

The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVI

June 4th, 2008

Thomas All-American Borden County Coyote ex earns national hurdling honor

*Courtesy of Lamesa Press
Reporter*

A couple of years ago, Garrett Thomas proved himself as one of the Lone Star State's top high school hurdlers by winning the Class 1A state 110-meter high hurdles.

After only two years at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, the Borden County High School graduate is now proving himself as one of college's top hurdlers.

Thomas came home last weekend from the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Walnut, California as an All-American in the 110-meter hurdles by finishing eighth with a time of 14.31.

"It's all been pretty neat," said Thomas.

Getting to the national meet a year ago as a freshman, although he did not make the finals, helped set the stage for Thomas this spring.

"The motivation was there more than ever," said Thomas.

"As big a high as it was just getting to nationals that first time, not being able to make the finals that first time was that much of a let-down."

There are about 163 NCAA Division II college track programs in the U.S. and only the top 16 hurdlers, based on their

times and placing in other meets, get the chance to run at this national meet.

The top eight finishers in each event are declared All-Americans.

"Everybody's times across the board seemed faster this year," Thomas noted.

Tarleton State University sprinters and hurdles coach Jerome Smith sums up Thomas's quick rise to college track notoriety in just one word: tremendous!

"Just the move up from high school hurdles, where kids run 39-inch hurdles, to 42-inches in college is something which takes a lot of kids a while to adjust to, but Garrett made that adjustment fairly quick," Smith said.

"But you're not going to find many Garretts out there in the world, mainly because of his work ethics and his maturity. Garrett already took a leadership role on our team last year as a freshman, mainly because of the way he always pushes himself in his workouts. He's not a guy who says a lot, but when he does, people listen."

Thomas is an All-American in every sense of the word.

"Garrett's dedication and desire are just amazing, not

only out on the track but also inside the classroom," Smith said.

It is tough for Thomas to compare his state high school 110-meter hurdling championship to last weekend's All-American honor.

"Seeing that you can finally compete with the others at that next level is just amazing," Thomas said.

Thomas is grateful for the constant support that he has received throughout his hurdling career, especially from his parents, Jimmy and Kim Thomas. Jimmy is the superintendent at Borden County.

"They've been to nearly every one of my races in college except last year's nationals at North Carolina," Garrett said.

"We had bad weather at North Carolina last year, which kept their plane from landing on schedule."

After reaching nationals his first two years in college, Thomas would not mind keeping that as a habit in his final two seasons of his college career.

"Anything can happen, especially in the hurdles," Thomas said.

"Now, we're hoping to get back (to nationals) in both the quarter and the 110-meter



Former Coyote, Garrett Thomas recently received national honors after competing in the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Walnut, California. Garrett is the son of Jimmy and Kim Thomas of Gail.

hurdles. As much hard work as we put into it this season, we'll have to work even harder if we want to go back in multiple races."

Thomas just missed out on running both hurdle races last weekend. He came in third in the 400-meter hurdles at the Lone Star Conference Track Meet.

Smith can see a top-three national finish in Thomas's future.

"Garrett's upside in the hurdles, especially in the quarters, is nearly unlimited. He's one of the few individuals who, as a coach, you're even excited about going to practice with every day. You could tell this guy to run through a brick wall and he'd want to know how many.

Making the Grade!

6th Six-Weeks

Beta Achievement

Senior: Sharelle Gass and Rachel Wilson; **Sophomore:** Lacey Roberts; **Freshman:** Bailey Anderson, Kimberly Proulx, Taylor Richey and Krista Tarleton; **Eighth Grade:** Austin Fields, Chance Taylor, and Blake Turner; **Seventh Grade:** Shea Burkett, Steven Howard, Kayla Pepper, Tanner Richey, Steelie Sanders, and Mattie Turner; **Sixth Grade:** Brady Dowds, Taylor Gass, Matthew Ham, Maeghan Herridge, Kalyn Massingill, Zach McMeans and Matthew Proulx.

6th Six-Weeks

Honor Roll

Senior: Pascual Espinoza, Shelby Roberts and Kate Wallace; **Junior:** Carlos Hernandez and Krystal Hobson; **Sophomore:** Eric Espinoza, Karl Lamming, D'Nae Johnson, Chellsie Pigford, Michael Porter, Brendan Tarleton and Raylea Underwood; **Freshman:** John Hensley and Joseph McConnell; **Eighth Grade:** Austin Tyler; **Seventh Grade:** Matthew Roberson, Riley Smith and Kylie Voss; **Sixth Grade:** Mallory McMeans and Mollie McMeans; **Fifth Grade:** Frank Banman, Tye Basquez, McKenna Campbell, Blaise Freeman, Nathan Ham, Sean Tucker and Cayden Vaughn; **Fourth Grade:** Joel Andrade, Rhaeden Bland, Kylee Dean, Zoie Key, Channing Miller, Kelby Miller, Samuel Raborn, Tatum Richey, Flint Roberts, Taylor Roberts, Caelan Thuett, Merik Valentine and Tate Wheatley; **Third Grade:** Maddie Benavidez, Cheyenne Dowds, Tanner Freeman, Hayley Gray,

Dylan Murphy, Maria Neufeld, Avery Price and Bryce Turner; **Second Grade:** Thadd Basquez, Kable Kleck, Thomas Nix, and Trace Richey.

