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Cowboy Country News

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

Volume V1, Issue 43, July 19, 2000



PISD Makes Realignment In Athletic Department Blake McWhirter named Athletic Director

In a special called meeting on Monday, July 10, The Plains ISD Board of Trustees considered a number of personnel issues including the hiring of two new elementary school teachers, Amber McWhirter and Debra Steffens.

The board also heard recommendations from Superintendent James Haynes for several reassignments in the school athletic departments. The board approved the following reassignments of personnel for the upcoming school year; Blake McWhirter was named Athletic Director, replacing David Williams, whose resignation was formally accepted at the meeting. Larry McMinn will remain head Cowboy football coach.

The new boys head basketball coach is Marc Johnson, who also replaces Williams. Johnson will also serve as head girls volleyball coach for at least one year.

Jan Newland will remain head coach of the girls basketball program. McWhirter will also serve as head boys coach in track, and will also coach power lifting.

Linda Haragan will head up the girls track program, and will also serve as head of the cross country events. Middle School Principal Eddie Carter will again serve as boys baseball coach.

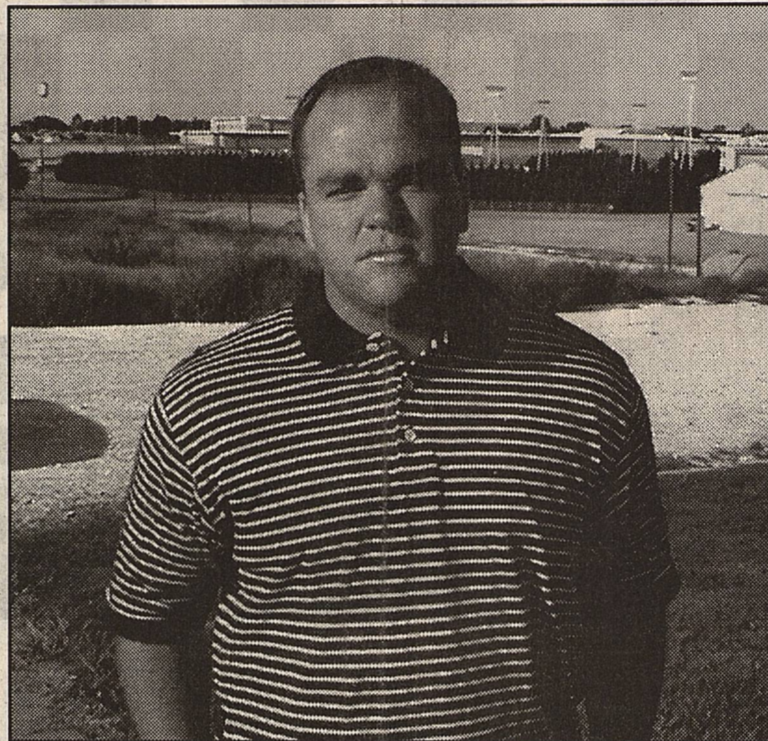
Superintendent Haynes said other coaching assignments will be announced at a future date.

New Athletic Director Blake McWhirter is a 1989 graduate of Plains High. He attained his bachelor degree from Howard Payne in 1994, with major studies in history and physical education.

His first teaching and coaching position was at Sundown ISD. He served as their power lifting coach, headed up the boys track program, and worked with the offensive and defensive football linemen. He was hired by Plains ISD in 1999. He worked last year with the power lifters, football and track teams. He will serve as the 2000 Cowboys defensive coordinator, as well as the programs listed above.

Blake and his wife have an 18 month old son, Peyton. Amber will teach third grade in Plains elementary.

In a Friday interview, Blake told CCN, "I'm very pleased and honored to be named the new AD here. I'm also very



nervous about the assignment. I realize some folks will think I am young for the job, and all I can tell them is I am dedicated to doing all I can to succeed, and continue the district's successes in academics and sports."

He continued, "I think I am a 'kid person'. I want to do the very best for our student athletes. It will be great if we can improve on their athletic skills, develop winners in all our programs, but I think it is important we encourage and develop their personal values and ethics. They may not remember the score of a game 20 years from now, but if we can help them develop character and integrity, that will be with them always."

Blake expressed his appreciation to the district's administrators and board for supporting him in his new AD role. "I sincerely hope the folks in the area will support me, also. I want everyone to know I am available to talk to anyone. I will welcome their opinions and suggestions, and anything else which will help continue to make this school system the very best possible."

Melons being shipped - 'Round Up' draws near

The first of the famed Yoakum County watermelons are being harvested and shipped from packing sheds on the stateline at New Tex. An exact count of acres planted here is unavailable at this time, but several producers are 'guesstimating' some six thousand irrigated acres are devoted to conventional and seedless varieties.

Jeannette Head, Overall Chair of this year's 5th annual Watermelon Round Up, says, "It's quite clear we will have plenty of both red and yellow melons for the September 2 celebration."

Chairmen of Round Up Committees are making progress in lining up help and making plans for the day long affair. A new wrinkle this year is visitor parking service offered by members of Templo Bautista Nueva Vision Church, and reserved handicapped parking space in front of the youth center across from the new court house.

James Altman is again in charge of stage entertainment throughout the day. A number of talented area bands will perform throughout the Round Up, including one made up of instructors at South Plains College.

Toni Jones, for the fifth year, will be in charge of the watermelon giveaway, and will need volunteers to work shifts in the day long slicing of tons of free melons.

