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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF RICK AKE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014

KCNEWS-COURIER.COM

75 CENTS

Reagins named to 2A all-state second team

Munday High junior Temerick Reagins was named to the 2014 Texas Associated Press Class 2A all-state second team as a defensive lineman. Voting by the Texas sports editors was based on regular season performances.

Reagins had 50 tackles, 18 quarterback pressures, seven sacks and two fumble recoveries.

Reagins also was named honorable mention as a receiver for the Moguls, who finished in second place in District 7-2A and advanced to the area round of the playoffs before losing to Winters.

Senior center Mitchell Lowrance and sophomore running back Day'veen Dockins of Munday were included on the honorable mention list along with Tyrone Johnson and Brannon Stegemoeller from Hamlin, champion of 7-2A.

Hunter Lile from Booker, who passed for 3,529 yards and 38 touchdowns, was named first team all-state quarterback and the offensive MVP.

Rounding out the first team backfield were Nathan Childers of Crosbyton, Cort Kyle of Seagraves and Andrew Soliz of Ben Bolt. All of them gained more than 2,000 yards rushing.

Angel Garza of Price Carlisle was the first team kicker, making 43 of 46 PAT and 10 of 11 field goals, including one from 46 yards. Jared Reagan of Booker and Ethan Sanford of Bells were choices as first team receivers, catching 15 and 17 TD passes, respectively. The first team line consisted of Colten Buie of Christoval, Bryson Nail of Mart, Anthony Ontiveros of Seagraves, Dalton Osterson of Canadian and Kyle Zavala of Mason.

Andrew Ezzell of Canadian, who was credited with 163 tackles, was named as one of the first team linebackers and defensive MVP.

Rounding out the first team defense were linebackers Harlan Plumber of Snook and Brandon Salinas of Burton, backs Alex Faith of Albany, Richard Galvan of Ben Bolt, Luke Huffer of Burton and Hunter Parrish of Goldwithe, linemen Louis Brown of Burton, Cory Chidester of Canadian, Hamilton Hull of Bremond and Buie. Angel Garza, who had a 44-yard average, was the choice as punter.



TEMERICK REAGINS

Funding bill gains approval

WASHINGTON -- The Senate passed the \$1.1 trillion government funding bill Saturday night that will keep Uncle Sam in business through next September.

The bill, which funds most of the government for the rest of the fiscal year, had been tied up in procedural disagreements, but all senators eventually relented, paving the way for passage of the bill on a 56-40 vote.

The Senate entered a rare weekend session after Sens. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and Mike Lee (R-Utah) refused to consent to an agreement Friday that would have given their colleagues the weekend off. Cruz and Lee blocked that plan, angering members of both parties who didn't understand what the pair hoped to gain.

Evidently, the two conservative allies were talked into letting votes proceed on the so-called "cromnibus" spending bill, rather than stalling until Monday morning.

But Cruz insisted on raising a point of order against the bill's constitutionality, thereby forcing the Senate to hold an extra vote before moving on to final passage.

He was targeting the funding for the Department of Homeland Security, which is carrying out Obama's recent orders on immigration to spare up to five million undocumented immigrants from deportation.

The symbolic House bill to challenge the administration's new immigration policy failed, 74-22, as many of Cruz's fellow Republicans, including fellow Texas Sen. John Cornyn, abandoned him.

Rodriquez, Nevarez on all-region team

KNOX CITY—Knox City High senior center Zach Rodriquez and junior safety Elias Nevarez were named to the Texas Six-Man Division I Region 2 all-region football team. Greyhound sophomore Jacoby Thomas was named to the second team as a utility back.

As expected, state champion Crowell dominated the selections with its coaching staff named coach of the year, senior Mitchell Parsley offensive MVP and junior Steven Perez newcomer of the year. Ira's senior Logan Morris was the choice as defensive MVP.

Joining Rodriquez on the first team offense were tight ends Joey Taylor of Crowell and Chase Baker of Ira, wide receivers Nathan Moya of Crowell and Si Exum of Rankin, quarterback Zachary Goodwin of Ira, running backs Logan Morris of Ira and Jared Brown of Crowell, fullback Cody Zuniga of Water Valley, spreadback Austin Fowler of Robert Lee, utility back Kade York of Water Valley, kicker Caleb Seegers of Marfa and special teams Freddy Nino of Sterling City.

Joining Nevarez on the first team defense were nose guard Perez, linemen Moya, Devan Glass of Water Valley and Rowdy Mhoon of Ira, linebackers Brown

and Tanner Shifflett of Ira, safety Parsley, utility player York and punter Shelby Howard of Highland.

Joining Thomas on the second team offense were tight ends Sam Shepherd of Water Valley and Gaga Soedarsona of Highland, wide receivers Tristen Hildebrand of Robert Lee and Trevor Lamb of Westbrook, center Tanner Teagarden of Water Valley, spread center Jay Williams of Westbrook, quarterback Tanner Counts of Water Valley, running backs Ismael Ramirez of Garden City and Kaleb Davis of Sterling City, fullback Taylor Burkett of Crowell, spreadback Salvador Roman of Marfa, kicker Austin Cullifer of Ira and special teams Casey Walker of Marfa.

The second team defense included noseguard Aaron Enriquez of Garden City, linemen Alberto Ramos of Marfa, Michael Portillo of Hermeligh and Cody Zuniga of Water Valley, linebackers Caleb Davis of Sterling City and Jacob Richburg of Highland, cornerbacks Tristen Hayes of Crowell and Ismael Ramirez of Garden City, safeties Zach Digby of Hermeligh and Exum of Rankin, utility Payson Brumbelow of Ira and punter Trent Whitesell of Fort Davis.

