

# LEWISVILLE ISD SPECIAL OLYMPICS 40 YEAR HISTORY

1983 - 2023



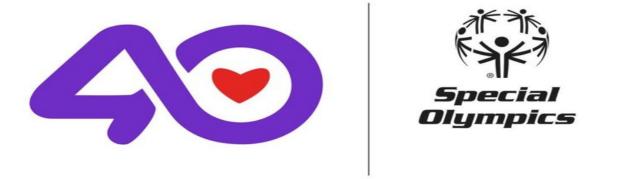
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Lewisville ISD Special Olympics



Opening hearts since 1983

LISD SPECIAL OLYMPICS HISTORY 1983 – 2023

### **THE PERFECT STORM**

A *Perfect Storm* has been described as a combination of events or things that produce an unusually powerful result. This particular storm became known as Lewisville Independent School District Special Olympics (LISDSO). It all started when in 1983 a simple jog led to the chance meeting of two young teachers and a partnership with a new graduate of The University of North Texas (UNT). *Debbie MacMullan Rath*, DeLay Middle School student teacher, and *Amelia Dye*, an Elementary teacher at nearby Central Elementary School along with *Jim Domer*, a recent UNT graduate and adapted P.E. Teacher at DeLay

Middle School, wanted something more for students with intellectual and physical disabilities. Seeing the potential in each of their students, Jim, Debbie, and Amelia solicited the help of a local parent, Janet Carson. A journey that began with compassion and determination turned dreams into reality and today's possibilities. The coming together of these powerful and enthusiastic volunteers and coaches can be described as nothing more than the Perfect Storm. A Perfect Storm that would spawn teams such as Tornadoes, Cyclones, Lightning, Tidal Wave, Thunder, Twisters, Hurricanes, Blizzards, and many more. Starting with just a few athletes in Jim Domer's Adapted Physical Education Class, LISDSO has grown from a small delegation to serving over 240 athletes in the 40 years that followed.

Let the wind beneath your wings carry you through a journey spanning forty years with hundreds of volunteers and coaches who have been the catalyst that ignited thousands of children and adults with intellectual and physical disabilities to strive to reach their personal best and fullest potential in the playing arena and in life. Together we can bring the joy of LISD Special Olympics to thousands more athletes.





John Carson, Amelia Dye, Jim Domer, Sherri Bruner, Janet Carson, Pat Shovlin, Terry Bruner, Lorraine Throckmorton, Cathy Champon, Bill Petroski, Cheryl Blackmon, and Debbie Rath









**4** Dr. V. M. Burkett was LISD Superintendent.

- Debbie Rath and Jim Domer from DeLay Middle School, Amelia Dye from Central Elementary, and Janet Carson, parent, organized LISDSO with twenty athletes participating in Track and Field Games. Their instant friendship and love for students created a bond that would lead to forming a Special Olympics.
- Jim Domer, a recent 1983 graduate from University of North Texas (UNT), was an adapted PE Teacher, also at DeLay Middle School. He became the LISDSO coach for Track and Field. Amelia Dye, at Central Elementary School, coached both gymnastics and swimming. All coaching positions were volunteer positions.
- Debbie, Jim, and Amelia met Ann Baker, a community volunteer, and Susie Krejci, Adapted P.E. Teacher, who assisted in developing Lewisville Special Olympics Team.
- Volunteer Coaches and Teachers during the early years included Jim Domer, Amelia Dye, Debbie Rath, Diane Neff, Jimmy Odoms, Ed Beal, Bill Pietrosky, Liz Moen, Bobby and Lorraine Throckmorton, Terry and Ken Preston, Ralph Holt, Brian James, Chuck and Margo Dunaj, Terry and Sherri Bruner, Susan Boren, and many other parent and teacher volunteers, including Janet Carson who served as team nurse. Susan Boren was a teacher in the Colony. She brought the kids to DeLay Middle School after school so they could practice with the team.

Pictured at the right are Amelia Dye, Pat Shovlin, Debbie Rath, Janet Carson, Terry Bruner, Diane Neff, and Bill Petroski





Janet Carson, Beth Fgal (Teacher), Terry Bruner, Diane Neff, Debbie Rath, Liz Moen, Ed Beal, Sharon Beeson (Parent), Jim Domer, and others including the Assistant Principal at DeLay Middle School.



Lisa Moen, Teacher DeLay Middle School

July 1983 – The Sixth International Special Olympics Summer Games are held at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. A crowd of more than 60,000 attends the opening Ceremonies and approximately 4000 athletes participate. Lewisville Special Olympics is at its birth at this time as the volunteers, teachers, and coaches encourage athletes to participate.





August 1983, Jim Domer, a 1978 graduate of Wichita Falls High School, has been named head track coach at Lewisville High School. Domer, who coached for three years at DeLay Middle School, will work with the track and cross-country programs of the Farmers. He is the son of Charlese Hearn of Wichita Falls and Tom Domer of Houston. Domer has been instrumental in helping to establish the Special Olympics team in Lewisville, Texas.



"Because of those people our children had extraordinary experiences with Special Olympics. I am forever grateful for their dedication and love for our kids." Cathy Champon, LISDSO Parent and Coach



**4** Special Education PTA (SEPTA) formed by parents.

- LISDSO competed in area tournaments held at Loos Stadium in Dallas. Twenty LISDSO athletes qualified for the state tournament in track and field; five LISDSO gymnasts qualified for the state tournament. Members of the Track and Field Team were Candice Beeson, Ty Birmingham, Patrick Brown, Chris Carson, Erica Coil, Jason Deford, Marcy Ellingson, Dillon Elrod, Heidi Froess, Paul Hernandez (Holland), Brenda Hill, Kris Martin, Jason Millhouse, Fabian Montez, Clif Peck, Tomas Perez, Josh Reeves, Jamie Somers, Breezy Stone, and Jennifer White.
  - Coaches, teachers, and volunteers included Jim Domer, Diane Neff, Liz Moen, Ed Beal, Debbie Rath, Beth Igal, Laura Rauhowser, Susie Krejci, and Amelia Dye.
  - Students who aided the team were: Stephanie Ward, Kari Picaloa, Katie Botemon, and Courtney Dye.
  - Special Olympics Area Gymnastics Meet was held at Boswell High School in Saginaw. Members of the Gymnastics Team included Melissa Jones, Stephanie Kring, Corinna McNiece, Mandy Preston, Kerri Thogerson, and others.
  - ✓ Coaches for gymnastics were Liz Moen and Amelia Dye



Debbie Rath coaches the Five Aside Soccer Team for LISDSO at the championship in Denton. The six-member team advanced to the championship round.

May 22-25, 1984, Special Olympics State Meet was held in San Marcos, Texas.







- Susie Krejci, Adapted Physical Education Teacher at DeLay Middle School, continues building LISDSO with the efforts of Ann Baker, a local resident, and the support of LISD Administrators Jan Bennett and Clint Mosely. Krejci uses knowledge gained from Princeton Special Olympics Program to strengthen LISDSO.
- Operating funds were low, so the teachers held their first fund raiser by creating posters with various themes.
- Ann Baker's employer donates \$2500 while donations began to come in as local developers and merchants donated \$2500 and SEPTA contributed \$500.

