

County Record

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Week of Wednesday, September 6, 2023

County hits record heat for 32 days

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Heat readings for the summer of 2023 have reached a record high, with the Orange County Airport gauges recording 32 days of 100 degrees or hotter for June through August.

Two more 100 degree days have already happened in September.

And as Orange County continues to sizzle with only scattered rain, smoke from marsh fires and grass fires fills the dry air.

"People are scared, and rightly so," said Captain Joey Jacobs of the Orange County Sheriff's Office. He is licensed to pilot a drone and was called out five or six times during the Labor Day weekend to help firefighters determine the path of some wildfires.

Luckily, despite scattered fires, Orange County has did not have a large, major burn during the weekend. Captain Jacobs said marsh fires blew smoke into Bridge City and then, with a wind

change, into the Vidor area.

The drones help firefighters determine how far a wildfire reaches and whether evacuations might be needed. So far, no evacuations have been called.

Meteorologist George Flickinger is a graduate of West Orange-Stark High and got his meteorology degree from Texas A&M. He has been a television meteorologist for television stations and in recent years is the head of the weather department at WSET in Lynchburg, Virginia. He keeps up with his hometown, where his mother, Rebecca Flickinger, still lives.

This week, he checked the records from the National Weather Service station at the Orange County Airport and counted the 100 degree or more days for the past 44 years, back to 1980. This year will set the record with 32 days of 100 degrees or more. Not only is it a record, it's way ahead of

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Veteran lawman Joey Jacobs plans to be constable

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

Veteran law enforcement officer Joey Jacobs will be running in the March Republican primary for constable of Precinct 4, which covers the Vidor area.

He has worked in law enforcement for 27 years, including 24 with the Orange County Sheriff's Office, where he has earned his way from patrol deputy to captain of detectives, overseeing the Criminal Investigations Division.

He grew up in Vidor, where he graduated from high school, and he now lives there with his wife and two children. "I love my community and I have a passion to serve my community," he said about his decision to run for the position.

Jacobs is a graduate of the Lamar Institute of Technology Police Academy in 1996 and through the years has achieved the level of "master peace officer" by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. He is also certified as an instructor in various aspects of law enforcement.

Currently, one of his du-



Captain Joey Jacobs

ties with the Orange County Sheriff's Office is as a drone operator. He has acquired FAA licenses to fly planes and drones.

His first law enforcement work after the police academy was as a reserve officer with the Vidor Police Department. Then, he got a full-time job as an investigator with the Chambers County District Attorney's Office, where he worked narcotics cases and other criminal cases near the Houston area.

"I got homesick," he said about the job in Chambers County. He came back to Vidor and worked with the Rose City Marshal before starting with the Orange

CAPT. JOEY Page 3A



Bobcat 'Bleacher Creatures' carry-on tradition

The famed Orangefield Bobcat 'Bleacher Creatures' stampede onto the field before the Bobcat's home opener last Friday against Legacy Sports. The 'Bleacher Creatures,' elementary students from Orangefield, carry-on a longtime school tradition held during all home games. This week the Orangefield Bobcats are on the road against Shepherd.

RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland • SEE FULL ORANGE COUNTY FOOTBALL COVERAGE PAGE 1 SECTION B

1940 Orange Tigers had new stadium but coach resigned

MARGARET TOAL
For The Record

The 1940 high school football season here was supposed to be a great one with a fancy new stadium for Orange High, but it ended up a strange one. After two games, the coach was gone and so was the director of the famous girls drum and bugle corps.

And all events came about because of the late H.J. Lutch Stark, patron of Orange High School and the University of Texas. Stark, a native of Orange and an heir to the great Lutch and Moore Lumber Company, was a local leader and donor, plus served on the University of Texas Board of Regents from 1921-1945, with 11 years as chair of the board. Orange High was later named in his honor.

Former Stark High quarterback Joel Robins, now retired as a chemical engineer, spent years working on a history of Orange high school and youth sports. He recounted information



H.J. Lutch Stark, patron of Orange High School, is seen with mascots during pregame ceremonies in the new 1940 Orange Tiger stadium. Orange High was later named in his honor.

about the 1940 season in his book "Tiger Tales," which is on sale at Heritage House Museum. The museum also has a sports exhibit, called Team Spirit, on

display for the next three weeks.

Stark was accustomed to giving away money and running things, not only in Orange, but at the Univer-

sity of Texas, where he is given credit for giving the team the Longhorns name back in 1911 when he was a student serving as team manager. As a graduate, he led the drive to build Memorial Stadium at UT.

Stark also used his money and influence across Orange. One of his legendary projects was sponsoring the Bengal Guards Drum and Bugle Corps for girls. It was started during the Great Depression and he not only paid for the girls' instruments and uniforms, he bought them clothing and paid for private transportation.

For boys, he sponsored the Lutch Stark Boys Band and the Bengal Lancers marching band. By 1940, the boys had Frank Hubert from the University of Texas as director. Hubert went on to become superintendent of the old Orange Independent School District and later Texas Commissioner of Education.

Back in 1940, Stark was

1940 ORANGE Page 2A

Orange Rec Center has fall schedule

STAFF REPORT
For The Record

The new Orange Recreation Center has set its September schedule that includes a youth 3-on-3 co-ed basketball tournament at the end of the month.

The center on Orange Avenue at the site of the old natatorium, is open Tuesdays through Saturdays. Because of high school football season, the center

will be closing early, at 5 p.m., on Fridays for the games.

In the mornings from 8:30 to 10:30 on Tuesdays through Saturdays, senior citizen walking is scheduled. Senior citizens, wearing proper shoes for the inside surface, are invited to walk around the center in the air conditioning.

The center will have basketball for all ages from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednes-

days. At that time period on Fridays, homeschool students of all ages will have free play, and on Saturdays at the same time, free play is open to everyone. The center is closed to the public from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

In addition, the center closes from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through Fridays for staff changes. On Saturdays, that time is for free play for all ages.

The hours of 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. will have free play on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. The center will close at 5 p.m. on Fridays and 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Volleyball for all ages is scheduled for that time on Wednesdays, and basketball for all ages at that time on Thursdays.

From 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday, free play for all ages

ORANGE Page 3A



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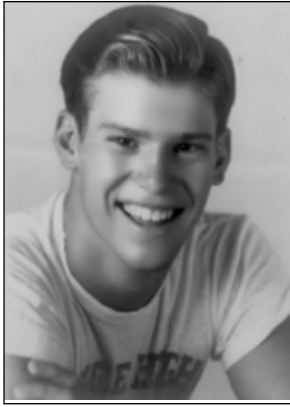
Orange Tiger tale From Page 1

ready for a grand opening of the new \$50,000 Tiger Stadium off Green Avenue and 15th Street. The amount would be \$1.1 million today, according to the U.S. inflation calculator.

Orange had its first lit football stadium in 1935 when it acquired used stands from Texas A&M and set them up at an area of West End Park, by the high school. Stark had helped to build the baseball park at West End and attracted the St. Louis Cardinals to have spring training here in 1921 and 1922. The

1935 football stadium was named Howell Stadium, in honor of local architect and building Thomas Howell, who was president of the school board at the time.

The 1940 improvements included a special field that was mounded in the middle to allow drainage. Grandstands were expanded to seat another 3,600 people. The stands included a custom area for the Bengal Guards and Bengal Lancers. Those stands were wider and allowed students to place bandstands. A ramp was built up to the band



Bill Stark served as a captain and running back for the Orange Tigers in 1940. His twin brother, Homer, was also a team captain. They were the sons of H.J. Litchner Stark.

1940. The University Interscholastic League had set an age limit for high school players the year before that would have made the twins ineligible. However, Stark, who had once helped set up the UIL, got the rule changed. The two served as captains for the Tigers.

The Tigers lost their first game to Conroe in September as a number of fans traveled to the game on a special train scheduled to run from Orange to Conroe.

Then the big home opening game for the new stadium with the debut of the uniforms came. The Tigers beat Vinton.

After another loss on the road, the Tigers came back to Orange to prepare for a big home game against Goose Creek. Carpenters even worked to add another 500 seats to the stadium.

And then, something happened. Stories vary on whether Coach Dexter Shelley had the team practice on the new field or whether he let the boys play in their new uniforms. Whatever happened, Stark got upset.

Shelley officially resigned before the Friday game, though some say Stark fired him, even though Stark was not on the school board and held no place in the school administration. Stark also ordered that the Bengal Guards and Bengal Lancers would not wear their uniforms to the game.

The late Homer Stark nearly 60 years later said he and his brother told the coach it would be okay for them to practice on the field.

Students at the high school held a strike against the school because of the Shelley decision. The Tigers were left stunned by losing Shelley, who had been a star player for the Texas Longhorns and likely came to Orange with encourage-

ment from Stark.

Orange High lost the home game to Goose Creek. On the Monday after the game, Shelley said he did not ask for the student strike and he voluntarily resigned. He also left for an extended vacation. Within a few weeks, he had opened an insurance agency. A few years later, Shelley was elected to the school board.

The Orange ISD school board met a few days after the Shelley resignation, but four of the seven members were absent. However, Stark's first cousin, Edgar Brown Jr., appeared before the three remaining members. "It is inappropriate to have bickering back and forth and confusion about authority. No individual has a right to control parades and school activities."

Within a couple of weeks, the school had another res-

ignation as the Tigers were ready to host the Port Arthur Yellow Jackets. Mrs. Smitty Hustmyre, director of the Bengal Guards, resigned. Later, she said Stark had changed one of the drill team's routines during a practice.

Years later, when Mrs. Hustmyre was a widow, she married widower Edgar Brown Jr.

The Tigers ended up with a losing season, though Bill and Homer Stark played well.

Within a couple of years, the lights at the stadium would not be used. After the U.S. entered World War II in December 1941, the next few seasons had afternoon games. Lights were banned at night because of the possibility of an enemy attack. German U-boats were in the Gulf of Mexico at the time.

BE OFFENDED

Sen. Carl Parker For The Record

Have we as Americans grown so accustomed to bad things that we are not shocked or offended by them? It seems that we are no longer excited about the news of a mass shooting. We obviously have grown callous about conduct of some officeholders.

