

# The Gorman Progress

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Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454

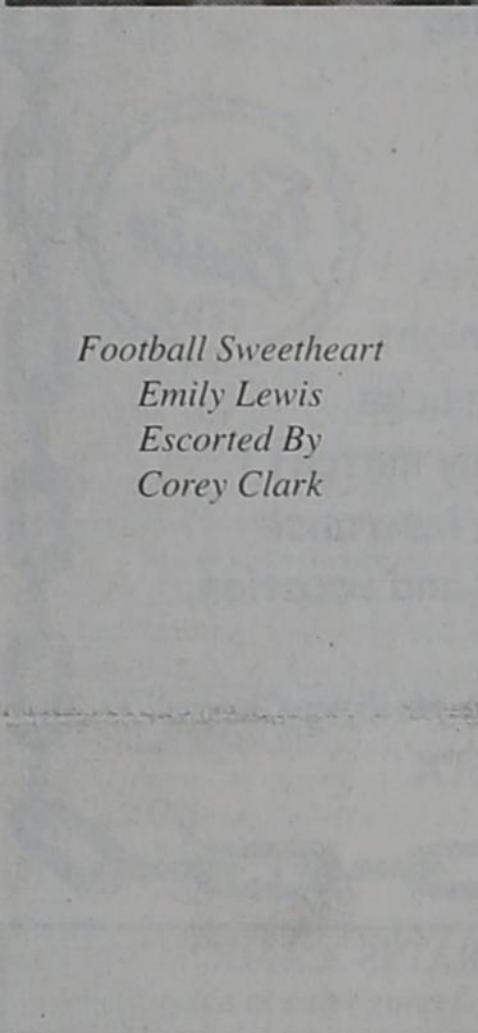
NUMBER FORTY-ONE

OCTOBER 18, 2007

## GHS Homecoming Queen & Football / Band Sweethearts



Homecoming Queen  
Tacia Jones  
Escorted By  
Daniel Shirley



Football Sweetheart  
Emily Lewis  
Escorted By  
Corey Clark



Band Sweetheart  
Shanna Hair  
Escorted By  
Band Beau -  
Nathan Flanary



### Opal Burton Honored at Dinner



Opal Burton was honored for her 17 years of service as Oakland Cemetery Association Secretary and Treasurer. Opal was presented the plaque at the Senior Citizens Dinner by Brawner Lee Files.

## Panthers Dominate Santo 63-6; Have Open Date This Week

GAME AT A GLANCE

PANTHERS	WILDCATS
17 First Downs	7
31/485 Carries/Yds.	36/147
55 Yds Passing	14
3 of 4/0 Pass Cplt./Int	5 of 12/2
1 / 1 Fumbles/Lost	0 / 0
0 Punts/Avg.	5/37
8/70 Penalties	5/50

The Panthers hosted the Santo Wildcats on Friday night in a District 12A game. After receiving the opening kickoff the Panthers got the jitters and fumbled the ball on their own 25 yard line. But, thanks to the Big Red Defense, they held the Wildcats from scoring.

Gorman then took the ball on their own 15 and scored in just 2 plays with Zack Fox thrilling the Homecoming fans on a beautiful 76 yard blast. After Tony Perez had ran for 9 to set Gorman up at their own 24. Tyson Swanner added the point after and Gorman was up 7-0.

The then held the Wildcats on the Santo 32 and drove in for the score in 5 plays with Perez getting the final 4 with 3:30 left in the first. The drive featured a 9 yard pass to Clinton Oliver, runs of 9 and 3 by Matt Underwood and a 4 yarder by Perez. Swanner booted the point after and Gorman was up 14-0.

On the next Panther possession, they took the ball on their own 27 and scored in 5 plays with Perez getting the honors from 9 yards out with 12 seconds left in the first. The drive featured a 15 yard run by Perez, a beautiful Swanner pass to Chad Klein for 32. Underwood added another 17. Swanner kicked the point after and the score rose to 21-0.

After holding the Wildcats, the Panthers took the ball on their own 44 and scored in just 3 plays with Orlando Valenzuela getting the final 11 on a run with 5:35 left in the half. The drive featured runs of 14 and 31 by Underwood. Again Swanner booted the point after and Gorman was up 28-0.

Then with 3:54 left in the half, Underwood scored on a slashing 36 yard scamper to cap a 56 yard drive. The drive featured a 6 yard run by Perez and a 15 yard pass to Klein, even though the Big Red was hit with a 10 yard holding penalty on the drive. The score then rose to 35 to 0.

Sean Bates then added another score for the Panthers when he intercepted a Wildcat pass and returned it for 52 yards for the score with 9 seconds left in the half to make the score 42-0 after Swanner added the point after.

The Homecoming fans were treated to a great performance by the Santo Band and the

presentation of all the homecoming royalty. Following the intermission the Panthers got another interception on the Santo 45 by Aaron Keith. Then following a 16 yard run by Underwood, Tyson Swanner ran in for the score from 29 yards out with 7:34 left. Sean Bates kicked the point after and the Panthers enjoyed a 49-0 margin.

After holding the Wildcats again the Big Red got the ball on their own 27 and scored in 4 plays with Swanner getting the final yard on a keeper play with 3:19 left in the third. The drive featured a beautiful 45 yard ramble by Perez and runs of 7 and 34 by Underwood after overcoming another Panther holding penalty. Bates added the point after and Gorman was up 56-0.

