

Leaguer



Briefs and Notes

Calendar of upcoming events

- May 24**EJH
Academics: Last day to hold spring district meets and first day to return materials to contestants
- May 24-26** Music:
Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest
- May 29-31** Athletics:
State Softball Tournament
- June 5-6** TILF:
Awards Committee Meeting
- June 4-7** Athletics:
State Baseball Tournament
- June 10**Legislative
Council: Academic, athletic and policy committee meeting
- June 20** TILF: Schol-
arship notifications mailed to applicants and principals
- June 27-30**ILPC:
Summer Journalism Workshop
- July 11-12**Academ-
ics: Capital Conference for academic coordinators and coaches

Academic Notes

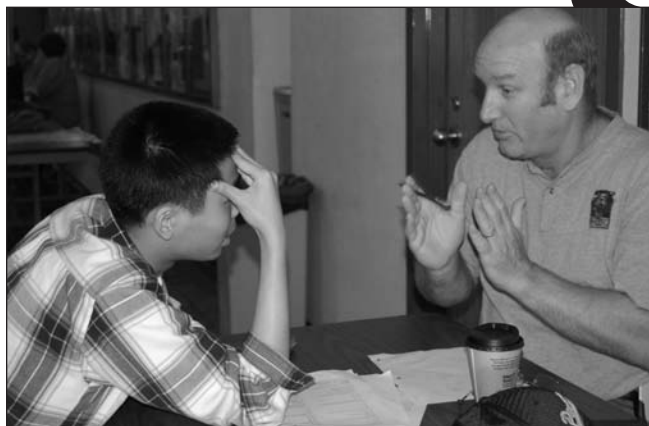
Capital Conference

will be held July 11-12, 2008 at UT Austin. Cost is \$50 if registered by June 1, \$75 after June 1.

Online registration required at <http://utdirect.utexas.edu/uilconf>

The 12th annual conference should be the best ever! Hope to see you there.

The UIL Web page is:
www.uil.utexas.edu



Medaling with Success

Academic State Meet squeezes into two days with few glitches

Getting draped with a gold medal at the UIL State Academic Meet is a special moment for high school students. For most, it's a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Not so for seniors Randall Fowler and Mary Lynn Bunkley from Wylie High School in Abilene. For the past four years, the pair have walked away from the State Meet with gold medals dangling from their necks.

The students have won their four gold medals for 3A team in Current Issues and Events.

Renee Clark who coached the students said the secret to her school's success is "having great kids who are wonderful and want to work and enjoy success. Success breeds success."



That success was seen across the University of Texas at Austin campus May 2-3 as students in 23 academic events competed for those cherished gold medals.

"The State Meet went very smoothly, despite the more crowded, two-day schedule due to TAKS testing," said Academic Director Treva Dayton. "And we were certainly lucky to have such beautiful weather on Saturday, as we were using buildings all over campus."

Dayton said students and coaches did encounter a few glitches like being evacuated from the UTC where journalism was held and Hogg Auditorium during One Act Play competition. But everyone handled the brief problems "with grace and good will," she said.

"I was especially impressed with the overall tone of the meet," she said. "Maybe it was the cool breeze and sunshine, but people seemed quite relaxed, considering the natural tension created by tough competition."

For Academic State Champion Schools, see page 7



(Above left) Coach Gerald Winter from O'Connor High School and junior Mu Li review before competing in the Science Contest. (Top right) Roel Chapa from Mission Sharyland hugs his coach and teammate as he discovers he won the gold medal in Computer Applications. Diego Gonzalez, also pictured, placed second in the contest. (Left center) Rebecca Ator from Stephenville studies for the Literary Criticism Contest while munching on her Pop Tarts. She won fifth place in the contest. (Above) Myna Bass from Athens High School receives a standing ovation during the Speech/Debate Awards. She received the National Federation of State High School Association's Outstanding Speech/Theatre/Debate Educator Award. Photos by Jeanne Acton



An unforgettable journey

Student with Cerebral Palsy takes home a gold medal from State

Scott Baker

Cypress Ridge High School

Back in August of 2005, I was hurriedly preparing for the first day of Debate I class at Cypress Ridge High School. Since I am the type of teacher who tends to procrastinate, I was in my own world organizing papers, when Nicholas Cugini came into my room, pulled himself out of his electric scooter and sat in a desk by the door in my room. The bell rang, and I began my first day routine of determining which students could hang with my caustic humor and demanding speech schedules. As always, I spent the first 20 minutes of the day discussing the alphabet soup of UIL, NFL, and TFA events such as LD, CX, and Extemporaneous Speaking. Throughout that conversation, I could see this huge smile from one student by the door. Every joke I made, he got. Every political comment I referenced, he understood. Every issue I addressed, he seemed to grasp. I did not know his name, but, from the look on his face, I knew I had a future state champion in the back of my room. Later in the period, as I moved around the room, I almost tripped over Nick's scooter. That is when I realized, it would be an unforgettable journey to this state championship.

I was in that rare situation - I knew Nick was amazing, even before I knew he had different needs. Most people meet Nick and his scooter at the same time. I met Nick's eyes and the obvious intelligence behind them before I knew he had Cerebral Palsy. Diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy at about 6 months, Nick has always had a fire in his spirit. His best friend's older brother was a debater and speaker at Langham Creek High School. So, Nick fell in love with Speech & Debate before he even entered our school. He was hooked at a young age.

I immediately choreographed a plan to accommodate Nick's physical needs with his passion for speech and debate. Working with my administration, transportation department, and Nick's parents, we were able to ease Nick into competition. Thanks to my principal, Claudio Garcia, and the rest of my administration, it has been a smooth process.

I distinctly remember another sponsor from a local school being astonished that I would let someone with Nick's needs compete on my team. I, in turn, was shocked that a teacher would question whether or not a student with Cerebral Palsy should compete. I never questioned, "should," I only questioned "how."

Nick immediately shined in competitive speaking. After abandoning the universally acknowledged public speaking shuffle, I needed to let Nick know what others thought. I remember sitting outside Westfield High School one cold, Saturday morning before a semi-finals round of Domestic Extem-

poraneous Speaking. I pulled Nick outside and told him what perceptions people would have of him. I told him that there were two types of judges for him - the type that would like him because they were impressed that someone with Cerebral Palsy would try to give a public speech and the type that would question themselves about whether or not they would rank him "higher" due to his difference. In either case, he did not have the luxury of making a mistake like others. Those that were thrilled that a student with Cerebral Palsy was speaking, would notice every small mistake and harp on it - afraid that he would not finish. The other judges would harp on every mistake as a reason not to favor the boy in the scooter. Simply put, "Nick, you can't make mistakes, you must be perfect."

Nick listened to my comments, and he has pushed for perfection ever since. That cold Saturday in January, Nick qualified for the Texas Forensic Association state speech tournament in Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking. Since then, Nick continues to prove to others his ability and love for competitive speech. We have traveled throughout the region, state, and country to showcase Nick's talents.

As a freshman in a difficult UIL District, Nick was a finalist, but did not advance to regionals. As a sophomore, Nick won the bronze medal in 5A Persuasive Speaking at UIL State. At the awards ceremony, I kept joking with him as we sat backstage. The theatre was not accessible from the audience, so the two of us sat in the wings as we watched others win awards. He sat there eagerly awaiting the results. Competing against a former state and national finalist, he knew it was the hardest round he had ever faced in any competition. He was thrilled to bring home a medal. For the first time, I think he knew he could be competitive on a higher level. I knew it the year before. This spring, as a junior, Nick won the UIL 5A Persuasive Speaking State Championship. We are both exhilarated and grateful for this experience.

