

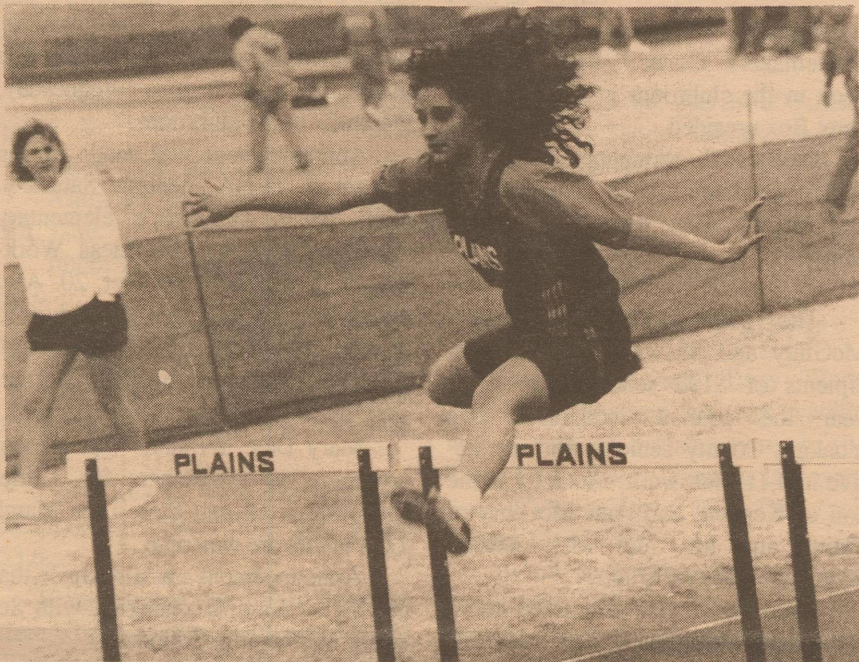
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# THE PLAINS PRIDE

PLAINS, YOAKUM COUNTY, TEXAS

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 49

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 1991 30¢



**COWGIRL HURDLES TO VICTORY** - Kemi Cobb, PHS junior, won first place in the 100 meter hurdles last weekend in the Stanton Relays. She also performed well in the 300 hurdles, claiming second place back of teammate Amy Crutcher's record time.

## Announcing CRP Sign-Ups

There will be a limited CRP sign-up in Yoakum County through March 15, 1991 at the Yoakum County ASCS Office.

The county has exceeded its allowable 25% of cropland acres in CRP so the only eligible practices will be for windbreak establishment. The acres

that can be signed up are only those acres involved in the strips where the trees are planted.

The contracts will be for 10 or 15 years, but a 30 year easement on the acreage must be granted to the government and listed on the deed for the land.

## Conservationist Advises Time Is Running Out For Options

"From 1985 to 1990, we scrambled to assemble conservation plans in Yoakum County," said Edwin Livengood, District Conservationist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service at Plains.

"We sorely complained of the shortness of planning time. After all, time was short."

Edwin Livengood said, "Given that time frame, many producers hurriedly made decisions on conservation practices and techniques unfamiliar to them. Some producers didn't have the proper equipment to carry out their plan."

"The year 1990 was a learning experience for all. But now these plans need to be applied," Livengood said.

"Be advised, the 1985 Farm Bill is NOT fading away," Livengood added. "If you don't understand, don't fully agree, or just can't live with your plan, immediately contact the Yoakum Soil Conservation Service office."

Livengood also said, "It's not too late. But it's imperative to make these adjustments now."

Plans, or modified plans, must be implemented as scheduled and fully applied by Dec. 31, 1994. Time is running out along with options.

Programs and services of the Soil Conservation Service are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regards for race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status or handicap.

## Texas Governor Ann Richards To Attend Lubbock Reception

Texas Governor Ann Richards is to be in Lubbock Sunday, March 10 to attend a reception in her honor beginning at 12:15 p.m. in the Terrace Room of the Lubbock Civic Center. Hosted by the South Plains Democratic Council, there will be a charge of \$15

per person.

Governor Richards is expected to be on hand for the ground-breaking ceremonies for the new East-West Freeway in Lubbock and will also make an appearance at the Lubbock County Centennial Celebration.

## Plains Masonic Lodge To Observe Open House

Alton E. McGinty has joined 940 other Masonic Lodges across Texas in scheduling a simultaneous statewide Public Open House between 2 and 5 p.m. Sunday, March 10, 1991. The Lodge is located at 812 Ave E in Plains.

Alton McGinty, Master of the local lodge, said an open invitation is extended to anyone interested in learning more about Masonry and what Masons do.

He noted that Fred E. Allen of Mt. Pleasant, Grand Master of the 180,000 member Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas, has defined the intent of the "showcase" open house event as being "to put Masonry on display so anyone interested can see for themselves what Masons do and have a better understanding of what Masonry is all about."

Printed cards will give brief explanations of more significant points of interest about the lodge room, including some of the more prominent symbols utilized in Masonry to teach Masonic philosophy. Best known of these symbols are the square and compasses, which identify members of the craft, together with other tools of the medieval stonemasons...builders of the great Gothic Cathedrals.

Allen explained, that to the three and one half million Masons in the U.S., these symbols are reminders of a Mason's duty to live by highest moral standards, to practice brotherly love, and to affirm loyalty to his country. He said Masons believe that the quality of a man's life should reflect his faith in God and his ethical ideals.