Knox Notes

Events are listed free of charge as a service by this newspaper for nonprofit groups, civic organizations, churches, schools and select community events. Listings should be submitted at least two weeks in advance and will run as often as possible through the date of the event. News staff does not guarantee placement of events. Emailed submissions are preferred to kcnews-courier@gmail.com.

Circle Bar Ranch schedules two dances

CROWELL—The Circle Bar Ranch Cowboy Christmas Ball, featuring Johnny Rogers, is scheduled here Saturday at the Crowell Activity Center. Doors open at 7 p.m. with the dance following at 8 p.m. Tickets will be \$20. Rogers will also be on hand for the Circle Bar Ranch New Year's Eve Dance, scheduled Dec. 31 at the Blue Armadillo, located seven miles east of Crowell.

Christmas Eve service

KNOX CITY—The Knox City First Baptist Church will be hosting its youth-led Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Everyone is invited to attend, celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Ake to step down as administrator

MUNDAY—Rick Ake submitted his resignation as administrator for the City of Munday at the regular monthly meeting of the city council last Tuesday night and it was accepted, effective Dec. 31.

Ake has accepted a position as executive director of the Aspermont Small Business Development Center's Double Mountain Coach organization.

"I took this position knowing that hard decisions were going to have to be made," he said. "Some of these decisions have been made, but more lay in the future. I have become acutely aware during the past few months of the drama and discourse that has evolved. Some portion of the past decisions and

certainty of future decisions will continue to bring more drama and discourse. It is easy to proclaim that unity is the direction, but actions or non-actions will speak volumes.

"I want to say 'Thank You' to the citizens of Munday and the City Council for allowing me to help shape the future of the City of Munday in a small manner."

Mayor Robert Bowen noted that the open position had been posted on the Texas Municipal League's web site.

The council members approved a holiday schedule for 2015 along with all the department reports.

The council discussed, but took no action on the following items:



RICK AKE

*Bunny Norville's report on recycling;

*Property bid by Ida Jo Stinnett;

*Engineering and grant administrator for CDBG grants;

*Lighting problem at municipal airport;

*Possible purchase of body camera for Munday Police Dept.



Santa Claus is coming to town!

Tax abatement OKed for New Generation

BENJAMIN—The Knox County Commissioners approved a tax abatement for the Wind Farm project with New Generation at its regular monthly meeting here last week.

In addition, the Commissioners approved bids by Ida Jo Stinnett Watson, Manuel Llamas and Francisco Llamas for

properties in Munday and Goree.

The Commissioners split their votes for the Knox County Appraisal District, awarding 846 for Pat Gonzales and 845 for Larry Thompson.

Each of the county departments also made reports to the Commissioners.

Corrections

If you spot an error of fact, contact kcnews-courier@gmail.com.

News on the go

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Sports Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 18

Knox City VB, Munday VB at Jayton Tournament

Knox City VB, Munday VB at Jayton Tournament

Friday, Dec. 19

Knox City VG vs. Valley at Paducah
Munday VG at Notre Dame, Wichita Falls

Saturday, Dec. 20

Knox City VB, Munday VB at Jayton Tournament



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Editorial: 5 p.m. Mondays

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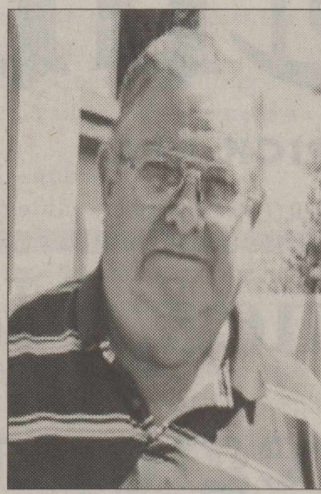
Deaths

Lyndon Alpha Moore

Lyndon Alpha Moore, age 71, departed this earth to be with his beloved wife Beverly Ann Moore on Dec. 10, 2014.

Lyndon was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. Lyndon was the son to the late Bertha and Alpha Moore of Rhineland. He was born in Knox County, where he grew up and graduated from Rhineland High School. He then started a career with Pride Refining where he retired after 25+ years of employment.

Lyndon was preceded in death by his wife Beverly Ann, along with his



LYNDON MOORE

parents, two brothers; Kenny and Maynard and a sister Lois.

He is survived by two

children Shawnda Moore and Kendall Moore all of Munday; two brothers Bob Moore of Rhineland, Ray A. Moore and one sister Arleda Decker of Munday; three grandchildren; Cody, Madelyn and Avery; and many other family, friends and caregivers.

Rosary was held Sunday at the funeral home in Munday. Funeral Mass was held Monday at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Rhineland. Interment followed in St. Joseph's Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home.

Addie Bea Stafford

Addie Bea Stafford passed away Friday, Dec. 5 at the Munday Nursing Center at the age of 96. Addie was born April 5, 1918 in Red River County to Doc and Mandy Luke.

Known to everyone as "Big Momma," she loved to go to church and praise God, loved to cook and clean house. She worked outside the house cleaning and cooking and babysitting for many.

Addie was preceded in death by her husband, Lank Stafford, her parents, six sisters, one son in law, Charles Dalbert, one grandson, Jim Earl Dockins, one grandson-in-law, Blandford Paul, two granddaughters, DeAnn Douglas



ADDIE STAFFORD

and Sheila Ellis, one great-grandson, Tyree Cotton and one great-granddaughter, Denise Fletcher.

