



Volume 122 • Issue 12

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Humming Birds are back



Time to hang out the Feeders!

Guerrero Graduates



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Jennings Goes the Extra Mile: Signs Letter of Intent to Play College Football

By Ben D. Taylor

It has been said that football is a game of inches, but most people don't know that those inches are earned through miles of hard work. A fact that a successful football player not only understands but lives, and by any standard of measure, Cash Jennings is that kind of football player.

His success was realized recently when he signed his letter of intent to play football at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor next year. Head

football coach David Sine commented "The first thing that stands out about Cash is his dedication in the weight room. In one year, his bench press went up 30 pounds." To Cash though, that dedication had less to do with success and more to do with protecting his teammates. "I think that the backs trusted me enough to cover their blind side. I'm very proud that nothing happened to any of them."

In my conversation with him, I realized that Cash does not

strive for success on the field simply because of the trappings of achievement. As an offensive lineman, his main job was to protect those that stand behind him—a job he intends to continue while at Mary Hardin Baylor. "I'm going to represent this community and Bronco Football the best that I can. I want to thank my parents, my grandparents, coaches, and Mary Hardin Baylor for giving me this chance."

Texas Leadership Responds to National Health Care

AUSTIN – Gov. Rick Perry issued the following statement on the passage of the federal health care bill:

"Unfortunately, the health care vote had more to do with expanding socialism on American soil than it does fixing our health care finance and delivery systems. The Obama health care bill undermines patient choice, personal responsibility, medical innovation and fiscal responsibility in America.

"As passed by the U.S. House, the bill will cost Texas taxpayers billions more, and drive our nation much deeper into debt. Congress's backroom deals and parliamentary maneuvers undermined the public trust and increased cynicism in our political process.

"Texas leaders will continue to do everything in our power

to fight this federal excess and find ways to protect our families, taxpayers and medical providers from this gross federal overreach".

"Texas leaders will continue to do everything in our power to find ways to protect our families, taxpayers and medical providers from the federal government's misguided efforts to take over our health care system and infringe upon the fundamental rights of individuals and the state."

"My office is working closely with fellow governors and with Attorney General Greg Abbott to explore the state's options, including legal action, to challenge the constitutionality of this national health care bill that will cost Texas taxpayers billions of dollars and drive down the quality of health care."

The Turf Wars! Natural Sod vs Artificial Turf:

School Board of Trustees Evaluate Re-Surfacing Football Field

By Ben D. Taylor

Bronco Stadium may be receiving a facelift as the School Board is expected to vote on what to do with the surface of the football field during the regular April 12 meeting. Two options being considered are re-crowning the field and re-sodding it with natural grass, or installing artificial turf. The deadline for this decision (April 12th) was set in order to ensure that if any improvements were made to the field they would be completed by the next school year. It is important to note that the board has not reached a decision regarding this matter, and are only exploring options at this point.

Sonora Athletic Director, David Sine, brought the current condition of the field to the attention of school Super-

intendent, Don Gibson, during a recent inspection of the field house construction site. "You can see low spots on the field, which during a wet year (like this one) leaves places where water stands", commented Gibson. After receiving a bid from a company specializing in re-crowning (a process that includes installation of irrigation and drainage systems as well as leveling the field) the school board instructed Gibson and Sine to start investigating all options regarding the field. "Coach Sine and I would be perfectly happy restoring the field in natural sod, but if the school board decides to act on this project I want to make sure it is going to be done right." Following is a review of information provided by Gibson, as well as additional research

conducted at the Devil's River News office on the pro's and con's of artificial turf.

Two major selling points of artificial turf over natural sod are consistent (and more durable) playing surface for athletic events and low main-

tenance (in terms of mowing, watering, and fertilizing) which over time makes it very appealing in terms of cost. The major issues against artificial turf include increased injuries on artificial surfaces,

and a more expensive installation cost.

Major metropolitan parks and recreation departments have installed artificial turf in many of their parks (New York

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Local Students Named Wrangler Division All-Star Rodeo Team Co-Captains



Photo By David Jennings

Story and Pictures on Page 5

City Council Notes from March 16, 2010

Submitted

City Council approved moving monthly meeting to the 3rd Monday of the month at 6PM. The reason is to permit working citizens the opportunity to attend without missing work and, to permit our weekly paper to publish meeting activities in a more timely manner (that is in the week of the meeting.)

The meeting Agenda must be finalized and posted by Texas law 72 hours prior to a meeting. This Agenda cannot be changed prior to the meeting nor can anything not on the agenda be discussed at Council meeting which is not on the Agenda-in an emergency there are legal provisions to meet without the above con-

ditions. The agenda will now be published on the Thursday prior to the Monday meeting.

Council approved the City manager to investigate the price and availability of Building/Construction Inspectors on an as needed basis to bring the City in compliance with its Safety, Health and Welfare responsibility. When a City issues a building permit it must follow up with qualified inspectors to insure code is in compliance.

The Texas Health Agency located in Sonora provides the Citizens inexpensive access to preventative medicine as well as many other services. Rumors abound about their current lease and what the

future holds for this agency here in Sonora. The Council discussed this issue and it was recommended to have the City Manager check with the State to ascertain what there plans were in order to assist if possible. The Council defeated the recommendation 3 against and 2 for.

An Ordinance was approved by Council on Airport Hangar Construction requirements.

Sonora City Audit report for 2008- 2009 was approved by Council.

The Lifeline Server was damaged by lightning strike. Council approved \$4,300 be disbursed as the City share of the cost of repair.

