

- how did you get involved with LBJ athletics?
- what did you do at first? How long have you been taking pictures?
- what is it like running the website?
- what are some of your favorite memories from LBJ sports history?
- what's the most rewarding part of your work with LBJ?
- Thoughts about what makes high school athletics so special?
- why do you feel it's important to do what you guys do?
- thoughts on LBJ sports overall?
- why is sports so important for kids?
- what makes lbj sports unique?
- reflection on this year and all that's happened?

Sam played soccer, kicked on football

0:33 First mention Freddie Roland, how they started going to

LBS b-ball games 97 or 98

joined booster club for soccer team, bought team uniforms
for team 1:15

started soccer team website, school took it over

started soccer website in 98

Soccer alumni game every Christmas break

Skip Thomas Chuck Foster Marshall Brown (part of II)

needed publicity

lot of hype surrounding them

new station at game

goes through a camera every 2 years good for 120,000 pics

lot of places sell pictures

1:49 wanted to be accessible, website, free

Jim has former Sgt. Hill or Sam

2:52 hall of fame

11

Start of
20 min
one

Why LBS Sam went to LBS

daughter went to

0:20 Sam's experience

0:45 just decided

senior year gave scholarship to football players

several years of doing that annually

1:15 focus on a couple of athletes, SAT prep course
nurturing a few kids

2:40 talk about relationships w/ kids
ongoing

2:58 ~~talk~~ praising kids

3:08 mother's day

Facebook page for Gdulas

friend requests from LBS kids

3:48 getting messages from LBS kids

travelled to Florida to watch DJ play in
Under Armour

ESPN uses picture for article

remember big play

5:00 DJ Grant

graduation ceremony

5:26 great mentor

5:47 Kerri Hyder

6:20 Education and sports

buy prep books for kids

talk to kids about grades

7:38 Importance of SAT

8:00 begging kids to make sure they focus on school

Ch 17

$$F = k \frac{q_1 \cdot q_2}{r^2}$$

$$F = k \frac{q_1}{r^2}$$

$$F = E_a$$

8:50

process of scanning pics onto website in the beginning

9:00

took forever

M. Brown L. Ammon's' older brother

9:51

McD's all American nominees

needed some attention

9:55 Rick Barnes, other coaches

10:07 taking pics in beginning

10:20 Love Coach Robert

travelled w/ team, before they knew who they were

10:40 Who are those crazy white people

11:20 took pics for scrapbook for Brown, Foster and Thomas
pics in hallway, ~~heads~~

took pics for kids for free

12:00

collage pics to hang up in hallway 1998, 1999
reframed all old pics

12:18

football programs 2004

Coach Seaton at the time

Secc

graduated in 2004

13:15

cleaning up ^{old} pictures

gave to Odessa to hang in hall

put on website in hall as same

13:43

old 8x10's in weight room

Clarify which
photos in hallway
are theirs.

14:00 going through y's in library

14:15 history of LBS

14:20 Ray Jackson - Fab Five U Michigan

lot of players went on to do good things

14:58 projects over the years

recovered mats on wall in gym

recovered in vinyl

15:40 how they met Seaborn

clash over soccer field (lack of)

chicken wire soccer nets

18:41 Seaborn A.D. before Oden's ^{football}

San AC at Travis, played w/ Jeff

all repairs at our expense

~~purple frame on baskets~~ replaced nets

padding around backboard

~~now~~ now works at Delco

stingray friends

19:14 when website took off

20:00 intro to football team, football programs
extra help

00:25 more relationship w/ kids

what they do for them

go to dinner

dr's appts, computers, you name it

1:40 how they keep in contact

just a handful

interview
found

2:20 What happen to the kids later

3:45 Coach Hayer death

4:07 taking pics knowing none of the kids knew

Jim gets teams for basketball journey in Dec.
does program, pics, organizer.

6:00 Bob Hayer scholarship, first

6:20 family sense

6:33 ~~pic~~ pic of Bob Hayer taken just before he passed

7:45 aftermath of death

8:00 how they got
to know Roland

helped when Roland's sister passed out of game

9:39 slideshow basketball banquets, football banquets

10:34 appreciation of people who get photos

11:00 printing mult copies

11:20 so nice, so polite, hard to describe

12:00 anecdote about Roland (Crystal?) Roland's sister?

