

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

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WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

Growth plan continues

WC board approved purchase, sale of land

By Crystal Woerley
Weatherford College

The Weatherford College Board of Trustees approved the purchase and sale of property in their October meeting this past week that will eventually change the footprint of their Weatherford campus.

The board approved the purchase of 11.51 acres on Martin Drive across from the Kingsley Building at a price of \$3.25 million and another 2.5 acres on the corner of East Park and Sloan Street for \$780,000, both to be paid from unrestricted reserve funds.

To offset the cost of these purchases, the board also approved the sale of 45.6 acres of two non-contiguous tracks the college owns on the north side of BB Fielder Road between South Main Street and Tin Top Road.

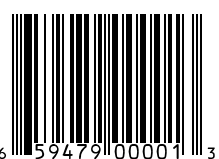
"Our truly remarkable enrollment growth as well as the addition of our now five bachelor's degrees has convinced us at Weatherford College that it is an excellent time to offer for sale this incredible tract of land," said Dan Carney, board president. "We have had so many inquiries on it already due to the prime location.

"Additionally, the purchase of the new properties will allow WC to address many critical needs associated with the growth and success we've already achieved. These are such exciting times at WC."

In other business, the board:

- Approved the minutes of the Sept. 12 meeting.
- Approved the financial reports ending Sept. 30.
- Approved the chief executive office reporting requirements.
- Approved the disposal of obsolete and surplus items through e-waste recycling and online auction.
- Approved the purchase and installation of cameras along the portion of Town Creek Hike and Bike Trail that runs through the WC campus.
- Approved an amendment to the Coursedog software contract.
- Approved the purchase of ProcessMaker software for transcript evaluation.
- Approved the purchase of equipment for the nursing and EMS programs.
- Approved a revision of the capitalization policy to reflect the state change as of Sept. 1.
- Approved a change order to the Vickie and Jerry Durant

Turn to COLLEGE, page 3



CHRISTOPHER AMOS/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Rowan Lapenna paints his self portrait on a pumpkin, one of the many activities at Aledo United Methodist Church's Lord's Acre Saturday, Oct.12.

Is our food poisoning us?

Aledo man creating healthy food using hydroponics

By John English
The Community News

Perhaps a better, and certainly more palatable, question would be is the food we eat harming us in ways in which most of us are unaware?

It's an interesting question and one that in recent decades has been explored ad nauseam due to an influx of highly-processed foods and chemically-treated produce.

For Aledo resident and hydroponic farmer Rees Atkins, there is no debate.

"A lot of the things we eat today, the lettuce, the greens and other vegetables are coated with pesticides," Atkins said. "Grapes have almost 2 percent round up in them in some cases, and lettuce in particular is covered in things that are bad for you. We are trying to create something. First of all, lettuce that you can grow in Texas, which is not something you hear much about or was even possible until recent years without indoor growing. So we use beneficial insects to eat the bad bugs so that we're not covering the vegetables in pesticides."

Dutch development

Co-owner of River Valley Farms, a family-built and operated facility using sustainable hydroponic agricultural methods, Atkins, 62, opened up shop about three years ago.

"The system we use was developed by the Dutch," Atkins said. "They get about 90 percent of their produce from these kinds of systems. They also have about an 80 percent lower frequency



PHOTOS COURTESY RIVER VALLEY FARMS

Products from River Valley Farms are created using hydroponic agricultural methods, a system developed by the Dutch.

of cancer than we do, so it's pretty obvious what the issue is." Atkins, who grew up in Aledo and played football at Aledo High School, owns and runs the farm with his son and daughter-in-law and also works as a real estate agent with Rees Atkins Realty Group.

"That's what pays for my passion to create a better food product," Atkins said with a laugh.

Found in restaurants

The product certainly appears to be of high quality.

Turn to HYDRO, page 3



ELECTION CHECKLIST

Election Day - Nov. 5 - polls open all day

Are you registered?
<https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

Change name or address
<https://txapps.texas.gov/tolapp/sos/SOSACManager>

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<https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqabm.shtml>

Mail in ballot application deadline is Oct. 25

Early voting begins Oct. 21

Early voting Ends Nov. 1

Early voting and election day voting locations and hours:

<https://www.parkercountytx.com/530/Early-Vote-and-Election-Day-Locations>

Sample Ballots:

<https://www.parkercountytx.com/477/Sample-Ballots>

WEATHERFORD COUNCIL

Marbut officially accepts post

Begins job as assistant city manager

By Christopher Amos
The Community News

Chad Marbut modestly acknowledged applause in the council chambers when the Weatherford City Council congratulated him on his promotion to assistant city manager at their most recent meeting. The 17-year Weatherford resident has most recently been the director of public works since 2022.

Marbut has served the public interests in government, private sector and in the armed forces.

"My background has long been civil engineering and infrastructure planning. I came to Weatherford in 2007 and have been working for the city for about 10 years," Marbut said. "I also serve in the Air Force Reserves, so that is a big part of my life as well."

Marbut has a Masters of Public Administration and a Bachelor or Science in Civil Engineering. He is a Major in the US Air Force Reserve, where he serves in the Installation

Turn to COUNCIL, page 3

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Help & Hope Luncheon

The Aledo AdvoCats held their annual Help & Hope Luncheon on Sept. 27 at Ridglea Country Club in Fort Worth.

The AdvoCats is a non-profit organization led by women volunteers committed to raising charitable funds to help fulfill and aid unmet needs of children and their families in the Aledo area.

For more information, visit aledoadvocats.com.



Emcee Ron Shelton



Vice President of Donor Relations Jessica Williams



PHOTOS BY KATHY CHRUSCIELSKI; KCSTUDIOS
Jennifer Collins



Candi Lear and Dawn Poston



Advocats President Lisa Robertson

Obituaries

Carol Pendley Ozee

Carol Pendley Ozee, 81, of Weatherford, passed away peacefully on October 6, 2024, in Burleson, Texas, following a courageous battle with Alzheimer's. She was born on June 4, 1943, in Crowell, Texas. Carol was a force of nature, known for her larger-than-life personality, and her ability to light up any room. She loved her family and her deep faith in the Lord guided her throughout her life.

Carol grew up in Fort Worth, attending Circle Park Elementary School and Trimble Tech High School. Though she waited many years to pursue higher education, her determination paid off when



Carol Ozee

she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas Christian University, followed by a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources from the University of Dallas.

Carol had a remarkable career spanning three distinct areas. She first established herself as a Human Resources expert at General Dynamics and Computer Science Corporation. Later, she found her true calling in teaching, working at DeVry Institute, where she taught a range of subjects including Human Resource Management, Career Development, Critical Thinking, Leadership, and Professional Writing. She was particularly

passionate about preparing students for their careers and authored several books on career success. Carol's final vocation was serving as a Deacon at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Willow Park, a role she cherished deeply.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Carol was active in her community. She served as a Stephen Minister, provided crisis assistance, and held positions on the boards of Grace House Pregnancy Center in Weatherford, Texas Habitat for Humanity in Fort Worth, and volunteered as an advisor for Center of Hope in East Parker County. Carol also served as a mediator for the Tarrant County Court System through Dispute Resolution Services.

Carol's adventurous spirit shone brightly in her younger years when

she enjoyed weekends at the lake, water skiing, camping, and riding dirt bikes. She was also a dedicated football wife, standing by Ken's side during his coaching career. Carol took immense joy in supporting student-athletes, sponsoring Fellowship of Christian Athletes, hosting team meals, and even developing and leading "Football for Women" seminars to help women better understand the sport.

Carol's legacy of love, service, and joy will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Carol is survived by her devoted husband, Ken Ozee, and her beloved children: Kimberlee Yates and her husband, Curtis; Tiffanee Huff and her husband, Zac; Kenny Ozee and his wife, Debbie; and Kevin Ozee and his wife, Christy

She was also the proud grandmother of Trey Ozee, Chase Ozee, Tyler Ozee, Ryan Ozee, and Parker Yates; and great-grandmother of Claire and Aubrey Ozee as well as brother Jake Stout. She also leaves behind many extended family members and friends who loved her dearly.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents, Gale and Francis Stout, and her brother, Lin Stout.

Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. at on Monday, October 14, at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Willow Park. A memorial and requiem will follow at the same location at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to St. Francis of Assisi Church in Willow Park.

The Community News
October 18, 2024

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THE COMMUNITY NEWS



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HYDRO

from page one

Several local restaurants, including Bonnell's, Ridgela Country Club (occasionally) and 61 Osteria buy some of their produce from River Valley Farms.

"The chefs that buy from us think the flavor of our food is better than what they might get from a bigger supplier because our product grows in the perfect PH, the perfect amount calcium, and organic nitrate from decomposing egg shells," Atkins said. "We read about the levels of nutrients required on a regular basis so that we can create food that looks and tastes like it is supposed to."

Atkins put that theory to the test recently when he had a friend buy the same product from his farm and a grocery store.

