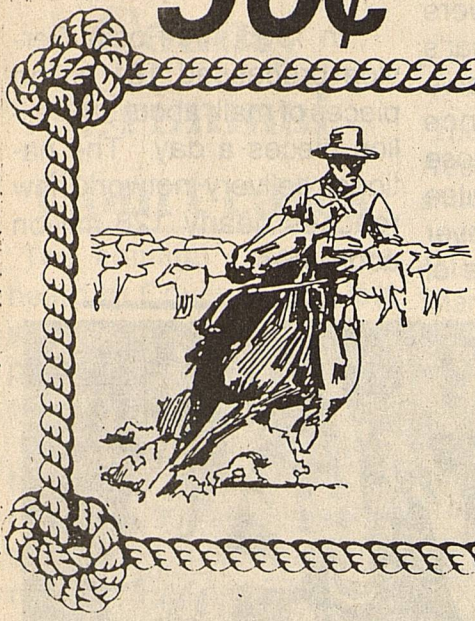
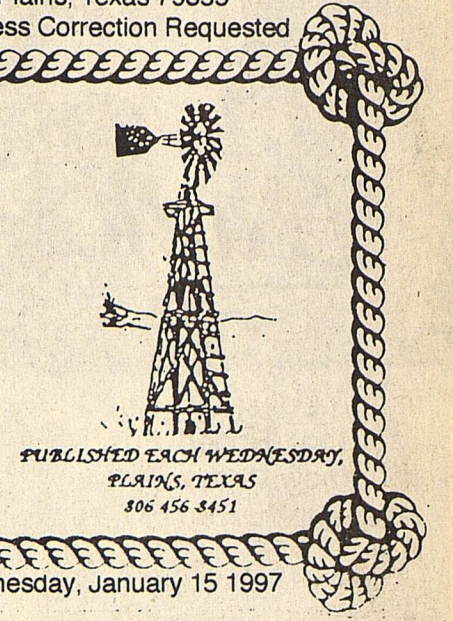


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Volume III, Issue 20, Wednesday, January 15 1997

Digging big ditches saves county taxpayers \$ big bucks \$

Yoakum County Landfill officials reported last week, during the months of June thru December, 1996, a total of 3,765.47 tons of construction and demolished (C & D) materials were dumped in the two C&D trenches completed at the facility early last summer. Most of the tonnage was in the form of roofing shingles, resulting from hail damage to homes and buildings in Denver City.

When approval for the C&D trenches was received for the construction at the landfill, two trenches, 300 ft. long, 20 ft. wide, and 23 deep were dug. The above tonnage completely filled the first pit, with a portion dumped in the second pit.

Landfill officials report the County currently charges a \$5 per ton dumping fee, and the almost 4,000 tons of C&D waste materials produced a total of \$18,827 in fees.

The landfill at Brownfield

currently charges a \$40 per ton dumping fee, and the facility at Plainview has a \$41 per ton fee. In the absence of the county landfill, if this amount of material had been hauled to Brownfield, the dumping fees would have been \$150,618, plus the additional expense of trucking the material to Brownfield. The new C & D trenches actually saved our taxpayer's almost \$132,000 during the seven months from June thru December.

Landfill Supervisor Gary Walker said "Our facility is an excellent example of good thinking and planning by our County Commissioners and Judge. They saw the real need for the facility, and the very real economic benefits the landfill has provided for our residents, the taxpayer's who fund the project. A wise, sound decision is continuing to pay dividends to all county residents".

First annual "Connection" meet draws good crowd

Four new directors on Board

The "Yoakum County Connection" held its first Annual Meeting January 9, with over 50 interested people attending. The organization formally came into being on August 14, 1996, when its incorporation was approved, but volunteers had been meeting since late 1995, working on preliminary organization plans.

"Connection" is an association of Yoakum County residents pooling their time, efforts and talents to make the County a better place to live, and improve the County with

volunteer projects using Arts as the main creative tool.

Twenty Nine businesses, clubs or groups have become members of the 'Connection', plus a number of individuals. Annual dues are currently \$50 per year.

Ann Hartman, one of the early workers responsible for the organization, told the audience Yoakum County can become a better place to live if it's citizens continue to work together. She said the organization will strive to utilize all forms of art, dance, theatre, literature, poetry, music in

Memory of Paula Willett honored



On November 14, 1996, during its annual Key Personnel Seminar in Austin, The Texas District and County Attorney's Association presented the Oscar A. Sherrell Memorial Award in memory of Paula Willett. Linda May and Elfida Winkler of the Yoakum County Criminal District Attorney's office accepted the award on behalf of the Willett family, which includes Jerry, Shandy, Wayne, Chris and Sierra of Plains, and Misty, of Lubbock.

Paula was a member of the Texas District and County Attorney's Association, and was the Region Two Key Personnel Board Representative. She was the Office Manager for Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark of Yoakum County. She earlier held the same position for Linda Shoemaker Lowrey, Mr. Clark's predecessor.

Paula is remembered best by the fact her family took top priority in her life, along with her strong Christian faith. She enjoyed her involvement as a resident of Plains especially since her children were so active within the community.

'Connection' programs and events, and will promote the county's chief economies, agriculture and oil, with art themes.

Chairman of the Board of Directors Judge Dallas Brewer related an incident from last year's highly successful "Watermelon Round-Up", conceived and sponsored by the "Connec-

Turn to page 2, 'Connection'

Gov. Bush still determined to ease property tax burden

When Robert Duncan, R., of Lubbock won his runoff election in December to fill the State Senate seat previously held by John T. Montford in Senate District 28, Governor George W. Bush attended a photo-op session following his swearing in. District 80 State Representative Gary Walker, also present, was invited by the Governor to visit his office and discuss the issue of property tax relief, one of the major matters the 75th Legislative Session will address starting January 14.

In an interview Thursday, Walker reported Governor Bush "is still adamant, still determined to find a method of financing our public schools which will bring some monetary relief to property owners in Texas". Property taxes now fund over 50% of the state educational budget. Walker said the Governor spent over an hour discussing many aspects of property tax relief, including the affects on property tax payers themselves, and our school systems.

