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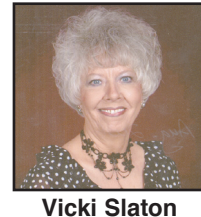
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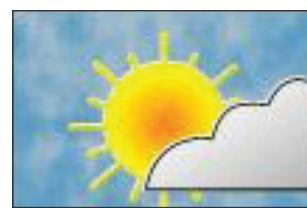
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MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 1, 2008



VOLUME 103, NUMBER 235

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You've got fair warning

Booth space going quickly for county's annual showcase

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Booth space for this year's Howard County Fair is going fast, organizers said.

The annual fair begins Sept. 24 and more than 70 percent of commercial booth space has already

been rented, said Susan Markwell, one of the fair's directors.

"We still have a few spaces left," Markwell said. "Probably about 20 out of more than 80 spaces ... everything is falling into place. We're just about ready."

Businesses and organizations which wish to rent indoor booth

space at the fair for \$175 need to contact Nancy Howard at 353-4448, Markwell said.

Admission to the fair, which runs through Sept. 27, is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children between ages 6 and 12.

Markwell said the fair will feature many familiar attractions,

as well as a few new twists, this year.

The event will once again feature a carnival midway, with rides provided by Crabtree Amusements. Another familiar face will be local Western Swing musician Jody Nix, who will provide entertainment on open-

ing night.

Gospel music takes center stage under the big tent the next evening, with several acts planned to entertain fair-goers beginning at 7:30 p.m. Among the singers scheduled to perform

See FAIR, Page 3

Register now to vote later, official urges

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Area residents planning to cast a ballot in the November election will need to register to vote by the Oct. 6 deadline, according to Howard County Election Administrator Sandra Bloom.

"The registration deadline for any election is 30 days prior to the election day," said Bloom. "If they haven't received their card or aren't sure if they're registered, all they have to do is come by the office. They can fill out the voter registration application and their card should be mailed to them in time for the November election."

"For those that can't get out, they can call us and



Bloom

we'll mail them the form. They can fill it out and just mail it back to us. It's a very easy process."

Bloom said the deadline for area voters to return applications for mail-in ballots is Oct. 27, but warned against procrastinating.

"I would encourage everyone to get their applications in as soon as possible," said Bloom. "If you're 65 years old or older, disabled, confined to jail or you know you will be out of the county for the election, you can apply for

See ELECTION, Page 3



HERALD photo/Steve Reagan
Eric Barber of the Big Spring Fire Department seeks donations for the firefighters' annual "Fill The Boot" campaign Saturday morning. The drive raises money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Gustav's eye closes in on Louisiana coastline

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN and MARY FOSTER

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Hurricane Gustav steamed toward the Louisiana coast early Monday on

track to hit west of New Orleans as the few remaining in the city watched nervously and hoped levees only partly reinforced in the three years since Katrina would hold.

Those who heeded days of warn-

ings to get out watched from shelters and hotel rooms hundreds of miles away, praying the powerful Category 3 storm and its 115-mph winds would pass without the same deadly toll.

"We're nervous, but we just

have to keep trusting in God that we don't get the water again," said Lyndon Guidry, who hit the road for Florida just a few months after he was able to return to his home in New Orleans. "We just have to put our faith in God."

Water gushed off buildings and flags hung in tatters, ripped to shreds in the high winds. But there were no reports of serious flooding, and only scattered

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Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

3 die in crash in Odessa

ODESSA (AP) — An early morning crash in Odessa killed three people and injured two others.

Odessa police said the three who died were in a car that went out of control and collided with a pickup truck.

The Odessa American reported in its online edition Sunday that the three victims, one from Odessa and two from Brownwood, died at the scene. Medical examiner Shirley Standeffer identified the dead as 30-year-old James Lee Sewell of Odessa, 22-year-old Jodie Elaine Sewell of Brownwood and 22-year-old Tyler Heath Swindall of Brownwood.

The crash occurred about 3 a.m. Sunday.

Two killed in chase crash

DALLAS (AP) — A police chase on U.S. 75 in northern Dallas came to a deadly end overnight.

A sheriff's department spokeswoman says a sport-utility vehicle driven by a suspected drunken driver slammed into two other SUVs at the intersection of a U.S. 75 frontage road and Mockingbird Lane. That's near Southern Methodist University.

Two people in one of the struck SUVs were killed. The man and woman in the suspect vehicle were injured critically. Some of the five SMU students in the third SUV were also injured, but none of those injuries were life-threatening. The chase began when the suspects drove off from a traffic stop on U.S. 75.



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Obituaries

Ruth Esther (Winbush) Akins



Ruth Esther (Winbush) Akins, 75, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring died Friday, Aug. 29, 2008, in Midland. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2008, at the Mt. Bethel Baptist Church in Big Spring with Pastor W.C. Kenan officiating.

Interment will follow at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends Tuesday from 6 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral

Home in Big Spring.

She was born March 17, 1933, in Anson and married Thomas Earl Akins Jan. 22, 1960, in Colorado City. He preceded her in death Jan. 17, 1986.

Ruth attended school in Brady. She moved to Big Spring in 1959 and lived there until 2000 when she moved to Midland to be close to her family. She was a member of Faith Temple/Mt. Bethel Baptist Church. She had been a member of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include one son and daughter-in-law, Edward and Greta Peterson of Tyler; two sisters, Debbie Collins of Sherman and Margie Belvin of Big Spring; four brothers, Thomas Evans of Big Spring, Charles Evans of Denver, Colo., Leonard Evans of Big Spring and Herman Evans of Midland; two grandsons; and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Dorothy Sherman; and two brothers, Roger Evans and Sam Evans.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Joan Lawson Ridgway



Joan Lawson Ridgway, 84, of Lubbock, formerly of Big Spring died Saturday, Aug. 30, 2008, in a Lubbock nursing home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2008, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park with the Rev. Walter McCall officiating.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

She was born Aug. 9, 1924, in Big Spring. She married Thurman Mitchell "Bud" Lawson, who preceded her in death Nov. 22, 1969. She then married Paul Ridgway who preceded her in death Aug. 4, 2001. She was also preceded in death by one brother and two sisters.

Joan lived in Big Spring until 1972 when she moved to Abilene. She then moved to Lubbock in 2004. She was a Baptist.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Micki and Clay Allen of Lubbock, and Luan and Jackie Touchstone of Big Spring; one sister, Betty Bain of Big Spring; four grandsons and seven great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorial donations be made to Vista Care Hospice of Lubbock, 1717 Norfolk, No. A-4th Floor, Lubbock 9416.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Take Note

- Colorado River Municipal Water District will hold a blood drive at the Dora Roberts Community Center, 100 Whipkey Drive, Wednesday and Thursday, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each donor will receive a special T-shirt. All donors at least 21 years of age will be eligible to win a trip for two to Las Vegas.

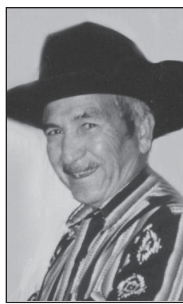
- Big Spring High School yearbooks are for last year's seniors. They may be picked up in Room 120. Yearbooks will be available for several weeks.

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

- 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.freewebs.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

Meliton A. 'Tony' Viera Sr.



Meliton A. "Tony" Viera Sr., 65, of Big Spring died Sunday, Aug. 31, 2008, at his residence. A prayer service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Chaplain Joe Torres, of Compass Hospice, officiating. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Iglesia Bautista Central with Rev. Basilio Esquivel, of Templo Bautista Hermosa in Midland, officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

He was born March 15, 1943, in Big Spring to Benita and Precliano Viera Sr. He was a lifetime resident of Big Spring and was employed by First Baptist Church for 15 years. He was a member of Iglesia Bautista Central, and was an ordained minister. He married Conception Hilario Dec. 3, 1959, in Big Spring.

He is survived by his wife, Conception Viera of Big Spring; four sons, Meliton Viera Jr., Michael Viera and wife Esmey, Luz Viera and wife Rosalinda, and Luis Alberto Viera, all of Big Spring; three daughters, Dolores Ordenez and husband Gustavo of Hobbs, Diane Ornelas and husband Jose of Tularosa, N.M. and Debra Carrillo and husband Roy of Big Spring; five brothers, Preciliano Viera Jr. and wife Ruth and Angel Viera, all of Portales, Paul Viera and wife Dolores and Charles Viera Sr. and wife Martha, all of Big Spring, and George Viera and wife Margie of Clovis, N.M.; one sister, Dominique Gonzales and husband Michael of Fort Worth; 25 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers, Jose Viera Sr., Larry Viera, Juan Viera and Moises Viera.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Dahlia 'Daisy' Flores Battles

Dahlia "Daisy" Flores Battles, 54, of Big Spring died Sunday, Aug. 31, 2008, at her residence. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 9 a.m. Saturday and 7 a.m. today:

- GABRIEL MORENO, 21, of 100 N.E. 10th Street, was arrested Saturday on a charge of public intoxication.
- ROBERT COLBLE, 19, of 2710 Anderson, was arrested Saturday on charges of hindering officers and consumption of alcohol by a minor.
- TIFFANY EMMERSON, 21, of 1800 11th Place, was arrested Sunday on a Brady County warrant.
- COREY HOFFPAUIR, 31, of 1308 Sheppard, was arrested Sunday on a charge of disregarding a police officer.
- PATRICK RIOS, 19, of 602 Abrams, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.
- KRISTY MORROW, 23, of 1407 S. Settles, was arrested Sunday on two local warrants.
- THEFT was reported:
 - in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
 - in the 800 block of Interstate Highway 20.
 - in the 200 block of Marcy.
- DISORDERLY CONDUCT - FIGHTING was reported in the 3600 block of Connally.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported:
 - in the 2500 block of Dow.
 - in the 100 block of Second Street.
 - in the 200 block of FM 700.
 - in the 1500 block of Fourth Street.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported:
 - in the 700 block of 13th Street.
 - in the 1700 block of Purdue.
- ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported:
 - in the 2500 block of Dow.
 - in the 1500 block of Wood.
- AGGRAVATED ASSAULT/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported in the 500 block of Westover Road.
- ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported:
 - in the 1600 block of Cardinal.
 - in the 1300 block of Sheppard.
 - in the 1300 block of Dixie.
 - in the 2100 block of Nolan.
 - in the 900 block of Birdwell Lane.

