

Rockwall County News

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Tuesday, November 3, 2009

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Rockwall County Alliance for the Arts Gala a huge success

Reported by Mary Thacker

Exciting music, provided by pianist Asa Welles, played in the background, fashionably-dressed guests made their way into the ballroom of the Hilton Bella Harbor for the annual Rockwall County Alliance for the Arts fundraising gala.

The evening opened with a welcome by Alliance President Kathleen Morrow and Vice-President Dr. Gene Burton followed by a delightful dance routine by the "A Dance to Remember" formation team to "Puttin' on the Ritz."

The tables were beautifully decorated in classic black-and-white with calla lily floral arrangements by The Flowerbox, Lakeside Florist, Sabrina's Flowers, and Rockwall Florist.

Dr. Gene Burton's Teresa Frosini served as a charming and beautiful emcee. Since the goal of the Rockwall Alliance for the Arts is to support the arts in Rockwall, the evening featured performances by the Community Playhouse's Camp Broadway and music from Rockwall Strings, an ensemble of students from six different RISD schools. Rockwall Independent School District showed a strong presence at the night with local students' art displays and dancing by Superintendent Dr. Gene Burton and his wife, Julie, thrilled the audience with a Tennessee Waltz.

In a demonstration of elegance, the couple claimed top honors during the "Dancing with the Stars" competition, which raised \$2,550. Other couples included local pediatrician and owner of TrainUp, Dr. Gene Pflieger and his wife Julie; Dallas Morning News columnist Marcia Burzair with her husband; former Heath mayor Chris Cuny dancing with professional dance instructor Margaret Kochan, who choreographed and taught all the dance routines.

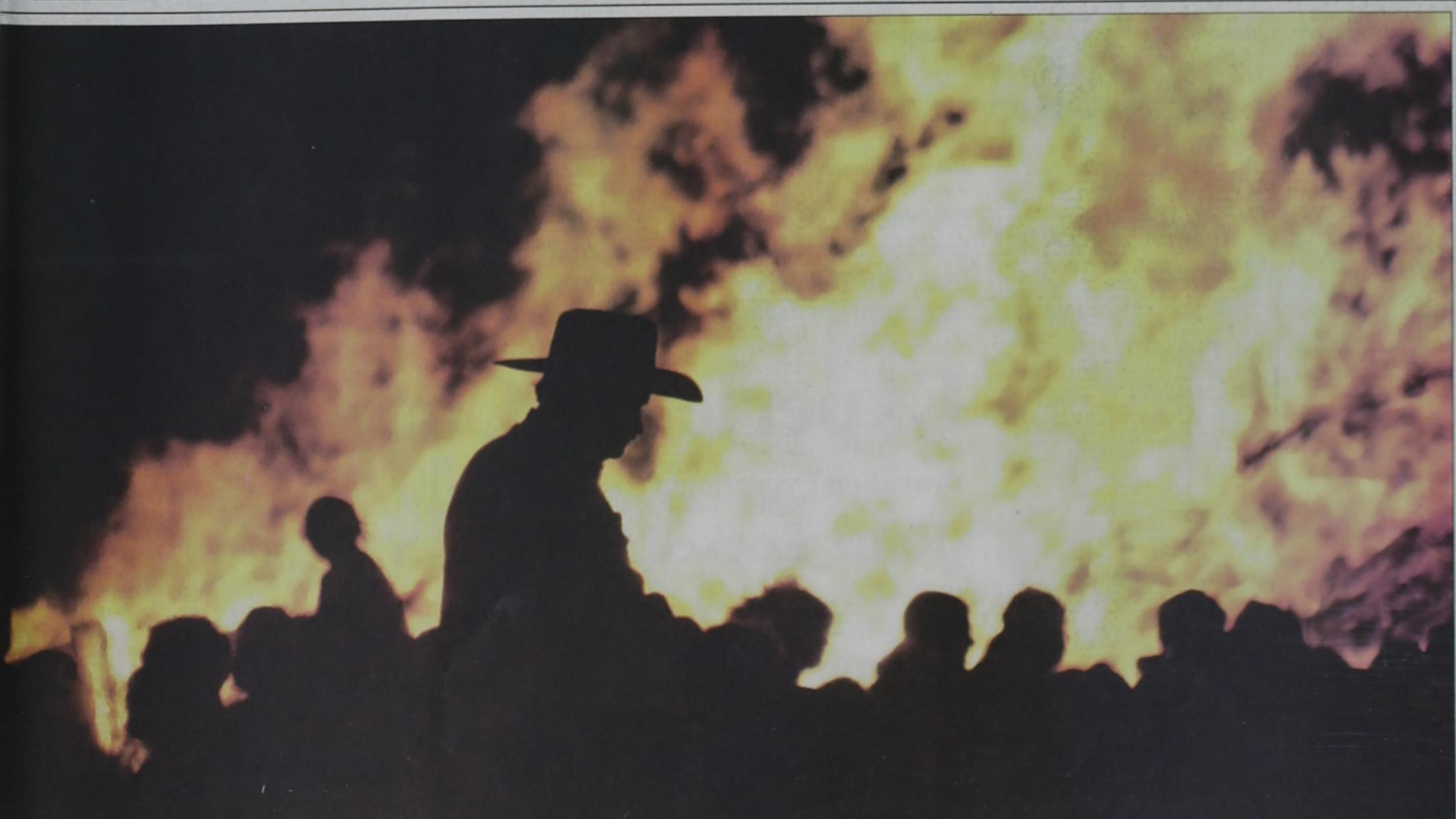
(Continued on Page 2)



Dr. Gene Burton and wife, Julie, were the winners of the "Dancing with the Stars" competition at the recent Rockwall Alliance for the Arts Gala. Courtesy Photo/Rockwall County News



Paris Sibley and Will Beasley were crowned as Rockwall High School's 2009 Homecoming Queen and King during last Friday's game. Staff photo by Roy Heath



The Rockwall High School bonfire drew a big crowd last Wednesday evening in preparation for the Homecoming football game Friday night. Rockwall County volunteer firemen provided fire control and safety measures along with Rockwall County Sheriff's Posse volunteers. Staff photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

Rockwall's Foreclosure Angel Marilyn Mock creates foundation to help others in need

Contributed by Kay Maxwell

One year ago, in November of 2008, Rockwall resident Marilyn Mock reached out at a foreclosure auction to help a sobbing, heart-broken stranger whose home was being auctioned off at the sale. The stranger, Tracy Orr, had a story not uncommon in these times. A single mom struggling to support a family and maintain a home, she had fallen behind in mortgage payments because of a job loss. Marilyn bought the home and made arrangements that allowed the Orr family members

to return to their home. To make the necessary arrangements, she took out a loan on the dump truck used in her family-owned business in Rockwall, Classic Rock.

