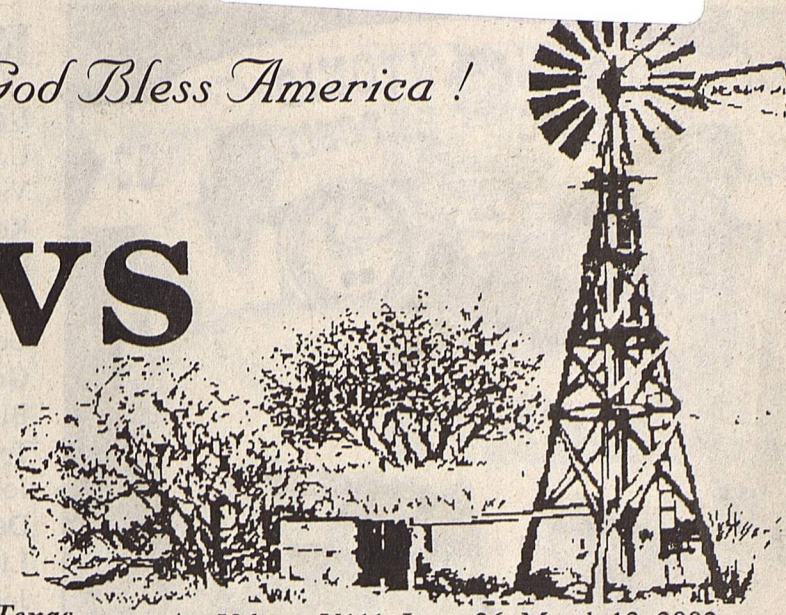


# Cowboy Country

# News

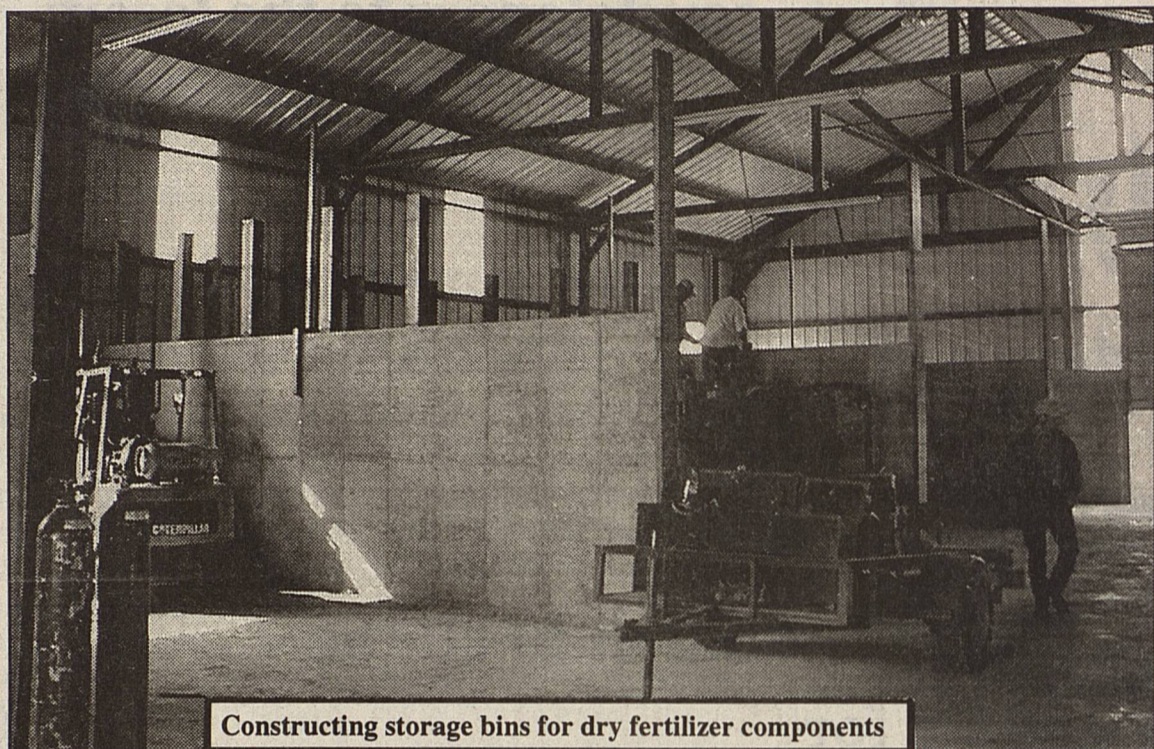
God Bless America!



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

Volume V111, Issue 26, March 13, 2002

## West Texas Agriplex to be operational soon

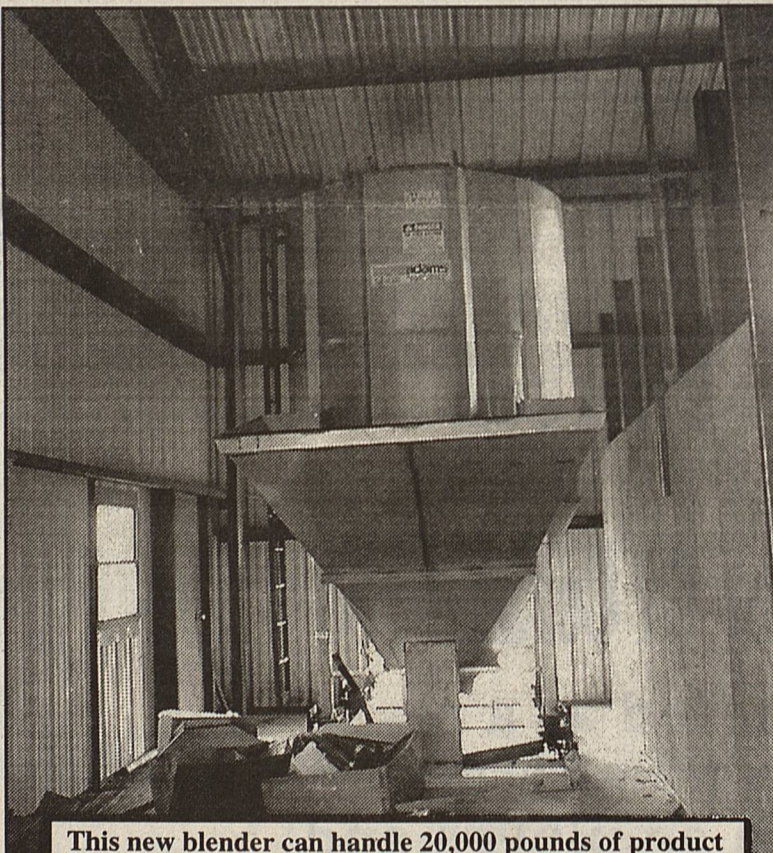


Constructing storage bins for dry fertilizer components

Employees of West Texas Agriplex and contracted personnel have recently been hard at work readying the new farm supply complex for a Grand Opening, hopefully this month.

