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Muleshoe Journal



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Volume 92, No. 15

www.muleshoejournal.com

Muleshoe, Texas

April 14, 2011

Burn ban reinstated for 90 days more

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

The Bailey County Commissioners' Court voted to renew its 90-day burn ban in the face of insufficient precipitation during Monday's regular meeting, but also approved the use of a new type of incinerator.

"We're certainly not going to lift it," Precinct 2 Commissioner C.E. Grant said.

Tom Landry of L&L Pallet appeared before the court seeking an exemption to the burn ban similar to that received by rural residents who have installed "covered" below-ground incinerators.

The use of "open" burn pits is prohibited under the county burn ban, but Landry explained how the open-topped incinerator at his facility, located across Hwy. 84 from Progress, differs.

Apparently, Landry's appearance before the court followed a report to the sheriff's department of the company burning over the weekend.

Landry presented diagrams of the incinerator in operation at his facility, and noted that the specially designed machinery involved has already been approved

by the EPA.

"The EPA, I guarantee, is tougher than you guys," Landry told the court.

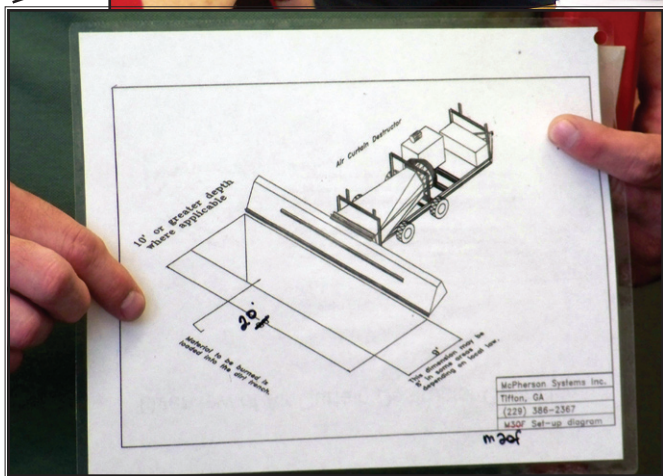
He explained how the machine blows a 70 mph "wind" into the 16-foot deep, square-sided pit, causing a "super-heated" fire that allows little, if anything, to escape from the pit.

"It's pretty safe, and it's pretty impressive," Landry said, inviting the members of the court to view his company's incinerator's operation.

"Very little pollution comes out of that hole," Landry said, noting that any escaping smoke is prior to the burn reaching temperature or when additional refuse — in this case primarily pallets, is being added.

"We see the news, and we watch the fires," he said. "We're very mindful of what's happening out there."

According to Landry, L&L Pallet has liability insurance in place to cover operation of the incinerator, and noted that a large waterline is being installed out to



County Judge Sherri Harrison talks about the incinerator installed at L&L Pallet while County Clerk Paula Benton, left, Tom Landry, center, and Sheriff Richard Wills look on.

The enlarged photograph is a drawing of the company's incinerator that was presented to the court for consideration on whether it would meet the court's requirements for an exemption.

Photographs by Larry Thornton

during a time when state financing appears to be getting leaner.

"You can't cut enough pencils to save a million dollars," Sheets said.

While the majority of actions involved in the land transfer will be handled by the two school boards involved, Sheets explained that state laws

require the Bailey County Commissioners Court to call for the redrawing of the school district boundaries, at no cost to the county.

"I don't see a problem," Precinct 3 Commissioner Joey Kindle said.

It was noted that the item would be placed

Continued on page 3

Move over, guys, I'm coming up!

Lady Mule Adrienne Precure seems to be about to join some of the spectators in the stands at a recent track meet.



Photograph by Stacy Conner

Good news received on sales tax allocations

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Each of the area communities took home a trophy this month, according to sales tax allocation figures released by the Texas State Comptroller's office.

While not all of the area communities normally watched by the Muleshoe Journal showed double-digit increases when compared with last year's totals, each of them show an increase in both the monthly and the year-to-date numbers.

In March, Farwell was the only community

Sales Tax Results			
City	Net Payment	Same period Prior year	Percent Change
Muleshoe	\$34,267.94	31,035.92	10.41%
Dimmitt	\$24,057.60	21,202.55	13.46%
Morton	\$ 8,082.94	7,829.65	3.23%
Littlefield	\$60,831.38	54,762.81	11.08%
Olton	\$ 7,227.61	6,511.87	10.99%
Sudan	\$ 3,831.65	3,042.93	25.91%
Earth	\$ 3,824.27	3,144.32	21.62%
Farwell	\$ 6,973.26	6,456.16	8.00%
Bovina	\$ 5,936.71	5,758.89	3.08%
Friona	\$23,079.11	22,071.08	4.56%

showing a drop in sales tax collections.

Sudan took the top position, again,

this month with a 25.91 percent increase

compared to last years

Continued on page 3

Council approves land sale

By Larry Thornton
Managing Editor

Muleshoe's city council approved the transfer of property in the Country Club addition from the Muleshoe Economic Development Corporation to the city during Monday's regular session, and awarded bids for the property, as

well.

Originally brought before the council at last month's meeting, bids were called for the property — Block 30 and 31 of the addition, and received from Alan Caddell.

City Manager David Brunson explained that in 2004, the MEDC had

declared the property in question unsuitable for industrial purposes because it is in a residential area.

He also explained that it was easier to seek bids for the property prior to actually transferring the property from MEDC. In the event no bids were

Continued on page 3



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Around Muleshoe...



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from non-profit
organizations
in the Muleshoe area.

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announcement
send an email to
editor@muleshoejournal.com

Storm spotter training

Storm spotter training is being held at the Alan Ladd Fire Station on April 14, beginning at 7 p.m.

The class is being hosted by the City of Muleshoe and taught by the National Weather Service. It is open to the public, and the public strongly encouraged to attend.

Mayor's prayer lunch

Mayor Cliff Black invites the public to attend the Mayor's prayer lunch on Thursday, May 5, from noon until 1 p.m., at the Bailey County Coliseum.

Donations will be accepted.

Women's softball

The Muleshoe Softball League is now accepting entries for the Women's Spring League.

If you are interested in entering a softball team contact Carl Patterson at 946-8854, Rudy Perez at 806-729-2100 or Janie Salazar at 806-891-1452.

Prom, banquet date announced

MHS Junior/Senior Banquet and Prom will be on the evening of Saturday, May 14.