Support Groups

TUESDAY

- Grief Share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m.. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodne3tt at 264-7599.

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

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91/65	81/59	84/60	85/63	86/63
A few isolated thunderstorms developing during the afternoon under partly c.	Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm.	Mainly sunny. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	A few clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the low 60s.

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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

TUESDAY

- Coahoma Senior Citizen luncheon is set for 11 a.m. in the Coahoma Community Center.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Alzheimer's Association, the Greater West Texas Chapter meets at 2 p.m. in the Howard County Library conference room, 500 S. Main.
- VFW Post 2013 meets at 7 p.m. in the VFW Hall, 500 Driver Road.
- Gospel Singing in the Kentwood Activity Center at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- The Howard County Sheriff's Posse meets at 7 p.m. at the Sheriff's Posse building on the Andrews Highway. For more information, call Bert Sheppard at 263-4483 or Rose Armstead at 263-2769.
- Order of the Eastern Star No. 67 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Free blood pressure screenings from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., provided by InHome Care.
- Downtown Lions Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Duplicate Bridge Club meets at 1 p.m. in the Big Spring Country Club.
- Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie meets at 7 p.m. in the Eagles Lodge at 703 W. Third.

THURSDAY

- Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.
- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC Chapter 4791 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited.
- Genealogy Society of Big Spring meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Masonic Lodge No. 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon at the Howard College Cactus Room.
- Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Big Spring Cruisers cruise Gregg Street and at the Sonic Drive-In beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.
- Big Spring Squares. Call 263-6305 for more information.

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.
- Big Spring Band Boosters meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Big Spring High School band hall.
- Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.
- The Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 264-6116.
- Archeology Society for Howard and Borden counties meets at 7 p.m. in the Howard County Library Community Room in the basement. Call 270-2615 for more information.

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Pared-down Republican National Convention opens in St. Paul

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—The traditional festive opening of a national political convention was overshadowed by cancellations Monday, as John McCain and GOP officials tried to balance the desire to invigorate their partisans with showing empathy for those in Hurricane Gustav's path.

Monday's seven-hour program was pared back to roughly three, all of it strictly business and none of it in prime time. Network anchors who had planned to be in Minnesota instead were dispatched to the Gulf Coast. Democrats stood down in the war room they'd established to give rapid response to the Republicans.

And the delegates themselves shifted their gaze from the convention podium to their relatives, friends and neighbors along the Gulf Coast.

McCain, the presumptive GOP presidential nominee, urged delegates to take off their "Republican hats" and put on "American hats," shifting their organizing power from party politics to the needs of the evacuees.

"I know you'll agree with me," he said. "It's time to open our hearts, our efforts and our wallets, our concern, our care, for those American citizens who are now under the shadow and the possibility of a natural disaster," the senator said.

ELECTION

Continued from Page 1

a ballot by mail. They can write us a letter or send us a request by fax or e-mail.

"The deadline to receive an application for a ballot by mail is Oct. 27, which should allow enough time for the ballot to be mailed and returned in time for the election."

According to Bloom, requests for a mail out ballot must include the voter's name, address of residence inside Howard County, the reason for their request and the address the ballot should be mailed to.

If the reason for requesting a mail out ballot is the voter will be out of the county during the election, Bloom said the ballot must be mailed to an address outside Howard County, as well as mailed back from outside the county.

"We're hoping this will help our college students, military and voters temporarily working out of the county," said Bloom.

Voters will have plenty to choose from going into November's election, with a pair of seats on the Howard County Commissioners Court and sheriff on the line.

In the race for Howard County Sheriff, Republican candidate Stan Parker, a former officer with the Big Spring Police Department, will face off against Demo-

cratic nominee Pat Carter, a former sheriff's deputy.

Parker finished the March Republican Primary with 1,680 ballots — 54.04 percent of the vote — passing incumbent Dale Walker, who finished the race with 1,118 ballots, nearly 36 percent of the contest. Carter accepted his party's nomination after running unopposed in the primary.

The District 1 seat on the commissioners court will also be up for grabs, as Emma Brown, incumbent and Democratic Party nominee, will take on Republican nominee Edwin Ware. Brown finished the primary with 248 ballots, accounting for 51.77 percent of the vote, with Democratic opponent Yolanda Mendoza drawing 231 ballots, accounting for 48.23 percent of the vote.

The District 3 seat on the court will see a new face following the November contest, as Democratic nominee Dick Dubose will take on Republican candidate Jimmie Long, who defeated fellow GOP candidate Winston Paschal Odom. Long, who managed to draw 232 ballots in the April 8 runoff election called for at the close of the March Primaries, narrowly bested Odom, who drew 207 ballots from voters, to win the Republican party nomination.

Also in local contests, County Attorney Mike Thomas is running for re-election with the Democratic Party, drawing his only opponent in local attorney Joshua

Hamby, who is running on the Republican ticket. Both went unopposed in the March contests.

County Constable Bill Holden is also running for re-election on the Democratic ticket, challenged by Republican nominee Kneel B. Stallings. Both were unopposed in their respective party's primaries.

In state politics, incumbent U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R) will run against Democratic opponent Rick Noriega and Libertarian candidate Yvonne Adams Schick.

Incumbent District 19 U.S. Representative Randy Neugebauer will be riding the Republican ticket into the November election, facing Democratic nominee Dwight Fullingim and Libertarian nominee Richard "Chip" Peterson.

District 31 State Senator Kel Seliger will also be taking the GOP's nod into the contest, with only Libertarian candidate Lauren Poindexter opposing the incumbent.

Democratic incumbent Joe Heflin will be running for re-election to his State Representative District 85 seat, facing Dem nominee Isaac M. Castro on the ballot.

For more information on voter registration, contact Bloom at 264-2273.

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

FAIR

Continued from Page 1

are Bob and Marla Rainwater of Big Spring, Markwell said.

That Friday, entertainment will be provided by country artist Bobby Flores, a long-time friend and colleague of Nix, who

will perform from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. under the main tent.

Entertainment on the concluding night of the fair will be provided by local resident Guy Will Zant, who will perform a variety of music, ranging from country to vintage rock, beginning at 7 p.m.

The annual Fair Queen Contest, usually held a week in ad-

vance of the event, will be held at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 25 in the main fair barn.

Potential entrants need to contact Howard for more information.

Other annual attractions scheduled for the fair include a "ranch rodeo," tractor pull and the Kountry Kids pageant. The tractor pull this year will be ded-

icated to longtime fair supporter Gene Adams, who died earlier this year, Markwell said.

While she admits organizing the fair is a fairly grueling task, Markwell added that she enjoys the event as much as any visitor.

"I like to visit the different booths and see what they have to offer," she said. "Basically, I just

like walking around and seeing people enjoy themselves."

For more information on the fair, contact Markwell at 268-9335.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com

GUSTAV

Continued from Page 1

clusters of power outages.

The painful memories of Katrina, which flooded 80 percent of New Orleans and killed more than 1,600 along the Gulf Coast, led officials to aggressively insist that everyone in Gustav's path flee from shore. As the storm grew near, the streets of the city were empty — save for National Guardsmen and just about every officer on the city's police force standing watch for looters.

In all, nearly 2 million people left south Louisiana, as did tens of thousands from coastal Mississippi, Alabama and southeastern Texas.

Even presidential politics bowed to the storm, as the Republican Party scaled back its convention plans in deference to Gustav's threat. Mindful of the government's inept response to Katrina, President Bush scrapped his Monday appearance at the convention and instead headed to Texas, where emergency response personnel were getting ready.

"It's amazing. It makes me feel really good that so many people are saying, 'We as Americans, we as the world, have to get this right this time,'" New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin said. "We cannot afford to screw up again."

Asked what lessons he learned during Katrina that were being applied now, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff told CBS: "Planning, preparation and moving

early."

Gustav killed at least 94 people as it tore through the Caribbean and it will test three years of planning and rebuilding on the Gulf Coast following Katrina's wrath. Billions of dollars were at stake, as Gustav threatened industries ranging from sugar to shipping. If production is significantly interrupted from the region's refineries and offshore oil and gas platforms, price spikes could hit all Americans at the pump.

Officials promised they were ready to respond this time. Chertoff said search and rescue would be the top priority once the storm passed: high-water vehicles, helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft, Coast Guard cutters and a Navy vessel that is essentially a floating emergency room were posted around the strike zone.

"I feel a little nervous about the storm and exactly where it's going to end up, but I also feel real good about the resources," Nagin said. "Man, if we have resources, we can move mountains."

Forecasters had expected Gustav to strengthen further before making landfall around midday, but early Monday they said the storm would hold steady as a Category 3. Katrina also made landfall as a strong Category 3, which carries sustained winds of between 111 mph and 130 mph.

At 8 a.m. EDT, the storm's center was located about 85 miles south of New Orleans and was moving northwest at 16 mph.

The city of Franklin, about 100 miles west of New Orleans, was bracing for a direct hit if Gustav stays on its current track. Dozens of sheriff's deputies, along with state troopers and guardsmen, waited at an emergency operations center inside the courthouse.

"We don't rely on backup. If it comes, great, but we don't trust the federal government. They can never get it quite right," said state Rep. Sam Jones.

He estimated that at least three-quarters of the city's roughly 9,000 residents evacuated for Gustav. For good reason: Three years ago, Hurricane Rita flooded up to 200 homes in the city.

