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Baird: Officially Designated Antique Capital Of West Texas

Callahan County

Baird Star

The Baird Weekly Star
Established December 8,
1887



50¢
31¢ By Mail

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Baird VB, JVB Basketball
Teams Meet Cross Plains,
Friday, Feb. 11 In Baird.
Games Start at 6:00 PM

Volume 117, Number 6

Baird, Texas 79504

Thursday, February 10, 2005

A Parent Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 10th, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Clyde Intermediate School Library to inform parents of changes in the area of special education. The meeting is sponsored by Taylor/Callahan Education Cooperative. No pre-registration is necessary. Refreshments will be served.

Texas Midwest Day in Austin is Feb. 16. This year marks Texas Midwest Community Network's 6th biennial visit to Austin for the Legislative Session. Join with other citizens from the region in a full day of recognition and activities at the State Capitol. Registration is \$15/per person. Group rates are available for 20 or more registered through one community contact. For more information call the TMCN office at 325/676-0329 or check with your local TMCN delegate. Bruce Bell is Baird's official delegate for 2005. Nancy Turnbow will serve as alternate delegate.

West Texas Farm & Ranch Show Scheduled Feb. 22, 23

The annual West Texas Farm & Ranch Show is scheduled for February 22 and 23 at the Taylor county Expo Center. This show is sponsored by the Abilene Chamber of Commerce and the Taylor County Ag Committee.

This show will continue to feature the latest in agricultural equipment and offer area producers a two day educational conference. The Educational seminars include: **Tuesday, Feb. 22:** 8:00 am - *Western Heritage Ranchhouse* - Tool Box for Success; *Extension Classroom* - Basic Deer Management; *Modern Living Mall* - Town & Country Women's Fair.

9:00 am - *Big Country Hall* - Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Annual Meeting
1:30 pm - *Big Country Hall* - Cotton Conference;

Extension Classroom - Native Pasture Development

5:30 pm - *Extension Classroom* - Hunter Education

Wednesday, Feb. 23: 8:00 am - *Western Heritage Ranchhouse* - Beef Cattle; *Big Country Hall* - TDA Applicator Recertification; *Modern Living Mall* - Cargill "Record Rack"

1:30 pm - *Big Country Hall* - Range Management.

CEU breakdown for Expo Seminars: Tool Box for Success, Tues, IPM 3, Total 3; Basic Deer Management, Tues, IPM 2, Total 2; Cotton Conference, Tues, Gen 1, L & R 1, IPM 1, Total 3; Native Pasture, Tues, Gen 2, Total 2; TDA Recertification, Wed, L & R 1, IPM 1, Total 2; "Record Rack", Wed, IPM 1, Total 1; Beef Conference*, Wed, IPM 1, Total 1; Range Management, Wed, Gen 2, IPM 1, Total 3.

Cross Plains Public Library To Offer GED Classes If Interest Merits

The Cross Plains Public Library in connection with Central Texas Opportunities will be offering GED classes if interest merits. We need 12

or more people interested in the course in order to merit the cost. If you are interested, please call the Library at (254) 725-7722.

Texas Department of State Health Service Holds Immunization Clinics

The Texas Department of State Health Services will hold the following Immunization clinics in Callahan County:

Monday, Feb. 14th

Baird Cafetorium 400 W. 7th

Time 10-12

Cross Plains Housing Authority 233 N. Main

Time 2-4

Please bring child's Immunization Records. For more information call 325/754-4945. Flu Shots are Available.

The CDC has released the flu vaccine to anyone over the age of 6 months. For more information or to make an appointment to get a flu shot, call 325-754-4945.

Candidate Filing For City and School Elections Began Monday, February 7

Candidate filing for the General Election for the City of Baird, and Baird Independent School District began on Monday, February 7, 2005, and will continue until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 7, 2005.

Three positions are up for the City election this year. The positions are currently filled by Kelly Corn, Jeff Barton, and Tina Holder.

As of February 9, incumbents

Jeff Barton and Tina Holder had filed, a spokesperson for the city reported.

The election will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2005 at City Hall from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Any qualified resident of Baird may file for candidacy to run for one of these positions.

Qualifications for candidacy include being a U. S. citizen, and a resident of

Texas for twelve months.

A candidate must also be eighteen (18) years of age or over, and be a registered voter.

Candidates may file at Baird City Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Two places are up for election this year on the Baird Independent School District Board of Trustees.

The places are currently filled by Allan Wilson and Jim Dyer Windham, Jr.

A spokesperson for Baird I. S. D. reported that no one had filed as of Feb. 9.

Candidates may sign up in the school administration office from 8:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. The office will be open until 5:00 p.m. of the last day of filing, March 7.

Army Pfc. Turner Our Visitors Are Just Graduates From BCT Down The Road A Piece: Fort Hood

by H. V. O'Brien

Army Pfc. Barbara J. Turner has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching,

rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

Turner's parents are Deborah and Thomas Lehman of Clyde, Texas.

The private graduated in the year 2000 from Clyde High School.

2005 is going to be BIG on school reunions throughout the area when hundreds of exes are expected to spend long weekends here, filling all available B & Bs, motels and inns and leaving lots of dollars behind when they depart.

What if virtually every weekend could be as productive for a local economy?

Because of our geographic location, it would seem that this is definitely a possibility - with planning, cooperation and positive thinking.

Many here can remember during World War II, locals opened their homes to soldiers from surrounding Army camps for weekends and/or Sunday dinners to give the servicemen a taste of home for those who might be far from their homes. It was a good program. The Army bussed the soldiers to the various towns at which families had let it be known that they would welcome G.I.'s to treat them to home cooking and small town hospitality. Many, many friendships were established through these visits; and not just a few turned into life-long romances for the unattached single young ladies around here. They came from Camp Barkley in Abilene, Camp Bowie in Brownwood and probably Camp Wolters in Mineral Wells. Invitations and selections were probably handled through the various camps' Special Services Offices.

With today's modern highways and the fact that most service people have their own transportation, getting here and back would be no major problem. And not just for single service

personnel - even those couples with small children look forward to weekends away from their usual routines at or near military installation. Just to get a way for a few hours/days means a lot, and they are looking for places for entertainment, relaxation and safe.

Our area has a lot to offer, and through cooperation and little effort a lot of pluses could be provided. It would seem that this could be an ideal long-range joint chamber of commerce project that all could benefit from. And it would behoove us to get busy - before other areas think of the same idea.

Our markets already consist of civilian individuals and families from the Metroplex-East and Abilene-West, but if we seriously added the military complex, the results could be most positive. The Army "camps" are gone, but consider: there's Dyess AFB and to our southeast, Fort Hood, some three hours away.

Reports are that 5,000 U.S. troops and their families will move to the Central Texas Fort during 2005. They're expected to bring in an additional \$500 million in revenue to the Greater Killeen area. Number of employees at Fort Hood: 60,000+. Perhaps many of these troops are back from the Iraq War; they deserve special recognition and thanks for their service. Fort Hood is the only two division post in the nation, housing both the 1st Cavalry Division and 4th Infantry Division (which captured Saddam Hussein in 2003). The Army's 3rd Armored Corps is also housed at Hood and is the nucleus of the leadership

(Continued Inside ...)

Congressman Neugebauer and Congressman Conaway To Speak At Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Meeting

The Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 22, 2005, in conjunction with the Texas Farm-Ranch-Wildlife Expo on the Taylor County Fairgrounds in Abilene, Texas. The meeting will be held in the Big Country Hall at 4:00 a.m.

Featured guest speakers include Congressman Randy Neugebauer, Congressman Mike Conaway, Woody Anderson, former Chairman of the National Cotton Council, Kent Nix, Chairman of Cotton Board and Farm Service Agency State chairman, Jerry Harris.

Neugebauer and Conaway will provide updates on selected federal agricultural issues. Woody Anderson will address key cotton industry topics. Kent Nix will provide an update on Cotton Board initiatives and Jerry Harris will update the group on Farm Service Agency matters.

A barbecue lunch sponsored by industry representatives will be served at the conclusion of the meeting. Following lunch, participants are invited to attend the Cotton Production Conference that is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pro-

ducers will have the opportunity to earn three CEU hours toward their Applicators License. Extension entomologist, Dr. Chris Sansone, will provide information on insect management. Dr. Billy Warwick, Extension agronomist, will address cotton production topics. The conference will conclude with an herbicide update from the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Rolling Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. has served the producers of the Rolling Plains for over 40 years. The non-profit organization unites cotton producers from the thirty one counties of the central and northern Rolling Plains, with the mission to improve the conditions under which Rolling Plains' cotton is produced and sold.

There is no charge for the meeting or production conference. All cotton producers and other interested associates are invited and strongly encouraged to attend this educational meeting.

For more information, please contact the RPCG office at (325) 669-6447 or via e-mail at Karin@rpcotton.org.

Callahan County (Baird) Star Classifieds

For Sale

Hand Dual Duty Quilting Thread. Extra strong, 18 colors including white and natural. Large spools \$1.95 at Johnson's Dry Goods, Cross Plains, TX.

B6

For Sale: Nice 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath House in Rising Star city limits. Good location. \$45,000. Call after 5 p.m. (325) 660-9009.

