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HERALD

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THURSDAY

July 8, 2004

WEATHER



PARTLY CLOUDY

TONIGHT 72°-74° TOMORROW 95°-98°

Two enter guilty pleas

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Two Big Spring men pleaded guilty to unrelated charges Wednesday afternoon in 118th District Court.

Jaime Cruz, 37, was sentenced to three years in a Texas Department of Criminal Justice facility after pleading guilty to a motion to revoke probation for a 2002 conviction of assaulting a public servant.

"He was originally sentenced on July 28, 2000, to five years in a TDCJ institution," explained Assistant District Attorney Robin Orr. "He was also fined \$2,500, for assault on a public servant, but the period of confinement was suspended and he was placed on probation for a period of five years."

Cruz's probation was revoked on allegations of obstructing a search, failure to abstain from controlled substances, failure to pay probation fines and failure to complete community service.

"Motions to revoke were filed and he pleaded true to the pending motion to revoke," said Orr. "He admitted that the items listed were true and the judge reduced his original five-year sentence of five years to a period of three years."

Also pleading guilty Wednesday was Deangelo Paul Gray, 20, who was sentenced to two years in a TDCJ prison and a \$2,500 fine. Gray's sentence was probated and he was placed on probation for five years.

Orr said Gray, who waived his right to a

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Drugs, dogs and dollars slated for BSISD meeting

By LYNDEL MOODY

Staff Writer

Continued discussion on developing a random drug testing policy for Big Spring students and consideration of a contract with the Big Spring Police Department for drug-detecting, canine services will be among many items Big Spring Independent School District Board of Trustees will tackle tonight.

After first proposing the drug testing issue at the June 8 meeting, the administration presented a compiled list of various Texas school districts' policies to trustees this week

Trustees will meet at 5:15 p.m. today in the high school board room, 707 11th Place.

for review.

Superintendent Michael Downes said now is the time for an in-depth discussion of the issue, tackling some of the hard questions that can arise while developing this type of policy.

Downes said August is the earliest he expects to bring a draft of the policy to the board and if a final version is approved sometime in the fall, the policy will most

likely not be enforced until at least January.

In the on-going effort to decrease the amount of drugs on campus, trustees will consider an agreement with the BSPD for drug-detecting canine service. The service, estimated to cost the district \$20,000 a year, will provide two drug dogs on campus every day for an hour.

In other business, trustees will handle a number of financial items, including consideration of a number of allocation and entitlement issues, a resolution supporting the

See BSISD, Page 3A



Lightning strikes a few miles north of the Big Spring Refinery complex. Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray reminds the public to take safety measures when severe weather occurs.

Recent storms prompt fire marshal to urge area citizens — 'be vigilant'

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Severe weather can strike in West Texas in the blink of an eye and preparedness can be the difference between weathering yet another storm and a full-blown tragedy.

Big Spring Fire Marshal Carl Condray has seen Mother Nature's fury up close for many years and says recent thunderstorms should have local residents asking themselves a very important question: Am I prepared?

"With the sudden rash of thunderstorms and sudden rainfalls, the Big Spring Fire Department

"Never drive around a barricade that has been set up at a water crossing, and if you're driving on unfamiliar roads or at night, be vigilant."



Carl Condray fire marshal

and other area public safety agencies have been plagued with a high number of weather-related calls," said Condray. "Thunderstorms, lightning and flash flooding are serious situations and area drivers and pedestrians should learn to

respect their power."

Condray said respecting these types of conditions means following some simple safety measures when severe weather arrives, beginning with understanding the situation and how serious it can get.

"Keep updated to changing weather conditions by using the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Weather Radio Service and through local news media," said Condray. "Weather radios are available at many discount stores and are often your first line of

See SAFETY, Page 3A

ALON obtains pipeline

Acquires sole asset control of 380-mile system

Special to the Herald

ALON USA announced Wednesday it has purchased the 380-mile Trust and River fuel product pipelines from the AtoFina Pension Trust.



MORRIS

The pipelines connect ALON's Big Spring pipeline with its product terminals in Abilene and Wichita Falls. They also connect to Magellan's mid-continent fuels pipeline system through ALON's terminal in Duncan, Okla.

The pipeline system has been operated by ALON and its predecessor, Fina, for 20 years under long-term lease arrangements but now will revert to ALON's control. This purchase adds these pipelines to the Amdel crude system which connects Port Arthur with Midland and the Big Spring Refinery, plus the FinTex product system which provides access to El Paso via a long term lease of Holly's pipeline. This purchase will provide ALON complete control of this private pipeline system.

See ALON, Page 3A

A&M Club seeks final donations for July 24 auction

Herald Staff Report

Whether you are a Texas A&M graduate or simply a person interested in helping a worthy cause, one thing you'll likely agree on is that the value of an education is priceless.

That said, it's time again for the Howard County A&M Club Scholarship Auction. The club is currently accepting donations for the July 24 event, which will be held at the Big Spring Country Club.

Funds raised from the auction are used for scholarships to help Howard County students attend Texas A&M University. This year, the club presented four \$1,000 scholarships and six \$500 scholarships.

The four endowed scholarships — in the amount of \$25,000 each — ensure that no fewer than four Howard County students will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the club for years to come.

See AUCTION, Page 3A

GREGG STREET MISHAP



Police said the driver of this white pickup truck, which was traveling north on Gregg Street on the outside lane, hit a light pole to avoid a Rent-A-Center truck that attempted to move into the same lane. The driver of the pickup wasn't injured in the accident and avoided contact between the two vehicles. The driver of the Rent-A-Center truck was issued a citation for failure to yield the right of way.

JULY 8 2004

Obituaries

Anne Cooper



Anne Cooper, 73, of Big Spring died on Tuesday, July 6, 2004, in an Odessa hospital. Graveside funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, July 9, 2004, at Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel, with the Rev. Walter McCall officiating.

The family will receive friends today from 7-9 p.m. at the funeral home. Mrs. Cooper was born in Seneca Falls, N.Y., on Jan. 2, 1931, to Edward and Twila Southworth. She married Claude Garvin Cooper on Nov. 6, 1948, in Marfa.

She came to Big Spring in 1957 from Marfa. Anne had worked as registrar at the Scenic Mountain Medical Center Emergency Room for 10 years. She was also a homemaker.

Anne was a 50-year member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She was an Episcopalian.

Survivors include three daughters, Peggie Kimberlin and husband, Bob, of Flower Mound, Claudene Christopher of Big Spring, and Amy Dunn and husband, Michael, of Coahoma; one son, Bill Cooper and wife, Rhonda, of Brock; seven grandchildren, Michael Baker, Stacey West, Tracey West, Hunter Mayberry, Jessica Cooper, Sarah Dunn and Katie Dunn; and four great granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by her father, Edward Southworth; her mother, Twila Elmendorf; one daughter, Becky Cooper Valdez; and one sister, Alice Saunders.

Honorary pallbearers will be Michael Dunn, Bob Kimberlin, Stacey West, Tracey West, Michael Baker and Hunter Mayberry.

The family suggests memorials to the Big Spring Humane Society, P.O. Box 823, Big Spring 79721.

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

Paid obituary

Cecil Melvin "Mel" Pearson



Cecil Melvin "Mel" Pearson, 57, of Couer D'Alene, Idaho, died at 11:30 p.m. Friday, July 2, 2004, at his home, following a short, heart-related illness. Memorial services will be at a later date.

He was born March 15, 1947, in Kermit. He was a chef and a member of the Pentecostal faith. He was a veteran of the U. S. Navy.

He is survived by one son, Justin Pearson of Dallas; one daughter, Bethany Pearson of Dallas; four brothers, Len Dale Pearson of Ballinger, Joel Ray Pearson and Bobby Gene Pearson, both of Big Spring, and Allen Eugene Pearson of Lubbock; two sisters, Joy Berger of Las Vegas, Nev. and Juna Roper of Big Spring; one grandson, Brennan of Dallas; two granddaughters, Breanna and Mia, both of Dallas, and the mother of his children, Barbara Kendrick of Dallas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and June Pearson.

Paid obituary

Weather

Tonight: Mostly clear. Low 74F. Winds SSE at 10 to 20 mph.

Friday: Sunny skies. High 98F. Winds SSE at 15 to 25 mph.

Friday night: Clear. Low 71F. Winds SE at 15 to 25 mph.

Saturday: Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.

Sunday: Sunny. Highs in the upper 90s and lows in the low 70s.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 16-25-27-34-36. Number matching five of five: 0. Matching four of five: 119. Prize: \$491. Matching three of five: 3,200. Prize: \$13. Matching two of five: 35,063. Prize: \$2. Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 16-24-36-37-39, Bonus Ball: 24.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 1. Prize: \$9 million.

Winning ticket sold in: Dallas.

Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$24,327.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 6. Prize: \$3,680.

Number matching four of five: 380. Prize: \$125.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 332. Prize: \$127.

Number matching three of five: 15,156. Prize: \$5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 4,554. Prize: \$5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 21,590. Prize: \$3.

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$4 million.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-4-9

Josie Gonzales



Josie Gonzales, 74, of Big Spring died Tuesday afternoon, July 6, 2004, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial in Mount Olive Memorial Park.

She was born Jan. 12, 1930, in San Antonio to Martin and Juanita Reyna. She married Charlie Gonzales Feb. 24, 1954, in Big Spring. Mr. Gonzales preceded her in death Oct. 24, 1994.

Mrs. Gonzales had been a resident of Big Spring for more than 50 years, and was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. She was a homemaker and a home health care giver. She enjoyed being with her family and cooking.

She is survived by one daughter, Cindy Gonzales of Lovelock, Nev.; four brothers, Gilbert Reyna of Big Spring, David Reyna of Kerrville, Edward Reyna of Ira, and Rogelio Reyna of Alexandria, Va.; eight grandchildren, Mark Gonzales, Jason Gonzales, Juanita Gonzales, Toni Gonzales, Sandra Rodriguez, Marisa Franco, Jonathan Morales and Fred Morales III; and 15 great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two sons, Tony Gonzales in 1984 and Larry Gonzales in 1995; and one brother, Mickey Reyna in 2000.

Pallbearers will be Joey Franco, Benny Rodriguez Jr., Nick Reyna, Sammy Reyna, Oscar Munoz Jr. and Lee Reyna.

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

Paid obituary

Josephine Mitchell



Josephine Mitchell, 42, of Big Spring died Sunday, July 4, 2004, at Moss Lake. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

She was born Aug. 16, 1961, in Shreveport, La. She was a lifetime resident of Big Spring. She was a certified nursing assistant at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas Veterans Home.

She is survived by one daughter, Karissa Magers of Big Spring; three sons, Michael Menefield, Tyral Menefield, and Shihiem Memefield, all of Big Spring; mother, Almonia Mitchell of Big Spring; five sisters, Annie Farr, Brenda Martin, Doris Johnson and Linda Banks, all of Big Spring, and Mary Mitchell of Van Vleck; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

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

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m. today:

- REYES CASTANEDA, 45, of 1401 Sycamore, was arrested Wednesday on a parole violation.
- TERRY D. SPEARS, 37, of 709 Willia, was arrested Wednesday on traffic warrants.
- MATTHEW CLINT COLLINS, 22, of 110 NW. Fourth Street, was arrested Wednesday on a Howard County warrant for possession of marijuana.
- SANDY RALPH DAVES, 21, of 1519 Sycamore, was arrested Wednesday on a Howard County warrant for possession of marijuana.
- JESUS MANUEL RAMIREZ, 47, of 506 E. 15th Street, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- RICKY DALE MARTIN, 50, of 303 Midway Road, was arrested Wednesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.
- POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE was reported in the 300 block of Presidio.
- THEFT was reported in the 1100 block of Lamesa.
- BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 1600 block of Wren.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Office reported the following activity:

- FELIX GARZA JR., 31, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of theft by check.
- BLANCA C. FRANCO, 20, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal mischief.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF was reported in the 4800 block of W. Highway 80.

Support groups

TUESDAY
□ Area Agency on Aging of the Permian basin will sponsor "Caregiving: Solutions, Support and Relief" from 5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Monday, April 19 in the First Presbyterian Church of Coahoma, 205 N. First St. in Coahoma. It is free and open to the public.

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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

TODAY

- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
- American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
- Masonic Lodge 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.
- Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. All area senior citizens are invited.

SATURDAY

- Howard County Scottish Rite Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge located at 21st and Lancaster streets. Breakfast is served.
- Free eye glasses are available from 9 a.m. until noon at Bob's Custom Wood Work at 409 E. Third.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

SUNDAY

- Team Rustic Circle, an amateur paintball team, meets for practice between noon and dusk at the Moss Creek Lake paintball facility. The public is always invited, whether to participate or just spectate. For more information contact Rick Boiles at 264-2395 or 393-5246.

MONDAY

- Senior Circle meets at 4 p.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center for Sit and Be Fit Chair Aerobics. Those 50 years and older are invited to attend. Call 268-4721.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.
- Coahoma Lions Club meets at 6 p.m. in the Coahoma Community Center at 306 North Ave.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. in the La Posada Restaurant.
- 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.
- Concerned Citizens Council meets at 7 p.m. at 500 S. Main St., in the Dorothy Lamb Meeting Room of the Howard County Library. The public is welcome.
- Big Spring Commandery No. 31 meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple at 221 1/2 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.
- Big Spring Assembly No. 211 Social Order of Beauceant meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Masonic Temple at 221 1/2 Main St. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Intermediate Line dance classes begin at 9 a.m. in the Spring City Senior Citizen's Center. Call 267-1628.
- Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- A Stitchin' Time Club meets at 3:30 p.m. at Primitive Baptist Church, 201 E. 24th St. Everyone is invited to learn and share sewing skills, and portable sewing machines are welcome. Call Kay Sikes at 394-4835 for more information.

