

Muleshoe Journal



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Dickerson Appointed As County Clerk

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor
Bailey County's Commissioners' Court appointed Robin Dickerson to fill the position that will be vacated by County Clerk Paula Benton's retirement later this month.

While the court members interviewed both Dickerson and candidate Shirley Aguirre for the position, they did not go into closed session to discuss the candidates' the information received before approving a motion to appoint Dickerson to the position with a unanimous vote.

According to her presentation to the board, Aguirre — a 38-year resident of Muleshoe, is a former teacher with the Muleshoe Independent

"I'd love the opportunity to continue serving the county..."
— Robin Dickerson

School District. she was bilingual, Aguirre admitted that she wasn't aware of the function performed by the county clerk's office or the services it provided to the county

and its residents. Dickerson, who was the second candidate to address the court during Monday's regular meeting, has been with the county clerk's office since July 2007. Prior to that time, she was with the Muleshoe Area Hospital District for 18 years.

"I've seen a lot of changes in the last five and a half years," Dickerson said.

"The paperwork has increased a lot during the past three years," she added.

"I'd love the opportunity to continue serving the county," said Dickerson.

At one point, Precinct 4 Commissioner Juan Chavez addressed the need for someone who spoke Spanish in the clerk's office, noting also that if Dickerson

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Photograph by Gabby Perez

Obama Win Means Changes At MAHD

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor
"With (President) Obama winning the election, the healthcare reforms are here to stay," Muleshoe Area Hospital District CEO David Burke reminded

the district's board members during the Thursday, Dec. 6, regular board meeting. And part of the reforms, he pointed out, would be at least a slight increase in hospital expenses, but an even greater impact would be seen in the local clinics, where major cuts in Medicare reimbursements were expected.

be offset by the fact that more people would be carrying health insurance, but a 26 percent reduction in Medicare reimbursements for physicians was expected.

The reforms was

normally operate at a loss, Burke said, the additional losses the clinics experience will undoubtedly have to be covered by the hospital.

One issue the hospital has had to deal with

Going For It 'Mule Style'

A large portion of the world may have gone crazy for the "gangnam style" horse dance, but in Bailey County and the surrounding area, the Mules have a style of their own. Pictured on the left, one of Muleshoe's varsity Mules takes a shot during the recent game against Hale Center.

Turn to B1 for Muleshoe ISD sports.

According to a letter Burke said he'd received from the hospital district's auditor, the Muleshoe Area Medical Center could expect a two percent reduction in its Medicare reimbursements — which would probably

also, according to the auditors, impact personnel issues at the hospital district.

"We'll have to wait and see," Burke said.

While neither of the clinics operated by MAHD are "for profit" facilities, and

"We really don't have private and semi-private rooms... it's just that some of the rooms aren't big enough for two beds." — David Burke

Burke said neither Medicare nor

Continued on A3

More Jail Problems Reported

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor
Jail problems continue for the Bailey County Sheriff's Department, according to Sheriff Richard Wills in his report to the county commissioners' court Monday.

While the ongoing expense of operating the 99-bed facility, and especially paying the fees associated with

the certificates used to construct the building, about a month ago the financial problems were lowered when a large number of out-of-county prisoners were being held.

Currently, however, that number has been cut in half, from more than 80 at one point to 38, and half of those are local prisoners which don't generate

the housing fees the county needs to help pay for the jail.

And even if other counties — whether in or out of state, wished to house prisoners at the Bailey County Law Enforcement Center... they couldn't.

"Our big problem right now," Sheriff Wills said, "is we don't have enough jailers."

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Seasonal Suffering

Municipal employees Crystal Casto and Adrian Rodriguez were among the local residents forced to deal with Monday mornings bitter temperatures and icy conditions. Pictured above, Casto and Rodriguez clear the snow and ice from in front of Muleshoe City Hall.

Photograph by Larry Thornton

Santa's Christmas Gift

By Larry Thornton
Part 6

Normally a very patient goose, Elwood became increasingly impatient as he awaited the return of Sandy from whatever chore he'd gone off on. He paddled over toward the shore, where several Canadian geese had congregated, but they apparently were nervous at his large size and took to the air

complaining loudly. "Thilly birdth," he muttered to himself before turning and paddling back out to the center of the lake. "The the thity birdthth are thcareed of their own thadowth."

A little while later, Elwood took to the air, circling first over the lake and the park, and then sailing high over the city itself.

Far below, the normal daytime activities of

the city were taking place as the humans did whatever it was that humans living far from the North

Pole did. Although Elwood didn't have the eyesight of an eagle, he was certain that life in

the city, wasn't for him.

He sailed along, dipping down occasionally to get a better look at something he'd seen from overhead before climbing back into the sky with great sweeps of his wings.

After flying for about an hour, Elwood saw a familiar figure

walking along a street.

"There you are, Marvin," the snow goose said as he pulled his wings in and landed in front of Sandy, only... it wasn't Sandy. It was a kid... a rather wide-eyed kid at that, dressed in clothes similar to the elf's and carrying a backpack.

And if the look of fear that was on the kid's face could have gotten any worse than at nearly being landed

on by an absolutely humongous snow-white goose, it did when the goose said, "You're not Marvin."

If he had been just a little less frightened, Robbie might have dropped his backpack and ran away, but it was as if his feet were frozen into place, his knees locked in place. "Who's Marvin?" was all Robbie could do or say.

Continued on A6

OPINION

Around Muleshoe...



Announcements from non-profit organizations in the Muleshoe area.

To post an announcement send an email to editor@muleshoejournal.com

Meals On Wheels

Bailey County Meals on Wheels is in need of several things, not the least of which are volunteers to deliver meals to the home-bound.

Both route drivers and "fill-in" drivers are needed in Muleshoe, and with the organization looking to expand its services to home-bound residents in Sudan, volunteers are needed there as well.

Contact Shelby Carpenter at (806)272-3647 for additional information.

Christmas Card Project

The annual Christmas Card Project starts Friday, Nov. 22, and ends Dec. 14. Donations can be made at both local banks or mailed to Park View Nursing Care Center, Attn. Joy Stancell, 1100 W. Ave. J, Muleshoe Texas 79347.

For more info you may call (806)272-7578.

'Know You What It Is To Be A Child?'

"Know you what it is to be a child?" asked the poet Francis Thompson.

"It is to be so little that the elves can reach to whisper in your ear; it is to turn pumpkins into coaches, and mice into horses, lowness into loftiness, and nothing into everything..."

I love that! But the words that follow are musings from a rather bummed out magic pony. That would be me.

You see, my four-year-old magic faerie princess (who took time out on Sunday morning to be an angel in our Christmas pageant; she's amazingly talented and versatile) had to go home yesterday (and my five-year-old princess and 18-month-old dear little dwarf were unable to come).

At first, I told Her Little Highness that, as her magic pony, I'd consider it my duty to take care of the magic castle while she was away, but she didn't think that would work, and now I see that she's right.

Air Force One is a really cool airplane even when the President is not aboard, but it's not Air Force One unless he is. I like my shed/



Focus On Faith
Curtis Shelburne

greenhouse/man-cave, but when the little folks aren't there, neither is the magic.

The magic faerie princess christened me her "pony" early on in this weekend's adventure.

She doesn't like it when I talk about it much to outsiders, but I'll just mention that we started the journey on a trampoline but soon found that some orcs and trolls were carrying on their mischief in the area.

(Black birds are, we discovered, on their side, but white birds are our friends.)

If we spotted a party of orcs, we roared as fast as we could, and, if they got too close, we found that her magic could transform her pony into a magic unicorn (magic because it could fly; your run-of-the-mill unicorns can't), and we'd fly off to a magic pool no orcs could reach, the water of which, if you drink it, renders you invisible.

I'm giving too many details here. Suffice it

Way To Man's Heart Is Through Nose?

The old saying: "The way to a man's heart is through his stomach," took an unusual twist this past week with the announcement that a certain well-known pizza chain was going to be marketing its own brand of perfume.

Amazing! I have fond memories of the company, and especially of its early commercials and catchy "putt putt" jingle. I can even remember the first pizza I ordered in one of the early franchise locations — a small beef and onion sans cheese. Don't you know that raised an eyebrow and an explanation.

But with the latest announcement it might not be long before you find yourself driving down the road — stomach growling and mouth watering, without one of the familiar peaked red roofs in sight, and the



scent driving you wild coming from that purty girl next to you rather than a large flat carton.

I know my children, if they read this particular column will give a collective, "Yuck!" but this news could also mean that nibbling on my lovely wife's earlobe doesn't necessarily mean I'm feeling romantic.

To be honest, I'm not entirely certain I want my wife smelling like baking pizza dough, or any other food item.

I can close my eyes and picture her as she walked down the aisle, in her wedding dress 26 years ago, but tossing a couple cloves of garlic into the mix — as much

as I like the pungent herb, tends to change the memory.