Students will be treated to "An Evening in Paradise," sponsored by the Class of 2012.

For additional information contact Valorie McCamish at Muleshoe High School, 272-7303.

Talent show set for May 5

Muleshoe High School FCCLA is sponsoring a talent show on May 5 to benefit Bailey County Relay for Life.

Entries are open to all Muleshoe Independent School District students and their families.

Registration forms may be picked up at any school.

Registration are still being accepted. For more information contact Valorie McCamish at MHS at 272-7303.

Junior parent planning meeting

An MISD junior parent meeting will be held Monday, April 25, at 5:30 p.m., in the Muleshoe High School commons area, to discuss and plan more details of the Junior/Senior Banquet and Prom.

All junior parents are encouraged to attend. Many parent volunteers are needed for various committees such as cooking/grilling, decorating, clean up, and chaperone, etc.

MHS blood drive scheduled

Muleshoe High School will be hosting its spring blood drive on Monday, April 18, from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., in the donor coach, which will be located outside the MHS office.

If you would like to schedule a time to donate, contact Sharon Villa at 272-7309 or svilla@muleshoehs.net.

All students 16 years of age must return a signed parental permission slip before donating.

Softball tournament

Bailey County Relay for Life is hosting a co-ed softball tournament April 29-30. The entry fee is \$125, and the deadline for entering is April 28.

For additional information, call Patty at 806-272-5831, or Raul at 806-729-5553.

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Muleshoe Journal USPS 367820

Established Feb. 23, 1924 Published by Panhandle Weeklies, LLC.
Every Thursday at 201 W. Ave. C, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.
Periodicals paid at Muleshoe, TX.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Muleshoe Journal, P.O. Box 449, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

We are qualified members of the Panhandle Press Association,
West Texas Press Association and Texas Press Association

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Subscriptions:

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Editorial

Windfall or loophole?

Is it a windfall or a loophole?

If you happened to miss last week's news from the Muleshoe Independent School District's then you probably aren't aware of the proposition from Springlake-Earth ISD that would allow it's school board to toss a larger loop and pull in a whopping 106 square miles that have previously been part of MISD.

More to the point, while it wouldn't affect the local tax revenue needed to fund operations needed to educate the young minds here at Muleshoe, it could... no, change that to "would," have a significant impact on the school district's operation monies.

Yes, as I've previously said, it wouldn't affect the "tax revenue," because through the state's existing school finance laws the \$40,000 in local tax revenue that Muleshoe ISD would lose to Springlake-Earth would be replaced from by the state.

But what's more important is the fact that at a time when the State of Texas is looking at reductions in funding across the board, the transfer would allow SEISD to receive an additional \$400,000 from the state by moving the neighboring district into a category of special funding that Muleshoe has enjoyed for several years.

And, through an agreement that has been tried and tested at other school districts in the Lone Star State, Muleshoe would receive about half of the Springlake-Earth windfall.

Over a period of five years, that means MISD would collect the \$1 million it expects to be trimmed away by the state in other areas... and that means jobs saved in Muleshoe and Bailey County. Actually, it means jobs saved at Springlake-Earth, also.

The State of Texas, and every public entity that receives funding from the state has some tough times ahead.

Windfall or loophole? Maybe a little of both, but it appears the administrations for these two neighboring school districts have found a way to weather the storm.

Journal places in PPA's Better Newspaper Contest

The Muleshoe Journal brought home a series of awards from the Panhandle Press Association's Better Newspaper contest, including a first place in humorous columns by the Journal's managing editor, Larry Thornton.

"This was an outstanding column," this year's judges said about Thornton's regularly running column, "Spinning Rowels."

"Much about which you write in this column has actually happened to me, so I can relate," the judge said about Thornton's writing.

Second place awards for the Journal and its staff came from the sports photography by Stacy Conner and also the newspapers website at www.muleshoejournal.com

Thornton garnered a third place award for his news writing, receiving much the same type of comments from the judges about details in the story on the Daniel Mendoza murder trial that were received from local readers.

"Great, creative lead," the judge also said regarding the story the Journal carried on Muleshoe's vendor ordinance.

The Journal also received a third place award for its headlines, which the judge described as "excellent." The especially liked the headline for the news

story about the area at the north end of Benny Douglass Stadium, and whether the school board should prohibit local and visiting students from gathering there. "Should students be on grass?" the headline read. "Very clever!" the judges replied.

While sportswriter Delton Wilhite didn't receive an award this year, the judge gave high marks for the game details he includes in his stories.

And while this year's submissions in the advertising category didn't receive any honors, the judges described the work by the Journal's ad design staff as good efforts, and good use of color.

**Check
out the
Muleshoe
Journal
videos!**

www.muleshoejournal.com



Pennies for the pantry

Students at Dillman Elementary raised \$1,575.27 for the Bailey County Food Pantry by bringing pennies, nickels, dimes. For their hard work, every classroom was rewarded with a popcorn party and movie. Also, the classroom that raised the most from each grade level was rewarded with a pizza party. Pictured above, Donna Jay of the food pantry receives a check from Principal Todd Newberry.



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Samaritan Hospice Recognizes National Volunteer Week

**National Volunteer Week is
April 10th - 16th.**

It was said best by Erma Bombeck, "Volunteers... have style. They're fiercely independent. If you have to ask how much they cost, you can't afford them... They are the only human beings on the face of this earth who reflect the nation's compassion, unselfishness, caring, patience, need, and just plain loving one another."

Samaritan Hospice offers guidance and support to individuals with life-limiting illnesses. In addition, families are helped as they travel down a path of what is often unfamiliar territory.

"What makes Samaritan Hospice so special in addition to their highly trained staff and excellent care," said one family member "is the volunteers. They were all so kind and compassionate when our loved one was on hospice care."

Visitors only have to enter the doors and take a few short steps at Samaritan Hospice before they run into a volunteer who is on a mission to meet a need. When one such volunteer was asked, "How can you possibly volunteer in such

a painful area of people's lives? Doesn't it make you feel depressed knowing the people you are helping may not be here for long?"

The volunteer smiles not only with her lips, but with her eyes and says, "Hospice doesn't mean that death will occur soon. Yes, they focus on caring rather than curing. I can't think of any better place or group of people I would want to have care for me, or one of my loved ones than those at Samaritan Hospice."