She is survived by six daughters; Connie and husband David Dockins, Lillie and husband, Tommy Ellis, Lela Douglas, Nora B. Stafford, Lucy and husband, Willie Dal-

bert, and Mary Wyatt; two sons: Charlie Cooks and Lank Stafford, 44 grandchildren, 143 great-grandchildren, 82 great-great-grandchildren, one sister; Anna Luke, five brothers; Willie Luke, Aaron Luke, Teale Luke, Charlie Luke and R.L. Luke. Also, many nieces, nephews and other family members.

Visitation was held last Friday at the McCauley-Smith Funeral Home in Munday. Funeral services were held Saturday at the First Baptist Church in Munday. Internment followed in Johnson Memorial Cemetery in Munday, under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home.

The Paperboy Terrorists were tortured? Good!

I don't care that we "tortured" known terrorists. If I had my way, they would not have lasted long enough to be tortured.

Look - these crazy idiots place zero value on life. They are brainwashed and they live to kill Jews, Americans and many others at any cost.

They use women and children to kill and as shields.

It disturbs me that we broadcast our sins to those who want to kill us. And since these techniques were approved, I fail to see the issue, especially since we've changed our policy.

Political correctness is bad enough, but when you place it in the hands of those without common sense, it makes for a lethal cocktail.

It's time for Americans with common sense to stand up and start getting the collective back of those fighting for us. The mainstream media has done a terrible injustice to our fighting forces for more than a decade and it needs to stop.

Now we endanger our fighting forces around the globe by regurgitating reports on how we interrogated known terrorists years ago. Tell me, how is this supposed to help?

How about the price of gas?

As oil prices have dropped around the globe, Americans are catching a break at the pump.

I don't know about you, but cheaper fuel as me singing!

For those of you traveling this holiday season, enjoy the cheap gas. As unstable as the world is, it's just a question of time before it climbs back up.

Speaking of oil, the U.S. is now the world's largest producer.

Now all we have to do is figure out a way to use our production to squeeze the Middle East.

For decades, we have allowed Middle Eastern oil producers to grow their fortunes while the rest of us foot the bill. It's high time the United States dictate the price of oil and begin to use it for our benefit.

So President Obama is headed to Hawaii for vacation. He'll be there for over two weeks - 17 days to be exact.

While there, Obama will play golf. That's no shocker, Obama has played over 210 rounds of golf since winning the White House.

If you're scoring at home, Obama has spent around 150 days on vacation. That does not count his non-stop campaigning around the country where he hangs out with the super rich and celebrities.

I wonder if he'll be playing golf with his buddy Jonathan Gruber?

Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of Red River Sun, The Floyd County Hesperian-Beacon, The Knox County News-Courier and The Post Dispatch. He can be reached by email at chris@blackburnmediagroup.com and you can follow him on Twitter @WCSBlackburn, although he doesn't tweet much.

Tortilla Flat plans to close

KNOX CITY—The Tortilla Flat restaurant here announced that it will close on Friday.

To show its appreciation to customers,

the restaurant will feature \$4 burger baskets and \$5 cheeseburger baskets Thursday and Friday.

Knox County Aging Center

Lunch menus for week of Dec. 22-26	Wednesday: CLOSED	
Monday: Tilapia, whole corn, coleslaw, hushpuppies, fruit cocktail.	Thursday: CLOSED	Merry Christmas
Tuesday: Hot dogs w/chili, chips, chocolate pudding.	Friday: CLOSED	

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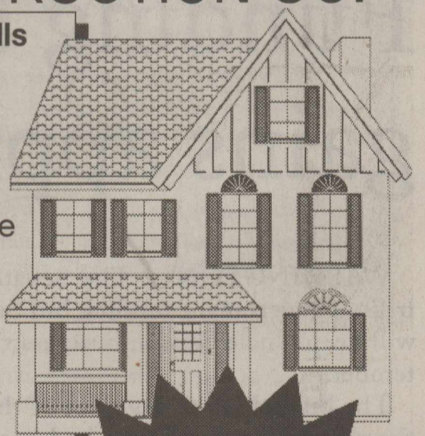
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Save a Life

Greyhounds find larger schools hard to beat

ARCHER CITY—Believing that going against stiffer competition with larger schools will pay dividends down the road, the Knox City Greyhounds suffered five setbacks in the Archer City Tournament last week.

Coach Josh Webb said the Greyhounds, playing shorthanded because of injuries, were a little intimidated and struggled on defense.

The Greyhounds came close to knocking off 3A Jacksboro, but the Tigers rallied for a 50-48 win by outscoring the Hounds, 15-9, in the fourth quarter. The Hounds got double digit scoring from Elias Nevarez (13), Kryz Campos (12) and Skylar Neill (11).

The other losses came at the hands of 2A Archer City, 3A Childress, 3A Henrietta and 4A Burk Burnett JV, the latter by just three points.

Earlier at home, Knox City lost 63-58 to Eula. "We just had too many turnovers," said Webb. Down 16 at one time, the Hounds managed to tie the game, but Eula made key free throws down the stretch to win.

The Greyhounds will play in the Jayton Tournament this week, opening with Valley on Thursday and playing Happy and Ira on Friday before a bracket game on Saturday. "Hopefully we will have a



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier
Anthony Estrada scores as Eula defender tries to draw a foul

little more success competing with schools our size," Webb said.

The junior varsity team had a 2-4 record in the Albany tournament, winning against Munday and

Graham and losing to 2A Albany, 3A Cisco, 3A Mineral Wells and 3A Jim Ned. "They played well in some games and struggled against some better teams," Webb said.

Houndettes hope experience prepares them for district

ARCHER CITY—The Knox City Houndettes gained some valuable experience here in the Archer City Tournament, going up against much larger schools in five losing efforts.