WEDNESDAY

- Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m. in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- Senior Circle meets at 10 a.m. at Scenic Mountain Medical Center classroom for Stretch and Tone. Call 268-4721.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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(Fax) 432-264-7205

Susanne Reed
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Publisher/Advertising Manager.....Ext. 250
Managing Editor.....Ext. 230
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BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: Evenings and Sunday, \$8.65 monthly; \$93.42 yearly (includes 10% discount for yearly).
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$12.50 monthly Howard & Martin Counties. \$13.25 elsewhere.

Kenneth Lay

HOUSTON (founder and fr of Enron Corp FBI this mo charges that three-year fed scandal-ridden Lay, who say at the compan handcuffs.

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Kenneth Lay surrenders to FBI

HOUSTON (AP) — Kenneth Lay, the founder and former chairman and CEO of Enron Corp., turned himself in to the FBI this morning to face criminal charges that stemmed from a nearly three-year federal investigation of the scandal-ridden energy company.

Lay, who says he committed no crimes at the company, was soon taken away in handcuffs.

Enron's collapse in 2001 cost investors billions of dollars, put thousands of Enron employees out of work and wiped out retirement savings for many. The company, once admired, became a symbol of corporate greed and excess.

Lay had been indicted Wednesday after a federal investigation that has produced charges against some of Lay's once most highly trusted lieutenants, including his hand-picked protege, former CEO Jeffrey Skilling.

Jobless claims plunge last week

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of new people signing up for jobless benefits dropped last week to the lowest level in more than three years, a potentially encouraging sign for a labor mar-

ket experiencing a bumpy recovery.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that new applications for unemployment insurance plunged by a seasonally adjusted 39,000 to 310,000 for the week ending July 3. That marked the best showing since Oct. 8, 2000. The latest snapshot of the layoffs climate was better than economists were expecting. They were forecasting claims to decline to around 345,000.

Campaigning for living costs

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas state senators spend more of their campaign contributions on living and office expenses than on campaign activities, a non-partisan group reported in a study released Wednesday.

The expenditures are legal under Texas law, but they are part of a flawed system that is riddled with potential conflict of interest for legislators, said Fred Lewis, president of Campaigns for People.

"Senators are trying to cope with a broken system that underfunds their staff, grossly underpays them for their public service and has few enforceable rules regarding the use of campaign contributions," Lewis said.

The group, which wants the state's campaign finance laws changed, found that senators spend only 40 percent of contributions on campaign costs. Of the rest, 35 percent goes toward living expenses, 20 percent for office costs and 5 percent for miscellaneous costs.

Immigrants detained in Texas

SWEETWATER (AP) — More than two dozen illegal immigrants from Brazil and Mexico — many sick from the heat and in need of food and water — have been detained after police received a tip that people were jumping from the back of a tractor-trailer rig at a truck stop.

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency said the immigrants had been in the back of the rig for at least a day. All were examined by emergency medical personnel, but none required treatment.

Of the 29 taken into custody on Wednesday, 25 were from Brazil and four were from Mexico. Four of the immigrants were women. Authorities searched for several hours for five immigrants who ran from police.

Sweetwater Police Chief Jim Kelley said in a story in Thursday's Abilene Reporter-News that the immigrants had

been in the truck for several days.

The truck was found at a truck stop on Interstate 20.

Woman receives execution date

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston judge Wednesday set Dec. 1 as the execution date for a woman convicted of killing her estranged husband and two children more than 17 years ago.

Frances Elaine Newton, 39, smiled to a few relatives and friends as she was brought into the courtroom, where the judge read the court order that would make her the third woman put to death in Texas since the state resumed carrying out capital punishment in 1982. During that time, 321 men have been executed in Texas.

Yolanda Jarman, one of her attorneys, asked the judge for a delay to give lawyers more time to file appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court and give the court time to review them.

In an appeal turned down in May by the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Newton's attorneys contended her constitutional rights were violated when the trial judge refused her request to replace a court-appointed attorney with her own lawyer.

SAFETY

Continued from Page 1A

defense.

"Follow the advice given by the National Weather Service and be prepared to take shelter in case of storms in your area. You should have an emergency plan for severe weather situations."

In addition to a plan, Condray said it's important to keep emergency "supplies" on hand, including some items you might not think of if you had to evacuate your home or office quickly.

"You need to make sure

you have some sort of emergency lighting and replacement batteries for it," said Condray. "Some other things you need to think of are any prescription medications you may need, food reserves and plenty of water."

"There are plenty of resources available to help you design your own emergency preparedness plan and kit that can be found on the Internet."

According to the National Weather Service Web site, located at www.nws.noaa.gov, a disaster supply kit should include a three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil; one

change of clothing and footwear per person; one blanket or sleeping bag per person; a first aid kit, including prescription medicines; emergency tools, including a battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio and a portable radio; a flashlight and plenty of extra batteries; an extra set of car keys and a credit card or cash; and special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members.

"Remember, as you're traveling on vacation, stay abreast of the weather in the areas you are traveling to," said Condray. "Try to keep a flexible schedule so you can wait out bad weather."

Condray also suggests the following steps to help reduce the risk of becoming a victim of flooding, a major problem in the West Texas area.

"Heed flood and flash flood warnings from the NWS," said Condray. "Never cross flowing water. As little as two inches of water can cause you to lose control of your vehicle. Also, look for the rising water indicators at water crossings, including permanent markers."

"Never drive around a barricade that has been set up at a water crossing, and if you're driving on unfamiliar roads at night, be vigilant.

Roadbeds may have washed away. And if you get trapped in your vehicle during flooding and you choose to abandon it, respect the force of the flowing water."

The NWS warns that the force flood waters can have on your vehicle are tremendous — just do the math.

"Water weighs 62.4 pounds per cubic foot and typically flows downstream at 6 to 12 miles an hour," according to information provided by the NWS. "When a vehicle stalls in the water, the water's momentum is transferred to the car. For each foot the water rises, 500 pounds of lateral force

are applied to the car. "The biggest factor is buoyancy. For each foot the water rises up the side of the car, the car displaces 1,500 pounds of water. In effect, the car weighs 1,500 pounds less for each foot the water rises. Two feet of water will carry away most automobiles."

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

AUCTION

Continued from Page 1A

These scholarships honor Sidney T. Clark (1949), Don Knight (1981), Mike (1984) and Jeanne Niklasch and the Howard County A&M Club.

Many donations have already been received.

These include a trip for two to the 2005 Masters; tickets for two to all A&M home games; signed items by Earl Campbell, Ricky Williams, Troy Aikman, Roger Staubach, Bob Lilly, Tony Hill, Drew Pearson, Michael Jordan, Benjamin Knox prints; and many other items created by local artists.

Those are all reasons to attend the auction, and reason, too, to help out.

"Our young people need to know that we are proud of them, support them in their educational endeavors, and hopefully, one day they will remember us when they are looking for a great community in which to live and

work," said Diana Newton, scholarship auction chairman.

The club hopes to wrap up collection of donations by Saturday in order to print a brochure in time for the auction. Those who wish to donate can send their donation to Newton at 2605 Apache in Big Spring, or present

them to Lonnie Newton at American State Bank, 1411 Gregg. To have donated items picked up, call 432 263-4204 or e-mail fig@crcom.net

Contributors will receive advertising and publicity by being listed in the brochure and recognized during the auction.

ALON

Continued from Page 1A

"This is an important addition to ALON's refining and marketing system," said Morris. "We are now fully integrated from our refinery in Big Spring via

this pipeline system to our Southwest Convenience Stores operation in Wichita Falls, in addition to other major independent convenience store operators using the Fina brand throughout West Texas," he said.

The Trust and River system consists of two pipelines from Big Spring to Abilene of 6-inch

and 8-inch diameter, a 6-inch pipeline from Abilene to Wichita Falls, plus a 6-inch pipeline from Wichita Falls to Duncan, Okla. Through these pipelines and others, ALON can deliver product produced at the Big Spring Refinery from Ft. Smith, Ark., to Phoenix, Ariz.

"We anticipate this will be the

first of several additions to our pipeline and terminal systems which will further physically integrate our refinery throughout the Southwest to better serve our customers," said Morris. "This system will be further utilized following the expansion of our Big Spring Refinery in the first quarter of 2005."

PLEAS

Continued from Page 1A

trial and without first being indicted, pleaded guilty to two separate charges of burglary of a building, including a

break-in that happened at Porter-Henderson Implement.

"Gray was charged with two counts of burglary of a building," said Orr. "One count was for the burglary of a building owned by Michael

Niklasch and the other was Porter-Henderson Implement Co.

"He pleaded guilty by information to each case. In the first case he was given two years in state jail and fined \$2,500. The jail time was probated to

five years probation and he was ordered to make restitution. On the second count he was placed on probation for five years as well and ordered to make restitution."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-

7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

establishment of an equitable school finance system and memorandums of understanding for area school districts to provide specific educational services.

Trustees will also consider:

- The 2004-2005 student code of conduct.
- Personnel matters, including salary increases for teachers with more than 20 years of experience, administrators, directors and the superintendent.
- Setting a public meeting to discuss the 2004-2005 proposed budget and tax rate.

Contact Staff Writer Lyndel Moody at 263-7331, ext. 234.

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JULY 08 2004

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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OTHER VIEWS

Kerry selection
of running mate
was a good choice

The (Baltimore) Sun, on Kerry's selection of Edwards as running mate:

Flirtations with Republican John McCain aside, the selection of North Carolina Sen. John Edwards as John Kerry's running mate seems so natural that one can only wonder why it took months to make the decision. In the Democratic primaries, the 51-year-old Edwards proved a sizzling campaigner. I wasn't a Washington insider, or a multi-star general or even a candidate who necessarily would broaden the party's base.

"Americas" message excited hard-core Democrats and working-class voters this spring in a way that Kerry hasn't always been able to match.

Energetic and charismatic, Edwards brings a gift for public speaking and a connection to average Americans that helps balance Kerry's more patrician image.

Republicans will no doubt complain that Edwards is just a one-term senator — and has spent a lot of time away from that job while running for president. They will mock his ambition, his good looks and the fact that he's an attorney. But these criticisms seem minor. Edwards mounted a credible campaign for president. As a candidate for vice president, the fact that he's a product of the private sector can be seen as an asset — another way to balance out the professional politician running at the top of the ticket.

—The (Baltimore) Sun

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:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@crcom.net.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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- 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. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

Dear Lord, give us the ability to study your word, the knowledge to know right and wrong and the willingness to bring others to you.

Amen

Kerry takes surprise out of Convention

Like a kid sneaking a peak at his birthday presents and spoiling the fun of the party, John Kerry has managed to take all the surprise out of the Democratic convention by picking his vice-presidential nominee three weeks before the first balloons drop in Boston. Kerry played it safe by choosing Sen. John Edwards (D-N.C.) as his running mate, but it might have boosted convention ratings if he had held the announcement until the delegates gathered. But maybe there was method in his precipitate action.

Usually political conventions are a forum to showcase a party's best and brightest, as well as reward old party faithful. The convention is supposed to set the theme for the general election campaign by giving voters a reason to vote for the party's nominees. But Democrats can't seem to think of a reason to vote for John Kerry, although they can come up with plenty of reasons to vote against President Bush. So it might have been awkward for the Democrats to come to Boston and try to put on a convention packed with positive themes.

They are not so much trying to sell American voters on the Democratic Party and its nominees as they are trying to paint George W. Bush as a demon. If much of the convention speculation centered around the vice-presidential pick, it would have taken them off message — and perhaps even more dangerously, it

would have invited scrutiny about what the Democrats are actually offering the American people, other than catharsis for Bush haters.

Most public opinion polls show the race neck and neck, with few undecided voters. Events — a terrorist attack that took a large number of American lives in Iraq or, worse, in the United States, a big jump or decline in jobs, or an embarrassing revelation about one of the candidates — might change things before Election Day. But chances are, the margin in this election will remain razor thin — right up to Nov. 2. Democrats are hoping for the worst to beat Bush, but it's not much of a platform.

Traditionally the vice-presidential nominee is the party attack dog, taking direct aim at the other side. But Edwards seems ill-suited for this role. He refused to attack his fellow Democrats in the party primaries — which may be one reason Kerry was willing to put him on the ticket. And even when he criticized the president or decried the state of the U.S. economy, he never seemed to muster so much anger as wistful regret. With his ah-shucks manner and boyish good looks, he managed to sound optimistic about the future even when he was complaining about the present. He's no Richard Nixon, or even Al Gore. In fact, the vice-presidential nominee he most reminds me of is Dan Quayle — minus Quayle's more impressive Senate accomplishments.

This leaves the hatchet man role to Kerry himself or party surrogates like Democratic National Committee chairman Terry McAuliffe. Although McAuliffe excels in the role — there is not a nastier guy in politics today — few people even know who he is.

Kerry could go on the attack, but when he does, he comes off as even more dour than his already dour persona projects, and that may wear thin by the fall.

Democrats will try to convince Americans that we are enduring the worst economic recovery since the Great Depression, that we are as unsafe as we were on September 11, if not more so, and that George W. Bush is a liar.

But the facts don't comport with Democrats' reality. We've had 10 straight months of solid jobs gains, and good economic growth. The GDP increased by roughly 4 percent in each of the last two quarters, a rate higher than in the comparable quarters leading up to Bill Clinton's re-election in 1996. And we've had the best rate of consecutive, three-year gains in productivity in almost 50 years. And despite the desire of our enemies to spill American blood everywhere they can, we haven't been attacked on U.S. soil.

