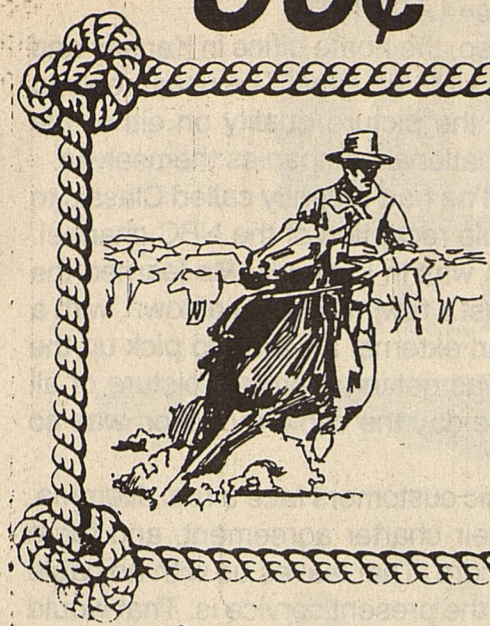


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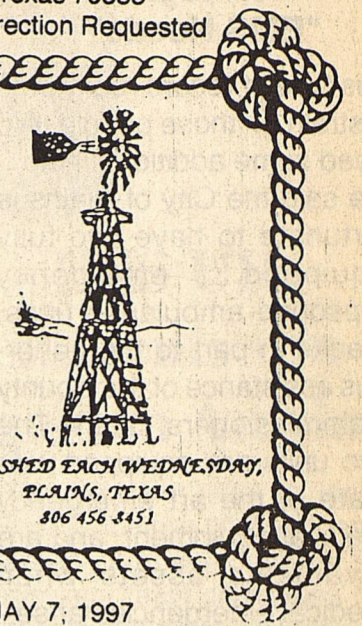
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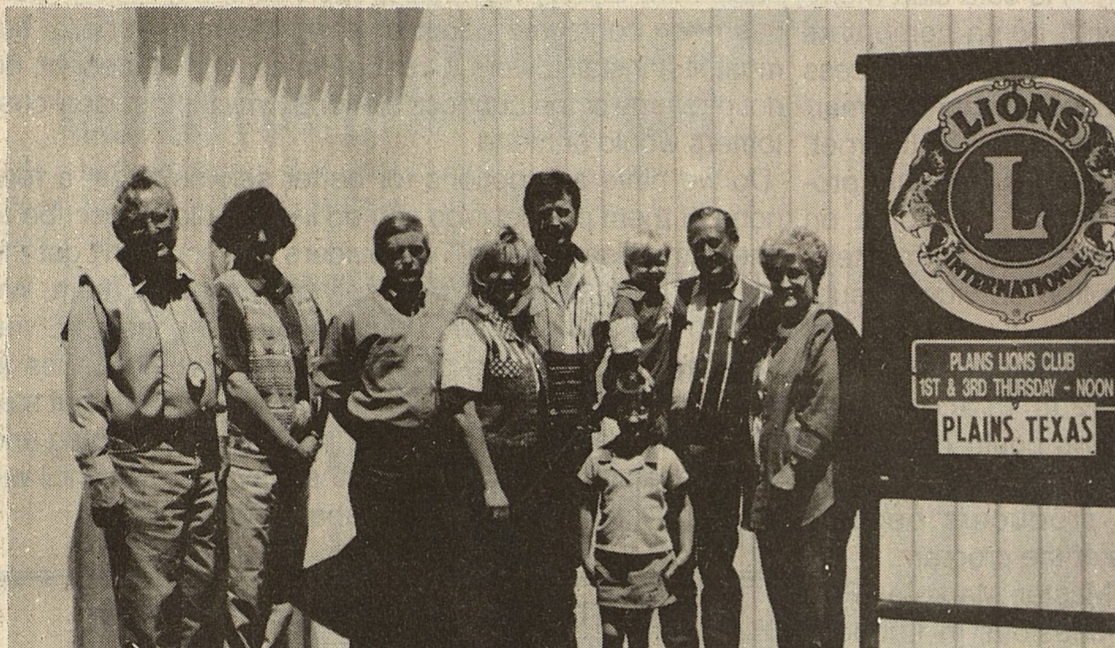
Cowboy Country News



PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY,
PLAINS, TEXAS
806 456 4451

Volume 111, Issue 36, Wednesday, MAY 7, 1997

Grady Billings named "Conservation Farmer of the Year"



Shown L-R, L.J. Sanders, Cindy Gray, Kent Smith, Cristi Billings, Amanda Billings, Alton Billings holding Austin Billings, and Sue Billings.

The Plains Lions Club and the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors co-hosted a meeting on May 1 which saw Grady Billings honored as the District's 'Conservation Farmer of the Year'.

Billings farms about 960 acres of irrigated and dryland in Yoakum and Gaines County, and rotates crops of cotton, peanuts and milo crops to maximize the benefits of nitrogen added to the soil by the peanuts, reducing the need for fertilizer. He uses minimum-till wheat as protec-

tion against wind and sand damage to his young and tender cotton. He is very conscious of the need for water conservation in his irrigation practices, and his center pivot sprinkler systems are all equipped with low pressure nozzles packages.

Grady and his wife Cristi have three children, Chelsea, Amanda and Austin. Grady is the son of Alton and Sue Billings, former residents here.

The presentation was made by YSWCD Director Kent Smith. Also attending were Cindy Gray, YSWCD Direc-

tor, and YSWVD Secretary Olivia Robertson. Other officials attending were Natural Resources Conservation District's Cindy Poole and Philip Carter. Carter showed a video detailing programs involving school youth in many varied conservation projects around the nation, and was part of the District's promotion of 'Soil and Water Stewardship 1997'.

Yoakum County Ag Extension Agent Tadd Knight also attended the meeting.

Criminal cases heard in District Court

Two criminal cases were heard in Judge Kelly G. Moore's 121st Judicial District Court last week. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Roberto Sanchez, aka Robert Sanchez, 48, pled guilty to a third or more driving while intoxicated charge. He was sentenced to a five year state prison term, probated for five years. He was fined \$1500, must pay \$251.50 court costs and \$250 in court appointed attorney fees. He will be confined in a substance abuse felony punishment facility (SAFPF) at least 6 months but not more than 9 months.

