

Leaguer

THE COOKIN' COUNTY

North Texas area produces top UIL academic schools

There must be something in the water. Cooke County, in North Texas, has produced four state academic champions in the past three years. Lindsay High School won the 2A state championship in 1998 and 1999 (they came in second in 2000), and Valley View High School won the 1A state championship in 1999 and 2000. In fact, Lindsay has placed in the top five schools in its division in the 10 years UIL has recognized a state academic champion, winning six state championships in those 10 years, two in 2A and four in 1A.

"It's a long tradition that goes back over 30 years," Lindsay principal Jerry Metzler said. "UIL was a big deal here before it was a big deal throughout the state. It has been important to the community. They (community members) have become active by serving as judges and by helping in organizing invitational meets."

Metzler knows the tradition at Lindsay has become contagious.

"Once you get a tradition started, kids keep it going," he said. "We are working on our second generation of competitors."

Academic coordinator Craig Hertel knows the students have to work each year

to stay competitive.

To get out of district, a student has to be really good," he said. "Each school has had to make a commitment to UIL academics if the school can really compete."

Lindsay isn't the only school cooking in the county. Muenster placed second in 1A in 2000. In fact, Bridgeport (which is not in Cooke County but a stone's throw from the county line) has won the 3A state championship five of the last six years.

"We have a lot of dedicated teachers and students who go beyond the norm to practice and prepare to be successful," Bridgeport principal Bill Thetford said.

Bridgeport begins preparations early. In fact, they begin them in middle school.

"We start kids in a sixth grade program that has become successful," he said.

He explained that the students work not only on UIL contests, but take part in the Texas Math and Science Coaches Association (TMSCA) competitions.

"They come to the high school ready to go," he said.

As for the high schools in the area all being competitive, Mr. Thetford says there is a natural competition.

"When we go to those (invitational) meets, there is a lot of good, clean competition with each of us wanting to outdo the other," he said.

Valley View academic coordinator Patti Wilson found the secret to their success.

"The secret was putting together the winning combination of enthusiasm, motivation and a willingness to work hard — not just within the students, but also within the academic coaches," she said. "Teachers are hired with an expectation of maintain-

ing that tradition."

The county and area have drawn the interest of those in Austin, also.

"Lindsay and Bridgeport have won consistently over the years because they've recognized the value of academic competitions and emphasize them," said Bobby Hawthorne, director of academics. "I think the communities and administrations in these schools have created environments in which success is the natural outcome, and in turn, success breeds success."

UIL Accounting begins new system

It's the same at the beginning of every school year — the daily trek to the school or school district accountant asking if funds have been released so teachers can start ordering UIL materials.

The first step is to find information on ordering the different materials UIL offers, such as the *Constitution and Contest Rules*, academic study materials and music forms. Order forms for the 2000-2001 school year can be found in a number of places. Forms for elementary and

junior high materials can be found in the A+ Handbook. Forms for high school materials can be found in the Academic Coordinators Handbook. The UIL web site (<http://www.utexas.edu/admin/uil/>) also has all the forms ready to be downloaded and printed.

The UIL Accounting department is instituting a new system this year in hopes of decreasing the amount of time it takes for an order to be shipped once it has been entered into the UIL computer system. Last year the goal was to ship from five to seven days and this year the goal is to ship from three to five days after the order has been entered into the computer.

In order to speed up the process from schools, UIL accounting officials have asked for schools to do the following:

(1) Enclose the school district's purchase order with the UIL order form.

UIL cannot accept orders without the school district's purchase order;

(2) Include shipping and handling in the total amount of the order;

(3) Send payments for order of \$15 or less;

(4) Use the current order form;

UIL cannot accept phone orders or credit card orders. The organization does accept orders over the fax, though. The UIL fax number is (512) 471-5908.

This past year UIL had quite a few duplicate orders.

One of the problems causing this is that there is no indication on the order or check that a payment is being made for the materials received. This causes some confusion in the UIL Accounting office and the school district business office.

"It would help tremendously if all checks had our invoice number or the school district purchase order number on them if paying for material already received," said Sandra Deel, UIL accounting department head.

As in the past, the UIL will continue to wait until all items have been shipped before invoicing an order. If a payment is being made prior to an order being invoiced, it is requested to list the order number on the check.

Questions concerning orders or invoices should be directed to Mary Rocha or Pauline Norman at (512) 471-5883.

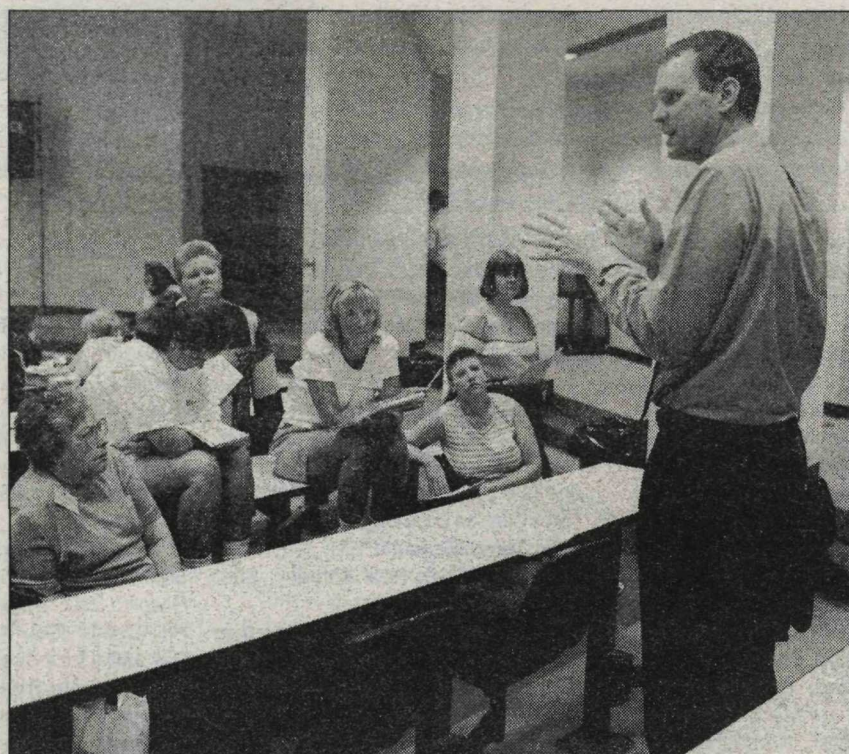


photo by Bobby Hawthorne

Mr. Dedication

While teaching at the Capital Conference, Lindsay speech teacher Craig Hertel explains his teaching techniques. Hertel's principal, Mr. Jerry Metzler, credits a lot of Lindsay's success to teachers like Hertel, who dedicate much of their spare time to preparing students for UIL.

Administrators should recognize worth of 'non-revenue' producing activities



EDITOR

Dr. Bill Farney
UIL Director

MANAGING EDITOR

Randy Vonderheid
Assistant Academic
Director

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dr. William D. Farney, director;
Dr. Charles Breithaupt, director of
athletics;

Richard Floyd,
director of music
activities;

Bobby Hawthorne,
director of academics;

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spring meet materials
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assistant academic
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Jane Teixeira,
assistant to the
athletic director;

Randy Vonderheid
assistant academic
director.

As we look back at 90 years of UIL history, there are some recurring problem areas that really never seem to go away. There are also the positive aspects promoted by the League that enrich students annually.

Each new generation of participants brings an additional layer of legacy to add to an already grand tradition.

One area of concern is the failure of school administrators to recognize the true worth of those activities which do not draw large crowds or produce revenue. These activities almost always include gifted students laboring "born to blush unseen" in academic areas.

Several years ago a team won the State Cross-Examination Debate championship. Their achievement went unrecognized in the local paper and was not highlighted on the billboard in front of school. It was only after an interested citizen reminded the principal of the omission that proper publicity came to the debaters.

In the heat of athletic events and fervor of music performances, it is often the academic competitors who are left out. In fact, many of the academic coaches serve unpaid as they unselfishly prepare their students for life-enriching experiences.

They do not seek notoriety nor ask for compensation. In the schools that do pay stipends, there is a warmth of recognition for the administrators who have acknowledged a vital area of student achievement and the academic coaches who make success a reality.

Another continuing problem is scheduling activity periods so students cannot participate in more than one activity. For example, in many schools it is impossible to be in both music and athletics. Where feasible, school administrators need to examine and evaluate the conflicts to permit talented students more than one extra-curricular experience.

Until the mid-1980s, it was usual for athletes to be in more than one sport. A survey in 1991 revealed that women's collegiate basketball players had been in at least three sports during high school.

Since 1995, there has been an increasing number of Texas students who specialize in only one sport. Why? The increasing non-school competition where entire school teams are playing together year round is one



Bill Farney
UIL Director

reason. Athletes feel peer pressure and subtle school coach pressure to train year round.

For the average player, missing out on non-school competition could equate to not being skilled or conditioned enough to be selected for the school team.

If specialization is a voluntary choice by the student, it is not a negative. However, if it is forced or coerced from school coaches, it does a great disservice to students. High school should be a time for multiple experiences. The broader the experience, the more educational opportunities accomplished.

A related condition to specialization is the "good trip" syndrome. It is not uncommon for communities to raise thousands of dollars for school teams or music groups to attend contests and festivals in far-off places, including foreign countries. In music, this occurs to provide reward and incentive to students. In athletics, it occurs to compete with the non-school teams who often travel far and wide in summer competitions.

While it is a violation of rules to have a school booster club fund a non-school athletic trip, the same parents are spending more and more hours fund-raising.

A closer scrutiny of school budgets and ever-increasing program demands without companion funding have left schools no other choice than to depend on booster clubs for some school activities. Unique to this condition is the wide discrepancy of income-producing power from school to school.

In the same metropolitan school district a year ago, one school's booster club raised over \$50,000 for the football program. Another district school's boosters could only master around \$6,000. While there are limits on what can be given players (the awards rule and athletic amateur rule), it is obvious that a huge gap exists between these two football programs in quality and quantity of meals for road trips, weight-room equipment, video machines, protective equipment and training supplies. There are also Title IX issues being aired in similar settings.

Perhaps the paramount issue facing school activities — not only in Texas, but nationwide — is the amount of school funds budgeted for activities versus the community's perception of the importance of those activities.

Nationally from one to two percent of school budgets is spent on school activities. This includes athletics, music and fine arts (academics).

Some citizens never question these expenditures. In an era of escalating property taxes and levies, others do question and do deserve annual reassurance that the cost

is justified by the value of experiences and educational benefits.

Only school authorities can orchestrate a program of public information to bring the benefits of performance and competition to the taxpayers. It is not important to convince parents of participating students. It is the group of citizens who do not have students participating that should be the primary target of information.

Local merchants need assurance because, more than likely, they have been hit by many groups, both non-school and school, for donations.

Please make time to develop an aggressive campaign toward an increased awareness level in your community. It will help sustain the level of involvement needed to bolster student involvement in activities.

The challenge facing every school is to offer as many educational experiences as possible to as many students as possible.

Foremost for any school is the academic mission with all other endeavors being of secondary importance. Nothing should detract from the central purpose of education. To remain a part of schools, all activities must support the true mission of the school.

Ultimately we will be judged by our commitment toward ideals. If we fail, let it be because we have set the mark high and failed to reach it. The worst fear is to set average goals — and fail to meet them.

Thank you for any part you play in making UIL a promising experience for Texas youth.

Legislative Council meeting set for Oct. 15-16 in Austin

The 60th annual meeting of the UIL Legislative Council is Oct. 15 - 16 at the Omni Southpark Hotel in Austin. A public hearing will be held Oct. 15.

As a change from years past, no information will be sent through the mail. All information concerning the meeting can be obtained from the UIL website (<http://www.utexas.edu/admin/uil/>) beginning Sept. 1.

Leaguer

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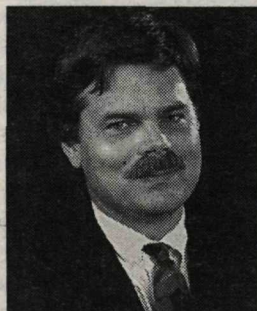
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If you're going to be a teacher, you need to know about UIL academics

Say you've been at the same job for two or three decades. You build so much institutional knowledge that you cannot believe that the new kid doesn't show up Day One knowing all this stuff already so you tend to fast forward your talks and writings in order to skip the yadda-yadda-yadda that you assume everyone has heard a hundred times too.



Bobby Hawthorne
Academics Director

Well, everyone hasn't heard it, not once, not a hundred times.

If you have, skip ahead. But first, a question for the young, new teachers and academic coaches across Texas: what are you thinking? Haven't you people been reading the newspapers? All of you are supposed to be day traders or have your own web site that's about to go public. Or you're supposed to be going to law or business school or at the very least trying to marry a multi-millionaire on television or eating rats on a desert island.

From what I read and hear, no one wants to teach in public schools these days because schools are horrible places where illiterate kids run wild, with their guns and cell phones and nails pierced in their noses and eyelids, among other places.

Meanwhile, the ACLU won't let anyone sing *The First Noel* at the Christmas concert or pray before football games. The left says they can't read Twain, and the right says they can't read John Steinbeck or Judy Blume, which is okay with the kids because all they want to do is watch Jerry Springer and talk about what Jennifer Lopez wore to the Grammy Awards.

Welcome to school. Your job is to change all this. And while you're at it, end hunger, anger, alienation, prejudice, racism, sexism, body odor. Do everything that parents cannot or will not do. Teach students values, morals, respect for all living things but don't mention religion in general or any particular deity specifically or someone will sue you.