Royalty Arriving



By Jacqui Thomas

The Monarchs are migrating! Normally, any minute now we would be seeing vast numbers of Monarch butterflies. This year, unfortunately, is not a year for "normaly." Every fall, Monarchs migrate to the Mexican state of Michoacan (north of Mexico City) and

winter in high-altitude oyamel fir trees. Monarchs do not tolerate freezing weather, which is why they head south in the fall, but in a cold snap they can form into thick mats in the fir trees, and ensure the survival

Continued on Page 6



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http://www.sonora-hospital.org/getpage.php?name=sch_foundation&sub=Static

Senior Center Activities

- Thur. Mar 25 - Crafts-Need ideas and volunteers
- Fri. Mar 26 - Happy Birthday *Elida Castro*
- Mon. Mar 29 - Bingo
- Tues. Mar 30 - Happy Birthday *Juan Guerra*
- Wed. Mar 31 - Happy Birthday *Maida Sutton*

Senior Center Menu

- Thur. Mar 25 - Chicken supreme, herb new potatoes, milk mixed veggies, rolls, green salad, apple cobbler
- Fri. Mar 26 - Fried catfish, hominy, broccoli, hushpuppies, bread pudding w/raisins and milk
- Mon. Mar 29 - BBQ beef on a bun, onions, pickles, milk baked tater tots, sliced pears, cookies
- Tues. Mar 30 - Oven baked chicken, lima beans, broccoli, bread, chunky fruit mix and milk
- Wed. Mar 31 - Meatloaf w/ tomatoes, blackeyed peas, okra gumbo, banana pudding and milk

Participants in the senior nutrition program must be 60 or older. Meals are served Monday - Friday at 12:00 p.m.
Donations are accepted
 (suggested donation for Seniors is \$2.00; \$5.00 for under 60 and all other meals-to-go).

**Open Letter to U.S. Representative
Ciro Rodriguez**

Ciro Rodriguez,

I want to tell you how disappointed I am in you for voting for the so called health care bill. You have betrayed all the people you claim to represent here in Texas and this means you have to go. You claim you are a Catholic but you vote for an unrestricted abortion on demand bill that will literally kill our nation. You are not a leader but a follower of radical ideologies called democrats that are led by the most radical and dangerous president this country has seen. You have disgraced yourself and your office for blindly supporting this nightmare legislation that will kill jobs and stifle our economy. It's time for you to resign, retire or be run out of office at any cost.

Brian Blackbird
Sonora, TX

Editors Note-The strongest aspect of our nation has been (and continues to be) the right of free speech. I applaud Mr. Blackbird in expressing this right, and encourage anyone (no matter what side of this issue their heart lies) to do so. True Democracy only occurs when a dialogue occurs between the elected officials and the voting public- the demise of any democracy occurs not with the thunder of revolution, but with the silence of apathy. I also would like to express to Mr. Rodriguez that we welcome any rebuttal he may have to Mr. Blackbirds comments.

Good News for Sutton County

Submitted

Good news is coming to every home in Sutton County on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2010! First Baptist Church of Sonora and Lighthouse Community Church are joining together to give a free gift of the Gospel (Good News) to every home. This will be a joint effort sponsored by these churches and Texas Baptist to spread the good news to every home in Texas in 2010.

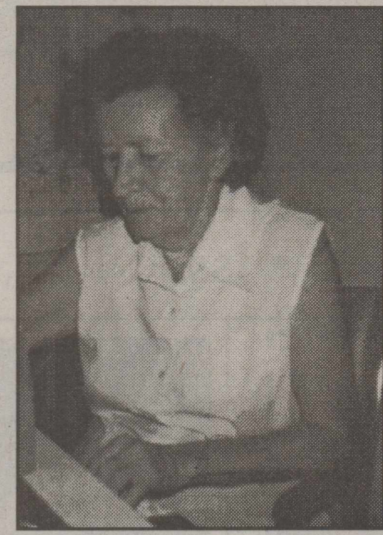
On Sunday afternoon, you will see a CD-Rom in a sack on your front door. This CD will have Gospel of John, chapter 3 in both English and Spanish that can be used on any CD player. It can also be used on any home computer and will have the stories of people whose lives have been changed by Jesus Christ and His Gospel.

If you have internet access, this CD-Rom will also have links to sites that will allow you to download the entire New Testament in a variety of translations and 350 languages. If you do not get your copy of "What's Missing? Hope. For Today. For Tomorrow" contact either Pastor T. Wayne Price of First Baptist Church or Pastor Don Longoria at Lighthouse Community Church and they will be glad to hand deliver a copy for you.

So when you see people Sunday afternoon coming up your sidewalk, there is not some strange cult with a suspect religion, it is just Christians with the old fashion Gospel in a new format that is "Good News for Sutton County!"

Obituary

Jesymer "Babe" Turman Spraggins



Jesymer "Babe" Turman Spraggins was born on a ranch in Kerr County, Texas on April 7, 1922. Born to John Frederick and Annie Carson Turman, she was the youngest of 7 children.

"Babe" married Lewis Marion Spraggins on April 12, 1941. They lived all their married life in Sonora. Her husband and her son-in-law, David Kingston, preceded her in death.

"Babe" is survived by her daughter, Linda Kingston, of Sonora; 3 grandchildren, David Lewis Kingston and wife Becky of San Angelo, Sheronna McMahon and husband Rich of Conroe and Kelly Henson and husband Clint of San Angelo.

"Babe" is also survived by 10 great-grandchildren: Scarlett Sharp and David Sharp of San Angelo, Lauren McMahon and Ricky McMahon of Conroe, and Roger, Christian, Rusty, Dusty, Josh and Skyler Henson of San Angelo.

"Babe" leaves behind a host of friends and relatives who loved their "Granny".

Thank You Note

On behalf of the Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association (EPPBA), I would like to extend a special thanks to Rafter W Feed and the Wardlaw Family for donating leather gloves, and to HighMount for donating safety glasses. Without the help from organizations and businesses such as these, much that we do would not be possible.

Thank you,
Bill Hodges

CONGRATULATIONS!

Mrs. Delma Noriega is pleased to announce the birth of her granddaughter "Andi Genesis" born to Andy and Nikki Mejia on March 10, 2010 in San Angelo, Texas

It's a girl! It's a girl! It's a girl! It's a girl! It's a girl!

