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2013 Year in Review Issue

by Melinda McCutchen
Publisher

We are rapidly approaching the end of yet another year. As the clock ticks down on 2013, I hope readers enjoy this look back at a few of the stories which made headlines this year.

While combing through all of the 2013 issues, I quickly realized that there was no possible way to include everything. I'll apologize in advance if a story important to you was omitted.

Also, we have not included any of the school activities other than a group picture of the 2013 graduating classes from Blackwell, Bronte and Robert Lee. Our area students are extremely talented, earning honors in academics, sports, UIL, and other extra curricular

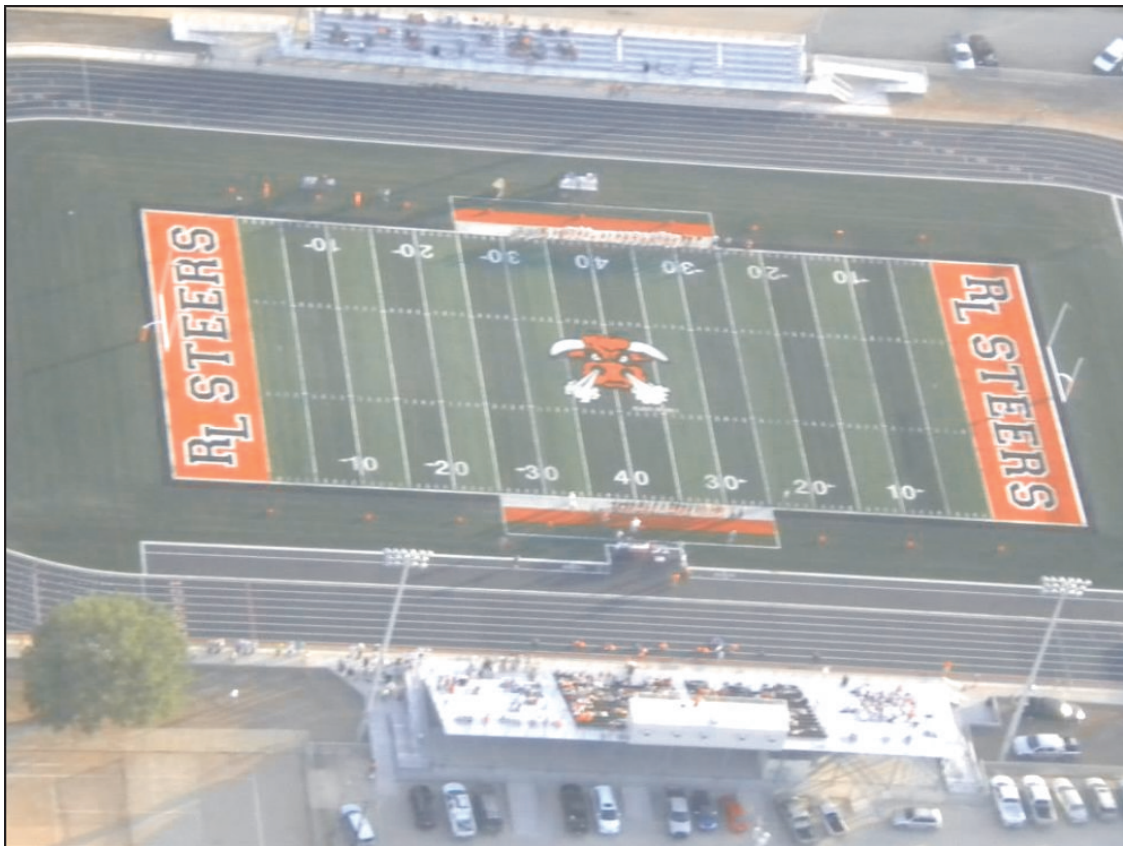
activities. There would be no way to include all of the honors earned in 2013 by these students.

Several weather pictures didn't make the cut. This year seemed closer to normal in temperature and precipitation than recent years. However, the current month has definitely been a lesson in winter precipitation for us. We are more familiar now with freezing rain, freezing fog, sleet and just plain old freezing temperatures!

The Observer/Enterprise is celebrating our 127th birthday in 2014. This anniversary would not be possible without loyal readers and advertisers. I sincerely want to thank our readers, contributors and advertisers for your support this last year.



Oil Boom Creeps Into Coke County! Coke County has experienced a few changes due to the oil boom, but nothing like Tom Green, Sterling, Glasscock and Reagan counties. Some of the most noticeable changes have been the increased oilfield traffic on our roadways. This, combined with the speed limit change from 70 to 75 mph, has made it necessary for citizens to be much more aware while traveling in our county.



Extraordinary Beginning! Robert Lee ISD opened the 2013 football season in a new stadium. However, that was not the only extraordinary event that happened on Friday evening, August 30, 2013. The Robert Lee Steers hosted the Longhorns of Meeteetse, Wyoming, for their first game of the new season! The unusual matchup occurred following Eden's cancellation of their upcoming game with the Steers. After posting the opening with no teams stepping up to fill the vacancy, Coach Shay Avants attended a coaching clinic in Wyoming and proposed the game to the coach from Meeteetse. The Meeteetse Longhorns arrived in Robert Lee on Thursday afternoon prior to the BBQ supper. Team members enjoyed some of our good Texas barbecue before attending the game that evening between the Robert Lee Junior Varsity Steers and the Eden Bulldogs. The Wyoming visitors were housed with families of the RLHS Steers both Thursday and Friday nights. On Friday morning, the visitors attended classes at Robert Lee High School. That afternoon, a dual pep rally was held. Since the Meeteetse team had no cheerleaders, the Robert Lee Junior High Cheerleaders filled that role for them at the pep rally and later at the game. The Robert Lee Sports Boosters hosted a dance following the game. Meeteetse is located in Park County, Wyoming, and has approximately 330 residents. The Steers won the game that night against the Wyoming team, but the Meeteetse Longhorns went on to take the Wyoming State Championship in their division.



*Wishing Everyone a
Blessed & Prosperous
2014!
Happy New Year!*