

COWBOY COUNTRY

NEWS



PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY,
PLAINS, TEXAS
806 456-8451

Volume 1, Issue 16 Wednesday, December 28, 1994

NEW BUSINESS LOOKS GOOD FOR LOCAL

When Jim Gray made the decision to buy controlling interest in Lovington Livestock Market, Inc., like all entrepreneurs investing in a new venture, he was apprehensive about future success of the auction business.

"I was pretty nervous going into our first sale back on August 26, but it turned out fine, and I'm real pleased with the results we've seen since", he reported.

To date, LLMI has averaged marketing over 1200 head of livestock on each of the Friday sale dates, almost 21,000 animals.

Gray thinks the auction will continue to grow. Part of his optimism is based on location of the facility. "The other major competitors in the business are located in Lubbock, Clovis, Roswell and San Angelo. We draw lots of customers from portions of New Mexico west of here, and from livestock people south of here in Texas," Gray said.

He has already bought additional land at the site just south of Lovington, on the Hobbs highway. He plans to construct additional holding pens, and make loading and unloading stock easier for the employees and customers.

The company has made arrangements with livestock truckers to set up 'Receiving Stations' in Alpine, El Paso, and Dell City. These stations will enable stockmen to bring animals to the sites, and not have to deliver their stock long distances themselves. They can economically ship small numbers of stock, along with their neighboring producers, in truck loads.

Gray said they have received sale stock from as far away as Deming, New Mexico, and McCamey, Texas. Other receiving stations are planned in the future.

Local stockmen are active in the weekly sales, as both sellers and buyers. Royce and Barron Blair, Ty Powell, George Blount, Tommy Burrus, Johnnie Fitzgerald, Randy Forbus, Tommy Guy Box, Charley Ellis, Rick Ramos, Bill Anderson, Forrest Savage, Glen Huffaker, and Darrel Barron are a few County customers of LLMI.

"I think the sale business will continue to grow. I really believe in the near future we can average 2500 head of stock thru the ring each Friday, once all

the folks in our trade area are aware of the business, and what we can do for them", Gray said

Cattle make up the large part of the weekly sale, but LLMI also auctions goats, sheep, hogs and horses. "We found offering people in the area a place to markets these other animal types makes for a more informal, friendlier, country like atmosphere. The closest alternate place they can find this service is Midland", Gray said.

LLMI is associated with "The Little Market Paper", a twelve page weekly newspaper devoted solely to live stock production and marketing, published by Dick Moore of Clovis. "If any of our customers in the area want to receive a free subscription to the paper, they can call us at 1-800-371-1755, and we'll start sending it to them", he advised.

Gray is assisted in the business by his main man, Wayne Kinman, a long

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'AUCTION SALE'

STATE INSTALLS HANDICAP RAMPS

Finish work is taking place on the dozens of wheelchair accessible entry ramps recently installed on both sides of Main streets business section.

The work, a project of the Department of Transportation, was performed by bid winners, Zebra Construction of Lubbock. The project in Plains is under supervision of the Terry County Department of Transportation District Office. Old curbing at each main intersection where a business or public building exists were torn out, and sloping concrete ramps were poured.

Some 240 of the accessible ramps are to be placed in the Terry County district, a small portion of the program taking place across the entire state.



INSTALLING NEW RAMP ON "DAIRY QUEEN" CORNER

NEW REGS FOR COUNTY MOTORISTS

Residents of Yoakum County must now go through some extra steps to register motor vehicles. This action is required by a new federal law that regulates air quality in Texas.

The federal government has identified several metropolitan areas where the level of air pollution is serious: Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, Beaumont/Port Arthur and El Paso. Vehicle emissions testing will be required in counties that fall within those four areas.

Even though an emissions test will not be required in Yoakum County, motorists will still have to prove that is where they actually live and are not trying to dodge the law.

The Yoakum County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office is a statutory agent of the Texas Department of Transportation and has the responsibility of verifying a motor vehicle owner's address.

The following documents, or copies, will be accepted as proof of residency: Voter registration card, driver license, utility or phone bill, property tax statement or receipt, school tuition receipt or valid proof of liability insurance. One of these items must be presented whether the motorist is obtaining registration by mail or in person.

House Bill 1969, enacted by the Texas Legislature in 1993, authorizes the collection of a 25-cent fee by tax assessor-collectors in counties where motorists must show proof of residency. This fee is compensation for the mandatory need to confirm the required residency documentation.

For more information contact: Yoakum County Tax Assessor-Collector's Office in Plains, 456-2825 or the Denver City office, 592-2311.

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

COTTON HARVEST ENDS ON HIGH NOTE

The surprisingly bountiful 1994 cotton season came to an end this week. Area farm producers are still expressing their unexpected pleasure at the productions this year.

The outlook just prior to the start of the stripping season was generally bleak, due to extremely hot and dry growing season. Many acres of dry land crops produced far more pounds of lint cotton than either the producers or area gin officials anticipated.

Cindy Koncaba, of Circle 12-Gin, reported a total run of 6,870 bales, far in excess of the initially expected 4 to 5 thousand bales.

Tokio Co-Op Gin Manager Marc Traweek said his Directors and customers were thoroughly pleased with their production run of 26,751 bales of cotton. "The number surprised all of us, a pleasant surprise," he reported.



LAST BALE LEAVES PRESS AT NEW-TEX GIN

Darwin Robertson, Manager of Yoakum County Co-Op, reported 24,594 bales ginned. His Directors enjoyed the performance, and said the year could have been even better had not several producers lost some 3,000 acres of cotton to a devastating hail storm late in the growing season.

New-Tex Gin has just finished ginning the last of some 41,200 bales. Manager

Ron Craft said, "It was a much better year than we had any reason to expect. I had predicted we would gin 30-35 thousand bales before the harvest. Someone up there must have been looking after all of us."

Helping to keep grins on cotton producers faces is the current good price for the commodity. What we need now is a cold, WET winter.

SORGHUM GROWERS TAKE CONCERNS TO D. C.

