

## **Plains Little League majors** begin season earlier this year

The Plains Little League has officially started - the Majors got an early start, playing Tuesday, May 17, due to a regulation season deadline.

The Minor League and T-Ball teams will begin games Monday, May 23 at 5:15 for T-Ball and 6:30 for Minors, with the Majors starting up at 7:45.

made up of five and six year olds; the Minors are seven, eight and nine years old; and the Majors are ten, eleven and twelve years old.

Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the ballgames and lend support and encouragement to the players. A concession stand will be operated, which will include the ever popular All-American hot dog.

In the season opener, the Cowboys defeated the Rangers 23-13. Winning pitchers for the Cowboys were Adam Garcia and Joshua Bell, together they struck out 10 batters. Pitchers for the Rangers were Brett Squyres and Stanley Caballero. The two of them fanned seven batters.

Thursday, May 19, 1994, the Ma-This year the T-Ball teams are jors were in action again. The Red Sox defeated the Rangers 11-9. Winning pitchers for the Red Sox were Jeremy Morphis and Gerry Rivas. They struck out 15 Rangers together. Jeremy Morphis gave up one homerun to Brett Squyres who hit the season's first one over the center field fence. Pitchers for the Rangers were Ty Tyson, Stanley Caballero and Brett Souvres.



**GRADUATING FILMTIMERS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS - Leaving Filmtime for** Kindergarten next year include, back row, ltr, Callie Howell, Meghan Garcia, Stetson Sellers and Alice Curtis; front row, Nicole Culwell, Dennis Penner and Scott Addison. Not pictured, but receiving certificates were Chris Loya and Kimberly Jackson.

### **Fire Dept. slates Open House**

Plains Fire Department will hold Open House from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, May 30 at the fire station, 601 11th Street.

Everyone in the community is invited to "stop by for a visit and to see the new pumper."

### **Volleyball camp** set at Plains School

The camp will begin on Tuesday, May 31st and conclude on Friday, June 3. Registration is open to girls who will be entering the fourth through ninth grades in the 1994-95 school year.

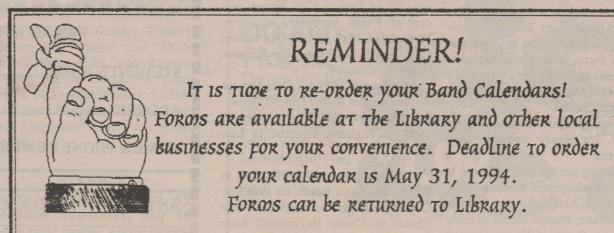
The camp will be held in the Cowgirl gym with a time schedule from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon; 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., third, fourth, fifth and sixth.

The cost of the camp is \$10. Registration fee includes a camp tee-shirt for each participant.

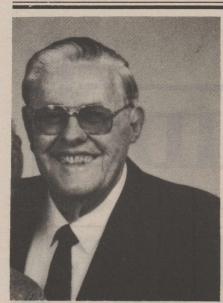
Instruction during the camp will include all of the basics as well as the more advanced volleyball skills. The techniques of passing, setting, hitting, and serving will be emphasized.

For more information contact: Charles Cain at 456-7157 or Joyce Pierce at 456-4231.

FRESHMAN CLASSES ENJOY PIZZA PARTY to commemorate the end of school.



# Obituaries



**REV. HOMER TARKINGTON** 

#### **Rev. Homer Tarkington**

The Rev. Homer Andrew Tarkington, longtime Mexia Assembly of God minister, and former pastor of Plains Assembly of God church for a total of 13 years, died Monday, April 18, 1994 at 4:15 p.m. in Waco, where he had gone to reside with relatives to be close to his attending physician. He had previously been receiving treatment in the hospital for several weeks at Waco after being stricken with illness at his home in Forest Glade.

"Brother T" or "Brother Homer", as he was popularly known, was buried in the Point Enterprise Cemetery, following funeral services at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 21, 1994 in the First Baptist Church. Officiating was the Rev. Durwood Dubose, Superintendent of the North Texas District of the Assemblies of God. Arrangements were under direction of Porter Funeral Home.

He was born in Fairfield on July 15, 1927. He was 78 years old and was married to the former Alice Pauline Johnson, on Dec. 5, 1936 in Mexia.

