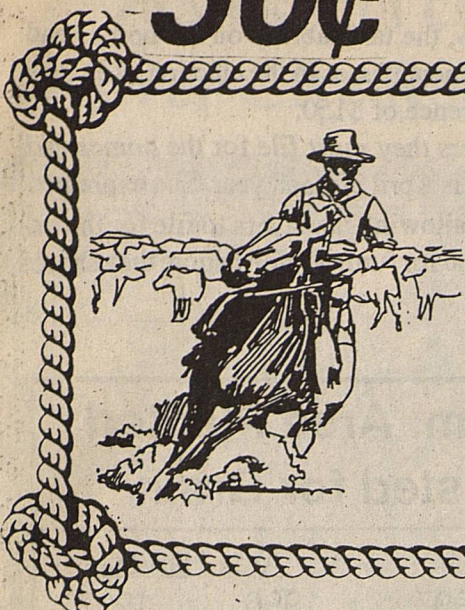


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Volume III, Issue 48, Wednesday, July 30, 1997

Parade!

It's Rodeo And Reunion Time!

Music!

Rodeo Spills,
Chills!

Huge Barbecue,
Great Food!

Queen Contest!

Tractor Pull!

Rodeo Dances!

Remind And Invite All Your Friends And Family Now!

Voters to decide homestead exemption issue

Texas voters will decide on August 9 if they favor the recent constitutional amendment on school property tax relief proposed in the recent legislative session. Early voting is now taking place in the County Clerk office in the Courthouse, and will continue through August 5.

The one item appearing on the voting ballot contains the following wording about the proposed amendment; "The constitutional amendment providing school property tax relief by increasing the residence homestead exemption by \$10,000 and providing for the transfer of the tax limitation to another qualified homestead for persons over 65 and a reduction in taxes on homesteads subject to the limitation." ("Enmienda constitucional que dispone desgravacion con respecto al impuesto escolar sobre la propiedad mediante el aumento de \$10,000 con respecto a residencias familiares, disponiendose tambien la transferencia de la limitacion tributaria concedida a personas de 65 o mas anos de edad a otra residencia familiar calificada, asi como una reduccion de impuestos sujeta a dicha limitacion").

Sandra Stephens, chief appraiser in the Yoakum County Tax Appraisal District, offered an illustration of how the passage of the amendment would affect taxpayers in the Plains Independent School District. A qualified homestead with a tax valuation of \$50,000 would first of all be subject to a 20% option exemption offered by Plains ISD (The Denver City District does not have this option), reducing the taxable value to \$40,000. If the owner or owners have filed for a homestead exemption, they would have the present \$5,000 exemption applied to the value, plus the \$10,000 new exemption contained in the constitutional amendment, reducing the taxable value to \$25,000.

The current property tax rate is \$1.50 per hundred dollars of

Please turn to page Two, "Homestead Exemption" and the corn is as high as an elephants eye "



This circle of irrigated corn grown by New Tex Farms is just one of many circles of the commodity in the stateline area. The corn is nearing harvest time, and will be cut and ground for ensilage, and stored in large plastic tubes until needed for cattle feed for a number of dairies in the area

Court considers 'Even Start', community service issues

In Commissioners Court July 21, a bid for the purchase of a Chevrolet pickup from Mustang Country in the amount of \$18,473, less \$3500 trade-in, was accepted for Precinct 2.

A bid from Twin Cities Roofing and Siding, Midland, in the amount of \$13,776 was approved for renovating the roof of the Denver City Library was approved.

In the July 28 court session, a funding request for the Even Start and Family Literacy programs was presented by Steve Mills, Superintendent of Denver City ISD, and Kathy Clark, Program Director. The program started in Denver City in 1994, and is supported wholly by federal grant funds and the DCISD. Mrs. Clark explained the program has had great success in increasing literacy levels of both children and adults, often attending the learning classes as family groups.

The projected budget for the second cycle of the budget grant calls for a total of \$191,500. The Denver City School system has budgeted \$34,500 of this total, and grants would supply \$95,750, leaving a projected deficit of \$61,250 for the programs.

Mario Ortega addressed the Court, as the first student using the program to earn a GED. He related he did not finish high school, and was injured while working in the oil fields. He attended the Even Start program at night for a year, received his GED, then attended South Plains College where he recently completed a two year program and earned a certificate as an electronic technician. Judge

Turn to page 6, "Even Start"

Rodeo Art Signs Are Up



The TSA MO GA study clubs annual decorating of business firms with rodeo theme art work was completed last week. Shown here are club members Carolyn Culwell and Elouise St.Romain watching Becky St.Romain, center, put the finishing touches to a picture at The Plains Depot. Seven volunteer painters completed over 30 rodeo advertisement signs in the club's fund raising project.

County Democratic Club makes plans

The Yoakum County Democratic Club held a meeting Tuesday evening at Lalito's Restaurant, and guest of honor was Lyndi Rowe, recent PHS graduate. She won a \$200 savings account sponsored by the club. An accomplished vocalist who sings with the "Spirit Wind" group, Lyndi entertained the club members at the meeting with several vocals.

The Democrats plan to have a table at the old courthouse during the Rodeo and Reunion parade, then move the table to Stanford Park for the noon barbecue.

Other items discussed at the meeting included exchanging

cold drinks for donations at the parade and barbecue, the proceeds marked for various youth projects. They will also sell chances for a lap quilt to raise funds for equipment at the two youth centers.

The club sold chances for a lap quilt during the July 4th festivities in Denver City, which was won by Doug Conway of Plains.

Guilty plea in District Court

District Judge Kelly G. Moore hear a plea of guilty from Alma Gomez, 45, to the charge of securing the execution of a document by deception.

She received a five year prison sentence, suspended and probated five years, and was fined \$1500. She must pay \$181.50

court costs, and restitution of \$2366. Other causes involving securing execution of document by deception, state jail felony theft, and misdemeanor were adjudicated. She must surrender her Notary Stamp and serve 160 hours of community service.

Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state, and she was represented by Attorney Victor M. Torres.

Ladies.....

Cobblers are needed for the Reunion barbecue. Please pick up plastic serving cups at the Dairy Queen. Twelve cups should be enough for the average cobbler.