Sonora Church Directory

Primera Iglesia Bautista 504 Santa Clara 387-2035	Church of Christ 304 N. Water 387-3190
The Church of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian 319 E. Mulberry 387-2616	First Baptist Church 11 E. Oak 387-2951
Lighthouse Community Church 1705 N. Crockett 387-9100	St. John's Episcopal Church 404 E. Poplar 387-2955
Pentecostal Calvary Temple United 509 Amistad 387-5266	First United Methodist Church 201 N. Water 387-2466
St. Ann's Catholic Church 229 W. Plum 387-2278	Templo Jerusalem Asamblea De Dios 306 W. 4th St 387-5713
Jehovah's Witness 310 St. Ann's St 387-5658/387-5518	Hope Lutheran Church 417 E. 2nd St. 387-5366

Brought to you by:
Kerbow Funeral Home
387-2266

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MEMBER 2010

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

St. John's Episcopal Church

404 E. Poplar St., Sonora, Texas
325-387-2955

Holy Week Schedule:

- Palm Sunday: March 28th**
@ 10:30 p.m. St. John's-Sonora
- (3:00 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church- Fort McKavett)
- Maundy Thursday: April 1st @ 5:30pm**
- Good Friday: April 2nd @ Noon & 5:30 p.m.**
- Stations of the Cross will be held at the beginning of both services.
- Easter Sunday Community Sunrise Service**
7:00 a.m. @ the depot amphitheater.
- Easter Sunday: April 4th @ 10:30 a.m.** St. John's-Sonora
9:30 a.m.: Parish Hall Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt.
(3:00 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church- Fort McKavett)

St. John's Episcopal Church is deeply grateful to the Community for supporting the Annual Flower Sale. We are also thankful for the ministry of the St. John's Women of the Church for planning and preparation of the March 24th Lenten Lunch and Flower Sale.

First United Methodist Church

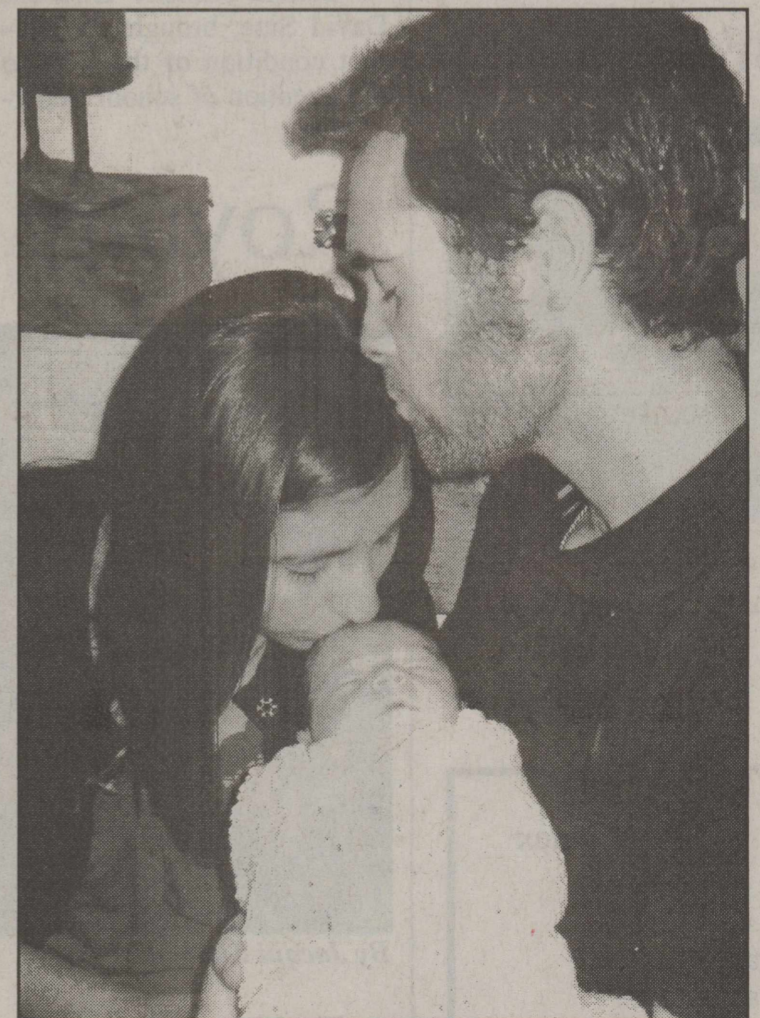
201 NW Water Ave.
(325) 387-2466
Ray Wells, Pastor

- Sunday** *Nursery available from 9:30 - 12:30*
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:55 Worship
- 6:00 Bible Study
- Tuesday**
- 12:00 Lion's Club

Wednesday

- 5:00 Choir Practice
- 6:00 Beth Moore Study - Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 Jr. High Youth - St. John's Sunday House
- 7:00 Sr. High Youth - St. John's Sunday House

**Our Little Angel
Case Robert**



Born in Lubbock, Texas
January 11, 2010 at 1:45 p.m.
7 lbs. 4 oz. and 19 1/2" inches long

*Proud Parents: Garret & Michelle Eison
 GrandParents: Robert & Gladys Noriega of Cisco, TX
 and Ronnie & the late Ann Eison of Decatur, TX
 Great GrandParents: Turney & Irene Friess
 and Alex & Maggie Noriega all of Sonora, TX
 Nate & Estella Arredondo of San Angelo, TX*

Guerrero Graduates



Andrea Marie Guerrero

Airman 1st Class Andrea Marie Guerrero graduated from basic training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas on December 18, 2009. From there, she attended tech school in Biloxi, Mississippi and graduated on March 3, 2010. Andrea is now based in Tuscan, Arizona at the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base as a Knowledge Operations Manager in Unit 355 Communications Squadron. She will be based there for 4 years. Congratulations, Andrea, on a job well done!

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Dad, Family and Friends

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Candace Chandler~bride elect~Landry Matthies
Lauren Smith~bride elect~Colby Bates

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F.Y.I.

