

COWBOY COUNTRY NEWS



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1945



This past Sunday, September 2, marked the 50th anniversary of the official surrender of Japan to Allied forces in World War II. At 8:45 am, a 11 man delegation of Japanese officials boarded the USS Missouri, anchored in Tokyo Bay. They would be presented the surrender documents by Allied Supreme Commander of the Pacific General Douglas MacArthur, heading a large group of Allied military leaders.

The 20 minute solemn and momentous occasion officially ended a war begun three years, 259 days earlier with the Japanese attack of Pearl Harbor. MacArthur ended the ceremonies with a brief and solemn prayer. "Let us pray that peace be now restored to the world and that God will preserve it always. These proceedings are now closed." Just seconds later, the silence was shattered by the roar of a huge flyover of Navy and Air Force planes, more than 1800 aircraft in wave after wave soaring over the Missouri at 5000 feet.

One young G.I. who witnessed the flyover, and could see the battleship Missouri from the deck of the transport ship he and other members of the 1st Cavalry Division were on, vividly recalls the historic day. PFC Johnnie Fitzgerald and the 1st Cavalry had just arrived in Japan. His division had taken part in MacArthur's famous return to the Philippines, and had taken part in the invasion and reconquest of the Island of Luzon. Upon completing that mission, the division received orders assigning them a role in the planned invasion of the Japanese mainland. "We learned our division had been nicknamed "the Sacrificial Lambs". We were to be the first group landing on the beaches of



PFC Johnnie Fitzgerald and buddy
Please turn to Page 2, "Victory in 1945"

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR BUSTER KENNEDY

Final services for Joe F. 'Buster' Kennedy were held Tuesday afternoon at 2pm in the First Baptist Church of Plains, with Pastor Bill Wright officiating.

He passed away suddenly Saturday, September 2, while on a trip to see the couple's son, Paul.

Buster was born March 13, 1932, in the Lahey Community of Terry County. He was a son of the late Joe W. and Beulah Kennedy. He attended public schools in Meadow, and served in the US Army during the Korean war from 1953 to 1955. He remained in the Army reserves until 1963.

He was a telephone technician, employed by the former Romain Telephone Company, now Alltel company. He was a member of the First Baptist Church and the Plains Masonic Lodge. He was an active member of 'The Country Classics', a local musical group.

He and his wife, the former Linda Marie Bruno, were married September 13, 1962 in Brownfield.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Paul Kennedy, Sacramento, California, and Randy Kennedy, New York, N.Y.; Eight sisters; Jimmie Blount, Plains, Pat Sims, Plains, Peggy Russell, Ruidoso, Georgia, Rice, Houma, La., Sue Bowman, San Bernardino, Ca., Faye Horton, Lubbock,

TURN TO PAGE 2
'KENNEDY SERVICES'

CONSIDER WILDLIFE OPTIONS WHEN CRP CONTRACT EXPIRES

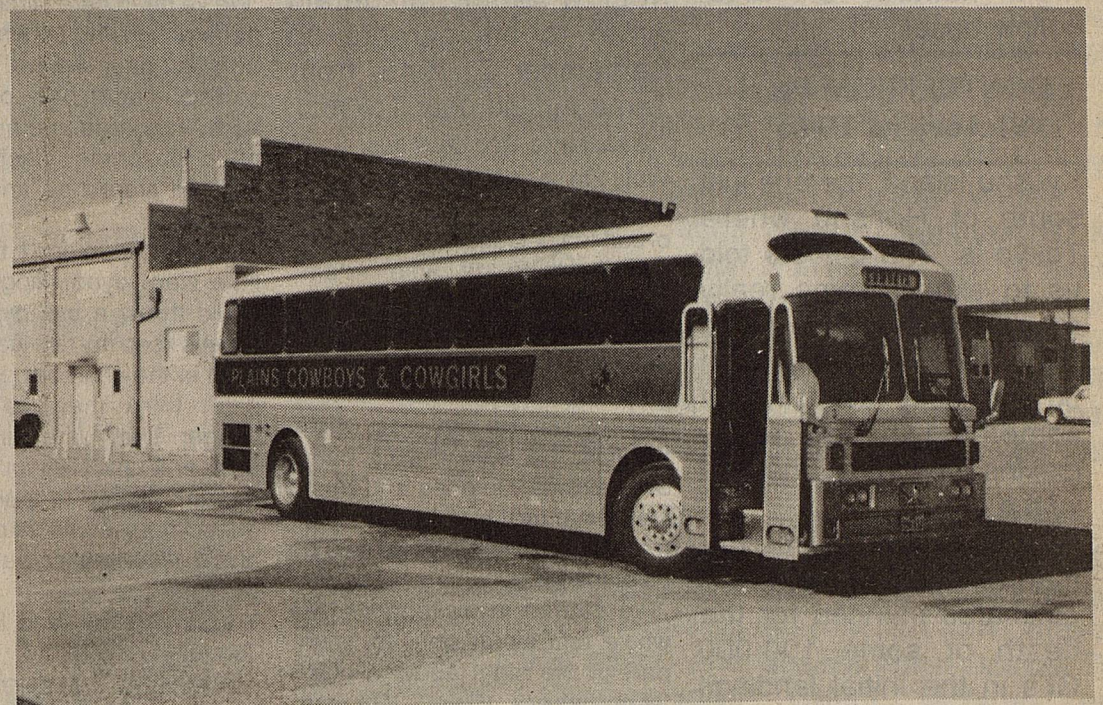
The first Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts signed by Yoakum County landowners will begin expiring September 30, 1995. According to District Conservationist Mario Avila with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly SCS), now is the time to start making plans for the use of those acres.

Congress established

TURN TO PAGE 4
'CRP'

A.G. Bus Opinion Creates Huge Problems For Texas Schools

If Unchanged, Transporting Students Will Be Next To Impossible



ARE THE THREE ACTIVITY BUSES LIKE THIS DESTINED TO BE RELICS OF THE PAST?

A recent legal opinion from the office of Texas Attorney General Dan Morales has created a hornet nest of activity in virtually everyone of the state's 1,048 school districts, PISD included.