For years, especially in Hollywood flicks and television shows, black eyes have been treated with a beef steak poultice, but for your pretty lady to get ready for a date by rubbing the steak on her wrists and behind her ears seems a bit much — even for those who like their steaks to hit the plate "still kicking."

Granted, there are flavored lip gloss and scented hair products

that can probably whet an appetite, but I can't help but feel this latest offering is going a little too far.

And I know it doesn't work the other way around. When I've been grilling, and the wind has been blowing from the south, my wife has never sniffed at me as I step inside with the steaks, hamburgers or chicken, and said, "Wow, you smell great!"

Somehow, it seems a little one-sided.

Our President has recently been speaking out about the possibility of Syria using chemical weapons in its civil war, but he maybe it's time for him to address the issue of unfair chemical substances in the battle between the sexes.

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Commissioners' Court... Continued From A1

moved into the county clerk's position it should provide an opening for a bilingual deputy clerk.

"Don't you think you can better serve your community if you have someone who is bilingual?" he asked Dickerson.

Dickerson agreed, noting that there were currently three bilingual applicants for a position in the clerk's office.

After the exchange between Chavez and Dickerson, County Clerk Benton added, "You don't always have that option."

She explained that while the clerk's office currently has bilingual applications on file, at the time the last position was filled, there weren't any applicants who spoke Spanish.

With Dickerson's appointment to fill

Benton's unexpired term, she will have to file at the end of 2013 for the 2014 election.

Dickerson's appointment will be the third such appointment by the court in 2012. Earlier in the year, Maria Gonzalez was appointed to the position of county tax assessor to fill the unexpired term of Melba Clark, and in May Debra Redwine was appointed to the unexpired term of Justice of the Peace Deb Stone.

Since that time, both Gonzalez and Redwine were elected to four-year terms to begin in 2013.

In other county business, the court:

- Received a report from Bailey County EMS Director Kevin Baize which included the information that "for the first time in a long time" the EMS had collected enough this

past month to pay for its operation, and leave a few thousand extra.

The information brought smiles to the faces of the county commissioners, who were pleased that the county didn't have to supplement the ambulance services' budget for the month.

Biaze also spoke of the continuing need to enlarge the EMS building, for which the Muleshoe Area Hospital District had previously granted a 25-year lease.

Biaze explained that the ambulance service had been turned down in its grant request because the county didn't own the building or the land it sits upon.

However, it was Biaze's plan — if the court members would allow him to pursue the idea, to request the MAHD board to transfer

title of the property to the ambulance service in exchange for some "in-kind" service.

Specifically, it was going to be Biaze's suggestion to the hospital district's board that the county level and remove the old floral shop building, which the hospital district purchased several years ago, in exchange for the ambulance building.

All four of the commissioners indicated they would be willing to assist with removing the building and putting in a parking lot at the location, but also suggested that Biaze contact the City of Muleshoe to see if the torn down building could be disposed of in the city's landfill.


- Approved the minutes from the Nov. 13 regular meeting, and the Nov. 19 special meeting, payment of

county bills, and a legal services contract.

- Accepted a \$6,755 federal grant that will be used for jailer overtime.
- Approved the county treasurer's report for October, and

received November's report.

- Approved soil conservation worksheets totaling \$2,272.50.
- Approved the county holidays for 2013.



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Ministry Dinner Held

First United Methodist Church's annual Christmas Ministry Dinner honoring Muleshoe area residents and volunteers was held Monday, Dec. 10, drawing a large

crowd to the turkey dinner and fellowship. Pictured above, church members serve the meal to their honored guests. Meals were also delivered to residents.

Hospital District Board... Continued From A1

insurance companies refuse to pay the "private" rate.

"We really don't have private and semi-private rooms," he said, it's just that some of the rooms aren't big enough for two beds. It's the way the hospital was built.

In other business, the MADH board:

- Were informed by Burke that the feasibility study needed before a decision could be made concerning the placement of a pharmacy in the proposed Family Medical Clinic expansion was being put on hold.

Burke explained that with potential impact from the reforms and the economy it would best not to spend the money.

"We'll wait until this 'fiscal cliff' is over," he said.

- Appointed several physicians to the hospital at the recommendation of the medical staff.

- Received a financial report which noted the cash balance for the hospital at the end of October was \$763,992.45, and \$74,207.43 for Park View Nursing Care Center.

The report, received from Controller Vickie Groneman, noted that

the hospital's accounts receivable increased from \$1,128,853.92 in September to \$1,294,379.97 in October.

During the same period, Park View's accounts receivable increased from \$44,723.13 to \$146,366.19.

"I think that's quite an increase for Park View," board president Zona Gatewood said.

Burke said there has been some changes in the billing at the nursing home.

"After quite a few months," he added, "we've finally got a handle on it."

In accounts payable,

Groneman's report showed the September total of \$656,985.17 for the hospital was down to \$456,040.06 in October.

Park View's accounts payable were at \$202,248.04 in September and \$172,641.45 in October.

- Approved the minutes from the Oct. 6 meeting.

Jailers...

Continued from A1

Currently, Wills said, the jail is operating with nine jailers, including its supervisor, and attempts to hire local applicants who both meet the job requirements, and are willing to work the required shifts hasn't been easy.

"If you would offer everyone a Monday to Friday, 8 a.m, until 5 p.m. job, we'd have a lot of applicants."

"I don't know how much money you have to pay to get someone to work nights."

Most recently, Wills said, his jail administrator left to take a position at a prison, and another "good" applicant didn't have the required high school diploma or GED.



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Senior Citizen News

By Laverne Winn

Let it snow... let it snow... let it snow!
 It was so pretty and made this time of year more like Christmas. Everyone just be careful getting out.
 It is a good day to spend at the Oneita Wagnon Senior Center with friends, good food and beautiful decorations.
 Hey, how about the senior citizens float winning second in the parade.
 If you see Buddy Embry pat him on the back. He was the wonderful person providing the trailer and pulling the float.
 Buddy has come aboard as one of our needed helpers.
 He is a new member of the board and we appreciate his

willingness to give his time and help to the center.
 Friday, Dec. 14, Curtis Shelbourne will be at the center during the lunch hour to bless us with his singing.
 Mark your calendars and come, bring a friend and enjoy.
 Tuesday, Dec. 18, will be Bunco playing day. Call a friend and come enjoy the fun, fellowship and prizes.
 The games began at 10 a.m.
 Thursday, Dec. 20, will be our birthday party for all you senior citizens with birthdays in December.
 Make plans to come to the center, eat lunch and let us honor you for another year gone by.
Dec. 17-21 menus:
 Monday, Dec. 17 — Pork roast, mashed

sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, coleslaw, whole wheat roll, and tropical fruit mix.
 Tuesday, Dec. 18 — Baked chicken breast, au gratin potatoes, peas and carrots, Waldorf salad, cornbread, and sliced banana in orange juice.
 Wednesday, Dec. 19 — Grilled steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, cornbread, and tropical fruit.
 Thursday, Dec. 20 — Lasagna, spinach, tossed salad, whole wheat bread, and fresh banana.
 Friday, Dec. 21 — Fish or chicken strips, beans, green peas, tossed vegetable salad, whole wheat roll, and fruit mix.
 All meals are served with low fat milk, tea, coffee, or water.

Bailey County TAMALES Offers Agricultural Apps Workshop

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (TAMALES) will conduct a workshop in Bailey County to train farmers and ranchers to use their iPhones and iPads to make decisions to increase their bottom lines.
 In this workshop, participants will learn to use their iPhones and iPads to make quick decisions in the field, on the tractor or in the pickup.
 The team will train producers to utilize these "apps" to more effectively manage risks in their business and improve the profitability of their business.
 They will learn to access market data to help them evaluate relevant pricing strategies.

They will improve their knowledge of costs and break-evens using the "cost of production" app the team has developed.
 Participants will be introduced to a wide range of other apps related to marketing, budgeting, irrigation decisions, various time-saving calculators and other tools.
 Each workshop participant will have access to iPads with

apps already installed.
 The participants will enter data and learn to utilize various apps that can help them make decisions related to profitability and improve their price and production risk management skills.
 The registration fee is \$30 per person. Lunch is provided.
 To register, contact the Bailey County office by Monday, Dec. 17, at 806-272-4583.



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 K N T K V O B W R X L P X H B G F F U Q J Q U Z O L R H L D R H V A P

In those days... Caesar Augustus... issued a decree... that a census... should be taken... of the entire... Roman world... This was the first... census that... took place while... Quirinius was... governor of Syria... And everyone... went to their... own town to register... So Joseph... also went up... from the town... of Nazareth... in Galilee... to Judea... to Bethlehem... the town of David... because he belonged... to the house... and line of David.

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If you have changes to make to church information, please contact the Journal at 272-4536.

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Obituaries

Helen Hall

Chapel services for Helen Joyce Hall, 97, of Muleshoe, were held on Friday, Dec. 7, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel of Muleshoe with Curtis Shelburne of Muleshoe and Trent Tanaro of Earth officiating.

Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mrs. Hall died on Dec. 4, 2012, in Burleson. She was born on June 19, 1915, in Red River County.

She married Eual Hall in Clovis, N.M., on April 27, 1936.

He preceded her in death on Sept. 5, 1991. She was also preceded in death by her parents, and a sister — Ruth Hunt.

Mrs. Hall had lived in Muleshoe since 1932, having moved from Wolfe City. She was a member of the 16th & Ave D Church of Christ

in Muleshoe. She had been a member of the Baileboro & Lazbuddie Home Demonstration Club for years. She had also been an interior decorator in Muleshoe.

During World War II, Mrs. Hall worked in the ship yards in Alameda, Calif.

Survivors include three sons — Thomas Roy Hall and wife Misty of Earth, Jerry Mack Hall and wife Linda of Ft. Worth, and Bobby Ray Hall and wife Betty, also of Ft. Worth; a sister — Doris Scott and husband RL of Muleshoe; nine grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society, 3411 73rd, Lubbock, TX 79423.

It Was Cold Outside, But It was 212° The Extra Degree At Muleshoe ISD

We continue to have many examples of the Muleshoe Independent School District's staff and students exhibiting extra effort for good that we are calling "212° The Extra Degree."

One example happened this past Monday morning. I'm sure you all were as surprised as I was Monday morning to see the snow and ice on the streets of Muleshoe.

It was so cold and icy that we had to delay school for a couple of hours. As I was going to school that morning to start notifying everyone about the delay, I noticed someone on top of one of our school buildings.

It was Assistant Maintenance Director Jeff Carpenter. He was on top of the building repairing a heater so that our students would be comfortable that day.

That's 212° – The Extra Degree of Effort!

Just last week, we had teachers, administrators, parents, grandparents, and students involved in the "Read to Me" program at Dillman Elementary.

Mrs. McCamish and 15 of her high school students from her Child Development class participated in the "Read to Me" program at Dillman Elementary.

These high school students went to Dillman Elementary to read a book to one or more elementary students for about an hour last Friday morning.

The students then went back to the high school and made up any work they missed that morning during the last period of the day.

That's 212° – The Extra Degree of Effort!

A third example

Super news from MISD
By Superintendent Dr. Gene Sheets

involves Muleshoe High School Assistant Counselor Erin White. Mrs. White has established an account through "applytexas" that allows counselors to track all students in high school who have applied to a college or university in Texas — "any" college or university in Texas!

Mrs. White can track the progress of a student's application to a college or university through the entire application process.

She can also review a student's FAFSA submissions to help with financial aid for the student.

If a student, or his or her parent, is concerned as to whether or not the student's application has gone through, the high school can now see where the application is in the process.

This tracking system will help answer some questions for both students and parents as they struggle to keep up with the burden of dealing with all of the government forms necessary to enter a college or university.

That's 212° – The Extra Degree of Effort!

Another example of 212° – The Extra Degree of Effort involved students and teachers at Watson Junior High School.

Coach Edie Niblett and Coach Jalissa King organized the junior high girls basketball team to help with the Bailey County Food Pantry last week.

The coaches had one group of girls put cans and food in the boxes on Wednesday evening.

They had another

group of the junior high girls basketball team that came on Saturday morning and helped with distribution of the food to those who needed it.

That is another great way to teach our students about

community service in Muleshoe.

That's 212° – The Extra Degree of Effort!

I am proud of our staff and students who, not only excel in academics and extra-curricular activities, but who are willing to go above and beyond the call of duty in service to our community.

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Death Notices

Henry Carrion Sr.

Muleshoe resident Henry Carrion Sr., 75, died on Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012, in Lubbock. He was born on July 5, 1937, to Jorge and Toribio Carrion in Potet. Services were held on Dec. 8 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, followed by burial at Bailey County Cemetery.

Births

Jaime Orozco Jr.

Jaime and Silvia Orozco announce the birth of their son, Jaime Guadalupe Orozco Jr., on Dec. 7, 2012, at 3:54 a.m., at Lamb Healthcare Center, Littlefield.

Jaime Jr. weighed nine pounds, nine ounces at birth, and was 21 inches in length.

His siblings are Claudia, Yanette, Kimberly and Katelyn.

Jaime's grandparents are Juan Orozco and Juan and Catalina Martinez.

Obituaries and Death Notices

Death notices will be published free of charge in the Muleshoe Journal.

Obituaries will be published at the rate of \$4.50 per column inch.

In all cases, the death notice and obituary information should be submitted by the funeral home for verification purposes.

The guidelines that will be used to determine if, and how much the publication will cost is as follows:

Death Notices...

Death notices may include the deceased's name, city of residence, age, date and place of birth, date and place of death, and the names of parents. Survivor information will not be included.

If the notice is to be published prior to any services, the time, date and location of services, and location of burial may be included.

If publication will be after said services, the time will not be included.

Obituaries...

Obituaries printed in the Muleshoe Journal are printed at the rate of \$4.50 per column inch, and may contain a variety of information, including but not limited to: Date and details of funeral and place of burial; date and place of birth and parents names; date of marriage; biographical information; names of parents, spouses or children who have preceded the person in death; names of survivors; and where memorials may be directed.

A black and white photo will be included; however, there is an additional charge of \$75 to include a color photograph.

Court Approves 'Texas Bottle Bill' Resolution

Bailey County's commissioners' court joined with a reported 42 other Texas county's, and ten communities, during Monday's regular session, in support of a resolution urging passage of the "Texas Bottle Bill."

The bill, if passed and signed into law, would reportedly place a five or 10 cent deposit on all "sealed" glass, plastic and aluminum containers—depending upon size, but under four liters — purchased

in the Lone Star State, with the exception of dairy products.

While the court members weren't certain how the bill, if passed, would be implemented, according to information from "texasbottlebill.com" it would apparently be through the collection of deposits by local merchants which would later be returned to customers through privately-owned refund centers.

Thank you for reading!

Luke 2:1-4

Q A M H M G D S N R G H T K D Z Z E J G L O S G S A I H F W S F V W A
M D D L E L I H W E C A L P K O T F O C C J U J U E C K A K G G Z W
Q Z G U D M Z N B G Y U I W T S F I H M O V G G D N E T D Z Z D C A Q Q
R B F T K W Q V T C M R H C J N I E M W S E G N P P O L N J R A X X S
O E C D M A R U J H S B N V E F A S H M W S E G N P P O L N J R A X X S
O C T O K K R U I P O S T E C Y Z W E I A Z O P Z Z T Z W O K S A X
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O S T G X G Y Q C R L N P D V H E T T U G J U C T R Z X D X T J V S T
C E W O S O V E R K A Q W I T A D T H E E M F I C E X H T N B Z L M Y Q Q B
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O E N J Z E Z N O K W S N N S V A I T D X C H I R L Y H S E P E H C F
F B O S D R I H Z T U P A J T W A I T D X C H I R L Y H S E P E H C F
H E F H L N N Y P W N V S R Z T A R S Z C U L E H T C N Q Q O L S H E T N C
M L D M L O R N L Y P W N V S R Z T A R S Z C U L E H T C N Q Q O L S H E T N C
V O A D P R D C B T A U O A O U D T W R X R S C A A Z K M C I N T Y D
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U E D C U S G J O A P O H M S Z W O D S N I N O A E D M P U N O E M B G G G
G D I J Y Y W T V Z A P O H M S Z W O D S N I N O A E D M P U N O E M B G G G
D L C S R R I A C V K J L X S O F R Z C B H E U Z F U V I N O C G U X L B R
C V B V R I A C V K J L X S O F R Z C B H E U Z F U V I N O C G U X L B R
I E G A R A U C G C F H C E S T G B Q I H A J P R S W L X K O Y H P G
D I S T D G D G Y N Q J B Q N T T R I C D O K U Y Z J X Y W X M H Z F
B C B J L C G R Y N Q S B P Y O I M E X J R U E O I B K E U W Q T F Z
I D R B N O M S O S W F Y A C W L M K Y A F I S N A U N R U J O P F N
B J Z O G J W S R O M A N W O R L D R P Q A H H E B T R M X G B H P K
Y K K R A Z X R U D P U N T F T E R N U A D O T O U B N O G B J L W K
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K N T K V O B W R X L P X H B G F F U Q J O U Z O L R H L D R H V A P

Down from His Glory
presented by
First Baptist Church
Worship Choir
Sunday, December 16, 2012
11:00 a.m.

Santa's Christmas Gift... Continued from A1

"Marvin, the elf," the enormous goose replied. "He's the thort like you, and it's wearing clotheth like you."

"You mean... Sandy?"

"That's him, Marvin the elf," said Elwood.

Robbie, for the first time in his life looking up at the head of a goose who was not only towering above him but also speaking, shook his head. "I don't know. He disappeared, and took my clothes."