"He purchased a cucumber from a local grocery store and took one of mine," Atkins said. "He called me because I told him they would be different. He said he was sitting and having dinner with his family, and he cut the grocery store cucumber open and there was no aroma.

They all take a bite of a pickle-sized cucumber that had very little flavor. "They cut mine open and immediately it's aromatic, it's juicier. They take a bite and it tastes like a cucumber. It's amazing how we've slowly lost the reality of what things are supposed to taste like. So we doctor them up with all sorts of glazes and salts and things to try to get that flavor back out of them, but they actually have great flavors when they grow in the exact nutrients that they should."

Plenty of help

Atkins employs several full-time workers who help cultivate 14,000 heads of lettuce, a thousand pounds of cucumbers, and large quantities of tomatoes, micro-greens, and strawberries per month.

The facility offers tours, but only for groups.

"We do a number of schools," Atkins said. "Different colleges and schools have been talking to us recently about doing classes inside our facility and working there as an internship, and just trying to develop a better growing system for today's hungry world.

Farm box

Atkins said River Valley Farms also offers a farm box available for purchase.

"Right now we just kind of got finished with the test phase and we have about 30 customers who are getting weekly greens or bi-weekly greens from us," Atkins said.

According to Grand View Research, the U.S. accounted for approximately 10.1 percent of the global hydroponics market in 2023.

Atkins said the health benefits of hydroponic produce make it worth the extra effort involved.

"For truly just a few dollars more and a little bit of trouble, you can get a product that doesn't have pesticides on it," Atkins said. "You can't taste those pesticides, but you're eating them. They are in your body now. If they took a blood sample, they would find traces of those pesticides in you — in all of us. We're all doing it. So I think if you want to live a long life and get good nutrition it's worth trying."

River Valley Farms is located at 411 Koldin Drive in Aledo.



PHOTOS COURTESY RIVER VALLEY FARMS

River Valley Farms is working to create more natural, healthy food options.

COUNCIL

from page one

and Mission Support Center for Pacific Air Force Command.

Recognizing Freedom House

The council also proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Month and recognized Freedom House, Parker County's domestic abuse treatment, prevention and education center. The center provides counseling, emergency shelter and legal advocacy.

Client Advocate Debbie Buckman accepted the proclamation on behalf of Freedom House.

"I want to thank the city council and the Weatherford Police

Department, who are so helpful for us," Buckman said.

The Freedom House 24-hour hotline is 817-596-8922.

Executive session

Among other agenda items, the council went into a brief executive session to discuss "the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property." The property is adjacent to the Union Pacific Railroad between N. Main and N. Elm St.

Upon returning, councilman Zack Smith made the motion to accept and the article passed 4-0.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Weatherford City Council will be Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 6 p.m. at Weatherford City Hall, 303 Palo Pinto St. In Weatherford.

COLLEGE

from page one

Hall construction contract to include the demolition of the Mince Building.

- Approved MOUs and agreements with state entities.

- Approved a new student center fee of \$250 per student per semester beginning in the Spring 2025 semester. The fee will be waived for students taking only dual credit courses.

Received written reports from WC Wise County, student services and academics including the following updates:

- Under the leadership of Dr. Christi Cook, the Honors College has grown to serve 31 students to date.

- Planning for the Medical Laboratory Technology AAS scheduled to open Fall 2025 has started.

- The new Associate Degree Nursing and Vocational Nursing evening programs are at capacity and students are doing well. This brings the number of health science evening programs to six with one more beginning in Spring 2026 at WC Wise County.

- Received the annual access and affordability report.

- Received the annual Clery Act campus safety and security report.

- Listened to a presentation updating the board of the activities of WC's Phi Theta Kappa honor society and National

Society of Leadership and Success chapter.

In his President's Report, Dr. Tod Farmer:

- Congratulated WC volleyball player Abby Morris on her National Offensive Player of the Week award from the National Junior College Athletic Association.

- Congratulated Mason Stueve on his Men's All-Around title at the Sul Ross State University Rodeo.

- Announced the retirements of math instructor Grace Rothrock, acting financial aid director Terri Thompson and testing director Gwen Crabtree; and the resignation of financial aid clerk Ginger Shelnett.

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Medical Oncology/Hematology

Talha Riaz, MD
Medical Oncology/Hematology

Robyn R. Young, MD
Medical Oncology/Hematology Specializing in Breast

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The Community News



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Mail:
P.O. Box 1031, Aledo, TX 76008

Physical:
1015 Champions Drive, Aledo, TX

Phone:
817-441-7661

Web:
www.community-news.com

PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Randy Keck
rkeck@community-news.com
Direct Line: 817-386-1469

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Loydale Schmid
lschmid@community-news.com
Direct Line: 817-386-1467

CIRCULATION

Reagan Tomlin
business@community-news.com

PAGE AND AD DESIGN

Laura Finer
production@community-news.com

EDITORIAL STAFF AND CONTRIBUTORS

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

CONTACT POINTS

Billing
billing@community-news.com
Pay bills at community-news.com/billpay/

Ad Design Materials
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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.

Capital Highlights

Early voting begins next week



Gary Borders
gborders@texaspress.com

Early voting for the Nov. 5 general election begins Monday, Oct. 21 and ends on Nov. 1. Texas voters will be choosing from a full slate of candidates, from president to U.S. senator to various county positions.

The deadline to register to vote was Oct. 7. Voters are reminded to bring one of seven approved forms of photo IDs to the polls. Among the options are a Texas driver's license, U.S. passport, or handgun license. A complete list of acceptable IDs can be found at vote.texas.gov. Voters can also make sure they are registered by going to that site.

A recent *Texas Standard* story notes that under a little-known Texas elections law, convicted felons in prison are eligible to register and vote if they are actively appealing their convictions. It is unknown, however, how many of the 134,000 people currently held in state prisons actually register and vote, since the state doesn't track that data.

"Nobody's asking to do this because they have no idea that they can," Jennifer Toon of the Lioness Justice Impacted Women's Alliance, a nonprofit for incarcerated women.

Under state law, a conviction is not considered "final" as long as it is under appeal. Convicted felons who never appealed their case, or who lost their appeal, are not eligible to vote.

Surge in school threats prompts dozens of arrests

At least 40 Texas students were arrested in September in connection with making threats against schools, *The Dallas Morning News* reported. The surge came after a 14-year-old fatally shot two fellow students and two teachers at Georgia's Apalachee High School. Those arrested face an assortment of

charges ranging from generating a false alarm to making terroristic threats, or threatening to use a firearm.

"My concern is these threats are going to desensitize people," said Shane Wallace, director of the Texas Association of School Resource Officers. "It's an abundance every day. The one that's not reported may be the one."

While most of the threats turn out to be non-credible, law enforcement officials are obligated to investigate every threat, some of which turn out to be legitimate. For example, a 12-year-old student was arrested Sept. 10 in Bexar County after allegedly threatening to shoot another student. When his home was searched, deputies seized a pistol, ammunition and body armor. The child was charged with making a terroristic threat.

Dallas ISD Police Chief Albert Martinez said his officers were devoting nearly all of their time dealing with reported threats made by students.

\$50 million allocated for debris removal after storms

Gov. Greg Abbott and other state leaders have approved \$50 million in emergency funding to help communities in Southeast Texas with debris removal after Hurricane Beryl in June and a derecho storm in May, the *Houston Chronicle* reported.

While Abbott cited a shortage and delay of funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, that agency said it has enough funds to meet recovery needs - even though two more major hurricanes have struck the United States since then.

"FEMA has the necessary resources to meet the immediate needs associated with Hurricane Helene and other disasters," a statement from the Department of Homeland Security said.

Beryl left behind approximately 4.1 million cubic yards of debris, enough to fill Houston's NRG stadium, the *Chronicle* reported. That figure only includes storm debris such as broken and scattered vegetation. It does not include debris from damaged homes, buildings and roads.

Comptroller Glen Hegar supported the funding move because it will provide quick assistance where needed.

"In the aftermath of storms like these, questions about funding can lead to significant delays in recovery efforts and timelines," he said. "These delays can have disastrous long-term ramifications for local and regional economies."

Allred outraises Cruz in third quarter

Democratic challenger U.S. Rep. Colin Allred, D-Dallas, raised \$30.3 million during this year's third quarter, far outpacing incumbent U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz in their high-profile matchup, according to *The Tribune*. Cruz raised \$21 million during the same time period.

The two have collectively raised at least \$132 million since the race began, far outpacing the amount raised in Cruz's successful reelection campaign in 2018, when he beat challenger Beto O'Rourke by less than 3 percentage points.

Polls indicate a tight race, with Allred trailing slightly but within the margin of error.

High court to hear nuclear waste challenge

The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear a challenge to plans to store nuclear waste in West Texas, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. That comes after the state appealed a decision by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to grant a license to a private company to store spent nuclear fuel at a dump in Andrews County.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals previously found that the NRC has exceeded its authority under federal law. Abbott has said that Texas "will not become America's nuclear waste dumping ground."

