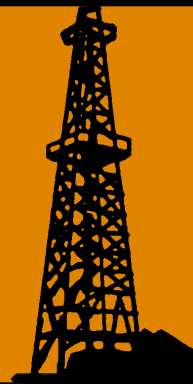


BIG RIG



Merritt High School, March 2015

3G Feed and Fab

by: Timothy Jones

3G Feed and Fab is located a quarter of a mile west of the stoplight in Carter, Oklahoma. The owners of the business are Jim Graham and Wes Graham. Employees are Baylor Newcomb, Hunter Endres, and Timothy Jones. The business was first opened in 2011. They specialize in fence building, shop and mobile welding. 3G also sells pig feed, deer corn, and cake. 3G owns farm equipment and offers custom farm work such as swathing and baling. You can contact Wes at 580-729-0478.

Rodeo In The Merritt Community

By Taylor Barnett

Rodeo plays a major role in many of the people's lives in the Merritt community. We have talented rodeo students that are active in OHSRA and THSRA. The team members are: Cadlyn Smith, Yaleigh Yarbrough, Oran Miller, Dalen Smith and Brett Custer. The coach is Bobbie Yarbrough.

Oran Miller is a junior on the rodeo team. He is a team roper in the OHSRA. Ending the fall season in first, along with partner, Ethan Price of Leedey, OK. Oran started his spring season off with a bang placing 2nd and 4th in McAlester, OK on March 21-22. Oran plans to keep up the good work and hold his #1 spot.

The rodeo team students aren't the only ones involved in rodeo in the Merritt community. Former bull rider Cody Custer was one of the co-founders of the PBR (Professional Bull Riders). He was PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association) World Champion in 1992. Cody then went on qualifying for both the PBR World Finals and NFR (National Finals Rodeo) in 2000. He retired in 2003 and stayed active with the PBR. He is now a judge. After being retired for 12 years, Cody has decided to give it one last ride. He, along with seven other former riders, will give it one more round to see who can take home the winner-take-all check of \$160,000 in

MPTO meeting April 21,
5:30 in the cafeteria



Aydin Chatfield

by Taylor Barnett

Aydin Chatfield is a new student of many here at Merritt. Aydin is in the 8th grade this year. He came to Merritt from Tennessee. He says it was a family choice to move here.

Aydin likes Merritt because it's different. He says it's smaller and the people are friendly. He is very active in sports such as basketball, baseball, and football.

Aydin's old school was okay, according to Aydin. He says he's really liking it here so far. People are friendly and he fits in.

Aydin would like to go into engineering when he grows up, but until then, he says he's looking forward to sports here. We hope he has a good year at Merritt.



Cameron Stewart

by Allison Shepherd

There are many new students, teachers, and other staff members at Merritt High School. We have 38 new students and the one that stood out the most and caught my attention is Cameron Stewart.

Cameron is in 7th grade and he last attended Sentinel. He says he moved because he didn't like his old school.

Cameron says he likes Merritt better because the teachers help you more and the classes are easier.

He has many interests but his favorites are sports. Cameron plays football, basketball, and baseball.

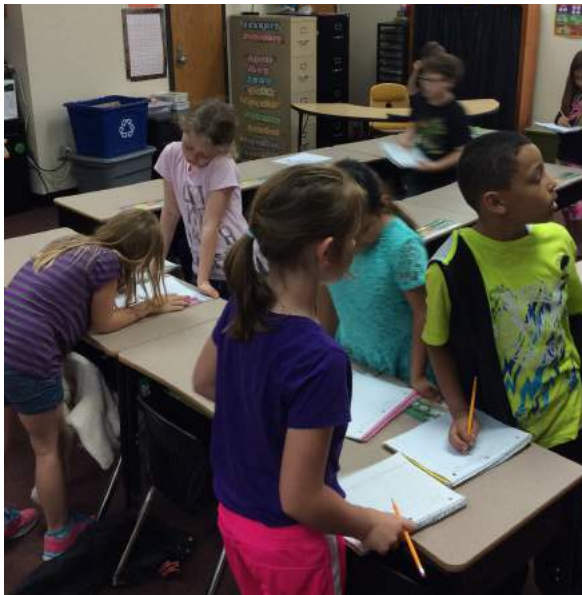
His favorite subject is science. He loves to learn about humans and animals. Cameron plans on going to OSU for college, but he's not quite sure for what yet.