The final Panther score came on a fantastic 65 yard scamper by Zack Fox with 10:12 left in the game. Bates added the PAT and the Big Red were up 63-0.

The Wildcats finally scored with 5:35 left in the game when Taylor Swinney raced in from 22 yards out. The run of 2 points failed and the final score was 63-6.

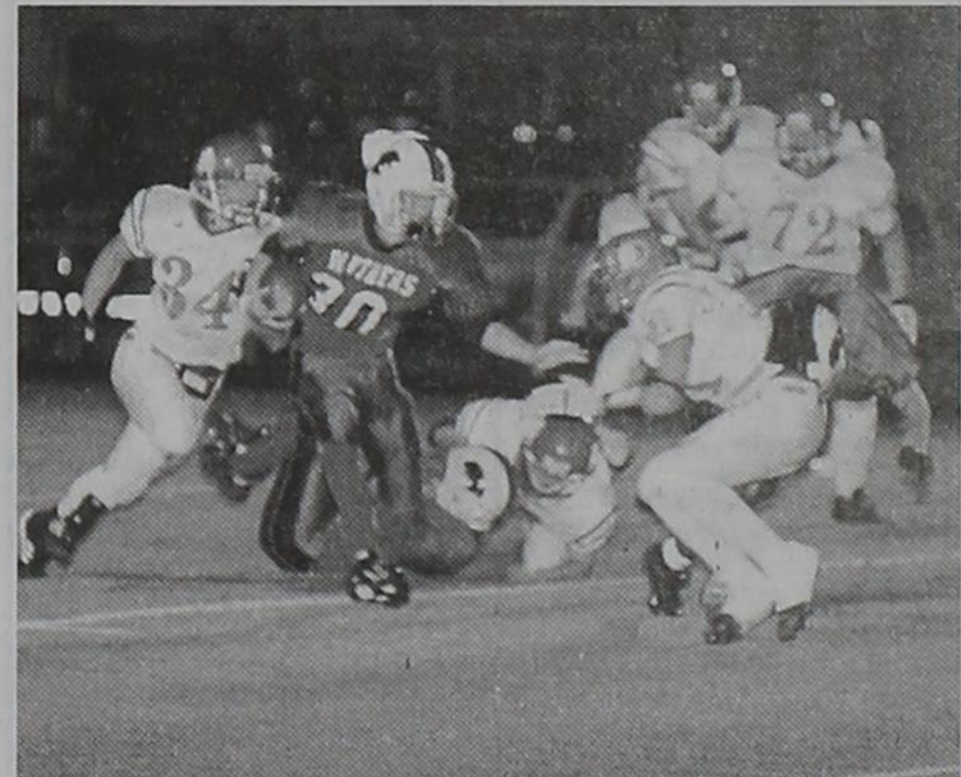
Underwood led the Panthers with 175 yards on 10 carries. Zack Fox got 141 on 2 carries. Perez had 92 on 7 tries. Valenzuela got 31 on 3; Justin Little made 16 on 4; Swanner had 20 on 3. Drew McCreless got 8 on 2 and Keifer Wilson carried one time for 2 yards.

The Big Red Defense really worked hard holding the Wildcats to 3 first downs in the first half and 4 in the last half. They will need 3 more good performances following on Open Date this week when they travel to Cross Plains on October 26th, then host De Leon here on November 2nd and go to Tolar on November 9th. These will be very important games in District 12A. So get behind the Panthers and back them all the way.

Go Get 'Em Big Red!!!



The Big Red Defense is shown holding the Wildcats on short yardage in game action Friday night. Shown in photo is Orlando Valenzuela, Aaron Keith, Alex Giles, Sean Bates, Chad Klein.



Matt Underwood is scampering around the end to gain several of his 175 yards gained in action Friday. Helping to block for Matt was Orlando Valenzuela.

### COMANCHE FFA BOOSTER FUNDRAISER

The COMANCHE FFA BOOSTERS will be holding their Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser Monday, October 22, 2007 at Cook's Fish Barn from 5-9 p.m. Cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. NEW this year will be the sale of desserts by the slice.

Partial listing of Silent Auction items donated by generous area merchants & individuals:  
120-150 bags of compost  
truck load of lime w/ application  
pallet of feed  
firepit- built by FFA students  
leaf mower & robot self mower  
round baler fire extinguisher  
set of tires

The booster club urges everyone to come out & support the Comanche FFA.

### First Baptist, Desdemona To Mark 135th Anniversary

Sunday, October 21 will be our 135th anniversary celebration. Morning services will begin at 10:30 am. There will be a covered dish following the service. Everyone is welcomed. There will be no evening services that day.

Sunday Night, October 28 Coach John Ward will be speaking in our 6:30 pm service. Please come and here this encouraging message.

Thank you,  
Ina Smith

### Upcoming Birth Baby Shower

It's A Boy!!! Come join us in the celebration of the upcoming birth of Adrian Isaiah Wright at a Baby Shower will be held on October 27th at 1:00 p.m. At the First Baptist Church of Gorman. Hollyannj is registered at Wal-Mart. Anyone is welcome!!! We hope to see you there!

