The Aust Aispatch

A BUILDER IN GARZA COUNTY SINCE 1926

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2012

THEPOSTDISPATCHONLINE.COM

75 CENTS

District champs!

First perfect district record since 2004 lands Post in playoffs

By Jerry Pyles For the Dispatch

The Post Antelopes (9-1, 5-0) won the district championship last Friday night at Jimmie Redman Stadium. It was slated as one of the top match-ups on the South Plains.

Two teams with identical records and the same mascot.

It was a sweet victory for the Bold Gold as every pre-season poll had Post picked near the bottom. The Antelopes receive a first-round bye this week and will play the winner of the Sonora-Ballinger game during the Thanksgiving break.

Both defenses would be stingy during the first quarter. The only points would be a 22-yard Aron Lopez field goal, which was set up by D.J. Brown's 58-yard run to get the Lopes into scoring position. The Abernathy defense stopped Post, forcing the field-goal attempt. Lopez had a strong wind in his face, but he still split the uprights.

The Post defense stopped Abernathy at midfield with seconds remaining in the quarter. Abernathy wisely called a time out to punt with the strong south wind at their backs, pinning Post deep in their own

The snap was low, and the Abernathy punter mishandled the ball. Antelopes Travis Greathouse and Nathan Gill would tackle the punter as time expired in the quarter.

On the first play of the second quarter, Post quarterback Pake Jones would find running room on the far sideline and race 45 yards to the 1-yard line were the ball would be knocked out.

An alert Brown would fall on the fumble in the end zone for the touchdown. Lopez would add the extra point, and Post led 10-0.

Abernathy would put together a drive, but several Antelopes made nice plays to end the drive, Alejo Rodriguez made an open-field tackle on the Abernathy quarterback, and Dylan Pearson and Dalton Holly each knocked to passes.

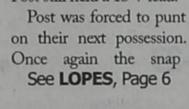
Paden Babb and Gill had big tackles for loss, ending the drive. The Lopes would suffer their first interception of the season as Abernathy would drive to the Post 15-yard line.

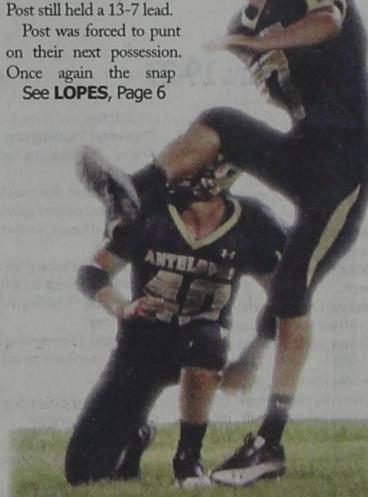
Nose guard Greathouse, who had been giving the Abernathy center a tough time all night, fired off the ball forcing a bad snap. The fumble was recovered by Gill preventing a score. Post would fumble, and Abernathy would throw an interception. Holly intercepted the pass at the Post goal line and returned it 35 yards.

On first down, Jones picked up 19 yards. On the next play, Brown picked up 16. With six seconds remaining in the half, Post would send kicker Lopez in to attempt a 48-yard field goal. Lopez'kick cleared the crossbar giving Post a 13-0 lead at half.

Both defenses forced a three-and-out on the first series of the second half. The Bold Gold punt team

head of the punter. Abernathy scooped and scored on the Post mistake, but





Juan Cabrera/For the Dispatch

Aaron Lopez (17) kicks a field goal from near midfield that would end the first half of the game against the visiting Abernathy Antelopes for the district title. Post would go on to win, 21-14.

Post Notes

Events are listed free of charge for nonprofit civic organizations, schools and community events. Submit listings at least two weeks ahead of the date. Listings will run through the date of the event. Emailed submissions are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@gmail.

Church fundy Members of Holy Cross Catholic Church, 205 W. Main St., will sell menudo, burntos and scramo ed egg plates from 9 a.m. to noon Sunday at the church social hall. For information, contact Eleanor Ortiz at 806-401-9281.

Worship band

The Christian vocal band Crystal River of Lubbock will perform at 3 p.m. Saturday at Church of God of Prophecy, 602 W. 14th St., Post. For information, call Ruben Gonzales at 806-535-8768. Fellowship will follow the service. All are welcome.

Christmas parade

The Post Area Chamber of Commerce annual Lighted Christmas Parade will be at 6 p.m. Dec. 1 in downtown Post. All businesses, churches, civic organizations and others are encouraged to participate in this year's event. Entry forms can be picked up in the Chamber office. For information, call Janice Plummer at 495-3461 or email chamberofcommerce@ postcitytexas.com. Also visit postcitytexas.com.

Swine validations

Swine validations will be conducted Nov. 26 at 1 p.m. in the Southland Ag Building and at 4 p.m. in the Garza County Junior Livestock Association Show Barn. For questions or more information, contact the Garza County Extension Office at 495-4400.

Stock-show entries

Entries to all major stock shows are due by 5 p.m. Nov. 29 in the Garza County Extension Office. Call 495-4400 for information.

Holiday dance

The Cowboy Christmas Ball will be from 8 p.m. to midnight Dec. 22 at the Dickens County Show Barn. Entertainment provided by recording artist DeAnne Roberts. Hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks. BYOB. Tickets cost \$15 and are available by emailing contact@spur2020.org or from any Spur 2020 member. Visit spur2020.org for information or call Cory Witters at 505-314-

Toys for Tots

The Post Lions Club is seeking donations to purchase books for children in Post for the annual Toys for Tots program. Applications from parents of children ages birth through 18 years who may need help with Christmas gifts may be picked up in the elementary school office or obtained from any Post Lions Club member, Donations from area businesses also are welcome. For information, contact Byron Garrison at 990-9898.

More post notes on page 6

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact Editor Wayne Hodgin at 806-495-2816 or thepostcitydispatch@gmail.com.

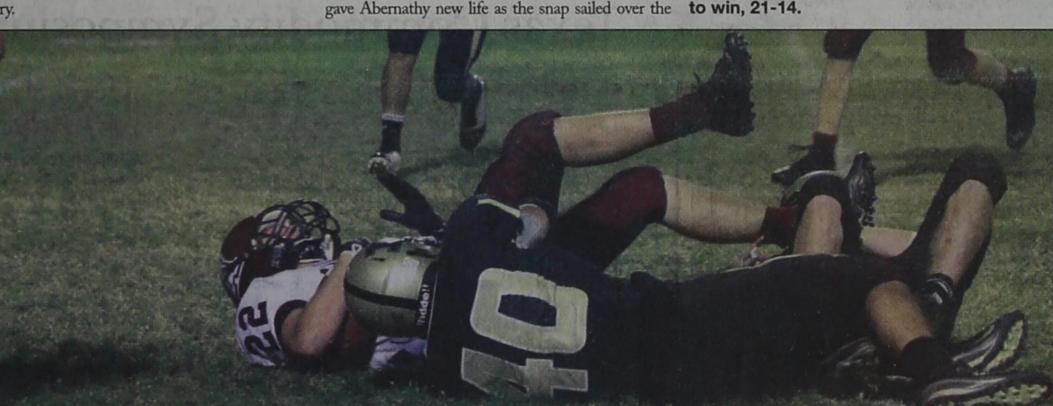
News on the go



smartphone to scan the quick response, or QR, code to visit us online.

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POOLE

Post Antelope Bryan Smith (40) brings down an Abernathy opponent during last Friday's game at Jimmie Redman Stadium. Post would go on to win the game 21-14 for the district title.

White River contract saga finally comes to fruition

Board approves deal to draft master plan for recreation areas

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

After months — even years — of haggling, the White River Municipal Water District board has with its member cities that will carry the entities through the next 40

tive director of the board and general manager of in 2009. the water plant at White

Spur, was approved and signed at the board's

regular meeting Nov. 8. Attorneys for the cities signed the final contract and the water board have been in contract negotiations for the better part of the last 3 years. The entities have been work-Tom Fulton, execu- ing under the previous contract since it expired

In the most recent ne-River, said the contracts gotiations, pushed Post with each of its member city officials, decisions regarding certain restrictions laid out within the district's drought contingency plan are not necessarily binding upon member cities.

For instance, just because the district board cities, including Post, votes to increase its Crosbyton, Ralls and drought status in order to conserve more water, the city of Post is not required to do the same if only because it receives water from sources other

than White River. Fulton said this week the contract approval and signing was a long time coming.

"This is something we've been working day in and day out on since

See WHITE RIVER, Page 6

Write-in Poole elected

By Wayne Hodgin The Post Dispatch

Longtime local attorney Preston Poole has been elected to the office of county attorney here in Garza County.

Poole, who has been in private practice since 1995, served as Garza county attorney for 30 years prior.

"I'm looking forward to serving the residents of Garza County once again," Poole

Poole, who is now 80 years old and ran as a write-in candidate, said he felt that because the office is constituted by the state of Texas, the position should not be filled by an appointment by the district attorney.

County Attorney Mike Munk, who last week was elected to serve as district attorney for 106th judicial district of Texas, ran for his newly elected position in part on a plan to appoint one of his assistant district See **POOLE**, Page 6



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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom. Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

DEADLINES Advertising: 5 p.m. Mondays Editorial: Noon Tuesdays

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Treyshawn Dewayne McDougle

Treyshawn Dewayne McDougle, infant, went to be with his Heavenly Father Wednesday, November 7, 2012. Graveside services were Saturday, November 10, 2012, at Terrace Cemetery. The Rev. Arthur Kelly officiated. Arrangements were under the By Mary Jane Buerkle personal care of Dee and Janet Justice of Justice-Mason Funeral Special to the Dispatch Home.

Treyshawn is survived his parents, Eujean Bell and Patricia McDougle, both of Post; his maternal grandparents, Uretha McDougle and Patrick Sanchez; paternal grandparents, Linda Bell and Charles Bell; great-grandmother Esther McDougle; uncles Patrick McDougle, Nathan McDougle, Charlie Bell, Brandon Bell and Tim Bell; aunts Joyce McDougle and Bianca that board last week. McDougle.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Oliver on a defeated fellow Friona McDougle Jr., and by an uncle, Victor McDougle.

Dan Copeland

Dan Copeland, 53, of Gail died Nov. 7, 2012. Burial was in the Gail Cemetery, under the direction of Justice-Mason Funeral Home of Post.

