

"The Best and Getting Better"

Jacket Gazette

PRODUCED BY THE DESKTOP PUBLISHING CLASS AT MHS

April 16, 2010

Volume 17, Issue #7

ADVANCING TO REGIONALS:

Golf (April 19-20)

Kevin Anderson
Morgan Barker
Jordan Felan
Cheyne Guinn
Ryan Niewenhuis
Joe Barrett Winkler



story on page 3

Academic UIL (April 24)

Nic Bracknell
Caroline Brady
Jordan Felan
Blake Gebhardt
Cheyne Guinn
Jennifer Heartsill
Mykala Madson
Billy Miller
Christina Ticer



story on page 8

Track (May 3-4)

Tiffany Allen
Samantha Galloway
Kimber Koonsman
Regan Ledbetter
Tannah Malott
Kasie Olivarri
Lindsey Prestwood
Brook Simmons

Damian Allen
Josh Eoff
Juan Galindo
Dakota Hall
Mason Hallway



story on page 5



Counselor News

Juniors should take the ACT or the SAT BEFORE their senior year. The last test for the ACT is June 12th and the registration deadline is May 7th. The last test for the SAT is June 5th and the registration deadline is April 29th.

New for this year--all juniors may get a voucher to take the test for free and even get reimbursed if they paid for the April test. See Mrs. Massingill to get your vouchers.

By Taylor Gallier

NHS

The American Red Cross BLOOD Drive sponsored by the NHS was a great success. Twenty-nine (29) people presented to donate blood with 24 productive units collected. The following are the results for the 2009-2010 year.



Sept. Drive – 12 productive units
Dec. Drive – 26 productive units
Feb. Drive – 19 productive units
Apr. Drive – 24 productive units

That's a total of 81 units for the year and 243 lives saved! Thank you to all the donors and the people that attempted to donate.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 5th and new member inductions will be held on Wednesday, May 5th.

Check out the new lights for the flagpole in front of the school. The NHS purchased the lights and our maintenance department installed them.

by Andrea Edwards



NJHS

New member inductions will be held on Wednesday, May 5th.

by Andrea Edwards

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Band

The band will be playing at Peak Music Festival on May 14-16.

By: Heather Smith

Varsity Cheerleaders

The Cheerleaders are working very hard during the Activity Period to practice on a dance for competition at cheer camp. Cheer camp will be in South Padre on June 14-17.

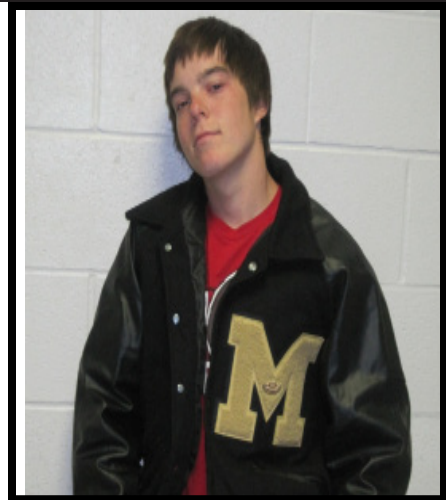


BY: JELLY (:

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 23rd & 24th** – Regional UIL
- April 26-30** – TAKS test
- May 3rd & 4th** - Regional track
- May 4th**- English 1 EOC field test
- May 5th**- NJHS & NHS Inductions
- May 6th - 8th** - State UIL
- May 14th & 15th**- State track and Dallas Music Fest
- May 17th** - All sport Banquet
- May 17th -19th** - LAT testing and TAKS retest
- May 18th- 20th**- Vital Links
- May 20th**- Spring Concert @ 6:30, Physics and Geometry EOC Testing
- May 21st**- Awards Ceremony @ 9:00, Biology EOC @ 1
- May 24th** - Band Banquet @ 6:30
- May 25th**- Senior Picnic, Academic Awards / Scholarship program
- May 28th**- Graduation @ 7

By: Heather Smith



Senior Spotlight

Destin Rohrer was born on December 25, 1991 in Glen Rose, Texas, on a bridge in an ambulance to Robert Rohrer and Leann Arnold. He has attended Meridian ISD for 3 years, and his extracurricular activities include football, baseball, and band in which he plays percussion.

