Lady Buckeyes From Page 1

Jordan reached base when she was hit by a pitch and Livi Brown's bunt advanced her. Jordan scored when Kaydence Smith grounded out. A second Rusk error for the inning let Brie Jones's fly ball scored both Lily Henson and Jones, 4-0.

Up next, Werbeck tripled and then stole home for a 5-0lead before Jayna Rucker flys out.

Jones would triple to score Lily Henson in the fourth, 6-0.

Lady Eagles Joci Hill, Sarah Boudreaux, Kennzie Norton and Riley Collins would all score in the top of the seventh.

Riley Collins pitched the game, giving up seven runs on seven hits.

Gilmer's bats came alive in the second game. Brie Jones started the offense by walking on the first at-bat. She advanced on Werbeck's single, stole third and scored when Lilly Dorsett walked to load the bases, 1-0. Werbeck would add to the total when she scored on a passed ball to make it 2-0.

Neither team scored in the second inning, but Rusk would tie the game with two runs in the third, 2-2.

Smith's sacrifice fly in the top of the sixth would allow Livi Brown to score, 3-2.

Rusk would answer with a run in the bottom of the sixth when Aubrey Hassell hit a solo home run, 3-3.

In the seventh inning, Werbeck started the inning with a double and advanced to third on Kemp's sacrifice fly. After Rusk intentionally walked Jayna Rucker, and Dorsett walked to load the bases, Jordan doubled in to collect two RBIs when Werbeck and Rucker scored. 5-3.

Rusk responded with two runs by Hill and Boudreaux, 5-5, to force the game into overtime.

With Henson and Jones on base, Werbeck hit a sacrifice bunt which turned into gold when Rusk had an error, allowing Werbeck on base and Henson and Jones to score. Jones slid home just a head of the throw which the catcher did not secure before trying to make the tag and it was 7-5.

Kemp reached on a double and Laila Pilcher came in as her pinch runner after Werbeck had scored, 8-5. Dorsett singled to drive in Pilcher, 9-5, with the bi-district win.



CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING of Lone Star Stowaway at 203 N. Cypress Street are, from left on the front row, Wyatt Tukuafu, Addlie Dodd, Jenna Tukuafu, Danny Tukuafu, Spencer Tukuafu, Sara Kate Jenkins, Benjamin Dodd, Stevie DeGala on the scissors, Jacob Dodd, Evie Dodd, Mallory Dodd, Melat DeGala, Tiffany DeGala, Kuilani DeGala and Katie Foster.

(Mirror photo by Mary Laschinger Kirby)

Elections From Page 1

state law, because all candidates were unopposed.

Harmony ISD's proposed bond issue of up to $25 million for various improvements is detailed in a story elsewhere in today's Mirror. Voting begins an hour later than in other elections, set for 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the school administration building on Texas 154.

Voting on New Diana ISD's proposed $28.25 million bond issue, details of which appeared in last week's Mirror, is scheduled for 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the school's secondary cafeteria.

Since Harmony ISD is partly in Wood County and New Diana ISD is partly in Harrison County, the bond issue elections will include some voters in those counties.

In Big Sandy, both the city council and school board elections are set from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the civic center on Texas 155.

Four candidates seek three at-large seats on the Big Sandy ISD board. The top three vote-getters will be elected for three-year terms, said school Superintendent Mike Burns.

Candidates include the three incumbents seeking re-election, Kathryn Vine, George Strub and Seth Jewell, and challenger Kelsey Sheeley.

Five candidates seek three at-large seats on the Big Sandy council, said City Administrator/City Secretary Laura Rex.

They include the three incumbents running for re-election, Chase Sheeley, David Fonteno and Kerry Rickard, and challengers Collette Steck and Trey Beahm.

The top three vote-getters win two-year terms.

In Ore City, the only item on the city ballot is whether to reinstitute a 1/4 of 1% sales tax for maintaining and repairing city streets, said City Secretary Casey Nigreville.

