

# Lindale News & Times

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Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023

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1 Section, 8 pages

50¢



**Change your clocks.  
Check your batteries.**

Get ready to FALL backwards - Daylight Savings starts Sunday, November 4th.

This weekend is also a good time to take these steps to make sure your household is prepared for emergencies.

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**Test Smoke Alarms :** Take a few minutes to test and replace smoke alarm batteries if needed. Push the test button on each alarm to ensure the alarms are working. It is also a great time to check carbon monoxide detectors.

**Install Smoke Alarms:** If you don't already have smoke alarms, install them ASAP! At a minimum, put one on every level of the home, inside bedrooms, and outside sleeping areas. Check your local building codes for additional requirements.

**Practice An Escape Plan:** Make sure everyone in the household knows how to get out of every room and how to get out of the home in less than two minutes. If a fire occurs in your home: GET OUT, STAY OUT, and CALL FOR HELP. Never go back inside for anyone or anything.

## Eagles rout Jacksonville 49-7

By Terry Cannon  
Editor

The waiting game now begins. Having disposed of the winless Jacksonville Fightin' Indians on a rainy Friday night at Eagle Stadium, 49-7, the Lindale Eagles will enjoy their bye week as other District 9-4A teams fight in out for playoff positioning.

The top three seeds are still to be decided with Kilgore, Lindale and Chapel Hill all in the mix. This week, Kilgore visits Chapel Hill and if Kilgore defeats Chapel Hill, Lindale will be the No. 2 seed in the playoffs by virtue of its 35-23 win over the Bulldogs three weeks ago.

However, if Chapel Hill wins or loses by less than eight, Lindale could slip to the No. 3 seed.

But before any of this could be pondered, the Eagles had to finish off their district season against the Fightin' Indians.

As the score would indicate Lindale's defense was up to the task, limiting the visitors to just 240 total yards and never allowing them room to maneuver. Of that total, only 75 was allowed through the air.

The week leading up to the



Lindale's Caleb Hart scores for the Eagles in the first half of last Friday's 49-7 victory over Jacksonville.

Photo by Terry Cannon

game, Lindale Head Coach Chris Cochran was concerned that since the Fightin' Indians were winless, his group might not be properly motivated to take care of business.

"I told them that all we needed to do was play up to our standard," he said. "I thought they handled it well."

The head coach has also been impressed with the support shown

by Lindale fans both on the road and at home. Especially this past Friday when the weather made things uncomfortable for even the hardest of fans.

"It was great seeing all those people in the stands, considering the weather," he said. "They've been awesome this whole year."

Against Jacksonville, the Eagles

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## Lindale High School band brings home another title

The Pride of Lindale March Band from Lindale High School brought home its fourth state title this past week by winning the UIL State Military Band competition at McClane Stadium in Waco.

Lindale won the Class 4A division with Spring Hill High School second, Bullard third and Gilmer fourth.

The previous week, the Lindale band earned a Division I Sweepstakes at the UIL Marching Band Contest in Nacogdoches for the 49th straight year.

This is the fourth year that the UIL has had a separate Military and Open Style State Marching Band Competition. It allows both styles to be judged based upon criteria specific to each style.

"I am so thankful to get the opportunity to work with the young men and women of the Lindale Band," said Band Director Steven Moore. "They are the best and I am so proud of them. I also want to thank my staff. They are amazing at what they do and I am thankful to call them colleagues and friends. Finally, thank you to the Lindale community, Lindale Band Boosters and band parents, the LISD Board of Trustees, LISD staff and administrators for all of their support."

There are more than 220 students in the band, which has been practicing for this competition since August.

"We are so proud of our Eagle Band program," said Superintendent Stan Surratt. "Band Director, Steven Moore and his staff have certainly built one of the best band programs in the state. As a superintendent, I just could not be prouder of this group of musicians."



### PARKING LOT GROUNDBREAKING

From left, Smith County Commissioners Ralph Caraway Sr., John Moore, Terry Phillips; County Judge Neal Franklin, retired Commissioner JoAnn Hampton, Commissioner Pam Frederick and retired Commissioner Jeff Warr break ground on the Smith County Parking Garage. Former County Judge and Congressman Nathaniel Moran and former Commissioner Cary Nix were unable to attend.

Courtesy photo

## Groundbreaking event held for new county parking garage

Smith County officials held a groundbreaking ceremony Wednesday, Oct. 25, to kick off construction of the five-story parking garage that will serve downtown.

The Smith County Commissioners Court, joined by former Commissioners involved in the voter-approved bond project, officially broke ground on the site.

"Although years of work have already taken place regarding the new parking facility and courthouse, our celebration today represents the transition from envisioning and planning to the actual, tangible breaking of ground," Smith County Judge Neal Franklin said. "I could not be more excited to see the dreams of many become reality."

Dozens of community members attended the ceremony. The parking garage will be constructed in the parking lot next to the Smith County Annex Building, at 200 E. Ferguson St., Tyler, and across the street from the future site of the new Courthouse.

Its 540-plus parking spaces will serve Smith County employees, jurors and members of the public visiting downtown.

At the ceremony, Franklin read a statement by U.S. Congressman Nathaniel Moran, who was County Judge at the time the Courthouse and Parking Garage Project Bond was passed.

"Congratulations on breaking ground for the new

Smith County Parking Garage," Moran said. "This project will not just be an improvement to our local transportation infrastructure - it will be instrumental in fostering growth and continued prosperity in our community for years to come. Thank you to Judge Franklin and the Smith County Commissioners Court for your tireless efforts to bring our community together and see this project come to fruition."

During the 10 months of expected construction, Smith County jurors are being asked to park in the City of Tyler's Fair Plaza Parking Garage, at 208 S. College Ave. Smith County employees will be relocated to the former jury parking lot.

Fencing will be placed around the construction site on Monday, October 30, 2023.

Meters around the Annex, along Ferguson and Spring, have been bagged for free visitor parking during the project.

MC Mercer, Preconstruction Executive for Hoar Construction, is excited to get started on the project. "Our team is thrilled to begin work on the first phase of what will be a legacy project for Smith County and Downtown Tyler," he said. "Hoar Construction, along with our local partner SCI Construction, are grateful to be the construction partner alongside Fitzpatrick Architects and Smith County."

## Lady Eagles begin hoops play Saturday

With his fifth season at the helm of the Lindale High School girls basketball team beginning this weekend, Daniel Devisscher and his Lady Eagles are looking to bounce back from missing the playoffs in 2022 but with the understanding that District 16-4A is just as competitive as any in East Texas.

"Our girls district is one of the elite ones in East Texas," Devisscher said. "There's not a weak team there. Van is really good, Canton has a lot of good, young kids, Brownsboro and Mabank are always solid. So its going to be a challenge."

Last year's version of the Lady Eagles finished at 14-18 with enough narrow losses, Devisscher believes, to fuel the fire for playoff run in 2023-24.

"We just had so many close losses, games that could have gone either way," he said, citing a 38-36 setback to top-ranked Canton and a similar game later against Brownsboro, a 52-48 defeat.

In 2021-22, the Lady Eagles were the best the district had to offer going 24-5 on the season and 11-1 in district. They lost out to Paris in the bi-district round, the same team that earned a regional finals berth.

Before taking the top job at LHS, Devisscher was an assistant at Tyler's Robert E. Lee (now Legacy) High School for two seasons and before that he was Scott Albritton's assistant for Lindale's boys team.

Prior to Devisscher's arrival in 2019, the Lady Eagles struggled, winning seven one year and six the next competing at the Class 5A level.

His first season, the Lady Eagles

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# OPINION/COMMENTARY

## Do your homework ...

What if the world ran like Facebook? Or a television reality show?

Maybe it already does.

The question is should we do something about it?

I vote a resounding YES! (And that sounds frightening in and of itself.)

This week's television episode of "The Orville" (yes, it is somewhat silly and doesn't always work on many levels) had a wallop of a message. In sci-fi you have the leeway to send cultural messages while (hopefully) entertaining. This one hit home. And a personal sore spot.

The episode went like this: the crew of the spaceship Orville encountered an earth-like planet whose government is completely based on a public opinion voting system to determine law and punishment. In other words, a complete democracy (of opinion).

Citizens could vote up or down arrows...much like Facebook's "Likes" and everyone had access to public videos because of smartphone cameras. It's beginning to hit awfully close to home isn't it?

Well, friends and neighbors there is a lot of truth behind this episode. And, it isn't just kids brutalizing each other through Facebook or Instagram or twitter. Adults do it too. And as a result the national, state and local political forum devolves into "he said", "she said".

Our culture has (d)evolved into opinion based rather than fact based.

And that is fine if we are talking about music or art, but policy and the legal code? Not so much.