B52

For Sale: 1 year old registered AKC Schnauzer- \$200. Also, 1 year old Jack Russell- \$50. Call after 5 p.m. (325) 660-9009.

B52

For Sale: 21 ft. gooseneck cattle trailer \$2,000; Utility trailer \$6,000. Call 254-643-1088.

B52

Help Wanted

Help Wanted: Cashier needed for small Country Store. Call 254-643-1748.

B9

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From Page One Visitors

headquarters stationed in Iraq. The Fort also is home to 12 additional military units and nearly 45,000 soldiers. Fort Hood is known for its total firepower.

It would seem that our goals should be two in number: one, capitalize and expand our existing accommodations and attractions; and two, getting the word out that THIS IS A DESTINATION PLACE with lots to offer.

Letters to the Special Service Officers indicating our willingness to host individuals and families could get the ball rolling. - HVO



New software called Migo lets you upload your computer onto your iPod and take it wherever you go.

D. P. S. Report
01-30-05 to 02-05-05
Cases Investigated

- Warnings - 101
 - Complaints - 120
 - DWI - 2
 - Possession of Marijuana - 1
 - Fugitive Arrest - Tampering with Witness - 1
 - Fugitive Arrest - Surety Withdrawal - Evading Arrest - 1
 - Fugitive Arrest - Motion to Revoke - 1
 - Possession of Drug Paraphernalia - 2
 - Possession of Controlled Substance - 1
 - Open Container - 2
- Accidents**
There were 3 accidents investigated during this time span.

Cisco Opry
Is Feb. 12

The regular Country Opry will be held in Cisco on Saturday night, Feb. 12 at the Community Center, Hillside Village.

Music will begin at 6 p.m. Al Jones, the M.C., says that he has a good line-up of musicians for the monthly event. A concession stand will also be open.

The public is invited to come out and spend an enjoyable evening.

Lower Your Risk of Heart Disease
Learn the facts about cholesterol and talk to your doctor about:
• A diet low in saturated fats and cholesterol
• Exercising for an average of 30 minutes a day
• Regular cholesterol screening.

As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy.
—Abraham Lincoln

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****ACREAGE****
40 acres completely wooded with mostly oak timber, very large hill overlooking Lake Cisco, electricity, possible owner financing, deer, turkey, hogs, dove, quail, \$48,000.
52 acres by Lake Cisco, over half a mile of road frontage that is within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, hill overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, quail, \$62,400.
83 acres mostly wooded with mature oak trees, easy access, good hunting/recreation property, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, quail, \$65,000.
90 acres wooded and open fields, trees include live oak, post oak & mesquites, 1 pond, seasonal creek, wildlife includes deer, turkey, hogs, dove, quail, \$89,550.
95 acres wooded with mature oak trees, large hill, pond, setup with deer blinds & feeders, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, quail, \$87,000 owner/agent.
97 acres by Lake Cisco, over a mile of road frontage that is within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, large hill overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, pond, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, duck, quail, \$116,400.
110 acres mostly wooded w/large mesquite timber, Eubank Creek runs through the property, 3 ponds, 2 hills, 1 field, SOLD \$125,000 minerals, deer, turkey, hogs, dove, duck, quail, \$995/ac.
117 acres mostly wooded with mesquite and oak trees, 3 fields, 3 ponds, hill top view, old water well, electricity, minerals, deer, turkey, hogs, dove, duck, quail, \$995/ac
177 acres by Lake Cisco, over a mile of road frontage within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, very large hills overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, pond, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, duck, quail, \$212,400.
306 acres, wooded with 35 acre field, post oak and mesquite timber, older rock house, ponds, deer, turkey, quail, dove, \$725 per acre.
326 acres by Lake Cisco, over three miles of road frontage within 200 yards of Lake Cisco shoreline, mostly wooded with oak trees, very large hills overlooking Lake Cisco, canyons, 2 ponds, will divide, deer, hogs, turkey, dove, duck, quail, \$391,200.
****HOMES WITH ACREAGE****
172 acres w/3BR home, bldg, ponds, water well, deer, turkey, dove, quail, \$189,200.
****HOMES****
2 BR, 1 bath home, carport, attached storage, reduced to \$9,800.
3 BR, 1 bath home, large storage bldg., corner property, \$17,500.
3 BR, 1 bath home, separate DR, shop and other outbuildings, reduced to \$16,500.
2 BR, 1 bath home, CH/A, garage, fenced backyard, corner property, \$23,000.
2 BR 1 bath frame, recently remodeled, extra cabinets in dining area, CH/A, deck, garage, fenced backyard, reduced to \$25,000.
2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, vinyl siding, double carport with attached storage, fenced backyard, reduced to \$25,000.
3 BR, 1 bath home, separate DR, kitchen, woodburning heater in LR, large pecan trees, \$33,000.
2 BR, 1 bath home, could be converted into a 2BR home, 6 ceiling fans, inside and outside recently repainted and carpet replaced, oversized yard, \$35,000
4 BR, 2 bath, lg. rooms, lots of character, separate DR, fenced yard, lg. corner property, reduced to \$34,000.
3 BR, 1 bath home has been recently repainted & floor covering replaced, also has CH/A, 5 ceiling fans, carport with storage, fenced back yard, \$36,000.
2 BR, 1 bath home, separate office or den, CH/A, carport, corner property, reduced to \$36,000.
3 BR, 1 bath older brick veneer home, separate dining room, storm windows, detached garage/storage, corner property, \$39,500.
2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, veneer brick, CH/A, WBFP, garage, covered patio, storage bldg, fenced backyard, \$48,500.
2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, brick veneer, CH/A, WBFP, attached garage, covered patio, detached guest room with full bath, shop, fenced backyard, \$49,500.
5 BR, 2 bath, 2 story home, lots of character, formal DR, office, large rooms, mostly wooden floors, 2 CH/A units, surrounded by large oak and pecan trees, large corner property.
****LAKE CISCO****
2 BR Home, deck, boat dock, large oak trees, reduced to \$25,000.
3 BR Home, many cabinets, woodburning heater, wooden deck, boat dock with boat house, large trees. Reduced to \$26,000.
2 BR Home, CH/A, fireplace, detached guest room, patio, boat dock, 2 car carport, storage bldg., large oak trees, reduced to \$26,000.
2 BR Home, WBFP, nice view, detached DR, 2 BRs. Some landscaping with sprinkler system, deck and boat dock. SOLD \$26,000.
Beautiful 2 BR, 1 3/4 bath home, CH/A, WBFP, shop, storage bldg., large landscaped yard, tall oak trees, boat dock, great view of lake from DR, LR, den and master BR, many extras.
4 BR, 2 bath home, CH/A, many extras, has big gameroom, plus racketball court.
****COMMERCIAL****
Restaurant with large dining room, eqpt. and furniture, \$38,500. Owner would sell bldg. without eqpt. & furniture for less. Call for details.
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1-800-221-7020 if you have any information.
 3-19

Livestock

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THANK YOU

The Clayton Family thanks those of you who were there to comfort us during the loss of our beloved husband and brother Garry Neil Clayton. To all the ladies that prepared and served food at the Desdemona Community Center. It really meant a lot to us. To the pallbearers that honored Garry by serving. To all the Sons of the Confederacy camps, the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Confederate Grays Honor Guard for their services commemorating the passing of a brother. To Lindsey Gallegos for your poignant rendition of "Taps". We deeply appreciate all of you. Thank you all!

Gail Clayton
 Lindsey Clayton

Read the Classifieds

EASTLAND AA MEETING SCHEDULE
 302 N. College-Eastland
REGULAR MEETINGS
 Please No Correctional Papers
TUESDAY 8:00 p.m.
SATURDAY 8:00 p.m.

OPEN MEETINGS
 Please Do Not Enter Late
EVERY TUESDAY 6:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.
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 7 +/- acres high on a hill in Ranger.
 4-2, DW, Cisco to be moved, \$39,000 pay off.
 2-1 corner fenced, \$19,000.
 Sha "D" Restaurant - equipment comes with it, all \$85,000.
 3-2, extra nice living, dining, 1 car carport, beautiful yard, \$45,000, bring offers. Reduced \$43,000.
 500+ ac. on I-20, 4 tanks, lots of deer and hogs, turkey, and ducks, \$1,500 ac.
 Colorado City 182 ac. deer, quail, dove, and varmit hunting, good cattle place. 60 ac. in pasture, \$650 ac., office building for sale, rented for \$500.00 a mo. \$30,000 extra nice.
 W.A. Store, all equipment, bay doors, Main Street, Ranger. Price reduced. 3-2-1 CP.
 2 story Historical House (1919) 4 BR, 2 bath, 2 car garage, 2 car carport, 2 story, 3.6 acres, Morton Valley \$175,000.
 3-104

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Newspaper Deadlines
Monday @ 5 p.m. for Thursday edition
 * * * * *
Thursday @ 5 p.m. for Sunday edition

Once An Enemy, Germany Now Seeks Equal Status

Germany...A Think Piece: (Based on information gleaned from the current issue of DEUTSCHLAND, a German na-

tional magazine.