That leaves the Democrats to hammer away at the president's truthfulness. But will John Kerry, who's changed political positions as often as his underwear, make a convincing case that he's more of a straight-shooter than George W. Bush? I guess we'll just have to wait until Nov. 2 to learn the answer.

Linda Chavez is the author of the new book, "Betrayal: How Union Bosses Shake Down Their Members and Corrupt American Politics." To find out more about Linda Chavez and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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ADDRESSES

• **GEORGE W. BUSH**
President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

• **JOHN CORNYN**
U.S. Senator
Washington, DC 20510-4305
Phone: 202-224-2934

• **RANDY NEUGEBAUER**
U.S. Representative (19th Cong. District)
1026 Longworth House
Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202)225-4005

• **RICK PERRY**
Governor
State Capitol, Room 2S.1
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, 78711
Phone: (512) 463-2000

• **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**
U.S. Senator
703 Hart Office Building
Washington, 20510
Phone: 202-224-5922

• **PETE LANEY**
State Representative
Texas 85th District
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, 78768
Phone: (512) 463-0604

• **KEL SELIGER**

State Senator
401 Austin, suite 101
Big Spring, 79720
(432) 268-9909

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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The trouble with Alan Greenspan

Alan Greenspan, entering his stretch run as the nation's central banker, was at the top of his form last Thursday. He led the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC), without dissent, to limited money tightening he had prepared financial markets to expect. It even started a mild bond rally. Yet, formerly sycophantic financiers were not pleased by the Federal Reserve chairman's tour de force.

Henry Kaufman, the 76-year-old archetypal Fed-watcher, set the tone by declaring: "I believe the Fed is behind the curve." In a chorus of complaint, bond traders and currency speculators assailed Greenspan for moving much too slowly. They grumbled that last Thursday's 25-basis point increase in the federal funds rate to 1.25 percent was too little, too late — especially too little. To stave off inflation, said these critics, the Fed should be raising interest rates in much larger increments.

Since the numbers show inflation under control, why the agitation for super-tightening? One reason is that it's hard to make real money in the markets when the central bank is toying with incremental changes. The big payoffs result from large swings, up or down. But there is a darker reason for finding fault with Greenspan: His plan does not help Sen. John Kerry defeat President Bush.

New York's great financial houses are filled with Democrats who are determined to drive George W.

Bush out of the presidency. Old hands who keep an eye on Wall Street have never seen such partisan fervor. The real trouble with Greenspan is that he poses no threat to Bush and no help for Kerry.

Shrugging off the central banker's aura of mystery, Greenspan lately has operated with a transparency that permits markets to adjust to Fed plans. The 25-basis point increase for June was telegraphed well in advance. Another 25-basis point advance is scheduled for August, likely ending pre-election tightening. That will not be enough to validate claims by Gene Sperling, President Bill Clinton's national economic adviser and now Kerry's economic strategist, that federal budget deficits inevitably produce ruinous interest rate increases.

Never before has Greenspan led so unified a Federal Reserve. It was expected that his incremental approach would lose at least one FOMC voting member: William Poole, president of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank and a conservative anti-inflation hawk. A product of the University of Chicago, Poole once was an adjunct scholar at the libertarian Cato Institute and a member of the Shadow Open Market Committee second-guessing Fed policy. But Poole joined Greenspan last week in a 12 to 0 vote.

Greenspan's dominance can be traced in part to the way he shaped the current Federal Reserve. He has loaded it mainly not with experts in monetary policy but with generalists — such as Vice Chairman Roger Ferguson, a former New York attorney.

Timothy Geithner, a former International Monetary Fund and Treasury official who became president of the New York Fed last November, lacks the influence of his predecessors in that post.

Ben Bernanke, the one Fed governor put on the board at the Bush White House's initiative, is an esteemed theorist on monetary policy who wants to set inflationary targets for the central bank. Since he is solidly on board with Greenspan, Bernanke does not see the imminent danger of inflation perceived by Dr. Kaufman and other sharks of Wall Street.

Kaufman, who at his influential peak two decades ago was known as "Dr. Gloom," was quoted last week as saying Greenspan's gradualism may be good for the economy "but not for constraining inflation." That is the old-time Wall Street religion — the economy be damned in a world made for bond traders.

What the Fed says, however, is there is no need today for Kaufman's choice between stagnation and inflation. Fed sources see the inflationary growth rate at only 1.7 percent. Given that such forecasts experience a 1 percent margin of error, plus or minus, inflation could be as low as 0.7 percent. Nobody sees a bubble economy racing out of control. Greenspan surely is not returning to his "irrational exuberance" description of the stock market. That's bad news for financial speculators and Bush-bashers.

To find out more about Robert D. Novak and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Ice cream

Special to the

I scream, you scream, you scream during July in scream for relief that can only come from a bowl of ice cream.

July is National Ice Cream Month. In Texas, we enjoy creamy concoctions long. We just can't get enough of the frosting and average of ice cream per person.

"We can thank dairy cows for the production of milk, the fourth leading crop in the state," says Jim Jones, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture. "Produce markets are also important to farmers with dairy to make ice cream a top treat. Fresh pecans, strawberries, even cantaloupe make delicious flavors. Jones knows that with the season, it's time to look for new and fruity ice cream."

"Ice cream is its ingredients skimp on quality. When you see a Texas fruit some outstanding unique to our state."

Texas who some flavor to vacation make include a day Bell Creamery, Texas, to tour sample ice cream bell.com).

Those who

Hints

Special to the

No matter how voracious, the formula to make your fun.

To prevent penning, the Texas of Agriculture that when select choose carton solid in your freezer.

When you cream, try uneven surface closed cart wrap or foil the freezer in.

Another he soften your icing it in the 30 minutes be.

If that's too many micro "soften ice cream gently does it. If you'd like

FRIDAY SATURDAY AND

pre

AF BUILDING

Ice cream great in the heat

Special to the Herald

I scream, you scream - and during July in Texas we all scream for relief from the heat that can only come from a big bowl of ice cream.

July is appropriately National Ice Cream Month, but Texans enjoy the cool and creamy concoction all year long. We just can't seem to get enough of the frosty stuff, eating an average of 23.6 pounds of ice cream per year.

"We can thank our 317,000 dairy cows for their contribution to making Texas the fourth leading producer of ice cream in the country," said Jim Jones, Texas Department of Agriculture coordinator for produce marketing.

Jones also credits Texas farmers with doing their part to make ice cream in Texas a top treat. Fresh Texas peaches, pecans, strawberries and even cantaloupe are used to make delicious new ice cream flavors. Jones says Texans know that with summer fruits in season, it's the perfect time to look for new flavors of fresh and fruity ice creams on the market.

"Ice cream is only as good as its ingredients, so you can't skimp on quality," said Jones.

"When you use ripe in-season Texas fruits, you've got some outstanding ice cream unique to our Lone Star State."

Texans who want to add some flavor to their summer vacation may decide to include a day trip to the Blue Bell Creameries in Brenham, Texas, to tour the plant and sample ice cream (www.bluebell.com).

Those who want to stay

home can enter the "DELIGHTful Spoons Contest" by Houston's Dreyer's Ice Cream (www.dreyers.com), where the designer of the most creatively decorated spoon wins the grand prize of a year's supply of ice cream, a trip to the Dreyer's Ice Cream factory and an ice cream party.

Here's the real scoop on ice cream's nutrition value - one cup provides about 20 percent of the daily recommended value for calcium, the mineral necessary to build and maintain strong bones.

Cutting back on calories and fat? Try the light and fat-free varieties. Light ice cream has half the fat of regular ice cream, and fat-free ice cream contains no more than four grams per one-cup serving.

The effects of buying and consuming Texas-made ice cream last much longer than that new gallon of ice cream you brought home, says Jones.

"When you fix yourself that ice cream sundae, not only are you getting ready to dig into a treat that's unique to Texas, you're also doing your part to provide vital financial support for our Texas dairy producers and farmers."

An easy way to tell if your ice cream was made in Texas is to look for the GO TEXAN logo - a brand in the shape of Texas. The GO TEXAN program is a unified initiative promoting the wide array of agricultural products grown and processed in Texas - from food, wine and livestock to plants, flowers and more. To find the Texas ice cream company nearest you, visit www.gotexan.org, and click on "GO TEXAN Search."

Hints on choosing ice cream

Special to the Herald

No matter how great the flavor, the formation of ice crystals on your ice cream can make your frosty treat taste funny.

To prevent this from happening, the Texas Department of Agriculture recommends that when selecting ice cream, choose cartons that feel rock-solid in your supermarket's freezer.

When you scoop out the ice cream, try not to leave an uneven surface. Cover the closed carton with plastic wrap or foil and return it to the freezer immediately.

Another helpful hint is to soften your ice cream by placing it in the refrigerator about 30 minutes before serving.

If that's too much planning, many microwaves have a "soften ice cream" button that gently does the job.

If you'd like to top your ice

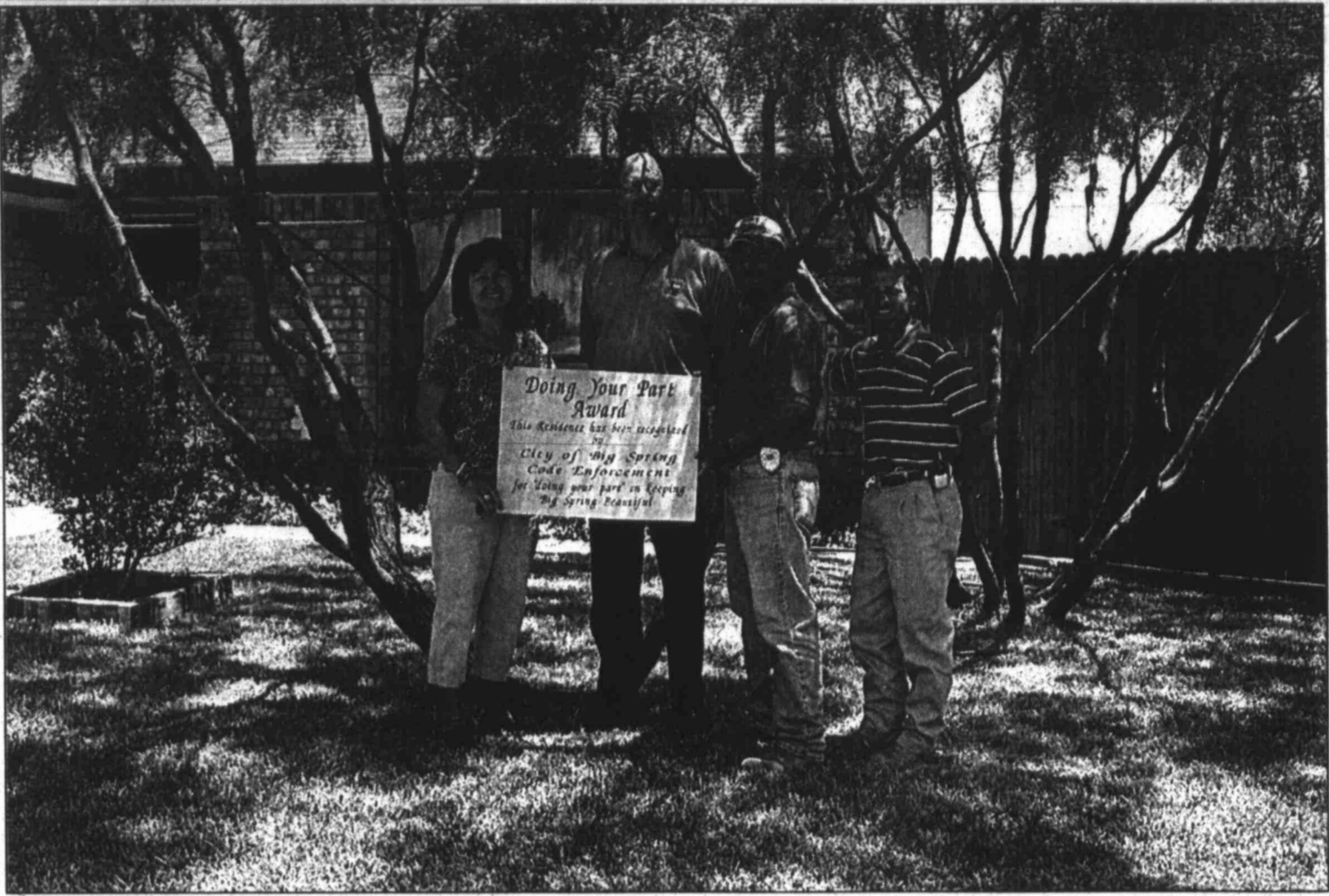
cream with some delicious Texas fruit, the Texas Department of Agriculture is your best source to see what's fresh and in season.

Visit www.picktexas.com and click on "Product Guide" for listings of what's cropping up across our state.

Look for these GO TEXAN member ice cream makers in your area.

Blue Bell Creameries, Brenham, (979) 836-7977; Borden Milk Products, Fort Worth, (214) 535-5548; Brookshire Grocery Company, Tyler, (903) 534-3120; Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream, Houston, (713) 329-9988; H.E.B. Grocery Company/Central Market, San Antonio, (210) 938-5385; Hygeia Dairy Company, McAllen, (956) 686-6747; J. Berries, Floresville, (830) 216-7003; Marble Slab Creamery, McAllen, (956) 631-7915; Ramage Farms, Hooks, (903) 547-6187.