Destins' career goal is to become an actor. He plans to go to college at Lincoln Tech in Grand Prairie, Texas. His hobbies are skateboarding and lead bass in the band. His favorite food is pizza, movie is anything with Will Ferrell, band is "Handle With Care" and he loves to hang out with his best friend Seth Allen McElyea.

By: Dree(:



Softball

By Tiffany Allen

Softball is an extremely mentally challenging as well as physically demanding sport. The Meridian Lady Jacket's softball team has a success driven mindset and an athletically powered line-up.

"Our team is comprised of many notable players," said head coach Randy Lee. This spring will bring many tough competitions their way and will expose their strengths and weaknesses.

"We need to concentrate on one game at a time," said Lee.

This team has strong leadership abilities and is mentally prepared to face this season's opponents.

"All members of our team are dedicated...otherwise they wouldn't be out there," said Lee.

To toughen the girls up Coach Lee has scheduled quality teams to prepare his team for district.

"We are playing quality teams in non-district, and we are putting pressure on the girls during practice so that we can respond successfully in game situations," said Lee.

Dedication is the key to this team's leadership. Every player will have to be a "team player."

"If the work ethic, desire, and dedication of our team stay at a high level," said Lee, "I believe we have the ability to play with any team in the state."



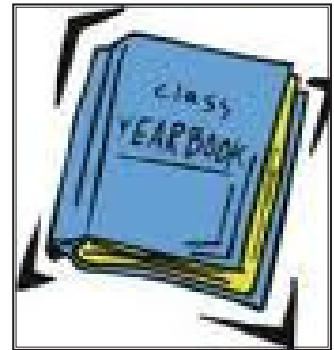
Baseball News

Tuesday April 13th, Meridian played Dublin and won 15-5. Justin Guerero struck out ten batters. He pitched for 6 ending straight. Joe Barrett Winkler started with a three-run double in the first, while Damian Allen went four-for-four at the plate with four runs batted in. Coach Voss says he is very proud of the boys and especially Cody Smith for his performance pitching.

By BM

Yearbook News

The yearbook is still selling ads for anyone who wants to buy one. The ads vary in size and price. The bigger the page the higher the price. You can purchase the yearbooks online at the MHS website or you can visit Coach Finstad for the purchase of one.



Girls Golf

At district, Morgan Barker scored high enough to **advance to regional**. Also participating in girls golf include Stephanie Draper and Nici Chapa.

Boys Golf

The boys golf team is going to regional. Ryan Nieuwenhuis placed 3rd individual medalist in district. Other members of the team include: Joe Barrett Winkler, Cheyne Guinn, Kevin Anderson, and Jordan Felan. Good Luck!



By: Taylor



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Kara Schmidt was born December 20, 1991 in Fort Worth, Texas. She has been attending Meridian since first grade. Her grandparent's names are Dennis and Kathy Robertson. At MHS she participated in cross country, power lifting, softball, and track (pole vault, 800 relay, 400 dash, mile).

After school she plans on majoring in radiology or physical therapy. She plans to attend MCC for basics, then somewhere else to continue. She works at Cactus Grill. Her hobbies are texting, hanging out with friends, seeing movies, and just having a good time!!!! Her favorite colors are purple, lime green, and blue. Her favorite food, drink, and movies are ice cream, monsters and "Hang Over".

by *A.Y*

Senior Spotlight



Samantha Galloway was born in San Angelo, Texas on October 4, 1991. She has attended Meridian since 6th grade. Her parents include her mom, Jana Adkins, stepdad, Corey Adkins, and dad, Jim Galloway.

Extracurricular activities she has participated in include cross country, basketball, softball, track, FFA, and FCA. The events that she runs in track are the mile, 800 meter dash, mile relay, triple jump, long jump, and 300 hurdles.

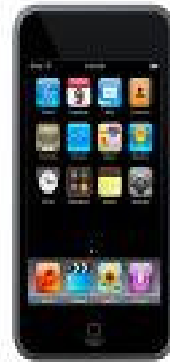
After graduation, Sam plans to go into sports medicine and also run cross country and track at UNT or Howard Payne. Her hobbies are running, hanging with friends, camping, and fishing. Her favorite movie is "The Hangover" and "The Notebook." Her favorite food is grilled ceasar salad. Her favorite saying is "Actions speak louder than words ever could."

