

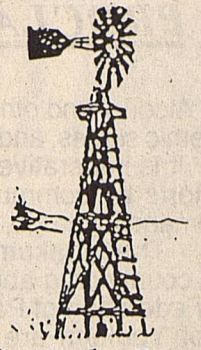
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Cowboy Country News
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Cowboy Country News



Published each Wednesday at the County
Seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas.

Volume III, Issue 8, Wednesday, October 23, 1996

Resignations Shake Town An editorial viewpoint of CCN

On Monday evening of this week, the PISD Board of Trustees accepted the dual resignations of Superintendent Pete Simmons and his Pre-K teacher wife, Linda. The act ended over a week of rumor and speculation about the reported actions of the controversial Superintendent.

Lubbock's ABC television affiliate, Channel 28, late last week broadcast on their evening news a segment detailing "confirmed" actions and charges against Simmons occurring in Austin much earlier, which apparently prompted Mr. Simmons' letter of resignation.

The Lubbock A-J picked up on the story in it's Tuesday issue, reporting the Board accepted the resignations without comment, and reported President Brad Palmer did not divulge the reasons for the action.

At first glance, this silent stance might be perceived by the public as a desire by the Board to "hush the event up". Not from our viewpoint.

All School Districts, to our knowledge, retain the services of attorney's to advise them on legal matters, and PISD is certainly no exception. We have learned the Trustee's have been advised by their attorney not to comment on any of the actions.

We can't fault that. If I, as a governmental entity board member, or as a business person, were advised by a competent lawyer not to discuss a serious matter, I would be pretty foolish to ignore the advice. It is much too easy, and much too common these days, to find ones self the target of an expensive lawsuit. Indeed, it is becoming more difficult to read a newspaper or periodical, watch a TV news show, without learning some school board is being sued, often on considerably more

frivolous matters than those concerning Mr. Simmons case.

While it is true, we could obtain documentation of the actions and charges occurring in Austin leading up to this event, and then report in CCN all the sordid details. But to what purpose? That has already taken place on Channel 28, and is there a single, solitary soul in the community not aware of this story? If there is, they must be existing in a vacuum.

Existing laws and statutes call for school boards to retire in executive session when discussing a number of issues, including personnel actions. There is an exception to this, however; If the personnel issue is no more than acceptance of a resignation, as in the Simmons' case, executive, or closed sessions, are not necessary, and Monday night's portion dealing with the resignations was open to the public. We do feel, however, this provision in the law is all too often abused, and not just by school boards; the same statutes apply to city and county governmental bodies.

These resignations may please some of the community. It is not, however, a healthy situation for our school system, and can be nothing but an embarrassment for the town. It is not the first time events involving the school have rocked the area. It should be obvious to all, the resignations will please certain citizens, but it should be remembered, the Simmons' had their followers and friends also. We sincerely hope the community will realize the Trustees did what had to be done in the matter, and factions will not develop, as has happened in the past, costing many friendships and dividing the town. In this case, it is simply not necessary.

Area chili harvest in high gear



Chili, an absolutely vital ingredient for most Southwesterner's appetites, is being gathered by the hundreds of tons in several Yoakum and Gaines County areas. The vegetables production here is another indicator of the diversity of our agricul-tural producers. A few years ago, there wasn't a row of commercially grown chili within miles. Oddly enough, the type and variety of chill grown here now is also very diversified.

Some of the long green chili is destined for food product use, while the red pods are harvested and processed for commercial dye purposes. Growers are usually tight lipped about the specific chili varieties they plant in the spring.

The red dye type chilis shown here were harvested last week on the Bruce Lester place just south of town. The workers gather the hanging pods in plastic tubs, hurry to the waiting trailers normally used in cotton harvesting, where an employee dumps the tubs of chilis, and gives the picker a token. The tokens will be counted at the end of the long, hard day, and the pickers take home pay is determined by the number of tokens he or she has accumulated.

Eagles Tame Cowboys 21-13 Great effort cannot overcome breaks & mistakes

The Cowboys journeyed to Seagraves Friday to take on the bitter foe Eagles, and a great defensive effort in the first quarter gave both the 'boys and their fans high hopes for a district win.

The entire defensive unit played hardnosed ball, and repeatedly stopped the vaunted Seagraves ground attack, with big plays from Arthur Hernandez, Wayne Willett, David Flores, Derek Brunson, Coley Burgess and Marte Pierce. Dustin Brunson's interception of an Eagle pass should have had the Cowboys in good field position, but a penalty wiped out the play.

One series of plays later, Tanner Blount pulled in an Eagle pass to give the Cowboys the ball on their 32 yard line. Abraham Garcia threw to Jason Redman for a first down, Stephen Bitolas gained yardage on the ground, and Adrian Rios took Garcia's pass for another good gain. Fate reared it's ugly head when a fumble gave the Eagles another shot, and in the second period, their offense got up a head of steam, and a series of runs by their Brandon Luckey produced their first score and a 7-0 lead.

