



THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

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GHS highlights academic improvement

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

The Gatesville Independent School District is able to celebrate “considerable improvements” in mock End of Course (EOC) assessments at the high school level from 2021 to 2022, according to Shane Webb, assistant superintendent for academics.

Webb presented the good news at the April 18 meeting of the GISD Board of Trustees.

“In Algebra I, biology, and U.S. history, we made significant gains, and there has also been improvement in English I,” Webb told the board. “We are making a lot of progress when it comes to intervention, meeting the

kids where they are and narrowing the gaps.”

Results include:

* 6.45% improvement, from 63.74% to 70.19% for approaching standard in English I; 2.34%, from 54.39% from 2021 to 56.73% for 2022 in meeting standard, and a dip from 16.96% to 13.94% in mastery. One big difference in the mastery level is that essays were included for 2022 but were not included in 2021.

* 31.12% improvement, from 34.55% to 65.67% approaching standard in Algebra I; from 0% meeting standard in 2021 to 21.64% meeting standard in 2022 and from 0% mastery to 11.19%.

* 9.68% improvement, from 84.97% to

93.75% approaching standard in biology; from 50% meeting standard in 2021 to 68% in 2022; and from 14% mastery to 27.78%.

* 3.47% improvement, from 86.13% to 89.60% approaching standard in U.S. history; from 59% to 72.25% meeting standard; and from 30% to 46.82% achieving mastery.

“Especially in algebra there have been some huge improvements,” said Superintendent Barrett Pollard.

School board president Charles Ament asked what changes had been made.

“Are there any things that are being done differently on campus?” he asked. “This is impressive.”

Gatesville High School principal Marie Bar-

rows credited the work of staff for helping the students make great strides forward.

“We have an amazing staff, and RTI (response to intervention) has changed quite a bit,” she said. “We came in as a team, collaborating and deciding what are the big things – the common things where kids are struggling.”

“The discussion focuses on the big things content-wise and the kids are exposed to multiple instruction on the same topics. It helps to reinforce the material and carries over to the classroom. RTI has been a huge help.”

PLEASE SEE GISD A2

A hobby to keep things buzzing

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

Beekeeping can be a fascinating and rewarding hobby, with tax breaks for property owners who meet the requirements, but it’s also a pursuit that requires attention to detail.

That was the message that Charles McMasters, a Coryell County beekeeper, shared recently with the Gatesville Exchange Club. A member of the Bell/Coryell Beekeeping Association, McMasters also spent 30 years in the U.S. Army.

“Now for the last six or seven years, I’ve been wrangling bees and keeping them in my backyard,” he said. Honey bees pollinate plants, a vital part of maintaining a healthy ecosystem.

“Watch your pesticide use and fungicide use around your property because it can have an impact on the bees,” McMasters said.

He encouraged anyone who is interested in raising bees to “take a couple of classes and visit the AgriLife office (county agricultural extension office). There are also online beekeeping courses which provide a lot of great information.”

McMasters said getting involved with a local group such as the Bell/Coryell Beekeeping Association can greatly help someone getting started by providing mentorship, and it continues to provide a great source of information once someone is an established beekeeper.

There are 57 beekeepers associations in Texas, he said.

To help provide the bees with housing, McMasters sets up bee boxes on his property in which the bees “store nectar and create their own habitat,” he said.

“I just got two packages of bees, and each has about 5,000 bees in a ventilated box,” McMasters said. “It



JEFF OSBORNE | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER

Top photo, Charles McMasters holds up a slate from a bee box that has been filled with pollen and nectar by bees. Photo at right, from Wikimedia Commons, shows a bee carrying pollen back to its hive.

comes with a queen and a container of sugary syrup to get you started. You open the package and let them pour out into the hive.

“You put the queen in a separate area. She eats her way out and the worker bees work their way to her. They go out and visit flowers and bring back pollen, and you can supplement (their diet) with sugar water. In June or July, I’ll have a little bit of honey, which the bees

form to reduce moisture (in their habitat).”

McMasters said he collects small amounts of honey, but that’s not why he’s a beekeeper. He developed an interest in the creatures just watching how they interacted with their environment.

“They’re very interesting to watch, and peaceful to listen to,” he

PLEASE SEE BEES | A2



County approves 1 VFD request, tables another

BY JEFF OSBORNE
SENIOR WRITER & EDITOR

The Coryell County Commissioners Court approved an interlocal agreement with the Coryell City-Osage Volunteer Fire Department and tabled an item (held off on a vote to consider it on a future agenda) regarding a financial request from the Turnersville Volunteer Fire Department during the April 19 meeting of the Coryell County Commissioners Court.

A representative of the Coryell City-Osage VFD had previously been in touch with county officials asking for help from the county’s road and bridge department regarding use of

county equipment, materials and manpower.

County Attorney Brandon Belt said he had written up two potential agreements – one of which would have the fire department reimburse the county for fuel expenses. That agreement was the one that commissioners approved.

“It doesn’t matter either way to me,” Justin Latham, the county road and bridge director, told commissioners before the vote.

The Turnersville VFD has requested county funding to help the department with the building of a brush truck to enhance fire-fighting capabilities within Coryell County.

“I included this on the agenda, although Turnersville is not in my precinct,” said Com-

missioner Kyle Matthews.

The department had requested \$19,451.87 from the county to help with the project.

“To give background, (a representative of the Turnersville VFD) emailed me on March 28 and said they would like the county to help with the building of the brush truck which will help serve the county,” said County Judge Roger Miller.

Miller said he had talked to someone with the department who said he would be willing to wait on the county funds. That was based on another request by the county that the state and/or federal government reimburse the county fire departments for expenses incurred in helping fight the Crittberg Com-

plex fire on the Fort Hood base.

“They have the funds to go ahead and finish (the brush truck), Miller said. “We’ll see what reimbursement is available from TDEM (the Texas Department of Emergency Management) and FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency).”

“I would rather table it (the Turnersville request) and see how things will turn out with reimbursement,” Matthews said. “We’re in a drought situation, and it is a mess right now.”