The UIL staff has been, since the beginning, such a help to Nick and myself. I know I have had some interesting questions for Jana over the last few years. I have even joked with her that she holds her breath before opening an email from me, but she has always been supportive. Jana, Charlene, M'Liss, Marsha and all of the UIL extemporaneous speaking staff have been such a blessing. For Nick, just like all students, it is the small issues that the students often don't even know about, that make all the difference in the world. For that teacher who questioned why I would travel a student with Cerebral Palsy, I say this, "I hope one day you meet a student who changes your life, like Nick has changed mine. Nick is not just a speaker with Cerebral Palsy; Nick is simply the best speaker I know." I have learned more from Nick Cugini than I will ever teach him as an educator.



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Join us at CX topic selection meeting in Austin



Jana Riggins
Speech Director

Monday morning following Academic State Meet, we are in the office reflecting on the highs and lows of this weekend's competition. Your gracious emails with photos attached allowing us to share your students' State Meet experiences bring a smile and assure us that the monumental amount of work that goes into State Meet is worth it.

There's little time for reflection, though, as we immediately begin planning for Capital Conference 2008, contacting state winners to perform at fall Student Activity Conferences, prepare rule change proposals for the June Legislative Council meeting and schedule summer state advisory committee meetings.

One meeting I hope you definitely attend is the Cross-Examination Debate Topic Selection Meeting Aug. 1-3. It is our privilege to serve as the local host of this meeting sponsored by the National Federation of High School Associations. Representatives from across the nation will gather at the Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel in Austin to select the national debate topic for 2009-2010.

This vitally important process ultimately affects the lives of thousands in the debate community. Former U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld asserted in testimony before the National Commission on Terrorist Acts upon the United States, "one of the most powerful individuals in America was the person who could select the annual high school debate topic. Think of the power — to set the agenda, and determine what millions of high school students will study, read about, think about, talk about with friends, discuss with their teachers and debate with their parents and siblings over dinner."

Come be a part of this powerful experience. Meet representatives throughout the country to learn what debate is like in their states. Take an active role in discussing and determining what your students will be debating.

An orientation for first time attendees will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 1, with the opening general session beginning at 12:30 p.m. The meeting is designed to include breakout Marshall subcommittees (named after former UIL Executive Director Dr. Bailey Marshall) where you can not only actively listen to the study report authors present their research on a given topic, but your comments and concerns can be shared with other debate coaches.

Although the weekend includes intense analysis, a night of entertainment is also planned so that coaches have an opportunity to get to know colleagues from other states. The meeting concludes at noon on August 3 following the official state votes for 5 topics to be placed on the national ballot.

I hope many of you will attend so we can show the nation that debate is alive and well in Texas. You'll gain an appreciation for the process of selecting the national debate topic. Perhaps your school district will comp you with in-service time for your attendance. An added advantage is that you'll be able to confirm for your debaters what "the

Texas teacher wins national award

Myrna Bass. The name of this outstanding speech, debate, and theatre educator is synonymous with the words **Amazing, Dedicated, Caring.**

Myrna is *amazing* in her ability to teach five different class preparations, coordinate all grade levels of academic competition, advise National Honor Society, coach multiple speaking events *and* direct one-act play! In her 44 years of teaching, she has always accomplished the balancing act with *amazing* ease. She's coached theatre, debate, oral interpretation, public speaking — even athletics and cheerleading.

The wife of an athletic coach, she has moved many times for her husband's career and yet she enthusiastically takes the forensic program at her new school in whatever condition she finds it and makes it one of the top programs in our state.

When she and her husband decided retirement was in their future after 40 years of teaching and coaching, they bought lake property and began building their dream house. Suddenly, the superintendent of a nearby school called and asked her to take over their forensic program. They had had no luck finding anyone to replace the last

coach and the program was going to be cancelled.

Her husband James admonished her, "Myrna. Sit back enjoy being a grandmother!" But Myrna couldn't bear to have students left without a coach and no forensics at the 4A school so she agreed to take on the program. It has flourished under her guidance and in 2007, her

squad captured the UIL State Speech Championship.

Dedication to being an outstanding classroom teacher has been her motto throughout her career. Although education techniques have changed greatly in the almost 50 years she has been in the classroom, Mrs. Bass is always ready to embrace new technology and creative ideas to help her students grow as learners.

She is also *dedicated* to the organizations in which she holds membership. She has been a key person in steering growth of the Northeast Texas Debate Association that promotes debate in rural areas. Elected to serve on the NFL district committee numerous times, Myrna has provided decades of service on the UIL Regional

See teacher, page 7



framers' intent" of the topic really is!

The Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin hotel is a historic landmark hotel located at 701 Congress Ave., within walking distance of the state capitol and the Greek revival style Governor's Mansion, the Paramount Theatre and the Sixth Street/Warehouse Entertainment Districts. Close by is the LBJ Presidential Library, located on the campus of the University of Texas, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, and the Blanton Art Museum. The Live Music Capital of the World, Austin is home to "Austin City Limits" and shelters the largest urban bat colony in North America and nearby is the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, so Austin is a great city to bring your family and make it a vacation, too.

I will be posting additional information online soon and you can also access the National Federation Web site at www.nfhs.org for greater detail.

As the school year draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the speech community that contributed to UIL activities this season. Whether you hosted a UIL invitational, served as a contest official at the district meet, served on state advisory or regional advisory committee, taught a workshop at Capital Conference or a SuperConference, you are appreciated for your support of UIL activities. You have made a world of difference and the League salutes you.

I also want to commend our speech and debate consultants who work tirelessly as ambassadors for UIL. My thanks to M'Liss Hindman from Tyler Junior College, Wayne Kraemer from Texas State University and Charlene Strickland from Hardin-Simmons University. You make State Meet the best!

Finally, for the many, many colleagues who have offered support to the Riggins family during my husband's critical illness, we cannot thank you adequately. The cards, letters, emails, phone calls, visits and most of all, the prayers have sustained us in this difficult time.

As this Leaguer goes to press, Johnny is in his 90th day of hospitalization. For the first time ever, he missed the State Meet. Jordan Innerarity and J. P. Fulger from Tyler Junior College managed the Honor Crew in his absence and did an admirable job. He is now in a rehabilitation hospital and working hard to rejoin the family at home. Thank you for your encouraging words and deeds. They will not be forgotten.

It's time now for you to complete the last few weeks of school, then slow your life down a bit. Enjoy the summer. Promise me you'll rest and rejuvenate yourself. You're worth it.

If you're in Austin during the summer, drop in the office for a visit. Until next fall, here's my very best to each of you.

82nd Annual ILPC Convention



(Top left) Keynote speaker Lorraine Branham, the director of the UT school of journalism, opened the 82nd Interscholastic League Press Conference. Branham is leaving the University to be the Dean of Journalism at Syracuse University. (Top right) National Public Radio Correspondent John Burnett was the featured speaker on Saturday. (Above) Scott Winter (aka Professor Winter) presents during the convention. Winter, who teaches at the University of Nebraska, talked to students about life after high school.



