

# COWBOY COUNTRY NEWS



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PLAINS, TEXAS  
806 456-8451

Volume 2, Issue 20, Wednesday, January 24, 1996

## County Livestock Show Nears

Plans Being Finalized For Record Number of Exhibitors, Animals

Some 140 members of 4-H and FFA clubs here and in Denver City are exercising, grooming and carefully measuring the diets of show animals to be entered in the Yoakum County Junior Livestock show.

The annual big show and sale kicks off Thursday, February 8 with the official weigh-in of show animals. Swine will be weighed from 9am to 12 noon, Lambs from 1 to 3 pm, followed by show steers.

The next day will feature the showing of steers at 8am, Swine (both barrows and gilts) will show at 8:30am, and the lamb show is scheduled for 3pm.

On Saturday morning, show rabbits will be checked in at 8am, and judged at 8:30. A picture taking session will take place at 10am for exhibitors and their animals, and the big sale of animals will start at 1pm.

Officials of the Yoakum County Livestock Association include Larry Mason, President, 1st Vice Pres. Kreg Keesee, 2nd Vice Pres. Randy Tuggle, and Sectry/Treas. Jim Brown. Board members are Bill Anderson, Steve Bowlin, Bruce Lester, Stephen Benningfield, Wayne House, Mike Roberts and Bill Rowe.

Advisors to the association

are Geoff Cooper, Denver City FFA, Joe Pierce, Plains FFA, and Tadd Knight, Yoakum County 4-H.

President Larry Mason reported a change in Premium sales rules this year will hopefully raise overall prices the young exhibitors receive for selling their animals. Each exhibitor this year may sell only two animals, regardless of the number or classes of animals they enter in the show. Prospective buyers, whether individuals or businesses, are asked to keep the rule change in mind when making their purchase plans.

Both Joe Pierce and Tadd Knight feel the over all count of show animals, as well as the number of exhibiting youngsters, will be up from last year. The number of show steers will probably show a small decline in numbers, as will the Lamb division, but a record entry is expected in the swine division.

Four young ladies from the county will vie for Queen of the stock show. Lisa Parrish will represent the FFA club from Plains, and Malissa Asebedo the local 4-H group.

Tammy Burnip will be the Denver City 4-H candidate,

Turn to page 2,  
**'Stock Show'**

## Criminal District Court Held

Judge Kelly G. Moore, 121st Judicial District Court, heard and ruled on three criminal cases January 16. Criminal District Attorney Richard Clark represented the State.

Sergio Ceja Hernandez, 21, serving a sentence on an original aggravated possession of marijuana charge, received a suspended sentence and received probation on the remaining term of his sentence. He had served 6 months in "Boot Camp". He will be on community probation for nine years, must pay a \$5000 fine, \$140 DPS lab fee, attorney fees of \$48 per month till cleared, a \$40 supervision fee each month, plus an additional \$10 per month on \$440 in arrears, and perform 240 hours community service work.

Antonia Guzman Mares, 25, originally sentenced to a probated sentence for the offense of retaliation, pled guilty to violating the probation. She was ordered to pay \$1000 delinquent probation fees, and probation was extended from July 1996 to July 1997. Defendant must also pay \$108 per month on fines, court costs and probation fees.

Terri Lee Hughes, 27, pled guilty to possession of methamphetamine (speed) and adjudication of guilt was deferred. She received a four year prison sentence, probated, must pay a \$1500 fine, court costs of \$181.50, must attend outpatient chemical dependency treatment with Aliviane, Inc. twice monthly for one year at her expense, and pay \$2500 to settle forfeiture in prior cases.

## Lions Meet, Banquet Planned

The Plains Lions Club met Thursday, January 18, with twenty members and guests present. The club welcomed it's second new female member, Judy Head. She is employed by the Plains and Seagraves school systems, and she and her husband Norman recently opened the Plains Memorial Chapel here.

Jill Durham, owner of Plains Depot and a dealer for Plateau Cellular here,

Turn to page 2,  
**'Lions Club'**

## Despite Small Size, Some Interesting Folks Live Here

With a population of less than 1,500, Plains is certainly no metropolis. For a very small community, a surprising number of truly interesting folks call our town home. One of those is Pierre (Pete) St. Romain. In a recent interview, Pete described his background, and some of his accomplishments which have affected the entire community.

He was born August 21, 1909, near the small Louisiana community of Plaucheville in Avoyelles Parish. His farm parents were descendants of the Acadians, French Canadians who migrated from Nova Scotia to Louisiana in the late 1700's. In 1911, his father went broke farming, and he moved his family to Alexandria, where he went to work for the Missouri Pacific Railway, rebuilding freight cars. The company was struck by union employees in 1923, and after surviving on odd jobs for two years, his father finally found work with another rail company, only to lose a leg in a track accident.

Pete attended grade school his first two years in a Catholic school operated by Brothers, or Monks, then attended Saint Xavier College, a church school educating third grade thru high school students.

Pete related those years were extremely hard, and in his 9th grade year, he quit school to help support the family. He had an early morning and late afternoon paper route, and did odd jobs between his bicycle paper deliveries.

He was able to land a job with the Postal Telegraph Company, where his brother was a supervisor, and it was there he eventually learned to become a telegraph operator.

This trade would lead him to Los Angeles, where he would become a desk clerk and night office manager, and also work as a relief operator in a number of area towns.

He was ordered to Winslow, Arizona as a repeater station operator and to train other operators. "I hated Winslow with a passion. I told my boss in L.A. I could train operators in 3 months, and when he wouldn't let me come back, I quit. That was probably a mistake. When I decided I wanted to go back to work for him, he said absolutely



not, so I told him I was going to call him every single day until I got my job back". After about three months, his boss relented, and took him back. The charm of Southern California was growing thin, and so was his wallet. "It was just so expensive to live there, I couldn't save money, and had spent my earlier savings, and even had to hock my prized saxophone!", he reported with a chuckle. He talked his way into a transfer east, back to Arizona, this time Tucson. After a stint there, he was able to return to Alexandria, La., where he took over his brothers old job. The Postal Telegraph Co. next transferred him to Pecos, Texas in 1929.