Following the Eagle's kickoff, Plains ran two ground plays, then lost the ball when an Eagle took Abraham's errant pass, and raced 52 yards for their second score and a 14-0 lead.

The Cowboy offense



Cowboys get hard earned first down. They had 12 to the Eagles 8 in the tough contest.

finally came alive. Joe take Garcia's toss for a 30 yard score. Late in the half, the pass to Rios produced another 15, Pierce got 7 on another throw, Rios ran strong to the Eagles 30, where Luna got open to a gainer, but another



Marte Pierce going out of bounds after good catch.

Turn to Page 4, 'Cowboys-Eagles'

Yoakum County well represented at 74th Annual Conference

Almost 500 County Judges and Commissioners, plus their spouses, gathered in Lubbock last week for the 74th annual business meeting of the County Judges and Commissioners Assn. of Texas at the Civic Center.

Elected County officials from here attending the conference included Judge Dallas Brewer, Commissioners Jim Barron, Bob Thurston, John Avara and Macky McWhirter, Treasurer Toni Jones and Justice of Peace Judge Melba Crutcher.

The four day meeting featured group sessions covering a variety of County governmental issues, and addresses by

many noted speakers.

The conference marked the stepping down of Jim Barron as President of the Association. On Thursday evening, County Judge Helen Walker, Victoria County, assumed the presidency of the association. Many of the local delegation had words of high praise for Barron's performance at this conference, and for his leadership during his term of office.

Others from Yoakum County attending the event were Patrick Hamilton, Music and Education Director of the First Baptist Church here, and Kathy Adair, County Extension Service. Hamilton joined

Judge Melba Crutcher in presenting musical entertainment at a Wednesday morning session, while Adair served as coordinator of a Funtime Mixer on Wednesday.

Treasurer Toni Jones, who is also President of the County Treasurer Association of Texas, assisted in a session dealing with County pay-rolls. Judge Brewer coordinated a prayer breakfast Wednesday, and local Jo Ann Barron was one of the coordinators of Spouses Activities during the conference.

Early Voting is now taking place for the November 5 General Election. We urge all registered voters to exercise their rights..... VOTE!

'Red Ribbon Week' proclaimed here

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Alcohol and other Drug abuse in this nation has reached epidemic stages, and
 WHEREAS, It is imperative that visible, unified prevention education efforts by community members be launched to reduce the demand for drugs, and
 WHEREAS, The Yoakum County Extension Service's PREVENT, a county drug abuse prevention effort, as well as the National Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth and the County of Yoakum are sponsoring the National Red Ribbon Campaign, offering citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to drug free lifestyles, and
 WHEREAS, business, governments, law enforcement, schools, religious institutions, service organizations youth, physicians senior citizens and individuals will demonstrate their commitment to drug free, healthy lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this week long campaign, and
 WHEREAS, the community of Yoakum County further commits its resources to ensure the success of the Red Ribbon Campaign, and
 NOW, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the County Judge of Yoakum County does hereby support October 20-26, 1996, as Red Ribbon Week, and encourages its citizens to participate in drug prevention education activities, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug free community.
 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Judge of Yoakum County encourages all citizens to pledge; MY CHOICE.....DRUG FREE!

DALLAS BREWER, COUNTY JUDGE



County Judge Dallas Brewer signs proclamation prepared by Extension Agent Kathy Adair

Criminal County Court Case

On Monday, one case was heard in Judge Brewer's Court, with Criminal Dist. Attorney Richard Clark representing the State. Rick Garcia, 22, pled true to the State's continuation and modification of probation of a cocaine conviction case in 1993. He will be confined in County jail

until space is available in the Substance Abuse Facility for at least 6 months, but not more than 1 year, and shall be confined in County Jail 180 days or until space is available in the SAFPF. All payments and probation fees shall be waived until 30 days after defendant is released.



VOTE FOR
JULIA LEMLEY
 DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE
 YOAKUM COUNTY CLERK

- ✓ Employed in Yoakum County Clerk's office 19 years.
- ✓ Chief deputy in Clerk's office 13 years.
- ✓ Appointed Interim Clerk by Commissioners Court and sworn in 5/31/96.
- ✓ Capable and qualified.
- ✓ Member of First Baptist Church in Plains, Tx.
- ✓ 35 year resident of Yoakum County.
- ✓ Married 35 years and mother of 2, grandmother of 2.
- ✓ Clerk's office files every real estate transaction, birth certificates, marriage licenses, misdemeanor criminal cases, juvenile cases, probate matters and all records of Commissioners Court. Clerk attends every session of County Court and Commissioners Court and helps conduct all elections.

Vote for experience and leadership in the General Election on November 5, 1996.

Pol. Ad. Pd. for by Julia Lemley, Box 334, Plains, TX 79355

Isn't it Great To Be An American?

Enjoy the freedom of voting.
 Vote for J.R. Slentz for Yoakum County Commissioner, Precinct 2.
 Early voting October 16 thru November 1.
 General Election November 5.
 Political ad paid for by J.R. Slentz, Denver City, Texas

Hallowlujah Festival!