Other Masonic-related organizations are also being invited to partici-

pate in the open house program to provide insight into their particular organizations. Although not active in all communities, these affiliated Masonic groups include the York Rite, Scottish Rite, the Shrine, the Grotto, the Beausceant, Order of the Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, Daughters of Mokanna, Order of DeMolay for Boys, Order of Rainbow for Girls, and Job's Daughters, the newest entry into Texas.

Allen cited the showcase event as a first in Texas in which various Masonic and Masonic-related groups join in public display of their respective regalia and symbols in a blend of colorful pageantry open to all.

He declared an over all objective is to help dispel the misconception many people have that Masonry is a secret society. He pointed out Masonry does not conceal its existence, principles or aims. Members proudly wear the square and compasses and other Masonic insignia, and Lodge buildings are well identified and often made available for appropriate community activities.

Masons collectively provide over \$2 million a day and thousands of hours of service donated to worthy causes, including \$750 million every year for charitable activities.

It was further pointed out, that while Masons do not solicit members, men of good character may ask to become members.

Members of Plains Masonic Lodge and other associated Masonic bodies will be on hand to answer questions during the public open house.

**DEAR EDITOR:**

(Editors Note: The following letter was written by Melvin Lowrey to our Texas Legislators concerning school financing.

The Honorable Carl Parker  
 Senator, District 4  
 One Plaza Square  
 \*Port Arthur, Texas 77642

The Honorable Ernestine Glossbrenner  
 Representative, District 44  
 P.O. Drawer 2188  
 \*Alice, Texas 78333

RE: SCHOOL FINANCE  
 LEGISLATION

Dear Senator Parker and Representative Glossbrenner:

I am writing to express concern about the current crisis in school finance. I would also like to provide information about the Plans school and community which I hope will be helpful to you during meetings of the conference committee. I am aware that you must pass a final bill before the court's April 1st deadline.

The City of Plains is located in a rural county and has a population of 1,428. Our school population is 508, and the school district contains 599 square miles. Approximately 50% of the students population is Hispanic. Our median income is less than \$14,000. Therefore, even though our community has been enriched by mineral wealth, our population as a whole is by no means wealthy. The primary economic activity around Plains is agriculture.

There are no movie theaters in our city. Likewise, there are no bowling alleys, no zoo, no museum, and no concert tours. We have six churches, one farm implement dealer, three seed and fertilizer businesses, three garages, one body shop, one auto parts house, one lumber yard, two dress shops (one of which is located in the owner's home), one video rental business, one service station, three convenience stores, one grocery store, two restaurants, one Dairy Queen, one abstract office, one flower shop, two small motels, one bank, two welding shops, four insurance agents, one credit union, two farm fuel dealers, one bail bondsman, one water well drilling company, one electric cooperative, one attorney, two beauty shops, one barber shop, and one cable TV company. As you can see, our business community provides the basic essentials of life, but there are no cultural or entertainment facilities in our small town. We must drive 150 miles round trip to Lubbock, our nearest urban area.

The focal point of all community activity is our school. Our junior high and high school students provide live theater with their UIL one act play performances. Our music concerts are provided by the elementary, junior high and high school bands. The students at Plains I.S.D. have performed very well in academic UIL events, receiving State honors in number sense, calculator and science. We are all very proud that our students' test scores are above the State average. Sports enthu-

siasts can enjoy State championship girls' volleyball (1990). The boys' teams were district co-champs in football (1990) and bi-district champs in basketball (1990). Our high school students also excelled this year in track, winning second in State in cross-country.

Please consider how vitally important our school system is when you make your final decision. We are fortunate to have been able to enrich not only the lives of our children, but also the life of our entire community. However, our mineral resources are the ONLY ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE we enjoy over any other area and they are limited. Our farm land is sand and considered very fragile. In drought years, our economic situation becomes very bleak. We also stress this point: our citizens care about quality education for all the school children of Texas. However, we urge you to allow us to continue enriching our local programs, because we do not believe a single advantage will be gained elsewhere by diminishing our program here. Your thoughtful consideration will be appreciated.

Sincerely,  
 Melvin C. Lowrey  
 President  
 Plains I.S.D.  
 Board of Education

cc:

The Honorable Ann Richards  
 Governor of Texas  
 State Capitol  
 Austin, Texas 78711

The Honorable John T. Montford  
 Senator, District 28  
 P.O. Box 12068, Capitol Station  
 Austin, Texas 78711

The Honorable Jim Rudd  
 Representative, District 77  
 P.O. Box 2910  
 Austin, Texas 78769

\*Port Arthur - Population 63,053  
 Alice - Population 20,961  
 Plains - Population 1,428

**SCHOOL EVENTS**

- MONDAY - Church of Christ Senior Supper - Courthouse - 7 p.m.
- TUESDAY - Tennis - Sundown - Here - High School
- THURSDAY - Track - Sudan - There - Jr. High; John Deere Meeting - Cafeteria - 6:30 p.m.; Math/Science Team to San Antonio
- FRIDAY - Tennis - Levelland Tournament - There - JV and Jr. High; Track - Sudan - There - High School Boys and Girls; Math/Science Team in San Antonio
- SATURDAY - Tennis - Levelland Tournament - There - JV and Jr. High; Track - Sudan - There - High School Boys and Girls; Math/Science Team in San Antonio

**Paul Coon Presents Program To Yoakum County Art Group**

Paul Coon of Brownfield was guest program leader Tuesday for Yoakum County Art Association. He demonstrated design of shapes.