Governor Bush includes in his list of possible remedies a change in business activity taxes, modification of the State Sales Tax, and use of surplus budget funds to supply funds for education, affording a possible reduction in property taxes. He told Walker John Sharp, the State Comptroller, is scheduled to report to the Legislature, after the session opens, what the exact budget surplus figure is. Preliminary estimates from the Comptroller's office indicated a possible \$10 billion surplus. Governor Bush has previously announced his intentions to ask the state lawmakers for at least \$1 billion of these funds for education purposes.

Walker said he and the Governor discussed the possibility of using a portion of the State Lottery profits for educational purposes. Walker said, "I personally think a specific amount of Lottery profits should be budgeted for our schools, if for no other reason than that is how the public has always perceived the Lottery; the majority of people thought from the start of talk about approving the idea, the profits would be spent on education". He reported the Governor said nothing to indicate his opposition to the idea. Governor Bush reported to

Walker he is still strongly opposed to a personal income tax for Texans. Walker said he told the Governor he was hearing more constituents expressing their idea that the income tax route might be the only solution to high property taxes and school financing problems. He said the Governor responded, "They think this way because they're not sure any other plan will work. I am convinced we can find a workable solution to these big problems. I'm determined to find a formula which will work". Walker said he was certain no proposals or bills favoring a state income tax would be introduced this session.

Walker said his personal thinking on one aspect of property tax relief would include the State of Texas being committed to paying for at least five basic educational courses in public schools, such as English, Math, Science, History and P.E. The exact definition of basic education courses would have to be hammered out. The balance of a school district's curricula could be determined and funded by the district.

He continued, "If Lottery money, or an increase in business activity taxes, or a revamping of the sales tax, or a combination of these plans, could produce at least \$3 million, that would be almost one third of the present school finance costs. If we could cut property taxes by that ratio, we could lower our local school tax rate from \$1.50 to \$1.00 per hundred".

The issues of "Rich Vs. Poor" school districts, or "Robin Hood", will undoubtedly surface during the legislative session. "The state has some 100 so called rich district's and over 1,000 poor district's. That will always raise conflicting views on education financing. It is a certainty that any alternative plan for school funding will have to satisfy the majority of the larger, urban areas where the majority of Texans live and work", Walker said.

Both the Governor and Walker agreed property tax relief and public school financing are important and very thorny issues throughout the state. "I'm sure every alternative plan for education funding will have supporters, but they are certain to have detractors, too. This should be a tough, interesting session".



Registration table and audience at Yoakum County Connection annual meeting



Betty Switzer addresses 'Connection' audience

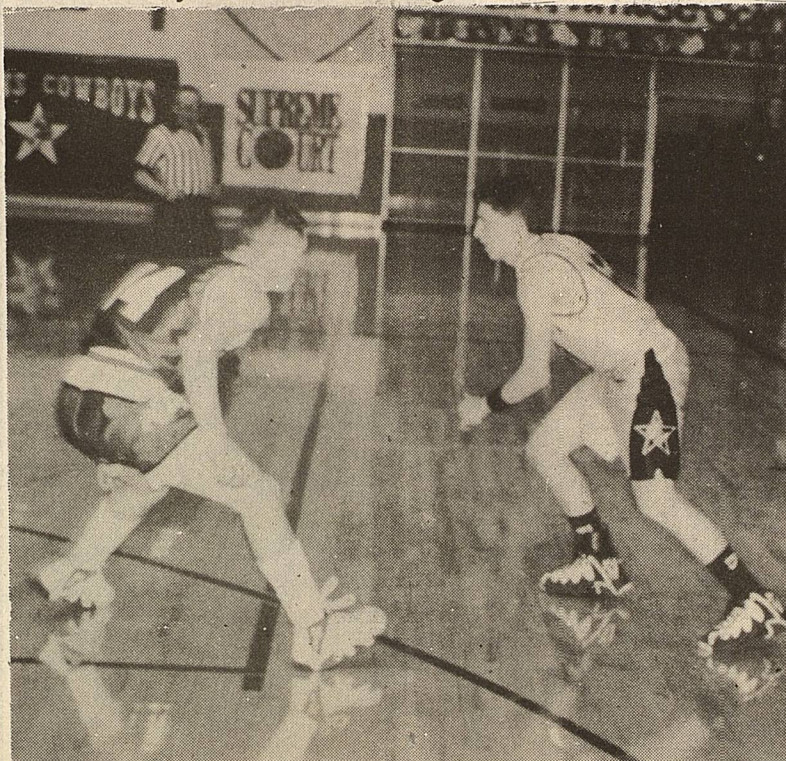
From page 1, 'Connection'". At the day long celebration, he saw a friend and fellow County Judge from a distant area. Brewer said the friend told him he and his wife were traveling north on Highway 214 when they saw the banners advertising the watermelon round-up. They came into town to see what it was all about, "And before they left, they had spent over \$200 at the arts and crafts booths, and I suspect this type event occurred throughout the day", Brewer said. Linda Powell, one of the early organizers of the "Connection" and a member of the Board, introduced the keynote speaker, Betty Switzer, of the Texas Commission On The Arts. Switzer is Director of Community Development and Rural Services for the Commission. Switzer had high praise for the many who helped organize the "Connection", and

thought it remarkable the organization had been so successful in it's first venture, the Watermelon Round-Up, and could draw such a good crowd at it's first annual meeting. She said "Connection" directors and volunteers should stress building our community's identity, and should utilize all the art disciplines in it's events and activities. She said the organization should try to enlist the help of truly interested and dedicated people, and spread responsibilities and tasks among workers to avoid burnout in Directors and volunteers. She explained many of the benefits and services available from the Texas Commission on the Arts, including grant funds available for various programs and events. The Commission to date has helped fund projects in 172 of the State's 254 counties. Four new Board of Director members were elected at the

meeting. They are Richard Garcia Sr., Carolyn Culwell Jeanette Head, Plains, and Kathy Adair, Denver City. Other board members include Judge Brewer, Ann Hartman, Linda Powell, L.J. Sanders, Ron Hatfield, Kathy Clark, Jim Millsap, and Alonzo Hernandez.

Sponsors of the first annual meeting who donated door prizes included Mustang Country, Dumpling Creek Studio, Southwest Public Service, Yoakum County Art Assn., Renaissance Productions, Shell CO2 Plant, Yoakum County Golf Pro Shop, Ron and Candi Hatfield, and the Tsa Mo Ga Study Club.

The "Connection" urges all groups and citizens to join them. Business and club dues are \$50 per year, as are individual dues. At the present time, only business or organization members may vote.