This year personnel of Plains State Bank will handle the sale of whole watermelons to visitors. The sale site will be City Hall. Another new feature will be commercial visitor booths which will be located in Pioneer Plaza Park. Chair Tommy Box said a few more booth sites are available, and asks the public to help find firms to complete the display.

Jeannette Head reported all food booth spaces have been rented, and entries for the very large restored vintage auto show are rapidly coming in. She said large, colorful display billboards promoting the Round Up will be up soon in Lubbock and Hobbs, New Mexico areas.

Newly designed T-shirts and caps are currently on sale at a number of local sites including City Hall, County Clerk's office, and CCN. Head suggested, "Send a shirt or cap, or both, to some of your friends or family. They may help lure even more visitors to our big fling!"

Officials of the local Roping Club are expecting another very large and talented field in the day long Team Roping contest at the arena.

If you would like to take part in making the Round Up another great success, volunteer your services to any of the chair persons listed on Page 2. There are plenty of jobs open!

Kids help the county, county helps the kids



PHS student Kimbe Jones is shown dusting record stacks in the County Clerk office last week. The county is one of the top employers of young people during the summer break. They perform jobs at all county buildings and offices, work at the swimming pool, and on some precinct chores. Precinct 3 employs nine part-time students, Precinct 4 six.

DWI cases in County Court

Three cases involving driving while intoxicated were heard in County Court July 12, with Judge Dallas Brewer presiding.

Steven Hurtado pled guilty to a subsequent DWI charge with open container. A 180 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 24 months. He must pay \$225 court costs and \$750 fine with time payments. He will serve 30 days in jail with credit for 15 days served. He must attend weekly AA meetings, complete the DWI repeat offenders program, serve 80 hours community service, and surrender his drivers license 90 days.

Kim K. Lara pled guilty to a first DWI with open container. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. A \$500 fine and \$225 court costs will be met with time payments. She will serve 3 days in jail with credit for 2 days served, attend weekly AA meetings, and complete the first offenders

Turn to Page 2,
'County Court'



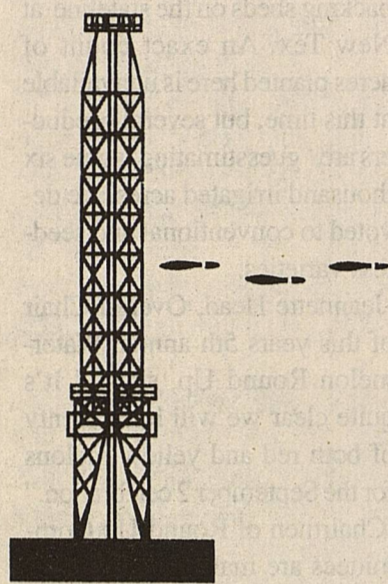
While some watermelons were being shipped at the Hartman Farms (top photo) and Borders loading sheds near the stateline last week, full harvesting of all fields is still some time away.



Committee Chairmen 5th Annual Watermelon Round Up

Overall Chairman - Jeannette Head
 Arts & Crafts Booths - Cindra Box
 Commercial Booths - Tommy Guy Box
 Food Vendor Booths - Carolyn Culwell
 Publicity - Debbie Steffens
 Finance - L. J. Sanders
 Logistics - David Brunson
 Stage Entertainment - James Altman
 Fun / 5K Runs - Melvin Dearing
 Games - Melissa Crump, Karen Williams
 Volleyball - Gloria Vasquez, Tonya Patton
 T Shirts / Caps - Betty Estep
 Car Show - Terry and Wadonna Davis
 Brisket/Chili Cookoff - Ted Welch
 Signs - Ron Hatfield
 Door Prize/Information Booth - Mary Jo St. Romain
 Cow Patty Bingo - Gary Walker/ Kathy Jones
 Watermelon Give Away - Toni Jones
 Largest Melon Weigh-in - Bill Helwig
 Art Contest - Susie Powell
 Team Roping - Jerry Parrish
 Seed Spitting Contest - Neal / Alice Bearden
 Hospitality Room - Sheila Stephens
 Selling Melons - Debbie Smith
 Tabloid - Linda Harris
 Horseshoe Pitching - Karen Williams

Walking Into An Oilwell



In January 2000, Texaco announced the discovery of a wildcat oil field that could contain as much as one billion barrels of oil about 70 miles off shore from Nigeria. It's the company's largest find in more than 30 years, and probably would not have been possible without a 3-D visualization technology called GeoProbe.

GeoProbe, developed by Texaco in 1997, converts seismic data into a three-dimensional, panoramic, 9 foot by 25 foot view of the earth's subsurface. At two visualization centers in Houston and one in Bakersfield, California, teams of geologists and engineers manipulate images of mineral layers to uncover petroleum reserves and develop more accurate drilling plans.

Data from more than 3,500 square kilometers of subsurface area data can be projected into the 3-D environment by three supercomputers. The final product looks like a virtual reality video game projected in a miniature version of NASA's Mission Control.

The new technology, which cost \$3 million and was developed in just 11 months, allows the company to analyze data that used to take three or four months to digest in just one day, by taking abstract data and putting it into an easy-to-digest format. Before GeoProbe, teams of geologists, engineers and geophysicists and other specialists would pour through thousands of lines of geological data.

