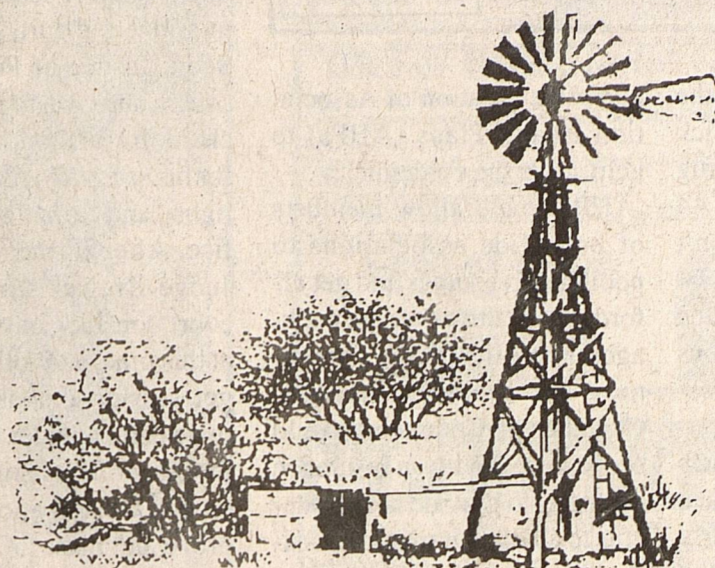


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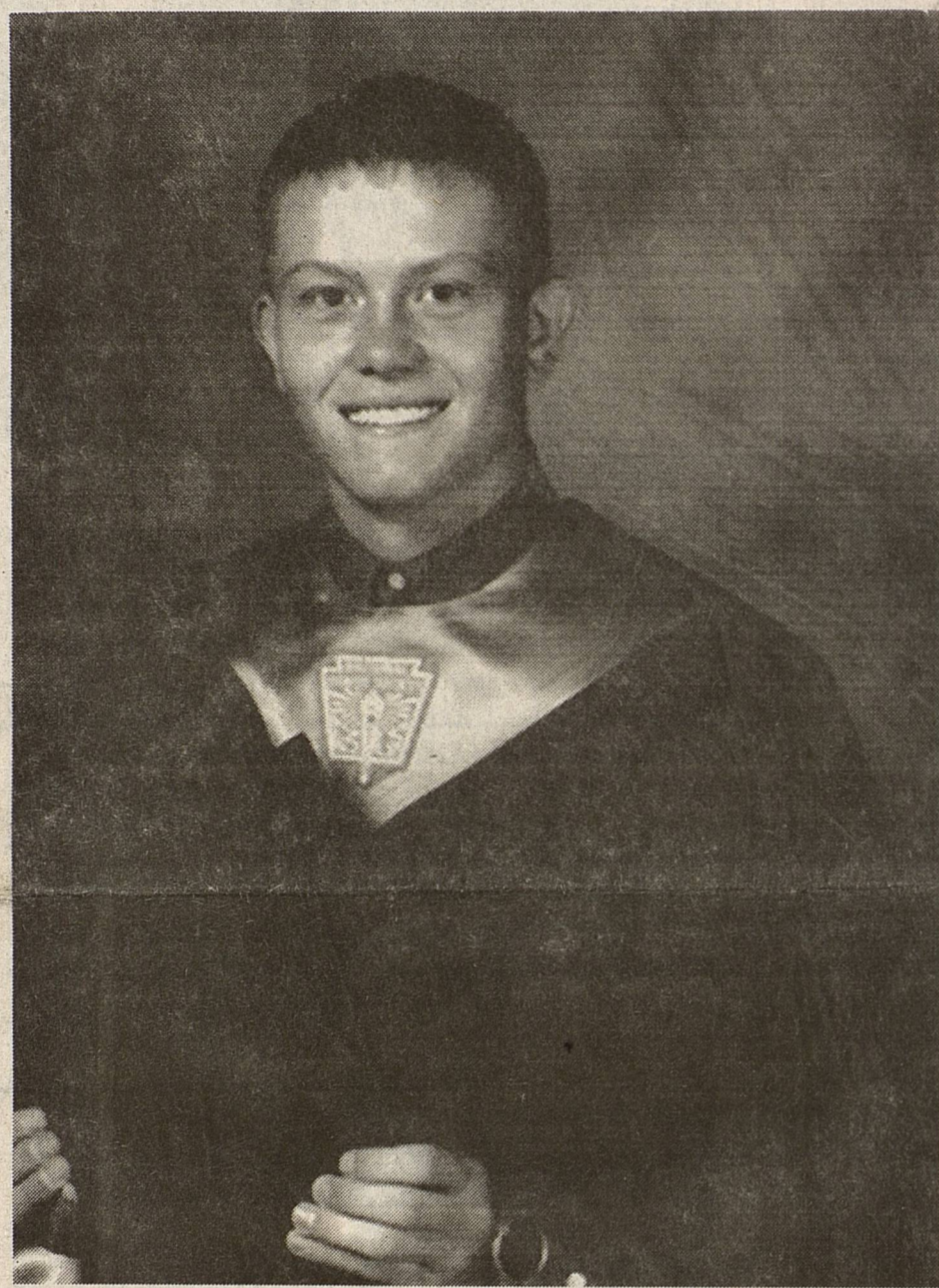
# A Salute To Our 2004 Seniors

## Cowboy Country News



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

Volume X, Issue 36, May 19, 2004



### Top Two Academic Achievers

Thirty one Plains High Seniors will march down the aisles of the school auditorium Friday evening, May 31. While the class numbers are down from recent years, the quality of the students is certainly not.

Nolan Newsom is class Valedictorian, with a GPA of 94.93. He is the son of Neal and Janice Newsom, and was active in sports and UIL academic events. He plans to attend Texas Tech and major in chemical engineering.

Helen Neufeld put pressure on Nolan for top student, and her 94.12 GPA won Salutatorian honors. She is the daughter of Johan and Elizabeth Neufeld. She too was active in UIL academic events. Helen plans to attend South Plains College two years, and then seek admission to the Covenant Hospital nursing program.

CCN congratulates all the PHS seniors.



### LCEC Board Names New Manager

After months of conducting a nation-wide search to fill the top post of General Manager and Executive Vice President for Lea County Electric Cooperative, the board has named Gary L. Hurse of Austin, Texas, to fill the post. Hurse was selected after two days of interviews with seven prospective candidates. He will assume his duties as GM beginning July 5, 2004.

Hurse, 53, is currently employed as Vice President of Member Services at the Texas Electric Cooperative Statewide Association in Austin. Throughout his 20-year career in the rural electric cooperatives, including a post as general manager of a Texas cooperative, and most recently in his current capacity with the statewide association.

He and his wife Virginia have three children: Gary II, age 27; John, age 24; and Sarah, age 17. Virginia is an elementary school teacher. Gary II is employed at Hughes Inc. in Denton, Texas; John is employed at Utiliserve in Denton, Texas; and daughter Sarah is a junior in high school and enjoys softball, basketball and showing cattle in livestock shows at the local and state level. Sarah plans to attend Texas Tech University upon graduation.

Hurse has a BS degree in Industrial Engineering with an emphasis in power from Texas A&M Commerce and an MBA from the



University of Phoenix.

