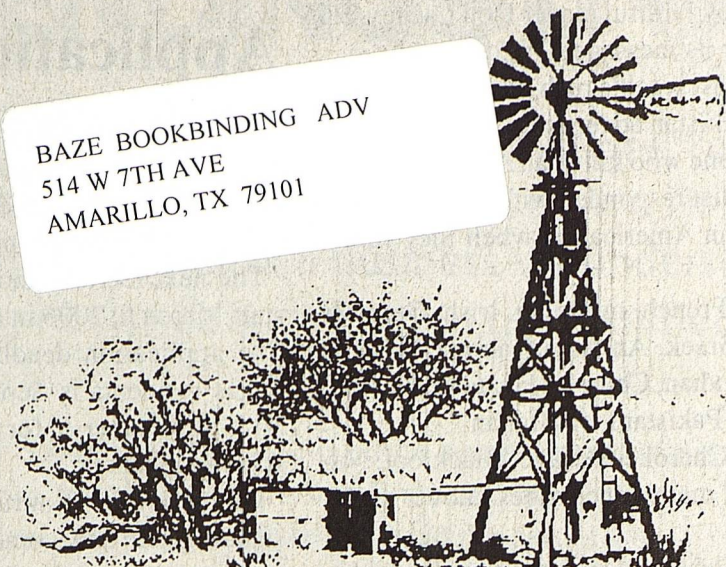


Cowboy Country News

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

Volume XI, Issue 48, August 17 2005



DPS says be on lookout for children, school buses

School children across the state are going back to school now. The Texas Department of Public Safety reminds all drivers to watch out for children walking to school or waiting for school buses - and to obey all traffic laws related to school buses.

Drivers need to slow down and pay attention in school zones. Children may not be looking for oncoming traffic when they step into the roadway, so drivers must remain alert.

"Although school buses are the safest form of transportation for students, the most dangerous time of the journey is when kids are entering and exiting the bus," said Col. Thomas Davis Jr., director of the DPS. "When a school bus is loading or unloading students, the law requires drivers to stop on most roadways."

State law requires approaching drivers to stop when a school bus is stopped and operating a visual sign (red flashing lights or a stop sign). Drivers should not proceed until the school bus resumes motion; the driver is signaled by the bus driver to proceed; or the visual sign is no longer activated. A driver does not have to stop for a school bus if it is on a highway with roadways separated by an intervening space or physical barrier. If a highway is divided only by a left-turning lane the roadways are not separated, and drivers must stop for school buses.

Drivers who do not stop for school buses face a fine of up to \$1000. If a driver is convicted of this offense more than one time, DPS can suspend their license up to six months.

"DPS has zero tolerance for vehicles passing stopped school buses," Davis said. "Drivers must slow down, obey school zone speed limits and stop for school buses to ensure the safety of Texas school children."

Recently Extension Agent Arlan Gentry was asked by officials to City Hall to determine if specimens of two local swarms of bees were of the African variety. Gentry sent the specimens to Texas A&M, and at 10 AM Tuesday officials confirmed to Gentry they were African bees. If bee swarms or hives are found, use extreme caution, and it is strongly suggested a professional pest control specialist should be contacted to destroy the potentially dangerous bees.

TAC Honors county for Command Center

Yoakum one of only ten counties receiving award

Yoakum County was honored by the Texas Association of Counties Leadership Foundation August 11 for innovative programs saving taxpayer money and provide better public service.

The county's prestigious award for Outstanding Achievement was among 13 presented to 10 counties through the Leadership's "Best Practices" awards for outstanding innovations, achievements and effective management in county government. The Texas Association of Counties (TAC) is a statewide organization whose members are county government officials in all 254 counties of Texas. Its Leadership Foundation serves as an educational resource for county officials.

"These award winning programs have shown a marked increase in customer service or productivity, performances that go the extra mile and county leadership in the best of terms," said Randall County Tax Assessor/Collector Carol Autry, chair of the foundation board. TAC's immediate past President Bill Bailey presented the awards during a special ceremony in Austin. Yoakum County received its award in public safety and corrections for its mobile command center.



Sheriff Don Corzine and Judge Dallas Brewer, center of photo, hold plaque awarded County at recent TAC meeting in Austin. Commissioners left to right are Ben Coston, Pct. 1, Woody Lindsey, Pct. 3, Ty Earl Powell, Pct. 3, and Jack Cobb, Pct. 4.

An earlier issue of CCN detailed the efforts of Sheriff Don Corzine and first responders including volunteer fire department and EMS groups from both Plains and Denver City, and with generous financial support from area industries and a grant from the Homeland Security Program, the county acquired a Mobile Command unit to be used in monitoring life and industry threatening

situations.

