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Cowboy Country News

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

Volume VI, Issue 20, February 2, 2000



'99 Queen Stormy McDowell, 2000 Queen Becca Parker, runners up Ragan McGinty, Shay Allsup.

48th Annual Livestock Show Issue

4-H and FFA first time exhibitors at this year's annual Junior Livestock Show and Sale learned what 'more seasoned' veterans have known all along. It takes lots of long hours, hard work from many volunteers, and generous support from the county's two communities. When the last show animal sold in the big auction Saturday evening after two days of weighing in and the showing, many a youngster and their parents gave a sigh of relief.

The number of show animals was down from last year, but their quality didn't suffer. Grand Champion winners and animals included Austin Keesee, Steer; Rustin Knight, Gilt Pig; Amanda Gibson (Hiller), Barrow; Marty Roberts, Lamb; T.J. Kitchens, Goat, and Casey Mayes, Rabbit.

Reserve Grand Champion Awards went to Skylar Keesee, Steer; Michael Therwanger, Gilt Pig; Becca Parker, Barrow Pig; Mandi Anderson, Lamb; Chance Kitchens, Goat, and Matthew McKinzie, Rabbit.

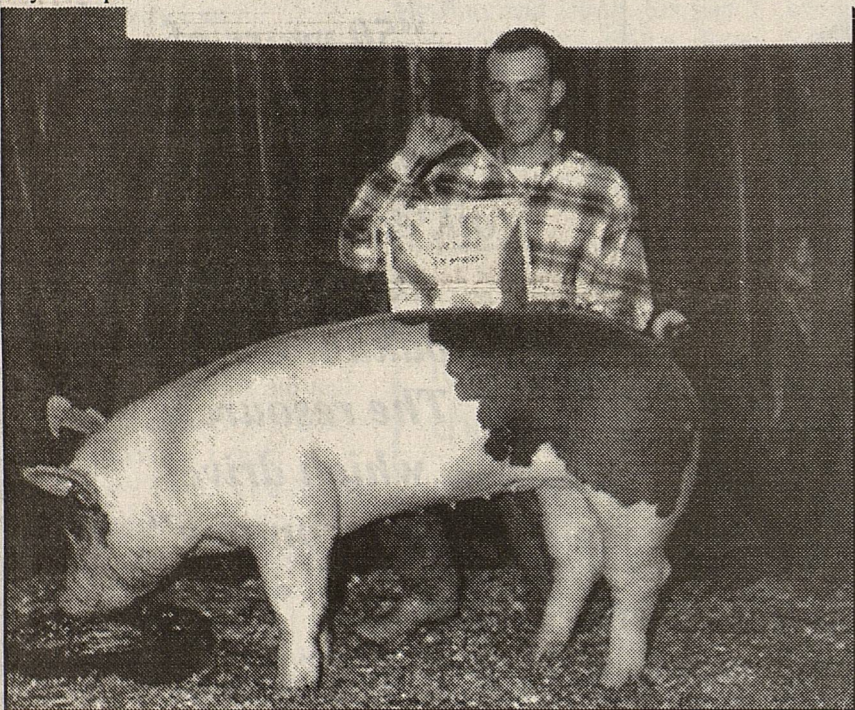
The always spirited Livestock Show Queen Contest saw Becca Parker of Denver City named the 2000 Queen. Runner up places went to Plains Shay Allsup and Ragan McGinty.

Showmanship award winners included Sara Horn, Kutter Anderson, Logan Wood, T.J. Kitchens, Mandie Anderson, Skyler Keesee, Chelsea Blount, Kandice Toney and Jeremy Horn.

More photos, results inside



Austin Keesee and Grand Champion Steer.



Rustin Knight and Champion Gilt Cross.



Marty Roberts and Champion Lamb.

Sandy Land Observes 10th Anniversary

Water District has impressive record of service and achievements

Any definitive historical work on the State of Texas will contain extensive material about a natural resource Texans simply cannot exist without - water. Here in West Texas, a vast area under-blessed with precipitation common in other parts of the state, the role of ground water is absolutely critical for our ability to remain 'West Texans'.

In November, 1989, the voters of Yoakum County declared their awareness of the need to conserve, preserve and protect the underlying Ogallala Aquifer, the source for the entire South Plains groundwater. They voted approval to form the Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District. Purposes and goals of the district included monitoring both water quality and quantity; service the county's two communities with water management plans; establish distancing rules for new agricultural irrigation wells; develop more efficient means of applying agricultural water; provide on farm assistance to producers for individual problems, and exercise self government through local control and regulation of the resource through local elections.

Following the election, a temporary Board of Directors were seated. An initial Board was later formed, consisting of David Turnbough, President, L.J. Sanders, Vice President, Ray Bearden, Secretary, and Directors Brad Palmer and Don Parrish.

Current Board members are David Turnbough, Don Parrish, Dennis Harrison, R.E. Bearden and Darrell Barron.



Sandy Land Board of Directors, L-R clockwise, Darrell Barron, Don Parrish, David Turnbough, Dennis Harrison, R.E. (Ray) Bearden

Gary Walker, current Sandy Land Consultant, was hired by the board February 1, 1990.

In its ten years existence, Sandy Land has issued well permits meeting required spacing limits for drilling 865 irrigation wells in the county. 24 permits have been issued to date in January, 2000.

The district has been very active in securing grant funds which are used to make loans to pro-

ducers for new or newer, more efficient irrigation systems. Local producers have used these low interest loans for 176 one-quarter mile pivot systems, 27 half-mile systems, and five sprinkler packages. These loans total \$5,916,727.

An illustration of how effectively these new and improved irrigation systems conserve ground water is illustrated by figures from a partial list of grant loans in 1992: Ten producers used grant

loans to modify or replace irrigation systems. These improvements saved some 1,250 gallons of water per minute, or 75,000 gallons an hour. Assuming an irrigation season of 60 days, water savings totalled 108,000,000 gallons.

Sandy Land has been a generous contributor to county youth. Since 1991, the district has contributed equal amounts of scholarship funds to Denver City and Plains High School Seniors winning their annual water conservation essay contest. Through 1999, \$22,000 in scholarships have been awarded. Additionally, this year the district awarded two \$2,500 scholarships to two Tech graduate students who are working on advanced degrees involving water conservation or agriculture.

Since 1996, Sandy Land has assisted city governments of both Plains and Denver City with grant funds used in improving their water systems. Plains has received \$10,605, and Denver City \$36,500.

