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The Post Dispatch

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85th Year, Number 24

USPS 439-620

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Friday, December 18, 2009



FIREMAN OF THE YEAR

Mark Short received recognition as Fireman of the Year from the Post Volunteer Fire Department. Mayor Thressa Harp presented the award at the department's annual Christmas party. Courtesy photo.



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Zack Riveria, shown here with Mayor Thressa Harp, was chosen Rookie of the Year by the Post Volunteer Fire Department. Other rookie firemen recognized are Lynard Rodella and Robbie Wilbern. Courtesy photo.

Local Candidates File for March Primary

As of Monday, December 14 candidates have filed for all of the local offices on the March primary ballot except Justice of the Peace, Pct. 2. At this point, there are no contested races.

Republicans who have placed their name on the ballot are incumbents County Judge Lee Norman; District & County Clerk Jim Plummer; Commissioner, Pct. 2 Charles Morris; Justice of the Peace, Pct. 1 Gordon Terry. Trevor Thuett is the lone candidate for Republican County Chair.

District Judge Carter T. Schildknecht has filed with the Republican State Party for re-election.

Democrats include incumbent County Treasurer Ruth Ann Young; Commissioner, Pct. 4 candidate Jerry Benham and Democrat County Chair candidate James Bell.

Democratic and Republican Party candidates may file an application for a place on the primary ballot now through Monday, January 4, 2010 at 6 p.m. These filings should be made to the appropriate party chairman: Trevor Thuett, Republican, 806-495-3476, tthuett@lyntegar.com or James Bell, Democrat, 806-470-9220, rosa@rubylanebooks.com. Independent candidates may file declaration of intent to run.

For more information and a current list of candidates, visit GarzaCounty.net and click on "Elections."

School Board, Superintendent Sign Retirement Agreement

By ROSA LATIMER
News Editor

During a regular scheduled meeting of the Post ISD School Board December 8, 2009, the Trustees voted to accept a retirement agreement with Superintendent Marlin Marcum. Although the agenda item stated the board would consider the agreement, the vote was called with no discussion. Board members Delton Osborn, Milton Williams, Billy Max Gordon and Randy Conner voted to accept the agreement; Alexa Collier and Diann Windham voted not to accept the agreement.

The Post Dispatch obtained a copy of the Retirement Agreement according to Texas Open Records Act. The ten-page document states that Marcum's "employment relationship" with the District was from July 1, 2008 through

June 30, 2011. According to the agreement, Marcum will resign from the District effective June 30, 2010; will be eligible for COBRA insurance benefits, but will not be "entitled to payment for accrued leave." The superintendent will be paid one-year's salary of \$111,394.50 in two equal payments, "the first on July 1, 2010 and the second on January 7, 2011."

Gauging from recognition the district has received this year it appears that Marcum will be leaving the district in very good shape. Earlier this year, Post ISD was named a Recognized District by T.E.A. as were the high school, middle school and elementary school campuses. Post ISD also received a superior rating for management of the district's financial resources according to a report by Texas Education Agency.

At the December 8 school board

meeting, Marcum reviewed portions of the State of the District Report with the school board. The report shows that 80% of the students in almost every grade level are considered "at risk" students. "For a school with this many at risk students to receive a Recognized rating is highly unusual," Marcum said. "It is certainly a credit to the teachers and staff."

In other business, the board approved a request to forgive penalty and interest for a property owner. Neither the owner nor the Appraisal District was aware of who the owner of the parcel was and the property owner had not received tax statements.

Minutes from the previous meeting, monthly bills, financial reports and Appraisal District reports were approved.

Commissioners Approve Indigent Defense Contract

By ROSA LATIMER
News Editor

In a regular meeting December 14, 2009 Garza County Commissioners voted to approve the 2010 District Court Indigent Defense Contract with the 106th Judicial District. This contract sets a pro rata share of indigent defense cost for Dawson, Gaines, Garza and Lynn counties based on population. The estimated savings realized by Garza County under the 2009 contract was \$14,616.60; 37 cases were disposed. The

savings is realized under this contract because the county does not hire an individual attorney for each case. Under the 2010 contract Garza County is responsible for 11.97% of the costs or \$7900.20. This estimated cost is approximately \$2000 less than last year.

The court tabled agenda item concerning a burn ban pending a recommendation from the Post Volunteer Fire Department. A resolution for the County Appraisal District Nominee, Ronald Thuett, was approved. A local match agreement between

Garza County and Workforce Solutions was also approved.

The court has been asked for permission by the Veterans of Foreign Wars to set a flagpole on the county grounds. In a letter from Commander Chuck Ratliff and Quartermaster J.W. Jolly of VFW Post 6797, they requested the installation of a flagpole close to the Veterans Plaza for the POW/MIA flag. Commissioners voted to allow the installation of the flagpole as requested.

The court was presented a bid for county property located at 410 N. Avenue O;

South half of Lot 1 and the west 36' of the south half of Lot 2 Block 31 in the original town site of Post. Taxes and arrearages owed on the property are approximately \$2668. Appraised value is \$12,130. Commissioners accepted the bid of \$3000 for the property pending the approval of County Attorney Munk.

Commissioners considered establishing guidelines and criteria for a reinvestment zone. Judge Norman explained that these guidelines must

(continued on Page 4)

Annual Community Christmas Sing Hosted by FUMC

By ROSA LATIMER
News Editor

The community of Post gathered to celebrate the Christmas season at the annual Community Christmas Sing hosted by the First United Methodist Church.

By the time Jan Bartlett, FUMC pianist began the prelude extra chairs were being added to the church's sanctuary to accommodate the crowd of celebrants.

Rev. Scott Richards, FUMC pastor welcomed the participants and audience to the event and Dr. James T. Egan, pastor of FBC provided the benediction.

The Christmas event brings representatives of all ages from area churches together to share the music of the season. The special service began with a ladies choir, led by Patty Kirkpatrick, singing "Do You Hear What I Hear?" In addition to congregational hymns led by Aaron Rathbun, others who performed were: the FUMC Covenant Singers; Lynette Thuett; Kenneth and Donna Winchester; Christmas Belles; Graham

Church of Christ, Rev. John Bill Hedrick; Cathy Whitten and the First Baptist Church Choir.

Kindergarteners from the First Baptist Church Christian School presented the Christmas Story from Luke 2:1-10 from memory and Pre-K classes joined by the Kindergarten class sang two songs. The genuine enthusiasm of this singing group proved once again that the essence of Christmas is most evident in the faces of young children.

Post High School Senior Kat Villalon performed an inspirational piano medley "Christmas Tribute to Jesus." Soloists Lauren Lynch on the clarinet and Darlene Anaiza on the flute played other Christmas selections. Margie Maestas, organist and Lynette Thuett, pianist provided offertory music. The offering received was contributed to Post Cares.

This traditional event is a wonderful reminder of the blessings we share in this small community and of the joy of the Christmas season.

Post Notes

Penguin Patch Christmas Store

The Post PTO will sponsor a Penguin Patch Christmas Store this Saturday, December 19th from 10-3 @ Citizens Bank Room. For questions call Judi, 990-1018 or Alicia, 495-1029.

Free Community Christmas Supper

All are welcome to enjoy a free Christmas supper Christmas night, December 25, 6:30 p.m. at Trailblazer's Senior Citizens Center, 205 E. 10th St. in Post. The meal is free, no donations will be taken. Anyone who would like to help with food or food preparation, contact Bubba Smith, 806-549-1562.

Post Christmas Celebration on Main Street

Post Main Street is still aglow for the holiday season. Every night through New Year's Day 6 to 10 p.m. each median on East Main Street will feature lighted holiday figures and trees that flash and dance to holiday music. This lighting extravaganza is made possible through private donations and the support of the City of Post and the Chamber of Commerce.

Voter Registration Cards Have Been Mailed

All voter registration cards for 2010 have been mailed. If you have not received yours, please check with the Garza County Tax Office in the County Courthouse as it may have been returned with an incorrect mailing address. In order to vote in the March elections, you will need to correct your address so we can get your new card to you. If you have questions, please call our office at 806-495-4448.

March 2010 Primary Election

For information about the upcoming March 2, 2010 Primary Election, go to www.GarzaCounty.net then click on "Elections." You'll find details about candidate filings and other election information.

Old Mill Trade Day Downtown Jan. 2

Vendors of all types are invited to participate in the first Trade Day event of 2010. Local churches and other non-profits could use this opportunity for fundraisers. Vendors are set up outdoors downtown on East Main. There is a \$25 set up fee per event. For more information or to reserve vendor space, call 495-3461. Old

(continued on Page 4)

City to Help with Christmas Tree Disposal

The City of Post sanitation crews will be out picking up and disposing of large bulk items and Christmas trees through the two weeks beginning December 28, 2009 running through Friday, January 8, 2010.

Please have these things ready for pickup. After January 8 crews will no longer pick up in the alleys. Any items remaining by the dumpster will be the owner's responsibility to transport to the landfill.

Opinions

Is It Too Easy for America to Go to War?