In the recent State Legislative Session, SB 1, the education reform bill was passed, and later, Sen. Teel Bivins was instrumental in amending the bill to allow school districts (such as our) to transport students in passenger cars, vans and Suburban type vehicles. The amendment was an effort to reduce transportation costs in schools needing to transport small numbers of students to various events, without the extra expense of operating a large school bus and the services of a properly licensed driver.

At some point of time in the past, former Commissioner of Education, Texas Education Agency, Skip Meno, wrote the Attorney General, posing the question, "Can a school district purchase, rent, or use for the transportation of students to and from school or school activities a motor vehicle that does not meet federal and state school bus safety standards, and related questions". Meno was referring to the above mentioned car and van type vehicles.

On August 25, the A.G. dropped a bombshell legal opinion in the lap of Mike Moses, the current Commissioner of Education. In a ten page reply, his opinion could be summed up with one word - NO.

The A.G. referred to The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, which defines "School bus" as a "passenger motor vehicle designed to carry 10 or more passengers plus driver...significantly used for transporting primary, preprimary or secondary school students to or from school or school events".

The A.G. refers numerous times to federal statutes governing the issue, and admits federal provisions "apply only to the manufacture, sale, introduction or delivery for interstate commerce, or importation of school buses".

The lengthy and often confusing and ambiguous report rambles on, but does manage to convey the only regulations governing what constitutes a school bus; They shall be yellow, have convex mirrors for better visibility of students, and contain a fire extinguisher.

P.I.S.D Superintendent Pete Simmons furnished a copy of the controversial ruling to us. He readily admits to frustration because of the consequences forced by the legal opinion. He reports he has talked to dozens of school administrators around the state, and all share his frustration.

Here are some of the ways the ruling will affect the transporting of PISD students;

Next Friday, in order to keep the scheduled football game with Seagraves, it may be necessary to let school out early. Why? Because the current supply of six conventional yellow school buses must first deliver students to their rural homes, return, and then be loaded with some forty football players, plus

coaches, assistants, trainers, and 110 band members, and others needed at the game. Because of seating capacity regulations, it will not be possible to carry the band instruments, the players mounds of gear on the small buses. How is it to be transported? The Yellow buses will then proceed to Seagraves, but only at the 50 mile per hour speed limit they operate under. This scenario gets even darker if a sporting event is scheduled in the evening at a really distant location. It could be necessary to dismiss school at noon to handle the long distance run.

The yellow buses would have to be used to carry just a small number of students to U.I.L. competitions. FFA Coordinator Joe Pierce would not be allowed to transport ag students to their show animals in the school pens just west of town, and no students could ride with him in the big double cab ag pickup to stock shows out of town.

There are other problems to contend with. If a child get sick or injured at school, again, one of the big yellow buses must deliver the child home or to a medical facility. If an administrator allows the child's transportation in an unauthorized private vehicle, the ugly specter of liability arises. If an unfortunate accident occurs, the entire school system could be the subject of very expensive civil, possibly criminal lawsuits. The defendants could include

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'PROBLEMS'

CONT'D FROM PG. 1
'PROBLEMS'

the driver of the vehicle, the school principal, Superintendent and each Board Trustee.

Apparently school officials and their legal counsels throughout the state are keeping phone and fax lines busy, contacting state legislators and TEA officials to work out a solution to the ugly can of worms. It has been suggested the A.G. should reconsider his opinion, a District Judge should declare the opinion null and void, and even the possibility of Governor Bush countering the opinion in some legal manner.

It is clear that time is of the essence for many school districts, especially those in west Texas facing regularly scheduled long road trips, and those with a minimum number of 'legal yellow buses'.

CONT'D FROM Pg. 1
'Victory in 1945'

Kyushu Island, the one just south of Honshu where Tokyo is. The officers told us to expect some really rough going, and we heard they were planning on a 90% casualty rate. It wasn't something I was really looking forward to", he said with a grin.

It was a task no military man relished. Government estimates planned for the death of some 100,000 GI's in the initial landings alone, with weeks, probably months of bitter battles against a still formidable Japanese home force of fanatical troops. An order for half a million additional Purple Hearts had already been placed in preparation for the coming carnage.

President Truman's de-



Part of 1800 plane flyover of Tokyo Bay Sept. 2, 1945

cision to use the Atomic weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, resulting in terrible civilian casualties in those cities, nevertheless saved possibly over a million combined Japanese and Allied lives in the planned invasion.

The following excerpts are from a letter Fitzgerald wrote to his parents on September 7, 1945, from Tama Airfield near Tokyo;

"Dear Mom, Dad and Girls, Well, I'm sitting very comfortably now in what used to be the chair of Jap Major General Arimori. I am still operating the radio, Adams and I. Adams is the Texas boy, remember? I borrowed this fountain pen from a Jap sitting here but it doesn't write so well you can see. He can speak a little English. He said B-29's come over aircraft factories and bomb so he run to mountains. I asked his if he liked Tojo and he said no he started war.

We landed in Yokohama, the whole 1st Cav Division. We spent part of the night about a block from where Gen. 'Dugout' MacArthur was staying at the Grandview Hotel. Later we were trucked to a Japanese Army camp. We did the floors and ate a good meal. Before the floors were dry, we went on alert, then pulled out with loaded arms to take over an airfield and disarm the Japs. Just one platoon of us barged right in but none of us were overjoyed at the idea.

Big shot Jap officers were

bowing down and saluting us. One them took us to GQ and I stood guard outside a door while the Lt. conferred with an officer. He was agreeable and had orders to surrender everything. There were about 200 Jap soldiers just across from us in barracks and about 300 civilian workers, and believe me, we 42 GI's were glad to see the sun come up.

We've been here since. The Jap general showed us where all the bombs, gas, ammo, etc. was stored. About 160 planes are here, hundreds and hundreds of rifles, bayonets, machine guns, etc., all stored up and counted for us.

