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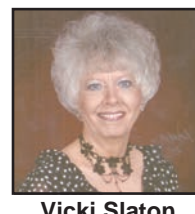
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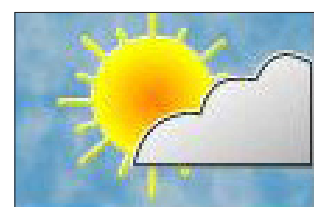
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# BIG SPRING HERALD

SUNDAY  
AUGUST 24, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 228

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## Time to Remember

### Symphony tunes up for new season

Special to the Herald

Big Spring Symphony Association has announced the opening concert of the 2008-2009 season, "Times to Remember." The four-concert series promise to include something for everyone, from classic favorites and dance to American cowboy music and poetry, according to conductor Dr. Keith Graumann.

The first concert of the series, "Great Friends," will be presented by the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra Saturday, Sept. 6 at 8 p.m. in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

"We have invited long-time friend of the Big Spring Symphony Maestro John Giordano to again conduct the first concert of the season," said Dr. Graumann. "We will also feature violinist, good friend and renowned artist Dr. Kirsten Yon, playing the popular Mendelssohn 'Violin Concerto in e minor.'"

Also to be performed on the opening concert are Tchaikovsky's "Romeo and Juliet Festival Overture," the overture to "Die Fledermaus (The Bat)," by Strauss, and the first movement of Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony."

In addition to the opening "Great Friends" concert in September, the Symphony Association has planned three other events. The "Nutcracker" ballet will be presented Dec. 20 by the full orchestra, joined by the entire cast and production crew of the Midland Festival Ballet.

"Audience Choice" will be presented Jan. 31.

"Our listeners have made a lot of

#### 2008-09 SERIES

Sept. 6  
Great Friends

Dec. 20  
Nutcracker ballet

Jan. 31  
Audience Choice

March 21  
The Bard and the Balladeer



Courtesy photo

Dr. Keith Graumann, conductor of the Big Spring Symphony, directs orchestra members during Pops in the Park. The 2008-2009 season begins with "Great Friends" Sept. 6.

musical requests to me over the years, and the same pieces keep coming up. I decided that it would be really fun to put a number of these requests on the same concert," said Dr. Graumann. "From the 'Hebrides' overture to Ravel's 'Bolero,' we'll finally be honoring a number of the requests."

Also on the "Audience Choice" concert will be returning artist Sijing Ye, who will play movements from the most requested piano concertos.

The final concert of the 2008-2009 concert series will be presented March 21 and is titled "The Bard and the Balladeer." Renowned cowboy crooner Don Edwards will team up with cowboy poet and comedian

Waddie Mitchell and the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra in an evening of traditional music and prose.

All concerts will be presented in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium at 8 p.m., with the exception of 'Nutcracker' which will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Along with the opening concert, the Big Spring Symphony Association and Symphony Guild are hosting a season kick-off dinner Thursday, Sept. 4 at the Big Spring Country Club, beginning at 6 p.m. John Giordano will be the guest speaker.

Maestro Giordano has had a colorful and interesting career, working with many of the world's premier

See SYMPHONY, Page 3A

## Sales tax increase?

County officials may place measure on November ballot

By THOMAS JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Area voters may have one more issue to consider during the November election, as Howard County commissioners are expected to call for voter approval on a .5 percent increase in sales tax outside of the city.

The measure — called the County Assistance District Sales Tax by the Texas Comptroller's office — would allow the county to collect and additional one-half of 1 percent on sales tax, according to County

Judge Mark Barr.

"According to the information we've received from the state comptroller's office, the county would receive between \$200,000 and \$250,000 a year from the tax," said Barr. "That's certainly a help to the budget, but it's certainly not a cure-all."

The sales tax — which could range from 1/8, 1/4, 3/8, or 1/2 of 1 percent — would effect all of the unincorporated portions of the county, as well as the cities of Coahoma and

See TAX, Page 3A

## Alon suit awaits final arguments

By STEVE REAGAN  
Staff Writer

A ruling on Alon USA's lawsuit against the Howard County Tax Appraisal District is expected within the next few weeks.

Testimony concluded Friday in 118th District Court in the lawsuit, filed by Alon — owner of the Big Spring Refinery — to contest what it claims are inflated appraisal valuations on the refinery.

Because of scheduling conflicts, lawyers for both sides will not be able to enter closing arguments

for the next several days. District Judge Robert H. Moore III, who is hearing the case in lieu of a jury trial, said he will hear those arguments at the earliest opportunity, officials said.

Alon is contesting a \$320 million tax appraisal levied against the refinery in 2007. Oil company officials claimed the valuation should be approximately \$152 million, slightly more than half of the contested figure. The appraisal district's review board sub-

See ALON, Page 3A

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## Biden pick draws Democratic praise, Republican criticism

CHICAGO (AP) — Democrats coalesced around Barack Obama's selection of Joe Biden as his running mate on Saturday while Republicans quickly seized on the Delaware senator's past criticism of the presidential candidate's inexperience.

As the newly minted ticket readied for its first joint appearance, in Springfield, Ill., former first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton called Biden "an exceptionally strong,

experienced leader and devoted public servant." Clinton, Obama's most persistent rival through the primaries and the caucuses, was also-ran in Obama's vice presidential search.

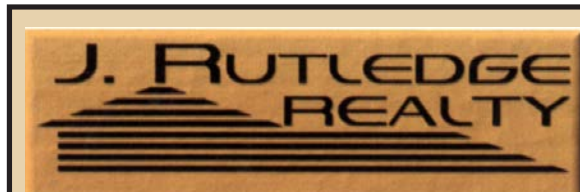
Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said the Obama-Biden ticket will bring the change the country needs, including a filibuster-proof Senate majority.

See BIDEN, Page 3A



AP photo/Haraz N. Ghanbari

Sen. Joe Biden, D-Del., who is Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama's pick as his running mate, and his wife, Jill, prepare to depart their home, Saturday in Greenville, Del.



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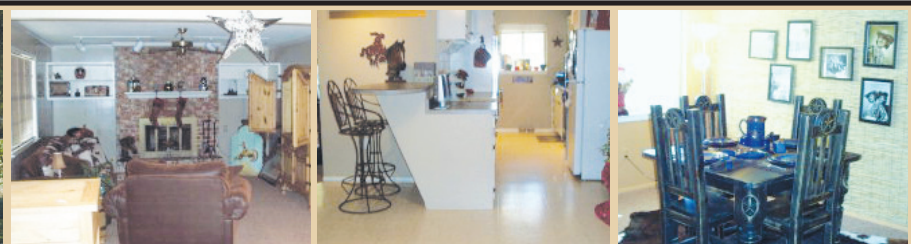
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## Steers sharp

### BSHS dominates LHS in scrimmage

By JONATHAN HULL  
Sports Editor

Confidence plays a huge role in an athlete's performance no matter what sport in which he or she is competing.

Last season, the Big Spring Steers football team started the year with very little belief in itself, particularly on the offensive side of the ball.

That doesn't appear to be the case heading into the 2008 season.

The Steers played with confidence and determination on both sides of the ball as they dominated Lubbock High's Westerners in their final scrimmage before games start to count. Big Spring's first-team offense found the end zone three times in a controlled scrimmage and held the Westerners to no



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

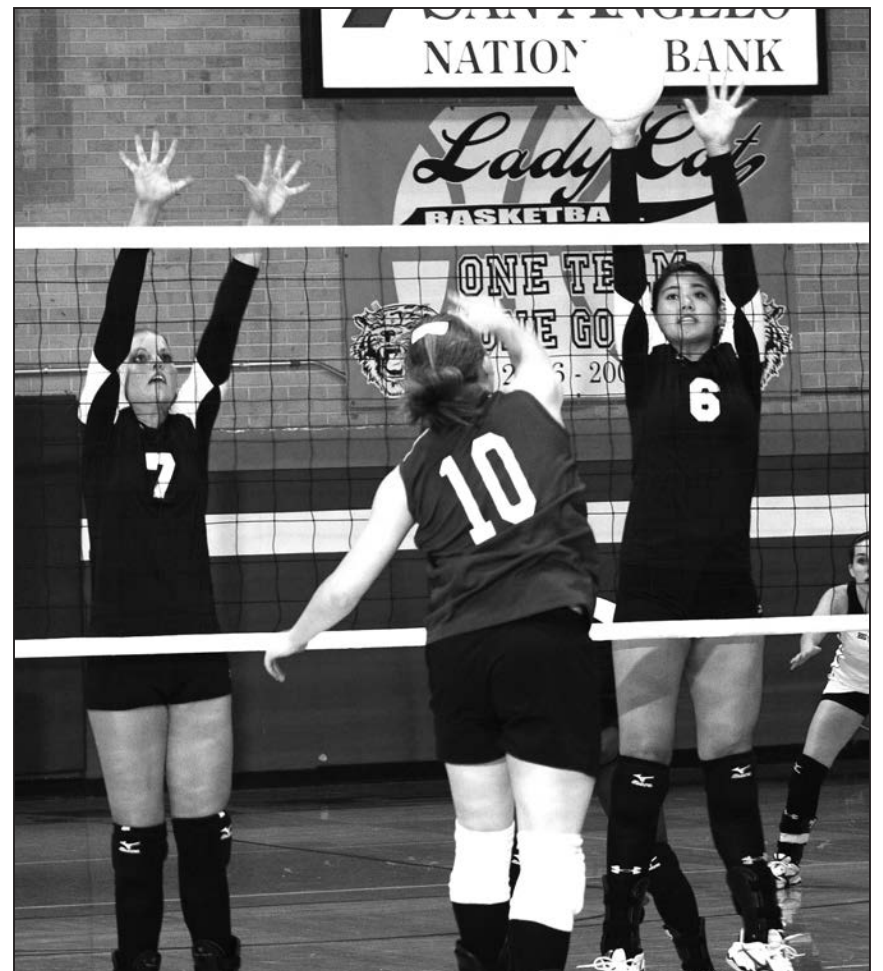
**Big Spring Steers' Zamir Linton hurdles a Lubbock High defender in a football scrimmage Friday at Memorial Stadium. The Steers dominated Lubbock, putting the ball in the end zone three times and holding Lubbock to no scores.**

scores. Had a score been kept, Big Spring would've easily won, 19-0.

"There was a lot to like about our performance in this scrimmage," said Big Spring Head Coach Phillip Ritchey, "especially on defense. Defensively,

we were 10 times better than what we were last week against Monahans. We did a nice job of running to the ball and putting our hats on the carrier.

See **STEERS**, Page 4B



HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

**Big Spring's Andrea Claxton (right) and Cerbi Ritchey (left) attempt to block a spike by a Midland Classical player in volleyball action from Friday at the Nita Vannoy Tournament in San Angelo. The Lady Steers went 1-2 during the tourney's first day, defeating Midland Classical, 25-20, 26-24, and falling to San Angelo Central, 25-3, 25-7, and Brownwood, 25-23, 25-22. Full results of the Lady Steers' tournament efforts will be available in Monday's edition of the Herald.**

## No worries

### Cowboys silence critics with solid first-team play

By STEPHEN HAWKINS  
AP Sports Writer

IRVING — Take away a couple of bad throws by Tony Romo, and the Dallas Cowboys finally resembled the team that everybody expects to see this season.

Including a relieved coach Wade Phillips.

"I feel good about where we are," Phillips said. "It was one of those games that you needed to turn it on. I think everybody felt that, even the novices that don't know as much as coaches do. ... And I think we did."

Romo made up for over-throwing Terrell Owens on a certain touchdown and later getting intercepted in the end zone, completing 15 of 19 passes for 166 yards and a TD in the Cowboys' 23-22 victory over the Houston Texans on Friday night.

The Cowboys, considered Super Bowl contenders by many, had lost their first two preseason games. Romo and Co. were ineffective in two mistake-filled and penalty-plagued drives last week against Denver, after scoring on

their only possession against San Diego.

Things went so good against Houston that Romo and T.O., who had four catches for 43 yards, didn't play after halftime, when the Cowboys already had 266 total yards.

"I thought we were efficient. It was nice to play more than a series or two," Romo said. "It's exciting to come out in the first half and move the ball like we did."

Phillips had planned to play the starters deep into the third quarter, partly so the offense could get its timing down in the passing game.

Texans backup quarterback Sage Rosenfels ran 8 yards for a touchdown with 2:05 left. Instead of a tying extra point, the Texans went for a 2-point conversion. But Jacoby Jones couldn't handle the pass in the end zone.

Matt Schaub and the Texans' starters played into the opening minute of the fourth quarter, when Kris Brown kicked his

See **COWBOYS**, Page 3B



AP photo/Tony Gutierrez

**Dallas Cowboys tight end Jason Witten (82) and wide receiver Patrick Crayton (84) celebrate a first quarter touchdown by Crayton against the Houston Texans in an NFL preseason football game, Friday in Irving.**

## Good finish

### Americans sweep Olympic mile relays

By EDDIE PELLIS  
AP National Writer

BEIJING — Sanya Richards needed a furious comeback. Jeremy Wariner could have walked to the finish.

The results were the same, though. No dropped batons.

And gold medals. Finally.

In a pair of races that brought some redemption after a disappointing Olympics for the U.S. track and field team, Wariner, Richards and Allyson Felix led a sweep of the 1,600-meter relays Saturday, an event that might as well have been designed to bolster the country's gold-medal count.

Richards anchored her team to a come-from-behind victory in 3 minutes, 18.54 seconds, the world's fastest time since 1993. It was the fourth straight Olympic win in the event for the United States.

A few minutes later, Wariner crossed the line 12 strides ahead of Christopher Brown of the Bahamas, finishing in 2:55.39 to break the Olympic record by 0.35 second.

"To end it with an Olympic record after everything those guys have been through, that shows you they care about representing America," U.S. men's coach Bubba Thornton said. "They wanted to end it with a good dose of good ol' American apple pie."

The women's race was hardly a breeze — unless you count that huge sigh of relief that came from the U.S. foursome.

In the final leg, Richards trailed Russia's Anastasia Kapachinskaya for more than 300 meters, with no signs of closing the gap. But down the stretch, Richards finally took over — something she couldn't do in her bronze-medal performance in the 400-meter race on Tuesday — for a 0.28-second victory.

When she crossed the line, she threw out her right fist — baton tightly clenched inside of it — knowing a gold medal would soon be hung around her neck. The team huddled and cried. Tears of joy this time instead of disappointment.

See **TRACK**, Page 2B

## Olympic medal count

(through Saturday)

Country	G	S	B	Tot
United States	33	37	36	106
China	49	19	28	96
Russia	21	21	27	68
Britain	19	13	15	47
Australia	14	14	17	45
Germany	16	10	15	41
France	6	15	17	38
South Korea	13	10	8	31
Italy	7	10	10	27
Ukraine	7	5	15	27



AP photo/Eric Gay

**USA guard LeBron James, left, and forward Carmelo Anthony share a moment on the bench during the fourth quarter of a men's quarterfinal basketball game against Australia at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing Wednesday.**

## Redeem Team prepares goodbyes

By BRIAN MAHONEY  
AP Basketball Writer

BEIJING — LeBron James finished his free throw contest with Chris Paul, then hustled over to the media surrounding Kobe Bryant.

Two more questions for Mr. Bryant, James told reporters. It was time to practice. For the last time.

More than three years after coming together in Las Vegas as the inaugural U.S. national team program, James and teammates worked out for the final time Saturday. Looming beneath the anticipation of Sunday's gold-medal game

against Spain was a sense that something special was coming to an end.

"I said a couple of days ago, we all want to get the gold medal. We want to get to this game. We want to celebrate; we want all the good things that come with it," Dwyane Wade said. "But at the end of the day, knowing that we have to split up, and a lot of guys are not going to play together for a while, if ever again, it's kind of a little bittersweet."

Some players — guesses

See **GOODBYE**, Page 2B



# Grand Old Lady Again Takes Center Stage



Herald Photo/Thomas Jenkins  
Brent Ryan speaks to the crown Thursday during the ground breaking ceremony of the Settles Hotel restoration project.

A much deserved and needed restoration project for one of Big Spring's well-known landmarks began Thursday with a ground breaking ceremony.

Built in 1930, the hotel hosted a number of distinguished travelers during its heyday including U.S. President Herbert Hoover and Elvis Presley.

Falling into disrepair for a number of years, many people in the city have actively attempted to

bring the old lady who adorns the Big Spring skyline back to her youthful glory.

Work for the two-year, \$20 million renovation project starts Monday and is headed by developer G. Brint Ryan, a native of Big Spring. The project is expected to last from 14 to 18 months.

### \*Settles Hotel Restoration Facts

- The ballroom and lobby of The Settles Hotel will be restored following the original architectural plans from the 1930s.
- The company is interested in recovering original building materials as well as significant items marked with the original Settles Hotel emblem.
- The Heritage Museum has offered to return the chandelier that once hung in the lobby.
- Once reopened, the hotel will offer guests a full service restaurant, a convention center, and fitness complex, as well as all modern amenities.
- SDHC's plans under consideration include space on the first and second floors for luxury retailers and service firms.
- Once fully restored, the owners hope to nominate the hotel for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

\*Information provided by the Settles Hotel Development Company, LLC press packet

Cover design by Lyndel Moody



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## Obituaries

## Stony Casselman

Stony Mervin Casselman, 46, of Snyder, formerly of Big Spring, died Friday, Aug. 22, 2008, in a Snyder hospital. No funeral services are planned. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

He was born Feb. 16, 1962 in Big Spring and had worked in the oilfield.

He is survived by his mother and step-father, Shirley and Douglas Nichols, of Big Spring; two brothers, Scotty Casselman of Dalhart, and Brant Nichols of Claremore, Okla.; grandmother Nell Coots, of Big Spring; two aunts and an uncle, Judy and Joe Coots, of Midland, and Sue Casselman; a nephew; and many lifelong friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Sidney Murl Casselman; and his grandfather, J.W. Coots.

Local arrangements are under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home of Snyder.

## Perry Lou Butler



Perry Lou Phillips Butler, 89, of Georgetown, formerly of Big Spring, died Monday, Aug. 7, 2008, at Park Place Nursing Home in Georgetown.

She was born in Pear Valley. She married Ted Phillips and lived in Big Spring for most of her life.

She is survived by seven children, Doyle Phillips of Guanajuato, Mexico, Wesley Phillips and wife Jan of Fort Worth, Tom Phillips and wife Pam of Midland, Lila McAdams and husband

Tim of Georgetown, Nathan Phillips and wife Vicki of Austin, Debbie Burgin and husband Jim of Arlington, and David Phillips of San Francisco, Calif.; 13 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Ted Phillips; a daughter, Mary Luan Phillips; her father and mother, Hal and Alta Maria Reddoch; sister, Lenora Elizabeth Abernathy; and her brother, Hal Weldon Reddoch.

Services were officiated by the Rev. Dr. Jim Burgin and held at All Faiths Funeral Home and Chappell in Austin. Burial was held at Our Lady of the Rosary Cemetery in Georgetown.