Jamie Caballero ready to scoot around defender

ber of \$859,656 was approved. Three names were drawn from a list of last year's Grand Jury roster to serve on the Salary Grievance Committee for 1997. Those selected were C.G. Hulse and Paul D. Baker of Denver City, and Eva McAdams of Plains.

Court sets salaries

Commissioner's Court met Monday, January 13. One of the agenda items acted on was setting county employees salaries. Full time employees will remain as set in the current budget. Part time hourly rates will remain at \$6 per hour for clerical workers, and \$7 per hour for road hands.

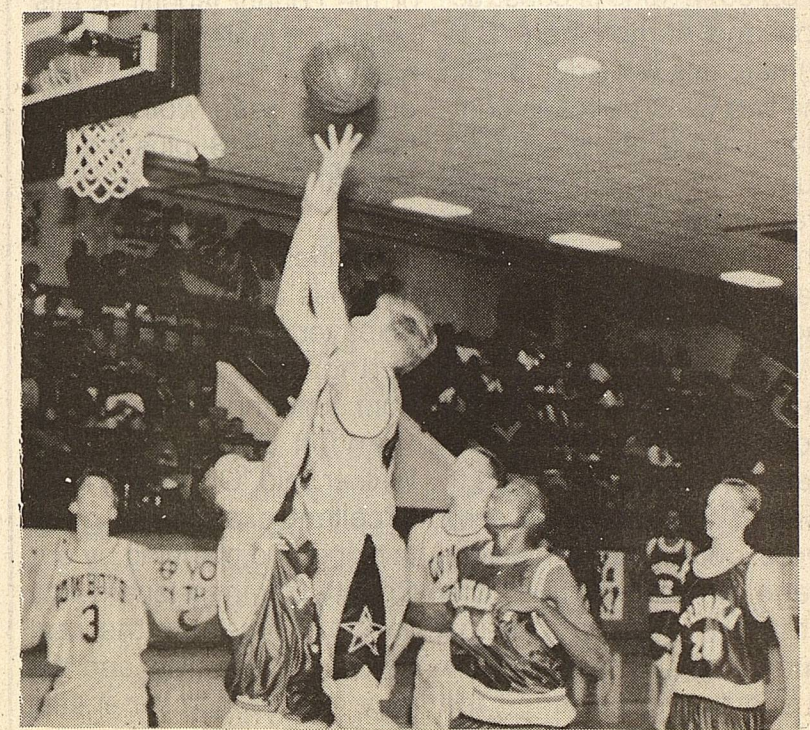
The mileage rate for out of county travel will remain at 25 cents per mile. The Court also ordered placing all officers on a salary basis for 1997.

Jury compensation rates were approved, with \$7 per day for reporting to jury duty, and \$14 per day for serving. Wanda Smith's Tax Assessor/Collector's report showing tax collections in Decem-

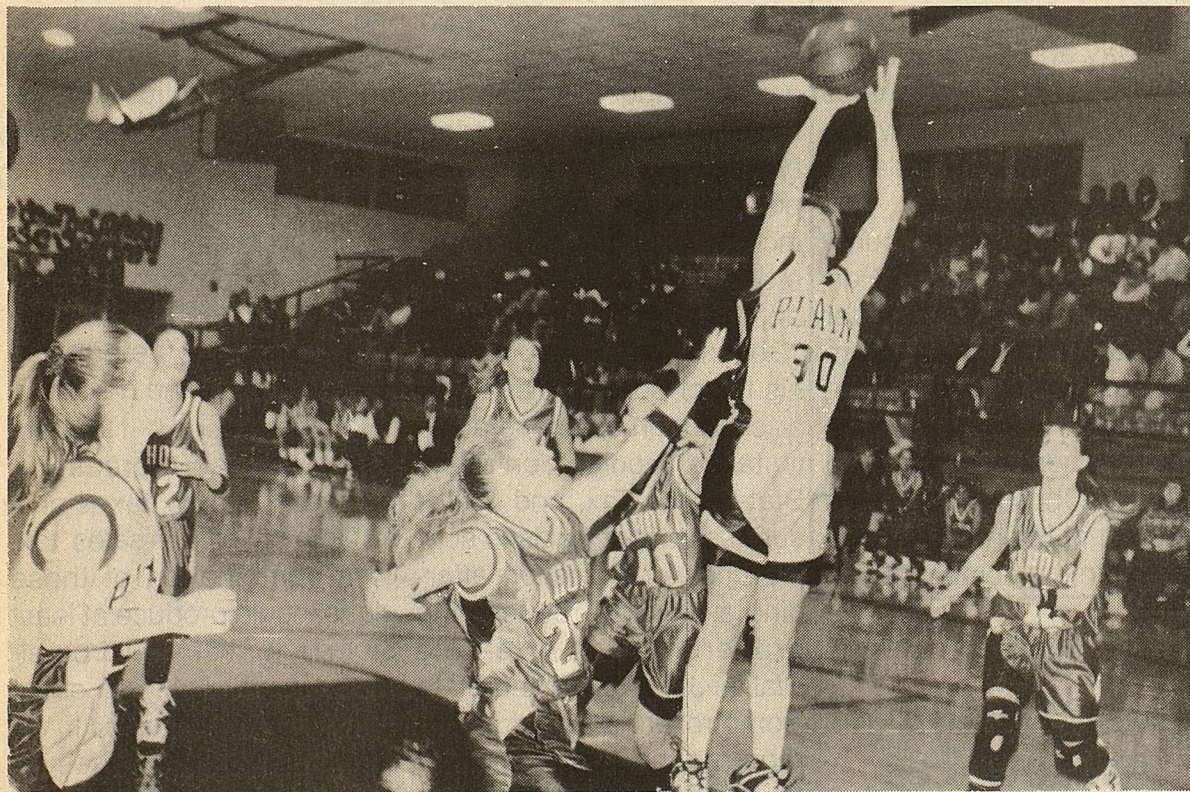
* In 1995, the Postal Service processed 181 billion pieces of mail, about 580 million pieces a day. The national delivery network now reaches nearly 128 million addresses.