Wear your favorite wholesome costume and enter the costume contest! A carnival with booths, snacks, candy & surprises, All to the glory of God!
 Thursday, October 31, 6p.m. - 8:30p.m., Plains Community Center
 Sponsored by the churches of Plains.
 Cost - one canned good per person (no one will be turned Away)

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)

To the registered voters of the County of Yoakum, Texas:

(A los votantes registrados del Condado de Yoakum, Texas.)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., November 5, 1996, for voting in a general election to elect presidential electors, Members of Congress, Members of the Legislature, and state, district, county and precinct officers.

(Notifiquese, por las presente, que las casillas electorales sitadas abajo se abriran desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 5 de noviembre de 1996 para votar en la Eleccion General para elegir electores presidenciales, Miembros del Congreso, Miembros de la Legislatura, y oficiales del estado, distrito, condado y del precincto.)

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES (DIRECCION(ES) DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORALES)

ELECTION PRECINCT	NAME OF FACILITY	STREET ADDRESS	CITY
101	Precinct 1 Building	139 E. Broadway	Denver City, TX
202	Community Building	West 15th St.	Denver City, TX
303	Yoakum County Library	901 Avenue E	Plains, TX
305	Yoakum County Library	205 E. 4th St.	Denver City, TX
404	Corral Youth Center	911 Avenue G	Plains, TX
406	Tax Office (Branch)	122 W. 4th St.	Denver City, TX

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at:

(La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en:)

County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, Plains, TX Yoakum County Tax Office, Denver City, TX
 (location) (sitio)

Recommended but not required

between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on October 16, 1996
 (date)

(entre las 8:00 de la mañana y las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el 16 de Octubre, 1996)
 (fecha)

and ending on November 1, 1996 (y terminando el 1 de Noviembre, 1996)
 (date) (fecha)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan enviarse a:)

JULIA LEMLEY
 (Name of Early Voting Clerk)
 (Nombre del Secretario de la Votacion Adelantada)

P.O. Box 309
 (Address) (Direccion)

PLAINS, 79355
 (City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Zona Postal)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on:

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran adelantada por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el:)

October 29, 1996
 (date) (fecha)

Issued this the 15 day of October, 1996.

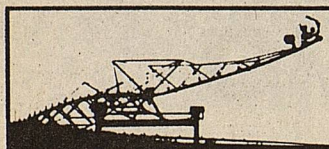
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Dallas Brewer
 Signature of County Judge (Firma del Juez del Condado)

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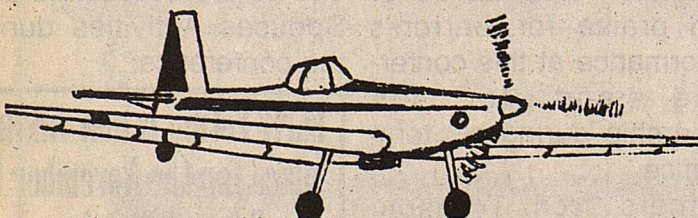


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Groundwater Alliance Assembles Here



Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District hosted the annual business meeting of the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts Thursday, October 17, in the Community Building.

Representatives from water districts across the state attended, many of them making lengthy drives such as the delegate from the Harris-Galveston County District. Other districts sending delegates included

Bandera, White Deer, Austin, Dumas, Meadow, Fredericksburg, Brady, Jourdanton, George West, Brownfield, Robert Lee, Vancourt, Mertzon, Garden City, Ozona, Lubbock, and Lamesa.

Attending the meeting and representing Sandy Land were David and Vi Turnbough, Darrell and Sue Barron, Don Parrish, Ray Bearden, Gary and Frankie Walker, and Kathy Jones. After a noon meal catered by Randy Gooch of Denver

City, the delegates heard reports from several Alliance Committees, and conducted their annual business session.

Officers in the Alliance include C.E. Williams, White Deer, President, Scott Holland, Mertzon, VP, Lee Arrington, Brownfield, Secretary, Paul Tybor, Fredericksburg, Treasurer, and Harvey Everheart, Lamesa, Parliamentarian.

In kindergarten, 'D' is for 'Dad's Day Dinner'



The youngsters in Mrs. May's 'K' class were studying the letter "D" recently, and to make the letter more memorable, invited their dad's and granddad's to have lunch with them. A few mom's also came to join the fun. Thanks to these families for helping with this special day!



State & County Lamb/Goat Validation

All 4-H or FFA members feeding lambs or goats this year must notify your ag science teacher or County Extension agent. All lamb and goat projects must be validated **no later than October 30**. There will be a tagging session held in the D.C. Ag Farm on October 22 and one at the Plains Ag Farm on October 24.

If you have any questions you may call the Yoakum County Extension Office at 456-2263.



Ronnie Watkins, Plains Middle School Principal, was honored last Wednesday with a surprise gathering of teachers and staff members, and presented with a western theme gift basket. The message delivered to Watkins was, "We're doing this for you because you're such a great boss!"



