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Bridal Selections for
Jordan Lambert
 &
Michelle Markham
 Bridal Shower Date: April 10th

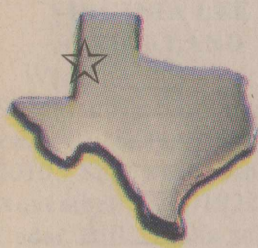
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VOLUME 114 NUMBER 12 THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2010 8 PAGES - 75¢



Courtesy photo GALA-The Kyle Sisters from Dripping Spring will be performing at this year's annual Floyd County Friends Unity Center benefit.

Annual Floyd County Friends Unity Center Gala March 27

By Elaine LaBaume
 The 15th Annual Floyd County Friends Unity Center Benefit Gala "Big City Lights" will be March 27th at 6:00 pm.
 This event is one of the most fun and enjoyable events for the area being known as "The biggest social event of the year in Floyd County."
 Hosts for the evening are Unity Center board members and the Floyd County 4-H'ers add to a fine dining experience as they serve a three course meal of a filet mignon steak, baked potato, salad and cheese cake served with strawberries as the dessert.
 Your ticket enrolls you for the \$1,000 give away sponsored by Monsanto and Delta Pine. Raffle tickets are available for purchase that gives you a chance to win several electronic items such as a 42" flat screen TV, 26" flat screen TV/DVD combo and a Sony Reader 6" Screen.
 Tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100, and there is a silent and live auction that offers a variety of items as well.
 The KYLE SISTERS from Dripping Springs, Texas will be the featured entertainment of the evening. They perform Southern Gospel, Inspirational and Country Songs including some "A Cappella."
 You will be ever so pleased and blessed by their harmony and singing talents.
 While the Gala is an annual event designed to be fun, entertaining and a step out of the normal routine, the true purpose behind the event is to help fund the Floyd County Friends Unity Center for another year. 'UNITY - DIVERSITY - PRIDE' was the three words that were the driving force of the Unity Center becoming a reality.
 It has had a positive impact on the lives of the citizens of Floyd and the surrounding counties. We strive to keep our building use fees affordable to all but the fees cannot fund the building for one year.
 Tickets for the "BIG CITY LIGHTS" gala can be purchased from Nick Long Insurance at 806-983-3441 or Unity Center manager, Jon LaBaume at 806-983-3334 in Floydada or D & J Gin in Lockney at 806-652-3351. Tickets are \$30 each or you can reserve a table of 8 for \$280.
 The Floyd County Friends Unity Center is a 30,000 square foot multi-purpose center located on Highway 70 half way between Floydada and Lockney. The facility was completed in December, 1999 and opened in January of 2000 and has the capacity to host a variety of events large or small.
 For more information about the Floyd County Friends Unity Center visit their website at www.floydcountyfriends.org.

Floydada Lions sponsor park revitalization project



Staff Photo by Jim Huggins PARK REVITALIZATION - Jimmy Willson (left) was one of the first contributors to the Floydada Lions Club park revitalization project. Willson presented a \$250 personal check and a check for \$250 from American Legion Post #118 to Lions Club President Bobby Gilliland (right).

The Floydada Lions club would like to invite all civic organizations, school organizations, booster clubs, businesses, and individuals in the Floydada community to help in replacing the playground equipment at Floydada, Park, just west of the Massie Activity Center. The Lions have selected playground equipment from Cedar Works Company.
 This project will greatly enhance our park area and encourage more families to utilize the park area with cookouts, birthday parties and family reunions. We would encourage the whole community to participate and help with the construction when the goal for the project has been met.
 The goal for the project is \$30,000 with half coming from the community and the other half coming through grants.
 You may make your tax-deductible donation to the Floydada Park Revitalization Project at the First National Bank. We would like to thank you in advance for your donation.

Floydada EDC assists local NAPA store

By Justin Jaworski
 Executive Director
 Floydada EDC
 Late last year, the Floyd County NAPA auto parts store owner began working on a way to transfer ownership to a local entrepreneur in Floydada.
 Upon hearing owner Johnny McDonald was considering a transfer of ownership, the Floydada Economic Development Corporation made contact with Wayne Klipping, NAPA's New Distribution Manager, to learn what assistance could be provided in this process.
 Klipping requested the EDC's assistance in locating an individual who would be willing and able to take ownership.
 The process began in November as McDonald discussed the idea with Klipping.
 To assist in this process, Floydada Economic Development Director Justin Jaworski began looking for potential owners in Floydada.
 In November, local ACE Hardware owner Wes Anderson contacted Jaworski concerning his interest in acquiring the NAPA business.
 Jaworski said, "I'm glad Wes approached the EDC for assistance; that is what we are here to do."
 Through the selection process the EDC had the opportunity to recommend Anderson to McDonald as the potential new NAPA owner.
 With the EDC's endorsement, McDonald then considered Anderson a viable candidate. As of February the NAPA business was sold and ownership was transferred to Anderson.
 Anderson said, "We are glad we can serve the local community and surrounding communities."

Young coach credits others for sensational season

By Nick Long
 Making it to the UIL State Basketball Tournament in Austin is a dream that almost every player and coach have in their careers, unfortunately a small number ever make it. Tyler Helms, a 2003 Floydada HS graduate, did it in his first try as Head Coach at a very young age of 25 by taking the Idalou Wildcats to the 2010 Class 2A State Championship game on Saturday, March 13. Very few have accomplished such a feat as what Helms and his young "Undercats" pulled off - a 30 win season and a first ever trip to State for the school.
 How incredible was this by Helms? How ironic is it when compared to Coaching Legends?
 Joe Lombard of Canyon made it to the State Tournament his first year as a Head Coach while at Nazareth at the age of 25. Lombard has since built a gaudy resume of 1,062-wins and only 98-losses (91% winning average); 19-State Tourney appearances; 14-State Championships



Courtesy Photo Tyler recognized his two seniors, C.J. Parkhill and Jacob Johnson at the post game news conference following the State Championship game. Despite the loss to Ponder, Idalou made a fairy tale like run through the playoffs under the leadership of 25-year old Coach Tyler Helms in his first ever Head Coaching position.

(12-girls and 2-boys titles); and has been inducted in to the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.
 Bobby Knight, the all-time winningest coach in NCAA basketball of 882-victories, took the U.S. Military Academy of West Point (Army) to the N-I-T Semifinals his first year as a Head Coach at age 24. Knight coached the Indiana Hoosiers to 3-National Championships,

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Lockney Chamber still in business

The Lockney Chamber of Commerce is still in business after a meeting last week attracted several people who expressed interest in helping to keep the organization in operation.
 New officers will be elected and more plans made during a meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, April 1 at Main Street Pizza.
 Chamber President Melissa Kunselman said the turnout was very good for a meeting held last Thursday to determine the future of the Chamber of Commerce in Lockney. The Chamber
 Continued on page 8

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1934 Study Club News

By Wilma Gowens

The 1934 Study Club met Tuesday, March 9, 2010 in the home of Diana Glover. Willie Mae Ferguson was the co-hostess. Delicious refreshments were served.

Nancy Marble, Executive Director of Floyd County Museum, gave a very interesting program. Nancy told us the history of Floyd County Museum and told us about the antiques stored in the museum and how the records are preserved. We all enjoyed learning about how genealogy records are obtained.

President Margarette Word called the meeting to order. Faye Bertrand led the "Club Collect." Marie Warren gave the roll call, which was answered with "Tornado observed and Weather," and she read the minutes from last month.

Members present were Faye Bertrand, Wilma Colston, Betsy Dempsey, Willie Mae Ferguson, Diana Glover, Wilma Gowens, Emagene Haenisch, Jo Lyles, Nell McClung, Marie Warren and Margarette Word.

The 1934 Study Club must say a reluctant good-bye to Nell McClung, who is moving from Floydada to be near her children. Nell has been a member of the club for many years, serving it willingly as president and other offices. It is sad to have to part with her and we wish her a wonderful life in her new home. Come see us Nell, we miss you already!

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 13, 2010 in the home of Betsy Dempsey with Faye Bertrand as co-hostess. Wilma Colston will present "Program Pictographs."

1950 Study Club News

By Margaret Jones

The 1950 Study Club met in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church for the March 1, 2010 meeting. The topic for the evening was "Knowledge-The Biggest Loser." Hostesses for the meeting were Lovene Moore and Billie Jordan.

President Lovene Moore called the meeting to order. Roll call was answered by "What you do for Exercise." The program's guest speaker, Glenna Ross, was introduced by Sue Moore.

