



The Western Observer

SERVING ANSON AND JONES COUNTY SINCE JANUARY 16, 1886

Vol. 129 No. 16

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2011

50 Cents



A fire tornado forms in Hawley during one grass



Trees burned rapidly during one of several fires experienced by fire fighters last week.



Fire spread across much of the Big Country last week.



Someone hit a gas line and blew up a house and burned the surrounding area.

Know How To Protect Your Home From Fire

By Tiffany Waddell

Fires spread all over Texas last week and the Big Country saw a large amount of these fires. There has been over 1.6 million acres lost to fires this year in Texas. To know how to help protect your home go to:

- www.firewise.org
- www.fireready.com
- www.txforests.tamu.edu
- www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/pages/pio_wildfire_awareness.htm

Photos Courtesy of the Anson Volunteer Fire Department

Hollywood Director Speaks To Western Observer About New Movie *5th Quarter*

By Tiffany Waddell

Five years ago a young, 15-year-old, Luke Abbate jumped into a car with a fellow team member after he had missed his ride home from practice. The driver drove recklessly and would not listen to the outcries of his passengers. The car lost control at 90 miles per hour spiraling off the narrow Georgia road before crashing 70 feet below. The young Luke suffered irreparable brain damage, and died two days later – four days before his sixth birthday.

During Luke's two days in the hospital his family decided to donate the young man's organs – almost immediately five recipients were identified including a young, new mother who was suffering with a serious heart disease. Luke's heart was flown to the young woman in Maryland- saving her life.

After his brother's death, Jon, (a student at Wake Forest University in North Carolina) thought about giving up his football career, but he knew that Luke would want him to continue. So, he asked the coach if he could change his jersey number to five – the number his brother wore, and the number of recipients that had been identified as matching Luke's organs. He then dedicated the new season to the memory of his brother. At the end of

every third quarter Jon would hold up five fingers to his family sitting in the fifth section of the stadium, in honor of his brother. The tradition caught on rapidly and within just a few games 40,000 people (from both teams) were holding up five fingers in honor of Luke – the fourth



Hollywood Director/Writer, Rick Bieber

quarter became known as the 5th Quarter or Luke's Quarter. "This is a great story on how a family, a team, and a community can come together," Hollywood Director, and writer of 5th Quarter, Rick Bieber, told Tiffany Waddell of the Western Observer.

The team had lost their starting quarterback, starting running back, and starting defensive end because of injuries at the beginning of the season, but Wake Forest played their most successful season in school history winning 11 games. Coach Grobe was

chosen to be the ACC's Coach of the Year and Jon make fifteen tackles against Georgia Tech.

Spending most of two-and-a-half years working on the movie by interviewing the family, researching and writing Bieber told us that he "knew what the last scene was going to be before I started writing the script. I just knew what that scene was going to be."

One of the most amazing scenes in the movies to Bieber is when the coach is talking with Jon about his own wife dying and how "we're all born and we all die and after all this time you'd think we'd be better prepared to deal with it."

"The movie is their life, it's their story. I didn't editorialize it. It shows that from the ashes of tragedy great and unforeseen things can happen," Bieber told us.

The movie was mainly filmed at the Wake Forest University campus "We really had run of the campus, and we really tried to portray the school the way it deserves to be portrayed," Bieber stated.

Costing approximately \$6,000,000.00 to make the movies 5th Quarter brought in over \$200,000 opening weekend while it played in just 123 theatres across the country, and will be opening in Abilene April 29th.

The Western Observer

Western Observer Easter Coloring Contest Winners

We want to thank all of our participants of our 1st Annual Easter Coloring Contest. We will be printing the winners actual coloring page in next week's edition.

For the 5 and under category.

1st place: Katie Kirschner, 4, from Stamford., will receive a \$20.00 gift card to the Jump Around in Abilene and a large Easter Basket.

2nd place: Tawmee Bland, 5, Anson will receive a \$10.00 gift card to the Jump Around and an Easter Basket.

3rd place: (A Tie) Josalin Lozoya, 4, Anson and Max Raney, 5, Hawley, both children will receive an Easter Basket with goodies.

For the 6-8 year old category

1st place: Mira Rasor Savage, 6, Abilene, will receive a \$25.00 gift card to Mr. Gattis in Abilene and a large Easter Basket.

2nd place: (A Tie) Kyla Tatum, 8, Hawley, and Marissa Lozano, 8, Anson will each receive a large Easter Basket with goodies.

3rd place: (A Tie) Hailey Crutchfield, 6, Anson and Cheyenne Jimenez, 7, Anson, each will also receive a large Easter Basket with goodies.

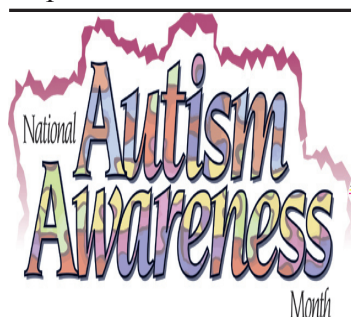
Parents may pick up prizes anytime -except for Thursday, April 21, afternoon and Friday, April 22. The Western Observer will be closed for the holidays.



City Wide Clean Up Day a Success

2011 marks the 3rd year that The City of Anson and Keeping Anson Beautiful, Reclaiming Anson have partnered to sponsor a city-wide clean up day each spring and fall. This past Saturday thousands of pounds of trash, filling 10 large roll-off dumpsters was collected from our citizens. The City of Anson pays for the dumpsters and provides city work crews and equipment to help citizens unload the trash including tires and metal. Reclaiming Anson volunteers helped individuals who had trash

to haul but were unable to do it themselves. Volunteer crews also drove up and down alleyways picking up trash. There were many volunteers including Mayor Mike Herndon and two city council members as well as the Chamber President and Chamber manager. – Thank you to them all. Also, thank you to the city staff who worked hard all day helping unload trailers of trash: EJ, Fred, Richard, Ysdro, Ramon, Albert, Ray, Lloyd and Dennis.



INSIDE

Opinion.....	2A
Church.....	3A
Sports.....	4 A
Sports.....	5A
Business.....	6A

Government.....	7A
Government.....	8A
Funny.....	1B
The Front Lines.....	2B
Community.....	3B

Agricultural.....	4B
Agricultural.....	5B
Texas News.....	6B
Lifestyle.....	7B
Classifieds.....	8B