Doing Their Part



Herald photo/Marsha Sturdivant

City Manager Gary Fuqua and Todd Darden, director of public works, along with Nick Reyna, city code officer and building inspector, present the July Doing Your Part Award to Henrietta and her husband Jeff Haechten (not pictured) for their lawn at 2602 S. Monticello. The couple, who have worked for three years on their lawn, will receive several rewards, including a \$50 discount off their next month's water bill. They will also be recognized at the next city council meeting. Along with several pompous grass arrangements, the couple built a self-designed green house, have several rose gardens and learned about soil preparation and lawn pests as they worked to find plants that will survive here. The Doing Your Part awards, sponsored by the city of Big Spring, continues through September as one local residence and business are recognized each month for their efforts at beautifying Big Spring and their neighborhoods.

Cantaloupe'n'Cream; a new ice cream flavor

Special to the Herald

Texans know that summertime is the best time to look for ice cream made with fresh Texas strawberries and sweet Texas peaches. And who doesn't love ripe and juicy Texas blueberries on top of a scoop of vanilla ice cream?

Now Texans can add another fresh only-in-Texas ice cream flavor - Cantaloupe'n'Cream from Blue Bell Creameries, made with Texas' own Pecosweet cantaloupes.

Blue Bell Creameries chose to make their newest ice cream with Texas-grown Pecos cantaloupes because of the fruit's distinctly sweet flavor. With its new Cantaloupe'n'Cream flavor available only in the Lone Star State, Blue Bell has provided Texas Pecos cantaloupe lovers with a new, cooler way to enjoy their favorite fruit.

The Trans-Pecos region of Texas is famous for producing flavorful cantaloupes, and Texans across the state look forward to the annual harvest time from early July to mid-August to enjoy this seasonal delight. Blue Bell Creameries

received its first shipment of fresh-picked Pecos cantaloupes after July 4, and Texans can look forward to seeing the new flavor in their supermarket freezers shortly thereafter.

"It won't take long from the time we receive the cantaloupe until half gallons of Cantaloupe'n'Cream are available in stores," said Howard Kruse, Blue Bell president emeritus and the flavor's creator.

"We pride ourselves on using only the freshest and finest ingredients in our ice

cream. The Pecos cantaloupe fits both of these requirements."

In addition to its sweet taste, cantaloupe also packs a nutritious punch.

"Fresh cantaloupe is low in fat, high in vitamins A and C, as well as an excellent source of potassium and dietary fiber," said Jim Jones, Texas Department of Agriculture's coordinator for produce marketing.

"Blue Bell has created the perfect win-win situation for our farmers and the lucky Pecos cantaloupe-loving

Texans who will soon see Cantaloupe'n'Cream in their supermarket's freezer," said Jones.

"Blue Bell has always been an innovative company, showing a distinct preference for using fresh Texas fruits to come up with unique flavors representative of the diversity of cultures and tastes found in Texas."

An easy way to support Texas agriculture is to look for the GO TEXAN logo, a brand in the shape of Texas, that helps you spot Texas products at a glance.



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JULY 2004

Child-size cycles creating unwelcome buzz

By JOHN JURGENSEN
The Hartford Courant

For Dennis Marrero, freedom is a motorcycle the size of a rocking horse. With \$2 in gas and a splash of two-cycle oil in the tank, the 17-year-old can fold his lanky frame onto the thigh-high cycle and go cruising through Hartford, Conn., for hours.

Police have tried to corner him, and drivers have cursed him, but this is the only way Marrero wants to get around this summer. Besides, he sold his bicycle to help raise the \$400 to pay for the motorbike. "You feel independent. You don't have to rely on anybody," he said, stopped for a moment with one foot on the curb and the other on his foot peg after a buzzing circuit through Colt Park. He stretched out his arms. "I'm free. That's it."

Following a fad that has zipped across the United States, Hartford's neighborhoods have taken a shine to crotch rockets and choppers in miniature, wee cycles small enough to squeeze into the trunk of a hatchback.

"Everybody wants one. All my friends are trying to get one," Marrero said. "I don't know where in Hartford you're not going to find one of these."

Called pocket bikes, mini-bikes, mini-motos or mini-Ninjas (a reference to a popular, powerful full-size Kawasaki), they look like toys but can hit speeds of 25 to 75 mph. Whether they're high-powered racing models or (more likely) mass-produced knock-offs, the child-size cycles have multiplied in recent months. But now that summer is here and schools are closing, police say they are trying to clear the streets of the tiny vehicles that sound like weed-whackers on the loose.

"They look like they belong in a circus. They're selling them

everywhere," from small motorcycle dealers to large retailers, said Hartford police Capt. Michael Fallon.

"What I find most dangerous is their small size. If you were to be hit, you're right at the height of the bumper. You won't fare well."

Because most of the pocket bikes come equipped with engines smaller than 50 cubic centimeters, riders don't need a motorcycle license (or insurance or registration) to drive them. But state law says operators of vehicles with engines 49 cc and smaller still need a driver's license — not an option for kids under 16.

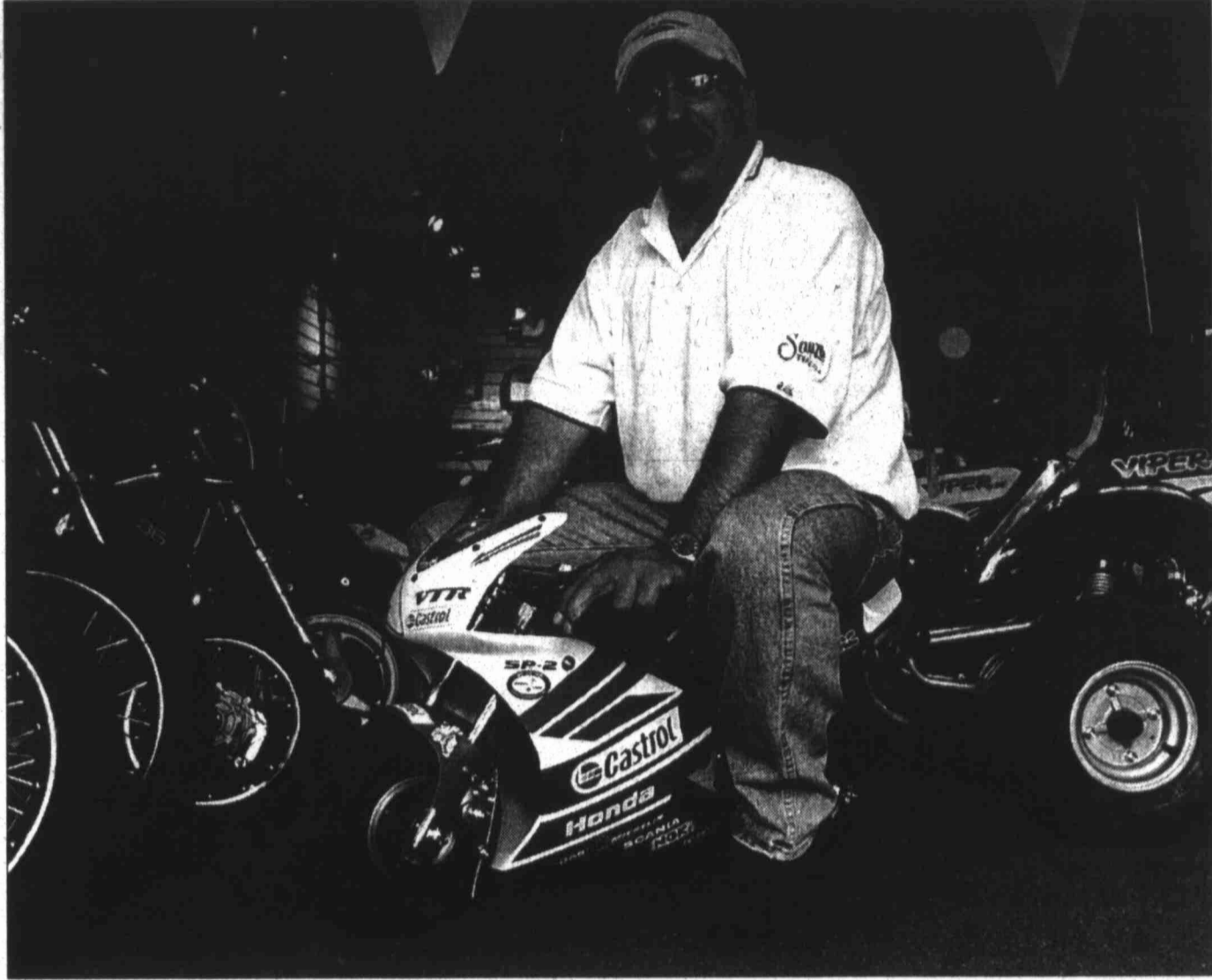
Regardless, Fallon said, most of the pocket bikes don't have the size or the safety equipment to make them street legal, which puts police in Hartford (and Boston and Los Angeles and other cities) in a predicament: How to stop them?

"They tried to pull me over just today," Marrero said. "But (police cruisers) can't go fast through narrow streets, so I just went down there and started booking."

Police are hanging back on purpose, Fallon said. "The difficulty is in the fact that when somebody flees on one of these vehicles, the end result does not justify the means."

Instead of giving chase through crowded streets, police are trying to corner riders, approach them when they're stopped or even follow them home. The result has been dozens of towed pocket bikes and tickets for various violations, Fallon said.

At Power-Plus Equipment in Hartford, a sales and service shop stuffed with lawnmowers, four-wheelers and motorized scooters, the pocket bikes sit on a shelf too high for a child to reach. Sleek, colorful machines imported from Italy and the Czech Republic, they cost more



Manuel Duarte, owner of Power-Plus Equipment in Hartford, Conn., sits astride a Blata Mini-Bike 2.5 in the finest manner of an urban cowboy. He sells high-end miniature motorbikes.

than \$1,000. They're meant for the track, but shop owner Manuel Duarte says they usually get bought by doctors and lawyers looking for a conversation piece.

But that doesn't stop the calls from people hunting for more affordable models.

"It started around Christmas, but this spring it got crazy," Duarte said. "It's actually becoming an annoyance. The calls come in all day long. When you go through 20 or 30 of them in one day, you start to run out of patience."

Duarte also said he turns

away just as many people looking for repairs because there are no replacement parts for the mass-produced models, which go for about \$300.

"Everything on that bike is a copy of the real thing," he said.

Squatting close to the floor, Duarte demonstrated the technique a full-grown man uses to ride a vehicle one-quarter his height.

"Your arms actually hang on your knees, and your legs act as stabilizers. If you let go of the pressure on your legs at all, that's it," he said.

Marrero, getting ready to pull

the ripcord to start up his black and electric-blue cycle — big for a pocket bike at about 3 feet high — wanted the chance to defend the pocket bike trend.

"I'm pretty sure I speak for everyone. We're good kids. We've been inside all winter. Now it's summer, and they're trying to take away our fun," said Marrero.

Just then, a rider pulled up next to him astride a Suzuki GSX-R, a full-size street bike with about 50 times more horsepower.

"After this," Marrero said, "I think I'm gonna get a real one."

Hartford Courant photo/John Wolke

Huge July Red Tag Clearance Sale

*** Certified Preowned Vehicles ***

(Benefits of a certified vehicle include: (A) 6 year/75,000 mile Limited Warranty (B) 115-Point Inspection (C) Roadside Assistance (D) As Low As 3.9 APR with approved credit.)

- 2004 Lincoln Town Car Signature Series - Light Tundra Metallic w/parchment leather, fully equipped w/16,000 miles. MSRP \$41,815 **NOW \$29,995**
- 2004 Ford Escape XLT - Dark Shadow Gray, V-6, automatic, all power, 15,000 miles. MSRP \$23,145 **NOW \$19,995**
- 2004 Ford Taurus SES - Arizona Beige, cloth, all power, 13,000 miles. MSRP \$23,095 **NOW \$15,995**
- 2004 Ford Focus SE 4-DR. - Liquid Grey w/cloth, automatic, AM/FM CD, 18,000 miles. MSRP \$17,490 **NOW \$13,995**
- 2003 Mercury Grand Marquis - Vibrant White w/light flint leather, all power, only 9,000 miles. MSRP \$30,140 **NOW \$20,995**
- 2003 Ford Escape XLT - Oxford White, V-6, automatic, all power with 17,300 miles. MSRP \$23,350 **NOW \$17,995**
- 2003 Ford Taurus SES - Vibrant White, cloth, all power. MSRP \$23,000 **NOW \$13,995**
- 2003 Ford Taurus SES - Silver Frost w/cloth, all power, 19,000 miles. MSRP \$21,670 **NOW \$13,995**
- 2003 Ford Mustang - Dk. Shadow Grey with cloth, all power, V-6, 13,000 miles. MSRP \$20,560 **NOW \$14,995**

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

*** Cars ***

- 1999 Nissan Maxima GLE - Green, all power, locally owned, 63,000 miles. Was \$13,995 **NOW \$12,995**
- 1998 Ford Escort ZX2 - White, local one owner w/41,000 miles. Was \$7,995 **NOW \$6,995**
- 1997 Ford Mustang - Green, V-6, automatic. Was \$6,995 **NOW \$5,995**
- 1996 Oldsmobile 88 4-DR. - Pewter, leather, one owner. Was \$7,995 **NOW \$5,995**
- 1995 Ford Taurus GL - Tan w/cloth, all power, local one owner w/73,000 miles. Was \$5,995 **NOW \$4,995**
- 1999 Nissan Maxima GLE - Green, all power, locally owned, 63,000 miles. Was \$13,995 **NOW \$12,995**