Final Services Held For Pablo Mares

Services held for Gaylon McKenzie

Pablo Mares, 76 of Plains died Friday, July 25, 1997, at Brownfield Regional Medical Center in Brownfield. He was born April 30, 1921, in Edinburg, Texas. On August 24, 1947, he married Ana Maria Lopez, in Edinburg. In 1968 they moved to Plains from Norton, Texas. Mr. Mares was a retired farmer and veteran of the United States Army. Funeral services were held July 26, 1997, at 3:00 PM., at the Templo Bautista Nueva Vision in Plains, with Reverend Jose M. Rodriguez, officiating. Burial followed in the Plains Cemetery under the direction of Roger Pool Funeral Home. He is survived by his wife, Ana Maria Mares of Plains; four sons, Adan Mares of Edinburg, Pablo Mares Jr. of Winters, Javier Mares of Denver City, Ricky Mares of Plains; five daughters, Elena Vasquez of Lorenzo, Juana Gonzales of Plains, Eva Flores of Plains, Isabel Longoria of Brownfield, Rosa Asebedo of Plains; two brothers, Francisco Mares of Edinburg, Jesus Mares of Premont; a sister, Sara Rodriguez, 24 grandchildren, and 9 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held for Gaylon Randolph McKenzie, 83, of Seagraves were held at 2:30 p.m. Monday, July 28, in the First Baptist Church of Seagraves. Rev. Gene Tone of San Antonio and Rev. Pat Riley of Brownfield officiated. Arrangements were under direction of the Head Family Funeral Home of Seagraves. Interment was in the Gaines County Memorial Cemetery in Seminole.

Mr. McKenzie passed away Saturday, July 26 at the Brownfield Regional medical Center. He was born April 17, 1914, in Commanche County. He married Syble Priest on November 5, 1933, in the Bethel Baptist Church near Brownwood. She preceded him in death on October 12, 1993.

A life-long Texan, Mr. McKenzie was a retired Baptist minister who pastored churches in Seagraves and Seminole. He had been an interim and supply pastor in many South Plains churches. He also worked for the Columbian Carbon Factory in Seagraves 28 years. He was known as an active worker in Adult Sunday School departments in the First Baptist Church of Seagraves.

Survivors include two sons, Woody McKenzie of Seagraves and Gerald McKenzie of Brownfield. He had one daughter, Barbara Chidester of brownfield. His five grandchildren are Monty and Alan McKinzie of Seagraves, Shane McKinzie of Plains, Brenda Cypert of Meadow, and Michael Barber of Dallas. Also surviving are his sister, Jewel Turpin of Commanche, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Aug. 20, 1819-General Long began publishing *Texas Republican* in Nacogdoches.
 Aug. 26, 1842-Treaty signed with Caddo Indians.
 Aug. 30, 1856-Land endowment given by the legislature to institutions for "deaf, blind, insane and orphaned"
 Aug. 9, 1859-First overland mail coach left San Antonio for San Diego

Watermelon harvest now underway



This hoe crew was working in a watermelon patch west of town last week, just prior to cutting and loading crews move in

The 1997 county watermelon crop is starting to be shipped around the nation, with trucks being loaded at the new Jackson and Palmer shipping facility on the stateline at New Tex. Anderson Produce is expected to start handling the famed melons here in the next few days. No official figures are available, but some producers think at least 5,000 acres of land are in watermelon production this year, roughly twice the acreage of the 1996 crop. The Yoakum County melons have gained notoriety the last few years, and many produce shippers say they are as good or better than any melons in the country.

INTERNET CLASSES OFFERED BY SPC THIS FALL

LEVELLAND — Three college courses will be offered on the Internet this fall by South Plains College along with a wide array of traditionally-offered college courses.

Courses on the Internet are Technical Writing (Eng 233-34), Regional Geography of the World (Geo 235-34) and History of the United States to 1876 (Hist 231-34). They will be offered within the college's 15-county service area.

Students can register for Internet courses during SPC's fall registration on the Levelland campus, scheduled August 28. Registration is 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m. in the Women's Gym. A registration permit is required.

SPC's evening registration will be 4-6:30 p.m. August 28. A registration permit is not required.

SPC Lubbock's fall registration is August 27 for returning

students and August 28 for new students.

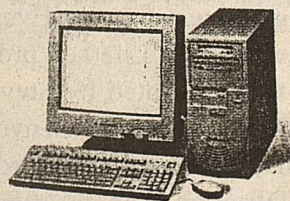
Fall registration at the Reese Center will be August 25-26.

To take the Internet courses, students will need access to a personal computer with Internet browsing software and an e-mail address.

"This is cutting edge stuff. I am excited about offering the course," said Daniel Bunye, SPC assistant professor of government who redesigned a regional geography course for the Internet.

The technical writing course via the Internet will be taught by Dr. Patricia Cearley, professor of English; and the history course will be taught on the Internet by Dr. Laura Graves, associate professor of history.

To obtain a 1997-98 catalog or fall schedule of classes, contact the SPC Office of Admissions and Records at 806-894-9611, ext. 2374 or 2375, SPC Lubbock at 747-0576, ext. 4660 or the Reese Center at 885-3048.



From Page One, "HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION"

valuation. Under current law, the tax liability on the homestead would be \$525. If the amendment passes in the election, the taxes would drop to \$375, a difference of \$150.

Stephens reminded taxpayers they must file for the homestead exemption, and the deadline is April 30 each year. She explained there are certain provisions allowing taxpayers to file for the exemption after the deadline, and for further information, they should contact the appraisal office.

U.S. Sorghum: Area Planted and Harvested for Grain

	Area Planted		Area Harvested	
	1996	1997	1996	1997*
	- 1,000 Acres			
AL	14	12	10	9
AR	230	160	220	150
CO	290	180	260	160
GA	65	65	40	40
IL	230	160	220	150
KS	4,800	3,750	4,600	3,550
KY	26	15	23	13
LA	155	110	153	107
MS	75	35	72	33
MO	600	450	580	430
NE	1,250	950	1,030	800
NM	250	245	225	230
NC	19	20	10	11
OK	520	520	490	490
SC	10	6	5	4
SD	230	270	145	170
TN	24	20	18	15
TX	4,400	3,300	3,800	3,150
US	13,188	10,268	11,901	9,512

*Forecasted.

Attention Library Patrons

Your tax dollars support the County Library for the benefit of the Community, and your tax dollars are being stolen. Audio Cassettes and video movies have been taken, books have disappeared, including six books in the Robert Jordan series, valued at \$27.95 each. The Library staff asks for your help in stopping this theft of tax dollars. If you know anything about these events, or happen to see someone removing Your Library property, please let us or the Sheriff's department know!

SHAPES Head Start

SHAPES Head Start is accepting applications for a Home Visitor position.

Job Responsibilities: Go into home and work with parent and child on education issues and other Head Start areas.

Experience: High School diploma/GED minimum. CDA or Associates in Child Development preferred but not required. Must be willing to obtain courses in related field.

