

# The Devil's River News

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SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, December 29, 2011

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THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



## A FINAL REMEMBRANCE

Looking back into the future



By Dusty Padilla

As I watched the last of our troops being pulled out of Iraq; I got a surreal feeling of accomplishment. As the gate closed shut on the border and the final hand shake was given, I couldn't help but think about what will happen next. I'm sure we have all asked that question in the

last couple of months when talks first started about getting our troops back home. All I can say is; I only hope everyone has learned from the last 8 years. So much can be said about what has transpired due to all the bloodshed. I remember the first time I stepped foot onto the soil in Iraq. It was af-

ter that day my life changed forever. I'm sure that everyone that has been involved in this war will be changed in some way. There is both good and bad to us leaving Iraq; however it's how we deal with it that will solidify our nations as an ally.

A lot has happened in

the last 8 years of war. Many people were lost on both sides and a nation was torn apart by constant conflict and fighting. When I was young and going through school, my favorite subject was always history. I found myself intrigued by our past and how it sets up our future. Very seldom, however, do you find yourself actually becoming part of history. This is a defining notion for the one's that served over in Iraq and Afghanistan. Whether we think it or not; we are part of history. It may not be in the history books of the future, or it might, but we each hold onto a bit of what has happened over there. We made history when the statue of Saddam Hussein was torn down and dragged through the city. We made history as we liberated a country from its grueling dictator and saved its people from his wrath. We made history as we pulled through each city and fought fire-fight after fire-fight in order to keep people we knew little about safe. We made history when we were able to see a country show its voice for the first time and vote. The truth is, ever since the first forces stepped foot into Iraq, we made history. With that being said, there comes a solemn moment in your life when you can look back and say "I was there".

The troops leaving Iraq only means one thing. It is time for the people of Iraq to take the reins and make their footprints into their future. The moves they make in the next year will either define who they are as a country or set them back. I'm sure a lot have doubts that they will be able to keep in the direction we have helped them achieve. I'm also sure that some of us look at them and think "as soon as we leave, they will go back to the way they were". The sad realization is; no one really knows and there is nothing we can do. All we "can" do is hope for the best and pray. One

thing is certain; Iraq's future has been paved with the blood and sacrifices of many lives. They have come a long way in the last 8 years. The country is no longer divided into three different states. Men and women alike were able to speak up for the first time without a threat of death. Iraq's economy now booms and grows with each passing day. Though the country is still separated to a certain extent and they will still have to deal with groups of people who will want the old ways; I believe in the end we will see something come from all of it.

For now our focus should be upon the men and women returning to us. They have gone through so much over there and most may never be the same. It's our duty as a patriotic country to get behind those that give us our freedoms. I have no way of describing the feeling I get when I see on the news that one of our veteran's has survived through a combat zone, only to come home and be killed. Heck I remember when I returned home from Iraq. Things were defiantly different. With everything that I did and still do to this day. We owe it to our brave troops to show them how much we truly appreciate what they do. I can't express this enough. Remember, we weren't over there because a bunch of us wanted to go have some fun. We were over there because we were told to be. Maybe it wasn't for the right reasons and maybe we should have done things differently. In the end we helped a nation overcome its fears and realize that there are better things to come.

As this year comes to an end I hope that we have all learned something. Though mistakes were made and bad things happened. Good still came out strong for us all. 2012 will prove to be an exciting year for each and every one of us. Have a safe and wonderful New Year.

## Broncos Are Undefeated District Champions



The seniors pose with the district championship trophy.

Story and Photo By Ray Glasscock

When the Broncos took the field last Friday night, they knew that they had the chance to win the District Championship and join the seven previous Bronco teams that finished as 10 and 0 District Champions. At the pep rally, Coach Sine talked about how hard it is to finish with 10 wins and no losses. "I never played on a 10 and 0 team, and, in 20 years of coaching, I have never coached a 10 and 0 team," Sine commented.

The game with the Coleman Bluecats promised to be more interesting than the previous four blowout victories. Coleman had made a remarkable turn around going from 1 and 9 to 7 and 2 with no district losses. As it turned out, the Bluecats played a good game and it was just what the Broncos needed to prepare for the playoffs.

The Bluecats won the toss and elected to defer until the second half. Zach Badeaux re-

turned the opening kickoff to the 30 yard line. The Broncos came to line of scrimmage and opened the game with their longest drive of the season, as they ran 16 plays to travel 70 yards using up 7:23 worth of clock time. Here are some of the plays from the drive: Edward Garza started with a five yard run, Word Hudson gained 14 on a pass reception, Imoni Cross moved the chains on the quick pass from Clayton Parks, Cadesman Pope earned 13 yards via a pass reception, Cross completed a pass to Hudson, Garza took a pitch from Cross and followed Kade Wimberley 's lead block for a first down, Pope moved the chains on third and long with a tough catch over the middle, the Bluecats were off sides, Cross ran the misdirection keeper to the one yard line, and Garza got the touchdown on a one yard from the heavy package that featured Wimberley leading the way and Kyle Patlan pulling from his tackle position. (I figured that the longest drive of the season deserved the longest sentence!) Wimberley kicked his first of five PATs making the score 7 to 0 with 4:31 left in the first quarter.