Sorghum growers from Texas and several other states were in Washington, DC, recently for the biannual meeting of the National Grain Sorghum Producers (NGSP) board of directors. Texas producers who traveled to Washington to represent the state's sorghum growers were Bill Kubecka of Palacios, Jack Cobb of Plains, Jim Boston of Roscoe, Wilbert Vorwerk of Taylor, Jimmy West of Roxton, Dale Spurgin of Allen, Levi Heath of San Benito, and Pat George of Tulia.

Grant Buntrock, ASCS administrator, also addressed the board and was presented with a copy of the association's plan for the '95 farm bill. The plan calls for putting sorghum on an equal basis with corn under the farm program. In addition, NGSP is asking for 100 percent interchangeability among program crops to give farmers more options in making planting decisions.

Dan Barolo, director of EPA's Special Review and Reregistration Division, met with the board to explain EPA's stance on the ban on granular carbofuran, reiterating the claim that the pesticide posed too

TURN TO PAGE 4,
"SORGHUM"

JUDGE APPOINTS THURSTON BACK ON COURT

In an unprecedented situation facing the County, Judge Dallas Brewer, in Commissioners Court Tuesday, December 27, appointed R. W. (Bob) Thurston to serve as Commissioner, Precinct 2.

The appointment was necessitated by the November election of Junior Hix to the Commissioner post. Mr. Hix had passed away prior to the general election. His name remained on the ballot as the Democrat candidate, opposed by Republican candidate Mack Bradley. Precinct 2 voters chose the deceased candidate by almost forty votes.

Bob Thurston had announced his decision to retire from his Precinct 2 Commissioners office prior to the Democratic Primary election, prompting Junior Hix's to run for the post.

Judge Brewer issued the following statement at the Court session; Due to the extenuating circumstances

surrounding the election of Junior Hix as County Commissioner, Precinct 2, and in accordance with section 87.042 of the Vernon's Civil Statutes of Texas, the law requires that the County Judge make an appointment to this position.

I realize that regardless of the appointment made, not every citizen of our county will agree, or be pleased, with the outcome. However, my decision is based on a great deal of thought and consideration, and my ultimate goal is to do what is in the best interest of Precinct 2, and ultimately, the entire citizenship of Yoakum County.

Therefore, on this the 27th day of December, 1994, by the Authority vested in me as Yoakum County Judge, I appoint R. W. (Bob) Thurston to serve as Commissioner of Precinct 2 until the next general election to be held on November 5, 1996."

BETTER CHOICES FOR BETTER SCHOOLS

By State Comptroller JOHN SHARP

As Texas turns the corner toward the year 2000, our public schools are poised to enter the next century in much the same condition the entered the last.

There are those who will argue that we shouldn't "meddle" in educational af-

fairs. We disagree. In fact, we would go so far as to say that all of us have not just the right but the obligation to "meddle" in our public schools, to turn ourselves into informed and demanding consumers of

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"BETTER SCHOOLS"
 what is arguably Texas' most important product.

Consider this: In 1981, Texas' most recent high school graduating class had just entered kindergarten. By the time the 1994 commencement exercises rolled around, however, 25 percent of them were dropouts. During those same years, attention to public education has been dominated by the school finance issue, while the long-term legacy of under investment in our children's education has been left largely unaddressed.

A series of recommendations in *Gaining Ground* would help provide Texans with better choices for better schools and begin to shift the emphasis away from public education's complex rules about how students learn to whether they learn.

One of our most important proposals is to establish a guaranteed pre-paid tuition plan called the *Texas Tomorrow Fund*. In essence, the self-funded plan would provide Texans with a college savings strategy and an insurance policy against rising tuition and fees at two-year and four-year schools, as well as a two-plus-two year plan for those who attend community college and then transfer to a public university.

A major challenge for parents who want to save for their children's college education is that no one can say with certainty how much they should put aside. What seems like an adequate amount today may well turn out to be inadequate by tomorrow, when a child heads out the door to begin his or her college career. Even with that, saving up for tuition expenses is still likely to cover only about one-fifth of the costs for a young Texan's higher education, according to some estimates. And students who borrow heavily for college face years of loan repayments, a fact that discourages many from pursuing their education, which in turn costs the state in lost productivity and individual earnings.

Under the direction of the Comptroller, families should be allowed to "contract" for two or four years of their children's future higher education at today's prices, with the money deposited in a special account, which could ten be pooled with other state assets for investment purposes. The Legislature should also create a scholarship program to benefit needy Texas students through a public-private partnership.

Our other recommendations include a *Parents' Bill of Education Rights* to let Texans know what they should expect from their children's schools and what current law allows in the way charter schools and other local solutions for local problems. We encourage public school districts to study the feasibility of creating work site schools wherever appropriate to

help hold down new construction costs, improve student services and increase the ability of parents to participate in their children's education.

Finally, we propose cutting the central education bureaucracy in Austin. For example, the financial audit division of the Texas Education Agency should be transferred to the State Auditor, who already performs similar functions for other state agencies. And the state's textbook approval process should be simplified, providing school districts with new incentives and the authority, under appropriate state guidelines, to choose instructional mater-

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1.
"AUCTION SALE"

time livestock auction associate with many years experience. LLMI has six full time employees, but on sale days, the work force expands to some 25 people to handle the animals and large number of transactions.

Sales are held each Friday, with non cattle stock entering the ring at ten o'clock N.M. time, and the cattle usually start selling at 11 o'clock.

Not all new business ventures pan out as expected. Jim Gray's auction service appears to be alive, well, growing and improving.

SPEARS ATTENDS REINKE MEETING

Jack Spears, representing Jack Spears Drilling, traveled to Reno Nevada for the fortieth anniversary celebration of Reinke Manufacturing, Co., on Dec. 5th and 6th. Reinke is a leading supplier of center pivot, lateral move and towable irrigation systems world-wide.