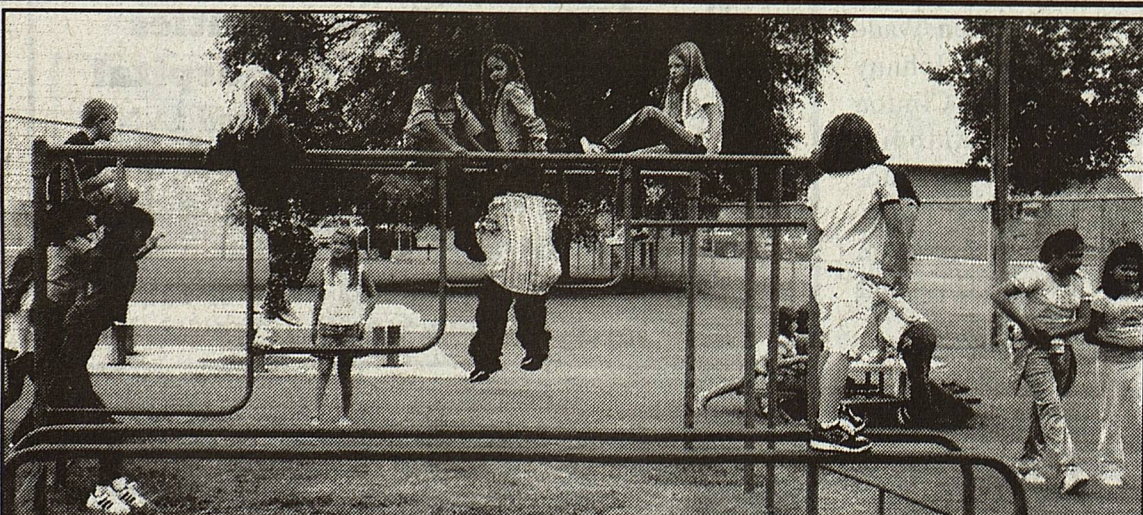
The old 1987 Ford Ambulance, acquired by the county at no cost, has been converted to a mobile communication center. It is fully equipped with cameras providing a 365 degree view of a surrounding area with a telephoto lens for close-up scenes, a closed circuit TV system, real time lapse VCR, a radio system allowing interconnecting with

frequencies of the county hospital, fire and EMS units, city and county utility personnel, oil companies and area schools. The only cost to the county has been the purchase of a power supply.

Today, the center functions not only as a communication tool, but as a strategic on-site headquarters county officials believe will help save lives and property.

Lazy Days Of Summer Are Now Over

Back to the school books - with some playground time for the younger



The 2005-2006 school year officially started at Plains ISD Monday of this week.. Administrators were pleased to learn there was no decline in numbers from last year. 426 students was the count at the end of the first day, actually three more than last year. Campus enrollments were; Pre-K (4 & 5 year olds) - 18. Elementary - 151. Junior High - 151. High School - 124



Routine and brief session of Commissioners Court

In the August 15 session of Commissioners Court, Judge Dallas Brewer asked the courts approval for the purchase of a ne FAC machine to be placed in his office. The machine would be available for use by other departments in the courthouse. He said the present machine was at least seven years old and was causing problems. His request for \$499.99 for the purchase from Office Depot was approved.

Mary Jo St. Romain made a courtesy call on the court to express appreciation to commissioners and judge for their support of the Yoakum County Historical Commission. She has served as chair person of the commission over forty years. She reported plans are progressing well for the celebration of the county's 100th birthday which will fall on September 21, 2007. Many events are scheduled for the historical event, which were

Turn To Page 3, COURT

Cowboys working hard for winning season



Coach McWhirter explains what he wants done - and how.

PISD Athletic Director and Head Football Coach Blake McWhirter shares an attribute of the majority of sports coaches - optimism. "We only have 21 kids out for football this season, and fortunately, ten of them are seniors. We have some experience, and I am very pleased with the work ethic these guys are showing. The younger players are fortunate to have some leadership on the field with the seniors".

McWhirter says the Cowboys will run a multi-faceted offense, and their starting quarterback will be senior Blake O'Quinn. The rushing game will be shared by runners Todd Williams and Casson Curtis.

Returning varsity coaching staff members include Michael

Turn To Page 3, COWBOYS

To Kill An American....

(This material was sent to us by faithful reader Don Lackey. He expressed his appreciation for its message - We do too!)

"You probably missed it in last week's rush, but there was an actual report of someone in Pakistan advertising in a newspaper there offering a reward to anyone who killed an American - any American. An Australian dentist responded with the following, to let all people know what an American is when they found one. Good On Ya, Mate!

An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Australian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani, or Afghan.

An American may also be a Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, Seminole or of many other tribes known as native Americans.

An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is in America they are free to worship as each chooses.

An American is also free to believe in no religion. For that, he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God.

An American lives in the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each person to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need. When Afghanistan was overrun by the Soviet Union twenty years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country! As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan.

Americans welcome the best, the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best athletes. But they also welcome the least. The national symbol of America, the Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America.

Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11, 2001, earning a better life for their families. I'm told the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 countries, cultures and first languages, including those aiding and abetting the terrorists.

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao-Tse-Tung, and every bloodthirsty tyrant in the history of the world.

But in doing so you would just be killing yourself. Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place. They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American

Author Unknown

DPS seeks new recruits Application deadline nears

The Department of Public Safety is now taking applications for anyone interested in becoming a state trooper.

The next recruit school will start March 6, 2006 in Austin. The application deadline for Texas residents is September 16 - September 9 for out of state applicants.

We are trying to attract outstanding men and women who want to serve as the first line of defense for the citizens of Texas," said DPS Director Col. Thomas Davis Jr. "Thanks to the legislature, our new troopers will receive higher salaries more competitive with larger police agencies."

Information is available through a toll free number - 1-866-TXTROOP (898-7667), that rings directly into the recruiting office at DPS Headquarters in Austin. Additional information is accessible on the DPS web site, 444.txdps.state.tx.us, and application packets can be picked up at the nearest DPS office.

"Diversity is important to DPS - and we encourage minorities and women to consider a law enforcement career with the Department," said DPS Recruiting Coordinator Lt. Renearl Bowie.

Graduates are initially assigned as uniformed officers in one of several services. After gaining experience, troopers can compete for a variety of assignments in the Texas Highway Patrol, Criminal Law Enforcement, Driver License, Administration and Texas Ranger Divisions.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens, at least 20 years of age, and have completed 90 hours college credit. Law enforcement, jailer, prior military experience may be used in fulfilling the college requirements. Each applicant's background will be carefully scrutinized, including prior criminal history. They will also be required to submit to a polygraph examination. DPS is an equal opportunity employer.

