

## Football games

**HASKELL**  
JV Indians vs Anson  
Thurs., Sept. 7, 4 p.m.  
at Anson  
Indians OPEN  
Fri., Sept. 8  
\*\*\*

**PAINT CREEK**  
JH Pirates vs Ira  
Thurs., Sept. 7, 6 p.m.  
at Paint Creek  
Pirates vs Ira  
Fri., Sept. 8, 7:30 p.m.  
at Ira  
\*\*\*

**RULE**  
JV Bobcats vs Gordon V  
Fri., Sept. 7, 7:30 p.m.  
at Newcastle  
Bobcats vs Valley  
Fri., Sept. 8, 7:30 p.m.  
at Valley Schools

## Calendar

### Members needed

The Haskell Indian Booster Club is seeking members. Dues are \$15 and must be paid by Tues., Sept. 11 for members' names to be included in the game programs. Dues benefit all athletes in all sports. Drop by the Haskell Administration Office at 605 N. Ave. E and see Billie Lindsey for a form and to pay your membership fee.

### Bake sale

A bake sale will be held Sat., Sept. 9 at Hopewell Baptist Church, 908 N. Ave. A in Haskell. For more information, call 940-864-5473.

### Weinert celebration

Weinert has set their Centennial Celebration and Homecoming for Oct. 6-8. A centennial parade will be held Sat. morning at 10 a.m. Those interested in entering the parade should contact Mary Murphy at 940-673-8269.

### Brazos Boys to sing

The Brazos Boys will appear in concert Sun., Sept. 10 at 6 p.m. at Rochester First Baptist Church. This southern gospel group based in Abilene performs all across west and central Texas. Members are Harvey Jackson, Chuck Sims, Brian Clifton, Keith Davis and Mark Perkins. Everyone is invited.

### Food distribution

The Haskell County Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution Center will distribute food Sat., Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. til 11:30 a.m. at 206 S. 2nd (building east of Civic Center) in Haskell. Volunteers and boxes are needed.

### Noah Project

The Noah Project-North Advisory Committee will meet at the jury room of the Haskell County Courthouse Fri., Sept. 8 at noon. Fund-raising events will be discussed.

### Rule clean-up

The City of Rule will promote city-wide clean-up Sept. 11-15. Call City Hall at 996-2214 for details and to be added to the list for pickup.

### Story time

The Haskell Co. Library will host story time each Thursday in Sept. at 10 a.m. Topics will include Sept. 7, library; Sept. 14, fire prevention; Sept. 21, dogs; and Sept. 28 5-A-Day. Stories, crafts and snacks will be provided.

### Art Association

The Brazos West Art Association will meet Mon., Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Haskell National Bank Community Room. A salad supper will kick off the new club year. Guests are welcome.