"We are extremely pleased with the field of candidates that we interviewed. As representatives for our members, we have the responsibility to select the best qualified manager for our cooperative; we take that job quite seriously," said Billy Royce Medin, board president. "Gary possesses the attributes we're looking for in dedication to cooperative principles and sound management practices."

John Benard will continue to serve as Interim General Manager for the Co-op until July 5. He has been instrumental in advancing work on a proposed generation project to be located at the Lea County Electric Plant site. He will resume his former duties as Manager of Distribution Engineering for the Cooperative.

Michael A. Dreyspring resigned the GM position in January to accept the CEO post at CoServe Electric Cooperative in Corinth, Texas.

### School Board, City elections finalized

Plains voters at City Hall last Saturday returned incumbent Pam Redman to her position on the City Council, and newcomer Alfred Martinez will take the seat of retiring Bonnie Earnest. Incumbent Mayor Shane McKinzie easily returned to office. Final vote numbers included;

Shane McKinzie - 173  
Alfred Martinez - 166  
Pam Redman - 106  
Kent Welch - 98  
Keith Whitzel - 54  
Michael Barrientes - 46.

The controversial proposal to raise the city sales tax rate by one-half cent for economic development issues passed easily, 144 - 85.

In balloting for three positions on the Plains ISD Board of Trustees, Alex Barrientes garnered a total of 6 votes and will replace Raymond Diaz who resigned from the District 1 position earlier. Incumbent Anna Gonzalez will return to her seat as Trustee in District 2. In the race for the At Large position, Chris Winn drew 121 votes to Daniel Canada's 85. Winn will replace Dwayne Canada whose term of office expired. Votes will be canvassed Monday at 7:30 PM and the Trustees will be formally sworn into office.

### First county Relay For Life declared a huge success



Grateful Cancer survivors opened the Relay with a true 'Victory Lap', a truly stirring moment. Note the lady circling the track via wheel chair, with her probable grand child riding the chairs foot rests.

Scores of volunteer planners, sponsors and participants in the first Yoakum County Relay For Life were probably holding their collective breaths a few hours prior to the kickoff of the American Cancer Society fund raising event in Denver City's Mustang Stadium last Friday afternoon, hoping the Relay would be a financial success. By time registration began, relay team walkers assembled, food and drink vendors set up booths, there was an almost audible sigh of relief. The stadium's field and track were soon swarming with participants and spectators.

In opening remarks and introductions, Relay Chairman Stacey Meece reported 24 four teams from Plains and Denver City had entered walkers for the 12 hour fund raiser, and over 600 walkers would trod around the track. Meece said planners of the event were shoot-

ing for a goal of \$10,000 to be used in the fight against cancer. Contacted early Saturday morning, a tired but exuberant Meece told CCN, "The money count is not completed yet, but we are already over \$25,000! We're all just thrilled to death, and we're so grateful for everyone's support!" Incredibly, Monday she reported \$28,000 had been cleared, with pledges of more!

One of the most impressive events of the Relay came early in the Friday opening ceremonies. County residents who had survived cancer were introduced and their type of cancer was identified. Most survivors wore purple shirts as a show of unison, and were joined by family members and friends for the opening lap around the track. That moment was a true victory lap for almost 60 survivors of the disease.



**CAPITOL COMMENT**  
U.S. SENATOR  
**KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**

The next time you head for the doctor for a check-up, or pick up your prescription at the drug store, think of the nearly 44 million Americans who don't have health insurance. For them, these seemingly routine activities become a tremendous financial burden, if not impossible. Yet cost is not the greatest concern. For some, insurance can make the difference between life and death. Nearly 18,000 Americans die each year of treatable diseases because they don't have health coverage. May 10-14 is national 'Covering the Uninsured Week', designed to highlight this growing problem.

The crises of the uninsured is reaching epic proportions across the nation, but nowhere is the situation more prevalent than in our own backyard. According to a recent study, 27 percent of working adults in Texas are uninsured, the highest rate in the country. This is one race we aren't proud to lead.

Many of these Texans are without health coverage because they work for small business owners who want to offer their employees insurance, but can't. People who work for large corporations from Dell Computer to UPS often have a variety of health plans from which to choose. With thousands of employees in different states and other countries, these big businesses can negotiate a cost effective plan that enables them to offer this benefit to their employees. Insurance costs are rising across the board, for large and small companies, but the cost is hitting small businesses, which already run on razor thin profit margins, below the belt. Small businesses have reported insurance rate increases of 30 percent or more during the last year alone. A farmer in Uvalde who employs 21 ranch hands, or the owner of a women's clothing boutique in Salado with three employees, may want to offer this important benefit, but current costs would far exceed their profits. In fact, 60 percent of uninsured Americans are employed by small businesses that can't afford to offer health care benefits. But there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Current legislation before Congress would

allow the creation of Association Health Plans (AHPs) to help solve the epidemic.

AHPs would allow members of bona fide associations to pool their resources and get affordable health coverage packages from insurance companies. For example, the local Chamber of Commerce could broker a deal with an insurance company to provide health benefits to all of their member businesses and employees whether they be a dry cleaner or a hardware store. This innovative plan has wide support from small business owners, which make up the overwhelming majority of American Disc Jockey Association have voted their support for AHPs. In fact, organizations representing 12 million employers and 80 million workers have backed the legislation and are calling on Congress to help them provide health insurance.

AHPs would be certified by the Labor Department and would have to meet rigorous standards, even more stringent than those followed by large national corporations and labor unions. And uniform federal regulations of AHPs will help businesses lower their administrative costs. By operating under federal law, AHPs can avoid the complexity and cost of complying with regulations in 50 different states.

I am an original co-sponsor of this legislation because as a former business owner myself, I know the challenge of offering employee benefits like health care. I carried that experience and the many challenges of entrepreneurship with me to Washington, where I have consistently fought to reduce red tape and bureaucracy to help encourage business growth.

Small businesses and the millions of people they employ are the economic engine of America. Congress should help build pathways and not create barriers to their success. By promoting Association Health Plans, we will encourage more people to take advantage of the American dream of entrepreneurship and enable them to offer the critical and lifesaving benefit of health insurance. I hope my colleagues will work with me to bring this benefit home to Texas.

## Business as usual in Commissioners Court

In the May 17 session of Commissioners Court, Judge Troy Scott, Justice of Peace Pct. 2, sought approval to purchase six chairs for visitors use, a chair for his secretary, new overhead lights, and carpeting for his office. After further discussion, Judge Brewer suggested the court consider only the chairs at this time, and following budget session discussions later this year, consider approval of the other office items. Commissioner Coston moved to approve purchase of the chairs, price not to exceed \$1050.

Judge Scott then asked for approval to hire Eva Perez to replace his previous secretary who is now retired. Perez has considerable office experience with city hall in Denver City. The court approved her employment.

Commissioner Cobb explained a petition from Lea County Electric for construction, maintenance and operation of a new electric distribution line and pole at the County Library to serve a new hangar being built. The request was approved.

A routine amendment to the project participation agreement between the county and the state at the airport was also approved.

## Services Held For Juan Mendez

Juan Mendez, 53, was born to Emilio and Jesusa Mendez on March 22, 1952 in Geogewest, TX. He passed from this life on May 9, 2004 in Baptist Saint Anthony's Hospice in Amarillo with his family at his side.