Commissioner Daren Moore asked if Turnersville VFD planned to proceed with building the brush truck, and Miller said the department planned to do so.

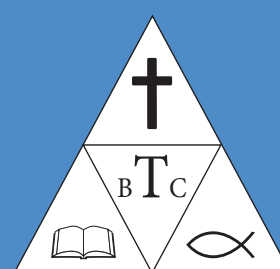


Trinity Baptist Church

A Church That Cares

Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:50 am

1506 W. Main Street, Gatesville, TX
Church 865-8495 | Pre-school 248-0041



Mission Statement:

“The family of Trinity Baptist Church exists to love God and people, teach God’s Word, and to help all mankind to follow the Lord Jesus Christ in absolute obedience.”

BEES

FROM PAGE A1

said. "I'm not a honey harvester. I pretty well let them eat what they collect."
 Beekeeping opportunities are prevalent for property owners with plenty of land, McMasters said. "If you have at least 5-20 acres - and that doesn't count the land your home is on - you can get a (property) tax exemption for bees," he said. "You need 6-13 hives within five years (to qualify)."
 Experts can check to make sure the property owner is meeting requirements and keeping the bees properly. Those who try to cheat the system can face stiff financial penalties.
 "The appraisal district in Cory-

ell County has been great to work with," McMasters said. "But if they feel someone is trying to take advantage of the system (without properly maintaining bee habitat), they will check and can use drones (to monitor the property)."
 "You shouldn't just look at it as a possible tax break. It's a great opportunity to help the environment."
 Some people might get a bee infestation in their house, and McMasters said if that occurs, they should get the right professional experts to help resolve the concern.
 "Make sure the bee removal people have insurance, and that they are experts," he said. "Bees can smell old decomposed honeycomb and it can keep attracting them year after year until it is completely cleaned up and removed."
 Certain types of plants are espe-

cially attractive to bees.
 "I have three Chinese tallows and it created a swarm path for the bees," McMasters said. "Since I was on a swarm path, I decided to take advantage of that."
 The amount of work the beekeeper does is often based on the time of year.
 "It's very seasonal," McMasters said. "At certain times of year, I'm busting my butt. Some days I work four hours cleaning and maintaining the bee habitat. You have to treat the hives for mites, and another pest is the web moth which can lay eggs in bee hives. That turns honey and everything else in the hive into a gooey mess. You have to treat the hives to prevent that."
 McMasters said up to 15,000 bees can populate one bee box. Once a box is full, some of the bees will

"It can be wonderful - calming - and give you an opportunity to learn a lot and grow."

Charles McMasters

move on to a new habitat.
 People can also plant wildflowers to attract bees if they are interested in doing so.
 "Bees like bright colors - they're attracted to bright wildflowers," McMasters said. "It's nice to watch the depth and quality of the bees increase. They become almost self-sustaining if conditions are right and they have a strong hive. Then that can corral some of the pests that bother them - except for the mites."
 Military veterans who are interested in beekeeping can receive

assistance through the Hives for Heroes organization.
 "The mission focuses on honey bee conservation and transitions for veterans," McMasters said.
 While precautions must be taken, including wearing protective gear - sometimes bees are calm and docile, other times they can become aggressive, McMasters said beekeeping has been an enjoyable hobby for him.
 "It can be wonderful - calming - and give you an opportunity to learn a lot and grow," he said.

National Crime Victims Week recognized April 24-30

National Crime Victims' Rights Week begins Sunday, April 24, and is a time to honor victims and the advocates of victims' rights. This year's theme - Rights, Access, Equity, for all victims-enforcing victims' rights, expanding access to services, and ensuring equity and inclusion for all.
 For victims, Rights, Access and Equity for the future means confronting many challenges. After a crime, victims need to know what rights and resources they can count on. They may need funds to bury a loved one or pay medical bills. They may want information on the criminal justice process, their rights to be present or heard in court, and to be noti-

fied about court proceedings and offenders' whereabouts. Yet many victims do not find the help they need.
 For victim advocates, Rights, Access, and Equity - particularly in these financially stressed times - means finding ways to do more with less. It means locating recourses for victims who want them and helping new victims. Reshaping the future requires meeting present and emerging challenges.
 There was a time, not too many years ago, when victims had no voice in the criminal justice system - when murder victims' families were excluded from courtrooms and assault victims paid all their own medical bills.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week honors the victims and advocates who confront such injustices and helped produce a nationwide system of victim compensation and victims' rights. It also reminds us that failures to enforce these laws or to fund programs for victims jeopardize the success of these reforms.
 Coryell County will observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week with special activities from April 24-30. These activities will include a ribbon campaign and brownies for the brave, to show appreciation to local law enforcement, as well as information packets that will be given out in local communities. Community members can participate in

the week's events and find ways to help victims of crime. For additional information about National Crime Victims' Rights Week, and how to help victims in your community, contact the Coryell County Crime Victims' Office (district attorney) at 254-865-5911 ext. 2267, (county attorney) at 254-248-3184, or (Hidden Gem Family Center) 254-206-3003. For more ideas on how to volunteer, contact the Crime Victims' coordinators at brandy.rhoades@coryellcountytx.gov, jenny.featherston@coryellcountytx.gov or colette.krumnow@coryellcountytx.gov.

GISD

FROM PAGE A1

"It's very impressive - that's wonderful," Ament said.
 Helping to reinforce the student's knowledge is a flipped classroom approach in which "kids are lead-

ing discussion and are engaged," Barrows said. "That's been a huge help for the campus."
 For younger students, a literacy website for children in Kindergarten through sixth grade is also helping by allowing parents to see what their kids are learning at

school and continuing to focus on those lessons at home, Webb said.
 "It's pretty impressive what they're doing with this website," Pollard said. "If you're a parent, you can back up what the kids are doing at home."
 One other area of focus was

transfer students in the district.
 "We have 77 transfer students from other districts and there's a \$150 transfer fee (not paid if a parent works for the district)," Webb said. "Next year to ease the financial burden, we will waive that fee. If it helps us bring in one more kid,

it's paid for itself."
 Ament asked if GISD was making strides in recovering students who have left the district.
 "We are trying," Webb said.
 "It's been working," Pollard said.
 "We've had some people come back."

