

Primed & Polished Storytelling *B.H.S. One-Act Play Set for Zone Contest*

By Darrin Ard

Everyone loves a good story, or at least that is the universal truth to which playwright John Olive ascribed when he penned *The Voice of the Prairie*, this year's Borden County High School entry in the U.I.L. One-Act Play competition.

The cast of the production is set to begin telling Olive's story of young love, eternal hope, and the early days of radio this Tuesday at the District 9-A, West Zone Contest at Dawson High School in Welch.

The March 18 contest features productions from Dawson, Grady, Ira, Sands, and Borden County.

The plays start at 2:00 p.m. and run back-to-back. Grady is the first play, followed by Dawson, Borden County, Sands, and Ira in that order. Therefore, the Borden County production should begin at roughly 3:30. Be there early to assure admittance as the doors are usually shut during performances.

The top two plays from the contest will join the top two productions from the East Zone at the District 9-A Contest on Tuesday, March 25.

The Borden County production of *The Voice of the Prairie* tells the story of a

farmer turned radio storyteller named "David Quinn," played by junior Kyle Pinkerton.

"Leon Schwab," a swindler and radio entrepreneur portrayed by sophomore John Wilson discovers David's storytelling talent and promotes him on pirated airwaves.

Along the way, David relates stories from his past—stories of his dead Irish storytelling "Poppy" (sophomore Tyler Wallace) and his puppy-love adventures with a blind girl named "Frankie" (sophomore Cassidy Rinehart).

Through theatrical flash-

backs, David's stories come to life in the form of his younger self, "Davey," played by freshman Garrett Thomas.

As David becomes famous, his stories are eventually heard by the now adult Frankie, "Frances" (senior Micah Hensley), and the two are reunited somewhat awkwardly by Leon.

Other participants in the Borden County production are senior Michele Bond ("Actor 3 / Susie / Gossip-monger"), junior Menda James ("Actor 2/Schoolgirl/Passerby"), sophomore Ben Griffin ("Actor 1 / James"), and freshman Andrew

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Combs Offers National Agriculture Week Salute to Texas' Agricultural Legacy

AUSTIN – Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced that March 16th to 22nd is National Agriculture Week in Texas.

"Agriculture starts with the growing and harvesting of food and fiber and ends with almost everything we eat, wear and use," Combs said. "This week we honor the

hard work and dedication of Texas farmers, ranchers and many other agriculture professionals in our state's food and fiber industry. These are the people who ensure that we have an abundant, reliable and affordable supply of food, natural fiber, horticultural.

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Texas Shootout Science Contest

By Tom Lewis

Several Borden County students participated in the Texas Shoot-out Science Contest during the months of November through February. Each student took a total of six tests during this period. Results were sent into the Texas Shoot-out headquarters in Kerrville, Texas where the results were tabulated.

The overall results were as follows:

Junior High:

- Rowdy Clary – 4th place (He was 1st place winner last year)
- Becky Dobyns – 14th place
- Jake Payne – 15th place
- Rachel Wilson and Ana Arellanos – tie for 19th place

e) Other participating students included:

Logan Howard, Reynaldo Hernandez, Shelby Roberts, Logan Furlong, Sharelle Gass, Michael Bullinger, Christina Soto, Kaila Thompson, Chelsea Minnick, Timothy Crenshaw, Kate Wallace, Jacob Froman, Pasqual

Espinoza, Heather Brooks, Sydney Shipp, Quentin Shafer, Sarah Harding, Brice Smith and Zane Williamson.

In the team scores, the 8th grade team of Rowdy Clary, Becky Dobyns, and Jake Payne placed 3rd. The 7th grade team of Rachel Wilson, Logan Howard and Shelby Roberts placed 9th. It might also be noted that in 7th grade UIL last year, Rowdy, Becky and Jake took the top 3 spots. In 8th grade UIL this year, Becky and Jake took the top two spots and Rowdy took 4th. Both years in UIL science, this trio has taken the number one team spot.

High School Biology:

- John Wilson – 5th place
- Other participating students included: Micah Hensley, Kyle Pinkerton, Shane Tarleton, Billy Roper, Garrett Chapman, and Andrew Lamming.

As far as the team score, Borden County placed 8th out

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Spring Break

March 10th - 14th

Holiday, March 7th

Classes will resume on
Monday, March 17th.



Richey gets one last hurrah

Coyote hoop coach to head up West's attack, again

By Dwight Heins
Lamesa Press-Reporter

After guiding Borden County's boys to their highly successful season, the Coyotes' Trey Richey recently found out he's going to get the chance to coach one more time before next season rolls around.

For the second time in the past eight years, Richey will be heading up the West's attack in this summer's annual Texas Six-Man Coaches Association's all-star games in Lubbock.