2nd Semester Beta Achievement

Senior: Rachel Wilson; **Sophomore:** Lacey Roberts; **Freshman:** Bailey Anderson, Taylor Richey and Krista Tarleton; **Eighth Grade:** Austin Fields and Blake Turner; **Seventh:** Shea Burkett, Kayla Pepper, Tanner Richey and Steelie Sanders; **Sixth:** Zach McMeans.

2nd Semester Honor Roll

Senior: Sharelle Gass and Shelby Roberts; **Junior:** Carlos Hernandez; **Sophomore:** Karl Lamming, Brendan Tarleton, and Raylea Underwood; **Freshman:** John Hensley and Kimberly Proulx; **Eighth Grade:** Chance Taylor; **Seventh Grade:** Steven Howard, Matthew Roberson, Riley Smith, and Mattie Turner; **Sixth:** Taylor Gass, Maeghan Herridge, Kalyn Massingill, and Matthew Proulx; **Fifth Grade:** Frank Banman, Tye Basquez, McKenna Campbell, Blaise Freeman, Sean Tucker, and Cayden Vaughn; **Fourth Grade:** Joel Andrade, Rhaeden Bland, Kylee Dean, Zoie Key, Channing Miller, Kelby Miller, Samuel Raborn, Tatum Richey, Flint Roberts, Taylor Roberts, Caelan Thuett, Merik Valentine and Tate Wheatley; **Third Grade:** Maddie Benavidez, Tanner Freeman, Hayley Gray, Dylan Murphy, Maria Neufeld, Avery Price, and Bryce Turner; **Second Grade:** Thadd Basquez, Kable Kleck, Thomas Nix and Trace Richey.

Youth Horse Club Results

By Jill Freeman

The Borden County Youth Horse Club held its first membership day on Thursday, May 29th at the Gail Arena. The turnout was great and the pace has been set for a fun-filled series! Kids ranged from age 2 to age 11 and everyone participated in Western Pleasure, Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Flag Racing, and Goat Ribbon Pulling. They were congratulated with homemade ice cream and watermelon after the event.

The play nights will be held every Thursday evening in June beginning at 6:30. We invite the community to come out and join us in supporting our young cowboys and cowgirls. A concession stand will be provided by the Borden County Junior High cheerleaders.

Special thanks to everyone that worked to get the event kicked off and organized. Also, thank you to RES Construction and Jon Gunyon from the Bull Creek Wind Farm for their donations.

Results for the first event are as follows:

Lead Line Western Pleasure Participants: Luke Carpenter, Quinten Freeman, Allie Murphy, J.Tom Price, Brooklyn Gray.

Lead Line Barrels Placings: 1st-Luke Carpenter, 2nd-Allie Murphy, 3rd-Quinten Freeman and 4th-J. Tom Price.

Lead Line Poles Placings: 1st-Luke Carpenter, 2nd-J. Tom Price, 3rd-Allie Murphy and 4th-Quinten Freeman.

Lead Line Flags Placings: 1st-Allie Murphy, 2nd-J. Tom Price, 3rd-Quinten Freeman and 4th-Luke Carpenter.

Lead Line Goat Ribbon Pull Placings: 1st-Allie Murphy, 2nd-Quinten Freeman, 3rd-Luke Carpenter and 4th-J. Tom Price.

8 & Under Western Pleasure Participants: Katie Gray.

8 & Under Poles Placings: 1st-Katie Gray.

8 & Under Flags Placings: 1st-Katie Gray.

9-12 Western Pleasure Participants: Tanner Freeman, Blaise Freeman, Avery Price and Hayley Gray.

9-12 Barrels Placings: 1st-Dylon Murphy, 2nd-Avery Price, 3rd-Blaise Freeman, 4th-Avery Price and 5th-

Hayley Gray.

9-12 Poles Placings: 1st-Dylon Murphy, 2nd-Tanner Freeman, 3rd-Blaise Freeman, 4th-Avery Price and 5th-Hayley Gray.

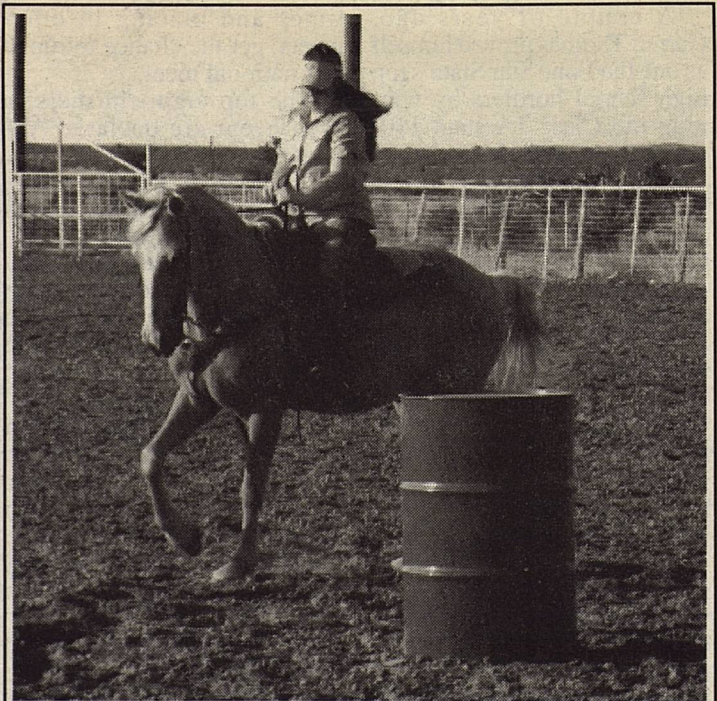
9-12 Flags Placings: 1st-

Tanner Freeman, 2nd-Blaise Freeman and 3rd-Avery Price.

