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# Cowboy Country News



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

Volume VI, Issue 49, August 30, 2000

## TAAS test scores earn Plains ISD high ratings

The people who make the Plains School District function day after day, the teachers, administrators and Trustees, were extremely pleased when the Texas Education Agency released scores on the state mandated Texas Assessment of Academic Skills tests taken by students in elementary, middle and high schools throughout the state.

The Plains ISD test performance earned the elementary and high school Exemplary ratings, the highest level of achievement. The middle school barely missed out on this rating, and earned a Recognized rating, the second highest level. Other ratings assigned by TEA include acceptable and low performing.

Plains ISD Superintendent Jim Haynes told CCN, "We are very pleased with the performance of our students in the TAAS tests. Our middle school came within three percentage points of also earning the Exemplary rating." He said the tests serve as a measuring stick for teachers and administrators. "The TAAS test scores show us the areas in which we are performing well, and other areas where we need more work."

Haynes said there will always be fluctuations in the test scores, citing the fact that in the 1999-2000 school year, the middle school was rated Exemplary, and the elementary school was rated Recognized. The school year prior to that, all three campuses earned Exemplary ratings. Only about 10 percent or less of all the districts in the state place all three of their campuses in the Exemplary ranks.

"Another indicator of how well our students perform are the UIL Academic results each year. All three of our campuses are consistently very high in ratings in the UIL meets we compete in," Haynes said. "School districts, including ours, face many challenges each year. Our student populations are changing rapidly, rules for administering the TAAS tests are being revamped. We must work hard on our Campus and District Improvement Plan."

Last year, TAAS tests were taken by 3rd and 4th graders in elementary, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders in middle school, and 10th graders in high school. In the future, 11th graders will have to take the exit level TAAS test.

## Prison sentence handed down in District Court

In the August 21 session of 121st Judicial District Court, Allie Marie Beyers pled true to the state's motion to revoke community supervision from a prior cocaine possession cause. The defendant was sentenced to eight years in prison, with credit for 166 days served. Judgement will run concurrent with two other charges in Brown County. Judge Kelly G. Moore presided, and CDA Richard Clark represented the state.

Turn To Page 4, DISTRICT COURT

## Novel grape harvest here



Chemist Bruce Turner catches juice and residue from crushed grapes

When the local two acre vinyard of Kent and Peggy Welch was ready to harvest the first time recently, the winery the grapes were consigned to decided to try a different approach in getting the product to their plant, Limestone Ledge, in Glen Rose, Texas.

Ten people hand picked the Cabernet Sauvignon grapes in about two hours. Buckets of the grapes were carried from the vinyard to a machine which partially crushed the grapes, and removed their stems. The juice and residue from the partial crushing was then stored in containers, and kept cold for the approximate 7 hour trip to Glen Rose. Lawrence Toberia and Bruce Turner, Limestone Ledge representatives said the current extreme heat here, and even higher temperatures in Glen Rose, prevented them from carrying the uncrushed grapes that long distance. They explained, "High temperatures will start a yeast reaction in the grapes, which will lead to early fermentation and ruin the entire harvest. By partially crushing the grapes, we can reduce the size of the load and keep it cool until we get it to the winery for processing."

The small vinyard was expected to yield about a ton of grapes. It takes approximately 14 pounds of grapes to make a gallon of wine, which would result in some 700 bottles of Cabernet Sauvignon wine.

## Final Countdown For 5th Annual Watermelon Round Up

Chairpeople and volunteers were hard at work the last couple of weeks, crossing all T's and dotting all the I's in preparation for the Yoakum County Connection's 5th annual Watermelon Round Up.

Untold work and planning hours have been spent by committees to ensure this year's premier county event will be a repeat success like its predecessors. On Friday, September 1, the Courthouse Square and Pioneer Plaza Park will be the scene of controlled chaos, as last minute preparations get underway - arranging hay bales for seating, marking spaces for over one hundred food and arts and craft booths, bringing electricity to the booths, erecting the entertainment stage, and many other tough tasks.

The schedule of daylong events for the Saturday Round Up is again impressive:

8 - 8:45 am, register for Fun Run

8am - Brisket/chili cookoff starts in Stanford Park

9 am - Big watermelon weigh-in starts Pioneer Plaza, Fun Run, Toddler Run starts, ALLTEL volleyball tourney at Methodist Church, Boot Toss at new courthouse, Classic Car Show starts, books open for Team Roping at rodeo arena, day long live music from stage starts.

10 am-- Petting Zoo opens, Team Roping begins.

11 am - Watermelon rolling, seed spitting contests start



Volunteers Linda Powell, Jeannette Head, Sue Randall and Vicente Loya were hard at work painting 40 trash barrels in a watermelon theme for use at the courthouse square.

1 pm - Big melon awards ceremony, dunking booth, horse-shoe pitching contest at Pioneer Plaza, Hobbs, NM's Star Dance Academy on stage.

2 pm - Balloon toss contest

3 pm - Cow Patty Bingo, watermelon eating contest, chili and brisket cookoff judging Stanford Park.

4 pm - Cook off contest winners announced at stage, brisket auction, Turner Club quilt auction.

5:30 pm - final announcements from stage

Music continues until 6 pm.

Kathy Whitten will again serve as M.C. throughout the day. **BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**



County employees Danny Steffens and Greg McCravery laying red, white and blue ceramic tile on a new concrete 'Texas at the courthouse square.'

**Happy Birthday To US!**  
The next issue of CCN starts our 7th year of publishing. Our sincerest thanks for your support the past six years!

Holly & Gary Dyer



## Texas Highways Pose Many Problems For Legislators

One doesn't have to look or drive far to see that Texas has a transportation problem. In many parts of the state, more and more vehicles are rolling down congested highways or down roads in need of upgrading and expansion. Among the culprits are population growth, heavier vehicles, project backlogs, funding shortages, inflation, and, many say, the lack of a comprehensive transportation strategy emphasizing alternatives such as public transit.