The state of New Mexico is closely watching the case, since it is fighting plans to build a similar facility just across the line from the proposed site in Andrews County. Approximately



100,000 tons of spent fuel, some of dating back to the 1980s, is stockpiled at current and former nuclear plants while the legal battles ensue. A proposal to build a national storage facility at Yucca Mountain in Nevada has been abandoned because of widespread opposition in that state.

Monarch migration not looking promising

Millions of monarch butterflies are making their way through Texas to their winter vacation site in Mexico, but conservationists say the migration this year features far fewer than hoped, *kut.org* reported.

The butterflies started the spring in Mexico with the second-smallest population ever recorded. Poor weather conditions in the upper Midwest, where many of the beautiful creatures spend summers, hurt monarch reproduction before the southern migration.

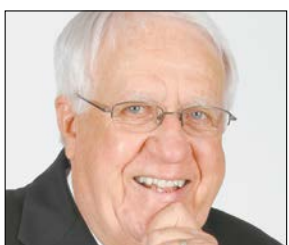
"It's not looking as promising as we had hoped," said Kristen Baum, director of the nonprofit research group Monarch Watch.

Researchers won't know the full picture until butterfly census takers head to the mountain forests of Central Mexico this winter. That is where the monarchs spend the cooler months.

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, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com

Idle American

Intersections of life



Dr. Don Newbury
newbury@speakerdoc.com

Names of luminaries met at intersections along our pathway keep popping up as corner posts in life's fence row.

They are not remembered as being Republican or Democrat, rural or urban, liberal or conservative. Each, however, has two characteristics in common -- notable public service and unquestioned Christian commitment.

A friend of some half-century, the late Everett J. (Ebb) Grindstaff was known as "Mr. Lion." In 1982, he was elected to the presidency of Lions International, an organization spanning the globe in more than 200 countries with 46,000 clubs and some 1.5 million members. He and his late father were well-known attorneys in Ballinger, TX, for almost a century. Ebb's dad was District Attorney and Ebb later was City Attorney for more than 50

years. Now, the new Texas Lions' Museum in Kerrville is dedicated to his memory.

Ebb challenged his children as they entered high school: "The most important thing your mother and I can give you is a good name. Take good care of it." Ebb died in 2019 at age 88; his widow, Jay, 93, attended the museum dedication, along with other family and friends, mostly roaring Lions.

Coach Grant Teaff led Baylor University from the football wilderness during his 21 years there. A high school sports star in Snyder and in college at McMurry University, Teaff has reached age 90. Recently, Snyder Public Schools named its football stadium in his honor. (It was a recent delight for me to have a two-hour visit with Grant and his wife Donnell in Waco. Their "get-alongs" have slowed, but they remain sprightly in spirit and outlook.)

Also this fall, Highland Park changed its stadium name to honor Randy Allen, their coach of 26 years who has won 23 district titles, more than 400 games and four state championships. This year, the former SMU football player won the coveted Tom

Landry Award for excellence in high school football coaching.

Highlander Stadium now has three additional words--Randy Allen Field. Now 74, he failed at retirement six years ago. After a few months, he "unretired" and was reinstated, pledging to coach until he can't.

Still another shining star was the late James M. Hamilton, who lost a lengthy and valiant battle with cancer earlier this year. He was 60 years of age, making a strong Christian impact during his life, most of which was spent in education.

I met him in 1986 upon being named president of Howard Payne University. He was Student Body President, taking seriously the confidences with which he was entrusted.

A community leader, he was greatly admired by the masses in his hometown of Weatherford, TX, where his memorial service was held recently.

The service was unique in several ways. It was held on August 14 on what would have been his 61st birthday. The Weatherford City Council, which he had served as a member, declared it to be "James Hamilton Day." At the reception following the service, strawberry cake--his favorite--was served.

Yes, James--like Grindstaff, Teaff and Allen--deserves "corner post" status.

Still another who sought no recognition, fame or fortune, was the late Cecil Holman, as good a friend and valued mentor as I have ever had, particularly during my student years in college. An African American grocer/undertaker in Brownwood, he was not privileged to attend high school. Yet, he was as wise as any person I've ever known.

It was "Uncle Cecil"--the name his many friends called him--who once offered me this valuable advice: "Mr. Berries (the name he always called me), try to remember that throughout life, you'll face far more 'hallelujahs' than 'doolalujahs.'" He got this right, as he did virtually everything else.

A tip of the hat to some of my corner posts! Most of us, in various shapes and sizes, are ordinary posts in life's fence rows. Corner posts, however, hold up far more than their share of the load. I salute them.

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 columns. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com.

CROSS COUNTY

Aledo squads dominate district meet

Ladycats post perfect score

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

Nothing new to see here. Well, there is a new group of district champions from Aledo, but as they have done so often, the Ladycats and Bearcats controlled the competition en route to twin titles.

It's the sixth consecutive league championship for the Bearcats and the fifth in six seasons for the Ladycats. Both teams are chasing return trips to state, with last season being the first in history for both Aledo teams to advance to state, and the Bearcats are seeking a third straight trip to Round Rock.

At the District 5-5A Meet, held at Central Park in White Settlement, the Ladycats posted a perfect team score of 15 points. They did so by having the top five individual finishers.

All seven Ladycat runners finished in the top 10 individually as they won the meet by 38 points over runner-up Azle with 53. The Bearcats had four top-10 finishers

Turn to **RUNNING**, page 7

FOOTBALL

Bearcats avoid trap at Granbury

Remain perfect in league play

By Geoff Heppes
The Community News

GRANBURY - After they left Tim Buchanan Stadium on Friday, Oct. 4, the Aledo Bearcats had just completed the finishing touches of their 42-27 come-from-behind win over then-No. 1 Denton Ryan. The momentous win helped Aledo both reclaim the No. 1 spot in the state rankings and take a clear lead in the District 3-5A Division I standings.

In their most recent Friday Night outing, the Bearcats traveled to Granbury to take on the Pirates in their next district contest with a mission to not fall victim to the "trap game." Following a bye week, Aledo hosts another state-ranked team with No. 10 Richland.

"The main focus during the week was to not let this be a Vanderbilt-type of game like Alabama had recently," Aledo head coach Robby Jones said. "Alabama had the big win over Georgia, then they went to Vanderbilt, who they hadn't lost to in 40 years, and got beat. We didn't want to do that. I didn't feel like Granbury would beat us, but I didn't want to come out and be sloppy and let them hang around. The guys did a good job executing and putting up points early along with the defense getting stops early."

The Bearcats did just that, scoring in points bunches early and often while the defense continuously suffocated the Pirates offense.



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Kaden Winkfield pushes through the line during the game in Granbury.

Ultimately, No. 1 Aledo rolled to a convincing victory, fueled by the synergy between the offensive and defensive units, by a final score of 56-7.

"We like being good on both sides of the ball and, when we are, we have had some really good football teams," Jones said. "We've had years where maybe we were really good on offense but not as good on defense or vice versa. Being able to go out, score points and shut people down will pay off for us in the long run."

Bearcats 56, Pirates 7

Aledo	21	21	14	0	56
Granbury	0	0	0	7	7

For full story and stats visit <http://www.community-news.com/stories/bearcats-sink-pirates,96155?>



BRELEIGH MAYER/THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Kaydon Finley leaps to catch the ball in the end zone for a touchdown.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Staff Reports
The Community News

FOOTBALL State champs in 2014 to be honored

The 2014 Aledo Bearcats state championship football team will be honored on Oct. 25 at Tim Buchanan Stadium, the same night the 2024 Bearcats will take on Richland in a key district contest.

If you were a member of the 2014 team, you are invited to join in for a tailgate party the night of the game. That evening, the tailgate will be in the Steve Wood Athletic Complex Indoor Facility starting at 5:30 p.m. with game kickoff at 7 p.m.

Fill out the form at aledoisd.org/departments/athletics/reunion and you will be sent details before Oct. 25.

Aledo Middle School vs. Mansfield squads

Seventh grade: A team defeated Mansfield Worley 30-0, B team defeated Worley 31-0, C team defeated Danny Jones 34-6.

Eighth grade: A team defeated Worley 34-6, B team lost 6-0.

Seventh- and eighth-grade teams have a combined record of 25-2 this season.

McAnally Middle School vs. Mansfield McKenzy

Eighth grade: A team won 14-8, B team won 40-0, C team won 27-6.

Seventh grade: A team won 22-12, B team won 7-6, C team won 26-6.

Weatherford Hall vs. Weatherford Tyson

Hall seventh-grade A won 30-28. Hall Players of the Game, the entire team.

Tison seventh-grade B won 6-0. Tison Players of the Game are Mason Everett, Hudson Lucas and Tyler Johnson.

Hall eighth-grade A won 44-0. Hall Players of the Game, Grady Ness offense, Bryson Swingle defense.

Hall eighth-grade B won 12-0. Hall Players of the Game, Peyton Queen and John Mark Fontenot.