Another volunteer simply says, "How can I not serve in such a wonderful and caring place and for the wonderful people of our community? When you volunteer at Samaritan Hospice you meet extraordinary people. Some are employees who give of themselves day in and day out. Other times it may be a patient or a family member who needs comforting or just a cup of warm coffee. Sometimes all it takes is just being there or lending a listening ear. Besides, it challenges my spirit and fills my heart with warmth knowing I can help make a difference in another's life whether it's short-term or long-term."

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Volunteer Training

Tuesday April 19th. • 9:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m

Samaritan Hospice office at 426 N. Main, Suite E

For more information, call Linda at 806-363-6085



Seeking assistance

Superintendent Gene Sheets and Denver Crum request redistricting assistance from the Bailey County Commissioners' Court.

Photograph by Larry Thornton

Muleshoe's city council acts...

Continued from page 1
received, the property wouldn't have to be transferred back.

According to Brunson, the appraised value for each piece of property was \$5,000.

Caddell bid \$8,000 for Block 30 and \$6,000 for Block 6.

A third piece of property, Block 32, received no bids, and wasn't acted upon.

In other business, the city council:

- Approved a 7.5 percent rate increase for South Plains Waste, the first in three years, according to the city manager.

"They're doing a good job for us," Brunson said about the Olton-based business.

He noted that when another company inquired about submitting a proposal for waste disposal to the city, he asked if they could hold their rate for three years, like South Plains

Waste... they couldn't. In fact, Brunson said their rate would have varied monthly depending upon fuel costs.

While the SPW rate increase will increase the city's cost by about \$16,000, the city manager said it was too early in the budget process to determine how it would affect the city's solid waste customers.

- Awarded a contract for the city's CDBG paving grant to Lipham Construction at \$188,142. The other bid on the project came from West Texas Paving at \$196,420.

During the discussion prior to the board's vote, Mayor Pro Tem Irene Mason, who was charing the meeting in the absence of Mayor Cliff Black, asked about the need for an engineer and it was explained that the bidders on the project turn in a "book" detailing the work specifications, and that an engineer

was needed to do this as well as write the initial bid specifications and oversee the completion of the project for the city.

According to Brunson, the city received a \$250,000 grant with a \$50,000 match for the project.

- Cancelled the city's May elections. With Councilmen Eric McElroy and Gary Parker being unopposed in their reelection bids, and propositions on the ballot, the city's election is unnecessary, the city manager said.

- Received the city's investment summary and financial statement for March.

- Received a report from the city's youth advisory committee concerning their participation in the state youth summit and the regional TML meeting.

- Mentioned the mayor's prayer luncheon on May 5, at the Bailey County Coliseum.

Commissioners' court...

on next month's court agenda after the school districts' official action.

- Approved payment of county bills totaling 373,065.22.
- Approved the county's February

treasurer's report, and minutes from the March 14 court session.

- Approved a contract with Local Government Solutions for software needed in the county clerk's office.
- Set a date for the sale of surplus county property for May 9.
- Approved the

Project Graduation bake sale

Muleshoe's Project Graduation will be holding a "traveling bake sale" on the morning of Friday, April 15.

The organization's next planning session is set for Monday, April 18, at 5:15 p.m., in the Five Area meeting room.

Project Graduation 2011 provides a safe, substance-free, non-alcohol, parent sponsored graduation celebration for the 2011 MISD graduates.

Individuals and businesses wishing to contribute to the project may send their donations to Project Graduation 2011, c/o Zanea Carpenter, 215 S. First, Muleshoe, TX 79347.

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NOTICE

The Board of Trustees of the Muleshoe Independent School District has received a petition requesting that certain property within the boundaries of Muleshoe Independent School District be detached and annexed to the Springlake-Earth Independent School District. Pursuant to Texas Education Code section 13.051, the Springlake-Earth Independent School District's Board of Trustees will conduct a joint public hearing with the Muleshoe Independent School District Board of Trustees on the request for detachment/annexation at which affected persons are entitled to an opportunity to be heard on April 26, 2011, at 7:00 administrative offices located at 514 W. Ave. G., Muleshoe, Texas.

Sales tax allocations

Continued from page 1
collection totals, and Bovina — which has finished strong several times during the past year, most recently last month when it shared the trophy with Dimmitt — was in the terms of the Old West cattle drives, riding drag.

As for Muleshoe, the Bailey County seat was on flank, just behind the middle of the pack, with a respectable \$3,232.02 increase, representing a 10.41 percent increase.

But, while Bovina may be trailing in the monthly allocations, the numbers from the comptroller's office show the Parmer County community is leading the pack in the year-to-date collections, showing an increase of 25.71 percent or \$6,411.60.

Muleshoe's year-to-date numbers show an increase of \$8,406.92, or 5.25 percent.

In actual dollars collected, Littlefield — with its larger population and higher sales tax rate, received the largest of the area's sales tax disbursement checks, \$60,831.38, bringing their year-to-date total of \$255,894.76.

In comparison, Muleshoe's year-to date total is \$168,495.97, including it's 5.25 percent increase from last year's numbers.

According to State Comptroller Susan Combs' office said recently that the state's sales revenue in March was \$1.60 billion, up 9.9 percent compared to March 2010.

"State sales tax revenue has now increased for

12 straight months," said Combs in the news release from her office. "Strong consumer and business spending helped increase revenue in large sectors of the economy such as retail, manufacturing and the oil and gas industry."

Cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts will receive \$417.6 million in April sales tax allocations, a 6 percent increase compared to April 2010. So far in 2011, monthly sales tax allocations to local governments are up 7.5 percent compared to a year ago.

This month, Comptroller Combs' office will send April sales tax allocations of \$279.4 million to Texas cities, up 5.2 percent compared to April 2010. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax allocations are running 6.7 percent higher than last year. Texas counties will receive sales tax payments of \$26.6 million, up 11.1 percent compared to one year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 13.2 percent higher than last year.

In addition, 173 special purpose taxing districts are getting \$177 million in sales tax, up 12.8 percent compared to last April. Ten local transit systems will receive \$93.7 million in sales tax rebates, up 5.7 percent compared to a year ago.

March state sales tax revenue and April payments made to local governments represent sales that occurred in February.

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Senior Citizen News

By Katrina Scott

As April seems to be flying by and May just around the corner the Oneita Wagnon Senior Center has been busy.

We have had friends popping in to say hello, joining us for lunch, and others starting their summer vacations.

Our April birthday party will be Thursday, April 21, so come for lunch and let us honor you for your birthday.

