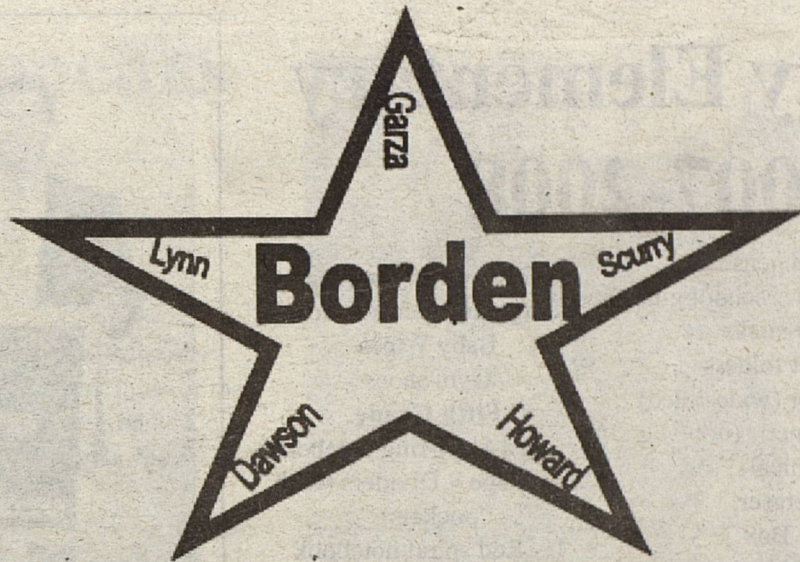


THE

Volume XXXV



STAR

August 15, 2007

Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry

BCISD "Recognized" by TEA

District Pleased With Annual Rating

The Borden County I.S.D. was recently ranked as "Recognized" by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in its annual school accountability ratings released on August 1st.

The "recognized" rating is the second highest that can be achieved by a school district and places the BCISD in the top 19.7% of districts in the state. The district is one of 214 out of 1222 statewide who were designated as "recognized" districts.

A lonely 27 school districts across the state received an "Exemplary" rating, the top ranking given by the TEA.

In order to receive the exemplary rating, a district must have a 90% pass rate in each of the five Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) tests, along with 90% pass rates in other ethnic and socio-economic divisions on each test. Drop-out rates and daily attendance averages are also factored into the ratings.

Borden County students performed extremely well on this past year's TAKS examinations and barely missed the exemplary rating overall.

The table below shows the BCISD percentages, along with comparisons to passing rates in the South Plains Region and across the state.

Compared to the 2005-2006 school year, TAKS pass percentages were also up overall for students in the BCISD.

Reading/English Language Arts, Writing, and Social Studies scores all maintained high percentages.

Mathematics scores improved from an 87% pass rate in 2006 to a 91% pass rate in 2007.

Science, a troublesome test both in the region and statewide,

saw even more improvement, rising from a 79% pass rate in 2006 to an 87% pass rate in 2007.

These improvements are a testament to the combined efforts of quality instructors, encouraging administrators, supportive parents, and willing students.

2007 TAKS Test Passing Rates

TAKS Test	BCISD 2007	Region	State	BCISD 2006
Reading/ELA	99%	90%	89%	98%
Writing	99%	93%	92%	99%
Social Studies	99%	90%	89%	98%
Mathematics	91%	78%	77%	87%
Science	87%	73%	71%	79%

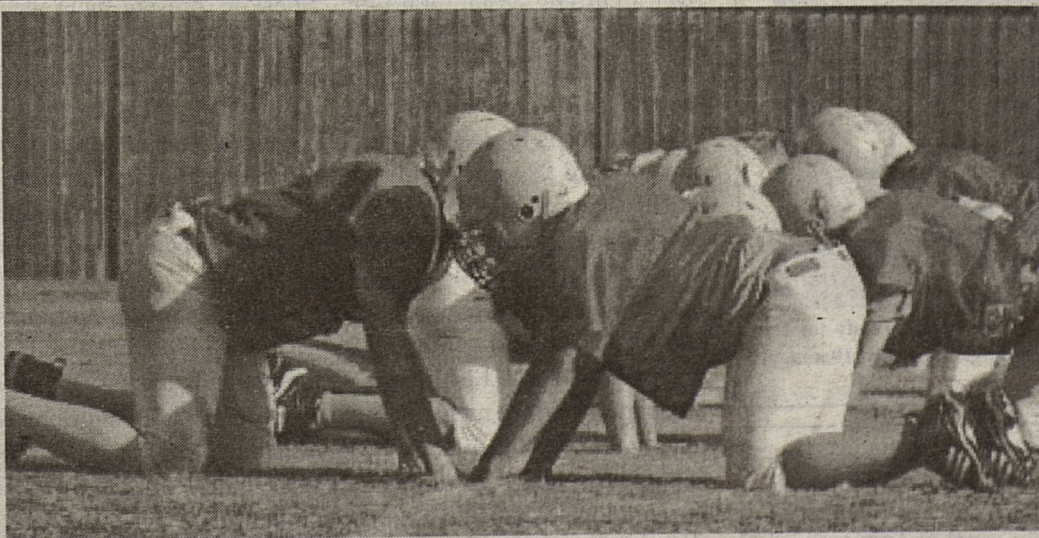
Borden County EMS Offers Fall Class in September

In a county the size of ours it is important that we have as many First Responders as possible. With this in mind Borden County EMS will be offering an ECA (Emergency Care Attendant) class this September. Classes will be held in Gail and there will be no charge.