9-12 Goat Ribbon Pull Placings: 1st-Tanner Freeman, 2nd-Blaise Freeman and 3rd-Avery Price



Tanner Freeman reaches out to grab the flag during the flag race. Tanner is the son of Jason and Jill Freeman of Gail.



Hayley Gray shows expertise as she guides her horse around the barrel. She is the daughter of Glen and Lisa Gray of Gail.

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History Making Coyotes

Ten Borden County Sluggers Recognized on All 3-1A Team

Courtesy of Lamesa Press Reporter

After taking only three years as a high school athletic program to crash Class 1A high school baseball's playoff party, it is no wonder that Borden County was so well represented on the All-District 3-1A Team.

They did that and they were. A total of 10 Coyotes sluggers off of their first-ever post-season squad were recognized on that league's honor roll, which Borden County Coach Trey Richey has now released.

Borden County's first-team all-district picks are senior pitcher/infielder Quentin Shafer along with sophomore's pitcher/infielder Flynn Chapman and outfielder Karl Lamming.

Three Coyotes who earned second-team all-loop are senior first baseman Miller Valentine, sophomore center fielder Michael Cooley and freshman catcher Miles Valentine.

Four Coyotes who earned honorable mention to 3-1A's Dream Team are junior second baseman Clay Harding, freshman third baseman Tony Soto, junior right fielder Tyrell Massingill and junior infielder Carlos Hernandez.

Quentin Shafer has been Borden County's Mr. Baseball since that program got off the ground three years ago.

After being their starting pitcher in their very first game three years ago, Shafer was also their starting pitcher in their first playoff game a couple of weekends ago against Morton at Lubbock Christian High School.

Shafer finished his senior season with a 10-4 win-loss record with a 3.00 ERA and a whopping 120 strikeouts.

With a .530 batting average and 24 RBI's, Shafer was also a top-notch hitter for the Coyotes.

"He's a gamer," Richey said of Shafer. "At the first part of this season, Quentin was out with a broken wrist which kept him from batting. Once he could finally start hitting again he had to do it left handed."

"As a pitcher, he lost his last

two decisions against good clubs to finish up at 10-4. He's got real good off speed stuff."

Flynn Chapman was a force at both the plate and on the mound in the Coyotes' march to the state baseball playoffs. At the plate, Chapman hit a whopping .565 with 50 RBI's. On the mound, he finished with a 5-4 win-loss record with a 3.87 ERA and 69 strikeouts.

"He's been something else," Coach Richey said of Chapman.

"One of the biggest things going for Flynn is the way that he always put the ball into play."

"One of the amazing stats about him was in his two years of baseball, where he played in 46 games, he struck out a grand total of only nine times."

Karl Lamming batted his way onto the all-district 3-A baseball team with a whopping .622 batting average, including 12 doubles and 31 RBI's.

"He came a million miles. He wound up as one of our most consistent hitters in that two (batting) hole," Richey said of Lamming. "He struck out only 10 times all year. He never seemed to be in a slump."

"He's another guy who did a good job of putting the ball into play. He led us in hitting and was like second in RBI."

It was Lamming who smacked Borden County's first outside-the-park home run against Albany back in the Hamlin Tournament.

"He came out early on hitting the ball well and just never slowed down," Richey said of Lamming.

With Coyote brothers senior first baseman Miller and freshman Miler, every day was Valentine's Day in the Coyotes' baseball program.

Miller finished his senior season with a .463 batting average and 24 RBI's.

"Going from hitting around .200 last year to over .400 this year was a big jump for Miller," Richey said. "He also did a solid job of playing first base. He's our other senior who's going to leave us with a big void to fill."

Miles hit .527, including 16 doubles, while also driving in 16 RBI's.

"He's young and energetic," Richey said of Miles. "As our lead-off batter, Miles also did a good job of setting the table."

"He also did a good job for us as a catcher. He ended up throwing three guys out in the playoffs. He also had a good bat, leading us in doubles. He's another guy with a big future ahead of him in this game."

Sophomore Michael Cooley hit .297 with 21 RBI's. Against 3-1A opponents, Cooley hit a red-hot .386.

"He's a good athlete who does a great job of chasing down fly balls, and his bat seemed to improve as we went," Richey said of Cooley.

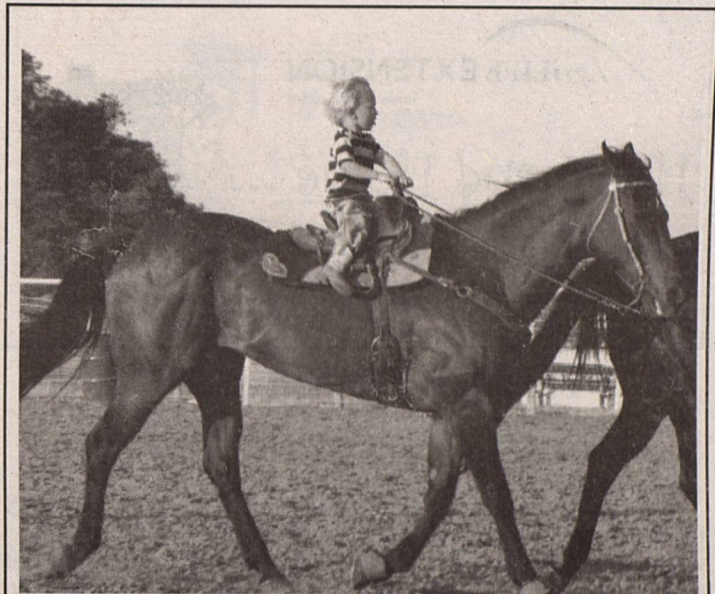
"Michael's also got a good upside in this game. He could end up being one of the top center fielders in the state. He's got good speed. He's also one of those guys who plays this game relentlessly. He showed that in all of his dramatic diving catches."