Mrs. Goodman's class

My third graders have been working extremely hard in preparation for the OCCTs. As a reward for trying their best on this last round of Alpha Plus tests, they will have a pop and popcorn party.

The next couple of weeks will be spent reviewing for our upcoming state tests, so there are some fun activities planned after testing is completed. Beginning in the end of April, students will choose a science experiment and demonstrate it for their classmates. We will be creating cell replicas, performing reader's theaters plays, and creating book review posters.



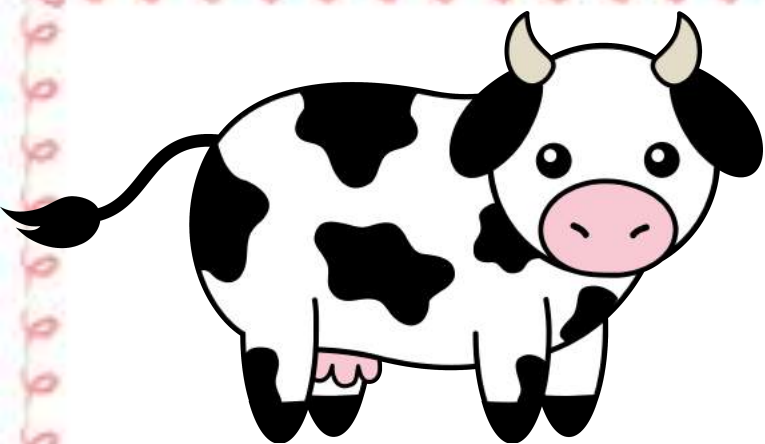
Mrs. Splawn's Second Grade

We have been working on comparing and contrasting two stories. Students are learning how to make Venn Diagrams with the help of the app called Venn. It allows students to edit their work and make their Venn Diagrams unique. The stories we have been using to compare and contrast are fables and folktales. Students have been learning a variety of lessons from these stories and have started to love them!

In Math, we are creating pictographs and bar graphs. Students were given a topic with four choices and then told to survey the students in the classroom. Once every student had the necessary data, they got to work creating their own pictograph. This has taught a variety of skills including organization, tally marks, social interaction, as well as the main goal of building and understanding graphs.

We have just started using our new microphone and speaker system. The students definitely perk up when I use it. Then, when I hand a student a microphone, the entire dynamic of the classroom changes and everyone listens more intently to their friends and classmates. We are loving it!



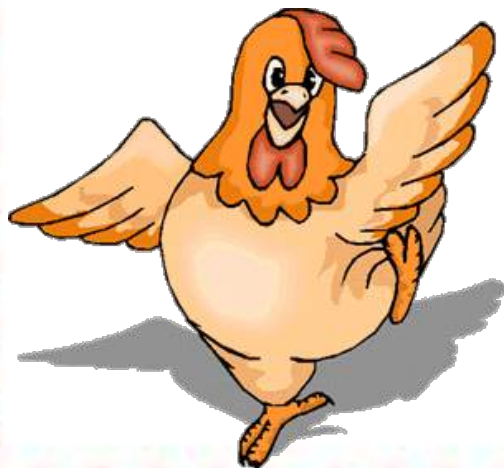


Oklahoma Youth Expo (OYE)

By Aaron Posey

The Oklahoma Youth Expo was held over Spring Break in Oklahoma City, where our Merritt Oilers from FFA and 4H competed and placed in events.

Caitlyn Harris placed 10th in the guilt show. In the heifer show, Katy Herndon placed 1st in her class and 5th in her breed. Laramie Thetford placed 5th in her class, Tristan Dornan placed 4th in his class, Caitlyn Harris placed second in her class, Nicholas Dornan placed 4th in his class, Emilee Dornan placed 5th in her class, and Micah Harris placed 11th in her class. One of the contestants, Tristan Dornan said, "The best thing was the chicken on a stick for \$7."