Let me clearly state, right away that I am a science geek, a sci-fi lover and an all around nerd. Also, let me clearly state that I taught high school journalism for 19 years and history for 30 years. There was overlap on those 19 years, so NO! heck no! I am not THAT old. I have a bachelor of science degree in Broad Field Social Studies with minors in English and Science. I also have a master of science degree in American History with a Science minor. That is a lot of training in facts.

Now, let me be completely transparent, I am also a press card carrying co-owner of a community newspaper who cares deeply about governmental transparency at all levels,

## Abbott, House deadlocked over school choice, teacher pay

Gov. Gregg Abbott and the Texas House are at loggerheads over which will come first – vouchers for parents to pay for private school tuition, or funneling more money to public schools, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The House wants money for teacher bonuses and a revamp of public-school accountability passed at the same time as Abbott's proposed education savings accounts, often referred to as ESAs. The governor insists the House first pass a voucher program. A version of his voucher program has already passed the Senate. The Legislature can't consider increased school funding or teacher bonuses unless Abbott adds it to the special session agenda.

This third special session ends by Nov. 7, though Abbott has indicated he would call another one if this one ends without a decision on vouchers.

"I think there is still significant opposition to any school finance bill that includes an ESA," Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, told the Texas Tribune. "I'm comfortable we have enough like-minded rural Republicans, and urban Republicans, to stand against that in numbers sufficient to defeat it."

Abbott has dismissed the House's compromise proposal, House Bill 1, which would create a limited voucher program while increasing spending on public education, calling it "insufficient."

## House passes three border security bills

The House passed a trio of bills that increase border wall funding, increase the penalty for smuggling migrants, and allow state and local police to arrest migrants living illegally in the state, The News reported. The votes came last week after a lengthy heated discussion among Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

The anti-smuggling bill has already passed the Senate and now heads to Abbott's desk, while the other two bills are going to the Senate.

Rep. Victoria Neave Criado, D-Dallas, who chairs the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, said the plan would undercut the U.S. Constitution so that the state could "flex its muscle with the power that it does not have," according to The News.

Democrats unsuccessfully tried to change the bill by filing nearly four dozen amendments. Rep. Cody Harris, R-Palestine, filed a successful motion to limit amendments, which led to a confrontation between him and Rep. Armando Walle, D-Houston.

## The Best of Suzanne Bardwell



protection of press

rights because it is protection of citizen rights, and freedom from limited access to most information.

But let's get to the heart of the matter. "We the People..." as a majority just aren't that interested in doing the work to be informed. Whether it is ensuring we understand the amendments we are voting on for the Texas Constitution or ensuring we understand fully where politicians stand on matters of global to personal impact. And we often personally embrace politicians who wave their religious beliefs like a banner that covers all their political sins. Most of us, just don't want to do the work necessary to be informed.

Spoiler alert: what someone says they believe and how they govern don't always match up.

History fact brush up: the United States of America is a Republic with a limited democracy. (For some very good reasons which even a silly television show can illustrate.)

So what can we do?

We educate ourselves on candidates, issues, events, policy and long term impact. And that education must be based on facts, backgrounding and context. We have to care enough to put the work in. You might be surprised to discover that what you believe to be true is based on image, emotion and rhetoric, not fact.

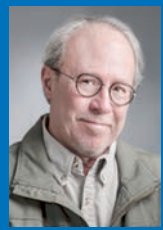
No kidding. I confess that recently I have discovered that myself about a political figure I admired.

And that scares me because I thought I had the facts. It also inspires me to dig deeper when looking at candidates, issues, promises and policies.

Thank God the Founding Fathers worked out that combination of Republic and limited democracy. They had a pretty good grasp of human nature.

Let's see what we can do to keep this great Republic going for another 241 years. And that means we are going to have to do our homework.

## Gary Borders Capital Highlights



"This is an emotional issue," Walle said in a statement late Wednesday evening. "This affects my family and puts so many families like mine at risk."

## Paxton sues over razor wire being cut

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing the Biden administration, claiming Border Patrol agents are illegally destroying state property by cutting through concertina wire placed by the state on the banks of the Rio Grande to deter illegal immigration.

The state has spent \$11 million in the past three years placing 70,000 rolls of the wire along the Texas-Mexico border, according to the Texas Tribune.

"By cutting Texas's concertina wire, the federal government has not only illegally destroyed property owned by the State of Texas; it has also disrupted the State's border deterrence efforts, leaving gaps in Texas's border barriers and damaging Texas's ability to effectively deter illegal entry into Texas," the attorney general's office said in a statement.

The Department of Homeland Security, under which the Border Patrol operates, said it doesn't respond to pending litigation.

In Eagle Pass earlier this year, a state trooper claimed the concertina wire has injured people, including a woman who had a miscarriage while entangled in the wire, the Tribune reported.

## High court to hear case of judge's refusal to marry gay couples

The Texas Supreme Court last week heard oral arguments in a case to decide whether a Waco justice of the peace can legally refuse to perform same-sex wedding ceremonies, kut.org reported. McLennan County Justice of the Peace Dianne Hensley has refused to perform those ceremonies, saying it violates her Christian beliefs and is protected under the state's religious freedom laws.

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct in 2019 issued a warning to Hensley for her refusal. Lower courts have dismissed her claims against the commission.

**THE FIRST AMENDMENT:** Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of all the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.



## THE ECONOMIST

By Dr. M. Ray Perryman

### Fueling the Future ...

The US Energy Information Administration recently released its long-term projections for global fuel demand. The International Energy Outlook 2023 (IEO2023) looks at long-term energy trends across the world through 2050. It includes seven scenarios with widely varying assumptions regarding economic growth, zero-carbon technology costs, and oil prices. Of particular relevance to the Texas economy, every case indicates higher worldwide consumption of oil and natural gas in 2050 than in 2022.

The key drivers of energy consumption are population and economic growth. Global population is projected to rise by 1.7 billion, with 94% of the growth in Africa, India, and emerging countries (primarily in the Asia-Pacific region). The forecasts indicate that global gross domestic product (GDP) will more than double by 2050 in all but the Low Economic Growth case — great news in that economic expansion is the only meaningful approach to enhancing opportunity and reducing poverty and related human suffering. Additionally, with higher incomes, more people can afford to drive and fly, use commercial services, purchase goods, and heat or cool their homes and other buildings. In other words, with global progress comes the need for more energy!

Under every IEO2023 scenario, renewable energy consumption increases faster than other energy sources (though starting from a much smaller base), primarily due to increased use for power generation. The non-fossil fuel share of primary energy grows from 21% in 2022 to a range of 29% to 34% in 2050 across the cases. This expansion is very good news for many reasons. Because of this transition to lower-carbon energy sources, the level of CO2 emissions per unit of primary energy is expected to decrease through 2050, but overall emissions nonetheless increase due to rising demand.

As noted, consumption of oil and gas is projected to rise across all scenarios. The usage of coal is up in some scenarios but down in others. Incidentally, coal currently accounts for about one-third of worldwide fossil fuel energy use and comprises over 25% more than all renewables combined. Switching coal for cleaner-burning natural gas would be a giant step in the right direction.

Clearly, a lot can (and will) change in the coming decades. New technologies could be discovered and deployed — better and less expensive batteries, for example, would increase the viability of widespread use of wind and solar generation. Similarly, improved carbon-capture approaches could switch priorities around. Future policy changes are yet another factor. One thing is clear: improving the lives and prospects of a growing global population will require energy — and lots more of it!

Much of this fuel for prosperity will come from Texas, because of its vast resources of both natural gas and low-carbon oil (both onshore and offshore).

Stay safe!

## Eagles rout Jacksonville 49-7

Continued from Page 1

methodically built a 35-7 lead at the half and maintained enough of an edge to secure their sixth win of the season and their fifth in district.

Offensively, Lindale was led once again by quarterback Clint Thurman who rushed for four touchdowns while accumulating 152 rushing and 146 passing. Running back Caleb Hart accounted for 72 yards on the ground and score two

touchdowns.

Marcus Field snagged three passes for 83 yards, including a 66-yarder in the first quarter to set up Hart's first touchdown.

Thurman scored the second Lindale touchdown on a 14-yard run around the left side after the defense caused a fumble on the Jacksonville 40.

Jacksonville then scored on a 77-yard pass play but the Eagles recovered the ensuing onside kick and went back to work. Hart bulled

over from a yard out to make it 21-7 with two minutes left in the opening period.

Two more Thurman scores built Lindale's 28 point half-time lead.

### BYE WEEK ARRIVES

In preparation for the playoffs, Cochran and his staff put an emphasis on making sure their players were rested and ready for a solid week of work next week when they will finally know who their bi-district opponent will be.

