

# The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVII

July 15, 2009

## Six Area Grads in High School All-Star Games

Courtesy Lamesa Press Reporter

Six area high school athletic careers officially come to an end next weekend on one of the biggest stages as the Texas Six-Man Coaches Association once again hosts its all-star games in Lubbock.

After playing key roles in their school's marches to the six-man playoffs, Borden County's Jake Cooley, Klondike's Dustin Ferguson and Dawson's Rance Meadows will find themselves as teammates come 7:30 p.m. Friday on the West, which will take on the East in the Division II all-star football game at Lubbock's Lowrey Field.

Sand's Brittini Blagrave will be this area's lone representative in Saturday's all-star girls basketball game, which will tee off around 1 p.m. Saturday at Lubbock Christian University's Rip Griffin Center.

Dawson's Emmanuel Key and Sands' Seth Fry will hook up in the all-star boys' basketball game, which will tip off shortly after that girls' all-star tilt concludes at the Rip.

After being an all all-state tight end on Borden County's undefeated Division II state

six-man football championship team, Borden County's Cooley does not have any plans now of finishing his career any other way.

"We're not looking to have a loss on that record now," said Cooley, who was in on 131 tackles and caught seven TD passes for the Division II state champs.

As Klondike's all-everything QB, Ferguson spent most of his last high school game with the Cougars by being chased by Cooley and his Borden County teammates in their bi-district playoff game—a 62-16 Borden County victory.

"It's going to be different being on the same team now with some of these guys, but it should also be lots of fun," said Ferguson, who threw for 1,851 yards and 26 touchdowns while quarterbacking the Cougars to their first playoff appearance in 13 years—only a year after they finished at 0-10.

"We're hoping to bring home a win, while at the same time have lost of fun doing it."

It also has been a dream sea-

(Continued on Page 2)

## Cotton



## News

from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

### USDA To Help Landowners With Expiring CRP Land Evaluate Post-CRP Conservation Options

Area farmers are facing some big decisions on what to do with their land as hundreds of thousands of acres of USDA Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts are due to expire in the next few months.

USDA personnel from the Farm Service agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service are in the latest stages of finalizing guidance and options for producers with expiring conservation reserve program (CRP) acres.

On July 8, 2009, personnel from both agencies in the Panhandle and South Plains regions met in Lubbock to discuss how to best serve farmers and ranchers for CRP land expiring from the program.

"With so many landowners coming into our offices seeking help, uniform guidance among agencies is critical for landowners and producers to make the best decisions for land that's coming out of the program," said Mickey Black, NRCS assistant state conservationist for field operations in Lubbock.

The bulk of the CRP acres

are in the High Plains region of the state where there is significant concern about the future of the conservation on the land. According to FSA records, over 78,000 acres expired in 2008, with an additional 680,000 to be expired in October of 2009, and over 507,000 acres in October of 2010.

FSA State Executive Director Juan Garcia addressed 150 FSA and NRCS employees in the region saying, "Many producers are going to be faced with changes, and it's up to all of us to educate the general public and provide landowners with the options available to help them."

"This is a serious issue," said Garcia. "The NRCS and FSA offices are making a joint effort for a successful outcome."

According to Garcia, FSA will be able to restore crop acreage bases beginning in October, 2010. Landowners need to be aware of this information because it will be a determining factor as they decide what they will do once their land expires from the program.

Black said, "Landowners have several options, including grazing or haying the existing grass cover, making enhancements to target wildlife, putting it back into production, or utilizing it for recreational purposes."

For long-term planning, producers will need to stay informed of the latest policies for farm programs and benefits that might affect them and their operations.

"We expect to see some producers choose to return their CRP fields back to annually-tilled cropland production," said Don Gohmert, NRCS State Conservationist.

"Most of the acres in the CRP program are classified as Highly Erodible Land (HEL)," said Gohmert. "This type of land is very susceptible to wind and water erosion."

NRCS and FSA will encourage producers to keep the permanent grass cover, however, in cases where the landowners' decide to plow up the grass; the NRCS will provide alternatives to help landowners

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## Area All-Star Games...

(Continued from Page 1)

son at Welch where the Dragon gridders captured their first playoff appearance since 1984 by winning six-man's District 5.

