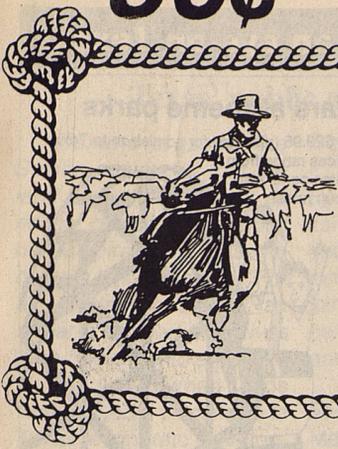


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# Cowboy Country News



Published each Wednesday at the County  
Seat of Yoakum County, Plains, Texas

Volume 2, Issue 44, Wednesday, July 10, 1996

## New CO<sub>2</sub> Flood Project For Yoakum County

FINA, SHELL share in new development

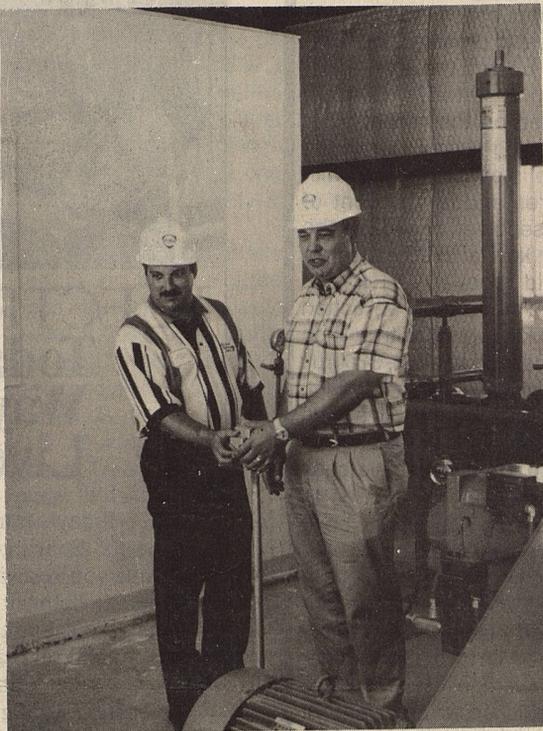
Midland, Texas; FINA Oil and Chemical Company, Midland, conducted dedication ceremonies in Plains on July 1, heralding the implementation of a new CO<sub>2</sub> flood project at FINA's West Brahaney Unit in Yoakum County. This initial phase of a potential unit - wide project will include approximately 320 acres and will utilize eight injection wells and fifteen producing wells.

With an estimated 1996 facility capital expenditure of more than \$4 million, the project will include design and construction of a CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline, CO<sub>2</sub> pressure boosting station, injection facilities, drilling of five infill and three replacement wells, and conversion of existing waterflood injection wells to CO<sub>2</sub> service.

The CO<sub>2</sub> will be supplied via pipeline to Shell's Allred Station, located 9.2 miles south of the initial project area. The provider of the CO<sub>2</sub> will be Shell Western E&P from the McElmo Dome source field in southwestern Colorado near Cortez.

"We are expecting the use of applied technology to provide value to our partners, our royalty owners, and our upstream and downstream efforts from now into the 21st century," said Ed Nash, Division General Manager for FINA in Midland. "Our studies indicate that an additional 1.7 million barrels of oil will be produced above our projected recovery under continued waterflood operations. If this Phase 1 project proves the economic viability of expansion to a unit-wide project, an additional 6.7 million barrels of oil could ultimately be produced. This field was produced originally using its own natural pressure. Then, we subsequently aided its ability to produce using waterflood operations and now we are moving toward the future by using Carbon Dioxide to further improve West Brahaney's production."

"This new step at West Brahaney underscores FINA's commitment to using applied technology to enhance oil recovery from our existing reservoirs, thereby producing more fuel for American and adding value to the



Tim Bradley, Shell, Ed Nash, FINA, flip switch to start CO<sub>2</sub>

economy of the State of Texas and locally to Yoakum County", said Mr. Nash. FINA has already commenced one CO<sub>2</sub> project this year. Later, FINA plans to commence an additional CO<sub>2</sub> flood in the Permian Basin, making a total of three projects that FINA will operate which will take advantage of enhanced oil recovery technology.

The dedication ceremonies got underway here with a catered barbecue rib and chicken meal at the Plains Community Center. A number of FINA personnel spoke on phases of the large project undertaking.

One unusual aspect of the injection project is its joint

venture status. The CO<sub>2</sub> supplier, Shell, and the West Brahaney Operator, FINA, entered into an agreement to share jointly in the operation, bringing CO<sub>2</sub> to the old field in a newly constructed pipeline, the building of the pressure boosting station, and the line carrying the gas to the well sites. The joint owners will share in operational duties and resulting revenues.