Many in the U.S. clamor to "get us out of the United Nations."

It might surprise some to learn that similar feelings are expressed in other parts of the world as well as a universal plea for re-organization of the U.N. Revelations just this week about the U.N.'s involvement in the alleged "oil for food" scandal involving Iraq's former dictator, could bring about changes quicker than might be expected.

Germany first of all is seeking a permanent seat on the U.S. Security Council, and feels that this could come as the result of reorganization being urged by all member states. Two-thirds of the 191 votes needed for this to come about. UN Sec. Gen. Kofi Annan is reportedly in favor of a German seat; the U.S.A. is reported neutral, but considered "reticent;" but neighbors including especially Italy oppose a seat for Germany. Germany is already heavily involved in U.N. matters and is its third largest contributor.

Right now Germany contributes roughly 7,000 soldiers to international crisis prevention and peacekeeping measures: 3,350 in Kosovo; 2,225 in Afghanistan, Uzbekistan; 1,150 in Bosnia and Herzegovina; 12 in Georgia; 2 in Ethiopia; and 300 in the Horn of Africa.

The U.N. is today very much in Germany: the U.N. Volunteers Program fields its some 2,000 volunteers from a donated headquarters in Germany; other U.N. agencies already operate with in the country and others are expected to be added. For instance the UNESCO Institute for Education operates in Hamburg and Frankfurt am Main is host to the International Finance Corp. of the World Bank. High Commissioner for Refugees is located in Berlin.

Germany holds that the original concept was that those countries which make

the greater contributions in money and troops--to the maintenance of peace and security should be on the permanent Council. Questioned is does the present configuration of China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States--make the greatest contributions. Germany holds that it and Japan make a larger contribution towards functioning organizations than four out of the five members. Berlin has combined efforts with three other aspirants--Brazil, India and Japan--to more closely reflect the present global situation. Germany leaders today see Germany not as "nationalists," but as Europeans--probably even as the most European Europeans.

The Security Council is made up of the five permanent seats and ten non-permanent members, five of which are elected each year for a two-year term.

The 2004 U.N. budget amounted to roughly 1.5 billion US dollars. Germany is the third largest contributor: USA 22%, Japan 19.5%,

Germany, 8.7%, UK 6.1%, France 6%, Italy 4.9% and remaining 185 member states 32.8%.

German officials remind that their country provides international emergency assistance to people who have been affected by natural disasters, epidemics and wars. In 2004, 181 million Euros was made available for projects in more than 80 countries; with the central focus on humanitarian aid in sub-Saharan Africa.

Germany's Hanover will host the 2006 World Football Cup where a translucent roofed stadium to seat 53,000 is being completed.

How do the countries stack up?

In terms of gross domestic produce in billion US dollars: USA 10,9323; Japan 3,571, Germany 2,171, Great Britain 1,720; and France 1,708.

Exports of goods in billion US dollars: Germany 748, USA 723, Japan 471, China 437, and France 386.

In innovation based on

spending on research and development (proportion of gross domestic product): Japan 3.06; USA 2.67, Germany 2.52, France 2.20, and Great Britain 1.89.

How many products are we familiar with from companies listed on the Germany Stock Exchange (DAX): Adidas-Solomon (shoes), Allianz (insurance), Altana (pharmaceuticals and chemicals), Bayer, BMW, Basf, Continental (tires), Deutsche Bank (world banking), Lufthansa (airline), Daimler Chrysler, Henkel (brand-name products), Siemens (electronics), VW, and Porsche, among many others.

The Germans are celebrating in 2005 perhaps the most importance date for the world of physics--exactly 100 years ago, a young German-born man revolutionized the science by reinterpreting space and time: Albert Einstein. It is Einstein's and his most famous formula's year in Germany.--HVO

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92 Ford F250 7.3 Diesel Super Cab in super good condition, 2 tone paint.....\$1400 Down
92 Ford F350 Super Cab Dually, 7.3 Diesel, runs good, bed rough.....\$1000 Down

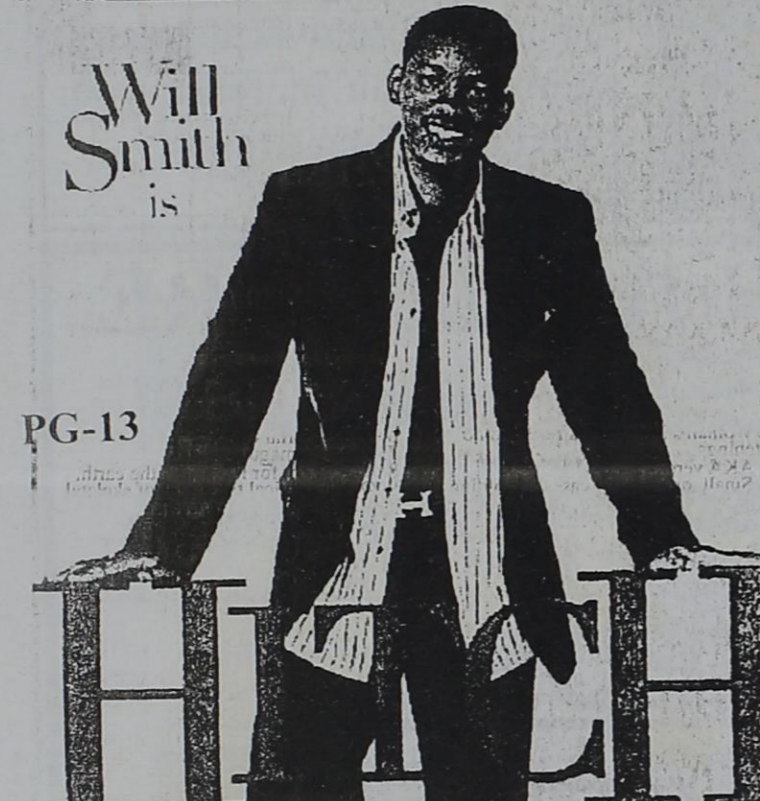
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95 Geo Prizm 4 dr., local car, looks & runs very good (red).....\$500 Down
94 Chevy Corsica 4 dr., a very good car inside & out (red).....\$500 Down
94 Chrysler New Yorker, 3.5 V6, a super good car inside & out.....\$750 Down
89 Mercury Cougar XR7, 3.8 V6, a very nice car (red wheel drive) (silver).....\$500 Down
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1997 Chev. 1/2 Ton Reg. Cab Stk. #5837B \$4,995 +TT&L

School Funding A Big Issue

By Viola Payne

Right now the funding of Texas schools is a big issue in the 79th Texas Legislature. That is true in more ways than one, for the schools are already costing \$30 billion annually- and it is estimated that another \$5 billion is needed.

Apparently anything less is unacceptable. Almost every news release brings fresh ideas about who should pay more of that bill for education.

With such large figures in front of us, it is hard to realize that a number of other states are already spending more on education than we are. This is per capita, based on an estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau in 2003.

Texas is listed as having the 2nd highest population in the U.S.- 22,118,509. Only California, with its estimated 35,484,453, has more than this total.

Texas, however, ranks 7th in the nation with people living below the poverty level. We're right along with Kentucky on that one!

Texas is ranked only 33 in the nation on expenditures on education per pupil. The amount listed is \$7,152 annually.

The state ranks 22 in teacher to pupil ratio, and 39 in the

estimated High School graduation rate. The last SAT scores and percentage of graduates taking the exam gave Texas a rank of 48 in the nation. Undoubtedly some improvement is needed.

The salaries of teachers in the state were ranked at 32 in the country, with an average of \$40,001.

Of course figures never tell the whole story- they simply give an indication of where we stand in relation to the other 50 states (And the District of Columbia).

Who can estimate the value of good parents, and their influence in the life of a child? Who can put a value on the development of character - it is priceless. What parents or teachers will take the time to instill self-control in a child, something that may determine his usefulness?

And on the teacher's salaries - the cost of housing varies so much from one place to another that it's hard to make a comparison on that. (You notice I didn't say "living." Food, electricity, gasoline, medical care and the like are about the same in Eastland County as anywhere else.)

In the meanwhile, the Representatives in Austin either have to cut down on what the state spends on education or dig up more money. Either way is going to be painful.

Hospital Happenings and Health Hints

Eastland Memorial Hospital "Goes Red For Women" In February

Your heart helps you to care for family, friends, and the community, but your heart may be at risk if you don't care for it. Cardiovascular diseases claim about 500,000 women's lives each year. Heart disease is the #1 killer of women in America, but the majority of women don't think it's a major concern. Red evokes passion and confidence--signals change. It's the color for women and heart disease. You have the power to "Go Red" and keep your heart healthy for a lifetime.

February is the month we focus on love and romance. Dr. Sandra Hazelip will be presenting "Go Red for Women--The Heart Truth" a program on Tuesday, February 15, 2005 at 7 p.m. at Eastland Memorial Hospital in the Teaching Conference Room for all area women and those who love them.

The American Heart Association, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, which is a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' National Institutes of Health, along with several other national organizations and businesses

are sponsoring the "Go Red for Women--The Heart Truth."