Dirt work for a parking area is under way, and interior finishing work is taking place in the main building. Workers are also constructing a new addition to the rear of the building. A state of the art dry fertilizer blending and storage facility is nearing completion in the large barn on the east side of the former Jack Spears irrigation business.

West Texas Agriplex will offer a complete line of farm parts and supplies, irrigation equipment, and both dry and liquid farm fertilizers.



This new blender can handle 20,000 pounds of product

### Credit Union annual meeting

Yoakum County Federal Credit Union held its 53rd annual meeting/supper on February 23 in the Plains school cafeteria. A delicious meal of ham and brisket and all the trimmings was enjoyed by the 142 members and guests present.

Following the invocation by Bill Adams, President, Melvin Dearing recognized Plains resident Pierre St. Romain as the last living Chapter member of the Credit Union. Vivian Rice was also recognized for her 7 years of management of the Credit Union. Bill Adams was then recognized and presented with a clock for his 9 years of dedicated service to the Board of Directors.

President Melvin Dearing and Secretary Lisa Switzer presided at the business meeting and election of the Directors. Reports were read and it was unanimously agreed, the Credit Union is in very good shape.

The membership voted on the 4 candidates nominated to fill the expired terms of Tommie Brown, Lisa Switzer and Bill

Adams as Board members. Bill Adams did not seek re-election. Tommie Brown and Lisa Switzer were the incumbent nominees and Linda Kennedy and Jerry Patterson were the 2 nominees.

After the Election Judges counted the ballots, the newly elected directors were: Tommie Brown, Linda Kennedy and Lisa Switzer. The Directors for the coming year are: Melvin Dearing, Arlon Anderson, Ruby Sellers, Owen Schneider, Tommie Brown, Lisa Switzer and Linda Kennedy.

To close the meeting President Melvin Dearing and Secretary Lisa Switzer conducted the drawing for the many door prizes donated by the businesses and individuals in the Plains and Denver City area. Benediction was by Valdemar Gonzales.

The Credit Union wishes to thank the businesses and individuals in the Plains and Denver City area for generously donating the 157 door prizes for the drawing.

### Blowing dust closes US 380

Fierce winds which tore through the area last Friday caused TxDOT to temporarily close US Highway 380 between here and Bronco several hours that afternoon, but not before two wrecks occurred near the stateline.

DPS personnel working the crash scenes were unavailable for a report, but according to County Sheriff Department officials who responded to the collisions, two vehicles met head-on in the blinding, choking white dust common to the Bronco area. A short while later, two more vehicles raked their sides in another collision. It was reported three people were dispatched from the scene by Ambulance to the Yoakum County hospital, none of them with life threatening injuries. Highway and law enforcement personnel working the wrecks reported at times visibility in the high wind was reduced to mere yards.

### PISD Spring Break, Trustee Election Scheduled

The offices of Plains Independent School District will be closed for the spring break holiday March 11 through March 15. All offices will be open at the regular time on March 18.

March 20 is the last day for a candidate to sign up for one of the two school trustee positions up for election on May 4. Any interested candidate may file at the school business office for District 3, currently held by Danny Bell, or District 4, currently held by Wayne Sisson.

### District Court Case

In the March 4 session of 121st District Court, Judge Kelly G. Moore presiding, Arnold Garza Cordova pled true to the state's modification of his community supervision from a prior assault with deadly weapon cause. His supervision was extended 36 months, through March 5, 2005. He must pay \$40 monthly supervision fees, and delinquent fines and fees totaling \$977 with monthly installments of \$28. He will also pay court appointed attorney fees of \$200 with \$10 monthly payments. CDA Richard Clark represented the state.