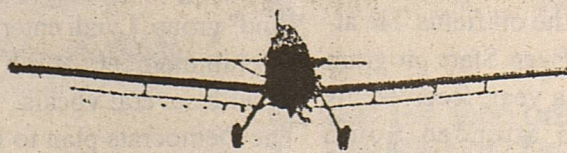
If interested call Phyllis Coe at 806-894-2207, or go to Yoakum County HS, 112 E. 13th St., Denver City, Texas for an application form. Deadline date 8/1/97. EOE

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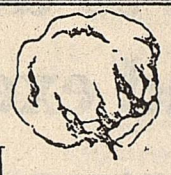
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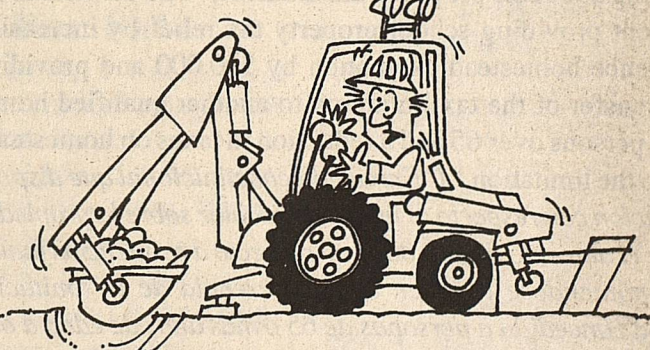
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Plains girl crowned Denver City Rodeo Queen



Kimberlee Jones, 14 year old daughter of Steve and Kathy Jones of Plains, was named the 1997 Queen of the Denver City Rodeo this weekend. Kimberlee was sponsored by Denver City merchants including Liberty Drug, Bruton Services, Rege Services and Clay Tank. Monica Jones, 16 year old daughter of Richard and Niece Jones, was runner-up in the contest.

In the Little Miss Rodeo contest, Tyler Anzures, four year old daughter of Victor and Yesenia Anzures was declared the winner. She was sponsored by Mustang Country and Oxygen Equipment and Supply.

Extension Service Ag Agents Assess Years Cotton Crop

The 1997 South Plains cotton crop has experienced considerable challenges thus far. Plenty of hail, blowing sand, and excessive rainfall have been experienced in many areas.

Growing conditions have been limited by reduced heat unit accumulation compared to the long-term average. These environmental conditions have slowed the progress of this years crop in many areas, and caused the replanting of cotton in many fields. The extreme lateness of many fields remains a challenge to producers. Recently, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service Agriculture Agents in the southern High Plains area have conducted a prebloom plant mapping survey of about 20 fields per county, generating an instantaneous observation of the crop over the 20-county

area. This project is in cooperation with the AgriPartners program in District 2, which furnishes trained personnel to obtain data for various projects. The AgriPartners program incorporates support from various segments of the cotton industry including producer organizations, agricultural companies, etc., all in cooperation with researchers and Extension workers from Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University. The cotton fields were mapped in early July, and consisted of both dryland and irrigated fields in each county.

Based on data taken from about 210 irrigated fields, the plant populations are considered normal for the region, averaging about 4.5 plants per foot. This averages out to about 58,000 plants per acre (in 40

inch rows). Research indicates that this population is in the range for optimum cotton production. Plants averaged about 5.2 inches in height, with about 7.2 total nodes. This results in a height to node ratio (or average internode length) of about 0.7. Based on past research, height to node ratio during prebloom growth stages has not been noted to be a critical factor affecting yield potential, but becomes more important as the plants move into the bloom stage. Only about two-thirds of the plants in the sampled fields across the region had developed fruiting branches by July 1. Of those plants with fruiting branches, the average mainstem node location was between 5 and 6, which is normal. Early square observations indicate that the average square retention is between 85 and 90 percent, and is variable across the counties, with the average number of first position squares at about 2 per plant. Some counties may show unusually high or low square retention, based on the actual number of plants which exhibited fruiting branches. For fields in the first week of squaring, we normally prefer 95% square retention; in the second week, 85%; and in week 3, 75%. Problems may be occurring in some fields with less than optimum square retention. Factors which affect this are environmental conditions and insects. The significant swings in temperature, cloudy skies, plus high rainfall intensities, blowing sand, and lingering wet weather blight may all adversely affect the plants. Producers should inspect their fields to determine their specific situation with respect to square retention. If insect problems are confirmed, then appropriate management should be undertaken to reduce square loss.

Data were compiled on about 160 dryland fields. Due to adequate to surplus rainfall, many dryland fields have adequate moisture in the soil profile to produce good to excellent yield potential. This has resulted in many dryland fields taking on the characteristics of irrigated fields, at least very early on. Plant populations in dryland fields averaged about 4 plants per foot, which results in about 52,000 plants per acre (based on 40 inch rows). Again, this is the range for optimum production levels. Dryland plants averaged about 4 inches in height, with 6.2 total nodes. A corresponding height to node ratio of about 0.6 is noted. About one-half of the plants in the reported dryland fields has developed fruit-

ing branches by July 1. The average mainstem node location of the first fruiting branch was between 5 and 6, which is very good. Square retention is about 85% for dryland plants with a fruiting branch reported. Again, some variability was exhibited within counties and among counties.

Some counties have obviously fared better than others. There is truly a "mixed bag" of maturity across the area. Generally speaking, many fields remain in fair condition despite the "beating" they have taken. Cotton blooms should begin appearing sometime during the next two weeks, considering the number of young squares that were noted on July 1 and 2. Comparisons of data from last year's AgriPartners prebloom plant mapping data show there is reason for optimism for this crop despite the challenges observed early on. As always, the weather during the remainder of the season will determine the outcome. Follow-up plant mapping events are planned for later in July and mid-August.

Irrigated cotton conditions in Yoakum County showed that these fields exhibited as average plant population of 5.0 plants per foot with a height of 8.7 inches, with 7.2 total nodes per plant. The average mainstem node was 5, with a height to node ratio of .69 the irrigated crop had a 83 percent first position square retention rate.

Data from the dryland fields in Yoakum County indicated that the crop exhibited an average plant population of 4.4 plants per foot with a height of 6.11 inches with 8.6 total nodes per plant. The height to node ratio was .83. The crop showed that 69 percent of the first position squares were retained on the plant.

County Extension Agent Tadd Knight commented, "Overall, our crop is beginning to show signs of catching up. Good hot weather combined with a timely rain in the near future would make the crop outlook excellent countywide. We are still behind, but the crop shows potential for a normal to possibly above normal yield. The big determinant may be what mother nature has in store during the month of September. We will need every extra day of heat until accumulation to make this crop."

Knight indicated that another countywide plant mapping effort will take place in the next two weeks, to further assess the crop situation.

Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Vocational Programs

Plains Independent School District offers vocational programs in Agriculture, Home Economics, and Industrial Arts. Admission to these programs is based on need, interest and ability.

It is the policy of Plains ISD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Plains ISD will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator and the Section 504 Coordinator, James Haynes, Plains ISD, at PO Box 479, Plains, TX, 79355, or telephone 806-456-7401.

