Cross Country Aledo competes in elite meet, page 6

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THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Second-grade twins Maverick and Piper Johnson show what happens when you do the mud ball roll. For more about the Stuard Mud Day turn to page 3.

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

New student center to elevate education

Largest building project in WC history

By Christopher Amos The Community News

The occasion was large and the announcement absolutely enormous when Weatherford College president Dr. Todd Farmer took the stage following his annual president's luncheon. Farmer announced the largest building project in Weatherford College history, a five-story, \$100 million student union and cafeteria building.

The excitement began at the door as dozens of athletes and

Center to cheer as attendees entered.

Suzie Jary, program director of social work at the campus, was among the visitors thrilled with the fanfare.

"The entry was fantastic!" Jary exclaimed. "All the cheerleaders, rodeo team, nursing students and athletes were all lined up and cheering for us. It was a rush."

Everything built to the announcement of the new building project.

The modern five-story student union building will include everything necessary for students from registration to graduation.

"Our new one stop shop will students from all teams and encompass a new testing center, departments lined the entrance new tutoring center, new TRIO/

of the Marjorie Alkek Fine Arts SSS/Upward Bound facilities, a new veterans' center, a book store, a new police station, a new financial aid office, a new advising center, registration stations, disability services, mental and physical health services, a new creative services office, new faculty and coaches offices, a new cafeteria, a large community dining room, a medium sized community dining room, a private faculty and staff dining room, and a new board room," Farmer said.

> The building is funded by tuition revenue bonds and has no impact on taxpayers.

> "To the students who are here today, and to the students who may be watching on the live

New bank HQ to sport Parker County's first office tower

Worthington Bank purchases property in Walsh By Randy Keck

The Community News

BUSINESS

Commercial growth in Parker County opened a new chapter recently with the announcement that Worthington Bank has acquired land for its new corporate headquarters, to be located on the southwest corner of Interstate 30 and Walsh Ranch Parkway.

The 96,000-square-foot structure will be Parker County's first office tower structure, and the county's second corporate bank headquarters relocation. First Bank Texas opened its new headquarters in Willow Park in 2001.

According to a release from Worthington Bank, "The tower will be built with Class A finishes and decorated in a Western motif with

art celebrating the area, a beloved tradition of Worthington Bank. The building will be an eight-floor commercial structure with a dedicated parking lot and convenient access to Interstate 20, Interstate 30, and Loop 820 and Farm-to-Market Road 1187."

Parker County Judge Pat Deen was happy with the announcement.

"Parker County now operates not just as a single entity, but as a collaboration," Deen said. "We all have a common goal here, which is to bring in more revenue, keep jobs local, and focus on those high-wage job growth opportunities."

Deen said the type of relocation embodied in the Worthington announcement accomplishes a number of objectives.

"One, it keeps everybody local," Deen said. "It keeps our workforce local, and it also takes the strain

Turn to TOWER, page 3



WORTHINGTON BANK

Turn to **COLLEGE**, page 3

This rendering shows the plan for the eight-story Worthington Bank to be situated in the Walsh development.

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE **Board surprised by proposed Runaway Bay donation**

New board member sworn in

By Crystal Woerly Weatherford College

The Weatherford College Board of Trustees made waves during its September meeting on Thursday, Sept. 13. From adding a new board member to hearing of a proposed multi-million dollar donation to construction and future land purchases, growth at WC isn't slowing down anytime soon.

Runaway Bay Golf Club and Resort donation

Danielle Cocanougher and her father, Daniel Cocanougher, spoke during the open session, surprising the board with their intent to donate



Runaway Bay Golf Club and Resort to the college.

The Cocanougher family purchased the 160-acre, 18-hole course in 2018. The proposed donation also includes approximately 80 residential lots and about five acres of potential commercial property adjacent to the course.

"The possibility of donating to Weatherford College is very exciting to us," Danielle said. "Of course, y'all have a campus in Wise County. Our family has a long history in Wise County."

Her grandfather founded the Cocanougher Feed Company, and her grandmother was a lifelong educator and elementary school teacher.

"It really was her passion to help students and families in Wise County, and we try to continue that legacy," Danielle said.

She went on to explain how important the golf course is to the small town of Runaway Bay, and they want to make sure the next owners are dedicated to the community.

Following an executive session, the board authorized President Tod Allen Farmer to work with the college's external counsel to begin the process of accepting the donation offer from the Cocanougher family.

New board member sworn in

Mary Beth Dennie was sworn in as the newest member as the first order of official business.

She is a lifelong resident of Weatherford and a WC alumnus. After completing her Master of Science in Counseling Psychology from Tarleton State University, she established a counseling practice in her hometown.

Dennie fills the Place 1 vacancy left by the resignation of former board chair Mac Smith. The position will be on the May 2025 election ballot.

To continue reading visit https://www. community-news.com/stories/boardsurprised-by-proposed-runaway-baydonation,93297



CRYSTAL WOERLY/WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

FDIC

Mary Beth Dennie is sworn in as the newest member of the Weatherford College Board of Directors.



EDUCATION

Trio represents Aledo in elite event

Week described as unifying and fulfilling

By John English The Community News

Three Aledo High School students received a special honor this summer when they were invited to participate in Texas Girls State, an organization that lists among its goals to educate our youth in the duties, privileges, and responsibilities of American citizenship.

Sarah Miller, Eleanor Jack, and Madison Haynes all represented AHS at the June event at Texas Luthern University in Seguin, and Miller said the application process alone was quite daunting.

Miller

"Initially, school admin had reached out to me asking if I would be interested in the process — my background in debate is likely where that came from," Miller said. "We filled out a form on paper with various questions like why we should be selected from the process and what sets us apart from our peers if I remember correctly. Initially I was wait-listed, but was contacted later in the summer and I was selected to attend."

Miller, 17, was under the impression that it would be "heavily politics-based" and "divided."

The incoming senior was pleasantly surprised.

"It ended being an incredibly unifying and fulfilling week, in which I met incredible young women with incredible backgrounds, and established truly valuable relationships," Miller said.

Texas Girls State teaches young women about civil services through activities that simulate the various functions of government. Miller, for example, ran for governor of her city, and while not elected, she was appointed by the state officials as the Commissioner of Ethics for the state.

Then during the closing ceremony, she was voted by her peers as City F's Outstanding Citizen.

"The biggest takeaway I had at Girls State was that the election process is an incredibly valuable thing when used and applied fairly," Miller said. "Similarly, I realized that I may have a deeper interest in pursuing politics, as my favorite part of Girls State was debating and the entire parliamentary procedure."

Miller is actually a debate captain at Aledo High School, as well as a member of the leadership team in the Bearcat regiment, editor of the yearbook, a member of the International Honor Society of Journalistic High School Students, also known as Quill and Scroll, and a member of National Honor Society among other activities.

The AHS senior hopes to attend Columbia University after graduation.

Jack

For Jack, 17, the trip to Texas Girl's State was a great introduction to her desired career path.

"I do plan on pursuing a career in politics," Jack said. "I plan on attending college as either a political science or international relations major with a minor in journalism. I hope to one day serve overseas as a US correspondent/diplomat working in a foreign embassy or work with the CIA/FBI as an analyst in a political capacity."

Jack got the opportunity to practice her diplomatic skills at the summer event.

"I ran for the position of Justice of the Peace in my county," Jack said. "I wrote and delivered two speeches



Madison Haynes is shown during a session at

SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Sarah Miller (left) and Eleanor Jack (right) joined Madison Haynes at Girls State at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin.

to my fellow constituents before ultimately falling to my opponent. Throughout the week, I attended lectures on the various levels of government and worked with the people around me in the Senate to pass legislation on the 'state' level.

