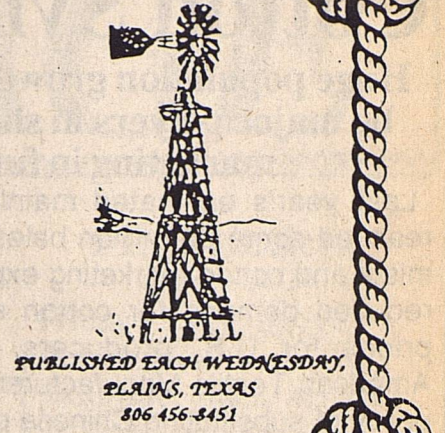


Cowboy Country News



Volume 2, Issue 28, Wednesday, March 20, 1996

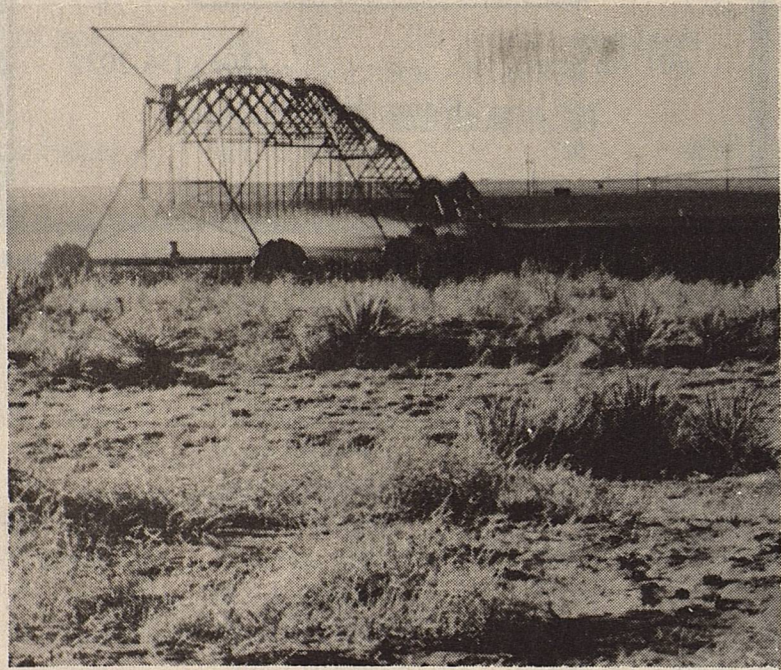
Gloomy Rain Prospects Have Producers Worried

Are you familiar with the "Hale Cycle"? How about the "La Nina" phenomenon? Scientists and weather experts are concerned the two terms will become much more familiar if the current drought in Texas and many other surrounding states continues. Not to be confused with 'El Nino', a condition affecting currents in the Pacific Ocean resulting in wetter than normal conditions in the United States, 'La Nina' creates ocean currents producing just the opposite effect. This phenomenon, plus the puzzling 'Hale Cycle', are apparently the culprits responsible for the seriously dry conditions

of the ongoing drought, with no apparent relief in sight in the near future. According to sources including Weather Data, Inc., National Weather Service, and the Texas Almanac, forecasts for 1996 include a hotter summer, very low humidity levels, about the same number of violent tornadoes in the Central US, and normal or above numbers of hurricanes will be experienced this summer and fall.

Dryland producers of cotton and feed grains are probably the most "antsy"

Turn to Page 4,
'Dry Spell'



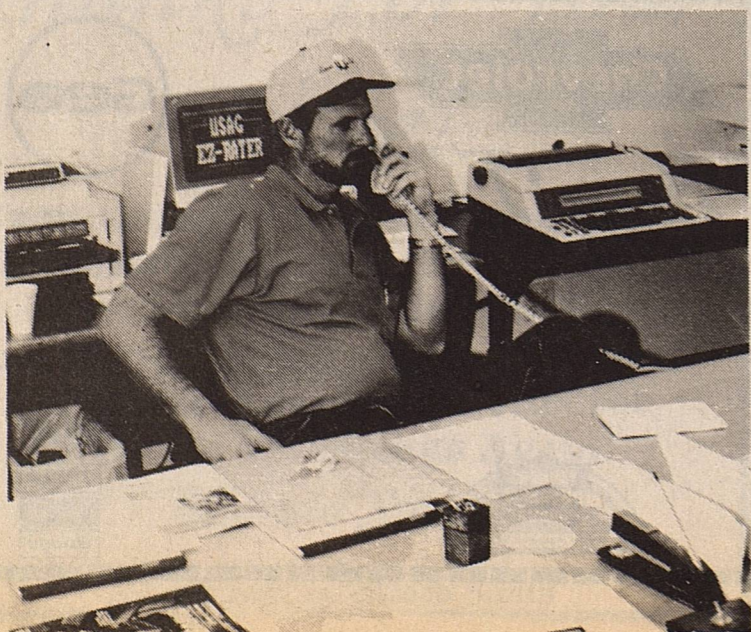
Systems like this to be hard pressed without rain soon

New Business Now Operating In Town

The new pre-fabbed building just north of the courthouse, and next to the Ty Field Building, is the new home for Jim Brown's AG-INSURANCE PLUS business.

Brown had the structure built in Denver City, and moved here a few weeks ago. Primarily dealing with agricultural producers, he can write all of the government required types of crop coverages, as well as crop hail. He also handles a full line of farm and ranch liability plans, and can place coverage on both agricultural equipment and livestock.