One of the major accomplishments of the district occurred in 1993, when it's board and the Yoakum County Commissioners Court approved the start up of the County Landfill, located on county land about half way between Plains and Denver City. There, waste from the cities is dumped, packed and covered, with each town paying a fee for the operation of the landfill. County residents may also dispose of waste on a fee basis. The landfill has saved every county tax payer a tremendous amount of dollars, com-

From Page 1, Water

pared to other area cities contracting for hauling their refuse to distant landfills. The water district manages the landfill operation. Sandy Land has annually received approval from the IRS to accept the water district's water depletion levels. Producers with wells showing depletion levels may claim healthy deductions for this loss on their annual tax returns. Almost seventy producers have taken advantage of these deductions. Exact figures for the deductions are impossible to calculate because of the individuals tax returns, but the tax benefits are very significant.

Sandy Land Board President David Turnbough told CCN, "This tenth anniversary of our water district makes me realize we started it at least twenty years behind, but I believe we have managed to do a great deal of catching up. I honestly feel the programs of the district have provided more water conservation, more water quality control, than we've experienced in the county the last 100 years. We appreciate the cooperation of our two cities, all our ag producers and our citizens over these ten years. Our programs have greatly improved and expanded, and we now definitely know the direction we are going."

From Ash To Cash

Texas figures out what to do with huge financial windfall

Spend it? Pay off debts? Invest it? Set some aside for a rainy day? If you follow conventional investing advice, you'll spend some, invest some and sock some away.

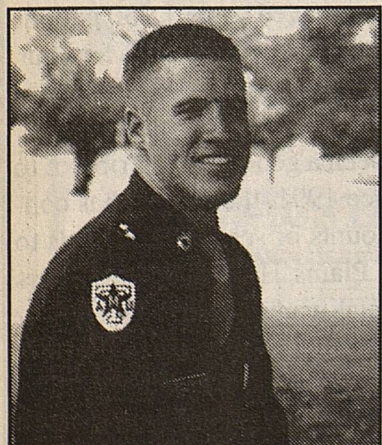
That's what the State of Texas is doing with the \$17.3 billion it will receive over the next 25 years from the settlement of its lawsuit against tobacco companies, plus \$580 million annually thereafter.

The biggest chunk of payments - \$3.3 billion - comes up front, and the Legislature was responsible for deciding what to do with most of it. Lawmakers used it to set up endowments whose interest earnings will pay for research at Texas medical schools and universities. They also set up an endowment whose interest earnings will pay for anti-smoking programs. The Legislature also took care of an immediate need, using \$180 million to fund the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Local governments are guaranteed some funds by court orders.

The money comes from the settlement of a lawsuit Texas filed against tobacco companies seeking to recover some of the billions of tax dollars spent treating Medicaid patients suffering tobacco related ailments. Nationally, the tobacco industry has agreed to pay states a total of \$246 billion to settle such claims.

The annualized payout equals about 2 percent of the current

Clark named Distinguished Student



Justin Stiles Clark, a Junior in Texas A & M's College of Agriculture and Science, was informed recently he had been named a 'Distinguished Student' for the 1999 Fall Semester. Only students with a 3.25 GPR or higher are considered for the honor.

Clark, a graduate of Denver City High School, is a Junior, majoring in Biology-Chemistry. He is a member of the Corps of Cadets, and has been awarded a Navy ROTC scholarship, as well as Corps Commandant's scholarship.

He is the son of Richard and Kathy Clark of Denver City.

Texas budget, about the same amount of money the state collects in cigarette taxes. Here's an overview of how the state is managing its windfall.

The largest spending program was \$180 million for CHIP. The program provides insurance for 500,000 children 18 and younger not eligible for Medicaid. The federal government will reimburse the state 74 cents for every dollar the state spends on CHIP.

The Legislature will have placed more than \$2.5 billion in permanent endowments in state and local treasuries by the end of the 2000-01 period for health programs. The endowments were created so earnings can be used for health programs without spending the principal. There are four basic groups of permanent endowments;

The largest group is made up of 13 permanent funds controlled by state universities and medical schools, totaling \$595 million. Earnings will go to the associated institutions.

The second group of five permanent funds totalling \$475 million is managed by the Comptroller of Public Accounts, and earnings go to the Texas Department of Health.

Earnings from the third group of permanent funds, capitalized with \$420 million, will be used by the state's medical schools and other higher education institutions.

Open House

in recognition of Sandy Land

UWCD's 10 Year

Anniversary. Public Invited

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The fourth group, local government's permanent fund, is the state's largest single endowment. The initial capitalization of \$1.05 billion will be added to through 2003, reaching a total of almost \$2 billion, the only fund to receive additional principal.

The state tobacco endowments are expected to allow for a distribution of 4.5 percent of the fair market value of each fund annually.

* Material for this article courtesy Carole Keaton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Walker Travels To Iowa To Help Presidential Campaign

Plains, Texas, Thursday, January 27, 2000--Upon request of Governor George W. Bush, State Representative Gary Walker (R-Plains) traveled to Iowa Saturday, January 22 to help the Texas Governor with his campaign for President.

Walker joined a group of Texas Republican state lawmakers to campaign for Governor Bush at the Iowa Republican Caucus. The group also met with state Republican officials from Iowa and participated in various events with Bush. The Iowa Caucuses were the first ballot test Presidential candidates faced this year.

"I was proud to have a chance to tell the citizens of Iowa about the great things Governor Bush has accomplished for the State of Texas," Walker said. "He has a positive vision for the future of the United States that includes restoring family values, improving educational standards, and returning more money to the average taxpayers' pocket."

Representative Walker has served in the Texas House of Representatives since January

of 1995, and is currently Chairman of the House Committee on Land and Resource Management. Additionally, Walker serves on the House Natural Resources Committee and is a member of the Texas House Republican Caucus.

Vegetable production conference scheduled

The West Texas Vegetable Production Conference will be held in Denver City at the Community Building, February 10, from 8 am to 2 pm. Registration will be from 8 to 8:30 am. Registration fee will be \$20 which includes lunch. The workshop is sponsored by the Yoakum County Office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and is designed to help vegetable growers interested in gaining new, useful information about vegetable production which will include watermelons, chili

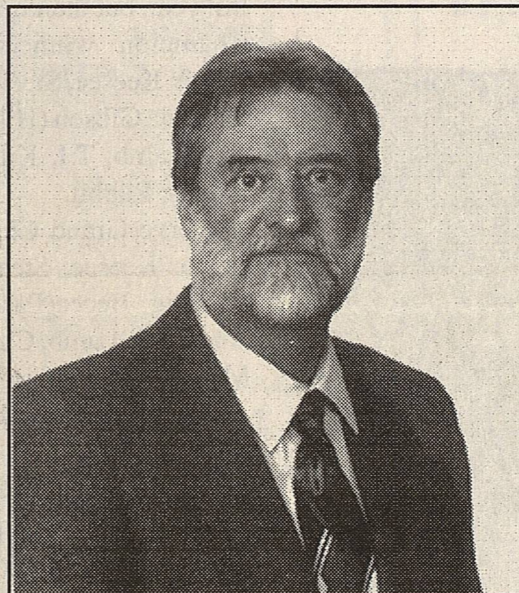
peppers, cucumbers and other vegetable crop alternatives.