Teach students how to play well with others. Teach them numbers, colors and the alphabet and everything you can do with them. Teach them the importance of learning, even if they come from a home that doesn't contain a book, newspaper or magazine. Teach them the importance of citizenship, even though the parent has never attended a PTA meeting or voted in a local, state or national election and whose political philosophies are amply expressed on a bumper sticker.

Make sure they learn enough to pass all the standardized and optional tests, despite the fact that the kids will miss half their classes in order to go to the orthodontist, dermatologist, plastic surgeon, family counselor, etc. etc. And don't make the classes so hard that they'll need help with homework.

By the way, homework should never interfere with family functions. It's best done at school, you know.

Enforce strict rules and teach respect for authority, but understand that your rules are fine for other students but "really should not affect me or my child. Whatever the situation, our situation is special and supercedes your arbitrary rules."

Most importantly, make students appreciate capitalism and the free enterprise system so that they can get rich enough to enjoy all the big tax breaks and support us Baby Boomer parents long after we retire to the golf courses and Wal-Marts of America.

You can do it. We know you can because we found

this item in the *Charlotte (NC) Observer*: William L. Sanders, professor and director of the Value Added Research and Assessment Center at the University of Tennessee, stated that the single biggest factor affecting academic growth of any population of youngsters is the effectiveness of the individual classroom teacher.

"The answer to why children learn well or not isn't race, it isn't poverty, it isn't even per-pupil expenditure at the elementary level. It's teachers, teachers, teachers. The teacher's effect on academic growth dwarfs and nearly renders trivial all these other facts that people have historically worried about," the *Observer* editorialized.

As you know, we're dangerously short of them.

Senator Charles Schumer of New York noted recently, "The shortage of competent teachers is the most glaring problem we face right now. We've entered a whole new type of economy in which ideas are the generators of wealth, of jobs and growth. But the No. 1 storm cloud on the horizon is the lack of a young, high-quality, dedicated group of professionals to teach our children."

So, we need you. We want you to be happy in education, to find a career here, to hang around long enough to know which end is up because while there are jobs that pay much more, no job is more important than that of a classroom teacher.

Now, why start my first column of the new millennium with all of that? Because, given that you're going to be in education, you should know about the UIL academic program. For many educators, it's the reason they teach. Good teachers want a chance to work with the best students, and UIL provides them that opportunity and more. Much more.

Now, where as I? Oh, yes...

MANUAL LABOR

- Did you receive your copy of the *Academic Coordinator's Manual*? It has three leaves the color of generic mustard on the cover. The manual contains all sorts of juicy and useful tips, forms, lists, checklists, dates, rules and charts. As far as readability, it's not the *Poisonwood Bible*, but it's a pretty handy document if you happen to be your school's academic coordinator.

If you didn't get your copy, contact us.

FALL CONFERENCES

- General information regarding the 2000 Student Activities Conferences was included in the same mailing. For a complete account, check out the separate story regarding the SACS in this issue of the *Leaguer* and note the fact that we've substituted a SAC at UT-Pan American for the conference at Texas Tech.

Why? Because we need a conference in the booming Rio Grande Valley at least every other year. Attendance at the UT-Austin, University of North Texas and Sam Houston State conferences has been fat and steady. Attendance at Tech has been rather thin and uncertain, due in large parts because West Texas doesn't contain all that many folks. And it hasn't helped that certain people apparently delight in scheduling debate tournaments on top of our SAC at Tech, which cuts into an already limited pool of students and teachers.

So this year, we're going to Edinburg, not Lubbock. Wouldn't it be just as easy to add a conference? Sure it would. But I am reluctant to ask our contest directors to surrender another weekend away from home, family and college football. Several have committed to all four conferences plus a special workshop for one of the large inner-city districts as part of an effort to inculcate UIL academics among minority students. That's plenty con-

sidering what little we pay them.

Another SAC note: sessions will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 1:30 p.m. In the past, most of us began at 9 a.m., took lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., reconvened at 1:30 and finished around 3. A few started later. A few finished earlier. A few finished later. The new schedule allows everyone to begin and end at the same time. Those who require a snack around noon can tote along a granola bar, a banana and a bottle of fancy water.

A final SAC point: programs will be posted and updated on the UIL web site. Bookmark and check it regularly.

PILOT PROGRAMS

- The League will continue the economics and wild card post-district representation pilots this year. The economics contest was piloted last spring in Region 1, Conference 5A, and the wild card was piloted in Region 3, Conference 4A. We'll expand both pilots this spring to include small school conferences as well.

In 2003, social studies will be added to the junior year exit level TAAS test. No doubt, the League needs a social studies contest, but I'm not convinced that a single economics contest answers the need. Knowing how difficult it is to change a contest once it's adopted, I want to make certain that we explore all options before submitting a final proposal. We might want to pilot a contest that embraces economics, geography and civics

continued on page 10



photo courtesy of Jeanne Barr

Congratulations!

Perfection is rewarded with a hug from Weslaco High School Computer Applications Teacher Diana Hicks to her student, Cristina Correa, who had just learned she scored a perfect score on her regional contest. Two of Hicks' students placed at the state contest, Correa, who placed third, and Art Ramos, who placed fourth.

"Diana is a wonderful role model for teachers and students in the (Rio Grande) Valley," said Jeanne Barr, Los Fresnos High School UIL Computer Applications coach.

Debate topic gets facelift for better clarification

I've always marveled at my mother's instinctive ability to know things. Maybe lining up all three of her children and scrutinizing each of our faces to determine accurately which one of us had raced through the formal living room and broken her favorite vase wasn't so phenomenal (after all, we always knew my brother Ken, the middle child, was the guilty party!). But I've never ceased to be amazed that Mom always seemed to know when one of her brood was in trouble. I can't tell you how many times she has dialed up my brothers and me, sometimes in the middle of the night, to see which of us was experiencing a crisis only to find that, sure enough, one of us needed her. We've often quizzed her as to how she seems to know just when to call. She calls it "mother's intuition."



Jana Riggins
Assistant Academic Director

Your choices, two of which were developed from study reports authored by Texas coaches, include world hunger, weapons of mass destruction, India/Pakistan, Republic of South Africa, and Cuba. I invite you to explore these topics via the UIL web site, where we will be providing descriptive paragraphs for each topic area, links to the five topic reports, as well as e-mail addresses of the authors so you can generate dialogue with individuals who have studied these areas in depth before casting your vote.

At the Topic Meeting, states also amended the wording of this year's CX topic. Be sure to alert your debaters to the change. We have posted the justification for the change on our speech web page for those interested.

Spending several days with some of the most incredible debate minds in the country convinced me that this activity cultivates critical thinking skills possibly more acutely than any other I know.

My summer was also spent with talented Texas coaches who lent their expertise to design Lincoln-Douglas Debate topics. The UIL fall LD Debate topic for August through December, *Resolved: A candidate's personal character ought to be valued more than his public performance*, is particularly timely due to the upcoming presidential election and should prove a good topic for novice LDers, yet challenging in the arena of values for varsity debaters. Thanks to all of you who submitted topic ideas on our web page. The State Advisory Committee reviewed each of them in their task to design potential resolutions. I hope you'll continue to submit ideas for future topics.

Although we retain the same Prose and Poetry categories this school year, your creative suggestions for new categories is also being solicited this fall. A committee will convene soon to select categories for the '01-'02 competitive season and your feedback will be valuable. Click on the speech web page to submit your ideas or see me at one of the four Student Activity Conferences this fall.

Coaches need to be aware of two rules adopted by the Legislative Council that involve speech. The first impacts sweepstakes points. Ten team points will be added to the school who generates the most points in LD debate, informative speaking, persuasive speaking, prose interpretation and poetry interpretation. This team point concept will be true in journalism, also.

The second rule establishes a late fee of \$100 for schools who qualify CX debate teams to the state debate tournament but do not forward the required judging forms to the League office by the designated deadline. The deadline this spring is Feb. 22. The C&CR specifies that if your school chooses to participate in CX Debate competition at the district level and then qualifies a team or teams to State, the school is responsible for providing one experienced judge for each team. Coaches may serve as the judge. If you are the official coach for your debate teams but do not feel qualified to judge at the state meet level, it is your responsibility to make plans in advance to secure a qualified critic so you can meet the judging deadline.

Speech surveys were mailed to coaches at all our member schools in early August and can be accessed via the web site. Please complete and return to the League office prior to Oct. 1. In June, the Academic Committee of the Legislative Council requested that the UIL staff draft several proposals in reference to the Sunday rule, Section 900 of the C&CR. Your opinion concerning that issue, as well as information about coaching stipends, judges' fees, and other speech-related questions is requested.

EXTEMP TOPICS

INFORMATIVE

1. What has George W. Bush chosen as his key platform issues in the presidential race?
2. How is President Vladimir Putin shifting Russia's military strategy?
3. What are the reasons for the European Commission's legal action against Microsoft?
4. Veterans versus farmers: what are the details of Zimbabwe's land war?
5. California versus the federal government: what are the major elements of the battle over medical use of marijuana?
6. What is President Hugo Chavez' plan for reviving Venezuela's economy?
7. Upping the ante: what are Texas' new TAAS standards?
8. Northern Ireland's long journey to peace: what are the latest developments?
9. What steps is Fiji's government taking to establish order in the wake of the coup?
10. Who is Dick Cheney?
11. What are the obstacles to providing prescription drug coverage for the elderly?
12. What are the details of the Justice Department's case against pipeline giant Koch Petroleum?
13. What is the Brazilian government doing to assist the flood-ravaged nation?
14. Candidate Al Gore: How has serving in the Clinton Administration helped and hindered his campaign?
15. What are the reasons for Puerto Rican opposition to a U.S. Navy presence in Vieques?
16. Firestone's tire recall: What allegations are being hurled at the company?
17. What are the social and ethical concerns of cracking humanity's genetic code?

PERSUASIVE

1. How does the addition of Dick Cheney to the presidential ticket impact Republican chances for a victory?
2. Columbia's economic austerity plan: too high a price to pay?
3. Should the Senate ratify the international treaty on global warming?
4. Is it "Taps" for Napster?
5. Do recent economic indicators signal a weakening U.S. economy?
6. Will internal conflict over Nigeria's oil wealth lead to an exodus of oil companies?
7. How successful was the GOP in presenting a unified party at its convention?
8. Will Tamil rebels accept the new constitution offered by Sri Lanka's government?
9. Is Congo on the verge of renewed civil war?
10. Can Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak persuade the Israelis and Palestinians to reconvene the peace summit?
11. Is prosecution of former President Suharto in Indonesia's best interests?
12. How will Texas education hold up under the national spotlight?
13. Is the United States and South Korea's half-century relationship on the rocks?
14. What are the chances of defeat for Slobodan Milosovich in Yugoslavia's September elections?
15. Are stricter regulations of the airline industry warranted?
16. Will Joe Lieberman hurt or help Al Gore's chances of becoming president?
17. Is the U.S. government to blame for the uncontrollable fires in the American West?

CX Debate Topic:

Resolved: *That the United States federal government should significantly increase protection of privacy in the United States in one or more of the following areas: employment, medical records, consumer information, search and seizure.*

LD Debate Fall Topic:

Resolved: *A candidate's personal character ought to be valued more than his public performance.*

Poetry Categories:

- A: Voices Beyond the Americas
- B: Diversity and the Human Experience

Prose Categories:

- A. Celebrating Authors of the Southwest
- B. Performer's Choice

I'm not sure I inherited those supernatural instincts from her but I do have a feeling this is going to be a great year for UIL speech and debate.

This summer, we hosted almost 400 coaches at the Capital Conference at UT-Austin. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

I've recently returned from the National Debate Topic Selection Meeting where delegates throughout the nation congregated in Corpus Christi to develop potential CX debate resolutions for next season. The five you will receive on a ballot from UIL in September will all be international resolutions, in keeping with our procedure which mandates an international topic every three years. This is to insure that every debater is given the opportunity to research a foreign topic at least once in his high school career.

Cherish the memories of the 'journey'

As a teacher first days of school were just as exciting as they were for students. Teachers got to see who the students would be in their classes and they would judge the students much like students judged teachers.

I would pick one or two students as future editors; one or two that hopefully would get out of my class the first day counselors allowed students to change classes and one or two (or more!) that would bring me a Christmas present.

When staffs walked in, it was almost like a family reunion, even though we had probably seen each other every day the week before school getting pictures, arranging the room and making plans for the year's publications.

The journey had begun.

Throughout the year, my staff and I experienced many things in our quest to publish a newspaper the school and staff would be proud of, or to meet every deadline in hopes the yearbook would come back with-



Randy Vonderheid
Assistant Academic Director

out any errors or missing any pictures (especially those senior pictures!). We created and worked toward those goals throughout the year. In the span of those nine months working together, we had a lot of good times and some times that weren't.

This summer at the Capital Conference, a workshop the UIL academic department hosts for those who direct the school's UIL academic contests, guest speaker Cinthia Salinas spoke about the "journey" each year.

Sometimes I'm not sure journalism teachers realize each year is a journey, and the best part of the completion of each issue of the newspaper or the delivery of the yearbook is the time and effort it took to get there, not in the final product. Too many times I think journalism teachers think that if they win this award or that award their job will be worth it. At one time in my teaching career I thought the same thing. I thought that if I won the "Gold Crown" my life would be complete. After winning it, though, I put more pressure on myself and my staff because since we had won it once we needed to win the award again and again.