He was able to go to work for Humble Pipeline about 1930 at Crane, gauging oil production levels and telegraphing the data to a regional office. Humble kept him jumping around in those early boom years of West Texas oil discovery, and he worked in eight different towns. In 1936 he was in Hobbs, NM, no longer practicing his telegraphy. In 1937, the historic Wasson field between here and Denver City roared to life. His company moved Pete to the old Humble camp northeast of Denver City, where he lived with other employees in a bunkhouse. It was here he first had a fateful meeting with Murphy Luna, who also did some pumping for Humble in addition to his ranching and other interests. Murphy invited Pete to visit and ride horseback when ever he felt like it.

Pete related there were several girls who cooked and did household chores for the Humble camp, and one of the girls said she would like to go riding. Pete led a party of two other young men and three

girls to the Luna ranch here, and one of Murphy's daughters, Mary Jo, decided she would tag along. Pete grinned and said "She's been tagging along ever since. We went together about a year, and were married June 30, 1939. They bought one of the first lots in newly organized Denver City, and built their first home, across from the old school there.

He left Humble in 1945, and had the opportunity to buy the old Belmont Telephone Company from Durwood McGinty, which boasted of 35 customers. Later, he would purchase the Plains Water System from Ralph McClellan. He also acquired a butane business to furnish fuel for the growing town of Plains.

When telephone dial systems were introduced, he began to expand his customer area. With financial help from the REA, he moved into Cochran County, then the Sligo area. A number of the Higginbotham area residents approached Pete about obtaining telephone service, the only area phone there in the Higginbotham grocery and hardware store.

In 1954, he sold his butane business, and when the City of Plains incorporated, sold his water works to the new City.

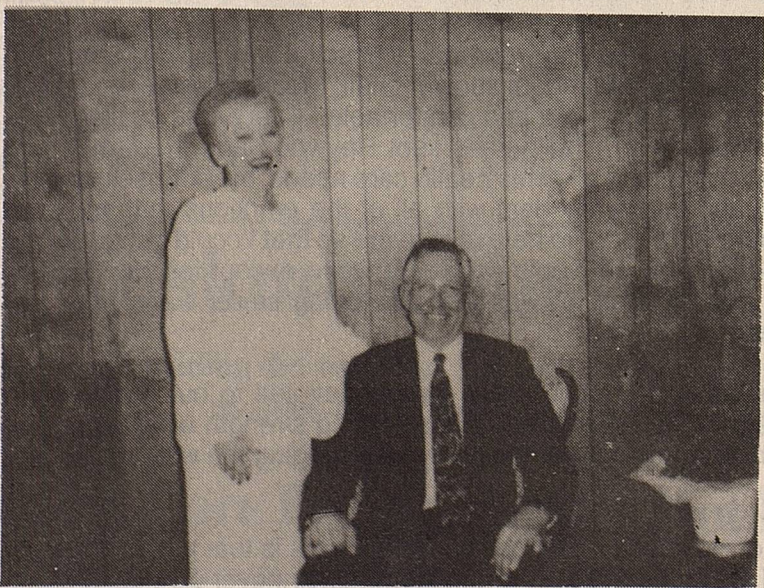
He would continue operating Romain Telephone Company until his retirement in 1976. The 35 original customer business had by then grown to some 1,200 phone subscribers.

Recalling some of the struggles during the expansion, Pete recalled, "At one time, I didn't own a truck, just a car and a trailer I pulled behind it. At the time I did almost all of the work myself, and finally figured out a way I could install, raise and equip a 25 foot pole, alone. It's not too easy, but it can be done".

During those years of growth and expansion, he said a hotshot salesman talked him into taking a 6 month subscription to a government surplus equipment catalog, for \$30, a hefty sum those days. "Mary Jo found about it, and I really caught it, spending that much money on a six month subscription to a junk catalog, as she

Turn to page 2,  
**'Interesting Folks'**

## New Business Owners Enjoy Open House



Owners Norman and Judy Head hosted a successful and well attended Open House at the new Plains Memorial Chapel last Sunday afternoon. Mr. Head reported a steady stream of visitors and well wishers were on hand during the three hour event.

The new facility is now officially open for business, and the couple look forward to meeting all community residents. The Chapel is located at 910 Avenue E, across the street from the old courthouse building, and the business phone is 456-2152.

The Heads' are also the owners and operators of Connally Funeral home in Seagraves.

## County Court Members Updated On Laws, Issues

### COLLEGE STATION-

Local county officials were among more than 600 county judges and commissioners from across Texas attending the 38th annual County Judges and Commissioners' Continuing Education Conference and Education Exposition at Texas A&M University January 16-18.

Attending from Yoakum County were Judge Dallas Brewer and Commissioners John Avara, Jim Barron, Mackey McWhirter and Bob Thurston.

"Leadership, Partnership and Cooperation" was the theme of the conference, which was dedicated to the memory of Norman James Troy, who died in late 1995.

The conference was sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service's V.G. Young Institute of County Government in cooperation with the County Judges and Commissioners Assn. of Texas.

Also cooperating in the continuing conference were the Texas Association of Counties, the Technology Resource Center of the Texas Engineering Extension Service and Texas A&M's Office of

### Continuing Education.

"The New Texas Concealed Handgun Law" was one of the top issues discussed during special sessions for County Judges. Other topics included "Criminal law update and steps in the trial of a criminal proceeding in County Court", "Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention", "Wills-general provisions and requisites", and "What it takes to build a good road". Officials were also briefed on civil rights, physical and mental health issues, aging families and practical solutions to juvenile crime.