His new office number is 456-2788, and mobile is 456-7365.



County Court Meets

County Commissioners Court met Monday, March 18. A number of agenda items were discussed, with the following actions taken:

The Court approved Memorandums of Understanding concerning County contracts with Denver City Doctors' Bodindr Thepchatri and Christopher, who recently became associated with St. Mary's Medical Group. Conditions of Dr. Bodindr's contract have been satisfied. Dr. Cotton has an obligation to the County amounting to some \$89,000. He has signed a note to the County for the amount, and the obligation will be repaid with medical work he performs at the County Hospital, now under a management contract with St. Mary's.

Several bids for a new fire truck for the Denver City Volunteer Fire Department, with a trade-in of a 1974 Ford fire truck. One bid from Mile High Fire Equipment in Round Rock was received three days late and remained unopened. A bid from Dayco Fire and Safety, Lubbock was examined, calling for a price of \$154,881 after trade-in. A bid from Houma, Louisiana was received for \$146,146 after trade-in. Commissioner Thurston, Pct. 2, reported the Fire Department removed unnecessary items amounting to \$5,703 from the bid. He asked the Court's permission to use \$2,443 from his equipment budget, the amount over the previously budgeted \$138,000 for the truck. The Court approved the request, but asked Thurston to contact Denver City officials and the Fire Department if they could obtain the \$2,443 coverage amount prior to using the Precinct 2 funds.

Bids for hot and cold asphalt mix to be used by all four precincts in 1996 were reviewed. A bid from Kerr Construction, Lubbock for \$38.70 per ton for hot mix, F.O.B. Plains, and \$39.50 F.O.B. - Denver City was accepted, and the cold mix bid was awarded to Seminole Sales and Leasing, \$39 per ton F.O.B. Plains, and \$38 F.O.B. Denver City.

A pending decision allowing Fina Oil and Chemical Co. to lay and maintain a pipeline was again tabled.

Turn to Page 4,
'County Court'

Local Restaurant Started By One Determined Lady

What do you do, a 42 year old widow, after farming three years with the help of three young school age boys, and with two other young girls to raise and educate? Why, you buy a piece of property, construct a building on it, fill it with restaurant equipment, open it's doors and call it "Alma's". That's exactly what Alma Anderson-Been did here in July of 1955. The same restaurant is now called "Johnnie's".

In an interview last week, the very sharp young lady recalled events in her life leading to establishing the town's only full-measure restaurant.



Alma Anderson-Been with her 6 children, L-R: Gerald, Ernie, Burl, Melva Loy, Carol and Cathy.

She was born November 11, 1913, in New Castle, Young County, to farm parents. At the age of two, she and her parents moved to Dawson County, and she would graduate from Lamesa High School in 1931.

She would wed Forest Anderson on November 27, 1932, a classmate through her school years. The couple had one married daughter, Melva Loy, who was married when they moved to Plains in 1955, along with five other school age youngsters. All five would become graduates of Plains High School, and become registered professionals in adult life.

The Anderson's had a three year contract to farm a block of land some 15 miles southwest of Plains. Barely months later, her husband Forest passed away suddenly. Alma related, "I couldn't break the contract, so the boys and I farmed the place for three years. Fortunately, at the end of the contract period, the three years had been good enough to us to allow me to buy lots from Norelle Sloan for \$5000 to locate the original restaurant on April 1, 1958. I contracted the building immediately, and "Alma's Restaurant" officially opened on July 4, 1858".

Asked if she knew anything about the food business, or if she had any previous experience, Alma chuckled and said, "Hey, I couldn't carry two cups of coffee in one hand, much less carry three plates of food on each arm!". She did state she had worked a brief period of time at the Curry Drugstore here, as a 'Soda Jerk' for the princely sum of .75 cents per hour. "The job at least allowed me to meet lots of people and future friends, and I eventually learned how to carry one cup of coffee!"

She would become elated when the business prospered over the years. "It was just so gratifying, so exciting, to see how we were accepted by the area's people, and the scores of travelers passing by going east and west. Anyone ever experiencing restaurant work knows how hard it is, but we were so very fortunate to be where we were, when we were".

In July, 1958, Alma remarried, to Travis Been, an area oil field welder. Death would claim him in 1967. She would continue to operate 'Alma's' until 1976, when she thought it was time for her to 'semi-retire'. She moved to Lubbock, but apparently the lure of the food business was still strong, for she worked a number of

years in the food service at Texas Tech, and at Gerald Price's 50 Yard Line Restaurant.

She is extremely proud of her six children, three sons, three daughters. The oldest girl, Melva Loy, is an upper grade Civil Service employee of the US Defense Department at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. Son Burl is a CPA practicing in Lubbock. Gerald Anderson is a lawyer practicing in Lubbock. Daughter Carol is a registered Dietitian, and she and her husband own and operate a restaurant in Anchorage, Alaska. Ernie, the youngest son, is a practicing and teaching Dentist in Houston, while Cathy, the youngest, is a Registered Nurse in a hospital affiliated with the University of Texas in Houston.

Alma lives in comfortable surroundings on 45th Street in Lubbock. She still works daily, enjoys quilting, entertaining her neighbors, attending Bacon Heights Baptist Church, and seeing her children and visitors. She still has her well known sense of humor and her warm smile, and telling the story seemed to bring her pleasure. A fine example of what hard work and perseverance can do.

