

The Roundup



Cal Farley's
P.O. Box 1890
Amarillo, TX 79174

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PERMIT NO.31
AMARILLO, TX

VOL. LXI-NO. 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

Annual Rodeo Showcases Talent

Cal Farley's youth show-off their competitive talents

The 66th annual Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Rodeo was held over Labor Day weekend and the Ranch was bustling with activity! The children all performed wonderfully, and several walked away with some great prizes.

From mutton busting and stick horse barrel racing, to bareback broncs and bull riding, both days were action-packed with rodeo fun. Visitors from all over enjoyed a great barbecue meal that included brisket, sausage, coleslaw, potato salad, Texas toast and all the fixin's.



Christian, Dan Adams and Haley at the Rodeo President's Luncheon. Christian and Haley are in the Youth Leadership Organization and shared all the wonderful "green" initiatives the YLO team has kept busy with this year.

The tough competition brought about a tie in the battle for the Senior All-Around Cowboy title and saddle. A tie-breaker competition had to be held between Andrew and Kaden. They competed on horseback with a powdered mop. A steer was released and the cowboy to tap the steer with the powdered mop head the quickest would win it all. Kaden won by only 4 seconds.

Kaden, who has lived at Boys Ranch for six years, has been competing in rodeo for just over four years and has...

(Continued on page 4)



Kaden: 2010 Senior All Around Cowboy

A DESIRE TO SERVE

Jade wanted to serve in Egypt three years ago, but it didn't work out. Carla has always wanted to serve in missions work, wherever it may take her. Their dream came true this summer when the pair ended up on the mission trip of their lives — in Malawi.

It all began last February when they decided they would embark on a summer adventure of a lifetime.

The preparations alone took enormous determination.

The journey first began at a two-week boot camp on the hot and humid Merritt Island, Florida. They weren't allowed to bathe for the first five days, they learned to use tools and they had to run a challenge course every day.

"We were begging to come back home by the first night," Jade admitted. But they toughed it out and eventually made the best of it by making new friends and creating "boot camp hairstyles."

They traveled to Africa for their 21-day stay. Only some of the team's sleeping bags and food rations made it, but they made do with what they had. They traveled to several villages, and they built a goat house and a pen to accompany it that required they dig 85 holes in a "ground that was like cement."

They washed feet, handed out socks and shoes, and they learned to live among those much less fortunate than themselves. "They were all standing in a big circle looking at their shoes," Carla said about one of the villages they had stopped at to give away shoes. "They were so happy."

The girls and their team were visiting the Yao tribe of Malawi, according to Team Missions International. They spoke Chichewa, no English at all, and in some areas the natives had never before seen an American.

The two Boys Ranch High School seniors were thrilled to have had such an experience, and their outlook on their own position in life is now very different from before they encountered the poverty-stricken Malawi.

"There is so much that we could be doing to help others," explained Carla. "It's a really broad statement, but it's so true. Over there, they are just so much more thankful for everything."

"They have nothing, but they are happier than those that do," Jade added. "This trip made me realize that we have a lot of opportunities, every day, to help people and yet a lot of people don't. I mean, just do it, why not?"



Jade at a "foot wash" and shoe give-away in Malawi.

Whatis P -O-W-E-R?

President's Message

By Dan Adams



The word power evokes many meanings. Some equate it with strength, others with authority.

In the context of our values, power is the internal where-with-all a person exerts to become a productive individual in spite of less than ideal circumstances. It is the opposite of victimization.

In this issue of *The Roundup*, you will read about some activities that illustrate my point about how P-O-W-E-R manifests itself in our youth.

The Boys Ranch Rodeo is our signature event, and this Labor Day weekend we put on number 66 — that is, two days of rodeo action every Labor Day weekend for nearly seven decades!

But the Rodeo offers a unique opportunity for our youth to be at their best, not just through a big win because few people ever have a chance to win, but by being cheered on through the effort — win, lose or draw. When they fell off, didn't get the time they wanted or their horses collided, they got up, brushed themselves off, got back on and walked away with their head held high.

That is P-O-W-E-R.

Boys Ranch Independent School District has a football team called the Roughriders. Coach Mike Lozano and his coaching staff teach the players that nothing worthwhile comes easy. They teach that power exerted by one who can lift the most weight as an individual athlete is not nearly as important as the P-O-W-E-R manifested through teamwork. The team win comes from the collective accountability and responsibility of the individual team members.

You will also read stories about Carla and Jade, empowered through their service to others in Malawi, and our San Antonio Family Resource Center that focuses on the enabling P-O-W-E-R of an attentive father in the lives of the children.

Why the focus on P-O-W-E-R? Because fostering empowerment over victimization in the lives of children and families we work with is critically important to the development of productive citizens and that is what Cal Farley's is all about.