**Photos by E-J
Eskridge-Johnson**

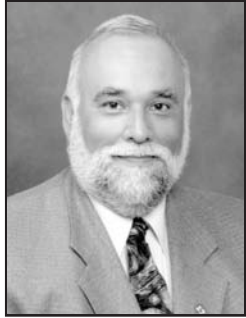
(Above middle) David Knight from South Carolina keeps the students laughing during his break-out session. (Above) Gettys' photographer John Moore, who was recently named POYi's Magazine Photographer of the Year, talks to students about his images from Pakistan. Moore was photographing Benazir Bhutto when she was assassinated earlier this year. Moore and his family live in Islamabad, Pakistan. He also has covered the war in Iraq extensively.



(Left) ILPC Director Jeanne Acton congratulates Paula Adamek of Yoakum on her Edith Fox King Award. Five additional advisers were named EFK recipients this year — Susanna Busico of Canyon Vista MS, Karen Hargis of Pleasant Grove MS, Rebecca Plumley of North McKinney HS, Mikyela Tedder of Lindale and Dina Wilson of BETA. (Above) Westlake HS students surprise the Max Haddick Teacher of the Year, Cindy Todd, with flowers and balloons at the Grand Awards Ceremony in Hogg Auditorium.

Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes

State OAP contest survives the new venue of Hogg Auditorium, new format across two weekends



Luis Muñoz
Theatre Director

"A reminder that the 3A, 4A and 5A OAP State Meet will be held at the Hays ISD Performing Arts Center in Buda, Texas. The 'tentative' schedule has 3A on Tuesday, 4A on Wednesday and 5A on Thursday. A 2A and 1A are tentatively scheduled for Friday and Saturday at the McCullough Theatre. Things may change."

Luis Muñoz, The Leaguer,
May 2007

Boy, did things change! It has been an interesting year. The 82nd Annual State OAP Meet has come and gone and returning to the historic Hogg Memorial Auditorium for two weekends was quite a trip down memory lane. I'd like to thank adjudicators Robin Robinson, Ron Dodson, Jim Mammarella, Marion Castleberry and Royal Brantley for a great job. I'd also like to thank Kenneth Dingleline of Samuel French, Inc. for helping with the awards assembly. I am blessed to have a great staff to work with. Once again, my special, special thanks to contest managers Gene Dickey (3A, 4A & 5A) and David Stevens (1A & 2A) for contributing their valuable time to be a part of this great experience. To the Teachers Honor Crew, Austin Bowie, Anderson and LBJ students, UT students and Texas A&M Corpus Christi students, a big THANK YOU! You helped make this "retro" year a huge success.

Next Year

Your planning meeting may be scheduled starting Aug. 15. This is the only time you can draw for zones and performance order. *Please review all information regarding the new alignments and area, region sites and dates.* Communicate these dates to your prom sponsor and the athletic and band directors. The tentative calendar is on the UIL Web site at this time. We are locked into our calendar dates for OAP and should not have conflicts from other school events that may force students to choose.

Let me stress the importance of discussing the online entry issues at your planning meeting. All of you should know who is setting up the meet by Feb. 1 and certifying the results for your district by the time you leave that meeting. This system is in its fifth year and should be no surprise to anyone. Don't assume that your contest manager will take care of it. It is the job of the district academic chair or a designated individual. If you want the contest manager to do it, then the chair needs to contact that person and make sure that he/she understands that it is his/her job.

Many of the problems we faced this year could have easily been avoided if directors had carefully read the new handbook, *Leaguer* articles and checked the Web site every few weeks.

I realize that our materials may not read like best-selling non-fiction, but you owe it to your students and your community to read the rules and to understand them. Having

One-Act Play State Winners



1A - Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts



4A - Clemens High School



2A - Rogers High School



5A - Mansfield High School



3A - Mexia High School

to experience a disqualification of a cast due to an error on your part is not a pleasant experience for any of the parties involved. Take time this summer to review. It'll make for a more pleasant journey in 2009.

Theatrical Design

The Theatrical Design Contest participation more than doubled this year. Critic Judge Fred Christoffel, Texas Tech University, selected winners in the four categories and presented an excellent critique. It was great to see our future designers receive medals and plaques on the State

Meet stage. Next year's title is Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera*.

We will be conducting several workshops at the Capitol Conference and at the Student Activity Conferences. The libretto and prompt/rules can be downloaded from our Web site after July.

Summer Vacation

Summer vacation is a great time to sharpen your directing skills at several theatre workshops throughout the state. Some of the workshops are strictly for students while others provide teacher components.

Contact the theatre departments at A&M-Corpus Christi, Trinity Valley College, The University of Texas at Austin, Stephen F. Austin and West Texas A&M for info on their workshops. My apologies to any I may have left off the list.

The League will be hosting the Capitol Conference July 11 and 12. Join us in Austin for workshops designed to improve your directing and in preparing for the 2008-2009 Theatrical Design Contest.

Baylor University will serve as host for TETA's Summer Workshop. If you haven't attended one of these, you're missing out. They're fun, relaxing and educational. Check out the TETA Web site for more info. Unfortunately this workshop and the Capital Conference are on the same weekend.

Important end-of-year 'points' to consider



David Trussell
Elem/JH Director

Writing the last *Leaguer* column of the year is always a challenge, not least because the deadline always falls in the middle of preparations for our high school state meet. Plus, as anyone who works in education knows, by the time you reach the month of May, you've lost a substantial amount of brain capacity. It becomes difficult to string together a coherent sentence, much less an entire

article. So where do you turn when faced with the need to complete an article that conveys important information but demands only limited mental acuity? You guessed it — bullet points!

- **Point number one is Capital Conference**, which will take place July 11-12 on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin. This year's conference will again feature a full slate of sessions for elementary/junior high academic coordinators. Presenters will include some of the state's most outstanding academic coaches and coordinators, as well as UIL consultants, test writers and staff. You can also earn up to 10 hours of CPE credit — certificates will be available for all attendees. Registration information is available on the UIL Web site.

One of the best things about the conference is the opportunity to share ideas, and a great way to participate in that process is to present a session. If you're planning to attend the conference and are interested in presenting a session, please drop me an e-mail or give me a call. I'd really like to increase the variety of sessions we offer — I need your help to do that.

- **Materials are next on the list.** Some of this is redundant from previous columns, but these items are frequent sources of questions; so I think they bear repeating.

We have another left in our two-year cycle for Art; so the Art Smart Bulletins, prints and other materials you

PRESENTERS WANTED

Have some great ideas you'd like to share for building a program or coaching a contest? Present a session at this year's Capital Conference, July 11-12 in Austin! Contact David Trussell at dtrussell@austin.utexas.edu

purchased this year will be good for another year.

For Maps, Graphs & Charts, we will continue the transition period to the new atlas for one more year; so for 2008-09 all atlas questions can be answered using either the new 2008 edition or the previous edition (with copyrights 2003-05). Beginning in 2009-10, our test writers will use only the new edition; so please plan accordingly.

Test writers for Dictionary Skills will continue to use the 2004 edition of the *Merriam Webster Intermediate Dictionary* as the official source for the contest.

The 2004 publication is the current edition — if your dictionaries are copyright 2004 or newer, you have the current version.

Music Memory and Spelling are both updated every year; so they will have new lists for 2008-09. The new Music Memory official list will be posted on the Web site by the end of May. New Spelling booklets will be available on the new Study Materials order form, which will also be posted on the Web very soon.