"Why did he do that? Weren't you wearing them?" asked the goose.

"Uh, no. I was wearing these."

"You took Marvin's clothes?"

"No, these just look like his clothes."

The goose looked at Robbie for a long pause before slowly nodding his head in understanding. "Then where's Marvin?"

Before Robbie could try to answer the question, Sandy the elf, panting heavily as if he'd been running for several blocks distance, suddenly appeared next to Elwood and Robbie.

"Here I am," he said.

Both Robbie and the goose turned to look at Sandy. If the goose was surprised by the elf's sudden appearance, he didn't show it.

As for Robbie, as strange as the day afternoon was going, it somehow made sense that an "elf" who could disappear in thin air should be able to materialize in the same fashion.

"I thought I told you to wait for me at the lake?" the elf said to the goose, a touch of irritation in his voice.

"I got bored waiting," said the goose.

"Well, next time..." Sandy started to say.

"Where's my clothes?" asked Robbie.

Sandy looked over at the boy with a puzzled expression on his face. "I don't have your clothes," he said.

"Well, who could have taken them?"

Before Robbie had even finished the question, however, he already had the answer. Mike Brown. It was just the type of trick the school bully would play, and if it wasn't for his meeting Sandy, followed by Sandy's disappearance a few minutes later, Robbie would have immediately realized what happened to the clothes.

"Personally, I think you look pretty good," the elf offered.

"You would," Robbie shot back at him, forgetting for a second that he was arguing with a "mythical" creature who was standing next to an "impossible" creature.

Robbie suddenly paused for a moment before saying anything else. "I saw you two in Holloway Park the other night!"

Sandy shrugged. "Could be."

"And you disappeared than

also." "Uh h?" asked Sandy.

"In the park. You were gone when my family returned to the park," said Robbie.

"Oh, that. We just went over into the trees. I thought you meant I disappeared like at the school when the adult came down the hall."

"Right... how'd you do that?"

Sandy held up a small gold Christmas ornament. "We carry these in case we need to hide quickly," the elf said. "Speaking of which, we need to get out of here before too many others see us."

Turning to the goose, Sandy said, "Elwood, meet us back at the saddle." With a single nod of his head, the large goose turned and dashed down the street, flapping his wings until he finally got airborne.

Then, as the goose climbed steadily into the sky, the elf turned back to Robbie, and said, "Where can we go to talk?"

A few minutes later, the elf-attired pair arrived at the Jeffers home.

"Mom, I'm home," Robbie called as usual upon entering the house.

"Hello, dear," she called back from another room.

"Mom, this is Sandy, we'll be up in my room... going over our lines for the play."

"That's fine, Robbie," Mrs. Jeffers said as she came to door from the living room. "Hello, Sandy, have we met before?"

"Uh, no, ma'am," said the elf. "I've only been here a short time."

Robbie's mother smiled before returning to whatever she was doing elsewhere in the house. "Those are cute costumes, boys," she said. "Very believable. Robbie, there are snacks in the refrigerator."

"Thanks, Mom," Robbie said. "Maybe in a little while."

Once they were in his room, Robbie turned toward Sandy with an expectant look on his face.

Understanding that this was his time to speak, Sandy blurted out, "I need you to go back to the North Pole with me."

In what appeared to be a new habit of late, Robbie's mouth dropped open.

"It won't take long," said Sandy. "Just a day or two, then I'll have you back here."

"Why?" asked Robbie.

Sandy explained the problem with the gift for Santa and the Winter Festival.

"I'm still not sure I believe you're an elf, I know I don't believe in Santa Claus and his flying reindeer," said Robbie.

Sandy nodded in understanding. "You're right. You've obviously been dealing a lot with

adults my size, with pointed ears, who can disappear at will, and fly around on giant geese."

"I see you're point," said Robbie. "But even if you are an elf, that doesn't mean Santa exists also."

"If seeing is believing, than why not go with me to the North Pole?"

"...And you still haven't explained how my going to the North Pole will help you give a gift to Santa Claus, if he does exist," Robbie continued.

Sandy gave a deep sigh, collecting his thoughts, and said, "The biggest concern of Santa's is that people, children actually, will stop believing. I figure if I can bring him a kid who no longer believes in him, but who can believe again it'll be the greatest present ever."

It had finally come out, the reason for Sandy's trip to the south, everything. And now for the first time, with the explanation bouncing around between Robbie's ears, Sandy realized the problems with his plan, and maybe why Santa hadn't taken such steps himself.

"If it's as simple as that," Robbie said even as Sandy himself realized it, "why does Santa deliver his presents at night?"

All Sandy could do was stand there and slowly shake his head.

Downcast, Sandy turned and walking over to a chair in the corner of Robbie's room, sat down heavily.

Robbie moved over to the bed and plopped down on it.

"Why didn't I think of that before I left the North Pole?" the elf muttered as he stared up at the ceiling. Once again, his plans had been ruined, destroyed. He was worse off than when the idea came to him under that tree... now he had to get back home, and explain why he'd left in the first place.

After a few minutes of silence, Robbie sat up and looked over at the elf. "What will you do now?" he asked.

Sandy shrugged. "Go home, I guess."

"By yourself?"

"Well, me and Elwood."

"The goose?"

Sandy nodded.

After a few more minutes of silence, Sandy leaned far enough forward in the chair that his feet touched the floor. "I guess I'd better go meet Elwood," he said.

"Want me to walk you back," Robbie offered. Although this new acquaintance had yet to be termed a friend, Robbie was troubled by the heartache that was evident on Sandy's face.

Sandy shrugged. "I can make it," he said.

Robbie stood up. "I'll tell Mom I'm walking over to your house for a few minutes. ...But I'm not doing it in these

clothes."

A few minutes later, attired in clothing that didn't scream "weird guy inside," Robbie and Sandy had left the Jeffers' house and was headed over to Holloway Park with Sandy.

Several hundred miles away, Janus and the wolf stopped briefly to catch their breath. Although the airport and its buildings were completely out of sight, neither wanted to waste any time in the area.

Neither wanted to be locked up by the police again, but they also didn't want to return home without Sandy either.

"Any idea which way we should go from here?" Janus asked.

"If he were in the area, I'd be able to sniff him out," said the wolf, "And if we come across some other animals, I can ask them if they've seen anything, But without one way or the other, I'm as lost as you are."

There was a time such an announcement would have brought sharp, sarcastic words from Janus, but now he remained silent.

For days now, his only companion had been the wolf, and although they hadn't spoken about much of importance, the troublesome elf felt closer to this furred

creature than he'd ever felt toward another.

"Maybe we should head back north?" Janus said after a moment.

Unbeknownst to either the wolf or the elf, several miles away, in the control tower at the airport, several flight controllers were gathered around a radar screen.

"Any idea what it is?" the supervisor asked as he peered over the shoulder of the man seated in front of the screen.

"No idea," said the seated flight controller. The others, who had briefly left their own screens to peak at that of their co-worker, merely shook their heads.

"I've contacted the military bases," one of the controllers said, "and they're about to scramble their jets."

"It's almost like 'the phantom'," said one of them. The others only grunted their agreement.

Being adults, and "sensible-minded" adults at that, none of them wanted to talk about the "radar phantom" that appeared periodically... on Christmas Eve to be exact, streaking across radar screens across the nation, and around the world.

Although this peculiar phenomenon had been covered in their flight controller

schools, it wasn't something they were comfortable discussing, and when a memo reached them years earlier that suggested an investigation into the matter indicated it was merely a minor glitch in their computer software, the individual controllers just glanced over at each other and rolled their eyes.

They knew not to say too much, and also knew of the FAA's official policy that any suggestion that related the "computer glitch" to a rotund, red-coated visitor from up north would result in an immediate reprimand.

But, now, here it was happening in advance of Christmas Eve.


"Just keep an eye on it," the supervisor said, "and remember that military intercept jets may be moving into the area."

Back on the ground, Janus and the wolf had covered only a short distance headed north when the familiar tinkling of sleigh bells caught their attention.

Looking over their shoulders, they only had a couple of seconds before Santa's sleigh came to rest where they'd been standing.

Santa Claus gave a deep laugh. "Imagine picking up hitchhikers so far from home, boys," he said to his reindeer.

Conclusion next week



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The Sudan Buzz

Hornets End Playoff Run

By Cheri Sain
Sudan Correspondent

The Sudan Hornets' season came to an end at the state quarterfinal game at Kimbrough Field Friday night as the Wellington Rockets took the championship trophy with a score of 56-20.



Sudan started off strong in the first quarter when the Hornets recovered a fumble within striking distance of their goal line.

Ashmore ran 23 yards for a touchdown. The PAT was no good.

The Hornets couldn't capitalize on it, but they would score on their next possession when Jake Chester found Osmar Diaz alone on the 10-yard line on a third down play.

The Rockets would score again on their next possession when the Gilbreath ran 73 yards with 1:23 left on the clock. The PAT run was good.

