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 BENJAMIN TX 79505-0095 #

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7	THURSDAY, NOV. 8	FRIDAY, NOV. 8	SATURDAY, NOV. 9	SUNDAY, NOV. 10
High/Low 70°/46° Mostly Sunny	High/Low 76°/48° Mostly Sunny	High/Low 78°/56° Mostly Sunny	High/Low 79°/55° Mostly Sunny	High/Low 70°/45° Mostly Sunny

THE **KNOX COUNTY NEWS**  
*Proudly Serving Knox and King Counties*

Volume XXXVII Number 3 Thursday, November 8, 2007 Knox City, Texas 8 Pages + 1 Insert Price 75 ¢

**Looking Ahead**

- **Benjamin Black-Out Pep Rally Date Changed To November 7th**  
 A black-out pep rally will be held for the Benjamin Mustangs in the high school gym on Wednesday, November 7th at 7:30 p.m.
- **Benjamin Community Thanksgiving Meal**  
 Benjamin will hold a community potluck meal on Wednesday, November 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Benjamin Memorial Building.
- **Harvest Day Festival Luncheon**  
 The community wide women's Annual Harvest Day Festival luncheon will be celebrated at 10:00 am, on November 16, 2007 at O'Brien Baptist Church.
- **Veterans Day Program**  
 All Knox County veterans are invited to a breakfast at 7:30 at the KC High School cafeteria. Everyone in the community is invited to attend a flag-raising ceremony in front of KC Elementary. Bro. Jim Reid will be the guest speaker.

**Fundraiser Holds Special Meaning For Local Student**

Most years, Knox City elementary students participate in the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart. For ten-year-old Alyssa Casillas, a 4th grade student at the school, the event probably holds a little more meaning for her than to most participants.

Like many girls her age, Alyssa loves cheering and singing. Unlike many girls her age, she has a serious heart condition.

At eight and a half months pregnant, Alyssa's mother, Melissa Wade, had a sonogram. During that sonogram, Alyssa was diagnosed, while in her mother's womb, as a "blue baby" with a single outlet double ventricle heart.

According to her mother, Alyssa had less than a ten percent chance at life when she was born.

Alyssa has been through a gamut of procedures and operations in her young life. She underwent her first heart procedure at two days old, her first heart surgery at four weeks old, her first open heart surgery at five

months old and her last heart surgery at three years old. She has also had multiple blood transfusions.

Then, at seven years old, she was diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver, a result of her heart condition. During that time, she

Alyssa's mother, Melissa, stated, "Futuristically, unless God performs a huge miracle, Alyssa will (have to) receive a double organ transplant from the same donor."

The organs involved are the heart and liver. If her liver function falls below 50% or her heart condition worsens, she will be put on an organ transplant waiting list.

Currently, Alyssa is not limited to what she can do, but as she grows, her life will be affected more. Her mother says that Alyssa is getting old enough now and has enough knowledge of what is happening to her body that she worries about it more.

Even so, "we've raised her to be treated as a normal child and not to handicap herself," said Melissa.



In her third year to participate in the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart event, Alyssa raised \$370 this year, the highest individual total.

"We try to get everyone involved (in the event, as sponsors) because she will benefit eventually," said Melissa of Alyssa.

Alyssa would benefit because of heart research that is funded in part by events like Jump Rope for Heart.

Her fellow classmates also raised money for the event, but a final total of dollars raised by all participants was unavailable as of press time.

The students, including Alyssa,

**County Commissioners Attend Conference in Vernon**

VERNON- Knox county commissioners and Judge Travis Floyd attended the November 1 Rolling Plains County Commissioners Court Conference at the Texas A&M Agricultural Research and Extension Center, according to Lorrie Coop, county Extension agent.

Texas Cooperative Extension District III includes Childress, Motley, Cottle, Hardeman, Foard, Wilbarger, Wichita, Clay, Montague, Dickens, King, Knox, Baylor, Archer, Kent, Stonewall, Haskell, Throckmorton, Young, Jack, Wise, Stephens, Palo Pinto and Parker counties.

"This conference provided a wealth of information for county commissioners," Mrs. Coop said. The conference agenda included presentations on Ethanol Production with Mesquite,



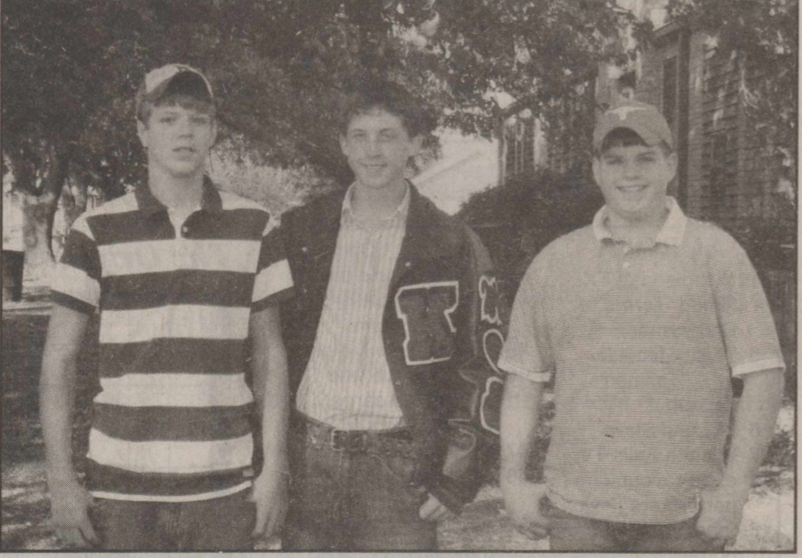
Legislative Updates from State Representative Rick Hardcastle, Wind Energy 101, County Consideration for Wind Energy and Legislative Update Affecting Counties.

The conference also provided county commissioners an excellent opportunity for networking with their peers on the Rolling Plains and they received six (6) commissioners' continuing educational units.

The November 1 conference was co-sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension and the Continuing Education Department at Vernon College.

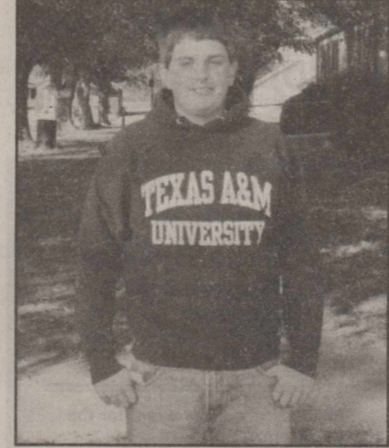
For more information on statewide programs and services available through Texas Cooperative Extension, Texans should call their local county Extension office.

**Local FFA teams win district, advance to Area Competition**



Senior Skills Teams Teams advancing to Area (L to R) Bandy Moeller, Clay Clark, Skyler Eades

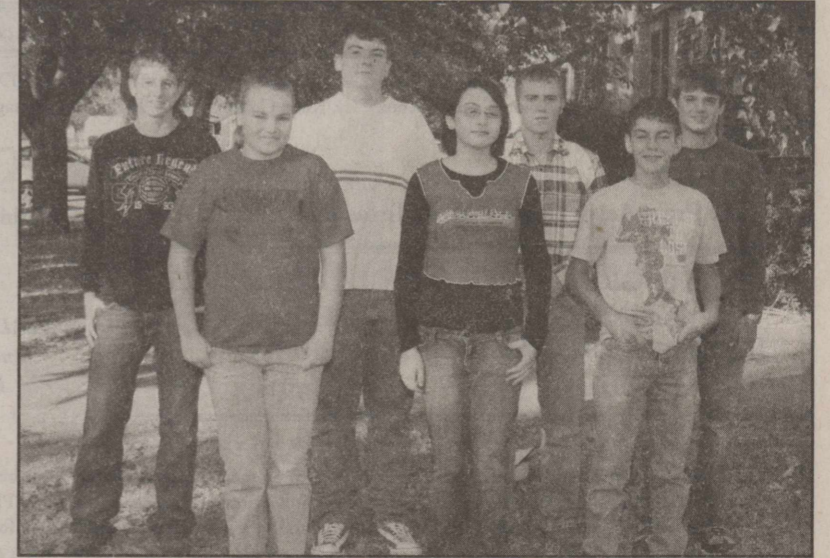
The Knox City High School FFA traveled to Mineral Wells on Monday to participate in District FFA Leadership competitions. The district is made up of 23 schools ranging in sizes from Class A-5A. The Junior Chapter Conducting team of Landon Lynn, President; Michael Wilborn, Vice-President; Zach Shaver, Reporter; Zachery York, Treasurer; Brandon Bradley, Sentinel; Makayla Harrington, Secretary; and Leah Tibbets, Advisor, placed first in their competition. They contended against four additional teams. Cody Trimble participated in Job Interview and Senior Creed; and place first and second, respectively. The Senior Skills team of Bandy Moeller,



