

## **Community of Character Student of the Month**

Central High School senior Myung Choi has been named as the Keller ISD Community of Character Student of the Month for February. The character trait for February was Integrity. Choi is an outstanding student in all areas and has a heart to serve others.

Choi's family emigrated from Korea when he was very young and life was not always easy for them. Choi recently said, "As immigrants, life was hard for my family and me. Even through the hard times, I held onto hope and instead of becoming discouraged, I became determined to succeed in all I do."

Choi has an impressive commitment to his peers both in school and in the community. He has had a huge impact on the senior class of 2009 through the many leadership positions he has held including Student Council Vice President, FBLA officer, NHS member, Junior World Affairs member, Academic Decathlon member, and NSHS member. Choi is heavily involved in his church -- leading youth Bible studies, tutoring a large group of Korean youth, and playing the drums for the band. He also reaches out to the Korean community by offering translation services for apartment contracts, car contracts, and for his parent's business.

Choi has a strong family commitment and generously acknowledges that they are the reason for all his school achievements. Choi said, "My father has taught me to look at everything positively, to not just criticize the negative aspects of people or my surroundings, but to compliment the positive ones. I have developed a method of extreme positivity. I can make life good."

## **Texas Academic Decathlon State Meet**

Keller High School and Fossil Ridge High School competed in the Texas Academic Decathlon State Meet, which was held in Houston on February 27 – March 1. KHS and Ridge took the top two spots in the Region VIII meet earning each of them a place – 13<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> respectively – among the top 40 teams in the state.

After competing in the State Meet, Keller High finished 16<sup>th</sup> and Fossil Ridge finished 32<sup>nd</sup> out of 120 teams. FRHS student, Jonathan Marble, earned the bronze medal in Super Quiz as well.

The Keller High School team includes Chris Miller, Rachel Gartman, Stephen Cline, Chris Hitte, Kuroush Nazafati, Jacob Westrup, Jackie Harman, Patrick Jones, and Jared Stevens. They are coached by John Taylor, Stacy Short and Cynthia Harris.

The Fossil Ridge High School team includes Scott Tong, Kate Sorensen, Franklin Otis, Betsy Roche, Jonathan Marble, Felisha Trevino, Janitzia Portorreal, Lillian David, and Ashley Cabrera. They are coached by Jennifer Williams, Roger Thomas and Buddy Read.

### **Top Teacher at the Texas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution State Conference**

Rodney Hess, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade American History teacher at Fossil Hill Middle School, has been selected as one of the top three teachers in the state by the Texas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. He will be recognized at the DAR State Conference on March 14 in San Antonio. Hess has won the chapter award three times, but this is the first time he is being recognized at the state level.

Members of the Texas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution work hard to further education, preservation of heritage, and patriotism through service to schools, active duty military and veterans, historical commemoration, and community volunteer work.

### **ASBO International Meritorious Budget Award GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**

Keller ISD Chief Financial Officer, Kent Morrison and his staff are being recognized for receiving two budget awards this school year.

The Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International presented Keller Independent School District with the Meritorious Budget Award for the 2008-09 annual budget. The award represents the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest standards of school budgeting. In order to receive the award, the jurisdiction had to satisfy specific guidelines for effective budget presentation recognized by school business officials throughout North America.

In addition, KISD was also presented with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2008. The GFOA established this award to encourage and assist state and local governments to prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOAs recommended practices on budgeting.

### **National Athletic Training Month**

Keller ISD is recognizing its high school athletic trainers in honor of National Athletic Training Month.

Central High School: David Traylor, Christine Hardee and Adelita Baker.  
Fossil Ridge High School: Clint Morris, Tim Horsley and Jayme Higgins.  
Keller High School: Evan Poer, Ethan Campbell and Christina Kiser

The National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) was founded in 1950. The NATA has helped to unify certified athletic trainers across the country by setting a standard for professionalism, education, certification, research and practice settings. Members serve as leaders for the association, which has multiple committees working together to enhance the quality of health care provided by certified athletic trainers and to advance the athletic training profession.

## **Alliance Texas High School Senior Leadership Conference Sponsors**

Keller ISD high school seniors with high academic performance and leadership skills were invited to participate in the Alliance Texas High School Senior Leadership Conference in February, which gives students the opportunity to develop career skills as well as to introduce them to job opportunities in the Alliance area. The conference is organized and sponsored by the Alliance Texas Human Resource Group Board Members:

Melinda Zimmerman, Americold/Kraft  
Devonna Holland, Compass Bank  
Missy Morse, American Airlines  
Kay Lee, Tarrant County College  
Cynthia Fisher Miller, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce  
James Hill, APEX Medical Group  
Debbie Holmes, Cabela's  
Janet Benton, Alliance Opportunity Center  
Judy Franco, Hillwood  
Becky Bryant, Staffmark

The Alliance Texas Human Resource Group is a professional organization for employees in the Human Resource field who work for companies located within the Alliance Texas development. The group provides an opportunity to network, share best practices and learn updates about the community.

## **Good Samaritan Awards – Natatorium Lifeguards and Coaches**

KISD hosted the District 5-5A Swimming and Diving Championships in January. During the meet, a Trinity High School swimmer suffered a kind of seizure in the middle of the 50 freestyle and went under water. Lifeguard David Reid was the first to reach him and followed procedure perfectly. Assistant Swim Coach Ashley Knapp, Head Lifeguard Cathy Vilandre, Head Swim Instructor Kelly Middleton, and Head Lifeguard Brandon Stormes also assisted with the rescue. Coach Linda Shults and Coach Kim Miller played key roles poolside as well. Everyone worked together to get the swimmer on a backboard and stabilized. The EMTs arrived and transported the swimmer to the hospital, who was later discharged with a clean bill of health. KISD is very proud of the Natatorium lifeguards and coaches for their quick response in this incredible life-saving rescue. Many pools do not staff lifeguards during swim meets. Fortunately for this young athlete, it is KISD's normal protocol.