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THE KNOX COUNTY News-Courier

HOME OF HOME OF CAROLINA RIOS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

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El Niño may produce more rain for state

Special to The News-Courier

COLLEGE STATION — Don't look now, but Texas has entered another drought, with at least 50 percent of the state rated as either abnormally dry or in moderate to severe drought status. But that could change again in the next few months, and you can thank the developing El Niño in the Pacific for promising precipitation prospects, says a Texas A&M University professor.

John Nielsen-Gammon, professor of atmospheric sciences who also serves as the State Climatologist, notes that the El Niño (warmer water conditions than usual in the Central Pacific that tend to affect much of the U.S. weather patterns) could be one of the strongest ever recorded. The strongest ever occurred in 1982-83 and 1997-98, and the current one is expected to rival those two.

"The El Niño now in the Pacific is being called 'Godzilla' because it is turning out to be so strong," Nielsen-Gammon said.

"But for Texas, I would term it more of a 'Goliath' because history shows that these strong El Niños can

be disappointing. With a sustained El Niño all but guaranteed, history says that above-average rainfall is likely on a statewide basis. Of the 12 most intense El Niño events since 1900, 11 have produced above-normal precipitation from October through April."

But there could be a wild card this year, Nielsen-Gammon points out. "The most intense El Niño events did not produce the greatest amount of precipitation, at least for Texas," he added.

"During the two strongest El Niños, rainfall amounts were only about 5 percent greater than normal. It's possible that there might be a 'sweet spot' for El Niños that produces the biggest effect on wintertime rainfall in Texas, and these strong events tend to overshoot that sweet spot. But with only two such events to look back on, it's difficult to know whether all super-strong El Niños will be Goliaths — big but not that effective."

None of the state is in extreme or exceptional drought status, the two highest designations, though that could change when the U.S. Drought Monitor is updated.

UIL UPHOLDS THOMAS RULING

Special to The Knox County News Courier

AUSTIN — The Texas Interscholastic League's executive committee approved the District 7-2A's ruling to declare Jacoby Thomas ineligible for varsity sports for the 2015-2016 calendar year in a meeting here last week.

Thomas, who had won the Class 1A triple jump and finished second in the long jump last spring after rushing for 1,270 yards in seven football games as a freshman at Knox City High School, transferred to Munday High School for his sophomore year.

Thomas will not be eligible for track either, having to participate at the sub-varsity level for the entire year.

Look for treasures at garage sale

Special to The News-Courier

MUNDAY — Friends of the Wichita Brazos Museum hope to see you at the Munday Event Center starting at 8 a.m. Saturday for their annual garage sale.

"It's sort of like going to market at Dallas for a store owner," said Mary Jane Young. "It may be a get-rid-of-it object from a donor, but it can become someone else's

treasure they can not live without."

Those wanting to donate items can bring them to the event center Friday morning or contact one of the museum's directors to make arrangements.

Young noted that because of the demand for homemade cookies that some will be sold that morning along with coffee. Then hamburgers will be offered at lunch.

SAT tests score decline in Texas

Special to The News-Courier

DALLAS — Scores of Texas high school students taking the SAT were the lowest in more than two decades.

The College Board, which administers the college entrance tests, reports the Class of 2015 averaged 486 on the math section of the test, down nine points from the previous year; 470 in reading,

down six points' and 454 in writing, off seven points.

The Texas scores mirror declines nationwide, although other states haven't dropped as much.

Texas Education Agency spokeswoman Debbie Ratcliffe indicated lower scores were likely due at least in part to policies of two dozen districts where all upper class students now take the SAT each year.

UIL ED advises kids to get involved



Dr. Charles Breithaupt talks to Knox City students.

By James McAfee
The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — Dr. Charles Breithaupt, executive director of the Texas Interscholastic League since February 2009, provided students and interested parents with an inspirational talk about the value of participating here last Thursday at the Knox City Event Center.

"You're the next great hope for America," he said. "Getting involved in extracurricular activities produces productive citizens."

Breithaupt emphasized that it doesn't happen without a lot of hard work. "You need to push yourself beyond what you think you can do," he noted.

Then he cited the example of the Indians from the past who never quit in their search for horses and ended up with riders.

Breithaupt also told how his high school coach pushed him to always do better. "I'm not sure he ever said a kind word to me," he said, but added it allowed me to go to college because of my success on the basketball court.

The UIL director praised Supt. Louis Baty for his 19 years of service, adding that Knox City is known for winning. "It's deeper than medals, it's about competing and participating," he said.

Breithaupt also mentioned Myca Flowers, who was in the audience. "She's won more medals than anyone in history," he added.

In addition, Carolina Rios, head of the KCHS cafeteria, was recognized for her 40 years of service to the district and Marsha Quade was presented with a plaque honoring her as the campus administrator of the year by the Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education.



KCHS principal Colin Howeth presented a board from the serving line to cafeteria manager Carolina Rios, recognizing her almost 40 years of service to the district.



Cindy Moses, director of Student Support Region 9 Education Service Center, presented an award to Knox City Elementary principal Marsha Quade, recognizing her as the TCASE administrator of the year.

DPS details new traffic, license laws

Special to The News-Courier

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) highlighted notable traffic and driver license laws that went into effect on Sept. 1, 2015 (unless otherwise indicated).

HB 2194 creates an exemption to current statute that allows a vehicle to be left running and unattended if the operator starts the engine of the vehicle by using a remote starter or other similar device. (Effective June 19.)

SB 1918 amends current statute to authorize the use of LED ground-effect lighting equipment on a motorcycle. In accordance with this provision,

such lighting is only permissible if it illuminates the body or ground below a motorcycle, and if it emits a non-flashing amber or white light. These limitations are designed to ensure the LED lights are not mistaken as the flashing lights of an emergency vehicle.

SB 1934 amends current statute to require social security numbers or proof that the applicant is not eligible for a social security number for all personal identification card issuances. It also limits the issuance of one Texas driver license or ID card per person and discontinues the issuance of no-expire ID cards for persons age 60 or older.

HB 2246 amends current

statute to require a judge to restrict any person whose license has been suspended after the conviction of an intoxication offense to the operation of a motor vehicle equipped with an ignition interlock device. Once suspended for the intoxication-related offense, a defendant may only operate a motor vehicle during the suspension period if an ignition interlock device is obtained and an occupational driver license is issued with the proper designation. The bill also requires the court to order the ignition interlock device to remain installed for the duration of the suspension, instead of the prior requirement of at least half of the suspension period.

Knox Notes

Please notify the News-Courier about your upcoming events. Emailed submissions to kcnewsjournal@gmail.com are preferred. The deadline for inclusion will be the Friday before the following week's issue.

Bike Fest set Saturday

MUNDAY — First United Methodist Church Munday and the Christian Motorcyclists will host a Bike Fest here starting at 10 a.m. Saturday at FUMC. Biker games, live music, talks, a silent auction and a fun run will be included.

4-H banquet Monday

KNOX CITY — The Knox County 4-H Club will hold its annual awards banquet at 6 p.m. Monday at the First Methodist Church here. The club had earlier reported the wrong date.

Farm Bureau convention

MUNDAY — The Knox County Farm Bureau will hold its convention at 6 p.m. Tuesday here at the Munday Events Center. Fish and all the trimmings will be served.

KC Chamber golf event

KNOX CITY — The Knox City Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament is scheduled for a 1:30 p.m. start on Sept. 19 at the Knox City Country Club. The format will be a three-person scramble.

Relay for Life meeting

MUNDAY — The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is seeking volunteers in Knox and Haskell Counties to organize and recruit fundraising teams, garner community support, coordinate logistics, seek refreshments and prizes, plan entertainment and lend a hand to ensure the success of the 2016 event. The first volunteer committee meeting will be held on Monday, Oct. 5 at 5:30 p.m. at Munday Church of Christ, 330 N 3rd Avenue. If you would like to join the effort, call Lauren McKechnie at the American Cancer Society at 281-380-8122, or visit RelayForLife.org/KnoxHaskellTX.

New requirement for teen drivers

Special to The News Courier

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety has announced the implementation of the Impact Texas Teen Driver program (ITTD), which is a new requirement for driver license applicants who complete a teen driver education course. The two-hour ITTD program contains several videos that provide awareness about the dangers of distracted driving.

Correction

If you spot an error of fact, contact kcnewsjournal@gmail.com.