## Firefighters Respond to Vehicle Fire

January 13



Photo By Maray Cearley

Local volunteer Fire fighters were called out Saturday afternoon 17 miles south of Sonora to respond to a vehicle on fire. Nobody was injured when the 2005 Chevrolet Impala caught on fire.




### Senior Center Activities

Thurs. December 22 - Christmas Lunch  
 Fri. December 23 - Happy Birthday *Linda Hash*  
 Mon. December 26 - Happy Birthday *Linda Cumpian*  
 Tues. December 27 - Birthday Cake for December  
 Wed. December 28 - Happy Birthday *Guillermina Martinez*

### Senior Center Menu

Thurs. December 22 - Beef pepper steak, mashed potatoes, capri vegetables, wheat roll, fruit, milk  
 Fri. December 23 - Center Closed for Christmas  
 Mon. December 26 - Center Closed for Christmas  
 Tues. December 27 - BBQ beef on a bun, tator tots, milk, carrots & zucchini, Ambrosia  
 Wed. December 28 - Baked chicken & dumplings, fruit cup, tossed salad, wheat roll, 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).



## Sonora Church Directory

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


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## The Elegant Nature Of Charity

March 24

Of the greatest gifts we can give ourselves nothing costs less, but is worth more than simple kindness. It is a concept that defies any real attempt at description. Kindness can be the small act of opening a door for someone, or as large as forgiving a debt. It's the many different facets of kindness that give rise to the only word I can find that best defines it. Kindness is elegant.

The First Baptist Church, Minco, Oklahoma youth group came to Sonora last week (Tuesday-Saturday) to work on Rosie and Adam Fay's house. FBC Minco brought a total of 19 people to work on the house and the property.

They painted the entire house, cleaned up the yard, replaced the old close line with a brand new one, planted bushes, plants, flowers, and a tree around the property, as well as replaced some old and rotten wood on the house.

The leader of the FBC Minco youth group was Riley Prather (Student Minister)

The whole thing was financed by both FBC Minco and an anonymous member of FBC Sonora.

Various members of FBC Sonora provided the evening dinners and also provided several places to stay each night for the Oklahoma team (i.e., the boys and male leaders all stayed at the FBC Sonora's parsonage, several other girls stayed at Don and Anita Spiller's house, and the rest of the girls stayed at Blayze and Amy Sykes' house.)

Rosie Fay was told by a passer-by, "Your house looks very pretty!" Rosie replied, "No! It's elegant!"

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### New Year's Eve Celebration/Dance

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**Tuesdays**  
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**Wednesdays**  
 5:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
 6:00 p.m. Community Bible Study  
 6:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth (St. John's Sunday House)  
 7:00 p.m. Sr. High Youth (St. John's Sunday House)

**Holiday Schedule**  
 Christmas Cantata Sunday, Dec. 18 @ 10:55 am  
 Christmas Eve Service Sat., Dec. 24 @ 6:00 pm  
 Christmas Worship Sunday, Dec. 25 @ 10:00 am



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# Sutton County Commissioners Court Faces Drought Decisions

## June 30, 2011

Sutton County Commissioners Court faced three controversial issues in their meeting of June 27th, all of which are attributable to the severe drought. Accordingly, the sale and use of all fireworks have been banned by a Disaster Declaration. This ban is in effect until July 5th. Sale or use of fireworks during this time will be punishable by fine.

Superintendent of the Texas A&M Experiment Station Dr. Charles "Butch" Taylor commented that, "the decision that the county commissioners made to ban fireworks is a good idea. It is a reasonable response to the drought conditions that exist in Sutton County. Right now it is so dry the probability of ignition is much greater than normal. It's very understandable that they are doing what they can to reduce the chances of a wildfire." Dr. Taylor (whose main research interest is in the use of prescribed fire) commented

that the current drought conditions are reaching historical levels.

"The palmer drought index is just one method of measuring drought conditions. We've been keeping records at the experiment station for over 90 years and in the course of that period only twice (1953 and 2000) has the Palmer index been at negative four [extreme drought conditions]. We currently find ourselves getting close to reaching that level again in 2011. The La Nina weather pattern which has created this drought situation is breaking apart, but unfortunately we are moving into the seasonally dry part of our year. There is a real possibility that we could stay dry through July and August. We might get a few showers over the next few months but at this point it's going to take a pretty major precipitation event to get us out of this drought."

Additionally the commissioners decided to close Allison Park until further notice. Due to the stagnancy of the river, the bacteria levels have risen to unacceptable levels. Judge Carla Garner commented that, "the levels of E. coli bacteria have been low up until a week ago. We have been monitoring that very closely (at least once a month). The decision to close the park was a decision based upon the safety of the people that might be using the park. We are doing this out of an abundance of caution".

