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# Cowboy Country News

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



Volume V, Issue 43, Wednesday, July 7, 1999

## 2000 Census to prompt redistricting woes for 77th Legislature

While the 77th session of the legislature is a long ways down the road, State Representatives and Senators and most other state officials are already mulling over possible scenarios the solons will face in the Spring of 2001.

A recent article in the Lubbock A-J addressing the redistricting issue led to an interview with State Representative Gary Walker, last Wednesday morning.

"Redistricting will be the biggest, the thorniest issue the 77th session will face, without a doubt," Walker said. He explained state law requires the House Redistricting Committee, currently chaired by State Representative Delwin Jones of Lubbock, to consider the Bureau of the Census state population numbers when they are tallied. Currently, the desired population for a House district is some 113,000, with a five percent plus or minus variance. The figure set following the last census in 1990.

When the 2000 census is final, the desired population will be some 136,000, with the same 5% variance.

"When I was elected, the population of my ten county District 80 had a population of about 118,000," Walker displayed a

recent projection of population estimates which predicted increased populations in most of his district counties. "I just can't believe these growth figures are accurate, following all the company mergers and layoffs in the oil and gas industry here in the Permian Basin." The projection showed Yoakum County with a population of about 8,400 in 1990, with an estimate of some 9,400 people. "That just doesn't seem realistic to me," Walker added.

If the census count indicates the 80th District, or any other District, falls below the desired level with the 5% variance, redistricting lines must be redrawn during the 77th Legislative session.

Walker explained redistricting is already being talked, but it will have little bearing on political life in the immediate future. "All the candidates seeking election or re-election will file for their office, primaries and the general election will be held in the year 2000. It is only when the Legislative Session convenes in the Spring of 2001 the tough issues of redistricting come into play."

He explained a possible scenario for his own house district. "If the Census shows my district's population to be below the

desired variance figure of around 129,000, the Redistricting Committee must start redrawing lines. They might extend the lines into a portion of Ector or Midland County to the south, or even into Lubbock County to the north. That means those counties, with larger numbers of voters, could probably send one of their own folks to Austin. The interests of small, rural communities, which my current District is comprised of, could be in the hands of a Representative from a much larger, urban community."

The House Redistricting Committee is responsible not only for State House Districts, but State Senate Districts, and U.S. House Districts. The State Senate must, of course, concur, on new proposals.

Walker said, "It's quite possible West Texas could lose two House seats. All the major population growth in the state is occurring mainly in larger city areas and in the Valley."

Walker had earlier announced here his intentions to run for office again in 2000. "If the voters choose to send me back to Austin for a fourth term, the 77th Session will be very interesting, and important."

## Criminal Cases in County Court

In County Court June 30, Carlos Parra Verdugo, 41, pled guilty to selling alcohol in a dry area. A 90 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 2 years. He was fined \$500, must pay \$187 court costs, and spend five days in jail. He must serve 24 hours of community service. A theft of service cause was adjudicated, and he must pay \$5,081.60 in restitution for checks given in Denver City to Palace Drug, Yoakum County Hospital and Dr. Bodindr.

Martha Villa Velasco, 30, pled guilty to an aggregated theft by check cause. A 60 day jail sentence was suspended and probated 12 months. Court costs and a \$200 fine will be met with time payments. She must pay a total of \$1,055.26 in restitution for checks written to five Denver City merchants totaling \$615.26, a \$300 mercants fee, and \$140 Criminal District Attorney fee.

Richard Allen Bell, 33, pled guilty to driving while license suspended. He received a 14 day jail sentence, already met with 22 days served. He must pay a \$200 fine and \$184 court costs.

On June 21, Tyree Lynn Duke pled guilty in a plea bargain to burglary of a building charges. A two year state jail sentence was suspended and probated five years. He must pay \$246 court costs, a fine of \$1500, and restitution totalling \$1157. Other conditions included truthful testimony in eight other related charges, intensive supervision for six months, including weekly reports to his supervision office. He was represented by Attorney Bill Helwig.

In the July 2 session of Court, Jason Lee Goolsby, 27, pled guilty to purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor. He was fined \$250 and must pay \$184 court costs.

Judge Dallas Brewer was the presiding officer, and Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the state in all cases.

## War on weevil being waged with high tech arsenal



Electronic wizardry being used in weevil war includes this Geo Explorer II, between keyboard and computer monitor, down loading data from orbiting satellites for field mapping

The cotton boll weevil has been around for centuries. Computers, ground positioning satellites and the internet are still chronological infants compared to the destructive pest, but the employees of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program stationed here, headquarters of the Western High Plains Eradication Zone, are betting the just starting eradication war on the boll weevil will be won with scientific technology, and some plain, old fashion work. Darrell Dusek, Manager of the WHP Zone, gave CCN a briefing on the preliminary but vital first phase of the eradication battle here in Yoakum County. Six field unit supervisors, along with some seasonal workers, are busy training and mapping all local fields of cotton. Each supervisor is assigned about forty thousand acres of planted cotton to map.

