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# The Devil's River News

Serving Sutton County Since 1890

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Volume 127 • Issue 6

SONORA, TEXAS

Thursday, February 5, 2015

A  
CONVERSATION...  
ABOUT GOD  
Page 2

## Lions Roar



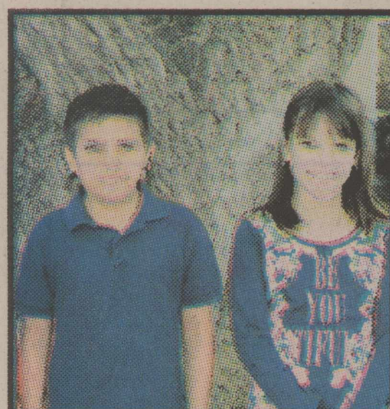
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## Golf Season Opens with Silver



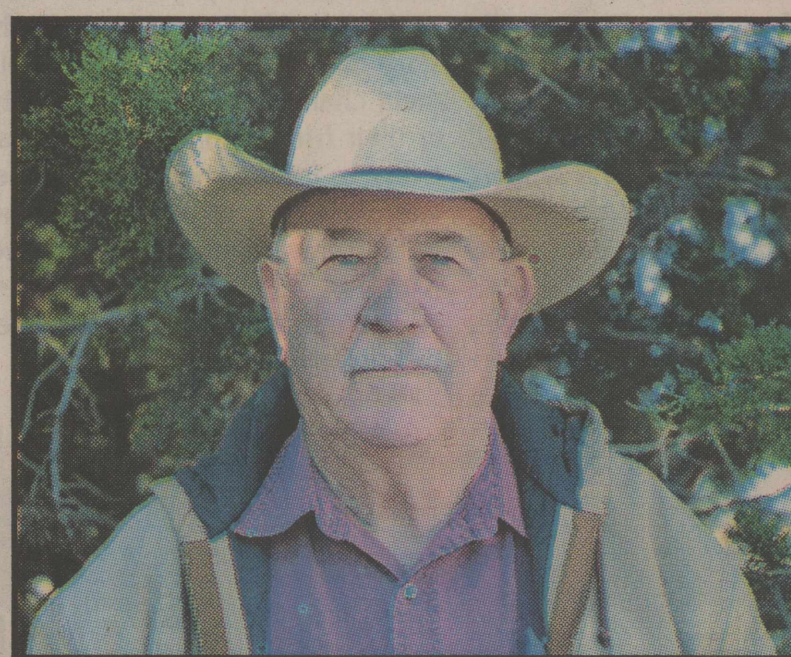
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## Students Of The Week



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## Sonora Researcher Awarded National Range Stewardship Honor



By Steve Byrns

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Dr. Charles "Butch" Taylor has received the Society for Range Management's W.R. Chapline Land Stewardship Award.

Taylor, superintendent of the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station at Sonora, received the national honor Feb. 2 during the plenary session of the 2015 Society for Range Management Annual Meeting in Sacramento, California.

According to information distributed by the society, the W.R. Chapline Land Stewardship Award gives special recognition to members of the Society for "exceptional accomplishments and contributions in the application of the art and science of range management to specific rangeland entities and to wildlife and domestic livestock on such lands."

The Society awards only one of these honors in the stewardship category annually. W.R. Chapline, the awards namesake, was second chief of the Range Research Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service.

The award consists of an embossed certificate, plaque and honorarium from the fund established by Chapline in 1986.

The award was bestowed on Taylor for his years as superintendent at Sonora, a post he has held since 1983. The nomination stated that Taylor has established himself as a leading authority in Texas on rangeland resource management, especially in the areas of prescribed fire, livestock grazing management and a combination of fire and goats to manage juniper and prickly pear cactus.

Through his leadership, the Sonora Research Station has become the premier location in the southwest where students, landowners and land managers can observe and practice the latest rangeland management techniques.

"Dr. Taylor has made tremendous contributions to the science and management of rangeland ecosystems during his career, but he was nominated for this award specifically for the impact that prescribed burn co-ops have had on the implementation of prescribed fire throughout Texas

and the Great Plains rangelands," his nomination stated.

"The Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burning Association, which was the first prescribed burn association in the U.S., formed after a prescribed burn tour on the Sonora Station in 1997. The tour participants agreed with Dr. Taylor that an association would be beneficial and decided to organize by electing officers and developing guidelines for operation," according to the nomination.

