



Wilson Grebe. Photo by James Taylor

TOURNEY CHAMPS

Eagles turn tables on Academy and win Classic title

By Mike Lee
Eagle Contributor

The Goldthwaite Eagles basketball team won four games against Comanche 65-26, Early 71-45, Wellington 57-52 and Little River Academy 53-42 from Dec. 29-31 to win the Boys Silver Division of the TexasBank Holiday Classic in Brownwood.

But it was the 53-42 win over the Class 3A Academy Bumblebees in the championship game that showed the Eagles' improvement over the previous two weeks. In the Dec. 11-13 Hamilton tournament, Academy beat Goldthwaite 54-43 – surprising the Eagles with full-court pressure and racing to a 30-6 lead before Goldthwaite regrouped.

“We weren’t ready for their pressure the first time, but when we played them last week, we were able to control the tempo,” Goldthwaite coach Jeffrey Head said, comparing the two Academy games.

“We identified their weakest link and got the ball to our guy that he was

defending. We knew who we had to attack, and that allowed us to control the pace of the game. We normally want to push the tempo, but there are times when we need to be patient. That’s something we learned from the first time we played them.

“We also played a lot better on defense the second time we played them,” Head said.

Landry Sanderson scored eight of his 11 points in the second quarter, when the Eagles broke open a close game and took a 29-17 halftime lead over the Bumblebees.

Talen Gardner scored six of his 16 points in the fourth quarter as the Eagles maintained a double-digit lead.

Sanderson grabbed six rebounds while Gardner and Wilson Grebe added four rebounds each. Grebe also forced three steals. Aidyn Lee handed out five assists while Hayes Green way added four assists.

Most of the team statistics were

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Chasing the love of rodeo

Goldthwaite's Chase Love is working to keep professional rodeo in Mills County.

By James Taylor
Goldthwaite Eagle

Chase Love, owner of the Wild Side Rodeo company, has spent the last 15 years involved in all the business of bucking bulls: buying, selling, raising, and traveling to events with them. He's been in the ranching and rodeo world all his life, rodeoing since he was 5 years old, growing up on a ranch and riding horseback before then.

Rodeo is in his blood, and his passion is PRCA – the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

“My passion has always been to have a PRCA Rodeo company,” Love said. “To get to that level takes time, money, and connections. Without all three, you're not going to make it in this business.”

The scene is extremely competitive and hard to get a foothold in when you're competing with other firms that are extremely wealthy or have been doing it for 50-plus years, Love said.