By Roger Shuler
Cross Posted at Legal Schnauzer

In the aftermath of President Barack Obama's announcement last week that he plans to send 30,000 more U.S. troops to Afghanistan, most Americans probably did not think about an alarming fact: Fewer than 1 percent of us are being called to fight in our current wars, in Afghanistan and Iraq.

New York Times columnist Bob Herbert has thought about it, and he calls it "obscene." Herbert goes on to produce one of the most important and brutally honest op-ed pieces I've read in a long time.

Herbert relates a story that says a lot about how many Americans have come to think about war:

I spoke recently with a student at Columbia who was enthusiastic about the escalation of U.S. forces in Afghanistan. He argued that a full-blown counterinsurgency effort, which would likely take many years and cost many lives, was the only way to truly win the war.

He was a very bright young man: thoughtful and eager and polite. I asked him if he had any plans to join the military and help make this grand mission a success. He said no.

It's easy to be enthusiastic about a war that you know you'll never have to take part in. In fact, most Americans know they won't have to sacrifice at all, and Herbert says that is dangerous for any society:

The air is filled with obsessive self-satisfied rhetoric about supporting the troops, giving them everything they need and not letting them down. But that rhetoric is as hollow as a jazzman's drum because the overwhelming majority of Americans have no desire at all to share in the sacrifices that the service members and their families are making. Most Americans do not want to serve in the wars, do not want to give up their precious time to do volunteer work that would aid the nation's warriors and their families, do not even want to fork over the taxes that are needed to pay

for the wars.

To say that this is a national disgrace is to wallow in the shallowest understatement. The nation will always give lip-service to support for the troops, but for the most part Americans do not really care about the men and women we so blithely ship off to war, and the families they leave behind.

Finally, Herbert gets to the ultimate truth: The George W. Bush administration never would have started either of these wars if it had known that a broad cross-section of Americans would have to sacrifice for it:

The reason it is so easy for the U.S. to declare wars, and to continue fighting year after year after year, is because so few Americans feel the actual pain of those wars. We've been fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan longer than we fought in World Wars I and II combined. If voters had to choose right now between instituting a draft or exiting Afghanistan and Iraq, the troops would be out of those two countries in a heartbeat.

I don't think our current way of waging war, which is pretty easy-breezy for most citizens, is what the architects of America had in mind. Here's George Washington's view, for example: "It must be laid down as a primary position and the basis of our system, that every citizen who enjoys the protection of a free government owes not only a proportion of his property, but even his personal service to the defense of it."

What we are doing is indefensible and will ultimately exact a fearful price, and there will be absolutely no way for the U.S. to avoid paying it.

Shuler lives in Birmingham, Alabama, and works in higher education. I became interested in justice-related issues after experiencing gross judicial corruption in Alabama state courts. This corruption has a strong political component.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Just got home from the Post parade, which was great; heard the Methodist bells, outstanding; all the lights downtown, like a fairy tale.

And, if you think I couldn't beat that, went to the

D. Q. and saw 3 classmates and their mates: the Morris family whom are celebrating their 50th, Glenn Polk from the Ragtown play and lots of other friends that were even glad to see me.

Made for a wonderful evening, it doesn't take

much to make me happy. Everything was special. God bless you all. Have a very Merry Christmas.

Lorrye Lou Livingston Moore



The Paperboy

By Christopher Blackburn

Can we get a refund please?

Did you hear the good news? The recession is over!

The President's top economic advisor, Larry Summers, told ABC's George Stephanopoulos that Sunday on "This Week."

"Everybody agrees that the recession is over," Summers said adding, "by spring employment growth will start turning positive."

I wouldn't go as far as saying "everybody agrees." I'm sure there are plenty of businesses and people without jobs who might disagree with that statement. Anyhow, many economists do indeed say this recession is over, which is great.

The best thing about the recession coming to an end is the fact we have \$200 billion remaining from the original TARP funds approved by Congress in 2008. In addition, there is a whopping \$600 billion remaining in unspent stimulus money. We're talking a total of \$800 billion remaining, and since the recession is over, it doesn't need to be spent, does it?

Ethically, Congress and the White House should have two options since they claim the recession is over:

1. Put the \$800 billion toward paying down the national debt.
2. Give it directly to the taxpayers.

Congress could nearly pay for the giant healthcare reform bill out of it, but that will never happen. In fact, none of the above will ever happen as long as Congress thinks they are playing with their money instead of ours.

Instead of helping the American family by doing something constructive with the \$800 billion, they are going to spend it. They are going to waste it like only they know how.

You can't have it both ways. Either the recession is over and you don't need the remaining money, or the recession is not over and the remaining money should be doing what it was intended for (which changes by the day since their is zero accountability).

On top of finding away to squander nearly a trillion dollars, they are also going to attempt to increase the debt ceiling to \$14 trillion.

Why? Why do they feel the need to do these things?

Overwhelmingly Americans are voicing opposition to this massive spending. A growing number do not want a bill (healthcare) in which you have to pay on for three years before you have access. Would you buy a car you couldn't drive for three years?

Ask yourself this question: Why would a politician guarantee themselves certain defeat by voting in favor of such waste? What is in it for them?

It doesn't make a bit of sense to me. It stinks to high heaven!

Are we really living in a time where our elected officials are so susceptible to payoffs and back room deals that they don't give a damn about the wishes of their constituents?

Need another example of the waste?

Did you know that one year ago there was one person in the U.S. Department of Transportation which made in excess of \$170,000? Today, 1,700 are earning that at least that much.

Want more?

This year in the U.S., the private sector has lost over 7 million jobs. The federal government has added 1.2 million.

The government has expanded dramatically during a recession. That alone should tell us these people are clueless.

Like the economy, politics is local. The American family is rapidly growing tired of being ignored. Just as they did in 2006 when Republicans went off the reservation and in 1994 when Democrats were off base, Americans will toss these people out in droves.

Truthfully, our federal government does not work well when one party is in power of all three branches of government. It never has and it never will.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication. Feel free to comment on The Paperboy at <http://thenewbastion.blogspot.com/>.

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William C. Blackburn, Publisher
123 E. Main Street, Post, Texas 79356
e-mail: postcitydispatch@yahoo.com

News Deadline Tuesday at Noon
Advtg. Deadline Monday at 5 p.m.
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Southland News

By Brad Ellison, Principal

Congratulations to our Boys and Girls Basketball teams for their efforts this past week at the Borden County Tournament.

Congratulations to Devin Blanton who participated in four stock shows this past weekend in Dumas, Texas. He had: two first places; thirteen second places; five third places; three Reserve Breed; five fourth places and Senior Showmanship.

EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK:

Semester Tests Thursday and Friday. Even numbered classes on Thursday and Odd classes on Friday.

Early Release on Thursday and Friday at Noon.

VG/VB games vs. Amherst, here on Friday beginning at 1:00 pm.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS BEGIN FRIDAY AT NOON UNTIL MONDAY JANUARY 4TH WHEN SCHOOL RESUMES AT 7:55 AM



Sparks – Martel Wed

Tammy Sparks and Shane Martel were joined in marriage on September 17, 2009 in Henderson, NV surrounded by family and friends.

The bride, daughter of Jessie and Tom Raben of Post and Ned Sparks of Waco, is a graduate of Post High School and is currently employed with Cottonwood Financial.

The groom, son of Carrie and Randy Ellis and Dave Martel, all of Amarillo, is a graduate of Amarillo High School and Texas Tech University. He is currently employed with ADT Security.

Following a honeymoon in Las Vegas, NV, the couple resides in Lubbock.



Southland November Students of the Month are pictured left to right: Laken Johnson, Sophomore; Ashlee Graves, 6th grade; Kayla Rodriguez, 2nd grade; Kelson Lee, Kindergarten; Riley Arguello, 7th grade and in front, Kyle Voigt, Sophomore. Courtesy photo.

EXTENSION EXTRAS

Cookbooks

If you would like to purchase a Hometown Holiday cookbook, please come by the office and get yours today. They are \$10.

Stock Show County Entries

If you plan to enter in the Garza County Stock Show, we need you to come by the office and fill out your entry card by January 7, 2010. Please make sure you bring all tag numbers with you if you have them. All entries are \$10 with the exception of rabbits and peewee and they are \$5.

Stock Show Workday

The workday has been scheduled for January 10, 2010 at 2:00.

Thank You to our Soldiers

If you go to this web site, www.LetsSayThanks.com, you can pick out a thank you card, Xerox will print it, and it will be sent to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq. You can't pick out who gets it, but it will go to a member of the armed services. How amazing it would be if we could get everyone we know to send one! It is FREE and it only takes a second. Please take the time to say thanks and pass it on for others to do. We can never say enough thank you's.