News on the go



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It is the mission of this newspaper to promote the rights of individualism in the American Declaration of Independence. The right of life, liberty and the ownership of property are the cornerstone of freedom. Government's sole purpose is to enhance our liberty and freedom.

Therefore, we hold every elected and appointed agent of government accountable to that standard.

DEADLINES

Advertising: Noon Mondays
Editorial: 5 p.m. Mondays

SUBSCRIPTIONS

\$36 a year in the county
\$42 a year outside the county



Obits

Tori Graves Hicks

Tori Jane Graves Hicks, 54, passed away Monday, Aug. 31, 2015 in San Angelo. She was born Nov. 14, 1960 in Wichita Falls to H.B. and Ruth Graves.

Funeral services were held last Saturday at the First Baptist Church in Munday. Interment followed at Gillespie Cemetery under the direction of McCauley-Smith Funeral Home of Munday. A visitation was held Friday at the funeral home.

Tori was a bright, kind-hearted, determined, caring lady that loved her family dearly. Her top priority was making sure her family was taken care of, always going the extra mile for them. She would take family or friends into her home when there were no other options. Her memory will live on in the hearts of people she touched.

Tori excelled in school attending Munday schools, then graduating from Graham High School in 1979. She later attended Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, receiving a degree in nursing in 1993.

She then began her career in nursing, which she loved. She was caring of her patients, tended to them as individuals and met each need. Her loving touch spread to her patients.

Tori was all about gaining new learning so she returned to Midwestern and earned her masters in nursing in 2008. Now she began a new chapter of nursing, but soon realized she needed to expand her learning again. Tori then received a degree in family health nurse practitioner from the University of Missouri in 2012.

Tori was also a brilliant and talented lady. She began a business, Tori's Touch, where she specialized in Home Interior Design. She had an eye for eloquent designs and decorated many homes and businesses. She also ran a catering business, cooking for many big events as well as a simple meal for families in a rush. Tori's talents also included decorating



TORI HICKS

shirts, sewing and painting.

Tori was involved deeply in family and nursing, but she took time out for fun. She and her daughter Leslie enjoyed times together, which they called "Girls Day" or "Girls Night Out." These times together included shopping, eating out and movies. Tori loved the time she was able to spend with her daughter and son-in-law. Her dog Autumn was a wonderful comfort and friend to her. In the short time God used her on this earth, her accomplishments were great and will never be forgotten.

Her family requests donations in her memory be made to First Baptist Church in Munday.

Fish in farm ponds, lakes dying off

Special to The News-Courier

COLLEGE STATION – A combination of weather patterns is causing wholesale die-offs of fish in many East and North Texas farm ponds and lakes, according to Dr. Billy Higginbotham, a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service wildlife specialist.

Most of the calls Higginbotham has received have

been from East and North Texas, he said. However, the same confluence of weather conditions— high temperatures and cloudy days followed by cool thunderstorms – could likely be causing fish kills in other areas as well. The conditions are causing oxygen depletion in farm ponds and lakes.

"The weather conditions we've experienced over the

northern part of Texas have been conducive for farm pond oxygen-depletion fish kills," he said. "Many pond owners have lost all or part of their fish populations."

There is always a risk of oxygen depletion in farm ponds during hot summer weather, Higginbotham said. This is because warm water holds less oxygen than cooler water.

Lake Creek golf schedule

Sept. 12-13—3 person scramble

Knox City golf schedule

Sept. 19—Knox City Chamber of Commerce Scramble, 3-person, \$120, 1:30 p.m.

Sept. 26—Knox City Fall Classic, Oilman's Par 3 Tournament, 3-person scramble, \$90, 9 a.m.

Oct. 3—Glow Ball Scramble, 4-person, \$25 (includes meal), 5 p.m.

Oct. 10—Guys & Dolls Scramble, 2-person scramble, \$75, 1:30 p.m.

To enter tournaments, call 940 658-3911 after 6 p.m. or send to PO Box 734, Knox City, TX 79529

The Paperboy

Four little words pack some punch

In God we trust.

Do those four make you angry? They sure do some. In a society where you can print anything - and I mean anything - on a t-shirt, people get up in arms over "In God we trust."



CHRIS BLACKBURN

The Childress Police Department has made national news in the last week for putting these four words, which happens to be the motto of the country, on their patrol vehicles.

My company is paying for the decals and has offered to do so to other nearby departments. It looks like they will do it too. The objection to "In God we trust" is not coming from locals. It is coming from people in liberal enclaves which have very little in common with our way of life.

It seems to me that the same liberal people who shout about tolerance, are the most intolerant people in the country. They call us names and call us backwards. They preach hate and want to "end oppression."

What oppression? For the record, we're not backwards. As Rural Americans, we're grounded in our thoughts, words and deeds. Is that so wrong?

In my opinion, people should stop worrying what law enforcement has on their vehicles and start worrying about the sorry state of this country.

With racial discourse and 96 million people out of the work force, we've got huge problems that no one is addressing, but I digress.

So why did I decide to pay for the stickers? Law enforcement in this country is nervous. They are being targeted and executed. Departments thought it would be a good idea to show solidarity by putting the slogan on their vehicles and I believe in taking care of law enforcement.

One other observation since this began to hit the fan last week: These Amarillo stations which have come here in an effort to report on this are not our friends. Look at their stories. Look at the headlines on their websites. They try and paint a picture of angry locals protesting what we're doing.

The only calls we've received here are from the news. We don't have people marching against us. CPD doesn't have people picketing them.

These "journalists" from these larger cities are purposefully trying to stir the pot and put us in a bad light.

Well, I'm calling them out. They are full of crap and people need to know it.

Just because you live in Amarillo, a town I grew up in, you honestly believe you are somehow better, smarter or more in tune with OUR public than we are? Give me a break.

Look folks, it's past time for us to sit quietly in the corner while leftist idiots cram their ideology down our collective throat.

If you can't handle "In God we trust," then your problems are deep. And before you pick on law enforcement, go talk to the federal government and tell them to take the slogan off of the currency. Until then, mind your own business.

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Chris Blackburn serves as CEO at Blackburn Media Group, proud owner of The 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.

Aging Center Menu

Menus for week of Sept. 14-18

Monday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, country gravy, seasoned corn, bread, ambrosia

Tuesday: Chicken tenders, gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, corn, wheat rolls, Mandarin oranges

Wednesday: Crumb topped fish, garlic roasted potatoes, peas, rolls, cake

Thursday: Meatloaf, Blessed potatoes, green beans, breadsticks, peach crisp

Friday: Sloppy Joe on a bun, country potato salad, collard greens, creamy fruit squares

Area News

scheduled Tuesday at the Haskell Civic Center. Tickets are \$12.50 in advance and \$15 at the door.

Country music jubilee

HASKELL—The Haskell County Music Jubilee is scheduled at 7 p.m. Monday here at the Haskell Tire Shop.

Taste of Country Sept. 15

HASKELL—The Noah Project-North's Taste of Country is

Dutch Oven cooking workshop

QUANAH – A hands on workshop on Dutch Oven cooking, led by horse trainer and Cowboy musician Larry Hannon, is set for Saturday, Sept. 19 at 9 a.m. at Copper Breaks State Park.

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The 501

Mad about chickens

Chickens are in. Go to any city council meeting when either hen or rooster ordinances are on the agenda. The chicken people come out of the woodwork. Hold that thought.



HANABA MUNN WELCH

I don't know about you, but the idea of people coming out of woodwork has always fascinated me. I see baseboards and doorjamb. Give each emerging person a chicken, and you've got a bizarre scene -- people in overalls, each with a big white Leghorn hen under one arm, each with boot toes still behind the baseboards.

Imaginary scenes are the best. Right? The overalls are striped.

Back to reality. Back to chickens.

Chickens have a strong fan base, not all in overalls. Chickens even have their own magazine. I saw it at the farm store. It's called "Chicken." Whenever chickens come into question, chicken supporters show up in force.

Chickens have their detractors too. The non-chicken people, or anti-chicken people, mostly lurk in the background. That's how it is when you don't have a magazine.

As chickens surge in popularity, chicken ordinances are being scrutinized everywhere. Battle lines are getting scratched in the turf and strategies are hatching. If you're chicken-neutral, you may get pulled into the fray. Throw in roosters, and things get more complicated. There's also the free-range contingent. Who's right? It's sort of like figuring out who's who in the Middle East.

