

The Gorman Progress

"Serving Gorman For Over 106 Years"

Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

2006 Member
Texas Press Association

NUMBER FIVE

FEBRUARY 9, 2006

Lady Panthers Take Huge Victory Over Cross Plains

Friday night, February 3, 2006 the Lady Panthers hosted the Cross Plains Lady Buffalos. The Lady Panthers overtook the Buffs with an outstanding score of 84-31! The Lady Panthers came out strong the first half outscoring Cross Plains 40-11. Coming back into the 2nd half the Lady Panthers stepped up the game on the Lady Buffs ending with a season high score and a rousing victory. Great Job Lady Panthers!!

Scoring by Quarter:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Cross Plains	7	4	4	16
Gorman ISD	18	22	23	21

Kendra Swanner was the high scorer with 24 points and 17 rebounds, Nikki Keith had 6 points and 3 steals, Jessica Panter had 11 points and 6 assists, Kaci Seaton had 5 points and 9 rebounds, Kristy Carlton had 4 points, Rosa Herrera had 2 points, Valerie Longoria had 18 points and Audrey Johnston had 14 points.

This was the last home game for the Lady Panthers this season and the seniors Kendra Swanner, Nikki Keith, Jessica Panter and Hollyann Wright were honored before the game. These girls are to be commended for an outstanding job this season. Their leadership and skills will be missed. Photos of Basketball on page Four

JV Girls Took A Victory Over Cross Plains Lady Buffs

The Gorman JV girls took a victory over the Cross Plains Lady Buffs on Friday. Our Lady Panthers worked very hard bringing the final score to Gorman 36, Cross Plains 24. Staying on top the entire game, the girls showed how hard they have worked all year.

Lady Panthers scorers: Thackerson 8, Granado 8, Wright 6, Jones 6, Cogburn 6, Lewis 2

Score by quarter:	Gorman	4	13	11	8	-	36
Cross Plains	5	3	4	12	-	24	

Lady Panther Take 3rd - Panthers Take 5th At Perrin Powerlifting Meet



Back Row: Pete Ramirez, Seth Johnson, Zach Bryan, David Ibarra. Middle Row: April Keaton, Daniel Shirley, Kendra Swanner, Nikki Keith, Rosa Herrera, Tecia Jones. Front Row: Sharla Perez, Avery Tyson, Aurora Tyson, and Megan Lewis.

The Lady Panther powerlifting team took 3rd place at a very competitive Perrin meet while the boys finished 5th against some quality competition. There were over 150 lifters at the meet and 12 schools represented. The Lady Panthers finished behind Santo and Springtown while the boys placed behind Millsap, Perrin, Santo, and Olney.

The Lady Panthers had 5 girls place. April Voyles placed 2nd in the 114 division with a season best total of 455 lbs. Sharla Perez posted her season high total of 570 lbs to take 2nd in the 123 division. Finishing just behind Sharla in the 123 division was Megan Lewis who totaled a season best 560 lbs. Kendra Swanner earned 1st place in the 165 division with a career best 695 lbs. Rosa Herrera took 1st in the 181 division with a career best total of 665 lbs. Others that competed were Tecia Jones and Nikki Keith. The Ladies had two lifters set meet records. Kendra Swanner broke the previous records for the 165 division in the bench press (she lifted 120, old record was 115 set by Kendra Swanner in 2005), the deadlift (she lifted 335 lbs, old record was 295 set by Kendra Swanner in 2005), and overall total (she totaled 695, old record was 625 set by Kendra Swanner in 2005). Sharla Perez also set the meet record in the bench press for 123 division in the bench press (she lifted 125, old record was 115 set by Sharla Perez in 2005). The girls continue to improve and position themselves for a possible trip to Regionals.

The Panthers had 4 boys place at the meet. Daniel Shirley lifted his career best by totaling 775 lbs to take 1st place in the 123 division. Pete Ramirez also lifted his career best total by amassing 1095 lbs for 1st place in the 181 division. Zach Bryan took 6th in the 181 division with a total of 950 lbs. Seth Johnson totaled a career best 1160 lbs and finished 2nd in the 275 division. Also competing was David Ibarra who dead lifted a all-time personal best of 445 lbs.

The Powerlifting teams will travel to Winters for the Blizzard Invitational this Saturday February 11th. Lifting will begin around 9:00 am. This will be the last meet for the full teams as the Last Qualifier Meet in the Strawn on February 25th will be for those that are close to qualifying for Regional or those that must protect their standings in order to qualify for Regional. The girls Regional will be in Abilene (McMurry University) on March 4th and the boys will have Regional at Brownfield High School on March 11th.

City General Election Scheduled for May 13, 2006

The City of Gorman General Election is scheduled for Saturday May 13, 2006. Three places on the City Commission will expire. Mayor Robert Ervin's term expires as well as Commissioners Joe Casey Place 4 and Charlie Torrez Place 2. First day to file an application for a place on the ballot will be February 11, 2006. Last day to file will be March 7, 2006.

School Board Election Planned For May 13, 2006

TWO positions will come open for the May 13, 2006 election for school board trustee to be elected at large. These positions will be for three-year terms and are currently held by Mark Simmons and Daryl Hirst. Applications for filing for a position on the ballot will begin on February 13, 2006. Deadline for filing will be March 13, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Applications can be completed at the Administration office during school hours.

Child Safety Seat Class In Eastland February 15th

Just a reminder that we will be holding our child safety seat class in Eastland on February 15th at Eastland Memorial Hospital starting at 7pm. This program is for those families/couples that may not be able to purchase a new child seat or booster seat. This is a FREE program, as is the seats; but they are limited to one per family/couple.

We do ask that if possible that you bring the child with you, so that we can fit the child to the seat. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for the class, please call 254-734-5989

Thanks,
Wayne Dennis, EMTP Child Safety Seat Technician
Eastland County Safe Kids



Francis Simpson is shown presenting a \$500 donation to the Gorman Volunteer Fire Department on behalf of classmate Jerry Dupuy of the Dominican Republic. Receiving the check is Gorman Fire Chief Gene Foster. Jerry and Polita Dupuy were concerned because of the recent wildfires and wanted to help Jerry's beloved home town of Gorman. Jerry and Polita are regular visitors back to this part of the country where he grew up. The class of 1956 is close and meets on a regular basis. Thank you, Jerry!

ESLATE Voting System Demonstration Slated

Cathy Jentho, Eastland County Clerk and Staff will be holding demonstrations of the new Eslate Voting System over the next several weeks throughout the County. We encourage citizens to attend to see how easily the new voting equipment will be to use. We welcome any questions or comments at that time.

Scheduled Times and Events:

- February 11 - Eastland Brookshires - 8:00 to 1:00
- February 15 - Gorman Senior Citizens Center - 11:00
- February 18 - Cisco Brookshires - 8:00 - 1:00
- February 25 - Eastland Wal-Mart Supercenter - 7:00 to 3:00

City Minutes For Feb. 2

The minutes of the February 2, 2006 meeting will be in February 16th's paper. I apologize for the inconvenience. Tacy.

AARP Driving Class

AARP Drive Safely Class
De Leon Senior Center
Feb. 29 and Mar. 2
1-5 pm both days

Thank You

The Gorman Athletic Department would like to thank Gorman Milling for letting the school use its equipment in order to make improvements to the softball batting cages. We would like to also thank Jeff Seaton and Bill Underwood for donating their time and labor to make our facilities better for our girls. Your generosity will make our program better and it is appreciated by all our staff and players.