Considering the increased truck volume promoted by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the prospect of delayed and perhaps reduced federal spending for highway construction because of severe air pollution in some of Texas' major metropolitan areas, it is understandable why Robert Nichols, a member of the Texas Transportation Commission, calls the situation a crisis. In recent testimony before a House Appropriations subcommittee, Nichols cited these statistics:

Much of the state's 79,000 mile highway system was completed in the early 1970s and is nearing the end of its 30 to 40 year life expectancy. \*One fourth of the interstate highways in Texas' urban and metropolitan areas are at 95% of traffic capacity. \*Traffic volume on all roads, measured in daily vehicle miles traveled, has tripled over the past 30 years.

"We lack the resources to maintain or expand the existing system," Nichols told the subcommittee.

According to Max Proctor, director of the Programming and Scheduling Section of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the agency's list of long range projects, which are supposed to be developed in about 10 years, will take 21 years to develop with available funds. The process that culminates in contracting takes another 11 years. "We now have 36% of the money

we need to keep pace with growth," Proctor stated.

TxDOT is competing for limited state resources with many other agencies citing unfunded needs. Nevertheless, from frustrated commuters to trucking dependent industries, from chambers of commerce to local governments, from environmentalists to the Governor's office, a consensus seems to be emerging Texas' vaunted highway system needs a new fiscal roadmap.

Federal, state and local governments are all involved in retransportation policy and highway funding decisions. Congress appropriates much of the money paying for both federal and state highways. This has become such a high profile political exercise the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is the largest committee in the US House of Representatives.

The Texas Constitution dedicates most of the net revenue from state motor fuel taxes, vehicle registration fees, and sales taxes collected on motor oil and other lubricants to support transportation and related activities. Revenues dedicated for highway related uses may only be spent on right of way acquisition, construction, maintenance and law enforcement, including policing and administering traffic and safety laws. Counties retain about one third of vehicle registration fees for their road and bridge funds, plus the optional road and bridge fee, according to TxDOT.

In fiscal 2000-2001, the state highway fund of \$9,975 million was made up of federal funds ( 38% ) and state taxes and fees (62%). The fund appropriations for 2000-2001 call for TxDOT to receive almost 90% of state and federal revenues, with the Office of the Attorney General, the Public Integrity Unit, Department of Public Safety and employee benefits sharing the remaining ten percent.

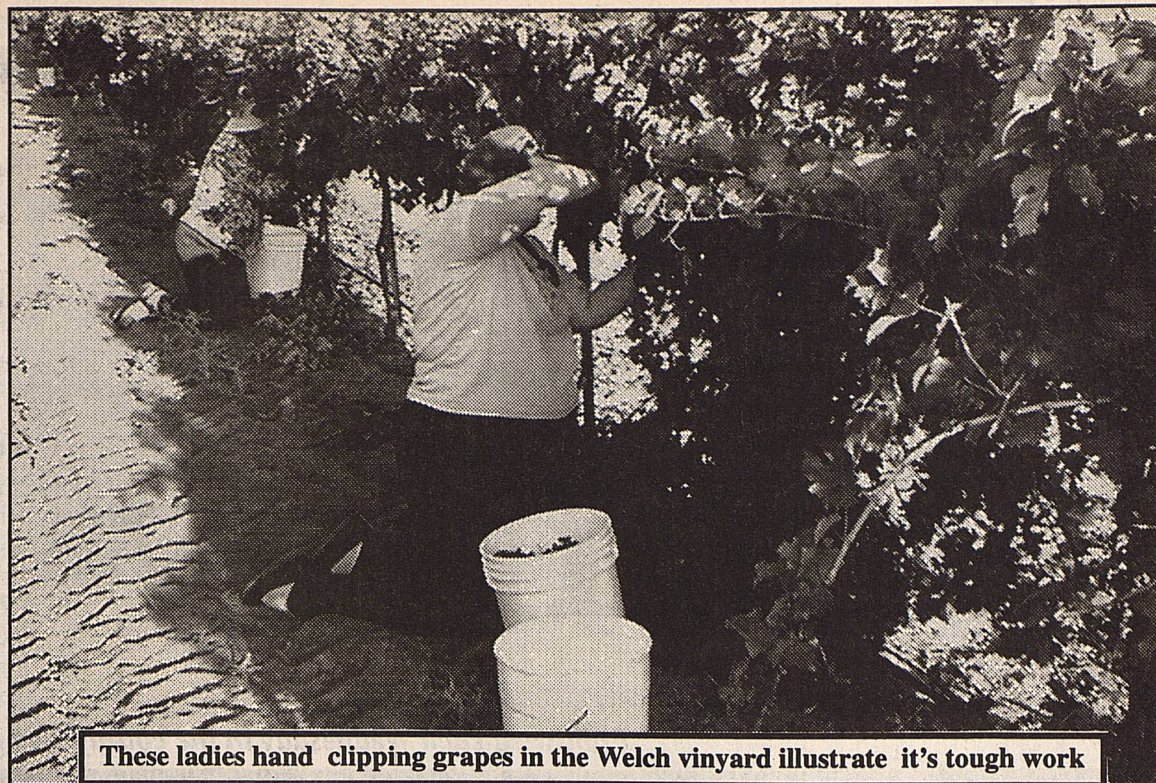
Highway issues the 77th Leg-

islature will have to grapple with in the coming session include possible changes in which agencies should share in the highway fund; Possible raising of the gasoline and diesel sales tax, or motor fuel tax ( MFT); Collecting the MFT at the terminal site rather than retail sources; Increase vehicle registration fees; Increase the weight-tolerance fees from the trucking industry; seek alternate methods of financing highway construction and maintenance projects; Issuance of state bonds for highway projects.

Another issue facing legislators is, "Are We Getting Our Fair Share?". There are 25 TxDOT regions in the state, Elected officials in each of the regions have historically maintained other regions are getting more than their "fair share" of highway funds, Many suggestions have surfaced to revamp the current regional fund allocation formula.

Few Texans would dispute the premise our state and federal highway systems are deteriorating from greatly increased traffic loads and age. How the legislators face the issue will be interesting to follow in 2001.

\*\* Material for this article from the Texas House of Representatives House Research Organization.



These ladies hand clipping grapes in the Welch vinyard illustrate it's tough work

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\*\* Special thanks to City of Plains, County Commissioners & Staff, & Brownfield Regional CRTCC\*\*





### Plains ISD Volleyball Update

7th & 8th Lady Wranglers - On August 21, both the 7th and 8th grade girls defeated Denver City teams. The 7th girls went 3 games for the win, the 8th girls won in two games.