I didn't cherish the journey it took to get there. It's not the awards that make a successful year. It's the fun, games, tears and camaraderie that grew on the way to completing that publication.

Looking back on those years, I don't always remember the awards we brought home from conventions or

contests. I do remember special times. I remember having to listen to the new Blondie tape all the way from Austin to Carthage after taking Mikalene and Jan to state UIL. I remember when Nancy would rush in from band practice all hot and sweaty, then go into high gear to meet the newspaper deadline that night. I remember Sheri crying on a November election night while we were working on another newspaper deadline. The television announcer on the old black and white set we had set up had just announced that Ronald Reagan would become our next president and Sheri, a young but devout Democrat, couldn't take the news. I remember Scott, Erin and Jackie calling me on a Saturday night laughing because they were working on a newspaper deadline and came up with a funny (but unusable) headline and wanted me to hear it.

I remember numerous runs to the Sonic, McDonalds, Wendys and Mr. Gatti's pizza. There were times we would all quit working on deadline and discuss someone's girlfriend/boyfriend troubles or cheer when someone came in and had just found out they had made the varsity team. I remember my kids always trying to pull little tricks on me. In fact, one year the staff was dead set on locking me in a storage closet in the room. They would all gang up on me and tried their hardest to get "Daddy V" into that closet and then lock me in. They never did accomplish that.

I even remember those not on publications would make the J-Lab their second home, much like the kids on staff, and they would spend time on deadline night working on the publication just as hard as the staff members.

I remember the weird things that came out of the darkroom, and some of those were even pictures! I remember computer crashes where we all shed a few tears, wiped them off and started over. I even remember my little sophomore who came dragging in almost three hours late, sat down at the computer and pounded out her story. She had spent that three hours interviewing the different sources and hadn't thought about letting anyone know where she was.

I, too, remember the not so fun times. The time one of my girls (I always called my staff members 'my kids') died of toxic shock syndrome. It was hard getting that yearbook out. The time I had to take one of my favorite girls off staff because, as she was addressing envelopes to send to parents for senior yearbook ads, she happened to put a "not so nice note" in one envelope. I remember the time one of my girls tried to commit suicide at summer workshop.

These are all the things you remember. Few will remember the end of the journey.

David Knight, a popular speaker at journalism workshops and conventions in Texas and other states, was talking to a friend of mine who advises publications in the Dallas area one night during this adviser's deadline work night. David heard the commotion in the back and told this adviser, "these are the greatest times. Enjoy them."

Enjoy the journey this year. Cherish the fun times you have with your students and staff. Forget about the bad times — it's not worth it. There will never be another year like this one.

I remember numerous runs to the Sonic, McDonalds, Wendys and Mr. Gatti's pizza. There were times we would all quit working on deadline and discuss someone's girlfriend/boyfriend troubles or cheer when someone came in and had just found out they had made the varsity team.

17 named to first All-State journalism staff

Seventeen high school journalists were named to the first All-State Journalism Staff, announced recently by Randy Vonderheid, UIL assistant academic director in charge of journalism.

"We created this staff to recognize those students who have made outstanding contributions to their staff and Texas high school journalism," he said. "Each of the students showed proficiency in UIL journalism competition as well as ILPC and other state and national journalism competitions. They are the 'cream of the crop' of Texas high school journalists."

In order to be named to the prestigious group, a student had to earn 50 points in scholastic journalism competitions, including UIL journalism, participation in ILPC contests and other state and national contests.

"I created the point system to reward students who not only participated in UIL journalism, both the actual meets as well as invitational meets, but to those who participated in ILPC and other scholastic journalism competitions," Vonderheid said. "Any student

could earn enough points in either UIL competition or other scholastic journalism competitions, so those who could not participate in either still had a chance to become an All-State member."

Applications for All-State Journalism staff are available on the UIL web page (<http://www.utexas.edu/admin/UIL/>) or will be mailed to those who request it. Deadline for the 2000-2001 school year is July 1.

Members of the 1999/2000 All-State Journalism Staff include: Ernie Garrido, Brownsville Pace High School; Audra Smith, Whitehouse High School; Chris White, Whitehouse High School; Angela Swain, Waco High School; Lindy Kay Wicklund, Waco High School; Douglas Morrill, Pflugerville High School; Nicole Smith, Westlake High School; Bo Allaire, Cy Falls High School; John Livas, Cy Falls High School; Vickie An, Cy Falls High School; Ben Rajabi, Cy Falls High School; Jonathan Smith, Tyler Robert E. Lee High School; Samantha Caviness, Duncanville High School; Phillip Hensley, Duncanville High School; Laurie Rodriguez, Duncanville High School; Elizabeth Egeland, DeSoto High School; Spencer Matern, DeSoto High School.

Several Internet services give students opportunities to increase their writing skills

With the Internet becoming a big part of communication today, several companies are giving high school students a chance to have work published on the web. Several companies have set up networks so that high school students can write not only regular feature stories, but serve as the school's stringer and report their high school football games for different net services. In addition, iHigh is sponsoring a program where a student from an individual school can earn a scholarship and other prizes by reporting the school's events on their iHigh web site.

The four main companies that have contacted different Texas high schools include iHigh.com, Highwired.com, Rivals.com and Schoolsports.com. Each has different ideas on how they want students to

approach stories and each have invited students to participate in this new venue of reporting.

"It (these internet companies) gives students an additional opportunity to build up their portfolios for future reference," said Randy Vonderheid, assistant academic director in charge of journalism. "Students have the opportunity to build their writing skills."

For more information on these different services, contact them at their addresses: iHigh.com, (www.ihigh.com), the High School Internet Network, is getting ready to launch the iHigh News Network in mid-August;

Schoolsports.com (www.schoolsports.com); Highwired.com (www.highwired.com) and Rivals.com (www.rivals.com)

The Annual TAJE convention has been set for Oct. 28-30 at the Gunter Hotel in San Antonio. For more information contact Rhonda Moore at rhonmoor@tenet.edu or Pat Gathright at patg@tenet.edu

Music on-stage must be part of play, according to new OAP interpretation

We are starting the new school year by beginning the Diamond Anniversary Celebration of the One-Act Play Contest. Since I have been involved for more than two-thirds of the 75-year history, there is some delight in seeing the program reach this level.

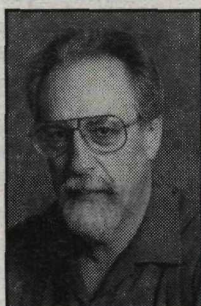
It was in 1951 that I saw my first State Meet OAP as a participant and I'm still very proud that a Conference B school with 10 grades was lucky enough to make it to State. We didn't win, individually or collectively, but we did have a positive experience that has been enhanced by time.

There have been changes in OAP, but the basic structure is still the same. There will continue to be changes, and this year will be no exception.

An "official interpretation" has been requested from the UIL State Executive Committee to clarify "incidental sound and music effects."

"Incidental sound and music effects shall not include vocal music sung on-stage unless dialogue-driven or prescribed by the playwright. Incidental sound and music effects may include beginning, ending, and transitional sounds/music and occasional brief underscoring that does not dominate the dialogue. Vocal music shall be considered incidental ONLY if recorded or sung off-stage to suggest time, location, or mood. Musical instruments used on-stage to produce incidental sounds or music shall be limited to those prescribed by the text. In all cases sound and music shall be in compliance with copyright law."

This request follows a year's struggle, with advice from two Texas Educational Theatre Association committees of theatre directors (19 members) and critic judges (15



Lynn Murray
Drama Director

members), to develop a music rule to clarify or substitute for Section 1033 (c) (1) (G). The current rule is too permissive, allowing directors to stretch the envelope to the degree that they are also in violation of the "no musical theatre" restriction of Section 1033 (c) (1) (F).

The requested interpretation is more specific and less restrictive than the current staff interpretation on pages 4-5 of the OAP Handbook and in previous columns: "Vocal music cannot be used unless dialogue-driven or prescribed by the playwright."

This new interpretation allows bits of vocal music from a radio, juke box, background dance music, etc. and off-stage music as indicated. This interpretation may be submitted as an addition to the rule at the UIL Legislative Council meeting in October. If all agree, it will take a year to establish. However, one-act contest managers and directors need guidance now.

Don't panic yet. I can't give you legal advice and I'm sure BMI, ASCAP and play publishers would give you the hard line. Educational Theatre Association (International Thespian Society) and the National Federation of State High School Activities Association (UIL's national association) have published legal sources indicating that music use from original sources for non-profit educational purposes and in the fashion indicated by this incidental "official interpretation" would not cause copyright problems. If your legal advice says otherwise, you should listen to them rather than me. OAP rules do not cover this subject, and neither do I.

In addition to music/sound clarification, a new rule that requires an "official" script of each play produced at the contest has been submitted for UIL Legislative Council approval in October. I cannot imagine why any director would go to contest without a legal copy of their script. It is happening much too often. I identified the problem in the April *Leaguer*, and the UIL Advisory Committee took action in June. It was approved by the

Academic Committee of the Council.

It is essential to have an exact copy of the script being performed in possession of the director to guarantee compliance with copyright law and to be immediately available to the contest manager and critic judge as a reference.

The proposed amendment is an addition to Section 1033 (c)(1) Title Selection. "(I) Script Integrity. A copy of the approved published, original or public domain play script marked to reflect the performance text shall be provided by the play director at each contest level. In addition to the one provided earlier to the judge for review, this script shall be made available for the critic judge and contest manager, identifying all special approvals, revisions, and/or adaptations."

The implementation of the script rule will require a year before it takes effect, in essence, August 31, 2001. Believe that it is a rule now! Script revisions that are not approved "adaptations" by the publisher etc. and the League will result in disqualification.

Do not put the contest manager and critic judge in the position of having to report a script violation that would result in a very painful process. Students must not be subjected to this type of director error in judgement.

There is one more major OAP revision that concerns all of us now. Please use the many highly qualified new critic judges on the TETA Adjudicators Organization/UIL Approved List. The current list is on the UIL web page. The back cover of the OAP Handbook, C & CR and this *Leaguer* carry the address. It is especially important this year because TETAO voted to limit each critic to six contests per year.

Article I: Membership.

Section 3. Active Membership.

A. Prerequisites for active membership are: 8. The

continued on page 7

Jerry Worsham 1937-2000

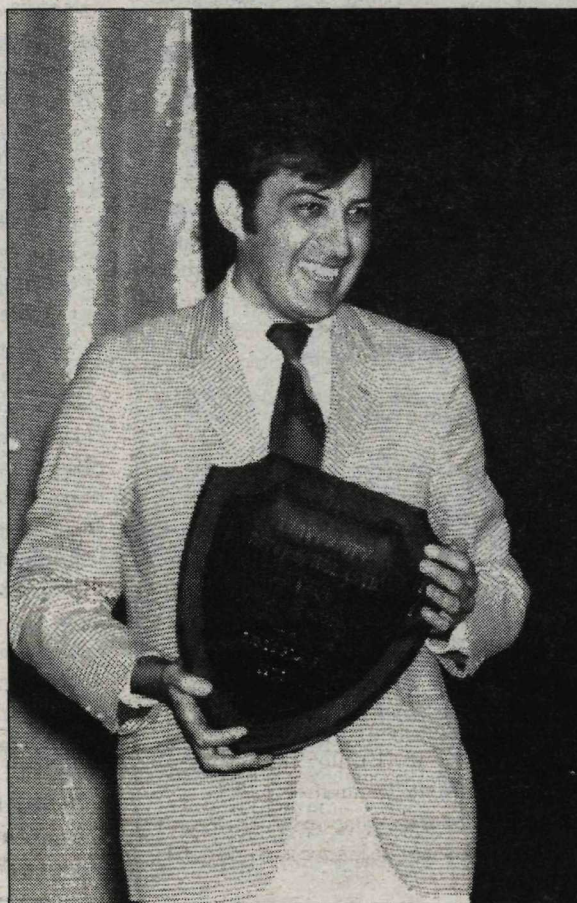
Jerry Worsham, who created a theater dynasty at Snyder High School and was considered by many as the most successful theatre director in recent UIL history, died May 15, 2000.

In his 35-year teaching career, Worsham took students to the state one-act play 27 years (26 years in Snyder and one year in Corsicana) and won the gold medal as the top one-act play 13 years. In his 34 years in Snyder, 94 students won individual award medals as members.

"He taught students rather than just directing plays," said Lynn Murray, UIL Drama Director. "He was interested more in teaching than anything else."

Worsham, too, was vocal about his need to teach rather than just direct.

"Winning isn't the most important thing," he said. "Instilling values is more important."



file photo

A Legend

In 1970, Snyder one-act play director Jerry Worsham (left) accepts a plaque for his second award-winning play. Later in his career, Worsham, in 1995, again accepts a plaque for another award-winning play from UIL Director Bill Farney. Worsham directed 27 state one-act plays in his 35 year teaching career, 26 plays while in Snyder and one play while teaching in Corsicana.

file photo

High Standards

Members of Mexia High School's one-act play, "Confederate Letters" rehearse before their state competition. Although Mexia did not place, Ben Jackson and April Adamson were named to the Honorable Mention All-Star cast.

According to UIL One-Act play director Lynn Murray, the last two years have been extremely strong.

"The quality of material and performances have been phenomenal," he said.



Plan early in training one-act play managers for successful meet

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number of official contests judged by a single judge shall be restricted to a maximum of six (6), unless additional contests are approved for just cause, by the State Drama Director. (This does not restrict the number of workshops, clinics or festivals in which the judge participates.)