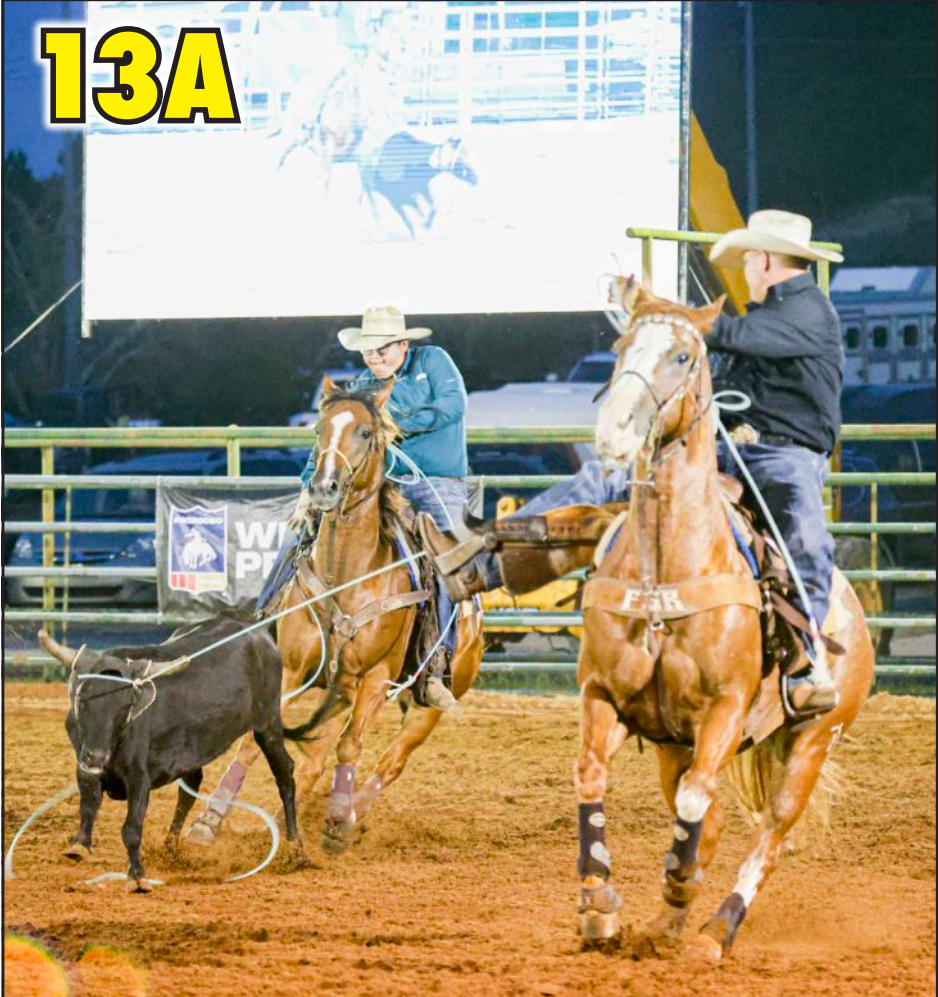
“We lack both, so it takes a lot of hard work and dedication to even begin to get rolling,” Love said. “You follow a strict set of rules and have a lot of criteria to meet, and a two-year probation period before you can become a full-blown PRCA Contractor. You must maintain a herd of a minimum of 75 head of quality bucking horses and bulls to be eligible, and during our probationary time, we were required to put on 12 new rodeos in two years with \$100,000 in added prize money for contestants.”

Love said he wanted to bring PRCA rodeo to Goldthwaite because such events were huge in smaller towns in the past, but production costs have kept them from growing.

“My family has owned a ranch here for 75 years and owns a couple of local businesses,” Love said. “I was born and raised here and that drives me to produce this event. There's no reason Goldthwaite can't be on the map with a great PRCA Rodeo.”

Love's is a turnkey rodeo company, providing everything from the personnel to the livestock to arena setup. Everyone that works a PRCA Rodeo has to be licensed under the PRCA and they have to go

See Rodeo - 13A



Team ropers compete in front of the big screen at Wild Side Rodeo's Goldthwaite PRCA Rodeo in Sept. 6, 2025. Photo by James Taylor



Sam Duncan and partner Jeffrey Lee. Photos by James Taylor

DJ Mo'Hair lights up the night for New Year's Eve and beyond

By James Taylor
Goldthwaite Eagle

Sam Duncan and partner Jeffrey Lee are the talents behind DJ Mo'Hair, lighting the night and lifting spirits for musical events across Mills County, most recently the New Year's Eve bash at Fisher Street Bar & Grill.

A love of music and dance culture started early for Duncan.

“Ever since I was a kid growing up in Star, I was transfixed by music and dance,” Duncan said. “I spent hours in my room dancing and singing, and I sometimes hosted informal dance parties in my parents' living room. Later on, though I was never what you might call a 'club kid,' I became fascinated with club environments as places where music, dance,

and lighting could work together to provide a liberating experience.”

Years later, Duncan turned his passion into a project.

“Much later, after I met my partner, Jeffrey Lee, and we decided to move to Payne Gap, I started thinking about DJing as a sort of side hustle,” Duncan said. “Jeffrey and I share the same musical taste, so it was a natural collaboration. As an artist and designer, Jeffrey found his niche as the lighting designer for our shows. Our first gig in late 2023, at a now-defunct bar in Evant called the 281 Icehouse, was pretty modest compared to what we do now.”