Tropical storm-force winds reached the southeastern tip of the state early Monday morning, but local officials said they had not received any distress calls or reports of unexpected flooding.

In Plaquemines Parish, south of New Orleans, officials built an emergency levee to prevent flooding along a highway that runs along the Mississippi River, sheriff's spokesman Maj. John Marie said.

But it was extremely quiet. "It's really remarkable, we got almost everybody out," he said.

In New Orleans, officials were anxiously watching to see what kind of storm surge the city would face: If forecasts hold, the city could experience a storm surge of only 4 to 6 feet, compared to a surge of 10

to 14 feet at the site of landfall, said Corey Walton, a hurricane support meteorologist with the National Hurricane Center.

Katrina, by comparison, brought a storm surge of 25 feet, causing levees to break. While the Army Corps of Engineers has shored up some of the city's levee system since then, fears this time center on the city's West Bank, where levee repairs have not been completed.

City officials were pleased so many residents heeded warnings to leave. They estimated only about 100,000 along the coast decided to tough it out.

"When the 911 calls start coming in, we'll know how many people are left in town," said police superintendent Warren Riley.

The city's emergency medical service had received only 26 calls as of midnight Monday, a fraction of what they received on the night before Katrina, spokesman Jeb Tate said.

Adam Woods didn't need to be told to leave. A Coast Guard helicopter plucked him off his roof after Katrina, and this time, he

and his lab mix Mandela headed to the city's Union Station for a ride out of town.

"I've got oxygen in my lungs," the 53-year-old landscaper said. "Remember, you've got to be alive to have problems."

Jeffrey Carreras was among those staying behind. Looters wreaked havoc in his neighborhood restaurant in the days after Katrina struck and despite promises of police protection, he wasn't willing to leave his business a second time.

"I have shotguns, rifles. I collect guns actually," Carreras said. "So I have plenty of guns in there, plenty of ammo."

Gustav was the seventh named storm in the Atlantic hurricane season. The eighth, Tropical Storm Hanna, was strengthening about 100 miles from the Bahamas. Though a

storm's track and intensity are difficult to predict days in advance, long-term projections showed the storm could come ashore along the border of Georgia and South Carolina late in the week.

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Meliton A. "Tony" Viera, Sr., 65, died Sunday. A Prayer Service will be at 7 p.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Funeral Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Iglesia Bautista Central with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

Dahlia "Daisy" Flores Battles, 54, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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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.

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Alaska's Gov. Sarah Palin — the new deerslayer

Let's face it. John McCain's a loner with a stern, "it's-a-dangerous-world" message and fairly cold eyes. He isn't charismatic. And no one can accuse him of being a sunny guy. In fact, he's better known for his short, hot temper.

So how's McCain going to overcome America's infatuation with Barack Obama — a man who has bewitched voters with his smile, enchanted youth with the novelty of his candidacy, and lured war-weary Americans with his message of "change" and promises of free, universal everything?

The answer is clear. McCain needs Alaska's Gov. Sarah Palin, who will connect with voters as an authentic American folk hero. First, as a governor she passes the competence test. American voters have shown again and again they will vote governors into the White House. There's Clinton. Carter. Bush the Younger. Reagan.

So why not Palin, a heartbeat away from the aged McCain?

But more important, she's the governor of the state that captures the imagination and embodies the authentic American folk narrative. Alaska is our last frontier. Remember Horace Greeley's "Go west, young man, go west!" Not to worry that this phrase is often wrongly attributed to Horatio Alger. Americans remember that the west is where freedom and opportunity still exist. The west is where optimism resides. Even if they don't think about it, Americans still feel it.

That's where Palin's personal biography will prevail. Palin is as continental west as west can be; and Alaska is a nice contrast to Obama's Hawaiian roots. Even better, Palin carries a gun! She hunts! I'll bet she can skin and process a deer in under 10 minutes. Take that al-Qaeda!

Come to think of it, she might actually be able to hunt down Osama bin Laden. And America has loved hunters and deer slayers since at least 1823 when James Fenimore Cooper gave America its first universally accepted folk hero, the Deerslayer, in "The Pioneers."

And then, there's the obvious fact that she's a woman. If McCain was going to pull from the Democratic middle-age female base that fueled Hillary Clinton's candidacy, he needed to look beyond the white male. Think of all the Clinton voters who supported Clinton simply because they thought she could crack the highest glass ceiling. Palin will attract these disaffected voters who are looking for someone to vote for other than Obama.

And then there's the fact that Palin has five kids. Five. Including one who has Down syndrome. That shows voters that she's for real and can actually relate to the lives of real voters, people who love, feel and suffer.

It was important for McCain to pick a running mate who makes people feel better. Palin is as compelling, youthful and charismatic as McCain is not. Her video clips remind you of Reagan's optimism. Her down-to-earth manner exudes the hope that Republicans need to win. We can almost imagine her on the cover of People magazine with her family gathered around her and her gun rack in the background.

Palin is the perfect complement for McCain and the perfect antidote to Obama.

Nanette Everson is a former White House counsel.

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- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721.

America in its darkest hour

America is in its darkest hour — again. It happens every four years when the Democrats take center stage for their national convention. In 2004, we heard that we were in the midst of another Great Depression. For the last week, we've heard more economic doom and gloom. It must have been disappointing news to Dems to read on Thursday that the U.S. economy grew 3.3 percent in the second quarter. It's hard to turn those numbers into a recession, much less a depression.

But if the Democrats see disaster on every domestic front, they seem oblivious to the real threats to the United States. There was hardly a word about terrorism, and scant mention of national security during the weeklong gabfest. Wednesday's proceedings, which convention organizers had promised was going to be devoted to national security themes, barely touched on the issue. That is unless you think Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks are experts on national security. The Spielberg film tribute to American soldiers, narrated by Hanks, was an interesting take on America's mission in Iraq. Apparently we sent soldiers there not to liberate the country and take down a brutal dictator but to see how many young Americans we could maim or send home in caskets.

The most glaring omission, however, was in Sen. Joe Biden's speech. Barack Obama picked Biden as his running mate largely

because Biden's strength on foreign policy issues balanced Obama's obvious weakness in this arena. Biden, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, spent most of his time spinning folksy stories about his working-class background and making digs at his "friend" John McCain. Biden devoted less than a paragraph of his long, rambling speech to national security and foreign policy.

He was quick to blame the Bush administration for failing "to face the biggest forces shaping this century: the emergence of Russia, China, and India as great powers and the emergence of fundamentalism in Afghanistan and Pakistan, the real central front in the war on terror." But he offered no inkling of what Barack Obama and he would do differently. And what we know of Obama's thoughts on these issues isn't comforting. To date, Obama has waxed both belligerent and timid on Pakistan and Russia.

A year ago, Obama said that he'd be willing to attack targets in Pakistan without the approval of the Pakistan government, "if we have actionable intelligence about high-value terrorist targets." Pretty bellicose rhetoric aimed at a U.S. ally. But when Russia invaded Georgia, Obama suddenly became more reticent — except to suggest that maybe it was George Bush's fault (isn't everything). After first suggesting that Russia and Georgia ought to sit down to negotiate their differences, as if the two countries were equally to blame for Russia's invasion, Obama later said: "We've got to send a clear message to Russia and unify our allies. They can't charge into other countries. Of course it helps if we are leading by example

on that point."

But what are the Democrats' plans to keep the country safe from the very real peril of international terrorism? During Bill Clinton's eight years in office, al-Qaida was plotting an even more spectacular attack on the World Trade Center than its first bombing in 1993. But the past seven years under President Bush have seen the dismemberment of al-Qaida and its diminishing influence even among Islamist radicals. The Democrats want to downplay the success of the war on terror, but how will they ensure that Americans will be as safe under a President Obama?

And how will the Obama-Biden team confront Russia? The Russians seem intent on sparking a new Cold War. We won the last one by building a military force with which the Soviets couldn't compete. But Democrats are traditionally loathe to invest in new weapons systems and want to raise taxes for domestic spending, not to insure the finest military in the world. Are Democrats really up to the task of keeping the Russian Bear in check?

Democrats had a week to describe how Barack Obama would step into the role of commander in chief come January. They failed to do so. Now it's up to American voters to decide whether they're willing to make a leap of faith that Obama's up to the job.

Linda Chavez is the author of "An Unlikely Conservative: The Transformation of an Ex-Liberal." To find out more about Linda Chavez, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Democrats talkin' like the GOP

DENVER — In some ways, the Dems confab sounds a bit like a Republican convention. For example: Nuclear energy? It's big here. The daily convention edition of the National Journal has been running pro-nuclear energy ads on Page Two every day — and touting the support of Democratic Party biggies.

"Under any scenario, we're going to see more nuclear power, because it's just going to be more cost-effective once there's a price on carbon," quoth one Western senator.

Sen. John McCain? Nope. Sen. Barbara Boxer of California.

Radioactive is the new green. I like it.

Many of the delegates are sick of Bill and Hillary.

The candidate's wife makes it known that she only hits the campaign trail because her mother can take care of the kids. Forget the old days of careerism feminism — attorney Michelle Obama is a mom first.

Former President and Nobel Peace Prize winner Jimmy Carter gets no respect. He didn't even rate a speaking role at the Democratic National Convention.

They used to say, "Jimmy who?" before he was elected. He was the leader of the free world for four years, and now they're saying it again.

At this Democratic gathering, taxes are a dirty word. Indeed, Democrats are talking up how tax cuts stimulate the economy and create jobs. Hmmm. Where have I heard that before?

Democratic operatives don't even realize how much they sound like their Satan, George W. Bush. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., sat down with reporters Tuesday to discuss Barack Obama's economic package. In light of next year's anticipated \$482 billion deficit, I asked her how Obama can tout tax cuts and more government programs.

Her answer: "The first question is: How do you do a tax cut and fight a war, which is what George Bush did." Hello, folks. If Obama is elected president, regardless of what he does in Iraq, he promises to increase military action in Afghanistan. He is proposing to do a tax cut and fight a war.