Ch Coryell HEALTH
Welcomes New Podiatrist!

Dr. Rebecca Bari, DPM
 Gatesville | Clifton | Goldthwaite | Temple

With her extensive education in podiatry and multiple certifications for diagnosing and treating conditions of the foot and ankle, Dr. Bari exemplifies Coryell Health's commitment to quality, personal care. Dr. Bari is accepting new patients at her clinics in Clifton, Gatesville, Goldthwaite and Temple.

Ch Coryell HEALTH
 WHERE YOU ALWAYS FEEL AT HOME
 (254) 248-6204 | CoryellHealth.org

CLASS OF 2022

You can tell your special graduates how proud you are of them...in the special section "CLASS OF 2022" to be published in the Gatesville Messenger May 18, 2022 and distributed at the graduation ceremony.

Madison \$45.00

Congratulations on your achievements! Looking forward to seeing how far you go!

We are so proud of you!

Grandma & Granpa

2 col. x 4" ad (actual size)

For more information
 Call the Gatesville Messenger at
254-865-5212

Advertising deadline is April 25, 2022.
 2 col. x 4" ad (3.458" x 4")..... \$45.00

Tax-free weekend for emergency supplies

As we enter severe weather season, Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar reminds Texans they can purchase certain items tax-free during the state's sales tax holiday for emergency preparation supplies, which begins at 12:01 a.m. today, April 23, and ends at midnight Monday, April 25.

"Whether it's fires, freezing temperatures or tornadoes, severe weather conditions can strike at any time, so it

is important that families, homes and businesses have the supplies they need to face these and other emergencies," Hegar said. "This tax holiday can help Texans save money while stocking up for emergency situations."

The Comptroller's office estimates shoppers will save more than \$1.5 million in state and local sales taxes during the tax holiday, which was approved by the Texas Legislature in 2015.

There's no limit on the number of qualifying items you can purchase. These include:

- household batteries, fuel containers and flashlights priced at less than \$75;
- hurricane shutters and emergency ladders priced at less than \$300; and
- portable generators priced at less than \$3,000.

For purchases made online, note that delivery, shipping, handling and transporta-

tion charges are part of the sales price. If the emergency preparation supply being purchased is taxable, the delivery charge is also taxable. Consider these charges when determining whether an emergency preparation supply can be purchased tax-free during the holiday.

For example, if you purchase a rescue ladder online for \$299 with a \$10 delivery charge, the total sales price is \$309. Because the total sales

price of the ladder is more than \$300, tax is due on the \$309 sales price.

Several over-the-counter self-care items, such as antibacterial hand sanitizer, soap, spray and wipes, are always exempt from sales tax if they are labeled with a "Drug Facts" panel in accordance with federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations.

Purchases that do not qualify include:

- batteries for automobiles, boats and other motorized vehicles;
- camping stoves and camping supplies;
- chainsaws;
- plywood;
- extension ladders and stepladders; and
- tents.

A list of emergency supplies that may be purchased tax-free can be found on the Comptroller's website, www.comptroller.texas.gov



Military spouse appreciation day

Military Spouse Appreciation Day honors the contributions, support and sacrifices made by the spouses of active-duty military and veterans. America's military spouses are the backbone of the families who support our troops during mission, deployment, reintegration and reset. The commitment and support spouses provide help keep our country strong and safe.

"Any extra support or recognition that those serving show their spouses can go a long way toward making them feel strong and understood," said Navy veteran and chair of the Texas Vet-

erans Commission, Laura Koerner. "As an active-duty Naval officer, and later as a military spouse, I can appreciate how essential that support at home can be. My ability to take care of matters at home gave my husband the freedom to concentrate on his military mission."

Veterans and active duty are invited to celebrate their spouses by sharing a photo on a special Texas Veterans Commission Facebook page post from May 6-8. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/texasveteranscommission/>

In the meantime, resources and benefits for military spouses, families and

active-duty military members in Texas may be found at https://www.tvc.texas.gov/active_duty/

Helping veterans starts here. The Texas Veterans Commission advocates for and provides superior service to veterans that will significantly improve the quality of life for all Texas veterans, their families and survivors. The TVC assists veterans with receiving their benefits, provides funding to agencies which provide direct services to veterans and administers the Hazlewood Act education benefits. Learn more at www.tvc.texas.gov.

Disaster relief for Coryell County

Producers in Coryell County are eligible to apply for 2022 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on short and long season small grains, native pasture, improved pasture, and annual ryegrass.

LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately

owned or cash leased land or fire on federally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP applications after notification is received by the National Office of qualifying drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due

to qualifying fire. You must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than Jan. 31, 2023, for 2022 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact your Coryell County USDA Service Center at 254-865-7012 (option 2), or visit fsa.usda.gov online.

Pearl Community Center to hold meeting Monday

The Pearl Community Center will hold their quarterly meeting on Monday, April 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the community center. The public is invited to attend. If anyone has business to bring before the board, contact Connie Long at 254-223-0621.

The Pearl Community Center is a historic building that was formerly the Pearl school which was built in 1917. The last graduating class at the current location was in 1956 after which the Pearl school consolidated

with Evant and finally closed in 1958.

Once the building was no longer used as a school, the structure started to deteriorate. When local bluegrass musicians came up with the idea to start holding bluegrass jams at the old school, they began to collaborate with community volunteers to restore the building.

The Pearl Community Center incorporated as a nonprofit in 1997 and made and maintained many restorations and improvements

since that time. Community volunteers have donated their time and skills to add a new roof, replace the windows, pour new floors, add air conditioning and heat, update the sound system in the auditorium, paint and decorate the building with all kinds of historical pictures and memorabilia, and create RV camping and parking areas.