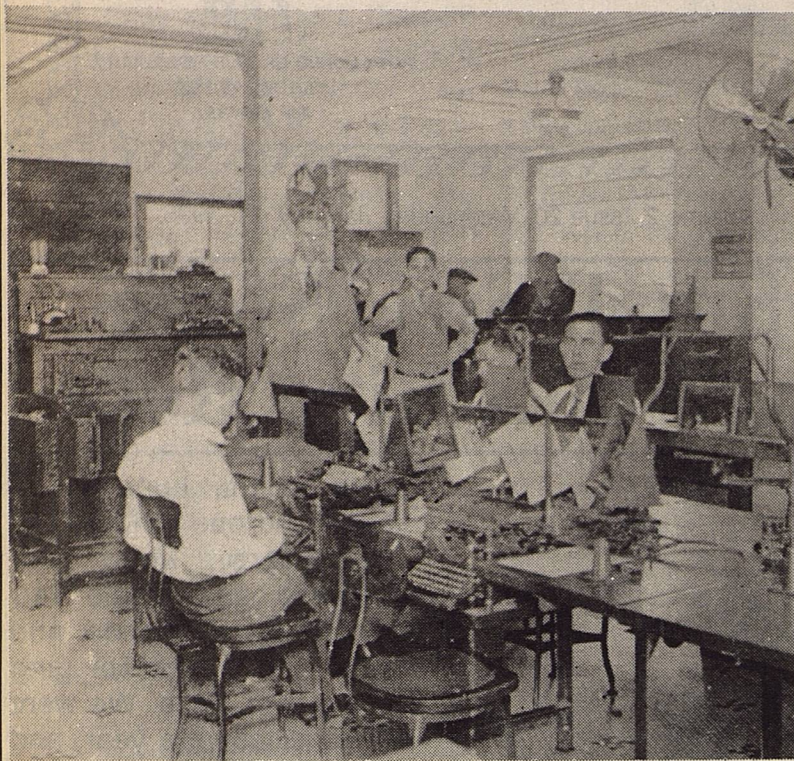
Those attending the special and general sessions of the conference received continuing education units from Texas A&M's Office of Continuing Education, the credit hours applied to the official's state mandated CEU requirements

### Cont'd from page 1, 'Stock Show'

and Becky Trout represents the D.C. FFA.

Bill Rowe is the Swine Division Superintendent, to be judged by Mark Standlee. Steve Bowlin is Superintendent of Lambs, judged by Steve Sturtz. Wayne House is Rabbit Superintendent, judged by Candy Trujillo, and Kreg Keese is Steer Superintendent, to be judged by Mark Standlee.

Cont'd from page 1, **'Interesting Folks'** won the bid, but I had to take it all or none. That scared me, that amount of the stuff, and that amount of money. I went ahead and took it, and ended up selling every inch of it at \$15 per mile". His eyes still sparkle recalling this bit of entrepreneurship.



St. Romain at telegraph station, (back to camera, left), Photo taken 1925 in basement of Hotel Bently, Alexandria, La.

He and Mary Jo have four children, a daughter, Jeanine of Virginia Beach, Va., A son, Sam, of Quitman, Texas, another daughter Suzahn of Crane, and Joe of Plains. They are proud of their thirteen grandchildren.

Pete is a charter member of the Plains Lions Club, organized February 16, 1946. He has twice been

named Citizen of the Year by the local Chamber of Commerce. The couple attend the Sacred Heart Catholic Church here. Many of Pete's memories center on the boom days of the the oil business in this part of Texas and neighboring New Mexico. A really interesting guy, Mr. St. Romain.

## PHS Students Win Honors

On Monday, Jan. 15 four members of the Cowboy Band were chosen to perform in the 1A - 2A All-Region Band. Jeremy Dearing -1st chair Alto Saxophone, Jason Robertson-1st chair Bass Trombone, Matt Morgan-1st chair Trumpet and Tony Lazos-7th chair Trumpet. The students will rehearse this Friday and Saturday, and will perform a concert this Saturday, Jan. 27, 5 PM, at Monterey High School in Lubbock.

Other members that try-out but did not make the band were Johnny Davis, Derek Brunson, Josh Bayer and Cosme Casillas.

Four students placed in ready writing and journalism events at the invitational UIL meet hosted by Brownfield January 20.

Freshman Tommie McNabb placed second in news writing and fourth in editorial writing. Sophomore Conchetta San Filippo won sixth place in the ready writing event.

Sophomore Yvonne Gonzales placed seventh and junior Roni Ponce placed eighth in the feature writing contest.

The contests require students to write on a specified topic within a time limit. These students competed against 40 other contestants in the small school division of the meet.

In another accomplishment, Conchetta San Filippo will have original poetry published in the twelfth edition of the McGregor-Hill High School Anthology this spring.

## One Act Play Cast Announced

Joyce Pierce, Director of the PHS One Act Play, recently announced her cast of actors and behind the scenes crew for this year's production of "THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN."

The classical comedy play is set in 12th Century Europe. Cast members are Johnny Davis, Lyndi Rowe, Kassie Lowe, Chris Willett, Lindsey Six, Spencer Deaton, Shawna Box, Tessa St. Romain, Kirk Parrish, Kyley Bearden, Roni Ponce, Ralph Ramirez, and Conchetta San Filippo. Off stage personnel in the production include Lisa Parrish, Marte Pierce, Brad Seaton and Juanita Rodriguez.

The group has been practicing almost two weeks, and the first public performance is scheduled for the annual PHS Dinner Theatre scheduled for March 21.

San Filippo received a letter of confirmation last week stating that poetry which she entered in December had been selected from among 5,000 entries to be published.

The sophomore has compiled a notebook of original work over the past several years. Her dilemma in entering work for this contest came from having to select short poems when many of hers are lengthy.

## "Dash For Cash"

P.H.S. Student Council is sponsoring "Dash for Cash", to raise money for prizes given at the Quiz Bowl in February. "Dash for Cash" will be held during halftime of the boys' varsity game Friday, January 26.

The object of the game is to pick up as much money off the gym floor as you can in 20 seconds. There will be mostly 1 dollar bills, but there may be some bigger bills out there. There will be a total of \$50 on the floor. If you want to, you may pick a designated runner. You must be present to win.

All proceeds will go to participants of the Quiz Bowl. The top 3 winners will receive scholarships. The more money we raise, the bigger the scholarships will be.