The "China-Cotton Syndrome"

Huge population growth, appetites, could be major players in shaping U.S. cotton marketing in future years.

Last year's estimated mainland China cotton crop reached some 20 million bales, causing some economists and cotton marketing experts to express fears of reduced demand for cotton exports and weakening prices for U.S. producers. Carlos Moore of the American Textile Manufacturers Assn., thinks "China's policy of substituting Chinese production for imports.... is sure to lead to expanded cotton production".

Not necessarily so, say other sources. A writer for "COTTON GROWER", Dave Cox, believes a worldwide shortage of grains will have just the opposite effect. He feels this will force China, Pakistan and India to influence their farmers to cutback on cotton acreage and switch to food production. He adds, "many cotton producing countries are either marginal food exporters or routine food importers, and the prospect of food shortages in these countries may have a more severe effect on cotton acreage there than our marketplace realizes. If the world grain shortage is as it appears to be, I expect the unexpected - cutbacks in some foreign cotton acreage".

Another positive appraisal of future cotton production and marketing appeared in a recent FORBES Magazine article by Andrew Tanzer, who asks the question, "What are three things driving global agriculture today?" The answer is 'China, China, China'.

The basic theme of the FORBES article contained these startling facts; China's present population of 1.2 Billion is growing by 14 million a year. Food consumption is growing at a staggering pace; Meat consumption increases 10% a year, some 4 million tons annually. China's wheat imports will probably double in the next 10 years; By the year 2000, China's grain consumption will easily top 500 million tons - if they only import 10% of that, 50 million tons, those imports would equal ONE-FOURTH of the entire world grain trade today. What's true for China is also happening throughout Asia, and "the world is starting the largest surge of food demand in its history".

If all of this is accurate, the scenario should bring smiles to the faces of U.S. producers of both cotton and grain. It would appear China, and most of Asia would become perpetual importers of both commodities, creating a long-term commodity bull market trend.

Pest Management Association Formed

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Terry and Yoakum County producers have organized an association designed to increase the use of integrated pest management (IPM) by agricultural producers in the two-county area. The name of this organization is The Terry-Yoakum Pest Management Association. Management practices of insect, disease and weed pests will be addressed through a field scouting program. The association is currently signing up acres for the new 1996 IPM Field Scouting Program.

The objective of this program is to increase grower net profits by providing educational information and demonstrating improved pest management practices. This goal is fulfilled through timely and unbiased field scouting, use of economic thresholds, consideration of biological control factors in making treatment decisions, and application of new pest management tactics.

An additional objective of this program is to inform all producers in Terry and Yoakum Counties of potential pest problems and to educate producers on the best IPM practices. This will be done through publication of a weekly newsletter during the growing season. Producers that enroll in the program will receive the weekly newsletter which will contain timely information on pest activity and current research being conducted on specific pest problems.

This program is targeting fields which are not currently scouted by a private agricultural consultant. The program is focused on cotton IPM, but other crops will be considered. Acres will be accepted on a "first come, first serve" basis. However, location of fields will be con-

sidered in order to give an accurate representation of insect activity throughout Terry and Yoakum Counties. The number of acres accepted will be limited to approximately 3,200 in 1996.

Fields will be scouted once or twice weekly depending upon pest pressure. Two scouts will be hired to assist with field scouting. A scout report form will be filled out and left at a predetermined location in each field. The report forms will contain information on specific pest numbers, beneficial numbers, growth stage of the crop and economic thresholds for each pest. In addition, plants will be mapped in every cotton field enrolled in the program. Cotton plan mapping will provide up to date information on the condition and yield potential of cotton crops and is essential for timing harvest-aid chemicals.

This is an educational program designed to help producers make informed pest management and agronomic decisions. All recommendations are based on at least two years of extensive unbiased research conducted by Texas A & M University and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Producers may choose to receive the newsletter without enrolling any acres in the program. If you need more information or would like to enroll acres in the program, please contact Phillip Kidd at 637-8792.



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Thank you.

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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

Cowboy-Cowgirl Track



Whiteface Track Meet

Girls - March 8

Shot Put	Kayla Redman	1st	
	Cecilia Moreno	5th	
Discus	Kayla Redman	6th	
3200 M Run	Valerie Blair	1st	13:39
	Tanya Hernandez	4th	6:21
1600 M Run	Valerie Blair	3rd	14:21
	Tanya Hernandez	6th	6:46
800 M Run	Lisa Parrish	2nd	2:41
400 M Dash	Kristi Guetersloh	6th	1:14
100 M Hurdles	Kyley Bearden	2nd	18:05
Relays:			
400 M Relay	Kyley Bearden, Shawna Box, Missy Asebedo, Shyloh Winn	4th	58:37
800 M Relay	Kyley Bearden, Shyloh Winn, Missy Asebedo, Kayla Redman	4th	2:05
1600 M Relay	Lisa Parrish, Cassie Dearing, Kristi Guetersloh, Kayla Redman	2nd	4:56

O'Donnell Track - Mar. 16

Shot Put	Kayla Redman	1st	33'8"
Long Jump	Kyley Bearden	4th	15'2-1/2"
Kyley set a new school record!			
100 M Hurdles	Kyley Bearden	5th	18:02
3200 M Run	Valerie Blair	1st	13:16
	Tanya Hernandez	3rd	14:13
1600 M Run	Valerie Blair	1st	6:07
	Tanya Hernandez	3rd	6:31
800 M run	Lisa Parrish	4th	2:38
Total points for team - 52 6th in team standings			