Menus Week of Nov. 19-23

Post ISD

Breakfast Monday: Biscuits, sausage, gravy fruit, milk

Tuesday: Muffins, sausage link, fruit, milk Wednesday: School holiday Thursday: School holiday

Friday: School holiday Lunch Monday: Cheese enchiladas, refried beans, garden salad,

salsa, hot cinnamon apples,

milk Tuesday: Hot dog, potato rounds, fresh veggie cup, fresh seasonal fruit, milk Wednesday: School holiday

Thursday: School holiday Friday: School holiday

> Southland ISD Breakfast

Monday: Pancake on a stick, fruit, juice, milk Tuesday: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk Wednesday: Thanksgiving

holiday

Thursday: Thanksgiving holiday Friday: Thanksgiving holiday Lunch

Monday: Beef and cheese nachos, garden salad, refried beans, cookie, fruit,

jelly sandwich sack lunch Wednesday: Thanksgiving holiday Thursday: Thanksgiving holiday

Friday: Thanksgiving holiday

Tuesday: Peanut butter and

Trailblazers-Senior Citizens Center

Monday: Beef tips, rice veggies, corn, chocolate

cake, milk Tuesday: Meatloaf, mash potatoes, squash, roll, fruit,

Wednesday: Beef Stew, turnip greens, cornbread, chocolate pudding, milk Thursday: Thanksgiving holiday Friday: Closed

New directors elected to High Plains water board

Voters in Precincts 3 and 4 of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 elected new directors for

Mike Beauchamp of Friresident Carroll Cook, who serves as the board's vice president, for the Precinct 3 seat, bringing in 3,265 votes to Cook's 1,216. That precinct includes all of Bailey and Parmer counties and a portion of Castro County within the district.

In a tighter race, Lynn Tate of Amarillo defeated incumbent and HPWD board president Robert Meyer of Canyon for the Precinct 4 seat, 14,023 to 12,653 votes. That precinct includes portions of Armstrong, Deaf Smith, Potter and Randall counties that are in the HPWD service area.

Both gentlemen will serve four-year terms. The HPWD board was expected to canvass election returns and declare official day morning.

Tate and Beauchamp both said they look forward to serving on the board, but noted they will face significant challenges, especially in light of rule amendments recently adopted by the district.

"I'm very interested in

implemented and feel like made in order to make that credibility." them work for the producers out here," Beauchamp sentiments. said. "It's going to be a slow process, but I want to work with groups like Plains Cotton Growers and other producer organizations to gather knowledge and ideas."

Tate farms cotton, sorghum, corn and wheat, and has a cattle operation. Although he is an attorney for the Underwood Law Firm in Amarillo, he said his time on the farm, doing what he loves. He behaving experience in interpreting laws and regula-

cotton, corn and wheat and is involved in the cattle industry, has been farming for 40 years and has a significant amount of irrigated acreage.

results at a meeting Thurs- most significant aspects ter within its 16-county of their service will be the service area. It is the first opportunity to rebuild producers' confidence in the High Plains Water District and its board.

"We have all these people who are frustrated, who have lost trust in the water district, " Tate said. "They've got to start hav-

the rules that HPWD has ing confidence in the people involved. We've got to some changes need to be do all we can to restore

Beauchamp echoed those

"I want to work with the board on bringing back a positive attitude from the producers toward the water district," he said. "I look forward to the challenge, and it will be one. We need the whole (agricultural) industry's support."

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District's 16-county service area consists of Baihe spends about half of ley, Cochran, Hale, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Parmer and Swisher Counties, as lieves that blend will serve well as portions of Armthe district well, being able strong, Castro, Crosby, to directly understand the Deaf Smith, Floyd, Hockneeds of producers while ley, Potter and Randall counties.

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Created in 1951 by local residents and confirmed by Beauchamp, who grows the State Legislature, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 is charged with the responsibility of conserving, preserving, protecting, and prevent-Both men said one of the ing waste of groundwagroundwater conservation district created in Texas.

On the web:

For information about the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District, visit hpwd.com.

Got something on your mind?

Send a letter to the editor!

The Post Dispatch welcomes letters from readers on topics of local, state, national and international importance. Email letters are preferred to thepostcitydispatch@ gmail.com. All letters must include a first and last name, street address (no post office boxes), daytime phone number. Letters sent via U.S. mail may be sent to P.O. Box 426, Post, TX 79356.)

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Texas Commodity Symposium to be held Nov. 28 in Amarillo

Special to the Dispatch

The 12th annual Texas Commodity Symposium will be held Nov. 28, in Amarillo in conjunction with the Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show in the Grand Plaza Room at the Amarillo Civic Center. The free event will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The symposium, which is hosted by the Corn Producers Association of Texas, Plains Cotton Growers, Texas Grain Sorghum Association, Texas Peanut Producers Board, Texas Wheat Producers Association and Southwest Council of Agribusiness, will conclude with the annual Ag Appreciation Luncheon, presented by the symposium and the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Ag Council.

"This year's program offers relevant information on a variety of topics that will not only affect the agricultural industry, but everyone in our state," said David Gibson, executive vice president of the Corn Producers Association of Texas. "We encourage both farmers and those in agribusiness to attend the event."

David Wasserman with The Cook Political Report will present the symposium's keynote address during the Ag Appreciation Lun-

NEW TEXAS CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY LAW

cheon. Wasserman is responsible for handicapping and analyzing U.S. House races for the publication, and will provide an overview of the 2012 elections and their potential im-

"The Cook Political Report has always provided knowledgeable insight on elections," said Steve Verett, executive vice president for Plains Cotton Growers. "Area producers and business persons will both be able to gain a lot of valuable information by attending the symposium."

Additionally, the symposium will examine a variety of issues that impact producers and the agribusiness sector. Featured topics this year include the farm bill and agricultural policy, establishment of a state grain indemnity fund, water technology, and program updates from NRCS and FSA.

The Water Conservation Advisory Council also will recognize its 2012 Blue Legacy Award in Agriculture recipients at the event.

"This is a great opportunity to hear a diverse group of speakers addressing key issues affecting Texas agriculture," said Rodney Mosier with Texas Wheat Producers.

For sponsorship opportunities or more information, call 800-647-CORN (2676) or email info@texascorn.org.

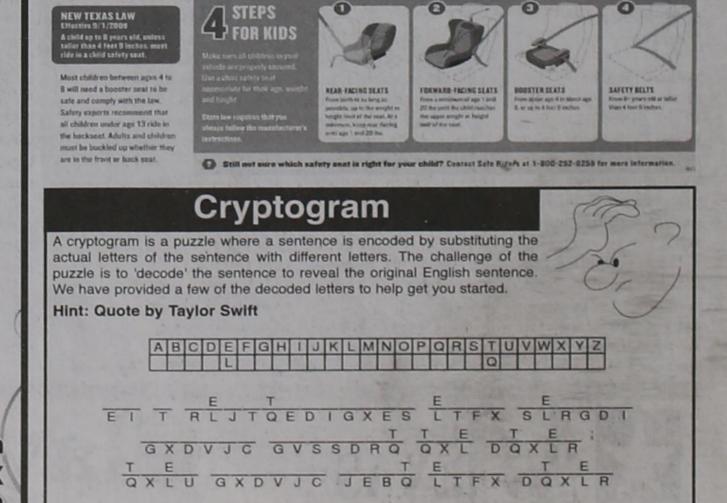
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Crystal River



The Christian vocal band Crystal River of Lubbock, including Shay, Joel, Carlos and Jacob Gonzales, will perform at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Church of God of Prophecy, 602 W. 14th St., in Post.

The Cattleman

Death and taxes

f it's true that the only two things certain in this earthly life are death and taxes, then we can be sure of one thing. We will all feel the sting of higher taxes come Jan. 1, 2013, if Congress does not act during the lame duck session.

Most experts agree we are facing about \$500 billion in new taxes

in 2013

This isn't

wealthy. On the

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PARKER JR.

"Taxmageddon" will affect all

taxpaying individuals and small businesses adding up to the largest tax increase in American history.

This, combined with a series of automatic cuts, expiring payroll taxes, and other economic factors has the government teetering on the edge of a fiscal cliff, threatening to take us all down when it topples over the cliff's edge.

Here is what we're facing. Under today's law, tax policies in seven categories will expire at the end of 2012. An additional five of 18 new taxes from the president's health care law will begin. Some of the expiring tax policies include an increase of the current tax rates.

Without action from Congress, the current lowest tax bracket of 10 percent will revert to 15 percent. Each tax bracket above that will increase 3 percent with the top individual tax rate increasing from 35 percent to almost 40 percent. The capital gains tax will jump from 15 percent to 20 percent, and the maximum rate on dividends will skyrocket to 39.6 percent.

These taxes will go up for everyone, including those in the lower income tax bracket who pay no taxes on long-term gains. These and other increases will affect each of us in different ways, but the single expiring tax policy with the potential to wipe out large parts of rural Texas and the ranching industry is the estate tax, or more commonly known as the death tax.

Without reform by the end of the year, estate tax rates will rise to 55 percent on estates worth just \$1 million per person. A million dollars sounds like a lot of money, but when you talk about ranchers, very few of us are millionaires. Our wealth lies in our assets all of which have been paid for over generations of hard

These assets include livestock, equipment, structures like barns and fences, and of course, land. Most multigenerational ranching land has increased in value over the years, but margins in the ranching business stay thin and cash isn't readily handy.

If Uncle Sam were to knock on my door and demand millions in taxes, I'd have no choice but to sell my family's assets to come up with the cash. What's even worse is that the estate tax is imposed after each generation passes, meaning it's paid over and over every time it's handed down.

Coincidentally, my family's land and heritage are sold off piece by piece over the years to pay the tax bill. It's important to remember this is the same land that provides us with a safe and abundant food supply here at home.

About 97 percent of American farms and ranches are owned and operated by families.

The estate tax is considered to be one of the leading causes of the breakup of these multigenerational farms and ranches. If this tax is not reformed by the end of the year, many ranchers will have to pay the 55 percent tax and/or continue to pay thousands of dollars in legal fees trying to avoid the tax.

Those who can't afford the tax or the legal fees stand to lose it all. Congress has a golden opportunity to fix this problem.

Members of Congress have a few options from which to choose. They can eliminate the estate tax all together. This would be the first choice for most ranchers since it would eliminate uncertainty. It would also allow us to pass on the ranch to our children and grandchildren without pen-

If elimination of the estate tax for ranchers isn't possible because of gridlock in Congress, then they could make the current estate tax rates and exemption amounts permanent. This would make the 35 percent tax rate on everything greater than the \$5 million per person exemption permanent and go a long way to help ease the tax burden for ranchers.

We do know doing nothing is a bad option, and if this is the route Congress takes, it will be a sad day for the U.S. cattle industry and the rural way of life we've worked hard to preserve.

Members of Congress and the president must come together and reform the taxes that are scheduled to expire. If they fail to do so, it will be ranchers and consumers who pay the price.

Joe Parker Jr. is a third generation rancher from Clay County. He is president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and chairman of the board and president of the First National Bank of Byers.

Perry calls for drug testing welfare recipients

Special to the Dispatch

Gov. Rick Perry and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst this week called on the Texas Legislature to enact reforms to the state's welfare and unemployment benefit programs, including authorizing drug screenings for those applying for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits.

State Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, has pre-filed a bill for the upcoming legislative session to require drug screening for TANF applicants.

Perry said Texas taxpayers will not subsidize or tolerate illegal drug abuse.

