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# NEWS BRIEFS

## **Zach Henshaw of CLHS is semifinalist in Rudy Awards**

Zach Henshaw, a senior at Canyon Lake High School, has been named one of the Top 50 Semifinalists of the High School Football Rudy Awards. The program honors players who demonstrate character, courage, contribution and commitment: the values of Daniel “Rudy” Ruettiger.

The 12 finalists will receive \$25,000 in academic scholarships, provided by the Trusted Sports Foundation. A national selection committee, chaired by Drew Bledsow and Troy Aikman, will determine the nation’s most inspirational players.

After a sudden tragedy this past year, “instantly, Zach’s focus went to his family,” according to Coach Jeff Maynard. “The unexpected loss of his father provided Zach with a huge hurdle to overcome.” Throughout everything, Zach has continued to play football for the Canyon Lake Hawks.

“His passion for the game is identified through his perseverance during practice and dedication to his team,” Maynard continued. “This inspires his teammates to follow in his footsteps.”

The 12 finalists will be announced on Dec. 11 in *Parade* magazine and the winner will be announced on Jan. 15, 2012.

## **CHS earns recognition for college readiness**

Canyon High School has received the 2011 College Readiness Award from the Texas ACT Council for increasing the number of students taking the ACT Assessment over the past five years and significantly increasing their level of achievement and college readiness.

The ACT is one of two college entrance exams. The Texas ACT Council comprises secondary and postsecondary educators who advise ACT, Inc., on the utilization of ACT programs and services in Texas schools and colleges.

Only 10 percent of all high schools in Texas were honored for this level of achievement.

“The Texas ACT Council wanted to recognize those Texas high schools that have made significant strides in increasing the college readiness of their graduates as demonstrated by their ACT score increases over the past five years,” said Karen Pennell, assistant vice president and ACT southwest regional manager. “This can only happen as a result of the high school’s faculty and staff efforts and the dedication of Canyon High

School students and parents to focus on college readiness and raise the level of college readiness for all students.”

## **CHS student wins 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Geography poster contest**

Nicki Schubert, a 9<sup>th</sup> grade student at Canyon High School, has won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Texas Alliance for Geographic Education’s Geography Awareness Week Poster Contest.

Nicki’s poster was selected from all posters submitted in the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade category as the best representation of “Exploring Place,” the theme for this year’s contest.

More than 20,000 students from 120 Texas schools participated in this year’s poster contest. Nicki has the opportunity to join the other winners at an awards ceremony at the State Capitol on Wednesday, Nov. 16.

## **Veterans encouraged to join in celebrations this week**

Veterans, parents and community members are warmly invited to participate in Veterans Day celebrations throughout the week at campuses all over the district. Assemblies, Walls of Honor, guest speakers, honor receptions and presentation of the colors are some of the activities planned at elementary, middle and high school campuses. Students will be involved at all levels. A calendar of events for each campus is available by clicking on the Veterans Day link on the right side of the district webpage, [www.comalisd.org](http://www.comalisd.org).

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