Rev. Tarkington, who was known far and wide for his nursing home visitations and helpfulness in many other endeavors, started preaching at the age of 19. Every church in which he has served as pastor, Rev. Tarkington had been asked to return to those churches as minister.

He began his ministry in 1934, and had served as a pastor and/or evangelist until about a month before illness forced his retirement. His first pastorate came at Brownwood Assembly of God, where he served for 10 years. Subsequent pastorates were held by him at Corsicana, Houston, Pecos, Sweetwater, Seagraves, two tenures at Plains for a total of 13 years, and in Mexia at the First Assembly of God Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ira Henry and Ida Mae Tarkington.

Surviving are his wife of Route 1, Mexia; four daughters, Patricia White of Anchorage, Alaska, Rebecca Jackson of Sweetwater, Martha Moore of Eddy and Sharon Smith of Waco; a sister, Stella Floyd; a half brother, Archie Brisendine; eight grandsons, a granddaughter and eight great-grandchildren. "Brother Homer" often was referred to as the "town pastor" due to his willingness to serve in many capacities for the benefit of his fellowman.

Pallbearers were the Reverends R.L. Whitworth, J.W. Carlile, James Halward, Dewayne Roberson, Norman Jones, Darrell Price, Dan Chapman and Cecil Jenkins.

#### **Minnie Johnston**

Services for Minnie Johnston, 87, of Hereford, formerly of Plains, were held at 10 a.m. Monday, May 16, 1994, in Rix Funeral Directors Chapel with the Rev. Ted Taylor, of Hereford Church of the Nazarene, officiating.

Graveside services were at 4 p.m. Monday in Plains Cemetery in Plains.

Mrs. Johnston and her husband, Lonnie, lived north of the Plains airport during the 40s and 50s. Her husband worked for the County until they opened a grocery store across the street, south of Plains Elementary and Junior High School. They would be remembered for serving school lunches to the youngsters, plus other school necessities. All of their children were raised in the Plains schools.

Minnie died Friday, May 13, 1994 in Hereford Care Center.

She was born on July 28, 1906 in Bienville, La. She married Lonnie Johnston on Sept. 13, 1928 in Brownfield. He died Sept. 11, 1960. She was a homemaker and a member of the Assembly of God Church in Las Cruces, NM.

Survivors include two sons, L.B. of Simmesport, La., and David of Montrose, Colo.; three daughters, Colene J. Adkins of Cloudcroft, NM, Eileen Behunin of Hereford and Gaenelle Madden of Washington, Okla.; four brothers, Dalton Warren of Brownfield, James Warren of Plains, Grady Warren of Lubbock and Ollie Warren of Longview; a sister, Ruth Thurman of Brownfield; 15 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

#### **Edward Leon Thompson**

Services for Edward Leon Thompson, 59, of Denver City, former resident of Plains, were held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, 1994 in Denver City Church of Christ. Skip Rodgers, minister, officiated.

Burial was in Plains Cemetery under direction of Ratliff Funeral Home.

Thompson died Sunday, May 15, 1994, in Highland Hospital in Lubbock.

He was born on Oct. 19, 1934, in Pluxey. He was a welder for Five Star Consolidated and was a member of the Church of Christ. He married Rene Stewart June 9, 1955 in Plains.

Survivors include his wife; a son, Terry of Winnsboro; two daughters, LaGaytha Fitzgerald of Ransom Canyon and LaFonda Trantham of Anton; his father, O.E. Thompson of Longview; two brothers, Winston of Bastrop and Dennis of Odessa; a sister, Lena Crowder of Cedar Park; and 12 grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Colin Fitzgerald, Anthony Trantham, Dink Thompson Jr., Rusty Thompson, Wayne Box and Jeff Goff.

#### Dr. Berry N. Squyres

Graveside services for Dr. Berry N. Squyres were held May 18 at 3 p.m. in City of Lubbock Cemetery, followed by memorial services in Lubbock's First United Methodist Church at approximately 4 p.m.

The Revs. Jim Jackson, pastor, and Jimmy Nunn, associate pastor, officiated.

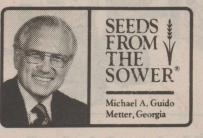
Dr. Squyres died May 16 at St. Mary's Hospital in Lubbock. He was 70.