Services held for Wade Strother

Wade Strother, 79, died Sunday, July 31, 2005 in Dalhart. Services were held Wednesday, August 3 at First Baptist Church under direction of Horizon Funeral Home. Pastor Rodney Weatherly officiated.

Graveside services were held Wednesday afternoon at Memorial Park Cemetery in Littlefield.

Ralph Wade Strother was born November 8, 1925 in Olustee, Oklahoma to Woodford and Mel (Renfro) Strother. The family moved to Littlefield in 1931 and Wade graduated from high school there in 1943.

He married Wanda Miller March 31, 1944 in Littlefield and went into the Navy, serving in World War II.

Wade and Wanda began a farming operation in 1959 in the Morton area. In 1966 they moved the operation to Dalhart.

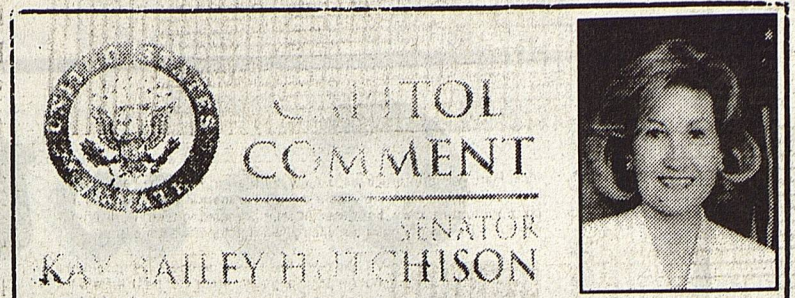
He retired in 1988. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Dalhart. He was a 32nd degree Mason and Shriner.

Survivors include his wife Wanda of Dalhart; two daughters, Wanda Simpson and husband Sid of San Antonio, and Wadonna Davis and husband Terry of Plains; grandsons Terry Wade Davis and wife Dana, Plains, Clifton Wade Lee, San Antonio, Johnny Don Davis, Plains, Clinton Wayne Lee, San Antonio, Clayton Wells Lee, San Antonio; great grandchildren Emily, Arista, Courtney and Braedon Davis, all of Plains, Josh and Allison Lee, San Antonio

Cain graduates UT Arlington

Aaron Turner Cain graduated with honors in ceremonies held August 13 at the University of Texas at Arlington. A cum laude graduate, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in aerospace engineer-

ing. Aaron is a 2001 graduate of Plains High School. He is currently employed by Lockheed Martin in Grand Prairie. He is the son of Beth Ann and Charles Cain of Plains.



Our Own Navy - No Other State Has One

There are many reasons why America is unique among the 50 states but one of the most interesting is the fact our state alone had its own battle-tested navy and continues to have an existing, albeit honorary, navy today.

Texas has had three navies in its history. The first Texas Navy was formed to fight during the battle for independence from Mexico. This fleet was decommissioned after independence was won but continuing threats from Mexico led to the bitterly contested creation of the second navy.

The Second Texas Navy, commanded by a brash young naval officer by the name of Edwin Moore, held off threats from Mexico to the young Texas Republic. Squabbles, however, over naval funding led to the decision to 'rent' out the fleet to the breakaway province of Yucatan as it fought Mexico's central government. Texas' two sailing ships, the Austin and the Wharton, scored a spectacular victory at Campeche in May 1843 by driving away a Mexican fleet containing what was, at the time, the world's mightiest warship, the 1,100 ton iron steamer Guadalupe. This was the only time in history a sailing ship defeated an iron, steam powered warship.

Not long after that battle, the Second Texas Navy was decommissioned, but Moore gained a place in Texan's hearts. In 1867, Moore County in the Panhandle was named in Moore's honor.

The third Texas Navy was established in 1958 by Governor Price Daniel, as a commemorative organization to assure the survival of Texas' naval history, boundaries, water resources and civil defense.

Ironically, the Third Texas Navy is by far the strongest of the three, for her flagship is the Battleship Texas, which fought in WWI and WWII and is now berthed at the San Jacinto Monument in La Porte. She flies the flag of Admiral Chester Nimitz, who was born in Fredericksburg. The Texas Navy now includes WWII vessels including PT 309 in Galveston, PT 305 which is being restored, the submarine USS Cavalla in Galveston, and the famous aircraft carrier USS Lexington, moored at Corpus Christi. Other WWII ships include a Liberty Ship, the Edwin Moore built in Houston and named after the second Texas Navy commander, and the USS Orleck, a Gearing class destroyer built in Orange and now serves as a museum.

One of the best known ships in Texas' Navy is the USTS Texas Clipper II, which until June this year was the Texas State Maritime Program training ship. The Texas Clipper II started life as the USS Chauvenet in 1970. This year she made her last voyage. Her place is being taken by a newer and much larger vessel, the USS Sirius, which will be given a new name at a christening ceremony planned for November. I have been asked to christen her.

This was my second christening of a Texas ship. I was honored to christen the powerful amphibious assault ship, the USS San Antonio, named after a vessel in the Second Texas Navy which was lost to a hurricane. I asked that the sparkling wine used to christen the ship come from a Texas vineyard, but I forgot how strong we make things in our state. I walloped the side of the ship two times without affect. On the third try, the bottle exploded, dousing me with sparkling Texas wine. Some newspapers later quipped I christened myself.

I cannot tell you how much it meant to me to play a small part in launching another vessel which will defend America and build on Texas' naval history traditions. In November the new floating classroom will take its place in our state's naval history. I look forward to meeting the newest member of the Third Texas Navy's fleet.

Employment Opportunities With Yoakum County Hospital

The hospital is seeking both RN and LVN applicants for the 7 PM - 7 AM workshift. Great people to work with, and offering generous benefit package. Please Fax resume to Joyce Tedford, 806-592-8489, or call Joyce, 806-592-2121, ext. 114

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MEMBER 2005

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EMPLOYER'S GUIDE TO PREVENTING LAWSUITS

Vicki Hart Wilmarth practices employment law in Amarillo, Texas. She has developed extensive experience representing businesses in employment-related disputes, including defending them in discrimination, harassment and other types of wrongful termination cases.