Reminder for Tuesday, April 19, at 10 a.m., we will be playing Bunco.

Lisa with Interim Health Care will host the game. Come join in the fun, fellowship, and prizes that will be awarded.

Bring a friend and stay for lunch.

Thursday, April 21,

Subscribe!

at 1:30 p.m., the Bingo games will start.

Call a friend come for lunch and join the fun.

The senior center will be open for Good Friday.

Menu for April 18-21:

Monday, April 18 — Smothered chicken, scalloped potatoes, carrots, salad, wheat rolls and cookies.

Tuesday, April 19 — Hamburger stew, salad, cornbread and banana pudding.

Wednesday, April 19 — Grilled steak, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, wheat rolls and peach cobbler.

Thursday, April 20 — Chili dogs, salad, chips, Jello™ and fruit

Friday, April 21 — Fish or chicken strips, gravy, pinto beans, coleslaw, cornbread and fruit salad.

Annual Lazbuddie 3-on-3 tourney set for April 29-30

The Lazbuddie Three-on-Three basketball festival is set for April 29-30, at the Lazbuddie High School gym.

To enter, by telephone or mail, contact:

• Alicia Pacheco at 806-965-2152 or alicia.pacheco@lazbuddieisid.org

Stone seeks CCMA votes

Jack Stone of Muleshoe has been nominated for the Christian Country Music Artist for 2011 Diamond Award.

Stone encourages everyone to vote by going to www.sgnscoops.com, and clicking on Diamond Awards 2011.

Every vote counts and one per e-mail address.

Stone was also the runner up at the Texaco/Chevron Country Showdown.

• Debbie Weir at 806-965-2302, or 806-598-0669, or debbie.weir@lazbuddieisid.org

• Sarah Black at 806-265-3861 or sarah.black@lazbuddieisid.org

There is a \$60 per team entry fee. The entry deadline is April 27.

Prizes will be awarded to winners in each division.

A full concession stand will be provided.

There will also be a three-point and free throw competition for all age divisions for an additional \$2 entry fee.



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(Solutions on page 10)

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BAILEY COUNTY DEVOTIONAL PAGE

Obituaries

Jewel Darling

Church services for Jewel Darling, 86, of Muleshoe were held on Wednesday, April 13, at Muleshoe Church of Christ with Nat Cooper of Lubbock and Jack Stone of Muleshoe officiating.

Burial followed in Muleshoe Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home of Muleshoe.

Mrs. Darling died on Sunday, April 10, 2011, in Lubbock. She was born on May 16, 1924, to Jesse B. and Beatrice (Gray) Clevenger in Soper, Okla., and married Duane Darling in Mangum, Okla., on Oct. 3, 1942.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and by two grandsons — Terry Thompson and Tim Thompson.

Mrs. Darling had lived in Muleshoe since 1955, having moved from Portales, N.M.

She was a member of Muleshoe Church of



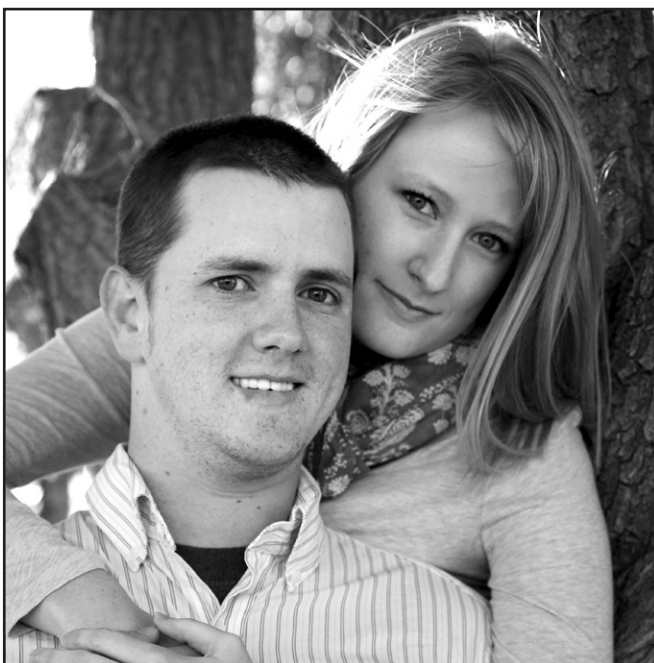
Christ.

Mrs. Darling was a homemaker and tax assessor for Lazbuddie ISD.

Survivors include her husband — Duane Darling, of Muleshoe; a son — Terry Dwight Darling of Austin; two daughters — Jan Thompson of Muleshoe and Eve Darling of Lubbock; six grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren

Memorials may be sent to the New Mexico Christian Children's Home, 1356 New Mexico 236, Portales, N.M. 88130-9411.

Engagements



Cole, Behrends to wed

Doug and Julie Cole of Temecula, Calif., announce the engagement of their daughter Amanda Cole of Lubbock, to Garrett Behrends of Muleshoe.

The prospective bride will graduate in May from Lubbock Christian University with a degree in theater education.

She is currently employed at Mardel's in Lubbock.

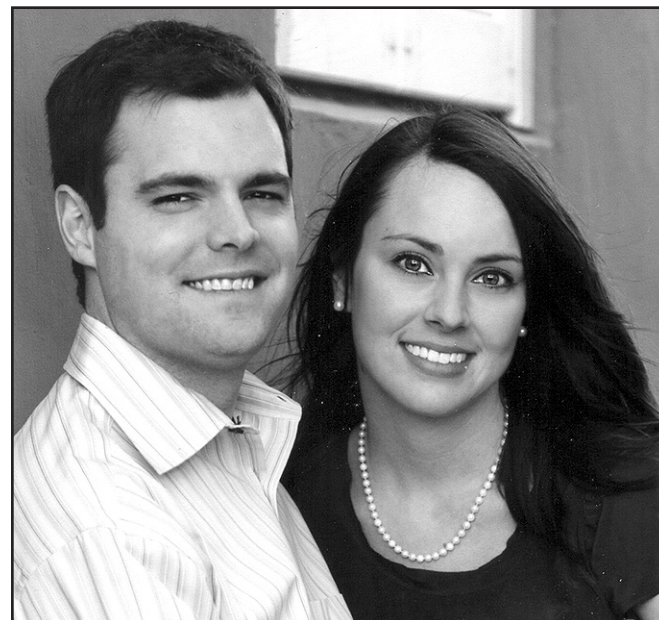
The prospective

groom is the son of Earl and Donita Behrends of Muleshoe.