### **4** LISDSO receives Area 11 State Classification

- Sports were Track and Field and Gymnastics involving thirty-two athletes, five parents, and five teachers.
- Participated in the State Track and Field Tournament in Austin involving twelve athletes, two parents, and three teachers.
- Susie Krejci, Jim Domer, Amelia Dye, Ann Baker, Susan Boren, and Debbie Rath coordinated programs throughout the year.

January 1985 – A young Heather Throckmorton watches as her teacher shows her how to measure with a spoon. Heather will become a medalwinning Special Olympics athlete. Heather is one of the few athletes who are currently (2023) active in LISDSO.



June 1985 – The Law Enforcement Torch Run in Texas begins, when a small group of Houston police officers carries a Special Olympics torch

to the Houston city limits and gives it to a group from the Bexar County Mounted Patrol. The county officers on horseback carried the torch to Austin to help open the 1985 Summer Games.





- LISDSO changed to Area 10 State Classification to take advantage of better programming and paid Special Olympics Staff. Bill Pietrosky became the first District Coordinator for LISD Special Olympics. As an LISD PE Instructor at DeLay Middle School, he was granted a stipend to be District Coordinator. Bill Petroski coached Basketball.
- Members of the LISDSO team brought back bronze, silver, and gold medals from the State Special Olympics Track and Field meet in Austin.
  - Athletes participating included: Brian Moser, Michael Jones, Tomas Perez, Mark Crumby, Pam Burden, Jennifer White, Brenda Hill, Daniel Jones, Joshua Reeves, and Dillan Ellrod
  - ✓ Coaches for the team included Jim Domer, DeLay Middle

School coach; Ann Baker, DeLay Middle School physical education teacher; Ed Beal, DeLay Middle School History teacher; Debbie Rath, DeLay Middle School Special Education teacher.



1986 BRONZE, SILVER, AND GOLD – Members of the Lewisville Special Olympic Team are Brian Moser, 12, Michael Jones, 12, Thomas Perez, 12, and Mark Crumby, 19.

On October 25, 1986, the Bowling Team added an additional twenty-three athletes and parent participation increased at the Area 10 Special Olympics Bowling Tournament at Don Carter West bowling lanes in Dallas.

- ✓ Gold Medal Winners included Crystal Herrin, Chris Carson, Jason DeFord, Deanan Barnes, Chuck Baum, Mark Crumby, and Nancy Besse
- ✓ Silver Medal Winners included Melissa Jones, Angela Hillard, and Steve Crumby
- ✓ Bronze Medal Winners were Jason Millhouse, Brenda Hill, and Clif Peck.



"I just like seeing these kids go out and give everything they've got. And it even gets better when I see the recognition they get." Jim Domer, LISDSO Coach Fundraisers were still small but included PTA Flea Market (\$200) and candy sale (\$200). Other contributions from local PTAs and local businesses total (\$3000).

<b>4</b> <u>Sports</u>	<u>Athletes</u>	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
Bowling	23	10	4
Track and Field	30	5	7
Soccer	12	2	2
Gymnastics	10	4	3

Statewide and Area wide Bowling Banquet and dance which were held at the Dallas Convention Center.



Statewide Track and Field and Gymnastics Competition were held in Austin.







**4** Area 10 **Soccer** Tournament, **Track and Field** and **Gymnastics** meets.

- Invited by Waxahachie School District for invitational Track and Field meet and Gymnastics exhibition.
- 1986 The Athlete Leadership Program (ALPS) launches. ALPS gives individuals with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to stand up and let their voices be heard, as well as teaches them the leadership skills to help shape the direction and movement of Special Olympics. These programs put athletes in an environment where people listen to them and value them as individuals. Lewisville ISD Special Olympics will have many athletes in the years to come who are participates in ALPS: Jonathan Blackmon, Paul Holland, Michael Gallagher, Joey Cummings, and others.











Bowling, Track & Field, Gymnastics, and Soccer Bowling had 40 athletes participate at Area Competitions and 25 athletes participate at State Competitions

**4** Track & Field, Gymnastics, and Soccer had 67 athletes participate at State Competitions



LISDSO Team Thunder attended the Texas Olympics Fall Games in Waco, TX. The Gold-Medal Team included Anthony Campise, Steve Fleming, Jackie Peace, Reese Halfmann, Damian Black, Brian Eckhardt, David Bledsoe, Kevin Dunaj, Heather Throckmorton, Angela Harris, Derrick Jones, and Stacy Mercer.











Thirty-Seven Bowling athletes competed in Statewide Bowling Tournament against approximately 2000 other athletes from Area 10





- Sixty-five athletes were involved in Track and Field, Soccer, Gymnastics, Bowling, and Swimming.
- **4** Forty volunteers including numerous parents and 20 LISD Staff
- **4** Twenty medal winners in Statewide Tournaments



1988 Erica Coil , in wheelchair, and Chris Carson receive ribbons along with other LISD Athletes.



1988 LISDSO Athletes pose to show their medals after a recent competition.



LISDSO volunteers and coaches recognized and receive Golden Apple Awards from Dr. Clayton Downing and LISD School Board after a recommendation letter written by Janet Carson. The recipients were: Jim Domer, Debbie Rath, Diane Neff, Amelia Dye, Trish Geran, Peggy Hamilton, Ed Beal, Jim Odom, and Peggy Reinhart.

> "On a trip to San Marcos for the State Olympic Tournament in May...I observed a group of enthusiastic athletes interacting with their coaches and teachers. Each Olympian was given love, encouragement, and proper discipline." Janet Carson, LISDSO Parent and volunteer



1998 Cathy Champon, Janet Carson, Johnny Gaulke, and other volunteers enjoy a meal after a long day of competition.



1998 LISDSO Athlete Chris Carson shows his basketball skills with his coach



1998 Lewisville ISD Special Olympians Candice Beeson, Angela Hillard, and Melissa Jones enjoy a break during their final workout in preparation for the Special Olympics State Aquatics meet in Houston, Texas. The state meet is being held as part of the 1989 Pepsi Games of Texas. "This is the first-time swimmers from Lewisville have been to the state meet," said Amelia Dye. Swimming was introduced to the program this summer when Dye recruited the services of coach **Pat Shovlin**.

Members of the LISDSO Swim Team are Candice Beeson, Angela Hillard, Melissa Jones, Brenda Hill, Frances Bolanos, Gail Gaulke, and Jolina Hoss.

## 1990

May 1990 – Lewisville ISD Administration and Durham Transportation provided facilities and bus service for special Olympics. Dr. Clayton Downing, LISD Superintendent, Jan Bennett, and Jo Haney have always been supportive of the Special Olympics. Clint Moseley, the principal at DeLay Middle School opened the building and the gym and always made sure we had a place to practice.

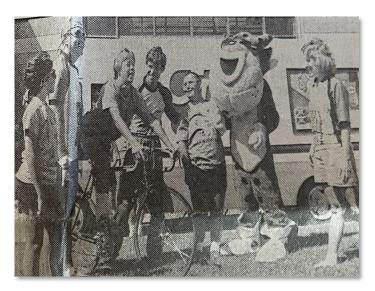
May 1990 – Lewisville Team brings home 28 state medals from state competition in San Marcos, Texas. Participating in Track and Field Events as well as Gymnastics, the team brought home nine gold medals, ten silver medals, and nine bronze medals.

> "These kids don't care if they win or lose. They just really enjoy doing it." Bill Pietrosky, LISD Special Olympics Coordinator





 1990 - John Rath, husband of Debbie Rath, and a dozen of his fellow co-workers made the 2215-mile ride to Seattle, Washington, as part of the Frito-Lay Bicycle Tour. LISDSO athletes would benefit from the fundraising journey dedicated to the International Special Olympics.