Glenna shared with the

members the importance of exercising to not only keep our bodies, but also our minds toned and physically fit. We were reminded of the importance of warming-up before exercising and cooling-down after we finish. Members went through an abbreviated program of exercising and were made aware that most of us have a need for taking better care of our bodies. Under Glenna's leadership, a group of ladies known as The Firm Believers meet each Tuesday and Thursday

morning from 9 to 10 in the First Baptist Fellowship Hall for toning, exercising, muscle strengthening, and walking. Using beautiful music with a tempo for motivation and the fellowship of friends makes exercising not only rewarding, but a time of pleasure and relaxation. Members brought canned goods to use as weights as they exercised, then to be donated to the Spirit of Sharing.

Following the program members enjoyed refreshments served by hostesses Lovene Moore and Billie Jordan.

The club's next meeting entitled "Knowledge-Read a Good Book," will be April 6, 2010. Program hostess is Joy Assiter and the program is entitled "First We Have Coffee," with Bill Ferguson as our guest speaker.

Hostesses for the meeting will be Mary Quattlebaum and Carlyn Crawford.

YMCA Continues to Seek Community Input from Floyd County

Representatives from the Plainview YMCA met with Floydada representatives in February to discuss the possibility of opening a location in Floydada. According to Plainview YMCA Executive Director, Rob Wilkinson, several Floydada residents make use of the Plainview facility and as a result, generated interest in researching the feasibility of such an endeavor. In order to begin the process of researching what types of services might be offered, the YMCA needs to hear from the community. Please take a moment to complete the survey. You may fill out the copy of the survey included below this article and mail it to the EDC at P.O. Box 15 in Floydada. If you would prefer to fill out the survey online, you may access it on the EDC's website at www.floydadaedc.com and complete the survey through the link found at the bottom of the YMCA news article. Simply click on the link at the bottom of the article entitled "YMCA Seeks Community Input from Floyd County." (This article first appeared on the Floydada EDC web site on February 22, 2010.)

YMCA Community Survey

The YMCA is interested in receiving feedback from the Floyd Co. Community on how we could potentially serve you. We'd like to learn more about the programs, activities, and facility needs that interest you. Below is a list of potential program opportunities. Please take the time to rate the program items from 1-9 in order of importance, with 1 as the most important. Thanks for your cooperation.

Programs:

- 1. Fitness (i.e. wellness center, youth fitness classes, aerobic classes, etc.) _____
- 2. Aquatics (i.e. mom/tot classes, swim lessons, therapy, etc.) _____
- 3. Teens (i.e. teen fitness, drop in center, day camps, etc.) _____
- 4. Family (i.e. parent's night out, game/movie nights, special events, etc.) _____
- 5. Youth Sports (i.e. t-ball, basketball, soccer, flag football, golf, etc.) _____
- 6. Adult Sports (i.e. softball, basketball, etc.) _____
- 7. Senior Activities (i.e. fitness classes, book clubs, computer classes, etc.) _____
- 8. Youth (i.e. child care, day camps, pre-school activities) _____
- 9. General (i.e. nutrition, drama/theater/dance, weight loss, etc.) _____

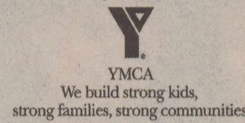
Facility:

Where would you like to see a modified YMCA facility located?

What type of fitness equipment would you like to see available? (i.e. treadmills, ellipticals, bikes, weight equipment)

General Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.



VJ's News

By Vera Jo Bybee

Wind!! Wind!!! You can certainly tell it is still the month of MARCH. By the time you receive this issue of this Floyd County paper it will be March 18th. I am from the town who calls the paper the "Beacon" but the same paper is read by people who call it the Hesperian. No matter what town we are from, the news is the same. It is about people and what they are doing.

The thing I miss the most is not having my grandsons playing in all the sports. I loved baseball and track season but now that I am the Great Granny the wind bothers me more. Who am I kidding, everything bothers me more. I do hope I can make some of the ballgames this weekend when the Horns will be hosting "The Field of Dreams" baseball tournament. All of you come out and enjoy some good baseball.

As usual I call Gene Brotherton every Sunday afternoon and ask about the Center and what went on down there this week. She said it was all homefolks this week. They did have a board meeting because it is time

to consider names for the officers for the coming year but guess what the offices are hard to fill. Surprise, there are no volunteers for any of the offices. Come on folks we need some new workers. We are about to work the old officers to death. Not that they haven't done a wonderful job but it gets to be tiresome after a while. She said they are also having a roof leak on the flat tin roof. Hope they find someone to fix a tin roof before the leak does some real damage.

We have a lot of people who need our thoughts and prayers this week so please add all the people mentioned below to your prayer list.

Sterling Cummings is home recuperating at home from heart surgery. Vicky Schaeffer is recuperating from lung cancer. Barry and Algene Barker, Barry is taking treatment for esophagus cancer. Their daughter Beverly Barker is here for a few days. I'm sure her school is on spring break. Pam Brandes Hall is here for a few days visiting her mother Georgie Brandes who is taking treatment for colon cancer. Virginia Taylor is home now recuperating

from a knee replacement. Walter Reves is now home after spending a week in Mangold Memorial Hospital with pneumonia. Megan and Elle McPherson will be making another trip to Fort Worth Tuesday for another checkup on Elle's cranial surgery. Elle may come home with her "helmet" which she will have to wear at least four months and Meagan is still on her heart medicine. We hope her heart is responding to the medicine.

Our sympathy goes out to Bill and Mary Quattlebaum on the death of their son Gregg of Plano who passed away March 12. Graveside services were held Monday at Caps cemetery in Abilene.

Graveside services for Virginia Strickland were held Monday in the Lockney Cemetery. Virginia and her deceased husband Leonard are former Lockney residents.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Cooper family on the passing of Teddy Bob Cooper in Plainview March 11. Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 16 in Lockney's First Baptist Church.

MENU

March 22-26

- Monday:** pork chops
- Tuesday:** scrambled hamburger
- Wednesday:** chicken and rice
- Thursday:** soup and cornbread
- Friday:** fish

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Obituaries

Neugebauer Honored With Taxpayers' Friend Award



VIRGINIA LEE STRICKLAND

Virginia Lee Strickland, 87, passed away Tuesday, March 9, 2010. She was born on November 27, 1922 in Cedar Hill, Texas to the late Bishop and Nancy Wigington.

Virginia is survived by her daughter, Carol Stewart and husband, Mike of Port Lavaca; son, Tom Strickland and wife, Linda of Evergreen, Colorado; brother, Don Wigington of Albuquerque, New Mexico; grandchildren, Tonya Griffith, Cynthia Stewart, Ashley Perillo and Kimberly Storm; and two great-grandsons.

In addition to her parents, Virginia was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard Strickland and her brother, James Eldon Wigington.

The family received friends from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday, March 14, 2010 at Alamo Heights Baptist Church. Funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 15, 2010 at the Alamo Heights Baptist Church with Dr. Tim Smith and Rev. Dewayne Wise officiating.

Burial was held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2010 at the Lockney Cemetery in Lockney, Texas.

Arrangements were under the direction of Grace Funeral Chapel, 1604 W. Austin, Port Lavaca, Texas.



Congressman Neugebauer Earns the 2009 Taxpayers' Friend Award

WASHINGTON, DC — Congressman Randy Neugebauer was recognized this week for his outstanding pro-taxpayer voting record last year. The National Taxpayers Union (NTU), a nonpartisan citizen group, presented Congressman Neugebauer with the 2009 Taxpayers' Friend Award.

"Given today's economic climate, fiscal discipline is more important now than ever. It's an honor to receive the Taxpayers' Friend Award on behalf of the people of the 19th Congressional District and over-burdened taxpayers across the nation.

"At a time when our economy is struggling to recover, families remain concerned about their jobs and small businesses are trying to create jobs. One of my top priorities in Congress this year will be working to prevent job-killing tax increases and promote good government policy that spurs economic growth and strengthens our ability to create new jobs.

"As your voice in Congress, I will continue to

stand firm in my belief that we cannot continue to borrow and spend our way back to economic prosperity. The necessary road to recovery must be based on the principle of empowering Americans through limited government, tax relief and fiscal and personal responsibility if we want lower taxes and a less wasteful government for future generations of Americans."

Note: Congressman Neugebauer received a 93 percent rating ("A") for his votes in 2009 and placed 11th among all House members in the ratings. This award is given to Representatives and Senators who achieve an "A" grade in NTU's annual Rating of Congress. The Rating, which is based on every roll call vote affecting fiscal policy, assigns a "Taxpayer Score" to each Member of Congress that indicates his or her support for reducing or controlling federal spending, taxes, debt, and regulation. For 2009, a total of 333 House votes were selected.

This Week's

OLD SETTLERS ASSOCIATION MEETING
The Old Settlers Association will hold a meeting on Thursday, March 18th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the First National Bank of Floydada.