With Taylor at the helm, the association started with 30 members, but quickly doubled within the first year. From the original three counties, the Texas membership has jumped to over 500 landowners in 20 counties.

Nationally, the nomination said, 50 prescribed burn co-ops, patterned after Taylor's original model, now reach from Nebraska to South Texas.

Taylor is also a Certified Lead Burn Instructor whose

Continued On Page 4

## SONORA VARSITY SQUADS TAKE TWO FROM COLORADO CITY

By Ray and Nancy Glasscock

Both the Lady Broncos and Broncos basketball teams won District 5-3A basketball games last Friday night on the Colorado City ISD home court.

The Lady Broncos entered the game with a 4-0 district record. Sonora defeated the Lady Wolves in the first district meeting last month, 64-48. The Lady Wolves' young team proved to be a staunch opponent in front of the hometown fans. Colorado City pulled ahead of the Lady Broncos twice in the game. The Lady Broncos finally pulled out the 40-36 win late in the fourth period when Tori Guerrero hit a three pointer. She also led all Lady Broncos with thirteen points.

The 21st TABC ranked Lady Broncos take on the Lady Bulldogs of Coahoma (2-4) on Tuesday night at home and the 0-6 Lady Owls in Big

Lake Friday night. Last Friday, the Stanton Lady Buffs defeated Coahoma 41-39. The Lady Owls were idle.

The Broncos added a second District 5-3A victory with the win over the Colorado City Wolves. The Broncos trailed by four at the half, 32-28, and 47-45 after three, with Bronco three-pointers keeping the score close. The Wolves' shooting went cold in the fourth period while the Broncos were on a roll. The Broncos finished with 12 three-pointers and the 65-54 victory. Luke James led the Bronco scoring with 17 points.

The Broncos face the Coahoma Bulldogs (10-11, 1-3) led by Braxton Iden who also quarter backed the Bulldogs on Tuesday after the Lady Broncos' game. The Bulldogs lost to Stanton last Friday night, 50-38.

## Cahill Wins Big in Ft. Worth



Congratulations to Lane Cahill, Sonora Middle School 8th Grader, for winning the National Regional Dorper Show, Youth White Dorper Ram - in Fort Worth on Saturday. Pictured here with sister, Carson.

## Sonora Colt 7th Grade Boys Runner Up At Ozona Basketball Tournament



## Powerlifting Teams Continue On Road to Success



Last Saturday the Bronco and Lady Bronco powerlifting teams traveled to Big Lake. The boys fell just short of their second win in a row placing second as a team just 3 points behind Lakeview. The Lady Broncos won their 3rd straight meet of the year with 58 points, 20 points ahead of Big Lake. Valeria Ramirez won her second straight best lifter on the light platform award, and Julissa Esquivel won best lifter for the heavy platform. Brett Castillo also won his second straight best lifter award.

Individual Results

Boys 2nd Team

Caleb Ritchey- 4th, Rico Rodriguez- 3rd, Issac Fraire- 2nd, Brett Castillo- 1st, Ethan Patlan- 2nd, Bryndon Robles- 4th, Elijah Cross- 3rd, HL James- 5th, Ray Kimbrell- 3rd, Other participating were Kevin Martinez and Henry Ramos.

Girls- 1st team

Valeria Ramirez- 1st, Jessica Paredes- 2nd, Kali Mendez- 1st, Annalisa Perez- 1st, Maritza Villanueva- 5th, Julia Pope- 1st, McKayla Herrada 4th, Julissa Esquivel- 1st, Karrie Martinez- 1st, Noel Fierro- 2nd, Alexi Thomas -3rd





## Wellness Ministry

People often ask me if dairy is a part of a healthy diet. Although it is certainly mentioned throughout the Bible, the dairy that Biblical people were eating looks nothing like the dairy products we get from our grocery store shelves today. Modern dairy is stripped of important nutrients like enzymes, vitamins, and minerals when it goes through processing. Dairy in the Bible was raw, straight from a healthy animal, unprocessed, and full of fat. Today, people mistakenly choose low or non-fat dairy because they think it's healthier. But think about this: have you ever seen a cow with a fat free udder, a skim udder, a 2% udder? No, that's not the way God made it. The more fat manufacturers take out of it, the more additives and sweet they have to add in to make it taste good. Plus, you miss out on really important vitamins found in the fat. Be choosy about the dairy you include in your diet: keep it minimal, buy organic, and keep the fat in. Keep it as close to the way God made it so that you can enjoy the nutrients that He intended.

