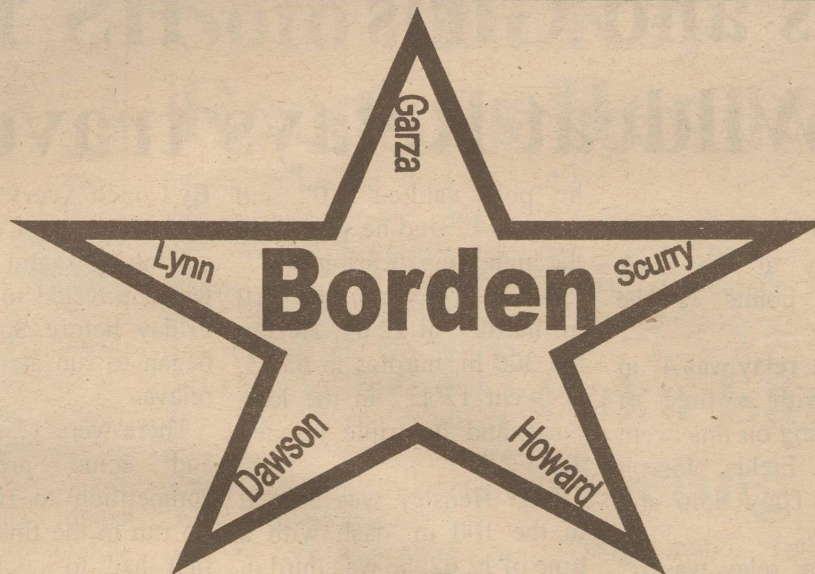


THE

Volume XXXV



STAR

March 21st, 2007

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

U. I. L. EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE
THROUGH COMPETITION



GOLD RUSH

Borden Co. CX Debate Wins Again

For the fourth time in the past five years, Borden High School has won the State UIL Cross-Ex debate title.

Senior Rowdy Clary and Rachel Wilson, who won the silver medal in 2006, dropped only one ballot out of sixteen at the State Meet, held on the University of Texas campus March 12-13.

Clary and Wilson went through the four preliminary rounds on Monday with a 4-0 record. Wins came against Overton, Hull-

Daisetta, Tolar, and Sudan.

For Tuesday's out rounds—which consist of the sixteen remaining schools—BHS defeated Thorndale's A team on a 3-0 affirmative ballot to advance to the quarterfinal round.

Thorndale, the school who won the gold medal last year against Clary and Wilson, had another team advance. BHS faced this second qualifying team in the quarterfinal round, winning another unanimous

Lights! Camera! Action!

BHS OAP Zone Contest Set For This Thursday

The Borden County High School One-Act Play production of Bertolt Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* will take the stage for the first time this Thursday, March 22nd, 2007, in the District 9-A, Zone 1 Contest.

The performance will be the final production of six plays in the Zone 1 Contest, which is being hosted by the Borden County I.S.D. Performances will begin at 3:00 p.m. on March 22nd with Hermleigh High

School's production of *Amber Waves*.

Plays will follow on the hour with productions by Highland H.S. (*Mariner*), Ira H.S. (*Her Senior Year*), Westbrook H.S. (*Dear Papa*), Loraine H.S. (*John Lennon & Me*), and Borden County.

Contest hosts suggest arriving at least fifteen minutes prior to show times. The BHS production should take the stage around 8:00 p.m.

The top two plays chosen by the critic judge will advance to the District 9-A OAP Contest set for Thursday, March 29th, at Bronte High School.

Bertolt Brecht, a German who was writing in exile in the U.S. during World War II, wrote the Borden County play – *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. The story tells an ancient tale of Chinese folklore and mirrors a Biblical story of King Solomon.

During a time of political upheaval and rebellion in the Caucasus Mountains (thus the term "Caucasian"),

Governor Georgi Abashwili (senior Rowdy Clary) is forced out of office. His wife, Natella Abashwili (senior Lindsey Stamper), flees the city of Nuka, mistakenly abandoning her young baby, Michael.

Grusha Vashnadze (senior Becky Dobyms), a kitchen maid in the Governor's court, rescues the abandoned child and seeks to keep it safe from the rebel Ironshirts. In doing so, she leaves behind her beloved soldier Simon Shashava (senior Clint Chapman).

Through a series of misadventures, Grusha adopts Michael as her own child.

When the rebellion ends several years later, the Governor's wife returns to power and seeks to renew her motherhood of Michael. Grusha does not want to relinquish him, so she is forced to appear in court.

The child's true motherhood is thus determined through the ancient test of a chalk circle as carried out by the judge

3-0 decision. The win was particularly gratifying as the second Thorndale team had their teammates' notes from the octafinal round, a big advantage in ex debate.

Advancing to the semifinals, BHS went up against Meridian and won a 2-1 split decision.

Debating affirmative once more in the championship round, Clary and Wilson won the gold medal on a 3-0 panel vote against Lindsey.