Ken Morrissey, owner of Fisher Street Bar & Grill, discovered DJ Mo'Hair there in Evant and has

grown into one of their biggest supporters and collaborators.

“At this point, we're essentially 'resident' DJs at his place,” Duncan said. “To date, we've done 13 shows across multiple venues and have learned a great deal in the process.”

Disco Tech

Duncan describes DJ Mo'Hair as a mobile disco. He and Lee are deeply grounded in music from the 1980s, especially alternative dance music, drawing from a wide range of genres: electro, synthwave, electroclash, EBM, goth, minimal house, techno, industrial, Italo disco, cold-wave, minimal synth, and many others.

“We tend to move

See DJ Mo'Hair - 15A



New Year's Eve party at Fisher Street Bar & Grill.

DJ Mo’Hair lights up New Year’s Eve, continued from 1A

around stylistically when developing our setlists and respond fluidly to the energy of the crowd,” Duncan said. “Here in Mills County, we’ve also developed a love for country and western. We’re always interested in deepening our repertoire and tailoring our shows to fit the venue and audience.”

Duncan said a great DJ has to be able to read the crowd, play music that draws people to the dance floor, and build and sustain energy.

“We’re always looking for opportunities to introduce folks to music they’ve likely never heard before, which keeps things fresh for both us and the audience,” Duncan said. “I’m fond of saying, I’m mainly here to entertain myself, which is true to a point, but a successful show is always a give-and-take.”

Duncan said they love requests, and sometimes feature guest DJs such as DJ Blue (Justin Waldrip) and DJ CorTen (Courtenay Smith).

The DJ Mo’Hair light show that complements their music has grown in size and sophistication over the years.

“I’ve spent a good deal of time sourcing fixtures and learning how to program them,” Duncan said. “I don’t think you can have a compelling dance-floor experience without an equally exciting light show. Jeffrey does a fantastic job running the lights in real time in response to the music.”

Sound quality, Duncan said, is equally important.

“We’ve steadily upgraded our system over the years; you’ve got to have a great subwoofer,” Duncan said. “We’re grateful that Goldthwaite and the surrounding areas have been so receptive to what we do. One fan recently wrote, ‘Hey guys! I just wanted to say thanks for last night. Honestly, one of the best nights of my life. I had so much fun. Thank you...for bringing the exotic to Goldthwaite, Texas.’ That meant a lot to us.”

Music Selection

Duncan said Mills County folks love country and western music, but are open to other styles. Some dance-floor favorites include “The Safety Dance” by Men Without Hats, “Stayin’ Alive” by the Bee Gees, and “Yeah!” by Usher. They opened their New Year’s Eve show with Nancy Sinatra’s “These Boots Are Made for Walkin’,” followed by Tammy Wynette’s “Your Good Girl’s Gonna Go Bad,” before moving into more contemporary music.

“I especially love the after-hours portion of a show, when things can get a bit more experimental and free-flowing,” Duncan said. “I’m a big fan of Glass Candy, a now-defunct band that blends contemporary electronic music with old-school disco. ‘Ms. Broadway’ is one of my favorite tracks to play.”

Duncan said he and Lee want to continue refining

and expanding their audience in 2026, playing at new venues while maintaining their home base at Fisher Street Bar & Grill.

“We’ll keep curating and playing music that excites both us and the crowd,” Duncan said. “I’d love to host a country and western line dance class at some point, and I’m also interested in DJing a roller-skating party. We’ve renovated the Payne Gap Schoolhouse near where we live and would love to host a party there as well.”

DJ Mo’Hair is available for hire. For more information, visit paynegap.info/dj-mo-hair, where you can find their schedule and videos offering a taste of their shows. They also post updates to Instagram @dj_mo_hair.

“We’re always searching tirelessly for exciting music to share with our audience,” Duncan said. “And we are deeply indebted to the many artists whose work we play. Without them, we simply wouldn’t exist.”



Goldthwaite Eagle owners Steve and Debra Bridges are caught smoochin' as midnight strikes during DJ Mo'Hair's New Year's Eve party at Fisher Street Bar & Grill. Photos by James Taylor



Jeffrey Lee's light show.