During the business session, members discussed rewiring of the art building which will begin soon. Plans were made for a benefit talent show April 12 at 8 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Anyone interested in par-

ticipating may call Linda Powell at 456-3171.

Artist of the Month is Marguerite Barron.

Yoakum County Art Association meets each first Tuesday. Interested persons are invited.

Hostesses Fay Nelms and Janice McGill served refreshments to 12 members and one guest.

**Yoakum County Ext. Council Names Scholarship Recipients**

Yoakum County Extension Homemakers Council met Tuesday noon in the clubroom in Plains. Margaret Box presided.

Devotional thoughts on Ralph Waldo Emerson's, "To Laugh Often and Much", were shared by Sydney Murphy.

The council selected Brandon McGinty and Shawn Bethany as recipients of \$100 scholarships. Each year the council recognizes two Yoakum County seniors who are active in 4-H Club work. McGinty is the son of Kenneth and Ann McGinty of Plains and Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Bethany of Denver City.

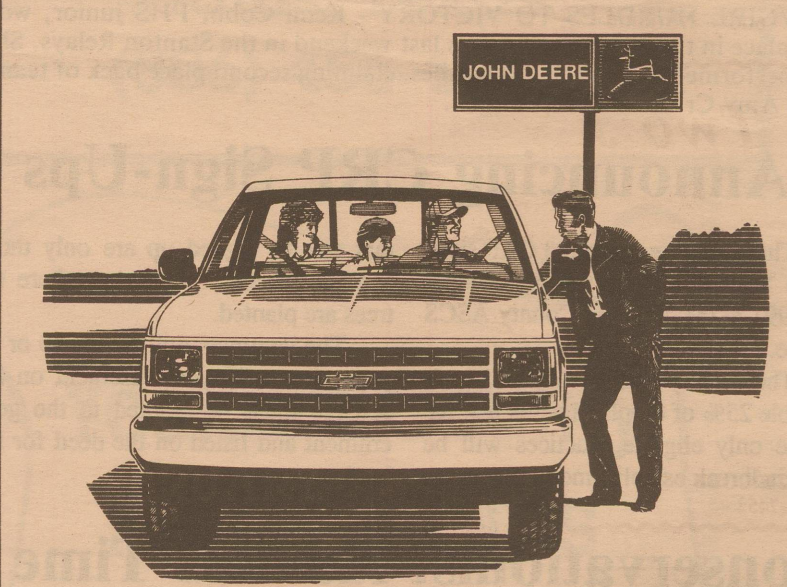
Plans were also discussed for a retirement reception for Jennola

Maples who is retiring as secretary for the Extension Agents. The reception is slated for 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 27 in the clubroom.

Announcement was made of the District 2 TEHA meeting Saturday, April 20 in Seminole's elementary school. A Holiday Gift Ideas Workshop was scheduled for Oct. 20. Also scheduled was a Serger Workshop to be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. April 25 in the community building in Denver City. Cost will be \$10 per person.

Mary Dale Williams will present programs on Sweeteners for Turner Club March 12 and State Line March 23. Visitors are welcome.


Announcement was also made that the YES (Youth Exchanging with Seniors) will begin in March.



**Talk about New Trends with your Old Friends at John Deere Day 1991**

**Plains Farm Supply, Inc.**

Date THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1991  
 Time 6:30 P.M.  
 Place PLAINS SCHOOL CAFETERIA

AJKA 

# Cowboys, Cowgirls Participate In Season's First Track Meet

Cowboy trackmen placed third in last weekend's Stanton Relays. Nineteen teams participated with Class AAA powerhouses Crane and Big Lake taking the top two wins.

The Cowboys finished second in the 400 relay and third in the 1600 relay. Shane Lowrey missed the school record by less than two-tenths of a second in the 100 meter dash. Michael Sainz had a strong day with a fourth place finish in the 3200, second in 800 and a leg on the 1600 relay.

Pleased with the Cowboys performances, their coaches noted, "The Cowboys had a great day even without being in the best of condition because of the good basketball season."

**RESULTS:**

- Lowrey - 2nd, 100 meter dash, 10.85.
- Sainz - 2nd, 800; 4th, 3200.
- Armando Ramirez - 4th, 1600; 5th, 3200.
- Junior Lira - 4th, 300 hurdles; 6th, 800.
- William Matta - 5th, 400.
- Sterling Lovelace - 5th, 100.
- 400 Relay - 2nd, Lowrey, Jason Smith, Wade Redman and Lovelace, 45.6.
- 1600 Relay - 3rd, Lowrey, 54.9, Matta, 55.6, Sainz, 53.1 and Smith, 53.6.

Plains High School Cowgirls also placed third in the meet, leading all Class A teams and finishing back of Crane and Midland Greenwood.

Greenwood amassed 126 points with Crane claiming 110. The Cowgirls scored 70 points.

Kemi Cobb took the top win in the 100 hurdles with 17.77 and second in the 300 hurdles with 56. Amy Crutcher won the 300 hurdles with a new school record, 53.43 and finished 5th in the 100 hurdles with 19.16.

**OTHER RESULTS:**

- Ogla Ramirez - 2nd, 3200 meter run, 14.33.86; 3rd, 1600, 4.26.56.
- Rhonda Cowart - 2nd, 400, 65.70.
- 400 Meter Relay - 6th, Daphne Lowe, Rachel Gonzales, Lupita Ramos, Shandy Willett and Rhonda Cowart, 57.97.
- 1600 Relay - 2nd, Crutcher, Willett, Cowart.
- Also competing was the 800 meter relay team of Sandra Ramos, Jennifer Cowart, Jennifer Day and Lupita Ramos.