Gorman ISD "Wall of Honor"

The Gorman Athletic Boosters are beginning a landscape project that will beautify the north interior section of Brogdon Field. Part of this project includes the sale of "memory bricks" to be laid around the entry of the football field. Individual engraved pavers are 4" x 8" in size, and can include three lines with twelve characters. The price of the individual paver is \$25.00 each. We will also be offering a business, family, organization, or "special event" paver that will measure 8" x 8", and can include four lines with twelve characters. The price of the large paver is \$50.00 each.

This project will also include the posting of all the student athletic records in all the sporting events. This is to honor our ex-athletes and their accomplishments; and to "inspire" our current athletes.

We encourage everyone to buy a paver and let those memories be a permanent part of the landscape at Brogdon Field. We believe this project will be a great source of pride for our school, and for our community. Anyone who wishes to purchase a memory brick; please contact, Bob Powell at 734-3322, Becky Swanner at 734-2480, or any member of the Gorman Athletic Boosters.

Eastland Co. Now Eligible For Low Interest Loans

Judge Brad Stephenson has received a letter from Governor Rick Perry stating that the Secretary of Agriculture has made it available for Eastland County Residents to apply for Low Interest Emergency Loans due to a recent disaster declaration.

The Secretary has notified the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to immediately make emergency loans available to eligible applicants in Eastland County. The Local FSA office will have the details on this program. Deadline for filing is September 18, 2006. More information can be found on Emergency loans at the Eastland County FSA Office.

Drawing For (2) Two Afghans

There is a drawing for (2) Two Afghans to be given away at the Gorman Chamber of Commerce Banquet slated for March 6th at ZJ's Steakhouse in Gorman. The afghan can be viewed at City Grocery, where you can purchase the tickets for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. The tickets will be drawn during the banquet.

Gorman Baseball Park Association to Meet February 13th at 6:30 p.m. School Cafeteria

Subscription Increase For Gorman Progress

Effective with the February Subscriptions the rates will be increased to \$13.50 In County; \$18.00 In Texas and \$20.00 Out of Texas. This rate increase is due to increases in the cost of Postage and Printing.

March 7, 2006 Primary Election Information

Early Voting in Person - February 21 thru March 3, 2006 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Eastland County Courthouse.

Note: Just a reminder that the County Clerk's Office offers curb side voting, please call 254-629-1583 if you need assistance.

Saturday Extended Voting Hours - February 25 - 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Eastland County Courthouse

Early Voting By Mail - Applications are currently being accepted. Please call Cathy Jentho, County Clerk at 254-629-1583 to see if you qualify to

Cookie Dough For Sale By GLRA

The Gorman Livestock Raisers Association will be selling cookie dough thru February 15, 2006. This is the same cookie dough that the PTO has sold in the past but opted not to sell this year. You can choose from ten different cookie flavors. If you would like to purchase a bucket/tub please call (254) 734-2505 or you may contact any GLRA member. We sincerely appreciate you continued support.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

MEETING — The Gorman Grow Meeting is set for the Second Thursday of Each Month at 7:30.

LIBRARY — Charlie Garrett Memorial Library will be open Monday thru Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. Open Tuesday 9 to 12 a.m.

FOOD BANK

New Hours - 10 - 11:00 a.m.
Second Thursday

Boy Scouts

Meeting Week
Tuesdays — 6:00 p.m.
Methodist Church

SANDRA CAGLE WILL BE IN GORMAN AT THE CITY OFFICE TO RENEW AUTO LICENSE PLATES. HER NEXT VISIT - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH FROM 9 - 11 A.M.

Oakland Cemetery Association is accepting donations for the Care of the Cemetery. Donations can be sent to Oakland Cemetery Association, 503 N. Fisher, Gorman, Tx 76454, or American State Bank, Gorman, Texas 76454.

4-H - Meets Second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall - Amy Wood - 734-2973.

VET Science 4-H Project - 4th Tuesday each Month. Technology Center / Gorman Community Center. Contact Lee or Amy Wood at 254-734-2973.

Gorman Masonic Lodge No. 716 A.F. & A.M. Regular stated meetings are 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome. Mark Wilkerson, Master — Pat Moseley, Secretary.

CLASSIFIEDS

Dodge Jones Foundation Emergency Grant Benefits Big Country VFDs

ABILENE, Texas—Overtaxed volunteer firefighters in the Big Country region of West Texas are receiving a welcome boost, thanks to the generosity of the Dodge Jones Foundation, based in Abilene. The foundation made emergency grant funding available through the Texas Forest Service to help replenish equipment and protective gear for 106 fire departments in 22 counties, which each have a \$2,500 grant awaiting them.

"The Dodge Jones Foundation came to us during the height of the wild-fire siege and asked what they could do to address the immediate needs of the departments in the Big Country region," said Texas Forest Service Director James Hull. "By giving each department a grant for \$2,500, each one can purchase the items most vital to their continued operation, such as personal protective gear, replacement pumps and vehicle repairs. This will be a great benefit to their communities and the thousands of Texans they serve."

Most of these 106 volunteer fire departments (VFDs) are the first responders to wildfires in their areas, and they have seen more than their share of the state's largest and most destructive fires during the recent wild-fire siege. Many of these departments responded to the 35,300-acre Carbon Fire and the 7,600-acre Cross Roads Fire that burned through the town of Cross Plains.

"This has been a tough fire season, and we're a very small department, only four years old, so we're grateful for any help we can get," said Fire Chief Raymond Helberg with Promontory Park VFD in Comanche County. "We lost all our wildland firefighting gear when our brush truck was burned over on the Carbon Fire. All of our wildland hose, nozzles, everything burned up including our medical supplies. It was quite a loss. We were fortunate that our firefighters only received 2nd degree burns, and they're both fine now."

The Dodge Jones Foundation gift will provide emergency individual grant funds to volunteer fire departments in the following counties: Brown, Callahan, Coke, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Erath, Fisher, Haskell, Irion, Jones, Mitchell, Nolan, Reagan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Sterling, Taylor, Throckmorton and Tom Green.

CJC Announces Dean's List

One Cisco Junior College student from Gorman is on the recently released Dean's List for the fall semester of 2005. The Dean's List includes students earning a 3.5 or better grade point average on a 4.0 system.

Student making the Dean's List was Amber D. Williams.

CJC Announces President's List

One Cisco Junior College student from Gorman is on the recently released President's List for the fall semester of 2005.

Students making the President's List have made a straight "A" record on a 4.0 system.

Student making the President's List was Robert B. McKendree.

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COOK WANTED: Cook Wanted at Cook's Fish Barn, Friday and Saturday Nights. Apply at Cook's Fish Barn or 254-842-5850 - Leave Message. ITC.

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NEW: Kent St. App. 2 A., 3-2-2 brick, central a/h, lots kitch. cabinets, garden area, large pecan trees, nice retirement property. \$69,500
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13.958 acres west of De Leon: 2 or 3 br. - 1 bath brick, 1375', garage and carport. Tifton 85 pasture, 2 wells, big hayshed, older shop, 1/4 mile off pavement. \$112,500
NEW: 30A., near De Leon, 3-3-3 m/h, 1190 sf, CH/A, Klein grass, cult., fenced, well, pond, coop water, barn & sheds, nice view. \$96,000.
NEW: 40 A. West Gorman, rough, wooded, secluded, great deer/turkey hunting, 4000 sq ft, 300' water on change, pond, electricity, views. \$2,250 per acre
NEW: 73A near Duster, good hunting, nice view, blinds, 2 ponds, 30 x 40, corn field, castal, beans, fenced. \$1,600 acre.
NEW: 97a S/W Gorman: Secluded, good hunting, seasonal creek, oak/mesquite, pond, fenced. Will divide into 27a and 70a tracts. \$1,850 acre.
100 A. near Duster: 3 - 1 1/2 - 2 brick, central A/H, fireplace, 1444', 24 x 30 shop on slab, 2 wells, 3 ponds, steel corrals, app. 36 A. coastal, some cult., and native. \$249,500.00
NEW: 102.81 A S/E Gorman: Native pasture, coastal, ponds, wells, new fence, sheds, paved rd, beans, deer & hogs, will divide. \$2,250 per acre.
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235A 3/2 2,400sf brick, carport, 3-tanks, improved pasture, minerals, hunting. \$589,000.
75A Eastland Co. with pivot irr. System, 5-wells, tank, coastal. \$150,000.
243A Comanche Co., large reservoir, 14 irrig. wells, irr. pit, hwy. frontage, coastal, and cultivation. \$473,850
240A Comanche Co. with 5-tanks, woods, hwy. frontage, rural water, hunting. \$396,000
26A with 2/1 Frame, water well, stock tank, woods, coastal, hunting. \$79,500
Medical Clinic: 5,230 sf brick bldg, two covered carports, 280' x 282' paved parking lot. \$150,000
Nursing Home: 12,900 sf brick bldg, with kitchen, therapy room lobby, 22 double rooms, large lot. \$89,000
69A wooded, rolling terrain, corrals, 3 tanks, hunting. REDUCED \$172,500.
Other house available from \$18,000 to \$105,000.
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Obituaries