O'Donnell Track - Mar. 16

Cowboys - 125 points and 1st

400 Relay	Marte Pierce, Wayne Willett, Josh Traweek, Kirk Parrish	1st	46.1
1600 Relay	Josh Traweek, Kipp Blount, Jeremy Dearing, Wayne Willett	1st	3:38.8
3200 Run	Josh Bayer	2nd	12:38.2
1600 Run	Chris Willett	6th	5:53
800 Run	Jeremy Dearing	2nd	2:08.8
400 Dash	Wayne Willett	1st	53.4
	Kipp Blount	3rd	54.7
	Jesus Hernandez	4th	54.9
200 Dash	Josh Traweek	2nd	24.0
100 Dash	Kirk Parrish	4th	11.6
110 H Hurdles	Brad Seaton	3rd	17.4
300 Hurdles	Brad Seaton	2nd	43.8
Shot Put	Coley Burgess	1st	48'3"
Discus	Coley Burgess	3rd	125'5-1/4"
	Steven Bunch	6th	104'5-1/4"
Triple Jump	Brad Seaton	3rd	38'8"



Coach Osborn Shows Relay Girls Baton Techniques

Cowgirl & Cowboy Relays

March 22, 1996

3:00	3200 Run	Girl-JV-Varsity Boys (Final)
Prelims		
3:45	400 Relay	Girls-JV Boys-Varsity Boys
4:00	100 Hurdles	Girls
	110 Hurdles	JV & Varsity Boys
4:25	100 Dash	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
4:45	400 Dash	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
5:10	300 Hurdles	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
5:30	200 Dash	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
5:55	3200 Relay	Varsity Boys (Final)

Field Events			
3:00	Girls:	JV Boys	Varsity Boys
	Long Jump	Pole Vault	Pole Vault
	Triple Jump	Shot Put	High Jump
	Shot Put		Discus
			Long Jump
5:00	High Jump	Long Jump	Triple Jump
	Discus		Shot Put
6:30		Discus	
		High Jump	
		Triple Jump	

GIRLS:		TOP 7 TO FINALS
JV:		THREE THROWS AND JUMPS ONLY
VAR. BOYS:		TOP 7 TO FINALS
7:35	Prayer-National Anthem	
7:40	400 Relay	Girl- JV -Varsity Boys
7:50	800 Run	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
8:10	100 Hurdles	Girls
	110 Hurdles	JV-Varsity Boys
8:20	100 Dash	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
8:30	800 Relay	Girls-Varsity Boys
8:40	400 Dash	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
8:50	300 Hurdles	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
9:00	200 Dash	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
9:10	1600 Run	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
9:45	1600 Relay	Girls-JV-Varsity Boys
THE CAFETERIA WILL BE OPEN FROM 5 - 7 PM		

MY SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO THOSE WHO SUPPORTED ME IN MY RACE FOR COMMISSIONER, PCT.2

Doug Payne

Thank You Very Much
For Your Support

I need and would appreciate your continued support in the April 9 election for County Commissioner of Precinct 2

PLEASE VOTE

Thanks!

J.R. Slentz

Student of the Week



Barney Tobar is a senior at Plains High School and was nominated this week because of his dedication to the UIL contest of Informative Speaking. Mr. Alexander said he never misses a practice.

He won student of the week because of the excellent attitude and respectful demeanor he exhibits in the classroom. In algebra, Barney doesn't seem to take the easy way out. He asks questions until he understands the problem.

School Menu

March 25-30

Monday	Breakfast: cereal, toast, grape juice, milk Lunch: cowboy hot sub, sandwich, French fries w/ catsup, Kosher spears, pear halves, milk
Tuesday	Breakfast: donuts, toast, apple juice, milk Lunch: burritos w/taco sauce, pinto beans, coleslaw, cornbread, plum cobbler, milk
Wednesday	Breakfast: pizza, orange juice, milk Lunch: cheeseburger, chips, mixed fruit, brownies, milk
Thursday	Breakfast: pancakes w/syrup, fruit punch, milk

PISD Bulletin

March 22-30

- Friday:** Track, Boys & Girls Relays
- Saturday:** Track, At Post, Jr. High
South Zone One Act Play Competition, At Plains
Tennis, Seminole Tournament, High School
- Monday:** Tennis, Anton/Whiteface, Jr. High, At Levelland, 4 PM
- Tuesday:** District One Act Play Competition, At Smyer
Tennis, Sundown, High School, Here, 4 PM
- Wednesday:** Golf, At Friona, Boys
- Thursday:** District Lincoln Douglas & Readywriting, At Smyer
Track, Plains Wrangler Relays
- Friday:** Track, Seagraves, High School
Tennis, Lubbock Tournament, High School
- Saturday:** High School District Literary, At Sudan
Tennis, Lubbock Tournament Continues, High School

Lunch: baked potatoes, chili, cheese, butter, sour cream, bacon bits, celery, carrot sticks, crackers, pineapple cake, milk

Friday
Breakfast: cereal, toast, orange/pineapple juice, milk
Lunch: fried chicken w/gravy, sweet potato casserole, seasoned green beans, hot rolls, milk

☆☆☆☆☆☆

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March 21

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Glickman Announces CRP Contract Extensions and Sign Up Dates For CRP 'Early Out'

Washington, Mar. 14, 1996: Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced today that an "early out" of some Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts expiring September 30, 1996, will be available during a sign up period to be held from March 20 through April 26 at local offices of USDA's Farm Service Agency. Glickman also said that current CRP participants whose contracts expire on September 30, 1996, would have an opportunity to extend their contracts for only one year. "A one year extension is the most prudent option until a new farm bill is enacted giving USDA new enrollment authority and establishing a longer-term policy for the CRP," Glickman said.