"We played a lot of good, bigger schools that will more than prepare us for the upcoming district schedule," said Coach Dylan Ballard.

Subbing five players at a time, host Archer City beat Knox City, 59-30 on Thursday.

Kaylie Steele and Jordyn Eaton led the Houndettes with 10 points each.

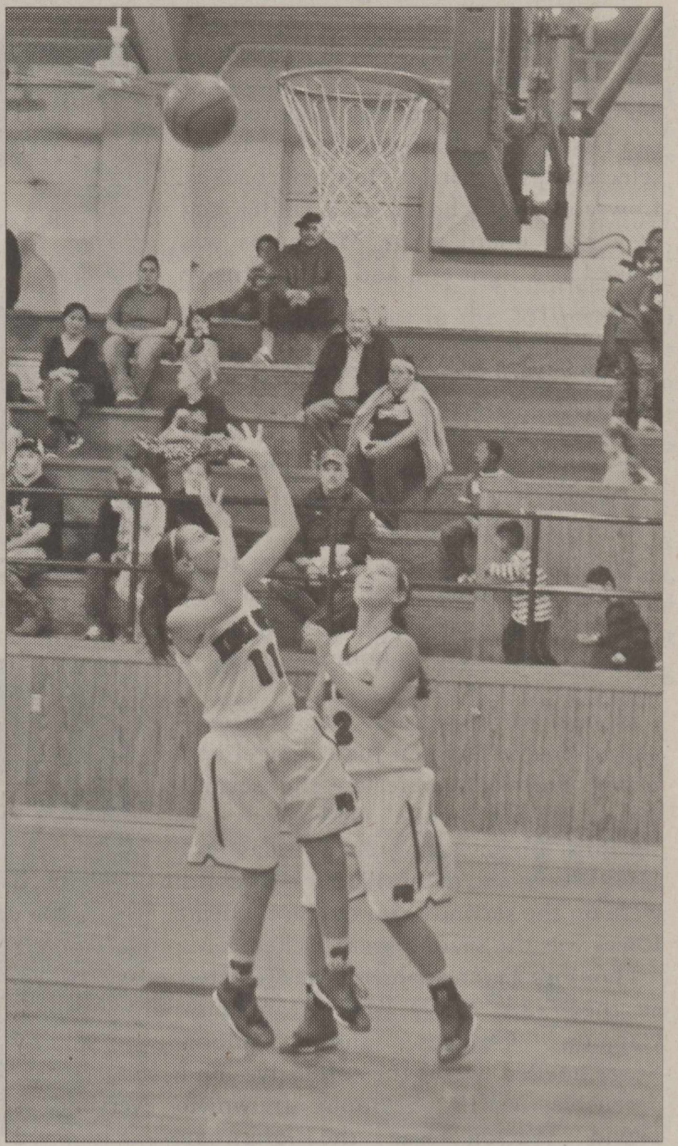
A much taller 3A Jacksboro team, taking advantage of mismatches, held Knox City scoreless in the first quarter and cruised to a 54-17 victory. Knox City made only 9 of 31 free throws.

Problems at the charity line also proved costly in a 38-31 setback to 3A Henrietta, which jumped off to an 11-0 lead after one quarter.

Steele and Eaton each scored 11 points.

2A Lindsay used its size and good shooting to romp past Knox City, 66-35.

"We played much better and executed the offense and defense very well," said Ballard. Steele had 15 points.



Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier
Samantha Lewis gets ready for rebound against Eula

Christoval, ranked No. 3 in Class 2A, used a smothering defense and outside shooting, hitting 10 three-pointers, for a 74-27 win over Knox City.

Brooke Jones led the Houndettes with 11

points. Earlier in the week, the Houndettes suffered a 61-24 loss to 1A No. 7-ranked Eula, which used outside shooting and balanced scoring to run away with the game.

Zach Rodriquez 2-way all-district selection

KNOX CITY—Zach Rodriquez was the only Knox City player to make the 8-1A all-district team on both sides of the ball as a center and as a defensive lineman.

In addition, he was named as the special teams' top player and the kicker on the second team.

The Greyhounds' Jacoby Thomas was named one of the newcomers of the year and also to the first team offense along with teammates, tight end Kryz Campos and quarterback Anthony Estrada.

Linebacker Isreal Rodriquez and safety Elias Nevarez were selected on the first team defense.

Greyhounds making the second team offense were tight end Sheldon Baty, wide receiver Ryan Heard, spreadback Elias Nevarez and utility back Isreal Rodriquez.

Baty, Campos, Estrada and Christian Abila were named to the second team defense.

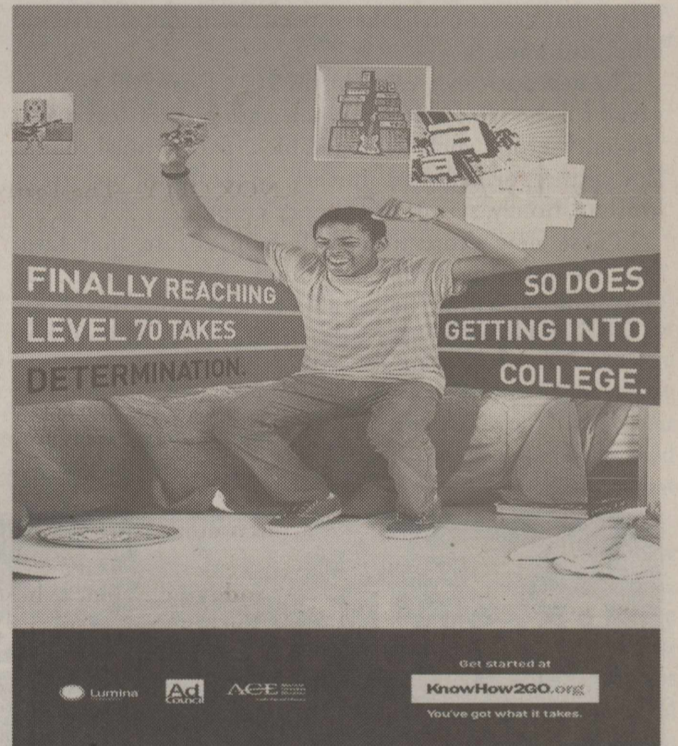
As expected, state champion Crowell dominated the selections of the district coaches.