Diaz easily scored a Hornet touchdown with 7:52 remaining in the first. The PAT was good by Cesar Medrano.

Before halftime, Ashmore passed to Brady Montgomery for a touchdown with one second left. The PAT pass was good giving Wellington the halftime lead of 36-7.

After a strong defensiveshowingbythe Hornets, Wellington's Terry Gilbreath turned on his afterburners. Gilbreath would score on a eight-yard run with two minutes left in the quarter. The PAT pass was no good.

To start the second half, Wellington scored with only a few minutes off the clock on an Ashmore pass to Smilie Granadoz. The PAT pas was no good.

Then Gilbreath would run for a second touchdown with 31 seconds left. His 20-yard score would be capped off with a PAT run for two. The score was then 7-14 at the end of the first quarter.

Sudan scored on their next drive when Chester found Diaz, and Diaz ran 28 yards for a Hornet touchdown. The PAT kick was good by Medrano giving the Hornets some points on the board.

Wellington would go on a 22 point streak in the second, and Sudan could not answer. With 2:52 on the second quarter clock, Wellington's Klark

Wellington answered back with a Gilbreath run of 54 yards for a Rocket touchdown, and the PAT kick was good giving the Rockets the lead going in to the fourth with a score of

51-14. Wellington scored one more time in the fourth when Johnny Davis ran 62 yards for a Rocket touchdown. The PAT kick was good.

Sudan ended their night with a Richard Montes carry for a touchdown. The PAT was good by Medrano. The Hornets ended the night with a loss of 20-56.

Sudan had a difficult time stopping the run. Wellington had 450 rushing yards compared to Sudan's 39 yards.

The Hornets relied on their passing game with Chester throwing 218 yards. Total offense for Sudan was 61 plays for 257 yards, and Wellington had 59 plays of offense for 521 yards.

The rushing leader for the night was Terry Gilbreath. Gilbreath carried 21 times for 265 yards. Montes led the Hornets in rushing with 22 yards.

Sudan led all receivers with Osmar Diaz. Diaz had four catches for 94 yards. Bill Nolte was next with three catches for 54 yards,

and Dayton Fisher with three catches for 37 yards.

Wellington will play Munday this weekend for the state semi-final game. Sudan ended a tremendous season where they were only picked to place fourth in their district. It is the first time since the 1990s that the Hornets made it to the state quarterfinal game.

"This has been a very special team and playoff run," Coach Gordon Martin said. "Thanks for all the support that you have given these boys through the year as I know they appreciate it greatly."

Students Bring Home Hardware

By Cheri Sain
Sudan Correspondent

This past weekend at the South Plains Swing Speech Tournament in Lubbock the Sudan Speech Team came away with more hardware for their trophy case this year.

Deric McCurry won the LD Debate Championship. Wyatt Joyce placed second in poetry. Doug Ames placed fifth in International Extemporaneous Speaking, and Deric McCurry was a semifinalist in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking.

Several of the members of the Sudan Speech Team are now qualified for the TFA state tournament in the spring, and they are working hard to see if more can compete at the state level in upcoming tournaments.

Their coach is Jonathan Robertson.



Sudan HS Speech Team: Briffen Ames, Briana Azua, Deric McCurry, Doug Ames, Andrew Ames and Alex Hernandez.

Sudan Students 'Shut Up And Speak'

By Cheri Sain
Sudan Correspondent

The Sudan High Speech team competed at the Amarillo High "Shut-up and Speak" Speech Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 1.

Other team members competing included Alex Hernandez and Andrew Ames in CX Debate. Andrew also competed

in International Extemporaneous Speaking. Briffen Ames competed in Poetry and Extemporaneous Speaking.

The team placed in several of the events that they entered. Briana Azua and Doug Ames placed second overall in CX Debate. Ames also placed first in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking.

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Deric McCurry placed second in LD Debate and placed seventh in International Extemporaneous Speaking.

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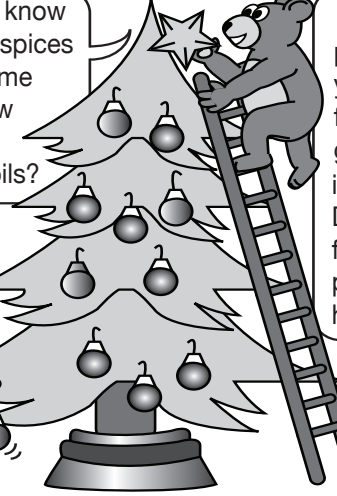
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Do you know where the spices we use come from? How about the nuts and oils?

I've got it...errr...almost!

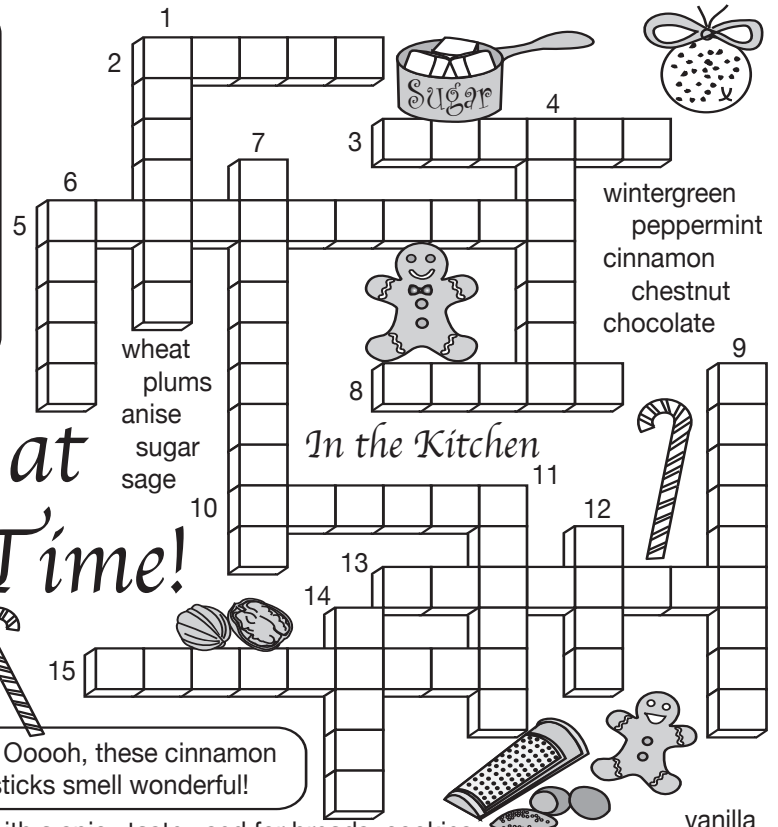
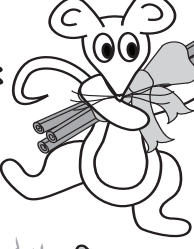
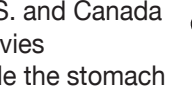


The holidays are full of wonder. One way people reach out to others is by decorating their yards, homes and hearths. Colored lights shine from the branches of trees. Garland and wreaths grace our doors. Plants and flowers are brought inside to brighten and beautify our rooms. Delicious smells of baking cookies and breads from the kitchen are due to spices taken from plants and trees. Plants are an important part of holiday time celebrations.

Fill in this puzzle about the parts of plants that we use in our kitchens!

Plants at Holiday Time!

1. nuts from trees, used in making marzipan candy – a sweet paste that is shaped and colored to look like fruits, vegetables and toys
2. licorice gets its flavoring from this plant
3. these are buds from a bush; they have a spicy taste and scent; hang an orange from a ribbon and push these into it for a nicely scented decoration
4. this is from a bean in a pod on a vine, used in puddings
5. has a cool taste, used in candies; grows in U.S. and Canada
6. ground into flour; used for cookies, cakes, gravies
7. used in candy canes, tea; thought to help settle the stomach
8. comes from cane; used for icing, lollipops
9. these are in pods hanging on trees; in some places street vendors roast and sell these to eat warm
10. hard little seeds ground into powder - shake on eggnog



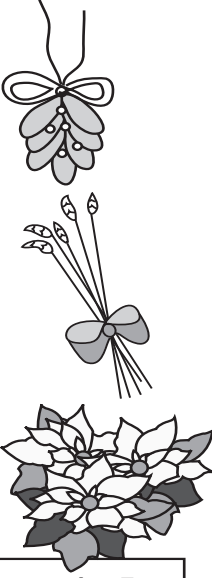
Ooooh, these cinnamon sticks smell wonderful!

11. root with a spicy taste used for breads, cookies
12. used for scent and taste in stuffing and with meats
13. from the red-brown bark of a tree; ground into powder for drinks, cookies
14. reddish-purple fruits from tree; used in cakes, pudding
15. from the bean of cacao tree

Inside and Outside the House

Match these clues and plants!