"Every dollar that goes to someone who uses it inappropriately is a dollar that can't go to a Texan who needs it for housing, child care or medicine," Perry said. "Being on drugs makes it much harder to begin the journey to independence, which only assures individuals remain stuck in the terrible cycle of drug abuse and poverty."

Dewhurst said the move would be beneficial for welfare recipients for the state to reform and strengthen the requirements.

"We owe it to Texas taxpayers to structure our welfare and unemployment programs in a way that guarantees recipients

are serious about getting back to work," Dewhurst said. "It's beneficial to welfare recipients ... so we can help them get back on their feet and back to work."

The governor noted that the purpose of TANF and UI is to provide temporary assistance to individuals and families, not a permanent replacement for employment. Drug testing ensures individuals are using these benefits for their intended purpose, and that individuals are ready and available for employment by remaining drug free.

"I appreciate Gov. Perry's support as we work to ensure that taxpayer dollars are used responsibly in our welfare system," Sen. Nelson said. "We must ensure that recipients of these public funds are drug-free and, in keeping with the mission of this program, on a path to self-sufficiency."

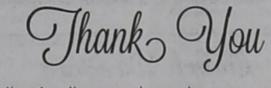
TANF provides temporary cash assistance to needy families with children as families pursue financial independence. UI benefits are paid to eligible individuals from taxes paid by employers. The system insures employees against loss of wages when they lose their job through no fault of their own, providing financial assistance for a fixed period of time while the individual seeks new employment.

Girl Scouts



Carol Tobias/Special to the Dispatch

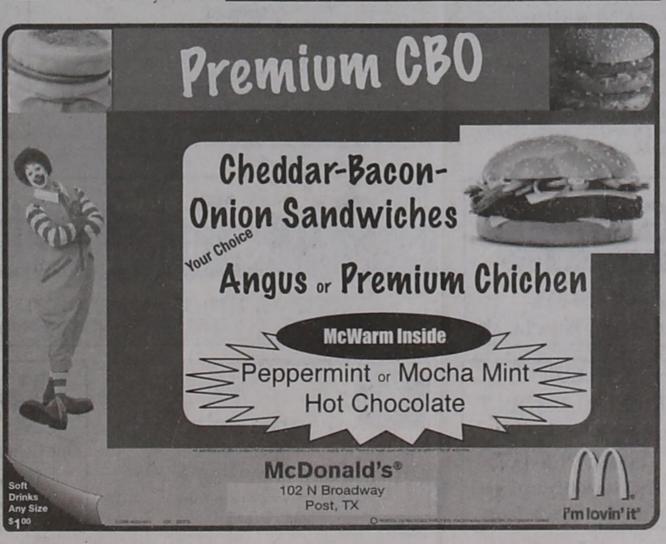
Post Girl Scouts recently celebrated the birthday of Juliette Gordon Low, founder of Girl Scouting, with a party at the Girl Scout House. Pictured are Karla Cruz, Yasmine Martinez, Daisy Cruz, Kristen and Kaylen Perez, Aubrianna Perez, Morgan Pernokis, Annie Gilbert and Sariya Phergson.

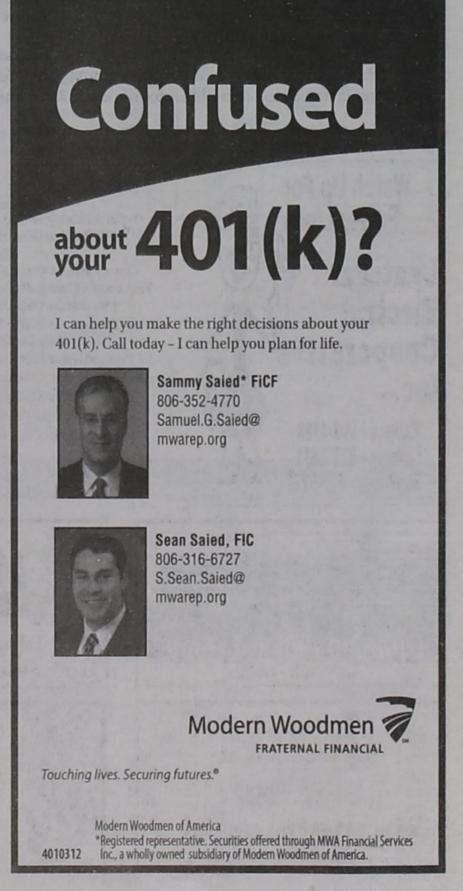


To volleyball coaches, teams, parents and fans:

A huge thank you for the "Paint It Pink" benefit. You touched hearts.

Kathie Rankin





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In and around Close City

ello. I hope this week finds you all well; sorry I missed again last week. We've been busy out here. We are ginning right along. Bale count was at 2,910 Wednesday morning and about 1,500 more on the yard. Several guys are finished, but we do still have



TRACI **FREEMAN**

and Jerry Bush traveled there to visit with Joe and Kay Reno and also went into Brownwood to see Uncle Harold and Aunt Niece and, of course, eat at Underwoods. All had a great time catching up and telling those famous stories from the past.

Big thanks to Grant Bright for sticking to the tradition and bringing us chips and hot sauce during ginning. It was just plain yummy, Grant!

The gin office was full Saturday afternoon. We had 8 foreign exchange students and their host families come out to tour the gin and see how a bale of cotton is made as well as go to the field and watch it come off the stalk and into a module builder.

Everyone met back at

the office and enjoyed a lunch of brisket and all the fixings.

Emma from Plains Cotton Cooperative Association came out and brought us some sample jeans from Denimatrix. These jeans are comfy and made from good ol'West Texas cotton. Let us know if you would like to try a pair. They are also really reasonably priced.

Kenith Bullard came out to visit and introduce us to a friend of his, Roger Armstrong. Kenith and Roger were in the Army together and hadn't seen each other since 1963. Roger lives in Rutledge, Tenn., and was in Oklahoma and Texas visiting with family and stopped in Post to visit his friend. What a neat story!

Our folks in the service we need to remember are Reece Belongia, Kyle Gunn, Eric Alaniz.

Ragtown folks in the nursing homes we need to remember are: Velma Long Brown, Claudine Tipton; Carmen Abraham; Jewel White in Lubbock. Others are, Mack Ledbetter in Post; John and Mary Gist in Lubbock.

Please let me know if there is anyone I need to add to either of these lists.

Did you know: Bees have five eyes, three small ones on top of their heads and two larger ones in front.

Quote of the week: Life will change.

Close City Birthdays

Massey Mason November 12th Chuck Morris, Ruby Jones

November 13th – Jace Alaniz, Ja.D. Young November 14th –Jim Ellis, Linda Alaniz November 16th - Tino

Alaniz November 17th - Pacey Blevins

November 20th - Julie Aten

November 21st - Cuco

Lopez November 22nd -Jonathan Esparza, Cecilia

Esparza, Keith Peel Everyone have a great

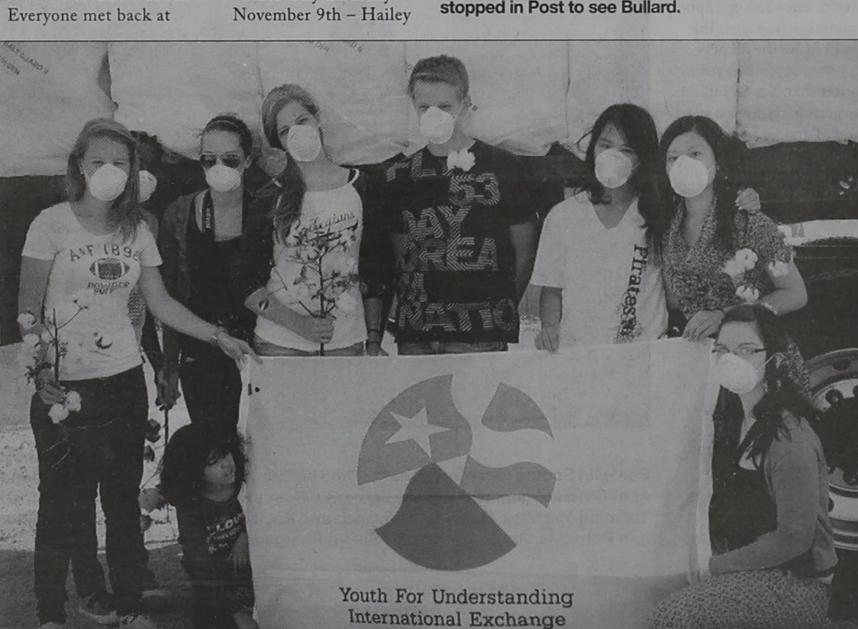
week. Keep rain, the crops, our troops and our country in your daily prayers. See ya next week!

Traci Freeman is a resident of the Close City community. Email her at dose.city.coop@pcca.com.



Traci Freeman/For the Dispatch

Kenith Bullard and his friend Roger Armstrong of Rutledge, Tenn., recently visited the Close City Gin. The two were Army buddies and had not seen each other since 1963. Armstrong was visiting Oklahoma and Texas and stopped in Post to see Bullard.



Traci Freeman/For the Dispatch

Eight area foreign exchange students from Africa, Germany and Japan visited the Close City Gin on Nov. 10. They, along with their host families, toured the ginning facilities and also were able to visit a local cotton field, to see how cotton is harvested and built into modules. Afterward, the group was treated to a brisket luncheon.

Nancy's Notions All olive oils are not equal

That is EVOO? I recently had to ask this same question on Facebook. One of my former students replied that is was "extra-virgin olive oil, Mrs. McDonald."Thanks, Amanda! We have acronyms for

everything these days. A few days later

during my

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olive oil,

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olive oil,



NANCY cally ex-**MCDONALD**

came up again along with some very good questions, so I thought I would do a little more research.

As part of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service team, I have access to nutrition specialists who can direct me to valuable research based information. The following information is from the University of California Cooperative Extension Service. I thought it was interesting, as olives aren't really part of our agricultural background, and I hope you do too.

Extra Virgin is the top grade of olive oil with the following characteristics:

· Must be made from fresh olives - extracted from the fruit solely by mechanical

• Fruit must be of high

quality, processed soon after

harvest, and with clean equip- Temperature during processing cannot exceed 86 de-

grees F (30 degrees C). No solvents can be used in

the process. Must not be mixed with oils made from seeds, nuts or

pomace (milling leftovers). · Must meet specific standards for over 20 laboratory

 Free fatty acid level cannot exceed 0.8 percent and peroxide value must be less than 20 milliequivelants of oxygen.

· Contains naturally occurring antioxidants and polyphenols.

· Must be able to pass a taste test by an International Olive Council-recognized panel indicating some fruitiness and zero defects.

There are two main types of olive oil on the U.S. market. The first is extra virgin, the best and most expensive oil. It should have no defects and a flavor of fresh olives. The second is olive oil, made from defective olive oil that has been refined to remove the defects.

This almost tasteless, colorless and odorless oil is then mixed with a small quantity of extravirgin grade oil to give it some flavor.