The personnel drive to their assigned area, and establish who the operator of the field is. If it is a irrigated circle of cotton, the supervisor drives his pickup to a startung point on the circle. A magnetic and portable antenna is placed on top of the vehicle, hooked to a device called a Geo Explorer II, which picks up electronic signals from satellites orbiting overhead in space. Dusek said, "This Ground Positioning System, or GPS, relies not just on one or two satellites, but six at one time, to accurately determine precise latitude and longitude points. The supervisor drives around the perimeter of the circle, and depending on the setting of the Geo Explorer, a position signal is received and stored every one to three seconds."

When the operator finishes his days mapping, he returns to the office here. Dusek said the data stored in the Geo Explorer cannot be downloaded immediately. "We have to wait about 24 hours for the signals to be de-scrambled. The owners or operators of the satellites must often make minor adjustments to the signals when a satellite gets just a bit out of its proper path. This differential correction ensures we get precise readings for our maps."

The satellite data is downloaded to the supervisors computer, and as each cotton field is mapped, the data is stored until the entire county has ben electronically recorded.

Personnel are currently mapping three to four thousands acres per day, and Dusek thinks this phase will be complete in about two weeks.

The next phase of the program is deploying weevil traps throughout the area. This year, there will be about one trap per forty acres set around cotton fields. The exact number of personnel needed to place and monitor the traps won't be known until the mapping is finished and an accurate count of planted cotton acres is available.

The exact date spraying starts in weevil infested fields is also uncertain. The start date will depend on the crop stage, when early open bolls are evident.

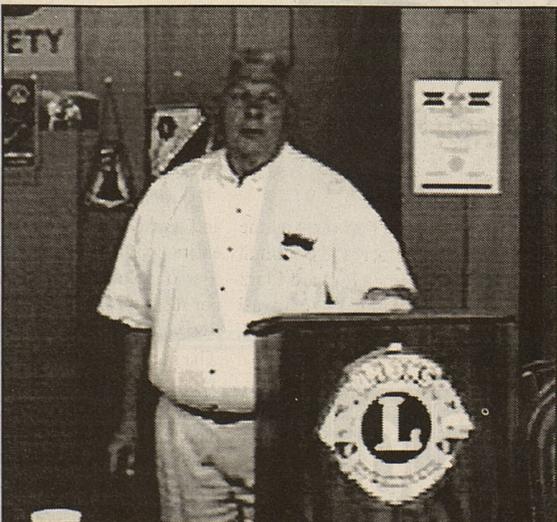
Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation officials are meeting

Turn To Page 2,  
"WEEVIL"

## Drought, then floods. What else is in store for the South Plains? Ice Hockey in Lubbock, of course!

Plains Lions Club members enjoyed a rather unique program last Thursday. Guest Speaker Ed Bowdish grabbed the attention of the Lions when he described what life would be like when ice hockey as played by the Lubbock Cotton Kings comes to the Hub City - lots more fun!

Bowdish, who handles publicity for the newly formed Cotton Kings, certainly knows the game. He grew up in Canada, and had skates on his feet and a hockey stick in his hands at age three. He continued the sport in college, and was gifted enough to play nine years in the top echelon of hockey, the National Hockey League. He told the Lions he served as a forward on the New York Rangers, one of the original charter member teams forming the NHL. He said the Cotton Kings were



Enthusiastic Ed Bowdish tells Lions members of upcoming Lubbock Cottonkings Western Professional Hockey League activities

formed and financed by a group of fifteen West Texas business men, and are one of 18 teams

Turn To Page 2,  
"ICE HOCKEY"



From Page 1, "WEEVIL"

in the near future to study bids from aerial applicators for the actual eradication spraying. Dusek said the insecticide to be used is Malathion ULV, at the rate of just 12 ounces per acre. The aerial applicators will be furnished hard copy, colored maps originated by the GPS system for their flights.

In addition to aerial application, some areas in which airplanes can't effectively or safely operate will be sprayed with mist blowers and high cycle spray rigs. Operators for these operations, plus ground observers and airport recorders must be hired.



Western High Plains Eradication Zone employees include, front L-R, Lisa Crutcher, Sheila Hooker, Jim Atwood, and back row, Darrel Dusek, Michael Hester, John Land, and Josh Helms.



Yoakum County Eradication District employees are, front, Angie Stevens, Teresa Bell, Debbie Steffens, and back, Joe Barnes, James Everett, Jamye Garland and Ken McGinty.

From Page 1, "ICE HOCKEY"

Hockey League. The League has three divisions, and operate in Texas, New Mexico, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. In the league with Lubbock are teams in Amarillo, Albuquerque, Odessa, Abilene and San Angelo.

In addition to treating fans to some fast, furious and often rough action on the ice, the Cottonking's management will offer the area some fringe benefits, including public skating lessons, youth hockey leagues, programs for schools and group fund raising help. Bowdish is coordinator for the youth hockey program.

The head coach, Alan May, an eight year NHL veteran, is busy recruiting a twenty man roster of players. Bowdish promised the Lions the 'kings will be very competitive in the league division. We're optimistic we can get in the playoffs against one of the other divisions."

The Cottonkings seasons opens in October, with 35 home games scheduled. There will also be a couple of exhibition games, and a visit by two Russian teams is on slate. Bowdish said, "Let me tell you, from first hand experience in college and later NHL play, they produce real players, and the public will enjoy their performance in Lubbock."

