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Cowboy Country News



Published each Wednesday in the county seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume V, Issue 13, Wednesday Dec. 9, 1998

Santa arrives by firetruck to usher in start of Christmas season



Santa, a bit stiff from long trip, helped from fire truck by City Administrator David Brunson



At long last, these youngsters had chance to tell Santa their wish lists (More Christmas Tree Lighting photos of kids inside)



Bright eyes, joyous expressions symbolic of Christmas Spirit

Tragic auto accident claims life of two year old boy

Shortly before 11:00 a.m. Thursday, December 3, a one-vehicle rollover on Highway 214 six miles south of Plains claimed the life of Frank Hiebert Jr., two year old son of Frank and Tina Hiebert of Seminole.

According to Department of Public Safety Sergeant Mike McClure, who investigated the accident along with Troopers Lashon Earnest and John Hardin, the 1998 Daihatsu vehicle, driven by Mrs. Hiebert, veered from the highway into the bar ditch, and rolled over two and a half times. Two year old Frank Jr. was ejected from the car. McClure said apparently Mrs. Hiebert had been reaching into the back seat, attempting to replace the two year old boy in his restraining safety seat, when she lost control of the car.

Another grown female passenger, Elizabeth Loewen, and four

year old Johnny Hiebert were transported to UMC in Lubbock, Mrs. Loewen with an apparent broken neck, and the four year old with head injuries. Mrs. Hiebert and three other young children were also injured in the rollover. They were all taken to the Denver City Hospital, and later released.

Sgt. McClure said in a telephone interview Friday morning, "The accident was a tragedy for both families involved, of course, and the youngsters death made it a hard one for us to cover." McClure added, "There is little doubt the little boys death could have been avoided had he remained properly restrained in his seat."

McClure said no citations were issued in the case, and excessive speed did not appear to be a factor in the accident. Frank Hiebert Sr. is an employee of Stanley Ashburn here.

County earns Safety Award

Yoakum County has been awarded a 1997 Safety Award by the Texas Association of Counties (TAC), which administers a Workers' Compensation self insurance pool for counties and other local governments.

The award was presented November 30 to Yoakum County Commissioners Court by Loss Control Coordinator, Johnny Jones.

The award was earned for their record of involvement and commitment to safety in the workplace, as well as for controlling their Workers' Compensation claims.

The honor means that Yoakum County, which participates in the counties' pool through TAC, is obtaining substantial savings for their taxpayers as a result of their TAC Workers' Comp. coverage. Premiums are reduced for public entities that have lowered their claims rates.

Yoakum County has saved approximately \$230,813.00 in Workers' Compensation costs in 1997 compared to the manual rates for Workers' Compensation which were published by the State of Texas.

To qualify for this honor, the entity must have a safety program rated in the top 10 percent of approximately 350 governmental entities that collectively self insure their Workers' Compensation in this pool.

New Attorney Opens County Practice

Bill Helwig, a nineteen year veteran practicing attorney, recently completed the purchase of Jerry Corbin's law firm in Denver City at 317 N. Main. Helwig has scheduled an open house at his new law firm Thursday, December 17, giving him an opportunity to meet local residents.

Prior to purchasing the law firm and moving to Denver City, Helwig was 'Of Counsel' with the Amarillo Law Firm of Underwood, Wilson, Berry, Stein and Johnson.

He not only has a strong background in the practice of law, he is well versed in Texas agriculture. Helwig, a native West Texan, was born in San Angelo, and grew up on his family's farming and ranching operation near Miles.

He attended Texas A&M, majored in agricultural economics, and was a member of the Corps of Cadets. He was elected to the Governor's Honor Guard, and held the position of Deputy Corps Commander, second in command of the 2000 member corps. He graduated 'Cum Laude' in 1976, and was named "The Earl Rudder Outstanding Student" of his graduating class.

Helwig attended law school at Texas Tech, graduating there in 1978. His legal experience is broad, including a stint with a law firm in San Angelo, his own practice in Robert Lee,

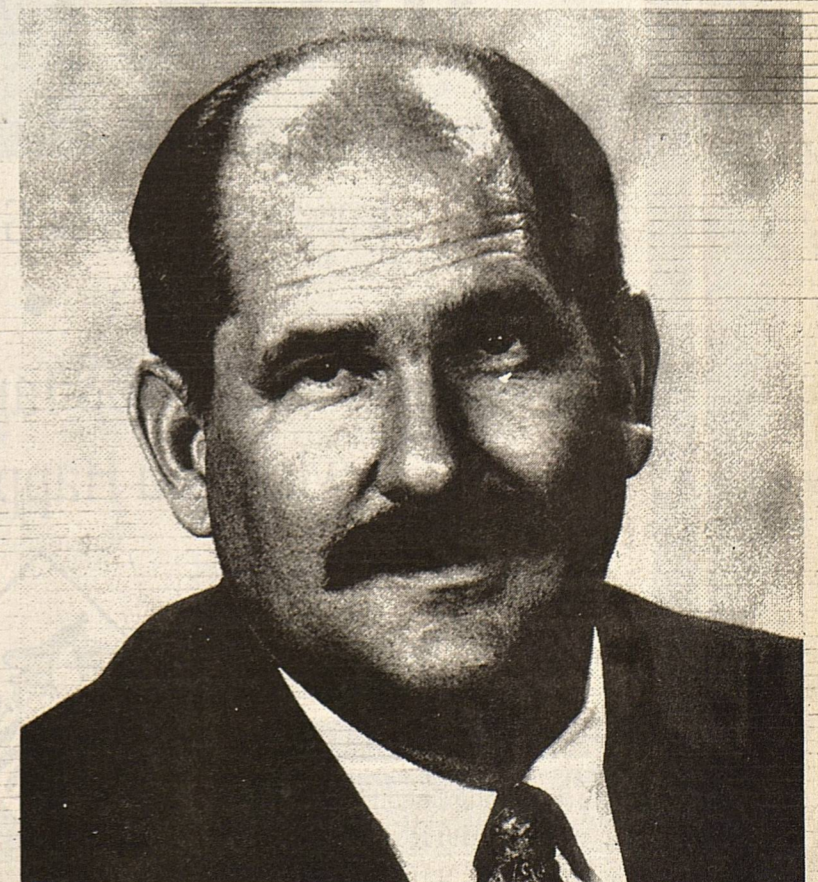
and where he also served over 12 years as Coke County Attorney. He was later able to return to his A&M alma mater, where he served as Assistant General Counsel for the A&M University System.

