

# THE BROWNFIELD NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013

## In Today's News



### Oil & Gas Report

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### Meadow Lifts way to Second Place

See Page 7

## Basketball Scores

Cubs .....80  
Lamesa .....54

Lady Cubs .....39  
Lamesa .....62

Broncos .....77  
Wilson .....54

Lady Broncos ....66  
Wilson .....48

Wildcats .....42  
Grady .....80

Lady 'Cats .....38  
Grady .....65

### Local Weather

Wed 1/30 56/32

Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.

Thu 1/31 63/32

Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the low 30s.

Fri 2/1 62/36

Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.

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# Runnin' Cubs in Top 25

The Brownfield Cubs are riding a wave of success that includes winning their last ten games and going undefeated through the first half of their district schedule.

Head Coach Dustin Faught got more good news Monday with the release of the latest Top 25 poll by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches, which included his Runnin' Cubs squad in the 2A ranks.

The rankings, voted on weekly by TABC members, are as follows:

1. Kountze (27-3)
2. White Oak (25-1)
3. Tatum (23-7)
4. Jim Ned (21-5)
5. Idalou (23-3)
6. Brock (21-6)
7. Ponder (23-8)
8. Holliday (23-3)
9. Breckenridge (21-3)
10. Clarksville (15-4)
11. Aransas Pass (24-8)
12. Franklin (18-1)
13. Salado (21-6)
14. Jarrell (23-3)
15. Wall (11-3)
16. Van Vleck (22-2)

17. Whitesboro (20-6)
18. Farmersville (24-3)
19. Palestine Westwood (17-9)
20. East Chambers (16-9)
21. Hitchcock (19-5)
22. Skidmore-Tynan (23-3)
23. Dallas Faith Family (20-7)
24. Red Oak Life (25-6)
25. Brownfield (14-5)

The Cubs secured their sixth straight District win Tuesday night with a convincing 80-54 rout of the Lamesa Golden tornadoes in a packed Cub Gym, including a raucous student section in "The Pit."



### The 2012-13 Brownfield Runnin' Cubs

(back row, from left) Ricky Rodriguez, Shacolby Hill, Korey Nolan, Shaun Paiva, Head Coach Dustin Faught, Cole Garcia, Jonathan Estorga, Malcolm Rainwater and Ryan Caballero. Also, (front row, from left) Jordan Demps, Cade Powell and Eliseo Salas.

## Fire Dept. face funding concerns

Funding for the Brownfield Fire Department will likely be a significant issue during the county's next budget-planning sessions, according to local officials.

County Judge Butch Wagner sent a letter to the mayor and city council Jan. 2 indicating that the county's fire-service contract with the city would be terminated upon its next anniversary, this Sept. 30. He sent a letter of retraction Jan. 24, however, claiming he had erred in terminating the contract without commissioners' approval.

Wagner later told the News that although sufficiently funding Brownfield's fire department - while continuing to do so for Meadow's and Wellman's - would likely be a concern during budget planning this spring, it was still too early to determine if any of those three agencies would be subject to financial cutbacks from the county.

"The county's part of it is starting to get expensive," he said. "We're having to fund Meadow and Wellman (Volunteer Fire Departments) with more money, and we want to make sure the whole county's covered... I said that we have some issues that I would discuss with Eldon (Jobe, city manager), and if we couldn't work them out we would go to commissioners court and vote on sending another letter."

BFD's total budget of \$618,957 is currently funded by both the city and county. The department consists of eight full-time paid fire-fighters and up to 25 volunteers, according to their most recent report.

Commissioners voted during past recent meetings to hold more financial control over Wellman's and Meadow's volunteer fire departments through the office of County Auditor Jan Hudson, rather than simply provide funding for them to pay their own bills.

Although WVFD and MVFD representatives have requested maps to determine their specific boundary lines - necessary for grant applications - the three departments' fire-fighting territory now tends to overlap.

"We all just kind of work in conjunction," said Brownfield Fire Chief Dennis Rowe. "As to whoever needs assistance, we just help each other out."

Rowe and Jobe declined to comment regarding Wagner's initial proposal to terminate the contract.

# Flu, Flu... Go Away

Flu season in the U.S. got off to its earliest start in nearly a decade this year and local health officials report the bug is still afflicting many in Brownfield.

Health officials nationwide said suspected flu cases have jumped in five Southern states -- including Texas -- and the primary strain circulating tends to make people sicker than other types. It is particularly hard on the elderly.

"It looks like it's shaping up to be a bad flu season, but only time will tell," said Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The good news is that the nation has been fairly well prepared, Frieden said. More than a third of Americans have been vaccinated, and the vaccine formulated for this year is well-matched to the strains of the virus seen so far, CDC officials said.

Higher-than-normal reports of flu have come in from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, along with the Lone Star State.

Mike Click, CEO of Brownfield Regional Medical Center, told the *Brownfield News* that flu cases have kept the hospital and local clinics busy this season.

"We have had quite a bit of the flu for a couple of months now," he said. "I think maybe it's tapering off a bit, but it's definitely still around."

Flu-related hospitalizations rose before Christmas, earlier than usual, and there have already been several deaths in children.



Other communities in the region also are dealing with the flu.

"We've seen our share of the flu already," said Joan Adams, Director of Nursing for Memorial Hospital in Seminole.

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Kelcey Denise Elkins

## Lubbock wreck claims life

By JOSIE MUSICO  
Staff Writer

Alcohol contributed to a vehicle collision in north Lubbock Friday night that took the life of a young Brownfield woman and severely injured a young man also from Brownfield, according to preliminary investigation.

Twenty-year-old Kelcey Denise Elkins was pronounced dead at the accident scene, near the intersection of Fourth Street and Flint Avenue. Shelby Jacob Duncan, 21, was left in serious medical condition.

Duncan and the driver with whom he

collided, 21-year-old Stetson Blake Willis of Shallowater, were both above the legal limit for blood alcohol content, Lubbock police Sgt. Robert Hook told the *Brownfield News*.

"We have probable cause to believe they were both intoxicated," he said.

Willis was arrested for driving while intoxicated, booked into the Lubbock County Detention Center and has since been released on bond. Duncan could face a similar charge after he is discharged from the hospital, Hook said.

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### brownfieldonline.com OPINION POLL RESULTS

Should the Pentagon have opened up combat positions to women?

YES (45% / 25 votes)

NO (55% / 30 votes)

TOTAL VOTERS: 55

Survey 1-25-13 thru 1-29-13