ELECT DEBBIE L. RUSHING

Republican Candidate
For
Yoakum County Clerk

- ✓ **Conservative** - "Will work within the constraints of a tighter budget".
- ✓ **Knowledgeable** - "Experienced office manager with extensive knowledge of vital records management".
- ✓ **Committed** - "To serving this county and becoming better acquainted with it's citizens and their needs".

Vote Tuesday, November 5th.
Your vote does make a difference.

Pd. Pol. Adv. Paid for by Debbie L. Rushing, P.O. Box 537, Plains, Texas 79355

Renaissance

flowers & gifts

M-F 456-3939 10-5:30

All Halloween items 1/2 price! New potpourri scents priced right!

Business/organizations, should pay Yoakum County Connection \$50 annual dues to vote at the Jan. 9 meeting. Four new Directors to be elected, nominations accepted from floor. Only one representative may vote from each business or organization. Help support the 'Connection', and we can have another great success next year!

Final Rites For Edward Sumrall

Clovis, NM. - Services for Edward O. Sumrall, 72, of Grady, NM, will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Grady Baptist Church with Rev. Paul Burwash officiating. Burial will be in Grady Cemetery under direction of Steed-Todd Funeral Home.

Mr. Sumrall died Sunday, Oct. 20 in Methodist Hospital, Lubbock.

He was born May 12, 1924, in Grady. He graduated from Forrest High School and Texas Tech University. He was a US Air Force veteran, and married Maxine Burroughs on Feb. 27, 1949, in Valera. He was a member and Deacon of Grady Baptist Church, where he taught adult Sunday School. He was Treasurer of South Plains Baptist Association, and served on the Board of Directors at ENMR. He served on the Grady school board, and was chairman 16 years. He taught school at Forrest High one year.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, Alan of Grady, and Don of Silver City; a daughter, Suann Parrish of Plains; seven grandchildren, and a sister, Joyce Fullerton of Portales. The family suggests memorials to Grady Baptist Church or to Grady Memorial Scholarship Fund.

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"This is our kind of investment —cut the best deal you can, and keep your options open."



Diane and Daryl "Moose" Johnston

*Annual Percentage Yield of 6.25% based on an interest rate of 6.23%. Rate is fixed for duration of deposit term. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. Opening deposit requirement \$5,000.00. Offer good September 11, 1996 through October 18, 1996.



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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

interception led to the half time with Seagraves up 14-7.

Taking the second half kickoff, the Eagles ground game got underway again, but good play by Luna, Hernandez and Chris Willett finally created a fourth and two for the Eagles, and Burgess made a big hit in their backfield to give the Cowboys first down on their 30, but the first play resulted in another fumble to put the Eagles in motion again. Good defense again stalled the Eagles, and a failed fourth down play set the Cowboys on their own 10 Two plays later, the Eagle's Burrola picked off a Garcia pass for a 28 yard touchdown jaunt.

A big play on the kickoff brought Cowboy fans to their feet when Blount took the ball, faked a handoff to Luna, and handed it to a racing Rios, who was finally downed on the Eagle's 29.

Cowboy hopes were quickly dashed when another fumble gave the Eagles the ball on their 49. The defense held, forcing an Eagle punt. Runs by Rios and Wayne Willett produced a first down, Pierce gained nine on a pass from Garcia, who then got another first on a sneak. Rios and Willett runs produced another first down, and Luna's and Redman's catches gained nine yards, and Rios gained another first on the Eagle 27. A failed reverse lost 16 yards, but Garcia quickly hit Luna for a 27 yard gain, then Rios for another 8. Joe Luna then slipped into the end zone, and Garcia found him with a scoring toss late in the final period.

The Cowboys and Eagles mauled one another for the remainder of the game and the final 21-13 score.

The 'Boys travel to Sundown next Friday to take on the Roughnecks, who were edged earlier by Seagraves 17-15.

District Cross Country Meet

The Junior High boys team had a great performance in Lubbock last Saturday, capturing the District Champ trophy in the big district meet at Mae Simmons park. They edged Sundown by five points to win their division. Leo Luna mae in 2nd, Manuel Hernandez was 4th, Luis Hernandez 6th, Greg Gonzales 9th, Joseph Rodriguez 19th, and Chris Estrada, 21st. Coach McAdams said, "The boys ran great, and I am looking forward to the eighth graders helping the High School team next year".



Back, L-R, McAdams, Chris Estrada, Joseph Rodriguez, Leo Luna; Front-Luis Hernandez, Greg Gonzales, Manuel Hernandez.

The Varsity Cowboys narrowly missed qualifying for the trip to the Regional competition, finishing third in the District meet.



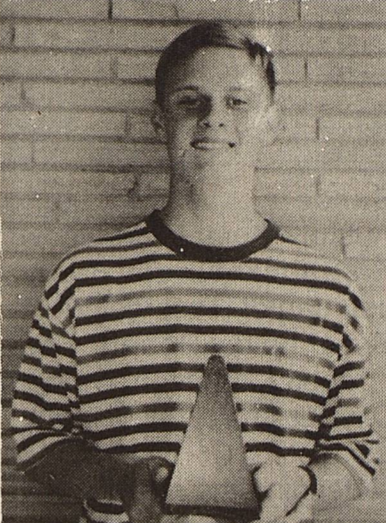
Lee Tyson, Vincent Delgado, Alex Luna, McAdams, Fermin Luna, Jesus Hernandez, Will St. Romain.