Happy reading!

ALUMNUS FIGHTS WARS, THANKS CHILDREN LIVING LIFE HE ONCE LIVED

Patrick Ledbetter came to Boys Ranch in 1979. He was 10 when he arrived. He grew up in the Hamilton Home.

As a kid, Patrick never dreamt of being in the military, but after leaving Boys Ranch, his career choice seemed natural. After attending Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Patrick needed a lifestyle with more structure than what college had to offer.

Through his military career, he has traveled to a number of places including Iceland, Washington D.C., Las Vegas, Georgia ... and Iraq and Afghanistan.

This summer, he came "home" to say, "Thanks."

"Every time I am in the area I make it a point to come and visit," he explained. This time, however, he stopped to show his gratitude to the children.

Every Christmas, Cal Farley's sends care packages to deployed soldiers that are either Boys Ranch or Girlstown alumni. "This past Christmas, I was lucky enough to receive a care package from the kids here at the Ranch and I wanted to come by and tell them thank you in person."

Patrick, a Technical Sergeant, is a search and rescue flight engineer for the U.S. Air Force. He has spent the last 19 years in the military and is now moving his family to his next assignment — Lakenheath, England.



Patrick with his wife of 15 years, Sharon, and their 13-year-old daughter Reagan and 8-year-old son Jarrett.

Patrick is excited to be able to offer his children the chance to live overseas. He understands the importance of exposing them to different cultures and lifestyles.

"Growing up in a home with 20 different kids from different lifestyles and backgrounds taught me

how to get along with people," Patrick explained. "Everybody looked at things differently and living in that home helped me understand that there is more than one way to do something. My way may be right or wrong, but I learned how to interact with people. That was a lesson I was able to carry with me through life and one I teach to my kids now."

But before he once again leaves the United States, he wanted to thank those who had helped him to serve.

"I was given an opportunity to change who I was and who I would become. That helped me pick the job I did," he said. "In the Air Force, we are always doing for other people. I think that's my way of giving back what was given to me when I was younger. Boys Ranch gave me a chance and helped me become who I am today. This is my chance to give back to society.

"Children come to the Ranch and are changed, and they go into society and make changes. It is natural for us to give back because of all that was given to us."

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Strengthening Children
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In 2004, Patrick's crew was awarded the prestigious Mackay Trophy. "The trophy is awarded for the 'most meritorious flight of the year' by an Air Force person, persons, or organization."

According to the National Aeronautic Association, "Jolly 11 and Jolly 12 crew members distinguished themselves by gallantry in connection with rescue operations near Kharbut, Iraq, on April 16, 2004. On this date, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Jolly 11 Flight launched to rescue a five person crew of a U.S. Army CH-47 that crashed in a sandstorm with near zero visibility. Their gallantry and devotion to duty reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Air Force."

Patrick is scheduled to return to Afghanistan in November. If you would like to write a letter to be included in this year's Christmas boxes to him and our other active duty alumni, please mail the letter to Cal Farley's, P.O. Box 1890, Amarillo TX, 79174.

TEAM DYNAMICS DIFFERENT FOR ROUGHRIDERS

The Boys Ranch Roughriders are a unique team. They did not all grow up together. In fact, they literally come from all over the United States. They did not grow up playing ball with each other, and most of them never played a sport of any kind before coming to live at Cal Farley's.

"These kids don't grow up wanting to be a Roughrider," said Roughriders' head coach, Mike Lozano. "They don't bleed blue and gold. When they come here, they come with more challenges than the usual adolescent."

Coach Lozano explained that football becomes an outlet for the youth living at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch. "These kids use it as a tool to adapt to being out here," he said. "Many of them have athletic ability, but where they came from, they would never have gone out for tryouts. Being a Roughrider helps them to gain self-confidence and build self-esteem. They learn to work together as a team and they learn structure; that's what most of these kids are wanting. They want stability in their life, and they get that from athletics. It is important to them or they wouldn't be out there."

The Roughrider coaching staff understands that and they understand that it takes time to learn the game and to become good at it. "The excitement of learning something new helps them to stick with it. They've had people quit on them in their lives, but they have to learn to stick with things. Football is a life lesson you can take with you for the rest of your life."

Speaking of taking it with you the rest of your life, Boys Ranch High School senior, LaQuan, has a real shot at doing just that. The Roughriders' offensive and defensive lineman has been courted for months from universities spanning the nation. He attended several football camps this summer and recently made a verbal commitment to attend and play football for Baylor University.

The Roughriders are expected to be leaders across the campus and at school, which is a very different role from what most of them are akin to playing.