"Back then, a single idea, one plan for drilling a well, could take weeks to put together,"

says geologist Mike Sheffield. "Now we can look at every line of data, not every 10 or 20. And we can do in a day what used to take two weeks. That allows us to come up with a lot of different drilling options, and lets us be lots more accurate when we actually drill a well."

Locating potentially profitable wells isn't the only benefit. What the technology doesn't find can be just as helpful. Texaco saved \$40 million at one well when data from the centers showed it was not likely to be profitable. The technology was also credited with increasing production in Texaco's Kern River field in California by 20 percent. That field, which has produced more than 1.6 billion barrels of oil over the last 100 years, still has about 10,000 active wells.

In January 2000, Texaco spun off a company called Magic Earth, a Houston based company that would further develop and market the technology. Texaco owns 25 percent of Magic Earth.

"The GeoProbe technology allows us to interpret seismic data to better and more quickly determine where to drill," says Pam Griffin, communications director for Magic Earth. "It allows us to determine what the environmental impact of drilling a well in a specific location will be."

The visualization centers are

visited frequently by industry professionals from across the country and around the world. The visual displays created by GeoProbe also can be shared on computer workstations, though a lot of the detail is lost if the data are not viewed using the center's special projection equipment.

From Page 1, 'County Court'

program. Her attorney was Kyra Blankenship. Pete David Diaz pled guilty to a first DWI. He will serve 60 days in jail, with credit for 36 days served. He must pay \$225 court costs and a \$500 fine. He was represented by Attorney Paul Mansur.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Annual Jamaica

Sunday, July 23, 2000

11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

City Park

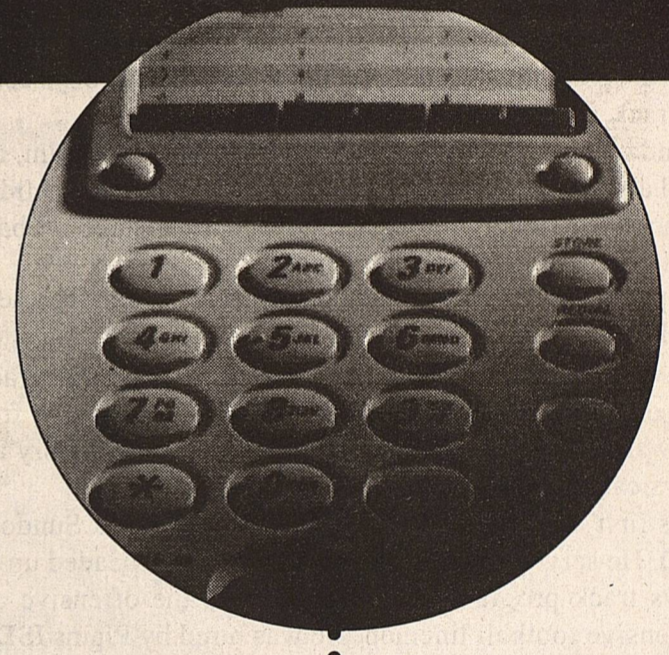
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Obituaries

Graveside services for Jimmy L. Camp, 65, of Houston, Tx were held at 1:00 pm., Friday, July 14, 2000 at Plains Cemetery with Bob Reynolds, Minister Emeritus, officiating and Brownfield Church of Christ assisted, under the direction of Brownfield Funeral Home.

Mr. Camp died July 9, 2000 at Houston Northwest Medical Center. He was born January 2, 1935 in Plains. He married Zelda Ruth Smith on October 7, 1958 in Plains. She preceded him in death on November 6, 1999.

He was born in Plains, raised and attended school there and moved to Houston in 1965 where he was a purchasing agent for a Houston Airline. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include a son Jimmy and wife Robin Camp, of Houston; a daughter Glenda Camp of Austin and 3 grandchildren; Jessica, Justin and James of Houston.

Attention Farmers! Yoakum County Connection needs 500 bales of wheat stubble (or hay) for seating at the Watermelon Round Up. The bales will continue to be yours when the event is over. If you can help, please call 456 - 3566

Easing trade restrictions with Cuba could benefit U.S. producers, economy

Sales of food and medicine to Cuba could total \$444 million and an additional 6,000 U.S. jobs, according to a new report.

In a scenario of unrestricted trade, food and medicine exports could total \$1.6 billion and 20,000 jobs.

The report, which analyzes the potential beneficial effects of removing unilateral agricultural and medical sanctions on Cuba, was presented at a recent conference sponsored by the World Policy Institute's Cuba Education Project. The report was authored by economist and trade specialist D. Paula Stern, former chair of the U.S. International Trade Commission and current president of the

Stern Group, a Washington, D.C. based trade consulting firm.

"Even assuming no growth in the size of Cuba's imported food market, The U.S. could sell over \$400 million worth of agricultural products using a conservative market share of 60 percent," Stern reported.

In 1958, the U.S. share of the Cuba market was 70 percent.

"U.S. wheat, feed grains, rice, vegetable oil, beans, poultry, pork, beef and dairy products would be the likely beneficiaries of a liberalized regime by the American and Cuban governments," said Stern

Youth Center Pool Tournament Results

Friday, July 7:

Student & Adult -

John Wagnon & Larry Longoria (uncle), 1st place. T.J. Cordova & Terry (dad), 2nd place. Elizabeth Casillas & Jesse Rodriguez, 3rd place.