As for me, I'm friends with a chicken activist. What else would you call a chicken person with a PowerPoint?

Her name is Shelley. I didn't seek her out. She's the niece of a good friend. But I'm on her side.

It all started when Shelley ran afoul of the law -- specifically an ordinance that kept her from keeping chickens in her own backyard. In fact, in the medium-sized town where Shelley lives, the law requires a mansion-sized land parcel for anyone who wants to keep chickens within the city limits.

Eggactly how big a lot? Would you believe the henhouse must be at least 300 feet from the property lines of the neighbors? Think football fields in all directions.

In other words, it's effectively a no-chicken town. Roosters are specifically excluded. Shelley didn't even have a rooster -- just a few law-breaking laying hens. Her neighbor complained. Cluck, cluck. Shelley had to get rid of her hens. They all had names. She cried. So did her son in middle school -- the one who plays sports and is a big man on campus. He has a heart for chickens. Who knew?

Shelley's only hope of getting her hens back (except they died after the eviction) is to get the ordinance changed. She showed her PowerPoint to the city council. Chicken people showed up out of the proverbial woodwork. Everyone's calling her the Chicken Lady.

If Shelley wins this campaign, alligators are next. She's against them. They eat chickens.

Meanwhile, I'm not sure what's so great about chickens. I haven't seen the PowerPoint.

I think maybe I'm just a fan of the Chicken Lady. Go Shelley.

Clash of the Mustangs goes to Wilson



Courtesy of Kent Mahoney

Lincoln Strickland (84) led Benjamin with 74 yards on 15 carries.

By Kent Mahoney
Special to The News-Courier

WILSON -- A much younger Benjamin team stayed with their Wilson counterparts on paper, however, the scoreboard told a much different story.

The 55-6 drubbing at the hands of the mascot counterparts Mustangs told the official story.

Benjamin, now in its second varsity

season after three years off, is primarily staffed of four juniors, three sophomores and three freshmen.

Benjamin scored its lone touchdown at the 7:40 mark of the second quarter as Lincoln Strickland romped for seven yards on a first-and-goal situation. The Mustangs went 44 yards in just a little over two minutes of official clock time.

Strickland finished the game with 76 yards on 15 carries. Damian Landini, a

freshman, was the next leading rusher with 63 yards on nine carries.

Wilson scored three times in the first quarter and four times in the second quarter. The hosts had the chance to finish the game just prior to halftime, but the PAT was blocked by a host of Benjamin players.

Benjamin had two interceptions and two lost fumbles or this game may have either been closer or had a much different outcome.

Pet talk

Paws important for your dogs

As humans, we know the important role our hands and feet play in completing normal, daily activities. When any kind of injury affects the use of our hands and feet, we may find it very difficult to go about our regular routine. Just as humans depend on their limbs to complete daily activities, Fido's paws are just as important to him. Running in the backyard, digging a hole for his bone and going for a walk in the park are all endeavors Fido would struggle with if he did not have healthy paws. To promote a healthy and active lifestyle, all dog owners should learn how to keep their pet's paws free of injury.

One of the most common ways to injure your dog's paws is by allowing them to step on an extremely hot or cold surface. In the Texas summer heat, concrete and wood pavements can become especially hot. If your dog is exposed to a hot surface for too long, it can potentially cause sores or blisters to develop on your dog's paw pads. In extreme winter conditions, doggie booties might be necessary to avoid chapped pads or an infection from chemical ice melters.

Dr. James Barr, clinical assistant professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, explains the most common summer and winter paw injuries. "The worst problems are that the pavement or other hard surfaces are extremely hot or cold. If the pet does not have a lot of protection on the feet or has a gait abnormality that causes it to walk strangely, then the unprotected areas can be hurt by the extreme temperatures," he said. "Most of the damage is rubbing the surface off or actually burning the footpads. This can be very painful."

Trimming the hair in between the paw pads can also reduce the risk of injury. Excess hair is more prone to painful matting and can also attract stickers or thorns. Sometimes foreign objects like pebbles can become lodged between a dog's pads, so it is important to check and clean this area regularly with a pair of tweezers to avoid pain and infection. Owners should also keep their yard free of sharp or pointy objects to further reduce the risk of a paw injury. If the area doesn't seem safe to walk in barefoot, then pets should be protected from the area until it is properly cleaned of debris.

Should your dog's paw become injured, Barr recommends obtaining a towel to wrap around the paw and to apply pressure until veterinary care arrives.

All four 11-1A teams fall in second week

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

All four of the District 11-1A Div II schools went down to defeat during the second week of non-district play, but three of them showed some offensive ability before falling to the "mercy rule."

The Northside Indians were downed by Woodson, 69-20; the Chillicothe Eagles dropped a 73-28 decision to Aspermont; and the Harrold Hornets fell to defending 1ADII champion Throckmorton, 65-20.

The Benjamin Mustangs made it past halftime before falling 56-6 to Wilson.

11-1A standings

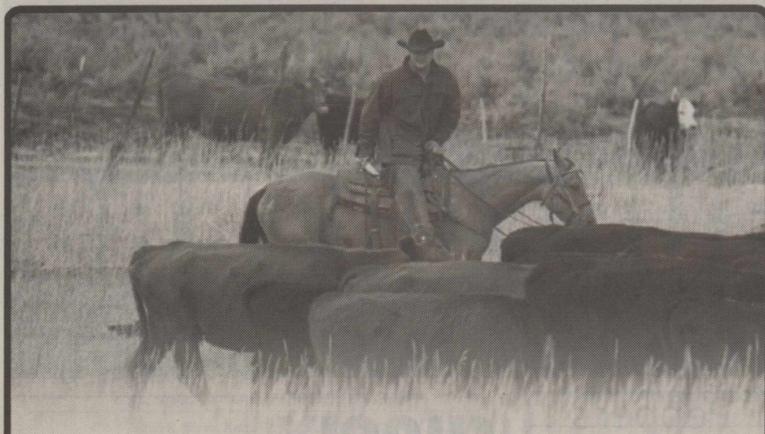
Team	W	L	Pts.	Opp
Northside	1	1	74	115
Harrold	0	2	60	114
Chillicothe	0	2	72	155
Benjamin	0	2	6	106

Last week's results

Wilson 56, Benjamin 6; Aspermont 73, Chillicothe 28; Throckmorton 65, Harrold 20; Woodson 69, Northside 20

This week's schedule

Benjamin at WF Notre Dame, Chillicothe at Knox City, Northside at Hedley, Harrold at McLean



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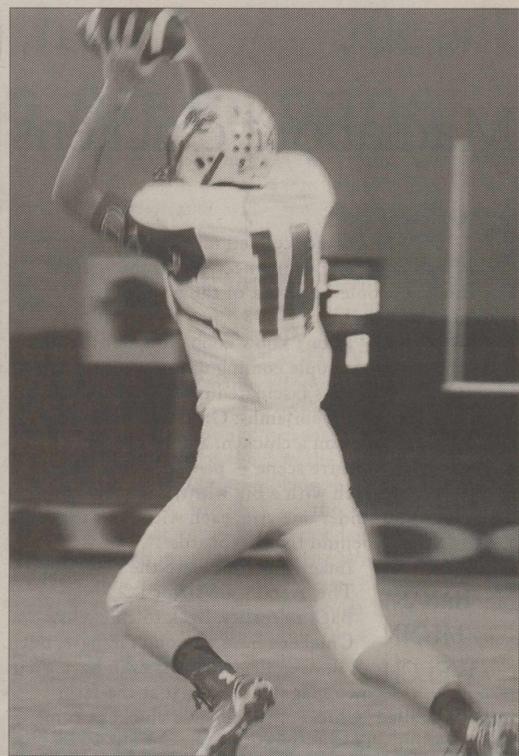
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Hounds bounce back, 48-26



Skylar Neill led the Greyhounds in rushing with 101 yards on 15 carries.



Knox City's Ryan Heard pulls down one of five catches for 80 yards.

By James McAfee
The Knox County News-Courier

KNOX CITY — A strong second-half performance enabled the Knox City Greyhounds to overcome the Water Valley Wildcats, 48-26, on the road last Friday night.

It showed the six-man raters that the Greyhounds were still deserving of being ranked No. 5 in the state with a 2-0 record heading into their home opener Friday night against the Chillicothe Eagles.