He moved to Lubbock in 1974 from Denver City, where he had a private practice, which included delivering a number of Plains babies. He served on the school board and was named Citizen of the Year in 1962 while living in Denver City. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

Dr. Squyres was born May 1, 1924 in Haskell. He graduated from Lubbock High School and from Texas Tech University. He received his doctor of medicine from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, and received his Certificate of Added Qualifications in Geriatric Medicine, ABFP, ABIM in 1990.

He married Christene Maxwell March 7, 1945 in Tahoka.

Survivors include his wife; two sons, B. Newal Jr. of Boise, Idaho and Matthew Steven of Odessa; two daughters, Leah Conforti of Boise and Leslie Calmes of Tucson, Ariz.; and eight grandchildren.



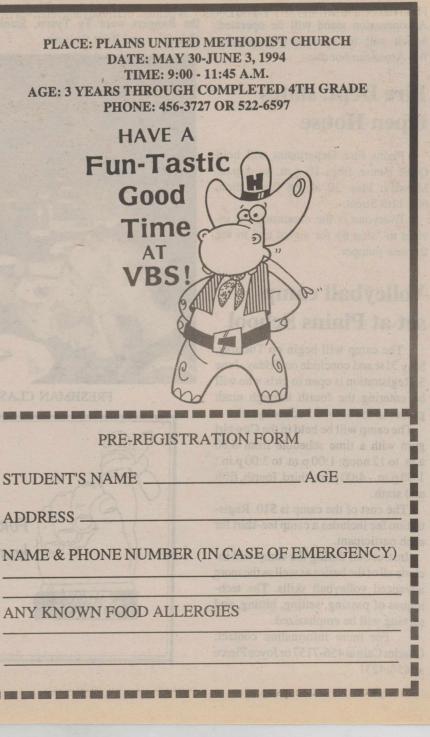
A man fell, striking his head against a rock. "He's dead!" sobbed his wife. And she prepared him for burial.

Carrying him in a plain box, the pallbearers hit a post, dropping the coffin. The jar revived him, and he raised a fuss.

But he died a year later. As the pallbearers moved toward the cemetery, his widow said, "Watch out for the gatepost!"

One resurrection was enough for her.

But think with me of One who loved us and gave Himself for us. Concerning Him, the Bible says, "Now we live in the hope of eternal life because Christ rose again from the dead."



#### THE PLAINS PRIDE, MAY 25, 1994, PAGE 3



### MR. & MRS. JERRY ROBERT (ROB) WARREN Marriage announced

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Grant of Scottsdale, Ariz. and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Warren of Chandler, Ariz. and Dana Warren of Tempe, Ariz. are proud to announce the wedding of their children, April Dawn Grant and Jerry Robert (Rob) Warren II on May 1, 1994.

The wedding ceremony was held in a garden setting in the home of the groom's mother. Festoons of balloons mixed with flowers and greenery amidst hidden lighting and an archway of greenery and palm trees completed the illusion of a "Fairy Wonderland".

Serving as Best Man was David Hunter. Maid of Honor was Amanda Grant. Honored guests included the parents of the bride, Dale and Terry Grant; and father and step-mother, Jerry and Marie Warren and brothers, Wesley Jay and Jason; and his mother, Dana Warren. Also attending as special guests were grandparents of the couple, Mr. and Mrs. James Warren of Plains, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kenney of Sun Lakes, and Mr. and Mrs. David Looney. A number of friends and relatives from out-of-town attended.

A buffet dinner preceded the couple opening gifts.

A poolside rehearsal dinner was held in the groom's parents' home April 30. Hosting the event were his parents, Jerry and Marie Warren and brothers, Wesley and Jason.

Those attending were Dale and Terry Grant, parents of the bride; Amanda Grant, sister of the bride; David Hunter, Dana Warren, mother of the groom; David and Marie Looney, grandparents of the bride; James and Jerry Warren, grandparents of the groom; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kenney, grandparents of the groom; Mrs. Jana Melvin, aunt of the groom; and Mr. and Mrs. Max Irwin and Jacquie, aunt, uncle and niece of the groom.

Gifts from family members followed the meal, which was served buffet style.