Team Rosters:

7th Girls-

- 2 - Josie Cordova
- 3 - Cecilia Bonilla
- 4 - Jessica Garza
- 5 - Connie Loya
- Coach - Jan Newland

8th Girls

- 10 - Jessica Henry
- 12 - Kristian Morales
- 14 - Jamie Covarrubias
- 20 - Marlie Diaz
- 22 - Jesenia Suarez
- Coach - Linda Haragan

- 6 - Skylar Keese
- 16 - Priscilla Mares
- 19 - Nichole Loya
- 20 - Allison Friesen

- 30 - Sandra Gandara
- 32 - Mayra Flores
- 33 - Prisma Ortiz
- 34 - Micaela Villegas
- 50 - Daniela Lazos

JV Cowgirls-

The younger Cowgirls opened their season August 15 with a good win over Lubbock High, 13-15, 15-6, and 15-11.

They met Lubbock Christian August 22 and lost in three games. They were behind 8-13 in the second game, but Moriah Traweek served 7 straight points to win the game 15-13.

In the Trinity Christian tournament August 26, the Cowgirls played smart and well, and won the tournament. They first defeated Frenship 16-14, 15-12, the stopped Lubbock Christian 15-8, 15-12. They downed Trinity Christian in three, 15-9, 7-15, 15-7, and next outdueled Plainview 6-15, 15-5, 15-12. Their season record at that time was 5 wins, 1 loss.

JV Team members are;

- 11 - Kim Martinez, So.
- 12 - Chelsea Blount, So.
- 14 - Jessica Rodriguez, So.
- 15 - Sarah Martinez, Fr.
- 20 - Ashley Gonzalez, Jr.
- Moriah Traweek, Fr.
- Varsity Cowgirls -
- 22 - Kim Trent, Fr.
- 24 - Sandra Gallegos, So.
- 25 - Laura Cantu, So.
- 31 - Toni Murgia, Fr.
- 32 - Krystal Gonzalez, So.
- Coach- Michelle Lusk

Varsity Cowgirls -

The Cowgirls won their season opener over Lubbock High, 15-7, 1-15, 15-11. They played next in the Wink Tournament. In the championship bracket, they were downed by Jesus Chapel 4-15, 15-6 and 15-17, defeated Marfa 15-12, 15-11 then defeated Midland Hi JV 15-10, 10-15, 16-14 to finish 5th place. Tanya Vasquez was named to the All-Tourney team. On August 22, they fell to Lubbock Christian 5-15 and 13-15. In the Denver City Tournament the Cowboys won the championship of the Red Bracket, with 15-4 and 15-6 wins over Tahoka, dropped the D.C. JV 15-3, 15-3, and defeated Lovington 19-17, 8-15, 15-12.

Cowgirls Roster includes;

- 2 - Lexi Warren, Sr
- 3 - Michaela Traweek, Sr.
- 4 - Annaliesa O'Quinn, Jr.
- 5 - Mckenzie Winn, So.
- 6 - Frances Cordova, Sr.
- Coach - Marc Johnson
- 7 - Tanya Vasquez, Sr.
- 9 - Kari Guetersloh, Sr.
- 10 - Amanda Garcia, Sr.
- 11 - Chelsi Wagon, Jr.
- 13 - Kim Willis, Sr.

### Student of the Week

PHS student of the week is Lensey Cullens, a senior and the daughter of Mr and Mrs Richie Cullens. She was nominated by Mrs. Dorsett, who said, "Lensey has shown me students can and will do everything they can for their school. She goes above and beyond my expectations. She encourages fellow students to get involved. If I mention something needs to be done, I will see results in a short time. She never expects things to be given to her; she knows she must work diligently to accomplish her goals."



LENSEY

# Trial lawyers pump big bucks into obscurely named PACs

## Legal watchdog calls for Ethics Commission investigation

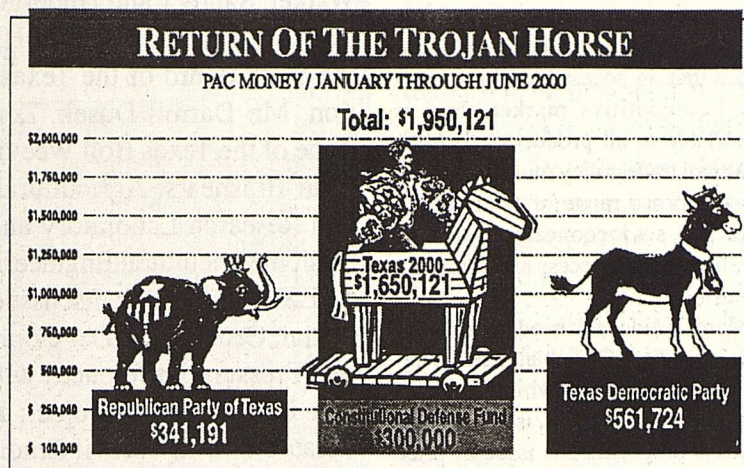
AUSTIN, TX. — Frustrated by earlier losses at the ballot box and in the Legislature, a handful of Texas trial lawyers are poised to be the biggest political players in the November statewide election. Meanwhile, the legal watchdog Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse today accused the trial lawyers of "deceit" and "violating the spirit" of Texas election laws by hiding their political giving in obscurely named political action committees.

At issue are two political action committees: the Texas 2000 PAC and the Constitutional Defense Fund.

"The public is left in the dark when PACs are able to craft their name so as to hide the driving force behind the money," said Jon Opelt, Houston director of Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse. "It's a potential Trojan Horse attack on the Texas political process."

Opelt said he will file a complaint with the Texas Ethics Commission within a week.

"There is no question that this is a violation of the spirit of the Texas election laws," Opelt said. "The question is, is it a violation of the letter of the law, and that needs to be addressed"



Attorneys John Eddie Williams, Walter Umphrey, Wayne Reaud and Harold Nix, private lawyers who sued tobacco companies on behalf of the state, each contributed \$200,000 to the Texas 2000 PAC. Reaud, Williams, and fellow tobacco lawyer John O'Quinn, contributed \$100,000 apiece to the Constitutional Defense Fund.