Sandi Warren prepares to launch long range shot



Going high made this shot easy for Jason Redman



Kayla Redman goes high for shot against Tahoka Lady Bulldogs

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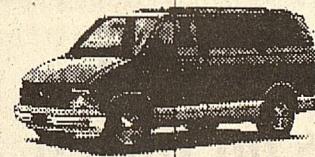
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Yoakum County Hospital

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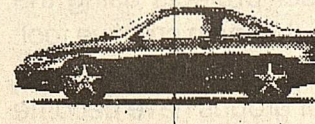
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60 Months



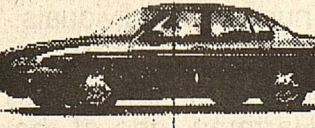
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3.9% APR financing is available on the Chevy Astro, the only van tough enough to handle childhood.

3.9%
APR financing*
60 Months



Cavalier
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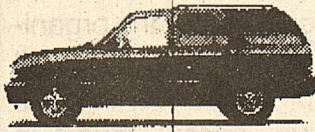
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County Criminal Court cases

Two criminal cases were heard in County Court last week. Judge Dallas Brewer presided, and Richard Clark represented the State.

Eric Ramos, 20, pled guilty to an assault charge. He received a 90 jail sentence, suspended and probated 24 months, was fined \$250, and must pay \$187 Court costs. He was also ordered to successfully complete his G.E.D. within the period of community supervision at his expense. He was represented by Attorney Charles Mais.

Benjamin Nelson Brock, 48, pled guilty to DWI. He received a 60 day jail term, suspended and probated 12 months, was fined \$500, must pay \$227 Court costs, and spend three days in jail, with credit for one day served. His attorney was Neville Manning.

JP Court case review

The following is a summary of cases filed and bonds set in Justice of Peace Court, Pct. One, with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding.

Cases filed; 60 traffic, 2 class C misdemeanors, one issuance of bad check.

Bonds Set; Three Assault causing bodily injury charges- bonds of \$1500, \$2500, and \$1500. Minor in Possession-\$467 Fine. Forgery of a financial instrument-\$5000 bond. Parole violation- held until transported. Two motions to revoke probation, both held until hearing.

PHS Student of the Week

This week's Student of the Week is Mary Morales, a Senior, and the daughter of Mr and Mrs Angel Morales. She was nominated by Mr. Friesen, who said, "Mary is a joy to have in class. She has a reputation of being a leader in the community as well as the school system. She sets high standards for herself and her peers. She helps others around her step up the pace. She even teaches a 3rd grade class in her Church".

Mary recently received word she had been selected as a semi-finalist in the Coca-Cola National Scholarship program. If she can qualify as a finalist in the huge program, she could be competing for either a \$20,000 or \$4,000 scholarship.



PHS Student Of The Week

Fermin Luna was last week's Student of the Week. He is a Freshman and the son of Mr. & Mrs. Fermin Luna Sr. He was nominated by Mrs. Canada, who said "He is not only a good athlete, but is willing to help others who do not yet understand English. Helping others is what this world is all about, and he is willing to help friends, classmates and teachers".



7th Grade Lady Wranglers battle under basket in last week's game vs. Tahoka

Make plans to attend the SOUTH PLAINS WATER and SOIL CONSERVATION CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

January 23, 1997

National Guard Armory in Coleman Park
Brownfield, Texas

Conference topics include:

Boll Weevil Update, Roundup Ready Cotton, Conservation Tillage, Groundwater Level Report, E.Q.I.P Cost-Share Program, Drip Irrigation Management, and more...

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Trade Show Participants

All-Tex Seed	American Cyanamid	Associated Farmers Delinting
Biggerstaff Valley Corp.	Brownfield Irrigation	Brownfield Seed & Delinting
Energas Company	Equipment Supply Co.	Lindsey Manufacturing Co.
Parkinson Electronics	Plains Well Service	Terry County Farm Bureau
Tri-Matic, Inc.		Watermaster Irrigation Supply

DOOR PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN

Registration begins at 8:00 am
Meeting begins at 8:30 am

CEUs will be offered

Program Sponsored by...

Terry Ag Leadership Institute, Terry, Lynn, and Yoakum Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Terry County Agricultural Extension Service, South Plains Underground Water Conservation District, and the Brownfield Chamber of Commerce.

Mark Your Calendar
Now! Plains Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held the evening of Feb. 20.
Watch CCN for future plans & details

Little Dribblers to meet

The Little Dribbler's organizational meeting will be held Wednesday, January 22, at 8:30pm in the old Courthouse clubroom. The meeting is for parents of players and anyone interested in coaching a team.

Eligibility rules require a player to turn nine before Sep. 1, 1997, and cannot be 13 before Sep. 1, 1997.

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Sat. Fat 0g	0%	Dietary Fiber 0g	0%
Cholest. 70mg	22%	Sugar 1g	2%
Sodium 580g	24%	Protein 12g	24%

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PLAINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Plains, Texas

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL--ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES
Year Ended August 31, 1996

DATA CONTROL CODES		1B 100-199			1B 200-499		
		GENERAL FUND			SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)
5700	REVENUES:						
5800	Local, Intermediate, and Out-of-State	\$ 4,397,684	\$ 4,415,291	\$ 17,607	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	
5900	State Program Revenues	317,257	312,837	(4,420)	15,725	15,929	
	Federal Program Revenues	131,843	141,415	9,572	199,898	175,863	
	Sub-Total Revenues Excluding Function 14	4,846,784	4,869,543	22,759	217,623	193,792	
0014	Revenues Collected for Function 14	1,873,275	1,872,749	(526)	-	-	
5030	Total Revenues	6,720,059	6,742,292	22,233	217,623	193,792	
0011	EXPENDITURES:						
0021	Instruction	2,416,805	2,416,657	148	223,370	193,207	
0022	Instructional Administration	5,254	5,254	-	9,451	9,451	
0023	Instructional Resources and Media Services	64,428	61,858	2,570	-	-	
0031	School Administration	274,359	272,196	2,163	1,653	1,651	
0033	Guidance and Counseling Services	76,472	74,466	2,006	2,763	2,761	
0034	Health Services	40,243	38,342	1,901	-	-	
0036	Pupil Transportation	212,391	205,450	6,941	-	-	
0037	Co-Curricular Activities	321,027	320,242	785	-	-	
0041	Food Services	251,094	250,950	144	-	-	
0051	General Administration	296,196	291,430	4,766	-	-	
0052	Plant Maintenance and Operations	708,420	707,345	1,075	-	-	
0075	Facilities Acquisition and Construction	139,554	133,498	6,056	-	-	
0081	Data Processing Services	86,210	84,314	1,896	-	-	
	Community Services	1,992	1,988	4	-	-	
0014	Sub-Total Expenditures Excluding Function 14	4,894,445	4,863,990	30,455	237,237	207,070	
6050	Instructional Services Between Schools	1,873,275	1,872,749	526	-	-	
	Total Expenditures	6,767,720	6,736,739	30,981	237,237	207,070	
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(47,661)	5,553	53,214	(19,614)	(13,278)	
7990	Other Resources	13,340	6,766	(6,574)	19,614	13,278	
8990	Other (Uses)	(753)	(10,058)	(9,305)	-	-	
1200	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over Expenditures and Other Uses	(35,074)	2,261	37,335	-	-	
0100	Fund Balance--September 1 (Beginning)	2,027,919	2,027,919	-	1,874	1,874	
3000	Fund Balance--August 31 (Ending)	\$ 1,992,845	\$ 2,030,180	\$ 37,335	\$ 1,874	\$ 1,874	