Plains Independent School District ofrece programas vocacionales en agricultura, Economia de Casa, y Artes Industriales. La admision a estos programas se basa en necesidad, interes, y habilidad.

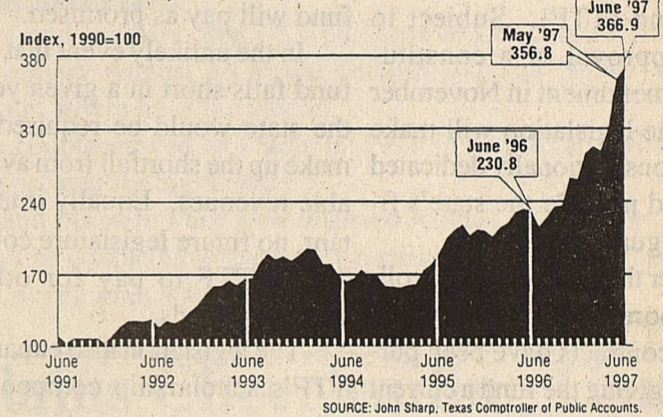
En norma de Plains Independent School District no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren, el Titulo VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda, el Titulo IX de las Enmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

De Plains Independent School District tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Par informacion sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese co el Coedibator del Titulo IX y el Coordinador de la Seccion 504, James Haynes, Plains ISD, PO Box 479, Plains, TX, 79355, o telephono 806-456-7401

Texas Stock Index

The Texas Stock Index (TSI) continued its record setting pace in June as the index reached its third record high in three months. The index, which grew by 46.6 points in May, increased by another 10.1 points this month to stand at 366.9.



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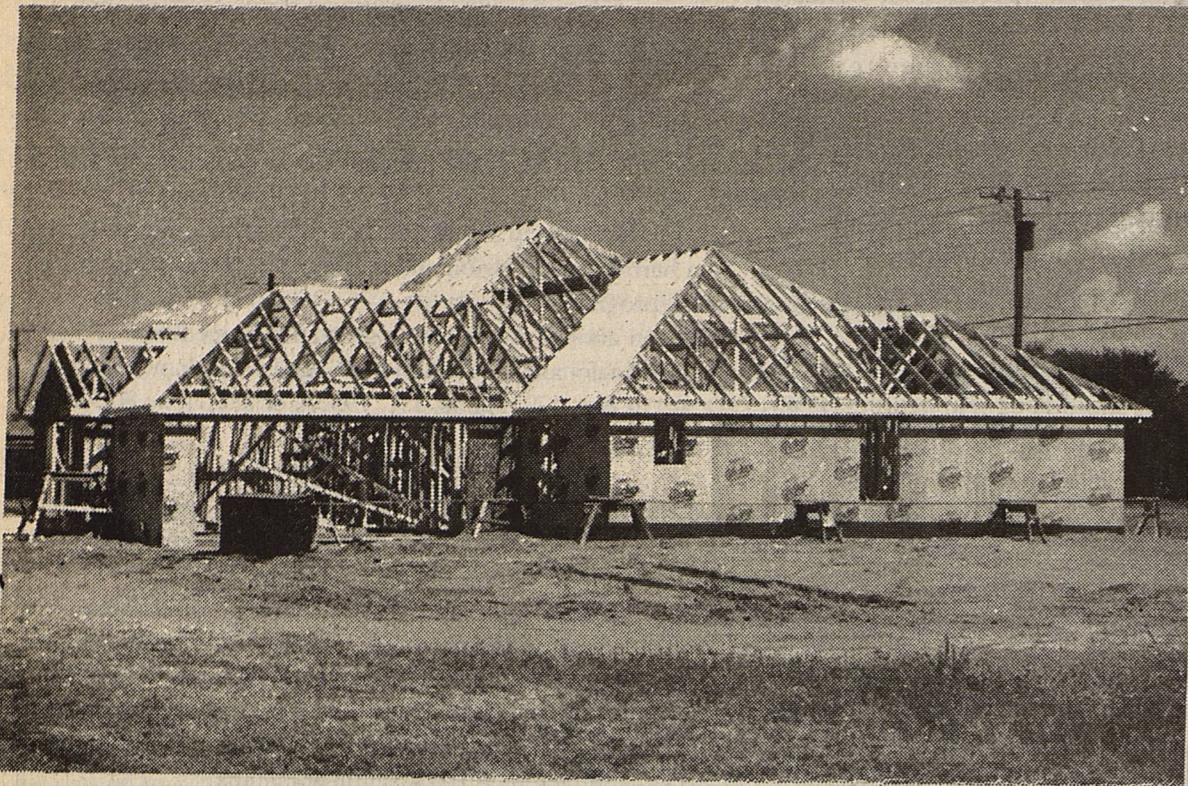
Thanks to all our friends and customers for another good year. We appreciate you!

EXPLORER

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Plains is growing.... not by leaps and bounds, however



The new house being framed here on First Street will soon be the new home of the Gary Broome family. According to records at City Hall, the building permit is the first issued for a new family residence in the city since June, 1996.

Guaranteeing Prepaid Tuition

As chairman of the Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board, I'm pleased that lawmakers have voted to put the state's fully faith and credit behind the popular Texas Tomorrow Fund (TTF). Subject to voter approval of a constitutional amendment in November 1997, the legislation will make TTF a constitutionally dedicated fund and provide the state's financial guarantee.

After the second TTF enrollment, more than 65,000 prepaid tuition contracts have been purchased, giving the fund a current

balance of \$215 million and a long-term value of \$625 million. While the self-supporting TTF is in good financial shape, the proposed amendment offers purchasers more assurance that the fund will pay as promised.

In the unlikely event that the fund falls short in a given year, the state would be required to make up the shortfall from available revenues. Equally important, no future legislature could "raid" TTF to pay for other spending needs.

The legislation also expands TTF's scholarship component

by allowing private businesses and individuals to buy tuition packages for students to be named later. I am confident that many Texas businesses will want to create prepaid tuition scholarships, which will not affect TTF investments in any way.

By approving the proposed amendment, Texas voters can help ensure that TTF will remain the most flexible, innovative and financially sound prepaid college tuition program in the country.

By - John Sharp
Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Famous early Texans

Lawrence Sullivan
"Sul" Ross
1838 - 1898



Born in Iowa September 27, 1838, Sul Ross moved with his family to Texas the following year. He attended Baylor University in 1856, then graduated from Wesleyan University at Florence, Alabama in 1859.

Ross earned early recognition as Captain of a Texas Ranger company that attacked a large Comanche village in 1860 and recaptured the long lost Cynthia Ann Parker.

The following year Ross resigned Ranger service and joined the Confederate Army. During the war, he gained rapid promotions, advancing to the rank of Brigadier General. Soon after the war ended, he entered politics and advanced from the office of Sheriff of McClennan County to that of State Senator in 1880.