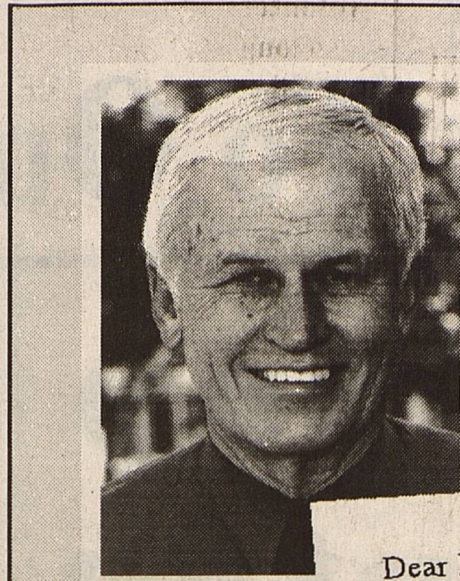
Mr. Mendez was raised in Ropesville where he attended schools.

Juan met and married the love of his life, Eva Juarez on September 2, 1972 in Plains, TX.

Mr. and Mrs. Mendez moved to Brownfield in 1979 where he worked for Hamilton Tire for many years. They later moved to Roswell, NM where he owned and operated his own auto repair shop until 2000 when they moved to Amarillo and worked for Patrick Goodyear.

Mr. Mendez was a member of the Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus.

Mr. Mendez leaves behind to cherish his memories, his wife, Eva of Brownfield, his mother and father, Emilio and Jesusa of Brownfield. 1 son; John



## Charlie Stenholm works tirelessly to keep our promises to Veterans!

Dear Friends,

As a Congressman representing West Texas, I've worked hard to make sure our values are heard and understood in Washington. I strongly support the war against terrorism and back our troops and veterans 100%.

I've worked tirelessly to make sure that our veterans receive all of the benefits they've been promised. I successfully fought to restore funding for the veterans health care system and to keep VA health care facilities open, including the Big Spring VA Hospital.

As your Congressman I'll continue to fight for our men and women in uniform and for the veterans benefits they so richly deserve.

May God bless our men and women serving the cause of freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan.

*Charlie*

**Charlie Stenholm... West Texas Values, West Texas Independence.**



To find out how you can help re-elect Charlie Stenholm to Congress, call his campaign office at: 806-788-1215 (Lubbock) or 325-692-5863 (Arlington), or visit his web site at [www.stenholm.org](http://www.stenholm.org).

Paid for by the Stenholm for Congress Committee.

**Praise & Worship Gathering, Monday, May 24th, 2004, 7:30 PM**

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*To all the loving people of the Community of Plains Texas!*  
*Thank you from the depths of our hearts for the outpouring of love you showered upon us during the Good-bye & Appreciation Reception given on our behalf at the Community Building. You truly blessed us beyond measure through the money tree, the gifts, your cards and your presence. Should you ever get to Vernon please stop by and say howdy!*  
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*In the love & service of Christ!*  
*Brother Tom & Rhonda Carter*

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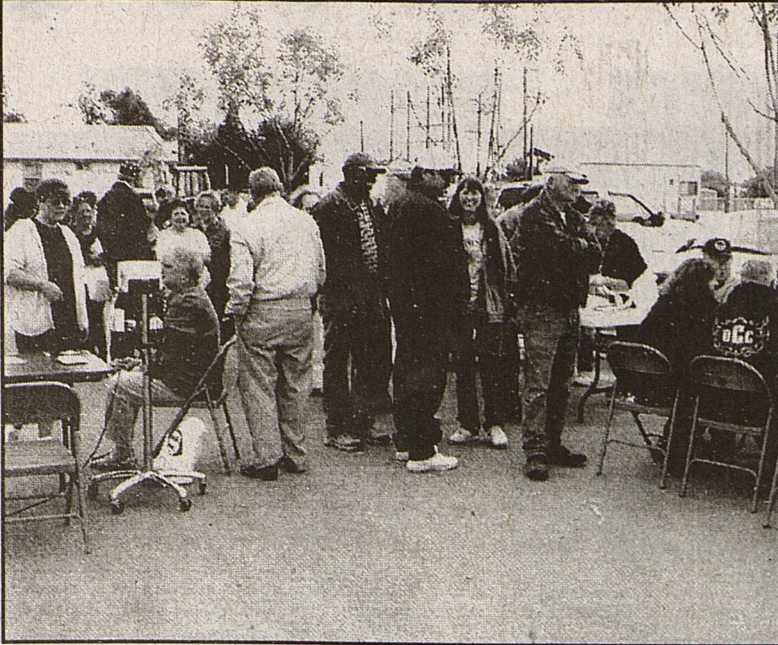
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Visitors line up for blood pressure, cholesterol check-ups



Jill Durham conducts bone density check

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CCN wishes to sincerely thank each and every volunteer who worked so long and hard to make the first Relay For Life such an amazing success. We especially want to salute the 2004

### Relay Committee:

**Stacey Meece**  
**Mendy Johnson**  
**Melissa Howell**  
**Gene Boyer**  
**Sheri Curry**  
**Stan David**  
**Robbie Sturdivant**  
**Beth Ann Cain**  
**Karen Tovar**  
**David DeLeon**  
**Delia Sherman**  
**Michelle Benson**  
**Becky Sandlin**  
**Chris Dougherty**  
**Steve Brooks**  
**Bill Helwig**  
and **Alana Carr, Jason McCoy, American Cancer Society**



Chairman  
Stacey Meece

## Student of the Week



PHS student of the week is Daniela Lazos, a junior and the daughter of Tony & Gracie Lazos. Daniela was nominated by Mr. Brad Friesen, who said, "Daniela is a joy to have in class. She has a bubbly personality, diligent in her work and is consistent in taking care of business. She is active in sports and cheerleading and volunteers to help out when needed."

## 7th Wrangler Band Shines

The 7th Grade Wrangler Band participated at the Greater Southwest Music Festival in Amarillo on Thursday, May 6. The band had a great per-

formance and brought home a 1st Division trophy, receiving 1st division ratings from all three judges. Since the beginning of their band careers in 5th grade, this class has received nothing but 1st division ratings from every judge they have performed for.

Band director Georgann Weisgerber said, "They were focused for their performance and know when its time to get the job done. I am very excited about the future of the Cowboy Band. THANKS for all your hard work and great improvements this year!"

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**NOTICE FOR BIDS**  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF YOAKUM

The Commissioners Court of Yoakum County will receive bids until 4 PM Friday, May 28, 2004, for the purchase of furniture and equipment for labor and delivery room.

Bids will be reviewed with contract to be awarded in Commissioners Court on Tuesday June 1, 2004.

For a list of the equipment and more information, please contact Darinda McWhirter, Yoakum County Auditor, 806/456-2422 or PO Box 516, Plains, Texas 79355. Bid price will be paid from 2004 budgeted funds.

