

Cowboy Country News



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

Volume V11, Issue 22 February 14, 2001

Criminal cases heard in District Court

In the February 5 session of District Court, with Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, seven criminal cases were presented by Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark.

In a plea bargain guilty plea, Michael Dean Martin received a twenty month sentence in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice State Jail Division for five causes of forgery. He must pay court costs totaling \$1921.25, and pay \$107 restitution to Dale's Venture Foods, \$342 to Western Sales, and three payments of restitution totaling \$446 to Broadway Superette. The state jail sentence will run concurrently in the five causes. Attorney Jimmy Hammons represented the defendant, and investigating officer was Tracy Hinson, Denver City Police.

Jackie Lynn Townsend, aka Jackie Lynn Apodaca, pled guilty to possession of methamphetamine. A ten year prison sentence was suspended and probated ten years. Time payments will meet a \$1500 fine, and \$222 court costs. She must spend 180 days in county jail or until space is available in a Substance Abuse Felony Punishment Facility for at least 90

days but no more than one year. She must attend weekly AA (narcotics) meetings, surrender her driver license one year, complete the drug offenders program, and serve 240 hours community service.

Bill Helwig was her attorney, and Rick Dickson, Llano Estacado Drug Task Force, was the investigating officer.

Juan Rolando Sanchez pled guilty to a 3rd or more DWI charge. A \$1000 fine and \$237 court costs will be met with time payments. He will be confined in the Brownfield Court Residential Treatment Center (CRTC) at least one month but no longer than 24 months as an alternative to a period in county jail or state prison. Upon discharge from CRTC, he must participate in the Aftercare Program, attend weekly AA meetings, surrender his driver license 90 days, install an ignition interlock device on any driven vehicle, complete the DWI Repeat Offender Program, serve 160 hours community service, and obtain alcohol/drug dependency evaluation. Jack Stoffregen represented the defendant, and Trooper Janet A. Martin was investigating officer.

Two Cowboys Make All-State Band



Skyler Johnson and Chris McGinty

Hours of hard work have paid off for two members of the Plains Cowboy Band, Plains High School Senior Skyler Johnson and Junior Chris Mc Ginty. They advanced through a series of area and regional musical competitions to compete in the 1A, 2A and 3A Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) Region Honor Band. Skyler and Chris each placed first in their area of competition, earning them a spot in the All State Band, the equivalent in earning a gold medal in any state level competition.

They attended the Texas Music Educators Association Convention in San Antonio last week and performed with the ATSSB All State Band in a concert at the Scottish Rite Temple. Skyler has made the trip to San Antonio three times, Chris twice in their high school band careers. (See related article and photos inside)

Court hears report on hospital

In Monday's session of Commissioners Court, the members heard a glowing report on the financial condition of the County Hospital from Administrator Ed Rogers and Controller Clay Taylor. A detailed quarterly report revealed improvements in the following areas of operation; average daily patient census up from 1999; total admissions for 2000, 499, up from 374; emergency room visits 5,305, up from 4,616 in 1999; a 330 patient increase in lab patients; a 306 increase in physical therapy patients and

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Walker encouraged by hearing on natural gas prices

At the request of State Representative Gary L. Walker (R-Plains), the House Committee on Energy Resources held a public hearing Wednesday, February 7th to hear from elected officials and citizens in regards to the rising cost of natural gas.

"I was glad to hear from Commissioner of Agriculture Susan Combs as well as two members of the Railroad Commission," Walker said. "It is encouraging to know there are so many concerned individuals trying to work together on this issue." Representative Walker added he was pleased to have received several phone calls and letters from constituents who want to contribute to the meeting but were not able to attend in person. "Every piece of information I received from my constituents was helpful in illustrating what it is we are facing. Our agriculture producers are dealing with ever increasing

costs of production that threaten to put them out of business, and other citizens are having a difficult time paying heating bills which have quadrupled over the past few months."

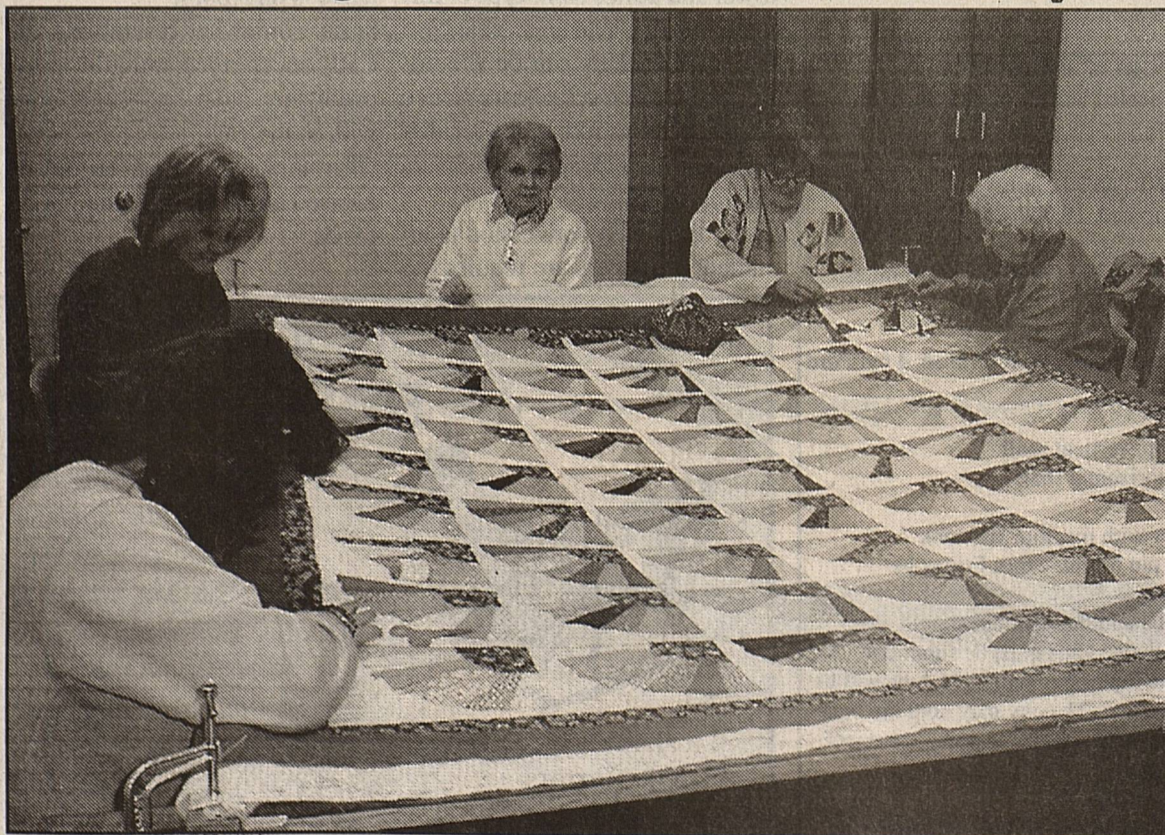
Representative Walker provided some news of what is happening next in regards to the natural gas issue. "Commissioner Combs is traveling to Washington, D.C. at the end of February and will be meeting with Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman. I know she plans on discussing the plight farmers are facing due to the rising costs with Secretary Veneman. I am also interested in the Natural Gas Conference the Railroad Commission will be holding at the end of March. I think that will be a great opportunity to address some of the long term issues."