The West Brahaney unit is some 5 miles southwest of Plains. The field was first discovered in 1945. It is a very small part of the Permian Basin production

Turn to Page 2,

**'CO<sub>2</sub> Flood'**

## Area Cotton Crop Playing Catch Up

By Tadd Knight, CEA-AG YOAKUM COUNTY

The High Plains Cotton crop has experienced a rough and highly variable start in 1996. Not only were many fields replanted due to hail and blowing sand but late and sporadic rains caused many dryland fields to suffer stand problems. To inform cotton producers about the current condition of the High Plains crop, a plant condition survey of 400 fields was conducted from June 25 through June 27. At this time most of the intended cotton planted had taken place, except off the cap and the lateness and variability of the crop could

be assessed.

County Agents have developed an innovative method to collect useful data to assist cotton producers with management decisions. This method, called the AgriPartners program, puts a skilled technician in each county for detailed field survey and demonstration work. Many organizations contribute to the AgriPartners program, with cotton producers being the number one contributor. This survey was conducted

Turn to Page 2,

**'Cotton Crop'**

## County Court Meets

Yoakum County Commissioner's met in regular session Monday, July 8. Agenda items discussed and acted on included presentation of the Tax Assessor/Collector's monthly tax report by Wanda Smith, showing tax receipts for June totaling \$21,820.

The Court approved advertising for bids for lights and light poles for use in Precinct 2 at the Denver City Little League Park. Bids should be received no later than July 26.

All County bills and part time employment salaries were approved for payment. A special meeting date on Thursday, July 11, at 11 AM was approved, at which time county bills will be approved, and the Court will consider approval of a budget amendment. The change of Court date was made to enable several Court members to attend the National Association of Counties meeting in Houston the following week.

## Rodeo, Reunion Date Draws Nearer



City employees raised the 'Welcome' banner in town last Friday, heralding the approaching three day rodeo starting August 1, and the big crowd attracting reunion and barbecue at noon Saturday, August 3 in Stanford Park. Rodeo Queen Candidates are selling \$1 tickets for the custom built saddle which will go to some lucky purchaser at the final rodeo performance. The saddle is on display at Plains State Bank, and has a retail value of some \$1100.

## Mountains of used tires not getting smaller

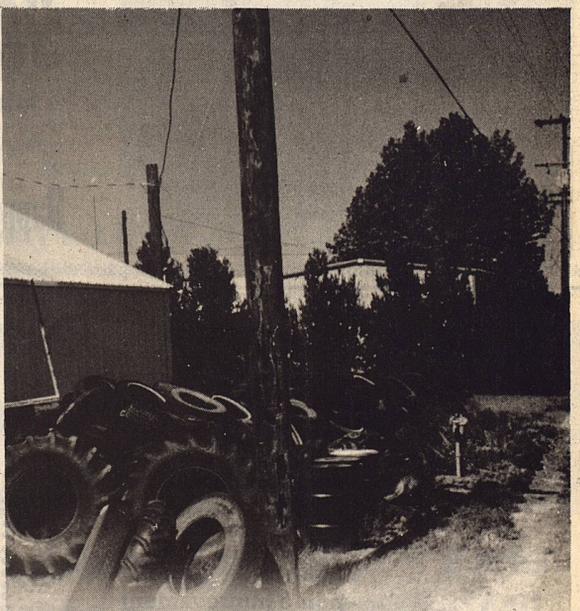
Legislature to take another look  
at disposal program next January.

What to do with millions of used, junked tires has been a vexing problem for Texans a number of years now. In 1991, the Texas Natural Resources Commission (TNRCC) identified over 1,110 illegal dump sites where true mountains of used tires were creating environmental and even health problems. Mosquitoes, other insects and rodents infested the piled up tires.

This report led to the State Legislature passing a bill commonly referred to as the 'Used Tire Act'.

The new law required new tire buyers to pay a fee of \$2 for each new tire purchased, and \$1 per used tire. The funds were allocated to allow TNRCC to administer a tire disposal program. The measure would pay tire shredding companies around the state 85 cents for converting the hauled in junk tires them to 'rubber chips', hopefully to be used for other industrial purposes.

By 1994, the Legislators realized they had created another "monster". Instead of hundreds of illegal tire



dump sites around the state, a smaller number of converted into a viable 'end-use' product.

In the immense West Texas areas of the state, this presented a real problem, for there are virtually no firms converting tire chips into other products. An additional problem arose with increasing truck fuel prices. The chipping plant owners

When the 1995 Legislature convened, it was decided to modify the rules of the disposal program. The tire 'chipper' would now only get .80 cents per tire, plus, the rubber chips would have to be

Turn to Page 2,  
**'Used Tires'**

**Cont'd from Page 1,  
'Used Tires'**

were required to pay a portion of their .80 cent revenue to truckers, and the truckers, faced with inflationary operating costs, could no longer afford to make rounds gathering the tires, then trucking them to the disposal site.

The disposal program in effect came to a halt in West Texas. On June 26, TNRCC officials adopted an emergency rule change in the disposal program. They announced a number of regional tire disposal sites in our area of the state, including Midland, El Paso, Colorado City and Pampa. The sites are all located on land owned by the state and administered by the General Land Office.

These sites are to be fenced, and will employ security to prevent illegal dumping of tires or other materials. The disposed of tires will remain at these sites until a tire chipping company is found to dispose of them.