Extension Office Closings

The Extension Office will be closed Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25 for the Christmas Holiday. Extension Office: 215 W Main (806) 495-4400 Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



(from left) Ashlee Graves, M'keison Guerrero, Texas Tech Lady Raiders Coach Kristy Curry, Taylor Graves, and Kara Grace Egan. The four Post girls were Ball Girls for Texas Tech Lady Raiders in their game against New Mexico on December 5, 2009. Guerrero, who attended a Kristy Curry basketball camp last summer was asked at the camp to put her name on a list to be a ball girl for a Lady Raiders game. She invited three friends to assist her. During the game the girls were on the court with the Lady Raiders, got the basketballs for the team, and gave water to the referees. The girls were all given Lady Raider shirts to wear and received a Lady Raider poster signed by the Lady Raiders and Kristy Curry. Each girl also got her picture taken with her favorite ball player. They have been asked to be ball girls again at the Lady Raider game January 12, 2010. Courtesy photo.

Obituaries



MARTIN ALANIZ

Services for Martin Alaniz, 45, of Hobbs were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009 at the Templo Baupista Church with Rev. Eliseo Chapa and Rev. Oscar Hernandez officiating. Burial in Terrace Cemetery was under the direction of Hudman Funeral Home.

He died Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2009 in Andrews County. He was born Feb. 18, 1964 in Mexico to Ruben and Teresa Alaniz. He married Lola Bustoz on July 26, 1983 in Post. He was employed in the oilfield at Post and later at Hobbs, NM.

Survivors include his wife, Lola of Hobbs, NM; four daughters: Elizabeth Silva of Levelland, Rosalinda Krug of Lubbock, Elena Alaniz of Lubbock and Martha Alaniz of Levelland; two granddaughters and one grandson.

Billy Mack Shepherd

Graveside services for Billy Mack Shepherd, 81, of Andrews were Monday, Dec.

14, 2009 at 2 p.m. at Andrews North Cemetery under direction of McNett Funeral Home. Visitation was 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at McNett Funeral Home.

Shepherd passed away Thursday, Dec. 10, at Midland Memorial Hospital. He was born in Post on June 12, 1928 to Otis and Annie May Shepherd. He married Jeannie Partain in 1979 in Midland. They moved from Midland to Andrews in 1986.

He enjoyed playing dominoes and poker with his friends. In his younger years he was an outstanding athlete and billiards player. He lettered every sport in high school. His classmates described him as "a natural born athlete." He was also the first one to hit a home run at the "Post Millers" home field in Post. He worked in the oil industry, including Brownlee Well Service as an operator, tool pusher and consultant for over 40 years prior to retirement in 1998. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends the most. Shepherd was preceded in death by his father, Otis Shepherd; his mother, Annie May Shepherd; a brother, Junior Shepherd and a grandson, Billy Ryan Shepherd.

Shepherd is survived by his wife, Jeannie Partain Shepherd; a daughter Ramona Riley of Grand Prairie; four sons: Billy Shepherd of Fairbank, Iowa; James Shepherd of Midland; Otis Shepherd of Midland; Jayson Shepherd of Andrews and nine grandchildren.

The Post Dispatch was founded in 1926.

Western Texas College Spring Registration

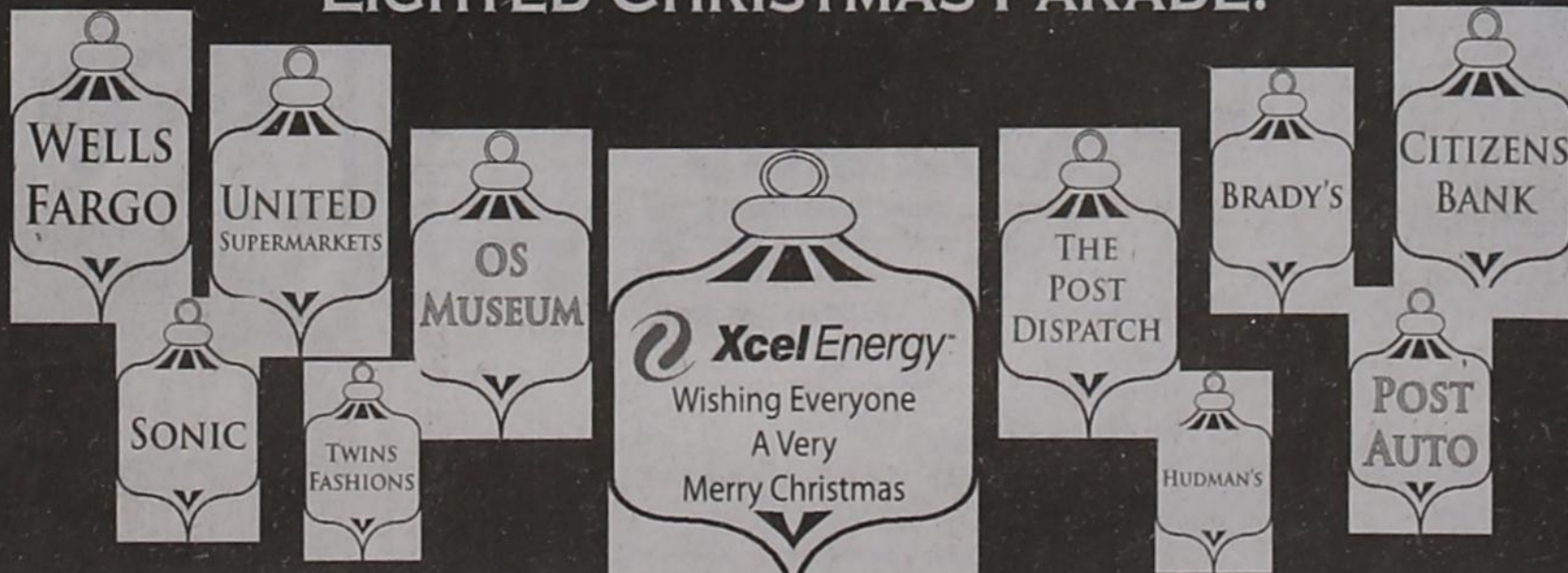
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Commissioners... (continued from Page 1)

first, next boundaries of an area are set and finally the agreement with the entity requesting tax abatement is established. Any abatement would last two years unless extended and should the entity receiving the abatement fail to comply with the agreement, all taxes would be applicable. The court tabled the agenda item. Representatives from the Red Hollow wind energy project appeared to discuss the issue of tax abatement as it might relate to future wind energy projects in the county. "We are here as tax payers," Bill Weaver explained. "I believe we need to do all that we can together to ensure a good future and I believe this [wind energy] is the future. We don't need to let this pass us by."

In other business minutes from the November regular meeting were approved and reports from the following were presented: District/County Clerk; Tax Collector/Assessor (October and November); Justice of the Peace 1 (October and November); Justice of the Peace 2; AgriLife Extension; Garza County Certificates of Obligation Bond Fund, 2008; Garza County Public Facilities Board Bond Funds, 2005. An election storage vacate letter to Garza County Health Care District was approved.

Precinct and countywide accounts payable for November 24, 2009 through December 14, 2009 were approved. There were no budget amendments or line item transfers presented.

Post Notes... (continued from Page 1)

Mill Trade Day Downtown is sponsored by Post City Merchants and Post Area Chamber of Commerce.

Benefit Account

A benefit account for Brenda Sweeten has been set up at Wells Fargo Bank to help Brenda Sweeten with travel expenses to and from Baylor Hospital. Brenda is going to have to have a liver transplant and she will also have the expenses of staying for preliminary testing and matching for the liver. Any help will be

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Counseling

Hometown Pharmacy, 132 W. Main, is offering free personal counseling on the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan every Wednesday through December. Appointments are appreciated, but walk-ins will also be accepted. For more information, call the pharmacy, 495-2535.

Post Santa Stop

The Post Santa Stop will be accepting toys again this year for Christmas. All donations will be used to benefit local families. If you are interested in being a drop-off location or making a donation, call Barbara Palmer, 470-1295, or the PACC office, 495-3461.

Account Established for Michele Raben

Medical expense account has been set up at Citizens Bank for Michele Raben to help with growing medical expenses after surgery.

Christmas Exhibit at the OS Museum

The OS Museum wishes to "Share the Season" as you view the traditional and unique Nativities, Creches, ornaments and Santas gathered from around the world now on exhibit. Viewing hours: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Saturday. 201 E. Main St. & Avenue I in Post. Admission is free. The museum is upstairs and there is an elevator for your convenience. Call 495-3570 for more information.

Account Established for Gonzales

An account has been set up at Citizens Bank to help Eva Gonzales with medical and funeral expenses for Mike Gonzales.

Blanket Drive Continues for Animal Shelter

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a blanket drive for the local animal shelter. Bring your old blankets and towels to the Chamber office, 131 E. Main, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. The office is closed from 12:00-1:00. For more information, call 495-3461.



Christmas is Forever

I've lived in Garza County, and Post long enough to remember when the center of Main St. had hitchin' posts for the cowboy's horses and the horses and wagons or whatever transportation people had. Congratulations to the merchants on their beautiful store and window decorations and to all who are responsible for the beautiful decorations and lights down Main Street. If they only burn two or three times during Christmas they sure beat "horse manure." Bah Humbugs go and come but Christmas is forever. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Learn from Scrooge

I had the privilege of attending A Christmas Carol at the Garza Theatre last weekend. This is a must-see for the Christmas season. Everything about the production is first class. During intermission and after the show I walked out and watched the light show on Main Street. The few folks left with a negative attitude about Post, need to go the theatre and learn a lesson from Scrooge.