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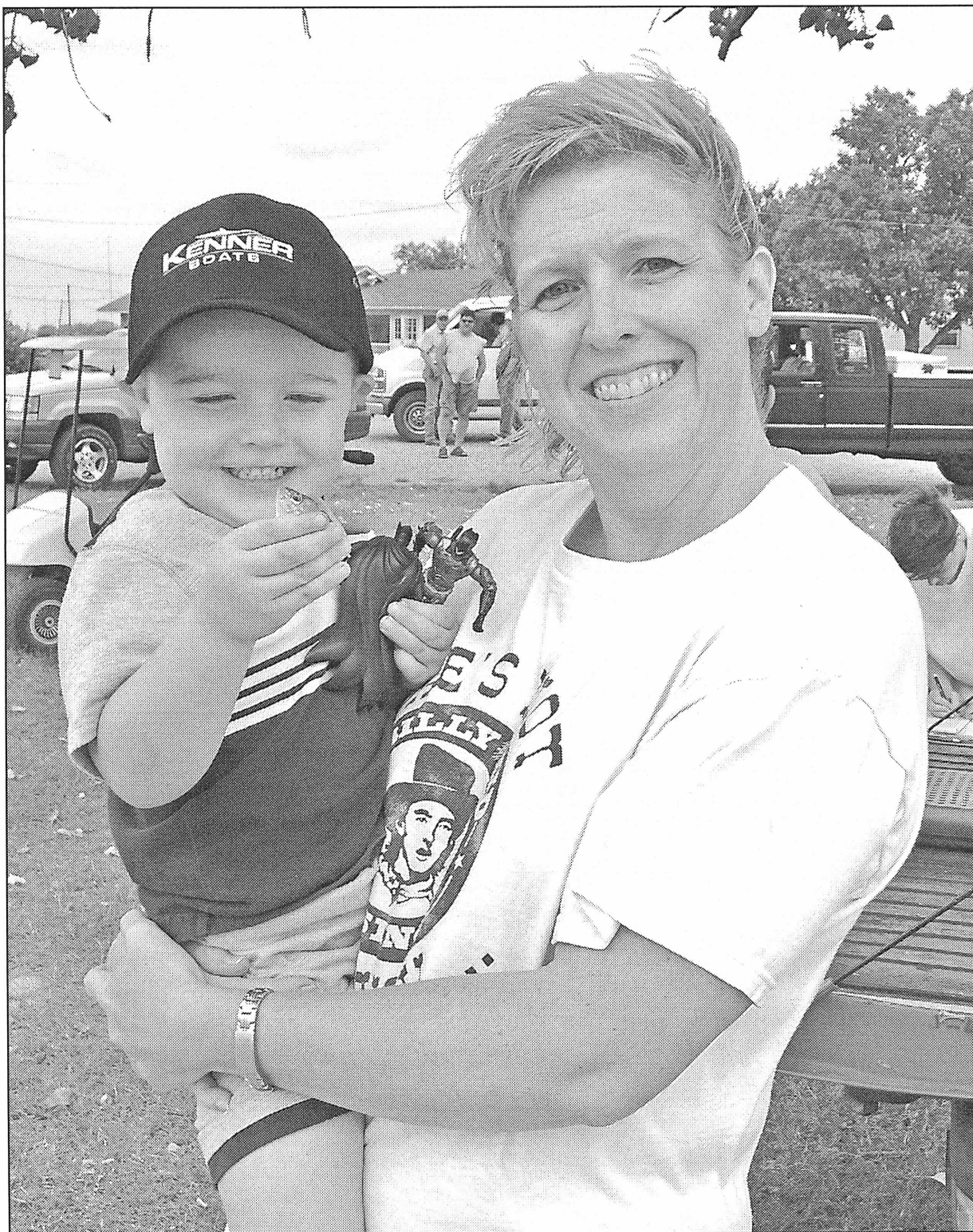
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# The Haskell Free Press

VOL. 120—NO. 36, ©SEPTEMBER 7, 2006

"The People's Choice"

8 PAGES—ONE SECTION—75 CENTS



**PRIZING HIS FIRST FISH**—Garret Dutton, held by mom Cherie Dutton, shows off the perch, weighing .5 oz., he caught during the Kids Fishing Tournament held Saturday at Lake Stamford. This

was Garret's first successful attempt at catching a fish and the first time he had entered a tournament. His entry was one of the tournament's smallest fish.

## Fishing event results

On Sat., Sept. 2, 69 contestants from ages 2 to 15 braved cool northern winds and occasional misty rains to compete in the 4th annual Kids Fishing Tournament held on Lake Stamford.

The 69 contestants kept Benny Gibbs busy weighing in the 66 fish brought to the official scales at The Anchor headquarters for the day's catch. Twenty of those fish took top places in the following seven categories:

**Black Bass:** Andrew Sammons, Haskell (2.12 lbs.); Lucas Denney, Abilene (1.15 lbs.); Braden Parnell, Abilene (3.5 oz.).

**White Bass:** Joey Martinez, Abilene (4.5 oz.); Toby Underwood, Abilene (4.0 oz.).

**Blue Cat:** Ryder Goosen, Abilene (7.35 lbs.); Blade Siegfried, Abilene, (6.5 lbs.); Zeb Petty, Rule (3.5 oz.).

**Channel Cat:** Cedar McIlwain, Haskell (3.05 lbs.); Casey Stiewert, Knox City (1.25 lbs.); Preston Morrow, Haskell (11 oz.).