Asked by a member if the frequent fights filmed on televised hockey matches are as fierce as depicted, Bowdish said, "Well, they are real. Normally, the fist-cuffs you see don't result in serious injuries, mainly because today's players wear headgear. When I played, it was a bare headed game, and the sight of blood on a guys face was a bit more common." Asked why the fighting was so common on TV,



he grinned and said, "Well, you know, it's a contact sport, and sometimes the contact includes an elbow or forearm to one of your body parts, and instinct just takes over."

Bowdish related the South Plains reaction to a 'home' hockey team had been fabulous. Season tickets for all home games are going fast, but some are still available by calling 806-747-7825. He told the Lions the Lubbock Cottonking Coliseum site would be the only one in their division to feature a large video re-play screen in the coliseum. The investors in the Cottonkings will spend approximately \$1.5 million to install ring icing and other needed equipmet in the coliseum.

Texas, according to Bowdish, leads the nation in numbers of professional hockey teams, 17 to date. He said salary for players vary widely according to talent and experience. "The lower paid players may get around \$350 a week, plus housing and meal perks, more experienced players maybe \$500 to \$600 a week, and the really good, future NHL people maybe \$1000 or more a week." Bowdish added, with a smile, "They don't pay me much, but I don't care. I love the game so much. I'm so excited about bringing the game to West Texas, I'd work for less.. but don't tell the bosses!"

## Innovative school districts cut costs, improve services

Many of the state's 1,042 public school districts have devised groundbreaking ways of better serving both students and tax payers.

With schools out for the summer, here's a look at some of the good ideas in place in Texas schools. All these practices were drawn from school performance reviews by the Comptroller of Public Accounts.

In the Wimberly ISD, high school students assemble, rebuild and install personal computers for the district as part of

an instructional technology program. The district has saved more than \$100,000 by relying on student labor. In addition, an offshoot group assembles, upgrades and repairs personal computers for the general public; profits help advance technology education in the district.

In 1997, the Houston ISD awarded a food management service contract, turning over the management of its cafeterias to a private vendor. The agreement is projected to save over \$8 million over four years

while delivering better service and appealing to more students. Another way to marshal more resources is to band with other districts in purchasing cooperatives to acquire school buses, tires or other items. The Spring district leads a cooperative that buys tires for 26 other districts.

The San Angelo ISD purchases fuels, lubricants, automotive parts in a cooperative with the city of San Angelo and Tom Green County. The district's annual fuel savings alone have been estimated at more than \$10,000. And, the Corpus Christi ISD has pursued an agreement with other districts to reduce legal costs by sharing the services of an

attorney.

Another way to increase revenue is to seek reimbursement for nursing and other medical services provided students who qualify for medicaid.

The State Comptroller office in Austin is building a database of other best school district practices. The school performance review may be accessed at [www.window.state.us/tpr/tpr.html#spr](http://www.window.state.us/tpr/tpr.html#spr), or by calling 1-800-232-8927

Governor Sam Houston ordered elections held to ratify the Secession Ordinance. February 9, 1861



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## Making Sense of the Senseless

\*\* In the July issue of *American Legion Magazine* there is an excellent essay addressing senseless, often tragic events, specifically the tragedy at Columbine High School in Colorado. The essay was written by 18 year old Sarah Roney, of Baraboo, Wis. The National Legion Commander, "in prefacing the article wrote, "There are many young people out there like Sarah, who wrote this essay, the most profound explanation I have seen so far."

"There was yet another gruesome shooting, this time, April 20 in Littleton Colo. Kids killing kids. And again, the entire nation in its uproar is trying to figure out why. I am 18 years old. I live in a small town near Madison, Wis. A small town like the ones where these horrifying shootings always seem to take place. Everytime these stories come on TV, I can't help noticing how easily it could be my small town next. I want to know why this is happening as badly as any parent, policechief of anchorman. The thing is, I am right in the middle of it. I am in the same age group as those high school kids. So, I may have some insight for the world that has been otherwise unattainable since these shootings atrated a few years ago.

"While flipping through news channels covering the story in Littleton, I hear something that struck a chord in me. An anchorman was interviewing the mother of a victim in the Jonesboro, Ark. shooting. He questioned, "If you look at American in the '50s, you will find this kind of thing never happened; if you look at America today, this kind of thing is becoming more and more frequent. Why do you think this is happening?" The woman could not answer the question. She really didn't try. But I did!

"I thought about it that night, and again the next morning, when my radio talk show asked its listeners why they thought this had been happening. Many people said it's the parents of the kids. Many suggested television and video games, many turned to popular music, trying to put the blame somewhere. I will tell you what I think it is. What I, a regular teen riding on the coattails of generation X, blame it on. It's not parents, movies or rock stars. It is this culture of death, this culture in which liberals, feminists and activists are so anxious to let anything be OK that the once tightened, knotted rope of our society is unraveling right beneath us..