In a telephone conversation with CCN Friday morning, Helwig said, "I just can't tell you how excited I am to have the opportunity to return to this area of West Texas, to again be around oil and gas production, and living and practicing in a county where agriculture plays such a large role in peoples lives and the local economy. I'm very anxious to meet as

many Yoakum County folks just as soon as I can."

Bill Helwig is married to Debi Carter Helwig, a native of Midland and Monahans. The couple have three children, Chad, Jodee and Brandon.

A partial list of the areas Helwig's general practice law office will offer includes farm and ranch real estate, oil and gas, criminal defense, probate, estates and wills, personal death and wrongful death, commercial and residential real estate, family and business law, agriculture and agribusiness, debt collection and creditor bankruptcy.



Extension Agent Kathy Adair resigns

In last Monday's session of Commissioner's Court, a previously submitted letter of resignation from County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences, Kathy Adair was accepted. Judge Dallas Brewer told Adair, "The Court sincerely regrets your decision to move on, and we want you to know how much we all appreciate your hard work and accomplishments while you were our extension agent."

Adair and her husband James will be relocating to Phoenix shortly after her last day on the job, December 22. Adair spoke to the court, and expressed her gratitude to the court for their support

.....Please turn to page 2, "Adair Resigns"

Services held here for 'Sherm' Tingle

Funeral services for Sherman ('Sherm') Tingle, 86 years, 5 months, 3 days, were held here Friday at 2 p.m. in the First Baptist Church, with Reverend Bill Wright officiating. He died December 1, 1998 at his home in San Angelo. He had only recently moved there from Plains where he lived most of his life. He was born here in Plains June 28, 1912, the son of Dallas Burton and Stella Jane (Henard) Tingle. On April 21, 1936, he married Berth Mae Edwards, always affectionately known as 'Bertie'. She preceded him in death in 1987. Sherm was a longtime member of the First Baptist Church here, and was also a member of the Gideons. A number of times he was asked to address his congregation about free Bible distribution by the Gideons. He was a charter member of the Plains Lions Club, and the Plains Volunteer Fire Department. He was a self employed business man most of his life, and owned an auto parts store here over forty years. Sherm's Eulogy message was shared by a grandson, Jason Tingle, a son, Burton Lee Tingle, and a nephew, G.B. Hisel. Mr. Hisel said Sherm

spent almost his entire life in Plains except for brief periods of time in Big Spring, and later in the Pie Town, New Mexico area where his father, D.B. Tingle had moved, serving there as a missionary preacher. Sherm is survived by his sons; Burton Lee Tingle and wife Nancy of Tyler, and Eddie Tingle and wife Pam, of Miles.; A sister, Owassa Field of Ft. Sumner, a sister-in-law, Lois Tingle of Wilcox, Arizona; Five grandchildren, Michelle Hagler and husband Shanon; B.J. Tingle, Kristen Tingle, Emily Tingle, and Jason Tingle. He was also preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Katie Bess and Frances, and his brother, Henard. Pallbearers included Vaughn Culwell, Jim Barron, Mark Barron, Archie Harris, Terry Davis and Larry Moreland. **Services held for Letha Sisco** Services for Letha Sisco, 81, of Childress, were held at 10:00 a.m., November 30, 1998, at Calvary Baptist Church of Childress with the Reverend Jon Crosby officiating. Burial was in Childress Cem-

etry under the direction of Johnson Funeral Home. She died Friday, November 27 at Childress Nursing Center. She was born April 26, 1917 in Bienville, Parrish, La. She married Otto K. Sisco in October 1947 in Denver City, Tx. She was preceded in death by her husband on August 17, 1971 and by 5 brothers and 1 sister. She resided in Yoakum County from 1947 thru 1961, and returned to Childress in 1995. She was a homemaker. Survivors include; six daughters, Faye Rossom, Oklahoma City, Ok. Wanda Owens, Childress, Jo McClellan, Redwater, Tx. Carolyn Culwell, Plains, Tx., Charlotte Hooper, Pilot, Tx., Cindy Bourland, Childress. Four sons; Jack Bass, Lee's Summit, Mo., Jerry Bass, Eldorado, Tx., Larry Bass, El Paso, Tx., Donald Sisco, Chicago, Il. A step daughter, Darlene Strickland, Fort Worth. A step son, Gale Sisco, Fort Worth. A sister, Sylvia McCreary of Lubbock, 23 grandchildren, 37 great grandchildren, 4 great great grandchildren. The family suggests memorials go to Crown of Texas Hospice, 1000 S. Jefferson, Amarillo, Tx. 79107.



From Page 1, **"Adair resigns"** and cooperation. "I sincerely thank each of you for giving me the freedom to do the job, in the very best way I knew how. I hope and know you will show the new extension agent the help and respect you have given me. Although I personally won't be able to enjoy it but for just a few days, I want to thank you for your decision to build the new extension office across the street, a facility very badly needed. You have all been wonderful to work with." In other court business Tax Collector/Assessor Wanda Smith's report of \$404,732.35 tax collections in November was approved. The court also approved advertising for total cost bids on a new motor grader, with trade in of a 1981 and 1988 motor grader, for Precinct 1 was approved.

JP Court Summary

The following is a summary of cases heard and bonds set in Justice of the Peace Court, Precinct 1, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding: Cases filed-59 traffic cases, 3 public intoxication-Marijuana, 1 minor in possession of tobacco product, 1 interlock device ordered. Bonds set-Terroristic threat-\$500

bond. Driving while intoxicated-2nd-\$1500 bond. Assault on public servant-\$5000 bond. 2 cases-Disorderly conduct-\$200 bond. 2 cases-Motion to revoke probation-held until hearing. 5 cases-Assault caus-

ing bodily injury-\$1500 bond each. Consumption of alcohol by a minor-3rd offense-\$1000 bond. Injury to disabled-bodily injury-\$3000 bond. Importation of alcohol without a license-\$2000 bond.