The Pearl Community Center is located at 2082 FM 1690 in the Pearl community.

Turnersville Community Center to hold meeting

The Turnersville Community Center Association will hold its quarterly meeting on Monday, May 2, at 6 p.m. The meeting is scheduled to take place at the community center and will be open to

the public to attend.

The community center is a family-friendly gathering place for recreation, community, education, and the arts. It is located at 8115 FM 182 in Turnersville.

For more information about the quarterly meeting, please contact the association's secretary, Dorothy Wagoner, at 254-494-0110.

Martin Pena GoFundMe fundraiser underway

Martin Pena, a 1981 graduate of Gatesville High School, was in an auto accident in Dallas County on Nov. 15. The accident left him with a spinal cord injury and some paralysis. He was taken to Baylor Medical Center for 83 days and then sent to a nursing facility in Mesquite for rehabilitation.

Pena was admitted to the TIRR Memorial Hermann Spinal Cord Injury program on April 1, where he will receive 30 days of rehabilitation and they will be ordering equipment needed before he can be transport-

ed back home to Gatesville. At this time, he is listed as a quadriplegic and has limited movement of his arms and one leg.

He is there on a self-pay status since the facility was not in his insurance network, and there were no spinal cord injury programs covered in his network. Donations made by friends and family have helped him to be able to afford this rehab facility, and he and his family are very grateful. Pena's equipment needs will include a hospital bed with an air mattress that will help

him from getting pressure sores, an electric wheelchair that he can operate himself by a mouth control, and a shower chair that will allow him to have showers rather than just bed baths. All of these needs, again, will be more than insurance is willing to provide.

A GoFundMe page has been created in Pena's name and those wishing to help with a financial donation can visit the GoFundMe website inserting Martin Pena's name.

Bake Sale today to benefit Special Needs Sports Field Day

A bake sale will be held on today, April 23, at 10 a.m. as a fundraising event for the Central Texas Special Needs Sports Field Day and other future events. The bake sale

will be held outside at J&M Hill Country Bar-B-Q located at 2601 E. Main Street.

Baked goods for the sale can be donated by contacting Heather Gribble at

J&M's. Central Texas Special Needs Sports can be found on Facebook. For more information, please call 254-206-0064 or 254-223-0916.

Medina benefit to be held May 14

A benefit will be held on Saturday, May 14, at 11 a.m. to benefit the children of Raul Medina, who suddenly passed away on March 5. The benefit will take place at the Texas Station Event Center.

There will be a cornhole

tournament, bake sale, silent auction, and food. The cornhole tournament boards will open at 10 a.m., with bags starting to fly at 11 a.m. Cost will be \$60 per team with a \$1,500 pot.

For those wishing to spon-

sor the event, sponsorships will be \$500. For those who would like to donate or sponsor, please call 254-223-4445.

Texas Station Event Center is located at 4105 S. State Hwy. 36.

JONESBORO ISD

ENROLL NOW FOR PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN

Jonesboro ISD is accepting Pre-K and Kindergarten paperwork now through June 1st for in-district and out-of-district students. Priority given to in-district students until June 1st, then will become a first come first serve basis.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

JONESBORO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Home of the Eagles

www.jonesboroisd.net

14909 E State Hwy 36, Jonesboro, TX 76538

Phone: (254) 463-2111

Scholarships awarded to 4-H youth at M.J. Hanna Range contests

The 3rd Annual M.J. Hanna Foundation Open Invitational Plant Identification and Range Evaluation contests were held April 9 at the M.J. Hanna Ranch near Gatesville.

The event featured \$9,000 in scholarships awarded to the top two individuals in both age divisions of the Plant ID and Range contests. Thirty-five youth competed from 4-H clubs around Texas competed at the event. The 4-H Range Science project promotes and develops knowledge and skills in practical range, natural resources, and ranch management. Students learn:

- Ranchland management
- Water and how plants grow
- Vegetation areas of Texas
- Brush control and weed control
- Poisonous or toxic plants
- Grazing management

strategies

- Ranch management practices and leasing rangeland
- Risk management for land

· How domestic grazing animals and wildlife species eat

Youth study and learn to identify plants from the Texas 4-H and FFA list. The Master Plant List names and gives characteristics of 129 range and pasture plants used in the 4-H Range and Pasture Grass Identification Contest, 4-H Range Evaluation Contest, and the major livestock show Range and Pasture Plant Identification contests at Houston, Fort Worth, Dallas State Fair, the Amarillo Tri-State Fair and 4-H open contests. Youth have the opportunity in the 4-H Range Science project to learn about range management and compete with other 4-H youth from across the state.

The following are results from Coryell County 4-H members who competed in the Range Evaluation contest:

Senior Division:
1st high individual- Caleb Mannix, \$2,000 Scholarship winner

2nd high individual- Chase Janke, \$1,000 Scholarship winner

Junior Division:
2nd place Team- Mia Conley (3rd high individual), Marcy Conley, Levin Lynch, and Greyson Bay

The Coryell County 4-H Teams are coached by volunteer Range Science project leader Andy James and County Extension Agent Becky Coward. For more information about joining 4-H or the Range Science project, contact Coward at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office at 254-865-2414.



COURTESY PHOTO

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: Pictured, from left: Coryell County 4-H coach Andy James, scholarship recipients Caleb Mannix and Chase Janke, and Coryell County coach Becky Coward, County Extension Agent.

The Traveling Aggies



TUMBLEWEED SMITH
Jennifer Bohac took Aggies all over the world during the

20 years she was the travel director of Texas A&M's Alumni Association. She always packed two special items: patience and flexibility. When she finished her three degrees at A&M, she took a job at the University of Minnesota. Although she grew up in the Houston area and didn't see much snow or ice, she decided to take up ice skating in the cold northern state.

"They were shocked to find out that someone my age didn't know how to skate. Up there, they start skating about the time they start walking," says Jennifer.

One February she got a call from A&M and was offered

a job.