"As that anchorman suggested, something was different about the 1950s. We were conservative. We had a definite knowledge of right and wrong throughout the nation. We didn't have feminists pushing women so hard to get a job, that women who didn't have a job was somehow 'bad', thereby leaving kids at home without parental guidance, and often with parents who were truly unhappy. We didn't have liberals fighting so avidly to legalize everything to the point of completely blurring the line between good and bad. We didn't have a nationwide media surge dedicated to sex and violence so intense if you weren't playing 'kill' video games at age 14, then you were trying to choose between contraceptives beforehand or abortion afterwards.

"We didn't have disputes over whether we should help someone dying die sooner - or whether we should assist them in committing suicide. We certainly didn't have a president who favored NATO bombing and killing Serbian children, come on the TV to grieve the loss for the families of children killed in America.

"We live in a loosely tied society, a culture dedicated to death. If you don't want the kid, kill it. If you don't want to live out the rest of your God-given life, kill yourself. Or better, have someone come to help you do it. I guess, no matter how horrible or gruesome or gut-wrenching it may be, it was just a matter of time before someone got that "killing as a means to an end" idea stuck in their head for the part between birth and death as well. Everything that happens in families and cities and states and countries is the mirror image of the big picture. We are falling apart as a society.

"Am I, some random normal teen in Farmerstown, USA, the only one who sees that? It's sad and hard to believe, but what's worse, it's scary.

"I think it's time for mom and dad to ground us - to say, "If you don't shape up by time I count to three..." And then, really count to three! Because we are running wild, and soon we're going to be too far from home to ever get back. There is a great saying that has rung true throughout history. I am reminded of it now, in the wake of yet another indescribably tormenting result of a nation gone haywire: "By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them."

## High Plains Junior Rodeo

The Melrose, NM 4-H Club hosted the HPJRA rodeo June 24 thru 26.

Blake Parrish won 6th place in 9-12 ribbon roping. Marcey House took 10th place in 16-19 poles with a time of 22.22.

Brett Squyres won 2nd place in 13-15 ribbon roping in 7.39 seconds, 3rd place in team roping, and earned a point with 10th place in tie down calf roping.

The Denver City Roping Club will host the next HPJRA event, and rodeos at Colorado City and Big Spring will close out the regular season, and the Final will be at Clovis July 27 thru August 1.

## Sorghum growers can comment on EPA plan for pesticide tolerance levels

In response to recent legal actions bt producer groups such as the National Grain Sorghum Producers (NGSP), and as required by the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA), the U.S. Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) is now establishing tolerances for pesticide use granted under Emergency Sec. 18 Exemptions.

EPA is soliciting public comment on the procedures and criteria they will use to establish pesticide tolerances (maximum residue limits) resulting from emergency uses of pesticides.

Until now, EPA had not established FQPA required tolerances for emergency use pesticides, making it difficult for groups such as NGSP to manage and address emergencies that might result in crop loss.

## Tsa Mo Ga hosts retirement reception and Bon Voyage for Lattrell McDonnell

Retiring Yoakum County Librarian Lattrell McDonnell officially stepped down on June 30, and for three hours that afternoon, was the recipient of hugs, kisses, and well wishes from almost 170 friends and library patrons. The Tsa Mo Ga Club members acted as hosts for the farewell party. Many of Lattrell's friends came from out of town to wish her well in her retirement days, after some 47 years of county service.



These ladies, all librarians or retired librarians, came to pay their respects to Lattrell at her reception. From left to right; Lattrell, Bonita Moore, Monahans; Nancy Hill, West Texas Library System, Lubbock; Anne Greer, retired librarian, Denver City; Jan Pendergraft, Lamesa; Opal Roberts, now Head Librarian, Plains and Denver City, and Doris Baker, Levelland.

said Tim Lust, NGSP executive director.

EPA is accepting written comments on the proposal on or before August 2, 1999. The proposal can be viewed at [www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/1999/June/Day-03/p14079.htm](http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/1999/June/Day-03/p14079.htm) or by calling EPA at 703-305-5805.

Lust said NGSP will be working on the organization's official comments over the next several weeks. Input from sorghum producers is encouraged, and may be faxed to NGSP at 806-298-4234.

As the World Trade Organization negotians near, NGSP is working to ensure the interests of sorghum growers and the sorghum industry are protected. Local producer Jack Cobb serves as a NGSP board member and represents their

organization on trade issues.

Cobb and Lust say some trade issues are related to Genetically Modified Organisms, or GMO's. In the event foreign countries choose to eliminate importation of GMO's such as corn, Lust says NGSP stands ready to fill those gaps. "We are not condemning or endorsing

GMO's. We are simply aware of sorghum's potential competitive advantages in certain international markets.

Cobb added, "the inclusion of sorghum in preferential market access agreements is vital," citing U.S. sorghum's preferential market access with Spain as an example.

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## Texas Fortunes, Fortune's Texans

Fortunes come and fortunes go, especially in Texas with its history of wildcatters and entrepreneurs.

The rise and fall of many Texas fortunes and the state's place in the national economy can be traced through the Fortune 500, the foremost listing of the United States' biggest companies. Texas ranks fourth among states with 36 Fortune 500 companies headquartered within its borders.