Reinke President, Willis Kettelhut delivered the noon luncheon address on Monday to one hundred and eighty dealers and wives, stressing Reinke's dedication to engineering that stretches beyond the current bounds of technology toward the hi-tech demands of tomorrow's farmer. Reinke's Automated Management System (ie: R.A.M.S. Panel) the remote operated computer control panel, was one of several new product lines demonstrated during a formal trade exhibit.

The two day event was highlighted by a three our presentation from keynote speaker, Dr. Gene Koepke, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. He addressed customer relations and techniques involved in successfully presenting and meeting the demand of Reinke's new '95 line of irrigation system products.

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ials that best meet local needs.

These and other proposals in *Gaining Ground* will streamline the delivery of public education in Texas and help us move beyond the school-finance questions that have beset our public schools for decades.

EMS CLASSES TO START

The Denver City EMS is offering classes in Emergency Medical Technician training for interested area people. Classes will start January 23, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, from 6 to 10 P.M. More information is available from EMS, call 592-3600. The EMS facility is located between the D. C. Police Department and the Fire Station.

ELLISON FINAL RITES

Funeral services for Earl Ellison were held Tuesday, December 27, at First Baptist Church, Plains, Brother Bill Wright officiating.

He was born July 3, 1935, in Aspermont, Texas, the son of Thomas and Hattie Ellison, both deceased. He graduated from high school there in 1953.

He was a resident of Lovington, N.M. 25 years, and was employed as a drilling supervisor for Big West and Kenai Drilling, Alaska.

He passed away December 25, in St. Mary's Hospital following a short illness.

He was married to the former Kay Smith of Tokio in 1962.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, Stephen Ellison of Farmers Branch, Texas, Michael Ellison of Hobbs, N.M., and one brother, W.D. Ellison of Aspermont.

Graveside services were held in Aspermont Tuesday afternoon.

J P COURT

The following is a summary of cases heard and action taken in County Justice of Peace Court, Judge Melba Crutcher presiding:

Seven Traffic cases filed by Texas Department of Public Safety

One Public Intoxication case filed.

One small claims suit filed.

Two Civil Suits filed.

Bonds set:

Burglary of a vehicle- 3rd degree felony- Ector county, \$10,000 bond

Motion to revoke probation- held until hearing.

Public Intoxication-Instantner- \$230 fine.

Driving while intoxicated- \$1500 bond

Sexual assault- 2nd degree felony-\$5000 bond.

ONE REASON YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU ON THE FINAL PARTING, IS, THERE'S NOTHING LEFT!

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AT COURTHOUSE

Scores of city and county residents visited the County Courthouse Thursday, Dec. 22, to enjoy the impressively decorated foyer area, and the multitude of foods, goodies and punch.

Many visitors commented on the great Christmas tree and other festive decor. Toni Jones, County Treasurer, was given prime credit for organizing the event, with assistance from many of the other elected officials and staff members. They are all to be congratulated for their hard work.



JUDGE BREWER, HOLLY DYER, TREASURER TONI JONES, AND JUDGE MELBA CRUTCHER PRIOR TO OPEN HOUSE

SOCIAL SECURITY CHANGES FOR 1995 ANNOUNCED

The 1995 Social Security wage base will be \$61,200 -- up from \$60,600 in 1994. Beginning January 1, 1995, employers should withhold Social Security taxes (6.2%) from employees' wages up to \$61,200 and withhold the Medicare tax (1.45%) on all wages. Employers must match the tax payments withheld from employees'

wages.

Social Security beneficiaries who work can earn more in 1995 before their benefits are reduced. Beneficiaries between the ages of 65 and 69 can earn \$11,280 in 1995 without reducing their Social Security benefits. For every \$3 a person earns over \$11,280, \$1 is withheld from his or her benefits.

Beneficiaries under age 65 in 1995 can earn \$8,160 before benefits are reduced. For every \$2 a person under age 65 earns over \$8,160, \$1 is withheld from his or her benefits.

Benefits are not reduced for persons who are age 70 or older and continue to work regardless of how much they earn.

GROUND WATER OWNERSHIP

There are several doctrines of ground water ownership in the United States. Texas uses the Common-Law Doctrine. This means that overlying landowners have absolute ownership of percolating ground waters under their property, with ground water used or sold as private property. (This is the opposite of surface water, which in Texas is owned by the State.)

LEGAL NOTICE

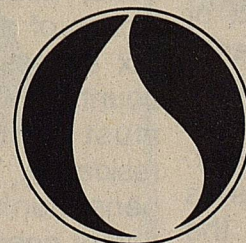
Plains Independent School District offers for sale by sealed bid the two bedroom home at 1208 14th Street, described as Lot Number Five (5), Block Number Seven (7), Evans Addition, in Plains, until 1:00 p.m., Monday, January 9, 1995, in the Administration Office. Bids will be opened and read at that time. Bid award will be made to the highest responsible bidder.

Plains Independent school District offers for sale by bid the three bedroom home at 1305 Ave. G, described as the South 75 feet of the W/2, Block 137, Original Town, in Plains, until 1:00 p.m., Monday, January 9, 1995, in the Administration Office. Bids will be opened and read at that time. Bid award will be made to the highest responsible bidder.

Bid must be submitted with the Plains ISD bid specifications. To obtain the specifications or to inspect the buildings contact Eric Banfield, Business Manager, 1000 10th St., Plains, Tx. 79355 or call (806) 456-7483.

Plains ISD Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids and to waive all technicalities.

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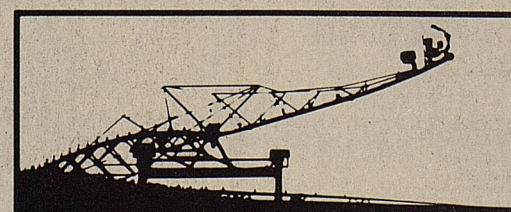
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7th LADY WRANGLERS



Front row: Laura Morales, Autumn Deaton, Angie Longoria.
Back: Krystle Blundell, Beth Perry, Rebecca Robertson, Candace Bowers, Coach Haragan, Anne Palmer, Jessica Flores, Patty Ruiz, Kelli Osborn.

