

THURSDAY

August 12, 2004

WEATHER

Tonight:



TONIGHT 65°-66° TOMORROW 80°-82°

BRIEFLY

FISD breakfast planned Friday

Forsan Independent School District will get the school year started with a prayer breakfast Friday. Tickets are \$4 and may be purchased at the administration office, the junior high/high school office or Elbow Elementary school. The breakfast will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Featured speaker will be Cody Moree, a Christian humorist.

Cossacks, Legion plan benefit run

The Permian Basin Chapter of the Cossacks Motorcycle Club and American Legion Post 506 will hold a benefit auction and "in-house" poker run for local resident Virginia King, who has been diagnosed with cancer.

The benefit will be held Saturday, Aug. 21, beginning at noon at the Legion Post, located at 3203 W. Highway 80. Southern fried catfish will be served.

Proceeds from the event will go to help King and her family meet medical and other costs.

For more information concerning the fund-raising event, contact Benny at 432-213-0654.

COMING THIS WEEKEND



INDEX

- Classified 4-5B
- Comics 6B
- Wheels 6A
- Obituaries 2A
- Opinion 4A
- Sports 1-2B

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To reach us, please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call 263-7335 before 7 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

Hearing on tax rate, drug policy workshop to greet BSISD board

Herald Staff Report

A public hearing on the intended 2004-2005 budget and tax rate and further discussion of a proposed student drug testing policy are among the items Big Spring Independent School District trustees will address tonight.

The 5:15 p.m. meeting will be held in the high school board room at 707 11th Place.

Trustees are expected to keep the tax rate at \$1.5763 per \$100 valuation. Like most other districts across the state, BSISD's tax rate is already at the state cap of \$1.50 for operations and maintenance. The additional \$0.0763 is to pay bonded indebtedness on construction.

What: Big Spring ISD board of trustees meeting.

Where: High school board room, 707 11th Place.

When: 5:15 p.m. today.

As for the budget, trustees are considering \$24,478,4212 in revenues along with an additional \$3,000 in other resources against an anticipated \$24,347,926 in expenditures.

Tonight's public hearing allows residents within the district to be aware of the expected budget and tax rate and to voice their comments if they

See BSISD, Page 3A

WATER TALK



HERALD photo/Thomas Jenkins
District 85 State Rep. James "Pete" Laney, D-Hale Center, left, looks over a map of the county ground-water districts throughout Texas with John Grant, general manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District. Laney toured CRMWD's Big Spring facility and discussed legislation concerning groundwater during his Wednesday meeting with Grant.



HERALD photo/Rick Nunez
Salvation Army Capt. Russ Keeney, right, along with his son, Russ Keeney Jr., Phillip Garcia and Capt. Linda Keeney, pack bags with school supplies for the charitable organization's annual back-to-school program. The local Salvation Army is expected to provide more than 400 area low-income students with back-to-school supplies.

Salvation Army begins distributing school supplies to needy families

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

With less than a week until the beginning of the school year, the local Salvation Army is kicking its annual back-to-school program into high gear.

According to Corps Capt. Russ Keeney, the program aims to help area low-income children get ready to head back into the classroom with the necessary school supplies, and

the demand thus far has been tremendous.

"We're cranking," said Keeney with a laugh. "The first day we did supplies for over 100 children, and generally, our first day is our slowest day. However, when we opened the front doors yesterday morning, we had a lobby full of people up until 3 p.m."

"We're anticipating more than 400 children this year because we've had a lot of peo-

ple call that have never been on the program before. They were wanting information so they could come in and sign up for the program."

While the demand for the program seems to have increased, Keeney said donations to help support it are somewhat down this year.

"We're still a little bit behind when it comes to reaching our

See SUPPLIES, Page 3A

MHMR faces key changes in services

State's health consolidation called 'double-edged sword'

By CINDY SMITH

Special to the Herald

House Bill 2292, more commonly known as the bill outlining the consolidation of Health and Human Services, will make significant changes in the way local mental health and mental retardation centers provide the services their communities are accustomed to receiving.

During the 78th legislative session, legislators were seeking ways to trim down the dollars spent in health and human services but also wanted a more consistent and equitable way to deliver services. The result: a resiliency and disease management model (RDM) of mental health treatment for Texas.

"Although this model of treatment for mental health will bring Texas to a higher place in providing research-based, effective treatment for people with mental illness, the woes of change of this magnitude will be significant," said Shelley Smith, CEO of West Texas Centers for MHMR.

The woes that Smith speaks of are changes in the population served with the state dollars provided and

"Unfortunately we know there are going to be people who are currently receiving services that will have to be dropped from services."



Janet Payne, LCSW

See MHMR, Page 3A

Senior Olympics returning to Big Spring Friday

By BILL MCCLELLAN

News Editor

Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home and Comanche Trail Nursing Center are inviting the public to watch the Olympics — senior style, that is.

The two entities are putting together a day-long Olympics-type competition between nursing homes Friday at the State Veterans Home.

Heading up the effort are Tony Cruz, activity director at Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez, and Donna Downing, activity director at Comanche Trail.

"We used to have an areawide thing with Midland and Odessa where we all got together. We haven't done that in three years and

What: Senior Olympics competition featuring up to nine local and area facilities.

Where: Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home.

When: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday.

Tony and I got together and thought we would get something started again, only on a smaller scale," said Downing. "So we've invited groups from Colorado City, Snyder and Stanton to participate."

"Next year we will probably do it here (Comanche Trail Nursing Center) and just switch every year. That's the plan."

Up to nine local and area care facilities are expected to participate in the competition

which will include beach ball volleyball, bowling, dominoes, wheelchair races, walking races and a "discus" throw, in which either Frisbees or cookies will be thrown.

Winners will receive ribbons or certificates and the home with the best overall score will receive special recognition.

"We have a traveling trophy. Whichever home has the most points will get to take that with them until the following year," said Downing.

Members of the Sorehead band from Stanton will play during a hamburger and hot dog lunch, which is being prepared for competitors by the veterans home.

See SENIORS, Page 3A

AUGUST 12 2004

Obituaries

Romy Luther Mays

Romy Luther Mays, 89, of Abilene, formerly of Coahoma, left to be with the Lord on Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2004. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 13, 2004, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with Russell Mullins, minister of Coahoma Church of Christ, officiating, and Don Allen assisting. Interment will follow in Coahoma Cemetery.

Romy was a true servant of God, born Aug. 21, 1914, to L.F. and Annie Mae Sullivan Mays in Jack County. Romy married Nora Lee Morren on Feb. 15, 1938, in Howard County. She preceded him in death on June 21, 1992.

Romy had worked for Cosden Oil and Chemical for 35 years. He was a faithful member of Coahoma Church of Christ.

He is survived by three children and their spouses, Roma Lee (Mays) and Tommy Aberegg of Abilene, Jimmy and Dorinda Mays of Kerrville, and Dennis and Becky Mays of Selma, N.C.; one sister, Minnye Cranfill of Big Spring; one brother-in-law, J.B. Morren of Duncan, Okla.; seven grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, two step grandchildren, and one step great grandchild.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, one brother and four sisters.

Pallbearers will be his grandsons, Josh Mays, Matt Mays, Kevin Mays, Russell Pharis, Richard Rodgers and Brent Polley. Clay Reid, a life long friend, will serve as honorary pallbearer.

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

Jackie Carr

Jackie Carr, 70, of Big Spring died Thursday, Aug. 12, 2004, at his residence. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Take note

□ **MEETING FOR PARENTS WHO ARE HOME SCHOOLING OR THOSE WHO WANT TO LEARN MORE** at the Master's Touch from 1-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday to answer questions, discuss curriculum and organize field trips and other activities. Anyone interested in home schooling is invited.

□ **MARANATHA BAPTIST ACADEMY** open house is set for 9-11 a.m. through Friday. The public is invited. Contact Dr. Lillian Bohannon, administrator, at 213-1046.

□ **KENTWOOD ELEMENTARY MEET THE TEACHER** from 6-8 p.m. Thursday. The Parent/Teacher Organization will serve refreshments and sell school supplies and T-shirts.

□ **A FUND TO HELP DEFRAY** the funeral costs and medical bills of Johnny Darden, a Howard County man who was recently attacked and killed by a swarm of bees, has been set up at State National Bank under account no. 2007126.

□ **A FUND FOR CLAY "GOONIE" VICKERS** to help with expenses for life-threatening surgery has been established at Cosden Federal Credit Union, 264-2600. He is a 2003 graduate of Forsan High School and a Howard College theater student.

□ **A SAVINGS ACCOUNT TO BENEFIT LOVE FROM HOME** has been established at Citizen's Federal Credit Union. Love From Home is a local effort to provide personal items needed by the soldiers serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Contact the credit union at 267-6373 to contribute funds to offset the cost of postage for the packages mailed to the soldiers.

□ **CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH** is looking for infant cars seats to be given to needy families. Call Karen at 263-3517 or the church at 263-5683.

□ **MANNA RELIEF**, a non-profit ministry that provides glyconutritional supplements to critically ill children, is accepting donations for the program. Call Gene or Robbie Froman at 263-0385.

□ **THE BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1994** 10-year reunion is set for October 8-9. For more information, or to update name or mailing address, please call Kendra Carey Willingham at 1-888-820-4911 pin No. 6414 or e-mail BigSpringReunion94@yahoo.com.

□ **BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1989** 15-year reunion is set for Oct. 8-9. For information or to update your name or mailing address, contact Christy Alexander at 972-567-8037 or Shanette Johnson at 972-874-9308.

□ **POTTON HOUSE**, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into Heritage Museum, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens.

□ **HERITAGE MUSEUM**, 510 Scurry, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

□ **HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM** is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday and from 1:30 p.m. until 4 p.m. on Sunday.

□ **THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM**, which delivers to the elderly and homebound, needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you

Police blotter

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

- **SHELITA JEAN DUPRE**, 34, of 3706 Connally, was arrested Wednesday on five local warrants.
- **KENNETH WAYNE CASBEER**, 26, of 7109 Centerpoint Road, was arrested Thursday on a charge of purchasing/furnishing alcohol to a minor.

Sheriff's report

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

- **JOE THOMAS RODRIGUEZ**, 38, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of contempt of court - disobedience of a court order.
- **VEHICLE FIRE** was reported on N. Highway 87 approximately three miles from Big Spring.
- **THEFT** was reported at the intersection of Highway 350 and Centerpoint Road.

Support groups

THURSDAY
□ Narcotics Anonymous, non-smoking discussion meeting, 8-9 p.m., at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1001 Goliad.

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

□ The Fibromyalgia Autoimmune Disease Support Group will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at noon in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center. Call 263-8273 for more information.

can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.