1990 The role of a coach varies a great deal in sports today, but no coaching experience may be as unique as the bond shared by a Special Olympics athlete and a special coach. Shown at the right are coach Debbie Rath and athlete Chris Carson.



1990 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Track coach Jim Domer helps Clif Peck with his shotput technique in preparation for the State Special Olympics meet at Southwest State University.



1990 Donald Elementary
 School special education
 student Alysa DiArchangel
 enjoys clowning around
 during the school's first
 wheelchair rally Wednesday.
 About 25 students
 participated in the event.
 Alysa DiArchangel is the
 daughter of Cathy Champon
 and a member of the LISD
 Special Olympics Team.





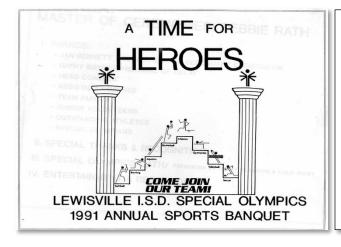
1990 Jon Schreiber waves to his fans as he gets ready to swim the 25-meter freestyle of the Texas Special Olympics. The Special Olympics which was part of the 1990 Pepsi Games of Texas, were held at Loos Natatorium in Addison. Lewisville ISD Special Olympics had 10 athletes competing in the event capturing 16 medals: three gold, nine silver, and four bronze. The athletes included: Erica Coil, Paul Hernandez (Holland), Dillon Elrod, Stephanie Kring, Fabian Montez, Tommy Edgerton, Alysa DiArchangel, Melissa Jones, and Candance Beeson.

On the right, Paul Hernandez (Holland) participates in the assisted swim Friday with the help of volunteer Sherri Bruner during the Texas Special Olympics State Aquatics meet at Loss Natatorium.

May 1990 - James Donald Silverman, Down syndrome, graduated from LHS; he participated in Special Olympics in Track, Bowling, and Softball Throw







#### **1991 HEAD COACHES**

DEBBIE RATH – Program Coordinator – Soccer TERRY BRUNER – Aquatics BILL PIETROSKY – Basketball TOM JONES – Bowling LIZ MOEN – Gymnastics DIANE NEFF – Track & Field TINA BRUNER - Volleyball

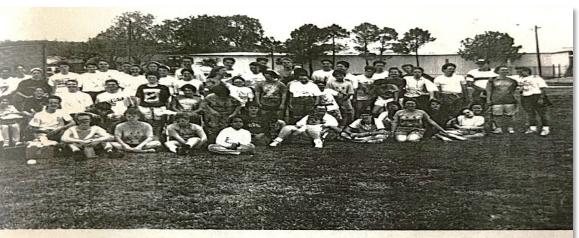
#### **1991 ASSISTANT COACHES**

**DEBBIE RATH – All Sports** 

- JOHN MURPHY Aquatics, Basketball, Bowling, Soccer, Track & Field, Volleyball
- SANDI BRUNER Aquatics, Basketball, Soccer, Track & Field, Volleyball
- BILL PIETROSKY Soccer, Track & Field
- DIANE NEFF Soccer
- TINA BRUNER Aquatics, Basketball, Soccer, Track & Field
- AMELIA DYE Aquatics, Soccer, Track & Field
- **BETH IGAL Aquatics**
- **SHERRI BRUNER Aquatics**
- **PAT SHOVLIN Aquatics**
- TERRY BRUNER Basketball, Soccer, Track & Field, Volleyball
- ANGELA COUTURE Basketball, Track & Field
- SHANNON ANDERSON Basketball
- WANDA JONES Bowling, Gymnastics
- LAURA RAUHOUSER Gymnastics
- **TRIPP BLEVINS Soccer**
- JIM DOMER Soccer, Track & Field

1991 LAPS OF LOVE was a 24hour running event for The Guinness Book of World Records benefiting the LISD Special Olympics. This event was sponsored by the Marcus High School Cross Country Track Team and Booster Club. Laps For Love A 24-hour Running Event for The Guiness Book Of World Records Benefiting the L.I.S.D. Special Olympics





Marcus runners and L.I.S.D. Special Olympics athletes

February 1991 The Lewisville Special Olympics basketball team took second place in the District Meet to qualify for the State Meet in Nacogdoches. The team finished seventh in the state tournament. Team members include Jason Defore, Tommy Edgerton, Candance Beeson, Melissa Jones, Fabian Montez, Jason Millhouse, and Clif Peck.

- Members of the Skills Basketball Teams performed well at the State Meet. Members include Gail Gaulke, Kris Martin, Heidi Froess, Dillon Elrod, and Chris Carson. The Skills Team has been coached by Aaron Thomas, Renae Carswell, and Sohail Khan.
- LISD Special Olympics Bowlers roll to state titles in the State Special Olympics Bowling Tournament in Austin. Members of the Bowling Team are Clif Peck, Melissa Jones, Chris Carson, Corinna McNiece, Brenda Hill, Josh Reeves, Jarrod Folks, Jason Millhouse, Fabian Montez, Breezy Stone, and Alysa DiArchangel. They were coached by Tom Jones.
- April 1991 Debbie Rath, a special education instructor at DeLay Middle School, received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Texas Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development. Rath, who played a key role in developing a Special Olympics program within the LISD has worked in the district for seven years, all at DeLay.





May 1992 - Lewisville ISD Special Olympics athletes take special awards at the Texas State Special Olympics meet at Fouts Field on the campus of the University of North Texas (UNT) and the Texas Woman's University (TWU) Campus in Denton. Members of the team were Brenda Hill, Erica Coil, Tommy Edgerton, Dillon Elrod, Gail Gaulke, Paul Hernandez (Holland), Josh Reeves, Jamie Somers, Breezy Stone, and Laura Walls.



Athletes Jennifer Duval and Tom Edgerton proudly display the medals they won at the State Special Olympics Meet at Fouts Field in Denton. Duval took the gold in soccer skills, while Edgerton took the silver in the long jump.



**Lewisville Special Olympics Team** enters Fouts Field during the Opening Ceremonies Parade of Athletes. The event commemorated the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the games.



**Erica Coil** took Gold in the 25-meter walk and fifth in the tennis ball throw.



**Gail Gaulke** took Gold in the 50-meter motorized wheelchair slalom and Silver in the tennis ball throw.



**Breezy Stone** won the 50meter dash and Bronze in the softball throw.



Gail Gaulke and Laura Walls receive medals and congratulations from their mothers.

May 1992 – Lewisville Patrol Officer Paul Nathan carries a torch through Lewisville as part of local and state law enforcement officers' efforts to raise money for Special Olympics. The torch was carried from all points across the state to Denton for the opening ceremonies of the Texas Special Olympics.





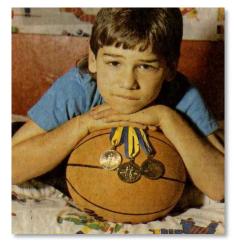
- February 1993 The Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Basketball Team finished the season with a 4-1 record, winning the Western Athletic Conference, and took third place at the area tournament held in McKinney. Team members were Fabian Montez, Crystal Herrin, Clif Peck, Tom Edgerton, Heidi Froess, Jacob Henley, Melissa Jones, and Corinna McNeice.
- February 1993 Fifteen Special Olympians competed on the skills team also in McKinney: Edward Belcher, Chris Carson, Jennifer Duval, Dillon Elrod, Gail Gaulke, Anthony Gray, Jeff Myers, Emanuel McClellan, Kelly McNamara, Randy McNiece, Kelly Riney, Breezy Stone, Heather Throckmorton, Matthew Turner, and Laura Walls.
- March 1993 Alysa DiArchangel practices her ribbon routine she will perform during the Special Olympics competition.