Testimony from the Railroad Commission indicates the trend in high gas bills is the result of

a supply shortage due to low reserves and colder than normal temperatures throughout November and December. From all indications, the trend is expected to continue for the next 12 to 24 months. In the meantime, Representative Walker is keeping an eye on the issue, and working with other state leaders to try and find ways to help alleviate the burden of increasing costs. "I have my staff reading anything we can find that might prove helpful to the constituents who are being hardest hit by these prices. I'm grateful to Chairman Lewis for holding this hearing, and I promise my constituents I am not done with this issue. It is imperative that West Texans have reasonable natural gas rates."

Citizens who have questions or concerns regarding natural gas costs should feel free to contact Representative Walker at 512-463-0678.

'Peaceful Patchers' At Work Nimble fingers, creative talents benefit many



Melissa Gray, Melba Crutcher, Holly Dyer, Linda Harris and Ita Young work on hand crafted quilt

The Peaceful Patchers are a group of local ladies who gather at Plains' First Baptist Church Saturday mornings and spend some five hours in a labor of love. They create, from scratch, artistic and useful quilts.

Some of the quilts are sold as a fund raising project. Recently some of the quilting money was used to help purchase bibles distributed on a mission trip to Africa. Some of the handmade quilts have been donated to an orphanage in Juarez, Mexico, and others have been given to needy families in the area.

The project is non-denominational, and members of churches other than FBC have been

active in the 'quilting bees'. A spokesperson for the group stated, "We don't care what church you attend. We are just doing something we all enjoy, and it makes our hobby even more enjoyable when we know our finished quilts are benefitting deserving people."

Peaceful Patcher members include Susie Powell, Rhuey Edwards, Mary Lou Parks, Louise Tuggle, Darlene Wilson, Melba Crutcher, Melissa Gray, Ita Young, Linda Harris, Marguerite Barron and Holly Dyer.

To learn more about the project and work schedule, contact any of these members.

Big Companies = Big Taxes

A truism of Ad Valorem Taxes - The more your assets are worth, the more county taxes you will pay.

A report furnished to CCN by the local Tax Assessor/Collector office graphically supports that statement.

The number one tax payer in Yoakum County is Occidental Permian Limited, formerly Altura Energy Limited. Tax rolls list asset valuations, principally petroleum reserves, at \$517,376,090. Their tax bill at the end of 2000 was \$11,430,872.50.

Number two on the top tax payer list is Santa Fe Energy, with \$59,672,470 in values. They paid about one-tenth the taxes of Occidental, \$1,167,461.55.

Number three tax payer, Arco Permian and Pipeline was valued at \$59,097,980, and their tax bill was almost equal to Sant Fe's, \$1,143,808.70.

Golden Spread Electric Coop had the dubious distinction of being the fourth leading tax payer, paying \$1,007,268.80 taxes on valuations of \$54,930,050.

Mobil & Mobil Pipeline, valued at \$19,959,420, received a tax bill of \$506,078.03.

Where does the tax money go? The tax office report contained a breakdown of recipients of tax dollars from Occidental Permian, their tax rate and amount each entity received.

Denver City Independent School District - tax rate \$1.304 per \$100 valuation. Occidental taxes paid \$6,912,969.44.

Yoakum County - .418180 flood control and lateral road, .098190 tax rates, taxes paid \$3,146,956.86

City of Denver City - tax rate .69, taxes paid \$277,564.17. Plains Independent School District - tax rate \$1.42, taxes

paid \$1,011,951.07. Sandy Land Underground Water District - tax rate .01336, taxes paid \$81,420.96.

In 1999, market prices for crude oil varied from a low of around \$11 per barrel up to \$26. In 2000, oil prices dropped as low as \$26 a barrel, and approached a high of \$34 per barrel. Petroleum analysts are making no firm predictions, but if consumer confidence bounces back, and OPEC keeps their stance on production, oil prices could remain high in 2001.

CCN's
Office has
returned to
1205
Copeland

City Council Election Scheduled

Mayor T.J. Miller has called for a general election to be held in the City of Plains on Saturday, May 5, 2001. The election will be held at the Plains City Hall located at 601.11th Street in Plains, Texas. The purpose of this election will be to elect three (3) Council members.

Those with expiring terms are Councilmembers Arlon Alexander, Rick Ramos and Owen Schneider.

First day for filing an application for a place on the ballot is Tuesday, February 20, 2001 and the filing deadline is 5:00 pm., Wednesday, March 21, 2001. Applications for a place on the ballot can be picked up at the Plains City Hall during regular working hours.

4-H Stock Show Results

Five Yoakum County 4-H members exhibited 13 goats at the Southwestern International goat show in El Paso, February 2nd and 3rd. Landra Wood and Chance Kitchens each had a 4th place, Ragan McGinty placed 9th, Landra also had an 11th place and T.J. Kitchens placed 15th. Logan Wood also exhibited goats. A total of 369 goats were exhibited in the show.

Elizabeth Clanahan placed 15th in the heavy weight Hampshire class at the Southwestern Exposition in Fort Worth February 2.

Congratulations to these 4-H members for their accomplishments with their projects.

Plains Residents Named To SPC Honor List

Students from Plains have been named to the President's and Dean's Honor Lists for the fall semester at South Plains College. Students named to the President's Honor List must maintain a 4.0 or straight A grade point average while carrying at least 12 semester hours of college level work. Students named to the Dean's

Honor List must maintain a minimum 3.25 GPA while carrying at least 12 semester hours of college level work with no failing grades.

Yvonne Gonzales and Dustin K. Sisson have been named to the President's Honor List, and Candace Bowers, Dustin Brunson and Steven Bunch have been named to the Dean's Honor List.