As a certified ECA you will be able to perform basic first aid, CPR, help Paramedics and EMT's with their duties, and most importantly you will be able to drive an ambulance.

The strength of Borden County EMS has always been the giving spirit of our residents. Your county needs you at this time so please consider joining this class.

For more information you may contact Mike Valentine at 806/759-5045, Philena Farmer at 806/759-5055, Buddy Wallace at 806/756-4478, Bric Turner at 806/759-5033, Carrie Hart at 806/252-4469, or any Borden County EMS member.



Two-a-day practice sessions continue for the Borden County Coyotes in preparation for the 2007 football season. The Coyotes open the season on August 31 at 7:30 p.m. with New Home here. (Photo by Darrin Ard)

Borden County Elementary Supply Lists 2007-2008

Kindergarten

- Elmer's school glue (not paste)
- 2 - glue sticks
- 2 - Boxes of 16 crayons
- Scissors (Fiskars for kids)
- 4 - #2 pencils
- 2 - Folders (with pockets)
- Big eraser
- Supply box (cigar box size)
- Towel for nap time
- Baby wipes/wet wipes (2 boxes)
- 1 box - Kleenex
- Gym shoes

First Grade

- 2 - Boxes of 16 crayons
- 5 - #2 pencils
- Supply box

- Scissors (Fiskars for kids)
- 2 medium-sized bottles - Elmer's school glue
- 2 - Glue sticks
- 1 - One-subject spiral notebook (wide-ruled)
- Large box of baby wipes
- 2 boxes - Kleenex
- Gym shoes

Second Grade

- 12 - #2 pencils
- 2 - Red grading pencils
- Crayons
- Colored pencils

- 1 bottle - Elmer's school glue
- 2 - Glue sticks

- Notebook paper (wide-ruled)
- Scissors
- Eraser
- Ruler

- Small supply box

- 1 - Red pocket folder (no brads)

- 1 - Pocket folder of choice (no brads)

- 1 - Wide-ruled spiral notebook

- 1 box - Kleenex
- Gym Shoes

Third Grade

- 1 - Wide-ruled spiral notebook

- 300 - 3x5 Index cards

- 1 - Ruler (metric & standard)

- 4 - Red pens
- 1 bottle - Elmer's school glue
- 2 - Glue sticks
- 2 - Pocket folders
- Notebook paper (wide-ruled)

- 24 - #2 pencils (not mechanical)

- Large eraser

- Supply Box

- Crayons

- Colored pencils

- Scissors

- 1 box - Kleenex

- 2 large boxes - Baby Wipes

- Gym shoes

NO NOTEBOOKS, PLEASE!

Fourth Grade

- Crayons

- 1 box - #2 pencils

- 3 - Red grading pens

- 3 - Pocket folders (no brads)
- Notebook paper (wide-ruled)

- 1 - Ruler (metric and standard)

- 2 - Glue Sticks

- 1 - Eraser

- Scissors

- 1 bottle - Elmer's school glue

- 1 pkg. - 3x5 lined index cards

- 2 boxes - Kleenex

- 1 Large, inexpensive box - Baby Wipes
- Gym shoes

Fifth Grade

- 1 - Red 1 1/2 3-ring notebook
- 1 package - Dividers (with pockets)

- 1 - Red spiral notebook (wide-ruled)

- 1 - Red folder with pockets
- 2 pkgs. - Notebook paper (wide-ruled only!)

- 1 box - #2 pencils

- Red grading pens

- 1 - Large glue sticks

- 1 - 8 oz. bottle of Elmer's school glue

- 1 box - 36 colored pencils
- 1 box - 10 crayola markers (broad tip)

- 1 pkg. - 10 crayola washable markers (super tip)

- 1 - Ruler (metric and standard)

- Scissors

- 1 pkg. - Highlighters (green, blue, yellow, orange, & pink)

- 2 large boxes - Kleenex

- 1 - Supply box



Kate Wallace (center) placed 2nd in the Texas FFA Extemporaneous Speaking Contest at the 79th Annual Texas FFA Convention. She is congratulated by her parents Buddy (left) and Kip (right) Wallace.