Featured speakers include several Texas Agricultural Extension Service Specialists who will make presentations on a variety of subjects including; Identification and treatment of disease; Insect control; Weed control; Pollination; Varieties, selection and trial results; Fertility and water requirements/management. Mendy Shugart with TDA will be on hand to present one hour of pesticide laws and regulations. Three (3) CEU's will be given. This short course is held in support of Statewide Goal 2 Environmental Stewardship and Natural Resources, and Statewide Goal 3 Economic Competiveness, viability and stability.

All agricultural producers are encouraged to attend. If possible, please RSVP by February 10, 806-456-2263.

Feb. 11, 1828 - Freemasonry began in Texas when Masons, including Stephen F. Austin met to consider petitioning the Grand Lodge of Mexico to organize a lodge in Texas.

Rex Swann



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NOTICE OF PETITION

Texas ALLTEL, Inc. (Texas ALLTEL) has filed a petition with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) to establish a surcharge to recover lost revenues and increased costs associated with Expanded Local Calling Service (ELCS) for several Texas ALLTEL exchanges. The submission of this petition is in accordance with the Commission's Substantive Rule 23.49 (c)(12), a measure established as a result of Senate Bill 632 in the 73rd session of the Texas State Legislature.

ELCS permits an exchange to expand its local calling scope to include one or more exchanges if customers approve by ballot the payment of an ELCS fee in lieu of long distance charges. The costs and lost revenues associated with this petition are those not recoverable through the ELCS fee.

If the Texas ALLTEL petition is approved, the company's basic local exchange customers will be assessed an additional monthly surcharge of \$2.30 for business, \$1.15 for residential and \$0.40 for Tel-Assist customers per access line. If approved by the Commission, the additional monthly surcharge will begin, on an interim basis, with the March 25, 2000 billing cycle, with an agreement to refund all or part of the charge if the Commission does not finally approve the rate.

The net annual effect on the revenues of Texas ALLTEL will be zero since the requested surcharge replaces lost revenues and reimburses Texas ALLTEL for the increased direct cost of service associated with all ELCS petitions placed in service since September 1, 1996. The estimated total lost revenues and increased costs Texas ALLTEL seeks to recover through this proceeding is \$41,027 monthly.

If you have questions about this charge or would like further information, please call Texas ALLTEL at 1-800-452-5354.

The Public Utility Commission has assigned Project No. 21891 to this proceeding. Persons who wish to intervene or comment in these proceedings should notify the Commission by March 10, 2000. All requests to intervene should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326. For information on intervening, please call the Commission at (512) 936-7120. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136.



AVISO DE PETICIÓN

Texas ALLTEL, Inc. (Texas ALLTEL) ha presentado una petición oficial ante la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Tejas (Public Utility Commission) (Comisión) para establecer un recargo para recuperar los ingresos perdidos y los costos incrementados asociados con las peticiones de Ampliación del Servicio de Llamadas Locales (ELCS) para varias de las áreas de Texas ALLTEL. Esta petición se presenta en base a la Regla Substantiva número 23.49 (c)(12) de la Comisión, una medida establecida en el Documento 632 del Senado en la 73ava sesión de la Legislatura del Estado de Tejas.

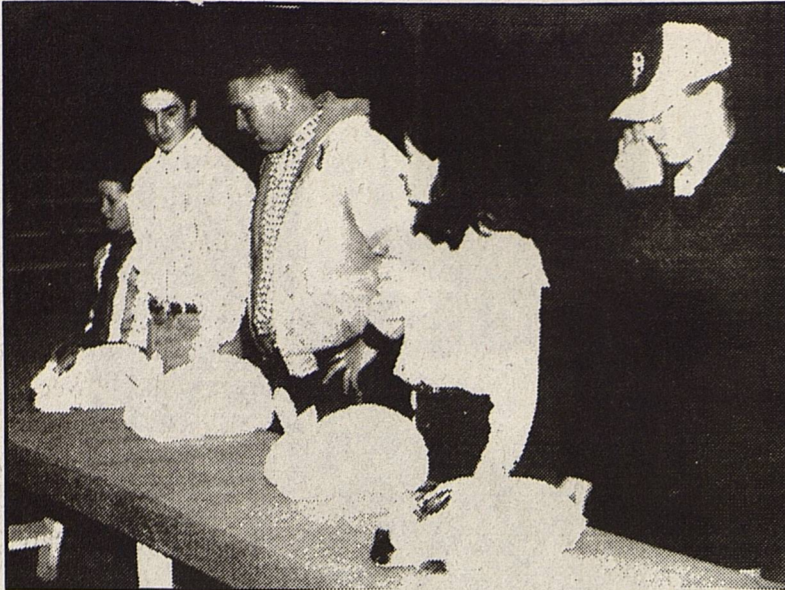
La ELCS permite que un área amplíe su alcance de llamadas locales para que incluyan una o más áreas, sólo si los clientes aprueban el pago de una tasa ELCS mediante una boleta en lugar de cargos por llamadas de larga distancia. Los costos y los ingresos perdidos relacionados a esta petición son aquellos que no son recuperables mediante la tasa ELCS.

Si se aprueba la petición de Texas ALLTEL, los abonados en el área local básica de la compañía recibirán un cargo mensual adicional de \$2.30 para abonados comerciales, \$1.15 para abonados residenciales y \$0.40 para los clientes Tel-Assist por acceso de línea. Si la Comisión lo aprueba, el recargo mensual adicional comenzará provisoriamente con el ciclo de facturación del 25 de marzo del año 2000, con el acuerdo de reembolsar todo o parte del recargo si la Comisión finalmente no aprueba la tasa.

El efecto anual neto sobre los ingresos de Texas ALLTEL será igual a cero ya que el recargo solicitado reemplaza ingresos perdidos y reembolsa a Texas ALLTEL por el incremento directo del costo de los servicios asociado con las peticiones ELCS implementadas a partir del 1 de septiembre de 1996. Se estima un total de ingresos perdidos y costos incrementados de a recuperar a través de este procedimiento de \$41,027 por mes.