Eagles take home championship trophy in Brownwood, continued from 1A

close – except for the Eagles limiting the Bumblebees to 31-percent shooting from the field. Goldthwaite shot 58 percent.

Lee, the Eagles’ point guard, was named MVP of the Boys Silver Division after averaging 11 points, 6.8 rebounds and 4.3 assists in the four tournament games.

In the 57-52 win over Wellington, Goldthwaite built a 38-24 halftime lead, then held off the Skyrockets’ second-half rally. Most of the team stats were close, except for the Eagles out-rebounding the Skyrockets 47-35.

Lee posted a double-double with 16 points and 12 rebounds while Sanderson added 10 points. Gardner finished with nine points and eight rebounds while Grebe had nine points and six rebounds. Hayes Greenway added nine rebounds.

In the 71-45 win over Early, 11 Goldthwaite players scored. Lee logged 13 points, seven rebounds and four steals. Hayes Greenway added 10 points while Grebe finished with nine points and seven rebounds. Zach Rodriguez scored eight points on 4-of-7 shooting from the field.

In the 65-26 win over Comanche in the tournament opener, eight Goldthwaite players scored. Gardner scored 12 points while Lee added 10 and Rodriguez had nine points.

The Eagles led 30-7 at the half, then finished off the Indians with a 27-point third quarter.

“Three of our four tournament games started before 9 a.m., so we had to show up every day,” Head said. “I felt like we got better. We shot well from the perimeter, and we had guys get to the rim.”



Above-left: The Eagles huddle with head coach Jeffrey Head after beating Little River Academy in the championship game. Above-right, Goldthwaite guard Aidyn Lee was named MVP of the Boys Silver Division.



The Goldthwaite Eagles receive their plaque for winning the Boys Silver Division of the TexasBank Holiday Classic on Dec. 31 at the Brownwood Coliseum.

TexasBank Holiday Classic

Dec. 29-31 at Brownwood
Championship Game

Goldthwaite 53, Little River Academy 42
ACADEMY – Jayvion White 21.
G’WAITE – Aidyn Lee 5, Talen Gardner 16, Hayes Greenway 5, Hagen Greenway 5, Wilson Grebe 9, Zach Rodriguez 2, Landry Sanderson 11.
Score by Quarters:
Academy 12 5 15 10 – 42
G’waite 13 16 14 10 – 53
3-pointers – Goldthwaite: Sanderson 2, Hayes Greenway 1. Academy: White 3, Davis Fossett 1.
Free throws – Goldthwaite 6-13, Academy 4-6.

Goldthwaite 57, Wellington 52

WELLINGTON – Jimmy Cantu 20.
G’WAITE – Lee 16, Blake Howard 2, Gardner 9, Hayes Greenway 5, Hagen Greenway 6, Grebe 9, Sanderson 10.
Score by Quarters:
Wellington 14 10 14 14 – 52
G’waite 19 19 10 9 – 57
3-pointers – Goldthwaite: Sanderson 2, Lee 2, Hagen Greenway 2, Grebe 1. Wellington: Cantu 2, Kamron Brooks 2, Armando Hinojosa 1, Major Brown 1.
Free throws – Goldthwaite 8-18, Wellington 8-17.

Goldthwaite 71, Early 45

EARLY – Dayton Zamora 15, Zack Rumfield 12.
G’WAITE – Lee 13, Howard 5, Gardner 8, Hayes Greenway 10, Ben Wetzig 2, Grebe 9, Rodriguez 8, Luke Patrick 2, Sanderson 5, Jacob Leverett 3, Drew Bristol 6.
Score by Quarters:
Early 3 11 15 16 – 45
G’waite 17 18 18 18 – 71
3-pointers – Goldthwaite: Hayes Greenway 2, Bristol 2, Howard 1, Leverett 1. Early: Zamora, Rumfield, Braedyn Peek 1.
Free throws – Goldthwaite 9-15, Early 8-12.