Marilyn Mock's extraordinary act of kindness in these difficult economic times brought national media attention to both she and Tracy Orr. In the days that followed, it also brought Marilyn a new mission in life, a new foundation to manage, and a national campaign to help other homeowners threatened by foreclosure. It has been a busy year.

In the hours immediately following the auction, it did not take long for the local media and the national media as well to find its way to Marilyn's door. "The phone wouldn't stop ringing," she said, "and to tell the truth, it was irritating." But the media insisted on hearing from her, and finally she agreed to share her story. Interviews and appearances with the national media followed, including appearances on CNN in November, Oprah in May, ABC's 20/20 in June, and an Oprah repeat in August.

When asked to comment on her

act of kindness, Marilyn continues to insist today as she did in interviews then that, "It wasn't a big deal. Somebody needed to help. So I just did it. Anybody would have done it."

Since her story first aired in November last year, Marilyn has received more than 5,000 requests for help from all over the United States. Because of the flood of requests, she established the Rockwall-based Foreclosure Angel Foundation and has been joined in her undertaking by daughter Alyssa. Alyssa is a strong supporter of the Foreclosure Angel mission and in the last year has become an indispensable part of the Foreclosure Angel project... "my right hand," says Marilyn.

Marilyn and Alyssa now work closely together each day to review the many requests the foundation receives. "Alyssa and I look for people who are truly in need," she said, "who are trying to help themselves, who have done all they can do on their own, and who have no place else to turn. Sometimes just a few thousand dollars is all it takes to help."

One of the people recently aided by Marilyn and Alyssa's tireless effort is Iowa resident Mary Adams. Ms. Adams, age 63, is battling terminal lung cancer and was unable to work for several months in 2009. During that time, she fell behind on her mortgage payments and soon received a notice of foreclosure. Even as she learned that foreclosure was eminent, more bad luck came her way when a hailstorm badly damaged her home. There was no way she could stretch her very

limited resources to cover monthly loan payments, home insurance premiums, and needed home repairs along with daily living and on-going medical expenses. With no place else to turn, she contacted the Foreclosure Angel Foundation. Angels Alyssa and Marilyn stepped in, contacted Ms. Adams' mortgage company, negotiated a settlement payment of \$3,602.43 for the \$4,089 pay-off amount, and then arranged for Fox News in Iowa to deliver the good news to Ms. Adams that her mortgage was paid in full. A very grateful and relieved Ms. Adams said, "I've never had anyone do anything like this for me, ever. I can't even think of the right words to say. Thank you is not near enough."

In the last year, Marilyn and Alyssa, through the Foreclosure Angel Foundation, have helped more than 40 such homeowners facing foreclosure. Now they want to do more and hope to inspire individuals and organizations in the Rockwall community, throughout the state of Texas, and across the country to become involved in the Foreclosure Angel Foundation effort. With the home foreclosure rate at an all-time high, it is clearly a timely mission.

In November, one year after her act of kindness made national news, Marilyn together with Alyssa will launch a national campaign to help needy homeowners facing foreclosure. They have found a friend and formed a partnership with Scott McLaine, CEO of REOMasters, a marketing and business development association for real estate agents and brokers. The Foreclo-

sure Angel Foundation partnership with the Arizona-based REOMasters will provide a network of assistance for homeowners, with a case manager in each state provided by REOMasters. The partnership, Mr. McLaine said, was formalized at a fundraiser held in Fort Worth that brought \$27,000 to the Foreclosure Angel cause.

With the launch of the campaign, a new Foreclosure Angel Foundation web site is available to receive requests, recruit volunteers, accept much-needed donations of time and funding are support the campaign. Individuals and organizations interested in helping as well as those seeking assistance are invited to visit the web site at www.foreclosureangel.org.

These days, a very busy Marilyn divides her time working in the family-owned business, alongside her two sons, Dustin and Brandon, and daughter Alyssa, and with the Foreclosure Angel cause. She continues to receive requests for help continue to come in and she continues to respond by case just as she did a year ago -- listening with a heart and reaching out a helping hand to those in need. "Anybody can do it," she says.

To learn more about the foundation, visit www.foreclosureangel.org. For assistance, email help@foreclosureangel.org.



Foreclosure Angels Alyssa Mock (l) and organization founder, Marilyn Mock (r).

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Rockwall Alliance for the Arts Gala

(Continued from Page 1)

Judges included ArtVentures owner Joetta Currie, Ambassador for the Rockwall Chamber of Commerce Jon Bailey, and AMICA President Dedra Goodson. Crew Media provided an

entertaining and informative video presentation about the Alliance, and Patt Jordan and Kathleen Morrow received certificates of recognition from Texas Governor Rick Perry for their dedication to the promotion of the arts in Rockwall County.

Following a delicious three-course meal, artwork by prominent civic leaders was sold in a spirited auction conducted by Gary Freedman. David Bush, director of the Lakeside Civic Chorus, Channel 4 News anchor Heather Hays, Heath City Councilman Russ Childers, SeaWolf owner Scott Self, and RISD Assistant Superintendent Dr. Joan Terry all created original artwork for the sale. They were assisted by professional artists Joetta Currie, Laura Thrash, David Smithers and Kathleen Finan. Donations by artists Carmen Wilkins, Tyce McLarty, Charlie Freeman, Gary McCoy, Jack Palmer, John Nieto, Gary McCoy, Jayne McFaddin, Lisa Willis, Dieter Esch, Pat Haverfield, and Victoria Clary and a performance by the Rockwall High School Jazz Band were also included in the auction.

In addition, Cullen Lassiter of Van Daniel Graphic Arts drew

a large crowd of spectators as he painted the sun setting over Lake Ray Hubbard. He then donated his creation to the auction.

A special presentation was made to Rockwall-Heath High School freshman Dalia Rodriguez, who was the first recipient of the Mary Elaine House Scholarship. Mary Elaine House was an avid supporter of the arts in Rockwall. During her 25-year career in music, she produced or directed over 50 operas, worked as a music professor, music critic and stage manager. She married acclaimed cellist Robert House in 1979. Both passed away within weeks of each other in 2007. Mary Elaine and Robert House's daughter, Kathy, was present to congratulate Rodriguez, who is excited to fulfill her dream of taking private voice lessons.

To end the evening on a perfect note, the dance floor was opened up to everyone as the 15-piece band, Nobles of Note, led by Director Gary Zervas, played Big Band music. The Alliance is thrilled to support the band, whose members donate their time and talents to benefit the Shriners Burn Hospital of Galveston. Realtor Elaine Sullivan sponsored the

cost of the band.

Presbyterian Hos Rockwall and Sena Deuell, MD, also help report the Alliance through donations toward the gala. Rockwall for the Arts, a non-organization whose goal is to promote, support and create awareness of the arts in the community, is sponsoring its annual gala to raise funds for the arts organization. Rockwall Community Playhouse, Rockwall Children's Chorus, Lakeside Chorus, Rockwall Foundation, Music Festival, and the Rockwall Chamber Music Society all profit from the gala. In addition, students in the Rockwall Independent School District's Youth ArtRead program are donating artwork that provide money for dance and art lessons for privileged children.