## Father & Son Feted With Party

Terry Davis and Terry Wade Davis were honored Saturday evening with a surprise birthday party in the Terry Davis home. Hosting the event were Wadonna Davis, Dana Davis and Johnny Don Davis.

Baked and decorated by Dana Davis, the birthday cakes were designed as a boot and hat and a farm scene. Cake and ice cream were served.

## Filmtime

"Dr. DeSoto" and "Fire Chief McDonald" were films shown Wednesday for Storytime at Plains Library. Book of the day was "No More TV, Sleepy Dog". Flannelboard story was "There Were Five in the Bed".

Attending were Grady McNabb, Kassi Cypert, Niki and Erin Henry, Alisha Wauson, Micah Clay, Breck Hamm, Corey and Sarah Kelton, B.J. Lester, Christian Morales, June Arispe, Jessica Garza, Colleen Howard, Katie and Clayton Oswalt, Daniela Lazos, Priscilla Mares, Nichole and Chris Loya, Melissa Pittman, Amanda Allman and Joseph Martinez.

**Last Week's**

Filmtime youngsters Wednesday were treated to demonstration by a Plains Volunteer Fire Department firetruck by volunteers Rodney Garland and LaDonna

Diamond. After the visit, youngsters colored a picture of a fire truck.

Songs of the day were "Jesus Loves Me," "Hokey Pokey" and "I'm a Little Teapot." Games were London Bridges and Ring Around the Roses.

Attending were Grady McNabb, Niki and Erin Henry, Evan Cain, Breck Hamm, Melissa Pittman, Corey and Sarah Kelton, Jessica LaShea Garza, Terry Cordova Jr., B.J. Lester, Adam McCravey, Micha Clay, Kassi Cypert, Colleen Howard, Katie and Clayton Oswalt, Christian Morales, Daniela Lazos, Anthony and Connie Lee Loya, James Wright Jr., Alisha Wauson, Nichole and Chris Loya, David Blake, Cynthia Reimer, Nicholas Curtis, Abel Ramos, Marlie Diaz, Priscilla Mares, Blake Parrish, Crystal Mederano and Stetson Sellers.



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Major appliances are rated on the basis of their efficiency. Watch for the energy rating when you buy, and purchase appliances which best meet your needs.

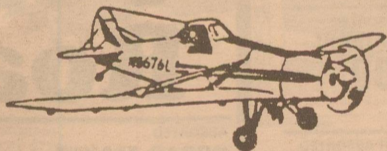
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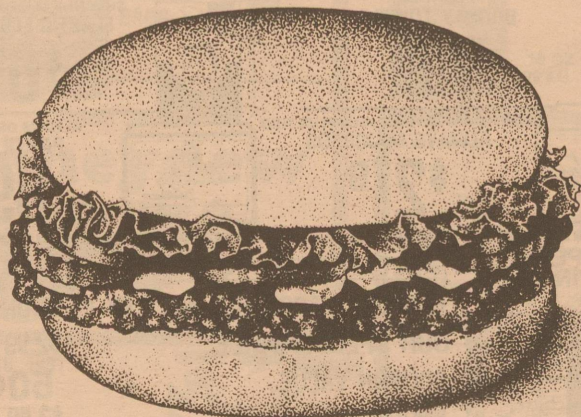
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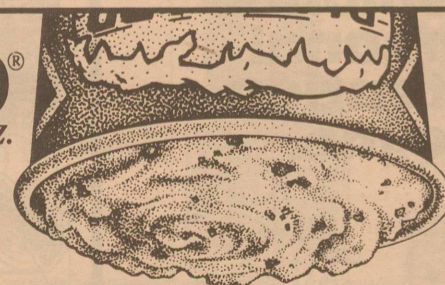
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FLAVOR TREAT 12-OZ.



THIS WEEK'S



ON SALE  
MARCH 4-24,  
1991

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# What's Cooking At School



## BREAKFAST

**MONDAY** - Toast, peach preserves, grape juice and milk.  
**TUESDAY** - Toast, donuts, apple juice and milk.  
**WEDNESDAY** - Toast, French toast, honey, orange juice and milk.  
**THURSDAY** - Waffles, syrup, butter, tomato juice and milk.  
**FRIDAY** - Toast, cereal, pineapple juice and milk.

## LUNCH

**MONDAY** - Submarine sandwich, French fries w/catsup, lettuce, pickles, slice pineapple and milk.  
**TUESDAY** - Nacho w/meat and cheese, lettuce, tomato, corn, crackers, peach cobbler and milk.  
**WEDNESDAY** - Hamburgers, lettuce, pickles, onions, Chee-tos, fruit, chocolate chip cookie and milk.  
**THURSDAY** - Salisbury steak w/gravy, green beans, rice, hot rolls, butter, spiced applesauce and milk.  
**FRIDAY** - Hot dogs w/chili, potato salad, lettuce, tomatoes, peaches and milk.

## Alterations Theme Of Club Program

State Line Extension Homemakers answered roll call with "An Item I have altered" at their regular meeting Saturday in the clubroom. Theme of the program was alterations.  
 Gale McDonnell shared ideas on "More clothes for your money."  
 Sheri McGinty served low calorie sweet rolls to Sydney Murphey, Dene Rafferty, Toni Jones, Gale McDonnell and Ruth Efried.  
 Attending were Gloria Lane, Dorothy Jones, Mary Dale Williams, Margaret Box and Sydney Murphy.