Until Wednesday night, speakers talked more about the economy than the war in Iraq. (I predict that speakers at the GOP convention in Minneapolis-St. Paul will talk more about the war in Iraq than the Dems talk about the war at their convention.)

Four years ago, at the Democratic National Convention in Boston

(before Democrats took over Congress), the war was the overriding moral issue. Now the Democrats run Congress and U.S. troops are still in Iraq.

Where's the outrage?

In 1988, when Vice President George H.W. Bush said, "Read my lips: No new taxes," I was there. In hotel bars that night and in the weeks that followed, the buzz from the press — I thought unfairly — was that there was no way Bush would not be able to keep his word.

Obama has pledged to cut taxes for 95 percent of American families. Yet the media don't seem to challenge him as they challenged the Bush 41 — who simply said he wouldn't raise taxes, not that he could cut them despite a large deficit.

It could be that the press have seen that tax cuts can work, and lead to revenue increases. But I think a larger factor is a change in the media. We expect politicians to pander, not lead. Like the public, we no longer demand that they make difficult choices.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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LINDA CHAVEZ



DEBRA SAUNDERS

HERALD PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Each week, the Herald will recognize Crossroads athletes who posted outstanding performances in their sport, ranging from swimming and tennis to football and volleyball. With the fall sports season just starting, all athletes are football players this week.

Ryan Tannehill

Former Big Spring Steer, currently a receiver for Texas A&M

Tannehill started his first game as a wide receiver for the Aggies Saturday, leading the team with five receptions for 59 yards in an 18-14 loss to Arkansas St.

The former Big Spring Steers signal caller remains third on the depth chart as a quarterback.

Cade Hollandsworth

Big Spring senior linebacker
Hollandsworth was credited with an astounding 28 tackles in the Steers' season-opening 20-14 win over the Snyder Tigers Friday.

Ten of those tackles were solo, including two occurring behind the line of scrimmage. Snyder averaged just 3.3 yards a play against the Steers' defense.

P.J. Daylong

Coahoma senior running back
Daylong led a Bulldogs' rushing attack that racked up 251 yards on the ground against Van Horn's Eagles Saturday at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa.

Daylong accounted for 198 of those yards on 25 carries and scored two touchdowns.

Johnny Rogers

Sands junior quarterback
Rogers accounted for all four of the Mustangs' touchdowns in Friday's 30-16 victory over Hermleigh.

He ran for three and passed for one and keyed Sands' 24-point fourth quarter to seal the win.

Casey Shands

Grady senior running back
With starting quarterback Dylan Cox injured, Shands became the focus of the offense.

He answered the call, rushing for 110 yards and picking up another 76 on seven receptions in Grady's 34-30 win over Sanderson.

Jeremy Robbins

Forsan senior receiver
Robbins was one of the Buffs' top performers offensively and defensively Friday night in a 26-9 loss to Eldorado.

Robbins had three receptions for a 119 yards and hooked up with QB Alex Huckabee for Forsan's only touchdown.

Matt Ritchey

Big Spring junior quarterback
Ritchey started at quarterback at the varsity level for the first time Friday night.

He didn't disappoint, completing 7-of-8 passes for 136 yards and a touchdown and scoring on a pair of 1-yard plunges to go along with 49 yards rushing.



Garden City's Jake Schwartz (33) stiff arms an Abbott defender in six-man football action from Saturday in Hico. The Bearkats lost their season opener, 57-14.

Courtesy photo/James Schwartz

Abbott cruises past Garden City, 57-12

By EVAN JANSA

Special to the Herald

HICO — It was a battle of two perennial six-man powers, however, only one showed supremacy Saturday night.

The seventh-ranked Abbott Panthers attacked the No. 8 Garden City Bearkats quickly at the fifth annual Six-man Super Saturday in Hico. The Panthers scored on a 60-yard run on their first possession, showing a sign of what was to come as they cruised to a 57-12 victory.

According to Garden City Defensive Coordinator Koby

Abney, the auspicious start for the Panthers was created by a group of experienced underclassmen, who were well-versed in the teachings of tenured Head Coach Terry Crawford's system.

"There's no question, they're head and shoulders above us — and a good bunch of the teams in the state," admitted Abney.

Though they struggled throughout the contest, the 'Kats feel that an early season loss should not derail their season. Although they're flanked with numerous

See BEARKATS, Page 6

Bulldogs rip Eagles

Coahoma opens with 25-12 win

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

ODESSA — Coahoma's Bulldogs overcame a short thunderstorm and a feisty Van Horn Eagles squad for its first win of the season Saturday.

Better yet, the 25-12 win came in infamous Ratliff Stadium, giving the Bulldogs a memory they'll likely never forget. Especially for new Head Coach Stacey Martin, who picked up his first victory of his career.

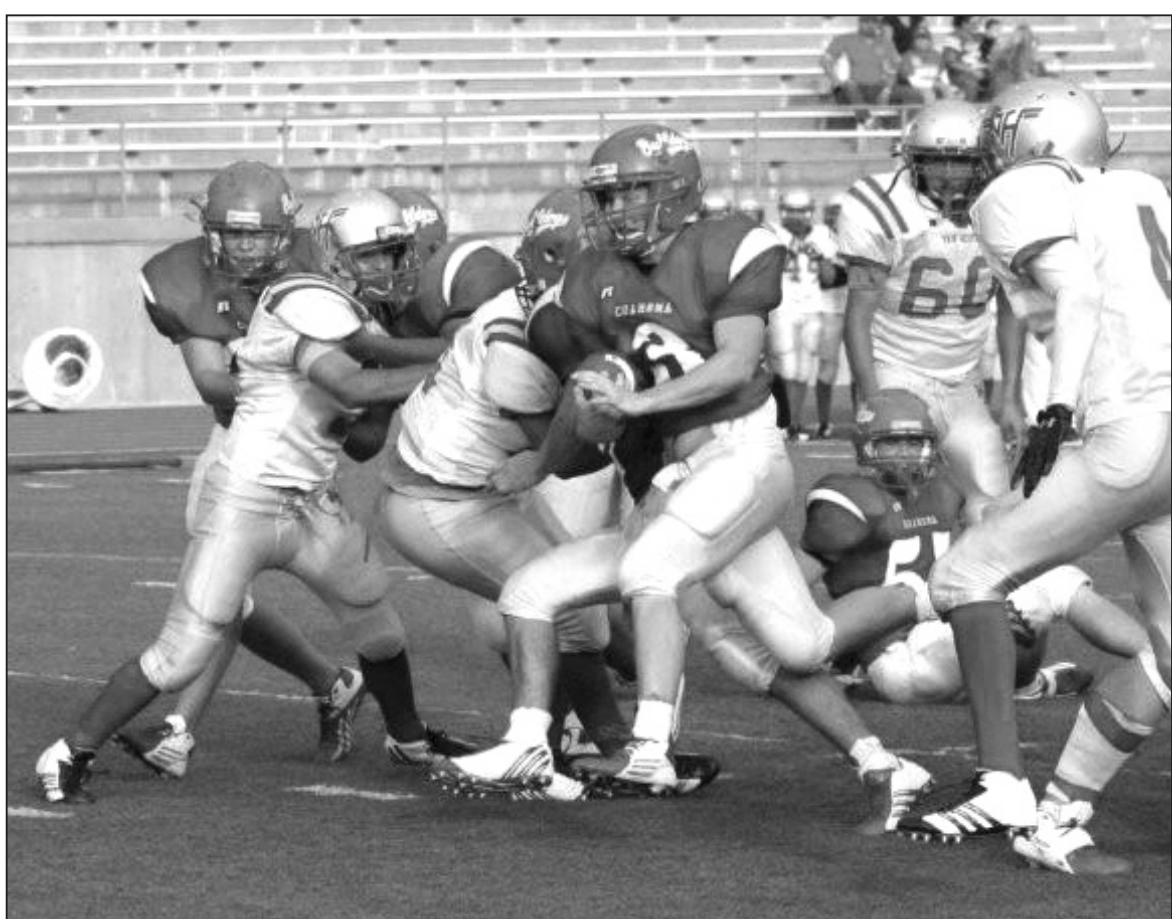
"It's a good feeling to get that win," Martin said.

The game didn't start in the Bulldogs' favor, however, as quarterback Josh Paniagua fumbled on the contest's opening play. Van Horn recovered and used a power running game to score a few plays later, courtesy of a 1-yard plunge by fullback Luis Navarette.

However, the rest of the game essentially belonged to Coahoma's P.J. Daylong. Daylong tied the game at 6 with a 2-yard run with 2:42 left in the opening stanza. He'd finish the game with 198 yards and two touchdowns on 25 carries.

Daylong's effectiveness allowed the Bulldogs' to keep it simple offensively, throwing just nine passes in the game.

"We came out wanting to establish the running game," Martin said. "Van Horn kind of spread out no matter how we lined



Coahoma Bulldogs running back P.J. Daylong scores on a 6-yard run against the Van Horn Eagles in football action from Saturday at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa. Daylong had 198 yards and two touchdowns in Coahoma's 25-12 victory.

Courtesy photo/Iain Sloan

up, giving us some nice creases to run through. P.J. took advantage of it."

Although they rarely threw the ball, the Bulldogs were very effective when they decided to work an air attack. Paniagua's first completion of the game came in the second quarter and ended up going for 80 yards to fullback Corey Roberts, who snuck down the sideline uncovered. The score gave Coahoma a 13-6 advantage.