Boy, I still wouldn't trust these little slant eyed things far as I could throw a bull by the tail. I always keep my rifle loaded and a shell in the chamber. However, I don't think there is any real danger. They were sure afraid of us at first until they found out we weren't going to hurt them. I guess they could expect to be afraid, after treating our prisoners like they did.....

Your loving son and Bud, PFC. Johnnie Fitzgerald"

The war was over, but Johnnie wouldn't see the US again until a year later.

CONT'D FROM Pg. 1
'Kennedy Services'

Gene Richey, Lubbock, and Doris Kennedy, Levelland.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Billy Ray Kennedy, and a sister, Velma Gayle.

Pallbearers were Bob Horton, Joe Horton, Mike Blount, Rusty Kennedy, Mickey Kennedy, and Butch Gayle.

Honorary pallbearers were Darryl McNabb, James Altman, Ken Barnes, Clay Kennedy,



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LOVINGTON LIVESTOCK NOW ONE YEAR OLD

Lovington Livestock Market, Inc. celebrated its first anniversary August 25, with a special sale and awarding of prizes to several lucky attendees.

The livestock auction company, owned by local Jim Gray, is a very busy place each Friday at sale time. Lovington Livestock accepts consignments of cattle from raisers scattered

over a large portion of West Texas and New Mexico, as well as horses, sheep, goats and hogs. The anniversary sale saw 1,548 head of livestock go thru the sale ring.

Gray says his first 52 weeks of heading up the auction business has been a rewarding and learning experience. He expressed his appreciation to both

buyers and sellers over the past year.

The company served a large crowd barbecue at noon for the anniversary event, and donated a pair of full quill ostrich boots and a 30X Resistol western hat to two lucky winners.

A number of Plains stockmen regularly attend the LLMI Friday sales.



Part Of Large Crowd At recent Anniversary Sale

TOBACCO USE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY BANNED

Below is a copy of Sec. 38.006 of the newly enacted Education Code. Previous policy allowed a designated area for tobacco use. This law forbids the use of any tobacco product anywhere on school property or at school event.

Sec. 38.006 Tobacco on school property. The board of trustees of a school

- (1) prohibit smoking or using tobacco products at school-sanctioned activity on or off school property;
- (2) prohibit students from possessing tobacco products at school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property; and
- (3) Ensure that school personnel enforce the policies on school property.

Travis Jones, and Rex Swann. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association



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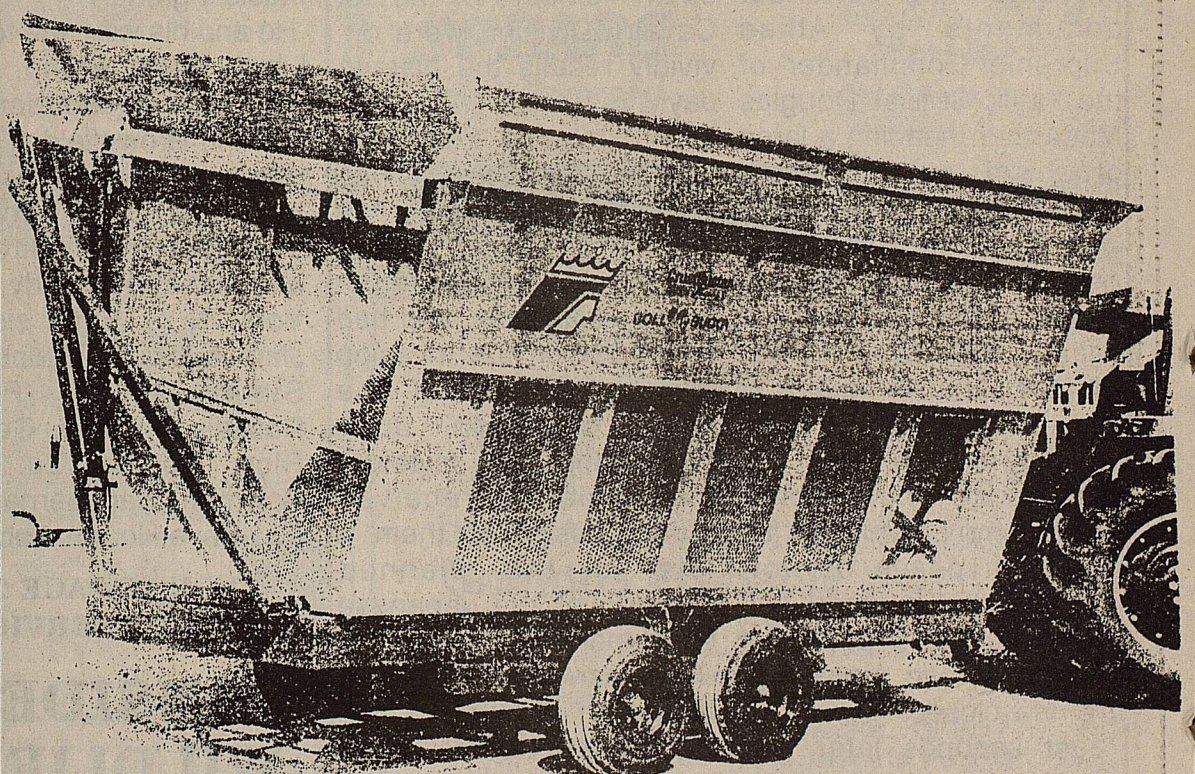
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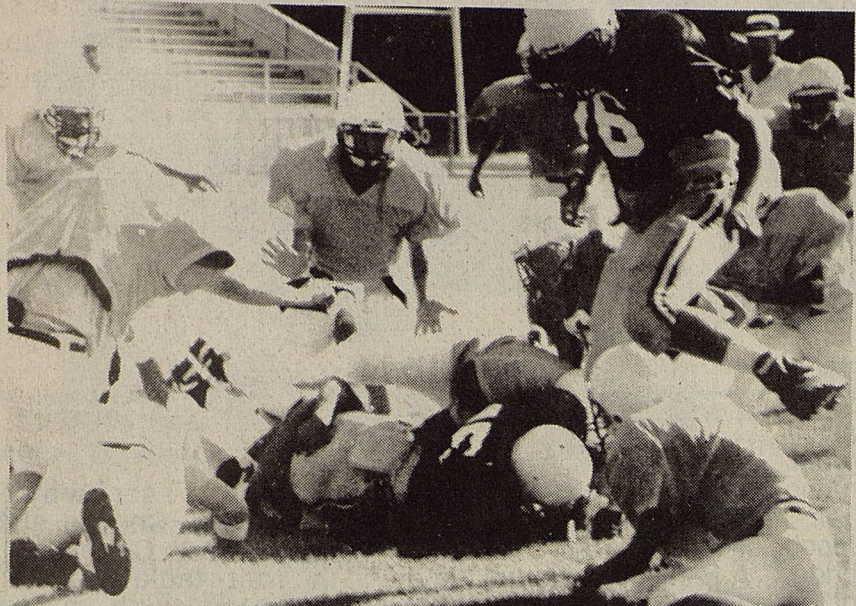
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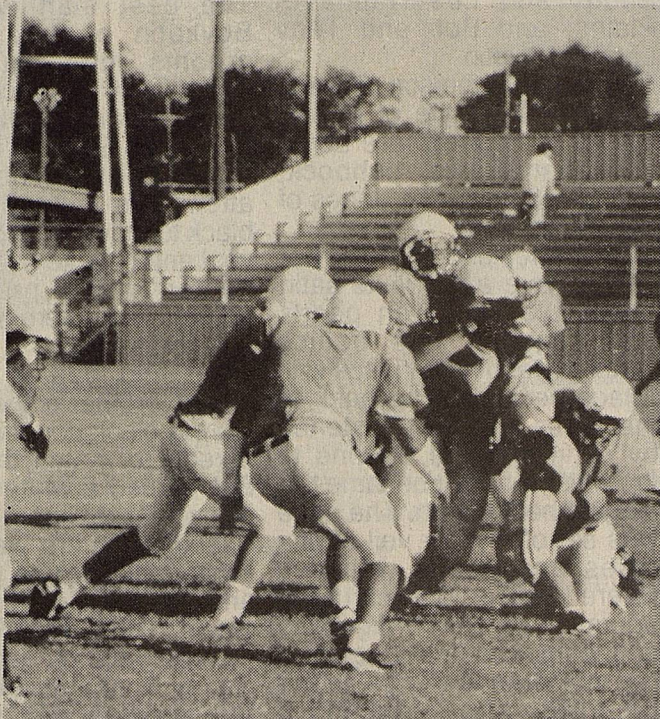
Kubota Buffalo BUSH HOG