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**Dr. Pepper**  
 3 LITER \$1.89

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 TORTILLA CHIPS  
 REGULAR \$1.99  
**99¢**

WHIPPED SHORTENING  
**Bake-Rite**  
 42 OZ. CAN  
**69¢**

HONEY BOY PINK  
**Salmon**  
 15 OZ. CAN  
**\$1.99**

CHILLED ORANGE JUICE  
**Citrus Hill**  
 96 OZ. JUG  
**\$2.79**

ORANGE JUICE PLUS CALCIUM  
**CITRUS HILL**  
 96 OZ. BTL.  
**\$2.79**

FROZEN ORANGE JUICE  
**CITRUS HILL**  
 16 OZ. CAN  
**\$1.39**

FROZEN CITRUS PUNCH  
**SUNNY DELIGHT**  
 12 OZ. CAN  
**59¢**

PEPPERIDGE FARM ASSORTED  
 FRUIT TURNOVERS  
 11 TO 12 OZ.  
**\$1.59**

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45¢ OFF LABEL-REG/MORN. FRESH  
**SNUGGLE LIQUID**  
 64 OZ. BTL. **\$1.89**

REGULAR OR UNSCENTED LIQUID  
**DOVE BEAUTY WASH**  
 8 OZ. BTL. **\$2.19**

BAR SOAP  
**LEVER 2000**  
 2 BAR PACK **\$1.49**

LOW CAL. CRANB/REG. CRANB/CRAN-RASPI  
 CRAN-APPLE/CRAN-STRAWBERRY  
**OCEAN SPRAY**  
 48 OZ. BTL. **\$1.99**

40¢ OFF LABEL-POWDER DETERGENT  
**SURF**  
 39 OZ. BOX **\$1.89**

BEST MAID  
**SWEET RELISH**  
 22 OZ. JAR **\$1.59**

ORANGE CITRUS/FRUIT PUNCH  
**RICH & READY**  
 GAL. JUG **\$1.39**

GLADIOLA YELLOW/WHITE  
**CORNBREAD MIX**  
 6 OZ. PKGS. **3.89¢**

ALPO ASSORTED  
**CAT FOOD**  
 6 OZ. CANS **3.99¢**

WITH TRIGGER SPRAY  
**409 CLEANER**  
 22 OZ. BTL. **\$1.89**

PURE VEGETABLE  
**CRISCO OIL**  
 64 OZ. BTL. **\$2.49**

QUAKER ASSORTED  
**INSTANT OATMEAL**  
 16 OZ. BOX **\$1.89**

PET REGULAR OR 99% FAT FREE  
**EVAPORATED MILK**  
 TALL CAN **59¢**

QUAKER ASSORTED  
**OH'S CEREAL**  
 12 OZ. BOX **\$1.99**

QUAKER OAT SQUARES  
**OAT SQUARES**  
 16 OZ. BOX **\$2.19**

QUAKER REG./CINNAMON  
**LIFE CEREAL**  
 15 OZ. BOX **\$2.19**

AUNT JEMIMA BUTTERMILK COMPLETE  
**PANCAKE MIX**  
 2 LB. BOX **\$1.19**

AUNT JEMIMA  
**LITE SYRUP**  
 24 OZ. BTL. **\$2.19**

ASSORTED  
**BOUNTY TOWELS**  
 JUMBO ROLL **79¢**

SHURFINE 44 MEDIUM/32 LARGE  
**ELASTIC LEG DIAPERS**  
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NIGHT SUPER/DOUBLE PLUS/PLUS THIN  
**ALWAYS MAXIPADS**  
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ALWAYS  
**DEODORANT PANTLINERS**  
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GERBER® DISPOSABLE BOTTLES 80 COUNT  
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 COUPON VALUE - 50¢  
 YOUR COST \$2.49

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This coupon good only at Pay-n-Save Stores

**THINK**

FRESH BOSTON CUT  
**Pork Roast** LB. **\$1.99**

ASSORTED  
**OSCAR MAYER LUNCHABLES** 4.5 OZ. PKG. **\$1.39**

BEAVER STREET PRE-COOKED  
**BREADED FISH CAKES** LB. **\$1.49**

GREELAND FISH  
**TURBOT FILLETS**

FRESH LEAN TENDER  
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ALL PURPOSE RUSSET  
**Potato** 10 LB. BAG **79¢**

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17 OZ. BOX  
**\$1.79**

**SWANSON ASSORTED DINNERS**  
11 OZ. BOX  
**\$1.59**

**SWANSON BEEF/CHICKEN/TURKEY MEAT POT PIES**  
7 OZ. BOX  
**59¢**

**SWANSON TAKE-OUT/PLUMP & JUICY FRIED CHICKEN**  
28 OZ. BOX  
**\$3.19**

**HUNGRYMAN DINNERS**  
18.5 OZ. BOX  
**\$2.39**

**SWANSON ASSORTED HOMESTYLE ENTREES**  
6 TO 10 OZ.  
**\$1.39**

BEEF SIRLOIN TIP/CHICKEN CORD. BLEU/BF. STROG/ YANK. POT ROAST/PEPPER STEAK/SWEET & SOUR CHICKEN/ SLI. TURKEY BREAST/CHOP. SIRLOIN/CHICKEN A LA KING/ BREAST OF CHICKEN/HAM STEAK