4-H Meeting, Monday, March 29th, 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center. Scott Garrett will be the guest speaker. This is our monthly 4-H meeting for all members

Keep Sonora Beautiful Tree Sale: Red and White Crape Myrtle-\$50, Live Oak, Red Oak, Burr Oak, Mexican Oak, and Red Bud-\$65. KSB is selling an assortment of summer and perennials bulbs. Contact the Chamber of Commerce 325-387-2880 or Juanita Gomez 325-206-0830 to place an order or for more information.

Looking for L. W. Elliott School (La Elliott) Alumni. Register on facebook or by emailing guschavez2000@yahoo.com or juanita@sonoratr.net or by calling 325-206-0830. Everyone is encouraged to submit names. A committee is being put together to organize LA ELLIOTT SCHOOL REUNION and also to place a historical marker where the school stood. If you have any information or questions please contact us.

Santa Pictures from The More the Merrier are still being held at the Chamber of Commerce. Please call 387-2880.

Father & Daughter Dance photo's are available for pick up at the Chamber of Commerce. Please call 387-2880.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ, PETER DURAN, ROWDY LEE BUELL HAVE BEEN BUSY WORKING ON THE CITY SOFTBALL FIELD by the swimming pool! They are in need of helpers willing to come join them!! They are removing stickers and attempting to reseed the field!! All for the sake of our GIRLS!!! Please lend a hand!! ALL HELP IS MUCH APPRECIATED!! ANY QUESTIONS, please contact Michael Ramirez 325.650.1454 or just stop by the field!!

The 2009 Sonora Bronco Football Season Highlight DVD is now available at the high school office! For more information contact Coach Sine at 325-387-6940 x3304. The cost is \$20!!!

Relay For Life asks that you e-mail photos of those who have battled cancer to relayforlife@sonoratr.net to be added to our slideshow that is displayed during the Luminaria Ceremony at Relay For Life.

Book Sale to be held: The Sutton County Library is getting ready for their Book Sale. You may donate your unwanted books, now thru March 17th. The book sale will run March 22 thru April 16.

Game Dinner Meeting- April 13, 2010, 6:30 p.m. at the firehall. All members and others interested are welcome.

Viva Sonora Cinco de Mayo - May 1, 2010 Featuring: United Freestyle Stunt Team-3 performances, www.unitedfreestyle.com

Need a Dunking Booth for a party or fundraiser? Sonora Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary has a dunking booth for rent. Call Tommie Sanchez at 226-8271 for availability and rates.

The Primary Purpose Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the St. John's Episcopal Church, 404 NE Poplar. FMI call 325-387-9765 or 325-206-1311.

Rent the Depot or Icehouse Ranch Museum for your special party or event. Call 325-387-5084 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sonora High School Alumni - Register at www.sonorahighalumni.com. For more information log on to sonoraaalum@aol.com.

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Opportunity to Serve

The Sonora Downtown Lion's Club is looking for a "few good people" who are wanting to serve our community in the spirit of Lion's service. Our club needs no introduction as one that serves our community in a wonderful way. There are few if any projects affecting our community that we do not promote in one way or another. We would like for those people who are key to these promotions to come and be an active part of our club so we can network together in promoting Sonora and the great things about living in Sonora.

The Nominating Committee is presently considering new officers for the coming year. One office that we are looking to fill is the secretary-treasurer. We are considering volunteers who want to be an integral part of our club and service to our community. Records are on a computer and it would help if there were some knowledge of Quickbooks.

It is the goal of the Sonora Downtown Lion's Club to establish fellowship on the basis of service to Sonora. Some look at an older membership as a hindrance to good fellowship. It is our goal to bridge the generation gap with a commitment to join in the service of this community. We do have an energetic program of work. We are committed to make a difference in the lives of the youth of our community. But that is not our only focus. Across the whole spectrum of community activities we want to be involved and to make a difference. Membership and active members are the answer to meeting that goal.

The Sonora Downtown Lion's Club is asking those who want to be vital part of this community to join hands with us to serve this community together

Sonora Elementary Pre-Kindergarten Registration Dates

Pre-registration for the 2010-2011 school year will be held on Tuesday, April 6th and Wednesday, April 7th from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sonora Elementary School office. Students enrolling in Pre-Kindergarten must be three or four years old on or before September 1, 2010.

Students who are three years of age on or before September 1, 2010 must meet one of the following qualification requirements: 1) economically disadvantaged, 2) limited English proficient, 3) qualify for special education services, or 4) have a parent who is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces or a parent who was injured or killed while serving on active duty.

Students four years of age on or before September 1, 2010 do not have to qualify for Pre-Kindergarten as our enrollment is open. Class size, however, will be limited and classes will be filled on a first come first serve basis.

You must provide a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and current immunization record. Your child will not be placed in a class until immunizations are current and proof is provided.

Please make every effort to register on these dates as this will help us plan for the 2010-2011 school year. Call 387-6951 if you have any questions.

Kindergarten Registration Dates

Kindergarten registration will be Tuesday, April 6th and Wednesday, April 7th from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sonora Elementary School office. Students enrolling in Kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2010. You must provide a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and current immunization record. Your child will not be placed in a class until immunizations are current and proof is provided. Please make every effort to register on these dates as this will help us plan for the 2010-2011 school year. Call 387-6951 if you have any questions.

The Turf Wars: Continued from Front Page

and San Francisco) because the artificial turf can be used year-round with little regard to weather condition. The reported costs for maintenance and upkeep of these artificial fields were much lower than that of natural turf (when added to the total number of days each type of field could be used). A study conducted by Brigham Young University concluded that, "Artificial turf surfaces have their place in the turf industry. They can work in environments where grass will not grow and are marginal". Reports from the City of San Francisco Parks and Recreation Department also commented that artificial turf fields are excellent for "multi-use" situations.