The PHS Varsity girls had a good showing at district meet, and finished fourth in their division.



L-R, Wendy Hernandez, McAdams, Anne Palmer, Cassie Dearing, Tanya Hernandez and Lisa Parrish.

Student of the Week



Matt Morgan is the PHS Student of the Week. A sophomore, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Morgan. He was nominated by Mr. Davis.

Matt Morgan is dedicated to excellence both in and out of the classroom. He is a leader who has specific designs for his future and a willingness to help others achieve success as well. His initiative and motivation are two characteristics that make him deserving of the student of the week honor.

and was nominated by Mr. Morgan. "Lee is self motivated and willing to help with what has to be done. He is a better musician now, and is the heartbeat of the band; when he's absent, they have trouble staying together. He plays the bass drum and runs cross country track.

A cold band member

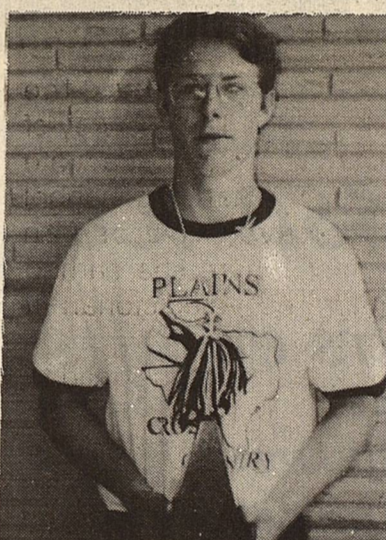


The brisk weather at last Fridays game in Seagraves put a chill in Cowboy band member Donita Richardson, who very sensibly wrapped herself in a warm blanket.

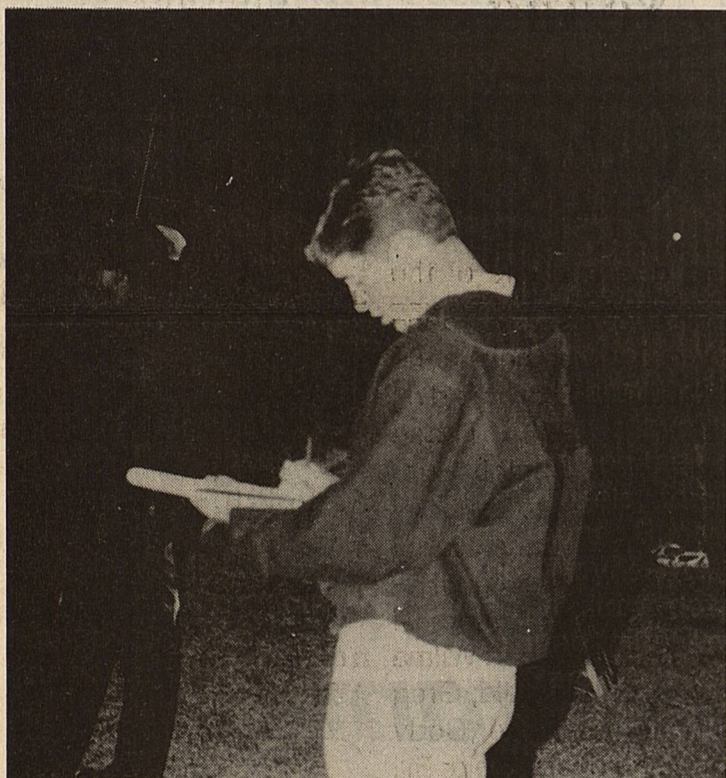
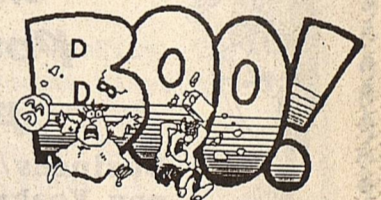
Cowgirl Volleyball

Because of the Columbus Day holiday and the District Cross Country meet in Lubbock Saturday, only one volleyball game was played last week.

The Cowgirls traveled to Monahans to take on the Loboettes, and had a rough meeting, going down 8-15 and 5-15.



NOTE: Because of last week's holiday, we have two students to report on this week. Editor Our other Student of the week is Lee Tyson, Sophomore, and the son of Cowboy and Tami Tyson,



Jacob Lester writes up Seagraves game, prepping for future Pulitzer Prize.