## Yoakum County Art Association meets for 'potluck potpourri'

Yoakum County Art Association met May 3 at 7 p.m. at Plains Commu- clude installation of officers. Dolores nity Building for a "potluck potpourri". Recipe books compiled by Mae Bar- strate oil painting. All interested pernett were given to 30 members and guests attending.

and white check using a farm theme.

by Ineta Teaff, following the meal. Also Linda Powell gave a demonstration on fabric painting. She showed Moreno, Sandra Ellison, Ita Young, different techniques and paints as well as designs.

Louise Goehry was recognized as artist of the month and will have some of her work displayed at Plains State Bank

Members were reminded to get their dues in to be included in the yearbook.

Hostesses were Linda Powell and Wilma McDonnell. They presented door prizes of wooden baskets filled with strawberries and tulips.

Next meeting on June 7 will in-Williams of Seagraves will demonsons are welcome to attend.

Guests from Denver City were The tables were decorated in red Debbie and Jeremy Morphis and Loretta Houck. Tokio guests were Bea A business meeting was conducted Pippin and Velma Dearing. Those attending from Plains were Shirley Barnes, Mary Hope and Raymond Odessa McDonnell, Shirley Sudderth and Sidney Murphey. Brenda Powell from Longmont, Colo. was present also.

> NOTICE **BRAZILIAN HIGH SCHOOL EX-**CHANGE STUDENT, boy 16, needs host family. Likes soccer, swimming and bicycling. Arriving in August. For more information call 1-800-SIBLING.

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#### **WE NOW HAVE:**

40 LB. POTTING SOIL \$3.35

20 LB. ZIPP ALL-PURPOSE FERTILZER 16-8-8 \$3.49

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SEEDS 79¢

25' ARROW "THE BRUTE" MEASURING TAPE \$14.95

> **1 LB. BERMUDA GRASS SEED** \$4.45

**3 LB. BERMUDA GRASS SEED** \$12.95

**4 LB. BONSAI GRASS SEED** \$8.95

# BAYER LUMBER

**1018 AVE E PLAINS, TX 79355** 456-4800





SECOND GRADERS SIGN UP FOR SUMMER READING - Second grade students of Mrs. Thelma Cheatham, Mrs. Janelle Cobb and Mr. Israel Martinez were in the library Wednesday to register for the Summer Reading Program.



PLAINS KINDERGARTNERS VISIT LIBRARY to learn more about the Summer Reading Program offered. They are students of Mrs. McGinty, Mrs. Conway and Mrs. Simmons.



HOMER SUDDERTH CELEBRATES 80TH BIRTHDAY MAY 7 with a host of family members and friends.

## Surprise Party fetes Homer Sudderth

Homer Sudderth was honored with a surprise birthday party on the occasion of his 80th birthday at the new community building on May 7, 1994.

Family members attending were his wife, Shirley; his children and their families, Randy Sudderth of Midland, Annette and Dick Cooke of Rio Rancho, NM, and Brenda and Dallas Powell of Longmont, Colo.; grand children and great grandchildren included Penne and Kaylee Jo Richards of Loveland, Colo., Kimberly and Ricky Tarazon of Las Cruces, NM, James and Barbara Cooke and Christine of Las Cruces, NM.

Also attending were R.G. and Flossie Nutt, and Romalee and Alton Elmore and Truett Jones, all of Brownfield. From Plains, guests included Bill and Burve Overton, Pierre and Mary Jo St.Romain, Wilma Powell, Ty and Linda Powell and Maurine Smith.



FILMTIME BIRTHDAY HONOREE recently was Lauren Hise. Her mother furnished flower-shaped Rice Krispie treats in honor of her fourth birthday.

## **Crop Scouting to be taught**

Training of scouts who survey crops to access pest infestations in integrated pest management (IPM) programs across the area will be held in Plainview, June 2 at the Ollie Liner Ag Center on South U.S. Hwy 87, says Terry J. Millican, Yoakum County Ext. Agent - AG.

Conducted by the Texas Ag Ext. Service, training begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. For more information, contact the County Extension Office.



# High School FHA Chapter represented at State Convention

Plains FHA chapter was represented at the 1994 State FHA Convention which was held April 29-30 in Dallas at the Hyatt Regency and the Dallas Convention Center in downtown Dallas.