L. Millard Richmon
L. Millard Richmon, age 97 of De Leon, Tx passed away on Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at Comanche Co. Medical Center. Services were held Saturday, February 4, 2006 at Nowlin Funeral Home Chapel with Jackie Auvenshine and Frank Pope officiating. Burial was in De Leon Cemetery.

He was born on March 31, 1908 in San Saba, Tx to the late Arthur M. Richmon and Georgia Nicholson Richmon. He married Lora Stewart on May 20, 1931 in Brownwood, Texas; she preceded him in death on August 4, 1986; he later married Margaret Clements on September 20, 1990.

He was a farmer/rancher; he loved fishing, adventure and travel. He enjoyed golfing, making quilts, polishing rocks, jewelry making and wood work.

Millard is survived by his wife, Margaret of Rockwall; son Lionel Willis Richmon and wife Dolly of Brownwood; four daughters, Reta Hood and husband, Tommy of Fort Worth, Frances Powell and husband Woodie, Geneva Wilson and Nancy Johnson and husband Jack, all of De Leon; sister Maureen Smith of Lometa; sister-in-law, Cleve Richmon of Georgetown; 16 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; 1 great great grandchild; six stepsons, Jerry, Larry, Robert, Gene, Joe and Wesley Clements and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Millard is also called daddy and grandpa by numerous sponsored children around the globe and in the Millard House for Children in India.

He was preceded by two brothers, Ray Richmon and Eldred Richmon and one sister, Odell McKinzie.

The family would like to express a special thanks to Dr. Forrest Eisenrich, Mae Dell Dodd, and

Dorothy S. "Dot" Brown
Dorothy S. "Dot" Brown, age 89 of Kankakee, IL, passed away January 31, 2006 at her home.

Graveside services will at 1:00 p.m. Monday at the Gorman Cemetery with Victor Pena officiating.

Mrs. Brown was born January 24, 1917 in Sherman, Texas to Williams A. Wright and Sue (Weber) Wright. She married Neal Brown on December 26, 1942 in Little Rock, AK. She was a homemaker and a teacher and basetball coach in Benton, AK from 1940 to 1945. Mrs. Brown was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Kankakee where she was a Deacon, member of the Kankakee Women's Club, Riverside Hospital Auxillary and volunteer, member of the Elks Country Club Golf Association. She was a member of the Quadrille Dancers, and the Tuesday Book Review. She enjoyed playing bridge, golfing and traveling.

Survivors include her husband, Neal Brown of Kankakee, IL.; son, Terrell and his wife Ruth Ann Brown of Peoria, AZ; daughter, Diane Brown of Itasca, IL.; brother, William A. Wright, II and wife Martha of Richmond, VA; four grandchildren, Gregory, Kimberly, Jeffery Hanson and Rebecca Carey; as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Kelli Majors who were his recent devoted caregivers and friends.

Pallbearers were Terry Richmon, Lee Hood, Jim Wilson, David Johnson, Jackson Johnson, Bobby Powell, Jesse Richmon and John Taylor Wilson. Honorary Pallbearers were: Dr. Forrest Eisenrich, Jason Wilson, Kolby Powell, Mark Patterson, Jesse Patterson, Ted Pitzer, Benjamin Johnson and Kody Johnson.

Business Directory

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JV Panthers Put Up Good Fight

The JV Panthers played hard and well against the Eula Pirates but eventually fell by a score of 70 - 32. Those leading the way for the Gorman Panthers include, Pete Ramirez who Contributed 15 points and numerous rebounds. Also playing well Jordan Perry who hit four free throws and garnered numerous rebounds and displayed a lot of hustle. Marc Gillen added Six points, and Gabe Burt threw in three more. Finishing the scoring for the panthers Ty Vaughn, and Cody Church each added 2 more points. Others contributing include Matthew Cogburn, Paul Burt, Trey Holdman, Colby Spivey, and Carlos Gutierrez.

JV Battles a Tough Cross Plains Team

After trailing by as many as fifteen points the JV Panthers battled back to within five but the Buffaloes proved to be too much late in the game as Cross Plains defeated Gorman by a score of 33 - 27. This marks a 30 point turnaround from the last time the Panthers and Buffaloes played. Those leading the way for the Panthers include, Marc Gillen with 14 points, Cody Church with 5 points, and Paul Burt added 2 more to the cause. Colby Spivey chipped in 2 and Gabe Burt threw in 3 of his own to help the Panthers. The Panthers shoed heart as they battled back from the 15 point deficit and nearly defeated a very good Cross Plains team.

7th Grade Cubs Defeat Cross Plains

The 7th grade Cubs defeated the Cross Plains Buffaloes at home Thursday night. The game was never in doubt as the Panthers led from wire to wire. The Cubs won by a final score of 42 - 9. Those leading the way, Keifer Wilson with 13 points, Cameron Clark with 11 points, Matt Keith and Raymond Martin both chipped in 8 points, And Jacob Fritz added 2 points to the Cub Cause. Also contributing on the defensive end included Randy Woodall, and Jacob Singleton. This now sets up for a showdown in Ranger for 2nd in the District race.

7th Grade Cubs Sneak By Ranger Finish Second in District

The 7th grade Cubs finished their season Monday Night in Ranger with a 16 - 13 victory over the Bulldogs. This Clinched second place for the Cubs with a 7-3 district mark and a 8- 5 overall record. The Cubs played well all season long and that culminated in the victory over Ranger. Those leading the way in the victory, Kiefer Wilson with six points, Raymond martin with Six Points, Matt Keith, and Cameron Clark each added 2 points a piece. The Cubs season ends the way it started with a win and finishes what has been a great year.

8th Grade Cubs Defeat Cross Plains

The 8th grade Cubs defeated the Buffaloes of Cross Plains by a score of 38 - 26. Taylor Chew and Alex Giles each ended with 10 points. Ernie Rodriguez finished with 6 points, Justin Little and John Flores Added four points a piece, Tyler Johnson and Jose Velasquez each added 2 a piece. The win puts the Cubs in a position for the District title with a win over Ranger Monday Night.

8th Grade Cubs Defeat Ranger To Win District Title

The Cubs ran the table in District and finished district with a win Monday Night in Ranger by a score of 27- 8. Leading the way for the Cubs include Taylor Chew and Ernie Rodriguez each with 6 points, John Flores added 4, Justin Little and Alex Giles each chipped in 2 points, Ben Burgess added the final point. The win caps a great season for the Cubs, The Cubs end the year 10-0 in district and 12-1 overall. This was a very successful year not just in won- loss columns but as far as development of fundamental basketball. Congratulation to the 8th grade Cubs.