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Plains Depot

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Fall Is In The Air.
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Femme Friends



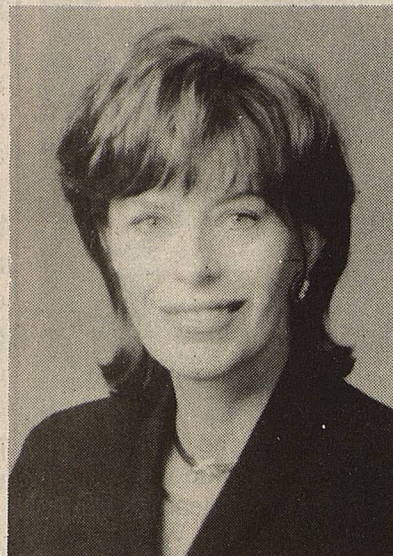
Former local promoted

SANTA CLARA, Calif., Oct. 1, 1996—Siemens Business Communication Systems, Inc. today appointed Tonya Randolph Patton as Vice President and Controller replacing Gerald Wright, who was promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

"Tonya brings a wealth of financial experience to her new position," said Karl Geng, president and CEO of Siemens Business Communications. "Her insight will be instrumental in helping the company achieve its long-term financial goals."

In her previous position, Patton was Director of Planning and Reporting. Patton came to Siemens ROLM in 1992 from Tel Plus Communications, a Siemens company, where she held a number of senior finance positions. Prior to joining Tel Plus, her experience included CFO of a national telecommunications company, partner in charge of audit for a regional CPA firm and senior auditor for KPMG.

Patton was instrumental in the successful financial consolidation of ROLM Company, ROLM Systems, ROLM



Systems Technologies, Siemens Private Communications Systems and Tel Plus after their acquisitions by Siemens.

Patton is the daughter of Wallace and Floriene Randolph, formerly of Plains. Wallace taught FFA at PHS for several years before devoting full time to his farming. Floriene and her three daughters still own farms in Yoakum and Terry County.

Tonya Patton graduated from Plains High School, married Ken Patton and went on to finish her education with honors at University of Texas and MBA studies at Southern Methodist University.

Lowrey graduate of Navy Corpsmen School

Tammy Lowrey, the daughter of Jerry Lowrey of Tokio, is a recent graduate of the demanding school for Naval Corpsmen School, where she earned honors as Valedictorian of her class.

She has been assigned to a Naval Station in Florida, where she will work in her field until January, when she will enter an advanced medical training school.

Tammy graduated from Plains High in 1994.

Please Note: Last week we failed to list West Texas Gas & Uncle's as a sponsor on the 4-H Club page ad. We regret the error, and thank them for their support.



Elmore-Brantley Family Reunion

The W.P. Elmore and Grover C. Brantley families met Sunday, October 13 for their combined family reunion. The two families were long time neighbors in the Tokio community, and claim several family descendants in common.

They met in the clubroom of the old courthouse in Plains for the noon meal and afternoon of visiting.

The 28 members present decided to meet the second week in October each year. Attending were;

From Plains, Hattie B. Elmore Brantley, Polly and Betty Rushing, Owen and Sadie Schneider, Buddy and Janelle Brantley, and Morris and Debbie Rushing.

Evelyn Brantley Farrar, Ozell Brantley Prather, T.A. and Romalee Elmore attended from Brownfield, and others included Lynn and Rhonda Cox and daughters Sarah and Laura from Wolfforth, Diann Louis, Denver City, Miki McKinzie and Sara Curtsinger, Seagraves, Tanner Houck, Lubbock, Richard and Lee Brantley, Midland, and Rodney and Denise Marchman and son Reed from Fort Worth.

Library Filmtime

Twenty-seven pre-school youngsters attended filmtime Wednesday, October 16. They enjoyed a visit by Jingles the Clown, who entertained them with a puppet story and magic tricks.

They celebrated seven October birthdays with punch, cookies and 'Hunchback of Notre Dame' theme chocolate suckers, provided by the mothers of birthday kids Rhaela Stall, 4, Dakota

Earnest, 3, Kristen Knight, 4, Brink, 1, Jacob Brink, 5, Raegan Young, 1, and Brett Hawthorne, 5.

Others enjoying filmtime were Troy Don Parrish, Courtney Byram, Rhaemi Stall, Hunter Welch, Kelsey Curry, Carolina Hernandez, Sam Melendez, Adam Nixon, Heather Penner, Katelynn Young, Marina Martinez, Jonathan Penner, Joseph Williams, Sabrina Byram, Haley Welch, Andrew Conway, Chloe Carpenter, Cameron Knight, Alex Penner, and Morgan Willis.



Young Family Reunion Held

The descendants of the late Mr. and Mrs. J.M. Young of Tokio, Tx, was held in the party house in Brownfield on October 6, 1996. Those present were Buelah Hubbard of Tahoka; Ita Young of Plains; Shirley and Kathy Burkhalter of Cassolton; Romalee and Alton Elmore of Brownfield; Jerry and Wilma Jo Young of Littlefield; Greg and Anita De Fever, Cody and Carson of Littlefield; Bill and Peggy Hubbard of Lorenzo; David and Lavona Lester of Lubbock; Senay Jolly and Belinda Turner of Tahoka; Betty and Dobbs Jolly and Shirley of Tahoka; Tim Jolly of Lubbock; Jim Jolly, Carla, Cory and Kristen of Tahoka; Sandy, Steven and Sammy Sarlic of Lorenzo; Patricia, Michael, David and Paul Garcia or Lorenzo; and Redell Cogburn of Monahans.