He was elected Governor of Texas in 1887, and was the first Governor to occupy the newly completed capitol building in 1888.

After serving two terms as Governor, Ross became Presi-

dent of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas in 1891. While at A&M, he was popular with the students and responsible for numerous improvements and programs. Sul Ross University at Alpine was named in his honor.

Six Convicted in Telemarketing Ring

On June 24, 1997, six defendants were convicted in federal court in Houston on charges of mail fraud, wire fraud, money laundering and conspiracy in connection with a large scale telemarketing operation located in Montgomery, Texas.

The Texas Real Estate Commission cooperated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Texas Attorney General's Consumer Protection division and other local, state and federal agencies in cases involving an estimated 27,000 property owners and losses of up to \$9 million. Sentence will be pronounced on September 29.

The convictions followed a nationwide fraud alert in 1995 by the Texas Real Estate Commission and the Association of Real Estate License Law Officials, and television news broadcasts and newspaper articles; the alert resulted in coverage by national magazines such as *Consumers' Research and Money*, warning real estate consumers of high-pressure telephone and mail pitches from firms that promised to sell slow-moving land, time-share interest and other real estate in exchange for an advance fee ranging between \$195 - \$595.

30
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16 - King Size Wallets
8 - Regular Size Wallets



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NEW CARS THURSDAY JULY 31 **FRIDAY** AUGUST 1 **SATURDAY** AUGUST 2 **USED CARS**

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Femme Friends



Texas - Oklahoma Watermelon Queen to appear here at Watermelon Round Up

Gretchen Huff, 18 year old daughter of Paul and Charlotte Huff from Grapeland, Texas, is the reigning 1997 Texas and Oklahoma Watermelon Queen. She was crowned at the annual Texas and Oklahoma Watermelon Association Convention held in McAllen Texas this past January. Gretchen will be traveling throughout the United States promoting watermelons, and part of her itinerary includes an appearance here at the Second Annual Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up, to be held on the courthouse square Saturday, August 30.



Gretchen will fly into Lubbock Plains. While here, she and and will be met by Wanda Letson will be guests of the Letson, Secretary of the Texas-Macky and Connie McWhirter Oklahoma Watermelon Association and Eddie and Bonnie Earnest, who will bring her to families.

Senior Citizens Corner

About the only new thing happening at the Center this week is, Thelma Hicks is back in the office after a four week absence due to illness. All are glad to see her back on the job.

Donna Clark was here Monday and gave a talk on Medicare. She left pamphlets, which are still available, and answered questions from the audience. It was informative and interesting. There's much help with problems of the Elderly at SPAG.

Debbie Rushing brought peas, fresh from the field, and the "Cowboy Country" editor brought copies of the paper. Thanks to both.

The Site Council met and suggested plans for the booth and other activities for the "Watermelon Festival". We will have a booth and donated articles and help will be appreciated.

The "Jamboree" is coming up August 13th. Will be a big day for Seniors at Lubbock. All are invited. There is lots of activities -- games, contests, crafts, dancing, banner display. Hope many can attend and support our Center. The theme this year is "Good Old Summer Time".

Coming Events: Line Dancing - Mon., Wed., Fri. at 10 am; Pool/Games - Mon at 6:30 pm; Gail Ballor - Thur. at 11 am; and Lunch every day at 11:30 am.

To paraphrase a television ad, "That's all folks".

See you next week, Smitty



Sierra Cheyenne Welch made her debut at 7:05 p.m., July 21, 1997 at Texoma Medical Center in Denison, Texas. She weighed 6 lbs. 4 oz. and was a big 19 3/4 inches long. Her father, Donnell Welch, says she's a keeper. Her mom, Kendra Welch, said she was always a keeper. Her grandparents are Kent and Peggy Welch of Plains, Texas, and Kenneth and Fern Turnbow of San Angelo, Texas. Her cousins are Brittney Roper, Holden, Hunter, and Haley Welch of Plains, Texas, and Devin, Andrew, Ryan, RaeAnn, and Logan Knapp of Midland, Texas.

In spite of the cost of living, it's still popular. -Kathleen Norris

Band Rehearsal Dates

The former State Champion Plains High School Cowboy Marching Band will go to work before school starts this year. Band Director Byron Morgan said practice rehearsals are scheduled for August 4, 5, 7, 8 and 11, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This year the Cowboy Band will again be eligible to compete for the coveted trip to Austin and a repeat win as State Champions, this year in their new Class 2-A Division, and are expected to work hard for the honor.



HOWDY!

By: Kathy Adair



SUMMER SNACKS & DRINKS

Mommy, I'm hungry! How often do parents hear that during the summer break? Because they have smaller stomachs, children need to eat more often. Snacks low in sugar, fat and salt are the best. Setting out fruits and vegetables is just as easy as giving them a bag of chips. The child's age should be taken into consideration. Some are too young for raw vegetables such as carrots because they can't chew them well. On the other hand, older children will be less likely to overeat when they have to chew their food well. Get the children involved in planning their snacks. Snacks should make up for the lack of fruits, vegetables, fiber and dairy products in meals. Whole grain crackers, cheese, pudding, even ice cream make good snacks.

The sun is beating down. Your throat is parched. Do you reach for water, a cola, or one of those highly promoted sports drinks? Water is cheaper and it quenches your thirst more effectively than juices or soft drinks. Sugar can inhibit the rate of absorption, so water or a sugar-free drink will replenish better. Avoid beverages that contain caffeine because they cause you to urinate more and lose fluid. Water is better than sports drinks that claim to restore your electrolytes. The trend toward bottled water may help make people more aware of water's importance, but be warned about the expense. The next time you head for the soda machine, think twice and look for the water fountain instead.

The Band Calendars are in. The Band Boosters have been trying to get them delivered, and if your calendar has not been delivered, please pick it up at the Library.



Welcome To The Lavender Patch



Hope you have a great time at the Rodeo and Old Settlers Reunion!

50th Wedding Anniversary



Reverend and Mrs. Jose M. Rodriguez will celebrate their 50th anniversary August 16 at the Templo Bantista Nueva Vision Church, where he is the pastor.

The couple moved to Plains in 1991 from Dalhart, where he had pastored for eight years.

He and his wife Pura were married August 11, 1947, in Hereford. The couple have three grown children, a daughter and two sons, seven grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

Plains Cheerleading Camp

(Instruction by Plains High School Cheerleaders)
WHEN: August 4-7
WHO: Grades 1-6 (1997-98 school year)
Time: Registration: 8:15 am.-9:00am. on August 4th
 August 4-6 9:00am.-11:30am.
 August 7 10:00am.-11:00am.-Awards, Parents welcome
Cost: \$15.00 for all week, includes T-shirt, or \$5.00 a day (Does not include T-Shirt)
Where: Band Hall

PHS Registration Schedule

Registration for Plains High School students will be August 7th and 8th in the High School Office. Students are strongly encouraged to attend and review their schedule during the times listed below:
 Thursday..... 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Seniors
 Thursday..... 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Juniors
 Friday..... 10:00 am - 12:00 Sophomores
 Friday..... 1:00 am - 3:00 Freshman

Larry C. Boyd, M.D.