BY: JELLY (:

Junior High Cheerleaders

- Sierra Childers
- Kaycie Crawford
- Lauren Halbert
- Maria Harbison
- Ashlee Hooks
- Morgan Marshall
- Cassidy Menger
- Heidi Shelby
- Chelsea Shipman
- Alex Taylor
- Brandy Vailes
- Krista Warren

The Junior High Cheerleaders are selling raffle tickets \$3.00 a piece to raise money for them. The drawing to be held during the Fiesta Dance in the Elementary Gym on Friday, May 7th. You may win a 32 GB iPod Touch it will hold up to 7,000 songs.



BY: JELLY (:



One-Act Play

“Hopes and Words and Ordinary Things”

Cast

Alison Drake.....Chantelle Chenault
 Harriet Todd.....Brittanie Klose
 Emily Todd.....Christina Ticer
 Mr. O’Flarhety.....Destin Rohrer
 Roger Brown.....Seth McElyea
 Eric Bently.....J.C. Peeples
 Mrs. Potter.....Latasia Whitmer
 McGinty.....Steven McElyea

Crew

Caroline Brady
 Danielle Davalos



Director

Emilie Sasser

Assistant Director

Debbie Ticer

Zone Awards

Best Actor

Seth McElyea

All-Star Cast

Destin Rohrer

Latasia Whitmer

Honorable Mention All-Star Cast

Chantelle Chenault

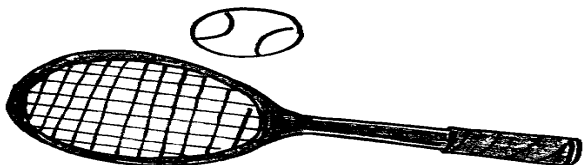
Steven McElyea

Zone All-Star Crew

Caroline Brady

TENNIS

The tennis team for this year consist of:
 Doubles: Felix Reynoso & Billy Miller,
 Steven McElyea & Jacob Ransom. Sin-
 gles: Sara Munoz, Mason Holloway &
 Trinton Jones. The doubles team of Felix
 & Billy made it to District April 5th.



Track!

Last week the Jackets hosted their annual “Straight A Relays Meet.” As a team the Meridian Varsity Girls finished 7th place with 41 points. Kasie Olivarri got the 3rd in the 400 meter dash and 5th in long jump. The sprint and the 800 meter relay the girls got 4th place. Regan Ledbetter got 6th in shot put. Haley Hallmark and Taylor Townley placed in discus, 6th and 3rd. Kimber Koonsman and Tiffany Allen got 2nd and 6th in high jump.

The boys overall placed second tying with DeLeon with 76 points. Juan placed 2nd in the 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash and triple jump. In the 110 hurdles Mason Holloway got 1st and Dakota Hall got 2nd. Mason also got 2nd in the 300 hurdles and Trinton Jones got 5th. Jonathan Lira got 5th in the 800 meter run and the mile. Josh Eoff got 5th in long jump and triple jump. Damian Allen got 3rd in high jump, and Cody Smith placed 3rd in shot put followed by Scotty Allen in 4th place.

In the District Meet the Varsity Girls were the runner up for the District Champs and the JV Girls took home the title for District Champions. The JV boys finished up District in 8th place and the Varsity Boys got 4th place with 80 points.

The Area Track Meet was held April 15 in Strawn. All 8 area girls meet competitors will advance to the regional meet in Abilene on May 3rd & 4th.

4 X 100M Relay – Lindsey Prestwood, Kasie Olivarri, Regan Ledbetter, & Kimber Koonsman

4 X 200M Relay – Lindsey Preswood, Tiffany Allen, Regan Ledbetter, Kimber Koonsman

4 X 400M Relay – Lindsey Prestwood, Kasie Olivarri, Brook Simmons, Samantha Galloway

100M & Long Jump - Kimber Koonsman

400M & High Jump -Kasie Olivarri

800M - Samantha Galloway

Pole Vault - Tannah Malott

In the boys are meet, the following competitors are advancing:

Triple Jump - Damien Allen

110m Hurdles - Dakota Hall

110m Hurdles - Mason Holloway

100m dash, 200m dash - Juan Galindo

Long Jump - Josh Eoff



For more results and information you can visit the school website.

