

Happy New Year!



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Thursday, January 4, 2007

'Proud History, Promising Future'

Colorado City, Loraine & Westbrook

Hinson named new assistant warden at Wallace Unit

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

Colorado City gained a new resident last week when Dan Hinson was named the new assistant warden at the Wallace Unit. Hinson fills the void created by the departure of Eddie Wheeler, who was transferred to Dalhart to become the warden at that facility.

"It's going to be a new and challenging experience for me," said Hinson, a 25-

year veteran of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice system. "I'm coming from the regional office to the unit it's going to be a big move for me."

Prior to being assigned to the Wallace Unit, Hinson had served as Region 5 business manager, overseeing 15 units in West Texas and the panhandle - including the Wallace and Ware units - with a budget of \$28.4 million. Prior to working in the regional office, he

had served as an administrator for unit supply in Huntsville, served as a property officer in Woodville. He began his TDCJ career as a correctional officer in 1981 in Palestine.

Hinson said he was excited when TDCJ's Rodney Cooper presented him with his assistant warden's badge on Dec. 19 and informed him he was being assigned to the Wallace Unit to work under Warden J.V. Young.

"When Rodney presented me with my assistant warden's badge, he told me I was going to come here and work for Warden Young," he said. "I told him then, 'Great, Warden Young and I will work well together.'"

Hinson, who is still handling some of financial duties for the regional office temporarily, toured the Wallace Unit last Wednesday and began setting up his office.

DAN HINSON WAS named the new assistant warden at the Wallace Unit last week. He replaces Eddie Wheeler who was transferred to Dalhart to become the warden there.

County OKs deal for new librarian

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

Becky Denison didn't just land a new job last week when the Mitchell County Commissioner's Court approved her hiring as the new Head Librarian for the Mitchell County Public Library, she added to her family's tradition.

Denison, who was approved unanimously by the county commissioners on Dec. 27, will become the second librarian in her family when she takes over her new role on Jan. 13. Her mother served as a librarian in Loraine for many years.

"She has a lot behind her," said Gwen Wistrand, a member of the library's board of directors. "We are delighted to have her. She has a librarian's mindset and she's fully qualified with the state."

Denison replaces Nancy Mayo as head librarian. Mayo resigned from her position on Oct. 31 after spending 25 years in the role.

Denison becomes just the fifth head librarian at the Mitchell County Public Library following in the footsteps of Ruth Dozier, who worked at the library for 50 years until retiring in the late 1970s, Geneva Jones and Gladys Oden. Jones still works at the library, serving as assistant librarian.

County is spared brunt of storms

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

Other than some pea-sized hail, cooler than normal temperatures and some much-needed rain, Mitchell County was spared the brunt of a brutal winter storm that struck the Texas panhandle, New Mexico and the Midwest late Thursday and Friday.

The storm system, which is blamed for up to 12 deaths in

See WEATHER, Page 2



THE PRICE ASSOCIATED WITH SMOKING became a bit higher on Jan. 1, 2007, with the start of the state's \$1 tax per package. Above, Skinny's employee Laticia Plueger hands a carton of cigarettes to a customer.

Cigarette tax increase goes into effect

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

If you are a smoker, the Texas Legislature may have given you a good reason to make your New Year's resolution one about giving up smoking.

Actually, it might be several hundred good reasons ... as in hundreds of dollars.

The state's new cigarette tax went into effect Monday, Jan. 1, 2007, and increased the cost for cigarettes

by \$1 per pack. The \$1 increase in taxes represents a 248 percent increase over what the state's previous cigarette tax was, and marks the first time legislators had increased the tax on the tobacco product since 1991.

With the addition of the new tax, the average cost of a package of cigarettes in Colorado City is nearly \$5. The cost of a carton -- which contains 10 packs -- is about \$50.

Prior to the increase, the state had imposed a tax of

41 cents per pack on cigarettes.

"Most of the people we've heard from say they are going to quit," said Peggy Mentel, who manages the Skinny's store on Second Street. "A lot of them are upset over the increase, and some have seriously started quitting."

State officials estimate the \$1 per pack increase will generate approximately \$700 million a year in revenue

See TAX, Page 3

Mitchell optimistic about Opry's future

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

C-City Opry bandleader and organizer Doyle "Shady" Mitchell spent New Year's Eve as he does almost every New Year's Eve -- playing with his band at a New Year's Eve dance.

Like everyone, Mitchell is hoping the future looks a lot brighter

than the one that just ended.

"I am optimistic about the Opry's future," said Mitchell. "We are approaching things a little bit differently this year. Because of certain circumstances we ended up having some back-to-back shows which led to poor attendance. We plan on spreading things out a little more in the fu-

ture. We also are taking a look at cutting back our named performers, but we have already booked some entertainers for February and March."

The C-City Opry's January show will feature local talent that have either appeared on the Opry in the past, or talent that is out

See OPRY, Page 3



INSIDE:
Take an in-depth look at the county's three high school basketball teams as they head into district play. Inside, find the Record's 20-page section on the area teams.

Around Town

Happy birthday Amelia Garza (Jan. 5)... Happy birthday Joel Hernandez (Jan. 5)... Happy belated birthday Jonathan Blasingame (Jan. 2)... Robyn Hammond stays up all night.

Answerline

Q. When will the state legislature begin the next regular session?
A. Both the House and Senate convene at noon January 9, 2007.

Obituaries

SEE OBITS ON PAGE 2

Zelma Green, Midland
Genevieve DeLoera, Surprise, AZ
Floye Johnson, Snyder

Briefs

Gospel Concert

A Gospel Reunion Concert will be held Sat., Jan. 6 at the Colorado Middle School auditorium. Enjoy performances by First Voice, the Jubil-Heiers and Southern Charm. Admission is free of charge.

Blackwood Legacy Concert

Blackwood Legacy will be in concert on Thurs., Jan. 11 at Loraine United Methodist Church starting

at 7 p.m. Admission is free, a love offering will be received.

WISD Schedule

January 12th has been changed from a regular school day to a Staff Development Day in Westbrook. Students do not need to attend school that day.

Christmas Holiday Ending
Kids return to school from the

Christmas holidays beginning Wed., Jan. 3 with Loraine. Colorado City starts back on Thurs., Jan. 4 and Westbrook will return to classes on Mon., Jan. 8.

Ice Cream Supper

The Westbrook Baptist Church will hold an ice cream supper to welcome their new pastor, David Nash and his family on Sat., Jan. 6 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Thought of the Week

By the time a man realizes his father was right he has a son who thinks he's wrong.
Charles Wadsworth

Lake Levels

(as of January 2, 2007)

Lake Colorado City...2064.58'
Full at 2070.3' Down 5.72'
Lake Champion...2040.19'
Full at 2083' Down 42.81'

LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Zelma Louise Green 1943-2006

Zelma Louise Green, 63, died on Mon., Dec. 25, 2006, at her residence. Graveside service was held on Thurs., Dec. 28, at 3:00 p.m. at Serenity Memorial Gardens in Midland. Services are under the direction of Pipkin Funeral Home. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@nts-online.net.

She was born on November 11, 1943 in Athens, Texas to the late Walter and Juline Thompson. She was raised and educated in Colorado City. She worked in private homes most of her life. Louise was a member of St. James Baptist Church in Colorado City.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Juline Thompson; her husband, Willie Green Sr. and one brother, Andrew Robinson.

She is survived by her son Willie Green Jr. of Midland; four daughters, Janice Gary of Grand Prairie, Thelma Williams of Irving, Ruthie Lewis and Brandi Green both of Midland; one brother, John Thompson of Midland; five grandchildren and several nephews, nieces and cousins.

Genoveva DeLoera 1924-2006

Genoveva DeLoera was born on March 16, 1924, to Margarito and Juanita (Sanchez) DeLoera in the Champion Community in Texas. She passed away on Nov. 14, 2006 in Surprise, AZ. Her celebration of life and burial took place on November 18, also in Surprise, AZ.

She was the first to marry out of a family of 16 siblings when she married Pedro Echevarria on Nov. 21, 1944, in Loraine. They became parents to three children, Pedro Jr., Margarita and Vedita. Genoveva became a widow on April 11, 1948, when Pedro was tragically killed by a train in Loraine. He did not live to see Vedita born.

On Jan. 23, 1950, she married a widower, Jose Urias Barrera. He was the father of seven children. He had become a widower soon after their seventh child was born. A couple of years later, 3 yr. old Vedita died of meningitis. They had blended their families and added five more children. They also raised four of their grandchildren. The family had moved to Phoenix, AZ in 1962 where she was a homemaker her whole life and an adoring wife and mother. Her husband, Jose died Jan. 1, 1996.

She is survived by two sons, Pete and Richard; five daughters, Margie, Esther, Estella, Rosie and Mary; six step-children: four sons, Alias, Avaristo, Jose Jr., and Ernesto, and two daughters, Ramona and Evangelina; numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren; five sisters, Paula Munoz and Aurora Munoz, both of Loraine; Josefa Castro of Roscoe; Juanita Gaona of Snyder; and Guacinda Limones of Sweetwater; five brothers, Antonio DeLoera, Rodrigo DeLoera, and Felipe DeLoera, of Roscoe; Victor and Thomas DeLoera of Loraine; and also a very special aunt, Maria Sanchez, and numerous cousins in Loraine.

Floye M. Johnson 1911-2006

Mrs. Floye M. Johnson, age 95, of Snyder, died Tues., Dec. 26, 2006, at Snyder Oaks Care Center in Snyder. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Friday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Chapel with a great-nephew, Rev. T.L. Malone officiating. Burial followed in Hillside Memorial Gardens, directed by Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Johnson was born July 16, 1911 in Comanche. She married Robert E. Johnson, Sr. on Mar. 8, 1930 in Stephenville. He preceded her in death on May 21, 1969. She lived most of her life in Snyder and was a housewife. She attended Calvary Baptist Church. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Robert E. "Bob" Johnson.

Survivors include three daughters, Lola Gosney of Morrison, OK, Lareta and Bert Lawrence of Carney, OK, and Lou Alice and Hubert Starnes of Lubbock; three sons, Phillip Johnson of Snyder, Paul and Theresia Johnson of Snyder, and Curtis and Datha Johnson of Colorado City; one sister, Edna Shifflett of Mesa, AZ; one brother, Lester Malone of Fort Walton Beach, FL; 21 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

WEATHER

from page 1

Kansas, hit Colorado City Friday, dumping heavy rain and pea-sized hail on the community. The National Weather Service in San Angelo reported approximately one-half an inch of rain and a brief period in which hail fell.

No damage was reported from the weather.

It wasn't as quiet in other parts of West Texas, however. State officials closed Interstate 40 from Amarillo to Albuquerque, and were looking to do the same with U.S. Highway 87 near Dalhart.

A brutal mix of ice, snow and cold temperatures brought the Midwest to its knees this past weekend. Thousands of motor-

ists were stranded, power lines snapped and left more than 20,000 homes and businesses without power.

The storm, which began Thursday and intensified into the weekend, dumped from 15 to 30 inches of snow in Kansas.

Wind gusts of up to 45 mph on Saturday created snow drifts of up to 15 feet, complicating snow removal and power restoration efforts.

In Goodland, Kansas, the current storm, combined with one that hit just before Christmas, dumped 25 inches of snow, making this winter the snowiest month of December in the community since 1924.



File Photo/

KALYNN HARDEGREE and other area youth will participate in the Mitchell County Livestock Show next weekend.

County Livestock Stock Show set for Jan. 11-13

Livestock enthusiasts from throughout Mitchell County will get a chance to put their stock on display next month when the 71st Annual Mitchell County Livestock Show gets under way. The 2007 event is set to begin Jan. 11.

More than 80 individuals from throughout the county will participate in the show. The MCLS will begin on Thursday, Jan. 11, with exhibitors participating in the weigh-in process. Weigh-ins will begin at 5 p.m.

On Friday, Jan. 12, the steers and swine will be judged. Goats and sheep will be judged on Saturday morning. The MCLS premium sale will be Saturday, Jan. 13, beginning at 6 p.m.

For more information about the MCLS contact John Senter at 728-3111.

Chamber begins accepting 'Citizen of the Year' nominations

The Colorado City Area Chamber of Commerce would like to hear from you.

Chamber officials announced they have started taking applications for the "Citizen of the Year" and "Agriculture Award" honors and are urging local residents to nominate candidates for the award. Individuals can nominate candidates by completing forms available at the chamber office.

In the nominating process, individuals nominating a person for the award should explain in a letter why the individual being nominated should be chosen. The letter should be signed and include a telephone contact number in case chamber officials need more information.

Nomination forms must be turned in by Jan. 15, 2007. Forms can be picked up at the

chamber during regular business hours. Once completed, they can be dropped off at the chamber, or mailed to: Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 242, Colorado City, Texas, 79512.

Last year Hutchinson Elementary principal Kitten Arthur was selected the "Citizen of the Year."

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LOCAL NEWS

'Blackwood Legacy' to play in Loraine on Jan. 11

The Tennessee-based "Blackwood Legacy" gospel group, featuring former Blackwood Brothers Quartet lead singer and Gospel Music Hall of Fame inductee Rick Price, will perform Thurs., Jan. 11 at the Loraine United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. Admission is free and a love offering will be received.

During the Great Depression, the Blackwood Brothers were at the height of their fame singing gospel classics and spiritual standards. The vocal group amassed

nine Grammy awards and 27 Dove awards over their decades-long career, and was inducted into both the Gospel Music and Grammy Hall of Fame.

As the original Blackwood Brothers retired, various singers came in to take their place including, in 1977, Rick Price. Eventually the original group was formally dissolved. After much soul-searching and hundreds of requests for the music of the original Blackwood Brothers Quartet, Price created the Blackwood

Legacy, a tribute to the world renowned ministry he was involved with for so many years.

Price has gathered some of the most talented and sought-after gospel singers on the scene today to create a unique concert that blends the best of the old favorites with newer Southern Gospel favorites and original hits. Performing with Price is Chris Reed, 2006 STGMA musician of the year, and Don E. Thomas, formerly of the popular Florida Boys Quartet.

While the group maintains the style that made the Blackwood Brothers famous, performing favorites such as "How Great Thou Art" and "Beulah Land", they have also incorporated a contemporary sound that reaches old and young alike. Over the past six years they have become hugely popular, performing more than

240 dates per year throughout the United States and performing on TBN's "Unfolding Majesty" as well as other Christian broadcasts.

The Loraine United Methodist Church is located on S. Main in Loraine. A time of refreshments and finger-food will be in the fellowship hall after the concert.

Loraine gearing up for centennial

Now that 2007 has arrived, preparations for Loraine's 100th anniversary are in full gear.

A full-blown celebration of the city's 100th anniversary will be held in October. Preparations for the celebration have been in the works for several months. Some groups are putting the final touches on projects.

One of centennial group members working hard is Irene Graham, who is three-fourths of the way done in completing the section of the history of Loraine.

Some of the community leaders that she has compiled stories

on include the late Ray Preston, as well as the late Congressman George Mahon, who spent several years in Washington representing Mitchell County and the rest of his district.

Graham is also working on a

section that will include the various churches of Loraine, and some of the early families that made a significant impact on community and a history of the schools that were consolidated to form the current Loraine school district.

Westbrook church hires new pastor

After a lengthy search, officials with the Westbrook Baptist Church announced recently they had found a new pastor for their congregation.

The church announced last month they had hired David Nash as its new leader. Nash re-

places former pastor, Paul Smith, who left to take a position at Calvary Baptist in Colorado City.

Nash, who graduated from Fort Worth Seminary, will meet the congregation at 6 p.m. on Jan. 6.

Nash brings with him a wife and three children.

TAX

for the public school system while eliminating \$1.5 billion in Medicare expenses as a result of people quitting.

The American Cancer Society has said it expects about 4 percent of the state's smokers would quit as a result of the tax increase. For those that do give up cigarettes, the savings could equal almost \$400 a year. Based on an average smoker's consumption of

one pack a day, a person giving up cigarettes would save \$1,799 a year. Amazingly enough, at that rate, a person could save approximately \$36,000 -- enough to buy a small home -- over 20 years.