Our former president said he would still get elected even if he were to shoot someone on Fifth Avenue. If true, this is a sad commentary on the judgement of voters. There was a time when admission of sexual unwanted touching would have meant the violator of such conduct would be unable to hold office. It seems that such conduct has little or no effect in today's world.

The upcoming impeachment trial of Texas' Attorney General will test the judgement of our state legislators. Paxton has been under indictment for years. He has wasted taxpayers' money pursuing frivolous lawsuits as well as for his



Former State Senator Carl Parker

Carl Parker was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1962 and the Senate in 1976.

own benefit. He has been cited by the Texas Bar Association for unethical conduct. Yet there is a statewide effort to raise money for him in order to keep him in office.

Legislators who vote for him dishonor not only the office of Attorney General but also the one they occupy.

I'll not dishonor myself or my vote by voting for anyone who does so.

section so they could march up and down easily.

Another highlight of the stadium was a press box with private bathroom built above the top of the stands on the home side.

Also, the field had lights that reached 150,000 kilowatts. It was renamed Tiger Stadium for the school's mascot, the Bengal Tiger. Stark was said to send his own landscapers to the field every day.

The first look the public got of the new stadium was on September 5, when the town welcomed the director of the Chicagoland Music Festival. The Bengal Guards girls had traveled there on private train, paid by Stark, and performed before 100,000 people at Soldiers Field a couple of weeks earlier. The director and his family came to Orange to present the group with the large trophy for its prize at the festival.

Robins wrote that Stark also bought new uniforms for the team to play at home. They were white with orange numbers and an orange star on each shoulder.

His twin sons, Bill and Homer, were seniors in

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Record heat hits county From Page 1

any other year.

Going back to 1980, the net closed year with the three-digit temperatures was in 2011, with 11 days. There were nine 100 degree or more days in 2000 and six in 2015.

Other heat waves came in 1902, 1940, and 1962. On August 27, the airport here reached 109 degrees, for a new all-time record, beating the 105 degrees in 1962. That record was surpassed four other times this August.

The record heat with little rain and low humidity has put the county in the extreme drought conditions and severe fire danger. Dead leaves are now on trees and shrubs. Grasses are brown and shriveled.

Flickinger even talked about how his mother's azalea bushes, a prized flower-

ing landscape plant here, have all turned brown. The Orange County Master Gardeners are advising people not to trim the browned trees and shrubs at this time.

Watering can also be hard. The heat and drought is drying up the soil, causing underground municipal water pipes to break. In addition, water supplies have been dwindling in cities.

The city of Orange has moved into the Phase 3 stage of water conservation and even turned off the spigots at the Navy Park splash pad. Parts of West Orange in the Orange County Water and Improvement District 2 are under a boil water notice because of a pipe break.

The U.S. National Weather Service in Lake Charles is also reporting the hottest summer on record. Meteorologists there

said the climatological summer is June through August. Both August and the summer have set regional records for heat.

"To say it was hot and dry across our area in August would be a supreme understatement," the Lake Charles office reported. All five primary categories for heat and lack of rain had records set last month. In Beaumont, August 27 set a record of 111 degrees.

Local fire officials even advised against

holiday backyard barbecues and gave safety tips for those using their grills and smokers. Anyone cooking outside, should also make sure they have a shovel, water hose, or fire extinguisher nearby.

Some scattered rain is in the forecast for this week, but not enough to relieve the drought conditions.

Another 100 degree day is forecast for Thursday with the rest of the next seven days in the upper 90s.

Captain Joey Jacobs From Page 1

County Sheriff's Office in 1999, where he has stayed.

He worked six years as a patrol deputy, mainly on the west side of the county in the Vidor area. In 2005, Sheriff Mike White promoted him to detective. Again, he helped mainly on cases in the Vidor area. In 2013, Sheriff Keith Merritt promoted him to sergeant and he was over the Vidor sub-station. Three years later, Merritt made him lieutenant over investigations. Current Sheriff Jimmy Lane Mooney promoted him in 2021 to captain to oversee investigations.

Through his years as a law officer, he has chalked up "thousands of hours" of various training schools and he is certified as an instructor in numerous aspects of law enforcement. In addition, he has received recognition from the FBI and ATF for his work in helping with federal cases.

Jacobs said he is also well-versed in civil law, which will be helpful as a constable. One of a constable's jobs is to serve court-notification papers to people.

He has been married to his wife, Jaime, for 19 years. They have two children, son Lane, who is 18 and attending Lamar

State College-Orange, and daughter, Kaylei, who is a sophomore at Vidor High.

Jacobs said he likes to serve in the community and has been assisting with traffic in the mornings outside Pine Forest Elementary in Vidor. It's a good way to help, plus he gets to meet students and their parents.

"I do believe it is important to establish trust in the community," he said. And he always has time to give a high-five slap to a third-grader.

Filing for the primary races will begin in November with county party chairs and end in December. In 2024, all four Orange County precinct constables will be on the ballots, along with positions of sheriff, district attorney, plus Precinct 1 and 3 county commissioner seats. In recent years, Orange County offices have been determined by the Republican primary as no Democrats have run. That means the winners of the Republican primary races win unopposed in November general elections.

Precinct 4 incumbent Constable Matt Ortega has announced his intention to run for re-election in the Republican primary.

Good teal season uncertain

OUTDOORS Capt. Chuck Uzzle For The Record



Chuck Uzzle

In what has become a highly anticipated yearly ritual, wingshooters from all over Texas will make their way to the fields and marshes as the 2023-24 waterfowl hunting season officially gets underway this Saturday as early teal season opens.

The teal season opener has become a real gathering of sorts, almost a social get together if you will. Hunters eagerly awaiting each new hunting season head to the fields for their first taste of what is in store and this one looks less than promising due to the drought for many. If you are lucky enough to have water it could be a barrel burner.

The early teal season is a great September option for waterfowlers who want to get a jump on their hunting opportunities. The 16 day season opens statewide on Saturday and runs through Sept. 24th. Shooting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset and the bag limit is 6 teal, any species.

With the promise of the years first cool fronts coming in September it is understandable that the hunters have high hopes. So far nature and the weatherman have not cooperated, at least up until this point. The biggest limiting factor obviously has been the lack of rain.

The folks staring at dry rice fields or ponds face some challenges while the marsh folks may be in better shape. At this point what we need is some cooperation from the birds and no crazy weather that would cause catastrophic changes in the outlook. September has been an active month historically in the Gulf of Mexico, hopefully we will spared any problems.

The outlook for Teal hunters is outstanding as the numbers of birds is close to an all time high. Local scouting reports have been favorable as a huge push of birds made their way into our part of the state during the past full moon. The first cool front will help usher more teal south as they continue along their migration towards Mexico and beyond.

Rice fields and areas along the prairies that are holding water are seeing huge concentrations of teal while the same can be said for the coastal marshes. I wouldn't be surprised at all to see the public hunting areas along the coast do very well for this weekends opener, especially after a recent scouting trip I made.

A few things to remember about the early teal season that shouldn't be ignored. First and foremost is safety for everyone involved in the hunt. It's warm outside and that means all the creepy crawlies will still be hanging around. Alligators and snakes will certainly make their presence felt so be on the lookout, especially if you bring a dog. Mosquitoes will be another concern and with the West Nile Virus lurking around it's important to take proper precautions so don't leave home without repellent.

Now as far as hunting goes don't make it too complicated, teal are usually rather easy to decoy so scouting is more important than decoy placement or calling. Be in area where the birds want to be and you should be fine. If you feel like calling a whistle is the best call you can have on your lanyard, a few easy "peeps" on a whistle is often all you need to get teal to commit to your spread.

The shooting can be fast and furious at times so always be aware of those around you, no bird is worth an accident. The forecast is good for opening morning so hopefully the birds cooperate, there are certainly enough of them out there to make this one a memorable opening day.

Orange Recreation From Page 1

will be held. On Tuesdays, volleyball is set for the hours, with basketball on Wednesdays.

The co-ed 3-on-3 basketball tournament is for kids in grades fifth through eighth, or ages 10-14. Participants are required to live within the city of Orange,

which pays for the recreation center. The tournament will be at 10 a.m. September 30 and the last day to register is September 22. All three members of a team should register together. Each winning team member will receive a laptop computer as a prize.



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From the Creaux's Nest

SENATORS OVERWHELMINGLY REFUSE TO DISMISS ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT

In a 24-6 vote, Texas senators refused to dismiss all **16 articles of impeachment** against suspended **Attorney General Ken Paxton**. That vote clears the way for a public trial in the Senate. **Twelve Republicans** joined all **Senate Democrats** in the vote to essentially move forward with a trial. A simple majority is required to approve any pretrial motions, and **Paxton's** team challenged all articles of impeachment both individually and altogether in a series of filings. In a 22-8 vote, **senators rejected** a pretrial motion to exclude all evidence before January 2023. Senators also took **individual votes** to dismiss certain impeachment articles or to temporarily hold some articles in abeyance. They resoundingly rejected all motions for dismissal. **Six Republican senators** voted yes on every motion to dismiss, while **five Republican senators** voted to dismiss some of the impeachment articles. **Seven Republican senators** voted no on all of the motions, along with all **Democratic senators**. Senators also rejected a motion from **Paxton's team** to exclude evidence gathered "in violation of the law."