Sealed bids should be marked, "FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT FOR LABOR AND DELIVERY ROOM" 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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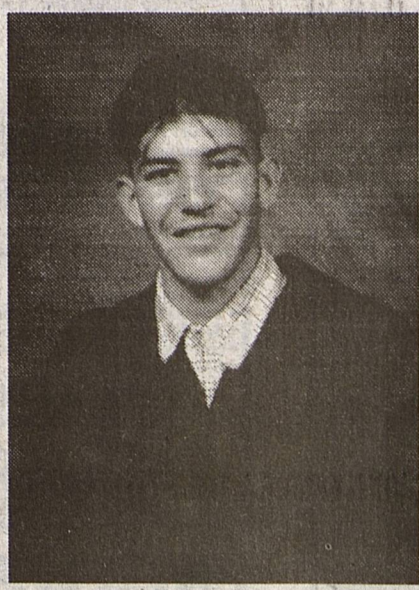
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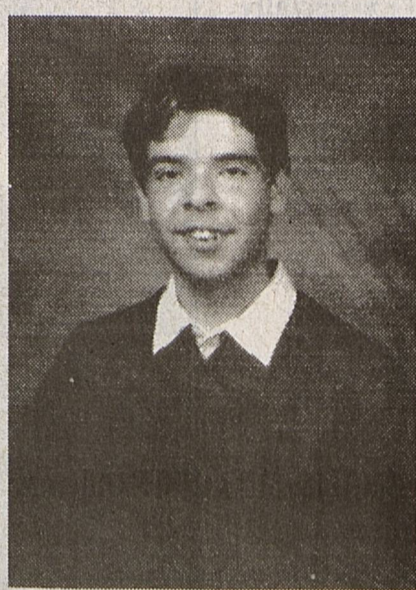
# The Plains High Class Of 2004