While some are likely to quit, many others will continue to smoke by ponying up the extra \$1 per pack or by switching to cheaper brands.

"I don't know that that many

will quit," said Mentel, who gave up smoking on Oct. 26 of last year. "I think, in the long run, the people who bought Marlboro or other name brands, will buy the generics."

"Some will quit but many others will just adjust to it. In New York they (cigarettes) are like \$7. In Canada, they're around \$8, and I have no idea what they sell for in California," she said. "People will adjust to it and buy it if they want it."

OPRY

there waiting to be discovered.

"We would love to hear from anyone that would like to appear on our next show," said Mitchell. "If anyone has an audition tape, and would like to sing on the Opry they should give us a call, or send us the tape."

Mitchell said he and his wife Debby could be contacted at 737-2163.

"Fiddling" Frenchie Burke will return due to popular demand on Feb. 8 for a 7 p.m. concert. The cost for that show will be \$20 per person.

On March 31, the late Don Walser's band, Pure Texas, will appear at the Opry. The band

features such artists as Floyd Domino on the piano, "Skinny" Don Keeling, who plays a variety of instruments. Scott Walls plays the steel guitar for the band while Howard Kalish plays fiddle. Phil Fajardo, who has played for such artists as the Gatlin Brothers, George Strait, and Jimmy Buffet, will be on drums.

"This will sort of be a tribute show to Don," said Mitchell. "His 'Pure County' band is full of talented members, and I am sure you will enjoy this fine group."

The cost of tickets for that concert is \$20. Tickets can be reserved by contacting Debbie or Shady Mitchell.

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OPINION & COMMENTARY

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Observations at the Post Office and Airport

While standing in line at the post office, I wonder about things. Once I went to buy some stamps and there was just one person in line ahead of me. I was feeling lucky until I realized she had 45 eleven by fourteen business envelopes, each one requiring a different amount of postage. I watched the mail clerk carefully pick up each one, place it on the scale and apply the postage. I had plenty of time to think about things.

During the holidays postal clerks remind me of soldiers in combat or a quarterback in a close championship game. They are cool under pressure. No matter how many people are standing in line they are able to give their undivided attention to the person at the counter. And some postal customers choose the strangest times to get into a conversation with the clerk about church, a vacation, kids or a bargain they found somewhere, totally oblivious to the people waiting in line behind them.

Speaking of the holidays, I went with my son to Circuit City in Dallas the day after Thanksgiving. He bought a new HDTV with surround sound. After he selected one, he asked a store employee where he could pay for it. The employee replied, "That's the line to pay for HDTV's over there." Twenty people were in line. We stood in line two and a half hours before he got to the cashier. Every check stand in the store had a line in front of it. When we arrived at the store we noticed some trash on the sidewalk outside. People had been camped there all night. One customer said he got there at 2:30 a.m. because the store was handing out specials a dozen or so at a time. I was amazed at the patience of the customers standing in line. I didn't see any of them giving dirty looks to the cashier or anything negative. I guess they figured this is normal if you're going to shop for specials the day after Thanksgiving in a big city.

Have you noticed at airports the amazing number of people using cell phones? Some people have two cell phones, one for business, one for family. Some plane passengers have it all together. Some don't. I saw a woman sitting on the floor waiting to board the plane. She had her computer open, was drinking from a quart-size container, eating a sandwich and talking on her cell phone. When boarding started, she somehow managed to carry all her stuff and hand her boarding pass to the attendant. Multi-tasking at its best.

I'll be glad when Southwest starts assigning seats. Passengers first in line always choose to sit in the front of the plane, getting settled while other passengers are forced to wait. I think it's fun to watch the rhythm of exiting the plane after it arrives at its destination. Some people jump up, get their items from the overhead bin and are ready to go when it's time for their row to get off the plane. Some people prefer to remain seated until their row's turn to leave. Then they reach up, get five or six sacks, a piece of luggage and a backpack while other passengers behind them wait. I'm not hurling complaints here... I'm just observing how people do things. It's fun.

The fever hits home again this winter

I know this is going to come as a shock to almost everyone here. There is this substance that falls every year up north that makes for a lot of fun, and makes the scenery pretty impressive until a few dogs - and people - run around and turn the countryside yellow.

This substance (not the yellow stuff, mind you) is called snow. Snow is white and often appears in the south on television shows depicting Santa as a fat dude with red pajamas. It, I have also discovered, can be found on almost any channel during a storm.

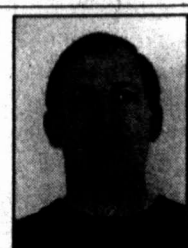
Anyway, the thing about snow back home is when the "termination dust" begins falling - usually the end of October - from the sky, it signals the start of the fun time of the year... and the start of sled dog racing.

For those of you born in the hills of Arkansas, sled dog racing is not to be confused with loading your wife in the back of the truck for a mad dash to a pig feet eating contest. No sir, this is a real sport that is pretty popular wherever the afore mentioned white stuff falls.

The sled dog racing season officially got off to a start this past weekend in Bethel, Alaska. A small community of about 6,000 people on the banks of the Kuskokwim River in the western part of the state, Bethel staged a small 43-mile race with a purse - relax ladies, not that kind of purse - of \$5,000. To win the \$1,000 top prize, all high school junior Jessica Klejka (pronounced Clay-kah) had to do was guide her team up the frozen Kuskokwim River to a small island near the village of Akiachak and back in the shortest time. Despite sweltering temperatures of about -13 degrees, she returned in just over

OFF THE BEATEN PATH...

By TOMMY WELLS
EDITOR



3 hours.

I know you think -13 is tough, but to a musher that is pretty darn hot. Once, when I was mushing in the town She-Who-Must-Not-Be-Made-Mad and I lived, I took to the trail with a small team of three dogs in -10 degree weather. When I finished the 5-mile race, I was sweating worse than Madonna at a nun convention.

But that's another story.

The reason I tell you about the start of the sled dog racing season is to introduce you to Ben Bruce and let you know about his remarkable story. It's one that will thrill almost everyone who loves pets.

A former U.S. Marine, Bruce took up sled dog racing two years ago as a way of raising funds for the school he was working at as an aide. He figured he could raise a few bucks for the students by entering a 300-mile race.

In case you aren't familiar with sled dogs, they are expensive - some running as high as \$1,000 or more.

As a teacher, you know Ben didn't have that kind of money.

Bruce did what no one thought he could. He went to the pound in Bethel and se-

lected a team of dogs scheduled to be put down - and trained them to pull his sled for a while. Ben, all 6-foot-5 and 300 pounds of him, also pulled the sled at times (with his team riding) to give his dogs a break.

Now, here's for the amazing part. Bruce and his "Pound Puppies" finished the Kuskokwim 300 Sled Dog Race. They finished dead last, but they finished.

For his efforts, Bruce was named the race's "Rookie of the Year" and was awarded \$1,200 - which he gave to the school.

The story doesn't end there, however. You see, following the race, Bruce took his puppies - and a few more he rescued from the pound - and started a business, Moonlight Mushing Dog Rescue LLC, a dog rescue and adoption service.

Last week, Bruce and his team participated in the race won by Klejka and finished ninth in a time of 4 hours, 14 minutes and 5 seconds.

Their next goal is to return to the K-300 race. On Jan. 17, Bruce and his team of "rejects and misfits" will slide out onto the Kuskokwim River again to prove there's a place for everyone... and every dog.

"We're all kind of misfits here," said Bruce before his first race. "I know we'll finish, even if I have to carry the dogs and the sled on my shoulders. There's no quit in these dogs or me."

If you would like to keep up with Ben Bruce on his race efforts, you can check out www.k300.org on Jan. 17 and follow his team's efforts. Of course, you could also go to Bethel and bask in the glow of 20 or 30 below.

Sounds like fun, huh?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor:

I wish to commend Richard Wistrand and TXU for the great opportunity they are trying to bring to Mitchell County. I live close to the Morgan Creek Plant and had a couple questions about the rail line. Mr. Wistrand contacted me by phone and answered my questions. This was something he did not have to do and yet he took the time out of his busy schedule to answer my questions. Mr. Wistrand has put himself and his job on the line to help provide Mitchell County and its people with a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Health issues are being raised. We all want a healthy place for our children and grandchildren to live. I believe that TXU has a commitment to a cleaner environment and the technology to help us build a better and healthier future for Mitchell County. Mr. Wistrand has family here. I cannot believe he would promote anything that might jeopardize them or their health.

As a small business owner, I also care about the economic future of Mitchell County. I realize that progress or change in any form can be very hard to deal with. Fear of the unknown can keep us going backward because that is easier to do. It will take the courage and determination that Mitchell County is known for to move forward. If we turn our back on this opportunity that TXU and Richard Wistrand are giving us, our county may be remembered only by the deserted buildings left here.

Sincerely,
Debby Guelker

Letter to the Editor:

History teaches us that there is often a critical point in the lives of men, cities and nations that often sets the direction and character for centuries. Experience teaches us that opportunities seldom present themselves twice. The proposed Morgan Creek Power Plant offers our citizens and our future citizens an opportunity never before seen in the history of this county.

The final employment and population numbers are not clear to us, but the tax base gains give us an indication of the possibilities. Our current tax base is approximately \$600 million. The plant has an estimated value of more than \$800 million. One must also consider the economic principle that growth leads to more growth. The prospects of ad-

ditional wind energy for Mitchell County could add several hundred million more to the tax base. The discussions with local and new developers and builders are real and substantive and will yield a larger tax base. It is very possible that we could have a reduction in our tax rates of 30-40% and still have an increase in services.

The community has heard all the concerns about health and safety, but there is one aspect of the health issue that should not be overlooked. Health is a function of many variables. Good jobs, good insurance and a financially secure hospital district are among the most important factors in quality health care for our residents. The Morgan Creek Power Plant is a key to both our economic and physical health.

Finally, a project of this magnitude cannot occur without some difficulties. These are anticipated and must be addressed. Mr. Smith from Austin, Texas is well practiced at opposing Texas Utilities and we have heard from him. Mr. Smith should understand that in Mitchell County our communities were not built by those who make a life of opposing the future. Rather, they were built by those who could propose a future and embrace it. In the end, he will return to his world in Austin and we will continue to live in ours. We have a vested stake in this community. Last time I checked, he didn't.

Royce Clay

Letter to the Editor:

I truly believe the proposed TXU Power Plant is vital to the future of Mitchell County. I was raised in Colorado City, raised my family in Colorado City, and I am thankful I have been able to spend most of my life here.

As a local banker, I have been able to witness the change to a more positive and progressive attitude within our county and I am excited about the positive growth this TXU Power Plant will create.

Sincerely,
Mark Waldrip

Letter to the Editor:

Colorado City was named a Texas Main Street City in 2006. The Main Street Program utilizes four principles for success. The principles are Organization, Promotion, Design and Economic Restructuring.

The proposed TXU plant offers this city

and the program support and assistance in three of the four principles. Organization establishes consensus and cooperation by building partnerships. Additional employees of the plant offer increased volunteer potential and organizational expansion.

The Promotion aim is to create a positive image in order to rekindle community pride. Promotion's purpose is to attract new investors, developers and businesses. The TXU facility would foster an image of success and sustainability. Economic Restructuring strengthens the existing economic assets while diversifying its economic base. This is accomplished by retaining and expanding existing business to provide a balanced commercial base. The proposed TXU facility not only supports but enhances Colorado City's economic restructuring and additional business development.

I fully support the proposed TXU Plant construction and operation
Cecilia Lee Scott
Colorado City Main Street Manager

Letter to the Editor:

Small communities like Colorado City or Mitchell County often struggle to provide services that the citizens expect. The population declines and businesses struggle to survive. As businesses close and people leave, things become worse for the ones here.

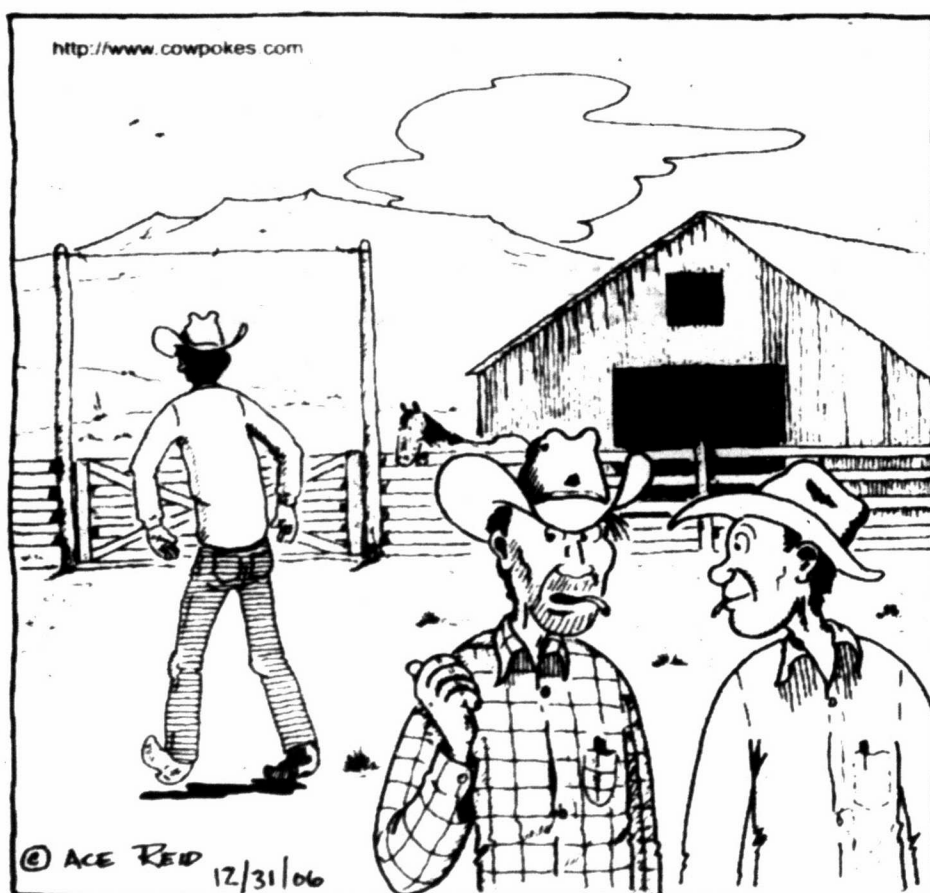
We presently have two opportunities to turn things around for us - windmill energy and the modern TXU power plant.

These two operations complement each other, they are not in opposition. The power plant will bring in additional transmission lines. Windmill farms need more transmission lines to tie into. TXU needs the renewable energy to go with their power plant.

The construction and development of these two industries will create a significant amount of economic activity in our area. This will benefit everyone. New enterprises will come and existing ones will be able to offer more services and products. Very few communities will have the opportunity like Mitchell County to lower property taxes by 40-50% and provide better service at the same time.

Let's work together to reap the rewards of these opportunities for all of us and our future generations.
David & Melody Strublefield

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PUBLIC RECORDS

FILED WITH COUNTY CLERK

Texas Compress & Warehouse Corp. A/W Culppepper Vice Pres to Laddie Lewis, Warranty Deed.

Gary Christopher Indiv, Scythian Ltd., Thomas A. Clifton Agent & Atty-in-Fact, BKDK LP, David Kirk Mgr, BKDK Mgmt LLC Gen Ptn, BKDK LP Gen Ptn to Endeavor Energy Resources LP, Endeavor Petroleum LLC Gen Ptn, Autry C. Stephens Sole Member, Corr Asgmt & Bill of Sale.

Jerry D. Greene, Kathy A. Green to American State Bank - Lubbock, W.R. Collier Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Jack R. Alexander Revocable Liv Trst, Beverly Fern Alexander Revocable Liv Trst, Beverly Fern Alexander Ttee, Sherri Key Ttee to Raymond B. Alexander, Norma N. Alexander, Warranty Deed.