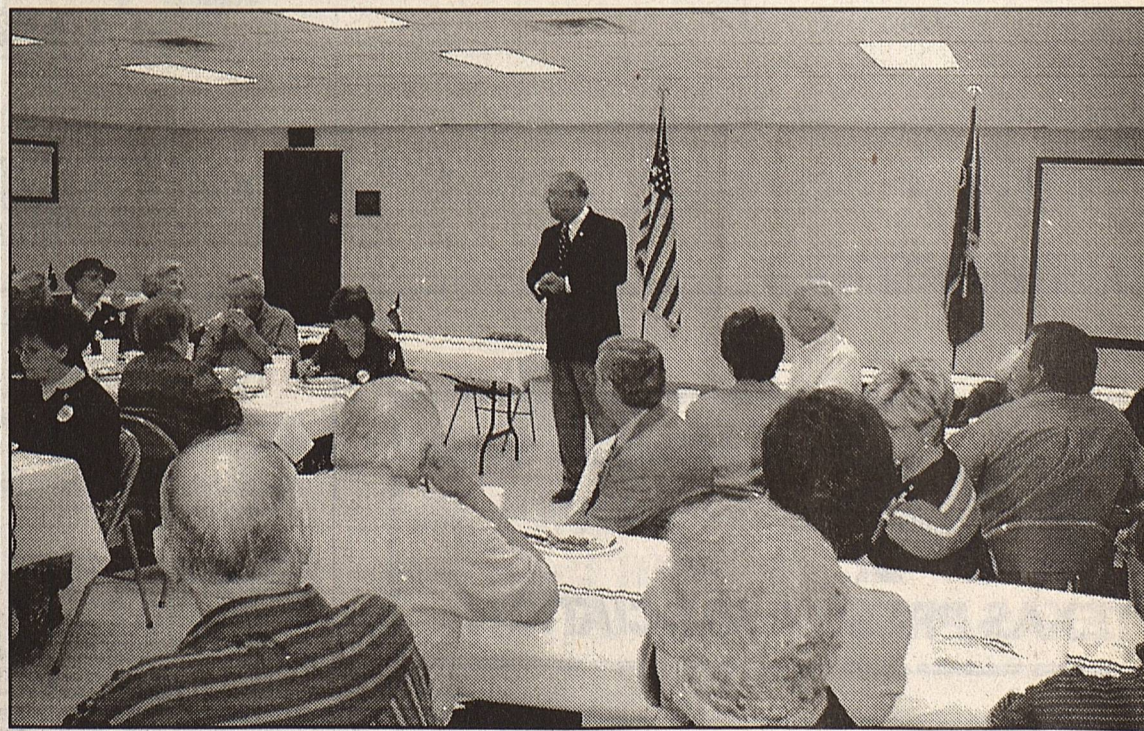
### Yoakum County Primary Results

#### REPUBLICANS

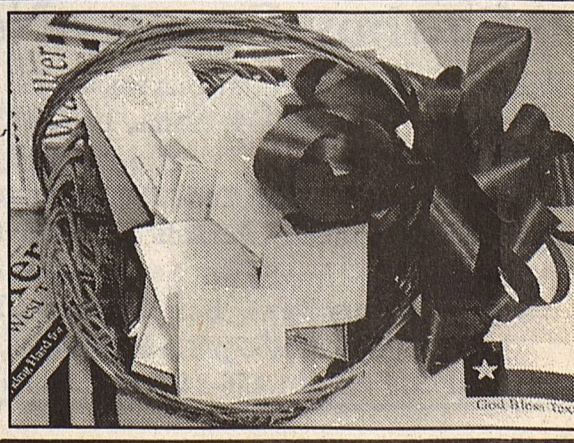
<b>U.S. Senator</b>	
Dudley F. Mooney	78
Douglas G. Defenbaugh	24
Bruce Rusty Lang	155
Lawrence Cranberg	24
John Cornyn	276
<b>U.S. Representative Dist 19</b>	
Larry Combest	678
<b>Governor</b>	
Rick Perry	665
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b>	
David Dewhurst	384
Tom Kelly	212
<b>Attorney General</b>	
Greg Abbott	545
<b>Comptroller Of Public Accounts</b>	
Carole Keeton Rylander	577
<b>Commissioner Of General Land Office</b>	
Jerry Patterson	351
Kenn George	220
<b>Commissioner Of Agriculture</b>	
Susan Combs	583
<b>Railroad Commissioner</b>	
Michael L. Williams	544
<b>State Senator Dist 31</b>	
Teel Bivins	544
<b>State Representative Dist 83</b>	
Gary L. Walker	696
Delwin L. Jones	70
<b>District Clerk</b>	
Vickie Blundell	672
<b>County Clerk</b>	
"Debbie" L. Rushing	655
<b>County Treasurer</b>	
Barbara Wright	561
<b>County Commissioner Pct. 2</b>	
Jimmy Maynard	79
Steve G. Slentz	87
<b>County Chairman</b>	
H.A. Richardson	550

More Results On Page 2

### Walker honored with fund raiser



Area friends and supporters of State Representative Gary Walker expressed their appreciation for his legislative service with a fund raising dinner here March 7. Donations furnished a steak dinner with all the trimmings by Kay's Catering, and also filled the basket shown at the right with checks for his recent campaign. Walker gave his assessment of the then ongoing campaign for the District 83 House seat, and expressed his appreciation for the generosity of all his supporters. More than \$6000 was collected at the meeting.



## Kristen Knight shows Champion



Kristen Knight of Plains was awarded Grand Champion Jr. Barrow, Friday February 15, at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo 2002.

Kristen, part of the Yoakum County 4-H club, is nine years old, and won with a Cross Breed Barrow, she calls "Frog".

Reserve Grand Champion honors went to 11 year old, Jessica Lopez, of Pearland, Texas. Jessica who has been showing livestock for four years won with a Hampshire Barrow.

Jessica is a member of the Brazoria County 4-H.

## County Primary Election Results continued from Pg. 1

### DEMOCRATS

U.S. Senator	
Victor Morales	113
Ken Bentsen	126
Ron Kirk	45
Ed Cunningham	15
Gene Kelly	13
<b>Governor</b>	
Bill Lyon	43
Tony Sanchez	166
John Worldpeace	12
Dan Morales	104
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b>	
John Sharp	259
<b>Attorney General</b>	
Kirk Watson	240
<b>Comptroller Of Public Accounts</b>	
Marty Akins	239
<b>Commissioner Of Agriculture</b>	
Ernesto De Leon	218
Tom Ramsey	70
<b>Railroad Commissioner</b>	
Paul C. Looney	148
Sherry Boyles	129

<b>Criminal District Attorney</b>	
Richard Clark	277
<b>County Judge</b>	
Dallas Brewer	298
<b>County Treasurer</b>	
Toni Jones	291
<b>County Commissioner Pct. 2</b>	
Leland Tucker	20
Danny Moore	54
Ben Coston	70
<b>County Commissioner Pct. 4</b>	
Jack Cobb	68
<b>Justice Of The Peace Pct. 1</b>	
Melba Crutcher	81
<b>Justice Of The Peace Pct. 2</b>	
Troy Scott	211
<b>County Chairman</b>	
Billy RaY Moore	280

**Our congratulations to the winners, and our condolences to the losers**

# Yoakum County Hospital

## Board of Directors and Administration

would like to extend their sincere appreciation to all the individuals responsible for

### Yoakum County Hospital and West Texas Medical Center

being named the

## Business Of The Year

by the

### Denver City Chamber Of Commerce

This award was achieved as a result of the dedication and efforts of each physician, each employee and each contracted personnel.

**THANK YOU !**

*Jack Cobb \* Stanley Ashburn \* Dennis Harrison \*  
Edith Kidd \* Neal Newsom \* J.R. Slentz \*  
Clay Taylor \* Ed Rodgers \* Suann Parrish \**



MEMBER 2002

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## Commissioner Court hears Insurance proposal from Aflac

In the March 11 session of Commissioner Court, Lisa Free and three other representatives of Aflac Insurance lobbied the court to approve county pay roll deduction payments of premiums for county employees purchasing supplemental health insurance. Ms. Free said over a dozen staff members of Yoakum County Hospital and West Texas Medical Center have opted to purchase the Aflac coverage, and monthly premiums would be considerably cheaper if handled with payroll deductions by the county.

County Treasurer Toni Jones and first assistant Teresa Howard closely questioned the company rep's, and sought assurances the payroll deductions would not lead to a drastic increase in workload for their office. They pointed out many employees want payroll deductions for other monthly payments, including car payments, which they are not allowed to do. After extensive explanations from Aflac were made assuring the Treasurer personnel they would be responsible only for the monthly cutting and mailing of the premium check, Judge Dallas Brewer moved to approve the deduction payment plan, and the motion was unanimously approved.

In other agenda business, the Tax Assessor/Collector report showing collection of \$46,256 taxes in February was approved. Advertising for bids for the purchase of a new 2002 1/2 ton pickup for Pct. 2 was approved. Sheriff Don Corzine sought and received approval of deputation of Reserve Deputy for his department. A security policy for dances at the Livestock Show Barn and Community Building here was tabled to allow the court to study a plan currently in effect in Denver City for the Community Building there.

## New Import Requirements On Mexican Cattle

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has raised health standards for importing Mexican feeder cattle in order to protect U. S. animals from tuberculosis (TB), a bacterial infection that can cause internal lesions in the lungs, lymph nodes, or other internal organs. On April 1, 2002, feeder cattle (steers and spayed heifers) from Mexico will enter the U. S. under health regulations published more than a year ago in the Federal Code of Regulations by the USDA's Veterinary

Services. By 2003, the USDA will tighten regulations again, when international rules will require exporting countries to fully meet US equivalent standards for cattle TB eradication. "Texas cattle producers import approximately a million Mexican feeders each year. On April 1, entry regulations for these animals will be tied directly to the prevalence of TB in their Mexican state of origin, or their region within a Mexican state," commented Dr. Linda Logan, Texas state veterinarian and

head of the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory authority.

"Mexican feeder animals have offered excellent opportunities for cattle production," she said. "Cattle TB, however, continues to be a problem in many Mexico states, and we must continue to assure that imported animals are properly

## Productive Appraisal Saves Farmers, Ranchers Tax Dollars

Farmers and ranchers may be eligible for property tax relief on their land. They may apply for a special, lower appraisal of their land, based on what the land will produce rather than what it would sell for in the open market, said Sandra Stephens, chief appraiser of the Yoakum County Appraisal District.