## Irene Cramer

Irene Cramer, 72, of Big Spring, died on Friday, August 22, 2008 in a Ft. Worth hospital. Funeral services are pending under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory, Big Spring.

## Carolyn Owens

Carolyn Owens, 65, of Big Spring, died on Saturday, August 23, 2008 at her residence. Funeral services are pending under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory, Big Spring, Texas.

• Big Spring High School yearbooks will be available beginning Monday for last year's seniors. They may be picked up in Room 120. Yearbooks will be available for several weeks.

• Yearbooks have arrived at Forsan High School. Pick up your copy at the front office.

• The Howard County Pachyderm Club will have its monthly meeting at noon Thursday at the Big Spring Country Club off Driver Road. Lunch is dutch treat. All concerned Republicans are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 267-7287.

• Big Spring High School Class of 1998 10-year reunion will be held Sept. 12-13 during the BSHS homecoming weekend. To get details and register, visit [www.free-webs.com/bshs1998](http://www.free-webs.com/bshs1998) or contact Traci Bellinghausen at (817) 308-9845 or Jacob Cordova at (432) 935-0533.

• BSHS Class of 1978 30-year reunion is Sept. 12-13. Contact Kent Rice at 870-918-5875 or [kent\\_rice@murphyoilcorp.com](mailto:kent_rice@murphyoilcorp.com)

• Big Spring High School Class of 1988's 20-year reunion will be held the weekend of Sept. 12-13. Contact Cheri Wyrick Reibe at 432-268-9587 or [reibe1@suddenlink.net](mailto:reibe1@suddenlink.net) for information. The class still needs classmates' contact information so please contact Cheri to pass those along.

• HATS (Hope After The Sadness), an American Cancer Society Resource Room is now available at First Methodist Church. This center provides information and valuable resources for those affected by cancer. This HATS ministry, established in memory of the late Rev. Dr. Shane Brue, maintains a room with free hats, wigs and head coverings available for check-out by those dealing with hair loss due to cancer treatment. Other services and resources are also available. Contact

## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- STEVEN ANDREW ISAAC, 24, 2513 Dow, was arrested on a charge of criminal trespass.
- JUAN MANUEL BORUNDA, 18, New Mexico, was arrested on charge of burglary of a habitation, burglary of a vehicle, criminal mischief and graffiti.
- ANTHONY MARTINEZ JR., 18, New Mexico, was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana, unauthorized use of a vehicle, theft, prohibited weapon, burglary of a habitation, burglary of a vehicle, criminal mischief and graffiti.
- DOROTHY THOMAS, 50, 3623 Connally, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.
- BETTY FRIDAY, 48, 3623 Connally, was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance and two local warrants.

## Support Groups

## SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

## MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

## TUESDAY

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, 1209 Wright St.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

## THURSDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

## Take Note

the "Hat Lady," Marci Lykken at 267-2915.

• A medical expense account has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union for Kody Jackson, who was recently diagnosed with lymphoma in his right knee. He has no medical insurance and must start chemotherapy and radiation treatment as soon as possible. Kody is the son of Susan and Johnny Jackson. For more information, contact Cosden FCU at 264-2600.

• Mobile Meals needs volunteers to deliver meals Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. The organization delivers approximately 70 meals each day and needs drivers to donate just one hour per week. Mobile Meals also needs back-up volunteers to fill in when regular drivers can't make it. For more information, contact Macaria Cantu at 263-4016.

• Road to Recovery, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

• The purpose of life is a life of purpose. Join Nurses' Hospice of Big Spring volunteer program and become an "Angel" or "Teen Angel" in someone's life. Come by 1008 E. Third St. or call (432) 517-4073 to register.

• Bring joy and kindness to others by becoming a Compass Hospice volunteer. Help those at the end of life's journey. Make a difference in someone's life. Call 263-5999 to begin your journey.

• All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still

## Your Local Weather

Sun 8/24	Mon 8/25	Tue 8/26	Wed 8/27	Thu 8/28
<b>87/66</b>	<b>89/65</b>	<b>89/66</b>	<b>90/65</b>	<b>78/60</b>
Sunny along with a few clouds. High 87F.	Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the mid 60s.	Slight chance of a thunderstorm.

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## Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

## MONDAY

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

• The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 264-6116.

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

## TUESDAY

• Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

• The Powwow Committee of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church annex, 809 Scurry, or the fellowship hall at 810 Scurry. Call Robert Downing at 263-3255 for information.

## WEDNESDAY

• Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room.

## Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-12-15-25-29.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: \$33,034.

Winning tickets sold in: Killeen.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-2-9-4. Sum It Up: 19.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 3-6-2. Sum It Up: 11.

taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O. 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

• Christ Community Fellowship is collecting infant car seats and carriers. These are given to new mothers who cannot afford them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

• New Life Ministries Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

• The Pet Patrol helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

• Legal Aid of Northwest Texas is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

## BIG SPRING HERALD

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TRACK

Continued from Page 1B

“You get down on yourself,” Richards said. “So we used that as motivation. We kept our heads high and we ran great.”

There was no such drama in the men’s race, which featured two gold-medal winners to start and the defending world and Olympic champion to finish. LaShawn Merritt, who upset Wariner in the 400 gave the U.S. the lead; Angelo Taylor, the 400 hurdles winner, widened it; David Neville held it; and Wariner romped to the finish.

It was the 18th time in 22 relays they’ve entered that the American men have won the long relay at the Olympics. Their gold medal in 2000 was recently stripped because of a doping case.

Despite the late success, the

Americans are likely to finish with seven gold medals, one fewer than the last two Olympics but one more than their worst showings in 1972 and 1976, when there were fewer events.

The golds gave the Americans 23 overall medals, so with only Sunday’s marathon left, they’re virtually assured of falling short of the 25 they won in Athens four years ago.

The men could wind up with only four gold medals, their worst showing ever at an Olympics.

A big part of the slide had to do with Jamaica, which won five of the six sprint races and set world records in three (Usain Bolt’s 100 and 200 and the men’s 400 relay).

Wariner, Felix and Richards were among a big handful of Americans who came to Beijing with gold-medal hopes but were still unfulfilled going into the final weekend.

Richards’ hamstring started tightening up in the last 80 meters of the 400 on Tuesday and she walked away with a bronze, crying into her cell phone when it was over.

Two days later, Felix finished behind Jamaica’s Veronica Campbell-Brown, who ran the best time in a decade in the 200, and also was weeping after the race.

Felix and Richards had also hoped to line up for the Americans in the final of the 400-meter relay — Richards would have been a long shot to make that team — but never got the chance because the team dropped the baton in qualifying, blowing a sure shot at a medal and maybe even a gold.

The American men dropped the stick, too, blowing yet another medal opportunity in an event where they usually dominate.

Wariner was the defending world and Olympic champion, a

favorite to win the 400, but labored mightily down the stretch, losing badly to Merritt. Merritt, Wariner and Neville still swept the event, though — a pretty good sign that there would be gold in their relay future to help set aside some of the disappointments.

World championships, of course, are not the Olympics — something that became painfully obvious as this meet wore on.

Reese Hoffa (shot put), Brad Walker (pole vault), Tyson Gay (100 and 200) and Bernard Lagat (1,500 and 5,000) all came in as defending world champions. None of them won a thing in Beijing.

Lagat closed his Olympics by finishing ninth in the 5,000 meters, meaning he’ll go home empty-handed after failing to even make the finals in the 1,500.

Born in Kenya and competing for the United States for the first

time at the Olympics, Lagat never found his stride — or the late kick that made him one of the world’s best for nearly a decade. Kenenisa Bekele of Ethiopia won to complete an Olympic 5K-10K sweep.

Lagat told reporters he was dealing with an injury to his left Achilles’ heel.

“It was a tough night,” he said. “The boys ran a good race. They ran a tough race. Bekele took charge. He seems like he was having an easy day today.”

In the women’s 1,500, Nancy Jebet Langat of Kenya won the final in 4 minutes, 0.23 seconds to give her country its fourth gold of the track meet. Her victory came moments after Wilfred Bungei of Kenya won the men’s 800 meters.

In the javelin throw, Andreas Thorkildsen of Norway defended his Olympic title with a throw of 297 feet, 1 inch (90.57 meters), an Olympic record.

GOODBYE

Continued from Page 1B

among the team range anywhere from five to eight — could be back in 2012. Even so, it can’t be as good as the first time.

Wade, James and Carmelo Anthony, who came into the NBA togeth-

er five years ago, have been teammates longer than they have been with many players on their NBA clubs. Mike Krzyzewski has coached them longer than he has some players at Duke these days.

“We have great friendships,” Krzyzewski said. “There’s no question that

we’re all very close friends, and from a coaching perspective, I’ve learned a lot from coaching these guys and the guys I’m coaching” with.

The story is familiar by now. With the Americans desperate to halt a slide that had dropped them from their loft atop world basketball, Jerry Colangelo was appointed managing director of USA Basketball in 2005. Feeling the United States could no longer expect to win just by bringing a group of players together shortly before the start of a competition, he created the national team, compiling a roster that now includes more than 30 players and requiring them to make a three-year commitment.

James, Wade and Anthony all quickly signed on, convinced that this experience would be better than the misery they endured while playing as

NBA rookies in the 2004 Olympics. It wasn’t always great — the bronze medals they won in the 2006 world championship were no better than the ones they left Athens with — but they were poised to end things on a memorable note Sunday.

“I’ve been with D-Wade and LeBron for four years. We went through ups and downs throughout our four years with Team USA and to win this gold medal would just make them moments that we went through that much better,” Anthony said. “We were almost forced to be with each other ... coming in the same year into the draft in ‘03. Me and LeBron, we gained a friendship in high school and we just stuck it out.”

James, Anthony and Dwight Howard are the only ones who have played in all the competitions over the last three sum-

mers, but many more have been a part of the program even when they weren’t playing. Wade, Chris Paul and Chris Bosh all trekked to Las Vegas last summer to be around the team even though they were out with injuries, just as Bryant did in ‘06.

With the same core of players around every year, Krzyzewski said this team is more prepared than recent U.S. ones, with more time for game planning and strategy details that was previously wasted on getting the players familiar with each other.

And unlike the failed chemistry experiment in Athens, where the players were thrown together so late that they couldn’t go much beyond learning each other’s names, this team has become close now. And seeing the results this time will surely convince other players to make a similar commit-

ment in the future.

Colangelo said he’d heard perhaps half the team would be back. Howard, Paul, Bosh and Carlos Boozer all said they would be in London four years from now if asked, Anthony said he’d strongly consider it, and his long-time running mates James and Wade won’t rule it out.

So the national team program has caught the Americans up in international basketball — and maybe even put them ahead of the game for next time.

“The whole three years have been great,” Wade said. “So I’m sure guys that were questioning if they would ever play again will probably play in ‘12. We’ve got probably eight guys on this team that will only be 26, 27 by then at the most, so the core of this team will be back for sure.”

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## The Winning Way: Bitterness - the silent evil

Forgiveness is not an option. It's a choice we all must make when we have been wronged by another person.

How often have we heard someone say, "I'll forgive, but I can't forget?" But if you don't put the offense out of your mind, the forgiveness will have no effect on you. And that bitterness only hurts us.

Often times, we try to improve our lives by dealing with external aspects, but we never gain ground until we get to the root. As long as a root of bitterness is inside, we not only do ourselves a great injustice, but we hinder God's blessings from getting to us.

Proverbs 4:23 tells us to "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." As long as bitterness is inside, it will contaminate what comes out of us.

Medical science has proven that many diseases are directly related to deep-root-

ed seeds of unforgiveness buried in the very fiber of our souls. They also reported that once the bitterness was let go, people got well and were able to move on with their lives. But until then, they never realized the scope of damage the anger and unforgiveness was doing to them.

Disappointments come to all of us. The key is to not hold on to them. Don't allow your setbacks to become your identity. Where you are now need not be where you remain. Many times we become our own worst enemy by refusing to forgive and forget. In essence, we have become the jailer holding the key, but refuse to unlock the door to our own freedom.

Whether we realize it or not, when we allow ourselves to become contaminated with bitterness and unforgiveness, in a sense, we are contaminating the body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 says, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."

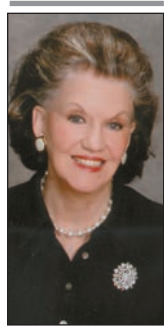
God says our temple is

holy. He is talking about this flesh and blood body we live in. Considering this, shouldn't we be better innkeepers of what we allow inside our temples? We subject God and others as well, to every activity that we allow. Absolutely nothing, neither good nor contaminating, can enter our temple without our permission.

If we could just grasp for a moment the miracle these bodies we live in really are, I believe we would be in awe. We would think twice before we held on to anger and unforgiveness, ate junk food, over-exposed ourselves to the sun or tanning booths, and spoke negative words. Proverbs 23:7 says, "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he."

Most do not realize how important our thoughts and words are. Thoughts become actions that come from the depths of our being. How often we contaminate these awesome temples with bad habits. And all along, we are totally unaware of the damage we do to the body that houses our spirit and our vital organs as well.

See, **STOCKS**, Page 2C



JERRIE STOCKS

## Anniversary

### Schaffners celebrated Golden Anniversary Aug. 16

Bill and Corene Schaffner celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, Aug. 16, 2008, at Baptist Temple Church Fellowship hall hosted by their children.

Bill and Corene graduated from Cross Plains High School. They were married Aug. 16, 1958, at Temple Baptist Church in Abilene. They have lived in Abilene, Midland, Amarillo and Big Spring during their married life.

Bill retired after 32 years as president manager of Big Spring Educational Employees Federal Credit Union. Corene retired as a secretary from Big Spring High School after 25 years.

They have three children, Shane and wife, Cynthia of Big Spring; Kyle and wife, Kim of Fort Worth; Tracey Nichols and husband, Brent of Burnet; and eight grandchildren.

The couple are members of Baptist Temple Church where Bill serves as organist and a deacon. He is also secretary-treasurer of the Kiwanis Club and serves as treasurer and finance chairman of the Big Spring Baptist Association. Corene spends much of her retirement time making quilts for her grandchildren and is a member of the Retired Teachers Association.



Bill and Corene Schaffner 2008



Bill and Corene Schaffner 1958

## Military News



Air Force Airman Cody R. Chandler has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in

human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Chandler earned distinction as an honor graduate.

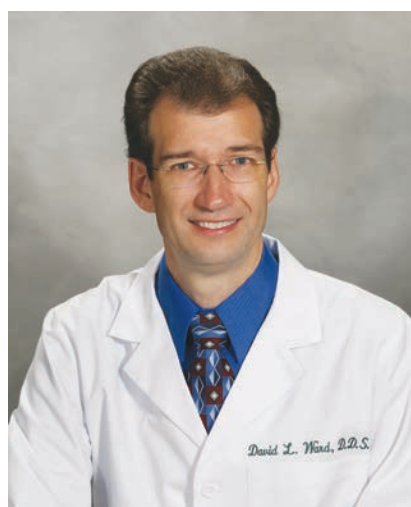
He is the son of Craig and Lesley Chandler of Baylor Blvd., Big Spring.

In 2007, the airman graduated from Big Spring High School.

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Casey Bobbitt & Zac Marshall

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**TAX**

Continued from Page 1A

Forsan, but would not effect vendors located in the city of Big Spring, which falls under the umbrella of the Big Spring Economic Development Corporation. According to Barr, commissioners plan to collect the maximum amount allowed by law, or one-half of 1 percent.

Barr said the funds would be used for specific departments, as required by state law surrounding the district tax.

"The funds would be used for the sheriff's office, the road and bridge department and the volunteer fire department," said Barr. "It would allow us to put more deputies on the street when necessary, work on the roads and give Volunteer Fire Chief Tommy Sullivan more resources to work with. Of course, the money would go into the general fund. How-

ever, state law is very clear what it can be used for, and that's something we're paying very close attention to."

Barr said one of the possible stumbling blocks for the implementation of the sales tax — opposition from cities in Howard County other than Big Spring — has already been cleared.

"Both city councils for Coahoma and Forsan have passed measures supporting the sales tax by unanimous votes," said Barr. "That was one of the things that could have complicated this, but I feel like they are behind us on this."

The idea of tacking on the additional sales tax was first brought to the commissioners court in July by Commissioner Gary Simer.

According to information on Window on State Government — a Web site provided by Texas Comptroller Susan Combs — the district must use the sales tax revenues to perform the following functions of the district:

- the construction, maintenance, or improvement of roads or high-

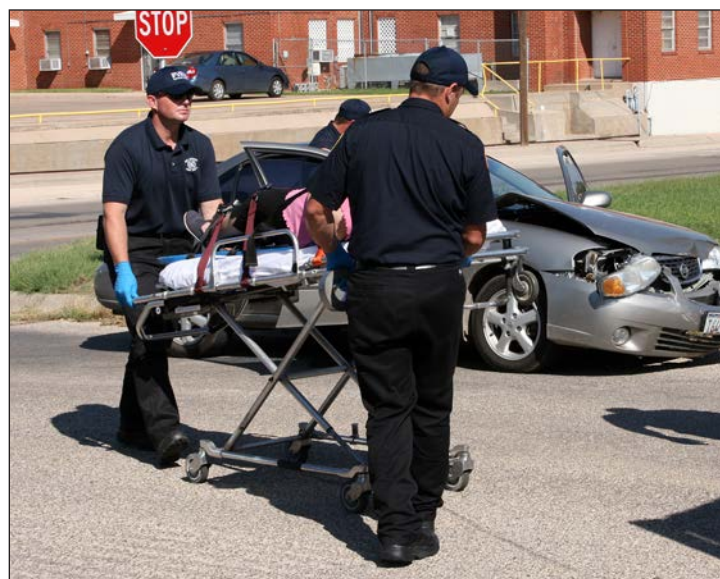
- ways;
- the provision of law enforcement and detention services;
- the maintenance or improvement of libraries, museums, parks, or other recreational facilities;
- the provision of services that benefit the public welfare; or
- the promotion of economic development and tourism.

If commissioners plan to present the matter to voters during the November election, the court will have to approve sending it to the polls by Tuesday.

Commissioners are also expected to consider a number of routine items during Monday's meeting, including insurance proposals and bids and a budget work session.

The meeting will get under way at 10 a.m. Monday in the commissioners courtroom, located on the second floor of the County Courthouse.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com



HERALD Photo/Thomas Jenkins

**Emergency response personnel prepare to transport this woman to the emergency room at Scenic Mountain Medical Center after a two-vehicle accident Friday morning near the intersection of Goliad and 12<sup>th</sup> Street. According to law enforcement officials, a Nissan Sedan — which was traveling east on 12<sup>th</sup> Street — hit a white Ford SUV traveling north on Goliad. The driver of the Ford was cited for failure to yield the right-of-way.**

**SYMPHONY**

Continued from Page 1A

orchestras and artists.

"This is a great opportunity for those who have

never had a chance to visit with the maestro," said Dr. Graumann.

The cost of the evening's meal will be \$12.95 plus drinks, payable directly to the Big Spring Coun-

try Club. The public is cordially invited. Please RSVP to the Symphony Office at (432) 264-7223. Season tickets will be offered for sale at the event.