Classic defects that can lower an olive oil's grade are zero fruity flavor, fusty, wineyvinegary, musty, muddy sediment and rancid.

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Zero fruity flavor is when the refined oils are almost tasteless.

Fusty is the flavor of oil obtained from olives stored in piles, which have undergone anaerobic fermentation breakdown. In other words, oil made from rotting fruit.

Winey-vinegary is if the . flavor is reminiscent of wine or vinegar (acetic acid, ethyl acetate, and ethanol), due to aerobic fermentation of olives.

A musty flavor is obtained from moldy fruit, and a muddy sediment flavor is caused by contact with tank sediments.

Finally, a rancid flavor has undergone oxidative decomposition forming disagreeable odors like varnish, putty, wax or old salami. OK, that may be too in depth for many of us, but it proves the grading process is definitely sophisticated.

The International Olive Council has established the standard for these two and other grades of olive oil internationally. The grades "olive oil" and "olive pomace" oil contain almost no naturally occurring polyphenols or antioxidants and are the lowest quality olive oil products. They both commonly taste bland and turn rancid quickly.

The grade "virgin" olive oil is intermediate in quality. It is not seen in U.S. markets but is common in Europe and denotes oil that is slightly defective in flavor.

The best way to determine if an olive oil is truly extra virgin is to taste a lot of oils and learn about the flavor characteristics of excellent olive oil.

Fruity, bitter and pungent are the flavor characteristics of extra-virgin olive oils. The fruity flavor has a pleasant, spicy fruit-flavored characteristic like fresh ripe or green olives. Ripe fruit yields oils that are milder, aromatic, buttery and floral. Green fruit yields oils that are grassy, herbaceous, bitter and pungent. Fruitiness also varies by the variety of olive.

A bitter flavor creates a mostly pleasant acrid flavor sensation on the tongue while a pungent flavor creates a pleasant burning sensation in the mouth and throat.

Nancy McDonald is the family and consumer sciences agent for the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Garza County.

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Church Directory

Graham Chapel Church of Christ- 15th & Ave S Church of God Church of God of Prophecy- 602 W. 14th, 495-3644 Power House Church of God and Christ, Pine Avenue Disciples of Christ

First Christian Church- 812 W. 13th, 495-3716 **Evangelical Methodist** Faith Chapel- 1105 Green Street, Wilson (806) 628-0018 Methodist

First United Methodist Church- 216 W. 10th, 990-2942 Graham Chapel United Methodist Church (Pastor: John Hedrick) - 611 FM #1313 806-549-1400 Nazarene

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'Til death do us tractor

uestion: With a long enough chain, can one person tow a vehicle, even with nobody in the second vehicle to steer or step on the brakes?

Only an only child, accustomed to doing things alone, would try it. I'm an only child. Read on.

Even if you're in the middle of a farm (I was), expect one-person towing to be a harrowing experience, whether or not you run over a harrow. That's about the only thing I didn't run over, or into, as I used our old pickup to tow our even

older non-running little Ford tractor in a would-be grand arc of a path to get it onto the closest thing we have to

a loading dock for a trip to town. OK, I exaggerate. Just

one mesquite tree gave me trouble. With some chain unhooking, rehooking and backtracking, I extracted the little Ford from the embrace of the scraggly tree three times, finally getting the tractor headed in the right direction, or

so I thought, for its final trajectory to the loading location.

HANABA

MUNN

WELCH

Disclaimer: Don't try this at home. Speaking of harrows, if ours had still been parked where it was when I bounced on its springy teeth at age 5, I might indeed have run over it. (For lack of group activities, active only children bounce on farm implements.)

But the harrow is long gone, and I didn't hit one single visible implement. I did catch my breath when the little tractor, following the final extraction from the mesquite tree and somehow taken over by a demon, headed right toward me and the pickup, chain and all, stopping just a few feet short of bashing in the driver's-side door. Helpless, I had several seconds to ask myself how I'd explain the dent to my husband, who has a hate-hate relationship with the little Ford. When we married, he didn't realize the tractor was in the package. Ah, hindsight.

Nor would he have OK'd the recent overhaul of said tractor if he'd been paying attention when I told him the cost estimate. I choose my moments.

Post-overhaul, the little Ford runs great appreciation to the George - when it runs.

When it doesn't, fixing it invariably requires the expertise of seasoned mechanics at the Ford place in town, which has morphed into New Holland, but nobody calls it that.

Yes, I got it there. No, I don't recommend one-person towing, unless you've got someone to capture it on video for YouTube. If you do, forget YouTube and stick that person in a driver's seat, either as tower or towee. Never mind that there's University campus ceremony. a dearth of one-person towing footage on the Internet. The only thing that I found was shot by a guy who did his own camera work. He was on mesquite-free level ground dragging a van he'd put in park.

Big deal. That's hardly towing; that's dragging. Then he bragged on both his truck and himself.

Not my kind of guy. I'll keep my man, even if he doesn't like my tractor.

Hanaba Munn Welch is a contributor and columnist for The Post Dispatch. Email her at hanaba. quanah@gmail.com.

Yesteryears

10 Years Ago November 14, 2002

The Post Antelopes football team celebrates their 17-6 victory here last week over Roosevelt, capturing third place in District 4-AA and another shot at the state championship. The team travels to Seminole ON Saturday for a 4 p.m. kickoff, challenging Crane for the bi-district trophy.

A new roof over the county/city park barbecue pit was recently completed. County Commissioner Mike Sanchez expressed R. Brown Partnership, Rocker A Well Service and Palmer Oil Field Service for donation pipe that went into the new facility.

Shelley Renee Shifflett of Post has accepted membership in the Golden Key International Honor Society and was individually honored during a Texas Tech

Longtime Post Antelope fan Quanah Maxey and his wife, Sud, celebrated his 92nd birthday last Friday with another trip to Antelope Stadium. "I've been watching these games for a long time," he said, "and I well remember the championship team of 1929!"

20 Years Ago November 11, 1992

Six members of the Post High School choir have been named to the All-Region Choir and will compete Nov. 20 at Lubbock High School. Advancing to the competition are Radley Nichols, Shelly Haney, Ami Raben, Amber Little, Sara Hodges and Lorena Voss.

The Pride of Post band earned a Division I rating in the UIL marching contest at Jones Stadium on Nov 4. All three judges marked "1" for the PHS band performance.

This was the first of three contests toward the coveted "sweepstakes" title, with concert and sight-reading competition to be held in the spring. Band director is Crispin Bradsher.

Garza County welcomed Sen. John Montford at a reception last Thursday at the First National Bank Community Room. Among those greeting Montford were Giles McCrary, Patty Kirkpatrick and Judge Giles Dalby.

PHS Sweethearts recognized a the homecoming game Oct. 30 were Heather Dickson, Angel Hammond, Jamie Flagin, Amanda Alaniz, Krisha Bush and LouAnn Ammons. Alaniz was named band sweetheart, and Ammons was selected as football sweetheart.

30 Years Ago November 7, 1982

Norma Baumann, a 10year employee of The Post Dispatch, has been named editor of the semi-weekly newspaper according to Publisher Wesley W. Burnett.

Dr. Jeon Aoun of Saudia Arabia was a houseguest of Mrs. Linda Malouf this past week. It was is first visit to the states

40 Years Ago November 2, 1972

Byron Oil Industries has staked locations for two new development wells in Garza County.

The Post Public Library set a new annual record for library circulation with over two months of 1972 to go. Librarian Pee Wee Pierce's October library report show a total of 8,567 books checked out through Oct. 31. The old circulation record was 8,135 set in 1970.

Several hundred

motorcyclists will make Post the "dirt bike capital of the Southwest" here Saturday night and Sunday as rider interest is reported high for both the annual Post Motorcycle Rodeo in Post Stampede Rodeo Arena on Saturday night and in the second annual Post Caprock Enduro featuring a 100-mile cross country race for men and a 50-mile cross-country race for the women.

50 Years Ago November 8, 1962

Three blue-ribbon winners were announced in the alloriginal art exhibit held Sunday by the Post Art Guild. The women were Mrs. Gladys Presson, in subject/ many views, and original oils; Mrs. Marie Neff in miscellaneous; and Debbie Ryder in the Children's division; Mrs. Elsie Wilbanks of Lubbock judged the paintings.

Deputy Sheriff Lloyd Merritt's sleuthing here has cracked a West Texas money order forgery ring and landed three Snyder men in as many West Texas jails. Merritt reports all have signed statements admitting participation in the forgeries, which to date total more than \$2,000. Now in custody all arrested by Merritt, are Floyd Charles Popnoe, 21 of Snyder, held in Sweetwater jail; Billy G. Valentine, 31, Snyder, in Garza County; and Conception Diaz Melendrez, 19, Snyder, in Snyder jail.

Mr. and Mrs. V.A. Dodson announce the birth of a son, Jeffrey Brett, born Nov. 3 in Garza Memorial Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lacy are the parents of a daughter, Debra Lucille, born Nov. 4 in Garza Memorial Hospital.

Compiled by Elizabeth Moreno

Legends Old Man Post and his cloud-blasters

right windmill in skids

powered by mules was of

rienced moving crew, but

little concern for the expe-

art 2 of the Jim Parker story continues with his recollections of the early days of Post and his experience with the infamous "Rain Battles."

After the conclusions of the experiments, large amounts of excess explo-

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LINDA **PUCKETI**

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Jim recalls having

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"It rained before we got

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Employment with the

UU Company was diversi-

fied for Jim worked in and

with the construction crew

out of the planning mill,

and with the waterworks

crew. Jim remembered his

crew being assigned to

move a 35-foot built-up

wood tower windmill that

Moving a 35-foot up-

had to be moved about 200

the move was complicated by having to cross the new electric lines. The electric company insisted on raising the line to clear the windmill tower, but the work crew persuaded the electric company to loosen the wires from several southwest electric poles in either pit were removed direction and lower the and exlines. The moving crew ploded buried the electric wires in small in a small trench they dug and slid the windmill over the lines. The remaining

The waterworks consisted of numerous wells powered primarily by windmills. Some of the wells had auxiliary gasoline motors for emergency use in calm weather. There was a hand-dug well that was equipped with an eightinch turbine pump and was operated by a large gaso-

The pump was sanded down, and Jim's crew was assigned to remove the pump from the hole. Their equipment was not as sophisticated as today's equipment. The only power they had to work with was man and a stump puller.

line motor.

Jim's crew was often called upon to erect windmill towers or to count and remove heavy wheels and gearheads, resorting to crude equipment and ingenuity for most of the

work. Later on, he aided John Lawson in removing the original wooden roof on the town's first reservoir and replacing it with a steel framework and roofing iron. Over the years, Jim found the town had changed considerably, although many of the old landmarks could still be found amid the modernization.

I hope you have enjoyed this week's historic story. In the mid-1990s I had my Indian grandmother, Amanda Bell Boss, at the hospital getting a new pacemaker, she was a young 90-year-old.