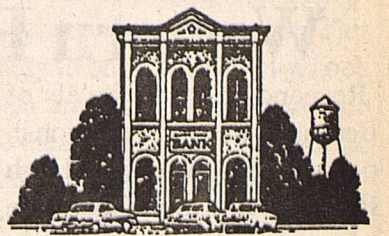
Saturday, July 8:

Singles - Jonathon DeLaRosa, 1st, David Escobar, 2nd, Bardley Palmer, 3rd.

Doubles - Brent Huerta, Trey Cleveland, 1st, T.J. Cordova and Jonathon DeLaRosa, 2nd, Jeremy Diamond, Angel Ruiz, 3rd.

Use Safety When Operating An Automatic Teller Machine

It's a late night when you realize you're short on cash. No problem you think to yourself, most convenient ATMs operate 24 hours a day. In search for a cash machine, you find a sidewalk bank terminal at the end of the street and another within a neighborhood grocery store.



Tips from your Community Banker

The PULSE EFT Association recently launched an ATM Safety campaign to aid in the education process. A list of security measures have been established to assist account card holders.

1. You should avoid using ATM machines at night if they are not in well-lit areas. Using an ATM inside a busy grocery store would be more preferable to the sidewalk machine located in a darkened neighborhood.

2. Bypass terminals near bushes, fences or other obstructions that could provide easy hiding places for criminals.

3. Take a friend along for safety.

4. Reduce time spent at the terminal. Have your card ready for use.

5. The Personal Identification Number (PIN) is the password for your account that may be assigned or chosen. Do not choose your birth date, address or other predictable codes, thieves know all the standard tricks.

6. Memorize your PIN. Do not write your access code on your card or keep it in your wallet to be seen by a thief.

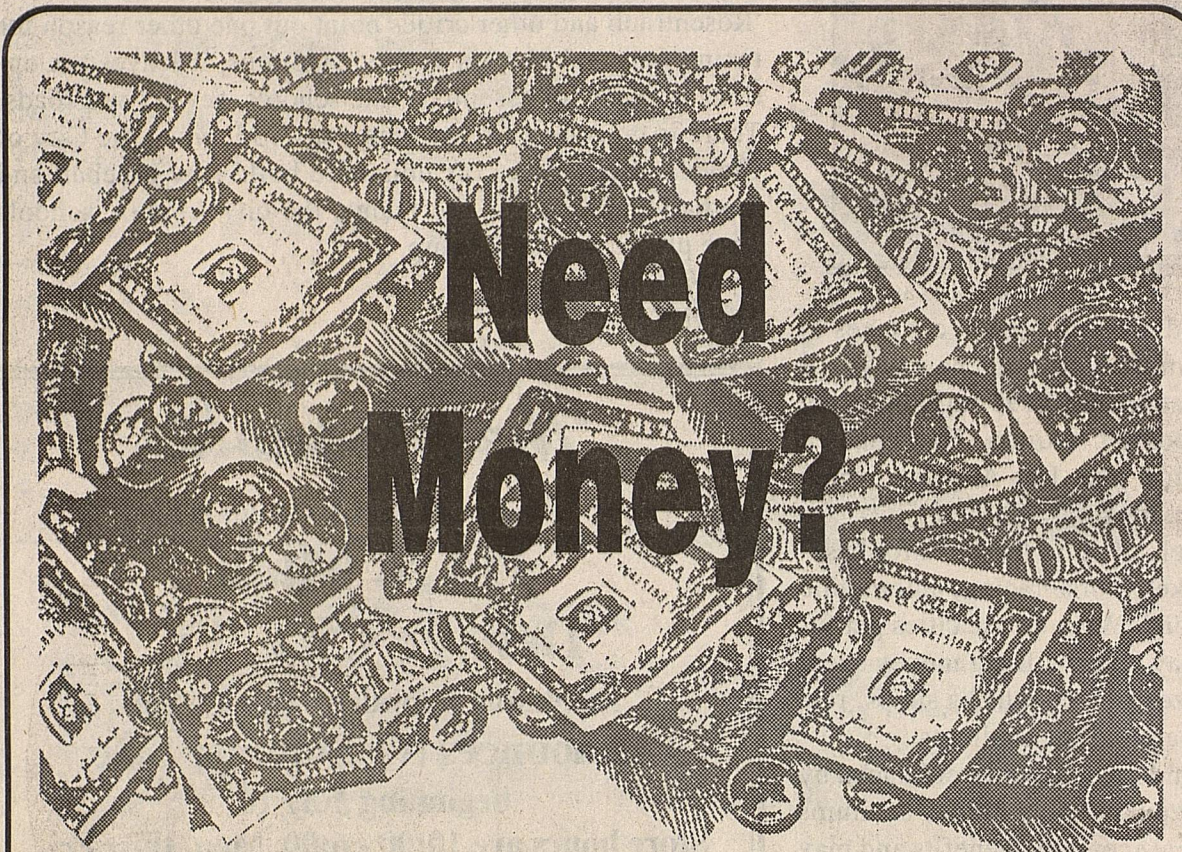
7. Cover the ATM key pad when typing your PIN, so others can not see.

8. Keep your windows rolled up, engine running and doors locked when using a motor terminal.

9. Don't forget to keep your receipts. You need them to compare your records with your monthly statements. If there are any discrepancies, contact your financial institution for clarification. It is always a good idea to follow up all calls with a written letter.

10. Report lost or stolen ATM cards immediately to your financial institution and the police. Time is a key factor, the longer you wait the more money you may lose. If you discover your card is missing before it is used, you are not responsible for any unauthorized withdrawals.