January Specials!

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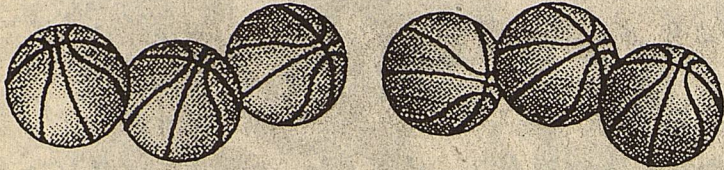
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'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

PHS Basketball Recap



7th Lady Wranglers; the 7th grade girls had a big fourth period against Tahoka, but fell in a squeaker 20-19 at the final buzzer. Annaliesa O'Quinn scored 14 points, Arasley Luna had 3, and Julie Gonzales had 2.

8th Lady Wranglers; The 8th graders also found Tahoka tough, and were downed 34-27 last week. Tanya Vasquez led the scoring with 12 points, Kimbe Jones had 8, Lensey Cullins 3, Lexi Warren and Amanda Garcia 2 each.

PHS Cowgirls; The Cowgirls played hard but couldn't overcome 27% shooting from the floor, and fell to Tahoka last week 43-39. Kayla Redman had 10 rebounds, Lindsey Six pulled down 8. Kyley Bearden led the scoring with 12 points, Tessa St Romain and Redman had 11 points each, Sandi Warren and Shyloh Winn 2 each, and Jolyne Burgess 1. The Cowgirls next went up against a good Shallowater team and were downed 66-32. Once again, cold shooting, particularly in the second half, gave the girls problems. Redman had 11 rebounds, Bearden, Kelli Osborn and Warren each had 6 points, St. Romain and Redman had 5 each, Six and Burgess had 2 each.

PHS Cowboys; The Varsity boys took on a state rated Tahoka team last week, and went down 61-59 late in the game. Coach Williams said he was proud of the team effort. Jason Redman had 11 rebounds, while Eric Estrada had 8 and 4 steals. Tanner Blount was top scorer with 21 points, Jamie Caballero had 15, Estrada and Redman 8 each, Shawn Cullins 3, Chris Willett and Adam Dominguez 2 each. The Cowboys next faced a very good Shallowater group and were swamped 97-49. The Mustangs shot 51% from the floor, while the Cowboys could only manage 40%. Blount had 24 points, Redman had 12, Estrada 7, and Willett, Caballero and Dominguez had 2 each.

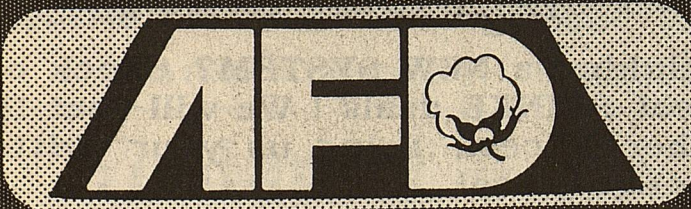
PHS Math/Science Team win Sweepstakes, & 4th meet of year at Shallowater

The Math/Science had another big win at Shallowater on January 11. The Number Sense team took 2nd, as did the Calculator, Math and Science teams. The Computer Science Team finished in first place. Following are individual performances;

Number Sense: Kristen Gray 1, Clint Burrus 2, Marcey House 6, Tommie McNabb 10, Maranda Box 5, Derek Brunson 10, Shawna Box 3, Heath Bowlin 5, Shawn Cullins 2, Yancey House 3, Jacob Lester 6, Coley Burgess 9. **Calculator:** Kristen 1, Clint 3, Marcey 9, Tommie 2, Maranda 4, Derek 7, Shawna 4, Yancey 4, Jacob 3, Coley 5. **Math:** Kristen 1, Clint 4, Marcey 9, Tommie 6, Shawna 2, Heath 5, Shawn 3, Yancey 5, Jacob 10, Coley 9. **Science:** Kristen 3, Clint 2, Marcey 1, Tommie 4, Maranda 6, Derek 7, Shawna 6, Heath 4, Jacob 8. **Computer Science:** Tommie 1, Clint 2, Jacob 3, Yancey 2.

Go, Cowgirls, Cowboys!

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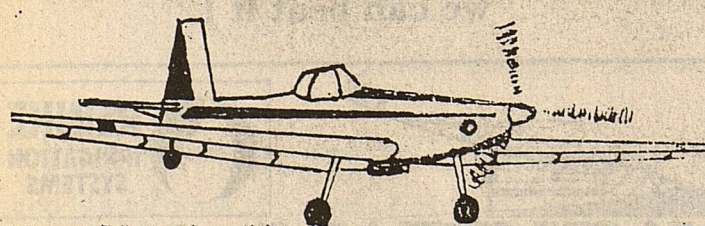


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PISD Honor Roll 3rd Six Weeks

All "A" Honor Roll

Elementary

First Grade:

Joani Bell
Rubi Castillo
Ryan Crump
Britnie Duran
Lauren Hise
Zachary Ramos

Second Grade:

Scott Addison
Jose Luis Gallegos
Kimberly Gonzales
Challie Johnson
Angelica Mendoza
Regina Morales
Adrianna Ponce
D. J. Robertson
Kristina Unger

Third Grade:

T. J. Cordova
Allison Friesen
Skylar Keese
Adam McCravey
Blake O'Quinn
Blake Parrish
Sara Wiebe

Fourth Grade:

Evan Cain
Breck Hamm
Brant Huerta
Kerry Sisson

First Grade:

Curtis Arteaga
Cody Mayes
Colby Ortega
Katie Winn

Second Grade:

Callie Howell
Jose Villegas

Third Grade:

Casson Curtis

Fourth Grade:

Cody Flores

Junior High

Fifth Grade:
Grady McNabb
Nolan Newsom

Sixth Grade:

Jill Gray

Seventh Grade:

Annaliesa O'Quinn

Eighth Grade:

Aaron Cain
Lesli Rowe

Fifth Grade:

Austin Keese
Manuela Villegas

Sixth Grade:

Kelly Bowers
Chisum Deaton
Kayla Willis

Seventh Grade:

Jared Bell

Chandra Carpenter
Douglas Conway
Lauren Davis
Amber Friesen
Marissa Melendez
John Tyson

Landon Craft
Meghan Garcia
Kimberly Jackson
Magareta Martens
Araceli Mendonza
Lisa Neufeld
Lupita Quintana
Stetson Sellers

Michael Crump
Ben Hays
B. J. Lester
Mark Morgan
Katie Oswald
Abel Ramos
Todd Williams

Marlie Diaz
Brandon Hise
Daniela Lazos

All A's and 1-B Honor Roll

Elias Carrillo
MLeah McKinzie
Jacob Rivera

Erika Loewen

Mayra Flores

All "A" Honor Roll

Moriah Traweck

Sandra Gallegos

Becky Wilmeth

Kimberlee Jones

All A's and 1-B Honor Roll

Trent May

Krystal Gonzales
Ryan Swann

Ky May

Eighth Grade:

Emily Blair
Chris Estrada
Taylor Gray
Ashlei Mason
Lexi Warren

High School

9th Grade:

Joshua Bell
Velvet Canada
Jessica Flores
Wendy Hernandez
Chris Leggett
Laura Morales
Patty Ruiz
Jason Swann

10th Grade:

Joshua Bayer
Clint Burrus
Marcey House
Tommie McNabb

11th Grade:

Vicki Bayer
Shawna Box
Yvonne Gonzales
Gideon Traweck

12th Grade:

Sonia Avila
Jacob Lester
Lyndi Rowe
Tessa St. Romain

9th Grade:

Autumn Deaton

10th Grade:

Dustin Brunson

11th Grade:

Shawn Cullins
Abraham Garcia

12th Grade:

Kyley Bearden
Arthur Hernandez
Allen Ward

All "A" Honor Roll

Lensey Cullins
Joel Gallegos
Kari Guetersloh
Eric Nixon

Candace Bowers
Audra Ellis
Kristen Gray
Fermin Luna
Kelton Mason
Anne Palmer
Kyle Sission
Staci Tuggle

Maranda Box
Cosme Casillas
Tandi Jones
Lisa Parrish

Heath Bowlin
Dolly Gonzales
Summer Howard
Sandi Warren

Yancey House
Mary Morales
Robin Squyres

All A's and 1-B Honor Roll

Leticia Canon

LaCresha Johnson

Laura Flores
Kassie Lowe

Kristi Guetersloh
Roni Ponce

Poster and Essay Contest

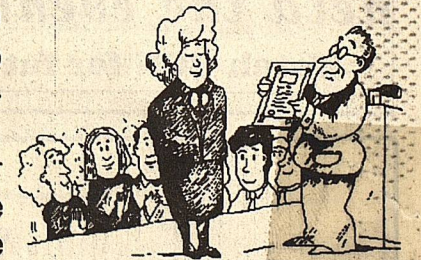
Now is the time to enter the YOAKUM SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S annual poster and essay contest. The contest deadline is February 3, 1997, and entries need to be turned in to the Yoakum SWCD at 1303 Cowboy Way in Plains, Tx.

The poster contest is for boys and girls under the age of 12. The Themes for the Poster Contest are: "HARMONY: PEOPLE AND PLACES" and "BACKYARD STEWARDSHIP". The top three winners will receive trophies.

The essay contest is for boys and girls under the age of 18. The Theme for the Essay Contest is: "SOIL

AND WATER CONSERVATION". Up to 300 words will be permitted. There will be three winners who will each receive a \$50.00 Savings Bond. Contest winners will be entered in the regional contest. This contest does not jeopardize Texas University Interscholastic League eligibility.

For entry forms or more information contact your teacher or contact the Yoakum Soil and Water Conservation District at 456-3703.



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Femme Friends



SPC Spring Registration Thursday

LEVELLAND--South Plains College's spring registration is Thursday (Jan. 9). Regular registration is 9-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m. in the Student Center on the Levelland campus. A registration permit is required. To obtain a registration permit, contact the SPC Office of Admissions and Records at 894-9611, ext. 2374 or 2375. Evening registration will be 4-6:30 p.m. Thursday (Jan. 9) in the Student Center. A registration permit is not required. Classes begin Monday, Jan. 13. Late registration will be Jan. 13-17. Late registration times are 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m. Jan. 13-16 and 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Jan. 17. A late fee of \$15 and an add/drop fee of \$5 will be charged. Spring courses at SPC are offered in accounting, accounting associate, agriculture, agribusiness technology, anthropology, art, associate degree nursing, automotive collision repair technology, automotive service technology, Bible, biology, and chemistry. Also commercial art, commercial music, computer information systems, computer science, cosmetology, diesel service technology, drafting technology, economics, electrical utilities technology, electronic service technology, engineering, English, French, general business, geology, government, history, human development, human sciences, humanities, journalism, law enforcement technology, legal secretary, management, marketing, math, medical secretary, merchandising, music, office technology, orientation, performing arts technology, petroleum technology, philosophy, photography, physical education, physics, psychology, reading, refrigeration and air conditioning technology, sociology, sound technology, Spanish, speech communication, telecommunications, theater arts, vocational nursing and welding.

Services Held for Eugene Asebedo

Services for Eugene "Geno" Asebedo, 45, of Arlington, formerly of Seminole, were held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 24, at First Baptist Church of Seminole.

Burial was in Gaines County Cemetery under the direction of Roger Pool Funeral Home.