Si tiene alguna pregunta con respecto a este cargo o si quisiera obtener información adicional, sírvase llamar a Texas ALLTEL al 1-800-452-5354.

La Comisión de Servicios Públicos ha asignado el Número de Proyecto 21891 a este proceso. Las personas interesadas en participar o expresar algún comentario con respecto a este proceso deben notificar a la Comisión antes del 10 de marzo del año 2000. Cualquier solicitud de participación debe ser enviada por correo a la Public Utility Commission of Texas, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, TX 78711-3326. Para obtener información sobre cómo participar, llame a la Comisión al (512) 936-7120. Aquellos individuos con problemas de oído o de habla que tengan teléfonos teletipo pueden contactar a la Comisión al (512) 936-7136.



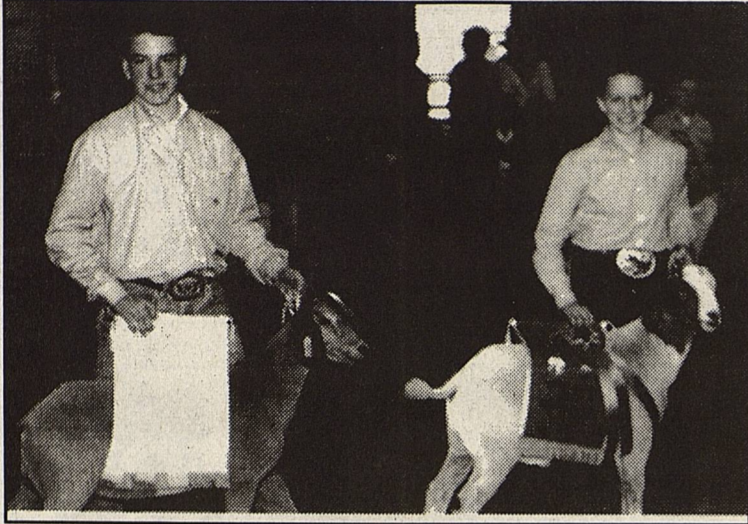
Cody Mayers, Jeremy Horn, Jeremy Humphrey, Sara Horn, Grady McNabb at rabbit table.



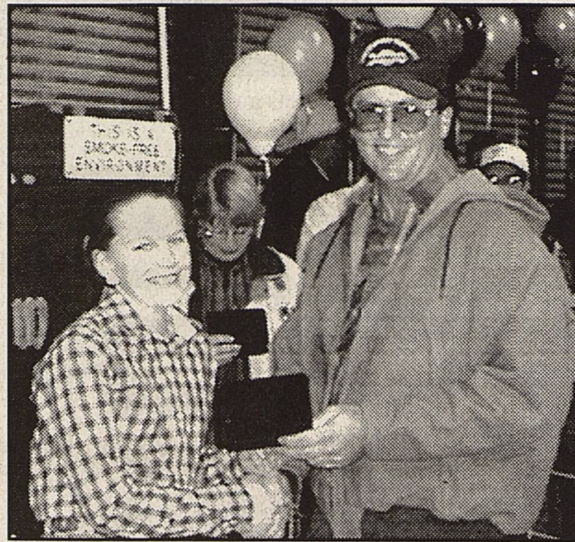
Skyler Keesee with reserve champion steer.



Kristen Knight displays her ribbon.



Champion goats in one family; Chance & T.J. Kitchens.



Mike Roberts presents award to T.J. Kitchens.



Mandi Anderson gets lamb award from Toni Jones.



Pat McNabb gives award to Sara Horn.

Plains ISD Basketball Recap

Junior High:

7th Girls - The 7th Lady Wrangler's Coach lamented, "Every team we play has girls taller than trees!", following their 44-9 loss to Post last week. Lela Coronado managed 3 points, Prisma Ortiz and Jesenia Suarez had 2 each, Marlie Diaz and Kristian Morales 1 each.

8th Girls - The older girls came a bit closer against Post, but were still downed 29-17. Moriah Traweek led the scoring with 8 points, and Jeanie Longoria, Sarah Martinez and Helen Neufeld had 3 each.

7th Boys - The boys found Post tough also, and were defeated 30-15. Scott Bruton made 6 points, Kerry Sisson 3, Evan Cain and Cody Flores 2 each, Payton Bean and Kelby Johnson 1 each.

JV Cowgirls - The JV girls had a good outing against Tahoka, winning 35-30, the second victory over the Lady Bulldogs. They are now 3 and 3 in district play. Jessica Rodriguez had 9 points, Kayla Willis 8, Chelsea Blount 6, Mackenzie Winn, Keri Hansen 4, Arasley Luna and Mandi Rogers 2 each. The Girls next fell to Seagraves 53-43. Chelsea had 14 points, Jessica 10, Arasley 7, Mackenzie 6, Kayla 4, and Keri 2.

JV Cowboys - The younger Cowboys lost in a good game to Tahoka 75-67. Jarod Newland led the scoring with 21 points, Moises Gonzales had 19, and Tanner Hamm 13. They bounced back in 52-29 win over Seagraves. Aaron hit 6 three point shots for a total of 22 points, Moises and Jarod had 7 each. Their season record is 14 wins, 5 losses, and they are 4-1 in district play.

Varsity Cowgirls - The Cowgirls lost a squeaker to Tahoka 44-41. Krystle Blundell was top scorer with 12 points, Candace Bowers had 11, Kim Willis 5, Kristen Gray, Anne Palmer and Chelsi Wagnon 3 each, Michaela Traweek 2. Krystle had 10 steals, and Candace pulled down 11 rebounds. The Cowgirls found Seagraves too tough, and went

down 58-32. Krystle was again top scorer with 14, Kristen and Candace had 5 each, Anne and Chelsi 3 each, Lexi Warren and Annaliesa O'Quinn 1 each.

Varsity Cowboys - The Cowboys were downed by a tough Tahoka team, 68-50. Josh Bell topped scoring with 9 points, Patrick McGinty and Dustin Six had 7 each, Kelsey Blundell 6, Eddy Gallegos 5, Brett Squyres, Fermin Luna and Jared Bell 4 each, Justin Bennett 3, and Kyle Sisson 1. Seagraves game report unavailable.

