



October 23, 2009

## MedStar Responds on Two Wheels

MedStar recently reinstated its Bicycle Emergency Response Team to provide better service at special events. The bicycle teams carry the same advanced life-support equipment found on ambulances in bags mounted on back of the bicycles.



The bicycle crew can more-easily access patients in large crowds and can provide treatment and/or stabilize a patient while a transport ambulance is summoned.

MedStar also provides horse-mounted teams for rodeos and other events. For more information or to request stand-by service for an upcoming event, go to [www.medstar911.org/community-events](http://www.medstar911.org/community-events).

## MedStar Honors Coaches who Saved Student's Life

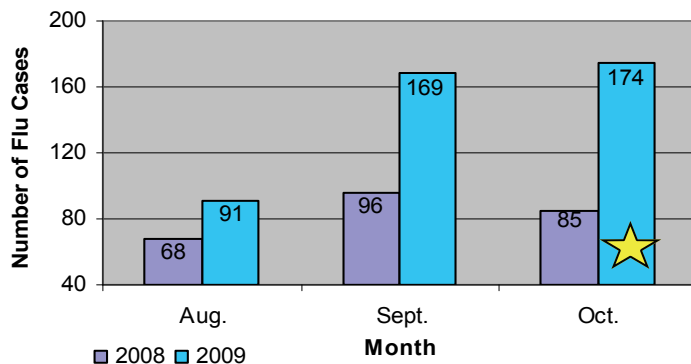
Three Fort Worth high school coaches were presented with a MedStar Community Hero Award at the Oct. 13 FWISD board meeting in recognition of their quick thinking and use of CPR and an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to save the life of a Fort Worth high school student last month.

Just minutes into running laps during baseball practice, the student collapsed on the track at Trimble Technical High School – he was unconscious and not breathing. Coaches Tyson Wormsbaker, Mike Garza and Jason Braud acted immediately to secure the student's airway, administer CPR and used an AED to resuscitate him.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation combined with bystander use of an automated external defibrillator more than doubles the chances of surviving a cardiac arrest compared with using CPR alone, according to the American Heart Association.

The next meeting of the Area Metropolitan Ambulance Authority Board of Directors will be 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28. Go to [www.medstar911.org](http://www.medstar911.org) for agenda and details.

## Flu Continues to Escalate



★ October 1-31, 2008 = 85 flu cases  
★ October 1-19, 2009 = 174 flu cases

Cases of flu and reports of flu-like symptoms continue to increase in the MedStar service area.

MedStar crews have treated twice as many patients in the first three weeks of October than they did the entire month in 2008.

To keep both crews and patients safe, MedStar is reimbursing employees the cost of seasonal flu vaccines and is providing field crews the H1N1 vaccine.