Ms. Wilmarth has tried a number of employment matters to a favorable verdict for her clients and advises employers on personnel policies and employment practices. In addition, she trains managers in appropriate hiring, discipline and firing techniques, and has worked with unions and management and investigated allegations of unfair labor activities.

She provides in-house and community training on employment law issues, such as violence in the workplace and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Furthermore, she audits the personnel practices of businesses to discern areas where future employment law problems could arise.

Her clients have included farmers, feed yards, trucking companies, physician's offices, credit unions, hospital districts, retail businesses, service companies, custom harvesters, and a variety of other businesses in the Panhandle of Texas.

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Employer Related Seminar Topics

- ⇒ Applying Agriculture, Salesperson and other Overtime Exemptions
- ⇒ Proper Pay Practices
- ⇒ Careful Hiring and Firing
- ⇒ Controlling Absenteeism
- ⇒ Testing for Drugs and Alcohol
- ⇒ Avoiding Discrimination Claims

To Our Out of Town Readers - We will be mailing you a copy of the Watermelon Roundup tabloid, prepared by the Yoakum County Connection... read it, and make plans to join us !!

From Page One, COWBOYS

Davis, Kevin Bartley and Todd Davis. New staff members are Steve Taylor and Greg Reinhart.

Coach McWhirter said he was well pleased with the Cowboys work in the recent pre-season scrimmage with Hale Center.

"They are currently rated 7th in the state, and we performed very well against them. They only had one score, as we did, and we held them to about 45 yards rushing. It was an encouraging session for us."

The Cowboys will have another practice scrimmage at Smyer Thursday, August 18 at 5:30 PM. Their season opener will be here August 26 against Farwell at 7:30 PM. Another change has been made to their schedule. They were to meet Lorenzo there September 2, but they declined the game, and were replaced by Crosbyton, there at 7:30 PM.

Five teams are in the district this year, Plains, Sundown, Morton, Seragraves and O'donnell

From Page One, Court

featured in the August 10 issue of CCN. Mrs. St. Romain told the court it was only with the cooperation and help of the county and its two communities and other entities the celebration could succeed. Judge Brewer expressed his and the court's appreciation of the commission and the leadership of Mrs. St. Romain.



2005 Cowboys - Front, Chase Guetersloh, Reagan Haynes, Casson Curtis, Abel Ramos, Antonio Martinez, C.J. Tarango, John Tyson, Ramiro Martinez, Juan Lara, A.J. Martinez, Back, Sergio Olivas, Michael Crump, Cody Mayes, Blake O'Quinn, Adam McCravy, Elias Carrillo, Michael Therwhanger, Chris Gonzales, Ben Yayes, Todd Williams.

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NOTICE

The Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District will hold a meeting at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, August 24, 2005, at the District Office located at 1012 Avenue F, Plains, Texas, to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2005. The proposed tax rate is .00775 per \$100 value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District by 7.99%

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PUBLIC HEARING

As required by law, and by directive of the Commissioners' Court of Yoakum County, Texas, **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Public Hearing on the salaries, expenses and allowances of elected County and Precinct Officers to be provided for in the Fiscal Year 2006 Budget for Yoakum County is set for 3:45 p.m., Thursday, September 1, 2005, preceding the Public Hearing on 2006 Proposed Budget. The hearing will be held in the District Courtroom, County Courthouse, Plains, Texas. The salaries and allowances will be considered and acted upon at this meeting and officially adopted before the completion of the hearing on the Fiscal Year 2006 Budget. Present salaries and allowances with the requested and proposed increases are as follows:

<u>Elected Official</u>	<u>Present Base Salary/ Longevity Salary/ Allowance(s)</u>	<u>Proposed Base Salary/ Longevity Salary/ Allowance(s)</u>	<u>Increase</u>
County Judge	\$ 37,783.53 6,696.00 7,200.00	\$ No Change 7,068.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
NOTE (1)	1,200.00	No Change	0.00
NOTE (2)	10,000.00	No Change	0.00
Commissioner Prct. #1	\$ 37,144.77 2,976.00 7,200.00	\$ No Change 3,348.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
Commissioner Prct. #2	\$ 37,144.77 5,146.00 7,200.00	\$ No Change 5,518.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
Commissioner Prct. #3	\$ 37,144.77 912.00 7,200.00	\$ No Change 1,140.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 228.00 0.00
Commissioner Prct. #4	\$ 37,144.77 2,232.00 7,200.00	\$ No Change 2,604.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
County Clerk	\$ 37,783.53 3,007.00 4,800.00	\$ No Change 3,379.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
District Clerk	\$ 37,783.53 4,402.00 4,800.00	\$ No Change 4,774.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
County Treasurer	\$ 37,783.53 168.00 4,800.00	\$ No Change 684.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 516.00 0.00
Tax Assessor/Collector	\$ 37,783.53 383.00 5,040.00	\$ No Change 779.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 396.00 0.00
County Sheriff	\$ 37,783.53 6,138.00 (No allowance-Vehicle furnished)	\$ No Change 6,510.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
JP Prct. #1	\$ 37,783.53 7,316.00 4,800.00	\$ No Change 7,688.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 372.00 0.00
JP Prct. #2	\$ 37,783.53 168.00 4,800.00	\$ No Change 684.00 No Change	\$ 0.00 516.00 0.00

* NOTE (1) Juvenile Board salary for Juvenile Judge duties.
** NOTE (2) Judicial salary for Constitutional County Court Judge's duties (State Supplement)

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Plains Independent School District offers vocational programs in Agriculture and Industrial Arts. Admission to these programs is based on need, interest, and ability.