For more information, call Kathleen at 972-772-1111 or visit www.rockwallarts.com.

Bally Bead plans Nov workshop

Bally Bead, located at 2304 Ridge Road in Rockwall, will host a Metal Clay Workshop on Nov. 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Workshop participants will explore the various methods of working with metal clay, or PMC, and were presented with a "Others Before Self" award. Students who receive a certificate and a pin them on the display in the hallway.

Instructor will be Melinda Hatten, a native Texan who has taught PMC for over 10 years.

PMC is a clay body made of pure silver, copper, and a binder. The clay is hardened in an electric kiln by butane torch. The fired object is then soldered, burnished, and finished.

Applications of PMC include setting synthetic stones, making beads, texturing, and the PMC with other clay bodies. Firing with hard enamel glazes for speed and spot color.

Cost for the class is \$25. Materials and tools cost \$25 respectively. Half of the fee is due at registration.

For more information, call Bally Bead at 972-771-1111 or email ballybead@sbeglobal.com.

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Weldon Collier, his sister Guyrene Randles and niece Carolyn Bryan



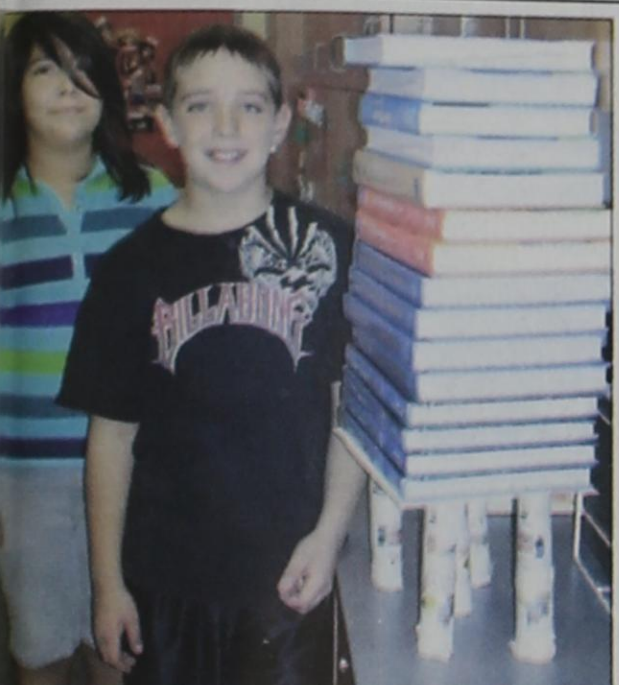
...nd Kristi Gordon were just two of the many who showed up for the First Presbyterian Church's annual Fall Festival on Oct. 25. In addition to hippies, other visitors included pirates, knights, Vikings, skeletons, ducklings, animals and a pregnant penguin. The event included a costume contest, a chili cook-off and a chocolate dessert competition which had a surprise entry - Kristi Gordon's sweet-and-sour chocolate-dipped bacon.

Photo by Mary Thacker/Rockwall County News



Pictured above are Williams Middle School teachers and staff members who paid \$5 each for the opportunity to wear jeans and pink shirts on Mondays during the month of October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Students also played a part in the fundraising for breast cancer research, honoring friends and loved ones by writing their names on pink ribbons purchased during their lunch period. More than \$300 was raised for breast cancer research.

Photo courtesy of Stacey Hatten/Rockwall County News



Pictured above are Michael Bledsoe and Alyssa Renya, the Design Challenge winners for Shannon Elementary School. Each week students are part of a Design Challenge to help students learn math and science skills. The challenge for last week was to create a table created using paper that could support textbooks. Students first learned about force and then used the design process; brainstorm, build and test. Our winners pictured here were able to hold 17 textbooks with their paper table.

Courtesy of Ann K. Knostman/Rockwall County News



Williams Middle School students Rachel Smithers, 8th grade; Dustin Cate, 7th grade; and Patricia Vasquez, 7th grade, have all gone out of their way to do something for someone else and were presented with an "Others Before Self" award. Students who receive an award can pin them on the display board in the hallway.

Photo Courtesy of Stacey L. Hatten/Rockwall County News

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First Presbyterian Church members attend Mo Ranch retreat

The congregation of the First Presbyterian Church, Rockwall, headed south earlier this month for an annual retreat to Mo Ranch, a Presbyterian facility near San Antonio.

The group enjoyed spending time together, singing around the campfire at night, walking the labyrinth and creating paper mache "blessing bowls," as well as dominos, ping-pong and jigsaw puzzles.

A mountaintop worship service also was observed, with the church's new minister, the Rev. Cheryl Taylor, serving her first Communion.

Among those attending the event were Morris Partee, Donna Partee, Mary Thacker, Joanie Mehl, Cynthia Case, Marilyn Hall, Rodney Smith, Jeff Nightengale, David Gordon, Jack Gordon, Rev. Cheryl Taylor, Kelsey Moore, Ike Thacker, Lindsey Adair, Rob Mehl, Holly Nightengale, David Case, Marlie Nightengale, Anne-Marie Thacker, Ron Clinton, Darcie Nightengale, Amery Adair, Tommie Smith, Anne Nightengale and Kristi Gordon.

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If you have any questions please call the Special Services office at 972-636-9514.



B.E.S.T. Teachers receive incentive from Education Foundation

The Rockwall ISD Education Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors voted unanimously to support first year teachers, known as B.E.S.T. (Beginning Educators, Successful Teachers). Each first year teacher received \$200 to be used for classroom supplies or materials.

President Karan Clements made the presentations. Rockwall ISD's BEST teachers are (standing from left) Gary Waltrip, Mike Stone Ivey, Zach Butler, Mike Sanders, Brian Moss, Adam Bell, Cody Hayes, Alicia Packer, Kristin Yanowski, Tami Vaughan, Patrick P. Justin Clumpner, Ken Alvarez, (seated) Sheri Pringle, Lindsey Thoma, Enely Aguilon, Mandy Schalk, Kayla McDonald, Jessica Dear Taggart, Portia Clemmons, Sarah Napier, Lauren Weller and Cale Elam. Not pictured: Ryan Kennedy, Kristen Loesch, Tim Matthews, Sproul, Stacey Romo.

Photo Courtesy of Cindy Benfield/Rockwall County News



Amoruso Helms-Smart sees how low he can go at the Limbo Booth during the Saturday, Oct. 24 Dobbs Elementary School Fall Carnival. The weather cooperated so everyone could enjoy a wonderful afternoon of games, food and fun outside.

Photo Courtesy of Roxane Langley/Rockwall County News

Business owners invited to workshop on using destination strategies

Business owners in the City of Rockwall have the opportunity to learn from nationally known marketing expert Jon Schallert about his Community Reinvention Program, a 6-month program to turn Rockwall into a stronger consumer destination marketplace.