Cochran believes it will be either Vidor, a team Lindale has tangled with in the past, or Livingston or Little Cypress Mauriceville — all in District 10-4A.

More than likely the contest will be played in Nacogdoches, either at Stephen F. Austin State University's stadium or Nacogdoches High School's facility.



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### Celebrating Halloween downtown

This past weekend Lindale's downtown merchants helped celebrate Halloween by sponsoring a trick or treating event at each of their businesses. Some well-known characters, such as Woody (Jacob Peysen), Jessie (Bailey Peysen) and Little Jessie (Quinnlee Peysen) from Toy Story enjoyed the event. (Courtesy photo)

## Early voting continues this week across county

Smith County Elections Administrator Michelle Allcon reported that 1,004 people voted this past Friday, 305 on Saturday and 71 voted on Sunday as early voting continues in the county, said Public Information Officer Casey Murphy.

That brings the total to 4,197 ballots cast in-person so far and 180 absentee ballots received.

There are 14 Constitutional Amendments on the ballot for everyone in Smith County. The Cities of Whitehouse and Overton, and the Whitehouse and Lindale Independent School Districts are each holding special elections.

To find out what is on your ballot, view the sample ballot for your area here: [www.smith-county.com/government/departments/elections/current-election-information/current-sample-ballots](http://www.smith-county.com/government/departments/elections/current-election-information/current-sample-ballots)

Early voting will continue from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Nov. 1; and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Nov. 2-3.

There are five early voting locations throughout Smith County. They include:

- The Hub, 304 E. Ferguson St., Tyler
- Heritage Building, 1900 Bellwood Road, Tyler
- Lindale Masonic Lodge, 200 W. Margaret St., Lindale
- Noonday Community Center, 16662 CR 196, Tyler
- Whitehouse United Methodist Church, 405 W. Main St., Whitehouse

There will be 35 polling locations open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7.

For more information about the election, including curbside voting, polling place accessibility and ballots by mail, visit: [www.smith-county.com/government/departments/elections](http://www.smith-county.com/government/departments/elections)

# Times of Lindale



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This column comes from the archives of the Lindale News and Times, which is available online for \$2.99 per month. Call 903-882-8880 to set up your online subscription.

### ONE YEAR AGO, Nov. 3, 2022

The Lindale Lady Eagles varsity volleyball team swept the Athens Hornets at home in three straight sets: 25-7, 25-13, and 25-8.

Reagan Cates led the attack for the Lady Eagles with 12 kills. Maddox Lay recorded 6 kills/ 5 digs, Addison Ridge put down 4 kills, 3 aces, and 5 digs, and Brooke Tweedell had 3 kills and 3 blocks.

Libero, Reagan Hope contributed 7 digs defensively for the Eagles. Anna Ivy recorded 15 assists and Tatum Woodard had 9 assists.

Lindale's Junior Varsity won in two sets 25-19 and 25-14. Kady Spears and Addison Frazier led the attack with 5 kills apiece. Alyssa Potts added 4 kills, 3 blocks, and 3 aces.

Maddy Fowble added 2 kills, and a block on the night. Setter, Izzy Koonce also had 2 kills and tallied 10 assists, and Setter Clara Helvey added 7 assists and 1 ace. Libero, Callie Schmidt had 9 digs defensively for the Lady Eagles. Junior Varsity took first place with one loss to Van on the season.

The Freshman Lady Eagles also won in two sets with scores of 25-22 and 25-21. Kenley Collins contributed 7 kills and 2 aces, and Macy Hodde also put down 7 kills, and added 1 ace, and 7 assists. Lauren Stanton recorded 5 kills and 2 aces, and Ava Meier contributed 2 kills. Setter, Abigail Warrington recorded 6 assists.

Bayleigh Yarbrough and Addilyn Bills were strong defensively with 7 and 5 digs respectively.

### FIVE YEARS AGO, Nov. 1, 2018

With a victory 45-35 win over Mount Pleasant on the road, the Lindale High School Eagles qualified for the Class 5A state playoffs. Lindale improved its district record to 5-1 and advanced to the bi-district round for the first time in three seasons.

### 10 YEARS AGO, Nov. 1, 2013

In front of a large contingent of supportive hometown fans, the Lindale High School Lady Eagles disposed of Mansfield Summit at Forney High School in bi-district volleyball playoff action.

Lindale advanced to the area round of the Class 4A state volleyball playoffs.

The Lady Eagles downed Summit 25-23, 25-18 and 25-19 to improve their season record to 37-3.

For Lindale, Zhanelle Geathers led the way with 13 kills and two blocks, while Makenna Allen had five kills, two aces and 12 digs. Kaitlin Rice contributed five kills and eight digs while Rhyann Rand had four kills and six digs. Wylie defeated Texas High, 25-18, 25-10 and 25-15.

# It's magical, simply magical

By the time this essay is published, one of two things might have happened: the Texas Rangers could be the new champions of Major League Baseball – or not.

For the third time in the history of the franchise, dating to 1972, my favorite baseball team will try to win the best trophy in professional sports.

Football is entertaining to watch, basketball is a nice diversion and truth be told, hockey is my second favorite sport.

But today, as I tap out these words on the Dell desktop, I feel a sense of euphoria because our Rangers not only won the American League pennant on Oct. 23 in Houston, but laid waste to the reprehensible Astros in the process.

The Astros, for the uneducated, won the 2022 World Series and while their fans will say they won it in 2017 as well, that one doesn't count because they cheated.

That's not opinion, it's a fact. That team, under the questionable leadership of General Manager Jeff Luhnow, devised a cheating scheme involving (among other things) electronic sign stealing so the Astros' hitters knew what pitch was coming. Ask the Los Angeles Dodgers, victims of this nefarious plot, if they recognize the Astros as legitimate champs in 2017.

## Terry Cannon Editor



And, as a matter of reference, the Astros began tanking – losing on purpose – a few years prior so they could collect high draft picks. This enabled them to build a talent base that would eventually compete for championships.

But a lot of teams build rosters through the draft and don't cheat once they start winning games. A recent PBS Frontline documentary detailed the scandal and while it doesn't contain new information, it does show just how the franchise sold its soul for a world title.

So, yeah, it was so satisfying to beat the Cheaters in their home ballpark in front of their fans. But by the time the Rangers were celebrating their AL Pennant win, nearly all the Houston fans had left two or three innings prior.

While my Lovely Bride and I were reveling in the outcome, it was fitting I was getting texts from my two sons who were as ecstatic as we were that the Astros were dispatched.

Fitting because they, like their dad, grew up loving baseball and the comfort it

provides for families. They both played Little League and our youngest son continued to play in college.

It was something we never had to force on them. Both boys loved the game and wanted to play, starting with Tee Ball and advancing through their teen years.

Baseball is a familial game, passed on from one generation to the other. As a youngster, I would watch games, sitting cross-legged on the floor on Saturday afternoons while my dad occupied the couch.

Our house had a screened in back porch where I would spend some summer nights on the roll away bed, transistor radio by my head. If I pointed it in just the right direction, I could pick up St. Louis Cardinals' games being called by the venerable Harry Caray and wonderful Jack Buck. Radio, at least in my mind's eye, provided a clearer picture of the game than TV would. It was magical.

When I became a dad, and our oldest was still a toddler, he and I would plop

down in the rocking chair, graham crackers in hand and watch the Chicago Cubs on WGN. That year turned out to be the first year the Cubs earned a post season berth and reignited my passion for the game, which had been doused somewhat by other adult responsibilities during the years between being a college student and a full-fledged grown up.

Our oldest son took to the game easily. He's eight years older than his brother and when our youngest was old enough to toddle around the ballpark, he almost always had a glove.

By the time he was four, he and I were playing catch. He, too, started in Tee Ball, but by the time he reached high school, the game was a serious endeavor.

He was a two-year starting catcher in high school and made the all-district team twice.

Because of his prowess, we traveled literally all over the country for his games. In fact, in 2007, his Little League team earned a berth in the Little League World Series in Bangor, Maine.

Both our grandsons delight in playing baseball, which of course, is fabulous.

The game has been passed down to another generation. Their kids will no doubt love it as much as we do.

It's a magical thing, this game called baseball.

# That ol' pin head can't handle the truth

## Rusty Mitchum Life & Times



The other day I was an hour or so early for an appointment, so I stopped in one of those high-dollar coffee places to kill some time.

Now, I know that coffee in those places is priced too high, but man is it good. Anywho, the line to get your coffee was pretty long, and I don't like standin' in line, but I wasn't in any hurry, so I did like the other sheep and waited my turn.