GOLF

Weatherford varsity

The Kangaroos placed fourth as a team at Diamond Oaks Country Club. Sophomore Carter Bruton tied for first individually with a 77, but placed second overall after a scorecard playoff.

VOLLEYBALL

Familial bonds propelling Lady Eagles



RYAN WADE PHOTOGRAPHY

Sisters Alex and Emily Ickert

TCA's sisterly influence helping solidify strong culture

By Geoff Heppes
The Community News

The Willow Park Trinity Christian Lady Eagles volleyball team is in the process of creating a new regime of success under a strong culture behind return head coach Katherine Mullen and plenty of returning players. Amongst the familiar and new faces on the Lady Eagles volleyball squad are two sets of sisters - older sister Emily Ickert and younger sister Alex Ickert, along with twin sisters Kami and Paisley James.

In 2023, TCA finished with an overall record of 17-15 with a district record of 5-7 - both were improvements from the 2022 campaign. Currently, TCA is enjoying another successful season.

"I think one of the biggest keys is having a strong returning core of players from last year's team," Lady Eagles junior outside hitter Emily Ickert said. "This is also

coach (Katherine) Mullin's second year with us, so she was able to start the program off really strong, and we've been able to build on that this year. I think we've had a strong influence from this year's freshmen class - they've come in doing their jobs and have really helped out the team. I think it's evident that everyone on the team strives to win with a goal of making the playoffs."

With things trending in a positive direction in terms of production, TCA is also solidifying their camaraderie with one another, which is especially fun for the sisters on the team.

"I think it's really fun playing with my sister, Emily, because we've always been watching each other from the sidelines being two years apart, but now we get to play together," TCA freshman setter Alex Ickert said. "Now, we get to play together, and our connection really helps us on the court. We always push each other to the best of our abilities because we are both so competitive."

Turn to **TCA**, page 7



RYAN WADE PHOTOGRAPHY

Twins Paisley and Kami James

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

2024 Voting Calendar

MAKE YOUR VOTING PLAN NOW!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29 September	30 September	1 OCTOBER	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Holiday Indigenous Peoples' Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 EARLY VOTING BEGINS	22	23	24	25	26 EARLY WEEKEND VOTING
27 EARLY WEEKEND VOTING	28	29	30	31	NOV. 1st	NOV. 2nd
NOV. 3rd	NOV. 4th	NOV. 5th	NOV. 6th	NOV. 7th	NOV. 8th	NOV. 9th

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all together ooky"... and they're coming to the Heritage Park Amphitheater, 503 Santa Fe Dr. Weatherford, TX 76086, at 7 p.m. on October 18th for a FREE screening of the original Addams Family movie (1991). Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and get cozy under the moon as we relive the strange and delightful antics of The Addams Family!

ALEDO FEST

CITY OF ALEDO'S ANNUAL
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024

OCTOBER 19
2024 Aledo Fest
Aledo fest will be from 10 a.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

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 duck found in Texas

5 Texas singer B.J.'s birthplace: ____ OK

6 SMU & NFL great RB, Dickerson

7 Livingston's county

8 TXism: "fits like ugly on an ____"

9 TX Trini Lopez's "If I Had ____"

16 Ryan O' ____ was in "Wild Rovers" with TX Joe Don Baker

18 near El Paso, oldest U.S. Catholic parish: ____ Sur

21 dir. to Edna from Gonzales (abbr.)

22 in 1967, TX A.J. Foyt won at Le ____

23 TXism for "you"

24 Cowboy 1993 Super Bowl ring has star- ____ diamond

30 TXism: "plain ____ on your face"

34 Vega h.s. class

35 Mexican husk food

36 TXism: "trying to ____ against the stream" (difficult)

37 amino ____

39 mother of singer in 5-across (2 wds.)

43 ____ Code

44 Texas silent film star, Ramon

45 slang for Texas-created soft drink

46 TXism: "I ____ that like an armadillo needs an Interstate"

DOWN

1 TXism: "a flash in ____" (briefly)

2 small but important continent

3 TXism: " ____ snake on a hot road"

4 TXism: " ____ stock and barrel"

9 TXism: "fat ____ a boardinghouse cat"

10 TXism: "ugly as ____ sin"

47 TXism: "woodshed ____" (spanking)

49 TXism: "plain as the ____ mule"

52 in the Valley: Santa ____ National Wildlife Refuge

53 uncanny perception

54 said to waitress with the tea pitcher: " ____ off"

55 TXism: "he's wound tighter than an ____ clock" (tense)

58 artist Oldenburg of "Stake Hitch" sculpture at Dallas Museum of Art

59 former parent co. of Texas-based American Airlines

60 female deer

61 TXism: " ____ of the trail" (completed)

11 TXism: "packed like sardines in ____"

12 not stereo

13 historic home in Independence: ____ Houston House

14 TXism: "let ____ rip"

15 TX singer Orbison

17 early Texas novel by Reid: "The Head- ____ man"

19 TXism: "he was around when the ____ was only sick" (old)

20 TXism: "wiped the slate clean"

24 ____ Jo, TX

9 TXism: "got ____ left feet" (bad dancer)

32 TXism: "pay ____ no never mind"

33 election issue

38 TX Ginger played this Castle in 1939

40 gallery piece

41 western: " ____ Grit"

42 East TX windshield: ____ with bugs

48 Texas-based "Giant"

50 ____ and reels

51 therapeutic resort

56 ____ water, TX

57 TXism: " ____ the hoof" (hog)

Parker County Mayor's Food Drive

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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 18
Movies in the Park
They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky, they're

OCTOBER 1- 31
The Parker County Mayors' Food Drive
The Parker County Mayors' Food Drive benefiting the Parker County Center of Hope is going on now - October 31st, 2024. We need your help Hudson Oaks community!! You can pick up a bag from COHO City Hall, fill it up and bring it to one of the drop off locations or you can drop items off at COHO City Hall Tuesday - Thursday 8am-5pm.

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,

and The Shops at Willow Park for the second annual Fall Fest. This family-friendly event is free to the public.

Mayor Roberts' Second Annual Seed Ball Event
Town of Annetta will host the Seed Ball Event from 9a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturday, October 26, at Annetta Town Hall, 450 Thunder Head Lane, Annetta. Join us in making milkweed seed balls to help "grow" the population of the Monarch Butterflies. Your seeds will grow next spring and help nourish the butterflies during their migration next year. Bring your family and meet your neighbors! Call (817)441-5770 or email info@annettatx.gov

RSVP. A box lunch for participants will be provided. Take home the seed balls that you make to plant in your gardens prior to Halloween.

Trunk or Treat Pawty
Mark your calendars for a spook-tacular day at the shelter! Join us on October 26, 2024, for a fang-tastic Trunk or Treat event filled with fun for the whole family! Candy galore, bounce house fun, kids' costume contest, and of course, all the animal cuteness and wet kisses you can handle! Help us make this event a howling success by spreading the word - tell everyone you know!

NOVEMBER 2
13th Annual TCA Gift Market
The Market will be from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2 at Trinity Christian Academy - Willow Park
4954 East I-20 Service Road South, 76087.
Over 10,000 sq. feet of shopping space with 60+ wonderful vendors, festive photo opportunities, fun door prizes, and food trucks for hungry shoppers. Don't miss a special photo opportunity with Santa from 2-4pm. Admission is FREE!
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SPORTS BRIEFS

WC women second at Lake Murray
The Weatherford College women's golf team finished second at the Fall Aggie Invitational in Ardmore, Oklahoma. The tournament was hosted by Murray State College at Lake Murray Resort on Oct. 7-8.

WC's Kyla Morales tied for third place out of 49 players. The freshman from Aledo jumped from seventh place after the first round to third, shooting 82-77. Morales had two birdies on the back nine of her second round.

Corina Haros finished in fifth place, shooting 79-81. Emily Gutierrez was 11th, Grace Burland tied for 12th and Ella Barton was 15th.

As a team, the Coyotes made an 18-stroke improvement from day one to day two.

Redlands Community College (Oklahoma) won the seven-team women's field.

WC Foundation tourney sets record

The 2024 Weatherford College Foundation Golf Tournament, presented by Impact Mechanical, set an event record with approximately \$40,000 in net proceeds. The funds will support the foundation's efforts to raise scholarship dollars and other support for the college and its students.

The event, held at WC's Canyon West Golf Course on Oct. 3, was the 24th annual tournament benefiting the foundation.

"What a great day for golf and for WC," said Susan Sodek, event organizer. "Canyon West is in incredible shape, and we had amazing volunteers. I do want to thank our sponsors for their generosity. It was a wonderful day."

The First Financial Bank team took first place, shooting a 53 in the four-person scramble. The team was made up of Mike Davis, Will Fluitt, Colton Peacock and Blake Posey.

Impact Mechanical was the event's title sponsor. Platinum Sponsors were CBRE, Huckabee, Imperial Construction, Johnson Controls, and Southwest Ford. Gold Sponsors included BibliU, Brandt Companies, First Bank Texas, First Financial Bank, First Financial Trust, Follow Our Lead, North Side Baptist Church, Prosperity Bank, and Texas Bank. Silver Sponsors were Back Home Bakery, Gough Wealth Management, Jacy Guynes State Farm Insurance and Roadrunner Charters.

