

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

August 2014 – Week 2

Air Date: August 3 – August 9 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: BALAAM THE WARRIOR MULE

AUGUST 1873 AND A TEXAS MULE TAKES ON APACHE WARRIORS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

AUGUST 5, 1873. LLANO COUNTY. AFTER APACHES RAID HIS RANCH AND SHOOT AN ARROW INTO HIS MILK COW, JAMES MOSS HAS HAD ENOUGH.

WITH HIS BROTHERS, AND FIVE OTHER RANCHERS, MOSS TRACKS THE INDIANS TO THE TOP OF PACKSADDLE MOUNTAIN. CATCHING THEM BY SURPRISE, MOSS AND HIS MEN CHARGE INTO THE INDIAN CAMP.

IN BATTLE, ONE OF THE RANCHERS LOSES CONTROL OF HIS MOUNT, A MULE NAMED BALAAM. THE SPOOKED MULE RUNS INTO INDIAN LINES, KICKING AND BITING WILDLY. INDIANS SCATTER. THE BATTLE IS OVER.

THREE APACHES LAY DEAD WITH FOUR RANCHERS WOUNDED. IT'S THE LAST INDIAN BATTLE IN LLANO COUNTY.

THE BATTLE OF PACKSADDLE MOUNTAIN WAS WON BY A MULE, 141 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Claudia Hazlewood, "PACKSADDLE MOUNTAIN FIGHT," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/btp01>), accessed July 24, 2014. Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

George M. Wentsch, "MOSS, JAMES RAGSDALE," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fmoaw>), accessed July 24, 2014. Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.