I befriended an elderly gentleman in the waiting room. His very elderly wife was having open-heart surgery. When he found out I resided in Post, he began telling me some wonderful stories of his childhood, one of which pertains to this "Legends story."

He recalled the days working on his dad's farm located in southeastern Lubbock County. He said when he was just a boy hoeing or pulling cotton he heard the dynamite blasts when Mr. Post was conducting his rain-battle experiments. He said his dad would say, "That's just Old Man Post blasting the damn clouds."

See you next week.

Linda Puckett is director of the Garza County Museum and Historical Commission.

Justice-Mason Funeral Home

- 1. Identifiable
- 8. Placed in proximity
- 15. Alfresco (2 wds)
- 16. Eastern European 17. Simulated aircraft
- cockpit
- 18. Exclusive titles to inventions
- 19. Bridal path 20. Hale
- 21. Pink, as a steak 22. Lacquered metalware
- 23. Hirsute
- 25. Ado
- 26. "... ___ he drove out of
- sight" 27. Baggy
- 28. Cold shower?
- 29. Sell at a reduced price 31. Kind of board
- 32. Knowledge gained
- through anecdote 33. Radar image
- 34. Legumes
- 36. Wife of an earl 40. Wuss
- 41. Banal
- 42. Same old, same old
- 43. Units of work 44. A preparation of hemp
- leaves and flowers
- 45. Actress Miles 46. Tap rythmically
- 47. Backstabber
- 48. Bait
- body part 51. Delicate
- 53. Rising high into the air
- 54. Northern Alabama city on the Tennessee River
- 56. Propensity

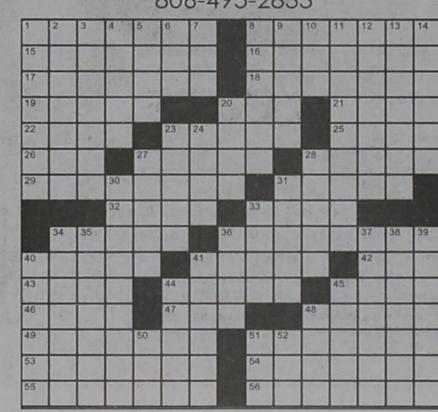
55. Core

Down

- 1. Written in symbols, esp. music
- 2. Deductive
- 3. Rubeola 4. Like a feeble old woman
- 5. A cause of harm, ruin or 6. Deception
- 7. "To ____ is human ..." 8. Shoot for, with "to"
- 9. Designating flaky layers
- of soil 10. Ale holder 11. Went beyond one's wak-
- ing time
- 12. Highest legislative councils
- 13. Recordings in a journal
- 14. Abandon 20. Duke

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Justice-Mason Funeral Home 301 West Main Street 806-495-2833



- 23. 24 in a day 24. Bang-up 27. Bats 28. Glistening
- 30. Fellow student 31. Held together 33. Delivered
- 49. A muscle that expands a 34. Spanish-speaking community
 - 35. Immerses
 - 36. Checked item 37. Recluse
- 39. Ancient Greek gold or silver coins 40. Hawk
- 41. Battlefield shout
- 44. Unbroken mustang
- 45. Strict vegetarian 48. Boor's lack
- 50. Bolivian export 51. Federal agency for safe food
- (acronym) 52. Certain theater, for short

PUZZLE SOLUTION



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LOPES From Page 1

sailed over the punter's head, giving Abernathy excellent field position.

Abernathy drove to the Post 1-yard line before fumbling, and Babb quickly jumped on the loose ball. Post would just need six plays to go the length of the field and score a touchdown.

Brown had runs of 17 and 32 yards. Bryan Smith had two runs of 23, the last for a touchdown.

Post went into the bag of tricks for the two-point conversion. Jones handed the ball to Brown, as the defense headed to toward him; he stopped and threw a dump pass to a wide-open Babb.

Abernathy put a drive together ending the third quarter and into the start of the fourth. Abernathy quarterback Garrett Royal was scrambling for extra yardage, and Paul Martinez knocked the ball loose and also recovered it.

up a first down and was forced to punt. On first down, Holly picked off the Royal pass, giving Post a new set of downs.

The Lopes were not able three time outs remaining



Juan Cabrera/For the Dispatch

Bryan Smith (40) carries the ball down the field in Post's 21-14 victory over the visiting Abernathy Antelopes for the district title last Friday night at Jimmie Redman Stadium.

to move the chains and were Post was not able to pick forced to punt into a strong wind. Abernathy was able to score a touchdown with 1:58 remaining in the game. Post was expecting an onside kick, but Abernathy had

and chose to kick it deep.

The district championship on the line, the Bold Gold was able to make back-toback first downs to run out the clock. As the last second ticked of the scoreboard, Post became undefeated

district champs.

The Bold Gold offensive line has been creating holes for the backs all season. The offensive line is: Mondo Martinez, Jayson Walden, Gill, Sergio Soliz, Greathouse and Babb.

Brown finished with 163 yards rushing and a touchdown. Holly had 10 tackles and two interceptions. Gill had nine tackles, two for loss, and forced fumble. Smith had 10 tackles, one thepostdispatchonline.com

Post Notes

Book drive

The Post High School chapter of the National Honor Society will be collect books for children ages newborn to 12th grade for its Christmas community service project. New books will be collected and given to the Post Lions Club for its annual Toys for Tots campaign. To donate, drop off books in the designated boxes at the high school library, elementary or middle school teachers lounges. For information, contact Amy Easterling at 990-9870 or email aeasterling@ postisd.net. Deadline for book-giving and monetary donations is Dec. 14.

Book fair

Students at Post Elementary School will celebrate Book Fair Week Nov. 12-16. The school will have a Family Book Fair Night from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 13 at the school library. For information, contact Connie Flores, school librarian, at 495-3414 or email cflores@postisd.net.

GED class

General Education Diploma classes are now in session and are free to the public. Classes meet from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Room 18 at Post High School. Enter through southwest doors. For information, email Ed Singleterry at esingleterry@postisd.net or call 495-2770.

Volunteers needed

Post Elementary is soliciting volunteers for the Campus Improvement Planning committee. This committee is to include two parents of students enrolled within the district, two community members residing in the district and two business representatives who need not reside in nor operate businesses in the district. If you would like to serve on this committee, contact Staci Marts or Kent Price at 495-3414.

WHITE RIVER From Page 1

I came on board here said. "It's been a long, arduous process, and now

alternative sources of water and making some very necessary repairs to our 60-year-old infrastruc-

In other business last (August 2011)," Fulton week, the water district board of directors signed a deal with a Dallas consultwe can get on to more ing firm called Commupressing issues within the nity Revitalization Stratedistrict, including finding, gies that will help district

officials draft a mater plan hicle park. for recreational opportunities at White River Lake.

The firm will be paid out of a nearly \$200,000 grant the district has received from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to develop additional recreational areas in and around the lake, including a proposed all-terrain ve-

that TPWD grant will be From Page 1 an annual occurrence.

"If we continue to apwe'll have people flocking County. to get out here just for our ties," he said. "That's my cause no one else did.

Fulton said it is his hope POOLE

for loss.

ply for and receive that attorneys to fill the county \$200,000 grant each year, attorney slot here in Garza

Poole said he filed to run recreational opportuni- as a write-in candidate be-

"I felt a call to step up,"

he said.

The term is four years.

"I think with a new county attorney and a new sheriff, it will be a new beginning for law enforcement here in Garza County," Poole said. "Hopefully, we'll all be able to come together and work for the betterment of the county."



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Drought restrictions don't have to mean dead lawns

Researchers study watering schedules, irrigation heads in turf-grass management

By Kay Ledbetter Special to the Dispatch

COLLEGE STATION Lush, green lawns may not be possible during droughtrestricted watering schedules, but sustaining and maintaining their grass is something homeowners can do with proper management.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has estimated that about 1,000 Texas public water systems imposed water restrictions during the 2011 drought. Such water restrictions frequently limit homeowners to a two-day-per-week watering schedule.

Jim Thomas, AgriLife Research senior research associate, and Leslie Keen, with Naiad Water in Conroe, worked with a study this summer to determine what such a schedule might do to a lawn's condi-

"When you are under drought restrictions, you have a limited time to water," Keen said. "We wanted to visually see how the grass looked with water restrictions, because this can sometimes be a concern with homeowners and homeowner associations."

The study at the Texas A&M Turfgrass Field Lab in College Station compared irrigation timing and sprinkler-head types in an effort to provide guidelines for meeting the two-day-per-week watering schedule and maintaining a healthy turf.

The turf plots utilized in this study were established in fall 2010, Thomas said. Previously, these six turf plots planted to St. Augustine and Bermuda grasses were watered half on a four-day-per-week watering schedule and half on a two-day-per-week watering schedule, applying a full inch of water per week.

In the 2012 research project, all six turf plots were set to a two-day watering schedule with a reduced total of water applied, and the researchers compared four different sprinkler heads: spray, MP rotator, rotors and sub-surface drip.

"Coming out of last year, what we wanted to do this year was to simulate a drought and only run two days a week," Keen said. "Instead of putting a half inch of water on each of the two days, we also decided to only apply one-quarter inch and one-third inch on the watering days."

The study determined that if the grass started out healthy, "you can irrigate twice a week using less water than normal and the grass will survive," she said. "You will have less green, but it will respond when water is applied. But we need to stress, you have to start with a healthy lawn first."

The comparison of sprinkler heads/systems showed the best outcome occurred under drip irrigation, followed by the turf watered with spray heads, the MP rotator heads. The poorest performers were the rotor heads, the two said.

"No matter which system you have, you need to adjust it correctly so you don't have overspray on the street or other concrete," Thomas said. "Focusing on the efficiency of how you irrigate is key."

In the typical residential situation, he said, irrigation systems are often not properly adjusted to just hit landscape. In those situations, as much as 35 percent to 50 percent of the water can be lost to runoff.

Another key, Thomas said, is timing of the water applica-

"Large cities don't restrict how much water you can put out, they just restrict how

many days a week you can irrigate," he said. "If you try to apply half an inch of water in a half hour, it can create quite a bit of runoff."

He suggested using a cyclesoak system, where a small amount of water is applied and allowed to soak in and then a second amount is applied and allowed to soak in, thus minimizing runoff of the valuable water and nutrients that might be applied to the grass.

"Even a poorly installed system that is properly scheduled is going to do a much better job," Keen said.

All this takes homeowner input, Thomas said.

"You can't just set the system and six months later come back and check on it," he said. "You have to watch what is happening when the water is being distributed."

Most residential controllers can have multiple start times. They can be programmed to

apply water at multiple times in one day, allowing a person to lower the application at each watering.

Another finding of the study: Brown does not always equal dead.

"It may be tapering off and going dormant due to lack of water, but dead and dormant are not the same thing," Thomas said.