□ **THE 1969 BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL** class has a 35th class reunion set for Oct. 8-9. Please contact Shelane Parnell Roberts at 267-6013, 267-5858 or 267-2798 if you have any information regarding: Charles Arbuckle, Johnny Arguello, Steve Austin, Rhonda Barger, Jessie Ladd Bennett, Linda Gail Benson, Jay Berry, Brenda Bradbury, Dwight Brown, James Brown, Mike Brumley, Sherry Buford, Mary Beth Burcham, Bobbie Beatrice Byrd, Allen Carlile, Candace Carothers, Yvette Casillas Padilla, Lucy Cervantes, Ema Chavez, Gwen Clark, Steve Cofer, Elodia Corralez Cherry, Benjamin Rush Crocker, Alanda Deans, John Deats, Linda Dehnis, Santa Diaz, Glenda Kay Digby, Robert Domino, Alfred Doport, Janie Duke, Rodney Dunman, Debra Miller Erhardt, Michael Evans, Clifton Ray Fidler, Patie Lue Finke, Marva Elizabeth Foster, Debbie Fritz, Larry Froman, Laura Fulbright Jones, Dee Ann Gibson Jones, Wanda Sue Gipson, Cindy Gressett Trim, Darwin Griffin, Thomas Ham, Theresa Heard, Wanda Heckler Ingram, Bill Henry, Selestino Hernandez, David Hilario, Llascio Hilario, Lewis Hinojos, Francis Holt Hodges, Dale Hughes, Arthur Huse, Deborah Ann Jensen, Bill Jones, Jimmy Jones, Nancy Kasch, Juanice Ann Key, Linda Key, Cathy Kirby Murray, Bertha Kirk, Victoria Lynn Knoepfel, Mary Francis Lee, Joy Legg, Kenneth Charles Le Roy, Roger Leviere, Barbara Long, Norma Luvano, Roberta Hazel Marks, Gerald Matin, Elizabeth McCarra, Wanda Jane Mesimer, Gene Willard Meyers, Debbie Miller Craig, Earsie Jean Miller, Thomas Molina, Carolyn Ann Montgomery, Karen Marie Moore, Irene Munoz McCurdy, Coleman Nalls, Garland Newton, Larry Newton, Doris Virginia Noble, Mary Jane Ovalle, Rosalinda Palomino, John Pannel, Richard Barry Payne, Angelina Carmen Phillips, Cynthia Jane Pinson, Sara Elizabeth Pohl, Cathy Poole, Arthur Porras, Michael Proctor, Judy Pruitt Cook, Paula Ramirez, Mary Rhodes, Peggy Riherd Williams, Ophelia Alavez Rhodes, Deola Maureen Rivers, Terry Joan Robertson, Jamie Rouch Ethun, Pam Rowland, Karen Joyce Russell, Larry Russell, Adrian Saldivar, Jennifer Schneider, Larry Sloan, Candice Smith Spivey, Gary Smith, Gerald Wayne Smith, Gwnthe Gayle Smith, Stanford Stewart, Wendell Stewart, Tommy Switzer, Dana Sue Templeton Townsend, Robert Gale Thompson, Fidel Tovar, Jesse Trevino, Antonio Subia Valencia, Carl Van Vleet, Armando Flores Vera, Joyce Walker Gibbs, Terry Walton, Roy Lee Warren, Glee Webb, James Webb, William David Webb, Michael David Wiggins, Kathy Wood Nardecchia, Rocky Wooley, Viola Yanez Barrera, Manuel Ybarra.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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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.

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.

• Kentwood Elementary meet the teacher from 6-8 p.m. The Parent/Teacher Organization will serve refreshments and sell school supplies and T-shirts.

• Masonic Lodge 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2101 Lancaster.

• Masonic Lodge 1340 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 219 Main St.

• 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 new location, 1607 E. Third. Call 267-6095 for more information.

• Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

Weather

Tonight - Scattered clouds with the possibility of an isolated thunderstorm developing late. Low 66. Winds E at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent.

Friday - Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms possible. High 81. Winds SE at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent.

Friday night - Isolated thunderstorms during the evening, then partly cloudy overnight. Low 64. Winds ESE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent.

Saturday - Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 60s.

Sunday - Isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 60s.

Monday - Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the mid 60s.

Big Spring received 1.50 inches of rain last weekend, according to the USDA - ARS, Cropping Systems Research Laboratory.

Total for the month of August is 1.54 and the monthly normal is 1.43.

Yearly total is 14.27; normal for the year is 11.35.

Lottery

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 23-25-31-32-33.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: \$37,534.

Winning tickets sold in: Houston.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 13-14-18-25-32. Bonus Ball:

11.

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$20 Million.

The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery: 23-25-31-32-33



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Big Spring, Texas

HENRY BACKES

Bonnie,

KEY WEST, Fla. - Bonnie declared for a state of emergency today as the or of a tropical storm a hurricane rag first time the st such a potent plight in almost Tropical Storm forecast to hit afternoon, and Charley ear Schools and offices were clo Job Bush ac Florida National Tropical stor were posted Panhandle for Charley, hurr ings and watch

MHMR

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Keeney said of the faith in that the comr come through gram.

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The public i watch the c which will be and conclude "I've misse myself. It's a said Downing neat to watch tion and to s cross that fin matter what finish in."

For more on the Senio contact Cruz or Downing a

Bonnie, Charley on collision course with Florida

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP) — A state of emergency was declared for all of Florida today as the one-two punch of a tropical storm and then a hurricane raged closer, the first time the state has faced such a potentially messy plight in almost a century.

Tropical Storm Bonnie was forecast to hit the state this afternoon, and Hurricane Charley early Friday. Schools and government offices were closed, and Gov. Jeb Bush activated the Florida National Guard.

Tropical storm warnings were posted along the Panhandle for Bonnie. For Charley, hurricane warnings and watches were posted

ed for the Keys and the state's southwest coast. A steady line of traffic drove north off the Keys late Wednesday as tourists followed orders to evacuate the entire 100-mile-long island chain. Officials expanded the order today to include a mandatory evacuation of mobile homes in the lower Keys.

Because the Panhandle is already soaked from days of rain, some low-lying areas there may have to be evacuated if there's flooding, said Craig Fugate, the state's emergency management director.

"Residents should make sure they're getting pre-

pared," said Daniel Brown, a forecaster at the National Hurricane Center in Miami. "They're both something people should be watching."

Such a double-whammy hasn't happened in Florida since Oct. 17, 1906, when two tropical storms hit the state, said Ken Reeves, the senior meteorologist at AccuWeather, a commercial forecasting center.

Bonnie was expected to make landfall along the central Panhandle this afternoon, when isolated tornadoes were also possible, forecasters said.

The storm's maximum sustained winds were at 55 mph as of 8 a.m.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

wish.

The meeting will also include the third discussion on a proposed drug testing policy for students in competitive extra-curricular activities. Trustees, assuming they decide to go forward with a policy, are expected to put it in effect Jan. 1. The topic will be revisited monthly until then, as the policy is refined, a counseling curriculum is put into place, bids are let and approved for actual drug testing, students and parents are made aware of the policy and training is provided for counselors.

There are a number of other items on the agenda, most of which fall under "housekeeping." Among

them are:

- Review of the 2004-2005 campus handbooks;
- Supper school report;
- School health advisory council;
- Previous minutes and financial reports;
- Approval of a delegate to the Texas Association of School Boards delegate assembly;
- Consider bid for career and applied technology education;
- Consider bids for athletic supplies and equipment;
- Approval of the 2004-2005 teacher appraisal calendar;
- Budget amendment for the junior high building and a special stipulation, which entails concreting over soil outside the east classrooms;
- Resignations, retirements and employments;
- Superintendent's report.

MHMR

Continued from Page 1A

the intensity of services offered to those who do receive services.

"Our priority population — which consisted of serving people with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or major depression — also allowed us to serve people who had other psychiatric disorders that made a significant impact on their ability to function at an acceptable level," Smith explained.

"Now our new 'target population' will only allow us to provide the designated service packages to those people with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or major depression."

Smith added that those individuals who do not meet the new criteria will have to be

transitioned out of services they are currently receiving or will be referred to other available providers in the area.

"Unfortunately we know there are going to be people who are currently receiving services that will have to be dropped from services. It is an unavoidable situation," said Janet Payne, LCSW, director of mental health services. "Our staff has been working since early June to perform the new assessments to determine who will meet the new criteria and who will not. Those that appear to not meet the new criteria are being set up on a 'transition plan' so we can assist them in working out another option for their mental health services."

Although people may no longer qualify to receive ongoing services, Payne said crisis services and inpatient facility follow-up services will remain

available to everyone.

"There is no change in our crisis system from where we are today. Those services are available 24/7 to anyone who needs our assistance in a crisis situation and will continue to be available as we implement the new model of service delivery," Payne stressed.

"The service packages are very intense in regards to the expectation of numbers of services provided and the level of staff who provide those services," said Smith. "In rural West Texas, it will be almost impossible to meet those expectations with the staffing patterns that we currently have."

The Center is continuing its efforts to analyze the package requirements versus the dollars being provided by the state to cover the cost of those services and make determinations of where changes might have to

occur.

According to MHMR officials, the most important positive feature of this new model is that the focus is on recovery. That is to say one might move through the continuum by seeking services, getting services and leaving services, thus opening up the door for someone who might be on a waiting list for a service package.

Another important feature of RDM is the focus on wellness.

"We like the new holistic approach in the model," said Payne. "We want to help our consumers with improving their diet, improving their sleeping patterns and developing exercise programs which will make a difference in how they approach their mental health treatment."

West Texas Centers will be approaching the Sept. 1 implementation date with mixed

emotions as they see consumers being removed from services while others will be receiving more intense services to help them recover.

"It's a double-edged sword," said Smith. "We are staying focused on our mission, which is to bring a higher quality of life to those we serve. We know it is costly and under-funded but it is a clinically sound model that will take us away from providing band-aids to people who really need surgery."

West Texas Centers for MHMR provides mental health and mental retardation services for youth, adults and senior citizens in 23 counties in rural West Texas.

City Smith is a public relations officer for the West Texas Centers for MHMR.

SUPPLIES

Continued from Page 1A

goal monetarily, but we had a rather large donation yesterday from the Scenic Mountain Medical Center Volunteers, and that helped," explained Keeney. "We really appreciate the community support. They have always come through for us and we know that they will again. We're still truckin' along."

Keeney said he has all of the faith in the world that the community will come through for the program.

"People can either make out a check to the Salvation Army and earmark it for the school supplies," said Keeney, "or if they want to go and purchase school supplies, that's fine as well. Before we got the funds in we went ahead and ordered the school supplies on faith."

"We know that God's going to provide for us. He always has and He always will. School is going to start and the kids needed this, so we went ahead and got what we needed through the Corps' funds. We know the means will be there, however."

"It helps us when the community pitches in because we don't want to have to steal from Paul to pay Peter," added Keeney. "This is a very important program. I believe in it because it's an investment in the future of Howard County and Big

Spring. It's our future and I want to give every opportunity that I can to our young people to make something of themselves."

While monetary donations make it easier to replace the supplies the program is currently low on, Keeney said anyone wishing to donate the supplies themselves is more than welcome.

"Right now we need 5-inch pointed scissors," said Keeney. "We're also running low on 2-inch notebooks and glue sticks. Those are the three items that we're really running low on right now."

"We're a little ahead right now as far as preparing the supply bags is concerned. We've got about 10 or 12 extra right now waiting for people to come in. That way people can get in and out easier. The longest wait is getting into the social services office."