E. coli is a bacteria that is commonly found in the lower intestine of warm blooded animals. There are many different strains of this bacteria (most of which are harmless), and can be found just about everywhere. There are strains of the bacteria that are very harmful and can cause severe illness (certain strains of E. coli can also be transmitted from animal to human). The fact that it exists in the river at Allison Park is not uncommon, but the drought (and consequently lower water levels) have resulted in an increase in the amount of bacteria found in the water. When the water levels decrease the flow also decreases leaving a perfect environment for the bacteria to flourish. Once the river rises the bacteria levels drop, simply because the water flow cleans the river.

The third issue that arose was excessive watering at the Cemetery, particularly on Sundays. Over watering is causing water waste and run off. The Cemetery water system is based on well water, which is running low. Judge Garner added that, "That well has failed us before in time of drought, and we don't want to have a situation where overuse could result in it failing again. If the well dries up, there will be no water for anyone."

# Sonora Elementary Receives Distinguished Performance Award for 2010-2011

## may 5 2010

Sonora Elementary School has been recognized by the Division of NCLB Program Coordination at the Texas Education Agency for their outstanding academic performance in 2010-2011.

The criteria for Distinguished Performance Schools in Texas include:

- Title I, Part A campus in 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011;
- Maintained a campus residing population of 40% or more low-income in 2010-2011;
- Met AYP in 2009 and 2010;
- Achieved a campus rating in Spring 2010 of Exemplary;
- Achieved a campus rating in Spring 2009 of either Exemplary or Recognized; and
- Achieved a campus rating in Spring 2008 of either Exemplary or Recognized.

Congratulations to the staff and students at Sonora Elementary for your accomplishments!!!

*An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves."*

**Bill Vaughn**

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Special Seating, Heavy hors d'oeuvres  
Doors open at 7:00 pm  
**General Admission: \$15/Singles, \$25/Couples**  
Doors open at 8:00 pm  
Party favors for all - BYOB  
**December 31st - 7:00 pm - 12:00 midnight**  
Sponsored by Big Lake Chamber of Commerce  
Call 325-884-2980 for advance tickets

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Bridal Selections

Johnna Wade & Gary Gibson  
Steven Frazier & Brea Hughes  
Katie & Quincy Crain  
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Cash Jennings & Catherine Warren

Baby

Zed & Ashley Snodgrass

*A flower for everyday...*

F.Y.I.

Viva Sonora will be selling bricks to be made into a sidewalk around the new city park located on Deerwood Drive. The money that is raised will be rotated back into community projects. If you would like to reserve a permanent brick you pick up a form at the Bank and Trust or call Juanita Gomez 206-2698 or JoAnn Hernandez 206-0366.

**Are you interested in praying** for our country, our city, our loved ones? You are most welcome to meet in the Prayer Garden every Tuesday morning at 10:00AM. Bring a chair please. All are welcome. FMI call 325-387-3246.

**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.

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## School Bond Election: As May 14 Approaches The Conversation Continues

May 5, 2011

*\*Editors Note\* In order to continue the discussion over the upcoming May 14th bond election; School Board of Trustees member Dawn Cahill submitted the following article. She examines a detailed history of how the bond proposal came to be, and includes factual data to its future use.*

I would like to thank Mr. Blackbird for voicing his concern and bringing an issue that is much talked about into a public forum in his letter to the editor last week. I am glad to have the opportunity to address the questions he and others of the community have raised and try to clarify this issue.

Pursuing a new field house was never an "either/or" decision over educational infrastructure; rather it was an issue of health and safety. The field house was planned and money for it was saved for many years. During this planning and saving time frame, Sonora's economy was booming. For several years, we saw an upturn. The school operated efficiently and effectively, all the while adding money to savings. Exactly two years ago this month, the board voted on beginning construction of the

field house. Perhaps knowing then what we all know now about what happened not only to Sonora's economy but also to the nation's, that vote might have been different. But... we didn't know. Accordingly, any concerns about the cost of the field house needed to be raised 2-3 years ago. While on the other hand, the science lab renovations were only brought to the school board's attention after actual construction on the field house commenced. Once this matter was brought to the board's attention, the board pursued it (even though over one million dollars had just been spent for a much needed heating/air conditioning update in the middle and high schools). The board moved forward with the science lab project until our student population and property values declined so sharply, it became apparent the science labs would need to wait.

It has been said that athletics holds priority over academics, but please consider the following facts: last year when cuts were being made, the board specifically requested keeping 2 retired teachers as part time tutors because the administrators felt these teachers had a direct impact on the education of our students. As requested by administrators, the board added an English Language Arts teacher at the Middle School to better serve our children, as those classes were becoming too large. An additional math teacher was hired last year so students would not have to change teachers in the middle of the year, as a teacher would be retiring in December. We have a large number of aides who

help in the classroom. We strive to keep a low student to teacher ratio. It is hard to believe people say athletics is our priority when our EXEMPLARY Elementary School has the highest accountability rating given and was recently honored as a Title One Distinguished School. The district as a whole has the second highest rating and is recognized. These things do not happen by accident.