Health concerns related to artificial turf center around increased injury on artificial turf, increased Staph infection associated with artificial turf, and heat stress. There are large amounts of information available on the first generations of artificial turf pointing to higher instances of injury, but little evidence seems to exist to support that claim on the newer products available (what information that does exist points to a much safer playing surface than earlier versions of artificial turf).

Another major concern is that artificial turf increases the exposure of athletes to Staph infections (a potentially life threatening bacterial infection). A study conducted by the University of Texas at Houston reported that in Texas, "276 football players were infected by MRSA [an anti-bacterial resistant staph infection] from 2003-2005 (an infection rate of 517 per 100,000 people). The U.S. Center for Disease Control reports an infection rate for the general population as 32 out of 100,000". While the over 10 times infection rate for football players is alarming, the study could not connect it with artificial turf, while a later study conducted by Penn State confirmed that artificial turf does not directly contribute to instances of Staph infection. In 2004 a study published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases* studied the outbreak of anti-bacterial resistant staph in a college football team. That study concluded that while artificial turf does not spread the bacteria, the occurrences of turf burns facilitate infection, "players who sustained turf burns had a risk of infection that was 7 times higher than that for players without turf burns".

The topic of heat stress remains a valid concern with artificial turf. In Brigham Young University's study scientists evaluated the differences in the amount of heat given off of natural vs several different kinds of artificial turf. Their study showed that on a 98 degree day artificial turf was on average significantly hotter than natural grass, asphalt, and concrete (117, 78, 94, and 109 degrees respectively). The highest recorded temperature on artificial turf during that 98 degree day (during this study) was 200 degrees. Spraying the field with water did significantly lower the temperature of the surface, but only for twenty minutes. They also concluded that "when the temperature [of the turf] reaches 122 degrees it takes less than 10 minutes to cause injury to skin. At this temperature, the surface had to be cooled be-

fore play was allowed to continue on the surface".

While artificial turf fields do not require regular irrigation or mowing, the University of Arkansas Turfgrass Science department states that, "it is a myth that synthetic fields require less maintenance than natural turfgrass fields or to say that artificial turf fields are maintenance free. Synthetic fields require 1) additional infill, 2) irrigation because of unacceptably high temperatures on warm-sunny days, 3) chemical disinfectants, 4) sprays to reduce static cling and odors, 5) drainage repair and maintenance, 6) erasing and repainting temporary lines, and 7) removing organic matter accumulation."

In a recent report given by the Michigan State University Certified Sports Turf Manager, "the typical annual maintenance costs of our artificial turf fields ranged from \$13,720-\$39,220, while the typical annual maintenance costs of our natural turf fields had a similar range of \$8,133-\$48,960.

Comparing the cost of maintaining artificial turf fields depends on the time scope you use. Exact numbers are difficult to obtain, but the overall trend across different reports remain similar. Natural fields cost much less to construct (our research approximated the cost at around \$200,000-\$400,000) when compared to synthetic fields (\$600,000 for a lower end field, and up to a million dollars for premium artificial turf). In the short term-1 to 10 years-artificial fields required less maintenance cost, but after a period of 10 years natural fields tended to cost much less to maintain (one report indicated that a natural soil based system cost \$33,522 per year after 10 years vs \$109,013 per year for artificial turf). This is mainly due to the life-span of artificial turf, which suggests replacing the surface after 10-15 years. The University of Arkansas also raises the issue of disposal once an old field is replaced, "there is a hidden cost of disposal. Because the field is filled and top-dressed with a crumb rubber material (typically made from ground automobile tires), the material may require special disposal. Disposal costs are estimated at \$130,000 plus transportation and landfill charges".

The industry and science of artificial turf has gone through at least four major evolutions in its development, and has come a long way since its first debut at the Astrodome. The newest generations of artificial turf better mimic the attributes of natural grass making it a viable option for many schools at every level (the University of Texas recently decided to convert to artificial turf).

The answer to the question of "which is better" is likely not to be answered with any certainty any time soon. Around every corner of this subject are contradictions. Out of the top 25 top rated NFL fields only 2 are artificial turf (the rest are natural grass), and a poll of recent NFL players showed that over 70% of them preferred natural grass. Additionally many colleges that once showcased artificial turf have since converted back to grass. On the other hand many universities are still using artificial turf, and its popularity with high schools across the nation is without question.

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Local Students Named Wrangler Division All Star Rodeo Team Co-Captains

