

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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POLITICS

Recounts verify county results

By Randy Keck
The Community News

Two hand recounts last week affirmed totals reported by the Parker County Elections Office in two different races from the March 24 Republican Party primary runoff election.

In the race for Parker County Commissioner Pct. 4, Mike Hale came out the winner over Eric Contreras by just a handful of votes in both county machine tallies and hand recount.

Likewise, in the race for State Rep. Dist. 60, the recount affirmed Mike Olcott's margin over Glenn Rogers in the county, but Rogers still led the overall district race.

A recount in Stephens County upheld Rogers' win there, but there is still one recount left in Palo Pinto County, where Rogers' margin over Olcott was the largest.

Parker County Republican Chair Scott Utley said the Dist. 60 recount was done under the auspices of the Republican Party of Texas, with the county party and local officials providing personnel and logistics.

Utley expressed appreciation to the state party and all the people who helped in the recounts.

Rogers was complimentary to Utley, Parker County Elections Administrator Cricket Miller, and the volunteers who took part in the recount.

"The Republican Party of Texas and Parker County Elections Administration has officially certified the recount results of the May 24 Primary Runoff to be a 100% match to the results that were reported on election night," Rogers said. "For the second time, the recount process has validated the election night results, and showcased that Texas' elections are fair, free, and secure."

DANCE CAMP



Zibby Washington (left) and Merritt Montague joined hands with instructors and learned about movement at the Aledo Dance Camp on Monday, June 13. More camp photos can be found on page 9.



PARKER COUNTY Peach Festival ticket sales underway

The 37th annual Parker County Peach Festival is shaping up with a bounty of Parker County peaches and numerous vendors.

This year's event area has expanded by 25 percent and will feature more than 200 arts and crafts, food, and activity vendors.

Visitors can get their fill of homemade peach ice cream, peach cobbler, peach pie, peach tea, peach smoothies, ice cream topped with fresh peaches or just plain peaches.

Two entertainment stages will also be featured with local talent, and local stores and shops in the area have specials throughout the day.

Free air-conditioned shuttles will be available to and from the festival at the Weatherford Ninth Grade Center, Weatherford College, or Heritage Park.

The cost to attend is \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 5-12, or free for those younger than five.

To purchase tickets, or for more information, visit www.peachfestivaltx.com.

Galloway honors Eierdam at Hall of Fame induction

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

After two long years, the Texas Sports Hall of Fame-Media class of 2020 was finally honored at a special ceremony in Waco. The inductees included legendary names Bill Mercer, Eric Nadel, Brad Sham, and Aledo resident Randy Galloway.

"It was a great honor for me," Galloway said. "Definitely the greatest professional honor that you can receive. I spent 50 years as a sportswriter, only in Texas, 33 at the Dallas Morning News, 16 years at the Star-Telegram."

The night went as planned, with the inductees receiving their rings and giving their speeches. Nothing particularly out of the ordinary happened, but Galloway did something that meant a lot to himself and the Aledo community.

"My role in my short speech was just to say thank you to everybody," Galloway recalled. "That's what I tried to convey, thankfulness and appreciation for including me. But

one thing I wanted to do was what I did at the end of my speech. I held up the ring that they give you, and I said 'This is dedicated to my mother, who was a newspaper woman for 60 years, and to Tony.'"

Tony Eierdam spent many years at The Community News covering almost anything to do with Aledo, particularly sports. He and Galloway became friends, and after his death Galloway still reveres Tony.

"All my life I was in this business," Galloway said, "I've known a thousand or more sportswriters across the United States and across Canada. But I've never met a sportswriter who loved his job more than Tony."

In one particular memory, Galloway summed up the man Tony was and what he meant to the community.

"My oldest granddaughter was playing on the golf team," Galloway remembered. "They went to state four straight years. The state

Turn to HOF, page 5



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

A full contingent of family and friends from Aledo accompanied Randy Galloway (back center) to his induction in the Texas Sports Hall of Fame on May 21 in Waco.

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In & Around Parker County

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Atex Trash Service is a locally owned, family owned business that prides itself on excellent service for an affordable price. After 11 years in business, Atex Trash Service is building an outstanding reputation as a company that is truly here to build something simply by helping others, and it is that hometown business model philosophy that has quickly made them one of the fastest growing businesses in the community.

"We work hard to take good care of our customers and we are committed to building our business with sound principles and ethics in mind," said Tim Green, one of the owners. "We strive to be a helpful and positive influence in the community, to be fair and honest in our business practices and to always make our decisions based on what is in the best interest of our customers, our employees and the community while maintaining a healthy company."

Many of us are cutting back, and being careful about what we spend in this economy. We want to save money on household necessities, but when it comes to services around our home, we don't want to sacrifice our peace of mind to save a few dollars. We want our service providers to be honest and dependable, worthy of our trust.

Billy Green is that kind of man, and he raised his son, Tim, to treat others with respect. He encouraged and developed Tim's heart of service. Watching his father, Tim had an example of great moral character and strong work ethic. Together they are a glowing example of honesty, reliability and self-sacrifice. When you have the opportunity to visit with them, you instantly feel at ease. Their positive attitudes are contagious, and you will leave with a smile.

Together, Billy and Tim started Atex Trash Service as a way for them to serve their community - their neighbors. Being able to make a living serving others is a dream come true for Tim. Atex Trash Service has been helping area residents save money on their residential trash pick-up since July 2010. Tim and Billy Green are the dynamic duo of father and son teams, proving that you can provide Superior Quality Service at the Lowest Price.

Atex provides weekly trash pick-up for a flat rate of \$35 a month for their standard service. "We realize however, not every family's needs are the same," said Tim, "We are able to customize plans for smaller and for larger families." They serve Parker, Tarrant, and Wise County areas