Season tickets are also

available at First Bank of West Texas, Fayes Flowers, Blum's Jewelers, the Heritage Museum, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and the Big Spring Herald. Individual

ticket prices are \$15 adults, \$10 senior and \$5 student. Season tickets include four tickets that may be used at any concert, and show substantial discounts over individual ticket prices.

Season ticket prices are \$50 adult, \$30 senior, and \$15 student.

For further information or to request a season brochure, contact the Symphony Office.

**ALON**

Continued from Page 1A

sequently upheld the \$320 million appraisal, prompting Alon to file the lawsuit.

The company has agreed to pay taxes on an \$80 million valuation until the matter is resolved. That still leaves Howard County with a potential shortfall of more than \$700,000 and Big Spring Independent School District picking up a

\$264,000 loss.

According to testimony entered by an expert witness Tuesday morning, the 2007 appraised valuation of the Big Spring Refinery should be approximately \$173 million — slightly more than half the contested appraisal.

According to expert witness Kathy Spletter, a representative of Stencil and Company, the value of the Big Spring Refinery is \$460 million after physical depreciation is applied. However,

technological obsolescence — formed mainly around the lack of technological upgrades to the refinery — drops that value by an estimated \$287 million.

According to Spletter's testimony, the \$460 million value — based on cost evaluations — is decreased by \$85 million in energy consumption; \$131 million for the reforming unit; \$31 million for the FCC (fluidized catalytic cracking) yield penalty; and \$46 million for cost-to-cure spending.

Spletter said an additional \$3 million was tacked on to the total to provide for land and personal property taxes, which is undisputed in the matter.

According to information presented by attorney Mark Hutcheson, lead counsel for Alon, the FCC unit at the Big Spring Refinery was 60 years old at the time of the 2007 valuation, and although it's been updated to some extent, yields remain below industry standards, coming in at approximately 74 percent

compared to other refineries, which produce at 78 to 80 percent.

Spletter also explained the formulas used to determine the refinery's discount rate, yet another tool used by appraisers to determine the value of the facility.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

**BIDEN**

Continued from Page 1A

Republican presidential candidate John McCain called Biden, his long-time Senate colleague and friend, to congratulate him, McCain campaign spokesman Tucker Bounds said. "It was a brief conversation. They've known each other for years," he said.

McCain's campaign wasted no time to try to turn the choice against Obama, producing an ad featuring Biden's previous praise for McCain and comments critical of Obama from an ABC News interview last year. Biden had said he stood by an earlier statement that Obama wasn't yet ready to be president and "the presidency is not something that lends itself to on-the-job training."

"Biden has denounced Barack Obama's poor foreign policy judgment and has strongly argued in his own words what Americans are quickly realizing — that Barack Obama is not ready to be president," McCain campaign spokesman Ben Porritt said in a statement.

Some of Biden's Republican colleagues in the Senate praised the Delaware Democrat, including Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana. Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., called Biden "the right partner for Barack Obama" and the decision "good news for Obama and

America."

The Obama-Biden rally was set for old state Capitol where the Illinois senator kicked off his presidential campaign nearly 20 months ago. They were to be joined by Obama's wife, Michelle; Biden's wife, Jill; and the Bidens' three adult children, Hunter, Beau and Ashley.

A crowd of well-wishers waved to Biden and applauded as he left his home in Wilmington, Del., for a flight to Illinois just before noon EDT.

The Obama campaign sent a text message announcing his choice to supporters' phones and e-mail addresses about 3 a.m. EDT, the latest innovation by a tech-savvy operation that has deftly used the Web as a fundraising and organizing tool. The rollout was diminished somewhat when word of Obama's choice began leaking out to news media shortly before 1 a.m. EDT.

Obama and his famously disciplined team managed to keep Biden's selection a secret for several days, leading to a frenzy of speculation that mounted throughout the week. Two of those thought to be on the short list — Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine and Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh — indicated Friday night that Obama had chosen some-

one else.

Biden, 65, is a creature of Washington, a 35-year Senate veteran and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee whose national security credentials will help patch a hole in Obama's relatively thin resume. Polls show that McCain holds a wide lead over Obama on the question of who is better prepared to be commander in chief.

Biden's straightforward style and working-class Catholic roots in Scranton, Pa., were also expected to help Obama appeal to middle- and working-class voters in battleground states like Ohio and Pennsylvania who favored Clinton in the primaries.

Officials close to Clinton said she was never formally vetted for the No. 2 position. The former first lady, who finished narrowly behind Obama in the primaries, will address the convention Tuesday night and her name will be placed in nomination even though she has endorsed Obama and has urged her delegates to support him.

"Sen. Biden will be a purposeful and dynamic vice president who will help Sen. Obama both win the presidency and govern this great country," Clinton said in the statement.

Biden has established a

generally liberal voting record and a reputation as a long-winded orator. As a member of the Judiciary Committee — he was its chairman from 1987 to 1995 — he has played a key role in considering anti-crime legislation, Supreme Court nominees and constitutional issues.

While the war in Iraq has been supplanted as the campaign's top issues by the economy in recent months, the recent Russian invasion of Georgia has returned foreign policy to the forefront.

Biden was elected to the Senate at the age of 29 in

1972, but personal tragedy struck before he could take office. His wife and their 13-month-old daughter, Naomi, were killed when a tractor-trailer broad-sided her station wagon. Biden took his oath of office for his first term at the hospital bedside of one of his sons.

Biden dropped out of the 2008 race for the Democratic presidential nomination after a poor finish in the Iowa caucuses, but not before he talked dismissively of joining someone else's ticket.

He had stumbled on his first day in the race, apolo-

gizing for having described Obama as "clean." Months later, Obama spoke up on Biden's defense, praising him during a campaign debate for having worked for racial equality.

It was Biden's second try for the White House.

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Michael "Mike" Robert Creel, 18, died Wednesday. Funeral Services were at 3:00 PM Saturday at Trinity Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

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# U.S. women claim 4th straight gold



AP photo/Eric Gay

**USA's Cappie Poindexter jumps on teammate Diana Taurasi as they celebrate their win over Australia in the women's gold medal basketball game at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, Saturday.**

By **DOUG FEINBERG**

AP Sports Writer

BEIJING — Lisa Leslie and the U.S. women's basketball team were once again too good for Australia at the Olympics.

Leslie capped off her illustrious Olympic career with a fourth straight gold medal scoring 14 points in a 92-65 victory against Australia on Saturday night. She joined former teammate Teresa Edwards as the only basketball players ever to win four gold medals.

"I visualized having a fourth gold medal," Leslie told NBC. "I've been able to represent my country since I was 24 years old. It's been just awesome."

Russia took the bronze medal beating host China 94-81 as Becky Hammon scored 22 points.

The Aussies have now lost to the Americans in the gold medal game in the past three Olympics with all three defeats coming by double-digit margins.

Australia figured this was its best shot to beat the Americans as Penny Taylor and Erin Phillips missed the first half of

the WNBA season so that they could train for the Beijing Games. Lauren Jackson left the Seattle Storm two weeks before the Olympic break so she could join her teammates.

Even with their extra training and Taylor returning to the starting lineup after missing the semifinals with a sprained right ankle, the Australians just couldn't match the Americans' depth.

Kara Lawson led the U.S. with 15 points, Candace Parker added 14, and Sylvia Fowles added 13 as the American reserves outscored Australia's 59-11.

Trailing 13-10 late in the first quarter, U.S. coach Anne Donovan inserted her second unit, led by Lawson. Once again, the bench delivered just as it had throughout the Olympics with Lawson scoring the first six points of a 12-2 run to close the quarter as the U.S. took a 22-15 lead.

Then Parker, who has had a relatively quiet Olympics averaging only 8.7 points, took over. She scored eight of the Americans' 10 points to open the second quarter, including two

three-point plays. On her second, the 6-foot-4 forward took the ball from the top of the key, went through her legs and drove to the basket for a layup — a play that thrilled the men's basketball players watching from the stands and even had LeBron James rising to his feet to stand on his seat.

Lawson closed the half with five straight points to give the U.S. a 47-30 lead, capping the Americans' most impressive half in Beijing. The U.S. shot 63 percent (19-for-30) and held the Aussies to just 22 percent (8-for-37).

Jackson tried her best to rally Australia in the third quarter, but the Aussie could get no closer than 12 in the second half. Jackson finished with a game-high 20 points to lead Australia.

Leslie ended her Olympic career by fouling out with 6:33 left in the game. She left to a loud ovation from the crowd and hugged her teammates.

The U.S. has won 33 straight games in the Olympics with the last loss coming to the Unified team in the semifinals of the 1992 Barcelona Games.

## COWBOYS

Continued from Page 1B

third field goal, a 29-yarder that got the Texans within 20-16. Schaub was 15-of-27 passing for 166 yards with an 11-yard TD to Kevin Walter and proclaimed himself ready for the regular season.

Schaub bounced back after hitting only 2 of 8 passes in the first quarter, when the Texans had only 10 total yards against Dallas' 3-4 defense — similar to what they will face in their first two regular-season games against Pittsburgh and Baltimore.

"They provided a lot of different looks we don't see on a day-to-day basis," said Schaub, who likely won't play much in the preseason finale. "There are a lot of things to learn from this film."

Walter's TD catch midway through the second quarter tied the game at 10, capping an 80-yard drive set up when Romo rolled to his right and slung a sidarm pass that linebacker Zac Diles picked off in the end zone.

In the first quarter, Nick Folk kicked a 48-yard field goal after Romo overthrew a streaking Owens, who was behind the defender and inside the 10 when the ball fell several yards into the end zone.

Dallas played its first game at Texas Stadium since losing to the New York Giants in the NFC divisional playoffs in January. That was a bitter ending to a 13-win season in which the Cowboys had an NFL-record 13 Pro Bowl players, and all of them are back.

Texans receiver Harry Williams was taken off the field on a stretcher with a neck injury after being hit in the head during a collision with teammate Nick Ferguson. They were covering on the ensuing kickoff after Brown kicked a 44-yard field goal to cap the first drive of the game.

Williams' head was immobilized when he was strapped to the stretcher and taken by ambulance to a hospital. After the game, Texans coach Gary Kubiak said initial reports were good.

"He's got movement throughout his body," Kubiak said. "All the feedback I'm getting is that Harry will be fine."

Williams remained hospitalized and was expected to have surgery this weekend to fuse two vertebrae.

Williams was hurt trying to tackle Isaiah Stanback, who had a 44-yard return to midfield. The Cowboys scored seven plays later when Romo threw a 6-yard TD to Patrick Crayton.

Dallas scored twice in the final two minutes of the first half.

Marion Barber, now the clear No. 1 running back with Julius Jones' departure in free agency, leaped into the end zone for a 1-yard score. After the Texans punted with 34 seconds left, Romo scrambled for 13 yards, threw 32 yards to Sam Hurd and completed two short passes before Folk's 41-yard field goal made it 20-10.

Stanback returned the second-half kickoff 32 yards, but was stripped from behind, the fumble recovered by Ferguson.

Stanback went to the locker room a few minutes later with a left shoulder injury.

Rookie running back Felix Jones, the Cowboys' top draft pick, fumbled inside the 10 on the Cowboys' first

possession of the second half after Brad Johnson replaced Romo.

The Texans drove 83 yards before Brown kicked a 29-yard field goal.

Still-suspended cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones made his first start for the Cowboys. He had one tackle, and gave up a 23-yard play to Walter, who reached over the shorter defender to make the catch. He also had an 18-yard punt return.

"Of course I was nervous," Jones said. "I hadn't had my number called in over a year. It all worked out."

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## Deleon-Gonzalez Jr.



*Mr. and Mrs.  
Gonzalez Jr.  
Married  
Aug. 8, 2008*

Antonio Gonzalez Jr., of Big Spring and Teresa Deleon, of Amarillo, were married on Friday Aug. 8, 2008.

He is the son of Antonio Sr. and Maria Esther Gonzalez of Big Spring. She is the daughter of Faustina Franco of Amarillo, and of Tony Deleon and his wife, Orveta Deleon of Big Spring.

# Engagements

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## Natalie Henson & Brian Watt Sept. 20, 2008

Natalie Nicole Henson and Brian Frederick Watt, both of Midland, intend to marry at 6 p.m. Sept. 20, 2008, at Dollye Neal Chapel in Midland.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Doug and Linda Randel of Big Spring and Billy Henson of San Angelo. She is the granddaughter of B.B. and June Henson of Big Spring.

The future groom is the son of Freddie and Tammy Watt of Midland. He is the grandson of Pete and Rose Mills of Midland.

Natalie is a 2008 graduate of Texas Tech University where she earned a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting and a master of science degree in accounting. She is employed at Pioneer Natural Resources.

Brian is a 2003 graduate of Midland College. He is employed at Grav Wireline.

## Henson-Watt



## Jeremy Little & Brittany Stinson to Marry Aug. 30

Brittany Rodriguez Stinson and Jeremy Little will be married Aug. 30, 2008, at Memorial Park Amphitheater, Arcadia, Wis.

She is the daughter of Blake Sr. and Cynthia Rodriguez Stinson of Winona. Charles Little of Minneiska, Minn., and the late Nancy Trotter.

Brittany is a graduate of Winona Senior High School and Viterbo University, Wis.

Jeremy is a graduate of Berlin High School, Berlin, Wis.

Stinson has family who live in Big Spring.

## Stinson-Little



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## STOCKS

Continued from Page 3C

Saint Augustine penned an awesome statement when he wrote, "Most go abroad to wonder at the height of mountains, at the huge waves of the seas, at the long courses of the rivers, at the vast compass of the ocean, at the circular motion of the stars: and they pass by themselves without wonder."

dering." God knew from the beginning the miracle he created in these bodies and how devastating bitterness and unforgiveness can be to them. Hebrews 12:15 says, "See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble."

Of all the things God made, mankind was His masterpiece. There is no one else in the world just like you. You are the apple of His eye, so doesn't it make sense to keep the contamination out of your life? By harboring bitterness and unforgiveness, and speaking words that contaminate His temple, you are harming the very body that God put you in charge of. You are the

innkeeper and the overseer; the key is in your hand.

Some say God made man because He was lonely, but I cannot see this awesome God as being lonely. I believe He made man in order to express His love, and to be His voice, His hands, and His feet in this world. Since we have such a loving Father, we should, as His children, be willing to keep our vessels clean in honor to Him.

"I am your creator. You were in my care even before you were born." Isaiah 44:2 (Contemporary English Version)

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# EDITORIAL

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

**Ron Midkiff**  
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**John A. Moseley**  
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**Bill McClellan**  
News Editor

## YOUR VIEWS

### Love your animals

TO THE EDITOR,

Wow! I saved a life today! Yes, it was only a Chihuahua female who was a recent mother but it was a life!

As I was going down Goliad today heading north, the car ahead of me slowed and stopped and this small dog ran into my lane. I stopped, called the dog and it ran up into the yard onto the porch of the vacant house.

I (and my cane) made my way up, knocked on the door to be sure it wasn't occupied and followed this dog over to the corner where it lay down. I took a dog leash with me and since I could not reach the collar, I made a loop out of the leash, looped it over her head and pulled her about 3 feet to me. I talked to her, petted her and picked her up.

She was panting heavily. I carried her to my car with no protests from her, took her to the police station and gave her to the ladies who are there to take payments when you adopt a dog or rent a cage. They were so sweet and when I left, this little mother was held in the arms of one of the ladies. They will find the owner, find a home or take it home with them.

This letter is not to tell you what I did but to tell you what to do. This dog had a collar but no name or tags, only a little bell. Please, pet owners, get your animals their shots and put their information on their collar and their tags, including city tags.

I have a beautiful cocker we rescued last year after our female blond cocker died of pancreatic cancer. The little girl got out one day and we didn't know

it until the nice manager of the auto supply across from HEB called the number that showed our dog had a chip in her.

When I picked her up, he said he would have kept her if she hadn't been chipped and collared with the necessary information. She was gone a very short time and had made at least 6 blocks.

Folks! Love your animals!

**PHYLLIS GRAUMANN**  
BIG SPRING

### Thanking my angels

TO THE EDITOR,

Some people don't believe in angels, while others think we only see them at Christmas. But I know they are wrong because I've met some real angels this summer and past year, too.

I know they were angels because of the kind deeds that they did. And I would like to thank all the angels who have helped me this summer.

They are Donna Smith and another unnamed angel who stopped to help me when, crossing Gregg Street my sock tore and I spilled my groceries in the road. While others drove on by, often honking at me, those two angels stopped and helped me pick up my groceries and then Donna gave me a ride home.

Dr. James Riley is the name of the angel who helped me when I hurt my back.

Dr. Kuprianowicz and his staff touched my heart with their kindness and understanding.

Jane Wyatt is the name of the angel who returned some special things to me that I had forgotten about.

See **LETTERS**, Page 6A

# 16-year-old not 'Defeated'

The aura of a special day added to the enchantment of a special place, beautiful Bryant Park in Manhattan. The weather was made to order, unseasonably cool, and a few thousand people — most of them visiting gawkers like me — adorned the grassy pallet of green.

Soon, theirs would be a chorus of screams that only teenagers can make when rock star idols, uh, well, rock!

Invigorated by a brisk four-block walk from the hotel, I wilted upon seeing this sea of youthful humanity, quiet — ever so quiet — as if countdown had begun for a space shot. I wondered if my arrival in the park increased the average age there by a couple of years.

I was there because it's where ABC's Good Morning America telecast was scheduled that Friday in June. Pad in hand, I was directed to a small seating area at stage left. I jotted a note about the youngsters' quiet anticipation of Maroon Five, the featured musical group that day.

The name sounds more like a basketball team to me, but no, this is name for well-known guitar-plunkin', drum-beatin', song-singin' guys about whom I was formerly clueless.

The kids weren't...

The hush in the park was magnified by an aerial display, the likes of which I'd never seen.

Every few seconds, foam shapes, four feet wide and a foot thick, floated skyward. The "flogos" included shapes of angels, musical notes and stars, belched from a device made by Snow Masters in Lexington, Ala. (They reach heights of 20,000 feet and sometimes travel 30 miles before disintegration.)

Invented by a former magician, Francisco Guerra, these flying

objects are composed of a water/air/helium/soap agent. They floated lazily over Manhattan, dotting a blue canopy that was a cloudless sky.

I was pumped, finally seeing the park I'd heard much about, then witnessing a contraption that clearly fits into the "what'll they think of next" category.

What came next, though, was infinitely more special. In addition to pads, writers have ears.

I heard snippets of hushed conversation from folks in the row in front of me. There were five 16-year-old girls and a couple of moms. They sounded decidedly southern with good reason. They, like the big foam bubble machine, came from Alabama.

Seeing Diane Sawyer, Robin Roberts and Sam Champion "up close" was an intriguing prospect, but the "star" was seated directly in front of me. Her name is Mackenzie Derr.

She has experienced cancer twice in eight years, forfeiting a limb when Ewing's Sarcoma was found in her left knee as an 8-year-old third-grader. Last November, the same cancer was diagnosed in her right leg. Again, amputation was necessary.