### Gorman PTO Drawing

The Gorman PTO is having a drawing for a 12 gauge Shotgun at the home football games. The tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$12.00. This money will go towards the High School and Elementary needs as they arise. The PTO members would like to remind everyone that only 200 Tickets will be sold, so get your tickets soon. Thanks Gorman PTO.

### Country Music Show and Dance

The Comanche County Agency on Aging is sponsoring a Country Music Show and Dance on Saturday, Oct. 20th from 7 p.m. To 9 p.m. At the City Auditorium in De Leon. Admission is FREE. The entertainment will be provided by "Sheila Helton" and "Herman Hearn and The Yellow Jackets". Ya'll Come - FREE ADMISSION. For information call - Sherry Ward - 325-356-2466.

### Halloween Costume Parade

Hey everyone it is time to get ready for the annual Halloween Costume Parade....Halloween will be here before we know it. This years parade will be on Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 7:00 p.m. The reason it is later in the afternoon this year is time does not change until Nov. 4.

Watch the Gorman Progress next week for more details. See you at the parade.

NOTICE! Donations needed to fill the goodie bags that will be handed out following the parade. Donations may be left at Bob's Gro., City Gro., and Smith's Service Station.





First Baptist Church of Desdemona is a small rural church ministering to the needs of the Desdemona Community.

Settlers came to this Community in 1857. It was at this time Charles Culpepper Blair and wife, Meekie (Reeves) Blair opened their home for the early pioneer settlers to come together for mutual protection from the Comanche Indians, who were still on the warpath at this time. "Fort Blair" was built for the protection of these eight families, who lived here at this time.

The fort also was a frequent stopping place for the Texas Rangers to gather more supplies of ammunition, bread and food. This road through "Fort Blair" was later opened to travel between Stephenville and Fort Griffin. The women would "guard" the fort while the men fought near-by in "Indian Raids". Fort Blair was located at the (now) present town site of Desdemona, Texas.

On the second Sunday in June 1872, the Rockdale Baptist Church was organized near the present town site of Desdemona. The Church name was later changed to Desdemona Baptist Church and moved to its place of worship about one mile to the east. The Church in later years has become known as the First Baptist Church of Desdemona. It is the oldest Church organization in Eastland County and it is still an active church.

Due to the distance to be traveled by the early settlers, the danger of possible attack by the Indians and the uncertainty of the weather, the regular services were no attempted during the winter months of the early days. As summer came on and all the crops were laid by, the men would build brush arbors for camp meetings.

In 1872, the Church started when a pioneer Baptist preacher, Bro. Johnnie Northcutt, found some "sheep without a shepherd". Led by the "Holy Spirit", he called them to a spot under the Spanish Oaks on Hog Creek, near Old Fort Blair, where he preached to them. The shade of the Oak Trees was the sanctuary from June 1872 until September 1872. During those summer months, Johnny Carruth and Charlie Mitchell split logs and built a school house and the school building was used for the Church to meet in at that time. The school building was a one-room log structure, located about one mile south of the present site of Desdemona, near Hog Creek. One log was cut partly off of the West side of the building for a window, the only window in the building. The benches were hewn logs and the heat for the building in winter was from a large fireplace. A hand-made table was in the front part of the building for the minister to use.

Services were held monthly, beginning Saturday evening and continuing through Sunday night. Folks came from miles around on horseback, in wagons, buggies or by foot. Guns worn or carried were placed on the table beside the Bible to have available for use because of the danger of Indians. Only the minister had a song book. He would read a verse of the hymn and then they Congregation would sing it in unison. The minister would use a tuning fork to get the proper pitch for the ten of the song. After the singing and prayer time ended, he would be his sermon.

Of course there were some who only passed by the "House of Worship". It was one of those passers-by who one night unhitched a horse and rode away. With a two-hour sermon for a head start, a horse thief could make himself hard to catch -- and he did! It was more than a week later, when in custody, that he was reminded of the scripture, "Be sure your sins will find you out."

Soon time came for a meeting house of their own and they built a small frame building about a mile upstream and closer in the village.

Family names of members found on a partial old church membership roll, dated 1876 - 1896 included: Schuler, Ellison, Davenport, Bearden, Emde, Lewis, Noel, Terry, Todd, Rushing and Carruth.

Many pastors have served in this Baptist Church. In 1910, Bro. Melvin Cox was the Church Pastor. At this time, Bro. Cox served three other Congregations other than Desdemona. They were Moccasin Rock, Salem and School Hill.

In 1916, Bro. E. L. Springer was called as pastor. At this time money was needed for benches and to pay for the organ. What could be more fun than a "Box Supper"? Proceeds amount to \$54.15 (it was all clear profit) and that was a lot of money back then. The "Box Supper" was a big success.

The Church held their baptisms at Eppler Lake or Lewis Ellison's tank. The women would always have trouble keeping the small children out of the water. Guardian Angels were certainly watching over these children. The Church would have picnics at Round Hole and Bass Lake where they would have services with "dinner on the ground". But the best times of all was revival time, women with babies in their arms, children on pallets on the floor and young ladies with their beaus. "Sinners" would hang back in the darkness where the light rays of the lamps or lanterns could scarcely reach, so afraid they would let conviction come over them and they would find themselves drawn down the saw-dust trail to the altar. "Shouting" and "Amen" were often heard as "The Holy Spirit" moved the people.