New York, the world's business and financial center, leads the list with 59, California, home and to a growing number of big technology companies, is second with 56 and Illinois, with a mix of service and heavy industry companies, is third with 39. Texas and Pennsylvania are the only states with two cities in the Top 10: Houston has 13 and Dallas has nine.

That Texas has gained prominence on the list over the years is testimony to its economic strength, flexibility and diversity.

Those qualities have attracted companies to Texas and they have nourished homegrown firms. Companies that have moved headquarters to Texas include Exxon Corp., AMR Corp. (parent company of American Airlines), J.C. Penney Company Inc., and SBC Communications Inc., (parent company of Southwestern Bell).

Landing out-of-state companies is a priority of economic developers throughout Texas. Corporate headquarters have been their top prize because they bring prestige, high salaried executives, support staff and other functions. The state ranked sixth in corporate expansions in 1998, according to Site Selection magazine. None, however, were Fortune 500 headquarters.

A low cost environment is always an attractive incentive to companies seeking to move or expand. But other criteria also come into play, including the quality of life, a good, largely non union workforce and research universities.

|              |   |                    |
|--------------|---|--------------------|
| 4            | Exxon (Irving)                            | \$100,697.0        |
| 27           | Enron (Houston)                           | 31,260.0           |
| 28           | Compaq Computer (Houston)                 | 31,169.0           |
| 31           | J.C. Penney (Plano)                       | 30,678.0           |
| 35           | SBC Communications (San Antonio)          | 28,777.0           |
| 45           | GTE (Irving)                              | 25,473.0           |
| 71           | AMR (Fort Worth)                          | 19,205.0           |
| 78           | Dell Computer (Round Rock)                | 18,243.0           |
| 85           | Halliburton (Dallas)                      | 17,353.0           |
| 90           | Electronic Data Systems (Plano)           | 16,891.0           |
| 97           | Sysco (Houston)                           | 15,327.5           |
| 105          | Texas Utilities (Dallas)                  | 14,736.0           |
| 110          | Dynegy (Houston)                          | 14,258.0           |
| 129          | Waste Management (Houston)                | 12,703.5           |
| 136          | Kimberly-Clark (Irving)                   | 12,297.8           |
| 147          | Houston Industries (Houston)              | 11,488.5           |
| 154          | Union Pacific (Dallas)                    | 10,553.0           |
| 156          | American General (Houston)                | 10,251.0           |
| 178          | Burlington Northern Santa Fe (Fort Worth) | 8,941.0            |
| 191          | Texas Instruments (Dallas)                | 8,460.0            |
| 196          | Ultramar Diamond Shamrock (San Antonio)   | 8,346.5            |
| 207          | Continental Airlines (Houston)            | 7,951.0            |
| 214          | USAA (San Antonio)                        | 7,687.4            |
| 235          | Coastal (Houston)                         | 7,125.2            |
| 265          | Baker Hughes (Houston)                    | 6,311.9            |
| 286          | El Paso Energy (Houston)                  | 5,782.0            |
| 294          | Valero Energy (San Antonio)               | 5,539.3            |
| 300          | Central & South West (Dallas)             | 5,482.0            |
| 307          | CompUSA (Dallas)                          | 5,286.0            |
| 317          | Cooper Industries (Houston)               | 5,100.6            |
| 330          | Tandy (Fort Worth)                        | 4,787.9            |
| 332          | Browning-Ferris Industries (Houston)      | 4,745.7            |
| 371          | Southwest Airlines (Dallas)               | 4,164.0            |
| 385          | Centex (Dallas)                           | 3,975.5            |
| 405          | Temple-Inland (Diboll)                    | 3,740.1            |
| 443          | Suiza Foods (Dallas)                      | 3,320.9            |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>\$528,108.4</b> |

These are the qualities Texas offers—qualities that have brought new corporate blood to the state and have helped companies born and bred in Texas grow.

Making the Fortune 500 is a right of passage into the upper ranks of American business. After making the list in 1989, Dell Computer Corp. has risen to the 78th spot. The list's newest Texas company is Suiza Foods Corp., the Dallas based manufacturer and distributor of dairy products, which joined at 443 this year.

The Texas companies on the latest Fortune 500 show the shift from an oil based state economy to one that is more diverse, but led by technology. It is the fastest growing sector among the list's Texas companies (notably Compaq Computer Corp., Dell and Electronic Data Systems Inc.), while there are just four oil companies on the list.

As noted earlier, Texas has attracted several ready made Fortune 500 headquarters.

Perhaps an even greater compliment to the Texas business climate is that no Fortune 500 companies have left the state in the past 25 years when Union Pacific Corp. moves its headquarters from Dallas to Omaha, Neb., where its railroad operations are based.

The economic story of the 1990's has been the shift to information technology and services. That shift is reflected in the entire Fortune 500 list, in its Texas based companies and in the Texas economy. About 10 percent of the state's workforce is employed by technology companies.

Convention convened at Washington-on-the-Brazos to determine course of action for Texas revolutionaries.. March 1, 1836.