"This is amazing—a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Dawson's Rance Meadows, District 5's Defensive MVP of his all-star game.

"This is like a dream. This is something that I've always wanted a chance to do and, now that I'm getting it, it's up to me to take advantage of it."

Rance, the youngest of five children in his family, is no stranger to this all-star event. His oldest brother, Derrick, was the MVP in the boys' basketball game back in 1998.

"It should be a tough game with all of the best of the best out on the same field. I just want to play the best that I can," said Meadows.

As hungry as this west squad sounds, all three of these area products admit that they still are pretty excited about getting this chance to play one more time.

"Sure, we would have liked to have had the chance to go on and play somewhere else, but—if anything—this game's giving us the chance to go out and play one more time," Cooley said.

Ferguson also feels a great deal of honor to be getting this opportunity.

"We feel privileged to be representing our district in this game and being out with the best in the best," Ferguson said.

Seven months after helping Borden County to its second state six-man football championship in school history, Cooley admits he will be entering next weekend's all-star game with a different approach.

"It's going to be exciting, but I don't think it's going to be as nerve wracking as our state game was," Cooley said. "I can remember how, back before our state game, there was nothing but dead silence in our locker room."

For Sands' Blagrave her two all-star appearances have

helped fill a void between high school and collegiate ball. Blagrave will continue her playing days Big Spring for the Howard College Hawks. Back-to-back all-star appearances in her final two high school outings should be a good way to get Blagrave ready for the road ahead.

"We're looking at this as a good way to go out and show everybody that we can play," said Blagrave, who averaged 18 points, eight rebounds, seven steals and two assists per game for Sands, which went 21-12 after going three rounds deep in the playoffs.

Dawson's Key looks to next Saturday's all-star boys' game as a definite honor.

"We'll be looking forward to the competition. We're excited to be a part of this all-star cast. It should be interesting now to see how it all comes together," said Key, who erupted for 38 points in his fi-


nal game in a Dragon jersey in a 45-point blowout win over Klondike.

Next weekend's all-star tilt also will be a final tune-up for Fry, who also announced that he will be taking his next shot in this game after next weekend on the collegiate level at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene.

"We've already had a chance to play with some of those guys over there and they're real good. It'll definitely be a big step up," Fry said of Hardin-Simmons.

Regardless of the outcome of next weekend's all-star games in Lubbock, these area all-stars already feel like winners.

"This should be a good way for us to go out—more memories," said Key. "This will probably be the biggest games that we'll play in, especially for those who didn't make the playoffs."



**Borden County 4-H News**

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

### Midland County District 6 4-H Shoot Results

Competing in the Midland County Shoot were Raylea Underwood and Matthew Roberson. Matthew shot 50/50 in trap and 47/50 skeet for a total of 97 to win HOA at the Midland County District 6 on July 3rd. He also received first place for trap and third place for skeet. Matthew won a belt buckle for HOA and a first place and a third place plaque for trap and skeet. Raylea competed in all events but did not place at this competition. We are proud of our shooters for representing Borden County well!

### District 4-H Roundup Results

4-H'ers representing Borden County competed Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at Abernathy Elementary School in Abernathy at the South Plains District 4-H Roundup. Youth competed with their Educational Presentations (formerly known as Method Demonstrations) against youth from across the South Plains. The youth representing Borden County in the Intermediate age division were Tristen Benavidez and Zach McMeans in the Safety and Accident Prevention category with their presentation on *Rattlesnake Safety* - they received third place and 4-H sports bottle. We are so proud of these youth for the time, dedication and participation in this worthwhile 4-H event. *Congratulations, Zach and Tristen!*

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*The  
Borden Star*

## Commissioners Meeting

**WHEREAS**, On this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2009, 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; **MONTE SMITH**, Commissioner Precinct No. 1; **RANDY ADCOCK**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2; **JOE BELEW**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; **JOYCE HERRIDGE**, County Clerk and Ex-Officio of the Commissioners Court, constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda.

### BORDEN COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Cody Cooley and Buster Taylor met with the Court with the proposed location of the Volunteer Fire Department and the plans for the Building.