Take Care Of Your Sweet Heart

February Is National Heart Month

Hearts and flowers are all part of the Valentine's Day tradition but for too many Texans, hearts fail. Heart disease is the number one killer of Texans and stroke is number three. According to the Texas Department of Health (TDH) there were 53,690 deaths in Texans due to these cardiovascular diseases in 1997. Through more men die from heart attack than women do, more women die of strokes. Although 25,939 men and 27,751 women died of cardiovascular disease in 1997.

These are both modifiable and no modifiable risk factors for heart disease. Things you cannot change that can put you at risk are your sex, advanced age, having a family history of heart disease, and race. African Americans are more at risk for heart disease than are whites and Hispanics.

Things you can change that put you at risk are being a smoker, having high blood pressure and high blood cholesterol level, being over weight, and being physically inactive. According to TDH data, 23% of adult Texans report current smoking, 51% are classified as overweight, 54% report living a sedentary lifestyle, 23% were ever told they had high blood pressure, and 20% were ever told their cholesterol was high.

The good news is that there are ways to decrease your risk for heart disease. First, visit your physician to determine your overall health status. Have your blood pressure and your cholesterol measured, discuss your risk factors, and design a plan for action.

Second, if you smoke, stop. Overall, smokers have heart disease death rates 70% higher than those of nonsmokers. Next, accumulate at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity on most days of the week. Moderate physical activity can include things like walking, gardening, housework, stair climbing and dancing. Finally, eat no more than 30% of calories from fat, with 8-10% of those fat calories from saturated fat. It is important to remember, however, that you do not have to count calories and fat grams just realize that moderation is the key.

Remember that reducing your risk factors for heart disease can also reduce the risk for other chronic health problems such as diabetes and some cancers. If you would like more information about reducing your risk for heart disease or other chronic diseases, contact Judi Blair at South Plains Health District.

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Local Youngster Winner At Fort Worth Stock Show



Fort Worth - Ashley Mason of the Plains FFA Chapter exhibited a Reserve Champion Crossbred in the Junior Barrow Show on February 1st at the 105th Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show. There were 2454 head entered in the barrow show.

The Stock Show's Junior Division this year hosted a record 9,224 entries by youth of Texas. Junior premiums exceeded \$64,038.

The junior entry list is part of

the overall count of more than 22,000 head of cattle, sheep, swine, horses, mules, donkeys, llamas, goats, poultry, pigeons, and rabbits. Total prize and premium money for the livestock show and its accompanying World's Original Indoor Rodeo was in excess of \$800,000.

The 800,000 visitors to the show during its 17 day run will include many people from nations outside the United States. Last year the show hosted visitors from 73 other countries.

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805 increase in therapy procedures.

Hospital revenues for 2000 totaled \$7,518,962, up \$872,209 from the prior year. Cash receipts from patients increased by \$1,025,005, and net income after expenses for 2000 was \$129,231. County tax dollars for operations and capital in 2000 fell to \$681,683, down from \$1,140,901 in 1999.

The officials reported the number of patients visiting Plains Family Health Clinic continues to grow dramatically. In 2000, 2,650 patients utilized the clinic, compared to 2,650 in 1999.

Rogers reviewed some of the factors leading to the hospital's successes in 2000, including its being certified as a Critical Access Hospital, CAT scan equipment, improvements in

orthoscopic surgery equipment improvements, bone scanning equipment which is the only unit available between Midland-Odessa and Lubbock, the new four doctor clinic which should be completed late this summer, and a full, well trained staff.

Also on the court agenda was awarding bids for the purchase of a new pickup for use at Yoakum County Park. Low bid was awarded to Smith South Plains Ford of Levelland, \$14,808 for a 2001 F150 Ford.

County Tax Assessor/Collector Betty N. Rivas reported collection of \$5,507,479 in taxes during the month of January. Sheriff Don Corzine's request to promote Beverly Moreno from dispatcher to jailer was approved. She will replace Marcene Lowe who retires February 14.

NOTICE OF SALE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

The City of Plains is offering for sale by sealed bids the following surplus property:

Vehicles:

1985 Ford F250 pickup, V-8, 6,300 GVWR, 66,315 miles

1985 Ford F350 truck with box-type dump bed, 10,000 GVWR, 75,445 miles

1978 Chevrolet C60 dump truck, 350 V-8, 19,200 GVWR, 17,714 miles, needs repairs

Trailer Mounted Jet Sewer Machine:

1981, 600 gallon tank, high pressure Beam Pump, 600 ft 1" hose, 4 cyl Ford engine

Electric Motors:

2 - Westinghouse 3-phase, 460 volts, 50hp, vertical shaft

1 - Newmann 3-phase, 460 volts, 25 hp, horizontal shaft

Air Compressor

Champion 450 psi electric air compressor with medium size tank

Items may be examined 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday by contacting the city hall.

Bids should be placed in a sealed envelope and the item bid should be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. Bids must be submitted before 4:00 pm on Friday, March 2, to the Plains city hall. The bids will be opened and publicly read at that time and date. The city may hold the bids for a period not to exceed 30 days to determine weather to accept or reject any or all bids.

All items are to be sold "as-is" with no warranty.

The City of Plains reserves the right to reject any/all bids and waive any informality that will benefit the city.

For additional information contact David Brunson at 806-456-2288.

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On The Level

with Donald Haley
USDA/NRCS

Environmental Quality Incentives Program - EQIP

If the USDA would reimburse up to 75 cents on the dollar, up to \$50,000, for a properly installed and needed conservation practice, would you be interested?

It's called the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and its available to local producers through the USDA and the local NRCS office.

Several Yoakum and Terry County Producers have enrolled in this program since it began in 1996. Practices installed or planned to date include grass planting, brush control, terrace construction, irrigation pipeline, drip irrigation and LEPA conversion.

Sounds too good to be true! So what's the kicker? How much fine print is in the deal?

EQIP requires a minimum five year contract. Enrolled acres must meet what the NRCS classifies as a Resource Management System and all practices must meet NRCS Standards and Specifications and/or Construction Specifications.

In plain talk, it's got to be done right. For most Yoakum and Terry County producers, this is pretty much how things are being done now.

For example, if an irrigated circle and dry corners were accepted into the EQIP program for a LEPA conversion, the irrigated circle would require vegetative management of a 25 percent minimum rotation of high residue crops.

In other words, in four years, all acres would require a high residue crop such as wheat or sorghum, with adequate residues managed until April 1 to control erosion, improve soil tilth, water infiltration, etc. The dry corners would require a 50 percent high residue rotation, i.e. wheat or sorghum every second year.

LEPA systems are required to discharge water on or near the soil by a bubble nozzle located 8-18 inches above the soil surface, or a drag sock or hose on the soil surface.

Additionally, LEPA systems must have circular rows past the second tower and utilize some type of tillage or residue management to control run-off. This can be accomplished with a mechanical practice such as furrow diking or a residue management practice such as minimum tillage.

