

# Jerrod Citizen

"Where cotton is king"

Volume 90, number 33 ~ telling Jerrod's story since 1929 ~ Thursday, August 1, 2019

## Hoss Rigel Leaves Coaching

Walter "Hoss" Rigel, JISD football coach and athletic director, will not return to lead the JHS Strikers this fall. He had been head coach since 2010. He resigned July 25th.

"It was a tough decision for me, Mercy and the boys," Rigel told the *Citizen* last week, "but a decline in my aging parents' health and mobility and my brother's death last month makes it necessary to return to my hometown and take on the well-servicing business we've had for fifty years."

During his career in Jerrod, Rigel raised the Strikers to contender status, including three state championships. He also coached the track and baseball teams and taught world history.

He was a key player in the state-wide effort to reverse the University Interscholastic League's decision to downgrade small school football teams to a six-man format.

"I know there are good six-man programs, but several of my fellow coaches felt the UIL was heavy-handed in down-

grading a program because it was one or two students below the limit. We campaigned hard for a grace period, but it didn't work. I know whoever takes over the Jerrod program will make it work, but it's just not the same kind of football."

Superintendent Rodger Brasfield told the *Citizen* Rigel's decision "caught everybody by surprise, but assistant football coach Ross Whitley has agreed to be interim head coach and acting athletic director until we can find someone to replace coach Rigel."

Football two-a-days begin Aug. 6, ending with a team Inner-squad scrimmage at the Striker Pit, 8:00 PM., the tenth.



Walter "Hoss" Rigel

## School enrollment schedule

Registration for the 2019-20 school year is Tuesday, Aug. 6—Wednesday Aug 7. Registration will be in the high school cafeteria.

Aug. 6

Special education and pre-K through first (all day)

Wednesday Aug. 7

one through four

8:00 —noon

five through seventh

1:00 — 3:00

Thursday Aug. 8

eighth through freshman

8:00 — Noon

Sophomore through Senior

1:00 — 3:00

Pre-K , kindergarten, first graders and transfer students must have birth certificates and inoculation records with them when they register. First class day is Monday, Aug. 12.

Registration information is available at JISD.edu.

## HOME FROM THE HARVEST

"It was a hazardous adventure for all of us, especially my wife Jenny." That's how Scotty McTague sums up this summer's custom-cutting foray through the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles and southwestern Kansas.

Jenny McTague, who teaches math and economics at Jerrod High, has been a part of the harvest crew the last three years, but will never forget this one.

"I had just opened a gate to drive out in the field we were cutting, when the wind took my hat. I reached down to get it out of the weeds and that's

when the rattler got me." She was in a Kansas hospital overnight, but has recovered totally.

The crew fought a wheat fire and was rained and hailed out by several "gully washers," according to Scotty.

Over fifty years, the McTague's Blue Sky Harvesters have cut as far north and the Nebraska border, but most of this year's crew were high school and college boys and had to be back for the start of school.

Scotty took charge of the operation three years ago because of his father's failing health. He estimates the nine-man crew—including three combines, a grain hauler and three semi's—harvested about 8500 acres of wheat, much of it for repeat customers.



Two of the Blue Sky Harvesters' combines in action near Garden City, KS.

## Following the STAAR

Jerrod ISD students, grades 3 – 12 will focus much of their time over the next two semesters on the often-maligned State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR). The testing program is based on state curriculum standards in core subjects including reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

STAAR tests are designed to measure what students are learning in each grade and whether or not they are ready for the next grade. The goal is to ensure that all students receive what they need to be academically successful. Meeting these individual student needs depends greatly on schools, parents, and community members working together, according to a news release from the Texas Education Agency.

STAAR tests will be offered in both online and paper formats.

Jerrod  
CITY LIMIT  
POP. 3434

MONDAY MORNING, I SAW **SCOTTY MCTAGUE** talking football with **TONY MARSH** at the City Café . . . school secretary **LIZ CARPENTER** carrying an armload of mail out of the post office . . . **FATHER GREGORY** herding a gaggle of his soccer players around the square before heading back to the Striker Pit . . . **SUSIE SCALF** and her **BFF ANNMARIE ALVERSON** slowly riding their bikes around the square, pretending not to spy on two boys loading feed sacks on a pickup . . . **CELINE AMADOR** watching a Good Samaritan change her flat tire.