"The Texas Constitution provides for two types of agricultural productivity appraisal," Stephens said. Article 8, Sec. 1-d-1, addresses what is known as agricultural appraisal. Article 8, Sec. 1-d, also addresses agricultural appraisal but has different qualification requirements. Yoakum County has all land owners under the 1-d-1 special appraisal.

Landowners must file for special appraisal at the appraisal district office by April 30. Those who must file this year are landowners whose property did not previously receive 1-d-1 appraisal and new owners of qualified land. The appraisal district must accept late filed 1-d-1 appraisal until the day before the appraisal review board approves the 2002 appraisal records.

To qualify for 1-d-1, the owner must use the land for agricul-

ture or timber production. This form of appraisal does not restrict ownership to individuals and does not require agriculture to be the owner's primary business.

The law also provides that a property owner may use the land for wildlife management to receive the special appraisal, if the land had been qualified for agriculture in the preceding year.

"In addition, landowners should know," Stephens said, "that the law provides specific penalties for taking qualified land out of agriculture." The roll back tax is the difference between the taxes paid under productivity appraisal and the taxes that would have been paid if the land had been put on the tax roll at market value, Stephens explained. The law also requires that the roll back tax include interest charges. Under 1-d-1 appraisal, an owner triggers a roll back by changing the land's use to a non-agricultural use. The roll back taxes are based on the five years preceding the year of the change.

Landowners must apply for productivity appraisal with each appraisal district in which they have land. Failure to do so could result in landowners paying taxes on the land's full market value.

## The splendid, recently opened State History Museum in Austin



## College of the State Bar of Texas Meets

The College of the State Bar of Texas recognized 4320 attorneys as members of the College during its Annual Awards Luncheon on February 9 in Austin. The College is an honorary society made up of lawyers who strive to keep their legal knowledge and skills at peak levels through attendance of an extraordinary number of continuing legal education hours, at least twice the required minimum.

At the luncheon, awards were presented to several members of the College. Austin lawyer Claude Ducloux received the prestigious Professionalism Award for his many efforts to encourage the highest standards of ethical behavior and professional competence among his colleagues. Thomas Goranson of Dallas was presented the award for having written the best article to ap-

pear in continuing legal education course materials over the prior year. It was entitled "Speaking in Codes" and was included in the course books for the 2001 Advanced Family Law Course presented by the State Bar of Texas.

Established in 1982 by the Supreme Court of Texas, the College counts in its ranks most of the leaders of the legal profession in Texas, including many judges. Only about six percent of Texas lawyers qualify to become members. The College is the only organization of its kind in the United States and was the first to provide attorney recognition for making the commitment to lifelong learning, a need now widely acknowledged across many professions. Kelly G. Moore, Judge of 121st Judicial District, was among those attending the College.

## G. B. Aerial Application, Inc.

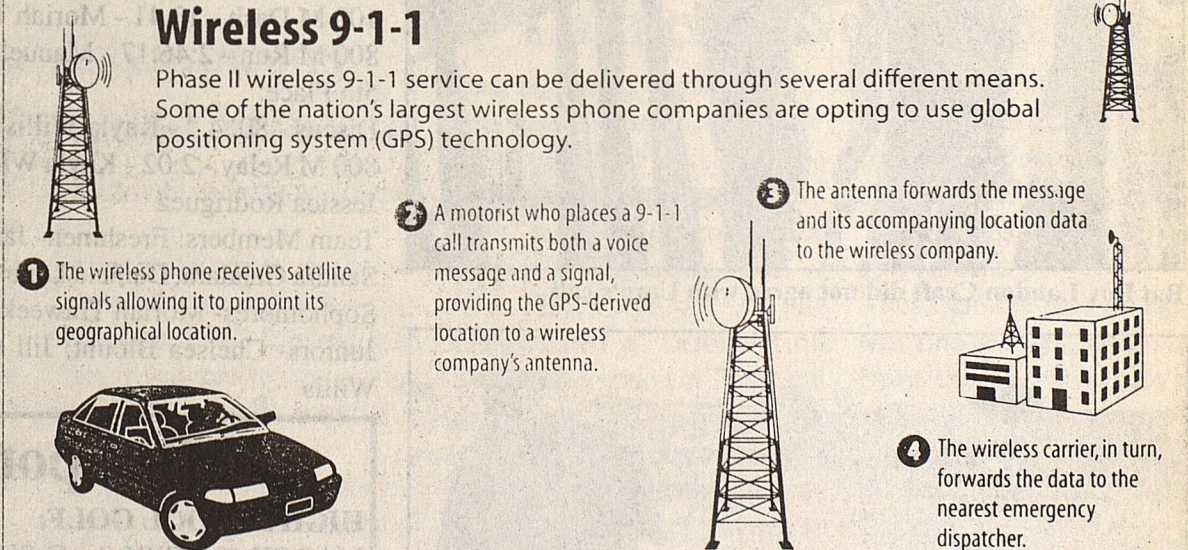


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## Wireless 9-1-1

Phase II wireless 9-1-1 service can be delivered through several different means. Some of the nation's largest wireless phone companies are opting to use global positioning system (GPS) technology.



SOURCE: Dispatch Monthly Magazine.

## Yoakum County Plains Clinic

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and

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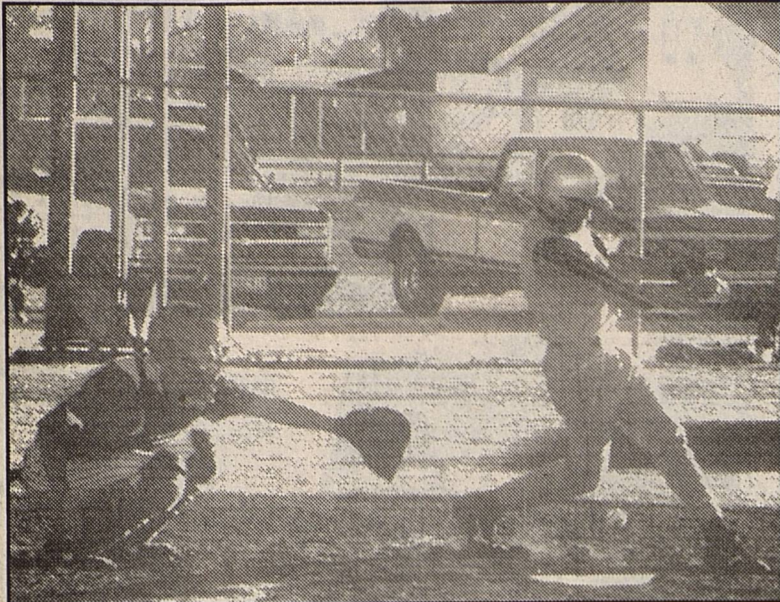
## SPECIALS!

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## Cowboy action shots VS Denver City JV

(photos are dark because Denver City Coach would not let CCN photographer shoot from west side of field, forcing shots directly into sun.)



