
Wichita County Archive News

August 2015

Perkins-Prothro House was approved for National Register of Historic Places. It has also been approved for the Texas Historic Commission - Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

National Register of Historic Places in Wichita County

Depot Square Historic District; Hamilton, William Benjamin, House; Hodges-Hardy-Chambers House; Frank Kell House; Morningside Historic District; Weeks House; and Wichita Falls Route Building.

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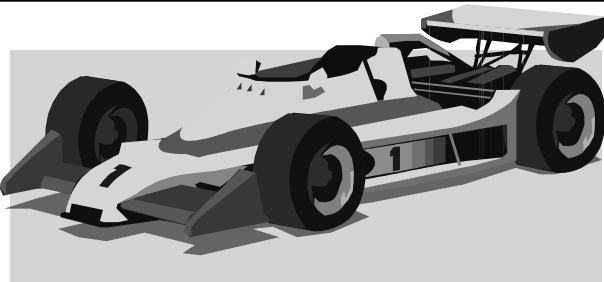
Who was the best track athlete ever in Wichita County?

If you ask people from Iowa Park who the greatest track athlete was, they will tell you, Bobby Gilbreath. Bobby won 7 state first place medals in Texas UIL State competitions. Two of those were individual medals. In 1959, he won the state 880 yard run. In 1960, he won the 440 yard dash. Very importantly, his freshman year at Texas A and M, he set the freshman national record for the college 440 yard hurdles.

Electra's Lawton Thomas won 4 state first place individual medals. There were only two divisions in Texas at that time. Electra competed in the large school division. Thomas won the 100 yard dash in 1923, setting a state record. He won the 440 yard dash in 1922, 23, and 24; setting the stage record in 1923. Electra won the state championships in 1923. He went on to star at Rice University, qualifying for the USA Olympic team.

Jayson Lavender won the state pole vault in 1988, 89, and 90.

The best, Leo Baldwin of Wichita Falls. Baldwin won the high hurdles in 1923 and 24, the low hurdles in 1923, the shot put in 1924, and the high jump in 1923 and 24. Wichita Falls won the state championship in 1924. Their closest competition was Electra, the 1923 state championship.



The Need for Speed: The History of Racing in North Texas

We have videos of sprint car races from the 1960s featuring some of the biggest names in Indy car racing. It's one thing to see a car like that (which we have in the exhibit), but it is another thing to see them racing on dirt tracks,

and these videos will give you a real feel for that kind of racing. We also have several videos about the career of Eddie Hill and a video of one of Lloyd Ruby's Indy races. We will be showing these regularly in our theater, so come check them out!