April 1993 Justin Cade of Lewisville is ready for the Special Olympics. Justin, a past medal winner, competes in the softball throw, the 50-yard dash and bowling.



April 1993 Lewisville Special Olympics athletes Laura Walls (at left in chair) and Paul Hernandez (Holland) hold their places in formation with volunteer Angie Couture and athlete Jennifer Duvall during the opening day parade at Allen High School.



May 1993 Lewisville High School student Chris Carson, 16, will participate in the Special Olympics this weekend in Denton.



Local Special Olympians will compete at Fouts Field at the University of North Texas. Nearly 4000 athletes will converge on Denton for the Special Olympics silver anniversary games.

"What's nice about Special Olympics is there's different types of activities for different disabilities."

Janet Carson, mother of 16-year-old Chris Carson



1993 Fabian Montez practices with the LISD Special Olympics Soccer Team



1993 Erica Coil participates in the 50meter walk.



1993 Gail Gaulke competes in the Tennis Ball Throw.

# 1994

May 1994 - Special Olympics fun for everyone. Patterned after the international Olympics Games, Special Olympics began in 1968 through the efforts of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who wanted to give mentally disabled people a chance to gain confidence and reach their potential by participating in sports.

To the right, the Lewisville Team celebrates during the opening procession of the Texas Special Olympics.



- May 1994 The opening ceremonies concluded with the final leg of the Texas Law Enforcement Torch Run for Texas Special Olympics.
- June 1994 The LISD Special Olympics basketball team took third place at the state event in Austin. The team was coached by Bill Pietrosky. Clif Peck, a Lewisville High School student had a tournament-high 36 points in four games. Lewisville also had soccer, gymnastics and track and field teams combined with the basketball team to bring home 41 medals.

October 1994 - LISD Special Olympics held its inaugural Golf Classic organized by Cheryl Blackmon to raise funds for LISDSO athletes to participate in local, area, and state games.



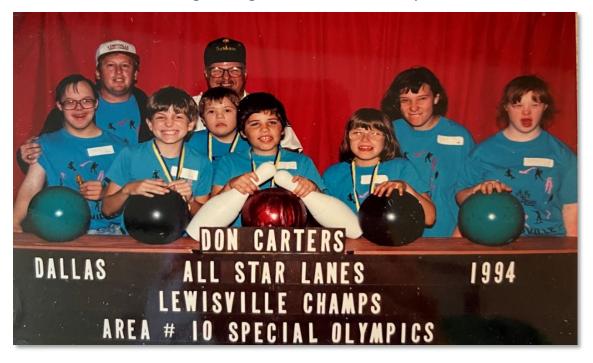








4 1994 Bowling continues with Area 10 Meet at Don Carters in Dallas Texas. LISD Lightning Team were Champions!





Pictured to the left are Diane Neff, Ed Beal, Debbie Rath, and Liz Moen





**4** 30 athletes participated in swimming under coach Pat Shovlin





Amelia Dye left to coach swimming for Southlake Carroll ISD. Larry Lindahl was instrumental in helping Amelia establish her Special Olympics team at Southlake Carroll ISD.





November 1995 - Lewisville ISD winners abounded at the Area-10 Special Olympics Bowling meet. Members of the Lewisville ISD Bowling Team: Damian Black, Timothy Braun, James Buford, Erica Coil, Kevin Dunaj, Thomas Edgerton, Heather Friel, Bubba Garrett, Gail Gaulke, Derrick Jones, Clif Peck, Matthew Poirson, Cain Sczepanski, Laura Walls, Jessica Wood, Jonathan Blackmon, Alysa DiArchangel, Dillion Elrod, Anthony Gray, Paul Hernandez (Holland), Courtney Waltman, Bryan Kelley, Fabian Montez, Mandy Preston, Breezy Stone, Daneille Burns, Crystal Herrin, Brian Kretz, Staci Mercer, Loni Nealy, Amy Rice, Michael Stoner, Corinna McNeice, Randy McNeice, Josh Reeves, Nick Shipley, Tobi Tanner, Chris Carson, Tim Holt, Heather Throckmorton, and Matthew Turner.

4 July 1995 - Local athletes use swimming to build esteem.



1995 Toby Tanner goes through her practice laps with the aid of her sisters at Sun Valley Pool.



1995 Chris Carson takes a plunge as his reward for completing his laps during practice this week.

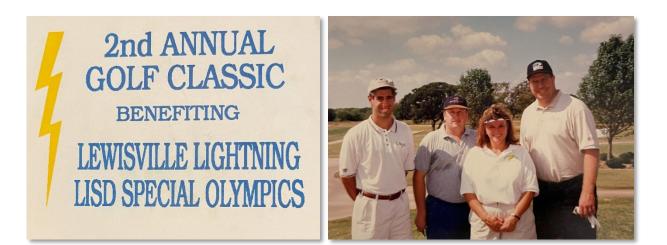
Under the umbrella of Lewisville Independent School District Special Education, swimmers will compete in two Area 10 events this summer before taking part in the August 19 area meet.

"They compete in all the sports together. It's like a family to them." Pat Shovlin, swim coach

Toby Tanner, 17, of Highland Village prepares for the 50-meter race in a Special Olympics meet held at Sun Valley Pool. She finished first in the race.



**4** September 1995 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual LISD Special Olympics Golf Classic





4 1996 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Bowling Team, Lewisville Lightning.



Members of the team include Chris Carson, Kevin Dunaj, Tim Holt, Gail Gaulke, Derrick Jones, Kimberly Julianna, Clif Peck, Matthew Poirson, Cain Sczepanski, Mandy Preston, Tim Howell, Staci Mercer, Matthew Turner, Alysa DiArchangel, Laura Walls, Christina Alcantara, Bubba Garrett, Paul Hernandez (Holland), Becky Holland, Heather Throckmorton, Timothy Braum, Danielle Burns, Thomas Edgerton, Nicholas Sacerdote, Crystal Herrin, Damian Black, Dillon Elrod, Manny McClellan, Kristen Alley, Fabian Montez, Amy Rice, Nick Shipley, Tobi Tanner, Jacob Henley, Bryan Kelley, and others.



Shelby and Natalie Carr at Bowling



Billy Leech shows off his Lightning Strikes Bowling shirt





July 1996 Lewisville Lightning Special Olympics Swim Team shines as they practice for area qualifying meet.



Chris Carson, 19, of Lewisville swims in one of the many Special Olympic races held at Sun Valley Pool.



Chris Carson is one of nine LISD Special Olympics Athletes who started around 1983 and are still competing in Special Olympics.

November 1996, wrestlers attend state games. Lewisville ISD Special Olympics had several winners in the tournament in Arlington: Kyle Knox, Ty Wheeler, Zack Miller, Jonathon Berry, Heath Naragon, and Tyler Freed. The wrestling team is coached by Carl Sewell.