One problem has already arisen with the new plan. The tires are to be gathered in each of the regions by a company submitting the lowest bid to collect and truck the tires to the sites. A quick look at the dollar and cent side of the program indicates immediate problems; The original \$2 consumer fee is still in place. Of this amount, TNRCC gets \$1.20 for administering the program. That leaves .80 cents to be paid to the shredding company, but

the company with the winning bid to bring tires to the regional temporary storage sites must be paid.

If his trucking bid was .30 cents per tire for the hauling, the chipping company now only has .50 cents left to acquire, haul and dispose of the tires, an amount which may not warrant his efforts, particularly if his plant is located a distance from the storage sites.

Another problem still exists... the tires may not be ground into rubber chips, unless they end up being used in some other industrial product.

Gary Walker, State Representative, whose District 80 has long been plagued by the accumulation of used tires, reported he expects the Legislature to take a serious look at the growing problem when the session reconvenes in January. "In all probability the Natural Resources Committee will be address this matter, and hopefully we can come up with a more workable disposal plan during the session", he reported in an interview for this article last week.

There are over 18,000,000 citizens of Texas, and used tires are accumulating at the rate of one tire for each and every person in the state annually.

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**Cont'd from Page 1,  
'CO<sub>2</sub> Flood'**

barrels. Of this total, some 60 billion barrels, or two-thirds, remain in the ground, the potential target for advanced recovery processes.

The first successful field test of CO<sub>2</sub> began in the Mead Strawn Field near Abilene in 1964. There are currently forty CO<sub>2</sub> floods in the Permian Basin, producing some 110,000 BOPD of incremental oil.

A large group of FINA, Shell and other company personnel, with a number of invited guests, boarded a Denver City ISD bus to tour the new installation.

area of West Texas and southeastern New Mexico, covering some 80,000 sq. miles. The estimated original oil in place for the Permian Basin is 90 billion

**Cont'd from Page 1,  
'Cotton Crop'**

using the AgriPartners program. On average High Plains irrigated fields was 0.75 inches (good for seedling cotton) but the average plant was just now entering the pinhead square stage and had 2 square per plant. The location of fruit on the plant appears normal with the average node of the first fruiting branch between node 5 and 6. Plant stand, where there is cotton, is also normal at 3.8 plants per foot of row.

Dryland cotton is also growing rapidly, on average, due to recent rains and has a height to node ratio of 0.67 inches per node, only slightly less than irrigated average.

Most fields have not started square and have only 4 nodes. On average plant stand in dryland cotton, again where there is cotton, is adequate at 3.2 plants per foot of row. In Yoakum County, based on a 20 field survey, the irrigated cotton crop on the average has a height of 5.6 inches with 7 total nodes, 2.4 first position squares, with an average first fruiting branch at the fifth node, all adding up to an extremely healthy crop at this point. The dryland crop looks very good at this point with an average height to node ratio of .78, while fruiting at the fifth node, an averaging .6 squares.

According to Yoakum County Extension Agent Tadd Knight, the Yoakum County cotton crop is making rapid progress and making up for the late start. Knight stated, "Overall, based on the recent plant mapping survey, our cotton crop is performing well with a tremendous amount of horsepower based on the four key factors needed for rapid recovery: 1) a high plant population; 2) cotton fruiting rapidly with a high percent square set; 3) a fruit set which is low on the plant; 4) healthy plants with a good height to node ratio. At this point, conditions have been nearly ideal to catch up to where we would like to be at this point in the growing season.

Both dryland and irrigated fields are extremely late. With favorable weather the average first bloom date should occur 3rd week of July in irrigated fields and the last week of July in dryland fields. Producers are encouraged to pick up a copy of the Late Cotton Management Guidelines available from the local extension office for detailed instructions on pushing the 1996 crop along.

The AgriPartners program intends to conduct another survey in late July and late August to follow the progression on the 1996 cotton crop and keep producers informed of the High Plains conditions.

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**Keeping an eye on Texas**

**Texans drop dollars at theme parks**

Adults pay between \$26.95 and \$29.95 (plus tax) for admission to Texas theme parks, while children's prices range from \$18.95 to \$23.90 (plus tax). Theme parks also offer special promotions and group rates.

**Texas theme park prices\*:**

	Adult	Child
	0	\$10 \$20 \$30
Six Flags-Fiesta Texas	\$27.95	\$19.03
Sea World of Texas	\$26.95	\$18.95
Six Flags-Astroworld	\$29.95	\$18.95
Six Flags Over Texas	\$29.93	\$23.90

\*Plus state and local tax.

SOURCES: John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Six Flags-Fiesta Texas, Sea World of Texas, Six Flags-Astroworld and Six Flags Over Texas.

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With Age'*

\*\*\*\*\*  
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will be 40  
July 10th**  
\*\*\*\*\*

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  - Mejoramiento de hogares
  - Comercios
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# Land Of Opportunity

Texas' public acreage is a key economic asset

*Texans crossed the Sabine convinced that the land was the source of all riches, determined to build new empires, and for some of them this came true. For all, the land and what lay under it shaped their lives from beginning to end.*

Publicly owned lands have played a crucial role in Texas economic development. From the grants made to early settlers and railroad companies, to the acres generating billions of dollars in oil and gas royalties for public schools, Texas' state-owned lands have been an economic asset that few states can match.