Cont. to pg. 3

Cont. to pg. 3

Jr. High Boys and Girls HS Track teams Compete in Wildcat Relays travel to Grady

By Coach Avery

The Junior High girls and boys track teams ran at the Grady Wildcat relays last Thursday and had a very good evening to run in. The girls scored 44 points in the meet but the highlight of the meet came when the mile relay team broke five minutes and won the event. They officially ran a 4:56.17, the first leg was Stefanie Cooley who ran a 73.61, then Phyneshia Rutherford ran her leg in 73.21, Krista Tarleton then ran a 76.75 and Bailey Anderson added to the lead she was given by running a 74.02. These girls have brought their times down considerably since the first track meet and are getting pretty hard to beat in this event.

Another highlight of the meet had to be Stefanie Cooley run the 400 meter dash in 75.05. Stefanie ran 2nd in this event and for a seventh grader is a pretty good accomplishment. Stefanie also participated in the shot put but barely missed getting a mark.

The 800 m. relay was 5th with a time of 2:09.69, running on this relay was Stefanie Cooley, Phyneshia Rutherford, Krista Tarleton and Bailey Anderson.

Kerianne Howard ran the 400 m. dash in 87.7 and she ran the 200 m. dash 37.31.

Krista Tarleton ran the 200 m. dash in 33.44, she was second in the high jump clearing 4'4" and she was 5th in the long jump with 12'7.5".

Phyneshia Rutherford ran the 100 m. dash in 15.22, she long jumped 11'9" and she was 6th in the triple jump with a distance of 26'3.5".

Bailey Anderson was 6th in the 100 m. dash with a time

of 14.58.

The Junior High boys had a good day at the track scoring 55 points in the meet.

The 400 m. relay was 4th in the meet with a time of 57.81. Running on this event was Austin Fields, Joseph McConnell, Tony Soto and John Hensley.

The 800 m. relay was 6th and ran a 2:10.42. Running on this relay was Austin Fields, Austin Tyler, Blake Turner and Chance Taylor.

The 1600 m. relay was 6th with a time of 4:45.19. Running on this relay was Joseph McConnell, Derek Tatum, Tony Soto and David Rodriguez. David had just run the 1600 m. run just prior to this relay. It takes a big heart to be able to do this.

David Rodriguez was 5th in the 2400 m. run with a time of 9:57.38. He was 6th in the 1600 m. run with a time of 6:09.21. David cleared 4'4" in the high jump, and went 12'9" in the long jump.

Blake Turner finished 7th in the 800 m. run with a time of 2:47.00. He ran the mile in 6:36.67 and he went 25'4" in the triple jump.

Derek Tatum ran the 110 m. hurdles in 23.19, he ran the 300 m. hurdles in 56.79,

he pole vaulted 7'0" and finished 6th and he was 4th in the high jump clearing 4'6".

Austin Tyler ran the 110 m. hurdles in 22.69. He ran the 300 m. hurdles in 63.55, he went 13'11" in the long jump and he triple jumped 28' 5 3/4".

John Hensley was second in the 100 m. dash with a time of 12.62, he was third in the 200 m. dash with a time of 25.67, he was 6th in the long jump with a distance of 15'4" and he was 3rd in the triple jump with a distance of 31'9 1/2".

Joseph McConnell ran the 100 m. dash in 14.25, he also put the shot but did not get a mark.

Chris Teel ran the 100 m. dash in 18.26. He also participated in the shot and disc.

Tony Soto was first in the meet in the 400 m. dash which he ran in 62.78 seconds. Tony was also fourth in the shot and he participated in the discus.

Chance Taylor ran the 200 m. dash in 34.22 seconds.

Kyle Copeland ran the 200 m. dash in 38.90 seconds. Kyle also threw the discus.

Michael Froman ran 1600 meters in 6:23.59, and he also threw the shot and the discus.

Wallace/Wilson Win Tourney

By Coach Turner

Kate Wallace and Rachel Wilson defeated Christina Soto and Sarah Harding in an all Borden County final at the SPCHEA tennis meet held at South Plains College on February 23rd.

Wallace and Wilson won the pro-set by the score of 8-

5. Congrats to both of these doubles teams for a great day of tennis.

Also playing at SPC for the Coyotes were Clint Chapman, Tyrell Massingill, John Cowart, Eric Espinoza, Drew Tyler, Krystal Hobson,

By Coach Avery

The Borden County high school boys and girls track teams traveled to Grady the Friday before Spring Break began to run at the Wildcat relays.

There were 17 teams there and some pretty good competition to run against. To run in the finals athletics first had to qualify in the prelims in most of the running events. The team points were hard to come by under some stiff competition, the girls scored 4 points and the boys scored 31 points.

The girls did not have enough at this meet to run in a relay. Results of their individual events follow:

Marla Crenshaw ran the 3200 meters in 17 minutes and 30 seconds. She also ran the mile in 7:11.43.

Krystal Hobson ran the 100 m. dash in 15.93 and the 200 m. dash in 34.03.

Olivia Key ran the 800 meter run in 3:08.58 and she was 5th in the mile running it in 6:32.49. She also was 6th in the triple jump going 27'10" and she was 7th in the pole vault clearing 6'0".

Dannelle Copeland threw the shot and the discus.

Love takes off masks that we
fear we cannot live without and
know we cannot live within.
—James Baldwin

Olivia Key, and Lindsey Stamper.

The tournament field consisted of teams from Borden Co., Dawson, Denver City, Littlefield, Midland Classical, Morton, and the host SPCHEA.

