PRESS-HERALD **TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022** MINDEN, LOUISIANA PRESS-HERALD.COM 75 CENTS

COMMUNITY

Birdies Fore Babies



WEBSTER PARISH LIBRARIES

Library provides many fun activities for children

AMBER MCDOWN Minden Press-Herald

On April 26, children at the Minden branch of the Webster Parish library solved a mysterious jewel theft. In this Whodunnit activity children used the skills of interviewing suspects, finding clues, and inferring information to solve the Case of the Missing Pearls. Volunteers to play the parts of the suspects were played by library employees and members of the Teen Advisory Committee, with the victim, Ms. V, played by Latishia Smith; the grumpy Ms. Magenta played by Linda Frasier; the vain Ms. Reddit played by Jennifer Campbell; the talkative Ms. Canary played by Aurionna Simmons; the purse-collecting Ms. Plumberry played by Maitlynn Price; and the thief, Ms. Teal, played by Kathryn Pevy. The young people who were solving this "crime" worked very hard assembling their clues, figuring out who they thought the

thief was, and then presenting their evidence. Once each person had successfully solved the mystery, they retired to an adjoining room to enjoy snacks and a sense of accomplishment. Kaitlyn Taylor



4-H EVENTS Webster Parish 4-H Shooting Sports bring home medals

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

The 2022 Louisiana 4-H Shooting Sports State Competition was held April 26 - 30 at Bridgeview Gun Club and Louis Mouch Jr. Multi-Purpose Facility in Port Allen. Members of Webster Parish 4-H Shooting Sports competed against shooters from across the state in a variety of shooting sports competitions bringing home medals in Smallbore Rifle, BB Gun, Shotgun, and Archery.

In Smallbore Rifle, Mahailey Nail placed 5th in Junior CMP No Scope. Danielle Collins placed 2nd, Cailey Nail placed 3rd, and Madison Mc-Graw placed 7th in Senior CMP No Scope. Camryn Nail placed 6th in Junior NRA. Brandon Bell placed 2nd and Cailey Nail placed 5th in Senior NRA.

In BB Gun, Cailey Nail placed 1st, Brandon Bell placed 3rd, and Madison Miller placed 5th on the BB Gun Test. Cailey Nail placed 9th in BB Gun Overall.

In Shotgun, Kaden Mc-Cuen placed 8th and Nolan Still placed 10th in Junior Modified Trap.

In Archery, Modified FITA, Mallory Coleman placed 4th and Jackson

Children's Service Coordinator, creates many entertaining activities for children to enjoy at the library. Typically, these activities are scheduled for Tuesdays, though there will be two Saturday activities in May. On Tuesdays in May, there will be Butterfly Storytime (5/3 at 10 a.m.), Kids Bingo (5/10 at 6 p.m.), Sunshine Storytime (5/17 at 10 a.m.), Travel to Italy (5/24 5:30-7:30), and Kids Book Club (5/31 at 4:30 p.m.). Saturday, May 7, they will host Toddler Paint & Play at 10 a.m., and on Saturday, May 21, Lego Club will meet at 2 p.m.

If you would like your child to participate in any of these activities, just contact Kaitlyn at the Minden branch of the Webster Parish Library at (318) 371-3080 ext. 116.

AMBER MCDOWN/ MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

Young sleuths interviewed suspects, inspected the scene of the crime, and put the clues together to solve the Case of the Missing Pearls during the Whodunit activity presented by the Webster Library Minden branch.

Baker placed 7th in Junior Genesis. Madelyn Smith placed 4th in Junior Compound Limited (12-13 year olds). Brianne Bardett placed 8th and Danielle Collins placed 10th in Senior Genesis. Luke Butcher placed 3rd in Senior Compound Open. Joshua Kaffka placed 7th and Landen Knotts placed 9th in Senior Compound Limited. In 3D Archery, Noah

Kaffka placed 10th in Junior Compound Limited (12-13 year olds). Luke Butcher placed 2nd in Senior Compound Open. Landen Knotts placed 5th, Gage Jellum placed 7th, and Joshua Kaffka placed 8th in Senior Compound. Brianne Bardett placed 8th in Senior Bare Bow/Genesis.