Wallace Earns 2nd at FFA Contest

Kate Wallace, of the Gail FFA chapter, placed 2nd in the Texas FFA Extemporaneous Speaking Contest at the 79th Annual Texas FFA Convention held July 10-13, at the American Bank Center in Corpus Christi, Texas.

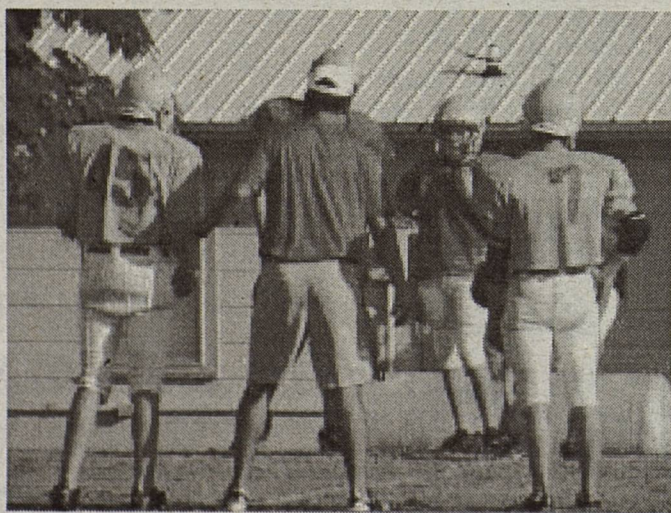
To qualify for the state competition, Wallace had to place in the top two at the Area II Extemporaneous Speaking Contest in May. Kate placed first in the Area competition and advanced to state and a strong 2nd place finish, making her one of the best in Texas.

Participants prepare and present a four to six minute speech over a current agricultural topic. Speakers present their speech before a panel of judges followed by a series of questions designed to test the student's knowledge of the chosen subject matter.

Wallace was blessed with another success as she recently received word that due to the first place speaker being unable to attend, she will represent Texas in National Speaking Contest. This event will take place next October at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis Indiana.

Throughout the week, a total of 10,321 members and guests registered at the convention, setting a new convention attendance record. The Texas FFA is one of the nation's largest state FFA associations with a membership of more than 62,000 and approximately 985 FFA chapters, FFA gives student soothe opportunity to apply practical classroom knowledge to real world experiences through local, state and national competitions.

For more information about the Texas FFA Associations visit www.texasffa.org.



Borden County Coyotes practice this week getting ready for the 2007 football season. The team has a scrimmage Saturday, 10 a.m. at Ropesville.

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Area Grid Coaches Get Good First Impression

Reprinted by permission of the Lamesa Press-Reporter

This season marks the beginning of new eras in three of the area's five high school football programs as the Klondike Cougars, Borden County Coyotes and O'Donnell Eagles each welcome new head grid coaches in 2007.

At O'Donnell, Eagle new head coach Kevin Sherrill knows his troops will be battling the numbers' game in 2007 with only 27 out for high school football in a tough 11-man district.

"Our kids have been working hard, but we've been working them pretty hard, too," Sherrill said. "We don't have much depth and, with that in mind, we know that conditioning's going to have to precede everything we do. We're going to have to have everybody in tip top shape."

"With only 27 out, we know that the numbers won't be there to probably even carry a JV this year, but we feel like we've got some quality in the ones we do have out."

Any new program means plenty of learning and transition.

The Klondike Cougars are no exception, according to their new head coach Brad Cox who has nine out for football.

"They're learning what we want and we've also been learning what some of these kids can do, too," Cox said.

"Anytime you're bringing in a new program, you're always going to have a change in terminology. Overall, our kids seem excited about what we're doing and I'm excited, too."

"Right now, it's all about taking those little steps you've got to take." After being the defensive coordinator for Gail for 14 years, Trey Richey now finds himself calling the shots for the Borden County Coyotes as their new head coach.

"We've seen Coach (Bobby) Avery pull enough rabbits out of his hat, so hopefully we learned some things from his to where we'll be able to do the same," said Richey, who welcomed 20 out for football.

"We've been very pleased with these kids' efforts. They've been responding pretty well. They've really been getting after it and working hard."

Richey believes the assistance that he will be getting from his three assistants: Peter Benavidez, Fernando Baeza and Bric Turner will help smooth out that transition.