VOLLEYBALL

AMS sweeps Mansfield Jones
Seventh grade: A team won 25-10, 25-14; B team won 25-16, 25-13; C team won 25-10, 25-16.

Eighth-grade: A team won 25-11, 25-16; B team won 25-21, 25-18; C team won 25-12, 25-7.

Weatherford freshmen A
The Lady Roos defeated Mansfield Legacy 2-0, Players of the Match are Faith Bowen and Emersyn Burns.

Weatherford junior varsity

The Lady Roos swept Mansfield Legacy 2-0. Emma Redington was named Player of the Match.

Weatherford Tison vs. Weatherford Hall

Seventh grade: Hall A won 25-8, 25-7, Hall Players of the Match, entire team; Tison B won 10-25, 25-22, 15-10, Tison Player of the Match, Bella Simmons; Hall Player of the Match, Carline Crestman.

Eighth grade: Hall A won 25-8, 25-12, Hall Players of the Match, Laine Tomlinson and Maddie Tompkins; Tison B won 24-26, 25-16, 25-23, Tison Players of the Match, entire team; Hall Players of the Match, Devyn Walker, Braylee Green and Colbie Ogle.

WC win streak hits 10

The Weatherford College volleyball team picked up its 10th straight victory with a sweep of Temple College on Saturday, Oct. 12 at the Betty Jo Graber Athletic Center.

The No. 6 Coyotes moved to 21-5 overall and 8-0 in conference play.

Three Coyotes finished with double-figure kills: Abby Morris (11), Gabriela Maldonado (11) and Weronika Urbanska (10). Victoria Sanchez logged 19 assists, and Lorena Gomez added 18. Kiana Souza had 12 digs, and Morris had 10.

WC has six regular season matches remaining and just three at home. On Saturday, Oct. 19, at 1 p.m. they host Southwestern Christian College. Find their full schedule online at wcathletics.com.

TENNIS

Weatherford Tison

Players of the Match were Myka Maclin and Khloe Torres for winning their doubles match 6-2, Ruth Fuentes for winning her singles match 6-2, and Waverly Harris for winning her singles match in a tiebreaker 7-6 (11-9).

GOLF

Bearcats compete at Berry Memorial tournament

Event honors late former Granbury golfer

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

The Aledo Bearcats Varsity Orange team competed in the Briggs Berry Memorial tournament at Pecan Plantation in Granbury on Oct. 7. The tournament is named after the late former Pirate golfer who passed away as a teenager in 2014 following his battle with an immune deficiency.

The Bearcats finished tied for eighth out of 14 teams, shooting a team score of 352. Granbury Purple won the tournament with a 302, with Brock taking second with a 317.

Maddox Jessup led Aledo with an 82, tying for 11th individually in a field of 82 golfers. Right behind him was William Kirkman with an 83.

Also for Aledo, Brian Yarbrough posted an 88, with

Evan Boukaden and Andrew Today coming in with a 99 each. The four lowest individual scores comprise the team score.

"Pecan is a very tough course. We struggled in keeping the ball in the fairway," Bearcats coach Brian Mourning said. "We got in some trouble off the tees some and that led to some bad holes."

"We will get back to work on correcting our mistakes. Proud of how the kids handled the course and are willing to get better."

Varsity Orange will be back in action, along with Varsity Black, on Tuesday, Oct. 22 in the District 5-5A Preview at Cross Timbers Golf Course in Azle. Before then, Varsity Black will compete in the Granbury Invitational at DeCordova Bend Country Club and Harbor Lakes Golf Course on Oct. 18.

All Aledo boys and girls golf programs will compete in the program's annual Bearcat Brawl fundraiser on Oct. 27 at Split Rail Golf Club in Aledo.

TCA

from page 5

The competition is fierce between the James sisters as well and, along with that, keeping communication straightforward helps the girls sharpen one another effectively.

"Honesty has always been a big part of any sort of relationship of mine, especially with my sister and with Alex and Emily," Lady Eagles freshman middle Kami James said. "The fact that we are able to be honest with each other and not sugarcoat anything allows us to know each other better without having pointless arguments."

"Probably some cons are that we can definitely be critical of each other," Alex said, with laughter.

The pair of sisters have been playing volleyball from a young

age, and it's both helped them strengthen their relationships with one another and bring the entire team closer together.

"My twin sister Kami and I have been playing volleyball since fourth grade," freshman outside hitter Paisley James said. "What really made it interesting was the competitive aspect. We grew up playing sports since we were five years old, but getting to play volleyball together for the first time sparked the competitive connection for us to grow stronger together as athletes. We both have the passion to play for the win each time we are next to each other at the net."

When dissecting the best ways to attack and defend against the opposition, the Ickert sisters have found their groove and strategize regularly during games and practices.

"I think it's really helpful playing with my sister Alex because,

RUNNING

from page 5

to score 28 and top second-place Azle with 70.

"We had some really outstanding performances on a tough course," Aledo coach Mike Pinkerton said.

Micah Neal won the individual varsity girls district championship, while Tyler Connelly captured the title among the boys. Molly Garrison and Jack Fink were runners-up.

The junior varsity girls and boys were each second in their group, with Landon Eaton winning the JV boys individual championship.

"Tremendous day by all groups!" Pinkerton exclaimed.

The varsity teams will now move on to the Region I Cross Country Meet at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock on Tuesday, Oct. 22. From there, the top four teams and top 10 runners not on qualifying teams will advance to state at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock on Nov. 2.

"Very proud of all of our Ladycat and Bearcat runners," Pinkerton said.

For full results visit https://www.community-news.com/stories/aledo-squads-dominate-district-meet_96345

number one, she's the setter and I'm an outside hitter," Alex Ickert said. "She will feed me balls to hit and I can tell her where I want the ball. It's also good for us playing together because we push each other with our competitive spirits - we just want to pull the best from each other."

Amidst their successful season, the Lady Eagles are setting lofty goals for themselves and are confident in their ability to achieve what they've set out to accomplish.

"Some goals we have this year as a volleyball team starts with making playoffs," Alex Ickert said. "We also want to make it further in the state tournament. I feel confident that we can reach these goals because we have a good connection as a team and, with that connection, we can make it far together - I think we will go far this season."

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PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Kelly Ranch to include one (1) Trinity Well, six (6) Paluxy Wells and related appurtenances will be received at the office of Harold Sandel, CPM, 9843 Bankhead Highway, Aledo, Texas, 76008 until

12:00 Noon, Tuesday, November 12th, 2024

and publicly opened. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the place of opening prior to the time stated above. Any bidder desiring an electronic copy of the proposal form and bid documents should email their request to sarayah@crvonline.com.

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the construction and permitting of the Kelly Ranch Water Wells.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all irregularities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date bids are opened.

Kelly Ranch Estates, LLC

Publication: October 18, 2024
 October 25, 2024
 November 1, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to Cresson Crossroads MUD No. 2 for Road ROW Landscaping Improvements to serve Kelly Ranch, Parker County, Texas will be received at the office of Harold Sandel, CPM, 9843 Bankhead Highway, Aledo, Texas, 76008 until

12:00 Noon, Tuesday, November 12th, 2024

and publicly opened. Bids must be mailed or delivered to the place of opening prior to the time stated above. Any bidder desiring an electronic copy of the proposal form and bid documents should email their request to sarayah@crvonline.com.

The Proposal (s) shall be for the furnishing of all labor, materials, and equipment for performing all work required for the Construction and Installation of the Road ROW Landscaping.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all irregularities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of sixty (60) days from the date bids are opened.

Kelly Ranch Estates, LLC

Publication: October 18, 2024
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**NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION
(AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)**

To the Registered Voters of PARKER COUNTY, Texas:

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open 7:00a.m to 7:00 p.m., November 5, 2024, for voting in a general election to elect "Presidential electors, Members of Congress, Members of the Legislature, and state, district, county and precinct officers."

The following Entities will have elections as well:

General Election: Brock Independent School District, Garner Independent School District, Granbury Independent School District, Poolville Independent School District, Parker County Hospital District

Special Election: Peaster Independent School District, Justice of the Peace precinct 3 alcohol election

A los votantes registrados deal Condado de PARKER, Texas:

Notifíquese por la presente, que las Casillas electorales citadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00a.m. hasta las 7:00p.m. el 5 de noviembre de 2024 para votar en la Elección General para elegir "Electores presidenciales, Miembros del Congreso, Miembros de la Legislatura, y oficiales del estado, distrito, condado y del precinto."