Finally, the Social Studies contest will have a new study guide and new primary source documents for 2008-09, which will be posted on the Web site in June.

- **Next, a few words about procedures and deadlines.** One of the most important items for your end-of-year (or beginning of next year) to-do list is registration. Each elementary, middle school and junior high campus that

wishes to participate in UIL academics must register each school year. UIL rules require it, and this is also how we keep our records current. Plus, when we receive your registration each year, we send you a complimentary copy of the new *A+ Handbook*.

The online registration form for 2008-09 will be available online in mid-May. The registration deadline for next school year is Nov. 1.

Registration is a separate process from UIL membership. There is no charge for registration; however, all registered schools must be a part of school district that is a paying UIL member. School districts with a UIL member high school do not have to pay additional membership fees for their elementary, middle school and junior high campuses. Districts that do not include a high school have a separate fee structure. Contact the UIL office if your school district is not a UIL member.

This fall, we will again offer online versions of the District Organization and Meet Requisition forms. The online forms we used this year worked well for some, but a significant number of people who tried them experienced glitches that prevented them from submitting online.

We'll be working to resolve those problems over the summer, and we should have new and improved online district forms available by the time you return to school in August. The deadline for submitting forms for Fall/Winter district meets is Sept. 25; the deadline for Spring district meets is Nov. 15.

- **I don't really have a final bullet point**, but I needed some way to transition to a conclusion (remember that whole reduced brain capacity thing?).

It's been a great year for the elementary/junior high program, with more schools participating than ever before, and we have another exciting year ahead in 2008-09. We're looking forward to more growth in participation and other important developments, including the phasing out of the old elementary/junior high designation and the adoption of "A+" as the official name for the program.

So rest up, recharge, and enjoy your summer break! August 25 will be here before we know it....

Austin journalism adviser wins Gold Key from CSPA

McCallum High School newspaper and yearbook adviser, Rhonda Moore, received a Gold Key from Columbia Scholastic Press Association at the national convention in March in New York City.

CSPA recognizes educators and members of the professional press with a Gold Key for their service to the association. Through their contributions to CSPA, Gold Key recipients have demonstrated their support for excellence in teaching journalism and in advising student publications.

Col. Joseph Murphy began the tradition of awarding Gold Keys in 1929, more than 75 years ago, shortly after the Association was founded in 1925.

Moore, who has taught journalism since 1985, loves being a publications adviser. "Nothing is more gratifying than to watch a shy, quiet student enter one's classroom as a freshman; and then leave that classroom four years later as a leader able to speak his or her mind with confidence," she said in her acceptance letter.



Rhonda Moore of McCallum HS accepts her award at the CSPA convention. Photo by Mark Murray

HS Social Studies resource list for 2008-09

Sub-Saharan Africa: Out of the Past; Into the Future

Primary Resources:

- *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa* by Adam Hochschild

- "Cry Freedom" 1987 (movie)

Nation information:

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/>

Background notes for the following nations:

Angola, Kenya, Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville), South Africa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (Kinshasa), Zimbabwe

Additional Resources

- World Bank: Sub-Saharan Africa section of the World Bank Web site: <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/AFRICAEXT/0,,menuPK:258649~pagePK:158889~piPK:146815~theSitePK:258644,00.html>

- United Nations AIDS information: <http://www.unaids.org/en/CountryResponses/Regions/SubSaharanAfrica.asp>

- UN report on the progress report on declaration of commitments on HIV and AIDS: http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2008/south_africa_2008_country_progress_report_en.pdf

- Interactive map: <http://www.worldmap.org/region.php?region=Sub-Saharan%20Africa>

- Political map: <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/africa/africapol.pdf>

- Countries map: <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/africa/africaa.htm>

- Blank outline map: <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/africa/afoutl.htm>

- Major landforms map: <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/africa/afnd.htm>

- Countries with capital cities: <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/africa/maps/africa.htm>

- CIA World Fact Book information regarding specific nations: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/notesand-defs.html>

- The following site provides interactive links to various regions of Africa with general information about specific nations: <http://africanhistory.about.com/od/eraindependence/l/bl-AtlasOfIndependence.htm>

- The following is an interesting bit of information about the recent history of Africa from an African perspective: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/features/storyofafrica/>

- General information related to the specific nations as well as continental issues: <http://www.infoplease.com/>

- Link to the PBS special regarding Congo by Bill Moyers: <http://www.pbs.org/moyers/journal/04042008/profile2.html>



(Above) The Azle Calculator Applications' team prepares for the contest. The team placed fourth. (Right) State competitors from La Joya enjoy the beautiful day while waiting for results. Photos by Jeanne Acton



(Left) Speech/debate competitors from Borden County High School jump into the LBJ reflection fountain after the awards ceremony. It is a tradition for the school. Photo submitted. (Above) Journalism assistant Jack Miles talks with Mikyela Tedder of Lindale High School after the journalism contestants were evacuated from the University Teaching Center. The evacuation only lasted about 30 minutes. Contests ran on time. Photo by Jeanne Acton

Academic State Meet Champions

Conference 1A
Lindsay High School
Conference 2A
Tuscola Jim Ned High School
Conference 3A
Argyle High School
Conference 4A
Friendswood High School
Conference 5A
Fort Bend Clements High School

Speech teacher richly deserves her national award

continued from page 3

Speech Advisory Committee. She has been appointed to state advisory committees for UIL and Texas Educational Theatre Association and has served as tab room official for the state debate tournament.

Colleagues look to her for leadership. She currently chairs an executive committee for TSCA and recently completed tenure as chair of the oral interpretation interest group, playing a vital role in planning the annual statewide speech convention.

Caring is the other synonym that most describes Myrna Bass. She educates the whole child. Student after student of Myrna's relate how often she gave time for after-school counseling when someone on the squad needed a listening ear, or sitting at their hospital bedside when they were ill, or remaining in

touch with them long after graduation, ever interested in where they were going in life.

It is no wonder this educator was selected by the Texas Speech Communication Association as Speech Teacher of the Year. We believe she has impacted forensics not only throughout our state, but much farther beyond. Others throughout the nation agree with us. UIL is delighted to announce that the 2007-08 recipient of the National Federation of High School's Outstanding Speech/Theatre/Debate Educator award is our colleague from Athens ISD – Myrna Bass.

Thank you, Myrna, for 44 years of amazing teaching, of dedication to your profession, and for caring to take the time to share your talents and your love with so many students. You are a treasure we will forever cherish.

Show reminds us of the beauty, passion in music



Richard Floyd
Director of Music

A lot of you probably have heard about “El Sistema.” It was a major feature on the April 13 ABC program “60 Minutes.” If you didn’t see it I encourage you to check it out at <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/04/11/60minutes/main4009335.shtml>

Or, simply go online to CBS News and search for “El Sistema.” This inspiring 12-minute segment has to do

with the amazing classical music program that apparently is thriving in Venezuela. The report is even bold enough to state that “El Sistema” (translation: “the system”) could be the actual future of classical music itself. In a nutshell, “the system,” founded by Dr. Jose Antonio Abreu in 1975, was based on his belief that what poor Venezuelan kids needed was classical music. Today, it embraces literally thousands of young musicians from some of the most impoverished segments of the Venezuelan population. In fact, it is reported there are nearly 300,000 kids in “the system” participating in 176 orchestras for children, 216 for young people and 400 more ensembles and choirs.