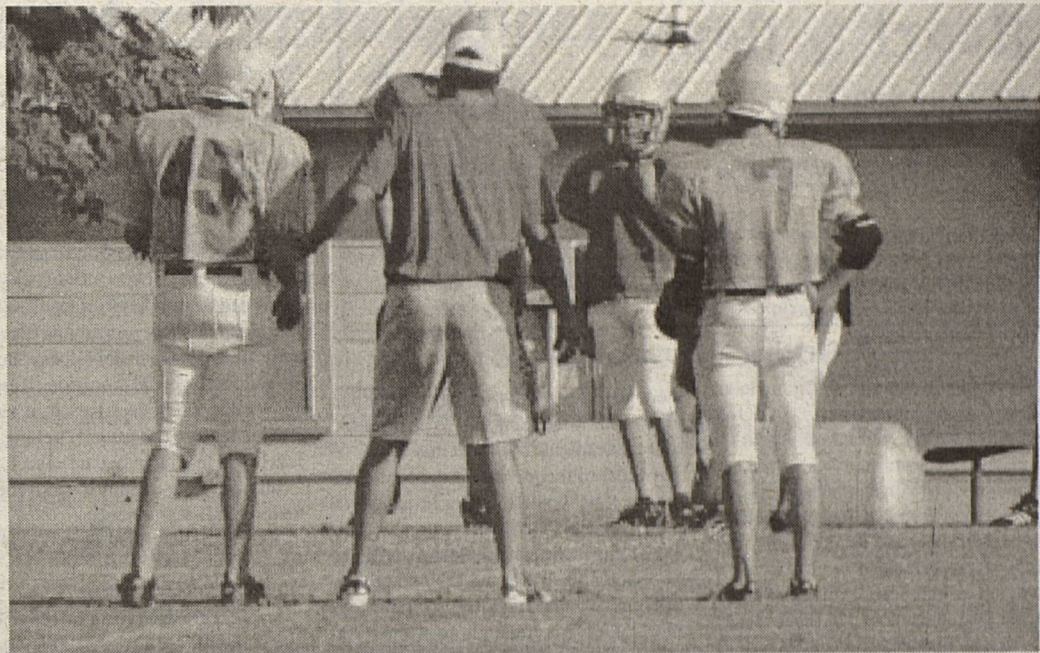
"It's going to be a little different without Coach Avery around. It's a matter of everybody getting used to our new roles," Richey said.

"We couldn't want three better assistants than the ones we've got. Between the four of us, we'll be trying to keep up with what Coach Avery built out here. Hopefully, we'll be able to keep this boat going in the right direction."

While Wayne Henderson will be back at Ackerly as Sands' new head football coach, he will be looking at primarily a brand new cast of varsity players.

"We're going to be real young. We're talking about a bunch of freshmen and sophomores," Henderson said. "Our main deal right now is being positive and patient."

Like Borden County, Sands also had 20 out for football.



"We realize that as young as we are we're going to make some mistakes, but each and every day we've been seeing these kids getting better," Henderson said. "These kids have been coming with good attitudes every day to practice, which always helps."

Jesus Gomez is not only the lone returning starter from last year's Sands varsity squad, he is also their lone returning varsity player, period.

"The rest of these kids either played JV or junior high ball for us last year," Henderson said. "We don't have much experience back at this level and it's a big transition. Everything not only goes so much quicker, but you've also got to read your keys a lot faster."

Dawson head coach Brad Bell is looking at some very familiar faces in his club at Welch as he starts his fourth year with the Dragons. Bell welcomes back 11 returning lettermen, including all six starters on both sides of the ball.

"We've got some good skilled kids back in that experience, including two quarterbacks, four running backs and most of our linemen can catch the ball pretty well, too, so we feel pretty good about what we've got," Bell said.

"Our kids have got higher expectations and they've really been getting after it. Anytime your kids know that they've got a chance it always seems to help out a bunch."

All five area high school football teams will have their first scrimmages next Saturday as O'Donnell scrimmages at Coahoma, Klondike at Grady, Borden County at Ropes and Sands at Hermleigh, while Dawson will host Wilson at Welch.

"We're hoping to see as few mistakes as possible," Sherrill said of his Eagles' tune-up.

"We're also hoping to see some of the things that we've been teaching to these kids soaking in."

Next Saturday's first scrimmage is a homecoming of sorts for Klondike's Coach Cox who happens to be a 1997 Grady High School graduate.

Four out of the five will open their seasons on Aug. 31 as O'Donnell will play host to Crosbyton, Klondike will open up at Guthrie, Borden County will host New Home, and Dawson will play host to Loraine in their 2007 opener.

The Sands Mustangs will not kick off their season until Sept. 1, when they will take on Spur in Jayton's Gridiron Classic.

Coaches spend some time teaching Coyote players tips and techniques during two-a-day practices this week. (Photo by Dennis Auld)

Got News?

Mail it to:

P.O. Box 137
Gail, TX 79738
806/756-4313
ext. 275
email:
kdean@bcisd.net



A lazy farmhand fell off a tractor and was rushed to the hospital.

After an examination the doctor said, "Here's some bad news. You won't be able to work for six months."

"Thanks," said the man. "Now what's the bad news?"

But work isn't bad for us. It's good. The daily grind of work gives us polish!

God isn't a lazy God but a laboring God. The Bible opens with God working, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

He's still working. Our Lord said, "My Father is always at work and I am working."

It's ungodlike not to work if you can work.