Thank you to everyone who provided support during our family's time of loss. The food, drinks, flowers, and donations were greatly appreciated.
Special thanks to the Floydada Rehab and Care Center and to Hospice Hands of Lockney. We cannot express enough gratitude for your thoughts, prayers, words of encouragement and attendance at the funeral service. Your kindness was of great comfort.
The Family of Lisa Caballero

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National AG Day - March 20

Floyd County Church Directory

<p>AIKEN BAPTIST CHURCH Dennis Butler, Pastor Morning Worship .. 11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH 810 S. 3rd, Floydada Darwin Robinson, Pastor 983-5278 Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:50 a.m. Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>CALVARY'S CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP Floydada Armando Morales, Pastor Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Bible Study6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>CARR'S CHAPEL Service Every Sunday: Morning Worship9:00 a.m. Sunday School10:30 a.m. *****</p> <p>CHURCH OF CHRIST West College & Third, Lockney Steve McLean -Minister Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ...5:30 p.m. Wednesday Service 7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>CITY PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST Levi Sisemore, Minister Floydada Sunday Bible Study..9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ...6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Terry Simmons, Minister of Ed./Music Sunday School9:15 a.m. Morning Worship ...10:30 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study...6:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Lockney John Franklin, Pastor Chad Cook, Youth Min. Phil Cotham, Music Min.. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday.....6:30 p.m. *****</p>	<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Floydada Rev. Les Hall, Pastor Early Worship8:30 am. Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ...10:50 a.m. Youth (Sunday).....5:00 p.m. Youth (Wednesday)..7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Lockney Rev. Ricky Carstensen Pastor Sunday School9:30 a.m. Worship Service10:30 a.m. Evening Service..... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Jr. High5:30 p.m. Wed. High School... 6:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>GRANT CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Joe Bennett, Pastor Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....7:30 p.m. Tuesday.....8:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST Lockney Jay Don Poindexter, Minister Bible Study9:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:30 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wednesday7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Floydada Rev. Ralph Jackson 401 N 12th St (983-5805) Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Evening Worship6:00 p.m. Wednesday Study ...7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>NEW SALEM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH Floydada Pastor Elder Ronnie Hedges (806) 637-0430 Sunday Singing10:30 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>OUT REACH HARVEST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 310 E. Mississippi Floydada Rev. David Ramos, Pastor Ester Ramos, Praise Leader Sunday Bible...10:00 a.m. Morning Praise...11:00 a.m. Evening Praise ...5:00 p.m. Wed. Worship.... 7:00 p.m. *****</p>	<p>POWER OF PRAISE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH Rev. Manuel Rendon, Pastor 704 N. Main, Lockney Sunday Services....10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Lockney Jesus Caballero, Pastor Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service11:00 a.m. Discipleship5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA Floydada Pastor Reverend Raymond Asebedo Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..10:55 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Evening6:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>SAN JOSE CATHOLIC CHURCH Lockney Jim McCartney, Pastor Wed. Communion....8:00 p.m. Sunday Mass.....11:30 a.m. *****</p> <p>SOUTH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH Joe Weldon, Pastor Sunday School10:00 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting..... 7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO GETSEMANI ASSEMBLY OF GOD 701 W. Missouri Andy Rodriguez 983-5286 (church) 983-3047 (parsonage) Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ...11:00 a.m. Evening Service.....5:00 p.m. Wednesday.....7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>ST. MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH Floydada Rev. Angelo Consemينو Phone: 983-5878 Sunday Mass.....11:30 a.m. Mon.Wed. Mass6:30 p.m. Confession Sat.....10-11 a.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO BAUTISTA SALEM Lockney Rev. Joe Hernandez Sun. Prayer Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School9:45 p.m. Worship Service ...11:00 a.m. Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m. Wed. Meeting7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO BETHEL SPANISH ASSEMBLY OF GOD Washington and 1st St. Sunday School9:45 a.m. Morning Worship ..11:00 a.m. Evening Worship ... 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service7:00 p.m. *****</p> <p>TEMPLO NUEVA VIDA Rev. Herman Martinez 308 W. Tennessee, Floydada Sunday School10:00 a.m. Evening Worship5:00 p.m. Tuesday.....7:30 p.m. Thursday Service....7:30 p.m. *****</p> <p>Trinity Assembly 500 W. Houston, Floydada Henry Russell, Co-Pastor Vance Mitchell, Co-Pastor Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship 10:40 a.m. Sunday Evening 5 p.m. *****</p> <p>TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Providence Community on FM 2301 293-3009 Rev. Peter W. Harrington Minister Sunday School9:45 a.m. Worship Service ...11:00 a.m. *****</p> <p>WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST Floydada 983-3548 Sunday Worship ...10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening5:00 p.m.</p>
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<p>American State Bank Member FDIC 217 W. California 983-3725</p>	<p>Goen & Goen Insurance 102 E. California 983-3524</p>
<p>Barwise Gin Barwise Community 983-2737</p>	<p>Lockney Co-op Gin 652-3377</p>
<p>Tastee Burger 116 North Main 652-2630</p>	<p>Oden Chevrolet Inc. 221 S. Main, Floydada 983-3787</p>
<p>Clark Pharmacy 320 N. Main - Lockney 652-3353</p>	<p>Payne Family Pharmacy 200 S. Main, Floydada 983-5111</p>
<p>Davis Lumber 102 E. Shubet Lockney 652-3385</p>	<p>Pay-n-Save 210 N. Main Lockney 652-2293</p>
<p>Sawaya Ins. Agency 120 E. 7th Street Plainview 293-1318</p>	<p>Schacht Flowers, Jewelry & Gifts 112 W. Poplar, Lockney 652-2385</p>
<p>Lighthouse Electric Coop 703 A Matador Hwy 983-2814</p>	<p>Sunshine Pump Oliver Clark Box 266, Lockney 983-5087 - 774-4412 (Mobile)</p>
<p>Shepherd's Meadow Assisted Living 1230 S. Ralls Hwy Floydada 983-8177</p>	

McKenzie Kemp earns state berth in powerlifting

By Coach Kyle Browne

The Lockney Lady Horns powerlifting team had the pleasure of taking one of their girls to the regional powerlifting meet in Monahans, Texas. McKenzie Kemp had her best meet of the season, and it showed in the end. It came down to the final lift of the meet, Kemp had to deadlift 290 pounds to punch her ticket to the state meet. With no doubt in her mind or Coach Browne's mind that she was going to get it, McKenzie had her best

and most important lift of the season.

It has been a great season for the Lady Horns and there is nothing better than to top it off with a state berth. "McKenzie has worked very hard this year and has improved every week. I am very proud of her accomplishments, and I know she will represent Lockney very well at the state meet." Coach Browne.

The state meet will be held in Corpus Christi on March 19-20 with the meet starting at 9 a.m. both days.

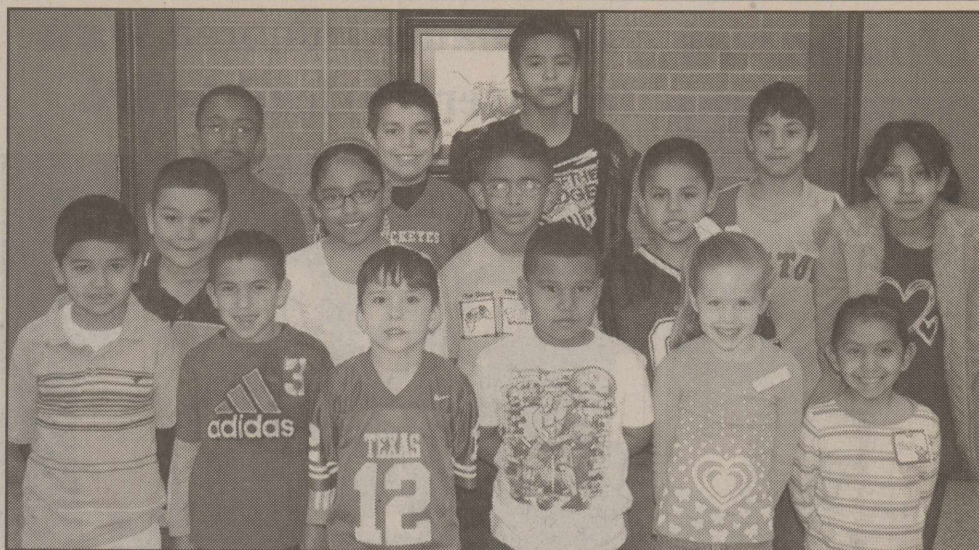
Private applicator and WPS handler training March 30

By J. W. Wagner
Texas AgriLife Extension
Agent - Agriculture

Area residents who are in need of a private pesticide applicator's license from Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) can attend training on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Ralls Methodist Church located at 517 Watts Ave. in Ralls, TX. This is a Multi-County event sponsored by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service

in Floyd and Crosby County. The private applicators license allows an individual to apply restricted use pesticides to their own property for the production of an agricultural commodity. This license does not allow one to apply pesticides to the property of any other individual for a fee; that requires a Commercial Applicator License. This training is required by TDA before an individual can take the test for a license.