Texas Historical Survey Committee (now Texas Historical Commission) awarded the first historic building medallion to the Eggleston House, a log cabin in Gonzales. March 1, 1962

## Little League All Star Teams Presented



Minor League All Stars: Front, kneeling; Meghan Garcia, John Tyson, Rudy Gonzales, Jacob Garza, Zachary Ramos, Regina Morales. Standing, Trent Hawthorne, Scott Addison, Cody Mays, Challie Johnson, Landon Craft, Michael Therwanger, Elias Carrillo. Coaches Richard Garcia and Freddie Ramos.



Major League All Stars: Front, kneeling; Peter Neufeld, T.J. Cordova, Blake O'Quinn, Abel Ramos. Standing, Brandon Hise, Cody Flores, Daniel Parker, Kelby Johnson, Isaac Ramos, Evan Cain. Coaches Steven O'Quinn, Don Parrish, Vernon Hise.

## Yoakum County Hospital

Providing the people of Yoakum County a well-rounded, modern health care program for 46 years.

### Quality Care For Neighbors, Not For Numbers

A 24 bed short term, acute hospital with the following complete services:

- \*Physical Therapy
- \*Surgery, Recovery and Critical Care
- \*Obstetrics
- \*Respiratory Therapy
- \*Diagnostic Radiology
- \*Monthly Cardiology Clinic
- \*Monthly Urology Clinic
- \*Laboratory Service
- \*24-hour Emergency Department

Yoakum County Is Licensed By The State Of Texas and is a member of American Hospital Association & Texas Hospital Association

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A practical key to managing farm energy consumption is this: "Make every trip over the field as productive as possible."

A Reinke Irrigation System can help you do just that.

Because every Reinke center pivot or lateral move irrigation system can be used to apply approved fertilizers and other chemicals.

I make sure your system is properly matched to your soil, field and cropping conditions so you can apply more water with each application... and get deeper soaking and bigger yields.

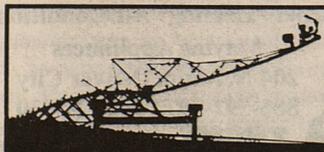
If it is right for your field conditions, I'll also recommend an energy-saving low pressure system.

Let me show you the many ways I can save you energy while making the most of all your resources.

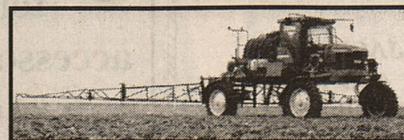
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# Lifelines & Styles

## Wedding Plans Announced



In the Spirit of Christ, A'ndrea Marie Belmore, and Lacy Allen McAdams will be united in Matrimony Saturday, the seventh of August, 1999 at 2 O'clock p.m. Their families invite you to join them in asking God's blessing of this holy union at First Assembly of God Church 1442 Edmund Boulevard, San Angelo, Texas.

Both have graduated from San Angelo University, A'ndrea in Journalism with minors in English and Biology and Lacy in Communication with a minor in computers. He has also just completed the two year RHEMA Bible College.

*Now I sit me down in school  
Where praying is against the rule.  
For this great nation under God  
Finds mention of Him very odd.  
If Scripture now the class recites  
It violates the Bill of Rights.  
Anytime my hear I bow  
Becomes a federal matter now.  
The law is specific; the law is precise.  
Praying out loud is no longer nice.  
Praying aloud in a public hall  
Upsets those who believe in nothing at all.  
In silence alone we can meditate  
and if God should get the credit-great!  
They are bringing their guns,  
I don't dare bring my Bible,  
To do so might make me liable.  
So, now Oh Lord, this plea I make;  
Should I be shot in school,  
My soul please take.  
Written by a 12 year old girl*

## Zucchini and Corn Saute

2 medium zucchini, thinly sliced  
1 medium green pepper, thinly sliced  
1 medium sweet red pepper, thinly sliced  
2 to 3 tablespoons vegetable oil, optional  
2 cups fresh or frozen corn  
1 teaspoon garlic salt, optional  
1/2 teaspoon Italian seasoning in a large skillet, saute zucchini and peppers in oil until crisp-tender, about 4 minutes. Add remaining ingredients; saute 3-4 minutes longer or until the corn is tender. Yield: 10 servings. Nutritional analysis: One 1/2 cup serving (prepares with nonstick cooking spray instead of oil and without salt) equals 48 calories, 7 mg sodium, 0 cholesterol, 11 gm carbohydrate, 2 gm protein, 1 gm fat. Diabetic exchange: 2 vegetable.

## Senior Citizens Corner

Raymond Singletary recuperating after heart surgery. Lula Belle Crawford in Lubbock Hospital. Expected to be home by the end of this week. Bonnie Gisler is in the Hospital. Carlos Edwardo, Smoky Altman and Ireta Davis remain in Lubbock Hospital. Ireta hopes to be home by the end of this week. We all send our best wishes to those who are in the Hospital.

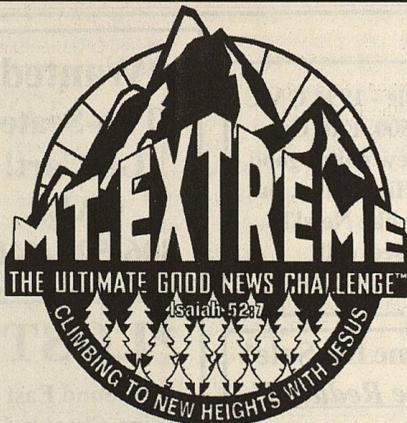
The Big 4th of July Celebration is at hand. Everyone should remember the significance of the day, as well as the fun folks have shooting fore crackers and having fun. Have safe and fun time.