Main Street Awesome

The citizens of Post have always been able to come together to bring about special "happenings" in our town. The Christmas season collaboration is no exception. The sights on Main Street are awesome.

"Speak Up" is a way for readers to send their opinions to the Post Dispatch and have them published each week. No signature is required by the writer; writer identities will be kept anonymous and you can address any topic you want. Published "Speak Up" comments can not exceed 100 words and the Dispatch staff has the right to edit for length or refuse to print materials it deems to be inappropriate. Drop your Speak Up comments in the box in the front office of the newspaper or in the mail slot in the front door after hours. You can also email your comments to postcitydispatch@yahoo.com

Post High School Academic All-District Named

Athletes must maintain a grade average of at least 90 to be recognized for Academic All-District. Girls Cross Country Academic All District honorees and their grade averages are: Seniors Alex Miller, 94 and Cheyenne Miller, 94; Freshmen Haily Berry, 93 and Mercedes Solorzano, 90.

Post made the Academic All District Football list: Trent Babb, 93; John Bocko, 90; Giles Dalby, 90; Cody Dean, 92; Luis Duran, 93; Ben Mason, 90; Nick Rodriguez, 90; Reed Williams, 94; Clint Windham, 97; Manager Cheree Conner, 92; Manager Sydnee Jones, 92; Manager Alissa Morrow, 91; Manager Morgan Williams, 93.

PHS Seniors Recognized by Rotary Club

Four PHS Seniors were recognized by the Post Rotary Club in November. Michael Porter, Easton Mathis, Aaron James and Cody Dean were guests at the noon Rotary meetings and will now be considered for scholarships awarded by Rotary at the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

Cody Dean, son of David and Lisa Dean played football, participates in power lifting, runs track and is on the PHS Student Council. His special interests include church, football, lifting weights and history. Cody plans to attend Lubbock Christian University and major in coaching and history. He was recently nominated for the national High School Rudy Awards, and has advanced to the semi-finals.

Newcomer of the year 2008 in football; Area Qualifier 400 meters 2007; National Honor Society and Mr. PHS. Both NHS and Mr. PHS honors require a 4.0 GPA, community service and leadership qualities. He is involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at PHS. He attends Graham Chapel Church of Christ and has spoken to Pee Wee Football teams about playing football and good sportsmanship. Easton works at United in Post.

Cody Dean

Cody Dean, son of David and Lisa Dean played football, participates in power lifting, runs track and is on the PHS Student Council. His special interests include church, football, lifting weights and history. Cody plans to attend Lubbock Christian University and major in coaching and history. He was recently nominated for the national High School Rudy Awards, and has advanced to the semi-finals.

Aaron James

Aaron is the son of Kevin and Stephanie James. He is involved in football, basketball, baseball, golf, track, FFA and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Aaron enjoys hunting, fishing,

Easton Mathis

Easton Mathis, son of Eric and Brooke Mathis is involved in football, basketball and track at Post High School. His special interests include music, running, lifting weights, watching movies, fishing and hunting. Easton plans to attend South Plains College for his "basics" and then transfer to a major college to earn his degree in coaching and education.

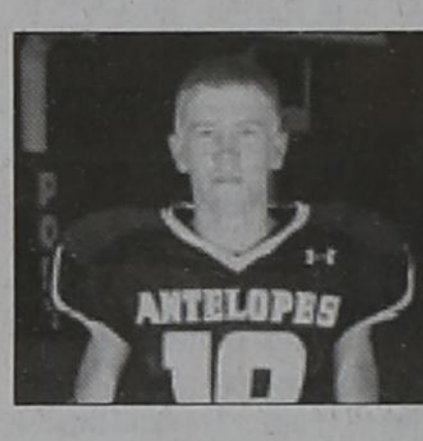
This is Easton's first year at PHS. Before moving here, he attended Paducah High School where he received Honorable Mention 2007 in basketball; Region

Michael Porter

Michael is the son of Jason and Donna Porter. His school activities include UIL: one-act play, L-D debate and spelling and 4-H Swine Showing. This PHS senior has advanced to Regional UIL competition in all events in which he has competed throughout his high school years. His special interests are music, his family, debate and reading. Michael plans to attend Texas Tech University and major in journalism in order to become an on-location reporter.



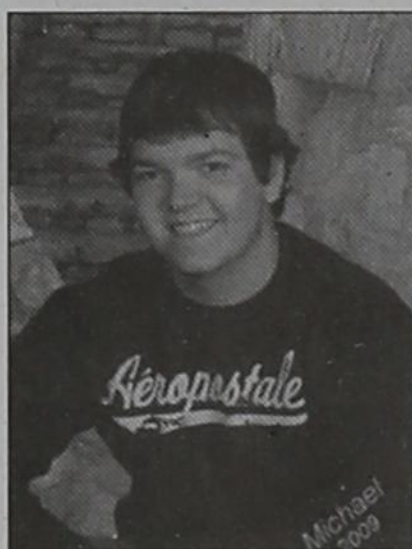
CODY DEAN



AARON JAMES



EASTON MATHIS



MICHAEL PORTER



Hadley McCloy (left) and Reagan Workman were part of the First Baptist Church Christian School Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten choir who performed at the annual Community Christmas Sing. Photo by Rosa Latimer

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In and Around Close City

by Traci Freeman

Bale count as of Wednesday is 4,204. To keep up with daily bale count visit the blog at <http://closecitycoopgin.blogspot.com>

Charles and Sharron Morris had a really nice 50th anniversary celebration last weekend at the Heritage House in town. Their children, Tim & Diane; Barry & Amy; Chuck & Kristi hosted the event.

There are a lot of Christmas Lights up out here, I guess we are all in the Christmas Spirit.

You should really drive out and see them, a mile west of the gin Lois Childs tractor is lit up beautifully!

Cookbooks

We have picked up a new batch of cookbooks so we now have plenty, be sure to let us know if you want one as some of these are already taken and the rest will go fast. You can call me, Nancy or pick yours up at Cocara's or LaPosta downtown.

Get wells

Judy Clary Polson came home and is doing well.

Visitors

Visitors we've had this week were; Mandy Thompson; Rhianna, TJ & Emilee Ellis; Guy and Norma L(Ritchie) Saunders. Remember.....we always welcome visitors, we have the coolest break room and the cheapest cokes in the county.....

Ragtown folks in the nursing homes

we need to remember are.....Doug and Claudine Tipton and Carmen Abraham in Post; Odie Kemp and Jean Tipton in Tahoka; Jewel White in Lubbock. Please let me know if there is anyone I need to add to this list.

Birthdays

December 19 - Al Craig
December 20 - Renea Melton Thomas
Everyone have a great weekend, be safe and keep our troops in your daily prayers!!! See ya next week.

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Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.
-Psalm 34:8

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Weekly Inspirations

THE THREE WISE MEN

By: Michael F. Taylor

It seems that there was an Up-State New York businessman who was driving through Mississippi just about a week before Christmas on an unplanned business campaign. As he pulled into Biloxi, Mississippi, he noticed that the right front of his 2008 Ford Crown Victoria sedan seemed to be noticeably listing (leaning for all the landlubbers out there) and had a very pronounced shimmy. Pulling over at a small gas station which also doubled as an automotive repair shop, he stepped out and walked around to the right side to check. Sure enough, it was immediately clear that he had a low tire which had been creating the shimmy as he drove down the road. A young attendant wearing dingy brown coveralls walked up to him and grinned as he put out his grease caked hand to shake the hand of the businessman who was attired in a very expensive three piece Sacs Fifth Avenue gaberdine suit. Reluctantly, the man quickly shook the attendant's hand and then asked in a very distinctive New Yorker accent, "Can you check my tires please, my man?" The attendant, looking the man up and down, just stared at him without responding. The businessman once again attempted to explain that he needed him to check the air in his tires, but still could not elicit a response. Finally, in desperation, the man pulled out a notebook and pen and wrote down his request, handing it to the attendant. Now, with an air of understanding on the face of the young man, he said in a very strong southern voice, "Ahah, You 'all are a wantin some Aahrr in your tahhahs?" "Yea. And could you change the oil and fluids please?" the businessman added. "Sure as shootin!" the mechanic replied.