After a 16-yard score by Van Horn's J.J. Baca cut Coahoma's lead to 1 at 13-12, Paniagua struck again, connecting with Lupe Abrego for a 19-yard gain to the Van Horn 6. Daylong took it into the end zone

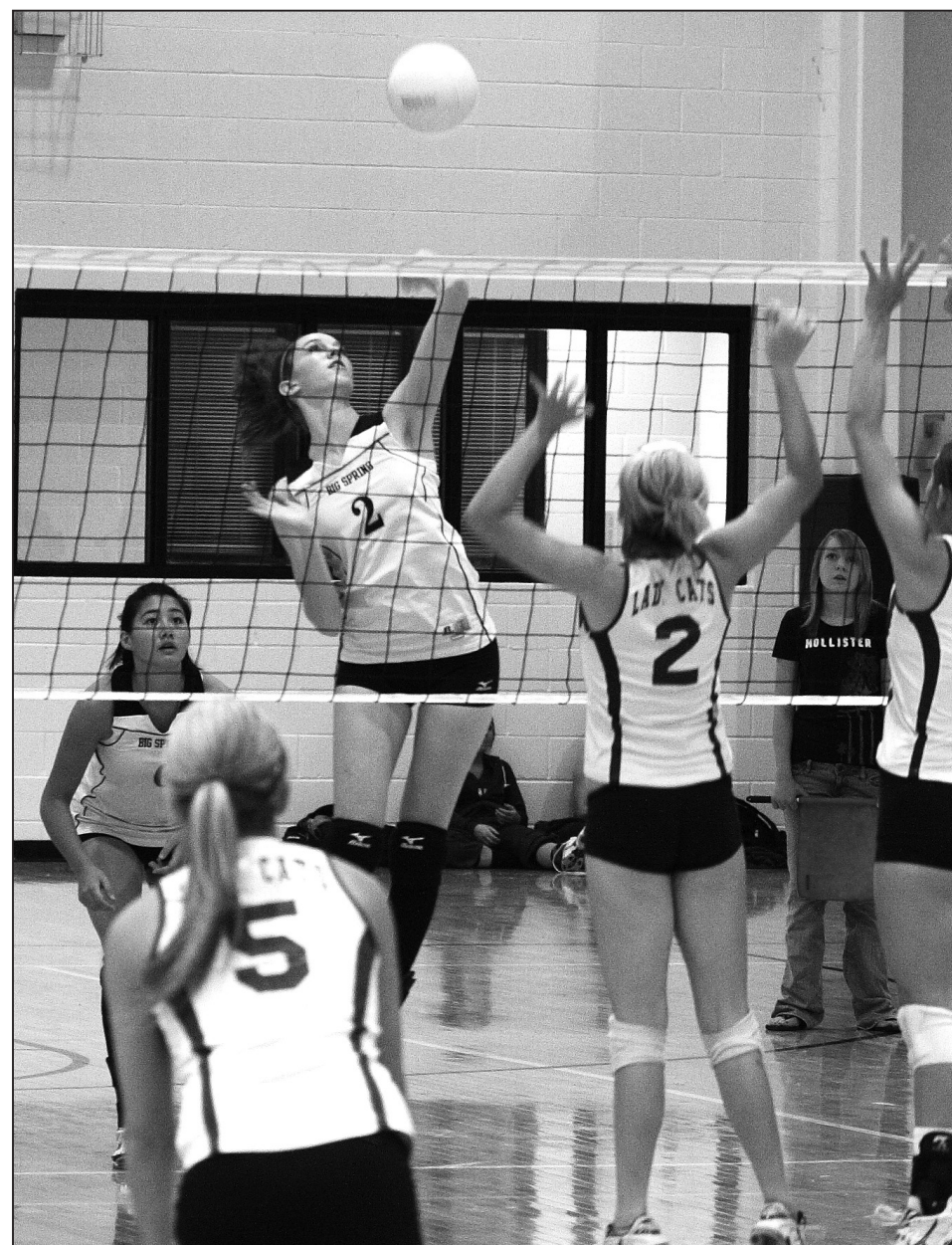
from there for his second touchdown.

Coahoma continued to make good of its few passing attempts in the third quarter, scoring the only touchdown of the second half via a 24-yard connection from Paniagua to Roberts.

"We found a mismatch there with Corey and Van Horn never adjusted to it," Martin said. "It allowed us some good success in the passing game."

It was, however, a hostile affair in the first half as each team was called for multiple personal fouls and unsportsmanlike

See COAHOMA, Page 6



Big Spring's Macy Graves goes for the kill against River Road Saturday in volleyball action from the Seminole Tournament.

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Struggles continue for Lady Steers

Big Spring drops two matches in second day at Seminole Tourney

Herald Staff Report

SEMINOLE — After dropping three matches in straight sets during the first day of the Seminole Tournament Friday, the Big Spring Lady Steers started the type of streak teams want to avoid.

Big Spring (4-17) finished the tourney in Seminole 0-5, falling to River Road, 25-9, 25-14, and Andrews, 25-16, 25-12. The losses increase the Lady Steers' losing streak to 10 games.

Against River Road, the Lady Steers earned just two points in the match, meaning the other 21 points accumulated in the game came via error by the Lady Cats. Four of Big Spring's nine points in the first set were scored by River Road serving errors.

"It's inexcusable for us to play that way. We simply have no killer instinct at the net," said Big Spring Head Coach Meghan Blake. "I don't know that we have the desire to just step out on the court

and just beat somebody badly. It's like we believe we're the ones who are supposed to be beaten badly.

"River Road was a good team. They swung well, passed well and were very aggressive at the net," continued Blake. "That's something we don't do and I feel like that's why we're getting beat as much as we are."

The Lady Steers' level of competitiveness increased in their second match against Andrews, but they still lacked a kill instinct. No player had more than three kills in the match.

"We have the ability, size, skill and athleticism, but we don't swing for the kill," explained Blake. "The teams we've been playing with the exception of San Angelo Central and El Paso Franklin are no better athletically than we are. The only difference is they're going for the kill

See LADY STEERS, Page 6

Local sports roundup: CC, subvarsity football

Forsan cross country finishes 5th in Big Lake

BIG LAKE — The Forsan High School cross country teams opened their season Saturday with the boys team, placing fifth overall at a meet in Big Lake.

Freshman Kyle Stevenson led the charge, placing 19th overall. Jake Rhoton crossed the finish line eight runners later in 27th. Josh Sanchez (46th), J.P. Barber (47th) and Elgen Suazo (49th) ran the race together, rounding out Forsan's overall points total.

Also running for the team, acting as buffers between the top five Buffs and the rest of the field, was Michael Mims (73rd), Tommi Mannenin (82nd) and Eric Ochoa (95th).

Only Class 2A and 3A schools placed ahead of Forsan.

In the junior high boys division, Marcus Cervantes placed fifth, Dillon Bagnall was ninth, Polo Morin came across in 15th and Jansen McDonald finished 26th. Had the

junior high Buffs had one more runner, chances are they would have brought home the team trophy.

Forsan cross country travels to Carlsbad Saturday.

Steers freshman 26, Snyder Tigers 8

Alex Gonzales and Garrett Stuteville led the freshman charge past the Snyder Tigers Thursday. Gonzales returned a kick-off for a touchdown and also ran one in. Stuteville threw for two scores, once to Toby Rodgers and then again to Tyler Hall.

Coaches credit Austin Trevino as a standout on the offensive line and the entire defense for playing a strong game.

Snyder 12, Steers JV 6

The junior varsity Steers' only score Thursday came courtesy of a 60-yard punt return by Mike Menefield. Unfortunately, the offense simply couldn't find the end zone.

Offensively, the coaches praised Devonte Lloyd,

Austin Sanchez and Jacob Wiley. For defense, standouts were King Terrell, Edward Aguero and the entire secondary.

Forsan JV 40, Eldorado 0

FORSAN — Forsan's junior varsity team won their first game Thursday night, beating the Eldorado Eagles, 40-0.

Coach Brad Batla praised the squad in what he called 'a very good team effort'.

Defensively, the Buffs held Eldorado to three first downs with Cameron Churchwell, Patrick Robles and Tristan Clay (one interception) eading the way.

On the offensive side of the ball, Forsan executed well, according to Batla, who said the offensive line did a very good job blocking and the backs ran hard.

Ty Johnson scored four TDs (three rushing, one interception return) while Steven Johnson and Tim Davila, who added a score, also ran the ball hard.

The JV Buffs will travel to Coahoma next week.

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 5

every time at the net and we don't have that mind set.

"This team is really lacking a leader on the court," she continued. "No matter what sport it is, every team needs a leader other than the coach and nobody has stepped up to take that role. We just don't have the enthusiasm or energy we need from the upperclassmen."

Big Spring has a chance to break their losing streak Tuesday, but against a strong opponent. Bronte, ranked No. 14 in Class A, visits Steer Gym with the varsity playing at 6 p.m.

"Bronte should be a good match for us," Blake said. "They're a good and established program. I'm hoping we'll see the intensity with which they play the game and can start to emulate it."

River Road defeated

Big Spring

25-9, 25-14

Kills — Macy Graves 2, Andrea

Claxton 1, Mirella Torres 1, Cerbi Ritchey 1.

Aces — Claxton 1.

Digs — Valerie Ross 4, Baylea Fox 3, Sloan Davis 2, Ritchey 2, Halee Thomas 1, Belle Feaster 1, Claxton 1.

Assists — Ritchey 4.

Blocks — Claxton 2, Feaster 5.

Andrews defeated

Big Spring

25-16, 25-12

Kills — Claxton 3, Graves 3, Ritchey 1, Thomas 1, Fox 1, Ross 1, Feaster 1.

Digs — Ross 3, Fox 2, Thomas 1, Ritchey 1, Claxton 1.

Blocks — Claxton 1.

Assists — Ritchey 10.

Cowboys get wide receiver options on practice squad

The Associated Press

IRVING — Receivers Danny Amendola and Mike Jefferson were signed Sunday to the Dallas Cowboys' practice squad, and there is a chance that one or both of them will play in the season opener.

Amendola, a rookie free agent, and Jefferson, who was on the practice squad last season, were among 21 players the Cowboys cut Saturday to get to their 53-man roster. Both players cleared waivers, along with five other players Dallas cut and brought back to the practice squad.