The flagship ensemble of “the system” is The National Youth Orchestra of Venezuela that has played to sold-out audiences in major performance halls around the globe. Its conductor is Gustavo Dudamel, a product of “the system”

and soon to be principal conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. These young people play with a passion and enthusiasm that is rarely seen on the concert stage.

The more I learn about this amazing program, the more I find myself reflecting on the fact that as Texas music educators we, too, are known for our “systems.” In fact we are very good at them. We have systems for counting, systems for sight-singing, systems for tuning, systems for grading and systems to organize our systems. The list goes on and on. Yet many of our systems are designed simply to “get it right.” There is nothing wrong with that. After all no one wants to hear music played poorly, out of tune and with substandard tone quality. But, should that be the ultimate goal? Are we missing the point when we focus so directly on “getting it right?”

Bruce Adolph, in his wonderful book *What To Listen For In The World*, says that a true musician hears before doing, feels before analyzing and loves ideas better than systems. If you concentrate on the words in the second half of those three statements you see “doing,” “analyzing and “systems.” On the other hand, the first half of Adolph’s thought-provoking phrases reads “hears,” “feels” and “loves.” What a contrast in attitudes these sets of words suggest. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we allowed our teaching to be guided by a dominant system that centered our rehearsals and performances around the fundamental concepts of hearing, feeling and loving?

The “60 Minute” feature also reminded me of one other reality that I think is universally true. It is likely that each

one of us elected to enter the wonderful world of music education because of the way that music made us feel. There was that moment in each of our lives when we came to the realization that there was something in music we could not live without and something that we just had to share. I would argue that moment didn’t come when we got a note perfectly in tune, played the chromatic scale at a blazing speed, mastered a complex rhythm or came home with the biggest trophy the festival had to offer. On the other hand, that experience occurred during some magical musical moment when something wonderful happened that deeply touched you and perhaps your fellow musicians.

That moment was all about feeling, which brings me back to my opening reference to “El Sistema.” If you watch that 12-minute video and perhaps go back in the “60 Minute” archives once again and see the feature on Gustavo Dudamel that ran earlier in the year, you will see young people totally engaged in the pure joy of music. They have gone beyond “getting it right” and are simply letting the music take them to a very special place. You see it in their eyes, their faces, their body language and their exchanges with one another. Some might argue that their conduct on stage is a bit unorthodox. But, in the final analysis this is the true “human connection” that music has to offer and should be the driving force for all “systems” we elect to employ.

So as we bring our school year to closure and begin to look forward to the future perhaps we could collectively say, “OK! One more time, from the top...with feeling!”

How to get the most from your UIL music evaluations

David L. Lambert

President Elect, TMAA

Most, if not all, of the UIL concert and sight-reading events have now come to a conclusion, and you have the results of all your time spent researching literature, studying scores, and preparing your students. Now the question comes. What do you do with the ratings from that evaluation?

You will notice that I called it an evaluation. That is because it is not a true contest even though we all refer to it as such. It is an evaluation of your music program. Similar to the TAKS test which provides a “snapshot” of a school’s basic academic program; these evaluations provide band, choral and orchestra teachers with a “snapshot” of their music program on that given day. Every group is evaluated against the same standard — one that was designed and approved by our state organization, University Interscholastic League. Each participating organization does receive an award for accomplishment for superior performance, just as a school receives an award for accomplishment for its results



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on the TAKS, but there are no winners and there are no losers. There are only the assessments given by three qualified adjudicators on how the musical groups performed in concert and sight-reading in the basic areas of performance that are taught every day — tone, technique and musicianship.

So, with whom do you share the results of this pursuit of excellence? There are several groups that you really should inform of the outcome of these events and clarify to each exactly what the overall results mean. These groups are your students, your parents, your school administration (principals) and the community.

Students: Teachers should focus on the positive feedback that students received as well as the areas in which they can improve. Then, and only then, can UIL concert and

sight-reading be a real learning experience. Teachers need to explain to students what adjudicators were looking for in the three basic components of musical performance. Go over the adjudication sheet with them in detail. Look at each of the categories and discuss the pluses and minuses and how they relate to the performance that the students presented...in detail. Hopefully, this review of the adjudication sheet was also done prior to the event and, hopefully, students were allowed to remain at the event long enough to hear some other groups perform. Read the evaluation sheets to the students and then listen to the recordings of their performance. Then, go over each evaluation sheet again, identifying the positive and negative feedback relating it to what the students have just heard. Teachers should also relate their students’ performance to other concerts that the students heard at the event and why their ratings may have been different or the same. This will provide your students with something “real” with which they can relate and compare their own performance.

Administration: You must share the results with your administration. Many

principals have so much on their “to do” list, that they have not had the opportunity to really look at and understand what it means when music teachers tell them their organizations are going to UIL “contest,” let alone what the results mean. Call your principal and ask for an appointment to go over the results after the event. Explain to him that your organization(s) were evaluated in both concert performance and sight-reading where students demonstrate their ability to perform a selection that none have ever seen before. Let the principal see an adjudication sheet and explain it to them in terms they can understand. Don’t try to impress them with musical terminology, just keep it simple. Share not only your school’s students’ ratings but those of other schools as well. Show the administrator how the students compare to other surrounding schools...believe me, they will be interested. Explain to them how adjudicators are selected from a list of individuals who are trained to evaluate musical abilities based on classification and literature selected, as well as providing feedback regarding the organization’s performance with a focus

See Evaluations, next page

Lone Star Cup update

The UIL and Texas Dodge Dealers will again present the award, honoring the best overall athletic and academic programs in Texas for the 2007-2008 school year.

Now in its 11th year, the Lone Star Cup is awarded to high schools that accumulate the most points based on their team performance in academic and athletic district and state championships. Point standings updates are released throughout the school year on the UIL Web site and the *High School Spotlight* on Fox Sports Net, and official final results are announced by July 1.

One school in each of the five UIL classifications (5A, 4A, 3A, 2A and 1A) will claim the coveted Cup. High schools accumulate points based on their team performance in district and state championships. The winning schools in each classification will receive the Lone Star Cup trophy and a \$1,000 award, also presented by the Texas Dodge Dealers.

The next update will be posted on May 23. Current Lone Star Cup standings, which include marching band, team tennis, cross country, volleyball, football, swimming and diving, wrestling, basketball and soccer are as follows:

5A		
Place/School	Points	
1. Conroe The Woodlands	60	
1. Katy Cinco Ranch	60	
3. Humble Kingwood	56	
3. Southlake Carroll	56	

5. Austin Westlake	46
6. San Antonio Reagan	44
7. Amarillo	42
7. Harlingen South	42
9. Dallas Skyline	40
9. Houston Cypress Fairbanks	40

4A		
Place/School	Points	
1. Dallas Highland Park	64	
2. Canyon Randall	48	
2. Friendswood	48	
2. Katy Seven Lakes	48	
2. Waco Midway	48	
6. Aledo	46	
6. McKinney Boyd	46	
6. Mesquite Poteet	46	
9. Boerne	44	
9. Brenham	44	

3A		
Place/School	Points	
1. Argyle	42	
1. La Vernia	42	
3. Abilene Wylie	40	
3. Canyon	40	
3. Kennedale	40	
6. Wimberley	38	
7. Corpus Christi West Oso	32	
7. Dallas Roosevelt	32	
9. Gonzales	30	

10. Navasota	28
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2A		
Place/School	Points	
1. Poth	44	
2. Tatum	34	
2. Wall	34	
4. Tuscola Jim Ned	32	
4. Wallis Brazos	32	
6. Arp	30	
6. Holliday	30	
6. New Boston	30	
9. Bushland	28	
10. Centerville	26	
10. Peaster	26	
10. Salado	26	

1A		
Place/School	Points	
1. Sundown	44	
2. Harper	42	
2. Lindsay	42	
2. Thorndale	42	
5. D'Hanis	40	
6. Follett	34	
6. Normangee	34	
6. Windthorst	34	
9. Seymour	32	
10. Calvert	30	
10. Flatonia	30	

Evaluations: More than just the students should see the results

continued from previous page

on how the students can improve. Describe how adjudicators are trained to use the same standards of evaluation throughout the state so that every band, orchestra, or choir can be adjudicated using similar criteria regardless of where the performance occurs.