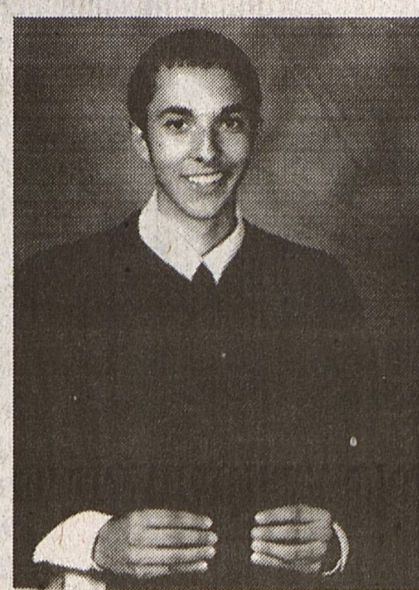
Stacie Alldredge



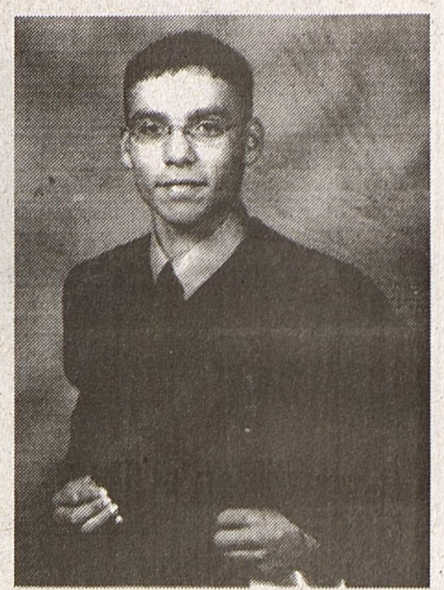
Leonel Anchondo



Jose Avila



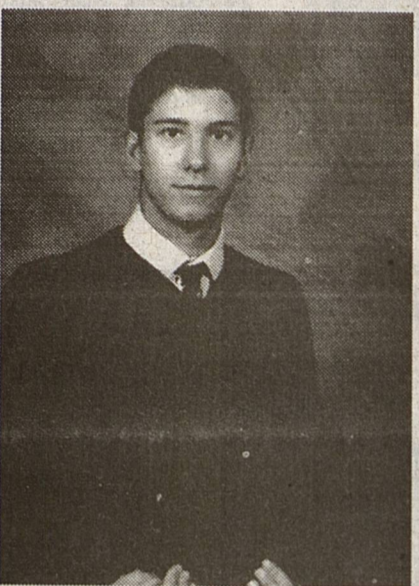
Zachary Broome



Arnold Cordova



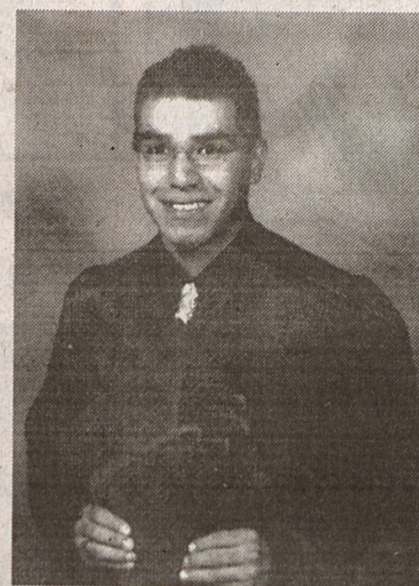
Silvia Cueto



Brandon Davis



LaShonda Diamond



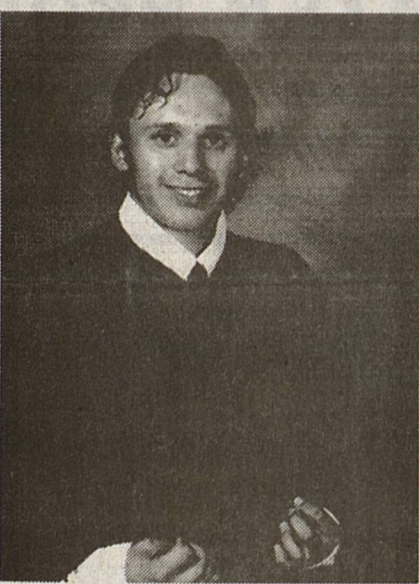
Richard Diaz



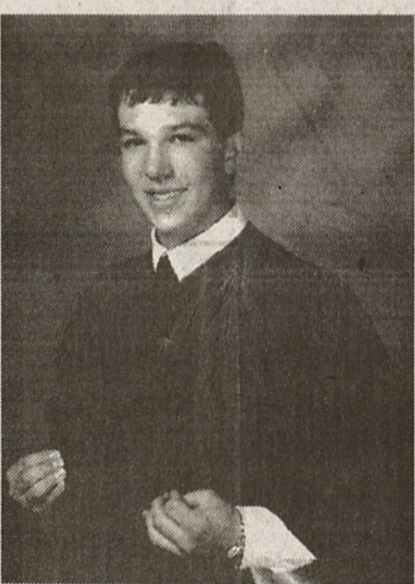
David Escobar



Larry Escobar



Adam Guerrero



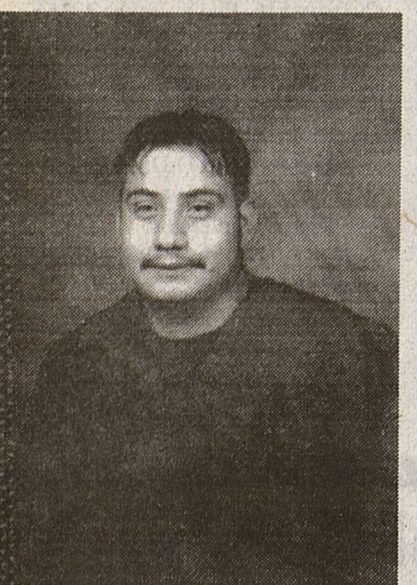
Austin Keese



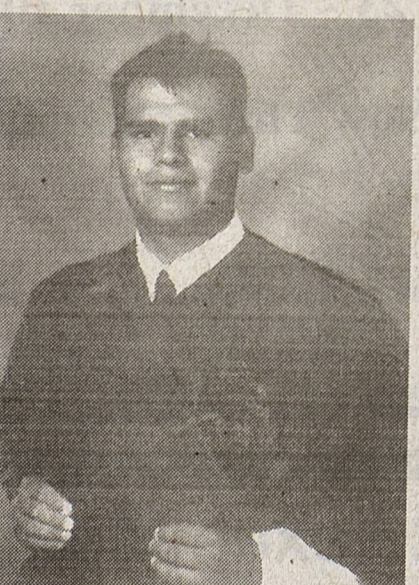
Jeannie Longoria



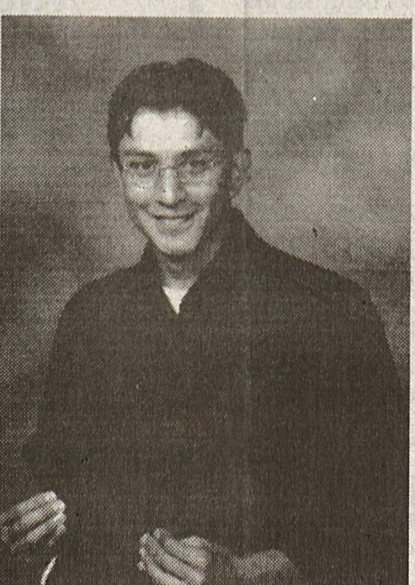
Cendy Lopez



Mike Lopez



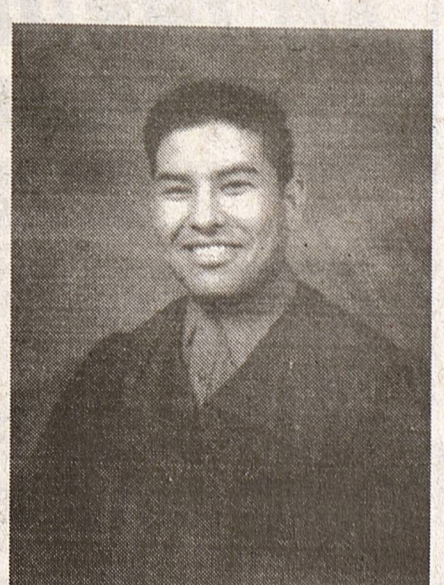
Johnny Ryan Martinez



Joseph Martinez



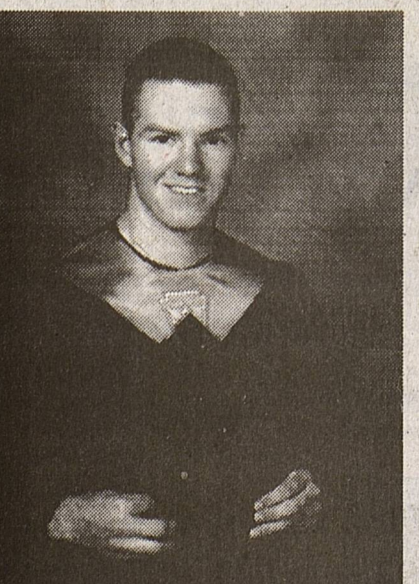
Maria Martinez



Noe Martinez



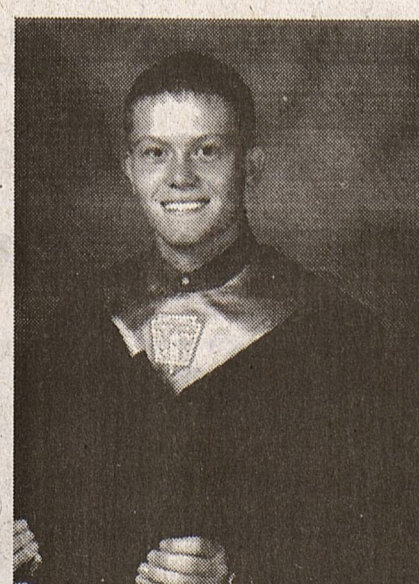
Sarah Martinez



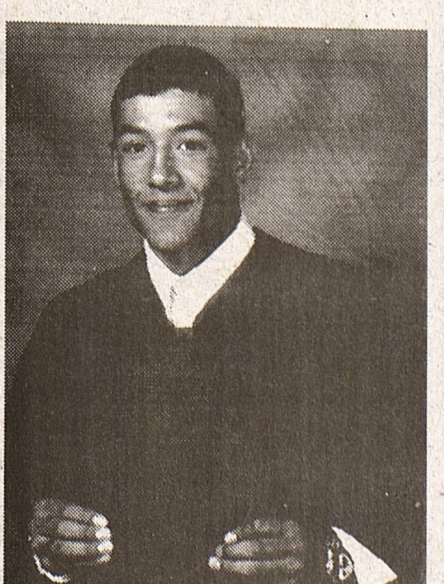
Grady McNabb



Helen Neufeld



Nolan Newsom

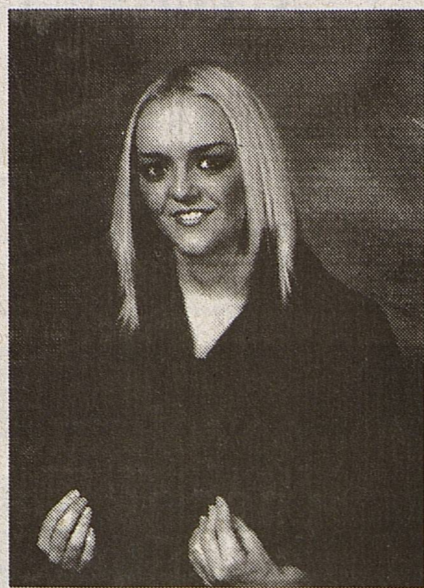


Armando Ramirez

# More Seniors



Moriah Traweek



Kimberly Trent



Ashley Vantine



Manuela Villegas



Kayla Walker



April Wilmeth

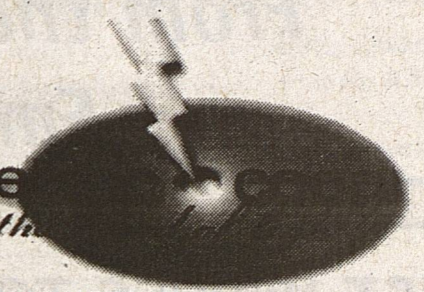
## Our Sincerest Congratulations

We are proud of our association with the Plains School District, and the small role we play in helping develop such outstanding students. We hope each of you achieve all the goals in life our nation offers each of you.