The training will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the Pesticide Applicator test (no fee to test) will be administered after the training. Persons planning to attend need to call the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Crosby County Office (806-983-4912) by March 19th to make a reservation and order study materials. There will be a \$25.00 fee collected for study materials. A Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Handler Training will also be conducted for Agriculture producers and workers at the same time as the Private Applicator training. Debbie Slocum, Inspector for the Texas Department of Agriculture along with Jeff Wyatt, County Extension Agent will conduct the trainings. The WPS Handler (green card) training will be conducted in both English and Spanish. The English version will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the Spanish version of the training will start at 11:00 a.m. The Workers Protection Standard requires that any worker who handles or works around pesticides and is not a Private Applicator must receive training on pesticide handling and chemical safety. These farm workers and handlers must be re-trained every five years in WPS. For more information, please contact the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Floyd County Office (806-983-4912) or the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Crosby County Office (806-675-2347).



Staff Photo by Jim Huggins

LITTLE LONGHORNS – Lockney Elementary School students of the week. Left to right, front row: Nick Castro, Gunnyr Araujo, Silas Poole, Ky Rendon, Clare Smith, Thalia Ascencio. Middle row: Cristian Gonzalez, Destiny Soliz, Joshua Pena, Shawn Marquez, Alexis Chavez. Back row: Tavien Walrath, Jonathan Rodriguez, Ethan Fernandez, Joe Ochoa.

Lockney Junior High, JV boys at Hale Center meet

By Coach Reyes Garza

Lockney Junior High participated in the Hale Center track meet on Thursday, March 3. Both seventh and eighth grade Shorthorns finished fourth as teams.

Here are the individual results:

7th Grade

400 relay--2nd place - Ryan Poole, Nik Sherman, Michael Guerrero, Ignacio Tapia.
800 relay--3rd place - Ryan Poole, Alex Rogers, Nik Sherman, Ignacio Tapia.
1600 relay--4th place - John Palomin, Nik Sherman, Michael Guerrero, Ignacio Tapia
200 dash--Darin DeLeon (4th)
Shot put--Paul Martinez (2nd), John Palomin (4th), Michael Guerrero (6th).
High Jump--Ignacio Tapia (1st).
Long Jump--Nik Sherman (5th).

8th Grade

400 relay--3rd place - DeMario Means, Ky Teeter, Collin Fulton, Jake Bramlet
800 relay--3rd place - David Johnson, Ky Teeter, Collin Fulton, Jake Bramlet
1600 relay--3rd place - David Johnson, Ky Teeter, Collin Fulton, Jake Bramlet

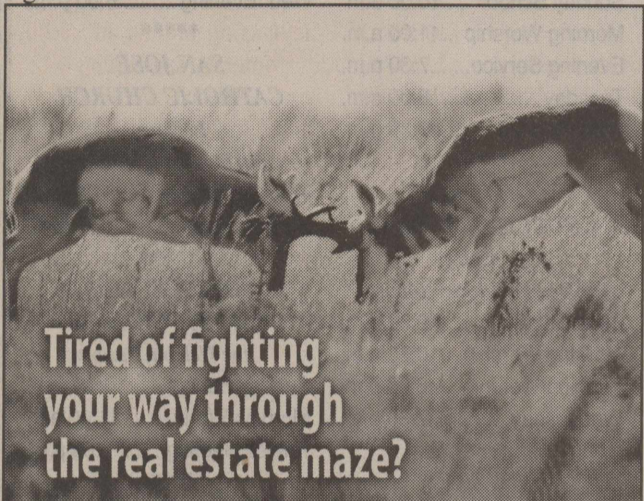
Shot put--Collin Fulton (3rd).
High Jump--Ky Teeter (5th).
Triple Jump--Jake Bramlet (2nd)

Junior Varsity

The Lockney JV tracksters also participated in the Hale Center track meet on March 5. They finished fifth as a team.

Here are the individual results:

400 relay--4th place - Andrew Hooten, Luke Sherman, Tyler Covington, Alejandro Salazar.
800 relay--5th place - Andrew Hooten, Luke Sherman, Tyler Covington, Alejandro Salazar.
Shot put--Shaquille Thompson (1st), Josh Cuellar(3rd.)
Discus--Shaquille Thompson(4th)
High Jump--Tyler Covington (1st), Alejandro Salazar (2nd).
Long Jump--Luke Sherman (2nd).
Triple Jump--Luke Sherman (5th).
All Lockney track teams participated in the Whirlwind Relays in Floydada last week, junior high on Thursday and the high school on Friday.



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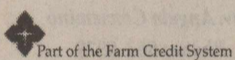
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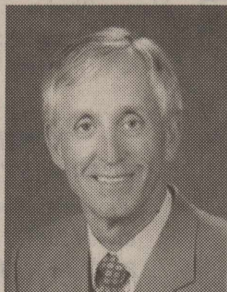
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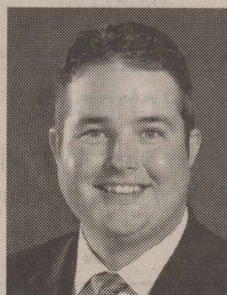
Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.



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The exchange students arrive from their home country shortly before school begins and return at the end of the school year or semester. Each World Heritage student is fully insured, bring his or

her own personal spending money and expects to bear his or her share of household responsibilities, as well as being included in normal family activities and lifestyles.

Families may select the student of their choice from extensive student applications, family photos and biographical essays.

To become a host family or to find out how to become involved with WH as Host Family in your community, please contact WH Head Office at info@world-heritage.org. There are many students to choose from, so call and begin the process of welcoming your new son or daughter into your family now.

Email us at fchb.editor@yahoo.com
Visit us on-line at hesperianbeacononline.com

THANK YOU

I appreciate your encouragement and support in the primary election

LINDAN MORRIS

Floyd County Commissioner
Precinct 2

Lockney School Menu

Lockney School Menu
March 22-26

MONDAY

Breakfast: muffin or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: steak fingers or chicken patty, potatoes, green peas, apricots, roll, milk

TUESDAY

Breakfast: sausage/biscuit or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: beef tacos or grilled cheese, pinto beans, salad, fruited gelatin, cornbread, milk

WEDNESDAY

Breakfast: rice or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: baked chicken or corn dog, potatoes, broccoli, apple cobbler, roll, milk

THURSDAY

Breakfast: ham/eggs or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: baked potato or burrito, salad, peaches, roll, milk

FRIDAY

Breakfast: cinnamon roll or cereal, toast, juice, milk
Lunch: hamburger or tuna sandwich, baked fries, salad, fruit juice bar, milk

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Courtesy Photo

A. B. DUNCAN THIRD GRADE "RAD READERS" wearing their radical t-shirts are (back row, l-r) Jesus Castillejo, Jacob Thomas, Javier Olivera, Jazmine Rivas; (front row, l-r) Allison Orr, Kylie Ricketts, Emanuel Torres and Alesse Davis.

A.B. Duncan Third Graders Become RAD Readers

A. B. Duncan Third Graders are learning to love to read! In fact, they are becoming absolutely RADICAL about reading!

Third Graders were challenged to earn 50 A. T. points in order to become RAD Readers. When a student becomes a RAD Reader, he or she is presented with a radical t-shirt.

They then participate in various activities that promote reading on their campus. One of

these includes becoming a RAD Buddy to a student in a younger grade. RAD Buddies go to the other student's classroom daily to help their little buddy with an assignment, listen to them read, or to read to their buddy. They will sometimes have special lunches together, be library helpers, and read even more to become REALLY RAD Readers by earning 500 A. R. points.

Gov. Perry: Federal Government Must Take Action To Prevent Spillover Violence from Mexico

AUSTIN - In light of increasing bloodshed in northern Mexico, including the deaths of individuals with U.S. consulate ties, Gov. Perry today called on the federal government to take immediate action to prevent spillover violence on U.S. soil.

"Over the weekend, more innocent people fell victim to the increasingly ruthless Mexican drug cartels, including the murder of a pregnant American woman and her American husband in Juarez," Gov. Perry said. "How many Americans will have to die before our federal government takes serious action along the Texas-Mexico border? For years, they have failed in their vital duty to secure the border, resulting in escalating violence along the Texas-Mexico border. The federal government must immediately take steps to increase resources along the border to protect American lives.

"As we express sympathy for the lives lost, we are also dismayed by the brutal and cowardly tactics of the drug cartels, and we will continue supporting President Calderon's efforts to defeat them by committing our own resources here in Texas to amplify border security efforts."

As a result of the increase in violence, the Texas Department of Public Safety has urged all Texas students to avoid traveling to border cities in Mexico during spring break, and extra troopers will be on patrol as a precaution.