"Bobby (Avery) and I get the chance to do this one more time. We're just hoping we won't stunt anybody's growth or anything," Richey laughed.

Richey is no stranger to six-man all-star games. After playing in the six-man all-star football game in 1986 following his all-everything career at Jayton, Richey coached the West to a thrilling 126-102 victory in this game back in the summer of '95.

"That's the most points scored in one of these games," Richey recalled.

"It's hard to envision putting 126 points up again, but we are looking forward to working with some great athletes again and watching



Trey Richey
another all-star job

them get up and down the floor."

Richey and Avery also coached the West in the 2001 six-man all-star football game.

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Lamming ("Passerby/school-boy/Jailor"). Tyler Wallace also doubles as the "Watermelon Man/News-vendor."

Crew members for the play are sophomores Emily Mayes (Stage Manager), Garrett Chapman (Light Technician), Thelma Balague (Props/Costumes/Make-Up Mistress), and freshman Trey Soto (Sound Technician).

School Menu

Week Of: March 17th - 21st

MONDAY: Pizza, corn, okra, fruit & milk. **Breakfast:** Hot pocket, fruit juice & milk.

TUESDAY: Chicken Fried Steak, potatoes, green beans, hot rolls fruit & milk.

Breakfast: Cheese toast, fruit juice & milk.

WEDNESDAY: Chicken nuggets, green peas, potatoes, rolls, fruit, & milk.

Breakfast: Biscuit w/gravy, fruit juice & milk

THURSDAY: Fish, black-eye peas, potato salad, hush puppies, fruit & milk. **Breakfast:** Breakfast burrito, fruit juice, & milk.

FRIDAY: Cheeseburger, French fries, salad, cup, cookies, & milk **Breakfast:** Oatmeal, toast, fruit juice, & milk.

Darrin Ard directs the production.

The community performance for this year's production will be after the last advancing contest performance. Keep reading the *Borden Star* for updates.




Texas-Shootout

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of 29 teams in the state which entered. The three students who scores contributed to the team score were John Wilson, Micah Hensley and Kyle Pinkerton.

There were a total of 110 students entered state-wide in the biology contest. In the junior high contest, there were 159 total students involved state wide.

Hopefully, the team of rowdy, Becky and Jake can continue their success as they enter high school ranks next year.



Let Me Get My Hat!

By Dennis Poole,
Borden County CEA-Ag.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Court of Texas Cooperating.

San Angelo Results

Brandi and Mandi Hudson exhibited their meat goat projects at the San Angelo Stock Show. Brandi exhibited an 18th Place meat goat. Mandi showed her meat goat but did not place. Congratulations to these exhibitors!

Good luck to the exhibitors preparing their animals for

exhibition at Brenham, Rosenberg, and Houston. Thanks in advance to all of the persons who haul animals, equipment, and exhibitors.

This is a group effort and we appreciate everything that our 4-H and FFA animal project families do to help with this major stock show.

BORDEN COUNTY ISD SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTION INFORMATION

The trustee election for the Borden County Independent School District will take place on Saturday, May 3, 2003. Two positions will need to be filled during this election. As of the present time Mr. Mike Valentine, Mr. Tim Wilson, and Mr. Damon Shipp have filed an application for a place on the ballot. Interested candidates may obtain an application for a place on the ballot in the central office of the Borden County I.S.D. Other important school board election information is as follows:

- ◆ 3/04/03 First day to accept applications to vote early by mail
- ◆ 3/19/03 First day for early voting clerk to begin to mail early voting by mail ballots
- ◆ 3/19/03 5:00 p.m. deadline for filing a candidate application
- ◆ 3/24/03 5:00 p.m. deadline for filing a write-in declaration
- ◆ 4/16/03 First Day of early voting by personal appearance
- ◆ 4/3/03 Last day to register to vote for all Saturday, May 3, 2003 elections
- ◆ 4/25/03 Deadline for early voting clerk to receive applications for a ballot by mail
- ◆ 4/29/03 Last day of early voting by personal appearance
- ◆ 5/03/03 Election Day (polls open 7:a.m. to 7 p.m.)

High School & Jr. High Track Schedule 2003

February 27	JH	@ Dawson
March 1	JH & HS	@ O'Donnell
March 6	JH	@ Grady
March 7	HS	@ Grady
March 15	HS	@ Roby
March 20	JH	@ Sands
March 21	HS	@ Sands
March 27	JH - West Zone	@ Sands
March 29	HS	@ Dawson
April 3	HS - District	@ Dawson
April 11	HS - Area Qualifiers	@ Aspermont
April 17	HS - Area Track	@ Highland
April 25 & 26	HS - Reg Qualifiers	@ Abilene
May 9 & 10	HS - State Track	@ Austin

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National Agriculture Week Salute

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forestry and other agricultural products."