"When school starts I want the football team sitting in the front row. I want them to be the leaders in the classroom. Everybody looks



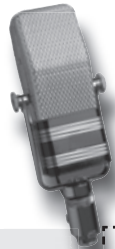
At press time the Roughriders were 2-1 and gearing up to compete against the No. 1 ranked team in State.

up to the football players at school, so we push academics hard." In fact, the coaching staff hosts tutorials for the team every Monday night. They meet at the sports complex on the Boys Ranch campus.

Their challenges are great this season with the latest state-wide district realignment, but according to Coach Lozano, a team gets better by playing better teams. "This season we will have a play-off game every weekend because six of the nine teams we play were in the play-offs last year.

"They picked us last in our district, but here, as long as this program provides stability, responsibility, and has people coming together — it is a winning team because then, you're watching these young boys becoming men."

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Let's Talk!**



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Feed the Hunger



Boys Ranchers packaged nearly 1,200 meals for the Youthfront Feed the Hunger initiative while attending the Youthfront Camp in Kansas City this past summer.

REMEMBER LOVED ONES

Contributions in memory of a loved one or to honor a birthday, wedding, anniversary or a friend in need of encouragement are appreciated. In times of joy or sadness, others are comforted by gifts that help deserving youngsters. For your convenience, we welcome contributions by cash; American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa credit cards; electronic funds transfer by calling (800) 687-3722; or through our secure Web site at www.calfarley.org.

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FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS HOST SUMMER FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Cal Farley's is committed to strengthening the whole family unit. When a child comes into our care, be it one of our campus-based programs or through our community-based programs, it is important for us to strengthen family ties, enhance family communication and educate all members of each family unit on how to best live as productive citizens.

Strengthening children and families is what it is all about at Cal Farley's and our Family Resource Centers have been hard at work all summer doing just that.

The Amarillo team hosted many summer groups for children. They participated in age-appropriate learning activities and in July, the children and their families got together for a baseball game to celebrate Family Fun Night.

The next morning they met for a family workshop where the families worked on communication and parenting skills and each were invited to sit for a family portrait.

The Arlington team hosted a relationship-building workshop for moms and their teenaged daughters, and at the end of summer they hosted a family barbecue. At the event, they taught the families team building skills.

In Austin, the families went rock climbing and learned about building better communication with their children; while the Houston team hosted a boys group, and then a girls group, where they spoke with youth about drug education, relationships and social networking.

The San Antonio team has found their niche in working with fathers. In July, they hosted a father's luncheon, at which Dan Adams, Cal Farley's president and CEO, spoke with them about the many dynamics of effective fatherhood.



Fathers in San Antonio learned how to apply a few new fathering tools.

“ Give a child love, something to live for, a little recognition and the rest will take care of itself.”

— Cal Farley

(Continued from page 1)

66TH ANNUAL CAL FARLEY'S BOYS RANCH RODEO

...made it to state and regional competitions. He rides bulls and bareback broncs, and in the Boys Ranch Rodeo he also competes in roping.

“It was fun,” he said about winning this year's Senior All Around Cowboy title and saddle. He said he intends to keep practicing and hopes to make it back to “State or possibly Nationals this year.”

Kaden said he will enjoy using his saddle every week at Boys Ranch as he rides out on Magenta and for roping practice.

The runner-up All-Around Cowboy, Andrew, and the runner-up All-Around Cowgirl, who was Jennifer from Girlstown, each won a pair of custom made boots.

Each year the Rodeo gives the children something significant to belong to and offers them an opportunity to really shine at something, while being cheered for on their journey.

It's not too early to start making plans for next year's Rodeo, which will be held Sept. 3-4, 2011. If you would like to make a reservation for that weekend for RV hookups at Boys Ranch, please call Mike Pacino at (800) 687-3722. We hope you can make it out to cheer for these great and talented kids!



The 2010 saddle winners: Emma, Junior All-Around Cowboy/Cowgirl; Heather, Senior All-Around Cowgirl; and Kaden, Senior All-Around Cowboy

An excerpt from a letter we received following Rodeo:

“My wife Barbara and I visited Boys Ranch this past Sunday. From the moment we set foot in the museum upon our arrival until we finally left following the rodeo and refreshment reception, I was overcome with emotional pride in what I saw there. I am overwhelmed by the character and qualities that you are instilling in these kids. It was so very obvious in every one of them that we observed. Their courage, self-confidence, and amazing character have inspired me to do more. I want to be a part of what you have there. God Bless you all.”

— Gary G. Kizer,
Lt. Col., US Air Force (Retired)



Kaden in action at the 66th Annual Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Rodeo.



The Girlstown Rodeo Team earned several top honors in this year's Rodeo.



Our girls do an amazing job in numerous events, too.



The 11th annual Rodeo 5K Run kicked-off Saturday's events with 103 runners. Carl took first place with a time of 17:28.

Photo courtesy of David Higgins



Braeden, Riley and David all enjoyed success at the Rodeo.