8th LADY WRANGLERS



L to R: Marcey House, Lisa Parrish, Tandi Jones, Kristen Gray, Joylene Burgess, Coach Cain, Maranda Box, Crystal Calconcin, Staci Tuggle, Wendy Hernandez, and Kayla Redman.

7th GRADE WRANGLERS



Front: Justin Benett, Jeremy Morphis, Keith Jackson, Colt Winn, Patrick McGinty, Joshua Bell, Dustin Knight, Jason Swann. Back: Isaac Gonzales, Jesus Garcia, Kyle Sisson, Jeremy Humphrey, Fermin Luna, Alex Tarango, Chris Willis, Paul Lopez, & Coach Davis.

8th GRADE WRANGLERS



Front: Coach McAdams, Jesus Gardova, Tanner Blount, Tony Lazos, Cosme Casillas. Back: Dustin Brunson, Clint Burrus, Mike Bell, Adrian Rios, Matt Morgan, Steven Bunch.

BASKETBALL SUMMARY

GIRLS

8th GRADE

The 8th grade girls found heavy going Dec. 19, falling to the Class 2A Sundown girls 29-47. Scoring Lady Wranglers were: Kayla Redman 12, Marcey House 6, Joylene Burgess 5, Tandi Jones 5, and Lisa Parrish 1.

7th GRADE

The younger 7th grade girls fared no better than the 8th grade team, going down to Sundown 44-28. Plains scorers were: Kelli Osborn 8, Candace Bowers 6, Anne Palmer 6, Krystle Blundell 4, Laura Morales 2, and Rebecca Robertson 2.

BOYS

7th GRADE

The 7th grade Wranglers extended their season record to 4 and 1 on Dec. 19th, defeating Sundown 42-36. Coach Davis said the boys had an excellent team effort. Scoring were: Fermin Luna 19, Justin Benett 7, Colt Winn 7, Patrick McGinty 4, Alex Tarango 4, and Paul Lopez.

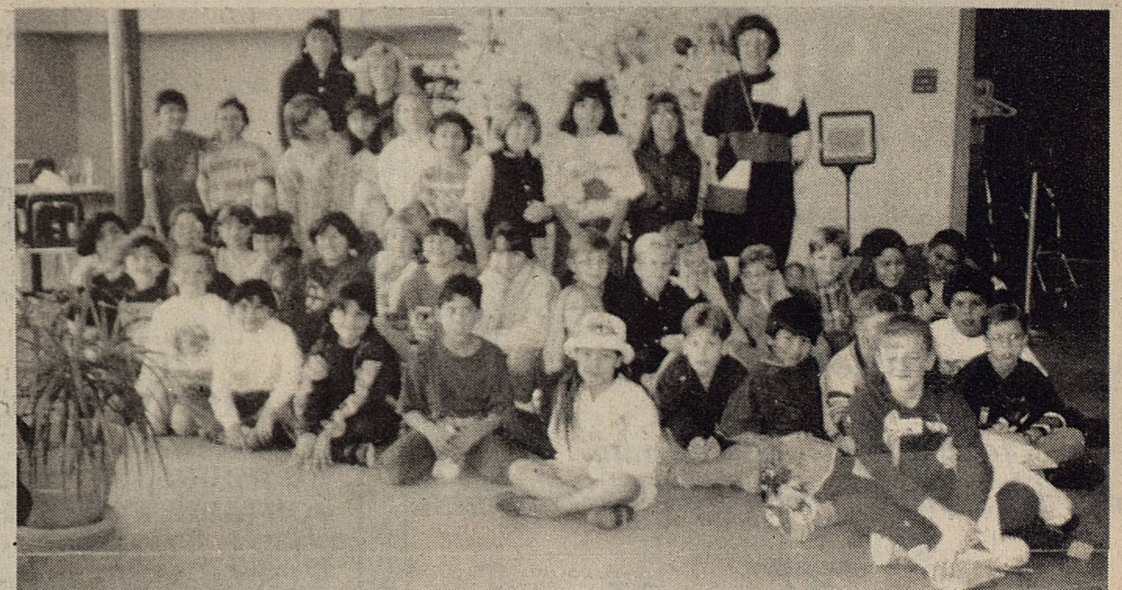
8th GRADE

The Wranglers won a squeaker over Class 2A Sunday, Dec. 19, 49-48. Coach McAdams cited team effort, and excellent rebounding from Matt Morgan and Mike Bell. Tanner Blount played outstanding defense in the win, improving their record to 5-0. Scoring were: Tanner Blount 13, Dustin Brunson 8, Matt Morgan 8, Steven Bunch 10, Mike Bell 10.

FRESHMAN BOYS BEAT SEAGRAVES

The Plains Freshman Basketball team defeated the Seagraves Eagle Frosh, 73-62 Monday, Dec. 19th. Scoring were: David Flores 11, Eric Luna 10, Eric Estrada 10, Shawn Cullins 9, Adam Domingues 6, Jamie Caballero 6, Abraham Garcia 4, Chris Willett 4, Will St. Romain 4, Gideon Traweek 4, Derek Brunson 4, and Roy Ramirez 1.

Also seeing action were Doug Rushing, Alberto Tarrango, and Jonah Moreno.



4th GRADE TRIP TO LUBBOCK

Elementary fourth graders enjoyed a recent trip to Lubbock's Science Spectrum and Museum. Their hands on learning trip allowed them to examine many scientific exhibits, including hot air balloons and flying space craft. They also saw the film "BEAVERS" at the Omnimax, which explored the underwater life and habitat of a beaver colony.



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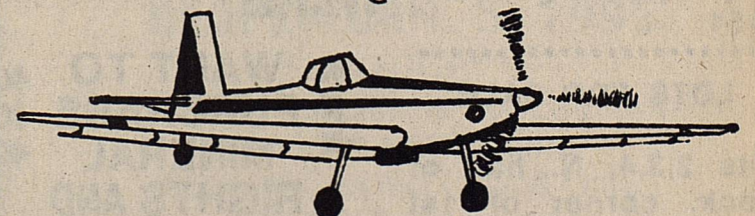
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NEW-TEX GIN

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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"SORGHUM

great a threat to birds to allow it to be used on grain sorghum. This decision has been called unique in that carbofuran presents no danger to humans and was based solely on risks that it posed to birds.