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10 TO 11 OZ. PKG.  
**2 \$4.89** FOR

**MICROMAGIC HAMBURGER**  
4 OZ. BOX  
**\$1.19**

**MICROMAGIC CHEESEBURGER**  
4 OZ. BOX  
**\$1.29**

**VAN DE KAMP FISH FILLETS OR STICKS**  
REG/LIGHT & CRISPY  
13 OZ. BOX  
**\$1.99**

**AUNT JEMIMA BLUEBERRY OR JUMBO WAFFLES**  
10 OZ. BOX  
**\$1.09**

**MJB PREMIUM COFFEE**  
REG/DECAF  
13 OZ. CAN  
**\$3.29**

**TASTERS CHOICE**  
7 OZ. JAR  
**\$4.39**

REG-ELEC. PERK/AUTO. DRIP  
**MJB Coffee**  
13 OZ. CAN  
**\$1.89**

**Ronald McDonald House**  
**Family Scott**  
Easy Start Roll

ASST. FAMILY SCOTT BATHROOM  
**Tissue**  
4 ROLL PKG.  
**79¢**

**BEST MAID Mayonnaise**  
32 OZ. JAR  
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**CAMPBELL'S REGULAR OR SPECIAL REQUEST TOMATO Soup**  
10.75 OZ. CAN  
**3 \$1**

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**David's Corned Beef Brisket**

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FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY!  
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**Corned Beef**  
LB.  
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**DUBUQUE MEAT Franks**  
BUY ONE 12 OZ. PKG.  
GET ONE 12 OZ. PKG.  
**Free!**

**White Onions** **39¢** **Carrots** **3 \$1**

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**Fruits**  
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**Vegetables**  
15 TO 17 OZ. CANS  
**2.89¢**

**DEL MONTE REG/LITE CHUNKY MIX FRUIT, PEAR HALVES, LITE PEAR SLICES**  
**CANNED FRUIT**  
16 TO 17 OZ. CANS  
**79¢**

**DEL MONTE REG/CHUNKY STEWED TOMATOES**  
14.5 OZ. CAN  
**69¢**

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# Radio class gives students voice in high school

By ROY BRAGG  
Houston Chronicle

(Editor's Note: This article appeared in the Houston Chronicle Feb. 17, 1991.)

PLAINS — In a tiny room behind the trophy case at Plains High School, student disc jockey Mark Hill is ready to rock.

"It was either this or wood shop," he said, explaining how he ended up on KPLN, Texas' only high school radio station and the state's smallest licensed broadcast facility.

The FM station, with a signal that barely reaches beyond the city limits, is an anomaly in the radio world — non-commercial, non-competitive and non-programmed.

Take a typical afternoon on 90.3, for example.

Hill, a 19-year-old senior, reached into his cassette case, pulled out Def Leppard's *Hysteria*, and shoved it into the tape player.

"Most of the adults here like country music," he said with a smirk, leaning back in his chair. "I like rock."

Across the street at the Yoakum County Courthouse, the first strains of another frenetic rocker came through desktop radios in a half-dozen offices.

"I like to listen to the kids and hear what's going on at the school, what the kids are doing," said Debbie Smith, assistant county treasurer.

Student disc jockeys say their most loyal listeners are at the courthouse. And rock music, say grinning students, really hits a nerve with the women who work there.

Like now. As Smith speaks, a shrieking guitar solo comes over the radio. She sighs and turns down the volume.

"Most of the time, I like the music," she said with her own smirk.

Music disagreements aside, the 200-watt station has a devoted audience. At the 138-student school, it's played at a low level over the public address system into any classroom that wants to listen.

Other stations are available to Plains radio fans, but KPLN remains popular locally — it can be heard playing in the few local businesses and, of course, at the courthouse.

From 8 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. — the length of the school day — students taking Janie Crawford's radio class file into the jury-rigged control booth to take their turn in the chair.

To earn their grade, they gather stories from the school's own Associated Press news wire machine and read a few over the air.

They search through the station's record collection, which hasn't been updated for two years, and play a few old albums on the slightly off-speed turntables. And they're required, by federal law and class policy, to keep a log of everything that goes on the air.

Administrators say the radio station serves a purpose.

"It's really difficult for some students to speak in public," said Principal J.B. Wilson. "This helps them do that."

Smith, the assistant treasurer and a devoted listener, agrees.

"When they first start out, they're all really nervous," Smith said. "By the end of the year, they sound more comfortable on the air."

Adds Crawford, who also teaches Spanish and senior English: "It also gives the kids exposure to something they don't get a lot of exposure to. A lot of kids in bigger cities don't get that kind of (educational) exposure."

Radio work also teaches the students responsibility, Wilson said — the students decide what to play and what to say.

That's a Crawford innovation.

In the past, radio teachers have mandated an all-country play list or limited rock music to a few hours a day. Students say half their classmates like country; the other half, rock.

"I give them the freedom to play what they want," said Crawford, also a country fan. "Some of that (rock) stuff is all right, but I really don't like it when it gets too twangy."

The only on-the-air rules: no obscenities or controversial topics.

There is no minute-by-minute faculty supervision of daily broadcasts, so students are expected to censor themselves.

Wilson, to show his support, keeps the music on in his office, regardless of what's being played. He may be Texas' only public school official listening to AC/DC and Motley Crue at work.