*** SUV's ***

- 2003 Hummer H2 4X4 Luxury - Yellow w/leather, 6.0 V-8, 3rd row seat, moonroof, local one owner w/39,000 miles. Was \$45,995 **NOW \$44,995**
- 2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - White/beige tune, all power, local one owner w/51,000 miles. Was \$18,995 **NOW \$17,995**
- 2002 Ford Expedition XLT - Silver, cloth, dual air, 3rd seat, local one owner w/58,000 miles. Was \$19,995 **NOW \$18,995**
- 2002 Ford Expedition XLT - Silver, cloth, all power, one owner w/31,000 miles. Was \$22,995 **NOW \$18,995**
- 2002 Chevrolet Trailblazer Ext. LT - White w/leather, fully loaded, local one owner w/34,000 miles. Was \$23,995 **NOW \$22,995**
- 2001 Ford Explorer Sport 2-DR.4X4 - Blue w/cloth, all power, one owner w/51,000 miles. Was \$14,995 **NOW \$13,995**
- 2001 Ford Explorer XLT 4-DR. - White w/cloth, all power, one owner w/54,000 miles. Was \$15,995 **NOW \$14,995**
- 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. 4-DR. - Red w/cloth, all power, one owner w/50,000 miles. Was \$24,995 **NOW \$21,995**
- 2000 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer - Slate green/beige, leather, dual air, 3rd seat, all power, local one owner w/59,000 miles. Was \$19,995 **NOW \$18,995**
- 2000 Ford Expedition XLT - Silver/gray tune, leather, dual air, 3rd seat, all power, local one owner w/62,000 miles. Was \$17,995 **NOW \$16,995**
- 1992 Ford Explorer XLT 4X4 - White, all power, extra clean 4X4. Was \$6,995 **NOW \$5,995**

*** VANS ***

- 2004 Nissan Quest 3.5 S - Tan, cloth, dual air, local one owner w/17,000 miles. Was \$23,995 **NOW \$22,995**
- 2001 Toyota Sienna XLE - Tan, all power, one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$19,995 **NOW \$18,995**
- 1997 Ford E250 Cargo Van - White, 5.4 V-8, automatic, air, local one owner. Was \$8,995 **NOW \$7,995**

*** Small Pickups ***

- 2003 Ford Ranger - Beige, 4 cyl., automatic, air, extra clean w/31,000 miles. Was \$11,995 **NOW \$10,995**
- 2002 GMC Sonoma Crew Cab SLS 4X4 - Tan, V-6, all power, one owner w/only 12,000 miles. Was \$12,995 **NOW \$11,995**
- 2001 Dodge Dakota - White, air, automatic, 41,000 miles. Was \$9,995 **NOW \$8,995**
- 2000 Ford Ranger Supercab XLT - Dk. blue, V-6, automatic. Was \$8,995 **NOW \$7,995**
- 1999 Ford Ranger - Blue, extra clean w/64,000 miles. Was \$7,995 **NOW \$6,995**
- 1998 Nissan Frontier XE - Red, air, 5-speed, one owner w/50,000 miles. Was \$9,995 **NOW \$7,995**
- 1997 Chevrolet S-10 - White, V-6, automatic, only 63,000 miles. Was \$7,995 **NOW \$6,995**
- 1994 Ford Ranger - Blue, 4 cyl., 5 speed. Was \$6,995 **NOW \$5,995**

*** 1/2 Ton Pickups ***

- 2003 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Silver/gray tune, 4.6 V-8, all power, one owner w/29,000 miles. Was \$24,995 **NOW \$23,995**
- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Blue/tan tune, 4.6, V-8, all power, one owner w/41,000 miles. Was \$21,995 **NOW \$20,995**
- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Gray w/cloth, 5.4 V-8, all power, one owner w/40,000 miles. Was \$21,995 **NOW \$20,995**
- 2002 GMC Sierra 1500 H.D. Crew Cab SLE - Pewter, 6.0 V-8, all power, nice Truck, one owner. Was \$22,995 **NOW \$21,995**
- 2002 Chevrolet C1500 Silverado Ext. Cab LT Z71 4X4 - Pewter, On-Star, leather, one owner, loaded. Was \$20,995 **NOW \$18,995**
- 2002 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 4-DR. - Silver/gray leather, 5.4 V-8, all power, one owner w/only 21,000 miles. Was \$24,995 **NOW \$23,995**
- 2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT 4-DR. - Red/silver, all power, local one owner. Was \$18,995 **NOW \$17,995**
- 2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - Blue, all power, diamond toolbox w/tube rails, extra clean, one owner w/45,000 miles. Was \$20,995 **NOW \$19,995**
- 2001 Ford F150 Supercrew Lariat 4X4 - Black w/leather, 4.6 V-8, fully loaded, one owner w/21,000 miles. Was \$24,995 **NOW \$23,995**
- 2001 Ford F150 Supercrew XLT - White w/cloth, 4.6, V-8, all power, local one owner w/41,000 miles. Was \$20,995 **NOW \$19,995**
- 1997 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado - Tan, V-8, all power, locally owned. Was \$8,995 **NOW \$8,995**
- 2000 Chevrolet C1500 Ext. Cab Silverado Z-71 4X4 - Red, all power, locally owned w/51,900 miles. Was \$18,995 **NOW \$17,995**

*** 3/4 Tons & 1 Ton Pickups ***

- 2002 Chevrolet C2500 H.D. Crew Cab L.S. Z-71 4X4 - Blue, all power, 6.0 V-8, one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$25,995 **NOW \$24,995**
- 2002 Ford F350 Crew Cab XLT Powerstroke Diesel - Red/Silver, Extra Clean, One Owner. Was \$23,995 **NOW \$22,995**
- 2001 Ford F350 Supercab Dually XLT V-10 - White w/silver, extra clean, w/67,000 miles. Was \$20,995 **NOW \$19,995**
- 2001 GMC Sierra 2500 Ext. Cab 4X4 L.S. - Pewter, cloth, all power, local one owner w/56,000 miles. Was \$24,995 **NOW \$22,995**
- 2007 Chevrolet Silverado C2500 Crew Cab 4X4 - Green, w/cloth, all power, 8.1 V-8, local one owner w/63,000 miles. Was \$22,995 **NOW \$21,995**
- 2000 Ford F250 Supercab XL Powerstroke Diesel - Silver, 6 speed, local one owner w/69,000 miles. Was \$20,995 **NOW \$19,995**

*** These Units Have Been Here Too Long!!! ***

"Our Loss - Your Gain"

- 1994 Ford F150 XL - Green/Tan, 6 cyl., manual transmission. Was \$4,995 **NOW \$3,995**
- 1999 Ford Crown Victoria - White, all power. Was \$9,995 **NOW \$5,995**
- 1997 Mercury Tracer GS - Green, automatic, air. Was \$6,995 **NOW \$3,995**
- 1997 Ford Thunderbird - Tan, all power, 73,000 miles. Was \$8,995 **NOW \$4,995**
- 1996 Mercury Cougar - Green/tan top, 70,000 miles. Was \$6,995 **NOW \$4,995**
- 1995 Cadillac Deville Concor - Silver. Was \$8,995 **NOW \$5,995**
- 2000 Volvo S40 Turbo - Leather, all power, 35,000 miles. Was \$16,995 **NOW \$10,995**
- 1999 GMC Suburban LT - Dual air, all power, tan. Was \$17,995 **NOW \$12,995**
- 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe L.S. 4-DR. - Pewter, cloth, all power, one owner, 50,000 miles. Was \$24,995 **NOW \$19,995**

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IN BR

Crossroads sign-up dates

The Crossroads Youth Association announced sign-up dates for the 2004 season.

Both football cheerleading will take place Big Spring Mondays now until July Fridays (5:30 p.m.) and Saturdays (6 p.m. to 6 p.m.). The league kindergarten sixth grade.

The flag league costs \$100 football division 2 and cheer costs \$55 respectively.

For more information, call Scott Robert at 432-

BSISD announces volleyball event

Big Spring volleyball open all Mondays Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. to 6-8 p.m. The junior players in grade through 12 are to participate.

There will be an opening and closing both Monday Thursdays a gym from 8-9 makeup days Wednesday 9:30 p.m.

A skills incoming eighth-graders ent-graders, take place from to noon next the junior high. The camp place this through Friday. Eighth-graders will a.m. to noon and seven will go from for \$50.

For more information, contact Spring head coach Revis 432-816-9560.

Steer football tournament

The Big Spring Football Bowl has scheduled annual tournament for July Big Spring Club.

The tournament will be a four-man and begin at 8 a.m. There is a fee, which is a cart.

And prize paid for first fourth place. Big Spring Bubba Fra make a special appearance. Franks is time NFL player former-college American University and current for the Packers.

For more contact Randy 432-264-6600 Jeter at 432-

ON TH

Sports Branch
Event, Time, Location
Event, Time, Location
Event, Time, Location

IN BRIEF

Crossroads football sign-up dates set

The Crossroads Youth Football Association has announced the sign-up dates for the upcoming season.

Both football and cheerleading sign-ups will take place at the Big Spring Mall from now until July 17 on Fridays (5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and Saturdays (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) only.

The league is for kindergarten through sixth grade.

The flag football league costs \$30, while football division 1 and 2 and cheerleading costs \$55 and \$65, respectively.

For more information, call Stacie or Robert at 432-268-9634.

BSISD announces volleyball events

Big Spring will hold a volleyball open gym on all Mondays and Thursdays for the summer from 6-8 p.m. at the junior high. All players in grades seven through 12 are invited to participate.

There will also be lifting and conditioning both Mondays and Thursdays after open gym from 8-9 p.m. The makeup days are every Wednesday from 8:30-9:30 p.m.

A skills camp for incoming eighth- and ninth-graders and seventh-graders will also take place from 8 a.m. to noon next week at the junior high.

The camp will take place this Monday through Friday.

Eighth- and ninth-graders will go from 8 a.m. to noon for \$75 and seventh-graders will go from 1-5 p.m. for \$50.

For more information, contact Big Spring head volleyball coach Revis Daggett at 432-816-9560.

Steer football golf tournament set

The Big Spring Steers Football Booster Club has scheduled its third annual golf tournament for July 17 at the Big Spring Country Club.

The tournament will be a four-man scramble and begin its shotgun start at 8 a.m.

There is a \$75 entry fee, which includes a cart.

And prizes will be paid for first through fourth place.

Big Spring native Bubba Franks will make a special guest appearance.

Franks is a three-time NFL pro bowler, former-college all-American with the University of Miami and current tight end for the Green Bay Packers.

For more info., contact Randy Phillips at 432-264-6600 or Steve Jeter at 432-263-3670.

ON THE AIR

Sports Broadcast Schedule

Event	Time	Station
Today		
Event	Time	Station
News @ 6:00 a.m.	6:00 a.m.	1490
Friday		
Event	Time	Station
Rangers @ Red Sox	9:30 p.m.	1490
Saturday		
Event	Time	Station
News @ 6:00 a.m.	6:00 a.m.	1490

Young Life sets annual golf tourney for late July

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Young Life Big Spring, along with Cornell Corrections, has scheduled its fifth annual golf tournament for July 24-25 at the Big Spring Country Club.

Young Life Big Spring is a nondenominational Christian Youth Ministry outreach to high school kids, said Area Director Matt Warren.

The tournament costs \$75 to participate, which does not include the price of a golf cart. However, private carts are welcome.

The tournament will have two flights and follow a 1 p.m. shotgun start both Saturday and Sunday.

Awards will also be given out for the longest drive and closest to the pin and there will also be a prize for a hole-in-one.

Warren says that Young Life Big Spring is a nonprofit organization and

this golf tournament is one of the big ways the group raises money.

"Our golf classic is just one of our ways to raise funds and these funds are used to run our program each year as we reach out to more and more high school students."

The other big fundraising project in which Young Life Big Spring counts on is its annual banquet.

This year the banquet will take place Sept. 13 at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

The funds raised throughout the year also assists in sending the students to a week long summer camp, which took place this past weekend at Crooked Creek in Fraser, Colo.

"We guarantee the kids the best week of their lives," said Warren.

The organization also holds a weekly club Monday nights. Young Life Big Spring sees about 40 kids on average.



The Young Life Big Spring golf classic has been scheduled for July 24 and 25 at the Big Spring Country Club. From left: Riley Wyatt, Adolph Garza, Ben Garcia Jr. and Jimmy Newsom won the tournament last year. Young Life Big Spring is a nonprofit, nondenominational Christian Youth Ministry for high school students.

The golf classic is being sponsored by Cornell Corrections, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Big Spring Rehabilitation, Warren Chiropractic, Alon USA,

American State Bank, Cain Electric, First Bank of West Texas, Howell Auto Sales, Partee Drilling, Wells Fargo Bank and Western National Bank.

For more information about the golf tournament, call Larry Bryan of the Big Spring Country Club at 267-5354.

The tournament field is limited to 36 teams.



The 11- and 12-year-old Big Spring Little League all-star team took part in the District 3 all-star tournament in Midland recently. Front row, from left: Blake Brorman, Dylan Lowery, John-Erik Molina, Sage Gibson and Steven Johnson. Middle: Reagan Rotan, Cole Campbell, Martin Yanez and Jeremy Solis. Back: Coach Jeff Brorman, Evan Burton, Coach Tommy Gibson, Issac Garcia, Matt Ritchey and Coach Mike Ritchey. The team defeated Mid-Cities of Midland, 7-5, in its opening game and then lost a heartbreaking eight inning game to Odessa Eastern, 6-5. In game three, Big Spring faced North Central of Midland and were defeated, 5-4.