Keen said the green color of the grass will respond to rain, even it if has turned a little

"Even if you have had to stress it further than normal, if it still responds to rain, it is still alive," she said. "The color might not always be acceptable to homeowners, but if it was healthy, it will be able to recover once the drought restrictions are lifted."



Texas A&M AgriLife Research Other than drip irrigation, spray heads for irrigation systems had the best results when drought-simulation wa-



MP rotary heads on irrigation systems provided almost as good coverage as the spray heads in the droughtsimulation study.



Texas A&M AgriLife Research The rotor head on irrigation systems has the poorest results when drought-simulation watering was applied.

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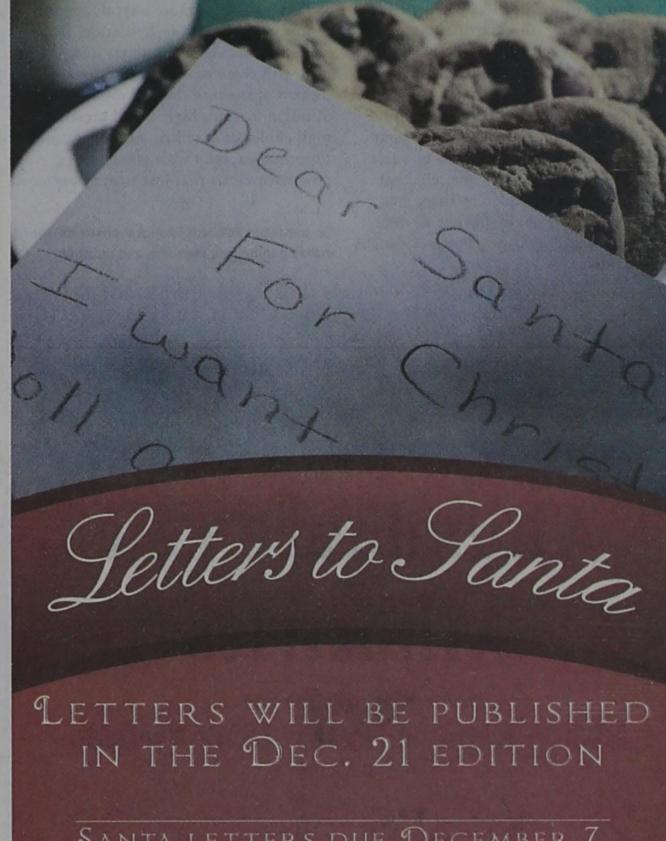
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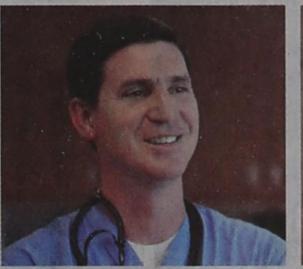
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Getting back in touch with Mother Earth

s we have talked about before, inflammation is at the root of just about all chronic disease. Inflammation comes from the immune system being turned on to fight something. The immune system becomes turned on by germs (viruses, bacteria,

fungus) or toxins, trauma and burns. All germs and toxins have one thing



EDWARDS

in common: they produce something called "reactive oxygen species" also known as "free radicals." Free radicals are highly unstable molecules that have unpaired electrons. In other words, these guys are missing an electron and need to grab another electron from somewhere in order to

Well, they end up stealing electrons from your cells causing them to become unstable and not perform their job properly. The process I'm describing is called "oxidation," just like when your car develops rust, this is oxidation. When enough cells in your body become oxidized you end up in a disease state or

become stable.

So, logic dictates that if we could find a good source of extra electrons to pour into our bodies to give to these unstable free radicals or to give to our cells that have had electrons stolen by these free radicals, then we could prevent all the harmful effects of viruses, bacteria, fungus and toxins.

This is where "antioxidants" come into play, like vitamin C and E. However, the very best source of free electrons is right beneath our feet. The earth is full of free electrons. When we contact the ground with our bare feet our body can absorb all the unlimited supply of free electrons it needs.

Generations ago we would walk barefoot or wear moccasins. We would sleep on the ground. We could absorb these free electrons all day and night. Now we wear rubber-soled shoes, sleep in beds, live and work inside buildings and vehicles that don't allow us to conduct electrons. We are no longer grounded to the earth.

Integrative physicians are recognizing this and starting to employ a technique called "earthing" to help patients deal with inflammation and the effects of free radicals. It can really be as simple as walking barefoot on the ground, or more involved like sleeping on a "grounding sheet" that is grounded via a wire to the ground outside.

I encourage everyone to explore more at earthing.com or earthinginstitute.net.

This is just one more way, along with proper eating, exercise, hydration, sleep and stress management, to try and deal with some root causes of disease instead of treating the end products of inflammation (high-blood pressure, high cholesterol, reflux, migraines, fibromyalgia, etc.) with manmade pharmaceuticals that just treat symptoms.

Dr. Benjamin Edwards is a local physician specializing in holistic medicine and nutrition.

Paperboy

On the 'fiscal cliff' and the Aggies

y U.S. congressman, Mac Thornberry, has been getting airtime on cable news networks.

In the past two weeks, Thornberry has been weighing in on the various scandals going on in the CIA and Defense Department. Thornberry serves on the House Intelligence Committee.

Thornberry is a Clarendon native, and

he's been in office for 18

I'm all in favor of term limits, but until there is such a thing at the national level, it remains important to have "movers and shakers" representing you. Looks like Mac is moving and shaking,

BLACKBURN

So what do you do when you're driving 100

mph toward a cliff? Unless you want to die, you slam on the breaks.

What does Uncle Sam do as we near the "fiscal cliff?" That remains to be seen, but it wouldn't surprise me to see us speed up.

When you're spending money like we do, it's only a matter of time before you go broke. Of course, when you owe \$16.4 trillion, you're well beyond broke.

If President Obama thought the job market has been bad the last four years, I have news for him, it's about to be much worse.

If Washington does not act quickly and responsibly, I would not be surprised to see unemployment hit 15 to 20 percent.

We've developed an anti-business men-

tality in this country. Edison, Ford and Jobs are rolling over in their graves.

nnn

Sometimes it pays to be a fan. The memories, the passion — a fan is occasionally rewarded in some way. I guess the rare exception would be for Cubs fans, but that's a different story.

Many of are fans of teams because of associations and many more are fans because there is something they like about the team. Many times it's a player. Think about all of the fans the Chicago Bulls got just because they had Michael Jordan.

I went to Texas A&M at a time when they were very good. Over the past 15 years or so, they've mostly underachieved.

Now the Aggies are making noise, and are led by Johnny Manziel, a redshirt freshman who is smashing records right and left.

This past weekend, "Johnny Football" led A&M to a major upset over No. 1 Alabama. I'm still in shock.

It's a rise many Aggies have been hoping for and a player that has made the school a hot commodity.

Right now, for Aggie fans, it's a great time. I don't know how long it will last, but it's definitely one of those times that make you proud to be a fan. The dividend you receive when the ship is turned outweighs the rough seas you've traversed on the journey.

My boys and I watched in amazement Saturday as a freshman QB led his team to the year's biggest upset. That's a memory the three of us will have for a very long time.

William C. Blackburn is publisher of The Post Dispatch and CEO of Blackburn Media Group.w

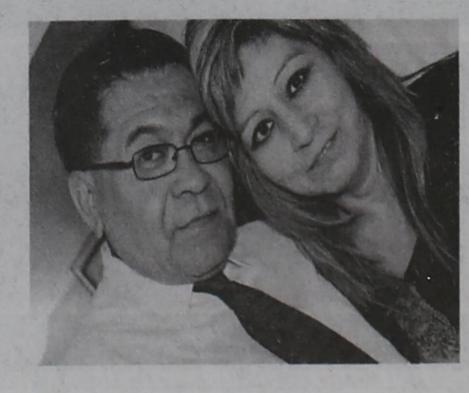
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Cotton briefs

Texas cotton production estimates drop

As expected, the National Agricultural Statistics Service lowered their production estimate for Texas in their November report to 5.9 million bales. District estimates are not included in this month's report.

In October, NASS projected Texas production to be at 6.1 million bales. Their last estimate for the High Plains, which was released last month, was 3.96 million bales. At this point, based on reports from area gins, PCG projects the 2012 High Plains cotton crop to be somewhere in the vicinity of 3.4 to 3.5 million bales.

Thanks to optimal harvest weather, a significant percentage of the High Plains crop is off the stalk, and many producers could be finished by the

As of Thursday, the USDA-AMS Cotton Classing Office in Lubbock had classed 817,699 bales, 298,050 of those within the last week. Quality continues to improve, with almost 84 percent of cotton classed this past week at color grade 21 or 11. Average Staple was 35.77, Strength 30.74 g/tex, Uniformity

Thanksgiving holiday.

week was 2.64. Mary Jane Buerkle, Plains Cotton Growers

Micronaire 3.86 for the

week. Leaf grade for the

79.95 percent and

Indian cotton crop projected at 35.4 million bales

The Cotton Association of India has estimated the cotton crop for the new season, which runs from October through September to be 35.4

Clay Miller

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I want to thank all those who had the confidence to vote for me for a second term for Garza County Commissioner for Precinct 3. Your trust is appreciated. It is my hope to continue to work for the betterment of Garza County.

TED BRANNON

GARZA COUNTY COMMISSION PRECINCT 3

million bales (170 kg each).

According to the CAI estimates, there will be a decrease of 3 percent in cotton cultivation area this year over the past year. According to the new estimates, the State of Gujarat will tie its No. 1 position with the State of Maharashtra.

Gujarat will have a drastic decline in cotton production over the last year. The new estimates predict Gujarat to produce 8 million bales this year against 11.4 million bales of last year. Maharashtra's production will match with that of Gujarat and will see an increase in production this year.

CAI estimates the total supply for this year to be 41.7 million bales. The demand in the new season is estimated to be 26.6 million bales, which is far less than last year's demand.

India is estimated to have a good surplus of 15.1 million bales. This surplus is about three times the closing stock for this past year ending in September 2012.

CAI President Dhiren Sheth said the association has requested the government to expedite exports and remove the ceiling of 10,000 bales, which an Indian exporter can apply at each time during export registration.

More importantly, the CAI has requested the removal of cotton registration for exports altogether.

Seshadri Ramkumar, Texas Tech University



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Carol Tobias/Special to the Dispatch

Texas monthly oil and gas statistics Girl Scouts

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AUSTIN - The state Railroad Commission issued a total of 1,640 original drilling permits in September 2012 compared to 1,984 in September 2011.

The September total included 1,441 permits to drill new oil and gas wells, 44 to re-enter existing well bores and 155 for re-completions. Permits issued in September 2012 included 507 oil, 120 gas, 953 oil and gas, 52 injection, two service and six other permits.

AUGUST CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

Texas preliminary August 2012 crude oil production averaged 1,342,076 barrels daily, up from the 983,864 barrels daily average of August 2011.

The preliminary Texas crude oil production figure for August 2012 is 41,604,353 barrels, up from 30,499,770 barrels reported during August 2011.