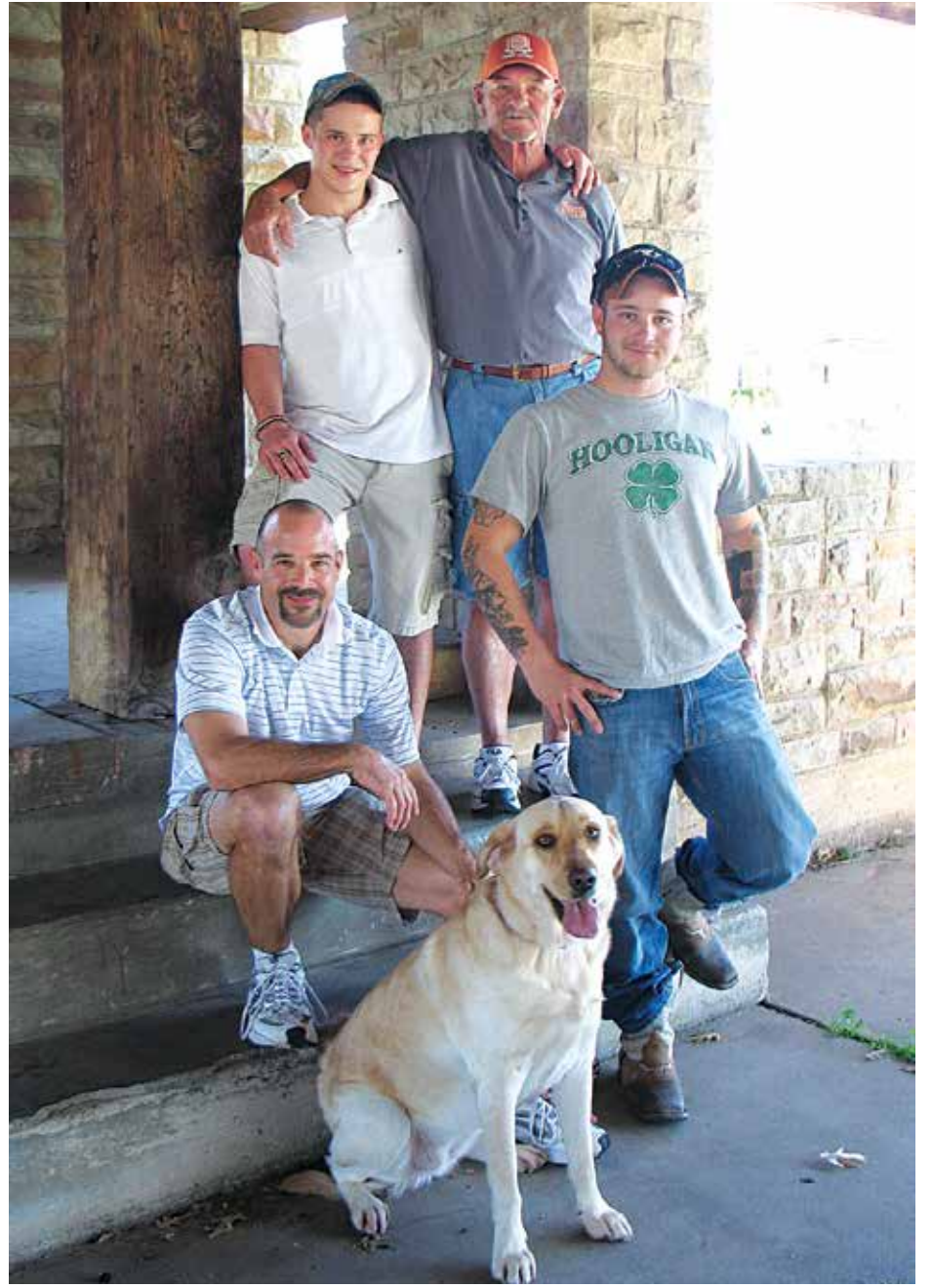
outside of Azle, Springtown, Weatherford, Poolville and Aledo, and the area continues to grow! Just call and see if they can help you. Since they are a local, family-owned company, you know who will answer the phone when you call. Tim and Billy are available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and later if you need them. Just call 817-344-8464.

You can also contact Atex through their website 24 hours a day at www.atextrash.com. It's an easy-to-navigate website where you can contact Tim, sign up for new service, and even securely pay your bill online. You can also see what others have to say on their Testimonial Page or look them up on Facebook.

Operating this business means the whole family can work together! Tim's sons Laken and Gaige have grown up, and they're now the third generation with Atex helping to take care of the community.

"I'm happiest when I am doing for others," said Tim, "and to be able to build something positive with my family, well, I simply couldn't ask for anything more."

Give Atex a call and see how they can help you. You'll be glad you did!



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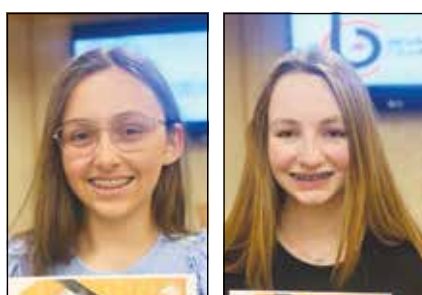
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Bearcats of Character named for May

As a part of the Aledo ISD's new character education program - the Positivity Project or P2 - the district has launched Aledo Bearcats of Character that recognizes the good character on display by students across the district. In May, Aledo ISD Trustees recognized Bearcats of Character with Fairness! P2 says that someone displaying fairness believes that all people have value. These students approach situations with an unbiased mindset and treat everyone with respect!



Ella Ward **Natalie Hutson**

Ella is a positive role model and does what is needed to ensure that everyone is treated with the respect that they deserve.

Aledo Middle School: Natalie Hutson, 8th grade
Natalie is an excellent student. She has shown leadership in academics and extracurricular activities. She has high expectations for herself and models good character for all students at AMS. Her nominating teacher stated that she is empathetic, trustworthy, and treats all students equally with fairness and compassion. She is truly a difference maker at AMS and we look forward to seeing the amazing things she accomplishes in the years to come!



Noah Medley **Kira Smith**

Aledo High School: Noah Medley, 10th grade
This is Noah's first year in Aledo schools. Noah has shown tremendous tenacity and strength throughout the year. He has developed strong relationships not only with other students but also with many faculty members. Noah came on his own to our Parenting University session back in March and spoke to other students and families about the challenges that teens face and his motivation to be a change agent for other students and his future children. Noah is an incredible asset to Aledo High School and the Aledo community.

Aledo Learning Center: Kira Smith, 10th grade
Kira is always fair with her fellow students. She finds value in all of the work she puts forth in class and treats every person in the building with the same amount of respect.

Daniel Ninth Grade: Ella Ward, 9th grade
Ella does a great job with standing up for those that may be getting treated unfairly in her class, whether that be the group project work load or just overhearing a conversation.

showing that he respects what everyone has to say. Landry treats everyone equally and shows respect to all students and staff.

Annetta Elementary School: Avery Doss, 3rd grade
Avery's classroom teacher said, "Avery does her best every day to exemplify fairness. She treats her classmates kindly and goes out of her way to help others, no matter the circumstance."