Also explain what the Texas Music Adjudicators Association is and about its alliance with UIL to provide an assemblage of experienced, active and competent adjudicators who require high standards in performance but who also encourage the development and importance of music in the school. Outline how you plan to take the evaluations and improve the learning in your classroom. Above all else, show them the similarities in this evaluation and TAKS testing results. Explain how a "Superior" rating is similar to an "Exemplary" rating schools get on the TAKS test. Reiterate how judges are trained to give as subjective an opinion as possible just as TEA trains evaluators to give an unbiased opinion on student writing samples. The more similarities you identify between the two the better...and there are many.

Parents: This is your support group. Share the results with them in much the same way as you do with your administration...talk to them in terms they can understand. Explain about how the students are judged in both events and why it is important to get this type of feedback each year.

Stress the evaluation aspect so parents will understand that a Division I (Superior) doesn't mean that your students won first place, but that all schools are competing against a high standard for excellence set by UIL and TMA — not against each other. You can make almost every rating work in a positive way with parents. If you reached your goal, and achieved the rating that you hoped for, explain to them how that was possible. If you did not reach your goal explain to them how you plan to make improvements for the next year. Make the results work for you in a constructive way.

Community: Communities want to hear positive things about young people. If you have a local paper and can get some "press" regarding your UIL evaluation process, by all means do it. Be sure to include, in layman's terms, how

students are evaluated and what the results mean. Let them know why you believe the event to be important to your students and how the evaluation and the results relates to their education as a whole — team building, importance of the arts in their lives, the development of both musical skills as well as life skills, etc.

Our UIL music events are over, but we need to expound on the results and let as many people as possible know of our educational goals and successes. We may not always receive a "superior" rating, but neither does every school receive an "exemplary" rating after the TAKS tests. We take the results and use them to improve our students' ability to express themselves musically, and to instill in each life-long skills that will enable them to be successful as they mature.

Continued educational and musical growth of our students is why we do what we do, and why the results of these events need to be shared with others. As long as we understand the importance of such events and are willing to take the time to share that understanding with others, our band, choir and orchestra programs will continue to

Will it play in Mayberry?

'Last lecture' prompts end of the year advice on living and coaching in today's world



Charles Breithaupt
Athletic Director

Randy Pausch, a professor at Carnegie-Mellon University was asked to give a talk entitled the "Last Lecture." Professors had previously given speeches of this sort upon their retirement,

ruminating about thoughts that were important to them, including ideas about how to make the world better, and perhaps the legacy they would leave upon their retirement and other points of wisdom.

Dr. Pausch was unique in that this would indeed be his last lecture since he had recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Many of you have seen the video or read the book regarding his last lecture. While he makes many poignant points, I felt it best to include some ruminations of my own for this last *Leaguer* article of the year. Not that I am planning on going anywhere, but you never know what is around the corner.

So, without any fanfare, here are a few of the thoughts that I have shared over the years. Some are original. Others are borrowed.

Teach students how to make a life rather than how to make a living. Our youth are more interested in how much money they might make or what kind of car they will drive or what elaborate vacations they can afford when they enter the work force. Few are ready for the realities of living the lifestyle they assume.

As educators, it is our responsibility to teach them lessons for life through educational competition. Lessons such as how to live with others, how to deal with adversity, how to handle success, how to make others around them better, how to push beyond their limitations, how to set goals, how to manage their time. These are only a few areas that equip all of us to live better lives.

Keep everything in balance. Former UCLA Coach John Wooden speaks and writes of this a great deal. Too much of a good thing is not always a good thing. I like chocolate cake but not everyday.

Teach your students to not place too

much emphasis on one thing. Teach them to have fun. Even in this world of specialization, there is room for athletes who wish to try different activities. As adults we have to

make decisions that are life-long. Try not to force athletes into choices that leave them with only one option.

When you do win that elusive state championship, tell your team the following: try not to let this victory be the highlight of your life. Celebrate your achievement and then move on. Set higher goals. Dream bigger dreams. Don't be the athlete who graduates and then comes back and hangs around the school, never able to find their niche in life. Yes, high school athletics is a very special time, but there other things to accomplish.

Teach them the Miracle of the Huddle. Coach Bill Curry, who played for Vince Lombardi and later coached at Alabama, phrased this term. He said that a miracle occurs in football or in any other sport for that matter. In a huddle, 11 people of varied backgrounds come together.

They are of different races, different religions, different socioeconomic situations, different intelligence levels and different values. Yet, they have a common goal. Get the ball down the field and across the goal line.

The miracle is that this rarely occurs outside of athletics. Athletic competition pushes aside our selfish desires and our prejudices. Rarely does this occur in every day life. However, sports cut across the boundaries of race and wealth.

Stay away from the doctrine of "easyism." This doctrine espouses that life is easy. Some things do come easy in the 21st century — eating at fast food restaurants, driving through the dry cleaner, zipping in to get your oil changed, paying your bills electronically and completing your Christmas shopping online. While these conveniences are nice, some ingredients are left out of this recipe for "easyism."

First, life is not easy; in fact it can be most difficult. Parents still get up at 4:30 a.m. to drive kids to practice and race off to work. After a hard day of work it is back to additional household chores, including

Remember too, that it is not how good you are when things are good that will determine your true success, but rather how good you are when things are bad.

more practice and games. This calls for a great deal of effort and sacrifice. Students need to know and appreciate the fact that parents make these sacrifices.

Remember the story of the chicken, the cow and the pig. A chicken can provide all the eggs you need for a good breakfast. This is simply an inconvenience to the chicken. A cow can provide gallons of milk for your enjoyment.

Again, this is a minor inconvenience to the cow. But, if you desire to have a great breakfast with bacon and ham, some pig has to make the ultimate sacrifice, not just something that is inconvenient. Will your life be a life of "easyism" or will it be a life of giving to others?

Secondly, relationships are often lost because of our fast-paced life-styles. Because we complete many transactions without ever speaking to a human, we remove ourselves from the people business. Teach students that communication skills are important.

Teach them that even in this highly advanced technological age human interaction is important. Let them know that we should endeavor to help those who can't help themselves. That lesson is sometimes lost in the midst of our fast-paced lives.

Remember too, that it is not how good you are when things are good that will determine your true success, but rather how good you are when things are bad. True champions in athletics and in life are measured by how well they do when things are rough.

It is easy to be successful when everything is clicking and all is going well, when the calls go your way, the team is working together and everyone is feeling good. But, when adversity strikes in the form of an injury, a bad call, or a bad decision, how will you respond?