The goal is to help women understand their risk of heart disease and take action to lower that risk. It is aimed especially for women ages 40-60, because it's during those years that a women's risk of heart disease begins to rise. But its message applies to younger women too, because heart disease develops over time and can start early, even in the teen years. And older women also need to take action, because it's never too late to protect your heart health.

Get The Heart Truth about heart disease and the risks for women. Get the facts. Know your risks. Be motivated to take action. What you learn in this one hour could save your life or the life of the woman you love. Give the best Valentine you could possibly give! Make plans now to attend the "Go Red for Women--The Heart Truth" program presented by Dr. Sandra Hazelip at Eastland Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, February 15 at 7 p.m. in the Teaching Conference Room. Live longer, live stronger and get your own "Red Dress" pin. Remember, heart disease doesn't care what you wear--it's still the #1 killer of women!

Art In the Heart Of Breckenridge- A 'Collectors' Dream'

The Breckenridge Fine Arts Center is hosting an event you won't want to miss. Set up in a lavish Market-like atmosphere, Art in the Heart of Breckenridge will feature more than 20 hand-picked Texas artists that will display their works of art for sale in the Heart of Breckenridge at the Breckenridge Fine Arts Center.

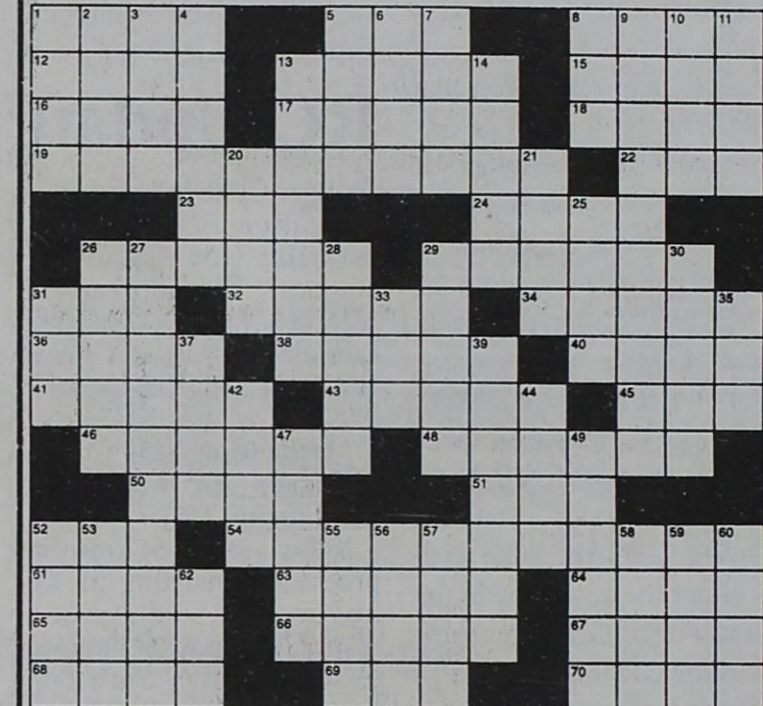
When: February 19 & 20
Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Cheese Reception on Sunday 4-6 p.m.

Each artist will be on hand, displaying their art and some will have works in progress. The perfect conversation starter as you meet these talented individuals and support them and the BFAC with your purchases. The Featured Artists will include: Artist Rally of Texas of Mineral Wells, TX; Jerec Barnett of Odessa, TX; Leslie Blackerby, the Breckenridge Potter's Guild, Hollis McLane, Steve Stevens,

and Deborah Carr, all of Breckenridge, TX; Karen Brown and Doug Prine of Nemo, TX; Marlene Edwards, Toni Joyner, and Danny Parker of Graham, TX; Barbara Larimore of Olney, TX; Cathy Gray of Caddo, TX; Jammy Huggins of Seminole, TX; Marian Johnson of Coleman, TX; Mike Lanier and Eric Villarreal of Abilene, TX; Janet Everitt-Forte of Bowie, TX; Susan Mansell of Ballinger, TX; Betty Reeves of Cypress, TX; and Steve Riley of Irving, TX.

The BFAC is located at 207 North Breckenridge Avenue (Hwy 183 North). For complete information about Art In The Heart including artist info., maps, and Breckenridge accommodations, please visit us on the web: www.breckenridgefineart.org/artintheheart. You can also call us at 254-559-6602 or e-mail us: info@breckenridgefineart.org.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- Across
1. Heavy-sleeved outer garment.
 5. Spade, character created by Dashiell Hammett.
 8. Flexible tube for conveying liquids.
 12. Opposed to something.
 13. Brightly colored flower part.
 15. Characters in Warhammer 40,000 game.
 16. Woman's shoe with a heel and no fastenings.
 17. AKA vermicelli.
 18. Small, ornamental case for holding needles.
 19. Changing into vapor.
 22. Covering for the head.
 23. Airport code for Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom-Turnhouse.
 24. T. Shimano Roshi, abbot of the Zen Studies Society.
 26. Upper part of a town.
 29. Burst in.
 31. Name of a Hawaiian band.
 32. Cambodian money.
 34. Arrange the troops in ranks.
 36. Acronym for Inside Science News Service.
 38. Silly person.
 40. Amount by which one exceeds or falls short of another.
 41. Light-sensitive membrane lining the inner eyeball.
 43. People, places or things.
 45. Acronym for India Office Library.
 46. Sea horse.
 48. Standards governing a person's conduct.
 50. Records of a vehicle's performance.
 51. Move quickly.
 52. 17th letter in the Greek alphabet.
 54. Trousers that flare at the bottom.
 61. Grunting noise of a pig.
 64. Cotland, played by Jill Larson.
 65. Answer of the accused to a criminal charge.
 66. Taylor, current CD is Shotgun.
 67. Warm tubular covering for the hands.
 68. Freedom from discomfort.
 69. Tills, country singer.
 70. Abbreviation for Business Administration in college catalogs.
- Down
1. Head of land projecting into a body of water.
 2. Acronym for UN Office of Verification.
 3. Type of yoga. _ gnona.
 4. Wayne _ Palmer Woodward on Melrose Place.
 5. Plural of "serum."
 6. Equatorial Guinea.
 7. Plural of magus.
 8. Instrument for loosening the earth.
 9. Of the surgical treatment of skeletal system disorders.
 10. Predatory gull-like sea bird.
 11. Acronym for Electrical System Integrated Test.
 13. Peruke.
 14. One who avoids people.
 20. Strong, pervasive quality.
 21. Leer at.
 25. Silver dollar of Spain.
 26. Undo the sewing of.
 27. Wide breeches worn during the reign of Charles II.
 28. Extremely bright colors.
 29. Single copy of a periodical.
 30. Acronym for Time-Shared Disk Operating System.
 31. Empty space.
 33. Old card game in which forfeits are paid into a pool.
 35. Acronym for Standard Service Link.
 37. Tall, cylindrical structure in which fodder is stored.
 39. Measure of the loss of information in a transmitted message.
 42. Acronym for Alpha Red Green Blue (color model).
 44. Block entrance to.
 47. People that use.
 49. Place in a tomb.
 52. Heavy cord of tightly interwinded fiber.
 53. Plural of "hilum."
 55. Spring upward as if from the ground.
 56. Acronym for Latvian Maritime Law Association.
 57. Aromatic salve.
 58. Musical work that has been created.
 59. Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
 60. Acronym for St. Louis Fire Department.
 62. Bird allied to the crows but smaller.

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EVAPORATING	HAT	
EDI	TEIDO	
UPTOWN	IRRUPT	
ANARIELS	DRESS	
TSNS	GOOSE	ODDS
RETTA	NOUNS	TOL
WALRUS	ETHICS	
LOGS	RUN	
RHO	BELL	BOTTOMS
OINK	REMAP	OPAL
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This Sunday:
Susie Luchsinger
(watch for details)

9:30 a.m. Coffee/Donuts
9:45 Adult & Youth Bible Study
10:45 Worship

Making A Difference

By Rex M. Rogers

Animals Are Not Equal To People

I've always been a little suspicious of people who don't like animals--unless they have an allergy they can't help. Nature without animals would be as uninteresting as pizza without tomato sauce. Think about it? No lightning bugs on summer evenings. No birds at the seashore. No old dog to come home to who doesn't care what kind of day you've had. Without animals we could not live and we certainly would not live well.

Animals are a gift from God, part of our human responsibility for stewarding the environment. So cruelty of any kind is by definition needless and inappropriate. Wanton destruction, like shooting bison for fun from the train in the Old West, is immoral. Slaughtering animals to near extinction like the African elephant or rhinoceros for purposes of commercial greed is a form of robbing our children.

But animals are animals. They are not, despite what animal rights activists say, human beings. Animals deserve to be nurtured, protected, and preserved, but a given animal's ultimate value is not on the same level as either the new baby in the family or of Grandma. Animals are capable of remarkable commitment and heroics based on instinct, but they do not participate in good and evil, do not worship in a church of their choice, do not develop civilization, and do not worry about retirement.

Without animals, animal husbanding and farming, animal hunting and animal research, human history would conceivably not have developed. Because of animal products, we are better clothed, eat better meals, possess medicines thwarting disease, and in some cases have our lives extended. Animal products made possible geographic exploration in the 18th and 19th centuries and they make possible biomedical exploration today.