"The Traveling Aggies were looking for a director because the previous director was retiring. At the time, it was below freezing in Minnesota, and it was 82 degrees in College Station. I said I would come down and interview for the job."

She got the job in 2001, not a good travel year.

"Here I was brand new starting the program and had to deal with the effects of the September 11th attack on New York's World Trade Center buildings. It took about a year to recover."

When she took over, the Traveling Aggies were go-

ing on about 10 trips a year. When she left that position a couple of years ago there were 90 trips a year.

"I was on the road probably 240 days a year and traveled to nearly 100 countries. My house is filled with all kinds of things from my trips. You get on a plane and end up on a river cruise or on a safari in Africa and, by the end of that trip, people are new lifelong friends. They end up going to each other's houses, then going on another trip together. Many members of the TAs have been on several overseas jaunts."

When she took Aggies through the Panama Canal,

one of the favorite tours, she and her group got special treatment because an A&M grad was in charge of getting ships through the canal. After all those countries and all that travel including 26 safaris, Jennifer has some favorite places.

"I think the place that probably stole my heart is East Africa."

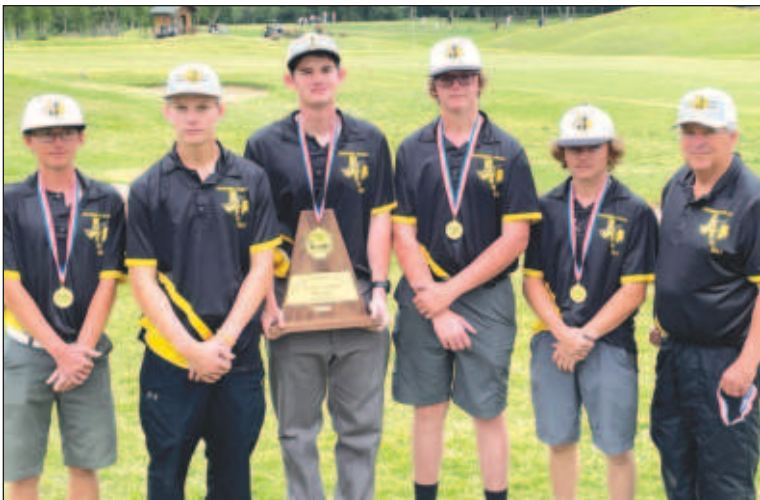
She always carried an Aggie flag on her trips. It's been on every continent. Jennifer says the travelers sang the Aggie War Hymn all over the world.

"I think the most memorable Aggie War Hymn story I have is when we were on a golf trip to Scotland and

there was an Aggie couple that owned the pub there at Saint Andrews where we were having a big Aggie celebration. The owner of the pub Jack Willolby decided for our party that he would have a bagpiper learn the Aggie War Hymn, something that's very hard to do on bagpipes. It took him a few weeks, we understand. So, we were having this great party and in comes this bagpiper and literally played the Aggie War Hymn on a set of bagpipes, much to the delight of the happy Aggies."

Dr. Jennifer Bohac now works with the A&M Foundation.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK!



JONESBORO GOLF - REGIONAL CHAMPS
Left to right: Hunter Thompson, Jeffrey Morse, Logan Necessary, Lefty Kaibas, Costion Allison and Coach Billy Massingill

State Tournament
May 9-10 at Plum Creek Golf Course in Kyle



GATESVILLE GOLF
Camden Morra
Regional Qualifier
(Hit a personal best of 78)

Avery Streetman
Regional Tournament
Shadow Hills Golf Course in Lubbock April 20-21



GATESVILLE TENNIS
Stormy Tatum
State Tournament
April 26-27 at the Annemarie Tennis Center in San Antonio



OGLESBY GOLF:
Hailey Meyers placed 3rd overall
Brodie Fisher & Matti Dixon (2nd overall) are advancing to state

State Tournament
at Plum Creek Golf Course in Kyle;
Boys May 9-10 · Girls May 16-17



GATESVILLE TRACK
Carlo Martinez - 1st place in 1,600 m & 3,200 m
Vania Martinez - 1st place in 1,600 m & 3,200 m
Barrett Boyd - 1st place in high jump
Regional Meet
Plains Capital Park in Lubbock April 29-30

Advanced to Regional Meet April 29-30
JONESBORO TRACK:
Placed 1st overall at the area meet
Caleb Cristel -- 300 Meter Hurdles
Carter Janis -- 200 meter run, 4x100 relay, 4x200 relay
Demarcus Acoff -- 100 meter dash, 4x100 relay
Eric Thorman -- Pole Vault, 110 Meter Hurdles
Hunter Thompson -- 3200 meter run
Ian Shoaf -- 110 hurdles
Jacob Cisneros -- 4x200 relay
Jaden Domel -- 4x100, 4x200 relay
Layden Nichols -- 400 meter run
Luke Stephenson -- 4x100 relay
Nathan Forrest -- 1600 meter run, 3200 meter run
Payton Brister -- Shot put
Truett Foote -- 400 meter run
Tyler Wilson -- Triple Jump, 4x200 relay
Alissa Shumate -- High Jump, Triple Jump, 400 meter run, 200 meter dash, 4x400 relay
Mackenzie Coble -- 4x400 Relay
Paiton Green -- High Jump, 300 hurdles, 4x400 relay
Payton Manning -- Alternate in 4x400 Relay
Tenley Scott -- 4x400 relay

OGLESBY TRACK:
4 team members advanced to regionals:
Kelly De La Torre - 800 m
Jayda Gonzalez - 1600 m
Heaven Roddy - 200m
Kyler Fossett - High jump

EVANT TRACK:
Congratulations Luis Arellano on setting a school record for 100-meter hurdles

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Coryell County Commissioner, Precinct 4

MOUND NEWS

Pillers host guests from New York

BARBARA HOPSON
Mound News Correspondent

Mark and JoAnn Soehnlein of Washingtonville, New York, spent a week with Joseph and Helen Piller. While here, they also visited with other relatives.