Dallas still has one spot left on its practice squad, which was likely kept open for another pending move.

The Cowboys have reached an agreement in principle to re-sign safety and special teams standout Keith Davis, who had signed a two-year free agent deal with Miami in March. But Davis was cut by the Dolphins before their final pre-season game.

When the deal is completed with Davis, the Cowboys will have to clear a spot on

their 53-man roster for him. And that will likely be somebody that Dallas will then try to put on the practice squad.

When Amendola and Jefferson were cut Saturday, that left Terrell Owens and Patrick Crayton as the only healthy receivers on the roster.

Receivers Sam Hurd (left ankle) and Miles Austin (sprained right knee) definitely won't play in the season opener Sunday at Cleveland, and might go longer without getting in a game. Isaiah Stanback (dislocated shoulder) hasn't been ruled out for the Browns game, but he didn't practice last week.

Also signed to the practice squad were running back Alonzo Coleman, fullback Julius Crosslin, defensive end Marcus Dixon, linebacker Tearrius George and tight end Rodney Hannah.

Rookie linebacker Erik Walden, a sixth-round pick from Middle Tennessee State who was the only one of the Cowboys' draft picks in April that was cut, didn't clear waivers. He was claimed by Kansas City.

Texas DT arrested following victory over FAU

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas defensive tackle Lamarr Houston was suspended for Saturday's game at Texas El-Paso after his arrest on a misdemeanor drunken driving charge a few hours after the Longhorns beat Florida Atlantic 52-10.

"We've talked with Lamarr and his family and decided that he will not be

making the trip to El Paso to play in this week's game," coach Mack Brown said Sunday night in a statement. "He asked to apologize to the team and did so at our team meeting earlier today. The issue will be handled within the team and any further action will be addressed at the appropriate time."

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 5

conduct penalties. After a short scuffle that ended with Coahoma getting two 15-yard penalties called against them, the Bulldogs called a timeout to cool off the team.

"We told the team we weren't going to play that type of game," Martin said. "We refocused and regrouped in the locker room and really shut down Van Horn from that moment."

The two teams totaled 192 total yards on 22 combined penalties. However, none of Coahoma's fouls were of the 15-yard variety following that second half timeout. Meanwhile, Van Horn had a player ejected on the play immediately following the timeout and another was kicked out of the game with less than a minute left to play.

Defensively, the Bulldogs shut down the Eagles, holding them to 193 yards with 185 of them coming on the ground. Van Horn completed just 1-of-3 passes for eight yards and threw one interception.

"Against the Eagles' type of option

offense, a defense has to read its keys and trust what it reads," explained Martin. "We did a very good job of this."

Coahoma faces off with cross-county rival Forsan at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Forsan.

Van Horn 6 6 0 0-12
Coahoma 6 13 6 0-25

1st Quarter

VH — Luis Navarette 1 run (kick blocked), 10:13
Coa — P.J. Daylong 2 run (kick failed), 2:42

2nd Quarter

Coa — Corey Roberts 80 pass from Josh Paniagua (Clanton kick good), 11:37
VH — J.J. Baca 16 run (kick failed), 7:12
Coa — Daylong 6 run (run failed), 2:12

3rd Quarter

Coa — Roberts 24 pass from Paniagua (Clanton kick good), 1:09

Individual statistics

Rushing: Van Horn — Daniel Corrales 14-82, J.J. Baca 7-71, Luis Navarette 8-20, Rene Navarette 2-8, Steven Sanchez 1-7, Leo Corral 2-7, Omar Flores 1-2, Bryan Alvarado 4-(-12); Coahoma — P.J. Daylong 25-198, Corey Roberts 5-35, Josh Paniagua 4-14, Jason Martinez 3-4.

Passing: Van Horn — Alvarado 0-2-1-0, Jeremy Florez 1-1-0-8; Coahoma — Paniagua 4-9-1-131.

Receiving: Van Horn — Baca 1-8; Coahoma — Roberts 3-112, Lupe Abrego 1-19.

BEARKATS

Continued from Page 5

inexperienced players, the 'Kats' aspirations are nothing short of the state title game.

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

"Being that we had a lot of young guys out there, seeing their first bit of action," senior Cole Schwartz said, "we still got a lot out of the loss. It's not exactly the game we wanted, but everyone got all of their nervousness out."

With an abundance of new starters on both sides of the ball, Garden City was at an obvious disadvantage against the experienced Panthers.

Garden City's only offensive score came on a touchdown run by Jake Schwartz.

The other touchdown came via a kick return by Josh Colunga.

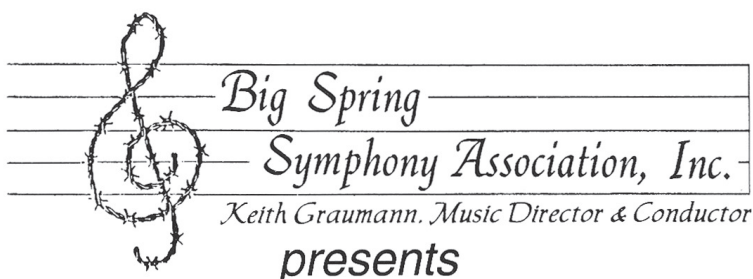
"After tonight our guys know what it takes to play at the varsity level," Abney said. "We had some young kids out there making mistakes that we won't have to worry about after the first game."

The 'Kats did get great performances from their seniors—especially Cole Schwartz.

Cole had an incredible game," Abney said. "He makes up for our lack of experience. Cole is one of the smartest defensive players I've coached."

Although the score did not favor the 'Kats, playing Abbott — a legitimate Top 10 team — shouldn't hurt them down the road this year.

"The rest of our schedule doesn't measure up to playing Abbott," Schwartz said. "We know what a quality team is and where we need to be when district rolls around."



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BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

The moon joins Mercury, Venus and Mars, all in Libra. It's a Libra pileup! It's also Labor Day in the U.S., and those of us who have a free day from working might choose to forgo resting from our labors, opting instead to mix and mingle with our favorite people. Appropriately, there's a lively, harmonious aura surrounding this action-packed day.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll be witness to people trying to make a certain kind of creative impact and mostly failing. Make sure that the voice from the peanut gallery isn't yours, though. Criticism is easy. Art is hard.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Have you taken any interesting chances lately? Risked feeling embarrassed, scared or hurt? If you have the sneaking suspicion that the fates are on your side, you're right. So go on, put yourself out there.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your social life adds to the other areas of your life in significant ways. You know people, and that matters. You'll be glad you put in the face time with neighbors, bosses and community members.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You attempt to distance yourself physically, mentally and spiritually from someone, but right now it's challenging to give up the ghost. There's something you still have to learn from this rela-

tionship.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Getting frustrated is draining. Instead, accept that people are going to give you something different than you might have done in their position. They have their energy level and you've got yours.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're faced with a small decision at work, but this choice represents a much bigger one. You're either doing what others have done before you, or you're starting a revolution.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't have to work at making friends. You have a natural style that others cotton to right away. This is a terrific time to mingle and be seen. If you're single and you're not careful, you could wind up in love.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll be dealing with egomaniacs. You can't even believe the things they think you should be doing for them. If it weren't for the fact that you were once a 3-year-old, too, you wouldn't be able to relate at all.

Legals

Public Notice
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BIG SPRING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S: State Financial Accountability Rating
The Big Spring Independent School District's Board of Trustees will hold a public meeting at 5:15 P.M. on September 11, 2008, in the Big Spring High School Board Room, 707 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas.
The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Big Spring Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.
#5887 August 25 & September 1, 2008

BORDEN COUNTY ISD HOUSE BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids to sell a school house and have it demolished or moved from the school campus. The party receiving the bid will be required to demolish and/or remove the house from school property no later than 60 days after the bid is accepted by the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District. All bids will be considered.

Proposals shall be addressed to Jimmy Thomas; Borden County Independent School District; Box 95; Gail, Texas 79738, and shall be delivered in a sealed envelope marked "HOUSE BID" or sent via e-mail to jthomas@bcisd.net. Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, September 19, 2008. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and presented to the board of trustees for their consideration at the next scheduled meeting. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposed bids, to waive any and all technicalities, and to accept the proposal that will best serve the needs of the District. Questions regarding bid specifications and additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address; by e-mail to jthomas@bcisd.net or by calling (office 806-756-4313) (cell 806-759-5467) (fax 806-756-4310)
By Order of the Board of Trustees
Borden County Independent School District
Mike Valentine, Secretary
#5892 September 1 & 7, 2008

Tomorrow's Horoscope

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're decisive. You know where you want to go, and when you don't know, it doesn't matter -- you simply head in a direction and figure out the rest at the right time for you and everyone else involved.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're given the opportunity to say nice things behind someone else's back. Take it! When they hear through the grapevine how much you like them, it means even more.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The reason you can speak and act with such clarity now is that you've thought it through -- or are about to think it through. You make your move only after you've achieved a full understanding of the game.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't mind revealing the process of your work. However, there are a few signature details that are yours. It's best to hold those back. Others wouldn't understand anyhow.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Libra, and

fell head over heels for this Leo. Everything was a fairy tale! But now he's taking things too fast and I'm thinking about ending our relationship. What to do?"

It would be a shame to throw away this fine romance for a difference in style. Libran women love the heady romance a Leo man offers, but after the blush of love, your fixed sense of pattern and timing kicks in. There's a way, when and how you think this relationship should progress, no? (Interestingly, when the situation is reversed and you're pursuing them, you Librans break all your own rules. You like to be in control.) Here's another issue -- Leo men in love are like giggly little children, unabashedly genuine and spontaneous with their feelings. He knows he's found who he's looking for, why hide it -- or wait? Leo opens his heart so wide, and this vulnerability can be too much for a detached air-sign gal to handle. The thing is, if he knew this was moving too fast for you, I bet he'd back off

immediately and wait for you to make the next move. Which is probably exactly what you want to do.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: It's official, Virgos are "the most eager to grow" sign. Virgo Van Morrison is said to have once put up a sign outside his house reading "Van Morrison's Self-Improvement Camp" during a period of creative block. How appropriate for this abstemious, self-aware sign! Earthiness and logic combine in the sixth constellation. So where there's a heavenly need, there's an earthly ability to match.