Keeney said parents and students will find the application process, which ends Friday, has been streamlined to help "get them in and out."

"When parents come in this year they fill out the application, and if they are qualified, they pick up their supplies right then," said Keeney. "That way they don't have to come back in two weeks."

We don't have to handle the application several times and it saves them a trip back up here to pick up the supplies. It makes it more convenient for everyone."

The application process is fairly simple according to Keeney, and while there are guidelines to qualify for assistance, the real emphasis is on getting the students ready for school — not a bunch of red tape.

"They need to bring in their proof of income and proof of expenses," said Keeney. "They also need to bring identification for everyone living in the household, as well as the grades and schools of the children they need supplies for. Different schools and different grades have different requirements."

"We look at their expenses opposed to their income and if they meet the qualifications — we're pretty lenient on it because we want every child to start out fresh — we hook them up with their school supplies and get them ready for Monday."

The program is currently limited to students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade, but with some good fortune and more donations, Keeney said he hopes to

expand the effort to include high school students as well.

"We're handling kindergarten through eighth grade, but if we get enough donations in, I'd like to do the high school students to," said Keeney. "It's really hard to put together the supplies for them, however, because each high school teacher has a different list of what they require. But we can

give them the basics — the notebook paper and folders — because we know everyone is going to need those."

For more information on the program, or to make a donation, call 267-8239, or visit the Corps office at 811 W. Fifth Street location.

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

at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

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SENIORS

Continued from Page 1A

The public is invited to watch the competition, which will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m.

"I've missed doing this myself. It's a lot of fun," said Downing. "It's really neat to watch the competition and to see someone cross that finish line, no matter what place they finish in."

For more information on the Senior Olympics, contact Cruz at 268-8387 or Downing at 263-3255.

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AUGUST 12 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.

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

NIE program sponsorship help needed

With the impending start of the 2004-2005 school year, the *Herald's* staff is in the process of trying to get its Newspapers In Education program off to a good start and we need the entire Howard County community's help.

Designed to make the daily newspaper a living textbook and reference source, the NIE program last year sent more than 42,000 newspapers to students in 65 classrooms in the Big Spring, Coahoma and Forsan school districts.

And we hope that this year the total number of newspapers being provided to local schools will increase. Requests for sponsorships have already been sent to a number of Big Spring businesses and the money has begun to trickle in. As of today, however, less than 10 percent of the \$10,000 targeted for the program has been received.

School principals will be receiving packets announcing the program's sign-up on Aug. 23 that will include flyers which will be distributed to teachers. Teachers who sign up for the program will begin receiving papers for their classrooms on Sept. 7.

The *Herald's* NIE program, which also includes publication of the mini-page in each Thursday's edition, is provided with the help and partnership of sponsors who can contribute at various levels. Gold sponsors are those that donate \$5,000 or more to the program, silver sponsors would be those contributing \$2,500, bronze sponsors contribute \$500, classroom sponsors provide \$125 to the program annually and scholastic sponsors provide \$50. In addition, sponsors will be recognized throughout the year.

We hope those partnerships outstrip the newspaper's NIE efforts during the 2003-2004 school year.

"We distributed more than 40,000 newspapers in school classrooms last year and we're dedicated to exceed that number this year," *Herald* Publisher Susanne Reed explained, noting that this fall's presidential, congressional and state representative campaigns and the *Herald's* coverage of those races is just one of the important tools teachers will have at their disposal as a result of using the newspaper in their classrooms.

"The newspaper is not only true living history book of current events," Reed noted. "It's also a tool for teachers to use in a variety of subjects." In addition, the NIE program is also intended to help create the newspaper reading habit in students.

While there's no question that we at the *Herald* want youngsters to become newspaper readers, enhancing our business in the future, our commitment to the NIE program is much more than an effort to secure our role for the future.

We are convinced newspaper readers comprise the best-informed segment of our society. And by creating a life-long habit of newspaper reading, we make sure that tomorrow's voters and the leaders they elect will not only be well educated, but will always be well informed.

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

Hacking: Here we go again

It doesn't speak well for the TV news business that at noon California time, CNN made a top story of the charge against Utah's Mark Hacking for the murder of his missing pregnant wife, Lori — in the middle of the Iraq war and a contentious political race to win the White House.

Even Internet columnist Matt Drudge hadn't rushed to report this item. The Hacking story wasn't on the Drudge Web site at noon, although Drudge did see fit to feature such headlines as: "Police drug-sniffing dog dies from overdose," "Cruise ship catering to eco-tourists spills 5,000 gallons of diesel fuel," and "Iran allowing sex-change operations."

Fox News ranked the Hacking story as its top Web site report, as CNN advertised that Monday night's "Larry King Live" would air the latest on the Hacking case. Here we go again.

Another beautiful young white woman missing and another hinky husband — add them together, and you get another murder-trial media circus.

The same faces are back to comment. You met them at the O.J. trial. You saw them again when Chandra Levy disappeared, then Laci Peterson. They were on the case when authorities indicted Michael Jackson for child molestation and the feds accused Martha Stewart of insider trading. I don't need to name them — you know who they are.

Now, they are elbowing each other to be the next breathless expert to tell America "the latest dramatic new development" (in

CNN parlance) or "shocking new lead" (in Fox News speak) in one of the oldest stories in the world.

First, let me say this: The news business always has traded in silly items, lurid tales and salacious stories, and it always will. Newspapers aren't the Magna Carta; hence they make room for astrological forecasts, comics, commentary on sports figures and crime stories that fascinate readers because the suspect is a heel or the victim was attractive, or one of the figures is a celebrity. Many journalists hate working on these stories. At the Ronald Reagan burial at his Simi Valley, Calif., presidential library, I remember hearing one TV camera crewman quip to another: "Hey, did you hear Scott Peterson is coming today?"

It's not so much the story that grates on some journalists but the hype, the over-coverage, the pretense of news when there is no news. If there's a small development, television channels tease viewers with a big new development.

The worst of it is that cable news focuses more on the suspect than the victim. A lovely young woman is dead, but she quickly becomes old news.

Instead, the stories are all about the suspect: He lied about his whereabouts. He bought something suspicious. He is acting funny. He's leading a double life.

After the indictment, the focus turns to whether the suspect can win in the obstacle course called a courtroom. The legal experts provide commentary on the skill of the lawyers, as forensic showmanship trumps evidence. The focus isn't on guilt or innocence. It is: Will he get off?

The trial has become a spectator sport. Analysts talk about the defense attorney as if he is a star

pitcher. A good cross examination is a home run. They marvel at his technique. They opine on who has a good offense and a good defense. You would never guess somebody had died.

Last year, I defended why the media would cover Laci Peterson's disappearance. If a story is of interest to readers and viewers, I said, the media should cover it. And I still believe that.

I simply do not understand how anyone but family and friends can still be interested in the trial, as TV covers it. The experts have taken a quest for justice and turned it into a game. A game show.

As the late great Jerry Nachman of MSNBC put it, the Peterson story is "crack for us in the business ... we can't stop ourselves."

Bill O'Reilly told Vanity Fair's Maureen Orth that every time he does Peterson, his ratings spike: "We do Laci Peterson every 15 minutes and see the numbers go up. It's a story that resonates with women particularly."

Someone should produce another remake of the classic 1928 Broadway hit "The Front Page" — replacing Ben Hecht's and Charles MacArthur's ink-stained wretches with well-groomed cable TV commentators. But, this time, the movie can't be made without the essential supporting cast — the viewers who change the channel if there is no non-news on the crime story of the day.

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

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Politics, churches and white voters

The Gallup Organization poses it as a conundrum: Churchgoers are much more likely to support

George W. Bush, while those who don't attend church regularly are more likely to favor John F.

Kerry. Men are also more likely to favor Bush, while women back Kerry. Yet, more women than men can be found in the pews any Sunday morning. So how is it that Bush does better than Kerry among both church attendees and men?

The answer, according to Jeffrey M. Jones and Joseph Carroll, who analyzed the Gallup data, is that white men who attend services weekly so overwhelmingly support Bush that they tip the scales. Religiously inclined women also are more likely to support Bush, but less so than their devout male counterparts. Among white men who attend church on a weekly basis, Bush gets a whopping 70 percent of the registered voters in the Gallup sample to Kerry's 27 percent. Women in this group of once-a-week attendees give Bush the nod, but by a smaller margin, 52 percent to Kerry's 42 percent.

Kerry, meanwhile, has the advantage among registered voters who never — or rarely — attend services, especially among women who shun the church door. A majority of men who don't attend church or other religious services support Kerry, 53-45 percent. But

an even higher proportion of women in this category are much more likely to favor Kerry: 61-36 percent.

So what about voters who go to church, but not as regularly as the most devout? Among both men and women who attend religious services monthly, Bush and Kerry are in a dead heat, with men in this group slightly favoring Bush, 49-47 percent, and women splitting their vote 48-48. Nonetheless, according to Jones and Carroll, "the data suggest, however, that whites at this level of religious commitment show a noticeable preference for Bush over Kerry."

The Democrats have been trying to overcome their reputation as the less God-fearing party, making sure that speakers at their recent convention invoked spiritual and religious themes. Barack Obama, the Illinois state representative now running for U.S. Senate, told a cheering audience, "We worship an awesome God in the 'Blue States.'" But Kerry gave the most spirited defense of faith in his speech: "in this campaign, we welcome people of faith," he said. "America is not us and them. I think of what Ron Reagan said of his father a few weeks ago, and I want to say this to you tonight: I don't wear my own faith on my sleeve. But faith has given me values and hope to live by, from Vietnam to this day, from Sunday to Sunday."

So why aren't his words resonating with the people of faith Kerry talked about? Although Kerry attends mass regularly, and carries a rosary and prayer book with him on the campaign trail, he is at odds with his Church on abor-

tion and gay marriage. But perhaps more importantly, Kerry's positions on these issues seem motivated more by political expediency than principle.

He says he opposes gay marriage, but voted against the Defense of Marriage Act, one of only a handful of senators to do so. He has said that he believes that life begins at conception and that he is personally opposed to abortion but then votes consistently counter to these professed moral principles. Kerry has voted against legislation to outlaw the gruesome practice of late-term, partial-birth abortion each time it has come up. And just weeks ago, he abandoned campaigning to return to the Senate floor to vote against the "unborn victims of crime bill," which would allow federal prosecutors to treat violence against a pregnant woman as a crime against two victims.

It would be one thing if he said he disagreed with the Catholic Church on these matters, but he doesn't. Instead, he tries to have it both ways, making him appear weak and unprincipled. And that may be why religious voters — especially men — seem less comfortable with John Kerry.

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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LINDA CHAVEZ

The city honored the locations of Your Part August.

In the top and Eugene Nick Reyn Spring cod officer/insp Jefferson (the award lawn and facade on the Wendy's of Diane Sav Woodard, Wendy's or received Doing You for August

In the I Odom F Harold Da runner-up efforts to barren p located i Court cul-d

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Other p gift cer Higgonbo Johansen Nursery, J and Har Ponderosa

In ad recipient i a city cour The Doi award is a the city of seeks to r owners w locations provide through k lawn care.