Combs kicked off National Agriculture Week in Texas by signing a proclamation and presenting a display at the state capitol that recognizes more than two centuries of Texas agriculture and the families that are part of that history. The display is a tribute to Texas' farm and ranch families who for generations have helped to cultivate the state's rich agricultural heritage. On Friday, March 21, she will wrap up National Agriculture Week by honoring more than 130 of those families during the 28th Annual Family Land Heritage Ceremony.

"It is easy for us to take for granted our agricultural abundance, which is why it is important that we recognize the rich legacy that makes this all possible," Combs said. "These are the people who have worked hard to build Texas agriculture into the second-largest industry in Texas. It is important that everyone is aware of their reliance upon farmers and ranchers whose stewardship ensures a substantial resource base for future generations."

From the Gulf coast to the Panhandle, Texas is the most agriculturally diverse state. Agriculture generates \$80 billion annually throughout the state's economy, with one out of every five Texans

working in an agriculture-related industry.

"Texas agriculture plays a major role in health and nutrition as well as in water conservation, rural economic development, global trade and the preservation of the environment," Combs said. "National Agriculture Week gives us a chance to recognize the people who consistently enrich our lives in so many ways.

"Whether you produce the food and fiber, prepare and deliver the finished products, or consume them" Combs said, "You are part of Texas' agriculture heritage and should take pride in that legacy."

Did you know . . .

- ❖ Texas is the second-largest agricultural state in the US, accounting for about 7 percent of the total U.S. agricultural income.
- ❖ Agriculture is the second-largest industry in the state and generates \$80 billion a year for the economy.
- ❖ Texas ranked first in the nation in 2001 with 130 million acres of farmland and 227,000 farms.
- ❖ Eighty percent of the land in Texas is in some form of agricultural production.

❖ The top five agricultural-producing counties are Deaf Smith, Castro, Harris, Erath and Parmer. The top two agricultural regions are the Panhandle and east Texas.

❖ Although agriculture employs one out of every five working Texans, less than 2 percent of the population is involved in day-to-day farming and ranching.

❖ Texas farmers grow more than 60 different commercial fruit and vegetable crops.

❖ Texas ranks first in the nation in the number of cattle and calves, accounting for 14 percent of the U.S. total. The Lone Star State also is the top producer of cotton, sheep, wool, goats, mohair and horses. The state's other top crops include vegetables, citrus, corn, wheat, peanuts, pecans, grain sorghum, hay and rice.

❖ Besides livestock and crops, the state's agriculture industry includes timber/forestry, aquaculture, bees/honey, and nursery/greenhouse.

❖ Texas is one of the leading exporters of agricultural commodities. Texas' top agricultural exports are live animals and meat; cotton and cottonseed; feed grains and products; hides and skins; wheat and

products; and feeds and fodder.

❖ Each Texas farmer grows enough food and fiber for 128 people – 94.3 in the United States and 33.7 abroad.

❖ Texas is a leader in organic cotton production with 6,872 acres planted in 2002.

❖ Texas' 1 million horses, representing approximately 15 percent of all horses nationwide, makes the state a leader in the United States. Texas also leads the nation in the number of registered American Quarter Horses, American Paint Horses, Appaloosa horses and American miniature horses.



Post Garza County Relay For Life will be having a team captain's meeting on Tuesday, March 25th at 5:00 p.m. in the Wells Fargo Bank Room in Post.

Anyone already signed up as well as those interested should attend.

For more information, please call Jana at 495-2804 or 495-2037.

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About Texas

March 3rd –

Texas Independence Day

The pledge of allegiance to the Texas state flag is:

"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one and indivisible."

According to The Handbook of Texas Online, "In 1933, the legislature passed a law establishing rules for the proper display of the flag and providing for a pledge to the flag: "Honor the Texas Flag of 1836; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one and indivisible." The pledge erroneously referred to the 1836 national flag, known as David G. Burnet's flag, instead of the Lone Star Flag. Senator Searcy Bracewell introduced a bill to correct this error in 1951, but the legislature did not delete words "of 1836" until 1965."

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Spring Break Time is finally here!

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traveling and at play.



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Texas Stories

A showcase of the Texas Spirit

Tumbleweed Smith

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Hunting in White

Curtis Bonner of Harlingen is a hunter. "I hunt to live and live to hunt," he says.

Three of his law school buddies taught him to hunt. His first deer hunt was near San Saba under a canvas tarp.

"I killed my first deer herein 1968."