And because of the abundance of the milk they give, he will have curds to eat. All who remain in the land will eat curds and honey. Isaiah 7:22

Chelsea Blackbird is a Certified Nutritional Therapist. For more info contact [chelsea@thechristiannutritionist.com](mailto:chelsea@thechristiannutritionist.com) or [www.thechristiannutritionist.com](http://www.thechristiannutritionist.com).

**\*\*Editors Note\*\***  
I will start this preface by simply stating that I am not a trained theologian. Everything printed in the text below is in reference to my personal understanding of something that I see as the

most important thing anyone can ever talk about. God. This actually is the first installment of a series of "thoughts" I wrote down regarding my own walk in faith, and I hope to publish more of them in the near future.

Obviously I hope each of you enjoy these articles, but whether you love, hate, agree or disagree with me I hope you do at least one thing. This is the one thing that, on the whole, I feel is missing from our homes, community and country. I hope you at least talk about God. Because the start of a conversation is only the beginning of what can be an entire world of insight.

### THE START OF A COVERSATION... ABOUT GOD

"If a little flower could speak, it seems to me that it would tell us quite simply all that God has done for it"  
St. Therese de Lisieux

Sometimes the simplest question can lead us to understand the most complicated truth.  
**Why is a flower beautiful?**

By Ben D. Taylor

Most of us would say that the beauty of a flower is contained completely in the expression of color displayed on the petals, which makes perfect sense, but does not answer the question. Scientists will tell us that a flower's beauty is the result of evolutionary change designed to attract the attention of insects and birds, but that does not answer the question. Some people prefer lilies while others love orchids,

but none of them can tell you why their flower of choice is beautiful. That is because none of us really understand the nature of beauty.


If you only focus on the flower you become blind to the fact that its beauty only exists because leaves give it life, the stem gives it support, and the roots give it stability. True beauty only exists because something else gives it life. Why then is a flower beautiful? It is beautiful be-

cause of the things we do not see.

People are no different than flowers in this respect. To focus on someone's physical imperfections blinds you to the story of their life, strength of their character, and support of their friendship. Alternatively, to focus someone's outward beauty is to be blinded to their inward struggles and pain.

The question of a flower's beauty is a simple thing, but

to understand it is to understand how God speaks to us. Imagine that the words in the Bible are the petals of a flower. In order to understand why those words are beautiful, we first need to find out what gives those words life. Just like we need to look past the flower before we can understand beauty; we also need to look past the words before we can understand His message.



### 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> 311 W. Plum 387-2278</p> <p><b>Jehovah's Witness</b> 310 St. Ann's St 387-5658/387-5518</p> <p><b>Faith Apostolic Church</b> 120 N. Concho Ave. 206-0277</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>Casa Del Altarero Asamblea De Dios</b> 306 W. 4th St 325-226-1789</p>
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The City of Sonora does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs or activities. The City of has adopted a Grievance Procedure which affirmatively supports federal objectives related to Section 504.

The following individual has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulation implementing Section 504 (24 C.F.R. Part 8, dated June 2, 1988): Belia Fay, City Secretary

#### Fair Housing Public Service Announcement Public Service Announcement: Fair Housing, It's the Law

To promote fair housing practices, the City of Sonora encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law.

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's toll-free hotline at 1-800-669-9777.

### The Devil's River News

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## Time For Cool-Season Vegetable Gardens

If any of you are itching to get back in the garden, you're in luck. I don't know about the ground hog business, but it's time for cool-season vegetable gardens. Things like broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower should be transplanted in early February. Just keep March 15th in mind.

Cool season vegetables should be planted in relation to average last freeze date: For us, this is March 13, but March 15 is easier to remember. So, if we use March 15th as our target, let's give examples of when to plant some common vegetables.

Onions are planted 6-8 weeks prior, while broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and Brussels spouts, it's 4 weeks prior.

Then for spinach, lettuce, radishes, and turnips, 2-4 weeks prior to March 15th is our target.

Although asparagus is traditionally planted from late January to early February, you must be patient, for you will not be picking any for two years. The asparagus roots need time to get established. Keep in mind that the wait is worth it. If you are patient you will have all the asparagus you want at a modest cost in time and money.