"We collaborated on bills and spent our free time creating and campaigning with posters, slogans, speeches, and so much more. By the end of the week, I was crushed to leave my favorite people and sad to see such an eye-opening experience come to an end."

Jack is the President of the Aledo High School Student Council, vice president of the Bearcat Regiment, Education Committee head in Aledo's chapter of the National Honor Society, captain of the Academic UIL Writing Team, and a varsity athlete in both tennis and soccer. She plans to attend college at William and Mary next fall.

Girls State.

Haynes

Haynes was impressed by the structure of Texas Girls State, and how everything was "planned down to the minute, and very, very busy," throughout the duration of the event.

"Never once outside of designated rest times did things feel boring or pointless," Haynes said. "Almost every single day, we participated in voting amongst ourselves — voting on bills, voting for candidates, voting on legislation in House or Senate sessions. Voting was a very big part of girl's state.

Haynes, 17, said the event also affected how she views politics in

the sense that it opened her mind to other points of view.

SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

"Texas Girls State itself was very staunchly nonpartisan," Haynes said. "But talking to other girls there about their personal political opinions helped shed light on several issues in ways I've never thought of before. It was a real eye-opener. It also helped me understand just how important funding is to so many different issues.

"I would say this event helped me open my eyes to the reasons behind why people think the things they do, and not just the topics themselves or even the people themselves."

Haynes is involved in the art program at Aledo High School and is applying to Baylor, the University of Kansas, LSU, and University of Texas in Austin.



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COMMUNITY LIFE

Stuard mud day is a splash

Mudventure leaves students soaked and smiling

By Christopher Amos

Typical playground activities were abandoned for Stuard Elementary School's Mudventure on Sept. 12, where students and young siblings frolic, slide, and roll in mud, sand, and sludge. The annual event gives kids a chance to do what they may otherwise be scolded for - getting absolutely filthy.

Parents and bystanders kept a cautious lookout for splattering mud and out-of-control water hoses, but were still the unintentional targets of the excitement.

When fourth-grader Ellie Caron was asked why she was burying Brady Broussard up to his smile in sand, she simply answered, "Because," without looking up from patting the mound with a plastic shovel.

Stuard PTO President Emily Roberts said Phillips Water Hauling of Weatherford donated water to fill up and prepare the grubby games, and returned at the end to provide a giant fountain for the kids to shower off.

"This year I think the kiddos' favorite part was the head rolling, where they raced to push a ball with their head down the muddy path," Roberts said. "But we added an extra fun water rinse off at the end that was donated to us by Phillips."

Roberts said Katie Griffin is the "mastermind behind this event" and it is an idea she continues from when she was an educator in Arizona.

Food trucks, frozen treats, and lunchroom tables provided a picnic atmosphere in the parking lot for the families.



Tug-of-war takes on a whole new challenge when the rope is too slimy to grasp.



Ellie Caron buries a giggling Brady Broussard in the sand box.



Getting clean is part of the fun for Stuard Mudventure fans.

TOWER from page one

off the transportation system of putting 60% of our workforce that goes east every day. So that's a continuation of the vision that I certainly had when I came here.

"What I see is the recruitment of those headquarters that brings in those high-wage

factors of Worthington Bank's decision.

"Parker County has been experiencing an incredible level of growth in residential development, especially with the development of Walsh. The addition of Worthington Bank Tower will provide residents a unique working experience close to where they live," said Greg Morse, Worthington Bank CEO. addition "The of Worthington Bank Tower and our partnership to bring Worthington into the development will unlock more opportunities for those in the area, complement existing commercial activity and provide long-term benefits to the entire region," said Ryan B. Dickerson, Chief Executive Officer of the Walsh Companies.

property taxes down for county residents.

"We don't have the land for it [smokestack industries] in proximity to the massive expansion of the development of housing. I mean, Springtown alone has over 100 subdivisions going in, and so it's not a fit for that," Deen said. "It's becoming more of a challenge to bring in those high-wage jobs, because there's so much development that's happening, because 60% of the growth is happening in ETJs, and that's where a lot of these industries try to go. "We need to continue to find those slots where we can put these businesses, one to increase the property value, they get the taxes down, get the taxes off your back, and we hope to continue that trend, and we welcome them with open arms to set an example. I'm working to continue that trend and bringing those top companies here. It's exactly that type of company that we want here."



Liam Mendoza nudges a ball through mud using only his head, for the mud ball race.



Four-year-old D. J. Duncan searches through Jello for floating balls in a less-muddy contest.

COLLEGE from page one

stream, I challenge you to dream big and act now," Dr. Farmer emphasized after the announcement. "You are our college priority. You are surrounded by people who care about you and want vou to succeed. Weatherford College is your college. This is your opportunity to turn your dreams into reality, so dream big and act now."

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS



Jonah Blassingame fully emerges himself in the joy of getting muddy.



Sophia Broussard hoses off after she and her friends spent an hour smearing mud on each other.



Bath time doesn't do much good when the water is murky.

teams and departments lined the entrance of the stations, disability services, Marjorie Alkek Fine Arts mental and physical health Center to cheer as attendees entered.

Suzie Jary, program campus, was among the visitors thrilled with the fanfare.

"The entry was fantascheerleaders, rodeo team, board room," Farmer said. nursing students and ath-

advising center, registration services, a new creative services office, new faculty and coaches offices, a new cafdirector of social work at the eteria, a large community dining room, a medium sized community dining room, a private faculty and tic!" Jary exclaimed. "All the staff dining room, and a new

The building is funded by

jobs and continue to do that without compromising the rural integrity of the county by tearing down trees and all these things that people have a perception of. We're looking at those type of jobs that still maintain the quality of life that we enjoy here at Parker County, still trying to stay rural as long as we can, but yet bringing those jobs that do that, and bringing in their corporate headquarters is a step in that direction, and we welcome them with open arms."

The growth in the county was one of the motivating

Deen stressed that these types of development are crucial both in deterring "smokestack" type industries and in the attempt to keep

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letes were all lined up and cheering for us. It was a rush."

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tuition revenue bonds and has no impact on taxpayers.

"To the students who are here today, and to the students who may be watching on the live stream, I challenge you to dream big and act now," Dr. Farmer emphasized after the announcement. "You are our college priority. You are surrounded by people who care about you and want you to succeed. Weatherford College is your college. This is your opportunity to turn your dreams into reality, so

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Events

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







OCTOBER 1

National Night Out 2024 Free block party with the Willow Park Police Department from 5 - 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at Kingsgate Park, Willow Park, TX 76087. Join us to meet the men and women who protect our community and have some fun while you're here! Bounce houses, kids games, DJ John Henry, food trucks and more!

OCTOBER 4 - 31

Clark Gardens Pumpkin Patch

Clark Gardens Pumpkin Patch will be open daily Monday - Saturday from 8 -5 p.m. and Sunday 10-5 p.m.

Our Pumpkin Patch is the perfect place for a cozy, family-fun filled, fall experience. Choose from pumpkins of



all shapes and sizes to purchase and take home Enjoy pumpkin ring toss, pumpkin bowling, and other festive games Model Trains: View Model Trains at the Clarks Station Garden Walks: Stroll through our gardens and enjoy Fall in full bloom Purchase snacks and refreshing beverages in our admissions booth Make Clark Gardens a stop on your Fall bucket list! Admission: \$10 adults, \$8 Senior, \$5 children, 3 and under FREE *additional fees apply for pumpkin purchases



OCTOBER 8

Dementia Support Group Join the Dementia Support Group from 4-5 p.m. at Harvest of Aledo 1043 Bailey Ranch Rd. Even more so, we value the efforts of the caregivers, especially the families of our residents. This meeting will take place on the second Tuesday of every month. For more information call 682-209-0643

OCTOBER 10

Alzheimer's Group The East Parker County Alzheimer's Group meets from 1-3 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at Aledo United Methodist Church, 100 Pecan. Drive. For more information. call 817-441-8329.