An presented July. One will be gi in Septem



Courtesy photo
Members of Kutless are Jon Micah Sumrall, James Mead, Ryan Shrout, Kyle Mitchell and Kyle Zeigler. They will perform at Rock the Desert Aug. 21.

Christian band Kutless to perform at Rock the Desert

Special to the Herald

Coming from a sold-out "Sea of Faces" concert in Lubbock and headed for the U.S. Olympics in Greece, the Christian rock band "Kutless" performs at the annual Rock the Desert concert in Midland Aug. 21.

And other bands scheduled to perform Aug. 20-22 include POD, Jars of Clay, Plumb and Casting Crowns. Tickets are \$10 for the event, and parking is \$20. Rock the Desert is located at 2000 N. FM 1788, just past the Midland-Odessa airport.

Kutless was named the best selling new artist of 2002, a feat accomplished in just six months due to a mid-year record release; three number one rock and roll singles; one top five Christian single that unexpectedly became the longest charting song in the history of the rock and roll Christian chart; total sales of 155,000 to date on their self-titled debut release.

Kutless played 220 shows their first year to almost 200,000 people.

For the members of

Kutless, Jon Micah Sumrall, James Mead, Ryan Shrout, Kyle Mitchell and Kyle Zeigler, the past was fun. What's more important is the future.

Kutless emerged in mid-December with Sea Of Faces, a follow-up record that reflects a major step in the maturing of Kutless as writers and musicians.

"We wanted to make a record that was more diverse. We wanted a lot more layers, more electronic loops. We wanted to write lyrics that reflected where Christ has us, just like the last record, but the lyrics had to be better written," said Sumrall.

Songs like "Not What You See," about the struggle to resist the culture and serve others, or "Sea Of Faces," about the miracle of God's love for each individual, or "Passion," which reflects on the crucifixion of Christ, shows giant leaps in the diversity of Kutless' writing.

"At the same time, it's just as important to partner with the local

church and youth pastors. We make sure that the people that come to see a Kutless show know the Jesus loves them, cares for them, and desires to spend time with them.

"As a band, we have been so fortunate to have this platform to play our music. We are humbled to be able to communicate Christ's love for people night after night," said Sumrall.

While looking back on where the band has been, and turning to face the future, it's clear that the goals and methods of Kutless have remained consistent.

"We feel so blessed to be where we are, and we want to have a bigger and bigger impact. I guess it just feels like we were born to do this," said Sumrall.

For more information on the band and their tour visit www.kutless.com. For more information about the Rock the Desert concert, visit the Web site www.rockthedesert.com and click on the RTD Festival link.

Doing Their Part

Three August awards presented

The city of Big Spring honored three separate locations with the Doing Your Part Award for August.

In the top photo, Tonya and Eugene Boadle, with Nick Reyna, city of Big Spring code enforcement officer/inspector, on Jefferson Court received the award for the lush lawn and Ruidosa-like facade on their home.

In the second photo, Wendy's district manager Diane Saville and Yong Woodard, manager of the Wendy's on Gregg Street, received the business Doing Your Part award for August.

In the bottom photo, Odom Paschal and Harold Davis received a runner-up award for their efforts to improve a barren patch of land located in the Carpi Court cul-de-sac.

The recipients of the Doing Your Part award received a discount of \$50 for their August water bill, as well as a year's subscription to the Big Spring Herald.

Other prizes include gift certificates to Higgonbotham-Bartlett, Johansen Landscape and Nursery, Harris Lumber and Hardware and Ponderosa Nursery.

In addition, each recipient is recognized at a city council meeting.

The Doing Your Part award is a new project of the city of Big Spring that seeks to reward property owners who keep their locations clean and provide inspiration through landscaping and lawn care.

An award was presented in June and July. One more award will be given by the city in September.



Herald photos/Marsha Sturdivant



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AUGUST 12 2004

The new 6 Series

BMW 645Ci Convertible is one amazing vehicle

I don't believe it. I get a convertible to test drive and it doesn't rain. For the entire week.

I was due for some luck with the weather, and what a great convertible to have. I've had the top down every day.

The new BMW 645Ci is available in both coupe and convertible body styles, and it is a truly amazing vehicle.

The new 645Ci is the first "6" designation vehicle offered by the Bavarian Motor Works company since 1989. It is well worth the wait.

Powered by a 4.4-liter V-8 engine (0-60 mph in 5.5 seconds), the 645Ci is a true sports car loaded with upscale features and luxury amenities.

With seating available for four passengers, the 645Ci also features a spacious cabin and extremely comfortable

seating. And yes, it corners like its on a rail.

BMW pulled out all the stops when designing this vehicle. It is sophisticated, stylish and loaded with high-tech engineering.

With a base price starting around \$70,000 (convertible pricing begins at \$77,000), the only negative thing I can say about the 645Ci

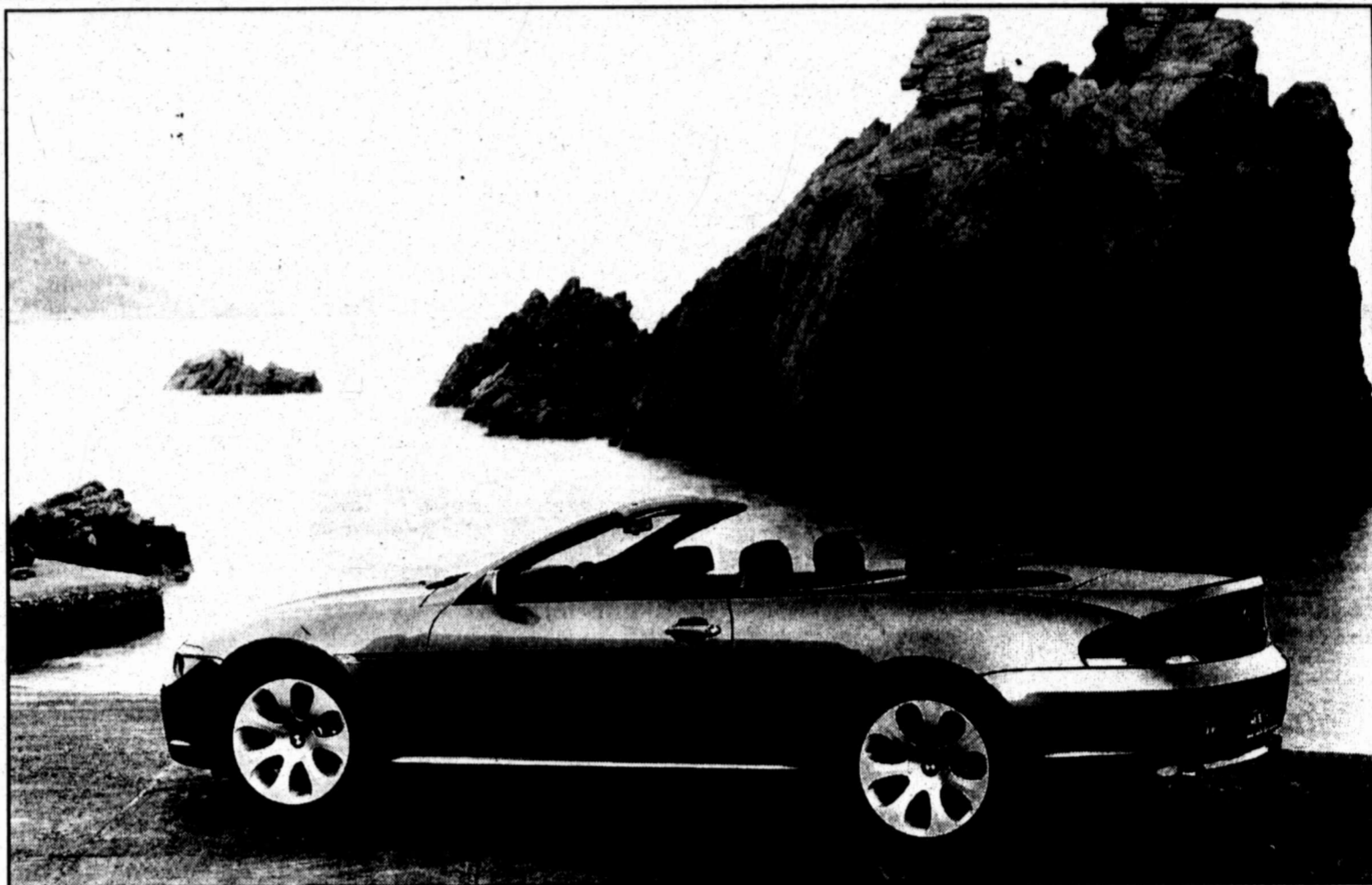
is that it's out of my price range. But I would sure love to own one.

Powered by a 325-horsepower engine, the 645Ci is mated to a choice of three six-speed trans-

missions. Buyers have their choice of manual, Steptronic automatic and Sequential Manual Gearbox (SMG). For this review, a 645Ci convertible equipped with six-speed manual was driven for a one-week evaluation period.

The powertrain is incredible — responsive, smooth and quiet.

The suspension sys-



The 2004 BMW 645Ci convertible.

tem is equally impressive, featuring Active Roll Stabilization that allows the driver to maneuver through curves and emergency steering situations with ease and confidence.

Other standard features include: run-flat 18-inch tires; Dynamic Driving Control with normal and sport settings; Dynamic Stability Control system for traction and stability enhancement; Xenon Adaptive headlights that "steer" around curves and corners, Automatic Rollover Protection System; iDrive monitor and controller providing easy-to-use controls for the communications, entertainment, climate and navigation systems, to name just a few.

It also features a voice command system that allows the driver to change settings for the audio and climate systems — including send-

ing and receiving phone calls — by just talking into the speaker.

Luxury features include: dual zone automatic climate control system; eight-speaker premium sound system (13-speaker system with digital sound processing available); leather upholstery with 14-way power front seats and a one-button system to activate the convertible soft top that is extremely quick and quiet.

Standard safety features include: BMW's front Head Protection System; dual-threshold deployment of belt tensioners and front-impact airbags; front seat side-impact airbags; Automatic Rollover Protection System which deploys two rollbars behind rear seats when possibility of rollover is detected; and BMW Assist Services, among others.

The 645Ci is a must

ON THE ROAD



BY NEAL WHITE

Start of school leaves opportunity to teach children about spending

MIAMI (KRT) — You found the backpack. You bought the pens. You've got plenty of paper.

But you may not really be ready to send the kids back to school until you've worked out a spending plan.

How much money should the kids have each week? Who's going to decide what's a necessity? A yearbook? A new outfit for the dance? Should parents hand over more money when the kids run out?

This is going to be a learning experience for both adults and students, the experts say.

"Now that my son is going into high school, I want to make sure he has some money with him, because there are more opportunities," said Debbie Cole of Davie, Fla., mother of Jeremy, soon to be a student at Nova High School, and Julie, who is going into fourth grade. "But I don't like sending in large amounts of money." Jeremy, she said, will probably get between \$5 and \$10 a day if he needs it, while Julie will get \$1 or \$2 occasionally.

There's no right or wrong way to teach kids about spending.