TURNING BACK THE HANDS OF TIME 10 Years Ago-2012

Donald 'Don' Shockley, 75, died August 30. Service was held Sunday, Sept. 1, at **Claybar Funeral Home** Orange. **Don's** death serves as proof that death is uncertain and often unexpectedly right around the corner or in other cases not as surprising. That wasn't the case with **'Cochise'**, he was not a smoker, was still

near his high school weight and played golf regularly. He appeared to be one of the **healthiest senior citizens** I knew. He looked and acted much younger than his years. That's why it was such a shock to so many of his family and friends that he had suffered a massive stroke that would take his life. Judy, his wife of 52 years, thanked God that he had not suffered or ended up in a vegetative state. That's ironic because **Don and I** had spoken just the day before about people who suffered long illnesses before their death. He had stated that **he wanted to go quick**. I had commented that long suffering made a heart attack look good. We had been speaking about the pending funeral of **Mildred Lemoine**. Many people saw **Don** at her wake. It was a surprise to **Judge Derry Dunn** who had spent time visiting with him that in two days **Don** would be called home. **Don** had a large variety of friends who came from all walks of life. Because of that he was the most knowledgeable person about almost anything going on in our area. **We were sorry** to hear about the death of **Joan Chumley Pittman**, 77, who died Sunday, Sept. 1. A mass of Christian burial will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 5 at **St. Henry Catholic Church** in Bridge City. She was a good Christian woman who had been very active in the Bridge City community.

25 Years Ago-1998

Beth Dugas, beloved wife of attorney **Louis Dugas**, died after a long illness. **Frances Elizabeth Dugas** was an exceptional lady. Her many talents and community involvements, footprints of endeavor are set in **Orange County** soil. She will live on in the minds of us fortunate enough to have known her. (Editor's note: Since then **Louis** also has died and was ready to be rejoin with his **Beth**.) **Robert Arrington**, 43, dies at the scene of an auto accident. He was the son of long-time educator and famous barbecue chef, **J.B. Arrington**. **In major league baseball** **Mark McGuire** slammed number 61, catching up to **Roger Maris'** 61 homeruns. **Sammy Sosa** is at 58. **High school football** opened Friday night. The **Bridge City Cardinals** defense was brutal in a 48-14 win over **Pasadena**. Number 52, **Johnny Montagne**, #44 **Trey Latiolais**, #60 **Justin Tege** and #45 **Chad Brown** smothered **Pasadena's** large runners. A **Bridge City** loyalist said, "I don't believe they know fear. This bunch will fly into the eye of a storm." **Jarrold Williams**, **Kevin Norwood** and **Charlie Higginbotham** were also awesome on defense. The **Cardinals** rambled for 341 yards against the 5A school. **Daniel Kibodeaux** had 16 carries for 90 yards. **Jason "The Little Giant" Menard** toted 11 times for 66 yards. Other runners **Kevin Beasley**, 5-41; **Brad Miller**, 3-38; **Matthew Nguyen**, 5-33; **Steven Curl**, 6-33; **Wade Defense**, 6-24 and **Josh Sanders** 1-17 and a TD. On defense, **Jared Williams**, 6-3, 235 pound linebacker had 14 tackles, three assists, with one fumble recovery. Linebacker **Johnny Montagne**

had 16 tackles, caused a fumble, and recovered two. **Jeremy Stolfa**, 6-6, 268 pounds, **Dathan Ju-neaux**, 6-3, 310 pounds, **Eric Bramblett**, 6-3, 270 pounds and **Curt Lucia**, 6-3, 250 pounds all stood out for the offensive line. (Editor's note: **Coach Les Johnson** was head coach. Everyone of the above offensive lineman got major college scholarships.) **The Bridge City Little League** 9 year-old **All Stars, Dist. 32**, 1998 champions were undefeated. Players are **Possum LaFleur**, **Chase Warren**, **Johnny Dishon**, **Jeff Stringer**, **Garrett Fusilier**, **Ben Garcia**, **Ryan Tankersley**, **Derrick Coleman**, **Shane Romero**, **Justin Granger**, **Mike Taylor**, **Chase Leger**, **Carl Carlton** and **Troy Bolton**. Coaches are **Ricky Coleman** and **Charley Warner**, manager **David Leger**. (Editor's note: Not a bad bunch. Most went on to prove it.) **New assistant principal** at Orangefield Elementary is **Phillip Welch**, who will also be working with the administration office. **Welch** said it's a great opportunity to work with **J.D. Quarles**, Superintendent **Robert Montagne** and Asst. Superintendent **Mike Gentry**.

44 Years Ago-1979

Former Sunset Grove Country Club pro **Rick LaBove** of Port Arthur won the championship flight of the 20th **Labor Day Golf Tourney** with a score of 143, three over par. The top three players in each preliminary flight were **Jim Turpin**, **Glenn Ryer**, **Joe Hargrove**; second flight, **Louis Bagwell**, **Terry Childress** and **Craig Nugent**; third, **J.C. Kennedy**, **Doug Patterson**, **James Pruter**; fourth, **Bennis Lee**, **James Morris**, **Dewey Scott**; fifth, **Paul Pond**, **Don Jones**, **William Jackson**; sixth, **Kyle LeCrois**, **Cecil Byers** and **Claude Wimberly**. **Mary Sue Roy** suffered an aneurism while she and her husband camped at **Sam Rayburn**. She died Sunday. **Mary Sue** was 42 years old. She was administrative assistant to **County Judge Pete Runnels**. Others who also passed away recently were **Fred Bean**, **Paul Weinman** and **Mark Darby**. **W.T. Oliver** feeds 200 guests; music provided by **Boone's Farm**. **Bill** and **Martha Hughes** held their annual Labor Day cookout. **Neil Bond** had gall bladder surgery. **Debbie's** little **David Fusilier** is two weeks old. **Officers** are elected to the newly formed **Parent-Teacher-Student Association** in Bridge City. **Faye Fiset** is president; **Linda Nicks**, 1st VP; **Gaye Bell**, 2nd VP; **Billie Bradberry**, secretary; **Kay Klein**, treasurer; **Ralph Wallace**, parliamentarian; **Eloise Stoudenmier**, historian. **Junior Bryan Ward** will be a key player in the Cardinal backfield when **Coach Andy Griffin's** team meets **Vidor** in the season opener. Sophomore **Rodney St. John**, a BC tackle, is being counted on strongly for Big Red. **Coach Ed Peveto** of the Orangefield Bobcats is blessed with two good quarterbacks, sophomore **Bradley Peveto** and senior **Clint James**. **Moe Litton**, BC trainer, looks like a bulldog but he's really a pussycat.

A FEW HAPPENINGS

Sept. 8 marks the **85th years of completion of the Rainbow Bridge**. **Bridge City, Texas** is the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Some people are still around who remember the opening of the bridge that connected **Orange County** with **Jefferson County**. Barge travel had been the only way to get across. **Quincy Procell** told me age ad gone to visit our friend **Kenny Pigg** sometime back, but he said there was no sign of **Kenny** being around. That prompted me to call him. He said after surgery and recovering, he declared he had been walking around with a broken leg. Now he is in a cast (boot) can't drive or go anywhere. **Kenny and Martin Dies, Jr.** have been very close friends for a long time. **Martin** lives in Austin and the two had spoken on Monday. **Kenny** is one of the great guys. We wish him a speedy recovery. **The St. Mary School** gala is Saturday and those without tickets for the special event may be out of luck. **Father Jim Sichko**, who grew up in Orange at St. Mary Catholic Church, is making sure this will be an event to be remembered as he is helping with the Kentucky Derby theme of "Run for the Roses." He is now a papal missionary of mercy and though he travels most of the year, his home is in Lexington, Kentucky, home of the famous derby. He has arranged for a now sold-out bourbon tasting plus he has three surprise boxes to be auctioned. Plus, he has autographed guitars from **Dolly Parton** and **Taylor Swift** to be auctioned. Attire for the gala is keeping with the theme of the Kentucky Derby, so you can be assured to see lots of big, colorful hats on the women, plus some colorful jackets on the men. **Father Jim** has gained a reputation for handing out cash and gift cards across the country, thanks to his generous donors. This week, he sent three \$100 gift cards to **Little Cypress-High School** for three students who have won applause from across the community. **Caden Anderson**, **Rayne Christy**, and **Santiago Ramirez** stayed after the big Orange Bowl game at West Orange-Stark last Friday to clean up trash from the visitors stands where LCM sat. **Gary Stelly** took a photo of them and put it on social media, where **Father Jim** saw it. The annual **Dean Granger** Memorial run-walk to raise money for the Orange County United Way is coming up on September 23. It's a professionally-timed event for runners who want to keep their scores. And for more amateurs, it's a fun way to see people, get exercise, and help local charities. The event is sponsored by Granger Chevrolet and Dean's brother, AL. **LSCO** had a retirement party for **Cheryl January**, who has been heading the college's in the process technology and safety classes. She started at LSCO back in 2006 after working at Goodyear Chemical for 10 years. With all the new growth in industrial plants in the

area, that degree plan is in great demand. **Happy birthday** wishes go out to **T.W. Permenter**, former Pinehurst mayor, who turned 86. He likes to drink his coffee outside in the early morning with a fire going, but bet he hasn't lit one up this summer with all the record temps. **Bob Batchelor** is now 92. Youngster **Cindy Claybar**, a popular art teacher, hit the 75 magical number for birthdays and celebrated with friends, family, balloons, and cake. Others with birthdays this past week included **Jill Windham Turner**, "Diva" **Kacey Burnitt**, **Colette Adcock**, **Dal Moreau**, West Orange City Councilor **Meritta Kennedy**, **Phillip Caillavet**, **Ryder Parsons**, **Sherrie Harrell**, **Debbie Fontenot**, **Theresa Cunningham**, **Lyndsey Windham**, **Christy Smith**, and **Alva Thibodeaux**. **Xavier King Sr.** decided to give on his birthday. The master griller cooked up lots of food to give away as he set up a place and invited the hungry. **Keller Claybar** turned 12. He had a lot of people talking about him last week after catching a stingray in the Sabine River at West Bluff. With the drought, the salt water and marine life are coming up northward. **Brandi Griggs** partied with a bunch of kids this week as she hosted a pool party for daughter **Kiley's** birthday. **Jackie** and **John Goss** celebrated their wedding anniversary. Orange City Councilor **Caroline Hennigan** and husband, **Mike**, spent the Labor Day weekend at their Crystal Beach house to pick up some sea, sun, and sand for the Labor Day weekend. **Rita Monson** and mom **Della Gallien** made another trek to Minute Maid Park to see their Astros again this summer. Across town, their brother-son **Richard Bonnin** caught up with longtime friend from LC-M, **Chuck Frazier**, to watch the Houston Cougars football game. **Tom** and **Becky Henry**, along with **Gary** and **Allisha Bonneaux** traveled to the Cayman Islands, where they got up close and personal with some stingrays. **Karen** and **Karl Wickham** went for the cooler climates as they went on an Alaska cruise. **Be careful** traveling around Highway 87 South and the Bridge City area as construction continues for the new \$8.5 billion **Chevron Phillips** chemical plant. Dozens of dump trucks are traveling through Bridge City every day to the plant site. The heavy traffic down West Roundbunch Road has been causing problems for Bridge City schools and buses. And on Highway 87, the plant is paying for construction of highway lane changes and lights to help the flow of trucks heading to the 2,000 acre plant site. The giant stuff has not arrived, yet, and the barge dock for the prefabricated pieces of the plant is still under work at Cow Bayou.