You may purchase tickets from any Student Council member, or at the concession stand Friday night at the Plains vs. Whiteface game.

## WHO TAKES CARE OF YOU?



Leona Heidel

"When my husband, Haywood, was diagnosed with prostate and bladder cancer, I did not know if I could go through another illness or death. I had lost 8 loved ones to cancer, and was the primary caregiver for 5 of those 8. Haywood and I had exhausted all medical treatment that was available, and both of us knew that it was time to concentrate on quality of life. I knew very little about Hospice, and certainly not all of the many services that they provided. Our personal friends, E.C and Tiny Lackey, who were Hospice Volunteers, spent a great amount of time and effort explaining to Haywood and me what all Hospice was about. At a visit to the doctors office we were told more about Hospice, and encouraged to look into the services that could be offered. I had already been caring for Haywood, and the further along the disease got, the harder it was for me to take care of Haywood's personal needs like grooming, showers, etc.

When we returned from the doctor, I called Hospice. A Hospice Nurse arrived and spent more than three hours explaining to Haywood and me all about Hospice. Haywood had decided that he did not want to become a number on a door, and possible lose his own identity, he loved our home, and wanted to stay there throughout his disease. All of our children lived out of town, and I needed some help to make sure that Haywood be where he wanted, and have all of his needs met.

As the disease progressed, Hospice provided Haywood with a hospital bed, oxygen machine, bed pads, diapers, a wheelchair, bedside commode, shower chair, food supplements, and all of his medication that he needed to stay pain free and comfortable. Every time I called Hospice for help, help was there immediately. The nurses kept Haywood and the family well informed and worked very hard to coordinate all of his health care needs, the counselors were there to help myself, Haywood, and the family deal with all of the emotions that we were having, and the Hospice volunteers were there to help relieve me so that I could get out of the house for awhile. There were days that we would not see anyone except for the Hospice Staff. Some days, that was all that I looked for was that comforting smile, warm hug, and reassurance that we both needed.

The counselor and minister, James and Marcus, were always devoted to our needs, both physical and spiritual. They realized Haywood's illness was taking strength away from me, and they devoted time to concentrating on my well-being by encouraging me with advice and prayer.

One of the wonderful attributes of Hospice employees and volunteers is that they recognize the truth and do not try to dispel the fact that death is imminent. They never give false hope, but instead help patient and caregiver accept the reality of the illness, treat it to the best of their abilities, and always lend a sympathetic ear. As I look back on those long and lonely months of being a caregiver, I realize more fully that I could never have completed my duties without this wonderful organization. For 7 months the Hospice employees and volunteers were dedicated and faithful angels of mercy. I thank God for the Hospice Movement so that the terminally ill can be allowed to die in the surroundings that they love, with family, with dignity, and be pain free as well."

### Don't Wait...

Call Hospice Services, Inc. today while they can make a difference in your life. 1-800-530-4591 or 806-592-2901

## Cont'd from page 1, 'Lions Club'

and Ben Brock, a regional representative of the communication company, were special guests. Brock delivered a brief talk on the company's expansion and improvements taking place and answered a number of questions from the audience about common cellular phone problems and service.

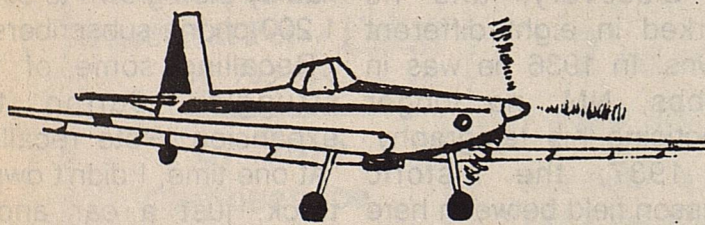
The Lions will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the local club February 15 with a special banquet. The RSVP invitation event will be for current members and spouses, with special invitations going out to past

members, widows of deceased members, and people who have assisted the club, and have been helped in some way by the organization.

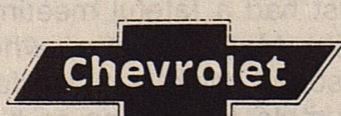
A catered barbecue dinner will be served at 7pm in the new Community Building on Thursday, February 15. The special invitations will be mailed prior to the anniversary event.

**Primary Election**  
**March 12,**  
**1996**

## G. B. AERIAL APPLICATION, INC.



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Bobby Trent Motorplex, Inc.  
400 W. Broadway  
Trent Motor Company, Inc.  
806-592-2174, 915-758-3626



# 'PISD ACTIVITY PAGE'

## PHS BASKETBALL RECAP

**JV Cowgirls:**  
Despite a slow start, the JV girls played well and defeated Anton 35-32 on Jan 16. Jolyne Burgess poured in 14 big points to lead the scoring, followed by Mary Morales with 7, Amanda Box 6, Lisa Parrish 4, Tandi Jones and Cece Moreno 2 each.

The girls continued their winning ways Jan. 19, downing Anton 24-13. Burgess was top scorer again with 10, Parrish, Box and Jones had 4 each, and Morales had 2. Coach Horne says the girls are playing extremely well, and effectively moving the ball up and down the court.

**JV Cowboys:**  
The young Cowboys had two big wins last week to extend their record to 12 and 4 for the season. They downed Anton first, 71-54. Jason Redman scored 18 points, Abraham Garcia had 15, Allen Ward 12, David Flores and Adam Dominguez had 10 each, Will St. Romain 4, and Yancey House 2.

They next downed Smyer 72-39, with Ward and Redman sharing scoring honors with 16 each, Garcia had 13, Dominguez 12, Flores 10, and Matt Morgan 5. The JV will compete in the 5-AAA JV Tournament in Denver City, playing Andrews Thursday at 6 PM. Two games are scheduled for Saturday.

**Varsity Cowgirls:**  
The Cowgirls met a good Anton team last week and were downed 44-35. Kiley Bearden had 3 assists, Tessa St. Romain had 4 steals, and Kayla Redman nabbed 13 rebounds. Redman also led the scoring with 17, St. Romain had 10, Robin Squyres 6, and Bearden and Sandi Warren had 1 each.