Panthers Fall to Eula

The Panthers showed a ten point improvement against one of the states best basketball teams as they took on and lost to the Eula Pirates 81 - 25. Those leading the way for the Panthers include Tyson Swanner with 8 points, Orlando Rodriguez with 2 points, Aaron Keith with 4 and Corey Clark also with 4 points. David Ibarra finished with 5 points, Brandon Greer displayed hustle as did Zack Bryan who played a good game for the Panthers. The Panthers improved against a team that is one of the best in class 1A basketball.

Varsity Boys Fall to Cross Plains In A Heartbreaker

The Panthers clawed their way back after being down by 11 points in the first to even take a 6 point lead in the third only to see it evaporate and eventually lose the game 48 - 44. Leading the way for the Panthers include David Ibarra who hustled and finished the game with 13 points and 11 rebounds, Aaron Keith finished with 13 points, Tyson Swanner had 7 points and 8 rebounds, Corey Clark added five and Orlando Rodriguez chipped in 4 points. The entire Panther basketball team played exceptional and it showed as they were in the ball game the entire time. The Panthers will next travel to Ranger to play the Bulldogs.

Seth Harley Signs With McNeese State University



Seth Harley, son of Coach Harley who was a Coach at Gorman High School, signed up to play Football with McNeese State University on February 1st.

Letter To The Editor:

To the Parents and Students of Gorman and Eastland County:
As an educational consultant who has visited numerous schools in Texas as well as presented to a wide variety of Educational Conferences at all levels, I have a unique perspective on the TAKS. The problem is -- No one is empowering the student. We are telling the students what they should know or do, making the students defensive and at times scared, irritated or confused. It is just like the old saying: If you give them a fish, you feed them for a day; if you teach them how to fish, you have fed them for a lifetime. But if you beat them over the head with the fish, they begin to hate the whole process and everyone begins to stink. Test-taking skills, that are unique to standardized tests, are not being taught in our schools; and they can be fun. The latest brain research that shows how whole-brain techniques reach all learning styles are not being embraced; and they can be fun. Do not blame the schools but do not make yourself totally dependent on their timetables. The average teacher in Texas has 3.5 minutes per student per day to answer questions. This is not enough time for most students. Also a good coach knows that a student has the best chance to win a race when that student practices in the exact conditions of the real thing. So...Parents and Students who are reading this.....Do you want to not only pass the TAKS but to make Commended Performance on it? Go to the TEA website (www.tea.state.tx.us/student_assessment/resources/release/) and download three copies of the released TAKS tests along with the answers. Two copies should be grade appropriate and one test should be one grade above the level of the student. The student then goes through the first test and decides which questions are clear, which are confusing, which have what are called distracters or mental traps. Working through three tests one question at a time and checking the answer immediately helps the brain record only the information and format that is correct. Problems should be spaced out over the three weeks prior to the test. The student is in control. There is no incorrect learning and the

3rd Annual Relay For Life Set Feb. 16

3rd Annual Relay For Life Team Kick-off, February 16th - 6:00 p.m. River of Life Church. 103 Pogue Ave. in Eastland, Texas

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life for Eastland County is just around the corner. Register your team by joining us at the Kick-off. Former and current cancer patients, their families, businesses, civic organizations and the general public are invited to take part in this exciting team event.

Relay For Life 2006 will take place Friday, June 9th - 6:00 p.m. until Saturday - 6:a.m. at the Gorman High School Football Field, Gorman Texas

Information about how to form a team or become involved in Re-

Cub Scouts Pine Wood Derby Race Winners



First Place - Rylan Laminack on Right
Second Place - Brenton Coan on Left
Congratulations!

student spots questions designed for failure. If the chosen answer is wrong, immediate help by parent or mentor will keep the student from storing incorrect information. REMEMBER IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE ALL YOUR MISTAKES BEFORE IT COUNTS. BUT THE MISTAKES HAVE TO BE CORRECTED IMMEDIATELY TO GUARANTEE MENTAL ACCUARACY. Otherwise your child is storing as much wrong information as he or she is storing correct. Reward your child for the effort. Find another student and parent who can use your knowledge. And ask your school's PTA to host test-taking workshops for students and parents, it makes you an independent thinker and prepares you for college. Do not let the TAKS own you; YOU own the TAKS.

Sincerely, (s) Ms. Mac
Educational Consultant/Researcher/Author
325-365-2048 msmac@wcc.net

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V8, Automatic, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt and Cruise, Radio with Cassette, Stock #6313

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\$10,500 + TT&L

2000 Chevy 2500 Ext. Cab 4X4 Flat Bed

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- #6011A - 2003 Chevy Suburban 4X4 - Leather, Power Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, CD Player - \$21,500 +TTL
- #6114B - 2000 Chevy 3500 Reg. Cab 4X4 - Single Rear Wheel Drive, V8, Automatic - \$11,995 +TTL
- #6125B - 2001 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab LS - V8, Auto, Power Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, CD - Gas - \$12,000 +TTL
- #6010A - 2001 Chevy Tahoe - 2WD, Leather, P Windows/Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Cassette, CD Player - \$14,500 +TTL
- #6293 - 2000 Chevy S10 Ext. Cab - 2Wheel Drive, 4 Cylinder, Automatic, Cruise/Tilt, CD Player - \$8,250 +TTL
- #6193A - 2001 Chevy Impala - V6, Automatic, Power Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, CD Player - \$7,000 +TTL
- #6181A - 2002 Ford Taurus SE - V6, Automatic, Power Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, CD Player - \$6,500 +TTL
- #6146A - 2003 VW Passat - 5 Speed Manual Trans., Power Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise, CD Player - \$14,500 +TTL
- #6173A - 2000 Buick Century - V6, Automatic, Power Windows/Locks, Tilt/Cruise - \$5,000 +TTL
- #6326 - 2002 Oldsmobile Alero - 4 Cylinder, Automatic, 4 Door Sedan - \$9,750 +TTL

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Note Of Appreciation

There are not enough words to express our heart felt gratitude for all the help we have received since our house burned.

A special thanks to the Gorman Church of Christ, Gorman First Baptist Church, Community Baptist Church at Carbon, and New Hope Baptist Church for all of their help with items we needed. We sure appreciated all the food and offers of help.

Thanks to the dedicated firemen who fought to contain the fire. God Bless each of you for your prayers and concerns.

Alan and Shellie Little

Send a Valentine's Gift to Someone Special

Life Skills Class is selling Valentine's Bags again this year!

Order forms will be available in classrooms, and in the life skill's room.

We will accept orders until Monday February 13th.

There are 3 different bags that can be ordered:

Sweetheart Bag: Message of your choice, 1 can of Coke, 2 Valentine's Pencils, Chocolates, 2 Suckers - \$3.00

Friendship Bag:

Message of your choice, Chocolates, 1 Valentine's Pencil, 1 Sucker - \$2.00

Cutie Bag: Message of your choice, 1 sucker, 1 Valentine's Pencil - \$1.00

Third Grade Classes Attend Safety City In Abilene



On Thursday, January 26, the third grade classes of Maxfield Elementary, along with a brave group of parents and grandparents, took their annual field trip to Safety City in Abilene. Safety City is a miniature city with real streets, intersections, a railroad crossing, and even a working traffic light. It is sponsored by the Abilene Police Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety, and its mission is to teach third grade students how to be safe on the streets and highways, and to grow up to be courteous and conscientious drivers. What makes this event special is that Safety City is ONLY for third graders, so the kids have learned to look forward to getting this opportunity when they come into third grade. In the three weeks prior to the trip, the students spent many hours in the classroom learning the laws and rules governing bicycle, automobile, and pedestrian safety. Once at Safety City, the kids had an opportunity to put their learning to practice by walking a pedestrian course, riding bicycles through a bicycle course, and certainly the highlight of the day was getting to drive miniature cars on the city streets. The third-graders did an excellent job of using hand signals, looking both ways before crossing streets, and obeying the rules of the road. After the program at Safety City, the classes had a picnic lunch in Rose Park and some quality play time before travelling back to school. In spite of the cold wind, a great time was had by all.

