

Sports

# Swing like you mean it

The baseball fields all over America are trimmed, green, and ready for action.

My family will be sitting in the stands again this year because little league is really the only sport I get.

I love the human drama. In every boy's baseball career, there comes a turning point. It is the season when he realizes that he is going to have to hit in order to get on base.

One of my favorite moments in any season is when the young pitchers start putting it over the plate. That changes everything. Now the batter has a decision to make.

Should he take his chances on four balls, now that the odds have changed? Or should he swing and risk striking out?

"Swing like you mean it!" "Go down swinging, son!"

Parents and grandparents shout encouragement, making heroes out of courageous batters even when they strike out.

In keeping with my personal policy of embarrassing my children at every opportunity, I am working on the Guinness Book of World Records for the Noisiest Mom in a Baseball Stand. I have



some competition for the title, though, I've noticed.

There are a lot of boys out there who will have hilariously humiliating stories to tell their great-grandchildren someday after we're gone.

Actually, I am pretty sure I am going to die suddenly of a heart attack. Probably tomorrow. Maybe tonight. It's a family thing; there is a strong genetic likelihood.

One of the byproducts of having all kinds of heart disease in the family is a sense of urgency about this life.

In our family, we tend to live like we mean it.

Since this life happens quickly, as a young person I assumed that going for the gusto made sense. Looking back, going for the gusto was a lot like going down swinging but not as courageous.

Aging alongside my parents

has shifted my perspective.

Plus, my father-in-law graduated to eternity this year.

It seems my heart is more and more planted in the eternal while the rest of me is plopped down in the action here; in the temporal nowness of the moment.

It can be rather distracting mentally. It takes discipline to focus attention on the moment when your heart is experiencing eternity.

Kind of like the kid in the outfield who always picks daisies, we need to be reminded to pay attention.

"Heads up!" Life is coming at you quickly. Live like you mean it.

Cathy Primer Krafve, aka Checklist Charlie, lives in beautiful East Texas where the boys of summer are ready for action. Comments are welcome at CaeKrafve2@aol.com.

# 07-08 Bears Basketball



Members of the 2007-08 Brownsboro Bears Freshman Basketball team include, Coach Kent Bradley, Matt Tobey, Kyle Faulkner, Charfus Mayfield, Chris Stringer, Corbin Duke, Ryan Owens, DeAndre Taylor, JT Cox and Colton Dowdle. The team finished the season with a record of 17-8 and 7-3 in District 14-3A.



Members of the Junior Varsity Bears Basketball team include, front, Austin Adair, Brett Tidwell, Justin Vause, Demario Richards, Cody Cook; back, Ryan Cawthon, OT Moore, Adam Dingler, Collin Mason, Daniel Myer and Coach Paul Drake. The team finished the season with a record of 10-16 and 0-10 in District 14-3A.



One of the most successful Brownsboro Varsity Basketball teams in recent history the members of the 2007-08 Bears include, front; manager Kyle Yarbrough, Ryan Smith, Andrew Adair, Jeremy Monroe, Seth Martin, manager Zack Luker; middle, Tristin Warren, Charlie Stringer, Tyler Rogers, Bret Ralson, Jonathan Thompson, Joe Denney; back, Coach Paul Drake, Keith Johnson, Kyle Price, Head Coach Jeff Hutchins, Jacob McCarthy, Zach Bailey and Coach Kent Bradley. The team finished the season with a record of 15-18 and 5-5 in District 14-3A after falling in the Bi-district playoff game against Mabank.

## ★ High School credits

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or email their S.B.O.E. representatives and their legislators.

The following is a list of important points regarding the new 4x4 requirements as it pertains to Athletics:

- Compared with the other electives, high school Athletics is the only elective that receives just two credits for four years of participation. All other electives including Band, Dance, and JROTC, receive four credits for four years.

- Athletes do not receive elective credit for their junior and senior years in Athletics.

- If a freshman has a goal to graduate on the Distinguished Plan and participates in Athletics, he will have problems.

He does not have enough room in his schedule to be in Athletics for all four years of high school and take dual credit classes during his junior and

senior years.

Why does this generate a problem? Not receiving credit for Athletics in his junior and senior years will prohibit him from having enough credits to graduate. Athletics is the only non-credit elective for four years of participation.

Prior to the new 4x4, enough room existed in an athlete's schedule to participate in Athletics all four years and only receive two credits. Now, the extra room is gone.

- With the new 4x4 requirements, which require 26 credits to graduate starting with the graduating class of 2011, students who participate in Athletics but only receive two credits will be placed in a different situation that none of the other students will face.

For example, four years of participation in Athletics equals two credits, but Band, JROTC, and even Dance, four years equals four credits.

- Band can receive 1 - 4 credits in all three graduation programs, (two Physical Education credits and two Fine Arts credits); JROTC can receive 1 - 4 credits in all three graduation programs; Dance I-IV can receive up to two Physical Education credits and two Fine Arts credits, for a total of four credits. These are all state credits not local credits.
- The two groups of athletes who will be most adversely

affected if the current system is not changed will be the Upper Level students who have to manipulate their schedules to take dual-credit classes and the At-Risk students who sometimes have to retake classes because of failing grades.

- The current system of only awarding two Physical Education credits for four years of participation in Athletics is not fair and equitable, especially when compared with the other electives.

All electives are very important to the educational process, but the current system is punitive to only one group (Athletics) in our school setting.