Holiday Mathis is the author of "Rock Your Stars." If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Annie's Mailbox : Advice for those



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

Dear Annie: My sister, "Rita," lives with my widowed mother. Mom is 73 and in a wheelchair. She has a hard time getting out the front door on her own, so she never goes out without Rita. She won't take the handicapped bus because she thinks it would be too hard and doesn't like to keep to the bus schedule. She won't take her motorized scooter to the library because she's scared the battery will die. Honestly, all I hear from her is "I can't."

Rita works all day, comes home, cleans the mess Mom makes trying to "help," and then follows a detailed list of what Mom thinks she should do. Mom won't let Rita sleep late on weekends and is furious if she spends extra time at the gym instead of at home.

I know Mom is lonely. Her friends have all passed on, the rest of the family lives out of state, and she is in a lot of pain. Mom thinks she is too young to go to a senior center and refuses to call organizations like AARP or get involved in anything. Rita is being run ragged and has no time for herself. I want to help, but I live across the country. What can I do? -- Helpless Daughter

Dear Helpless: People move into senior communities in their 50s, so your mother's insistence that she is "too young" is simply her way of keeping Rita at her beck and call. Mom isn't just lonely. She's frightened. And although Rita is being a devoted daughter, her caregiving enables Mom's isolation and dependence. Can Rita drop Mom off at a senior day care center in the morning? Can you hire someone to get Mom out of the house during the day once or twice a week? Would you take Mom to live with you for a month so Rita can get a break? Check out the Family Caregiver Alliance (caregiver.org) at 1-800-445-8106 for information and resources.

Dear Annie: A good friend asked if anyone would be willing to lend their home to host a surprise 30th birthday party for his wife and said he would compensate them. I happily volunteered.

My wife insisted I could not accept any compensation, so I told my friend the party was our gift to his wife. The party turned out great, but this morn-

hurts to hear her call her mother-in-law "Mom"? This woman is NOT her mother. I am.

I could put up with this when the in-laws lived far away, but now my daughter lives in their town. When she had her first child, we moved closer so we could help. My own medical problems made it difficult to care for an infant full time, but I offered to take the children when necessary so the parents wouldn't miss work. Did they ever take me up on it? No. But of course, her mother-in-law can do it all. The woman is 15 years older than I am and has just as many medical problems. I said I'd take the kids so the mother-in-law could have a day off, but "Mom" refused and said she could handle it.

I got fed up with being treated as useless and moved two hours away. If it weren't for the grandchildren, I would forget I even have a daughter.

Any suggestions? -- Hurting Mother

Dear Hurting: It was gracious of you to step back and allow your daughter to bond with her mother-in-law, which, apparently, she has. And now you resent it. Moving away in a fit of pique was a bit childish. You need to stop seeing this as a competition for your daughter's love. Instead, form a new relationship with her. Don't be the baby-sitter. Be a friend. Meet her once a week (or once a month) for lunch at a nice restaurant. Talk about the interesting things going on in your life and hers. See a play or a concert together. Be someone she wants to spend time with, instead of a bitter woman who makes her feel guilty.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from the woman whose son suffered a head trauma. My sister's daughter also had a brain injury. She was fortunate to have wonderful parents who prayed every day and their prayers were answered. During the last 15 years, my niece has accomplished many things -- she drives, works and is raising a child.

The one thing she continues to struggle with is depression, primarily due to loneliness. She is now a single mom with an 18-year-old son. Upon meeting her, you would never know she has a problem. She is an attractive, well-groomed young woman with a great sense of humor. Is there a support group of people in similar situations? -- Aunt

Dear Aunt: The Brain Injury Association of America (biausa.org), located at 1608 Spring Hill Rd., Vienna, VA 22182, offers support and resources.

Dear Annie: I had always dreamed of planning my daughter's wedding. I didn't want to upset her budding relationship with her future mother-in-law, but then the two of them planned it all -- even shopping for her wedding gown. How do I tell her how much it

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Amber," who was branded a liar for telling her teacher that another girl's story had been plagiarized from a TV movie. The teacher reacted very badly and Amber's father beat her. Now, 20 years later, she's found a book that exonerates her and wants to send it to both the teacher and the other girl.

I think the reason this is such a searing memory for Amber is because she was humiliated in front of the class and then beaten when she got home. She won't let it go because she still feels the pain. The only way it will go away is to let the teacher who caused the problem know how much it has bothered her all these years. The teacher is probably retired by now, but Amber should do it anyway, and the teacher should most definitely apologize.

We often hear about teachers who, years later, receive letters from students telling how they made a difference in their lives. Amber should do the same kind of thing and give the teacher a chance to apologize. Had the teacher handled it better, Amber might be a different person now. -- J.T.

Dear J.T.: We quite agree that the teacher owes Amber an apology, but we can't guarantee it will happen. If making the effort, regardless of the outcome, will make Amber feel better, she should do it. And only she can decide that.

Annie's Snippet for Labor Day (credit David O. McKay): Let us realize that the privilege to work is a gift, the power to work is a blessing, the love of work is success.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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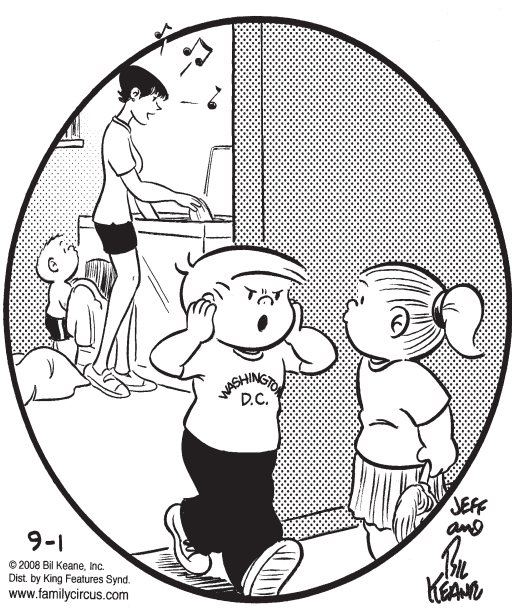
	WFAA (2) Dallas	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	WTBS (11) Atlanta	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBTV (13) Odessa	DISC (20) Discovery	AMC (21) Classics	SPK (22) Spike TV	TNT (23) Atlanta	BET (26) Black Ent.	DISN (27) Disney	ESPN2 (28) Sports	ESPN (29) Sports	
5 :PM :30	News ABC	News ABC	Locura Noticiero	Simpsons King-Hill	News CBS	Noticias Noticiero	News NBC	Payne Payne	CCM Granger	News Business	Dirty Jobs	Gauntlet, Pat Hingle	CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer	Family Re-union, Lynn Whittfield	Suite Life Suite Life	SportsCenter		
6 :PM :30	News ABC	Jeopardy! Fortune	Querida Enemiga	Simpsons Two Men	News CBS	12 Cora-zones	News NBC	Payne Payne	Van Impe Hagee	News-Teacher	Dirty Jobs		CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer	BET Awards '08	Suite Life Suite Life	NHRA Drag Racing: Mac Tools U.S. Nationals	Football Live	
7 :PM :30	H.S. Musical	H.S. Musical	Diablo-Gua-pos	Prison Break	Big Bang How I Met	El Juramento	Deal or No Deal	Fam. Guy	Israel Jamieson	Republican National Convention	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Dirty Harry, Reni Santoni	CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer		Suite Life Suite Life	College Football: Tennessee at UCLA.		
8 :PM :30	Samantha Samantha	Samantha Samantha	Fuego en la Sangre		Two Men Christine	Doña Barbara	Toughest Jobs	Fam. Guy	Light of the Southwest				CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer		Suite Life Suite Life			
9 :PM :30	Convention	Convention	Cristina	TMZ Raymond	Convention	Sin Senos	Convention	Name Name		Into the Unknown	Movie: Dirty Harry, Reni Santoni	Movie: Depth Charge, Chris Warren	Raising the Bar	Bonus	Wizards of Waverly Place	Baseball Tonight			
10 :PM :30	News Nightline	News Nightline	Impacto La Hora de la Risa	Two Men Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Titulares	News Tonight Show	Sex & Sex & Sala	Israel	Charlie Rose	Dirty Jobs	Movie: Escape From New York	CSI: Crime Scn	The Closer	Movie: Get Rich or Die Tryin', Walter Alza	Suite Life Montana	NASCAR Now	Baseball	
11 :AM :30	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Insider Jimmy Kimmel Live	Law Order: CI	Late Late Show	Late Late Show	Decisions	Late Night	Uri Harel Prophecy	Israel		Dirty Jobs	Movie: Star Trek: Voyager	Star Trek: Voyager	Raising the Bar	Top 25 Special	Replace Kim	NFL Films	SportsCenter	
12 :AM :30	News Paid	News Paid	Amarte-Pecados	REN0 911 Lopez	Insider Program Pagado	Programa Pagado	News News After Dark	Cortes	Light of the Southwest			Movie: Missing in Action 2: The	Deep Space 9	Cold Case	Diff Wrlld	Emperor Dragon	College Football	SportsCenter	
1 :AM :30	Paid Basco	Paid Basco	Humor	King-Hill	Paid	Pelicula: Las	Movie:												

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M BEATING THE HEAT, MARTHA, AND I DON'T CARE WHAT THE NEIGHBORS THINK."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I wish Mommy would quit singin' that 'School days, school days' song!"