After falling behind 26-20 early in the third quarter, the Greyhounds managed to score the final four touchdowns and held the Wildcats scoreless.

For the night, the Greyhounds amassed 443 yards of offense, 254 on the ground and 189 through the air in a two-pronged attack that was difficult to stop.

Skylar Neil led the rushing with 15 carries for 101 yards while Elias Nevarez added 84 on 10 carries and Christian Abila 69 on 10 runs. Nevarez connected on 9 of 14 passes for 153 yards. Ryan Heard had five catches 80 yards.

Neither team could score in the early going.

Threatening at the Wildcats' 23, the Greyhounds were stunned midway through the first quarter when Water Val-

ley's Asher Rogers picked up a fumble and returned it 57 yards to give the Wildcats a 6-0 lead.

Knox City then scored the next three touchdowns on a 10-yard run by Neill and a pair of 17-yard catches by Heard. Abel Sandoval added a PAT kick after Heard's first TD and the Hounds were out front 20-6.

However, the Wildcats rebounded to gain a 20-20 tie at halftime, scoring on a 37-yard run by Rogers and then on a one-yard pass from Shiloh Hughes to Tyler Hoover plus a two-point conversion by Jancen Power.

Just over a minute into the third quarter, the Wildcats took the lead on a 48-yard Hughes-to-Pierce Marshall pass.

Accepting the challenge, Knox City's offense scored a pair of touchdowns to regain the lead in the third quarter. Nevarez scored from 18 and 3 and Sandoval added a kick after the second six-pointer.

Sandoval caught a 25-yard pass from Nevarez to provide the Hounds with more breathing room early in the final period and then Neill caught a four-yard pass from Anthony Estrada with just 16 seconds remaining. Sandoval added the final two points with a successful kick.

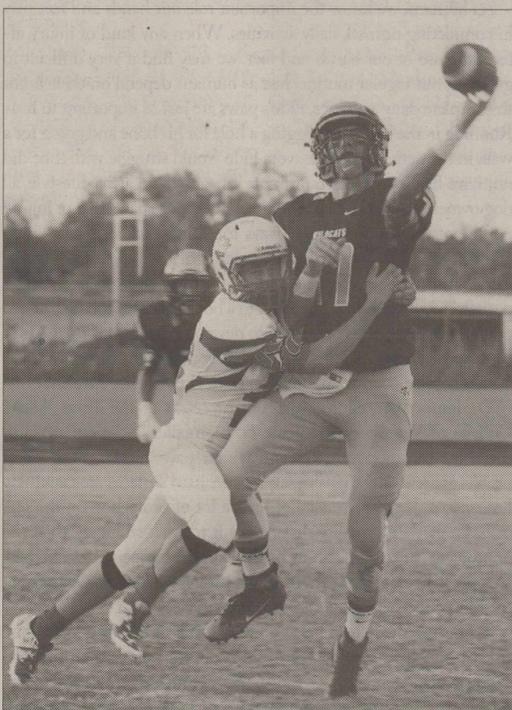
The Greyhounds will

make their home debut in Grayhound Stadium, hosting the Chillicothe Eagles, the favorites to repeat as champions of District 11-1A D2. The Eagles were outscored, 78-28, by the Aspermont Hornets last week, suffering five interceptions as they went to the air 40 times when they could not muster any

ground game like they have in past seasons.

Sam Schnable led the Greyhounds' defensive effort, making 11 solo tackles, while Nevarez and Zach Overmyer had five each.

The Hounds were successful on 6 of 10 third down attempts and 2 of 4 tries on fourth down.



Sam Schnable led the Greyhounds in tackles with 11 against Water Valley.

Aspermont off to 2-0 start

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

The Aspermont Hornets showed plenty of offensive firepower in rolling up a 73-28 victory over the Chillicothe Eagles, favorites to win the 11-1A DII title, to improve their record to 2-0.

That matched the start of No. 5-ranked Knox City, 48-26 winners over Water Valley.

The Rotan Yellowhammers fell to 0-2, falling 24-0 to Klondike, while the Crowell Wildcats, ranked No. 8, took the week off after losing their opener to top-ranked Borden County, 58-48.

8-1A standings

Team	W	L	Pts.	Opp.
Knox City	2	0	102	34
Aspermont	2	0	116	54
Crowell	0	1	48	58
Rotan	0	2	22	123

Last week's results

Knox City 48, Water Valley 26; Aspermont 73, Chillicothe 28; Knondike 24, Rotan 0

This week's schedule

Chillicothe at Knox City, Paducah at Crowell, Aspermont at Guthrie, Rotan at Spur

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Mogulettes volleyball



Members of the Munday volleyball team with Coach Jessica Toliver

Courtesy photo

Lady Stangs volleyball



Members of the Benjamin volleyball team

Courtesy photo

Houndettes volleyball



Members of the Knox City volleyball team

Sheri Baty/The Knox County News-Courier

Knox volleyball teams definite playoff contenders

By James McAfee

The Knox County News-Courier

The three Knox County volleyball teams at Benjamin, Knox City and Munday all have high hopes of making the playoffs this season and their chances have dramatically improved since a Class A playoff system has been added, allowing three smaller schools to move on.

This means that in District 6-2A that both Hawley and Albany, 2A teams that finished 1-2 last season, will get automatic berths as the only two teams from that classification. They again appear to be the teams to beat.

The Lady Stangs, Houndettes and Mogulettes are definite contenders for the three Class A spots competing against Woodson and Moran.

In the first district games on Saturday, the Houndettes and Mogulettes face road tests against the "big 2" in Albany and Hawley, respectively, while Benjamin hosts Woodson. Then Benjamin is off Tuesday while Munday entertains Moran and Knox City hosts Hawley.

"I feel confident going into district play that we will be very competitive," said rookie MHS Coach Jessica Toliver.

The Mogulettes carried a 14-9 record into a non-district game at Memphis

Tuesday night after picking up a pair of wins over Collinsville and Gold-Burg in the Buckle Up for Lane's Sake Tournament in Nocona last weekend.

The Mogulettes took the first set from Christ Academy, 25-21, but then lost by 25-12, 25-14 margins in the semifinals of the Bronze Division. Christ Academy went on to claim the title, defeating the Nocona JV, 27-25, 15-19. The Mogulettes also lost to Bryson by a 25-17, 25-20 margin.

Holliday took the Silver Division with a 25-19, 27-25 win over Anderson-Shiro while Peaster claimed the Gold Division, downing Celina, 25-22, 21-25, 25-19.

"It was a great experience for the girls to compete against bigger schools like Vernon and Nocona right before district play," Toliver added.

Toliver indicated that the team is being lead in kills by senior Skyler Gomez and sophomore Kristen Keuhler and also has benefitted from the defensive play and serves of freshmen Emily Scott and McKenna Ziessel.

First-year coach Cody Propps also was optimistic about Benjamin's playoff chances. "The Lady Stangs do have a chance to make the playoffs this year if we keep improving as a team and play

with enthusiasm," he said.

"I am excited to see what will happen in district play and yet at the same time proud of what we accomplished in the pre season games."

The Lady Stangs were scheduled to entertain Quannah Tuesday night in their last warm up before district play starts.

Coach Brenna Hoegger of KCHS also was optimistic, especially since the Houndettes beat the Mogulettes in the finals of its tournament earlier.

"I feel like my girls have a great opportunity with 1A having their own playoff bracket," she said. "We should be very competitive in district and hope to advance into playoffs."

Hoegger felt the Houndettes got off to a rough start because she had to put people in positions they had never played to fill a need. "The first couple of games were definitely learning games," she explained. "It took some trial and error before everyone jelled. We got it together going into the week of our KV Invitational. The girls are feeling more confident and comfortable in their positions and their teammates."

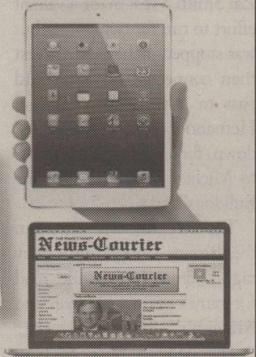
The Houndettes were scheduled to host Northside before starting district play Saturday.