The State of Texas owns about 7.6 million surface acres or 4.5 percent of the state's total land area of 168.2 million acres--is owned by the federal government, a relatively low share that gives Texas a ranking of 43rd in the nation. The federal government owns more than one-quarter of all land in the entire U.S.

**Gone to Texas:** Under Spanish colonial and Mexican rule, about 26.3 million acres of lands that are now part of Texas were distributed in grants to promote citizenship and attract immigrants. Anxious to prevent French or British encroachment on their territories and to establish permanent civilian settlements, the Spanish commissioned Moses Austin to recruit American settlers for a colony on the Brazos River. The commission, granted in 1821, gave Austin the right to bring 300 families to Texas.

When Moses Austin fell

ill and died, his son Stephen F. Austin took up the torch. By 1836, Austin had established five colonies to be settled by more than 2,000 families. Other *empresarios* joined him in recruiting settlers from the U.S., Mexico and Europe.

The settlers fought for and won independence from Mexico, resulting in the creation of the Republic of Texas in 1836.

To build political and economic stability, Texas' early leaders attracted settlers by giving them free land. Any head of household living in Texas as of March 2, 1836, who had not already received land from Mexico was entitled to "a league and a labor" of land 4,605 acres. These were dubbed "first-class headrights." Single men were entitled to one-third of a league, or 1,476 acres.

When officials were later negotiating terms of statehood with the federal government, a treaty was drafted requiring Texas to cede 175 million acres of its public land to the U.S. In exchange, the U.S. would assume \$10 million of Texas' debts. Congress refused to accept the terms of the treaty, though, and in December 1845, Texas entered the Union land-rich but still very much in debt.

When the Texas Constitution was adopted in 1876, the state owned about 61.3 million acres of unappropriated lands, not including 20 million acres of school land.

As a state, Texas continued the homestead policy of its colonial and republican

predecessors and granted another 4.8 million acres of land to settlers. The homestead policy remained in place until 1899, when the supply of unappropriated public land ran out.

The state sold or gave away much of the unappropriated land in large parcels to finance public capital improvement projects. Railroad companies received grants totaling about 32.2 million acres, an area the size of Alabama.

From 1876 to 1901, the state government fought to retain the right to minerals on public land while preserving the flexibility to sell the land to private owners. The 1919 Relinquishment Act sought to minimize or eliminate conflicts by allowing surface owners of land to be agents of the state. They could lease land for mineral development and partake in the bonuses, rentals and royalty income from the land.

In 1921, oil was discovered in West Texas, and state-owned lands became an asset worth billions. The most valuable lands were in the Permian Basin. Among the most famous oil fields generating revenue for the state were Santa Rita in Reagan County, discovered in 1923, and Yates in Pecos County, discovered in 1926. The latter still provides a major source of Permanent School Fund revenue. In the 1930s, oil was found on state-owned lands in East Texas, starting with the Daisy Bradford No. 3 well near Kilgore.

Today, the Permanent University Fund endowment owns slightly more than 2.1 million acres of land. Another 2.6 million acres belong to special schools, such as those operated by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR), and to other state agencies. The state owns 2.9 million acres in parks and forests, highway right-of-ways and riverbeds. Texas' public domain also includes 4 million acres of submerged coastal lands, mineral rights to 7.5 million acres and liens on 1.5 million acres held by the Veterans Land Board.

# Cheerleaders Have Great Success At Texas Tech Camp



Krystle Blundell, Maranda Box, UCA Instructor, Kristi Guetersloh, Shawna Box, Shyloh Winn, & Sonia Avila

Plains High School Cheerleaders attended U.C.A. Camp at Texas Tech University June 18-21.

The cheerleaders were evaluated every evening on cheers, dances, sideline cheers and stunts.

The squad received 6 Blue "Superior" ribbons, 2 Gold "Superior" ribbons and 1 Red "Excellent" ribbon. Sonia Avila was awarded a safety ribbon for her spotting technique on a stunt. The squad also was awarded 3 "Spirit" sticks, one of which they were allowed to keep.

On the last day of camp, they were awarded a "Superior" trophy as an outstanding squad.

Shyloh Winn was chosen as an All-Star Cheerleader and will be traveling to London to cheer in a Parade in December.

Cheerleaders are: Kristi Guetersloh, Sonia Avila, Shyloh Winn, Shawna Box, Maranda Box and Krystle Blundell.

The cheerleaders will be having a "Cheerleading Camp" Aug. 5-8 in the Boys Gym. The camp is for girls in grades 1-6. Registration is Monday, Aug. 5 at 8:15 a.m. Cost of the camp is \$15 which includes a T-shirt. Camp times are Aug. 5-7 from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

On August 8, from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., awards

will be presented and parents are welcome to attend during these hours.

## Cotton Field

### Day To Be Held

The Yoakum County office of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service will be holding a Cotton Field Day, Tuesday, July 16 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. The event will begin at the Tokio Coop Gin promptly at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Kater Hake, Extension Agronomist, will be on hand as will Phillip Kidd, Extension Agent for Integrated Pest Management in Yoakum at Terry County. Two CEU's will be given to all Private Applicators in attendance.