Linda Burton Asst Vice Pres, Bank of America NA Succ by Merger, BA Mortgage LLC Succ in Interest, Nationsbank Mortgage Corp to Alfred Lunch, Dana Lynch, Release of Lien.

M&T Mortgage Corp, Atty in Fact, U.S. Bank

NA Succ Ttee, Wachovia Bank NA Ttee, Swartz & Brough Inc. to Willie Garrett, Mildred Garrett, Release of Lien.

Patrick Toombs Sheriff, Mitchell County to Public, Estray.

Mann & Stevens PC Lenders Agent & Atty, Wells Fargo Bank NA, Diana Stevens Agent & Atty, H&R Block Mort Corp to David Smith, Christina Smith, Rescission of Acceleration.

Green Burdord & Co., L&S Gray Family Partners Ltd, Larry E. Gray General Partner, Roy Green to Willie F. Davila Sr., Margie Davila, Warranty Deed.

Willie F. Davila Sr., Margie Davila to City National Bank of Colo City, Tx., Royce D. Clay Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Ricky L. Upham, Emily Upham to American State Bank, W.R. Collier Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Dennis Wayne Moore, April Moore to Kent Boyd, Warranty Deed.

Kent Boyd to City National Bank - Colo City, Royce D. Clay Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Dorothy Jean Langley Indiv & Ind Execut to Ann A. Morrison Estate, Deed.

Doris N. McClellan to Alfred Lynch, Dana Lynch, Warranty Deed.

Wanda Jo Hamblin, William B. Hamblin to Karen Gail Marshall Joiner, Quitclaim Deed.

Karen Gail Joiner to Elroy C. Boedeker Ttee, Bettie M. Boedeker Ttee, Elroy C. & Bettie M. Boedeker Revocable Li, Warranty Deed.

Elroy C. & Bettie M. Boedeker Revocable Li., Elroy C. Boedeker Ttee, Bettie M. Boedeker Ttee to City National Bank - Colo City, Royce D. Clay Ttee, Deed of Trust.

Lewell Dean Oliver Deceased to Christine Allison Oliver, Public, CC Probate.

Chhaganbhai Z. Patel Indiv & dba, American Inn, Shakuntala C. Patel Indiv & dba to SAI Lodging LLC, Assumption Deed.

Michael H. Clary to Sharp Image Energy Inc Lessee, Sharp Image Exploration LLC Lessor, Ratification & Bonus Rec.

Tracy Lee Monney to Sharp Image Energy Inc Lessee, Sharp Image Exploration LLC Lessor, Ratification & Bonus Rec.

Royce D. Clay, Patricia Jean Clay to Adam C.

See PUBLIC RECORDS, page 5

SCHOOL NEWS

SCHOOL MENUS

Colorado ISD Head Start Breakfast Menu Jan. 8-12 Monday - dry cereal, toast, chilled juice, milk. Tuesday - Cream of Wheat, toast, chilled juice, milk. Wednesday - scrambled egg, toast, chilled juice, milk.	Colorado ISD Head Start Lunch Menu Jan. 8-12 Monday - mac and cheese, mixed vegetables, orange pieces, milk. Tuesday - oatmeal, toast, chilled juice, milk. Friday - sausage, toast, chilled juice, milk.	Kelley & Hutchinson Elem. Breakfast Menu Jan. 8-12 Monday - dry cereal, toast, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk. Tuesday - waffles, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk. Wednesday - pancake pup, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk. Thursday - breakfast pizza, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk. Friday - sausage, toast, chilled fruit juice, choice of milk.	CMS & CHS Lunch Menu Jan. 8-12 Monday - taco salad, tasty rib basket, slice of pizza, French fries, green beans, canned fruit, choice of milk. Tuesday - chef salad with chicken, grilled ham and cheese, chicken tetrazzini, glazed carrots, garlic bread, canned fruit, choice of milk. Wednesday - chef salad with ham, birdie on a bun, meatloaf w/sauce, mashed potatoes, sweet peas, hot rolls, canned fruit, choice of milk. Thursday - chef salad w/bacon, burrito w/cheese, cheese quesadillas, refried beans, Spanish rice, fresh fruit, choice of milk. Friday - garden salad, wolf burger, French fries, lettuce cup, apple cobbler, choice of milk.
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PUBLIC RECORDS

from page 4

Lloyd, Kristy Lloyd, Contract for Deed.
Royce D. Clay Sr., Patricia J. Clay to Royce D. Clay Jr., Linda Ruth Clay, Warranty Deed.
Delmon F. Piper, Edith F. Pieper to Airtricity Roscoe Wind Farm, Patrick Woodson VP, Surface Lease & Wind Eas.
Roger Esquivel Indiv & Ind Executor, Ninfa Esquivel Estate to Rafael Acevedo, Warranty Deed.
Keith Lloyd, Carol Lloyd to Rafael Acevedo, Warranty Deed.
Jay S. Etheredge to Mark S. Etheredge 2005 Invest Trust, Steven R. Etheredge 2005 Invest Trust, Vicky L. Etheredge 2005 Invest Trust, Jay S. Etheredge Tree, Warranty Deed.
Roscoe State Bank, Ron Stovall Exec Vice Pres to Jay S. Etheredge, Release of Lien.
Vickie B. Spray to Albert Carlile, Gayla Carlile, Warranty Deed.
FILED IN COUNTY COURT
Jaime Holguin, 12-18-06, Speeding/Appeal from Lower Court.
Christopher Juan Lara, 12-19-06, Driving While License Invalid.
Kizzy M. Harrell, 12-20-06, Theft, >\$20<\$500 by Check.
Samuel Kenton Freeman, 12-20-

06, Deadly Conduct.
Sharon Annette James, 12-20-06, Fail to ID Fugitive Intent Giv.
James Slayden Smith, 12-20-06, Driving While Intoxicated.
Moises Rodriguez Jr., 12-20-06, Interfer w/Emergency Call.
Jose Martin Beltran, 12-20-06, Purchase/Furnish Alcoh. To a Mi.
Barron D. Wardwell, 12-22-06, Poss CS PG 3<28G.
Christopher Loyd Dering, 12-22-06, Evading Arrest/Det.
Christopher Loyd Dering, 12-22-06, Fal Report to Police Officer.
Huey Talbert Lawson, 12-22-06, Driving While Intoxicated.
Luis L. Rodriguez, 12-26-06, Driving While License Invalid.
Austin Lawrence Watson, 12-26-06, Driving While Intoxicated.
John Allan Killen, 12-22-06, Driving While License Invalid.
Brent Barclay Knight, 12-22-06, Driving While Intoxicated 2nd.
ARRESTS
Tracy Ruth Carline, 31, CCPD, A. Assault, 12-26-06.
Miguel Javier Gomez, 28, MCSO, Family Violence Capias, 12-28-06.
Sean Marcos Velasquez, 17, CCPD, POM <2 oz., 12-30-06.
Thomas Shane Huff, 29, MCSO, #18,237 MTR - POM, 12-31-06.
Christopher Loyd Dering, 23, THP, #18419 Evading, #18,420 False Report, 12-31-06.
Timothy Michael Toby, 20, THP, Speeding, 12-31-06.
David Cantu, 40, THP, Child Support (Bexar Co.), 1-1-07.
Donna Michelle Mayer, 47, CCPD, PI, 1-1-07.

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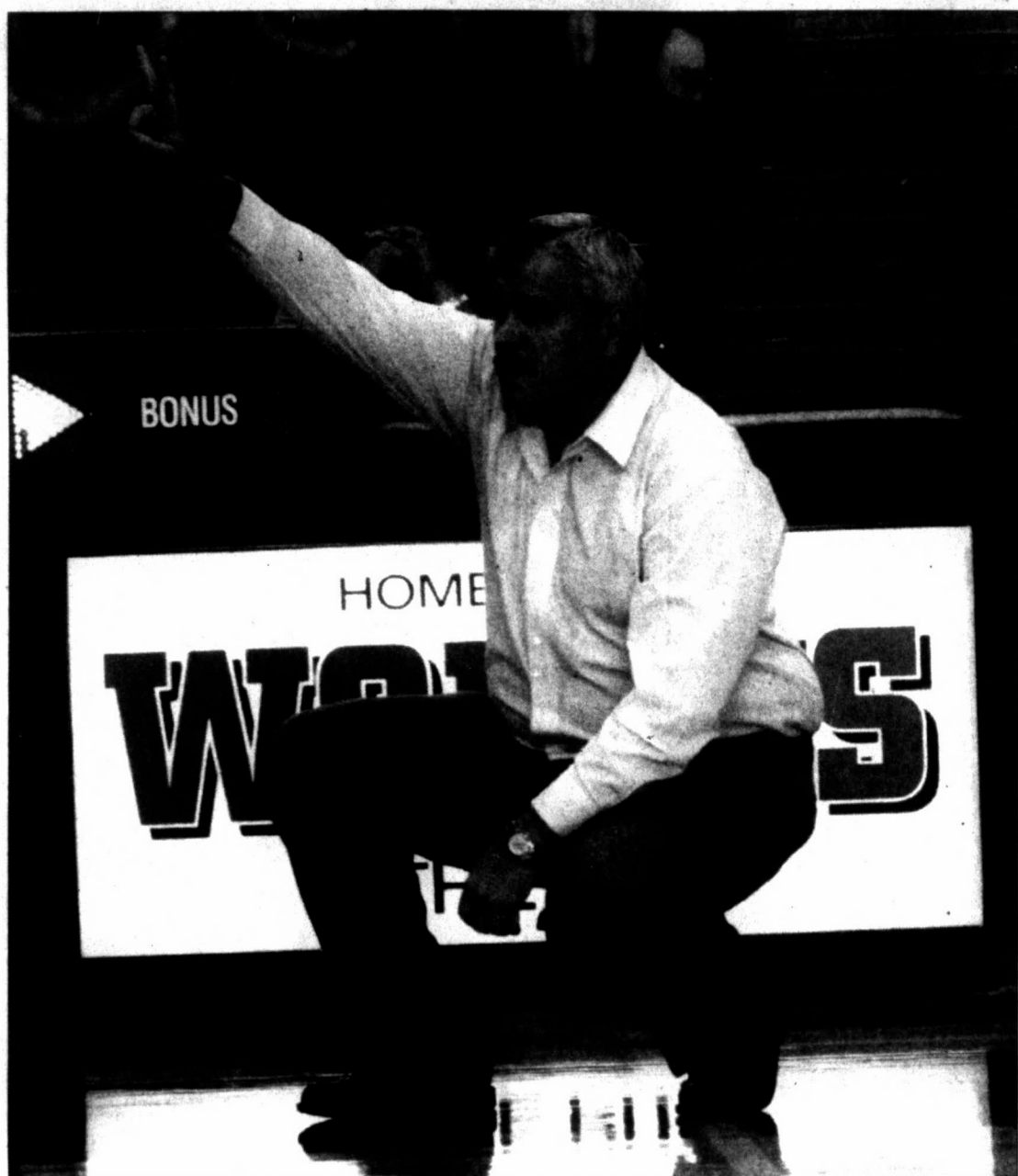
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SPORTS



COLORADO LADY WOLVES' head coach Darrin Leverton gestures from the baseline during a recent game at "The Pit." Leverton is in his second stint as the Lady Wolves' head coach.

Leverton looking to return Lady Wolves to winning ways

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

The beginning of the Colorado High School Lady Wolves 2006-07 basketball season hails the return of the "Darrin Leverton Era" to Colorado City.

Leverton, who coached the Lady Wolves basketball teams for nine years before leaving to coach at Class 3A Graham for three years, has returned to the head coaching job for the Lady Wolves after spending last season as an assistant coach to John Starcher.

Leverton had a lot of success with the Lady

For more basketball coverage see our special basketball insert in this edition of the Colorado City Record

Wolves during his previous tenure as the head man -- and there is no reason not to expect a lot of the same in the future.

Coaches are usually judged on their win-loss records, but if he is to be judged it should be more on the character of the girls he has coached rather than the number of W's in the win column. See LEVERTON, Page 7

Grady upends Lady Cats

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

Westbrook Lady Wildcat head basketball coach Cassie Short is a firm believer that a team benefits from playing tough competition.

If that's the case, the Lady Wildcats should have gotten a lot better after battling Grady Lady Wildcats as they suffered a tough setback against the state-ranked team by a score of 52-37.

Grady, featuring former WHS standout Linsey Chavez, got off to a fast start, going up 13-2 at the end of the first quarter.

At the half, the Lady Wildcats enjoyed a 24-19 lead.

By the end of three quarters the Westbrook Lady Cats had fallen behind by a score of 40-25.

In the last quarter, both squads put up 12 points each.

Senior Allison Bray popped 17 points in leading Westbrook while Caitlin Colaw added.

Hitting three-point shots were Keesha Krapf and Shelli White.

The Lady Wildcats made good of seven of their 10 attempted foul throws.

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Edward Jones

Struggling Romo, Cowboys backing into NFL playoffs

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

The Dallas Cowboys, playing last Sunday for a chance to go into the post-season as the NFC Eastern Conference champions, backed into the playoffs with their second straight loss. The loss leaves Dallas at 9-7 for the year and sends the team into the playoffs as one of the league's two wildcard team.

The Cowboys' 39-31 loss to the Detroit Lions was filled with repeated mistakes by quarterback Tony Romo and some others, including punt returner Terence Newman. The defensive unit did not resemble anything like the team that went on a roll after coach Bill Parcells finally decided to go with Romo instead of quarterback Drew Bledsoe.

The Lions are a team that the Cowboys should have put away with ease. They, however, struggled to come within eight points after battling their way back from an early 14-0 deficit.

Had the Lions lost they would

have solidified their hold on this summer's No. 1 draft choice, but they blew that chance by defeating the Cowboys.

The Cowboys are not strangers to backing into the NFL playoffs.

The Romo that leads the Cowboys into playoffs against the Seattle Seahawks this Saturday seems to have gone into hiber-

nation as of the last few games. Maybe he has been reading his own headlines, or his selection to the Pro Bowl game has hurt him.

I still feel that Parcells can right the ship --- and perhaps get the Cowboys whipped into shape in time to be competitive with Seattle.

At least we certainly hope so!



Cowboys' QB Tony Romo struggled against Detroit.



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SPORTS

College football teams have blessed fans with bevy of exciting games

Wow! Can you believe it is already another year? Yes, 2007 is here, ready or not.

I believe this year will be one of the best ever. Now please, don't let someone come along and change that prediction for me.

Some outstanding college and pro football games were played over the past week or so. The Texas Tech come-from-behind win was one of the greatest, I felt, that is until the Fiesta Bowl on Monday when Boise State pulled out all the tricks to defeat Oklahoma in overtime.

On the flip side, the Dallas Cowboys looked pretty pathetic in their regular season finale. My thought is if you can't beat the Detroit Lions you should not be playing in the playoffs. They need to correct the ship very quickly, or they will be eliminated in the first round against Seattle Saturday.

Soon school will be restarting after the holidays, and district play will begin for Westbrook and Loraine. The Wolves and Lady Wolves have already begun their grueling district schedule in a 10-team district race.

CARL'S CORNER...
CARL GRAHAM
SPORTS EDITOR



I hope you like our initial basketball preview special tab that appears in this week's edition of the newspaper. It has been very trying at times, but we finally were able to put it all together.

We are saddened by the death of former President Gerald Ford.

President Ford got into the Oval office without ever running for the presidency or the vice-presidency, but after President Nixon resigned Ford took over as the top man in the White House. Only a little while before taking over for Nixon, Ford had been selected to replace Spiro Agnew as the vice-president. Agnew had resigned.

That information was not sports, but did you know that Ford was the starting center for the University of Michigan during his college days?

Have a great week, and a very Happy New Year!

At 81, Stone still going strong as voice of the Cowboys

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

Ray Stone of Dallas has been associated with the Dallas Cowboys since June of 1974 as the voice behind the popular "Cowboy Report" which can be heard locally on KVMC/KAUM in the evening after the local news.