"If a family can afford to give students a little bit of exposure to having money, they can make simple spending decisions and begin learning to pace themselves," said Nan Mead of the National Endowment for Financial Education, which is headquartered in Denver.

"The benefit is kids learn how to be

responsible with whatever amount of money they have."

Here are a few suggestions:

— "Allowances can begin when school starts," suggested Paul Richard, executive director of the Institute of Consumer Financial Education headquartered in San Diego.

For the youngest kids starting in kindergarten, he says it can be as little as 25 or 30 cents a day. For children from third grade through middle school, some parents give a weekly amount equal to or slightly less than the child's age.

— Try giving a middle school student the entire month's allowance at one time. Probably, the first month, the youngster will run through it quickly. If the parent doesn't give out more until the following month, that's a lesson in itself. Mead suggests that after a few months, the student should get the hang of it.

— In high school, the need for cash will increase significantly. Parents might want to look for a savings account that comes with a debit or ATM card, so that the student doesn't have to carry too much cash.

— Along with the money that you give your children, should come some conversations. Parents and students should together brainstorm about how much the student will spend. Then divide that into such needs as transportation and school costs, and what's merely wanted.

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ENGINE: 4.4-L V-8 (325 hp/330 torque)
TRANSMISSION: 6-speed manual 6-speed Steptronic automatic 6-speed SMG
EPA: 18/26 mph city
SUSPENSION: Struts, double-pivot lower arms, coil spring, twin-tube gas-

pressure shocks (front); 4-link integral suspension, coil springs, twin-tube gas-pressure shocks (rear) with Active Roll Stabilization. TRACTION: Dynamic Stability Control, Dynamic Traction Control, electronic brake proportioning, anti-lock braking, Dynamic Brake Control. **STEERING:** Vehicle-speed-sensitive variable power assist rack & pinion with Servotronic. **BRAKES:** Vented disc w/ABS. **TURN CIRCLE:** 37.4 feet. **TIRES:** 18-inch (19-inch opt.) run flat tires. **LENGTH:** 190.2 in. **WHEELBASE:** 109.4 inches. **TRACK:** 61.3/62.7 (front/rear). **WEIGHT:** 4,178 pounds. **WIDTH:** 73 inches. **HEIGHT:** 54.1 inches. **TRUNK:** 12.4 cubic feet/10.6 cubic feet (top up/down).

test drive.

Neal White has been covering the automotive industry for 15 years and is affiliated with the Texas Auto Writers

Association and the Midwest Automotive Media Association. Comments may be sent to Neal at neal.white@wax-ahachiedailylight.com.

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BSISD set season tic

Big Spring scheduled football season sales.

The game may purchase tickets at Training through Au a.m. to 4 p.m. to 4 p.m. However, sales are from noon only.

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ON T

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Troy Hyde at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

IN BRIEF

BSISD sets football season ticket dates

Big Spring ISD has scheduled its dates for football season ticket sales.

The general public may purchase season tickets at the Athletic Training Center through Aug. 20 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed noon to 1 p.m.). However, all Friday sales are from 8 a.m. to noon only.

For questions, call Kay Cook at 264-3662.

Howard College sets important date

Howard College has set up an important event this month.

The athletic department will have a booth set-up at the Howard County Fair Aug. 25-28. The booth will be used to promote the Hawks Flight Club and to begin the selling of athletic season tickets. They will be at the fair from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Aug. 25-27 and from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Aug. 28.

BSYFL and Cowboys to host competition

The Big Spring Youth Football League and the Dallas Cowboys will be hosting the local Pepsi/NFL punt, pass and kick competition Aug. 21, at the field north of the ATC.

The registration starts at 6 a.m. and the contest is free to boys and girls 8-15.

For more info, contact George Lopez at 264-7313 or by e-mail at BSYFL@msn.com.

Howard College sets cheer camp dates

Howard College's cheer camp for first through sixth graders will be held Aug. 28 at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Registration for the event will begin at 8 a.m. and the Dance and Cheer class starts at 9 a.m.

The cost is \$25. Bring a lunch and wear tennis shoes.

For more information, contact Linda Berry at 264-5024.

C.G.A. sets monthly tourney for Sunday

The Chicano Golf Association will hold its monthly golf tournament at Comanche Trail Golf Course Sunday at 10 a.m.

The tournament will be a four-man scramble and all participants must be registered by 9:30 a.m.

For more information, call Billy Pineda at 264-7116 after 7 p.m.

Big Spring Shrine Club sets golf date

The Big Spring Shrine Club will host its annual golf tournament September 25-26, which is a change from past years.

ON THE AIR

Station	Time	Program
KBIA	10:30 a.m.	News
KBIA	12:30 p.m.	News
KBIA	2:30 p.m.	News
KBIA	5:30 p.m.	News
KBIA	7:30 p.m.	News
KBIA	8:30 p.m.	News
KBIA	11:30 p.m.	News

Big Spring netters begin season with Abilene split

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Featuring four new starters, the Big Spring volleyball team opened its regular season Tuesday against Abilene High and came away with a loss in three games. And, for good measure, the Lady Steers also took on Abilene Cooper and won in four games.

Abilene High, who is in Class 5A, defeated Big Spring 25-22, 25-21 and 25-16, but Lady Steers head coach Revis Daggett was pleased with her team's efforts.

"I thought we did well for a first time out," said Daggett.

The Lady Eagles, who were upset by Big Spring a year ago, used their five returning starters to defeat the Lady Steers.

"(Abilene High) looked comfortable and experienced out there," said Daggett. "Plus, they had good size."

The Lady Eagles featured three girls over 6-foot tall and one player might have been 6-3, according to Daggett.

"We were a little scared and intimidated, but we were able to fine tune some things," she added.

Junior Raegan Ritchey led Big Spring with 10 points on seven kills, two aces, two solo blocks and two assisted blocks. Senior Shannon Higgins pitched in with nine points off six aces, two kills and two assisted blocks. Juniors Brenn Swinney and Carmen Lewis added eight and seven points, respectively. Swinney had seven kills and two assisted blocks while Lewis contributed five kills, two assisted blocks and one ace.

Big Spring's second was not originally scheduled, but Abilene Cooper head coach Nora Oglesby approached Daggett about playing another match against her Lady Cougars.

"We weren't supposed to play, but I am glad that we did," said Daggett.

The Lady Steers pulled out the win against Cooper in four games. They won the match 25-16, 13-25, 25-22 and 25-16.

"With the exception of one, most of the games were won by large margins and that was because both teams started to get fatigued," said Daggett. "The games produced long rallies and you could

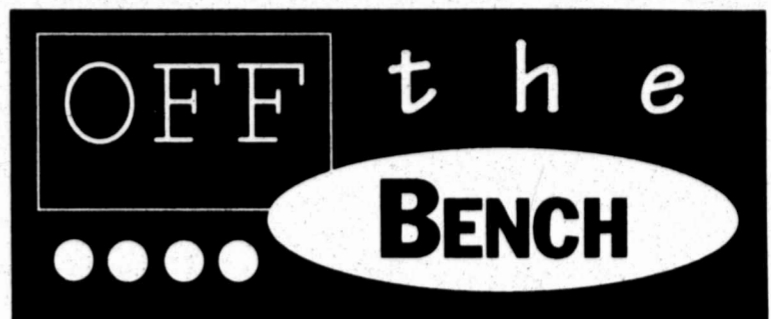
just tell both teams were tired."

Ritchey again led the Lady Steers with 14.5 points after producing 11 kills, three assisted blocks and two aces. Each assisted block is worth one-half point which is why she finished with 14.5 points.

Senior Stefani Scott scored 12 points in the match with eight kills, two assisted blocks and three aces, while Higgins pitched in with 11 points. She had 10 kills and one ace. Senior Kendal Adams contributed 10 points off eight kills, one solo block and one ace.

The Lady Steers travel to Midland High Saturday and will play at the high school and at the Presbyterian Church. The varsity will play Monahans and Lubbock High at 2:15 and 4:45 p.m., while the junior varsity takes on the same two teams at 1:00 and 3:30 p.m., respectively.

The sophomore team, which has been implemented for the first time this year, will take on Midland High at 4:45 p.m. and the freshman team will battle Lubbock High at 3:30 p.m. and Monahans at 4:45 p.m.



I just recently found out something very interesting to the sports world. The interesting thing was a Web site on-line (msn.com) and what they did. The site made a list of the best 368 sports cities for 2004. And the list in my opinion is intriguing.

To clarify, the list includes several different stand alone cities, but it also groups up several cities as well.

For example, San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose are listed as one as is Dallas and Fort Worth and Los Angeles and Anaheim.

This year's winner of the best city of 2004 was Boston, followed by the San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose group and then New York/New Jersey/Long Island.

The number one sports city in the state of Texas is Houston, but Cowboy and Ranger fans might argue that Dallas/Fort Worth, which was eighth on the list, is better. The other top Texas cities are San Antonio (31) and Austin (52).

Los Angeles/Anaheim came in fifth on the list, while Miami/Fort Lauderdale, Detroit, Philadelphia and Minneapolis/St. Paul rounded out the top 10.

According to msn.com, the reason why Boston was first overall was because it is a city that celebrated and commiserated and exulted and agonized (again) over a year's most dramatic victories and cursed defeats. The dramatic victory was that of the New England Patriots Super Bowl win last year and the cursed defeat was, of course, the Red Sox inability to defeat the New York Yankees again.

Boston is sure worthy of being the number one sports city of 2004. The Red Sox, Patriots, Bruins and Celtics are all popular teams as are Boston University and Boston College.

The list is, however, very debatable.

To me, Chicago and St. Louis are very big sports cities. I have been to both personally and seen it for myself. The fans of sports teams in those two cities are great.

Everyone knows about Cubs fans. Anytime a city can constantly sell out a stadium where most of the games take place during most working hours, you know the city is legit.

And there are not a lot of fans like Cardinals fans in St. Louis. I attended two Texas Rangers games earlier this year when the Cardinals were in town and there were tons of Red Bird fans. That city just travels well. Chicago came in at number 11 on the list, while St. Louis ranked 18th.

Since Texas is in the heart of Big 12 country, I think everyone here knows about the fans in Lincoln, Neb. Going to a game at Memorial Stadium is like seeing a sea of red. I was in town

once during a Saturday and nothing in town was open. They shut down when the Huskers are playing. And you are either watching the game in person or on your television at home. And Lincoln ranks only 58, which is just two spots above Lubbock.

The great state of Iowa, where I am from for those who didn't know, is not much for sports at all. Iowa City is ranked one spot behind Austin at 53 due to the screaming Hawkeye fans that fill Kinnick Stadium Saturdays during football season.

And that other school in Iowa (Iowa State) was represented as well as Ames came in at 100 on the list.

Just like every year during football, Oklahoma defeated Texas again as the Sooners or Norman reached the list at 46, which is six spots above Austin and the Longhorns.

Las Vegas not only doesn't sleep, it also ranks as the 96th best sports city, just ahead of Kalamazoo, Mich. What in the heck is in Kalamazoo?

El Paso and College Station rank 109 and 114, respectively, while Waco was picked at 123.