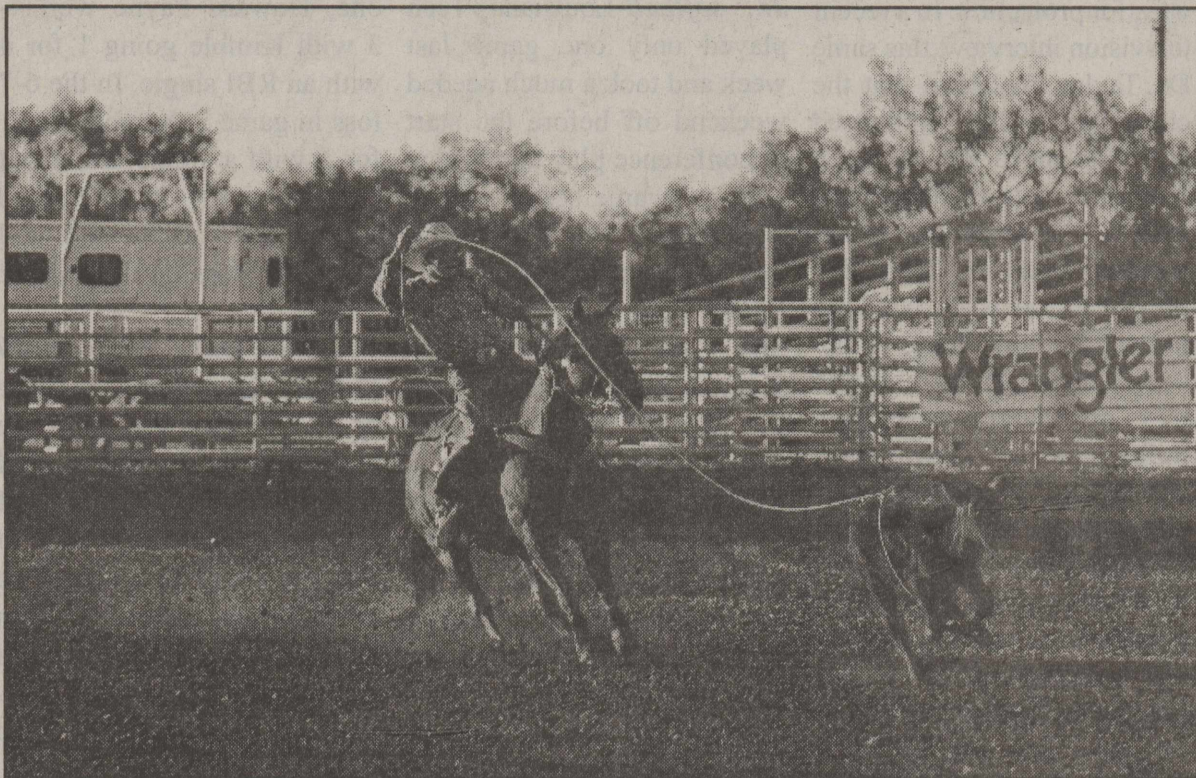


Photo By David Jennings

Chance Campbell in the Calf Roping Event at the Eldorado Jr. High Rodeo.

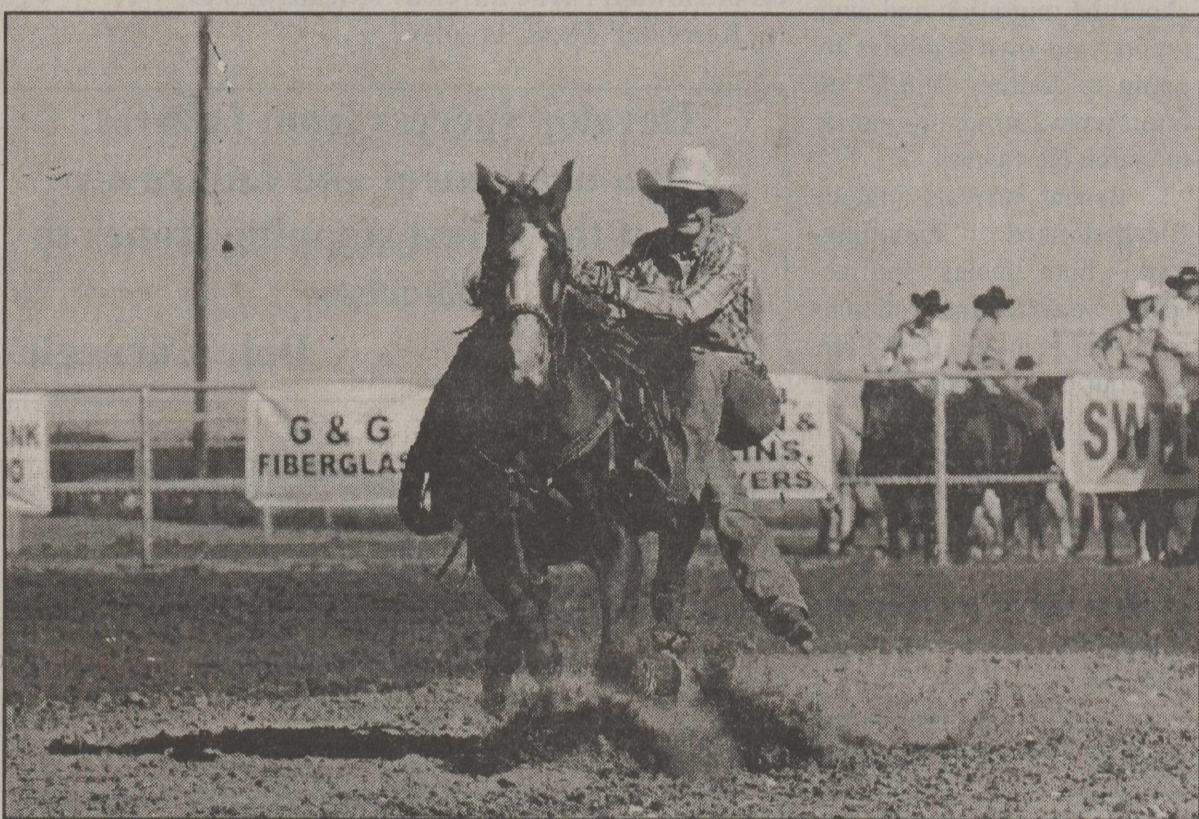


Photo By David Jennings

Macie Friess competing in the Goat Tying Event at the Eldorado Jr. High Rodeo.

(DENVER 2010)- The National High School Rodeo Association- Wrangler Division (NHSRA-WD), the oldest and largest youth rodeo organization in North America, has named Macie Friess and Chance Campbell, both 8th grade students at Sonora Middle School as co-captains of the prestigious Wrangler All-Star Rodeo Team for the Wrangler Division. Friess and Campbell were selected to the team by a vote of fellow Wrangler Division (WD) Wrangler All-Star Rodeo team members.

The NHSRA-WD and Wrangler created the Wrangler All-Star Rodeo Team in 1998 to recognize over 1,200 junior high and high school student athletes across the United States and Canada for their leadership qualities, academic performance and athletic achievements. The WD Wrangler All-Star Rodeo Team is fashioned after the prestigious Wrangler Champion Pro Rodeo Team, which includes rodeo superstars like Trevor Brazile, Stran Smith,

Kody Lohstroh, Guilherme Marchi, Kaycee Field, Will Lowe, Rod Hay, Hall-of-Famer, and the late Jim Shoulders. Similar to their professional counterparts, members of the WD Wrangler All-Star Rodeo team wear official Wrangler competition apparel consisting of Wrangler Twenty X shirts embroidered with the team logo and Wrangler competition jeans. Of this group, a select few have been elected as co-captains to serve in a team leadership capacity.