Fuel Savings Calculated for Lea County Electric Members

Fuel savings arising out of the settlement between Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS) and the transport company that hauls its coal supplies means Lea County Electric Cooperative consumers can expect a reduction of approximately 5 mils per kilowattour (kWh) on their electric bills beginning in December. All savings realized by the Cooperative will be passed directly through to its customers using the Fuel Adjustment factor that is applied to each customer's bill. Presently the factor is \$.00333 per kWh; with the pass-through of the savings the new factor will be a negative \$.00173 per kWh. The difference between the two factors is \$.00506 per kWh. Residen-

tial customers who use an average of 750 kWh each month will see a savings of approximately \$3.75 per month. The plan is to continue this reduced factor through May, 1999, at which time another analysis will be made to determine if the factor requires further adjustment. According to Cooperative General Manager Michael Dreyspring, "Lea County Electric already has some of the lowest rates in the county and this latest adjustment will make us even more competitive. Savings that we are able to flow-through to our customers is just one of the many benefits of cooperative membership."

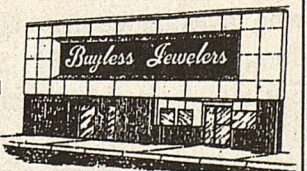
Happy Holidays !

The Courthouse employees invite you to join them for the annual **Christmas Open House** Friday, December 18, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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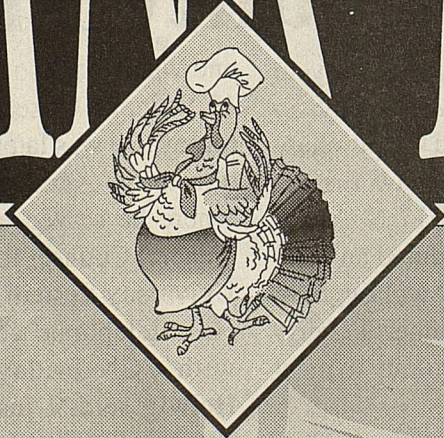


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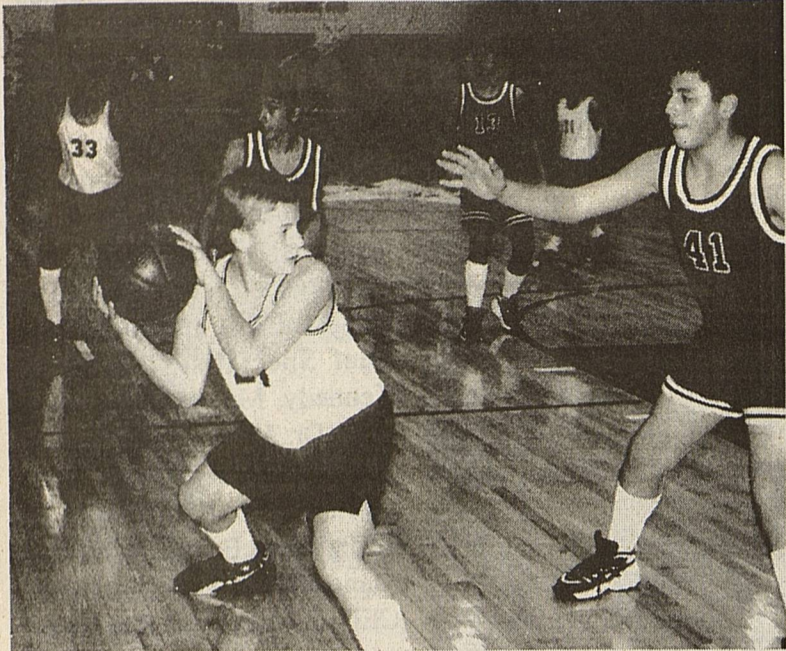
PISD Basketball Summary

Junior High:

7th Girls: In a low scoring game against Seagraves, the girls were edged by Seagraves 19-15. Despite the low score, Coach said the girls played well. Sarah Martinez had 5 points, Carmen Ponce 4, Manuel Villegas, Helen Neufeld and Moriah Traweek 2 each.

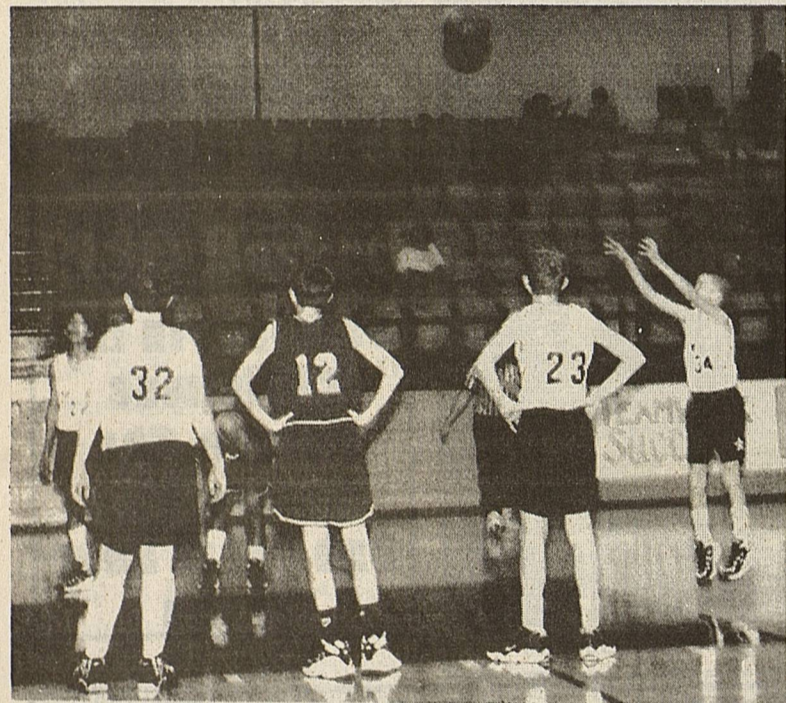
8th Girls: The older girls found Tahoka too tough, and were downed 46-27. Among the leading scorers were Chelsea Blount 9, Mandi Rogers, Jessica Rodriguez, and Kayla Willis, 4 each.