In 1917, Bro. J. D. Kennedy was called as pastor. This year brought World War I with all the tragedies, but it also brought prosperity. The Church grew, as a Church always does when the people feel the need for the Lord. Scarcely had the war ended when "Black Gold" began to flow. Discovery Well #1 was drilled on the Joe Duke Farm, three miles south of Desdemona in Comanche County. It blew in on September 2, 1918, caught fire and burned for days before it was brought under control. Wooden Rigs shot up all around the small Church building. The town boomed with more than oil - gambling and drinking with mud and slush from all of the wells.

The Church had to move out of this crowded area. It was considered to move further east, at this time the Church of Christ offered to buy the Baptist Church building and move it to a new location. At this time Charlie Genoway and wife, Fannie (Cook) Genoway donated land for a new Baptist Church site. First a small enclosed tabernacle was built on the site and they met there while a new Church Building was constructed by Tip Ross at the cost of \$2,500.00. Work begun on the new church building in October 1921. This building has been recently remodeled and is basically the beautiful building it was then.

As "The Boom" faded away, some of the members moved away, but a growth in membership was renewed when Bro. R. C. Tennison came as pastor in 1928. Bro. Tennison and Bro. H. T. Matthews of Mineral Wells held a two and one-half weeks Revival and 165 new members were added to the membership role of the Church. One hundred one by baptism and sixty-four by letter. This baptism was held at the Curry Tank (east of town).

In 1927, while Bro. W. W. Cunningham was pastor, the Church became very active in W.M.U. - G.A.'s - Sunbeams and Missions with his leadership.

In 1933, while Bro. Jack Chambliss was pastor, Bro. Sherrod Stover and Bro. Edgar Jones were licensed to preach. Dr. Stover served from 1940-1945 as a Missionary to South Brazil before his retirement.

But the oilfield slowed down, rigs came down, all the old buildings are only memories, but this First Baptist Church of Desdemona remained continuously serving the Lord. There have been great revivals, good years, lean years - souls saved, lives changed and God gets all the Glory.

Pastors and Interim Pastors that have served this Church are: Johnnie Northcutt, H. F. Reynolds, D. N. Holleyman, W. J. Hicks, J. T. Cumbie, W. H. Harper, J. B. Vincent, G. B. Ross, A. T. Castlebury, A. B. Wells, Melvin Cox, L. W. Stewart, E. S. Merrick, E. L. Springer, J. D. Kennedy, J. A. Kidd, Neil Greer, R. C. Tennison, A. W. Cunningham, F. N. Allen, Zack Chambliss, H. N. Baldere, M. L. Shaw, Arvil Richardson, H. D. Martin, Grayson Tennison, Gene Davenport, Buel Bryan, Moody Smith, Ralph Perkins, Darrell Dossey, A. C. Hardin, Robert Jeffrey, John Lyon, L. C. Landers, Jerry Speer, Dale Cartwright, Darrell Thiebaud, John Walker, Davey Truitt, Terry Wright, D. R. Philley, Joe Wortham, Jim Haggard, Dwayne Brawner, Richard Waters, Gary Hughes, Jess McCabe and Tim White.

This Church will celebrate their 135th Anniversary on Sunday, October 21st. Morning program at 10:30 a.m. Followed by a Covered Dish Luncheon at the Church Annex (former Methodist Church building).

This Church History (with photos) was written by Vonnie (Coon Keith) Guthery, Desdemona News Reporter. Vonnie is a great grand-daughter of Charles Culpepper and Meekie (Reeves) Blair who built "Fort Blair" in 1859. Their daughter, Sarah Jane Blair and Berry Moore "Coon" Keith were married at Fort Blair on July 5, 1863 to become the First Couple married in Eastland County. Now you know where this reporter gets her nickname, "Coon" from my grandfather, Berry Moore "Coon" Keith. Hope everyone enjoys this Church History as much as I enjoyed writing it.

Well, fall has finally made it, at least for a few days. The cool nights and mornings sure is nice. We will have our monthly birthday party on Monday, Oct. 22 following singing. Everyone is invited to come and join us.

We have had a few new residents come and join us. We would like to welcome them and say Thank You for choosing Homestead as your home away from home.

Halloween is just around the corner. We would like to invite all the little trick or treaters to stop by for a visit and some goodies on Halloween night.

We haven't had many visitors this last week. Guess everyone is busy.

We appreciate Ruby Lee Kinser, Zelda Jordan and Marjorie Treadway for coming for singing on Monday. Several of our regular singers are out sick and we wish them a speedy recovery.

Jeanna Pack of Carbon came by for a visit with her mom, Imogene Norris.

Visiting Troy Scitem were Pauline Wheeler of Lake Leon and Tommy and LaVerne Carr of Whitney.

## Strawn 3rd Saturday Jamboree

Strawn 3rd Saturday Jamboree is slated for Saturday, October 20th at 6:00 p.m. At the Strawn Civic Center, 301 E. Housley Street - hwy. 16 to downtown, turn East on Hwy. 108 (Housley St.) go 2 blocks. Concessions open at 5:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to come and hear a good lineup of Country, Gospel and Bluegrass Music. Alcohol and Smoke-Free Environment. Everyone Welcome.

For Information call Finis Burler at 254-672-5622 or 672-5816. Come early and visit our downtown Shops and Restaurants, or visit Lake Tucker Park, 5 miles West of Town for Walking, Hiking, and Nature Trails, Bird-watching, or just enjoy the scenery. Tables and grills available. Visit the home of Town's Founder, Stephen Bethel Strawn.