"Today's action is consistent with both the obvious growing need for increased grain production this year and with the Clinton Administration's," Glickman said.

Contracts with the following types of land will not be eligible for early out: land with an erodibility index greater than 15; land de-

voted to useful filter strips; bottom land timber on wetlands; shelter belts and land within an average of 100 feet of a stream or other permanent water body. "These restrictions ensure that environmentally-sensitive land continues to remain under contract," Glickman said.

Highly erodible land released from the CRP for cropping must have an approved conservation plan. Any land used for haying or pasture must have a haying or grazing plan.

For contract extensions, the Commodity Credit Corporation will offer producers with CRP contracts expiring on September 30, 1996, the option to extend their contracts for one year.

"Extending these contracts will allow for the continued protection of highly erodible and environmentally-sensitive lands already in the program," Glickman said.

The one-year extension will not change producers' rental rates. All or a portion of the acreage under contract may be included in an extension, but no new acre-

age may be added. Obligations existing under an original contract will continue to apply to contracts that are modified and extended.

The one-year extension policy announced today permits those CRP participants with contracts expiring this year to make an informed decision regulations consistent with the changes Congress is now in the process of completing for the program. The actual terms and conditions will be developed future participation may be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Affected participants will be notified by their local FSA office during the spring of the opportunity to modify and extend their CRP contracts.

Rig Count

The number of oil and gas rigs operating in the United States rose by 12 this week to 719, according to Baker Hughes Inc.

There were 675 rigs operating nationwide during the same week a year ago.

Of the rigs running this week, 421 were exploring for natural gas and 290 for oil, and eight rigs were listed as miscellaneous, the company said Friday.

Houston-based Baker Hughes has kept track of the count since 1940. The tally peaked at 4,500 in December of 1981 during the oil boom. It dropped to a record low of 596 in the summer of 1993, exceeding the previous low of 663 in 1986.

The rig count represents the number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, New Mexico gained eight rigs and Louisiana three. North Dakota, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania each were up by two and Texas added one.

Wyoming dropped three and California and Kansas lost one each.

Dry Spell

existing throughout the state and as far north as Nebraska.

The 'Hale Cycle' refers to difficult to understand sunspot activity. Sunspot magnetic polarity changes every 11 years, and the cycle's end, every 22 years, seems to create dry conditions in the Central Plains Area. Scientists speculate the changing magnetic polarity affect the wavelengths of sunlight, causing the earth to be heated in other ways.

Local Ag producers are probably not as concerned with the cause as the effect about the current extremely dry conditions, but even those producers with irrigation are voicing their concern about the drought. Many cotton experts say irrigation can make a cotton crop in the High Plains area, but without the help of Mother Nature in the form of rain, the crop will be far inferior in yield and quality.

It is little wonder producers across the state are casting worried looks at both the calendar and the skies. Moisture is desperately needed prior to planting dates, which loom closer and closer each passing, dry day.

County Court

Cont'd from page 1, pending receiving a properly revised petition.

All County bills and part time salaries were approved for payment. Permission was granted Western Geophysical Corp. to lay seismic cables across certain County roads in Precinct 1.

Funeral Services For Baltazar 'Junior' Cardenas, Jr.

Mission: Mr. Baltazar (Junior) Cardenas Jr., 38, passed away on March 3, at a local hospital.

Mr. Baltazar was an evangelist minister and known throughout the Rio Grande Valley and the state of Texas.

He is survived by his loving family, wife Mary Cardenas of Mission; a daughter Myra Cardenas of Mission; his parents Mr. and

Mrs. Baltazar Cardenas Sr. of Lubbock; three brothers, Frank Cardenas of St. Louis, MO, Julio Cardenas of Longmont, CO, and Mychal Cardenas of Lubbock; seven sisters, Martha Guerra of McAllen, Rosa Rodriguez of La Mesa, Elsa Diaz of Denver City, Norma Cardenas, Cecilia Sanchez and Gabriela Sanchez, all of Lubbock, and Patricia Cardenas of Mission. Also surviving Mr. Cardenas are eight nieces and seven nephews and numerous other relatives.

Prayer services were recited on March 4 at Emmanuel Baptist Church in McAllen. Funeral services were held on March 5, 1996 at Emmanuel Baptist Church in McAllen with Rev. Juan de la Graza officiating. Interment followed at Valley Memorial Gardens.