The 8th girls next were also felled by Seagraves 24-18. Jessica Rodriguez managed 9 points, Sandra Gallegos had 4, and Kayla Willis was recognized for her rebounding.



Richard Diaz, 33, watches Rodney Guetersloh work ball inside

7th Boys: The boys lost a last minute tough one to Seagraves 22-20. Top scorers were Trent May and Richard Diaz, 9 each, and Ryan Martinez 2.



Kelly Bowers, 32, Benny Loewen 23, watch Chase Howell make shot

8th Boys: The older boys also found Seagraves plenty rough, losing 40-19. Rene Luna managed 8 points, Jonathan Delarosa had 6, Angel Ruiz and Kelly Bowers 2 each. Chase Howell was honored for his hustle.



Mike Lopez shoots, Richard Daiz, Trent May watch for rebound

JV Cowboys: The young Cowboys faced two 3A opponents to start the D.C. Tournament. They fell to Denver City 56-43 in the opener. Kelsey Blundell topped the scoring with 13 points, Moises Gonzales had 7. They were also downed by Brownfield 67-56. In game two, Kelsey and Dustin Six shared scoring honors with 20 each. Against 2A Tahoka, the boys fared better, winning 50-41. Dustin registered 14 points. Aaron Cain had 12. They won third in the tournament.

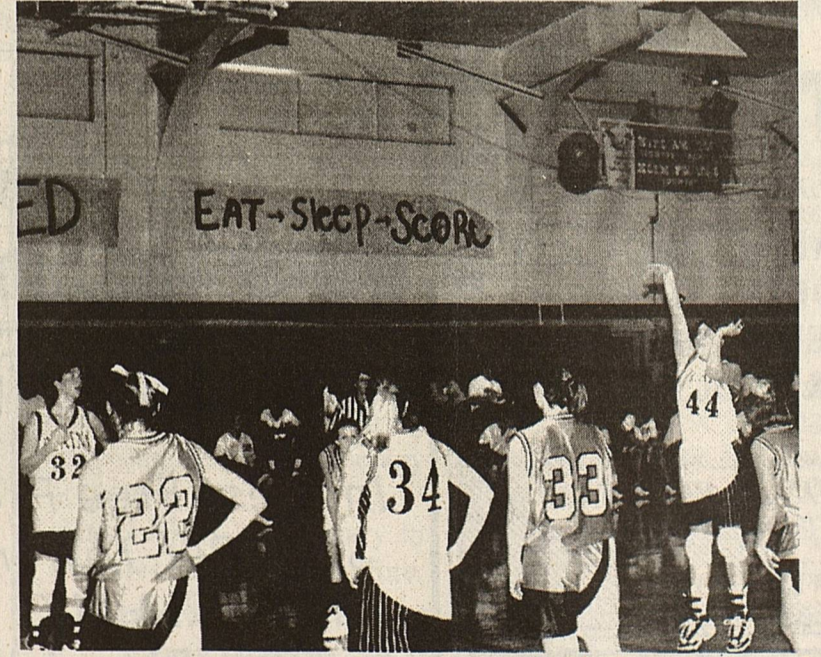
JV Cowgirls: The younger Cowgirls met a strong Whiteface team and were defeated 42-17. Chelsi Wagnon, Lexi Warren, Tanya Vasquez all managed four points. Turnovers and cold shooting caused their downfall.

D.C. JV Tourney- The JV Black team could manage but 19 points against Greenwood's 46. Amanda Garcia had the hot hand with 11 points, Elizabeth Clanahan had 4. Coach said the girls faced a much larger team, and after a slow start, defended well, and hustled very hard. The girls next were dropped by Denver City 42-24. Tanya Vasquez had 15 big points, including 3 three pointers, Chelsi 7, Annaliesa 2. Lexi Warren had 3 steals 5 rebounds, Chelsi had 4 steals and 4 rebounds. The Girls Gold faced Kermit and lost in a good 39-32 game. Tanya again led the scoring with 10, Lexi 9, Chelsi 7. Kim Willis was top rebounder with 7. The girls good defense allowed Kermit only 2 points in the third period. The Gold team next faced Greenwood and went down 53-46. Tanya, Lexi and Chelsi were again top scorers. Tanya hit a 3 pointer at the buzzer to send the game into overtime, and coach said this was their best effort of the year. The JV Black team lost to Midland Christian 39-29. Elizabeth Clanahan led the scoring with 15 points, Amanda Garcia had 8, Ashley Gonzalez 6.