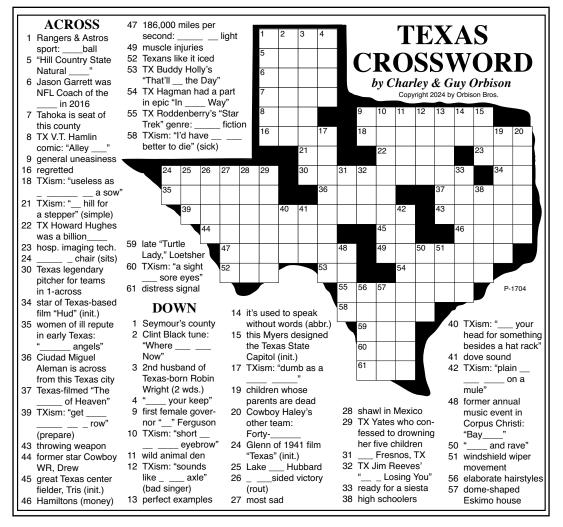
Aledo UMC Lord's Acre **Fall Festival**

Gather the family for a fall bucket list event y'all won't want to miss from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 12th AUMC will host its annual community fall fest with kid's activities. food. vendors, silent and live auctions, live music performances, and community fun. The money raised helps support AUMC's mission efforts in Aledo, surrounding areas. statewide and around the world. Forward this event to all your friends and follow us on our page to stay in the loop on all the fun things we have planned!

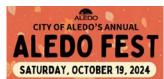


OCTOBER 17

Burgers & Bingo Parker County Committee on Aging - Meals on Wheels and The Senior Center is having Burgers & Bingo benefitting Meals on Wheels and the Senior Center from 5:30-8 p.m., on Thursday, October 17. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. which



includes a hamburger dinner (burger, chips, drink, and dessert). Following dinner, we will play Bingo for your chance to win locally donated prizes. Tickets are limited to 200 guests. Additional Bingo cards will be available for purchase at \$5 a piece, while supplies last (limit 1).



OCTOBER 19

2024 Aledo Fest Aledo fest will be from 10 .m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 19 in downtown

Aledo. It will feature live music and activities for kids of all ages. Meet your local businesses at vendor booths, do some gift shopping, and get a little something for yourself! Come hungry for a variety of food trucks on-site for good eats & autumn treats! Vendor and sponsorship

applications are available now - please visit our website. https://www.aledotx. gov/AledoFest

OCTOBER 26

Fall Fest Willow Park North Join Willow Park North and The Shops at Willow Park for the second annual Fall Fest. This family-friendly



event is free to the public.

NOVEMBER 12

Dementia Support Group Join the Dementia Support Group from 4-5 p.m. at Harvest of Aledo 1043 Bailey Ranch Rd. Even more so, we value the efforts of the caregivers, especially the families of our residents.



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Commentary

September 20, 2024 THE COMMUNITY NEWS www.community-news.com

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A 200-page report from the Department of Homeland Security faulted U.S. Border Patrol agents who rushed to the Uvalde school shooting in 2022, concluding they "failed to establish command and had inadequate training" in one of the deadliest classroom attacks, *The Dallas Morning News* reported.

A lone shooter killed 19 students and two teachers inside a classroom during a 70-minute standoff before a tactical team led by the Border Patrol went inside and killed him. "The failure of arriving

law enforcement personnel to establish identifiable incident management or command and control protocols led to a disorganized response to the Robb Elementary School shooting," the report stated. "No law enforcement official ever clearly established command at the school during the incident, leading to delays, inaction, and

potentially further loss of life." Two Uvalde school officers have been indicted for allegedly failing to act promptly and have pleaded not guilty. The victims' families have filed a \$500 million federal lawsuit against those who responded to the shooting.

Vehicle inspections end in 2025

Texas car safety inspections will no longer be required in 2025, after HB 3297 passed the Legislature in 2023. The Austin American-Statesman reported inspections end Jan. 1, though drivers living in and near major Texas cities will still be required to take their vehicles in for emission tests. Although actual inspection is ending, all noncommercial vehicles in Texas still will be charged a \$7.50 inspection fee when the vehicle is registered with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

federal clean-air requirements are Brazoria, Collin, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Ellis, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Johnson, Kaufman, Montgomery, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, Travis and Williamson. Costs range from \$11.50 to \$35.50, depending on what tests are required.

Diesel vehicles and motorcycles are exempt from emissions testing.

Deer disease threatens state's breeding industry

Texas deer breeders say their livelihoods are threatened by steps being taken by the state to limit chronic wasting disease, *The Texas Tribune* reported.

The easily transmissible disease has been detected in Texas since 2012. As of August, 387 cases have been reported this year in 31 of the state's 254 counties. This includes cases in 34 captive breeding facilities. The disease gradually erodes a deer's neurological functions. It is not known to infect humans.

"This disease is literally eating holes in the deer's brain," Kip Adams, a wildlife biologist with the National Deer Association, said.

Breeders in areas where CWD has been reported can't sell or transport their deer outside the state-declared containment zone. Breeders have complained that having a facility inside a containment zone has hurt business. Breeders who have a deer with CWD are required to either euthanize their remaining deer herd or perform additional testing in order to segregate deer who test negative.

PUC secures refunds, credits

Utility The Public Commission has secured refunds and bill credits totaling \$502,982 for Texas electric, water and telecommunications customers for fiscal year 2024, which ended Aug. 31. Nearly 13,000 complaints were filed by consumers during the fiscal year. "Protecting consumers is the first commitment listed in our agency's mission statement, and our staff works every day to make sure Texas utility consumers are treated fairly and receive high



PHOTO BY CRYPTO CROW/PEXELS

quality service," Chris Burch, with
the PUC, said.TCEQ officials have not decided
whether to grant a permit for
a new plant. Constellation says
the new plant would only oper-

Customers who believe they were unfairly charged can file a complaint at puc.texas.gov/ consumer/complaint.

Bitcoin plant expansion faces backlash in North Texas

A proposal to build a new 300-megawatt power plant next to two existing neighborhoods in Granbury drew about 150 angry residents to a public meeting hosted by the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality last week.

Marathon Digital, a Floridabased cryptocurrency company, operates a 300-megawatt bitcoin mine on property owned by Constellation Energy, according to the *San Antonio Express-News*. Residents have complained about the constant noise coming from thousands of fans used to cool the banks of computers processing bitcoin transactions.

Constellation hopes to erect eight new turbines powered by natural gas to generate additional electricity and has applied for air permits to release nearly 800,000 added tons of carbon ·····

TCEQ officials have not decided whether to grant a permit for a new plant. Constellation says the new plant would only operate about 40% of the year and "would be prohibited from directly serving industrial load," such as bitcoin. However, opponents say the new plant would allow existing plants to be used for more bitcoin mining than being done now.

Texting scams target TxTag customers

Toll customers in Texas are being targeted by scammers claiming the customer has a balance due or past due, according to the Texas Department of Transportation. The agency is working to have fraudulent websites taken down.

While TxTag does communicate with customers via email, text and phone, it does not send text messages concerning final payment reminders or past-due balances. Customers can report messages they believe to be fraudulent by calling 1-88-468-9824 or going online to TxTag.org.