Stone, who recently turned 81, began his broadcast of the "Cowboy Report" with only 16 stations, one of which was Jim Baum's former radio station KBYG in Big Spring. He now can be heard on 232 stations across Texas as well as Georgia and Alabama. He has had as many as 246 stations carrying his program.

"For the past 32 years I have been doing this program," said Stone. "It has been great doing something that I probably would do for free, and yet I am getting paid for it."

Stone said Tom Landry has been the easiest of any of the past Cowboy coaches to work with and to interview.

"When I would call coach Landry to ask for an interview he would always say 'let's do

it, just tell me when," but most of the other coaches, especially coach Bill Parcells, would tell me to clear through his secretary," said Stone. "I always felt comfortable with Tom. A lot of folks may not have liked him, but he went about doing his job the best way he knew how. He was a teacher, and took pride in what he did."

Prior to beginning his work with the Cowboys, Stone hosted a radio program called "Ranch House Party," which was a country and western format where he introduced the guest artist. Although he said he had a lot of fun doing it he was glad to get the opportunity to get what he has described as the "job of a lifetime."

"The good Lord has certainly blessed me to allow me to continue doing this show for so many years," said Stone. "Most men at my age are enjoying being retired, but I am just happy doing what I am doing. There is nothing else that I would rather be doing, and I hope the good Lord will allow me to continue for a little while longer."

Loraine rivals finish No. 21 in six-man poll

The Richland Springs Coyotes set out to prove they were, indeed, one of the best teams.

In the end, they did just that ... and more.

Richland Springs became only the fourth team in the 15-year history of the Six-Man Illustrated six-man football poll to win the magazine's national championship honors. The Coyotes nailed down their six-man title in December by outdueling the Rule Bobcats, 78-58, in the finals of the Texas Division I state playoffs. The Coyotes' had previously won the preseason football magazine's top honors in 2004.

"Without a doubt, Richland Springs proved themselves the toast of six-man football this year," said Six-Man Illustrated's John Armstrong. "It is with great pleasure that we present the Coy-

otes with their second national title."

With its second national crown in three years, Richland Springs joins Amherst (1994 and 1995) and Gordon (1996 and 1999) as two-time winners. Panther Creek has won the SI title more than any other team, claiming titles in 1992, 1993 and 2000.

Richland Springs, which returns a bulk of its lineup for a possible run at a record-tying third national title in 2007, received seven of the nine first-place ballots cast and easily edged out three-time national runners-up Highwood for the top spot in the final SI poll. The Coyotes, who opened the year as the preseason No. 1 according to the magazine, finished the year with a perfect 14-0 record.

The Six-Man Illustrated poll is

formulated based on voting by six-man coaches and media members in the United States and Canada. Last season, the Throckmorton Greyhounds win the SI national championship after a perfect 15-0 run.

Highwood, which captured its 10th Montana state championship in the past 16 years, finished second in the final rankings for the third time.

Rule finished third in the national rankings. The Bobcats, under head coach Mike Reed, finished the season at 13-1 - with their only loss coming to Richland Springs.

The Bobcats, who ranked among the nation's best teams all season, finished eighth in last season's Six-Man Illustrated poll.

The Idalia Wolves nailed down fourth in the final rankings. Ida-

lia won its fifth Colorado state championship in November.

Idalia and Highwood were the only two teams besides Richland Springs to receive first-place votes.

The Rockwall Heritage Christian Eagles rounded out the top 5. The Texas private school powerhouse rode the legs of all-world running back Colby Jones to a perfect 13-0 record and the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools' state championship.

SI National poll

The following is a look at the final 2006 Six-Man Illustrated Top 25 poll, according to coaches from the United States and Canada and members of the U.S. and Canadian media. First-place votes are in parentheses.

No. Team	Rec	Prev
1. Richland Springs, TX (7)	14-0	1
2. Highwood, MT (1)	12-0	6
3. Rule, TX	13-1	4
4. Idalia, CO (1)	12-0	5
5. Rockwall Heritage, TX	13-0	7
6. Meadow, TX	12-1	3
7. Blum, TX	12-1	11
8. Garden City, TX	11-1	2
9. Wheeler Central, NE	11-0	12
10. Trinidad, TX	10-2	9
11. EP Faith Christian, TX	11-0	23
12. Throckmorton, TX	9-3	13
13. Kit Carson, CO	9-2	10
14. Fort Davis, TX	9-2	8
15. Calvert, TX	10-2	14
16. Roberts, MT	10-2	16
17. Whitarral, TX	10-3	17
18. May, TX	10-1	15
19. Northside, TX	13-1	--
20. Peetz, CO	10-1	18
21. Augusta, MT	8-3	19
22. Rankin, TX	8-2	22
23. Jayton, TX	13-2	--
24. Abiding Faith, AR	10-1	24
25. Happy, TX	10-2	20

Also collecting votes: Gustine, TX (11-2); Raymore, SK (8-0); Academy at the Lakes, FL (10-2); Brazosport Christian, TX (12-1); Dell City, TX (8-3).



Record Photo/Carl Graham

COLORADO LADY WOLVES' head coach Darrin Leverton talks to his team during a break in action earlier this season. CHS has already won more games this year than last season.

LEVERTON

from page 6

umn.

Coming to Colorado High School after previous coaching stints at Roscoe and Lago Vista, Leverton quickly gained the respect of his coaching colleagues. He built his program into one of the most respected in West Texas.

Leverton sent several players into the collegiate ranks during his first tenure with CHS. Some of the players he coached include Kendra Anderson, who went on to have an outstanding basketball career at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene. Anderson was named to the Kodak All-American Team at the Division II school as well as being named the "Outstanding Female Athlete" after her senior season.

Other former players excelling at the college level after playing for Leverton are current assistant coach Krissey (Crawford) Morris, Alison Lopez and Bridget Bridgford.

Leverton was also here when the late Belinda Miles played at Colorado High School. A 5-foot-10 post player, Miles was killed in an automobile accident outside Snyder where her and some of her

friends had gone to see a movie.

"Belinda had just started to come around with her playing skills," said Leverton. "She worked hard on improving her game and it was beginning to show as several schools began to show some interest in her. It was one of the hardest times in my coaching career. It was tough on all of us, but we made it through."

That team won district as well as the bi-district title that season

before bowing out in the area round of the post-season playoffs.

While at Roscoe, Leverton helped coach Becky Barnes -- a former CHS teacher and coach who after high school played on a National Championship team at Howard College before going on to play at West Texas A&M.

At Graham, he coached current Colorado University red-shirt sophomore Kara Richards.

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The Colorado City Record reserves the right to reject any and all classified ads considered by the publisher to be objectionable in subject matter, phraseology or opposed to the public interest or policy of this newspaper. No fraudulent, dishonest or misleading ads will be knowingly published. Each advertiser who submits classified advertising shall be responsible to indemnify and hold harmless the Colorado City Record for any cost, injury or liability imposed upon it because of the content of any ad so submitted.

BID NOTICES

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)
Dist/Div: Abilene
Contract 6157-24-001 for REST AREA TOTAL MAINTENANCE, OPERATION AND REPAIR in NOLAN County, etc. will be opened on February 09, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office for an estimate of \$4,920,000.00.

All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the pre-bid conference for Contract 6157-24-001 to be held on January 30, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. at the 150 East Riverside Dr., 1st Floor, VTR Board Meeting Room.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 22280
State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

BID REQUEST

Mitchell County Commissioners Court will receive sealed bids at the Office of the county Judge or County Auditor until 9:00 a.m., January 29, 2007 for two (2) Sheriff's Office vehicles. Specifications are available at the Office of the County Auditor or Sheriff. Commissioners Court reserve the right to accept or reject any and all bids and/or waive any and all formalities.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF IMPOUNDMENT OF ESTRAY

Case No. 06-1-023
Date 12-14-2006
On the 29th day of November, 2006, I impounded the following estray:
Kind of Animal: Donkey
Breed: Unknown
Color: Gray
Sex: Female
Age: Unknown
Size: Ten (10) Hands Tall
Brand, Marks, Identifying Characteristics: White Nose; Black Stripe Around the Neck at the Shoulders; Black Stripe Down its Back
I have made a diligent search of the register of recorded brands in Mitchell County, Texas, for the owner of said estray, but the search did not reveal the owner.
Notice is hereby given if the ownership of said estray is not determined by the 4th day of January, 2007, estray will be sold at public auction at 3770 CR 454, Colorado City, Texas 79512.
Witness by hand this 20th day of December, 2006.
Patrick Toombs,
Sheriff of Mitchell County, Texas
Mike Redwine,
Designee of Sheriff of Mitchell County, Texas

CARD OF THANKS



Card of Thanks

My sincere thanks to all the angels sent to help me from Colorado City, Texas, Nov. 30th on Interstate 20. I was the woman in the Pensky moving truck and car carrier coming from Georgia and heading for California when I hit ice during the storm and the truck overturned. You know who you are, dear ones, you helped me, my cat and my dog. My family thanks you too.

Dawn Vierra, Carmel Valley, CA

Card of Thanks

Keep Colorado City Beautiful would like to thank everyone who helped to make the Winter Solstice bonfire a success. Special thanks to Producers Co-Op Gin, the volunteer fire dept. Commissioner Larry Johnson, Joe Orona and others. Thanks to Dixie for the directions that led to its creation and to the new medias for their coverage.

KCCB

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mitchell County Hospital District, dba, Mitchell County Hospital, Valley Fair Lodge Mitchell County Home Health, Mitchell County Ambulance Service and Family Medical Associates is an equal opportunity employment health care facility. Employment offered to qualified persons without regard to race, color, sex, age, national origin, handicap, or religion.

HELP WANTED



The City of Colorado City is accepting applications for one Parks Laborer. Qualifications include High School Diploma or GED equivalent, must be dependable and have a valid driver's license. Knowledge of operating and maintaining mowing equipment. Applications may be picked up at City Hall, 180 West 3rd Street, Colorado City, Texas 79512. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The City of Colorado City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Now accepting applications for:

1. Payroll Clerk - Preferably with Healthcare Experience.
2. LVN - Wallace/Ware Prison Medical Unit, 3 pm to 11 pm shift.

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Contact Human Resources at (325) 728-3431, ext 7109.

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BLACK IRON canopy bed with night table. In boxes. \$179. 806-549-3110

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Wurlitzer piano with piano bench. Excellent condition. \$1300. 728-8869 or 242-0097.

Whole cotton burrs delivered. 325-207-2890.

Metal Detectors by Whites Electronics. New and used. 728-2494

Very nice used Kirby vacuum cleaner w/ power drive and all attachments. See at Good Ole Days, 157 E. 2nd.

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JOBS WANTED



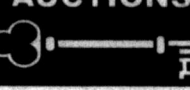
Bullard's Backyard Basics... Leaf raking, minor tree trimming. 728-8242.

If you can read this, so can your customers!

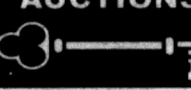
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AUCTIONS



AUCTION

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POLICE REPORT

On Mon., Dec. 25th at 11:30 p.m., one person was arrested in the 200 block of 13th St. for Possession of Marijuana.

On Mon., Dec. 25th at 8:49 p.m., a subject in the 1100 block of Chestnut reported that an unknown subject entered a residence and took items without the owner's permission. Case is under investigation.

On Tues., Dec. 26th at 5:40 p.m., a 31-year-old male was arrested in the 400 block of Cypress for Assault by Contact "A" FV and transported to the Mitchell County Sheriff's Office (MCSO).

On Thurs., Dec. 28th at 11:47 a.m., a subject in the 1100 block of Chestnut reported items missing from his house. Case is under investigation.

On Thurs., Dec. 28th at 2:30 p.m., a subject reported someone took her firearms without permission. Case is under investigation.

On Thurs., Dec. 28th at 6:22 p.m., a subject in the 1100 block of Elm reported Criminal Mischief. Case is under investigation.

On Thurs., Dec. 28th at 9:00 p.m., a subject in the 100 block of Austin reported that a known person yelled obscenities in a public place.

On Fri., Dec. 29th at 11:08 a.m., a business owner on North Hwy. 208 reported theft of company property. Case is under investigation.

On Sat., Dec. 30th at 2:45 p.m., a subject in the 1700 block of Colorado reported that someone had damaged his property. Case is under investigation.

On Sat., Dec. 30th at 10:30 p.m., a 17-year-old male was arrested in the 100 block of I-20 for Possession of Marijuana. The subject was transported to the MCSO.

On Sun., Dec. 31st at 7:38 a.m., a complainant on South Austin reported that a storage place he owns was broken into, damaged and items removed. Case is under investigation.

On Sun., Dec. 31st at 9:31 a.m., an officer was called to Mitchell County Hospital to take a report of an assault. Case is under investigation.

On Mon., Jan 1st at 4:11 a.m., a subject in the 100 block of I-20 left without paying for fuel. Subject made arrangements to return to pay for fuel.

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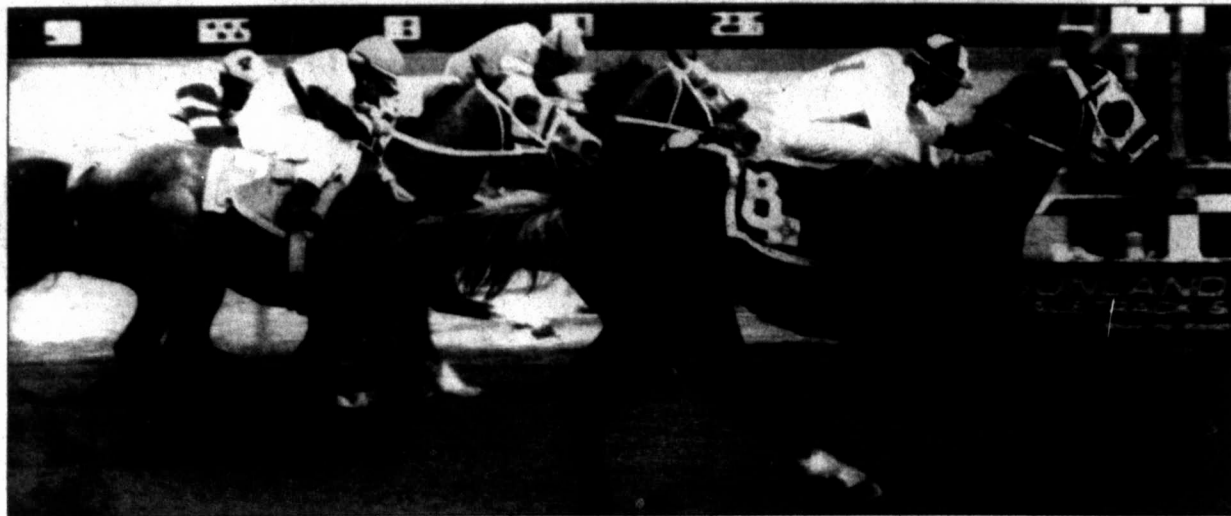
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Bob Ramage Alan Ramage
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MR. W.W. (No. 8), a horse owned by Colorado City's Rush Neff, won "The Shue Fly" at El Paso's Sunland Park last Saturday. The first place finish won Neff over \$140,000.

LORAINE NEWS

By Bessie Ann Vaughn,
Loraine Correspondent

Seasons greetings and Happy New Year to one and all. We pray for peace in the world. Remember that miracles can and do happen. Let this year bring a solution for a kinder and more gentle nation.

Jason and Pattie Graham have been here since December 12th visiting with their family and friends over the holidays. Jason is in the Air Force and is stationed in Japan. They had to return on Jan. 2nd.

On Thurs., Jan. 11th at 7 p.m., the Legacy of the Blackwood Brothers Quartet will be featured in a live concert. Rick Price, Gospel Music Hall of Famer and former member and lead singer for the Blackwood Quartet, will be at the Loraine United Methodist Church, featuring such hits as "Beulah Land" and "How Great Thou Art."

Don Thomas, formerly with the Florida Boys, and 2006 STGMA Musician of the Year Chris Reed will also be featured.

You don't want to miss this concert. The admission is free. A love offering will be received.

