Alexander who said, "I chose Jason for he goes about his work quietly, he sets goals as high as he can, thinking he can have the world. I asked my son-in-law, who works about 60 people, what he looks for in potential employees. He said, "A person with a gleam in their eye, who wants to move up, is on time and dependable." This sums up Jason Swann."

From Page 1, "Cowboys"

Tarango grabbed a fumble and returned it 3 yards to the 31. The Wildcat defense stiffened, and Plains gave the ball back at the forty.

Colt Winn intercepted a first down pass and returned it 12 yards to the 49. The Cowboy offense sputtered, and Tarango punted to the Wink 18.

Good defense by Joel Gallegos, Jeremy Morphis, David Luna and Alex Tarango held the Wildcats in check,

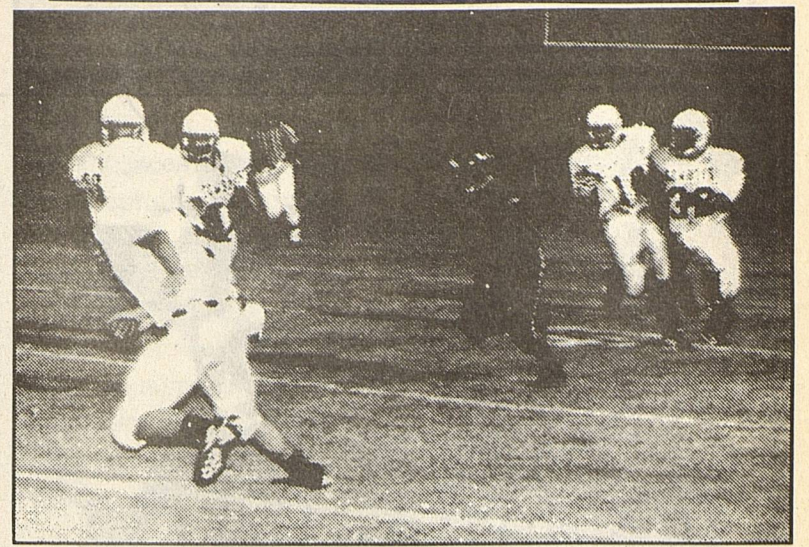
From the 42, a couple of probes up the middle were stopped, then Jared Bell ran a quarterback keeper to the left for 20 yards and a first. From the 39, Kyle Sisson found an open David Luna for the 'Boys second score. The PAT was and the Cowboys were up 13-0.

In the second period, both teams offenses sputtered. In their second possession, Wink began a steady drive, moving the ball from their 7 to the Cowboy 19, where David Luna stepped in front of an errant throw for an interception at the 3, and a return to the 32. The left side of the Cowboy line parted the waters for Moises to scoot those 32 yards for the TD, and the failed throw for a two point PAT saw the Cowboys up 19-0.

The third period saw both teams trade offensive punches, but no scoring. Both the Cowboys and Wildcats suffered pass interceptions in the period, but neither could capitalize on the mistakes.

With 9 minutes left in the final period, a Wildcat drive consumed 72 yards in 10 plays and produced the final 19-8 score. This Friday, the Cowboys face Petersburg here for Homecoming at 8 PM. If you don't make another game this season, come cheer the Cowboys that special night!