Ag News

Dawson County Farm Tour & Agriculture Appreciation Day Slated for August 27th

The annual Dawson County Farm Tour and Agriculture Appreciation Day is scheduled for Monday, August 27, 2007. Beginning at 7:30 a.m. participants are invited for coffee and donuts, provided by Mesa Underground Water Conservation District, at the Dawson County Community Building, South 8th and Houston Avenue, Lamesa. Transportation will be provided by TNM&O. Loading buses will begin at 8:00 a.m. and will leave the building at 8:05 a.m.

Points of interest on the tour include Ag-Cares Research Farm and the Cotton Classing Office.

Speakers for this tour will be Dr. Wayne Keeling, System Agronomy-Weed Science; Dr. Randy Boman, Extension Agronomist-Cotton; Dr. Terry Wheeler - Soilborne Plant Pathology; Mr. Jim Bordovsky, Extension Ag Engineer - Irrigation; Dr. Calvin Trostle, Extension Agronomist; Dr. Peter Dotray, Weed Scientist; Jeff Wyatt, County Extension Agent - Agriculture and Tommy Doederlein, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest

Management.

At noon participants will return to the Community Building for an awards program which will recognize "Farm Cooperator Awards".

A catered meal will be served and a number of door prizes will be presented during lunch for persons who participated in the bus tour.

After lunch participants will return to Ag-Cares for a Dryland Tour.

Private applicators will receive three continuing education units (2 General; 1 IPM) for attending the Farm Tour.

If interested in participating in the Farm Tour, please R.S.V.P. by Thursday, August 23, 2007 to 806/872-3444. We need a head count for lunch.

We will seek to accommodate all persons with disabilities for this tour. Please contact Jeff Wyatt at the Dawson County Extension Office, 806/872-3444, of the Texas Cooperative Extension as soon as possible to advise of auxiliary and/or service needed.

Texas Ag Commissioner at Precision Ag Expo

Scheduled for September 6, 2007 in Plainview, Texas

Todd Staples, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, will attend and make introductory remarks at the Precision Ag Expo that will be held September 6, at the Ollie Liner Center in Plainview. The Expo is sponsored by the Texas Plant Protection Association (TPPA) and co-sponsored by USDA, ARS, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Cooperative Extension, New Mexico State University, Texas Tech University, West Texas A & M University, International Plant Nutrition Institute, National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants and the

Texas Farm Bureau Texas Agriculture publication.

The Precision Ag Expo will be a day-long event that will begin at 8 AM. The Expo agenda will include both classroom style presentations and "hands-on" demonstrations and discussions in the field. This will be great opportunity for all involved in farming to learn about the latest precision ag practices and products from those that are leaders in working with this new technology.

After the Commissioner of Agriculture, presents the "Welcome", the program that follows will include the presentations and field demonstrations.

An outstanding program has been developed. The following is some of (Continued on Page 6)

Have a Great Summer!

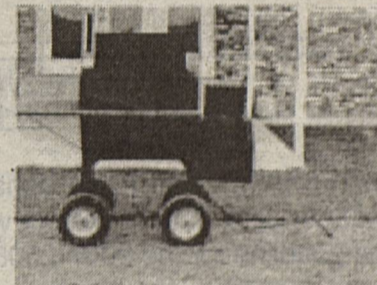
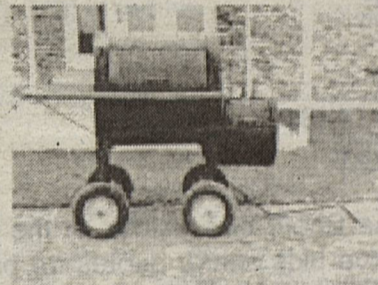


Moore-Rains Insurance
Frances Rains Stephens

O'Donnell
806/428-3335

Buy your chance to win a... B-B-Q Pit with Smoker

custom made by Roscoe Massingill



Proceeds to benefit: Borden County Jr. Livestock Association

Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20

Please see any BCJLA Director for tickets.

**Drawing to be held at the Coyote Opry
on Saturday, September 22, 2007
at the Borden County Show Barn in Gail.
*You do not have to be present to win!***

We would like to thank Borden County EMS for arriving quickly and taking care of Matthew. Also, thanks to all those who called and stopped by to check on him.

Sincerely, Robert and Arica Proulx

LOOKING FOR WORK

Will babysit, iron, or clean house. Call Shylo at 756-4323.