'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

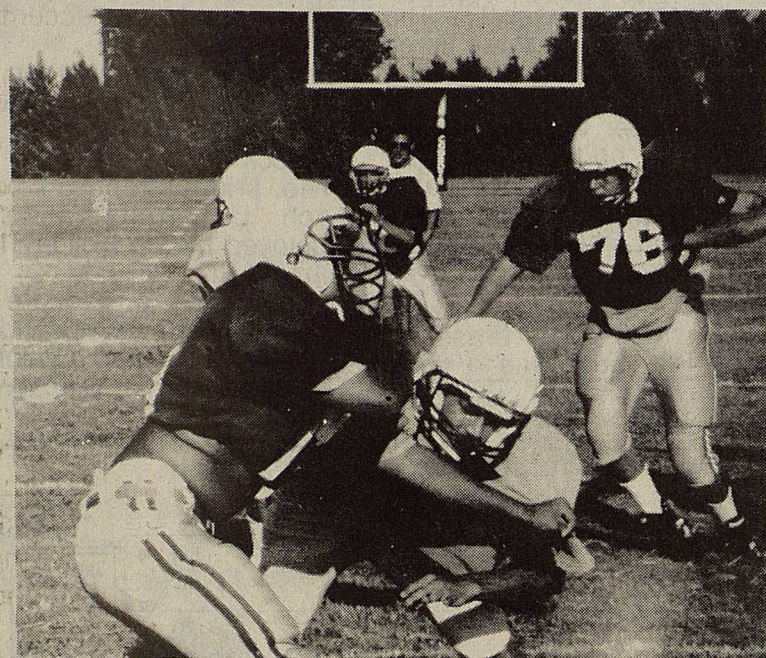
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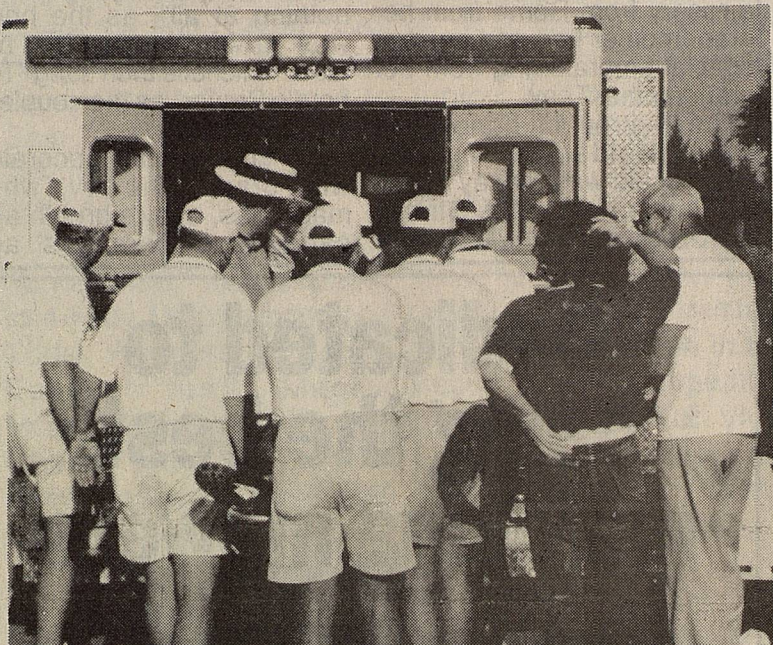
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Chris Willett's Injury Causes Momentary Scare

The JV Cowboys took on their Spring Lake-Earth counter parts in their first game condition workout Last Friday. Though no official stats were kept in the contest, it appeared the young Cowboys held their own, showing overall good defense, and flashes of a productive offense. The scrimmage provided needed experience, but was not without it's costs; Dustin Bronson tore ligaments in his hand, requiring surgery, and Chris Willett suffered a scary but not serious neck sprain. They play again against Seagraves here Thursday afternoon

COWBOYS PREP FOR OPENER AGAINST EAGLES

The Plains Cowboys travel but it's a situation almost the short distance to every 1A coaching staff. Seagraves Friday afternoon to take on their longstanding foe, The Class 2A Eagles

On the plus side, he feels team quickness is a definite strength, and both teams. The Cowboys are determined the drive home following the contest will be a short one also.