He will be confined in Terry County jail 180 days, or until space is available in SAFP. He must attend AA meetings weekly, will have his drivers license suspended 180 days, and must install an ignition interlock device on any vehicle he drives. He must also attend the Texas DWI repeat Offender Program. He was represented by Attorney Jimmy Hammons.

William E. Fitzgerald, 59, also pled guilty to a DWI charge, third or more. He received a ten year state prison sentence, suspended and probated ten years. He was fined \$2500, must pay \$251.50 court costs. He must attend SAFP at least six months but not more than one year, will be confined in Yoakum County Jail 180 days or until SAFP space is available. His drivers license will be suspended 180 days, and he must attend weekly AA meetings and complete the DWI Repeat Offender Program.

Court Approves Employment, Committee Assignments

In the May 5th meeting of County Commissioners Court, the hiring of Kenneth Dierschke as the County Golf Course Superintendent, and the employment of Michael Allen, Precinct 1, was changed from part time to full time employee at the Golf Course.

The Court appointed Evelyn Bigbie Millard to replace Frances Kinder on the

Turn to page 4, "Commissioners"

They found gold in Austin



PHS Sophomore Clint Burrus is pictured with his Gold Medal won in the UIL Literary Meet in Austin last weekend.



The PHS Calculator Team also won the first place Gold Medal in the UIL State Meet. Shown L-R are team members Heath Bowlin, Tommie McNabb and Kristen Gray (See article on Page 3).

Cable TV viewers, city hall face dilemma with local service

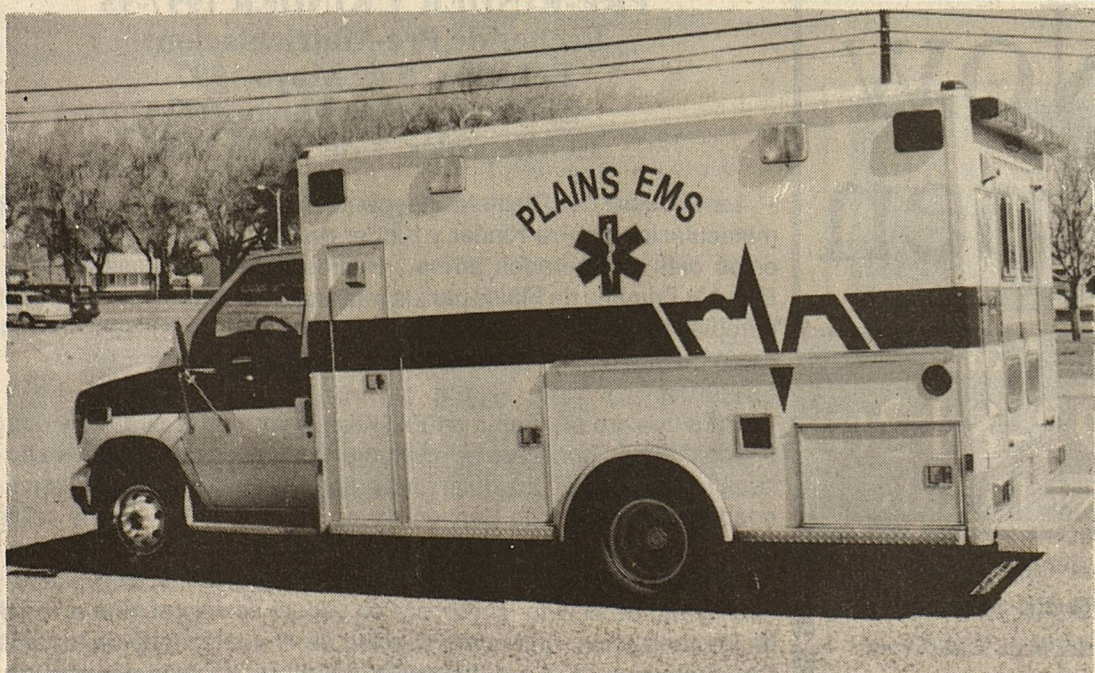
If you are one of the dozens, possibly hundreds of Classic Cable Company's customers a bit put out about the quality of your recent television reception, don't mistakenly think a complaint call to City Hall will help solve the problem. It's not that the staff and Council are not aware of the problem, or don't care about the poor service. They are probably far more familiar with the situation than they care to be.

One evening last week, when our four Lubbock cable channels were coming in miserably poor, we went to the phone book and started calling neighbors at random about their TV reception of the ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox channels. We talked to 16 cable customers. 15 of them reported Fox was completely off the air, CBS and NBC were rated anywhere from poor, fuzzy, snowy to down right terrible, while ABC was reported fair to better. Not a scientific poll, for sure, but it convinced us we were not imagining what we were viewing.

We next visited City Hall and discussed the issue with Mayor T.J. Miller and City Administrator David Brunson. We then learned we were certainly not the first cable subscriber to officially complain about Classic Cable service, and won't be the last. The City has been one of the company's most active and vocal critics. Brunson said "When I came to work for the City, United Video was the cable provider, and the charter giving them authority to operate here is one of the strictest, most protective for customers I have ever seen anywhere. United sold to Classic, and that's when our problems started. The franchise charter plainly states the cable company must have a local office for receiving payments and taking service calls. Classic sent us a letter stating they were closing the office. We (the city council) wrote them they could not do this under terms of the franchise agreement. No response. We wrote them again, and again no response. We next had our attorney write them. They finally responded to him, and in effect, said, the office is closed, it will remain closed, whether you like it or not (the writer read this letter from Classic's President)". Brunson and Miller both stated they had made dozens of calls about poor ser-

Turn To Page 2, "Cable TV"

EMS responds to our needs, now they seek help to meet their needs



Both Denver City and City of Plains City Councils are helping sponsor a series of Emergency Medical Technician training sessions starting May 13. The classes will be held in Denver City unless enough Plains residents sign up for the training to warrant alternating the classes between the two towns on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