He is a 2006 graduate of Muleshoe High School and a 2010 graduate of Lubbock Christian University with a bachelors in youth and family ministry.

He is currently employed with United Supermarkets.

The wedding ceremony has been set for July 16 in Murrieta, Calif.



Wills, Williamson to wed

Dr. and Mrs. Quentin Wills of Muleshoe announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Meghan Wills, to Matthew Williamson.

The prospective bride is a 2004 graduate of Muleshoe High School and a 2006 graduate of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center with a bachelor of science degree in nursing.

She earned a master's degree in nursing administration from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in December 2010 and is employed as an instructor at San Antonio College.

The prospective groom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Marc Williamson of Fredericksburg.

He is a 2001 graduate of Fredericksburg High School and a 2005 graduate of Texas Christian University with a bachelor of arts degree in finance and accounting.

He earned a law degree from Texas Tech University in 2008 and is employed by Duncan, Bressler and Liu Law Firm of San Antonio.

The couple will be married May 21, 2011, in Fredericksburg.

Thanks for reading the Journal!

Wedding Showers

Angeley, Shaw feted with wedding shower

Misty Angeley of Muleshoe and Lee Shaw of McLean were honored with a wedding shower on Sunday, April 3, in the First Baptist Church parlor.

Special guests included Pat Angeley of Muleshoe; Evelyn Shaw of Alanreed; Krystal Morgan, Logan and Hagan Bennett, all of Shallowater; Tiffany, Abigail and Addison Boehning of Muleshoe; Karen Reynolds of Lubbock; Phyllis Angeley of Muleshoe; Erin and Kate Shaw of Alanreed,



Misty Angeley

Tori Belew of Lubbock and Katie McDonald of Pampa.

An orange Kitchen aid

mixer was the hostess gift given by Judy Puckett, Marilyn Young, Shirley Aguirre, Lindy Schuster, Ruth Locker, Tammy Black, Christie Whitt, Debbie Kemp, Lena Gartin, Rickie Warren, Brenda Black, Donna Locker, Dani Heathington, Margaret Quintana, Magann Rennels, Criss Cleavinger, Rhonda Spies, Ruth Hall, Regina Clarkson, Linda Elder and Suzie Claunch.

Death Notices

Mary Rejino

Muleshoe resident Mary Rejino, 66, died on Saturday, April 9, 2011, in Lubbock. She was born on Dec. 5, 1944 to Concepcion and Manuela Rejino in Buda. Funeral services were held on April 12 at Immaculate Conception Church of Muleshoe.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding..."

Proverbs 3:5, NIV



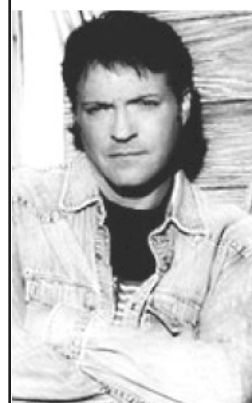
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Sports



Walking on air

Photograph by Stacy Conner

Mule Joel Regaledo appears to be "walking on air" during a recent meet.

Lady Mules to send three to Odessa

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

Three Lady Mules qualified for the Region I Track Meet that will be held in Odessa May 2-3 in six different events.

Idalou, Abernathy, Friona and Tulia finished ahead of the Lady Mules. Floydada, Littlefield and Dimmitt rounded out the meet.

Yvonne Gardea led the Lady Mule track team to a fifth place finish in the District 2-2A Track Meet in Abernathy April 8. She won two gold medals and a silver medal. Gardea opened the meet with a gold medal in the high

jump with a leap of five feet two inches.

Her second gold medal also came in the field events with a distance of 33-08.25 in the triple jump. Her silver medal was in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 49.94 seconds. Adrienne Precure had a silver medal height of 8-6.00 in the pole vault. She also placed fifth in the high jump with a leap of 4-10.

Jessica Kube placed eighth in the long jump with a distance of 13-11.00. McKenna Dunham finished seventh in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:08.86. Linda

Sanchez finished fifth in the 100-meter dash with a 13.31.

Miranda Garza advanced to the Regional Meet in both the 3200- and 1600-meter runs. She earned the bronze medal in the 3200 with a time of 13:47.68 and grabbed the silver medal in the 1600 with a 6:11.58.

The Lady Mules' 4x100-meter relay team of Jessica Kube, Melissa Casanova, Sanchez and Katlyn Gable finished fifth with a time of 56.07. Precure placed fourth in the 100-meter hurdles with a 17.74. Dominique Mata placed seventh with a 20.75.

The 4x200-meter relay team of Sanchez, Casanova, Gardea and Gable placed sixth with a 1:55.92. Precure placed sixth in the 300-meter hurdles with a 54.22. The 4x400-meter relay team of Gardea, Precure, Casanova and Gable finished fourth with a 4:31.05.

The Lady Mules will compete in a couple of warm-up meets before traveling to Odessa.

score of 360. They led the district by 26 strokes.

Idalou came on strong on the Friona course for the district championship and the Mules finished in second place.

Tyson Turnbow won the low individual gold medal for the district. He had scores of 73 and 70 for a total of 143 strokes on the two courses.

This is Turnbow's

Continued on page 7

Mules qualify for regionals

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

Five Mules qualified for the Region I Track Meet in five events at the District 2-2A Meet in Abernathy Friday afternoon.

The Mules finished fourth with 61 points. Idalou, Friona and Littlefield took the top three spots.

Dimmitt, Abernathy, Floydada and Tulia also competed.

Junior Baca won two individual gold medals and a bronze medal as a member of the 4x400-meter relay team.

J. Baca's first gold medal was in the 400-meter dash with a time of 52.16 seconds.

J. Baca's second gold came in the 800-meter run with a 2:02.39. He teamed up with Austin Ross, Saul Elizalde and Ray Martinez in the

4x400-meter relay for a bronze medal time of 3:33.49.

Steven Durban won the Mules' only medal in the field events. He reached a height of 13 feet even in the pole vault for the bronze medal.

Ross won the bronze medal in the 110-meter hurdles with a 15.90.

Ryan DeLeon was just out of the medals in the long jump with a fourth place leap of 19-08.75. Ross took sixth with a leap of 18-09.00 in the same event.