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Treatment Triggers Change In Parts Of Western High Plains

Responding to the levels of Beet armyworms infestation in parts of the Western High Plains Eradication Zone, the trigger levels for treating cotton in those areas have been changed, said Charles Allen, program director for the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Inc.

After increased beet armyworm activity was noted July 10, Foundation personnel randomly selected 142 dryland and irrigated cotton fields in the WHP and sampled them for beet armyworm presence, Allen said.

No beet armyworms were found in 51 percent of the zone's fields, and none of the sampled fields exceeded accepted thresholds for beet armyworm populations, he said. But the data in work units near Plains, Seagraves and Brownfield were of sufficient concern to prompt the Foundation to take a cautious approach and raise the treatment trigger

from 2 to 3 weevils trapped per 40 acre field before treatments will be made on those units.

Allen noted that the fields with the highest numbers of beet armyworm larvae were mostly dryland fields and fields in early stages of crop growth that have not needed boll weevil treatments.

The change will mean only about 10 percent of the acreage in those areas will be treated, helping to preserve beneficial insects that prey on the beet armyworm, Allen said.

Foundation personnel will survey fields in the WHP weekly to determine the level of beet armyworm infestation, along with crop stage and weevil trap data, and will adjust treatment triggers as necessary he said.

For more information, growers may contact their district office. District offices in the Western High Plains are located in Plains, Brownfield, Seagraves, and Seminole.

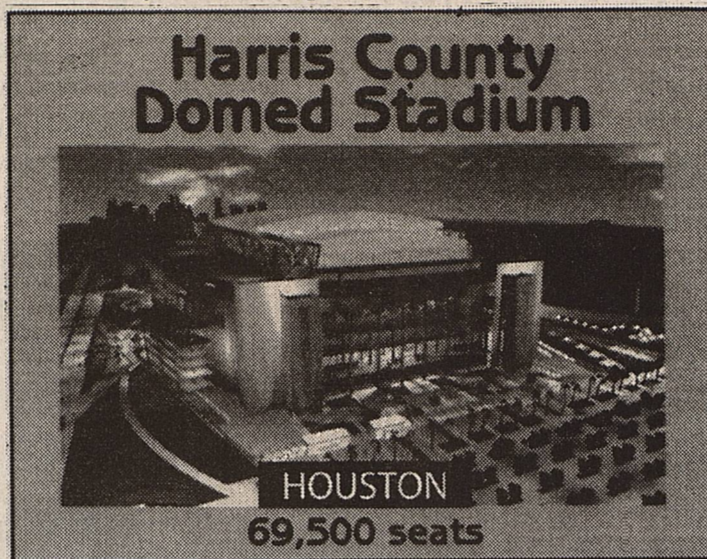
Local taxes fund Texas' latest sports arenas

In 1996, the Houston Oilers football team announced it would move to Tennessee. The team said it was forced to move because Houston would not spend public money to help it build a stadium to replace the Astrodome.

In January 2000, that team, playing as the Tennessee Titans, appeared in its first Super Bowl, something the franchise was unable to do in Houston. Arkadelphia stadium in Nashville was built partly with public money approved by a voter referendum.

The Titans' Super Bowl opponent, the St. Louis Rams, had also switched cities because of a stadium deal; St. Louis taxpayers paid 96% of the cost of the TransWorld Dome.

Stung, Houston civic leaders rallied voters in 1996 to approve the creation of a local sports authority to secure funding for new Houston baseball and football stadiums. The Harris County-Houston Sports authority did just that.



Harris County Domed Stadium

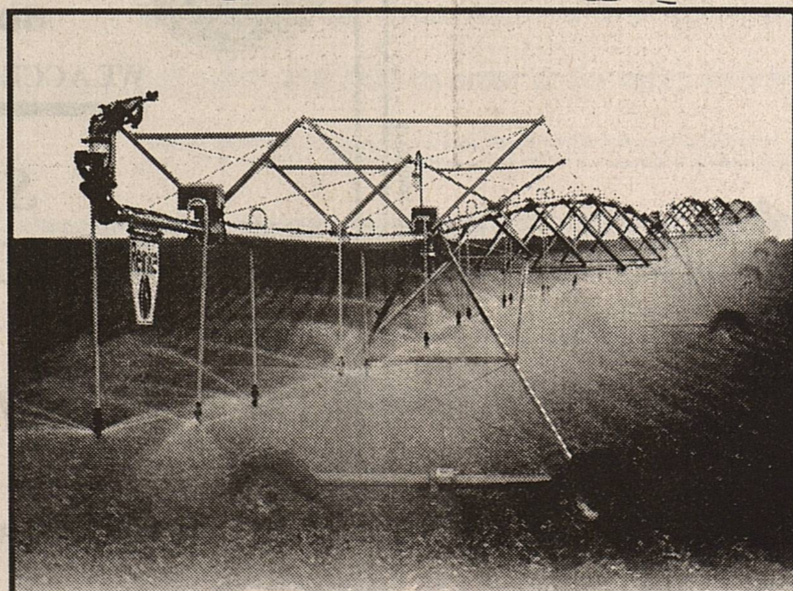
HOUSTON
69,500 seats

Granted specific taxing powers in 1997 by the Texas Legislature, the authority committed hotel and rental car taxes to pay \$180 million of the \$265 million cost of a new baseball park (Enron Field) for the Astros and \$195 million of the \$310 million cost of a new football stadium. That enabled Houston to win a NFL franchise over Los Angeles, which declined to spend taxpayer's money.