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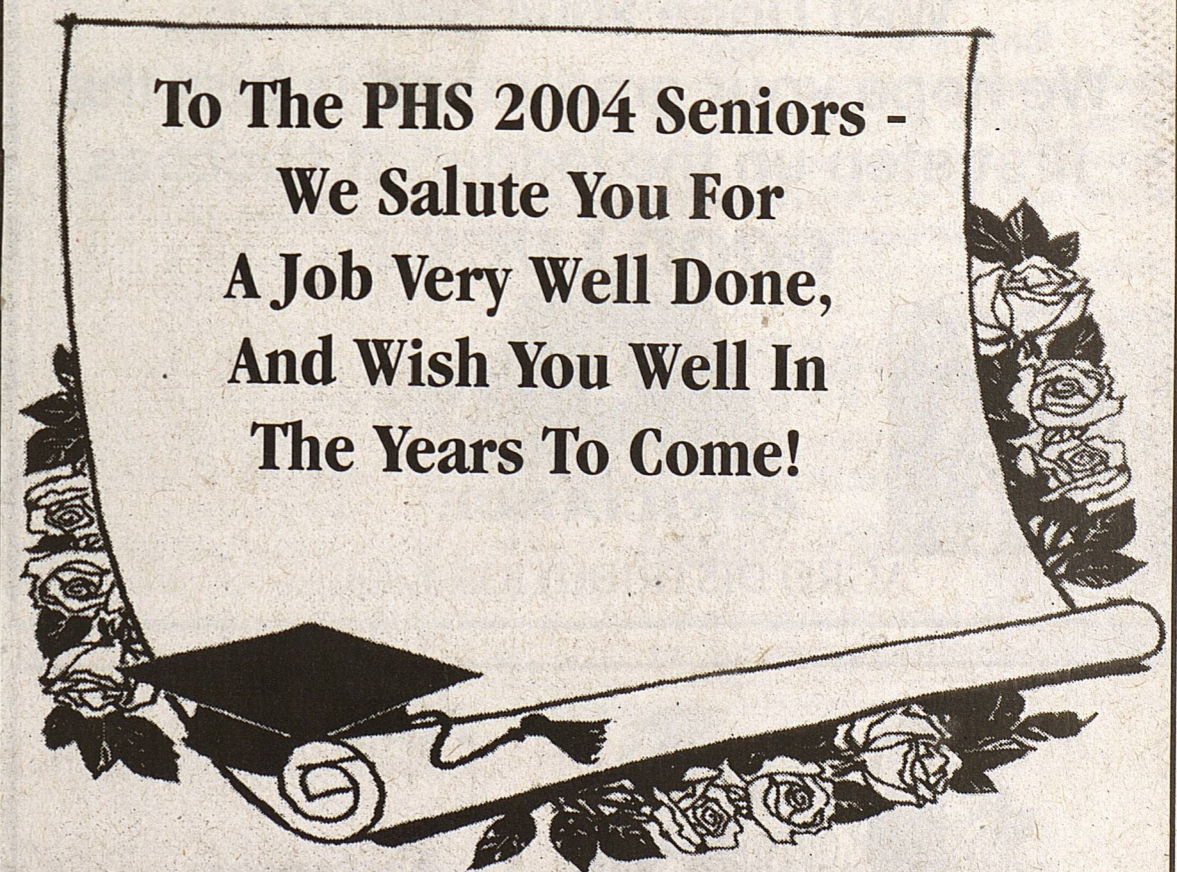
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Reported by, Linda Powell

**Congratulations**

**2004 Seniors!**

**Great Job!**

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*The PLAINS  
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of COMMERCE*



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**"We Are Very Proud Of YOU!!"**

*The future is  
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command.*



*Here's hoping  
your dreams are  
realized.*

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CO - OP GIN**

*We hope your graduation is just the  
first step up the ladder of SUCCESS!!*

**GOOD LUCK 2004 PHS**

**SENIORS**

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**Well Done 2004 Seniors !**

**We hope your graduation is just the  
first step up the ladder of success**

**GOOD LUCK !**

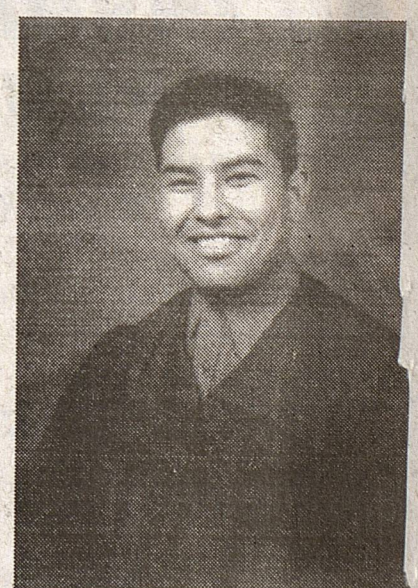


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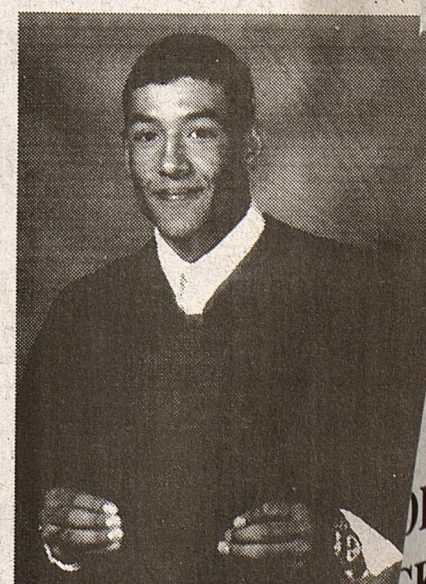
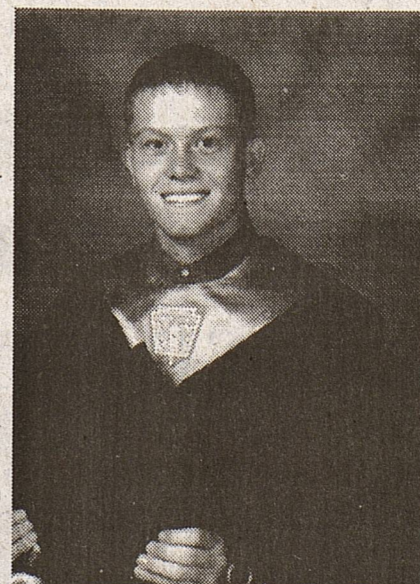
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Cendy Lopez



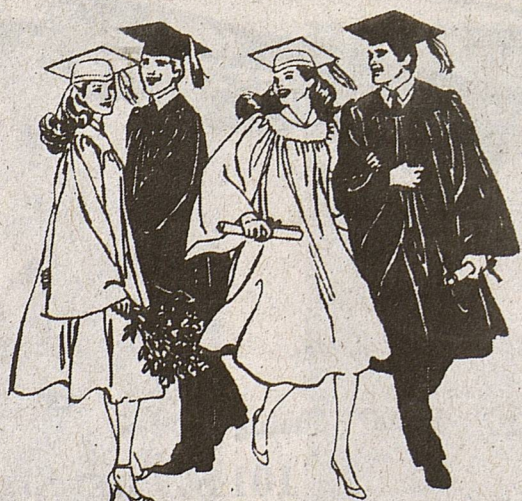
Maria Martinez

Noe Martinez



Nolan Newsom

Armando Ramirez



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**Futures**

**Always**

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# Lifelines & Styles

## Senior Citizens Corner



Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Plains members Sylvia Martinez and Gracie Lazos organized two large teams of volunteer walkers for the fund raising Relay.