Last week, Gov. Perry sent a letter to U.S. Homeland

Security Secretary Janet Napolitano requesting that the federal government utilize Unmanned Aircraft Systems, also known as predator drones, for missions over the Texas-Mexico border. This would provide an additional surveillance element, supplying valuable information to local, state and federal law enforcement along the border. Currently the three predator drones assigned to the southwest border are based in and operating exclusively in Arizona.

Since January 2009, Gov. Perry has repeatedly urged the federal government, through letters to President Barack Obama, Secretary Janet Napolitano and Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, to approve his request for 1,000 Title 32 National Guardsmen to support civilian law enforcement efforts to enhance border security in Texas. While Washington continues to review this request, more Americans are at risk of falling victim to the increasing violence.

A porous border places Texas and the nation at risk from international terrorists, organized crime cartels and transnational gangs. Until the federal government fulfills its responsibility of securing our border, Texas will continue filling in the gaps by putting more boots on the ground, providing increased law

enforcement resources and leveraging technology along the border.

In the absence of adequate federal resources to secure the state's southern border, Gov. Perry launched the state's recent border security enhancement using highly-skilled Ranger Reconnaissance (Ranger Recon) Teams to address the ever evolving threat along the Texas-Mexico border. Additionally, under the governor's leadership, and thanks to action taken by the Legislature, the state has dedicated more than \$110 million to border security efforts in each of the last two legislative sessions.

To view Gov. Perry's recent letter to Sec. Napolitano, please visit <http://governor.state.tx.us/files/press-office/O-NapolitanoJanet20100312.pdf>

Thanks for Reading!

FLOYDADA SCHOOL MENU

March 22 - March 26

Monday Breakfast-Scrambled eggs, toast and jelly or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch- Burrito, Spanish rice, tossed salad, fresh fruit choice, sugar cookie, milk	gravy, green beans, hot roll, frozen cherry bar, milk
Tuesday Breakfast- Mini banana loaf or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch-Barbequed chicken, macaroni and cheese, tossed salad, chilled pears, cornbread, milk	Thursday Breakfast- English muffin with egg, cheese, sausage or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch- Fajita chicken over rice, broccoli & cheese, seasoned corn, French bread stick, pineapple crisp, milk
Wednesday Breakfast-Pancake & sausage on a stick or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch-Steak fingers, mashed potatoes/	Friday Breakfast - Cinnamon roll, fruit or cereal and graham crackers, juice, milk Lunch- Pizza, tossed salad, fresh fruit, chocolate cake, milk

SPC Crosbyton Center to offer MS Word course March 25

LEVELLAND - South Plains College Crosbyton Center will offer a Microsoft Word 2007 class starting March 25 through April 15. The class will meet on Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at the center located at 206 Aspen St.

The cost of the course is \$40. No textbook will be required. Lauren Watkins, instructor in Business Administration at SPC, will teach the course.

Registration will be handled from 5:30 to 6 p.m. March 22 at the SPC Crosbyton Center. The class will meet four times.

In the class, MS Word 2007, students will

create, edit, save, open and print documents; change the document appearance through formatting, indenting and aligning, setting tab stops and inserting page breaks. Students will learn how to make additional enhancements to the document using bullets and numbers, headers and footers, spell checker and thesaurus and Autocorrect. Instruction will be provided in terminology, computer operations, editing functions, formatting and special text options.

For more information, contact Jim Walker, dean of Continuing and Distance Education, at (806) 716-2340.



Courtesy Photo

A.B. DUNCAN STUDENTS OF THE WEEK for March 22, 2010 were (back row l-r) Ruth Ramirez, Luke Holcombe, Jaqueline Pancardo, Kennedy Coon; (front row, l-r) Jarrah Gonzales, Brock Powell and Peyton Anderson.

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Floyd County Friends Fifteenth

Annual Gala

March 27 at 6 p.m.

Tickets available from:

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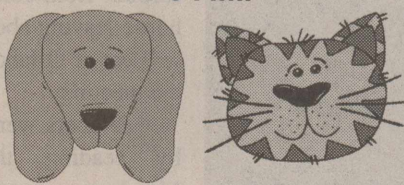
\$30 each or

\$280 for a table

Your presence supports the Unity Center's continued operation!

ANIMAL CLINIC

THURSDAY, APRIL 1ST, 2010
4-6 P.M.



City Tag	\$3.00
Feline Leukemia & Distemper Shot	\$20.00
Parvo Shot	\$10.00
Rabies Shot	\$10.00
Distemper Shot	\$10.00

Paul Glasson, DMV will administer shots at the back door of the Floydada Fire Hall.

Call 983-2834 for more information.

This community service is sponsored by the City of Floydada



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Floydada Senior Citizen News

By Margarette Word

Remember our mailing address is P.O. Box 573. To come and eat with us we are located at 301 E. Georgia Street. Our phone number is 983-2032.

Last Monday, March 8th, Evalene Goodnight ate with us. She has been in San Jose, California for a few months. We are glad she is home.

Doug and Elaine Galloway are new members to the Center. Doug recently retired from the post office so they want to visit with us and eat a good hot lunch. Sometimes after lunch some of our members gather around the piano and sing songs.

James and Sue Lovell have been away for a while. This past week they and their grandson, Adam have been eating with us. We are happy they are back. We really missed them.

Wanda Williams was given an 80th birthday party Sunday afternoon, March 7th, at the First United Methodist Church. A large crowd came by to wish her "Happy Birthday". The party was hosted by her children.

Wednesday, March 10th Sharon Fisher of Lubbock came to spend the day and

eat lunch at the Center with her aunt, Dahlia and Henry Russell.

Other visitors at the Center on Monday were Nelda Ryals and Alyssa Ryals of Aztec, New Mexico. Nelda is the sister of Winola Galloway. They were in Floydada to attend the wedding of Winola and Jerry Galloway's granddaughter that took place Saturday, March 13th.

We want to "THANK" Gary Pate for the repair work on a railing at the Center. It was coming apart and he was so good to volunteer to repair it.

Also "THANKS" to Herman Graham! He brought material in and fixed the potholes in our parking lot. We had several. Now it is better to drive on and safer to walk on too.

Pat Wooten, the Calvert Lifeline Coordinator, gave us a talk on Wednesday, March 10th about the need to wear a lifeline necklace or bracelet in case of a fall and to have security knowing that help is just a push button away. They are reasonable in price and it does give you security.

Margaret Soudelier has returned home from a three-week visit with her sister,

Glays Fitch in Yuma, Arizona. They did a lot of visiting, eating out, and shopping. They also made a trip into Algodones, Mexico. It was no problem getting into Mexico, but they had to stand in a slow moving line about three blocks long to get back into the states.

Our sympathy to the family of Maria Elena Cisneros.

Our sympathy to the family of Dale Griffin.

Our sympathy to the family of Elizabeth "Lisa" Ann Caballero.

Thank you for remembering the Center when you need to make a memorial donation.

In memory of James Malett - Ed and Terry Paul.

In memory of Dale Griffin - James and Sue Lovell.

In memory of Myria Dade - Willie Mae Ferguson.

Thought for the Week -

There is a Chinese proverb that says: If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

MENU

March 22 - March 26
Monday - Taco salad, pinto beans, rice, pudding
Tuesday - Meatloaf, buttered potatoes, spinach, roll, jello
Wednesday - Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, cookies
Thursday - Mushroom chicken, peas, corn, roll, fruit
Friday - Hamburger steak, au gratin potatoes, broccoli.

Subscribe Today!

Barlow Girl headlines Big Weekend concert at Wayland



By Jonathan Petty

PLAINVIEW - Wayland Baptist University welcomes Christian recording artist Barlow Girl to Herral Memorial Auditorium in concert Friday, March 26 at

7 p.m. Barlow Girl will be performing, along with the groups Stellar Kart and Vota. Tickets for the event are \$10 for general admission. VIP tickets are being sold for \$15 and include a special

pre-concert time to meet the bands. VIP passes are limited. Tickets are available at the WBU bookstore as well as Mardel and Lifeway stores in Lubbock and the Lifeway store in Amarillo.

Barlow Girl, a trio of sisters, released a self-titled first CD in 2004 and is now celebrating the most recent CD, Love and War. The group has been nominated for 10 Dove Awards and recorded the Radio & Records Christian Song of the Year in 2004 with "Never Alone." Their hit "I Need You to Love Me" holds the record as the longest running No. 1 single in Christian Radio Weekly Chart history after holding the top spot for 13 weeks.

Barlow Girl will be joined by Stellar Kart, an all-male quartet that just released their latest CD Everything is Different Now, and Vota, a group formerly known as Casting Pearls.

The concert is in conjunction with Wayland's Big Weekend, a college preview event for high school juniors and seniors and transfer students. For more information on the concert or Big Weekend, call 1-800-588-1928 or email admityou@wbu.edu.