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HOME TO BE AUCTIONED R.E.C.D., formerly FmHA, is holding a public auction on April 2, 1996 to sell the property located at 604 East Fir, Denver City, Tx. The sale will be held at 10:00 A.M. at the Yoakum County Courthouse at the south front entrance. A special price reduction will be in effect at the sale. For information, please contact RECD, Room 224, Federal Bldg., 1205 Texas Ave., Lubbock, Tx. 79401

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Femme Friends Page

Senior Citizens Corner

Saint Patrick's Day is here and many of us have a bit of Irish in our blood, and sometimes we blame our temper-tantrum of our Irish Ancestry. But referring to my Encyclopedia, it seems as if St. Patrick was a very nice person, so maybe our temper is not to be blamed on the Irish.

Dates to remember
Miracle Ear 9 AM
Friday:

Line dancing 9:30 AM, Site Council meeting 10:30 AM

And of course there's lunch everyday at 11:30. Come and enjoy.

Visitors this week were Doris Baty, Arnold & Mertie Spears, and Layne & Wanda Black's grandson.

Beginning Thursday, Layne Black is the bus driver. He is back to the job he did several years ago. And we all wish him well.

There's always a great big welcome at the center for new people. So come on in and enjoy visiting, games, and a good meal with us.

See you next week, Smitty

Shower Dates

March 23rd - Heather Bowlin
Place: Jo Ann Barron

Time: 9:30 to 11:00 AM

March 24 - Michelle Lowe
Place: Judy Fitzgerald

Time: 2:00 to 3:30 PM

April 13 - Scotty Raines
Place: Karen Bearden

Time: 2:00 to 3:30 PM

Green Thumb Older American Week

Green Thumb was founded in 1965 as part of President Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty" by the National Farmers Union, a national organization dedicated to preserving the family farm and improving rural America. Beginning with only 280 participants in four states, Green Thumb was originally designed to put older, rural Americans' "green thumbs" to work to beautify our nation's parks and highways.

Today, Green Thumb's SCSEP participants in 44 states and Puerto Rico perform a wide variety of valuable community services. They tutor students, teach skilled trades and crafts, provide home health and day care, prepare and deliver meals for homebound persons, care for the disabled, operate computers, and work as clerks, mechanics, and laborers.

Last week, the Yoakum County Seniors Citizens was proud to honor Carmen Wilson for her 15 years of service through the Green Thumb program. She was presented with a leather key tag with the Green Thumb logo being depicted in solid brass. Mrs. Wilson stated, "I have enjoyed the work and would have been lost without something to do."

Tsa Mo Ga Program

At the March 11, 1996 Tsa Mo Ga Club meeting, members presented information on "Safety". Hostess' were Sarah Shelton and Mary Jo St. Romain.

Betty Rushing, Program Coordinator talked about Fire, Crime and Fraud and how it affects older Americans.

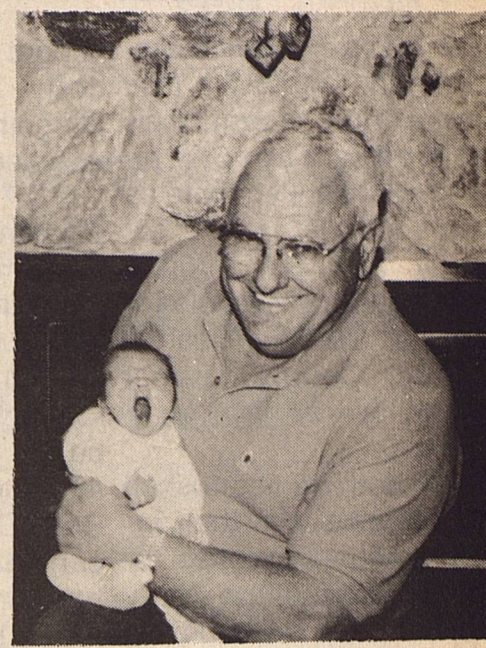
Toni Jones spoke on Fire. Sarah Shelton spoke on how not to be a victim of crimes. Kimberly Gass covered fraud.

Mrs. Sit Jones, President presided for the business meeting. Election of club officers for 1996-98 were as follows: President- Wilma Powell; Vice President- Ann Graham; Secretary Debbie Rushing; Treasurer- Kimberly Gass; Parliamentarian- Dolores Davis; Corresponding Secretary - Mary Jo St. Romain; Federation Counselor- Sit Jones; Critic- Bobbie Gayle; and Reporter- Renetta O'Quinn.

Members were reminded of the TFWC Caprock District 36th Annual Convention in Lubbock, March 22-23, 1996 at the Four Points Hotel. Mrs. Sit Jones, President will be recognized at the Friday night Awards Banquet.

The next meeting will be March 25th at 7:00 p.m. with Gary Walker reviewing 1996 Texas issues.

Simmons Greet First Grandson



Something happened March 13
Something really great
Dalton James entered the world
At approximately two-twenty-eight.

Dad James and Mom Stacey
Are really doing fine
But Grandparents Big Pop and Linda Mom
Are floating on cloud nine.

He was 7 pounds 14-1/2 oz.
And twenty inches long
With all this attention that he gets
He'll never do a wrong.

Uncle Jeff and the Rockwall family
Are as happy as can be
Until in December at ten months
He's pulling down the Christmas tree.

Parents of the newborn are James & Stacey Simmons of Rockwall, TX. Maternal grandparents are Martin & Cathy Gibbs of Quinlan, TX. Paternal grandparents are Pete & Linda Simmons of Plains. Great-grandmother Oma Dean Horner; great-great grand parents Elton & Bessie McDonald all of Santa Anna, TX.