City Administrator David Brunson said the Plains EMS currently has only "about four fully active members, and we have a real need for at least 10 active volunteers". To meet this need, the Plains City Council will absorb the \$325 tuition fee for the classes, provided the trainees sign an agreement to perform volunteer ambulance duty once they are cer-

tified as EMT's. City Hall records show EMS ambulance units made 52 emergency runs during calendar year 1996, plus 13 standby assignments at the rodeo and school football games. They have already made 21 official runs this year. "When you only have a few active EMS volunteers,

Turn to page 2, "EMS Needs"

From page 1.
"EMS Needs"

this type of record really puts a strain on those people. We need some additional help". He said the City of Plains is fortunate to have two fully equipped emergency response ambulance units, thanks in part to the generous assistance of the County Commissioners Court. The two units are equipped with state of the art emergency medical equipment, and are invaluable assets when medical emergencies arise. If volunteers complete the training course, then pass the State EMT exam, and spend the required hours in the emergency room of the County Hospital, they will be certified as Emergency Medical Technicians, the first step towards becoming a licensed Para Medic as a career vocation. Joe Humphrey is the EMS President here, and Pam Redman serves as Secretary of the association. If you are interested in becoming involved in this important and gratifying service, contact Joe Humphrey or David Brunson for more details.

May in Texas

May 11, 1953- Waco tornado killed 114, injured 597, and caused \$41 million damages. San Angelo tornado same day killed 11, injured 159, caused \$3 million damages. On May 11, 1970, Lubbock tornado killed 26, and caused \$250 million in damages
May 23, 1934-Texas Ranger Frank Hamer and men shot and killed Bonnie and Clyde

Farmers face new challenge of marketing

American farmers, faced each year with the challenges of producing their crops, are confronted this year with a new challenge of marketing and risk management, says an agricultural economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. "The passage of the 1996 Farm Bill ushered in a new era for farmers," said Dr. Jackie Smith, economist and management specialist with the Extension Service. "It sets the stage for a new environment for economic decision making by the farmer". The new federal program is billed as one that lets farmers plant for the market, he noted, but the new planting flexibility is likely to bring an increased level of volatility. "As farmers here and abroad react to volatile prices, we could see great swings in acres planted to different crops", Smith said. "The marketing and risk management skills of U.S. producers must improve if they are to successfully compete in the changing worldwide agricultural industry of the next century". The task of raising the skills of farmers is formidable, requiring intensive educational programming, he said. The formation of marketing clubs is one way being used by the Extension Service and producers in Texas, and other states to improve growers

marketing skills. "Generally a group of 15 to 20 producers organize with the Extension Service's assistance. They meet once or twice a month to learn risk management techniques, and as a group, often trade commodity options to gain experience at a limited risk". The Extension Service last year introduced its Master Marketer Program to help train club leaders. In January and February of this year, 63 participants from 30 counties completed 64 hours of instruction in the Extension Service's Master Marketer program in Lubbock. Top instructors from universities, businesses and the Extension Service led courses including production risk management, crop insurance and commodity programs. Among the participants were locals Jim Barron and Jered Sellers. Upon completing the course, they both were certified as Master Marketers. Last Thursday evening, Barron and Sellers, along with County Ag Extension Agent Tadd Knight, held the first organizational meeting of the Yoakum County Extension Marketing Club. Other producers attending the meeting were Tommy Guy Box, Ron Craft, Tim Addison, Ricky Bearden, and Greg Keese. Knight said some of the items discussed at the initial meeting included es-

establishing production costs, setting price goals, assessing cash flow needs, the responsibility for decision making, marketing tools and how to use them, investing time and money, and maintaining marketing discipline.

As part of the agreement with the Master Marketers Program, both Sellers and Barron will lead the instructional club meeting sessions, with input and assistance from Knight. One of the tools the club members will utilize in developing marketing strategies is computer software called 'BudPro', or Budget Production. Knight said the use of computers is essential for successful ag marketing producers, and the software contains a wealth of information and is 'user friendly'. He said club members with home computers would soon be able to access tremendous amounts of marketing data over the Internet, when two Denver City provider firms come on line, able to offer toll free telephone line service to subscribers.

The club hopes to grow to some 12 to 15 active members, and could contain as many as 50 members when more producers become aware of the program.

The Master Marketer Program sessions in Lubbock and Amarillo earlier this year featured training and instructions from the Texas Wheat Producers Board and Association, Texas Corn Growers Board, Chicago Board of Trade and Texas Grain Sorghum Producers, as well as a number of High Plains area lenders, cooperatives and other agribusinesses.

County producers wanting further information about the marketing club should contact Jered Sellers, Jim Barron or Tadd Knight.

Texas ranks 4th in percent of population under 5, 8.5% in 1994.

From Page 1," Cable TV"

vice to the local service rep, the home office in Kansas and to the regional manager, all to no avail. The usual reply to the calls was to blame the picture quality on either the Lubbock stations or the national companies themselves.

One subscriber reported he had recently called Classic to complain about the terrible reception of the NBC channel. He was told the problem was in Lubbock. He learned the next day a family living just a few miles east of town, with a mini-satellite dish, and an external antenna to pick up the four Lubbock stations, was getting a perfect picture of all four Lubbock stations the day the cable reception was so poor.

Both City Hall and Classic customers face a real dilemma. The City can enforce their charter agreement, and force Classic out of business here. That leaves us with no cable service at all, as poor as the present service is. That would not sit well with many residents. The city has considered possibly offering to purchase Classic's operation here, but that would call for a large outlay of cash for a system woefully outdated and in very poor condition, where the real problem with Classic lies. Other cable companies could come in here, but they would face the same problems with the present equipment, and to date, none have expressed an interest in entering this small market with new, quality equipment. Leaco, the wireless cable company in Lovington, has been contacted about entering the market here, but must first install towers to reach Plains, and at present, do not offer any of the Lubbock stations, which most local customers would demand.

Do we have any options for better service? Yes, a few, none of them perfect. You can do like we did, subscribe to one of the dish-satellite TV providers, but you won't get the four Lubbock stations. We still rely on Classic for them. We plan to find a good outdoor antenna to bring them in. You can complain to Classic Cable, as City Hall continues to do. Good Luck. You can go to an outdoor antenna, but station coverage will be limited. Or, just pull your TV plug and turn the radio on. Both Brunson, the Mayor and Council will welcome input or suggestions about the problem.