The man then walked down the street to buy himself a meal at a small diner on the next block. After finishing his meal, the man then decided that as late as it was getting, he would simply stay in a hotel for the night and continue upon his journey the next morning. After walking back to the station and spending an extraordinary amount of time communicating that he was going to spend the night and pick up his car in the morning, he found himself once again walking down the street. As he came upon a little Baptist Church, he noticed that the sign indicated that there was a Christmas Pageant going on at just about that time. Wanting to experience a little of the Christmas cheer even so far from home, he decided to slip into the back of the sanctuary and enjoy the evening. It was quite pleasant and he thoroughly enjoyed the entire production. But, was puzzled by the fact that the Three Wise Men were all attired in large red fireman's hats. Curiosity got the better of him and as he walked to the foyer, spoke with an elderly lady about the play. Telling her that he had really loved the production, he then inquired as to why the young boys who had portrayed the Three Wise Men were all wearing Fireman's hats. "Why honey child, hadn't you boys in New York ever read the BaahBull?" she asked incredulously. "Well, yea sure, I read the Bible all the time!" he stated emphatically. "Well then, you'all shoulda knowd that the BaahhBul says plainly, 'That them three wise men had just come from AAHFIRE!'"

We read in Matthew Chapter two the true account of the Magi as they came to worship the Christ Child, "1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." 7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." 9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route." NIV Matthew Chapter 2, Verses 1-2, 7-12.

Well, the scriptures do tell me that they came from the East, but I'm not sold on the AAHFIRE! But either way you look at it, they certainly were wise in not being deceived by King Herod who had intended evil for the child instead of good. This Christmas season, my prayer for each of us is that God would also give us wisdom as a precious Christmas gift, just as He did for the Magi so long ago. Each of you have a VERY, MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

2 Timothy 3:16-17

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Antelope Basketball Roundup Lady Lope Basketball Summaries

By Jim Plummer
Sports Writer

Varsity

The Lopes Win Consolation Prize at Anton

The Antelopes started off the basketball season playing three games over the first weekend in December and captured the third place trophy in the Anton Tournament.

Coach Kevin James explained that the "first game of the year (Meadow) was a great come from behind victory for the Varsity boys. Down 29-16 at the half, they held Meadow to just 10 second half points to pull out a 42-39 win."

The second game for the Lopes was against a tougher opponent, the Floydada Whirlwinds. They've "been one of the top 2-A boys teams on the South Plains the past couple of years. They showed us some major weaknesses we need to work on, and this was a good one to learn from" said James. The Lopes suffered their first loss of the young season 42-39.

The loss put the Lopes in the consolation bracket against Elida, NM to decide third place. After a slow first quarter start, Post took a ten point lead into the locker room at half and never looked back winning convincingly 56-21. Junior wingman Chess Postell was the Lopes' point leader with 18 followed by Easton Mathis and Aaron James who both added 13.

Senior point guard James averaged 15 points in the tournament to lead Post in scoring followed by Clint Windham's 12 a game.

James was named to the All-Tournament team.

Game 1: Post 42, Meadow 39 (12/3/2009)

Meadow	13	16	3	7	—	39
Post	4	12	13	13	—	42

Post Scoring: Aaron James 20, Clint Windham 13, Easton Mathis 5, Henry Apolar 2, Reed Williams 2.

Game 2: Post 34, Floydada 59 (12/4/2009)

Floydada	8	5	8	13	—	34
Post	18	14	11	16	—	59

Post Scoring: Clint Windham 16, Aaron James 12, Easton Mathis 2, Chess Postell 2, Chase Greathouse 2.

Game 3: Post 56, Elida, NM 21 (12/5/2009)

Elida	5	18	14	19	—	56
Post	7	6	4	4	—	21

Post Scoring: Chess Postell 18, Easton Mathis 13, Aaron James 13, Clint Windham 7, Allen Duran 2, Henry Apolar 2, Luis Duran 2.

Boys Win Home Opener

Coming off a good third place showing in the Anton Tournament, Coach Kevin James' Antelopes welcomed the 1A Roby Lions to Antelope Arena, Tuesday, December 8th without the services of two starters, Corbin McDonald and Easton Mathis. Both players experienced ankle injuries prior to the game. James looked to his bench and found the help he needed to pull out a win against the scrappy Lions, 46-38. "Our bench has really stepped up, and given some of our returning starters some much needed help thus far," commented Coach James.

The Lopes had their hands full with Roby's inside man Carson Aldredge who knocked in 22 points. Matching him for Post was point guard Aaron James who got most of his points from the outside including six 3-pointers.

Post	46	Roby	38	(12/8/09)		
Roby	8	8	6	16	—	38
Post	10	12	11	13	—	46

SCORING: Roby - Carson Aldredge 22, Tanner Stephenson 8, Angel Silva 5.

Post - James 22, Windham 14, Apolar 5, C. Greathouse 3, Postel 2.

Lopes Bring Home a Second Tournament Trophy

With two starters injured and a third hobbling off the court in the first game of the Plains Tournament, the Antelopes kept composer to come home with the third place consolation trophy, the second prize in as many series of games.

Head Coach Kevin James explained that the early season injuries have presented an obvious challenge: "We have had to develop some bench players rather quickly which really I guess has been a good thing." He added "I'm hoping that will be a big plus once we hit district play!"

Aaron James, received his second all-tournament team honor of the season as he led the Antelopes in scoring averaging just under 20 points a game. Clint Windham came through averaging just over 13 points from the post position.

Game 1: Post 39, Jal, NM 29 (12/10/09)

Jal	6	7	10	6	—	29
Post	10	12	12	5	—	39

SCORING: Jal - Armando Lujan 11, Alexis Lujan 5. Post - James 17, Windham 13, Apolar 5, Postell 2, C. Greathouse 2.

Game 2: Plains 52, Post 42 (12/11/2009)

Post	12	5	10	15	—	42
Plains	7	15	8	22	—	52

SCORING: Post - James 16, Windham 14, Postell 5, Lopez 4, Apolar 3.

Plains - Barrientes 18, DeBusk 12.

Game 3: Post 46, Tatum, NM 42 (12/12/2009)

Post	6	14	13	13	—	46
Tatum	7	6	14	15	—	42

SCORING: Post - James 26, Windham 13, Lopez 6, Apolar 1.

Tatum - Glenn 15, Nunez 10, Medlin 10.

RECORD: Post 5-2.

The Bold Gold went into Tuesday's game at Coahoma with 5 wins and two losses.

Friday night the Lopes host the Idalou Wildcats for both teams District 3-2A opener. Post hopes to have the entire roster suited out and ready to play. Tip-off is set for 8:00 at Antelope Arena following the Lady Lopes' game.

JV Boys

Lamesa 64, Post 34 (12/3/09)

Post	9	6	10	9	—	34
Lamesa	24	9	11	20	—	64

Post Scoring: Holly 14, Osborn 6, Gill 6, Blair 4, Yarbrough 3, Aguilar 1.

Post 33, Roby 11 (12/8/09)

Roby	2	3	2	4	—	11
Post	6	4	16	7	—	33

Post Scoring: Holly 13, Soto 7, Blair 5, Gill 4, Osborn 4.

Plains Tournament

Game 1: Post 35, Ropes 28 (12/10/09)

Post	6	9	8	12	—	35
Ropes	8	5	8	7	—	28

Post Scoring: Osborn 11, Holly 10, Soto 7, Blair 7.

Game 2: Plains (Gold) 45, Post 25 (12/11/09)

Post	6	9	6	4	—	25
Plains	14	9	17	5	—	45

Post Scoring: Soto 10, Osborn 6, Gill 4, Yarbrough 3, Holly 2

Game 3: Post 30, Plains (Black) 18 (12/12/09)

Post	6	11	2	11	—	30
Plains	6	5	4	3	—	18

Post Scoring: Osborn 14, Soto 5, Holly 5, Blair 4, Aguilar 2

Varsity

Anton Tournament

The Lady Lopes finished the Anton Tournament winning the consolation trophy coming in third place by defeating Lorenzo.

Game 1: Elida, NM 57, Post 41

Elida	12	16	11	18	—	57
Post	10	5	10	16	—	41

Post Scoring: Branda Stevens 16, Alex Miller 11, Bethany Berry 6, Toni Wait 4, Tiny Williams 2, Caitlin Cravy 2.

Game 2: Post 39, Morton 34

Morton	11	5	6	12	—	34
Post	7	10	11	11	—	39

Post Scoring: Berry 13, Alex Miller 8, Stevens 6, Wait 6, Cravy 4, Tiny Williams 2.

Game 3: Lorenzo 48, Post 59

Lorenzo	8	11	20	9	—	48
Post	12	17	16	14	—	59

Post Scoring: Stevens 28, A. Miller 18, Wait 5, Berry 2, Amber Wilson 2, Cravy 2, Williams 1.

JV Girls

Sands JV Tournament

Post 48, Ira 21

Post Scoring: Skylar Jones 16, Shirley Ariza 10, Macy Blair 6, Hailey Berry 6, Brittney Miller 6, Macy Merritt 2, Mercedes Solorzano 2.

Coaches Katie Voss: "This is the only game we played in the tournament due to bad weather. Girls played really hard the whole game. We had to overcome some adversity with our girls being in foul trouble. The freshman really stepped up when we got into foul trouble! I was extremely proud of all the girls for their effort!"

8th Grade Girls

Slaton Tournament

Game 3: New Home 47, Post 44 (12/5/09)

New Home	4	6	12	7	11	7	—	47
Post	8	5	8	8	11	4	—	44

Post Scoring: Matti Smith 15 points, Taylor Osborn 15 points, Sara Greer 1 1 points, Miranda Solarzono 3 points.