And get this, Nacogdoches is ranked number 167. What? That's higher than Corpus Christi (178) and some city called Edinburg, which I have never heard of. San Marcos came in at number 219 and Huntsville and Beaumont ranked 232 and 235, respectively.

Prairie View, which is another city that I haven't heard of, ranks 247.

The final city in Texas to make the list was Midland, which fell in at 296.

There is really no point to this column. I just wanted to share with everyone what cities rock for sports and to share the list with all you readers.

The topic is both interesting and debatable as well as confusing in certain places.

I don't think I would have picked Boston as the number one city, but it is definitely in the top 10 and maybe even the top five. I feel Chicago and St. Louis were ranked too low and Tampa/St. Petersburg were ranked too high at 14.

Salt Lake City was ranked too high as well at number 23 and Pittsburgh (24), Cincinnati (27) and Milwaukee (29) were also too low in mind.

The only team I know of in Salt Lake City is the Utah Jazz. But, how can one team make the city a top 30 sports city?

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Milwaukee have more than one professional team and they are all lower. Personally, that doesn't make sense.

Let the debating begin. Does anyone have an opinion? I am interested to hear your thoughts.

Sports Editor Troy Hyde can be reached by phone at 263-7331 or by email at sports@bigspringherald.com.

Villarreal breezes through Abilene tennis tournament

By TROY HYDE
Sports Editor

Big Spring senior Veronica Villarreal has been busy on the tennis courts lately, and her season with Steers and Lady Steers has barely begun.

Villarreal participated in three tournaments recently, winning the title in one of them.

She competed in a girls' 18 singles tournament in Abilene last Friday through Sunday, and despite not being seeded in the top eight, Villarreal came home with the title.

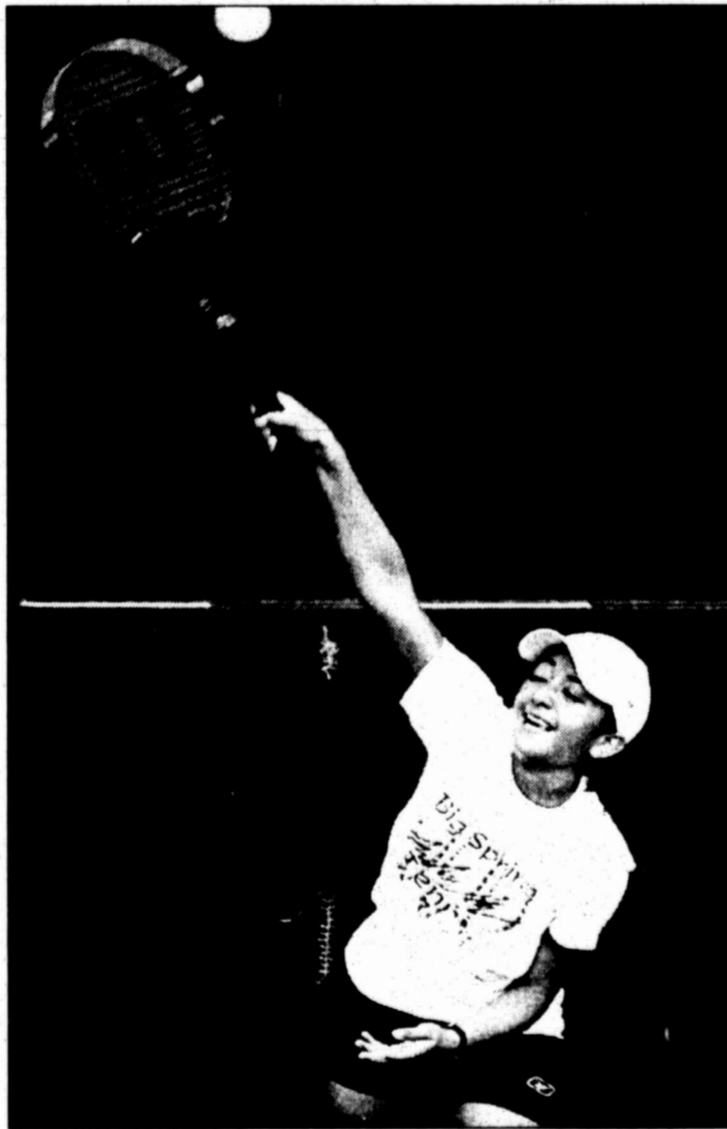
Villarreal, who will be the number one female player on this year's Big Spring team, took on Dallas' Ricki Yonack in the first round. This match ended up being her toughest match of the tournament, but she still pulled out the victory 6-1, 4-6 and 6-1.

In round two, Villarreal battled the tournament's second seed in Jessica Odorizzi of Coppell. Second seed or not, Villarreal disposed of her opponent easily, winning 6-2 and 6-1.

Villarreal's next opponent was seventh-seeded Elizabeth Pratt of Fort Worth. Her new opponent left the same result for the Big Spring senior as she dominated Pratt 6-1 and 6-2.

Third-seeded Kristen Kane of Dallas was Villarreal's semifinal opponent, but again it wasn't much of a match for the unseeded Villarreal as she dominated this match 6-3 and 6-2.

She knocked off three seeded players to get to the finals of the tournament only to face another unseeded player in Jenna Buckman of Dallas.



Big Spring senior Veronica Villarreal serves the ball over the net in a match last year. She won a tournament last weekend in Abilene.

It was another easy match for Villarreal as she walked away with a straight set victory and the tournament championship.

Villarreal also played in the Texas Open Championships and the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) tournament.

She played in both singles and doubles at the Texas Open Championships, but was only able to win one doubles match. Villarreal and teammate Lauren Trapani won their first round doubles match 8-6 over Ashley Longoria and Heidi Miller, but then lost in the second round to Stephanie and

Samantha Galainena 3-8. In singles, she lost to both C.H. Williams and Hayden Rush in straight sets.

At the ITA tournament, which was held in Arlington, Villarreal played in two singles matches and didn't find the win column in either one, losing both matches in straight sets.

She lost to eighth-seeded Janet Durham of Texas Tech in round one and then lost to Ashley Hawkcaperton of Abilene Christian in round two.

Big Spring opens up regular season competition this year at home against Sweetwater Tuesday, Aug. 17.

AUG 12 2004

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

current standings

American League

East	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
New York Yankees	72	41	—	43-15	29-26	Won 1
Boston	62	50	9.5	35-19	27-31	Won 2
Baltimore	54	58	17.5	29-29	25-29	Lost 1
Tampa Bay	54	60	18.5	34-26	20-34	Lost 2
Toronto	48	66	24.5	29-27	19-39	Lost 2

Central

Minnesota	62	51	—	33-27	29-24	Lost 1
Cleveland	60	55	3	34-23	26-32	Won 3
Chicago White Sox	56	55	5	32-25	24-30	Lost 1
Detroit	52	61	10	28-30	24-31	Won 1
Kansas City	40	72	21.5	26-33	14-39	Won 1

West

Oakland	64	49	—	37-16	27-33	Lost 1
Anaheim	63	51	1.5	31-25	32-26	Won 1
TEXAS	61	51	2.5	32-18	29-33	Lost 1
Seattle	43	70	21	27-27	16-43	Won 2

National League

East	W	L	GB	Home	Road	Streak
Atlanta	64	48	—	31-23	33-25	Won 1
Philadelphia	59	55	6	30-26	29-29	Won 1
Florida	55	57	9	30-27	25-30	Lost 3
New York Mets	53	59	11	28-24	25-35	Lost 1
Montreal	46	66	18	25-29	21-37	Won 4

Central

St. Louis	74	38	—	36-21	38-17	Won 7
Chicago Cubs	62	51	12.5	32-22	30-29	Won 1
HOUSTON	56	57	18.5	29-31	27-26	Won 1
Cincinnati	54	59	20.5	29-25	25-34	Lost 2
Pittsburgh	53	58	20.5	28-26	25-32	Won 4
Milwaukee	53	59	21	28-27	25-32	Lost 1

West

Los Angeles	67	45	—	36-21	31-24	Won 2
San Diego	61	52	7.5	31-29	29-24	Lost 1
San Francisco	60	55	8.5	33-27	27-28	Lost 2
Colorado	51	63	17	29-31	22-32	Lost 1
Arizona	35	80	32.5	18-41	17-39	Lost 6

Glossary:

W: Wins L: Losses
GB: Games Back
Home: Home record
Road: Road record
Streak: consecutive games won or lost

AL Wild Card Standings

Team	Record	GB
Boston	62-50	—
Anaheim	63-51	—
TEXAS	61-51	1
Cleveland	60-55	3.5
Chicago Sox	56-55	5.5
Baltimore	54-58	8
Tampa Bay	54-60	9
Detroit	52-61	10.5

NL Wild Card Standings

Team	Record	GB
Chicago Cubs	62-51	—
San Diego	60-53	2
San Francisco	60-55	3
Philadelphia	59-55	3.5
HOUSTON	56-57	6
Florida	55-57	6.5
Cincinnati	54-59	8
Pittsburgh	53-58	8

Humble Gordon hits his stride as "race" heats up

By MIKE HARRIS
AP Motorsports Writer

As Jeff Gordon crossed the finish line the Brickyard 400, team owner Rick Hendrick yelled into the radio: "Have I told you lately that you are the man?"

The four-time NASCAR champion hasn't heard that much the last two years as he struggled through a pair of mediocre three-win, fourth-place seasons.

Last year, he went through a frustrating 31-race winless streak, the longest since his first two years in NASCAR's premier stock car series.

Gordon has acknowledged that a messy and very public divorce from Brooke, his wife of seven years, was part of the problem.

There was also a perception that the well-spoken driver with the movie-star looks appeared to be concentrating more on his next career than getting his No. 24 Chevrolet team back on track.

And there was the added distraction of putting together the team he co-owns with Hendrick that fields cars for third-year NASCAR star Jimmie Johnson.

Johnson has outshone his teammate with finishes of fifth and second in the points the last two years.

"You know, people don't realize just how competitive Nextel Cup racing is," Gordon said. "When you don't win, they find all kinds of reasons for it. But we just had some rebuilding to do with our team — the cars, the motors and the people."

Whatever the reason, it appears now that

NASCAR's "Golden Boy," the driver who won 33 races and two of his championships in a three-year span from 1996 to 1998, is back, better than ever.

His 69th career victory moved him within seven of Dale Earnhardt, whom Gordon replaced as the biggest star in the sport after Earnhardt was killed in the 2001 Daytona 500.

Over the last eight races, Gordon has driven to three of his five series-leading wins and has finished lower than fifth only once. That streak has moved him within 97 points of Johnson, who is leading the standings.

Gordon hasn't led the points this season. But he has found momentum at just the right time in a year in which NASCAR has changed the way the championship is determined.

Sunday's road race at Watkins Glen is one of only five more events until the new, 10-race "Chase for the Cup" begins. At that point, the top 10 drivers in the standings will start with a separation of only 45 points and race for the title.

A fifth title would move Gordon within two of the record seven, held jointly by Earnhardt and leg-

endary stock car king Richard Petty, whose final race was Gordon's first.

And, at 33, Gordon could just be reaching the prime of his career.