A complimentary meal will be furnished for those attending.

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## SPC Second Summer Registration July 11

Levelland: Registration for nearly 50 summer college classes, from beginning algebra to general zoology, is scheduled July 11, kicking off the second summer term at South Plains College.

Registration will be 2-6 p.m. in the SPC Women's Gym.

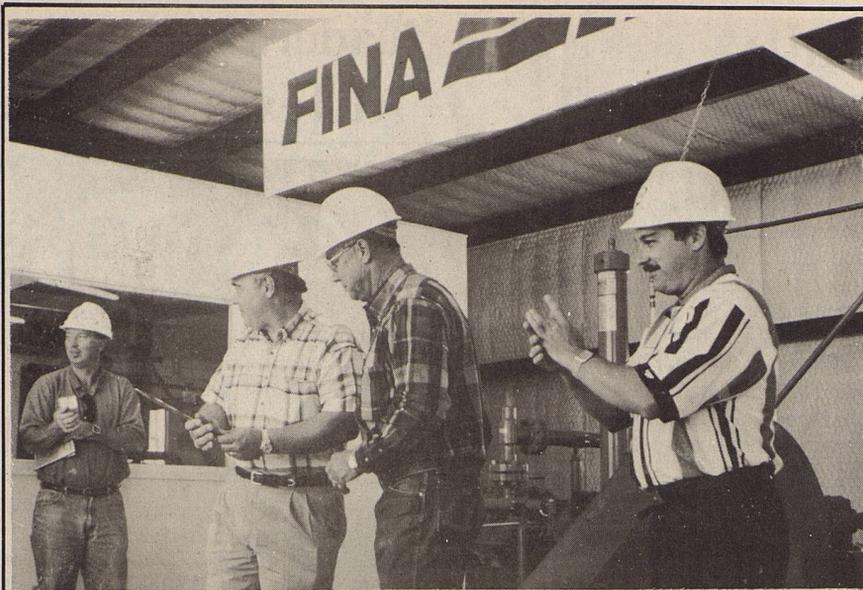
Classes begin July 15.

Late registration is scheduled 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on July 15-16 in the Administration Building. Late registration fee is \$15 and add/drop fee is \$5.

Final exams will be given Aug. 15.

"We are offering a wide range of classes, as always, that people can take advantage of this summer," Bobby James, dean of admissions and records. Courses include college composition and rhetoric, business communications, American government, organization; traffic law, introduction to word processing and desktop publishing; trigonometry, racquetball, human growth and development, college learning strategies, intermediate Spanish and business and professional speech.

A complete listing of summer courses is found in the 1996 summer class schedule. To obtain a schedule or find out other information, contact the SPC Office of Admissions and Records at 894-9611, ext. 2374 or 2375.



Gary Walker, third from left, prepares to cut ribbon at new Fina CO2 Booster Station, with Jack Bergeron and Ed Nash, Fina, and Tim Bradley, Shell, standing by in dedication ceremony last week.

## County Criminal Case Heard

One criminal Court case was heard by Judge Dallas Brewer on July 3. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the State.

Hilario Castro Reyna, 31, charged with a first offense DWI, pled guilty. He was sentenced to 60 days in County jail, suspended and probated 12 months. He was fined \$500, must pay \$227 Court costs, and restitution to DPS of \$58.77. He served 72 hours in jail, with 12 hours credited, and must attend alcohol offender's seminar as a condition of probation.

The first Odd Fellows lodge in Texas was chartered in 1846.

## JP Court

The following is a summary of cases heard in Justice of Peace Court, Precinct One with Judge Melba Crutcher presiding. Cases filed:

- 3 felony cases
- 50 traffic cases
- Bonds set:
- Failure to appear/Bond forfeiture, \$500 bond
- Aggravated Assault causing bodily injury, \$15,000 bond
- Aggravated assault with deadly weapon, \$15,000 bond
- Assault causing bodily injury, \$1,500 bond
- 3-Driving while intoxicated/

- 1st offense, \$1,000 bond ea
- 2-Motion to revoke probation, held until hearing
- Driving while intoxicated/3rd offense, \$2,500 bond
- Criminal mischief, \$3,000 bond
- Motion to revoke probation, held until transported
- 2-Forgery of financial instrument, \$3,000 bond ea.
- Theft by check, \$1,000 bond
- Theft by check, \$2,000 bond
- Unlawfully carrying a weapon, \$2,500 bond
- Motion to revoke probation, \$5,000 bond
- The Texas record rainfall of 23.11 inches fell in 24 hours at Taylor Sep. 9, 1921

## Local Ropers In Huge Event

Seven Plains team ropers competed in a marathon steer roping in Waco this weekend. Mike, Kip and Tanner Blount, Joe and Marte Pierce, and Jerry and Kirk Parrish trailed their horses to the Booger Barter Roping Productions, drawing ropers from dozens of states.

Mike reported, "We got to the arena at 7:30 a.m. Friday, and except for about an hour in which I went to our motel for a shower, I was there until 3:30 Sunday afternoon."