The coaching staff was named coach of the year.

Mitchell Parsley and Nathan Moya were the offensive and defensive MVPs.



ZACH RODRIQUEZ



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Lowrance, McCombs two-way all-district picks

MUNDAY—The Munday Moguls' Mitchell Lowrance and Chandler McCombs were two-way honorees on the District 7-2A all-district first teams selected by the district's football coaches. Lowrance was chosen as a center and as a nose guard while McCombs was picked as a tight end and as a defensive end.

Munday sophomore Dee Hemphill, a defensive back, was named as the defensive newcomer of the year.

Moguls also making the first team offense were running back Day'veon Dockins, receiver Temerick Dockins and lineman Ethan Ramos.

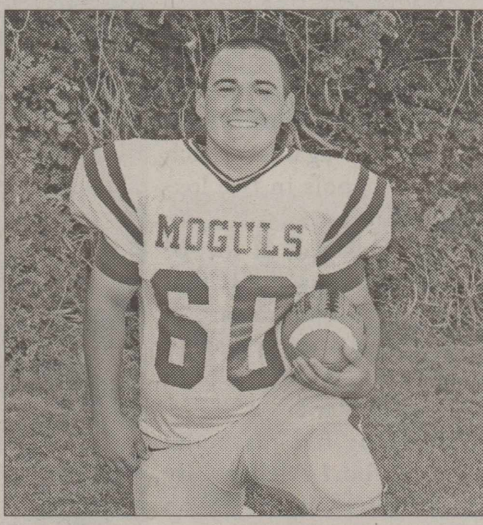
Moguls also making the first team defense were linebacker Heath Bivens and defensive back Alfonso Nunez.

Munday's Craig Thompson was a choice as a utility player.

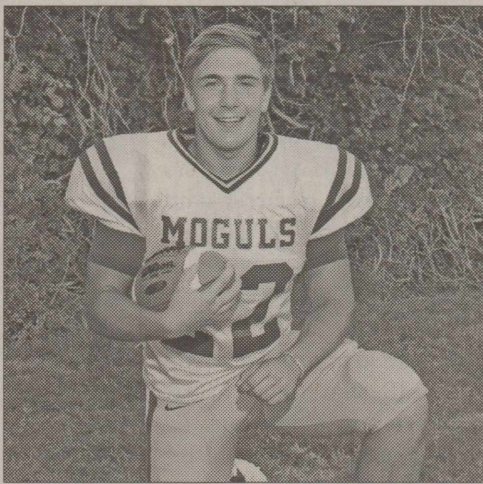
Nunez, running back Zac Huffman and offensive linemen Juan Rangel and Colby Fullwood were on the second team offense while defensive end Reagins, linebackers Julio Vitolas and Holt Bivens and defensive back Dockins were on the second team defense. Diego Reyes was the second team kicker.

Hamlin's Tyrone Johnson was selected as the 7-2A MVP while teammates Caymon Georges and Brannon Stegemoeller were the offensive and defensive MVPs. Seymour freshman David Watson was the offensive newcomer.

Lowrance, McCombs and Rangel were also named academic all-district.



MITCHELL LOWRANCE



CHANDLER McCOMBS

Loss to Olney leaves Moguls with 4-6 mark

OLNEY—The Munday Moguls suffered a 50-38 setback at the hands of Olney (10-3) on the road here Tuesday night to fall to 4-6 for the season.

The Moguls were in the thick of the battle until being outscored 13-2 in the final quarter. Temerick Reagins led the Moguls with 19 points.

Earlier, Munday finished in third place

in the Stamford Tournament last weekend. The Moguls scored 40-38 and 39-30 wins over Trent and Lueders-Avoca, but were beaten 54-27 and 55-31 by host Stamford and the Abilene Hawks, a home school team with a 6-7 player.

The Moguls will finish up their December schedule starting Thursday at the Jayton Tournament.

Perry wants to reduce number of playoff teams

LUBBOCK—Sen. Charles Perry has introduced a bill to limit the number of teams advancing to the playoffs from each University Interscholastic League (UIL) district to two teams.

This measure would not affect six-man schools Knox City and Benjamin as only two teams advance, but it would affect Munday in District 7-2A where three teams get into the playoffs.

"Current UIL rules allow 50-74 percent of football teams to make the playoffs," Perry said. "We have truly watered down competition to the point that 0-10 and 1-9 teams are able to make the playoffs in some districts."

A school in Houston made Texas history last season by becoming the first winless team to advance to the playoffs.

"This not only devalues the hard work

of the first and second place teams in a district, but it costs our school districts thousands of dollars that could be spent in the classroom," continued Perry. "The cost is especially high in rural areas. Some schools in my district are spending an upwards of \$8,000 per playoff game."

Costs often go beyond the football team to include the band, cheerleaders and other support organizations.