At the Methodist Church in Loraine Sunday, William Duke, son of Bonnie Ruth West of Rotan and the late Leon Duke, presided over the morning sermon.

Carl and Sandy Graham had a very quiet New Year's Eve and anniversary celebration. After having Sandy's daughter and son-in-law as well as grandson, Sean, for two weeks, she said it was very quiet but peaceful. Darroll, Mary and Sean Casey left to go back to Colorado on Saturday, finally arriving back home late Monday night after having to stay in a motel in Dumas for two nights.

The Grahams renewed their

vows after the morning service at New Life Ministries with the Rev. J.K. Wood presiding, and with Brenda and Charlie Shifflett attending the couple while the rest of the congregation watched the brief ceremony. They were celebrating their 7th anniversary on Sunday. Afterwards, several members of the church had lunch at the Dunn Rite BBQ Restaurant in Dunn.

Calvin and Barbara Haltom and Edgar and Glenda Haltom had Christmas with their mother on Christmas day and Dorothy said she really enjoyed the day. It is good to hear Dorothy say that she is feeling a lot better now.

I spoke with Virgil Parnell Sunday and he said he had a wonderful Christmas at Big Spring. He celebrated it with his daughter Nellene and husband Al Fulcher. There was good food and conversation.

A.K. and Billie Sheffield went to Eastland to spend Christmas with their son, J.D. and his wife Geana. They enjoyed the day with their children at Mrs. Hill's place on Lake Leon.

Special music in the Methodist church last Sunday, Dec. 24th was featured by the Richburg family. Don and Francis were there with five children and 11 grandchildren. The grandchildren, along with Don and Francis, sang "Joy to the World" with Francis on the piano.

Debbie Mitchell also sang a special song while accompanying herself on piano.

Visiting the Linams during Christmas was Joe and Jill Brininstool and sons Tanner and Curtis of Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Linton Ray and Maz Webb

along with three daughters, their spouses and seven grandchildren went to Red River, New Mexico, to snow ski and have a good time over Christmas.

Maz said she and Linton Ray stayed indoors and babysat with Chase and Mason for Chase and Mason, both 2-year-olds. Everyone had a ball.

Rue Reeves, a local resident, tells me that she often goes to the local reunions and sometimes visits with her old classmate, Evelyn Land Stanley. Evelyn gets the Record and keeps up with our news.

Rue told Evelyn that a Mr. and Mrs. Max Hutchins from Midland have been working on a house here on Smiley St. near Rue's place. Mrs. Hutchins name is Joan and prior to her marriage, she was Joan Land.

This tale has a happy ending because the two Land ladies turned out to be cousins and they are happy about it. Isn't that great? And no skeletons in their closet at all.

Gene and Pat White enjoyed having their children, Valerie, Virgil and Keagan Pruitt from Roscoe spend time with them on Christmas eve. On Christmas day, granddaughter Brittany White and her fiancé Josh Flores from Abilene visited and celebrated Christmas.

Charlene Walker's children came to visit and celebrate Christmas with her. They are Ricky and Donna Walker from Lubbock, Ashley Walker of Lub-

bock and Brett Walker of Austin. Also coming home were Jim and Kristi Kreier from Huntsville and Johnny and Teresa Hughes of Dalhart.

Hershall Williams, Garland Williams of Snyder and Johnny Harbor of San Angelo all celebrated their birthdays last week. Helen Williams' niece, Deloral Grime from Lufkin was here last Thursday to pay the Williams a visit.

Helen also tells me that our of three dog litters, she has six baby Chihuahuas. Some are small and some are medium size.

The Loraine Senior Citizens held a New Year's Eve party Sunday evening after church. Taking part in the musical department were Durwood and Ina Vay McAdams, Charles Dunn of Colorado City, Bro. Dale Hartley and Roland Graham.

Some of the attendants played table games. Several folks from Sweetwater, Colorado City and surrounding areas were present. It was a lot of fun, good food and fellowship.

I don't think any of the seniors stayed to see the New Year in but they got close. They were not party poopers. They were just pooped.

Bobby and Wanza Graham enjoyed having almost all their children home for Christmas which included grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They always have a nice time when they are together.

Endangered historic places sought to be included in list

AUSTIN, Texas — The National Trust for Historic Preservation is accepting nominations for its 2007 America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places list. The list is issued annually to raise awareness of historic sites susceptible to neglect, deterioration, poor maintenance, insufficient funding, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy. 2007 marks the 20th anniversary of the list which has been one of the nation's most successful tools in the fight to save America's irreplaceable architectural, cultural and natural heritage.

In 1998 the historic courthouses of Texas were recognized by this initiative. As a result, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) took action to preserve the distinctive historic courthouses of Texas, prompting Gov. George W. Bush to create the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program in 1999. This award-winning program provides partial matching grants to Texas counties for the restoration of their historic courthouses. Since its inception, the nationally recognized program has become a statewide partner with counties and local citizens working to restore and revitalize these historic courthouses to their former glory.

For more information on the primary criteria used to determine the 11 finalists call 202/588-6141 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.

Completed nominations must be postmarked by Friday, Jan. 12,

2007. For more information on the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program contact the THC's Architecture Division at 512/463-6094 or visit www.thc.state.tx.us.

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Wildcats netted county's last state title 40 years ago

Mitchell Co. Basketball Illustrated



Hoop Heaven!

Colorado City, Loraine and Westbrook look to
add to county's rich basketball tradition

Colorado City
Record

Youth will be served in Mitchell County this season

This may come as a surprise to those who follow Mitchell County basketball religiously, but our teams -- those at Colorado City, Westbrook and Loraine -- are going to be very young this year.

How young? Well, let's just say the coaches in Colorado City and Loraine might have a hard time deciding whether to hand out uniforms or bibs. Westbrook, though younger than in the past, still has plenty of underclassmen back from last year's deep playoff run.

With that said, this isn't the time to trade in the season tickets or write off our teams. In fact, the younger players we are about to get introduced to on the hardwood could very well make a run at the state playoffs this year.

Younger players aren't the only thing Mitchell County sports backers will be seeing this year. We'll all be watching on as our teams make the 2006-2007 season one that will be memorable.

In Colorado City, girls' basketball fans will get a chance to enjoy the return of Darrin Leverton to the C-City

baseline. After several years in Graham, Leverton has returned, bringing with him plenty of hopes of a return to dominance.

C-City will also be celebrating an anniversary of sorts this year, as well. The dawn of the 2006-2007 season will make the 40th anniversary of the community's last state championship team. Our editor, Tommy Wells, has delved into the history of the Wallace High School Panthers' magical run of 1966-67.

In Westbrook, the Wildcats have legitimate hopes of returning to the state playoffs this season. The team returns the bulk of its roster that won more than 20 games last year.

The senior-laden WHS girls will also be looking to make the postseason -- with all-state forward Allison Bray leading the way.

In Loraine, Steve Komppa has the LHS squad on the rise. Loraine heads into the season with hopes of making a trip to the postseason.

All in all, the forecast for Mitchell County hoops this season can be summed up in one word ... exciting.



Carl Graham
Sports Editor



When we were 'title town' Page 3

Has it really been 40 years since Colorado City sported one of the best basketball teams in the state? Take a nostalgic look back at the Wallace Wildcats' title run of 1966.

Youth will be served Page 7

Gone are the bevy of seniors coach Danny Keeton enjoyed a year ago, and in their place is a team of talented -- but very young -- Wolves.

Leaving a legacy Page 12-15

Despite a new-look roster, Loraine coaches Steve Kompa and Tonja Edens have their teams looking to contend for playoff spots in 2007.

Playoffs or bust Page 16-19

Make no mistake about it, the Westbrook boys and girls teams are primed for postseason runs. The question for the WHS teams isn't "if" but "how far."

On the cover ...

The cover for the 2006 Mitchell Co. Basketball Preview features the team pictures for the 2006-2007 varsity teams from Colorado City, Loraine and Westbrook.

Wolves

Bulldogs

Good luck to all area teams!

Wildcats

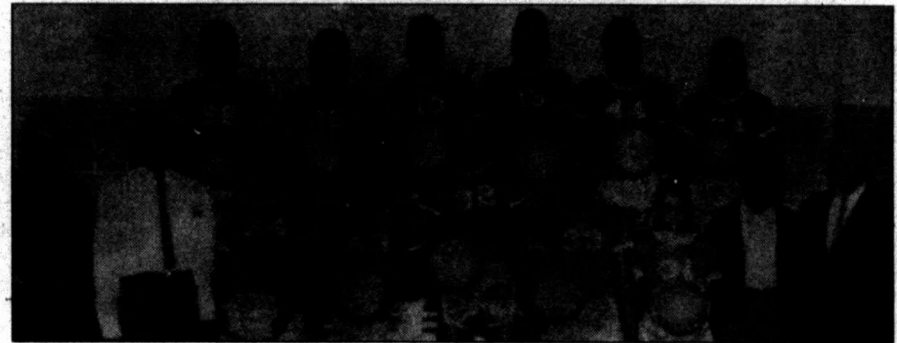


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WHEN WALLACE WAS KING

Wildcats ushered in new era with title in final year



File Photo

THE WALLACE WILDCATS earned Mitchell County's last state title 40 years ago this season. Members of the team included (back row, left to right) Larry Campbell, Danny Miller, Donald Irvin, Robert Brown, Kerry Campbell, Jimmy White (front row) Head Coach Bill Smith, Assistant Coach David Woods, Wayne Russell, Curtis Taylor, Willie Brown, Melvin Williams, Kenneth Johnson and R.J. Green. Also shown is Wallace principal T.P. Fowler.

Tommy Wells
Colorado City Record

The signs that the times were indeed changing were everywhere in 1966.

Just four years after the nation had been stunned by the assassination of President John F. Kennedy -- and only months after race-related riots swept through Los Angeles, Texas Western University (now The University of Texas at El Paso) defeated Kentucky in the NCAA basketball tournament by using five black players. Gene Roddenberry introducing the world to Captain James Tiberius Kirk and a first officer named Spock, and the United States Supreme Court

upheld the due process of law standard now known as the Miranda Rights.

Colorado City, like every other community, wasn't immune to the changes sweeping the country. The "Mother City of West Texas" was attempting to adjust to life as Interstate 20 took traffic out of the community, while also still trying to recover from the devastating drought of the mid-1950s.

The community -- though on a much more peaceful level -- was also attempting to adjust to the end of segregation. The 1966 school year marked the final year in which black students would attend Wallace High School on the southern edge of the community.

Wallace High School's glory days didn't come without some cheer, how-

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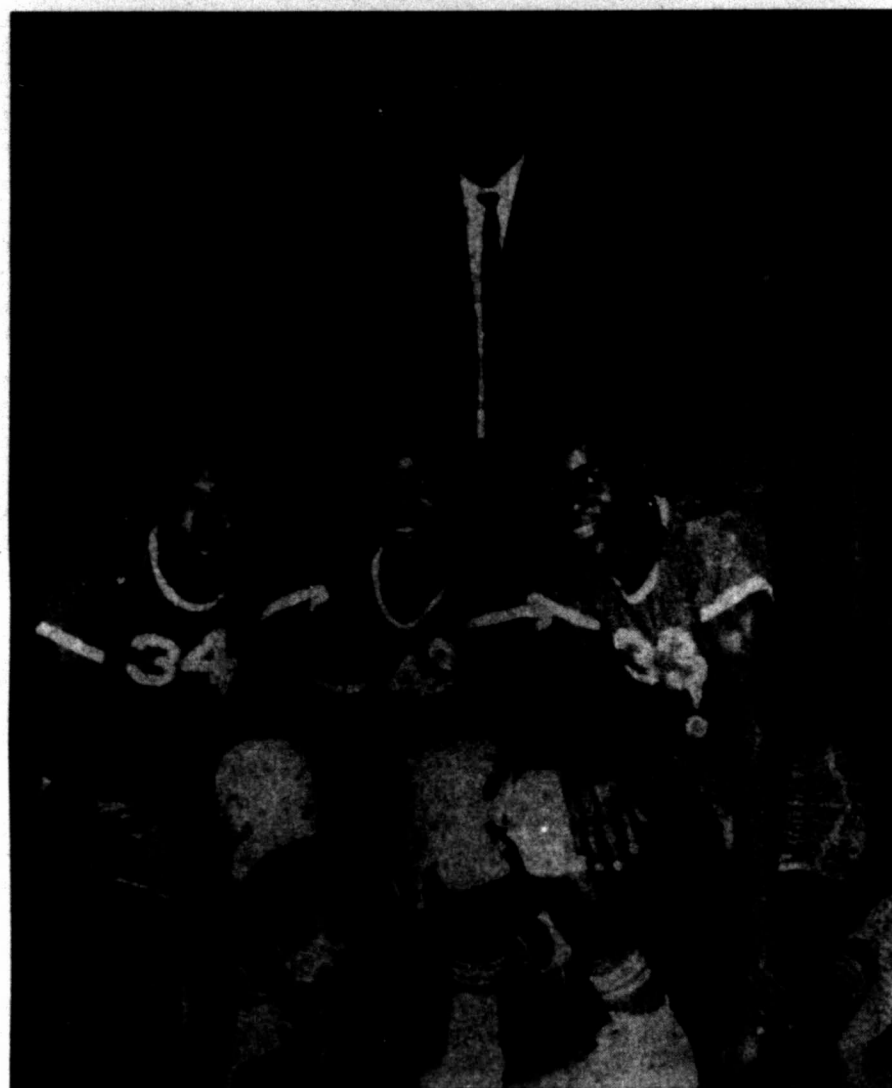
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File Photo

LED BY A TRIO OF ALL-STATERS, Wallace High School claimed Mitchell County's last state title in 1966. Coach Billy Smith (standing) guided a team that included Melvin Williams, (left) Wayne Russell and Curtis Taylor to the PVIL state title in the school's final year.

ever.

In its dying days, the school's basketball team -- the Wildcats -- managed to etch its name deep into Mitchell County history by grinding out a fairy tale ending. Just months away from its last bell, the team managed to win its fourth state championship.

"That 1966 team was the crowning glory of the athletic era at Wallace High School," said former Wallace teacher and assistant coach David Woods. "That was the glory ride for all of us. We had won several state championships before that year, but we all knew we were leaving Wallace so we went into the year knowing we wanted to leave with Wallace on top."

The Wildcats more than lived up to the "dynasty" label that had been bestowed upon it years earlier by Prairie View Interscholastic League officials. In 1966, the tiny school pounded out an impressive 32-2 record despite playing a schedule that was riddled with Class 2A and Class 3A opponents.

Wallace rolled into the state finals with a bevy of momentum. In mid-

February, the team claimed its eighth consecutive district championship -- and in its final game ever at home, dealt rival Abilene Woodson High School a 78-77 loss in double overtime.

The win over Woodson -- which came via a free throw by Wallace standout Melvin Williams -- the Wildcats managed to avenge an earlier loss. Wallace

had trailed by as much as 20 points early in the game, but managed to rally to knot the score at 65-65 at the end of regulation.

With the win over Woodson, the Wildcats improved to 30-2 and headed into the PVIL state basketball tournament held on the campus of Prairie View A&M.

In the first round of the state tournament, the Wildcats rode

stellar offensive efforts from Williams, Curtis Taylor and Wayne Russell to a 62-58 victory over Italy's Stafford High School.

Williams scored a team-high 20 points in the win. Taylor and Russell contributed 16 and 12, respectively.

The win over Stafford enabled Wal-

See WALLACE, Page 4

That was the glory ride for all of us. We had won several state championships before that year, but we all knew we were leaving Wallace so we went into the year knowing we wanted to leave with Wallace on top.

David Woods



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lace to secure a berth in the finals against Jewett's Carver High School.

And set the stage for Mitchell County's last state title.

The Wildcats got off to a solid start against Carver. Thanks to solid games by Taylor, Willie Lee Brown, Williams and Russell, Wallace managed to out-score Carver by a 14-12 clip in the first eight minutes of the game.

Carver cut Wallace's lead to one, at 29-28, in the second quarter with a 16-15 run.