After the LEPA conversion is installed, producers are required to

furnish a package print-out from the manufacturer along with installation invoices for parts, labor, etc. NRCS will use this print-out to generate a computer program to determine if the nozzle package is adequate to a LEPA minimum of 96 percent efficiency.

Following a satisfactory field check and NRCS certification, the check is in the mail!

Status reviews are conducted on an annual basis to determine all practices are being maintained and all management items are being carried out according to the written plan of operations. In plainer talk, if you get the money, you also have to carry out the planned management for a minimum 5 years.

In exchange for the U.S. taxpayer paying the majority of the cost of your cost shared conservation practice, you agree to manage these acres at a level that will assure the best level of wind/water erosion control, nutrient management, weed control, water use efficiency and other important aspects of resource conservation.

Continued economic food and fiber for the consumer, financial incentives for the producer and a better protected resource for future generations. Not a bad deal for all concerned!

That's a very short and broad overview of the EQIP program and how it impacts producers in our area. Naturally, there are specific written guidelines for each specific practice and procedures for implementing a technically sound and workable conservation plan.

Producers may sign up for the EQIP program at any time during the year. Acceptance is based on many factors, from number of acres treated to percentage of cost applied for.

Water savings has and will continue to be a high priority conservation practice. Such practices as LEPA conversion, drip irrigation, and terrace construction have enjoyed a high rate of past acceptance in the area.

The acceptance criteria is like trying to explain the tax code - it gets complicated. In a nutshell, acceptance is on a point basis, somewhat resembling the CRP acceptance module many producers have had experience with in the past.

For more detailed on EQIP, please call or stop by the NRCS office.

Loan Funds Available For Heat Pumps



Heating bills putting the freeze on winter funds? Time to replace your old heating system, but don't know how to pay for it?

We've got the answer! Lea County Electric has Energy Resource Conservation (ERC) loan

funds available at 5% interest. With our ERC loan program, members can borrow money at a low, low 5% for up to seven years for a new heat pump or dual-fuel heat pump? Don't settle for your old, high-cost, low-efficiency heating system! Stop by Lea County Electric at 18 W. Washington in Lovington or give us a call at 396-3631. Funds are limited, so call today!

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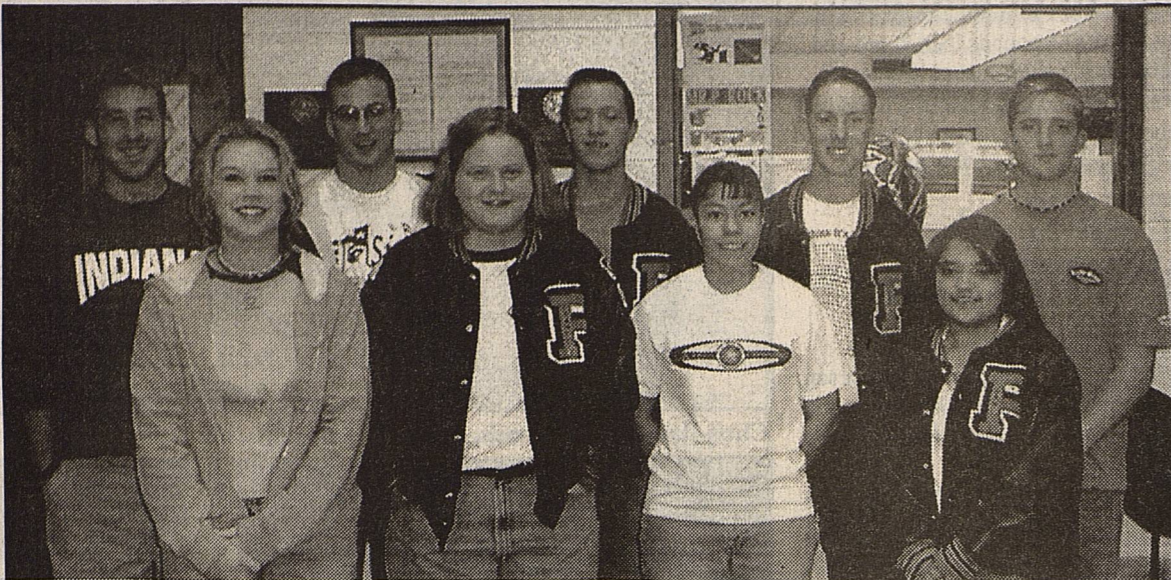
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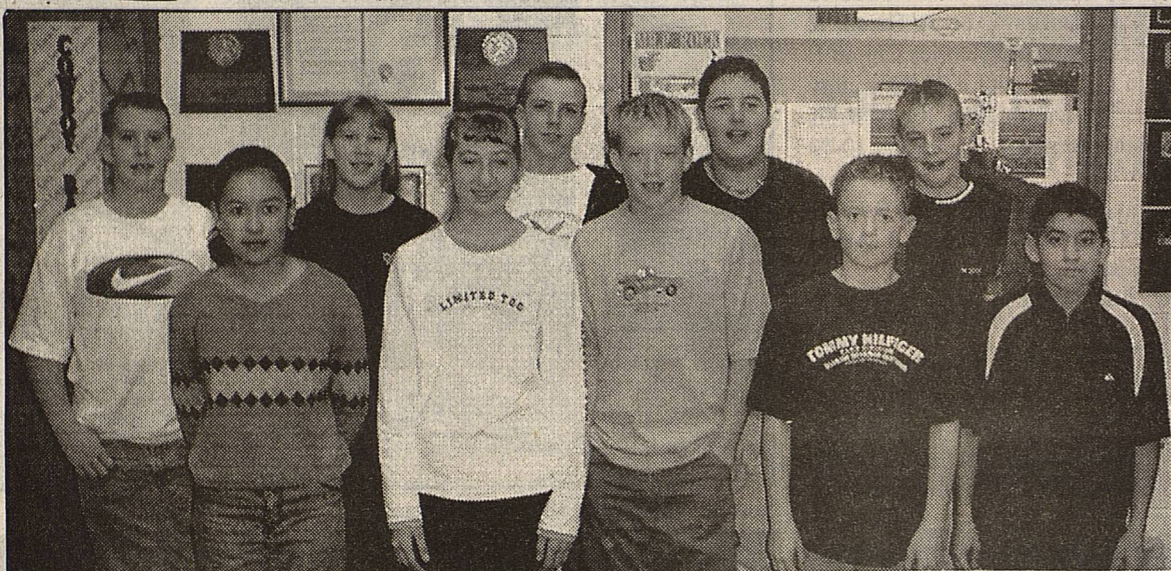
PHS, Jr. High students earn All-Region Band honors

In late January members of the Cowboy Band competed in the Region 16 All-Region Band Clinic and Concert. Both high school and junior high band members competed for honors as members of either the 1A-2A Jr. High All Region Band, the 1-A-2A High School All Region Band, or the 1A-2A-3A High School Association of Texas Small School Bands Region Honor Band.