Mr. Asebedo died Friday, Dec. 20, at his home. He was born in Richland, Springson on Nov. 13, 1951. He moved to Seminole from Floydada in 1968, and graduated from Seminole High School in 1971. He attended Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, and after college, he became involved in the International Crusades, working in the Mission field in Guatemala, Japan and Mexico. In 1978, he

moved to Arlington where he owned and operated Longhorn Specialties, a Satellite Dish Company.

Survivors include his parents, Inez and Ramon Asebedo of Plains; three brothers, Richard Asebedo of Seminole, Sam Asebedo of Midland, and Randy Asebedo of Friona; five sisters, Mary Aguilar of Lubbock, Janie Saldana of Seminole, Nora Stewart of Midland, Rita Coronel of Plains and Martha Reynold of San Antonio.

We, the family of Ramond and Annie Asebedo would like to say Thank You to those who supported us in our loss of Geno. Thanks to those who sent food and flowers, and to those who supported us in prayer and love. To the First Baptist Church of Plains who were there to help and support us.

The Family of Ramond and Annie Asebedo

Fine Arts Club Makes Plans

Plains Fine Arts Club met January 9, 1997, in the home of Sue Banfield with co-hostess Yvette Ramos.

A delicious spaghetti dinner and chocolate dessert was served to twelve members; Mrs. Sue Banfield, Christy Brink, Beth Ann Cain, Melba Crutcher, Sandra Ellison, Judy Fitzgerald, Donna Friesen, Michelle Hawthorne, Debra Hise, Lois Miller, Martha Palmer, and Yvette Ramos.

President Judy Fitzgerald called the meeting to order, and after the roll call and reading of the minutes, old business was discussed. The Baked Potato Sales will be Friday, January 17th and Tuesday, January 28th with proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund. The Sacred Music Program will be April 13, 1997, at the First Baptist Church. The lucky lady winning the hostess gift was Christy Brink.

The next meeting will be February 6, 1997, at 7:00

p.m. with hostesses Carolyn Culwell and Dolores Davis. Sandra Ellison Recording Secretary

Emma Gonzales Earns Honors at SPC

South Plains College announced recently Emma Gonzales had qualified for the prestigious President's Honor Roll, limited to only students achieving a 4.0 grade point average. At the end of the last Spring semester, Emma was on the Dean's Honor Roll. Earlier this year she was also honored by being named 'Student Of The Month' for her work in Micro-Computing.

She is a 1994 graduate of Plains High School and the daughter of Alberto and Christina Gonzales.

Emma is now married to Barney Tobar also a PHS graduate. She has not changed her name because of problems with her academic records at SPC. Barney is also a South Plains College student, and is helping pay college costs by working at Uncle's Convenience Store here in Plains

nience Store here in Plains

Let All Heaven Rejoice!

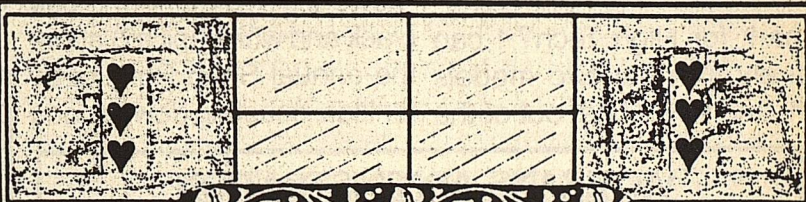
Rehearsals are being held for the Easter Pageant each Wednesday evening, 8 p.m., Fellowship Hall, First Baptist Church. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to tell our community about the risen savior!

If you have a question, contact Patrick Hamilton, 456-3661



Coach Osborn conducts 'skull session' with Cowgirls

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If you have received a subscription renewal notice from us recently, we will greatly appreciate your renewing as soon as possible. Your help in keeping our accounts current will enable us to better serve all our readers. Thank You!



Welcome To The Lavender Patch

We are open at last, and anxious to meet all our new neighbors! The LAVENDER PATCH inventory is low at the moment, but Not For Long! We go to market in Dallas Jan. 9.

While we rebuild the inventory following Linda's sale, and our purchase of the business, we sincerely hope you will come in, do a bit of browsing, and let us meet you! We will make every effort to serve and please you in the same manner Linda Powell did for so very long.

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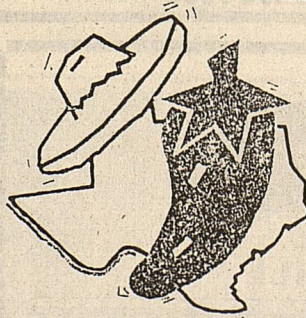
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TELCOT[®] Report

A WEEKLY SUMMARY OF COTTON MARKETING NEWS

For the Week Ending January 9, 1997

Cotton futures fluctuated this week before March cotton futures fell to an eight-week low Thursday after USDA predicted a slightly larger than expected 1996-97 U.S. crop. However, the bearishness of the figure was muted by the absence of world supply/demand figures for reference, traders said.

USDA now expects the U.S. to produce its second largest cotton crop ever. The department pegged 1996-97 U.S. production at 18.95 million bales, up one percent from last month's estimate of 18.73 million bales and a six percent increase from last year's production figure. Additionally, U.S. cotton yields are forecast at a record high 709 pounds per harvested acre, compared with last month's estimate of 704 pounds and up 172 pounds from 1995.

While the USDA figure was slightly higher than the predictions of most analysts, who had projected production at 18.77 million bales, one observer commented the report's bearish influence was dampened by the absence of world supply/demand figures for comparison. The department's world supply/demand figures will be released January 10 along with a summary for the 1996 season.

Interestingly, the exceptional 1996-97 U.S. cotton crop was harvested on fewer acres than were planted in previous years. According to USDA, 14.4 million U.S. acres were planted to cotton in 1996-97, down 14 percent from the year before. The number of cotton acres decreased even further due to abandonment after several bouts with adverse weather which brought harvested acreage to an estimated 12.6 million acres, 20 percent less than last year.

The Texas cotton crop is the surprising success story of the 1996-97 season. USDA increased its Texas production estimate this month to 4.41 million bales, up 149,000 bales from its December figure, and yields in the state are expected to set a new record at 522 pounds per harvested acre.

The season was a success despite the fact that Texas producers, who planted 5.70 million acres to cotton in 1996-97, harvested only 4.00 million acres, a 30 percent decline from 1995. Early-season adverse weather caused high abandonment in Texas; however, favorable growing conditions in late summer and an open harvest period resulted in large numbers of bolls and high boll weights. In fact, rainfall in August and September generated the highest boll counts and the second

highest boll weights in the state since 1986.