Branon Funeral Home

"Serving this area since 1922"

Phone
806/872-8335

403 N. Austin
Lamesa, Texas

Ag Expo

(Continued from Page 5)

the planned program:

* **Why consider Precision Ag?** Basic overview of Precision Ag and the benefits it could offer West Texas farmers. - Olan Moore, High

Plains Consulting, Springlake, TX

* **Guidance Systems:** What can it do for my farming operation? What are the benefits? How to maximize the system? How to choose a system? How much does a system cost? (Opportunity to view various guidance systems during the afternoon demonstrations). - Jarred Karnei, AMS Re-

gional Specialist, John Deere

* **Using Monitors to Improve Efficiency:** Using monitors for planting seed, fertilizer, herbicides, etc. Can they improve the efficiency of your farming operation? - Trent Murphree, Precision Ag. Specialist, Raven Industries

* **Irrigation Management,**

Including Irrigation Scheduling System and Variable Rate Irrigation (Drip & Center Pivot) - based on soil temperature and soil moisture as well as plant stress. - James R. Mahan Ph.D., Plant Physiologist, USDA/ARS Plant Stress and Water Conservation Laboratory, Lubbock, TX

* **Methods of Measuring Soil & Crop Variability's:** Discussion on using the Soil Conductivity Equipment, Aerial Imaging and Sprayer Mounted Remote-Sensing. Benefits and use of each to maximize crop inputs and improve profits. - Dr. Subbarao Yarlagadda, National Agronomist, Helena Chemical Co., Collierville, TN

* **Data Collection & Management** (Consultants, agribusiness, Farmers) How is the data collected? Who manages the data? Who makes recommendation using the data? How do we measure the economics of the systems? - Dr. David Waits, President & CEO, SST Development Group, Inc., Stillwater, OK

* **Putting it all together-**Can Precision Ag work on West Texas Farms to increase profits and reduce risk? - Eddie Griffs, Lubbock area Farmer & Radio Farm Broadcaster

* **What Precision Ag does for me on my farm?** (3 farmers to

discuss how to get started in Precision Ag and some of their experiences with precision ag)

* **Field Demonstrations & Visit Displays** - Michael Dolle, Hale County Extension Agent, Field Committee Chairman

Guidance Systems Demonstrations
Soil Electricity Conductivity Demonstrations

Strip-Till Demonstrations
Variable Rate Technology & Aerial Imaging

Many precision ag firms and other agribusinesses will participate in the Expo and will have both equipment displays and other exhibits. Many of the precision ag firms will also be demonstrating their equipment in a field near the Liner Center.

Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) will be offered during the Expo for Texas Department of Agriculture Commercial Pesticide Applicator License and for Certified Crop Advisers.

Registration and other information can be found on the TPPA website <http://tpa.tamu.edu/pac/2007/> or contact Bob Sasser, TPPA Executive Director, at (936) 539-2349. or by e-mail at TPPA@consolidated.net. For more information, please contact Cody G. Hill, Borden County Extension Agent at (806) 756-4336.

COUNTY OF BORDEN

STATE OF TEXAS

LEGAL NOTICE

The Commissioners' Court of Borden County will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for Borden County for 2007 beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 28, 2007 at the Courthouse in Gail, Texas.

A summary of the proposed Borden County budget is as follows:

- Jury Fund - \$1,600
- General Fund - \$1,004,566
- Road & Bridge Fund - \$819,900
- Permanent Improvement Fund - \$55,000

Any interested person is invited to attend and present oral or written comments. The proposed budget may be examined at the office of the County Clerk or the County Judge.

The proposed tax rate for 2007 is .26784 per \$100.00 valuation. Last years tax rate was .27 per \$100.00 valuation

BY ORDER OF THE BORDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Van L. York
County Judge
Borden County

BORDEN COUNTY ISD BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids and/or quotes for propane, diesel, and gasoline for the 2007-2008 school year.

Proposals shall be addressed to Jimmy Thomas; Borden County Independent School District; Box 95; Gail, Texas 79738, and shall be delivered in a sealed envelope marked appropriately as "Propane Bid" and/or "Gasoline/Diesel Bid". Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, August 16, 2007. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and selected by the Board of Trustees or its designee as appropriate. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees or its designee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposed bids, to waive any and all technicalities, and to accept the proposal that will best serve the needs of the District.

Questions regarding bid specifications and additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address; by e-mail to jthomas@bcisd.net; or by calling 806/756-4313. Transmissions by fax may be sent to 806/756-4310.

By Order of the Board of Trustees
Borden County Independent School District
Mike Valentine, Secretary

USDA Issues First Survey-based production Estimate

The season's first USDA production estimate based on in-field surveys shows the 2007 crop is within striking distance of the four million bale mark for the fourth straight season, and adds support to the cautiously optimistic stance many growers are taking on this year's High Plains cotton crop.

According to the numbers released for Texas Agricultural Statistics Service (TASS) crop reporting districts 1-N and 1-S, the High Plains has the potential to produce 3.95 million bales of cotton from as estimated 2.99 million harvested acres. Projected yield per acre across the region is pegged at 634 pounds per acre.

Nationally USDA forecasts All Cotton production in the United States at 17.137 million bales and Upland Cotton production at 16.5 million bales. USDA estimates Texas will produce 6.1 million bales of Upland cotton in 2007.