Believe you me, Bridge is a challenge! I was told its more like '42'. In '42' when I win seven points I know I've won a game. In Bridge its tricks and game and points and Wanda still has to tell me if I won anything. Oh well, maybe we will learn yet. It's fun and thanks to a kind teacher!

July is usually vacation month. Hope everyone has a good one and don't forget to come back to the Center.

Have a nice safe 4th of July!  
See you next week,  
Smitty

**The Yoakum County Hospital is seeking a mature, dependable and responsible person to work as a temporary receptionist/aide in the Physical Therapy Department. Applicants should possess quality clerical and communication skills and should be able to begin work in Mid-July. Contact Carmela Davis, PT, at 806-592-5030, Ext. 222.**



**An extreme adventure awaits you!**  
First Baptist Church  
July 18-22, 6:00 - 8:30pm  
For ages 4 yrs to 6<sup>th</sup> grade

## Frantic reading in Fort Worth

For two weeks in February, the 542 students at Waverly Park Elementary in Fort Worth were in a reading frenzy.

Students ignored television and fought sleep to read book after book, Parents and teachers read to students and siblings read to each other.

Waverly Park students reported reading an average of 19.4 hours each over the two weeks - enough to win the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) National Reading Challenge, topping 17,000 schools nationwide.

Students celebrated with a party and parade - complete with fire trucks, marching bands and even Snoopy in a 1964 Cadillac convertible. The school received 500 books, as well as \$750 to buy more. Governor George W. Bush and the Texas House of Representatives both honored the school's effort, praising it as a model for other Texas schools odds for other schools. Event organizer Carol McQuien says that will not slow down



Students turned in daily records showing how much time they spent reading. They were told the records were a ransom demanded by a booknapper who had nabbed books provided for students by RIF. If students met their goal, the location of the books would be revealed by clues from the book thief. On the final day, with more than 10,000 total hours of reading complete, the books were distributed to students.

Waverly Park is not eligible to win the contest next year, which will definitely improve Waverly Park's readers - other programs will be planned to encourage reading.

## Medication Aide Update Class on Tap at SPC

Two opportunities to update medication aide training are coming up in July at South Plains College locations in Levelland and Lubbock.

Medication Aide Update classes are scheduled July 17 at the Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center, 34th and Ave. Q in Lubbock, and July 24 at SPC Levelland's Technical Arts Building, room 101, 1401 S. College Ave. in Levelland.

Classes will meet 9 am. - 4:30 pm. at each location. The course is designed for medication aides currently employed in nursing homes who need to complete the required seven hours of continuing education for medication aide annual permit renewal. Registration deadline for the Lubbock campus class is 4 pm. July 9. Interested persons can contact the SPC Lubbock Continuing Education/Workforce Development Office at 747-0576, ext. 4681.

Formal registration for the Levelland campus class is scheduled from 8:30 am. July 24. Students need to bring their permit numbers. To pre register, contact the SPC Office of Continuing and Distance Education in Levelland at 806-894-9611, ext 2341

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\*\*\*\*\*

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Monday - Friday

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Shirley Watson, R.N.,

Advanced Family Nurse

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Family Practice - Minor Emergencies

Immunizations

Texas Health Steps

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# From The Hack

Let's talk a little politics. Up front, most of the following stuff was stolen in broad daylight from a variety of printed and electronic sources. No, I'm not about to tell you where. So sue me.

How is your memory? Recall present Guv George W. Bush running for a West Texas seat in Congress back in 1978? I thought not. In the GOP primary he won over a couple of guys named Reese and Hickox. Then, in the general election, Bush lost to then Democrat Kent Hance. You remember Hance, surely. There's been something just a bit odorous going on down at Fort Hood. The army brass has apparently been allowing a bunch of the G.I.'s to practice witchcraft as their religion. Boy, I can see Brother Bill's blood pressure soaring into orbit when he reads this, something which I can guarantee he will not confess to, despite trustworthy witnesses who have actually seen him devouring this column with great gusto. During my four years in the Navy, I confess I considered more than once sticking needles in dolls resembling a few Chief Petty Officers who unjustly seemed to find flaws in my being, but I sure didn't think of witchcraft as my religion. Gays in the service, now witches, what next, canonization of Monica L? There is at least one Texas legislator with some common sense smarts... well, maybe a few more than one, Mr. Walker. Pete Gallego of Alpine is aware of the perils of too much publicity. "I try to keep a low pro-

file and avoid the hedge clippers. When you stick your head above the hedge, the clippers come along and snip it off."

There have been reams and reams of copy written about the passing of the late Bob Bullock. There should be no doubt about his being a true, bell ringing mover and shaker in Texas politics. It is apparently a great puzzle to many reporters and journalists how the man could have done all the things we continue to read about and survived, even flourished, politically. But stop and think a moment; Sam Houston, one of the true Texas heroes, whose image is quite prominent in the halls of the State Capitol, was affectionately known to East Texas Indian tribes as "The Big Drunk."