BREAUX BIRTHDAYS

Folks celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in the next few days. **Sept. 6:** Former Orange County sheriff **Keith Merritt** celebrates today as does **Brenda Lawson**, **Keith Buker**, **Randy Godsy**. **Sept. 7:** our friend **Gerald Leleux**, **Billy Fiset**, **Ron Sherman**, **Karen Morse**, **Laura McCombs** and **Terri Childs**. **Sept. 8:** **Queen Elizabeth** died a year ago today in 2022. Having birthdays are **Janet Leleux**, **Darla Cricchio**, **Janice James** and **Ronnie Bullion**. The **Rainbow Bridge** was completed on this date in 1939. **Sept. 9:** Celebrating today are **Sharon Gearheart**, **Brent Sherrill**, **Durwayn Simon**, **Joel Jeffcote**, and **Joy Vickery**. **Sept. 10:** Happy Birthday to a special friend **Tanya Birdwell**, also birthday wishes to **Lisa Wilson**, **Doug Rogers**, **Dena Bates**. **Kelly** and **John Kimbrough** celebrate an anniversary on this date. **Sept. 11:** Sharing this date for birthdays are **Andrea Peoples**, **Billy Fontenot**, **Casey Stephenson**, **Chris Kovatch**, **Donna Lanthier**. **Sept. 12:** A special Happy Birthday to our **Record "Girl Friday" Brenda Lund**. Celebrating also are **Greg Ball**, **Mona Gilchrist**, **Karen Warner**, **Bryan Riedel**, **Buffy Bean**, **Collin Findlay**. (To publish birthdays or anniversaries free of charge call 409-886-7183 or email therecordlive.com.)

CAJUN STORY OF THE WEEK

Three **Cajun womens** met for dere weekly brunch. Da conversation turn to da subject of keeping dere mens interested.

Clotile Comeaux say, "Da utta night wen **Clovees** came home I met him at da door wearing a black leather bodice, black bra, heels and a mask over my eyes.

Clovees say, "Babe, you are da girl of my dreams." Den we got it on rat den.

Agnes Boudreaux say, "Well me, I tink I'll try dat."

Da next week da ladies axe **Agnes** how it went?

Agnes say, "When **Sostan** came home him, I was wearing da black bra, black stockings, stilettos and a mask over my eyes."

Da utta women ake, "Wat happen hanh?"

Agnes say, "Well wen **Sostan** came in da door and saw me he said, "Wats for supper **Batman**."

C'EST TOUT

Twenty-four years ago, then **Pinehurst Mayor Judge Pete Runnels**, with the help of **C.R. Nash** and city staff launched the first **Senior Citizens Labor Day Picnic**. Today, **Pete** and **C.R.** are both gone. The annual picnic hasn't been held since **COVID in 2020**. **This week** we welcome **FahrenTech Air Conditioning and Heating Repairs** as our latest advertiser. They offer 24-7 service at reasonable service charge, day or night. We have used them and were well satisfied with their professional service. If your air conditioner need service, any day of the week call **409-886-4AIR**. **I've gotta go**. Thanks for your time. Please read us cover to cover and try to shop our family of advertisers when you can. **Take care and God bless**.

Deaths & Memorials

Vaydon Cruz Abrego, 25

Vaydon Cruz Abrego, 25, of Bridge City, Texas, passed away peacefully on August 25, 2023.

Funeral services will be at 3:21 p.m., Saturday, September 9, 2023, at Bridge Point Fellowship Church in Bridge City, Texas. Officiating will be Chaplain Matthew Frost.

Visitation will be from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday, September 8, 2023, at Claybar Funeral Home in Bridge City, Texas.

Born in Port Arthur, Texas, on March 16, 1998, he was the son of Lee and Lacy Martin. Vaydon was known for his big heart, he never met a stranger and would give his last dollar to the homeless veterans. His dream was to open an organization for veterans to help them get back on their feet and have a decent place to stay while rebuilding a life. He was our wild child, fearless, never scared to try anything once. His passions were skydiving and boxing with his Uncle Lane, boating in the bayou, night-hunting, Monday night pool, Team Pocket Pounders in the APA pool league, blaring his music singing to the top of his lungs until he was hoarse, and most importantly being in the company of his friends. He was without a doubt the center of attention and life of the party. His definition of art was expression through visual representation and for him it was music. Being the unique charismatic character he was, after meeting Dalton Dishon and following a smooth introduction to the Dishon family, they simply fell in love. He thought of Rhonda and Wesley as his second parents, betting them he could run their establishment, which led him to become the General Manager of High Tides, a position he was built for. He loved setting up the tournaments for the Salt Pro Redfish Series fishing, and volleyball and washer tournaments to bring in the crowd. Recently he was the manager of Round Bunch RV Park, working daily to make sure he didn't miss any detail to bring in the workers. He was a proud Veteran, having served in the United States Army as a Sergeant and Calvary Scout, where he made many friends, who all



Vaydon Abrego

quickly became family. Vaydon earned many honors while serving his country, including the Army Achievement Medal, Army Commendation Medal with C Device, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Air Assault Badge, and the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal with Campaign Star. He was a proud father to his two beautiful girls, and a great man who touched the lives of many and will continue to shine in the hearts of all who knew him. Leaving this world, Vaydon was able to help five strangers stay on this earth a little bit longer by giving his gifts to them.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Carroll J. Dupre, Elmer Odom Sr., Essie Tillman, and William Bacon; birth father, Danial Ray Abrego; and his brother-in-arms, Shelby Jones.

He is survived by his number one fans, his loving parents, Lee and Lacy Martin, his daughters, Josi Mae Abrego and Miller Claire Abrego; his loving girlfriend, Kylee Day; his siblings, Marqus Martin and wife Brooklyn, Keegan Martin and wife Amanda, Jordaan Abrego, Joel Castro, Devan Abrego, Astashia Abrego; his best friends, Ashtin Reed and Travis Woods; his ride-or-die cousin, Lexxie Rosario; his grandparents, Shelia Rogers, Trish Welch, Norma Abrego, and Dorothy Abrego; niece, Emery Martin; nephews, Hayden and Hudson Martin; his favorite uncles, Lane Dupre and Lee Cormier; numerous brothers and sisters he made during his time in the Army; and all of his aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and his friends.

Honorary pallbearers will be Ashtin Reed, Travis Woods, Kyle Cothorn, Teddy Noga, Troy Yocum, River Crider, Brad Wiggins, Ambet Po, Drake Dishon, Dalton Dishon, Kevin "KG" Gordon, Byron Bacon, Justin Smith, Zayne Trahan, Hayden Hoffpauir, Blaine McElduff, and Brady Riley.

In lieu of flowers, to honor Vaydon, his family would appreciate contributions to be made to his children's college funds via Lacy Martin at Gulf Credit Union.

Rev. Bobby Earl Spross, 92

Reverend Bobby Earl Spross, 92, of Orange, Texas, passed away on August 29, 2023 at his home surrounded by family.

Rev. Spross was born in Dallas, Texas on September 8, 1930. He was the sixth of eight children born to sharecroppers Ben Henry Spross and Nelly Grace Weatherford Spross.



Rev. Bobby Spross

Rev. Spross graduated from East Texas Baptist College, where he met his wife Imogene, and from Southwestern Theological Seminary. He was in pastoral ministry for 42 years in several Texas churches; including in Mount Pleasant, Pittsburg, Ranger, Hooks, Longview, and Orange. His last 22 years of full-time ministry were served at Old First Orange Baptist Church (OFOBC) in Orange, where he and his wife have remained faithful members. He mentored many young pastors and church members, and established life-long relationships with people from every pastorate. Even into his final weeks of life, he often called many of those friends he'd made throughout the years. In addition to his pastoring career, Bobby had a passion for building and creating. He learned the construction trade at a young age, working with his brothers in their home-building business. He designed and built several homes, including his and Imogene's first home in Dallas, their current home in Orange, and the family's beloved vacation home in Colorado. Throughout his tenure at OFOBC, Rev. Spross led a group of volunteers on annual mission church building trips. As this ministry grew, involving church members and volunteers from around the community, they built churches in over a dozen states across the U.S.

Bobby was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who enjoyed watching his family grow with each marriage and birth. Aside from his love for Jesus, nothing brought him more joy than being surrounded by family and he cherished any occasion that brought them together. Many memories were made at the Spross family's lively game nights playing charades, cards, and, of course, "42". But as anyone who knows him could tell you, Bobby's favorite family occasion was Christmas. The family was blessed to spend many Christmas holidays

in their Colorado home.

In addition to his human family, Bobby was a very proud dog dad. He loved many animals over the years, but his current Australian Shepherd, Bandy, has been his constant companion for the last five years. God chose Bandy as a special gift for Bobby's final years, for which his family is eternally grateful.

Rev. Spross is preceded in death by his parents; brothers Ben Henry, Raymond, Frankie, and Charles Spross; and sisters Rosie Hoy and Margaret Wilson.