SEPTEMBER OIL AND GAS COMPLETIONS

In September 2012, operators reported 657 oil, 178 gas, 34 injection and two other completions compared to 323 oil, 260 gas, 19 injection and one other completion in September 2011.

Total well completions for 2012 year to date are 10,836 up from 5,944 recorded during the same period in 2011.

Operators reported 687 holes plugged and zero dry holes in September 2012 compared to 668 holes plugged and zero dry holes in September 2011.

AUGUST NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

Texas oil and gas wells produced 549,882,336 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas based upon preliminary production figures for August 2012 up from the August 2011 preliminary gas production total of 543,112,563 Mcf. Texas preliminary August total gas production averaged 17,738,140 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) a day.

Texas production in August 2012 came from 148,967 oil wells and 94,338 gas wells.

SEPTEMBER TEXAS OIL AND GAS DRILLING PERMITS AND COMPLETIONS BY DISTRICT

RRC District: (1) SAN ANTONIO AREA

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 279 Oil Completions: 74 Gas Completions: 17

RRC District: (2) REFUGIO AREA Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 113 Oil Completions: 43 Gas Completions: 17

RRC District: (3) SOUTHEAST TEX-

AS Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 106 Oil Completions: 7 Gas Completions: 4

RRC District: (4) DEEP SOUTH

"I FEEL LIKE

A FISH

WITH NO WATER."

-JACOB, AGE 5

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 52 Oil Completions: 0 Gas Completions: 9

RRC District: (5) EAST CENTRAL TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 18 Oil Completions: 3 Gas Completions: 15

RRC District: (6) EAST TEXAS Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 48 Oil Completions: 4 Gas Completions: 34

RRC District: (7B) WEST CENTRAL TEXAS

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 80 Oil Completions: 24 Gas Completions: 1

RRC District: (7C) SAN ANGELO AREA

Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 152 Oil Completions: 70 Gas Completions: 7

RRC District: (8) MIDLAND Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 497 Oil Completions: 298 Gas Completions: 1

RRC District: (8A) LUBBOCK AREA Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 100 Oil Completions: 44 Gas Completions: 0

RRC District: (9) NORTH TEXAS Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 136 Oil Completions: 47 Gas Completions: 49

RRC District: (10) PANHANDLE Permits To Drill Oil/Gas Holes: 59 Oil Completions: 43 Gas Completions: 24

AUGUST TEXAS TOP TEN OIL PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION COUNTY - CRUDE OIL (BBLS)

- 1. KARNES 2,898,709
- 2. ANDREWS 2,515,111
- 3. GAINES 2,054,168 4. ECTOR - 1,856,991
- 5. YOAKUM 1,761,818
- 6. LA SALLE 1,750,874 7. MIDLAND- 1,730,888
- 8. GONZALES 1,678,375
- 9. UPTON 1,660,429 10. MARTIN - 1,637,247

AUGUST TEXAS TOP TEN GAS PRODUCING COUNTIES RANKED BY PRELIMINARY PRODUCTION COUNTY - TOTAL GAS (MCF)

- 1. TARRANT 68,834,683 2. JOHNSON - 35,805,511
- 3. WEBB 22,146,679
- 4. PECOS 19,475,625
- 5. PANOLA 19,105,458 6. WISE - 18,789,926

The City of Post is accepting resumes for the position of City Manager

The City Manager is responsible for planning, organizing,

coordinating, directing, and evaluating municipal activities, goals and policies and has constant contact with department

heads, the public, citizens' groups, other governmental agencies, and local businesses requiring the exercise of diplomacy,

Knowledge of public personnel and finance administration

is necessary. Knowledge of local and area government, eco-

nomic factors and current trends are required. Must also have the ability to establish and maintain satisfactory working re-

lationships with City council members, Department Heads,

and other City employees, and citizen groups. Extensive public works/utility experience is required. Benefits include paid

- 7. DENTON 18,342,560
- 8. FREESTONE 15,601,750
- 9. NACOGDOCHES 12,715,467 10. ZAPATA - 11,585,580

Cogdell Specialty Clinic Located on the 1st Floor of Cogdell Memorial Hospital

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October 31st was the birthday of Juliette Gordon Low, founder of Girl Scouting.

To honor her, Post Girl Scouts raised and lowered the flags at school that day.

Troop 6416 raised the flags at Post Elementary School, while Cadette Troop 6496

did the same at Post Middle School. Pictured are Miranda Fry, Krista Moore and

Post Elementary conducts food drive

Gifted and Talented students at Post Elementary

School will conduct a food drive to collect nonperishable

food items for residents of the community during the

The drive is ongoing through Dec. 12 and benefits

Each grade level will be competing to collect the

For information, contact the school at 495-3436.

Heather Jackson as they lower and fold the flags.

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holidays.

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> **General Surgery:** Dr. Teb Thames - 888-299-7928

Gynecology: Dr. Kathleen Sears - 806-793-9733 Dr. Michelle Sahinler - 806-744-7223, ext. 1315

Dr. Brent Nall - 806-744-7223, ext. 1408

Nephrology:

Dr. Nayan Patel - 806-793-8447

Ophthalmology: Dr. Brett Teague - 800-592-4743

Oral Surgery:

Dr. Charles Bloomer - 800-725-1140

Orthopedics:

Dr. Mark Nordyke - 325-574-7240

Skin: Dr. Jeff Owen - 806-725-8410

Urology:

Dr. Howard Beck & Chris Brown, P.A. - 800-737-0757

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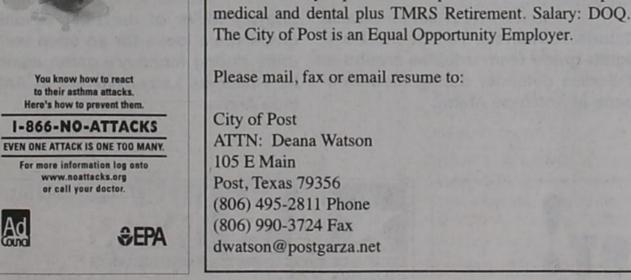


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Post JV out-lopes Abernathy for district title

The Post Dispatch

ABERNATHY — The Post junior varsity (9-1, 3-0) traveled to Abernathy (6-4, 2-1) on Nov. 8 and won the district championship.

Blaine Reece rushed for three touchdowns and passed for two more in the game. Cambry Gilbert added touchdowns as well.

After Abernathy scored the game's first touchdown, Post wasted little time in retaking the lead. The Lopes scored in four plays behind good runs by Gilbert, Christian Saucedo and Reece.

Reece would score on a quarterback sneak from 36 yards; Gilbert added the two-point conversion, and Post never trailed again.

The second quarter was all Post. The Post Antelopes scored 16 points to take a 24-6 lead into half. Gilbert would score two touchdowns during the quarter. His first ran it." would be from 12 yards.

On the PAT, Reece caught the pass from Jared Curtis after Post forced Abernathy to punt with less than a minute remaining.

past the Abernathy defense and hauled in the pass from Reece for a 51-yard play. The tion.

two-point play was just as exciting. The Lopes lined up in the gate; Curtis got the snap, ran to his right, the defense ran to tackle him. He then pitched the ball to Gilbert on the option as the defense ran to Gilbert. He stopped and passed the ball to Christian Pearson all alone in the back of the end zone.

Post received the opening kickoff to start the third quarter. Abernathy came out fired up and stopped Post on first and second down.

On third down, Post lined up in the wishbone and shifted to a no-back formation. Reece hit David Hernandez wide open in the middle to the field. Hernandez would carry the ball to the Abernathy 4 yard line.

"We needed a momentum changer at that point in the game," coach Jerry Pyles said. "We worked that play every week but have never

Two plays later, Reece would score on another quarterback sneak. Rafael Gonzales added the PAT and just like that Post led, 31-6.

The defense forced Ab-Post would take over near ernathy to punt. Post once midfield. Gilbert lined up on again scored quickly. Reece the right sideline and raced would score on a 67-yard touchdown run. The veer play was executed to perfec-

Edel Sanchez and Jabren Rodriguez cleared the way on the left side of the line. Reece offered the ball to Saucedo, who would be tackled by the defensive end. Reece would keep the ball and out-run the defense to the end zone. Gonzales would add the PAT. The Bold Gold led, 38-6.

The last touchdown would come on the first play of the fourth quarter. Reece would connect with Shandon Wiley from 12 yards out on a fade route to the back of the end zone. The kick would be blocked and Post led 44-14.

The offense would have 350 yards total offense, 212 rushing and 138 passing.

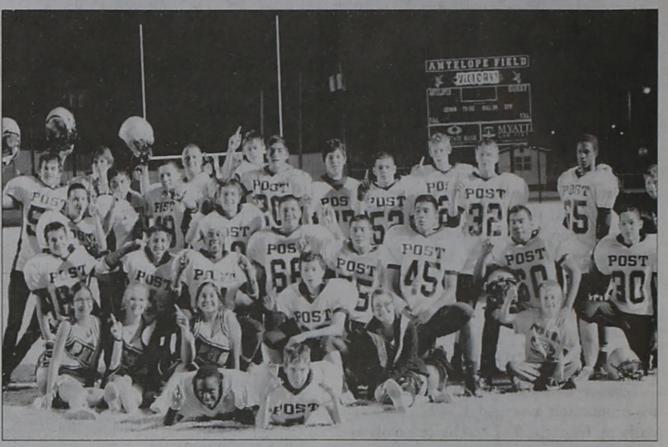
"The Bold Gold JV players and coaches would like to thank all the parents, cheerleaders and fans that followed us all season," Coach Pyles said.

The Post JV team won each of its last five games in with Lamesa a row to win the district title. They dominated all the district opponents they played.

Two district teams canceled their games with Post throughout the season. The Antelopes were able to pick up games against Littlefield and Idalou to make sure they played all games possible.

8 - 16 - 14 - 6 = 44 Abernathy 6 - 0 - 8 - 0 = 14

JV district champs



By Brandy Fannon/Special to the Dispatch

For

The district champion Post Antelope junior varsity football team celebrates a 44-14 victory over rivals from Abernathy on Nov. 8.

Sports roundup

Girls hoops drop contests

Team fouls plagued the Lady Lopes varsity basketball team Nov. 10 at Lamesa, sending the Lady Golden Tors to the line numerous times for a total of 20 free-throw points.

The Lady Lopes continued to struggle coming out after the half against a quick and aggressive Lamesa team.

The junior varsity girls team experienced more than 30 turnovers in their devastating defeat that same night, also at Lamesa. The subvarsity team had ppor shooting and 13 missed free throws. Freshman Quincy Quintana led the JV Lady Lopes with seven points.

Team .	1Q	2Q	. 3A	40
Post Varsity	8	17	19	32
Lamesa Varsity	11	22	35	53
Post JV	4	8	15	18
Lamesa JV	11	23	29	43
Post 9th	2	7	9	12
Lamesa 9th	13	31	48	58

Rebecca Schroeder

Lopes teams

The injury-plagued Lady Lopes varsity girls basketball team took the court Nov. 6 to face last year's regional finalists in the Tulia Lady Hornets at Antelope Arena.