I was daydreamin' about somethin', when I felt a presence behind me. I turned and there was a young man standin' in line behind me, and he had a pin with a BB on the end of it stickin' out the side of his nose, a safety pin stickin' through his eyebrow, what looked like a little bitty barbell stickin' through his lower lip, and a big hole through each of his earlobes.

He had on some baggy ol' britches that were hangin' down around his hips and his underwear was showin'.

Now, seein' a sight like that while you're daydreamin' will sort of startle you. Well, at least it did me.

"WHOA!" I exclaimed. "What happened to you? Were you in a hardware store explosion?"

The kid looked at me sort of like my wife looks at me. I know you've seen those looks before. Their head sort of tilts to the side and they look at you with their eyes half closed with their lips pushed together like they've been suckin' on a lemon or somethin'.

"Funny," the kid said.

I turned back around smilin' to myself. Everyone in front of me must have heard our conversation because they were all turned and lookin' at me. They were all givin' me one of "those

looks" too.

"What?" I said. They all turned back around.

Finally, I got to the counter.

"Let me have a small cup of coffee and....."

"We do not have small cups," the little hippy lookin' girl behind the counter interrupted.

"You don't? Then what's that," I said and pointed at a cup.

"That's a tall," she said.

"That tall is kinda small for a tall," I said. "Most tall are tall, not small."

"Hurry up, Dr. Seuss," said a lady in line a couple of people behind me.

I turned and looked at her. Boy, what a sour lookin' woman. "Somebody hasn't had their coffee this morning," I said. Then I whispered loudly to pin-headed kid behind me. "Hey Buddy. I'll buy your coffee if you'll sneeze hard enough for that pin in your nose to blow out and pop that lady."

You guessed it, another look, from both of them.

"Sir," said the coffee lady. "Your order?"

"Uh, well I guess give me a tall, and give me one of those apple pies there."

She looked to where I was pointing.

"Empanada," she said.

"Gesundheit," I said back to her. She gave me another look.

"It's called an empanada," she said through gritted teeth.

"Looks like a fried pie," I said.

"Well, it's not."

"Does it taste like a fried pie?"

"It tastes like an empanada."

"What do they taste like?"

"Tell him they taste like a fried pie, so he'll get through!" exclaimed the sour-faced lady.

The counter girl rolled her eyes. "They taste just like a fried pie," she spit out.

"Groovy," I said, which got me another eye rollin'.

I got my coffee and fried pie and looked around for a place to sit. The place was full. I headed outside and found an empty table and sat down. In just a minute ol' pin head walked out. He looked around and saw that all the tables were occupied, and then saw me.

"Sit down," I said pointin' at the other chair. He looked at me, sighed, sat down, and started lookin' at a book.

"What'cha readin' about?" I said.

He sighed again. "Philosophy," he replied.

"Really," I said. "I'm a Baptist myself."

He looked up at me like I was from outer space.

"Just kiddin'," I said.

"You need to lighten up kid. So, why philosophy?"

"I'm looking for the truth," he said.

"What truth?"

"You know, the truth."

"There's a lot truths," I said.

"Really," he said and closed his book. "Why don't you tell me one?"

"OK," I said, and took a bite of my apple pie. I chewed a second while pon-

derin'. Finally, I swallowed and looked at the kid.

"Beans will give you gas," I said.

"What?"

"You heard me."

"What are you talking about?"

"I just told you a truth," I said. "You eat beans, you'll get gas."

He just looked at me. "Are you for real?"

"Sure am," I smiled. "So, what's with all the hardware, anyway," I said, pointin' at his face.

"Do you have a problem with it?" he asked defensively.

"Heck no," I said. "You can stick a firecracker up your nose and dance the jig for all I care. I was just wonderin' why you did it."

"I'm making a statement," he stated.

"A statement? What statement? 'How many more holes can I put in my head?'"

"You wouldn't understand," he said.

"Probably not," I said.

"So, do you set off the metal detectors at the airport?"

"What? Why are you asking me all of this stuff?"

"Just tryin' to be friendly," I replied.

"I have no friends," he said.

"Not even a girl friend?"

"They are not attracted to me."

"Well pull those blamed nails out of your face, get you some britches that fit that don't show your drawers, and I'll bet you can find a girl," I said.

The kid just looked at me.

"Hey," I said. "You wanted the truth."

The kid closed his book, stood up and left. I guess it's like Jack Nicholson said. Some people just can't handle the truth.

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# Better place to park, thanks to County Judge

Construction of Smith County's new parking garage has caused employees who park around the Annex Building in downtown Tyler to lose their parking spots, but County Judge Neal Franklin has come up with a novel idea to help out lucky employees.

The covered parking spaces of the County Judge and Commissioners will not be affected, so by drawing a name out of a hat Franklin will donate his space to a county worker.

The first to win this space is Amber Massenburge, Assistant Chief Deputy for the Smith County Clerk's Office. She won the first drawing on Wednesday, Oct. 25.

Every two weeks, Judge Franklin will virtually draw an employee's name out of the hat to park in his spot, throughout the duration of the construction. This lucky winner will not have to walk to farther-away lots like the other employees.

Franklin had 94 employees submit their names to be drawn.

Massenburge will be allowed to park in that spot through Friday, Nov. 10.



"Thank you! I'm so happy I won," Massenburge said. "I really appreciate Judge Franklin for the selfless act of donating his parking spot. It is much appreciated! I'm looking forward to seeing the upgrades for Smith County and Downtown Tyler," she added, referring to the new parking garage and courthouse.

## OBITUARY

### DR. DENNIS HARLAN DEWITT

Dr. Dennis Harlan DeWitt was born to serve in Ashland, Ky. on Nov. 5, 1941 and was raised in Des Moines, Iowa.

His parents, Dr. Thomas J. DeWitt and Edna L. DeWitt, who were raised on farms in Iowa and Kansas then raised their family in Des Moines, Iowa. In addition to his parents, his sister, Nancy Elmer of Tucson, Ariz., preceded him in death.

Dr. Denny DeWitt enjoyed tennis where he dominated with a powerful serve. He attended undergraduate school at Drake University in Des Moines where he met Twink (Lucie) in 1962. Denny and Twink were married in 1964 in Kenilworth, Illinois. He continued his studies in dental school at the University of Iowa graduating as a dentist in 1966. Many of Denny's direct relatives (son, Dr. Andy DeWitt; father, Dr. Thomas DeWitt; uncle, Dr. Maurice Harlan; and grandfather, Dr. Walter Harlan) were all dentists who graduated from Iowa dental schools.

Dr. Denny served in the United States Air Force starting in 1966 as a dentist

and growing as a leader/administrator for 25 years until he retired as a Colonel in 1991. Immediately after retiring, Denny and Twink attended a missionary training school with Youth With A Mission (YWAM). Together they served from 1992 to 2002 with Mercy Ships (in Africa, Central America, and South America), performing missionary dental work and sharing the love of Jesus Christ. Twink wrote and edited the newsletter for Mercy Ships. In 2002, they both returned to YWAM teaching and staffing schools (missionary training, authors training schools, writers workshops) in Kona, Hawaii; Salem, Oregon; Flathead Lake, Montana; and Garden Valley, Texas until 2015. They have since enjoyed life in Hideaway.

Survivors include his wife of 59-1/2 years, Twink DeWitt and their children, John (Kim), Dennis (Jennifer), and Andy (Anna) DeWitt; seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday, Oct. 28 at Hide-A-Way Lake Community Church, Hideaway.