Through it all, her faith, smile, endurance and determination sustained her and amazed others, starting with her mom Ellen, dad Tom and 13-year-old brother Matthew.

Following her second surgery, she made a sign for her hospital door: "Footless, but not DeFEETed!"

The Life Inspiration Award from the American Cancer Society was awarded to Mackenzie following her first surgery in 2001.

She "made do," taking on the challenges of a prosthesis. Fond of dancing, she continued taking lessons.

Before the second surgery, she opted for a hair-cutting party, sending her 12-inch-long tresses to Locks of Love. (This is a charitable organization that makes wigs.)

Oh, I should add that four friends

with her in NYC were from an army of admirers who helped sustain her during tough times of chemo treatment. And the whole bunch was there thanks to a "wish" granted by Birmingham's Tum Tum Tree Foundation. They saw a Broadway play, lodged in the Trump Hotel, shopped until frenzied and visited landmarks, whisked around the city in a limousine.

Now, they're back in Vestavia Hills, where 'Kenzie is a junior in high school.

Last year, a teacher gave her home instruction. She made all A's, despite her yearning to sleep much of the time.

'Kenzie recently learned to drive, and sports a vehicle with hand controls.

It's easy to understand why she's such an inspiration. Those who love her are awestruck by her many accomplishments, including:

Completing 10 rounds of chemotherapy, undergoing a bone marrow transplant in record time, successfully dealing with two amputations and gracefully walking unassisted with two dissimilar prostheses.

She has modeled for the rest of us that no matter what life dishes out, it can be dealt with through hard work, grace and humor.

This plucky youngster is determined to deal positively with whatever comes next.

For me and a cluster of others in Bryant Park that day, she was the "Toast of New York."

In the future, when I see balloons or UFF's (Unidentified Flying Flogos), or feathers floating skyward, I will think of — and pray for — a happy youngster in Alabama who is helping others put "their best feet forward."

*Dr. Don Newbury is a speaker and author in the Metroplex. He welcomes inquiries and comments. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: (817) 447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com*

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## World leader in corruption is ...Cambodia

**P**HNOM PENH, Cambodia — Hun Chea, a nephew of Cambodia's prime minister, was speeding along a busy downtown street a few days ago when he ran down a man on a motorbike.

Phnom Penh's streets are teeming with motorbikes, hundreds of them, criss-crossing busy traffic without seeming to look or care where they are going. Collisions are inevitable. But that's not the point of this story.

Hun was tearing down the street at high speed when he hit the biker, witnesses reported, and his car ripped off an arm and a leg. The biker, Sam Sabo, was killed. Hun began to drive off, but running over the motorbike had shredded a tire. He had to pull over, so there he sat in his big black Cadillac Escalade SUV.

Now, listen to how the Phnom Penh Post newspaper described the events that followed.

"Numerous traffic police were seen avoiding the accident scene, but armed military police arrived. They removed the SUV's license plates and comforted Hun Chea" while Sam Sabo lay bleeding to death in the street. A military policeman was overheard telling Hun: "'Don't worry. It wasn't your mistake. It was the motorbike driver's mistake.'" A few days later, Hun gave the dead man's family \$4,000 in hush money, the paper reported. Case closed.

It's no secret that Cambodia is thoroughly corrupt. As an indirect result, the rich and the powerful can commit, well, murder and face

few if any repercussions.

A primary rule of foreign correspondence is to avoid applying the values of your own country on the nation you are covering. But then, some events appear so outrageous that the rule does not apply. Police actually removed the car's license plates, to conceal the driver's identity? So I asked Khieu Kanarith, Cambodia's information minister, about the case. He fumbled about for a moment and then explained, "I understand he had his wife in the car, and I don't think he was paying attention to what he was doing." OK, but the police removed the license plates? Khieu had to think about that for a moment but finally managed to say, "You try to cover the plates because it's harder to sell a car if it's been in an accident." As a reporter, sometimes it's hard to keep a straight face. But then, being Cambodia's information minister is a tough job.

Later I asked Joseph Mussomeli, the U.S. ambassador, about this, and he shook his head.

"This goes to the whole culture of impunity here. Who you are, who you know, is more important than following the law. And the police are too intimidated, too deferential, to the wealthy and powerful." Why else would the traffic police assertively avoid the scene of the accident, even with a dying man lying in the street? They knew full well that the owner of a Cadillac Escalade SUV in this exceedingly poor country is quite likely to be well connected.

Impunity is a word that comes up over and over in Cambodia. Last month, two men speeding by on a motorbike shot and killed Khim Sambor and his 21-year-old son as they walked down the

street. Khim was a reporter for Khmer Conscience, an opposition newspaper, and not surprisingly the paper had been writing critically about the government.

No one has been arrested. That is true for dozens of apparent contract killings in recent years just like that one. No one has proved that government officials are behind them. But then, why else would the police make no effort to solve any of these crimes? Cambodia has come a long way in the last several years. Phnom Penh is teeming with tourists. The economy is growing. The nation has been stable for more than a decade now, which is no small accomplishment.

Over the years, I have worked in many corrupt states - Iraq, Sudan, Afghanistan, among others. But in none of them is the corruption so pervasive, even pandemic. Prime Minister Hun Sen just won re-election to a new five-year term. For a decade, the United States and many other countries have been pressing him to pass a comprehensive anti-corruption law. Hun continually promises but never delivers.

Cambodians deserve better. If Cambodia hopes to join the ranks of the world's prosperous and respected nations, it must enact — and enforce — an anti-corruption law. With that, in time, the shiny mantle of impunity resting softly on the shoulders of the rich and well-connected will begin to fall away.

*Joel Brinkley is a former Pulitzer Prize-winning foreign correspondent for The New York Times and now a professor of journalism at Stanford University. Readers may send him e-mail at: brinkley@foreign-matters.com*

## HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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## A SMALL PRAYER

by **K. Rae Anderson**

# Houston WR fractures vertebra against Cowboys

## Williams requires surgery after being carted off the field Friday

**The Associated Press**

IRVING — Houston Texans receiver Harry Williams fractured a vertebra Friday night and is facing spinal surgery after being hit in the head during a collision with a teammate.

Williams temporarily lost movement in his arms and legs but later "regained almost normal neurologic function" after being taken

from the field on a stretcher and hospitalized, Texans team physician Dr. Walter Lowe said in a statement.

Williams was expected to have surgery this weekend to fuse two vertebrae. The operation was to be performed by Dr. Drew Dossett, one of the Dallas Cowboys' team physicians who is a nationally recognized spine surgeon.

Williams, who was try-

ing to make a tackle on a kickoff return by the Cowboys, was face down on the field when the play ended. Medical personnel immediately called for a stretcher and the game was delayed for about 10 minutes while they tended to Williams.

Lowe's statement said Williams started regaining feeling in his arms and legs on his way to the hos-

pital. Texans coach Gary Kubiak sounded upbeat after Houston's 23-22 loss.

"He's got movement throughout his body," Kubiak said. "All the feedback I'm getting is Harry will be fine."

Williams' face mask was removed and his head was immobilized when he was strapped to the stretcher and taken to an ambulance.

Williams was hurt after he reached and unsuccessfully tried to tackle Isaiah Stanback. After Williams slid off the runner and was falling to the ground, he collided with teammate Nick Ferguson, who was also trying to tackle Stanback.

The play occurred about 3 minutes into the game, on the ensuing kickoff after Houston capped the

opening drive with a field goal. Stanback's 44-yard return set up the Cowboys for a touchdown.

Williams spent most of last season on the Texans' practice squad, playing in only two games. He is considered a long shot to make the team as a receiver, but has been one of Houston's best special teams players in the preseason.

### STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

"Offense looked real good, too," Ritchey continued. "We moved the ball well up and down the field. We've got to get better at punching it in when we get in the red zone, but we're ready. This was a good scrimmage."

Two of Big Spring's scores came via long touchdown passes by Tyler Tannehill, who received his first taste of live action since last season due to having knee surgery during the offseason. Both of Tannehill's strikes traveled more than 50 yards.

The first came on an five-yard out to Zamir Linton, who broke a tackle, picked up a block downfield from Sidney Parker Jr. and outraced three Lubbock High defenders to the end zone. The second was a skinny post to Parker Jr., who snatched the ball from around his knees, avoided two tacklers and then had his path to the end zone cleared courtesy of a bone-jarring block by LaRay Woodard.

Big Spring's other score was a 3-yard run by Matt Ritchey, who lined up at quarterback on the play and simply ran off tackle untouched into the end zone.

There were some causes for concern from the special teams unit as the Steers converted on 1-of-3 extra points.

"We've got some work to do still with our kicking game," Phillip Ritchey said. "We've got to find a consistent kicker, who can convert those points."

The scrimmage was Big Spring's final warm up before opening the 2008 season with a road game against long-time rival Snyder Friday. The Tigers enter the season ranked No. 18 by Dave Campbell's Texas Football magazine. Ritchey believes it's a recognition Snyder definitely deserves.

"We've got a lot of confidence going into the season, but we're opening against a good team," he said. "Snyder is going to be the most mentally tough team we play this season. They have some tough football players. They may not be the most athletic, but they're well coached and mentally strong."

"We're excited after tonight," Ritchey continued, "but we've got a tough test ahead of us. We really can't wait to get this season started."

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at sports@bigspringherald.com.



By Steve Becker

### Three Chances Are Better Than One

South dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ 8 7 5 3  
♥ A 2  
♦ K Q 7 4  
♣ 7 6 3

**WEST**  
♠ A K 10  
♥ 5 4  
♦ 9 8 5 3  
♣ K 8 5 4

**EAST**  
♠ Q 9 6 4 2  
♥ 8 6  
♦ A J 10  
♣ J 10 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ J  
♥ K Q J 10 9 7 3  
♦ 6 2  
♣ A Q 9

The bidding:  
South West North East  
4♥ Pass Pass Pass  
Opening lead — king of spades.

There is nothing unusual about declarer being in a contract where the result depends upon the success of a finesse. It happens all the time.

Under normal circumstances, a finesse has only a 50-50 chance of winning. For this reason, declarer should try to avoid the finesse if it is possible to substitute for it any other approach that would raise the chance of success beyond 50 percent.

Consider this case where South is in four hearts and West leads the K-A of spades, declarer trumping the second one. The problem is to avoid the loss of a diamond and two clubs.

The diamond loser can't be avoided, so the issue narrows down to eliminating one of the club losers.

The simple solution is to bank everything on East's having the king of clubs, and take a straightforward finesse against it. But this is only an even-money shot, and declarer should want to do better than that. There are two other ways to try to make the contract, and it costs nothing to investigate both of them before attempting the finesse.

First, West may have the ace of diamonds. If he does, South can lead twice toward dummy's K-Q and establish a high card on which to discard a club. A diamond is therefore led at trick three. East takes the king with the ace, and that chance goes down the drain.

Declarer ruffs East's spade return and draws two rounds of trump, ending in dummy. A club is led, and when East plays low, South inserts the nine, forcing West's king. Declarer's second chance — that East was dealt the J-10 of clubs — thus comes through, and the contract is home.

Observe that it does East no good to split his J-10 when the first club is led from dummy. If he does, the queen is played. South later picks up East's remaining club honor by leading a club toward the A-9 and finessing if East follows low.

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**Doubt A Parable**  
by John Patrick Shanley  
August 28, 30, 31, September 5 8:00 PM • September 7 2:30 PM

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**Measure for Measure**  
A comedy by William Shakespeare  
Underwritten by Buzz and Betsy Triplett Hurt  
August 29, September 6, 12, 13 8:00 PM • August 31 2:30 PM

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**Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs**  
by Marian Jonson  
August 30, September 1, 6, 13, 14 2:30 PM  
September 1 Labor Day Family Rate: Two children free with the purchase of one adult ticket.

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12457



Wal-Mart Manager Tim Walsh, center left, and Mayor Russ McEwen join employees and local dignitaries for a ribbon cutting following the store's 90-day remodeling project.

HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody

## Wal-Mart remodel done ... well, almost

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Features Writer

The grand re-opening ceremony on Wednesday answered the question that's been on the mind of many Wal-Mart customers for the past three months.

It's done. Well, almost. "It is 98 percent done," said Wal-Mart Manager Tim Walsh about the 90-day remodel project underway at the Wal-Mart store on F.M. 700 and Highway 87. "We still have a few touchups. We have just some things they have to fix in the construction part of it."

"Everything is where it is going to be, merchandise wise. We just have a little bit of work in the deli area and a little bit of work outside."

Pomp and pageantry heralded in what Big Spring Mayor Russ McEwen called "essentially a new store" Wednesday morning. The ceremony began with the posting of colors by the Big Spring Police Honor Guard,

*"Everything is where it is going to be, merchandise wise. We just have a little bit of work in the deli area and a little bit of work outside."*

Tim Walsh, store manager

followed by singing of the national anthem by Jason Sanderson of Life Church. Walsh recognized his employees and the remodel team for "an outstanding job," and the ceremony ended with a ribbon cutting sponsored by the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce.

The approximately \$3.5 million project was a major undertaking by the store employees, requiring an extra 90 people to help with everything from retiling the floor to painting every inch of the store's walls. Much of the merchandise was taken down,

moved and re-shelved to fit the new layout, which should allow for easier customer shopping, Walsh said.

"The way we have the departments laid out is if you go into the home appliance area, you have everything together," he said. "You have the bedding, the bath stuff, all the furniture, everything for your home. So it's going to be very easy to shop the store once you know where everything is."

Other changes include the expansion of departments that carry growth sales times.

"There are some growth departments out there, and not just for Wal-Mart but for the retail industry," Walsh said. "Electronics is one of them. We've doubled our electronic size and in the amount of TVs we carry. The infants department is another area of growth in just the amount of cloths and formula and different things we carry."

See **WAL-MART**, Page 5C

## BSSH employee given state advocacy award

Big Spring State Hospital Administrative Assistant Melinda Gonzales was awarded the Top Hand Award for Chapter 52 by the Texas Public Employees Association during the organization's recent state convention.

Gonzales received the award for enthusiastically recruiting state employees to TPEA. TPEA is an advocacy group for state employees.

Gonzales has worked in the patient rights office since 2002 and joined TPEA in 2005 when she was recruited by Patient Rights Officer Woody Jumper.

She was nominated by the Chapter 52 nominating



Melinda Gonzales, left, shown here with Sheila Stewart, TPEA Chapter 52 President, was awarded the Top Hand Award by the TPEA for Chapter 52.

board for promoting TPEA and assisting Jumper in recruiting. Jumper was awarded the top recruit-

See **BSSH**, Page 5C

## State hospital director named to statewide post

Big Spring State Hospital Activity Therapies Director Lorie Couch, MA, recently was appointed to Discipline Chief for education, rehab and adjunctive therapies for the Department of State Health Services State Hospital System.

Couch, who has worked at the psychiatric hospital since 1994, was recommended for the position by Big Spring State Hospital Superintendent Ed Moughon and was approved by the Executive Committee of the Governing Body during its July meeting.

In her new position, Couch will facilitate communication and informa-



Lorie Couch

tion sharing among all the state hospitals' rehabilitation programs and share best practices within the state system. Sharing information will improve rehabilitation programming throughout the state, Couch said.

The role is in addition to her responsibilities at Big Spring State Hospital, where she oversees a 45-member department responsible for teaching patients how to live with their mental illness.

## Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a senior vice president of investments of A.G. Edward's Midland office. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior assistant to the branch manager. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.



The big story this week in the energy markets was Russia and its conflict with the former Soviet republic of Georgia. Late last week, Georgian forces invaded a southern province called South Ossetia. The province was legally under the control of Georgia, but much of the population was sympathetic to Russia and wished for secession from Georgian rule. After the Georgian invasion, Russian military forces produced a very swift counter-attack, the speed of which was probably only possible if they had prior knowledge of Georgia's intent.

It took just 48 hours for Russian forces to drive the whole of the Georgian military out of South Ossetia. The next day, Russia pushed its military into Georgian territory as a final gesture that it was once again a serious player on the military stage. Shortly thereafter, a ceasefire was negotiated and the conflict ground to a halt.

Why is this important to energy prices? First and foremost, Russia is a huge oil exporter and much of Europe depends on Russian oil. Any large scale attacks would certainly interrupt oil production or at the very least, oil transportation in the region. Thankfully, this initial conflict was quite small and quite contained. Second, there is a bevy of important pipelines that cross through Georgia. Any substantial damage to any of the major pipelines could have serious consequences to oil distribution throughout the region. As such, Russian military forces took special care not to severely damage any pipelines in the region.

Quite possibly the most important lesson from this conflict was not about pipelines or production disruptions, but about the reemergence of Russia as a military power. Russia has not mounted a serious military offensive outside of its own borders since the 1980s. It is possible that with the U.S. fighting two wars on stretched military resources and Europe being so dependent on Russian oil that Russia felt it could act with impunity in this situation. Also, because the conflict was so small and contained, it is possible that Russia felt this would be a good time to show the world how quickly and precisely it could mobilize its military for an attack without an overextension of its own resources.

Whatever the reason behind Georgia's initial invasion and Russia's overly strong response, the impetus for more military activity in the region should have been bullish for energy prices. Strangely, energy prices fell sharply on Friday of last week and both Monday and Tuesday this week. Clearly, the momentum for energy prices remains to the downside and even conflicts in regions that were previously thought of as calm will not be enough to push prices higher in the short run.

On the domestic front this week, energy data released from the Department of Energy on Wednesday sparked a rally in the entire commodity sector. Most striking in the report was the larger than expected drop in gasoline inventories and the surprise drop in distillate inventories. On its face, the drop of 6.4 million barrels of gasoline inventories seems like a bullish event, but the data may not have been as bullish as some traders thought. Gasoline inventories as reported on Wednesdays are arrived at by adding production and imports to the previous weeks inventories and then subtracting usage. This week, we saw huge drops in both gasoline production and imports. Those two aspects went mostly overlooked in the hours immediately following the energy report. It wasn't until late Wednesday and Thursday that the sellers finally took control of the market.

The drop in gasoline production is easy to explain. Refiners lowered their capacity utilization ratio to a staggeringly low level of 85.9 percent this week. This is a level mostly associated with the spring and fall maintenance seasons. It is also a trick that refiners can use to temporarily boost crude oil inventories while causing refined product inventories to fall.

See **ENERGY**, Page 6C

## Alon USA announces series of management changes

Special to the Herald

Alon USA has announced several management changes, including naming Joe Conciene, previously senior vice president of refining and transportation, as senior vice president of refining and supply.

Conciene, former manager of the Big Spring Refinery, will now have operating responsibil-



Conciene

ities for all of Alon's refineries, with each of the refinery managers reporting directly to him.

Alan Moret, senior vice president, will continue to lead the asphalt segment.

Joseph Israel, previously the vice president of mergers and acquisitions, was named chief operating officer. He will

have oversight responsibility for the integration and business planning of the company's refining and asphalt businesses and will report to Jeff Morris, Alon's president and CEO.

Also, Michael "Mikey" Oster, previously general manager of commercial transactions, will become senior vice president of mergers and acquisitions.