"TxTag takes customer account security and verification very seriously," the news release

Capital Highlights Border Patrol faulted in Uvalde school shooting

Chris Amos - Features/Photography Kathy Chruscielski - Photography John English - Features Richard Henderson - Commentary Rick Mauch - News and Sports Breleigh Mayer - Photography Kristin Morales - Photography Ryan Wade - News and Sports Melissa Winn - News and Sports Jim Zimmermann - News and Sports

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Content Submission Policy

We're always on the lookout for story ideas. To share one, call Randy Keck at 817-386-1469 or email news@community-news.com. Please provide the basic story information as well as contact information.

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 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.

Photos submitted should include names of the people in the photograph.

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. Counties requiring emission tests to comply with dioxide each year. Residents near the plant objected.

"It's not right. Y'all moved in on top of us. We didn't move in on y'all," said Nick Browning, who lives about 800 feet from the property.

Texas leads the nation in bitcoin mining, which is an electronic payment system that forgoes use of banks and credit card companies and requires vast amounts of computing power. said. All customers are required to confirm their account information and verify their identity upon contacting TxTag.

Gary Borders is a veteran awardwinning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress. com.

<u>Capital Highlights</u> On becoming a year older

note: I made the hand-off without fumbling, and in a flash, my "15 seconds of fame" was over. Longtime friend Jay Allison, CEO of Comstock Resources in Frisco, also was an honoree, serving as "honorary team captain" for the entirety of the game.)

First things first: Several months ago, Barbara Harris, a gogetter in Magnolia, invited me to speak to her church Primetimers. I agreed, mentioning that the event would mark the beginning of my 65th year of public speaking, two days prior to my 87th birthday on Sept. 7.

Eureka, thought she. Why not have a birthday party for me and all attendees? This thought led to Pandora's box opening, and her creative juices--flowing regularly in daylight hours and often in dawn's early light--overflowed.

There were birthday cakes everywhere, and enough additional table decorations to start a Mardi Gras, stopping just short of bead-throwing. There were 12 tables for persons born from January through December.

Emcee Barbara--who never saw a detail to be overlooked--was in rare form. Someone said she can gab at 250 words a minute--with gusts to 300-while threading the needle of an electric sewing machine with it a'runnin'. I can believe that.

She decided to reveal to the group of some 80 persons how many total birthdays were being observed. First Baptist Church staffer Milt Eichler calculated the cumulative figure to be well north of 5,000. (Yikes, it was sobering to realize that my birthdays contributed nearly 2% of this figure.)

I came home with much, including a birthday cake, an encased 1937 Indian head "birth nickel," a touching tribute poem penned by her ownself, and a "pet rock" painted by her hubby in school colors of Howard Payne University, where I served as president from 1986-1997.

The Harrises are on track for squeezing the most from retirement years. They have children and grandchildren to enjoy, a church to serve, friends to value and a marriage of 53 years to savor.

These retired educators have a lovely home, where I spent the night prior to speaking. I even got to see their pet turtles--named, of course--muddle around the backyard.

Barbara crowds much into her schedule, including meetings of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)--a program that she claims hasn't worked for her--and a sewing group whose members "mostly keep each other in stitches." Walter, a high school and HPU track runner, seems to pace himself with home projects and rock painting.

In Brownwood, my team lost. However, I remained on a "sugar high" from intake of birthday cake slabs. Still, I handled my football hand-off duties acceptably, though not in a manner nearly as stately as Allison, who was stoic and dignified throughout the game.

Down deep, he was probably hurting for his Baylor Bears, who lost that weekend, too. Maybe I'll get Harris to paint him a pet rock, too. (Pet rocks, BTW, emerged in 1975.)

There is much to savor, including birthday wishes from several hundred alumni, among whom were two HPU graduates who bought my books. Such discriminating readers are particularly valued.

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to speak and write. The Idle American, begun in 2003, is one of the nation's longest-running syndicated humor columns. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com.



Gary Borders gborders@texaspress.com

I have probably made this claim previously, but most friends know that my respect for redundancy has never been more than trivial. So, here I go again, certain that there finally are but two groups of people--those who have egos and admit it and those who likewise have 'em and don't admit it.

I'm in the former groupgiddy as a five-year-old with a store-bought birthday cake-buoyed by warm memories of a 60-hour whirlwind of accolades marking my 87th birthday.

It all began with a Magnolia, TX, potluck luncheon thrown by church Primetimers on my birthday "eve-eve." It ended in Brownwood, TX, where I handed officials the game ball to signal the beginning of the Howard Payne University/Hardin-Simmons University football game. (Side

Sports

FOOTBALL

Bearcats playing twice within a week

Friday homecoming followed by Thursday road contest

By Rick Mauch

Editor's note: Because the Bearcats are playing on Friday, Sept. 20 and then again on Sept. 26 before our Sept. 27 issue comes out, the advance for both games is included in this story.

It's a common phrase among coaches that once a game is over, you don't celebrate or lament too long. You start getting ready for the next game.

Add in homecoming and the end of the first grading period and it becomes an even more interesting short stretch of time for the Aledo Bearcats. Following their game against Birdville on Friday, Sept. 20, they will immediately begin preparations for their clash against Keller Fossil Ridge on Thursday, Sept. 26 at Keller ISD Athletic Complex.

But first things first. The Bearcats (2-1) are hosting the Hawks (2-1) this Friday in Aledo's homecoming. Each team comes in with a twogame winning streak after dropping their season opener.

"It causes you to change what you do on Monday," Aledo coach Robby Jones said of homecoming week, which features the annual homecoming parade on Monday of that week.

No one seems to remember the last time Aledo lost a homecoming game, and it's a streak that's likely to continue this season.

Since losing 35-30 at Denton Guyer, the Bearcats defeated



Quarterback Colby Smith hands off to running back Brady Powell (39).

Lancaster 37-27 at home and won 64-0 at Brewer in their District 3-5A Division I opener. The Hawks lost their season opener 50-14 at home to Crowley, rebounded to win 42-24 at Grapevine and held on for a 27-24 home win over Granbury in their league debut.

As for the short turnaround, Jones said a key to success is "You've got to make sure you're focused on Monday. You can't have a bad Monday. You're missing a day, so Monday and Tuesday are extremely important."

Quarterback situation

Junior Gavin Beard is expected to be back as the starter this week, Jones said. Beard has missed the past two games with an upper body injury after going 16-of-29 for 189 yards with two touchdowns and an interception at Denton Guyer.

"He's excited about getting back on the field," Jones said. "Gavin doesn't show much emotion, but you can tell he's ready to go."

In his absence, sophomore Nash McElree has guided the team to two wins. He is 17-of-27 for 241

yards with three touchdowns and 2 interceptions. In his last start at Brewer, McElree was near perfect, finishing 11-of-13 for 202 yards with three TD and no picks.

"Nash is a good option to go to," Jones said. "So is Lincoln Tubbs."

In limited time, Tubbs has completed one pass for 3 yards, rushed three times for 19 yards, and even

caught a pass for 21 yards. Meanwhile, Birdville's starting quarterback from a season ago. Noah Normand (21 TD passing,

Turn to BEARCATS, page 7

SPORTS BRIEFS

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September 20, 2024 THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Meador commits to UTEP

Ella Meador, defensive specialist/libero for Aledo Ladycats volleyball, is graduating early so she can accept a volleyball scholarship to play for the University of Texas - El Paso next season.

Weatherford varsity tennis

The Kangaroos dominated North Crowley 18-1, improving to 2-1 in District 3-6A. Owen Hendricks clinched the 10th match, sealing the overall victory.