The animal kingdom is part of God's creation. We'd do well to remember that.

Rex M. Rogers, Ph.D., book author and president of Cornerstone University, Grand Rapids, Mich., pens this column, which appears in 89 newspapers--TheBlanchardGroup@hotmail.com
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RC Update

Ranger College Continuing Education is proud to be offering the following courses! Sign up early to reserve a space by contacting Lori Foster/Ranger College at 254-647-0458 or 254-647-3234.

Medication Aide Course (Classes will be in Comanche, TX)

State approved training program consisting of 130 hours of classroom instruction and 10 hours of clinical experience in a long-term care facility. This intensive course is required for certification as a Medication Aide. The student will receive instruction in the responsibilities and procedures associated with preparation

administration of designated medications by non-licensed nursing personnel employed in health care facilities licensed by the Texas Department of Health.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT: YOU MUST:

- >Have a high school diploma or GED
- >Be at least 18 years old
- >Be able to read, write, speak, and understand English
- >Be currently employed in a facility as a nurse-aide or a non-licensed direct care staff person on the first official day of the training program
- >Have been employed in a facility for 90-days as a non-licensed direct care staff person within the 12-month period preceding the first official day of training. Employment cannot be with a hospital or home health agency.

These registration requirements are set by state law and notarized documentation is required on forms. Students are responsible ensuring that they meet the enrollment requirements. No refunds will be given for students failing to meet enrollment requirements. Students must complete both lecture and clinicals.

WHERE: Ranger College Comanche Center
215 North Houston Comanche, TX 76442

WHEN: February 7—May 4, 2005

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

Certified Nurse Aide

(Classes will be in Early, TX)

Nurse Aides are a vital part of the health care team. This 84-hour course combines classroom and clinical instruction in the skills needed to become a Certified Nurse Aide. The focus is to prepare the students to achieve a level of knowledge, skills and abilities essential to provide basic care to residents of long-term care facilities. This program is approved by the Texas Department of Health. Successful completion will enable the student to take the State Nurse Aide Test.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COURSE:

- >Must have be at least 16 years of age
- >Must be able to read, write, speak, and understand English
- >Must be free of communicable diseases

>BEFORE registration is accepted the Texas Department of Human Services requires a background check with the Nurse's Registry; all applicants must contact Ranger College Continuing Education for details.

WHERE: Ranger College/ Early Center
819 Early Boulevard
Early, TX 76803

WHEN: February 3, 2005—March 19, 2005

TIME: 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings

Ranger College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in admissions, and/or program policies.

Angel Food Orders Due By February 14

Angel Food orders for the February Menu are to be in by Monday, February 14th. The menu includes New York Strip Steaks, Beef Stew, Ground Chuck, Ground Turkey, Smoked Sausage Links with cheese, Breaded Chicken, Chicken Breast Nuggets, Banquet Meat Topper, Rice, Apple, Potatoes, Carrots, Green Beans, Vegetable Blend, Breakfast Cereal, Frozen Juice Concentrate, Dozen Eggs, and Apple Pie. All the above for low cost of \$25.00. Specials of Ribeye Steaks for \$17.00 and Bacon Wrapped

Beef Filets for \$17.00. Buy for your family and bless someone else with extra food also.

For more information or to place an order call Evelyn at 442-3752; Ilene 442-2565; Trish 442-1710; or Ann 442-2356. For Eastland area you may go to Readers Choice Bookstore 977 E. Main and place an order. Angel Food Will Now Accept Food Stamps!!! For the Feb. Menu orders will be taken Feb. 10th from 2 to 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church for those wanting to use their Food Stamps.

Defensive Driving Class February 21st

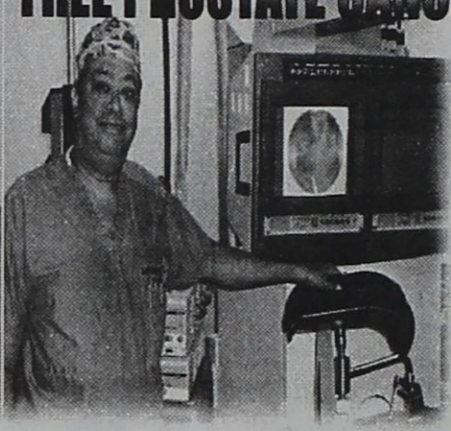
Texas State Defensive Driving Class will be held at Pizza Inn 1001 E. Main in Eastland the 3rd Monday of each month. The next class will be held February 21st 4-10 p.m. Call Kay Hill at 254-629-8159 State Licensed In-

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TALK ON PROSTATE CANCER

Avi T. Deshmukh, M.D., F.A.C.S.
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The Idle American

Commentary By Dr. Don Newbury

Alaskans: Thinking Big or Thinking Smart?

Our neighbors to the north are at a crossroads. If they choose properly, they have the rare opportunity to give the world a brand new fable, extend the life of the Anchorage Zoo's only elephant, bask in the world media spotlight and encourage imbibers to stay put on their wagons.

Should the Alaskans choose wrongly, the world will wonder if they've spent too much time in the snow without earmuffs, or maybe they've torn a page from the other 49 states' tattered playbook: When a problem pops up, throw money at it.

May they not be swayed by the temptation to "be first." Zoo director Tex Edwards (I wish he'd lay off the nickname) has proposed spending up to \$250,000 for construction of "the world's first elephant treadmill." (He is concerned that Maggie, a 22-year-old African elephant is not getting enough

exercise.)

They've already talked with mining experts-folks who know most about heavy loads, conveyors and belts. Obviously they have NOT spoken with individuals who have spent only .2 of one percent as much for their treadmills. Most of them simply take up space—silent tributes to good intentions. Their typical use is for hanging clothes there from. What's Maggie to hang from her heavyduty treadmill, her trunk?

Alaskans should consider opening wide their spigots of creative juices. With their annual two-week cross country dog race, "The Iditerod," already claiming world attention, why not rig up a sled for Maggie? If they did, we'd never hear from the tortoise and the hare again. The new, improved fable would chronicle the elephant and the dogs. It would be revisited during each annual race in March.

Don't laugh. Elephants are among the brightest

animals. When four dozen of the big critters helped Hannibal scale the Alps more than 2,200 years ago, their adaptability was proven. Not only did they handle the frigid temperatures, they also donned what amounted to "elephant water wings" to float across rivers en route..

I know. I know. You're thinking that exercise once a year won't make a dent. Here's where zoo volunteers come in. Every couple of weeks, they could take turns mushing the elephant-pulled sled on shorter treks to prepare for the big annual run.

To coax Maggie along, they could dangle peanuts from a fishing pole, or perhaps have a mouse chasing in back.

Such a race could help reduce alcohol consumption in the frozen north. Can you imagine an Alaskan, wobbling home after an extended session at the "Long Branch Igloo," spotting an elephant racing with dog teams over snow banks?

"Really, honey, I saw a pink elephant on the way home," he'd claim, "I ain't never takin' another drink." (Okay, for maximum effect, use pink spray paint on Maggie's street side..)

Finally, this novel approach could have international applications. As a nation, we are beaten down by surveys and studies that suggest Mollie is not

alone in being overweight. In Texas, several cities have the dubious distinction of being in the "top 10" of the nation's fattest. They're even talking in the Lone Star state of putting kids' weight on report cards.

There could be Maggie bobble-heads and clever slogans. "Eat less or pull a sled" could become more popular than Smokey the Bear's "Only you can prevent forest fires." Smiling Maggie stickers could be pasted on youngsters' charts to mark progress. (We must go to great lengths to avoid great widths.)

Indeed, possibilities are endless...

Maggie could visit the United States, making stops in major cities to show off her new svelte self. And she could set up her own tent!

Go south, young elephant! Right now, put your foot down. Let your frosty-minded handlers know that you WILL NOT use a treadmill, and much prefer going to the dogs..

Dr. Newbury is a speaker and author. His column appears in more than 100 TX, OK and LA newspapers. His website is: www.speakerdoc.com Please contact him at 817-447-3872 or by e-mail, newbury@speakerdoc.com

Seeds From The Sower

By Michael Guido Metter, GA.

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CAPITOL COMMENT



U.S. SENATOR
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Iraq's Elections Show Hope for Democracy

There is little that people living in Iraq have not seen in the 5,500 years that have elapsed since the world's first literate society, Sumeria, arose on the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. But recently, the long-suffering people of this nation experienced something new - they voted in free elections.

"Now I feel that Saddam is really gone," Fatima Ibrahim told MSNBC after casting her ballot in Irbil, in the Kurdish northern region. She was a young bride of 14 and only married three months when her husband, father and brother were rounded up by Saddam Hussein's police and have never been seen again.

This woman and millions of her fellow Iraqis refused to be intimidated by terrorist threats and went to the polls. In an election widely hailed as fair and free, over 60 percent of the Iraqi people turned out. Even Sunni Iraqis ignored calls by their religious leaders to boycott the election and voted in higher than expected numbers. The election is for 13 provincial councils and the new 275-seat National Assembly, which will draft a new constitution.

