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Cubs will be 3A again after UIL rules change

AUSTIN -- The Texas Education Commissioner approved a number of key amendments on Tuesday that were passed by the University Interscholastic League Legislative Council last fall.

Among the measures approved was the creation of six divisions for UIL sports, including a Class 6A, a fourth playoff team added to all team sports at the Class 3A and 2A levels and a reduction in the number of tournaments or meets by one per season for all applicable high school sports.

The creation of a Class 6A moves schools currently classified as 5A, which includes Midland High and Lee, up to 6A for all sports. Schools in Class 4A are now 5A, 3A are now 4A and so on. What has been traditionally referred to as Six-Man or Class A, Division II will now simply be called Class A. The change will be in effect for the 2014 realignment

The three lowest classifications will be further divided by enrollment figures for football. Classes 2A, A and Six-Man have been split into large school (Division I) and small school (Division II) divisions in regards to districting for the past few seasons, and that arrangement will continue with the new classification alignment.

However, the superintendents of the current Class 3A are going to be allowed to vote to decide whether or not to also split into two divisions based on enrollment.

Another change approved by the council is increasing the number of playoff teams in all team sports from three to four in Classes 3A and 2A, which will take affect for the 2013-14 school year.

The Legislative Council also approved the following amendments to current policies:

- The number of tournaments or meets for applicable team sports have been reduced by one per season. In basketball and volleyball for example, the number of invitational tournaments a player or team may compete in was reduced from three to two.

- Softball and baseball must now limit their tournament participation to one plus 20 games, or two with 17 games. Tennis, swimming, track and field, golf and cross country had the number of their tournaments or meets lowered from eight to seven.

Schools are allowed to substitute tournaments for games in their overall season limits for team sports.

- A Class 3A was added for both soccer and team tennis. Prior to this amendment there was only a Class 5A and 4A for soccer and team tennis. Also with team tennis, four teams will now be able to advance from each district to an area tournament.

- Changed rules regarding live football telecasts involving UIL member schools, and removed the blackout rule that prohibited the telecasting games if they were not sold out. Games, though, still cannot be televised live on Friday night during the regular season.

Suspect charged with burglary, felony assault

A local man was arrested Monday morning on suspicion that he broke into the home of a female acquaintance and attempted to stab her.

Felix Eric Rodriguez, 26, is charged with burglary of a habitation with intent to commit assault and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, both first-degree felonies; unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, a state jail felony; misdemeanor charges of criminal trespass and resisting arrest and a motion to revoke misdemeanor probation for an original prior conviction of criminal trespass.

Rodriguez' case began about 1 a.m. when the Brownfield Police Department received a report of a domestic dispute in the 500 block of East Reppto Street. Officers arrived at the scene to learn that the suspect - who had temporarily left by then - had allegedly entered the residence without permission by breaking a screen door. According to reports, he then repeatedly hit the victim and attempted to stab her with a butcher knife he found in the kitchen.

While an officer stayed at the residence to accompany



Felix Eric Rodriguez

the victim and others left in search of the suspect, Rodriguez returned to the home, likely unaware of the police presence. He initially refused officers' commands until they were forced to subdue him with a Taser gun.

Rodriguez was arrested at the scene and taken to the Terry County Jail. He remains behind bars as of press time in lieu of a total bond of \$65,500.

If convicted of his burglary or assault charges, he could face up to 99 years or life in prison for each.

MARKETING _____ from Page One

4. Define your position.
5. Develop a budget.
6. Define your marketing methods.

The marketing series will continue through the rest of the spring. Upcoming presentations include:

"Advertising: The Who, What, Where, When, Why of Advertising" - Friday, April 5. RSVP to 637-4060 by Wednesday, April 3.

"Public Relations: Putting your best face forward - for free!" - Friday, May 3. RSVP to 637-4060 by Wednesday, May 1.

"Social Media: How can your business benefit from Social Media™" - Friday, June 7. RSVP to 637-4060 by Wednesday, June 5.

Check the News Briefs section of the *Brownfield News* for reminders of dates and times.

SPELLING BEE _____ from One

annually on ESPN.

"I was very excited when I finally won," she told the *Brownfield News*. "But I was also tired because it lasted so long. But it was fun to make it to the end and I'm so excited to go to the next level."

The Avalanche-Journal, Lubbock's daily newspaper and sponsor of the regional bee, will provide an all-expense-paid trip for Mikaela and her mother, Mitzi Oliver, to attend the national bee, held in the nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

On Saturday, the field of spellers from area schools, public and private, narrowed from 18 to two in the first 10 rounds.

Then the final two contestants, Mikaela and Gabriella, fought through another 30 rounds.

Under the rules of the contest, the winning contestant must spell two words correctly in a row. That took a while on Saturday.

Mikaela and Gabriella kept their composure as they continued stepping up to the microphone in the community room at Mahon Public Library, facing numerous tough words.

Finally, Mikaela followed the correct spelling of pernicious with the correct spelling of peccadillo, according to her mother.

"I didn't study as much this year as I have in the past," she said. "And I had to think about the last word, because I almost used a wrong letter, but then I remembered seeing it on my study list so I got it right and it felt great. I'll definitely study hard every day for Washington D.C. as soon as I get my word list."

Mikaela's parents, B.J. and Mitzi Oliver of Brownfield, said they would make the trip over Memorial Day weekend a family event.

Mitzi said her daughter is an avid reader and she was the top reader last year at Oak Grove.

"That helps her spelling a lot," she said.

It was Mikaela's third trip to the regional contest.

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TIME CHANGE _____ from One

serve daylight and provide standard time for the United States' was enacted on March 19, 1918.

During World War II, President Franklin Roosevelt instituted year-round Daylight Saving Time, called "War Time," from Feb. 9, 1942 to Sept. 30, 1945.

On Jan. 4, 1974, President Nixon signed into law the Emergency Daylight Saving Time Energy Conservation Act of 1973.

Under legislation enacted in 1986, Daylight Saving Time in the U.S. began at 2:00 a.m. on the first Sunday of April and ended at 2:00 a.m. on the last Sunday of October.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 extended Daylight Saving Time in the U.S. beginning in 2007, though Congress retained the right to revert to the 1986 law should the change prove unpopular or if energy savings are not significant.

Going from 2007 forward, Daylight Saving Time in the U.S. begins at 2 a.m. on the second Sunday of March and ends at 2 a.m. on the first Sunday of November.

Grower meetings to focus on water issues

The South Plains UWCD will host two grower meetings regarding current water issues and sustainability of future water supply. SPUWCD personnel will host one meeting at Southwest Cotton Growers on March 6 at 9 a.m.

The second meeting will be at Needmore Gin on March 7 at 9 a.m.

For questions, contact us at atsavegroundwater@gmail.com

SIGN-UPS

Babe Ruth GIRLS' Softball League

March 7
 BHS Girls Basketball Awards
 5:00-7:00 pm

March 9
 Alamo Event Center
 2:00-5:00 pm

March 21
 United Supermarket
 5:30-8:00 pm

Ages 4-7 (\$45) Ages 8-up (\$50)
 \$5 sibling fee discount

Birth Certificates required for ALL players.
 Coaches applications available at sign-ups.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
 Ben Carreon: 891-0956 or JoAnna Dawson 448-8954



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