Coach Traci Heflin: "The 8th Grade girls played in the Slaton Tournament on December 3, 4, and 5. However, on Thursday the game against Hale Center was cancelled due to weather. The Lady Lopes played district rival Slaton on Friday night December 4th. The Lady Lopes fell short in their bid for a win against Slaton and lost by 12 points. The Lady Lopes came back on Saturday to take on New Home. The fans were treated to an exciting game that went into double overtime

but, in the end the Lady Lopes came up just a few points short and lost 44-47. Matti Smith hit two free throws at the end of regulation to send the game into overtime and Sara Greer hit a 2 point jumper to send the game into double overtime. The end of the game was plagued by fouls and poor choices but the girls played hard and continued to fight."

Post 30, Denver City 32 (12/7/09)

D. City	5	8	1	5	0	—	32
Post	9	4	6	8	3	—	30

Post Scoring: Sara Greer 13, Matti Smith 6 points, Miranda Solarzono 4 points, Taylor Osborn 3 points, Brandy Benavides 2 points, Jaycee Johnson 1 point, Katie Dunn 1.

Coach Traci Heflin: "The 8th grade girls played in Antelope Arena on Monday facing the Denver City Fillies. However, Post fell just short and lost another heartbreaker in overtime. The Lady Lopes were hit by foul trouble early in the game and that set the tone for the first three quarters. However, the Lady Lopes rallied in the fourth quarter with Matti Smith and Taylor Osborn hitting critical free throws in the fourth quarter to put the game into overtime. Sara Greer played an exceptional game and really stepped up as a leader and scorer when other teammates were plagued by fouls. This was also the first game where all seven players contributed to scoring. The next 8th grade Lady Lopes game will be at home on Monday, December 14 against the Slaton Tigerettes."

7th Grade Girls, A-Team

Slaton Middle School Tourney

The seventh grade Lady Lopes finished third in the tournament.

Game 1: Slaton 36, Post 6 (12/4/09)

Post	0	0	0	0	6	—	6
Slaton	22	6	4	4	4	—	36

Post Scoring: Chelby Morris 6.

Coach Richard Soliz: "After a very tough 1st period, the girls buckled down on defense and held Slaton to 14 points for the rest of the game. Morris's points came on back-to-back 3 pointers."

Game 2: Post 21, New Home 19 (12/5/09)

Post	2	4	7	4	4	—	21
New Home	9	4	4	0	2	—	19

Post Scoring: Rebecca Perez 7, Evelyn Alaniz 6, Kelbie Oden 4 Chelby Morris 2, Tamara Moore 2.

Coach Richard Soliz: "Great game for the girls. They played good defense and were aggressive on offense. Balanced scoring allowed us to go 15-6 in the second half and OT. We keep improving game-to-game."

Junior High Boys Basketball

Eighth Grade Boys

Denver City 50, Post 21 (12/07/09)

Post	5	7	2	7	—	21
DC	13	14	15	8	—	50

Post Scoring: Taylor Soto 11, Tyler Jones 5, Campbell Kirkpatrick 2, Trystan Hilger 2, Pake Jones 1.

Coach Don Hilger: The team continues to improve as we move through the season."

Slaton Tournament

Game 1: Floydada 24, Post 20 (12/10/09)

Post	1	9	5	5	—	20
Floydada	3	10	8	24	—	24

Post Scoring: Soto 6, Hilger 6, Jones 3, Kirkpatrick 3, Josh Curtis 2.

Coach Hilger: "The team played an extremely good defensive game. The boys ran the offense the best yet this season."

Game 2: Post 20, Cooper 35 (12/10/09)

Post	6	3	2	9	—	20
Cooper	9	13	4	9	—	35

Post Scoring: Soto 8, T. Jones 5, Kirkpatrick 3, P. Jones 2, Curtis 2.

Coach Hilger: "The team played a good defensive game and struggled with the offense but continue to improve. I believe we can continue working on fundamentals and be more aggressive as this season continues."

Game 3: Post 37, Levelland 13 (12/10/09)

Post	9	15	6	7	—	37
L'land	1	3	6	3	—	13

Post Scoring: Kirkpatrick 12, P. Jones 8,

Soto 6, Curtis 5, Stephen Rodriguez 4, T. Jones 2.

Coach Hilger: "The team played a very good offensive and defensive game. The boys ran the offense the best yet this season. This was the boys first win as a group since beginning JH ball. I have expectations that this group of young men will work hard to achieve success."

7th Grade Boys

Slaton Tournament

Game 1: Floydada 38, Post 24 (12/10/09)

Post	2	5	9	8	—	24
Floydada	13	10	4	11	—	38

Post Scoring: Ricky Fontenot 11, Erick Gomez 4, Blake Boren 4, Carson Kirkpatrick 3, Josiel Delgadillo 2.

Coach Quinn: "The guys are working hard each and every day. Each game you can see the improvements."

Game 2: Cooper 30, Post 10 (12/11/09)

Post	0	3	2	5	—	10
Cooper	13	4	7	6	—	30

Post Scoring: Boren 5, Fontenot 3, Kirkpatrick 1, Delgadillo 1.

Coach Quinn: "The guys are working hard each and every day. Each game you can see the improvements."

Game 3: Post 29, Levelland 26 (12/12/09)

Post	10	6	6	7	—	29
Levelland	6	3	6	11	—	26

Post Scoring: Kirkpatrick 14, Boren 6, Fontenot 4, Gomez 3, Delgadillo 2.

Coach Quinn: "Very proud of these guys for picking up their first win of the season. And I know they will continue to work harder to earn some more victories."

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Branda Stevens takes it to the basket while Alex Miller (12), and Bethany Berry (4) prepare to rebound. The Post Lady Lopes played the Abernathy Lady Lopes Tuesday night.

Photo by Jim Plummer



Toni Wait (31) jump shoots for two as Branda Stevens (10) and Cheyenne Miller prepare to rebound during the game with Abernathy Tuesday night.

Photo by Jim Plummer



The Lady Lopes brought home the Consolation Trophy from the Anton Tournament. Kneeling from left: Branda Stevens, Tiny Williams and Alex Miller; Center: Bethany Berry; Standing from left: Caitlyn Cravy, Cheyenne Miller, Toni Wait, Amber Wilson and Katelyn Short. Not pictured: Danica Williams.

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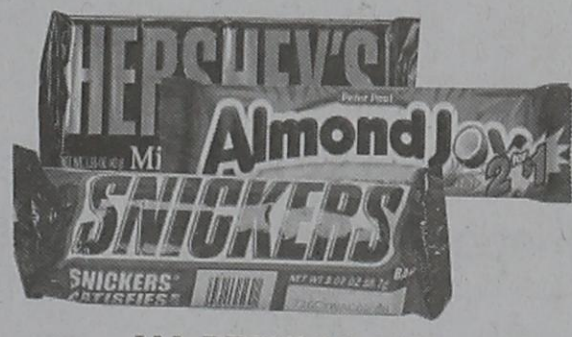


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Post City Classifieds

Personals

Post Group Alcoholics Anonymous
 Monday, 8 p.m. - Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Ave. C
 Tuesday, 8 p.m. - Historic Presbyterian Church, 10th & Ave. K, behind United Supermarket
 Wednesday, 6 p.m. - Women only, Historic Presbyterian Church, 10th & Ave. K
 Thursday, 8 p.m. - Historic Presbyterian Church, 10th & Ave. K
 Friday, 7 p.m. - Community Recovery Center, 405 S. Ave. C
 Closed meetings except for last Thursday of every month.
 Call 495-3173 for more information.

Post Al-Anon

Family Group meeting, meets at 8:00 p.m. in the same building, but a different room. For more information contact: 495-3053

Houses for Sale

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Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACIL-

ITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Lubbock
 Contract 0905-00-048 for FY 2010 ADA COMPLIANCE in LUBBOCK County, etc will be opened on January 05, 2010 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
 NPO: 31651
 State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
 200 E. Riverside Dr.
 Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

Lubbock District
 District Engineer
 135 Slaton
 Lubbock, Texas 79408-0771
 Phone: 806-745-4411

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

NOTICE OF EXCLUSIONS HEARING THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTIES OF GARZA AND KENT §

TO THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY WITHIN LAKE ALAN HENRY WATER DISTRICT AND ALL OTHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE EXCLUSION OF LANDS AND OTHER PROPERTY FROM THE DISTRICT: TAKE NOTICE that a hearing will be held by the Board of Directors of Lake Alan Henry Water District on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. at Trailblazer's, 205 E. 10th Street, Post, Texas, at which time and place the Board of Directors of said District will announce their own conclusions as to the exclusions of land or other property from the District within a three (3) mile radius of the high water mark of Lake Alan Henry and will consider petitions for

the exclusion of lands and other property from the District. All interested property owners are advised that they have the right to present petitions for exclusion of lands or other property and to offer evidence in support thereof, or to contest any proposed exclusion and to offer evidence in support thereof. All petitions for exclusion shall be filed with the District at least seven (7) days before the hearing and must clearly state the particular grounds on which the exclusion is sought as provided by Section 49.305(b), Texas Water Code, as amended. WITNESS OUR HANDS AND THE SEAL OF THE DISTRICT THIS 2nd day of December, 2009.