With seven of this year's starting nine returning, do not be too surprised to see Richey's Coyotes find their way back to the 1A state baseball playoffs.

A new league, however, will make the Coyotes' return back to the post-season even tougher.

"Both Ralls and O'Donnell will go into next year with a lot of momentum from this season, while Tahoka will be dropping down (from Class 2A) and people like Crosbyton always seem to come up with a good ball club," Richey said, while sizing up the Coyotes' new league competition.

"We've been real excited about what we've been doing in this game. Hopefully, we'll be able to keep that momentum going."



Luke Carpenter exits the arena after performing the Western Pleasure during Saturday's play day. He is the son of John Clay and Cassidy Carpenter.

Local Families Needed For Exchange Students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs (ASSE) is seeking local host families for international high school boys and girls. These students are 15 to 18 years of age, and are coming to this area for the upcoming high school year or semester. These personable and academically select exchange students are conversant in English, are bright, curious and anxious to learn about this country through living as part of a family, attending high school and sharing their own culture and language with their newly adopted host family.

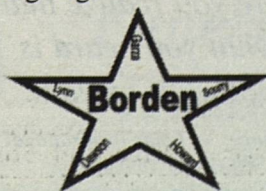
The exchange students arrive from their home country shortly before school begins and return at the end of the school year or semester. Each ASSE student is fully insured, brings his or her own personal spending money and expects to bear his or her share of household responsibilities, as well as being included in normal family activities and lifestyles.

The students are well screened and qualified by ASSE. Families may select the youngster of their choice from extensive student applications,

family photos and biographical essays. Students and families are encouraged to begin corresponding prior to the student's arrival.

Those persons interested in obtaining more information about becoming a host family should call toll free: [1-800-473-0696](tel:1-800-473-0696). There are hundreds of students to choose from, so call—and begin the process of selecting your new host son or daughter today!

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Heart and Home ...

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



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Tips for Dealing With Scorching Temperatures

It is hard to believe that it is just the first week of June and we have already experienced several days of triple digit weather. If this trend continues, summer this year could be an old-fashioned scorcher. The National Weather Service has issued a special weather statement announcing that we could have 10 consecutive days of 100 degree weather, which could possibly be a record.

While many of us welcome summer - no school, swimming, watermelon and family vacations - others of us dread the scorching heat. Regardless of whether you are a sun-worshiper or dislike the sun, it is important to be a wise Texan and know that summer heat is nothing to fool around with - or in. Summer heat can be dangerous. Each year hundreds of people in and out of the Lone Star State get sick because of heat-related conditions, and some of them die.

Some of these heat-related conditions are:

- Heat cramps: Painful spasms and cramping of large muscles in the legs, arms or abdomen. These spasms are caused by too much exertion in the heat and not enough fluids (such as water or juice) taken in.

- Heat exhaustion: Feeling of tiredness, weakness and dizziness, accompanied by headache, nausea and sometimes vomiting. Heat exhaustion is also brought on by dehydration and too much physical activity in the heat. Victims' perspiration is heavy; skin feels moist.

- Heat stroke: Symptoms of this serious medical condition include feeling tired, weak and dizzy, as well as disorientation and/or deliriousness, and possibly unconsciousness. Heat stroke is truly a medical emergency for which you would call emergency services (in

Borden County, call the EMS at (806)759-5111).

However, the news does not have to be all dark and gloomy. A few precautions and a little common sense can make these summer dangers a thing of the past.

First, get plenty to drink - of the non-alcoholic variety. Be sure you are adequately hydrated before you go into the heat, and make sure you have plenty of water with you. If you're planning to be out in the sun doing heavy physical activity, drink a couple of eight-ounce glasses of water, juice or sports drink about two hours before you go outside, and follow that up with another four to eight ounces of these liquids about 90 minutes later - or about 15 or 20 minutes before you go out into the sun. That will give your body time to accumulate necessary fluids.

Beer may be considered the "national drink of Texas" in some circles, but be advised when using it as your beverage of choice when trying to beat the heat. Beer actually acts as a diuretic and increases fluid loss - not a good thing when you're trying to protect yourself against heat-related illnesses.

Caffeinated drinks, such as colas and that other Texas favorite, iced tea, act much the same way. These drinks make you lose more water than you need to. Your best bet is to drink plain and simple water, and plenty of it. Be sure to drink lots of cool water, even more than you think you need, when the weather is hot and humid. And remember: When the weather is humid, perspiration doesn't evaporate as quickly so the body cools down more slowly and heat-related conditions become more likely.

A good rule of thumb is to drink about one-and-a-half times what your body tells you

it needs to prevent dehydration in the summer heat. Drink at least a gallon of liquid a day - about 16 glasses - when the outside temperature is above 90 degrees and you are not in air-conditioned surroundings.

Surprisingly enough, some places in Texas are still not air-conditioned. If you find yourself in one of those locations:

- Use a fan to keep air circulating.