"Following our recent acquisition of the Krotz Springs refin-

ery, we have now tripled our refining capacity and significantly expanded our asphalt and retail businesses over the past two years," said David Wiessman, Alon's executive chairman of the board. "We have also recently re-structured our branded marketing and retail businesses into a new operating segment. In May of this year, Kyle McKeen rejoined our company as president and CEO of the new brand-

ed marketing and retail segment and is leading our IPO initiative for this segment.

"With the structural and organizational changes announced today, our board has taken the next step to expand and restructure our management team to meet the needs of our increased operations and to prepare Alon for the next level of growth and

See **ALON**, Page 5C

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- Viewing & sending photos by email
- What's eBay & what is for sale there?
- Purchasing online safely
- Basic eBay safety

October 7 - 16, 2008 Tuesdays & Thursdays  
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Instructor: Debra Tate  
\$45.00

### COMING EVENTS

- Sept 1** - Labor Day- all offices closed
- Sept 20** - Mini Cheer Camp & Battle of the Cheerleaders
- Sept 25** - HC Speaker Series
- Sept 25** - Jim Morris "The Rookie"
- Sept 25** - Call 264-5161 for Free Ticket
- Nov 22** - FFA Area II Leadership Conference

**ALON**

Continued from Page 4C

performance.”  
Alon’s financial, legal and administrative departments will be adding personnel to support the recent and future growth of the organization, Wiessman said.  
“We believe this new management structure will enhance our focus, increase our resources, and provide the ability and the freedom to manage our substantial growth in the refining, asphalt, branded marketing and retail operations,” said Morris. “I am proud to work with such a strong cadre of leaders ready to help assure our success.”



HERALD photo/Lyndel Moody  
Members of the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting at Citi Financial Tuesday to welcome the business as a new member. Pictured from left are Chamber board of director member David Justice, Citi branch account executives Crystal Hull, Mandy Cruz and Ysabel Lopez Jr., Branch Manager Chrissy Shubert, District Manager Kristin Neace-Fuentes and Chamber Executive Director Debbye ValVerde. The business provides personal to automotive and housing loans and is now located at 1900 Gregg St., Suite B.

**WAL-MART**

Continued from Page 4C

“The only thing we really cut back on, as everyone knows, is that we don’t sell fabric,” he continued. “We still have the crafts, sewing machines and all those things you would need. We still carry yarn but anything sold by the yard, we don’t carry.”  
Included in the spit-and-polish was the addition of the new Wal-Mart paint scheme of blue along with the sparkle logo, Walsh said, adding that only a few other stores in the na-

tion have it at this time.  
Walsh, who hails from Arizona, took over the helm of the Big Spring Wal-Mart in January as a first-time store manager, just a few months before the project began. He is quick to acknowledge his gratitude to his employees.  
“It wouldn’t have happened without the associates and not just the associates who actually did the (remodel) work but the associates who work here and have to answer all the questions — where’s this or why did you move that or I liked the old store,” he said. “It wouldn’t have happened near as smooth if we didn’t have the cali-

ber of associates that we have in Big Spring.”  
During the ceremony Wednesday, McEwen extolled the changes to the store and let the employees know how important they are to the city.  
“My wife is a frequent shopper in Wal-Mart and she says nothing but good things about the store, about the new layout,” he said. “She’s been frustrated like everyone because of the fact things have moved around but she says you learn to deal with that. She said over and over that the associates here are so kind, are so caring and do such a wonderful job. And she appreciates that job.”

**BSSH**

Continued from Page 4C

er in the state.  
Gonzales has served as secretary of TPEA Chapter 52 since 2005. Chapter 52 is part of Region I, which encompasses 18 counties, including Snyder, Eastland and San Angelo.

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**ARE YOU IN AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP??**

If you're reading this section, chances are you already know your relationship isn't healthy.

What are the Warning Signs:

**The biggest warning sign is -**  
If he's been in a violent relationship before  
If someone has abuse their ex-wife, ex-girlfriend or the mother of their children, why wouldn't they abuse you?

Never their fault and someone else was always to blame.  
Don't make the mistake of thinking "it will be different with me" He puts your friend down and/or makes it difficult for you to see them.

Loses his temper over trivial things.  
Mood swings.

Common things abusers say  
You're stupid, useless, ugly, putting on weight ...

You can't even keep the house in a decent state, you're a terrible mother, no one would want you, you're lucky to have me.  
If you tell anyone else about the abuse ... you'll be sorry, no one will believe you, I'll report you to social services as an unfit mother.

If you try to leave me...you'll never get away, you couldn't cope without me, I'll snatch the kids and you'll never see them again  
I'll track you down and find you, even if it takes years and I'll kill you, you'll never be able to live in peace never knowing when it will happen...

If you leave me I'll kill myself and you'll have to explain to the children why their dad is dead and it'll be on your conscience for the rest of your life ...

**If after reading this you think that you are, or might be, in an abusive relationship, call!**

Victim Services 24 hr hotline  
**263-3312 Confidential Assistance**

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

Lydia Elrod is the name of another angel who touched my heart with her kindness and a much-needed hug.

Susan is the name of the angel who helped me when I found a dove that was hurt and couldn't fly. The kindness in her heart led her to take the little dove to another angel named Bebe, who helps birds that are hurt and in need of a little kindness also.

I wish I could name all the angels who have helped me this summer and all year long. But since I can't, I know that our Heavenly Father knows each and everyone of them by name because he is the one that

sent them to me. Because when I am in need of a little kindness, I pray to God to help me. And I know he hears my prayers for he sends his special angels who live on earth to help me. Big Spring is known for its Big Sky and Big Heart but maybe it should also be known for the many, many angels that call Big Spring home.

LANA F. ANGUIANO  
BIG SPRING

Foreign oil

DEAR EDITOR,  
Our economy is in a tailspin and Congress and the President are not making much progress in turning it around. One of the factors causing our economic disaster is our dependence on foreign oil. We are

sending our enemies \$750 billion dollars each year; a drain on our dollar which we cannot bear.

We must quickly research all possible alternative fuels such as wind, nuclear, hydrogen power, solar power and biofuels. We must also begin producing oil from our offshore resources.

John F. Kennedy set a goal to send a person to the moon and back within ten years. With money and dedication NASA answered his call. We must do the same with alternative energy.

The U.S. only spent \$3.2 billion for energy research in 2006. In my opinion we need to allocate as much as can be prudently spend each year for alternative fuels research. If necessary even up to the \$12

billion spent in Iraq each month. This is a very important issue and must be accomplished to insure the well being of our generation, our children and grandchildren.

"Where have all the leaders gone? Where are the curious, creative communicators? Where are the people of character, courage, conviction, omnipotence and common sense?" (Lee Iacocca) There are few in D.C.

Washington must unite, set a deadline and allocate the funds needed to lower our dependence on foreign oil. The sooner we become more energy sufficient the sooner our economy will improve. Let's get the ball rolling now. Instead of complaining about the price of gasoline, lets take steps to lower the price of oil by using alternative sources.

Write your Congress people and urge them to explore alternative energy as quickly as possible, and then build the facilities needed to put the feasible energy types into production. This task will not be cheap nor speedy, but to remain a major power in the world it must be done.

AURIEL LAFOND  
BIG SPRING

Football legacy

TO THE EDITOR:  
Lots of young men have played the game of football as Big Spring Steers during these past 100 years. We honor these young men of yesterday and the young men of today.

Being part of a team and representing their school on the football field under Friday night lights is a desire so strong they will endure the agony of two-days under the hot Texas sun to play and win or lose in bitter cold or freezing rain.

Generations of family members have played football for Big Spring High School, including:

- Kaegan Hunt, 2007; his grandfather, Ronnie Clanton, 1959-1960; and his uncle, Lonnie Clanton 1966 and 1967.
- Nathan Deporto, 2007; his father, Jerry Deporto, 1978; and his brothers,

The Herald received many more letters this week and was unable to get all of them in this issue. They will be published at a later date.

Mike Ornales, 2002-2003 and Jerry (Pito) Deportok, 2003 and 2004.

- Rance Terry, 2007; his grandfather, Rick Terry, 1955 and 1956; and uncles Merty Terry, 1977-1978 and Terry Stanley, 1957 and 1958.

- Lance Brock, 1998-1999; his father, Rondall Brock, 1970-1971; and his cousin, Brock Gee, 1996-1997.

- Don "Lefty" Reynolds, 1953-1954; his son, Frosty Reynolds, 1975-1976; and Frosty's uncle, Stormey Edwards, 1954.

- Bill Johnson, 1956-1957; and his sons, Billy Ray Johnson, 1978-1979, and Mark Johnson, 1982.

- Charles Johnson, 1955 and 1956; and his cousins, Brick Johnson and Rock Johnson, 1958 and 1959.

- Jimmy Evans, 1957-1958; his brother, Bobby Evans, 1959-1960; and his nephew, Mike Evans, 1977 and 1978.

CELIA WILLIAMS  
BIG SPRING

More on Wal-Mart

TO THE EDITOR:  
There have been so many negative letters in our paper that I think it's time someone said some positive things about our town and Wal-Mart.

I have lived all my adult life here and I love our town. I also love the way Walmart has changed the store. I try to go every day just to see what has changed. I have not found one clerk who has not been friendly and helpful. I stopped a clerk in the aisle and ask where something is and they take you to the item. Every clerk has loaded my sacks in my cart.

I have never heard an unfriendly remark from one clerk. Seems like they all are happy with the new store arrangement. The people who work at Wal-Mart seem to be dedicated

to their job.

A man wrote a letter some time back accusing the Wal-Mart employees of scattering the Wal-Mart bags all over the town. Now that is just plain dumb! The ones who clutter our streets are the ones who gripe about everything, throw dirty diapers on the streets, empty an oil can and throw it in the parking lot, empty a sack of ice in their coolers and leave the empty bags for someone else to pick up.

I heard two men cursing in the store one day and one finally asked the clerk who was helping me, "I have been looking for something for three hours and haven't found it yet." Well, duh, ask a clerk!

I know many of the people who have worked there for years. They work very hard for their paycheck. My grandchildren's other grandmother worked at Wal-Mart from the time they opened the first store until she died of cancer in 1993. She was not young but worked hard every day in that store.

I have seen customers knock merchandise off the shelf and walk off, leaving the clerk to bend down and clean up the mess. Some people let their kids move the merchandise to another counter and the mother just ignores them.

Our town is lucky to have a big nice Wal-Mart with the auto department to do our car work while we shop. I'm sorry some of customers have had problems but am sure they have problems wherever they shop.

I hope if a clerk upsets you, you will realize that maybe she or he had been chewed out by another customer or a boss and I hope you will say something to make them feel better.

Thank you for letting me give my opinion.

LAVERNE PATRICK  
BIG SPRING

**Tender Mornings**

**Tasty Afternoons**

**new**

**southern style CHICKEN**

At participating McDonald's. ©2008 McDonald's



When the pain in your chest could be last night's dinner, or a heart attack,

we know what to do.

The ER specialists at Scenic Mountain Medical Center know how to handle emergencies, even if they turn out to be nothing serious. Don't take chances with your health. If your body says something's wrong, let us make the call.



**SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER**  
Caring People, Caring for People  
www.smmccares.com

**2 times Grammy Winning Band Little Joe y La Familia** opening for the 1st Annual West Texas Horse Expo, Midland, TX, Friday, Sept. 5, 2008.

**2008 Tejano Album of the year: "Before the Next Teardrop Falls"**

**THE GREAT TEXAS RANCH HORSE TOUR**

The Great Texas Ranch Horse Tour kicks off 9am September 5, 6 & 7 at The West Texas Horse Expo at the Midland, Texas Horseshoe Arena with Josh Lyons, Al Dunning, Richie Wingfield, and Tommie Turvey.

PLEASE CALL FOR INFO 1-432-599-1569  
Adults \$18.00 \* Kids \$12.00 (ages 16 to 13)  
12 and under FREE  
Tickets include EVERYTHING! each day 100% auction proceeds and 10% gross event earnings donated to the Midland Children's Rehab Center

**Special Charity Auction item features an autographed guitar signed by Clint Black**

**List of activities:**  
\* Nightly show with Tommie Turvey & concerts following each night.  
\* Ranch Horse demos & clinics  
\* Reining Horse demos & clinics  
\* Live Cutting & Mechanical Cow demos & clinics  
\* Starting the Unbroke Horse

**Exhibitors dinner & dance all 3 nights for vending info please call : 1-432-599-1569**  
\* Special VIP passes for all 3 days : \$85.00 which includes private dinner, dance & photo shoots with all celebrities  
\* Booth space : \$185.00 for all 3 days ( first come first serve)

**Many fun activities for kids and the whole family.**

www.midlandhorse.com

**Tickets Available In Big Spring At O'Reilly Auto Parts In Midland At Cavendar Boots and Horse Shoe Arena**

Public Records

**Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:**  
Irene Lopez Alaniz, 774 E. Highway 80 Apt. 230, Abilene  
Bryan Layton Allison, 1108 College Circle, Ranger  
Christine Avalos Bara, 1405 N. Sixth Street, Lamesa  
Sonia M. Barlow, 4209 Parkway, Big Spring  
Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford  
Vern Black, 329 W Tennessee, Floydada  
Jeremy Bolton, 506 N. Avenue L, Lamesa  
Sheli Lynn Buck, 1101 E. 15th Street, Big Spring  
Richard Henry Burk, PO Box 171933, Arlington  
Latonya Campbell, 5948 Callaston Lane, Fort Worth  
Michelle Marie Carrasco, 1704 Yale Avenue, Big Spring  
Leonard Carson Jr. 102 S. Peach, Pecos  
Scott S. Carter, 3223 Cornell, Big Spring  
Krishna Nicole Castillo, 905 Walnut, Colorado City  
Jared Wendell Coby, 901 S. High Street, Longview  
Doyce Ray Coyle, 3301 Auburn, Big Spring  
Patrick C. Criss, 8030 Catalpa, Texas City  
Wesley Wayne Crow, 2400 Robb Lane, Big Spring  
Susan Cuellar, 2301 N. Pecos #238, Midland  
Wanda Cunningham, 1505 Avion, Big Spring  
Corey D. Dancer, 2605 Alamesa Drive, Big Spring  
Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave, San Antonio  
Brandee A. Eberhardt, 197 Briarwood Lane, Big Spring  
Wesley Allen Edmondson, 505 E. 14th Street, Big Spring  
Randy James Ellis, PO Box 391, Syder  
Hilda L. Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh Street, Lamesa  
Aldo Gustavo Galindo, 922 Jeter, Odessa  
James Randal Gardner, PO

Box 1490, Lyons, Colo.  
Claudet Garza, E. Elm, Apt. 10, Laredo  
Raul Gonzales, 2106 Johnson, Big Spring  
Jeffrey M. Grams, 224 Lelon Lane, Springtown  
Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa  
Dana L. Holguin Havink, 600 Star Linda CT. Unit B, Arlington  
Kristin Hawkins, 405 N. Moss Lake Road, Big Spring  
Gerald R. Hodges, 4312 Crane 1104, Houston  
Allan J. Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 1502, Big Spring  
Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old State Hwy. 7, La Grange  
Sharon Annette James, 1215 Cedar, Colorado City  
Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio  
Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland  
Robert Michael Kleck, P.O. Box 35, Rotan  
Lynda Kynam, 2503 Central, Big Spring  
Alana Marie Lee, 2711 66th Street, Lubbock  
Patricia Lutrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa  
Joshua David Mackenstein, 414 Hickory/3417 N. Midland Drive, Midland  
Shawn G. McKay, 3107 Bonham Ave, Odessa  
Carrol Lee McNeil, 2601 Westridge, Snyder  
Betty Jane McWilliams, 2503 Fairchild, Big Spring  
Ebaline Flores Mendoza, P. O. Box 291, Mertzon  
Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas  
Angela Moreno, 1712 N. Third Street, Lamesa  
Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland  
William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring  
Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway Rd, Big Spring  
Lisa M. Portillo, 1200 Stanford, Big Spring  
Richard Wayne Rains, 4501

Parkway, Big Spring  
Patricia Ramos, 538 Westover Road Apt. 226, Big Spring  
Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock  
Gustabo Alfredo Rios, 1804 Scurry, Big Spring  
Williard M. Robinson, 1600 S. Lancaster #405, Big Spring  
Anna Alicia Robles, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 304, Big Spring  
Jose Antonio Rodriguez, 1309 Wright, Big Spring  
Veronica Rodriguez, 3010 Cherokee, Big Spring  
Sofia Romero, 409 N. Ave Q, Lamesa  
Robert Christopher Rosamond, 801 Lancaster / 1501 E. Sixth Street, Big Spring  
Jennifer Ann Rositas, 1420 E. Sixth Street #10, Big Spring  
Blanca L. Saenz, 1202 N. Sam Houston Ave., Odessa  
Rudy Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton  
Stephanie Serrato, 1203 E. Mobile, Big Spring  
Harl Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring  
Curtis W. Shelton, 3714 Millbrook Road, Big Spring  
Janie Spurgeon, 1212 Wadley, Midland  
Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City  
James Sutton, 2225 Oakland, Abilene  
Tonya D. Conner Taylor, 1111 Moseley Circle, Hobbs, N.M.  
Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois #16, Midland  
Brenda Vera, 1901 Ave M, Snyder  
Alicia M. Vernon, 9614 Dover Ridge, San Antonio  
Tyler J. Voss, Fannin Co. Rd 4925, Leonard  
Christina Williams, 400 Macarthur, Odessa  
Jerry Lee Wrightsil, 2816 Ridge Road, Ft. Worth

**County Court Decisions:**  
Judgment and Sentence: Todd Ray Kuykendall, driving while intoxicated, \$1,605 fine, \$393 court costs, three days in jail.

**District Court Filings:**  
Lupita Gonzales vs. Ricardo Gonzales, divorce.  
Voy W. Eason vs. Shannon Rene Eason, divorce.  
Gene Aiello vs. Betty L. Dekeyesen Aiello, divorce.  
Angela Diane Skaggs vs. Shane Skaggs, divorce.  
Virginia Granados vs. Mary Escovedo, protective order.  
Vanessa Backes vs. Thomas Bradley Cates, protective order.  
Veronica Lee Ann Luera vs. David Christopher Petree, protective order.  
Union Pacific Railroad Company vs. Wes-Tex Telephone Company and Melquiado Lopez Jr., injury or damages with a motor vehicle.  
Leonard A. Hadley vs. Debra K. Hadley, divorce.  
Ronna J. Gibb vs. Robert M. Gibb, divorce.

**Marriage Licenses:**  
Brent Michael Holsenbeck, 19, and Kasey Leigh Pointon, 19, both of Big Spring.  
Ricardo Gonzalez-Ramirez, 22, of Borger, and Ruth Melody Torres-Delgado, 21, of Big Spring.  
Anthony George Hernandez, 39, and Eva Sabrina Fierro, 32, both of Big Spring.  
Jimmy Lynn Anderson, 34, and Mary Elizabeth Gomez, 34, both of Big Spring.  
Nathan Brian Day, 49, and Regina Rose Melanson, 42, both of Big Spring.