Mike was the busiest of the local ropers, roping twenty head with different partners. He was the only Plains roper to earn prize money, placing 5th in the overall average, and pocketing \$1,750. Kipp Blount narrowly missed a pay check by only 3 seconds.

In one Draw Pot, in which ropers are assigned partners, there were 1200 teams. In an even larger Pot, 1880 teams competed.

The team steer ropers were competing for over \$250,000 in cash and prizes, including two Ford crew-cab diesel pickups, and two aluminum horse trailers.

Barter Rodeo Productions sponsors roping events

all over the nation.

Blount said, "I've been to lots of roping events, but this one had to be the toughest I ever took part in. The number of ropers, and Waco's 106 degree heat really wore everyone out."

## High Plains Jr. Rodeo Results

At the Muleshoe Rodeo June 20, 21 & 22, Kimberly Jackson placed 6th in 8 and under Poles and 8th place in Goat Tying. Marcey House placed 6th in the 13-15 Poles. Keith Jackson placed 7th in the 13-15 Boys Ribbon Roping.

Robin Squyres placed 5th in the girls 16-19 Ribbon Roping. Brett Squyres placed 3rd in the 9-12 calf touching.

The Lovington Jr. Rodeo was held June 27, 28 & 29. Kimberly Jackson held on to a 10th place in the Goat Tying. Marcey House won an 8th place in the girls Poles.

Robin Squyres won a 6th place in girls Ribbon Roping. Brett Squyres won 1st in the boys Steer Stopping, a 3rd place in Ribbon Roping and held on to a 6th place in the boys Calf Touching.

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- ▲ Cow Patty Bingo
- ▲ Melon Rolling Contest
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- ▲ 1M Fun Run
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- ▲ Classic Car Show
- ▲ Watermelon Olympics
- ▲ Melon Eating Contest
- ▲ Seed Spitting Contest
- ▲ Watermelon Recipes
- ▲ Style Show
- ▲ Costume Contest
- ▲ The Great Melon Growing Contest

Courthouse Grounds  
Highway 82  
For Information Call:  
806-456-2288



# Femme Friends



## Bridal Shower Announced

Juhree Stowe, Bride Elect of Greg Corman, will be honored with a shower Sunday, July 21, in the home of hostess Peggy Welch, 902 First St. Hours for the event are 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM. Selections: Dillard's, Adobe Traders, Renaissance, Plains Depot and Cinderella Shoppe

## Cooking Up A Watermelon "Contest"

### Guidelines:

- 1) The contest will be held at the Watermelon Festival in Plains, TX, on Saturday, August 31, 1996. The State Line Family & Community Education Club will be the sponsor.
- 2) Anyone may participate in the contest.
- 3) Recipe must have a watermelon theme or watermelon in the recipe.
- 4) All recipes received will be assigned one of the following categories by the Committee:  
Watermelon Theme: Baked Goods, Appetizers, Beverages, Desserts, Salads, and Pickles/Preserves/Sauces.  
Watermelon Recipes: Baked Goods, Appetizers, Beverages, Desserts, Salads, and Pickles/Preserves/Sauces.
- 5) Entry form, \$2.00 fee and recipe must be into the Extension Office by August 5.
- 6) Prepared food must be at the Plains Clubroom between 8 and 9 AM on Saturday, August 31, 1996. It must have a label containing the name and phone number of participant, recipe and dish name.
- 7) Recipes will be judged on taste, texture, appearance, and presentation. Best show in each division will be given to the dish that scores the highest in all qualities. Most Creative in each division will be given to the dish with the most original use of watermelon, or appearance and presentation.
- 8) Judges will be from out of the county.
- 9) Awards will be presented in front of the festival crowd at 12:00 noon; dishes should be picked up shortly after ceremony and FCE is not responsible for left dishes.

### Categories

There will be two divisions: Watermelon Theme recipes and Watermelon Recipes. Each division will have the following categories: Baked goods, Appetizers, Beverages, Desserts, Salads, and Pickles/Preserves/Sauces.

### Awards

1st and 2nd place ribbons will be given for each category. Rosettes will be given for the Most Creative and the Best of Show in each division. Every contestant will receive a free Cooking Up a Watermelon Cookbook. Each judge will receive a gift, cookbook, and their travel compensated.

## Art Association Meets

The Yoakum County Art Association met in Denver City on July 2, 1996, with 13 members and 5 guests present. The meeting was held in the studio of Ann Hartman, local artist, where members and guests were privileged to view an exhibit of works by area artists including Greg Price, Ann Lane, Jo Inabnet, Jo Beth Gilliam, Marvin Stephenson, Jean Gillis and Ann Hartman. Guests for the event were Mr. & Mrs. James Adair, Mary Jo St. Romain, Greg Price and Peter Fox.

Plans were made for the upcoming art show which will be held beginning July 30 through Aug. 3 at Plains Art Association Building.

Also discussed were plans for the art association booth at the Watermelon Roundup on Aug. 31. The booth will be under the supervision of Susie Powell and small paintings as well as crafts will be sold.