## GHS Honor Roll

**Seventh Grade - A - Sergio Garcia, Austin Marlow and Rachel Tucker; AB - Jasmeeen DelaTorre, Andrew Flanary, Skyler Henderson, Luis Limon, Viridiana Maldonado, Margarita Oronia, Angelena Perez, Benjamin Ramirez, Mario Silva, Tyson Underwood and Haily Whitefield.**

**Eighth Grade - A - Maria Garcia, Chelsea Griffin, McKenzie Osborne, Asher Vaughn; AB - Collin Cole, Karla Lara, Charley Little, Katey Thackerson, Stetson Thompson and Johnathan Whitten.**

**Ninth Grade - A - AB - Brice Campbell, Karina Hipolito, Jose Huerta, Jaime Johnston, Abigail Pacheco, Amy Regian and Steven Singleton.**

**Tenth Grade - A - Christopher Bryant and Eric Ryon; AB - Sean Bates, Jonathan Flores, Brittany Henderson and Erica Limon.**

**Eleventh Grade - A - Jordan Perry, Matthew Underwood and Veronica Walton; AB - Nathan Flanary, Marsela Gonzalez, Sonia Hipolito, Lindsey Laminack, Valerie Longoria, Martin Ramirez, Angelia Silva, Tyson Swanner, Perla Velasquez, Matthew Cogburn, Olivia Jackson, Audrey Johnston, Emily Lewis and April Keaton.**

**Twelfth Grade - A - Ashley Burkeen, Michaela Burns, Maria Cruz, Carlos Gutierrez, Jimmy Murphy, Tony Perez, Nancy Velasquez, Brandy Carlton, Nicole Cogburn, Zackary Fox, Tecia Jones, Megan Lewis, Clinton Oliver, Mary Powell, Daniel Shirley, Chad Klein and Trey Underwood; AB - Corey Clark, Yhdira Garcia, Reba Granada, Jose Guzman, Carlos Palacios, Aaron Keith, Orlando Valenzuela and Seth Johnson.**

## Homestead Nursing and Rehabilitation of Gorman News

Visiting with Nancy Hendricks were Zelda Jordan, Marjorie Treadway and Sylvia Buchanan.

Freddie Rodgers visited with Don Estes and several other residents.

Becky Moore of DeLeon visited her mom, Mildred Addy. On Sunday Jelma Smith joined Johnny and Ina Smith at a birthday party honoring Jordan and Weldon Scitem at Kevin and Amber Scitem's.

Don't forget the monthly birthday party on Monday following singing.

Until next time. Ina

## New Books At Charlie Garret Memorial Library

The Library has been receiving so many great donations lately we thought we should let you readers in on one of the best kept secrets in Gorman. Our library truly has a great selection of books for a small town library and we hope you are getting ready for some cozy, cool weather reading!

New this week are:

*Still Woman Enough* by Loretta Lynn  
*Hello Darlin'* by Larry Hagman  
*This Just In - What I Couldn't Tell You On TV* by Bob Schieffer  
*No Retreat, No Surrender - One American's Flight* by Tom DeLay  
*The House That George Built - A History of the Golden Age of American Popular Music* - Wilfrid Sheed  
 Come In soon and "check it out"!!!!!!

## OBITUARIES

### Houston Dawkins

Houston Dawkins, age 89 of De Leon, TX passed away on Thursday, October 11, 2007 at the De Leon Nursing and Rehab in De Leon. Services were held Sunday, October 14th at 1:00 p.m. at Fair Haven Baptist Church with Kenneth Wilson officiating, assisted by Roger Pounds. Vocalist was LaRessee Wilkerson, Nicky Wilkerson and Vicki Robinnett. Burial was in De Leon Cemetery.

Mr. Dawkins was born September 18, 1918 in Comanche County, Texas to the late John Harkness Dawkins and Bertie Mae Parker Dawkins. He married Violet Kea on December 24, 1938 in De Leon, Tx.

Mr. Dawkins was a farmer, carpenter, gas station operator and formerly served as Chief of Police in De Leon; served in U. S. Army during WWII; resided in De Leon all of his life; was a member of Fair Haven Baptist Church, member DAV and AMVETS.

He is survived by four daughters, RoxAnn Hodge and husband Dale of Cameron; Patsy Wallin and husband Norris of Midland; Kathy Wilson and husband Kenneth of De Leon and Vicki Pounds and husband Roger of De Leon; one brother, S. T. Dawkins of Goodwater, AL.; One sister Joyce Shirley of Quannah; 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded by his wife, Violet Dawkins on February 7, 2003; parents, John and Bertie Dawkins; two brothers, John Herschel "Donkey" Dawkins and Walter Dawkins; 6 sisters, Loraine Head, Jenne Ross, Vera Wright, Louise Kelley, Willa Dell Morgan and Edna Childress and three great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Chris Pounds, John Hodge, Bobby McMeens, Tod Pinkerton, Rodney Fincher, and Ricci Coan.

## Nov. 6th County Election Information

Voters may call the Eastland County Clerk's Office for Mail Ballot Eligibility at 254-629-1583.

Last Day to process a mail out Ballot request is October 30, 2007.