Armando Ramirez fouls one away



Chris Hansen, left, sails home for run



Bat Boy Landon Craft did not agree with Ump's call



Ryan Martinez takes rest during timeout

## Cowboy Baseball Stats

The Cowboys journeyed to Smyer March 9 for a double header and dominated them with 11 - 2 and 22 - 7 wins. In game # 1, Jared Bell was the winning pitcher, recording 7 strikeouts. Miguel Coronado and Richard Diaz also saw action on the mound. Nick Hays was top batter with three trips to the plate, producing a single, double and home run for two RBI's. Nine stolen bases by the Cowboys helped the score.

In game two, Arnold Cordova was credited with the win on the mound, with Evan Cain also seeing pitching action. Kevin Bartley II had a strong performance at bat, registering a single, two doubles and a triple in five trips to the plate. Cain, Bell, Coronado, Hays, Ryan Martinez, Joseph Rodriguez also registered hits.

The Cowboys are scheduled to face Van Horn in another double header in Midland on March 16. District action kickoff March 26 against Coahoma here.

### Elementary 'A' Honor Roll

#### First Grade

Marina Corrales  
Salvador Corrales  
Merrit Crump  
Vanessa Cueto  
Johnathan Davis  
Whitney Davis  
Katie Dearing  
Autumn Friesen  
Rebecca Garcia  
Stacy Loewen  
Jacob Neufeld  
P J Pando

#### Second Grade

Greg Andazola  
Andrew Conway  
Adriana Corrales  
Shelby Covarrubias  
Mayra Cueto  
Christopher Davis  
Dakota Earnest  
Taylor Fitzgerald  
Carolina Hernandez  
Zachary Lamar  
Mariela Martinez

Samuel Melendez  
Hunter Parrott  
Cynthia Rodriguez  
Camishay Rubio  
Denise Tarango  
Demarcus Trowbridge  
Brooke Wilson

#### Third Grade

Stephanie Addison  
Kelbi Bartley  
Jaxxon Bean  
Forrest Booth  
Hannah Crump  
Cody Friesen  
Kevin John Gass  
Kristen Knight  
Brittanie Lira  
Sara Martens  
Chase Ortega

#### Fourth Grade

Taylor Banfield  
Jacob Brink  
Brock Carter  
Hannah Cotton  
Brandon Craft  
Emilia Gallegos  
Brett Hawthorne  
Natalie Haynes  
Abigail Hernandez  
Nathan McCravey  
Katelynn Young



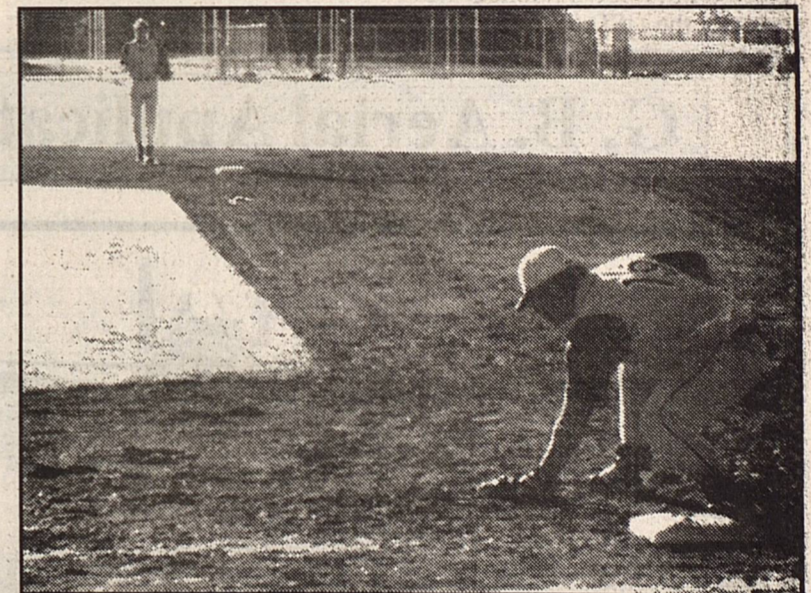
Miguel Coronado scores



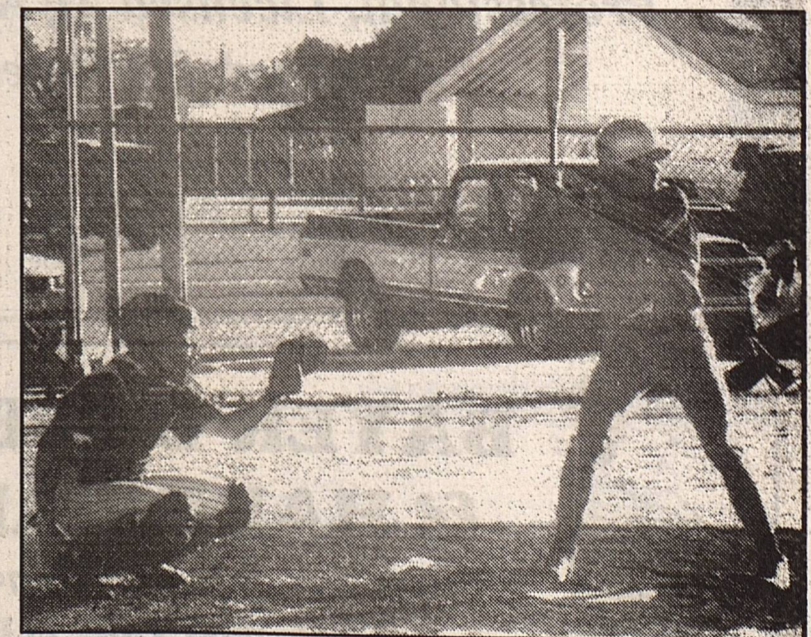
Jared Bell shows good form



Nick Hays gets out of way of wild pitch



Ryan Martinez dug this ball out at first base



Jared Bell ready to swing away



Ryan Martinez got a double on this swing

## PHS Cowgirls

### New Deal Track Meet Results

3rd Place:

1600 M Relay Team - Time 4:52.63 - Kayla Willis, Jessica Rodriguez, Manuela Villegas, Moriah Traweek

4th Place:

100 M Dash - 13.41 - Moriah Traweek  
800 M Run - 2:46.17 - Manuela Villegas

5th Place:

Discus - 80' 4" - Kayla Willis  
800 M Relay - 2:02 - Kayla Willis, Manuela Villegas, Jill Gray, Jessica Rodriguez

Team Members: Freshmen- Jamie Covarrubias, Mayra Flores, Sandra Gandara, Daniela Lazos, Prisma Ortiz, Micalca Villegas  
Sophomores- Moriah Traweek, Manuela Villegas  
Juniors- Chelsea Blount, Jill Gray, Jessica Rodriguez, Kayla Willis