Armstrong takes over lead at Tour De France

By JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press Writer

ARRAS, France - Lance Armstrong took the overall lead Wednesday for the first time at this year's Tour de France after one of the fastest time trials in race history.

His U.S. Postal Service squad dominated the rain-soaked event, giving the Texan the yellow jersey in his bid for a record sixth-straight title in cycling's showcase race.

"It really was a special day for the team," Armstrong said. "The team was incredible. The rhythm was perfect. It's incredible."

He smiled broadly as he crossed the line, riding a special aerodynamic bike and wearing an aerodynamic helmet and suit.

Armstrong holds a 36-second lead over key rival Tyler Hamilton, a fellow American and former teammate.

Jan Ullrich, a five-time Tour runner-up and second again to Armstrong last year, finished fourth and is 55 seconds off the champion's overall time.

Other challengers were also left trailing: Italy's Ivan Basso is 1 minute, 17 seconds behind

Armstrong overall, and Spain's Roberto Heras is 1 minute, 45 seconds back.

Armstrong said his team started slowly but picked up speed.

"That's the sign of a great team," he said.

The blue-clad Postal squad celebrated with hugs at the finish line. Armstrong raised his arms as he accepted the yellow jersey that in the past five years he has come to call his own.

Ullrich, the 1997 Tour winner, entered the race as Armstrong's most feared rival. His T-Mobile squad was more than a minute behind.

New rules designed to limit the advantage that top teams gain in the event protected Ullrich to some extent. In all, the German lost 40 seconds to Armstrong's team — still a severe setback.

Despite rain that soaked the 40-mile course from Cambrai to Arras, Armstrong's team still averaged more than 32 mph — the third fastest time in the history of the event.

Armstrong will still be looking to the later mountain stages and individual time trials to put away his rivals for good. But the advantage gained in

the team event was a major step toward yet another title.

Armstrong and five teammates are among the top seven riders in the overall standings — a clear sign of strength. George Hincapie is No. 2, 10 seconds behind. He is followed by No. 3 Floyd Landis, No. 4. Jose Azevedo, No. 5. Jose Luis Rubiera and No. 7 Viatceslav Ekimov.

The Postal squad had the advantage of starting last of the 21 teams. It also benefited from a stop in the rain that had doused the course, turning the roads slick and causing several teams problems.

The Postal team worked right from the Tour's start — the time trial Saturday — to position itself as the squad to start last. That enabled the team to see how others fared on the route and judge the pace.

Armstrong has said he was not aiming to keep the yellow jersey in the flat stages that come in the days following the time trial. Those stages favor strong sprinters.

His aim is to be wearing it on the day that counts — at the finish in Paris July 25.

Teixeira continues to swing hot wood, Texas nips Indians

By TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Over in Texas' clubhouse, manager Buck Showalter went through a familiar postgame ritual. He praised the Rangers' steady relievers, the defense and a powerhouse lineup.

Meanwhile, Cleveland manager Eric Wedge did his usual thing: grumbled about his bullpen.

Gary Matthews Jr. and Mark Teixeira each hit two-run homers in the seventh inning as Texas rallied against Cleveland's bungling bullpen for a 9-8 win over the Indians Wednesday night.

"We were in position to win in the seventh," Wedge said after the Indians relievers blew their league-leading 20th save. "We've got to make pitches and we didn't. It's the same story."

Teixeira connected off Jeriome Robertson (1-1) to tie it 6-6, and two batters later, Matthews hit his off Rick White as Texas improved to 5-5 on a 14-game road trip.

Alfonso Soriano and Brad Fullmer added solo shots for the Rangers, who lead the majors with 126 home runs.

"It's fun hitting in this lineup," said Teixeira, who has seven homers in his past 10 games. "Hitting is contagious, and when you've got guys swinging like we do, you can get on a pretty good roll."

Soriano's 16th homer, a two-out shot in the eighth inning, set a single-season club record for a Texas second baseman. Julio Franco hit 15 in 1991.

Reliever Ron Mahay (2-0) struck out four in 2 1-3 innings as the Rangers moved back into first place in the AL West, one game ahead of Oakland.

At 47-35, the Rangers are off to one of their best starts in franchise history. A year ago at this point, they were 32-50 and 21 games out of

first.

"We've got 80 games left," Showalter said. "Our guys like being a part of this and they don't want it to stop."

While their success this season has been one of baseball's biggest surprises, the Rangers aren't stunned by anything they're doing.

"We're not surprised," Teixeira said. "Coming out of spring training, we knew we had a good team, a good lineup, a good bullpen and good starting pitching. We're playing just like we thought we would."

Once their bats gave the Rangers the lead, Texas' bullpen preserved it.

Franklin Francisco got two outs in the seventh and worked the eighth before giving way to closer Francisco Cordero.

Cordero gave up an RBI single to Victor Martinez and a run-scoring grounder to Jody Gerut before striking out Ronnie Belliard with the tying run at second for his 26th save.

"I know we've got some good hitters and a great lineup, but our bullpen has been our collective MVP," Teixeira said.

Matt Lawton homered and Travis Hafner had two RBIs for the Indians, whose relievers have converted just 14 of 34 save opportunities.

"Until we get people to step up and settle into their roles, we're going to have a problem," Wedge said. "We kept the heat on them but we have to shut them down late."

With the Rangers trailing by two in the seventh, Teixeira tied it at 6 with his 17th homer.

David Dellucci walked and Robertson was replaced by White, whose second pitch to Matthews landed in the Indians' bullpen, putting Texas ahead 8-6.

Soriano homered with two outs in the eighth off Bob Howry, extending the Rangers' lead to 9-6.

JULY 8 2004

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Announcements

SCHOOLER PHOTOGRAPHY
Photos of the Coahoma Freedom Parade & other events are available to view & purchase at schoolerphotography.photorelect.com

Business Opportunity

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Garage Sales

PJ'S INSIDE Sale. 2501 Main. Friday & Saturday, 10:00-3:00.

Garage Sales

2 FAMILY Garage Sale: 1801 Duquoin, Saturday 8-?. Baby items, clothing, adult clothing and lots of misc.

2003 S. Monticello, Friday & Saturday 8-2. Bikes, scooter, jeans, baby items & clothing, preemie clothing, shoes, roller blades, 1976 GMC Sprint, Pontiac Fiero, misc.

5 FAMILY Garage Sale: 704 Tulane, Friday & Saturday 8-?. Lots of clothing for adults & kid's, house ware items and lots of misc.

AVON GARAGE Sale & Much More. 800 W. Marcy #26 in carport. Saturday 8:00-?.

CARPOR SALE: 2902 Cactus, Saturday 7:30-?. Lots of misc. items.

Garage Sales

BACKYARD SALE: Thursday & Friday 8-2, 2606 East 16th (Across from Teal's Carpets). Furniture, Brass bed, dresser, kitchen items, computer parts, sofa, and much more.

CARPOR SALE: 703 E. 16th, Friday 8-? & Sat. 8-12. Large antique trunk, clothing, 1966 Pontiac, material, large bar and lots of odds and ends.

CARPOR SALE: Fri. & Sat. 8:00-Noon, 3805 Hamilton. Dining table, coffee table, smoker, microwave, toaster oven, records - 78 rpm, king sized comforter and shams.

FRIDAY ONLY, 2205 East 25th. 7:00 a.m. Redecorated, clean out! King size mattress set, luggage, bookcase. Lots of items, Come See!!

Garage Sales

COMBINED TWO household. 2404 Allendale. Saturday, 8:00-1:00. Clothes, toys, books, Barbie items, linens, dishes, movies, bike, edger, '74 Nova, & much more. No Early Sales!

ESTATE SALE: Priscilla Brown- 2217 Lynn. Full bdrm suite, twin bdrm suite, dining room suite, refrigerator, stone, washer, dryer, desk, couch, recliner, TV, 3 sets of china. Huge amount of pans, Bake ware, Tupperware, collectibles, many misc.. Thursday- Friday & Sat. 7am-11.

GARAGE SALE: 2600 Rebecca, Saturday 8-12. Trundle bed, kid clothing, toys, desk and lots of misc. items.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: Black VCR cabinet/ chest, pfaltzgraf dishes, twin bedspreads, lots of household miscellaneous. 801 Henry (Coahoma), Saturday Only.

GARAGE SALE: Sat. 8-2, 2606 Carleton. Bunk beds, kids & adult clothing, toys, linens, crafting items, LOTS of misc.

GARAGE SALE: Sat. Only 7:30-12:00. Lots of household items, little girl's clothes, misc. 1605 Kiowa.

GARAGE SALE: Saturday 7am-Noon, 604 Bucknell. King Size Poster Headboard, home decor and lots of misc. items.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: Saturday 7-12. Men/ women/ child clothing, entertainment center, TV, toddler bed, baby items & toys, lots misc. 1205 Pennsylvania.

LARGE GARAGE Sale, 2404 East 24th Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. Everything must go! Furniture, antiques, housewares, jewelry and exercise equipment. Mark at low prices!

MERGING HOUSEHOLDS Garage Sale: 4614 Wasson Road, Friday & Saturday 9-?. Variety of furniture, household items, dishes, cookware, small appliances and misc items.

ESTATE (Garage) SALE
Sat., July 10 - 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Sun., July 11, 11 AM - 4:00 PM
805 & 813 E. 6th St., Corner of 6th & Austin, Colorado City, TX

There will be items sold out of both homes during the 2 Days. Bid on the Real Estate will be considered on July 10 at 10 A.M.

4 Poster Bedroom Suite (4 pcs.), Sofa, Living Room Chairs, Fireplace Mantle (Free standing), Sm. Student Desk, Old School Desk, Chest of Drawers, Quilt Box, Ladder Back Chairs, Sm. Kenmore Washer & Dryer, Coldspot Side by Side Refrig., Futura II Sewing Machine in Cabinet, Fiesta Water Jug, Green Depression, Sm. Glass Washboard, Aunt Jemima Shopping Board, Costume Jewelry, Nice Framed Prints, Portable Evap. Cooler, Electric Toro Edger & Weeder, 1920's Colorado Annual, 1940's Sears Catalog, McCoy Pottery, 18ft. Alum. Ext. Ladder (goes out to 36 ft.), Front Line Roto Tiller, Kerosene Space Heater, Bolt of Chain Cutters, Pipe Wrenches, Yard Tools, Hand Tools, Hand & Tree Saws, PoGo Stick, Metal Cut-Off Saw, Concrete Tools, Mitre Box Saw, Hi-Lift Jack, Plus Much More.

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Seminole: August 3rd, James Fullwood (806) 787-8101

Smyer: August 10th, Charlie Macha, Auctioneer #6911 (806) 893-7151

Vealmoor: August 14th, James Fullwood (806) 787-8101

Quality Auctioneers, Inc. (806) 866-4646

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MOVING SALE 7-Noon. Porcelain tiles, collectible shelves, kitchen items and misc. items. 1 Ave.

MULTI-FAMILY 2604 Lynn Drive, S Bedding, rugs, 1 VHS, house wares, frames, bread maker, new cash register.

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SATURDAY 7: Clothes .25¢, girls 8-8, large women book, scrubs, kit room house stuff, ford, down from Ho

YARD SALE: 150 west decor; picture kitchenware, electr misc.

YARD SALE: S 1322 Mesquite R clothing, house clothing, appliance

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Re-Roof the South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf Building Trades Building
Specifications may be obtained from Mr. Dennis Churchwell, Director of Purchasing, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167, e-mail: dchurchwell@howardcollege.edu. Sealed bids will be accepted through 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 22, 2004 in the Howard College, Administration Building, A2, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, at which time they will be opened and read aloud. The bids will then be tabulated and final determination of bid award will be made at a future board meeting. Technical questions should be directed to Phil Furqueron, Architect, 500 Johnson, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)267-3794. All bidding questions are directed to Mr. Dennis Churchwell, Director of Purchasing, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432)264-5167, e-mail: dchurchwell@howardcollege.edu. Howard County Junior College District reserves the right to reject any and all bids. #4261 July 1 & 8, 2004

Easley Roofing and Sheet Metal is soliciting prices from Minority & Woman Owned Businesses for electrical & mechanical work related to roofing and misc. roofing materials for the following project: **Roof Replacement -BIG SPRING STATE HOSPITAL** Project#04-007-BSH
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON

The sun passes Saturn in Cancer's protective realm. Saturn likes to crack the whip, stiffen the discipline and get organized. The focus of this energy is the home. When you clear the clutter from your desk, garage and countertop, you'll really be clearing the clutter from your mind. The moon in Aries gives you energy to work tirelessly.



Joyce Jillson

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's a sparkling sheen over your world, blue skies and all that. You're in a forgiving mood, or maybe it's just that you refuse to be bothered. Even the trouble-makers in your life are reduced to having only the power to amuse you. TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Think deeply about a loved one's request. If you

answer honestly, you will probably say "no." Developing a larger vocabulary will enable you to talk your way into getting more of what you want out of life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You accomplish so much on your own that it's almost an annoyance to try and motivate others — they're just not getting it! They'll understand later. Try to be gentle with loved ones, letting them set the pace.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Keeping busy won't be a problem. Relaxing might be. You take day-to-day details very seriously. Colleagues trust you implicitly to make the right move for the company. Your star quality attracts business and romance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Today has an element of mischief, levity and whimsy. Experience is favored over talking things to death — just jump in and see what it's really like. Too much conversation clouds the true meaning instead of making it clearer.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Attitude counts more than talent for education today. You cheerfully give people more than they expect, a cornerstone principle of your ultimate success. Singles have laughs with a Sagittarius or Capricorn.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your courage is high. Some of you will deliver a business proposal, an invitation to dance, or even a relationship ultimatum. You're in an outgoing mood and will be driven to get to know and accept people on a new level.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Just when you were resigned to a hard-working fate doing a thankless job, several new possibilities take you by surprise. Consider your options carefully, but don't be afraid to be spontaneous. Your instincts are right on.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The artist in you needs a voice. Creative efforts inform even your most logically minded tasks. Allowing yourself to be bad at an activity is

the key to getting good or even brilliant at it. Be easy on yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Though it's difficult to imagine anyone's way being better than your own right now, you can overcome adversity with relative ease by remaining flexible. New relationships are taking the path you thought they would.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Early in the day, you feel like you're scatter-shooting your way through the hours, desperately trying to complete each task just well enough to move on to the next. Creative energy accompanies this frenetic state.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your internal weather is gorgeous. Even if you're busy at work, part of you is off sailing a ship across a glassy sea. It's not that you've forgotten completely about the deadline, but what's the point on dwelling on it?