Those attending with Mrs. Judy Deaton, FHA advisor, were Amanda Koncaba, Christy McClure and Mrs. Cyndy Koncaba.

This year's theme was "A World of Possibilities". The speakers for the convention were David Leedy, former coach and football player, who spoke on "An Offer You Can't Refuse"; Sandy Queen, "Making Life Work for You"; and Eric Gnezda, "Be True to Your Dream".

"All speakers were very motivating and inspiring as they spoke to each of us," commented Mrs. Deaton, "touching each young person's heart and hopefully giving them some direction as they face their future in a 'world of possibilities'."

New FHA officers installed; outgoing officers recognized

FHA officers for the 1994-95 school year were installed on Friday, the 13th. A covered dish luncheon was served and new members were encouraged to attend.

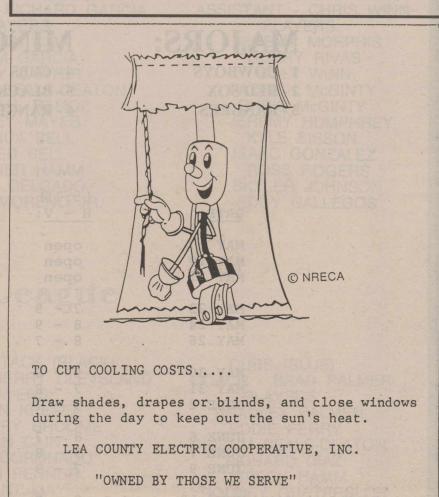
Outgoing 93-94 officers are Dusty Beckham, president; Heather Bowlin, vice president; Jennifer Earnest, second vice president; Kristi Guetersloh, secretary/treasurer; Christy McClure, historian; Heather McDonnell, points chairman; and Amanda Koncaba, reporter.

New officers are president, Sandy Sainz; vice president, Amanda Koncaba; second vice president, Jennifer Earnest; third vice presidents, Lindsey Six and Valerie Blair; fourth vice president, Sylvia Tarango; secretary, Kassie Lowe; treasurer, Sandi Warren; parliamentarian, Shawna Box; reporter, Malisa Ramirez; historian, Melissa Asebedo; and student council representatives, Heather McDonnell and Chris Willett.

## Steven Lowrey graduates SPC

Steven Lowrey received an Associate of Science degree Friday, May 13 during South Plains College's 36th commencement exercises in Texan Dome.

A total of 720 students were awarded college diplomas during the ceremonies. A scooter was found on the Yoakum County Library's back step several months ago. At this time, no one asked about the scooter. Should anyone know who it belongs to, please have them identify it at the Sheriff's Office or call the Library. Also, a little child's black satin jacket with Plains Cowboys written in gold letters (approx. size 7) is at the library for the owner to claim.



LOVINGTON/TATUM, NM

OF GASOLINE FREE! COURTESY OF WORTH SAVE ON 88101 \$50.00 NFLOWE GASOLINE DAVID & SONS EEDS 5 LLSUP HOPE LOVIS œ IAM OZ. PKG. FREE NILL NO AVE OI GALLON BISCUIT FOR ONLY E S C CORN S.dnsh ALLS SANI SAUSAGE ORIGII FOR SHURFINE QUART CHARCOAL LIGHT ALLSUP'S SA \$119 CLUSTERS FOR ONLY 3 \$ 1 00 000 000 BOLOGNA 12 OZ. PKG. 12 OZ. CANS \$139 PEPSI-COLA ALL TYPES BRIQUETS 10 LB. BAG. SAVE ON CHARCOA 6 PAK MEAT DECKER R SHURFINE