Eric Orozco and Caleb Wood finished seventh and eighth in the triple jump with distances of 39-04.75 and 37-11.00 respectively. Mark Quezada and Shaun Atwood placed sixth and eighth in the high jump with identical leaps of 5-06.

Clay Pena placed

eighth in the discus with a throw of 118-01. DeLeon placed eighth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.39.

The 4x100-meter relay team of Martinez, DeLeon, Isaac Baca and Alfredo Sanchez placed fifth with a 45.25.

Chris Cage placed seventh in the 3200-meter run with a 12:52.15. Chris Lozano placed fifth in the 800-meter run with a 2:17.05.

Elizalde finished fourth with a 44.24 in the 300-meter hurdles. Ross and Orozco finished sixth and seventh in the same event with times of 45.05 and 46.18 respectively.

J. Baca, Ross, Elizalde, Martinez and Durban will continue to work out and compete in a warm up meet prior to traveling to Odessa May 2-3 for the Region I Track Meet.



Photograph by Stacy Conner

Lady Mule Yvonne Gardea takes it over the bar at a recent meet.

Golf teams play two tourneys

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Muleshoe golf teams have played their two district tournaments on consecutive Mondays.

The Mules first round and was held in Dimmitt and the second was in Friona.

The Mules finished second after the two rounds. The Mules had a first day lead with a team

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Sports

Tyson takes gold medal in tennis

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

Tyson Turnbow won the gold medal in boys singles at the District Tennis Tournament.

He is the only Mule to advance to the Region I Tournament in Odessa April 20-21.

Turnbow drew a bye in the first round and then defeated Michael Summers 6-1, 6-0 in the quarter finals.

Turnbow faced and blanked Weston Wylly of Friona 6-0, 6-0 in the semi-finals.

Ricardo Chavez, a Dimmitt Bobcat, had

battled his way through three matches so the finals were held on Saturday.

Turnbow only lost one game to Chavez and won the Boy's Singles Championship 6-1, 6-0.

Nick Hurtado and Matthew Ambriz teamed up in the boys doubles and earned the bronze medal.

They drew a bye in the opening round and defeated the team of Huseman and Velasquez of Tulia 6-4, 6-3 in the quarter-finals.

The Mules had an easier time in the semi-final

round with the Floydada team of Covington and Martinez 6-1, 6-4.

Hurtado and Ambriz lost in finals 6-0, 6-0 to the team of Holt and Farris from Idalou.

They battled the Friona team of Monroe and Barnett in the playback and lost in three sets 6-2, 4-6 and 6-3.

The Lady Mule doubles team of Baylee Bessire and Carly Krug placed fourth in the District Tournament.

They won the tie breaker to defeat the team of Benavidez and Subealdea of Tulia in

the quarter-finals 6-1, 7-6 (11-9).

Bessire and Krug lost the semi-final round 6-0, 6-3 and then fell to the Friona team of Anthony and Preston 6-2, 6-0 in the battle for the bronze medal.

The Lady Mule team of Jenna Whitworth and Shayla Carpenter won their opening round game 6-3, 6-1 against the Littlefield team of Klobeber and Boyd.

J. Whitworth and Carpenter were eliminated in the quarterfinals by Idalou's Caswell and Hughes 6-2,

6-2. Bailey Bales was eliminated in the opening round of Girl's Singles by Alex Marquez 6-3, 6-1.

The Mule JV team of Junior Triana and Matthew Barron blew their way through the competition for the gold medal in JV boy's doubles.

They defeated Tulia's Montoya and Pando 6-1, 6-2 in the quarterfinals.

Dimmitt's team of Velasquez and Velasquez were no match for the Mules and went down to defeat 6-2, 6-1.

DeLeon and Yarbrough

of Tulia fell to the Mules 6-0, 6-0.

The JV Lady Mule team of Sarah Whitworth and Belinda Pacheco were eliminated in the quarterfinal round by Bilbrey and Thornton of Tulia 6-2, 6-2.

Britton Beall placed fourth in the JV Boy's Singles.

He defeated Braxton Upton of Friona 6-2, 6-4 and then fell in the semifinals to Brian Rodriguez 6-0, 6-0 from Idalou.

Beall lost the game for third place 8-1.

Lady Mules locked in second place for district

By Delton Wilhite
Sportswriter

The Lady Mule softball team is currently locked in a tie for second place in the district with a record of 5-2.

They lost to the Abernathy Lady Lopes 22-11 Saturday morning.

That loss created the tie for second as the Lady Mules had defeated Abernathy 13-8 in the second district game of the season.

Earlier in the week the Lady Mules had pounded the Floydada Lady Winds 11-1 in a game stopped on the 10-run rule in the bottom of the fifth inning.

Dom Mata gave up a walk to the first batter she faced against Floydada. Two more walks and a throwing error allowed the runner to come home for the Lady Winds only run of the day.

Mata struck out the second, seventh and eight batters to end the inning. Mata went on to fan five more Floydada players during the short game. She only faced 23 batters.

The Lady Mules did not score until the bottom of the second inning. Sabrina

Chavez hit a fly ball single to center field and advanced to second base with no throw from the catcher on the first pitch to Alondra Villareal.

Villareal walked after taking the count full. Daniella Mendoza singled down the right field line to score Chavez and tie the game at 1-1 after two innings.

Most of the damage by the Lady Mules came in the bottom of the third inning.

Val Olivas was hit by a pitch and Tori Alvarado tripled to the fence in left field to score Olivas. Linda Sanchez was hit by a pitch and advanced to second on the first pitch to Chavez.

Chavez bunted down the third base line and the pitcher fielded the ball. She threw to first for the out but Alvarado scored on the sacrifice bunt and Sanchez went to third. A wild pitch allowed Sanchez to come home.

Villareal walked, stole second and went to third on a throwing error by the catcher. She scored on a throwing error by the pitcher on a pick off play for the Lady Mules' fourth

run. The Lady Mules led 5-1 after three innings.

Tori Alvarado walked and was forced home when the Floydada issued free passes to the next three batters to force Alvarado home. The Lady Mules led 6-1 after four innings.

The Lady Mules needed five runs in the bottom of the fifth inning to end the game early. Samantha Ramirez walked to lead off inning. Heather Gutierrez fouled off three pitches before blasting a ground ball single past the short stop.