Cody Trimble advanced to the Area FFA Leadership in Senior Creed and Job Interview skills

Skyler Eades, and Clay Clark placed second in a competition of eight teams. The Radio team of Heather Moore, Jessy Schur, and Brittney Gonzales placed sixth out of a field of ten teams. Whitney Collins participated in Junior Creed and placed third out of twelve teams. Then Chance Agraz, Mandi Welcher, and Rachele Ellis participated in Senior Quiz. The teams and individuals placing first and second will advance to the Area competition at Stephenville on November 17th. Mr. Farmer, Ag. Instructor and Advisor commented, "I am very proud of the students and their accomplishments at this level of competition. We are looking forward to taking these

four teams to the Area competition next week." Mr. Moeller, High School Principal, stated, "We are extremely proud of the effort Mr. Farmer and the students have put forth to advance four teams to the Area competition in Stephenville." Congratulations and Good Luck at Stephenville!

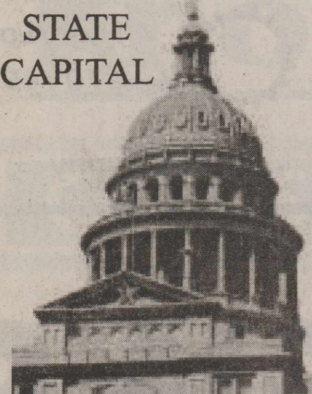


Junior Chapter Conducting Team advancing to Area (front Row L to R) MaKayla Harrington, Leah Tibbets, Brandon Bradley, (Back Row L to R) Zachery York, Michael Wilborn, Zach Shaver, Landon Lynn

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STATE CAPITAL



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

AUSTIN - Now the public has information about what's been happening with federal funding Texas received to help recover from hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005.

The State Auditor's Office on Nov. 1 released a report showing that most of the \$523.7 million in disaster funding received by Texas has not been spent.

Two state agencies, the Department of Housing and Community Affairs and the Office of Rural Community

# Audit shows hurricane relief funds largely unspent

Affairs, are responsible for administering the funds.

According to the report, Housing and Community Affairs spent only \$1.1 million or 2.6 percent of the \$42.6 million in Community Development Block Grant funds the federal government initially awarded to it in May 2006 for hurricane recovery.

As of Sept. 14, 2007, only 13 applicants had benefited from a delivered product, and those "delivered products" were manufactured homes.

Housing and Community Affairs used \$231,066 or 21 percent of the funding for administrative expenses.

Regarding the other agency that received funds, the Office of Rural Community Affairs, the audit reflects complexities tied to spending the money because of the timing and mechanics of reimbursements by FEMA, the federal

disaster agency.

Meanwhile, the audit noted, many disaster aid applicants are still living in FEMA trailers.

### Official predicts low turnout

Secretary of State Phil Wilson, Texas' chief elections officer, on Nov. 2 projected an overall turnout of 9.5 percent of registered Texas voters in the Nov. 6 election.

"This election is important, and I encourage Texans to head to the polls and prove me wrong," Wilson said.

According to a press release from his office, Wilson examined a variety of factors when projecting this year's turnout, including prior levels of voter turnout, voter registration numbers and early voting trends to date.

Throughout early voting, which was conducted Oct. 22 through Nov. 2, the Secretary

of State's office tracked turnout from the state's 15 most populous counties. Those counties account for more than 60 percent of all registered voters in Texas.

### Perry names TCEQ commissioner

Gov. Rick Perry on Nov. 1 appointed Bryan W. Shaw of Bryan to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for a term to expire Aug. 31, 2013.

The commission establishes, oversees and implements clean air, clean water and other environmental policies for the state of Texas.

Shaw, an associate professor of biological and agricultural engineering for Texas A&M University, specializes in air pollution engineering.

He replaces Kathleen Hartnett White of Valentine, whose term expired last summer. The agency's other two commis-

sioners are Buddy Garcia and Larry Soward.

### AG launches safety initiative

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on Nov. 1 called for new safety measures designed to protect students from school violence.

Abbott urged school districts to implement new safety procedures to help prevent a Columbine or Virginia Tech-style shooting in Texas.

The Attorney General's Office is working on the issue with the Texas School Safety Center, an agency created in 1999 after the Columbine, Colo., tragedy. The organization provides schools with research, training, and technical assistance to reduce youth violence and promote safety in Texas schools.

Abbott made a number of recommendations for school districts to be prepared should

trouble arise, such as develop, implement and annually practice campus emergency plans. Schools should team up with law enforcement to practice school safety drills once a year, he said.

### Texas Clipper to live on as reef

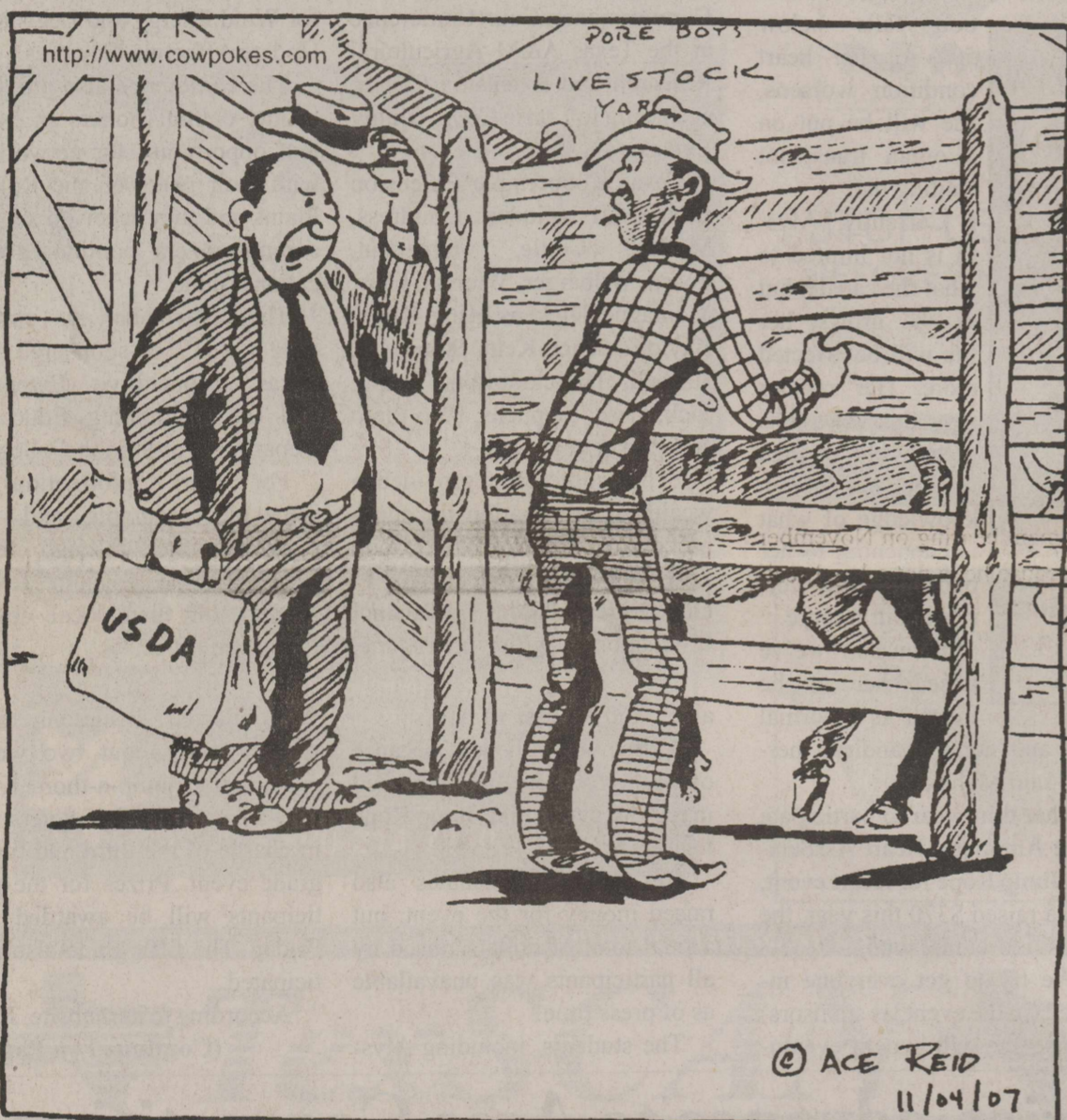
The decommissioned ship, Texas Clipper, on Nov. 15 will be sunk in the Gulf of Mexico 17 miles off South Padre Island and become an artificial reef.