To save several telephone calls you might note that the 2001 State Meet OAP Contest critics are Ray Karrer-A, Lou-Ida Marsh-2A, Roger Schultz-3A, Royal Brantley-4A, Stan Denman-5A. These judges were actually selected by theatre director critic judge questionnaires evaluated over a 3-year period and nominated by TETAAO. These nominations were approved by this office in July. Area and regional contest managers must act immediately to contract area/regional recommended critics. Remember to send a copy of all judging contracts to the state office.

The number of critic questionnaires received by this office was substantially higher than last years. The new process of distribution seemed to encourage director response and helped TETAAO make evaluations more objective. AO is receiving less than half of the 1800 potential responses. The questionnaires received impact directly State Meet judge selection and area/regional recommendations. OAP directors make recommendations for zone and district judges and critic questionnaires returned for TETAAO evaluation have the same impact on area/regional/state. You do have a voice.

While you are using your voice, make critic judge recommendations to your area/regional contest managers. There is a simple form in the handbook. The critic judge list will be updated on the web in October. At this point we have had renewals from about 50 judges.

The 2001 area meet schedule will be posted on the web Sept. 1 or earlier. All sites have been located and dates are being finalized. Early planning is especially important in Conference A since area OAP is in direct conflict with track. Because of facilities, some OAP areas will be held on April 7, the A track and field district certification deadline. I urge communication between district athletic organizers and area OAP managers.

Early planning is always helpful, and qualified OAP contest managers are scarce.

Early planning is always helpful and qualified OAP contest managers are scarce. As you plan this year try to involve the individual that will likely serve as manager.

As you are planning, note that Theatrefest 2001 is set for Jan. 17-21 (earlier than usual) and the special "open to all" UIL OAP contest manager session without registration or membership will be offered again. The who and when is yet to be decided but the site is the Renaissance Hotel in Austin. The day is likely Saturday and the hotel number is 512/343-2626. Reservations must be guaranteed. We will provide details in the next issue.

Do you have a *Handbook for One-Act Play*, 14th edition? Many do not. I'm difficult enough to understand when you can read my reference. Without the book a 2001 addendum won't make sense. The corrections and revisions are in the works and many have been identified in previous columns. We hope to have them in one document by late September. The addendum will be placed on the web when completed and will include a few new approved list plays. It will also be sent to all in appropriate mailings. Until then save and read. Reading now will save much time and confusion next spring. If you are new, find copies of the *Leaguer* from last year.

OAP interpretations do not always fly. This was the case last year. Participation requires an approved play. One minute or five minutes of dialogue does not constitute an approved play. Sending students screaming or running across the stage does not constitute an approved play. Section 1033 (b)(6)(B) allows for a written report to the State Executive Committee with reasons for withdrawal. If it becomes impossible to legitimately participate, consult with the League staff and notify your district immediately.

Common sense can help cure computer viruses

by David Trussell
Computer Science Director

Viruses have been big news in recent months. Catastrophic viruses have spread around the globe practically overnight. But these are not biological viruses that attack humans — instead they are the electronic kind that attacks computers. The so-called "Love Bug" virus that struck in May was a major disaster, crippling computer networks in the United States, Europe and the Far East.

For most people, the concept of a computer virus still sounds like something from a science fiction movie — an invisible electronic bug that jumps from computer to computer leaving destruction in its wake. But as recent events have clearly shown, computer viruses are all too real, and the Internet era has created an environment in which they can spread quickly and destructively.

A virus is really nothing more than a piece of code, a set of instructions that tells a computer what to do. In this respect viruses are no different from any software you install, whether it's an operating system software like Microsoft Windows or the Macintosh OS, or application software like Quicken Deluxe or Netscape Communicator. However, while the aforementioned products are intended to help you use your computer more effectively, a virus is designed to do just the opposite.

In the age of the Internet, viruses are most commonly spread as e-mail attachments. And with the wide use of e-mail in schools, homes and businesses, viruses are everyone's problem. Viruses like the Love Bug arrive via e-mail and then use e-mail to spread themselves to other computers. Typically the virus is triggered when the unwitting computer user opens the attachment, which causes the virus-carrying e-mail to be sent to everyone in that user's e-mail address book.

But propagating themselves is not the only thing these viruses are capable of. Fortunately the Love Bug did little real damage to infected computers. It's greatest harm was in creating massive amounts of network-choking traffic. Other viruses can be much more destructive, deleting a user's data, damaging the operating system or even erasing an entire hard drive.

While viruses can affect virtually any computer, some users are at greater risk than others. The vast majority of the thousands of viruses in existence, including the Love Bug and its ilk, do not affect Macintosh computers, although there are some dangerous Mac viruses out there. (Mac users can also contribute to the problem by unknowingly forwarding e-mail borne viruses to friends or colleagues who use Windows.)

Some viruses make use of commonly used commercial software as a platform. Notably, the Love Bug and other similar viruses have exploited Microsoft's Outlook e-mail client.

There are a number of anti-virus software packages on the market; two of the most commonly used are Norton Anti-Virus from Symantec and VirusScan/Virex from Network Associates. Any anti-virus software must be regularly updated to account for the constant devel-

...viruses are most commonly spread as e-mail attachments. And with the wide use of e-mail in schools, homes and businesses, viruses are everyone's problem.

Invitational Tournaments

Oct. 14, 2000
Pflugerville HS - Pflugerville
Contests: All UIL events except Computer Applications
Contact: Sandra Greene
phone: (512) 251-2238 ext. 126
fax: (512) 251-9091
e-mail: SANDRA_GREENE@hs.pflugerville.k12.us

Nov. 11, 2000
Boling HS - Boling
Contests: CX, LD, Novice and Senior
Contact: Linda L. Alderson
phone: (979) 657-2816
e-mail: alderson@wcnet.net or lalderson@bolingisd.net

Jan. 13, 2001
J. B. Alexander HS - Laredo
Contests: all except CX-Debate
Contact: Mario Rosales
phone: (956) 718-9064
fax: (956) 718-9064
e-mail: mrosales@united.isd.tenet.edu

March 3, 2001
McCollum High School - San Antonio
Contests: all except CX
Contact: Gilbert Casas
phone: (210) 977-1659

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Sessions for elementary/junior high contests to be added to Student Activities Conferences

This summer has been a busy one. I've been here a full year so I feel like I now have a clue, and as a result there seems to be quite a bit that requires my attention. Not the least of which is creating workshop opportunities specifically for elementary and junior high teachers.

The July Capital Conference in Austin was well attended by E/JH teachers. The people provided lots of feedback for improving training opportunities. I hear you: more elementary and junior high presenters!

The Tahoka caucus had great ideas for improving the conference — one of which is to invite more presenters like Mildred Elementary principal Paula McNeel. Ms. McNeel and her partners, Erminie B. Minard and Ermine C. Minard, presented sessions on



Rhonda Alves
Assistant Academic Director

options for each workshop. Keep checking the UIL website for the schedule of the conference closest to you.

Time for a mea culpa. In the 2000-2001 A+ Handbook, Music Memory titles for grades 3-4 and grades 5-6 are switched. This is not a good thing. Please note and get this information to your music memory sponsors: students in grades 5-6 are responsible for "I Whistle a Happy Tune," Bach's "Prelude and Fugue No. 2 in c minor," Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5: 1st Movement*, and Fauré's *Requiem: Sanctus*. Selections specific to grades 3 and 4 are "We Sail the Ocean Blue," Bach's *Orchestral Suite No. 2 in b minor: Rondeau*, Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata: 1st Movement* and Bizet's *Carmen*:

"Children's Chorus." Corrected information will be mailed with each handbook.

I hate to nag — sort of — but please remember to return Participation Cards by Oct. 1. All schools who wish to compete in a district meet need to have a card on file. Sept. 1 is the deadline for District Organization Forms and District Meet Requisition Forms for schools competing in district meets Nov. 1 — Jan. 31. Oct. 15 is the form deadline for all other district meets.

Call or e-mail me with any questions or comments, plan to attend a Student Activities Conference, and never turn your back on a sneaky student. Have a great year!

Ms. Smith's comment about "finally discovering that the kids need a specific dictionary for the dictionary skills contest" elicited a lot of laughs, but I also saw some people nodding their heads.

running the district meet and building a UIL program to packed audiences.

One junior high teacher told me she "wants to work for that principal!" I think it's really impressive that principals such as Mrs. McNeel and Mr. Baker from Tahoka are so supportive of their teachers and the UIL programs on their campuses.

"Survival Tips from Both Ends of the Spectrum" was another well-received session. Presenters Tim Cook of Lago Vista and Claire Smith of New Braunfels Middle School covered issues important to novice and veteran coaches. Ms. Smith's comment about "finally discovering that the kids need a specific dictionary for the dictionary skills contest" elicited a lot of laughs, but I also saw some people nodding their heads. I'll bet there were several people present who had learned that lesson the hard way.

These speakers along with Andy Zapata of Azle, Sharon Braeuer of Dawson Elementary in Wharton, Ermine B. Minard of Fort Bend ISD, Erminie C. Minard of Alvin ISD and Virginia Myers, a professor at Wayland Baptist University in Lubbock presented a lot of information to attendees. Thanks so much to all of the presenters; some of whom may never call this office again since that's the way I met them.

Due to the E/JH lobby, sessions for elementary and junior high sponsors will be added to the four Student Activities Conferences (SAC). I am trusting the *Field of Dream's* "if you build it they will come" philosophy. Get the word out to your colleagues. Conferences are scheduled 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the University of North Texas in Denton Sept. 23, the University of Texas Pan America in Edinburg Sept. 30, Sam Houston University Oct. 21 and at The University of Texas at Austin Nov. 4. Attendance is free. We cannot offer sessions on all 17 E/JH events, so I'm making an effort to vary the

Corrections for A+ Handbook

2000-2001

Titles specific to third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades are mislabeled in the handbook.

2000-2001 MUSIC MEMORY LIST (corrected version)

A major work is a work with multiple movements. Some of the choices for this contest stand alone, not as part of a major work. Therefore, there is no major work listed for those selections. Students should be taught to underline titles of major works and to use quotation marks as indicated. However, remember that neither spelling nor punctuation is considered part of the grading of this contest.

MAJOR WORK

For students in grades 3/4 and 5/6

- 1.
2. *Water Music Suite No. 2 in D:*
- 3.
4. *Exsultate, Jubilate:*
5. *Die Walkure:*
6. *Pictures at an Exhibition:*
7. *William Tell Overture:*
8. *Trio for Piano and Strings in g minor:*
9. *Candide:*
10. *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra:*
- 11.
- 12.

For students in grades 5/6 ONLY

13. *The King and I:*
14. *The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book I:*
15. *Symphony No. 5:*
16. *Requiem:*

For students in grades 3/4 ONLY

13. *HMS Pinafore:*
14. *Orchestral Suite No. 2 in b minor:*
15. *Moonlight Sonata:*
16. *Carmen:*

SELECTION

- "El Grillo"
"Alla Hornpipe"
"Canon in D"
"Alleluja"
"Ride of the Valkyries"
"Hut of Baba Yaga"
"Chase"
Scherzo
Overture
Fugue
"Washington Post March"
"It Don't Mean A Thing"

COMPOSER

- Josquin des Prez
Handel
Pachelbel
Mozart
Wagner
Mussorgsky/Ravel
Rossini
C. Schumann
Bernstein
Britten/Purcell
Sousa
Ellington & Mills

- "I Whistle A Happy Tune"
"Prelude and Fugue No. 2 in c minor"
1st Movement
Sanctus

- Rodgers & Hammerstein
Bach
Beethoven
Fauré

- "We Sail the Ocean Blue"
Rondeau
1st Movement
"Children's Chorus"

- Gilbert & Sullivan
Bach
Beethoven
Bizet

AWARDING POINTS FOR 3RD/4TH GRADE TIE-BREAKERS (CORRECTED VERSION)

Major work (if given)	+3
Selection (Counts for all 5 points if no major work is given)	+2
Total	5

EXAMPLE:

Major Work	Selection
(1) <i>Carmen</i> : (3 pts.)	"Children's Chorus" (2 pts.)
(2)	"It Don't Mean a Thing" (5pts)

AWARDING POINTS FOR 5TH/6TH GRADE TIE-BREAKERS

Recognition	+3
Correct Composer	+2
Total	5

EXAMPLE:

Major Work	Selection	Composer
(1) <i>The King and I</i> (2 pts.)	"I Whistle a Happy Tune" (1 pt.)	Rodgers & Hammerstein (2 pts.)
(2)	"Washington Post March" (3 pts.)	Sousa (2 pts.)

TILF will exceed \$1 million figure in scholarships given in 2000-2001

The 2000-2001 school year will be a banner year for the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation's (TILF) scholarship program. The TILF will exceed \$1 million in disbursements during this school year.

TILF announced in June that 421 students were selected from 665 applicants to receive new TILF scholarships. There were 208 scholarships renewed in July, for a total of 629 scholarships to students who will attend 66 colleges and universities in Texas with a value of \$1,082,000.

This year, the Abell-Hanger Foundation of Midland increased its two-year scholarships number from 25 to 50 and the amount from \$3,000 to \$5,000, payable \$2,500 a year. This is a \$100,000 increase this year from the Abell-Hanger Foundation. Next year the Abell-Hanger Foundation will increase its number to 75 students and the value will increase to \$6,000, payable \$3,000 a year.

The Dr. Teresa Lozano Long Scholarship was established as an endowment which will give three new \$4,000 scholarships each year, payable \$2,000 each semester of the first year. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 grade point average in college.