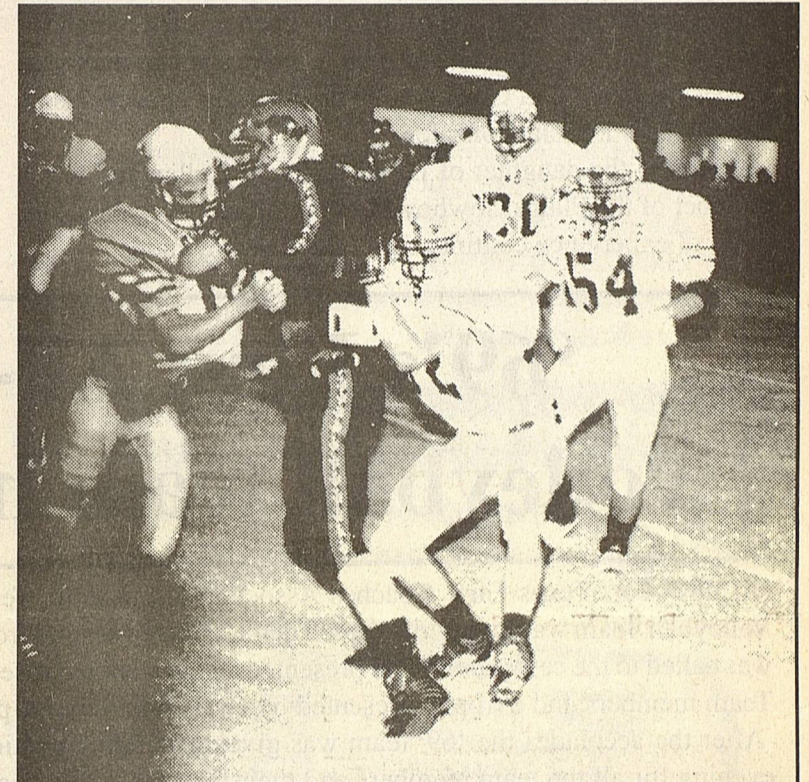
Cowboy - Wink Action



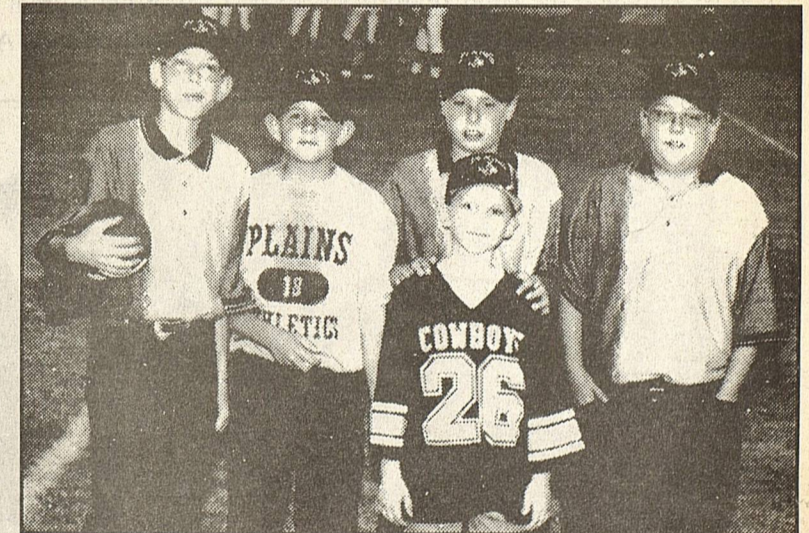
A Cowboy posse about to arrest a Wildcat