Next up for the Coyotes will be the 2nd SPCHEA meet of the season in Levelland on Friday, March 23rd.

Christina Soto threw the discus 80'10" and she put the shot 25'1 1/2".

Boys Results

The boys sprint relay was 7th in the prelims with a time of 49.21 and failed to make the finals by one spot.

Running on this relay was Michael Cooley, Quentin Shafer, Michael Bullinger and Flynn Chapman.

Tyrell Massingill ran the 3200 m. run in 13:31 and the 1600 m. run he finished in 6:02.

Logan Howard ran the 3200 meters in 13:44 and the 1600 in 5:43. He also cleared 8'6" in the pole vault.

Karl Lamming ran 800 meters in 2:41.58, the 400 m. dash in 65.6 and he went 32'7.5" in the triple jump.

Jake Cooley is getting strong and running better each week. Jake qualified for the finals in the 400 m. dash with a time 55.9 and in the finals he finished third with a time of 55.38. That is not bad for a guy who had knee surgery about 4 months ago.

Michael Bullinger qualified for the finals in the 200 m. dash by running it in 24.99 seconds. In the finals he ran it in 24.8 and finished second. Bullinger won the pole vault by clearing 11'6".

Flynn Chapman ran the 200 m. dash in 27.15 and he also participated in the shot put.

Michael Cooley ran the 200 m. dash in 27.43 and he was 6th in the high jump by clearing 5'6".

Zane Williamson was 5th in triple jump by going 36'8", he cleared 10'6" in pole vault, and he also participated in the shot, disc, and the long jump.

Cory Teel participated in the shot and disc.

BC's Froman 12-1A MVP

Coyote senior also gets chance to play in one last tilt

By Dwight Hines
Lamesa Press-Reporter

The high school hoop fans at Gail this season doubled their pleasure cheering on both their Borden County's boys and girls basketball squads to Class 1A, Division II playoff berths.

The Coyote boys enjoyed another 20-win season and their first league crown on the hardwoods since 1999, while Borden County's girls made their first playoff appearance since 2004 after bouncing back from an 0-10 district finish a year ago.

Both Coyote squads were well represented on the all-District 12-1A Division II Basketball Teams.

Borden County senior Jacob Froman was tabbed as that league's MVP.

In addition to being tabbed as that league's MVP, Froman was also tabbed as an all-star representative for this summer's six-man coaches association all-star game that will once again be played in Lubbock.

Coyote junior Matthew Tatum is that league's Offensive MVP.

Borden County seniors Zane Williamson and Asa Rutherford were also picked on that all-district team.

Coyote junior point guard Quentin Shafer received honorable mention on the boys' all-district squad.

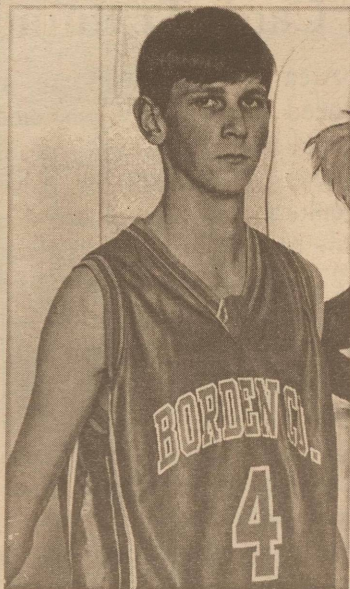
Borden County freshman guard Olivia Key was tabbed as 12-A girls' newcomer of the year.

Coyote senior posts Sarah Harding and Christina Soto both joined Key on that all-district team.

Borden County senior Kalli Poole and freshman D'Nae Johnson both earned honorable mention on that girls list.

Froman averaged 17.5 points and 9.6 rebounds per game, while powering the 21-9 Coyote boys to their league crown.

"He was a big positive for us on the scoring end, but he was also a very unselfish player," Borden County Coach Trey



"He probably also averaged three to four assists per game, which proves that he wasn't only looking to score. He also hit some big time shots for us this season, including the one which helped us win the Ira ball game and those two huge free throws with only 2.8 seconds left which helped us win our playoff game against Dell City."

Richey added that consistency was also a Froman trademark.

"He also stepped up big on the boards," Richey said. "He was also an 80 percent free throw shooter."

"He had a good touch for a big ol' kid. He's a pretty thin 6-3, but that didn't keep him from still playing this game pretty aggressively."

Richey is glad to see Froman have one game left in his high school hoop career.

"It's another great opportunity, but one that he deserves - mainly in the way that he was so very, very consistent," Richey said.

"Out of the 30 games that we played, he was out of double figures only twice all year. He deserves one more game, at least. The way that we're looking at it, he's tailor-made for an all-star game."

Tatum was tabbed as that league's offensive MVP after averaging 14.6 points and 13.2 rebounds per game.

"In district, he started out a little slow before carrying us

quite a bit there toward the end," Richey said of Tatum. "Whenever we were able to work the ball inside he generally made his shot. There was no doubt who we focused on a lot in our game plan."

"It's good to see him get rewarded for all of the effort he put into this season."

Williamson and Rutherford were also selected all-district after playing key roles on the Coyotes' title drive.