Floyd County History From The Archives Of The Floyd County Museum From The Floyd County Hesperian June 14, 1928

STERLEY MAY DOMINATE AREA, SAYS T. V. MURRAY

Sterley Junction, nothing, but prairie land new at the junction of the Denver South Plain Railway in Northwest Texas, will soon be a thriving town that may dominate that area, T. V. Murray, general agent of the Fort Worth & Denver Railway Company at Dallas, is quoted as saying, by the Dallas Morning News. Continuing that newspaper quotes Mr. Murry as saying:

"Sterley Junction is the point where the north and south and east and west segment of the new line meet," said Mr. Murray Friday. "Here is where the celebration for the completion of the new line will be held in August. It will probably dominate the area not only because of the rich, fertile farming land surrounding it, but because it will have a commercial advantage due to its position on the railway. The vicinity has been held back for years simply because it did not have adequate transportation facilities.

"Sterley Junction was named after W. F. Sterley, general freight and passenger agent of the Fort Worth & Denver for thirty years. He was connected with the company for thirty-five years and had started as a clerk. He was one of the best-known traffic authorities in the country. He died about two years ago at his home in Fort Worth."

Mr. Sterley supervised much of the preliminary work for the new line and for that reason the junction point was named after him. He was also immediately interested in the planting of trees, declaring they aided

in the bringing of rain and consequently caused many of them to be planted along the Forth Worth. & Denver right of way in West Texas.

FROM THE FLOYD COUNTY HESPERIAN March 6, 1924 NEW TOWN BEING BUILT AT ANTELOPE

Yesterday the first lumber was trucked out from Floydada to start the erection of two residences which will house the first residents of a new town to be built at Antelope School house, and as fast as lumber can be hauled and the carpenters put it together a gin, a store and filling station and blacksmith shop will also be built there. Application will probably be made for a post office and if so, it will likely be requested that the department name it Joe Bailey in honor of the distinguished senator who served Texas for many years.

F. M. Dougherty is the prime mover in the new town plans. He is building the first residence to be started. Fred and Charlie Nickles, sons of J. A. Nichels, who is to build a gin here and are the builders of the new gin to be started soon. It will be a four 70-saw stand gin.

The grocery store and filling station will be built by the Collins Grocery Company of this city, who will operate them. The sites for the store and shop were picked out Tuesday.

Several thousand acres of cotton will be planted on the Dougherty Ranch which adjoins the site for this new town and this acreage with neighboring cotton, is expected to furnish the new gin all the ginning it can do in a season

1956 STUDY CLUB NEWS

By Linda Harbin

On March 9, Rozanne Bishop hosted the 1956 Study Club assisted by Jan Willson and Trena Simpson. Members were served a delicious meal of Mexican stack with all the trimmings, Mexican flan, apple dumplings, and brownies with ice cream.

Terri Bush gave an interesting and informative program on altered art. She showed members some projects she has done to bring genealogy to life. Old photos, jewelry and keepsakes of former generations were compiled into collages or new jewelry pieces to create beautiful conversation pieces for younger generations.

Following the program, President Judy Dunlap called the business meeting to order. Roll call was answered with, "Who is your quirkiest family member?" Hilarious stories were told about ancestors or current family members.

Kay Dean Smith read the minutes of the February meeting and Dana Crossland gave the treasurer's report. Thank you notes were read from Tabitha Faulkenberry and Cathy Ferguson. Members regretfully accepted the requested resignation of Jean Appling. There are still ten club cookbooks for sale. Contact Dana Crossland if you would like to have one. Judy reminded members that this is the year to elect new officers. Anne Carthel, Susan Simpson, Janice Julian, and Dana Crossland volunteered to serve on the nominating committee.

Judy announced that next month the club will meet at Day Spring Designs in Lubbock. Members will carpool from Judy Schacht's house leaving about 4:45 and will eat at Orlando's prior to the meeting.

Members were dismissed by reading the collect. Members present were Rozanne Bishop, Terri Bush, Sheree Cannon, Anne Carthel, Tomi Covington, Dana Crossland, Judy Dunlap, Linda Harbin, Janice Julian, Janet Lloyd, Nancy Mayo, Kathy Ross, Judy Schacht, Susan Simpson, Trena Simpson, Kay Dean Smith, Jan Willson, and guests Bonnie McIntosh, Cienna Thrasher, and Jenni Su Smith.

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Congressman Randy Neugebauer invites you to the next Mobile Congressional Office Hours:

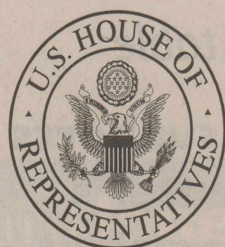
Monday, March 22, 2010 | 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Floyd County Courthouse - Court Room
 105 S. Main Street | Floydada, TX


Mobile Congressional Office Hours are neighborhood office hours open to the public so you can meet with my staff and share your ideas, concerns, and feedback. Representatives will be available to assist with veterans' benefits, social security concerns, and many other issues.

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OPINION



The Paperboy

By CHRIS BLACKBURN

Do you like opinion pieces? Doesn't matter if you are liberal, moderate or conservative, realclearpolitics.com is your place.

Real Clear Politics gathers the opinions of top writers and bloggers from across the U.S. and links them for easy navigation. You'll find columns, blogs, polls and more from across the country.

RCP also averages polls out and gives information on a variety of hot topics.

A quick snapshot of the website reveals some of the topics and their origin:

Over the Health Care Cliff? - Alan Bock, Orange County Register

Obama is Right Not to Work with GOP - Robert Kuttner, Huffington Post

Clinton Recovered After He Moderated - Kevin Hassett, Bloomberg

Voters Don't Care How Health Bill is Passed - Henry Farrell, Salon

Hollywood's Political Fictions - Ross Douthat, New York Times

Lawmakers Spend Big on Taxpayer-Funded Cars - Jake Sherman, Politico

No Room for Error on U.S. Debt - Colin Barr, Fortune
Apple's Spat with Google Getting Personal - Stone & Helft, New York Times

Politics Nation: Rep. Dreier Slams House Dems' HC 'Gymnastics'

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Learning Reagan's Lessons from 1982 - John Judis, The New Republic

What Real Reform Should Look Like - Rep. Paul Ryan, Washington Post

Washington Needs Back to Work Program of Its Own - Al Hunt, Bloomberg

Anti-Abortion Dems Must Cave for the Good of Reform -

New York Times

Fallout Is Far Reaching - Boston Herald

Ryan's Roadmap Reveals Hard Truth - Minneapolis Star Tribune

Make Earmark Ban Permanent - St. Petersburg Times

I generally visit RCP a few times a week. Obviously, health care reform is the hottest topic now.

It's interesting to see - just from the titles - how polarizing this topic is. I'm really curious to see how this plays out this week as House and Senate Democrats are under tremendous pressure from the White House to do something which could potentially mean political suicide for many of them.

RCP does a good job of gathering differing opinions which adds to credibility in my opinion. They simply put the information out there for the reader as opposed to having a preset agenda.

If you're a fan of politics and are interested in hot-button issues, give Real Clear Politics a look.

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Christopher Blackburn is the president of Blackburn Media Group, owner of this publication.

Other Views

The Nuclear Option ... A Neutron Bomb Aimed at the Democratic Majority

By DAVE CRIBBIN

It's looking more and more likely that Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid will trigger the so called nuclear option to push through their health care legislation for the benefit of the American people; the very same people whom overwhelmingly have rejected it and its big government solutions to rising medical costs.

Her fanatical desire to pass this legislation has overwhelmed her ability to reason critically, as is evidenced by recent interviews in which she is quoted as saying, "Representatives are not in Washington to self-perpetuate their political careers." While Mrs. Pelosi may inhabit a very safe district, her words have probably come as quite a surprise to a number of her less safe Democratic colleagues. Hopefully she will give them enough advanced warning to begin in earnest the search for a new career.

It has become something of an urban legend among the Democrats that it was their inability to pass health care reform in the first Clinton administration that was responsible for their loss of the Majority in the House. In other words, the American people were deeply upset by the Democrats' inability to deliver on legislation that would greatly increase

their taxes and add mountains of new regulations to an already over regulated health care industry.