The NGSP directors vigorously disagreed with EPA's stance on banning granular carbofuran. They told Barolo that the next round in the battle to keep granular carbofuran available for sorghum growers may take place in the courtroom. During the board meeting, the directors voted unanimously to file a lawsuit if the Environmen-

al Protection Agency goes ahead with the ban on the pesticide.

When this criteria is used, the data shows no measurable impact of carbofuran on any bird population.

The next meeting of the NGSP board will be February 17-18 in Las Vegas, Nevada, prior to the annual NGSP convention.

NGSP has vigorously protested the ban, pointing out that EPA's own data does not support their claim of major bird kills. The impact on bird populations as a whole, and not individual bird kills, should be the criteria for making a decision to ban a pesticide.

COWBOY EMMITT SMITH HAS BIG HEART

A recent short article in a number of State newspapers told of Dallas Cowboy All-Pro running back, Emmitt Smith, signing autographs at a Sam's Club Discount Warehouse in Plano. It was reported he received \$25 for signing over 1,000 autographs in a two hour period.

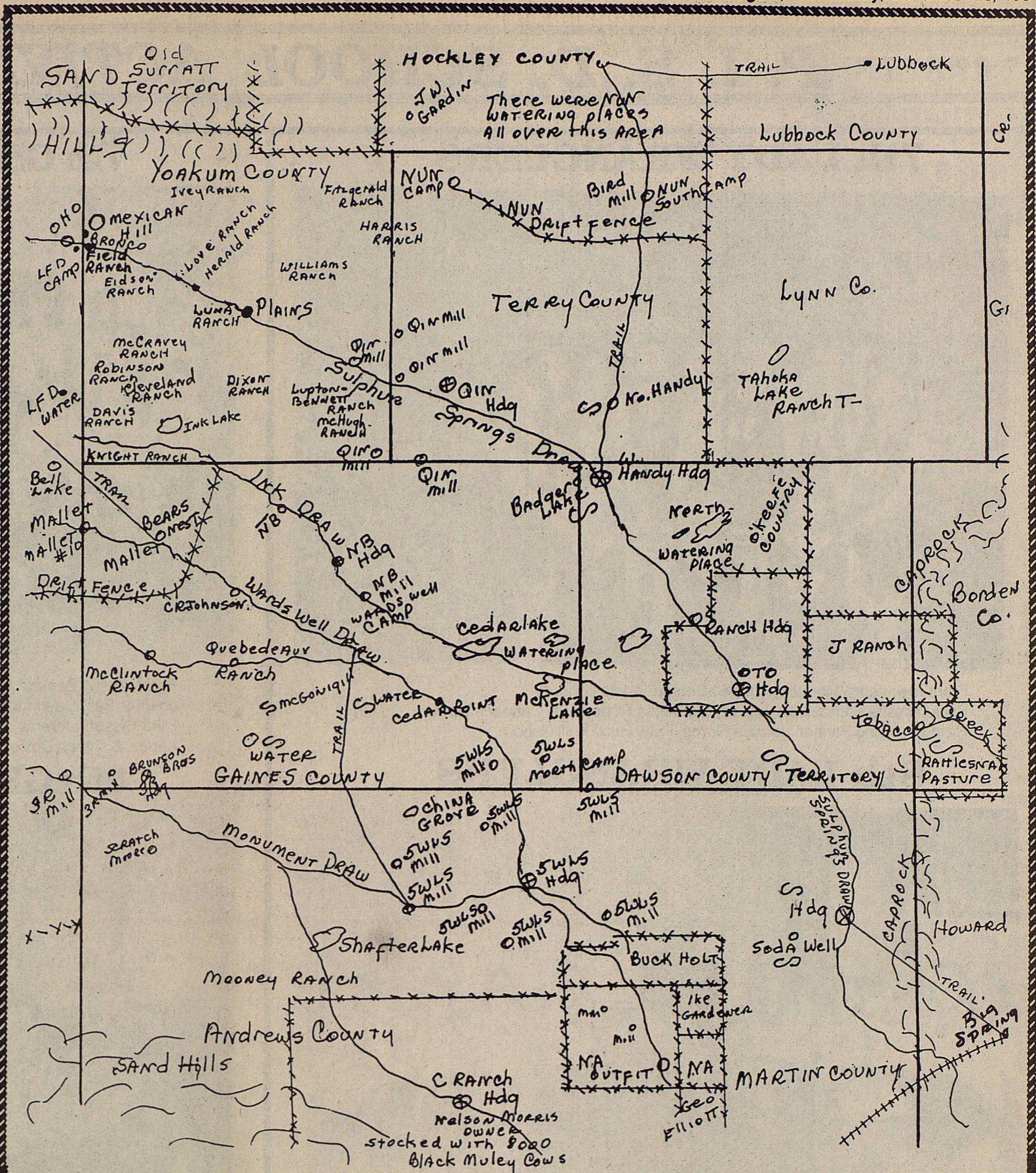
A number of the articles failed to mention 'The Rest Of The Story'. Smith exchanged his fee for toys and a truckload of food, which he donated and delivered to the Buckner Baptist Childrens Home in

Dallas on Dec. 11. He spent over two hours at a party for the children, presenting each with two toys, a signed photo, and an official Cowboy jacket.

"It was my pleasure to go out and help these guys raise the toys and food," Smith said. "I believe people helping people is crucial in wiping out childhood hunger."

Who said professional athletes are only greedy, money hungry prima donnas?

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EARLY RANCHES AND WATERING PLACES

Sulphur Springs Draw, sometimes flat and wide, other times rugged, enters Yoakum County at Bronco, on the state line. It runs for hundreds of miles, eventually entering the Colorado River. It served early settlers as a road, on freight line, from Eastern New Mexico and West Texas to the nearest railhead at Big Spring. Early settlers and ranchers often took their wares and livestock to the draw, seeking buyers as they passed by.