The 473-foot, 7,000-ton World War II-vintage ship served from 1965 to 1996 as a training vessel for Texas A&M University-Galveston.

Because it will attract sport fishing and diving, the new reef is expected to generate as much as \$30 million annually for local economies over a lifespan of at least 50 years, according to Texas Parks & Wildlife.

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By Ace Reid



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DEADLINES — The deadline to submit news and advertising is 5 p.m. on Mondays. Exceptions may be granted only by permission from the Editor.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Knox County News welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. All letters must be signed and will be published with the name of the writer. Letters must include an address and telephone number to allow verification. Please keep letters to a reasonable length. The editor reserves the right to edit any letter for any reason and to reject letters for publication for any reason. Letters deemed libelous and/or not for the public good will be rejected. Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of The Knox County News.

### SUBMISSION POLICY

The Knox County News reserves the right to reject unsolicited submissions for any reason. Articles and news items submitted are subject to be edited by KCN staff. Article and photo reprints submitted from other publications require the KCN to get permissions from copyright holders and owners. Such articles will be printed in the KCN dependent on time and space requirements.

### PHOTO SUBMISSION POLICY

The KCN reserves the right to reject unsolicited photographs for any reason. Photographs submitted to the KCN will be kept in the KCN office for no longer than one year past the date submitted. Photographs can only be returned to submitter if a self-addressed stamped envelope is provided.

### NOTICE

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, reputation or standing of any individual, firm or corporation will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

### KCN OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday • 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. • Friday • 9 - 1

### ACROSS

- Nicholson of TX-filmed "Terms of Endearment"
- TXism: "popular oilman's daughter"
- 24 Lone Stars
- Wichita Falls TV
- extra recognition for performers (2 wds.)
- "one" south of the border
- bank draft bundles
- this TX Lee was 1st black golfer in the Masters (init.)
- this Johnson is Cowboy back-up QB in '07
- Marcus' partner
- TXism: "tame dog"
- announced "guilty" or "not guilty"
- money lent
- Witten's position on the Cowboys (abbr.)
- crude oil processors
- pottery oven
- TXism: " looks like she's been ridden hard and put up wet"
- TXism: "it's a cinch" (sure)
- Amarillo FM radio
- Kerrville is the seat of this county
- TXism: "best I ever around" (tasty)
- TXism: "quick as you can bat"

### DOWN

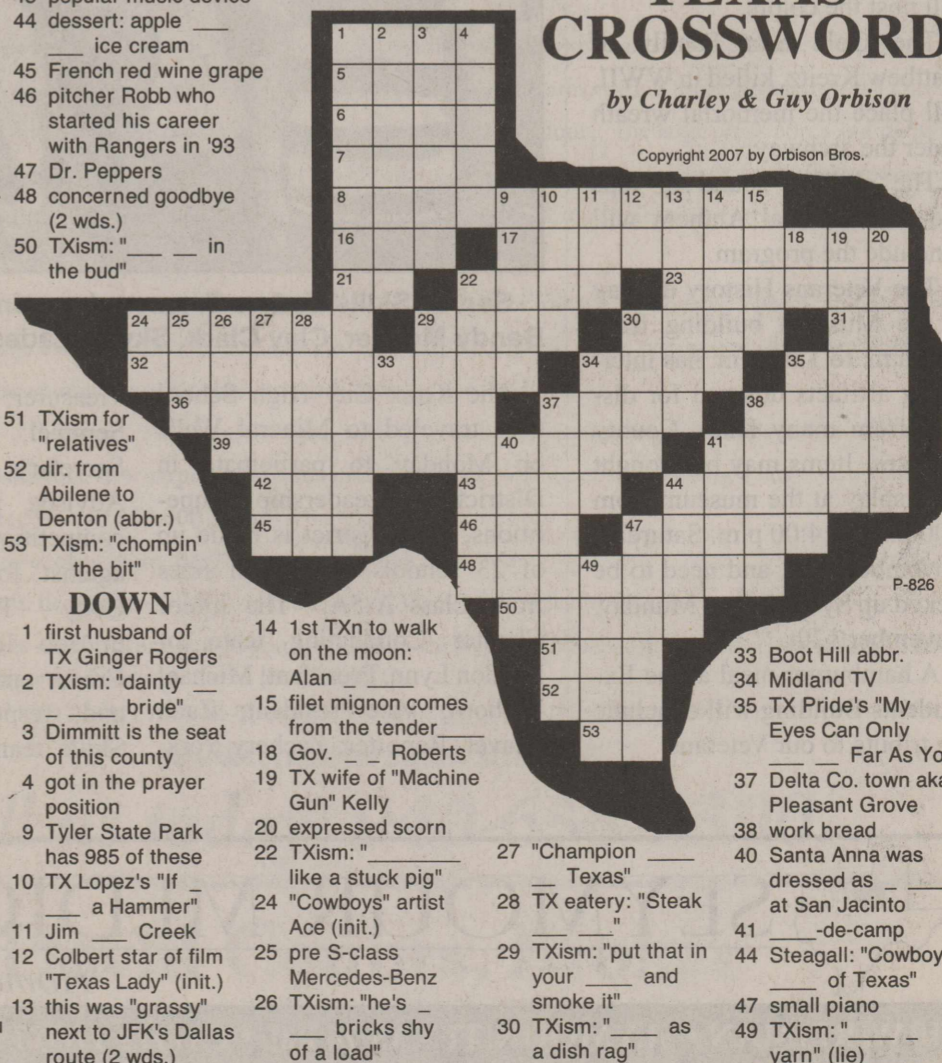
- first husband of TX Ginger Rogers
- TXism: "dainty"
- Dimmitt is the seat of this county
- got in the prayer position
- Tyler State Park has 985 of these
- TX Lopez's "If a Hammer"
- Jim Creek
- Colbert star of film "Texas Lady" (init.)
- this was "grassy" next to JFK's Dallas route (2 wds.)
- Grand Opry
- popular music device
- dessert: apple ice cream
- French red wine grape
- pitcher Robb who started his career with Rangers in '93
- Dr. Peppers
- concerned goodbye (2 wds.)
- TXism: " in the bud"
- 1st TXn to walk on the moon: Alan
- filet mignon comes from the tender
- Gov. Roberts
- TX wife of "Machine Gun" Kelly
- expressed scorn
- TXism: " like a stuck pig"
- "Cowboys" artist Ace (init.)
- pre S-class Mercedes-Benz
- TXism: "he's bricks shy of a load"
- "Champion Texas"
- TX eatery: "Steak"
- TXism: "put that in your and smoke it"
- TXism: " as a dish rag"

### The Original

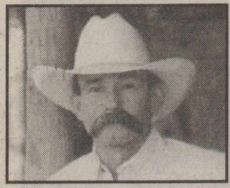
## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-826



# BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

## The Trainwreck

By Baxter Black, DVM

We all face our own addictions; to chocolate, horse training clinics or chewing tobacco. Lonnie's curse was whiskey. With the help of AA and a loving family, he finally put his demon behind him. But those who know the problem appreciate that the demon waits just around the corner.

Lonnie worked for the BNSF Railroad. He and his pardner Paco were called out in the middle of the night to help with a train derailment. Normally Lonnie would have picked Paco up and given him a ride since Paco's wife worked nights and had their car. Problem was, Lonnie's car wouldn't start.

Lonnie had a loving daughter named Lisa who still lived at home. She had a good job, but also the wisdom of a child raised by a compromised parent. Her pride and joy was a classic Thunderbird, 2-seater, painted baby blue. And in spite of her love for her father, she refused to allow him to drive it even after he had been sober for a year. But tonight was an emergency, he explained. His boss had insisted he come. It was 40 miles away. He needed to borrow his daughter's little Thunderbird. He pleaded with her and promised he'd be careful.