Val Olivas singled to left field to score Ramirez and Gutierrez. A throwing error by the right fielder allowed Olivas to go to third. Alvarado walked. Sanchez blasted a double to left field to score Olivas. Chavez picked up two RBIs on a single to left that scored Alvarado and Sanchez. The two runs gave the Lady Mules a 10-run lead to end the game.

The Lady Mules had scored 11 runs on six hits and left nine on base against the Lady Winds.

Softball is a mental game as well as physical. Saturday the Lady Mules

were missing a key gear in their machine when Abernathy came to town. The Lady Mules had to move players around and were almost as physically strong. But they were mentally out of balance and committed errors that were very out of character.

Two errors by the Lady Mules allowed Abernathy to score three runs on three hits in the top of the first inning. The Lady Mules went down in order in the top of the first. Abernathy led 3-0 after one inning.

Mata struck out the first batter she faced in the top of the second.

The second batter grounded out to Mendoza at second base and the final popped out to Rodriguez at shortstop.

Alvarado walked to lead off the bottom of the second inning. Marissa Cortez was hit by a pitch to put Lady Mules at first and second.

Chavez line drive double to right field scored Alvarado and Cortez scored on a throwing error. The Lady Mules had cut the Abernathy lead to 3-2 after two inning.

Abernathy scored seven runs in the fourth and seven in the sixth to take a 20-11 lead over the Lady Mules. Abernathy added two more runs in the top of the eventh for the final runs of the game.

The Lady Mules traveled to Littlefield to tangle with the league leading Lady Cats Tuesday.

They return home Saturday for their final home appearance against the Idalou Lady Cats.

The Lady Mules will end their regular season in Dimmitt against the cellar dwelling Bobbies Tuesday, April 19.

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Golf... Continued from page 6

fourth consecutive year to win the individual title.

Colten Harris earned the bronze medal as third low individual with rounds of 91 and 90 for a total of 180.

Jonathan Perez shot rounds of 94 and 110 for a 204.

Beau Avila was consistent with scores of 102 and 105 for a total of 207 strokes.

Mateo Castillo was also steady with rounds of 113 and 112 for 225 total strokes.

The Mules will

compete in the Region I Golf Tournament on Midland's Nueva Vista Golf Course April 18 and 19.

"We are looking forward to competing in the Regional Meet next Monday and Tuesday," said Mule golf coach Carey Sudduth.

"The boys have a great attitude and have been working hard on their game. I think Tyson (Turbow) has a good shot of making it to the Texas State Tournament. That meet will be held in Austin May 9 and 10."

There were two Lady Mules that competed in the district tournaments. Those were played in Tulia and Muleshoe. Stephani Lopez shot rounds of 136 and 141 for a total of 277 strokes. Bailey Bales had a two round total of 287 with rounds of 141 and 146.

"I was proud of the girls for coming out and competing," continued Sudduth.

"Conditions this time of year are tough but these girls hung in there and gave it their best," he said.

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The Sudan Buzz

VASE students medal in Houston competition

By Savannah Sain
Sudan Correspondent

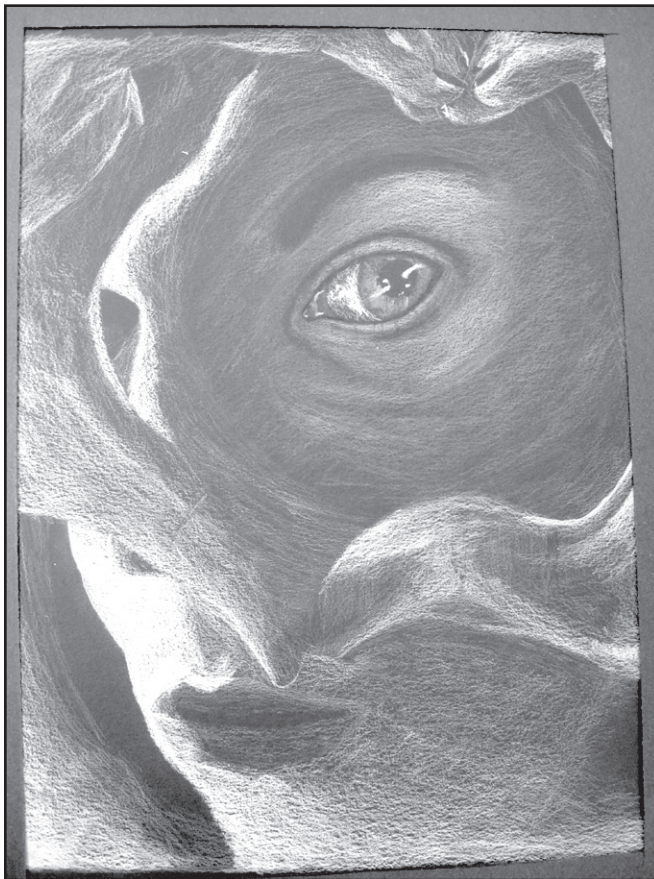
Seniors Emylee Gonzales, Brooke Lennon, and Mecca Dodd competed at the Art State VASE competition in Houston April 7-10.

Competitors from all over Texas and every classification competed for a chance to win a medal for their art pieces.

Gonzales medaled with a prisma color drawing and Lennon competed with her self-portrait painting.

Mecca Dodd, Emylee Gonzales, and Hailee Gonzales-Diaz have also qualified to State UIL as a team in the theatrical design competition in May.

Dodd will be presenting her Individual Marketing project while Gonzales-Diaz and Gonzales will present their Individual Costume Design Projects.



Game warden arrests murder suspect

A Texas Parks and Wildlife Department game warden has arrested a 71-year-old Colorado man wanted in that state for first degree murder in the shooting death of his wife of 45 years.

Game Warden Lance May was on his way to a meeting with a group of Bailey County land owners to discuss deer hunting issues about 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, when he saw a west-bound late model car swerving from lane to

lane on U.S. Hwy. 84 and Loop 430 about a mile east of Littlefield.

Suspecting an intoxicated driver, the warden briefly followed the car as it continued to operate erratically, stopping it at the intersection of Wayland Jennings and Badger Streets in Littlefield.

May routinely radioed in the plate number of the vehicle to obtain registration information and soon learned the driver was wanted on an assault warrant issued in

Mecklenburg County, N.C. and arrested him.

The man was identified as Richard Paul Stewart of Independence, Mo.

While talking with Stewart, who seemed to be confused and having difficulty remaining conscious, May became concerned for the man's health and called for an ambulance.