The Webster Parish 4-H Shooting Sports Program is under the leadership of coaches Danny Puckett, Benji Bell, Phyllis Mc-Graw, Sutton Orenbaun, Brian Still, Jerri McCuen, Wade Butcher, Regina Butcher, and Benjamin Gorman. For information about participating in or supporting the Webster Parish 4-H Shooting Sports program, please contact the LSU AgCenter Extension Office at (318) 371-1371.

Stuffy Art Galler Presents velry Exhibit



Minden Homer Shreveport Coushatta



Volume 53 Number 88

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Tomorrow's High Temp 🏅



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WEBSTER & MORE

EDUCATION

WPSB Employees of the Year announced



AMBER MCDOWN Minden Press-Herald

The employees of the year were announced during this month's school board meeting. Before announcing the winners, Robin Tucker, Personnel Director for the Webster Parish School Board, spoke of the value of these employees by stating, "They are the boots on the ground that let us run this system every day." The three categories were Support Staff, Teachers, and Principals,

and the winners were listed in no particular order.

The Support Persons of the Year are Tonya Hyatt, a paraprofessional from Lakeside Jr/Sr High; Erin Watts, a secretary from Central Elementary; Betty Bullard, the cafeteria manager from Brown Upper Elementary; Marilyn Grigsby, a custodian from Browning Elementary; Keith Sturges, a custodian from North Webster Jr. High; Jamie Moore, a secretary from Richardson Elementary; Shawna Lewis, a paraprofessional

from Webster Jr. High; Tammy Guice, a secretary from Doyline High; Samantha Ellington, a secretary from Minden High; Sharon Rhymes, a secretary from North Webster Upper Elementary; Kyndal Anders, a librarian from Jones Elementary; Miranda Wiggins, a secretary from Phillips Elementary; Ann Sexton, a secretary from North Webster Lower Elemenare Rendi Dillard of Lakeside High; Rachel White of Lakeside Jr. High; Megan Lincoln of Central Elementary; Kimberly Kerry of Brown Upper Elementary; Myrhonda Turner of Browning Elementary; Angela Smith of North Webster Jr. High; Carita Elkins of Richardson Elementary; La'Tanjorea Smith of Webster Jr. High; Jamie Whatley of Doyline Elementary; Dustin Hayes

North Webster Upper Elementary; Felica Harris of Jones Elementary; Hannah Pevy of Phillips Elementary; Elizabeth Holloway of North Webster Lower Elementary; and Macy Garner of North Webster High.

The Principals of the Year are Michelle Finley of Richardson Elementary; Bewanichi Sheppard of Webster Jr. High; and Rebecca Wilson of Minof our support staff has moved up to central office," said Ms. Tucker. "These were selected at the beginning of the year, so it's nice to see promotions taking place, and it's also sad to see some retirements that are about to happen, but we didn't want to let this year pass by and not give these people their accolades." Congratulations to the winners, and thanks for the work you do everyday to support the students of Webster Parish.

tary; and Monica Scott, a custodian from North Webster High.

was arrested for aggra-

vated battery, aggravated

criminal damage to prop-

erty, and domestic abuse

The Teachers of the Year

of Doyline Jr. High; Jessica Lewis of Doyline High; Rennie Bailey of Minden High, Victoria Young of den High.

"We've also had some movement within our schools to where some



Claiborne Memorial Medical Center is hiring an **ICU Nurse Manager**.

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Recent Arrests in Webster Parish

BLOTTER

Jake McCuen, 39, of the 1100 block of Broadway Street, was arrested for possession of schedule II substance with intent to distribute and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Thomas Waggoner, 46, of the 1300 block of Michael Street, was arrested for reckless operation of a motor vehicle, driving under suspension, and driving under suspension while under suspension from driving while intoxicated.