Coder Elementary School:



Charlotte Kent **Talin Kendrick**

Charlotte Kent, 2nd grade
From her teacher: "Charlotte is an absolute joy to have in class. She is the perfect example of a student who is genuine and fair. Charlotte believes in always doing the right thing and is always putting the feelings of others before her own. She is thoughtful, caring, and inclusive of others. Charlotte brings such a positive attitude to the classroom and is very deserving of this award. It is an honor to know and love her."

McCall Elementary School: Talin Kendrick, 5th grade
Talin has a true heart for the underdog. When we have competitions in class, he always advocates for others, wanting everyone to feel successful. And if he feels an injustice has been served, he speaks up respectfully for that child. McCall Elementary is honored to have Talin represent them for Fairness as a Bearcat of Character!

Stuard Elementary School: Luke Tarrant, 5th grade
Luke's peers say: "Luke always lets people join his group. He is kind to everyone around him. He will say something if somebody is being treated unfairly. He tries to figure out arguments and solve the problem so everyone is happy."



Luke Tarrant **Maylin Renshaw**

Mrs. Crimmings, Luke's homeroom teacher said: "Luke has a charisma about him. He makes people feel like they are his best friend...that's why he has so many! He is a problem solver but he wants people's opinions to be heard and valued. I have never heard him question fairness-he takes what he is given and makes the best of it. He is going to do big things!"

Vandagriff Elementary School: Maylin Renshaw, 2nd grade
Maylin always treats everyone with equal respect. She is careful to take turns and share with others. Her heart is good and kind. She cares deeply for her peers and wishes the best for everyone around her. She is inclusive and fair with all students who surround her.



Ansley Killian

Walsh Elementary School: Ansley Killian, Kindergarten
Ansley embodies fairness in all that she does. She treats everyone with respect and kindness. Ansley is often able to help her peers through situations in that she is able identify how it might feel to be in someone else's shoes. She has unbiased opinions and truly wants to see the good in all.

"Courage. Kindness. Friendship. Character. These are the qualities that define us as human beings, and propel us, on occasion, to greatness."

— R.J. Palacio, Wonder

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE Newest bachelor's degree to promote health science management skills

By Crystal Woerly
Weatherford College

Weatherford College's third bachelor's degree program begins this fall and is ideal for those in the health science fields to advance their careers.

The Bachelor of Applied Technology in Medical and Health Services Management degree builds on the success of WC's health and human science programs, said Mike Endy, vice president of instruction and student services.

"WC health science graduates have been highly sought after," he said. "While our graduates frequently excel in their respective fields, the lack of a four-year degree has meant that some have been denied advancement opportunities. Those successful professionals can further their careers while staying close to home through the BAT MHSM."

Dr. Stephen Duarte will serve as program director. He comes to WC from California State University-Northridge, where he was responsible for a similar program.

Courses in the BAT MHSM will be offered in a hybrid online/in-person format to optimize time in the classroom while taking advantage of the workplace experience of the student.

"While a good deal of the coursework is online, hybrid

Turn to DEGREE, page 5

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Wrestling for a legacy

Cole Bohnen planted program in Aledo before graduating

By Nolan Ruth
The Community News

Though it is over, it is not too late to reflect on the events of the 2021-22 school year. Of the many notable things that took place, one stands out as being the culmination of dedication, determination, and a lot of planning.

It is almost hard to believe it was all accomplished by just one person.

Recent Aledo High School graduate Cole Bohnen grew up in a wrestling family. His grandfather wrestled, his father Shane wrestled, and his older brother Connor wrestled. So when Cole was a freshman at Aledo, the announcement of Aledo starting a wrestling program excited him.

"When we moved to Texas it wasn't as common," Bohnen said in an interview. "When we moved to Aledo I had been doing football and soccer, but I had realized that those weren't my thing. So, I preoccupied my time with jiu-jitsu, which was basically as close as you can get."

A flier on the wall got his attention one day and he thought he had his chance.

"I thought I was going to get a solid three years of wrestling," Bohnen recalled. "I thought it was going to be awesome, I could train, I could go to state, you know I was just super excited."

Unfortunately, for Bohnen, the plan fell through and it seemed the wrestling program would not happen.

"We have to be really careful about how we spend our money," Athletic Director Steve Wood said. "We have to be sure that we can



RANDY CUTSHALL

Cole Bohnen grapples with an opponent at the Aledo Wrestling Meet.

support it and do all the research that goes into it, so it's not easy just to add something that you haven't had. You don't just go out there and say 'We'll do that,' because there's a lot of factors that are involved in it."

Though things seemed bleak, Bohnen was not about to let his high school dream slip away so easily. He went to the principal at the time, Dan Peterson. However, Peterson was about to retire, meaning Bohnen would have to wait until the next year when Angi Tims took over.

Tims arranged for Bohnen to speak in front of the school board and plead his case to try and get wrestling started at Aledo. The

board heard him out and added the creation of a wrestling program to the budget.

"As soon as he went in front of the board he had such a compelling story and case," Wood recalled. "He's a really highly motivated young man, really good student, and just a leader. Once he did that and we met with the superintendent, and she met with the school board and it was a no-brainer. We were moving forward. Then you go into, ok, we need to do some research and I need to find all these costs and get the budget presented about how much we were going to spend."

The board approved the budget the same night Bohnen gave his

presentation. However, it was only one step completed. His next step was to build support.

"I probably annoyed some people," Bohnen said. "It was the only thing I talked about in the spring of 2021. I was trying to get as many people as possible to at least verbally agree to give wrestling a try. Or just to get them excited and get more people talking about it."

Bohnen's tactics worked, but there was still a problem. There was not a coach. Bohnen met with Wood and figured out the logistics as well as what they needed to find in terms of a coach.

"Above wrestling knowledge," Wood spoke about his coaching

expectations. "We want to hire somebody that's going to come in here and care for our kids and make our kids feel worthy, whether they are the star or a backup. The rest of it will take care of itself."

Wood hired Austin Stockon, a former Aledo football player who had been the assistant wrestling coach at Weatherford at the time. Not long after Stockon got the job, Texas Elite Wrestling Club put on a camp at the Aledo Community Center while their facility halfway between Aledo and Azle was being built.

"I had heard his name from Coach [Wood] whenever he was starting the program," Stockon recalled meeting Bohnen. "I actually went and watched the video of the school board meeting just to see him for myself."

Stockon and Bohnen skipped the formalities and got right down to business.

"He walked up to me and introduced himself," Bohnen remembered. "Then immediately he was talking to me about his vision for the program, what he wanted to do for practice this year, he started talking to me about moves and what was going on in the wrestling world at the time."

Stockon was impressed with Bohnen from the start.

"I knew from there that he was super well-driven," Stockon exclaimed. "He had already stood out. Just in how he carried himself, work ethic, all of it."