Coach McMinn expects Head Coach Larry McMinn in a recent interview expressed his concern over the rash of injuries plaguing the team the last few days. Junior proposed starter Jacob Lester is lost for the season with a severe knee injury. In the scrimmage against Springlake-Earth, starting Sr. Eric Ramos will be a running back Stephen Bitolas twisted his knee on the last play of the scrimmage, and will be sidelined several weeks. Senior starting quarterback Ralph Ramirez is recovering from an ankle injury, and while still experiencing some tenderness, should be able to play.

Coach McMinn feels "Injuries are always a problem, but they are even more of a problem in 1A schools. Small enrollments create a chronic lack of depth. I would have to say this lack of depth is one of our weaknesses this year,

but it's a situation almost every 1A coaching staff faces", McMinn said. On the plus side, he feels team quickness is a definite strength, and both teams. The Cowboys are determined the drive home following the contest will be a short one also. Coach McMinn expects the following Cowboys to start and see both offense and defense action; Sr. Ralph Ramirez, Soph. Roy Ramirez, Sr. Chris Payne, Jr. Wayne Willett, Sr. Chase Clanahan, S. Kirk Parrish, Jr. Arthur Hernandez, Jr. Coley Burgess, and Victor Cantu. Sr. Eric Ramos will be a starting defensive back, along with Sr. Lee David Hernandez. The Cowboys will face the same teams they met in last years schedule, with district action starting against Anton October 20.

Coach McMinn feels reaching the season ending playoffs is a realistic goal. "We must play well, try to keep healthy, and keep the intensity and good attitude of the team has shown this year. They have worked hard since our training workouts began."

Go,
Cowboys!

PHS STUDENT OF THE WEEK

PHS Student of the Weeks is Vicki Bayer. She is a Sophomore, and is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs Keith Bayer. Vicki was nominated by Coach McMinn.

"Vicky is a person who has excelled in my health class. She maintained a 100 test average the first three weeks of school. She is courteous and helpful to the other students and classmates. She is using

her God given talents in a constructive way. She is a joy to have in class.



SCHOOL DAY PICTURES

School day pictures will be taken on Wednesday, September 13, 1995. Students should wear something colorful. Pictures taken on Wednesday will be in the 1996 Cowboy Yearbook.



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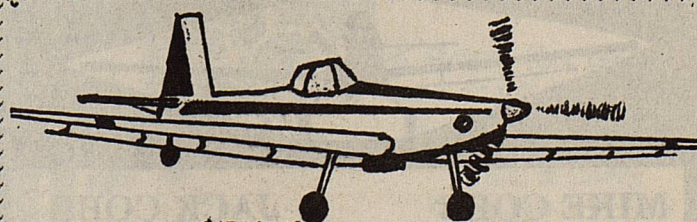
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CONT'D FROM Pg. 1
CRP

CRP in the 1985 Farm Bill to take marginal cropland out of production and most often, plant it to grass. Yoakum County producers traded 76,740 acres of cropland production for 10 years of annual rental payments. In Texas 4 million acres of cropland were enrolled in the CRP, with 80% of those acres in a 55 county area in the southern High Plains and Panhandle area.

In considering options for land formerly in the CRP, Avila stressed that

"landowners shouldn't overlook the wildlife available to them on CRP acres".

Avila stated that the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in cooperation with Texas Tech University, Texas A&M Research and Extension Center at San Angelo, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife in Amarillo have developed a management note that outlines options to consider when planning the future use of CRP acres.

"the management note is targeted for the High Plains and Panhandle area and describes four basic options: 1. Managing the total grass acreage for wildlife habitat. 2. Managing the grass acreage for grazing livestock and wildlife habitat. 3. Returning part of the remaining grass for wildlife habitat. 4. Returning the total acreage to crop production and managing for wildlife habitat."

Whether a producer plans to leave the acres in grass or return them to crop production, wildlife habitat options are important. Avila added, "Enhanced wildlife habitat will increase the numbers of wildlife, which could become an additional source of revenue, if the acres are leased for hunting."

Producers can obtain a copy of the management note from the local NRCS Office, Texas Tech University, Texas Parks and Wildlife, at the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

For more information, call the local NRCS office at 456-3703.

Lester-Gayle Wedding Vows Exchanged

Brandy Nicole Lester and Christopher Ray Gayle were united in marriage Friday, August 18, 1995, at 7 pm in the First United Methodist Church in Plains. Reverend Rick Doyle performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Bruce and Jan Lester of Plains. Her grandparents are Buddy and Lee Hanna of Plains, and Bob and Teny Lester of Austin.

The groom is the son of Butch and Bobbie Gayle of Plains, and his grandparents are Loren and Jean Gayle, Lubbock, and Truett and Dixie Jones of Brownfield.

The bride, escorted by her father, wore a full white satin dress accented with pearls and sequins. The bodice featured sequins and lace with a lace neckline. The back of the dress was lace fastened by satin covered buttons to the waist, where it became the long cathedral train. The attire was set off by her veil of tiny roses and pearls with two layered veiling. She carried a bouquet of white magnolias and a small bible belonging to her mother-in-law to be. In her bouquet she carried a handkerchief and a wedding ring from two of her great-grandmothers. She also carried a rosary from Rome from her grandmother Lee and another special emerald ring from her grandmother Teny.