Aldravion Taylor, 19, of the 200 block of Kennon Pit Road, was arrested for disturbing the peace, resisting an officer, and possession of marijuana.

Natarshia Golatt, 32, of the 1500 block of Shreveport Road, was arrested for failure to appear in court. the 12100 block of highway 80, was arrested on a warrant.

David Lebaron, 65, of the 900 block of Victory Drive, was arrested for a hit & run and reckless operation of a motor vehicle.

Kellion Harris, 24, of the 500 block of Babbs Circle, was arrested for simple criminal damage to property and domestic abuse battery.

Anthony Malone, 42, of the 1100 block of Shreveport Road, was arrested for disturbing the peace through public intoxication.

Johnny Wilson Jr., 23, of the 1600 block of Hill Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Standley Hawkins, 23, of the 400 block of Clerk Street, was arrested for failure to appear in court.

Jimmy Lee, 46, of the Johnathan Matts, 33, of 700 block of Plum Street, Richard Packard, of the 100 block of Susan Lane, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, driving with an open container,

with an open container, improper lane usage, and resisting arrest by force.

Terry Douglas, 29, of the 200 block of Ward Street, was arrested for driving under suspension.

Arielle Gathright, 23, of the 1200 block of Miller Road, was arrested for possession of a schedule I substance, speeding, driving under suspension, and flight from an officer.

Colton Rhodes, 51, of the 4400 block of Camp Joy Road, was arrested for domestic abuse battery with child endangerment and possession of a schedule II controlled dangerous substance.



EDUCATION

Project Reclaim's students successfully apply for grant

WILL PHILLIPS Minden Press-Herald

The students of Project Reclaim along with their parents gathered at the Project Reclaim Center Saturday afternoon in order to celebrate the accomplishments of some of their own. The students there take part in a lot of projects and activities that have real world applications, and one of the recent ones that Ron Anderson, the creator and operator of Project Reclaim, had the students do is apply for grants.

This required the students to research Project Reclaim, write up a grant application, and be able to voice why they believe the non-profit organization should be granted the funds they were applying for.

Three of their young students were successful in applying for one of these grants, those students being Sha'Myracle Stewart, Matthew Anderson, and Angel Stewart.

"Several of these young people got together, and they wrote a grant," said Anderson. "Three students wrote a grant, and I want to read a part of what they wrote. I didn't have anything to do with it, I just gave them the outline. They said this about Project Reclaim's history:

'Our organization is specialized in the care and education of our participants. For the last 15 years, we have continued to improve our community by ensuring the education of our youth, as well as creating a foundation for the wellness of our community."'



WILL PHILLIPS/MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

Three students of Project Reclaim were presented a check by Ron Anderson this past Saturday after they successfully applied for a grant that will help to fund Project Reclaim's future projects. The young grant writers included Sha'Myracle Stewart, Matthew Anderson, and Angel Stewart (not pictured).

While only a snippet of the grant was read, the thought and care that was put into it was clearly heard throughout the room. How successful they were at demonstrating the importance of Project Reclaim was only further showcased by the fact tha,t as a result of the grant, Project Reclaim received \$500 that they could use to fund other projects for all of the students.

"We're going to give you all a chance to write some grants too. Now this \$500 isn't going in their pocket, it's going towards helping you. Isn't that wonderful? So we've got some young grant writers in the house, isn't that something else?," said Anderson.

He also shared some words that expressed the importance of believing in kids/youth and the things they can accomplish. Indicating that if you believe in them, as well as give them the tools to accomplish what they desire, they can do great things with tangible results.

"A lot of people don't believe that our kids can do things like this, but they can. That they can write a grant, and they had to do some research in order to do it. They had to look at our history, and they had to write down what they wanted to do. What they said they wanted to do is, they wanted to do some training for all of our other students about engineering, graphic arts, and culinary arts, because they said they wanted our students to know there are more jobs out there than just minimum wage jobs," said Anderson. Isn't that something,

coming from teenagers? Isn't that something? So on behalf of project reclaim, I would like to present to the both of you this check for your grant of \$500."