Chairman Inetta Teaff also presented rules and regulations for the Association's annual Art Show and Sale to be held in conjunction with the Rodeo and Old Settlers Reunion.

## Brand New Baby Boy

Andrew Joshua McDowell was born on July 1, 1996 at 11:59 p.m. in the Spring Branch Hospital of Houston. He weighed 6 lbs. 3 oz. and was 19-1/2 inches long.

His parents are Chuck & Sarah McDowell of Houston. He has two sisters; Ashley, 10 and Allison, 4. Also a brother Aaron, 8.

Grandparents are Jim & Alice Robertson of Plains, and C.H. & Wanda McDowell of Willis. Great grandparents are Mrs. Clifton Myers of Duncanville and Mr. & Mrs. Skeet Robertson of Denton. Great great grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Grover Taylor of Dallas.



## HOWDY!

By: Kathy Adair



### WHAT DO I DO WITH MY CHILD?

Parents from all walks of life share one common problem: choosing someone to care for their child. Today, there are both amateurs and professionals competing in the child care industry, and it is up to the parents to make the right choice.

It is important to recognize the difference between the babysitter and the child care provider.

Most often, babysitters are someone who comes into the home for a very short time. The age range of babysitters varies greatly, and it is important that the parents provide the babysitter with a list of their expectations.

The professionals in the child care industry are known as child care providers. In the child care provider arena, parents should investigate the kind of facilities that are available for the child care setting.

In this state, if there are fewer than three children in the child care facility, then the regulation says that they are not required to be registered.

However, if there are more than three children in the child care facility, then the facility is required by law to be registered.

Additionally, parents should consider the ratio of child care providers to children in order to ensure their child's safety at the child care facility. She said that, as a general rule, infants require the highest ratio of adults to children, followed by toddlers and preschoolers.

Another area of child care that many parents express concern about is guidance and discipline. It is important to understand the difference between the two terms.

Guidance is what we do as teachers and adults to help children understand and accept the rules that are in place.

Discipline is the kind of standards or rules that form the framework for our behavior. If the rules at the child care facility are different from the rules at home, children often have problems adjusting.

Keep the rules simple and at a level the child can understand.

Parents should ask questions so that they understand what's happening in their child's life.

Whether it's a babysitter or a child care provider, there is a final critical factor, and that critical factor is parental involvement.

## Thank You!

We would like to express our sincere thanks for all of the phone calls, visits, cards, and flowers. Your thoughtfulness and prayers have helped ease the pain of losing our beloved Shane.

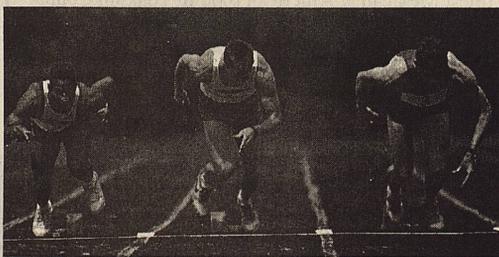
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# From The Hack



What is it with this year's crop of doves and the weird sounds some of them make? I have been watching and listening to mourning doves for more years than I care to remember, and NEVER have I heard them do their singing bit the way they are this year.

When a dove sits up on a tree limb or utility pole, he (or she, I'm never sure which) is supposed to sound lonely, doleful, even sad, maybe. I'm sure their calling back and forth to one another inspired Larry McMurtry when he came up with "Lonesome Dove" for the title of his novel about early Texas.

You know how doves are supposed to sound... I do not write Dove very well, but they are supposed to go, "Whoo-Wee, Whoo, Whoo, Whoo". I have no clue what those words mean, but that's the way they have sounded to me for more than sixty years.

Now, suddenly, a bunch of them have come up with a new tune. It sounds like they are speaking in tongues. A number of them around the house sit around all day, going "Whup - whup whup", if that's how you spell it.

What's the deal? Did this year's crop of birds flunk elementary English? Have we been invaded by another form of illegal aliens, of the non English speaking variety? They look like the same bird, but sure don't sound the same.

If they are immigrants, will we have to offer them dual language educations and food stamps?

This is a real puzzler to me. If any of you bona fide biologists have a clue, please let me hear from you. That "Whup - whup whup" is driving me nuts.

The Houston Municipal Airport was dedicated March 2, 1928.

Had an enjoyable day on the golf course the fourth of July. Well, as enjoyable as one can expect, playing with a son in law. At one point during the tournament, after an extremely rare, poor shot on my part (Hey, it's my story, I'll tell it the way I want!), I heard Morris mutter, "I'd about as soon be stranded on a desert island with a dead albatross tied around my neck."

Grandson Jay Rushing made the third member of our team, and he was really crushing his drives. I think his dad was a bit miffed, being out distanced on all his tee shots.

Leaving the 17th hole, he advised Jay and I, "OK, boys, you better hit your Sunday punch this next hole, 'cause I intend to really let it all hang out!"

You know the outcome, of course; Jay outdrove dad again by 10 or 12 yards. I could not contain my glee at the feat, which earned a string of words, none of which are repeatable here.