Whether it was a change

of heart or a one o'clock in the morning mental fog, she consented. Lonnie picked up Paco and off they went. As they approached the area, they encountered an unrelated 4 locomotive coal train slowly headed west. Lonnie came alongside. The two-lane highway was only 100 feet from the tracks. The big headlight on the locomotive cut a bright spot out of the black night. Suddenly, the engineer hit the whistle!

The sound waves made Lonnie's lips blubber and melted the wax in his ears. Rising from between the tracks and the highway, like a herd of bats from an underground cave, 32 head of mixed quality bovine swept into the path of, well, actually over the top of, Lisa's precious baby blue sports car!

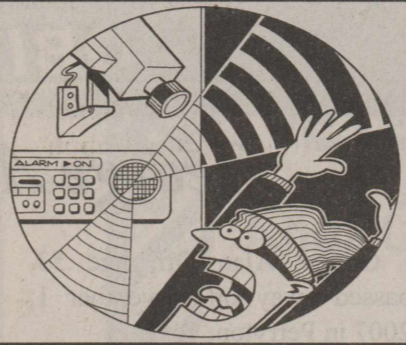
In less time than it takes to get trampled by stampeding buffalo, they tromped and shredded the vehicle into a self-propelled mass of broken glass and crumpled tin foil.

Lonnie crawled out, looking at the dented, hoof printed, cowpied hood, smashed windshield and one working headlight that pointed crazily up into the night sky like a rabid coon hunter.

"She'll never believe it," Lonnie cried, "She'll think I fell off the wagon!"

Paco thought a minute and conceded, "Yer right. I was here and I don't believe it either!"

## Dumb Crook News



### Uh, Could You Help Me Get My Stolen Car Out Of This Ditch?

A man in Richmond, Minnesota, who was driving a stolen car went into a flagged down the wrong person for help.

The man, identified as 40-year-old Dean Gangl, inadvertently asked an off-duty sheriff's deputy to help him pull the vehicle out of a ditch along Benton County Road 4 west of Foley, according to Sheriff Brad Bennett.

The deputy, who discovered the stranded motorist/thief at 4:45 AM on October 30 while he was on his way home, noticed that the vehicle stuck in the ditch fit the description of one reported

stolen hours earlier in St. Cloud. The deputy radioed to dispatchers, who confirmed that the man was driving a stolen car, Bennett said.

The deputy arrested Gangl and found that he had some sort of white crystal substance on his person. According to Bennett, the stuff turned out to be methamphetamine.

Gangl was taken to the Benton County Jail and charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

### Help! Police! I've Been Robbed Of My Marijuana!

Masked men in Peñitas, Texas, broke into a home owned by a Mexican national and robbed the poor man at gunpoint.

But reporting the theft landed the man, identified as 35-year-old Jose Guadalupe Flores, in jail himself.

Hidalgo County Sheriff's Deputies arrested Flores on November 2 after he told them that the men stole 150 pounds of marijuana his home near the intersection of Tom Gill Road and Mile 3 Road North. "The guy walked right up and said the drugs were his," Sheriff Lupe Treviño said. "That's not the smartest move."

Investigators showed up to discover that the home's door was kicked in and nearly 15 pounds of weed lying on the floor. Flores reported that he was wrapping the drugs for shipment when two masked gunmen barged into his home. He managed to escape through a back door as the men ransacked the house.

Flores was charged with felony possession of marijuana at an arraignment hearing on November 5. Because he is not a legal resident of the United States, he will remain in the Hidalgo County Jail until his case comes before a court.

### Casillas Wins Honors at Pageant



Ms. Brittany Casillas of O'Brien participated in the 2007 Sunburst Pageant held in Abilene

on October the 27th at the Mall of Abilene.

Brittany received the runner-up trophy for her age division. She also was awarded Ms. Photogenic and Prettiest Eyes.

In May, Brittany will attend the State Finals competition which will be held in Houston. Brittany is the daughter of Jeff and Melissa Casillas.

She is the grand-daughter of Charles and Martha Casillas of Knox City and great-granddaughter of Nettie Watson of O'Brien.

Ms. Casillas attends Pre-K at Knox City Elementary School. She would like to give thanks to all that sponsored her and to those who attended her pageant.

### Burrito Express Celebrates Third Anniversary

For three years now, Burrito Express has been serving delicious burritos every morning to throngs of hungry patrons. With generous portions at reasonable prices and daily specials, it's not hard to see why this local business has been so successful.

Owner Mary Vasquez told the NEWS, "We're very appreciative for the success we've had. We would like to thank God and the community for the support we've been shown over the past three years. Thank you all so much!"



Bill Stewart and Nick Jimenez are pictured here presenting a check to the Knox County Child Welfare Board.

## Fundraiser Holds Special Meaning For Local Student



(Continued from Page 1) Rope For Heart is a national educational fund-raising program that is sponsored by the American Heart Association and the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

The program engages elementary students in a physical activity (jumping rope) while raising funds to support lifesaving heart and stroke research. Students ask friends and family for donations and receive thank-you gifts based on the dollars they raise. This educational program teaches physical fitness and promotes the value of community service to students and their families. It shows students that they can contribute to their community's welfare.

And while this year's Jump Rope for Heart at Knox City elementary is complete, Alyssa's

battle rolls on.

"We appreciate prayers from all walks of faith," said Melissa. "We hope that all who can will donate blood and/or become an organ donor," she continued.

Melissa goes on to state that Alyssa would like to thank her Dad and Mom; Papa and Nana Casillas; Aunt Crystal Casillas; Uncle Jeff, Aunt Melissa, Andrew, Brittany and Corbin Casillas; Uncle Jeremy Aunt Cassie, Caleb and Bethany Casillas; Nanny and Aunt Cathy Watson; Uncle Terry and Aunt Becky Watson; Uncle Tim and Aunt April Watson; Uncle Alfred; Bubba, Dina, Tyler and Jaydon; Robert, Tracy, Coletun and Larissa Espinosa; Trey Watson; Alan Watson; Grandpa and Granny Barker; Ed & Rita Finley and "kidlets"; Bud's Café; Lonesome Dove; Mrs. Brockett; Christina Gobel and Daniel

### Knox City VFD Report

The Knox City Volunteer Fire Department had nine calls in September.

Four LZ (Landing Zone) calls, four Fire Calls, and one 10-50.

Reported by P.I.O. Terry Butler #214.

Castorena; Carla Clark; Nelda Dockins; James and Jan Frost; Alvie Jones; Sammie Offield; Ross and Trisha Shaver and James and Kim Stafford.

Alyssa is the daughter of Melissa Wade and Jeremy Barker. She is the granddaughter of Charles and Martha Casillas and the great granddaughter of Nettie Watson.

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OBITUARIES

Mat L. Verhalen



Mat L. Verhalen, a native of Knox County, passed away Tuesday, October 30, just four days before his 90th Birthday.

Mat still lived on the family farm on Wild Horse Creek, between Knox City and Benjamin, where he was born on November 3, 1917. He was the only son of Mathias A. and Margaret Klein Verhalen.

Mat was a 1936 graduate of Sunset High School, where he was a basketball star and won 2nd place in the mile run at the state track meet his junior year. In addition to farming, Mat was a contractor, building over 120 homes, mainly in Knox and Haskell counties.

Mat's other interests besides his large family, were: the Dallas Cowboys, golf, games by the score, his Hereford cattle, and especially dancing. He and his wife hosted the Rhineland dances for 17 years. Just one week before Mat went to see his beloved Lillian Rae, he danced all evening at his granddaughter's wedding.

Mat met Lillian Rae Hudson on the school bus in 5th grade. Ten years later they were married in Rhineland on January 31, 1939. Their legacy includes their five remaining children,

14 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Lillian Rae Hudson Verhalen, his parents, a son Bon Urban Verhalen, a daughter Velvet Frances Verhalen Noah, and five sisters: Mary V. Hertel of Munday, Nora V. Hertel of Benjamin, Rosa V. Brown of Paris, Ark., Lillian Barbara Verhalen of Knox City, and an infant sister, Pauline Verhalen. Surviving children are son Laval and wife Janice of Stillwater, Ok.; daughter Melanie Mitchell and husband Mike of Newcastle; daughter Donna Albus of Abilene; son Ronnie of Knox City; and daughter Kathy Verhalen of Arlington.

Funeral services were held at St. Josephs Catholic Church in Rhineland; on Friday November 2 at 1:30 p.m. A burial followed in St. Josephs Catholic Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral home in Munday. Memorials may be made to West Texas Rehab Center in Abilene, 4601 Hartford, 79605.