/s/ Mark Kirkpatrick
 President,
 Board of Directors
 ATTEST:

/s/ Jim White
 Secretary, Board of Directors

Card of Thanks

To the residents of Post and friends of Syd Conner,

Thank you so much for your outpouring of love and compassion during the loss of our Syd. He loved his life in Post, and it is evident that he was loved by so many in return. We truly appreciate Family Harvest Church and the United Methodist Church for helping us with the service and the meal; thank you to the Golden Plains nursing home and the Post EMT for caring for Syd in his last days, and thank you to all who have called, visited, sent food and flowers, and offered us your thoughts and prayers during this time.

We are truly grateful for such a loving community, and we know that Syd was grateful for all of you as well.
 Lil Conner and Family

Post Girl Scouts would like to thank all the leaders, girls and dads who worked on our Christmas parade float. Also, a big thank you to the organizers and judges of the parade and the OS Museum for the Heritage award.

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Menus

Trailblazers December 21

BBQ chicken, broccoli and rice casserole, green beans, roll, apple crisp

December 22

Flour taco, Mexican potatoes, Mexican hominy, chips and salsa, Mexican wedding cake

December 23

Turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, fruit salad

December 24

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December 25

Closed for Christmas

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Yesteryears

Compiled by Kristen Odom From The Post Dispatch archives



Amber Wilson (25) defends an Abernathy Lady Lope as Katelyn Short (21) prepares to help. Post lost to Abernathy 49 to 40. Photo by Jim Plummer



JV Lady Lope Brittney Miller shoots a free throw with Macy Blair (11) and Shirley Araiza (5) looking to rebound in the game against Abernathy Tuesday. Photo by Jim Plummer

Eat This!

By RYAN MILLS

I have received numerous recipe submissions lately and I'm going to eventually get to them all.

It's hard to beat Mexican food and a little spice when the weather has been frigid like it has been this week.

One of my readers, Sue Parker in Wellington, submitted some recipes a while ago and I put them in my desk. Where I promptly forgot about them. If you've seen my desk then you know that it is not the safest place to put things I need. The top of it is a wreck, but the inside makes the top look like the Sistine Chapel.

Anyway, with apologies to Sue, today is a Texas Tortilla Bake from her kitchen. Thanks and keep your recipes coming.

Texas Tortilla Bake

Ingredients

- 3 lbs. lean ground beef
- 2 large onions, diced
- 2 (14.5) oz. cans Mexican style stewed tomatoes
- 2 (10) oz. cans enchilada sauce
- 1 (16) oz. loaf of Velveeta, chunked
- 4 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. pepper
- 4 cups Nacho Cheese Doritos, crushed
- 2 (3) oz. packages cream cheese, softened

- 16 (8) inch tortillas
- 2 (4.5) oz. cans fire-roasted green chiles
- 2 cups shredded Monterey Jack cheese

Directions

Brown ground beef and onion in a large skillet until meat crumbles and is no longer pink. Drain. Stir in tomatoes, enchilada sauce, Velveeta, cumin, salt and pepper. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until cheese melts. Set aside.

Place crushed Doritos in two greased 13x9x2 baking dishes. Spoon 2/3 beef mixture over Doritos.

Spread cream cheese evenly on one side of the tortillas. Fold tortillas in half and arrange on beef mixture. Sprinkle with chiles. Spread remaining beef mixture on top.

Cover and bake at 350 for 20 minutes. Uncover and sprinkle Monterey Jack cheese on top. Bake five more minutes to melt the cheese.

Ryan Mills is a Chief Operating Officer of Blackburn Media Group and the editor of The Childress Index. For comments, suggestions or to submit a recipe contact him at index@chipshot.net.

10 years ago December 16, 1999

Jim and Sharla Wells' holiday gift list got a little longer early Tuesday morning. The Post couple's son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Jamie Wells of Lubbock, became the proud parents of the South Plains' newest quintuplets - five baby boys delivered Dec. 14 by Caesarean section at Covenant Lakeside Hospital.

The brothers arrived at 1:22 a.m., 1:23 a.m. and 1:24 a.m. with the assistance of Dr. Bill Atkinson and a team of more than two-dozen other health care personnel.

"There were 27 in the delivery room - two staff for each baby plus neonatal, three Obs and others," Sharla Wells said. "And, of course, Mike was in the room."

The babies' names and birth weights are Jantzen Pierce, Briley Keaton, Zachary Ryan, Landen James and Jaden Wesley.

Eddie and Michelle Rayley were very proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ashlyn Elexa Raley, born Nov. 29, 1999.

20 years ago December 17, 1989

Barry Owen, a member of the Post High School marching band, recently competed in the regional band competition and qualified to advance to area competition. He qualified in the tuba position.

In appreciation of his work with the group, Bill Carlisle was the recent recipient of an award presented by Amber Cooper from the Lucky Clover 4-H Club.

Local students selected as "Who's Who Among American High School Students" include Roger Adams, Crystal Clay, Rene Craig, Nancy Criado, Damian Hampton, Amanda Havens, Missy Havens, Roy Johnson, Corey McClesky, Aaron Odom, Eric Pearson, Rance Sappington, Cori Weaver, Tina Brumalaw, Veronica Clay, Lee Ann Criado, Shelia Haire, Tra Hart,

Julie Havens, Lisa Haynes, Elizabeth Martinez, Dana Morris, Barry Owen, Melissa Ray and Angela Tobias.

The Post Junior Varsity girls' basketball team ripped off a 50-46 dramatic come-from-behind win here last Tuesday evening over visiting Roosevelt.

30 years ago December 20, 1979

The home of Roy Teaff won first place in the Christmas home lighting contest for the second straight year. The Leslie Davis home won second place in the lighting contest sponsored by the Women's Division of the Post Chamber of Commerce with a Snoopy scene.

The Post Public Library received a \$2,500 Christmas gift. It was a check for that amount from the G. Harold and Leila Y. Mathers Charitable Foundation of New York City.

Four Post High School band members have been honored by being named to the All-American Hall of Fame band. The four honored include Kevin Craig, trumpet; Rhonda Rogers, percussion; Bill Short, tuba; and Rachele Smith, percussion.

A double ring wedding ceremony uniting Sally Cade and Calvin Ray Roberts was held in the Westview Baptist Church in Slaton, Friday, Dec. 14, 1979.

Mr. and Ms. H.F. (Boe) Whealey were honored on their 65th wedding anniversary in the home of their son, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whatley of Post. The couple lived across the road from each other when they were children in Reagor Springs. They were married Dec. 13, 1914. They moved to Garza County in 1923 and into Post in 1973.

40 years ago December 18, 1969

Post Junior High band's drum majors and majorettes were named. The include Melanie King, Jan Hall, Kent Kirkpatrick (head drum major), Cindy Bird, Lindy Bird (head majorette) and Kim Hester (drum major).

Four first year students from Post

are attending Connaly Tech campus of the Texas State Technical Institute of Waco. The four are James A. McBride, David O. Midkiff and Billy J. Little, all majoring in electronic technology, and Charles L. Neff, majoring in automotive mechanics.

Mr. and Mrs. Noel White announced the adoption of a daughter, Keitha Beth, born Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1969.

Officers of the 80-member Post Junior High band are Mark Bevers, president; Jodi Norman, vice president; Darla Baker, secretary; Becky Dalby, treasurer, and Sarah Vernon, reporter.

50 years ago December 17, 1959

The Post Antelope basketball team, undefeated in six starts under new coach Pete Murray, is rated a top contender for this season's district championship. The team is made up of Richard Ray, Hoss Smith, Forrest Claborn, Bobby Beard, Glendon Washburn, Scotty Pierce, Dan Rankin, Derwood Mayberry, Curtis Didway, Benny Schlehber, Jimmy Minor and Leslie Acker.

Double ring wedding vows were pledged by Miss Sharron Ruth Wood and Charles Wayne Morris in the First Baptist Church on Friday, Dec. 11, 1959.

Coach Billy Hahn's 8th grade girls defeated Tahoka, 12 to 10, to win the first place trophy in the annual Slaton Junior High School Tournament.

Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Barker became parents of a son on Dec. 12. He was named Jay Karl.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mitchell announced the birth of a daughter, born Dec. 13, 1959.

The senior boys put together their "idea" girl. Hair- Melinda Newby, teeth- Judy Clary, legs- Virginia Young, eyes- Sandra Stewart, nose- Danella Bateman, feet- Denice Eubanks, complexion- Rhea Peel, personality- Jane Maxey, walk- Ruthell Martin, talk- Leta Stone, kissable- Karen Potts, hands- Glenda Whittenberg, Cuddly- Marianne Jones and most fun- Kathryn Collier.