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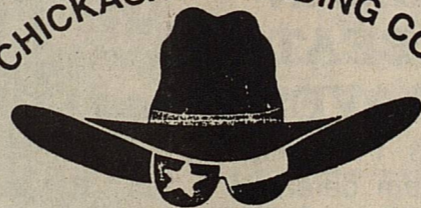
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Lots 2,3,4, N. half of block, corner of 1st Street & Hwy. 214. Asking \$10,000. For info, call Berry Real Estate, 592-3523, or Gary Dyer, Agt., 456-8451

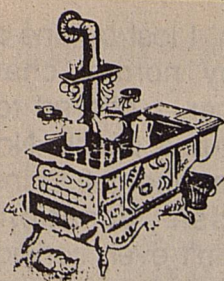
HOME FOR SALE
2 Bdrm., 1 Ba., Garage, good neighborhood. 1003 3rd st. To see, call Gary Dyer, 456-8451, Agt., or Berry Real Estate, 592-3523

★ **WANT TO PURCHASE MINERAL RIGHTS AND OTHER OIL/GAS INTERESTS.** ★

SEND DETAILS TO:
P. O. BOX 13557,
DENVER, CO.80201.

NEW LISTING

Older 3 Br, 2 Ba, 4 Car Covered Carport, Huge Den, 1 Yr. Old GALV-ALUM Roof, Steel Siding, on Approx. 2 Acres Land. Approx. 30 More Acres Available If Desired. Owner Will Finance w/ Approx. 1/4 Down Payment.
W.E. (RED) BERRY REAL ESTATE, 592-3523
TO SEE, CALL GARY DYER, AGENT, 456-8451



FEEDING FRIENDS AND FAMILY FROM COWBOY COUNTRY KITCHEN

BEEF STEW

1/4 cup flour
 2 tsp. salt
 2 lbs. lean beef, cut in 1-inch cubes
 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
 1 cup hot water
 1 (8 oz.) cans tomato sauce
 1/4 tsp. pepper
 1/2 bay leaf
 1/8 tsp. thyme
 6 small carrots, sliced
 6 small onions, whole
 6 potatoes, pared and quartered
 1 cup sliced celery
 Combine flour and salt in paper bag. Drop in beef, a portion at a time, and shake until coated. In heavy kettle or pot, brown beef over low heat in hot oil. Stir in water, tomato sauce, and seasonings. Cover 1-1/2 hours. Add vegetables; cover; simmer until vegetables are done (about 45 minutes)
 Yield: 6 servings

LEFT OVER TURKEY

Fry bacon, slice turkey. Place on bread (plain or toasted). Add your favorite dressing, tomato, lettuce, and cheese for a tasty sandwich. Try heating it in the oven, open faced, until the cheese melts (omitting lettuce).

"A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR"

LARRY C. BOYD, M.D.

FAMILY PRACTICE & OB.
 OFFICE HOURS APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED
 EACH THURSDAY 11AM - 4PM
YOAKUM CO. CLINIC
 456-6365 OR 592-9501
PLAINS
 APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED

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 EVERETT HODGE,
 REG. PHARMACIST
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 131 N. Main, Denver CO

HEART ATTACK RISK FACTORS

Heart attacks have been on the decline since 1968 and can still go lower. By correcting a few of the risk factors that we have learned about, you can decrease your chances of ever having a heart attack. There are three main factors that contribute to heart attacks, and each of them can be corrected. These three risks are high blood pressure, high cholesterol and smoking.

High blood pressure is easy to diagnose by simply having it checked. When it is elevated, it can be treated with changes in lifestyle, diet and medicines. In a few cases, the blood pressure is caused by a correctable obstruction of the kidney arteries or other lesions.

A high cholesterol can be diagnosed by a simple blood test. To get the most accurate reading, it should be done in the morning

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING DEC. 27-JAN. 7
 *Turn your Christmas tree into useful mulch for plants
 *Save space in our landfills

Christmas trees may be delivered to:
 Precinct 4 Barn-Plains (Macky McWhirter)
 Hwy. 214 & 380

PLEASE remove ornaments, stands and tinsel. NO tree bags please. NO wreaths or boughs.

For more information call: 456-2263

before a person has eaten any food. High levels are treated by a low-cholesterol diet, exercise and medicines. These measures usually lower the level nicely.

The third factor is smoking. Nicotine is a stimulant and irritant for the heart and forces the heart to work harder. Smoking causes the blood to clot and plug the arteries more easily and the lung damage also causes more work for the heart. It is very important to stop smoking; there are now many aids to help you quit including stop-smoking classes and medicines. Together, these are fairly effective.

Check your blood pressure and cholesterol once a year, avoid smoking, and exercise regularly. Doing these things will give you a healthier heart. 'C'

THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR

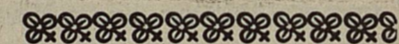
People are influenced not just by what you say, but more importantly, by what you do.

Your actions speak to those around you.

What you do tells others what is important to you.

Never worry about aging. Look forward to it. After all, you have the opportunity to discover something new, different and important every day.

It is the bringing to light of one's unrealized treasures that makes the golden years so valuable.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL BIG SUCCESS

The County wide appeal to help the needy with donations of food, and toys for children, netted double the monetary value of last years program. Coordinator Toni Jones reported, "We were very grateful for the county wide response, and over \$1 thousand dollars in food and gifts were distributed to those on our eligibility lists Friday, December 23."

The six year old program starts prior to Thanksgiving, when local churches begin canned good drives. Each employee of the County brings a child's toy to their annual Christmas party. The local Lions Club always makes a generous cash donation, as do many private citizens. Donations are received at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting in Pioneer Park. The P.I.S.D. Student Council conducts food drives.

Jones cited the generosity of an anonymous donor from Denver City this year. "Without this person or persons help in furnishing toys, we would not have been able to give each of the large number of kids in this years list a gift," she reported.