The Cowgirls fared better against Smyer, downing them 62-53. They out rebounded Smyer 46-33, led by Squyres 10. Robin shared scoring honors with Kiley, 10 points each, followed by St. Romain 11, Redman 9, Kassie Lowe 8, Lindsey Six 6, and Sandi Warren 4.

**Varsity Cowboys:**  
The Cowboys downed the Anton Bulldogs last week 63-52, despite a strong second half by the Bulldogs. Johnny Davis pulled down 9 rebounds, and Chase Clanahan hit 8 of 14 shots from the floor to lead the scoring with 17 points. Davis had 10, Kirk Parrish 9, Ralph Ramirez 8, Eric Estrada and Tanner Blount 6 each, Jamie Caballero 4, and Shawn Cullins 3.

They next faced a good Smyer team, and though leading at half-time, were finally downed 56-52. The Cowboys could only manage a 22% shooting effort in the 2nd half. Clanahan again led the scoring with 17 points, Parrish had 14, Ramirez 11, Davis 7, Estrada 2, and Blount 1. Parrish grabbed 16 rebounds.

## 7th & 8th Boys Win Jr. High Tourney, Girls Take Second

The two day Junior High tournament was a good one for both the Boy and Girl Wranglers, the boys capturing first place, the girls runners up in competition against class 2A and 3A competitors.

The 7th grade 'A' boys downed Morton 41-26, beat Seagraves 52-16, and downed their 'B' teammates 39-17 to capture the Championship plaque. The 'B' team Wranglers efforts took the tournament Consolation hon-

ors. The 8th 'A' Boy Wranglers also came thru with flying colors, downing their 'B' team counterparts 31-13, whipping Morton 36-34, and Seagraves 35-30 for the Championship. The 'B' team received the Consolation plaque.

7th & 8th Coaches Davis and McAdams both had words of praise for their teams showing, citing an outstanding job moving the ball and playing defense.



7th Wrangler Champions and Runners Up: (Front L-R:) Greg Gonzales, Sterling Deaton, Kelsey Blundell, Luiz Hernandez. (Middle) Aaron Cain, Chris Estrada, Taylor Gray, Matt Willis, (Back) Coach Davis, Adam Garcia, Dustin Six, Brett Squyres, Marcus Hernandez, Armando Luna

Both the 7th and 8th Lady Wranglers had an outstanding tournament against the much larger schools. The 7th graders were downed by Seagraves 37-15, and Morton 16-13, but came back to down Brownfield 40-17 and take second place honors.

The 8th Lady Wranglers lost a squeaker to Seagraves 34-30,

and swamped Brownfield 38-19 for their Consolation plaque. Coaches Arnold and Haragan were extremely pleased with their two teams' play and efforts in the tough tournament.

**Congratulations to all the Wranglers and Lady Wranglers!!**



8th Wrangler Champions & Runners UP: (Front L-R) Justin Bennett, Colt Winn, Jeremy Morphis, Rustin Knight, Jason Swann. (Back) Josh Bell, Alex Tarango, Kyle Sisson, Fermin Luna, Chris Willis, Isaac Gonzales (not shown) Jeremy Humphrey, Patrick McGinty

## Junior High Tournament Shots



Come On Girls, Get Your Hands Up!



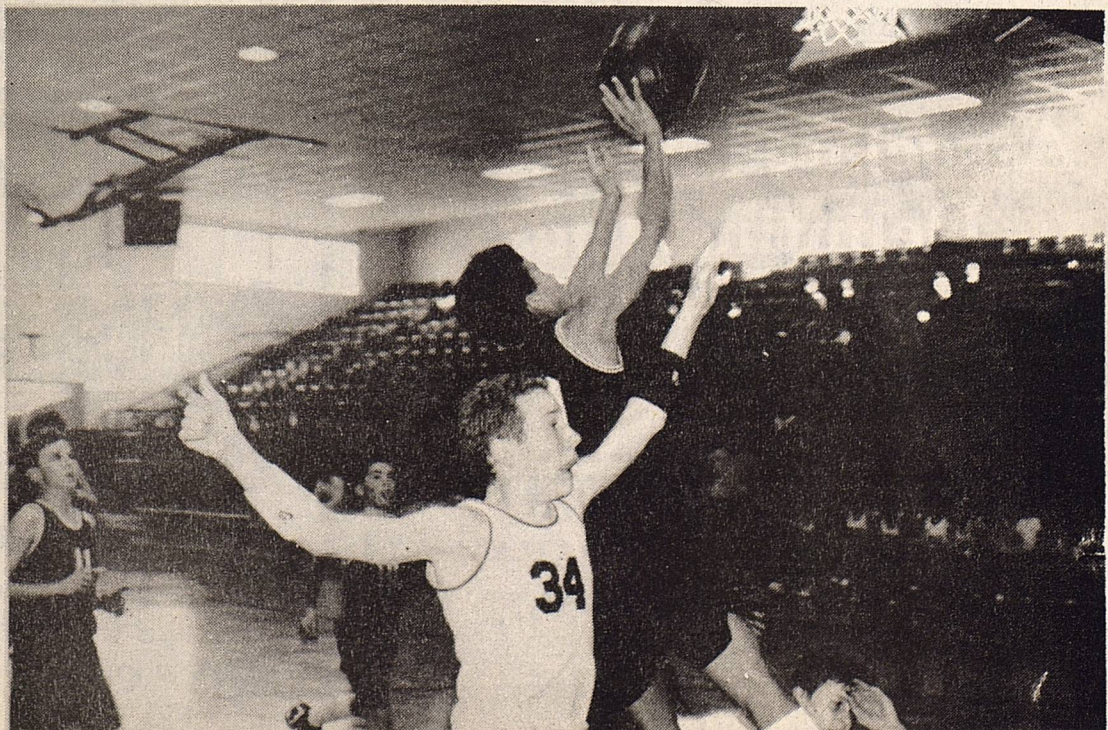
Kelli Goes For Good Layup



Krystle Goes For Rebound



Jessica Makes One Under The Hoop



Adam Gets By Dismayed Defender For 2 Points

(More photos on Page 6)

## Yoakum County Hospital

Providing the people of Yoakum County a well-rounded, modern health care program for 46 years.