PLAINS, TX

PAGE 6, MAY 25, 1994, THE PLAINS PRIDE

Summer Baseball Schedule

MAJORS: 1 - COWBOYS 2 - RED SOX 3 - RANGERS

### MINORS: 4 - CUBS 5 - BLACK ATTACK

**6 - RANGERS** 

# **T-BALL**

7 - RANGERS 8 - ROCKIES 9 - BAD NEWS BEARS

DATE:	(5:1 <u>H</u> -		(6:15) <u>H - V</u> :	(7:45 <u>H</u> - V
MAY 17 MAY 19 MAY 21	ope ope ope	en	open open open	$1^{-3}$ 2 - 3 2 - 1
MAY 23 MAY 24 MAY 26	7 - 8 - 8 -	-	4 - 6 5 - 6 5 - 4	3 - 2 1 - 2 3 - 1
MAY 30 MAY 31 JUNE 2	9 - 7 - 9 -	-	$   \begin{array}{r}     6 - 5 \\     4 - 5 \\     6 - 4   \end{array} $	2 - 1 3 - 2 1 - 3
JUNE 6 JUNE 7 JUNE 9	8 - 9 - 7 -		5 - 4 6 - 5 4 - 6	3 - 1 2 - 1 2 - 3
JUNE 13 JUNE 14 JUNE 16	9 - 8 - 8 -	the state of the	$   \begin{array}{r}     6 - 4 \\     5 - 4 \\     5 - 6   \end{array} $	3 - 2 1 - 3 1 - 2
JUNE 20 JUNE 21 JUNE 23	9 - 7 - 7 -	8 9 8	$   \begin{array}{r}     6 - 5 \\     4 - 6 \\     4 - 5   \end{array} $	open open open

\*Games will start promptly. Please have your child at the ball park early enough to warm up with his or her team before the game begins.

\*Rained-out games will be rescheduled as time permits.



Anne's Mini Mart images by bonnie Tokio Co-op Gin Chamber of Commerce



# Major League

CHRISTOPHER GSCHEIDLE JASON GARCIA JOSEPH RODRIGUEZ MICHAELA TRAWEEK CHRIS LEGGETT KY MAY FABIAN GARZA TYREL TYSON EMILY BLAIR

RANGERS (BLUE)COWBOYS (BLACK)RED SOX (RED)COACH - NEWELL SQUYRESCOACH - CHARLES CAINCOACH - STEVE RIVASPLAYERS:ASSISTANT - RICHARD GARCIAASSISTANT - CHRIS WINNBRETT SQUYRESPLAYERS:PLAYERS:STANLEY CABALLEROAARON CAINJEREMY MORPHISCOLUCTOLECOLUCTOLEADAMA CARCIA AARON CAIN ADAM GARCIA COBY CARTER STERLING SEALS-DEATON MANUAL RAMOZ CASEY MAYES JOSHUA BELL JARED BELL TANNER HAMM LOUIS DELGADO ISRAEL MORENO JB ISRAEL MORENO JR.

JEREMY MORPHIS GERRY RIVAS COLT WINN PATRICK McGINTY CHRIS McGINTY JEREMY HUMPHREY KYLE SISSON ISAAC GONZALEZ ROSS ROGERS SKYLER JOHNSON EDDY GALLEGOS

# Minor League

RANGERS (RED)<br/>COACH - DAVID HUERTA<br/>ASSISTANT - TONY GOMEZ<br/>PLAYERS:<br/>CHASE HOWELLBLACK ATTACK (BLACK)<br/>COACH - SHERRY CLEVELAND<br/>PLAYERS:<br/>AUSTIN KEESEE<br/>ZACHARY BROOME<br/>EVAN CAINCUBS (BLUE)<br/>COACH - BRAD PALMER<br/>PLAYERS:<br/>BRADLEY PALMER<br/>EDDIE PERRY<br/>CHISUM SEALS-DEATON<br/>RICHARD DIAZ<br/>BRECK HAMM<br/>RODNEY GUETERSLOH<br/>JAMIE COVARRUBIAS<br/>CODY FLORES<br/>TONY GOMEZBLACK ATTACK (BLACK)<br/>COACH - SHERRY CLEVELAND<br/>PLAYERS:<br/>AUSTIN KEESEE<br/>ZACHARY BROOME<br/>EVAN CAIN<br/>LELA CORONADO<br/>KEVIN PENNER<br/>RAYMOND SALDANA<br/>ANTONIO AVILA<br/>JAMIE COVARRUBIAS<br/>CODY FLORES<br/>TONY GOMEZBLACK ATTACK (BLACK)<br/>COACH - BRAD PALMER<br/>EVAN CAIN<br/>EVAN CAIN<br/>EVAN CAIN<br/>EVAN CAIN<br/>BRADLEY PALMER<br/>EVAN CAIN<br/>EVAN CAIN<br/>BRADLEY PALMER<br/>EDDIE PERRY<br/>CHISUM SEALS-DEATON<br/>RICHARD DIAZ<br/>BRECK HAMM<br/>RODNEY GUETERSLOH<br/>JAMES WRIGHT<br/>DAVID LAZOS<br/>JUSTIN CHAMBLISS<br/>NOLAN NEWSOM<br/>JOSHUA CURTIS<br/>RYAN MARTINEZ<br/>JOHNNY UNGER<br/>ISAAC RAMON JAMIE COVARRUBIAS CODY FLORES TONY GOMEZ MANDI ROGERS **KIMBERLY MARTINEZ** 