13:20 ~~every~~ just knew her from school

13:20 everywhere we go, know somebody from LBS in East Angles

14:00 fit in over there

14:30 time devoted to LBS

more than 1,000 pics per week

6-8 hrs of editing and sorting

has to go to all games, JV + Freshman, 20 hrs



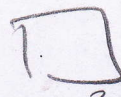
Erwin Center
Frank Fenn



DS
Under
Armar



? Kay Jackson?



? pic
of Jeff
playing

missed one b-ball game this season

15:30 Beech doesn't sleep

lost soccer game I only took 300

16:00 activity on facebook

video of Jahlil 6,000 hits in less than a week

lot of acting

really good
quote

Surprised

★ 18:00 people getting involved

18:40 - Jeff + Wife embracing LBJ

19:20 Erwin Center

Fake memories

19:50 pic of Erwin Center

20:00 First met Bondon

21:45 Summing up LBJ sports over the year
Chris Houston

23:30 what hasn't changed over the year

24:04 HOF

Stop at 25:03

kinda sounds ambiguous, since a program is also a department
The Gdula's are a sports family. At the top of the stairs leading to the second story of their home are two framed photographs of former LBJ football players DJ Grant and Kerri Hyder, both of which are autographed. *on the TV? where is this*
A basketball game plays in the background. Old LBJ football and basketball programs line the bookshelves of their downstairs office, accompanied by stacks of CD's containing thousands of pictures of LBJ athletics.

This is the home of the husband and wife duo behind the LBJ sports website and the hundreds of thousands of pictures that are archived within it, as well as the LBJ athletics facebook and twitter accounts, for which Jim acts as webmaster and Becky as photographer. *check style (I like it) capitalized*
Over a decade has elapsed since their son Jeff graduated from the Science Academy at LBJ in 2001, yet the Gdula's have remained a part of the LBJ community, volunteering their time to document the achievements of LBJ student-athletes.

"It's a little bit self-serving, because we just enjoy it so much," B. Gdula said. "We enjoy going to the sports games, we enjoy hanging around with the kids. It really keeps us young, and we're not spending all our time sitting here at the house doing nothing."

The Gdula's began attending LBJ basketball games in 1997, before head coach Freddie Roland or anyone else knew who they were (they now have reserved seats on the floor of every basketball game, and Roland is known to shoo off fans who attempt to take their spot). Their son Jeff joined the LBJ soccer team that year, and soon after, Jim started a website for the team, which the Gdula's



Boys soccer defeated by Vista Ridge, eliminated in first round of playoffs

With the game tied at zero in the second half, the Jaguars attack Vista Ridge's defense. After several failed attempts to score, the Jags lost possession and the Rangers scored with 13 minutes left in the game. The Jags were unable to score in the final minutes, and lost their first playoff game 1-0.

"I think if we had just capitalized on our opportunities, we would've won," LASA senior Jacob Cantu said. "There were chances were we either didn't take shots or we just missed them, which is a hard way to lose but something that we could've done."

The Jags finished their district season undefeated. Both head coach Cipriano Martinez and several of the players said the hardest district matchup came against Reagan

"Reagan has always been a big rival, but this year they've definitely stepped their game up," Cantu said. "We ended up winning both of them in a shootout, but they were definitely our toughest games in district."

Both Cantu and fellow LASA senior Kason Tey said they expect the team to be better next season with the addition of younger players currently at the JV level.

"I think that next year there's going to be a huge improvement," Tey said. "Out of the starters, there's probably only two [or] three seniors starting. So, there's a lot of juniors and sophomores, who, now that they've played their first playoff game, have had the experience and know what to do. We have a lot of young guys, especially on JV, who coach is looking to move up. I'm looking for a good run in the playoffs."

Story by Meagen Allgood

Softball finishes second to Crockett in district title race, advances to playoffs

With one game left in district play and the playoffs approaching, the LBJ softball team holds a 9-2 record, with both of their losses coming against Crockett. LASA senior catcher, Raeneisha Cole, said the district title hinged on a win against the Cougars.