This year's initial High Plains cotton production forecast is 3.95 million bales, a slim 100,000 bales shy of the area's 2006 production level of 4.05 million bales.

In the August 10 report, TASS also made slight revisions to the area's planted and harvested acreage figures that were released June 30. According to the latest figures, the High Plains region appears to have planted 3.2 million acres of cotton and is projected to harvest 2.99 million acres. This provides a current abandonment estimate of right at 210,000 acres, or 6.5 percent.

The High Plains region's estimated 3.2 million planted acres is a 17.5 percent decrease in cotton acreage from the 3.89 million acres planted to the crop in 2006. This year's initial 3.2 million cotton acres is also the lowest number of acres initially planted to cotton in the region since the early 1990s.

Breaking the USDA Crop Report for Texas down to the district level shows that district 1-N counties planted 600,000 acres, down 40 percent from 2006 plantings of 994,700 acres. Harvested acres in district 1-N are forecast to be 10 percent below plantings at 540,000 acres.

Yield-wise the northern High Plains crop appears to be down somewhat as well compared to last year with field surveys indicating potential yield at 796 pounds per acre, 93 pounds below 2006's average yield of 889 pounds.

It should be no surprise that most of the projected production decline in this

(Continued on Page 7)

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First Survey

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area is attributable to the shifting of a significant amount of the area's better, irrigated land to grain crops and the slow start many fields experienced. Despite the acreage shifts and delays, total production in district 1-N is forecast at a respectable 895,000 bales.

Looking south, cotton producers in district 1-S planted 2.6 million acres according to TASS, an increase of 110,000 acres from USDA's June Planted Acreage Report. The 2007 planted acreage figure is 283,000 acres less than the area 1-S producers planted to cotton in 2006, a decrease of 10 percent.

Based on the revised acreage forecast, this month's report indicates harvested acres in 1-S will total 2.45 million, a difference of 150,000 acres or 5.7 percent. District acres in 1-S yields are forecast at 599 pounds per acre, slightly below the 637 pounds per harvested acre achieved in 2006.

Taking into account the improved

moisture situation in the majority of the 1-S production region and the continuation of favorable weather conditions, district 1-S yields appear to have the potential rise to 2006 levels with just a little help from Mother Nature.

As noted in recent weeks through a variety of sources, the 2007 crop has the potential to provide another outstanding result for High Plains cotton producers. Summer-like conditions punctuated by one or two seasonal rainfall events are the key to pushing the 2007 crop over and above USDA's current forecast.

Whether the region's prospects increase or diminish are, as usual, dependent on the weather and the pattern that establishes itself between now and late September.

This week's USDA Crop Production report verifies why there is a lot to optimistic about regarding the 2007 crop and sets the stage for measuring its progress from this point forward.



NOTICE: Texas Local Government Code

Sec. 152.013. PROCEDURE FOR SETTING AMOUNTS FOR ELECTED OFFICERS

- (c) Each year the commissioners court shall set the salary, expenses, and other allowances of elected county or precinct officers. The commissioners court shall set the items at a regular meeting of the court during the regular budget hearing and adoption proceedings.
- (d) Before the 10th day before the date of the meeting, the commissioners court must publish in a newspaper of general circulation a notice of:
- (1) any salaries, expenses, or allowances that are proposed to be increased;
 - (2) the amount of the proposed increase.

OFFICE	2008 PROPOSED 5% ANNUAL COST OF LIVING INCREASE		2008 ANNUAL	
	AMOUNT PROPOSED SALARY	INCREASE	AMOUNT TRAVEL ALLOWANCE	INCREASE
COUNTY JUDGE	\$29,480	\$1,405	\$1,800	\$0
(+ \$15,000 STATE SUPPLEMENT)				
COMMISSIONER, PRT#1	\$22,161	\$1,055	\$3,395	\$125
COMMISSIONER, PRT#2	\$22,161	\$1,055	\$3,395	\$125
COMMISSIONER, PRT#3	\$22,161	\$1,055	\$3,395	\$125
COMMISSIONER, PRT#4	\$22,161	\$1,055	\$3,395	\$125
SHERIFF	\$33,236	\$1,583	\$3,000	\$1,500
COUNTY TREASURER	\$30,588	\$1,456	\$3,000	\$1,200
DIST/COUNTY CLERK	\$30,588	\$1,456	\$2,500	\$300
JUSTICE OF PEACE \$9,135	\$ 435	\$800		\$0
COUNTY ATTORNEY	\$31,250	0	0	0
(STATE SUPPLEMENT \$31,250)				

50-280 (Rev. 6-06/2)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Borden County Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 P.M. August 28, 2007 in the Borden County I.S.D. Cafeteria Gail, Texas. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax \$ 1.03362 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
 School Debt Service Tax Approved by Local Voters \$ 0 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations .039 % increase or _____ % (decrease)
 Debt service 0 % increase or _____ % (decrease)
 Total expenditures .039 % increase or _____ % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 720,181,549.00	\$ 890,814,242.00
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$ 382,312.00	\$ 311,200.00
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 620,093,062.00	\$ 685,746,203.00
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 367,312.00	\$ 311,200.00