Student of the Week

This weeks student of the week is Nicole Newsom a senior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Neal Newsom. Nicole was nominated by Mr. Canon who said, "When I think Student of the Week, I think of someone who tries to extend themselves to learn new things, even if they are not successful the first time. If we are successful the first time at everything we do, then we are not extending ourselves beyond our abilities. The way we learn and achieve is to be willing to try things we are not capable of doing. Think of where we would be today if people were afraid of trying things beyond their capaci-



ties. Nicole is willing to try new things and once achieved, is willing to help fellow students achieve the same goals.

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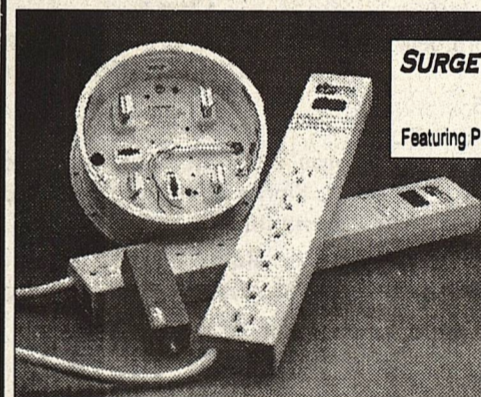
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Livestock Show Results

Swine-Gilts
(BC=Breed Champ-
RBC=Reserve Breed Champ)

Durocs-Class 1
Jennifer Coston 1st, Chelsea Blount
2nd, Chris Cleveland 3rd, Trey Cleve-
land 4th.

Class 2
Jessica Knight 1st B.C., Harley Raney
2nd R.B.C., Kandice Toney 3rd.

Hampshires-Class 3
Stephanie Addison 1st, Michael
Therwhanger 2nd, Hannah Crump
3rd, Justin Chambliss 4th.

Class 4
Kristen Knight 1st B.C., Kandice
Toney 2nd, Lindsey Turney 3rd,
Krystle Blundell 4th.

Class 5
Kristen Knight 1st R.B.C., Hannah
Crump 2nd, Cassidy Moore 3rd.

Yorkshires- Class 6
Michael Therwhanger 1st B.C., Amy
Clark 2nd, Stephanie Addison 3rd,
Alyssa Holmes 4th.

Class 7
Kristen Knight 1st R.B.C., Cassie
Coronel 2nd, Chelsey-Anne Bearden
3rd, Kelsi Birdsong 4th.

OPB- Class 8
Annaliesa O'Quinn 1st B.C., Tadd
Coston 2nd R.B.C., Becky Coronel
3rd, Sandi Anderson 4th.

Class 9
Shay Allsup 1st B.C., Harley Raney
2nd R.B.C., Alecia Bearden 3rd.

Crosses- Class 10
James Smith 1st, Michael
Therwhanger 2nd, Dawn Garland 3rd,
Dawn Garland 4th.

Class 11
Justin Chambliss 1st, Megan Lewis
2nd, Stephanie Addison 3rd, Krystle
Blundell 4th.

Class 12
Kallie Clark 1st R.B.C., Blake
O'Quinn 2nd, Cassie Coronel 3rd,
Justin Chambliss 4th.

Class 13
Rustin Knight 1st B.C., Kaitlyn
Moore 2nd, Kandice Toney 3rd,
Maretta Trent 4th.

Barrows- Class 1-Durocs
Jeremy Humphrey 1st, Lauren Will-
iams 2nd, Chris Addison 3rd, Blake
Parrish 4th.

Class 2
James Smith 1st, Oscar Conde 2nd,
Amanda Owens 3rd, Scott Addison
4th.

Class 3
Amanda Gibson (Hiller) 1st B.C.,
Casey Mayes 2nd, Jennifer Coston
3rd, Staci Tuggle 4th.

Class 4
Rustin Knight 1st R.B.C., Jeffrey
Lollar 2nd, Alecia Bearden 3rd, Jen-
nifer Gibson (Hiller) 4th.

Hampshires- Class 5
Amanda Gibson (Hiller) 1st R.B.C.,
Sandi Anderson 2nd, Jessica Knight
3rd, Jeremy Ponce 4th.

Class 6
Jessica Knight 1st, Alyssa Holmes
2nd, Darwin Sizemore, Jr. 3rd, Staci
Tuggle 4th.

Class 7
Kaitlyn Moore 1st, Troy Parrish 2nd,
Chase Guetersloh 3rd, Scott Addison
4th.

Class 8
Margaret McPherson 1st B.C., Trey
Cleveland 2nd, B.J. Lester 3rd,
Chelsey-Anne Bearden 4th.

Class 9
Elizabeth Clanahan 1st, Kandice
Toney 2nd, Casey Mayes 3rd, Staci
Tuggle 4th.

**Poland & Spotted Poland China-
Class 10**
Todd Bailey 1st R.B.C., Lindsey
Turney 2nd, Patrick Sizemore 3rd,
Misty McDowell 4th.

Class 11
Elizabeth Clanahan 1st B.C., Blake
Parrish 2nd, Kerry Sisson 3rd, Kerry
Sisson 4th.

Yorkshires- Class 12
Becca Parker 1st B.C., Chris Addison
2nd R.B.C., Todd Bailey 3rd, Maretta
Trent 4th.

Class 13
Lesli Rowe 1st, Michael
Therwhanger 2nd, Cassie Coronel
3rd, Becky Coronel 4th.

OPB- Class 14
Tadd Coston 1st B.C., B.J. Lester 2nd
R.B.C.

Class 15
Chelsey-Anne Bearden 1st B.C.,
Patrick Sizemore 2nd R.B.C.

Crosses-Class 16
Scott Addison 1st, Colby Clinton 2nd,
Becca Parker 3rd, Trey Cleveland 4th.

Class 17
Chelsey Blount 1st, Cody Mayes 2nd,
Chris Cleveland 3rd, Chelsey Blount
4th.

Class 18
Lindsey Turney 1st B.C., Rustin
Knight 2nd, Lindsey Turney 3rd,
B.J. Lester 4th.

Class 19
Lesli Rowe 1st, Jessica Knight 2nd,
Jeremy Ponce 3rd, Chelsey-Anne
Bearden 4th.

Class 20
Jeffrey Lollar 1st, Staci Tuggle 2nd,
Rustin Knight 3rd, Jeremy Humphrey
4th.

Class 21
Jennifer Gibson (Hiller) 1st R.B.C.,
Justin Chambliss 2nd, Elizabeth
Clanahan 3rd, Dustin Sellers 4th.

Lambs-Class 1
Jennifer Lewis 1st B.C., Jennifer
Coston 2nd R.B.C., Tadd Coston 3rd.

Class 2
Macy Roberts 1st B.C., Shelby
Owens 2nd R.B.C., Kutter Anderson
3rd, Amanda Owens 4th.