NOTICE TO PARENTS OF 1997-98 PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS
Pre-Registration Dates: Monday, May 5, 1997
Tuesday, May 6, 1997
Wednesday, May 7, 1997

Plains Independent School District will hold Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten pre-registration from 8:30 am until 12:00 pm, on the days listed above. Parents should report to Plains Elementary School for registration and bring appropriate documents as listed. It is not necessary for children to be present at registration.

Pre-Kindergarten
There are certain guidelines which must be met for a student to be enrolled in our pre-kindergarten program. Any child who will be four years old on or before September 1, 1997, may qualify for pre-kindergarten providing all guidelines are met. When registering, please bring child's birth certificate, social security card, immunization record and proof of family income. Proof of income may be a recent pay check stub or food stamp eligibility form number 1009, we can no longer accept the food stamp card as proof. We have to have a copy of this form.

We must have fifteen qualifying students to be able to offer this program. If you know a child in our community who may qualify, please pass this information on to the parents.

Kindergarten
To enroll in kindergarten, a child must be five years old on or before September 1, 1997. Please bring the child's birth certificate, immunization record and social security card.

If you know of a child who may qualify for kindergarten, please pass this information on to the parents. It is very important that we know how many children will be in our pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes for the 1997-98 school year.

AVISO A PADRES DE ESTUDIANTES DE PRE-KINDER Y KINDER 1997-98
Fechas de Pre-Matriculacion:
El Lunes, 5 de Mayo 1997
El Martes, 6 de Mayo 1997
El Miercoles, 7 de Mayo 1997

La Escuela del Distrito Independiente de Plains tendra su pre-matriculacion de Pre-Kinder y Kinder de 8:30 am hasta las 12:00 pm en los dias enumerados arriba. Padres deben de presentarse a la Escuela Primaria de Plains para la matriculacion y traer los documentos apropiado que estan enumerados aqui. No es necesario que los niños estan presente para la matriculacion.

Pre-Kinder
Para nuestro programa de Pre-Kinder hay ciertas directivas que se deben cumplir; por fin de que un estudiante pueda ser matriculado en nuestro programa. Cualquier niño quien haya cumplido cuatro años de edad el día primero de Septiembre de 1997 ho antes, puede calificar para pre-kind con tal de que pueden cumplir todas las directivas. Al tiempo de la matriculacion haga favor de traer el certificado de nacimiento de el niño, el numero de seguro social del niño el registro de inmunizacion, and comprobacion de el sueldo total de la familia. Comprobacion de el sueldo familiar puede ser un talon dee cheque ho la declaracion de que su familia es elegible para recibir estampillas de comida con el numero de las forma 1009.

Nosotros debemos tener por lo menos quince estudiantes, para poder ofrecer este programa. Se Ud. conoce un niño en nuestra comunidad quien pueda calificar, por favor de pasarle esta informacion a sus padres.

Kindergarten
Para matricular a un niño en Kinder, el niño debe de haber cumplido cinco años de edad el día primero de Septiembre de 1997 ho antes. Por favor de traer el certificado de nacimiento, el registro de inmunizacion, y el numero de seguro social para cada niño que sera matriculado. Si Ud. conoce un niño quien puede calificar para Kinder, por favor de pasarle esta informacion a sus padres. Es muy importante que nosotros estemos enterados de cuantos niños estaran en nuestras case de Pre-Kinder y Kinder para el año escolar 1997-1998.



Congratulations to each & every

PHS Graduating Senior

- Stephenia Allsup**
- Sonia Avila**
- Kyley Bearden**
- Bridget Bernal**
- Stephen Bitolas**
- Coley Burgess**
- Spencer Deaton**
- Casey Forbus**
- Kristi Guetersloh**
- Arthur Hernandez**
- Yancey House**
- Major Howard**
- Dacia Humphrey**

- Jacob Lester**
- Joe Luna**
- Timothy Mojica**
- Mary Morales**
- Marte Pierce**
- Roni Ponce**
- Lyndi Rowe**
- Jr. Sigala**
- Robin Squyres**
- Tessa St.Romain**
- Priscilla Valdez**
- Allen Ward**
- Wayne Willett**

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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

Jr. High U.I.L. Students



6th Grade-Bottom, L-R; Mandi Rogers, Kayla Willis, Jill Gray, Krystal Gonzalez & Mackenzie Winn. Top, L-R; Kimberly Martines, Sandra Gallegos, Elda Fierro, Liz Wilmeth, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Nick Hays.



7th Grade- Bottom row, L-R; Ashley Gonzalez, Becky Wilmeth, Wendy Fierro, Annie Unger, Tanner Hamm. Top; Elizabeth Clanahan, Annaliesa O'Quinn, Scott Tirrell, Ky May, Nate Hayes.



8th Grade-Bottom; Chris Estrada, Lisa San Filippo, Michaela Traweek, Emily Blair, Amanda Garcia, Kelsey Blundell. Top; Dustin Six, Skyler Johnson, Joel Gallegos, Lesli Rowe, Taylor Gray, Kari Guetersloh, Matt Willis, Aaron Cain, Lensey Cullins.

The Junior - Senior Prom committee is needing round card tables to use for this year's Prom. If you have a round card table the committee can use, please call the High School office. 456-7445

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Regional tennis

Five PHS girls qualified for the Regional Tennis meet in Abilene April 23 and 24. Doubles team members were Robin Squyres/Sandi Warren, and Mary Morales/Dolly Gonzeles. Velvet Canada qualified in singles, and took 4th place. Coach Davis said the girls gave great efforts.

National Honor Society inductees Named

The PHS Selection Committee recently announced the induction of Sophomore and Junior students to the prestigious National Honor Society. New Sophomore members include Tommie McNabb, Clint Burrus, Maranda Box, Marcey House, Lisa Parrish, Dustin Brunson, Matt Morgan, and Cosme Casillas. New Junior members are Shawn Cullins and Summer Howard. Senior members of the Society previously inducted are Mary Morales, Yancey House, Jacob Lester, Tessa St.Romain, Sonia Avila, Lyndi Rowe, Robin Squyres, Kyley Bearden, Stephen Bitolas, Allen Ward, Roni Ponce, Kristi Guetersloh, Dacia Humphrey, Casey Forbus, Arthur Hernandez, Vicki Bayer, Heath Bowlin, Shawna Box, Yvonne Gonzales, Gideon Traweek, Sandi Warren, Abraham Garcia, Derek Brunson, Laura Flores, and Kassie Lowe.