Purchase good asparagus roots from a reputable nursery and plant them in well-prepared soil. Water them as needed and add fertilizer on a planned schedule. Shoots will emerge from the roots during

the spring.

Let the shoots "fern out" and continue caring for them. In the second spring following planting, you can begin cutting the larger shoots. Let the shoots grow to about six or eight inches and carefully cut them at the base. Once hot weather arrives, stop harvesting the shoots and let the asparagus shoots fern out.

The following fall you can again cut newly emerging shoots, but don't cut the existing ferns.

For full details on asparagus, come by the Sutton County Extension Office. We can give you information on spacing, fertility, and other management.

## Texas FSA Farm Loan Offices Closed Feb. 9-13 for Statewide Training

(COLLEGE STATION, TX) – February 2, 2015-- USDA Texas Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director, Judith A. Canales, announced that all farm loan offices in Texas will be closed Feb. 9-13 to allow farm loan staff to attend a statewide training. The Agricultural Act of 2014, better known as the Farm Bill, has brought many program changes, including changes to farm loan programs. "FSA borrowers will not be able to conduct any farm loan business in their local offices during this time," said Canales. "I would like to thank our customers for their understanding as it is vital that

our employees receive proper training in order to provide the best loan making and servicing assistance possible." All county offices will remain open Feb. 9-13, as farm program staff will be available; only farm loan personnel will be out of the office. FSA borrowers can resume conducting farm loan business in their local office on Tuesday, Feb. 17. All USDA service centers, including FSA offices, will be closed on Monday, Feb. 16 in observance of Washington's Birthday – a federal holiday. The 2014 Farm Bill expands lending opportunities for farmers and ranchers to begin and continue their agriculture

operations, including greater flexibility in determining eligibility, raising loan limits and emphasizing beginning and socially disadvantaged producers. A fact sheet outlining modifications to FSA loan programs can be found at: [http://fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/2014\\_farm\\_bill\\_change\\_flp.pdf](http://fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/2014_farm_bill_change_flp.pdf) Please plan ahead and contact your local FSA farm loan office to schedule an appointment. Local FSA contact information can be found at: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>.

## Lions Roar



By Wanda Shirley

Each week the Sonora Downtown Lions Club meets at the First United Methodist Church in the fellowship hall, at noon, for lunch, weekly meeting, and guest speaker. Anyone interested in helping to serve the citizens of Sonora is welcome to join us. Students of the week/month from the various school campuses also join us. We have several

fund-raisers each year, which include the annual Lions Club Auction. We also donate to various charities and collect eyeglasses that are used for people who can't afford eyeglasses. This week we were joined by Intermediate school students, Ryder Phillips 5th grade and Arelly Ortiz 3rd grade. Fourth grader Gage Owens was unable to join us.

We would like to thank our speaker, Chelsea Blackbird who is a Certified Nutritional Therapist. She always has valuable advice and information on the way we should be eating. For more information you can contact Chelsea at [Chelsea@thechristiannutritionist.com](mailto:Chelsea@thechristiannutritionist.com).

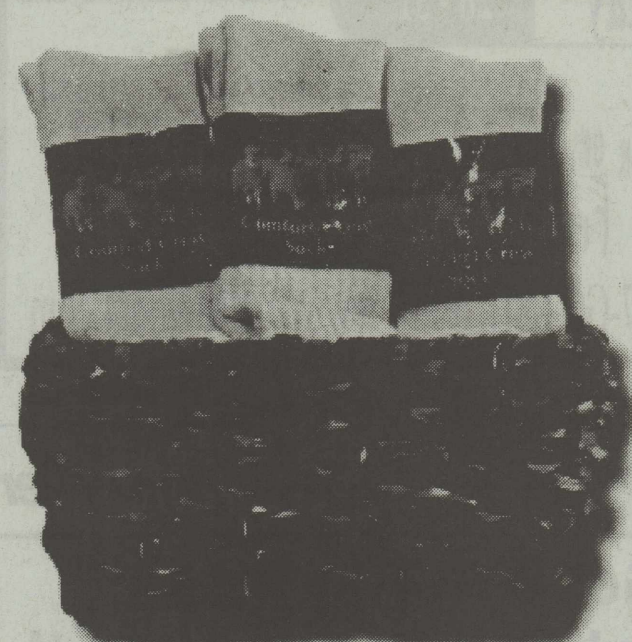
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*Continued From Front Page:  
Sonora Researcher*

burn schools on the station have equipped more than 500 ranchers with the knowledge, skill and experience to become active in prescribed fires.