Goldthwaite 65, Comanche 26

COMANCHE – Elijah Ozuna 9.
G’WAITE – Lee 10, Howard 3, Gardner 12, Hayes Greenway 8, Hagen Greenway 6, Grebe 8, Rodriguez 9, Sanderson 7.
Score by Quarters:
Comanche 2 5 7 12 – 26
G’waite 17 13 27 8 – 65
3-pointers – Goldthwaite: Hayes Greenway 2, Howard 1, Rodriguez 1. Comanche: Ozuna 1, Brady Gaines 1.
Free throws – Goldthwaite 1-2, Comanche 2-12.

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Lifeline is a government assistance program that provides a monthly discount on residential communications services. Currently, eligible customers can receive a federal discount of up to \$9.25 on voice service, a qualifying broadband Internet access service, or a voice/Internet package. A state discount of \$3.50 is available and may be applied only to residential voice service. Lifeline Service customers subscribed to voice service will have an unlimited number of minutes for calls made within their local calling area. Lifeline discounts do not apply to optional custom calling features, long distance service, connection charges, or other miscellaneous charges. Lifeline customers may elect to subscribe to toll blocking at no charge.

To be eligible for Lifeline Service, a household's total income must be at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or someone in the household must be currently receiving benefits from at least one of the following assistance programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA); Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Program; Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program; Health Benefit Coverage under Child Health Plan (CHIP) under Chapter 62 support; National School Lunch Program - Free Lunch Program; or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). You may be eligible for the federal discount, the state discount, or both based on the qualifying program(s) in which you participate.

You can apply for Lifeline discounts online at www.texaslifeline.org or by calling toll free 1-866-454-8387. The Low Income Discount Administrator (LIDA) will evaluate your information to determine your eligibility and will notify CTTC if your household qualifies for the program. Only the LIDA can approve a customer's eligibility.

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Lifeline es un programa de asistencia gubernamental que ofrece un descuento mensual en servicios de comunicaciones residenciales. Actualmente, los clientes elegibles pueden recibir un descuento federal de hasta \$ 9.25 por servicio de voz, un servicio de acceso a Internet de banda ancha que califique o un paquete de voz e Internet. Un descuento del estado de \$ 3.50 está disponible y se puede aplicar solamente al servicio de voz residencial. Los clientes de Lifeline Services suscritos al servicio de voz tendrán un número ilimitado de minutos para las llamadas realizadas dentro de su área de llamadas locales. Los descuentos Lifeline no se aplican a las funciones de llamadas personalizadas opcionales, servicio de larga distancia, cargos de conexión u otros cargos misceláneos. Los clientes de Lifeline pueden optar por suscribirse al bloqueo de peaje sin costo alguno.

Para ser elegible para el servicio Lifeline, el ingreso total de un hogar debe ser igual o inferior al 150 por ciento de las pautas federales de pobreza, o alguien en el hogar debe estar recibiendo beneficios de al menos uno de los siguientes programas de asistencia: Medicaid; Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (SNAP); Asistencia de Vivienda Pública Federal (FPHA); Ingreso Suplementario de Seguridad (SSI); Programa de Beneficios de Pensiones de Veteranos y Sobrevivientes; Programa de Asistencia de Energía para Hogares de Bajos Ingresos; Cobertura de Beneficios de Salud bajo el Plan de Salud Infantil (CHIP) bajo el apoyo del Capítulo 62; Programa Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares - Programa de Almuerzos Gratuitos; O Asistencia Temporal para Familias Necesitadas (TANF). Usted puede ser elegible para el descuento federal, el descuento estatal, o ambos basados en los programas de calificación en los cuales usted participa.

Puede solicitar los descuentos Lifeline en línea en www.texaslifeline.org o llamando gratis al 1-866-454-8387. El Administrador de Descuentos de Bajos Ingresos (LIDA) evaluará su información para determinar su elegibilidad y notificará a CTTC si su hogar califica para el programa. Sólo el LIDA puede aprobar la elegibilidad de un cliente.

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