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District 6-2A volleyball schedule

- Sept. 12- Knox City at Albany, Munday at Hawley, Woodson at Benjamin
- Sept. 15- Moran at Munday, Hawley at Knox City, Albany at Woodson
- Sept. 19- Benjamin at Albany, Knox City at Moran, Woodson at Hawley
- Sept. 22- Munday at Knox City, Hawley at Benjamin, Moran at Woodson
- Sept. 26- Munday at Woodson, Benjamin at Moran, Albany at Hawley
- Sept. 29- Munday at Benjamin, Knox City at Woodson, Moran at Albany
- Oct. 3- Munday at Albany, Benjamin at Knox City, Hawley at Moran
- Oct. 6- Albany at Knox City, Hawley at Moran, Benjamin at Woodson
- Oct. 10- Munday at Moran, Knox City at Hawley, Woodson at Albany
- Oct. 13- Albany at Benjamin, Moran at Knox City, Hawley at Woodson
- Oct. 16- Knox City at Munday
- Oct. 17- Benjamin at Hawley, Woodson at Moran
- Oct. 20- Woodson at Munday, Moran at Benjamin, Hawley at Albany
- Oct. 24- Benjamin at Munday, Woodson at Knox City, Albany at Moran
- Oct. 29- Albany at Munday, Knox City at Benjamin, Moran at Hawley

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Moguls' late rally falls short, 26-21

By James McAfee
The Knox County News-Courier

MUNDAY — The Munday Moguls came to life in the final quarter to stage an almost unbelievable rally that eventually fell just short in a 26-21 setback to the Stamford Bulldogs here last Friday night at Scruggs Stadium.

Down by 19 points, all hope of victory appeared dashed near the end of the third quarter when a snap sailed over the head of punter Heath Bivens,

giving Stamford great field position at the Munday 14.

On the first play, Stamford's Garrett Ramos dropped a Ligon West pass in the end zone that could have extended the Bulldogs' lead. Then the Moguls did a better job of covering the receivers and West couldn't connect on third and fourth down passes.

Given new life, a 10-yard pass from Day'veon Dockins to Holt Bivens and a 15-yard run by Dee Hemphill then got the Moguls out of the shadows of

their own goal post. Three plays later on the first snap of the final quarter, Temerick Reagins, who had moved back to wide receiver, made a fantastic one-handed catch cutting across the field and raced all the way to the end zone for a 59-yard TD. David Serrato's PAT kick was low and to the right, leaving the Moguls down, 25-13.

After an exchange of punts and another dropped pass by a wide-open Ramos left the Moguls at their own 14, a 12-yard pass from Dockins to Reagins gave the Moguls some breathing room. The Moguls then got their running game going with Dockins and Hemphill and marched the next 74 yards to narrow the deficit to 25-19 on a 15-yard run by Hemphill.

The Moguls lined up as to go for a kick for the PAT, but instead Holt Bivens took a pitch out and found Reagins open in the end zone for the two-point conversion, narrowing deficit to 25-21 with 4:56 left.

When Ramos bobbled the kickoff and Hemphill recovered at the Stamford 31, the Moguls were in position to take the lead. However, a holding penalty erased a 12-yard run to the Bulldogs' 14, backing them up to the Stamford 33.

Going to the air, Reagins got behind his defender, but appeared to be interfered with near the end zone. The officials did call pass interference, but in the final analysis that move by the defender may have saved the win for Stamford.

With first and 10 at the 18, the Moguls had new hope, but that's when a false start and a holding penalty moved the Moguls back to the 30. On third down, Reagins made a valiant effort to make another fantastic catch in the end zone, but couldn't hold on to the ball as he went to the turf. Dockins' fourth-down pass was picked off by West inside the one, where he went out of bounds.

On third down, a Mogul jumped the gun to give the Bulldogs a first down by a matter of inches. West converted

another first down, needing another measurement, and then took the knee twice to ensure the Bulldogs' win.

Starting the game, the Bulldogs took advantage of a Matt Medford interception to take a 6-0 lead on West's four-yard run following a West-to-John Louis Dyer pass completion for 21 yards.

The defenses took over for the rest of the first quarter and then the Moguls were forced back to their own one, facing third and 18. Reagins lined up as a wide receiver right and running at full speed made a finger tip catch of a pass from Dockins to go the length of the field for a TD. Serrato's kick gave the Moguls the lead.

The Bulldogs drove into the red zone, but were stopped on fourth down when Reagins sacked West. Reagins then found running room and escaped for 38 yards, but lost the ball. A sack by Reagins again stopped the Bulldogs.

It appeared that the half would end with the Moguls ahead, but with 27 seconds left, West connected with a wide-open Ramos for a 66-yard scoring effort.

Against a prevent defense and using his timeouts wisely, Dockins rushed for 10, 20 and 28 yards, but then his desperation pass was intercepted in the end zone by Matthew Pete.

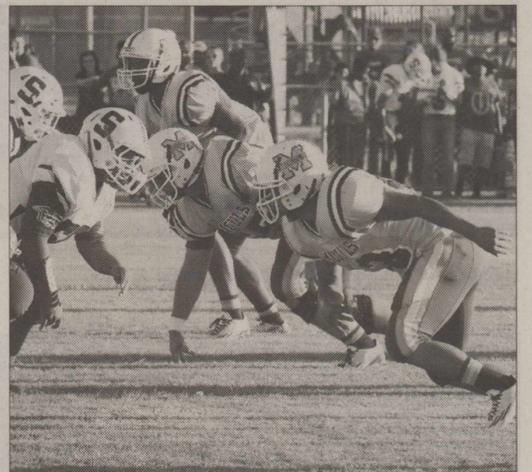
Stamford took control of the game in the third quarter, moving 57 yards in seven plays, scoring on a five-yard run by Zai Zai Smith. West made a valiant effort to run for two points, but was stopped inches short. West then connected on a 66-yard pass to a wide-open Aggassi Hernandez (the defender fell down) for a TD and then threw to Michael Clayton to up the Bulldogs' lead to 26-7.

The Moguls will entertain the Bronte Longhorns Friday night before hitting the road for games against Quannah and Memphis.

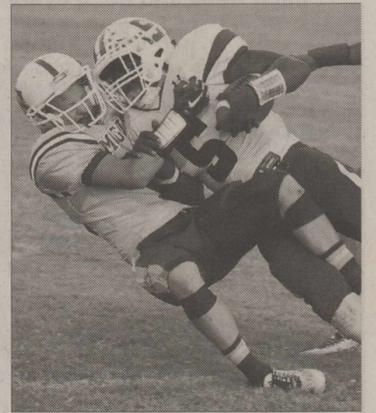
The Moguls hope to have lineman Juan Rangel back in time for the start of District 7-2A play Oct. 10.



Terry Messer/The Knox County News-Courier
Day'veon Dockins led the Moguls in rushing with 145 yards on 19 carries.



Terry Messer/The Knox County News-Courier
Moguls' Temerick Reagins made several sacks from defensive end.



Terry Messer/The Knox County News-Courier
Munday's Kellen Redder brings down Stamford's Zai Zai Smith

Haskell, Petrolia remain unbeaten

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

Haskell and Petrolia, which did not make it to the playoffs last year from District 7-2A DII, remained unbeaten last week. The Indians cruised to a 50-0 victory over Ranger as Dylan Hanson ran for two touchdowns and passed for two more while the Pirates scored a 40-20 win over Olney

Markesis Lee rushed for more than 200 yards in the first half and then Drake Cooper, who came in to sub at quarterback when Lee was injured, did the same thing as the Electra Tigers outscored Frederick, OK, 63-43.

The Pied Pipers, defending district champions, rebounded from an opening setback to beat Roscoe, 35-21, as Avery Wagner completed 13 of 19 passes for 176 yards.

The Seymour Panthers suffered a 35-6 setback to the Quannah Indians, coached by a former Panther coach, David Fambrough.

Munday's late rally fell short in a 26-21 loss to Stamford.

7-2A standings

Team	W	L	Pts	Opp
Haskell	2	0	88	28
Petrolia	2	0	85	40
Munday	1	1	61	58
Electra	1	1	70	71
Hamlin	1	1	49	53
Seymour	1	1	56	57

Last week's scores

Stamford 26, Munday 25; Petrolia 40, Olney 20; Quannah 35, Seymour 6; Haskell 50, Ranger 0; Electra 63, Frederick, OK 43; Hamlin 35, Roscoe 21

This week's schedule

Bronte at Munday, Baird at Haskell, Hawley at Hamlin, Bells at Petrolia, Quannah at Electra, Archer City at Seymour

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Burn association will meet Sept. 23

Special to The News-Courier

ASPERMONT — The Southern Rolling Plains Prescribed Burn Association (SRPPBA) will be holding its annual membership meeting here from 1-4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at the Stonewall County Activity Center (directly west of the courthouse).