- Open windows as wide as possible to create cross-ventilation.

- Open drapes or curtains on the shady side of the building and close them on the sunny side.

- Don't cook.

- Try to spend at least part of the day in an air-conditioned environment, such as a shopping mall, senior center or public library.

- Take cool baths or showers as often as possible.

Some Texans feel the heat more than others and need to take special precautions. Older people are more likely to have problems with heat, because the body's temperature-regulating system is not quite as sensitive as it gets older, so they don't realize how hot they are becoming. People with chronic illnesses, such as Parkinson's disease, diabetes, heart disease or high blood pressure, may be more heat-sensitive too.

Also remember:

- Do not increase salt intake.

- Wear light-colored, cotton clothing. Most synthetic materials trap body heat and are not absorbent. However, there are many new materials on the market today that can help shed moisture from the body (like CoolMax, Body Armor, and Dri-release). Be sure to wear a hat to shade your head. Also, look for clothing that has a built-in Sun Protection Factor

(SPF).

- Be sure to wear sunscreen, no matter the time of day. Look for the appropriate SPF and buy the product what matches your needs (application type, waterproof, sweatproof, etc.).

- Whenever possible, schedule outside activities during early morning or late evening when temperatures are cooler. If you are required to work outside, take frequent breaks and drinks of cool water. Do not run or do other types of en-

ergetic exercise during the heat of the day.

- Drink the right beverages. Avoid drinks with caffeine and alcohol - they may cause muscle cramping. Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables to maintain adequate amounts of sodium, calcium and potassium.

For more information about heat-related conditions and how to avoid them, contact the Texas AgriLife Extension Service-Borden County at (806)756-4336.

AgriLIFE EXTENSION
Texas A&M System

Agriculture News
by Cody G. Hill
Borden County Extension Agent -
Agriculture

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

"Taylor County 4-H Shoot"

Four Gail 4-H Trap Club members traveled to Abilene for the Taylor County 4-H Shoot on May 24, 2008.

Our two new shooters Blaise Freeman and Tate Wheatly participated in the Jr. Division (ages 9 - 10). They competed against 20 other Jr. Trap shooters. Blaise placed 9th with a score of 33 out of a possible 50 and Tate placed 12th with a score of 26 out of a possible 50. Way to go Blaise and Tate! This was the first shoot for these young shooters and did they every excell. Congratulations to Blaise and Tate!!

Matthew Roberson participated in the Intermediate Division (ages 11-13) and competed against 22 other shooters. Matthew placed 2nd in Skeet with a score of 45; he missed placing in Trap with a 42 and in 5-Stand with a 34.

Raylea Underwood participated in the Sr. 1 Division (ages 14-15) and competed against 13 other shooters. In this division, Raylea won High Overall and High Overall Girl! Raylea placed 1st in Skeet with a perfect score of 50, 1st in Trap with a score of 48 and shot a 33 in 5-Stand. Raylea received a Montana Silversmith belt buckle for HOA.

These young people, their parents, and coaches are to be commended for their dedication to this sport. You are proving what practice and discipline can accomplish.

"The Pecan Tree Is A Survivor"

Along the 10,000 miles of rivers and streams in Texas there are many very large pecan trees which are living testimony of their tremendous survival potential. These trees have made it through extreme droughts such as the early 1950s where little or no rain occurred for four straight years, yet the pecan survived when other species of large trees died.

The pecan is uniquely adapted to the hot, dry, windy Texas climate because it can tolerate stress. If pecans are stressed in the fall, they will not set a large crop the following year, and the tree will survive on food stored in the trees' massive limb, trunk, and root system. On weak trees, the crop is shed by various ways throughout the season. This could be physiological drop, pollination drop, casebearer drop or waterstage drop. The shedding of pecans is an important natural stress management tool which contributes to the long survival of pecan trees. It is very difficult for pecan trees to absorb zinc from the soil; consequently, native trees do not make vigorous growth once they are mature and begin bearing. This natural vigor control via zinc unavailability plays an important role in long term native tree survival. Also, many alluvial river bottom soils have good depth, good internal drainage and a very high water holding capacity which are additional reasons native trees are good survivors.

Thought for the Day

*I know you believe
you understand
what you think i
said, but i'm not
sure you realize that
what you heard is
not what i meant.*

Source: St. Louis Inspirational
Christian Connection.

Engagement Announced



Cooley - Matthews

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cooley of Gail would like to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Tammy Cooley to James Matthews Jr, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Matthews Sr. of Hermleigh, Tx.

The couple will exchange vows Saturday, August 16, 2008 at Wooden Spoke Ranch.

Youth Bake Sale

Saturday,
June 7th from
9am to 1pm
at the Rock station
on Hwy. 180.

All proceeds go to
help fund
pre-teen
camp.



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Walk Across Texas a Huge Success!

Nineteen Borden County residents participated in the *Walk Across Texas* program during April and May. Together, these individuals walked 754 miles over the six week period. What an accomplishment!

The mileage breakdown for each team is: Flat Footed Floozies (consisting of Shawna Gass, Amy Rinehart, Darby Key, Cindy Herridge, Sherry Gass, Sheri Poole, and Arica Proulx) = 342.5 miles; County Cruisers (consisting of Sharlot Stone, Julie Smith, Jacquie Whalen, Becky Beaver and Terry Smith) = 187 miles; and

Joy Walkers (consisting of Tammy Simmons, Kerri Benavidez, Sharon Baeza, Becky Nix, Tarey Tarleton, Charla Soto and Hayley Richey) = 224 miles.