**MINUTES APPROVED**  
Minutes of the Commissioners Court Meeting of June 9, 2009 were read. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve said minutes. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**2008 COUNTY AUDIT**  
Commissioner Adcock made a motion to appoint Don Stephens, CPA, to audit Financial Statements of Borden County for the year 2008. Commissioner Belew seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### 2010 RETIREMENT PLAN

The Borden County Employees Retirement Plan for year 2010 was discussed. No action taken.

### SHOWBARN

Mr. David Fillebrown and Mr. Glen Calvert, P.E., with Priefert Complex Designs and Ranch Equipment, discussed using their firm for the relocation and building of the Show Barn and Rodeo Arena. Mr. Ralph Miller was also in attendance.

### UNDER-VALUATION OIL RESOLUTION

Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve the Resolution concerning the Under-Valuation of Oil and Gas Properties. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### SOIL CONSERVATION CONSTRUCTION

An application for Soil Conservation Construction of Fireguards was received from Beaver Valley Ranch I.L.C. in Precinct No. 2. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve the application at the rate of \$35.00 per hour for a motor grader and \$65.00 per hour for a dozer. 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.

### DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE AGENDA

No new items were presented.

### ADJOURN

Commissioner Reyes made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

**THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009.**



**BRANON  
FUNERAL HOME**

403 N. Austin Avenue  
Lamesa, Texas 79331  
806-872-8335 Fax: 806-872-8336

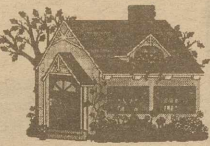
*3rd & 4th generations still serving this area.*

**AgriLIFE EXTENSION**  
Texas A&M System

**Heart and Home ...**

by Julie Smith  
Borden County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Sciences

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating



## Fire Up the Grill

For any die hard grill-master, their motto is likely - if you can eat it, you can grill it. In many cases this is true.

Grilling is a great way to cook up healthy, quick summer fare. Grilled foods are healthier options because you use less fat and oil when preparing them. And as an added bonus cooking on the grill keeps your house cooler in the summer because you're taking the heat outside.

Here are some foods that cook up well when grilled - including some that may even surprise you.

**Bread** - Set your grill to medium and lightly brush thickly sliced bread with olive oil. Set bread on grill but be sure to keep an eye on it - it cooks up quickly in 1-2 minutes.

**Fruit** - Heat from the grill will caramelize sugars in the fruit to make a sweet treat. Think pineapple, pears, peaches, mango and melon. Large pieces can go directly on the grill while smaller pieces will need to be placed in a grill pan before heating. Spray the fruit with non-stick cooking

spray and grill 2-4 minutes per side.

**Pizza** - Enjoy a crispy, thin crust, grilled pizza. Top a pre-made pizza shell and grill until the cheese melts and toppings are heated through, about 2-10 minutes. Use sauce sparingly - too much makes for a soggy pie.

**Seafood** - try shrimp, tuna, salmon and more. Thicker cuts of fish (tuna, swordfish, mahi mahi) can go directly on the grill rack. More tender fish (catfish, tilapia) may break apart and should be grilled in a foil pouch or in a grill pan. Grill for eight minutes per inch of thickness and temperature reaches 145 F.

**Vegetables** - Think bell peppers, corn on the cob and even sweet potato fries. As with fish, thicker, sturdier veggies can go directly on the grill. More delicate veggies should be placed in a grill pan. Grill turning often 2-10 minutes per side.

**Meats and poultry** - For tasty chicken, pork chops, and steaks, cook until done or temperature reaches 165 F.

Source: Eat Smart Move More NC Newsletter July 2009

## Post-CRP...

(Continued from Page 1)

understand the need to meet certain measures that ensure those acres will not erode beyond a level that the soil can tolerate. These alternatives will help the producer apply best management practices to meet conservation compliance requirements.

Conservation compliance, which began with the 1985 Farm Bill, is still in effect. Compliance means that farmers need to control erosion on highly erodible land, which includes CRP acres, in order to stay eligible for USDA program benefits, including farm loan programs, disaster assistance, commodity price supports, and conservation programs.

According to NRCS, the most common ways farmers get out of compliance with USDA is by eliminating soil-conserving crops, such as forage species, and adding a tilled crop.