Hopson

Jean Rose's family visited over the weekend. They attended Easter service at White Mound Baptist Church.

On Thursday, Jean Rose had lunch at a local restaurant with Hudey, Patti and LaTisha Bowlin of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Mrs. Bowlin is the daughter of the late Mrs. Helen Sadler, formerly of Mound.

Emma Blakley of College Station was home for the Easter holidays.

Kathi and Nick Taylor had Easter dinner in Gatesville with her mother, Mrs. Sue Magee.

Richard Carothers and children, Benjamin Phillips and Martha Lawhorn were Easter dinner guests of Elizabeth Phillips.

Jerry and Paula Bomar had all their children and grandchildren home for the Easter holidays.

Mound Cowboy Church had their Easter breakfast service and an egg hunt Sunday morning. There were about 225 or more that attended.

Julia Kay Dixon of Liberty Hill spent Sunday night with Nancy Dixon and Barbara Hopson.

Barbara Sue Hopson hosted

the 2022 Hopson family Easter bash with a dinner. The group enjoyed an Easter egg hunt, playing volleyball and riding horses. There were 62 or more in attendance.

Barbara's Notes: Happy Birthday to Miss Aubree Long, Darr Kuykendall, Delecia Reynolds, Pedro Quintero and Holly Pullen.



COURTESY PHOTO

NEW SITE: A sketch of the new Extraco Banks Gatesville branch to be built at 3414 E. Main Street. The new site is slated to open in 2023.

New branch site for Extraco Banks in the works

Extraco Banks closed on land located at 3414 E. Main Street with the intention of building a new Gatesville branch, slated to open in 2023.

"Extraco has an almost 120-year history in central Texas of building people, businesses and communities with creative and innovative excellence," said Doug Streater, president and CEO of Extraco Banks. "This new state-of-the-art branch will showcase Extraco's recent technology investments while still delivering that

hometown feel from people you know and trust."

The new branch site is a little over two miles from the current Gatesville location and has convenient access to U.S. Highway 84 and Highway 36. It will offer the same services and amenities as Extraco's other financial centers, such as a deposit ATM, Virtual Teller, and in-branch access to eBank online banking. Once the new branch is open, Extraco will move its current Gatesville financial center operations to this location.

In addition to this new Gatesville location, customers have access to Extraco's other locations in Hamilton, Waco and Temple, as well as the Extra Banker virtual teller in McGregor.

"This new location is an opportunity for Extraco to refresh our commitment to the Gatesville community," said Tom Creek, senior vice president and market executive. "We're proud to support the financial needs of this area today and for years to come."

CRSP to meet on April 28

The next meeting of the CRSP (Coryell Retired School Personnel) will be held on Thursday, April 28, at Ranchers Steakhouse. Social time will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the meeting following at 10:30 a.m.

Items on the agenda will include the installation of

officers for 2022-2024; a report from the delegates to the State Convention in Dallas, April 11-13; and a report from the scholarship committee.

Payment of dues (\$35 state and \$10 local) can be made to Anne Byrom or JoAnn Sugg. Volunteer hours since the

March meeting will need to be reported to Debbie Grmela.

Gatesville Independent School District will be hosting a tea honoring retired teachers in the GHS library on Monday, May 9, at 2 p.m. Those interested in attending will need to RSVP to JoAnn Sugg.

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Early day artifact from Lincolnville donated to Coryell Museum

A handheld school bell from the Lincolnville School was recently donated to the Coryell Museum and Historical Center. It was donated to the museum by Barry and Liz Medart of Gatesville who purchased the bell during a local auction. The bell was placed in the Lincolnville exhibit area that displays the history of Lincolnville, an early African American community in Coryell County.

During the early days, teachers typically rang a handheld bell to signal students to come inside or to begin and end class. Handbells were also used for other purposes such as getting students' attention for special announcements.

The Lincolnville community, established about five

miles northwest of Gatesville, was formed by emancipated slaves following the Civil War in the late 1860s. A one-room schoolhouse was built in August 1868. It contained a large blackboard which spanned one entire wall of the building and had a wood burning stove to warm the room. The school at Lincolnville provided education through the seventh grade. In 1904, the school had one teacher and 13 students in attendance.

It was later decided that further education was needed, and an African American school was established in nearby Gatesville about 1904. The school in Gatesville would be called the Carver School.



DAVID SCOTT | THE GATESVILLE MESSENGER
Handheld bell from Lincolnville School donated to museum.

Genealogical Society resumes meetings

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19 precautions, the Coryell County Genealogical Society will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 6 p.m., at the Gatesville Public Library.

There will be a roundtable discussion of the future plans and projects for the organization, and a preview of future meeting programs. The group is looking forward to this opportunity for members to reconnect and discuss their new genealogy happenings or Coryell County history discoveries.

In the spirit of spring clean-

ing, they are reducing their holdings of extra copies of CCGS publications, by offering a half-price sale on our overstocked items. The publications include Coryell County cemetery and marriage books.

As always, the public is invited to attend. If anyone is considering entering the fascinating world of genealogy, this organization is there to help you start your journey. If your interest is in Coryell County history, they have a great group of historians, who love to share their knowledge.

OBITUARIES

GLADYS HOLLINGSWORTH WEAVER Dec. 9, 1929 - April 17, 2022



Gladys Maurine Hollingsworth Weaver, age 92, of Gatesville passed away Sunday, April 17, 2022.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Friday, April 22, at Scott's Funeral Home with burial following at Weaver Chapel Cemetery. Pastor Jerry Derrick officiated.

Gladys was born Dec. 9, 1929, in Turnersville to Ben Rady and Lollie Irene (Franklin) Hollingsworth. She grew up in the White Hall-Turnersville area. In 1947, Gladys

married S.O. Weaver, Jr. He preceded her in death in 1977.

Gladys was a long-time member of Live Oak Baptist Church. She enjoyed gospel convention singings. She dearly loved her family and enjoyed spending time with them. She will be missed by everyone who knew and loved her.

