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### Top 10 sports stories from Lewisville from 2009

#### FROM STAFF REPORTS

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No. 1: Dick Olin takes over as Farmers football coach

In 2009, Dick Olin began as head coach of Lewisville's football team, taking over for Steve Gaddis, who retired following four seasons as the Farmers coach.

Olin came to Lewisville from Baytown Lee, where he compiled a 106-78 record in 17 seasons, including 11 postseason appearances. During his time at Lee, 133 of his former players went on to play college football.

It was a tough inaugural season for Olin, however, as the Farmers failed to win a district game, going 2-8 on the season.

No. 2: Joey Snelick reaches state meet

After an eighth place finish at the 800-meter run in 2008, Lewisville's Joey Snelick knew he could improve in 2009.

Snelick did just that, claiming the silver medal in Class 5A after a second place finish in the event.

His time of 1:53.49 was just two seconds of the pace of state champion Drew Butler of The Woodlands.

The opening lap was pretty tight among the eight runners before Butler, who had far and away the best qualifying time, began to pick up the pace during the second 400 meters.

While many of the runners fell back, Snelick was the only one to stay with Butler for much of the second lap. He stayed within striking distance until the final backstretch, when Butler was finally able to pull away.

I wanted to dictate the pace and see if I could out-kick, Snelick said, but him but I couldn't quite respond after he picked it up with about 300 (meters) to go. Snelick said.

Snelick was also part of the 1,600 meter relay team along with Eric Worrall, Alex Alvarez and Lonnie Tipton.

Snelick advanced to state after taking first in both the District 6-5A and Class 5A Region I Meets, including setting a school-record at regional's. His time of 1:53.10 broke a LHS record that had stood for 20 years.

### No. 3: Wrestling team qualifies four for state tournament

Lewisville's wrestling team had a successful season in 2008-09, as the Farmers finished second in February in the District 11-5A Meet, edging out Marcus.

The success continued at the regional meet, where the Farmers had four of five competitors place.

Gustavo Sanchez, wrestling at 103 pounds, as well as Joey Goolsby (135), Conner McKinney (140) and Michael McKinney (152), all qualified to advance to the State Tournament.

At state, the Farmers finished 34th behind the strength of a fifth place finish by Sanchez.

### No. 4: Swine Flu halts athletic competition

The outbreak of swine flu in Texas drastically altered sports schedules during the spring. The University Interscholastic League halted athletic competition in the state for two weeks during late-April and early-May, wreaking havoc on multiple sports.

The regional and state track and field meets were pushed back as a result of the delay, as were the state golf and tennis tournaments. Softball and baseball postseason games were also affected, as the swine flu caused some teams to play multiple playoff series in one week, including turning some series into a one-game elimination format.

### No. 5: Spartans win summer league title

During each of the past two seasons, The Colony/Lewisville/Denton's hockey team continued to improve. But during the summer, the team reached its goal.

The Spartans blanked Coppell, 5-0, to take first place in the junior varsity division of the AT&T Metroplex High School Hockey summer league.

Two seasons ago, the Spartans won just one game.

Last season, the team improved to reach the postseason as the No. 8 seed before falling in the first round of the playoffs.

◆I'm very proud of the players,◆ said Bryan Heft, Spartans coach. ◆They played hard all summer and showed just a small glimpse of what they are capable of. I'm really

looking forward to coaching our teams in the fall. ♦

The Colony/Lewisville/Denton had previously faced the Cowboys June 28, with Coppell winning, 4-3.

But the Spartans entered the finals on a six-game win-streak and came out like gangbusters, scoring four goals in the first period to take control on their way to the shutout.

No. 6: Ax Game shifts to North Texas

In 1996, Lewisville and Marcus competed in the ♦Battle of the Ax♦ at Texas Stadium in Irving for the first time.

The tradition would carry up until 2008, the final year of existence for Texas Stadium, with the exception of one season (1997).

But in 2009, rather than shifting the rivalry to Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, the series moved north up Interstate 35E to Fouts Field at the University of North Texas in Denton. It had been played in Denton once in 1997 before moving back to Texas Stadium in ♦98.

Marcus went on to win the game for the third consecutive season.

No.7: Russo, Sills finish in top 10

Lewisville golfers Chelsey Sills and Patrick Russo just missed qualifying for the regional tournament in 2009, as both had top 10 finishes in their respective District 6-5A Championships.

Sills finished in a three-way tie for ninth in the girls tournament, with a combined score of 159 after firing rounds of 77 and 82.

Russo, meanwhile, finished in a tie for ninth with Hebron♦s Chris Han after each posted two-day totals of 157. Russo started out hot, shooting 76 on the first day, before falling back with an 81 on the second day.

The top two individuals ♦ not from teams already advancing ♦ also qualify to advance.

Sills and Russo each placed third when removing the top two teams, and just missed qualifying.

No. 8: Lewisville♦s Howell named 6-5A girls soccer Offensive Player of the Year

In 2009, Lewisville's girls soccer team finished sixth in the competitive District 6-5A, a district that included state champion Coppell.

The Farmers won one match and tied two others, but played their best against the top competition.

One reason was the play of junior forward Jordan Howell, and the coaches in the district took notice.

Howell, the Farmers' leading scorer, was named the District 6-5A Forward of the Year, becoming the first Lewisville girls soccer player to win a superlative award on the all-district list, as voted by the coaches, in at least four seasons.

Howell also possessed the ability to step up in the big game. She scored the Farmers' lone-goal March 10 in a 1-1 tie on the road against eventual state champion Coppell and scored both goals in Lewisville's 2-2 tie Feb. 13 against Hebron, which finished second in the district.

No. 9: Jefferson named Athlete of the Year by Denton County Sports Commission

In 2009, Lewisville basketball player Brandon Jefferson was honored as the Athlete of the Year by the Denton County Sports Commission on the campus of the University of North Texas.

Jefferson, currently in his third varsity season, was captain and team-MVP for the Farmers last season. He was a first-team 6-5A selection, was named to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches All-Region team and was an academic all-district selection.

No. 10: Lewisville WAVE has success in regional meet

The Lewisville WAVE swim team competed at the Seals Swim Meet, a TAAF Region IV Meet and performed well.

The WAVE were successful in both individual events and relays as the team had 28 first place finishes, including winning eight relays.

Leading the way for the WAVE was Nathaniel Pierce, who had three first place finishes in the 11-12 age group. Pierce took first in the 100-yard freestyle, 50 backstroke, and 50 free.

Amber McHugh also had three first place finishes in the 15-17 age group. She won first

in the 100 free, 50 breaststroke and 100 individual medley.

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