Schallert will lead a 90-minute workshop, "Increase Sales and Profits as a Destination Business," at 8 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, at The Center, 108 E. Washington St.

The workshop will be open to the public, and those interested in attending should contact Bethany Golden, Rockwall Main Street Manager, at 972-772-6400.

Schallert's Destination Boot-Camp program teaches independent business owners how to turn their businesses into "Consumer Destinations" capable of attracting customers from hundreds of miles away, past other competitive outlets. Schallert's teachings also help businesses get more local consumers to spend more money locally.

"In today's economy, the challenge for any business today, regardless of its location and demographics, is to create such a compelling offering that it is repeatedly visited by consumers. It is not necessarily more difficult for smaller Mom and Pop businesses to compete in this economic recession, if they know how to stand out from their competition as Destinations," Schallert said.

Schallert has been working with independent business owners since 1983 and contributes his business strategies to national publications such as the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post and Entrepreneur Magazine.

For more information on Schallert, visit his company website at www.JonSchallert.com or 774-6522.

Obituaries

Joy Allen
Memorial services for Joy Allen, 77, of Dallas were conducted Oct. 25, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Rev. McBride officiating.

She died Oct. 20.

Born Dec. 10, 1931, in Quinlan to Radford and Maedelle (Johns) she was a retired real estate broker.

Survivors include her daughter, Debra Kern of Dallas; one son, Allen of Lone Oak; her sisters, Nancy Horton and Chris Davis; Quinlan; her brothers, Robert Smith of Lake Fork and Larry Smith; and five grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sons, Ronald and Donald Allen.

(Continued on Page 6)

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Obituary
John Louis Dodson, 63, of Royse City, Texas, died Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, at the Royse City with Pastor Les Jones officiating. Burial was in Orange Grove Cemetery in Orange, Texas. He was preceded in death by his wife, Brenda Dodson, and his children, John and Robert Dodson. He is survived by his wife, Brenda Dodson; his children, John and Robert Dodson; his grandchildren, Nicole Dodson, Justin Dodson, and Justin Dodson; his great-grandchildren, Jayce Phillips of Wichita Falls, Texas, and Abigail Byers of Royse City, Texas. He was preceded in death by his father.

David Ray Dunn
David Ray Dunn, 58, of Rockwall, Texas, died Saturday, Nov. 2, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park. He was a Christian and a stranger. He made a difference in the lives of those he met and was a great father and grandfather. He was a Dallas Cowboys fan and a member of the Church In The Square.

He is survived by his father, Ernest Lee Dunn; his mother, the Gordon of Leesburg, Fla.; his sister, Elizabeth Gordon; and her daughters, Elizabeth and Josephina Watkins of Wylie, Texas.

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Obituaries

John Louis Dodson

John Louis Dodson, 63, of Roysse City, formerly of Derby, conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, in the Community Church in Roysse City with Pastor Les Joslin officiating. Burial followed at Orange Grove Cemetery in Orange Grove. The Rest Haven Home-Roysse City Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Born Jan. 19, 1946, in Corpus Christi to Travis Bernard and Marvella Dodson, he served in the U.S. Air Force during Vietnam, retiring after 22 years of service. He was passionate about BMX racing, watching NASCAR. He loved his dogs, Taz and Maggie, as were his children. He attended Community Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda Dodson of Roysse City; his mother, Gladys Dodson of Corpus Christi; his children, Tammy Dodson of Temple, David Dodson of Corpus Christi, Nicole Phillips and her husband, Justin Phillips, of Wichita, Kan., and Justin Dodson of Roysse City; his grandchildren, Powell of Corpus Christi, Kayla Flores of Temple, Zeke Temple, Jaycie Phillips of Wichita and Kaitlin Phillips of Wichita; great-grandchild, Abigail Byers of Roysse City.

He was preceded in death by his father.

David Ray Dunn

David Ray Dunn, 58, of Rockwall, Texas, died Nov. 2, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall with Dr. Aubrey Patterning officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

Born Dallas Aug. 28, 1951, to Lee and Lillian Claudell Dunn, he was a Christian and a carpenter. He enjoyed fishing and was a member of the Dallas Cowboys Club and the Church in the Hills.

Survivors include his father, Ernest Lee Dunn of Roysse City; his stepmother, Bobbie Gorden of Leesburg, Fla.; his companion, Mary Ann Wilcox of Roysse City, and her daughters, Elizabeth Ey of Chicago, Erica Dallas and Josephina Watkins of Wylie; his sisters, Barbara Dunn



of Roysse City and Jodi Ecker of Rockwall; his nieces, Staci Roberts of San Antonio, Kimberly Blair of Roysse City and Charissa Low of Roysse City; his nephews, David Lewis of Fort Worth, Clyde Lewis of Rockwall and Charlie Foster of San Antonio; his aunts, Betty Collins of Roysse City and Sadie Kennedy of Seagoville; an uncle, Jerry Dunn of Gun Barrel City; and numerous grandnieces, grandnephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mother and one sister, Kathy Lewis.

Cecil Hastings

Services for Cecil Hastings, 55, of Rockwall were conducted at 3 p.m. Oct. 24, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Father Timothy Perkins officiating.

He died Oct. 20.

Born Jan. 27, 1954, in Lubbock to Eugene H. and Beulah (Chapman) Hastings, he graduated from Texas Tech University in 1979 with a bachelor's degree in psychology and attained his master's degree in business administration from Abilene Christian University in 1985. He was proud of his work ethic, from his childhood career of newspaper delivery to his adult profession as an adjuster. He was owner and operator of BelFiore Salon & Day Spa in Rockwall. He was interested in staying involved in the lives of his children and enjoyed watching the Dallas Cowboys and fishing in the mountains of Red River, N.M. with family and friends. He attended Holy Trinity by the Lake Episcopal Church.

Survivors include his wife, Sheryl Hastings of Rockwall; his daughter, Adrienne Mull, and her husband, Chris, of Roysse City; his son, Nick Hastings of Rockwall who is stationed in Iraq with the U.S. Navy; his brothers, Gerald Hastings and Johnny Hastings of Lexington, Kan., and Bruce Hastings of Lubbock; his grandson, Hunter Mull of Roysse City; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Linda Rich.



Shirley M. Linn

Services for Shirley M. Linn, 88, of Rockwall were conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 2, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Joe Pool officiating. Burial was scheduled to take place in the Mt. Moriah Cemetery in Kansas City, Mo.

She died Thursday, Oct. 29.