The Matron of honor was Kara Holder of Dallas. Bridesmaid was Stacey Jones of Plains. Kara and Stacey wore straight floor length

dresses made of a hunter green satin trimmed with a wide white lace top. They carried bouquets of a white magnolia stem accented with gold ribbon.

The groom wore a black double breasted-tuxedo, white shirt, black vest and bow tie. The groom's boutonniere was a tiny white magnolia.

The best man was Todd Bovkoon of Amarillo. The groom's man was Daniel Canada of Lubbock. Ushers were Dwane Talley, Greg Howard, Greg Tietz, and Travis Moss. The groom's attendants and ushers wore black tuxedo, white shirt and a vest and bow tie accented with a hunter green print. Their boutonnieres were small white magnolias.

The ring bearer was B.J. Lester, brother of the bride. He wore a black double-breasted tuxedo to match the groom. B.J. carried a white satin ring pillow.

Candle lighters were Jacob Lester, brother of the bride, and Jodi Proctor, sister of the groom.

Guests were greeted by Nancy Koncaba. Pianist was Virginia Sanders, sound by L.J. Sanders, and Jan Parrish directed the wedding. Michelle Lowe sang "When you say nothing at all", as the bride was given away by her father. Michelle then sang "The Lord's Prayer" as the couple lit the unity candle.

The church was decorated with grape vine ivy, white magnolias, baby's breath and candles. Decorations and



corsages were done by Cyndy Koncaba, aunt of the bride.

A reception was held in the fellowship hall following the ceremony. The bride's table was draped with a hunter green table cloth with a large arrangement of magnolias. The cake was a two three tiered cake accented with gold ribbon and bow on each cake. The cake topper was a precious moments bride and groom.

Serving at the bride's table were Daphne Lowe, Kassie Lowe, and Amanda Koncaba. The groom's table was draped with a white cut-work table cloth with a brass tea set. The cake was a three

layered strawberry cheesecake. Serving at his table was Beth Clanahan.

A fruit table was also decorated with a fruit arrangement of pineapples, bananas, grapes, cantaloupe, and strawberries. The arrangement was accented with green ivy.

Following a honeymoon at Walt Disney World in Florida, the couple will reside in Lubbock.

The bride attends Texas Tech University and is employed by the Holiday Inn Lubbock Plaza.

The groom is a graduate of Texas Tech University and is employed by Monarch Paints.

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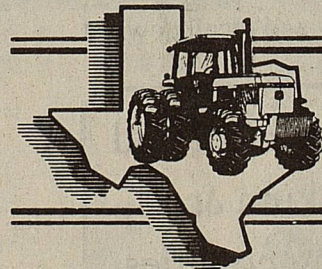
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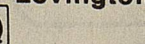
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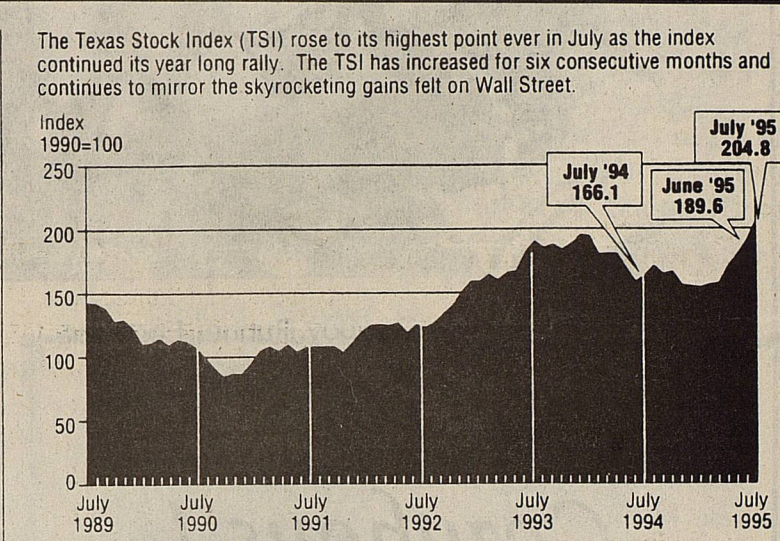
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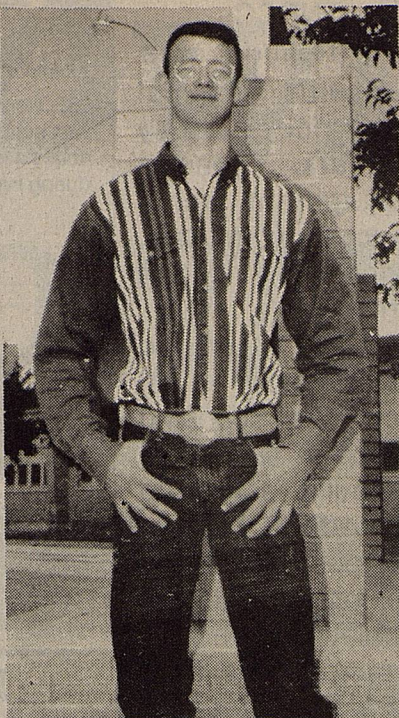
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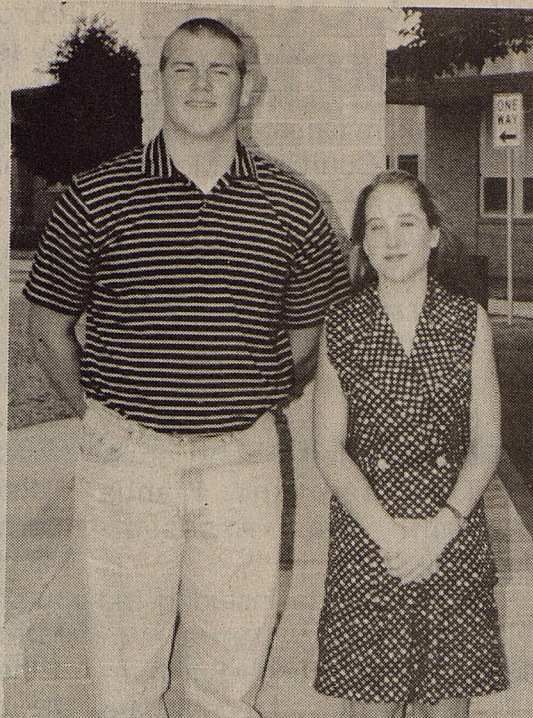
4-H HONORS AWARD BANQUET



Lyndi Rowe & Josh Traweek



Robert Knight



Chase Clanahan & Kelly McGinty

Yoakum County 4-H'ers were honored Saturday, August 19, for their accomplishments at their annual awards banquet, held in Mustang Cafeteria in Denver City. The banquet theme, "Soar with 4-H," was portrayed in decorations of hot air balloons.