The ASW Enterprises Scholarship was given in the amount of \$1,000. Contestants in UIL Spelling and Vocabulary contest are eligible to receive this scholarship.

The Nelda C. and H. J. Lutchter Stark Foundation of Orange increased its level of giving by awarding new one-year \$1,000 scholarships to applicants in the top 25 percent of their graduating class. Students must attend a state supported, fully accredited four-year college or university, and preference is given to students from Orange, Sabine and Newton counties.

TILF established the UIL Legislative Council Scholarship to honor the Legislative Council Chairman each year. The endowed funds will support one \$1,000 scholarship each year. This year TILF honored Chairman Dan Jones, Superintendent of Trenton ISD, for his service to the council.

TILF also honored the four retiring spring 2000 UIL Legislative Council Members with \$1,000 appreciation scholarships this year as follows:

- Charles Herbert, *District Superintendent of Houston ISD for 11 years of service;*
- Randy M. Savage, *Superintendent of Gordon ISD for six years of service;*
- Wayne F. Schaper, *Executive Director of Administration of Spring Branch ISD for 20 years of service;*
- Jill Shugart, *Superintendent of Garland ISD for 11 years of service.*

All TILF applicants must qualify by competing in one of the UIL Academic Contests on the state level. Some donors have additional requirements that applicants must meet. Students must begin their higher education at an approved Texas college or university by the fall term following their high school graduation. Applications are available in March of each year and are accepted from May 1-15, during the applicants' graduation year. Applicants are notified in mid-June each year whether or not they have received a scholarship.

"The strength of the applicants pool is amazing," said Dr. Bailey Marshall, TILF Executive Director and Secretary. "It seems they score higher and higher on their entrance exams each year. I believe every student who applied will be successful in college, and in their chosen profession."

Of the students receiving scholarships this year, 81 percent scored 1200 or above on the SAT (or ACT equivalent). Thirty-one recipients scored 1500 and above. Two had a perfect 1600.

"The TILF scholarship recipients continue to succeed in college better than students with similar test scores and rank in class," Dr. Marshall said. "This agrees with research that indicates that students who participate in extra-curricular activities have a higher success rate in college. I know of no other scholarship board that has selected students that have done as well as the TILF recipients. The college GPA's for the TILF scholarship students have been outstanding."

The past years' GPA's were 28 percent 4.0, 61 percent above 3.5 percent, and 83 percent above 3.0.

The TILF board is continually working to acquire more money for the endowed funds and for the annual scholarships. The new TILF goals are to increase the permanent endowment to \$6 million and to raise the value of the scholarships.

Annual donations are now averaging over \$700,000.

Perhaps one day there will be sufficient funds to award each applicant a scholarship, Dr. Marshall said.

Anyone interested in setting up an endowed or annual scholarship should contact the UIL office. Dr. Marshall asks that anyone who would like to contribute to the foundation call the TILF (512-471-5883).

All funds contributed to the endowed fund remain in an account for that person or organization if they so desire. When someone endows a scholarship, that scholarship is given in the name of the donor from now on. There are no administrative funds used from a person's endowment or annual contribution. Every penny is used for scholarships. An annual report on the success of the

Recipients by Conference:	Recipients Rank in Class:	
1A-68	first	121
2A-95	second	73
3A-98	third	36
4A-94	fourth	38
5A-66	fifth	28
421	Top 5 in class	296

Male Recipients - 207

Female Recipients - 214

recipients is mailed to the donor, Dr. Marshall explained.

"'An Investment in Young Minds,'" Dr. Marshall said. "The TILF scholarship program can't be beat for donors who are looking for a way to help the youth of Texas".



photo by Bobby Hawthorne

Speech Training

As part of the Capital Conference, Lindale High School Speech teacher Ms. Beth Thomson explains to other speech teachers how she prepares a

lesson in her speech program. More than 350 people attended the Capital Conference, held July 7-8 at The University of Texas in Austin.

Texas Speech Communication Association convention set for Oct. 4-7

continued from page 4

On the political horizon, speech received affirmation from the State Board of Education as indicated with their unanimous vote to make Communication Applications the one course that would satisfy the required 1/2 credit in speech. Other disciplines had appealed to the board for inclusion but the board reiterated their conviction that speech communication is essential training for every student in our state.

Teacher certification in speech will be a critical issue discussed by the State Board of Educator Certification in September so speech professionals should visit the SBEC web site to be aware of the issues impacting our profession. There's no better way to stay current and informed about speech issues, curriculum, and forensics

than by attending the Texas Speech Communication Association's annual convention October 4-7 in Houston. Host hotel is the Marriott Westside. The UIL Speech Advisory Committee meets during this convention and all convention participants are welcomed to address the committee.

This year, the League will also conduct a convention session for coaches where ideas and concerns about prose and poetry categories will be fielded. Additional information on convention specifics is available on the TSCA web site: <http://www.angelo.edu/dept/cdj/tsca.htm>. Teachers of theatre will also want to note the annual TETA convention to be held in Austin in January. Contact Lynn Murray at the League or executive officer Pam Wilson of Los Fresnos High School for details.

On a more somber note, the League staff sends its

condolences to the family of Jacque McCarty. Jacque lost her battle with lung cancer this summer and the speech and community, especially the students of Texas, will miss her contributions to forensics, not to mention her quick wit and her smile. The entire McCarty family has ties to competitive speech. Jacque's husband, Larry, coaches at Tom Moore High School in Ingram where their daughter, Tracy is a member of the speech team. Son Dylan serves as a UIL State Meet judge.

Oh, by the way, one last thing about Mother's intuition. I now have children of my own, and whether I have that same keen sense of knowing just when they need me may be debatable. However, trust me on this one — my instincts tell me, it's going to be a wonderful year in speech and debate. Have a great season!

Capital Conference, other academic activities growing

continued from page 3

and is structured similar to the UIL science contest. Other configurations might emerge as well.

In addition, the League is long overdue for a general history contest.

The biggest problem with the wild card was the failure of schools to report scores in a timely fashion. We've solved that. Districts failing to report team scores by 5 p.m. Tuesday following the second district meet won't be eligible for wild-card consideration.

We're under no strict deadline to finish either pilot. The literary criticism pilot lasted five years, and we want to make sure we love our new partners before we decide to marry and settle down with them.

CAPITAL GAINS

• The Capital Conference continues to grow. The July meeting of academic coordinators, speech/debate coaches and elementary/jr. high sponsors attracted more than 350 persons to Austin in early July, where they enjoyed dozens of instructional sessions, Starbucks coffee, exhibits and what-not. I expect the conference to continue to expand, particularly if we choose to move it earlier into the summer in order to take advantage of the dead period between the end of the spring and the beginning of summer classes at UT.

EVOLVING SCIENCE

• A point of clarification: Last spring, I met with the Texas Math/Science Coaches Association UIL Advisory Committee in no small part because I like these people quite a lot and because I wanted them to share with me their grand scheme for UIL competition well into the next millennium.

Well, as luck would have it, they didn't really have a grand scheme beyond doing what we're doing now because they seemed genuinely pleased with the status quo. Well, that's not what I drove all the way to San Antonio to hear so I suggested that we brainstorm, toss out ideas and see where they went. That kind of thing.

I started. "What say we divide the science contest into two or three contests. Any takers?"

None. It's a nice idea, an interesting concept, nothing we should dismiss out of hand, they told me before dismissing it, very politely I should add. I accepted their lack of enthusiasm as yet another sign that these algebra and chemistry types are not as forward-thinking as those of us who can't balance our own check books. "Pity," I lamented, stroking my chin and pondering other forward-thinking thoughts, but that was the last of it until I received the TMSCA newsletter which trumpeted in big letters on page one that the UIL was discussing the possibility of "creating three totally separate science contests."

Okay, technically, this is correct. I floated the idea. It sank. That's it for now. No more e-mails, please.

MUGGLES & TONGUE SPIKES

• Meanwhile, if you have not expressed your opinion with the selection of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* as the novel for the 2001 literary criticism contest, please write today and often.

Response to this selection has gravitated toward the extremes. Half of the respondents are thrilled to see us inject a moment of popular literature into the stuffy canon, particularly after *Things Fall Apart*, *Bless Me, Ultima*, *Frankenstein* and some of the other more somber selections of the past half-dozen years or so.

The other half are mortified that we're not studying *Ulysses*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Brave New World*, *Catch 22* or one of the other classics that comprise the higher echelons on the lists of top 100 books of the 20th Century. They generally refer to the *Harry Potter* books as middle school mush, unworthy of an educated person's time and effort.

Pish posh. I'll concede that J.K. Rowling is no James Joyce or F. Scott Fitzgerald, but I enjoyed the *Sorcerer's Stone*, found it delightful and think it will challenge those Muggles who look deeper than the cover and title. And for those who worry that *Harry Potter* will seduce readers into a lifetime of wizardry and witchcraft, well in 1996-97, students read *Frankenstein*. It didn't inspire a wave of Boris Karloff imitators, unless Mary Shelley's monster had a tongue spike.

One more note: Thirty four of the Modern Library's 66 Top Books of the 20th Century — including *Ulysses*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Brave New World* and *Catch 22* — have been banned or challenged at some time in their printed life, and you can pretty much rest assured if they've been banned or challenged anywhere, they've been banned or challenged in Texas. *Harry Potter*, on the other hand, contains not a single curse word or sexual innuendo unless "Hogswart" gets your juices flowing.

RULES ARE RULES

• Final item: When I joined the UIL in 1977, the League had an unofficial ceremony — an omerta, of sorts. Dr. Rhea Williams, the director at the time, handed me a copy of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules* and said, "Always keep this book between you and them."

It was his way of saying, "Rules are rules."

I've been generally faithful to this code, even if I disagreed with the rule. They don't pay me to like the rules, just to enforce them. But the rule that has strained my patience is Section 480 which states "A student may not accept from any source other than the school attended or the school district ANY AWARD IN MONEY, PRODUCT OR SERVICE for competing in an interschool contest except as follows. . ." It then goes on to list symbolic awards such as certificates, medals and trophies. Neither food nor items of clothing, no matter how meager or irrelevant, are listed.

Thus, under the UIL awards rule, a student who competes in one-act play or UIL number sense and who accepts a slice of pizza, a goodie bag or a T-shirt from his best friend's mom violates the awards rule unless his best friend is brother or sister. In addition, under the current awards rule, the host school may not feed its students who compete in the district academic meet. That being the case, I'm predicting that every district meet host in the state last year violated the Awards Rule.

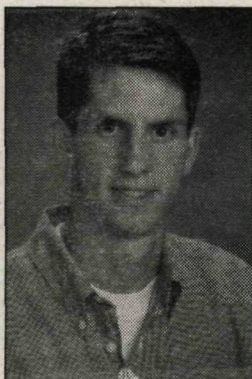
Inasmuch as the League claims to have no amateur rule for academics, I do not believe it its intent for students who accept a toll house cookie from a parent prior to a debate contest to be in violation of the Awards Rule. And I think it's silly to tell schools that they can give students a T-shirt emblazoned with "UIL Academic Team," let them wear it all semester and then order them to purchase the darn thing at the end of the semester at a fair market value.

What's the fair market value for a T-shirt worn by a teenager for three months? A dollar? A quarter? Rules like this beg to be broken and are willy nilly. They ultimately undermine legitimate rules that should and must be followed.

I have submitted to the Legislative Council a proposal that would remove the amateur component from the Awards Rule and refer persons to the Athletic Amateur Rule in Section 441. I do not believe my proposal endangers or changes athletic awards or amateur status in any way. If an athlete accepts a T-shirt, a tennis racquet, a burrito supreme or Mustang convertible, then he or she is ineligible under the Athletic Amateur Rule, not the Awards Rule. If a football player is given a \$100 jacket and five patches in the same year, then he or she is violates the Awards Rule. The deletion of the amateur component in the Awards Rule does not alter this.

But as of today, the Awards Rule stands as written, and if you want to know if it's a violation of UIL rules to feed a student a tuna sandwich and bag of chips during a Friday night one-act play rehearsal or during the district meet, then I'll keep that book between you and me and say that it is.

If you're not satisfied with that answer, contact your Legislative Council representative.



"My experiences in CX debate and extemporaneous speaking have been truly unforgettable. I will continue to use the lessons and skills I have learned throughout my life."

Keith
Henneke
Tivy High
School

Student Activity Conferences to have 2 Computer Science sessions

continued from page 7

opment of new viruses. Some include free updates, while others charge a subscription fee. The software and subscriptions are typically relatively low in cost, and are certainly much cheaper than restoring a hard drive destroyed by a virus.

However, a computer user's greatest weapon against viruses is simple common sense. Some simple rules of thumb for protecting yourself against viruses:

• Never open an e-mail attachment from an unknown source.

• Even if you know the person who sent you the e-mail, read the message before opening the attachment. If the sender of the message doesn't mention the attachment, he or she may not even know they sent it. It could be a virus.

• Be especially careful not to open attachments whose file names end in .vbs or .exe unless you are absolutely certain you know what they are.

• Send a follow-up e-mail to confirm the nature of a suspicious attachment with the person who sent it to you.

• Backup your important files. Viruses are only one of many potential causes of hard drive damage — a good backup can be a lifesaver.

One will be a contest introduction for beginning contestants and coaches, while the other will cover updates for 2000-2001.

These simple precautions can go a long way toward preventing you from being a victim of the next Love Bug.

COMPUTER SCIENCE NEWS AND NOTES

• By the time this issue of the *Leaguer* reaches the schools, we will have completed our second annual Computer Science Advisory Committee meeting in Austin. Last year's meeting proved extremely beneficial in making 1999-2000 a great year for UIL Computer Science. This year's meeting promises to be equally successful.

