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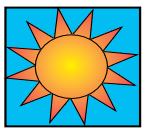
INSIDE

SPORTS: See Sabine High School basketball coverage.

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Due to an illness in the Sports Editor's family, local coverage of Kilgore High School sports that occurred on Friday night will be presented in Tuesday's edition of the Kilgore News Herald.

TOMORROW



Sunny

High: 54 | Low: 27
Forecast, Page 4

KILGOROUND

BILL WOODALL

WE HAVE LEARNED that a 70-year-old Joplin, Missouri, man was arrested

and charged with unlawful discharge of a firearm after shooting his TV set last week.

RESPONDING to a report of shots being fired, the station reported, the police found the man angry that he had both lost his cable and had been unable to get his new DTV converter box to work.

ACCORDING to the man's wife, he had been drinking.

TELL the truth: Aren't you tempted to shoot your TV every time you hear the local stations' commercial about converting to digital?

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IN Hico, Texas, population 1,341, the Chamber of Commerce provides free wireless Internet connectivity to all of downtown.

SHOPPERS at their craft stores and coffee shops and diners can log and

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ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO LIVE LIFE



Linda Arnold, co-founder of POWER day night with her daughter, participates in some games Thursday night with her daughter, Kaylee, next to her.

POWER celebrates ten years of helping others

By LESTER MURRAY
news2@kilgorenewsheald.com

For some people a disability can be devastating and for others it becomes a challenge, but with the help of People on Wheels Encouraging Responsibility (POWER), changes can be made.

Judie Moffet, executive director and co-founder of POWER 10 years ago, says its goal is to get people living, not just existing. Moffet suffered a spinal cord injury which

left her in a wheelchair. Now a single mom and a graphic designer for her day job, she said she wants to help others with disabilities get a positive attitude.

"The biggest obstacle is fear," said Moffet. "People are afraid to try new things, or being judged by others. Our organization wants to help people with disabilities build up their self-esteem and give them more confidence."

Every year POWER puts on an annual Sports Fest, which enables people with dis-

See POWER, Page 3A

HWY. 135 CONSTRUCTION



News Herald Photo by Brenda Brown

A portion of Hwy. 135 between Kilgore and Gladewater is undergoing an \$11.9 million upgrade that is expected to take 30 months. According to Larry Krantz, TxDOT public information in Tyler, Knife River Corp. in Waco won the contract and will expand 2.2 miles of the two-lane roadway to five lanes, including a center turn lane, beginning on the north side of I-20 and ending about one-half mile north of the first bridge. Workers have been clearing the rights-of-way and moving utility lines since the first of February.

Parts of Texas are driest in US

By BETSY BLANEY
AP Agriculture Writer

LUBBOCK (AP) — Central Texas cattle raiser Gerry Shudde remembers Texas' drought of record in the 1950s when his family's ranch sometimes got a couple of 4-inch rainfalls a year.

But the drought ongoing now is far different. "This is just cut off completely," the 74-year-old rancher said. "In a lot of ways, it's worse."

Across the nation's No. 2 agricultural state, drought conditions are evaporating stock tanks, keeping many crop farmers from planting into long-parched soil, forcing cattle producers to cull their herds, and dropping water levels in state lakes.

Despite hurricanes Dolly, Gustav and Ike soaking Texas in 2008, almost every part of the state — nearly 97 percent — is experiencing some drought, according to the most recent U.S. Drought Monitor map, released Feb. 26.

Parts of Central Texas and the Hill Country — more that

See PARTS, Page 5A

A look at low lake levels caused by the drought

By The Associated Press

Here's a look at low levels among Texas lakes, according to the Texas Water Development Board's January report, its most recent. Capacity is listed in acre feet; one acre foot equals about 325,000 gallons.

LOWEST LEVELS

- Palo Duro in the High Plains, down 9 percent (capacity 60,897 acre feet)
- O.C. Fisher in the Edwards Plateau, effectively empty (capacity 79,483)
- White River Lake in the High Plains, down 78 percent (capacity 29,880)
- Champion Creek in Low Rolling Plains, down 79 percent (capacity 41,618)
- E.V. Spence in Edwards Plateau, down 90 percent (capacity 517,272)
- MacKenzie in the High Plains, down 88 percent (capacity 46,429)
- Twin Buttes in Edwards Plateau, down 74 per-

See A LOOK, Page 3A

17 from Texas jail charged in drug, sex crimes

By ANGELA K. BROWN
Associated Press Writer

FORT WORTH (AP) — A former sheriff and several ex-jailers were among 17 people named Friday in a 106-count indictment on charges ranging from having sex with inmates to bringing them drugs at a now-closed county jail.

Former Montague County Sheriff Bill Keating was charged with official oppression and having sex with inmates, according to the indictment. Keating was defeated in a primary election last spring.

Several female jailers were charged with having sex with inmates and bringing them drugs, cell phones and cigarettes, while several male jailers were charged with drug possession and with bringing inmates banned items, according to the indictment.

Several inmates also were charged with drug possession, according to the indictment.

State District Judge Roger Towery has sealed the names in the indictments until the suspects are arrested, but their jobs and charges were made public.

Keating's attorney, Mark Daniel, told The Associated Press his client would surrender "in due time."

The charges against Keating are "kind of silly in the face of the federal investigation, like piling on," Daniel said.

Keating, 62, has pleaded guilty to a federal civil rights violation in an unrelated case involving the sexual assault of a woman. He is to be sentenced to up to 10 years in federal prison in May. Keating told a woman she would be jailed on drug charges unless she had sex with him.

Montague County District Attorney Jack McGaughey said none of the jailers indicted Friday still works there, but

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