## Connection Receives Grant

Yoakum County Connection met May 11 at 6:00 PM at the Plains City Hall. Ed Hansen presided as chair. Janie Ramos reported the Texas Commission on the Arts gave us a grant for \$1200. for the summer youth workshops to be held in Denver City and Plains. The theme this year will be Leaping into Summer Art and over 20 classes are being offered with some being taught according to age group and thus multiple times. Abel Ramos and Lisa Garza will assist Ramos, as will Texas Extension Agent Debbie Pollard. Plains and Denver City Public Libraries have the registration forms and sign up will be on a first come, first serve basis for the free classes offered. Linda Harris reported that the ad sales in the Watermelon Round-Up tabloid are coming in. L.J. Sanders said the Connection is behind last year with only 42 paid memberships

as of yet. Dues may be sent to Box 117, Plains, TX 79355. Esme Salas gave the financial report. A check from Plains ISD was received for the marionette show sponsored last fall. A Connie Webb purchased picture from the Denver City Art Show and Sale was discussed by Sue Holder. The DCHS student art show will be next Wednesday, May 19th and will be open to the public from 8:30 - 4:00 on that day and from 8:30 til 12 noon on Thursday, May 20th in the Denver City High School reported LeAnn Romines. The judge will be Jim Bob Salazar, associate professor from Sul Ross State University. The Connection furnishes prize money and judge's fee for this yearly event. Yoakum County Historical pictures may be viewed on <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txyoakum/>.

Reported by, Linda Powell

We were entertained by the line dancing class on Wednesday as they presented the fast moving dance entitled "Sixteen Steps." The ladies in the group were Wanda Sweitzer, Margie Forbus, Dottie Braswell, Modell Hunnicutt, Louise Welch, Maidelle Mitchell, and Teresa Lile. Many complimentary comments were floating around about them during the lunch hour. Way to go, ladies! Winners in the Photo Identification contest were Genevieve Gordy and Jean Sparks. Congratulations, ladies, on your free meal ticket.

All of the ladies from the Site Council came in interesting and 'different' hat types on Wednesday. Others also chose to be part of the 'hat' day arriving in various kinds of hats. One lady wore a pink hat she had worn to a wedding in 1954, fifty years ago. It looked as beautiful on her today as it did on that long ago day. She stated that she could also wear the dress she had worn on that day!

Anne Holland circled the dining room several times with her digital camera getting photos of many of our dining clients and guests. I understand these photos will be available on the bulletin board in the new social room. If you see a photo you would like a copy of, check with Anne in the office. I believe that, for a small charge, one can be made available for you. There will be more about the plans that are in the works for this room as time goes by. One can see new chairs arriving and being assembled by Gail Ribble ready for use. Thanks to everyone who has had a part in the gigantic effort to help turn this room into a place available as an entertainment center for all of the senior center family.

We were delighted to see so many visitors this week. They certainly helped to make our 'Open House' effort a success. Names appearing on our visitor's lists were George Braun and his daughter; Ron Williford, a guest of Jack Sessions; Isabel Aguilar, a guest of Teresa Lile; Bobby and Charlene Trent, who were guests of the Sides family; Linda Horton; Warren New; Cindy Conteras; Rick and Nancy Dixon, who came as guests of Eunice and William Groves; Jose and Martha Romero; Charles, Jr. and Sharon Gillis who came as guests of Charlie Gillis; Ty Earl and Linda Powell; Stanley Dahm; J.C. and Dortha Futch who were invited by Lee Wayne and Anne Hardin; Eddie Coker; Chow Gonzales; and Butch Burms. Some of these took advantage of the opportunity to be served after noon lunch line. Lunches will continue to be served daily until 12:30 p.m.

The bake sale on Thursday was a success with Harley Evans

very efficiently encouraging bids on the many different items that were available. The Site Council ladies report that a total of \$241.00 was received on this effort. Thanks to all who contributed items to sell and to each of those who participated in the bidding.

Perhaps the most interesting item and the one which initiated the most bids was the 'Bunny' vacuum cleaner cover which was created and decorated by Sylvia Lozano, our van driver. Thanks, Sylvia, for your original contribution. I'm sure Walter Gayle will thank you each time he uncovers his vacuum cleaner to help Melba clean house.

It was an exciting and unexpected moment before lunch on Tuesday to see Faye and Coy Black come in. The news that they are home to stay was welcomed by everyone.

Inez Turner and Charlie Gillis were the lucky winners in the '42' tournament this week.

Pat Altman is our lady of the week this time. Pat was born in the springtime of 1936 in Strawn, Texas. She tells us she went to school all over the state of Texas and graduated from high school at Plains, Texas. She went to college at South Plains in Levelland.

In June of 1955, she married A.K. (Smokey) Altman in Plains. Pat has been widowed for several years. She has a daughter, Jena, who lives with her in Plains and works in the educational field. Her son, Kenny, lives in Hereford, Texas, where he has his own business. Pat has six grandsons, three granddaughters and two great granddaughters. She has just returned from an extended trip with her daughter, granddaughter and great granddaughter. They are visiting here in this area at the present time. Pat's mother resides in the long-term care facility in Seminole, so they have been enjoying some five generational visitation and photo sessions.

Pat has lived in Plains for the last forty years during which time she has worked at the School Tax Office the bank, and a flower shop, doing office work.

Pat attends the First Baptist Church in Plains. She is talented in all kinds of crafts and the Center benefits from many of these interests as she shares beautiful decorations with us to celebrate each holiday. Photography is another of Pat's hobbies, and she states that she really enjoys working and interacting with people. The food and fellowship is the drawing card for making the trip from Plains as often as she does. At the present time she is serving as vice chairman of our Board of Directors.

Thought for today: "Man is the only animal who blushes-or needs to." Mark Twain



A portion of the two Relay For Life teams organized by PISD staffers Sheryl McKinzie and Kim Wilkins take the track for first lap of the 12 hour Relay.

## Plains Student Receives Award

Servando Luna from Plains was named Outstanding Graduate in Computer-Aided Drafting Technology, Thursday (May 6), at South Plains College's annual Student Awards Assembly.

The assembly honors students for outstanding achievement in college departments and for involvement in campus and community life, according to David Conner, dean of students.

Luna is the son of Fernando and Maria Isobel Luna.

## Seaton Awarded LCU

### Bronze Medal

Brad Seaton, a senior Missions major from Plains, was selected by the faculty of Lubbock Christian University as winner of the Bronze Medal.

The Bronze Medal awards are presented to students who excel academically in each department. Seaton was honored for receiving the Country Club Road Church of Christ Promise in Ministry award at the annual Student Appreciation Banquet held at the end of the spring semester.

## Yoakum County Connection Leaping Into Summer Art 2004 Come join the FUN!!

Details & enrollment forms for classes located @ Plains or Denver City Libraries.

Registration begins May 17  
Ages 5 & Up, All classes are free! Class space is limited & you must be registered to attend!

Yoakum County Connection Summer Youth Program is sponsored by Yoakum County Connection, Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Commission On The Arts and Local Supporters.