## 1997

March 1997 – Olympic Gold-Medal gymnast Kerri Strung visited with Lewisville ISD Special Olympics gymnasts Alysa DiArchangel and Amy Rice. Also pictured is Jim Domer, LISDSO Coordinator



June 1997 – Bryant Cole practices his baseball swing with the help of his mom, Betty Cole. Bryant is a member of the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Team and play Buddy Baseball

with the YMCA.

 July 1997 - Swimming Sensation, Alysa DiArchangel, 17, Lewisville competes during a swim meet at Sun Valley Pool.
 Pat Shovlin, John Carson, Jerry and Connie Kelley organized the event.





October 1997 – LISD Annual Golf Classic

> Indian Creek Golf Club Carrollton, Texas



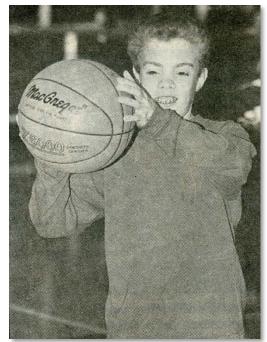




April 1998 – Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Individual Skills Basketball brings home several medals.



Chris Carson shoots with a smile at LISD Special Olympics Basketball Individual Skills



Jason Carswell, 14, readies to sink a basket at Special Olympics Basketball Individual Skills









### 4 April 1998 – Track and Field



LISD SPECIAL OLYMPICS Athlete, Shelby Carr, participates in the Area Track Meet



1999

 April 1999 Spring Games Members of the Lewisville Special Olympics team make their way on the field as area law enforcement officers give them highfives. The Area 10 Special Olympics Games were played at Coppell High School.



April 1999 Jonathan Blackmon of Lewisville Special Olympics makes his way around the track during the 1,500-meter run at the Area 10 Special Olympics Games. Jonathan would represent Lewisville Special Olympics at the World Games later this summer.



April 1999 Tim Braun makes a "Hole in One" as part of the Special Olympics Golf Division.

> "He is our best golfer!" Bobby DeLong, Golf Coach

May 1999 Tim Braun is just one of five mentally challenged golfers who will represent the Lewisville ISD in the Regional Golf Championship in Garland.



June 26<sup>th</sup> – July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1999 Special Olympics World Games in Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina Theme: It's All About Attitude





June 1999 World Games – Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina Jim Domer was chosen to be the USA Coach for Track and Field. Domer, Special Olympics Coordinator and former LHS Cross Country Coach was selected to coach the team. Domer has been involved with Special Olympics for 16 years. The trip to the World Games will be his first.



June 1999 World Games – Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina Jonathan Blackmon represented Lewisville ISD Special Olympics in Track and Field. Nicknamed "Full Blast" by his cross-country teammates at Lewisville High School, Blackmon is a long-distance runner.



LISD Special Olympics Athletes welcome a new year of excitement and Special Olympics Competition











Individual Basketball Skills is an integral part of Special Olympics. Athletes in the program are learning basic basketball skills. Many of the athletes in skills require more attention than the team-based basketball program. Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Skills Coaches have been Sohail Khan (2001 – 2017).



Skills Coach, Sohail Khan pictured with Individual Skills Athlete, Bryant Cole



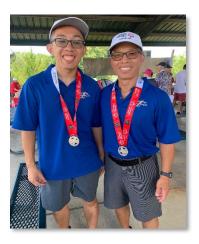
Members of the Marcus High School Circle of Friends and Physics Club volunteer to help with the LISD Special Olympics Skills Team

September 2001 – LISD Annual Golf Classic

Pictured to the right are golfers and LISDSO supporters Bill Leech, Jessie Jones, and Mark Hutchison.









## 4 February 2001 – LISDSO Little Bolts compete



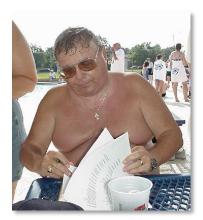






# 2002

#### 4 LISD Special Olympics Swim Meet







Pat Shovlin, swim coach, checks roster before the swim meet.

Athlete Laura Walls rests with between meets with volunteers

John and Janet Carson at the LISD Swim Meet



# 2003

 June 21 – June 29, 2003 Special Olympics World Games, Dublin, Ireland Motto: Share the Feeling





The Games Flame was lit at the culmination of the Law Enforcement Torch Run. This was a series of relays carrying the Special Olympics Torch, the "Flame of Hope" from Europe to the Games' official opening.

June 2003 - Carrying the torch for Special Olympics Jonathan Blackmon was on the world's stage at the Special Olympics World Games in Dublin, Ireland. Jonathan was one of 10 athletes participating in the Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg through the streets of Europe including nine different countries. Jonathon



carried the torch 12 times and spoke in seven cities.

"People need to sit up and take notice of Special Olympics. It's important to recognize these athletes like any other." Jonathan Blackmon, LISDSO Athlete







2003 Jonathan Blackman Law Enforcement Torch Run for the 2003 World Games in Dublin, Ireland Pictured with Jonathan Blackman (holding the "Flame of Hope" are Paul Holland, Liz Holland (Paul's mom standing behind him), Jonathan's partner for the torch run FBI agent from Houston Mike Sutton, and Cheryl Blackmon (Jonathan's mom standing next to him.)

Jonathan is also involved in the Special Olympics Athlete Leadership Program, ALPS, which teaches athletes the ability to govern, so one day they can hold top positions throughout organization.



2003 Special Olympics Texas adds Bocce as a new sport for competition. LISD Special Olympics coach at the beginning of Bocce was Garry Clements followed by Mary Trosko, who is the current Bocce Coach.







#### 🖊 September 2003 – LISD Golf Classic

#### Pictured to the right

John Smith (second from right) and Bill Leech (far right) with fellow golfers



# 2004

January 2004 Jonathan Blackmon proudly wears a tuxedo as he represents Lewisville ISD Special Olympics at Special Olympics Texas "Power of the Dream" Black Tie Gala at the historic Adolphus Hotel in Dallas.



Special Olympics Texas Names Tim Holt Athlete of the Week. Tim Holt is a 22-yearold LISD Special Olympics athlete. His favorite sport is Basketball, but enjoys competing in softball, soccer, and aquatics. He began competing at the age of eight.





#### Fun at Area 10 Games







- Dianne Jones helps Billy Leech with his technique during practice for Lewisville ISD's Special Olympics swim team at Sun Valley Pool.
- Pat Shovlin, a varsity swimmer at
  Wilkes college in Pennsylvania (Class of '61) formed the Lewisville Team 17
  years ago with three female swimmers.



Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Gymnastics Team demonstrates their talents at a local nursing home. Members of the team included Alysa DiArchangel, Amy Rice, and Allison Abel.









July 22-23, 2005 SMU Basketball Athletes join athletes from LISDSO to work on basketball skills. The SMU Basketball Camp included 130 athletes, 87 volunteers, and 31 coaches/advisors.



Members of the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Team participates in the SMU Basketball Camp at DeLay Middle School in Lewisville ISD. Billy Leech looks on as Justin Moser practices his basketball skills. Aaron Pruitt can be seen in the background.



Derrick Jones and Kevin Dunaj take a rest during the SMU Basketball Camp



Shawn Sanders practices his basketball skills at the SMU Basketball Camp





Aaron Pruitt looks on at the SMU Basketball Camp. (Sadly, Aaron passed away in 2020) Tim Holt and Ryan Falcon practices their skills at the SMU Basketball Camp

2005 Swim Meet at Sun Valley Pool in Lewisville is represented by Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Swim Team.