Williamson averaged nearly nine points and over nine rebounds per game.

"Zane's another player who helped set the tone for us - he just played the game so aggressive," Richey said. "We're talking about all-out hustle all of the time."

"We're talking about the kind of player who dove after every loose ball. For a guy who didn't play in three years, he really played well."

Rutherford averaged over 10 points per game against the Coyotes' district opponents.

"He had a good outside shot and, whenever it really started to fall, it helped open things up for our inside guys," Richey said of Rutherford. "We'll never forget the playoff game when he hit seven three's."

"He's another player who seemed to get better as the year went on."

Key was recognized as the top newcomer in that girls basketball district after averaging 13.3 points, 4.2 rebounds, four steals and two assists per game, while helping the Coyote girls make their post-season appearance.

"She's a pretty good threat both offensively and defensively," Coyote Coach Bric Turner said of Key.

"She can really shoot the three, but we feel like she's still got a lot of game left. She had a heckuva' first year, but we're only hoping to improve on it."

Harding and Soto provided the Coyotes with a solid punch inside the paint where both Borden County senior posts averaged over eight points and nearly eight rebounds per game.

"They both came on and really played big for us in our district games," Turner said.

"They stepped up their play, particularly down the stretch.

OAP

Cont. from pg. 1

Azdak (also played by Rowdy Clary).

Three storytellers who play additional smaller roles narrate the story of the chalk circle. Senior Kalli Poole (Storyteller #1 / Cook / Mother-in-Law), junior Rachel Wilson (Storyteller #2 / First Lawyer), and junior Kate Wallace (Storyteller #3 / Merchant Woman) fill these roles.

Other senior members of the cast include Lacey Newton (Beggar / Asja / Wedding Guest), Symeron Rinehart (Ironshirt / Jussup / Old Married Man), and Christina Soto (Beggar / Servant / Peasant Woman / Wedding Guest).

Freshmen complete the rest of the cast: Eric Espinoza (Ironshirt Corporal / Wedding Guest) D'Nae Johnson (Beggar / Servant / Wedding Guest / Michael), Karl Lamming (Prince Arsen Kazbeki / Monk / Shauwa), Chasiti Rutherford (Maro / Aniko Vashnadze / Old Married Woman), and Brendan Tarleton (Shalva / Wedding Guest / Second Lawyer).

Gold Rush

Cont. from pg. 1

In addition to the state championship, Wilson was also named the Bronze Gavel Speaker based on speaker points awarded in the preliminary rounds.

The two debaters finish 2006-2007 with a cumulative record of 23 wins against five losses. The five losses came against 4A and 5A schools.

Serving on the crew are seniors John Cowart (Light Technician) and Sarah Harding (Sound Technician). Sophomores Katherine Froman (Costumes & Props) and Krystal Hobson (Stage Manager) complete the crew.

Borden County theatre director Darrin Ard directs his ninth high school production this year.

Break a leg, BC OAP, at your zone contest!

School Lunch Menu March 26th - 30th, 2007

MONDAY - Breakfast: Toaster Pastry, Fruit Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Beef & Bean Burrito, Potato Wedges, Salad, Peaches, and Milk

TUESDAY - Breakfast: Sausage, Biscuit, Fruit Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Strips, Potatoes, Corn, Hot Roll, Apple Slices and Milk.

WEDNESDAY - Breakfast: Pancakes, Fruit juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Fajitas, salad, Pinto Beans, Jell-o w/pear and Milk.

THURSDAY - Breakfast: Cereal & Toast, Fruit Juice and Milk. **Lunch:** Meat & Gravy, Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread, Cobble, and Milk.

FRIDAY - Breakfast: Biscuit w/gravy, Sausage, Fruit Juice, and Milk. **Lunch:** Hot Dog w/chili, Chips, Salad, Frit, Yellow Cake w/frosting and Milk.

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Attention Seniors!

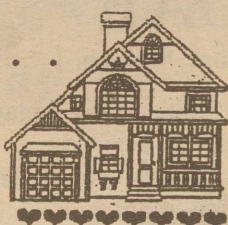
Parent's Club Scholarship applications must be returned to Mr. Ard by April 18, 2007.

For more information, contact LaNita Avery.

Heart & Home . . .

By Julie Smith

Borden County Extension Agent
Family & Consumer Sciences



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.



Walk Across Texas is a fun and flexible way to exercise. Just get together with seven other people-friends, neighbors, coworkers, or family members and start walking, jogging, or even biking! You can walk together or individually, outside or indoors on a treadmill-any way that fits your schedule and lifestyle. You keep track of your miles, to see if you can walk the 800 miles "across Texas" in 8 weeks. Report your

totals to see how your team "measures up"! By the end of Walk Across Texas, you'll have a healthy habit that will last a lifetime!

We will begin the 2007 Walk Across Texas program in Borden County on Wednesday, March 21st and wrap up on Tuesday, May 15th. To find out how you can Walk Across Texas Cooperative Extension-Borden County at *806)756-4336, or log onto <http://walkacrosstexas.tamu.edu> to register online.