**Crappie:** Vennie Perales, Rule (8 oz.); Phillip Coleman, Haskell (4 oz.); Ty Coleman, Haskell (4 oz.).

**Drum:** Shawn Myers, Haskell (1.1 lbs.); Austin Nanny, Haskell (9.5 oz.); Don Glass, Haskell (9.0 oz.).

**Perch:** Corey Williams, Friona (2.5 oz.); Aaron Silvas, Weinert (2.0 oz.); Timothy Gillentine, Abilene (.75 oz.).

Each category paid \$25 for first, \$15 for second, and \$10 for third.

The three biggest fish overall paid \$100 for first, \$75 for second and \$50 for third. The overall prize money went to Ryder Goosen, Abilene, first; Blade Siegfried, Abilene, second; and Andrew Sammons, Haskell, third.

Contestants were also able to compete in an open casting contest led by Sealy Haggard before cash and prizes were awarded. Those not receiving cash awards received a prize, so nobody left empty handed.

There were lots of smiles and "see you next year" heard as the tournament closed. A special thanks goes to each person that took a kid fishing.'

## Indians win season opener 33-22 over Rotan

True to form, both teams, Haskell and Rotan, went with their strengths and style of football in this interesting opening game for both groups.

Haskell with its ball control offensive scored in every quarter of the game. Rotan with its spread and speed scored two TDs in the time of 27 seconds to make the game exciting down to the end.

Haskell scored on its opening possession of the pigskin, moving the ball some 65 yards on 9 plays. Running back Greg Guzman scored on a five yard run. The PAT kick was no good. Running back Travis Adams added a "touch" and a two-point PAT to put the Indians up 14 to 0 at the 7:46 mark of the 2nd quarter. Rotan's QB Josh Reese hit pay-dirt on a 23 yard run. The PAT failed as the kick was blocked. Half time score was Haskell 14, Rotan 6.

During the third quarter, Haskell kept the Hammers in check. Safety Greg Guzman had two interceptions during this quarter. The Indians QB Matt Brown added a touchdown on a 29 yard run. The PAT failed.

Brown would add another TD on a 9 yard run, but the extra point try for a run was stopped short of the goal line. With only 8:17 to go in the game, Haskell led 26 to 6.

Guzman would add the last TD for the Indians on a 9 yard run and the PAT kick by Gerrardo Torres was good. Haskell 33, Rotan 6.

Rotan's QB, Reese, would score on a 53 yard run, and pass for the additional 2 points. Twenty-seven seconds later, Reese would hit tight end Brady Adams in the end zone for a TD, and would again pass for the additional two points.

With 2:03 left in the game, the score stood at 33 for the Indians and 22 for the Hammers—just the way the game ended. Victory for the "good" guys.

Haskell's offense had 45 rushes for 324 yards, and threw the ball 8 times for three completions for 57 yards. Matt Brown had 2 TDs on 13 carries for 117 yards. Weston Rutkowski got 33 yards on 3 rushes.

Guzman had 11 rushes for 34 yards and 2 TDs. Justin Rodriguez had 50 yards on 9 rushes. Josh

Rodriguez got two points on one carry and Travis Adams had one TD on 88 yards and 8 rushes. Matt Brown, QB had two receptions on 5

attempts for 28 yards. QB Rutkowski had one reception for 29 yards.

The JV Indians lost to Rotan 0 to 6 on Thursday evening.

The Varsity Indians are open this Friday, while the 7th and 8th JV play at Anson on Thursday. Game time is 4:30 p.m.



**INDIANS WIN**—#1 Matt Brown steps through a flock of Yellowhammers to help lead the Indians to a 33-22 victory over Rotan. Brown lead the team with 116 rushing yards.