The Plains Jr. High band program had eleven students and an alternate make the Jr. High band, and the high school band program had nine students win spots in the ATSSB Region Honor Band. Over 1,300 students competed for the prestigious bands.



High School All Region Band honorees, front, Elizabeth Clanahan, Liz Wilmeth, Amanda Garcia, Krsytal Gonzalez, Back, Chris Gscheidle, Sklyer Johnson, Jordan Bean, Tyrel Tyson, Chris McGinty



Jr. High All Region Band honorees, front, Nancy Lozano, Sklyer Keese, Cade Arnett, Michael Therwanger, Daniel Estrada. Back, Adam McCravey, Allison Friesen, Evan Cain, Brant Huerta, Kerry Sisson. Reagan Haynes not pictured.

Local Student On Tech Dean's List

Laura Leigh Flores, a 1998 graduate of Plains High, has been named to Fall 2001 Dean's List at Texas Tech. To be selected for the honor, students must maintain a 4.0 scale and taking at least 12 hours of studies. She is the daughter of Plains residents Cody and Diana Flores, and plans to major in Education.

Student of the Week

Student of the week is Kimbe Jones a senior and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Jones. Kimbe was nominated by Mrs. Rotunno who said, "The motivational speaker, Zig Zeigler, has said that the way to the top is to "plan your work and work your plan." This week's student of the week does just that. Whether it is taking care of livestock, working after school every day, or attending night classes, she continually keeps her goal in mind. Her organization and effort have paid off

in making her one of the most prepared students at Plains High School. She is sure to have a bright future ahead.



Plains Jr. High U.I.L. Results

A loss may be a loss, but to come so close! The 6th, 7th, & 8th graders participated in the District III 2-A UIL Spring Meet held her January 22 and did very well with an overall score of 528.7. Unfortunately, Stanton scored 528.8 total points, and the students had to settle for 2nd place.



6th Grade Ready Writing
 Angelica Mendoza - 1st pl.
 Caitlin Carter - 4th pl.

6th Grade Math
 Nancy Lozano - 4th pl.

6th Grade Number Sense
 Angelica Mendoza - 3rd pl.
 Meghan Garcia - 6th pl.

6th Grade Calculator
 Angelica Mendoza - 1st pl.
 Landon Craft - 6th pl.

6th Grade Spelling
 Erika Loewen - 3rd pl.
 Araceli Mendoza - 5th pl.

6th Grade Dictionary
 Angelica Mendoza - 3rd p

6th Grade Listening
 Joe Luis Gallegos - 3rd pl.

6th Grade Music Memory
 Team - 5th pl.

6th Grade Oral Reading
 Chase Guetersloh - 1st pl.
 Caitlin Carter - 2nd pl.

7th Grade Ready Writing

Abel Ramos - 3rd pl.
7th Grade Math
 B.J. Lester - 5th pl.

7th Grade Number Sense
 David Alldredge - 1st pl.
 Blake O'Quinn - 2nd pl.
 Michael Crump - 5th pl.

7th Grade Calculator
 Allison Friesen - 1st pl.
 B.J. Lester - 4th pl.

7th Grade Listening
 Michael Therwhanger - 3rd pl

7th Grade Maps
 Reagan Haynes - 2nd pl.

7th Grade Science
 Todd Williams - 2nd pl.
 Michael Crum - 2nd pl.

7th Grade Oral Reading
 Reagan Haynes - 1st pl.
 Sklyer Keese - 3rd pl.
 Allison Friesen - 5th pl.

8th Grade Ready Writing
 Evan Cain - 2nd pl.
8th Grade Math

Brandon Hise - 3rd pl.
 Cody Flores - 4th pl.
 Mayra Flores - 5th pl.

8th Grade Number Sense
 Brandon Hise - 1st pl.
 Kerry Sisson - 2nd pl.

8th Grade Calculator
 Brandon Hise - 2nd pl.
 Cody Flores - 4th pl.

8th Grade Spelling
 Kristian Morales - 5th pl.

8th Grade Dictionary
 Myrah Flores - 4th pl.
 Cody Flores - 5th pl.

8th Grade Listening
 Evan Cain - 2nd pl.
 Kerry Sisson - 5th pl.
 Payton Bean - 5th pl.

8th Grade Maps
 Cody Flores - 4th pl.

8th Grade Science
 Brandon Hise - 2nd pl.
 Brant Huerta - 6th pl.

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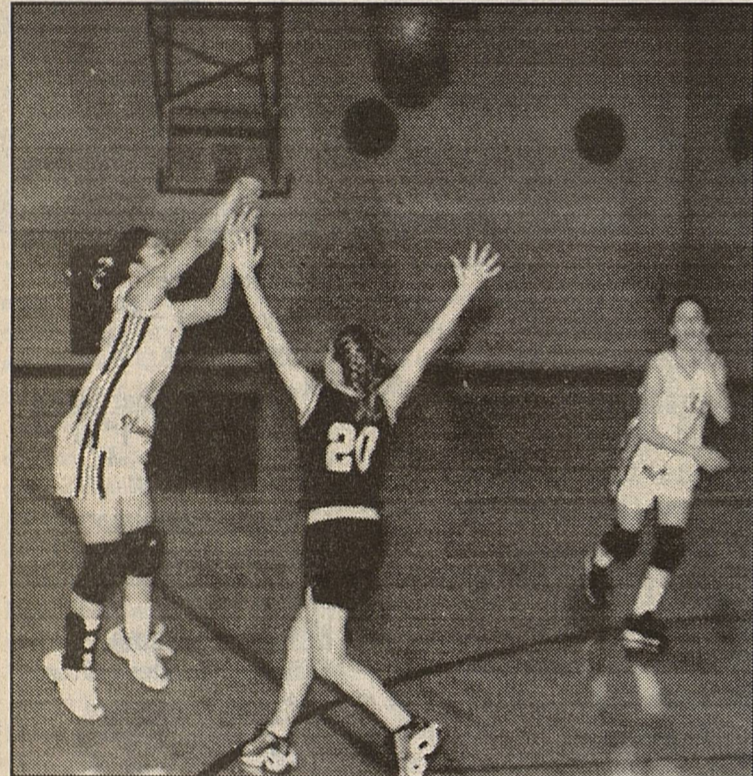
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Jr. High girls in action-Connie Loya and Skylar Keesee (15) try to get around defense



Cecilia Bonilla ready to get shot off



Josie Cordova launches jump shot



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2nd Power Lift Meet

Plains High hosted its second Power Lifting Meet February 10. The 2000 meet drew 101 entrants, and this year the gym was jammed with 202 male and female lifters from fifteen 1A, 2A and 3A schools. Events included squat, bench press and dead lifting.