Bobby is survived by his wife of 68 years, Lois Imogene Spross; brother James Spross of Austin, TX; son, Mark Spross of Orange, TX; daughters, Marla Blanke and husband John of Orange, TX, Gayla Huff and husband Mike of Grand Cane, LA, and Beverly Allen and husband Stephen of Woodland Park, CO; grandchildren Timothy Allen and wife Ashlee, Ashley Huff Hubbard and fiancé Lee Irwin, Elizabeth Huff Trammell and husband Richard, Stephenie Allen Lutz and husband Brett, David Blanke, Joshua Huff and wife Robin, Caleb Huff and fiancé Galadriel Gratton, Emily Blanke Ehrlich and husband Robert, and Kristen Blanke; great-grandchildren Peyton Hubbard, Bobbie Anne Erwin, Dakota and Blake Allen, Maggie and Leo Trammell, Oliver and Charlotte Ehrlich, and soon-to-be Baby Lutz due December 2023; and many other beloved family and friends.

The family would like to express our thanks to the many medical professionals that helped care for Bobby in the last weeks of his life, particularly Dr. Sotolongo's staff in Beaumont, his medical team at Houston Methodist, and the exceptional staff of Southeast Texas Hospice. The guidance and care of these teams was a great comfort to Bobby and his family.

Visitation will be Friday, September 1 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Old First Orange Baptist Church in Orange, TX. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m. at Old First Orange Baptist Church, followed by an interment at Autumn Oaks cemetery on Old Hwy 90. In lieu of flowers, you may donate to Old First Orange Baptist Church or Southeast Texas Hospice, Orange, TX. His nine grandchildren will serve as pallbearers.

Friends of the Orange Depot meets Sept. 14

The next board meeting of the Friends of the Orange Depot will be held at 5:30 pm on Thursday, September 14 at the Orange Train Depot Museum, 1210 Green Avenue. Exciting fall and winter projects will be discussed.

Next year's Depot Day will be expanded,

with more rides, music, celebrities and fun for all as we celebrate our tenth anniversary. As usual anyone who would like to volunteer is welcome at the meeting.

Refreshments will be served starting at 5:00pm. Questions or rental information, please call 409-330-1576.

American Legion Post 49to host Fish Fry

The American Legion Post 49, located at 108 Green Ave in Orange, will be having a fish fry on Thursday, Sept. 14th, starting at 11 am at the Post.

The menu will consist of fried fish, potato salad, cole slaw, green beans, bread and

dessert for \$10.00. Orders can be placed on Wednesday, Sept. 13th for orders to go or by 9 am on Thursday morning, Sept. 14th for delivery.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **THOMAS E. PHELPS**, Deceased, were issued on **AUGUST 21, 2023**, in Cause No. P19768, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **JACKIE ROBERTS**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Representative Estate of Thmas E. Phelps
c/o:
James R. Dunaway
Dunaway
P.O. Box 100
Orange, TX
77631-0100

Dated the 24th day of August, 2023.

James R. Dunaway
James R. Dunaway
Attorney for:
Jackie Roberts
State Bar No.: 06208000
P.O. Box 100
Orange, TX 77631-0100
Email: jrdunaway@sbcglobal.net

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **WAYNE RONALD LANE**, Deceased, were issued on **AUGUST 24, 2023**, in Docket No. P19774, pending in the County Court at Law of Orange County, Texas, to: **WAYNE RONALD LANE II**.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o:
Paul M. Fukuda
Attorney At Law
312 Border Street
Orange, TX 77630

DATED the 25th day of August, 2023.

Paul M. Fukuda
Paul M. Fukuda
Attorney for:
Wayne Ronald Lane II
State Bar No.: 00789915
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16. Centers of activity
17. One of a duo on "Sesame Street"
18. *Estrogen and testosterone
20. Tiny piece of anything
21. *Pertaining to ear
22. Pocket watch chain
23. Bed "on the tree top"
26. Home ground
30. Yankee's foe
31. Heart-to-heart
34. First Nation nation
35. Clumsy
37. Summer mo.
38. Boris Godunov and Nicholas Romanov
39. _____ 1 jet speed
40. Last in octad
42. Intelligent humor
43. Win or go home competition
45. Actor Snipes
47. Not stood
48. Knitter's unit
50. *Eye part
52. *Vitamins' partners
55. Old-time calculators
56. Port of Yemen
57. Memorization method
59. Greek Bs
60. Bank on
61. Crazy one
62. Yamaguchi or Hamill's jump
63. ***"Bad" cholesterol, acr.
64. Rudolph, e.g.
- DOWN
1. Like proud marines
2. Moonfish
3. Infamous Roman Emperor
4. Between triad and pentad
5. Flora's partner
6. Umbrella-like inflorescence
7. "The Untouchables" leader
8. *Richard Simons' workout
9. Deliver a tirade
10. Lake north of Cleveland
11. Sailor's assent
13. *Uncontrollable movement disorder
14. Retire from military
19. Deprive by deceit
22. ***"All the rage" diet, e.g.
23. Way to curl hair
24. *Pertaining to kidneys
25. Manila hemp
26. *H in HIIT
27. Type of fishing net
28. Eagle's nest
29. Easily irritated
32. Naive, alt. spelling
33. Excavated
36. *Annual exam
38. Not our
40. Young newt
41. Maid to a maid
44. Desert mirage
46. L. Carroll's and J. Heller's characters
48. Chose between competitors
49. Funereal bell sound
50. Wild goat
51. Loan attribute
52. Lime-rich soil
53. Dirty money
54. Greek portico
55. Legal grp.
58. *Heart test acronym

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WOS Mustangs hang on to Orange Bowl

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

The Orange Bowl will stay where it is. The West Orange-Stark Mustangs won decisively on Friday night 33-6 over the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears to retain possession of the Orange Bowl.

The Mustangs, 2-0, took an early lead and only expanded it as the game progressed against their crosstown rivals from Orange. The Bears dropped to 1-1 on their season after the loss.

West Orange-Stark received the opening kickoff and drove 71 yards in ten plays to score the first points of the game. The Mustangs spread the ball around with four different players gaining yardage either through the air or on the ground.

Quarterback Marcus Turner completed his first two passes to Nicholas Crosson and to Tahj Amerson to move the ball to

midfield.

Jalen Gilmore ran for another first down followed by a third first down by Amerson on a five-yard carry. A holding penalty against the Mustangs pushed them back, but an unsportsmanlike penalty on the Bears after a run by Gilmore setup a first and ten at the Bears' 11.

Gilmore scored on the next play with a run. Alfonso Balderas kicked the point after for a 7-0 Mustang advantage 4:18 into the game.

The Bears picked up a first down on their first possession but then lost a fumble recovered by Amerson of the Mustangs at the fifty. It would take West Orange-Stark six plays to capitalize on the turnover.

Turner connected with Jamarr O'Neal for 15 yards on the first play. Key'shawn Robinson cut loose for 15 yards and a first down at the Bears' 18.

Amerson carried twice gaining 12 yards for a first

and goal at the six. From the Wildcat formation Amerson took a direct snap and ran the ball into the end zone to increase the Mustang lead to 14-0 with 2:44 left in the first quarter.

Their second possession the Bears began to move the ball. Little Cypress Mauriceville quarterback Dylan Payne picked up seven yards on first down and then passed 25 yards to Keagan Cockerham for a first down to the Mustangs' 39. A penalty could have stymied the Bears until Payne passed 15 yards to Braydon Guillory for a first down at the WOS 26.

Payne ran the ball to the 21 on first down and then



WOS Mustang Key'shawn Robinson speeds down field with LCM Bear Hunter Johnson in pursuit.
RECORD PHOTO: Kayleigh Ritchy / KR Photography

WOS WINS Page 5B



Bridge City's Abraham Mungia celebrates his touchdown with Cardinal teammate Bryce Breedon.
RECORD PHOTO: Lisa K Anderson

BC Cardinals to challenge LCM Bears

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

Things are looking up in Bridge City with two wins already this season, more than the Cardinals had all of last year. Another big rivalry game will be a good test for the Cardinals on the road this Friday night.

Last week Bridge City played its first road game of the season and defeated the Buna Cougars 20-12. In their first two games the Cardinals have outscored their opponents 46-21 resulting in two victories.

Cardinal Coach Chad Landry is proud of his young Cardinals winning on the road. "I thought we handled the change of playing away very well. We were organized up front. Our players stuck to the pre-planned schedule. It was good to see them be prepared. It was a great ball game. I am proud of our kids and the way they handled themselves on the road for the first time this year," Landry remarked.

Accolades could be shared by both the offensive and the defensive units of Bridge City. Individually Abraham Mungia had a great game according to Landry. "When he's in space he is a dynamic athlete. We're trying to get him the ball a number of different ways because when he has the ball in his hands he's real explosive and elusive. Abraham is a great young sophomore, he's got a bright future."

There were no injuries to the Cardinals in the victory. The coach said the Bridge City trainer Bry Salazar did deal with some players who were cramping during the game which may have been a result of being the first road game.

"We'll handle that a lot better this week going to LCM with our hydration and the way that we stay hydrated. Just some cramping at the end of the game that we hadn't dealt with all year which attributed to the different game day schedule and not taking care of our hy-

BRIDGE CITY Page 2B

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Gulf Coast Fishing Reports

This week's Texas Gulf Coast Fishing Reports was compiled by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

• Sabine Lake

GOOD. 90 degrees. Rigs off the beach holding limits of trout using live croaker or shrimp on the bottom with Carolina rigs. Triple tails should start showing up in the next week. Topwater trout action is on fire at the ends of the jetties until the sun rises and the sharks move in. Sabine Channel rocks are producing catches of trout, redfish, sheepshead and a few flounder using live shrimp under a popping cork. Trout are good on the banks of Sabine Lake making long drifts with a 1/16 ounce jig head glo chartreuse 5 inch bait. Points and drops in the bayous are holding redfish, trout and flounder in 2-4 feet of water with popping cork and live shrimp. East Pass holding sheepshead, drum, and redfish off the rock piles and shell banks. Neches River continues to hold redfish and trout on the rock piles, shell reefs and buoys with the best bite on outgoing tides. Report by Captain Randy Foreman, Captain Randy's Guide Service Sabine Lake.



Trout are good on the banks of Sabine Lake making long drifts with a 1/16 ounce jig head glo chartreuse 5 inch bait.

ern end of the bay and gafftop and speckled trout catches can be caught underneath. Rocks lining the Ship Channel are good for black drum and redfish on live shrimp. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing.