1. a large one is cut and blessed; it is lighted and kept burning throughout the season
2. this favorite plant blooms at Christmas; it can be red, pink or white
3. green leaves, white berries; there is a custom that says people kiss under this
4. round, made from evergreen branches; decorated with red bows, pine cones
5. decorated with lights, ornaments, angel
6. placed as bedding in a manger or made into ornaments for the tree

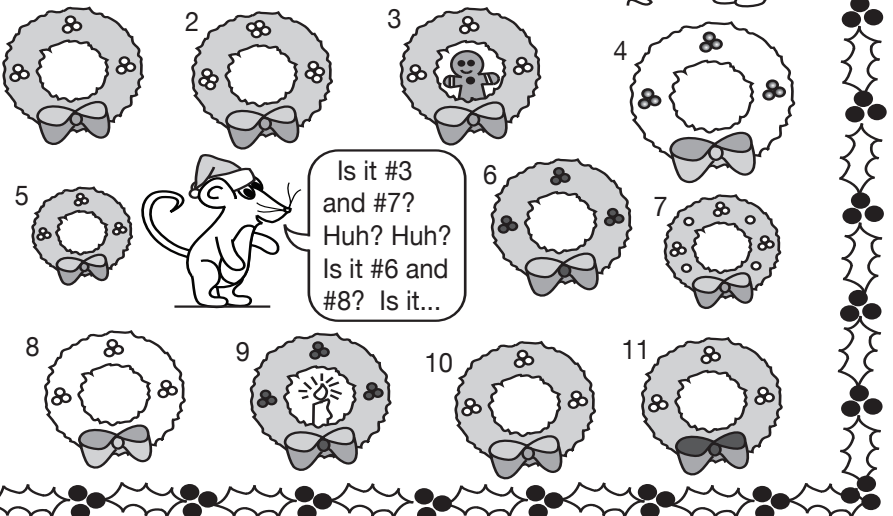


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Is it #3 and #7? Huh? Huh? Is it #6 and #8? Is it...

Process Initiated To Consider Lesser Prairie-Chicken As 'Threatened'

Based on scientific evidence that the lesser prairie-chicken and its habitat are in decline, including in Bailey County, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced recently that it is initiating a process to consider whether the species should be recognized as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.

community are encouraged to review and comment on the proposal during a 90-day public comment period. The Service is working with the five states to encourage voluntary conservation of the species and its habitat. Conservation agreements are

currently in place in Texas and New Mexico, with another under development in Oklahoma. The Service will hold a public hearing to gather public comments on the listing proposal on Monday, Feb. 11, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Lubbock Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Lane.

State conservation agencies, in partnership with federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Land Management and partners such as the Sutton Center, are working on a range-wide, voluntary conservation planning effort that will play a significant role in conserving lesser-prairie chicken habitat. "We are encouraged by current multi-state efforts to conserve the lesser prairie-chicken and its habitat, but more work needs to be done to reverse its decline" said Dan Ashe, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Service will make a final determination on whether to add the lesser prairie-chicken to the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife based on the best available science.

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SPORTS NEWS

Lady Mules Reverse Rolls, Defeat Hale Center

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mules reversed the rolls on Hale Center Friday and defeated the Lady Owls 48-44 to keep their home record spotless.

The Lady Mules had hit the road to Hale Center Tuesday and the Lady Owls pulled out all the stops to defeat the Lady Mules 52-36.

The Lady Mules fell behind 23-13 by half time in Hale Center.

The Lady Mules made up ground in the third period with Adrienne Precure going coast-to-coast for a lay up as the second half began. Precure put back an offensive rebound on the next trip down the floor.

Hale Center hit a 3-pointer just before Cas Moore was fouled shooting in the lane. C. Moore made both free throws.

Kalie Morris hit a trey from the top of the key to cut the Lady Owl lead to 26-22 with three and half minutes left in the period.

Precure fired a half court pass down the floor to DonAnn Rempe running on a fast break. Precure took a charge and create a Lady Owl

turnover and then hit from just inside the free throw line to tie the game at 26-26.

The 13-3 scoring run consumed a lot of Lady Mule energy and Hale Center took over the game and finished the quarter with a 6-0 scoring run.

The Lady Owls cruised to the win in the final period.

Precure led the Lady Mules with 15 points that included one trey and three free throws. Morris scored all nine of her points in the second half.

Cas and Jo Moore dropped in four points each. McKenna Dunham and Rempe chipped in two points each.

Hale Center scored first to open the game in Muleshoe. Dunham set the pick and Precure drove and raked her defender off on Dunham. Dunham rolled past the defense and Precure delivered her the ball for the easy shot to tie the game.

C. Moore hit an 18-foot shoot from the right wing. Precure brought the ball down the floor on the Lady Mules' next trip down the floor.

She saw an opening and drove to the hoop,

battled through a foul and scored. Precure added the free throw for an old-fashion-three-point play.

The Lady Owls hit a basket to cut the Lady Mule lead to 7-4 with four and half minutes left in the first quarter.

Morris kissed the ball off the glass on a 15-foot jump shot. Daniel Diaz made one of two free throws. As the clock ran under a minute Dunham made a pass to J. Moore waiting under the basket for an easy shot.

The Lady Mules led 12-8 at the end of the first period.

Morris hit from downtown to put the Lady Mules in front 15-8 thirty seconds into the second period.

Dunham put back and offensive rebound for a basket and was fouled. She added the free throw for a 19-12 Lady Mule lead midway through the second period.

The Lady Owls scored back-to-back baskets to cut the Lady Mule lead to 19-16 with under two minutes left in the half.

Mandy Scolley lined up a shot from the corner and nailed a

3-pointer. The next trip down the floor Scolley started a drive, pulled up and hit an eight foot jumper.

Dunham scored in the paint before the period ended to give the Lady Mules a 26-16 at the half.

C. Moore drained a 3-pointer from the corner to get the Lady Mules started in the third quarter.

Morris scored on an in bound play and two minutes later was fouled shooting and made a free throw. Precure fed Scolley on the baseline and she made the hoop for a 34-21 Lady Mule lead.

Cas Moore made her second trey of the quarter as time ticked away in the third quarter.

The Lady Mules led 37-25 as the final period began. Hale Center made a run at the Lady Mules but they were able to weather the storm for the win.

Precure made seven of 10 free throws to hold off the Lady Owls as she, Morris and Dunham finished with 10 points each Friday night against Hale Center.

C. Moore made two 3-pointers in the third period and scored eight points in the game.

Scolley added seven points, J. Moore added two points and Diaz



Photograph by Gabby Perez

Lady Mule Adrienne Precure takes a shot during the recent game against the Hale Center Lady Owls.

Owls Defeat Mules

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Mules got off to a fast start on the road in Hale Center Tuesday night. But the Owls came on strong in the second half to defeat the Mules 62-49.

The Mules led 11-10 after one quarter and were tied with the Owls at the half.

Eli Leal stuck back an offensive rebound and then stole the in bound pass and was fouled driving the lane. He made both free throws to put the Mules in front 4-3 with five and half minutes left in the first period.

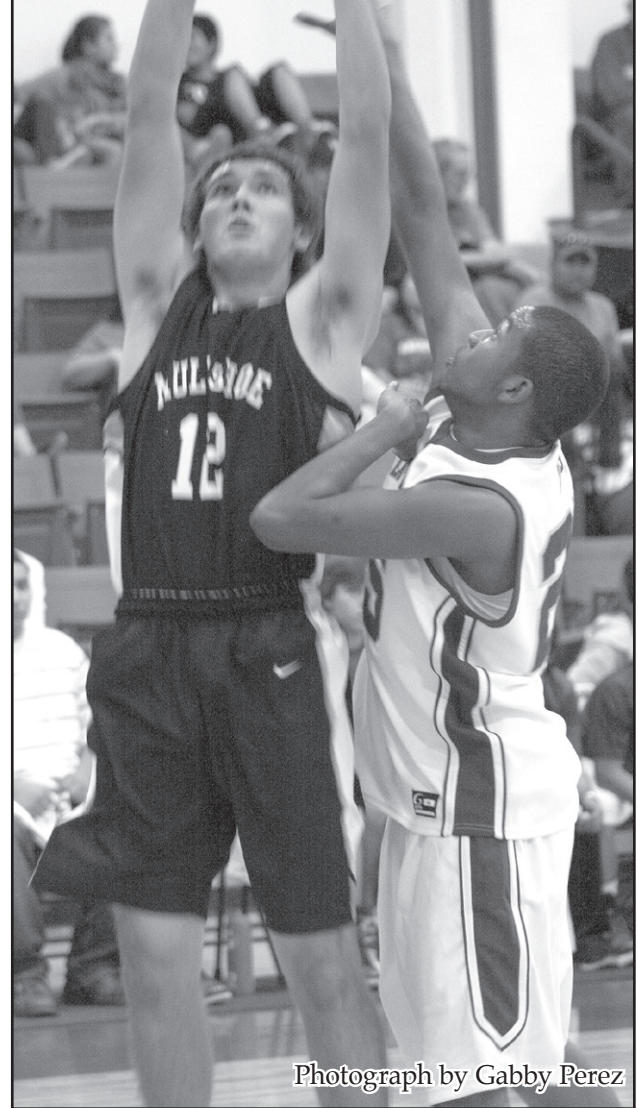
Shawn Atwood backed his defender under the hoop and scored. Saul Sanchez drove the left side for a hoop and a 9-6 Mule lead with two and half minutes left in the first quarter.