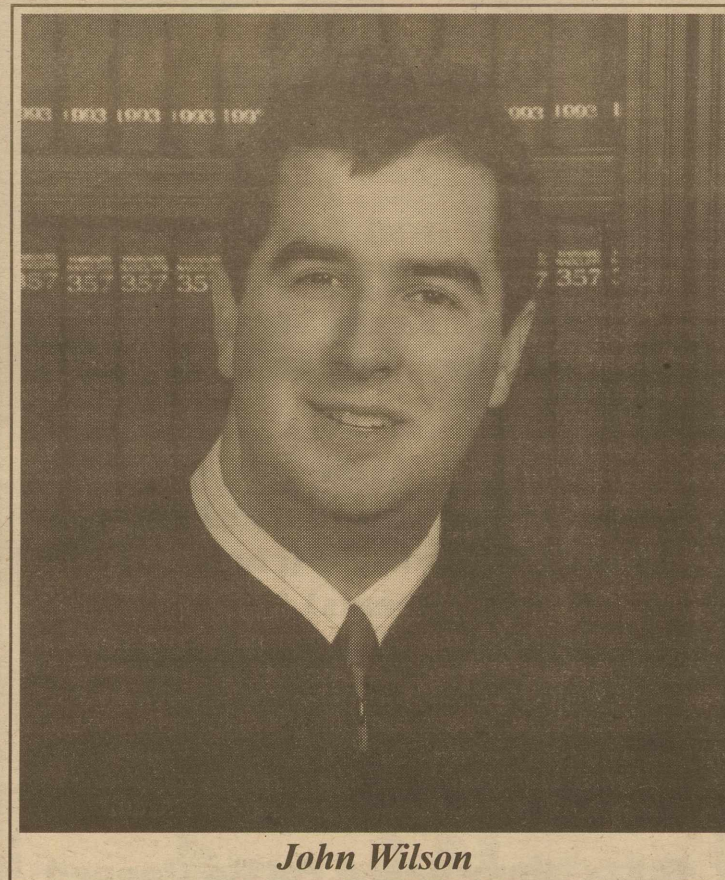
When the farmer changes his soil cover from permanent grass to annually-tilled crops, he/she should always consider conservation compliance when planning their rotations, in addition to commodity prices.

Conservation compliance could entail the implementation of a crop rotation that includes high residue-producing crops like wheat or sorghum, or the installation, repair and maintenance of structural practices like terraces.

FSA and the NRCS, working with the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), urges producers to contact someone at the local USDA service centers to discuss expiring CRP options and to check on eligibility for USDA benefits.

For more information, call the USDA Service Center in your county, listed under USDA in the Yellow Pages, or access the information on the Texas NRCS website at [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov).

**Got News?**  
Mail it to:  
P.O. Box 137  
Gail, TX 79738  
806/756-4313  
ext. 275  
email:  
kdean@bcisd.net



John Wilson

## Wilson Receives Economics Degree From Harvard

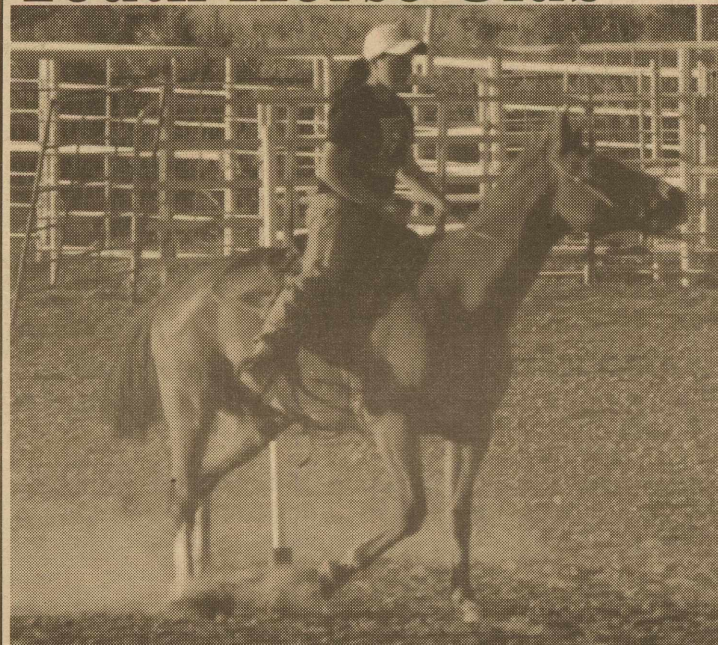
Borden County graduate John Wilson completed four years at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts and graduated in June with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics with Honors. He also had a secondary concentration in Government.