## Celebrations of Faith

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903-882-1454

**Carmel Baptist Church**

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903-882-3852

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**Central Baptist Church**

13745 FM 16 East, Lindale, TX 75771  
903-882-3179

Byron Howard

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Bennie Portwood

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**Duck Creek Baptist Church**

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903-882-9558

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**First Baptist Church**

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903-882-6432

**First Baptist Church of Lindale**

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Tom Buck

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**Greater Hopewell Baptist Church**

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903-882-4726

**Hopewell Baptist Church**

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**Hopewell Valley Baptist, Church No 1**  
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Bruce Rudd

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**Red Springs Baptist Church**

Red Springs, TX  
903-858-2365

**St Mary Baptist Church**

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903-882-8066

**Thompson Hill Baptist Church**

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903-882-0849

**Walnut Springs Baptist Church**

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903-882-7858

**Wood Trails Baptist Church**

11804 CR 494,  
Lindale, TX 75771  
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**Church of Christ – South Main**

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Lindale, TX 75771  
903-882-8933

**Church of Christ – Swan County**

Road 471, Lindale, TX 75771  
903-882-8009

### EPISCOPAL

**St Luke's Episcopal Church**

16292 FM 849  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8118

Rev. John Carr

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**Christian Fellowship**

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Dr. Lawrence Zillmer

### METHODIST

**ChristPoint Methodist Church**

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903-882-8506

Michael Peschke

**Harris Chapel Southern**

**Methodist Church**

17069 CR 452 Lindale TX  
903.253.3175

John Roach, Pastor

**Mt Sylvan United Methodist Church**

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**Swan-Wood Springs**

**Methodist Church**

Hwy 69, Tyler, TX 75706  
903-882-6382

### NON DENOMINATIONAL

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Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-8949

**Community Christian Fellowship**

15704 Hwy 110 N Lindale, TX 75771  
903-882-8501

David Hickey

**Cross Brand Cowboy Church**

11915 FM 2015, Tyler, Texas 75708  
903-535-9155

**Crossroads Community Church**

20465 US Highway 69 North  
Lindale TX 75771-4206

903-881-9844  
Tim Letsch

**Bethesda Church**

2401 S Main St  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7597

Steven & Camilla Charles

**Friendship CME Church**

20428 CR 482  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7269

**Garden Valley Bible Church**

17117 FM 1253  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-9665

**Grace Community Church**

15567 Wood Springs Rd  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-3323

**Hide-A-Way Lake**

**Community Church**

1115 Lake Cross Rd  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-6966

**Life of Glory Church**

14623 CR 463  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-7997

Ed & Becky Colville

**Life Source Community Church**

1601 S. Main, Lindale  
Pastor John Offutt

**Lone Star Cowboy Church**

23425 FM 1995  
Lindale TX 75771

615-480-0289

Jayc Harold

**River's Edge Church**

18492 Hwy 69 North,  
Lindale, TX 75771

903-882-0555 • Phil Brown

**Trinity Fellowship Church**

Shady Lane Lindale, TX 75771  
903-882-3885 • Ben Steen

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903-882-3861 • Dr. Everitt Nix

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**Rose Heights Church**

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903-881-5260

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## Lindale Police Department call logs for Oct. 20-26

**FRIDAY, OCT. 20:** Recovered Stolen Property, 700 block South Main Street, Report; Administrative Detail, 200 block Cannery Row, Settled at Scene; Welfare Concern, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Person, 500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 2500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Another Agency, 552 IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Stalking, 500 block South Main Street, Report; Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 400 block South Main Street, Report; Theft, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 1700 block South Main Street, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 500 block Mt. Sylvan Street, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3200 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motorist Assist, 100 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Settled at Scene; Traffic Complaint, 300 block North Main Street, Unable to Locate; Traffic Hazard, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 600 block Yesterday Drive, Settled at Scene; Public Service, 300 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motorist Assist, 2100 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 300 block East South Street, False Alarm; Residential Alarm, 13400 block CR 472, False Alarm; Assist EMS, 200 block Cannery Row, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3500 block South Main Street, Report; Harassment, 100 block Miranda Lambert Way, Settled at Scene; Assault/Simple, 100 block Miranda Lambert Way, Report; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Warning Issued.

**SATURDAY, OCT. 21:** Traffic Complaint, 900 block North Main Street, Unable to Locate; Suspicious Circumstance, 200 block Robyn Lane, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 600 block Yesterday Drive, Settled at Scene; Public Service, 300 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motorist Assist, 2100 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 300 block East South Street, False Alarm; Residential Alarm, 13400 block CR 472, False Alarm; Assist EMS, 200 block Cannery Row, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3500 block South Main Street, Report; Harassment, 100 block Miranda Lambert Way, Settled at Scene; Assault/Simple, 100 block Miranda Lambert Way, Report; Criminal Trespass, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Warning Issued.



**SUNDAY, OCT. 22:** Traffic Complaint, 500 block South Main Street, Unable to Locate; Traffic Hazard, 100 block East Hubbard Street, Settled at Scene; Theft From Motor Vehicle, 21200 block U.S. Highway 69 North, Report; Criminal Trespass, 500 block Circle Drive, Settled at Scene; Business Alarm, 100 block East Hubbard Street, False Alarm; Loud Noise Complaint, 15200 block CR 467, Unfounded; Suspicious Person, 400 block Hill Street, Unfounded; Assist EMS, 2400 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene.

**MONDAY, OCT. 23:** Mental Health Welfare Check, 300 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 14200 block CR 434, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 555 IH-20 West, Unfounded; Verbal Disturbance, 13300 block CR 472, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 200 block Wood Springs Road, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3200 block South Main Street, Report; Business Alarm, 900 block North Main Street, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3200 block South Main Street, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 900 block South Main Street, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash, 400 block Perryman Road, Report; Theft, 1100 block South Main Street, Report; Lost Property, 3500 block South Main Street, Report; Assist DPS, 15000 block CR 431, Settled at Scene; Welfare Concern, 1100 block Woodlands Park Drive, Settled at Scene; Criminal Mischief, 15400 block Brittain Court, Settled at Scene; Assist Smith Co SO, 13600 block Country Glen, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Circumstance, 900 block South Main Street, Warning

Issued; Mental Health Welfare Check, 1100 block East Park Drive, Settled at Scene.

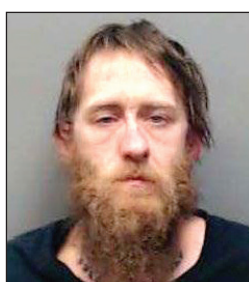
**TUESDAY, OCT. 24:** Motorist Assist, 13800 block Harvey Road, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Person, 200 block Cannery Row, Unable to Locate; Hit and Run Crash, 100 block West Hubbard Street, Report; Attempt to Serve, 500 block Hamrick Street, Settled at Scene; Cruelty to Animals, 500 block Pierce Street, Unable to Locate; Abandoned Property, 3200 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Warrant Service, 900 block South Main Street, Arrest; Criminal Trespass, 200 block West Centennial Blvd., Warning Issued; Criminal Trespass, 500 block South Main Street, Warning Issued; Criminal Trespass, 300 block South Main Street, Unable to Locate.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25:** Public Service, 100 block Ballard Drive, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Vehicle, 1500 block Pearl Street, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 200 block North Main Street, Report; Vagrant, 400 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Suspicious Person, 500 block Pearl Street, Settled at Scene; Vagrant, 300 block South Industrial Street, Settled at Scene; Criminal Trespass, 300 block South Main Street, Warning Issued; Suspicious Circumstance, 1200 block Forest Trails Drive, Settled at Scene; Welfare Concern, 400 block South Industrial Street, Settled at Scene; Theft From Motor Vehicle, 2300 block Pittman Lane, Report; Traffic Hazard, 555 IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Warrant Service, 600 block West South Street, Arrest.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 26:** Motorist Assist, 556 IH-20 West, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3500 block South Main Street, Report; Motor Vehicle Crash 556 IH-20 East, Settled at Scene; Escort, 200 block West South Street, Settled at Scene; Warrant Service, 15300 block FM 16 West, Arrest; Civil Matter, 700 block North College Street, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 3500 block South Main Street, Settled at Scene; Theft, 100 block East Centennial Blvd., Report; Assist Smith Co SO, 16100 block Rolling Meadows Drive, Settled at Scene; Motor Vehicle Crash, 556 IH-20 West, Report.

## Tyler man convicted of domestic violence

A jury in the 114th District Court found Thomas Owen Jr., 39, of Tyler, guilty of the felony offense of Assault Family Violence by Impeding the Breath or Circulation of the victim, said Smith County District Attorney spokesperson Emily Starkey.



cutting off her airway. His girlfriend was able to get away and call the Smith County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Sabrina Rodgers and Sergeant Michael Skinner responded and took Owens into custody.

Owens admitted there was an argument, a scuffle, and that he "might have grabbed her."

In addition to the testimony of the sheriff's deputies, the jury heard from the victim who described the assault as the scariest night of her life.

Owens' punishment will be decided by Judge Austin Reeve Jackson on Nov. 27. He faces up to 20 years in prison due to a prior conviction for Assault Family Violence out of Cherokee County.

Prosecutors Angela Faulkner and Kasey Sirianni presented evidence to the jury that on Sept. 13, 2022, Owens became angry at his girlfriend over an oscillating fan being on before he and his girlfriend went to bed.

Owens started a verbal argument that led to him pushing his girlfriend, causing her to fall and hit the sink. While she was on the ground, he got on top of her and placed his hands around her neck,

## Brazos Bend State Park Hosts "Explore Bowhunting"

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Community Archery Program is joining forces with [Brazos Bend State Park](#) on Nov. 11 to help the public "Explore Bowhunting," publicity officials said.

The event gives participants an opportunity to learn more about hunting with a bow ahead of the upcoming archery season for white-tailed deer.