**Warranty Deeds:**  
Grantor: Guadalupe Vera and Edna Vera  
Grantee: Jimmy Howard and Delores Howard  
Property: Tract 7 of the H.E. Heaton Subdivision  
Date: Aug. 14, 2008

Grantor: Margie A. Garcia  
Grantee: Felix Perez  
Property: A 1-acre tract out of Section 25, Block 33, T-1-S,

T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Aug. 14, 2008

Grantor: Michael Nairn and Melissa Nair  
Grantee: Property Pros of Texas LLC  
Property: Lot 3, Block 5, Piner Heights; Lot 4, Block 7, Stanford Park; Lot 3, Block 12, Washington Place; Lot 3, Block 36, Cole & Strayhorn Addition; Lot 6, Block 6, Hillcrest Terrace; Lots 3 and 4, Block 22, Fairview Heights; Lot 10, Block 15, Cole & Strayhorn Addition; Lots 1 and 2, Block 3, Fairview Heights; and The S/10 feet of an alley adjacent to the north side of Lot 1, Block 30, Fairview Heights  
Date: Aug. 14, 2008

Grantor: Bertha Chavez, Reyes Garcia and Ernestine Garcia, Gilbert Negrete and Eloisa Negrete, Daniel Arrellano and Irene Arrellano, Esequio Paredes and Alicia Paredes, Eleno Paredes Sr. and Vidala Paredes  
Grantee: Aurora P. Reyna  
Property: A tract 150 feet by 50 feet out of the E/2 of Block 17, Bauer Addition  
Date: Aug. 18, 2008

Grantor: Freda Hoover  
Grantee: Derrick Scott Whitmore and Esther Whitmore  
Property: Lot 21, Block 1, Hayden Addition  
Date: Aug. 18, 2008

**Warranty Deeds with Vendor's Lein:**  
Grantor: Richard F. Dyer and Carol Dyer  
Grantee: Dusty R. Painter and Lisa Painter  
Property: The E/40 feet of Lot 26 and the W/31 feet of Lot 25, Block 1, Hayden Addition  
Date: Aug. 13, 2008

Grantor: Kyle A. Wheller  
Grantee: T-M Leasing Co.  
Property: A 0.9 tract out of Section 32, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Aug. 14, 2008

Grantor: Ernie Morgan, guardian of Dorothy Henderson  
Grantee: William I. King Jr. and Roberta King  
Property: Lot 3, Block 3, Cedar Ridge  
Date: Aug. 15, 2008

Grantor: Freda Hoover  
Grantee: Derrick Scott Whitmore and Esther Whitmore  
Property: Lot 22, Block 1, Hayden Addition  
Date: Aug. 18, 2008

Grantor: Larry Lestikow and Juanita Lestikow  
Grantee: Daniel Rivera  
Property: Lot 1, Block 4, Stanford Park  
Date: Aug. 18, 2008

Grantor: Keith Greni Jr. and Jessica Greni  
Grantee: Lisa Akin  
Property: A 1-acre tract out of Section 1, Block 32, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Aug. 18, 2008

Grantor: Bobby J. Holliman and Laura Holliman  
Grantee: Michael Christopher  
Property: Lot 2, Block 4, Indian Hills  
Date: Aug. 18, 2008

Grantor: Leslie Ray White  
Grantee: Donald W. Jones and Brenda Jones  
Property: A tract out of Section 28, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey  
Date: Aug. 19, 2008

ENERGY

Continued from Page 4C

They do this with the hope that product prices will rise in response to the inventory drop while they hope that crude prices will fall due to the inventory builds. In effect, they try to artificially widen the crack spread. The drop in imports is another interesting piece. Over the past four weeks, gasoline imports have fallen by almost 400,000 barrels per day or just shy of 3 million barrels per week. That accounts for nearly half of the inventory drop in gasoline. Again, the reasoning behind the cut in imports is also an attempt to widen crack spreads for the refiners. Also this week, after-effects from Hurricane Edouard are undoubtedly showing up in the import data as the storm did cause some disruptions to deliveries in the Gulf. Demand, the piece that makes the most sense to focus on, continues to show weakness. On a year over year basis, demand is still lower by more than 1 percent this week. This marks the 16th consecutive week of year over year declines in demand — an unprecedented feat not seen in more than a decade. As long as demand remains weak, refiners have little incentive to make more gasoline and therefore little incentive to import finished gasoline. As it has been since the beginning of July, fundamental weakness in energy demand both in the U.S. and abroad are going to continue to be the most important data to watch. As we exit to the summer driving season, every analyst will be looking for evidence that the demand destruction that we've seen this summer is due to some permanent changes in consumption habits and not the temporary effects of foregone summer vacations.

Portions of this article were produced Aug. 15 by Nathan Golz, futures researcher. Its publication is a collaborative effort and the information is obtained from sources considered reliable, however accuracy is not guaranteed by A.G. Edwards. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results and additional information is available upon request (432) 684-7335. A.G. Edwards is a division of Wachovia Securities, LLC.

GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

YOUR JOURNEY FROM MOURNING TO JOY



GriefShare is a special weekly seminar/support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. At GriefShare, you'll learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time in your life.



GriefShare groups meet every Tuesday evening from 6pm - 8pm beginning September 2nd through November 25th at the Home Hospice Office, 111 E. 7th Street, Ste. A

Call (432) 524-7599 for more information

GriefShare is sponsored by Home Hospice and First Presbyterian Church

100 Year Anniversary Sale

The Price We Pay Is The Price You Pay!

2009 MODELS IN STOCK

STK# 824SEC

MOTOR TREND CAR OF THE YEAR

2008 CHEVY MALIBU  
LT2, Silver Stone, V6, Sunroof

SAVE OVER  
\$3,337

28495 - MSRP - 26,157.43 EP - 1,000 REBATE = 25,157.43

2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER

2WD, 2 Tone Paint, 3 Lt Pack. Sunroof & More.

3 To Choose From w/ Similar Savings

SAVE OVER  
\$8,058

STK# 8162T

33,310 - MSRP - 30,251.55 EP - 2,000 REBATE - 4,000 BONUS = 24,251.55

23 To Choose From At Similar Savings 2WD & 4WD

2008 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 CC LT2

18" Wheels, Remote Start, Bose Speakers, Z71 Package.

SAVE OVER  
\$9,540

STK# 8300T

39,480 - MSRP - 34,937.78 EP - 2,000 REBATE - 3,000 BONUS = 29,937.78

2008 CADILLAC ESCALADE

AWD, 22" Wheels, Navigation, Heat/Cool Seats

3 To Choose From w/ Similar Savings

SAVE OVER  
\$12,715

68,010 - MSRP - 60,295.55 RP - 2,000 REBATE - 3,000 PURCHASE CASH - 55,295.55

POLLARD Chevrolet - Buick - Cadillac

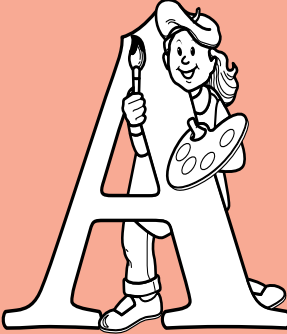
1501 E. 4th



267-7421



# BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY ABCs



**Always  
Look  
Both Ways  
Before  
Crossing  
The Street.**

**A-Bob's Bail  
Bonds**  
110 E. 3rd St. 263-3333

**Whether your child is going back to school, or will be attending school for the very first time, play it safe by taking time to review these important safety "basics" together.**



**Wagon Wheel**  
1200 Gregg 263-6790 601 E. FM 700 263-2700  
2010 Scurry 267-2851



**Buckle  
Up When  
Riding -  
It's The  
Law!**

**Blum's**  
Inside The Big Spring Mall  
267-6335



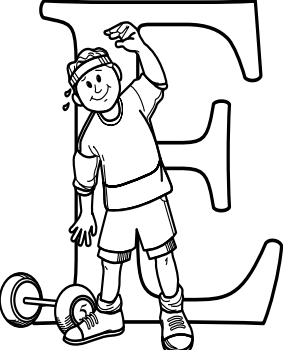
**Cross The  
Street At  
Crosswalks  
Only.**

**Comet Cleaners**  
FM 700 & Virginia 267-2584



**Don't  
Pet  
Or Annoy  
Unfamiliar  
Animals.**

**Porter Henderson**  
3011 N. US Hwy. 87 263-8344



**Eat  
A Good  
Breakfast  
Every  
Day.**

**Ellen Phillips**  
406 Marcy • 267-3061



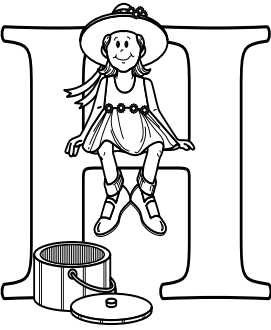
**Fire  
Safety Is  
Important,  
At Home  
And At  
School.**

**First Christian Church**  
911 Goliad • (432) 517-4821




**Go Over  
Important Phone  
Numbers And  
Safety Instructions  
With Your  
After-School  
Sitter.**

**Gill's**  
Gold-N-Crisp Fried Chicken  
2100 S. Gregg 263-4391



**Have Your  
Child's Eyes  
Checked For  
Problems,  
Before  
Starting  
School.**

**H & R Block**  
1512 S. Gregg 263-1931



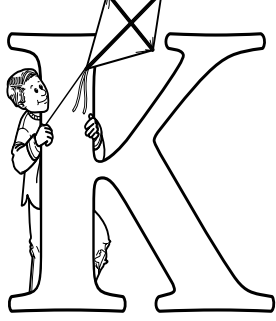
**Instruct  
Your Child  
Not To Open  
The Door  
When You're  
Not At  
Home.**

**Big Spring Education Employees FCU**  
1110 Benton • 263-8398



**Jaywalking  
Is  
Dangerous.**

**Representative Sales**  
208 Owens • 263-1500



**Know The  
Background  
Of Your  
Child Care  
Provider.**

**House Of Frames**  
111 E. 3rd 267-5259




**Let Your  
Parents  
Know If You  
Go  
Somewhere  
After  
School.**

**Big Spring Farm Supply**  
2404 N. Hwy. 87 • 263-3382



**Motorists  
Should  
Exercise Extra  
Caution  
Around School  
Areas.**

**The Medicine Center**  
1001 Gregg St. 263-7316



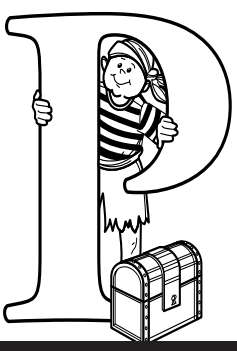
**Never Go  
Anywhere  
With A  
Stranger.**

**Nalley-Pickle & Welch**  
906 Gregg St. 267-6331



**Obey Your  
School Bus  
Driver Or  
Crossing  
Guards.**

**87 Auto Sales**  
111 Gregg • 267-8787 210 Gregg • 263-2382



**Parents Should  
Discuss Safety  
Issues And  
Emergency  
Procedures With  
Their Children.**

**Basic Energy**  
2204 Gregg • 264-3100



**Quick Thinking In  
An Emergency  
Can Make A  
Difference - Keep  
Important Phone  
Numbers Handy.**

**Graumann's Pump & Engine Service**  
304 Austin • 267-1626



**Remain In  
Your Seat  
While The  
School Bus  
Is In Motion.**

**Harris Lumber & Hardware**  
1515 E. FM 700 • 267-6355



**Stick To A  
Populated,  
Familiar Route  
When Walking  
Home From  
School.**

**Suddenlink**  
267-3821



**Tell Your  
Parents Or  
Teacher If  
Someone Is  
Bothering  
You.**

**First Bank Of West Texas**  
1810 E. FM 700 - Big Spring • 267-1113  
607 Scurry - Big Spring • 466-0000  
500 W. Broadway - Coahoma • 394-4256



**Use  
Your Head —  
Wear Your  
Helmet  
While Biking.**

**Bobby's Gifts Deluxe, LLC**  
VISIT US AT  
www.bobbysgiftsdeluxe.com



**Vacant  
Lots And  
Buildings  
Should Be  
Avoided.**

**Surety Title**  
805 S. Scurry • 263-2407



**Walk To  
School  
With  
Friends,  
Not  
Alone.**

**Western Container  
Big Spring Plant**



**X Marks  
Dangerous  
Railroad  
Tracks.**

**City Of Big Spring**  
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**Young children  
should be taught  
their name,  
address, and  
phone number.**

**Walmart**  
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Getting A  
Good Night's  
Sleep Is  
Important To  
School  
Performance.**

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**ADOPTION: FACED** with an unplanned pregnancy? Compassionate Agency represents loving, financially stable couples. You choose your baby's family. Ongoing pictures, updates. Assistance Available. 1-866-236-7638. 24/7.



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Big Spring, Tx.

- \* High Speed Internet Access @ 12.00 per hour
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- Hours:  
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9am until 12 midnight  
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bedazzamusement@yahoo.com

**CONCEALED HANDGUN**  
CLASS SATURDAY,  
August 30, 2008  
CONTACT TOMMY SCOTT,  
(432)394-4492.

**Business Opportunity**

**"BE YOUR OWN BOSS"**  
Desert Equipment is offering Up to 20% Commission Opportunities in leasing small industrial/ oilfield rentals. "You make the Call" - "We do the Rest" Including the leasing, billing, hauling & set up of light towers, water trailers, generators, trash trailers, pressure washers, trash pumps & travel trailers. For more information call (432)559-5861.

**FAST CASH!** Thousands per Day! No Selling. No explaining or convincing. Serious people only ready to use a proven system to generate huge returns. 1-888-248-1796.

**Cemetery Lots**

**2 CEMETERY** Lots- \$1500.00 for both. "Garden of Canaan" at Trinity Memorial. Call 432-267-8191.

**2 LOTS** at Trinity Memorial Cemetery. Side-by-side. Fully developed Garden of Levenon Section. Estimated value \$3,000.00 Asking \$2,045.00 includes transfer fee. Call (781)335-1918 Weymouth, MA.

**CEMETERY LOTS.** Payout plans available. No interest or carrying charges. \$10.00 down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

**Cemetery Lots**

**SAVE \$\$\$\$\$** on monuments/markers. We deliver to all cemeteries. Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. Mt Olive Monuments. 432-264-7722.

**SPECIAL SALE.** Two grave spaces for the price of one. Pay-out plan available. \$50.00 Down. The Little Red Barn across from Mt. Olive Cemetery. 432-264-7722.

**Garage Sales**

**GARAGE SALE** 601 Edwards Circle. Saturday & Sunday, 8am-3pm. Furniture, clothes, brass flatware, antique sewing machine, and lots of misc.

**MOVING SALE,** Saturday, & Sunday, 8:00-1:00. 2529 Langley Dr. Couches, baby clothes, toys, swing set, pool. Too mention to much!!

**Garage Sales**

**MULTI FAMILY:** 216 Grimes, Saturday & Sunday 8-? Pool table, lots of misc. items. Too much to list. 432-816-1264.

**TRADING POST**

Buy Sell Trade  
1307 Gregg  
432-264-1692  
Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm  
Roll-a-way bed, furniture, clothes, dishes, antiques, jewelry, collectibles, books, Elvis Records. Much More.

**Help Wanted**

**32ND JUDICIAL** District CSCD (Adult Probation) has an opening in Sweetwater, Texas for a Community Supervision Officer. Salary Range \$28,500-\$40,000. Call (325)235-2608 for application.

**Help Wanted**



Seeking Enthusiastic and Outgoing Attendants to Assist Clients in the Home with Personal Care, Meal Prep. and Light Housekeeping. Part-time Call 1-800-458-3257 EOE.

**CLASS A CDL** drivers needed. MUST BE ABLE TO PASS DOT DRUG TEST. Please call 432-264-2976 or 264-2975.

**Help Wanted**



Seeking Enthusiastic and Outgoing Attendants/ CNA's to Assist Clients in the Home with Personal Care, Meal Prep. and Light Housekeeping. Part-time Call 1-800-201-5904 EOE.

**GARTMAN REFRIGERATION** need Certified HVAC experienced plumber. Apply in person, 3206 E. FM 700.

**Health Care Professionals**

• **Licensed Vocational Nurse**  
\$5,000.00 Sign on Bonus if hired by 08/29/08 with sign on agreement

• **Certified Nurse Aide**  
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**Stanton Nursing and Rehabilitation, L.P.**  
1100 West Broadway, Stanton, TX 79782  
PH: (432) 756-2841 FX: (432) 756-2190

EOE  
For other job opportunities please visit our website at  
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**Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital, Sweetwater, TX**

is currently seeking the following:

**Phlebotomist/Lab Assistant.**

Position is Full Time. Qualified candidate must be available to work evenings and weekends.

Med Tech or MLT. Position is PRN for weekends only.

If qualified, please call (325) 235-1701, ext. 222 or fax resume to (325) 235-1783.

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**Dispatcher**

Oilfield Services company is seeking an individual to perform dispatch support in our Big Spring, Texas location.

- 1 - 2 years dispatch experience required
- Strong Customer Service and good communication skills
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- Organize job task and ensure timely response to customers

We offer competitive pay; 401(k) with company match; affordable medical, dental, and life insurance; paid time off based on length of service; and paid holidays.

Email resumes to: [staffing@basicenergyservices.com](mailto:staffing@basicenergyservices.com),  
Fax to 830-583-9240, or mail to: **Basic Energy Services**  
2206 North Highway 87 • Big Spring, Texas 79721

Equal Opportunity Employer / Drug Free Environment

**ALON USA**

**BIG SPRING REFINERY**

**IT PROFESSIONAL**

The Alon USA Refinery in Big Spring, Texas has a position available for an IT Professional. Job responsibilities include managing local Windows infrastructure, servers backups and network; managing desktop hardware and connected devices; managing desktop software applications including troubleshooting the operating system; supporting end users in a timely fashion; and providing technical input with others in the IT department on tasks, issues and large scale corporate IT projects.

Applicants should have three to five years system administration experience in a Microsoft environment, an understanding of RedHat and Microsoft Windows operating systems, and an understanding of routing and switching and advance VLAN concepts. Strong customer service skills are required and Microsoft and Cisco certification is a plus.

Qualified applicants should mail or fax a resume to:

Alon USA  
Human Resources Department  
P.O. Box 1311  
Big Spring, Texas 79721  
Fax # 432-263-9335

Equal Opportunity Employer- M/F

Health Care



*Assisted Living Concepts is one of the largest senior housing providers in the U.S. We design homes for older adults that need assistance with daily living but still want to maintain their individuality and an enriched quality of life. Be part of our growth and feel good about what you do.*

**Sales Representative**

Marcy House in Big Spring, TX

Outside sales, marketing and relationship building with health care professionals, community leaders and networking groups. Utilize a planned sales strategy to gain maximum occupancy/revenue targets and to increase the awareness and reputation of our residences. Give tours and close sales.

We prefer 2+ years of outside sales experience in senior housing or health care. Daily travel within the area is required.

Bachelor's degree preferred.