It is the policy of Plains Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Plains Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocation programs.

For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator/ 504 Coordinator, James Haynes, at P.O. Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355, (806) 456-7401.

FORMA DE MUESTRA

Plains Independent School District ofrece programas vocacionales en Agricultura, Artes Industriales. La admision a estos programas se basa en necesidad, interes, e habilidad.

Es norma de Plains Independent School District no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Titulo VI de la Ley de Deprechos Civiles de 1964, segun enmienda; el Titulo IX de las Emmiendas en la Educacion, de 1972, y la Seccion 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitacion de 1973, segun enmienda.

Plains Independent School District tomara las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua ingles no sea un obstaculo para la admision y participacion en todos los programas educativos y vocacionales.

Para informacion sobre sus derechos o procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinador del Titulo IX, y/o el Coordinador de la Seccion 504 James Haynes, P.O. Box 479, Plains, Texas 79355, (806) 456-7401.

50-179 (Rev. 07-05/1)

Statement of Increase/Decrease
If Yoakum County adopts a 2005 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$.36476 per \$100 of value, taxes would decrease compared to 2004 taxes by \$ 164.00

Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Perm. Improve. General	Balance
		\$150,000
		\$1,922,265
		\$1,928,188
		\$111,438

Schedule B - 2005 Debt Service
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
	\$ 275,000	\$ 69,335	\$	\$ 344,335
<i>(expand as needed)</i>				
Total required for 2005 debt service			\$ 344,335	
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A			\$ 0	
- Amount (if any) paid from other resources			\$ 0	
- Excess collections last year			\$ 0	
- Total to be paid from taxes in 2005			\$ 344,335	
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only <u>100</u> % of its taxes in 2005			\$ 0	
- Total Debt Levy			\$ 344,335	

Schedule C - Expected Revenue from Additional Sales Tax
(For hospital districts, cities and counties with additional sales tax to reduce property taxes)
In calculating its effective and rollback tax rates, the unit estimated that it will receive \$ _____ in additional sales and use tax revenues. For County: The county has excluded any amount that is or will be distributed for economic development grants from this amount of expected sales tax revenue.

Schedule D - State Criminal Justice Mandate (For Counties)
The Yoakum County Auditor certifies that Yoakum County has spent \$ 44,512 in the previous 12 months beginning August, 2004, for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Yoakum County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

Schedule E - Transfer of Department, Function or Activity
The _____ spent \$ _____ from _____ to _____ on the _____. The _____ operates this function in all or a majority of the _____. [Second Year of Transfer: Modify schedule to show comparison of amount this year and preceding year by unit receiving the function.]

Schedule F - Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures
The _____ spent \$ _____ from _____ to _____ on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$ _____.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at YOAKUM COUNTY COURTHOUSE
Name of person preparing this notice Jan Parrish
Title Tax Assessor-Collector
Date prepared August 4, 2005

Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

Last year, the Yoakum County property tax rate was \$.50529. That rate raised \$ 9,698,438, a portion of which was used to fund operations such as:

Yoakum County Hospital

This year, Yoakum County is proposing a property tax rate of \$.40720. That rate would raise \$ 10,334,451, which is \$ 646,013 more than taxes imposed last year.

There will be two public hearings to consider that increase. The first public hearing will be held on August 19th at 5:00 p.m. at the Yoakum County Courthouse. The second hearing will be held on August 22nd at 1:30 p.m. at the Yoakum County Courthouse.

Criminal Justice Mandate:

The Yoakum County Auditor certifies that Yoakum County has spent \$ 44,512 in the previous 12 months beginning August, 2004 for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Yoakum County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures:

The _____ spent \$ _____ from _____ to _____ on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is _____.

You have a right to attend the hearings and make comments. You are encouraged to attend and make comments if you wish.

Lifelines & Styles

Randy's Roundup

By Congressman Randy Neugebauer

Upcoming District Events - The 19th District covers 27 counties across nearly 30,000 square miles. That is why I have implemented two ways to bring my office to as many constituents as possible.

"Coffee with the Congressman" events are excellent opportunities for me to have face to face interaction with constituents. Since early 2005 I have held "Coffees" in 18 towns across West Texas and the Big Country. Constituents at each Coddee have the opportunity to get an idea on what is going on in Congress as well as to let me know opinions on issues important to them. I will be hosting coffees in Cross Plains and Clyde August 24 and Ciseo, Eastland, Ranger and Gorman August 25. Detailed information on these upcoming coffees can be found on my website.

Another productive tool I use to cover the entire district is the "mobile" office. With the mobile office, members of my staff will set up shop for about one or two hours in towns across the district. Constituents having problems with any federal agency, such as not getting their Social Security checks or veterans disability payments can benefit by visiting a mobile office. My mobile office will be heading to all corners of the district by making ten stops in the next ten days. Further details on these events can be found on my website.

Check in with local papers and the website to find out when a mobile office or Coffee will be coming to a nearby town in the future. Even if it is not possible to make it to one of these events, constituents can always contact one of my permanent district offices in Abilene, 325-675-9779, Big Spring 432-264-1838, or Lubbock, 806-763-1611. Website address is, <http://www.randy.house.gov/newsroom/roundup.shtml>

Baby Shower Honoring Dawn Garland Dean Coming Soon Baby Girl Cooper Brooke

Sunday, August 21, 2:00 - 3:30 pm
in the home of
Mrs. Mary Wilmeth
1210 First St., Plains

Selections - Dillard's, Penney's, Target

Help Wanted

Yoakum County Hospital Home Health in Denver City is seeking a full time RN. Great people to work with, excellent benefit package. Send resume to Linda French, fax number 806-592-2891

It isn't until you come to a spiritual understanding of who you are - not necessarily a religious feeling, but deep down, the spirit within - that you can begin to take control --- Oprah Winfrey

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Plains, Texas

Sunday School

9:30 A.M.