To commemorate the occasion, the funds received from the grant were printed on a giant check and presented to the young grant writers.

Project Reclaim offers an environment where their students aren't only taught valuable real world skills, but are also given the resources to be able to apply them. This instills early within the students who attend the principle that great things can be achieved as long as you have the knowledge of how to do so, as well as dedicating the time and work required to bring the ideas to fruition.

NEW Obituary Submission Guidelines

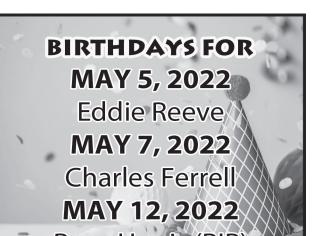
- All obituaries must be typed to avoid any errors.
- Deadline for obituaries is 3:00 p.m. two days prior to the publication date.
- A proof can be provided via email if requested.

• Obituary cost is \$40/per 400 words and includes a single photo. Payments can be made over the phone once the obit is received. All obituaries are subject to prepayment.

• Obituaries may be submitted by bringing a typed copy by our office at 203 Gleason St., Minden, or emailing to obits@press-herald.com.

If you have any further questions please call our office at 318-377-1866





and the second second

Gas prices see sharp uptick in Louisiana

(May 10, 2022) - Average gasoline prices in Louisiana have risen 14.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.98/g today, according to Gas-Buddy's survey of 2,436 stations in Louisiana. Prices in Louisiana are 9.7 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand \$1.35/g higher than a year ago. The price of diesel has risen 22.6 cents nationally in the past week and stands at \$5.518 per gallon. The cheapest station in Louisiana was priced at \$3.29/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.89/g, a

difference of \$1.60/g. "Gasoline and diesel prices alike saw strong upward momentum last week as oil prices continued to climb after the EU signaled its desire to sanction Russian oil. In addition, U.S. petroleum inventories saw yet another weekly decline as we near the start of summer driving season," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 13.6 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$4.31/g today. The national average is up 19.6 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands \$1.36/g higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

"Not only are diesel prices at a record high, they are at their largest differential to gasoline on record, surpassing the 98-cent difference in 2008 and currently standing at a \$1.20 per gallon premium. While motorists filling with gasoline have seen a slight rise in prices, diesel's surge will be a double whammy as diesel prices will soon be passed along to retail channels, further pushing up the cost of goods," said De Haan.

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data spanning nearly two decades. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country.

AWARD

Senator Mills presented award for literacy efforts during Literacy Day at Capitol

STAFF REPORT

Minden Press-Herald

The Center for Literacy & Learning has awarded its annual Literacy Advocate of the Year award to Louisiana State Sen. Robert Mills (R-Minden) for helping advance the vision of empowering everyone through literacy. Senator Mills represents Senate District 36, which encompasses Bienville, Bossier, Claiborne and Webster parishes.

The award was presented during Literacy Day at the Louisiana State Capitol on Wednesday, May 4. Louisiana State Rep. Jason Hughes (D-N.O.) was also recognized with the award in the Louisiana House of Representatives. Both the Louisiana House and Senate designated the day as Literacy Day to recognize The Center for their work on improving reading proficiency in all of Louisiana's students, as well as bring attention to the work and policy changes that still need to be made to continue improvement.

"We appreciate the overwhelming support of the Legislature as we work to put in place legislative and policy changes that will help us increase the state's literacy rates," said The Center's President and CEO John E. Wyble, Ph.D. "It is through the work of legislators like Senator Mills that we will break the cycle of illiteracy and realize our vision that everyone is empowered through literacy."

During the 2021 Legislative Session, Sen. Mills sponsored SB 216, which put into place requirements for kindergarten through third-grade teachers, as well as administrators at the school to complete a foundational literacy skills instruction course. The bill, which was signed into law by Governor John Bel Edwards, also put requirements in place for teachers and newly hired teachers to complete professional development courses based on the science of reading.