Following Mat's own wishes and after months of anticipation, his celebration continued as planned on Saturday evening November 3, as a special tribute to his life.

George Allen Orr



George Alan Orr, age 53, passed away on November 1, 2007 in Perryton, Texas.

Graveside services will be held Saturday, November 3, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. at the Knox City Cemetery with Pastor Marq Brockett and Reverend Jim Reid officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Starbuck Funeral Home of Merkel, Texas and Mansell Smith Funeral Home of Knox City, Texas. Viewing will be at Mansell Smith Funeral Home today.

Memorial Services will be held Monday, November 5, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1801 S. Drake, Perryton, Texas

Alan was born on November 26, 1953, to W.C. and Patsy Orr, and married Ellen Neely on June 9, 1980.

He is survived by his wife, Ellen, and daughter, Kelsie Lauren, parents, W. C. and Patsy Orr, of Knox City, Texas, sister and brother-in-law, Carolyn and Marq Brockett of Knox City, Texas, aunt and uncles: Marty Orr of Graham, Texas, Lloyd Dean and Mary Faye Orr of Graham, Texas, Gene and Virginia Carter of Midland, Texas, Waldo Orr of Rio de Janerio, Brazil, brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Bill and Linda Neely of Hamlin, Texas, niece and nephews: Cody Brockett of Knox City, Texas; Rick and Lori Bell of Lubbock, Texas; Scott and Michelle Neely of Arlington, Texas; and,

Angie and Shannon Woolf of Bridgeport, Texas, and a host of loving friends.

Alan was preceded in death by his grandparents, Horace and Emma Orr, and George and Bessie Molloy, one nephew, Cory Brockett and an uncle, Donald Orr.

Alan was employed by Oneok Pipeline, NGL, L.P. of Tulsa, Oklahoma for 26 years. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Knox City.

His unique humor and his love for his family and friends will always be remembered.

The family suggests memorials to the Ranger Academic Enrichment Foundation, P.O. Box 1048, Perryton, Texas 79070 and the Fire and Ice Softball Team, c/o Ronnie Burkhammer, Rt. 1, Box 27-11, Fritch, Texas 79036.

Freddie Morrow Long

Mrs. Freddie Morrow Long, 95, of Knox City, passed away October 28, 2007 in the Munday Nursing Home. A graveside service will be held at 2:00 pm Wednesday, October 31, 2007 at Johnson Cemetery in Munday, TX., with Rev. Tex Cox officiating, under the direction of Mansell-Smith Funeral Home, Knox City.

Mrs. Long was born June 23, 1912 in Knox County, the daughter of Frank and Virginia Mae Hutcheson. She was a member

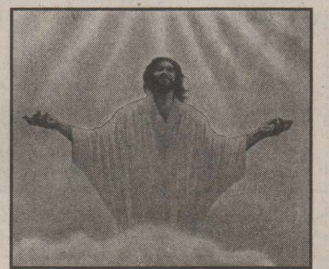
of the Abundant Life Fellowship Church in Knox City and retired from the Munday National Bank.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Ameralis Guinn of Knox City; grandchildren, Ric Martin, Holli Charis Sparks, Kash Morrow, Christi Morrow; and four great grandchildren.

Mrs. Long was preceded in death by her parents, husband, daughter, Patsy Martin and son Gerald L. Morrow, as well as three brothers and one sister.

God's Promises

By Jim Reid, Pastor  
O'Brien Baptist Church



When we see the Lord truly change a person's life for the better we have witnessed a miracle. A miracle isn't something that is done naturally, by man's account of his own power and strength, but by a supernatural power. Supernatural power is beyond the knowledge, power and strength of mankind. The love of God is the only supernatural power that can change a person forever.

Many of you may be thinking, "I've seen people get religion, and then lose it or give it up." You may think because of the one's you have known or have seen experience religion that it must not be real, much less miraculous.

I want you to ask yourself a question, "How many people did you hear them tell of this miracle?" How many people did you hear talking about this miracle? I don't mean hearing them say, "They're going to church now." How many times did you hear them using the name, "Jesus?"

Jesus healed so many people of their sins during His ministry on this earth and continues to heal the sin in anybody's life who calls upon Him to forgive

their sins. The New Testament shares a verse of scripture from the book of Mark, chapter 5, verse 19, "And He did not let him, but He said to him, "Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you."

When Jesus healed this man, he immediately came to understand the love of Christ and therefore, wanted to stay with Jesus, but Jesus would not let him stay. Jesus gave him the instruction to go tell the people he truly cared about that they might experience the same love of Christ.

Look at the scripture again, Jesus said, "Go home to your people". This instruction truly requires a supernatural power and when we follow His instruction then we know we have truly experienced a supernatural change by the power of Holy God.

I pray that you truly understand His supernatural life changing power. If not, ask Him right now to change your life forever. Attend the church of your choice this Sunday and experience the love of Holy God.

KC AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Knox City**  
Gayle Baucum, Pastor  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:55 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6:30 p.m. • Mid Week, Wed. at 6:30 p.m.  
FBC Sunday School, and the worship services at 10:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. are telecast live on Classic Cable, channel 6 in Knox City and O'Brien
- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Knox City**  
Timothy Trimbel, Pastor  
Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
No Sunday Evening Service
- ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP - Knox City**  
Tex Cox, Pastor  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Classes 5:00 p.m. • Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.  
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"Discovering God's Word" radio broadcast Sunday mornings on AM 1400 The River 8:20 - 8:50 a.m.
- FOURSQUARE CHURCH - Knox City**  
Don Jackson, Pastor  
Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 7 p.m.
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- LIBERTY COMMUNITY C.O.G.I.C. - Knox City**  
Gene Ward Jr., Pastor  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Services - 11 a.m.  
Monday Evening Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
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Monday through Friday mornings, 8 a.m. Mass  
Saturday Mass at 7 p.m. • Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.
- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - Benjamin**  
Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.
- FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - Benjamin**  
Timothy Trimbel, Pastor  
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.
- GILLESPIE BAPTIST CHURCH - Gillespie**  
Matt Harrington, Pastor  
Sunday School at 10 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. • Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.
- CHURCH OF CHRIST - Benjamin**  
Bible Study at 9 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.
- THE BELIEVERS' CHAPEL - Highway 222**  
W.O. Smith, Pastor  
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Mid-Week, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.
- O'BRIEN BAPTIST CHURCH - O'Brien**  
Jim Reid, Pastor  
Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship at 6 p.m., Mid-Week, Wed. at 6 p.m.  
Sunday Mornings on KVRP 97.1 at 9:05 a.m.
- WEINERT FOURSQUARE CHURCH**  
Rob Harrison, Pastor  
Sunday Morning Worship at 11 a.m.

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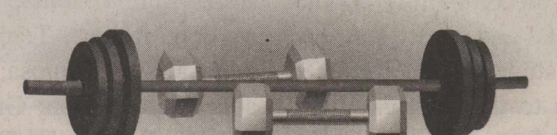
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**Aging Center Lunch Menu**

**November 5 - November 9**  
Monday, Nov. 5 - CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY!  
Tuesday, Nov. 6 - Taco Soup, Cornbread, Garden Salad, Honey Bars  
Wednesday, Nov. 7 - Hamburger Casserole, Carrot/Raisin Salad, Fried Squash, Sliced Bread, Apple Crunch  
Thursday, Nov. 8 - Steak Fingers w/ Gravy, Buttered Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Biscuit, Dessert  
Friday, Nov. 9 - Chicken and Dressing, Cranberry Sauce, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Hot Rolls, Fruit Salad  
**Alternate Desserts for Diabetics**  
Call in Orders by 10:00 a.m.  
**657-3618**  
Orders can not be taken after 10 am and need to be picked up after 11 am  
YOUR COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED!  
(Menu subject to change)

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STATE OF TEXAS §  
 COUNTY OF KNOX §

ORDER RESTRICTING OUTDOOR BURNING

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court has determined that circumstances present in all or part of the unincorporated area of the county create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoors burning;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Commissioners Court of Knox County that all outdoor burning is banned in the unincorporated area of the county for 90 days from the date of adoption of this Order, unless the restrictions are terminated earlier based on a determination made by this Court. This Order is adopted pursuant to Local Government Code § 352.081, and other applicable statutes. This Order does not prohibit outdoor burning activities related to public health and safety that are authorized by the Texas Natural Resources Commission for (1) firefighter training; (2) public utility, natural gas pipeline or mining operations; (3) planting or harvesting of agricultural crops; or, (4) burns that are conducted by a prescribed burn manager certified under Section 153.048, Natural Resources Code, and meet the standards of Section 153.047, Natural Resources Code.