Morning Worship

10:45 A.M.

Evening Program

6:00 P.M.

County Employees Annual Picnic This Week

All Yoakum County employees will be treated to an old fashion barbecue with all the trimmings this Thursday, August 18 at the Yoakum County Park. Coordinator Teresa Howard urges all employees to attend, and donations of homemade cookies, brownies and ice cream will be greatly appreciated.

The following employees will be recognized for their years of service to the county;

5 YEARS - Estella Castillo, Jill Durham, Lynda Isbell, Lee Ann Peeler, Sandra Roblez.

10 YEARS - Irene Alvarado, Johnnie Box, Rosa Gutierrez, Richard Clark

15 YEARS - Vickie Faight, Peggy Squyres, Jolene Welch, Dale Thompson,

20 YEARS - Carol Corzine, Dolores Davis, Alfred Martinez, Lorraine Walker, Sheila Ashburn

40 YEARS - Wilma Merideth

New items at the Yoakum County Library

NONFICTION:

THE MAKING OF AMERICA by Robert Johnston

OBJECTION! by Nancy Grace

BIRDS OF TEXAS by Fred Alsop

WEST TEXAS STREETFINDER

THE NEW HARVARD GUIDE TO WOMEN'S HEALTH

THE ROAD ATLAS '05

CHRISTMAS WITH SOUTHERN LIVING 2005

BETTER HOMES & GARDENS CHRISTMAS FROM THE

HEART

WEATHER: NATURE IN MOTION

FICTION:

COLD HIT by Stephen J. Cannell

LONG TIME GONE by J.A. Jance

BLIND CANON by Will Henry

THE HISTORIAN by Elizabeth Kostova

BEFORE SUNRISE by Diana Palmer

SONS OF TEXAS by Elmer Kelton

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN by Cormac McCarthy

THREE DAY ROAD by Joseph Boyden

THE OGALLALA TRAIL by Ralph Compton

LONE CALDER STAR by Janet Dailey

VELOCITY by Dean Koontz

THE WAY OF ESCAPE by Warren New

ELEVEN ON TOP by Janet Evanovich

You are invited to a Wedding Shower

honoring

Mrs. Jacob Lester nee Angie Rodgers

Saturday, August 27, 10 to 11:30 AM

in the home of Mrs. Bobbie Gayle

1313 2nd Street, Plains

Selections at Dillard's, Target, Bayer's, Bed, Bath and Beyond, and Image 'n That

Storm systems starting this month have now produced some five inches of rain. The official instruments at City Hall have recorded a total of 14.05 inches this year

Hicks Air & Appliances



Seniors Corner

* Editors Note - We are taking the liberty of altering the format of June Hanneman's weekly Seniors Center column. This week she sent us the normal Center news, but added what I considered an interesting and humorous tale about her experiences as a pilot in an aviation flight loving family. Hope she does not object to my alteration - we do want to continue receiving the Senior Center news.

"You can't miss it. Just follow the pipeline!" Those were the final words (from my flight instructor, business partner, sweetheart and husband of some twenty some years) ringing in my ears as I took off into the blue sky that day. This incident occurred back in the "dark ages" of aviation when there were more small planes not equipped for instrument flight than those which were. That was not an unusual circumstance, but heading out without a sectional (a pilot's map of the geographic terrain over which he intends to fly) was neither normal nor recommended procedure. It was, however, the situation that morning as I lifted off from our local airport. I flew to Borger, as instructed, and landed for fuel. As I departed from there I recalled the last encouraging words from "the boss", and circled to, ne up with the pipeline stretching beyond the horizon in a northeasterly direction, just as I had been told. My destination was northeastern Kansas where we had an alternate aerial spraying operation. A Piper Super Cub has never been known as a fast cross country plane, so I settled in for a long ride. Having driven the route many times, I began to suspect I was not on course when none of the familiar landmarks appeared, but since I was indeed right above the pipeline, I continued on, until my gas gauge was beginning to have my undivided attention. Although still following the pipeline, I decided to land when I saw a large airport, and get some much needed fuel.

Since it was a controlled airport, one where a pilot must have either radios with which to contact the tower or have prior permission to land, and I had neither, I stayed outside the flight pattern until the light flashed giving me permission to land. I landed and drew up to the fuel pump and as the attendant welcomed me, he said I was to report to the FAA office while there. Well, to make a long story short, I left there a few minutes later with a full fuel tank, a red face, and a brand new sectional clutched tightly in my hand. I did make my destination just at dark, but since our small private strip was unlighted I circled, then flew on to Fairbury, Nebraska, our nearest town, where the resident crew came to pick me up, and we got the plane the next morning at daylight. In case anyone wishes to check it out, there is, or was at the time, TWO pipelines leadng Borger, in a northeasterly direction. I had chosen the first one I saw which took me to Southeastern Kansas.

This tale gets lots of polite chuckles in our family these days as pilots with all kinds of flight ratings gather to do a bit of "hangar flying." Each of our dozen pilots love to out do the last tale. As I listen to them, I keep remembering my husband's original advice which has been passed down to each one in turn - "Do it right the first time because you're not likely to have a second chance". Elmer was the original flight instructor in the family and the honor (?) has been passed down to our sons who, in their turn, taught the incoming family members and the next generation pilot "want to be's."

Someone asked me this week if I fly anymore, I told them I really don't have time. With one son in the Utah mountains flying a fire fighting aircraft and the other just returned from India where he helped get a coud seeding program started there, and both of them doing agricultural spraying in their 'off' time; In addition to the next generation "trying their wings" while reaching for their next rating, I have to spend too much time on my knees to even think of trying to find another pipeline!"