In Texas, public money has helped build facilities for baseball, football, basketball, hockey, horse racing, automobile racing and minor league baseball. What do the cities get for their tax dollars. Proponents say cities will get money spent by fans at the games, revitalized downtowns as shops, restaurants and apartments open around the stadiums.

Conceding that public pride and reputation are enhanced by the new facilities, critics point out publicly funded stadiums and arenas often produce no real economic benefits and may actually be a drag on local economies. Some critics maintain the real measure of impact should be the net new dollars flowing into the community from visiting fans, and not those redirected within a city or county by local residents. Some economists say estimates of jobs and employee income created by arenas and stadiums are often misleading; Such estimates are inflated by including team salaries, which are high and often spent outside the city or county. Job figures may include part-time concession operators, ushers and security people.

Public votes on stadium funding were authorized by the 1997 legislature in a bill sponsored by Rep. Ken Brimer, R-Arlington. It allowed cities to fund convention centers, parks and other improvements without raising property taxes. It



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also provided tax alternatives to cities having reached the maximum sales tax rate to fund mass transit systems.

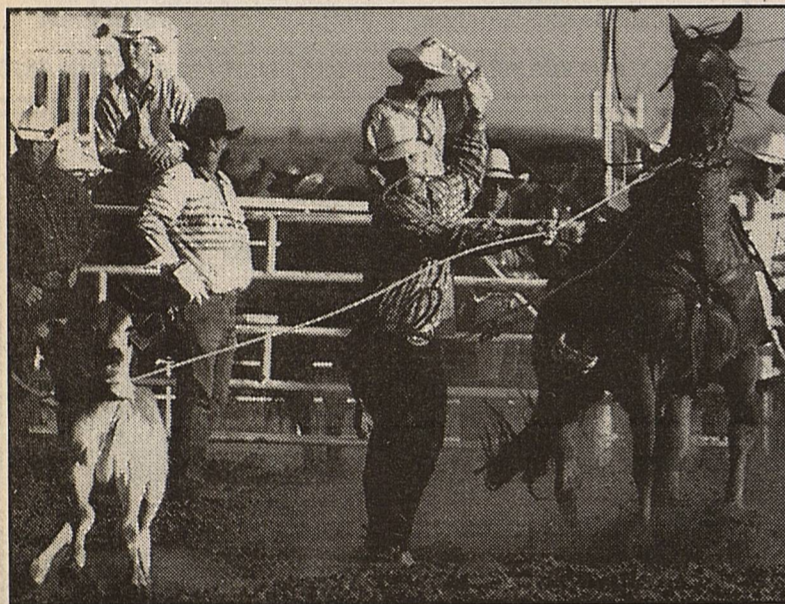
Mark Rosentraub, a UT-Arlington professor, supports the alternative tax plans provided by the Brimer bill. "The rate of stadium building here parallels the nation as a whole," he says. "It's in the financing that there is a difference. Texas cities have not taken advantage of the alternatives."

He says the amount of public money on stadiums can be kept low, pointing to four recently built basketball arenas as examples; United Center in Chicago, MCI Center in Washington, Fleet Center in Boston, and Staples Center in Los Angeles, all built with private financing. Public funds were used only for road, sewer and other infrastructure, and in some cases providing land for the project.

Rosenraub and other critics point out one other reason for taxing fans and players to fund stadiums; it leaves tax options in place for essentials like schools, sewers and roads. There is precedent for the idea - In 1995, when the City of Cleveland was using tax dollars to build new baseball and football stadiums for pro teams, the city's public schools were placed in receivership.

By Walt Borges,
Fiscal Notes

Junior Rodeo Results



Brett Squyres goes after calf in tie down roping

The last rodeo of the regular season for the High Plains Junior Rodeo Association was held in Canyon July 6 through July 8. Marcey House won a 2nd place in the 16 to 19 girls Poles with a personal best of 20.803 seconds.

Blake Parrish placed 6th in boys 9 to 12 ribbon roping, 8th in breakaway roping and 9th in steer breakaway.

Brett Squyres won 2nd in 16 to 19 team roping with a time of 7.607 seconds. He won 3rd in tie down calf roping in 10.010 seconds. He also placed 5th in chute dogging and 8th in ribbon roping.

The High Plains Finals will begin Tuesday, July 18 in Clovis, New Mexico.

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Local Acrospirits Do Well In Jr. Olympic Championships

The South Plains Acrospirits carried thirty four athletes to Cincinnati, Ohio for the 2000 USAG JR. Olympic Championships. It was a trip that proved to be very successful for the small team. Coaching were Sherry Mulkey, Will Green, Kellie Earnest, and J'Lyn Adams. The team is based in Levelland with mobile programs in Lamesa, Plains, Friona, Spur, Sudan, and Pearsall.

The Acrospirits brought home sixty five individual top ten awards and twenty eight of these were medals. They also were named the 2000 National Team Champions in Women's Trampoline and were runner ups in Women's Double Mini. Cincinnati was a really fun town and alot was done by the group.

The Acrospirits will attend the Jr/Sr Nationals in St. Louis in July, and team member MacKinze Spears will compete in the AAU Nationals in Florida the end of July.