Born Nov. 20, 1920, in Pattonsburg, Mo., to Curtman and Dorothy (Yates) Maupin, she grew up in Topeka, Kan., where she graduated from Topeka High in 1938. She attended the University of Kansas where she majored in music and was a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority. She married Harry Linn in 1941 and was a homemaker. She was a charter member and organizer of PEO Chapters in Mission, Kan., Middletown, Ohio, and Rockwall and was

a member of the First United Methodist Church of Rockwall, Reviews-Reviews-Rockwall County Book Club, an avid reader and a bridge player.

Survivors include her children, Cheryl Hewitt and David Schauer of Lawrence, Kan., Curt and Ellen Linn of Southlake and John and Carol Linn of Plano; her grandchildren, Alexis Linn of Long Beach, Calif., Matthew Linn of Waco, Sasha and Sean Bailey of Dallas, Hayley Linn of Lubbock, Hunter and Harrison Linn of Southlake and Mia Szczesny-Linn of Plano; one great-grandchild, Texas Bailey of Dallas; and a brother, Robert Maupin of Topeka.

She was preceded in death by her husband.

The family has suggested memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Area V Memorial Program, P.O. Box 560089 Dallas, TX 75356-0089.



Rosa Lynn Massey Melott

Memorial services for Rosa Lynn Massey Melott, 60, of Heath were conducted at 1 p.m. Oct. 23, 2009, in the Lake Pointe Church. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

She died Oct. 18.

Born July 26, 1949, in Shreveport, La., to Scott and Velva (Greenville) Massey, she enjoyed reading, golfing, socializing and spending time with her family. She was a dedicated member of Lake Pointe Church.

Survivors include her daughters, Jennifer Harrison and her husband, Joey of Florida and Alyssa Cumpton and her husband, Donald, of Heath; her son Charles Scott Jerger and his fiancée, Dr. Quyen Tran of Dallas; her grandchildren, Nicholas Harrison, Colton Cumpton, Annalise Rose Cumpton and Sarah Elizabeth Cumpton; her sister, Liz Ladd and her husband, Chuck of Heath; her nieces, Debby Hampton and her husband, Kent, of Garland Melissa Hunter and her husband, Bert, of Rockwall and Shelley Scott and her husband, Troy, of Charlotte, N.C.; three great-nieces; and three great nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

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Rockwall County Sports

Newman Smith QB, too many turnovers doom Royse City Bulldogs

By Matt McGillen

ROYSE CITY — Any hopes that Royse City had of ending its season-long losing streak by pulling off an upset of suddenly-dominant Newman Smith probably evaporated on the Trojans' first play from scrimmage.

After a RC three-and-out, Smith quarterback Aldo Quiroga connected with wide receiver Terrell Wilson for a 57-yard touchdown to put the Trojans up 7-0 just 90 seconds into the game. Quiroga would add five more TD passes for the Trojans, and helped by seven Bulldog turnovers, Turner rolled to a 55-17 District 10-4A win at RC IS Stadium last Friday.

The Trojans, who clinched their first playoff berth in 26 years by beating Rockwall 43-22 last week, are now 6-2 on the year and 5-1 in the district, good enough for a tie with Rockwall-Heath for second place behind Highland Park (6-0, 7-1).

Smith also beat Heath 28-14 Oct. 9 to complete a sweep of the three Rockwall-area 4A teams.

The Bulldogs, who play RL Turner (0-6, 0-9) to close out the season on the road this Saturday afternoon, fell to 0-6, 0-9.

Quiroga finished the game 10-of-14 for just 153 yards without an interception, and now has 22 touchdown passes for the year. Remarkably, he averages one scoring throw for every 4.3 passes he attempts.

By the time Royse City scored, on a 26 yard pass from Taylor Corbin to Kristopher Smith, the Trojans were up 28-0. Smith led 41-7 at intermission.

The Bulldogs got a 27-yard field goal from Sterling Mullen in the third quarter and a four-yard scoring pass from Corbin to Ryan Fedric in the final period.

Corbin ended the night 16-for-30 for 202 yards but was intercepted three times, bringing his total to 16 picks against 10 TD passes.

The Bulldogs also fumbled five times, losing four, which along with the three interceptions gave the Trojans excellent field position all game.

Smith had only three drives of over 51 yards and had three drives of less than 20, including two of less than 10.

Although the special teams gave up an 81-yard kickoff return to the Trojans' multi-purpose Al Lasker — who caught two touchdowns and intercepted a pass — they redeemed themselves somewhat when junior Ryan Phillips blocked a punt, which was recovered by Zach Posey at the Smith 11.

The Bulldogs gained just one yard in three plays, however, and had to settle for Mullen's field goal, which made the score 48-10 with four and half minutes to go in the third quarter.

RC's Smith had a team-high 85 yards on four receptions.

Smith	13	28	7	7-55
RC	0	7	3	7-17

NS — Terrell Wilson 57 pass from Aldo Quiroga (Philippe Ichter kick)
 NS — Braxton Bearden 6 pass from Quiroga (kick failed)
 NS — Wilson 29 pass from Quiroga (Ichter kick)
 NS — Wilson 18 run (Ichter kick)
 RC — Kristopher Smith 26 pass from Taylor Corbin (Sterling Mullen kick)
 NS — Al Lasker 6 pass from Quiroga (Ichter kick)
 NS — Zach Fleming 5 pass from Quiroga (Ichter kick)
 NS — Lasker 22 pass from Quiroga (Ichter kick)
 RC — Mullen 27 FG
 NS — Leon Makombe 10 pass from Tripp Abbot (Ichter kick)
 RC — Ryan Fedric 4 pass from Taylor (Mullen kick)

	Smith	RC
First downs	17	12
Rushes-yards	37-251	22-29
Passing yards	190	202
Passes	15-20-0	16-30-3
Punts-ave.	2-32.0	2-26.7
Penalties	10-110	3-20
Fumbles-lost	0-0	5-4

Individual stats

Rushing: Smith — Terrell Wilson 2-19, Leon Makombe 5-74, Tripp Abbot 6-(-6), Braxton Bearden 5-22, Randall Joyner 10-65, Aldo Quiroga 8-60, Bradley Teague 3-17, RC — Taylor Pollock 2-(-6), Jonathan Burns 1-9, Corbin 8-8, Ryan Fedric 8-20, Lewis Mapps 3-(-2).

Passing: Smith — Abbott 5-6-0-37, Quiroga 10-14-0-153. RC — Taylor Corbin 16-30-3-202.

Receiving: Smith — Wilson 2-86, Makombe 2-12, Bearden 5-34, Zach Fleming 3-20, Joyner 1-10, RC — Burns 2-5, Devin Bryant 1-7, Oscar Crosby 1-12, Fedric 4-28, Torrell McQueen 1-4, Corey Nixon 1-44, Pollock 1-5, Kristopher Smith 4-85.



Royse City's Preston Corbin (7) returns a kick against the Newman Smith Trojans in a District 10-4A game last Friday. Smith won the 55-17. The Bulldogs close out the season Saturday at R.L. Turner. Staff photo by Tim Burnett

Lady Jackets open playoff Tuesday against Centennial

Rockwall has known for two weeks that it would be in the volleyball playoffs, but didn't find out until Thursday evening who would be its opponent in the Bi-District round.

