Story 1 — Write: 1-line main headline counting 25-32
To raise funds for the spring banquet, the Spanish Club will host a lock-in at the school gym Friday, Dec. 20 — the first day of the winter break. All students are invited to attend.
The lock-in will start at 7 p.m. and end at 7 a.m. Cost will be $25 per person.
“Several local restaurants have donated food, so we will have everything from queso to cupcakes,” Spanish Club sponsor Headley Hanks said.
Students also can participate in a dodgeball tournament and a granny-style free throw contest.
“It’s going to be a lot of fun,” Spanish Club president Noelle Chavez said. “We have so many activities planned. No one is going to get bored or tired.”
Junior Cassidy Jones said she and several of her friends plan to attend.
“‘I’m not in Spanish Club, but it sounds like a blast,’” she said.
Hanks said he will limit the number of students at the lock-in to 150. He also will have four other teachers attending as chaperones.
Tickets for the lock-in will go on sale during lunch starting Friday, Dec. 13.
“I suspect we will sell out within a day or two,” Hanks said.

Story 2 — Write: 3-line headline with each line counting 10-17
Hoping to start a new tradition, senior class officers are encouraging seniors to wear school colors, purple or grey, for the class panoramic photo next Friday.
“We want everyone to show their pride,” senior class president Jamison Blunt said.
Blunt said he got the idea after visiting his cousin at Southside High School last week.
“They display their senior group photos in the front hallway like we do, but in every one of their photos, the students are all wearing the school colors,” he said. “It looks cool.”
Senior Jasper Smith said he and most of his friends plan to wear the senior shirt.
“I like this idea,” he said. “Plus, it will get my mom off my back. She always wants me to dress up for school photos.”
Stanish Studios will take the panoramic, and seniors can purchase a photo for $12 each.

Story 3 — Write: 2-line headline with each line counting 22-28
At the district competition in Houston, DECA students took home 25 medals — a record for the school. Plus, 14 students will advance to the state competition for role playing, and another seven students will advance with written presentations.
“I was blown away by our results,” DECA sponsor Kari Kubicek said. “The most we have won in the past was five medals. This is five times that.”
DECA president Sharon Plumley, a junior and one of the members who will advance, said the club worked hard to prepare for the competition.
“We set our goal in September to bring home at least 10 medals,” she said. “We put in a lot of long hours after school and on the weekends, but it was worth it.”
In total, 47 students competed in the district competition, which covers different business and marketing categories, including sports and entertainment, human resource management, entrepreneurship and finance.
The state competition will be held in Dallas on March 27.
“The level of competition at state is tough,” Plumley said. “That means more long hours to prepare. It’s good thing we all like each other so much.”
Story 4 — Write: 1-line main headline counting 16-24 and a 1-line secondary headline counting 25-32

Freshman Ricky Rodriguez has always had an entrepreneurial spirit. At 7 years old, he had a lemonade stand. At 11 years old, he washed cars and mowed lawns in the summer. And now at 14, he has a thriving business with three employees who each earn about $200 a week.

“My new business might not be the most glamorous job, but it definitely pays well and has little overhead,” Ricky said. Ricky’s new endeavor is Poop Patrol, which he started this fall when his lawn mowing business started to die down.

“Mowing lawns is seasonal,” he said. “Dogs poop in every season.” So, Ricky made some fliers and started delivering them around the neighborhood. In one week, he had 15 customers.

“By the second week, I had to get friends to help because I had too much business for just myself,” he said.

Poop Patrol charges $20-30 a yard, depending on the size.

“We each have about 10-15 yards that we clean after school each week,” Ricky said. “Right now, I have a waiting list because we can’t take on any new clients.”

English teacher Robyn Ramirez hired Ricky two months ago and is thrilled with his service.

“It’s a great deal,” she said. “Poop scooping used to be one of my most hated chores. I gladly pay $20 a week to get it done.”

Story 5 — Write: 1-line main headline counting 10-18 and a 2-line secondary headline with each line counting 15-22

Senior Bobbi Proctor dunked her way into history last week when she became the first female to win the Central Texas Power Drink Dunking Contest.

Proctor beat out 49 other competitors — 47 of them were male.

“I’m not going to lie,” the 6-foot-4-inch varsity player said. “It felt good, really good.”

After being challenged by several of the boys’ varsity players, Proctor decided to enter the contest.

“The guys knew I could dunk, but they didn’t think I could beat them,” she said. “I guess they know now.”

Senior varsity player Patrick Jett said he was blown away by Proctor’s performance.

“We’ve seen her dunk during a game, but I had no idea how high she could get,” he said. “We all bow down to her now.”

To win the contest, Proctor leapt over another player sitting in a chair.

“I was 100% sure I could make the jump and the shot even though that was my first time trying it,” she said.

Proctor said she began dunking her sophomore year.

“I rarely do it in games,” she said. “There’s no need to be a show off.”

This is the 21st year for the dunking contest, which draws participants from all over the state.

“We always have a few females enter, but they usually get knocked out in the first round,” contest director Sue Gathright said. “The first time I saw Bobbi dunk, I knew she would make it to the finals. She’s pretty amazing.”

Story 6 — Write: 2-line headline with each line counting 20-27

After the winter break, student athletes will have one more coach to help them prepare for their sport. Mike Tedder, a 2011 graduate, will join the athletic staff as a strength coach.

Tedder, who has a master’s in physical education, was an assistant strength coach at Baylor University where he worked with the baseball team.

“I am beyond thrilled to return to Leaguetown and work with our student athletes,” Tedder said. “Coming home has been a dream of mine for years.”

Athletic director Nick Stuessy said he has been lobbying for a strength coach since he arrived at the district four years ago.

“We need someone who can teach proper fundamental movement patterns and weightlifting progressions,” Stuessy said.

“This is extremely important to keep our athletes healthy and strong.”

Junior James Ray, a pitcher on the varsity baseball team, said he is looking forward to working with Tedder.

“I know I need to strengthen my arms, but I am always wary of lifting weights,” he said. “I don’t want to do anything to injure myself.”