Leal picked an Owls pocket and drove the floor for a lay up. The Mules led by one point at the quarter break.

Matthew Barron and Austin Ross ran the give and go to perfection with Ross making the pass back to Barron for a lay up. Barron went coast-to-coast after grabbing a long Owl rebound for a 15-12 Mule lead with 6:30 remaining in the half.

Leal fired a three-quarter court pass to Sanchez running on a fast break. Leal hit a trey from the corner on the Mules next trip down the floor for a 20-14 Mule advantage.

Sanchez answered an Owl basket with a 3-pointer from the left



Photograph by Gabby Perez

Mule Shawn Atwood shoots during Hale Center game.

wing. Leal drove the lane for a hoop and the largest Mule lead of the game, 25-16.

The Owls went on a 12-3 scoring run in the final four minutes of the period to tie the game at 28-28 at the intermission.

Barron sank a trey to put a halt to an 11-point Hale Center scoring run. Ross put back an offensive rebound and Leal scored in the paint. The Owls led the Mules 48-35 with eight minutes left to play.

Leal made three of four free throws for all the Mules' points in the first three and half

Continued on B2



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SPORTS NEWS

JV Lad Mules 'Pound' JV Lady Owls

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Lady Mules pounded the Hale Center Lady Owls Tuesday evening 50-13.

The Lady Mules were entered in the Tulia Hornet Tournament over the weekend and turned Friday night's game over to the JVII Lady Mules.

Hale Center defeated the JVII Lady Mules 40-33.

The JV Lady Mules exploded for 18 points in the opening period and led 18-2 after one quarter.

Desiree Gutierrez led the way with three hoops and Esmeralda Flores and Shanice Rosas added two baskets each.

The Lady Mules led 26-7 at the half. The Lady Mule defense held the Lady Owls scoreless in the third period.

Rosas finished a break to open the second half. Angelina Perez made a steal and pushed the ball ahead to Carolina Franco for a fast break basket.

Franco hit a long basket before Celeste Flores drove coast-to-coast for a lay up. Sasha Esparza blocked a shot and then went down the floor and scored from six foot.

Alexis Cortez made a steal near mid court, took two dribbles and fired up a long two pointer to give the Lady Mules a 38-7 with one quarter left to play.

The Lady Mules cruised through the final period for the win.

Rosas led the Lady Mules with 10 points. Franco and C. Flores dropped in eight points each. Esparza and Gutierrez added six points apiece.

Aimee Rosas and E. Flores scored four points each and Cortez and Angelina Perez chipped in two points apiece.

The JVII Lady Mules Makenzie Zimmerman turned to the baseline

and sank a basket to cut the Lady Owl lead to 3-2 with 3:21 left in the first period.

Zimmerman finished a fast break to keep the Hale Center lead to a single point.

The Lady Mules trailed 5-4 as the second quarter began. Marissa Reyes drove the lane for basket and was fouled. She completed the three-point play and tied the game at 7-7.

Hale Center scored twice before Zimmerman used the glass to bank the

ball in the basket. Zoe Apodaca hit from eight feet to end the first half with the Lady Mules trailing 12-13.

Roxanne Mata put back an offensive rebound for a basket and tied the game at 18-18. Reyes stole the Owl in bound pass and scored to give the Lady Mules their first lead of the game.

Hale Center scored as time ran out to cut the Lady Mule lead to 23-22 with one quarter left to play.

The Owls went on an

eight point scoring run claim the lead.

Zimmerman led the Lady Mules in scoring with 17 points. Mata made all six of her points in the second half.

Reyes and Jasmine Garza added three points each. Apodaca and Denisse Ramirez chipped in two points each.

The JV Lady Mules traveled to Floydada Tuesday to play the Lady Winds and start district on Friday when Friona comes to town.

JV Mules Fall To Owls

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The JV Mules went to Hale Center Tuesday and were defeated by the Owls 39-23.

The Mules spotted the Owls a nine point lead in the first period.

Gerald Torres finally got the Mules on the score board with a shot

from the blocks with two and half minutes left in the first half.

Marco Daniel made a baseline jumper to end the scoring in the first half with the Mules trailing 19-4.

JJ Gandara went on a scoring spree for the Mules in the

Continued on B4

Dist. 3A Division II Honors Announced

By Cheri Sain
Sudan Correspondent

The All District selections for Dist. 3A Division II have been announced. The following athletes were those honored with selection:

District MVP, Nathan Garcia, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Offensive District MVP, Marco Terrones, Sr., Bovina; Defensive District MVP, Jeremy Gover, Sr., Springlake-

Earth; and Newcomer of the Year, John Angel Yannis, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Barry Johnson, So., Sudan

Offense
First Team Quarterback — Joseph Casas, So., Bovina; Second Team Quarterback — Jake Chester, Sr., Sudan.

First Team Running Backs — Kolten Morris, Sr., Farwell; Elder Rojas, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Andrew Marrufo, Sr.,

Bovina; Bill Nolte, Sr., Sudan.

Second Team Running Back — Elijah Ramon, So., Springlake-Earth; Richard Montes, Sr., Sudan; Gabriel De La Rosa, Sr., Bovina; Javier Nava, Sr., Morton.

First Team Receiver — Will Green, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Dayton Fisher, Sr., Sudan; Osmar Diaz, Sr., Sudan.

Second Team Receiver — Curt Langford, So., Farwell; JT Weldon, Jr., Springlake-Earth; Tanner Fisher, Jr., Sudan.

First Team Tight End — Ty Shaw, Jr., Sudan; Alex Mejia, Sr., Bovina.

Second Team Tight End — Zachary Castillo,

Sr., Bovina; Monroe Luther, Jr., Springlake-Earth.

First Team Offensive Line — Justin Curtis, Sr., Bovina; Luis Tafoya, Sr., Bovina; Eric Graxiola, Sr., Farwell; Kody Kuehler, Jr., Morton; Shane Roberson, Jr., Springlake-Earth; Naz Maldonado, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Damion Montes, Jr., Sudan.

Second Team Offensive Line — Juan Garcia, Sr., Bovina; JC Marrufo, So., Bovina; Zach Dale, Jr., Farwell; Logan Garner, So., Morton; Alfonso Trevizo, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Andrew Ramon, Sr.; Sudan, Luke Tiller,

Continued on B4

Seventh Grade Ladies Take Tourney Consolation Trophy

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The seventh grade Lady Mules lost to Shallowater, 30-19, in the opening game of the Slaton Tiger Tournament. However, the Lady Mules bounced back with a 48-13 win over Littlefield and took the consolation trophy with a 28-11 win over Post.

"The girls never quit playing against Shallowater," said Lady Mule coach Edie Niblett. "We decided to kick it up a notch and defensively out played Littlefield in our second game. Conley Niblett could not seem to miss against the Lady Cats."

"Post was very scrappy. Yvonne Diaz dominated at the post and Hallie Myatt made some awesome passes inside to her. It was a good tournament for us."

Shallowater took a 6-3 after one quarter but the Lady Mules battled back to cut the margin to 13-12 at the half. Shallowater had a big third period and out scored the Lady Mules 11-5 in the third quarter and held on for the win.

Yvonne Diaz led the Lady Mules with eight points. Niblett made six points and Myatt dropped in five.

The Lady Mules turned up the heat on the Lady Cats of Littlefield and ran out to an 11-5 lead after one quarter.

The second period was almost a repeat of the first with the Lady

Mules scoring 12 points and holding Littlefield to three.

The Lady Mules led 23-8 at the half.

The Lady Mules seemed to not miss a beat after the intermission and dumped in 14 points and the Lady Mule defense held Littlefield scoreless. The Lady Mules out scored the Lady Cats 10-5 in the final period.

Niblett had the hot hand with 24 points. Diaz dropped in 10 points and Myatt made six. Lili Barrera scored five points and Melody Moran chipped in two.

It took the Lady Lopes of Post a quarter to learn how to handle the Lady Mule high-powered offense.

The Lady Mules raced out to 16-5 lead in the first quarter.

Eight points was all the Lady Mules could put on the board in the second period but they held Post scoreless to lead 24-5 at the half.

The third period was a defensive battle with both teams scoring only two points.

Post out scored the Lady Mules 4-2 in the final period but the consolation went to the Lady Mules.

The Lady Mules visited the Lady Cats on Monday and it was a different day and different game.

The Lady Mules extended their season record to 6-2 with a 39-18 win over Littlefield.

"The atmosphere was insane and out of control," continued

Continued on B3

Varsity Mules...