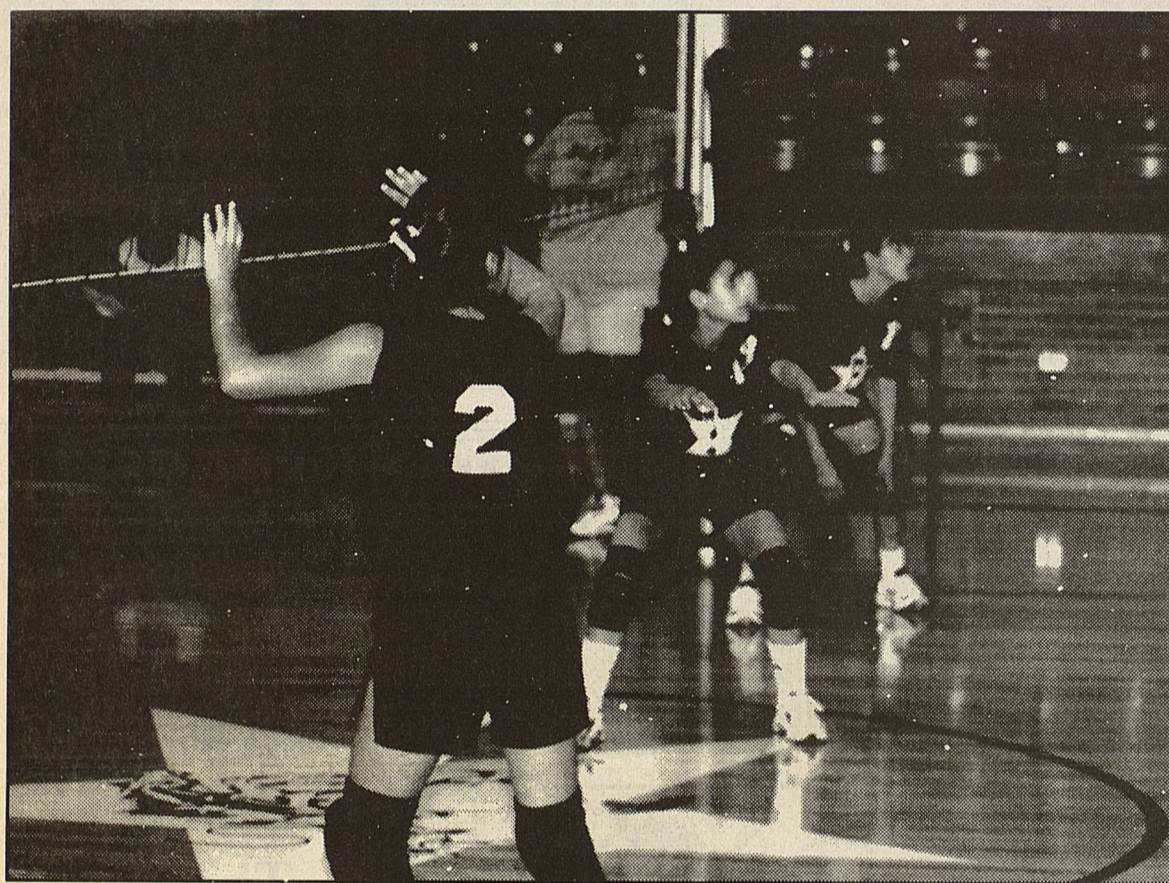
David Luna off with a reception



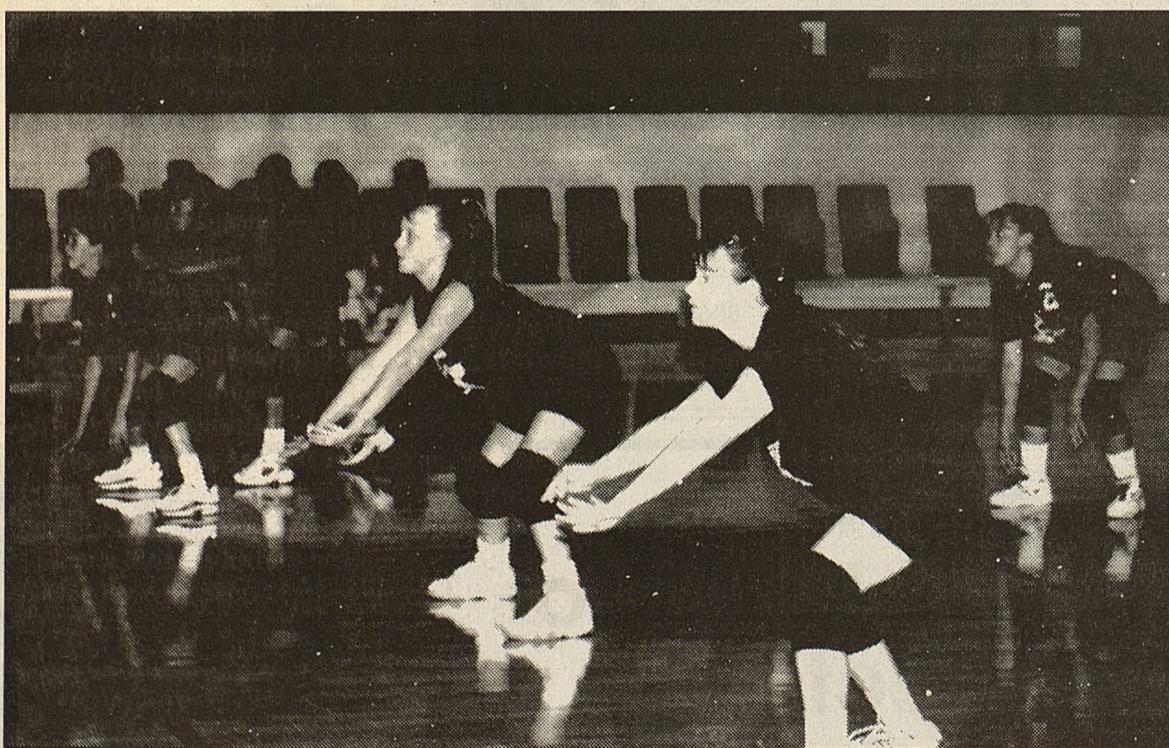
The defense swarms a Wildcat runner



Indispensable ball - water boys Jacob Brink, front, Ben Hays, Justen Henry, Reagan Haynes and Challie Johnson at Wink