He started bird hunting around Crystal City and fell in love with the sport. He says there's plenty of wildlife in the valley.

"We have mourning dove and white wing dove, deer, feral hogs and javelina. Some

of the ranches here have exotic game."

The white wing dove nests in the Rio Grande Valley and is a popular game bird. Curtis and his buddies hunt white wing dove in Mexico.

"One of them has a motor home. We have three Mexican guides. One is the driver, one is the bar tender and one is the cook. We spend six weekends in August and September somewhere between the border and 150 miles into Mexico."

Curtis says they get their limit of birds and return to the motor home where nachos and margaritas await them. While they enjoy the appetizers, the boys are preparing the birds for supper. Sounds like a good life.

"Every trip is unusual and gives us new experiences. We have a good time down there. Mexico is a beautiful country with wonderful people and abundant natural resources."

Curtis also hunts quail.

"One of my hunting buddies is an expert at calling quail. They'll get right up in the jeep with you. He just whistles, holding his mouth just right."

He starts deer hunting in October.

Although he doesn't do

much goose hunting these days, he appreciates the sport. A picture titled "Hunting in White" hangs on a wall in his law office.

"That's a technique developed around the Houston area. It involves laying a bunch of white rags on the ground in a pattern that resembles a flock of geese. You're dressed in white and you lie down while somebody's working the call. The geese flying overhead think it's a flock of geese down there and they come in just like those rags were decoys. It's very effective. I've hunted many times like that."

He says the hunters carry a couple of duffel bags full of white rags.

"It's a lot of fun to watch those geese come in and set

their legs in response to that call. It's some of the prettiest hunting I've ever done."

He hunts snow geese, but the white rags attract other types of geese as well.

"I have some photographs of a hunt several years ago when I had one of my children with us. We had limited out and we had some geese landing among the rags and I've got close-up photos of one of my buddies crawling on his knees trying to catch one of those geese. We've laughed a lot about that."

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Guard Against the Latest Scams

Whether it be fake cashier's checks, ATM skimming devices or a faith-based investment hoax, be alert to the latest scams being perpetrated on innocent victims.

Fraudulent Cashier's Checks

With new computer technology, crooks find it easy to produce almost perfect copies of checks from banks and other financial institutions.

Law enforcement agencies advise that you never accept a cashier's check from a stranger unless you call the bank that issued the check and verify not only the check number, but also to whom the check was issued. Even though the number on the cashier's check could be a copy of a real number, you want to make sure that the number is on a check that has been made to you.

Many crooks will try to give out fake cashier's checks for purchases on the weekend when banks are closed and you can't verify the check. Bogus cashier's checks are becoming a major scam for many people who choose to sell their cars directly to buyers through classified ads. A potential buyer may approach you on the weekend with a check that may bear an official-looking logo in the name of a local bank and have the term "cashier's check" printed across the top of the check. The seller will assume this is a very safe check. Remember, a bank would never issue a blank cashier's check and probably wouldn't issue a specific dollar amount if the sale is not done through normal retail channels. Do not part with the car until you have talked to the bank directly to verify the check. Additionally, don't depend on a "bank" phone number given to you by the purchaser. It could be the phone number to one of his partners involved with him in the scam. Check the number out in the phone book. If the buyer is reluctant to have the bank verify the funds, contact local law enforcement.

ATM Skimming Devices

A new problem, although not widespread, facing consumers and banks today is ATM skimming devices. These scams involve the use of one or more devices to record account and personal identification numbers (PINs) from your ATM card. The next thing you know, crooks are withdrawing money from your checking



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account. In some cases, skimming devices are placed on the card reader and the keypad without interfering with the operation of the ATM. Therefore, the customer receives his cash when making a withdrawal. In other cases, a non-functioning ATM is installed to capture cards and PINs. The con artists using skimming devices are not your petty thieves. They are part of a very sophisticated and competent organization.

The ATM industry is diligently working to protect ATM cards and assure the public that these cards are safe to use. With more than 360,000 ATMs nationwide, be aware as a consumer that if something doesn't look right at an ATM, don't use it. Go to another ATM.

Faith-Based Scams

It is estimated that more than 90,000 people nationwide have lost nearly \$2 billion to "faith-based" investment scams during the past three years.

According to state securities regulators, faith-based investment scams have risen dramatically. Con artists will use religion to promote their scams by using their interpretation of biblical prophecy to predict imminent financial or social crises. Some claim they will reinvest the money in a worthy cause.

Before making any such investment, check with your state securities regulator to see if this investment is licensed in your state. In Texas, you may log on to www.ssb.state.tx.us or call 512-305-8300. Additionally, make sure the seller has provided you with written information fully explaining the investment and verify this information with your local banker or financial advisor.

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