"Crockett was really our only competition this year," Cole said. "We base everything we do off of the question 'how would Crockett respond to this' because they are who we need to beat. This year we should have beat them but we fell apart."

LASA sophomore pitcher, Desiree Moreno, said that the first loss to Crockett was due to a lack of offensive power. Head coach, Pete Moreno, worked to improve the Lady Jags offense by devoting the first half of practice to various batting stations.

"In practice we did a lot of batting stations," D. Moreno said. "We got a lot of live pitching in. Sometimes I pitch to the girls and they hit off of me, other times it's Coach Brown."

Despite the extra work, the Lady Jags fell 12-2 in their second matchup against Crockett on April 9. According to D. Moreno, a weak offense led to the Jaguar loss.

"Defensively we were okay," D. Moreno said. "There were some passed balls and errors that shouldn't have happened. It was mostly our offense that killed us; we were not hitting well."

Despite the loss, Cole said the team looks forward to the playoffs and views this season in a positive light.

"This was probably the most productive season that we have had in my four years," Cole said. "Our team had a lot of experience and I know that [having] everyone on the same page and everyone focusing [made] this the best season that we've had so far."

story by Tristan Burt

Husband and wife duo behind LBJ Athletics website remain involved with Jaguar sports

continued from page 9

Gdula said. "I know it could have been an opportunity for us to make some money, but the end result would not have been as special."

B. Gdula said she and her husband have been surprised by the amount of activity on the LBJ Jaguar Athletics Facebook page, which they launched this year, as well as by the appreciation students and their families have shown for the shown for the pictures.

"I take a lot of pictures, and it's amazing because there are a lot of kids at LBJ who have family out of town or out of the country," B. Gdula said. "We hear a lot about how appreciative they are and how they wouldn't get to see their kid play if it wasn't for the website."

This year the Gdulas missed one basketball game and attended nearly every football game along with their son, who also helps mentor students at LBJ. Their daughter, Stacey, now lives in Houston, but also attends basketball games when she is in town. B. Gdula said it is the LBJ community behind the sports teams that keeps them coming back to the school year after year.

"It's just a really nice atmosphere and we just love everybody at LBJ," B. Gdula said. "Everybody is so friendly, and other people will say, 'Isn't it scary over at LBJ?'" and we say absolutely not, they are just the nicest. There are a lot of misconceptions about LBJ, and people are always surprised."

The Gdulas said they do plan to leave the maintenance of the website to someone else in the future, but have not yet decided upon a satisfactory candidate.

"Eventually, we'd like to turn [the website] over to someone who loves it as much as we do," B. Gdula said. "We do worry about that, because it needs somebody who's going to take care of it. Then we talk to coach Roland and we wonder, when we go to the nursing home, is someone going to pick us up and take us to the games?"

Tracking Champions



LASA senior Hannah Rieden runs the 800 meter in the St. Andrews meet. Rieden won first place in the event. photo courtesy of Mike Dolan

LBJ Track sweeps district meet, looks towards state

At the sound of the starting gun, LBJ senior Jazmine Ochoa explodes off the starting blocks of the sprint medley relay. After running a half lap around the track, she hands the baton to LBJ junior Dana Broadnax. The baton is then exchanged between LASA seniors Macahla Wesley and Hannah Rieden, who runs the final stretch and crosses the finish line to set the fifth best time in the nation for the event. Ochoa said the sprint medley, which is two 200 meter sprints, one 400, and an 800, requires strong teamwork.

"We all have to rely on each other," Ochoa said. "But it's fun running a relay because if you are behind you still have two other people to make up the time."

The boys and girls track teams swept the district meet on April 11. LASA senior Hannah Rieden said that the combined successes in all events led to the victory.

"We won every varsity relay, girls and guys," Rieden said. "The team did very well as a whole. Every athlete we had contributed to the final scoring."

The Jaguar girls sprint medley team came into the district meet already having won at the Texas Southern University (TSU) relays and finished in fifth place finish at the Texas Relays, which earned them the fifth best time in the nation.

"I ran my best split ever," Rieden said.