The two got to work, and in December, with a full squad of wrestlers, the Aledo wrestling team took to the mats at Colleyville Heritage for what Stockon considers the turning point of the season.

Turn to **BOHNEN**, page 5

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HOF

from page one

tournament was held at the University of Texas Golf Club, out by Lake Travis. Just an outstanding club, and it was so hot. It was a two-day tournament and just blistering hot both days.”

“Here’s Tony,” Galloway continued. “He could have sat up in the clubhouse drinking coke and eating cheeseburgers waiting for the scores to come in. That’s how they cover major golf tournaments. But here’s Tony out on the course. And each year it was the same way. I went by him once and asked ‘Tony are you ok?’ and he said ‘Yeah, I’m fine.’ But he’s huffing and puffing going up these hills. He just wouldn’t back off. He wanted to be there in the middle of



Tony Eierdam

the action, and this is girls golf. But he loved those girls and he followed each and every one of them.”

Tony did not get to see Galloway’s induction, nor did Galloway get to celebrate Tony’s life the way he wanted. However, the last two words of Galloway’s Hall of Fame speech ensures that Tony’s memory is forever enshrined.

“We never got to say a proper goodbye,” Galloway shared. “As sad as it was, we couldn’t have the community come together for everything he had done for Aledo schools and Aledo athletics. That never happened. You couldn’t help it, but it was almost an injustice. So I just wanted to get a mention in my speech of Tony.”

DEGREE

from page three

courses offer students opportunities for real-time exchanges that would otherwise be impossible for those participating at a distance,” Endy said.

Graduates of the program will be prepared for a variety of health science managerial positions including medical practice manager, practice administrator, and patient coordinator.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the medical and health services management field to grow 32 percent between 2019-2029, and a recent review found 169 current openings across the state of Texas appropriate to those with a BAT MHSM.

Students in Weatherford College’s new bachelor’s program will not only advance their education and career possibilities, but they will do so at a community college price. Graduates will also be eligible to apply for acceptance in master’s degree programs in health care administration.

“Our new baccalaureate degree in medical and health services management will allow students from all walks



of allied health professions to assume leadership positions in their field,” said WC President Tod Allen Farmer. “This comes at a time when Baby Boomers are requiring more medical attention than ever before, and our hospitals, clinics and health care providers are clamoring

for skilled labor. This degree will better serve our students, our employers and our community members.”

Learn more about the program including application requirements at wc.edu/programs/all-programs/bat_mhsm/index.php.

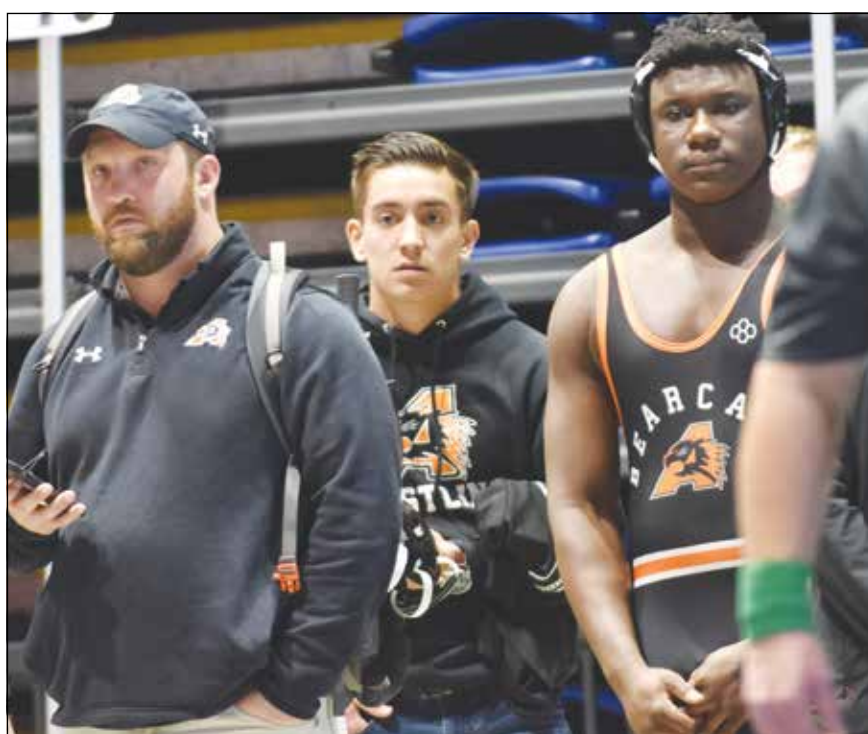
BOHNEN

from page four

“That was a tough tournament,” Stockon recalled. “Conditions were awful because the air-conditioning had failed. Cole ended up losing his third match there and I just told him that it wasn’t over and we had to battle back. He was able to battle back and place third in the tournament. Then, with the girls, Texas [Ray] placed third. That was the vindication that we were building something good.”

Bohnen and Wood both remember senior night as the vindication for what had been started, and what was yet to come.

“The biggest time that it hit me,” Bohnen reminisced. “The final time that I realized this was something that I had built and I helped create was at Senior Night. I was in the zone, I was intent on doing



NOLAN RUTH/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Cole Bohnen, center, is shown with Aledo High School wrestling coach Austin Stockon, left, and AHS wrestler Ansel Din-Mbuh at the state wrestling tournament.

something cool to end the season. And we all just showed out.”

“It was very moving for me,” Wood recalled the same bout. “It was very exciting. Most of our coaches were there. Our kids in the stands were excited. It was a neat experience. I would advise anybody to come up here and watch our meet if we host one next year, because I think they’ll get their money’s worth.”

Bohnen wrestled all the way to the regional tournament in El Paso before his season came to an end. However, with Ansel Din-Mbuh’s qualification to the state tournament in Cypress, Bohnen got to see his hard work and dedication pay off.

“I told him from the start,” Stockon recalled. “I told him if we send someone to state that he’s coming with us. Much like Bryon Wheeler, who helped Ansel train the entire way, Cole’s deal was to help the team in any way. He wanted to

see something positive for the team and he deserved to be there.”

Bohnen will attend Notre Dame to study management consulting. Though he won’t be wrestling anymore, his name will forever be synonymous with Aledo wrestling - a program that exists because of him.

“He is amazing,” Bohnen’s mother Robin said. “Obviously I am biased because he is my child, but honestly the drive that he has and just to see it since he’s been at Aledo, it has been amazing. This is not it for Cole. This is Cole’s beginning.”

