



SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY EVA HUMMEL

Teams from GISD and the cities of Garland, Rowlett and Sachse participated in the GISD BBQ Smackdown April 11. Team GISD won the challenge to cook the best brisket. Proceeds from the event went to the March of Dimes.

# BBQ Smackdown names GISD grand champions

## STAFF REPORT

The Garland Independent School District participated in the Great GISD BBQ Smackdown at the Special Events Center April 11. Team GISD came out on top as grand champions after hours of barbecuing. The city of Sachse was named the reserve grand champions.

Earlier this year, Curtis “A+ Sauce” Culwell and John “BBQ King” Washington, also known as Team GISD, issued the leadership of the cities of Garland, Rowlett and Sachse a challenge to see who could cook the best brisket.

The chefs from each team cooked all day long to perfect their recipes.

Other barbecue chefs were Mayor Bob Day and Robert Wunderlich for the city of Garland, Mayor Mike Felix and Charles Smith of the city of Sachse and Craig Owens and David Brian for the city of Rowlett.

GISD also participated in WalkAmerica at White Rock



GISD students filled the tent at WalkAmerica.

Lake April 21.

GISD had one of the largest tents at the event, full of more than 350 GISD students, employees, friends and families.

GISD has participated in other fundraising events through out the year for March of Dimes. These events included Burgers for Babies, Taters for Tots, Elementary WalkManias, silent auction, bake sales, donkey basketball, Blue Jeans for Babies and a chili cook-off.

Year after year, Garland ISD never ceases to amaze with its March of Dimes fundraising. Last year, GISD raised more than \$115,000 and it currently has more than \$130,000 for the 2007 GISD March of Dimes Campaign.

The district’s success comes from its caring employees and students. The following are the top schools in the GISD March of Dimes Fundraising Campaign: pre-kindergarten: Cisneros, \$11,012.50, team captain Renee Kotsopoulos; elementary: Back, \$10,348.01, team captain Michael Gonzalez; middle school: Coyle, \$5,139, team captains Meredith McGill, Donna Verner and Sharon Hamm; high schools: Garland, \$11,101.40, team captain Melanie Parsons; GISD Administrative Department: food services, \$4,435.63, team captain Monica Warner.

*Information for this report was provided by Eva Hummel.*



GISD employees Caryl Terashita, Sandy Davenport, Casady Templeton and Jana Templeton participate in WalkAmerica April 21.



Garland Mayor Bob Day, right, debates the correct way to cook barbecue with Sachse Mayor Pro Tem Charles Smith.



GISD superintendent Curtis Culwell slices his brisket.