• East Galveston Bay

FAIR. 90 degrees. Scattered catches of speckled trout over mid bay reefs on soft plastics and live shrimp. The back of the bay is fair for speckled trout over shell. Waders finding a few fish early along the shorelines. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter. Surface water temperatures 89 degrees, water clarity good in East Bay. The break in the wind has allowed anglers to fish anywhere they choose, improving catches of redfish and trout. Offshore reefs have produced non-stop action when you find active bait in the area. Shrimp imitation lures under popping corks with an 18 inch leader producing the most bites for our anglers, and Deadly Dudley, Slammin Sammy Chartreuse Tail has worked well with ¼ ounce jig heads fished without a popping cork. We are eagerly anticipating cooler temperatures as we head into the Fall months and look forward to the fishing only getting better over the next few months. Please remember to drink plenty of water and utilize plenty of sunscreen, as we have ventured into the time of year when it gets extremely hot

on the water, and it is critical you stay hydrated and do not get overheated or sunburned, as after 10am, you really begin to feel the effects. Report by Captain Jeff Brandon, Get the Net Guide Services, LLC. Little Hanna's Still holding speckled trout early and an occasional flounder, or redfish. The drains are holding lots of fish early in the day. Yates Bayou drain is holding redfish against grass line on popping cork and live shrimp. Siever's Cut holding redfish near grass lines. Look for birds and slicks in Hanna's, Deep Reef, Moody's Reefs. Gas wells A1 to Eagle point are holding some trout biting live croaker. Goat Island is holding redfish, with the occasional speckled trout, under a popping cork with shrimp or Carolina rigged live mullet finger mullet. Look for birds, slicks, and restless bait. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• Galveston Bay

FAIR. 88 degrees. Gas wells are still the ticket to finding speckled trout off Eagle Point. Live croaker or live shrimp is the bait of choice, but those throwing soft plastics are doing well. Black drum bite is fair for those fishing on the bottom, or under a popping cork along structure. Some trout are caught over 5-6 feet of water over shell on live shrimp and soft plastics. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. With the blue water moving closer

again the piers should be back on for redfish, sharks, and jack crevalle. Todd's Dump to Redfish Island holding some nice trout on croaker and strawberry with white artificials. The gas wells off the ship channel bordering Brothel Island are holding some nice speckled trout, and occasional redfish on croaker. The South Jetty holds some big redfish with a few nice slots. Some nice sharks can be found at the end. The Gulf side of the jetty is on fire for speckled trout, sheepshead, pompano and redfish close to rocks on popping cork with live bait free-lined shrimp, or Carolina rigged float with shrimp, or chatterweight and croaker. Channel side holding trout and redfish close to rocks with popping cork and live shrimp. The railroad bridge is holding redfish drum and a decent number of speckled trout early on live bait. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• West Galveston Bay

GOOD. 90 degrees. Good numbers of keeper speckled trout, along with some redfish taken by those anglers wading with live croaker. Boat anglers find specks over deep shell mostly on live croakers, but a few fish being caught on shrimp and soft plastics. Report by Captain David Dillman, Galveston Bay Charter Fishing. West Bay's South Shore is holding a lot of speckled trout and redfish for wade anglers around the coves and grass lines from South Deer Island to San Luis Pass. Both sides of Bird Island and the flats continue to hold good numbers of speckled trout and redfish for wade anglers. North shorelines between Carancahua Reef and Confederate Reef holding good trout and redfish with the occasional flounder drifting, or off pole A to D with chatterweight and croaker or popping cork with Shrimp. The pass is holding some redfish and speckled trout using live bait.

• Bolivar

GOOD. 87 degrees. The surf is holding numbers of black drum, sharks, and some big redfish on cut bait or live on the bottom. The gulf side of the North Jetty is holding limits of sheepshead and trout against rocks with an occasional redfish early near the end with a popping cork and shrimp. The wreck has good numbers of trout early on free-lined shrimp or croaker close to rocks. Channel side holding some nice trout close to the rocks and big redfish on the bottom. Sharks are at the end of the jetty towards the gulf side. Report provided by Captain Raymond Wheatley, Tail Spotter Guide Service LLC.

• Trinity Bay

GOOD. 89 degrees. Deeper shell pads are holding a few good solid speckled trout. Birds have started working the north-



Bridge City Cardinal quarterback Hutch Bearden scrambles for big yardage with the Buna defense in hot pursuit. RECORD PHOTO: Lisa K Anderson

Bridge City, LCM

From Page 1B

dration like we should have," Landry believes.

As Landry said this week the Cardinals play at their longtime county rival Little Cypress Mauriceville. The Bears have split their first two games of the season winning easily against Hardin-Jefferson before losing last week against West Orange-Stark in the Orange Bowl.

The Cardinal defense is allowing only about ten points a game in the first two wins but should be tested by the Spread Offense employed by the Bears. "Their Spread is multiple and they're dynamic on offense. We're going to have to have a big night from Ayden Richardson again. He's just played extremely well this year. We're going to need him up front," Coach Landry stated.

Inside linebackers Blaze King and Braxton Lynam had good nights at Buna. Landry indicated King and Lynam held up well and made good calls in that game. They both will have to have another good night against Little Cypress Mauriceville.

Landry analyzed, "The Bears are such a well-coached team. They're dynamic and explosive on offense so we've got our hands full."

Leading the Bears offense is quarterback Dylan Payne who is a good runner while also being able to throw the football. Payne has talented wide receivers like Keagan Cockerham and Braydon Guillory as well as Jonah Fuller coming out of the backfield.

Because of the mixed attack from LCM the Cardinals will find it necessary to stop both the run and the pass to be successful on Friday night. "I feel like up front we're okay. Our secondary kind of took a step forward against Buna we had two big picks. Those guys are growing in the secondary, they were all sophomores last year. With more games under their belts they're playing a lot faster," Landry evaluated. Credit for the improvement of the Bridge City secondary was given by Landry to the Cardinals' secondary coach Jacob Underhill.

Bridge City will hope to move the football against Little Cypress Mauriceville like it has in the first two games. That will not be easy against the Bears' defense.

LCM uses the 4-3 Defense which has been a trademark for the Bears' defensive coordinator John Davis. The Bears should be ready to give the Cardinals' offense a battle on Friday night.

The key for the Bridge City offense will be the front line. "I think our O-line needs to take another step forward. They have, and I'm really proud of how our offensive line from day one to now is leaps and bounds better than it was when we started. We've just got to take another step. If we can give Hutch (Bearden) some time back there I think he can find some guys and get the ball in our playmakers' hands. I believe the Bears are going to try to put pressure on Hutch. We've just got to keep him clean for four quarters and let him do his work," Landry emphasized.

There is no trophy awarded, but the winners do get bragging rights for the next year. "We're looking forward to it. We're going to have to play our best game of the year to have a chance, and it should be fun," Landry concluded.

The Bridge City Cardinals play the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears on Friday. The game will kickoff at 7:00 PM in Battlin' Bear Stadium.

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Orangefield in hunt for win against Shepherd



Orangefield Bobcat Zach Morrow tackles a Legacy runner assisted by Blake McRight, Logan Trahan, and Kenson Dubois. RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland



Orangefield Bobcat Mason Manning finds running room against the Legacy Titan defense. RECORD PHOTO: Darren Hoyland

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

Two losses to start the football season has Orangefield hungry for a win. The Bobcats will be looking for their first victory against an opponent this Friday night that they defeated twice last year.

The first home game of the season for Orangefield last week was against Legacy Sports, a private school out of Spring. The Titans beat the Bobcats 48-10.

Orangefield Coach Josh Smalley called Legacy a really good football team and predicted the Titans are going to win a lot of games this season. "It was good for our kids to see that level of competition and that level of athleticism on the field. Hopefully, it will prepare us for our district season coming up," Smalley commented.

Turnovers were a problem the coach had hoped to cut down on, but the Bobcats had trouble against Legacy giving the ball away a couple of times for the second week in a row. Smalley praised, "I do think we tackled better, and I was a hundred percent very pleased with the Bobcats' effort. The game got out of hand in the third and fourth quarters, but we didn't stop competing, we didn't lay down and take it, we kept fighting for the whole forty-eight minutes which is one thing we ask our kids to do especially the young kids."

"After the game I didn't feel as bad about that. We still had mistakes like turnovers and busted coverages, but those things are correctable. Lack of effort is not correctable, as long as we keep giving ef-



Mason Houghton has been sidelined during workouts and the first two games but will return from a shoulder injury for Orangefield this week against Shepherd.

fort I think we're going to be okay," Smalley analyzed.

Despite the loss Kane Smith of the Bobcats had his second good game returning a kickoff for their only touchdown, and he played well on both offense and defense. Ty Butler added a field goal for Orangefield his first three pointer of the season.

There were no serious injuries for the Bobcats against Legacy. More good news is that Orangefield will get back the services of Mason Houghton who has been out with a shoulder injury since before the summer.

The Bobcats play the Shepherd Pirates this Friday night. Orangefield won the game early in the season last year at home against Shepherd and then defeated the Pirates 55-12 in the playoffs.

Shepherd runs a power based offense which is very similar to Orangefield's Slot-T. The Pirates do not align in the same formation as the Bobcats but will use a tight end with a wing back and they will run some plays out of the shotgun formation but basically both teams like to run the ball at you.

Smalley elaborated,

"The Pirates run the buck sweep like we do, they run the power like we do, they'll run iso like we do. It's a very similar offense, they will go unbalanced at times to try to get you misaligned."

The Pirates' offense starts with their two quarterbacks. Sophomore Landen Dellinger started against New Waverley and versus Tarkington senior Peyton Burton got the start at quarterback.

Probably the most potent weapon for Shepherd is junior running back Preston Stephens. "He's a big bulky 200-pound kid that runs hard and is hard to tackle," Smalley described. Stephens rushed for 1,089 yards and 14 touchdowns last season.