Author to Visit Schools

Author Herb Marlow, representing Ozark Publishing, will visit PISD schools Thursday, May 15. In a series of meetings with students, the author will address the importance of students reading. His program is designed to develop a better understanding of achievement, and the pride which comes with success. The scheduled discussion will be for 7th thru 12th grade students at 10am in the auditorium, and pre-K thru 6th graders at 12:30. All parents are urged to attend. Dr. Marlow has authored stories featured in national periodicals, and Ozark Publishing is now publishing many of his stories in book form. He is listed in Who's Who among human services professionals, and Who's Who among America's teachers. He holds a Ph.D in Pastoral Counseling. He often tells children they are natural writers and illustrators, stressing they can accomplish anything they set their minds to. Marlow will offer a number of children's books for sale to students at reduced prices.

PHS UIL students win

gold in Austin

The calculator team of Heath Bowlin, Tommie McNabb, and Kristen Gray were named 2A calculator team champions by winning first place Saturday in Austin at the State UIL Literary Meet. Gray won the first place medal for her individual contest score. Journalism competitors from across Texas got a doubletake last Friday night when Clint Burrus was called to the awards ceremony stage to collect two medals at the State UIL Literary Meet in Austin. Clint won the state championship in news writing and took second place in headline writing, and was the only state contestant in journalism to win two medals. The sophomore, who qualified for state by winning the gold medal in both contests at the regional meet in Abilene April 19, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Burrus. In the news contest, participants have 45 minutes to write a news story from two pages of facts and quotations. The 45-minute headline contest requires the students to read six short stories and write six headlines, within a specified "count", to fit a particular space.

Student of the Week



This week's PHS student of the week is America Hernandez, a freshman and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesus Hernandez. She was nominated by Mrs. Canada, who said "Our student of the week came to Plains two years ago, speaking very little English. Although she is very shy, her hard work is seen in the completion of an assignment that is well done. In those two years I have seen a great deal of improvement. She is also very cooperative in helping the teachers with other ESL students."

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Weevil eradication program suffers double whammy death blows

First came the State Supreme Court decision declaring the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation's funding methods were unconstitutional. It now appears the Foundation itself is suffering financial woes to the extent it is, for all practical purposes, bankrupt. It is almost a certainty there will be no organized weevil eradication efforts in our High Plains cotton production area, and this seriously concerns many local producers and agribusiness officials.

Dr. Jim Leser, noted entomologist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service,

earlier reported pre-season examinations of weevil habitat indicated an increase in boll weevil populations in this area are one and one-half times greater than last years numbers.

Tadd Knight, County Ag Extension Agent, said "Regardless how producers feel about the eradication program, its funding, or Plains Cotton Growers efforts in the program, those are scary figures for cotton growers".

Apparently the trapping of weevils will continue, with the weevil count numbers continuing to go into the database indicating the potential

threat of the dreaded insects. Knight said the Extension Service is urging all cotton producers to rely on grid traps to indicate possible weevil infestations. He said 4 to 5 traps per hundred acres of cotton ground should be monitored at least twice a week during the growing season. "It's very important to try to find infestations before the plants squares are one third full size, to prevent the weevils laying their eggs in the squares. If the grower finds from one to four weevils in a trap, we are urging them to start treatment for the pests. Malathion spraying costs money, but the cost is relatively cheap considering the potential dollar damage the weevils can cause in production yields".

Apparently last years surprisingly good cotton crop

provided ample food sources for the weevils to store body fat to carry them through winter months. The hoped for very cold winter didn't materialize, or last long enough, to kill large numbers of the weevils.

Driving while license suspended-\$500 bond.
Motion to revoke probation-\$1000 bond.
No liability insurance, DPS warrant-\$305 fine.
Failure to appear, DPS warrant-\$145 fine.

JP Court Review

The following is a summary of cases heard and fines and bonds set in Justice of Peace Court, Precinct One, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

36 traffic cases, 15 civil cases, one forcible detainer case.

Bonds and fines set;
Criminal trespass, \$1000 bond.
Driving while intoxicated, 1st offense-\$1000 bond.
Possession of marijuana under 2 ounces- \$1500 bond.

From page 1. "Commissioners"

Denver City Community Building Committee for Precinct 1. Mary Moreno was appointed to replace Chris Blundell on the Plains Youth Center Board for Precinct 3, Vicki Delgado was appointed to replace Jan Parrish on the Youth Center Board. Precinct 4, and Teresa Bell was appointed to replace Jerry Howard. A soil conservation request for a fire lane on section 205, owned by Fleta Taylor, was approved for Precinct 4.

Lions offer bike safety training, free helmets

The Plains Lions will offer a bicycle safety course for fourth grade elementary students Saturday, May 10, at 1 p.m. The event will be on the parking lot east of the main school gym. It is to make the youngsters aware of bike safety procedures, and the importance of wearing safety helmets. Sgt. Mike McClure and another DPS officer will assist in the training. The Lions will give classy new helmets to the students completing the course, and will serve soft drinks. Parents are urged to attend, and reminded to bring their fourth graders bikes.

Yoakum County Hospital

P.O. DRAWER 1130
PHONE (806) 592-5484
FAX (806) 592-2891
DENVER CITY, TEXAS 79323
ED RODGERS, ADMINISTRATOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Families We Serve
FROM: Yoakum County Hospital
SUBJECT: Local support of services

Patients and their families have the right to choose which healthcare provider they want to use (e.g. doctor, hospital, home health agency, home oxygen service, pharmacy, nursing home, etc.).

Yoakum County Hospital offers a wide spectrum of services. We are committed to providing high quality, patient focused, service directed, cost conscious care. Our staff is composed of over 60 of your neighbors who live, work and contribute to the communities we serve. When you use Yoakum County Hospital you receive quality care, reduce county taxes and the added expense for travel.