Current SRPPBA members, as well as anyone who may be interested in learning more about the SRPPBA and/or becoming a member are welcome to attend.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide in-

formation that may help landowners in preparation for the upcoming dormant season prescribed fire season; to present an opportunity for landowners to network with other like-minded landowners and to build relationships that may result in future reciprocal assistance on prescribed fires; to provide an update on SRPPBA activities since our last meeting; to orient new members on the proper use of our new equipment (required before use of this equipment by members would be authorized); and to hear a presentation from prescribed fire expert Dr. Morgan Russell.

The drought-breaking moisture received has created a unique prescribed fire opportunity across the Southern Rolling Plains—the alignment of adequate fuel loading and adequate soil moisture. Many landowners will want to take advantage of this fuel and moisture for prescribed fire during the 2015-2016 dormant season.

For planning purposes, please RSVP with Derrick Holdstock, secretary of the SRPPBA, at 806-983-0897, or by e-mail at Derrick.Holdstock@tpwd.texas.gov.

Researchers tracking missing quail

Special to The News-Courier

Wildlife watchers and hunters in the Texas Rolling Plains are asked to be on the lookout for leg-banded or radio-collared scaled quail this fall.

Dale Rollins, director of the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch (RPQRR) near Roby, makes the request as part of an on-going research study that tracks the movements of the bird and their propensity to repopulate a range where their numbers were once much stronger.

The study, called Operation Transfusion, is a multi-county research effort designed to relocate scaled back to habitat where they've long been extirpated. A total of 120 scaled (or blue) quail were relocated to the Matador Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Cottle County and an additional site

in Nolan County.

The goal of Operation Transfusion is to gather data to evaluate the efficiency of translocating wild-trapped quail into recently vacated ranges as a means of "jump-starting" otherwise faltering populations. Some of the released birds are radio collared and their movements and survivability are monitored.

Scaled quail were historically common across the western Rolling Plains but their abundance declined sharply around 1988 and has remained at only remnant levels since that time. The cause for the decline is poorly understood, but may include disease or habitat change. For whatever reason, scaled quail have failed to recolonize former habitats and their abundance has remained well below the long-term mean.

RPQRR researchers are attempting to stem the tide on the decline and Rollins says that the early reports from the Matador WMA release site are encouraging. "Of the the 86 scaled quail we released there, 14 are missing," he said. "Of those, we know that eight of the 14 missing birds were still alive as of August 21st near the Matador WMA."

As such, people from the Rolling Plains are asked to report scaled quail where they haven't seen them in the past five years so that their population expansions can be tracked. In addition, Rollins says that for research sake, they'd love to have information on any bird that his team has tagged and released.

"We'd like to have information on any leg-banded birds someone may shoot," Rollins added. "No, they're not in trouble. We just need a report of where the bird was killed to supplement our data on movements. Of course, we'd like the transmitter back if any radio collared birds are found."

If you would like to report a scaled quail sighting where you haven't seen one in a while or if you recover a band or a radio transmitter, contact Rollins at drollins@quailresearch.org.

Recipe of the week

By Vonda Carter

This week I would like to remind everyone that the recipes I choose each week are from the Knox County Heritage Cookbook. This is not just full of wonderful recipes, it's a trip through time. The recipes were contributed by our friends and neighbors here in Knox County. Each section includes a look back and a brief history of a few locations here in Knox County. I love cookbooks and I can sit down with an armful of them and spend hours looking through them, and this is one I would choose to do that with. It's a charming edition and I highly recommend it as a gift for someone who may or may not live in the county, and if you haven't already picked one up one for yourself, please don't miss the opportunity to add it to your collection. I have them available for purchase right here in our office or directly from the Knox County Historical Commission for \$20.

Bacon Wrapped Loaves

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1 ½ lbs. ground beef | ¾ c. chopped green pepper |
| 1 c. shredded cheddar cheese | ½ c. water |
| 1 egg slightly beaten | ½ tsp. instant beef bouillon |
| ¼ c. dry bread crumbs | 1 tsp. salt |
| 1 sm. Onion, chopped | 6 slices thin sliced bacon, cut in halves |
| ¼ c. lemon juice | |

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Mix all ingredients except bacon. Shape mixture into six loaves. Criss-cross two half slices of bacon on each loaf, tucking ends under loaf. Place loaves on rack in shallow baking pan. Bake uncovered 50 minutes.

Chile Rellenos Casserole

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 lb. Monterey Jack cheese | Reba Nix, Munday |
| | 1 (28 oz.) can whole chilies |
| Mix and set aside: | |
| 5 eggs, beaten | 3 T. milk |
| 3 T. flour | Salt & pepper to taste |

Layer peppers and cheese, pour egg mixture over layers. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes. Should be set when done.

Deadline to enroll in key programs approaches

Special to The News-Courier

WASHINGTON — U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini reminds farmers and ranchers that they have until Sept. 30 to enroll in several key Farm Bill safety net programs — Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC), Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and the Margin Protection Program for Dairy (MPP-Dairy).

"These programs provide important risk protection for farm and dairy operations, so it is important not to miss the deadline for enrollment," said Dolcini. "Producers already have elected ARC or PLC, so now is the time to sign the

contract and enroll for the 2014 and 2015 crop years.

"I also remind dairy operations to enroll for coverage in 2016. Just \$100 covers 90 percent of milk production at a \$4 margin, and with incremental premiums, up to an \$8 margin can be covered."

ARC and PLC programs trigger financial protections for agricultural producers when market forces cause substantial drops in crop prices or revenues. The elections for each farm stay in place through 2018, but ownership and shares can be adjusted through the annual enrollment. For additional program information, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc.

MPP-Dairy offers pro-

tection to producers when the difference between the

milk price and the average feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer. Participating dairy farmers will remain in the program through 2018 and pay a \$100 administrative fee each year.

Producers also have the option of selecting a different coverage level during open enrollment each year. MPP-Dairy payments are based on an operation's historical production, which will increase by 2.61 percent in 2016, if the operation participated in 2015, providing a stronger safety net. For more information, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/dairy.



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Texas warning system ahead of it time

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

COLLEGE STATION – In 1953, several tornadoes, including one that killed 114 people in Waco, prompted a group of government officials and scientists to say, enough is enough. There has to be some way to prepare people for such deadly storms.

The damage from the 1953 tornadoes, plus five hurricanes that struck the East Coast in 1954 and 1955, convinced Congress to increase weather funding.

Two years later, on June 26, 1955, the Texas Radar Tornado Warning Network was formally dedicated at Texas A&M University and the school was instrumental in the formation of what is believed to be the first advance warning system of tornadoes in the country, one that was clearly ahead of its time.

Radar – used years earlier by the military for war – was in its infancy as an indispensable tool for weather forecasts.

More than 50 weather experts, civil defense personnel and government officials gathered as Erle Hardy, regional director of what was then called the U.S. Weather Bureau, pushed a button that set the Texas A&M radar system into motion. About 17 radar systems were connected to the network, including two in adjoining states.

Noting the significance of the event, Hardy told guests and officials, “It is a historical fact that something good comes from every invention of man. We have seen radar, first used as a weapon of war, grow into a great implement

of commerce, and now this group has seen radar become an instrument of lifesaving for countless communities.”

Also taking part in the ceremony was Capt. H.T. Orville, retired weather expert from the Navy who was working for the Bendix Aviation Corp. It’s believed Orville was the first to advocate a nationwide network of radar stations to track severe weather.

Orville noted that as early as 1945, weather experts thought it was possible that tornadoes could be observed on radar, “but no positive action was taken to develop an effective radar warning network.”

“Damaging effects of high winds on various types of buildings indicate a need for tightening up building code regulations in many states,” Orville added. “Scientifically trained teams should immediately make a survey of a town that has been struck by a tornado to permit study of weather data....It is fitting to consider this Texas Radar Tornado Warning Network as a memorial to all people in Texas who have lost their lives in these destructive storms.”

