

# Former NFL Player Is Camp Mentor For Comanche 7th Grade Sports Standout

The Francis name has put Comanche on the map when anyone in Oklahoma thinks about percussion and drumline. But if another Francis has his way, Comanche 7th grader to be J.J. Francis wants Comanche to be known for a sports star and the school for its sports state championships.

## Theft Reports Continue

Comanche Police reports show that the rash of thefts in Comanche continued this past week with Trisha Matlock of 507 Wilson reporting Monday evening, July 28, the discovery that her new Murray push mower had been stolen from her garage.

Comanche Police Officer Keith Corp also told the Times that he had taken a report on Sunday, July 27, the theft of a golf cart and charger from the Comanche Golf Course.

Other thefts known just outside Comanche city limits included the theft of a 16 foot car hauler discovered missing from parking area adjacent to Tans Plus/Shooters Guns and Ammo just north of Comanche on old Hwy. 81 on the morning of July 31.

Miller and Sons Construction also reported last week the theft of a welder/trailer that was later recovered found unhitched near Corum.

Please contact law enforcement if you have any information that can assist the Comanche Police Department or the Stephens County Sheriff's Department on recent theft or burglary investigations.

If you see any person/persons or any circumstance that seems unusual out of place in your neighborhood or rural area, contact law enforcement as soon as possible so that it can be timely checked out.

## Comanche Schools Set To Begin

Comanche school teachers will see their summer break end soon with their first day to report being on Friday, August 15, when their first day of in-service training begins and continues on Monday, August 18 and Tuesday, August 19. Comanche school students will report for the first day of school on Wednesday, August 20.

Comanche school sports officially gets underway this Monday, August 11 when the CHS Lady Indian Softball team travels to Rush Springs to take on the Lady Redskins at 5 p.m. to be followed by a junior varsity game. The JH Lady Indian softball season opens on Tuesday, August 19 when they host the Lady Wolves at 5 p.m. here at the Field of Dreams.

The CHS Indian Football Team will also see real action soon when they scrimmage at Walters on Friday, August 22 at 6 p.m. and the following week on August 29 at Empire also at 6 p.m. The Indians will open their regular season on Thursday evening, September 4, at 7:30 p.m. on the road when they take on traditional rival Velma-Alma Comets.

The CHS Indian Football team will host their next three games at home: Friday, September 12, against Tishomingo; Friday, September 19, against Frederick; and Friday, September 26 against the Outlaws of Marlow in a game that will be the Tribe's district opener with Comanche moving to Class 3A this year. Other Class 3A District opponents will include Sulphur on the road, Madill at home, Plainview on the road, Lone Grove at home, Dickson on the road. The Indians' regular season finale will be on the road at non-district Meeker.

The JH Indians will open their season on the road at Wynnewood on Tuesday, September 2 at 5:30 p.m. followed by a home game against V-A on Monday, September 8.

Comanche students will have their first holiday when school is dismissed on Monday, September 1 for Labor Day.

The next official days that school will be dismissed will be Friday, October 17 and Monday, October 20 for fall break. The next day dismissed for students will be Friday, November 7 with teachers having a professional development day. Thanksgiving break will be Wednesday, November 26 thru Friday, November 28. Christmas break will officially begin on Monday, December 22 with classes resuming on Monday, January 5.

J.J. Francis, son of Comanche Schools' Jack Francis well known far and wide as the king of drumline instruction, didn't take the summer off to rest, play video games and just sleep waiting for school to start. He took action on his dream, to be a famous sports star.

J.J. attended the FBU (Football University) three day camp at Casady High School earlier this summer. His love of the game, God given talent and his drive to learn was quickly noticed by his primary running back coach and he was invited to attend the FBU "Top Gun" Camp in Dublin, Ohio where many of the elite football players and college stars on Saturday will have received training.

"I love football," J.J. told the Times this past week in an office interview. "My favorite part of the camps was one on one," J.J. said. "That is when the running back and a linebacker press each other. The running back runs a route and the linebacker guards them. The quarterback throws to the running back and if you catch it you try to score a touchdown," J.J. added.

"I learned a lot of footwork, fundamentals and I learned some new routes at the camps. I also learned to be a better person by acting right," J.J. said. The only thing about the camps that didn't have J.J. excited to talk about was the food, but everything about football made him smile and ready for this fall.

FBU Camp also gave J.J. a very unique opportunity that will be a life-long factor in helping to make his sports dream come true, a coach that took personal interest in J.J. and has become some what of a mentor, Coach Marc Logan.

Logan, a record setting running back for the University of Kentucky, a 5th round draft pick in 1987, and a former NFL player for

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Comanche 7th Grader To Be J.J. Francis Attends Elite "Top Gun"

# The Comanche Times

Comanche, Oklahoma Caring People with Hometown Pride...