The Cowboys, with an un-official makeup team, finished 9th in the meet, but had some excellent individual performances. Chris Hansen, in the 123 pound and under class, was named third best lifter in the entire field. His body weight is 122 pounds, and he squat lifted 315 pounds, bench pressed 205, and dead lifted 330, a total of 850 pounds. Chisum Justus, 93 pounds, lifted a total of 450 pounds in the three events, Arnold Cordova, 132 pounds, lifted a total of 615 pounds, Israel Moreno, 144 pounds, lifted 870 pounds, Jose Ramirez, 136, lifted 835, Joseph Rodriguez, 164, lifted 775, Nick Hays, 156, lifted 740, Louis Escobar, 181, lifted 181 pounds.

PISD Basketball Recap

7th Lady Wranglers- no report available.

8th Lady Wranglers- The 8th girls scored a season ending win over Forsan 34-18. Jesenia Suarez topped scoring with 34 points, Sandra Gandara had 8, Marlie Diaz 6, Jamie Cpvarrubias and Kristian Morales 4 each, Jessica Henry 2.

7th Wranglers- The 7th boys also finished their season with a 39-17 win over Forsan. Todd Williams led scoring with 8 points, T.J. Cordova had 7, Michael Therwanger & Blake O'Quinn 6 each, Abel Ramos 5, Casson Curtis 4, Cade Arnett 2, David Allredge 1.

8th Wranglers- The 8th boys ended the season with a 43-18 win over Forsan. They were 7 & 5 for the season, 6 & 3 in district play. Cody Flores had 15 points, John Wagnon 7, Evan Cain 6, Kelby Johnson 4, Breck Hamm & Brant Huerta 3 each, Payton Bean & Brandon Hise 2 each, Patrick Cotton 1.

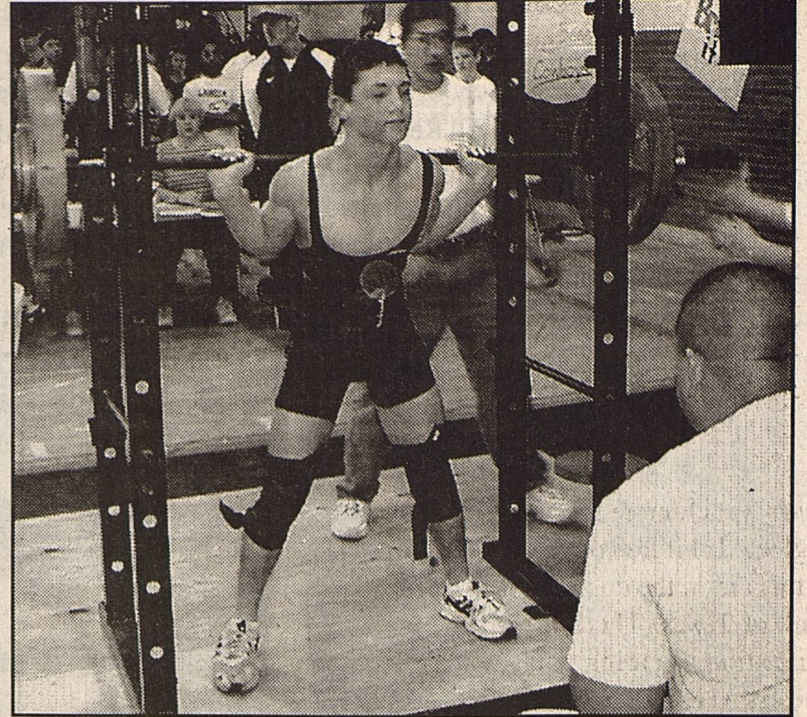
JV Cowgirls- The young Cowgirls finished the year with a 26-23 victory over Forsan. Arasley Luna managed 8 points, Jessica Knight 6, Kayla Willis & Moriah Traweek 4, Sarah Martinez & Mandi Rogers 2. They were 10-13 for the year, 4-6 in district play.

JV Cowboys- The Cowboys were downed by Stanton 44-28. Zach Broome had 8 points, Kelly Bowers 5, Ryan Swann 4, Jonathan Peppin 3, Angel Ruiz, Chase Howell, Jonathan DeLa Rosa, Benny Loewen 2 each, They also fell to Forsan 45-51. Kelly had 13 points, Zach 10, David Garza 8, Sterling Justus 5, Peppin 3, Jeremy Diamond 2.

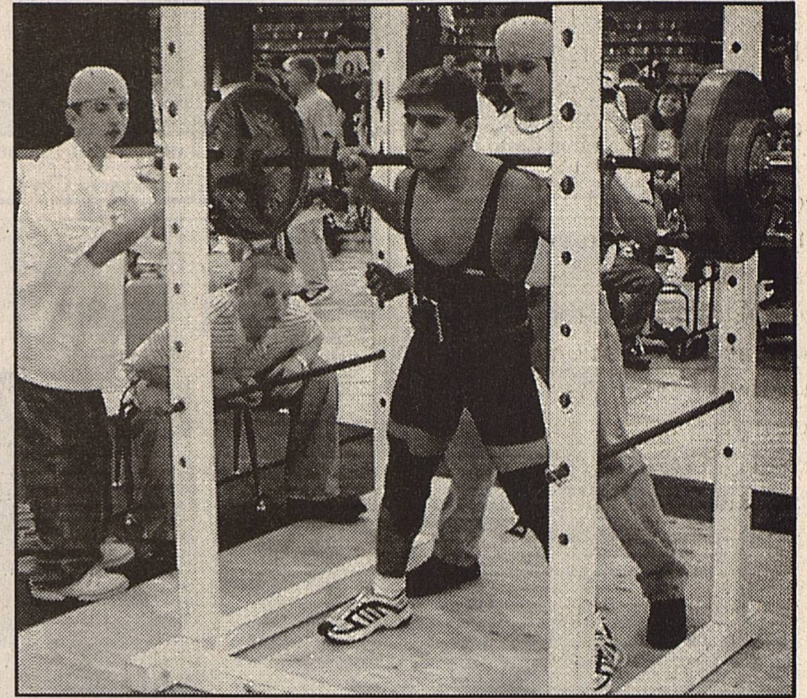
Cowboys- The Cowboys downed Stanton 51-45. Adam Garcia and Eddy Gallegos each had 17 points, Dustin Six 8, Jarod Newland 4, Jared Bell 3, Bett Squires 2. Eddy and Belleach had 10 rebounds, Adam had 4 steals. They also beat Forsan 54-34. Bell led scoring with 15 points, Adam had 14, Jarod 9, Eddy 8, Moises Gonzales 5, Aaron Cain, Joseph Rodriguez and Six 1 each.



