



Bullard, area students among 741 to graduate at UT Tyler commencement

Area students were among the 741 degree candidates recognized in the UT Tyler R. Don Cowan Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Graduates included: College Of Arts And Sciences; Master of Arts – Interdisciplinary Studies: Natalie Nicole Hughes and Leslie Ann Scott, both of Bullard, criminal justice; and Lori Kirkpatrick-Adams, of Flint, speech communication.

College Of Business And Technology; Bachelor of Business Administration: Brian Maurice Jennings, of Bullard, management; and Dustin

James Worthen, of Bullard, finance; and Cory W. Fourniquet and Edwin Russell Miles, management; Jimmy D. Thorne, accounting; and Hayle N. Hudson and Jana D. Kindle, marketing, all of Flint.

College Of Education And Psychology; Master of Arts: Teresa Lynn Hibbler, of Bullard, school counseling. Bachelor of Arts: Amanda Nicole White, of Bullard, psychology. Bachelor of Science: Brandy Danielle Rigdon, of Bullard, psychology; and Casey Shea Paulk and Jessica Anne Loggins, both of Flint,

psychology.

Bachelor of Science, Interdisciplinary Studies: Nicole Elizabeth Meewes of Bullard.

College Of Engineering And Computer Science; Bachelor of Science: Christopher Fair, of Flint, and Adam V. Newman, of Flint, computer science.

College Of Nursing And Health Sciences; Master of Education: Cody Ray Ellis, of Bullard, health and kinesiology. Bachelor of Arts: Denise Marie Walters, of Flint, health kinesiology. Bachelor of Science in Nursing: Lindsey Morgan Newton, of Flint.



(Courtesy Photo)

Tanner Bailey hosted a powerpoint presentation regarding the BEST robot-ics project at the BISD Board of Trustees meeting Dec. 14.

Bullard High School BEST students place in state technology contest

By MARTIN PESSINK

The sound of power tools rings through the halls as the once unrecognizable pile of supplies turns into a new machine. It comes to life as this unordinary class stands over and watches, looking for anything that may go wrong.

“Each individual student has to dedicate themselves to the process of engineering to make it all come together,” public relations officer Tyler Smith said.

The robotics team has grouped up to assemble a robot, write a 50-page manual on all of its operations, design hard hats and T-shirts and even shoot a YouTube video. They even gained public awareness by showing their well designed robot at the mall, taking it to the intermediate, elementary and primary schools, and creat-

ing a booth to display said robot.

“Working with ‘BEST’ is hard for a teacher, because you can’t help,” Stacy Gwartney said. “Me, being a type-A personality kind of person, makes it harder, because if something goes wrong I want to jump in and fix it myself.”

The two classes are a mix of juniors and seniors. Boost Engineering, Science and Technology (BEST), helps students understand responsibility and it creates situations in which the students have to rely on each other for help and to finish their assigned tasks to create the robot.

While being timed, it had to complete certain tasks such as picking up objects like a tennis ball, a racket ball, a beach ball and a can of tomato paste.

“As a teacher I highly recommend this kind of program,” Gwartney said. “They walk away with pride in what they’ve accomplished.”

The students traveled to the University of Texas in Dallas in October for the robotics competition.

They received points for many things, such as community awareness, which they got by taking it to the mall, elementary schools and primary schools. The Web site that the team created placed first out of 26, and their notebook took fourth place. They moved to the semi-finals and their robot placed eighth.

“I’ve seen groups that almost cried when their robots didn’t make it, but they instead turned around and cheered on others,” Gwartney said.

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Certification set for Bullard, area ranchers

The Smith County Extension office and agents in Wood and Upshur Counties will host a Tri-County Pesticide Recertification Short Course on Wednesday, Jan. 6.

The short course will be held at the Golden Community Center at 5919 F.M. 779 in Golden. Cost is \$20 per person and you will receive five hours of CEU credit and a great lunch for attending.

Call the Wood County Extension office at (903) 763-2924 to RSVP for this short course by Jan. 4, or call the Smith County Extension office at (903) 590-2980 for information.

ETMC EMS salutes Brandon Porter 2009 Texas EMS Person of the Year Award



Brandon Porter, Stacey and Kennedy Thompson

Brandon Porter, ETMC EMS emergency medical technician, received the 2009 EMS Person of the Year Award during the Texas EMS conference. The award honors EMS-certified personnel who demonstrate “uncommon leadership and courage” in providing emergency care.

In February 2009, Stacey Thompson’s daughter lost consciousness following a seizure while she was traveling on Shiloh Road in Tyler. She pulled over and tried to flag someone down for help. Porter, who was off-duty, stopped to render aid. He was able to get the toddler breathing again until the ambulance arrived. Since that time the little girl is doing great and was able to attend the awards ceremony for Brandon with her family.

We’re proud of Brandon, just one of the more than 575 men and women of ETMC EMS who deliver exceptional care to the residents of our region.



ETMC EMS

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