Julie Smith
Borden County Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences



Wilson State Bound

Junior Rachel Wilson represented Borden County recently at Odessa College at UIL Solo and Ensemble, competing in the piano solo contest. She earned a gold medal after being awarded a I rating on a Class I piece, Schubert's *Impromptus Opus*

90, No. 4. This qualifies her to compete in San Marcos in May at the UIL State Solo and Ensemble competition. Rachel studies piano with Lavoy Leach, formerly of Lamesa, who now resides in Lubbock. Best wishes to Rachel as she prepares to represent Borden County at State!

4-H News

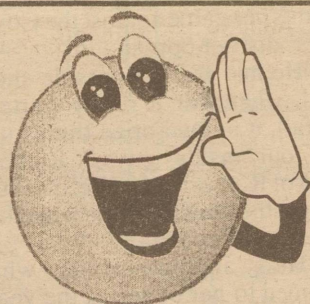
Houston Barrow Results

Several Borden County 4-H and Gail FFA members exhibited their barrow projects at the Houston Livestock Show. Results are as follows:

Kalli Poole - 6th place Hamp

Others exhibiting barrows were: Baylee Benavidez, Shylo Rinehart, Symeron Rinehart, and Kate Wallace.

Congratulations to each of you on all your accomplishments!



Got News?

Mail to:
P.O. Box 137
Gail, Tx. 79738
806/756-4313
ext. 275
Email:
vadcock@bcisd.net

Unity to be real must stand the severest strain without breaking.

—Mahatma Gandhi

Ag News

Pesticide Applicator and Pesticide Handler (Green Card) Trainings to be Held

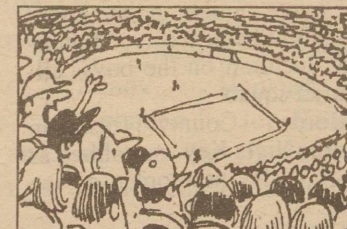
Area residents who are in need of a private pesticide applicator's license from Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) can attend a training in Lamesa on March 27. The private applicators license allows an individual to apply restricted use pesticides to their own property for the production of an agricultural commodity. This license **does not** allow one to apply pesticides to the property of any other individual for a fee, that requires a Commercial Applicator License. Texas Cooperative Extension (T.C.E.) Agents in Terry, Yoakum, Cochran, Gaines and Dawson Counties will be working together to host and conduct this area-wide training, which is required by TDA before an individual can take the test for a license.

The training will be held at the Dawson County Community Building (South 8th & Houston) on March 27. The training will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at lunch time. A Texas Department of Agriculture representative will then be at the same location at 1:30 p.m. to administer the Pesticide Applicator test (no fee to test). **Persons planning to attend need to call the Texas Cooperative Extension,**

Dawson County Office (806.872.3444) to make a reservation and order study materials. There will be a \$20.00 fee collected for study materials.


During the same time period (March 27), persons in need of the E.P.A. Pesticide Handler Card (Green Card) can attend one of two trainings. At 9:00 a.m., the training will be presented in English and at 10:00 a.m. in Spanish. There is no fee for this training. The Pesticide Handler Training is geared toward those persons who work around pesticide under the supervision of a licensed applicator. Hired hands, field scouts and any other person who handles pesticides or works with pesticides needs this safety training.

For additional information contact Jeff Wyatt, CEA-AG, Dawson County at (806.872.3444).




The baseball stadium with the largest seating capacity is 3COM Park at Candlestick Point, home of the San Francisco Giants. The stadium holds 63,000 fans.

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Engagement Announced



Trent Smith and Brandi Hudson

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Hudson of Gail announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Brandi Jo, to Trent Smith the son of Mr. John Smith of Stanton and Mrs. Debbie Rutter of Midland.

The wedding is planned for June 2nd in Midland at the Cuthbert Mansion.

Amendment Election to be Held

Borden County will be holding a Constitutional Amendment Election on May 12, 2007. The Borden County Commissioners Court authorized a request to be made to the Justice Department to approve the voting locations be consolidated into four voting places-one in each precinct.

A proclamation was signed by Gov. Rick Perry to have a special election held on May 12th to vote one a constitutional amendment to extend public school property tax rate reductions to Texas' elderly and disabled residents for the 2006 and 2007 tax years. Senate Joint Resolution 13 amends the Texas constitution to allow elderly or disabled household property tax rated to reflect any reduction in school property tax rated for 2006 and 2007. **Upon Justice Department approval** The Consolidated Precinct

1 voting location will be the Plains Community Center. The consolidated Precinct 2 voting location will be the Gail Community Room. The Consolidated Precinct 3 voting location will be the Fairview Election Bldg. The Consolidated Precinct 4 voting location will be the Borden County Courthouse.

Ally early voting for the Constitutional Amendment Election will be conducted in the County Clerk's Office at the courthouse.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.
CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES
CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Abilene

Contract 6132-73-001 for BRIDGE JOINT/SPALL REPAIR in HOWARD County, etc. will be opened on **APRIL 04, 2007** at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of **\$212,033.50**

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Pre-qualified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div. Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 22947

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office (s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, TX 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

SPECIAL ELECTION MAY 12, 2007

PROPOSITION 1 (SJR 13)

SJR 13 would amend the Constitution to authorize the legislature to adjust the public school ad valorem tax or tax rates for taxpayers who are aged 65 or older, or are disabled, and who are owners of an exempted homestead. The amendment would thereby allow the legislature to provide tax relief to such elderly or disabled taxpayers who did not receive tax relief as a result of the school tax rate reduction passed in the 79th Legislature, 3rd called session.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for public school purposes on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect any reduction in the rate of those taxes for the 2006 and 2007 tax years."