Orville’s son, Richard, who was 19 at the time, would go on to be a national severe storms expert at Texas A&M and has taught at the school since 1991. He was instrumental in founding the National Lightning Detection Network which has greatly added to the knowledge base about lightning.

The tornado warning group’s main goal was to determine that a tornado was on the ground and to give people as much warn-

ing time as possible – but in many cases, it was only a few minutes.

The main problem: not all tornadoes came with distinctive radar patterns, and not all storms creating suspicious radar patterns produced tornadoes. But there was little doubt the system worked – by the end of 1955, despite a record 164 tornadoes in Texas, there were only two deaths related to the storms.

The success of the Texas Radar Tornado Warning Network and other weather radars led to a national radar network that still provides critical information for severe weather warnings.

“Since the 1950s, the technology related to radar and severe storms has improved immensely,” says John Nielsen-Gammon, Texas A&M professor of atmospheric sciences who also serves as Texas State Climatologist.

“With better radar equipment and storm spotters on the ground, the advance warning time has increased from just a few minutes to as much as 15-20 minutes, and every minute can save lives. Warnings have become more specific regarding time and place.”

“With the advent of Doppler Radar in the early 1990s, we can now look at air motion inside storms,” he adds. “We can see the rotation of a thunderstorm, and sometimes even the tornado itself. The newest technology is called polarimetric radar, which lets the National Weather Service spot the debris picked up by a tornado and distinguish it from rain and hail.”

MSU to host ‘Latinos Americans’

Special to The Knox County News-Courier

WICHITA FALLS — Midwestern State University is one of 55 organizations nationwide to receive a \$10,000 programming grant to host “Latino Americans: 500 Years of History.”

Dr. Jeffery Oxford, Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages, applied for the grant in conjunction with the Wichita Falls Public Library and the Zavala Hispanic Cultural Initiative.

The project will feature the 2013 PBS documentary series, Latino Americans. In

conjunction with screenings of select episodes in the series, localized events will show roles Latino Americans have played in the history of Wichita Falls and Wichita County.

“It is important to bring these events to Wichita Falls both for the Hispanic and the non-Hispanic community since it gives specific examples of how Hispanics have contributed historically to the making of America and how they are currently involved in the progress of Wichita Falls, of Texas, and the U.S.,” Oxford said.

A special event included in the fall programming is

“Two Piano Latin-American Music Concert” at 7 p.m. Oct. 5 in Akin Auditorium. Performers will be MSU’s Dean of Fine Arts Dr. Martin Comacho and Grammy-nominated pianist Dr. Adonis Gonzalez.

The Wichita Falls Public Library will host the literary exhibition, “Voces Americanas: Latino Literature in the United States” from Nov. 1-Dec. 1. Screenings of the Latino Americans series take place at 6 p.m. at the Wichita Falls Public Library. Scholars will lead half-hour discussions after the films. Admission is free.

Maggert, Kuehne newest hall of fame members

Special to the News-Courier

SAN ANTONIO – Jeff Maggert, who won the first World Championship and more recently the U.S. Senior Open, and Trip Kuehne, a member of Texas golf family royalty, highlight the inductees for the Class of 2015 at the Texas Golf Hall of Fame.

Longtime golf professionals and teachers Paul Marchand of the Shadow Hawk Golf Course in Houston and the late Roland Harper of the Colonial Country Club Fort Worth along will

Houston innovator Preston Moore will join the duo and be honored on Monday, Oct. 12 at the Texas Golf Hall of Fame facility and Walk of Fame at historic Brackenridge Park in San Antonio along with a dinner that night at San Antonio Country Club.

“We are simply thrilled with this great class of inductees in 2015. They brought great honor, victories and prestige to our Lone Star Links, joining dozens more already residing in Texas’ great golf shrine,” said Texas Golf Hall

of Fame Board Chairman Buddy Cook.

The prestigious Northwood Club in Dallas, the site of the 1952 U.S. Open won by Julius Boros, was added to the Texas Registry of Historic Courses.

James McAfee, now the editor of The Knox County News-Courier in Munday and formerly executive director at the Northern Texas PGA and the Dallas District Golf Association for 24 years; was included as one of the nominees in the distinguished service category.

Food manager programs set

Special to the News-Courier

ABILENE—Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Jones, Taylor and Nolan Counties, is offering a professional food manager cer-

tification training course for \$125 on Oct. 19 and Oct. 26 at the Taylor County Extension Office. Cost includes training, materials and the ServSafe food manager certification examination.

The registration deadline is Oct. 5. For more information about the training course, called “Food Safety: It’s Our Business,” call Jane Rowan at 325-672-6048.

Weather whys Dew point measures water vapor

Special to the News-Courier

What does the dew point tell us about current weather conditions?

“The dew point is the temperature to which the air would have to cool in order to reach saturation,” explains Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. “The dew point tells us the amount of water vapor in the air. The higher the dew point, the higher the water vapor content. In other words, dry air

has a low dew point, whereas moist air has a higher dew point.”

Does the dew point help in predicting the weather?

“Yes, condensation occurs when the temperature of the air is the same as its dew point,” adds McRoberts. “Since the temperature cannot fall below the dew point, observed dew point values in the evening are a useful forecast tool for overnight low temperatures. The presence of water vapor in the

air makes it more difficult for sunlight to warm the air during the day, so humid locations have a smaller spread between high and low temperatures than drier locations. Also, high dew points signal that an air mass is unstable, and the more unstable an air mass is the more likely showers and thunderstorms will develop.”

Weather Whys is a service of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at Texas A&M University.

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Explanatory Statements for the November 3, 2015 Constitutional Amendment Election

Proposition Number 1 (SJR 1)
SJR 1 - Current law provides an exemption of \$15,000 from the ad valorem taxation for public school purposes of a residence homestead. The proposed amendment would increase this exemption to \$25,000, starting in the tax year beginning January 1, 2015. In order to reflect the increased exemption on the homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or a disabled person, the proposed amendment would provide a reduction to the current limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes. The proposed amendment would protect school districts from all or part of the revenue loss by authorizing an appropriation of funds according to formulas set by the legislature. In addition, the proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision from reducing or repealing a homestead exemption adopted by the political subdivision. Finally, the proposed amendment would prohibit the imposition of a tax on the conveyance of real property, but would not prohibit the imposition of a business tax measured by business activity, a tax on the production of minerals, a tax on the issuance of title insurance, or a change in the rate of a tax in existence on January 1, 2016.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$15,000 to \$25,000, providing for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for those purposes on the homestead of an elderly or disabled person to reflect the increased exemption amount, authorizing the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision that has adopted an optional residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from reducing the amount of or repealing the

exemption, and prohibiting the enactment of a law that imposes a transfer tax on a transaction that conveys fee simple title to real property.”

Proposition Number 2 (HJR 75)
HJR 75 - In 2011, voters approved a constitutional amendment to allow a surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran an exemption from ad valorem taxation from all or part of the market value on the disabled veteran’s residence homestead, as long as the surviving spouse had not remarried. The amendment did not apply to surviving spouses of veterans who died before 2011. This amendment would extend the exemption in such cases. The proposed amendment would apply only to ad valorem taxes imposed for a tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died before the law authorizing a residence homestead exemption for such a veteran took effect.”

Proposition Number 3 (SJR 52)
SJR 52 proposes a constitutional amendment to repeal the requirement for the Comptroller of Public Accounts, the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the Attorney General, and any other officers elected statewide to reside in Austin, Texas, the state capital. Under current law, these statewide elected officers are required to reside in the capital of the State of Texas while in office. This amendment would not apply to the residency requirement for the Governor.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment repealing the requirement that state officers elected by voters statewide reside in the state capital.”

Proposition Number 4 (HJR 73)
HJR 73 proposes a constitutional amendment that would grant the legislature the authority to pass statutes to allow a professional sports team charitable foundation to conduct charitable raffles under the terms and conditions imposed by general law. The laws passed under this authority may provide that the professional sports team charitable foundation may use proceeds from such charitable raffles to pay reasonable advertising, promotional, and administrative expenses. Any law enacted by this provision only applies to entities defined as professional sports team charitable foundations on January 1, 2016. Additionally, any law enacted by this provision may only allow charitable raffles to be conducted at games hosted at the home venue of the professional sports team associated with a professional sports team charitable foundation.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit professional sports team charitable foundations to conduct charitable raffles.”