Daniela Lazos, Sandra Gandara, Marlie Diaz manning the net



Helen Neufeld, La Shonda Diamond, Moriah Traweck, Manuela Villegas and Jeannie Longoria waiting for the serve

HOMECOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept. 22, 8 p.m.

Bonfire



Friday, Sept. 24

5:30 pm

Spaghetti

Dinner



Friday,

Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m.

Pregame events

8 p.m.

Cowboys vs

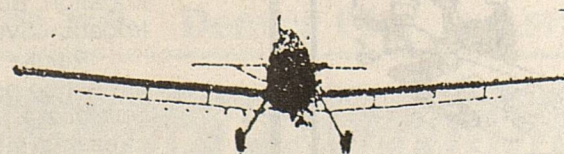
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Lifelines & Styles

Senior Citizens Corner

Birthday honorees this month were Frankline Ralston, Duncan Ashmore, Alice Lienest and William McCubber. Anniversary honors were claimed by the Will Ashmores and Therman Meyers. Many happy returns to each. We all enjoyed Franklin playing the piano. A special "Thank You" playing "Amazing Grace" with Janie singing and everyone joining in.

The Pool Tournament drew a big number of players. For the Ladies in 8 ball, 1st place went to June Hannaman, 2nd place to Beth Byrd. In 9 ball, 1st place to Ilene Phillip, 2nd place Marion Ort.

For the men in 8 ball, 1st place winner was Guy Williams, 2nd place to Pete Acubro. In 9 ball, 1st place Guy Williams, 2nd place Carl Davis.

Visitors this week Janie Pinkston, Mary Berryhill, Mary Clark, Jose Corrales, Mike Hannaman, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sessions.

Get well cards were sent to Mildred Harvey, who had emergency surgery while on vacation in Arkansas and Pep Turner who is in St. Mary's following a fall.

The Center is a nice place to be for a good meal and companionship. So Come On Down!! See you next week, Smitty

FILMTIME

Eighteen boys and girls attended Filmtime at the Yoakum County Library on Wednesday, September 15, 1999. Two books were read: Corduroy, Old Macdonald Had A Farm. The film, Corduroy, was followed by the pledges to the United States and Texas flags. Toddlerobics ended the hour activities. Those attending were; Aron and Matthew Ramos, Riley Earnest, Baily Winn, Priscilla,

Marisol and Sieanna Sosa, Marina Corrales, Colby Bearden, Jaxon and Silas Williams, Clayton Gass, Lucas Hernandez, Merrit Crump, Autumn Friesen, Taya Hamilton, and Iris and Kevin Mejia. All pre-schoolers are invited to attend the weekly event which is held each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Heritage Room of the Library.

Library Staff There To Help and Serve



Yoakum County Library personnel includes Dolores Davis, Shannon Dusek, Librarian Opal Roberts, and Pat McNabb. If you haven't visited the Library lately, you should - new books, videos, audio cassettes, computer facilities - and lots of help if you need it.

Certified Nurse Aide Class Rescheduled

A course in Certified Nurse Aide has been rescheduled to begin September 27 at South Plains College.

The 80 hour course will meet 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Technical Arts Building, room 112. Clinicals will meet 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. for three Saturdays at a location to be arranged.

Tuition is \$250, and state exam fee is \$64.75. Instructor in Linda Newman, L.V.N.

The course teaches the necessary skills for work as certified nurse aides in long term care, home health and hospital environments.

On completion of 54 hours of classroom and 24 hours of clinical instruction, students will take the State of Texas Certified Nurse Aide Competency Examination.

Students must provide proof of immunization for MMR, Tetanus and have a current TB test. Enrollment is limited to 16 students.

An additional session is scheduled November 1-December 16. To pre-register, contact the SPC Office of Continuing and Distance Education at 894-9611, ext. 2341.