In Sonora, we are fortunate to excel at academics and extra-curricular activities. As a board member, my goal is excellence in ALL areas.

A quality school should provide students with a balance of quality academic programs and successful extracurricular opportunities. There is no doubt a direct correlation between them. Just as low academic standards are detrimental to the education of our children, so would be the lack of extracurricular options. Students participating in extracurricular activities show higher performance in the classroom. They are typically more responsible, disciplined, goal oriented, well rounded, psychologically and socially adjusted children. These experiences arm our children with the skills required for success after graduation; skills that cannot be learned in the classroom. The mission of Sonora Independent School District is to provide an education which best meets the needs of each individual student, assuring each the opportunity to be a responsible and productive citizen in the 21st century. Both extracurricular and academic experiences are necessary for

us to achieve this goal.

The priority should not be framed in terms of "athletics or academics"; rather, the priority should be our children.

I understand that without looking at the picture as a whole, there may be some misconceptions. I would ask that before you jump to conclusions or make assumptions, you take a moment to visit with our Superintendent Don Gibson, or speak to a board member. We are happy to meet with you and answer any questions. Sonora has a wonderful school--one that we should be proud of, one that we should build up, and one that we should promote.

Last fall the school board developed a committee consisting of 22 community members to evaluate the district's financial situation and to consider the merits of a possible bond issue. They met numerous times with Mr. Gibson and financial representatives of the school. The committee spent hours of volunteer time touring school facilities and discussing future needs necessary to maintain and enhance the educational experience for our students. They were charged with determining and prioritizing the districts needs and to ascertain whether or not a bond issue would be a viable option to maximize the district's funding. The committee consisted of members with a wide range of views and opinions; however, almost all of the members concluded and recommended to the board to pursue a bond election, especially consid-

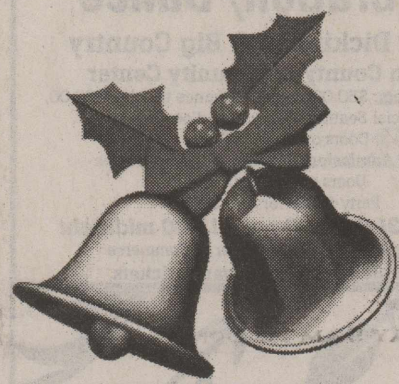
ering and understanding the concepts of recapture and what it means to be a Chapter 41 school district. For example, our current recapture rate is 36%. (In recent years it has been as high as 48%.) This means that for every tax dollar collected, 36 cents of it goes to the State of Texas leaving our district 64 cents. Bond issue funds are not subject to recapture and, therefore, would result in the district retaining more local tax dollars. Additionally and, more importantly, our existing tax rates (1.04 M&O and .08 I&S) would remain the same, even if property values declined to the \$500 million level where we stand today. Of note, a comparison of tax rates shows Sonora's current rate to be lower than 70% of the schools in our region. The committee evaluated our financial situation as well as the multi-billion dollar budget shortfall facing the state of Texas and determined a bond issue to be in the best interest of our students and the taxpayers. It would be the most efficient means to maximize funding necessary to properly educate our children. The board and I commended the committee for their diligent work and sincere efforts and we accepted their recommendation to pursue the bond election.

During the April 11th regular school board meeting, the board appointed a Bond Oversight Committee to ensure money is spent only on the items presented as part of the bond, should it be successful. Subject to their acceptance, the committee will consist of Rex Ann Friess, Diane Jacoby, Brady Johnson, Gary Leonard,

Gloria Lopez Bob Malone, and Shelly Shannon.

The school board is not asking for a bond election because we built a field house. All schools across the state are facing financial crisis. Our student population has decreased, while at the same time our tax values have fallen. This unfortunate scenario results in a significant decrease to the tax dollars we are entitled to keep and an increase to tax dollars we are required to pay back to the state. In addition, it appears the funding we typically receive from the state will be reduced in the coming year as well.

While we made significant cuts before adopting our budget last year, without cutting teaching positions, it is difficult to make much of an impact. Last year, we all but eliminated technology and transportation from the budget along with a 10% cut in all budgets across the board. Our maintenance/operating expenses stay relatively the same, whether we have 1000 students or 900. We are still making cuts, trying to absorb as many positions as we can without affecting education while at the same time maintaining highly qualified (certified to teach the subject taught) teachers in all areas. Without the bond, we will be forced to continue with a bare minimum (if any) budget for transportation and technology, and our student to teacher ratio will have to substantially increase. A vote in favor of the bond is one way to help maintain the standard our children deserve. A vote in favor of the bond will be keeping our children the priority.