The Lady Lopes exhibited a great deal of quickness and perseverance to stay close to the aggressive Tulia team, but unfortunately came up short.

Five Lady Lopes had double figures on the night. Kelbie Oden and Haily Berry had 10 points each; Callie Odom put in 11, including three 3s; Mattie Smith had 12, and Taylor Osborn soundly contributed 17 points.

Injuries also hampered the JV team that played a valiant first half, scoring 22 points. Due to injuries, many players were forced to step up and play positions they were not familiar with playing; yet never gave up and showed great attitudes. Chelby Morris had nine points and Kelsey Griffin had seven.

leam	10	2Q	3Q	40	-
Lady Lopes	10	13	21	18	62
Tulia	16	24	20	18	78
Lady Lopes	13	9	4	5	31
Tulia	10	16	12	10	48

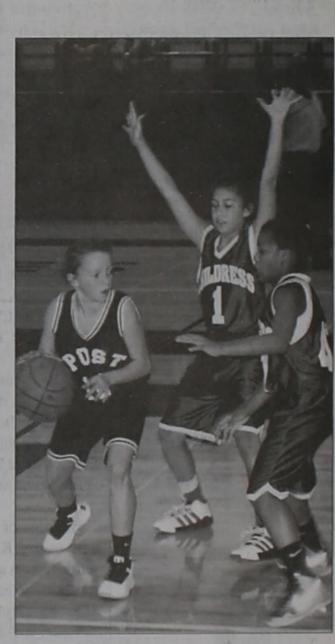
Rebecca Schroeder

workers.





Elizabeth Moreno/The Post Dispatch time in three carries and a find the end zone from 42 play the Meadow Bron- Victoria Hernandez (11) of the Post commanding 22-0 lead in yards out, bringing a deci- cos at 7:30 p.m. tonight in eighth-grade team dribbles around a Childress defender during Monday's game at Antelope Arena.



Elizabeth Moreno/The Post Dispatch Shayley Miller of the Post seventhgrade team looks for an open teammate during Monday's game against he Childress Lady Wildcats at Antelope Arena.

Coyotes notch fifth straight district title

By Trey Richey For the Dispatch

The Borden County Coyotes traveled to O'Donnell last Friday hoping to cap off the 2012 district season with their fifth consecutive undefeated district record en route to their fifth consecutive district title.

The Coyotes wasted little time making sure both of these goals would be achieved as they made very short work of the Eagles, limiting them to 30 yards of offense and one first down, while only being tackled twice all night long running their offensive plays.

Tanner Richey got the Coyotes on the board first sprinting 65 yards to the end zone and, following a two-point conversion by Helio Rosales, the Coyotes would have a quick 8-0 lead.

After another quick defensive stop, Richey would take off on another 34-yard run to pay dirt and a 14-0 lead. Another Rosales kick made the score 16-0. The Coyote defense would hold again and, this time trying to pass, Richey was forced to take off, and as he did he the first quarter.

Matthew Ham recovered a fumble at the Eagle 1, and T.J. Basquez capped the Coyotes' third one-play drive with the one-yard plunge to give the Coyotes a 28-0 lead. After another defensive stop, Richey finally took to the air hitting Basquez with a 30-yard strike. Rosales got back on track to push the first quar-

ter lead to 36 to 0. On the Coyotes' first play of the second quarter, a fifth one-play drive was accomplished as Richey hit Kurt Shafer on a 54-yard pass and run. Rosales added the point after kick to extend

the lead to 44-0. The Coyote defense forced another turnover, this time an interception by Frank Banman. The Coyotes used two plays to convert on this drive as Richey hit Tristen Benavidez on a 28-yard pass play followed by a 15-yard strike to Banman for the score and a 50-0 lead in the second quarter.

With the bench emptied of all Coyote players, the defense continued to dominate play forcing another fumble, this one recovered by Matt Proulx. One play found the end zone a third later Steven Howard would sive end to the evening at O'Donnell.

Richey lead the Coyotes with three carries for 132 yards and three scores and was 4-of-6 passing for 121 yards and three more scores, while being in on 11 tackles with two for loss.

Basquez had a carry for one yard and a score and a catch of 30 yards for a score while making nine tackles with two for loss.

Shafer had a 54-yard touchdown catch and was in on seven tackles, one for loss. Howard had the touchdown run and was in on four tackles. Frank Banman had the 15-yard touchdown catch, the interception and six tackles.

Korbin Martinez had a 28-yard run and four tackles. Rosales was 4-of-7 on extra points and six tackles, two for loss. Jared Smith had five tackles, Luis Andrade had a tackle, and Benavidez had the 28-yard catch and was in on four tackles.

Proulx and Ham each had a fumble recovery and four tackles. Matt Roberson had a tackle and several nice blocks.

The Coyotes will next start phase three of the season and work toward their second goal as they will





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Post Dispatch Weather Summary

Post's Seven Day Forecast





65 / 44





Sunday

Mostly Sunny

71/49



Partly Cloudy

73 / 51



Tuesday

Sunny

72 / 48



Wednesday

Sunny

71 / 45



Thursday Sunny 68 / 41

Local UV Index



0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

Weather Trivia

What type of lightning can you not be struck by on the ground?

Answer: Cloud-to-cloud lightning.

Weather History

Nov. 16, 1988 - A powerful low pressure system in the north central United States produced high winds across the Great Lakes region, with wind gusts to 60 mph reported at Chicago. Heavy snow blanketed much of Minnesota, with 11 inches reported at International Falls.

Nov. 17, 1989 Freezing temperatures spread across the southeastern United States in the wake of the severe weather outbreak of the previous two days. Eight cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Gilbert, Ark. with a reading of 8 degrees.

Detailed Local Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 65°, humidity of 51%. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph. The record high temperature for today is 86° set in 1965. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 44°. South southeast wind 10 mph. The record low for tonight is 22° set in 1982. Saturday, skies will be mostly sunny with a high temperature of 67°, humidity of 55%. South wind 10 mph. Skies will be partly cloudy Saturday night with an overnight low of 45°. South wind 10 mph.

Peak Fishing/Hunting Times This Week



First

Full

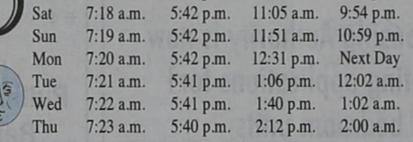
11/28

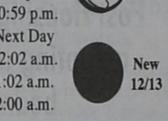
Day

Fri

Peak Times				Peak Times			
Day	AM	PM	Day	AM	PM		
Fri	2:01-4:01	1:31-3:31	Tue	5:35-7:35	5:05-7:05		
Sat	3:00-5:00	2:30-4:30	Wed	6:20-8:20	5:50-7:50		
Sun	3:56-5:56	3:26-5:26	Thu	7:05-9:05	6:35-8:35		
Mon	4:47-6:47	4:17-6:17	www	.WhatsOur	Weather.con		

Sun/M	loon (Chart	This	Wee	
Sunrise S		nset	Moonrise		
7:18 a.m.	5:43 p.m.		10:12	a.m.	
7.10	- 10		1100		





Last

12/6

Moonset

8:48 p.m.

Last W	eek's	Almana	&	Growing	Degree	Days	
					1000 200	The state of the s	

Date	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Farmer's Growing Degree Days			
11/6	78	39	65/38	0.00"	Date D	egree Days	Date De	gree Days
11/7	80	44	65/38	0.00"	11/6	8	11/10	20
11/8	86	50	64/37	0.00"	11/7	12	11/11	0
11/9	84	58	64/37	0.01"	11/8	18	11/12	0
11/10	83	57	64/36	0.00"	11/9	21		
11/11	58	35	63/36	0.00"	Growing degree days are calculated by taking the average temperature for the day and subtracting the base temperature (50 degrees) from the average to assess how many enviring days are attained.			
11/12	- 53	22	63/36	0.00"				

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Dixie Divas The book cases

n this house of wood and stones I call home, there A are books scattered and stacked hither and yon.

Some might say this house is cluttered with books, but I would never be that irreverent for cluttered seems to mean "unnecessary" or "junk." Not one book I own would

Books

nightstand where

Bibles and

reference

guides



RONDA RICH

reside. On a leopard-print footstool by the door, there are two dozen books, all I have purchased but have yet to get around to reading. But I live in hope.

It's this way throughout the entire house, including the kitchen, where you're likely to find at least a dozen tucked here and there. The trail of words continues up the stairs, where, at the head of the staircase, is the one fixture that brought the soul to this house. It is a built-in bookcase that can be viewed from the den below and what - once it was stacked with books I loved and had long cherished - gave my true personality to these sticks and stones.

There is a cabinetmaker I know; a man who is known as a bi-vocational preacher - meaning he works for a living through the week then preaches for the Lord on Sunday — who has helped me in my quest to display these friends of mine. Allen Swafford is a fine craftsman who has followed my whims and drawings to create memorable pieces like the distressed, pale, olive-green buffet in the dining room, the stunning red cabinet with glass doors (and a hidden compartment for cook books) in the kitchen, the carved vanity in the bathroom, the kitchen cabinets in Mama's house and other pieces.

But of all he has ever built and installed, it is the bookcases that are dearest to my

heart. It began with the one at the top of the staircase. The moment, shortly after I moved in, it was installed, I knew I was home. I hurried to put my favorite books, mostly biographies, memoirs and literary classics, in its confines. I stood back, took a look and sighed. Home. No longer just a house. It was home.

It seemed like all the space I needed at first, after all it was my first custom-built bookcase but within a couple of years, it was stuffed and, meanwhile, the books were still coming.

I called Allen and commissioned an even bigger one. It was a massive piece that ran down the wall of my office. There was a bookcase, a desk with drawers above, and another bookcase on the other side. When it was installed, one year just before Thanksgiving, I was so proud.

"This," I thought to myself, "will do me 'til I die."

Three years have now passed and the shelves are bulging. I think perhaps I should part with a few to make room for new ones, but I can't bear the thought of that. How does one callously give away a friend?

There will be those of you who say, "Aha! That's why I download books. So I don't have to store them."

I download books, too, ever now and then. Sometimes when I travel, I tuck my lightweight iPad in my tote bag and enjoy the occasional read on it. But it's not the

I like the weight of a book in my hand. I remember the smell of the library's book mobile that brought books to me when I was a child. I like to flip through it and preview it, to look at the photos in a biography. I suppose, too, I like how smart that holding a book in my hands makes me feel.

So I'm looking around, trying to figure out where next to put another built-in unit so it looks neat. After all, this isn't clutter. It's my treasure.

Ronda Rich is a Southern storyteller, humorist and best-selling author. Her latest book, "There's A Better Day A-Comin'," is available at rondarich.com.



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