Welcome to scenic Plains Bayou



Despite the similarity to scenes in East Texas and Louisiana, this photo shows the vacant area behind Cowboy Baseball Field following Wednesday's big rains. According to the National Weather Service gauge at City Hall, 2.82 inches fell during the 24 hour period, bringing the years total to an amazing 24.63 inches. A local character quipped, "We've gotten about as much rain this year as the East Coast, without the hurricanes."

Obituary

Services Were Held For Alma Lynn McGinty

Services for Alma Lynn McGinty were held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 21, at United Methodist Church with Reverend Rick Doyle of Abilene, Texas officiating and Reverend Tom Carter of Plains, Texas assisting. The interment was in Plains Cemetery under the direction of Brownfield Funeral Home.

Mrs. McGinty was born January 21, 1913 in Eastland County, Texas and died September 19, 1999 in Odessa, Texas.

She moved with her parents to Yoakum County in 1938 from Carbon, Texas. She attended school in Plains and graduated from West Texas State in 1932. She taught

school in Lehman, Texas prior to marrying Rusty McGinty June 12, 1938. He preceded her in death on February 9, 1964. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Plains.

Survivors include; 2 daughters, D'Lois Bryson of Odessa,

Texas and D'Lynn Terry of Sutherland, Texas. Grandchildren; Jon Mac Bryson, Dana Lynn Bryson and 4 step grandchildren.

Pallbearers were; Tommy Guy Box, Mike Field, Oscar Henard, Larry Mason, Ty Earl Powell, and Tim Smith.

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HOOVES & HORNS

BY A.W. ERWIN

From The Hack

Halt, cease and desist! It's time to belay all the rumors flying about my recent experience under a surgeon's knife. According to my bride, it was minor surgery;

Minor occurs to others, major occurs to you, and since it didn't happen to her, it had to be minor. Feminine logic, which is hard to dispute.

I went under the knife (man, I like that, it sounds dramatic!) last Wednesday to have a large Lipomo tumor removed from my back. The surgeon, a Doctor Gordon from Andrews, greeted me at the hospital, looked at the admittedly huge lump which almost qualified me for a role in a re-run of "Hunchback of Notre Dame", and muttered, "Oh, brother, another procrastinator," or words similar. I sensed I was in trouble.

He told me I had three options; a local anesthetic, right then and there, a knockout job which might keep me there many hours, or put it off entirely. Since the Bride was present, I knew option three was definitely out, and in a semi-brave voice opted for the local. Dumb move.

They laid me face down on the cold table, sans shirt, swabbed me down with some brown, evil smelling stuff, then Doc Gordon said, in an excellent bedside manner, "Now, here comes the first needle, just a slight nick, don't you know. And by the way, I see from you're chart you're no longer a spring pullet, so don't try to be a hero... if it starts to hurt, we'll give you another dose".

I couldn't resist, and said, "Don't worry, Doc, I'm lying here bareback, you've got the sharpest knife in town, you expect me to be a hero?"

The first twenty minutes weren't too bad, if you consider the almost audible sensation of your flesh being sliced open. It didn't help a great deal when he said soothingly, "Hmmm,

you have the back hide of a water buffalo". I have never relished the feeling of a needle plunging into my flesh, but soon my groan brought his response, "Ah, I see you're ready for a bit more assistance", and another blessed needle.

After only half a year, he must have gotten the yard wide incision open, and I heard him mutter, "Man, the goose that laid this egg must have been a Boone & Crockett record!"

Then the serious cutting, snipping, sawing, hacking began. I thought he must be nearly through, and almost sighed in relief, when he muttered, "I'm getting pretty ticked off at this thing, it's big, ugly, and it's grown down in between your muscles". How encouraging. Especially when he said, "Mr. Dyer, I'm going to give you a bit more of this elixir, 'cause I'm going to get rough with this monster". Another blessed shot, and I almost grinned when it took effect, thinking, "Go ahead, you can't hurt one righteous Superman!" Wrong.

That's when he got his hand on the big lump and began to pull, tug, wrestle it up, so he could do more cutting, snipping, sawing, hacking.

Truthfully, it wasn't that painful, just uncomfortable, but I was seriously concerned the

pressure he was exerting on me was going to pull both ribs and lungs through the incision. During all this, I could hear two sets of groans.... mine, and Doc Gordon's, for I know he was working with every muscle in his body to wrench the thing from me.