The Plains Group had a really great Nationals under the direction of Kellie Earnest. Kaytlyn Dutton competed in

11-12 Women's Tumbling Level 9 where she placed 12th. Courtney Miller placed 4th in Tumbling Level 8, took the Gold Medal in Level 8 Trampoline 7-8 th old Women and won the bronze on Double Mini. She is extremely talented and we see a real future for her in this sport. Taylor Miller took 4th in Level 9 Tumbling, 7th in Level 10 Trampoline, and 7th in Double Mini. He and His partner Landon Earnest brought home a silver medal in Synchronized Trampoline. Dakota Earnest took the Bronze medal in Level 8 Tumbling, the Silver in Level 8 Trampoline, and 17th in Level 6 Double Mini. She did a great job for a young child. Landon Earnest had a great meet this year and showed all his new skills he has learned this year. He brought home the Silver medal in Tumbling Level 10, a Gold medal in Trampoline and Double Mini both Level 10. He won four medals in tough competition, and we are proud of what he has accomplished. Chris Estrada from Plains will compete in the Sr. Level Nationals in St. Louis on July 26-29th.

* SCHOOL NOTICE *

Notice of Allocation of Federal Funds 2000-2001
The Plains Independent School District is committed to keeping the number of children per teacher as low as possible. This gives each child the best opportunity to be successful in school. Federal class size reduction funds are used to help maintain these small classes. Once again, these funds have helped the district achieve an exemplary rating on the Academic Excellence Indicator System. Thank you to all the teachers and students for their hard work this year.

Aviso de Asignacion de Federal Consolida 2000-2001
The Plains Independent School District se compromete a guardar el numero de ninis por maestro tan bajo como posible. Esto le da la oportunidad mejor de tener exito en escuela a cada nino. Se usan fondos de la class size reduction federales para ayudar mantenga estas clases pequenas. Una vez mas, estos fondos han ayudado al distrito a lograr una valuacion ejemplar en el Sistema de Indicador de Excelencia Academico. Agradezcale a todos los maestros y estudiantes para su trabajo duro este ano.

Justice of Peace court review

The following is a summary of cases heard, fines and bonds set in Justice of Peace Court, Precinct 1, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.
46 traffic cases
2 felony cases
1 possession of drug paraphenalia
1 public intoxication
Fines and bonds;
Driving while license suspended, \$500 bond.
DWI, 1st offense, \$1000 bond.

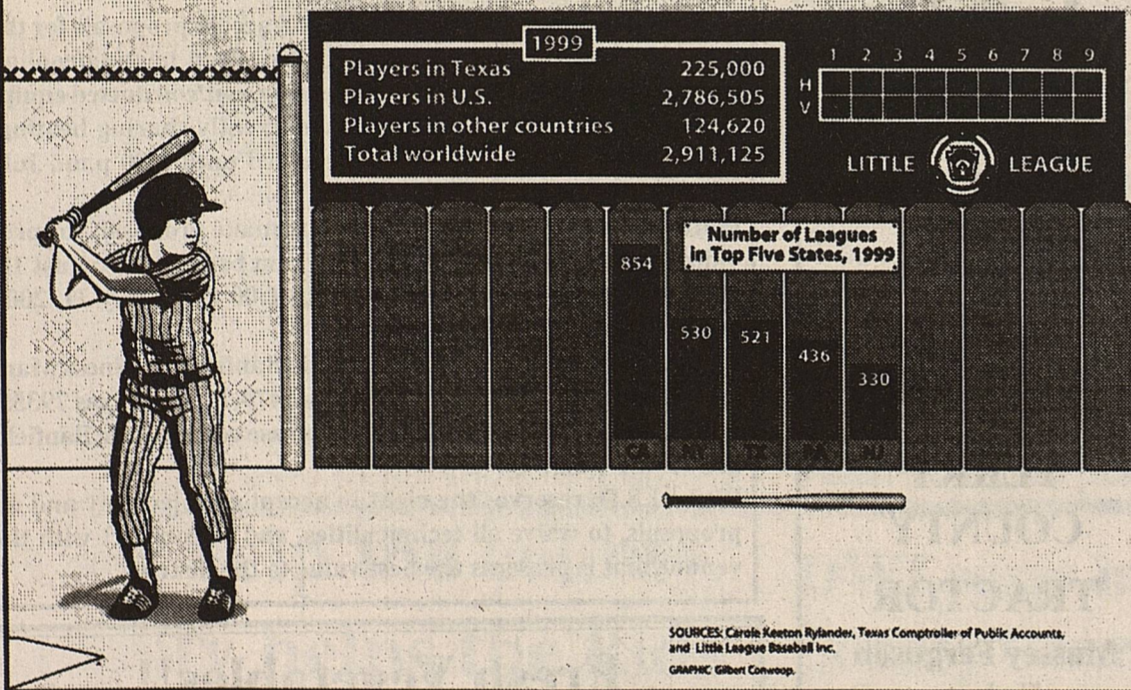
4 cases of assault causing bodily injury, \$1500 bond each
2 cases motion to revoke probation, held until hearing.
1 Failure to maintain financial responsibility, \$250 fine.
1 fugitive from justice, \$1000 bond.
1 resisting arrest, \$1000 bond.
1 consumption of alcohol by minor, 3rd enhanced, \$500 bond.
1 public intoxication, \$200 fine.

Texas at a Glance

Not so Little League

Texas Little League isn't so little. With more than 225,000 boys and girls participating, it's the third-biggest in the nation, behind California and New York. And it's not so young. Texas Little League marks its golden anniversary this season as it enters its 50th year of play. About midway in the state's Little League history, a team from Houston took the Little League World Series in 1966, the only Texas team to win the title.