Yoakum County Hospital and the local doctors are extremely important to this region medically, and economically.

IF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY EVER NEED SERVICES WE OFFER, PLEASE CONTACT YOAKUM COUNTY HOSPITAL. YOU HAVE A CHOICE. WE HOPE YOU CHOOSE US. BY DOING SO, YOU SUPPORT LOCAL JOBS AND YOUR LOCAL SERVICE DIRECTED, HIGH QUALITY HOSPITAL.

EVEN IF YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES MUST RECEIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN LUBBOCK, YOUR DOCTOR MAY PRESCRIBE POST HOSPITAL CARE SERVICES OFFERED BY YOAKUM COUNTY HOSPITAL SUCH AS REHABILITATION, FITNESS, WELLNESS TRAINING, CUSTODIAL CARE, ETC.

IF YOUR DOCTOR PRESCRIBES THESE SERVICES, PLEASE ASK HIM/HER TO CONTACT YOAKUM COUNTY HOSPITAL. IT IS YOUR RIGHT TO BE TREATED BY ANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER. IF YOU SPECIFICALLY ASK TO BE TAKEN CARE OF BY YOAKUM COUNTY HOSPITAL PHYSICAL THERAPY OR CUSTODIAL CARE, YOUR DOCTOR WILL/MUST HONOR YOUR REQUEST. YOUR CHOICE OF WHICH HOME HEALTH AGENCY YOU REQUEST WILL NOT AFFECT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR DOCTOR.

It is important to let your Doctor know you have selected Yoakum County Hospital before the Doctor offers to make that choice for you. **It is your choice!!**

Thanks for your continued support. We are committed to you, our employees, and the communities we serve. **YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AT THE QUALITY SERVICE, CURRENT TECHNOLOGY, AND MODERN FACILITY AVAILABLE AT YOAKUM COUNTY HOSPITAL.**

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Chairman of the Board
Jack Cobb

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Director of Hospital Nursing
Nancy Chamberlain, RN

Dennis Harrison

Secretary of the Board
Dennis Harrison

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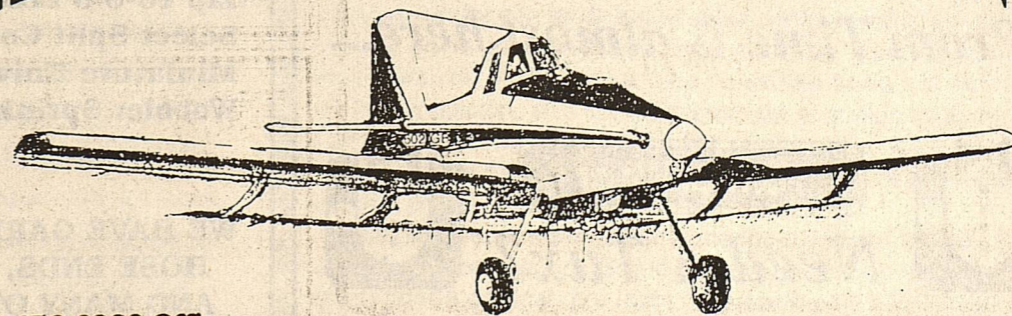
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Femme Friends



Yoakum County Connection Summer Youth Program chairperson Elva Lozano and Linda Powell announce a full slate of activities for county youth in Plains and Denver City. Summer months of June and July will provide entertainment and education for local youngsters. Both Plains and Denver City youth centers will end the summer with student-painted murals under the direction of Nadine River at Denver City and Bob McClellan of Morton at Plains. A \$1500 matching grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts will allow art classes to be offered at free or reduced cost. Local businesses and individuals that have donated toward expenses include Commissioner J.R. Slentz, CJR Contractors, Clarence Reed, Mustang Country, Yoakum County Abstract, Danny's Service Company, and Production Fishing and Rental Tools.

Piney Woods Fine Arts Association of Crockett, Texas has shared their expertise in running a summer arts program. Local artists involved in teaching workshops include Ann Hartman, Jimmie Bayer, Debbie Hernandez, Kathy Adair, David Mitchell, and Kenneth Bell. June Hanneman and other ladies will teach line dancing for a possible performance at the Denver City July 4 Celebration. Photographers Bonnie Earnest and Pat McNabb will have photography work-

1997 Athletic Banquet Plans Underway

The Plains Booster Club has started work on the 96-97 Athletic Banquet. Help is needed from all the parents. We would like to have copies of pictures depicting today's High School athletes when they first started playing in sports. (Pre-school thru Junior High shots would be great.) Please take these pictures by either the Plains Library or Sandy Land Water District office and have a copy made

We plan to use these copies as decoration for the tables during the banquet. (We need copies only, not the originals.) Copies can be left with Kathy Jones or Peggy Squyres.

The Athletic Banquet will be at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 19 in the cafeteria. All High School athletes will be introduced. The "Outstanding Boy and Girl Athlete" in each sport will be recognized. The "Black & Gold" awards and the "Super Booster" will be presented at the Banquet. Tickets are \$6.00 at the door and everyone is invited to come honor the Cowboys and Cowgirls.

Johnnies Bar-B-Que from Midland will be catering the meal. The Booster Club scholarship will also be awarded.

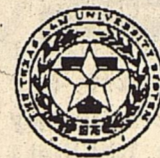
Senior Citizens Corner

The week May 5 thru 9 will be the last chance to get tickets for the Quilt Raffle. Both quilts will be on display at the Center all week, and two lucky people will have a nice Quilt, when the drawing is over at noon on Friday May 9. You do not have to be present to win, so hustle on by and get a few chances.

New faces at the Center this week, were Richard McCance, Lonnie Parkhill. Also Verilyn Southerland, who is visiting Chris Edwards. Homer Bearden was greeting old friends on Monday.

Wednesday's "Turkey and Dressing" day was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Activities for next week:
 Mon;Wed and Fri. - Line Dancing at 9:30 AM
 Mon; Pool/Games 1:30 PM
 Wed; Generations B/P check 11:00 - 11:30 AM



HOWDY!