The man was taken to Lamb County Health Care Center in Littlefield. About midnight, he was transferred to the intensive care unit at

University Medical Center in Lubbock.

About the same time, May received notification that an arrest warrant for first degree murder and domestic violence had been issued for Stewart in connection with the fatal shooting of Norma Stewart, 71, about 7 a.m. Monday in Westminster, Colo.

Game Warden Maj. Rick Gully of Lubbock said Stewart remains under guard Wednesday at the Lubbock hospital.



Sudan High School's OAP team ends season

By Savannah Sain
Sudan Correspondent

The Sudan One Act Play ended their play season with the alternate spot at the Area One Act Play competition at Lubbock Christian University.

After receiving cheers and laughs from their performance, the Sudan One Act Play cast felt good about their chances.

However, there were two plays that the judge liked better, Aspermont and Plains.

The judge did award the Best Actor to Josh Barrett, a senior from Sudan High School, who has won six best actor awards since beginning his high school OAP career as a freshman.

Last year he received

an All Star Cast medal at the State Competition. Barrett plans to attend Texas Tech University and major in theater and communications.

James Markham, another senior, received an All Star Cast medal. Markham has served as the light director for Sudan plays since his seventh grade year.

After the fall production of the play where he played a character for a grade, the cast and directors urged Markham to try out for the role. He has received praise and honors for his acting.

Senior Mariah Steinbock and Junior Janelle Vanderlei received honorable mention awards.

Steinbock and

Vanderlei were a part of the award-winning One Act Plays for the past two seasons.

Steinbock received Best Actress Awards and All Star Cast Awards the last two years. Vanderlei has been named to the All Star Casts this season.

Other senior members include Bradley Lennon,

Brooke Lennon, Savannah Sain, Zachary Lance, and Lindsey Davison.

These seniors have been a part of the One Act Play company for four years.

They have competed at the State, Regional, and Area levels throughout their high school careers.

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Spring art show winners announced

This year's Muleshoe Art Association Spring Show was judged by Lawanda Calton of Portales, N.M. Calton is a working artist, and has many years in Sante Fe, Cloudcroft, and in her own studio in Portales. Misti Wilbur of Muleshoe captured "best in Show" honors and the purchase award for her acrylic painting. Winners in other categories included:

Oil — First place, Marie Tidwell; second, Pauline Clark; third, Reagan Cox. Watercolor — First, Jackie Hinderliter; second, Ginnie Seifert; third, Ann Johnson. Pastel — First, Barry Jones; second, Martha Hunnicutt; third, Sandra Chancey. Miscellaneous — First, Randy Bohler; second, Glenda Jane Cox; third, Annette Scheller.



Pictured above, from left to right, are: Misti Wilbur, Ann Johnson, Annette Scheller, Martha Hunnicutt and Sandra Chancey



"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine." Proverbs 3:9-10, NIV

Focus on faith

Continued from page 9
You see, the guy was stammering along, but he couldn't just talk. He couldn't just try to make his case. He felt that he had to quote scripture, and lots of it, and quoting scripture is what he did for paragraphs on end with barely a breath between them.

I didn't blame him for being nervous as a cat. He had a poor case to make. Neither the court's decision nor logic was on his side.

No matter how much good his church had probably done over the years, they'd made one very ill-advised decision, landed in court, and roll the tape! To the news media, the good the church had done was not news. It was "Dog Bites Man" stuff. But the present teapot tempest was "Man Bites Dog" headline fodder, and they were eating it up.

The poor guy in the lights looked like he was being eaten alive. And he just kept on quoting scripture to try to prove his case to people who wouldn't have known a passage from Second

Timothy from a paragraph from a weed-eater manual. He might just as well have been quoting scripture from the original language. He was not communicating at all.

It was hard to watch. He lost his case, and probably deserved to, even though he may well have been a fine and godly man. I love and revere Scripture, but I surely would like to have heard at least a Christ-honoring attempt at a capable defense in plain English.

Speaking to the crowd

gathered centuries ago on Mars Hill in Athens, the Apostle Paul was more than able to quote most of the Hebrew Bible; instead, he began his "sermon" to the crowd by saying, "One of your own poets has said..." It was a good move, and folks listened.

Of course, the great apostle had the best of "cases" to make, and knowing the Lord of Scripture intimately, he knew both its deepest Truth and when the time was right, or not, to quote its words.

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Higginbotham Brothers marks 130th anniversary

This year marks the 130th Anniversary of one of the oldest lumberyards in Texas, a remarkable feat considering its humble beginnings.

The history of Higginbotham Brothers began in late 1880 when JM Higginbotham along with his family moved from Water Valley, Mississippi to the Dublin, TX to make their home. According to recorded documents, the trees were just being cleared for the town-site and the Central Texas Railroad had just made its advent in the area, when two brothers decided to open a General Mercantile in DeLeon, TX. So began the first link in the Higginbotham Brothers chain.

By the early 1900's the brothers, along with other relatives opened 8 other General Stores in towns such as Ballinger, Comanche, Rising Star, and Stephenville.

In October 1999 Rufus H Duncan, Jr., a great grandson of one of the founders, purchased the existing Higginbotham Brothers stores, adding this to the Big Tin Barn locations of East Texas that he already owned. In 2001, the Higginbotham-Bartlett's of West Texas were added to the Higginbotham family.

The Muleshoe store began in 1934, according to Higginbothams-Bartlett's records when a portion of the property at 215 Main was purchased from E. R. Hart Co. Later in 1960, the full purchase of the property was made and the store expanded. In May of 2006, the store moved

to its present location at 1516 W. American Blvd.

Store manager, Eddie Morris, has been with the company since 1970. He has also served as district manager.

"There were five lumberyards in Muleshoe when I started," recalled Morris. "I have seen several changes over the years."

Higginbotham Brothers today operates 35 locations within Texas. Through the years, many components of the business have changed. We've replaced dry goods with a notable hardware department. In addition to the core of Lumber and Building Materials, we've added lines and departments such as RadioShack, Bass Pro Shop, Husqvarna, and Stihl to fit our communities growing needs.

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Noon Gathering - Mon., April 18th at First Baptist Church with message by Rev. Sergio Leal

Noon Gathering - Tues., April 19th at First United Methodist Church with message by Rev. Dr. Stacy Conner

Noon Gathering - Wednes., April 20th at First Baptist Church with 16th & D Church of Christ providing meal and message by Rev. Larry Thornton

Holy Thursday Service, April 21, 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church

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