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I have lost count of how many times my boyfriend has broken up

with me in the past two years. I really loved him, and I really hoped that he would just love me back. Now, he's moved on to someone new. I'm alone and trying so hard not to miss him, but I feel myself waiting for him to come around again. Do you have any advice for me? My birthday is Jan. 10, 1978. His is July 12, 1980."

Capricorn, your problem is you don't think anyone else would be attracted to you — and you're dead wrong about that. What you've got going with this changeable Cancer is not love at all but an emotional version of sadomasochism. He hurts you, you get used to the pain, and when it's not there, you miss it and come back for more. Sound sick? It is. Stop equating this with love. Since Capricorn is usually so practical and no-nonsense, maybe it will help to look at love as an action, not an emotion. From now on, only see love as a loving action. If someone does not act lovingly, maybe he does not

really love you.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Tom Hanks stars this year in "The Terminal" along with the lovely Catherine Zeta-Jones. Cancer people easily gather wonderful people around them — those of this sign are natural charmers. When they are surrounded by people with whom they feel safe, they become empowered and do their best work. Steven Spielberg directed "The Terminal." Hanks and Spielberg have a strong history of collaboration.

If you would like to write to Joyce Jillson, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Joyce Jillson page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Joyce Jillson 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 in need

Dear Annie: I am almost 50 years old and have been married for 25 — happily, I thought. Six months ago, I was in a car accident and was rushed to the hospital for surgery. The surgeon told my husband if I had gotten to the hospital a few minutes later, I would not have survived.

The surgeon is a good-looking man, five years my junior. Although I have fully recovered physically, I cannot get this surgeon out of my mind. I think of him every minute of every day. I ran into him at the bank last week, and again at the post office yesterday. Each time, he approached me first to say hello and ask how I was. Is it possible he feels the same way?

I cannot remember having had a crush on anyone when I was a teenager, but I assume that's what this is. I'm a grown woman. How do I get over this infatuation? — Cruhed in New York

Dear Crushed: It is not unusual for patients to develop crushes on their doctors or nurses. You had a traumatizing experience. He saved your life. Your overwhelming gratitude, combined with the life-threatening circumstances, has elevated him to Dr. Perfect in your mind. The fact that he is good-looking intensifies the effect. Believe us, it will wear off.

Meanwhile, recognize this infatuation for the temporary insanity it is, and transfer some of that hero-worship to the hus-



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

band who stood stoically by your hospital bed, worried sick.

Dear Annie: My friend, "Eunice," and I each have two children, and we get together occasionally at one another's homes. The problem is that when they come to my house, I prepare a nice meal, all homemade. However, when we go to Eunice's, she orders pizza or take-out burgers, and asks me to reimburse her for half the cost.

I am beginning to hate having them over since it's not fair that I always have to pay half at her home, but she pays nothing at mine. I'm considering giving her an invoice for all the ingredients that I use to slap together a meal.

This has been festering, and I am afraid to get together with Eunice because I might blow my top when I am asked to pay for the meal when we are guests in their home. What should I do? — Chief Cook and Bottlewasher

Dear Cook: Eunice does-

n't consider you a guest at her home since you come so often, and she doesn't recognize that homemade food costs money. Here are your choices: 1) Order takeout and have Eunice pay half. 2) Figure out the cost of a home-cooked meal and ask Eunice to reimburse you. 3) Visit at times that don't involve meals. 4) Tell Eunice what you told us. 5) Say nothing and fume. Pick one before the friendship bites the dust.

Dear Annie: I am a 32-year-old female, happily

married for 11 years. Since my early teens, I have not had even the smallest desire to bear or raise children. I don't dislike kids; I just don't want my own. I am not a nurturer. I don't even want pets. My husband shares my opinion, and we have a wonderful relationship.

My problem is with my family, friends and doctor. Why does everyone insist that I will "change my mind"? My doctor refuses to do a tubal ligation, saying I am "too young." No one would

question my judgment if I had kids I couldn't afford. I'm told I should have "at least one," as if I could return the child for a refund later.

I'm tired of the inquisition. It's irresponsible to have a child I don't desire with every fiber of my being. Would you please back me up? — Child-free by Choice

Dear Child-free: Consider it done. This is an intensely personal decision, and as long as you and your husband are in agreement, everyone

else should butt out.

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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HI AND
THE OT
HOW'S SIM AT THAT? CONFEREN VEG!
SNUFF!
I'M KIND TH' MORN EATIN' M GITTIN' F. WHATTA THINK IT IS, DOC ?!
JOHN ROSE
BEETL
SARGH IT'S 2 A

THURSDAY

JULY 8

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLN (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPICE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	TMC (26)
	Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	Atlanta	Black Ent.	Disney	Sports	Sports	Premium
6	News (CC)	News (CC)	La Mujer de Mañana	King of the Hill	News	Passion de Gavilanes	News	Sarfield (CC)	Joe McGee	News-Lahr	LAPD		Star Trek: Next	Law & Order	Live	Sister, Sister	Reporters	Streetball	The One-Man
7	Whose Line? Whose Line?	Whose Line? Whose Line?	Mariama de la Noche	North Shore (CC)	Big Brother 5 (CC)	Prisoners	Friends (CC)	Movie: The Mask (CC)	Updates/Israel	West Yea. Jrd World	Anatomy of a Snake Bite	Movie: She Wore a Yellow Ribbon	Star Trek: Next	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	The Parkers	Movie: Oliver & Company	WNBA Basketball	2004 World Series of Poker	Movie: What's Cooking?
8	Kingdom Hospital	Kingdom Hospital	Amarin as Mi Pecado	You Calling (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Investigator	El Alma Herida	Will & Grace	Light of the Southwest	Wide Angle (CC)	Unshackled History (CC)	Ribbon	MXC	Movie: The Peacemaker (CC) (DVS)	106 & Park: Prime	(CC)	Barbarian	Mystics at Liberty	2004 World Series of Poker (CC)	
9	Primetime Thursday	Primetime Thursday	Aqui y Ahora	70a Show Dharma-Greg	Without a Trace (CC)	Protagonistas	Las Vegas (CC)	10 Movie: The Mask (CC)	Soundstage (CC)	Kevin & Drew Unleashed	15 Movie: Flying	MXC	Movie: The Peacemaker (CC) (DVS)	Club Comic View	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	Bull Riding	Baseball Tonight (CC)	Movie: Bound	
10	News Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70a Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight Show (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Anatomy of a Snake Bite	Leatherheads	MXC	Movie: The Peacemaker (CC) (DVS)	Nightly News Mead Sports	Big Juice Lizzie McGuire	Bull Riding: PRCA Event	SportsCenter	Movie: La Haine	
11	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Extra (CC) Jimmy Kimmel	En las Mejores Familias	Backer (CC) Spin City	(CC) The Late Late Show	Al Rojo Vivo	Show (CC) Late Night	20 Movie: Jesse Lee Pe	Sign Off	Unshackled History (CC)	Movie: She Wore a Yellow Ribbon	MXC	Hollins Blind Date	Peacemaker (CC) (DVS)	Midnight Love	Boy World Even Stevens	Baseball Tonight (CC)	Rome-Burning Outside-Lines	
12	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Live (CC) Paid Program	Mujeres Engañosas	Blind Date	Blind Date	Street Smarts	Movie: Frasier (CC)	Big Bully	Updates/Israel	A.F. News			Real TV (CC)	Real TV (CC)	Club Comic View	Kim Possible Proud Family	X-Games Classic	SportsCenter (CC)	15 Movie:

DENNIS THE MENACE



"How long are you in for this time?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Why did Uncle Tom graduate in a black nightgown?"

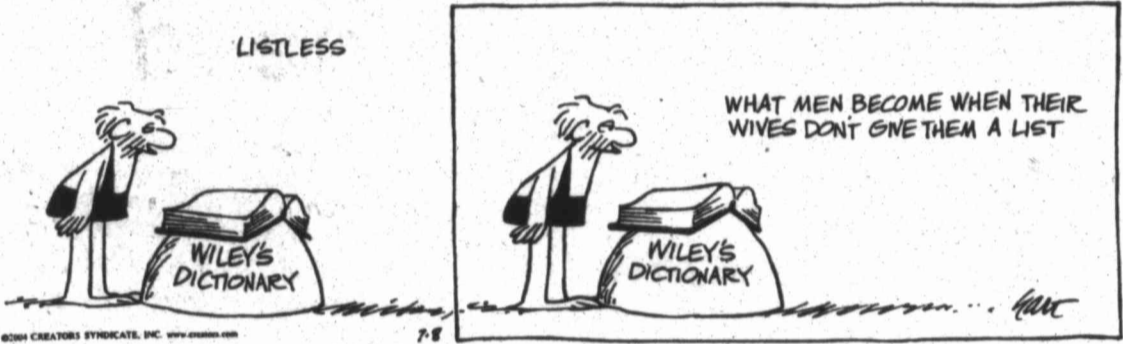
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AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 8, the 190th day of 2004. There are 176 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 8, 1776, Col. John Nixon gave the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence, in Philadelphia.

On this date: In 1663, King Charles II of England granted a charter to Rhode Island.

In 1853, an expedition led by Commodore Matthew Perry arrived in Yedo Bay, Japan, on a mission to seek diplomatic and trade relations with the Japanese.

In 1889, The Wall Street Journal was first published. In 1891, Warren G. Harding married Florence K. DeWolfe in Marion, Ohio.

In 1907, Florenz Ziegfeld staged his first "Follies," on the roof of the New York Theater.

In 1919, President Wilson received a tumultuous welcome in New York City after his return from the Versailles Peace Conference in France.

In 1947, demolition work began in New York City to make way for the new permanent headquarters of the United Nations.

In 1950, Gen. Douglas MacArthur was named commander-in-chief of United Nations forces in Korea.

In 1975, President Ford announced he would seek the Republican nomination for the presidency in 1976.

In 1993, a jury in Boise, Idaho, acquitted white separatist Randy Weaver and a co-defendant of slaying a federal marshal in a shootout at a remote mountain cabin.

Today's Birthdays: Blues musician Johnnie Johnson is 80. Singer Jerry Vale is 72. Singer Steve Lawrence is 69. Actor Jeffrey Tambor

is 60. Ballerina Cynthia Gregory is 58. Actress Kim Darby is 56. Children's performer Raffi is 56. Actress Anjelica Huston is 53. News columnist Anna Quindlen is 51. Actor Kevin Bacon is 46. Rock musician Andy Fletcher (Depeche Mode) is 43. Country singer Toby Keith is 43. Rock musician Graham Jones (Haircut 100) is 43. Rock singer Joan Osborne is 42. Writer-producer Rob Burnett ("Ed") is 42. Actor Corey Parker is 39. Actor Billy Crudup is 36. Actor Michael Weatherly ("Dark Angel") is 36. Singer Beck is 34. Country singer Actor Milo Ventimiglia is 27.

Answer to previous puzzle

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EDEN	TULSA	PLOW
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Newsday Crossword

SOUNDALIKES by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Triangle or circle | 1 Thin opening | 1 To any extent | 36 Franklin's flier |
| 6 Annoying one | 2 Ponderosa | 12 Low-budget film, often | 37 Agenda bit |
| 10 Annoying one | 3 Folksy Guthrie son | 13 ___ around (was a snoop) | 39 Actress Vardalos |
| 14 Casablanca actor | 4 Promo package | 18 Work of praise | 40 Have too little |
| 15 Singer McEntire | 5 Bard's "always" | 22 Like a wide grin | 44 Backbones |
| 16 ___ cost (free) | 6 Gumbel of TV | 24 Having a sense of style | 45 Tanker mishaps |
| 17 Michigan national park | 7 "It's been ___!" | 25 Biting remarks | 47 Play rosters |
| 19 Young fellas | 8 Fit for the job | 26 Novelist Bagnold | 48 Loosen, in a way |
| 20 General ___ chicken | 9 ___ kwon do | 27 ___ E. Coyote | 49 Kick off |
| 21 Cowgirl Evans | 10 Far from ruddy | 28 Sooner State: Abbr. | 51 Summer quaff |
| 22 Dallas matriarch | | 30 Sought information | 53 Contended capital |
| 23 "As ___ on TV" | | 31 Jungle crusher | 54 Scandinavian capital |
| 25 Left early, slangily | | 33 Was broadcast | 56 Flag down |
| 26 Return of the Jedi critters | | 35 Walk of Fame implant | 57 Sundance's gal |
| 29 Chaucer's ___ Inn | | | 58 Tag-sale caveat |
| 32 Premier Khrushchev | | | 60 Tooth-care grp. |
| 34 Put into piles | | | 61 ___ Na Na |
| 35 Schuss or wedel | | | |
| 38 Noncommittal response | | | |
| 41 Narc's org. | | | |
| 42 Toledo's lake | | | |
| 43 Hill hundred | | | |
| 44 Lieus | | | |
| 46 Pertinent, in law | | | |
| 47 Canine tooth | | | |
| 50 Scale down | | | |
| 52 Bit of clowning | | | |
| 53 No longer valid | | | |
| 55 Perlman of Cheers | | | |
| 59 Sax man Getz | | | |
| 60 Air travelers' assignments | | | |

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JULY 8 2004

That's Racin'

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THE CASH STORE.