I finally felt a final snip, a sigh of relief, and then, in his cheeriest voice as he held the bloody, horrible looking thing just inches from my face said, "Well, at last there the culprit is. Oh, by the way, not always, but sometimes these things re-occur". How comforting.

He patted me on the shoulder, obviously knowing he'd extracted both a lump of fat and a lump of Medicare money from me, and cheerily said, "Mr. Dyer, you've been a good patient, and it's been a pleasure cutting on you". I weakly held out my hand to shake his hand and muttered, "Thank you, Doc, the pleasure has been all yours, I'm sure".

In church Sunday, everything was fine until time for sub preacher Patrick Hamilton to announce, "Let's get up, shake hands and hug and pat everyone, everyone!" I was too slow to avoid it... a dear little old lady

wobbled up to me, beaming, grabbed me in a hug and began beating on my back, saying, "So good to see you alive, tell me all about your little problem!"

More church bulletin bloopers

*Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

*The 8th graders will be presenting the play Hamlet in the church basement at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

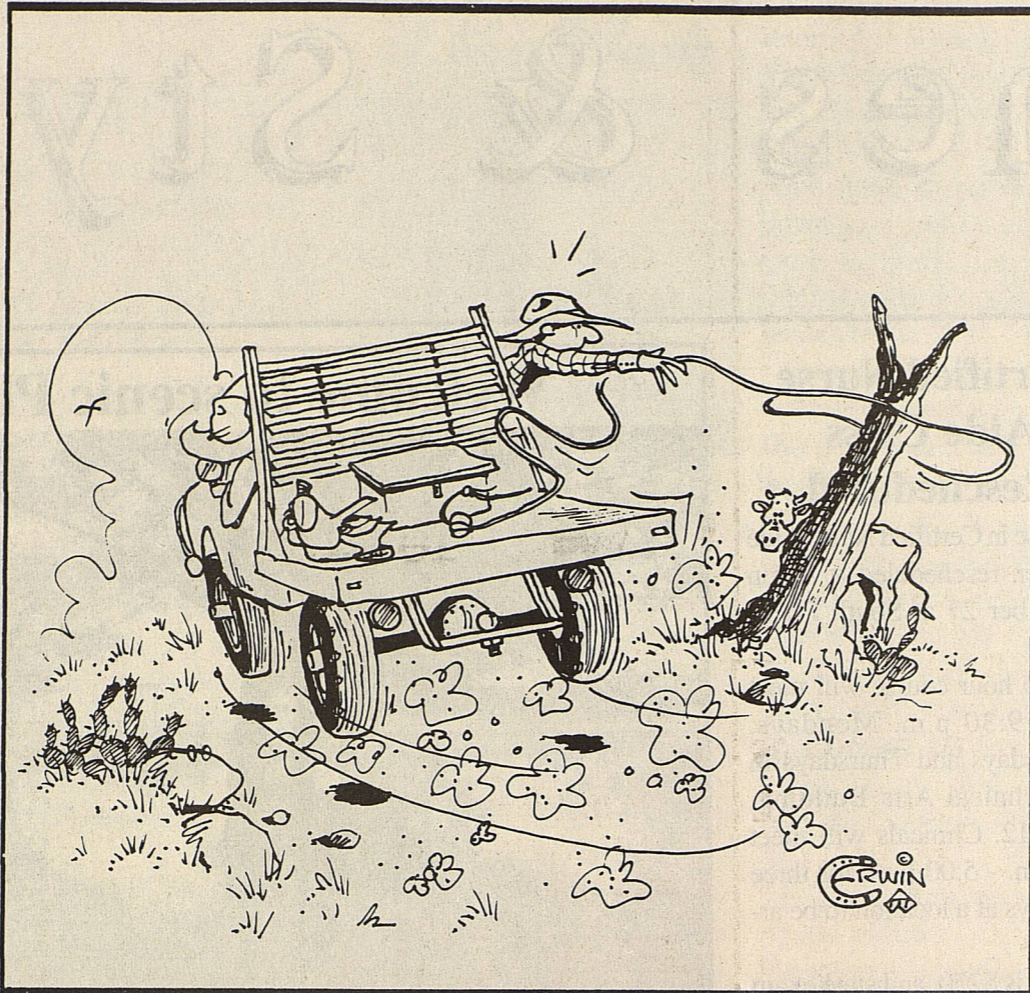
*32 members were present at the church meeting held at the home of Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Rankin sang a duet, "The Lord Knows Why."