The Plains High School Class of 1986 will hold a ten-year reunion on

October 4 & 5.

Anyone having addresses of members of that class are requested to send them to Julie Culwell, P.O. Box 64021, Lubbock, TX 79464-4021

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Pastor Bill Wright

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Fr. Glen Rosendale

First United Methodist Church
Pastor Rick Doyle

Templo Bautista Nueva Vision
Pastor Jose Rodriquez

Lighten Up For Spring!

(Salads Aren't Just For Rabbits)

Lubbock: St. Mary Hospital's Joe Arrington Cancer Research and Treatment Center (JACC) will present "Lighten Up For Spring! (or, Salads Aren't Just For Rabbits!)," Friday, March 29, 1996, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM at the St. Mary Education Center (6502 Slide Road).

The program will feature St. Mary Hospital Executive Chef Joe Garipey,

who will demonstrate fun and unusual salads that are easy to make, and healthy, too. Garipey will offer samples and recipes of his creation.

The program is open to the public at no charge; however, since space is limited, reservations are required.

For more information, or to make reservations, call (806) 796-4777.

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Amy Fires & Scotty Rains
Darcy Pierce & Troy Fillingim

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From The Hack



The Texas Primaries are, budget plan, a lofty goal thankfully, history. This almost non event was apparently about as exciting to the electorate as watching rust form, for barely 20% of eligible voters cast their ballots for Demo or GOP candidates. Yoakum County turnout figures were not much greater.

Why? Both parties rushed to the media with their infinitely astute excuses for lack of passionate party support at the ballot boxes. I suspect this underwhelming enthusiasm is a distinct symptom of voter apathy, and suspicion, if not outright distrust, of political candidates in general. After all, just a little less than four years ago, we were repeatedly promised an end to partisan politics, no more congressional gridlock or log jams. The two parties swore they would work together in unity for the good of the nation.

If you are one of the few swine who believed those pearls of wisdom which were tossed before you, my sympathies. Just nudge me over, I'll make room for you.

There is so much unity of purpose between the parties, it is now necessary for Congress to frantically come up with stop gap, emergency measures every few weeks to prop up the government and keep it running, unable to reach agreement on a balanced

budget plan, a lofty goal both parties pledged allegiance to during the last election.

GOP fire brand Pat Buchanan has been taking his lumps in recent state primaries and caucuses, but vows to "keep running till Hell freezes over, then run on the ice". Maybe, could be the ice is getting pretty thin, though. Front running Bob Dole may be the candidate Richard Nixon had in mind years ago, when he was quoted as saying "The worst sin in politics is being boring". (It must be remembered, he said a few other things, too, like "I am not a liar, I am not a thief!") Dole does not exactly ignite the raging fires of passionate support with such worn smooth homilies as "This race is about intolerance, which I won't tolerate.... We believe in decency and integrity, and we ought to make them national policy". Wonderful sentiments, but we all were supposed to know these ideals by time we finished the third grade.

Bill Clinton, with no serious Democrat opponent, whose party symbol is a jackass, a choice of animal I find thoroughly appropriate from time to time, is of course, a shoe-in for renomination. This despite signs of sagging public approval, disfavor with his Bosnia decision, dissatisfaction with his inability to break the balanced budget debacle on Capitol Hill, and the ongoing, odorous, suspicious Whitewater mess.

Lots of strange things can happen between now and the National election date in November, but it looks to me like a ballot pitting Clinton against Dole.

I think I'll take two aspirins and a nap. Wake me up very late in November.

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Keeping an eye on Texas

Fish farms net profits

More than 360 fish farms in Texas raise about \$28 million a year in aquatic products, with a shrimp catch of \$13.3 million in 1994.

Counties where fish are raised

Species	1994 value, in millions
Shrimp	\$13.3
Catfish	\$4.5
Crawfish	\$2.5
Alligator	\$2.3
Redfish	\$1.8
Aquatic plants	\$1.8
Hybrid	\$1.3
Striped Bass	\$1.3
Tilapia	\$0.8

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Department of Agriculture and Texas Aquaculture Association.

Juvenile Court Case Heard

A 16-year-old juvenile appeared in Juvenile Court before District Judge Kelly G. Moore last week, originally charged with criminal attempt of capital murder.

A petition for delinquent conduct as a juvenile was approved by the Grand Jury for a determinate or definitive sentencing. The juvenile pled true, and was committed to the case, custody and control of the Texas Youth Commission, with a transfer to the institutional division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for a term of seven years. The youth was represented by Attorney Israel P. Guardiola, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state.

Friends of Stephen F. Austin, who died today at the home of George B. McKinstry, state with certainty that the father of Texas literally gave his life in the service of this country.

For Austin, after all the hardships of the past few years, was in poor health when he accepted the responsibilities of the office of Secretary of State. Working in his unheated office in a barnlike building unsuitable for even a well man to work in, Austin caught a cold which developed into pneumonia. Having given so much of his strength to cause of Texas, Austin had nothing left with which to fight the illness which took his life.

Austin died a poor man, harassed to the end by his own debts and those of his father. He once wrote to his sister, "I shall benefit others much more than myself,"--a prediction which proved true, for his contribution to Texas cannot be measured.