Hop Graham, long distance bike pedaler from Lovington made it! He reported in from Brunswick, Georgia Monday, after 1465 miles on his ancient Western Flyer 3 speedbike.

His reports indicate the bi-cycle is probably in worse shape than he is. A near disaster occurred in Tifton, Ga., with only 176 miles to go - someone stole his bike while he snacked at a Hardee's. After the police were called, and several hours of searching, three black kids showed up with the bike, and he reported he was happy to tip them for their services.

Here's a portion of his last report: He thanked his wife Jeannie for letting him make the trip, saying "In 44 years of marriage, this is the longest we have been apart. We talked by phone as I traveled, but I missed her and ache to get back to her. Not many people that a road such as U.S. 82 can give us an intimate view of our country. Seeing America at this level has opened new vistas of understanding and appreciation for me. Everywhere I went I was received with magnanimity. The hospitality of the South is real and you can count on it. I love this country, its land and people, and beyond a shadow of a doubt, the USA is the greatest place in the world."

A very interesting guy, Hop Graham.

# 'Walker, Texas Rep'

Well friends, after months and months of wrangling, fussin', cussin' and discussin', the Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 has finally arrived.

After attending a two day conference in Lubbock, the ramifications of the farm bill and surviving the seven-year legislation are clear - diversity and utilization of risk management.

After reading the bill and talking with people from D.C. and members of the Texas A&M Agricultural Policy center, the new farm bill clearly shifts farm decisions from the government to the producers, the way it should be. However, with this shift comes certain risks and responsibilities.

Dr. Ron Knutson, ag. economist at Texas A&M, stated that to survive this bill farmers must diversify. Farmers will have to ensure that they plant "back up" crops and be more fiscally competitive in the market place.

Another theme that was driven home throughout the conference was that of "risk-management." Simply put, farmers and ranchers will need to take as little risk as possible when planting, feeding and dealing with the other day-to-day decisions that many of us make. I know that this is not news to many of us. As farmers and ranchers, we were risk managing before "risk management" was popular. It is nice to see that our friends in Washington finally realized that agriculturalists are capable of managing the business of running our operations.

I'd like to step back and look at FAIR and how it will apply to the domestic and international markets. According to projections done by many of the presenters at the conference, there will be some areas of ag. that will make a substantive gain and others that will feel a significant loss.

On the international spectrum, Texas may play a larger role in exports, especially to countries such as Africa which is experiencing a growth rate of 3 percent a year with little sustainable agriculture. According to these trends, more crop commodities will go to China and Brazil. The wheat industry as a whole stands to be out competed on the international market.

Looking at the seven year span of FAIR, cotton will be strong through 1999 and a decline is projected after 2000. There will be more competition from areas such as Argentina, Australia and Uzbekistan (which is viewed as the up and coming market for long staple cotton.)

The beef industry will receive some much needed good news--beef exports are expected to increase. There will be a larger demand from China and Japan for beef. These countries lack the supply needed to keep up with the increasing demand. Beef exports are projected to be high through 2002 and start showing a decline in 2005.

Poultry exports are expected to remain steady for the next seven years. Pork is expected to show a strong growth through the year 2005.

The major conclusion for exports and imports is an optimistic base line. If farmers and ranchers practice sound risk management and diversify their crops, the base line should remain steady and viable. Remember, these are just projections. At this time these projections, although never 100 percent, give us an inkling as to the commodities market during the life of the '96 Farm bill.

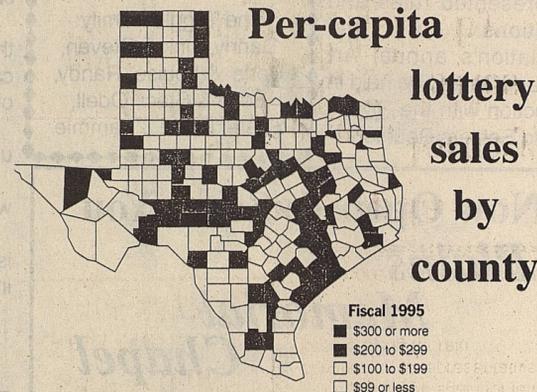
I know that this is a ton of information to digest, but there is more that I simply can't fit into a column. I urge you to contact the extension service, the Texas A&M policy office, Texas Department of Agriculture, my office or your U.S. Senator or Congressman. All have competent, capable staff who are ready and willing to help you make it through this farm bill. I met some of these staffers during this conference, many have vested interest in agriculture.

Thank you again for letting me serve you in District 80. With your comments and the support of our congressional representatives, I am sure that the FAIR act of 1996 will be just that--fair. Until next time, keep praying for rain.

Gary L. Walker, Texas Rep, District 80

For more information contact Warren E. Mayberry, Legislative Coordinator at 512-463-0678.

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Former resident Brad Redwine and son Gerald are currently doing construction work here. Brad, a former Production Mgr. for Morgan Portable Buildings of Eastland, has been a contractor since 1977, and his skills include framing, drywall, tape & bed, ceramic tile, plumbing and roofing. You may contact Brad thru Buddy or Janelle Brantly. He is staying in his travel trailer at the Alan Bell's, next to the D.Q.  
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