"Whether you are a seasoned archer, beginner or just starting to gain interest in the sport of archery and bowhunting, this is a great event to hone your skills, further your knowledge and understand what it takes to be a successful bowhunter," said Adam Lewis, TPWD community archery specialist. "This is an all-ages event and is a great way to spend some time outdoors with your family and friends."

The free workshop (with park entrance fee), scheduled for 9 a.m. -1 p.m., is open to anyone interested in learning more about bowhunting. TPWD will provide the necessary workshop equipment, so participants do not need to bring their own archery gear.

The workshop focuses on basics of archery skills, shooting 3D targets, learning anatomy and shot placement of an animal, animal processing (skinning/quartering/butchering) demonstration, cooking conversations, gear examples and activities for youth. A 3D archery tournament will follow the event.

Registration is limited and begins at 1:15 p.m., with the tournament starting at 2:15 p.m.

The TPWD Community Archery Program works on a "train the trainer" model — training teachers and leaders through a

National Archery in the Schools Program curriculum in range set-up, safety, program design and coaching. The curriculum is built for community groups like schools, military bases, veterans' groups, scouts, camps, parks and recreation departments and more. It also provides resources and certification to host a mobile archery range with an audience.

Community archery specialists provide Explore Bowhunting and Explore Bowfishing programming that introduces these skills to new audiences through activities and discussion. Some of the curriculum will be on display in the activities hosted in this event.

Learn more about how to contact a community archery specialist in your region on the Community Archery Program webpage on the TPWD website.

## Cool weather, rain boost quail numbers

Now that Texas' quail season is under way, surveys indicate an increased number of bobwhite and scaled quail in the field thanks to a combination of cooler temperatures and spring rainfall during the start of nesting season, Texas Parks and Wildlife officials said.

"Statewide, we are still far from where we would like to be and drought conditions this summer caused us to temper expectations," said John McLaughlin, TPWD Upland Game Bird Program Leader. "But with that said, quail populations are likely in their strongest position since 2018-19 and primed to grow if winter and spring conditions are favorable again in 2024."

Despite the summer heat, bobwhite numbers exceeded expectations as birds took advantage of early season nesting opportunities. Thanks to the weather reprieve during that crucial time, TPWD biologists recorded the most promising population survey results of the last five years.

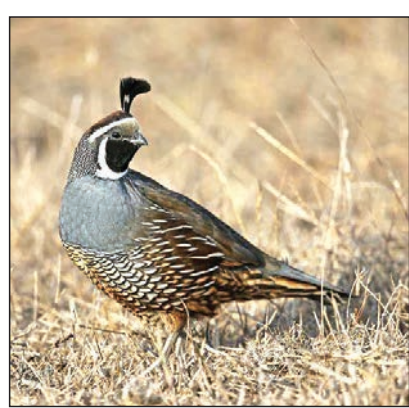
"Birds were abundant and widely distributed in South Texas and the Gulf Coast Prairies, indicating that the wet-dry cycle we experienced this year was beneficial along the coast and further inland," said McLaughlin.

Good numbers were also observed in the Texas Panhandle.

"While bobwhite populations are still recovering in these regions, and drought has threatened progress in the short-term, there should be good opportunities to put dogs on the ground and enjoy a hunt with family and friends this season," Added McLaughlin.

Further west, the Trans-Pecos continues to be the standard bearer for scaled quail populations in Texas. Building off a good nesting season in 2022, birds picked up where they left off and quickly got to work this year.

"Much like with bobwhites, a com-



combination of cooler temperatures and spring rainfall led to reports of early hatches," added McLaughlin. "Large broods were seen throughout the spring and into the summer. As habitat conditions improved, birds were able to take advantage and put chicks on the ground. The only speed bump for scaled quail this year was the summer heat, which settled in and enveloped much of the state through July and August."

While Texas works its way out of the current drought, the winter outlook favors an ongoing El Niño cycle, which should bring average temperatures and above-average rainfall. If conditions hold, both should equate to good hunting conditions in the near-term and favorable conditions for quail populations heading into next spring.

More information about quail populations in Texas can be found on TPWD's [quail webpage](#). For county specific outlooks, contact a [local TPWD wildlife biologist](#).

Hunters taking advantage of [Texas Public Hunting Lands](#) must have the [Annual Public Hunting Permit](#). It is important for public land hunters to consult the Public Hunting Lands Map Booklet to review regulations that may apply to specific areas. The [My Texas Hunt Harvest app](#) can be used to complete on-site registration electronically at a public hunting area.

## Recent rains help, but more needed

By Randi Williams  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Timely rainfall in some areas has been highly beneficial for the fall wheat crop, according to a [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#) expert.

Jourdan Bell, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension agronomist, Amarillo, said she expects to see above average acres planted in the northern High Plains region as a result of improved soil moisture conditions, but planting in the central High Plains is delayed because of warm, dry conditions. Many fields planted southwest of Amarillo have not emerged or have already dried out.

In East Texas, rain came to the region late this past week but there's still the need for more, officials said.

Soil conditions have worsened and pasture and rangeland conditions were fair to good.

Subsoil and topsoil conditions were adequate to short. Producers continued to struggle for one last cutting of hay. Livestock were doing fair to good with some supplementation taking place. Hay supplies were already short for many producers. Armyworms infested pastures and hay meadows in many areas. Gregg County reported problems with wild pigs and gophers.

Elsewhere, rainfall has been spotty, but planted wheat fields in the most northern counties are doing well, Bell said. Crop progress should continue to improve in areas that receive timely rains, she noted.

Wheat has an extremely long growing season. Many producers use wheat as grazing land for their beef cattle herds during the winter months. Fields intended for grazing were planted from late August to early September although planting conditions are typically ideal for wheat in October.

"When planting in October, we are escaping early fall insect pest pressure and reducing the risk for wheat curl mite infestation, which will lead to wheat streak mosaic virus," Bell said.

Producers who are planting their wheat crop solely for grain have a longer planting window and can wait to plant their crop until mid-to-late November.

Mark Welch, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension grain marketing economist, Bryan-College Station, said he expects the 2024 wheat crop to have a better production environment since

weather patterns are transitioning from La Niña to El Niño.

"We have noticed that wheat produces better yields during the El Niño weather events," Welch said. "2024 crops have an advantage because this El Niño is supposed to be a relatively strong one."

World wheat market and changing wheat prices

The world wheat market is driven by what Russia does, Welch said, and the conflict in Ukraine continues to be part of that influence.

"Wheat is a globally traded commodity, and something as disruptive as war in a region where about 15% of the world's wheat is grown can impact wheat prices," Welch said. "Those impacts to prices matter to U.S. producers who produce 6-8% of total world wheat."

Over the last few years, Russia has been supplying more wheat to the world market; and price fluctuations have become increasingly dependent on what Russia does: production, exports, geopolitical events.

"How much we produce, how much we export, and other political events — Russia holds more leverage over the world wheat market in a time that world wheat supplies continue to get tighter," Welch said.

Since 2020, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine earlier this year, prices have risen from below \$4 per bushel to as high as \$12 per bushel. Last week's wheat prices in Texas were \$5.90 per bushel, about the same as the summer of 2021.

"The U.S. is self-sufficient in producing wheat," said Welch. "We import about 120 million bushels of wheat in a typical marketing year, about 5% of total use. All these factors matter for price implications in a world market for a key food grain."

### EAST

The region needs more rain. Soil conditions worsened. Pasture and rangeland conditions were fair to good despite the lack of rainfall. Subsoil and topsoil conditions were adequate to short. Producers continued to struggle for one last cutting of hay. Livestock were doing fair to good with some supplementation taking place. Hay supplies were already short for many producers. Armyworms infested pastures and hay meadows in many areas. Gregg County reported problems with wild pigs and gophers.

## Lady Eagles dump Paris in bi-district

The Lindale Lady Eagles volleyball team captured the bi-district title this past Monday night by defeating Paris, 25-5, 25-10 and 25-17 in Greenville, and will now take on Caddo Mills Thursday night in Wills Point in the area playoffs.

Maddox Lay led the Lady Eagle's attack with 11 kills and added 2 digs. Reagan Cates contributed 5 kills, 6 digs, and 2 blocks. Kayli Vickery put down 5 kills, 3 blocks, and 1 dig. Alyssa Potts had 5 kills, 3 digs, and 1 block.

Addison Ridge recorded 4 kills, 10 digs. Ella Hutchens rounded out the attack with 2 kills, and 1 block.

Defensively, Reagan Hope had 6 digs. Setter Macy Luster recorded 17 assists, 6 digs, and Tatum Woodard tallied 11 assists. Callie Schmidt added 2 digs, and Megan McGee had 1 dig for Lindale. The

Lady Eagles will face off against Caddo Mills Thursday night in Wills Point.