ISAAC RAMON

# T-Ball League

RANGERS (RED) COACH - BRAD CRUMP ASSISTANT - CHRIS CHAMBLISS PLAYERS: JOSHUA HERRERA BRITTANY CARTER MICHAEL CRUMP TODD WILLIAMS PLAYERS: JUSTIN PERRY ALISHA WAUSON SKYLAR KEESEE BLAKE PARRISH JORDAN CHAMBLISS CHASE GUETERSLOH STEFFI CARTER RAMIRO BARRIENTEZ

LANDON CHA ALLISON FRIESEN MARK MORGAN SCOTT SERBANTEZ TOSHA TAYLOR SARAH MARTINEZ

brought to you by:

The Plains Pride

ROCKIES (PURPLE)BAD NEWS BEARS (BLUE)COACH - VERNON HISECOACH - BILLY DAN CURTISPLAYERS:ASSISTANT - BRUCE LESTER COACH - VERNON HISE PLAYERS: SCOTT ADDISON MEGHAN GARCIA NICOLAS CURTIS ANDREW DURAN PRISCILLA MARES LANDON CRAFT ALLISON ERIESEN COACH - BILLY DAN CO ASSISTANT - BRUCE LES CHALLIE JOHNSON B.J. LESTER ABEL RAMOS DANIELA LAZOS LANDON CRAFT ALLICE CURTIS ALICE CURTIS CASSON CURTIS T.J. CORDOVA NICHOLE LOYA **KELBY JOHNSON** 

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Guest Editorials

## A Word About "Brother T"

(Editor's Note: The following words, depicting the kind of man Brother Homer Tarkington was, were printed in other newspapers where "Brother T" had pastored. They are printed here in the context they were received by us. Many Plains people cherish the memories they have of the family when they lived in Plains. We considered it fitting to share some of the thoughts of others who knew and loved him just as much.)

"Homer A. Tarkington was born on July 27th, 1915, in Fairfield, Texas. He was converted in 1934, during the great revival in Mexia, Texas. He was glorioulsy touched by the Lord and declared down through the years that he was "saved one month, filled with the Holy Spirit the next month, called to preach the next month, pastoring a church the next month, and hasn't slowed down since!"

Not long after his new life began, he met Miss Pauline Johnson. They were married on December 5, 1936 in Mexia, Texas. The Lord blessed them with four beautiful daughters, all of which were blessed with ministry talents and gifts.

Brother Tarkington's first pastorate was in Brownwood, Texas, lasting 10 years. In the following years he pastored in Corsicana, Houston, Pecos, Sweetwater, Seagraves, Plains, and Mexia. He pioneered the work in Sweetwater, building the church from the ground up. His ministry in Plains covered 13 years and his last pastorate was a return to his home in Mexia for a total of 14 years.

In every town where he ministered, he quickly became known as the "Town Pastor", even by other pastors. He beleived actions spoke louder than words. Visitation was synonymous with his name. He went to the people while they were hurting, without regard for time of day or personal discomfort. You could hear him in the streets, conversing with people of all faiths or no faith at all. Addressing the downcast, saying, "Go. ahead and smile, everything's gonna be alright!"