Recipients of the dona-

tions, needy families, the elderly and shut ins, and the children are selected from suggestions made at the school, churches and other service organizations. The applicants are screened to verify their bona-fide needs, and a list is compiled by Toni Jones. Each listed family, 26 this year, with some 80 children, received a food basket, including a Holiday turkey, and one toy per child, as did the elderly shut ins. Their Holiday Season was certainly a little brighter, thanks to our community's generosity.

DUMB MEN JOKES

** In retaliation for those countless dumb blonde jokes. **

1. What is the thinnest book in the world? "What men know about Women"
2. How does a man take a bubble bath? He eats beans for dinner.
3. What is the difference between men and government bonds? Bonds mature.
4. How do you save a man from drowning? Take your foot off his head.
5. What do men and beer bottles have in common? They are both empty from the neck up.
6. How can you tell if a man is happy? Who cares.
7. How many men does it take to change a roll of toilet paper? We don't know.....It has never happened.
8. How are men and parking spots alike? The good ones are always taken, and the ones left are handicapped.
9. What is a man's idea of helping with the housework? Lifting his legs so you can vacuum.



PLEASE NOTICE

When the U. S. Postal rates go up January 1, our new subscriber price will be \$15 per year. If you're not already a subscriber, you can save \$2.50 by subscribing now, no later than December 31. Mail your check now, or drop it off at 1205 Copeland.

ENJOY GREAT MEXICAN FOOD AT OUR NEW LOCATION

RICARDO'S

900 MUSTANG AVENUE
 SERVING 7am-2pm,
 MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

 WE BOOK PARTIES
 CALL IN
 ORDERS WELCOME
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STEP AEROBICS BY DANA

Holiday Stuffing Got You Puffing ?
 BURN OFF A FEW QUICK POUNDS IN ONE OF OUR FUN CLASSES!!
 JOIN US!!
 CALL DANA STRAWN, 592-3439 FOR MORE INFORMATION

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

December 28
 Danny Bell, Clyde Trout, Trinidad Garcia, Debbie Smith,
 December 29
 Lance Morrow, Alfredo & Josie Guerra (A)
 December 31
 Sue Barron, Jeremy Humphrey,
 January 1
 Pete Simmons
 January 2
 Billie McDonnell, Kyle Stephens,
 January 3
 Mykel J. Bernal, Jim Barnett, Anthony Day Jr., Yolanda Garcia, Dan Rushing

Overheard on the floor of the Wisconsin state legislature:
 ♦ "These numbers are not my own; they are from someone who knows what he's talking about!"
 ♦ "If you are going to start cleaning up the state, don't start in my part of the state!"
 ♦ "I know that he wants to require everyone to expose themselves to everyone else."
 ♦ "Good communication is essential-even if it isn't clear."
 ♦ "As long as I am in the Senate, there will not be a nuclear suppository in northern Wisconsin."

LOST

**Male Dalmatian Dog
 Reward Offered
 For His Return
 Call 456-4101**

THE LOCAL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETS THE 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MO. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 5:30PM. THE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ANYONE IN THE AREA.

Yoakum County Florist & Gifts

Thank You,
 Friends & Customers!!
 You have helped us make 1994 a very good year.

WE WILL BE CLOSED FROM DEC. 25 THRU JAN. 4, 1995

SO OUR EMPLOYEES CAN SPEND TIME WITH THEIR FAMILIES.

REOPEN JAN. 5, 1995

NOTICE
 Now Taking Applications For Employment, part-time and full-time
 Yoakum County Florist & Gifts
 592-8067 Hwy 214
 Denver City

CLOSED DEC. 25 THRU JAN. 4

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor Bill Wright | SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. Glen Rosendale | FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Pastor Rick Doyle | CHURCH OF CHRIST
Ray Young | TEMPLO BAUTISTA NUEVA VISION
Pastor Jose Rodriguez | ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH
Perry Shuffield |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|

COUNTY COURT MEETS

Yoakum County Commissioners Court met in regular session Tuesday, Dec. 27, County Judge Dallas Brewer presiding. Present were Commissioners John Avara, Bob Thurston, Macky McWhirter and Jim Barron.

Also present were County Clerk, Ruby Bruton, County Auditor, Hazel Lowrey, and Teresa Howard, County Treasurer-Secretary.

The court approved various line item transfers of funds from the general fund to various depart-

ments, and approved county bills and part-time employee wages.

Judge Brewer announced the appointment of Bob Thurston to serve as Commissioner, Precinct 2. The appointment was necessary due to the death of Commissioner elect Junior Hix earlier this year. (See article, "Commissioner Appointed, Page One.)

Bids for Sheriff's Department vehicle fuel for 1995 were received for consideration and action.

West Texas Gas submitted a bid for .5650 per gallon without taxes. Eddins-Walcher submitted a bid for .5415 per gallon, no taxes. The court accepted the bid from Eddin-

Walcher Company.

Bids were received for a new automobile with Police Package from Shamrock Chevrolet, Lubbock and Mustang Country, Denver City. No action will be taken on the bids until January 3, 1995.

The Court was declared in recess until 4:00 PM, Friday, December 30, when elected County officials will be sworn into office.

COUNTY SWEARING IN FRIDAY, DEC. 27

County Judge, Dallas Brewer announced the annual swearing in ceremonies of recently elected County office holders.

The ceremony will be held in the District Court room at the Courthouse Friday, December 27, at 4:00 PM.

Jim Barron, Commissioner of Precinct 3, will swear incumbent Judge Brewer in, and the Judge will then perform the rites for the other officials.

Incumbents returned to office include Judge Brewer, Toni Jones, County Treasurer, Mae Barnett, District Clerk, Ruby Bruton, County Clerk, Macky McWhirter, Commissioner, Precinct 4, and Melba Crutcher, Judge, Justice of Peace Court, Precinct 1, and Bob Thurston, appointed by Judge Brewer following the recent death of commissioner elect, Junior Hix.