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Rodeo Capital Native American Heritage

VOLUME TWENTY-TWO, NUMBER 48

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2014

50 CENTS

# A July To Remember

by Gary McManus  
State Climatologist  
Oklahoma Mesonet

Sometime around the third week of May, with wildfires scorching the state and drought continuing to intensify, Oklahomans were in search of a miracle. The spring rainy season at that point seemed like a figment of Mother Nature's imagination amongst one of the driest January-May periods in state history. Finally, the miracle did arrive in the form of an upper-level low pressure system that brought the state some of its most substantial moisture since the previous fall. That system turned on the spigot and the moisture has continued largely unabated since that point. It is not unusual for Oklahoma to see big rains during May and June. That is Oklahoma's rainiest part of the year, after all. It is a bit uncommon, however, for those rains

to continue deeper into the summer, but that is exactly what has occurred. And for Oklahoma, a rainier summer generally means a milder summer. According to preliminary data from the Oklahoma Mesonet, Oklahoma experienced its third coolest and 15<sup>th</sup> wettest July on record. The first two months of climatological summer (June and July) finished as the 16<sup>th</sup> coolest and 15<sup>th</sup> wettest on record. The January-July temperature was similar with a ranking of 15<sup>th</sup> coolest, but long-term moisture deficits remained with a ranking of 38<sup>th</sup> driest, more than 4 inches below normal.

The statewide average temperature was 77.3 degrees, 4.3 degrees below normal and the statewide average precipitation came in at 4.68 inches, 1.94 inches above normal. Most Oklahomans will recall that just three years ago the state's July 2011 state-



DAD AND CRAWDADS: Four year old Baylor Blair shows his dad Monte how to catch crawdads with bacon this past Friday morning in a drained ditch along Rodeo Drive following a week of very unusual, but very welcome cool and rainy days the last of July.

wide average of 89.2 degrees broke the record for the hottest month – of any calendar month – ever recorded in any state. The coolest Oklahoma July occurred both in 1906 and 1950 with a statewide average of 76.4 degrees. The Mesonet site at Slapout recorded an October-like high of 62 degrees on July 17, the 12<sup>th</sup> coolest high temperature ever recorded in Oklahoma during July. Vinita reached a low temperature of 49 degrees on July 3, which is the normal low on October 19 for that part of the state. The month's highest temperature of 107 degrees was recorded at three separate locations.

The abundant July moisture led to relief of both short- and long-term drought impacts, and some of those July rainfall totals were quite impressive. The Mesonet site at Clayton led the state with 11.3 inches. Three Oklahoma City Mesonet stations recorded at least 9 inches of rainfall, although the official observing site

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## Area Roundup

### Hey JH-HS Football Parents

Comanche Football Booster Club meeting is Thursday August 7th, tonight at 7:00 p.m., in the Elementary Cafeteria. Any parent with a child playing school football either Jr High or High school needs to attend this meeting.

### JH & CMS Football Player Report Times

Comanche 8th and 9th grade football players need to report on Saturday, August 9 at 9 a.m. at the football fieldhouse. Comanche 6th and 7th graders need to report on Saturday, August 16 at 11 a.m. All players should have physicals completed by this time and have them ready to hand in if they haven't already done so.

### Comanche - Empire District Fair

The Comanche-Empire District Fair will be held on Friday, August 15, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Patterson Avenue Baptist Church. Entries must be made at that location on Thursday, August 14, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The District Livestock Show will be held on Saturday, August 16 at 8 a.m. at the Comanche Ag Complex. Please support our District Fair with your entries and attendance!

### Football Social Slated

A Football Ice Cream Social/ Meet and Greet with players and new coaches will be held on Friday August 15th. There will be a Red Vs. White scrimmage starting at 7:00. that evening followed by the ice cream social meet and greet. Come out and support and meet the 2014 Comanche Indians! Tribe Pride!

## Tribe Pride Is Everywhere..... Comanche Gymnasts Place At Nationals



Comanche 3rd Grader Kenley Lemons

Comanche 7th Grader Kaelyn Dobbins

## AAU Gymnastics

COMANCHEANS AMONG AMERICA'S ELITE GYMNASTS: Comanche 3rd grader to be Kenley Lemons and Comanche 7th grader to be Kaelyn Dobbins competed in the AAU Gymnastics Nationals in Florida held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports at Disney World in Orlando, Florida earlier this summer. Kenley, daughter of Sarah and Jake Lemons, placed 5th All-Around in Level 4 with a 5th on bars, 5th on beam, 6th on floor and 7th on vault. Kaelyn, daughter of Chris and Jennifer Dobbins, placed 8th All-Around with a 4th in Bars, 9th in Vault, 10th in Floor and 13th on Beam. Kenley and Kaelyn both attend Powerhouse Academy in Duncan for their gymnastics training. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!