Player of the match honors went to Cooper Edwards.

Junior varsity tennis also claimed a win, advancing their district record to 3-0.

Aledo Middle School volleyball vs. Mansfield Jobe

Seventh grade: A team won 25-17, 25-16; B team won 25-9, 25-9; C team won 25-9, 25-7.

Eighth grade: A team won 25-19, 25-17; B team won 25-21, 25-22; C team lost 25-18, 19-25, 16-14.

Aledo Middle School volleyball vs. Burleson Hughes

Seventh grade: A team lost 27-25, 25-15; B team lost 25-19, 20-25, 16-14; C team won 25-15, 25-14.

Eighth grade: A team won 25-11, 25-15; B team won 25-10, 25-16; C team lost 25-13, 25-22.

Weatherford Tison volleyball vs. Granbury Middle School

Seventh grade: A team won 25-10, 25-14; B team won 25-8, 25-22. Players of the match, Avery Foerster (A), Khloe Hernandez (B).



Ladvcats second

Aledo JV stands

Roos, Lady Roos



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS Aledo's Jack Fink

at A&M By Rick Mauch

While it wasn't an extra mile, never let it be said Aledo cross country teams won't go a little more distance if called upon - and that was the case at the Texas A&M Invitational this past weekend.

"While the course is roughly 200 meters longer than a 5k, all runners did very well," Aledo coach Mike Pinkerton said. "Both races featured roughly 500 runners and more than 65 teams in the race."

The Ladycats placed second, only four points out of the top spot. The Bearcats finished 10th.

Jack Fink of the Bearcats had the top individual finish, placing eighth with a time of 16 minutes, 6 seconds. The Ladycats were led by Molly Garrison, who was 11th individually with a time of 18:56.5.

Also for the Ladycats: Mykel Murry, 13, 18:57.5; Micah Neal, 15th, 19:01.9; Madison Larsen, 37th, 19:57.7; Sophia Brandenburg, 44th, 20:14.5; Mayden Mitchell, 88th, 21:34.5; Hadleigh Walton, 126th, 22:13.2.

Connelly, 35th, 16:34.1; Ian Robbins, 123rd, 17:26.8; Luke Schabel, 131st, 17:33.3; Dominick Barrera, 188th, 18:03.2; Thatcher Pettit, 217th, 18:14.2; Reed Murray, 342nd, 19:12.7.

out against varsity at Glen Rose

The Ladvcats and Bearcats junior varsity teams competed in the Glen Rose Invitational, running in the varsity division. The Ladvcats were third and the Bearcats placed fifth.

Kjersten Loy of Aledo took first place individually among the girls, clocking a time of 13:05.39 over 3200 meters. Carley Couch was fourth in 13:29.54.

The Bearcats were paced by Landon Eaton, who was ninth with a time of 18:46.56 over 5K. Andrew Walsh was 10th in 19:01.76.

Rounding out the Ladycats runners were: Sadie JV Williams, 11th, 14:05.89; Ashlynn Durnil, 16th, 14:31.02; Maggie McQuatters, 40th, 15:56.15; Lilla Kovacs, 51st, 16:45.06; Mariah Tarango Salas, 69th, 19:31.16.

Also for the Bearcats: Ethan Matthews, 13th, 19:19.27; Zachary Rivas, 34th, 21:16.20; Dylan Hoover, 42nd, 22:09.09.

The Aledo varsity teams Also for the Bearcats: Tyler will compete in the McNeil Invitational in Round Rock at Old Settlers Park, the same course as the state meet, on Saturday, Sept. 14. The JV will compete in the Benbrook Invitational on Sept. 13.

compete at **Paschal Invite**

The Weatherford Kangaroos and Lady Roos cross country teams competed in the Paschal Invitational at Athletic Performance Ranch on Friday, Sept. 13.

The Kangaroos were led by Erick Ibarra, who placed 20th individually with a time of 17:59.53 over the 5K course in the Boys Varsity Elite division. The Lady Roos were paced by Navelli Ordonez, who was 28th in the Girls Varsity Elite category, clocking a 22:21.41 over 5K.

Chloe Burton had the highest finish of any Weatherford runner, placing sixth in the Varsity Girls Open division. She had a time of 23:59.39 over the 5K course. In the Boys Varsity Open division, Aaron Valenthe placed 14th with a time of 19:31.83.

Top five runners for Weatherford in each division included:

Varsity Boys Elite division: Aiden Breaux, 42nd, 18:37.56; Kelan Bush, 53rd, 18:50.75; Tate Nobis, 63rd, 19:03.50; Saldivar Saul, 67th, 19:04.50.

Varsity Girls Elite division: Ivy Scott, 31st, 22:29.71; Sofia white, 35th, 22:40.61; Madison Pulis, Turn to ELITE, page 12

of the match, Brinnlee Northcutt and Mayiah Polk (A), Raegan Turner (B).

Aledo Middle School cross country at **Mansfield Jones** Seventh grade

Boys finished first with a perfect score of 15.

Standout runners: 1. Levi Lund, 2. Jayden Smith, 3. Maxwell Troung, 4. Ethan Miller, 5. Isaac Gideon.

Girls placed first.

Standout runners: 1. Austyn Wiatrek, 2. Avery Williams, 6. Piper Sweeney, 13. Jewel Mayes, 17. Blythe Hayes.

Eighth grade

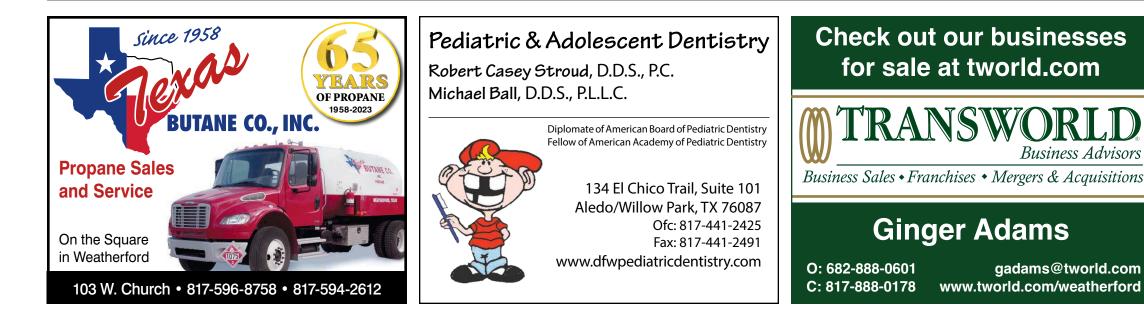
Boys finished first.

Standout runners: 2. Jonah Clary, 3. Josh Fink, 4. Brody Bruno, 12. Nathan Huble, 19. Austin Quinn.

Girls won first.

Standout runners: 1. Holland Gladchuk, 3. Ashley Lawrence, 11. Karson Green, 12. Stella Lamb, 14. Lily Elgi.

Editor's note: If you have a sports note and/or game results, please send to sports@community-news. com.



THE COMMUNITY NEWS

LADYCATS from page 12

went on to roll past Brewer, outscoring the home team by 21 points in the final two sets combined.

Elms led the way with 16 kills and five blocks, while Lowe produced six kills and three blocks. Todd finished the night with 10 kills, while senior Ella Isbell added four blocks. Meador and Pruitt shined on the back row as each player finished with 20 digs.

Meador also served five aces while Reding had two aces along with her team-high 25 assists. Caroline Pruett also contributed from behind the service line with two aces while Lufkin had two blocks. Frank also chipped in with seven assists.