Neighboring Jordan watched the elections with great interest. King Abdullah II offered congratulations and said the successful election proved the Iraqi people are "stronger than the extremist groups trying to destabilize Iraq."

As President Bush noted in his stirring inaugural speech, "The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other

lands. The best hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom in the world."

Unfortunately, while the Iraqi people have begun their pursuit of democracy, they still face thugs who desperately want to deny this new nation freedom. Jihadists allied to Al Qaeda and remnants of the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein are trying to regain power.

We should not let the horror of these tactics obscure an important point: the terrorists fear what an Iraqi democracy would mean for their cause. The Jihadists and Baathists fear history will sweep them aside, and they are doing all they can to block the spread of freedom.

Abu Musab Al Zarqawi, the Jordanian who has publicly declared allegiance to Osama Bin Laden, and is considered the architect of attacks on U.S. and Iraqi forces, has said as much. "We have declared a fierce war on this evil principle of democracy and those who follow this wrong ideology. Anyone who tries to help set up this system is part of it."

Further, Osama Bin Laden himself, in a recent Al-Jazeera-distributed tape, urged Iraqis not to participate in the election.

The important thing to keep in mind is that the Iraqi people demonstrated in impressive numbers that, however difficult the path may be, this election was a key step toward complete self-rule and the establishment of a democratic system of government.

We should remember our own past, when, after the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, our nation

was torn by, first, Shays' Rebellion and, later, the Whiskey Rebellion. These challenges to the new republic led some to doubt the survival of the American experiment.

The path has occasionally been rocky since then. Women marched, suffered ridicule, and were sometimes jailed as they sought the right to vote in the early part of the 20th Century. Only 40 years ago, African American leaders risked their lives to secure the same liberties others already enjoyed during the struggle for civil rights.

While our progress has been difficult at times, our democratic republic has not only survived; it has prospered. Today we are a beacon of hope and freedom for the world, proving that democracy is not achieved overnight. Although it sometime seems fractious and divisive, it still provides the best form of government man has yet devised.

We must bear those lessons in mind as we support the democratic process in Iraq. It may not be perfect, but it is an important step in the right direction. Recently, our nation saw a touching demonstration of the Iraqis' appreciation of our sacrifices during President George W. Bush's State of the Union Address. Safia Taleb al-Suhail, leader of the Iraqi Women's Political Council, hugged and comforted Janet Norwood of Pflugerville, Texas, whose son was killed in Iraq while serving with the Marines.

By seeing this struggle through, we will deliver a devastating blow to the terrorists and a resounding victory for freedom. I want our friends in Iraq who value liberty to know that we Texans do not abandon our friends when things get difficult. Our country must remain a reliable friend of freedom.



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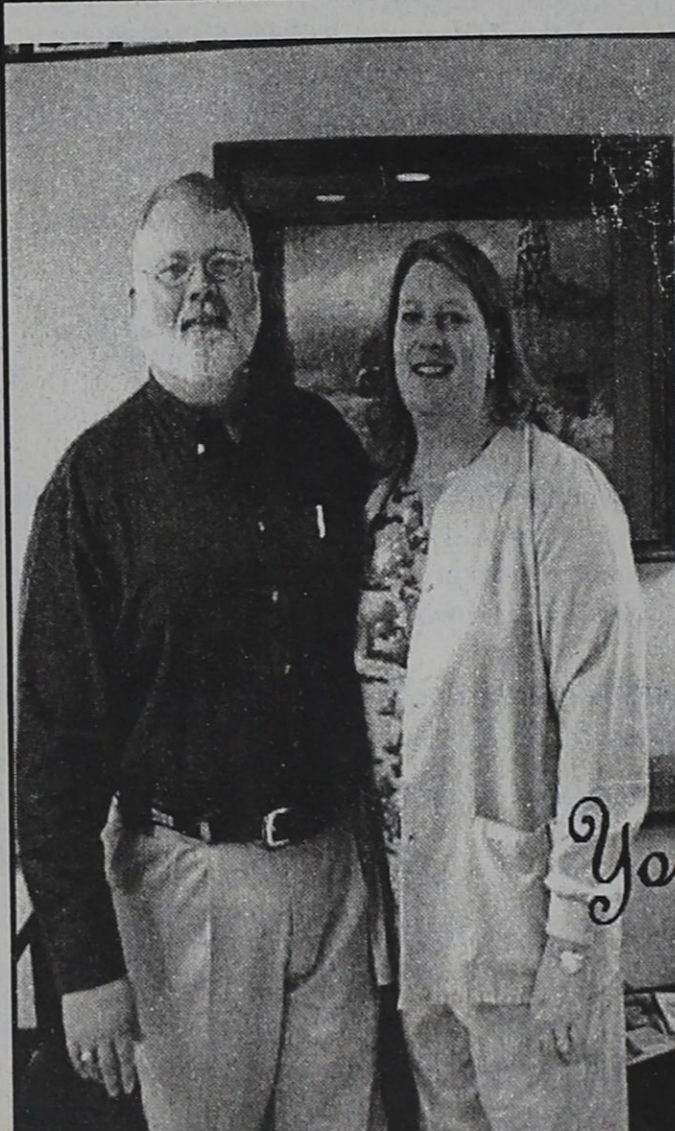
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Guest Slot

By HVO, GNO, & V

ASSISI BACK TO ROME...

IF ASKED, most of us would suggest that St. Francis of Assisi, as we know it, is a beautiful little statue that we see as a yard decoration in our own or a neighbor's garden. And, oh, yes, we'd add, he's the saint that loved nature and its creatures. We usually see the statue of him holding a bird or a squirrel.

The fact is that there was a St. Francis and there is a beautiful ancient place in Italy named Assisi. On our last full day of traveling together, the Cosmos tour bus pulled out of Mestre (jumping off place for Venice) bright and early bound for Rome with only one stop planned--Assisi, except for a quick lunch. It was the kind of bitter sweet time when on the one hand you're glad the trip is over, but you hate to say goodbye to all the folks you've grown to enjoy being with. By now, after so much familiarity, the word games and the sing-songs and the jokes flow freely as the miles clip off.

It is beautiful country on the generally east side of Italy, and the miles go swiftly. So swiftly in fact that the Guide and Driver decided we could afford a lunch break in one of the many Auto-Plazas (read American major fuel/convenience/major cafeteria food service, and of course souvenir centers.

So we climbed up to Assisi by early mid-afternoon for a relatively quick look. This is a major pilgrimage site and the far walk up the hill to the basilica made virtual pilgrims of us all. It is geared for visitors: controlled bus parking, and free but strenuous entry up to the entrance to the city, and then further up the hill passed every conceivable shops offering every conceivable memento of the visit. If you walk far enough you'll reach the basilica where St. Francis is entombed.

And his story is unique. Born in Assisi in 1182, he was the son of a well-to-do

cloth merchant. As is frequently the case, he was a riotous youth, who made a 180 change. He had dreamed of achieving military glory, but abandoned his world ambitions at the age 19 while a prisoner of war in Perugia. The word is that he became a mystic who experienced visions of Christ and Mary, composed the first poems in the Italian language about the beauties of nature--which would explain our concept of him as a naturalist. In 1210 he founded the now famous order of friars known as the Franciscans. His repudiation of the worldliness and hypocrisy of the church, his love of nature, and his humble, unassuming character earned him an enormous following throughout Europe, posing an unprecedented challenge to the decadent Papacy. We learned that he was the first known Christian to receive the stigmata, the spontaneously appearing wounds on the hands, feet and side of the body corresponding to the torments of Christ on the cross.

The Basilica of St. Francis, one of Italy's foremost monuments, was built between 1228 and 1253 AD, a short period of construction and rare for a church of this size, is often explained as measure of the great love that the people of the time had for him. By the 1400's pilgrims were flocking to Assisi from all parts of Europe and today the walled medieval town and its basilica are among the most visited of Christian shrines.

Many probably remember the earthquakes of a few years back that killed some and did extensive damage at the basilica. The date was September, 1997 and two were killed, 20 injured and the villages of Cesi and Collecorti were destroyed. A second tremor struck the region later causing the collapse of part of the structure of the Basilica of Saint Francis. Two friars were buried in the rubble when part of the vault of the church

came down. Medieval frescoes by painters Giotto and Cimabue were damaged. The quake measured 5.5 on the Richter scale, and tremors were reported in Rome.

Italy reportedly suffers quakes on a regular basis and buildings across Umbria and Tuscany bear witness to regular tremors which plague the area. In 1980, some 2,570 people were killed when a quake, measuring 6.8 on the scale, devastated large parts of the southern regions of Campania and Basilicata.

Learning these facts, one of the tour members wondered outloud if the debauchery of that era might have been responsible for the catastrophes. "You know," she said, "nearly every painting and every statue we've seen is of nudes posing, prancing or frolicking."

"Is it any different on T.V. today," a seatmate asked.

We had about 90 miles more to go to Rome from Assisi, which dates back to the Etruscans of the ninth or so centuries B.C., and was established around what was even then a sacred spring of water.