The *Walk Across Texas* program was designed to encourage people to start and maintain a physical fitness program. A tumbler will be given to each participant. We are very pleased that we walked over seven hundred fifty miles! A special thanks to everyone that participated in the 2008 Walk Across Texas program!

You worked, you studied,
you tried and you
Succeeded.
Congratulations!



Branon Funeral Home

Lamesa, Texas

Color Me Healthy Fun Day

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Time: 2:00 to 4:30 p.m.

You are invited to attend the
Color Me Healthy Fun Day
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All youth age 4-7 are invited to join the fun!
We will play games, sing songs, make crafts
and snacks, while learning how to...
Color Me Healthy!

For more information or to
RSVP, contact the Texas
AgriLife Extension Service-
Borden County office at
(806) 756-4336 or
jm-smith@tamu.edu.



The Borden Star (USPS or PUBLICATION No. 895-520) is published weekly except Christmas and New Year's week for \$12.00 per year by the Borden Star, PO Box 137, Gail, Texas, POSTMASTER: Send Change of Address to the Borden Star, PO Box 137 Gail, Texas 79738.

Commissioner Todd Staples Awards \$1 Million To Remove, Control Feral Hogs

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) recently awarded Texas AgriLife Extension Service \$1 million for the agency's new Texas Feral Hog Control Program: Moving Towards A Long-Term Abatement Strategy. "The feral hog population has exploded in Texas over the past 20 years. This invasive species will destroy anything in its path from sorghum fields in the rolling plains to pastures in East Texas to plants in a suburban San Antonio landscape," Commissioner Staples said. "Eliminating these animals also means safer driving conditions for Texans and for our many visitors. This grant will test the critical strategies we have developed to control this pest." Texas is home to more than 2 million feral hogs, the largest feral hog population in the U.S., and their numbers continue to increase due to high

reproductive potential and the lack of natural predators. Feral hogs wreak havoc on property, livestock, crops and pastures across the state and frustrate landowners because of their destructive nature. In fact the Extension Service estimates the statewide annual economic damage caused by feral hogs is close to \$52 million. The 80th Legislature directed this \$1,000,000 in funding following a \$500,000 pilot project funded by the 79th Legislature. The pilot program was administered by Texas AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Tech University through a TDA grant in 2006-2007 and did provide technical assistance to landowners at three sites, and promote educational events for other landowners statewide. The pilot project succeeded in removing more than 3,000 feral hogs, saving landowners/agricultural producers nearly \$3 million in losses.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

CHEVRON U.S.A., INC., #15 SMITH ROAD, MIDLAND, TEXAS 79705 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid in the **Spraberry** Formation, **JO-MILL Unit (60465)**, Lease, Well Numbers **1242W, 1342, 1413, 1521W**. The proposed injection well is located **15 miles SW** of **Gail**, Texas in the **JO-MILL (Spraberry)** Field, in **Borden County**, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from **6900** to **7600** feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Drawer 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 Telephone (512)463-6792.

MANAGING YOUR MONEY

Learning To Balance Your Budget 101

(NAPS)—Does it seem like it's getting harder to stretch your paycheck to cover all your bills? With gas prices nearing \$4 a gallon and food costs increasing every day, now more than ever, it is important to make sure you have control of your finances. Easier said than done. With all the financial advice out there, it is easy to become overwhelmed with where to begin. Step one to getting on the right track is simple: Develop a personal budget.

There are many benefits for following a budget. You can:

- stop living paycheck to paycheck;
- become more organized with your finances, so you can ensure that you pay your bills on time;
- track where you're spending too much money on things you don't necessarily need, and adjust your budget accordingly;
- adjust easier to increased living costs, such as the gas for your car;
- and save money for the future.

Most importantly, by developing and following a budget, you will be better prepared for life's curveballs. Watching the inflow and outflow of your money will allow you to create a savings account that can help pay bills if you have a sudden life-changing event, such as a job layoff, a death in the fam-

ily, a health crisis or divorce.

Developing a budget is easy to do. The hardest part is sticking to it. But by staying committed to the budget you develop, you can become more stable financially and will be able to adjust more easily to increased living costs or unexpected expenses. Here are three easy tips from www.smartedgebygmac.com to help you develop your budget:

First, Collect All Your Bills

This includes, but is not limited to, your checkbook register, credit card statements, phone bills, utility bills (electricity, heat, water, Internet, etc.) and receipts for gas, groceries and anything else you buy with cash, check or a debit card.

• Don't forget about items that are billed less regularly, such as taxes or insurance.

• If you don't keep receipts for some of the items listed, you may have to wait a month or two while you collect the required bills.

• Use a notebook to make sure you record every receipt or use a money management program on a computer.

Second, Categorize Expenses

Expenses can be divided into three categories: fixed, variable and flexible.

When you know what expenses are necessities (such as heat and electricity), compared with what

expenses are for wants (such as eating at a restaurant), you will be able to make budget adjustments—as necessary—to help save for the car or home of your dreams.

Third, Save Money

By Paying Yourself First

Almost every financial adviser recommends paying yourself first when creating a budget. Paying yourself first means that you treat yourself as you would any other creditor that must be paid each month. Often, making savings your last priority means that you don't save as much as you planned at the beginning of the month. To prevent this from happening:

• Decide on an amount—say 5 percent or 10 percent—of your take-home pay that you are able to save each pay period.