"We beat our personal record in the relay by five seconds since the last time we ran it at TSU relays, and we got first at that meet. We placed first in our heat [in the Texas Relays], by a large margin, we ran a personal best time of 4:06, and we ranked 5th in the nation."

The LBJ Track team is preparing to make a run to the state meet, which will take place May 10-11. In order to get there, the Jaguars must now compete

"We have had a little bit of trouble as far as getting points overall to win meets because of our small numbers," Rieden said. "But we have a lot of girls who are dedicated and we run multiple events. I don't know anybody who just runs one event."

Individual events are just as important as relays in contributing to the team's point totals. LASA junior Noah Stevens-Stein placed in the 3200 meter in the TSU relays on March 15, setting a personal best of 9:42. According to Stevens-Stein, performance at meets such as the TSU Relays are more indicative of a runner's talent, because the competition at the district meet is weaker.

"When you get good in boys and girls distance, you are beating other people by a lot," Stevens-Stein said. "But just because I'm winning now doesn't mean I'm going to go to state or anything."

To seek a state berth, Stevens-Stein will have to place as one of the top two runners at the regional meet, or be the fastest non-qualifier in the state. Last year the fastest non-qualifier had a time of 9:37, so Steven-Stein said grabbing the automatic qualifying spot will be luck of the draw.

"I'm not sure how good our region is going to be this year," Stevens-Stein said. "I know there are a lot of other people who are running about as fast as I am."

story by Robin Daemmrich

The whole team did very well as a whole. Every athlete we had contributed to the final scoring.

-LASA senior Hannah Rieden

in an additional meet in between the district and regional meets. According to Rieden, this additional area meet will make it more difficult to qualify for state.

"Not only do we have to qualify at district," Rieden said. "We have to qualify at area and then we have to qualify at regionals to get to state."

Despite having a small team in comparison to other schools, the Jaguars have either won, beaten personal records or placed at multiple meets. Rieden said that this is due to the team's ability to adapt.

Tennis team places second in district competition, fourteen players advance to regional tournament



LASA sophomore Jack Scott and LBJ sophomore Omari Henry face their opponents during a doubles match. photo courtesy of Barbara McArthur

ISABEL SARALEGUI

Staff Writer

A bright yellow ball rattles against the chain link fence. One player takes off his visor, wiping sweat from his brow as he tries to shake off a loss. His opponent, LBJ sophomore Omari Henry, smiles, giving a slight fist pump in the air. Henry retrieves another ball, bouncing it in front of him for a moment before tossing it into the air and sending it flying across the court. Henry's opponent stretches to return the serve, but misses as a rattle rings out, signifying the end of the match.

"You need to stay calm, play your game, and don't let him get in your head," Henry said. "I kept my intensity high and I ended up winning the match 8-4."

Henry, and his doubles partner, LASA sophomore Jack Scott, advanced to the regional tournament. As a team, the Jaguars took first in the fall district competition but placed second behind McCallum in the spring. Head coach Corey Snyder said the main focus of the spring competition is advancing individual players to regionals.

"We are taking 14 people to regionals, so that's pretty good," Snyder said. "We are the bulk of everyone that's going [from our district], and that's how it's been the last couple of years, even before I was the coach."

Snyder said that with the graduation of last year's seniors,

the challenge this year was building new connections among a relatively young and inexperienced team.

"A lot of [the fall season] was focused on taking younger players and figure out how to make them good quality tennis players," Snyder said. "It was a big challenge to keep more experienced players settled down and mature and engaged."

The number of doubles spots available made it necessary for more experienced players to improve their doubles game, with which some were unfamiliar, according to Snyder.

"In the spring, there are only two singles spots for boys per competition," Snyder said. "So that means that [with the] majority of your players, you've got to fill out [multiple] doubles teams. A lot of those boys have to learn how to play doubles, which is really good for their game, because it gets them out of their comfort zone."

LASA junior co-captain Rosie Olwell said the team seemed more experienced coming off the district win in the fall.

"I was really impressed with some of the younger players that are moving up in the ranks in varsity," said Olwell. "I think that spring really provides everyone an opportunity to specialize in singles or doubles. I think it's a really good way for different players to test their aptitudes. It was great to see all the freshmen and sophomores do so well in district."