The court hereby places these restrictions on outdoor burning as follows:

1. The use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials include, but are not limited to the use of all fireworks, outdoor cooking apparatus and materials used outdoors in activities such as welding and any other activity that could result in a fire.

2. Notwithstanding No. 1 above, outdoor welding shall be allowed under the following circumstances:

A. Welding and cutting and grinding associated with welding activities shall not take place when the wind is over 15 miles per hour;

B. The welder must notify the Knox County Sheriff's Department before any welding, cutting or grinding begins;

C. All grass, leaves, brush and other easily combustible materials must be cleared within a fifty (50) foot radius surrounding the area where the activity is to take place before any welding, cutting or grinding begins; and,

D. A spotter with water and a ready pressurized delivery system must be on hand before any welding, cutting or grinding begins and remain on hand until the activity is completed.

3. Notwithstanding No. 1 above, outdoor branding shall be allowed under the following circumstances.

A. The heating method for the brands shall not be from an open wood fire, but from a butane/propane unit.

B. All grass, leaves, brush and other easily combustible materials must be cleared within a fifty (50) foot radius surrounding the area where the activity is to take place before any branding begins; and,

C. A spotter with water and a ready pressurized delivery system must be on hand before any branding begins and remain on hand until the activity is completed.

4. Notwithstanding No. 1 above, backyard cooking shall be allowed under the following circumstances

A. Outdoor cooking activities shall not take place when the wind is over 15 miles per hour.

B. All grass, leaves, brush and other easily combustible materials must be cleared within a fifty (50) foot radius surrounding the area where the activity is to take place before any outdoor cooking begins; and,

C. A spotter with water and a ready pressurized delivery system must be on hand before any outdoor cooking begins and remain on hand until the activity is completed.

The purpose of this order is the mitigation of the public safety hazard posed by wildfires during the current drought and severe weather conditions by restricting use of combustible materials.

In accordance with Local Government Code § 352.081(h), a violation of this Order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

ADOPTED this 5th day of November, 2007 by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

COUNTY JUDGE  
 TRAVIS C. FLOYD

Attest:  
 ANNETTE OFFUTT, COUNTY CLERK

## VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

### Knox County Veterans Memorial

In Benjamin

Monday, November 12, 2007

11:00 a.m.

Hamburgers • Beans • Cobbler

Benjamin Ex-Students Building

Noon - \$ 7 per person

Veterans Display in Museum

Bring lawn chairs for program

## PUBLIC NOTICE

On September 20, 2007, Atmos Energy Corporation, Mid-Tex Division ("Atmos" or "the Company"), filed a Statement of Intent with each city within Atmos' service territory to increase its gas rates and implement a new schedule of rates and riders applicable to all customers within all incorporated cities served by the Mid-Tex Division. The proposed effective date of the requested rate changes is October 25, 2007. If approved, the proposed changes will affect approximately 1,428,700 residential, 122,600 commercial, and 960 industrial & transportation customers.

If approved, the proposed rates will increase the Company's annual revenues for the incorporated areas of its Mid-Tex Division by \$ \$50,946,000 or 3.5%, including gas costs, or 13.49% excluding gas cost. The proposed change in rates constitutes a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. In addition, the Company seeks to recover all of its rate case expenses and all city rate case expenses as allowed by law. The exact amount will not be known until the case is completed.

Based on the proposed rate design, the system-wide average monthly bill for each customer class within the incorporated areas of the Mid-Tex Division will increase by the amount and percent shown in the table below:

Customer Class	Current Bill	Proposed Bill**	Difference	Percentage Increase with Gas Cost	Percentage Increase without Gas Cost
Residential	\$70.85*	\$72.42*	\$1.57	2.22%	8.27%
Commercial	\$296.15*	\$305.36*	\$9.21	3.11%	22.72%
Industrial	\$2,975*	\$3,143*	\$167.89	5.64%	38.95%
Transportation	\$19.88	\$687.77	\$167.89	32.29%	38.95%

Note: Bill impact ranges are subject to varying tax rates among the cities.

\*Includes Rider GCR Part A cost of \$7.55 per Mcf.  
 \*\*The calculation of bill impacts assumes monthly consumption of 6 Mcf for residential, 30 Mcf for commercial, and 300 Mcf for industrial and transportation customers.

In addition to the rate revisions in Rate Schedules R, C, I, and T, other proposed tariff changes include changes to Rider GCR, Rider WNA and proposed Riders for a rate review mechanism and conservation & energy efficiency program. The Company proposes to revise its weather normalization adjustment ("WNA") mechanism to exclude non-weather sensitive commercial customers and to modify the WNA mechanism to calculate the WNA adjustment based on weather stations at a regional level rather than under the current practice of associating all towns with a single weather location for purposes of determining the WNA adjustment. The Company proposes a change to its Rider GCR to allow the recovery of the gas cost component of uncollectible expense through the Rider GCR instead of through base rates and to update the Upstream Allocation (Factor D) to reflect the factors as proposed in the Company's Class Cost of Service Study. In addition, the Company proposes a new Rate Review Mechanism ("RRM"), Rate Schedule RRM, to provide for an annual review by the cities of the Company's expenses, revenues and rate base investment and a corresponding adjustment to the Company's rates to reflect annual changes (increases or decreases) in these categories. The Company proposes a gas conservation & energy efficiency program and tariff to authorize the program. Finally, the Company is asking for authority to make future filings with the regulatory authority on an electronic basis, rather than by paper copy.

Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact Atmos Energy Corporation at 1-888-286-6700. Complete copies of the filed Statement of Intent, including all proposed rates and schedule changes, are available for inspection at Atmos' offices located at 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75240. In addition, customers can contact their respective municipality for additional information regarding this rate request.

Éste es un aviso a los clientes de Mid-Tex División de Atmos Energy Corporation, (la "Compañía"), que la Compañía está solicitando un aumento en la tarifa del gas. Este aumento afecta a todos los clientes de la Compañía en el cuidado de Mid-Tex. Si usted tiene preguntas con respecto a este aumento, por favor llame a Atmos Energy Corporation al 1-888-286-6700.

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## O'Brien Baptist Church to Host Annual Harvest Day

The community wide women's Annual Harvest Day Festival luncheon will be celebrated at 10:00 am, Thursday, November 16, 2007 at O'Brien Baptist Church. Begun in November of 1970, this luncheon honors the Knox County Ministerial Alliance which serves emergency needs of the surrounding area. The board is represented by current pastors of local area churches and is funded by donations.

This year's guest speaker will be Sandy Conway of Albany, Texas. Mrs. Conway is a member of the First Baptist Church in Albany and is currently serving as State Secretary for the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs (TFWC) in Austin. She has recently been awarded the prestigious TFWC "Jennie June Award" for her volunteer service and will represent the State of Texas at their convention for the National Award next year in Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. Conway will be speaking about her experience concerning domestic abuse.

Judy Underwood, familiar to many in this area through her music, will provide the entertainment. Mrs. Underwood comes from Throckmorton, Texas and often includes two gifted daughters in her performances. She is Director of Music for the First United Methodist Church in Throckmorton.

Registration will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the service to follow. Area ladies are invited to attend and asked to bring a salad or dessert for the luncheon. Those who work and are unable to attend the meeting are invited to come for lunch and fellowship.

# Benjamin Sports

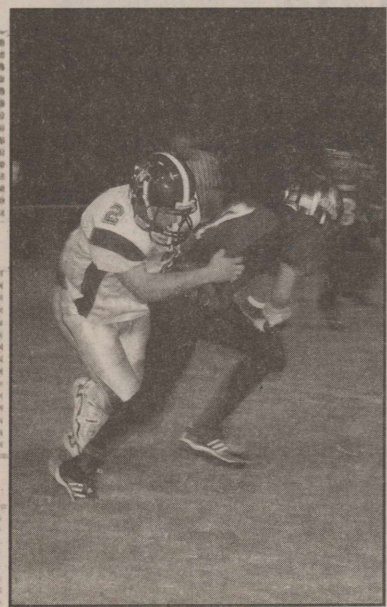
## Northside defeats Benjamin 66-0

The Benjamin Mustangs fell to Northside last Friday in the last game of the season. The game did not last past into the second half because of the 45-point mercy rule.