Thought for today - "Flying is the scind greatest thrill known to man - landing remains first!"

Our thanks to June!

Family heritage

Since it began in 1974, the Family Land Heritage Program has recognized 3,773 family farms and ranches from 220 counties across Texas.

FAMILY HERITAGE RANCH	
Number of farms/ranches honored	
Fayette Co.	122
Houston Co.	84
Austin Co.	81
Gillespie Co.	75
DeWitt Co.	74

From The Hack

The following is for my baby sister Dana, who turned a magnificent 60 on V-J Day, August 14. She won't like my offering up her age to God and all the rest of you, and won't be too crazy about the theme of the following, in her honor. Actually, she should not be upset with me - she should blame the granddaughter living in California - she sent a bunch of this stuff to me!

A couple in their nineties are having trouble remembering things, They go to the Doc for a checkup and he tells them their health is good, but they should start writing things down to help them remember. While watching TV that night the old man gets up, and his wife asks, "Where are you going?" He replies "To the kitchen." "Will you get me a bowl of ice cream?"

"Sure."

"Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?"

"No, I can remember."

"Well, I'd like some strawberries on top too. Write it down. You'll forget."

"I can remember that! Ice Cream with strawberries on top."

"I want some whipped cream on it too. You'll forget that I know, so write it down!"

"I don't need to write it down! I won't forget! Ice cream, straw-

berries, whipped cream!" he grumbles and goes to the kitchen. 20 minutes later, he comes back and hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs. She stares at the plate a bit, then asks, "Where's my toast?"

The following is for Bob Blundell: A man was telling his neighbor, "I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me \$5000, but it's state of the art, and it works great!" The neighbor replies, "Really? What kind is it?"

"Four thirty."

Child support - or lack thereof, is often a court matter. According to an e-mail I recently received, the following are actual replies Dallas area women have written on forms from various child support agencies;

Regarding the identity of the father of my twins, child A was fathered by Samuel Munson. I am unsure as to the identity of the father of child B, but I think he was conceived the same night.

"I don't know the identity of the father of my daughter. He drives a BMW that now has a hole made by my stiletto in one of the door panels. Maybe you can contact BMW service shops and see if he's had it repaired."

"I've never had sex with a man. I am awaiting a letter from the Pope confirming my son's conception was immaculate and he is Christ risen again."

"Peter Smith is the father of

child A. If you do catch up with him can you ask what he did with my ac/dc CD's?"

"From the dates it seems that my daughter was conceived at Disney World. Maybe it really is the Magic Kingdom?"

Heart rending, aren't they?

I earlier mentioned VJ Day, August 14, 1945. I am now pecking this out on that same day, but the year is 2005. I just finished reading an article in the Lubbock AJ describing 83 year old WWII vet Mac McClain, a belly turret gunner, who survived his B-17 bomber being shot down over France. He spent weeks, then months hiding from the Nazi's, finally escaping to Spain and eventually made it home to the U.S. He lived to train other men for B-17 missions.

More than 16 million men like Mac wore our military service uniforms in that long, bloody war. As the AJ article points out, almost 400,000 men - and women - did not survive the war. And those remaining warrior numbers are dwindling fast. WW Vets are now in their late 70's and 80's, and some 1,000 a day are leaving us, and we owe them so very much.

Their numbers are sparse in Yoakum County. I am very familiar with one - I play golf with him. He was a B-17 pilot and flew 35 combat missions over Germany. I know he has some memories he does not enjoy. I salute him, and ALL our WWII warriors.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARINA NATIVIDAD

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Marina Natividad, Deceased, were issued on August 8, 2005, in Cause No. 1468 pending in the County Court of Yoakum County, Texas, to: NICHOLAS GRANADO

The residence of such Administrator is Denton County, Texas. The post office address is: 2109 Friar Ct. Flower Mound, Texas 75028

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated August 8, 2005

BAKER BROWN & THOMPSON, P.C. Attorneys for the Estate

About The New Electronic Sign

Personnel at City Hall have graciously agreed to assist the Chamber of Commerce by taking orders for advertising on the new sign in Pioneer Park. NO TELEPHONE ORDERS will be accepted. An order form is available at City Hall, and the following information must be written on the form; Date, Name, Address, Phone #, Dates for the ad to run. The message must be written on the form with a maximum of 14 spaces per line of type. Three message frames is maximum length of ad, for a maximum total of 42 spaces per frame. Maximum time for ad to run is one week (seven days). Cost of each ad is \$15. ALL ADS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE AT TIME OF TURNING IN AD ORDER.

FARM FOR SALE C.R. 225, Sec. #218 Approx 650 acres 11 Wells, PRICE REDUCED!! Hunt Realty 112 N. Main Denver City TX 79323 Ph 806-592-3556 Fax 806-592-8489

Grand Entry

Western Wear 110 N. Main Denver City, TX Boot & Shoe Repair 806-592-8198

Yoakum County Art Show 2005

Best in Show.....Beverly Bray.....Walk-n-Worthy Best of Photography.....Pat McNabb...Marilyn's Japonica Best of Craft.....Helen Beal.....1001 Nights

Originals

Miniatures

1st Kay Smith.....Floating Foliage
2nd Kay Smith.....Wacky Houses
3rd Susie Powell.....Blue Window

Honorable Mention

Liz Chandler.....Splendor in the grass
Susie Powell.....Giddy up
Susie Powell.....Where is everybody?