The Wildcats padded their lead in the third a bit. The team reeled off a 15-10 spree in the first eight minutes of the second half and took a slim 44-38 lead into the final frame.

Wallace never gave Carver a chance to come back. The Wildcats posted a 16-7 run in the fourth quarter and cruised to a 60-45 victory ... and its fourth state title in an eight year span.

The Wildcats had previously won state titles in 1959, 1960 and 1962.

Following the win over Carver, Williams, Taylor and Russell were each named to the PVIL all-state team. Head coach Billy Smith was selected the tournament's top coach.

Melvin enjoyed a phenomenal senior season in 1966. The 5-foot-11 forward was blessed with an amazing leaping ability. Wearing his familiar No. 33, he used his 40-inch vertical leap to rebound much larger opponents.

Like Williams, Russell more than made up for his 5-foot-9 stature. The sure-handed guard was a key player for the Wildcats. One of the team's most

accurate shooters, he was often the fastest player on the floor.

The only junior starter on the WHS roster, Russell was a standout guard. He averaged 12.2 points a game in 1966.

Like Williams, Taylor and Russell, Brown and Donald Ray Irvin also starred for the Wildcats. Brown, a 6-foot-5 forward, averaged 13.6 points and 18 rebounds a game during Wallace's title run.

Brown was also a standout in track and field. He won the 1966 high-point honors at the PVIL State Track and Field Championships by taking first in the pole vault and high jump. His two gold medals in the meet helped Wallace finish as the state Class B state runners-up.

A 6-foot-1 guard, Irvin teamed with Russell and Taylor to give Wallace one of the top backcourts in the state. He averaged nearly 10 points a game offensively as a senior.

Other members of the WHS 1966 state championship team were Larry Campbell, Danny Miller, Robert Brown, Kerry Campbell, Jimmy White, Kenneth Johnson and R.J.

Green.

With its state title in hand, the Wildcats scratched out a noble end to Wallace High School. When the Colorado Independent School District integrated black and white students in the fall of 1966, more than 30 years of WHS history came to an end.

Wallace High School first opened as a school in 1937 when Mitchell County legend Daniel Webster "80 John" Wallace had a small school built just across the tracks to educate the community's black students. That school served Colorado City's black community until 1953 when CISD built the existing Wallace school on Highway 208. That school, which is today home to the Wallace Accelerated High School program -- was used by black students until 1966 when Colorado ISD became fully integrated. Following its closure, the Wallace School was used to housing CISD sixth graders for a short time.

Wallace High School's place in Mitchell County history didn't begin -- or end -- in 1966. The roots to the Wildcats' success, according to Woods,

actually began in the early 1950s when W.D. Harris was hired to become the school's principal/math teacher/coach/bus driver.

Upon arriving, Harris immediately implemented a nose-to-the-grindstone work ethic. It was an attitude that served his students well on and off the court.

"W.D. Harris was dedicated in everything he did," said Woods, a 1957 graduate of Wallace. "He was the man you saw first in the morning when you went in Wallace and the last you saw when you left. Believe me, he made sure you worked on what you needed to whether it was at practice or in class."

"He didn't leave you hanging. If he felt we didn't get done what we needed to in practice, he would keep us until it was dark and then load us all on the bus and take us home. He'd go up and knock on the door and say "Mr. and Mrs. Woods, I had to keep David after school because he didn't get done what he needed."

"He did everyone that way," he said. "You did not want any of the teachers telling him you were having trouble in class. He'd take you in his office and get his paddle and cure whatever problem you had."

"I think that work ethic stuck with a lot of his students and helped us," he said. "He wouldn't accept anything but your best effort."

"He took care of business," Woods said.

See WALLACE, Page 6

“
*You didn't want any of
the teachers telling him
you were having trouble in
class. He'd take you in his
office and get his paddle
and cure whatever problem
you had.*
”

David Woods

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Harris' dedication was just as strict on the basketball court. He demanded each player work tirelessly to perfect their abilities -- and for each player to know his limitations.

"It was a little different than it is now," Woods said. "When W.D. Harris arrived Wallace was a punching bag in basketball. If you wanted to get an easy win or to pad your record, you needed to play Wallace."

That all began to change when Harris was hired in 1952.

Surrounded by a community that was semi-integrated (the only major issues facing black and Hispanic youths then were they weren't allowed to use the city pool or sit in the lower section of the movie theatre), Harris became a fixture locally. He coached in the Colorado City youth baseball league -- which combined all black, white and Hispanic players into a single league -- and began laying the foundation for success.

"He put us on the map," said Woods, who rode his time at Wallace into a college career at Butler University. "He and his assistant -- later head coach -- Billy Smith taught us fundamentals every day. There wasn't any throwing up a shot and hoping it would go in. You had better be pretty sure it was going in when you took a shot."

"It took us two years to learn what he wanted," said Woods, who taught at Wallace High School from 1964 until it merged with Colorado High School.

Harris' lessons began paying dividends in 1956 when the team captured its first-ever district championship -- a

remarkable accomplishment for a Class B school playing against teams such as Woodson, Odessa Blackshear and Lubbock Dunbar who often had three times their number of students.

"That's the way W.D. Harris wanted it," Woods said. "We played all the Class 2A and 3A schools because he wanted to put us in a position to win. It didn't matter to him how big they were. Teams like that made us competitive because everyone knew what they needed to do."

The following season -- Woods' senior year -- the Wildcats went to the state playoffs again, advancing to the second round before bowing out.

"Those two years were the start of the Wallace dynasty," he said.

In 1959, Harris led Wallace High School to the first of back-to-back state titles. The team captured its third state crown two years later in 1962.

Harris' tenure at Wallace came to an end in 1963 when he moved north to become an athletic director.

Harris' move paved the way for Smith to move into the head coaching position. Smith picked up right where his mentor left off, guiding the team to three straight district titles in 1964, 1965 and 1966.

One of Smith's first moves was to hire a young Woods as an assistant. An English teacher, Woods gave up basketball after suffering a knee injury.

"I came back to establish myself as a teacher," said Woods, who spent a year at Karnack before accepting a position at Wallace in 1964. "I thought I would

try to play professional basketball until I hurt my knee. After that, I decided I would use my degree."

It was a move that would link him to a piece of history ... the 1966 Wallace High School Wildcats.

"The thing I don't think most people realize is that all those players were really good students as well as great basketball players."

Woods said several members of the Wildcats' state team enjoyed successful careers after high school. Russell went on to graduate from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, while teammate Brown earned three college degrees, including a degree in law from Texas Tech University.

Kerry Campbell and Robert Brown both served in the military before earning college degrees.

In all six members of the WHS roster earned college degrees.

"Those kids weren't just basketball players," he said. "We weren't just a bunch of black kids playing ball. We had to work hard every day because of W.D. Harris and I think that helped everyone when they got out of school."

The end of Wallace High School didn't come without some controversy -- ironically, from the black community.

With a school that was barely over 10 years old, many members of the black community questioned the wisdom of integrating with Colorado High School in the fall of 1966.

"There were people who said, 'Why are we going to go to Colorado High School? We have the better building

and all' but that was what we were federally-mandated to do," said Woods.

"But we took that state championship with us to Colorado High School. We took Wallace out on top," he added.

Following Wallace's demise Woods stepped away from coaching and concentrated on his career as an English teacher. He retired recently after spending more than two decades with CISD.

Smith, like Woods, stayed in Colorado City following Wallace's final year. He taught for a year at Colorado High School before moving to the Los Angeles area to teach.

Ironically, Wallace's closing almost gave Colorado City another state championship in 1967.

With Russell and three fellow members of the 1966 WHS state championship team moving into Colorado High School the next year, the Wolves managed to string together their best-ever season. The team advanced to the University Interscholastic League's Class 3A state tournament and finished third overall.

Forty years after Williams, Taylor, Brown, Irvin and Russell guided Wallace to history, Woods remains awed at what the little school was capable of.

"I go out there from time to time and every time I look up and see that purple and white emblem on the top I get a funny feeling inside my stomach," he said. "It's hard to imagine it was that long ago."

"It was something. The things they did were pretty amazing," he added.

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Record Photo/Carl Graham

MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Colorado High School Wolves varsity basketball team include (back row, left to right) Simon Reyna, Corey Owens, Tyler Higgins, Matthew Wilson, Manuel Garza, (front row) Lance Espinoza, Matt Sowa, Clint White, Jamarcus Denson and Kolby Free.



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Keeton confident Wolves can compete

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

Like their football counterparts, the last several basketball seasons have been very successful for the Colorado High School Wolves.

Although the players will be younger this fall, the success will remain the goal.

The 2006-07 basketball season may have just gotten started, but according to head basketball coach Danny Keeton, this season's lineup will probably be a lot like the football team -- very young.

Keeton has grown accustomed to winning basketball games since he took over the program several seasons ago following the departure of former head coach Barry Kimball. In fact, Keeton has managed to squeeze into the post-season playoffs each year since he has been the head coach for the Wolves.

In the 2001-02 season, the Wolves lost to Idalou, 57-44, in the bi-district round before getting another chance at the Wildcats in the 2002-03 sea-

son. Idalou defeated the Wolves in bi-district once again, this time by a score of 53-39. Colorado High School finished the 2003 season with an 18-11 record.

In the 2003-04 basketball season, Keeton led his squad to an undefeated 10-0 record in district play and a bye in the first round of the postseason. The Wolves defeated Van Horn in the area round of the playoffs before falling to a strong Lubbock Roosevelt team, 74-53.

In the 2004-05 basketball season, Colorado High School dropped its bi-district game to the Early Longhorns by a margin of 58-50 in a hard-fought contest played at Clyde. They finished their season at 15-14.

Last season, fielding a team of all seniors, the Wolves completed the district round undefeated at 10-0. After drawing a bye in the bi-district round, the Wolves knocked off Mason in the area round by a score of 54-51.

The Jim Ned Indians were the next victims for the Wolves. They downed the Indians before losing in the state

See WOLVES, Page 8

quarterfinals to a strong Tahoka team by the score of 68-54 in action played at the Chaparral Center in Midland.

Not only does Keeton not return any varsity members from a year ago, he does not even have a senior on the roster.

"We are going to be an extremely young team this year," said Keeton. "We are starting two freshmen, two sophomores, and a junior. Though none of them have had any varsity experience these kids are beginning to catch on to what I am asking of them."

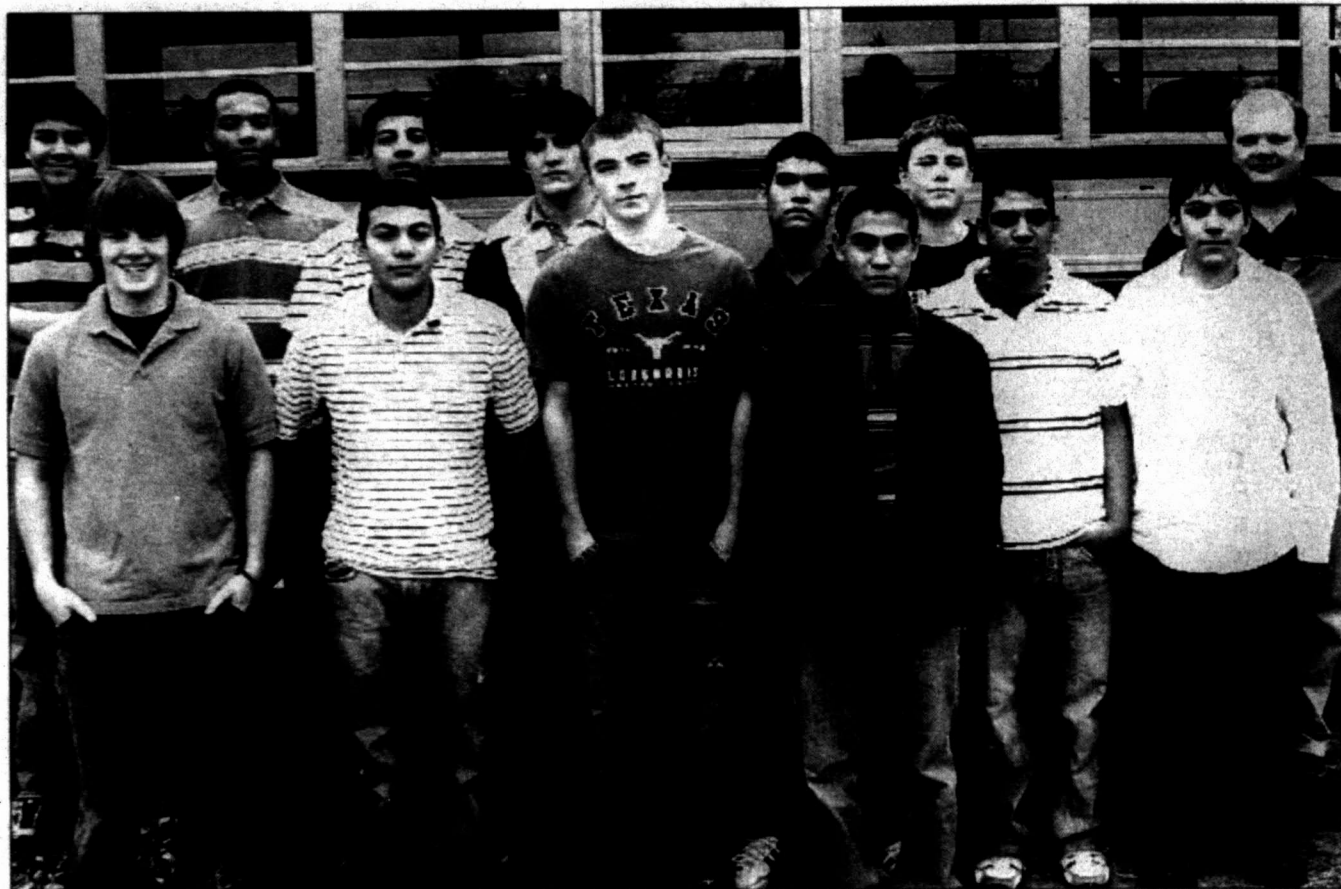
Keeton said he is extremely proud of his new starters this year.

"Tyler Higgins is just a freshman, but before his playing days are over he will have made an impact on the basketball court. Another freshman, Jamarcus Denson, is starting to play well and getting a little more confidence. With time he should really become a dominant figure on the court as well."

"Clint White has gotten off to a good start after an injury last season cut his playing time down, and Kolby Free, a junior, is expected to play a huge part on the team," he added.

If anyone can get the Wolves over the hump, it would be Keeton.

With a young squad a few seasons ago, he managed to rebound from a 2-4 start to win the last four district games and finish third in the district race - a spot that earned the Wolves playoff berth. That team overcame a



THE COLORADO HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY TEAM includes (back row, left to right) Kirk Levertton, Chris Stewart, Jessie Guerra, Daniel Perez, Rosendo Gonzales, Nathan McCright, coach Harold Sowa, (front row) Ryan Gainey, Gabriel Yanez, Nathan Hawkins, Ricky Davila, Greg Rodriguez and Ricky Ventura.

lot of adversity to reach that goal of making it to the playoffs.

"That was a great group of kids," said Keeton. "They just set a goal, and then went about getting it accomplished. A

lot of teams would have folded at that point, but not them."

Stanton and Anson are predicted to be the two top teams this year with several teams fighting for the third

playoff spot.