The Lady Jackets, fourth in District 10-4A, will play 9-4A champion Frisco Centennial at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Sachse. The best-of-five-games match will follow Rockwall-Heath's Bi-District match against Frisco Liberty.

Centennial is 34-6 and riding a 10-match winning streak. They have swept three games in each of their last three matches — against McKinney, which defeated RHS this season, Frisco Wakeland, and Frisco Liberty, in a playoff for first place after each team finished the district season 13-1.

Rockwall enters the playoffs after losing three of its matches to finish 8-6 in the district.

The Lady Titans' Jenna Risoli led District 9-4A with 8 per game and 98 service aces. Centennial's big hitter is Rauch, with 3.68 kills per game. On defense, Christina led the district with 4.51 digs per game, and Sara Mossak second in 9-4A with 0.87 blocks per game.

Last year, Rockwall won the first two playoff matches in history before losing in the Region II quarterfinals to district nemesis Richardson Pearce.

HCA evens record by whipping Waxahachie Advantage 64-16

by Lary Bump

Nathan Mateer threw four touchdown passes and Austin Pettit accounted for three scores as Heritage Christian Academy hammered Waxahachie Eagle Advantage Academy 64-16 Friday night at Rockwall High School.

The game was tied only at 8-8, then HCA took a 32-8 halftime lead on three touchdown passes — two thrown by Mateer, and one by Pettit.

The Advantage Eagles (0-9) appeared to get back into the game with a third-quarter score that cut its deficit to 32-16.

Then in quick succession, HCA's Sam Lyon returned Advantage's kickoff 65 yards for a touchdown, Heritage Christian (4-4 overall, 1-1 in TAPPS District 2-I 6-Man) stuffed Waxahachie's offense for a safety and Lyon again scored on a 65-yard return of the kickoff after the safety.

When Nathan Mateer threw his fourth touchdown pass, a 9-yarder to Pettit, in the fourth quarter the game ended because of six-man football's 45-point mercy rule.

That touchdown also completed a trifecta for Pettit. He caught that touchdown pass, ran for a TD and threw a pass for a third. Pettit was the game's leading rusher with 15 carries for 106 yards. He completed both passes he threw, gaining 28 yards, and caught three passes for 49 yards.

Aaron Mateer successfully kicked two-point conversions after each of HCA's first seven touchdowns. He also caught a caught TD passes of 19 and 5 yards.

Neither team punted — Heritage Christian because Waxahachie couldn't stop HCA's offense, and the visiting Eagles because the home team's defense created five takeaways and recorded a safety.

Caleb Cathey and Evan Pettit each intercepted a pass, and opportunistic HCA recovered three fumbles.

Nathan Mateer, a freshman, completed 9 of his 16 passes for 145 yards. Rockwall's Eagles will finish their regular season Saturday at 2 p.m. at Greenville Christian, which upset the TAPPS I 6-Man's top-ranked team, Dallas' The Covenant School 30-28 Friday.

That result threw the district race into chaos. It would finish in a three-way tie if HCA defeats Greenville and Covenant (1-1 in 2-I 6-Man) defeats Dallas Lakehill Prep (0-2).

Still another team called the Eagles, rival Greenville Christian (8-1, 2-0) defeated HCA for the state championship last season.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Advantage	8	0	8	0	16
HCA	8	24	26	6	64

HCA-Austin Pettit 4 run (Aaron Mateer kick)
 Advantage-Nemo Fletcher 37 run (Reagan Berry kick)
 HCA-Caleb Cathey 13 pass from Nathan Mateer (A. Mateer kick)
 HCA-A. Mateer 19 pass from Pettit (A. Mateer kick)
 HCA-Sam Lyon 1 pass from N. Mateer (A. Mateer kick)
 Advantage-Justin Cagle 42 pass from Fletcher (Berry kick)
 HCA-Sam Lyon 65 kickoff return (A. Mateer kick)
 HCA-Safety
 HCA-Lyon 65 kickoff return (A. Mateer kick)
 HCA-A. Mateer 5 pass from N. Mateer (A. Mateer kick)
 HCA-Pettit 9 pass from N. Mateer

	Advantage	HCA
1st downs	7	12
Rushes-yds.	25-48	18-111
Comp-att-int.	9-18-2	11-18-1
Passing yds.	135	173
Plays-total yds.	183	284
Penalties-yds.	6-35	2-25
Punts-avg.	0-0	0-0
Fumbles-lost	4-3	0-0

Individual statistics

Passing — Advantage: Nemo Fletcher 8-16-1-128, Justin Cagle 3-6-0-36, HCA: Nathan Mateer 9-16-1-145, Austin Pettit 2-0-28.

Rushing — Advantage: Nemo Fletcher 15-78, Justin Cagle 1-3, 1-minus 2, Joey Aman 2-minus 3, Arthur Briggs 6-minus 28, HCA: Pettit 15-106, Joe McConnell 1-4, Evan Pettit 2-1.

Receiving — Advantage: Justin Cagle 3-66, Arthur Biggs 1-5, Barnum 1-23, Matt Stall 1-10, Joey Aman 1-7, Chase Miller 1-5, 1-minus 2; HCA: Aaron Mateer 3-51, Austin Pettit 3-49, Call 2-32, Evan Pettit 1-31, Sam Prater 1-9, Sam Lyon 1-1.

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Rockwall County Sports



Rockwall quarterback Adam Dingwell looks downfield while trying to avoid the pass rush of Highland Park linebacker Charlie Foose (39). The Fighting Scots' Chase Prospero (6) has his man covered. Photo by Roy Heath/Rockwall County News

HP wins shootout, eliminates Jackets from playoff race

By Lary Bump

Their bus was parked in front of Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium Friday night, but many Rockwall seniors walked from the locker room back out toward the stadium's artificial turf.

Quarterback Adam Dingwell and other were taking a long last look at the stadium where they'd played for the final time.

It wasn't a pleasant finish. They had lost all four district home games in a shiny, newly renovated stadium in a season that had begun promisingly with three wins in four games. That very night, they dropped a 63-42 decision to District 10-4A leader Highland Park. The loss eliminated the Yellowjackets from the playoffs.

That left the Jackets (4-5 overall, 2-4 in the district) with only one game, Friday at Greenville, with the much lower incentives of finishing fifth in the district and with a .500 overall winning percentage, and ending a three-game losing streak.

"Any time you go into a game, you work to win," said Rockwall head coach Scott Smith. "I think we'll finish strong."

For a brief time after the Highland Park game there was hope. The coaching staff received an erroneous report that Greenville had upset Richardson Pearce, which would have kept all three teams in contention for the district's fourth and final playoff berth.