Also to be sworn are newly elected Richard Clark, Criminal District Attorney, and Kenny Smith, Judge, Justice of Peace Court, Precinct 2.

The proceedings are open to the public.

FROM THE HACK

Read in the A-J recently The Texas Press Association list of the top stories of 1994. I sure can't agree with their selections.

Top news story was about poor old Henry Cisneros and his infamous breach of contract suit with the Lubbock gal. She's got him on tape talking about the deal, admitting his promises to keep her up in her accustomed lifestyle, moaning about how in the world he's going to afford the deal.

I'm offended. That's not any where near my story of Buster Graham, admittedly under the influence of snake bite medicine, falling out of his fishing boat one cold November day.

The top state sports story, according to the Press Association, was the firing of Dallas Cowboy Coach Jimmy Johnson. Ha. Big deal. The guy gets fired, and also gets two million bucks to retire on in Florida. Some firing. I was fired once. Got slapped in the face by an irate female boss. That's all.

My idea of the top sports story, or stories, have taken place right here in old Yoakum County, at the Golf Course, frequented by heartless, conniving, cheating, ruthless and immoral thieves, and a few innocent victims, including innocent me.

Just days ago, I was victimized by a local politician. I am unable to report his name, but he presides every Monday

over Commissioners Court. I am not going to tell you we were gambling on our golf game. Gambling at the County course is strictly prohibited, as is drinking, and filthy language, and we are all aware politicians have never been guilty of any of those offenses.

Admittedly, I possibly could have mentioned to the guy I would make a \$5 donation to his next campaign, if he is not impeached first, should he manage to beat me in a friendly 18 hole outing. In a typical politicians manner, he insisted I make the donation at the conclusion of the round. I hate doubting Thomases who question my integrity.

Anyway. On the final hole, we were deadlocked, tied, dead even. Somehow, he stepped up to the tee, and smacked one about 300 yards right down the middle. I must admit, when I congratulated him on the good shot, I may have accidentally questioned his ancestry, but it was certainly unintentional.

Flexing my many muscles, putting on my grimmest game face, gritting my teeth, imaging Greg Norman in my mind, calling on Buddha, I addressed my ball, and took a teeny little practice swing. I still insist a fierce gust of wind dislodged the ball from the tee, causing it to roll forward a good 16 inches. Yes, you guessed it. The Pol and the rest of the witnessing group immediately screamed I had hit the ball. One stroke.

And yes, you guessed it

again, I lost by one stroke. In my normal charitable manner, I offered to write the guy a check. No deal. He had the gall to insist on a cash donation. He wouldn't even consider my Master Card when he noted the expiration date.

Since he is considerably larger and younger than me, I donated to his campaign. I hate golf and politicians, in that order, maybe.

"XIT"

Austin: The name chosen for the three-million-acre cattle ranch founded by the Capitol Syndicate was chosen with little or no regard for romance or color, Charles B. Farwell has told associates here.

Rumor has been rife that the brand "XIT" was designed because the property conveyed to the syndicate by the State of Texas lies within the area of ten counties expected to be created as settlement moves further westward.

But the version of "ten in Texas" has been overruled by Farwell, the Chicago investor who has been the leading spirit in organization of the ranch.

According to Farwell, Ab Blocker, veteran trail driver and cattle ramrod, designed the brand as one "near impossible to change with a branding iron."

The syndicate took his advice. So "XIT" means nothing, except that it ought to prove a practical brand. THE TEXAS NEWS, DECEMBER 15, 1888



ENJOYING CHRISTMAS YARD DISPLAY

Shown are Morgan Willis, Jacob Brink and Katie Winn in the Tim and Sharon Willis yard, artfully decorated for the Holiday season.

ATTENTION RURAL RESIDENTS HAVING SEPTIC TANK PROBLEMS?

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FIVE STAR CONSOLIDATED LTD.
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AND JOHN KITTO, MGR.
would like to express their hopes for your

Happy New Year!



FROM THE STAFF OF
COWBOY COUNTRY NEWS

Associated Farmers Delinting, Inc.

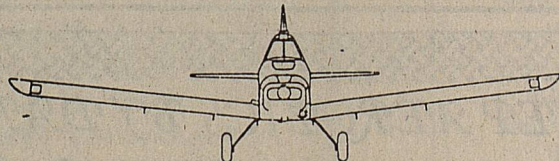


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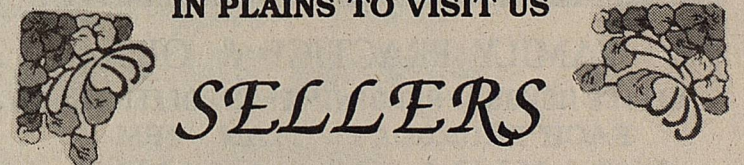
LUBBOCK
793-5004
OFFICE
456-3580
456-7436

AERIAL APPLICATION SPECIALISTS

RECEPTION FOR GARY WALKER

The public is invited to a reception honoring newly elected State Representative, Gary Walker of Plains, District 10, on Thursday, Dec. 29, from 10 AM to 2 PM, in the Community Room, First National Bank, Denver City.

WE INVITE OUR MANY FRIENDS
IN PLAINS TO VISIT US



STEAK HOUSE

HWY 214, DENVER CITY

OPEN MON. - SAT. 11AM - 9PM
SUNDAY 11AM - 2PM

NOON BUFFET SUNDAY THRU FRIDAY *
* TUESDAY - MEXICAN FOOD BUFFET *
* THURSDAY - SIRLOIN STEAK BUFFET *
* FRIDAY - SEA FOOD BUFFET *
SHRIMP, CATFISH, BAKED COD

UNDER NEW OWNERS MANAGEMENT,
MARTHA & DANNY SELLERS

592-8383 OR 592-7505

FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU,
HAPPY, HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

WE WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 24, 25, 26

WE HONOR

VISA - MASTERCARD - AMERICAN EXPRESS - DISCOVER

*HAPPY
NEW YEAR!*

GARY DYER
HOLLY DYER
DIANE BROWN