Day-to-day operation typically goes smoothly, with little dead air time and only a few gaffes on the air, Crawford said. One student sheepishly admitted saying "what the hell" while the studio microphone was on.

Most of the students stumble through the required news readings, fulfilling those class requirements with little enthusiasm.

Dwane Talley, 17, a towering player for the Plains Cowboys football team, doesn't speak on the air.

Never has.

"I just like music," he says.

A great deal of KPLN music comes from an assembled tape of country and softer rock called "the lunch tape," since that's when it's intended to be played.

The lunch tape gets a lot of play throughout the day. During a recent visit to the school, the tape was played at least four times between 8:30 a.m. and noon.

Hill, like a couple of other DJs, brings his own music, which can best be classified as "just-this-side-of-heavy-metal."

Unlike the others, Hill doesn't read news over the air, nor does he keep the log. Three others in the class do it for him, he says with teen-age bravado. It affects his grade, but he doesn't seem to care.

"If I do everything, I get a 97," he said matter-of-factly. "If I do nothing, I get a 90."

"I can live with a 90."

Weirdest on-the-air occurrence?

Several years ago, students and teachers say, seniors were interviewed on the air about their future plans when one young man, apparently at a loss for a legitimate answer, said he'd probably end up assassinating the president.

That prompted a swift response from the district's assistant superintendent, who bolted from his office and ran to the station from an adjacent building to take charge of the situation.



Roy Bragg / Chronicle

Sixteen-year-old sophomores Gerald Goodman, left, and Brad Ashburn are student disc jockeys at station KPLN in Plains.



Steve Ueckert / Chronicle

Radio teacher Janie Crawford, left, lets students decide what to play. Richie Cullins, an ex-radio teacher, also aids students.

The student was disciplined. But the station stayed on the air. Terry Isaacs, a former Plains history teacher and KPLN's first general manager, said the station started in 1977 when a high school math teacher with an electronics hobby pitched the idea to the school board.

Trustees liked the idea and bought equipment. The math teacher assembled the control room. Isaacs, who worked his way through Texas Tech University working at Lubbock radio stations, selected students for the staff.

Things have gone smoothly for the most part.

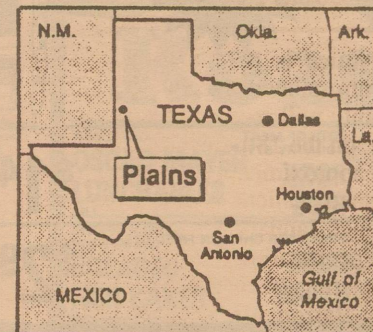
Richie Cullins, another math teacher who served as radio teacher in the early '80s, said one brush with disaster occurred when he noticed the station was operating at half the power level for which it was licensed.

He dutifully brought it to the attention of the Federal Communications Commission, the national regulatory agency for television and radio broadcast stations.

"They asked me if I had legal representation," Cullins said with a laugh.

The station boosted its signal and the FCC was satisfied.

After the first few years of operation, costs for the station have been low, Wilson said. Now, the district's only major expense is \$150 a month for inspection and maintenance of the equipment.



Chronicle

A few former student DJs have used the KPLN experience as a springboard for their careers.

Irma Lazos, a KPLN disc jockey in 1982-83, now works at ABC's *20/20* news program as a production assistant.

Lydia Jimenez, a city utility department clerk and mass communications major at nearby South Plains College, said working on the radio station helped her overcome a fear of public speaking.

## THE PLAINS PRIDE

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Any erroneous reflection upon the character or standing of any person or firm appearing in this paper will gladly and promptly be corrected, upon being called to the attention of the management.

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF YOAKUM**

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10:00 a.m. on the 22nd day of March, 1991 for the purchase of one (1) new truck-type tractor. Bids will be opened for review at this time with award to be given at the March 25, 1991 Commissioners' Court meeting.

A partial payment from current budgeted funds will be made, with the balance owed set up on a lease/purchase contract over a three year period. Bidders should state available lease/purchase options and current interest rates.

Specifications and required bid form may be picked up at the County Judge's office or from Precinct #4 Commissioner Macky McWhirter, Morton Highway, Plains, Texas (telephone # 806-456-6525).

Initial purchase price and specifications are only a part of criteria which will be used in the evaluation process in order to insure Yoakum County will receive the best bid for its investment. Also to be considered are guaranteed maintenance costs, resale values, warranties, reputation of the bidder and/or manufacturer, and the reported past performance of the machine being purchased. The total cost of the bid (purchase price plus total maintenance cost minus resale amount) will be evaluated using present value techniques.

Sealed bids should be marked "BID-TRACTOR" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456, Plains, Texas 79355.

Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Published in The Plains Pride on March 10 and 17, 1991.

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF YOAKUM**

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10:00 a.m. on the 18th day of March, 1991 for approximately 10,000 yards of crushed caliche to be purchased through January 31, 1992.

Specifications may be obtained by contacting Precinct #3 Commissioner Jim Barron, Lovington Highway, Plains, Texas (telephone #806-456-4371).

Sealed bids should be marked "BID - CALICHE" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456, Plains, Texas 79355.

Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Published in The Plains Pride on March 10 and 17, 1991.