"I have fond memories of playing high school football," Perry added. "My coaches served as role models, teaching me valuable life lessons and instilling in me a desire to succeed. It is my hope that this bill will help us celebrate triumph, give school districts more flexibility with their budgets and reduce the burden on families during the holiday season."

More crops now covered by insurance

WASHINGTON—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that greater protection is now available from the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for crops that traditionally have been ineligible for federal crop insurance.

The new options, created by the 2014 Farm Bill, provide greater coverage for losses when natural disasters affect specialty crops such as vegetables, fruits, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, and energy crops.

"These new protections will help ensure that farm families growing crops for food, fiber or livestock consumption will be better able to withstand losses due to natural disasters," said Vilsack. "For years, commodity

crop farmers have had the ability to purchase insurance to keep their crops protected, and it only makes sense that fruit and vegetable, and other specialty crop growers, should be able to purchase similar levels of protection. Ensuring these farmers can adequately protect themselves from factors beyond their control is also critical for consumers who enjoy these products and for communities whose economies depend on them."

Previously, the program offered coverage at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production. Producers can now choose higher levels of coverage, up to 65 percent of their expected production at 100 percent of the average market price.

The expanded protection will be especially helpful to beginning and traditionally underserved producers, as well as farmers with limited resources, who will receive fee waivers and premium reductions for expanded coverage. More crops are now eligible for the program, including expanded aquaculture production practices, and sweet and biomass sorghum. For the first time, a range of crops used to produce bioenergy will be eligible as well.

"If America is to remain food secure and continue exporting food to the world, we need to do everything we can to help new farmers get started and succeed in agriculture," Vilsack said.

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Benjamin News

Gladene Green

It's a pretty mild December day here on this first day of the new work week. Although the wind is blowing, it is not bad and makes it pretty nice if one has to be out for any outside activity.

News is pretty scarce this week. Guess everyone is busy getting ready for the holidays. School will be out later this week for several days, and I'm sure students, and teachers as well, are looking forward to a few days of rest.

Regarding Our Ill

Bea Parks is a patient in Knox County Hospital. She has the flu and has been pretty sick, but I learned yesterday that she is a little better. Bea is a resident of Munday Nursing Center. We surely do hope her hospital stay will not be too long.

Imagean Young returned home Sunday night after several days in HMC in Abilene. She is feeling much better. About the only problem she has now is she's very weak after being in bed so many days. She's mighty glad to be home.

Mike Young is having a few problems. He's not feeling well at all and had an appointment Tuesday with his doctor in Seymour. He's had so many problems the last couple of years that he always dreads going to see his doctor, fearing what news he may hear. Hopefully this will be something that can be taken care of fairly easily.

My sympathy today to the family and friends of Lindy Moore of Munday. Lindy passed away on Thursday, and his funeral was Tuesday at Rhineland.

Here 'N There

Chloe Strickland was honored Thursday with a baby shower at the Methodist Church. Chloe and her

"soon to arrive baby" received a nice assortment of beautiful and useful gifts. Guests attending were served refreshments by the hostesses.

The annual Community Christmas Program was held last Sunday night at the Church of Christ. The children acted out the Christmas Story as minister Russ Chisom read it from the book of Luke. Tracy Cartwright led the group singing of Christmas carols. Before the program, James Jackson, pastor of First Baptist Church, opened with prayer, followed by Tibb Burnett, who did a Christmas poem and played his harmonica. Chisom offered the closing prayer, and fellowship and refreshments followed in the Church annex. A good crowd was in attendance.

Mary Jane Young, Reba and Charlie Merrill, and Dennis and Pam Duke attended the play "Bethlehem" at the Ragtime Theater in Post on Saturday. They said it was an entertaining evening.

We had a call from Ralph Escobar on Saturday. They are doing better. He called to wish us a Merry Christmas and see how everyone in Benjamin was doing. His wife, Mary, had a stroke a couple of years ago, and he said she's doing some better. She has had a pretty hard time but is now regaining her ability to speak, and that is helping a lot. It's always good to hear from them.

Reports concerning Marilyn Searcey Goodin are encouraging. She's now in Wisteria Place in Abilene undergoing therapy and is doing much better. It's good to get that report.

Deanne Lamb is still in Munday Nursing Center, but is hoping to be home before long. She's doing fine, still taking her therapy and says it's really helping her.

Crowell, Throckmorton claim state 6-man titles

To the surprise of no one, the Crowell Wildcats and the Throckmorton Greyhounds, schools from neighboring counties to Knox, claimed state six-man titles last Saturday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

The Wildcats repeated as state champions and completed their first unbeaten season in school history, scoring a convincing 62-16 victory over the May Tigers in a game stopped near the end of the third quarter via the "mercy rule." The Wildcats beat the same Tigers, 78-52, in last year's finals.

Mitchell Parsley repeated as the offensive MVP for the Wildcats, accounting for 224 yards and six touchdowns rushing and passing. He also returned an interception for another TD and was true on all seven PAT kicks. Parsley also had a great game on defense, but MVP honors went to Steven Pierce, who was credited with 11 tackles.

The Greyhounds also continued their winning tradition by winning their third state title in the past four years with an equally convincing 66-20 win over the

Groom Tigers in a game stopped early in the third quarter by the 45-point margin rule. Previously, the Hounds took titles in 2012 with a 72-30 win over Abbott and in 2011 with a 48-36 win over Borden County. They lost in the 2010 finals to Garden City, 82-68. After switching to six-man in 2004, Throckmorton beat Turkey Valley, 68-22 for a state title in 2005.