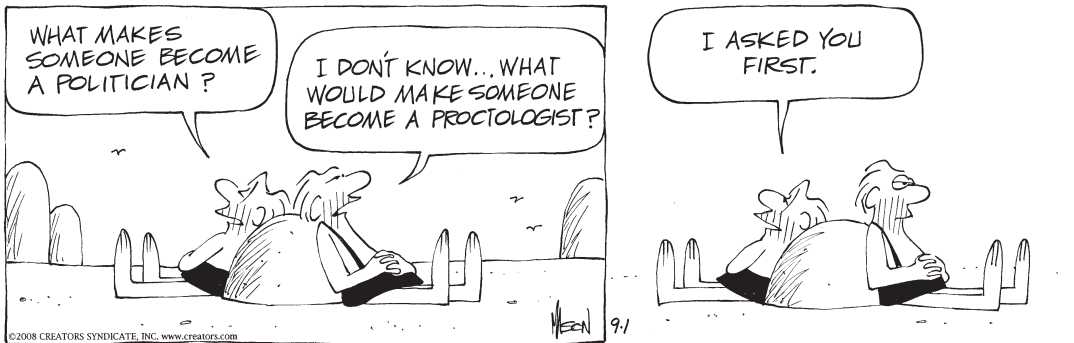
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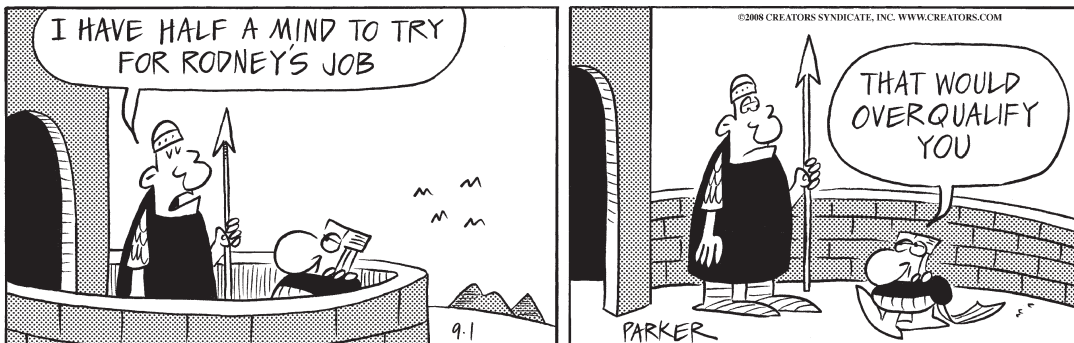
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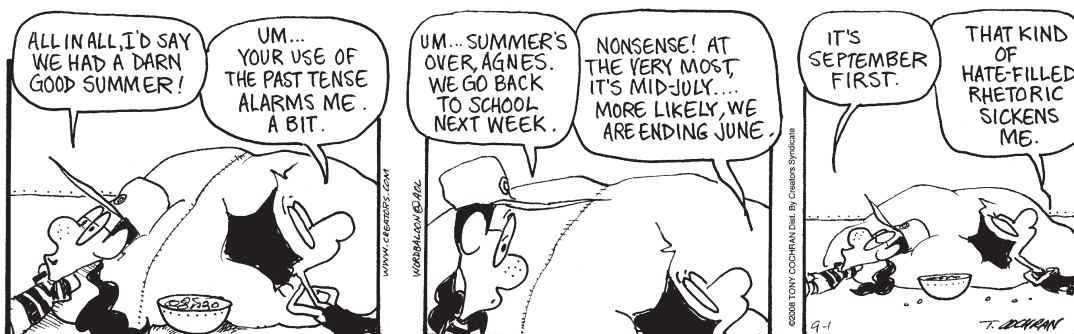
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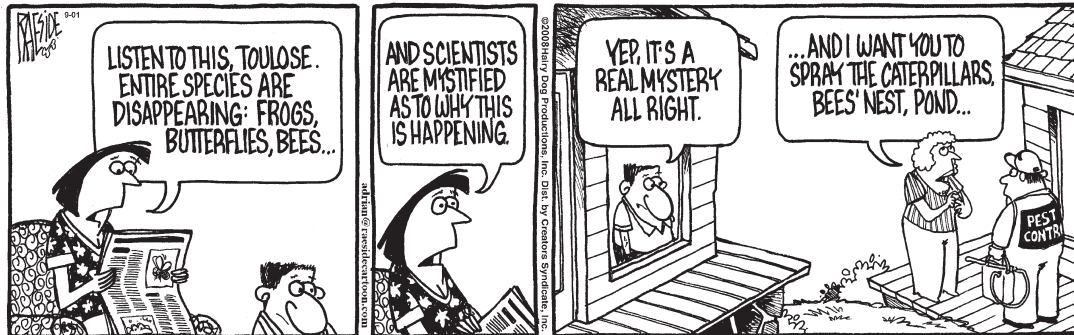
AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Monday, Sept. 1, the 245th day of 2008. There are 121 days left in the year. This is Labor Day.

Today's Highlight in History:
On Sept. 1, 1939, World War II began as Nazi Germany invaded Poland.

On this date:
In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was found not guilty of treason. (Burr was then tried on a misdemeanor charge, but was again acquitted.)
In 1894, the Great Hinckley Fire destroyed Hinckley, Minn., and five other communities, and killed more than 400 people.
In 1897, the first section of Boston's new subway system was opened.
In 1905, Alberta and Saskatchewan entered Confederation as the eighth and ninth provinces of Canada.
In 1923, the Japanese cities of Tokyo and Yokohama were devastated by an earthquake that claimed some 140,000 lives.
In 1932, New York City Mayor James J. "Gentleman Jimmy" Walker resigned following charges of graft and corruption in his administration.

In 1951, the United States, Australia and New Zealand signed a mutual defense pact, the ANZUS treaty.
In 1961, the Soviet Union ended a moratorium on atomic testing with an aboveground nuclear explosion in central Asia.
In 1972, American Bobby Fischer won the international chess crown in Reykjavik, Iceland, defeating Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union.
In 1983, 269 people were killed when a Korean Air Lines Boeing 747 was shot down by a Soviet jet fighter after the airliner entered Soviet airspace.
One year ago: Idaho Sen. Larry Craig announced his resignation, saying he would leave office on Sept. 30, 2007, in the wake of fallout over his arrest and guilty plea in a Minnesota airport gay sex sting. (However, Craig later reversed his decision, saying he would serve out the rest of his term.) Clay Buchholz threw a no-hitter in his second major league start, just hours after being called up by the Boston Red Sox.
Today's Birthdays: Former Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird is 86. Conductor Seiji Ozawa is 73. Comedian-actress Lily Tomlin is

69. Actor Don Stroud is 65. Singer Archie Bell is 64. Singer Barry Gibb is 62. Rock musician Greg Errico is 60. Talk show host Dr. Phil McGraw is 58. Singer Gloria Estefan is 51. Former White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers is 47. Singer-musician Grant Lee Phillips (Grant Lee Buffalo) is 45. Country singer-songwriter Charlie Robison is 44. Rap DJ Spigg Nice (Lost Boyz) is 38. Actor Ricardo Antonio Chavira ("Desperate Housewives") is 37. Actor Scott Speedman is 33. Rock musician Joe Trohman is 24.
Thought for Today: "You can get help from teachers, but you are going to have to learn a lot by yourself, sitting alone in a room." — Theodor Geisel, aka "Dr. Seuss," American author-illustrator (1904-1991).

Answer to previous puzzle

RAGTIME	MARIMBA
ETERNAL	AVATARS
DETACHED	GARAGES
EARP	AVERSE
UNIFORMS	RESIT
WING	
MAA	TINCT
SIREN	
SYLPHS	TEETERS
OAHU	EXEC
MELANIN	CSHARP
APACE	PAWAT
NOR	
NOSH	DEVIL
MISO	
ACC	LUGOSI
ASAP	
CHAMPAGNE	BOTTLE
LALANNE	SUBSOIL
ELAPSED	TRIUNES

Newsday Crossword

IN THE SKY by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS	69 Dole (out)	12 Playful prank
1 Pile up	70 Valentine's Day flower	13 Baby chicks' calls
6 Practice boxing	71 Sports numbers, for short	21 ___-frutti
10 Immediately, in a memo	DOWN	22 '70s dance music
14 Pathway	1 Prepares for battle	26 NASA event
15 Sheltered inlet	2 Castle protection	27 Jazz accompaniment
16 Ruination	3 Eerie glow	28 Skin-cream ingredient
17 Santa ___ (ship of Columbus)	4 Mix, as batter	29 Omelet maker
18 Step ___ (hurry)	5 Summer or spring	30 When a clock's hands point upward
19 Adorable	6 Clean thoroughly	31 Not ___ (mediocre)
20 Featuring big-name performers	7 Water-lily locale	32 Female choir voice
23 Tiny bite	8 Eager	35 Gawk at
24 Your and my	9 Narrate again	37 Mexican snack
25 Fragrant spring blooms	10 Alphabet starter	38 Gas or elec.
27 Unoccupied	11 Spa hot spot	39 Took care of a bill
31 Spicy dip	36 Prankster	
33 Frequently	40 Beethoven piano piece	
34 Hammer or chisel	43 Black tea	
36 Prankster	44 Burglar's haul	
40 Beethoven piano piece	45 202, in old Rome	
43 Black tea	46 Beginning	
44 Burglar's haul	48 In telephone limbo	
45 202, in old Rome	50 Meeting plan	
46 Beginning	53 To and ___	
48 In telephone limbo	54 Captain's journal	
50 Meeting plan	55 Publication with a big crossword	
53 To and ___	62 Tiresome one	
54 Captain's journal	64 Old furnace fuel	
55 Publication with a big crossword	65 Get away from	
62 Tiresome one	66 Takes advantage of	
64 Old furnace fuel	67 Comes to a halt	
65 Get away from	68 Shy	