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- \*24-Hour Emergency Department

Yoakum County Is Licensed By The State Of Texas

and is a member of American Hospital Association & Texas Hospital Association

## COUNTY COURT MEETS

County Commissioner's Court met Monday, January 22, and considered and acted on Agenda items as follows.

Joe Hester, who recently resigned as Police Chief in Denver City to accept the same position in Hempstead, Texas, also offered his resignation as coordinator on the regional 911 committee. The Court accepted his resignation, and appointed Emma Silva, Denver City, to replace him. The Court was furnished a large map of the new 911 emergency service map, which should be finalized and approved in the very near future.

Ted Welch, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for the County, advised the Court of the pressing need of an additional Probation Officer. The position, mainly funded by State money with some County assistance, will be advertised, and the Court will review all applicants for the position.

Dr. Kathy Volanty, District Extension Director, introduced Kathy Davis Adair, an applicant for the County Extension Service and Family & Consumer Sciences Agent. The Court had previously studied Adair's and other applicants resumes, and voted to hire her effective February 5, 1996. (Ed. Note- A detailed article featuring Mrs. Adair

will appear in a later edition)

All County bills and part-time salaries were approved for payment before adjournment.

## Milo Producers - Check These Production Pounds

The January 18 issue of the National Grain Sorghum Producers news release featured data on their annual grain sorghum yield and management contest, portions of which are reproduced here.

"Although many producers had a hard time getting Nature to cooperate last year, some had the good weather needed to produce outstanding yields.

"In the irrigated conventional tillage division, first place went to Leila Beaver, Sterling, Nebr., and second place to Jerry Kelm, Plainview. Beavers production hit 10,908 lbs. per acre, while Kelm raised 10,062 lbs. here in Texas

"In the dry land conventional tillage division, Edward Nossick of Secretary, Md., took first place with a yield of 9029 lbs."

Local producers can only look at these astonishing production figures and indulge in wishful thinking.

The state and national winners in the contest will be honored during the 1996 Sorghum Conference to be held in San Antonio on Feb. 18-19.



## Ag. Producers; Looking For An Alternative Cash Crop?

### If You Have Rocks On Your Land, Better Look At Them Carefully.

All farmers despise rocky fields. They are tough on implements, difficult to properly plant and till, and in some crops, make harvesting slower.

According to Steven Arnold, however, once in awhile in Texas and New Mexico fields, 'nuisance rocks' can turn into virtual chunks of gold.

Arnold, Director of the American Meteorite Institute, says certain 'rocks', which are meteorites, may be worth up to \$10,000 each. He reported, "In Hale County, there have been 15 different meteorites found", and thinks there is a good possibility other meteorites can be scattered across the entire Plains area. Unsuspected meteorites have been found in rock piles, fence rows, even holding down shed and barn roofs, considered 'nuisance rocks'.

While rare, meteorites aren't as uncommon as one might expect. Studies in Antarctica, where thousands of specimens have been preserved in the ice, indicate as many as one meteorite per acre exist. This high yield cannot be expected on land, but in all probability hundreds exist in every state.

What may prompt farmers to take a little closer look at rocks their tillage operations produce is the dollar value of a true meteorite.

"Meteorites are valuable to scientists since they contain materials which have remained basically unchanged since the formation of the universe, dating back some 4.6 billion years", Arnold reported.

Meteorites which weigh less than 100 pounds are generally worth about \$50 per pound to the lucky finder. The 'rocks' may offer invaluable, possibly new scientific information about studies of our universe and its origin.

Meteorites generally turned up are usually very heavy, have smooth, not porous surfaces like lava stones, rounded corners, can be black, brown or rusty in color, and magnets normally attract to them. Hand filing a corner will reveal small metal specks or flakes.

If you think you may have turned up a meteorite, you may send a walnut sized specimen to the American Meteorite Institute, 8177 S. Harvard #610, Tulsa, OK, 74137. If tests prove authenticity, finders will be contacted, a visit will be scheduled to view the specimen, and an offer of purchase will be made.

A Kansas farmer with a watermelon sized, 100 pound stone in his rock garden was surprised and pleased with a \$5000 check for his 'Rock'.

We received several articles on school activities this Monday we had no space for. They will be in next week's edition.

## P S B

Plains State Bank  
Independently and locally owned.

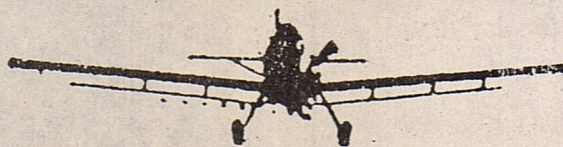
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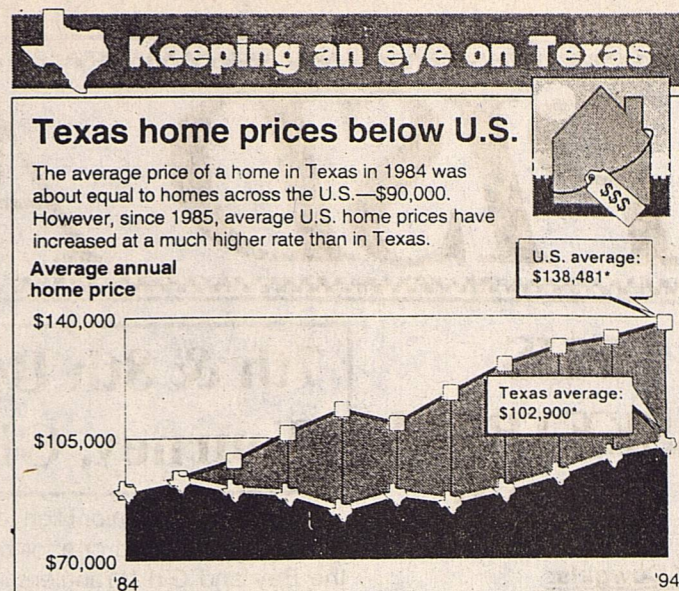
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## S.P.A.G PRESENTS "THE RESPONSIBILITY IS YOURS"

Hello! My name is Pete H. Lara. I work for association of government called the South Plains Association of Governments. Our offices are located in Lubbock. As a Program Assistant, I work with the benefits of senior citizens or persons, who are 60 years of age or older.

