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## Breathalyzer To Be Administered At Door Rice High Prom Information Given

RICE C.I.S.D. will require ALL students attending the 2008-09 Prom to pass a breathalyzer test prior to entering the school facility.

Certified breathalyzer staff will be present and will administer the test.

If a student fails the test, the following procedures will be followed:

Student will not be allowed to enter the facility.

Student will be issued a citation for minor under the influence.

A parent or guardian will be required to remove the student from the premises.

Student will be assigned to the AEP for the remainder of the school year.

It is the belief of the Rice C.I.S.D. that taking these mea-

asures will help keep our students safe and drug/alcohol free on this very special night.

We hope that you as a parent support this program and express your support to your children.

This pamphlet provides information pertaining to the Rice Consolidated High School Junior/Senior Prom

The Junior Class of Rice Consolidated High School will be sponsoring a prom on Saturday, May 9, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

The prom will be held in the Rice High School Commons.

Tickets must be purchased prior to the prom.

Dress code for those attending is formal. Most formal dresses do not adhere to our school dress code. We are asking that modesty be the rule.

All students attending must

arrive prior to 9:00 PM. No students will be admitted after this time.

Upon arrival, students will sign-in and sign-out when leaving. Once a student leaves the prom, they may not re-enter.

Officers from the Colorado County Sheriff's Department will be present at the prom.

Any student that appears to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be denied entrance to the prom and referred to the officers.

Alcohol and drugs have no place at this celebration and violators will be dealt with severely. Please stress this fact to your son or daughter.

Parents will be allowed to stay until the grand march is over. We will then ask them to exit the building.

Although we allow students to bring dates that are not students at Rice High School, they must be **UNDER THE AGE OF 21** on the day of the prom and will be held accountable for our rules and policies.

Refreshments will be provided by the junior parents.

Music will be provided by a DJ. We will monitor the music and make every effort to make sure the music does not contain rude, offensive or vulgar language.

A photographer will be available to take pictures. No video taping will be allowed.

We ask that students maintain a respectable image while dancing. Sexual or rude inferences will not be tolerated.

The prom will end at 12:00 PM and all students will be asked to leave the school as soon as possible.

## Pre-K Helps Protect Vulnerable Children

By Kara Johnson

Child abuse and neglect is a wide-spread problem in Texas communities. Last year, 83,000 children were victims of child abuse and neglect and 213 children died. The Texas Legislature and the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) have been working hard to improve the state response and have had encouraging results.

However, legislators and advocates should take another look at programs that can support DFPS in protecting children from abuse. High-quality early education is one creative method that has been proven to reduce the rates of child abuse and neglect.

The early care and education landscape in Texas has three components: childcare, public pre-K and Head Start. Research shows that high-quality early care and education, when done right, can and does reduce the rate of child abuse and neglect.

High-quality programs do this through parent involvement, which includes parent education classes, home visits, or even just encouraging parents to volunteer in the classroom.

Even better, these programs have been proven to help all parents improve their parenting skills and interact more positively with their children. Children don't come with instruction manuals, and all parents can benefit from the support and information.

Parent education and involvement teach parents how to be involved with their child, how to respond to their child's behavior, what is normal for their child's age, and new educational games to play with their children.

High-quality early care and education helps to build stronger families before a problem ever appears.

Texas should use the early care and education infrastructure that already exists to bolster its efforts to combat child abuse and neglect. It just makes good sense to expand on a resource that parents and children use and love.

Parents and teachers already know one another and already communicate about the child. The simple fact is that child deaths due to child abuse and neglect are much less likely to occur when

there are more adults involved with that child.

High-quality early care and education not only gives children a leg-up on education that will last their whole life, but it can actually keep children safe.

Imagine the impact this could have on Texas' most vulnerable children if more families had access to high-quality early care and education. When people consider how to prevent child abuse and neglect, early care and education is not always on the list. Maybe it

should be.

More information on high-quality early care and education is available at [www.teceec.org](http://www.teceec.org).

Kara Johnson is the Executive Director of the Texas Early Childhood Education Coalition.

## Over My Shoulder

A monthly review of the livestock market by J.D. Sartwelle, Jr.

Our beginning of the month wish for the rains to continue came to be as most of the month of April was punctuated with unsettled weather that produced much needed moisture over most of the state.

April markets showed strength because of moisture and shorter fed cattle numbers, while beef demand held its own in the grocery store.

April was an active month as our own legislature was in full session and those in Washington were/are still posturing for stimulus money or to push their favorite agendas.