Derrick Northrup completed 6 of 7 pass attempts for 24 yards of offensive production, threw 1 interception, returned a kickoff for 40 yards, and made 5 tackles.

Kyle Wilson made 5 tackles and Damon Gideon picked off 2 interceptions for 18 yards and recorded 2 tackles.

The final score was Benjamin 0, Northside 66.



Damon Gideon holds on tight.



BHS Football Hero and Sweetheart Gilbert Nevarez and Julia Acevedo. See sports page for this week's results.

# BENJAMIN NEWS

By Gladene Green

The first full week of November is now underway. The holiday season is fast approaching and all too soon it will be 2008. We have the promise of cooler weather, but so far it's fairly pleasant.

As most of you know, we lost our little Mason last weekend after he fought so hard to live. His little heart just couldn't stand the stress that was being put on it from other problems. He would have been 3 on November 22. His funeral was on Monday. I would like to say a word of thanks to everyone who supported our family in any way during his life. And though the grief is there your kindness does make it easier to cope.

### Regarding Our Ill

Leroy West is in the Knox County Hospital; he was admitted last Tuesday. He seemed better on Sunday, but still not feeling too well. Charles Jones is still in a Dallas hospital going into

his fourth week. Still having trouble keeping down food but his wife, Joy, said maybe they would let him come home this week.

Charles Griffith's nephew, Jeff Griffith (Lewis' son) was in a terrible automobile accident last week. He has several broken bones and probably internal injuries. He's in Breckenridge Hospital in Austin. We ask your prayers for Jeff and his family.

Sympathy to the family of Mat Verhalen. Mat passed away last week and his funeral was Friday.

### Here 'N There

Lynn and Michael Rogers of Snyder, Jessica Moorhouse of Tarleton State, Wade and Beckie Keys, Dillon and Randi and Mike and Diane and Ashlee Evans of Childress, and Norris (Mac) and Glenda McNeely of Aubrey visited last weekend and attended Mason's funeral. Hank and Linda Wagner of Lubbock were also here for the funeral.

Betty and Chelsea Parker of Aspermont visited with Leroy West in the hospital during the weekend. Oscar and Shannon Gideon, who had been here since August, left on Sunday to Arizona to make their home. They had hoped to make their permanent home here but things didn't work out to their satisfaction. So, before the severe weather set in, they chose to go now. Their two high school children, Ariel and Damon, will be here until midterm.

Tib Burnett told me he entertained the kids at school with his cowboy poetry and harmonica playing. Tib also has a book of poetry which has just been put together. It's entitled Loving and details on how to get one of those books can be obtained by contacting Tib.

I talked to Helen Green a couple of weeks ago. She had been to her oncologist and got a good report. She doesn't have to go back to see him for six months. She also said her brother, James Coppedge, is through with chemo and is doing fine so they are both very encouraged.

John and Judy Robinson of Sherman visited her parents: Lewis Lyles, in the Munday Nursing Center, and her mom, Betty, for a couple of days last week.

Rosellen Albus of Lubbock visited her brother, Don Hertel, on Thursday and Friday night and attended the funeral of Mat Verhalen on Friday.

Don't forget the Veteran's Day celebration coming up next Monday. It's shaping up to be a good day and we hope to see a lot of friends there.

## Regional Cross Country Results

Julia Acevedo finished in 28th place with a time of 13:13.

The boys' team finished 9th place overall. Gilbert Nevarez placed 21st with 18:19, Dylan Benson finished 65th with 19:32, Roberto Acevedo finished 66th right behind Benson, Lucas Cartwright placed 93rd with a time of 20:15, and Derrick Northrup finished 101st with 20:29.

## Lady Mustangs lose to Petrolia, earn All-District honors

The Benjamin Lady Mustangs finished post-season play with a loss against Petrolia.

Petrolia took the first game with a score of 25-16, the sec-

ond with 25 points against Benjamin's 23, and won the final game with a score of 25-14.

Benjamin finished with an overall record of 14-2.

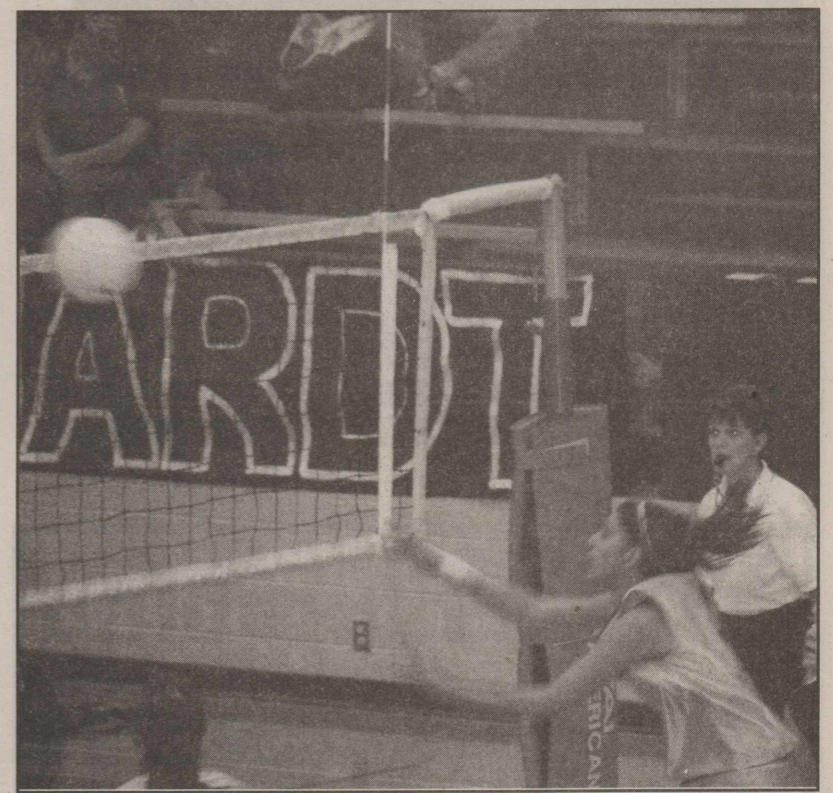
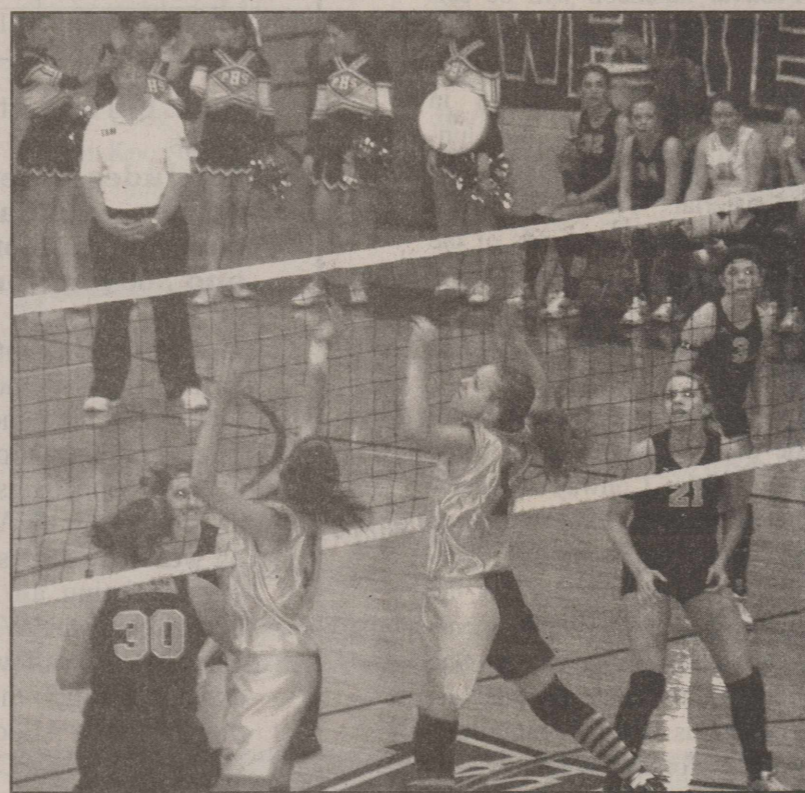
Named to the All-District first team: Karla Benson, Tina Siemens, Nafesha Ebraheim.

Named to the second team: Julia Acevedo and Judit Acevedo.

Receiving Honorable Mention: Devon Jones and Jessica Vanderpool.