"Because of the prescribed fire associations that Dr. Taylor envisioned, nurtured and grew, hundreds of thousands of acres of Texas and Great Plains rangelands are in higher ecological condition today," the nomination stated. "Ranchers now have an economically and ecologically sound method for controlling invasive juniper on their land. More importantly, because of his involvement with students and the children of members of the Edwards' Plateau Prescribed Burning Association, Dr. Taylor has created a living legacy of improved range management."

Taylor earned bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, all in range science, from Texas A&M University, College Station.

Taylor, a U.S. Army veteran, began his AgriLife Research career in 1972 at Texas A&M. He has been an active member of the Society for Range Management since 1977. He has also been active in the Texas Section, having served in all that chapter's governing offices, as well as on a number of committees.

His professional highlights include 42 refereed journal articles, 49 research center technical reports, nine book chapters, 22 conference/symposium proceedings and 46 popular press articles.

Taylor has garnered many accolades throughout his career, including the Lone Star Land Stewardship Award, presented by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Outstanding Achievement Award, Special Congressional Recognition; Regents Fellow Service Award, Texas A&M; Special Achievement Award, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association; Texas Environmental Excellence Award, State of Texas Governor's Office; and the Sutton County 4-H Silver Spur Award. His honors from the Society for Range Management include Sustained Lifetime Achievement Awards and Outstanding Achievement Award. And from the Texas Section Society for Range Management, the Outstanding Contribution to Range Management and two publication awards

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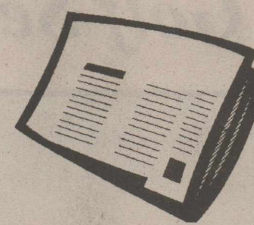
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# The Devil's River News Classified



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The Food and Resource Center of Sutton County is accepting applications for a part-time Executive Director. Applicants should have knowledge of and a desire to serve the local community, experience in dealing with the public, and have computer and database management skills. Salary will be commensurate with experience. Applications may be picked up at First United Methodist Church during office hours.



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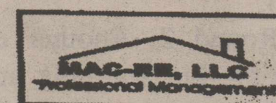
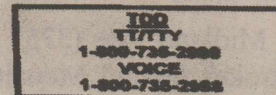
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## Mittel Dozing

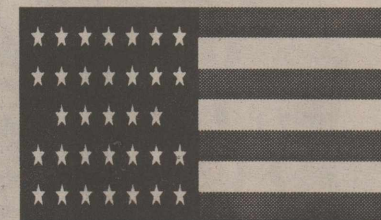
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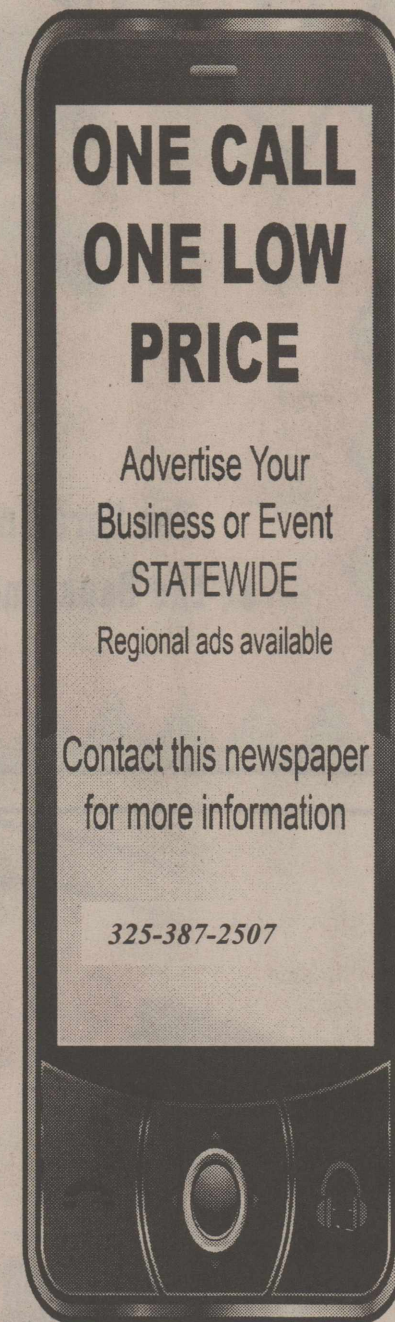
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## Golf Season Opens with Silver