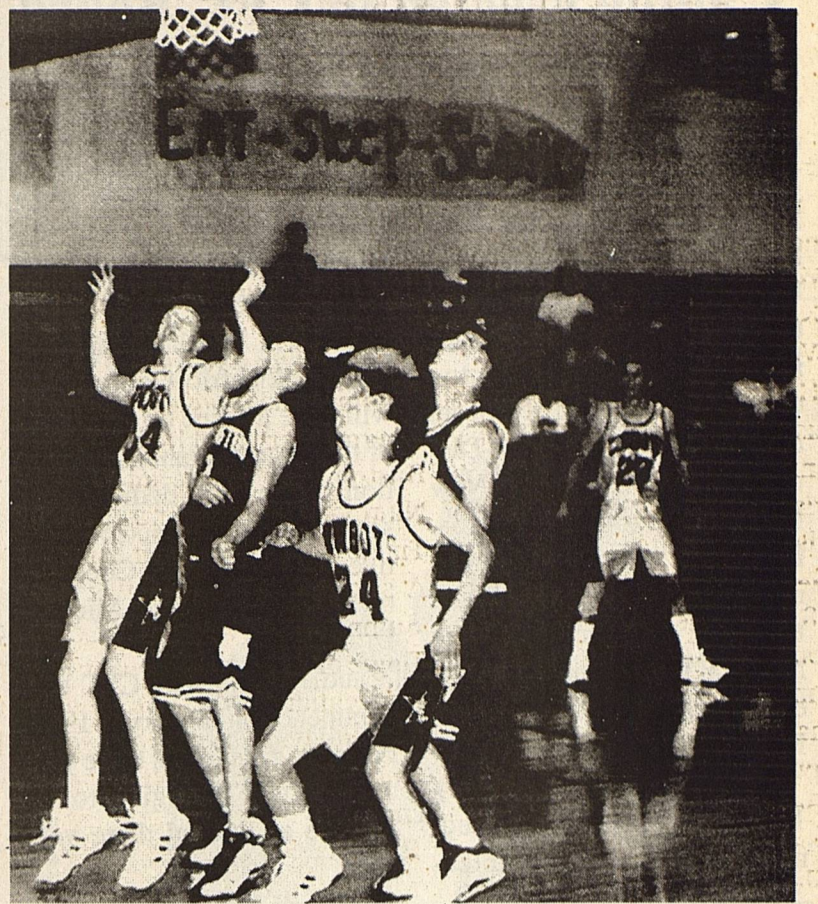


Candace Bowers and Anne Palmer watch Krystal Blundell shoot free one.

Varsity Cowgirls: The girls had a dismal game against redhot Whiteface, falling 48-17. Candace Bowers managed to tally 8 points. In the D.C. Tournament, the Cowgirls fared a bit better, finishing in second place. They downed Greenwood 45-35. Kimberly Newland poured in 17 points, Candace Bowers had 8, Krystle Blundell 7. Candace pulled down 11 rebounds, Kimberly had 7 steals, and Anne Palmer and Krystal had four steals each. The girls also edged Kermit 35-32. Kimberly was again top gun with 22 points, including a last few seconds razzle dazzle shot that set up the win. Candace had 6 points and 11 rebounds. The Cowgirls stumbling block was Denver City, and they won 52-20. All states were unavailable, but Maranda Box had 8 points, Kimberly 4, Candace 3.



Kimberly Newland makes shot, Candace Bowers, 32, Kimbe Jones watch for rebound



Jared Bell, 34, Joel Gallegos in position for rebound against Lovington

Varsity Cowboys: The Cowboys were knocked out by a good Whiteface team, 82-56. They could only shoot 30% from the field, and Tanner Blount finished with 14, Adam Garcia 12, Josh Bell 8, Patrick McGinty 7, Fermin Luna 6, Joel Gallegos 4, Eddy Gallegos 3, Jared Bell 2. In D.C. Tournament action, the Cowboys lost an opening heartbreaker to Denver City 61-60. Scoring in double digits were Adam, 15, Tanner, 14, and Fermin 10. Justin Bennett had 6 rebounds, and Adam managed 5 steals. They next faced a large and aggressive Lovington team and fell 78-51. Tanner managed 18 points, Adam had 11, Josh 6, and Alex Tarango 5 for top scorers. Tanner pulled in 7 rebounds, Joel had 6. The Cowboys pulled out a thriller against district foe Tahoka, 51-50, for third place in the tourney. They outshot the Bulkdogs in the final period 20-16. Tanner was high pointer with 21, and Adam had 13.

Math/Science Team "Sweeps" at Seminole

The Plains Math and Science team traveled to Seminole, December 5, and competed in the Seminole High UIL Practice Meet. The Math/Science team won the A-AAA division. The Number Sense, Calculator, and Math teams took first place and the Science team finished fourth. Individual performances include: **Freshman:** Annaliesa O'Quinn 2nd NS, 1st Cal, 4th Math, 8th Science. **Sophomores:** Aaron Cain 6th NS, 5th Cal, 7th Math, Lensey Cullins 5th NS, Amanda Garcia 3rd NS, 4th Cal. **Juniors:** Jason Swann 8th NS, 8th Cal, 6th Math, Kristen Gray 1st NS, 1 Cal, 1st Math, 2nd Science, Velvet Canada 7th Math. **Seniors:** Clint Burrus 1st NS, 1st Cal, 1st Math, 1st Science.

Student of the Week

Student of the Week is Wendy Hernandez, a junior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Hernandez. Wendy was nominated by Mrs. Canada who said, "Wendy is a hard working and diligent student. No matter what the task, running cross country, running track, or working in the classroom, she gives 110 percent of herself. She greets the world with a smile."



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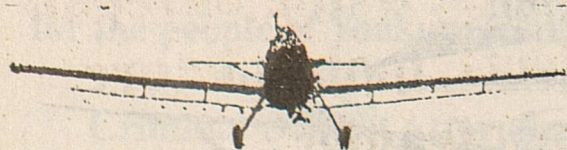
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Caudle Elected to CFC Board

Lovington, NM - Robert Caudle, board member for Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc. in Lovington, New Mexico, has been elected to the board of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) headquartered in Herndon, Virginia. Caudle was elected to fill an open position for CFC's District 10, which includes New Mexico, Arizona and Texas. Delegates from these states met in New Orleans, Louisiana last week to participate in the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Region VIII-X meeting. CFC, founded in the early 1970's, is a privately-owned, non-governmental organiza-

tion that provides state-of-the-art financial products and business management services to more than 1,050 electric cooperative owners across the United States. "Robert's election to the CFC board is significant in that it means Lea County Electric Cooperative will have a voice on the board of the largest financial institution in the U.S. dedicated to serving rural electric cooperatives", according to Cooperative General Manager Michael Dreyspring.

Caudle's term with CFC will commence on January 1, 1999. Following his initial three year term, he will be eligible to run for one additional three year term.

Santa's visit, Christmas tree lighting scenes



These cuties got a bit 'Antsy' before Santa finally showed up



The Cowboy marching Band supplied Christmas music



Plains State Bank, resplendent with lights, served visitors snacks following ceremonies

Beef management seminar to be held here

A Multi-County Beef Management Seminar will be held on December 15, 1998 in the Plains High School Cafeteria beginning at 6:00 p.m. The program is being sponsored by the Yoakum, Terry and Gaines County Offices of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and will include diverse topics such as stocker management, cow/calf herd health, grazing management, and brush control options.