“I couldn’t be any more happy with where our wrestling program was the first year,” Wood said. “We’ve got a bunch of people that really love wrestling in this community. There’s a new facility built up on the border of Azle and Aledo. We have a bunch of young kids that are here. Our best is yet to come, I will say that. It will be top level. It will be as good as anybody’s. I predict that.”

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Commentary

June 17, 2022
THE COMMUNITY NEWS
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Capital Highlights

Anti-gun violence protests and more school safety measures



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

Anti-gun violence protests were held in multiple cities across the state over the weekend, while the state has imposed additional measures designed to strengthen school security.

Texas State University's Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERT) program will be provided to all Texas school districts. The course is "designed to improve integration between law enforcement, fire, tele-communicator and emergency medical services in active attack/shooter events," according to its website.

Gov. Greg Abbott also requested ALERT to provide an after-the-fact debrief of the school shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde once the ongoing investigation is complete.

"We sadly recognize we cannot do anything to bring back the precious lives that were taken; however, we must do everything in our power to prevent the same tragic ending from happening again," reads the governor's letter.

In addition, the Texas Education Agency has been directed to create the position of Chief of School Safety and Security. The chief will be a "recognized expert on school security and public safety issues, an effective coordinator of multidisciplinary teams, a resource to school districts and the legislature, and effective at implementing programs," according to a TEA news release.

Police chief explains delay in confronting shooter

The Uvalde schools police chief explained the delay in confronting the gunman who killed 19 children and two teachers by saying he couldn't obtain a key to locked classroom door.

"The only thing that was important to me at this time was to save as many teachers and children as possible," Pete Arredondo said in a Texas Tribune report. He said he tried dozens of keys that failed to work.

"Each time I tried a key I was just praying," Arredondo said. It took 77 minutes after the May 24 massacre began for officers to unlock the door and kill the gunman. Besides the Department of Public Safety, Arredondo is the only other law enforcement official to give a public account of the police response to the shooting.

In addition to the state probe, the U.S. Department of Justice has launched a review of the police response.

First monkeypox case in Texas confirmed

A single case of monkeypox virus infection was confirmed in a Dallas County resident who had recently traveled internationally, the Texas Department of State Health Services has announced.

"Monkeypox is transmitted to humans through close contact with an infected person or animal. It can also be transmitted from person to person by inhaling large respiratory

droplets or through close contact with body fluids and lesions, as well as bedding and other contaminated materials. Those infected may experience fever, rash and swollen lymph nodes, as well as more serious complications," the DSHS release said.

The patient is in quarantine at home. DSHS said the virus does not currently present risks to the general public, though it is reaching out to passengers who might have been exposed to the patient on a flight from Mexico to Dallas.

A drier and warmer May for much of state

May brought some rain but not as much as hoped, according to Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist for the Texas Water Development Board.

"This May's modest rainfall and high temperatures combined to provide only small improvements in drought conditions across our state," Wentzel wrote. "Every little bit counts, but that little bit of recovery is disappointing considering that May has historically been the wettest month of the year for Texas."

Drought conditions covered 78% of the state by the end of May.

Electricity demands breaking records

As temperatures soared across the state during the first days of June, demand for electricity set daily and monthly records, according to numbers released last Friday by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas and reported in the San Antonio Express-News.

Triple-digit temperatures were reported across the state over the weekend — several days before the official first day of summer.

ERCOT asked power generators to defer maintenance over the weekend to ensure adequate generating power.

"ERCOT will continue to deploy all available tools to manage the grid reliably and coordinate closely with the Public Utility Commission, generation resource owners and transmission utilities to ensure they are also prepared for the warm weather across the state," Christy Penders with ERCOT said.

Agency releases latest COVID-19 workers' comp claim tally

The number of workers compensation claims related to COVID-19 claims reached 83,000 in May, with 448 fatalities reported to the Division of Workers' Compensation. Just more than half of these claims and fatalities involved first responders and correctional officers.

Most of the claims paid were to compensate people for lost wages.

COVID-19 cases unchanged in last week

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported in Texas during the past week stayed essentially unchanged, with 47,582 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. A total of 77 deaths were recorded. DSHS reported 1,488 lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations, up 27% from the previous week.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park.



Your Views

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Thank You So Much!

Friday, June 3, was not a typical morning. About to close the garage door, I noticed a movement, a snake slithering on the concrete. I startled it while taking its photo, and it bolted amidst boxes. After reviewing the photo, I couldn't tell if the 3-to-4-foot snake was venomous.

So, whom did I call? Years ago, the Willow Park Fire Department assisted in removing a snake from the garage. But this time after I got their voicemail, I called the Parker County Sheriff's Office non-urgent number. I explained the situation with the snake—not knowing whether it was venomous and could they please send someone to remove it; the dispatcher got the wheels in motion. It was Willow Park Police Department (Corporal Wolfe) who appeared on my driveway with Animal Services (Officer Rich) a few minutes later.

Because he could not easily identify the snake in the photo, Officer Rich made sure that Corporal Wolfe and I stood a distance away while he shined his flashlight and carefully removed and inspected the items from the area where it had disappeared. When he located the snake in a tight crevice, Officer Rich was persistent as the snake was

difficult to capture once it was on the move.

After concerted efforts, Officer Rich captured the snake and safely placed it into a bag using snake catcher tongs, while Corporal Wolfe continued to shine the flashlight. Although Officer Rich was unable to identify the snake at the time, he felt the snake was not venomous.

The teamwork of precautionary and cautionary effort(s) in the removal of the snake was enlightening to watch. Afterwards, Corporal Wolfe and Officer Rich even offered to help place back the items that had been removed. I am truly and deeply grateful to the Parker County Dispatcher, Corporal Wolfe, and Officer Rich. Thank you so much for your kindness and care, for all of your help, and for all you do to help maintain a safe environment!

- Frances Horch
Willow Park

Turn to LETTERS, page 7

Thistles & Roses

Ways to stretch your food budget



Richard Henderson
richard@rahenderson.com

This column continues the discussion of the current food crises in some households. It may also help those who are not as stressed financially as others.

Recent news reports feature interviews with individuals who say that with rent,

gasoline, and other expenses going up, many are going without food or drastically reducing their food budgets.

I think the way to find a new approach to food and food budgeting begins with mindfulness and purposefulness. That means we have to think about food and its costs and make sure we approach food with a purpose, which is feeding ourselves and our families.

The Center of Hope in Weatherford and the Tarrant Area Food Bank offer classes on budgeting and how to prepare foods more economically.

Some of these are available online.

The first thing to do is to develop a meal plan for a period of time — a week is a good place to start.