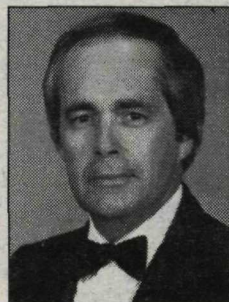
• Each of the four Student Activities Conferences this fall will include two Computer Science sessions. One will be a contest introduction for beginning contestants and coaches, while the other will cover updates for 2000-2001. Please make plans to attend.

• Check the UIL web site in mid-September for updated information about this year's contest.

Few changes evident in upcoming year

More schools able to designate 'treble choir' as varsity group, 10th graders performing, Wind Ensemble Festival, marching band advancement highlight changes for music season

We continue to experience few changes in the UIL Music Contest rules and procedures. Last year there were no changes of any kind and this year the changes are minimal. Hence, the new school term marks another year with only minor revisions to the UIL Music Plan. Even so they are important. Remember that each of these rule changes was discussed by the TMEA/UIL Music Advisory Committee, reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee, and then adopted by the UIL Legislative Council. They are currently in effect and included in the 2000-01 UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.



Richard Floyd
Music Director

A-AA-AAA HIGH SCHOOL TREMBLE CHOIRS – Section 1102 (j): In the past, only middle schools and junior high schools could designate a mixed choir or a treble choir as the varsity group representing the school. This option now has been extended to include A-AA-AAA high school choral programs as well. Thus, an A-AA-AAA high school may designate a mixed choir or treble choir as the varsity group. Other choirs from that school may be entered as non-varsity groups provided that there is no duplication of personnel.

WIND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL – Section 1115: This revision was actually adopted last spring and was in effect for the 2000 Wind Ensemble Festival. In lieu of an outstanding wind ensemble award and at the option of the judging panel, individual performers and/or sections of each ensemble may be honored for exemplary musical achievements. In addition, each participating ensemble is expected to attend the UIL wind ensemble festival performance of at least two other ensembles.

TENTH GRADE FIRST YEAR VOCAL STUDENTS MAY PERFORM A CLASS THREE SOLO – Section 1108 (e)(3): In the past, the Class three solo competition could be entered by students in grade nine only. Beginning with the 2000-01 school term, tenth grade first year vocal students may also enter class three solo competition.

ADVANCEMENT OF BANDS FROM REGION TO AREA TO STATE – This particular policy was in effect for the 1999 State Marching Band Contest but perhaps should be reviewed since this is the first year it will apply to the AAA and AAAAA competition.

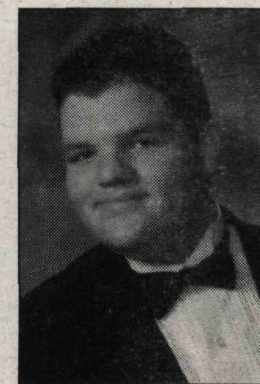
All areas will advance a minimum of two bands in each conference. Should 15 or more bands participate in a single conference at the area contest, one band for each five bands competing in the contest shall be certified for advancement to the state contest. Bands to advance will be determined by adding the rank scores of all five judges. The bands with the two highest rankings will advance. If there are 15 bands in the contest the bands

with the three highest rankings will advance. If there are 20 bands in the contest the bands with the four highest rankings will advance, etc. In addition, any band that receives a ranking of two or higher (three or higher if 15 bands, four or higher if 20 bands etc) from two of the music judges and one of the marching judges will also advance to state.

At the state contest, the advancement from preliminaries to finals will be determined by adding the rank scores of all five judges. The bands ranked in the top seven places (top five places for conference A) will automatically advance to the finals. In addition any band below seventh place (fifth place in conference A) that receives a rank of seven or higher (five or higher in conference A) from at least two of the music judges and one of the marching judges will also advance to the finals.

Ranking in finals will be determined by adding the rank scores of all five judges. The band with the highest rank will be declared the state champion. Exception: In the event that a band receives a first place rank from at least two of the music judges and one of the marching judges, that band will be the state champion. Total rank scores will then determine places 2-7.

Questions regarding any issues pertaining to the UIL Music Program or Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities can be submitted to the UIL Music Office by phone at (512) 471-5883 or via the Internet at uilmusic@uts.cc.utexas.edu.



"The lessons I learned from band and one-act play contests have enabled me to cooperate with others toward a common goal. I will cherish the memories from this year all my life and I thank the UIL for the incredible opportunities they have made for me."

Eric Lee
Graham
High School

Knowing rules eliminates misunderstandings

by Richard Floyd
UIL Music Director

Each year there are unfortunate occurrences at region music contests across the state that take place because many among us misunderstand the roles of the judges, region executive secretaries and contest hosts. In most such cases, adjudicators and other contest officials have overstepped their bounds of responsibility and arbitrarily assessed penalties that are inappropriate and/or inconsistent with the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

Generally, the result creates misunderstandings and a negative experience for students while generating ill feelings that, in turn, reflect poorly on the integrity and credibility of the contest. No one wins!

Central to this discussion is the fact that the vast majority of rule violations are the fault of the director. This is not to suggest that these violations are necessarily intentional but they nevertheless are the result of some action or lack of action on the part of a teacher or administrator. It has been the position of the UIL for more than a decade that in such cases it is the adult who should be penalized, not the students'. Furthermore, the UIL has held that the appropriate action is to be determined by the Region Executive Committee, not the judge's panel, contest host or executive secretary.

There appears to be three areas of misunderstanding: (1) disqualification, (2) the lowering of a rating, and (3) the holding of ratings and/or critique sheets.

Let's resolve the issue of holding ratings and sheets first. This action is not meant to deprive students of the opportunity to receive their results from the contest. It is only intended to allow time to gather all appropriate information regarding the infringement. Once the contest chairman has the necessary information, the sheets and ratings are immediately released. There is no reason

to hold sheets or ratings beyond that point. The notion that directors or performing groups are denied access to their results from the contest is a holdover from the past. In summary, if there is a routine violation or irregularity, it is properly noted, the sheets are released and the Region Executive Committee deals with the violation after the fact. The contest proceeds and the students leave with their ratings and comments.

When is disqualification or the lowering of a rating because of a rules violation appropriate during the contest, and who should exercise this option? Under existing rules, there are only two cases where such action is acceptable. (1) A marching band can be lowered one rating at the region contest if it does not occupy the field for at least five minutes or does not vacate the field in eight minutes. At the area and state contests this violation can result in disqualification. (2) At the sight-reading contest a band, choir or orchestra can be disqualified if the director makes an obvious audible contribution during the sight-reading performance.

All other violations are subject to the penalty structure outlined in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, clearly defined in Section 29. They include private reprimand, disqualification, suspension and, in the case of school district personnel, the option to refer the violation to the State Executive Committee for deliberation and action.

In simplest terms, it is the judge's role to evaluate the performance, determine a rating and provide a constructive, educationally focused critique. Beyond these tasks the judge should take no action other than reporting to the contest host or executive secretary any irregularities observed. The contest host or executive secretary, in turn, will then proceed through appropriate channels according to the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules and as directed by the Region Executive Committee to follow up on the violation.

The goal of all concerned parties is to insure that the contest runs smoothly and remains in compliance with the guidelines and procedures defined in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, while maximizing the educational experience for each student participant.

Band '8-hour rule' gets refinement for this year

Since 1998 the UIL has limited practice outside the academic school day for marching band and auxiliary components to eight hours per calendar week. The exact language of this rule can be found in Section 1105 (d) of the 2000-2001 UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. Texas band directors and school administrators adopted this rule, even though it is more limiting than the eight-hour per academic school week that exists for other extracurricular activities.

The single most controversial element of this rule has been the fact that set-up time as well as movement to and from the drill field counted as a part of the eight hours. Since the UIL "marching band eight hour rule" exceeds the standards that appear in the TEA/UIL Side By Side, it has been determined that, beginning with the 2000-2001 school term, set-up time and movement to and from the drill field does not count as part of the eight hours. Thus, only the actual rehearsal, from the beginning of the rehearsal (including warm-up) to final dismissal, will count towards the eight hours.

School administrators and band directors are advised that this interpretation becomes effective with the beginning of the 2000 school year term.

Superstitions

Two Duncanville players meet at the beginning of the third inning mentally preparing themselves for their defensive play. Duncanville lost the game to The Woodlands, 11-1, the eventual state champion.



photos by
Randy Vonderheid, Nick Kenig and Phillip Hensley

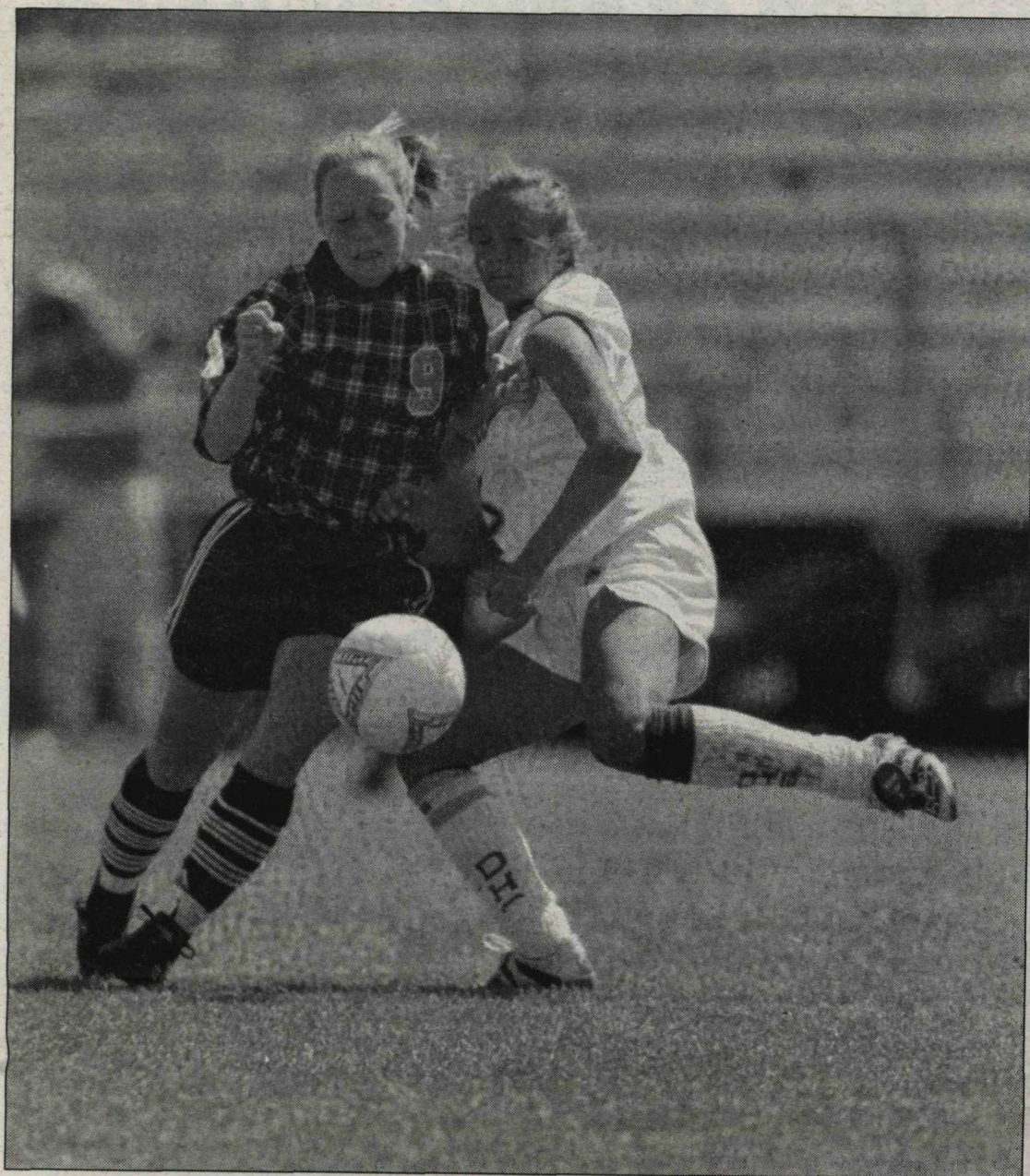
Out At First

During the fourth inning of the 2A state championship game between Troy and Alto, a sacrifice bunt moves the runner to scoring position. Troy went on to win the championship, 2-1.

What A Heave

With a throw of 35' 10 and 3/4", Trent participant Kelly O'Kelly makes a throw far enough to place fifth in the 1A state shot put event. All events were run at the Mike Myers Stadium.