By: Kathy Adair



Drip Irrigation

Spring weather is a good reminder about conserving water. One of the most effective ways is to use drip irrigation. It's also better for the plants and your pocketbook. Watch the water from a sprinkler. Much of it is carried away in the wind and evaporated before it can reach the ground. Drip irrigation can be a most efficient way of watering. Extension horticulturist Dr. Doug Welch says it's become more popular as drip systems have gotten more user friendly and people realize they aren't losing water to wind and evaporation. The drip hose is flat with holes in it. The water drips out slowly and evenly. You should water with a drip hose for a least three hours at a time. Welch suggests using sprinklers on grass and using drip irrigation in gardens and flower beds. Research done on drip irrigation shows it increases production and is second to none for water efficiency. Drip irrigation systems for the average vegetable garden cost about \$50.00.

New Grandson Arrives!

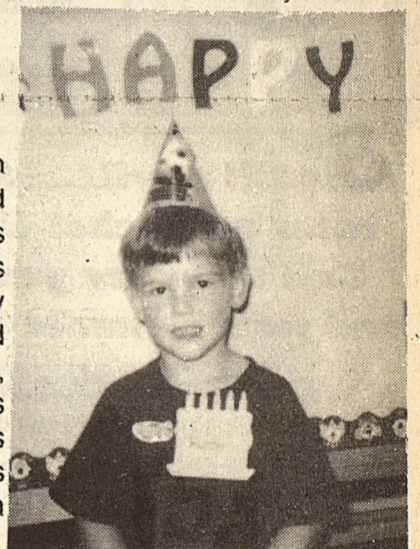
Tim and Johna De Busk proudly announce the arrival of a son, Dantzen ('Dantz') Jonathan DeBusk. He weighed 7 pounds, and was 21 inches long. His father's parents live in Idalou, and maternal grandparents are Johnnie and Melba Fitzgerald of Plains.

Library filmtime

Youngsters attending filmtime last week were four year old birthday boy Hunter Welch, Kevin John Gass, Aaron Cox, Hailey Welch, Brittney Roper, Brett Hawthorne, Rhaela Stall, Rhaemi Stall, Kristen Knight, Cameron Knight, Cody & Autumn Friesen, Katelynn Young, Raegan Young, Arturo Parra, Adam Nixon, Courtney Byram, Jacob and Jaston Brink, Dakota Earnest, Carolina Hernandez and Kody Ellison.

Lubbock High Plains Junior Rodeo Results

Kimberly Jackson won first in the 8 and under goat tying, and had two 5th places, in Poles and Barrels. Keith Jackson was 1st in boys 13-15 breakaway roping. Marcey House placed 9th in girls 16-19 breakaway, and 4th in poles. Robin Squyres was 6th in 16-19 girls breakaway, and Brett Squyres was 7th in boys 13-15 tie down calf roping.



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The Plains and Denver City EMS is sponsoring an Emergency Medical Technician training class starting May 13. For more information on the course, which can lead to certification as an EMT, call either Joe Humphrey, 456-7419, or David Brunson, 456-2288 or 456-7127.

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From The Hack



I guess this is the year for shocks and surprises. Last week I told you about hearing from a guy I was in the Navy with eons ago, and hadn't seen or heard from since 1956.

Just recently, the Bride answered a call from one Mickey Buchanan. We happened to be graduating classmates at Pecos High School in 1950. Mickey is hard at work helping to work up a roster of all those now ancient ones, hopefully leading to a 50 Year Reunion in the year 2000. After looking at his roster, including the guys and gals I went to school with who are no longer with us, I suggest we possibly move the big bash up a bit... from those stats, there's a distinct possibility I may not make the party either.

Last week I wrote a few words about our graduation blast, and I incorrectly stated there were fifty some odd graduates. There were over 60. I suppose one tends to re-

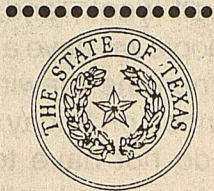
member the people one wants to, and conveniently forgets the others. Not that I didn't exactly love all the class. On the other hand, I am now convinced they all didn't love me, either.

It's not only sad, depressing, but scary to think this number of your earlier peers are NOT with you. What it does is scream out, "HEY MAN, YOU ARE GETTING OLDER BY THE MINUTE!"

If I manage to make it to the proposed 50th Reunion, I intend to ask Mickey two questions; (1), Why did you always manage to outdress the rest of us guys thru four years of school, and, (2) Why couldn't you have run a bit faster on the 440 Relay team? The first question has bothered me 47 years... the second has bothered the other three Relay members the same length of time!

I played golf this weekend with a 'Motley Crew'... no, not the rock music group - David

Brunson, Jerry Morphis and Jerry Howard, all noted public servants. It was a very strange experience, one I have never experienced before. Bosses Mayor T.J. Miller, Governor George W. Bush and Sheriff Jim Rice will probably give all three nerds a raise for resisting my efforts to involve them in a bit of harmless wagering on the outcome of the match, which they refused. Commendable behavior, boys, but very boring... the first time in many years of membership in the golf club I have come home with the very same number of dollars I left with. Really incredible, and the Bride said, "Why don't you play with them all the time" when I got home, wallet intact.



Walker: Texas Rep

This session has been filled with tough choices and long hours, but it is worth it when the outcome is better schools, safer neighborhoods and economic growth.

I am sure many of you are keeping a close eye on House Bill 4(HB4), commonly referred to as the tax bill. HB4 is expected to be debated this week in the Senate. I urge you to contact your state senator and voice your concerns. I am sure your input will be as valuable to him as it was to me.

During a press conference called by Lt. Governor Bob Bullock, Senator Teel Bivins of Amarillo stated the Senate's plan for the bill is a pared down version of the bill passed by the House. Under the proposed Senate version there will be less property tax relief, balanced with more equalization of new tax revenue sources. The Senate plan would maintain current local control of school revenue.

