

Fair Oaks Ranch Teens Win First BISD Incubator Pitch Program

young achievers

By Senior Resident Writer **Greg Buschmann**

Will Williamson and Daniel Stripling, close friends and golfing buddies since they began playing the game at age 8, took their love of the links to the classroom and came away as the first-ever winners of the Boerne Independent School District's Entrepreneurship Incubator Pitch Night held on April 29. The duo then moved on to a state-wide competition held at Texas A&M and finished fourth.

Daniel and Will graduated in May from Boerne Champion High School and during their Senior year, both enrolled in the inaugural *INCubatoredu* course offered by the district and taught by Jennifer Breuer. Groups of students worked with volunteer mentors and coaches from the local area. After identifying a "problem" to solve, they pitched their product ideas to a board of directors, with each group receiving \$500 to start their businesses.

Guided along the process by mentors Derek Schriver, a CPA, and Jeff Dick, a Commercial Loan Officer, Will and Daniel named their company *Ace Made Golf* and created a golf ball dispenser projected to save time and space for avid golfers. What began as a sketching on notebook paper evolved into an initial design, a marketing survey, and an injection-molded final product. Before a panel of judges from the local community, CEO Williamson and CFO Stripling made their 10-minute pitch and earned the \$7,000 first prize for their firm. At A&M they added another \$1,500 to their bottom line.



Will Williamson, son of Robert and Laurel Williamson, and Daniel Stripling, son of William and Denise Stripling, captured the first-ever BISD Entrepreneurship Incubator Competition.

Both Daniel and Will are moving on to college this fall, but their fledgling business continues to show promise. A local golf tournament sponsor has expressed interest in acquiring some 400 of the dispensers to distribute to tourney participants. If *Ace Made Golf* goes public with a stock offering, we'll make sure to keep our readers advised!



We love to share stories of the younger generation here in Fair Oaks. For information on how easy it is to submit your story, email dana.moler@n2pub.com. Parental permission required for residents less than 18 years.