Ladycats sweep Midway to conclude pre-district slate

In their final pre-district tune up, the Aledo Ladycats vollevball team hosted the Waco Midway Lady Panthers, who entered the match with a 21-11 overall record. Aledo overcame a sluggish start to down the Lady Panthers for a victory in straight sets. The Ladycats won their seventh match in a row by a final score of 25-21, 25-14 and 25-19.

'We came out a little flat, but we did bounce back and set the tone without making too many errors in a row," Ladycats head coach Claire Gay said. "We've talked a lot about finishing matches in the locker room and we try to instill drills in practice where the girls have to work really hard to finish with pace and discipline."

Aledo got a notable contribution from Morgan Esteves, whose quality workload on the night outshined her final stat line that included six kills, and Gay has been pleased to see her senior's contributions strengthen as she had to overcome an early injury.

"We had an injury with Morgan at the beginning of the year, who has been kind of a utility player for us the last three years. We needed a spark on the outside and she really stepped up to the plate," Gay said. "Her getting hurt in that first scrimmage was a bummer for us, but she's gotten healthy and has been getting her confidence back. She's a great ball handler and has done a really good job for us especially in these last couple of games." Todd led the offense with eight kills to go with nine digs while Lowe and Esteves each finished with six kills. Lowe also had two blocks while Reding, Meador and Frank recorded two service aces apiece. Reding and Frank combined for 23 assists while Meador recorded a teamhigh 15 digs. Kenrie Pruitt and Logyn Denbow recorded 11 and 10 digs, respectively, while Elms tallied five kills.



Aledo players celebrate a win by teammate Tom Ruminisky.

BEARCATS

6 TD rushing) was injured before the start of the season. Sophomore Zach Wells has taken over and is completing 64% of his passes with four TD and two interceptions.

Make room for Powell

In case no one noticed, Brady Powell can run with a football pretty well. The junior picked up a game-high 102 yards and a touchdown on just 13 carries in the win over Brewer.

"It's good to have that much depth," Jones said. "We know late in the game we can move the ball. In the past we haven't always had guys like Brady, so it's good to know we've got guys like him."

Junior Ray Guillory continues to return from his knee injury - and has looked solid in doing so. Guillory has 50 carries for 341 yards and six touchdowns so far.

Junior Kaden Winkfield has carried 38 times for 197 yards and four touchdowns.

All-time series

This will be just the fifth time the Bearcats and Hawks have played, with Aledo posting a 4-0 record in the series. The Bearcats won 42-7 in 2008, 48-13 in 2009, 40-17 in 2010, and a wild 67-42 contest in 2011 when the teams ere in the same district. Aledo and Fossil Ridge have only played twice, with the Bearcats winning both times, 26-3 in 2006 and 21-7 in 2007.

in district By Kelly Dishman Aledo varsity tennis is unde-(6-1, 6-0). feated in District 5-5A play after traveling to Saginaw High School on Sept. 10 and winning all matches in a 19-0 victory. Bearcat tennis is

Racquet Cats blank Saginaw

standing strong at 3-0 in district play and 10-3 overall. Boys winning their doubles matches were: Line 1 Jacob Heckathorn/Francois Britz (6-4, 6-1), Line 2 Ben Kurth/Casen Freeland (6-2, 6-1) and Line 3 Noah Nottingham/Tom Ruminsky (6-1, 6-1).

TENNIS

Still unbeaten

All girls doubles were also strong wins with Line 1 Elli Kate Bussmeir/ Bryanna Orr (6-1, 6-2), Line 2 McKinley Hayes/Lila Satterfield (6-1, 6-0) and Line 3 Eleanor Jack/ Patrice Loftin (6-1, 6-1).

In mixed doubles, Paxton Psencik/Natalie Nawrocki walked off court giving up just one game

Boys dominated their singles play with Line 1 Heckathorn (1-6, 6-1, 1-0), Line 2 Kurth (8-1), Line 3 Ruminsky (6-0, 7-5), Line 4 Britz (8-0), Line 5 Freeland (6-0, 6-2) and Line 6 Psencik (6-2, 6-3).

Girls swept every line with Satterfield at Line 1 (6-0, 6-0), Orr at Line 2 (6-2, 6-0), Bussmeir at Line 3 (6-0, 6-0), Byrd at Line 4 (6-0, 6-0), Hayes at Line 5 (6-0, 6-0) and Line 6 played by Gracie Heydman (8-1).

The Racquet Cats were playing at Azle at press time and hosts Keller Fossil Ridge Sept. 24 at 4 p.m.

Game at a glance Birdville Hawks (2-1, 1-0 in

District 3-5A Division I) Aledo Bearcats (2-1, 1-0).

When: 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20 Tim Buchanan Stadium.

Last week: Aledo won 64-0 at Brewer, Birdville won 27-24 at home over Granbury.

Last season: Aledo went 16-0 and won Class 5A Division I state championship, Birdville was 4-6 and missed playoffs. Teams did not play ..

All-time series: Aledo leads 4-0.

Returning starters: Aledo 3 offensive, 4 defensive. Birdville 5 offensive, 5 defensive.

Aledo offensive players to watch: QB Gavin Beard, 16-of-29, 189 yards, 2 TD, 1 interception; WR Blake Burdine, 9 catches, 147 yards, 2 TD, 4 kickoff returns for 88 yards, including a long of 40.

Birdville offensive players to watch: QB Zach Powell 64% completion, 296 yards, 4 TD, 2 interceptions, 10 carries, 99 yards rushing; WR Jadon Hicks 9 catches, 133 yards, TD.

Aledo defensive players to watch: LB Chase Wilburn 16.5 tackles, DE Cooper



Wide receiver Jamal Hollister leaps for a pass.

The Rangers led the St. Louis Cardinals three games to two and had a two-run lead in the ninth inning in Game Six. However, Nelson Cruz misjudged a fly ball and the game went extra innings, with the Cardinals winning 10-9 in

The season before making the move up the Panthers were 9-4 and advanced to the third round of the playoffs, one of their most success-

Subvarsity

ful seasons ever.

BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Last meeting vs. Birdville

Jones remembers the last time the Bearcats and Hawks played for several reasons. It was pouring rain. Aledo running back Jonathon Gray was having a great game - as he often did.

And, there is one other reason. "It was the night the Rangers blew the World Series," Jones said. "It was a Thursday night and they could have wrapped it up."

11 innings.

The next night, the Cardinals won Game Seven and the world championship.

The Bearcats would go on to win a third consecutive state championship.

Welcome back to 5A

Fossil Ridge's return to Class 5A has not been a successful one so far as they are still looking for their first win. The Panthers spent the past decade in Class 6A, posting a Bearcats are ranked No. 3 in 49-54 record, including 0-5 in the the state in Class 5A Division I. playoffs.

This past week Aledo subvarsity teams won three of four contests. The junior varsity Orange won 65-0 over Brewer and JV Black defeated Midlothian Heritage 41-0.

The freshmen Orange won 37-0 over Brewer and the freshmen black fell 20-0 to Mineral Wells A team.

JV Black and Orange improved to 3-0, while both freshmen teams are 2-1.

Rankings

Once again this week, the District foes Denton Ryan and

Cyphers 10 tackles, 2 sacks, 2 tackles for loss.

Birdville defensive players to watch: ATH Hunter Grant 35 tackles, sack, fumble recovery; DL Chi Ugwoegbu, 24 tackles, sack.

Richland remained No. 1 and No. 6, respectively.

On the national level, the Bearcats rose three spots to No. 82. Ryan also moved three places to No. 89.