For the Greyhounds, Casey Mitchell took offensive MVP honors, rushing for 168 yards and four touchdowns on just five carries. Coletyn King was the defensive MVP.

Tips for grieving during holidays

WASHINGTON

Holiday cheer and merrymaking may be everywhere this time of year, but for thousands grieving the loss of a loved one, the holiday season can be an emotional minefield. And there's no road map for easy navigation.

Coping with grief over the death of a loved one during the holidays can be difficult. Memories of holiday traditions shared with a loved one who died may be painful. Somehow, mourners must navigate an emotional roller coaster ride during the holidays that can be bittersweet with nostalgia and happy memories, and also feel painfully cruel and isolating.

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), a national nonprofit organization offering comfort and care to families of our fallen military troops, offers the following tips to help anyone who is grieving the death of a loved one during the holiday

season.

Take charge of your holiday season. Anticipating the holiday, especially if it's the first one without a cherished family member, can be worse than the actual holiday. Take charge of your holiday plans, and map out how you will spend your time. This can help relieve anxiety.

Make plans. Plan to spend the holidays where you feel nurtured, emotionally safe, and comfortable. Having a plan will help you navigate the holiday season and its activities. But remember to plan for flexibility, as you may not know how your emotions will respond, especially if it is your first or second holiday season after the death of a loved one.

Find sustenance for the soul. Your church, synagogue, mosque or other faith community may offer services, resources, and support networks for the bereaved. You

may want to look for a support group for people who are grieving and have suffered a similar loss. Families who have lost a loved one serving in the military may find comfort by connecting with other survivors through the TAPS online community, peer support groups, peer mentoring or care groups.

Don't be afraid to change your holiday traditions. Some traditions may be a comfort, while others can cause pain. Consider which traditions to keep, and which ones to forego this year. Do not feel like you have to do something because you have always done it that way.

Include your lost loved one in gift-giving. Give a gift on behalf of your loved one to someone else. Consider making a donation to a charity in memory of your loved one.

Create a tribute. Light a candle, display a favorite photograph, or set a place at the dinner table to represent the missing loved one. Consider writing a letter to your loved one about the holidays and your special memories with that person.

Be gentle with yourself. Realize that familiar traditions, sights, smells and even tastes, may be comforting, or may jolt your emotions. This is the time of year when you need to be careful with your emotions and listen to yourself.

Attend holiday functions if you can. Consider attending holiday parties and events, especially if you'll be able to spend time with supportive family members and friends. Make an escape plan in case the event is more than you can handle. If you think a holiday gathering might be more than you can bear, it is ok to stay home.

Stangs suffer 52-23 setback to Woodson

WOODSON—The Benjamin Stangs saw their record fall to 1-7 with a 52-23 loss to Woodson here Tuesday night.

Woodson pulled away with an 18-4 run in the second quarter after the game was tied 7-7 after the first period.

Emily Brown led Benjamin with 10 points.

Coach Jacob Navarro has made some position

changes that he hopes will help going forward and thinks the Stangs are making progress. "We need to find a couple more girls who can score to help Emily out," Navarro added.

Young Mustangs make progress on court

WOODSON—The Benjamin Mustangs saw their season record fall to 1-8 with a 70-51 setback to Woodson here Tuesday night.

The young Mustangs were in the game at halftime, leading 33-32, but were outscored 18-5 in the third quarter.

Justin Rainwater led the Mustangs

with 21 points while Caleb Barrientez and Benjamin Vanderpol added 16 and 10, respectively.

Coach Jason Navarro has been pleased with the team's progress. "We're a very young team, but I'm proud of the way we're getting better each time we play," he said.

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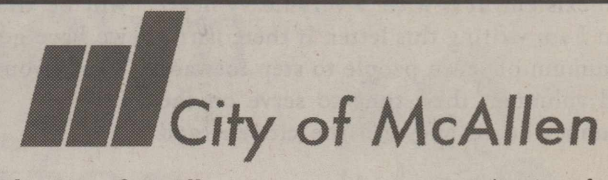
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Mac's Views

I had been made aware earlier that the Munday Chamber of Commerce had major concerns about being able to continue to operate, but while in Tucson last week got a note that Angela Herricks had sent a letter saying she was stepping down as vice president. (See her letter below.)



JAMES MCAFEE

I had already been making the rounds here in Munday asking about the chamber to discover if the town folks really wanted to save it. It didn't sound promising to me, but I had not had the time to get back to Herricks and president Annie Blair.

Unless volunteers, at least seven step forward, there does not seem to be a way the chamber can continue to operate. The bylaws call for seven members to serve on the board. Are there any citizens willing to volunteer? Let the two remaining officers know if you are interested.

I, for one, would be willing to give a helping hand. Having been involved with many charity events back in the Metroplex during my days with the golf professional and amateur associations, I could even help organize a golf tournament to raise money.

The businesses and citizens of Munday would also need to renew their memberships and from my conversations there didn't seem enough willing to do that. No chamber can operate without funds. In fact, organizations like this really need

someone on staff as volunteers can't do everything.

After the first of the year, maybe there should be a town meeting to discuss the future of the chamber.

Since the News-Courier is renting space from the Chamber, we may need a new office, too!

Baylor or TCU snubbed

I'm not a fan of the college playoff system, but it appears many in Texas aren't either after Ohio State got the nod for the fourth spot over either Baylor or Texas Christian. If I had to choose between the two, I would have gone with Baylor since it beat TCU. There was no doubt about the first three—Alabama, Oregon and Florida State.

My fellow Blackburn Media Group editor Kent Mahoney with the Post Dispatch presented an interesting idea last week. Why not have eight teams involved? He even named three more teams—Boise State, Marshall and Northern Illinois, all conference champions.