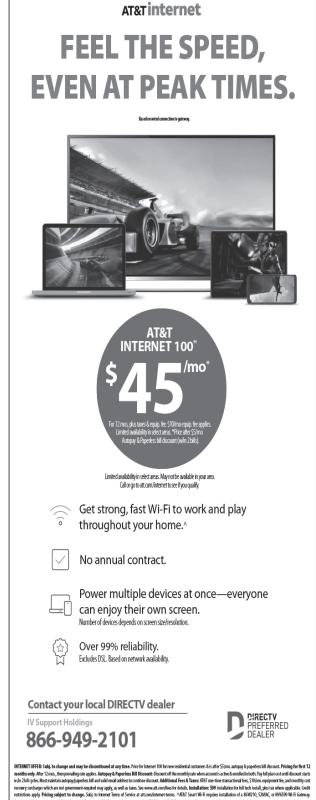
As part of Literacy Day, the Center for Literacy & Learning provided every member of the Louisiana legislature with a children's book written by a Louisiana author and/or with a focus on Louisiana. Also, various partners and stakeholders provided information to legislators, stakeholders, and the general public through various displays occupying the Capitol Rotunda for the day.

Louisiana ranks 49th in literacy among the nation

with only 1 out of every 4 fourth graders reading proficiently, according to the 2019 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The pilot program is widely regarded as an important first step toward implementing comprehensive reforms modeled after the state of Mississippi, which currently leads the nation in student growth for literacy.

In January 2020, the Early Literacy Commission released a report of recommendations that urged the legislature to commit recurring funding specifically for literacy. The Early Literacy Commission was legislatively created in 2019, led by the efforts of the Center for Literacy & Learning in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Education.





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Joshua Specht, Editor jspecht@press-herald.com

MINDEN Press-Herald

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POSTMASTER:

OPINION

Our moms make us who we are

sons along to your children,

your grandchildren and

For many years (long be-

fore my Mom passed away),

vour loved ones.

themselves in a situation Mother's Day was celebrated last Sunday. This was similar to mine. And, many my second Mother's Day more people are in far worse without my Mom. As I have situations. For sure, I pray written about several times for these folks daily, just as since it happened, my Mom I have so many people praypassed away as a result of COVID-19 (and other complications) in late October of 2020 (just four months after we lost my Dad). As I have also mentioned several times in my columns over the last couple of years, in January of 2019, my Mom went into septic shock (with several critical health issues developing) as a result of a kidney stone that got infected. After several months in recovery, Mom pretty RANDY BROWN much overcame this major health crisis. However, like

so many others, she could not overcome COVID-19 (mostly due to her pre-existing health conditions). Handling the second Sunday in May is not easy for me, but I made it through it again for this year. And, I have no doubt that everything is going to be ok.

I know there are so very many people who find

EDITORIAL ROUNDUP

Don't throw away the keys on juvenile offenders

THE BATON ROUGE ADVOCATE

The bipartisan movement of recent years to rethink Louisiana's traditional lockem-up approach to criminal justice — a strategy that led to mass incarceration but not safer streets and communities — is straining under widespread alarm over a rise in crime, including by youthful offenders.

We get the concern, but hope that legislators don't taxpayers — not to mention buy the handwringing that panicked a Senate committee in the State Capitol last week.

prison population.

No one can promise that juvie will turn a 17-year-old away from a life of crime. It's difficult work and these are not typically choirboys; the offenses are real, bystanders can be maimed or killed in shootings. Gun slinging by teens is a serious problem.

But what is our response going to be? If juvenile justice works, for every young person saved, the benefit to the offenders' families — is enormous.