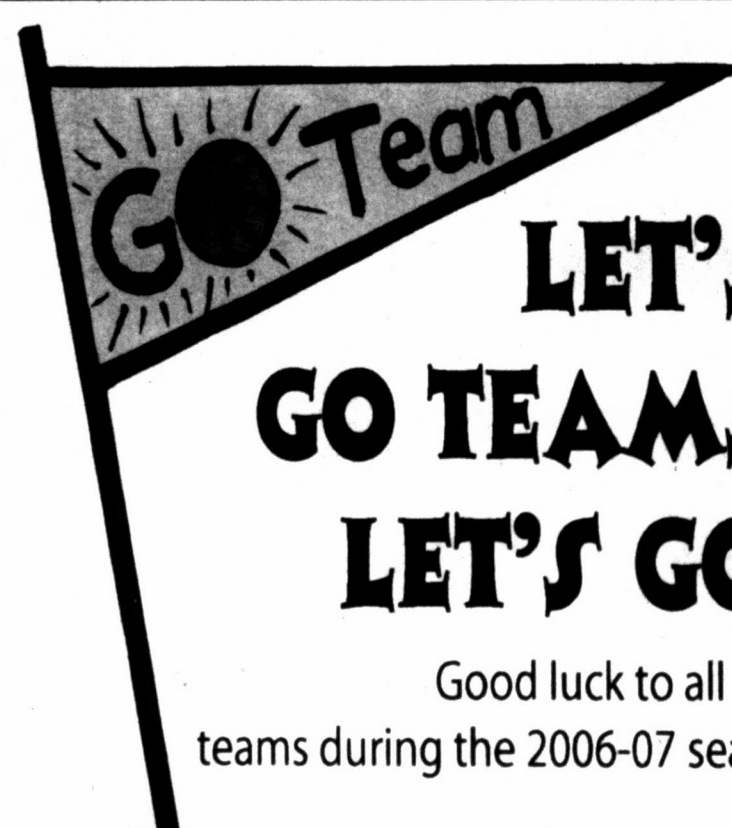
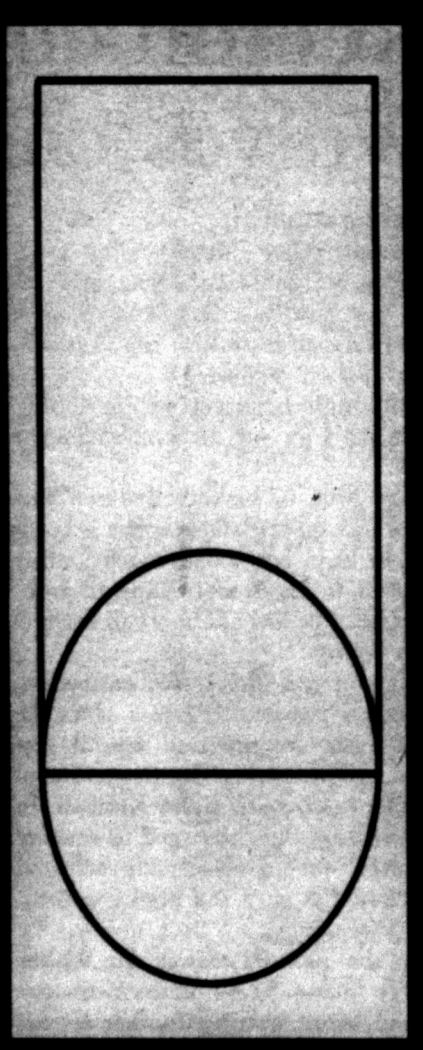
Others in the district this season will be Coahoma, Haskell, Hawley, Merkel and Stamford.

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THE CMS 7TH GRADE A TEAM includes (back row, left to right) Matt Potter, Benny Jones, Coach Brent Paris, Tyler Hammond, Ryan Rivera (front) Derek Gainey, Tylor Lorenz, Jason Rodriguez, Xavien Lenard.



THE CMS 7TH GRADE B TEAM includes (back row, left to right) Ja-Quelyn Session, Sebastian Villalon, Monseis Ybarra, Coach Brent Paris, Anthony Rivera, Matthew Sanchez, (front) Jadrian Dominguez, Delbert Dunn, Ross Salmon, Aaron Mendoza.



THE CMS 8TH GRADE A TEAM includes (back row, left to right) Chasen Jackson, Jonathan Luera, Blaze Clark, J.C. Johnson, Nick Reyna, (front row) Tracy Russell, Ronald Aoyama, Joel Gaona, Andrew Munoz and Isaac Yanez.



THE CMS 8TH GRADE B TEAM includes (back row, left to right) Kyler Free, Adolfo Martinez, Kamron Martin, Chris Madrid, Landon Pfeuffer, A.J. Coronado, Tyler Plagens, (front) Joe Salazar, Michael Hernandez, Matt Neff and Daniel Hammond.

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Inside
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Record Photo/Carl Graham

MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Colorado High School Lady Wolves varsity basketball team include (back row, left to right) Michelle Arispe, Crystal Stewart, Iesha Taylor, Brittany Hill (front row) Letesha McDuffie, Jessica Castillo and Lacesha Johnson. Not pictured is Janna Guerra.

Lady Wolves poised for possible playoff run

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

After just winning three basketball games all of last season you might think it to be a lofty goal to expect to be playing for a post-season playoff spot.

But that is exactly what new Lady Wolves' head basketball coach Darrin Leverton is expecting.

"I think that we can make a legitimate run for the third-place playoff spot," said Leverton. "Merkel and Coahoma are probably the top two teams in the district, but after that the playing field gets pretty even. I feel like we can compete pretty well with Haskell, Stamford, Stanton, Hawley and Anson. Most coaches always feel like they can win at home, but are always a little skeptical when they go on the road. I think if we can win eight or nine district games we have a chance to slip in."

Some of the key players returning this season are seniors Brittany Hill, Jessica Castillo, and Michelle Arispe -- all who had valuable playing time last year under former head coach John Starcher.

Junior Crystal Stewart, who did not

participate in basketball last season, is expected to make solid contributions this year as should juniors Lacesha Johnson and Letesha McDuffie. The eighth girl that will be carried on the varsity is sophomore Iesha Taylor, a good ball handler who played on the junior varsity last year.

"Crystal (Stewart) is very athletic, and has good vertical leaping ability," said Leverton. "Iesha is only a sophomore, but she is going to be a good one before she graduates from here. She is a good ball handler and shooter, but she needs to work some on her defense. As far as Lacesha (Johnson) and Letesha (McDuffie) go, they are just so quick and can move up and down the court so fast. They also grab a lot of rebounds."

Offensively, Leverton said the Wolves will attempt to establish an inside game early, if possible. If that fails, however, he won't be afraid to unleash the Lady Wolves from the perimeter.

"We will try to work the ball into Brittany (Hill) or Crystal, but we do have some that can shoot from outside if we can't penetrate inside. We just need some early confidence build-

ers early on, and I think we will be all right."

The Lady Wolves entered the Christmas holiday break with a record of 5-11, and a district mark of 1-2 which could have just as easily been 2-1.

The one thing Leverton doesn't want

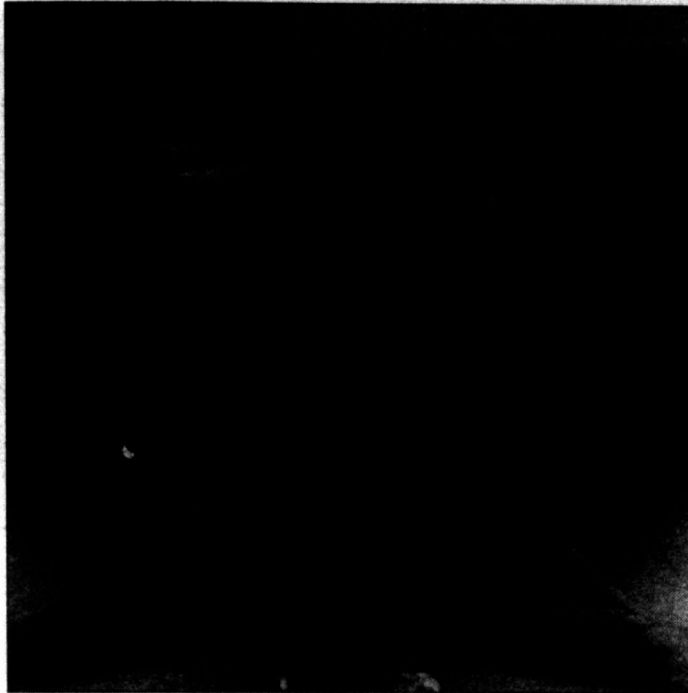
his team to dwell on is the past.

"I am tired of hearing about how bad we were last year; this is a new season and a new era. I think we should go into each game believing that we can win."



Record Photo/Carl Graham

MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Colorado High School Lady Wolves' junior varsity basketball team include (back row, left to right) Coach Jana Davis, Inez Salinas, Hopie Salinas, Breshanae White, Candice Johnson, Lisa Salazar, Brianna Green, Laura Warren, Shelbi Turner, coach Anita Graham, (middle) Lauren Munoz, Alyssa Martinez, Brianna Ortiz and (front) Jade Cannon.



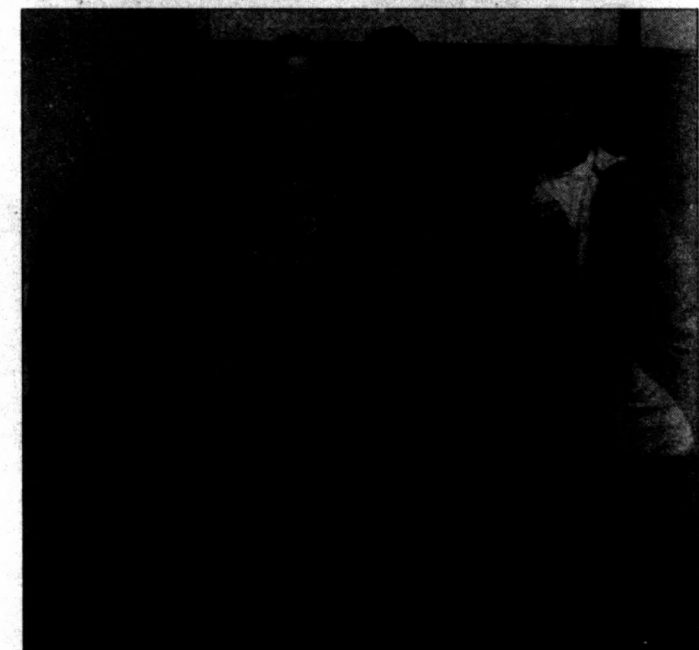
THE CMS 7TH GRADE A TEAM
includes (back row, left to right) Alyssa Bonner, Taylor Harris, Megan Bullard, (Middle) Heather Barrera, Kaley Medina, (front) Miranda Reyna, Alexia Espinoza and Sydney Upshaw



THE CMS 7TH GRADE B TEAM
includes (back row, left to right) Taylor Harris, Tracy Pina, Jessica Hampton, Tara Higgins, Adriana Gomez, Bethany Blassingame, Casie Lemons (front) Ann Marie Morrison, Mandy Baker, Frankie Gaona and Ashli Cooper.



THE CMS 8TH GRADE A TEAM
includes (back row, left to right) Michelle Billingsley, Christina Arispe, Courtney Sutton, (Middle) Ana Macedo, Jaci Wulfjen, (front) Amanda Arispe and Brooke Bruington.



THE CMS 8TH GRADE B TEAM
includes (back row, left to right) Tiffany Martinez, Erin Graham, Katherine Hickson, Valeria Vera (front) Olivia Ornelas, Emma Leanos and Ashley Coronado.

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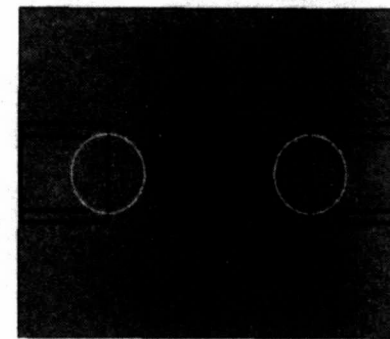


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MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Loraine High School Bulldogs' team are (left to right) Stefan Limones, Kenny Esquivel, Alejandro Lopez, Bivian Hermosillo, Jimmy Grissam, Sean Vasquez, Daunte Smith, Zach Gibson and Derek Martinez. Not pictured is Miguel Acevedo.

Bulldogs ready for return to basketball playoffs

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

Senior Miguel Acevedo was just a 6-foot-1 freshman the last time the Loraine Bulldogs made it to the post-season playoffs, but he would like nothing better than to help lead them back for another round in his final year as a senior.

Despite having only one senior in 2004, the Bulldogs went 7-3 in district play to tie the Blackwell Hornets for the second playoff spot in the district. The Bulldogs then went on to defeat the Hornets in a one-game playoff to grab the second place spot, but in doing so drew the No. 4 team in the state — Rising Star — for their

first game. Rising Star earned a 46-37 bi-district win.

The Bulldogs should be in very good shape to return to the post-season this year as several key members of last season's team returned to provide sufficient help in making that dream become a reality.

Junior Derek Martinez returns to

man the point guard slot this season for the Bulldogs. Sophomore Jacob Sanchez should be ready to handle the other guard slot, while veterans Kenny Esquivel, Zach Gibson, and 6-foot-4 post Jimmy Grissam will all be relied on to provide plenty of leadership.

Thus far into the early pre-district

See BULLDOGS, Page 13



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run, Esquivel has provided a lot of points from the three-point line with more than 20 already. Grissam has had one game with more than 20 points while Martinez and Acevedo both play key roles in the Bulldog offense.

Transfer students Stefan Limones and Bivian Hermosillo will add even more experience to the squad, as well as junior Sean Vasquez who saw quite a bit of playing time last season as well.

Expected to add extra depth to the team should be Daunte Smith, a junior who has been getting a lot of playing time with the junior varsity of late of the Bulldogs. Members of the district include Highland, Westbrook, Ira, Borden County, and Hermleigh. As usual Ira and Borden County are expected to have good teams, but Westbrook will be a team that could spoil everything for the district favorites. Without Roby in the district this year there are no prohibitive favorites.

Veteran basketball coach Steve Komppa returns as the head coach of the boy's squad, and after a tough season under his belt should have the Bulldogs ready for a return run at the state playoffs.

Going into the Christmas holiday break the Bulldogs were only sporting a record of 1-8, but the schedule has been a very tough non-district run. Komppa says there is a reason for his maddening schedule.

"I try to schedule teams that I believe will challenge the kids," said Komppa. "I feel like if you schedule



MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Loraine High School Bulldogs' junior varsity basketball team are (left to right) Tanner Fountain, Ray Cantu, Mario Lopez, Tommy Wells, Jr., and Anthony Gonzales

MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Loraine Junior High School Bulldogs' basketball team are (left to right) Bobby Wells, Damien Garcia, Brandon Gibson, Toby Garza, Adrian Talamantes, Zachary Chambliss, Brian Barrera and Nathaniel Martinez.



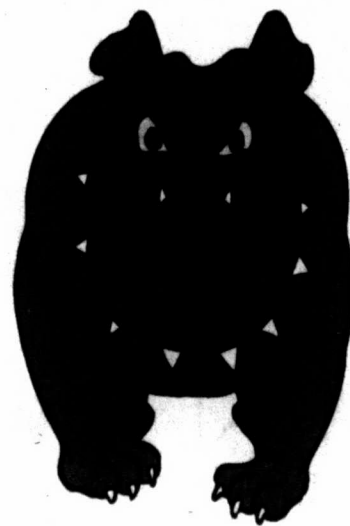
tough competition it will ultimately pay off dividends."

District play will get started right

after the holiday break as the Highland Hornets invade Bulldog gymnasium on January 5th with the varsity

girls scheduled to hit the floor at 6:30 p.m. while the boys will tip-off at 8 p.m.

Go Loraine Bulldogs!

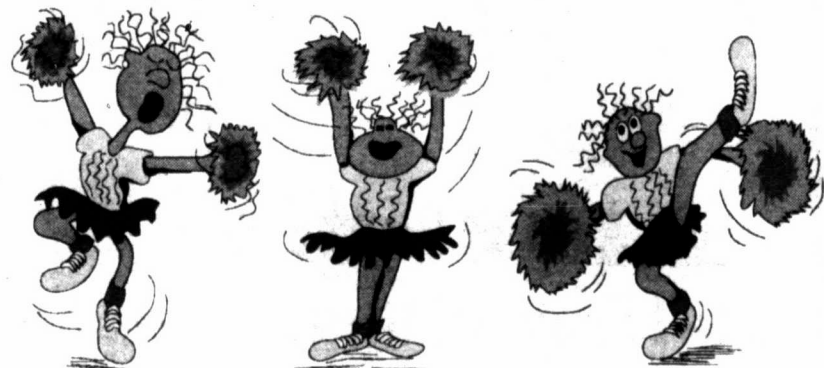


We wish all the area teams
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Lady 'Dogs looking to gain experience in '06

Carl Graham

Colorado City Record

You'll have to forgive Loraine Lady Bulldogs head coach Tonja Edens if she wasn't certain whether to pass out pacifiers and baby rattles instead of basketball jerseys when the 2006 basketball season began.