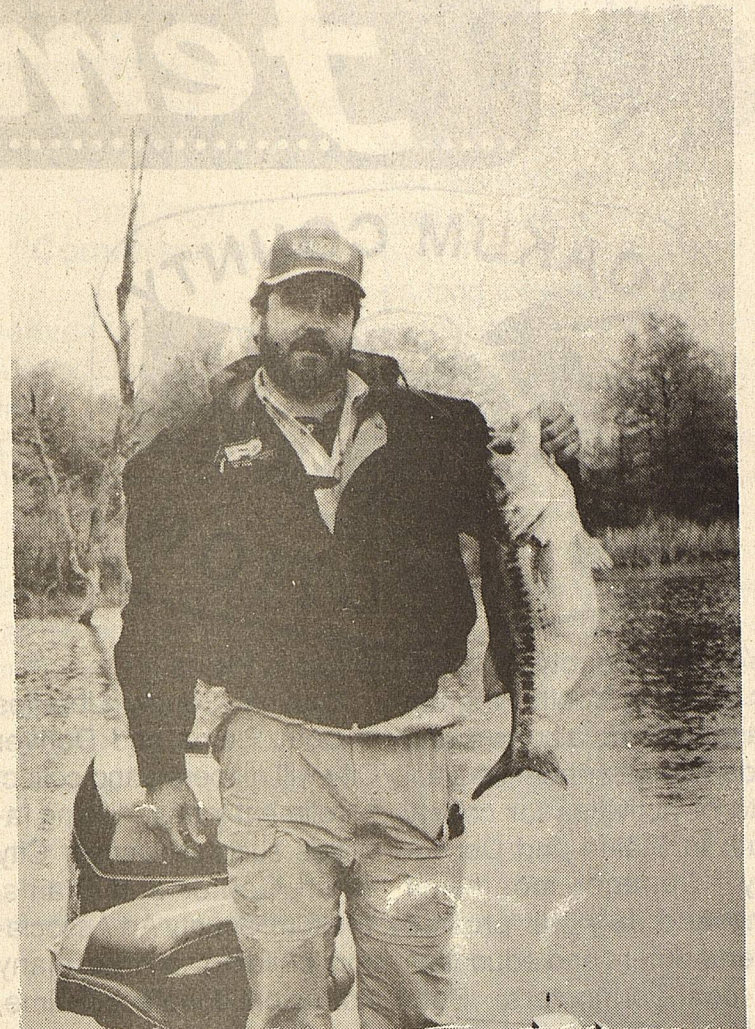
Many of the suggestions you provided during my legislative survey are on the forefront of the legislative agenda. Last week the House passed a measure which would lower the blood alcohol level from .10 to .08. This week the House will debate mandatory bicycle helmet laws. More than 60% of you are against the measure unless certain concessions apply. I will let your concerns be known on the House floor.

This session has seen a major emphasis on "getting tough" with sex offenders. During the past two weeks we have passed quite a few bills that send a strong message to sex offenders. If these measures are adopted by the Senate, sex offenders will serve longer terms, face possible castration and be identified to residents upon moving into new neighborhoods.

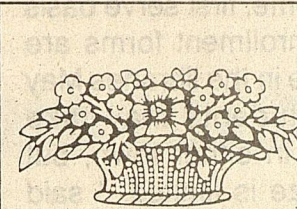
I would like to thank and congratulate the students, parents coaches and mentors who stopped by my office this past weekend, on their outstanding UIL achievements. It was great to see so many young West Texans doing well at the state competition. Keep those letters, faxes and phone calls. It is crucial to me to have your input as I consider more than 1200 bills in the last 30 days of the session.

Until next time, God Bless.
Gary Walker,
State Representative,
District 80.

Baptist men thrash waters of Lake Fork for bass



Fifteen local Baptist men visited Lake Fork in late March, hoping to possibly land a state record bass from its fabled waters. The Record Book was not rewritten, but they caught some good fish and reported a great time. Ron Craft is shown here with an 8 pound 3 ounce bass, biggest of their 'tournament'. He said he caught it on a Texas rigged plastic caterpillar. Other versions of the story report he rented the fish from his guide, who actually caught it, while others say the fish is the work of a taxidermist, and was removed from the plaque for the photo.



Hanging baskets for Mother's Day
Beu's Nursery

NOTICE

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF YOAKUM

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Yoakum County will receive sealed bids until 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 9, 1997 for the selection of the Yoakum County depository; for a period of four (4) years ending sixty days from the time fixed by law for the next selections of a depository. Bids will be reviewed with award to be made in Commissioners Court on Monday, May 12, 1997. Yoakum County reserves the right to select more than one depository. The bids are to comply with all the requirements of State of Texas Statutes concerning money deposited in the several "county funds", together with such trust funds under the jurisdiction of the County and District Clerks as required under Article 2558a.

Said bids shall be accompanied by a certified check for \$62,323.00 as a guarantee of good faith on the part of the bidder that if the bid should be accepted, the successful bidder will enter into a bond or pledge of collateral and upon the failure of the bidder that will be selected to comply with the guarantee, the amount of such certified check shall go to the County as liquidated damages. The check(s) will be immediately returned upon the depository having been selected.

Bid must be submitted on a Bid Worksheet which, together with specifications, may be obtained from either County Treasurer Toni Jones, P.O. Box 492, Plains, Texas 79355(806-456-8794); or County Auditor Hazel Lowrey, P.O. Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355 (806-456-2422).

Sealed bids should be marked "BID-BANK DEPOSITORY" and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456, Plains, Texas 79355.

Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Dallas Brewer

County Judge
Yoakum County, Texas

Help Wanted

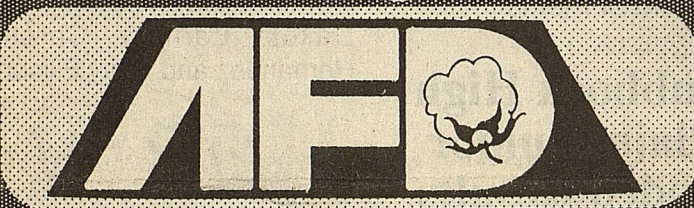
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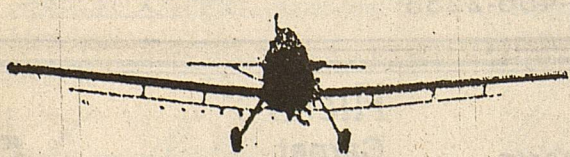
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