Elección general: Brock Independent School District, Garner Independent School District, Granbury Independent School District, Poolville Independent School District, Parker County Hospital District

Elección especial: Peaster Independent School District, Justice of the Peace precinct 3 alcohol election

Election Day Polling Locations (Lugares De Votación En El Día De Las Elecciones)

Voting on Election Day, November 5, 2024, shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. registered voters can vote at any of the following polling places:

(La votación en el día de la elección, será el 4 de noviembre de 2024, y se llevará a cabo entre las 7:00 a.m. y las 7:00 p.m. Los votantes registrados pueden votar en cualquiera de los siguientes lugares de votación:)

Polling Site	Address	Location
Silver Creek United Methodist Church	2200 Church Rd, Azle 76020	Fellowship Hall
Azle City Hall	505 W Main St, Azle 76020	Community Room
Reno City Hall	195 W Reno Rd, Azle 76020	Council Room
Springtown Senior Center	1070 N Main St, Springtown 76082	Community Room
Legacy Church	3591 E Highway 199, Springtown 76082	Youth Room
Friendship Baptist Church	801 Friendship Rd, Weatherford 76085	Gym
Agnes Baptist Church	350 Agnes North, Springtown 76082	Foyer
Harburger Hill Community	701 Narrow St, Weatherford 76086	Large Room
Trinity Lutheran Church	1500 Ball St, Weatherford 76086	Fellowship Hall
Poolville Methodist Church	230 North Church, Poolville 76487	Fellowship Hall
Peaster ISD Rock Gym	8512 FM RD 920, Peaster 76088	Back Room of Gym
Whitt Fire Department	4312 N FM RD 52, Whitt 76490	Training Room
Bethesda United Methodist Church	6657 FM RD 113 N, Weatherford 76088	Johnson Hall
Calvary Baptist Church	1900 N Main St, Weatherford 76085	Fellowship Hall
Shady Grove Baptist Church	2470 W Lambert Rd, Weatherford 76088	Sunday School
Union Baptist Church	3451 Sarra Ln, Springtown 76082	Fellowship Hall
Victory Baptist Church	1304 Fort Worth Hwy, Weatherford 76086	Youth Building
Cherry Park Community Center	00 S Alamo St, Weatherford, TX 76086	Main Room
Grace First Presbyterian Church	606 Mockingbird Ln, Weatherford 76086	Great Hall
Santa Fe Drive Baptist Church	1502 Santa Fe Dr, Weatherford 76086	Family Life Center
Weatherford College	225 College Park Dr, Weatherford 76086	Room 126
Millsap Community Center	104 Fannin St, Millsap 76066	Building
Harmony Baptist Church	242 Harmony Rd, Weatherford 76087	Fellowship Hall
Tin Top Community Center	101 Old Tin Top Rd, Weatherford 76087	Building
First Baptist Church Brock	7600 FM RD 1189, Brock 76087	Foyer/Narthex
First Baptist Church Dennis	7600 FM RD 1189, Dennis 76087	Old Fellowship Hall
Spring Creek Baptist Church	100 Spring Creek Rd, Weatherford 76087	Gym
Greenwood Fire Department	1418 Greenwood Cut-Off Rd, Weatherford 76087	Training Room
Morningstar Amenity Center	128 Heather Wind Ln, Aledo 76008	Amenity Center
Hudson Oaks Public Safety Bldg.	150 Oakridge Dr, Hudson Oaks 76087	Training Room
First Baptist Willow Park	601 Ranch House Rd, Willow Park 76087	Welcome Center
Bear Creek Community Church	18600 Hwy 377, Cresson 76035	Building
City of Aledo Community Center	104 Robinson Ct, Aledo 76008	Large Room
Aledo ISD Admin Building	1008 Bailey Ranch Rd, Aledo 76008	Louden Room
New Faith Baptist	3303 West FM RD 5, Annetta 76008	Fellowship Hall
Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church	200 S Lakeshore Dr, Hudson Oaks 76087	Foyer

Early Voting by personal appearance will be conducted at:

(La votación anticipada en persona se llevará a cabo en:)

Main Voting Site

Parker County Courthouse Annex
1112 Santa Fe Dr
Weatherford, 76086
Annex Kitchen

Branch Voting Sites

<u>Springtown Senior Center</u> Community Room 1070 N Main St Springtown, 76082	<u>Peaster ISD Rock Gym</u> Back Room of Gym 8512 FM RD 920 Peaster, 76088	<u>Aledo ISD Admin Building</u> Louden Room 1008 Bailey Ranch Rd Aledo, 76008
<u>Hudson Oaks Public Safety Building</u> Training Room 150 Oak Ridge Dr Hudson Oaks, 76087	<u>Azle City Hall</u> Community Room 505 W Main St Azle, 76020	<u>PCT 3 County Barn</u> Break Room 1111 FM RD 1189 Brock, 76087

Early Voting Hours and Days

Monday, October 21, 2024 (Lunes 21 de octubre de 2024)	8:00AM-5:00PM
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 (Martes 22 de octubre de 2024)	8:00AM-5:00PM
Wednesday, October 23, 2024 (Miércoles 23 de octubre de 2024)	8:00AM-5:00PM
Thursday, October 24, 2024 (Jueves 24 de octubre de 2024)	8:00AM-5:00PM
Friday, October 25, 2024 (Viernes 25 de octubre de 2024)	8:00AM-5:00PM
Saturday, October 26, 2024 (Sabado 26 de octubre de 2024)	7:00AM-7:00PM
Sunday, October 27, 2024 (Domingo 27 de octubre de 2024)	10:00AM-4:00PM
Monday, October 28, 2024 (Lunes 28 de octubre de 2024)	7:00AM-7:00PM
Tuesday, October 29, 2024 (Martes 29 de octubre de 2024)	7:00AM-7:00PM
Wednesday, October 30, 2024 (Miércoles 30 de octubre de 2024)	7:00AM-7:00PM
Thursday, October 31, 2024 (Jueves 31 de octubre de 2024)	7:00AM-7:00PM
Friday, November 1, 2024 (Viernes 1 de noviembre de 2024)	7:00AM-7:00PM

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed:

(Las solicitudes para boletas de votación adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Jenise Miller
Early Voting Clerk
PO Box 639
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Fax: 817-598-6183

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on: October 25, 2024. (Las solicitudes para boletas de votación adelantada por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el: 25 de octubre de 2024).

Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on: 10/25/2024. La Tarjeta Federal Postal de Solicitud deberán recibirse no mas tardar de las horas de negocio el: 10/25/2024

Note: If ABBM is faxed or emailed or if an FPCA is faxed; the original application must be received within 4 business days.

(Si ABBM se envía por fax o correo electrónico o si se envía por fax una FPCA; La solicitud original debe ser recibida dentro de los 4 días hábiles.)

FOOTBALL

McElree brothers reunion benefiting Bearcats

By Rick Mauch
The Community News

In a recent victory for the Aledo Bearcats football team, senior linebacker Ben McElree scooped up a fumble and returned it for a touchdown as the crowd, coaches and teammates went wild cheering.

But no one was more enthusiastic - other than Ben himself - than his younger brother Nash, a sophomore backup quarterback.

"I was going crazy," Nash said, adding with a laugh. "For a second there when he was celebrating I thought he'd get a flag."

Ben didn't. But what he did get was quite a rush.

"That was so exciting. My senior year. Homecoming," he said. "I saw the ball on the ground and I thought, 'I'm gonna run as fast as I can.'"

Closeness

That is one of several moments the brothers have shared in what will be their only season to play together on the Bearcats varsity. It's been quite a while since they were on the same team, with Ben being two grades ahead of Nash.

"Ever since we stopped playing pee wee together I've wanted to play with Nash again," Ben said.

The brothers have always been close, even to the point Nash would play at a higher level so he could play alongside Ben and be coached by their dad at the pee wee level.

Ben even drives Nash to school every day.

"It's up to him to wake up," Ben said with a grin.

"I was able to play with my brothers, which was pretty cool," said Bearcats head coach Robby Jones, who played at Pilot Point. "It was tough my sophomore year when we got beat (state quarterfinals in 1987 against Lorena). I knew it was his last game, but being able to share that experience was really great."

Moving up

The season didn't begin with the brothers playing together. Nash was actually on the junior varsity so he could get more playing time.

But after starting quarterback Gavin Beard was injured in the season opener at .

Denton Guyer, Nash was called up. He started in wins over Lancaster and Brewer, having a near-perfect night in the latter game, completing 11 of 13 passes.

He's since stayed on the varsity roster.

"I was super excited. I was thinking, 'What can I do to stay on the varsity roster with my brother?'" Nash said.

"We found out that Gavin was hurt and that Nash would be starting, I was nervous for my brother," said Ben, who is in his third varsity season. "I



SPECIAL TO THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Brothers Nash (left) and Ben McElree are enjoying their one and only season together on the Aledo Bearcats varsity football team. Nash is a sophomore quarterback and Ben is a senior linebacker.

told him, 'Be calm and play how you always play.'

"Nash played well. He made a couple mistakes, but went back on the field and handled it well. After the Lancaster game we all figured out Nash could fill that role."

Coming to Aledo

The McElrees are originally from Central Valley in California. They moved to Aledo during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

"COVID shut down California," Ben said.