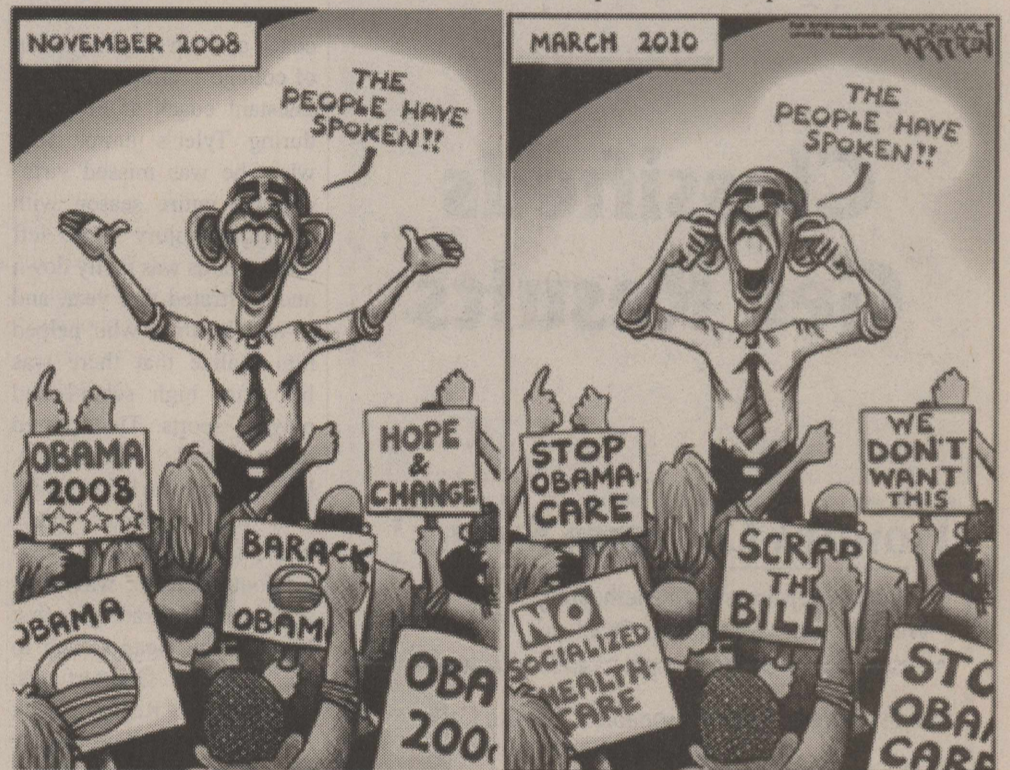
This is simply a major misread of history on their part. A more plausible reason for their rebuke and loss of Majority in the following Midterm elections were the Clinton tax increases and the arrogance of their members, as exemplified by the check kiting scandals of the house. This same arrogance was last displayed by members of the Republican party shortly before they lost their Majority status in the midterms in 2006.

Their fall back reasoning to vote for this legislation is no better. The idea that voters will seek retribution against the legislators who first cast a yes vote for the bill, and then once it became clear that nobody wanted it voted against it, is just silly. Do they really believe that if you vote for a bill that is hated by the majority of the public twice somehow you are safe? Have they never heard the old saying that "two wrongs don't make a right?"

Before the Democrats trigger their Nuclear option, they should review their college physics text books one last time and realize that at its essence the Nuclear option, like the bomb it is named after, is an uncontrollable chain reaction. This Nuclear option has

all the makings of a Political Neutron Bomb for their party; a tactical nuclear weapon designed to eliminate people but leave buildings intact. The Democratic Leadership should take a deep cleansing breath, remove their ideological 3D health care shades and have a

look around. Somehow in the mass confusion that has been characteristic of this torturous process of producing health care legislation they have overlooked the Bright red rings outlining the bulls eye that this monstrosity has imprinted on their political careers.



Denying the Truth at all Costs

By BILL WILSON

Politics and policy has become surreal. Webster's defines the term as "bizarre or dreamlike". No word better describes the current state of affairs.

For yet another example of the "dreamlike" suspension of reality that is everyday Washington, D.C. consider the recent announcement from union-toady, Congressman George Miller. Miller is proposing to spend \$100 billion on a bailout of local governments. That is \$100 billion we will have to get from China or the Federal Reserve's printing press to allow local governments to pretend a little while longer that they can act like spoiled children without consequence.

The Miller proposal would funnel the massive sum of borrowed money to local governments so they can "save or create" jobs. Boil it all down and the Miller scam is exposed as a temporary fix for the junkies who are attempting to avoid withdrawal at all costs. But cold-turkey withdrawal is exactly what they and America need.

The facts are well known. Government at all levels has grown faster than any other segment of the economy. Government, also, pays far more than corresponding workers in the private sector and has lavish benefit packages unmatched by any private worker. As the Cato Institute detailed in their

January, 2010 Tax & Budget Bulletin # 59, the compensation scales and benefits of government are simply unsustainable. They cannot continue, there must be an adjustment.

But blocking that "adjustment" is the primary goal of labor unions. And whatever Big Labor wants, George Miller will try to deliver. So, the \$100 billion bailout is meant for one thing and one thing only; paying off the unions and avoiding for even a little while the inevitable downsizing of government. Since the largest expenditure any government makes is on personnel, that downsizing means one thing - firing tens of thousands of unionized public employees.

Think for a second what Miller and his cronies are asking of American families, taxpayers and businesses. They want us to go deeper into debt, to the tune of another \$100 billion, to pay employees we don't need to do things that are of marginal value. We are eating our seed corn. This money will not be spent on things that will allow future growth and production or future prosperity. It is to be squandered on consumption. Like the raging alcoholic, full of bravado, we are maxing out the American credit card to buy lunch for everyone in the barroom.

The situation we confront is basic. We all know the nature of the choice. All of us were taught this choice as small children. We should all remember the story of the grasshopper

and the ant. The grasshopper frittered away the summer, eating and having a great time. The ant, on the other hand, worked and saved and did without, so that he would have provisions for the winter. When winter arrived, the ant is secure and prepared while the grasshopper froze, starving from lack of food.

George Miller and his union masters are the grasshoppers of our time. They eat and drink and live in a dreamlike state where the bill never comes due. The only problem, of course, is that they do have a plan. They plan to stick all of us with the bill for their reckless behavior.

Its time we ants took matters into our own hands. The credit card needs to be cut into pieces. Local governments, as well as states and the Federal behemoth, need to face the facts. They have to live within the means of the people that fund them. The insane, surreal politics of spending and debt must come to a stop.

Any member of Congress, regardless of party, who opposes the Miller scheme should be praised and supported. Any local government that does the right thing and cuts its functions and personnel needs backing. Conversely, those who embrace the bizarre world of George Miller need to be shown the door. They are simply too sick to be in a position of authority.

If Democrats Ignore Health-Care Polls, Midterms Will Be Costly

By PATRICK CADDELL AND DOUGLAS SCHOEN

In "The March of Folly," Barbara Tuchman asked, "Why do holders of high office so often act contrary to the way reason points and enlightened self-interest suggests?" Her assessment of self-deception -- "acting according to wish while not allowing oneself to be deflected by the facts" -- captures the conditions that are gripping President Obama and the Democratic Party leadership as they renew their efforts to enact health-care reform.

Their blind persistence in the face of reality threatens to turn this political march of folly into an electoral rout in November. In the wake of the stinging loss in Massachusetts, there was a moment when the president and the Democratic leadership seemed to realize the reality of the health-care situation. Yet like some seductive siren of Greek mythology, the lure of health-care reform has arisen again.

As pollsters to the past two Democratic presidents, Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, respectively, we feel compelled to challenge the myths that seem to be prevailing in the political discourse and to once again urge a change in course before it is too late. At stake is the kind of mainstream, common-sense Democratic Party that we believe is crucial to the success of the American enterprise.

Bluntly put, this is the political reality:

First, the battle for public opinion has been lost. Comprehensive health care has been lost. If it fails, as appears possible, Democrats will face the brunt of the electorate's reaction. If it passes, however, Democrats will face a far greater calamitous reaction at the polls. Wishing, praying or pretending will not change these outcomes.

Nothing has been more disconcerting than to watch Democratic politicians and their media supporters deceive themselves into believing that the public favors the Democrats' current health-care plan. Yes, most Americans believe, as we do, that real health-care reform is needed. And yes, certain proposals in the plan are supported by the public.

However, a solid majority of Americans opposes the massive health-reform plan. Four-fifths of those who oppose the plan strongly oppose it, according to Rasmussen polling this week, while only half of those who support the plan do so strongly. Many more Americans believe the legislation will worsen their health care, cost them more personally and add significantly to the national deficit. Never in our experience as pollsters can we recall such self-deluding misconstruction of survey data.

The White House document released Thursday arguing that reform is becoming more popular is in large part fighting the last war. This isn't 1994; it's 2010. And the bottom line is that the American public is overwhelmingly against this bill in its

totality even if they like some of its parts.

The notion that once enactment is forced, the public will suddenly embrace health-care reform could not be further from the truth -- and is likely to become a rallying cry for disaffected Republicans, independents and, yes, Democrats.

Second, the country is moving away from big government, with distrust growing more generally toward the role of government in our lives. Scott Rasmussen asked last month whose decisions people feared more in health care: that of the federal government or of insurance companies. By 51 percent to 39 percent, respondents feared the decisions of federal government more. This is astounding given the generally negative perception of insurance companies.

CNN found last month that 56 percent of Americans believe that the government has become so powerful it constitutes an immediate threat to the freedom and rights of citizens. When only 21 percent of Americans say that Washington operates with the consent of the governed, as was also reported last month, we face an alarming crisis.