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# A Visit With A Congressman

By Ben D. Taylor

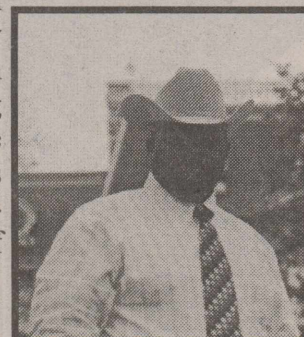
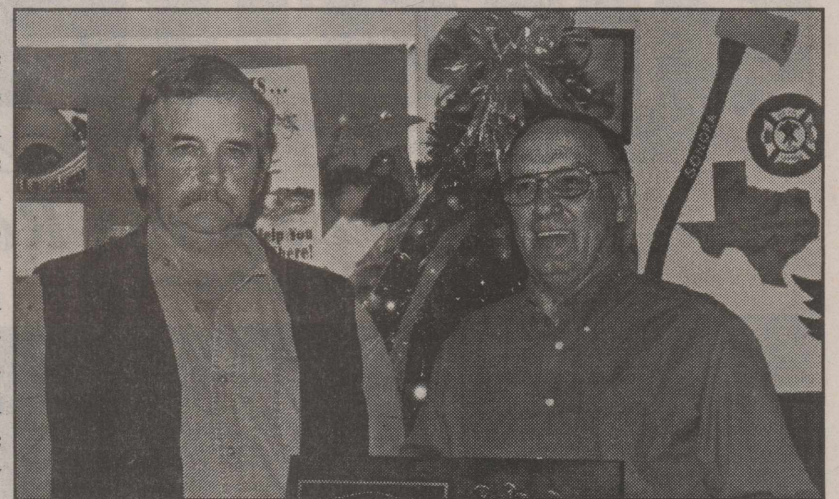
Congressman Francisco "Qui- job growth. That's not even co" Canseco came to Sonora considering the interference recently and took the time to it causes with our health care visit with his constituents about providers. We also took action the state of affairs in Washing- against the massive over regu- ton D.C. Canseco is a first time- lating Dodd-Frank Bill. It is congressman having won his 2,300 pages of regulations and seat over Ciro Rodriguez. red tape that holds back busi- In conversation with him, Can- nesces."

He also provided a three point plan that he feels will get involved with has all been re- America back on its feet. "We lated to the creation of new could get our economy rolling jobs. "It's important to note again if we do 3 things right that government does not cre- new. 1) repeal the health care Jobs, it is the private sector law and substitute it with com- that creates jobs. The govern- mon sense stuff, 2)cut 4 trillion ment is only there to make sure dollars out of current spend there is a fair playing field. In ing (real dollars), and 3)com- the last 3 years there has been pletely get rid of Dodd Frank. a massive number of rules and It would release capital, create regulations that interfere with jobs, by cutting 4 trillion re- our ability to create jobs. Ev- ducing regulations (represent ery bill that we pass is designed excess spending we have spent over the past 4 years). Over ment has on businesses." one million jobs would be cre- ated in the petroleum industry three actions that he felt were alone, and the positive conse- quences of this would infect "First we repealed the health- the rest of the world". care law. That new law was He then went on to discuss a job killer as well as being a his thoughts on education, and financial burden on business- commented that the real edu- es. It is just not conducive to cation of our children begins at home. "Education belongs

with a mother and a father. That's where it starts. We have schools here in Texas that are constrained not just from federal government. We have a Texas education agency that is extremely central- ized, and it needs to be re- formed. There are huge bur- dens of the government code that tells the school district what they can and cannot do. You can't educate kids in San Antonio the same way you do in Sonora. It begins in the home. We have a lot wrong in our education system. We have a lot of conflicting ideas and rules. I do not believe that the federal government has any role in the education of Texas Children. Canseco's view of what our government should be centers on only a few points. "The federal government should

make sure our borders are secure, in order to defend us against enemies both foreign and domestic. Make sure there is free flow of com- merce between states. To make sure there is a fair pay- ing field in our economy, and that the engine of the econo- my (which is the private sec- tor) stays healthy strong, and is imbued with a lot of free trade agreements with every country in the world so that our products can compete on a world market. Our country can get back to work again only if we get our spending under control, and that the federal government gets its nasty hands out of our econo- my and get regulations out of the way of business."