We offer a competitive base salary, bonus and great benefits.

Please email your resume, referencing **RSM BS-TX**, to: [cjulich@alcco.com](mailto:cjulich@alcco.com).

NO PHONE CALLS or Contract Recruiters PLEASE.

Check our website: [www.alcco.com](http://www.alcco.com) for company information. Assisted Living Concepts, Inc., a leader in senior housing and health care in the U.S., values equal opportunity and workforce diversity.

*Assisted Living Concepts, Inc.*



**Respiratory Therapist**

Qualifications include current Texas license and at least one year experience as respiratory therapist. Prefer certifications in ACLS, NRP and PALS. Must hold current Texas license. Full time position, some weekends and on-call.

Direct inquiries/resume to:

**Human Resources**  
**Medical Arts Hospital**  
1600 N. Bryan  
Lamesa, Texas 79331  
806-872-5727 #238  
806-872-0823 fax



If your idea of a high-powered job involves high-powered equipment and a rugged outdoor lifestyle, then consider a career with BJ Services. We're a leader in the oilfield services industry, and we're interviewing for the following positions located in Snyder, Texas:

**Equipment Operators**

**Requirements**

- Minimum of 21 years of age
- Good driving record
- CDL preferred, but will provide training
- Pass pre-employment physical & drug/alcohol screen

**Benefits**

- Medical/Dental Plan-Prescription Card
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- 401(k) thrift/retirement plan
- Holidays and vacations

**Apply in person:**  
311 N Old Lubbock Hwy  
Snyder, Texas



BJ Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We support a drug free work environment.

**Western Container Corp.**

How would you like to spend the rest of your career in a true team-based work environment where no time clocks exist, hourly members make the final decision on new hire offers, and a rule book that simply states "4 things that matter" - Personal Responsibility, Adult Behavior, Integrity, and Mutual Respect.

We are the world-class manufacturer of Pet Coca-Cola bottles in North America and we are currently seeking applications for Entry level positions.

- Ability to work 12 hour rotational shifts
- Starting Entry Level Wages \$10.40
- Shift Differential \$1.00
- High school diploma or GED

- Benefits:
- 9 paid holidays
  - Paid vacations
  - Health benefits
  - 401k retirement plan

Apply at:  
1600 1st Street Big Spring, TX 79720  
Between the hours of 8am and 4pm  
Monday through Friday

**TA TravelCenters of America**

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If you have experience in supervising people, stop by today!

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR:**

**Servers**

All positions at Subway & Popeyes!

Ask For the Managers when you apply.

Address: 704 West I-20  
Big Spring, TX 79720



**West Texas Centers for MHMR**

**Licensed Vocational Nurse:** Provides nursing for clients and training for clients, families, and staff. Licensed as an LVN by the State of Texas/Salary \$12.90 (\$26,832.00 annually). Benefits. Mon.-Fri. 8-5.

**Residential Support Technician:** Position provides services within the community and in the home to individuals with mental retardation. Must be proficient in reading and writing. High School Diploma or GED preferred but not required. Hours vary. Salary \$8.20-8.75 hr (\$17,052.00-18,192.00 annually.) Benefits.

**Training Coordinator:** Position will prepare and develop Individual Service Plans for individuals with mental retardation. Will ensure that Action Plans, Objective and Training Plans are developed in compliance with applicable standards. Will review and process data collection on a monthly/quarterly basis. Requires flexible hours. \$8.75-\$9.30 hr (\$18,192.00-\$19,344.00 annually).

**Vocational Service Tech:** Provides instruction and directs the trainee in the accomplishment of a specific job. Must be proficient in reading and writing. High School Diploma or GED preferred but not required. Hours vary. Salary \$8.20-\$8.75 hr (\$17,052.00-\$18,192.00 annually) Benefits.

**Part time Direct Care Staff:** Responsible for training clients in work and social related skills. Must be proficient in reading and writing. High School Diploma or GED preferred but not required. Salary \$8.20hr. Hours vary.

**Continuity of Care Clerk:** This part-time position will retrieve and enter data into batch software, retrieve findings from CARE and coordinate appointments and maintain data base. Minimum of two years experience in clerical field. Knowledge of Word, Excel and Power Point. Salary \$8.20/hr.

Applications available at 409 Runnels or [www.wtcmhmr.org](http://www.wtcmhmr.org) or by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769. EOE.

# Menus

**Spring City Senior Citizen's Center**  
Monday: chicken-fried steak, mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes, wheat bread, milk, peaches and cream.  
Tuesday: grilled chicken breast, fettuccine alfredo, mixed vegetables/salad, milk, angel food/strawberries.  
Wednesday: beef enchiladas, refried beans, tossed salad, tortilla chips/sala, milk/blushing pears.  
Thursday: beef tips/rice, whole new potatoes, Harvard beets, bread, milk, apple cobbler.  
Friday: catfish, corn, okra & tomatoes, cornbread, milk, fresh fruit cup.

**Forsan ISD**  
Monday: Breakfast, cere-

al, toast, juice, milk; Lunch, chicken fajitas, refried beans, seasoned corn, orange slices, chocolate pudding cups, milk.  
Tuesday: Breakfast, sausage-on-a-stick, juice, milk; Lunch, barbecue hotdogs, sliced breads, pinto beans, baked chips, pineapple-orange salad, milk.  
Wednesday: Breakfast, eggs, toast, juice, milk; Lunch, submarine sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, tater tots, baby carrots w/Ranch, brownies, milk.  
Thursday: Breakfast, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk; Lunch, meat & bean chalu-pas, Spanish rice, lettuce & tomatoes, Rosie apple-sauce, milk.  
Friday: Breakfast, biscuits, sausage, juice, milk; Lunch,

chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, hot rolls, strawberry shortcake, milk.

**Big Spring ISD**  
Monday: Lunch, pepperoni pizza, carrots, apple-sauce, pudding, milk.  
Tuesday: Lunch, chicken tetrazzini, garden salad, asst. dressing, rolls, peaches.  
Wednesday: Lunch, bean tacos, shredded cheese, corn, strawberry/banana bars, Spanish rice.  
Thursday: Lunch, Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, pineapple chunks, rolls, wheat.  
Friday: Lunch, hamburgers, garden salad, asst. dressing, pickles, French fries.

# Storm's death toll reaches 10

**By BILL KACZOR**  
Associated Press Writer  
APALACHICOLA, Fla. — Tropical Storm Fay began wrapping up its disastrous slog across Florida on Saturday by making a record fourth landfall on the Panhandle's coast. Emergency officials said 10 people have been killed in the state alone.  
Across the Florida peninsula, communities began cleaning up the damage from several inches of rain that flooded homes, destroyed crops and prompted Gov. Charlie Crist to ask for a major disaster declaration from the federal government.  
Fay's center made land-fall around 1 a.m. EDT about 15 miles north-northeast of Apalachicola,

according to the National Weather Service's National Hurricane Center.  
Fay was expected to finally leave the state on Saturday and reach the coasts of Mississippi and Alabama on Sunday. Though Fay never became a hurricane, downpours along its zigzagging path have been punishing and deadly.  
The storm has killed 10 people in the state, Florida Law Enforcement Commissioner Gerald Bailey said in a briefing from the emergency operations center in Tallahassee.  
The identities of all the victims and the causes of their deaths weren't immediately released, but at least three were killed Friday in weather-related

traffic accidents and two drowned in heavy surf.  
Another man died from carbon monoxide poisoning while testing power generators before the storm hit.  
At least 23 people were killed last week in Haiti and the Dominican Republic by flooding from Fay.  
"The damage from Fay is a reminder that a tropical storm does not have to reach a hurricane level to be dangerous and cause significant damage," said Florida Gov. Charlie Crist, who toured flooded communities this week.  
Crist on Friday asked the White House to elevate the disaster declaration President Bush issued to a major disaster declaration. Crist said the storm damaged 1,572 homes in Brevard County alone, dropping 25 inches of rain in Melbourne.  
At 11 a.m. Saturday, the center of the storm was located about 100 miles east-southeast of Pensacola and was moving west near 7 mph with sustained winds near 45 mph. The storm was expected to keep its strength and remain a tropical storm into Sunday.

Fay's fourth landfall was underwhelming for some in the Apalachicola area.  
"It's been peaceful and quiet so far," said Franklin County Emergency Management Director Butch Baker, who lives in Carabelle, where the storm's center came ashore.  
Baker said his office received reports of sporadic power outages, but roads were clear and they hadn't received any calls for help.

# BSAA calls for artists

Special to the Herald

The Big Spring Art Association has announced a call for local artists.  
The association will host a tour of artists' studios throughout the Big Spring area Saturday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
There will be a variety of art forms to view and purchase, including paintings, photography and jewelry.  
Fliers regarding the event are in the works and space for advertising will be available at affordable prices.  
Officials said this will be an excellent opportunity for exposure, not only in town, but also in surrounding areas.  
Space is still available for anyone who would like to contribute.  
Association officials said they welcome the addition of artwork or provision of another locale for displays. If you have work that you would like to display and sell, but do not have a location to do so, contact any association member and they will try to accommodate you.

Donations to the art association also will be accepted.  
In November, the Annual Membership Show will be held at the Heritage Museum. All Big Spring Art Association members are eligible to contribute. More details on this will be provided later.  
Everyone is invited to attend the meetings, Artist's Tour and Membership Show.  
For further details on any of these occasions or to join, please contact President Ruby Bruns at www.rubybruns.com or call (432) 664-1943 or attend the next meeting which will be held in the county library basement at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16.

# Back 2 School Blowout

## ★★ CARS ★★

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1998 Buick Regal GS V6 Stk# J0174	Was \$6,995	NOW \$5,995
2000 Buick Regal LS V6 Stk# J166	Was \$7,495	NOW \$6,495
2001 Buick Regal LS V6 Stk# J176	Was \$7,995	NOW \$6,995
2003 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J136	Was \$7,995	NOW \$6,995
2005 Pontiac Grand AM SE V6 Stk# J193	Was \$8,995	NOW \$7,995
2004 Pontiac Grand AM SE V6 Stk# J190	Was \$9,495	NOW \$8,495
2005 Chevrolet Impala V6 Stk# J162	Was \$10,495	NOW \$9,495
2005 Chevrolet Cobalt Sedan 4D Stk# J087A	Was \$10,995	NOW \$9,995
2006 Chevrolet Cobalt LS Sedan 4D Stk# H231	Was \$11,495	NOW \$10,495
1996 Chevrolet Impala V8 Stk# J192	Was \$11,495	NOW \$10,495
2005 Pontiac Grand AM SE Sedan 4D Stk# F065	Was \$11,495	NOW \$10,495
2006 Chrysler PT Cruiser Touring Stk# J119	Was \$12,995	NOW \$11,995
2006 Nissan Sentra 4 Cyl. Stk# J092	Was \$12,995	NOW \$11,995
2007 Chevrolet Cobalt L4 Stk# J151	Was \$12,995	NOW \$11,995
2007 Chevrolet Cobalt LT Coupe 2D Stk# J112	Was \$13,495	NOW \$12,495
2007 Saturn Ion 2 Sedan 4D Stk# J098	Was \$13,995	NOW \$12,995
2007 Saturn Ion 2 Sedan 4D Stk# J103	Was \$13,995	NOW \$12,995
2007 Chevrolet Cobalt LT Sedan 4D Stk# J113	Was \$13,995	NOW \$12,995
2007 Chevrolet Cobalt LT Coupe 2D Stk# J114	Was \$13,995	NOW \$12,995
2005 Chevrolet Impala LS Sedan 4D Stk# H138A	Was \$14,495	NOW \$13,495
2004 Chrysler 300M Sedan 4D Stk# J104	Was \$14,495	NOW \$13,495
2006 Pontiac G6 V6 Stk# J088	Was \$14,995	NOW \$13,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix Sedan 4D Stk# H236	Was \$15,495	NOW \$14,495
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix Sedan 4D Stk# H179	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J180	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J181	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2002 Toyota Sequoia V8 Stk# J066	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J144	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J146	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Chrysler Sebring 4 Cyl. Stk# J152	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand PRIX V6 Stk# J183	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2005 Buick Lacrosse V6 Stk# J184	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J173	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J145	Was \$16,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J171	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2004 Toyota Tacoma Double Cab V6 Stk# J187	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2006 Mitsubishi Endeavor V6 Stk# H222	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# H236	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2007 Pontiac Grand PRfix V6 Stk# J172	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2007 Pontiac Grand Prix V6 Stk# J143	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2007 Chevrolet Impala V6 Stk# J142	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2007 Chevrolet Impala V6 Stk# J182	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2007 Pontiac G6 Sedan 4D Stk# J061	Was \$17,495	NOW \$16,495
2008 Chevrolet Impala V6 Stk# J135	Was \$18,995	NOW \$17,995
2006 Honda Pilot V6 Stk# H267	Was \$23,495	NOW \$19,995
2004 Pontiac GTO Coupe 2D Stk# H089	Was \$20,995	NOW \$19,995
2006 Buick Lucerne CXL Sedan 4D Stk# H020	Was \$23,995	NOW \$22,995
2006 Mazda RX-8 Coupe 4D Stk# H070	Was \$25,995	NOW \$24,995
2007 Cadillac DTS V8 Stk# H202	Was \$31,995	NOW \$30,995
2007 Cadillac DTS Sedan 4D Stk# H202	Was \$32,495	NOW \$31,495
2007 Cadillac DTS Sedan 4D Stk# H181	Was \$31,495	NOW \$30,495
2007 Cadillac DTS Sedan 4D Stk# H202	Was \$32,495	NOW \$31,495
2007 Cadillac DTS Sedan 4D Stk# H143	Was \$36,495	NOW \$35,495
2005 Chevrolet Corvette Coupe 2D Stk# H195	Was \$39,495	NOW \$38,495

## ★★ SUV'S ★★

2000 Chevrolet Tahoe V8 Stk# J163	Was \$11,995	NOW \$10,995
2005 Dodge Grand Caravan Stk# J108A	Was \$12,995	NOW \$11,995
2001 GMC Yukon XL V8 Stk# J165	Was \$13,995	NOW \$12,995
2005 Ford Expedition V8 Stk# J185	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2007 Dodge Grand Caravan V6 Stk# J158	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2006 Dodge Grand Caravan V6 Stk# J140	Was \$16,995	NOW \$15,995
2007 Chevrolet Uplander V6 Stk# J107	Was \$17,995	NOW \$16,995
2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac V6 Stk# J168	Was \$17,995	NOW \$16,995
2006 Mitsubishi Endeavor LS Stk# H222	Was \$17,995	NOW \$16,995
2002 Toyota Sequoia SR5 Stk# J066	Was \$17,995	NOW \$16,995
2003 Chevrolet Suburban 1500 Stk# H281	Was \$18,995	NOW \$17,995
2004 Chevrolet Tahoe Stk# H159	Was \$21,495	NOW \$20,495
2008 Chevrolet Trailblazer Stk# J046	Was \$21,995	NOW \$20,995
2008 Chevrolet TrailBlazer Stk# J046	Was \$21,995	NOW \$20,995
2006 Honda Pilot EX Stk# H267	Was \$24,495	NOW \$23,495
2004 Chevrolet Tahoe Stk# H161	Was \$25,495	NOW \$24,495
2005 GMC Yukon Stk# H253	Was \$27,995	NOW \$26,995
2006 Hummer H3 Stk# H198	Was \$29,995	NOW \$28,995
2007 Cadillac Escalade Ext PU Stk# H243	Was \$44,995	NOW \$43,995
2007 Cadillac Escalade V8 Stk# J177	Was \$49,995	NOW \$48,995

## ★★ TRUCKS ★★

2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer Stk# J167	Was \$12,995	NOW \$11,995
2005 Chevrolet Equinox V6 Stk# J072	Was \$13,995	NOW \$12,995
2006 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Stk# J117	Was \$14,995	NOW \$13,995
2005 Chevrolet Colorado Crew Cab Stk# J094	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2003 Ford F150 Supercrew V8 Stk# J141	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 V8 Stk# J169	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 V8 Stk# J121	Was \$15,995	NOW \$14,995
2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 V8 Stk# J133	Was \$18,995	NOW \$17,995
2008 Chevrolet Uplander V6 Stk# J134	Was \$18,995	NOW \$17,995
2006 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Stk# J032	Was \$20,995	NOW \$19,995
2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Ext. Cab Stk# J056	Was \$20,995	NOW \$19,995
2006 Chevrolet Avalanche V8 Stk# H283	Was \$20,995	NOW \$19,995
2003 Ford F250 Super Duty V8 Stk# H259	Was \$20,995	NOW \$19,995
2006 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Crew Cab Stk# H067	Was \$20,995	NOW \$19,995
2006 GMC Sierra 1500 Crew Cab Stk# J073	Was \$21,995	NOW \$20,995
2007 Chevrolet Colorado Stk# J130	Was \$21,995	NOW \$20,995
2007 Dodge Ram 1500 V8 Stk# J127	Was \$21,995	NOW \$20,995
2006 Ford F150 Supercrew V8 Stk# H172A	Was \$21,995	NOW \$20,995
2005 GMC Sierra 1500 V8 Stk# H118	Was \$22,495	NOW \$21,495
2005 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Crew Cab Stk# J054	Was \$22,995	NOW \$21,995
2007 Chevrolet Silverado Pickup Classic Ext. Cab Stk# J065	Was \$22,995	NOW \$21,995
2006 Ford F150 SuperCrew 5 1/2' Stk# H172A	Was \$25,495	NOW \$22,495
2006 GMC Sierra 1500 HD Crew Cab Stk# J007	Was \$23,495	NOW \$22,495
2004 Chevrolet Avalanche 1500 Stk# J124	Was \$24,995	NOW \$23,995
2003 Ford F250 Super Duty Crew Cab Stk# H259	Was \$25,995	NOW \$24,995
2006 Chevrolet Avalanche 1500 Stk# H283	Was \$25,995	NOW \$24,995
2005 GMC Sierra 1500 Pickup Crew Cab Stk# H118	Was \$25,995	NOW \$24,995
2006 Hummer Stk# H198	Was \$25,995	NOW \$24,995
2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 V8 Stk# J149	Was \$28,995	NOW \$27,995
2008 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 V8 Stk# J155	Was \$29,995	NOW \$28,995
2006 Ford F250 Super Duty Crew Cab Stk# H275	Was \$30,995	NOW \$29,995
2005 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD Crew Cab Stk# H279	Was \$32,995	NOW \$31,995

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# Schools separate ninth-graders in hopes of reducing dropouts

By ELIZABETH WHITE

Associated Press Writer

SAN ANTONIO — Navigating the maze of high school hallways can be tough for a new ninth-grader. Learning the oh-so-important social hierarchy and coping with added academic responsibilities can be even harder.

Ninth grade, often the first year of high school, is a critical time for students, when many sink or swim in their budding high school careers.

Given the importance of ninth grade — and the difficulties many adolescents face — some educators are turning to ninth-grade-only schools to separate 14- and 15-year-olds from older kids and make the transition easier.