Photo by Bill Blankenship

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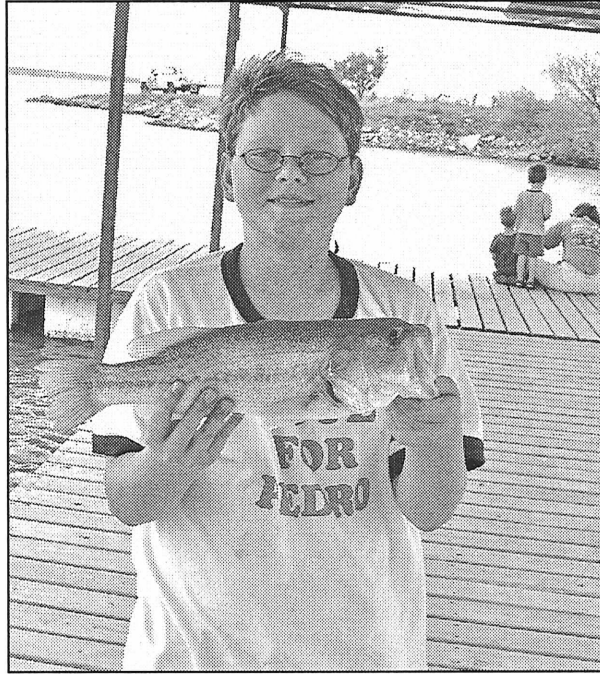




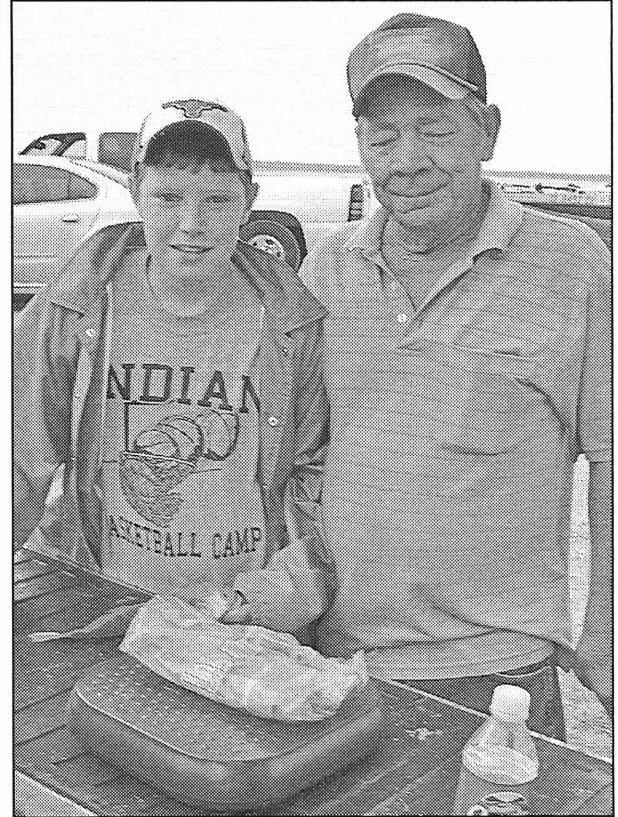




**RUNS FOR GAIN**—Paint Creek Pirate, Donovan Colly made a run for yardage during a game against the Novice Hornets last Friday night. The Pirates began the season with a loss on Pirate field to the Hornets, 70-20, when the game was called due to the mercy rule with 3:30 remaining.



**BIG BASS**—Andrew Sammons caught this bass weighing 2.15 lbs. off the fishing pier at The Anchor Saturday morning during the Kids Fishing Tournament. He won the Black Bass category.



**OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN**—Benny Gibbs, right, weighs in a drum fish for Austin Nanny during the Kids Fishing Tournament held at Lake Stamford. Gibbs was the official overseeing the weigh-in of entries by the fishermen. Nanny won second place in the drum division.

## USDA program to focus on drought aid

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns announced during a visit to South Dakota \$780 million in assistance to help farmers and ranchers manage drought and weather related production challenges. This funding includes a new \$50 million program for livestock producers impacted by drought, focusing nearly \$30 million in unused conservation funds on drought, and accelerating the delivery of an estimated \$700 million in counter-cyclical payments.

"While some parts of the country are experiencing very good crop conditions, drought is taking a toll on farming and ranching operations in other areas of the United States this year," said Johanns. "Today's actions emphasize USDA's commitment to use every resource available to help farmers and ranchers who are impacted by drought."