Texas has 521 leagues with 15,000 teams. Each league has a budget of about \$45,000 to \$50,000 for bats, balls, mits, uniforms, lights for night games and other expenses, according to Mike Witherwax, Texas Little League director. Little League, which claims to be the world's largest organized youth sports program, is now played in all 50 states and more than 100 countries on six continents.



SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and Little League Baseball Inc.
GRAPHIC: Gilbert Conway

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Improved sleep. The quality of restful sleep usually improves in the days following a massage. This gives your body a chance to further repair and restore your energy levels.

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From The Hack

We had an unusual assignment last week end. We dog-sat one of the kids poochies from Thursday PM until Sunday PM. It certainly seemed longer than that.

I will probably regret calling her a pooch. I know I did when I referred to her as a mutt. I was quickly informed, "She's NOT a MUTT! She's my sweet little Tazz!" I still think of her as the 'TAZZmanian Devil', especially after the dog-sitting in-terminable weekend.

This dog hates to be left behind by her true 'mom and dad'. Their car had barely pulled out of the drive when she went into deep depression, a look of anguished frustration etched on her face. She actually moped. I think if dogs could cry like humans we would have been out three boxes of Kleenex wiping her runny nose and weeping eyes.

She immediately went on a hunger strike, and refused to do the two things dogs do when you take them outside to do the two things. After the first ten or twelve hours of our sitting, when she refused to cooperate in the backyard as we pleaded and begged her to, she got her revenge by somehow getting in my closet and thoroughly soaking my favorite pair of Reebok golf shoes. The Bride got her

share of punishment. Tazz showed her disdain for all the coo talk the Bride was dishing out. While the Bride was cooking dinner, she pulled one of those fancy Doilies (is that how you spell it? It may be Dollies) hand made by her favorite Aunt Gertrude and made up for her refusal to do

her things in the yard. Aunt Gertrude's doiley had seen its last, and the Bride was gritting her teeth, glaring at Tazz as she flushed the sorry item out of her life forever. She later confided to me, " I was seriously thinking of flushing the dog."

I told her, " I'm glad you didn't. Don't forget, her 'daddy' will be back soon, and he's a retired cop, and he's still got plenty of guns."

I suggested since Tazz was so mournful looking for about 72 hours, we dress her in sack cloth and sprinkle ashes on her to greet her true parents when they came to pick her up. The Bride said, "Hey, Dolt, you just got through reminding me they still have all those guns."

When they finally drove off with her, I waved, the most cheerful look on my face I could muster, but muttered under my breath, " Bye, Tazz, may dehydration and constipation continue to rule your life."

.....
I recently paid another visit to the dentist from hell. No, not with hot tongs applied to my tongue will I identify him. You see, I have to go back to him, maybe twice, and God forbid, maybe more.

This last trip wasn't so terrible. I only endured 58 minutes and 43 seconds of a lovely young

lady just cleaning my neglected ivories. She had much more couth than her employer, who wields much deadlier implements. She even said, repeatedly, " Oh, I could tell that hurt you and I'm sorry, it was all my fault." The first few times I thought, how kind of her. After a few more apologies, my attitude had considerably cooled, but nevertheless, it really wasn't so bad. But then, in strode the real big fear, the chief jefe who would decide my next fate.

Why is it Dentists are so cheerful and friendly when they are ready to pronounce the next step of agony? As expected, he pronounced the expected worst; " We won't have to twist and jerk getting the tooth out.. We're going to save it by (Oh, God NO, the dreaded, evil, vile sounding routine), ROOT CANAL!"

Moments later I awoke to find the Dentist and his Hygenist frantically fanning me, pumping on my heart, as he screamed, " Quick! Get the fibrillator, this idiot's almost scared himself to death!"

When they finally resurrected me, I almost expired again when they told me what all this was going to cost the Bride. When she was told, she also looked a bright green around the jowls. She looked at me a VERY long time before she finally, almost regretfully said, " I was debating if you were really worth those bucks. I'm still not truly convinced, but I guess we'll try one more time. You just better remember... next time, take better care of yourself or apply for welfare!"

Crime screw-ups; A man pretending to have a gun kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to different ATM's. The kidnapper then proceeded to withdraw funds from his own account.

Police in Oakland, California spent hours trying to subdue a man inside his home. After firing ten tear gas canisters at the house, the officers discovered the guy beside them, shouting he wanted to give up.

Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who couldn't control himself in a lineup. When the cops asked each man in the lineup to repeat the words, " Give me your money or I'll shoot!", the lineup guy shouted, " That's NOT what I said!"

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BY A.W. ERWN



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Legal Proposals
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Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for providing milk for its school lunch program beginning August 18, 2000. Proposals will be received until 1:00 P.M., July 31, 2000 at the Business Office.
Proposals should be addressed to Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains ISD, 1000 10th Street, Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355. For questions or other information, please contact Eric Banfield at 806-456-7483.
Plains I.S.D. reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, to waive all technicalities, and to contract with the vendor that represents the best value to the district.

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The Texas Agricultural Extension Service is now accepting applications for a part-time IPM Secretary (20 hrs/week). This position includes a full benefit package. Interested persons may pick up an application at: Terry County Extension Office 209 South 5th Street Brownfield, TX 79316 Texas Agricultural Extension Service is an equal opportunity employer.

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