In other cotton news, major cotton merchant Billy Dunavant advised growers in a speech at the annual Beltwide Cotton Conference this week to sell their old crop cotton in the next 60 days. Dunavant believes cotton prices are likely to drop in May or July given average textile business and normal plantings and harvesting in the Southern Hemisphere. "If, however, there are major problems during that period the price will go up for both old and new crop cotton," he added.

The merchant also stated China will continue to be a significant factor in world cotton supply and demand. He feels the country will import a total of 2.1 million bales in 1996-97, slightly more than one million of which will come from the U.S.. "As we all know, China has had some unpleasant experiences on yield," he added, "but I think it is getting better, and this will be a factor in their new crop plantings. Just as in the U.S., the price of competing crops is going to be the major factor."

Meanwhile, USDA reported export sales of 1996-97 U.S. cotton increased a net 78,600 bales in the week ending January 2, down from the previous week's total of 97,000 bales. Featured buyers were China, South Korea and Taiwan. Net sales slipped 19 percent below the previous week and 16 percent below the four-week average.

One analyst viewed recent export sales as "decent" and said with these sales and shipment figures, the U.S. should stay on target to reach USDA's December export estimate of 6.2 million bales. He said the export projection could be raised, particularly since many hold the view that the U.S. possesses a large amount of exportable supplies of cotton.

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From The Hack

I read something in US NEWS & WORLD REPORT this week which blew my mind. The Department of Energy and Intel Corp. collaborated in developing the world's fastest computer, a monster capable of handling over a TRILLION operations in just ONE SECOND. It is 3,300 times as fast as the speediest desktop PC, which can manage 300 million instructions per second. The article stated the "Ultra" computer, in the blink of an eye can handle a math problem that would take every man, woman and child in the United States working together non-stop on calculators 125 years to solve.

An even speedier model is planned for next year, when 9,000 Pentium Pro processors will be wired together, sprawling across 1,700 square feet of Sandia National Labs in New Mexico. The "Super Ultra" will be used to simulate underground nuclear tests, develop new drugs and to track the weather.

While there are two desktop PC's in our office, I am not a 'chip freak'. I was very proud when we got a new, more powerful and speedier Mac just before Christmas, but after reading about the 'Ultras', it reminds me of a Tinker Toy creation. And why should I care about this highwater mark for High Tech? I can barely turn our two models on, and when I get out of the

word processing programs we use for this rag, I am as lost as a preacher in a Las Vegas dice game. CD computer games are impossible for me; Grandson Doug Rushing brought me several fascinating sounding games recently. One had a nuclear submarine warfare theme. I managed to run my sub aground just coming out of the harbor. Another was about aerial combat between us good guys and Russian Migs. I blasted down the runway in my F-15, only to crash when I raised the landing gear before I was airborne. I tried my hand at some stupid stock market investment game, invested heavily in something called 'Heavenly Hominy', and went stone broke when the FDA condemned the stuff.

Everyone tells me, "No matter what computer you buy, how fast, how powerful, it will be obsolete in six months or less". So what? Big Deal! I'm already obsolete, so it shouldn't matter a bit.

Rather ironic, but after a recent talk with David Sanders, the Hollywood stuntman and spouse of Cherie Sanders, new owners of The Lavender Patch, I watched an hour length program about stunts and stuntmen on The Discovery Channel.

All these spectacular stunts brought back to my mind a stunt conceived by two young friends and yours truly about a hundred years or so ago during one of the annual summers I spent with my grandparents in Eden, Texas. The Saturday afternoon movie, price .25, featured a "newsreel" (remember those black and white epics?) about the annual Soap Box Derby for kids, coasting down a long

hill on their home built racers. Inspired by this, we three stooges rushed home, got my old Red Racer pull type wagon out of my granddad's shed, and went to work on it. In hardly anytime, say, maybe three weeks or so, we had transformed the outgrown wagon (I was a mature 12 at the time) into a sleek racing machine, steered by rope cables to the front wheels. The wagon's box was gone, replaced by a sheet of plywood supporting a small wooden box for a seat. We took turns pushing one another around town on the conveyance, getting all the kinks out before we took it to "the hill", a stretch of the Eden to Paint Rock Highway sloping down to the Concho Valley below. From an automobile, the hill had always seemed fairly steep. When we talked some older teens into carrying us and our mean racing machine to the hill, unloaded, and looked down, it looked like Mount Everest from the summit to me.

"OK, guys", I suggested, "It's my racer, but ya'll helped so much, I'm gonna give one of you first ride". They shook their heads in perfect unison, NO, saying "No Way!! Your wagon, you ride it!". I hated both of them at that moment. I didn't have any protective gear except a Junior High football helmet I had 'appropriated' earlier, and with shaking hands strapped it on. I think I looked at them with a tear in my eyes and whispered "Say good bye to my dog and anyone you think was a friend", but I'm not sure, and they shoved me off. The first few yards were a gentle slope, then became steeper and steeper. Do you

know exactly how hard rubber wagon wheels, mounted to plywood, upon which your skinny bottom is attached to, can punish you? Within the first 200 yards, I had three chipped teeth, a severely bitten tongue, and hemorrhoids to this day. My voice permanently changed that day also... screaming non-stop 76 seconds is damaging.

Frantically trying to steer the wild thing under me, cursing myself and two fellow engineers for forgetting it desperately needed brakes, I knew terror when I felt the stolen re-bar axles start to sag, the front wheels start to splay, I lost steering, and then my plywood seat was dragging bottom, already starting to smoulder from friction.

At that moment, I experienced my first airborne ride. I sailed up to the right, the hated racer to the left. It crashed I know not, nor care where; I crashed into a juniper tree where two wild turkeys were napping, and they showered me with feathers and assorted other stuff, and I spat juniper stuff weeks later. When my "crew" and the older teens finally pulled me from the branches, they must have seen a very funny movie or something, for they were in hysterics. I know for sure nothing funny had happened to me.



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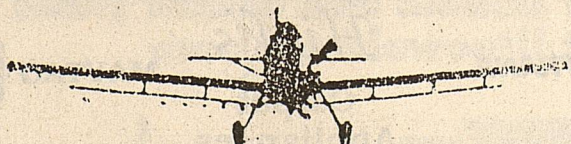
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