Featured speakers will be Dr. Ted McCollum, Extension Beef Specialist, Dr. Steve Kennedy, Muleshoe Vet Service, Dr. Vivian Allen, Texas Tech University Forage Specialists, and Dr. J.F. Cadenhead, Extension Range Management Specialist. One CEU in Integrated Pest Management will be given at the meeting. For more details, contact Tadd Knight, Yoakum County Extension Agent-Ag at 806-456-2263.

Thanks, Ron Craft for loaning us the trailer for our float in the Christmas Parade. The Denver City Cub Scout Bear Troop

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With his assistance, TOTAL FAMILY PRACTICE is available for the community.

Thanks again... Come see us!

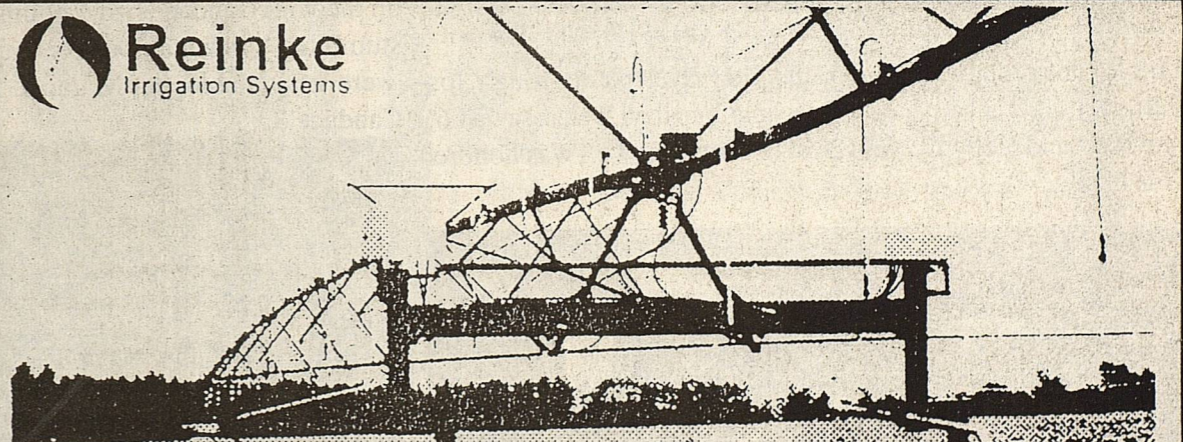
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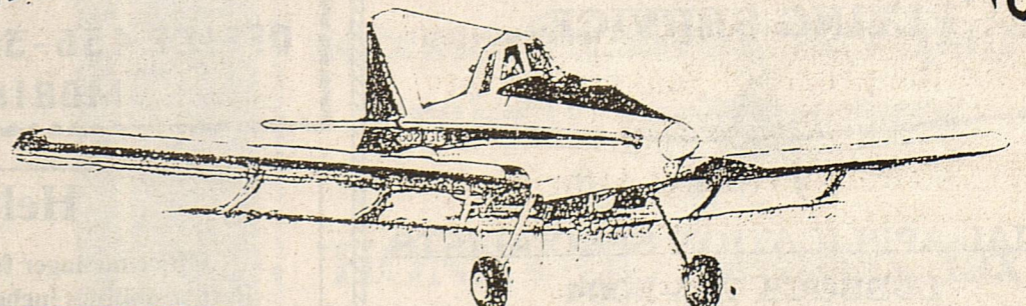
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South Plains Youths Receive District 4-H Honors



Gold Star Honors - Yoakum County 4-H'er Jeremy Horn was among 38 youngsters receiving Gold Star awards at this year's 4-H Gold Star Banquet in Lubbock. The Gold Star award is the highest honor obtainable in 4-H at the county level. Jeremy received his award for his achievements in poultry production.

LUBBOCK - Thirty eight 4-Hers from across the South Plains were honored here November 23rd at the District 11 Gold Star Banquet. All of the youngsters received the Gold Star, the highest honor attainable in 4-H at the county level. Four-H is a youth development program sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, an arm of the Texas A&M University System (TAMUS). "Texas 4-H involves kids who care--kids who have a lot of energy, a lot of enthusiasm, and a lot of fun," said Allison Davis, Extension 4-H program specialist. "They get involved in their communities and many different skill-building activities. In doing so, they make a

big difference in the lives of people they know. "More than 575,000 youths participate in the Texas 4-H program. That's more than 13 percent of all Texas kids between five and 19 years old." The annual South Plains 4-H awards banquet is sponsored by a number of electric cooperatives on the South Plains, including Lea County Electric, Inc. The cooperative is an active supporter of the Yoakum County 4-H program here. In the past 41 years, more than 1,500 South Plains youngsters have received 4-H's highest county award in the company of their peers, parents, community leaders, Extension faculty, educators and other supporters.



HOWDY!

By: *Kathy Adair*



Playing By The Rules

Seven to ten year olds are very "rule bound". Parenting can be difficult because school age children live, eat and breathe rules. **Why are 7 to 10 year olds so "rule bound?"**

The school age child's mental abilities expand at the same time that the brain becomes much more mature in both structure and function. Around age seven children begin to order, classify and apply rules to various situations. They can mentally add and subtract. They spend many hours organizing the doll corner or lining up and grouping all the toy cars or miniature play figures.

Over a period of several years, school age children are preoccupied with rules. Through rules they get a sense of order and security to their rapidly changing world. Seven to ten year olds become frustrated with any disregard for rules, asserting themselves vehemently on the unfairness or unjustness of not sticking to the rules.

Understanding this "rule bound" period of school agers can eliminate many needless conflicts between parents and children, as well as among groups of children or siblings.

Consistent enforcement of rules can help both parents and children.

How can parents work with the "rule bound" child?

*Respect the school age child's need for rules. Do not belittle it or try to circumvent it for your own convenience. Also, avoid trying to reason with a school ager about flexibility in rules. You only end up frustrating yourself and the child.