Nobody is likely to match Petty's 200 career victories or Earnhardt's incredible popularity, but the argument is already raging over which of the three is the best ever in the stock car sport.

Longtime NASCAR star Dale Jarrett, who finished second to Gordon at Indy, was asked where Gordon stands in the pantheon of stars who have raced at the historic track.

"He's probably as good a driver as ever been here," Jarrett said. "He's beat the very best here because everybody brings their best stuff."

Gordon won't get into the debate about who is best at Indy or in NASCAR.

"I don't think anybody will ever know who the best is because I just don't think there's any fair way to figure that out," Gordon said.

"I try not to put myself in that category because all I care about is winning races and being behind the wheel of a race car. ... That's what really matters to me."

Rangers take step back in wild card after loss to mighty Yanks

By JOEL ANDERSON
AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON — Gary Sheffield gingerly holds his gimpy left shoulder close to his body these days, wincing with every painful step or swing of the bat.

His right arm, however, is feeling just fine.

Sheffield ended a Rangers scoring opportunity in the first with a perfect throw home for the final out of the inning, and the New York Yankees kept Texas scoreless from there in a 4-2 win on Wednesday night.

"I didn't think it was going to be a low-scoring game," Yankees manager Joe Torre said, "but Sheffield's throw kept it from getting out of hand."

Derek Jeter hit a solo homer, Tanyon Sturtze pitched five strong innings in a spot start and the Yankees' highly touted bullpen shut down the Rangers.

Sturtze (4-2), moved into the rotation Tuesday because Javier Vazquez has pink eye, started poorly but recovered to give the Yankees a lead.

The right-hander allowed two runs on three hits in the first, but held the Rangers scoreless from there. He allowed only five hits overall with one walk and one strikeout.

"I give Sturtze a lot of credit," Torre said. "After the first inning, it looked like it could turn into something ugly. Sturtze flirted with danger, but he kept battling."

Paul Quantrill, Tom Gordon and Mariano Rivera combined to pitch four hitless innings to preserve the five-hitter, with Rivera getting three outs for his 39th save in 42 chances.

That trio of relievers is 21-3 in games that they've each appeared out of the

bullpen.

Jeter gave the Yankees a 1-0 lead in the first with a shot to left-center that barely cleared the fence for his 15th homer.

Michael Young responded with a run-scoring single in the bottom half of the inning and Gary Matthews Jr. was later hit by a pitch with the bases loaded, scoring Young to give the Rangers a 2-1 lead.

Texas right-hander Nick Regilio walked the first three batters of the second inning before John Olerud's RBI groundout

and Miguel Cairo's RBI sacrifice fly to center put the Yankees back on top 3-2.

Regilio (0-4) lost his fourth straight game, allowing three runs and two hits in three innings. The 25-year-old rookie walked four and struck out one.

Predictably, former Ranger Alex Rodriguez was booed every time he came up to bat. He finished 1-for-5 and grounded out on his last at-bat, drawing a standing ovation from the crowd of 43,729.



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2907 HUNTERS Glen (Highland) Combined garage sale to support the Big Spring Neighbors & Newcomers Club. A little bit of everything. Don't miss out. Saturday 8-7.

3 FAMILY Sale: 2 Baby beds & bedding, lots of girls clothing, portable basketball goal, music key board, refrigerator, lots of misc. 601 Holbert, Saturday 8:00-7.

5 FAMILY Garage Sale, Friday and Saturday, 7:00-1:00 P.M. 2619 Central Dr. Tools, furniture, clothes, jewelry and miscellaneous.

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Garage Sales

CARPOR SALE: 2404 E. 24th., Friday & Saturday 8-5. Men's- women's & children's clothes, shoes .50c, heavy furniture, exercise equipment, golf clubs, lamps, glassware, bedding, miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE, 2607 Central. Saturday, 8:00-2:00. Furniture, country decor, clothes, and lots more.

GARAGE SALE, 513 Scott Dr. Saturday, 8:00-1:00. No Early Birds! Bedroom suites, dining table & baker's rack, couch & loveseat, area rugs, household decor, lots of clothes (like brand new), 49cc gas-powered Pocket Bikes & Ninja Mini's, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: 2709 Carol, Friday & Saturday 7:30-?. Name brand clothing, furniture, computer, lots of misc.

MULTI FAMILY: 1405 E. 19th., Saturday 7:30-?. Antique furniture, children's clothes, shoes, dishes, vacuum cleaner, saw, and lots of other stuff.

Garage Sales

MOVING SALE, Saturday, 7:30-1:00 p.m. 611 Craigmont. Black marble dining table, piano, wood dining table w/china hutch, infant boy & adult clothes, dishes, misc.

THREE FAMILY Garage Sale, Friday and Saturday, 8:00-5:00. 1612 East 17th. Household, decorations, clothes, shoes, seasonal, misc.

TWO FAMILY Garage Sale, Saturday, 8:00-12:00. 2917 McAuslan (Highland South). Headboards, luggage, clothes, and lots of miscellaneous.

YARD SALE: 3202 Fordham, Saturday & Sunday 7:30-?. Excellent shape on DVD's- \$4.00 and up. Adult, kids & baby clothes. Lots of toys.

YARD SALE: 4200 Wasson Rd. Sat. 7-2pm. Microwave, stroller, car seat, wooden selfs, men & womens clothes, lots of misc. household items.

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED during Howard County Fair. Call (830)709-9848.

THE BIG Spring Herald has an immediate opening for a general assignments reporter to primarily cover the education beat. This is an excellent position for a recent college graduate or an up-and-coming reporter who is willing to work hard and launch a successful journalism career. Some night and weekend work is required. Big Spring is a city of 25,000 in the Permian Basin area of West Texas. Benefits include paid vacation, medical/ dental/ life insurance and 401(K) plan. We're looking for someone who can join the solid editorial team that is already in place. E-mail letter of introduction, resume, references, salary requirements and clips to editor@bigspringherald.com or mail information to John A. Moseley, Managing Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, Texas 79720.

Help Wanted

SUCCESSFUL, LONG Established small restaurant chain planning for aggressive expansion. Seeking associates at all levels of management to grow with us and make it happen. Long hours, good starting pay and benefits with unlimited future. We need manager trainees, unit managers, managing partners, supervisors and support staff. Positions require a friendly personality, good work ethic, absolute honesty, positive attitude, leadership talent, motivational and team building skills. Previous food service experience desirable but not essential. Willingness to relocate to other areas of Texas or adjacent states a plus. Include all information regarding employment history, community involvement and interests. (i.e. civic clubs, scouts, mentoring and computer literacy level). Only drug-free applicants should fax resumes to 512-754-7414 or e-mail to gtc@sanmarcos.net.

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<p>FENCES</p> <p>MARQUEZ FENCE CO. All types of fences & repairs. Concrete work, carports. All work guaranteed. Free Estimates Benny Marquez-Owner 267-5714</p>	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>Speedy Sr. Construction We Do It All! Residential & Commercial Ceramic Tiles, Cabinets, Drywall, Textures, Plumbing, Electrical AC, Roofs, New Additions & Lawn Service Phone: 432-263-2911 Cell: 432-916-3832 Concrete Special</p>	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>RS HOME REPAIR Custom Wood Decks, Remodel, Carpenter, Painting, Plumbing, Minor Electrical. Call FREE ESTIMATES Garage door repair, Appliances installed 432-816-3030</p>	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>Gibbs Remodeling New home Construction • Room Additions Carports • Dry Wall Hanging & Finishing & Exterior Wallpaper Hanging • Ceramic Tile Installation & Repair All Remodel Needs Of Any Room In Your Home. Call 263-8285</p>	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>DOORS/ GARAGE DOORS/OPENERS Home Repair • Carpentry Sheet Work Repaired/Replaced Kitchen & Bath BOB'S CUSTOM WOODWORK 409 E. 3RD 267-5811</p>	
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AUG 12 2004

THURSDAY

	WFAA	Dallas
6	:PM	News (CC)
	:30	Wheel-Fort
7	:PM	Extreme
	:30	Makeover
8	:PM	Extreme
	:30	Makeover
9	:PM	Primetime
	:30	Thursday
10	:PM	News
	:30	Nightline
11	:PM	Ent. Tonight
	:30	Jimmy Kim
12	:AM	Live (CC)
	:30	Oprah Win

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"MARGARET SHE TALKS TO BC"



WIZARD



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Horoscope

BY JOYCE JILLSON
ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you're planning on extending your realm of influence by reaching out to new people, you've made a wise decision. New connections are easily made, and their pursuit also brings about romance, financial gain and entertainment.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Efforts to look better are not made in vain. You take pride in your public image and your personal appearance. Enhanced self-esteem will benefit your health, whereas a lack of self-confidence drains your vitality.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Gregarious and engaging, you'll attract love by being outgoing and widely accepting of others. At work, you may be privy to classified information — the power is in your hands. A relative gives you a blessing in disguise.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Doubt and suspicion needn't be companions for too long, even if they show up early on. You'll soon be vindicated on an emotional family issue. Be alone for a few hours if you can. Psychic powers are strong.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Self-motivation is lower than usual, so it's good to have encouraging friends near. Attend gatherings, and socialize. Get involved in stimulating community work or a spirited discussion; a worthwhile pastime helps you relax.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've got your eye on the big picture, but remember, success is in the small wins. Do not dismiss a family problem. It must be handled immediately. Luxury and opulence are part of the fun tonight.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Stick to the plan, and you'll move forward. You are well prepared for increased responsibility, as long as recognition goes with it — is it so bad to want to be acknowledged for your work? You certainly deserve it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Rely on intuition; following your nose is lucky. Get ready for some new friends, perhaps from a faraway place. The course of true love runs straight, but the bills still have to be paid. Decide who is responsible for what.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Communication is the way to understanding. Listen to the voice of experience. Some good shopping tips come from a surprising source. Concentrate, and find ways to budget for a desired object.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The outcome of events that surround you now depends solely upon your attitude. Free your home and your emotions from dusty cobwebs. It's a good bet that you'll hear from or visit with distant family. Be patient!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's fun with a friend who may turn out to be a romance. A loving partner who is also a friend is exactly what you need to stimulate your life. Financially, there's a chance to gain through better use of what you already have.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Solid groundwork, though it may be tedious at times, is the way to create good fortune. Flirty relationships are favored, as is finding a way to enjoy the evening that is inexpensive but entertaining. Hobbies are most rewarding.

Real Estate for Sale

1603 TODD RD. 3 bedroom, 2 bath MFG home, on 10 acres, nice home. \$49,800. Call (432)661-5552. R33617.

2200 RUNNELS. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$1,000 down, \$328.00 month. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

2504 N. Birdwell. 3 Bedroom, brick, 1 bath, garage, carport, central heat/air 1 acre, fruit & nut trees, 3 water wells, windmill, large barn. Out of city, low taxes, excellent condition, \$50,000. No Owner Finance. (432)263-3584.