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Yoakum County Clinic
 Each Thursday
 Office Hours 1-4 PM

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 Please Call 456-6365 or 592-9501

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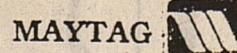


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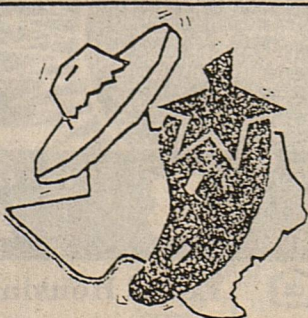
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**From Page 1,
"Even Start"**

Brewer told the programs representatives the Court would discuss the proposal at length and place it on the agenda for further discussion at a later date.

Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Ted Welch addressed the Court on changes in the Juvenile Justice Code on Community Service. The code specifies, "If a court places a child on probation, the court shall require as a condition of probation that the child work a specified number of hours at a community service project approved by the court....". He also explained there are different levels of time of community service for various degrees of offenses, ranging from 5 hours to 60 hour minimums.

Welch, supported by Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark, said compliance with the code will be enforced, and failure to comply could result in the State of Texas withholding funds for the Juvenile Probation office.

One problem, they reported, was the liability of the county working the juveniles on probation, and several questions about insurance remain to be answered. Another problem is supervision of the juveniles. The law prohibits them from working with adult workers, and someone would have to be available as a supervisor when they are assigned work in community service. Clark said implementing the program would be much more difficult than the legislators imagined, and would be an additional expense for the counties, in effect "another unfunded state mandate".

Welch also told the court it appeared the part-time secretary in his Denver City office, who is actually a Child Protective Services employee, will probably be transferred to the Brownfield office on September 1. He asked the court to consider hiring a full time, county paid secretary if the CPS transfer takes place. He and Clark both stated a secretary was needed and warranted for the

increased case load in the Juvenile Probation Office, which is now staffed by Welch and his assistant, James Adair.

Clark said the juvenile case load would undoubtedly increase when the recently passed "Zero Tolerance" law for minors driving under the influence (DUI) goes into effect September 1.

No action was taken by the court on the two related matters.

Fort Worth Greets Texas and Pacific

Fort Worth - This city yesterday welcomed the first train of the new Texas and Pacific Railroad. As is customary on such occasions, the train arrived to an accompaniment of people cheering, dogs barking, and horses running away. The town was thrown wide open, and many people retired to the saloons to ease their hoarse throats.

The T. and P. reached here only after a long delay because of financial difficulties growing out of the Panic of 1873. The last few miles of track into Fort

Worth were constructed in a race against time as the railroad worked feverishly to meet its deadline and thus collect the land bounty offered by the state. Track was constructed at a rate of a mile a day, and much of it will doubtless have to be rebuilt now that the deadline has been met.

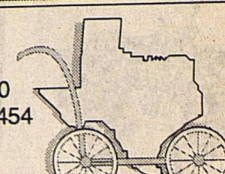
The company plans to build on westward immediately. The extension of a railroad into the West Texas area will greatly speed the settlement of the country.

The Texas News,
December, 1876

1917: The 36th (Texas) Division organized; first American division to invade Europe in WW11.

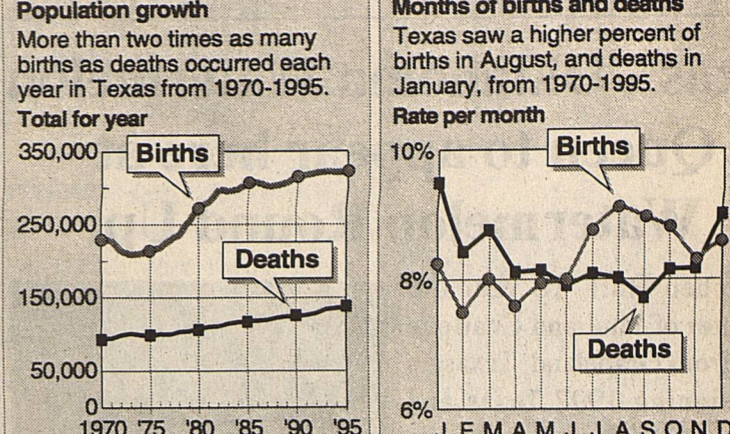
Keeping an eye on Texas

Texas' population boom
No wonder it looks like Texas is booming—from 1970 to 1995, the state averaged 274,729 births and 113,454 deaths each year. More new Texans came into the world in August, while more departed in January.



Population growth
More than two times as many births as deaths occurred each year in Texas from 1970-1995.

Months of births and deaths
Texas saw a higher percent of births in August, and deaths in January, from 1970-1995.



SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and Texas Department of Health.

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Yoakum County Hospital

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The NO TIE GUYS
Hope our many friends and valuable customers in Yoakum County enjoy the 44th Annual Old Settlers Reunion and

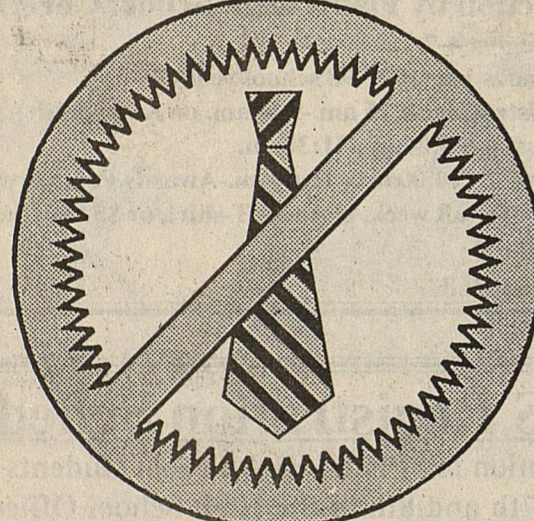


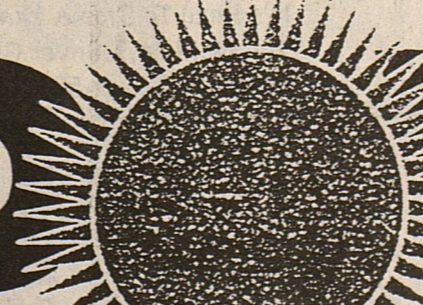
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Junior High cheerleading camp

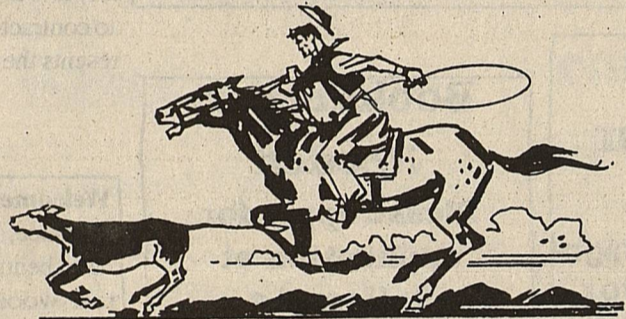


Front, L-R; Lauren Davis, Katie Winn. Back, L-R; Chelsi Wagnon, Julie Gonzales, Jo Anna Davis, Erica Bell, Mackenzie Winn, Dru DeBusk, Meagan Allsup.