Make no mistake about it, the Loraine basketball program is young ... very young.

The Lady Bulldogs will be about as inexperienced as there has ever been at LHS with only a couple of girls returning with any varsity experience.

Loraine heads into district play facing a season without the use of last year's go-to player, Heather Sheppard. The 6-foot-4 standout was almost unstoppable in the paint a year ago, averaging better than 20 points a game.

Sheppard, however, is in the LHS past. She transferred to Big Spring at the end of school last May.

Also not on the roster this season is Claudia Barrera and Junell Ruth, two players that were counted on highly last season. Both opted not to participate in basketball this season.

That move, along with graduation, sends Loraine into the start of district play in January with only one player that had any varsity play last season - point guard Felicia Gibson.

Gibson has sparked the LHS squad

See LADY DOGS, Page 15



MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Loraine High School Lady Bulldogs' team are (back row, left to right) Erica Medina, Alex Lambaren, Cassandra Jimenez, (front row) Lindsay Martin, Nancy Talamantes, Whitney Martin and Felicia Gibson.



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LHS teams take games into new home

The "Dog House" has a new look these days. In fact, the whole thing is new.

Loraine fans will get a treat when they attend games this fall as the team is finally playing its home games in the new gym. Gone are the dark days in the old gym.

The Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs, beginning this year, can play their games in the new athletic facility. Previously, the team had been forced to play in the old gym due to restrictions placed on the new facility by grants used to build the structure.

The gym was originally built in 1998 as a physical education/classroom facility. The grant barred teams from playing games in the gym for the first five years.

School officials have said they will make improvements to the gym in the coming years to expand seating and concession

thus far this season, ranking among the team leaders in scoring, rebounding and assists.

Transfer students - and twins - Lindsey and Whitney Martin give the Lady Bulldogs a potent double



MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Loraine Junior High School Lady Bulldogs' team are (left to right) Megan Sanchez, Kayme Wells, Brianna Williams, Devhan Neeley, Raven Limones, Ariel Bailey, Catelyn Johnston, Jayme Bradley, Celia Rico; (front) Jazmin Dela Cruz, Kacee Neeley and Stephanie Grissam.

threat. Each one has been the team's high-point scorer at one time or another during the pre-district games. Both stand 5-foot-9, giving them an advantage on many opposing players on the boards.

Nancy Talamantes has improved as the early part of the season has progressed. The young guard has stepped up her play.

Others that will be contributing to the success of the Lady Bulldogs this season are Erica Medina, Alex Lam-

baren, and Cassandra Jiminez. All three are making their varsity debuts this season.

"Just like in volleyball, this season will be a learning season for us," said Edens. "We will make a lot of mistakes, but it is expected out of a young team like we have. We just need to learn from our mistakes and try to not make the same mistakes over and over."

There is help on the way for the LHS girls' basketball program. The Lady Bulldogs have plenty of numbers

and talent on their junior high roster, including post Ariel Bailey and Raven Limones and guards Megan Sanchez and Catelyn Johnston.

"We have a group of girls coming up from junior high school that are going to be very good. They are highly competitive, and are learning the game very well," Edens said.

The Lady Bulldogs will begin district play on Jan. 5 when they host the state-ranked Highland Lady Hornets at 6:30 p.m.



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MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Westbrook High School Wildcats' team are (back row, left to right) Coach Jim Hill, Colton Rich, Eli Farrell, Tate Burleson, Jordan Truelove, Colton Nobles, Michael Morton and Coach Steve Shreiner, (front row) Justin Cantu, Josh Solko, Drake Thurman and Kingsley King.

Wildcats geared for a return to playoffs in '06

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

The Westbrook Wildcats may be inexperienced and young, but coach Jim Hill is hearing none of that.

"I think if these kids learn to play together we can compete well this year," said coach Hill. "They may be young, but they have some potential."

Junior Tate Burleson is perhaps the most experienced Wildcat on the squad, but is ably supported by Colton Nobles, Jordan Truelove, Michael Morton, and first-year starting

senior Justin Cantu.

Josh Solko is the sixth player, but often gets the nod to start.

"Justin has come in this year and
See WILDCATS, Page 17

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is doing a very good job for us," said Hill. "He decided to come out this year and give us a hand. He can do a lot of things for us."

Morton, brother to Cory Morton who graduated last May, also has potential to be a very good player according to Hill.

"We do have some potentially good athletes," said Hill. "They can go as far as their talent takes them. They are working hard on getting ready for district play, and we have had some success early on in the season."

Burleson is a threat at the three-point range, and got a lot of experience in the Wildcats playoff run last season.

"Our weakness is we are not very deep in our lineup," said Hill. "We are about six deep, and then we begin to get a lot of inexperience."

Hill said that Ira and Loraine should be the two top teams in the district now that Roby is no longer a part of the district, but that Borden County was no slouch either.

"We are going to have to play some good basketball to compete with Ira, Loraine, and Borden County to get into the playoffs," said Hill. "We have already played Trent and Highland and know what to expect with them, but we haven't seen Borden County yet. I am sure they will have a decent team though."

The Wildcats will begin district play when they host Hermleigh on January 5th.

Mitchell County Varsity Basketball Schedules

Colorado Wolves

VARSIY BOYS

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 19	Stanton	Home	8
Jan. 2	Haskell	Away	8
Jan. 5	Hawley	Away	8
Jan. 9	Merkel	Home	8
Jan. 12	Stamford	Away	8
Jan. 16	Coahoma	Home	8
Jan. 19	Anson	Away	8
Jan. 23	Stanton	Away	8
Jan. 26	Haskell	Home	8
Jan. 30	Merkel	Away	8
Feb. 2	Hawley	Home	8
Feb. 6	Stamford	Home	8
Feb. 9	Coahoma	Away	7:30
Feb. 13	Anson	Home	7:30

VARSIY GIRLS

Dec. 12	Coahoma	Away	7:30
Dec. 15	Anson	Home	7:30
Dec. 19	Stanton	Home	6:30
Jan. 2	Haskell	Away	6:30
Jan. 5	Hawley	Away	6:30
Jan. 9	Merkel	Home	6:30
Jan. 12	Stamford	Away	6:30
Jan. 16	Coahoma	Home	6:30
Jan. 19	Anson	Away	6:30
Jan. 23	Stanton	Away	6:30

Jan. 26	Haskell	Home	6:30
Jan. 30	Merkel	Away	6:30
Feb. 2	Hawley	Home	6:30
Feb. 6	Stamford	Home	6:30

Loraine Bulldogs

VARSIY BOYS

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Jan. 5	Highland	Home	5 p.m.
Jan. 9	Westbrook	Away	5
Jan. 12	Ira	Home	5
Jan. 16	Borden Co.	Away	5
Jan. 19	Hermleigh	Home	6:30
Jan. 23	Highland	Away	5
Jan. 26	Westbrook	Home	5
Jan. 30	Ira	Away	5
Feb. 2	Borden Co.	Home	5
Feb. 6	Hermleigh	Away	6:30

VARSIY GIRLS

Jan. 5	Highland	Home	5
Jan. 9	Westbrook	Away	5
Jan. 12	Ira	Home	5
Jan. 16	Borden Co.	Away	5
Jan. 19	Hermleigh	Home	6:30
Jan. 23	Highland	Away	5
Jan. 26	Westbrook	Home	5

Jan. 30	Ira	Away	5
Feb. 2	Borden Co.	Home	5
Feb. 6	Hermleigh	Away	6:30

Westbrook Wildcats

VARSIY BOYS

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Jan. 5	Hermleigh	Home	8
Jan. 9	Loraine	Home	8
Jan. 12	Borden Co.	Away	8
Jan. 16	Highland	Home	8
Jan. 19	Ira	Away	8
Jan. 23	Hermleigh	Away	8
Jan. 26	Loraine	Away	8
Jan. 30	Borden Co.	Home	8
Feb. 2	Highland	Away	8
Feb. 6	Ira	Home	8

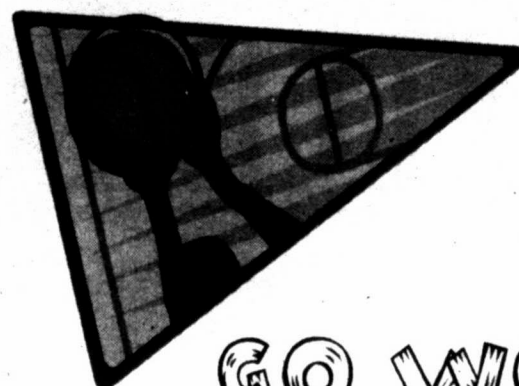
VARSIY GIRLS

Jan. 5	Hermleigh	Home	6:30
Jan. 9	Loraine	Home	6:30
Jan. 12	Borden Co.	Away	6:30
Jan. 16	Highland	Home	6:30
Jan. 19	Ira	Away	6:30
Jan. 23	Hermleigh	Away	6:30
Jan. 26	Loraine	Away	6:30
Jan. 30	Borden Co.	Home	6:30
Feb. 2	Highland	Away	6:30
Feb. 6	Ira	Home	6:30

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MEMBERS OF THE 2006-07 Westbrook High School Lady Cats' team are (back row, left to right) Coach Kate Morris, Laramie King, Caitlin Colaw, Lauren Johnson, Kimberlin Johnson, Allison Bray, Cassie Holbrook, Brooke Cannon, Schellie White, Cassie Bass, Coach Cassie Short, (front) Keesha Krapf, Carly Hill, Hannah Berber, Milina Funderburg, Jessica Clowers and Brittany Clowers.

Lady 'Cats look primed for postseason run in '07

Carl Graham
Colorado City Record

After being left out of the post-season playoffs the last three years, the Westbrook Lady Cats are getting primed for the elusive playoff run this season.

Four-year starters Allison Bray and Lauren Johnson have returned for their final years, while three-year starter Keesha Krapf, and Caitlin Colaw also return to provide even more ammunition for the WHS arsenal.

The Lady Cats' playoff goal should be very well within reach this season.

Bray, who averages 24 points per contest, was an all-state selection last year and has been receiving lots of attention from junior colleges as well as several

Division I and Division II schools.

"Allison has done everything that I have asked of her since I have been here," said Lady Cats head coach Cassie Short. "She is the glue that holds this

See LADY CATS, Page 19

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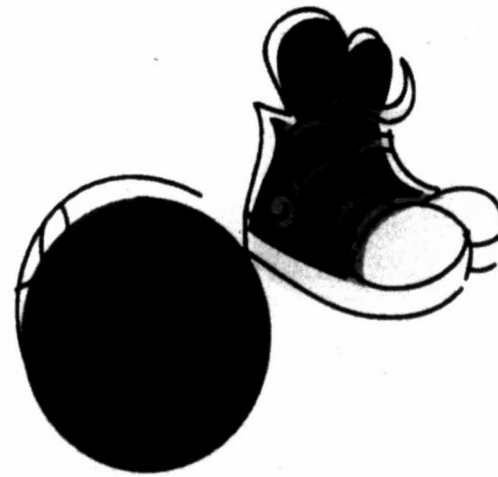
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team together. She is not intimidated by anyone."

Colaw is in her second year after transferring to Westbrook a couple of years ago.

"Caitlin has the skills to be an outstanding player," said Short. "She got enough respect by the coaches last season to be selected to the all-district squad. Our opponents are not able to double-team Allison without paying the price of having to deal with Caitlin."

According to Short, Johnson is also a valuable commodity to the team.

"Lauren just goes about her business on the court, and does what is necessary to get the win," said Short. "She also is a returning all-district player. She may not always appear in the scoring column, but she is consistent on defense."

Krapf, a junior, was an honorable mention all-district selection last season.

"Keesha is a key player on our team, and we count on her a lot," said Short. "You can bet she will get her fair share of points, and she also plays good defense. She adds another dimension to our team."

Sophomore Schelli White and Laramie King add strength to the Lady Cats' program as well.

"I have three seniors, a junior, and a sophomore starting," said Short. "Schelli, though just a sophomore, is doing a great job for us. In a couple of years she will be the leader on the team. I look forward to seeing her develop over the next couple of years."

velop over the next couple of years."

Short said that even though Highland is the pick to win the district, Westbrook should be contending for one of the playoff slots.

"Highland returns another top team," she said. "I think, however, Ira

and us will be fighting for the second playoff spot. We have a great nucleus of returning starters which should give us an inside track. Highland lost a couple of their good players, but still returns enough talent to win it all.

"I understand that Loraine lost sev-

eral starters from last season and they are very young," she said.

The Lady Wildcats will get the district race started on Jan. 5 when they host the Lady Cardinals from Hermleigh.

Mitchell County JV Basketball Schedules

Colorado Wolves

JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS

Dec. 19	Stanton	Home	5:15
Jan. 2	Haskell	Away	5:15
Jan. 5	Hawley	Away	5:15
Jan. 9	Merkel	Home	5:15
Jan. 12	Stamford	Away	5:15
Jan. 16	Coahoma	Home	5:15
Jan. 19	Anson	Away	5:15
Jan. 23	Stanton	Away	5:15
Jan. 26	Haskell	Home	5:15
Jan. 27	District Tny.	Home	TBA
Jan. 30	Merkel	Away	5:15
Feb. 2	Hawley	Home	5:15
Feb. 6	Stamford	Home	5:15
Feb. 9	Coahoma	Away	6
Feb. 13	Anson	Home	6

JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS

Dec. 12	Coahoma	Away	6
Dec. 15	Anson	Home	6
Dec. 19	Stanton	Home	4
Jan. 2	Haskell	Away	4

Jan. 5	Hawley	Away	4
Jan. 9	Merkel	Home	4
Jan. 12	Stamford	Away	4
Jan. 16	Coahoma	Home	4
Jan. 19	Anson	Away	4
Jan. 23	Stanton	Away	4
Jan. 26	Haskell	Home	4
Jan. 27	District Tny.	Home	TBA
Jan. 30	Merkel	Away	4
Feb. 2	Hawley	Home	4
Feb. 6	Stamford	Home	4

Loraine Bulldogs

JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS

Jan. 5	Highland	Home	5
Jan. 9	Westbrook	Away	5
Jan. 12	Ira	Home	5
Jan. 16	Borden Co.	Away	5
Jan. 23	Highland	Away	5
Jan. 26	Westbrook	Home	5
Jan. 30	Ira	Away	5
Feb. 2	Borden Co.	Home	5

Westbrook Wildcats

JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS

Jan. 5	Hermleigh	Home	5
Jan. 9	Loraine	Home	5
Jan. 12	Borden Co.	Away	4
Jan. 16	Highland	Home	4
Jan. 19	Ira	Away	4
Jan. 23	Hermleigh	Away	5
Jan. 26	Loraine	Away	5
Jan. 30	Borden Co.	Home	4
Feb. 2	Highland	Away	4
Feb. 6	Ira	Home	4

JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS

Jan. 5	Hermleigh	Home	5
Jan. 9	Loraine	Home	5
Jan. 12	Borden Co.	Away	4
Jan. 16	Highland	Home	4
Jan. 19	Ira	Away	4
Jan. 23	Hermleigh	Away	5
Jan. 26	Loraine	Away	5
Jan. 30	Borden Co.	Home	4
Feb. 2	Highland	Away	4
Feb. 6	Ira	Home	4

Go
Wildcats!

Here's hoping you
have a great
basketball season!

Mitchell County Utility

Lake Colorado City 728-5092

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