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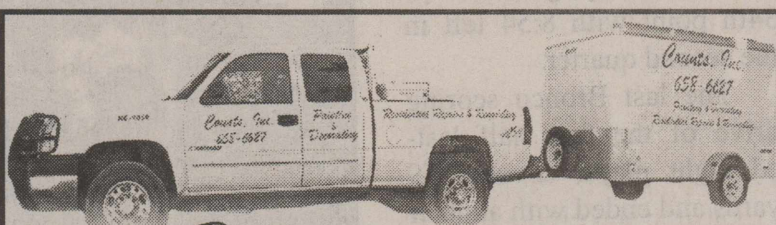
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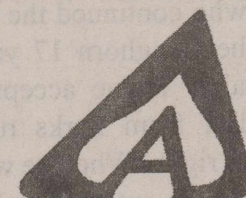
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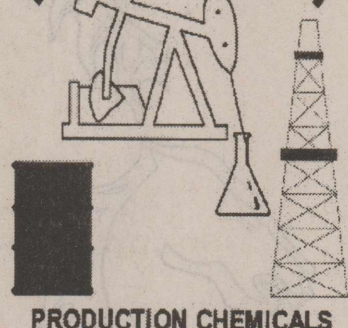
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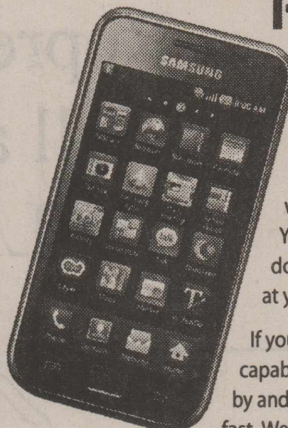
New 9000' Approach Operating Baker -A- #117 Nabors Drilling #709 1/28/11 O/G Ver Od  
New 9000' Approach Operating University 42-13 #15 Ringo Drilling I Lp #17 1/19/11 3 2150' O/G Ver Od  
9600' Burk Royalty Company Harris #1 Ringo Drilling I Lp #19 1/15/11 7 2510' O/G Dir Od  
6500' Eog Resources University 40-14 #4 H Cactus Drilling #102 1/13/11 9 O/G Hor Od  
9000' Approach Operating West #2315 Nabors Drilling #709 1/10/11 12 O/G Ver Od  
9000' Approach Operating Cinco Terry -M- #901 H Nabors Drilling #714 1/3/11 19 O/G Hor Od  
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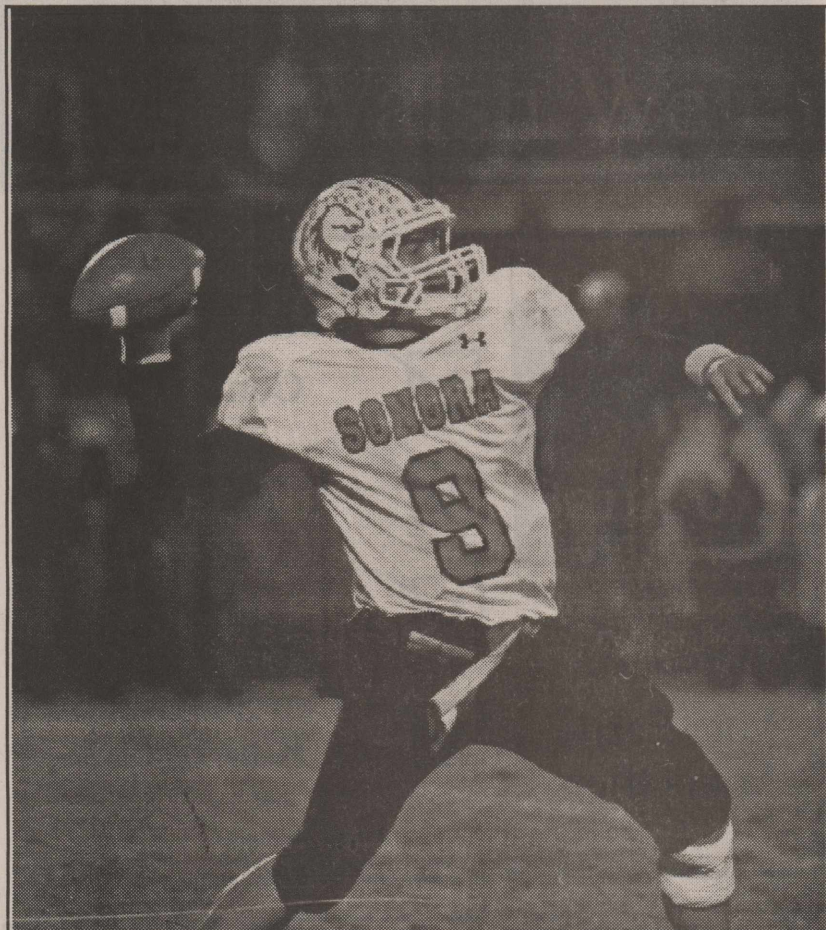


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# BRONCO SPORTS

## Bronco Express Rolls On November 3, 011



Clayton Parks throws it deep.

Photo and story by Ray Glasscock

Again last week, the Broncos dominated a weaker opponent with class as they defeated Harper by a score of 49 to 14. It is hard (possibly impossible) to find a weakness in this year's Broncos. Except for a rare turnover, the Broncos' starters scored on every opportunity with six Broncos scoring points. The average length of the scoring drives was two minutes and three seconds. The average scoring drive lasted four plays, the longest drive was nine plays, and two drives were of the one play variety.

The Bronco defense was just as impressive as the offense. Harper managed two first downs in the first half with one rushing yard and 32 yards of passing! In the first half, Reagan Randle, Harper's fine quarterback, was held to one yard rushing on nine carries. Harper's leading rusher for the game managed 22 yards on six carries.

On the third play of the game, Clayton Parks completed a 65 yard pass to Word Hudson who was forced out of bounds at the Longhorn seven yard line. Zach Badeaux started in motion from his flanker position, took the handoff from Parks, and ran to his left. Edward Garza took out the defensive back allowing Badeaux to score. Kade Wim-

berley kicked the PAT and the Broncos led 7 to 0 with 10:33 left in the first quarter.