November 5 is Election Day. It is also Chili Day!

Get out to vote, then come to the Methodist Church for our third annual Chili Lunch & homemade baked good sale. We will be serving from 11 a.m. till 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Please join us for good food, and visiting with your neighbors. Adults \$5, Students \$4

HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR FAMILY PORTRAIT COUPON?

Plains Band Boosters are selling coupons for family portraits. The pictures will be taken on Saturday, November 2. Pictures will be returned in time for Christmas. Coupons are \$5.00 and must be purchased by October 28. See Cowboy Band Members, Band Booster Members, or call Kay Swann at 456-6226, Timmie Johnson at 522-6448, or Jerri Lollar at 522-6521.

Local Lady Scores Big At Fair



Mildred and Starburst Quilt

Local resident Mildred Jones is a lady with considerable energy and talents. She carried some 21 entries to the recent South Plains Fair in Lubbock, and carried home 15 ribbons.

The 83 year young sprightly lady received first place ribbons for her beet pickles and a baby quilt, her apple juice jelly, red grapes, crocheted snowman, baby afghan, a pair of slippers, hot place mats, and a lap afghan earned second place ribbons. While her watermelon rind preserves, another pair of slippers and knitted shoes took third places, and she received Honorable Mention ribbons for a Lone Star Quilt

and a coaster mat. She has some rather unusual interests, being a big baseball fan, with her favorite teams the Texas Rangers and Atlanta Braves. She is also a fan of Waylon Jennings, and to keep herself busy, tends her garden and mows her lawn.

Mildred was married to the late Charlie Jones, who passed away in 1978. She has four children and two step children, Travis Jones, Ray Jones, Barbara Bowman, Elaine Lewis, Linda McCormack and Marilyn McCormack; she also has six grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and numerous step grandchildren.

Reception for Rushing

The public is invited to attend a reception honoring Debbie Rushing, candidate for the office of Yoakum County Clerk. The event will be held Tuesday, October 29, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the First National Bank in Denver City.

Hostesses for the event are Darlene Harper, Judy Tinley, Donna Givens, Sue Ann Harrison, Dawn McLeroy, all of Denver City. Bobbie Gayle, Dana Hamm, Mary Jo St.Romain, Crip Henard, Beth Clanahan, Jan Parrish, Connie McWhirter, Dean Richardson, and Peggy Squyres, from Plains.

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From The Hack

In Brownfield recently, I stopped at a convenience store, and at the drink dispenser, had a conversation with a young Hispanic male, who got around to telling me he was off to serve Uncle Sam in the Navy the following day. He told me he and friends were preparing for his last farewell party that night.

I thought of all the good advice I could give him for his approaching adventure, but decided, no, he won't believe you anyway, so keep your mouth shut, let him experience what you and millions others have gone through the last 80 or so years.

I still remember, not fondly, the first haircut, which I think was designed to draw blood, not remove hair. The inoculation line was a nice recollection; you walked thru a door, and two hidden medics speared you on each side with three inch needles; the first drill sessions with an old Garand M-1 rifle which weighed at least 29 pounds, empty; the ghastly close order drills, where if you screwed up (I did) you were required to do 3,013 pushups, it seemed, with the Drill Instructor's foot on your back; the barracks inspection, where if your bunk couldn't bounce a quarter three inches in the air, when dropped, was not properly made up, calling for hours of rifle drill outside the barracks while the other guys got to relax... briefly; I recall the traditional Navy knot tying

sessions-I had trouble with shoe laces, and during my next four years service, never saw the necessity of learning, or using, those thousands of intricate knots; I learned it is not wise, not at all, to fall victim to strong spirits when on Liberty, and have the wrath of the Naval Shore Patrol discover your transgressions; I also learned you do not, in a fit of rage, decide to physically attack a Petty Officer of superior rank to you, but most importantly, some 40 pounds and three inches larger.

Yes, I could have called all this to the attention of the young man. Bah, Humbug, let him find out the hard way, as I did.

That worn out phrase, 'you can't teach an old dog new tricks' may not be even half accurate. If Roger, Polly Rushing's black lab is an indicator, you may not be able to teach younger dogs anything either.

Polly traded his blue and white Ford pickup recently for a new white Ford truck. Roger hates it. Polly said he used to pant with joy when offered a ride in the older truck, but now has to be forcibly picked up and placed inside, where he pitifully whines, shivering and shaking, his eyes rolling about in terror at the strange surroundings, obviously scared half out of his mind. He sniffs suspiciously at the leather covered seats, accustomed to the fabric covering in the other Ford.

While relating this at The Table of Wisdom last week, someone suggested Roger might think the new seat material might be dog hide instead of cow hide, or what ever.

I am just a bit disappointed in Roger about this

behavior. After Polly earlier had convinced Table regulars of the pooch's immense intelligence, which allowed him to learn to drive the truck, even use the cellular phone, after having area codes explained to him, it's a bit perturbing to learn the mutt has gotten so paranoid about a different means of transportation.