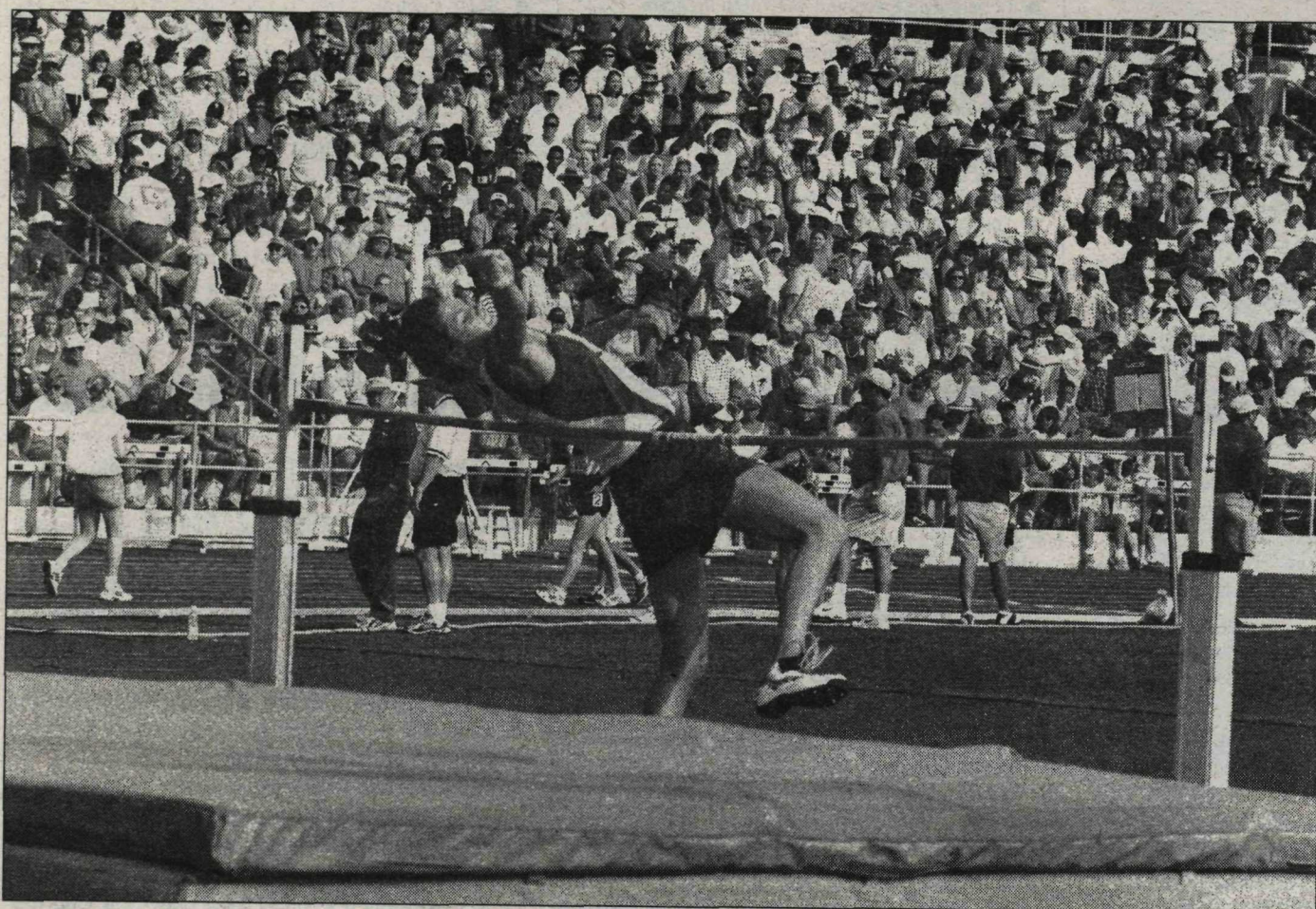


Hard Defense

A Denton defender goes for the ball against the Highland Park player in an attempt to steal the ball. Highland Park won the girls 4A state soccer title, beating Denton 4-1 in April.

Putting Out

Finishing his sixth green, this Houston Stratford player ends the hole by sinking a 3-foot putt. The state golf tournament for 5A was played at the Roy Kizer course in Austin.



Over The Top

During Friday's events, this high jumper makes it over the bar while a large crowd watches in the background. A huge audience was evident both days of the state meet, held May 12-13 at Mike Myers Stadium on The University of Texas campus.

Rules for foreign exchange students easy to follow

PUBLIC REPRIMANDS

BASKETBALL

Kenneth Robinson,
Greenville JH
Rigoberto Gomez,
Rio Grande City
Kim Smith,
Knox City

SOCCER

Demond Johnson,
Austin Bowie

BASEBALL

Ted Rodriguez,
Austin Johnston
Mike Joyner,
Dallas Hillcrest
John Kaufman,
Houston Sam Houston
Felipe Garcia,
Corpus Christi West Oso
Doyle Slaton,
Progreso
Steve Reaves,
Nocona
Tom Maleski,
South Houston
Larry Williams,
Bastrop
Mike Campbell,
Lewisville
David Lopez,
Port Arthur Jefferson
Rod Moore,
Texarkana, Texas
James King,
Seymour
Geoff Huff,
Agua Dulce
Lanny Williams,
Brenham
Greg Hesseltine,
Skidmore Tynan

SOFTBALL

Jennifer Fox,
Marble Falls

Students are boarding planes, trains and automobiles to spend a year in Texas. Not just any students, but those from across the Atlantic Ocean. Many foreign exchange students will be coming to school in Texas. Foreign exchange students want to know what it is like to live a year in the shoes of an American teenager, or maybe even in the shoes of a Texas student athlete.



Jane Teixeira
Assistant to the
Athletic Director

Hold on before issuing those star-studded cleats or high tops. There is a minor detail. Foreign exchange students are ineligible according to Section 442 of the *Constitution and Contest Rules*. There is still hope, though, in the form of a waiver.

The "Waiver of Athletic Eligibility for Foreign Exchange Students" is in the 2000-2001 book of forms. The waiver is for varsity athletics **ONLY**. If a student wants to participate at the sub-varsity level or in any academic or music contest, they are eligible without a waiver. The process for application is easy.

There are seven steps that need to be completed before the application is complete:

1. Completed Application Form (All lines must be completed)
2. Transcript from foreign high school
3. IAP-66 Form (United States Immigration and Naturalization Service form)
4. Copy of J-1 Visa (white card marked "I-94" and stapled or pasted into passport)
5. Written notification from the District Chairman that the district executive committee has been made aware of this application
6. Filing fee of \$50 (money order, school check, cashiers check, etc., but **not** cash. Please, no personal checks). **This is non-refundable if eligibility is denied.**
7. Detailed information from the Foreign Exchange Program Administrator giving a chronological order of schooling since first entrance into school. Not to include pre-school, kindergarten, etc. This document must be on program letterhead, dated, signed and in English.

Except for the application itself, send only copies of all documents. **DO NOT SEND ORIGINALS.**

Also note that as of the 2000-2001 school year, no previous waiver application forms will be accepted.

A decision of eligibility may be granted under Section 465, which states: (A) A copy of the student's J-1 visa and certification papers from the approved CSIET (Council on Standards for International Educational Travel) United States Foreign Exchange Program accompanies the waiver form; (B) The exchange student has not completed four years of high school attendance; (C) The exchange student has not received advanced training (defined as training which is above and beyond that which is normally provided in Texas public schools) in the germane activity prior to arriving in Texas, such as pre-Olympic training, being nationally ranked or having similar status in a sport, or participation on a national team; and (D) The exchange student meets all

other UIL eligibility rules.

To avoid playing a foreign exchange student illegally, please note that written notification of eligibility will be faxed and mailed to you within 14 days of a complete application file. Notification of the student's eligibility will not be given over the phone.

Once you receive the Waiver Officer's decision, the student-athlete's eligibility takes effect immediately. The UIL is committed to giving each foreign exchange student the opportunity to experience extracurricular activities in Texas public schools. A denial of eligibility does not prohibit the student from participating in sub-varsity competition.

I wish you the best of luck this year and I hope that all foreign exchange students who roam your halls and gyms have a wonderful experience.

Accepted Foreign Exchange Programs for UIL

- Academic Adventures in America
- Academic and Cultural Exchange
- Adventures in Real Communication
- AFS-USA
- AIFS Foundation
- American Academic & Cultural Exchange
- American Council for International Education
- Amicus
- ACTR/ACCELS
- American Intercultural Student Exchange (AISE)
- Amigos de las Americas
- American International Youth Student Exchange Program (AIYSEP)
- ASA International
- ASPECT Foundation
- ASSE International
- ASSIST
- Association for Teenage Diplomats
- AYUSA International
- Center for Cultural Interchange
- Children's International Summer Villages
- CIEE-SPA
- Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Program
- Council for Educational Travel USA
- Cultural Academic Student Exchange
- Cultural Homestay International (CHI)
- DM Discoveries
- Education Travel and Culture Inc.
- Educational Merit Foundation (EMF)
- Educational Resource Development Trust (EDRT)
- Face the World Foundation
- Foreign Links Around the Globe
- Foreign Study League
- Foundation for Academic Cultural Exchange
- Foundation for Worldwide International Student Exchange
- FSL Scholarship
- Global Insights
- Intercultural Homestay Services
- International Cultural Exchange Services (ICES)
- International Fellowship International Student Exchange
- Into adventures
- Nacel Open Door
- National FFA
- Northwest Student Exchange
- NorthWest Study Exchange
- Organization for Cultural Exchange Among Nations (OCEAN)
- Pacific Intercultural Exchange (PIE)
- Presidential Classroom for Young Americans
- Program of Academic Exchange (PAX)
- REACH
- Reflections International Inc.
- Rotary International
- Central States
- South Central
- School Year Abroad
- STS Foundation
- Student American International
- Summer Discovery
- Terra Lingua
- United Studies Student Exchange
- Ventures International
- World Experience
- World Heritage
- Youth for Understanding

Three earn second Dodge Lone Star Cup state honors

by Rachel Seewald
Athletic Coordinator

Highland Park (4A), Holliday (2A) and Karnack (1A) high schools earned their second Lone Star Cup awards while San Antonio Churchill (5A) and Wimberley (3A) brought home their first Cups receiving a trophy and \$1,000 scholarships in the competition, sponsored by Dodge.

The five schools received their trophies and \$1,000 scholarships July 31 at an awards ceremony held in conjunction with the Texas High School Coaches Association annual coaching school in Houston.

The Dodge Lone Star Cup honors the state's best overall academic and athletic programs among all 1,238 UIL member schools. Winners are determined by a point system based on the school's teams performances throughout the year in district and state academic and athletic championships.

The five schools receiving the Dodge Lone Star Cup trophy and a \$1,000 scholarship from the Texas Dodge Dealers.

The Dodge Lone Star Cup is part of the Texas High School Championships Corporate Partner Program, developed in 1997 by the UIL, FOX Sports Net and Dallas-based Host Sports to enhance the quality of extracurricular activity programs in Texas.

"These five winning schools represent the essence of extracurricular activities in Texas," said Dr. Charles Breithaupt, UIL director of athletics. "We are proud of the students, coaches, sponsors and administrators who have worked hard all year to achieve this prestigious award."

San Antonio Churchill won its first Lone Star Cup by winning state titles in both boys swimming and girls golf, while earning additional points in team tennis, volleyball girls swimming, girls basketball, boys and girls soccer and softball.

Highland Park earned a record 111.66 points and a third Class 4A title with state championships in girls cross country, boys swimming, wrestling, girls soccer, and boys and girls golf. Highland Park earned additional points in team tennis, volleyball, football, girls swimming, boys and girls basketball, boys soccer and the Academic State Meet.

Wimberley High School took home its first Dodge Lone Star Cup Class 3A title with a state championship in volleyball and additional points in boys and girls basketball, softball and baseball.

Holliday High School captured its second title by winning a state title in marching band, and earning additional points in boys cross country, volleyball, football, boys basketball and baseball.

Also winning a second Dodge Lone Star Cup was Karnack in Class 1A with state titles in boys and girls track and field, and additional points in volleyball, football, and boys and girls basketball.

Playoff system survey offers three options that may or may not bring more changes

By adding additional team to post-season games, more than 50 percent of schools would compete for state championship

One potato, two potatoes, three potatoes, four, five potatoes, six potatoes, seven potatoes, more....

Remember that childhood method used for choosing teams? In the year 2000 it could very well be the mantra for selecting teams for the football playoffs.

Once again member schools will be asked their preference regarding the playoff system. Almost any coach, player, parent, fan or member of the media has an opinion about the current system.

Some fault the system as being unfair since one bracket includes 32 teams, while the other has 64. Others are unhappy because the district championship is seemingly meaningless. A few complain that we need only one champion per conference.

Before addressing the options schools will have to choose from, let's again review the history of the high school football playoffs in Texas.

HISTORY

High school football began playing for a championship in 1920 but records were not kept until the following year. Since that time there have been several changes in the distribution of schools.

Between 1922-25, there were A and B conferences but they merged at the state playoff level. Beginning in 1925, Conference A alone played to the state, with B concluding at the bi-district level.

Conference B moved up to regional status in 1928, after which the sport remained fairly stable until 1939, when the whole system was revamped. In 1939, Conferences AA, A and B were established. Conference AA played to a state championship, Conference A to regional and Conference B to bi-district. Conference B moved up to a regional championship in 1946.

Two distinct changes were made in the 1948 season. The City Conference, embracing all the big city schools, was formed as a separate conference, taking several teams out of Conference AA. Conference A created a state champion for the first time.

In 1951 the City Conference gave way to the present five conference system. In 1980 Conference B was referred to as Conference A, Conference A as AA, etc., keeping the same five conference alignment. However, in 1982 6-Man football played to its first UIL state championship.

In 1982, two teams advanced to the playoffs, with participants competing for one state championship. In 1991, three teams advanced to the playoffs in Conference 5A. Champions were crowned in a Big School Division and a Small School Division. The following year the format was changed to Division I and Division II with the largest schools in each district competing in a 32 team championship bracket.

In 1996, 4A schools competed in the same Division I and Division II format as the 5A schools. The 1998 season was the first year for three teams to advance in the playoffs and two Division champions in Conference AA and AAA and the UIL crowned 10 State Champions in football.