TEXAS WILDFIRE VICTIMS WARNED OF CON ARTISTS

AUSTIN, Texas - Federal and state officials caution Texans who lost homes or other property to the recent wildfires that unscrupulous contractors prey on disaster victims.

"After wildfires claimed three lives, burned 589,000 acres and damaged more than 345 homes, victims are now faced with a Human Disaster...fraudulent contractors," said Federal Coordinating Officer Sandy Coachman. "Federal law enforces strict penalties for those who would commit crimes against disaster victims."

"Sadly, scam artists take advantage of tragedies such as these, seeking to cheat victims who are trying to rebuild their lives," said Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott. "I urge Texans who have suffered damage from these wildfires to be careful when deciding whom to hire to repair their damaged property."

Abbott offered the following tips:

* Get more than one estimate and don't be pushed into signing a contract immediately.

* Ask the Better Business Bureau if the company has had any complaints.

* Get references from the previous customers and check them out.

* Get the salesperson's license plate number.

* Deal with local firms, if possible.

* Get everything in writing and keep these documents in a safe place.

* Do not sign a contract with blank spaces. Dishonest salespersons may enter unacceptable terms later.

* Ask for proof of insurance.

* Never pay 100 percent up front. Arrange for an independent agent to inspect the completed work before making full payment.

* Ask whether the contractor will place a lien, security interest or mortgage against your property.

* Ask for guarantees in writing.

"If Texans encounter any fraud or deception, they should report it to my office. I will not stand for dishonest businesses that prey on people who already have suffered," said Attorney General Abbott.

Texans are urged to file complaints about unscrupulous contractors by calling the Consumer Protection Hotline at 1-800-252-8011 or by filing a complaint on the Attorney General's Web site at www.oag.state.tx.us. Abbott asked consumers to provide specific information about the business, including address or specific location, contact information, and the price the business advertises and the actual charges for a particular job.

Individuals and business owners who sustained losses from the wildfires should register with FEMA by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or

TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing-and-speech impaired. Registrations also can be made online at www.fema.gov.

USDA Announces Commodity Credit Corp. Lending Rates For Feb. 2006

The interest rate for 1995 and prior crop year commodity loans disbursed by USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) during February 2006 is 4.375 percent, unchanged from January 2006. For 1996 and subsequent crop year commodity and marketing assistance loans, the interest rate for loans disbursed during February 2006 is 5.375 percent, unchanged from January 2006.

The interest rate for farm storage facility loans approved in February 2006 is 4.375 percent, unchanged from January 2006. The interest rate for sugar storage facility loans for February 2006 is 4.500 percent, down from 4.625 percent in January 2006.

The maximum discount rate applicable for February 2006 for the Tobacco Transition Payment Program is 9.0 percent. This is based on the prime rate 7.25 percent plus 2 percent, rounded to the nearest whole number.

Past monthly releases announcing interest rates charged by CCC on commodity and marketing assistance loans disbursed for that particular month reflected the interest rate the U.S. Treasury charged CCC for that month. This was the interest rate specified by CCC since Jan. 1, 1982, but the process of establishing the interest rate was changed by a provision of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (the Act), enacted on April 4, 1996.

Section 163 of the Act requires that monthly interest rates applicable to commodity and marketing assistance loans are to be 100 basis points -- or 1 percent -- greater than the rate determined under the applicable interest rate formula in effect on Oct. 1, 1995. This formula resulted in a rate equivalent to the amount the U.S. Treasury charged CCC for borrowing for the month.

The provisions of Section 163 of the Act are not retroactive. Accordingly, this and subsequent monthly interest rate announcements will carry two sets of rates: one for 1995 and prior crop year commodity loans and one for 1996 and subsequent crop year commodity and marketing assistance loans.

Further program information is available from USDA Farm Service Agency's Financial Management Division at (703) 305-1386.

Basketball Photos

Cross Plains Games

Photos Courtesy of Becky Swanner



-- Randy's Roundup --

A Weekly Newsletter from Congressman Randy Neugebauer
February 6, 2006

President Bush Sends Budget Request to Congress

President Bush sent his 2007 budget request to Congress on Monday. While I differ sharply with President Bush's proposal to change payment limits for agricultural producers, his budget request to Congress indicates a continued commitment to national security and fiscal responsibility.

President Bush budget proposal for FY 2007 is fiscally responsible and sets the right priorities. He asks Congress to reduce non-security related discretionary spending while continuing to support our efforts in the War on Terror both abroad and here at home. While we are at war, an across the board pay raise for our military, developing new weapons systems, and keeping our military ready to fight the battles of tomorrow must be top priorities. And since border security is integral to national security, I support the President's proposals to add more border patrol agents and increase detention space for those who enter the country illegally.

I agree with President Bush's focus on the need to make reforms to large entitlement programs which are currently suffering from unsustainable growth rates. Congress took a good first step toward addressing these issues in the Deficit Reduction Act, and I look forward to working with the President on finding other reforms that will ensure that we can honor promises made through Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

I also support the President's call for making the 2003 tax relief measures permanent, which would prevent a tax hike on families and small businesses. These sound economic policies have led to substantial economic growth and rapid increases in federal tax receipts. Allowing taxes to automatically increase would be detrimental to economic growth and job creation, and I will continue to support efforts in Congress preventing a tax hike.

However, once again the President has proposed changing payment limits for agricultural producers, and I disagree with this request. The time for debating payment limits and other changes in agriculture policy is during upcoming work in Congress to write the 2007 Farm Bill, not in the annual budget process.

As always, the President's proposal is just that, a proposal. Congress has much work to do throughout the year to pass funding bills that focus on national priorities like achieving energy independence, ensuring that our military and law enforcement personnel have the tools they need to defend our nation, and keeping America's workers competitive in the 21st century economy.

-Randy

Previous Roundups can be found on my website at http://www.randy.house.gov/newsroom/roundup_date.shtml

TXOL INTERNET

See Lonnie At The Gorman Progress

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By David K. Perry
dperry@gorman.esc14.net
734-3171

I attended the Texas Association of School Administrator's Midwinter Conference last week in Austin found it to be very informative. That is why there was not a super Notes article last week. As you might imagine, the main topic of discussion was school finance and the committee appointed by the Governor to develop the new tax code by which schools are to be financed. One of the best sessions that I attended was to listen to former State Comptroller, John Sharp, which the Governor appointed to head the Texas Tax Reform Commission. He was very impressive and left everyone with the impression that the commission will accomplish the task of reforming the state's tax system. I will be attending a meeting of the tax commission at Hardin-Simmons in Abilene on the 13th and will share with you what I find out.

One thing about going to Austin is that it makes you really appreciate where you live. The pace is way to fast in Austin and a little too weird for me. I don't know who coined the phrase, "It's a great place to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there." But that is exactly how I feel about Austin.