Both Olwell and LASA sophomore Mary Louise Gilburg were defeated by McCallum's Ellen Warner-Gourd at the district competition, but moved on to regionals after Warner-Gourd pulled out of the tournament.

"[Olwell and Warner-Gourd] are always duking it out for one and two in district play," Snyder said. "They know each other's games and it's some very interesting drama and psychology to watch go down."

The tennis team advanced four individual players and five doubles teams to the regional tournament, where Snyder said the Jags will face some tough competition from larger schools. Despite the upcoming challenges players will face, Snyder said he encourages the players to have fun and take something away from the experience.

"As I've told the players, go out there, play hard, be proud of yourself for the playing that you do, and if you draw some kid that is destined to win state, well then that's fine," Snyder said. "That's a great opportunity to go out and play and show off what you can do, and learn. You will have played a future state champion, so embrace the opportunity to play hard and do your best, like the cub scouts say."

Behind the Lens



photo illustration by Alex Dolan. photos courtesy of Becky Gdula

Ultimate Jaguar fans Becky and Jim Gdula chronicle LBJ sports history across decades while investing in athletes through personal connections

JAMIE RODRIGUEZ & ARI ROGERS
Sports co-Editors

The first pitch of the game has already been thrown, the sun has settled low on the horizon and the Gdulas are running late. En route to the most important LBJ baseball game of the season, a district matchup against rival McCallum, a flat tire forced them to pull over to the side of the road. Now on the phone with their son, Jeff, Becky and Jim briefly consider missing the game to find service for their vehicle. The discussion is brief. They quickly arrange for Jeff to pick them up and give them a ride to Nelson Field. Missing the game is not an option.

In fact, the Gdulas' absence from major LBJ sporting events has been a rarity for over a decade. They are the husband and wife duo behind the LBJ sports website and the hundreds of thousands of pictures that are archived within it, as well as the LBJ athletics Facebook and Twitter accounts, for which Jim acts as webmaster and Becky as photographer. While their son graduated from the Science Academy at LBJ in 2001, the Gdulas have remained a part of the LBJ community, volunteering their time to document the achievements of LBJ student-athletes.

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The Gdulas began attending LBJ basketball games in 1997, before head coach Freddie Roland or anyone else knew who they were (they now have reserved seats on the floor of every home basketball game, and Roland is known to shoo off fans who attempt to take their spot). Jeff Gdula joined the LBJ soccer team that year, and soon after, Jim started a website for the team, which the Gdulas eventually relinquished to LBJ to be kept up by one of the school's employees. The official LBJ Sports website did not come about until 2003, when it was born out of the hype surrounding the LBJ basketball team, which went on to play in the State Semifinals under the leadership of stars Marshall Brown, Daniel "Skip" Thomas and Chuck Foster.

"They were McDonalds All-American nominees, so we thought, these kids need to

get some attention," B. Gdula said. "We got a little digital camera and we started taking pictures and Jim started putting them on the website. Then we also started printing them every week during the games, so then they'd be hanging up in the hallway."

The website was eventually expanded to include football, baseball and track, among other sports. In the beginning, B. Gdula said she remembers spending hours having the photos developed and then painstakingly scanning them into the computer for the website. While developments in digital photography have sped up the process considerably, B. Gdula estimates she and J. Gdula still spend an average of 20 hours a week working on the website and attending LBJ games.

"It can get crazy," J. Gdula said. "We work full-time, both of us, but we stay up late at night and start early in the morning. We both stay busy."

Just seeing the kids succeed and graduate from college... That's the satisfaction from all of it.

-Jim Gdula

When the 2003 LBJ basketball team competed in the State Semifinals at the Erwin Center, B. Gdula was on the court floor, camera in hand. When former LBJ football player DJ Grant was selected for the Under Armour All-American Game, the Gdulas travelled to Florida to watch him play, and before the game ESPN contacted Becky to ask permission to use two of her photos in an article about Grant. They missed one basketball game this past season and as many football games, and travelled with the basketball team to all of their tournaments. The Gdulas were in attendance at Grant's recent graduation from the University of Texas, and plan to attend former LBJ football player Kerry Hyder's graduation from Texas Tech in May.