Together the PACs amassed \$1.95 million in soft money contributions during the first six months of this year - more than double what the Democratic and Republican parties raised during the same period combined, according to reports filed

with the Texas Ethics Commission. "There ought to be truth in labeling," Opelt said. "The public has a right to know who is paying for political campaigns."

Texas election laws require that the name of a general purpose political action committee "must include the name of each corporation, labor organization or other association or legal entity other than an individual" who controls it.

"It is unhealthy when a handful of folks can dictate the political process. It is even more unhealthy when domination involves deceit," Opelt said. "Personal injury lawyers are cam-

ouflaging their political contributions in obscurely named PACs," said Opelt. "With their money and their power the trial lawyers could be Texas' Third Political Party."

From January through June trial lawyers deposited \$1.65 million in the Texas 2000 and another \$300,000 in the Constitutional Defense Fund. By contrast, the Republican Party of Texas raised \$341,191 and the Texas Democratic Party raised \$561,724 during the same period.

Collectively, the five tobacco lawyers have given \$3.3 million in soft-money donations—to state and federal PACs—during the first six months of this year.

"Most of that money is expected to find its way into Texas political races in November," said Opelt.

"If these trial lawyers are proud of their self-proclaimed role as 'champions of the little guy,' why do they funnel donations through obscure political action committees? Are they trying to hide their political might?" Opelt asked.

He suggested changing the groups' names to the Texas Trial Lawyer 2000 PAC and the Personal Injury Lawyers' Constitutional Defense Fund.

## Texas' hottest tourist attractions

Texans and tourists rarely forget the Alamo. The shrine of the Texas Revolution is the state's top tourist attraction, according to a survey released in 1999 by the Texas Department of Economic Development.

Nearly 40 percent of tourists said they had visited the Alamo in 1998. The Daughters of the Republic of Texas, who have managed the Alamo since 1905, estimate 2.5 million tourists visit the historic site each year.

Just a short walk from the Alamo is the state's second most popular tourist attraction, the Paseo del Rio, or River Walk. About 34 percent of the survey's respondents had strolled along the downtown waterway. The Six Flags Over Texas amusement park in Arlington and San Marcos' famous outlet malls ranked third and fourth.

Texans aren't the only ones lining up to visit the Alamo and other state attractions - millions of international travelers visit them each year.

The top ten tourist hot spots in the state are, 1, Alamo; 2, River Walk; 3, Six Flags; 4, San Marcos malls; 5, State Capitol; 6, Ft. Worth Stockyards; 7, Padre Island National Seashore; 8, Astro-dome; 9, Sea World, San Antonio; 10, San Antonio Zoo.

In 1998, international visitors to Texas included 3,270 million from Mexico, 334,000 from Canada, 163,000 from the United Kingdom, 124,000 from Germany, 98,000 from Japan, and 82,000 from France.

### 2000 Plains Cowboy Football Roster

NAME	POSITION	CLASS	WT.
Adam Garcia	WR/DB	Sr.	150
Kelsey Blundell	WR/DB	Sr.	140
Aaron Cain	B/DB	Sr.	150
Israel Moreno	WR/DB	Sr.	140
Stanley Caballero	B/DB	Sr.	150
Jared Bell	B/LB	Jr.	180
Johnathan Pippin	B/LB	Jr.	150
Tanner Hamm	E/DB	Jr.	160
Moises Gonzales	B/LB	Jr.	130
Chris Hansen	WR/LB	Jr.	130
Brett Squyres	B/LB	Sr.	180
Jeffrey Lollar	WR/DB	Jr.	140
Joel Gallogas	T/LB	Sr.	185
Angel Ruiz	G/E	So.	180
Ty Tyson	G/E	Sr.	170
Joesph Rodriguez	G/E	Jr.	160
Mario Bonilla	G/E	So.	150
Chris Gscheidle	T/T	Sr.	180
Chris McGinty	T/T	Jr.	180
Louis Escobar	T/T	Jr.	180
Jason Garcia	E/LB	Sr.	160
Nathan Hays	E/LB	Jr.	140
Sterling Justus	WR/LB	Sr.	140

Coaches: Larry McMinn, Blake McWhirter, Michael Davis, Edwin Brink, Todd Davis

\* This is a partial listing of Cowboy players - All Squad members are not listed, and jersey numbers have not been assigned.

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## Letter To The Editor,

Rural America is dying. Farmers, Ranchers and Small Businessmen are watching their financial base erode. Many are drowning in a sea of red ink. Most of this has been caused by failed agricultural policies and programs.

General Motors and John Deere can cut back production when demand falls; and by so doing keep their prices up and maintain profits or at least avoid losses. Individual farmers and ranchers can't affect the supply enough to affect price. Historically, government has, through supply management programs, been the tool we have used to adjust agricultural supply to demand. However, we have put this tool away; it is in the tool box and our mechanics in Washington D.C. refuse to take it in hand and use it. If we allow the production of our nation's food and fiber to fall into the control of a few large corporations who can manage supply to meet demand without government assistance, heaven help this nation.

Everyone who sells to the farmer and rancher or buys from him are merging and becoming fewer and larger. This has reached a critical point resulting in very little competition to sell to the farmer or buy from him. For instance, 80% of the cattle in the U.S. are butchered by 4 packers and those 4 packers own or have contracted 25% of the cattle feedlots at any one time. These packers use this to effectively shut the cattleman out of the market when they feel prices have gone too high.

Many of you have worked hard to increase export of agricultural products. However, our exports of grains and soybeans for the past 25 years have been basically a flat line; no increase. We are importing more meat and meat animals than we are exporting. The exports of cotton have grown, mainly because much of our textile industry has gone outside the U.S. and taken much of our market with it.

There are three major policy areas

that are crucial to a successful, sustainable agriculture industry. 1. U.S. Agricultural Programs for crops, dairy and livestock must be revised to provide an effective safety net during periods when market returns are inadequate. 2. The issue of market concentration and integration in agriculture must be examined. New Policies must be implemented to ensure that an accessible, transparent and competitive market place is available to all producers. 3. Agricultural trade policy must accommodate a broad range of priorities including socioeconomic issues as well as market access and fair competition.