"But what is our response going to be? If juvenile justice works, for every young person saved, the benefit to taxpayers - not to mention the offenders' families — is enormous."

do everything that I possibly

could to spend as much time

Forever ingrained in my

memory are the countless

band practices, music les-

sons, football practices, bas-

ketball practices, baseball

practices, etc. in which it

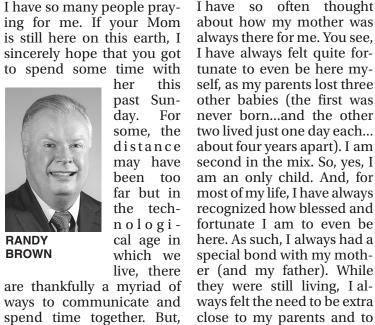
with them as possible.

vant to the pleaders for Senate Bill 418 by Sen. Stewart Cathey, R-Monroe.

would not have been possible for me to participate without my mother driving me there. Like so many mothers, my Mom was so glad when I learned to drive. This is even more true today (in this busy day and time in which we live) than it was back then. My Mom also guided and nursed me through several injuries when I was a child (most of them because of my own stupidity and adventurous nature). Thanks, Mom!

Yes, thanks Mom! Thanks for everything! I am so thankful to God that I so often said this to you while you were still here. No doubt, there is nothing that I could have ever done adequately repay you for all that you did for me! But, I always tried my best to do so. And, I truly believe that in your eyes, I did that by just being who I am. Happy Mother's Day, Mom!

RANDY BROWN IS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF SPECHT NEWSPAPERS INC., AND PUBLISHER OF THE MINDEN PRESS-HERALD.



17-year-olds, hoping passion will override reason. The overarching issue here is the pushback against the popular efforts of the past few years to rationalize Louisiana law. The national crime prob-

lem is the backdrop for a narrow response: Lock them up, throw away the key. We did that before. Soci-

ety over a period of years invested — or more properly, dumped — immense sums into building and staffing prisons across the nation. In Louisiana, as in the rest of the nation, it became clear that for the staggering costs of the lockups, prisoners were recycled into society in worse shape than they went in: prone to offend again, prone to violence. No one saw this more clearly than the faith-based groups working with offenders in the vast gulags of America, with Louisiana leading the way in imprisonment. The bipartisan criminal justice movement of the past few years has made progress. In the wake of the pandemic's profound stresses on society, we ought to think before reversing course precipitously.

if you find yourself in the

same situation as me, please

know that your Mom is still

with you (ALWAYS). You

will never forget the lessons

that she taught you. These

lessons will endure and last

you for the rest of your life.

And, you will pass these les-

Send address changes to Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058-1339.

THE MINDEN **PRESS-HERALD** WELCOMES **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.**

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Send letters to: Letters to the Editor, Minden Press-Herald, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71055, or email to: newsroom@press-herald.com.

The committee sent without objection to the full Senate a wide-ranging bill to repeal the state law requiring 17-year-old offenders to go to juvenile prison. Senators ought to think twice.

Four out of five states, including Louisiana since 2017, have recognized that sending young men, particularly, to adult prisons for all sorts of offenses means that they are targets for abuse and they quite likely end up with a master's degree in lawbreaking when they get out. That's why federal law requires that juveniles not be mixed with a general

The 17-year-old in juvenile prison may be a last and desperate chance to steer a life in a better direction. Lawmakers of both parties recognized the risks but also the potential upside of that option.

What's different from five years ago? A crime wave nationwide, and specific cases paraded before the Senate committee by Attorney General Jeff Landry and Tony Clayton, district attorney for three parishes outside Baton Rouge.

The crime wave is hardly limited to juveniles, who are a tiny percentage of those committing murder. And the financial calculus is rele-

Clayton has no juvenile prison in his parishes so, he said, they must spend \$600 a day for 17-year-olds to be held at an appropriate facility in Alabama.

That's not those charged as adults for heinous crimes such as murder and kidnapping. Prosecutors can today try 17-year-olds as adults when the facts of the case require that decision. The problem is with the costs of juveniles charged with lesser offenses, perhaps even nonviolent ones.