Health care is no longer a debate about the merits of specific initiatives. Since the spectacle of Christmas dealmaking to ensure passage of the Senate bill, the issue, in voters' minds, has become less about health care than about the government and a political majority that will neither hear nor heed the will of the people.

Heflin hosts energy summit in Big Spring

State Representative Joe Heflin and the Permian Basin Petroleum Association hosted the West Texas Energy Summit in Big Spring last Tuesday. State legislators, energy industry representatives, and local government officials discussed the future of Texas' energy industry and what must be done for Texas to maintain its status as the country's energy leader.

Rep. Heflin said the summit was intended to give West Texans an update on the oil and gas industry, wind and solar energy, and even nuclear power.

"The demand for energy continues to increase, and West Texas has a unique opportunity to capitalize on that increasing demand to provide jobs and boost our local economies," Rep. Heflin said. "We want to make sure all phases of energy move forward so our children and grandchildren have a place to live and work in West Texas."

Ben Shepperd, executive vice president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, noted that West Texas is not only a leader in oil and natural gas production, the region also leads in wind energy and is developing solar and nuclear energy capabilities.

Officials attending the summit said that while al-

ternative energy sources are promising, oil and gas will continue to be the major energy contributor in Texas for some time. As for the future of the energy industry, creating additional transmission lines for wind energy in northern and western Texas will be vital not only to the development of the industry itself, but to the economic future of the entire state.

In addition to Rep. Heflin, state legislators attending the summit included Senator Kel Seliger (Amarillo) and State Representatives Warren Chisum (Pampa), Jim Keffer (Eastland), and Drew Darby (San Angelo). Energy industry participants included speakers on behalf of the oil and gas industry, wind, solar, and nuclear power, electricity, and energy transmission.

Rep. Heflin expressed his appreciation to all those who took the time to be a part of the West Texas Energy Summit. He represents Texas House District 85, including Borden, Crosby, Fisher, Floyd, Garza, Glasscock, Hale, Howard, Jones, Kent, Lynn, Irion, Reagan, Sterling, Stonewall, and Terry Counties. Rep. Heflin may be reached at his Capitol Office in Austin, 512.463.0604, at his District Office in Crosbyton, 806.675.0017, or in Big Spring, at 432.213.2897.



Courtesy Photo
Tyler Helms applauds the Idalou Wildcats in the State Championship game in his first year as Head Coach. The game was played in front of 16,000 fans at the Frank Erwin Center in Austin. It was a record crowd for the 2A Conference Championship.

COACH
where Helms was a student and earned his Bachelor's Degree.

The very humble young coach downplayed the comparison to the legends, "that is kind of neat, but I don't see that happening to me. It's not about the wins and the losses. It's all about the relationships."

Tyler told me about a visit with his parents, Kary and Jeanine Helms, how he realized how many people factored in to this unforgettable experience - Coaches; parents and grandparents; classmates and so many people who gave him opportunities throughout his life.

Tyler started with Chris Brattain. "Chris told me he wanted me as an assistant coach as soon as you get out of college". Brattain was an assistant coach at Floydada during Tyler's junior year when he was missed virtually the entire season with a nagging injury to his left foot. Helms was really down and it was Brattain who helped him realize that there was life after high school and playing sports. That started the special relationship. Helms came back his senior year with vengeance - playing Quarterback on a playoff football team; was point guard on a Brattain's first team as the Head Coach to the Region Quarterfinals; qualified for Region Track Meet in the Pole Vault; played on the Tennis team's trip to the State Team Tennis Tourney; and played 2nd base on a baseball playoff team. Tyler loved all kinds of sports. He was very unselfish in helping his teammates and his school reach many successful accomplishments. This is where his leadership skills were developing.

Tyler then credited his parents. "My dad taught me about hard work by watching him and he continually preached to me that life is not

fair. My Mom was a natural cheerleader. She was always there with unconditional love regardless how I performed in life. You need a little toughness, and also some encouragement". Tyler made it clear of his support at home.

Many local fans commented during the week that Helms and the Wildcats qualified for State - "don't you know that his grandfathers Adrain Helms and Bill Gray would have eaten this up!"

"My granddads were very instrumental in who I am. They both had the same passion for sports that I do". Tyler described that he and Adrain had so many talks about what it takes to get where you want to in life and about mental toughness. His experience with Bill of walking the sidelines of Whirlwind football games was priceless while Bill was a local sportswriter. He listened closely to his granddads.

"During the National Anthem at the Region I Championship in Midland, and the 2-games at the State Tourney in Austin, I felt like both of the grandfathers were there. I got emotional each time." Plus there was another person heavy on his heart during the National Anthems - High School classmate Chase Mitchell. "Chase called me when I received the Head Coaching job at Idalou. It was about a month before he died of cancer. He was the one that was down, and he called to encourage me." Tyler and Chase had a special relationship because Chase was the center while Tyler was the Quarterback in high school football. All three of the dear friends - Adrain, Bill and Chase - died in 2009, but he had not forgotten them.

Helms said he continually talked to his team about relationships. "You can't fake it with kids. They will see right through you. They knew how I cared for them as individuals. It was not the

X's and O's". The talks worked because Idalou's march was something to note with a team that had only 2-seniors.

Idalou entered the State Playoffs when a respectable 24-5 record and the 3-2A runner-up to state ranked Littlefield (26-2). The Wildcats beat Alpine 68-35, Friona 55-43 and Muleshoe 55-42 in a compressed 7-day time period due to a weather cancellation and working around the TAKS test. "This squeezed schedule really played a key role in preparing us for the Regional and State Tourneys where we played on back-to-back days against great teams."

When the Regional Tourney started in Midland, Idalou (27-5) was the only team not State Ranked of the 4-team field and had the worst record -- #12 Eastland (26-3); #22 Littlefield (28-2) and #5 Jim Ned (31-4). "We played the Region and State Tourneys like everybody was Goliath and we were David. We had to be the aggressor by coming out swinging". Idalou pulled the first upset by knocking off Eastland 65-42 when they slowed down time. "6'9" Forrest Robinson with a physical defense that was flying all over the court and causing havoc under the basket. Brattain had helped him a lot with the scheme.

Then came the 51-44 win over Jim Ned, a perennial Regional attendee 4 of the last 6-years, in the Region Championship. "We knew by now we belonged. The kids held 6'3" senior Blake Allen to a very low 6-points. He was their leader." Jim Ned was the team that ended Floydada's great run to the Region finals in 2008. When asked if this was special, Helms smiled and said "yes." He went to describe the scene with 15-seconds remaining when senior point guard Jacob Johnson came to bench and gave a Helms a big bear hug and said "we did it Coach!"

An hour after winning the Regional title, I sent a congratulatory text message of "living a dream" to Tyler, and he replied, "thanks Nick. I am still in shock".

Then the next morning came the big call from the UIL to start the planning for the Wildcats to come to Austin. "Chris Brattain was

there with me when the call came. From then until we departed Wednesday morning for Austin it was a Whirlwind. But Chris kept reminding me during this time to stop, breath, enjoy it and look up to the stars with thanks. Which I did".

Next was Austin and an early Friday morning (8:30 am) date with #1 New Waverly, which is located near Houston. "They were very athletic - more than anyone we had played before. Our only hope was to squeeze the paint to make some stops and attempt to allow zero penetrations. They were going to get their transition points. We shot incredible (61%), and they did not (29%). We again were the aggressors". It worked, and Kid Coach was in the Championship game - much like legends Lombard and Knight.

In front the largest crowd ever (16,000) to witness the 2A Championship game, the Cinderella season unraveled. #2 Ponder was the two-time defending State Champion. "We did not play well, and they had everything to do with it," he said with lots of respect. "Ponder was like surgeons. They reacted in a positive way to everything we gave them. They hit the first 7-shots of the game (4 of them were 3's) and we could not catch up. Being down to them by 10 was like being down by 30 to most teams. They were that good. It sure was great to play in front of that large of crowd, but it was not that much fun to be blown out 66-40 in front of everybody!"

Helms pointed out that Ponder reminded him of several Floydada teams that got close of getting to Austin. "The Ponder players understand the game of basketball, much like the Floydada kids did. If Floydada could have ever broken through Regional, I think there were a few teams that could have won it all." That's from the mouth of someone who knows what a Champion looks like.

Can Helms do this again with a team that returns 12-players who suited out for the playoffs? "I hope. But everything has to fall in place." Regardless, what Tyler Helms experienced in 2010 was extremely rare. There is no doubt it was done by a class act person. Great job Tyler, Floydada is proud of you!

LOCKNEY CHAMBER appreciates all those who attended, and anyone else who is interested in helping is invited to the April 1 meeting.

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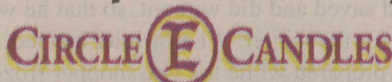
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