Billy Leech competes in the 50-meter free swim



James Buford competes in the 50-meter free swim



Jason Carswell competes in a swimming event



Shawn Sanders finishes his race in style



James Buford and Billy Leech take a friendly break during the swim meet



James Buford visits with LISDSO supporter, Paulette Coulter, aunt of Billy Leech



**4** February 2006 LISD Special Olympics Basketball Team competes.





- February 2006 The Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Bowling Team competes at the Special Olympics Texas Winter Games. The team was led by Jim Domer, Head of Delegation, and John Carson, Head Bowling Coach. Assistant Coaches included Garry Clemens, Dianne Jones, and Ken Jones.
- Going for the gold: Timothy Braun, Jacob Mills, Seth Harper, Shawn Sanders, and Jim Domer (back), head of LISDSO Delegation



The athletes and volunteers from the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics bowling team spent four days in Houston, where they competed at the Special Olympics Texas Winter Games.



Members of the LISD Special Olympics Bowling Team included Shawn Sanders, Derrick Jones, Gail Gaulke, Bradley and Joe Hawkins, Angela Aldridge, Nina Clemens, Timothy Braun, Caylea Martinez, Paul Holland, Laura Walls, Chris Carson, Thomas Edgerton, Dillon Elrod, Seth Harper, Jacob Mills, Renee Bourisaw, Ryan Falcon, Bubba Garrett, Bryan Kelley, Patrick Rooney, Josh Hamilton, Kimberly Juliana, Jason Carswell, and others.

# May 2006 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Soccer Team competes in Waco





LISD Special Olympics Soccer Team: Joey Cummings, Kevin Dunaj, Derrick Jones, Shawn Riley, Bruce Lindahl. Pictured in the back is the coach, Larry Lindahl.



LISD Special Olympics Soccer Athlete, Joey Cummings, makes a play on the soccer ball





May 2006 Lady Lightning Basketball Team competes in Waco bringing home a Gold Medal



May 2006 Boys' Basketball Team Thunder competes in Waco bringing home a Gold Medal



July 2006 - The First Special Olympics USA National Games took place in Ames, Iowa. Representing Lewisville ISD Special Olympics was Jonathan Blackmon, 25, from Flower Mound, Texas, along with Michael Gallagher, also from Flower Mound October 2006 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Swim Team, Lewisville Lightning, competed at the Waco Convention Center bringing home 27 Gold, 22 Silver, and 17 Bronze Medal Winners!







October 2006 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Softball Team competes in Waco, Texas





Members of the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Softball team watch from the dugout. Margo Dunaj, LISDSO Parent, Volunteer and Coach



Members of the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Softball team, Kevin Dunaj and Heather Throckmorton take a break during the games as Derrick Jones looks on.



Members of the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Softball team take a break during the games.



 October 2006 – Three Special Olympics Texas athletes travel to Shanghai to compete in the Special Olympics Shanghai Individual Games. Paul Holland of the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Team join 21 athletes from across the United States for the Games. Paul Holland participated in Track and Field Events.



October 2 – October 11, 2007 World Summer Games Shanghai, China Theme: I know I can



4 2007 Tim Braun represented Lewisville ISD Special Olympics at the

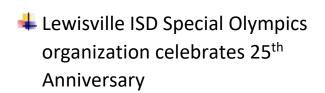
World Summer Games in Shanghai, China. Tim compete as a member of the golf team.















Jim Domer holds a Proclamation from Senator Tan Parker recognizing LISDSO's 25 years









# 2009

August 2009 – LISD Special Olympics lost a good friend and coach Patrick William Shovlin, Jr. His legacy will live on in our athletes.



In Memory of Patrick William Shovlin, Jr. COACh Pat August 13, 1938 to August 20, 2009 Let me win, but if I cannot win let me be brave in the attempt.









# 2010

- August 2010 Athletes from the Lewisville ISD Special Olympics team compete at the USA National Games at the University of Nebraska. Seventeen athletes and three coaches from the Lewisville team were part of the 152 athletes and 30 coaches comprising Team Texas at the games.
- Among the LISDSO athletes attending the USA National Games are Sarah Hunter, swimming, and Paul Holland, Track and Field.
- Lewisville USA Team members were Thomas Candelas, Natalie Carr, Allen Domer, Jim Domer, Brandon Donner, Ken Griffin, Les Griffin, Joe Hawkins, Ralph Holt, Tim Holt, Samantha Russell, Michael Maples, Katie Taylor, Matthew Turner, and Austin Youts.
- The Lewisville USA Team is coached by Renae Carswell, Garry Clemens, and Vicki Griffin.





2010 Pre-World Games in Athens, Greece Lewisville ISD Special Olympics athlete, Jonathan Blackmon, participated in Track and Field





## 🖊 LISDSO Athletes at their BEST







Kim Corkran and Joey Cummings

Patrick Kimbrell

Kaylea Martinez and Shelby Carr



Shawn Sanders shows off his Gold Medal





Brothers Brian and A. J. Surprenant

LISDSO Bocce Athletes Chris Trosko and Nina Clements









- A program through the Greater Lewisville YMCA gave LISD Special
  Olympics Athletes additional training for sports
  - Pictured to the right are LISD Special Olympics Athletes Bryant Cole, Kaylea Martinez, and Jason Carswell



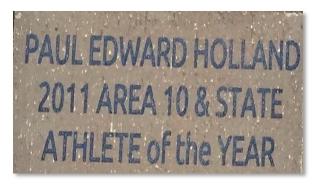


LISD Special Olympics Athletes, James Buford and Billy Leech, show their trophies. Both athletes go on to win many medals at Special Olympics competitions.



4 2011 Paul Holland is chosen as Area 10 and SOTX Athlete of the Year









4 LISDSO Figure Skating with Bobby Joe









### LISDSO Flag Football Team





4 2012 Basketball Competition







## 4 2012 LISDSO Swimming Competition



Courtney Waltman, Shelby Carr, and Bruce Lindahl at LISD Swimming Competition Volunteer Natalie Carr helps athlete Jason Carswell during LISD Swimming





LISDSO athlete during LISDSO Swimming Competition

Athlete Jason Carswell during LISD Swimming







## 4 LISDSO Celebrate 30 Years









November 2013 – LISDSO competes in Flag Football as Team Rain and brings home the Gold Medal.









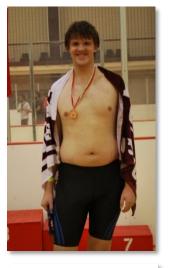
**4** 2013 LISDSO Swim Team continues to dominate the waves.







Dillon Smith



Bruce Lindahl



Chadd Smith

LISDSO Athletes continue to dominate on the playing field and in life. The fun, competition, and camaraderie is what makes LISDSO a family.



## 4 2013 LISD Soccer Team



## 4 LISDS Flag Football Team

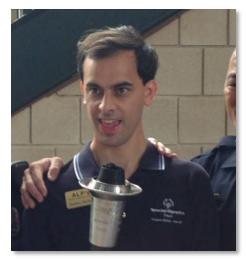




**4** 2014 - Special Olympics Texas celebrate 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary



2014-2015 Special Olympics Athletes of the Year. One of this year's winners is Jonathan Blackmon of Lewisville ISD Special Olympics. Blackmon is a 2001 graduate of Lewisville High School and attended North Texas College in a Special Education Program.