Most areas of the state received more than one rain or rainy period that filled stock tanks, as moisture from the heavens fell on scorched earth and grass to make for a month and period where we might be getting back on track with spring moisture.

The weather guys have been saying that we're moving to a wetter El Nino pattern and should be there by June.

Hallelujah.

In its usual slow way, the

Texas Legislature is muddling through another biennial session and considering many items of interest to cowboys and land owners.

Eminent domain, new cattle theft laws, capping oil wells, water bills and others are being hammered out.

Animal health news in our own state is on the stove top, with a West Texas dairy TB cow, the beginning of our own trichinosis program and fever tick concerns over a larger and larger area in South Texas.

On the national scene, with a changing of the guard we're seeing new food safety concerns, as others are concerned with clean water, clean air, endangered species, animal rights and more.

Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack conducted a hearing and heard from the industry about the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) in Washington and has scheduled several listening conferences over cattle country with one meeting scheduled for late May in Austin.

The "green" folks are pushing

agendas as USDA will conduct its first ever, wide scale survey of organic farming in the United States.

Its intention will be to assess how the growth of organic farming is changing the face of agriculture in the United States.

On the international scene, Canada is continuing with its World Trade Organization (WTO) complaint over our Country of Origin Labeling regulations (COOL).

On the scientific front, the long running \$56 million project of a consortium of Baylor, Texas A & M, the State and many cattle groups, including check off research dollars from Texas, announced the completion of and publication of work involving the genome of domestic cattle.

The project sequenced and analyzed the genetic blue print of the Hereford breed and is considered a monumental breakthrough in understanding cattle genetics.

Back to the markets: in the feed yards, fed cattle that began the month with an upswing to an \$83 top advanced to the \$88 level before backing off the last week of the month to end at the \$86 level.

Throughout the month, packers tried to limit weekly kills, backed up a few cattle and caused concerns with feeders.

Lighter carcass weights, continued beef movement and moving through a slight backlog of ready cattle might be made easier as we enter the grilling time of the year.

At the markets, with good March and April rains, cow and calf runs slowed, partly because of a new lease on life as well as folks simply not working during the rainy periods and making lots even muddier.

The slaughter cow and bull market as well as calf markets remained strong and continued an upward push as numbers backed off and demand picked up.

Top cows moved to the mid to high 50s and the bulls to the mid 60s, while the light weight calves moved well into the dollar something and the five-six weights moved over the dollar bill on the better cattle.

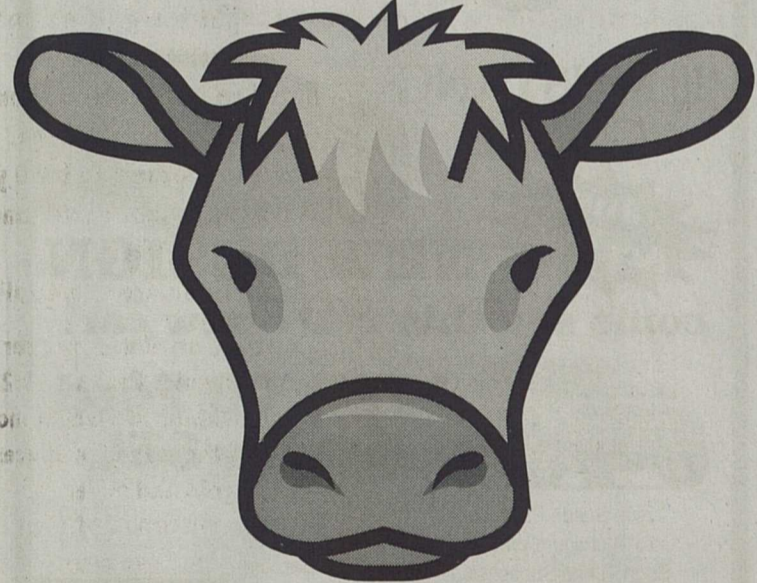
In the competing meat complex, pork production is still over 2 million head a week and holding in the \$40 range, while poultry production is down.

Both still provide plenty of completion and choices in the meat case.

It seems that most of our ills go away when there is adequate moisture to grow grass and have a normal year.

Let's hope that we continue receiving moisture and can catch up on groundwater, grow grass, make hay and raise big calves.

Come on, May.



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500-600 lbs	97-116 85-95
600-700 lbs	94-108 87-102
700-800 lbs	84-96 76-86

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500-600 lbs	93-114 85-96
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