### Lindale defeats Athens

The Lady Eagles completed their District 16-4A season with a three set victory over Athens in Athens to bring home another district championship.

Paris finished District 15-4A play with a 4-6 record.

In the Lady Eagles win over Athens, Addison Ridge put down 10 kills; Maddox Lay found the floor for 9 kills, and Kayli Vickery recorded 6 kills. Libero Reagan Hope tallied 17 digs, and Ridge had 7 digs. Tatum Woodard and Macy Luster each recorded 12 assists. Vickery added 4 blocks on the night. The Lady Eagles finish district with an 11-1 record and 33-8 overall.

## Junior High girls down Mabank

The Lindale Junior High School Lady Eagles volleyball teams took three of four matches from Mabank this past week with both 7th grade teams winning and the 8th grade B team taking a victory.

The 8th grade A team fell in three sets to the Lady Panthers.

For the 7th grade B team, the Lady Eagles won 25-22, 23-25 and 25-23. Reece Rand was the leading server, while Kaylynn Spence and Reece Rand were leading passers. Reagan Thurmon was the leading setter and Addison Mahana was the leading hitter.

The 7th grade A team won 30-28, 13-25 and 25-20. Kaylee Betts, Paisley Keith and Khloe Collins were leading servers, Libbie McHam, Paisley Keith and Kaylee Betts were leading passers, Milee Miller and Paisley Keith were leading setters and Eden Denson was the leading hitter.

For the 8th grade B team, the Lady Eagles took a 25-5 and 25-22 win. Maci Gateley and Saniyah Clayton were leading servers and Saniyah Clayton was the leading passer. Rachel Kelley and Saniyah Clayton were leading setters while KayLea Williams, Rachel Kelley and Lita Holley.

The entire team was awarded the Leadership Award while Jazmin Castaneda and KayLea Williams won the Hustle Award.

The 8th grade A team fell, 25-22, 20-25 and 20-25. Jesse Chandler and Zaidyn Chamberlain were leading servers and the leading passer was Baylee Brooks. Jesse Chandler and Kenlee Keith were leading setters, while A.J. McPherson and Zaidyn Chamberlain were leading hitters. The Leadership Award was won by Jesse Chandler and Kenlee Keith. MaKynli Zemer won the Hustle Award.

## Playoff seedings on the line Friday night

The final week of District 9-4A has arrived and while the top three teams — Kilgore, Lindale and Chapel Hill — have qualified for bi-district the fourth spot remains to be decided as does the order of the seeds.

Kilgore visits Chapel Hill in the marquee matchup of the week, while Athens travels to Palestine in another key contest. Jacksonville will host Henderson this Friday while Lindale has the week off.

If Kilgore defeats Chapel Hill, Lindale (5-1 in district) would be

the No. 2 seed. If Chapel Hill wins or loses by less than 8 points, it would be the No. 2 seed. Meanwhile, Athens and Palestine are both 2-3 in district so the winner would be the No. 4 seed.

This past week, Lindale belted winless Jacksonville 49-7, Chapel Hill beat Athens, 45-28 and Palestine defeated Henderson, 41-16. Kilgore had the week off.

### CHAPEL HILL 45, ATHENS 28

In a game that had to be moved

to Saturday because of stormy weather, Chapel Hill held off the pesky Athens Hornets after falling behind 7-0 after one period.

The Hornets added another touchdown in the second but Chapel Hill scored three times to take a 17-14 lead to halftime.

Athens took a 20-17 lead midway through the third period on a 40 yard scoring pass from quarterback Conner Rieger. But the Bulldogs tacked on two more touchdowns in the span of five minutes in the third period to take

control of the game.

Another touchdown pass from Rieger trimmed the Chapel Hill lead to 38-28 with seven minutes left.

### PALESTINE 41, HENDERSON 16

Palestine set up its showdown with Athens this week by knocking off Henderson 41-16 in Henderson.

The visiting Wildcats scored single touchdowns in the first and second period for a 14-0 lead at the half. Henderson cut that lead

to 14-7 in the third before Palestine exploded for 27 points in the fourth quarter.

Palestine's Jon Denman scored from 9 yards out to extend his team's lead to 21-7 with just under nine minutes left. Two minutes later, Denman stepped off a 22-yard touchdown to make it 28-7.

With three minutes left Tidarian Crawford bulled over from one yard out, and with just under a minute to go, Palestine's Dreylon Spurlock sprinted in fro 51-yards out to complete the scoring.



Nathan Bradford of the Lindale Eagles brings down a Jacksonville runner this past Friday at Eagle Stadium. The Eagles routed the Fightin' Indians, 49-7. (Photo by Terry Cannon)



Lindale's Chad Ward takes the handoff from quarterback Clint Thurman and picks up yardage against the Jacksonville Fightin' Indians last Friday in Lindale. (Photo by Terry Cannon)



Lindale Band Beau, Sweetheart named Lindale High School seniors Cole Williams and Sarah Woodworth were selected by the Lindale High School Pride of Lindale Marching Band as the 2023 Beau and Sweetheart, respectively for this year's honors. (Photo by Terry Cannon)

## Monarchs rely on gardeners help in migration

By Greg Grant  
Smith County Horticulturist

As fall arrives each year, we look forward to the annual spectacle of migrating monarch butterflies passing through our region.

These remarkable creatures, with their distinctive orange and black wings, are on an incredible journey. Gardeners in East Texas have a unique opportunity to support our designated Texas State Insect by providing nectar-rich flowers that sustain them on their fall migration.

Each year, monarch butterflies undertake a phenomenal migration from their breeding grounds in North America to their wintering site in a unique forest in Mexico.

Unlike their journey north which occurred in multiple generations, their journey south is accomplished by a single generation of delicate but durable creatures. During this fall trip, monarchs depend heavily on nectar-rich flowers for sustenance.

For migrating monarch butterflies, the need for nectar is critical. They rely on this sugary substance for the energy required to complete their long journey. To support these travelers, we need to provide an abundance of nectar-rich flowers in gardens and along roadways and pastures.

When choosing nectar plants for your garden, consider these fall blooming options and keep them sheared with the hedge clippers until Labor Day to keep them dense and full of blooms each October.

-- Cigar Plant (*Cuphea micropetala*): This Mexican native provide spikes of candy corn-like flowers as the days shorten each fall.

-- Fall Aster (*Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*): This native, Texas-tough perennial produces lavender, daisy-like flowers that are irresistible to butterflies.

-- Goldenrod (*Solidago* sp.): Goldenrod's golden-yellow blooms offer a late-season feast for migrating monarchs and hungry bees as well.

-- Mexican Bush Sage (*Salvia leucantha*): This striking purple and white standout was designated a Texas Superstar by Texas A&M AgriLife for good reason.

-- Perennial Ageratums (*Conoclinium* sp.): Both mistflower and Gregg's mistflower are native Texas perennials that provide loads of frothy lavender blooms for migrating monarchs each autumn. The related white bonesets (*Eupatorium* sp.) are also winners for pollinators.

-- Perennial Garden Mums (*Dendranthema x rubella*): True perennial chrysanthemums such as 'Clara Curtis,' 'Country Girl,' and 'Mildred Golden' provide fall flowers year after year without replanting.

-- Perennial Sunflowers (*Helianthus* sp.): Fall blooming, vigorous perennials like giant sunflower, Jerusalem artichoke, and swamp sunflower provide a yellow brick road for mon-



The beautiful Monarch butterfly needs help from gardeners to keep the species going. (Courtesy photo)

archs each autumn.

To create a welcoming habitat for migrating monarchs, follow these steps:

**Sunny Spots:** Plant nectar-rich flowers in sunny locations within your garden. Monarchs love basking in the sun as they sip nectar.

**Water Source:** Provide a water source, such as a birdbath or shallow dish, for butterflies to drink from.

**Avoid Pesticides:** Refrain from using pesticides in your garden. These chemicals can harm not only monarchs but also other pollinators and beneficial insects.

**Pocket Prairies:** Consider creating beds, borders, or blocks of native prairie plants to support migrating monarchs and other struggling birds, bees, and butterflies.

**Mowing Mismanagement:** Do not mow pastures, prairies, vacant lots, roadsides, and rights-of-way until after the first hard freeze (generally around Thanksgiving here) to give the monarchs time to pass through.

Fall in East Texas is a time of transformation, with the migration of monarch butterflies being one of the most miraculous spectacles. Sadly, their numbers have declined as much as 80 percent in the last few decades. As gardeners, we can play a significant role in supporting them by providing nectar-rich flowers that sustain them during their journey.