Their dad still runs a construction company based in California. Their grandparents joined them in the move east.

Their family sports heritage also includes California. Their dad played basketball at University of California Davis and their grandfather played football at Cal Poly.

"He actually ran against Reggie Bush (former USC standout and Heisman Trophy winner). He never beat him, but he got close," Ben said.

"My dad knew Shaq (Shaquill O'Neal) in college," Nash added.

The move brought the brothers even closer.

"He was all I hung out with for a long time when we got here," Ben said.

Then, of course, as they began their respective school activities that took them

different directions, they didn't see each other as often - until this season.

"When Nash started practicing with the varsity, it was so great," Ben said.

Ben noted that there is another McElree on his way to the Bearcats varsity some day. Younger brother Kinser is a quarterback in the sixth grade.

"The youngest is always the toughest," Ben said with a smile. "He's going to be a stud."

More to share

Ben will occasionally enter the Bearcats backfield in certain goal line situations. He said he has a dream scenario involving that.

"We were going to ask coach if we could go in together so I could hand the ball to Ben for a touchdown," Nash said.

"Sometimes we'll come up with funny plays and joke around," Ben said. "Like maybe a toss back to one of our offensive linemen and he throws a deep pass."

But the thing they'd love to do most of all is something that has become a tradition at Aledo and which Ben has experienced twice - win a state championship together.

"That would be really special, my senior year, sharing that with my brother," Ben said. "What a great memory that would be."

A great way to start the day!

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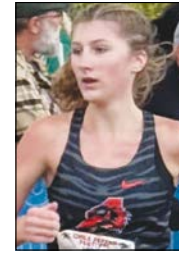
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LADYCAT OF THE WEEK



Micah Neal
Cross Country

Neal, a sophomore, won the individual District 5-5A championship while leading the Ladycats to a perfect score and their fifth league title in six seasons. She posted a time of 18:35.21 over the 5K course.

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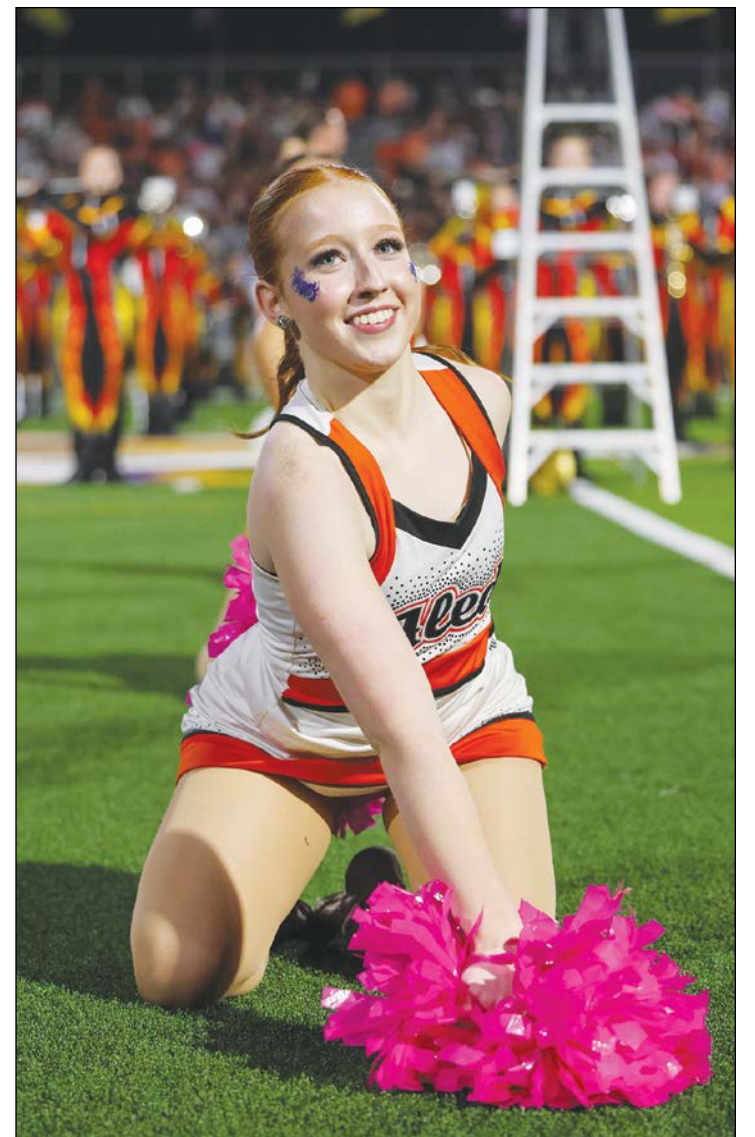
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BEARCAT OF THE WEEK



Tyler Connelly
Cross Country

The sophomore captured first place individually while leading the Bearcats to a sixth consecutive district championship as they won District 5-5A on Friday, Oct. 11 at Central Park in White Settlement. He clocked a time of 15:51.80 over the 5K course.

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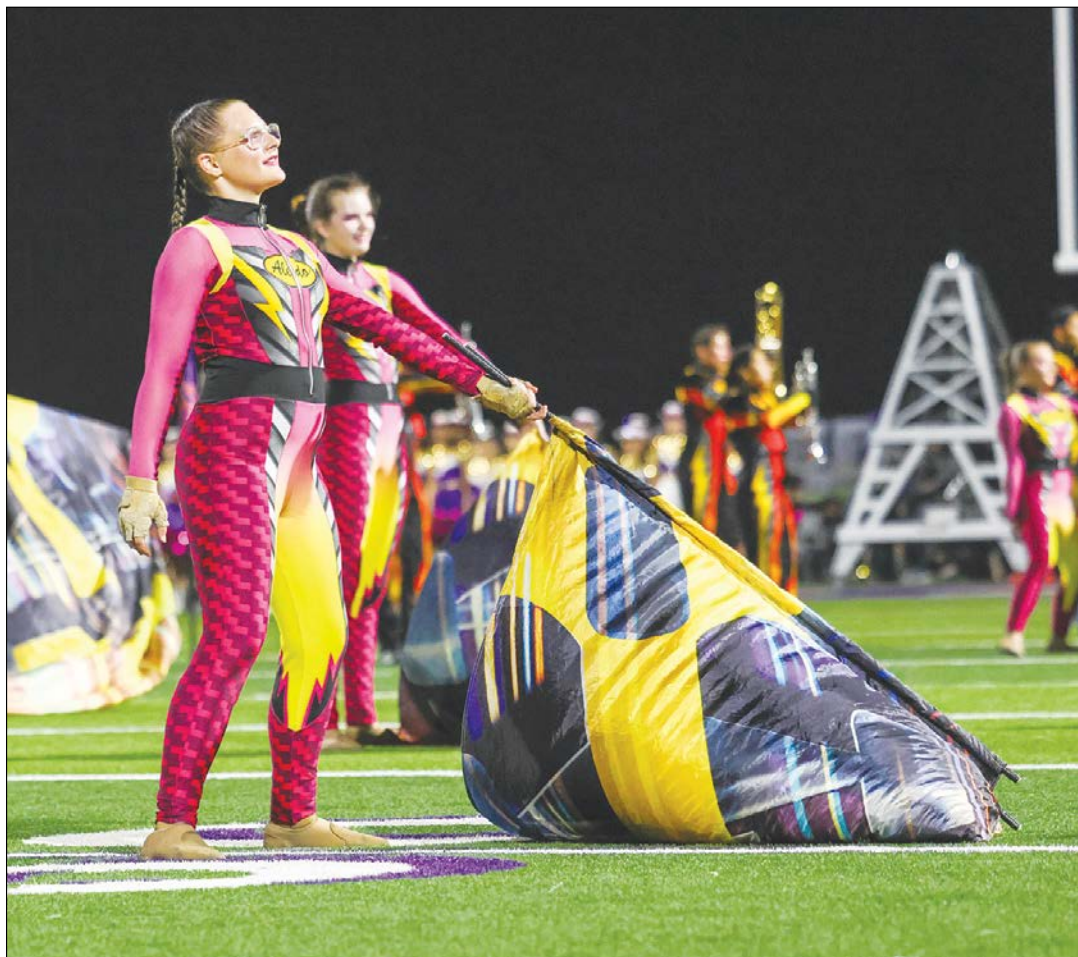
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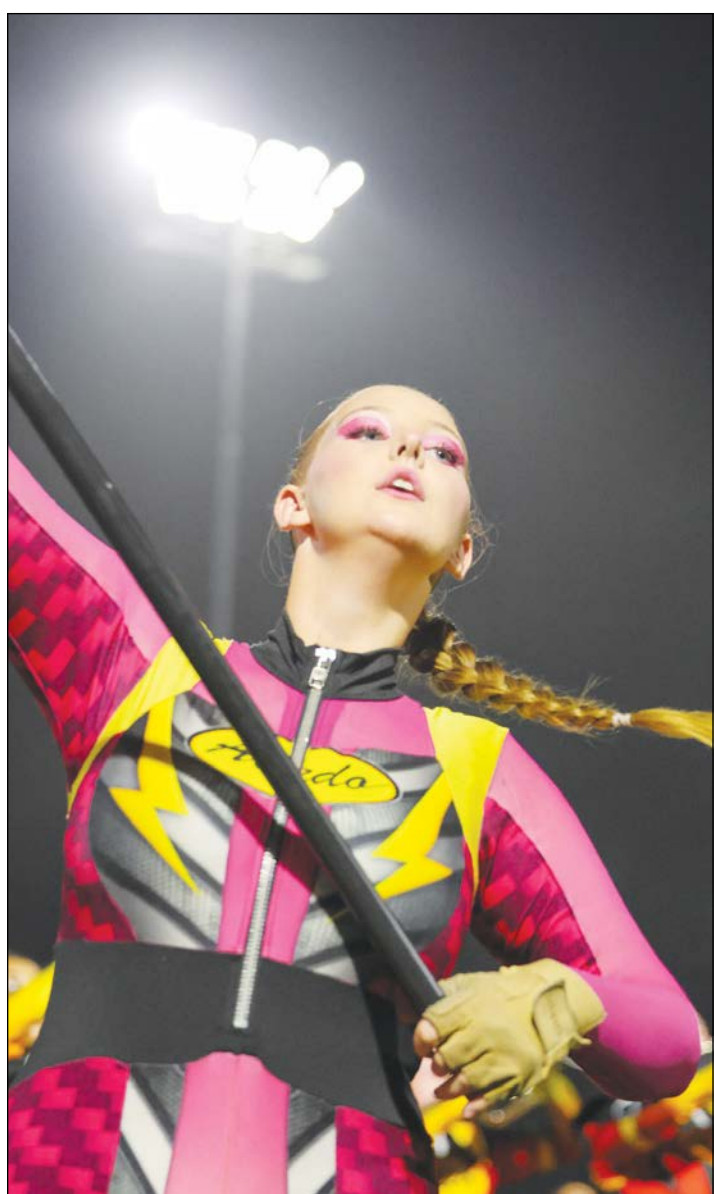