The same issues occur in life. When the money is rolling in and the bills are paid and everyone is healthy, we are joyful. But, eventually we will have trouble. The bills can't be paid. The children get sick. You lose your job, and the car breaks down. How do you respond?

I truly believe the answer lies within

those who have competed in extracurricular activities. Those who do realize that the striving, the competing, the planning, the cajoling, the urging, the pain and sometimes even the misery prepares one for these bad times.

Anyone can be good when things are good. It takes someone special to rise above the circumstances when things go bad. Many times the real champions come from those circumstances.

Coaches should also remember that many parents would rather their child make the all-district team than for your team to win the state championship. Knowing this helps you keep things in perspective at school even though they aren't at home. Most parents will be great supporters of your program. Others will support you when things are going well for their child. The remainder won't agree with anything you do.

Understanding this doesn't mean that you don't listen to parents or value their children. Never hold it against children because of their parents. Don't make it a crusade of "it's us against the world."

Be open and frank with parents but never relinquish your principles. What you do is important. It is a calling. It is difficult, but if it were easy everyone would be coaching. That is what makes the profession special.

Ask yourself, "Will it play in Mayberry?" On the old sitcom "The Andy Griffith Show," invariably a huge conflict arises in the little town of Mayberry.

Most often Deputy Barney Fife leads the charge, trying to get things fixed. In his ineffective manner he makes things worse. Through his loud manners, brash decision-making and by deputizing Gomer, Gooper, Otis, Opie and Aunt Bee, he makes matters much worse. Then Sheriff Taylor appears on the scene and lends a calm demeanor to the chaos. He gently restores order and even makes Barney look pretty good in his efforts. His act plays well in Mayberry. Does yours? Are you an Andy or a Barney? Your actions reflect your attitude!

This "Last Lecture" is simply a regurgitation of things you have heard from me before. I hope these are indeed not my last comments to you about the thing we both love so much, the students we coach and teach. Have a great summer!

Schools must follow testing protocol



Cliff Odenwald
Associate Athletic Director

Senate Bill 8 was signed this past summer by Governor Perry, establishing the law for random drug testing for anabolic steroids of students in grades 9-12 who participate in UIL athletic activities. The UIL staff immediately began developing the protocol for the larg-

est steroid testing program in the world. After the staff met with lawyers for several months, the UIL Legislative Council passed the protocol in January. The National Center for Drug Free Sport (DFS) was awarded the bid to administer the drug-testing program. It will randomly select and test more than 40,000 student/athletes for anabolic steroids by May of 2009.

In February, DFS started selecting schools and testing the students. Currently more than 100 schools and 5,000 students have participated in the testing program. By the end of this May the total number of schools will reach 200 and more than 10,000 student/athletes will have been tested. To fulfill the mandates of the law, 600 schools and more than 30,000 student/athletes will be randomly selected during the 2008-2009 school year. Approximately 20,000 of these tests will be administered between September and

December of 2008.

Each school is responsible for designating a Member School Representative (MSR) for each high school in the district. The MSR is the liaison between the high school and DFS. It is extremely important that each MSR is prepared in case the school is selected. As written in the protocol, once the contact has been made, the MSR has no more than 48 hours and no less than 24 hours before DFS will render the anabolic steroid test. The rationale for such short notice is to safeguard the confidentiality of the test.

When the school district and the MSR are prepared, the process has gone very smoothly. It is important that the MSR understands the protocol and is prepared. The UIL has emailed each MSR the *Anabolic Steroid Testing Site Coordinator's Manual*. The manual covers the information you will need in case your school is selected. The manual, the protocol, testing forms and related information are available on the UIL Web site.

Make sure that your school follows the UIL Anabolic Steroid Testing Protocol and has the following information prepared to be in compliance with Senate Bill 8:

Parent-Student Steroid Agreement Form – Each student in grades 9 – 12 who participates in UIL sanctioned athletic activities must have a Parent-Student Steroid Agreement Form signed and on file. The revised 2008 Parent-Student Steroid Agreement Form is available on the UIL Web site. The 2008 form is only valid for the

2008-2009 school year.

Steroid Testing Student-Athlete Listing Form – The MSR shall have all student/athletes in grades 9-12 that participate in UIL sanctioned athletic activities registered on this form. This form should be current and updated periodically during the school year and ready to email to DFS once your school is selected for anabolic steroid testing.

Confidentiality that your school has been selected to be tested – When the MSR receives the notification from DFS that the school has been selected, only school district personnel described in the protocol shall be notified. It is against the law to tell any students or staff members that the school has been selected for testing.

School districts that do not follow and comply with the UIL Anabolic Steroid Testing Protocol are in violation of the law and will be subject to penalty by the UIL State Executive Committee. We appreciate everyone's cooperation with what we understand is a stressful process for the school district and the student/athletes.

There are many people to thank regarding how well this process has proceeded thus far. First, we need to thank the schools and students who have undergone this testing for their patience and cooperation in being "first." I need to personally thank Dr. Mark Cousins and Kim Rogers for all the time and energy they devoted to preparing for this testing process. Also, I need to thank the University of Texas Systems and TEA for their legal advice.

COPE training goes online in May for coaches



Darryl Beasley
Athletic Coordinator

Some new requirements are coming down the pipeline for coaches this year. As Rachel Harrison, athletic coordinator, wrote in the January/February issue of the *Leaguer*, the UIL Legislative Council passed an amendment requiring all first-year coaches and any coach

who is not a full-time employee of a school district to complete the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Fundamentals of Coaching course. We also made major changes to the method of receiving COPE training.

Currently, coaches who do not get their ejection overturned by the State Executive Committee, take the four-hour NFHS coaching course at no cost. In the 2008-2009 school year, the cost of the course will be paid by the individual coach or the school at a cost of \$35 per individual.

Along with the addition of the coaching course, the Coaches and Officials Positive Expectations (COPE) program, which is a requirement of all coaches every year before they can begin coaching, must now be completed online at the UIL Web site (www.uil.utexas.edu). Look for a link to the COPE training.

UIL will no longer distribute the COPE video to coaches and schools. Coaches will be required to register at the UIL Web site in order to be able to take the course and receive a certificate of completion. If you have watched the Steroid Education Program video from our Web site, then you've already registered.

The COPE training consists of four sections — Introduction, Coaches, Officials and Conclusion. Each of the sections will have a video, key points and a short quiz. The total length of the video is approximately 25 minutes. The short quiz consists of four questions, and you will need to answer three or more to get credit. If you don't earn credit, you will have the opportunity to take the quiz again. A printable certificate of completion will be your

documentation for your district.

The UIL COPE session at the Texas High School Coaches (THSCA) Association, Texas Association for Basketball Coaches (TABC), and Texas Girls Coaches Associations (TGCA) clinics will no longer be held. In addition, UIL in-services, which incorporates COPE, locally approved COPE program, and the COPE DVD, will no longer be acceptable.

This new change will give coaches the opportunity to take COPE on their own time and at their own pace.

Many times school budgets do not allow sub-varsity or junior coaches the opportunity to go to coaching clinics, or coaches of individual sports the opportunity to get COPE certified. This will save the district time and money and ensure all coaches have the ability to take COPE. The responsibility for completing the COPE program will be on the individual coach.

The new online training course will be available in May.

Have a great summer. You deserve it.