*The songfest was hell at the Methodist church Wednesday.

*Potluck supper, prayer and medication to follow.

*8 new choir robes are needed due to the addition of several new members and the deterioration of some older ones.

*Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. Please use large double door at the side entrance.



"This is the last tree in this section, I reckon we better git our brakes fixed"

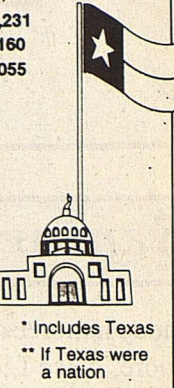
Keeping an eye on Texas

If Texas were a nation...

The total value of goods and services produced in Texas in 1997 was \$601 billion, which ranks the state 9th when compared with the Gross National Product of countries throughout the world.

| | Gross National Product 1997, in billions |
|----------------|--|
| United States* | \$8,102 |
| Japan | \$4,812 |
| Germany | \$2,320 |
| France | \$1,541 |
| United Kingdom | \$1,231 |
| Italy | \$1,160 |
| China | \$1,055 |
| Brazil | \$784 |
| Texas** | \$601 |
| Canada | \$594 |
| Spain | \$569 |
| Korea | \$485 |
| Netherlands | \$403 |
| Russia | \$394 |
| Australia | \$382 |
| India | \$357 |
| Mexico | \$348 |
| Argentina | \$319 |
| Switzerland | \$305 |

SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts; (www.window.state.tx.us); The World Bank Atlas and U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.



NOTICE OF SALE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

The City of Plains will accept sealed bids for the sale of the following surplus equipment:

- 1 - 1988 Chevrolet 3/4 ton Pickup (64,123 miles)
- 1 - 386 Insight Computer w/monitor & keyboard
- 1 - 486 DTK Computer w/monitor & keyboard
- 1 - IBM RS6000 server w/external tape backup, external hard drive, and workstation

Bids should be submitted to the Plains City Hall before 5:00 p.m. on October 11, 1999. Items can be inspected at the Plains City Hall located at 601 11th Street.

The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities that will benefit the city.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Four County Shared Services Arrangement intends to destroy records of students who have received special education services. Records to be destroyed are for persons who received Special Education, including speech therapy services prior to school year 1991-1992. These records include those located in the Four County Shared Services Arrangement office at 601 Tahoka Road, Brownfield, Texas. Records herein describe students receiving special education in the following school districts; Brownfield, Denver City, Loop, O'Donnell, Plains, Seagraves, Tahoka, Union, and Welman. Legal parent/guardian or adult student with disabilities may request copies of these records by contacting the Four County Shared Services Arrangement office at 601 Tahoka Road, Brownfield, Texas 79316, phone number 806-637-8448, by October 30, 1999.

AVISO

Aviso esta dado que Four County Shared Services Arrangement tiene intencion de destruir documentos de estudiantes que recibieron servicio de Education Especial. Documentos que deben ser destruidos son para personas que recibieron educacion especial, incluyendo servicios de terapia de lenguaje hasta el ano escolar 1991-92. Los unicos documentos que van estar destruidos son los que estan en la oficina de Four County Shared Services Arrangement en 601 Tahoka Road en Brownfield, Texas. Documentos en esto son de estudiantes que recibieron servicio de distrito en seguida; Brownfield, Denver City, Loop, O'Donnell, Plains, Seagraves, Tahoka, Union, and Welman. Padres/guardian legal o estudiantes adultos con incapacidades fisica/mentales pueden pedir copias de sus documentos. Pueden llamar o escribir a Carlton Buesing en la oficina de Four County Shared Services Arrangement, 601 Tahoka Road, Brownfield, Texas 79316, Numero de telefono es 806-637-8448, antes de Octubre 30, 1999.

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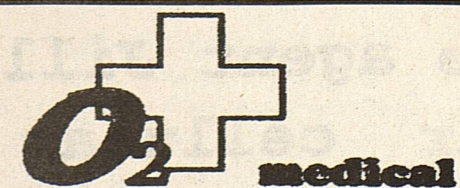
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