As usual, the Bronco defense, led by Kyle Patlan, Damon Evans, and Sam Powers forced a three and out. Imoni Cross fielded the punt and started up the left sideline. He was stripped of the ball, but it bounced right to Jorge Villanueva who continued the return to the Longhorn 17 yard line. Dallas Payne accepted the handoff from Parks running to his right. When he was hemmed in, he cut back to his left and scored. The kick just barely missed to the right, and the score was 13 to 0 with 8:31 left in quarter one.

The Longhorns managed one first down on a completed pass. The drive ended when Davis Jimenez intercepted at midfield. Cross caught a 12 yard pass on fourth down to keep the drive alive. Cadesman Pope caught a short pass and turned it into a 33 gain to Harper's four yard line. After three plays, the Broncos had been backed up to 12 yard line. Parks lofted a pass to Hudson who made his patented, leaping catch for the touchdown. Parks then rolled to his right and threw to Hudson for the two point PAT. With 3:08 left in the first quarter, the Broncos led 21 to 0.

Harper's next drive lasted

four plays and ended when Powers recovered a fumble at Harper's 39 yard line. Garza scored on the first play on a run through the Harper defenders. Harper managed to block the PAT, and the scoreboard read Harper 0 - Visitor 27 with 1:56 on the scoreboard clock.

After another three and out, Cross fielded the punt at the 50 yard line and raced for an apparent touchdown. However, it was called back for a block in the back. This drive ended when Randle intercepted a Parks' pass and returned it 30 yards to the Bronco 40 yard line. Four plays later, Payne intercepted Randle.

Hudson hauled in a 35 yard pass to the Longhorn 29 yard line. Pope's catch and run set up a first and goal. Parks hit Badeaux over the middle for a nine yard touchdown. Wimberley boomed the PAT through the uprights for the 34th point with 8:54 left in the second quarter.

The last Bronco scoring drive of the first half lasted eight plays, covered 59 yards and ended with another touchdown pass from Parks to Badeaux. The PAT snap was high and Payne leaped to catch it. The ball bounced off his hands, and Wimberley caught it. He threw a pass that was tipped by Nathan Villa and finally caught by Jesse Vaquera. At first, the officials threw a flag. After they talked about it, the play was allowed to stand as Villa must have been an eligible receiver. The score at the half was 42 to 0.

Harper received the opening kickoff. Will Dutton hustled down the field and tackled the returner at Harper's eight yard line. Four plays later, Harper was punting from their own end zone. Erik Santana carried three times on the Broncos' last scoring drive, making the last Bronco touchdown on a 31 yard run. Mr. W ended the scoring with his kick. With the score at 49 to 0, the majority of the starters retired to the sideline.

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Photo By Ray and Nancy Glasscock

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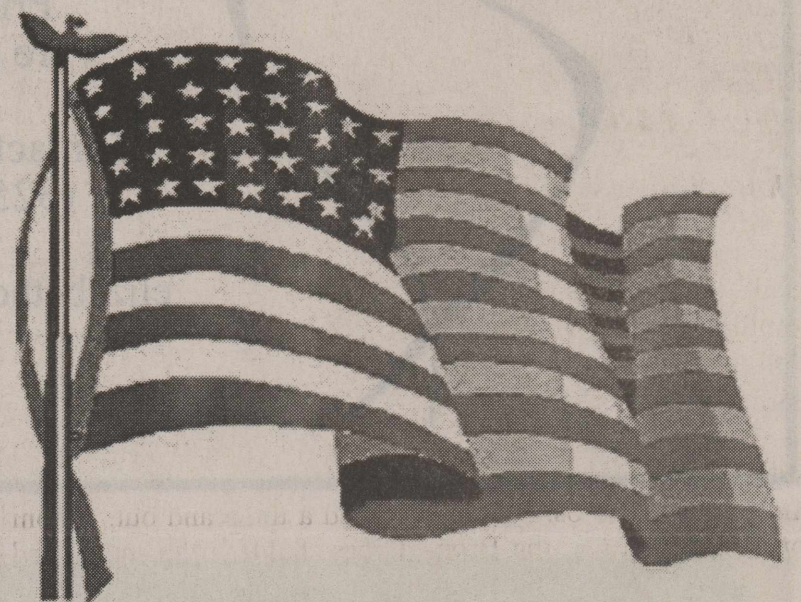
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# Are Kindness, Honor, and Respect Endangered Species?

An Editorial

By Ben D. Taylor

Over the course of my lifetime I have seen our world shrink. It has not decreased in size, but in distance. As a child raised in a world without cell phones, internet, or email, I had a

sense of wonder in me about the wider world. As a young adult my wonder increased as the development of the internet showed me that world. Computer screens became the window to the soul of humanity, for both the beautiful and

the grotesque, and all of us started to become tuned in to a worldwide community. At first we were simply observers, but it wasn't long before email made us direct participants in this new world.