### Livestock Assistance

The new \$50 million program for livestock producers, called the Livestock Assistance Grant Program, will provide \$50 million in Section 32 to states in block grant form. States will distribute to livestock producers in counties that were designated as D3 or D4 on the Drought Monitor anytime between March 7 and Aug. 31, 2006. The grants will help livestock producers restore their purchasing power. A list of eligibility criteria and eligible counties can be found at <http://www.usda.gov> by clicking on the drought spotlight.

### Conservation Funds

The nearly \$30 million in unused conservation funds includes almost \$19 million in unused Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) funds and \$11 million in unused Grassland Reserve Program (GRP). The ECP funds will go to 27 states. Information on eligibility and a list of the states and funding is also posted online.

The GRP funds will help to protect drought-affected grazing lands. The funds will be distributed to 14 states. These funds will be focused on pending GRP applications for rental agreements in drought-affected areas.

Johanns also directed the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) state conservationists to work with their producers and state technical committees to focus remaining FY 2006 and a portion of FY 2007 conservation program funds on resource conservation practices related to drought response and mitigation. Programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) program, and GRP have built-in flexibility and local decision-making ability in order to encourage a focus on state-specific concerns, such as those related to drought.

### Counter-Cyclical Payments

Johanns directed that 2005-crop year counter-cyclical payments be delivered as quickly as possible to expand the financial resources of farmers facing drought.

An estimated \$700 million in payments to upland cotton and grain sorghum producers will be made this week. This will constitute the earliest delivery of counter-cyclical

payments on record. Payments to peanut producers will also be expedited, following the calculation of the final 2005 average price.

### Existing USDA Disaster Assistance

As always, emergency loans are available to help producers in counties declared disaster areas. These low-interest loans are for producers who have suffered production or physical losses resulting from a natural disaster or quarantine in counties designated disaster areas by President Bush, or disaster or quarantine areas by

Secretary Johanns.

Prior to this announcement, USDA has allocated over \$30 million in emergency conservation program and emergency watershed protection program funds for 2006 disasters, including drought. The agency has released considerable Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage to emergency haying and grazing and lowered the rental rate reduction to 10 percent from 25 percent.

Federal crop insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) are also available to crop producers each year to help

mitigate the risks associated with the adverse affects of heat and drought. Producers enrolled a record-high 246 million acres in crop insurance in 2005, with nearly 90 percent of acres insured at levels above the minimum catastrophic level of coverage. Similar enrollment levels are expected this year. In addition, NAP is available for producers who grow crops for which crop insurance is not available.

More information about the drought assistance package and existing USDA disaster assistance is available at <http://www.usda.gov>.

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THE PRESSURE IS ON—Indians, #51 Cody Wyrick and #10 Derek Agraz, put pressure on the Yellowhammer quarterback during the Indians 33-22 win over the Rotan team during the season opener last Friday night.

Photo by Bill Blankenship

## This Week's Devotional Message:



### FAITH SHOWS US HOW TO COPE WITH MINOR MISHAPS

Like most of us, you occasionally undergo one of those days when everything seems to go wrong. You overslept and had to skip breakfast. Then, by the time you discovered that the car wouldn't start, it was too late to catch the bus. Later, your expected package didn't arrive; and so on, until by the end of the day you wish you had just slept through it. However, were

all those things true disasters, or did they merely seem to be because of the accumulation? Through faith, we learn to rise above these mishaps, many of which could be prevented by our being a little better organized. At your house of worship give thanks to God for these lessons in character, as well as for all those other days, when everything seemed to go right.