"As a testimony of respect to his high standing, undeviating moral rectitude, and as a mark of the nation's gratitude for his untiring zeal and invaluable services, all officers, civil and military, are requested to wear crepe, on the right arm, for the space of thirty days." "By order of the President." "William S. Fisher, Sec. of War" The Texas News, 12/30, 1836

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- Wrap-On Fiberglass Insulation 3" X 35' \$3.35 roll
- 25' Lufkin Measuring Tape 1" \$8.95 ea.
- 250 Watt Heat Lamps Clear \$3.45 ea.

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UPCOMING GOLFING EVENTS

The Yoakum County Golf Club announces the following events scheduled for the month of March:

The annual membership meeting will be held March 30, 7 P.M. at the County Party House. An election of Directors for the coming year will be held.

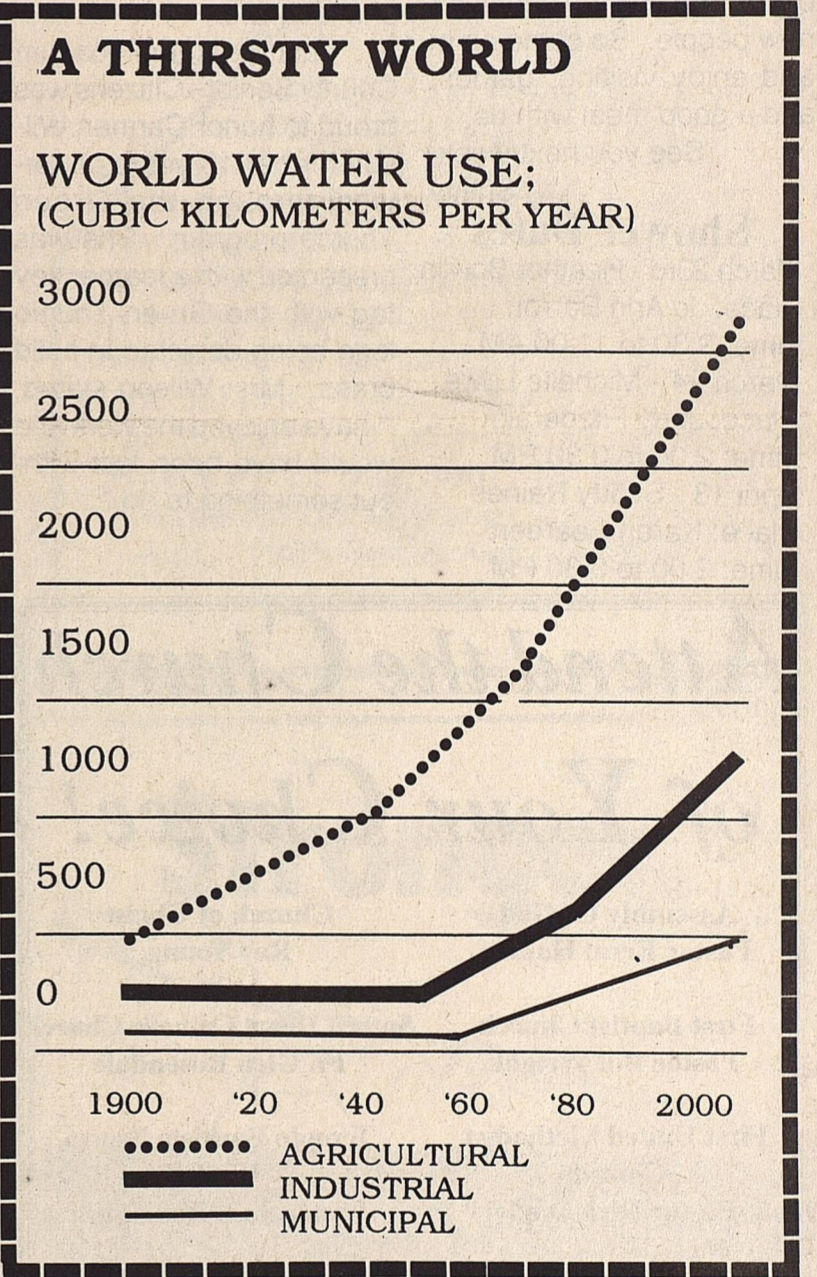
A proposal by the present Board will ask for an increase in annual dues of \$5 per month. The additional dues will hopefully allow hiring of an Assistant Pro for the course, to allow expanded club house operation hours, and better monitoring of the course.

Members who have not visited the recently remodeled club house are in for a pleasant surprise. The facility has been greatly enlarged, equipped with new counters and display fixtures, and the entire floor is now covered with new green carpeting. Many of the fixtures were furnished by Lynn and Thresa Young, of Denver City.

The first special event of the year is a St. Patrick's Day Shamrock Special on Sunday, March 17. For a \$10 entry fee, golfers can compete in the day long event, at any time they choose. They will be allotted 70 strokes over their club posted handicap, and furnished a 'Shamrock' at Tee Off. When the player reaches the total of allotted strokes, plus his handicap, the Shamrock is planted at that spot. Players the most advanced on the course, or on the most extra holes, will win prizes, as well as extra prizes around the course. Pro Wiley Osborn says, "Come on out, it's a fun event with lots of winners".

The first regular tournament is scheduled for March 30-31, a three person scramble, with a \$90 per team entry fee.

Pro Osborn encourages all golfers to register by posting a \$2 entry fee in the 'Hole-in-One' Contest, where the first 'Ace' on a par three by a club member in the pool collects all the money... if you're 400 bucks better off.



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