"We are extremely proud to have these fine young athletes lead the Wrangler Division Wrangler All-Star Rodeo Team," said Jeff Chadwick, Wrangler Director of Special Events. "Their impressive accomplishments will no doubt serve them well as representatives of the sport of rodeo in the coming year."

The National High School Rodeo Association- Wrangler Division is the world's largest rodeo organization with over 10,000 members in 41 states, five Canadian Provinces and Australia. The NHSRA origi-

nated 60 years ago to promote education, North America's great western heritage, and the sport of rodeo. For more information on the NHSRA-WD visit their official web site at <http://nhsrawranglerdivision.org>

Macie and Chance will compete in April, during the Region II Rodeo Finals in San Angelo, TX at the Spur Arena. Friess will compete in Breakaway Roping, Goat Tying and Ribbon Roping. Campbell will compete in Calf Roping, Chute Dogging, Goat Tying, Ribbon Roping and Team Roping. Other Sonora Middle School Rodeo Team members competing in Region II are Cody Barber and Zella Powers.

Spring Means 4-H Judging Teams

By Pascual Hernandez,
Sutton County Agricultural
Extension Agent



Pay ATTENTION kids, if you're interested in the outdoors, livestock, or wildlife. Sutton County 4-H looking for youth (ages 8-18) to form judging teams. These will be wool, mohair, range science, or livestock judging teams. Participants will get an understanding in the areas of livestock, range, and wildlife needs as well as resource management skills. Hands-on activities provide visual examples and opportunities to learn subject matter, but also decision-making skills. It is also fun.

Wool and mohair judging are two separate contests in which teams evaluate wool and mohair on grade, texture, crimp, etc. Judging contests include the classification of 20 fleeces

according to fineness, length and yield. Judges also evaluate two classes of four fleeces each.

Range Science itself has two contests: Range Evaluation and Pasture Grass Identification. Contestants identify 20 to 40 range plants; determine use, condition, site and management practices for a range area; they also evaluate and place four range plots.

Participants compete in 4-H teams of 3 or 4 members, according to age divisions. Contests are held throughout the spring. We will attend several contests in our area: Ozona, Eldorado, Kerville, Boerne, Fredericksburg, and Del Rio. There is also a district contest. The top 3 senior (high school-

age) teams at district competition advance to Texas 4-H RoundUp (state competition) held at Texas A&M each June. While there, participants will get to take part in contests, assemblies, dances, as well as meet youth from across the state and tour the campus. Senior 4-H age consists of ages 14 and up.

If you'd like to have your kids explore these activities with such a rich tradition in our area, please call Extension Agent, Pascual Hernandez, at 387-3101. Range Science will be meeting on Mondays at 4 p.m. at the Extension Office. For details on the Wool & Mohair project, please contact coach Gary Leonard at 387-6157.

Game Warden Field Notes

Submitted

• **Numbers add up to legal trouble:** Tarrant County Game Wardens Clint Borchardt and Chelle Mount were checking fishermen along the West Fork of the Trinity River on February 21. The first of two boats they checked had four fishermen. The section behind the last seat was filled to the top of the transom with 122 white bass. The second boat had two fishermen and 64 white bass in their ice chest. All six fishermen received citations for over the limit of white bass.

• **Crappie fishermen come up short:** Polk County Game Warden David Johnson was patrolling Kickapoo Creek for water safety violations on February 22 when he noticed several boats taking advantage of the crappie bite up the creek. While making contact with three subjects, a water safety inspection was conducted. When a personal flotation device was pulled from below the front deck, the warden noticed a holding basket full of crappie. Several citations were issued for possession of undersized crappie and no fishing license.

ANNOUNCING...

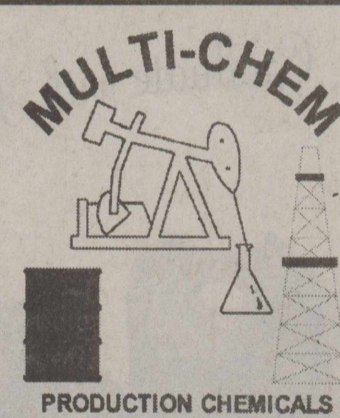
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All photographs must be framed and ready to hang. Minimum print size 5x7, maximum print size 11x14. Age groups: 5th grade & under/6th grade -12th grade Adult/Professional. Photos due Monday May 3rd before 5:00 p.m. Entries will be received at the Sonora Chamber of Commerce and Eaton Hill Wildlife Sactuary Offices. Entry fee: \$2.00 per photograph, unlimited entries. For more information contact Eaton Hill at 325-387-2615. **Awards Ceremony & Open House - Eaton Hill Thursday, May 13, 2010 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**



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- 2 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 8700' EDWIN S MAYER JR - B39- #3 DW PATTERSON UTI/MIDLND 742 02/15/10 12 DRLG AHEAD 8095'
- 3 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 8675' EDWIN S MAYER JR - B38- #3 DW RINGO DRILLING I LP 16 02/17/10 10 DRLG AHEAD 8378'

TERRELL

- 1 SANDRIDGE E&P LLC 14000' OWENS -A- #1031A DW LARIAT SERVICES/ODE 4 01/16/10 42 AS DIRECTD EDWARDS
- NEW 1 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 6750' CANYON RANCH -112- #15E DW PATTERSON UTI/MIDLND 105 02/21/10 6 DRLG AHEAD 6501'
- NEW 2 HIGHMOUNT E&P TX 6750' CANYON RANCH -110- #5E DW RINGO DRILLING I LP 2 02/21/10 6 DRLG AHEAD 6521'

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April 3, 2010
and "Breakfast With the Easter Bunny"
at 8:30am
at the Apex Automotive & Collision Center at 115 Concho St. (Old Ford House)
Goodies, Prizes, Pancakes, Games, & photo with the Bunny at the Breakfast
Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Eaton Hill Treasure Hunt - starts at 11:00am at the Apex Automotive & Collision Center
Don't Forget the Golden Money Eggs! Grand Prize Ticket \$1.00
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Royalty Arriving:
Continued from Front Page

of at least the innermost layers of butterflies.