Many producers need a price for their product. One change in the agriculture program which we now have, that might help, is the flexible fallow proposal. The issue of price for agricultural products affects all of Rural America.

Please write, call or fax both the majority and minority head of the U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture Committee and express your concerns. They are listed here: Congressman Larry Combest or Charlie Stenholm.

Rural America is in a fight for its life. If this were a court case we would all be putting money in a fund to hire the best lawyers possible. So, please hire the best representation available that has not sold out to our adversaries. Become a part of the established farm organization that is working toward these goals. Whether you are a farmer, rancher or rural person who depends on these groups for your livelihood, you should be a Farmers Union Member. For more information call 1-800-299-Farm. Remember, all that is necessary for evil to triumph, is for good people to stand idly by and do nothing.

Sincerely,  
Ray Savage, Rt. 4, Box 382, Seminole, Tx. 79360. Phone 915-758-3420, cell 915-661-7734.

## Cotton Variety Field Day

**Tuesday, September 5, 2000, 9:30 A.M.** A turn-row cotton variety field day will be held at the Rickey Bearden farm, located one mile east of the Tokio Co-op Gin, on highway 380 (north west corner of intersection). Several area specialists will be present including: Dr. Randy Boman, Extension Cotton Agronomist, Texas Agricultural Extension Service (TAEX); Dr. Jim Leser, Extension Cotton Entomologist, TAEX; Mr. Gary L. Walker, Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District, Mr. Don Parrish, Western High Plains Zone Representative to the State Board of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Mr. Darrell Dusek, Zone Manager, Western High Plains Zone of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc.; Dr. Alan Brashears, Agricultural Engineer, USDA Cropping System Research Laboratory and Dr. Dana Porter (tentative), Extension Agricultural Engineering Specialist - Water Management, TAEX. Topics to be discussed include: Differences in Yield Potential, Growth and Development between Cotton Varieties; Insect Pressure Differences with Regard to Bt Cotton; Precipitation Enhancement Project; Future Concerns across the State Related to Boll Weevil Eradication (i. e. preventing re-infestation); Current Status of WHPBEF Treatments; Proper Timing of Cotton Stripping; When is Enough, Enough?, Termination of Irrigation. Contact Texas Agricultural Extension Service Terry County at 806-637-4060, for more details.

## CSW Seeking Junior High & High Schoolers For Scholarship Program

College of the Southwest is currently taking applications for the *I Can Achieve Now!* (*I CAN!*) program, a unique scholarship dollars for grades program open to students as young as seventh grade. The program was designed to offer students an opportunity to earn scholarship money throughout junior high and high school to be used toward their college education at CSW.

Under the guidelines of the program, which began in 1992, students accepted into *I CAN!* receive specified amounts for each A, B, and C earned. To be accepted into the *I CAN!*

program, students must complete an application in conjunction with their parents, have the recommendation of a teacher, principal, or school counselor, and write a short paragraph on the importance of education to a successful future. During the year, they regularly report grades to CSW and attend a workshop at the College with their parents.

Following graduation from high school, students may take up to twenty seven months before enrolling in CSW, at which time they may start withdrawing scholarship dollars for their CSW education as identified in

their *I CAN!* contract.

Currently, there are approximately a hundred area students enrolled in the *I CAN!* program. According to Linda Chapman, coordinator of *I CAN!*, a number of students have completed the program and are currently utilizing their scholarship awards at CSW.

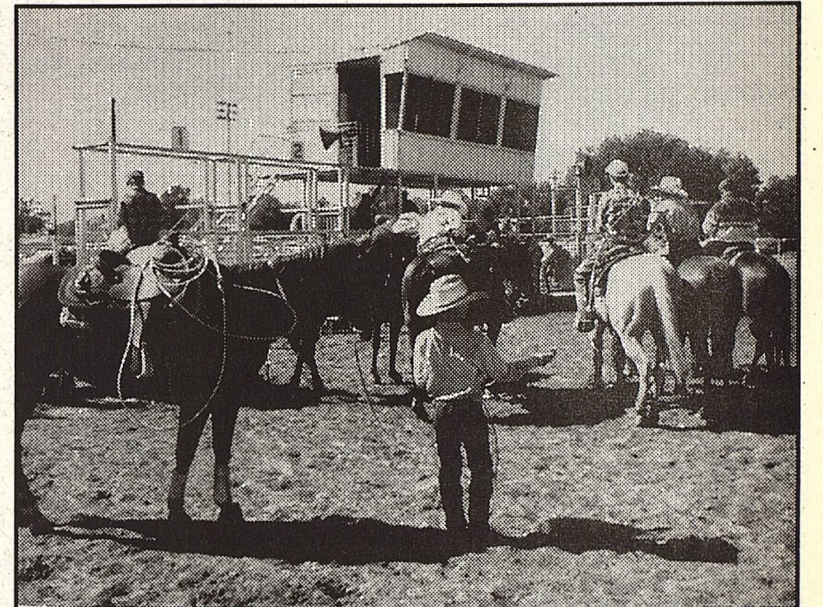
Rachel Fisher, a May 2000 graduate of Lovington High School, is one of the newest graduates of the program and is attending CSW this fall for the first time. "When I first heard about *I CAN!* in the seventh grade, I was really surprised that I could do something about college at such a young age. And when I finally graduated, I was impressed with how much money I had earned for my college education. I think it's a great opportunity for junior high and high school students." In addition to providing tuition

program was also designed to provide hands on investment experience for selected CSW upper division business majors. In conjunction with the *I CAN!* scholarship fund, CSW's investment internship class researches various investment opportunities and invests the scholarship funds. In this way, CSW tries to maximize earnings for *I CAN!* students while providing practical experience for current CSW students. A portion on interest earned is added to the scholarship accounts while the rest is used to defray costs associated with the program.