Master and Mistress of Ceremonies were Josh Traweek of Plains and Jinger Hancock of Denver City.

The Gold Star Award, the highest achievement award presented on the county 4-H level, was presented to Robert Knight and Jinger Hancock.

Robert is currently serving as the 1st Vice-President of the Plains 4-H Club and is a past president. An eight year 4-H member, he has served on County Council and has been the District Council Delegate.

Robert has participated in county, district, and state 4-H contest. He has attended 4-H Electric Camp and Texas 4-H Water Camp. He has been the recipient of the local 4-H Watermelon Scholarship. Robert is the son of Dell and Cecilia Knight of Plains.

Jinger is currently serving as the Denver City 4-H Club president, where she has been a member for 6 years. She is also serving on the County Council and as Secretary/Treasurer of the District 4-H Council.

Jinger has participated in county, district, and state 4-H contests and attended Texas 4-H Congress, 4-H Electric Camp, Texas 4-H Water Camp and 4-H Leadership Camp, serving

as a staff member. She has been awarded the Outstanding Junior 4-H'er award and the "I Dare You" award. Jinger is the daughter of Joni Hancock of Denver City, and Don Hancock of Hobbs.

Both Robert and Jinger were recognized as the second recipients of the Blain McWhirter 4-H Memorial Scholarship.

As an added incentive, the Yoakum County Adult Leader Association recognized both Knight and Hancock with a check for \$100 for overall 4-H achievement as Gold Star winners.

The "I Dare You" award is presented annually to challenge senior 4-H members to continue striving to do their best. This year's recipients were Lyndi Rowe and Josh Traweek, both of Plains.

Lyndi is a seven year 4-H member. In addition to serving as club officer, she has participated in numerous 4-H contests. She is the daughter of Bill and Pam Rowe of Plains.

Josh Traweek, the other "I Dare You" recipient, is a senior member of the Plains 4-H Club and is currently serving as club president. He has participated in district and state 4-H contests. He is a County Council member and is a District Council Delegate. Josh is the son of Mark and Zana Traweek of Plains.

The Outstanding Junior 4-H'er Award was presented to Lesli Rowe and Ricky Nevarez.

Lesli the daughter of Bill and Pam Rowe of Plains. She has been a member of

the Plains 4-H Club for four years. She is serving as the Plains 4-H Club secretary/treasurer.

Ricky is a member of the Denver City 4-H Club. He has participated in 4-H promotional events and fund raisers, was a member of the District Livestock Judging Team and participated in District Share the Fun competition. He attended 4-H Leadership Camp and County 4-H Camp. He is the son of Joe Dennis and Deborah Nevarez.

The 4-H Watermelon Scholarship, made available to 4-H by Derooy Anderson, Todd Anderson, Eddie Earnest and Macky McWhirter, was awarded to Chase Clanahan, and Kelly McGinty. Chase has served as club officer,

County Council member, and District Council Delegate. He is the son of N.C. and Beth Clanahan of Plains.

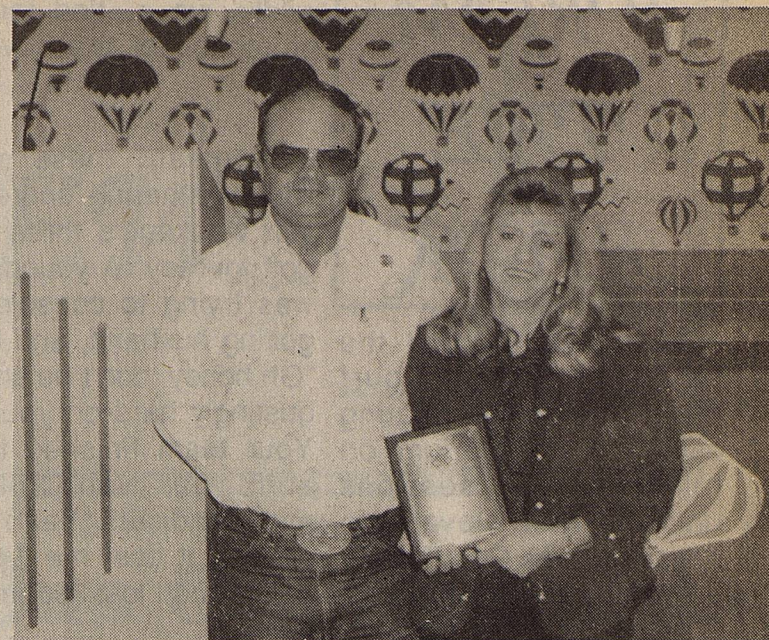
Kelly is a nine-year 4-H member. Kelly has attended Texas 4-H Congress, 4-H Electric Camp, 4-H Leadership Camp where she has served as a staff member, District & State 4-H Roundup and has received the Outstanding Junior 4-H'er Award as well as the coveted Gold Star Award. She is the daughter of Kenneth and Ann McGinty of Plains.

The Yoakum County FCE Council honored two members for their participation in the Record Book Competition. Bea Pippin, TAFCE Vice-Chairman, presented the \$10 awards to Kelly McGinty and Lesli Rowe.