However, the Mustangs actually clinched that spot by rallying to defeat Greenville 43-22 - the same score by which the Jackets had lost six days earlier at Carrollton Newman Smith, putting their playoff hopes on life support.

Highland Park (8-1, 6-0) did its part to pull the plug on RHS.

The Fighting Scots entered the night averaging 55 points in district games. Surprisingly, they punted after three plays on their first possession after taking the opening kickoff, but answered each of Rockwall's two touchdowns that gave the Jackets brief 7-0 and 14-7 leads.

RHS then failed to move the ball and punted on its third possession. Scots quarterback Luke Woodley hit four of five passes - including a 13-yarder to Austin Miller for a touchdown that gave HP the lead 21-14 with 8 seconds remaining in the first quarter.

The quarter ended when Rockwall's Josh Broach fumbled at the RHS 16 yard line. Woodley then passed 16 yards to Josh Francis for another touchdown just 14 seconds after Miller's TD.

That was the third of five scoring passes for Woodley, who finished with 430 yards. He missed on three of his first four passes, but connected on 23 of 24 after that, including his last 17.

The biggest damage came from his passes to 6'4" senior Chris Hipps, who went over 1,000 yards for the season on his first catch against Rockwall. He finished with six catches for 170 yards and two touchdowns.

But that wasn't all for Hipps. In the second quarter, Rockwall's Josh Broach ran 43 yards for the second of his four touchdowns to pull the Jackets within 28-21. RHS' Travis Shinn kicked off, and Hipps returned the ball 92 yards for another TD.

"We had that turnover and that kickoff return. It should have been a 14-point game at worst at halftime. Instead, it was 28," Smith said of the Scots' 49-21 bulge at the midway point.

That made for a second half even longer than the pre-game Homecoming ceremonies and halftime show.

The Scots scored twice more to go ahead 63-21 before Rockwall's running attack scored three fourth-quarter touchdowns.

It was quite an impressive running attack, rolling up 453 yards behind Broach's 21 carries for 358 yards and Del Myles' 12 attempts for 99 yards and a touchdown. The Jackets have scored 32 rushing touchdowns to just eight passing this season, with 19 by Broach and nine by Myles. Broach increased his season rushing total to 1,259 yards in eight games.

Rockwall's passing attack suffered after Dingwell's 24-yard touchdown throw to Reed Loftis. Injuries made a big difference. Leading receiver Will Beasley walked out to accept his sceptor as Homecoming king with his right arm in a sling, the result of a broken collarbone suffered against Newman Smith. Dingwell played despite a shoulder injury, and center Jake Termin needed help getting up the steps from the field because his left leg was hurting.

Injuries also put a number of underclassmen on the field with the Jackets' defense. Among them were Zachary Farrow, Jack Barnett, Nehemiah O'Quinn, Hagen Jones, Casey Wright and Jusiah Prowell, who intercepted a pass to set up Broach's third touchdown.

The running of Broach and Myles set up some play-action passes that appeared to be open downfield, only to have Scots defenders knock the ball away.

Smith said, "They ran with us man to man and made real good plays."

"I thought we had a good game plan. We really wanted to run the ball and keep it away from them. They took us out of our four-wide (formation), so we had to go with two backs or no backs. They beat us. They're a good football team."

Thus, for the second consecutive year, the Jackets will be out of the playoffs.

Exclusively in your Rockwall County News

Rockwall County News

Turner runs wild as Warriors whip A+ Academy

Friday night for ballcarriers in Rockwall, Stephan Turner had the night.

Rockwall Christian Academy quarterback carried 18 times for 204 yards (20.4 per carry) and five touchdowns Friday as the Warriors went medieval on the Dallas A+ Academy Knights to win the game.

Turner also passed for a touchdown. While he was compiling his passing totals at Dobbs Field, not far away at Wilkerson-Sanders Memorial Stadium, Rockwall's Josh Broach was gaining 358 yards and scoring four touchdowns on the ground.

Turner's only score that didn't involve Turner was its seventh and eighth touchdown, on Raymon Stewart's 13-yard run in the fourth quarter and 67 yards, the lowest offensive output by an opponent this season in RCA's first shutout since last Nov. 7.

Turner's sophomore quarterback completed both passes he threw, for 204 yards and five touchdowns. Turner now has rushed for 1,415 yards and 18 touchdowns and passed for 960 yards and 11 scores this season.

Like the Knights, who attempted just two passes, RCA kept the ball on the ground. The Warriors threw three passes, completing them all.

Rockwall Christian broke to a 20-0 lead in the first quarter. Turner ran 74 yards for a touchdown, threw a 15-yard pass to Shawn Hamed for another score and ran 27 yards for a third TD.

The second quarter also was all Turner, who scored on runs of 25 and 7 yards to put RCA ahead 33-0 at halftime. His final touchdown, on a 65-yard run, gave Rockwall Christian a 39-0 lead after three quarters.

The Warriors (3-6 overall) are 1-2 in TAPPS District 2-IV. They have clinched a playoff berth, but can finish third in the district by winning Friday's 7:30 p.m. game at Irving The Highlands School (5-3, 1-2).

TAPPS' playoffs will begin the following weekend. The winner of Friday's game would meet TAPPS 3-IV runner-up Amarillo Arbor Christian, and the losing team would play champion Muenster Sacred Heart. Rockwall Christian took a tough 40-33 loss at Sacred



Sherman Peoples (11) breaks through a huge hole in the A+ Academy line provided by his Rockwall Christian teammates in a 45-0 victory Friday. Staff photo by Tim Burnett/Rockwall County News

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Baxter scores three touchdowns to help surging Hawks dispose of winless RL Turner 51-6

By Matt McGillen

On first glance, his numbers are not all that impressive: four rushes, seven yards.

But when you take a little closer look, Rockwall-Heath senior defensive-back-turned-running-back Drew Baxter had a pretty eventful night against winless RL Turner last Friday at Wilkerson-Sanders Stadium.

Baxter not only ran for two touchdowns, he also returned a fumble 92 yards for another score to help the Hawks to a 51-6 pounding of the hapless Lions in a District 10-4A game.

The win lifts Heath to 6-1 in the district and to 7-2 for the season and sets up their showdown with Highland Park (7-0, 8-1) Friday at Highlander Stadium. If the Hawks beat the Scots they will earn no worse than a share of the district title they won outright last season.

Turner (0-7, 0-9) extended its losing string to 16 straight over two seasons and to 36 out of 37 over the last three seasons.

Baxter, who last ran the ball as a freshman, scored on a 2-yard run the first time he's touched the ball since then, putting the Hawks up 21-0 with 9:46 to play in the second quarter.

After grabbing a bouncing Turner fumble at his own 8-yard line, Baxter raced untouched down the left sideline to make it 42-0 before scoring again on a 1-yard plunge that pushed the score to 49-0 with 2:33 left in the third period.

And just like his stats, a closer look reveals that there is a little more to Baxter than just football.