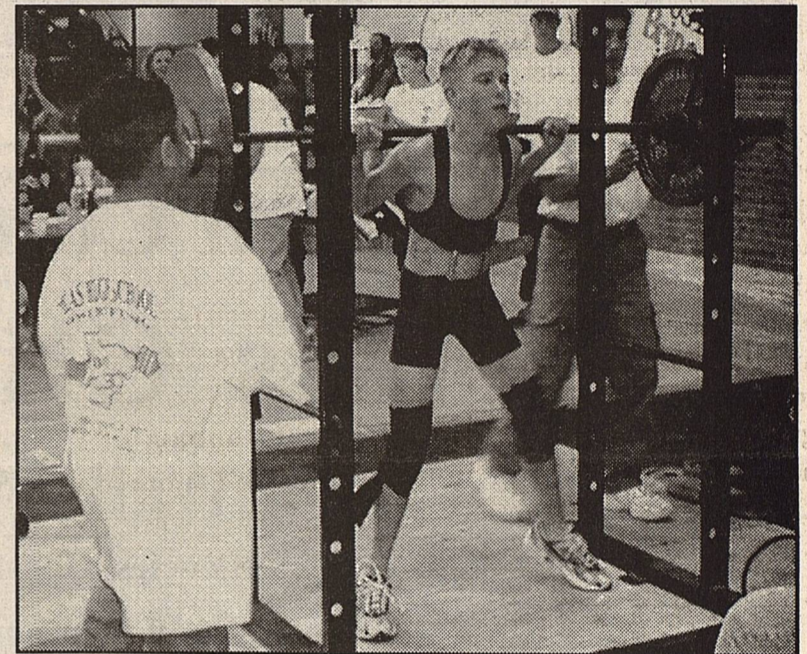
Priscila Mares ready for a shot



Chris Hansen, 122 pounds, cleared 315 pounds



Joseph Rodriguez 300 pound Squat



Chisum Justus managed 150 pounds in Squat

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Our Kids Are Looking For A Few Good Voices

Every year hundreds of abused/neglected children on the South Plains are in the custody of the state of Texas. There is an organization of caring adult volunteers who dedicate their time to ensure that these abused and neglected children find safe, stable homes. This organization is Court Appointed Special Advocates or CASA.

CASA volunteers are trained and court appointed to investigate, monitor, report and serve as advocates in court for abused and neglected children. While the time commitment is not huge, only 5-15 hours a month, the impact CASA volunteers have on these children's lives is immeasurable.

CASA of Lubbock has ex-

panded and is now able to serve children in Castro, Hale, Swisher, Terry and Yoakum counties in addition to the children of Lubbock County. Volunteer advocates are desperately needed in all these areas.

The Spring 2001 training will begin on February 19th and end March 5th. Training sessions will cover the topics of child abuse and neglect, foster care, the legal system, child protective systems, and advocacy.

All CASA volunteers must complete a screening process that includes a personal interview, a criminal background check, and three references. For more information, call 763-2272.

book reader, Kim Gass, shared Arthur's Valentine. Everyone then made a valentine to take home. The video, Franklin's Valentines, was shown to Micah St. Romain, Clayton Gass, Claire Carpenter, Jentry Wall, Amanda Dusek, Anthony Torres, Brianna Garcia, and Bailey Rios.

Last week we failed to list Christy Brink as owner of Visualize Hair and Nails, a prize donor in the annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet. We apologize.

Library Storytime

The weekly Storytime was held on Wednesday, February 7th, at 10:00 am. at the Yoakum County Library. Activities began with a discussion about Valentine's Day and who we should remember in a special way on that day. The pledges to the United States and Texas flags followed a round of Toddlerobics. The group sang "If You're Happy and You Know It" and "Five Little Monkey's." Our special

Happy 18th Birthday 'Sterling' from MOM!



**You're a great son and I'm very proud of you!
You are special to me!
I LOVE YOU!**

Art Association Meets

The February 6th meeting of Yoakum County Art Association was held at the Old Courthouse Clubroom at 7:00 p.m. with President Marlene Gibson presiding. Artist of the month is Shila Stephens. Susie Powell will chair the Senior Scholarship committee this year. It was voted to sponsor a couple or individual to the Yoakum County Connection/Extension

Service Young Leaders Workshop to be held the last of March. Representatives will be at the February 17 orientation meeting in Denver City at the Connection Building. The program was given by Elouise Brown of Brownfield on pastel portraits. Refreshments were provided by Mary Dale Williams and Wadonna Davis. The doorprize was won by Thelma Cheatham. 14 members and guests Evertt and Estelle McAdams, Amelia and Sommer Powell and Brown were present.

by Linda Powell

Senior Citizens Corner

Here it is Thursday AM. I have to hurry, hope I don't make any more mistakes.

I am dedicating this column to one of the best friends I ever knew. Thelma June Hicks was a very good director. She always had a smile, regardless how bad she felt. We know she suffered so much. She could always laugh with us and she would cry with us when we were hurting or sad. She had a beautiful voice and sang beautifully. When we would have our Pot Luck Suppers and "Our Band" would play, they always had her to sing "My Sunshine".

Gloria Carasco is doing a really good job of keeping the Center going, she and Ann Holland are keeping up with things and keeping the kitchen going also.

Remember the Center is open each week Monday thru Friday 8:30 am. to 3:00 pm. People

walk in the hall and are using the exercise machine. We have blood pressures 2 different days each week.

Anna Taylor will give her nutrition speech next Tuesday the 13th.

Gayle Ballou will be here 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month.

Our Pot Luck Supper will be Thursday February 15th. Every one come and bring a dish of good food. It starts at 6:00 pm. and lasts until 8:30 or 9:00. "42" tournament is Tuesday February 13th and pool tournament will be the 21st.

I will close for this week,
Wanda B.

CCN has moved back to our home, 1205 Copeland Ave.

The first organizational meeting for the 6th Annual Yoakum County Watermelon Round Up will be held at the Plains Community Building at 7:00 pm. on February 15th. You are invited and urged to attend to take part in your County and City activities.

Card of Thanks

THANK YOU!