I would go with a system similar to match play golf instead of a blind draw as he suggested, pitting No. 1 Alabama against No. 8 Northern Illinois; No. 4 Ohio State against No. 5 Baylor; No. 2 Oregon against No. 7 Marshall; and No. 3 Florida State against No. 6 Boise State.

Just like in basketball, a lower ranked team could always pull off an upset. More likely, if my pairings had been used, it would still have produced an Alabama-Oregon showdown in the title game just like it will with four teams involved. My choice? Oregon.

Chamber on verge of closing

Dear Citizens of Munday

I have had the pleasure of growing up and living in Munday my whole life. I became a member of the Chamber board five years ago with high hopes that it would be the way I had always known it. Times are hard, people are busy and some are just tired so the Chamber is pretty much at non-existent. It is with a very heavy heart that I am writing this letter. If there isn't a minimum of seven people to step forward and volunteer their time to serve on the chamber board and also the citizens and

businesses renew their memberships, the chamber will be closing its doors March 1, 2015. I hate this as much as anyone, but I do not know what else to do. I pray that there will be volunteers step up to take the roles as board members. I can no longer serve on the board because the rules state that you can only serve three years, but I will be there to help with anything that we have going on. Please pray about this. Thank you for your time.

Angela Herricks

Federal agency slowed in Red River land dispute

Landowners to our north on the Red River feel a little better about the prospects that a federal agency might not be able to make a final decision on disputed land.

Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Clarendon along with Sen John Cornyn, R-Texas, attached a provision to the

spending bill that restricts the Bureau of Land Management from making a decision.

Thornberry indicated that the measure will defer any decision-making regarding disputed land along the Red River until appropriate surveys have been made to determine

ownership.

Thornberry also noted that he plans to re-introduce a bill that would require a Texas state licensed surveyor to conduct the surveys.

Until a final decision is made, no improvements are expected to be made on the disputed land.

Service Excellence Advisors



Knox County Hospital employees attended a Service Excellence class recently conducted by Michael Bayer (lying on the floor). Pictured (l to r) on the front row are Mary Huffman, Danny Ashley, Brandon Gray, Dan Offutt, Carolyn Collier and Kaitlyn Acevedo. In the middle are Sherry Hedges and Brittany Meinzer. In the back are Jessica Woodfin, Paulette Hagle, Ardyce Hill, Larressa Earthman, Lance Sloan, Brook Tankersley and Will Raeke.

'Give the Gift of a Lift' when celebrating holidays

The holiday season between Thanksgiving and New Year's is one of the deadliest and most dangerous times of the year due to an increase in impaired driving. In fact, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 1,210 people across America, just during the month of December 2013, were killed in highway crashes involving a driver or a motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level of .01 or higher. Of those, 1,054 had an illegal BAC level of .08 or above.

"That's why Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is joining with other national, state, and local highway officials and law enforcement

officials to encourage everyone to 'Give the Gift of a Lift' this holiday season, helping to make sure no one gets behind the wheel while impaired," said Lorie Coop.

"With all of the office and holiday parties this holiday season, this is a critically important time of year to make sure you always designate a sober driver before the parties begin and to always remember that 'Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk,'" said Coop. "Take the keys, and never let a friend or family member leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired. Their life and the lives of others

could depend on you." Coop also emphasized that if you are organizing or hosting an office or holiday party this season and plan on serving alcoholic beverages, remind your guests to designate their sober driver in advance — and then make sure all of your guests leave with a sober driver at the end of the party.

"Driving impaired or riding with someone who is impaired is clearly not worth the risk," said Coop. "The consequences can be deadly. So please remember to 'Give the Gift of a Lift' this holiday season because 'Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.'"

THANKS FOR READING THE KNOX COUNTY NEWS-COURIER

NOTICE OF SHERIFF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF KNOX

By virtue of Orders of Sale issued out the Honorable 50th District Court of Knox County in the following cases on the 20th day of November, 2014 and to me, as Sheriff, directed and delivered, I will proceed to sell at 10:00 AM on the 6th day of January, 2015, which is the first Tuesday of said month, at the South door of the Courthouse of said Knox County, in the City of Benjamin, Texas, the following described property, to wit:

Cause No: 9550 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. JOHN AVERITT
0.500 acres, Block 2, Section 70, D&W RR Munday, Abstract 1460, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; Geo: R000011668

Cause No: 9579 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. W H AYERS
Lots 1, 2, & 3, Block 103, Original Town of Benjamin, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; Geo: R000000351

Cause No: 9614 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. LONNIE BOHANNON
Lots 3, 4, 5, & 6, Block 7, Original Town of Benjamin, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; Geo: R000002459

Cause No: 9510 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. MICHAEL ALLEN MOORE
W/2 of N/2 R P of Block 42, City of Munday, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; Geo: R000000813

Cause No: 9599 KNOX COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT VS. VIRGINIA REYNOLDS
All of Lot 5, and the West Half of Lot 6, Block 135 South, Reeves & Musser Addition to the City of Munday, Knox County, Texas as the same appears on a map or plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk of Knox County, Texas; Geo: R000009236

Levied on the 4 day of December, 2014, as the property of said Defendants to satisfy the judgments rendered in the above styled and numbered causes, plus all taxes, penalties, interest, and attorney fees accrued to the date of sale and all costs recoverable by law in favor of each jurisdiction.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 4 day of December, 2014

Dea W. Hontela
Sheriff, Knox County, Texas

By J. Papp
Deputy

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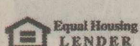
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