<http://www.meridianisd.org/highschool/sportstrack.htm>

Teen Pregnancy

By Sadie Davis

Pregnancy rates are falling for women under 18, and we should do what we can to keep lowering the teen pregnancy rate.

Teenagers are not responsible enough to have children; they aren't responsible enough to have sex. They are still kids themselves, so they don't need to be changing their lives to involve their own children at such an early age.

Since the decision ultimately rests with the individual, some teens may decide they are responsible enough to have sex. So, they should know what to do to make that child's life the best by going to parenting or health classes. If they are considering the alternative, abortion, they may find that the result is different types of depression. Abortion is not the way to go. In fact it is the complete opposite.

Some teenagers try an abstinence pact. Abstinence is the only method of birth control that is 100% effective.

Teen's pregnancy rates are falling, so each person should do what he or she can to keep it lowering.

Baby--Think it Over

By Tiffany Allen

Meridian High School is planning to give students simulation babies sometime in March to teach them the responsibilities of being a good parent.

"It can teach the students what they could be getting themselves into," said sophomore Sadie Davis.

The students recognize what responsibilities will come with the babies. "I'm not going to be used to burping, feeding, and changing my new baby," said sophomore Audriana Ortiz. They also understand that taking care of these babies will require their time during the day and also at night.

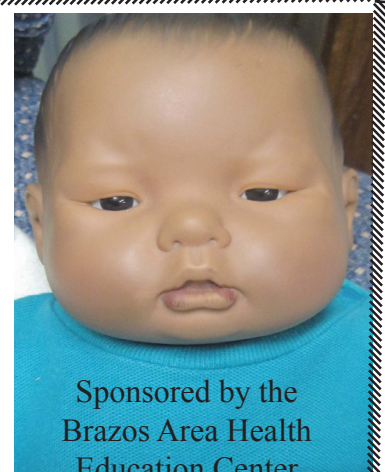
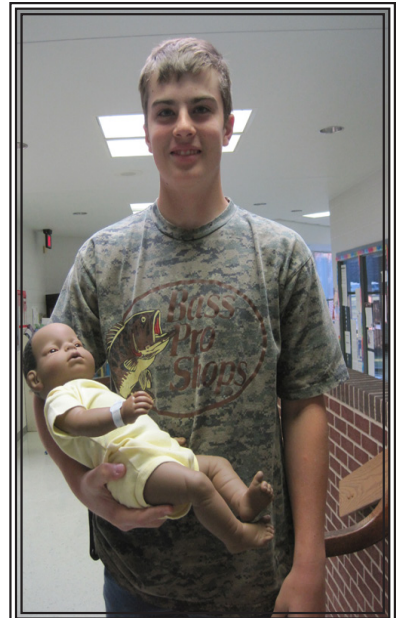
"I think the biggest problem for me will be waking up in the middle of the night to take care of it," said sophomore Billy Miller.

Most of the students aren't looking forward to taking care of their new mechanical babies.

"They will get on my nerves crying all the time," said sophomore

Coach Lee's Health classes get the chance to see how to be parents. They are taking care of simulation babies sponsored by the Brazos Area Health Education Center (AHEC). These babies contain a chip that keeps track of what students do with the baby. They are assigned partners and if they don't take care of their baby, it will monitor it. If the baby cries for over a length of time it shows it when they check on the babies.

By : Heather Smith



Sponsored by the Brazos Area Health Education Center



FFA NEWS

On March 9TH and 10th there was a livestock show market lamb show in Houston Texas. The following students showed lambs:



- Gabby Garza
- Nic Bracknell
- Kelsey Bracknell
- Whitney Finch
- Trey Finch

During the spring break at Houston Livestock Show Market Hog Show on March 15th through the 18th. the following people attended

- Dana Mize – 1st place Light weight. \$1750 w/ sale
- Austin Crawford
- Jess Godwin
- Dax Gann
- Darci Gann



Also Jeremy Seay won 9th place Medium Wool Lamb at San Antonio --\$1300 Sale.