### ATTEND CHURCH THIS SUNDAY

**—HASKELL—**  
**East Side Baptist Church**  
Danny Manross, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
600 N. 1st East, Haskell  
**Christian Church**  
Dusty Garrison, minister  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
107 N. Ave. F, Haskell  
**Church of God**  
Bruce Ray, pastor  
Sun. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7:00 p.m.  
714 North First East, Haskell  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Ron Renegarbe, pastor  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship 10:30  
Hwy 380 East, Haskell  
**Iglesia Bautista El Calvario**  
Art Flores, Interim pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
607 S. 7th, Haskell  
**First United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Daniel Echols, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m., 10:50 a.m. 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.  
201 N. Ave. F, Haskell  
**First Assembly of God**  
Rev. J.C. Amburn  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
1500 N. Ave. E, Haskell  
**St. George Catholic Church**  
Father George Roney  
Sat. Mass 7 p.m.; Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m.  
901 N. 16th, Haskell  
**Church of Christ**  
Jim Yates, minister  
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
510 N. Ave. E, Haskell  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
Kelly Pigott, interim pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m.  
306 N. Ave. E, Haskell  
**Trinity Baptist Church**  
Tony Grand, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.  
114 S. Ave. D, Haskell  
**Hopewell Baptist Church**  
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
908 N. Ave. A, Haskell  
**Greater Independent Baptist Church**  
Sun. Morn. 9:30 a., 11:00 a., 6:30 p.; Wed. 7 p.  
301 N. 3rd St., Haskell

**New Covenant Foursquare**  
Bill and Renee Glass, pastors  
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.  
200 S. Ave. F, Haskell  
**Mission Revival Center**  
Rev. William Hodge  
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Tues. 6 p.m.  
1600 N. Ave. B, Haskell  
**First Baptist Church**  
Greg Gasaway, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:55 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
301 N. Ave. E, Haskell  
**Church in the Wind**  
C.C. Curran, pastor  
Sun. fellowship 5 p.m. Church 5:30 p.m.  
Tues. Bible Class 7:30 p.m.  
203 S. 1st East, Haskell  
**Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church**  
Dr. Larry Nail, pastor  
Sun. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.  
1600 N. First St., Haskell

**—WEINERT—**  
**First Baptist Church**  
J. C. Baker, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., Wed. 7 p.m.  
Weinert  
**Weinert Foursquare Church**  
Rev. Robert Harrison  
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m.  
Weinert

**—ROCHESTER—**  
**Church of Christ**  
Steve Willis, minister  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.  
West on Main Street, Rochester  
**First Baptist Church**  
Fred Garvin, pastor  
Sun. 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. 6:00 p.m.  
500 Main, Rochester

**Union Chapel Baptist Church**  
Clovis Dever  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:45 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
Rochester  
**Faith Chapel of Rochester**  
Katherine Byrd, minister  
Sun. Morn. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.  
Hwy 6, Rochester  
**First United Methodist Church**  
Rev. Daniel Echols, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.  
Rochester

**—SAGERTON—**  
**Sagerton Methodist Church**  
Terry O'Rear, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a.m.  
Sagerton  
**Faith Lutheran Church**  
Deborah Nissen, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
Sagerton

**—RULE—**  
**First Baptist Church**  
Josh Stowe, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
1001 Union Ave., Rule

**Primitive Baptist Church**  
Dale Turner Jr., pastor  
First & Third Sundays 10 a.m.  
Corner of 8th & Robins, Rule  
**Church of Christ**  
John Greeson, minister  
Sun. Morn. 9:45 a., 10:40 a., 6 p.m.; Wed. 7 p.m.  
811 Union, Rule

**First United Methodist Church**  
Terry O'Rear, pastor  
Sun. Morn. Worship 8:30 a.m.  
1000 Union Ave., Rule  
**Primera Iglesia Bautista**  
Alfa y Omegas  
Manuel Marin, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11:00 a., 5 p.m.; Wed. 6 p.m.  
500 Elm Street, Rule  
**Sweet Home Baptist Church**  
Larry Neal, pastor  
Sun. Morn. 11 a.m., 5 p.m.; Wed. 5 p.m.  
Gladstone Ave., Rule  
**West Bethal Baptist Church**  
Rev. Robert Sweet  
Sun. Morn. 10 a., 11 a., 8 p.m.; Wed. 7:30 p.m.  
300 Sunny Ave., Rule

**—PAINT CREEK—**  
**Paint Creek Baptist Church**  
Sun. Morn. 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Paint Creek

**—O'BRIEN—**  
**O'Brien Baptist Church**  
Jim Reid, pastor  
Sun. 9:45 a.m., 11 a., 5 p., 6 p, Wed. 6 p.m.  
O'Brien

## Tools exist for producers to boost nitrogen use efficiency, reduce costs

by Wes Utley  
CEA-Ag/NR, Haskell Co.