For officials in rural jurisdictions, particularly, every juvenile offender means a higher cost than those in adult jails. But a bill for 16-year-olds would not pass, so backers shoot for one for

OTHER OPINION

"Democracy" doesn't work as an argument against overturning Roe v. Wade

THOMAS KNAPP

Special to the Minden Press-Herald

In the wake of a leaked draft Supreme Court opinion which, if it represents a final vote, would overturn Roe v. Wade, pro-choice advocates are marshaling their best -- and worst -- arguments against removing that ruling's protections for abortion.

As always, I'll refrain from sharing my own opinions on abortion as such. I'm not interested in convincing anyone of anything there, if for no other reason than that I'm not firmly convinced myself.

I won't refrain from sharing my opinions on poor arguments, though. Both

in general and on abortion specifically, they're quite possibly my top pet peeve. And the worst argument I'm hearing right now is ... the envelope, please ...

Overturning Roe would be "undemocratic."

"Overturning Roe v. Wade Shows the Right Has Nothing but Contempt for Democracy," Ben Beckett writes at Jacobin. "If the decision stands, it will be a high-water mark for the Right's project of undemocratic rule As the draft decision shows, the Supreme Court is arguably the most powerful weapon the Right has for ruling without and against the people."

Really? The problem isn't

a matter of fundamental individual rights versus state power, but rather of "democracy?"

Let's take a look at the three underlying cases:

In Roe v. Wade (1973) the Supreme Court overturned Articles 1191-1194 and 1196 of Texas's Penal Code. Those articles and that code were passed by a democratically elected state legislature. The Court overturned "democracy" in favor of what it held was a constitutionally protected individual right.

In Planned Parenthood v. Casey (1992), the Court further expanded its interpretation of those constitutional protections versus Pennsyl-

vania's Abortion Control Act of 1982, once again ruling against a democratically elected state legislature and in favor of a right to abortion.

In the current case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Association, the Court will rule either for or against Mississippi's Gestational Age Act -- which, you guessed it, was duly passed by a democratically elected state legislature.

If the draft opinion becomes an actual ruling, democratically elected state legislatures will once again make decisions on abortion law.

That's the exact opposite of "undemocratic." It's fullblown democracy, tip-toeing through the abortion tulips with bells on and playing a ukulele.

Those who claim a constitutional right to abortion might want to reconsider their fetishistic (and in this case, simply incorrect) appeals to "democracy." There's something to be said for protection of individual rights against the whims of majorities -- and not only on this issue.

THOMAS L. KNAPP (TWITTER: @THOM-**ASLKNAPP) IS DIRECTOR AND SENIOR** NEWS ANALYST AT THE WILLIAM LLOYD **GARRISON CENTER FOR LIBERTARIAN ADVOCACY JOURNALISM (THEGARRISON-CENTER.ORG). HE LIVES AND WORKS IN** NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA.

Sports Doyline duo shines at Class B T&F Championships

North Webster's Peyten Ware takes Girls Pole Vaulting title in Class 3A

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT Minden Press-Herald

Doyline turned in the top performances at the Louisiana High School Athletic Association Track and Field Championships with the Panthers' boys and girls teams finishing in fifth place overall.

North Webster also had an athlete win an individual championhip as Peyten Ware took first place in the Girls Class 3A Pole Vault with a mark of 11-06.0.

Izayla Harris brought home the gold for the Lady Panthers in three events as she finished first in the Girls 100m Dash (12.10 seconds), the Girls 200m Dash (25.89) and the Girls 400m Dash (57.77) while adding a third-place showing in the Girls 100m Hurdles (17.78).

Harris was named the Girls Class B Outstanding Athlete for her efforts.

Jamari Markray had a big day for Doyline's boys team, taking first place in the Boys High Jump (6-04.00), second in the Boys Long Jump (6.36m), second in the Boys Triple Jump (13.37), and third in the Boys 300m Hurdles (44.95).



COURTESY PHOTOS

Doyline High School's Izayla Harris (above left) captured three individual Girls titles while the Panthers' Jamari Markray (above right) finished first in the Boys High Jump at the Louisiana High School Athletic Association's Class B Track and Field Championships held at LSU's Bernie Moore Stadium on Thursday.