It gives me much pleasure to bring to your community a presentation titled, "The Responsibility is Ours." The presentation will be given on Thursday, January 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Yoakum County Community Center. The presentation will be done in Spanish, and is open to the general public. There will be no charge to attend. The presentation will be over Medicare and other health programs that exist within the system for senior citizens. Don't postpone making those important questions about medical benefits. Take this opportunity to learn about your legal rights within the system. Become an informed consumer over your health care benefits before they are needed. Thank You.

Hola! Les habla el Senor Pete H. Lara. Yo trabajo con una asociacion de gobiernos llamada

La Asociacion de Gobiernos sobre los Planicies del Sur. Nuestra oficinas se encuentran en la ciudad de Lubbock. Yo trabajo como un Asistente de Programas sobre los beneficios para personas de mayor edad o sea personas de 60 años o mas de edad.

Me da mucho gusto de traerles ha su comunidad una presentacion titulada, "La Responsabilidad Es Nuestra". La presentacion se presentara, Jueves, el 25 de Enero, desde la 10:00 de la mañana hasta las 12:00 del mediodia en el Yoakum County Community Center. La presentacion estara abierta para todo el publico en general, y scra hecha en espanol. No habra cobro para atender. La presentacion se llavara sobre los temas de Medicare y otros programas de salud que existen dentro el sistema para las personas de mayor edad. No posponga para hacer preguntas importantes sobre sus beneficios medicos. Tome esta oportunidad de aprender sus derechos legales adentro el sistema. llagase consumidor informado acerca de su tratamiento medico antes que los necesite. gracias.

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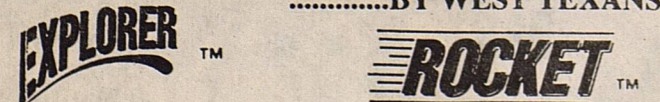
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# Femme Friends Page

## 3rd Graders Earn Pizza Party



Each semester students of each grade level in Plains Elementary compete with one another for "Class with best attendance" honors. The third grade class won this year with a 97.6 attendance record for the first semester. They were rewarded for their efforts with a trip to Mr. Gatti's Pizza in Brownfield.

Joel Haragan, Principal, said "Thank you, parents, for seeing that your child has been in regular attendance. I would like for you also to congratulate your child, as it shows that they also consider it important to be in school on a regular basis".

The classes and teachers winning the contest are; Mrs. Avilas' class-Lela Coronado, Daniel Estrada, Sandra Gandara, Breck Hamm, Brant Huerta, Daniela Lazos, Judy Luna, Kristian Morales, Clayton Oswalt, Isaac Ramon. Mrs. Engles' class- Ramiro Barrientez, Amy Brintle, Trey Cleveland, Aldo Fierro, Mayra Flores, Danielle Guetersloh, Maricela Lopez, Kerry Sisson, Micaela Villegas. Mrs House's class- Evan Cain, Jamie Covarrubias, Marlie Diaz, Cody Flores, Brandon Hise, Kelby Johnson, Kevin Penner, John Wagnon.

## Thought For The Week

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6: 2 & 10



### Prayer Concerns

Louise Goehry  
Homer & Shirley Sudderth  
PunkCulwell  
Lewis Walker  
Frances Farnham Family  
Mary Gunter  
Trudy Ruthven Family  
Alfred Bearden

## Chamber Banquet

Jan. 25, 7:00 PM  
School Cafeteria

### Thank You!

Words can never express to our Pastor and all our friends and relatives for the expressions of love that was given us during Alfred's stay in the hospital.

We are so thankful we live in a place where there are caring people.

Thanks so much,  
Alfred, Fay & Family

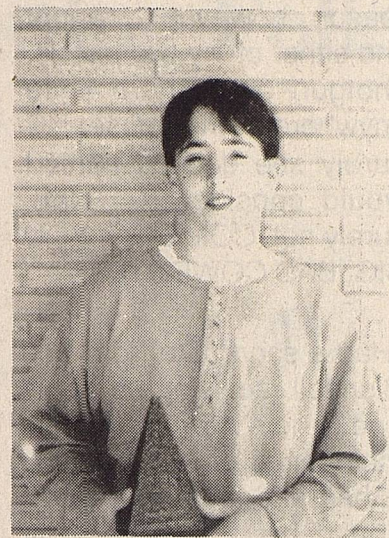
## Student of the Week

This week the honors go to Jason Robertson who was nominated by Mr. Morgan. Jason is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Jim Robertson and is a senior at Plains High School.

"Jason has demonstrated great determination to succeed over the years. He was recently selected to the All-State ATSSB Band where only the top two Bass Trombone players in the State in Class 1A, 2A and 3A were chosen for the band. He recently was chosen 1st

chair Bass Trombone for the Region 16 1A, 2A All-Region Band for the 2nd year in a row. This past summer Jason received a Division 1 at the State Solo competition in San Marcus.

"Jason is a great role model and is always willing to do whatever it takes to succeed," states Mr. Morgan.



Jason Robertson



## Dean's List Honoree

Lance Haragan, a Senior at Angelo State University, was named to the Dean's List with a 3.4 GPA for the fall semester. He is a Kinesiology major with a History/Science minor. Lance is also a cheerleader at ASU.

Lance is the son of Linda Haragan of Plains.

## Senior Citizens Corner

A day like Wednesday is a real reminder that we live in West Texas. The weather goes from nice to wind, sand and extreme cold in a matter of hours. The old saying goes, "If you don't like the weather---wait a bit and it will change."

Last week I made an error in Thanking the wrong people for the First Aide Kit. It was Arco who presented the kit. Sorry guys, about the goof.