Still Life

1st Kay Smith.....Sun Glow
2nd Kay Smith.....Pristine Peony
3rd Kay Smith.....Coming up Roses

Honorable Mention

Susie Powell.....Sheila's Bike
Vikki Lamar.....Daisies
Susie Powell.....Happy Tulips
Susie Powell.....The Blue Plate

Wildlife

1st Kay Smith.....Flaming Flamingo
2nd Susie Pal.....Barnyard Bully
3rd Kay Smith.....Birds of a Feather

Graphics

1st Liz Chandler.....Cosmic Duo
2nd Liz Chandler.....Birds of a Feather
3rd Kelly Bowers.....Beauty

Honorable Mention

Liz Chandler.....Valhalla Bound
Liz Chandler.....Mama Timba

Abstracts

1st D'Anne Tetens.....Held
2nd D'Anne Tetens.....Spirit Vessels II
3rd Dru Debusk.....It's All about me

Honorable Mention

Jeanette Head.....Rain on the Rail Fence
Linda Powell.....Wisdom Woman
Deborah Brown.....Red Rage

Landscapes

1st Connie Martin.....West Texas Sunrise
2nd Susie Pal.....Old Rusty
3rd Kay Smith.....Essence of Summer

Honorable Mention

Susie Powell.....Albuquerque Church
Susie Powell.....Three Crosses
Susie Powell.....Hot & Dry
Linda Powell.....Spiritual Steps

Classroom

1st Liz Chandler.....Life is a bowl of Cherries
2nd Lisa Gentry.....Country Home
3rd Lisa Gentry.....Cactus Bloom

Honorable Mention

Vikki Lamar.....Uptown
Lisa Gentry.....Geranium Pot
Lisa Gentry.....Window Box

Photography

Landscape

1st J. Harris.....Barbed Wire
2nd Sue Holder.....Stars & Stripes
3rd Lisa Gentry.....Maine Trail

Honorable Mention

Sue Holder.....Bennett Plaza
Susie Powell.....Color from Heaven
Connie S. Webb.....Prairie Splendor
Susie Powell.....The Beauty of Maine
J. Harris.....Corner Post
Susie Powell.....Red, White & Blue Boats
Sue Holder.....Walking Path Reflections
Vivian Rice.....A Moment in Time

Wildlife

1st Elfida Lazos Winkler.....Marcelo
2nd Connie S. Webb.....Safe in His Hands
3rd Elfida Lazos Winkler.....Descension

Honorable Mention

Connie S. Webb.....Noisy Trio
Connie S. Webb.....Songbird
Pat McNabb.....Eye of the Sparrow
Lisa Gentry.....Sea Gull in the Mist

Portraits

1st Elfida Lazos Winkler.....Mid-Summer Treat
2nd J. Harris.....White Sands Angel
3rd Elfida Lazos Winkler.....Bath Time

Honorable Mention

Elfida Lazos Winkler.....Rehearsal
J. Harris.....Alana
Elfida Lazos Winkler.....Dedication & Determination

Still Life

1st Pat Mc Nabb.....Sagebrush in Ice
2nd Lisa Gentry.....Maine Tulips
3rd Lisa Gentry.....Summer Bloom

Honorable Mention

Pat Mc Nabb.....Milkweed in the Fall
Vivian Rice.....Day Lily
Connie S. Webb.....Hibiscus
Connie S. Webb.....The Beauty of the Thistle
Elfida Lazos Winkler.....Golden Splash
Vivian Rice.....Moonglow

Crafts

Small Fiber

1st Darlene Wilson.....Thomas Kincaid Seashore
2nd Crip Henard.....Home on the Range
3rd Sharon Smith.....Footprints

Honorable Mention

Darlene Wilson.....Statue of Liberty
Sandra Ellison.....Double Pineapple Doily
Sheila Stephens.....Red & Black Butterfly

Large Fiber

1st Linda Harris.....Chicken Scratch

China Painting

1st Wilma Powell.....Scenery

Other Craft

1st Conny Martin.....Ponte di Ora Antico
2nd Vikki Lamar.....Plate #2
3rd Vikki Lamar.....Santa

Honorable Mention

Julia Lemley.....Beaded Angel Christmas tree
Julia Lemley.....Book markers
Vikki Lamar.....Cross

Student Painting

1st Natalie Haynes.....Precious
2nd Karla Powell.....Dinner Time
3rd Natalie Haynes.....Forever Blowing Bubbles

Honorable Mention

Natalie Haynes.....Simple Beauty
Shyann Vantine.....Sudden Fury

Crafts

Preschool

1st Jentry Wall
2nd Trenity Wall
3rd Summer Powell

Honorable Mention

Trenity Wall

6-8 yrs old

1st Maysen Brown.....Turtle
2nd Maysen Brown.....Blue Sky
3rd Maysen Brown.....Blue House

Honorable Mention

Maysen Brown.....Blue

9-14 yrs

1st Shyann Vantine.....Poster Board
2nd Brooke Wilson.....Mosaic Cross
3rd Shelby Estep.....Home Sweet Home

Honorable Mention

Katie Estep.....Storage Box
Brooke Wilson.....Cardinal Suncatcher

ROJO Agricultural Services
Authorized Square D



Dealer 456-7540

Want to purchase minerals and other oil/gas interests. Send details to: P.O. Box 13557, Denver, CO 80201

TERRY COUNTY TRACTOR
Massey Ferguson Kubota
Bush Hog Shredders, Lilliston Rolling Cultivators, Lorenz & Buffalo Cultivators, Baker Disc & Switch Plovers, Spray Coupe, Wilmar Sprayer Brownfield, Tx. 806-637-4569

CFI Local Orientation
Dallas & Laredo Week of August 22nd
AVG. SOLO: \$49,950 - TOP SOLO: \$70,526 - TOP TEAM: \$154,222
\$0.05 NE Bonus Pay! Class A CDL Required!
Now hiring student grads. Starting 26¢, potential increases to 36¢ in 1 year.
1-800-CFI-DRIVE cfidrive.com (1-800-234-3743)