Voting hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Ore City Community Center, 408 E. Althea.

The election for mayor and two at-large city council seats was canceled, as state law allows since all candidates were unopposed. Mayor Angie Edwards, Councilwoman Jeanette Orms-Cox and Councilman Casey Albritton automatically won new terms.

Ore City ISD isn't holding any type election Saturday.

In East Mountain, Mayor Marc Covington is opposed for re-election by Terry Carter, while four candidates are running for two at-large city council seats with two-year terms.

They include one incumbent, Billy Morrow, along with Stormie Combs, Jo Popma and Paul Barber. The top two vote-getters will be elected.

Voting is scheduled at the East Mountain Community Center at 103 Municipal Drive from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Court From Page 1

Road Administrator Phil Stegall report on work involving county roads.

Recent heavy rain has limited the Road and Bridge Department to "preventive" work, said Stegall, but "if the rain subsides next week," he said, he hoped to begin re-oiling in Precinct 4 Commissioner Jay W. Miller's precinct.

In other business, the court approved County Tax Assessor-Collector Luana Howell's proposal to change the firm which prints and mails tax statements.

Commissioners ended the county's contract with The Master's Touch and voted to return to using Peregrine.

Howell had successfully proposed some time ago changing from Peregrine to The Master's Touch to save money, but told commissioners Tuesday the switch didn't accomplish that and that the new firm was "harder to work with" than Peregrine.

The court also heard a detailed report from Julie York, one of the county's two extension agents, and others about the extension office's numerous activities involving family and community health.

They include working with 4-H Clubs and programs for elderly adults.

KC Spring Dance Concert set for May 4

Kilgore College dance students will display their broad range of dance skills at the tenth annual spring dance concert set for 7 p.m. Saturday, May 4, in Dodson Auditorium on the Kilgore campus.

The concert, "Intrinsic," will offer a variety of dance styles and techniques taught by the KC Dance Department.

"It will give dance students the opportunity to display their talent and show what they have accomplished in the ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop and modern dance classes taught at KC," said Angela Aulds, KC dance instructor.

Tickets are $15 for the general public and $5 for students with KC identification.

Tickets will be sold on the day of the concert by cash or check only.

The box office will open at 6:15 p.m. the night of the performance to purchase tickets.

Judge Fowler sentences Big Sandy man to 30 years in prison

By Phillip Williams

A judge last week sentenced Dewayne M. Stevenson to 30 years in prison for last year's aggravated robbery of an individual at a game room near Big Sandy, said Upshur County District Attorney Billy Byrd.

115th District Judge Dean Fowler sentenced Stevenson, 40, of Big Sandy, after the defendant admitted robbing the victim at gunpoint of about $2,000 and firing a shot through the ceiling last May 23, Byrd said.

The defendant was working security at Real Sweepstakes game room at the time of the daytime robbery, said the Upshur County Sheriff's Office.

Stevenson, sentenced on April 23, must serve at least half his sentence before becoming eligible for parole, Byrd said. The defendant, represented by Longview attorney Dave Hagan, also waived his right to appeal by accepting a plea bargain with the state, the district attorney noted.

After Longview police arrested him last July 4 on an Upshur County indictment, "The defendant would later confess he owed a large debt and needed money to pay off his debt," said Byrd. Stevenson fled on foot after the robbery, he added.

Byrd said he represented the prosecution at sentencing.

Two days after the plea, Byrd said, Fowler upheld the revocation of the operating permit for the rural game room, which faced FM 1002 near the intersection with Texas 155.

The decision isn't subject to further appeal, the district attorney said.

The sheriff's office suspended the permit after the robbery (resulting in closing the firm), and the permit holder initially appealed that decision to Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Lyle Potter. He agreed with the suspension and revoked the permit after hearing evidence, said Byrd.

The permit holder then appealed to Fowler, and Byrd said he himself presented evidence on behalf of the sheriff's office to the judge. At the time of the robbery, that office said it shut down the game room for violating county regulations by not keeping a log book on site for employees to sign in daily.