Thanks for making this program possible.

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Pat Curtis

Manuela Martinez  
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3:30 - 5:00 p.m.  
Resource Center - Plains ISD

A Retirement Reception  
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Cynthis Blair &  
Brenda Canada  
Friday, May 21, 4:30-5:30 pm  
Resource Center

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Its hard to stop a TRANE"

## From The Hack

If I were a wagering person... well, yes, I DO occasionally risk a few shekels at the golf course, and, well, yes, I have in the past visited Nevada's version of Sodom and Gomorrah, and, well, yes, I occasionally buy a Texas Lottery ticket, but only of course to assist the school children of the state, but if I were a TRUE gambler, I would certainly wager, if the American Cancer Society wants to hold a follow-up Relay For Life next year, they will again find plenty of volunteers and generous donors to make it a repeat success to the Relay held in Denver City last weekend.

I only spent a few hours Friday at Mustang Stadium to see the event kicked off, and returned the next

morning to check on the final results. The Friday afternoon experience was pretty remarkable to me. I had not expected so many participants volunteering to spend the brisk night trudging around the quarter-mile track, or perform in various contests and entertainment ventures.

The most poignant part of the experience for me was the first event, when cancer survivors took the track in a symbolic victory lap. They were cheered by the crowd all the way around the field. A number of the walking survivors, if pressed, could relate some very harrowing experiences undergone in the course of their recoveries. I took a half dozen or more photos of the recovered as they circled the track, knowing I could not use all of them. As I ran them through my Photo Shop process, I became aware the survivors had one dominant, common feature - every photo I took showed smiling, beaming faces. It then dawned on me, "What's so strange about that, dummy? If you had escaped the clutches of the vile disease in so many of its terrible forms, wouldn't you look

happy too?"

Talking to a friend about the Relay, he expressed doubts if cancer could ever be wiped out.

Yes, it's been around forever, I suppose, but the more I hear and read about the disease, the more confident scientists seem about the eventual victory. An immediate win over the BIG C is not the point... Generating funds to continue cancer research, develop and build instruments of war against the disease, training specialists in special cancer procedures, explore new drugs, further educating the public about early detection of the disease; These and many more steps and issues cost money, and yes, to some, the \$25,000 raised in Yoakum County's version of the Relay For Life is a pittance of funds needed, but remember, these volunteer Relay programs have been going on in countless towns and cities in every state in the country... those dollars are certainly more than pittances of funds needed.

Yes, I will definitely wager we will see another Relay, or similar program in the county.

Hobbs, NM

"We want your Lincoln!" That's what Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi is saying this, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday. For this four day event only, one cent down delivers ANY new or pre-owned vehicle on the lot. Whether you have good credit, bad credit or no credit, Jim Spence Autoplex has bankers standing by to put you in a quality new or pre-owned vehicle with only One Cent Down.

Just pick up that old penny off the ground or pull that shiner out of the change box, and we'll trade your penny for any one of our quality new or pre-owned vehicles on the Jim Spence Autoplex lot.

It's so simple just put one cent down then start payments with the bank! Plus, they're even drastically reducing prices. And I don't mean just a buck or two here and there.

In fact, Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi is discounting new and used vehicles up to \$5,800.00. Brad Hawkins, General Manager, said "this is the opportunity Hobbs area bargain hunters have been waiting for! We may never see savings like this again."

Brad went on to say, "This sale was designed for the customer. We're here to put our customers into the vehicle that they want at a price they like and with a down payment anyone can afford, One Cent."

Here at Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi we're revolutionizing the experience for not only our customers but to set the standard for all dealerships.

We've got a gigantic selection of quality new and pre-owned vehicles that have been brought in from across the

nation for this event only."

Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi has covered all the bases for their customers. One cent down delivers any new or used vehicle on the lot. They also have a gigantic inventory, and for this event only, bankers will be on site to accept every credit application! That's right, Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi has brought in bankers from across the nation to put you into the payment that's makes sense for you. The bankers have been instructed to avoid standard procedure and do whatever it takes to finance you on the spot.

At Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi NO CREDIT APPLICATIONS ARE REFUSED!

Even better, register and test drive any new or used vehicle on the lot and Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi will give the first 100 customers \$5.00 cash! No hassle. No pressure. Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi just wants to give you \$5.00 to take a test drive and register. This truly is the most sensible sale of the century. Never before has a sale of this proportion made this much cents.

Hurry to Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi for the One Cent Sales Event going on this Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday.

Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi is located at 800 North Turner, Hobbs NM 88240. Call Jim Spence Cadillac GMC Nissan Mitsubishi at 888-546-7736

All offers WAC, plus TTL & fees. Vehicles subject to prior sale. \$5.00 cash promotion valid only to the first 100 customers who register and test drive a new or used vehicle May 20, 21, 22, and 24, 2004

Now accepting bids on the property located at 808 Cowboy Way, Plains, Texas (the former Yoakum County Federal Credit Union building). Please submit your bid in writing and drop off at the new Yoakum County Federal Credit Union building located at 810 11th Street, Plains. Bids will be opened May 28, 2004

1987 Plains Cowboy Football Season on DVD, (1988 Srs/Jrs). Record 10-2. All 12 games plus banquet highlights on 8 DVD's. Cost \$30, shipping \$5. Contact Shane McMinn 806-561-4941

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Plains Motel For Sale 127 Roswell Hwy. 17 rooms, plus living quarters, extra land on west side. Hunt Realty Ph 806-592-3556 Fax: 806-592-8489

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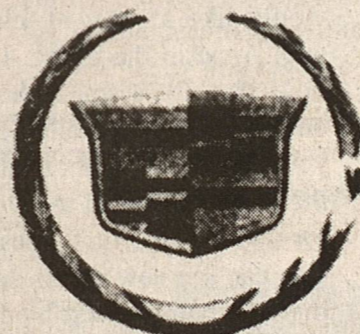
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NOTICE TO PARENTS  
2004-2005 PRE-REGISTRATION  
PRE-KINDERGARTEN & KINDERGARTEN

**PRE-REGISTRATION DATE : TUESDAY, MAY 18  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19**

Plains Independent School District will hold pre-registration for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm on the days listed above. Parents should report to Plains Elementary School for registration and bring the appropriate documents as listed. It is not necessary for children to be present at registration.

**PRE-KINDERGARTEN**

There are certain guidelines which must be met for a student to be enrolled in our pre-kindergarten program. Any child who will be four years old on or before September 1, 2004, may qualify for pre-kindergarten providing all guidelines are met. When registering, please bring child's birth certificate, social security card, immunization record and proof of family income. Proof of income maybe a recent paycheck stub or food stamp eligibility form number 1009, we can no longer accept the food stamp card as proof. We have to have this form. We need all of these documents before you child can qualify.

If you know a child in our community who may qualify, please pass this information on to the parents.

**KINDERGARTEN**

To enroll in kindergarten, a child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2004. Please bring the child's birth certificate, immunization record and social security card. We will need a copy of these documents before the first day of classes in August.

If you know of a child who may qualify for kindergarten, please pass this information on to their parents. It is very important that we know how many children will be in our pre-k and kindergarten classes for the 2004-2005 school year. The children that were enrolled in pre-k this year do not have to register.