Good for You!

by Lauren Cummings & McKenna Archer

Mrs. Musick gave out mini-pies as prizes.
Aaron Posey helped Mrs. Gibbins carry in water.
Chase Derocher held the door open for Mrs. Hancock.
Junior class talked to 7th and 8th graders about life.
Levi Finley came up, even though he was sick, to speak.
Caitlea Swartz always holds the door for Mrs. Bollinger's class.

Students ,McKenna Archer and Coalton Paxton, helped a student out in the hallway, when he dropped his papers and books.

Mrs. Richardson's first hour class of senior boys helped Mrs. Bollinger, Mrs. Roper, and Mrs. Skelton take a bunch of trash out.

Photo credits to Derek Capps,
Allison Shepherd, Tristan Dornon,
Mrs. Splawn

If you have any questions,
comments, or concerns please
contact Merritt Big Rig staff by e-
mail at merrittbigrig@aol.com



Merritt Softball

by McKayla Doty

The softball girls have been practicing extremely hard the past month, and their hard work finally paid off during their first game on March 23, 2015. They played Corn Bible and won 3-0. The next day they played against Burns Flat and lost 2-1. They have many more games to come and feel like with a hard work they will have a successful season.

Merritt Basketball Playoffs

by Nathan Finley

The Merritt Oilers played their district games starting off the playoffs at Cordell by playing the Cordell Blue Devils and beating them with a score of 63-47. Since the Oilers won their district game they advanced to Regionals to play the Fredrick Bombers. The Oilers had a fantastic game against the Bombers with a score of 50-23, advancing to the Saturday game against the Christian Heritage Crusaders. The Oilers played the game on March 3, 2015 and beat the Crusaders in a challenging Regional finals game with a score of 41-35. After this exciting game, beating number three in the state, the Oilers didn't give up and advanced to area. We played the Hollis Tigers, but Merritt couldn't pull out a win and ended up falling to the Tigers with a score of 34-46. After the devastating loss against the Tigers, the Oilers came back to play the Christian Heritage Crusaders in an intense game to make it to the state finals by beating the Crusaders 47-35. The Oilers finally advanced to state and played the Talihina Tigers at Yukon High School. The Oilers had some ups and downs in the game against the Tigers and with a score of 34-53 the Oilers season was concluded. Thank you, Oilers, for a very exciting season!

FCA

by Randy Hayward

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matthew 6:33. If we seek God and his righteousness he will be with us and show us the way that we need to go in to follow him.

Since FCA began this year it has been a growing organization for the school as well as the members who happen to be in the organization. President Abigayle Willis had this to say about how FCA has grown and what kinds of activities that come with FCA:

"FCA has evolved into a more hands on club. I believe we do our best to outreach Jesus's love to others instead of just talking about it. I think our club will continue to grow. Our club is a positive, uplifting group of students that is working hard to share Jesus's love to others. We do more hands-on things such as locker decor and uplifting notes. We will also do an end of the school rally."

FCA has been trying to involve the younger kids, such as the 5th and 6th graders, to be a part of FCA this year, so that when they become 7th graders they will have the idea of what FCA is and what they do.

"I believe that FCA is a very active group. We have started to include the younger kids in our meetings. We also have done a lot better reaching out to the students. Not only are we inviting them but we are also encouraging them by putting encouraging notes on their lockers. Our FCA group is active in sharing, and involving students, we are a very energetic group and love God." says Treasurer Noah Ligon.

SWIM

by McKayla Doty

On Thursday, March 26, the Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford had their annual Southwestern Interscholastic Meet (SWIM). Schools came from all around, including us, to try and place the highest in the tests. From our school we had 5 students place in the top three. Aaron Posey placed first in Visual Basic, McKenzie Berg placed first in Oklahoma History, Lauren Cummings placed first in News Editing, Tristan Dornan placed first in C++ Programming, and Hagen Simon placed third in Algebra I. Great job!