Our deep sympathy to the family of Bill Jeffcoat. Bill was one of the jolliest people to come to the Center--and is missed.

Reba Baker is home from the hospital. Jesse Fouch spent a few days in the hospital, but is out now.

Monday we spent a quiet hour around the campfire with John and Jackie Maters singing cowboy songs, like the trail drivers of long ago. Thanks to them for the entertainment.

Recent visitors were Jennifer Black and Frankie Minor.

Pete Lara from SPAG was at the Center one day, working with a group of people who meet and have lunch with him.

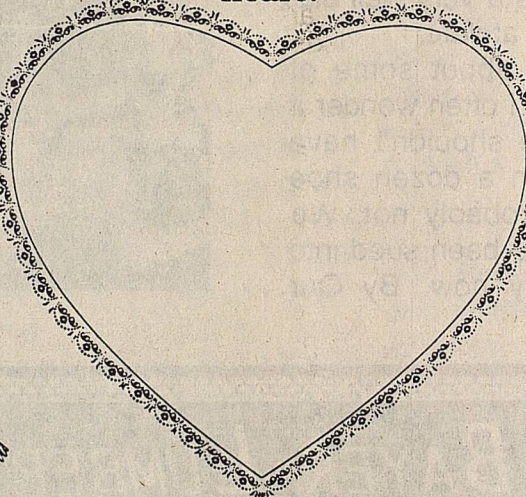
Thursday is stew supper at the Center. I sure hope the cold does not keep people home. It will be a great time for a hot bowl of stew. How long since you had one? Well folks, that's too long. Come on down and try one.

See you next week,  
Smitty

## CUPID'S DELIGHTS

### Surprise and Show Your Love For Someone This Valentine's Day!

Bring us a photo of your children, grandchildren, spouse, or sweetheart, we will reproduce it in a heart this size, and feature it in the Valentine's Day, February issue of CCN for only \$12.50 per heart. We will print their names and yours under each heart.



Photos should be of good quality, preferably head or bust shots, no more than two people per heart. Absolute deadline for receiving photos 5pm Monday, February 5, payment due upon receipt of photo.

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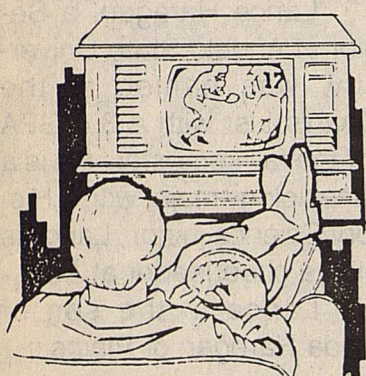
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# From The Hack

Only a little more than 96 hours to go before Superb Bowl XXX gets under way, and things are remarkably calm around our abode. This Sunday morning, my casual mention of the event only caused the Bride to break three consecutive eggs on the floor, counter, and stove top before she got one in the skillet, while she serenely explained how "The BOYS are gonna smelt down the Steelers Iron Curtain and spoon feed it to 'em, wherever the spoon fits best".



I guess the Bowl mania is at a fever pitch all over, especially Big D. Read in the Dallas paper where at least 11 Cowboys will have stretch limousines rented for the big game week in Phoenix, at a 'discounted' rate of only \$1,000. Not Emmitt Smith's momma, though... she's renting a customized van to haul her big brood around. The guy furnishing the Cowboy's such a bargain rate normally gets \$75 to \$90 per hour, so he's gotta be a big fan... Oh yeah, he did mention he got a few free tickets to the game.

I refuse to start getting antsy about the game, make wild, foolish bets, vow promises of saintly acts if the Boys win, carry out the garbage more than I do now, or put more in the plate each Sunday to urge the Cowboy's on to

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another championship, another diamond studded ring for their huge fingers. After all, it's merely a game. No need to get hysterical over the outcome. The Bride is really impressed with my calm. For some reason, however, I cannot find either of my two pistols, shotgun or a sharp knife anywhere in the house..... surely she doesn't think I would consider..... Nah, surely not. COME ON, YOU BIG, BAD COWBOYS !!

Had a short note from Bob Blundell, advising us of his and Billie's new address in their condo on Lake Travis. I had already talked to #2 son Chris on the golf course this weekend, and he had given me a report on the golf match he, daddy Bob, and Bob Jr. had engaged in recently when the two siblings helped the 'old Folks' move to their new island setting on the lake.

Bob Sr. wrote he shot a 92 on the new course, considerably higher than his normal score at the local links. Said he would "be adjusting my handicap". Come on, Bob, who you trying to con???

I know exactly what he's up to. He's setting me up for the kill. He wants me to come down there, get into a high stakes game, and refuse to spot me any strokes, as he formerly did here. Ha. Isn't it strange that '92' score happens to

be what my factual handicap is?

How about this proposition, Bob; The Doctor's have said the bursitis in my shoulder and arm is much worse, and my current game reflects it. My handicap has soared to 102. I will play you down there, you giving me 6 strokes each on the front and back nine. And you furnish the liquid refreshments, of course.

Quite a bit of debate lately about "To cane or Not to cane", referring to the method of administering punishment for discipline offenders in high school and other juvenile crime offenders.

I unfondly recall a few moments of my high school years. Canes were not the weapon of choice for those transferring discipline to student posteriors. Usually it was a hefty paddle with holes drilled in it. One of my coaches used an even simpler device. He would tie 5 or 6 long shoe strings together, then tie double knots every two inches, with a larger one at the end. He had long arms, weighed about 290, and he could make that sucker SING, WHISTLE, PLAY DIXIE when he applied it to your bottom, bared before your teammates who were too terrified to giggle at your pain.

When I graduated, I knew I was not destined for any athletic hall of fame... But, man, I was a very well disciplined ex athlete.

Thinking about some of our brood, I often wonder if maybe we shouldn't have invested in a dozen shoe strings. Probably not. We would have been sued into poverty by now. By Our kids.



Kelsey gets shot off, eyes closed!



Big Armando works underneath, scores 2.



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