Class 3
Mandi Anderson 1st R.B.C., Tadd
Coston 2nd, Mandi Anderson 3rd,
Bobby Perry 4th.

Class 4
Marty Roberts 1st B.C., Tadd Coston
2nd, Marty Roberts 3rd, Tadd Coston
4th.

Goats-Class 1
Becca Parker 1st, Cody Mayes 2nd,
Cody Mayes 3rd, Dawn Garland 4th.

Class 2
Chance Kitchens 1st, Chance Kitch-
ens 2nd, Dawn Garland 3rd, Joel
Horn 4th.

Class 3
T. J. Kitchens 1st, Ragan McGinty
2nd, T.J. Kitchens 3rd, T.J. Kitchens
4th.

Class 4
Ragan McGinty 1st, Matthew Merritt
2nd, Landra Wood 3rd, T.J. Kitchens
4th.

Class 5
Logan Wood 1st, Misty McDowell
2nd, Stormy McDowell 3rd, Macy
Roberts 4th.

Rabbits-Class 1
Casey Mayes 1st, Cody Mayes 2nd.

Class 2
Grady McNabb 1st.

Class 3
Casey Mayes 1st, Cody Mayes 2nd,
Casey Mayes 3rd, Grady McNabb
4th.

Class 4
Grady McNabb 1st.

Class 5
Matt McKenzie 1st, Hannah Crump
2nd, Jamie Williams 3rd, Cody
Mayes 4th.

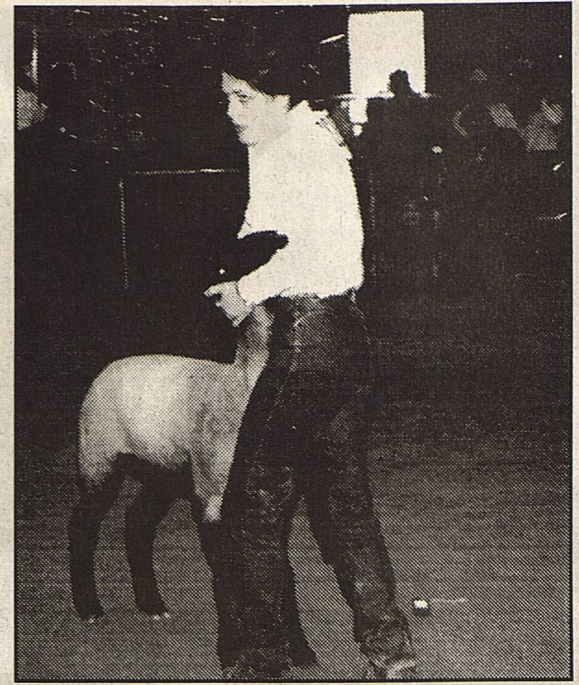
Class 6
Andrew Duran 1st.

Class 7
Jeremy Horn 1st, Cody Mayes 2nd,
Jeremy Horn 3rd, Grady McNabb 4th.

Class 8
Jamie Williams 1st.



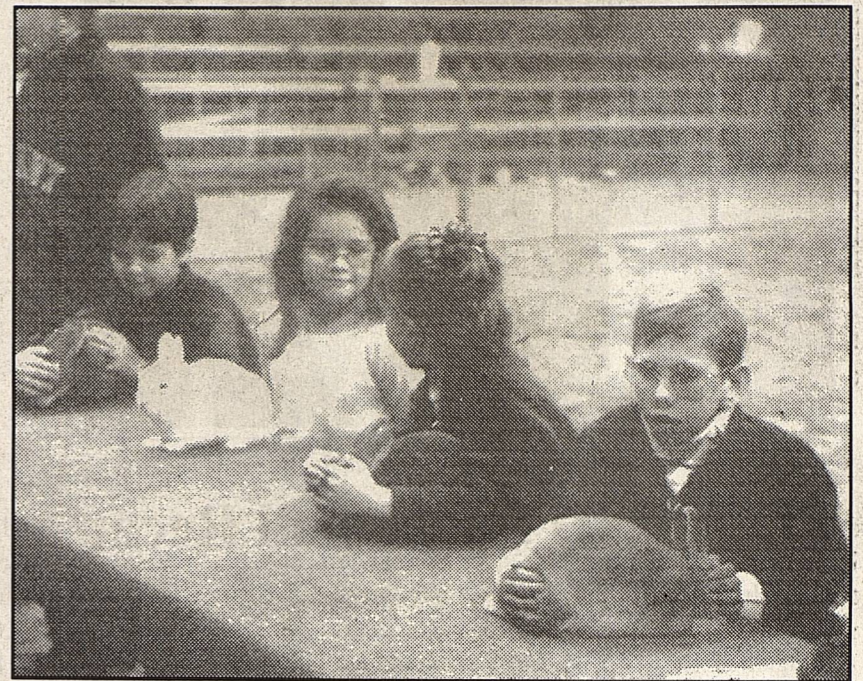
Lesla Wood presents award to Jeremy Horn.



Jennifer Coston with good lamb.



Hannah Crump is intent on her pig.



Youngsters enjoyed their rabbits & visiting.



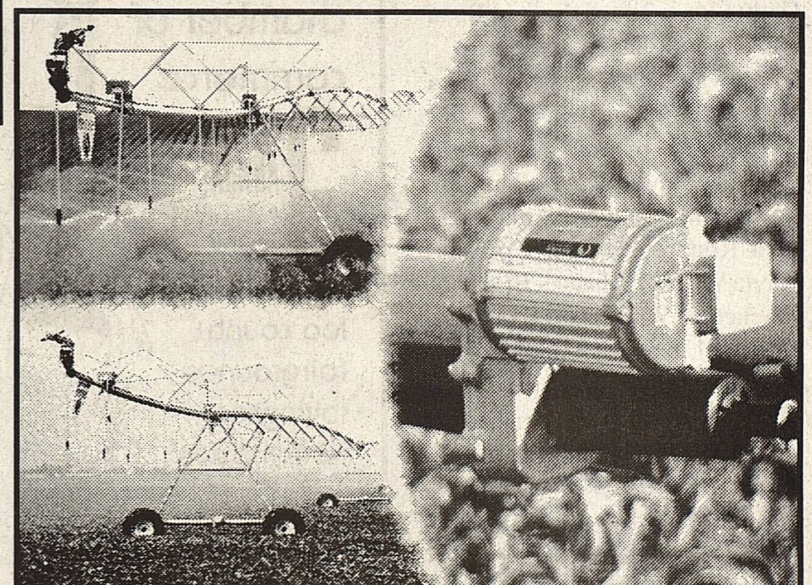
Don Parrish gives Kandice Toney award.