The 1997-98 Plains Junior High Cheerleaders attended a summer cheerleading camp at the Junior High gym June 16 through June 20. The camp was conducted by Ashlee Davis, tumbling and dance instructor here.

During the five day camp, the girls learned new chants, cheers and dances for the upcoming school year. Pyramids, tumbling skills and stunts were also taught during the camp. On the last day of camp, awards were presented to the girls, who also received a camp certificate and a 'spirit shaker'. Individual awards included; Erica Bell - 'Most Spirited'; Julie Gonzales - 'Hardest Worker'; Chelsi Wagnon - 'Sharp, Smile & Stiff Award'; Mackenzie Winn - 'Tumbling Award'; Megan Allsup - 'Dance Award'; Jo Anna Diaz - 'Jumping Award'.

The girls received camp T-shirts from Ashlee Davis, and others assisting in the camp included Dru DeBusk of Lubbock, Katie Winn and Lauren Davis. All the girls worked very hard and enjoyed the camp.



Welcome

To Plains !

**We Hope You Enjoy
The Rodeo & Reunion**

Plains

Chamber of Commerce

Proud of the past-Plans for the future



**Saddle Up, Pardners
And Join Us At The
44th Rodeo &
Old Settlers
Reunion!**

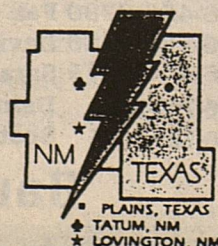
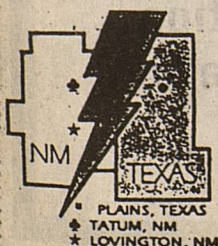
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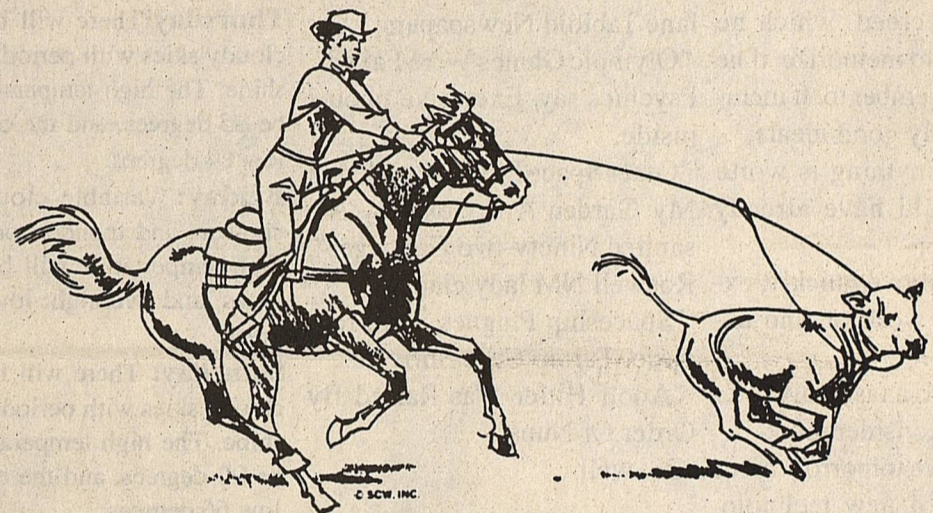
VISIT US AT THE RODEO
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Cowboy Country News

**Hopes you enjoy the 44th
Old Settlers Reunion and
Rodeo!**

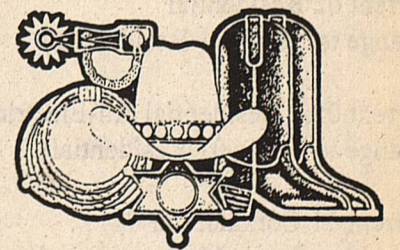
Holly & Gary Dyer



**Catch yourself a good
time at the 44th annual
Rodeo & Reunion!**

The Members of the
Yoakum County Roping Club

**Welcome, Rodeo &
Old Settlers Reunion
Visitors!**



**Have A Rip Snorting
Good Time!**

From all the employees of

Lowe's

Pay 'n Save



John Kitto, Mgr.

From The Hack



At one point in my life, actually not too distant past, I was considered by some to be a procrastinator, 'some' being mainly my Bride. Even she now readily admits my slothful habits are not nearly so bad... she told me just yesterday, "Honey, you are so much better... you're picking up your dirty socks every other day now, and I am semi-proud of you". I have learned doing a newspaper has partially destroyed some of my former bad habits... Subscribers, advertisers, our printer, and especially our creditors, like to have the thing out each week on time. I know a guy in East Texas who is a true, confirmed procrastinator. I can't reveal his name, for he is kin folk, and we will be visiting that quaint area this October, probably eating at his table, so I'd better not take chances of incurring his wrath and a dose of food poisoning. He told me once he was so bad he had been invited to join the International Brotherhood of "Let's Put It Off Just A Little Longer", if they ever got around to organizing. He showed me a copy of their creed, which he was supposed to memorize, if he could ever remember to. It included some really good ideals; I believe if anything is worth doing, it would have already been done; I shall never move quickly, except to avoid work or find excuses; I will rush into a task only after a lifetime of consideration; I firmly believe tomorrow holds possibilities of new technolo-

gies, astounding discoveries, and relief from all my obligations. If at first I don't succeed, there's always next year; I shall always decide not to decide, unless of course I decide to change my mind; I shall always begin, start, initiate, take the first step, as soon as I get around to it; I know the work cycle is not plan/start/finish, but wait/plan/plan; I shall not ever put off until tomorrow what I can forget about forever; I will become a member of the Ancient Order of Two Headed Turtles (The Procrastinators Society) if they ever get around to getting it started. At one time, I thought like that. "Yes, dear, I know the fence and gate need work, but all this damp weather we've been having has the wood too soft to work with... I'll take care of it soon as it dries up".

