

Rebels win State!



SCA Girls bring home AISA Championship! See 1B

Choctaw Sun Photo by Marcus Gates

WEEKE

February 16, 2007

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Shining Brightly Over Southwest Alabama

75¢

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BOE to pay Anderson \$35,000+

■ Settlement of federal lawsuit would also give plaintiff a future position within school system

By Dee Ann Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

BUTLER - The Choctaw County Board of Education voted on Tuesday evening to accept a proposed settlement in a lawsuit filed against them in federal court last year.

Superintendent of Education Sue Moore recommended to the Board that they agree to a consent order to settle a suit filed by Toxey resident Wayne Anderson, agreeing to pay the plaintiff a total of \$35,813 in compensatory damages, attorneys' fees, and litigation expenses. The agreement also guaranteed that Anderson be hired to fill the next available counselors' position within the Choctaw

SEE LAWSUIT, page 5A

Beef bandits busted



Choctaw Sun photo by Tommy Campbell
Gilbertown Policeman David Dunn (left) takes an inventory of the huge pile of steaks taken in a theft at the Gilberttown Piggly Wiggly on Wednesday evening. Assisting with the count are Butler Policemen Randy Pinkerton and Randy Adams.

■ Routine traffic stop results in arrests for theft of hundreds of dollars worth of meat from local grocery

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

GILBERTOWN - A routine traffic stop early Wednesday evening resulted in the immediate arrest of two suspects in connection with the alleged theft of several hundred dollars worth of steaks from the Piggly Wiggly in Gilberttown, and women's and children's undergarments valued at about \$60 from the Dollar General next door.

A third suspect - the driver of the vehicle - was apprehended around midnight after he allegedly broke into Alabama Southern Community College and attempted to break into the Gilberttown Volunteer Fire Department.

The bizarre incident began shortly after 6 p.m. on Feb. 14th when Gilberttown Policeman David Dunn pulled over a maroon-colored

SEE BEEF, page 7A

SUN COUNTRY Almanac

FRIDAY, FEB. 16
Sunny
Hi 47 • Lo 25
Rain chance 10%
Sunrise: 6:34 a.m.
Sunset: 5:41 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEB. 17
Partly cloudy
Hi 58 • Lo 28
Rain chance 10%
Sunrise: 6:34 a.m.
Sunset: 5:42 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 18
Sunny
Hi 54 • Lo 29
Rain chance 10%
Sunrise: 6:33 a.m.
Sunset: 5:43 p.m.

MONDAY, FEB. 19
Partly cloudy
Hi 58 • Lo 39
Rain chance 20%
Sunrise: 6:32 a.m.
Sunset: 5:44 p.m.

Countywide cleanup, recycling to be discussed

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

GILBERTOWN - Are you tired of living in a littered, trashy-looking county?

Would you be interested in learning more about how a possible recycling program could

be set up in Choctaw County .. a recycling program that would not only get rid of unwanted garbage but also put cash into the treasuries of non-profit organizations such as fire departments, churches, 4-H groups, school bands, school athletic clubs, and others?

If so, you are invited to a public meeting which will be held Tuesday evening, Feb. 20th at Gilberttown Town Hall at 7 p.m.

Discussion will center around setting a date for a countywide clean-up event later this year, as well as what it

would take to establish and maintain a viable recycling program. All persons, groups and elected officials who are concerned about the appearance of our county are invited and encouraged to be at this meeting and voice your ideas, suggestions and opinions.

CCC to work on personnel policies

By Tommy Campbell
The Choctaw Sun

BUTLER - At Monday's meeting of the Choctaw County Commission, the board voted to establish a committee to begin work on a comprehensive personnel policies and procedures manual.

Commissioner C.D. "Budd" Ruffin brought up the fact that employees who work in the road/bridge department often are called out after hours, on weekends and holidays to clear storm debris from the roads.

"We have nothing set to show how they

will be compensated," he said. "A lot of times you can't send just one man out to cut a large tree out of a road."

Ruffin recommended that on such call-outs, each man receive one hour of regular time pay, with a minimum of four hours pay.

He said that schedule would not apply to elected and appointed officials, such as commissioners, the county treasurer, EMA director and others.

Ruffin said if the board is going to seriously consider and address the need for a personnel policy, he would wait on asking for his recommendation to be brought to a vote.

"If not, then we need to start taking bits

and pieces as they come up and put them together," he said.

However, Probate Judge D'Wayne May said he would rather have legal counsel involved and adopt an overall policy rather than one that has been piece-mealed.

"The official minutes of the Commission meetings are voluminous, and it would require someone full time just to research the minutes," he said. "I suggest we come up with a comprehensive policy ASAP and adopt it."

May said he would volunteer to work

SEE POLICIES, page 5A

Tumbleweed is expanding!
Moving Sale Feb. 16th - 28th
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