Don Parrish gives award to Chelsea Blount.



Dawn Garland shows good goat.



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Subscription price in Zip Code 793 \$15 annually
Other Zip Codes \$18 annually
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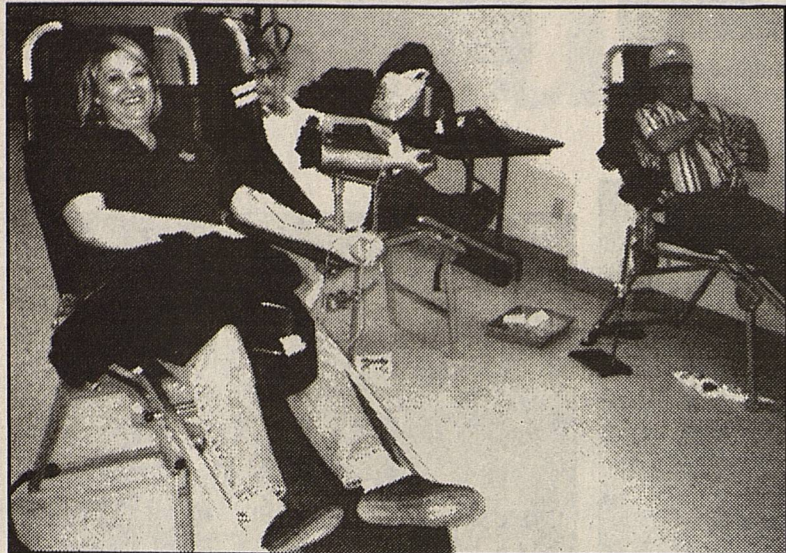
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Successful Blood Drive



A big THANK YOU to those that responded to the blood drive for Tina Bruton last Saturday. 50 pints were collected and added to her credit. Thanks to Lowe's for the cookies and orange juice.

Are You Ready To Vote?

County residents planning to vote in the March 14 primary elections are reminded to make sure they are legally prepared to do so. Problems at the polls on election day can be avoided if your voter registration card contains all correct information. If any of the information on the card is incorrect, it must be corrected by the February 14 deadline. A visit to one of the two County Tax Assessor/Collector offices before the February 14 deadline to correct any errors will ensure a voter's eligibility.

Some of the more common errors on registration cards is incorrect addresses, or wrong voting precincts resulting when a voter moves. The deadline also applies to those residents who do not have a voter registration card, and first time voters.

In the March 14 primary elections, voters will be asked if they wish to vote in the Democrat or Republican primary. They will be allowed to vote either, but not both elections. Voters will be allowed to vote for either party candidates in the November general election.

Early voting for the primary elections starts here February 28, and ends March 10, and all voters are urged to take advantage of this opportunity, and avoid last minute problems which may arise on the March 14 date.

New Books At The Library

Fiction: Secret Honor...W.E.B. Griffin, *The Cat Who Robber A Bank*...Lilian J. Braun, *The Nostradamus Prophecy*...John Powell, *Waiting*...Frank Robinson, *Thale's Folly*...Dorothy Gilman, *The Least Likely Bride*...Jane Feather, *False Memory*...Dean Koontz, *Through None Go With Me*...Jerry Jenkins.

Non-Fiction: *Protecting The Gift: Keeping Children And Teenagers Safe*...Gavin De Becker, *J.K. Lasser's Your Income Tax, The Century For Young People*...Peter Jennings, *The Mystery Of God's Will*...Charles Swindoll, *Vanished Into Thin Air*...Hal Lindsey, *Win The Weight Game*...Sarah, *The Duchess of York and Weight Watchers*, *Crisis Control*...Larry Burkett, *Maximize The Moment*...T.D. Jakes. **Memorial** For Ray Goodman...*The Bible Jesus Read*...donated by Dolores Davis, **Memorial** For Myrtle Head...*America* by Rand McNally...donated by Mary Dale & Bud Forbus.

Do you feel like you are stuck in a rut?

Do you feel like you are on a boat that is adrift at sea?

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First United Methodist Church

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Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.

Morning Worship - 10:45 A.M.

You'll Be Glad You Did!

It's A Boy!

Vince and Shelly Fitzgerald are proud to announce the birth of their son Gregory Brock Fitzgerald.

Brock was born January 15 at 12:33 a.m. in Covenant Medical Center - Lakeside. He weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 21 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Venum and Judy Fitzgerald of Plains, Maternal grandparents are Greg and Linda Williams of Lubbock. Paternal great grandmother is Pansy Palmer of Plains. Maternal great grandmother is Norma Montgomery of Robert Lee.



Senior Sneak Preview

Senior Sneak Preview, an opportunity for area high school seniors to find out about future careers and college life, is scheduled February 10 at South Plains College in Levelland.

The day's activities coincide with SPC's homecoming celebration and will include career advisement sessions on academic and technical areas, tours of the campus, college information and student club fairs, entertainment, an information session designed for parents and a special multicultural presentation.

"This is an excellent opportunity for high school seniors throughout the area to get a taste of college life, receive valuable information and explore different career options," said Wendy Esch, coordinator of new student relations at SPC. "Parents of prospective college students are invited to attend a special information session designed for them," she added.

About 600 high school seniors from an estimated 80 high schools in West Texas and Eastern New Mexico are expected to attend the day's activities.

Registration begins at noon in

Texan Dome, where a light lunch will be served. A homecoming pep rally at 12:30 p.m. will precede a general assembly at 1 p.m. in the Dome.

Parking will be reserved in the lot south of the SPC Track Stadium. Participants arriving after 2 p.m. should report to the Visitors Center.

The day's schedule includes registration from noon-1 p.m., general assembly at 1 p.m., academic and technical advisement sessions and campus tours at 1:30 p.m., just for parents workshop at 2:30 p.m., college information and student club fairs, housing tours, special entertainment and a multicultural presentation at 3 p.m., and a Creative Arts Showcase from 4-5:30 p.m.

The college information fair will provide information on financial aid, scholarships, career planning and placement, housing, admissions, academic support services and other topics.

A Just for Parents workshop at 2:30 p.m. in the Founders Room in the Student Center will provide information on admissions, housing, tuition and fees, financial aid, academic transfer and other aspects of SPC.

Cards of Thanks

We would like to thank each of you for your prayers, cards and other kindnesses to our family during the loss of our uncle, Robert Culwell, and sister, Wanda Owens. It is nice to be a part of a community that shows and shares its love.