Turn to FOOTBALL, page 9



Classifieds

8



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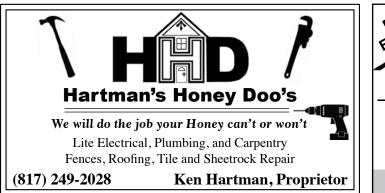
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FOOTBALL

Eagles fall at Era

Still seeking first win **By Rick Mauch**

Despite another solid night from quarterback Canaan Kaznowski, the Willow Park Trinity Christian Eagles dropped a 48-18 contest at Era on Friday, Sept. 13.

The Eagles (0-3) now enter their homecoming game against Tyler Bishop Gorman (1-1) Friday at 7 p.m. still in search of their first win.

"This was another tough loss for our guys. We just came out flat in the first half and put ourselves in a hole early," Eagles coach Cody McKenzie said. "We put together a few decent drives in the second half and the defense really stepped up to force three-and-outs to help the effort."

Kaznowski continued his strong season, completing 10 of 16 passes for 158 yards and a touchdown. He also rushed for two touchdowns.

Owen Coates hauled in the touchdown catch, one of his four receptions totaling 88 yards. Braxton Lewis had five catches for 62 yards.

Pearson Kuykendall led the Eagles in rushing with a dozen carries for 40 yards.

Coates also paced the defense, registering 11 tackles, including one for a loss. Dane Southworth, Maxwell Johnson and Lewis each recorded eight tackles and Kadin James had six, including three for a loss.

The Eagles could not overcome the size difference, however, McKenzie said.

"Era was a big physical team, and our young guys really were put to the test this game physically," he said. "Due to a few injuries we started a couple of freshmen on both sides of the ball, that playing experience will help us down the road."

FOOTBALL

Bearcats Bash Bears in district opener

Wins 120th straight in league

By Geoff Heppes e Community News

WHITE SETTLEMENT – The Aledo Bearcats started off district play in dominant form Friday night, Sept. 13, at Brewer High School. The Bearcats scored a barrage of points early, the stingy defense did not surrender a single point, and the special teams unit was firing on all cylinders in a complete performance for Aledo, who won its district opener by a final score of 64-0.

To read full story visit https:// www.community-news.com/stories/ $bearcats\-bash\-bears\-in\-dominant\$ district-opener,93104

Bearcats 64, Bears 0 Aledo 64

Brewer 0 0 0 0

A - Blake Burdine 22 pass from Nash McElree (Cole Crawford kick) A - Ray Guillory 5 run (Crawford kick) A - Kaden Winkfield 34 run (Waldron

Byars run) A - Lincoln Tubbs 22 run (Crawford kick)

A - Guillory 4 run (PAT failed) A - Kaydon Finley 17 pass from McElree (Crawford kick) A - Burdine 81 pass from McElree (Payton Shaffer kick)

A - Winkfield 20 run (Shaffer kick) A - Brady Powell 1 run (Byars pass from Tubbs)

Team statistics

First downs: Aledo 29, Brewer 5. Rushes-yards: Aledo 42-352, Brewer 25-61.

Passing yards: Aledo 226, Brewer 43. Caught-thrown-intercepted: Aledo 13-19-0, Brewer 8-23-0. Penalties-yards: Aledo 6-50, Brewer

4-40. Fumbles-lost: Aledo 1-1, Brewer 0-0.

Punts-average: Aledo 0-0, Brewer 11-29.0.

Aledo individual leaders

Rushing: Powell 10 carries, 102 yards, TD; Winkfield 6-93, 2 TD; Guillory 13-80, 2 TD.

Passing: McElree 11-of-13, 202 yards, 3 TD, 0 interceptions.

Receiving: Burdine 4 catches, 118 yards, 2 TD; Finley 5-72, TD.

Tackles: Adrian Fuller 4, Alex Patton 3.5, Kamron Hall 3.5, Cooper Cyphers 3. Tackles for loss: Kutter Harrell 1, Ben McElree 1, Tymon Meeks 1, Samuel Pimental 1, Kai Taylor 0.5, Chase Wilburn 0.5.

Kickoff returns: Burdine 1-40. Punt returns: Lamal Swanson 3-88.

Game at a glance

- Aledo Bearcats (2-1, 1-0 in District 3-5A Division I at press time) at Keller Fossil Ridge Panthers (0-3, 0-1 at press time).
- When: 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26 at Keller ISD Athletic Complex.
- Last week: Aledo won 64-0 at Brewer, Fossil Ridge lost 56-3 at home to Denton Ryan.
- Last season: Aledo went 16-0 and won Class 5A Division I state championship, Fossil Ridge was 3-7 and missed the playoffs. Teams did not play..
- All-time series: Aledo leads 2-0.
- **Returning starters: Aledo 3** offensive, 4 defensive. Fossil Ridge 5 offensive, 4 defensive.
- Aledo offensive players to watch (at press time): RB

Kaden Winkfield 38 carries, 197, 4 TD; OL Payton Williams continues comeback from injury.

Fossil Ridge offensive players to watch (at press time): RB Draylon Galloway 180 yards, 2 TD rushing, 2 catches, 76 yards receiving, 172 kickoff return yards; WR Jayden Cowan 12 catches, 177 yards, TD.

Aledo defensive players to watch (at press time): S Kamron Hall 12.5 tackles, 1 for loss, 2 pass breakups; CB Adrian Fuller 9.5 tackles, 2 interceptions, 4 pass breakups.

Fossil Ridge defensive players to watch (at press time): DB/ LB Javeis White 30 tackles; ATH Brady Jones 22 tackles, 6 for loss, 4 sacks.

FOOTBALL

from page 7

District 3-5A Division I

District Overa	ll/Poi	ints f	or-agains
Richland	1-0	3-0	137-50
Denton Ryan	1-0	3-0	126-35
Aledo	1-0	2-1	131-62
Birdville	1-0	2-1	83-108
Azle	0-0	2-0	92-62
Denton	0-1	1-2	28-111
Granbury	0-1	1-2	41-61
Keller Fossil Ridg	e 0-1	0-3	45-129
Brewer	0-1	0-3	27-117

Last week's results

Ryan 56, Fossil Ridge 3 Birdville 27, Granbury 24 Aledo 64, Brewer 0 Richland 56, Denton 0 This week's games (all at 7 p.m.) Friday, Sept. 13 **Birdville at Aledo**

Brewer at Richland Fossil Ridge at Granbury Denton at Azle Ryan bye



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Wide receiver Kade Callaway picks up yardage.

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09/18/2024

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The junior libero/defensive specialist had 35 defensive digs in a pair of 3-0 sweeps over Waco Midway and Brewer in their District 5-5A opener. She also served seven aces, including five against Midway.