Freshman Javaris Marsh is dangerous at another running back position. "Those guys are basically their weapons that the Pirates try to get the ball to behind a big offensive line lead by Noah Castro at tackle and freshman tight end Brayden White. The Pirates don't throw the ball much and are kind of like us being ninety percent run," Smalley pointed out.

On defense Shepherd bases out of a four-man front. The Pirates can basically get into multiple defensive formations. Against Tarkington the Pirates were in a three-man front because of what Tarkington did offensively, but in the New Waverley game Shepherd stayed in its four-man alignment.

The Pirates' best players on defense are nose guard Jacob Guidry and inside linebacker Sheldon Ferguson. Smalley stated, "Those two guys stand out on film. They are both seniors, they always happen to be around the football, they are really good play-

ers for Shepherd, and those are the guys we're going to have to make sure we block if we're going to have any success at all in moving the football on them."

Last year during the meeting in the playoff against Orangefield the Pirates put ten men in the box with one safety. "I think we're going to see anywhere from eight to ten men in the box as the Pirates will load it up to stop our run offense to make us throw the ball

until we prove we can throw it consistently and move the chains or until we start doing a better job of opening up holes for the backs. Other people are going to do the same thing," Smalley predicted.

Orangefield will be looking to repeat its success against Shepherd when the two teams meet on Friday night. "The Pirates are very good at what they do. It's a big game for us. To our kids' credit they're not listening to the noise outside the locker

room. Our seniors are keeping the younger kids focused on the goal. The goal is to get ready for district. We're healthy, our attitude's been good, and hopefully we'll have a big week of practice. Our kids are not down, they're not tripping over their bottom lip. They see the big picture, they're staying positive" Smalley concluded.

Orangefield will travel to Shepherd on Friday. The Bobcats play the Pirates at 7:30 PM.

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Undefeated Mustangs take-on PNG Indians

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

For the second season in a row West Orange-Stark has started with two straight wins. The goal is to keep the victories rolling in and that will be a difficult task this week as the Mustangs must travel to face a team that played in the state championship game last season.

The Mustangs got their second win of the early season by winning the Orange Bowl last Friday night against the Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears. West Orange-Stark won convincingly 33-6 to retain the Orange Bowl trophy.

Mustang Coach Hiawatha Hickman thought the win was a team effort starting with his defense. "The defense played a lot

better this week. I think we were more dialed in on what the Bears were doing. I thought the kids were more focused. We had a good week of practice with the defense, and I thought our front guys on defense played well," Hickman recalled.

Standouts on defense were Daylen Edwards and Josh Miller in the middle. William Prewitt had eight or nine tackles at defensive end, and Jalen Gilmore played a good game at linebacker. In the secondary Nicholas Crosson did a good job at cornerback.

Hickman added, "I was happy with the defense. We held the Bears to six points on a good play that we didn't cover well."

The WOS offense did exactly what Coach Hickman wanted it to do. "We worked



Jalen Gilmore has been a solid defender at linebacker for the Mustangs and last week rushed for their first touchdown in the Orange Bowl win.

RECORD PHOTO

all week in practice and we moved down the field. We wanted to get it on the edge and run it inside. I thought the first drive took a lot of the Bears. I think it was a 13 to 14 play drive on which we worked our way down the field, kind of did what we

wanted to do. Once we scored and got ahead then we came back we got Tahj Amerson going," Hickman reminded.

Amerson scored four touchdowns in the game and rushed for about 130 yards. Tahj played both at running back in the Mustangs' Spread formation but also scored a couple of times after taking a direct snap in the Wildcat formation.

Hickman praised, "We put Tahj Amerson in on our goal line or two point conversion offense and he scored twice. Then in the running game he scored a couple of touchdowns. He had a great night."

This week West Orange-Stark plays at The Reservation against Port Neches-Groves. The Mustangs were 2-0 last year

when they played the Indians and suffered their first defeat of the season at home.

The Indians eventually played in the Class 5A Division II state championship game losing to South Oak Cliff. PNG has four starters back from that squad on its offensive unit this season.

A returning starter at a new position is the Indians' quarterback Shea Adams who played mostly wide receiver last season. Adams did it all though for PNG last year accounting for 31 touchdowns receiving, rushing, and passing.

"Adams has done well in making the change from receiver to quarterback. He's a 6-4, about a 190 pound guy. He's got a big frame and is being highly recruited as a receiver, but he's playing quarterback for

them. Shea does a good job with the RPO action, he also runs the ball well when they get into a heavy set," Hickman indicated.

In front of Adams is a massive offensive line. Hickman described, "They're a big group of human beings. Starting with Jackson Christian at left tackle who is 6-4, 285 pounds." Hickman rated Christian a four star blocker.

Port Neches-Groves make strong use of the run pass option game. The Indians will fake a running play and have Adams look for an open receiver to throw the ball. They will throw a lot of deep shots according to Hickman using out routes to sucker defenders and then cut the pattern up to

MUSTANGS Page 5B

LCM Bears look to rebound Friday

DAN PERRINE
Orange County Sports
For The Record

Rivalry games always get the players, coaches, and fans excited. The Little Cypress Mauriceville Bears play their second straight longtime county rival this Friday night at home.

Last Friday the Bears dropped the Orange Bowl 33-6 to the West Orange-Stark Mustangs. This week LCM plays the Bridge City Cardinals in a game that does not award a trophy to the winner just bragging rights for the side that comes out on top in the end.

Bears' Head Coach Eric Peevey was disappointed in the loss to West Orange-Stark. "We just got pushed around. They out played us physically for sure. The turnover early, the fumble really hurt. Giving up the big plays and then the snaps over the quarterback's head, we just had a lot of negatives, and when you play a good team like the Mustangs you can't have those kind of negatives," Peevey summarized.

There were some positives for the Bears. Peevey indicated, "I thought that our right tackle Clayton Farwell played fantastic against a really good defensive end. Clayton's come a long ways. I thought our quarterback threw the ball well. Dylan (Payne) threw it well against a team that is not easy to throw a lot of passes on. I thought our passing game went well with (Keagan) Cockerham catching the ball and (Braydon) Guillory catching the ball. We've got to keep getting better in the passing game."

Defensively there were a few highlights for Little Cypress Mauriceville. "I thought Jackson Smith



Clayton Farwell the right tackle in the LCM offensive line had a good game despite the loss last week to West Orange-Stark.

RECORD PHOTO

played really well, but overall we just were not very physical and the Mustangs definitely got the best of us," Peevey reminded. There were no Bears injured other than bumps and bruises in the game.

The Bridge City Cardinals run a Spread Offense similar to what the Bears do. Through two games the Cardinals are undefeated and are averaging 23 points scored a game.

The Spread used by Bridge City features a fullback or H-Back that can also lineup as a tight end. The offense runs through the quarterback Hutch Bearden who is multi-talented.

Peevey described Bearden, "Heck of an athlete, very tough, can make throws even after people hit him constantly. I've seen him get up off the ground after making a great throw. It just seems to fire him up more. He runs the ball well, throws the ball well, and has complete leadership of the team. Everybody definitely looks at him for leadership."

The H-back or tight end Bryce Breeden is just a freshman. Peevey praised, "Breeden is a great football player, going to be a fantas-

tic football player, and they find ways to get him the ball in the slips and things like that with the tight end. He's probably caught four or five balls a game. Bryce's a guy that we've got to make sure we find where he is."

Breeden is just the tip of the iceberg as far as dangerous skill players for Bridge City's passing game to use. Sophomore Abraham Mungia at slot receiver for the Cardinals is dangerous with the ball in his hands according to Peevey.

The coach added Jerris Brown at wide receiver was a human highlight reel against Orangefield when he had a touchdown reception in the season opener for Bridge City. Gavin Boden returns as a top receiver for the Cardinals.

On defense Bridge City will line up with a three-man front that is very tough and physical. This is probably the strength of the Cardinal defense.

In the middle of the front line is noseguard Nicholas Lejeune who Peevey called the Cardinals' best player. Coach Peevey indicated Lejeune was ejected last week in the game with Buna so Nicholas may have to sit out the first half against Little Cypress Mauriceville this Friday.

That will still leave

Bridge City with some solid defenders. Bryce Linder at defensive end and Ayden Richardson at the other defensive end are both tall and very physical type players.

The Bridge City secondary is all back from last year and are showing their experience against the pass.

Little Cypress Mauriceville has dominated the se-

ries in recent years against Bridge City, but this is not the same Cardinal football team the Bears have been playing. Peevey emphasized, "This is a disciplined Cardinal team that is very good. We're one and one so we will have to play our best to beat them."

Friday's contest will also start an important series of games for Little Cypress Mauriceville. "This is the first game of a five-game homestand for us. We've got five tough games at

home in a row. We've got to use that to our advantage by playing at home, and we've got to get the battling back to the battlin' Bears. That's the biggest deal we didn't battle last week, and we're going to have to battle every week because that's the type of team we have," Peevey concluded.

LCM plays at home against Bridge City on Friday. The kickoff will be at 7:00 PM.

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WOS wins Orange Bowl From Page 1B

on second down found a wide open Jonah Fuller out of the back field with a pass for the touchdown. The Bears went for two but Payne was stopped short trying to run for it which kept the score 14-6 with 10:40 remaining in the second quarter.

West Orange-Stark scored on its third straight possession following the kickoff. The Mustangs went 81 yards in nine plays to score again.

Runs by Turner and Gilmore netted 26 yards and a first down at the WOS 45. Turner found Crosson with a pass for 15 yards to move the ball into Bear territory with another first down.

Freshman Khelvy Jefferson ran for two more first downs taking the ball to the Bears' 13. Turner got the Mustangs three yard closer with a short run and then a Bears' penalty moved the ball to the five.

West Orange-Stark went back to the Wildcat as Amerson carried for two yards to setup a first and goal before scoring on the next play from the three. Balderas was successful for the third time with his kick to make the score 21-6 with



Tahj Amerson of the Mustangs scored four touchdowns and rushed for 137 yards as West Orange-Stark won the Orange Bowl.