**REV. & MRS. HOMER TARKINGTON** 

Though many were at odds with his religious beliefs, all would quickly tell of their love for the "Big Pastor", who lived boldly what he preached. He never tried to defend God. He just let God love through him. His faithfulness to doctrine and allegiance to the Assemblies of God denomination was unparalleled. In a conversation with a group of ministers, another minister said, "Brother Tarkington, I suppose if I were not a Baptist, I would probably be Assembly of God. If you decided to not be Assembly of God, what would you be?" Brother Tarkington swiftly and gently replied, "Ashamed!" He was admired by other ministers for his candid way of expression. It was often said, he could say things that no one else could say because he never compromised his position or beliefs.

Brother Tarkington retired from pastoral ministry, but continued to travel and preach. It is no surprise that he served as interim pastor of Groesbeck and Teague. One of his favorite quips was, "I'll never retire; just retread and keep on going!" And that's just what he did. Sixty years of bold service for Jesus, totally sold out, unashamed, addicted to his Lord.

"Pappy", as he was affectionately called by his immediate family, slipped quietly out of this world on the 18th of

NOTICE

April, 1994, to experience "joy unspeakable, full of glory," and, at last, "the half that has never yet been told."

Now, about the death of the Rev. Homer Tarkington. This man was not only a big man, physically, but he was a "giant" in his lifelong efforts to help his fellowman. The semi-retired local Assembly of God minister was known by many names, by many people. Many referred to him as "Brother T", while others knew him as "Brother Homer".

He never was much for "formalization", and might not even answer if you addressed him by "The Reverend". His preaching of the Gospel came not only from the pulpit, but in the everyday deeds he performed in an effort to help others in need, where those persons needed a spiritual lift, or just someone to acknowledge ther presence on earth. I suppose I'm trying to say, it was the effort he exerted to just "be a friend", which seems so difficult for so many people these days in the hustle and bustle of a lifestyle which had almost become foreign to Brother Homer. He took it upon himself to perhaps perform the more mundane tasks in this world, if it could just make somebody happier and to make their pathways smoother ...

Many referred to Brother T. as "The Town Pastor", and this was for good reason. His life was based on ministering, in the truest sense of the word. He visited nursing homes - all of 'em talking with residents of those facilities. He visited the sick and afflicted (right from the Bible), he was always willing to pray with families who had a need, and maybe he held one other distinction that perhaps no other minister can claim. In his several pastorates, each congregation asked him to return. Some churches chase away ministers, who wouldn't be welcomed back under any circumstances. Brother Tarkington's popularity extended far and wide, so far as churches were concerned...

Often times, he would take dough-

nuts and other pastries to nursing home

PAGE 8, MAY 25, 1994, THE PLAINS PRIDE color and denominations. I suppose everyone in town knew Brother Homer. He was high profile and many times would make a point of providing some wholesome entertainment to those with whom he came into contact. I recall one day about three years ago, Brother T. strode into the office with that familiar greeting, "Hi, Doc!" Then, his next move was to take firm grip on his guitar as The Daily News bunch gathered around him. He proceeded to pick and grin, first with a couple of popular ditties, then closing out his impromptu "concert" with a religious background tune, singing the meaningful and heart-felt words to selfaccompaniment...

> They were so loved here in Plains. Their girls went to school and some of them finished high school here in Plains and married Plains' boys. One of the things we always remember about Bro. T is the fact that he never needed a microphone to be heard. He was asked to pray at so many rodeos. Always he prayed a wonderful prayer to our Lord and always you could hear his booming voice across the way, without a mic. Another fond memory, is when he came into the gym anywhere our kids were, he would shout, "Let's go Cowgirls or let's go Cowboys" and the whole gym came alive with spirit for the Plains team. This was in Plains or where ever the Plains kids were participating. We all know God loved this man and we know Bro. T loved God. He told us so many times a day.

> > ~ A Plains reader



JODI GAYLE, daughter of Bobbie and Butch Gayle, recently earned a first in district and also state competition in cosmetology on a mannequin. Jodi is a first year student at the Brownfield Cosmetology School and a junior student at Plains High School.

#### NOTICE

**POSTAL JOBS** 

Start \$11.41/hr. For exam and BEAUTICONTROL cosmetapplication info. call (219) 769- ics. Call Holly Dyer, 456-8451. 8301 ext. TX781, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sun-Fri.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the people of District 5, for your support during the recent Plains **ISD trustee election.** 

I will try to represent you to the best of my ability.

> Sincerely, **Tim Addison**