Come on, Roger boy, brace yourself, get hold of your nerves, try to settle down. Just think how much worse your environment would be if Polly had bought you a Dodge.

Have you ever hated? No, not a person, and yes, I know, the Good Book tells you not to hate; Good advice, but I have become addicted to hating Bluejays. Yes, those pretty blue, gray and white birds which in years past didn't come this far north, but now have decided to infest us with a wrath. To be more correct, they have targeted our two pecan trees for their greed.

This has not been a good year for pecan growers, right from the start. Our two trees were earlier loaded with tiny nuts, then Mother Nature turned ugly, and they began to fall off, by the scores.

Our two noble trees still supported a harvestable amount of nuts, until the despicable Blue Jays targeted our harvest.

From our backyard deck, we are regular witnesses of the Jays squawking arrival in the two trees, who then voraciously begin to peck and tear away at the green hulls about to split apart with the things which could make me a great Pecan Pie.

I have had it, animal right's folks, environmentalists-what few pecans are left in the back yard are MINE & BRIDE'S.

From here on, it is total war, and I am eternally grateful the City has no ordinance against discharging shotguns in the city limits.

The Great Pumpkin Visit

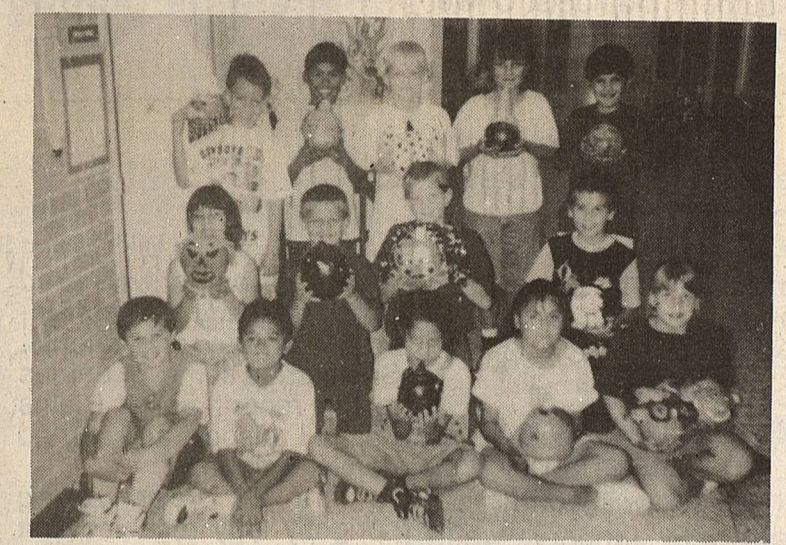
The 3rd grade classes of Margarita Avila, Willie Mae Engle and Phyllis House recently visited the pumpkin patch of Mr. & Mrs. Keith Earnest, and each student was given a pumpkin to decorate for a contest back at school. Mary Ward judged the contest, and each student received an award for their work. Both students and teachers appreciate the generosity of the Earnests.



Mrs. Engle's Class
(L to R) Seated—Nichole Loya, Helen Elias, and Leo Johnson. Kneeling—Marty Villereal, Michael Crump, Josey Cordova, Lena Fehr, Omar Colunga, and Jason Smith. Standing—Manuel Mendoza, Sammy Luna, Gabriela Velazquez, Maribel Mendias, Sara Wiebe, Adam McCravy, and Ben Hays.



Mrs. House's Class
(L to R) Seated—Jessica Garza, Pricilla Mares, and Perla Acosta. Kneeling—T. J. Cordova, Blake Parrish, Katie Oswald, Christopher Villegas, and Skylar Keese. Standing—Imelda Ruiz, Todd Williams, B. J. Lester, Arnold Luna, and Abel Ramos. Not pictured are Matthew McKinzie and Marie Badello.



Mrs. Avila's Class
(L to R) Seated—Andrew Duran, Tony Mindieta, Connie Loya, Mayra Baca, and Allison Friesen. Kneeling—Olivia Barrientez, Peter Neufeld, Blake O'Quinn, and Jose Garay. Standing—Casson Curtis, Raymond Soldana, Mark Morgan, Janie Wright, and Joel Cordova. Not pictured is Rosa Henderson.

Band shines in U.I.L. contest

The Cowboy Marching Band competed in the UIL Marching Contest at Texas Tech last Saturday, and received straight 'One' ratings for the 15th straight year. The band's selections included 'Flight of the Condor', 'Spain', and 'Camino Real'.

UIL rules mandate the band can only compete in area and state competition every other year. Since class 1,2 and 4-A bands competed last year, the Cowboy band cannot perform in these contests until 1997.

We were unable to report on JV & Jr. High football this week, but will try to catch up next week.

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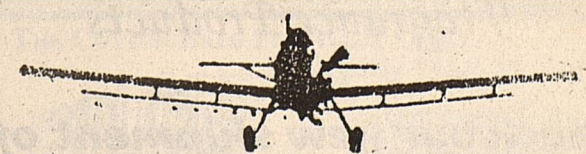
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