The Lady Bronco Golf Team opened the 2015 season with a 2nd place finish in the Ft. Stockton Golf Invitational. The lady bronco team members for this tournament were: Darby Ramsdell, Holly Sparks, Kylie Reiner, Delaney Ramsdell, and Elyssa Prieto. Friday's round was a "chilly" 47 degrees overcast with 9 mph wind. The lady broncos turned in the following scorecards: Darby shot the low round for the field with an 84. Holly shot 101, Kylie 101, and Elyssa 111. Those were the top four scores for the lady bron-

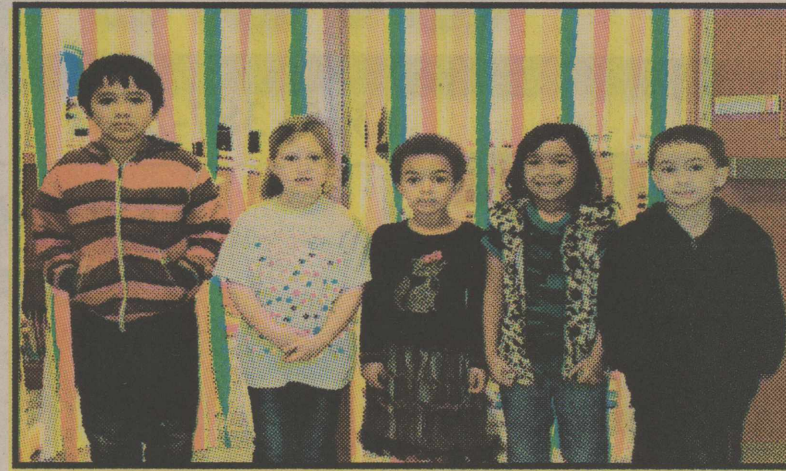
cos which gave us a team total of a 397. After the first round the Lady Broncos were sitting in 3rd place, 22 strokes behind Midland Lee (375) and 10 strokes behind Monahans (387). Round 2: Another cold morning, but warming up to a nice 53 degrees and sunny. The Lady Broncos determined to shoot better rounds this day and met that goal after 18 holes. Darby shot an 83, Holly 94, Kylie 91, and Elyssa 106. That gave us a team score of 374 and a combined two day total of 771. These

scores helped us take 2nd Place behind a Midland Lee team who shot a two day total of (749). The Lady Broncos beat Monahans by 31 strokes to take 2nd Place. Darby Ramsdell took the 2nd place individual medal for a two day total of 167. This was a great start to our season. I am very proud of the fight and determination these ladies showed their first tournament. The Lady Broncos will travel to San Angelo Friday and Saturday to play in the San Angelo Central High School Invitational.

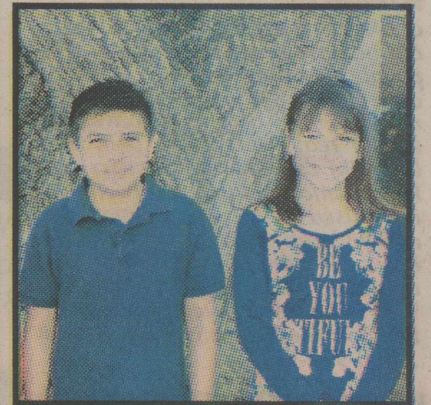
## Students Of The Week

### Elementary

### Intermediate



PreK - Adele Pechacek, Kinder-Madison Noriega, Kinder - Gunner Routh, 1st - Tayvin Richard, 2nd - Juan Meza



4th - Romeo Torres, 5th - Jessica Smith



**Zumba Classes Now Offered At:**  
**The Sonora Health and Wellness Center**  
 Monday, Tuesday and Thursday  
 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.  
 and 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**CINCO DE MAYO**

Whoever is Crowned will Recieve a \$1,000 Scholarship

Is Right Around the Corner, and we are looking for Miss. Cinco De Mayo Candidates!!

You must be in grades 8th-11th to sign up, and The Deadline to sign up is on February 13, 2015.

For More Information Call Jo Ann Hernandez at the Bank and Trust at 325-206-0388 or 325-387-2593

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