Go online and check out www.thatstracin.com for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily.

FIGHTING TO FINISH

Joe Nemechek's team struggles with string of bad

BY JIM UTTER
Knight Ridder Newspapers



STEPHEN M. DOWELL/KRT
Joe Nemechek and the No. 01 team believe that they have what it takes to win races.

It's time to change Joe Nemechek's nickname to "Bad Luck" Joe? It appeared for a while this season Nemechek couldn't get out of the way of his own shadow, or anybody else's for that matter.

All too often after a race in which they finished poorly, drivers claim they had a good car until something out of control took them out of contention.

But they hardly ever have the statistics to back it up.

Nemechek is another story.

And another. And another.

In nine of the 10 races prior to last weekend's Pepsi 400 at Daytona (Fla.) International Speedway, either mechanical problems or another driver was involved in cutting short Nemechek's day.

In most of the races Nemechek was running in the top 10 or even the top five before things went sour. In that 10-race span his best finish was 14th, happening on two occasions.

During the stretch, Nemechek wondered aloud what he needed to do to get the monkey off the back of him and his No. 01 MB2 Motorsports team.

"What has been so frustrating about it is that we've had good cars just about everywhere we've been," Nemechek said.

"We've had top-five runs going at the majority of these races

when we either break something or have a part failure or something happens.

"It's just been kind of crazy.

Nobody has given up.

We're going to win a race before the year is over."

Nemechek's luck finally seemed to take a turn for the better last weekend. He qualified sixth and ran well much of the race, but still there was a hiccup. During one pit stop under caution, Nemechek had to pit twice to correct some loose lug nuts.

On the final green flag run of the race, however, Nemechek moved up 13 spots — from 23rd to 10th, where he ended the night.

It was just his second top-10 finish of the season.

"We stayed patient and hustled our way back to the front. During that last green-flag run my car was perfect — we were passing everybody," he said.

"I think our year is turning around — we have showed in the last 10 races we can lead laps and run up front. This team is strong; we just keep finding that little weak spot every race.

"I guess a 10th-place finish wasn't that bad, but yet, I think we could have done even better."

Nemechek's season — his first with MB2 Motorsports — started with much

promise back in February. He started 14th and finished sixth in the Daytona 500.

Nemechek struggled over the next few weeks, but soon he began picking up steam, particularly in qualifying. His qualifying prowess over the years has earned him the nickname "Front Row Joe."

Nemechek has four top-five and six top-10 starts this season, with all of his top-five starts coming in the past 11 races.

"It's been frustrating. We've had top-10 cars, even top-five cars at Sonoma, Pocono and Michigan. We're showing we can run fast. We just got to make sure the cars will finish," Nemechek said.

"I've put myself in a couple bad situations and wrecked a couple of cars. This team is learning. Believe me, everybody is pumped up big-time.

"We are ready to win races. We keep knocking on the door enough, we're going to win."

And perhaps retain his "Front Row" Joe moniker.

JOE'S WOES

In nine of the 10 races prior to last weekend's Pepsi 400 at Daytona, Joe Nemechek had seen bad luck hamper his chances at a good finish. Here's a look:

TEXAS

Was running in top five with 70 laps remaining but lost power due to a broken spark plug. Finished 14th.

MARTINSVILLE

Spun out by Michael Waltrip with 44 laps remaining while running 15th. Finished 27th.

TALLADEGA

On Lap 146 of 188, engine overheated. Finished 32nd.

CALIFORNIA

Was running 10th when he ran out of fuel with two laps remaining. Finished 28th.

RICHMOND

Was running third and went for the lead. As he was passing Jamie McMurray on Lap 201 for second, the two got tangled and both slammed into the wall. Finished 36th.

CHARLOTTE

Qualified 13th, finished 14th in an incident-free race.

DOVER

Day ended on Lap 158 of 400 when he was spun out by Terry Labonte in Turn 4. Car suffered major damage and finished 38th.

POCONO

Led first 10 laps but on Lap 86 of 200 transmission broke, leaving him with only third gear. At the time of malfunction, he was 13th. Finished 18th.

MICHIGAN

Running fifth when engine broke with 27 laps remaining. Finished 35th.

SONOMA

Running fifth when transmission broke on Lap 59. Lost first and second gears. Nursed car rest of way, and finished 29th.

— Jim Utter

CIA STOCK PHOTOS INC.

In nine of the past 10 races prior to last week's Pepsi 400, either mechanical problems or collisions with other drivers have hampered Nemechek's performance

RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

1. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): Did the teammate dance to perfection at Pepsi 400, escorting Jeff Gordon to the win. Last week: 1.

2. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): Don't look now, but the four-time champion is this season's first four-time winner. Last week: 4.

3. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): The teamwork that has been, at times, stronger than feared is backsliding a bit. Last week: 2.

4. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17): Ward Burton's Daytona week had luck rubbed off, dealing this team a big setback. Last week: 3.

5. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): Found himself suspended without drafting help when it mattered most in the Pepsi 400. Last week: 9.

6. Bobby Labonte (car No. 18): Which Joe Gibbs Racing team, this one or Stewart's, will be the first to win a race this year? Last week: 8.

7. Elliott Sadler (car No. 38): A qualifying violation knocked this team's chances for a good run at Daytona off track. Last week: 5.

8. Ryan Newman (car No. 12): Got through Daytona without suffering huge disaster. It's going to be his kind of track from now on. Last

week: 6.

9. Kurt Busch (car No. 97): Stood his ground among a swirl of Chevrolts in the lead draft during the Pepsi 400. Last week: 12.

10. Mark Martin (car No. 6): We keep trying to tell this team that its championship chances aren't dead quite yet. Last week: 10.

For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit www.thatstracin.com.

Teamwork pays off for Gordon, Johnson at Daytona

A pair of Chevrolts at the front of the field, fending off all adversaries to extend their team's streak of success in a NASCAR Nextel Cup restrictor-plate race.

The plot was familiar in Saturday night's Pepsi 400 at Daytona (Fla.) International Speedway, but the lead roles were cast differently.

Instead of Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Michael Waltrip answering questions about "team orders" after another Dale Earnhardt Inc. plate win, this time around it was Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson.

The Hendrick Motorsports teammates successfully worked together in the rain-delayed race, with Johnson giving Gordon the drafting push he needed to take the lead from Tony Stewart on Lap 154. Johnson's car was pulled along into second in that move, and that's where Johnson remained over the final seven laps as Gordon scored a second straight victory and his

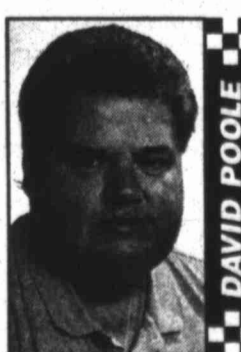
fourth win of the season.

This one adroitly mimicked a pattern the Earnhardt Jr.-Waltrip tandem had honed to perfection in winning 10 of 13 races at Daytona and Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway. Since 2000, no team other than DEI had won more than one plate race in a season.

Now, Gordon has stacked up two straight for Hendrick Motorsports after adding this victory to one at Talladega in April.

You could see this story line emerging from the time the field finally came up to full speed on Lap 10 after running the first nine circuits under the yellow to finish drying the track after sitting through a two-hour delay in the start of the season's 17th race.

The four Chevrolts owned by Rick



DAVID POOLE

Hendrick never strayed too far away from one another. They pitted together under green, almost as though they were in formation, on Lap 108, then came back in together on Lap 138 for their final stops.

Johnson swore he wasn't merely being a loyal wingman.

"It's funny," he said.

"If it would have been any other car it would have been, 'Man, you drove your butt off,' or 'Great second-place finish.' But as soon as it is a teammate in front of you, everybody wonders if you're blocking or content in second."

"There's no way in the world I wanted to finish second. But you do race smarter when you are around your teammates. You help them because you can count on them helping you back."

Terry Labonte finished eighth and Brian Vickers was ninth, meaning all four Hendrick cars were in the final top 10.

When Gordon won at Talladega, he was running virtually side by side with Earnhardt Jr. on Lap 184 when a caution came out and effectively ended the 188-lap race. Fans peppered the track with debris that day because they'd not only been denied a green-flag finish but a race to the checkered flag between Gordon and Earnhardt Jr., the sport's two biggest love-'em-or-hate-'em stars.

"There weren't nearly as many things thrown at me after this one," Gordon said when asked to compare his two plate-race wins this year.

"There was a lot of controversy with that one, a lot of debate. Tonight I don't think there was any debate. I don't think anybody had much doubt about which team performed the best here all weekend."

THIS WEEK'S RACE

TROPICANA 400

Where: Chicagoland Speedway, a 1.5-mile paved banked tri-oval located in Joliet, Ill.
When: Sunday at 3:30 p.m. (all times ET).
Qualifying is 4:10 p.m.

Friday.

TV: NBC.

Radio: Motor Racing Network.

Purse: \$5,756,382.

Last year's winner: Ryan Newman.

Also this week: Mike Wallace earned his first NASCAR Busch Series victory since 1994 last weekend and hopes to continue his momentum in Saturday's Twister 300 at Chicagoland. Martin Truex Jr. leads the series points race. Carl Edwards picked up his second NASCAR Truck series win of the year last weekend at Kansas City, Kan., and trails points leader Dennis Setzer by 34 points entering Saturday's race at Kentucky Speedway.



Newman

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

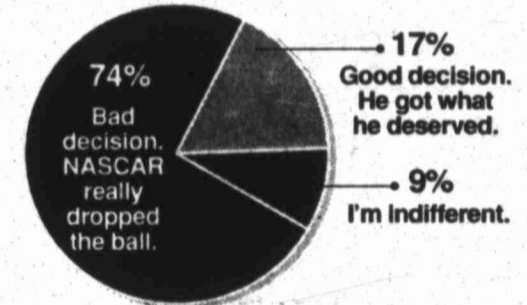
Television ratings for NASCAR events have slipped this season compared with the first three years of the multibillion-dollar TV contract. What do you think the problem is?

Cast your vote at: www.thatstracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

How would you rate NASCAR's handling of problem driver Tony Stewart?

Number of votes: 12,193



STOP 'N' GO

RANDOM THOUGHTS

A list of who's hot and who's not in Nextel Cup racing.

WHO'S HOT

■ Jeff Gordon has climbed from sixth place to third place in the points standings over the past two races.

■ Terry Labonte has three top-10 finishes in his past five races.

WHO'S NOT

■ Matt Kenseth has one finish better than 20th in his past five races.

■ Brendan Gaughan has finished 16th or worse in his past seven races.

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of July 3:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. J. Johnson (48)	2545	21. T. Labonte (5)	1739
2. J. Earnhardt Jr. (8)	2518	22. J. Burton (99)	1731
3. J. Gordon (24)	2313	23. R. Gordon (31)	1721
4. T. Stewart (20)	2203	24. G. Biffle (16)	1703
5. M. Kenseth (17)	2189	25. W. Burton (0)	1631
6. B. Labonte (18)	2164	26. J. Nemechek (01)	1621
7. K. Busch (97)	2153	27. S. Wimmer (22)	1606
8. E. Sadler (38)	2152	28. R. Rudd (21)	1600
9. R. Newman (12)	2112	29. B. Gaughan (77)	1508
10. K. Harvick (29)	2095	30. S. Riggs (10)	1441
11. K. Kahne (9)	1984	31. R. Craven (32)	1423
12. J. Mayfield (19)	1948	32. K. Schrader (49)	1386
13. J. McMurray (42)	1944	33. K. Petty (45)	1359
14. M. Martin (6)	1939	34. J. Green (43)	1343
15. D. Jarrett (88)	1918	35. J. Sauter (30)	1217
16. C. Meares (41)	1880	36. D. Blaney (23)	896
17. R. Wallace (2)	1835	37. J. Spencer (4)	855
18. M. Waltrip (15)	1822	38. D. Cope (50)	841
19. B. Vickers (25)	1792	39. K. Lapage (51)	540
20. S. Martin (40)	1790	40. M. Shepherd (89)	502

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of July 2:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. M. Truex Jr.	2742	11. K. Wallace	1973
2. K. Busch	2674	12. T. Fedewa	1969
3. G. Biffle	2415	13. K. Kahne	1966
4. R. Hornaday	2361	14. A. Lewis	1962
5. B. Hamilton Jr.	2354	15. D. Stremme	1919
6. D. Green	2353	16. R. Pressley	1919
7. J. Keller	2334	17. R. Gordon	1895
8. J. Leffler	2298	18. S. Compton	1889
9. M. Waltrip	2179	19. C. Alwood	1878
10. M. Bliss	2163	20. J. Sauter	1848

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Twister 300, Joliet, Ill.

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of July 3:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. D. Setzer	1527	6. C. Chaffin	1330
2. C. Edwards	1493	7. J. Wood	1327
3. B. Hamilton	1466	8. T. Kvapil	1300
4. R. Crawford	1395	9. T. Musgrave	1299
5. M. Crafton	1341	10. J. Sprague	1288

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Built Ford Tough 225, Sparta, Ky.