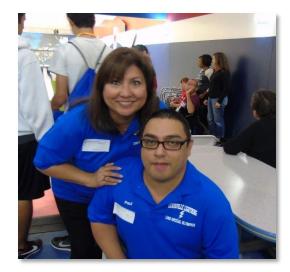
4 2015 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Skills Team coached by Sohail Khan



September 2015 – ALPS (Special Olympics Athlete Leadership Program) which teaches athletes the ability to govern, so one day they can hold top positions throughout organizations.







2016

- Jim Domer Honored as SOTX 2016 Unified Partner of the Year. Domer has been devoting his time to SOTX for more than 30 years.
- Renae Carswell has been named SOTX 2016 Volunteer of the Year.





Out of more than 38,000 volunteers for Special Olympics Texas, two Lewisville residents were recognized for their dedication to volunteering for the statewide athletic competitions.

Special Olympics secretary, Renae Carswell earned the Volunteer of the Year award.

Adapted physical education teacher, Jim Domer received the Unified Partner of the Year award.



Jonathan Blackmon receives the honor of 2016 Athlete of the Year

Pictured to the left are Renae Carswell, Jonathan Blackmon, and Jim Domer

When Renae Carswell moved to Flower Mound in 1991 from Florence, SC, she did not realize the impact she would make on so many in the years to come. Stretching to barely reach 5-feet tall, she has been a valuable volunteer for Lewisville ISD Special Olympics.





**Warch 2017** LISD School Board Recognition of Coach Jim Domer Special Olympics of Texas 2016 Unified Partner of the Year



Pictured are Paul Holland, Liz Holland, Dianne Jones, Jim Domer, Derrick Jones, and Renae Carswell. Renae was also honored as the Special Olympics of Texas 2016 Volunteer of the Year.



March 2017 LISD School Board Recognizes Jim Domer Special Olympics Unified Partner of the Year

March 2017 Jim Domer presents Derrick Jones (son of Ken Jones) and Dianne Jones (wife of Ken Jones) with a special plaque in recognition of Ken. Ken was a long-time coach for Lewisville ISD Special Olympics who recently passed away.



March 2017 Jim Domer and Jimmy Odoms. Jimmy has been a long-time volunteer, coach, and bus driver for LISD Special Olympics.



## **4** Jimmy Odoms





### **Jimmy Odoms**

From one safe spot to another, I carry my cargo day after day... And you should see what joy it brings, as I carry them on their way.

Each treasure's unique, not two alike...each radiant in some special way. My treasures are different colors, no two are alike... some are large, some are small, each one a mystery.

> I carry valued treasure, each and every day... I am a Treasure Carrier I drive a Yellow School Bus





# 2018

July 1- July 6, 2018
 Special Olympics USA Games
 Seattle, Washington
 In addition to showcasing the awe-inspiring abilities of
 thousands of athletes with



intellectual disabilities, the 2018 USA Games in Seattle will model the ideals of inclusion and celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Special Olympics movement. USA Team Texas sent 150 athletes, 38 coaches, 11 traditional sports and 5 Unified sports.

4 2018 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics was well represented at the USA Games in Seattle, Washington





Liane Matzenbach, 26, took part in a goldmedal winning effort against Washington in women's traditional basketball.



LISD Special Olympics USA World Gold Medal Basketball Team	
Front row:	Rachel Elder, Alandria Riveria, Kellie Wickett
Back row:	Staci Mercer, Kimberly Corkran



Stacy Hawkins, 32, of Lewisville ISD Special Olympics was a force for the Texas gold medalists in women's traditional basketball.



Picture above - 2018 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Team Texas



Picture above - 2018 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Girls' Basketball Gold Medal Team.



Special Olympics 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

The spark that became today's Special Olympics movement ignited at the first 1968 International Summer Games in Chicago, II., USA.



Since 1968, Special Olympics has been changing attitudes about the talents of people with intellectual disabilities. Since 1968, Special Olympics has been changing the world! We are excited to celebrate the movement's 50th anniversary throughout 2018.

### 4 October 2018 – State Bocce Summer Games at Texas A&M





LISDSO Athlete Billy Leech with his Unified Partner Bill Leech

LISDSO Athlete Billy Leech with his Unified Partner Bill Leech show off their medals.



LISDSO Athlete Chris Trosko with his Unified Partner Bonnie Leech



LISDSO Bocce Athlete Joey Cummings



LISDSO Athlete Patrick Kimbrell with his Unified Partner Nancy Kimbrell



LISDSO Athlete Dillon Smith with his Unified Partner Denise Smith



LISDSO Bocce Athlete Josh Hamblin



LISDSO Bocce Athletes Dillon Smith and Seth Harper rest between meets

October 2018 – SOTX State Games at Texas A&M



Jim Domer



Jim Domer and LISDSO Bocce Coach Mary Trosko collaborate during SOTX State Games



Volunteer and Parent Andrea Cummings



Girls' softball coach Kelly Preston taking a selfie with athlete Billy Leech and friend, Slappy

# 2019

March 14 – March 21, 2019 Special Olympics World Games Abu Dhabi, UAE Theme: Meet the Determined





Dillon Smith represented
 Lewisville ISD Special Olympics at the
 World Games in Abu Dhabi in Cycling.
 Dillion brought home a
 \*Silver Medal in 5K Road Race
 \*Bronze Medal in 10K Time Trial Race
 \*4<sup>th</sup> Place in 5K Time Trial Race

SO United States 24 Years Old Male Athlete





Left: Dillion sporting his medals

Right: Dillion with his parents, Kurt and Denise Smith



**DILLON SMITH** 

October 2019 – SOTX State Basketball Tournament at University of Arlington. Pictured below is the 2019 Tornadoes, coached by Mary Trosko and Chris Parker. They won Gold Medal at State.



Pictured on front row:	James Buford, Johnny McClure, Shelby Carr, Dana Parker, and Chris Trosko
Pictured on back row:	Vikram Jayakumar, Garry Croxton, and Billy Leech

### 4 2019 SOTX Fall Classic at Texas A&M



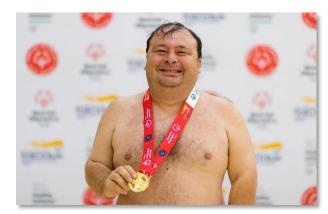
LISD Special Olympics Bocce athlete, Gary Johnson (Chicago) is pictured on the 2019 Fall Classic Brochure





LISDSO Athlete Dana Parker and his brother, Chris

LISDSO Athlete Wyatt Hazel and his mom, Jolene



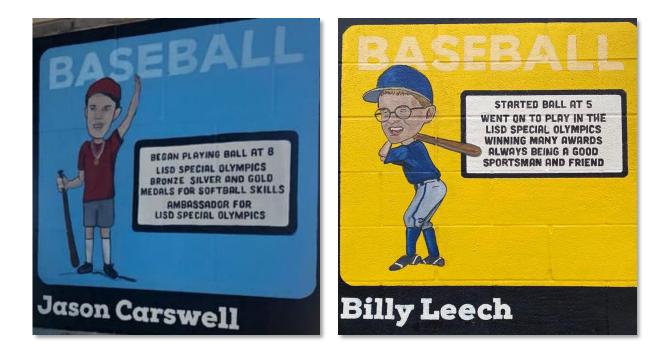
LISDSO Athlete James Buford



LISDSO Athlete celebrating awards



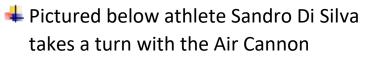
LISD Special Olympics Athletes, Jason Carswell and Billy Leech, are honored by Flower Mound Sports Association on the columns at Gerault Park



March 2020 - In response to shelter in place and COVID-19, a digital platform made just for SOTX athletes and SOTX community members is created. It is called S.O. Connected. All games were suspended. September 2020 – LISD Annual Golf Classic

Pictured to the right are golfers Eric Merriman, Chris Presley, Bill Leech, and James Tucker

Golfer, Bill Leech, takes aim with the Air Cannon as he shoots Golf Balls.