Published by Secretary of State Roger Williams.

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Commissioner's Court Meeting

WHEREAS, On this the 27th day of February, 2007, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Special Session in the Commissioners Court room in the courthouse of Gail, Texas, the following members of the court being present, to-wit:

VAN L. YORK, County Judge, Presiding; **MONTE SMITH**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1; **RANDY ADCOCK**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2; **ERNEST REYES**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3; **JOE BELEW**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; **JOYCE HERIDGE**, County Clerk and Ex-Officio of the Commissioners Court constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court meetings of February 13th, 2007 were read. Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve said minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

The current accounts were examined and Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve and pay said accounts. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COUNTY TREASURERS OFFICE

Kenneth Bennett, county Treasurer, met and advised the Court that Connie Stipe will be placed on the county Treasurer's signature card at the County Bank. This will enable checks to be given in the event Treasurer was not able to be in office. Connie Stipe would not have to be bonded.

SHERIFF'S CAR

A discussion was held concerning the disposition of the 2001 Ford Sheriff's car.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION

Commissioner Smith made a motion to consolidate election precincts, with one polling place in each precinct, for the May 12, 2007 constitutional Amendment Election as per passage of Senate Joint Resolution 13 by the Texas Legislature. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Belew made a motion to reappoint the historical Committee for the 2007 and 2008 as listed below with Doris Steadman as Chair Person. Those appointed were Kenneth Bennett, Marge Toombs, Larry & Wanda Smith, Jean Taylor, Fannie Flint, Van & Barbara York, Dewey Faye Miller, Barbara Farmer, Joe Pat Harding, Brent & Pat Murphy, Sue Smith, D.M. Paks, Bill & Mary Jon Phinzy and Joel Dennis. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Disposition of Old Sheriff Department Car.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Commissioner Reyes to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and approved unanimously.

THE FOREGIONG MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 13th day of March, 2007

Borden County ISD Regular Board Meeting

February 19, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District of Gail, Texas met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. in the Borden County I.S.D. Board Room. Board members present were Joel Dennis, Joe Harding, Randy Hensley, Carol Lewis, and Mike Valentine. John Anderson and Dennis Poole were absent. Jimmy Thomas and Bart McMeans were also present.

1. The meeting was called to order by Joe Harding.

2. There was no community input.

3. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Joel Dennis to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2007, board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

4. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Carol Lewis to approve the February 2007 bills. The motion carried unanimously.

5. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Joel Dennis to allow the senior class of 2007 to go to Florida for their senior trip. The motion carried unanimously.

6. A motion was made by Carol Lewis and seconded by Randy Hensley to set the next regular school board meeting for 7:00 P.M. on March 26, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

7. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Mike Valentine to increase the salary of Bart McMeans by \$2,640 for the 2007-2008 school year and to extend his contract through June 30, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

8. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Carol Lewis to

upgrade the Borden County water system and storage capacity by paying the lesser figure of half the actual incurred costs or \$175,000 of the improvements incurred by Borden County to upgrade the County Water System as appropriate. The motion carried unanimously.

9. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Joel Dennis to purchase a storage building from Jimmy Thomas for \$2,000 to use to store baseball equipment at the practice field. The motion carried unanimously.

10. The legal ramifications and board policy pertaining to the school board president acting as a voting member were discussed. No action was taken.

11. Mr. Thomas gave a student enrollment report and reported that 147 students were enrolled, gave a year to date financial and investment report, gave a report on current construction projects, and gave a personnel report.

A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Randy Hensley to approve the superintendent's report. The motion carried unanimously.

12. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Carol Lewis to

adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Special Board Meeting

March 7, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District of Gail, Texas met in special session at 7:00 P.M. in the Borden County I.S.D. Board Room.

Board members present were John Anderson, Joel Dennis, Joe Harding, and Randy Hensley. Carol Lewis, Dennis Poole, and Mike Valentine were absent. Jimmy Thomas was also present.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Anderson.

2. There was no community input.

3. A motion was made by Joe Harding and seconded by Randy Hensley to amend the contract of Jimmy Thomas by extending his contract through June 30, 2012 and to increase his salary by 10% in 2008-2009, increase his salary by 10% in 2009-2010, and increase his salary by 10% in 2010-2011. The motion carried unanimously.

4. No action was taken to purchase property.

5. A discussion was conducted pertaining to implementing measures to increase student enrollment. No action was taken.

6. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Joe Harding to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Parent's Club Pre-School Easter Egg Hunt

Friday, April 6th, 2007

At the Borden County ISD

Practice Field

Please bring 1 dozen

Candy or Candy filled eggs





"Weeding Things Out"

by Randy

The Greenhouse Nursery & Landscaping
Lamesa, TX 806/872-8660

What's in the bag?

Tired of trying to figure out what exactly is in all those bags of potting soil at the garden center? Here's a guide to help you make decisions on what you might need in your gardening.