Early Voting in person will begin at the Eastland County Courthouse and Ranger City Hall on October 22nd thru November 2nd.

Cathy Jentho - County Clerk

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## GRAND OPENING

### The Zone

Arcade and Billards

Monday thru Thursday  
 3:45 to 7:00 p.m.  
 Friday - 3:45 to 12 Midnight  
 Saturday - 5 to 12 Midnight

119 W. Roberts - Gorman

# Gorman ISD Super Notes

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

Our volleyball team has continued to get better and better with time. Just like a fine violin. Last Tuesday the JV and the varsity won all of their games against Baird. On Saturday we were not as fortunate, we just couldn't get a head of Albany. That is twice now that Albany has beaten us. That's the bad news. The good news is that right now we are sitting in second place in the district and should be able to hold that position and should be able to advance into the playoffs. Our last two district games are against Lingleville and Moran. By the way, our girl's can beat Albany and it will happen if we meet them in the playoffs. You watch and see!

The football teams both did well. The junior high and the varsity won handily over Santo. The junior high score was 22-6. Watching the junior high team was very encouraging when you think they are the future of Gorman football. The varsity score was 63-6. The varsity remains undefeated for the year. The boys are healthy mentally and physically and improve a little each week. Coach Talbert and crew are doing a great job preparing for each game and keeping the boys focused on winning one game at a time. We have a bye this week and I'm going to miss seeing the Panthers on the field, but this will give them some time to rest up for our final three district games, none of which will be easy. Cross Plains has been getting stronger each week. Their new coach is doing a good job with the talent with which he has to work. Then we face De Leon here. I'm sure that will be a tough one. De Leon has everyone healthy and our boys are going to have to play their best to win that one. The last district game will be against Tolar at Tolar. Tolar is much bigger than us and has many more athletes to choose from and they always give us a good game. We will have to play our best against all of them to remain undefeated for the season. I ask you all to come out and support all of our athletes. They work very hard and your cheering them on may be the very thing that helps them play their best!

The bonfire was a great success and everyone had a great time. It is nice that it has cooled off a little in the evenings now. Hopefully, the weather will get a lot cooler and we can begin wearing jackets soon. I did hear of some reports that cinders were falling of people and burning holes in their clothing. You have to be real careful around a big fire. I also heard a few fireworks go off during the fire. It seems like every year someone thinks that it's real funny to sneak a few fireworks into the fire. Fortunately no one was injured, no thanks to the person that put them in the fire. Potentially, it is a very dangerous thing to do!

Home Coming is always fun, but there was a little confusion this year and I do apologize. We were originally going to have the band perform at 6:30pm, but had to move it to seven to give the football team the time they needed to warm up and get off the field. Everything still worked out fine. Tecia Jones was crowned Home Coming Queen and her court consisted of Princess Louisa Silva (9th grade), Princess Brenda Velasquez (10th grade), and Emily Lewis (11th grade). The Football Sweetheart was Megan Lewis and the Band Sweetheart was Shanna Hair. All of the young ladies were exceptionally beautiful.

At our regular scheduled board meeting on the eighth, Daryl Hirst was appointed to another term on the Eastland County Appraisal Board and Mark Simmons was appointed to the Comanche County Appraisal Board. The board also approved TASB update 81 to our official policy handbook which is posted on the Internet. The board also approved a resolution to continue to tax goods in transit. All board members were present when these action items were voted on and all votes were unanimous except for abstentions by Mr. Hirst and Mr. Simmons when they were being voted on for appointment to the two appraisal boards. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm and then the board received three hours of team building training during which time they discussed the goal setting process and the future goals for Gorman ISD.

The only new news on our building project is that the survey and the geo-testing have been completed. I have met with the architect for about five hours discussing every facet of the project and he is supposed to be working on our floor plan. We will not break ground until probably sometime in February and hope to be complete by basketball season next year. I will keep you updated as things are done. I may have written about some of the following information before, but I cannot emphasize enough how well our school is doing and how far we've come in two years. First, I am happy to report that both of our campuses, Maxfield Elementary and the High School, have met the requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act with regard to having 100% highly qualified teachers in all of our core areas. Another requirement of the No Child Left Behind Act is to achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (A.Y.P.) and we have achieved that goal once again. Our High School has received a rating from the State of "Academically Acceptable" and Maxfield Elementary has once again been rated as "Recognized". These State ratings are based on our TAKS scores. We also received a "Superior rating from the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (F.I.R.S.T.)."

By the time you read this, our high school principal, Rick Panter< will have had major surgery at Baylor Hospital in Dallas. He has been sick for over a month and at this time all I know for sure is that he will have had part of his liver removed. To the best of our knowledge right now there is no cancer. I will keep you posted. He is an extremely important part of our school and community and his faculty, staff, and students love and respect him very much. We took four bus loads of his students to his home Friday morning to wish him well and pray for him, his family, and the doctors that will be operating on him and caring for him. Let me tell you, if hugs are great medicine then Mr. Panter received a lot of good medication during our visit. It was a very emotional time



for the students and Mr. Panter and his wife. It was evident how much the students are concerned for Mr. Panter and how much they love him. We truly have the best kids and faculty in the world as far as I'm concerned!

Remember, it takes community involvement for a school to be successful and you are welcome to get involved at Gorman ISD anytime. This is your school; these are your children; and these children are your future! Your input is always welcome. Come help us shape the future. Thank you for all you do to support us!