On March 23rd the following FFA students helped out at the Farm Bureau with the AG in the classroom. They played games and practices with all the 4th and 5th grade students in the county.

- Kaylee Kuykendall
- Bekka Roberts
- Dakota Baxter
- Nici Chapa
- Zane Payne
- Trey Finch
- Gabby Garza
- Dana Mize
- Kelsey Holden
- Whitney Finch
- Austin Crawford
- Colton Bowers
- Jeremy Seay
- Dax Gann
- Jennifer Parton
- Caroline Brady

On March 25th the following students participated in the Tarleton State University CDE's.

RANGETEAM

- Hannah Kelley
- Jennifer Parton
- Caroline Brady
- Dax Gann

LIVESTOCKTEAM

- Trey Finch
- Whitney Finch
- Dana Mize

LANDTEAM

- Jess Godwin
- Jeremy Seay
- Gabby Garza
- Nic Bracknell

HORSETEAM

- Kelsey Bracknell
- Brittanie Klose
- Christina Ticer

On April 7 the following students went to Area VIII CDE's.

- Brittanie Klose
- Dakota Baxter
- Joe Madson
- Jeremy Seay
- Jess Godwin
- Gabby Garza
- Nic Bracknell
- Trey Finch
- Whitney Finch
- Dana Mize
- Misha Simmons

Range Team they got 2nd in District and 3rd in Area and they were State Qualifiers

- Christina Ticer
- Jennifer Parton
- Hannah Kelley
- Caroline Brady
- Dax Gann

3rd Place in District in Ag Mechanics:

- Colton Bowers
- Austin Crawford
- Garrett Garza
- Zane Payne

On April the 13th the following Wildlife team members advanced to the regional competition.

- Jorge Flores
- Will Speer
- Jennifer Parton
- Christina Ticer

They got 1st in district in Area and were Regional Qualifiers.



Congratulations!



ACADEMIC UIL NEWS

Nine Meridian High School students will compete at the Class A Region II UIL Academic Meet in Abilene on Saturday, April 24 as a result of their success at the District 15 meet in Goldthwaite on March 29 and 31.

“We didn’t do as well as overall as I had hoped,” MHS academic coordinator Larry Davis said, “but I am proud of how these regional qualifiers performed.”

Students advance to regionals by placing in the top three places individually or by being a part of a team that placed first. Regional qualifiers include Jordan I. Felan (3rd in Number Sense) Billy Miller (2nd in Feature Writing, 6th/News Writing, 6th/Calculator Applications), and Christina Ticer (3rd in Spelling and Vocabulary); Mykala Madson placed 1st in Literary Criticism, leading the first place team that included Caroline Brady and Jennifer Heartsill . Heartsill, Nic Bracknell, Blake Gebhardt (5th/individual), and Cheyne Guinn advanced as the wild card team in Social Studies as the result of having the highest 2nd place score in the region.

“The school finished 4th in overall competition,” Davis said, “but I’m encouraged by the contribution made by our underclassmen.”

Of the nine students competing at regionals, 4 are freshmen and 3 are sophomores, and 19 of the 23 MHS competitors at the district meet were underclassmen.

Tolar dominated the meet with 549 points, doubling the score of 2nd place Goldthwaite. De Leon was 3rd with 218, and Meridian’s points totaled 104.

Other students who earned points for MHS included Felix Reynoso (6th/Feature Writing), Joe Winkler (6th/Mathematics).

Heartsill and her partner Morgan Barker contributed to the MHS finish by placing 1st in the CX Debate meet, which was held in February.

“Our district will change quite a bit next year,” Davis said, “but it will still be tough.”

MHS will remain in district 15 with Goldthwaite and De Leon. Tolar will move out of the district into class 2-A, but Itasca will move in.

“We should be a much stronger team next year,” Davis said. “We may surprise some of the other schools.”

POWERLIFTING NEWS

Jesus Piñon advanced to the state powerlifting meet. He had worked so hard all year getting to this point. Although he didn't place, we are proud of him for trying so hard and doing his best. We wish the best for next year. So Jesus, keep up the good work!



A.Y

Art

ART HAS BEEN WORKING ON OIL PAINTINGS THIS PAST WEEK AND NEXT WEEK THEY WILL START WORKING ON SILK PAINTINGS!