This year the weather where the Monarchs overwinter has been brutal, with torrential rains and mudslides, and Monarch butterflies cannot withstand the world washing away around them. Dr. Chip Taylor, the Director of "Monarch Watch," estimates that 50 to 60 percent of the Monarch population didn't make it. How do they count them? Well, nobody actually counts them in the winter. When the Monarchs are on the fir trees, they are measured in hectares of trees holding clusters of them. (A hectare is 2.47 acres). According to a graph on the "Journey North" website, this winter it was estimated that there were 1.92 hectares of butterflies. Since 1975, when the people studying them finally figured out where the Monarchs roost, the most ever counted was over 20 hectares. The average is 7.44 hectares. So 1.92 hectares isn't so many Monarchs, especially since that's the number before they started north.

Now the survivors are headed into a part of Texas that has recently seen freezing weather, high winds, and snow. There have already been sightings in the Rio Grande Valley, but the numbers seem low.

The good news in this is that the moisture should bring us an abundance of milkweeds. Most people hear the "weed"

part milkweed, don't like them, don't want them, think they are pest plants...you name it. But the Monarch butterflies depend on milkweed for food, for a place to lay their eggs, and in a roundabout way, for protection. In a recent television interview, this same Dr. Taylor explained that the chemicals in the milkweed are what make the Monarch butterflies taste absolutely terrible to the birds that would normally feast on them. No milkweed, no nasty taste, no protection from being somebody's breakfast. As more and more open land is developed, milkweeds are disappearing like crazy. "Monarch Watch" has started a campaign to encourage individuals, highway departments, and landscapers to plant more milkweed. Eaton Hill is working on it—it's too late for this spring, but people can plant now and have butterfly food ready for when the Monarchs come through in the fall.

You can find information about the migration and even report your own sightings by going to "Journey North" at: <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/monarch/News.html>

Recent arrivals include Black-chinned hummingbirds—both males and females. So watch for Monarchs and other returnees (don't forget your cameras) and Hit the Trails!

grabbed him by the collar and threw him across the room, and left.

The next night, after he finished his 3th beer, the doorbell rang.

He walked slowly to the door and found the same six-foot cockroach standing there. The big bug punched him in the stomach, then left.

The next night, after he finished his 1st beer, the doorbell rang again. The same six-foot cockroach was standing there. This time he was kneed in the groin and hit behind the ear as he doubled over in pain. Then the big bug left.

The fourth night Harold didn't drink at all. The doorbell rang. The cockroach was standing there. The bug beat the snot out of Harold and left him in a heap on the living room floor.

The following day, Harold went to see his doctor. He explained events of the preceding four nights.

"What can I do?" he pleaded.

"Not much," he doctor replied. "There's just a nasty bug going around."

Every night, Harold would go down to the liquor store, get a six pack, bring it home, and drink it while he watched TV. One night, as he finished his last beer, the doorbell rang. He stumbled to the door and found a six-foot cockroach standing there. The bug

One Nasty Bug

Broncos
At the Next Level

Submitted


Meghan Krieg-'07 Sonora graduate, Louisiana Tech, Jr., softball-Louisiana Tech played only one game last week and took a much needed weekend off before the start of conference play this Friday with a 3 game series against Utah State. On Wednesday, the Techsters beat Mississippi Valley State 3-2 in the bottom of the 10th. Meghan had a career high and WAC season high 17 strike outs. She struck out at least 1 batter in every inning but one and in 2 of the innings struck out the side. She moved into 6th on the La Tech all time strikeout record with 441. Meghan was a WAC Pitcher of the Week nominee for the 3rd time in the 6th week of this season.

Kimble Luna-'08 Sonora graduate, Howard Payne, So., softball-The Lady Jackets of Howard Payne traveled to Kerrville, Texas to play

Schreiner University in a double header last week. In game one, Howard Payne won 4-3 with Kimble going 1 for 4 with an RBI single. In the 6-7 loss in game 2, Kimble was 1 for 4 with a single and 1 put out. The Lady Jackets stand 1-4 in ASC action and will host Sull Ross on the 26th & 27th.


John Duke Hudson-'09 Sonora graduate, College of Charleston, Fr., golf-The College of Charleston golf team finished with a 904 which placed them 13th at the Rio Pinar Invitational at the Rio Pinar Country Club in Orlando, Fla. John Duke led the Cougar golf team, shooting a 77-74-71—222 that placed him in a tie for 21st. On March 28-29 the Cougars will host the Hootie at Bulls Bay at Bulls Bay Golf Club in Awendaw, S.C

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Dale Carnegie


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Date: Sunday, March 28, 2010

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Garage Sale: Friday, March 26, 210 E. 2nd St., 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., childrens furniture, clothes, home decor, dvd's and much more.

Moving Sale: 302 Cornell St., Friday, March 26, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 27, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Clothes, cabinets, some furniture, lots of toys, etc.

Yard Sale: 126 E. Castlehill Rd., Friday, March 26, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 27, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00, too many items to list.

Reward

LOST DOG: Male Shitzu, white and brown spots, very furry, and answers to Roscoe. If found, please return. He was lost on the block of 506 Wardlaw St. last Friday, March 12th. Please call 325-206-2024.

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Looking for a Hunting Lease: 1500 to 2500 acre minimum, for a 4-6 man group, long term if possible, lodging not necessary, the rougher the land the better, electricity would help, we would like to hunt does, and prefer to game manage if possible. We are small business owners in the Houston Area, and just wanting to find a nice place to hunt and relax, FMI please call 713-823-0204.

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The Devil's River News

Photos By
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