Charles Breithaupt
Athletic Director

OPTIONS

The UIL will survey school superintendents in late August regarding the football playoff structure. Results will be presented to the Legislative Council in October. The following three options will be included on the survey:

OPTION 1 - Present System - Two champions per conference.

In the current system two state champions are crowned in each conference. Three teams advance into the playoffs in each district in Conferences 2A through 5A. The school with the largest enrollment of the three playoff qualifiers enters the Division I bracket. This bracket has 32 teams. It requires five games to reach the championship final. The remaining two teams in each district enter the 64 team Division II bracket. Six games are required to reach the final game.

OPTION 2 - One champion per conference.

A plan has been proposed that would revert to one state champion per conference. This plan has three teams entering the playoffs as does the current system. However, all schools qualifying in each conference advance into the same 96 team bracket. The winner of each district receives a first round bye in the playoffs and the runner-up places a third place team in the first round. To reach the State finals, a district champion would have to play six playoff games while the second and third place teams would play seven.

In order to complete the playoffs before Christmas, the season would be moved back one week eliminating the current schedule which allows 11 weeks to play to 10 games. The first game would have to be played on the last weekend in August, thus reducing practices and scrimmages.

This plan would guarantee district champions would not meet in the first round, thus undefeated teams would not face off in a first round play-off game.

OPTION 3 - Four Teams - Two champions per conference.

This plan resurrected from a UIL staff proposal in 1990 brings out the best in both of the other systems. While still crowning two champions in each conference in 2A through 5A, it adds an additional team to the playoffs thus balancing the brackets. This plan sends the largest two schools of the four qualifiers from each district into the playoffs in the Division I brackets. The remaining two smaller schools enter the Division II bracket. The higher seed in each division meets the lower seed in the opposite bracket. Therefore undefeated teams would not have to play in the first round.

This plan balances the playoffs into two 64 team brackets, thus the finalists in each district plays no more than six playoff games. The option to play 10 games in 11 weeks remains available and the practice and scrimmage dates remain the same.

ANALYSIS

Currently 1,094 schools play football. Three teams advance into the playoffs in the largest four conferences and two in each district in both six-man and 11-man football in Conference 1A. This totals of 454 football teams advancing which is 41 percent of the schools participating.

Adding an additional team would advance 53 percent or 582 teams to the playoffs in all five conferences.

Comparing apples to apples and oranges to oranges

this means 865 schools in Conference 2A through 5A currently compete in football. The number of teams advancing to the playoffs is 384, which is 44 percent of all football schools. Adding a fourth team would send 512 teams to the playoffs meaning 59 percent of schools would advance to the playoffs in conferences 2A - 5A.

Additionally, if option three is passed, others might propose team sports such as basketball, volleyball, baseball, soccer and softball add a fourth team in the playoffs. While this is not part of the survey, it is important to note the playoff schedule in these sports would not be extended and byes would be eliminated if a fourth team were added.

Critics complain we have watered down the playoffs. Adding a fourth team could draw even more cynicism. In 1982 when Beaumont West Brook, a second place team, won the 5A state championship in the first year two teams advanced, no one could argue the Bruins were not the best team in the state. Additionally, in 1997, La Marque finished third in its district, yet won its third straight state championship in Division II, while Texas City, the district champion, won the title in Division I.

Comparatively, other states use a power rating and/or a wild card system to determine the playoff qualifiers. A few states qualify all teams by reducing the number of regular season games and beginning the playoffs earlier. All of these systems have merit but do not seem to fit our needs.

Critics complain we have watered down the playoffs. Adding a fourth team could draw even more cynicism. In 1982 when Beaumont West Brook, a second place team, won the 5A state championship in the first year two teams advanced, no one could argue the Bruins were not the best team in the state. Additionally, in 1997, La Marque finished third in its district, yet won its third straight state championship in Division II, while Texas City, the district champion, won the title in Division I.

Arguably, when a district race is played and others beside the district's first place team advances, critics could claim a watering-down effect. However, on the other side of the coin, the more teams in the playoffs the more difficult it will be to win. Teams that advance with 2-8 and 3-7 records have defeated teams that have better overall records because the only games that count are those in district play.

No matter the outcome of the survey, our staff and the Legislative Council undoubtedly will continue to hear complaints about any system in place. There will be advocates ranging from having only one district champion advance and one state champion to allowing all teams to advance.

Which reminds me: one potato, two potato, three potato, four...

The last date for junior high football games for the 2000 football season is the first Saturday in November (Nov. 4). No junior high football game may be played after Nov. 4. The Legislative Council will consider a proposal in October (which would take effect in 2001) to make the last date for a junior high game the same date as high school football district certification.

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UIL Leaguer
August/September 2000

MUSIC MEMORY

Corrections to 2000-2001 A+ Handbook page 70

13. HMS Pinafore: "We Sail the Ocean Blue"
14. Orchestral Suite No. 2 in b minor: Rondeau
15. Moonlight Sonata: 1st Movement
16. Carmen: "Children's Chorus" (for students in grade 5/6 only)
13. The King and I: "I whistle A Happy Tune"
14. The Well Tempered Clavier, Book I
15. Symphony No. 5: "1st Movement"
16. Requiem: Sanctus

CHRISTOVAL HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Mr. Carl Wieberg, Christoval High School, for violation of the awards rule and extended his probation through August 2, 2001.

PROSE & POETRY

For high school prose and poetry interpretation and elementary/junior high oral reading, the literature *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse, Scholastic Press, is poetry.

WILMER-HUTCHINS HS

The State Executive Committee suspended Wilmer-Hutchins High School from participating in the one-act play contest through August 2, 2001, for failure to participate during the 1999-2000 school year.

SUNDAY COMPETITION

The State Executive Committee issued an official interpretation of Section 900 (b) (2): If a student competes in a speech tournament which is scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the tournament counts as one of the two allowable Sunday competitions regardless of whether the student competes on Sunday.

WAIVER OF RESIDENCE

The State Executive Committee issued an official interpretation of Section 463 (a) (2): A student who is granted a waiver of residence is ineligible for at least one calendar year for all varsity sports if the student subsequently returns to the previous school.

KINGSVILLE ACADEMY HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Mr. Mike Gonzalez, Kingsville Academy High School, placed him on probation through October 25, 2000, and suspended him from the first three basketball games of the 1999-2000 season for violation of Section 1206 (d) - Off-season Workouts.

LOCAL ELIGIBILITY RULES

With regard to Section 403 (a): School districts with board policies that lock all four years of eligibility for ninth grade students from a 7-8-9 campus into the high school they first represent causes those students to be eligible only at that high school. In the event the school board changes its policy and the student wishes to return to the high school where the parents reside, loss of varsity athletic eligibility for at least one calendar year would occur. Local school district policies could cause a student under these circumstances to be ineligible for more than one calendar year.

OPTIONAL ATTENDANCE ZONE

With regard to Section 353 and 440: A school board may create an optional attendance zone to facilitate the opening of a new high school by adopting the following language: Students who participate in extracurricular activities who will not have the opportunity to compete for varsity district honors at the new high school have the option to attend the high school they would have attended if the new school had not been created or to attend the new school. The student would be eligible at the school they first select. If the student subsequently changes to another school within that district they are not eligible for varsity athletic competition until they have been enrolled in and regularly attended that school for at least the previous year.

SOCCER RULE ERROR

Rule 12, Section 7, Article 2 of the Soccer Rule Book should state: Art. 2...A goalkeeper shall not intentionally parry the ball and then take possession or control of it with his/her hands before it has been played [or touched] by another player [of the same team outside the penalty area or an opposing player either inside or outside the penalty area.] This restriction shall

not include those situations in which the ball accidentally rebounds from the goalkeeper making a save or play." The words in brackets [] must be added to page 33 and page 44.

CROWLEY ISD

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand and placed Crowley ISD on probation through September 28, 2000, for violation of the Athletic Code.

IRVING RENAISSANCE CHARTER SCHOOL

The State Executive Committee disqualified Irving Renaissance Charter School for district honors in all athletic activities through September 21, 2000. In addition, the committee mandated: 1) that the school's administration send the UIL a plan to ensure that, in the future, all UIL rules and regulations are followed; and 2) that the administration meet with UIL staff.

HOUSTON MILBY HS

The District 18-A AAAA Executive Committee placed all boys' athletic programs at Houston Milby High School on probation through March 23, 2002. The State Executive Committee suspended Mr. C. Mexicano from coaching for the 1999-2000 soccer season.

CORPUS CHRISTI CALALLEN HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand with probation through September 8, 2000, to the Corpus Christi Calallen High School football program for violation of the Athletic Code.

CORPUS CHRISTI CARROLL HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand with probation through September 8, 2000, to the Corpus Christi Carroll High School football program and to Mr. Michael Coleman, for violation of the Athletic Code.

CARROLLTON

NEWMAN SMITH HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand with probation through October 25, 2000, to Mr. Ron Lynch, Carrollton Newman Smith High School, for violation of the Athletic Code.

SUGAR LAND ELKINS HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Wayne Howard, suspended him from one basketball game during the 2000-01 season, and placed him on probation through February 15, 2001, for violation of the Athletic Code. The committee also issued a public reprimand in basketball to Elkins High School.

EL PASO BOWIE HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Ed Revelas and suspended him from coaching any UIL activity through February 15, 2001, for allowing student athletes to participate in two contests during a school week and for playing an ineligible player. In addition, the committee issued a public reprimand to Bowie High School.

DEL VALLE HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Del Valle High School for lack of administrative cooperation with game officials.

APPEAL OF DISTRICT ASSIGNMENT

The State Executive Committee issued the following interpretation of Section 354:

1. Section 354 does not expressly prohibit schools from petitioning to a district within a larger conference for permission to join that district.

2. If unanimous consent is obtained from both the sending lower division UIL district and the receiving higher division UIL district, schools may be assigned to the new district even though it is in the next larger conference.

3. The request shall not change any other districts or create any additional districts.

4. We respectfully request the Legislative Council to study Section 354 at its next meeting, and clarify whether in the future Section 354 should expressly state that schools may change districts only within the same conference.

MARATHON HS

The District 3-A Executive Committee has issued a public reprimand and one year probation to Marathon High School for inappropriate interaction with a game official and school administrators by fans at a basketball game.

GREGORY-PORTLAND HS

The State Executive Committee placed the Gregory-Portland High School soccer program on probation through March 7, 2001, and issued a public reprimand to Mr. Jeff Gustafson for failure to file a Previous Athletic Participation form prior to a student's participation.

AUSTIN TRAVIS HS

The State Executive Committee placed Austin Travis High School on probation through April 17, 2002 for allowing an ineligible student to participate. In addition, Ms. Sheila Coy was issued a public reprimand and suspended for the remainder of the 1999-2000 softball season and the first five games of the 2000-01 school year.

DEL VALLE HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Del Valle High School and placed the school on probation through April 17, 2001, for failure to report a UIL rule violation in a timely manner.

ROBSTOWN HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Robstown High School and to Coach Steve Castro, for violation of the Athletic Code.

CARTHAGE HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Carthage High School and placed the school on probation through August 2, 2001, for inappropriate interaction with a game official by a fan.

HOUSTON HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Douglas Kelt, Mike Roberts, Antonio Lara, Maurice D. McGowan, James Jasper, Max Wilson and John Kauffman, Houston High School and placed them on probation through August 2, 2002, for violation of the Football Plan, Section 1250 (e). The committee also upheld the two-game suspensions imposed by Houston ISD.

DALLAS SAMUELL HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Dallas Samuell High School and placed the school on probation through August 2, 2001, for failure to file an eligibility notice for the one-act play contest.

DALLAS LINCOLN HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Dallas Lincoln High School and placed the school on probation through August 2, 2001, for violation of the Spring Meet Code and the One-Act Play Ethics Code.

CORPUS CHRISTI MILLER HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Mr. Kevin Wall, Corpus Christi Miller High School, suspended him from the first five boys' basketball games of the 2000-01 season, and placed him on probation through August 2, 2002, for violations involving the boys' basketball program. The committee also issued a public reprimand to Mr. Robert Dodd and placed him on probation through August 2, 2001.

EDINBURG TEACHER ACADEMY HS

The State Executive Committee has placed Edinburg Teacher Academy on probation through August 2, 2001 for failure to participate in one-act play during the 1999-2000 school year.

HOUSTON WESTBURY HS

The State Executive Committee has placed Houston Westberry High School on probation through August 2, 2001 for failure to participate in one-act play during the 1999-2000 school year.

SOMERVILLE HS

The State Executive Committee has placed Somerville High School on probation through August 2, 2001 for failure to participate in one-act play during the 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 school year.

SANTA MARIA HS

The State Executive Committee has placed Santa Maria High School on probation through August 2, 2001 for failure to present an approved play in one-act play competition during the 1999-2000 school year.

HOUSTON PREPARED TABLE CHARTER SCHOOL

The State Executive Committee has placed Houston Prepared Table Charter School on probation through August 2, 2001 for failure to participate in one-act play during the 1999-2000 school year.

Distribution rights

The UIL mails 15 copies of each issue of the *Leaguer* to every public high school in Texas as well as copies to elementary and junior high schools that have returned their Participation Cards. The *Leaguer* contains vital information regarding UIL activities. Please distribute these to coaches and sponsors of all UIL activities, and ask them to share their copy. Also, visit our web site (<http://www.utexas.edu/admin/UIL/>). We recommend you distribute copie of the *Leaguer* to the following.

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Speech Director	Football Coach
Band Director	Girls Track Coach
Choir Director	Boys Track Coach
One-Act Play Director	