According to a link on the Internet, the following headlines have been found on check out lane Tabloid Newspapers; "Olympic Games Were Faked", Psychics say. Exclusive photos inside. "Outer Space Beings Landed In My Garden And Sexually Assaulted Ninety-two Cabbages", Roswell NM lady claims. "Spaceship Plagues San Francisco, Turnip Crop Shrivels". "Adolf Hitler Was Raised By Order Of Nuns". Oh, well.

I haven't had time, much less the money, to check this out, but a blurb on the early morning NBC News show yesterday caught my eye and ear. They reported it is now possible to actually gamble with certain Las Vegas casinos via the Internet. I was astounded at this high tech marvel, being able to sit at home, staring at a computer monitor screen, clicking a few keys and your mouse, sending your wager some way through a 'Broker' who places your bets in one of those glittery dens of iniquity in the city Connie McWhirter refers to as 'Sodom and Gomorrah'.

Two problems with this arrangement leave me a bit underwhelmed; One, seems there is no assurance your 'broker' will pay off should you win, and two, the only games currently accessible on the net are roulette and the slots. I have a theory about both venues - if you are compelled to play roulette or the slot machines, you should (A) determine exactly how much money you are willing to lose, and (B), purchase a money order, and mail it to the casino. At least you won't be out airfare for the trip to Vegas.

4 Day Forecast

Wednesday: There will be partly cloudy skies with periods of sunshine. The high temperature will be 83 degrees, and the overnight low 62 degrees.

Thursday: There will be partly cloudy skies with periods of sunshine. The high temperature will be 85 degrees, and the overnight low 64 degrees.

Friday: Variable clouds with showers and thunderstorms. The high temperature will be 86 degrees, and overnight low 67 degrees.

Saturday: There will be partly cloudy skies with periods of sunshine. The high temperature will be 90 degrees, and the overnight low 66 degrees.

NOTICE OF RATE DECREASE REQUEST

July 22, 1997

In accordance with Subtitle E, Section 2.212 (a) of the Texas Public Utility Regulatory Act of 1995 and with Subchapter D, Section 22.51 (b) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas' Procedural Rules, notice is herein provided of Lea County Electric Cooperative's intent to reduce rates to its members within the City of Plains, such rate reduction to become effective September 1, 1997. Lea County proposes to accomplish the rate reduction by applying its currently approved Texas rates to those applicable residential and commercial accounts within the City of Plains. The following summarizes the effect of the proposed rate reduction on the Cooperative's test year revenues (1996).

Rate Classification	# Customers	Annual Revenue Decrease	Annual % Decrease
Current 02 Residential (change to Texas 01 Residential)	220	\$26,507	18.11%
Current 08A Residential All-Electric (change to Texas 01 Residential)	20	\$ 2,960	11.97%
Current 11 Commercial (change to Texas 10 Commercial)	37	\$10,653	23.37%



Lovington C.C. Seniors Tournament

August 1st-2nd

Format: Individual Stroke Play 36 Hole total. Must be over the age of 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-Over. Trophies for winners as well as prizes in the golf shop. Shotgun start both days at 12:30pm. Entry Fee \$50.00 per person, includes Thursday practice round, two days of golf, and a Friday Meal. Golf carts are limited, call to reserve one, private carts are welcome. All prizes will be in the new golf shop, loaded with great name brand merchandise.

Send entries to: Lovington C.C.
Hc 70 Box 6
Lovington, NM 88260
or call 505-396-6619 Marty Ivie, PGA Professional

Community Survey

In an attempt to determine the need for additional medical services for the community of Plains, Yoakum County Hospital would like you to take a few moments and answer this survey. Would you and/or your family utilize the services of a primary care clinic in the community of Plains? Such a clinic would be open 5 days a week and would be staffed by a Nurse Practitioner.

Yes, I would utilize the services of a Nurse Practitioner.
 No, I would not use the services.

How many times did you and/or your family visit a clinic in the past twelve months? _____

Please take the time to return this survey to:
Yoakum County Hospital
Clinic Survey
PO Drawer 1130
Denver City, TX 79323

Cowboy Country News;
Because of the advertisement we ran in your paper, we found our lost Cockatiel bird. We will always be grateful.

Thanks a million, Mack & Shirley Kizer

Country acreage for sale

10 acre tracts with highway frontage, approx. 1.5 miles from Plains. Deed restrictions apply. Priced @ \$20,000.
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Legal Notices

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for the purchase of a one ton 12 passenger van until 2:00 P.M. August 7, 1997 at the Business Office.

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for the purchase of one new Chevrolet Suburban or equal until 2:00 P.M. August 7, 1997 at the Business Office.

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for the purchase of a new full size four door sedan until 2:00 P.M. August 7, 1997 at the Business Office.

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for the purchase of a seven gang tractor pulled reel mower with a hydraulic transport unit until 2:00 P.M. August 7, 1997 at the Business Office.

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for providing milk for its school lunch program beginning August 11, 1997. Proposals will be received until 2:00 P.M. August 6, 1997 at the Business Office.

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for providing cafeteria produce for its school lunch program beginning August 11, 1997. Proposals will be received until 2:00 P.M. August 6, 1997 at the Business Office.

Proposals should be addressed to Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains ISD 1000

10th Street, Box 479, Plains Texas 79355. For questions or other information, please contact Eric Banfield at 806-456-7483.

Plains I.S.D. reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, to waive all technicalities, and to contract with the vendor that represents the best value to the district.

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'82 Winsor 14' x 80' 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath good shape, Parkay Kitchen Floor, only \$11,500.00
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Take Delivery now and skip the interest payments 'till March 1, 1998! OR

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Programs cannot be combined. Limited time offer.

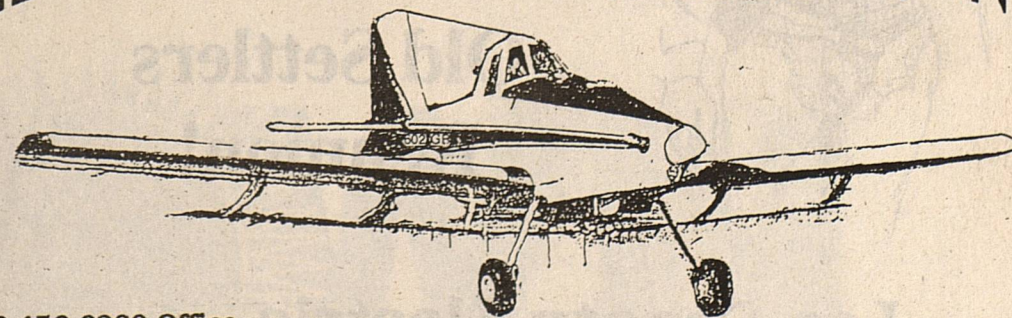
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806-456-7536 David Mobile
806-456-7974 Sarah Mobile
806-790-3420 Dain Mobile
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**Dry Application
Liquid Application**

David and Sarah Guetersloh