## PISD Sports Calendar

### HIGH SCHOOL GOLF:

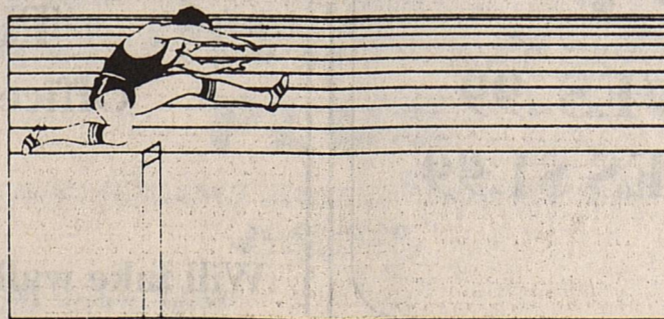
MARCH 19 - GIRLS - @ SUNDOWN  
MARCH 20 - BOYS - @ SUNDOWN  
MARCH 27 - BOYS & GIRLS - BIG SPRING  
APRIL 3 - ( District ) - BOYS & GIRLS - GAINES COUNTY  
APRIL 11 - (District) - BOYS & GIRLS - BIG SPRING

### MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK:

MARCH 21 - HERE  
MARCH 26 - SUNDOWN  
APRIL 5 - (DISTRICT) - SEAGRAVES

### PHS TRACK:

MARCH 22 - SEAGRAVES  
APRIL 6 - SUNDOWN  
APRIL 12 - (DISTRICT) - HERE  
APRIL 19 - REGIONAL QUALIFIERS  
APRIL 26-27 - REGIONAL @ ABILENE  
MAY 1-11 - STATE @ AUSTIN



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Lubbock  
Avalanche-Journal

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# Lifelines & Styles

## Spring Fling 2002

Experience Spring and nature at it's best this year "Deep in the Heart of Texas". That's what folks 50 and over will be doing at the Texas 4-H Center on Lake Brownwood.

Sponsored by the Texas Cooperative Extension Service, Spring Fling '02 is offered for men and women alike to enjoy the wonderful activities offered during the week of April 15-19, 2002.

Opportunities include "Hands-on" learning centers where one can learn seasonal crafts, gardening, candle making, ball room dancing, wood crafting, and many other exciting projects. Educational programs on topics such as horticulture, photography, nutrition, finances, and other current interests are a popular highlight.

Fishing on Lake Brownwood adds popularity to your stay on our lighted boathouse. Or enjoy the beautiful spring foliage on our nature trail and take in some birding activities. Lighted tennis courts, horseshoes, billiards, volleyball, shuffleboard, dominoes, and card or table games are all popular activities. Nightly entertainment is also a part of the program. This year bring your clubs and play golf at the newly opened Feather Bay Golf Resort just 1 mile from the facility. Fun and educational tours are also an option for those who prefer this type of fun!

"Spring Fling...Spring Returns" will be the featured theme for the week. A costume contest and other activities will be held to add to the festive atmosphere. The last evening will showcase a closing banquet.

If you are 50 or older then "Spring Fling...Spring Returns" 2002 is for you. Call your county Extension office today at the Texas 4-H Center at 1-800-432-8342 for more information.

## Plains Student Graduates From ACU

Maranda Leigh Box of Plains graduated Summa Cum Laude from Abilene Christian University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology during December Commencement.

About 150 miles west of the Dallas/Fort Worth area, ACU is affiliated with the Churches of Christ and has an enrollment of more than 4,600 students.

## SPC Job Fair April 2

Companies from as far away as Minnesota are signing up to participate in South Plains College's annual Job Fair in Levelland on April 2.

The Job Fair is scheduled 10:00 am. to 3:00 pm. in the Sundown Room of the Student Center and is open to any current or former SPC student.

A representative of Excel Energy's Minnesota base will provide information on jobs available with the firm in Texas and New Mexico, said Maria Lopez-Strong, technical counselor and job fair coordinator. Government, medical and law

enforcement agencies are among firms which have signed up thus far to participate. "Job Fair representatives will be providing information on jobs that are vital for this area," said Maria Lopez-Strong. "We welcome area residents who have attended any of SPC's locations to drop by and find out more information on employment available on the South Plains."

Additional companies or students that would like to be a part of SPC's Job Fair can contact Lopez-Strong beginning March 18 at 806-894-9611, ext. 2562.

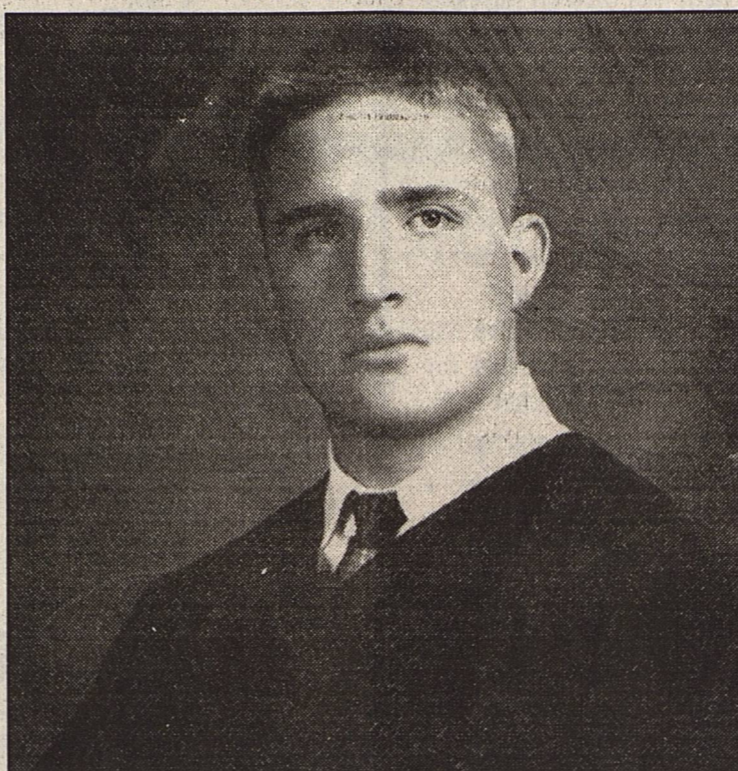
*Character contributes to beauty. It fortifies a woman as her youth fades. A mode of conduct, a standard of courage, discipline, fortitude and integrity can do a great deal to make a woman beautiful.*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Plains, Texas

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

**Wednesday**  
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Supper  
6:00 pm. Zombies  
7:00 pm. - RA's, GA's, Mission Friends,  
Sanctuary Choir Practice

## National Honor Band Selection



Chris McGinty, a senior at Plains High School, was recently selected as a member of the 2002 Honor Band of America. He will be traveling to Indianapolis, Indiana, in March to perform in the National Concert Band Festival. Craig Kirchoff, the nationally renowned Director of Bands at the University of Minnesota, is conducting this year's performance.

With the assistance and support of Plains Band Directors Ray Portillo and Georgann Weisgerber, an audition tape of Chris was recorded and submitted for review. An audition panel then reviewed all recordings and Chris was chosen from among over 200 applicants. His recording included Etude in C

Major, Etude in D Major, and Beautiful Colorado, a baritone/euphonium solo.