*Decide rules with your child whenever possible. Set rules in advance. Begin social situations, including shopping trips, special events and games by deciding on the rules. State them clearly.

*Provide activities that allow your child to create a sense of order. Do things together that require ordering or classifying such as organizing a kitchen cupboard or sorting a money box.

*Use the following criteria for making rules. All rules need to be: 1. Understandable by the children. 2. Appropriate for the developmental age of the children. 3. Realistic, necessary and enforceable. 4. Positive in nature. 5. Short and easy to remember. 6. Specific in expected behavior and in consequences.



presents **A Star Is Born**
Dec 13, 2:00 pm.

Senior Citizens Corner

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Now its almost Christmas.

Everyone remember the Domino Tournament on Tuesday. Bring a friend and come join in the fun.

Visitors this week are Walt and Beth Bennett from Arizona. They are visiting the Hanamans, and its been fun teaching Beth to play '42'.

Louise Green is recovering from surgery, and is in therapy at Denton.

Hazel Akins had surgery in Lubbock and is doing fine.

Bess Zeazy experienced a fall and is recovering at her home in Lubbock.

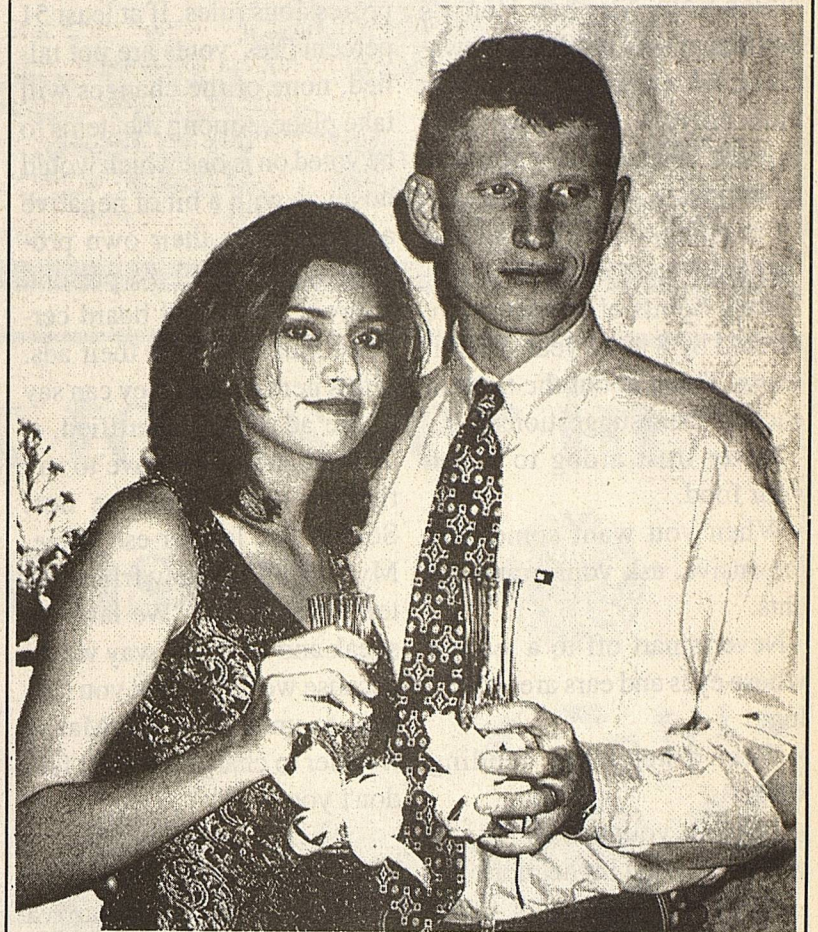
Remember our 'Every Day' garage sale. Its an interesting place to browse while taking your daily exercise.

Our condolences to family and friends of Mr. Tingle of Plains. I remember him as a great '42' partner at the Saturday night senior parties.

Our hall is great for walking. Come check it out for your winter walks.

See you next week,
Smitty

Wedding Vows Exchanged



2nd Lt. Lebert Ty Powell, son of Linda and Ty Powell of Plains, Texas and Amelia Munoz, daughter of Elisa and Juan Munoz of Acuna, Mexico were married November 19 in Del Rio, Texas. After Lebert's wings ceremonies on November 20, a reception was held on November 21 for family and friends in Acuna, Mexico at Taco's Grill. Wedding cake decorated with fragrant white lilies and bows was cut by the couple and toasts were made after the dinner for 85 was served. Mexican music filled the air as the wedding party danced and visited. Attending from Plains were Linda and Ty Powell, Grandmother Wilma Powell, Jo Lena and Chad Wall, Jeannette and Jerome Head, Mary Dale and Bud Forbus, Brenda and Dwayne Canada. Maternal grandparents, Maxine and Lloyd Grau of Grady, NM also attended as did Jeff Ashburn and Daniel Canada from Lubbock, Tx. Other guests were Jaree Crowson from Austin, Tx. and Heidi and Jim Fullerton with Jaime and Ty from Frisco, Tx. After training in Washington State, Florida and Mississippi, the couple will be home in Tucson, Arizona for Lebert's A-10 training with the U.S. Air Force.

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To the voters of Yoakum County

Thanks for your support in the recent General Election! Whether you are a Criminal District Attorney or a new speckled pup, everyone likes to get picked! My staff and I will continue to try to provide fair and professional law enforcement for the people of Yoakum County

Richard Clark

Criminal District Attorney

Cowboy Country News

PO Box 179, Plains, Tx 79355

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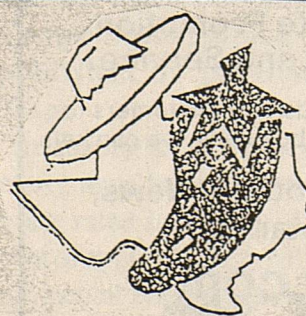
E-Mail us at ccn@hiplains.net

You Can Help Make This Christmas Bright!