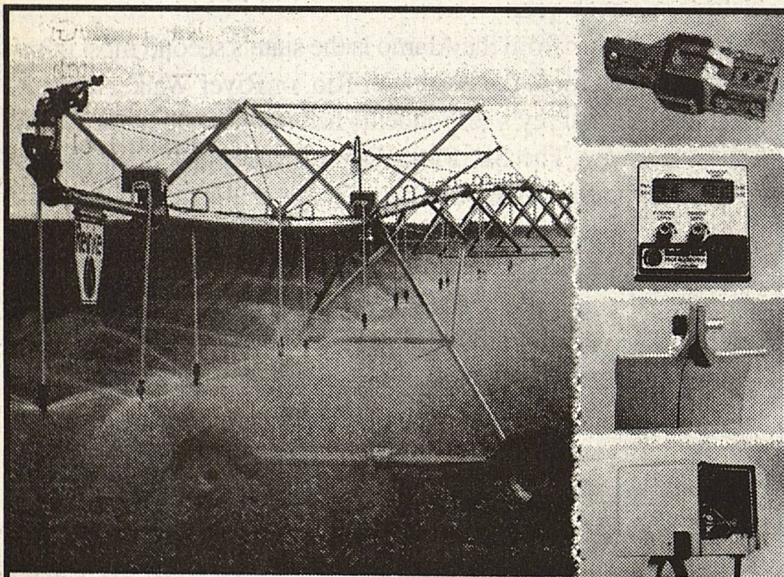
Area students currently attending the seventh grade and up are encouraged to apply to the *I CAN! Scholarship for Grades Program*. Applications may be obtained by contacting Linda Chapman at 505-392-6561, extension 1069, or emailing Lchapman@csw.edu.

From Page One, "DISTRICT COURT"

Valentine Lucero Acosta, AKA Angel Acosta, Angel Lucero Acosta, in an appearance before the court, had his community supervision revoked, and was sentenced to ten years in the state prison system, with credit for 777 days served. He must pay a fine of \$4,162,50 as a condition of his future parole. His attorney was Arnold Miller.



Plains' rodeo arena was swarming with young cowboys and cowgirls last Sunday, many of them doing very well in roping events.



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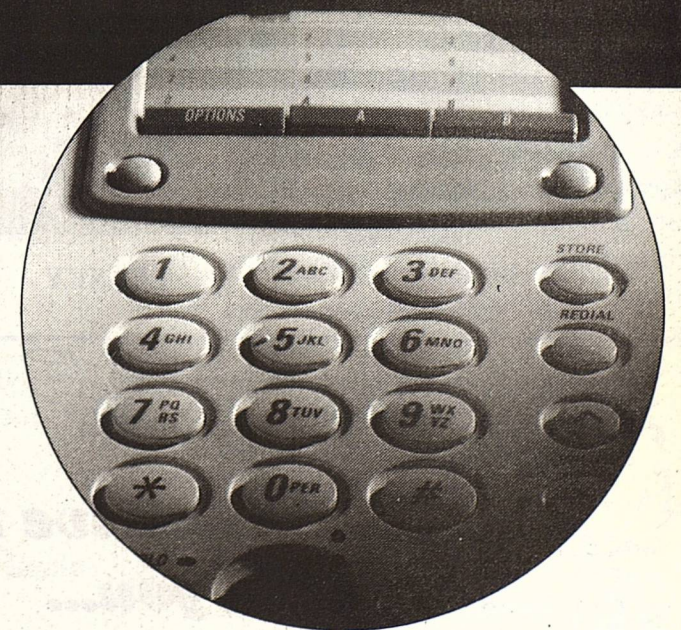
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Published Weekly each Wednesday at 1205  
Copeland Ave., PO Box 179, Plains, TX 79355  
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## Special Offers At CSW

### Course on Computer Designing

College of the Southwest will be offering a special course entitled "Picture This" on two consecutive Saturdays, September 9 and September 16, from 9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. in CSW's computer lab.

The special course offering, taught by Nancy Powell, will teach how to create and design many useful projects for home and school using a digital camera, a scanner, and a computer. "Picture This" will be offered as EDU4741 or EDU5741 for one hour of college credit at a cost of \$150 per person. Enrollment is limited.

For more information or to register for this class, please call 505-392-6561 or stop by the campus at 6610 Lovington Highway.