Lesli Rowe & Ricky Nevarez

4-H Adult Leader Award Winners David and Jerri Lollar



SERVICES HELD FOR BARBARA BROWN

Funeral services for Barbara A. Brown, 59, of Plains were held Tuesday, August 31, 1995, 10:00am in the First Baptist Church, with Pastor Bill Wright officiating. Interment services were held Friday, September 1, at 3:00 pm at Cedarlawn Memorial Park, Sherman. Arrangements were under direction of the Rofer Pool Funeral Home of Seminole.

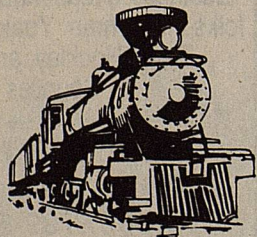
Mrs. Brown passed away Tuesday, August 29 at Methodist Hospital in Lubbock.

She was born November 3, 1935, in Sherman. She graduated from Sherman High School in 1954. She married Johnnie Brown May 16, 1953, in Sherman. He preceded her in death May 2, 1994.

The couple moved to Plains from Katy, Texas, in 1977. She had been employed by Plains ISD, Justice of Peace Judge Brantley, County Precinct 1, and the Probation Office. She was a member of the Tsa Mo Ga Study Club, Plains Art Association, The Ladies Bridge Club, The Rubies, Peaceful Patchers Quilting Club, and Plains First Baptist Church.

Family survivors include 3 daughters, Connie Fletcher, Denver City, Sue Baker, Pampa, and Johnna Summers, Garland; A step daughter, Judy Bryant, Dallas; 4 sisters, Marie Adams, Pottsboro, Doris Embry, Sherman, Mary Wetzell, Tom Bean, and Martha Jo Shonk, Tucson, Arizona, and 9 grand children

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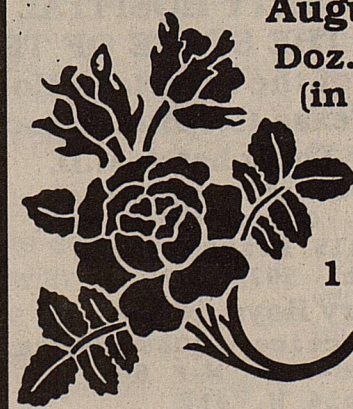
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FROM THE HACK

It's being rumored the Commissioner's Court crew are contemplating calling a moratorium on future weekly sessions until the new elevator is operational in the Courthouse. If I could, I'd vote for that.

Trudging up three flights of stairs each Monday morn doesn't sound like a huge chore... unless you're past the age of forty, out of shape, smoke, or a number of pounds on the plump side, which one way or another covers most of the bunch. Notice, ladies, I said "Most" of them... that leaves you the out to say, "Well, He wasn't referring to ME!"

It's really sort of amusing, seeing the normal assembly of five elected officials topping the last flight of stairs, trying not to look red faced, fighting to control the gasping, and wheezing; Amusing if you don't have to make the same climb. I wonder, do you think they could contact the contracted elevator manufacturer and offer them a hefty bonus, or bribe, to get the~*!<^#!* thing installed next week?

The bride, Diane Brown and I were out in the back yard, gazing skyward, absorbed in trying to count the buzzards soaring over the house a few days ago, and a sudden thought dawned on me.

I casually asked, "You know what we're taking a chance on doing this, don't you?", I asked. They shook their heads no, and I said, "Well, here we are down here looking up at this swarm of big, nasty birds, moths gaping open in awe. You realize what could come falling down on us, don't you?" It finally dawned on them what I

referred to, and shrieking wildly, we all fled for the protection of the covered deck.

Overheard these snips while gathering scores at last weekend's three man golf tourney; A young lady was trying to console her golfing husband, and said, "Oh honey, don't be so disgustingly hard on yourself. Your team finished third, and you won \$50 in merchandise!" "Yeah", he replied, it cost me \$40 to enter, and I lost \$90 in side bets".

I saw Brother Bill Wright and Patrick Hamilton intently watching the scoreboard as the results were being posted. As I recall, they didn't fare too well, and Brother Bill turned to Patrick and asked, "You think we would have done better if our other guy hadn't been Catholic?"

Bruce Lester trudged up, hot, sweaty, sort of bent over, finishing the event with his partners Buddy Hanna and Bill Bovell. "Man", he gasped, "Those two guys don't look very big, but they sure got heavy after carrying them 18 holes!"

COUNTY COURT MEETS

Yoakum County Commissioners Court met Monday, September 5, Judge Brewer presiding. Commissioners Avara, Thurston, Barron and McWhirter were present. Also present were Hazel Lowrey, Auditor, Ruby Bruton, Clerk, Toni Jones, Treasurer, and Wanda Smith, Tax Assessor-Collector.

The agenda included the following items of business; Wanda Smith recently received a certificate honoring her achieving the designation as a Certified Tax Administrator (CTA). The Court recognized her successfully meeting all the requirements for the designation.

Olivia Robertson, Denver City, was appointed an alternate election judge for precinct 305.

The Court approved adopting a resolution endorsing Shell-Westerns permit application for installing equipment at several of their plant sites to improve air quality by reducing sulfur odors. The

issue will be discussed at a public meeting and approved by TNRCC.

A lease agreement was approved with Criminal District District Attorney Richard Clark, covering office equipment items such as a copier, typewriters, a computer and dictation equipment.

The Court voted to advertise for bids on an electronic optical scanning system used in tabulating election results faster and more accurately. The ad will call for purchase, lease purchase, or contract for election tabulating services.

Line item transfers from the general fund totaling \$42,200 were approved for various departments

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Thomas Edward Smith, Deceased, were issued on the 31st day of August, 1995, in Docket No. 1266, pending in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas, to: Lewanna L. Smith.

The address of Lewanna L. Smith is HCR 1, Box 57, Tokio, Yoakum County, Texas 79376.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated the 31st day of August, 1995
WARD, FREELS & COOK, L.L.P. Attorneys for the Estate

John A. Freels

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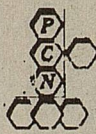
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4-H and FFA: Scholarship value 1991-1994 \$14.2 million

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation and Texas Education Agency.

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