Continued from B1
minutes of the fourth period.

The Owls had built a 58-38 lead over the Mules in that time.

The Mules battled back with Blayne Shipman making both free shots after being fouled shooting.

Barron picked off an Owl pass and drove for a hoop. Leal stuck back an offensive rebound and added two free throws.

Blaine Hurtado made a 12-foot baseline jump shot for the final points of the game.

The Mules out scored

the Owls 11-2 in the final three minutes.

Leal set the scoring pace for the Mules with 20 points.

Barron and Sanchez dropped in 10 points each and Hurtado added three. Atwood, Ross and Shipman chipped in two points apiece.

The Mules traveled to Floydada Tuesday to play the Whirlwinds. They make the short trip to Springlake-Earth to face the Wolverines Friday.

The Mules open district on the road in Olton against the Mustangs on Dec. 18.

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Seventh Grade Mules Defeat Bobcats, Before Fall To Wildcats

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The seventh grade Mules traveled to Dimmitt to tangle with the Bobcats in their third game of the season. The Mules took the lead in a defensive battle 3-0 in the opening period. The Mules clung to the three-point lead at the intermission 9-6.

Dimmitt made up the difference in the third period by out scoring the Mules 7-4. The game was tied at 13-13 when the final period started. The Mules won the battle in the final period 8-5 and defeated the Bobcats 21-18 to extend their season record to 2-1. Juan Sanchez led the

Mules in scoring with six points. Jacob Kettner added five points and Michael Lozano dropped in four points. The Mules ran into much bigger team than they had played when they hosted the Littlefield Wildcats on Dec. 3. The Mules were out scored 14-1 in

the opening period. Christian Gonzales made a free throw in the opening period for the Mules. Lozano made the only two points the Mules scored in the second period and the Wildcats led 26-3 at the intermission. The Mules did not score in the third period and the Wildcats built a 38-3 lead.



A seventh-grade Mule drives around a Littlefield Wildcat during the recent game.
Photograph by Gabby Perez

Seventh Grade Ladies...

Continued from B2 Niblett. "It was a very intense game but the girls kept their composure and came out with a win. They proved to be true athletes." "Conley (Niblett) had two fouls called on her in the first 30 seconds of the game and the foul count was 11-1 before the first half ended. But the girls were able to make adjustments and kept their heads in the game." "Hallie (Myatt) played every position on the floor and Yvonne (Diaz) went to the basket every time we got her the

ball. I was very proud of these young ladies for showing so much class." The Lady Mule took an 11-4 lead in the first quarter and pumped in 12 in the second period while holding the Lady Cats to five. The Lady Mule led 23-9 at the intermission. The Lady Mules slowed down some in the third period and made six points but held Littlefield to one. Diaz led the Lady Mules with 23 points. Niblett dropped in 10 points and Myatt scored six. The seventh grade

B-team Lady Mules battled to a 20-14 win over the Littlefield Lady Cats. The Lady Mules jumped out to a 14-3 lead by the half and cruised in the second half to the win. Brenda Martinez and Laura Chavez led the Lady Mules in scoring with eight points each. Alexandra Sanchez and Alexis Campos dropped in two points apiece. The Lady Mules hosted Tulia on Monday and then travel to Abernathy Dec. 17 for their final game before the Christmas break.

Lozano made a pair of free throws in the final period and Gonzales made a basket. Brendon Rodriguez chipped in a free throw in the final period. The Mules fell to the Wildcats 46-8. Lozano led the Mules with four points. Gonzales added three points and Rodriguez chipped in one. The Mules played in the Slaton Tiger Tournament over the weekend and travel to Tulia on Monday. The seventh grade Mules will return home Dec. 17 for their final game of 2012 when they host the Abernathy Antelopes.

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- West of Sudan 3-2-2 Brick Home on 5.57 acres, Cent. A&H, builtins, approx. 2688' lv. area, fenced yd., 40' x 80' quonset barn!! **MUCH MORE!! \$135K!!**
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Thanks for reading!

Freshman Wildcats Take The Win In Final Quarter

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The freshmen Mules hosted the Littlefield Wildcats Monday evening.

The Mules had 21 free throw opportunities and only cashed in on 11.

The Mules held a 34-23 lead over the Wildcats going into the final period.

The Wildcats out scored the Mules 21-9 in the fourth period to defeat the Mules 44-43.

The Mules hustled out to an 8-5 lead in the opening period. Josh Lopez scored two hoops and a free throw.

Tony Castillo made a basket and Antonio Vasquez added a free throw.

Lopez opened the second quarter with a pair of free throws and added a basket later in the period. Castillo dropped in three free throws and Vasquez added a hoop.

The Mules had increased their lead to 19-15 at the half.

Lopez scored three hoops in the third period and Castillo opened the quarter with a free throw and then made a pair of baskets.

Vasquez and Danny Campos made a basket

each.

The Mules had extended their lead to 34-23 after three quarters.

The Mule defense had trouble holding the Wildcats in the final frame. Lopez scored a basket and a free throw in the final quarter.

Castillo, Campos and Kevin Pope scored a basket each and the Mules were a point short of tie and two points short of a win.

The Mules traveled to Tulia on Monday and return home on Dec. 17 to host the Abernathy Antelopes just prior to the Christmas break.



A freshman Mule drives through a Littlefield player during the recent game. Photograph by Gabby Perez

Dist. 3A Division II Honors...

Continued from B2
 Jr. #72, Sudan.

Defense
 First Team Linebackers — Alejandro Guevara, Jr., Bovina; Kolten Morris, Sr., Farwell; Elder Rojas, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Richard Montes, Sr., Sudan.

Second Team Linebackers — Andrew Marrufo, Sr., Bovina; Dillion Kirkland, Jr., Farwell; Kody Kuehler, Jr., Morton; Andy Garcia, Jr., Springlake-Earth; Ethan Herrera, Jr., Sudan.

First Team Defensive Ends — Zachary Castillo, Sr., Bovina; Evan Riley, Jr., Springlake-Earth; Ty Shaw, Jr., Sudan.

Second Team Defensive Ends — Juan Garcia, Sr., Bovina; Josh Troglia, Sr., Farwell; Logan Garner, So., Morton; Chris Gresham, Sr., Springlake-Earth.

First Team Defensive Line — Alex Mejia, Sr., Bovina; Gerardo Martinez, Fr., Farwell; Monroe Luther, Jr., Springlake-Earth; Cole Helton, Jr., Sudan; Uriel Delgado, Jr., Sudan.

Second Team Defensive Line — JC Marrufo, So., Bovina; Justin Curtis, Sr., Bovina; Cheyenne Rodriguez, Sr., Farwell; Naz Maldonado, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Shane Roberson, Jr., Springlake-Earth; Jacob Jasso, Sr., Sudan.

First Team Secondary — Bill Nolte, Sr., Sudan; Jake Chester, Sr., Sudan;

Mookie Ross, Sr., Morton; Collin Christian, Sr., Farwell.

Second Team Secondary — Joseph Casas, So., Bovina; Elijah Ramon, So., Springlake-Earth; Will Green, Sr., Springlake-Earth; Dayton Fisher, Sr., Sudan.

Special Teams
 First Team Punter — Bretton Stancell, Sr., Farwell.
 Second Team Punter — Mookie Ross, Sr., Morton.
 First Team Kicker — Cesar Medrano, Sr., Sudan.
 Second Team Kicker — Elder Rojas, Sr., Springlake-Earth.
 Special Team Players (1 From each school) —

Abel Rocha, Sr., Bovina; Lazaro Velasquez, Jr., Farwell; Javier Nava, Sr., Morton; Eriq Lopez, Jr., Springlake-Earth; Osmar Diaz, Sr., Sudan.

Staff of the Year
 Springlake-Earth (Honorable Mention from Sudan) — Isiah Conley, Jr. Oline; Dex Baker, Jr. Oline; Cesar Medrano, Sr. LBDamion Montes, Jr. DT; Andrew Ramon, Sr. DE; Osmar Diaz, Sr. DB.

Academic All District from Sudan
 Adam Martin, Jake Chester, Osmar Diaz, Cesar Medrano, Wyatt Joyce, Xavier Trillo, Bill Nolte, Richard Montes, Dex Baker, Andrew Ramon, Edwin Delgado, Edwin Sital.

JV Mules...

Continued from B2

third quarter. He made three consecutive treys and added a free throw for the Mules only 10 points of the third quarter.

The Mules trailed 29-14 with one quarter left to play.

Chamel Regalado finished back-to-back fast breaks for the Mules. Daniels finished up the Mules scoring by putting back an offensive rebound for a hoop and was fouled driving the baseline and made a free throw.

Gandara led the Mules with 10 points. Daniels dropped in five points and Regalado added four. Keagan Gonzales and Torres chipped in two points each.

The Mules traveled to Floydada Tuesday to play the Whirlwinds and go to Springlake-Earth on Friday.

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