PUBLIC REPRIMANDS

BASKETBALL

Cedar Park Middle School – Jose Barrera
San Antonio Lanier HS – Louis Martinez
Normangee HS – Alan Andrus
Brenham Middle School – John Fischer
Texarkana Pleasant Grove HS – Clay Busby
Baytown Lee HS – Dote Williams
Mount Pleasant Chapel Hill HS – Ron Hanks
San Antonio Jackson Middle School – David Ramos
Austin HS – Jocelyn Satterwhite
Tom Bean HS – Kevin Colston
Taylor HS – Justin Boswell
Burnet HS – Roy Kiser
Brownsville Rivera HS – Javier Chirinos
Dallas Gateway Charter Academy – Joe Berry

SOCCER

Dallas Pinkston HS – Ed Miranda
Cedar Park Vista Ridge HS – David Hilsenteger
Richmond Foster HS – Mike Hale
North Mesquite HS – Morris Thompson
Conroe The Woodlands HS – David Colschen
Dallas Lincoln HS – Donald Morris
College Station A&M Consolidated HS – Chris Kovacs
Bastrop HS – Robert Watson

SOFTBALL

Houston Langham Creek HS – Michele Biffe
Georgetown HS – Steve Vierra
Boerne HS – Jennifer Fox
Alvin HS – Carla Newsom

BASEBALL

Baytown Sterling HS – Chris Rupp
San Augustine HS – Lynn Graves
Roma HS – Macario Guerra
Clyde Eula HS – Jeff Kirby

FORT HANCOCK HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Fort Hancock High School with probation through August 14, 2008 for violation of UIL Pitching Limitations. The State Executive Committee also issued a public reprimand to Coach Armando Aguilar with probation through August 14, 2008 for violation of UIL Pitching Limitations.

UIL HS POETRY, CATEGORY A – AWARD-WINNING POETS

Two Tuft Awards are included on the acceptable poetry award list for Category A of Poetry: the Kingsley Tuft Award and the Kate Tuft Discovery Award.

HOUSTON PREPARED TABLE CHARTER SCHOOL

The State Executive Committee suspended Prepared Table Charter School from all UIL activities until a school administrator appears before the Committee to answer allegations involving misconduct by coach and players.

MERTZON IRION COUNTY ISD

District 12-1A Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Irion County ISD and placed the school district on probation though October 28, 2008.

DENTON MCMATH MS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Priest Johnson with probation through October 23, 2009 for violation of Section 51 (a) (8).

EMPLOYMENT OF COACHES

Addition to Official Interpretation #29 (Section 1033 [b] [5] and Section 1202): A full-time substitute who has coached during the school year would be permitted to continue coaching until the UIL competitive year has ended. Example: state baseball playoffs.

SAN ANTONIO BURBANK HS

The State Executive Committee suspended Coach Rudy Vera

through August 21, 2009 for violation of Section 51 (a) (8), Recruiting.

CORPUS CHRISTI CALALLEN HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Steve Chapman with probation through March 3, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j) (3), Ejection from Contest While on Probation.

IRVING MACARTHUR HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Michael DeSpain with probation through August 21, 2008 for violation of Section 1110 (c) (2), Eligibility, and Section 1110 (f), Organization Roster.

HOUSTON LAMAR HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Dennis Gillespie with probation through January 23, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

LAIRD HILL LEVERETTS CHAPEL HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Ricky Hammontree with probation through January 9, 2010 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

SAN ANTONIO HOLMES HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Merry Brown with probation through February 12, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

ARLINGTON LAMAR HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Cheryl Edwards with probation through August 14, 2008 for violation of Section 400 (d), Playing an Ineligible Player, No Pass No Play.

SLATON HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Eddie Kilmer with a

suspension from coaching in all UIL activities through August 14, 2010 for violation of Section 1201 (a) (3). In addition, if at any time he returns to Texas and wishes to coach, he shall appear before the State Executive Committee before he is able to coach in any UIL activity. If he returns to the State of Texas within the three-year suspension, he has the opportunity to appeal the decision to the State Executive Committee.

AUSTIN REAGAN HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Reagan High School with probation through August 14, 2008 for violation of Section 1033 (b) (6), Failure to Participate in One-Act Play Contest.

FORT WORTH DIAMOND HILL-JARVIS HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Diamond Hill-Jarvis High School with probation through August 14, 2008 for violation of Section 1033 (b) (6), Failure to Participate in One-Act Play Contest.

NEW LONDON WEST RUSK HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to West Rusk High School with probation through August 14, 2008 for violation of Section 1033 (b) (6), Failure to Participate in One-Act Play Contest.

SIMMS BOWIE HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Charles Hudgeons with probation through November 6, 2008 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

ROMA HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Homer Garr with probation through December 11, 2008 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

PFLUGERVILLE HENDRICKSON HS

The State Executive Committee

issued a public reprimand to Coach Joshua Field with probation through January 8, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

JASPER HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Tim Little with probation through January 8, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

ROSENBERG LAMAR CONSOLIDATED HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Lamar Consolidated High School's football program with probation through January 16, 2009 for violation of Sections 1206 and 441. The State Executive Committee also issued a public reprimand to Coach Lydell Wilson with probation through January 16, 2009 for violation of Sections 1206 and 441.

CORPUS CHRISTI ACADEMY

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Juan Renteria with probation through January 22, 2009 and a one-game suspension for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest and failure to complete required COPE training.

SPRING BRANCH MIDDLE SCHOOL

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach M. David Tomasson with probation through February 12, 2009 and a one-game suspension for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

WICHITA FALLS HIRSCHI HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach John Pearson with probation through February 12, 2010 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest. Additionally Mr. Pearson is required to appear before the State Executive Committee before returning to coaching in Texas.

COTULLA HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Ruben Aynes with probation through February 26, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

FRISCO CENTENNIAL HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Adrian Puente with probation through February 19, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

BEAUMONT CENTRAL HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Tony Cox with probation through February 19, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

SAN ANTONIO CLARK HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach John Paul with probation through February 19, 2011 and suspended him from coaching in all UIL activities until February 19, 2011 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest. Additionally Mr. Paul is required to appear before the State Executive Committee before returning to coaching in Texas.

COLLEGE STATION A&M CONSOLIDATED HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Scott Sage with probation through March 25, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

SLIDELL HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Cody Vanover with probation through January 22, 2010 for violation of State Law, No Pass No Play.

FORT WORTH SOUTHWEST HS

The State Executive Committee suspended Coach Scott

Gray from all UIL activities for the 2008-2009 school year for violation of Section 1201 (a) (3), Verbal Abuse of an Official.

KATY HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Patrick Okruhlik with probation through February 26, 2009 for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

AUSTIN MURCHISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Jonas Alvarez with probation through April 8, 2009 with a one-game suspension for the 2008-09 soccer season for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest and failure to fulfill requirements of Section 1208 (j) (2).

WINNIE EAST CHAMBERS HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Roy Mozley with probation through April 8, 2009 with a one-game suspension for the 2008-09 baseball season for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest and failure to leave the field after the ejection.

LUBBOCK CORONADO HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Monte George with probation through April 8, 2009 with a one-game suspension for the 2008-09 baseball season for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

WACO LA VEGA HS

The State Executive Committee issued a public reprimand to Coach Paul Deleon with probation through April 8, 2009 with a one-game suspension for the 2008-09 soccer season for violation of Section 1208 (j), Ejection from Contest.

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