*Family and Friends,
I would like to thank you for your prayers for me as I recover from surgery. I appreciate so much your calls, cards, food, and every kindness shown to me and my family. I'm thankful to live in Plains.*

*God Bless You,
Faye Nelms*

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Bride elect of
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Saturday, February 17th
From 10:00 am. - 11:30 am.
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Sunday Schedule
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am
Youth Fellowship - 5 - 6:00 pm

Wednesday Connections
Food & Fellowship - 5:30-6:30 pm
Eve. Bible Study - 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Other Opportunities
Afternoon Bible Study - 5:15 pm Thursdays

**GOD loves you and so do we!
Come grow in CHRIST with us!**

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Plains, Texas

Sunday School 9:30 am.
Morning Worship 10:45 am.
Evening Program 6:00 pm.

Wednesday
5:15 - 6:30 pm. Supper
6:00 pm. Zombies
7:00 pm. - RA's, GA's, Mission Friends,
Generation X, Sanctuary Choir Practice

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From The Hack

Our printer, the esteemed *Lovington Daily Leader* of the New Mexico hamlet of the same name, from time to time faced with a problem all too familiar with this writer, has problems filling space with up-to-date, fascinating, mind boggling news. Not their fault - sometimes about the most interesting thing going on in any smaller town is a Cub Scout meeting or a taffy pull.

The *Leader* sometimes resorts to a tactic familiar to all small town newspaper publishers; They go back to their archives, and reprint stories from days of yore. The *Leader* calls this feature "FLASHBACK", in bold letters, and the year the article appeared.

While waiting to get CCN printed last week, I picked up a copy of the *Leader*, and their FLASHBACK recounted a big fund raising event in 1955

(this paper has been in print since 1907). Trying to raise funds for the March of Dimes, their Lions, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs sponsored their first " UGLY MAN CONTEST". What a novel idea, I thought. There may be something for Plains, America here.

Think of it; would you contribute cash to nominate some of your peers for the dubious honor? Man, I certainly would.

I would probably start my nominee eliminating process at the famed Table Of Wisdom, but it wouldn't have to end there. There are the school teachers, the county employees, city people, civic groups, even church folks. In fact, the more I think of it, church folks could possibly be the richest source for candidates, provided they are PAID personnel. I know one whom I am quite familiar with, one I would personally nominate were it not for fear of being ex-communicated, or whatever Baptist's call it.

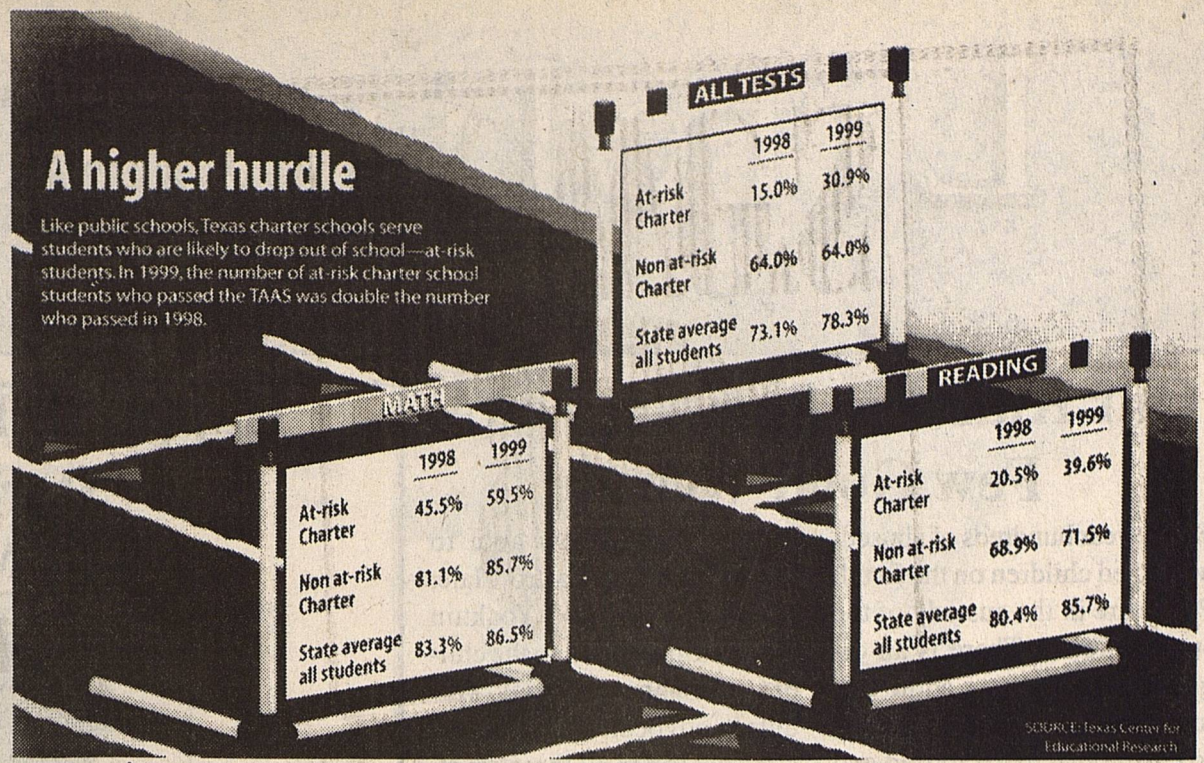
I envision such a contest like this - Let's expand it county wide; Elect the male candidate from Plains, then let Denver City elect their candidate for UGLIEST FEMALE.

My reasoning, of course, is we certainly don't have any ugly women folk in Plains. Besides that, we have far more paid subscribers here than Denver City. Not to suggest however, D.C. has a pre-ponderance of ugly ladies, but they do outnumber us about four to one, so chances are, there may be one, very possibly two females in D.C. who would qualify for crowning.

Who would volunteer for such a contest? Absolutely no one. Therefore, we could appoint City Administrator David Brunson to pick the male ugly. After all, he was named Citizen of the Year, let him earn his rating. I think the D.C. dog catcher should judge the ladies nominees. He's already unpopular enough.

A vote for either candidate would cost two bucks, half of which would go to the D.C. Press, half to CCN. We would thoroughly cover the story, and each reluctantly cough up exactly half the expenses of a day on the town for the King and Queen of Ugly - a picnic lunch at Sligo. It could turn into an annual event!

Feeling old? No wonder. A recent poll indicated this Fall 2000 college entrants were so young they mostly think bottle caps have always been plastic and screw-off.



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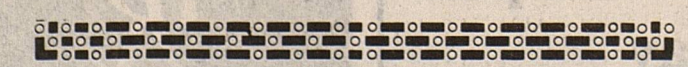
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