Interscholastic sports are an integral part of the educational process. Sound athletic programs can provide valuable lessons for practical situations.

The daily influential power of a positive athletic program and coach can be life changing for many of our young people.

Studentathletes experience daily victories, discovering within themselves the ability to overcome adversity, develop leadership skills, develop winning attitudes, be hard workers and be a part of a team which requires sacrifice and service to others.

These things are the direct result of a quality athletic program and the value of coaching kids every day, helping them make strong choices and develop strong habits.

Athletics can significantly impact the lives of the students who stay in the program for four years.

A quality athletic program has the power to combat everything from racism, to low self-esteem, to the high drop-out rate.

In an age of rampant teen pregnancy, high drop-out rates, and extreme apathy, it should not matter to us why students come to school and work to succeed academically, as long as they are coming to school and working.

Athletics is often the driving force that keeps many of our At-Risk students in school.

All electives are very important to the educational process, but the current system is punitive to only one group (Athletics) in our school setting. It is not right and needs to be changed.

Henderson County, Anderson County, Van Zandt County schools, parents and students should write to:

Don McLeroy- District 09  
9277 Brookwater Circle  
College Station, TX 77845  
979-255-2538

## ★ Bearettes end season

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ball in the air before stepping on third for a game ending double play.

Brownsboro totaled 10 hits against Canton. Randi Smith had two hits and 3 runs batted in. Chelsea Holcomb had a double while Carley Smith,

Allison Palmer and Vause each had a hit.

As a team the Bearettes batted .274 on the season while scoring 91 runs on 177 hits.

Randi Smith and Groothuis tied for the team lead in average at .380, hits 30 and plate

appearances 79. Carley Smith led the team in runs scored with 17 and walks with 12. All three girls return to the Bearettes next season.

For photos of the Bearettes during the 2008 season go online to c-bstatesman.com.

## ★ Sweep

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reach base and two runs to score.

Leading 2-1 entering the bottom of the fifth senior Keaton Parsell locked in. Parsell did not allow a hit in the final three innings as he struck out four Eagles. Brownsboro ended the game with a double-play from Brad McDonald to Ryan Epperson.

Parsell pitched all seven innings allowing one hit and two walks. He struck out ten Eagles.

In Bullard on Friday Ryan Epperson picked up the win,

throwing 99 pitches and Parsell pitched a perfect seventh to pick up the save.

Considered underdogs by many, the Bears scored runs in the third, fifth and sixth inning to hand the Panthers their first loss in 15 games.

With two outs Bret Ralson drove in Keaton Parsell for the winning run in the sixth inning on a hit to right field. Parsell reached base after being hit by a pitch and advanced to second on a wild pitch.

Smith scored for the Bears

in the third inning on a hit by Epperson. Taylor scored in the fifth inning on another hit by Epperson. Epp was 2-4 in the game with two RBIs and a double. He recorded a hit in each at bat with runners in scoring position.

Brownsboro had six hits in the game. McDonald doubled in the first inning and Taylor picked up his first varsity hit in the fifth. Taylor was the replacement for senior center fielder Collin Wilson who was out of the game with back spasms.

## ★ Bears defeat Athens

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to left field came with one on in the sixth inning to extend the lead to 8-0.

Overall the Bears totaled ten hits, five for extra bases.

Brownsboro first run of the game came in the first inning as Epperson was moving on a pitch to Keaton Parsell. Parsell hammered the pitch to centerfield scoring Epp.

Bears tacked on two more runs as Brett Tidwell reached base on an error to lead off the inning. Tidwell scored on a hit by senior Collin Wilson.

Wilson, back from an injury, scored on a triple by Ryan Smith. Wilson had two hits in the game.

Parsell doubled home Brad McDonald in the fifth inning to give the Bears a 5-0 lead.

With Ryan Owens running for Parsell, Brett Tidwell drove home the sixth run of the game on a sac-fly to center.

The win improved the Bears to 11-11 on the season. Athens dropped to 9-16 on the season and 0-10 in district.

Chapel Hill finished fourth in district with a record of 5-5 while Bullard claimed the title.

### PUBLIC NOTICE OF TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the voting equipment that will be used in the Henderson County Emergency Service #5 election held on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 will be tested on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 9:00 am at election barn located on the corner of Larkin & Carroll St to ascertain that it will accurately count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

Denise A. Hernandez  
Elections Administrator  
Signature of Officer

### AVISO PUBLICA DE PROBAR EQUIPO ELECTORAL

Por lo presente se da aviso que el equipo para votar que se usara en la Elección de Henderson County Emergency Service #5 que se llevara a cabo el día 10 de Mayo de año 2008 se probará el día 25 de Abril de año 2008 a las 9:00 de la mañana en el granero de elección localizado en la esquina de Carroll St y Larkin St para acertar que contará exactamente el molde de votos para todas oficinas y en todas medidas.

Denise A. Hernandez  
Elections Administrator  
Firma del/dela Oficial

### NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAIN THE ESTATE OF GEORGE KENNETH WOOD, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of George Kenneth Woods, Deceased, were issued on April 14, 2008, in Cause No. 182-04, pending in the County Court in Henderson County, Texas, to Phyllis Joan Wood.

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be addressed to the Estate's representative as follows:

Estate of George Kenneth Wood, Deceased.  
C/o Michael D. Allen  
Allen-Lottmann, P.C.  
3805 Old Bullard Rd.  
Tyler, Texas 75701  
Dated the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008.