• Deposit the money into a savings account when you pay other necessary expenses from that paycheck. If your employer has an automatic savings deduction program, all the better—it's harder to spend what you can't see.

By paying yourself first, you create an orderly way to make your money grow—and that can really pay off in the long run.

These three steps can get you started on the path toward living on a balanced budget. To learn more about budgeting and financial literacy, visit www.smartedgebygmac.com.

BORDEN COUNTY ISD BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District is in the process of requesting bids for school housing.

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 "HOUSE BID" or e-mailed to the address indicated below. Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, June 12, 2008. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated researched, and presented to the board of trustees for their consideration at the next scheduled meeting. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees 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. (fax 806/756-4310)

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

Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith

Running 100 Miles Uphill

Pat Johns of Plano, Texas is the only person who has run the 100 mile Himalayan marathon four times. He started running 33 years ago for weight control. After getting a job in the corporate world just out of college, he put on some extra weight and found himself at 215 pounds. Now he weighs 195. He calls himself a Clydesdale.

"It's a category for runners who are big, old and slow," says Pat. "I've never really wanted trophies. All I want to do is complete the race. I usually finish in the middle of the pack."

He says running is a progressive disorder.

"You start running a little bit, then you do a 10K, then a half marathon, then a full marathon, then you go crazy and start doing some of the ultra marathons. My first was the Pikes Peak event where you run up to 14,000 feet, then turn around and come back down again. After I did that one three times, I thought I was ready for the Himalayan run."

Pat felt confident when he got to the India-Nepal border where the race takes place. Then he met people who swam the 4000 mile Amazon River and ran the 1100-mile Iditarod on foot in 30 below weather. It was then he decided to delve into the motivation of the people running the race. He decided it's not about running. It's about life. Pat left the corporate world a couple of years

ago and is now an internationally recognized motivational speaker. He got his start by speaking to a couple of Rotary clubs in the Dallas area, telling about his experiences as a runner and relating them to life. Pat has written a book, "Footprints In the Shadow of Giants" which features some of his philosophy and photographs.

He says the Himalayan 100 is the most beautiful of all the 60 marathons he has run. On the trail, runners can see the four tallest peaks in the world. It is a grueling race.

"It's 104 miles over five days," says Pat. "The first day is the worst. It's 24 miles with an 8,000 feet vertical gain. We go from 6,000 feet to 14,000 at about a nine-degree angle. The second day in a 20-mile run, the third day is 30, then the last two days are 13 and 17 mile runs. A lot of people fall and get scratched up pretty bad. I've seen some terrible ankle, knee and wrist injuries. It's just amazing what people are capable of doing."

In his presentations, Pat stresses the fact that we are trained to believe that we're limited and can't do things. But the reality is that people are limitless and can re-condition themselves to believe that anything is possible.

The first time Pat ran the Himalayan marathon in 2000, 60 runners from 15 countries competed. Half of them were from the US.

Cliff Ballard Memorial Fund

A Memorial Fund has been set up for Linda Ballard at:
State National Bank
9th & Baldrige St.
O'Donnell, Texas 79351
to assist with funeral expenses. Anyone wishing to donate should contact State National Bank.

We're always here for you
in case of an Emergency!
Just Call Us . . .

BORDEN CO
806/759-5111



Borden County Prescription Drug Discount Program Widely Used In First 18 Months

During the first 18 months since the introduction of the Borden County's free prescription drug discount program, county residents filled 406 prescriptions with the cards at discounts averaging 25% and \$20.30 per prescription, announced today.

Borden County Commissioners' Court launched the program to help consumers cope with the high price of prescription drugs. The County is making the free prescription drug discount cards available under a program sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo) and Borden County to make these money saving cards available.

The cards may be used by all county residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage. A national network of more than 57,000 participating retail pharmacies also honors the Borden County

Prescription Discount Card.

Cards are available at any County Office. County residents can call toll free 1-877-321-2652 or visit <https://naco.advancex.com> for assistance with the program.

"Using the NACo prescription discount card is easy," said Judge York. "Simply present

it at a participating pharmacy. There is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders and their family members may use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance."

The program is administered by Caremark Rx, Inc.

Wind Power Center Tour



Elementary students from Borden County toured the Wind Power Center of Lubbock. Students were able to step inside a wind turbine. The tour included antique windmills that were used to grind corn, saw lumber and pump water. Students also visited a prairie dog town on the field trip.

Borden Co. Youth Horse Club

Every Thursday Night in June
Finals-July 10, 2008

6:30 P.M. -- Gail Arena

Events

Western Pleasure
Barrels - Poles - Flags
Goat Tying/Ribbon Pull
Dummy Roping

Age Groups

Lead Line -- 8 & under
9-12 -- 13-18

Summer Fun!
Bring your lawn chairs

Concession Stand Provided
by Jr High Cheerleaders



Got News?

Mail to:

P.O. Box 137

Gail, Tx. 79738

Call: 806/756-4313

Ext: 275

Email:

kdean@bcisd.net

MEMBER
2008
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ASSOCIATION



More Than A Name

When pioneers made their way to Texas generations ago, many helped establish towns. From Abbott to Zorn, these smaller communities safeguard the Texas ethic, the values that have made our state great.

If you exit the major highways, you can travel to places such as Cee Vee, Tarzan, Tigertown, Ropesville, Petrolia and Notrees. The way these towns were named often reflects the optimism and good-natured outlook of those who helped settle our vast state.