Gladys was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; brothers, Everett Hollingsworth and Charles Hollingsworth; sisters-in-law, Betty Hollingsworth and Ann Hollingsworth; and a granddaughter, Kristi Lynn Weaver.

She is survived by her sons, Johnny Weaver and wife, Gail, Benny Weaver and wife, Laura, and Danny Weaver and wife, Charlotte; brother, Paul Hollingsworth; and sister-in-law, Patsy Hollingsworth; 13 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren (plus one on the way); and 14 great-great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Weaver Chapel Cemetery, c/o Mike Coward, 3470 CR 108, Gatesville, TX 76528.

The DISPATCH

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through dispatchers during the period of April 17-19. While there were many calls to the dispatcher, this is a partial list of more significant activity. Persons are reminded that only emergency calls should be made to 9-1-1, while all other calls to the police department should be made to 865-2226 or to the Sheriff's office at 865-7201.

CITY OF GATESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

April 17
3:38 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of N. State Highway 36 Bypass.

12:44 p.m., an accident was reported in the 2400 block of Business Highway 36.

1:22 p.m., a theft was reported in the 500 block of S. 6th Street.

2:59 p.m., criminal mischief was reported in the 200 block of CR 230.

3:27 p.m., an armed suspect was reported in the 2300 block of Bridge Street.

6:47 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2700 block of Business Highway 36.

April 18
12:04 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of St. Louis Street.

2:22 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2300 block of Business Highway 36.

3:12 a.m., an accident was reported in the 11000 block of W. Highway 84.

2:12 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1300 block of Westview Drive.

4:14 p.m., a disturbance was reported in the 200 block of E. Main Street.

10:40 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1700 block of E. Main Street.

April 19
6:46 a.m., a disturbance was reported in the 2800 block of S. State Highway 36.

10:32 a.m., an accident was reported in the 1500 block of State School Road.

1:27 p.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 100 block of Surrey Lane.

2:20 p.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 2400 block of Business Hwy. 36.

4:39 p.m., harassment was reported in the 1900 block of Railroad Street.

5:19 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1500 block of E. Main Street.

CORYELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

April 17
12:08 a.m., a minor accident was reported in the 2800 block of N. FM 116.

8:55 a.m., a livestock complaint was reported on FM 1113.

12:17 p.m., a possible fire was reported on Hay Valley Road.

3:03 p.m., shots being fired was reported in the 200 block of CR 230.

3:22 p.m., criminal trespass was reported on Highway 84.

5:47 p.m., trespassing was reported in the 9300 block of FM 2412.

April 18
9:08 a.m., suspicious activity was reported in the 1700 block of CR 132.

12:05 p.m., a possible fire was reported in the 3000

block of FM 1113.

3:51 p.m., a threat was reported in the 2500 block of CR 137.

6:49 p.m., a domestic disturbance was reported in the 7700 block of FM 929.

8:18 p.m., a threat was reported on Bruton Lane.

8:33 p.m., a welfare concern was reported in the 9700 block of FM 929.

April 19
1:58 a.m., a runaway was reported in the 200 block of Tom Sawyer.

9:57 a.m., animal cruelty was reported in the 800 block of Greystone.

10:57 a.m., an assault was reported in the 300 block of Memory Lane.

11:52 a.m., a civil matter was reported in the 100 block of College Street.

1:20 p.m., a theft was reported in the 1400 block of Main Street.

10:18 p.m., a major accident was reported in the 100 block of CR 931.

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Murphree Cemetery Assn. to meet

The annual business meeting of the Murphree Cemetery Association in Evant is scheduled to take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 24 at the First National Bank in Evant.

The agenda will include a

financial report, election of some of the officers and directors, and a report on the maintenance of the cemetery.

Those who are unable to attend, but need to make their annual maintenance payment, may send a check made

out to the Murphree Cemetery Association to P.O. Box 144, Evant, Texas, 76525. The maintenance fee is \$8 per grave and grave site.

For more information, contact Scott Marwitz at 254-749-3932.

Greenbriar Cemetery Association to meet May 7 at the cemetery

The Greenbriar Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, May 7, at 9 a.m. at the cemetery.

For those who cannot attend the meeting, donations to the Greenbriar Cemetery Association can be sent in care of Sherrie Barton, 2470

Greenbriar Road, Gatesville, Texas, 76528.

For more information about the cemetery association, call 254-865-3341.