- * "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
- ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
- *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 0

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.31680	\$ 0	\$ 1.31680	\$ 20,703.00	\$ 3,385.00
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.99207	\$ 0	\$ 0.99207	\$ 8,102.00	\$ 10,047.00
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.03362	\$ 0	\$ 1.03362	\$ 8,440.00	\$ 9,838.00

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 15,674.00	\$ 17,550.00
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 10,616.00	\$ 9,123.00
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.3168	\$ 1.03362
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 139.79	\$ 94.30
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ -45.49

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.03362. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.03362.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 10,146,910.00
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0

Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith
 Part owner of Texas

A WEEKEND IN SANTA FE

My friend Bill Murchison called and said he was going to Santa Fe for Bill Worrell's new showing of his 2007 artwork. Looking for any excuse to go to Northern New Mexico, I said we would go, too. The area around Santa Fe has always fascinated me. There is something about the sky, the old ruins and the mountains that make it a mystical place.

We took highway 3 off Interstate 40 and headed north. It is a small, two-lane road that has steep grades up and down, following the natural features of the valleys and hills. We passed through stretches of pastureland and small towns that had colorful houses with hollyhocks blooming in front of them. We bought peaches, cherries and melons at fruit stands along the way.

We met Bill Murchison at the Holiday Inn. We were pleasantly surprised at our room, which was spacious, well decorated, comfortable and had a wonderful bed. We went downtown and walked around the plaza for an hour or so, then went to the Frank Howell gallery for Worrell's opening. We spent the rest of the evening doing the things I love to do in Santa Fe: visit with friends and go to Vanessie's to hear some good

music. I made arrangements to interview Bill Worrell the next morning at his place on Upper Canyon Road. Bill also has a home and studio at New Art, near Mason, Texas.

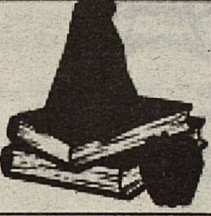
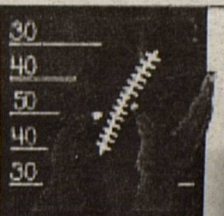
I've known Worell for sometime. He is one interesting character. He and Murchison took a canoe trip down the lower Pecos river years ago and were forced to take refuge in a cave because of heavy rain. Worrell saw some pictographs on the walls of the cave and his life was forever changed. He spent the next seven years studying pictographs, petroglyphs and rock art all over the world. The result is some striking sculptures of ancient Shaman. His 10-foot sculpture in front of the Frank Howell gallery just off the plaza in Santa Fe is one of the most photographed objects in the country.

Worrell is always thinking. He keeps a journal with him all the time. If he sees something at a restaurant that intrigues him, he'll get out his pen and write something. Or he might ask for crayons and do a drawing or design. If he stacks all the journals he has kept over the years, the stack would be taller than he is.

Bill Worrell not only sculpts. He also paints. He's also a musician and has 2 CD's of songs he has written and performed, with friends like Brooks & Dunn, Jay Boy Adams, Jessie Colter and Lloyd Maines doing backup. He has lots of famous friends. Some of them, like Robert Redford, visit him at New Art.

Bill must love hands. Both his residences have handprints of some of his special visitors. They are in several colors and are fun to look at. He has his visitors sign their name by their handprint. When we concluded the interview, he asked me to put my handprint on a doorway wall. I was flattered. He painted my palm with orange acrylic then pressed my hand firmly against the wall. I considered it a real privilege to do that.



 <h1 style="text-align: center;">August 2007</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">(Updated)</p> 						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Physicals (6 th - 12 th) - Depart Gail 8:00 a.m.
5	6 Two-A-Days start 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. (future schedule will be discussed)	7	8 4-H Fun Day 1:00-4:00 @ Show Barn (K-3 rd)	9 4-H Food and Clothing Tours in Lubbock	10 ACT registration deadline for September 15 th administration	11
12	13 4-H Officer Training in Lubbock from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.	14 CPR Training	15 Registration 9:00-5:00	16 Registration 9:00-5:00	17 Registration 9:00-5:00	18 Varsity Football Scrimmage @ Ropes 10:00 a.m.
19	20 4-H Achievement Picnic @ 7:00 p.m. Show Barn	21	22 Staff Development	23 Staff Development "Saving the Fruits of Summer Program" 6:00-8:00 p.m. @ Comm. Room Varsity Football Scrimmage @ Trent 6:00 p.m.	24 Work Day	25
26	27 First Day of School Issue books No schedule changes	28 Teacher request for textbooks due to Principal	29	30	31 New Home Varsity Here 7:30 Staff return paperwork to Superintendent's office	