On Thursday, January 26, the third grade classes at Maxfield Elementary took their annual field trip to Safety City in Abilene. Safety City is a miniature city with real streets, intersections, a railroad crossing, and even a working traffic light. It is sponsored by the Abilene Police Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety, and its mission is to teach third grade students how to be safe on the streets and highways, and to grow up to be courteous and conscientious drivers. In the three weeks prior to the trip, the students spent many hours in the classroom learning the laws and rules governing bicycle, automobile, and pedestrian safety. Once at Safety City, the kids had an opportunity to put their learning to practice by walking a pedestrian course, riding bicycles through a bicycle course, and certainly the highlight of the day was getting to drive miniature cars on the city streets. The third-graders did an excellent job of using hand signals, looking both ways before crossing streets, and obeying the rules of the road. After the program at Safety City, the classes had a picnic lunch in Rose Park and some quality play time before traveling back to school. In spite of the cold wind, a great time was had by all

Following are the results from the Jr. High UIL competition. The competition was held in Ranger on December 6th and January 10th. Points scored by, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders are combined to place the schools. Overall, the junior high placed third among the schools with a point total of 626.9. The junior high was edged out of second place by Ranger whose point total was 627.1. Congratulations to the junior high on a job well done!

7th grade Art: Jaime Johnston, Abby Pacheco, and Stephanie Risueno tied for 1st place. In addition, the Art team won 1st place.

8th grade Art: Brenda Velasquez - 1st, Adriana Madera - 2nd, Brittany Henderson - 3rd; the 8th grade Art team finished in 1st place.

8th grade Calculator Applications: Jonathon Flores - 2nd. The team of Jonathon Flores, Ben Burgess, and Jarret Blankenship placed 2nd.

7th grade Dictionary Skills: Stephanie Risueno tied for 3rd place.

7th grade Editorial Writing: Brice Campbell - 5th, Amy Regian - 6th

8th grade Editorial Writing: Jonathon Flores - 6th

7th grade Impromptu Speaking: Luisa Silva - 4th, Evanjelina Silva - 5th, Kiefer Wilson - 6th

8th grade Impromptu Speaking: Jarrett Blankenship - 1st, Ben Burges - 5th

7th grade Listening: Kiefer Wilson: 4th, Jordan Carter - 5th; the Listening team of Jordan Carter, Kiefer Wilson, and Jacob Fritts finished 3rd.

8th grade Listening: Jarrett Blankenship - 3rd. The Listening team of Adriana Madera, Justin Little, and Jarrett Blankenship placed 3rd.

7th grade Maps, Graphs, and Charts: Brice Campbell - 6th. The team of Brice Campbell, Jacob Singleton, and Abby Pacheco placed 3rd.

8th grade Maps, Graphs, and Charts: Taylor Chew - 1st. The team of Taylor Chew, Jonathon Flores, and Brittany Henderson finished in 1st place.

7th grade Modern Oratory: Jaime Johnston - 1st, Stephanie Risueno - 5th

8th grade Modern Oratory: Brittany Henderson - 2nd

7th grade Number Sense: Jaime Johnston - 5th. The team of Jaime Johnston, Stephanie Risueno, and Maria Raygoza placed 3rd.

8th grade Number Sense: Jonathon Flores - 2nd. The team of Jonathon Flores, Alex Giles, and Kimmy Seaton finished 3rd.

7th grade Science I: Brice Campbell - 2nd

8th grade Science II: Jonathon Flores - 2nd, Taylor Chew - 6th. The Science team of Brittany Henderson, Jonathon Flores, and Taylor Chew finished 3rd.

7th grade Social Studies: Brice Campbell - 3rd. The team of Brice Campbell, Jaime Johnston, and Madison Wells finished 2nd.

8th grade Social Studies: Taylor Chew - 2nd, Jonathon Flores - 4th. The team of Taylor Chew, Jonathon Flores, and Brittany Henderson finished 1st.

7th grade Spelling: Stephanie Risueno - 3rd. The team of Madison Wells, Jordan Carter, and Stephanie Risueno finished in 2nd place.

The final results for the Howard Payne Academy of Freedom Scholastic Competition were recently received. Following is a list of Gorman High School students and their places in the competition.

- Algebra - Nicole Cogburn - 16th place
- Jordan Perry - 21st place
- Marcy Gonzales - 28th place
- American Government - Kent Long - 4th place
- Corey Brown - 9th place
- American History - Cindy Lopez - 5th place
- Corey Brown - 10th place
- Biology - Ty Vaughn - 8th place
- Matthew Cogburn - 20th place
- Codi Church - 21st place
- Grammar - K'Ann Howard - 17th place
- Crystal Thackerson - 20th place
- Literature - Amber Ervin - 5th place
- Kent Long - 9th place
- Spanish - Cindy Lopez - 10th place
- Perla Velasquez - 11th place
- Sonia Hipolito - 12th place
- Texas History - Crystal Thackerson - 8th place
- Matthew Smith - 14th place
- Western Civilization - Paul Burt - 1st place
- World Geography - Corey Brown - 4th place
- Cindy Lopez - 10th place
- Emily Lewis - 16th place

The event that took place last week that affects us the most for the next two years is the U.I.L. realignment of schools. We will be in District 12-A for football and will compete against Cross Plains, DeLeon, Perrin-Whitt, Ranger, Santo, and Tolar. We will be in District 11-A for basketball and compete against Tolar, DeLeon, Ranger, and Santo. Beginning next year, the top three teams advance into the playoffs.

I always feel like I am forgetting something or someone each time I submit this article for publication. If I missed any event that you would like to have seen covered, please let me know. It takes community involvement for a school to be successful and you are welcome to get involved at Gorman ISD anytime. Remember, this is your school; these are your children; and these children are your future! Come help us shape the future.

David K. Perry
Superintendent
Gorman I.S.D.

Lady Panthers and Panthers Of The Week

For the week of 1/9: Brandy Carlton

Brandy is a sophomore who plays volleyball, basketball, softball, and runs track. Brandy has proven she is on her way back. Brandy has played well on varsity and is constantly challenging herself in practice. Brandy's pride and determination has helped her on her road to recovery.

For the week of 1/16: Nikki Keith

Nikki is a senior who plays volleyball, basketball, softball, and powerlifting. Nikki stepped up big in two wins against Cross Plains and Ranger. Nikki showed up in Cross Plains ready to play, scoring 19 points. Nikki also contributed to the win against Ranger putting up 10 points and 6 steals.

For the week of 1/23: Barbara Sherman

Barbara is a freshman who runs track. Barbara continues to prepare for the upcoming track season with hard work and self-discipline. Barbara shows great improvement and has set goals for herself as well as her teammates. Barbara strives to better herself in strength and conditioning with a great attitude and hard work.

January 9th, 16th, and 23rd

January 9th: Daniel Shirley - Daniel is a sophomore who participates in football, powerlifting, baseball, and track. Daniel excels as a competitor and worker in our program. Currently Daniel is competing in powerlifting and performing well. He placed 1st in the 123 class at the 4th Annual Gorman Powerlifting Meet on January 14th with a 705 lb total. Daniel improved that total this past week at Clyde with a 740 lb total. Daniel is currently ranked 9th in the Region I among 1A and 2A 123 class lifters. We are proud to have Daniel in our program and look forward to watching him improve even more.

January 16th: Jordan Perry - Jordan is a freshman who participates in basketball and baseball. Jordan is currently participating in Junior Varsity basketball for the Panthers. He is a hard worker and a very coachable athlete. Jordan always gives maximum effort whether we are



lifting weights, doing mat drills, running lines, or doing basketball drills. He is an asset to our program.

January 23rd: Seth Johnson - Seth is a sophomore who participates in football, powerlifting, and track. Seth is one of our strongest athletes and continues to gain strength each day. He placed 1st at both the Gorman Meet on January 14th and Clyde on January 21st in the 275 class. Seth's total improved

115 lbs from the Gorman Meet to the Clyde meet where he totaled 1150 lbs. Seth is currently ranked 5th in the entire Region among 1A and 2A 275 class lifters. We look forward to Seth continuing to improve and hopefully qualify for Regionals.