**FOR SALE**

**FOR SALE: 3 BR, 2 Bath, Double Garage, Large Storage Building, Corner Lot. 1112 - 16th Street. \$36,000. Shown by appointment only! Gary Dyer, Agt., 456-8451 after 6 p.m. Red Berry Real Estate.**

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**NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF YOAKUM**

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Yoakum County will receive separate bids until 10:00 a.m. on the 25th day of March, 1991 for the sale of the following: (1) One (1) 1982 3-Ton Chevrolet dump truck, and (2) One (1) 1967 Chevrolet dump truck.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Macky McWhirter, Morton Highway, Plains, Texas 79355 (telephone 806-456-6525) may be contacted for inspection of the used trucks.

Sealed bids should be marked "BID-DUMP TRUCK" on the outside of the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge Dallas Brewer, P.O. Box 456, Plains, Texas 79355.

Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Published in The Plains Pride, March 10, 1991 and March 17, 1991.

**Position Available**

Yoakum County Extension Office Secretary: Requirements - Computer Literacy, Public Relations Skills. County Benefits: Minimum Salary \$16,664.00. Call 806-456-2263 for application and job description. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. March 12, 1991. An applicant will be selected on March 18, 1991. Position becomes available April 1, 1991.

**MARCH EXPIRATIONS**

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Dallas Brewer (County Judge)  
Buddy's Auto Parts  
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A.L. Milstead

Winford Patton  
Plains Library  
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Ron Gayle  
Roger Harvey  
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**TO EXPIRE IN FEBRUARY**

Joe Ancinec  
Stanley Ashburn  
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Bob Johnson  
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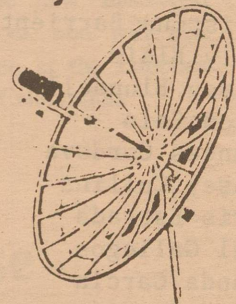
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 Arasely Luna  
 Ky May  
 Chris McGinty  
 Ragan McGinty  
 Manuel Ramoz  
 Valarie Vasquez  
 Chelsi Wagnon  
 Martha Ward  
 Becky Wilmeth

**\*\* ALL A HONOR ROLL \*\***

**SECOND GRADE**

**FOURTH SIX WEEKS**

Sarah Anderson  
 Christina Barrientes  
 Emily Blair  
 Kelsey Blundell  
 Aaron Cain  
 Frances Cordova  
 Lensey Cullins  
 Chris Estrada  
 Joel Gallegos  
 Amanda Garcia  
 Jason Garcia  
 Rebecca Garcia  
 Briana Garza  
 Gregory Gonzales  
 Taylor Gray  
 Kari Guetersloh  
 Angelica Hernandez  
 Kimberly Jones  
 Jason Kelton  
 Ashlei Mason  
 Israel Moreno  
 Donita Richardson  
 Gerald Rivas  
 Lesli Rowe  
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 Lisa San Felipe  
 Amber Scitern  
 Dustin Sellers  
 Ruben Silva  
 Dustin Six  
 Tyrel Tyson  
 Matthew Willis

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**THIRD GRADE**

**FOURTH SIX WEEKS**

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 Velvet Canada  
 Leticia Canon  
 Linda Castillo  
 Joshua Clay  
 Christina Eppler  
 Jessica Flores  
 Isaac Gonzalez  
 Kristen Gray  
 Wendy Hernandez  
 Jeremy Humphrey  
 Kelton Mason  
 Laura Morales  
 Nichole Newsom  
 Anne Palmer  
 Patricia Ruiz  
 Staci Tuggle

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**FOURTH GRADE**

**FOURTH SIX WEEKS**

Tanner Blount  
 Steven Bunch  
 Crystal Calsoncin  
 Chad Clayton  
 Bryan Covarrubias  
 Cassandra Dearing  
 Lacresha Johnson  
 Tony Lazos  
 Jennifer Lollar  
 Matt Morgan  
 Monica Ramoz  
 Adrian Rios  
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 Krystal Sellers  
 Lee Tyson  
 Stephanie Vasquez

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**FOURTH SIX WEEKS**

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 Gloria Barraza  
 Erica Bell  
 Noel Castillo  
 Rebecca Coronel  
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 Deanna Henderson  
 Carmen Mendoza  
 Tate Ruthardt

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**SECOND GRADE**

**FOURTH SIX WEEKS**

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 Lorenzo Carrillo  
 Adam Garcia  
 Fabian Garza  
 Tarren Hancock  
 Skyler Johnson  
 Albert Lopez  
 Armando Luna  
 Casey Mayes  
 Zane Pittman  
 Adrienne Ramoz  
 Sergio Sandoval  
 James Smith  
 Connie Vasquez  
 Tanya Vasquez

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**THIRD GRADE**

**FOURTH SIX WEEKS**

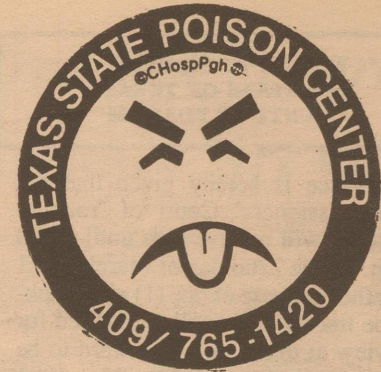
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 Justin Bennett  
 Candace Bowers  
 Stanley Caballero  
 Erica Dominguez  
 Magret Dyck  
 Jesus Garcia  
 Angie Longoria  
 Melissa Lopez  
 Fermin Luna  
 Patrick McGinty  
 Jeremy Ponce  
 Jessica Shorter  
 Jason Swann  
 Vincent Torres  
 Chris Willis  
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**FOURTH GRADE**

**FOURTH SIX WEEKS**

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