There are several tools small grain producers can use to gauge the nitrogen use efficiency of their crop and achieve a savings in production costs, said a Texas Cooperative Extension small grains specialist.

"When we look at production inputs, we need to put them in two categories," said Dr. Gaylon Morgan, Extension agronomist based at College Station. Morgan spoke at the recent Big Country Wheat Conference in Abilene. "There are yield-building inputs and yield-preserving inputs.

"Nitrogen fertilizer could fall into both categories, but we chiefly use and manage it as a yield-builder. More important is nitrogen use efficiency."

Wheat has an average nitrogen use efficiency of 33 percent, he said. In other words, about 33 percent of applied nitrogen is used by the plant to produce grain. The U.S. consumes about 7.3 million pounds of nitrogen fertilizer annually.

"So if we can improve our nitrogen use efficiency, we could achieve a potentially significant savings in nitrogen costs," Morgan said. "But how do we do that—what tools do we need?"

Producers who grow wheat, for example, should rely on soil tests to gauge actual available nitrogen for a crop and consider their crop's realistic yield potential before applying nitrogen, he said. Soil test results matched to yield potential and the producer's yield goal can help ensure that nitrogen is applied according to crop need and not prevailing tradition.

"Our current thinking and our current recommendation for nitrogen fertilizer is 2 pounds per acre for each bushel in your yield goal," Morgan said. "Breeders are working to produce new varieties with higher nitrogen-use efficiency. Even so, we can do a better job with the genetics available today.

"We can better assess the crop's true nitrogen need and time the application of fertilizer to coincide with critical growth times."

Winter wheat, for example, needs little nitrogen in the fall. Producers who want to guarantee nitrogen availability for wheat roots should assess their crop's nitrogen need in late winter or early spring—possibly in February, he said.

"If you time nitrogen application to coincide with wheat's late winter and early spring growth, you can determine the needs of the wheat crop and probably use a lower fertilizer rate while achieving the same or higher yields that a higher fertilizer rate will provide," Morgan said. "This spring top-dress application allows you to assess the crop's yield potential and match the nitrogen fertilizer rate to the yield potential."

One good way to gauge nitrogen need in early spring is to visually

assess crop/plant growth in nitrogen test strips—strips in the wheat field where producers can experiment with different fertilizer rates and combinations. This provides the producer a visual reference of the crop's needs and how much nitrogen fertilizer should be applied for the top-dress application.

"You can readily see how the crop is doing and how it responds to different application rates," Morgan said.

Producers seeking a higher-tech approach to gauging nitrogen needs can use sensors to help them develop "prescription" fertilizer rates and applications, he said.

"Dr. Jeff Edwards, Oklahoma State University Extension small grains specialist at Stillwater, Oklahoma, has done a lot of good work on precision and variable rate nitrogen application," Morgan said. "Their variable-rate nitrogen tests use optical sensors to measure plant biomass, which tells them how much crop is out there and what condition it is in.

"They use sensors in conjunction with nitrogen-rich test strips and visual assessments. They even have a sensor-based nitrogen calculator available online."

The Oklahoma State University Extension wheat fertility Web site is <http://www.wheat.okstate.edu/fert/index.htm>.

Hand-held optical sensors are available commercially for about \$3,500, while those suitable for use on fertilizer application machinery are more expensive, Morgan said. Edwards' work indicates that the cost of optical sensors can be recovered in a year or so through savings achieved in nitrogen costs and application costs, he added.

"OSU Extension has logged a nitrogen cost savings of \$12.11 per acre using nitrogen test strips and optical sensors," Morgan said. "But it may be higher. The indirect savings, or value, of a correct nitrogen rate probably varies from \$18 to \$30 per acre.