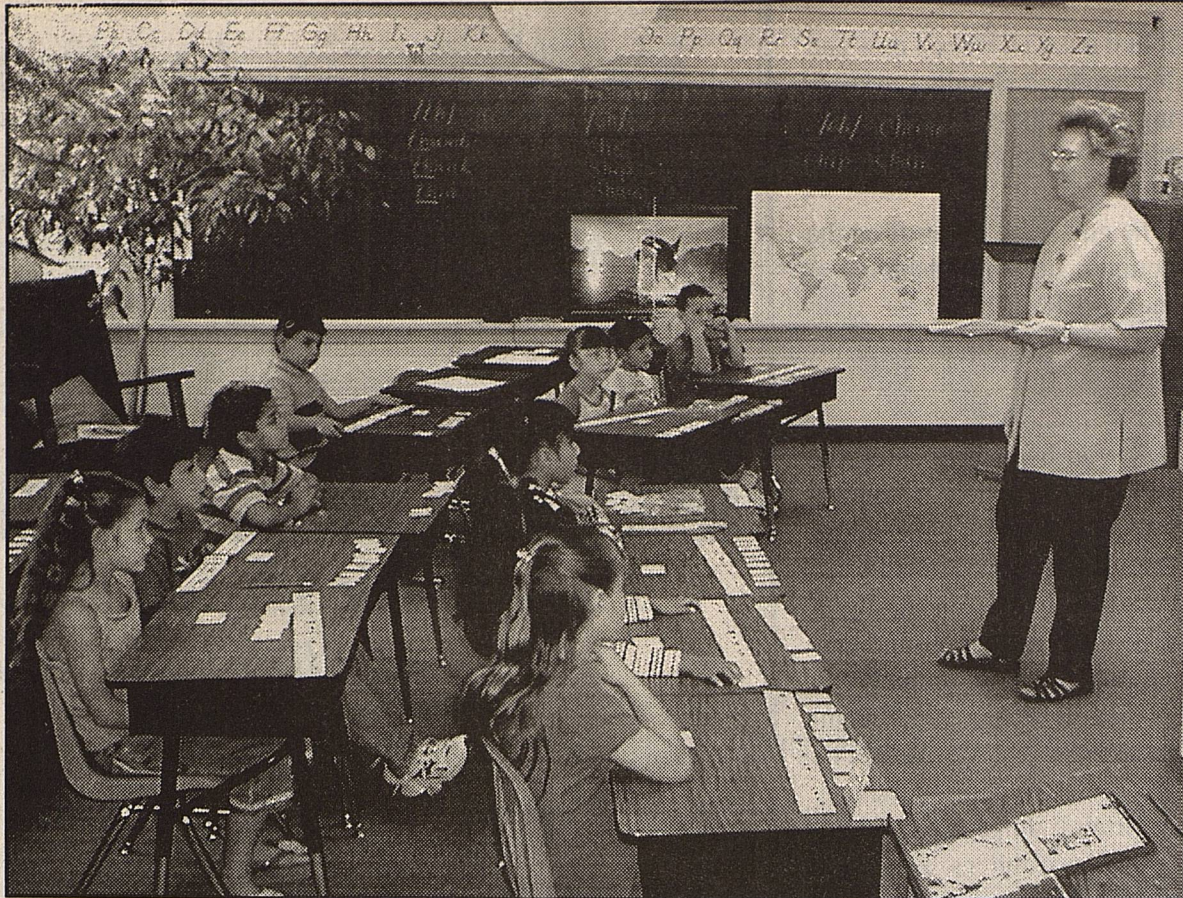
### Golf Tournament Scheduled

College of the Southwest has announced the third annual CSW Scholarship Scramble, a 4 person golf tournament, scheduled for Saturday, September 23 at the Hobbs Country Club. There will be a shotgun start at 8:00 am.

An entry fee of \$100 per person includes the green fee, a golf cart, a shirt, and a hamburger cookout.

Sponsors are available at three levels: gold (\$500), silver (\$250), and Bronze (\$125).

There will be a number of prizes awarded. Gift certificates for the Pro Shop will be awarded for two flights. First place prize is \$1000 per team, second place is \$600, and third place is \$400 per team. In ad-



The 2000-2001 school session is in full swing at Plains ISD. In this photo, First Grade students of Mrs. Morris are intent on her instructions in a reading drill.

dition to the Longest Drive Contest, there will be a Closest to the Hole Contest.

Net proceeds from the tournament will go toward CSW academic and athletic scholarships.

Entry forms are available at College of the Southwest and Hobbs Country Club.

### Booster Club News

The Booster Club is focusing on the Annual "Meet The Cowboys and Cowgirls" night on Tuesday, September 5th at 8:30 at Cowboy Stadium.

We will have the introductions of the coaches, football players, cheerleaders, volleyball, cross country and band participants. Refreshments will be available for all participants and spectators to close the Annual event.

The Booster Club will have a table set up to sell shirts, caps, and memberships. Also we will

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#### Yoakum County Even Start Registration

\*August 28th Through August 31st\*8:00 am. to 12:00 pm.\*The Learning Center, 600 N. Soland, Denver City (North side of Kelley Elementary School)\*Bring 1. Your social security card 2. Shot records for children not enrolled in school\*Even start classes will begin on September 5th at 8:00 am.!\*Questions? Call 592-5977\*Enrollment is limited, so register on these dates or call to let us know your plans.

#### Even Start del Condado Yoakum Regstraciones

\*agosto 28 hasta agosto 31\*8:00am. hasta las 12:00 pm. \*The Learning Center-600 N. Soland-Denver City \*Favor de traer: 1. Su tarjeta de seguro social 2. Tarjetas de vacunas de los niños que ahun no estan la escuela \*Las clases de Even Start comienzan el 5 de septiembre a las 8:00 am. Preguntas? llamen al 592-5977

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have volleyball and football buttons available for you of your favorite athlete.

Come out and support the Cowboys and Cowgirls !!

### Registration For Filmtime

Registration of pre-schoolers for Filmtime at the Yoakum County Library in Plains is underway. Filmtime will begin on Wednesday, September 6th, 2000. We will meet in the Heritage Room at the Library, located at 9th and E, every Wednesday from 10:00 am. until 11:00 am. Filmtime activities include: reading stories, fannelboard stories, puppetry, watching movies, singing songs and the occasional special guest.

### New Books At The Library

**Fiction:**  
Cavern... Jake Page, Rain... V.C. Andrews... The Bear and the Dragon... Tom

Clancy, Buried Evidence... Nancy Taylor Rosenberg, Dust to Dust... Tami Hoag, Move to Strike... Perri O' Shaughnessy, Deadly Decisions... Kathy Reichs, Winter Solstice... Rosamunde Pilcher, Mr. Perfect... Linda Howard, Hot Six... Janet Evanovich, Not a Day Goes By... E. Lynn Harris, Non Fiction: The Circus Fire... Stewart O'Nan, No Such Thing As A Bad Day... Hamilton Jordan, Leap Of Faith: An Astronaut's Journey Into The Unknown... Gordon Cooper, Who Moved My Cheese?... Spencer Johnson, MD... Ten Things I Wish I'd Known Before I Went Out Into The Real World... Maria Shiver

## Senior Citizens Corner

We had a very good turn out for the "Turkey & Dressing" dinner today. There was some new faces & some that had not been to the center for quite some time because of one reason or another. Maggie, Darlene and I are making some ceramics. Most of them will be put in the auction when we have another one.

Sometimes our food doesn't get here from our supplier when it is supposed to & we have to switch menus. When that happens there is a notice put on the front entrance door and also hung on the wall by the desk.

We have the menu with activities for a whole month. Speaking of menus, when you don't register on Thursday or Friday each week you should call by 9:00 am. the day you want to eat or even the day before. That way the cooks know how many to cook for. If you don't register or call, you are supposed to wait until the others go through the line. It is not fair for the ones that register each week to be left with out food. Also the workers have to cook something else for themselves and the last ones called to eat.

Our condolences to the Richman and Smith families on their losses. Lets don't forget to pray for them and always remember them, if we can't be with them we can at least do

those two things. We still have some things left in the garage sale.

We are losing Marshal and Shirley Watson. They are moving back to Oklahoma. Hate to see them go, they are very faithful to the center.

The activities are still going on, walking in the hall mornings and after lunch. Monday through Friday.

Oil painting in the craft room, '42' tournament 2nd Tuesday and 4th Tuesday of each month.