We began interacting with each other on a level never seen before in the history of humanity. Our world became smaller as the days of handwritten letters were replaced by instant typeset messages. True sentiment was replaced by immediate contact, and we blazed forward with text messaging.

Gone are the days of party lines, and even the use of human voice to pass messages. Text messages allow all of us the ability of communication without the hassle of true connection. It is here that each of us started to become detached from kindness, because real kindness cannot be read. It must be heard and felt. The inflections of love, sorrow, and regret are only truly passed on with the subtle tones of the human voice. How many text conversations have each of us been a party of where things were taken in the wrong context? In those situations the best you can hope for is hurt feelings, and the worst is a misunderstanding of intent. This kind of communication set us all free. We are now free to tell people things without the burden of accountability that kindness used to require from all of us. How much easier is it to text or email someone unkind words or bad news, than to do it in person?

The next step we made

into this new world gave us constant contact with each other. Before social interaction websites like Facebook and Myspace, we only visited this world but now these websites allow each of us to build a home in this new frontier. We decorate our houses with pictures and videos. We tend our garden of friends by posting messages of what we are doing and how we feel. We have created digital cities of homes, businesses, and art. These cities have hundreds of millions of occupants, but no neighbors. Unlike the neighborhoods of brick and wood, our digital homes are free to do whatever we want without the accountability of honor. We can say hateful things without ever having to look our neighbors in the eye.

Everything with creation happens in sequence. Over the first seven days in which God created our existence, He started with light, then the heavens and the earth, and finally life. The thing about creation is that every time you make something, you create its opposite. God created light, but its absence became known as darkness. When He made the heavens the absence of heaven became Hell, and with His creation of life came death. The new world we have created is no different. We created the internet,

and gave up true interaction. With our insatiable hunger for instant communication we created email and text messaging, and we sold kindness to pay for it. We took ownership of this creation and built our homes of unaccountability on the ruins of honor.

I am not separated from this creation. As a child I looked with wonder through this digital window of humanity's making and boldly stepped through the threshold. Nor am I claiming that email, text messaging, and facebook are evil as I use all of them. Just as the human beings that created them, they can at times be both kind and cruel. It's how we choose to interact in this world that defines its purpose.

This world we created is still young, and as with the young it can say hateful things out of ignorance. I suppose my current conflict comes with the fact that while I grew up with this young world; I am no longer a child. This new world is still a child, and each of us that live in it must learn to respect each other. I fear though that while our world has become smaller the people in it have become smaller as a consequence. Please remember to respect kindness and honor before you press 'send'.

## Sonora Academy of Arts

**Offering Dance Classes  
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\*Students must be over 3 years old.

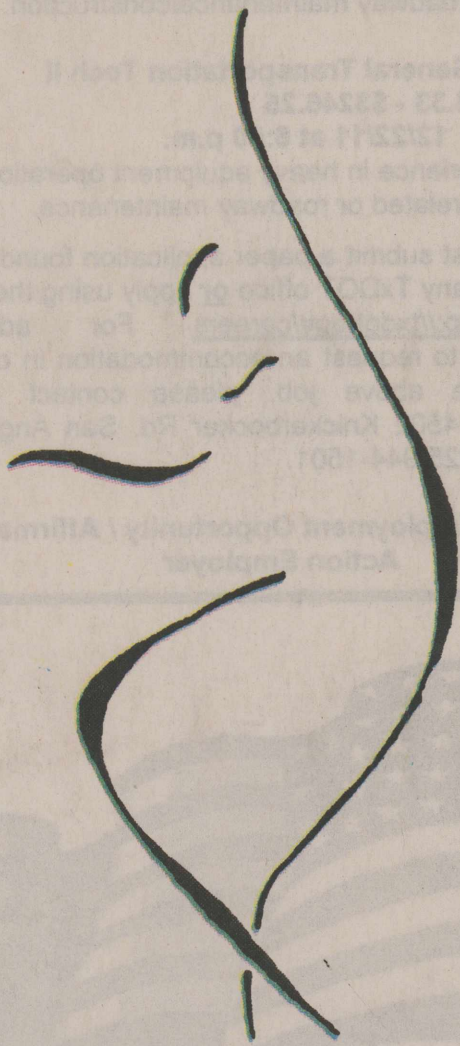
*The 2012 Semester Will Begin  
January 4, 2012.*

*Classes in Sonora held on each  
Monday and Tuesday*

*Classes in Ozona held on each  
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Private Sessions  
are also available.

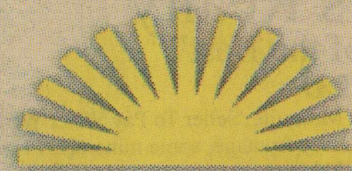
Contact Lizzie Chavez at  
(325) 387-4796 or  
email:  
elizabethchavez7@gmail.com



*For those who serve*

... *And* to those who await a safe return home, our best wishes for a joyous holiday season.

Please join us for a Christmas Open House Celebration  
December 19th - 23rd  
Christmas cookies, wassail, and plenty of holiday spirit will be served up all week long as we help usher in the holidays.



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