Chris is the son of Alton and Sheri McGinty of Plains and has been actively involved in music throughout school. His accomplishments include many within the school program, ATSSB All Region Honor Band four years, ATSSB Area contest, ATSSB All State Band three years, and several solo and ensemble awards on the regional and state level. He also performed with The Legend of Texas Drum and Bugle Corps from Lubbock, for two years. Chris plans to continue his musical direction by enrolling at Texas Tech University this fall studying music education.

## Property Tax Exemptions Available For Disabled Veterans

"Veterans with a service connected disability may reduce their property taxes in 2002 by filling out a simple exemption form at the Yoakum County District office," Chief Appraiser Sandra Stephens said.

A veteran's percentage of service connected disability determines the size of the exemption. The exemption ranges from a \$5,000 to a \$12,000 deduction from the veteran's property value. Stephens explained who is eligible for the application: \*a disabled veteran; \*a surviving spouse of a deceased disabled veteran, as long as the spouse remains unmarried; \*a surviving minor child of a deceased disabled veteran, if the veteran's spouse does not survive the veteran and if the child is both under 18 and unmarried; \*a surviving spouse of a person killed while on active duty, whether the spouse has remarried or not at application time; and \*a surviving minor child of a person killed while on active duty, if the

child is both under 18 and unmarried.

"Any eligible person who has not received this exemption must apply by April 30," Stephens said. "But, if you received the exemption in 2001, you do not have to reapply in 2002."

An applicant may claim the exemption on only one piece of property, such as a home or any other property the applicant owned on January 1. The applicant must be a Texas resident to qualify.

The appraisal district requires proof of the disability, such as documentation from the Veterans Administration or the branch of the armed service in which the veteran served. Applicants may need proof of marriage, age or proof of a spouse's or a parent's death.

Obtain an application form and more information about specific qualifications from the Yoakum County Appraisal District at 500 Cowboy Way in Plains or call 806-456-7101.

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## Sixth Annual Texas Tomorrow Fund Poster Contest Will Send Nine Kids To College

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander today encouraged school children to get out their crayons, pencils, paints and especially their creativity, and draw a picture of "What I Want To Be After College".

"Enter your drawing of your dream career in the sixth annual Texas Tomorrow Fund Poster Contest, and you could win one of nine Texas Tomorrow Fund scholarships sponsored by Belo Corp., Farmers Insurance Group, Intel Corp., Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas and Fannie Mae," Comptroller Rylander said.

"Maybe you want to be doctor, a fire fighter, a scientist or a computer chip designer. Whatever you dream of becoming, a college education is the first step," Comptroller Rylander said. "A Texas Tomorrow Fund scholarship will guarantee that your tuition and required fees will be paid when you are ready for college."

The Texas Tomorrow Fund Poster Contest is open to all Texas students enrolled in elementary or middle/junior high school. The grand prize winner from the elementary school category and the grand prize winner from the middle/junior high school category will each receive a four year Texas Tomorrow

row Fund scholarship sponsored by Belo Corp. and Farmers Insurance Group.

Intel Corp. will award a four year scholarship in a third contest category, the Intel Math, Science, Engineering and Technology (IMSET) scholarship. The IMSET category is open to students of any age whose drawings depict careers in technical or scientific fields.

Three runners up in the elementary school category and three runners up in the middle/junior high school category of the Texas Tomorrow Fund Poster Contest will receive one year community college scholarships sponsored by Fannie Mae and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas.

Complete contest rules and entry/parental contest forms are available from local schools and libraries, or they may be downloaded from the Texas Tomorrow Fund Web site at [www.texastomorrowfund.org](http://www.texastomorrowfund.org). Send entries to: College Scholarship Poster Contest, Texas Tomorrow Fund, Comptroller of Public Accounts, P.O. Box 13407, Austin, Texas 78711-3407.

The contest entry deadline is Friday, April 12. Winners will be announced in May.

## Texas Historical Commission Launches New Web Site

Austin, Texas-Updated content, special menus and exciting graphics are all part of the Texas Historical Commission's (THC) new and improved web site at [www.the.state.tx.us](http://www.the.state.tx.us).

The THC's web site is a virtual wealth of information about preservation in Texas and the agency's programs and initiatives. The improved site makes it easier for visitors to search for topics of interest to them. Main page topics, pop-up and drop-down menus and additional links are just a few changes that make the site easier to navigate. A cleaner

design, new information on heritage tourism and travel itineraries, a "Frequently Asked Questions" section and a "splash" page are all part of the new content.

Those familiar with the agency will find the best information from the previous site still available, including the newsroom, downloadable copies of the *Medallion* and the Texas Historic Sites Atlas, a searchable database of Texas markers, buildings, museums and sawmills. The new site will be continually updated. ENJOY!



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**Sunday Schedule**

Sunday School - 9:45 am  
Morning Worship - 10:45 am  
Evening Worship - 5:00 pm

**Wednesday Connections**  
Food, Fellowship & Study  
5:30-7:30 pm

**Other Opportunities**

Fitness/Exercise Class - 5:30-6:30 pm  
Tuesdays & Thursdays

*God loves you and so do we!  
Come grow in Christ with us!*

# From The Hack

We have a preacher in town who apparently is well known state-wide, and I swear I would not be reporting this if it had not been reported to me by one of his faithful, who is intimately familiar with the cotton industry in West Texas. My confidant said he recently ran into a fellow he knew who lived in a small town very close to the hamlet of Gordon, where our present Baptist servant of the Lord formerly ministered. He asked the guy if he knew Brother Bill Wright.

The guy studied a moment, and said, "Don't reckon I do, but I do vaguely remember a fellow we all called 'Seldom Wright.' Surely, surely, there couldn't be any local connection."

On a recent weekend morning, waiting for the local Dairy Queen to open, the only source of semi-substantial sustenance, I spent time in Uncle's Convenience Store, bored to the point I started surveying their double aisles of fast foods.

Uncle's, you know, is at the fork of the highway going to Roswell and Artesia, and I began to pity early morning travelers in either direction desiring breakfast.

I passed through the aisles of multi-colored packaged stuff, and came out amazed, and with the question, "Do people actually buy, and EAT, this stuff?" Some of the brand names were both intriguing, suspicious, and down right revolting;

CHESTER FRIES-prompts the question, who was Chester? CRUJITOS- I squeezed the pack and could only guess they were some sort of fried corn meal nibbles named after

CRUJO BAKEN-ETS- ditto, with absolutely no bacon.

The candy aisles were even more intriguing, or puzzling; NUT-RAGEOUS- probably specialty candy items for outrageously demented folks WHOPPERS- I thought Burger King had the patent on these JOLLY RANCHER- Possibly named in honor of Ty Earl Powell?

CHICK-O-STICK- you have to be very careful how you pronounce this one, especially if drinking

HOT TAMALES- a candy? Must have been invented in Tijuana

GOBSTOPPERS- I don't know, it just sounds too obscene to discuss

LAFFY TAFFY- I doubt the mirth when you start pulling on the stuff

BODY SMARTS- probably designed for after exercise workouts

KICK-ERZ- most certainly simply a misspelling of the last word which surely started with an A

GUMMIES- no doubt invented and marketed for very, very senior citizens

And then the real puzzler. What, pray tell me, is GREEN SLIME? I would prefer no one respond to the question.