Make a list before going to the store and stick to it. Some suggest not to go to the store if you are hungry as that may cause you to buy more. Buy store brands and look for sales. Some folks get really educated and save a lot of money with coupons. Buy cheaper, maybe tougher cuts of meat. Investment in an electric pressure cooker will

Turn to ROSES, page 7

The Community News

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www.community-news.com

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- Texas Press Association
- North and East Texas Press Association
- West Texas Press Association
- East Parker County Chamber of Commerce
- Weatherford Chamber of Commerce

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SUBMIT STORIES, PHOTOS OR IDEAS
We're always on the lookout for story ideas. To share one, call Randy Keck at 817-441-7661, ext. 207 or email news@community-news.com. Please provide the basic story information as well as contact information in case we have questions.

We welcome letters, articles and guest opinions from our readers. Opinions expressed in this newspaper will be labeled as opinions, editorials or letters, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the ownership. Letters should be signed, and limited to approximately 300 words. All submissions to the newspaper

should include a telephone number in case we have questions. Letters are due by Monday at noon for that week's paper. Community announcements, achievements and obituaries are due by noon Friday for the following week's paper. Send submissions to news@community-news.com.

Photos submitted should include names of the people in the photograph. For ease in submitting photographs electronically, visit our contact form at community-news.com/contacts.

The Community News does not charge for timely wedding, engagement and birth announcements provided they are of reasonable length. Lengthy announcements will either be edited to a reasonable length or, at the discretion of the person submitting the announcement, be charged a fee. The deadline for submitting announcements is noon Friday for the following week's paper.

Events

June 17, 2022
THE COMMUNITY NEWS
www.community-news.com

More events can be found at www.community-news.com/events

JUNE 21

Safe Sitter Course

Texas AgriLife Extension will conduct a Safe Sitter course from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21 at the Parker County Extension Office, 604 North Main Street in Weatherford. The cost of the program is \$50 that will cover materials and lunch. Any youth who would like to take the class can sign up by calling the Parker County Extension office at 817-598-6168.

JUNE 23

Hiring Fair

The East Parker County Chamber of Commerce will host a hiring fair from 3-6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, on the third floor of the Weatherford College Emerging Technologies Building, 225 College Park Dr. in Weatherford. There is no cost for members of the East Parker County Chamber of Commerce. Each registrant will receive one rectangular table and two chairs. To register, visit <https://east-parkerchamber.com/eventregistration/register/17773>. For more information, call 817-441-7844.

Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

Upper Trinity GCD's Public Hearing and Regular Board meeting are set for 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 23, at the District office at 1859 West Highway 199 in Springtown or via Zoom videoconference. In addition to their regular board meeting there will be:
• Public Hearing regarding multiple applications for

Operating Permit for two public water supply systems and one commercial water system in Parker County.
• Public Hearing regarding multiple Historic Use Permit Applications in Hood, Montague, Parker, and Wise Counties. For more information about UTGCD, including meeting dates and well registration forms, visit their website at www.uppertrinitygcd.com or call the District's office in Springtown, 817-523-5200.

JUNE 28

Let's Cook - for kids

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension will host a cooking class for kids 5 - 8 from 9:30 a.m. to noon on June 28 and 29. The classes are targeting young children and will focus on My Plate, safety in the kitchen, easy healthy foods to prepare and fitness activities. The cost for the two-day class is \$30 per person. Sign up by calling Parker County Extension Office at 817-598-6168.

JULY 5

Art Camp

The Weatherford Art Association will host Art Camp from 10 a.m. to noon for four weeks in July. The first week will run from Tuesday, July 5 to Friday, July 8. The remaining weeks will run from Monday-Thursdays at Central Christian Church Cupped Hall, 1602 S. Main Street in Weatherford. Campers will be divided into two age groups: grades K-2 (ages 5-7) and grades 3-5 (ages 8-10). The cost for the camp is \$60 per student per week (t-shirt included).

To register, visit www.weatherfordart.com and look for payments/donations. For more information, call K. Cuning at 817-694-0245 or Jill Harper at 817-980-6159.

JULY 6

Peach Walk

The Tarrant Area Food Bank West will host a Peach Walk from 5:30-7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 6, at 112 Winners Circle in Weatherford. Participants will journey through the new TAFB facility, sampling peach-themed bites while learning how they can be a part of alleviating hunger in the community. A single \$30 ticket will provide 150 meals. Two tickets (\$50) will provide 250 meals. To register, visit <https://tafb.org/events/>.

JULY 9

Peach Pedal Bike Ride

Registration is under way for the annual Peach Pedal Bike Ride on Saturday, July 9, at Weatherford High School, 2121 Bethel Road in Weatherford. The 61-mile ride starts at 7:30 a.m. The 39-mile ride starts at 7:45 a.m. and the 28-mile and 8-mile rides start at 8 a.m. The registration fee is \$35 if you register in the month of June. The fee is \$40 if you register between July 1-7. In-person registration will be available from 3-6:30 p.m. on Friday, July 8, at the Weatherford High School cafeteria, and ride-day registration is \$45. The ride benefits the United Way of Parker County and the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit

TEXAS CROSSWORD

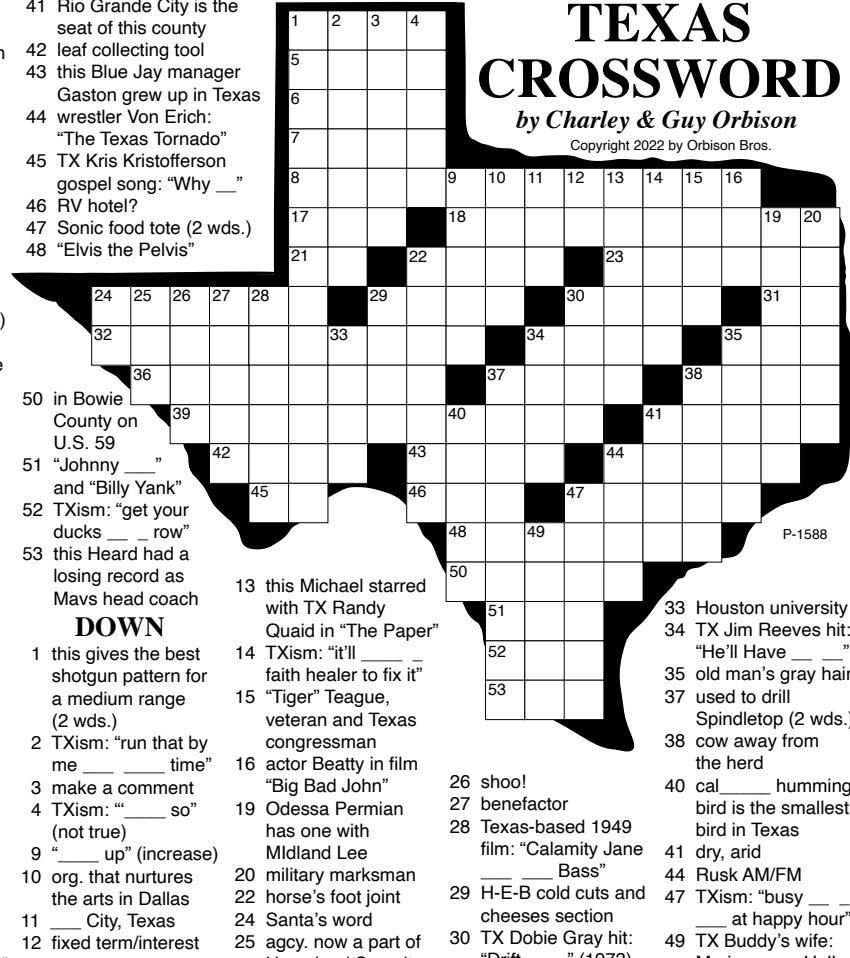
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 this "Beetle Bailey" artist Walker lived in Texas as a child
- 5 Baird High class (2 wds.)
- 6 this Moore was co-star of TX Swazye in "Ghost" (1990)
- 7 "___ old Cowhand ..."
- 8 seat of Pecos County (2 wds.)
- 17 irritate, annoy
- 18 auto sellers (2 wds.)
- 21 a boat width
- 22 TXism: "plain as the nose on your ___"
- 23 TXism: "restless as ___ church"
- 24 TX George W. lost ___, George H.W., in 2018
- 29 longtime U.S. rep. from the Valley: Kika ___ Garza
- 30 ___-gallon hat
- 31 Super Bowl ___ (Cowboys' first win)
- 32 TXism: "raised ___" (city boy)
- 34 Coleman High class (2 wds.)
- 35 "What's the ___?" (slang for what's happening)
- 36 these cranes migrate to Texas in the winter
- 37 horse coloring
- 38 boot bottom
- 39 beginning course in social behavior: "Intro ___ ___"

DOWN

- 1 this gives the best shotgun pattern for a medium range (2 wds.)
- 2 TXism: "run that by me ___ time"
- 3 make a comment
- 4 TXism: "___ so" (not true)
- 9 "___ up" (increase)
- 10 org. that nurtures the arts in Dallas
- 11 ___ City, Texas
- 12 fixed term/interest savings tool (abbr.)
- 13 this Michael starred with TX Randy Quaid in "The Paper"
- 14 TXism: "it'll ___ faith healer to fix it"
- 15 "Tiger" Teague, veteran and Texas congressman
- 16 actor Beatty in film "Big Bad John"
- 19 Odessa Permian has one with Mldland Lee
- 20 military marksman
- 22 horse's foot joint
- 24 Santa's word
- 25 agcy. now a part of Homeland Security



41 Rio Grande City is the seat of this county

42 leaf collecting tool

43 this Blue Jay manager Gaston grew up in Texas

44 wrestler Von Erich: "The Texas Tornado"

45 TX Kris Kristofferson gospel song: "Why ___"

46 RV hotel?

47 Sonic food tote (2 wds.)

48 "Elvis the Pelvis"

26 shoo!

27 benefactor

28 Texas-based 1949 film: "Calamity Jane ___ Bass"

29 H-E-B cold cuts and cheeses section

30 TX Dobie Gray hit: "Drift ___" (1973)

33 Houston university

34 TX Jim Reeves hit: "He'll Have ___"

35 old man's gray hair used to drill Spindletop (2 wds.)

36 cow away from the herd

37 Spindletop (2 wds.)

38 cow away from the herd

39 cal ___ hummingbird in Texas

40 dry, arid

41 Rusk AM/FM

42 TXism: "busy ___ at happy hour"

43 TX Buddy's wife: Maria ___ Holly

<https://www.peachpedal.com/>.

Parker County Peach Festival

The 37th annual Parker County Peach Festival will run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 9, in downtown Weatherford. Peachy treats are always featured, including homemade peach ice cream, peach cobbler, peach pie, peach tea, peach smoothies, ice cream topped with fresh peaches, or just regular peaches. In addition to the vendors, many antique and specialty stores will have specials

throughout the day. Two entertainment stages will feature local celebrities and entertainers. For easy transportation to the festival, air-conditioned shuttles will run from Weatherford 9th Grade Center, Weatherford College, or Heritage Park. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 5-12, and free for younger than 5. For more information, visit <https://www.parkercountypeachfestival.org>.

JULY 24

Howdy Party 2022

The Parker County Aggie

Moms' Club will host its annual Howdy Party to welcome new Aggies and celebrate all things Texas A&M from 6-10 p.m. Sunday, July 24, at Shep's, 202 Fort Worth Hwy in Weatherford. This event is their annual fundraiser for student scholarships. The evening will include live and silent auctions, Yell Practice, Aggie Mom Boutique, catered chicken fried steak dinner, keynote speaker Cliff Dugosh '86, recognition of 2022 scholarship recipients, and more. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at <https://parkercomomomsggienetwork.com>.



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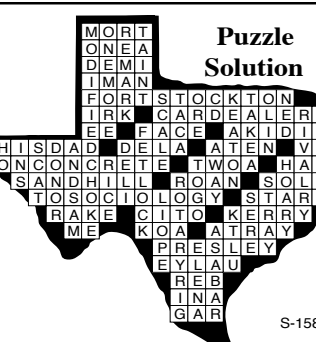
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LITTLE DANCERS



Carlyle Palmer



Macy Coronado

Lots of aspirational Bearcat Dance Team members gathered for dance camp this week led by Aledo High School dance coach Emily Robison.

Photos by Randy Keck/The Community News



LEFT: Eden Leyva works on form as Aspen Cleworth dances in the background. | RIGHT: Millie Hall



Payton Monroe



Makila Youngs



Libby Burk



Audrey Johnson

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EVENT

Wylie Jubilee - Bluegrass on Ballard - Sat., June 25, Historic Downtown Wylie on Ballard Ave. Music 1-9 p.m., Arts & Crafts 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Classic Car Show 4-9 p.m. (pre-register for car show). DiscoverWylie.com.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
 Carve and Cask is applying for petition to gather signatures for a local option liquor election for the legal sale of all alcoholic beverages for off premises consumption only in the city limits of Willow Park, Texas. This application will be filed with Crystal Dozier, City Secretary of Willow Park, Texas.