RECORD PHOTO

five minutes left in the half. There was no further scoring in the first half. The teams went to their locker rooms with the Mustangs leading 21-6.

The Bears received the second half kickoff and began a good looking drive. Payne completed a first down pass to Cockerham, and Fuller gained a first down on the ground just inside Mustang territory.

Unfortunately, for Little Cypress Mauriceville for the second time in its last three possessions a snap from the shotgun went over the head of Payne resulting in a big loss. The Bears recovered the ball both times

but the first time late in the first half it cost them 22 yards while the fumble early in the third quarter lost 17 yards and spoiled a very promising opportunity as the Bears were forced to punt from their 47.

A further exchange of punts had the Mustangs put up shop at their 23 yard line. On the first play Amerson broke a tackle and then sped away from all Bear pursers going 77 yards for the touchdown. The point after was missed to keep the score 27-7 in favor of West Orange-Stark with just over three minutes to go in the third quarter.

The only takeaway of the game by the Bears' defense occurred late in the third quarter. Luke McDow recovered a Mustang fumble at the WOS 48.

Fuller ran for a first down to the 38. A major penalty called on the Mustangs moved the ball to a first down for the Bears on the 22 of West Orange-Stark.

Runs by Payne and J'Lynn Morris netted three yards. Payne passed to Kaden Boatman for 4 yards setting up fourth and three at the fifteen.

Payne kept the ball on a quarterback option play



LCM Bear quarterback Dylan Payne trudges for yardage as WOS Mustang defender Tahj Amerson moves in.

RECORD PHOTO: Kayleigh Ritchy / KR Photography

but was hit in the backfield. The play lost a yard and turned the ball over to the Mustangs.

West Orange-Stark then put a little icing on the victory cake running almost six minutes off the clock and driving 84 yards for a final touchdown. Once again it was the Wildcat Tahj Amerson who got the points with a 13-yard run. The missed kick was insignificant as the Mustangs

won 33-6 to capture the Orange Bowl.

Tahj Amerson scored four touchdowns in the game and rushed for 137 yards on 11 carries for West Orange-Stark. Marcus Turner had another balanced game as the Mustang quarterback running for 51 yards and passing for 79 yards completing 5 of 11 passes.

The Bears' Dylan Payne threw 18 passes completing

11 for 141 yards. Jonah Fuller was the leading ground gainer for the Bears with 45 yards on 11 carries.

The West Orange-Stark Mustangs take their two game winning streak to Port Neches-Groves next week.

The Little Cypress-Mauriceville Bears play another rivalry game against the Bridge City Cardinals at home in Battlin' Bear Stadium.

Mustangs face PNG From Page 1B

go long.

"We're going to have our hands full with that offensive line and that quarterback. The Indians have two or three running backs that all hit the ball where it's supposed to go and they will methodically work their way down the field and try to impose their will on you. They're probably the best football team we will have played to this point of the season," Hickman evaluated.

PNG Coach Jeff Joseph is from the Katy football program and has adopted the

same 50 Defense used at Katy for his Indians. Hickman described, "They are going to play five in the box, they're going to play cover four in the back, and they rally to the football."

The biggest difference between this season and last year is probably how the Indians play defense. Their linebackers Dylan Talbert and Mason Wunschel read what the opposing offense is doing and attack hard.

Hickman believes that change in the defense started during the late run by

Port Neches-Groves to the championship game.

Noseguard Jonathan Hernandez returns to anchor the middle of the Indians' defense. "He'll wreck your offense if you don't take care of him. He's a really good player," Hickman emphasized.

A key for the Mustangs is keeping the front trio of Indians in the defensive line off of their quarterback Marcus Turner. Hickman stated, "They terrorize people. We've got to give Marcus time. We've got to get those guys blocked up to

give Marcus time to take some shots."

Where the Indians may have the advantage in size, Hickman believes the Mustangs have an advantage with their speed. "We're going to give the Indians some stuff they haven't seen and try to take some shots with our speed. I think we have the advantage of being faster than them," Hickman concluded.

The West Orange-Stark Mustangs will try to stay undefeated when they play the Port Neches-Groves Indians on Friday.

The game begins at 7:00 PM in The Reservation.

Booth reservations accepted now for 'Holiday in the Park'

Booth registrations are open to the public beginning for the City of West Orange's "Holiday in the Park" festival.


The festival is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 in the park next door to West Orange City Hall (2700 Western Avenue; West Orange, Texas).

This home-town, community festival brings in people from around the area wanting to kick off the holiday season. The event will have food booths, craft booths, children's activities and will feature local entertainment.

Non-electrical booth spaces (14' x 14') are available for \$40 each, while electrical booth spaces (20' x 14') are \$65 each. Booths are rented on a first-come, first-served basis.


Rules and regulations, as well as a site map and registration form can be found on the City's website located at www.cityofwestorange.com.

For further information, or to reserve a booth space, contact West Orange City Hall at 409-883-3468.




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The Beauty of Silver Hair

Why Churches Need Older Women

Dave Furman
Guest Contributor
desiringGod.org

Sometime in late 2009, on a chilly winter morning in Dubai (still 90 degrees!), Mack and his wife, Leeann, came up to me in the back of our church's worship center. They communicated their intention to join our church-planting team working to establish a new church on the north side of town. They were the first to do so.

As the months unfolded, Mack, as a founding elder, certainly played a huge role in the new plant. His evangelistic zeal and joyful leadership proved contagious. However, Leeann was the unsung hero.

Over the years, through Leeann's leadership and discipleship, a number of women matured and began to lead Bible studies with other women throughout the church. One of these leaders is named Happy (whose personality matches her name brilliantly). Happy has since returned to her home in South Africa and has continued her ministry there, but during the first decade of our church plant, Leeann led our women's ministry and then handed the baton of leadership over to Happy. The spiritual fruit was tangible and beautiful.

I would never call either of these women "old," but they are certainly older than me and older than most in our congregation. In an environment where virtually all expatriates leave our city to retire in their home country, older members are a special blessing to our demographically young congregation. Yet no matter the predominant



generational demographic of a church, older women are always a blessing.

Older Women Teach Younger Women

Leeann, Happy, and many other women have modeled what the apostle Paul wrote to Pastor Titus:

Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. (Titus 2:3-5)

Neither male elders, male preachers, nor the word of God itself negate the need for older women to teach younger women in the church. Every church needs older women who will model godliness and teach

younger women to follow their example.

MODELING GODLINESS

First, faithful older women model godliness and Christlike humility. They are reverent in behavior. They walk with God, and out of their relationship with God they model Christ to the other women in the church. Along with these positive descriptions, Paul gives two examples of irreverent behavior they are to avoid. Both areas indicate a lack of self-control.

Older women are not to be slanderers. Older women model what it means to guard their mouths by not gossiping and harming the church. Our words carry great power, and a wise older woman reminds younger women of the truth of Proverbs 12:18: "There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." An older woman glorifies her Savior and gives grace to those who hear her when she does not let any unwholesome

words come out of her mouth, but only what builds up, as fits the occasion (Ephesians 4:29).

Older women are not to be slaves to much wine. In other words, older women are self-controlled. Alcohol does not enslave them, nor do the typical preoccupations of this world. They live moderate, commendable lives that other women in the church can emulate.

TEACHING GODLINESS

Second, older women are to teach younger women "what is good" (Titus 2:3). Instead of speaking slanderous words, they train younger women to care well for their family and home. Older women have a plethora of wisdom to share with younger women about singleness, marriage, parenting, and other aspects of life. Regardless of one's situation, older women have likely walked the same paths younger women are now walking. This teaching includes a study of how to love their husbands and children and what true biblical submission looks like. Such topics cannot be relegated to a classroom; they involve life-on-life discipleship.

This teaching Paul has in mind also includes areas like self-control and living pure lives in kindness. And older women teach all of this "that the word of God may not be reviled" (Titus 2:5) — that the godliness of a church's women will display the goodness of God.

Older women are needed to serve all over the local church. They are needed to meet with other women in their homes for Bible studies. They are needed to teach other women in public and private. They are needed to meet one on one (or in small groups) in intentional discipleship relationships. It's one of my greatest joys of pastoring to hear when people in the church meet

with one another simply to open the word and study together.

Older Women Bless the Whole Church

While God calls men to lead and preach in local churches, godly older women tutor the whole church through their faithful ministry, their commendable example, and their Scripture-shaped words. As all watch their godly example of teaching and training younger generations, the result is infectious. Others in the church see their ministry and are challenged to follow in their path as they follow Christ.

By their example, older women instruct the whole church. I still remember learning from Leeann and Happy about godly speech. They were always slow to speak, but at the same time, they were quick to compliment and encourage. Their example still challenges me to build up my fellow church members with God's word. Alongside those two, I can't count how many conversations or testimonies I've heard from older women in our church that have encouraged me personally as a pastor and as a Christian.

I'm so thankful for Leeann and Happy and the long legacy of sages with silver hair who have blessed our church. I am thankful for their ministry to the younger women, but I am especially thankful for the impact they've had on the entire church. They have taught me about living a godly life and equipping the next generation.

Pastors, church leaders, and church members, we would all do well to learn from the older women in our congregations. They have much to teach us about life, ministry, and godliness.

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Wednesday Night Service: 6 p.m.
Pastor: Ruth Burch

St. Paul Methodist Church
1155 W. Roundbunch • Bridge City • 409.735.5546
Sunday Morning Traditional Worship: 8:30 a.m.,
Sunday school 9:30 a.m., Praise Worship 10:45 a.m.
(Nursery provided)
Wednesday SPICE 5:30 p.m. Includes meal, bible studies, children and youth activities. (Nursery provided).
Rev. Mark Bunch Email: office@stpaulfamily.org

Bethel Baptist Church
2906 Western Ave. • Orange
Pastor Dr. Hershell Garner
(409 782 5352)
Opportunities for Worship and Fellowship
Sunday School...9:30am Worship 10:30 am

Starlight Church of God in Christ
2800 Bob Hall Road • Orange • 886-4366
Pastor: Ernest B Lindsey
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. VIM Youth 6 p.m.
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Wednesday Schedule 6:30 p.m.
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