Ella Meador Volleyball

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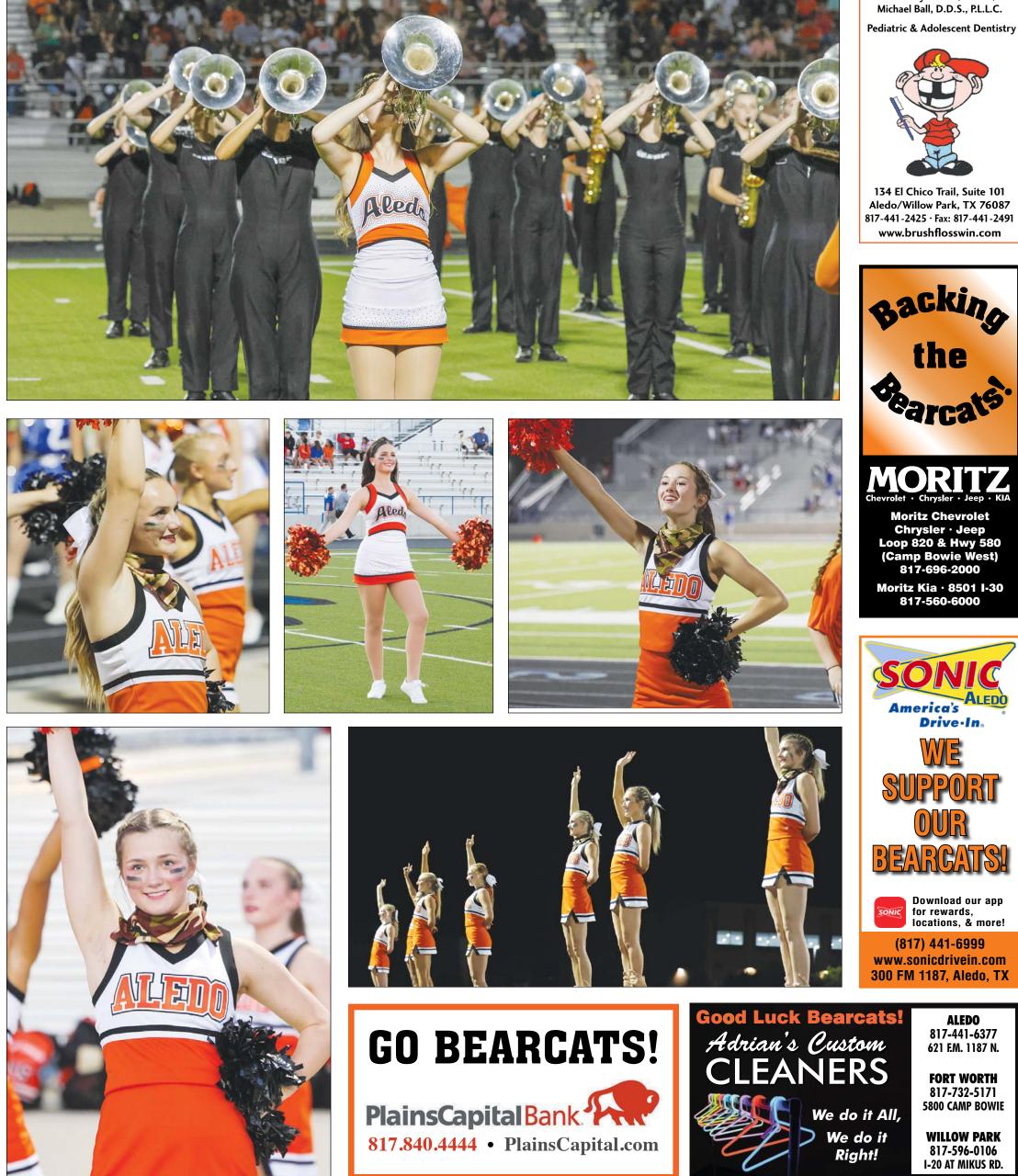
















Robert Casey Stroud, D.D.S., P.C.





12 September 20, 2024

Ladycats cruise past Brewer

Open district play By Geoff Heppes The Community News

The Aledo Ladycats volleyball team started off District 5-5A play on the right foot with an impressive performance Friday night.

Before the Bearcats football team finished off their 64-0 district-opening win at Brewer, the Ladycats handled business at the Brewer Lady Bears in their first district contest. The Ladycats (19-7 overall) won in straight sets

Aledo raced out of the gates to open up the first set. Star junior Alyssa Todd had the opening kill, junior middle blocker Lilly Lufkin followed with two blocks on the next three points and Brewer quickly called a timeout after an opening 5-0 barrage

25-16.

from Aledo. The Ladycats' opening run grew to 9-0 as Todd hammered two more kills, Kinley Elms recorded a kill and senior setter Ava Reding served an ace. However, the home team Lady Bears surged back into the match with a surprising 6-0 run of their own.

by a final score of 25-11, 25-13 and

After Todd put down a kill to end Brewer's run, the Ladycats' surge resumed as Aledo's lead grew to 17-7 following an 8-1 push by the Ladycats that forced Brewer to use its second timeout. Dominant front line play from Elms and senior Haley Lowe carried Aledo during its big run, and Lowe recorded a kill and a block on back-to-back possessions out of the timeout.

Senior defensive specialist Ella Meador served two aces in the closing run while teaming with libero Kenrie Pruitt for a bevy of digs and quality passes to setters Ava Reding and Sophie Frank. Todd ended the first set with a thunderous kill as Aledo's energy and effort carried over into the second and third sets.

Strong play up front continued to be a theme for Aledo throughout the match while the back row players and setter contributed mightily as well. The Ladycats

Turn to LADYCATS, page 7

ELITE from page 6

42nd, 23:01.74; Gianna Buchfink, 47th, 23:17.70.

Junior Varsity Boys division: Justin French, 27th, 20:04.41; Zavier Asucro, 33rd, 20:20.62; Jamee Roe, 44th, 20:44.63; Cole Ingram, 49th, 20:55.73.

JV Girls division: Makayla Alvarado, 13th, 24:41.50; Ivie Guay, 24:50.53; Kaitlyn Bloching, 38th, 26:12.64; Trinity Bold, 56th, 27:44.94.

Weatherford was scheduled to compete in the Decatur Reunion Run on Sept. 21, but the event has been canceled. They will next run in the OSU Jamboree at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma on Sept. 28.

WCS runs at two meets

Weatherford Christian School's Lady Lions competed at the Lipan Invitational on Sept. 11. Evelyn Woody led WCS, placing 15th individually over the 3.2K course in a time of 15:52.68.

Also for WCS, Brinley Burbidge was 40th in 19:28.14.

The Lady Lions and Lions also competed in the Terry Jessup Metroplex Striders Invitational at The Bluff in Fort Worth on Sept. 14. Wood again paced

SPORTS BRIEFS

Aledo Middle School football

Seventh grade: A team defeated Burleson Hughes 34-6; B team defeated Hughes 27-0; C team defeated Mineral Wells 19-0. Eighth grade: A team defeated Hughes 55-12; B team defeated Hughes 21-0.

WCS will next run in the Granbury Race For the Loot on Sept. 27.

Weatherford's Kaitlyn Bloching

the WCS girls, placing 22nd with

a time of 15:17.29 over 3.2K, while

Gavyn Prickett led the boys, finishing

CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Weatherford freshmen football

47th over 5K in 21:46.

Blue defeated Arlington 34-16. Players of the game, Fresh Pope and Jayden McNew.

Weatherford Tison football vs. Granbury Middle School

Seventh grade: A team won 20-12, player of the game, Parker Wren; B team lost 20-7.

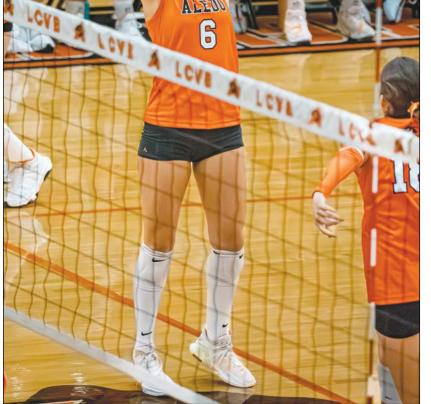
Editor's note: If you have a sports note and/or game results, please send to sports@community-news.com.



RYAN WADE/THE COMMUNITY NEWS



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Ava Reding sets up a spike attempt for the Ladycats durings Aledo's 3-1

win over Highland Park on Friday, Sept. 6.



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