"It's certainly not a silver bullet, but these tools can help us achieve a higher nitrogen use efficiency by tailoring fertilizer applications to actual plant needs. That could save input dollars and allow us to be more specific and efficient with our nitrogen fertilizer. We can adjust rates by field or crop condition."

Producers who grow wheat for grain and grazing can also use optical sensors as part of their fertility strategy but may have to make slight adjustments in when crop assessments are made, he added.

"Grazing removes biomass—the cows/calves eat the plant material that's out there," Morgan said. "Because the sensors measure available biomass, you fence off an area in late winter and wait about two weeks after you terminate grazing to assess crop condition with optical sensors or nitrogen strips."

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**HASKELL CHEERLEADERS**—Cheering for the Indians this year are front row, l-r, Paige Adams, Aston Rutkowski and Lauren Lampe. Back row, Haley Chavez, Maegan Baugh (mascot), Brie Torres, Amber Bingham, Stephanie Grand, Jessica Herring and Lauren Newton. Photo by Bill Blankenship



**INDIAN CAPTAINS**—Serving as captains of the Haskell Indians football team this year are l-r, #1 Matt Brown, #55 Gary Frierson, #59 Billy Lusk, #5 Greg Guzman and #52 Josh Kimmel. Photo by Bill Blankenship

## Electric co-op to receive USDA loan

Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced that Western Farmers Electric Cooperative has been selected to receive a \$133,596,000 Rural Electric Loan. Funds will be used in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas.

"Upgraded or expanded electric infrastructure is important for rural communities to ensure economic opportunities for their residents," said Daniel. "These funds further demonstrate USDA Rural Development's dedication in supporting local job-creating business opportunities."

Through the USDA Rural Development Utilities Program, loans are made available to finance the construction or replacement of electric transmission and generation facilities in rural areas. This program provides reliable, affordable electricity to the nation's rural communities. Funding of selected applicants will be contingent upon meeting the conditions of the loan agreements.

The USDA Rural Development mission is to deliver programs in a way that will increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting the web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx>.

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## Calendar

### Rochester anniversary

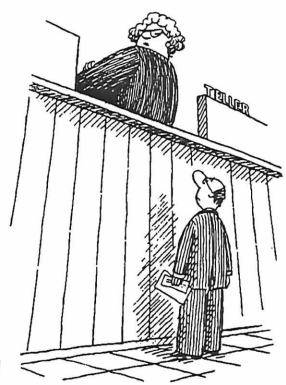
Rochester exes are asked to email both physical and email addresses to Sandra Fry at [sfryrochester@yahoo.com](mailto:sfryrochester@yahoo.com). Pictures for a presentation for the Rochester 100th anniversary and homecoming weekend to be held Oct. 13-14 are also needed.

### Burn ban issued

A burn ban is in effect for Haskell County. The use of combustible materials in an outdoor

environment by any person is prohibited. Combustible materials specifically include, but are not limited to, fireworks, camp fires, welding and any other pyrotechnic material, which in the manner or means of its use could result in a wildfire. The ban will continue until conditions warrant otherwise, stated Haskell County Judge David C. Davis. A person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

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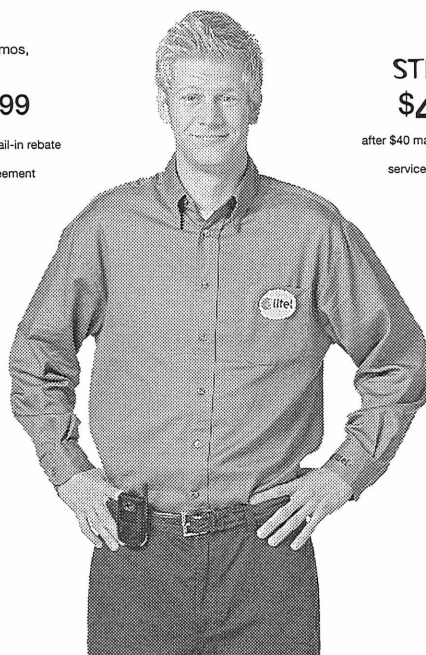


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