## Desdemona News

By Vonnie Guthery

First Baptist Church of Desdemona will celebrate their 135th Anniversary of Church Services on Sunday, October 21st. Program begins at 10:30 a.m. A Covered Dish Luncheon will be served at noon at the Church Annex Building. Bring you family and friends for an enjoyable day.

Friends in Desdemona sends sincere sympathy to the family of Floyd Moore, Jr. He attended school in Desdemona where he graduated with the Class of 1947.

Remember the sick and shut-ins of our community with your cards and prayers.

Remember - Saturday, October 27th is the date for the Desdemona Monthly Country and Western Musical. Make plans to attend.

Please contact this reporter with your weekly news. Your help will be appreciated. Thanks, have a nice day, Vonnie.

## Kokomo News

By Zelda Jordan

We got some much needed rain when the thunderstorm came through the community early Monday morning. The reports that I heard were from one half inch to nearly an inch. Had lots of thunder and lightning too.

Jimmy Little directed the music at the Sunday morning service at the Kokomo Baptist Church. Daryl Hirst was at the piano. Daryl rendered the special music, "Greater Is He". The visitors were: Ray and Glenda White of Abilene, Jimmy and Maggie Nelson of Carbon, Jack and Patty Carter of Gorman, Kyle Bryant, Susie, Mykesha and Larissa Hampton, Chance Bryant, Bailey Underwood and Brylee Johnson.

Bro. Jim Haggard's sermon topic was "Authority Over The Body" using scriptures from 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 and 1 Corinthians 6:19 and 20. It is God's will for us to live under authority. We need discipline and should have respect for authority. We should attend church faithfully, read our bibles and pray daily, and set spiritual goals. What kind of spiritual life will your children have if they pattern their life after you? Are you a good example before them? I Corinthians 6:19 and 20: What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is

in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Glenn Gilbert of Katy was a blessing to us in the Sunday evening service as he rendered the special music singing "One Of These Days" and "I've Come to Worship Him". It was good to have Woodrow and Helen Browning back from vacation. He directed the congregational singing with Helen at the piano and Daryl Hirst at the organ.

Bro. Haggard continued his series on The Indwelling Spirit using several scriptures. Because of Jesus Christ's life, death, burial and resurrection we can have God's spirit indwelling in us forever and ever through our eternal life.

Bro. Haggard's sermon on Sunday evening, October 28, at the Kokomo Baptist Church will be on "Satan Worship and Demon Possession". Satan is alive in the world. This is a sermon that you don't want to miss. The service will begin at 6:00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome at Kokomo.

Woodrow and Helen Browning have returned from a vacation trip through Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and to Rapid City, South Dakota and a bus tour through the western South Dakota hills to Mt. Rushmore, and Crazy Horse Memorial at Deadwood. Then they traveled to DeSmet in the eastern part of the state and took a bus tour of the land that belonged to the Ingalls family of the "Little House On the Prairie" TV series. They also saw a lot of farm land crops of maize, corn, and sun flowers. They report they had a great time.

They visited from Thursday until Sunday in Wichita Falls with Gary, Rebecca, Emily and Lance Browning. Donna and Garrett Gatlin of Graham also visited with them in Wichita Falls. They enjoyed attending a flag football game where Emily was a cheer leader.

Bobby and Mary Jane Little were in Dallas from Monday until Friday to be with Arleen, Terry and Lauren Barfield of Tyler while Lauren underwent surgery at the Children's Hospital. Lauren came through the surgery fine and was able to go home to Tyler on Friday. We wish her a very speedy recovery.

Bobby and Mary Jane also visited with LaDawn, Stacy and Alexis Snapp at Lewisville.

Oren and Norma Webb met Judy and Scarlett Webb of Austin and Randall, Kaci, Aaron and Kaelee Suniga of Waco in Moody at Jacob and Alice Webb's

## Senior Citizens News

By Carol Ward

I was absent on the 3rd for our meeting due to a sick spell. So no report. I was told there were 22 present, with Bill Sandlin giving the blessing. Thanks to all for getting the meal on the table in my absence. I was sorry to miss visiting with Sharon Bell, the new Methodist Pastor. I met her at the 5th Sunday Singing in September. She is a great lady, hope she will visit with us again.

We had our regular get together for dinner on the 10th at 11:30. There were 28 people here to enjoy our great lunch. We did have a good variety of dishes with sparagus, salad, salmon patties, garlic bread, sausages and many good veggies and desserts. We always have cornbread and rolls. Geraldene Wright gave our blessing of the food.

We were so glad to have Emma Jane Larch back with us. She always brings great cakes, also made a delicious stew.

Opal Burton was here to finally get her picture taken again receiving her Plaque. She had worked seventeen years for the Oakland Cemetery Association, as Secretary/Treasurer. We are always happy to see and visit with her. She has had many illnesses, but keeps on going. I wish I had will power as good as she does.

Ann Laminack was here to be with us again. We were glad to visit with her, a great lady. She is Daisy Slaton's new neighbor, very friendly and nice and sweet.

I sure was happy to see Barbara Bush back after being away so long with a hurting knee. She is much improved, so maybe the Dr. finally came across with the right treatment.