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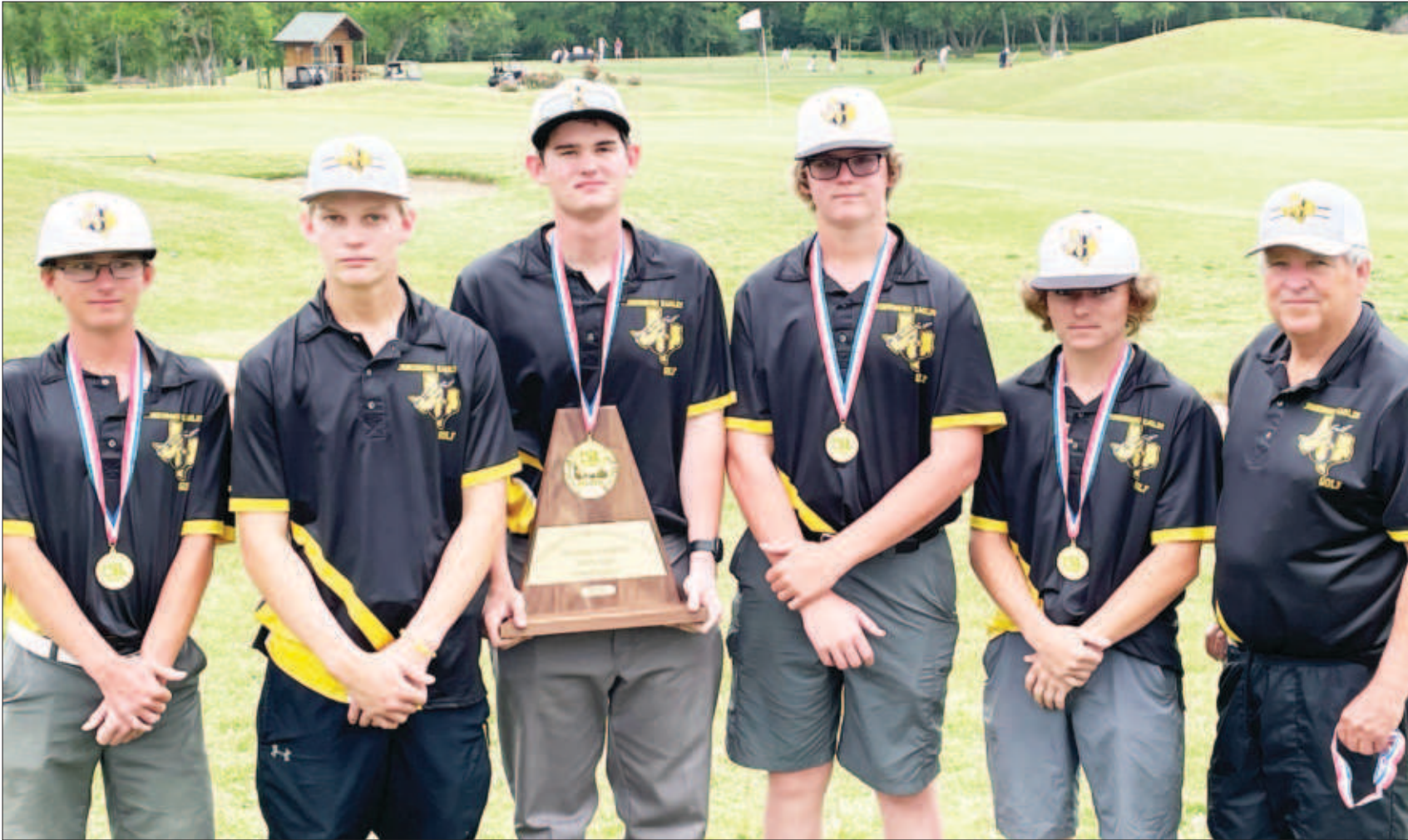
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Jonesboro golf team advances to state



COURTESY PHOTO
The Jonesboro High School Eagle golf team recently won regional competition for the second year in a row at Shadow Glen Golf Course in Manor, advancing to state. The team had a total score of 736. Pictured from left are Hunter Thompson, Jeffrey Morse, Logan Necessary, Lefty Kaibas, Costin Allison and Coach Billy Massingill.

Two Oglesby golfers earn trip to state



Oglesby's Brodie Fisher and Matti Dixon both excelled at the region golf tournament, and will represent Oglesby High School in the state golf tournament.

COURTESY PHOTOS

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GHS golfer competes at region

Camden Morra recently shot a season best 78 on the final day of the Class 4A Region I golf tournament at Shadow Hills Golf Course in Lubbock. Morra shot an 87 on the first day of competition for a final score of 165.

Lake Belton fishing report

GOOD. Water lightly stained; 65 degrees; 3.70 feet low. White bass are active in 6-10 feet of water on brush piles. Lingering crappie in the rivers biting on hand ties using a 12 foot crappie rod to maximize extension from the boat. Report by Zach Minnix, Jig N' Jerk Guide Service.

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Lady Hornets outslug Honeybees

The Gatesville Lady Hornets overcame the Stephenville Honeybees, 15-11, in a slugfest on April 19 as the team looks to keep momentum going with the regular season drawing to a close.

GHS, which is in third place in District 6-4A, has earned a playoff berth and was set to close out the regular season on Friday, April 22, with a home game against the Glen Rose Lady Tigers. In their first district clash earlier this year in Glen Rose, the Lady Hornets upended the Lady Tigers 13-5. Coached by Andrea Holdbrook, in her first year in Gates-

ville, the Lady Hornets played a tough non-district schedule to help the team prepare for strong district competition. While the Lady Hornets are 8-15-2 overall, their district record is 4-3.

The win over Stephenville was the second straight victory for GHS.

According to MaxPreps, senior Kinsey Gardner is the team's leading hitter with a .404 batting average, followed by junior Kaitlin Stuard at .391, junior Matti Robinette at .333, and freshman Kinley Gardner at .316.

Six other batters have an average of .200 or better for GHS, including senior Riann Tippit at .277, senior Cera Touchet at .273, freshman Raylee Glover at .255, freshman Madison Hester at .250, senior Bella Perry at .200 and freshman Grace Carothers at .200.

Stuard leads the team with a .500 on base percentage, Glover leads with two home runs, Hester has the top earned run average at 6.66 and Tippit has the top fielding percentage at .936.



FILE PHOTO | THE GATESVILLE MESSANGER
Madison Hester delivers the pitch for the Lady Hornets, who are playoff-bound and had won two straight games heading into Friday's regular season finale against Glen Rose.

Hornets fall to Yellow Jackets, remain second in district

Despite a disappointing 14-0 loss to the first place Stephenville Yellow Jackets on the road on April 19, the Gatesville Hornets remain in second place in District 6-4A with three games remaining in the regular season.

The Hornets fell to 7-5 overall and 5-4 in district, and were scheduled to face the Yellow Jackets again in a rematch on

Friday.

After facing Stephenville, the Hornets have a pair of games against the Glen Rose Tigers - on Tuesday, April 26 at home and on Friday, April 29 in Glen Rose.

Heading into Friday's games, Stephenville had sole possession of first place in district with a 7-2 record (12-5 overall)

followed by Gatesville at 5-4 (7-5 overall), Lampasas at 4-6 (5-9 overall), Brownwood at 4-6 (6-11-1 overall) and Glen Rose at 3-5 (9-13 overall).

The Hornets are coached by Chase Smith.



FILE PHOTO | THE GATESVILLE MESSANGER
Grant Erwin pitches for the Hornets in Gatesville's 16-15 win over the Brownwood Lions on April 14 in Brownwood.