*We appreciate each of you.
Vaughn & Carolyn Culwell
& Nicole*

Angles walked amongst us when you gave of yourself by donating blood to Tina. Words seem so inadequate to describe our heartfelt thanks to you, Denver City and Plains, for giving a very precious gift, the gift of life. You are truly unique communities, and we thank God for you.

Tina Bruton's Family

Lesa Wood, CPA

810 E. Broadway
Denver City
592-9400

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Yoakum County Library

Filmtime

January 26, 2000- The program started with a book, *The Cat Book*, followed by a game, "Ring Around the Roses." The pledges to the United States and Texas flags were recited. A discussion about the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance was followed by the viewing of the video: "A Children's Guide to The Pledge of Allegiance." The illustrated story, "The Snake That Sneezed" was enjoyed by the group. The boys and girls viewed a video, "Dr. Suess's ABC" while they were served refreshments in honor of Autumn Friesen's fifth birthday. Those attending were: Clayton Gass, Mesa Davis, Autumn Friesen, Taya Hamilton, Colby Bearden, Lucas Hernandez, Micah St. Romain, Daitlyne Broome, Whitney and Johnathan Davis.

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From The Hack

I paid a visit to the famed Table of Wisdom at Eddins-Walcher recently. I still have no clue why. The important subject matter was the launching, or non-launching of boats on public lake ramps.

Now, I must tell you, I have some knowledge and experience in the matter. Possibly the most dramatic scene I witnessed during years of taking part in bass club tournaments occurred at Hubbard Creek Lake. It is 5:40 AM., and a line of towed bass boats is lined up from the ramp all the way to the highway.

My partner and I are in the line, patiently waiting, creeping forward as soon as a boat is launched. Then, our line stops. I mean dead stops. Some 8 or 10 minutes pass, and we hear this scream - "You dumb expletive, you're supposed to have your boat ready to launch, and you're up there tying on a lure!"

Seconds later, we see people leaping out of their vehicle, running toward the offending boat, where a terrific fist fight is taking place between the offending boat owner and the guys immediately behind them. The outcome was, the guy trying to get in the water, albeit slowly, was finally tossed in his rig, bleeding and bruised, and his partner promptly pulled out of the line. The moral everyone learned

was, "Don't mess around on the ramp, get your rig in the water or suffer bruises and contusions."

One of the regulars next described a similar scene he'd witness at a ramp. A man and wife pulled up to the ramp towing a fancy bass rig. The man backed it all down to the water's edge, and told his wife, "Now slide over here, press on the brake, and I'll get the boat off the trailer. Then, go park the pickup." She obeyed, somehow let her foot slip just a bit. The pickup lurched a few inches back, she panicked, leaped out, and the entire mess descended down the ramp, boat, trailer and pickup, only the cab of the pickup still visible.

Other boaters quickly gathered, and finally managed to winch the entire rig out of the water. Thoughtfully, they pulled the boat partially up on the bank, the pickup on higher ground. Would be mechanics were working diligently on the pickup, trying to dry it out and back to life, when someone yelled "Oh My God, look, the boat's sinking!"

Seems the mush head owner forgot to put the drain plug in the stern.

A helper asked, "Hey buddy, what do you think you're gonna do about all this mess?"

The owner grimaced and said quietly, "First thing after the divorce I am going to shoot myself."

Bass fishermen really love their rigs.

Something else really worthwhile I learned at the Table of Wisdom. We are not the only one's getting pounds of E-Mail

messages off the computer daily. The table was full of printouts of the things.

Here's a sample, hopefully one you haven't seen.

How do you get Holy water?

You boil the Hell out of it.

What do fish say when they hit a concrete wall?

Dam!

What do Eskimos get from sitting on ice too long?

Polaroids.

What do you call cheese that isn't your's?

Nacho Cheese.

What do you call Santa's helpers?

Subordinate Clauses.

What do you call four bullfighters in quicksand?

Quatro Sinko.

What do you get from a pampered cow?

Spoiled milk.

What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?

A nervous wreck.

Where do you find a dog with no legs?

Right where you left him.

Why do gorillas have big nostrils?

They have big fingers.

What's the difference in roast beef and pea soup?

Anyone can roast beef.

What's the difference between a Harley and a Hoover?

The location of the dirt bag.

Why does a Pilgrim's pants always fall down?

Cause their belt buckle's on their hat.

What's the difference between a bad golfer and a bad skydiver?

The golfer goes, whack, damn, the skydiver goes damn, whack.



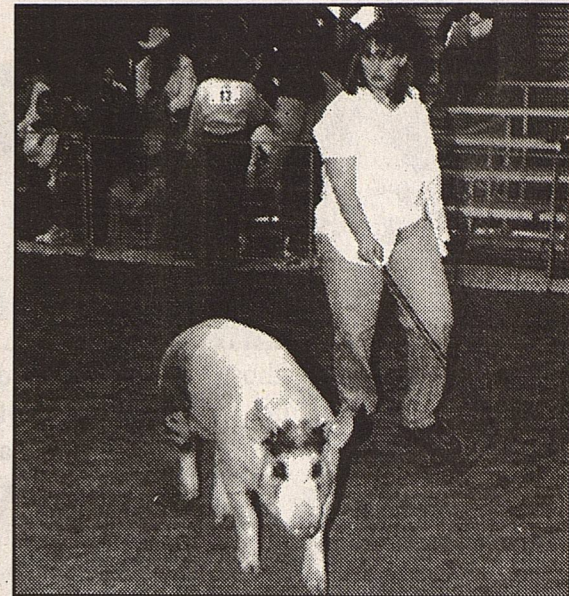
Skylar Keesee receives award from Jimmie Bearden



Logan Wood with award from Mike Roberts.



Kutter Anderson with award from Kreg Keesee



Leslie Rowe shows good Cross pig.

*** NOTICE OF BID PROPOSALS ***

Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive written competitive bid proposals for the purchase of (1) CT Scan for the Yoakum County Hospital, until 4:00 P.M. Wednesday, February 9, 2000. Proposals will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in regular session of Commissioners Court on Monday, February 14, 2000. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Mr. Ed Rodgers, Administrator, Yoakum County Hospital, 412 Mustang Avenue, PO Box 1130, Denver City, Texas, 79323, Phone 806-592-2121. Write "PROPOSALS-CT SCAN" on the envelope, seal and mail or deliver to Ed Rodgers, Hospital Administrator, Yoakum County Hospital, 412 Mustang Avenue, POP Box 1130, Denver City, Texas, 79323. Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

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