What's the difference between a soil, a soil amendment and a soil conditioner?

Soil is dirt. A soil amendment is anything you add to the soil to improve it. Marketers have created a variety of blends of soil amendments and labeled it "soil conditioners".

What's the difference between mulch and a soil amendment?

To use something as a soil amendment, you will need to work it at least several inches into the soil. Mulches, on the other hand, are spread on top of the soil to conserve moisture and suppress weeds. Compost and finely chopped or well-rotted leaves, for example, can be worked into the soil or spread on top of it for mulch.

How do I get my money's worth?

When shopping for bags of soil, potting mix, conditioners, and amendments, keep in mind the follow-ing: **Focus on details.** The more specific a manufacturer is about what's inside the soil, the more likely it is the bag contains something worth boasting about. The reverse is also true. If there's very little information about

what's inside, it's probably not worth talking about.

Buy volume, not weight: When it comes to potting soils, mixes, and conditioners, weight has almost nothing to do with quality. The weight could be coming from bark, heavy, low-quality peat, water, or even just plain sand. Heaviness, in fact, is more often a sign of poor quality than of good value. As a rule, go for larger bags that are lighter. In smaller bags, you'll find the following soil amend-ments, some of which double as fertilizers or can alter the soil's pH. As their smaller size suggests, they're added to soil in smaller proportions. Read labels carefully.

Bonemeal: Made of finely ground, steamed animal bones. This phosphorous-rich material is a popular fertilizer for bulbs. Work into planting holes, or sprinkle on the soil surface and rake in. May attract animals.

Gypsum: Breaks up some clay soils, but its effectiveness is limited. Spread on the soil surface and then dig in to a depth of several inches, following package directions.

Lime: Made of ground limestone. Raises soil pH. Apply only on acid soils to accommodate plants that need more alkaline conditions; don't automatically apply every spring. Processed lime takes effect in a few weeks; dolomite takes a few months.

Soto and Key Receives Honors

By Coach Turner

Two Lady Coyote basketball players received post season honors this past week. Senior Christina Soto was named to the Texas Girl's Coaches Association's Academic All-state team. In addition to being an all district athlete Christina is an "A" student as well.

Olivia Key was named to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Class A Division 2 All-Region team for Region 2.

The top 20 players in each of the four regions across Texas are recognized for excellence on the court by the regions' coaches.

Olivia was also named to

Sulfur: Lowers soil pH. As with lime, use only if you know your soil's pH.

Vermiculite: Bits of the mineral mica, popped under high heat like popcorn. Holds water like a hard sponge. Excellent for both clay and sandy soils because it loosens soils and helps them hold water. Work into the soil before adding to the container or into the top several inches of the soil. Hard to find because of concerns about asbestos content.

Perlite: Made of tiny, heat-popped volcanic rock. Often used like vermiculite; in addition, it's an ideal medium for starting cuttings.

Source: Gardening How-To March/April

DRIVE SAFELY
Watch-out for
Our Children
Playing!

the Six Man Coaches Association West All-Region two young ladies for their 2nd Team. The west region consists of districts 7-12 in Division 2. Congratulations to these two young ladies for their terrific efforts on the basketball court and in the classroom

Poka Lambro Annual Meeting Set

Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is set to host their 56th Annual Membership Meeting - Thursday, March 29, 2007. The meeting will be held at Poka Lambro's main business office located 11.5 miles north of Tahoka, Texas on US Hwy 87.

Member registration will begin at 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. The business meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. One important item of business on the agenda will be the election of two directors of the

Cooperative. Other Annual Meeting high-lights will include the reports of officers and directors, the presentation of Poka Lambro Scholarships, and any other business that may come before the membership. All Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative members are encouraged to attend the meeting. Members may pick up door prize cards when registering at the meeting.

For additional information please contact Amy Preston at 1-800-422-2387.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date (s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: **Abilene**

Contract 0908-00-064 for **THERMOPLASTIC MARKINGS & RAISED MARKERS** in **TAYLOR** County, etc. will be opened on **April, 2007** at **1:00 p.m.** at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Pre-qualified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit pre-qualification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Pre-qualification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 22995

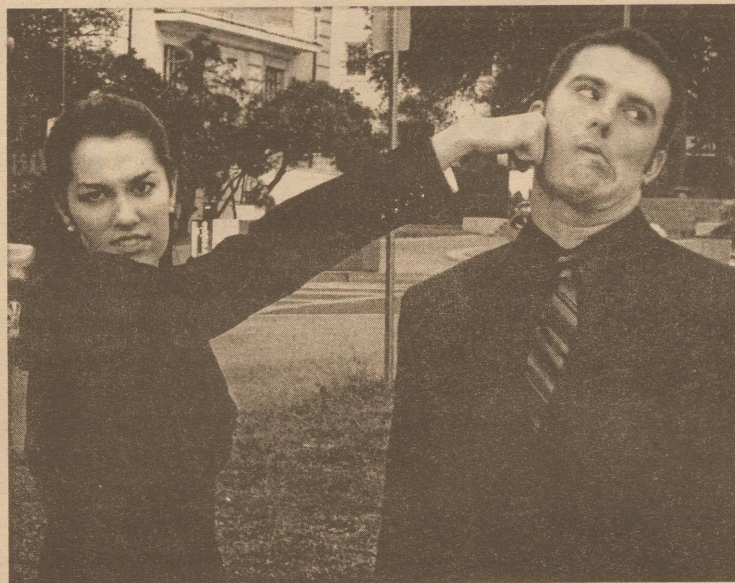
State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