Getting to our hotel as night came on, we had time to relax, clean up and have a snack at a quiet cafe in the neighborhood since our loved ones couldn't get away as early as planned to visit and say our goodbyes.

The Little Ones enjoyed the uniqueness of the little hotel rooms: Levi, the eldest and style conscious, found a handy bathroom mirror to apply some new hair gel to try a spiked hair do--much to his parents and grandparents consternation. Caring and sensitive Luke had hugs all around knowing that his Texas kin were soon to fly away. Pretty Laura and Sweet-Sweet Leigha stayed close to Nana, and little girl-like asked about her scarves, makeup and perfumes. Vince and Amy, who had been such good hosts while we were with them, let it be known that they were probably due to come back to the States for their next assignment, probably to the Washington, D.C. area again. We had all promised to do one last Roman McDonalds together again, but the hour was too late, and our wake-up call was to be early in time for a 6 a.m. bus pickup to make a 10:30 flight from Leonardo de Vinci Airport, bound to Frankfurt, by way of Dulles and then to D/FW... What a time it had been for us!

G.N. who had taken the fall in Sienna, suffered very swollen feet afterwards, and said she felt sure that we had walked at least a hundred miles on the tour, mostly uphill! She didn't miss a step!

G.N. who had taken the fall in Sienna, suffered very swollen feet afterwards, and said she felt sure that we had walked at least a hundred miles on the tour, mostly uphill! She didn't miss a step!



Basilica of St. Francis - Assisi

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02 Kia Rio auto, air, AM/FM, CD, 53K.....	\$3995
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01 Chevy Silverado auto, air, AM/FM.....	\$5995
01 Ford F150 XL Short bed Sport, V6, 5 sp., AM/FM, CD, 49K.....	\$6950
00 Ford F150 XL Super Cab long bed, 6 cyl., auto, air, AM/FM cass.....	\$6995
99 Chevy Silverado auto, air, AM/FM.....	\$5250
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Obituary

Opal E. Howe

Clyde - Opal E. Howe, 87, of Clyde died Saturday in a local care center.

Services were Monday at the First Baptist Church with Rev. Jerry Howe officiating. Burial followed in the Clyde Cemetery under the direction of Bailey Funeral Home.

Mrs. Howe was born September 15, 1917 in Rule to Luther and Annie (Jones) Martin. She grew up in Winters and graduated from Winters High School. She was the widow of Alvis Gaston "Slim" Howe whom she married December 13, 1941 in Anson. They moved to Clyde from Abilene in 1944. She worked at the Abilene State School for 20 years retiring in 1981. She kept children in her home and worked in the nursery at the First

Baptist Church in Clyde for 40 years.

She is survived by: two sons, Carroll and wife Valerie Howe of Bashon Island, Washington and Buddy and Beverly Howe of Clyde; daughter-in-law Pat Howe of Clyde; seven grandchildren, Carol Lyn Brashear of Portland, OR., Shelly How of Willingham, WA., Lester Howe of Clyde, Cindy Seabourn of Clyde, Brad Howe of San Angelo, Chris Howe of Arlington, and Jana Howe of Clyde; and seven great grandchildren, Ashley and Katie Brashear, KaSara and Jonathan Seabourn, and Nickalos and Jordan Howe, and Miranda Fields.

She was preceded in death by her husband, one son, Joe and one daughter, Ellen.

Baird First United Methodist Church Worship Services

Sunday School - 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship - 10:45 AM
Youth - 5:00 PM
Choir Practice - 5:30 PM

Tuesdays

Prayer Group - 10:00 AM - Joy Corn's

And unlike annoying telephone calls, people actually enjoy reading newspapers. Newspaper readers seek out in-depth, detailed political information.

6. Newspapers make targeting easy

Today's newspapers can deliver a message right to the doorsteps of the voters a candidate needs to reach. Many can target delivery down to the census tract, block, or even house by house in a flyer or brochure or even on the poly/delivery bag, which are especially useful for getting out the vote on Election Day.

7. Newspapers can provide more information to voters

Use newspapers to highlight endorsements, issue clarification, and candidate comparisons. Candidates also can use a compelling newspaper ad to generate interest from the press and garner valuable earned media opportunities.

8. It's easy to advertise in

newspapers

Placing political ads in newspapers has never been easier. Typically the media buy can be completed with a single order and check.

9. All politics is local

Voters know newspapers are the place to go to find out what's going on in their communities. They know that unlike television or radio news programs, newspapers cover local issues every day of the week. And they know with a newspaper, they'll get real, in-depth coverage of the local issues most important to them. The same issues that often determine how they'll vote on Election Day.

10. Newspapers are an essential part of a successful media mix

Broadcast, direct mail, and phone calls are all still important, but candidates also have to put money into other proven and effective advertising mediums like newspapers. In fact, newspaper ranks second only to television among

Baird First Baptist Church Schedule Of Events

Each one of you are invited to join us at the corner of Race and 3rd St., Baird

For more information on any of these events please contact the church: 854-1574

(Nursery provided for worship services)

Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.

Worship Service - 11:00 A.M.

Prayer Time In Sanctuary - 5:00 P.M.

Evening Service - 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday Choir Practice 6:00 pm

Wednesday Service - 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, Feb. 9 - Choir Rehearsal in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 9 - Prayer Meeting at 7:00 pm

Sunday, February 13 at

4:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall - Ladies bible Study

Sunday, Feb. 13 - See service times listed above - COME AND WORSHIP WITH US!!!

Sr. Adults Call 854-1574 by Wednesday, Feb. 9 no later than 1 pm to sign up for the Sr. Adult Banquet on Feb. 14 at FBC Clyde

For missions save your Campbell Soup Labels - for more information call 854-1574. We Need Labels - Eat more soup. Thank you for your support - it will change a life.

Coming Soon !!!
February 27 - Evangelism Rally FBC Clyde (no services at FBC Baird that evening). We will see you at FBC Clyde at 6:00 pm.

Correction - The "Sisters at the Well" will not meet in February - Next meeting will be March 28 at 6:30 pm.

Democratic firm, and Moore Information, a Republican firm headquartered in Portland.

Tom Edmonds is a veteran Capitol Hill strategies and CEO of Edmonds Hackney and Associates, Inc., Contact: 202-371-0110 or tedmonds@edmondshackney.com

Spring Elections Loom Why Newspapers?

10 reasons why newspapers deliver for political reasons.

By Tom Edmonds

Edmonds Hackney and Associates, Inc.

1. Newspaper readers are voters

In the 2000 presidential election, nine out of 10 newspaper readers cast a ballot. In the 2002 mid-term elections, when voting is typically much lighter, newspaper readers still delivered the vote, with more than eight out of 10 newspaper readers going to the polls.

2. Newspapers are credible

Voters look to newspapers for the information they need to make up their minds about candidates and issues. Newspapers rank second only to television among voters when it comes to providing the most helpful information about state & local elections.

3. Newspapers consistently reach voters

Voters consistently look to newspapers to help make up their minds about how they'll vote. While the perceived usefulness of other media rises and falls as the campaign progresses, newspapers maintain their strength for influencing voter opinion. Voters count on newspapers to deliver the whole story about the candidates and issues, from the earliest moments of the campaign right up until Election Day.

4. Newspapers reach crucial undecided voters

The conventional wisdom among consultants says that

only 10 percent to 15 percent of the electorate is typically up for grabs at the end of any campaign. But in reality, that number is much higher. That's because while only 10 percent to 15 percent of voters may be truly "undecided", many more are far from certain about their vote. Among those who say they experience some indecision, three out of four are regular newspaper readers.

5. Newspapers are reliable

Nobody reads the newspaper to escape from reality, as is often the case with television and radio.

Country Cowboy Church

710 N. Seaman Eastland
254-639-2155

Coffee & Donuts.....10:45 a.m.
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study...6:30 p.m.

Pastor Chad Gosnell



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VIOXX

Recently VIOXX was recalled due to increased risk of heart attacks, strokes and cardiac deaths in VIOXX users. According to recent studies, VIOXX is a COX-2 inhibitor, both COX-1 inhibitors, similar to VIOXX, may have similar risk of heart attacks, strokes and deaths. Please, the number of Celebrex and VIOXX, continue to call these products and advise that the recall studies are underway. According to a Jan. 3, 2005 statement from the Division of the FDA's Office of Drug Safety, there may be an error in VIOXX and VIOXX related heart attacks, with 30-40% of those, resulting in death.
If you or a loved one have taken VIOXX, Celebrex or VIOXX and suffered a heart attack or stroke or a family member has died due to a sudden cardiac death, then call us for a Free Case Evaluation. We Attorney's Fees or Court Costs unless we recover for you.
Call Toll Free 1-800-458-4878

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Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Eastland County Stock Show Feb. 9-12

The Eastland County Stock Show is scheduled for February 9-12, 2005 at the Eastland County Show Grounds on Highway 3101 north of Eastland. The public is encouraged to attend and support Eastland County's youth.

The Concession Stands will be in full swing with homemade goodies, hamburgers, cokes, etc. Plan to attend the Stock Show. Here is the schedule of the Show:

WEDNESDAY,

FEBRUARY 9, 2005

7 p.m. - All exhibitors wishing to be eligible for Showmanship Competition MUST be signed in and in receipt of an exhibitor number except rabbit exhibitors.