Even today, the real spirit of Texas can be found in smaller towns across our state. Texas names have inspired singers and songwriters for decades. Is there a soul alive who hasn't heard of Luckenbach? Tex Ritter sang about four East Texas towns in his hit recording of the railroad song "Tenaha, Timpson, Bobo and Blair."

Texans often showed considerable flair in naming their towns. The inspiration for Tigertown apparently came from a circus poster in a saloon. Tarzan was named by a fan of Edgar Rice Burroughs novels.

The name Cee Vee, in West Texas, originated with the nearby CV Ranch. Postal officials rejected using the initials for the town's name, but agreed to spell it out. Citizens of one East Texas community wanted to name their town Walker, but it was already taken, so they reversed the spelling and called their town Reklaw. It was the same story in nearby Sacul, where residents originally sought the name Lucas.

Cowboys from the Spade Ranch asked to name the railroad depot Ropes. Postal officials told them there was a Texas town called Ropers, but accepted the name Ropesville. Oil has funded Texas education for decades,

and it also inspired Skellytown, after the Skelly Oil Co., Oilton, Petrolia and Joinerville. That was named for C.M. "Dad" Joiner, an Alabaman who discovered oil and started the East Texas oil boom in 1930.

Notrees in West Texas got its name after the town's sole tree was removed to make way for a new gas plant. But nature was honored elsewhere: "When the townspeople gathered to name the community, a thunderstorm broke out, followed by a rainbow," notes the Handbook of Texas. Rainbow, Texas survives today.

As cities and suburbs expand, small towns in Texas are under increasing pressure. And with agriculture now big business, even as we work to protect family farms, the viability of some smaller communities has declined.

Small town values figured in this year's presidential race, when one candidate told a San Francisco fundraising audience that workers in rural areas were "bitter" and "cling to guns or religion...as a way to explain their frustrations."

In my view, this remark showed an amazing misunderstanding of a vital part of our population. As anyone who's traveled in Texas knows, residents of smaller towns are optimistic and proud of our state and nation. And they know that our first and second amendment rights are critical to America's exceptionalism.

Small town Texas, where faith and moral principles are deeply held, is an ideal place to raise a family. The ethic that made Texas great—hard work, individual initiative, plain talk, independence, and an innate sense of fairness—remains firmly entrenched.

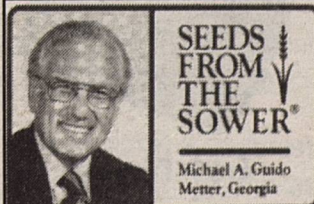
In these communities, when there is a problem, neighbors help neighbors. In other areas of the state, you might not even know your

neighbor.

Sometimes lost in today's fast-paced world is the importance of ultimate values, including justice, truth, freedom, human dignity and respect for human life.

These were the unflinching credo of many earlier Texans. Maintaining these values is the most important legacy we can leave for our children and grandchildren.

Sen. Cornyn serves on the Armed Services, Judiciary and Budget Committees. In addition, he is Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Border Security and Refugees subcommittee and the Armed Services Committee's Airland subcommittee. Cornyn served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice and Bexar County District Judge.



G.E. researchers claim they have developed the purest substance on earth. It has a purity ratio comparable to one gram of salt in a freight car of sugar.

But God's promises are purer. They're not like pie crust—made to be broken. There's no deceit in them.

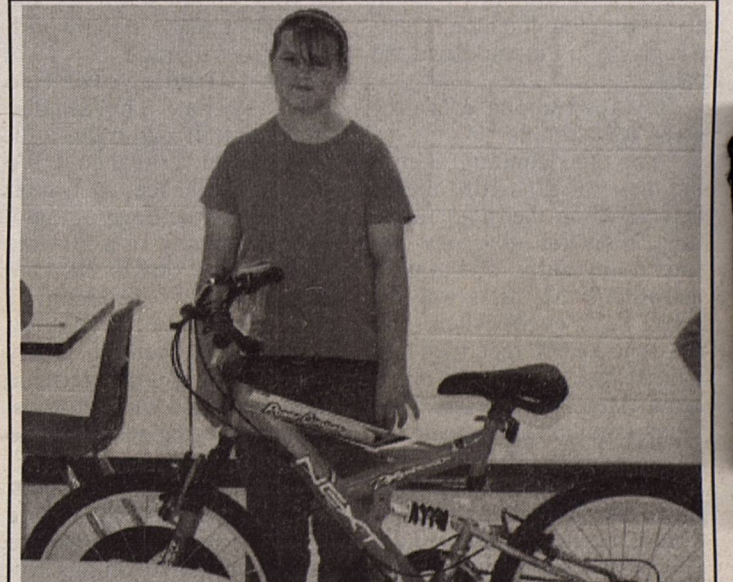
And they're plentiful. Scholars have found more than 30,000 in the Bible. But how many can you remember?

God's promises are powerful. No one can keep Him from fulfilling them. What He promises, He will do.

God made the promises. By faith I believe them, and in patience I await them. Do you?



Borden County 3rd graders (left to right) Maria Nuefeld, Hayley Gray and Cheyanne Dowds participate in the sack race on Field Day.



3rd grader, Maria Nuefeld, is the proud winner of a brand new bike. She was eligible for the Accelerated Reading drawing for having over 50 points.

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 **6019-98-001** for "ON DEMAND" MBGF in FISHER County, etc. will be opened on **JUNE 26, 2008** at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$298,207.16.

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:26852

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.