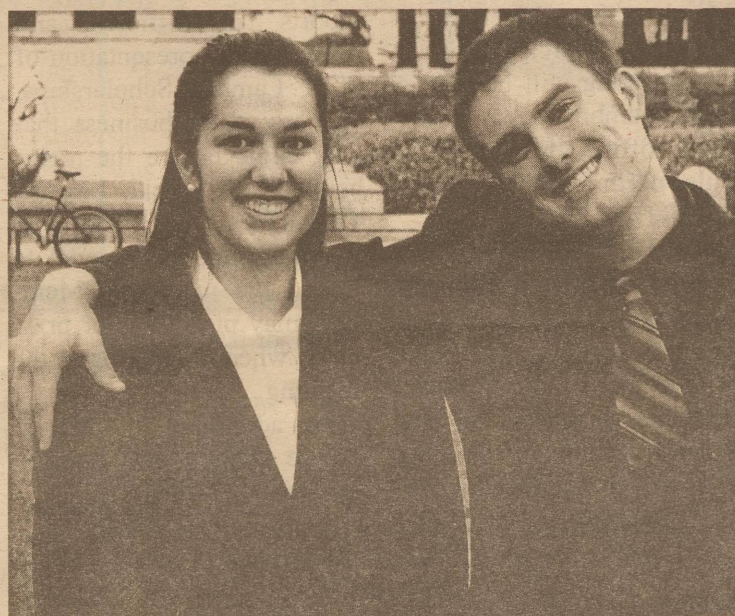
Dist/Div Office(s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, TX 79601
Phone: 915-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.



All is fair in debate and war.



Pre-School Day

Pre-school Day will be Friday, April 6th. If your child will be 5 years on or before Sept. 1, 2007, he/she is invited to visit the kindergarten class on this day. Please send a copy of their birth certificate, social security card, and immunization record.

Each child is also asked to bring an Easter Basket with a dozen candy or candy filled eggs (No chocolate please) for the Pre-School Easter Egg Hunt.

School will begin at 8:05 and dismiss at 12:30 on this day. The school will provide lunch. If your child would like to ride the bus, please contact the bus driver in your area. If you have any questions, contact the school at 806-756-4313.



Behind the Scenes

The Real Story Behind a State Championship

By Sue Jane Mayes

These things don't just happen.

There is always a story behind the story, so I thank *The Borden Star* for allowing me the chance to write about more than just the news of the events that took place in Austin last week when Rowdy Clary and Rachel Wilson did something special for their school, for themselves, for their families, and for their community.

Maybe the story begins when Sharon and Ed Huddleston left Borden County and what was a productive and successful debate program. There was a void, and Mr. James McLeroy—the school superintendent—didn't like that void. So, he **told** me that I would take over the debate program. This is akin to telling Martha Stewart to move into a home without a kitchen and live there for twenty-seven years.

The story's roots could also be found in the hallways of a small school setting, where all teachers have the opportunity to watch children walk into the kindergarten class, wondering if among them is someone who likes to read, who likes to run, who likes to draw, who likes to talk, or who likes to learn. And through the elementary years, teachers have the luxury of watching students develop new interests and have the *responsibility* of tapping into those interests to turn on the faucet to higher academic, musical, or athletic achievements.

Another chapter to the story involves teachers who find they have kindred spirits. Working together, these teachers challenge children to go beyond what is learned at a desk in the classroom. After all, many important lessons about integrity and decency are best taught when adults display such behavior in settings away from the school in situations where some educators preach a win-at-all-cost mentality.

The story could also include students who work late at night, who grudgingly (yes, they are human) give up their weekends or week nights for an academic or athletic event. It might even involve a summer camp that forces students to step out of their comfort zones to mingle with other students they don't know, to be away from home for the first time, and to listen to lectures on topics that seem pretty foreign at the time.

Even more rare these days is to have what these two students have—supportive and hands-on parents. It isn't a prerequisite to success because many single-parent children achieve great things. Few moments in life compare to watching a proud parent beam when their son or daughter reaches the pinnacle of success.

Finally, the story would not be complete without a chapter remembering those who have gone before. The Jarretts, the McMeans, the McLeroys, the Dyes—strong administrators and their wives who had a knack for encouraging students to achieve. The Thomases and the McMeans II continue this support today. In a word, it is invaluable.

Winning a state championship is about and is for all of us in Borden County.

Rowdy and Rachel earned every bit of those gold medals. But, I am confident that someday when they tell their children the story, they'll be wise enough to mention that winning wasn't just something they did on their own.

Pat yourselves on the back, Borden County—it takes all of us.

One last thing: I promised Rowdy I would include the fact that he bowled a 200 while in Austin. (This after his debate coach kicked him in the first two games.)

Taking Time for a visit: Former Borden County school Principal Ben Jarrett and wife Netta, former business teacher Mrs. Mayes, Rachel and Rowdy.