Planting and maintaining nectar-rich flowers like aster, goldenrod, mistflowers, salvias, and sunflowers creates a monarch-friendly environment. As these iconic butterflies pass through, your garden can be a vital pit stop for them. Your efforts not only enhance the beauty of your garden but also contribute to the conservation of this extraordinary species.

With Texas being "the gate keeper" for both the spring and fall migration of miracle monarchs into and out of Mexico, let's plan to make our gardens and properties more welcoming and sustaining for these wonders of nature.



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## LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Kenneth Vaughan Mixon, Deceased, were granted to Carlee Tennison on October 23, 2023, in Cause No. 47504P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3, Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to administrator c/o: Michael C. Coker, Attorney at Law, 4540 Kinsey Drive, Tyler, Texas 75703, within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Norma Jean Mixon, Deceased, were granted to Carlee Tennison on October 23, 2023, in Cause No. 47505P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3, Smith County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to Independent Administrator, c/o: Michael C. Coker, Attorney at Law, 4540 Kinsey Drive, Tyler, Texas 75703, within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the **ESTATE OF JOE H. WILLIAMS, DECEASED**, were issued on OCTOBER 23, 2023, in Cause Number **47,799P**, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas to **KAREN WILKERSON**, Independent Executor.

The address of record for **Karen Wilkerson** is: **c/o Thomas M. Alleman, Attorney at Law, 100 E. Ferguson, Suite 901, Tyler, Texas 75702.**

All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Clifford Douglas Harding, Sr., Deceased, were issued on October 23, 2023, in Cause No. 47,713P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas, to: **LOIS ANN HARDING**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to Lois Ann Harding, c/o Kyle G. Waggoner, Attorney at Law, at PO Box 1152, Mineola, Texas, 75773.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Robert Ray Shearer, Deceased, were issued on October 23, 2023, in Cause No. 47,818P, pending in the County Court at Law No. 3 of Smith County, Texas, to: **LINDA WELLS SHEARER**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to Linda Wells Shearer, c/o Kyle G. Waggoner, Attorney at Law, at PO Box 1152, Mineola, Texas, 75773.

**Divide & Conquer Downsizing Sale for James Kinsey**  
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 TYLER, TEXAS 75702  
 (214) 357-7529

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF  
**MARIO HERRERA**  
 4236 LOVERS LANE  
 DALLAS, TEXAS 75209  
 (214) 357-7529

### CAUSE NO. 11-0332—D THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by Ten O'clock (10:00) A.M. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days on the date of issuance of this citation, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing written answer with the Clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than thirty (30) days after you file your answer with the Clerk. Find out more at [TexasLawHelp.org](http://TexasLawHelp.org)."

TO: **EDUARDO MAURICIO HERNANDEZ**  
 WHEREVER RESPONDENT MAY BE FOUND

**GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear by filing written answer to the **PETITION IN SUIT TO MODIFY PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP** at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance of this citation, same being the 5th day of October, 2023, in the County Court of Law of Smith County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County located at 100 N. Broadway, Tyler, Texas, 75702. Said **PETITION IN SUIT TO MODIFY PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP** was filed in said Court on 6th day of June 2023, in this case, numbered. 21-2109-E and styled: **IN THE INTEREST OF S.M.P. AND N.M.P., CHILD**. The Petitioner is Feliz Perez and Lourdes Perez. The Respondent is Eduardo Mauricio. The attorney for the Petitioner is Mario Herrera whose address is 4236 West Lovers Lane, Dallas, Texas 75209 (214) 357-7529

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: EDUARDO MAURICO, the Respondent and Biological Father of the Children in this case, is transient person and have no knowledge of his present residence or his present employment. I have exercised due diligence to locate the whereabouts of this person and have been unable to do so. I have no one I can contact that would know of his whereabouts.

The Officer executing this process shall promptly serve the same according to the requirements of law, and the mandates thereof. If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after it sued, it must be returned unserved.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Tyler, Texas, this date: **October 5, 2023.**

ATTEST:  
 CLERK OF THE COURT  
**PENNY CLARKSTON**  
 Smith County District Clerk  
 100 N. Broadway, Rm. 204  
 Tyler, Texas 75702  
 BY: **Stephanie Landeros**  
 Deputy Clerk

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ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF  
**CHERYL A. WULF**  
 1170 HWY 64E  
 TYLER, TEXAS 75707  
 (903)525-9869

### CAUSE NO. 23-1719-F THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by Ten O'clock (10:00) A.M. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from the date of issuance of this citation, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the Clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than thirty(30) days after you file your answer with the Clerk. Find out more at [TexasLawHelp.org](http://TexasLawHelp.org)."

TO: **MELISSA FISHER - - - RESPONDENT WHEREVER RESPONDENT MAY BE FOUND**

**GREETINGS: YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear by filing a written answer to the **ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE** at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance of this citation, same being the 9th day of October, 2023, in the County Court of Law of Smith County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County located at 100 N. Broadway, Tyler, Texas, 75702. Said **ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE** was filed in said Court on 17th day of July 2023, in this case, numbered. 23-1719-F and styled: **IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF CHRISTOPHER BROOKS AND MELISSA FISHER**. The Petitioner is Christopher Brooks. The Respondent is Melissa Fisher. The attorney for the Petitioner is Cheryl Wulf whose address is 11702 HWY 64 E., Tyler, Texas 75707 (903) 525-9869.

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: On July 17, 2023, Christopher Brooks filed an Original Petition for Divorce regarding his marriage to Melissa Irene Fisher, which marriage began on February 7, 2003. Petitioner requests the Court grant a divorce and divide the parties community estate in a just and right manner.

The Officer executing this process shall promptly serve the same according to the requirements of law, and the mandates thereof. If this citation is not served within ninety (90) days after it sued, it must be returned unserved.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Tyler, Texas, this date: October 24, 2023.

ATTEST:  
 CLERK OF THE COURT  
**PENNY CLARKSTON**  
 Smith County District Clerk  
 100 N. Broadway, Rm. 204  
 Tyler, Texas 75702  
 BY: **/s/ Nicole Adamic**  
 Deputy Clerk

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# Lindale Lady Eagles begin hoops play Saturday

**Continued from Page 1** finished 14-19 and barely missed qualifying for a play-off berth.

"I knew once we got started we were going to be good," he said. "There has always been a good group of kids and a great group of parents showing support."

Then came the move to 4A and the 24-5 finish followed up by a 20-12 campaign.

Devisscher is excited about the depth – and length – of his team's lineup this season.

Experienced players such as senior point guard Marleigh Keith (who has signed to play for East Texas Baptist University) and senior shooting guard/point guard Allie Davenport will boost the back court.

Up front, Devisscher said

freshman Ella Hutchens will be a tall presence in the middle.

"She adds a lot of length to our lineup," he said. "She will help us a ton."

The front court also has returning starter Felicity Thiem and a new player, Makinsey Beaudoin, a junior, who played at Cumberland a year ago.

"Our kids know how close we were last year and how if we could have won some of those games the season would have been different," he said. "Now, we have solutions to our interior game and length to our lineup. The girls are ready."

The Lady Eagles begin their season Nov. 4 at home against Chapel Hill. Varsity tipoff is 12:30 p.m. The junior varsity gets under way at 11 a.m. and the freshman squad starts at 10 a.m.

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**CLINT THURMAN** is the son of Misty and Clint Thurman. He is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the fishing, football, and track teams. Outside of school, Clint enjoys hunting and fishing. He believes he is impacting the world by how he treats others. Clint plans to attend Tarleton State University and study business. His future

goals include having a family and giving back to those who gave to him.



**AARALYN NILSON** is the daughter of Joni and Derek Nilson. She is a member of the National Honor Society, band, and the varsity tennis team. Outside of school, Aaralyn enjoys photography and going to the gym. She believes she is impacting the world by being kind, considerate, and helpful to those around her. Aaralyn

plans to attend The University of Texas at Tyler and study finance or accounting. Her future goals include having a career in the financial industry.



**KADEN STRICKLAND** is the son of Ashley and Jeremy Strickland. He is a drum major and a member of the National Honor Society and Model United Nations. Outside of school, Kaden enjoys serving at his church and listening to music. He believes he is impacting the world by demonstrating how to live a Godly life and spreading God's word to

others. Kaden plans to attend Texas A&M University and study aerospace engineering. His future plans include working as an engineer on planes or rockets.

Texas Bank and Trust celebrates the fourteenth anniversary of the Lindale Student Board of Directors, recognizing outstanding seniors from Lindale High School who have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership, and a commitment to community service. We are proud to introduce the following members of the 2023-2024 Student Board. View more profiles @ [www.facebook.com/texasbankandtrust](https://www.facebook.com/texasbankandtrust)

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