Proposition Number 5 (SJR 17)
SJR 17 proposes a constitutional amendment which would increase from 5,000 to 7,500 the maximum total population threshold of a county that is allowed to construct and maintain private roads as long as the county imposes a reasonable charge for the work.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment to authorize counties with a population of 7,500 or less to perform private road construction and maintenance.”

Proposition Number 6 (SJR 22)
SJR 22 proposes a constitutional amendment that would add the right to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife, including by use of traditional methods, in the Bill of Rights of the Texas Constitution. This right would be subject to laws and regulations intended to conserve

and manage wildlife and to preserve the future of hunting and fishing. The proposed amendment would establish hunting and fishing as the preferred method of managing and controlling wildlife in Texas. The proposed amendment is not intended to affect any law or provision related to trespass, property rights or eminent domain, and would not prevent the legislature from authorizing a municipality to regulate the discharge of a firearm in a populated area in the interest of safety.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment recognizing the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife subject to laws that promote wildlife conservation.”

Proposition Number 7 (SJR 5)
SJR 5 proposes a constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of revenues from (1) the state sales and use tax, and (2) the tax imposed on the sale, use, or rental of a motor vehicle, to the State Highway Fund (SHF). Under current law, these funds would be deposited to the General Revenue Fund. Money deposited to the SHF is intended to be used only to construct, maintain, or acquire rights-of-way for public roadways other than toll roads; or to repay certain transportation-related debt.

The proposed amendment would appear on the ballot as follows: “The constitutional amendment dedicating certain sales and use tax revenue and motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue to the state highway fund to provide funding for nontolled roads and the reduction of certain transportation-related debt.”

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The Munday Housing Authority will accept sealed bids for one roofing contract for 8 buildings. Bid specs can be picked up at 131 West Cisco in Munday or call 940-422-4941 between 9 and noon. Sealed bids are due by noon on Thursday September 17, 2015. MHA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. MHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Race Track Bid

The City of Knox City will be accepting sealed bids on the following property until Monday September 21, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. : Blk 55 Lots 1-6& Lots 9-16, also known as the race track. In inquiries can be directed to Sam Watson City Administrator at 658-3313. A \$40.00 filing fee will also be required from the successful bidder.

The City Council of the City of Knox City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

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Mac's Views

Tainted food creates problem again

Anyone who has experienced food poisoning in the past knows how painful it is.

Statistics supplied by the Texas Department of State Health Services indicate that foodborne illness continues to be a health issue in the United States. Each year, one in six Americans will become sick, 128,000 will become hospitalized and 3,000 will die due to a foodborne illness.



JAMES MCAFEE

It happened to my wife Betty and I 25 years ago at The Woodlands near Houston at a golf tournament where I was working as one of the rules officials, making for a long night and interesting night for us.

Attempting to drive back to Plano, we got as far as Huntsville before deciding to stop and get a hotel room after stopping to get something at the drug store. However, the pain increased for both of us and we were off to the ER.

They put us in separate areas, but didn't get to us very quickly as it seemed a snake bite victim arrived and needed more immediate attention. Then a young man was brought in by the police and placed in the cubicle between us. Then I remember the nurses talking about the fact that he must have slipped out.

An hour later, the ER got a call from the police in Conroe, asking if a man named James McAfee was in the hospital. It seems the young man had reached around the curtain and picked up my shirt with my car keys in the pocket and had stolen my car. Then he had been stopped for speeding and had to admit he stole the car.

This tale gets even more interesting as the deputy sheriff arrives and decides to take me to Conroe to get my car. So here I was in the back seat of his car in scrubs and he was driving up to 100 mph, not sure why except maybe that he was off duty at midnight and wanted to get back home.

I got my car back, but the young man, still wearing my shirt, was taken off to jail. I

drove back to the ER and picked up Betty. By now it was after 4 a.m. We went back to the hotel, but that was when I realized I did not have a key to the room. It took forever to get the manager's attention, but we finally were able to get four or five hours of sleep before returning home.

So Betty quickly recognized that she had gotten some tainted food last Thursday and we were off to the Knox County Hospital ER for what turned out to be another interesting adventure.

The staff there, including Gordan Ross were busy treating her pain, getting ready to take her for an X-ray when she had one of her mini-poppers (a vascular malformation) in her head that created concern from all of us. That's when it was decided that she had better go to Wichita Falls for a cat scan.

So right before midnight last Thursday, I got a head start on the ambulance and was off to Wichita Falls, getting there in 72 minutes from Knox City—yes, I was driving between 75 and 80, maybe 85. The ambulance passed me about 25 miles from Wichita Falls. Driving to Wichita Falls is sure a lot easier going north than coming back now because of the new addition to Hwy. 277-82.

As expected, the United Regional Hospital ER was busy, but she finally got the tests done on her head and stomach and we got the results, no problem upstairs, but a case of possible food poisoning in the stomach. Evidently the doctor didn't want to go as far as saying food poisoning because of all the red tape involved, just telling her she got a bit of tainted food.

She was still woozy from all the meds and her oxygen level was down, so they decided to keep her. So at 5 a.m., with no sleep, I headed back to Munday. It took me 75 minutes as I stopped a couple of times to get out of the car to get some fresh air.

Betty also spent Friday night at the hospital and after a full night of sleep, I had no trouble driving to Wichita Falls Saturday morning to pick her up. Instead of stopping at one of the many restaurants for lunch, we opted to buy a salad from the deli at United and shared it. We decided that we would definitely opt for the salad bar option again.

Rescue high up in tree



Photo courtesy of Dianne Walls

A worker cutting limbs in a tree in Munday had his arm pinned to the tree for about an hour last week until a cherry picker was found to allow someone to provide assistance. Luckily, he escaped with no broken bones.

Women coaches making inroads in pro sports

Special to The News-Courier

The small group of women coaching in the male-dominated sport of professional football felt a door open slightly with the recent announcement that 37-year-old Jen Welter had been hired as an intern linebacker coach with the Arizona Cardinals.

Head coach Bruce Arians called her a "trailblazer."

"I didn't even dream that it was possible," Welter said.

Welter played football for 15 years, including being a member of the U.S. women's team in the world championship and as a running back and special teams player for the Texas Revolution, a men's pro team in the Champions Indoor Football League. She went on to serve as linebacker coach for that team last season.

The news of her hiring came along with other recent inroads for women in pro sports. Sarah Thomas became

the NFL's first female official while Becky Hammon and Nancy Lieberman coached in the NBA at San Antonio and Sacramento.

Lloyd Welch, a 1958 graduate of Munday High School who now lives in Vernon, passed along information about his daughter Donna, who is the wrestling coach and assistant football coach at Tasco High School in Amarillo.

In a recent interview with Rachel Brady of The Globe and Mail, Donna was asked to comment about the trend for women to be more involved as football coaches.

"It's very exciting that Jen Welter has found this opportunity," she said. "I've been teaching a long time, and I'm close to retiring now, but I hope this opens the door for young females who play today and love the sport as much as I did when I was young."

Donna grew up loving the sport in football-mad Mun-

day, but at that time girls didn't play. She did become an avid fan, however. Then she joined the band at West Texas A&M just so she could attend all the games there.

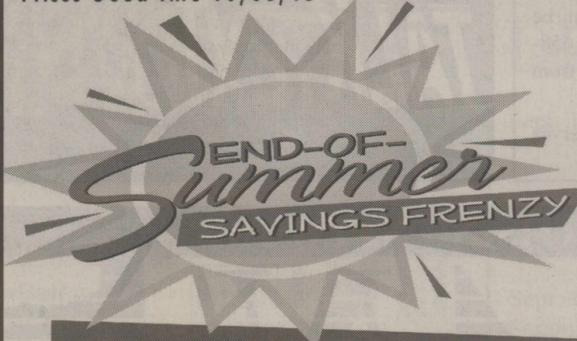
She became a high school teacher and coached a girls wrestling team before joining the staff for boys football. More recently, Welch has served as special teams coach for the Amarillo Venom. This league has a woman commissioner along with a few women in ownership roles.

"When they first see a woman hanging around the sidelines, some people question your motives, like 'Why do you want to spend so much time hanging around all these men or boys?'" she told Brady.

"They soon saw I had good intentions, passion for football and I could do a job."

So don't be surprised to see more women involved as coaches in the professional sports.

Prices Good Thru 10/03/15



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