Sheriff Larry Webb said Stevenson knew a firearm was kept behind the counter, and that he walked up to the cash register, and asked the cashier to hold the pistol. When the cashier handed the gun over, Stevenson threatened to rob the firm and wasn't taken seriously initially, but fired the shot into the ceiling.

Chief Deputy David Hazel said at the time that about six patrons were robbed of their cell phones, but nothing else. The incident was caught on video.

Harmony voters to decide bond issues

By Phillip Williams

Harmony ISD voters decide Saturday whether to approve a proposed school bond issue of up to $25 million for various proposed improvements.

Voting for both Upshur and Wood County residents in the school district is set from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the school administration building on Texas 154. (Voting starts an hour later than in other city and school elections in Upshur County that day.)

Approving the bond issue would raise the school's tax rate by up to 30 cents per $100 valuation, from the current 75.75-cent rate to a maximum $1.05.75, said Harmony ISD Superintendent Michael Alphin.

The tax hike would all apply to the interest and sinking portion of the tax rate as the school has no current debt, he noted.

The bonds would fund "safety and instructional improvements," but "nothing athletically-facility related," Alphin said. The school's enrollment has been "kind of stable, but programs are growing," he added.

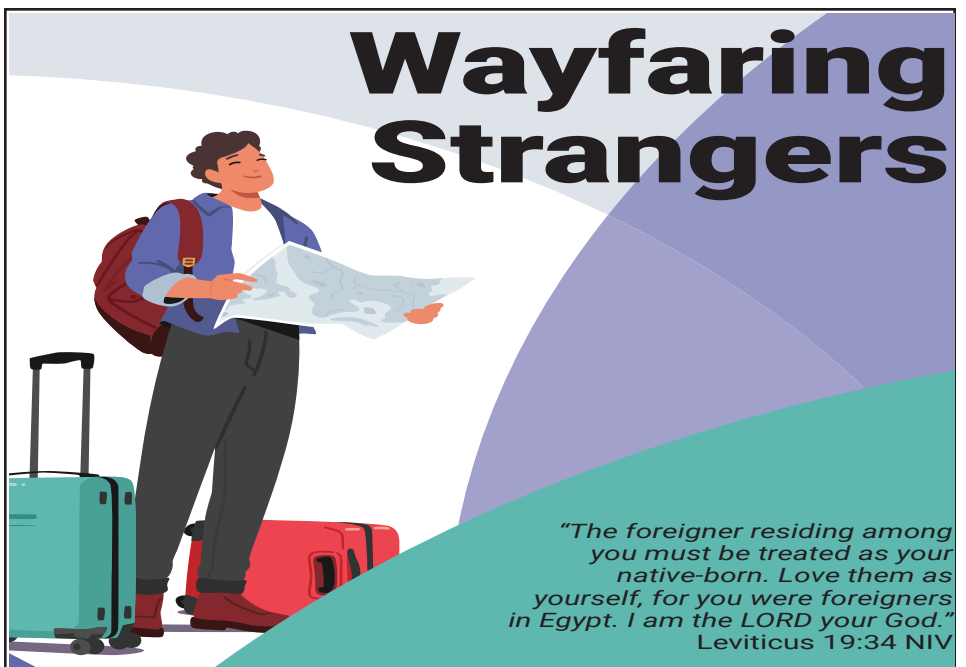
Alphin said the proposed improvements, in part, include new classrooms for third, fourth and fifth grades, enclosed hallways between buildings for increased safety, and expanding the band hall to provide more instructional space for band members.

They also include extending the junior high cafeteria, and renovating the high school to create a life skills classroom for special education students, the superintendent said.

Passing the bond issue would let the school expand its half-day prekindergarten program to a full day, Alphin added. As for the proposal about the band hall, he said participation in the band program is growing.

Information on the proposed bond issue is available at a school website, www.HarmonyISDbond24.com, he added.

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