We played games on the 11th with ten present. Always enjoy ourselves and have snack time at 7 p.m. Glad to have Ann Warren back to play after being out awhile with a food ailment. She is much improved and back to being her old self.

My daughter Becky Swanner, granddaughter, Alaina and I went to Dallas to Music Hall to see the Lion King. What a fabulous play! One of the best I've ever seen. We didn't think about the State Fair, so parking was terrible to find. We lucked out and rode a tram to the Music Hall.

I hope to see more of you out next week. Especially those who haven't been in awhile. We do miss our regulars when not here. Hopefully all is well until next week. Carol

## Happenings At FBC!!

The Sea of Pink was Gorgeous! Gary Mauney challenged all of us, especially the men, to wear pink in support of October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with all those that are fighting this battle and all of those that have fought this battle and won!

We thank our heavenly Father for the love of Christ in our Church. We squeeze in a little tighter to make room for EVERYONE! We had special music performed by the Gorman Boys - "I Want to Be Ready".

Corey Clark delivered an awesome Children's Sermon - he's excited about being on the Gorman Panther's Team, and he's excited about the winning season. However, this is his last year to be on the Panther Team, and he knows it is more important to be on God's Team ..... Being on God's Team is Awesome and it is for Eternity!!! Tommy Clark is so gifted and we all are so blessed to have him lead our Praise in Worship music!

Bro. Barry's sermon was "Big Pot of Beans" - Luke 9:62. The only way to plow a field with straight rows is to keep your eyes looking forward - several of the farmers confirmed this statement is true.

1. No Person can plow looking back - move on from your mistakes.
2. No Family can plow looking back - let go of the past, and come together.
3. No Church can plow looking back - let love through Jesus make what has happened matter no more.

A Person, a Family, and a Church can get Unstuck. We all need each other. Bro. Barry told of a woman that had such severe depression that she could not cook for her two sons. She said she did not need advice; all she needed was a Pot of Beans that she could put on her stove and feed her boys. Are we listening to the needs of others? We all received a bean to put somewhere so we can remember that it takes all of our beans to make a pot, and someone needs what we can give. Keep plowing forward!

New member, Mindy Laminack, joined our Fellowship. After the Service, we enjoyed a delicious spaghetti lunch prepared by our Youth Group - they are raising funds for a ski trip. Our service is being broadcast on the radio - 88.7FM.

God Bless and Keep You. See you next Sunday.

home and they all attended the football game on Friday night.

Those enjoying supper with Jesse and Lenora Speer in Ranger on Friday night were Shane, Lisa, Jacob and Ashton Morrow of Abilene, Mandy, Brookelyn and Tori Speer of Comanche, Darrell, Miranda and Jessa Graham of Gorman and Sylvia Buchanan.

Shannon, Stephanie, Raegan, Sydnie and Joey Bond of Bangs visited with Joe Bond on Saturday.

Ray and Glenda White of Abilene visited during the weekend with Zelda Jordan. They enjoyed the Homecoming football game at Gorman on Friday night. On Saturday they went to Abilene to attend the football game between the "Jets" and the Wylie Raiders. Ryan and Kody Daniell are members of the "Jets" team. Their team lost by a score of 6 - 13, but it was a good game. These teams are made up of 10 and 11 year olds, but they get out there and play as hard as the older boys do. This was their "Homecoming" game and we all got to ride in the "parade" in decorated cars behind the trailer with the team on it through the streets around the football field, and there were extra activities honoring the team on the field. Ryan and Kody's parents, Wade and Sheri Daniell and their little sister, Emily, and their other grandmother, Gail Daniell were also at the game. Following the game they had dinner at the Golden Coral and a short visit at the Wade Daniell Home before Ray, Glenda and Zelda returned to Kokomo.

Jimmy and Maggie Nelson, Ray and Glenda White and Zelda Jordan enjoyed a visit and lunch at Hwy 6 Cafe in De Leon on Sunday after church services.

Beware!! There might a copperhead snake nearby. Three copperheads were found in Sylvia

Buchanan's garage on Saturday. Gene and Mike Snider came to her aid and killed them. Sylvia said that one was at least 3 feet long or longer. Be careful and watch where you step.

### GORMAN ISD MENU FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 22 THRU 26 BREAKFAST

- MONDAY - Cereal, Biscuits, Juice and Milk.
- TUESDAY - Pancake on a Stick, Fruit, Juice and Milk.
- WEDNESDAY - Oatmeal, Toast, Juice and Milk.
- THURSDAY - Cinnamon Rolls, Juice and Milk.
- FRIDAY - Breakfast Casserole, Hashbrowns, Juice and Milk.
- Lunch**
- MONDAY - Enchiladas or Taco Salad, chili beans, tossed salad, Spanish rice, Crackers, Sherbert and Milk.
- TUESDAY - Pan Fried Chicken or Steak Fingers, baked potato, English Peas, Rolls, pudding and Milk.
- WEDNESDAY - Chicken Spaghetti or Ravioli, cheese stick, corn, green beans, garlic bread, strawberries & bananas and Milk.
- THURSDAY - Ham and Cheese Stromboli or Turkey Sandwich, tossed salad, fresh carrots, chips, oranges and Milk.
- FRIDAY - Cheeseburger or grilled chicken burger, lettuce, tomato, pickle, tater tots, fruit and Milk.

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME FALLS BACK ON NOVEMBER 4

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