8 p.m. - All livestock to be on Show Grounds, weighed and properly in place except rabbits. Rabbits must be checked in by 12:00 noon on Friday.

Pen assignments will be posted throughout the livestock barn. Exhibitors are responsible for penning their animals in the appropriate area. Show personnel will be on hand.

Exhibitors wishing to be eligible for showmanship awards must register by 7 p.m.

All livestock must be weighed in and in its assigned place by 8 p.m., except rabbits, which must be checked in Friday, Feb. 11

between 10 a.m. and Noon. **THURSDAY,**

FEBRUARY 10, 2005

8 a.m. - Judging Beef Cattle

10 a.m. - Judging Dairy Cattle

11 a.m. - Judging Broilers

1 p.m. - Judging Breeding Swine

3 p.m. - Judging Market Swine

FRIDAY,

FEBRUARY 11, 2005

8 a.m. - Judging Dairy Goats

9 a.m. - Judging Angora Goats

10 a.m. - Judging Breeding Sheep

11 a.m. - Judging Market Lambs

2:30 p.m. - Judging Meat Goats

Immediately following - Judging Breeding Meat Goats

SATURDAY,

FEBRUARY 12, 2005

9 a.m. - Judging Market Rabbits

Immediately following - Judging Breeding Rabbits

4 p.m. - Buyers Banquet

6 p.m. - Auction and Presentation of Special Awards

The Eastland County Livestock Raisers invite the public to our first annual Buyer's Banquet and the special auction. Please help us recognize and reward the hard work of our participants.

Due to safety concerns, the

ECLRA has banned all electric heating devices. All other alternative heating sources must be approved by stock show personnel prior to their use. There also will be no hay, straw or similar bedding allowed on the grounds.

In accordance with ECLRA rules (SAR-3), all exhibitors with an animal in the premium sale must walk through the sale ring with an animal. ECLRA does not provide animals for the sale.

All champions must have their pictures taken by the stock show photographer.

If any exhibitor or parent has any questions, he or she should contact a supervising ag teacher, 4-H leader or county agent.



Bootstrap Bucks Boost Rural Tourism

By Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs

From Dublin to Yoakum, small town festivals celebrating Texas blues to Texas blooms are getting a boost with Bootstrap Bucks, a new Texas Department of Agriculture program supporting rural tourism promotions.

Applications from seven rural Texas communities including Dublin, Grand Saline, Liberty, Livingston, Marlin, Sulphur Springs and Yoakum were recently approved in the first round of funding. The application deadline for the second round of Bootstrap Bucks was Friday, Jan. 14.

Details are available online at www.TexasYes.org or by calling (866) 4TEX-YES [(866) 483-9937].

Trans-Texas Corridor To Be Discussed At TSCRA Convention

The impact of the proposed Trans-Texas Corridor on private property owners will be examined during Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's annual convention March 18-21 in Fort Worth.

Plans for the megahighway system include six lanes for cars, four lanes for trucks, six rail tracks, utilities, pipelines and state concessions on 4,000 miles of toll roads up to a quarter-mile across.

Current estimates that the corridor will consume more than a half million acres of private property have a lot of people worried. Ranchers and farmers fear their land may be lost or split up through eminent domain.

Cities and towns are concerned about the lost business if the corridor diverts traffic around them or the loss of revenue if the corridor goes through and takes land off of the local tax rolls.

Commuters are dismayed that plans for financing include user tolls, not only for the corridor, but for all new highway projects.

The \$175 billion TTC project was proposed by Gov. Rick Perry in 2002 to handle the expected increase in traffic to and from Mexico

created by the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Completion is expected to take 50 years, but some critics say the corridor has been put of the fast track by HB 3588, enabling legislation passed by the legislature and signed by Gov. Perry in 2003.

Contract negotiations are already under way for the Oklahoma- to Mexico portion of the corridor. On Dec. 16, the Texas Transportation Commission selected a proposal by a Spanish company, Cintra, Concesiones de Infraestructuras, de Transporte, S. A.

Cintra proposes to invest \$6 billion in a toll road between Dallas and San Antonio, roughly paralleling I-35, by 2010.

TSCRA leaders have already met with Gov. Perry and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst to express concerns about condemnation powers, acquisition of land and access to private property.

This will be the focus of discussions during TSCRA's convention. Members are urged to contact their representatives in Austin with opinions or questions on the proposal.

Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.
—Abraham Lincoln

Baird I. S. D. Lunch Menu

February

- Wednesday, February 9
Taco Salad, Ranch Style Beans, Cobbler, Milk
- Thursday, February 10
Lasagna, Salad, Corn, Garlic Bread, Pudding, Milk
- Friday, February 11
Hamburgers, Lettuce, Pickles, French Fries, Cookies, Milk
- Monday, February 14
Chicken Nuggets, Mash Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, Cookies, Milk
- Tuesday, February 15
Fish, Cole Slaw, French Fries, Hush Puppies, Milk
- Wednesday, February 16
Meat & Beans, Toastas, Salad, Spanish Rice, Cobbler, Milk
- Thursday, February 17
Ham, Oven Potatoes, Black-eyed Peas, Corn Bread, Fruit, Milk
- Friday, February 18
Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Pork-N-Beans, Rice Krispies, Milk
- Monday, February 21
Sloppy Joes, Onion Rings, Carrot & Celery Sticks, Fruit, Milk
- Tuesday, February 22
Pizza, Salad, Corn, Cake, Milk
- Wednesday, February 23
Frito Pie, Salad, Pinto Beans, Cobbler, Milk
- Thursday, February 24
Chicken Fried Steak, Gravy, Green Beans, Mash Potatoes, Rolls, Milk



BAIRD BEARS

Baird HS Basketball Schedule 2004-2005 District Games

- * Friday, Feb. 4 Ranger There JVG/JVB/VG/VB 4:00 PM
- * Tuesday, Feb. 8 Eula Here JVG/JVB/VG/VB 4:00 PM
- * Friday, Feb. 11 Cross Plains Here JVB/VB 6:00 PM

Superintendent: Cliff Gardner
H.S. Principal: Sandra Carter
Head Boys Coach: Clay Barnett
Assistant: Luke Moody
Head Girls Coach: Lane Loyd
Assistant Coach: Lauren Rodriguez

Baird J.H. Basketball Schedule 2004-2005

Thursday, Feb. 3 Eula Here 5:00 PM

All games will be played in the following order:
7th girls, 7th boys, 8th girls, 8th boys.

Basketball Scores & Stats

Baird Varsity Girls took a large win over Ranger VG, with an end score of 59 - 27.

Baird donated from the 1st quarter on. 1st quarter: Baird 8; Ranger 6 - 2nd quarter: Baird 16; Ranger 11 - 3rd quarter: Baird 16; Ranger 2 - 4th quarter: Baird 19; Ranger 8. No further stats were available for this game.

In a very close game, Baird Varsity Boys lost only one point to Ranger, 53-52.

Ranger took the lead in the 1st quarter, 17-8; Baird scored 14 points to Ranger's 8 in the 2nd quarter; 15 - 11 in the 3rd; but dropped behind Ranger in the 4th quarter with 15-17.

Rodriguez led the scoring for Baird with 16 points. Closs followed with 14, Cogburn 9, Mendez 5, Manning 3, Parker 3, and Roberts with 2.

Ranger's Veloz scored 21 points, Gaumond 16, Wilson 9, Monroe 4 and Whisenant

3. After the game, Baird and Ranger Varsity Boys both had district records of 4-4.

JV Baird also defeated Ranger.

In Over Time, Baird Varsity Boys lost another very close game to Eula Tuesday, with a score of 51-47.

Baird dominated the score board in the 1st quarter with 13-12 points. Eula took the lead in the 2nd quarter with 14-9 points. The 3rd quarter saw Baird in the lead again with 11-7 points. The teams tied in the 4th quarter with 12-12 points. Over Time saw Eula book 6 points; Baird 2.

Scoring for Baird was Manning with 14 points, Mendez with 12, Rodriguez with 10, Roberts 7, and Nichols and Cogburn each with 2.

Henley led the scoring for Eula with 24 points, Ochoa with 9, Foreman 8, Marcee 4, and Dement and Sanford

with 3 each. Baird VB now has a 4-5 district record; Eula 7-2.

Baird JVB was defeated by Eula.

Baird Varsity Girls took a loss to Eula, 56-30.

Quarter stats were: 1st: Baird 7; Eula 14, 2nd: Baird 2; Eula 10, 3rd: Baird 0; Eula 14, 4th Baird 11; Eula 18.

Scoring for Baird was B. Tollett with 12 points, McDowell with 7, Sweeney 5, Windham 3, and R. Tollett 2.

Morris lead Eula with 13 points, Hillin with 11, A. Hillin 7, Cooley 9, Dement and Reyes 5 each, Carrigan and Elston 3.

Baird VG show a 4-6 district record; Eula 10-0. Eula JVG defeated Baird.

Baird JVB and VB play Cross Plains on Friday, Feb. 11, Here at 6:00 PM.

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