Card Of Thanks

We would like to thank everyone who was with us during the loss of our mother / grandmother. Especially for everyone that brought food, flowers, plants, sent cards and joined us for her nine day rosary. Your thoughts and prayers were and are greatly appreciated. Your thoughtfulness alleviated our grief a bit.

Thanks again,
Family Ramirez
and Madera

County Clerk's Office Working On System

Over the last several weeks the County Clerk's Office has been undergoing extensive training for Eastland County's upcoming election. Cathy Jentho and Staff are very excited to be a part of bringing the County into the new era of voting. On October 29, 2002 President Bush signed HR3295, the Help American Vote Act (HAVA). HAVA means many election-related changes for Texas. By January 1, 2006 each polling place in the state must have at least one accessible (HAVA) voting system per polling place. The new system is designed to be easy to use for voters, election officials and poll workers. These systems are also targeted to help individuals with disabilities to vote more easily. At the polling places you will have an option to cast your ballot using the new equipment or by paper ballot. We encourage you to use the new equipment and let us know what you think. Whether you cast your ballot electronically or by paper, your vote will be counted the same. The County Clerk's Office will be showing the election system at Senior Citizens Centers, Brookshires and Wal-Mart. Check your local newspaper and listen to the radio for dates and times. If you have any questions please give Cathy Jentho and staff a call at the Clerk's office - (254) 629-1583.

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Kokomo News

By Zelda Jordan

Bro. Jim Haggard of Strawn preached at both services at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday. The Title of his message on Sunday morning "Was God just the God of the Mountain?" using scriptures from 1 Kings and several other references telling us that God is the God of the Valley as well as God on the Mountain top. Great spiritual victory comes through pain or sorrow. God's presence is dearest in the darkest hour of our lives. God sometimes allows us to go through the valley so that we might be able to climb a mountain. We must wait on the Lord and be of good courage.

Other visitors in the service were Bro. Haggard's wife, Bobbie, Kendall Knowles and Meagan Ledbetter of Eastland. The special music was rendered by Helen and Woodrow Browning, Daryl Hirst and Bro. Jim Haggard with Glynda Bond at the keyboard.

Bro. Haggard's message on Sunday night was from Hosea 3:1-3 on "God's love for His people".

Discussion went well at the Kokomo Community meeting on Friday night and the decision was made to get information on the cost of a metal building 35 X 40 ft. Delmon Eaves will get this information and present it to the next meeting, which hasn't been schedule as yet. Blue prints for the inside of the building was presented by Verda Jean Eaves and approved by all present. Others present were Larry and Betty Strube, Kenneth Rogers, Pat and Patsy Collins, Bobby and Mary Jane Little, Martha Wood, Helen Browning and Zelda Jordan. We appreciate all those who came, and we hope there will be more at the next meeting. This is a project for the whole community.

OREN AND NORMA WEBB HONORED ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY

The children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Oren and Norma Webb honored them on their 40th wedding anniversary with a dinner at ZJ's in Gorman on Saturday night, January 28, 2006. Family helping them celebrate were James Webb, Stacy Webb and Renee Fox of Granbury, Judy and Sarah Porter and Tino and Scarlett Torres of Austin, John Melde and Amanda Porter of Elgin, Jacob and Alice Webb of Burleson, Kaci, Randall, Aaron and Kaelee Suniga of Comanche. Others attending were Misty Hugg of Stephenville, and Lewis, Valia, Chad and Kish Suniga of Comanche

A special gift to Oren and Norma from their family was a photo album engraved with "40 years of Family Memories". A precious gift indeed as many of the pictures were copies of family pictures that Oren and Norma lost when their home burned on January 1.

Our congratulations to Oren and Norma and may there be many more Happy Anniversaries.

Emergency Farm Loan Applications Being Accepted

"Applications for emergency farm loans caused by drought that occurred on April 1, 2005, and continuing, are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency office located in Anson," Richard G. Young said today.

"Eastland is one of 31 contiguous counties in Texas recently named by the Secretary of Agriculture eligible for loans to cover part of actual production losses resulting from drought that occurred on April 1, 2005 and continuing."

Richard G. Young said, "Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100% of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest is 3.75 percent."

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for a FSA emergency loan," Richard G. Young said. Farmers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance Program will have to figure in proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Applications for loans under the emergency designation will be accepted until September 18, 2006 but farmers should apply as soon as possible. Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing and possibly over into the new farming season," Richard G. Young said.

FSA is a credit agency of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U. S. citizen requirements and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements are met by holding a majority interest.

The FSA office in Anson is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

Texas Wildfire Disaster Recovery Aid Exceeds \$818,470

AUSTIN, Texas — On Jan. 11, 2006, President George W. Bush declared nine counties stricken by wildfires as major disaster areas in the State of Texas. The presidential declaration made individual assistance available to affected individuals and businesses in the counties of Callahan, Cooke, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Montague, Palo Pinto, Tarrant and Wise. To date, families and individuals who suffered damage from the recent Texas Wildfires have been approved to receive more than \$818,470 in assistance.

Recovery Services Summary as of close of business Feb. 1, 2006: 353 individuals have registered for Individual Assistance. \$818,470 has been approved through the Individuals and Household Program. Of that, FEMA has provided \$480,964 in Individual Assistance and \$337,506 in Other Needs Assistance. 357 applicants have visited the Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs). 202 home inspections have been requested. 186 have been completed. Four inspectors are in the field.

Texas workers who lost their jobs due to the recent wildfires may be able to claim disaster unemployment benefits. To file a claim or to talk with a representative, eligible applicants should call the Texas Workforce Commission Hotline at 1-800-939-6631, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Individuals and business owners located in the nine counties and who sustained losses should registers with FEMA by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing- and speech-impaired. Registrations also can be made online at www.fema.gov.

Oren Webb entered Hendricks Medical Center on Tuesday and tests were made and he received three stents in his heart arteries on Thursday. He came home on Saturday and is feeling better but must take it easy for a while. He and Norma had many visitors while in the hospital. Their cousins, Gary and Janet Settiff of Sweetwater visited with them on Sunday. We send our prayers and get well wishes to Oren and Norma.

We also send get well wishes and our prayers to Thomas Seay who has been in the Eastland hospital.

Kendall Knowles and Meagan Ledbetter of Eastland spent the weekend with Ashley and Breckley Little and their parents, James and Jill Little.

Beverly and Bob Pharris of Haskell visited with Larry and Betty Strube on Thursday. Alvis and Bonnie Scitem visited with Larry and Betty on Monday.

Inetha Anderson of Baird, Linda Brumbelow of Stephenville, Lanora Speer of Ranger, and Don O'Neal of Houston visited with Sylvia Buchanan. Don O'Neal also visited with his sister, Nancy Hendricks at Heritage Manor in Gorman.

Jimmy and Verna Lee Little and Zelda Jordan were in Abilene on Monday for Zelda to receive an injection in her back. They also shopped at Sam's, and enjoyed lunch at the Golden Corral.

Karen Patterson, Betty Little, Jimmy and Verna Lee Little and Zelda Jordan were among the very large crowd that attended the fund raising benefit fish fry for the Carbon Fire Department at Cook's Fish Barn on Monday night. Delicious food and wonderful fellowship with others attending.

Remember to pray daily for Rain.

Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

Ladies Monthly Social will be held on Monday, February 13 at the Desdemona Community Center (school building). This Valentine Social will begin at 9:30 a.m. hosted by Dorothy Roberts. Visitors are welcome to attend.

"Hello" to our friend, Juanita Langlitz in Eastland. She attended school in Desdemona with the Class of 1949. Just want her to know that "Hogtown" is still on the map.