While at Harvard he was very involved in the Harvard Model Congress program, serving on the board of

Harvard Model Congress Europe and in various leadership roles with the HMC Asia, Boston, and San Francisco programs. He enjoyed the opportunity to travel with HMC to Thailand, San Francisco, and several European countries during the last few years.

John will start law school at the University of Texas in the fall and looks forward to being back in Texas!

## Youth Horse Club



Seleste Herridge participates in the pole bending at Tuesday night's Youth Horse Club meet.

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**State National Bank**  
Big Spring Lamesa O'Donnell



Come check out  
**Fuzzy Ninny's BBQ**

**Friday and Saturday,  
July 17 & 18  
at the Rock Station  
on Hwy 180 in Gail**

**Menu:**

**Brisket/Ribs/Sausage/Pulled Pork  
Fuzzy Ninny Plate (choice of 3  
meats)**

**Fuzzy Plate (choice of 2 meats)**

**Ninny Plate (choice of 1 meat)**

**(Plates served with baked beans,  
potato salad and bread)**

**Fuzzy Ninny Baked Potato (topped  
w/cheese, baked beans, brisket,  
sour cream)**

**Ninny Baked Potato (topped w/  
cheese, brisket, sour cream)**

**Fuzzy Ninny Frito Pie (fritos,  
baked beans, brisket, sausage,  
sour cream)**

**Ninny Frito Pie (fritos, brisket,  
sausage, sour cream)**

**Brisket Sandwich  
Pulled Pork Sandwich**

**Sausage Wrap  
Turkey Leg**

**Serving from  
11 a.m. - 8 p.m.**

**Come try us out!!**

**Jibber, Cindy,  
Fuzz and Becky  
Herridge**

**Thought for  
the Day**

*You can have no  
greater sign of a  
confirmed pride than  
when you think you  
are humble enough.  
--William Law*



**Got News?**

Mail to:

P.O. Box 137

Gail, Tx. 79738

Call: 806/756-4313

Ext: 275

Email:

kdean@bcisd.net

**Invictus College Ministries  
Operation Haiti**



Dear Family and Friends,  
I have an opportunity this summer, August 19-26, to join our college group Invictus on a mission trip to Haiti. On our trip we will be working with the Mission of Hope ministry. They are involved in many different ways to better the people of Haiti including a school, church, orphanage and the Hospital of Hope which will soon be operational. In addition, the Mission of Hope assists close to 200 children in four other orphanages in nearby villages through the Feed A Child program. The Mission of Hope is able to contribute to the local economy by employing over 150 Haitian women and men. We will be working with them in their many ministries.

I am most excited about helping the orphaned children of Haiti. I am gathering old clothes from friends and as many toys that I can pack in my bag. We will travel through the small villages and hand out what ever we brought to the needy kids. I have never experienced anything like this before and I know God is going to be with me every step of the way.

I am excited about what God is going to do in my life and in other people's lives through this ministry this summer. I do, however, need your help. We will be traveling to Florida and then continuing the next day to Port Au Prince Haiti. I will need to raise \$1,400 and half is due by July 19<sup>th</sup>. Although we are doing fundraisers and trying to raise the money ourselves, anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated. You can make any checks out to Harvest Time Church and it will be given as a tax deduction, just put my name on the memo.

Please be a part of this awesome opportunity, for I know that you too will be blessed. Thank you and God Bless.

With Love,

Raul Rodriguez

(To give a donation, please call (806) 773-8985. Raul is a 2003 Borden County graduate.)

**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 2009-2010 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 may also be submitted by fax and/or by e-mail to the numbers or address listed below. Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, July 16, 2009. 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](mailto: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