Memorial Home Health comes every Thursday to do blood pressures. Line dancing is Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 am. Birthdays and Anniversaries are on the 1st Monday of each month. Pool and Games every Monday through Friday and Monday nights at 6:30. Anna Taylor gives nutrition program 1st Tuesday of each month. Gail Ballou is here to help people with their insurance every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

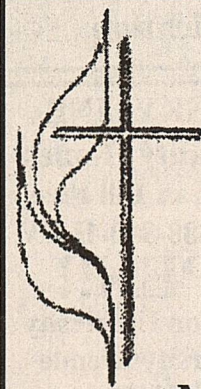
Elmer & June Hanneman had their daughter and son-in-law for lunch today. Glad they came and want them to return.

That's about all I know. Till next week, Wanda B.

### 4-H Club 2000 Coveted Awards

The following 4-H Club members were recognized for their achievements at the 4-H Banquet last Saturday evening. Among those receiving awards were;

- Gold Star.....Ragan McGinty
- Silver Star.....T.J. Kitchens
- Silver Star.....Logan Wood
- I Dare You.....Joel Horn
- I Dare You.....Grady McNabb
- Blaine McWhirter Memorial Scholarship.....Ragan McGinty
- Tokio Co-op Gin Scholarship.....Ragan McGinty
- 4-H Watermelon Scholarship.....Kimberlee Jones
- Outstanding Leader.....Dottie Mayes
- Outstanding Leader.....Shelly Lowrey
- Friend of 4-H.....Ag Insurance Plus
- Friend of 4-H.....Sundown State Bank



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# From The Hack

I was standing in one of those interminable check-out lines at Lubbock Wal Mart recently, and this rather rotund fellow in front of me said, "Moving slow, ain't it?"

I agreed and he continued on and blurted, "Who you gonna vote for in November?"

I do not like to be asked that question by anyone, especially Lubbock strangers. "Probably Gary Walker, I guess, maybe," I answered.

He pondered this a moment and asked, "Who's he?"

"He's my state representative."

"No, I mean, who else you gonna vote for?"

"Well, I would like to vote for either Ty Earl Powell or Rex Swann, but I can't."

He really looked perplexed now and asked, "Who the heck are those two, and what are they running for?"

I calmly replied, "They're two guys running for county commissioner. One's a Republican, the other's a Democrat."

"How come you can't vote for either one," he asked.

"Because I don't live in their precinct." I replied. "They both offered me money to try and slip into their precinct voting place, but I refused."

"You're a man of high moral and ethical standards, I see," he beamed.

"Oh No. they didn't offer enough money. Too cheap. Besides, I tried that once before, but the election judges all know me too well."

He was getting a bit red about the gills, and said, "Man, you don't understand the question. I mean, who you gonna vote for President!"

We were only four customers away from the checker and scanner, and I told him, "I definitely think, perhaps, possibly, it will be Bush, Gore, Buchanan or Nader, maybe."

He was staring at me now like I might have escaped from the odd farm. "How come you don't know who you're gonna vote for to be President?"

I told him, "Because I have not had time to judge their qualifications, I haven't yet heard enough of the speeches and their promises, and a couple of those haven't even decided on a running mate, but I hear Nader is considering either Jerry Falwell or the CEO of Chrysler Motors, if he isn't subpoenaed on perjury and money laundering between now and then. I heard Pat Buchanan had already asked 34 men to be his Veep, including O.J. Simpson, but they all turned him down cold."

I paused for a breath of air, and continued, "You see, I want to be fair about this... I want all of them to have the opportunity to go public with their Alice in Wonderland promises, and the sack of gold at the end of the rainbow four years from January 1. I have experienced amazing things from many of our great politicians, and I want at least these four to have an honest opportunity to really tell

it like it isn't between now and November 7. Beside, I'm keeping score.. the one who tells the biggest whoopee gets my dog's vote."

The guy flung his stuff on the counter, turned and hissed at me, "PERVERT!"

I really felt good about the checkout line.

.....  
Did you happen to catch the very brief AP article in Friday's Lubbock AJ about the crafty Georgia farmer? Probably severely strapped financially, it appears he dug a hole and buried his 17 ton cotton picker in it, then collected \$95,500 insurance money. Alas, someone discovered the buried picker.

I certainly hope many of our cotton producers don't get ideas from this caper. There are so many of them in serious financial difficulties there may be a run on oilfield backhoe and dozer services, called on to bury cotton strippers, tractors, whatever. It could seriously hamper service work in the oil patch. With the current oil shortage problem, and now serious natural gas shortages and sky rocketing prices looming, consumer we could REALLY be in trouble.

.....  
During our recent trip to Pecos, we told friends I no longer had our class of 1950 school annual. A buddy sent me copies of pages from his. It astounds me to look through the black and white images of fifty years ago and see how young we were, and how handsome I was. When I related this thought to the Bride, she spewed her mouth full of Wheaties out and said, "Oh My God!" What did she mean?

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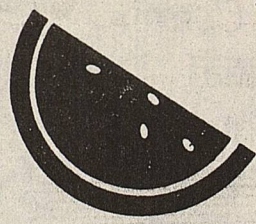
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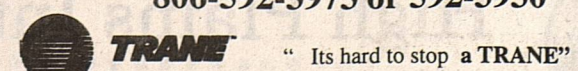


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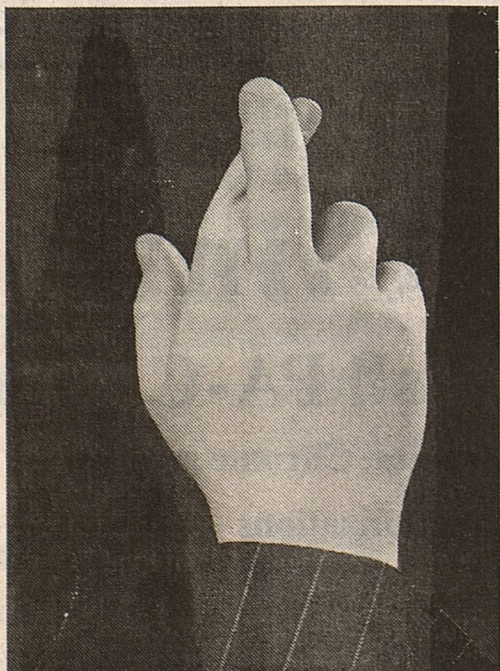


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