During the recent 76th Legislative session, an amazing 17 amendments to the cumbersome state constitution were passed. It's almost as if a city, county, or political entity hiccups, belches, or commits a similar social action the constitution must be amended to approve it. With 17 amendments for Texas voters to consider, after the legalese language (that's lawyer talk, don't you know) is officially approved for the election ballot, state voters will once more be as puzzled as a flock of West Texas turkeys staring up at rainfall. I predict exactly one voter out of 867 will actually know whether he or she is voting yea or nay on the 17 issues. Most will say, "HUH?" and flip a coin, then do their duty. I also predict (if Re-Districting issues allows it to surface) a puny effort will again be made to amend the constitution itself, where this issue will again surface, and again be defeated. Texans, and their constitution, die hard.

It's been said thousands of times, the Governors office in the state of Texas is weak, with very little powers other than to

appoint or veto. So how did Governor George W. do in the last session? He waited patiently for the state legislative process to grind to a halt before making forays across the nation for Republican Party funds and support for his presidential bid. Before entering the "big game", Bush vetoed 29 bills and a number of resolutions, cutting a relatively \$51 million from the \$98 billion budget approved by the lawmakers.

Girls... especially single girls; Tired of lecherous males targeting you with 'come-on' messages. Here are some 'turn-off' ideas:

He: Haven't I seen you somewhere before?

She: Yes, and that's why I don't go there anymore.

He: Is this seat empty?

She: Yes, and this one will be if you sit down.

He: Your place or mine

She: Both. You go to yours, I'll go to mine.

He: So, what do you do for a living?

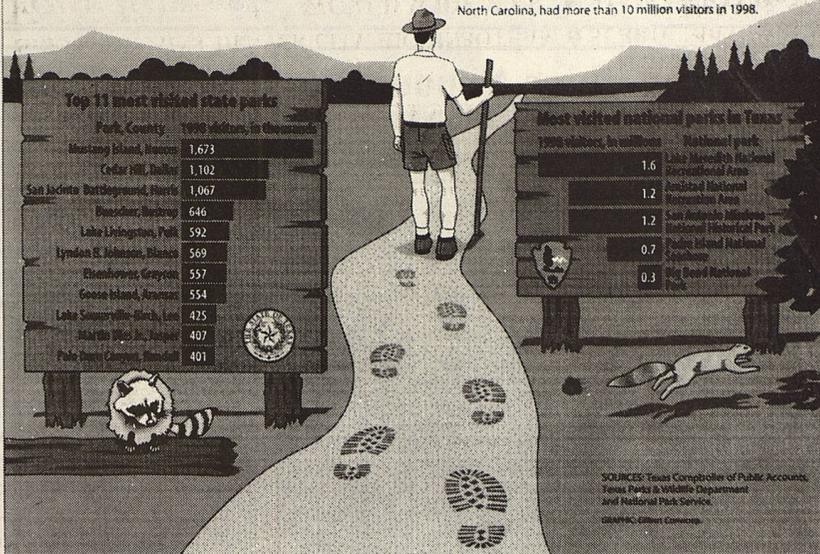
She: I'm a female impersonator.

## TEXAS AT A GLANCE

### A Walk in the Park

Nearly 21 million people visited Texas' 112 state parks in 1998, down 3 percent from 1997. A rise in entrance fees, and severe weather—floods and droughts—over the past four years are the primary reasons for the decline in the number of visitors. Mustang Island on the Gulf Coast, Cedar Hill State Park in North Texas and the San Jacinto Battleground in Harris County are the three most popular parks, each playing host to more than 1 million visitors in 1998.

More than half of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's revenue, which totaled \$22.5 million in 1998, comes from hunting and fishing license sales, state park fees and other user fees. Expenses totaled \$26.7 million on state parks last year, an 11.2-percent increase over 1997. Texas spent an average of 73 cents per capita on state parks in 1998. Lake Meredith National Recreation Area northeast of Amarillo was the most popular national park in Texas in 1998, with 1.63 million visitors. The Great Smoky Mountains, which span parts of Tennessee and North Carolina, had more than 10 million visitors in 1998.



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**\*BID Proposal\***

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for providing gasoline and diesel fuel for school vehicles for the 1999-2000 school year. Proposals will be received until 1:00 p.m. on July 22, at the Business Office. Proposals should be addressed to Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains ISD, 1000 10th Street, Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355. For information, please call (806) 456-7483.

Plains ISD invites interested parties to make proposals for providing student accident insurance for the 1999-2000 school year. Proposals will be received until 1:00 p.m. on July 22, at the Business Office. Proposals should be addressed to Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains ISD, 1000 10th Street, Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355. For information, please call (806) 456-7483.

Plains ISD will accept proposals from vendors for its Annual Contract for Teaching and Instructional Materials until 1:00 p.m., July 22, at the Business Office. Proposals should be addressed to Eric Banfield, Business Manager, Plains ISD, 1000 10th Street, Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355. For information, please call (806) 456-7483.

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

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