Thurman takes charge as new Glenbrook athletics director

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT Minden Press-Herald

Glenbrook Head of School Darden Gladney on Friday announced the selection of James Thurman as



long-term vested interest in Glenbrook School, as nothing would make me prouder than to see my two children graduate from Glenbrook," Thurman said. "The position of Athletic Director would

allow me to be a servant

for one) before moving on to serve five years as head football coach at Plain Dealing while doubling as that school's athletics director his final two seasons there. The Haughton native has served as Glenbrook's offensive coordinator since returning to the Apaches football program. ketball coach.

"I will be stepping away from basketball, so I need to hire a boys basketball coach," Thurman said of his priorities as he takes over Glenbrook athletics. "Our girls track and cross country coach is also stepping away after his daughter graduates, so that's another void I'll need to fill. "But the big thing will be trying to continue the success and momentum we built in our first year as a Louisiana High School Athletic Association member, especially now that the probationary year is

behind us. Now we can actually compete for championships. Now we've just got to keep our momentum going."

Strengthening ties with younger Glenbrook School athletes

Athletic Director for Apaches sports programs.

A press release from Glenbrook said that Thurman has 22 years of experience in school athletics, five of which have been serving as an athletic director.

Although primarily known as a football coach, he has also coached basketball, golf, and track as well as THURMAN

serving as an Advanced Placement Teacher. "I personally have a

leader for every student throughout those years and beyond." Thurman is wrapping up his second year of what he calls his second tour of Glenbrook.

He started off at Glenbrook for three years (serving as foot-

ball defensive coordinator for two years and offensive coordinator "My wife grew up in Minden, so that's where that tie comes from," Thurman said.

Thurman said that as he transitions into the role of AD at Glenbrook, he will be giving up his role as boys basis another of Thurman's priorities.

"We've got a really good group of elementary sports programs and I really want to make the ties with those even tighter to help make for smoother transitions up to the varsity level." Thurman said. "I want to help out those guys as much as I can and facilitate that more."

Apaches winding down spring football workouts as Tide prepares to start

T. SCOTT BOATRIGHT Minden Press-Herald

As the school year winds down, spring football is in the air for some Webster Parish high schools.

Minden High School head football coach Spencer Heard said his Crimson Tide will begin spring workouts today with practices running through June 2.

There is no spring g a m e / s c r i m m a g e scheduled for the Crimson Tide.

Glenbrook has been holding spring practice, and offensive coordinator James Thurman said that other activities will curtain much of practice this week ahead of Friday's spring scrimmage game against Calvary Baptist.

"We've got a lot going on this week with our athletic banquet Monday night and a couple of big field trips a lot of our players are going to be going on today and Wednesday. Then we have graduation on Thursday before taking on Calvary on Friday,

so we've probably got in all the spring practice we're going to get before then."

Thurman said he and head football coach David Feaster both feel good about spring workouts for the Apaches.

"Coach Feaster and I talked about how we felt we could have played a scrimmage game the first or second day based on how much the kids took to the ground running like they never missed a beat from the fall. When you have all but two players back, I don't know if that's all that surprising. And those two seniors were both injured later in the season, so we have all of the players who finished last season as starters back."

Thurman said he and Feaster feel the numbers are playing in the Apaches' favor.

"We've got a lot of kids out there right now," Thurman said. "Varsity players grades eight through 11 — we've got around 45 kids or so. And when the younger kids join help the later this summer, we'll the trence have more than 50 "Close team members, so the kids we

numbers are going up." Thurman said those number increases will help the Apaches in the trenches. "Close to 30 of the

Pictured are the Glenbrook Apaches during a recent spring football practice session.

kids we have out this spring are linemen," Thurman said. "If you count current varsity kids only, it's 25. But the really good thing is that we have a lot of bigger bodies to mix with some really good skills kids coming back, so we're excited COURTESY PHOTO

about things. "Our schedule is going to be a little tougher early on, but that should help prepare us for district season and the playoffs."



FUN & GAMES

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