Shooting team flourishing at Schreiner

Under Bill Thomas, SU program continues to grow

By Dennis O'Brien
Times Sports Writer
dennis.obrien@dailymc.com

The Schreiner University Shooting Sports team sent 12 shooters as part of its competition team to the 41st annual Association of College Unions International Clay Target Championships at San Antonio this March.

That squad, though far from the smallest group among the 40 schools participating in the annual national championship, was positively dwarfed by some of the contingents that descended upon Texas from all over the country.

"Some of the schools have some pretty big teams," Schreiner shooting coach Bill Thomas said. "Lindenwood University is probably the biggest competitor, and they sent 55 shooters down."

So with steer numbers on their side, it can't be surprising that Lindenwood dominated the proceedings.

The St. Charles, Mo. school took 11 national championships in 18 categories, including a clean sweep of the six Division 1 team competitions.

"What's surprising is the performance of the 12-person Schreiner squad," Thomas said.

Schreiner posted five top 10 finishes, including a fourth-place team finish in the Division II American Skeet competition and a fourth-place finish by Caitlin Weinheimer.

"We didn't win anything this year, but we placed high in most of the events," Thomas said. "But that fourth-place finish in American Skeet is the highest we've ever done."

In just six years, the Schreiner Shooting Sports team has established itself as one of the top shooting teams in the country despite its small size.

Since the team regularly practices and competes at the Hill Country Sports Shooting Center, manager Jack Burch has been able to watch the program grow over the years and said he's impressed by what he's seen.

"They've accomplished an awful lot in a short period of time," Burch said. "That program has gotten better and better, and Bill Thomas has done a wonderful job of developing those kids."

"What's great about it," he added, "is that they've had some of the nicest kids that you'd meet, too."

Thomas, a lifelong shooting enthusiast and an experienced competition shooter, was asked to work with Schreiner University to establish a shooting team for the university six years ago, and he's had to build the program up from scratch.

"We started off with one shooter," Thomas said. "A one-man shotgun team named Cameron Schuster. From there, we started getting recruits from across the country."

See Shoot, page 3B

Hill Country

Registration open for Tyler Behrens 5K

Registration has begun for the seventh annual Tyler Behrens 5K Run/Walk, which begins at 8 a.m. July 30 at Kerrville Schreiner Park. The race is held each year in memory of the Tyler Behrens, who died in 2003.

The entry fee is $20 if you register by Wednesday. All late registrations up to the day of the race will cost $25. Proceeds for the event go to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The deadline for registration is 8 p.m. July 26. Participants can register online at www.bigmentor.com.

Hill Country

Tivy Hall of Fame accepting nominations

The Tivy Hall of Fame selection committee is accepting nominations for the Tivy Hall of Fame Class of 2011.

Now in its sixth year, the Tivy Hall of Fame will induct athletes, coaches or fans into the growing and prestigious hall of fame.

Nomination are accepted today through July 31. Selections will be made in August, and the induction ceremony will take place before Tivy football’s home game against San Antonio McCollum at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 30.

Send nominations to: Hall of Fame Nominations, Kerrville Tivy H.O.F. Class of 2011, Attn: Selection Committee, P.O. Box 291973, Kerrville, Texas 78029.

UK soccer camp coming to Kerrville

The UK International Soccer Camp is coming to Kerrville July next week.

The camp, which will be Monday through Friday, is hosted by the Hill Country Youth Soccer Association Avco Region. $26 for kids ages 4 to 16. The camp will be held on Kerrville's Soccer Fields.

For more information, contact的信息 is available at www.hillcountrysoccer.org/parents/camps.

See Shoot, page 3B

Hill Country
Burch, who has watched the program grow over the last six years, said one of the best things about the success at Schreiner is what it’s done for his shooting center.

“This is a partnership between us and Schreiner in a lot of ways,” Burch said. “And all of these accomplishments are good for us, too.”

As strong as the team has been, Thomas said the team is still building its success even after losing some of its best players to graduation in 2011.

“We’ve got a few really good incoming freshmen coming in,” he said. “They’re going to be competitive. In this kind of thing, if you have decent ability, you can accelerate really fast. If you’ve got good eyes and good reflexes.

“I don’t think it’s too late for either of us,” Thomas said. “It’s those kids that have done it. We’ve had some great kids come through, and that’s where the success comes from.”

Get your news as it happens... daily.
www.dailytimes.com
Voted No. 1 by the Associate Press Managing Editors Association

Does this sound familiar...
You work harder cleaning up the mess he left behind than he did making it.
He ends every job with the comment, “we’ll see how long that holds.”
If this does, give the professionals a call at
Holloway Plumbing
Receive your next service
For $20.00 off
Kerrville 830-896-0690 • Fredericksburg 830-990-2221 16-15666