Get Well Wishes to our friend, Lovella Trice near Lingleville. Lovella and husband, Jr. attend the monthly musical in Desdemona as often as their health permits. Jr. has a hip problem and barely can walk.

Colin and Kaley Garcia spent the past weekend in Whitney visiting with their Dad, George and Crystal Garcia and son, Gavin.

Remember the sick and shut-ins in our Community with your cards and prayers.

Thought for today - "The future belongs to those how believe in the beauty of their dreams."

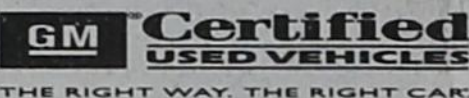
Have a Nice Day, Vonnie.

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'05 Buick Rendezvous	Loaded, V6, 23K, Warranty	\$17,950
'05 Buick Century	Loaded, 27K, Warranty	\$13,950
'05 Cadillac Deville	Leather, loaded, 18K, Warranty	\$29,500
'05 Cadillac Deville	Leather, loaded, 24K, Warranty	\$28,500
'05 Chevy Cavalier	Auto, 4-cyl., 4K, Warranty	\$12,995
'05 Chevy Malibu	Loaded, Auto, 23K, Warranty	\$12,750
'05 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	Loaded, LS, 31K, Warranty	\$20,500
'05 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab	4X4, flatbed, diesel, 36K	\$29,900
'05 GMC 1500 Crew Cab	4X4, leather, 15K, Warranty	\$26,900
'05 GMC Canyon Crew Cab	Z-71, loaded, 7K, Warranty	\$20,900
'05 Pontiac Aztek	Loaded, auto, 15K, Warranty	\$15,900
'05 Pontiac Grand Am	Auto, loaded, 17K, Warranty	\$13,500

2004 • 2004 • 2004

'04 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, loaded, 52K, Warranty	\$19,000
'04 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, leather, 28K, Warranty	\$22,750
'04 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	Leather, LT, 23K, Warranty	\$22,250
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, LS, 46K, Warranty	\$24,250
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	Duramax, 4X4, leather, 23K, Warranty	\$32,500
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, Diesel, 6-Spd. 30K, Warranty	\$25,900
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	4X4, Diesel, loaded, 32K, Warranty	\$28,900
'04 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	5 Spd., V8, 2K, Warranty	\$20,900
'04 Chevy Tahoe Z-71	4X4, leather, 34K, Warranty	\$28,900
'04 Chevy Trailblazer	LS, loaded, 38K, Warranty	\$17,500
'04 Ford Escape	Loaded, XLT, 18K, Warranty	\$17,500
'04 Ford F150 Reg. Cab	Auto, V6, 8K, Warranty	\$15,500
'04 Ford F150 Crew Cab	4X4, loaded, 17K, Warranty	\$26,500
'04 Nissan Xterra	4 Cyl., 5 Spd., 21K, Warranty	\$14,500
'04 Olds Alero	4 Dr., loaded, 25K, Warranty	\$11,500
'04 Pontiac Vibe	Auto, loaded, 21K, Warranty	\$13,900

2003 • 2003 • 2003

'03 Chevy Monte Carlo	Loaded, V6, 38K, Warranty	\$13,500
'03 Chevy Avalanche	Loaded, V8, 18K, Warranty	\$21,900
'03 Chevy Suburban LS	Loaded, cloth, 47K, Warranty	\$19,900
'03 Chevy 1500 Reg. Cab	Sportside, loaded, V8, 51K, Warranty	\$15,500
'03 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	HD, loaded, 34K, Warranty	\$21,500
'03 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	Loaded, V8, 29K, Warranty	\$16,900
'03 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, loaded, 25K, Warranty	\$19,500
'03 Chevy 2500 Reg. Cab	4X4, 5 Sp., 56K, Warranty	\$15,900
'03 Chevy 3500 X-Cab	Duramax, loaded, 117K, Warranty	\$19,000
'03 Chevy Trailblazer	Loaded, 39K, Warranty	\$305.91 Per Month***
'03 Dodge 2500 Quad-Cab	Diesel, 4X4, loaded, 39K	\$25,500
'03 Ford Mustang	Loaded, V6, 21K, Warranty	\$13,500
'03 Ford Ranger X-Cab	Auto, loaded, 76K, Warranty	\$10,900
'03 Volvo V70	Leather, sunroof, 26K, Warranty	\$23,500

***\$16,250 with T. T. & L. down for 60 Months @4.9% W.A.C.

2002 • 2002 • 2002

'02 Chevy Monte Carlo SS	Leather, Loaded, 45K, Warranty	\$14,000
'02 Chevy Malibu	Loaded, auto, 41K, Warranty	\$169.33 per Month*
'02 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	Loaded, LS, 60K, Warranty	\$14,750
'02 Chevy Trailblazer	Loaded, 45K, Warranty	\$280.49 Per Month**
'02 Ford F250 X-Cab	4X4, diesel, Flatbed, 60K, Warranty	\$22,500
'02 Dodge 1500 Crew Cab	Loaded, V8, 48K, Warranty	\$15,500
'02 Jeep Liberty Limited	Loaded, V6, 45K, Warranty	\$12,995

* \$8,995 with T. T. & L. down for 60 Months @ 4.9% W. A. C.
** \$14,900 with T. T. & L. down for 60 Months @ 4.9% W.A.C.



2001 • 2001 • 2001

'01 Buick Le Sabre	Loaded, V6, 36K, Warranty	\$11,500
'01 Chevy Tahoe	3rd Row Seat, loaded, 79K, Warranty	\$15,250
'01 Chevy Tracker	Loaded, auto, V6, 61K, Warranty	\$ 8,250
'01 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	4X4, LT, 149K, Warranty	\$13,000
'01 Chevy 2500 X-Cab	6 Spd., V8, 4X4, 57K, Warranty	\$17,500
'01 Dodge Neon	SE, auto, 38K, Warranty	\$ 7,000
'01 Ford F150 Super Crew	4X4, loaded, 101K, Warranty	\$14,750
'01 Ford F150 Super Crew	XLT, loaded, 61K, Warranty	\$13,900
'01 GMC Sonoma X-Cab	V6, auto, 81K, Warranty	\$ 8,995
'01 Jeep Wrangler Sport	4X4, auto, V6, 58K, Warranty	\$14,995
'01 Mitsubishi Montero Sport	Leather, loaded, 89K, Warranty	\$11,500
'01 Mercury Grand Marquis	Leather, loaded, 61K, Warranty	\$11,500

2000 • 1999 • 1998 • 1997 • 1995

'00 Buick Le Sabre	Loaded, V6, 59K, Warranty	\$ 9,950
'00 Ford Explorer	XLT, loaded, 71K, Warranty	\$ 9,500
'99 Ford Conversion Van	Loaded, auto, 79K, Warranty	\$ 9,250
'99 Lexus G5 300	Leather, loaded, 71K, Warranty	\$16,900
'99 Chevy 3500 Crew	V8, 5 Spd., only 51K, Warranty	\$12,500
'99 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab	Leather, 4X4, 120K, Warranty	\$ 9,990
'99 Pontiac Montana	Loaded, LS, 55K, Warranty	\$ 8,950
'98 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	V8, auto, 91K, Warranty	\$ 7,995
'98 Ford Ranger X-Cab	Auto, V6, 90K, Warranty	\$ 6,995
'98 GMC 1500 X-Cab	Leather, loaded, 97K, Warranty	\$ 9,000
'97 Olds Aurora	Loaded, leather, 75K, Warranty	\$ 6,750
'97 Chevy 1500 X-Cab	4X4, loaded, 90K, Warranty	\$ 9,500
'95 Nissan X-Cab	4X4, 5 Spd., 105K, Warranty	\$ 6,750

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