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VOLLEYBALL

Aledo rolls past Granbury in sweep

Ladycats win streak balloons to 15

By Geoff Heppes
The Community News

GRANBURY – In their most recent district outing, the No. 6 state-ranked Aledo Ladycats faced the Granbury Lady Pirates once more after sweeping Granbury previously in Aledo. This time was no different.

In fact, Aledo was more dominant on the road as the Ladycats cruised to a straight-sets win Friday night, Oct. 11, by a final score of 25-12, 25-12 and 25-15.

After senior setter Ava Reding celebrated her 2,000-assist milestone in a win over Brewer on Oct. 8, senior libero Kenrie Pruitt achieved her own positional accomplishment of 1,000 career digs. Furthermore, she was a force on the back line against Granbury with 13 digs. Her back line running mate, senior defensive specialist Ella Meador, led the team with 16 digs.

Offensively, star junior Alyssa Todd led the charge with 16 digs to go with 11 digs, two blocks and one ace. Meanwhile, senior middles Kinley Elms and Haley Lowe dominated up front, combining for 16 kills and seven blocks. Reding and junior Sophie Frank combined for 27 assists while Frank also produced 12 digs and Reding served an ace. Ella Isbell and Ali LoBaugh combined for seven blocks while Kenley Hamilton served an ace.

On the subvarsity levels, the ninth-grade B team won in straight sets (25-16 and 25-6), the ninth-grade A team earned a sweep (25-9 and 25-10) and the junior varsity recorded a victory in two sets (25-17 and 25-14).



RYAN WADE PHOTOGRAPHY

Senior Send-off: (L to R) Class of 2025 seniors Logyn Denbow, Ella Isbell, Caroline Pruett, Morgan Estevez, Ella Meador, Coach Claire Gay, Kenrie Pruitt, Hailey Lowe, Ava Reding, and Kinley Elms Senior Night, Oct. 8.

The Ladycats (26-7, 7-0) were playing at Saginaw at press time. The Ladycats have yet to drop a set through seven district wins.

Aledo 3, Brewer 0 on Senior Night

The Aledo Ladycats continued their stellar play through their district portion of their schedule on Tuesday night, Oct. 8 as they hosted the Brewer Lady Bears. Aledo, who was having its Senior Night, rolled to another impressive win in straight sets by a final score of 25-15, 25-16 and 25-12.

“We’re really hitting a nice groove. We try to get creative with them in practice by creating new challenges and goals for them,” Ladycats head coach Claire Gay said. “They’re just such a great group of kids, they bond really well and they support one another like family. They’ve really come together as a unit, and that’s what you want from a team. We’ve got some tough opponents coming up, so we just need to keep fine tuning things moving forward.”

Along with coasting through three more sets to remain undefeated in matches or sets in district play, senior setter Ava Reding achieved an impressive career achievement. Reding distributed 23 assists on the night to surpass 2,000 assists in her Ladycat career. Along with her 23 assists, Reding served an ace along with fellow senior Caroline Pruett. Junior outside hitter Alyssa Todd added 12 kills, eight digs and one block while senior middle Kinley Elms registered 11 kills and one block. Senior middle Haley Lowe had seven kills and two blocks while senior libero Kenrie Pruitt anchored the back line defense with 15 digs. Senior defensive specialist Ella Meador also chipped in with 13 digs and five assists while senior defensive specialist Logyn Denbow tallied eight digs. Aledo seniors Morgan Estevez and Ella Isbell combined for nine kills while junior setter Sophie Frank compiled seven assists.

To continue reading visit <https://www.community-news.com/stories/aledo-rolls-past-granbury-in-sweep,96364>

TENNIS

Racquet Cats advance in playoffs

Top Birdville in bidistrict

By Kelly Dishman
Special to The Community News

At TCU’s Bayard H Friedman Tennis Center, Aledo faced the Birdville Hawks in the first round of the playoffs on Tuesday, Oct. 8. The Racquet Cats prevailed, claiming a bidistrict title, 10-6.

Aledo boys fought hard on their doubles lines with mixed results. Line 1 Jacob Heckathorn/Francois Britz faced fierce competition, making it to a super set tiebreak, but lost at 6-1, 4-6, 7-10. Line 2 Ben Kurth, Casen Freeland had a strong win, scoring 6-2, 6-1. Line 3 Noah Nottingham/Tom Ruminsky prevailed in another super set tiebreak with 6-4, 4-6, 12-10 scores.

Girls’ doubles won all their matches, giving up very few games to Birdville. Line 1 Elli Kate Bussmeir/Sydney Byrd won 6-0, 6-2, Line 2 McKinley Hayes/Lila Satterfield aced their match winning 6-0, 6-0, and Line 3 Eleanor Jack/Patrice Loftin held strong with a 6-3, 6-3 victory.

Mixed Doubles Paxton Pscencik/Natalie Nawrocki faced tough competition with a loss scoring 3-6, 2-6.

Taking a strong lead with Aledo at five matches to Birdville’s two, singles play began with Lines 1-4 on both boys and girls lines.

Both Line 1 Heckathorn and Line 2 Kurth split sets, making it to a tiebreaker, with Birdville coming out with the wins. Neither Line 3 Ruminsky or Line 4 Britz walked off the court with wins.



RYAN WADE PHOTOGRAPHY

Sydney Byrd played in the first round of the playoffs on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

On the girls side, Lines 1-4 won their matches. Line 1 Satterfield gave up one game at 6-1, 6-0. Line 2 Bussmeir gave up two at 6-1, 6-1. Line 3 Byrd also left Birdville with just two games at 6-0, 6-2.

Line 4 Hayes won her match 7-5, 6-2. Lines 5-6 took the court with Aledo needing one winning match to reach 10 to take the bidistrict title. Boys Line 5 Pscencik and girls Line 6 Jack finished with in seconds of each other, both with wins.

Pscencik garnered the 10th point by winning a tie breaker 3-6, 6-0, 10-5. Jack followed shortly after with her win, scoring 6-1, 6-4.

Play was stopped at the 10th match win, with Freeland and Gracie Heydman still on the court.

Congratulations

Cross Country District 5-5A League Champions



Coach Mike Pinkerton Luke Schabel, Donimick Barrera, Thatcher Pettit, Tyler Connelly, Jack Fink, Ian Robbins, Reed Murray



Mayden Mitchell, Kjersten Loy, Micah Neal, Mykel Murry, Molly Garrison, Sophia Brandenburg (not pictured: Giselle Larsen)



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Aledo Community Lions Club News

Founded in 1968, the Aledo Community Lions Club is part of over 23,000 members in Texas. Our club is committed to serving our community through youth activities and volunteerism.

Free shredding event

Saturday, October 19

10am - Noon

First Financial Bank – Aledo (Parking Lot)

Sign up for Aledo Lions Youth Basketball
(Late registration open till October 22nd)



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Contact Us: www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/aledo/



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