October 2021 LISD Special Olympics Bocce Team competes at State Special Olympics Tournament at Texas A&M. The team is coached by Mary Trosko



LISDSO Bocce Athletes Seth Harper and Nina Clements



Unified Partners Denise and Dillon Smith pose with Unified Partners Chris Trosko and Bonnie Leech



Garry Johnson (aka Chicago) practices before his match



Joey Cummings, Patrick Kimbrell, Mary Trosko (Coach) and Chris Trosko



Billy Leech takes time to read between matches



Left: Billy Leech shows off his Bronze Medal for Bocce Right: Paul Holland rests between Bocce Games



### 4 July 2021 – Connections Wellness Group raises funds for LISDSO



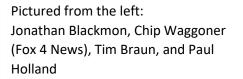






#### **4** September 2021 - LISD Special Olympics 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic







Pictured above are LISD Special Olympics Golfers Tim Braun, Michael Gallagher, and Jonathan Blackmon. Next to Jonathan is his unified partner and caddy Beau Miller.



LISDSO Athletes like Billy Leech, Wyatt Hazel, Michael Gallagher, Mariah Toney, and Sarah Wickett earn Letter Jackets for participating in the LISD Special Olympics for four consecutive years. Many athletes have been presented with Letter Jackets.





June 5 – June 12, 2022 Special Olympics USA Games Orlando, Florida Theme: Together, we #Shine As One

2022



Lewisville ISD Special
 Olympics was represented
 by the boys' basketball team
 coached by Eric Clement.
 Members of the team are
 David Acevedo, David
 Sample, Devin Church, Drake
 Church, Malik Rashad,
 Nathan Damron, Ryan
 Falcon, Thomas Candelas,
 Tim Burnett, Tim Holt, and
 Trevor Howard.





## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LISD SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Puttin' Pirates enjoyed a round of golf at the 2022 LISD Annual Golf Classic

Pictured at the right are golfers James Tucker, Eric Merriman, Chris Presley, and Bill Leech.



LISDSO Volunteers are vital to our success at the LISDSO Golf Classic each year held at Indian Creek Golf Club

















4 28<sup>th</sup> Annual LISD Special Olympics Golf Classic relies on the help and support of so many volunteers. Thank You for supporting our athletes.



Volunteers Jane Mundt, Cathi Mundt, and Kelly Presley



Volunteer Kelly Presley

Volunteer Bonnie Leech poses with athletes Michael Gallagher and Chadd Smith





LISD Bocce Team coached by Mary Trosko poses for pictures after practice.

A special guest showed up to visit Bocce Practice. T-Ronn Hicks (aka Simply B.A.D.D.) posed for pictures the athletes.





T-Ronn Hicks poses with Kenny Deel at Bocce Practice

Paul Holland and T-Ronn Hicks pose together at Bocce Practice

Garry Johnson and T-Ronn Hicks pose together at Bocce Practice







July 2022 – Grounds Keeper Willie (aka Bill Leech) keeps the courts ready for Bocce Practice





LISDSO Bocce player Stephen McCurley and his dad, Randy





LISDSO Bocce player Mariah Toney





LISDSO Bocce player Kenny Deel takes a shot as players Dillon and Denise Smith look on



LISDSO Unified Bocce Team of Kaylea and Dana Martinez



September 2022 – Flower Mound Police Department held a Fundraiser (Red, Blue, and Que) benefitting LISD Special Olympics













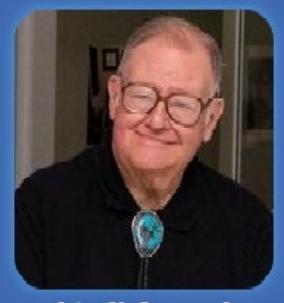




April 2022 – Lewisville ISD Special Olympics lost an incredible man who taught us all about dedication, love, and inclusion of all. John Carson will be missed but his legacy will live on in every Special Olympics athlete.



## In Loving Memory



John M. Carson, Jr. June 6. 1943-April 7. 2022





















Lewisville ISD and SOTX FC Dallas Special Olympian Joey Cummings finds the goal he was searching for.



Joey Cummings and SOTX FC Dallas Teammate



SOTX FC Dallas provided Matt Cummings, right, with the opportunity to play alongside his brother, Joey.



Joey Cummings receives Sonic Employee of the Month showing that our LISDSO Athletes are contributing members of the community both on and off the playing field. March 2023 – LISD Basketball Team Thunder, coached by Mary Trosko, participated in the Area Meet at Highland Park High School bringing home a Silver Medal.









## 4 April 2023 - LISDSO Tennis competition









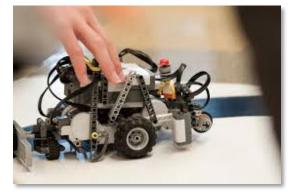
March 2023 – LISD Special Olympics coaches and volunteers establish Disc Golf Competitions. To the right, Jim Domer holds his coveted award of the Golden Twig for Disc Golf.



Unified Ice Hockey Competition will be offered by SOTX



#### LISDSO Robotics Teams are being formed and coached by Stephanie Driscole





**4** Lewisville ISD Special Olympics Founding Four...

Thank you for your vision, your love, and for helping to make yesterday's dreams into today's possibilities...



Amelia Dye

Jim Domer

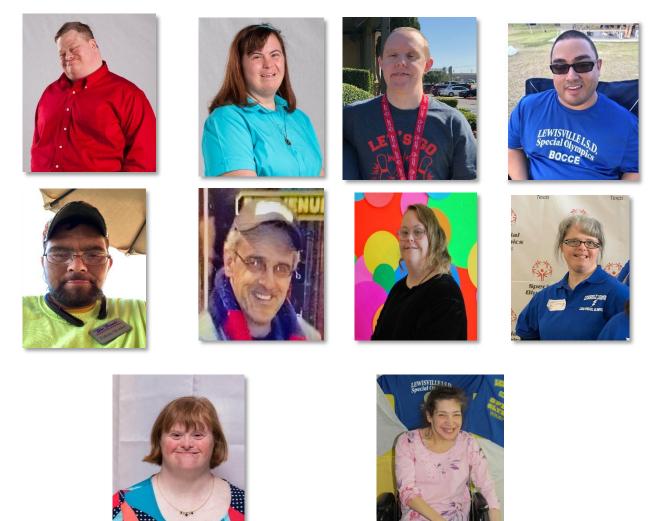
Debbie Rath

Janet Carson





LISD Special Olympics Athletes who started around 1983 and are currently competing: Chris Carson, Alysa DiArchangel, Thomas Edgerton, Paul Holland, Fabian Montez, Clif Peck, Mandy Preston, Amy Rice, Heather Throckmorton, and Laura Walls







# The LISDSO Perfect Storm will continue to turn dreams into today's possibilities as long as we have coaches, parents, and volunteers who work tirelessly to support our LISDSO Athletes.