Receiving Academic All-District honors: Tina Siemens, Judit Acevedo, Julia Acevedo,

Jessica Vanderpool, Leah Vanderpool, Karla Benson, Nafesha Ebraheim, Brittany Coop and Devon Jones.



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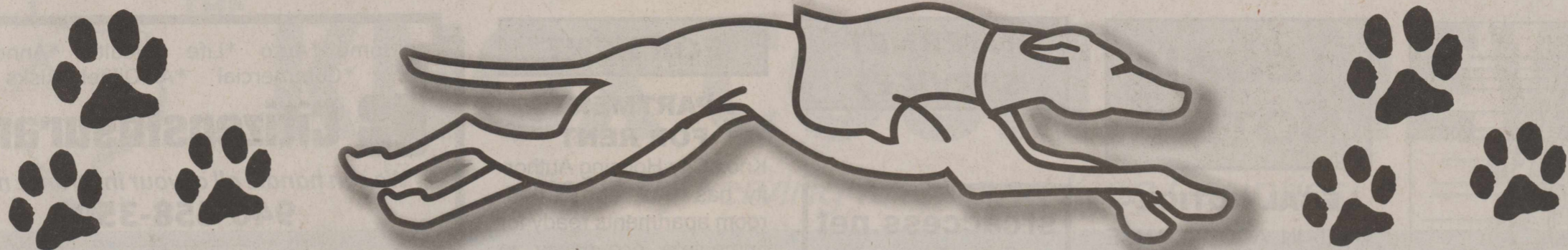
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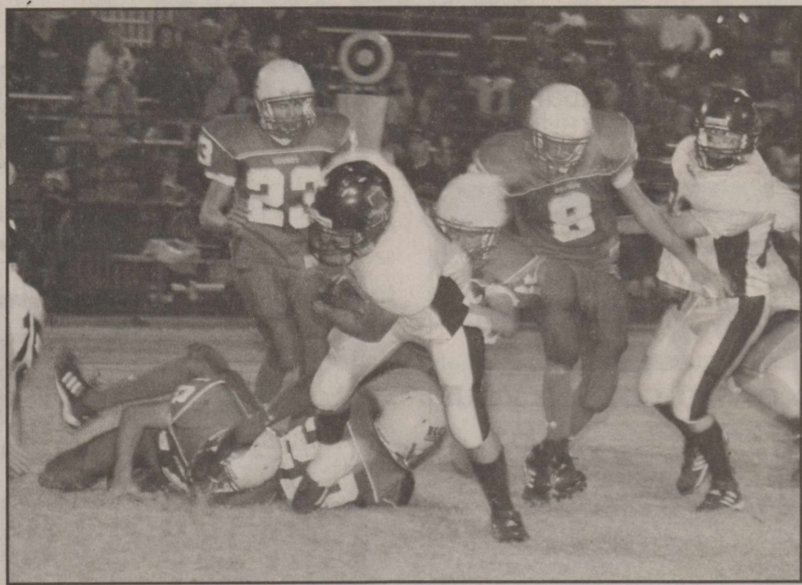
**SUPPLY HOUSE**  
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**Go Hounds & Houndettes!**

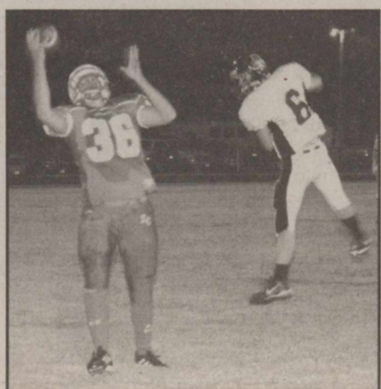
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**Go Lady Hounds!**

## Greyhounds stung by Hornets, lose player to injuries



The Knox City Greyhounds met the Aspermont Hornets in Knox City on Friday, Nov. 2. The Greyhounds' were without tailback Kenyin Thompson due to an ankle injury from the Rule game and M.J. Abila who is out for the season with a dislocated ankle. The Greyhounds won the coin toss and elected to receive. However, the Hornets held the Greyhounds scoreless in their



first possession.

The Hornets took over and were the first on the scoreboard. Shortly thereafter Jordan Carter got a 45 yard pass off to Shane Strickland who ran in for the touchdown.

Bandy Moeller's field goal attempt was good. The Hounds tied the score early in the first quarter.

Late in the second quarter a 35 yard pass from Carter to Joe Albus along with a diving stretch by Albus netted a critical touchdown for the Greyhounds. Then with only seconds left in the half, Carter made an 11 yard pass to Strickland for the touchdown. Moeller's kick was good. The Hounds were down at the half 20-54.

Then the Hornets put a stinger to the Hounds in the third quarter. Aspermont scored three more touchdowns to Knox City's one.

The 45 point mercy rule was used with 6:01 left on the clock in the third quarter.

The Hounds were defeated 28-74. Greyhound Zack Shaver was injured and will be out for the remainder of the season with a fractured collarbone.

The Greyhounds will travel to Throckmorton for their final regular season game on Friday, Nov. 9. Kick off is scheduled for 7:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to make the short trip to Throckmorton to support the Knox City Greyhounds.

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## Houndettes win Bi-District, lose Area championships

The Knox City Houndettes entered post season play in volleyball action on Tuesday, Oct. 30, in Vernon against the Memphis Cyclones for the Bi-District title. The Houndettes took the Championship title in three games 25/18, 25/16, and 25/23.

"We were definitely at a disadvantage as far as height, but our girls went out determined and out-worked Memphis on the court; and brought home the win," stated Coach Peters.

Then the Houndettes traveled to Albany to meet the Archer City Wildcats on Saturday, Nov. 3, for the Area title. Archer City's starting line up averaged 5'9" while Knox City's line up ranged from 5'3" to 5' 7". Height and its advantages was a critical aspect of the game.

The Houndettes fell in three

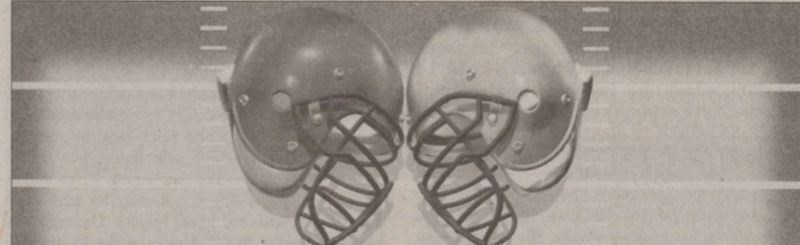
games to the Wildcats. "The girls gave it their all, we just struggled being where we needed to be to cover the court and defend the angle of the ball with the height Archer City had. We had a great season and a great run. The girls always competed and I couldn't be more proud of them. I have had so many coaches and fans tell me how much fun it is to watch the girls play because of how they hustle and play together," commented coach Peters. All-District selections will be out later this week.

The all-district selections are chosen by the head volleyball coaches of each member district volleyball team with each coach not being allowed to vote for their on team selections.

Look for the all-district selections in next week's edition of the Knox County News.



The Knox City Houndettes took the Bi-District Championship win over the Memphis Cyclones on Tuesday, Nov. 30, in Vernon, TX. Team members include: (front L to R) Coach Jimmie Kay Peters, Alicia Thompson, Holly McCrary, Mea Abila, Sarah Burt, Jessy Schur, Brittany Baker, Coach Marcy Waggoner, (back L to R) Isella Rodriquez, Brittney Gonzales, Samantha Esquivel, Lacy Pierce, & Whitney Collins.



### AREA FOOTBALL

Last Week's Scores:

- Knox City 28 vs. Aspermont 74
- Benjamin 0 vs. Northside 66
- Munday 21 vs. Seymour 12
- Crowell 66 vs. Gold-Burg 6
- Spur 31 vs. Throckmorton 63
- Haskell 32 vs. Hawley 13
- Baird 6 vs. Hamlin 52

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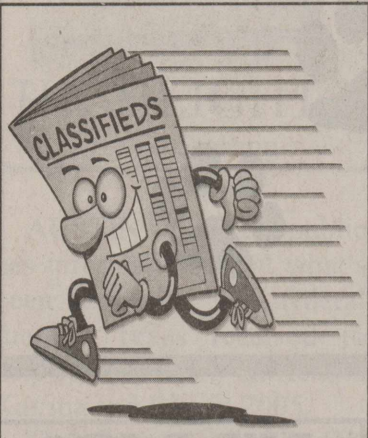
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