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kids' corner

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- 1865: SLAVERY WAS ABOLISHED IN AMERICA.
- 1956: JAPAN WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

New Word

RECIPE

Instructions for making a certain dish

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- ITALIAN:** Cibo
- FRENCH:** Nourriture
- GERMAN:** Nahrung

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Cody Dean Advances to Semi-Finals for National Award

By ROSA LATIMER
News Editor

In October we learned that PHS Head Coach Chris Jones had nominated Senior Antelope Cody Dean for the High School Football Rudy Awards.

This month the announcement was made that from a field of 396 nominees, Dean is one of the 30 semi-finalists. All previous votes were erased and voting begins again. As before, anyone can help this Post Senior advance further in the nomination process for the "Rudy" award by logging onto www.highschoolrudyawards.com/

Nominees/99/Codu_Dean.aspx. You are not limited to one vote, but actually can vote as many times as you want.

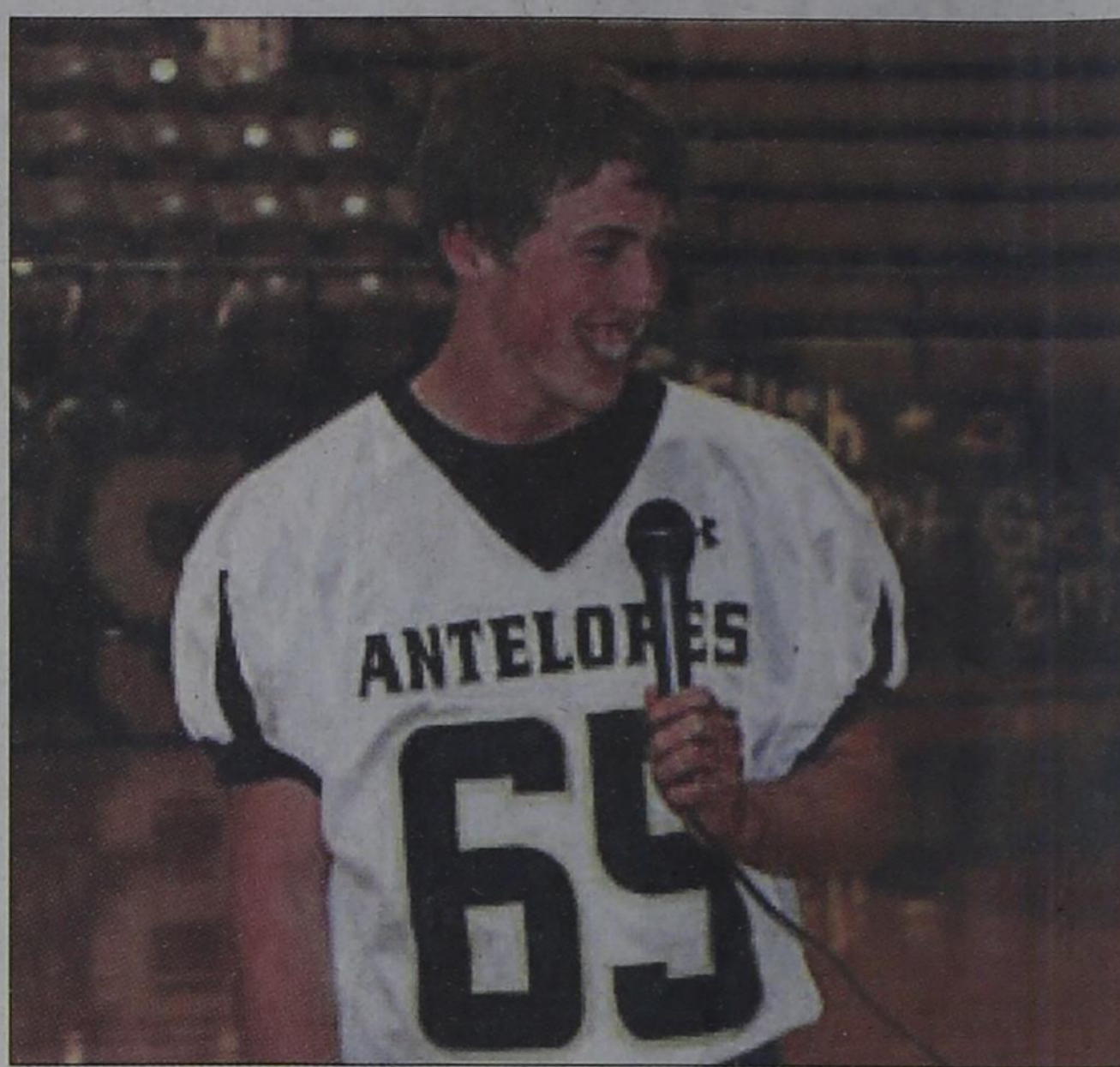
The overall winner of the award will receive a \$10,000 academic scholarship; two runners-up will each receive a \$5,000 academic scholarship and twenty semi-finalists receive a "Rudy 45" football jersey personally signed by Rudy Ruettiger.

These national awards honor high school football players who demonstrate "the exemplary values of inspirational football legend Daniel 'Rudy' Ruettiger. Ruettiger is the subject of the

inspirational film also named 'Rudy.'

The award is for high school football players who demonstrate what Rudy calls 'The Four C's': Character, Courage, Contribution and Commitment.

Coach Jones describes Dean as demonstrating "a work ethic that should be modeled by every member of the team. Cody...battles Cerebral Palsy which limits him physically at times, but NEVER limits his attitude, his work ethic in practice or his approach to the game on Friday night."



Three Performances Remaining of "A Christmas Carol"



Scrooge, played by John Davis, is untouched by carolers outside his window in the current production of "A Christmas Carol" at the Garza Theatre. Three performances of the musical remain: Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. and a Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Photo by Rosa Latimer

By ROSA LATIMER
News Editor

The final performances of "A Christmas Carol" are this weekend at the Garza Theatre. This musical adaptation

of the familiar story by Dickens is directed by Jay Young and provides its audience with an outstanding evening of entertainment. Actually there's more buzz about this Garza play than any this year. "I've attended most of the shows at the Garza and this is one of the best," said Jim Plummer.

"If you haven't seen "A Christmas Carol," you're missing a treat," said Linda Waldrip, who attended the play last weekend. "The talent and special effects in this play are worth seeing. Well done!"

Joann Foreman took her

four-year-old grandson to see the play. "He loved it, especially when Tiny Tim sang" she said. "I thought the play was excellent and especially enjoyed the live music. And I loved the costumes. We thought the snow on stage was cool."

Performances of "A Christmas Carol" are this Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 2:30. Tickets are: \$15/adults; \$13 students/seniors 60+/military; \$10 children aged 12 and under. Call the theater box office, 495-4005 for more information or to make reservations.



Post Middle School Receives Special Recognition

Post Middle School Principal Marvin Self and ELA teachers, Gini Aldridge (left) and Tonya Dunn, guided students to earn recognition from National Center for Educational Achievement.

The National Center for Educational Achievement has recognized Post Middle School as part of its 2009 "Just for the Kids Campaign" for higher performing schools in Texas. The recognition for Post Middle School is for performance by students in writing.

As part of the recognition, Post Middle School is invited to share insights with NCE researchers regarding the practices that make our Middle School successful. The school will also receive the award from a distinguished Texas legislator and hear other leading superintendents and principals of higher performing schools at a regional NCEA event.



Melissa Hughes Aguilar, daughter of Carla Hughes, of Big Spring, TX, and the late Grady Hughes, of Portsmouth, VA will be

graduating with honors from Texas Tech University on December 19, 2009. She will be receiving her Bachelor of Arts and Sciences degree with a minor in Secondary Education. Melissa is certified to teach Secondary English/Language Arts. She completed her student teaching at Post High School. She is the mother of two sons, Jordan Aguilar, 18, and Ethan Aguilar, 15. Courtesy photo

STOP THE FLU TEXASFLU.ORG



STAY HOME

If you get sick, stay home until you're well so you don't spread more germs. Steer clear of others who are sick.



PLAN

Even if you're not sick, plan ahead. Stock food and medicine to last several days for family and pets. Also check into alternate work options and child care, in case your family gets the flu.



STAY INFORMED

Get the latest updates at TexasFlu.org, and check your local news for any canceled events or closings.



DIAL 2-1-1 FOR FLU ADVICE

Medical professionals can provide information about managing flu symptoms. They can also give advice on when to seek medical care.

Stopping the flu is up to you.



TexasFlu.org

*With Warm Wishes From
All Of Us For A Merry
And Bright Holiday Season!*



CitizensBANK Post employees are (back row, from left) Jay Young, Syan Thomas, Kay Wallace, Shad Sturgeon, Donna Baker, Allison Holly, Linda Waldrip, (front row, from left) Mary Hadderton, Earline Bagby, Keith Williams, Cristie Curb, Alex Cruz

***We will be closed for Christmas from Noon on Thursday through Saturday, December 24, 25 & 26**

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