Following Monday's almost interminable session of Commissioner Court, I re-grouped in the courthouse breakroom with a cup of coffee, and was soon joined by a couple of elected notables.

We groused about the lengthy session, cursed the latest sand storm weather, and checked opinions about the then upcoming primary elections. Which proved one thing - they knew absolutely no more than yours truly about the really hot races, our State Representative contest, and the five-man race for the Precinct 2 Commissioner spot.

Another female type elected official then walked in, and af-

ter a bit more chit-chat, she revealed her widowed father, some 77 years, was dating another widow type lady roughly his age. Comments were made about how nice that was. I blundered by asking, "What in the world do 77 year olds do on a date?"

One guy said, "Why, they go to the Sonic or D.Q., sip cokes and hold hands."

The elder official offered his opinion, "I doubt that. They probably go out and share a bottle of Metamucil!"

The daughter official shrieked, "I don't care what they do!! Just don't tell Me!!!"

With the Democrat and Republican Primaries finally over, I'm sure we have folks who are overjoyed, and other devastated.

On the weekend before the Tuesday final vote day, I ran into one of the candidates at the local golf course, and asked how his nerves were holding

### Notice For Bids

#### The State Of Texas County Of Yoakum

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 10 A.M. Thursday, March 28, 2002, for the purchase of (1) New 2002 1/2 ton Pickup with trade-in of (1) Used 1989 Chevrolet Pickup for Precinct #2. Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Monday, April 1, 2002. Bid price will be paid from 2002 budgeted funds.

To inspect the trade-in, please contact J.R. Slentz, Commissioner Precinct #2, 700 W. Cedar, Denver City, Texas 79323 or call 806/592-3287.

For bid forms and specifications, please contact the Yoakum County Auditor, PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355 (806/456-2422) or Woody Lindsey, Commissioner Precinct #1, 139 E. Broadway, Denver City, Texas 79323 (806/592-3601).

Sealed bids should be marked "NEW VEHICLE PRECINCT #2" on the envelope and mailed or delivered to County Judge, Dallas Brewer, PO Box 456/Cowboy Way and Avenue G, Plains, Texas 79355. **NO FAX COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Commissioners Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



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#### \* Bid Notice \*

Sealed bids will be received at the Superintendent's Office, Plains Independent School District, 1000 10th St., PO Box 479, Plains, Texas, 79355, until 2 PM on the 18th day of March, 2002 for the Running Track Refurbishment at Plains High School. Bids will be opened and read at that time. Specifications may be obtained by contacting James Haynes at 806-456-7401 or coming to the superintendent's office located at 1000 10th Street, Plains, Texas. Plains ISD Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids and to waive all technicalities.

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up. "Not too bad," he replied, with a severe twitch in his cheek. "I think I'm getting them a little more under control. I only threw up twice after breakfast this morning. I do have to admit this politicking has really affected my golfing, though. This afternoon I had about a twelve foot putt, and I whacked that sucker 49 yards,

and out of bounds to boot!" There were other cases of nerves after the polls closed, and many of the candidates were nervously waiting for the local results to go on the board at the courthouse. I spotted a guy running for one of the county jobs, walked up and tapped him on the shoulder. Bad move. He shrieked like the

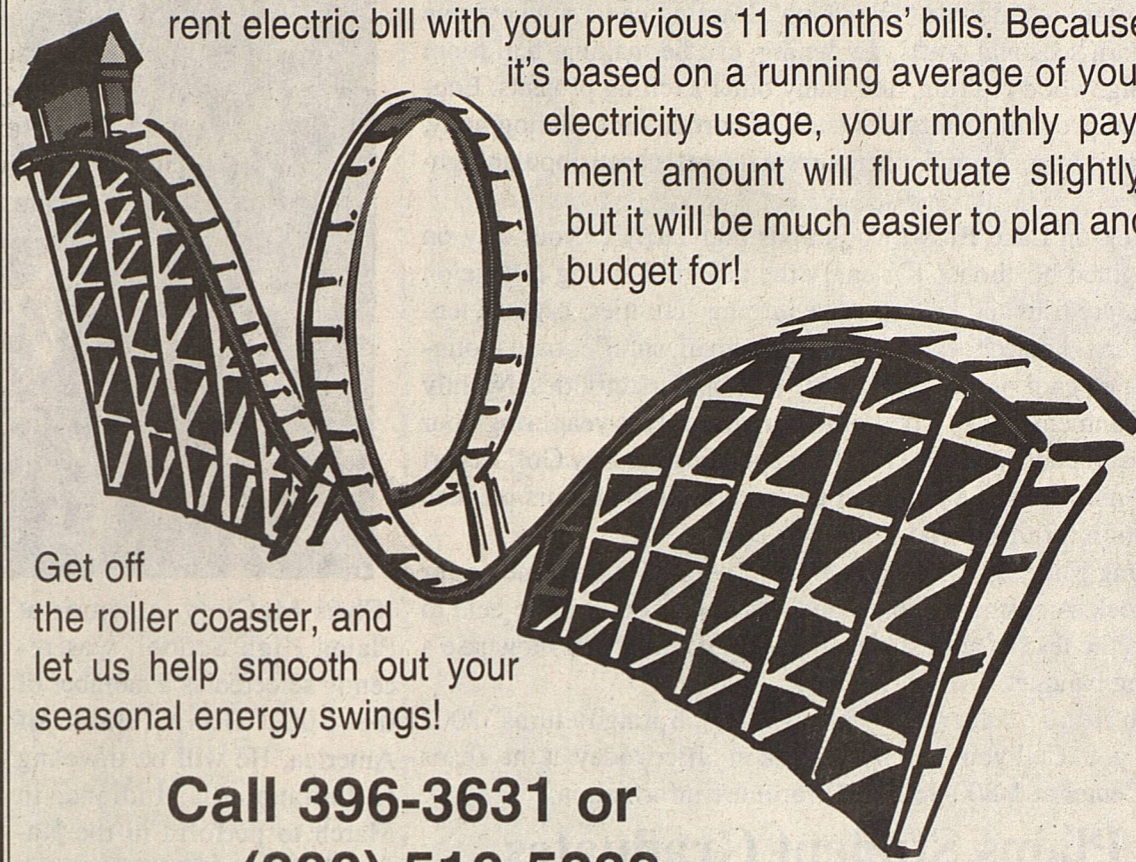
Aflac Duck and actually jumped against the wall, almost dislocating his shoulder.

For the losers, just try to remember this - Stuff Happens. For the winners - GOOD Stuff Happens!

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(Not available in VT.)

Yoakum County Connection needs a Summer Youth Arts Program Director, to be paid \$2500 for planning/supervising workshops in Plains & Denver City. The workshops have been provided in the month of June in the past. The person chosen would need to apply for Texas Commission on the Arts grant funding and able to work with people, particularly youth. Please send resume to PO Box 117, Plains TX 79355 by March 22. For info or questions, call LeAnn Romines, Denver City, or Linda Powell, Plains

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