Volunteers needed to help deliver Christmas baskets to needy families of the community.

Deliveries will be made from the Courthouse Saturday, December 19, 8:30 A.M. If you can help in this worthy cause, Please Call

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From The Hack

I confess; the following was stolen from Stephen Henry's column in the Levelland News-Press, which proves publishers and editors are notorious thieves. I suspect Stephen stole it from someone else.

"I'm going to shift gears now, and have a little fun. The following tidbits of wisdom were offered by 8 to 12 year-old students. Think about the truth in each of their suggestions.

--Never trust a dog to watch your food.
 --When you want something expensive, ask your grandparents.
 --Never smart off to a teacher whose eyes and ears are twitching.
 --Wear a hat when feeding seagulls.
 --Sleep in your cloths so you will be dressed in the morning.
 --Don't flush the john when your dad is taking a shower.
 --Never ask for anything over \$5 when your parents are doing taxes.
 --Never bug a pregnant woman.
 --Don't ever be too full for dessert.
 --Never answer truthfully if your dad asks if he looks stupid.
 --Never tell your mom her diet's not working.
 --Don't pick on your sister when she's holding a bat.
 --When you get a bad grade, show it to your mom while she's on the phone.
 --Never spit on the top of a roller coaster.
 --Never tell your little brother that you're not going to do what

your mom told you to do.

--Listen to your brain. It has a lot of information.
 --Never dare your little brother to paint the family car.
 --Never try to baptize a cat.

.....

Say that again? The State Bar of Texas has an extensive campaign in process urging attorney members to get out the vote on eight changes to the professions rules. If at least 51 percent 'Yes' votes are not tallied, none of the changes will take place. Among the items to be voted on is one which would do away with a bit of negative advertising in their own promotional material; At present, lawyers who aren't board certified must say so in their ads. If this item passes, they can say in the ads they're certified, if they are, but don't have to say they're not, if they're not. Sounds like lawyer-ese to me. My golfing attorney friend often reminds me, "We lawyers speak and write the way we do because we don't want you laymen to understand us. Makes it easier to charge a higher fee, don't you see?"

.....

Taking photos of the youngsters waiting for Santa Claus' arrival at Pioneer Plaza last week brought back memories of some of my Christmas' past, many eons ago.

My parents tugged me to a Christmas Eve spent with an aunt and uncle and two of my cousins when I was about six or seven. The adults finally persuaded us we had to go to bed or Santa Claus wouldn't stop by. Sometime in the night, something woke me up, and of course my first thought was, "Oh, Man! He's here!"

I crept out of bed and toward the kitchen where I heard voices, then a giggle or two, then some pretty foul language. I had no idea Santa cursed. I sneaked closer, peered around the corner,

and there my dad and uncle sprawled on the kitchen floor, surrounded by pieces of a partially assembled rocking horse, and I desperately hoped it was for my younger cousin, and not a big kid like me.

My uncle looked sort of wobbly, and he was having trouble getting his eyes to focus, and old dad looked equally strange, and there was a strong, medicinal smell coming from a couple of glasses at their sides. Uncle blurted, "This horse don't look right to me", and dad, in infinite wisdom, agreed, saying "Yeah, I don't think he's heading in the right direction." Sure enough, the dumb horse was facing north, but the rockers were facing west. Old unk muttered, "I'll pull the saddle off him and put it on side saddle style."

At that merciful moment, my aunt appeared in the other kitchen door, glared about, picked up the two smelly glasses and dumped them in the sink, and rather menacingly said "I strongly suggest you two idiots go to bed. If you don't, you will not only not see Santa, you will not live to see daylight!"

It was many years later before I could puzzle all this out.

Merry Christmas

NOTICE

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for the construction of curb-weather track and runways until 2:00 P.M., December 11, 1998 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.

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Advertisement and invitation for bids

The City of Plains will receive bids for construction of 100,000 gallon Ground Storage Reservoir and Pump Station in Yoakum County, Texas until 4:00 p.m. on December 16, 1998, at City Hall, 601 11th Street, Plains, Texas, 79355. These bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Construction of 100,000 gallon Ground Storage Reservoir.
2. Installation of water piping, fittings and valves.
3. Installation of two horizontal centrifugal pumps.
4. Metal building.

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at West Texas Consultants, Inc. 3300 N. 'A' Street, Bldg. 1, Suite 200, Midland, Texas 79705, and at 305 N.W. Avenue 'C', Andrews, Texas 79715; or may be reviewed at the Dodge Plan Room.

Copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained by depositing \$25 with the Engineer for each set of documents obtained. The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and documents are returned in good condition within 10 days following the bid opening.

A bid bond in the amount of 5% of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Plains or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than , the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rates, as issued by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age or national origin.

The City of Plains reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by the City of Plains for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidders qualifications prior to the contract award.

City of Plains

T.J. Miller, Mayor

All contractors/subcontractors which are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

HOOVES & HORNS BY A.W. ERWIN

"QUICK! Cover his eyes! Or he'll start thinkin' it's awright fer a horse to act thattaway!"

Propane...

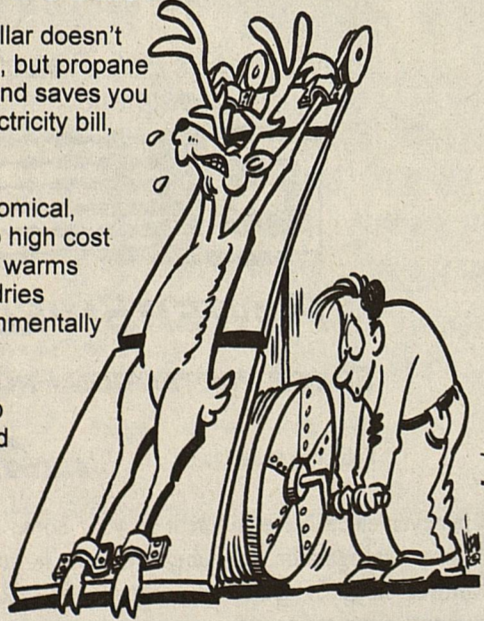
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