REPORTER NEEDED

The Community News is seeking a part-time reporter to cover certain city council and school board meetings. For more information, email rkeck@community-news.com

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Former Bearcat Davis reaching new heights in vault and life

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

As a member of the Aledo Bearcats track team, Zach Davis pole vaulted to back-to-back Class 5A state championships in 2018-19.

Now competing for Texas A&M, Davis is soaring higher than ever — and not just in pole vaulting. Not only is he posting the best vaults of his career, he's also an academic standout.

Davis graduated a year early from Mays Business School and did so Magna Cum Laude. He's already enrolled in a masters program and is planning on a career in technical consulting.

"As much as I have enjoyed my vaulting success, I am excited about what lies ahead of me in the business world," Davis said.

And speaking of the vaulting success...

Davis set a personal record when he cleared 17 feet, 7 inches in the Michael Johnson Invitational at Baylor University in the spring, taking second in that prestigious meet. It was the ninth highest outdoor vault in Texas A&M history.

Earlier, he cleared 17-03 to win the SEC Indoor Championships, the 12th highest indoor vault in Aggies history.

"All of my clears (this season) I had a lot of space. I knew I had it in me," Davis said.

Though he's graduated, Davis is technically a junior athletically — remember, the COVID-19 pandemic wiped out part of the 2020 indoor and all of the 2020 outdoor season. His success this season included



AIDEN SHERTZER/TEXAS A&M ATHLETICS

Former Aledo Bearcat Zach Davis has made his mark among the best pole vaulters in Texas A&M history along with excelling in the classroom, graduating early as magna cum laude. He is shown during Day 3 of the SEC Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Oxford, Mississippi.

two first-place performances, three runner-up finishes and placing third four times.

All the while, he's maintained his academic success by being named

named to the SEC Academic Honor Roll and garnering U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic honors.

"Not only is he starting to arrive as an athlete, he's one of our best students academically," said his vault coach, Sean Brady.

Davis has scored points for the team in every meet since his freshman year, but this year he went to heights (pardon the pun). He cleared at least 16-10 in seven meets after not having reached that height at all previously.

Davis said coming back to being able to get full workouts in after the return from the COVID shutdown made a huge difference.

"During the whole COVID thing I had time to regroup," he said. "It was a shock (when the season ended). We took a little spring break and then it was all over with. I went home and did some coaching."

"But I felt like I could jump this high for a while now. I'm happy with how it's going. Eighteen (feet) is the bar I'm waiting on now."

Brady said Davis made a switch to a 16-foot pole at the meet at Baylor, whereas he had been using a 15-6 pole.

"It's not just the length of the pole, it's the weight. It has a higher bend," Brady said.

Davis fell short of reaching the NCAA national meet this season, but Brady said if he does return for his final year of eligibility (Davis was undecided as of this article), he believes it could happen next season. He said Davis is vaulting with more confidence than ever before.

"A lot of that has to do with winning the SEC Indoor Championships, that's not an easy thing to do. He feels he's arrived on the national scene," Brady said. "He's training that way. You can see it in his body language. Those are the traits of the best in the business."

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RODEO

Area cutter advances to nationals

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Weatherford's Will Bushaw used a steadily improving stream of performances to win the boys cutting championship at the Texas High School Rodeo Association Finals in Abilene this past week.

Bushaw now advances to the National High School Rodeo Association Finals in Gillette, Wyoming, July 17-23. The top four finishers in each event qualified.

Bushaw finished the regular season in fourth place in point standings in Region 3.

Bushaw opened the state competition with a score of 151 in the first go-round. He improved to a 152 in the second and had a 154 in the third, scoring 10 points in each round. When his average and season points were tallied in, he finished with 57 total points, edging the runner-up, Owen Cogdell, from Tulia, by 2.5 points.

In that same event, Weatherford's Blake Heid narrowly missed qualifying for nationals. He finished fifth with a score of 28.50, falling short of fourth place by 6.5 points.



Weatherford's Will Bushaw won the boys cutting championship at the Texas High School Rodeo Association Finals in Abilene this past week.

Also just missing a qualifying spot was Weatherford's Miller Morgan in girls cutting. She scored 34 points for sixth place, 10.75 points behind the fourth-place finisher.

Another top-10 finish came from Weatherford's Airian Moore in bareback riding with 26 points. He was 13.5 points out of fourth.

Aledo was represented by Mason McElroy, who posted a top-20 finish. He was 17th in the saddle bronc competition.

The only other area top-20 finish was by Bushaw, who was 14th in boys cutting.

Others from Weatherford with top-50 finishes were Carter High, 22nd in bull riding; Beldon Cox, 24th in team roping; Savannah Letson, 33rd in pole bending; Caden Farrell, 37th in steer wrestling; and Christopher Withaeger, 39th in steer wrestling.

The top 10 in each event after 24 regular-season rodeos and the regional finals rodeos qualified for the state finals.

TCA announces new Lady Eagles varsity softball coach

Trinity Christian Academy has announced the hiring of Miranda Carlisle as head varsity softball coach. Coach Carlisle comes to TCA after serving three years as head coach at Parkers Chapel High School in El Dorado, Arkansas, where she led the Trojans to the state playoff twice, including the state semi-finals in 2021.



Prior to Parkers Chapel, Carlisle was an assistant at Randolph College in Lynchburg, Virginia for two seasons. She began her coaching career with the 18u travel team for the St. Louis Illusions.

Carlisle graduated summa cum laude in three years from Stephens College (English and Art History), where she was a starting pitcher. She holds a Masters in English Literature from Liberty University. In addition to coaching, she will be a member of the TCA English department.

"We are thrilled to have Coach Carlisle join the TCA family," Bryan Marmion, TCA Athletic Director, said. "She brings a level of professionalism and stability that will allow us to develop a program indicative of the athletic and spiritual excellence we expect of all of our teams at TCA."

"I am thrilled to have this opportunity to help build

Lady Eagles softball into a Championship program," Carlisle said. "I look forward to shaping the lives of my students and athletes through academics and athletics with a foundation built on God's love and truth. My goal, on the softball field, is to empower young women to become strong, confident athletes as well as respectful, responsible citizens who will use their faith to guide them through anything and everything they will achieve. Whatever it takes, we will progress spiritually, academically, and athletically - always moving forward and never backing down. I am thrilled for this opportunity, and I can't wait to begin!"

Trinity Christian Academy is a PK3-12th grade college-preparatory Christian school located in Willow Park. For more information, visit tcaeagles.org

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