“People just really value having our ninth-graders have a chance to develop intellectually, emotionally and socially outside of the context of a large comprehensive high school setting,” said Kenneth Graham, superintendent of Rush-Henrietta Central School District near Rochester, N.Y. “They don’t have upperclassmen in the halls picking on them and teasing them.”

In the 1999-2000 school year, there were 127 ninth-grade-only public schools. In the 2005-06 school year, that number had jumped to 185, according to the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics.

In San Antonio, the Southside Independent School District is opening a ninth-grade school this month. Another district plans to open one next year.

“I think that most of us in the state have always been looking for ways of addressing the dropout issue and ... keeping our students engaged,” said Juan Antonio Jasso, superintendent of Southside. “It didn’t take a great deal of convincing that this was a most positive approach to take with the student population.”

The ninth-grade year is crucial to success in high school.

If students don’t get the credits needed to move on to 10th grade, they can fall insurmountably behind. In Texas public schools in the 2005-06 school year, 16.5 percent of ninth-graders — the highest rate of any grade — didn’t complete requirements to advance to 10th grade, according to a Texas Education Agency report.

Ninth grade is also when most problems start to appear, said James Kemple of MDRC, a New York-based social policy research organization.

“It’s the point where you can very clearly predict who’s eventually going to drop out,” said Kemple, director of the group’s K-12 education policy area.

There are more ninth-graders in U.S. high schools than any other class. That’s because many students either aren’t promoted to 10th grade or drop out before they get there.

In 2003-04, there were nearly 4.2 million ninth-graders nationwide. But

by the next year, just 3.75 million were in the 10th grade, according to the Washington, D.C.-based National High School Center.

Ninth-grade-only schools make some sense, said Joseph Harris, director of the center. But simply moving students to another campus, building or wing isn’t enough.

“It isn’t replicating the practices of a large comprehensive high school in a stand-alone ninth grade,” Harris said. “The key there is making sure that you’re facilitating the communication between teachers and administrators in ninth grade who are preparing students for eventual promotion.”

Some districts, like Madison County Schools in Huntsville, Ala., and West Fargo Public Schools in North Dakota, began ninth-grade centers to relieve overcrowding in high schools. Rush-Henrietta started its ninth-grade school, with an enrollment of 500, for the same reason in 2000 and has kept it ever since.

“From all quarters it was a resounding success,” Graham said.

“We’re delighted with it, it’s worked out really well.”

Aldine Independent School District in the Houston area has four ninth-grade centers with enrollments of about 900 each.

“The whole philosophy

behind it was to separate the younger kids from the older kids. To give an opportunity to work with them one more year ... as opposed to cutting them loose in high school,” said superintendent Wanda Bamberg.

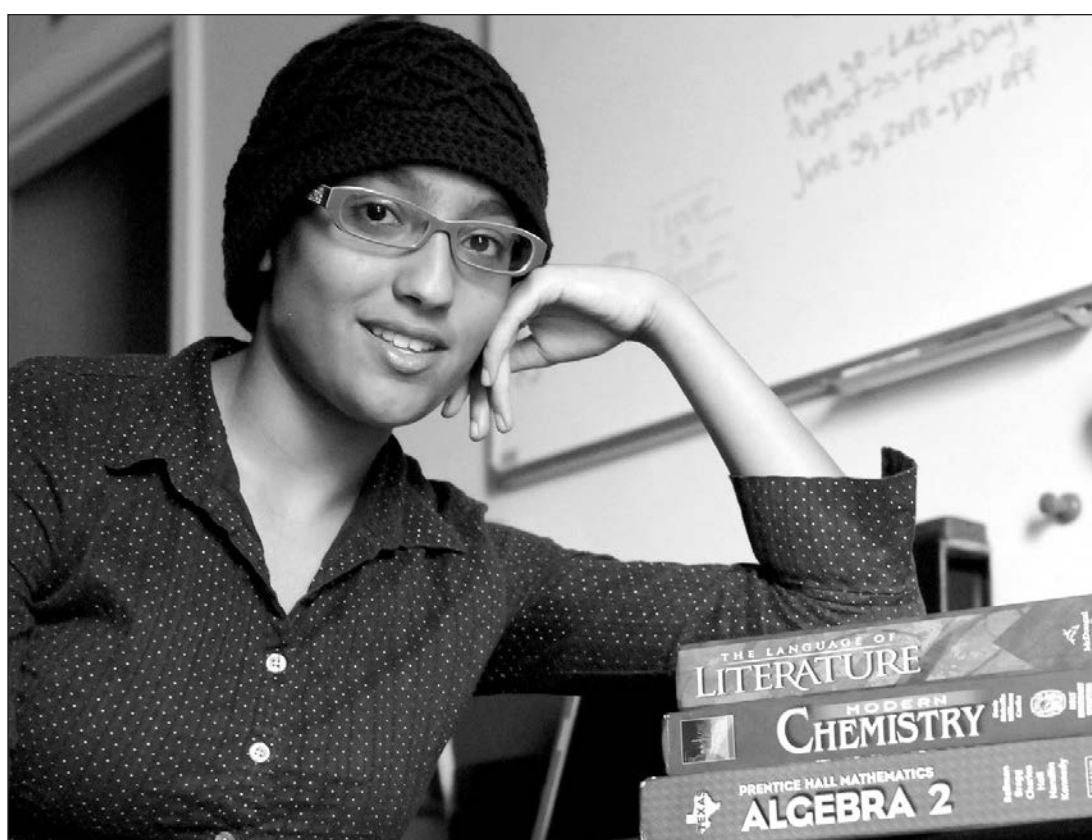
Tasnim Mohamed graduated from Aldine’s Eisenhower Ninth Grade School in the spring. She said it provided her the personal attention she wanted. But she also became familiar with Eisenhower Senior High School, where she’ll start 10th grade this month, through extracurricular activities.

“You get a sense of knowing everybody that you’re going to school with” in the ninth-grade school, she said. “But it’s not like you’re secluded from everybody else. You still get to interact and see how it will be next year (in high school) when you go there.”

Still, educators acknowledge there are some drawbacks.

For many students, it means attending three schools in as many years as they progress from the eighth grade to high school.

“This is now another step in there in terms of kids transitioning from one school to the next and all that that implies,” said Sandra Spivey, director of secondary education for Madison County Schools in Alabama.



AP Photo/Pat Sullivan

Tasnim Mohamed poses with her school books at her home Thursday in Houston. Tasnim graduated from Aldine’s Eisenhower Ninth Grade School in the spring. She said it provided her the personal attention she wanted.

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**MONSTER MUD** Pits is now hiring field and shop welders. Valid drivers license required. Please call 432-413-5881 for an application.

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**PARKVIEW NURSING** and Rehab is now hiring Certified Nurse Assistants for all shifts. If you are not certified but have a passion for the nursing field, we will send you to school! Come by today or fill out an application online at www.parkviewnursing.net 3200 Parkway, Big Spring, Texas.

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**Call 1-800-665-4471**  
Email to [opportunities@girling.com](mailto:opportunities@girling.com)  
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**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY** Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are background check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Starting pay \$8.50 per hour. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

**WE ARE** looking for EXPERIENCED Bar Back, Bartender and Waitresses for By The Spring Nightclub. Call 432-213-1355 or apply in person.

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**PIANO & VOICE LESSONS**  
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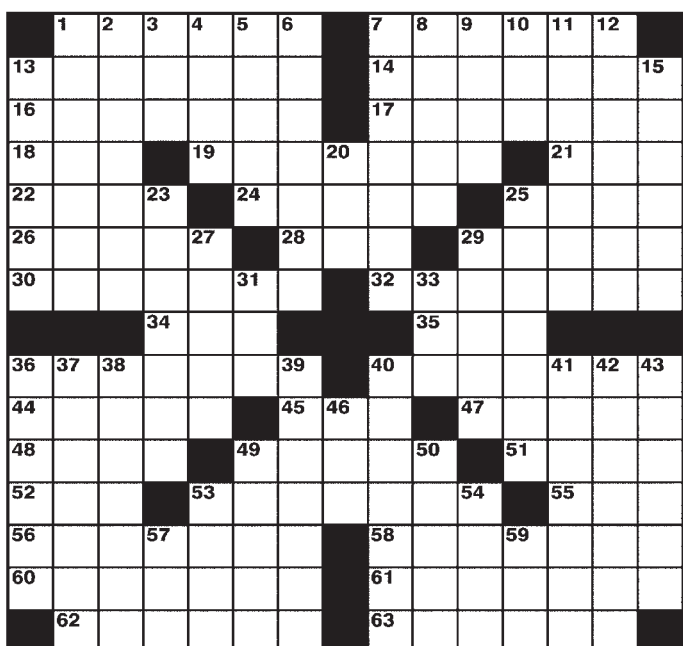


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Big Spring, Texas 79720  
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(432) 264-0855 fax  
e-mail: [careers@ehhi.com](mailto:careers@ehhi.com)  
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**Newsday Crossword SATURDAY STUMPER** by Daniel R. Stark Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- |   |  |  |                                |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                               | <b>53</b> Glacial deposit                | <b>5</b> Pointed                         | <b>36</b> Brimstone            |
| <b>1</b> Adding-machine inventor            | <b>55</b> Hebrew letter                  | <b>6</b> Misses                          | <b>37</b> Ready for action     |
| <b>7</b> Stop                               | <b>56</b> Different                      | <b>7</b> Is attractive                   | <b>38</b> Toss                 |
| <b>13</b> Inhospitable place                | <b>58</b> World's most common place name | <b>8</b> Predominate                     | <b>39</b> Term of affection    |
| <b>14</b> Nursery buy                       | <b>60</b> Heads for bed                  | <b>9</b> Level                           | <b>40</b> Type of game         |
| <b>16</b> Alteration stats                  | <b>61</b> Soon to be served              | <b>10</b> Frat letter                    | <b>41</b> Taconite             |
| <b>17</b> Lima founder                      | <b>62</b> Strand                         | <b>11</b> Pops up                        | <b>42</b> Evincing unhappiness |
| <b>18</b> Electrical unit                   | <b>63</b> Like some dolls                | <b>12</b> World's Biggest Bookstore site | <b>43</b> Pulled down          |
| <b>19</b> Overwhelm                         |  | <b>13</b> Silly look                     | <b>46</b> Sydney Harbour, e.g. |
| <b>21</b> Alley                             |  | <b>15</b> Hit list                       | <b>49</b> World Series game    |
| <b>22</b> Bill padding                      |  | <b>20</b> Correct conclusion             | <b>50</b> Entangle             |
| <b>24</b> Place to relax                    | <b>DOWN</b>                              | <b>23</b> More flaky                     | <b>53</b> Entangle             |
| <b>25</b> Squirt                            | <b>1</b> Flask flaw                      | <b>25</b> Said (to be)                   | <b>54</b> Cuts off             |
| <b>26</b> Metallic joint                    | <b>2</b> Takes in                        | <b>27</b> Loud singers                   | <b>57</b> French flower        |
| <b>28</b> 4 Down catcher's bait             | <b>3</b> Get                             | <b>29</b> Swine                          | <b>59</b> ___ set              |
| <b>29</b> Two-time portrayer of Elizabeth I | <b>4</b> It may be cracked               | <b>31</b> Inventive initials             |                                |
| <b>30</b> Turns (to)                        |  | <b>33</b> Light top                      |                                |
| <b>32</b> Squashes                          |  |  |                                |
| <b>34</b> Hawaiian word for "white"         |  |  |                                |
| <b>35</b> Fontaine filler                   |  |  |                                |
| <b>36</b> Obviously not pristine            |  |  |                                |
| <b>40</b> Remainder                         |  |  |                                |
| <b>44</b> Presses                           |  |  |                                |
| <b>45</b> In advance of                     |  |  |                                |
| <b>47</b> Land                              |  |  |                                |
| <b>48</b> Place to relax                    |  |  |                                |
| <b>49</b> Great care                        |  |  |                                |
| <b>51</b> Easy way out                      |  |  |                                |
| <b>52</b> In good condition                 |  |  |                                |



**WANTED: Police**

City of Big Spring

FOR MORE INFO:  
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# Brooklyn commemorates battle America lost

By RICHARD PYLE  
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — It was the dog days of August when the British launched a massive attack to smash the rebellion spreading through the colonies. Landing from ships on the Brooklyn shore, 15,000 red-coats and Hessian mercenaries outflanked and then routed Gen. George Washington's amateur army in what would be the biggest battle of the American Revolution.

Trapped, outnumbered and facing certain defeat, the ragtag Americans managed a stealthy escape

across the East River to Manhattan, where they would continue the fight, losing battle after battle until they won the war seven years later.

That near-miraculous exploit on Aug. 29, 1776, ended the Battle of Brooklyn, being remembered this week on its 232nd anniversary — a lopsided British victory that humiliated Washington in his first outing as commander and nearly scuttled the American patriots' fight for liberty, less than two months after the Declaration of Independence.

The observance of Battle Week began last weekend with a ceremonial reading of that document and will end on Sunday when re-enactors in Revolutionary War uniforms staging mock battles on two original sites including Brooklyn's famed Green-Wood Cemetery.

On Saturday, history-minded citizens also will mark the 100th anniversary of the Prison Ship Martyrs Monument, a 149-foot granite obelisk erected over the mass grave of 11,500 people who died aboard British prison ships off Brooklyn during the revolution.

"These were America's first POWs," notes Ted General, vice president of the Society of Old Brooklynites, one of whose members, Brooklyn poet Walt Whitman, first proposed the monument.

Recently restored, the memorial in Brooklyn's Fort Greene Park is the largest Revolutionary War marker in New York City, whose population at the time was far more sympathetic to the British than



AP file photo

Re-enactors portraying members of the British forces during the Revolutionary War fire their rifles while standing in a "defensive mode" during a re-enactment celebrating the 225th anniversary of the Battle of Brooklyn in 2001. The Battle of Brooklyn's 232nd anniversary will be commemorated on Sunday with mock battles on two original sites, including Brooklyn's famed Green-Wood Cemetery.

to a rebellion led by radicals from Boston, Philadelphia and Virginia.

In fact, once a series of further debacles drove Washington's forces into New Jersey, New York became British military

headquarters and would remain so until the war ended in 1783.

For all its historical significance, the Battle of Brooklyn has never achieved the iconic status of Paul Revere's ride, the Minutemen at Concord or

Bunker Hill. It even competes with itself by another name — the Battle of Long Island.

"The reason is simple — we lost," says Kenneth T. Jackson, a history professor at Columbia University and former director of the New-York Historical Society. "Americans like happy stories. Disaster for the American side does not fit into the larger narrative of American history."

The escape of Washington's defeated army from Brooklyn to Manhattan was accomplished in a flotilla of small boats. Aided by darkness, fog and winds that kept Admiral Richard Howe's fleet from entering the East River, the operation was so deftly executed that the British didn't know it was happening.

## sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

			8		9	1	2	
1	5				7		8	
8		4	2			6		
5	2		7		3	8		1
6		7	5		4		9	2
		6			8	4		9
	8		9				3	7
	3	5	4		1			



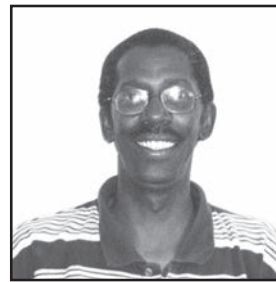
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Big Spring, TX 79720

### August 2008 Employee of the Month

Cornell Ausbie

*Congratulations Cornell Ausbie on your accomplishments. Cornell has been with us since early this year. He is exceptional with the residents and his fellow employees appreciate all that he does. Parkview Nursing and Rehab is excited to have such a wonderful man on our team.*

Thank Your Cornell!



Cornell Ausbie

### Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The Howard County will hold two public hearings on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 31.03 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax rate calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The first public hearing will be held on September 8, 2008 at 6:00 PM at Howard County Court Room, 2nd Floor.

The second public hearing will be held on September 15, 2008 at 10:00 AM at Howard County Commissioners Court Room, 2nd Floor.

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

**FOR** Judge Mark Barr Commissioner Emma Brown  
Commissioner Kerry Kilgore Commissioner Gary Simer

**AGAINST:**  
**PRESENT and not voting:**

**ABSENT:** Commissioner W. B. (Bill) Crooker

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in Howard County last year was \$31,870. Based on last year's tax rate of \$0.487870 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed last year on the average home was \$155.48.

The average taxable value of a residence homestead in Howard County this year is \$34,942. If the governing body adopts the effective tax rate for this year of \$0.413052 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$144.33.

If the governing body adopts the proposed tax rate of \$0.541209 per \$100 of taxable value, the amount of taxes imposed this year on the average home would be \$189.11.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

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\*Toyota Sequoia, stock #8103, MSRP \$48,815, Manufacturer's Rebate from Toyota Financial Services \$4,500, Dealer Discount \$5,500, Sale Price \$38,815 plus TT&L, offer expires 8/31/08.  
\*\*Toyota 4Runner, stock #8281, MSRP \$29,802, Manufacturer's Rebate from Toyota Financial Services \$2,500, Dealer Discount \$2,500, Sale Price \$24,802 plus TT&L, offer expires 8/31/08.  
\*\*\*Toyota Highlander, stock #8485, MSRP \$29,246, Manufacturer's Rebate from Toyota Financial Services \$1,000, Dealer Discount \$3,000, Sale Price \$25,246 plus TT&L, excludes hybrid models, offer expires 8/31/08. \*\*\* In lieu of rebate, with approved credit.



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\$2,000 Retail Dealer Cash To Dealer  
\$3,000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price  
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Total Savings Of  
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\$500 Ford Credit Cash To Dealer  
\$1,500 Retail Customer Cash To Dealer  
\$2,000 Owner Loyalty To Dealer

Your Clearance Sale Price  
\$22,558.75

Total Savings Of  
\$5,406.25



STK#1821

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\$2,000 Customer Cash To Dealer  
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Your Clearance Sale Price  
\$24,407.95

Total Savings Of  
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\$7,000



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Total Savings Of  
\$3,954.63

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\$704.63 Dealer Discount  
\$2,500 Customer Cash To Dealer  
\$750 Bonus Cash To Dealer



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\$500 Retail Dealer Cash To Dealer  
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Your Clearance Sale Price  
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Austin, Texas



**ARNOLD GUTIERREZ**  
La Joya, Texas

**AWARDED \$10,000**  
**LEADERSHIP WINNERS**  
A matching grant went to their schools.

**AWARDED \$25,000**  
**ACHIEVEMENT WINNERS**  
A matching grant went to their schools.



**SUE KUENTZ**  
San Antonio, Texas



**VINAY DULIP**  
Corpus Christi, Texas



**BILLY SNOW**  
Corsicana, Texas



**SUSAN PETTERSON**  
Weslaco, Texas

**AWARDED \$10,000**  
**PRINCIPAL WINNERS**  
A \$25,000 grant went to their schools.

**AWARDED \$100,000**  
**ALDINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
LARGE DISTRICT WINNER  
Houston, Texas

**AWARDED \$50,000**  
**LACKLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
SMALL DISTRICT WINNER  
San Antonio, Texas

Over 230 finalists and semi-finalists  
were also recognized with awards  
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