"Just seeing the kids succeed, graduate from college and the two graduation ceremonies have been the highlights," J. Gdula said. "That's the satisfaction from all of it."

The Gdulas' involvement with LBJ athletics extends beyond the website and photography.

After it was brought to their attention that the soccer team did not have jerseys during their son's freshman season, they bought uniforms for the entire team. At the end of Jeff's senior year, during which he played kicker for the football team, the Gdulas gave out a scholarship to one of his teammates. They continued to do this for several years before they opted to focus on several students at a time, providing SAT books, mentorship and anything else they needed during their high school careers.

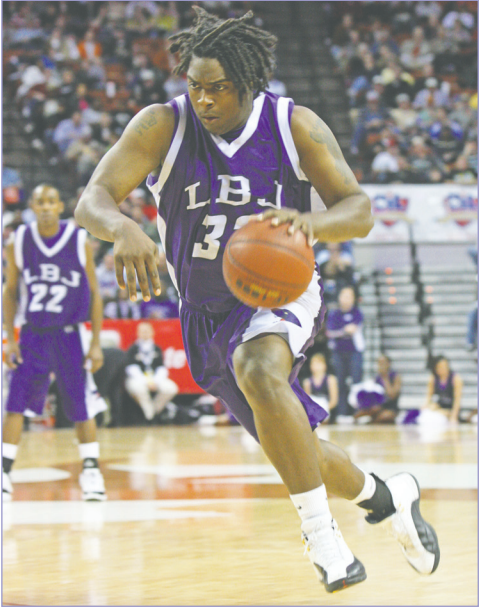
"We stay in touch with these kids throughout the year," J. Gdula said. "They're all our Facebook friends, they text message day in, day out. Usually it's just a handful, just some of the kids that we've been working with. It's neat to be able to do it and see some of the kids do so well."

In addition to their work with the students, the Gdulas have undertaken several projects at LBJ, which included taking a week's vacation every year to put together the football and basketball programs beginning in 2004, reframing the photos lining the halls outside the gym, repainting and redoing the netting on the school soccer goals, putting new vinyl on the pads behind the basketball nets in the gym and recovering the history of LBJ athletics. J. Gdula spent a few days one summer going through old LBJ yearbooks and newspaper clippings, piecing together what would eventually become the Hall of Fame on the LBJ sports website. The Hall of Fame now contains the biographies of over 90 former LBJ athletes who went on to play at the collegiate and professional levels.

"It was the history of LBJ, and nobody kept up with it," J. Gdula said. "So we were just interested in that so we got involved. We've done a lot of crazy projects over the years."

The pictures B. Gdula has taken have been used for a multitude of purposes, from sports programs and newspaper articles to senior slideshows, cakes and framed photographs in the halls outside of the school gym. All the pictures are provided free of charge.

"We've had a couple of times when the booster club was really insistent that we charge for the pictures and give the money to the booster club, and we didn't have to think long about that because the answer was no, we wanted it to be free to everybody," B.



2008 graduate Kerry Hyder dribbles down the court at the Frank Erwin Center during the Jags' Final Four game against Dallas Kimble. Hyder went on to play football at Texas Tech. photo courtesy of Becky Gdula



2008 graduate DJ Grant dodges a defender during the Jags' playoff game against Lamar. Grant went on to play at the University of Texas and graduated this year. photo courtesy of Becky Gdula

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BY THE NUMBERS



WOMENS 1600m - HANNAH RIEDEN	5:30.28
WOMENS SPRINT MEDLEY- OCHOA, BROADNAX, WESLEY, RIEDEN	4:06.32
WOMENS 100m- MACAHLA WESLEY	11.93
MENS 3200m - NOAH STEVENS-STEIN	9:40.93

DISTRICT RECORD		9-3	SOFTBALL
BATTING AVERAGE	ON BASE %	HITS	
ANNIE MURPHY	.614	.656	32
AMBER FISHER	.541	.556	30

DISTRICT RECORD		7-3	BASEBALL
BATTING AVERAGE	EARNED RUN AVERAGE	HITS	
ZACH JOHNSON	.530	1.4	44
TRISTAN BURT	.413	2.8	31