"Drew Baxter had a great night, he's an awesome kid," said Heath coach Mickey Moss. "We're just so thankful that we have him on our team. He is a talented kid, but above all else is his character. He has the respect and admiration of all his teammates."

Baxter's long return was the second defensive TD of the game

for Heath, as Armando Villa scooped up a partially blocked punt and returned it 21 yards for a score just before the half.

Overall, the Heath defense surrendered just a paltry 117 yard of totals offense, including only three yards on the ground to Lions.

"It was good to get that from our defense," Moss said. "To get a punt blocked and a fumble return and to see how well they held them even though they had lots of opportunities to have the ball. I am very proud of how they played."

For the Hawks, who played their starting running backs very little and seldom passed against the porous Turner defense, five different players scored TDs.

Leading rusher Dorian Lawry, who came in averaging over 100 yards per game, had a short night with just four carries for 14 yards, but the sophomore did score the Hawks' second touchdown on a 14-yard run.

Senior Sebastian Curry-McGill added a 12-yard scamper for a score.

Heath quarterback Kevin Rodgers, who averages 225 yards a game passing, attempted only 11 throws, completing eight for 145 yards with no interceptions. He connected with Ryan Peterson for a 31-yard score to get the Hawks on the board just two minutes into the game.

The Lions got inside the Heath 40 only twice, with one drive ending at the Heath 37 and the other - with the help of two interference penalties - at the Hawks' 8-yard line when a Lion fumble resulted in Baxter's long run to the other end zone.

Hawk nation also may have caught a glimpse of Rodgers' heir apparent, junior Ross Hudson, who hit 3-of-8 passes for 10 yards with one interception.

Turner	0	0	0	6-
Heath	14	21	14	2-51

Heath - Ryan Peterson 31 pass from Kevin Rodgers (Triston kick)

Heath - Dorian Lawry 14 run (Pinkston kick)

Heath - Drew Baxter 2 run (Pinkston kick)

Heath - Sebastian Curry-McGill 12 run (Pinkston kick)

Heath - Armando Villa 21 blocked punt return (Pinkston kick)

Heath - Baxter 92 fumble return (Brad Dunavant kick)

Heath - Baxter 1 run (Dunavant kick)

Turner - Charles Moore 35 interception return (run failed)

Heath - safety, quarterback stepped out of end zone

	Turner	Heath
First downs	11	13
Rushes-yards	23-3	32-120
Passing yards	144	155
Passes	12-29-2	11-19-1
Punts-ave.	8-45	3-32.3
Penalties	8-45	8-90
Fumbles-lost	3-2	4-3

Individual stats

Rushing: Turner - Anthony Fletes 14-34, Pedro Galvan 4-4, Sebastian Curry-McGill 7-30, Phillip 2-1, Ross Hudson 5-23, Jesse Irokwe 4-39, Doran 4-14, Kevin Rodgers 6-6

Passing: Turner - Galvan 11-19-1-128. Heath - Hudson 8-11-0-145.

Receiving: Turner - Cody Mason 2-9, Charles Moore 3-17, Neiman Wilson 2-10, Christian Hernandez 2-10, Tre Jackson 3-31. Heath - Ryan Peterson 2-62, Clark 1-10, Blaine Snider 3-10, Cameron Wilson 3-58.

Heath volleyball opens bi-district tonight against Frisco Liberty

Fresh off their sweep of 15th-ranked Rockwall, which the third seed from District 10-4A, the Rockwall-Heath Liberty travel to Sachse High School to meet Frisco Liberty tonight in the first round of the Region II Bi-District volleyball tournament.

Heath, which is making its first-ever postseason appearance in its regular season 8-5 in district and 24-14 overall. Liberty 2 team from District 9-4A, ended up 13-1 in district and 3 year.

Thorne Pettigrew leads Rockwall cross country back to regionals

Sophomore Thorne Pettigrew came within 2.07 seconds of winning the District 10-4A cross country race Saturday. That was enough to lead the Rockwall boys' team to second place and a trip to the Region II meet.

Though none of the Rockwall girls finished among the top 10, the Lady Jackets also finished second and will advance to the regionals at Vandergriff Park in Arlington.

Both the boys' individual and team leaders from 2008 returned. Highland Park finished first with 28 points to 52, which had won last year's race.

HP's Matt Galvin, who won that race, was fourth in 17:14.15 seconds over a 5-kilometer course. Ahead of him was teammate Philip Todd in 16:40.43, Pettigrew (16:42.50) and rollton R.L. Turner's Jorge Alvarez (17:03.37).

For the Yellowjackets, Jacob Phillips was seventh in 17:30.00 and Sam Grinnin 10th in 18:05.00.

Highland Park also won the 2-mile girls' race, with 19-year-old Kaitlyn Sutherland taking the top spot in 11:58.63 and Jenna Read (11:58.87).

Times were slower than they had been a year ago because of conditions at Samuel Farm in Mesquite.

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Rockwall-Heath junior Jeb Smartt (22) tackles RL Turner quarterback Pedro Galvan (11) from behind while senior David Tanner (40) attempts to swat away the junior's pass during the Hawks 51-6 District 10-4A win over the Lion last Friday. The Heath defense limited Turner to just three yards rushing and to 117 overall.

Staff photo by Carl McClung/Rockwall County News



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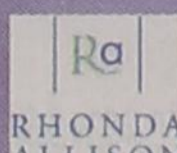
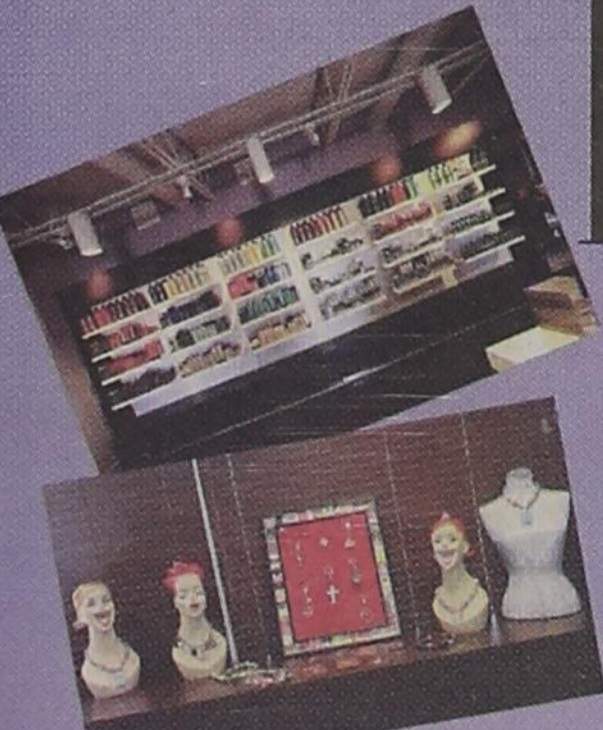
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