2700 SQ.FT. 3/2 brick Country Home. 4905 Ratliff Road. To be offered at auction on 8/21/04.
CROSSROADS AUCTION
David Lefever - Auctioneer
Lic. #13251 (432)264-9900

5215 STERLING Road. 3 bedroom, 2 bath MFG home on 3 lots. 4 car carport, large workshop, water well & city, storage shed, outside office, home is beautifully landscaped. \$52,800. Call (432)661-5552. R33617.

7 ROOM HOUSE. (Den, kitchen, dining, living room), 3 bedroom, 1 bath. For Sale or Rent, call 432-267-8900.

COAHOMA, TX. 8400 sq. feet Office warehouse. Large paved fenced lot. 3 Phase electrical, 2 12x12 overhead doors, City utility. \$70,000. Call (432)631-9868.

EXCELLENT LOCATION: Large swimming pool, small price, needs some repairs. Call 432-263-8513. Also 3 bedroom, 1 bath for sale or lease. Excellent location. call 432-263-8513.

FOR SALE By Owner: Owner Financing Provided. Low down payment, low monthly. 2 Bedroom, 1 bath brick home with shop out back. 1202 West 15th. Call Kelly (432)425-9994.

FOR SALE, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A, one car garage. \$29,000. Possible owner finance. 608 S. 2nd St. (Coahoma). Call (432)264-7410.

FOR SALE: "AS IS" for \$265.79 per month. 609 Holbert. 1-800-804-7110.

IN COAHOMA 104 Ash. 4/2, double car garage, plus one carport. Super cool treehouse! \$75,000. Call(432)394-4671 or 264-0060, ext 202.

LE GUSTARIA ser dueno de su propia casa pues ahora es cuando sin importar su credito le puedo ayuda, con el enganche nos arreglamos a su conveniencia yo se la financio por 10 anos para mas inf. Llame Annette Sanchez 432-413-0549 o 432-620-8285.

OWNER WILL FINANCE! 2 and 3 bedroom homes. Just remodeled! Great condition! 1209 Sycamore and 1214 Ridgeroad. LOW DOWN, LOW MONTHLY! Tadlock Realtors (432)580-4883.

PRICED FOR quick sale. All Brick home, 4 bedroom 3 bath, double car garage, swimming pool. Too many extras to list. Asking \$195,000. 713 Craigmont. Call (432)264-9047 or 270-7803.

Rent to Own **3202 Auburn.** 3 Bedroom, 1 bath with 1 car garage. New Evaporated Air Condition, fenced yard. \$400 month plus taxes and insurance. Owner Finance with \$2000 down and References. Call (432)267-6667.

SALE By Owner. Owner financing provided. Low down payment. Low monthly. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage, freshly painted outside, fenced backyard. 1611 Owens. Call Kelly, (432)425-9994.

UNIQUE TWO-STORY on 1 acre near Scenic Mountain. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, office, fireplace, two living areas, gazebo, 2 storage bldgs, tree shaded lawn. Great view. Very private. \$120,000. Call (432)263-4080.

Real Estate for Rent

510 EAST 13TH. Two bedroom, one bath, fenced yard, washer/dryer hookups. Real Nicel \$350. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

602 1/2 GEORGE- Close to College. 1 Bedroom House. Stove & refrigerator, 1 car carport, CH/A. \$400.00 month plus deposit. No pets. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

611 RIDGELEA. 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, carport, fenced yard, CH/A. Washer & dryer connections, refrigerator & stove. \$460.00 Month \$375.00 deposit. Call (432)263-8005 or 267-0833.

712 GOLIAD. 2 or could be 3 Bedroom house. Completely remodeled. Kitchen cabinets, carpet, tile, plumbing, electric, paint. CH/A. \$450. month. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

801 EAST 18TH. 3 Bedroom. \$450.00 month. No HUD. No Pets. Call (432)263-5818.

FOR LEASE 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage. Central air & heat. Call (432)263-7653.

FOR RENT: 511 Centerpoint Rd. 3/2, C/H/A, 1 acre lot. \$525.00 month \$300 deposit Lease and references. Call 432-267-2015 or 432-816-6595

HOME FOR Rent: 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, 2 car garage, HUGE backyard, quiet neighborhood. \$400/month. \$400/deposit. Pets welcome with deposit. Call after 5pm. Melanie (432)689-3362.

HUGE VERY nice 1 bedroom apartment. 2 full baths, built-in kitchen. Close to retirement apartments. Call 432-263-7221 to appreciate.

NICE FARM HOUSE, 2 miles north of Coahoma. Clean, carpet, view, garage, free water. 3 Bedroom (walk-in closet), 1 bath (tub-shower). \$375.00 month. Call (432)394-4284 or leave message.

OFFICE or Small Retail space. Excellent location with Parking. \$125.00 month. Utilities Paid. Call (432)267-1404.

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THREE BEDROOM, one bath. 2001 S. Monticello. \$325. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)267-5386

TWO BEDROOM, 1 bath. 1404 Tucson. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

TWO BEDROOM, 1 bath. No Pets. 1102 Lancaster. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

Real Estate for Sale

\$750.00 DOWN, \$329.64 per month, for 180 months. 4207 Dixon. Call 1-800-804-7110.

1110 DOGWOOD. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. 1/2 acre. Forsan ISD. \$2,000 down, \$398.00 month. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

Items for Sale

FOR SALE: 2000 Progorator Bass boat, 20 ft. long, 200 Johnson motor \$16,000 firm. Call 264-0169

Lost and Found

FOUND FEMALE Dalmatian, in the area of Baylor Street. Call (432)264-7039 to identify.

Pets

AKC POMERANIANS (Black) for sale. 1 Male female - 1st shots given \$200 each. Call (432)756-2288 after 5:30 pm.

FOR GOOD home. Shepherd/heeler mix. 1 black- looks like shepherd, shots. 2 look like heeler. Females, 4 mos. Great for farm or ranch. Call (432)264-0303, 270-8485.

GIVE TO good homes. Five puppies, 1/2 Sheltie & 1/2 Border Collie. Call (432)213-2609 or after 5:30. 213-2613.

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1904 East 25th Street
267-5444
263-5000

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1 BDRM Duplex, Scurry & 15th. Refrigerated air, stove & refrigerator furn. \$225/mo. + deposit. Call (432)268-8353.

107 EAST 17th. Two bedroom, one bath. Real Nice! \$375. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

1206 EAST 11th Place: 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. Garage, new carpet, CH/A, utility room, living room, dining room, wood floors. \$650 monthly. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

1212 MULBERRY. 2 Bedroom 2 bath. \$365.00 month \$200.00 deposit. AC and fenced yard. Call (432)263-3375 or 816-6992.

1503 SCURRY. One bedroom, one bath. All bills paid. \$350. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

1513 WOOD. Large four bedroom, two bath, fenced yard, washer/dryer hookups. \$400. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

1603 DONLEY. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$300.00 month, \$150.00 deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

2004 JOHNSON. One bedroom, one bath. \$215. month, \$100. deposit. Call (432)263-1792 or 816-9984.

2713 REBECCA Drive. Large 3 Bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, double garage. One year lease required. \$900/month, \$500/deposit. No Pets. Call (432)263-0441 Owner/Broker.

3233 DUKE. 3 Bedroom 2 bath. CH/A, fenced yard, covered patio, 1 1/2 car garage. \$675.00 month + deposit. Call for Appointment (817)891-8322 or (469)233-5889.

407 East 8th. 1 Bdrm Apartment. Recently remodeled. New counter tops. CH/A \$275/mo. + deposit. No HUD. Call (432)267-2296

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Health and Human Services Commission is now hiring the following position:

Clerk IV (Temporary) \$1,621.00/\$1,721.00 per month
Requirements: Graduation from an accredited high school or GED, plus one (1) year of work experience in clerical or secretarial duties. One (1) semester (15 semester hours) of accredited college work in a related field may substitute for each six (6) months of the required work experience.
Prefer: Experience in the clerical aspects of human resources operations, wage and salary administration or related areas.

Big Spring State Hospital
1901 North Hwy 87
Big Spring, Texas 79720
(432)268-7256

HOWARD COTTAGE
Part-Time Position
Child Care Classroom/
Clerical Aide

High School diploma, formal child development training/coursework and one year experience in a licensed child care facility required. Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred. Must be a least 18 years of age. For more information call (432)264-5185. Applications available at the Howard College Personnel Office.

LONG JOHN Silvers, Day and evening shifts available. Must be energetic. Apply in person, 2403 S. Gregg. No phone calls, please.

MECHANIC POSITION and operator position at natural gas plant northeast of Big Spring. Send resume to: Plant Supervisor, 110703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, Tx 79511 or fax to (432)399-4290.

NEEDED: WELDERS, painters, decking, wiring & maintenance workers for trailer manufacturing company. Call (432) 263-2345.

ROUTE SALESPERSON Ab-Tex Beverage Ltd. requires individual to complete a drug screen and work assessment test. Possess or able to obtain a Class A CDL. Beverage sales experience a plus. Comprehensive benefit program. Please apply in person: Ab-Tex Beverage Ltd. 3611 Hwy 87 North Big Spring, Tx 79720 EEO/AA Employer

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CHILD CAREGIVER position, full or part-time. Day or evening hours. Apply in person at Jack & Jill, 1708 Nolan. Prior applicants, please reapply. No phone calls please.

CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for Communications Officer. This position is responsible for receiving calls for assistance from the public and dispatching public safety personnel. Apply at the Personnel Department at City Hall, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720 or call (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for Customer Service Supervisor for the Utilities billing office. Apply at the Personnel Department at City Hall, 310 Nolan, Big Spring, TX 79720, or call 432-264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

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NOW HIRING
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Rt. 254
All or parts of Alma Cir. Calvin St., Dixon St., Duquoin Pl., Hamilton St., Hearn St., Parkway Rd., Vicky St., Wallace St., & Winston St.

Rt. 234
All or parts of W. 17th St., W. 18th St., & S. Lancaster St.

Rt. 232
All or parts of E. 15th, 16th, & 17th, Johnson, Nolan, Runnels and Scurry.

Rt. 135
All or parts of E. 15th, 16th, 17th & 18th, Austin, Goliad, Owens.

Please come by 710 Scurry to pick up and application. See Angie or Anne.
No phone calls!

BIG SPRING HERALD
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FOR SALE: 1982 Chevy One Ton Pickup. Runs good, needs some body work. Call 263-8612 after 6:00pm. Good work truck!

FOR SALE: 1995 Buick LaSabre, extra clean. See at 2007 Morrison.

THURSDAY

AUG. 12

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (26)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	TMC (250)
6	News (CC) Wheel-Fortune	News Wheel-Fortune	Spanish La Mujer de Madera	King of the Hill Raymond	News Ent. Tonight	News Big Brother 5 (CC)	News Will & Grace Scubs (CC)	Friends (CC) MLB Baseball: Milwaukee Brewers at Atlanta Braves (CC)	Joe McGee John Hagee	News-Lehrer West Tex Jini TX Mnthly Talk	H.S. Boot Camp Prehistoric America	Movie: The Terminator Seven Wonders Of...	Widest Police Videos Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Live BET com The Parkers	Sister, Sister That's-Raven	Stump-Schwab NFL Live Stump-Schwab (CC)	NFL Preseason	(CC)
7	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Mariana de la Noche	Alien vs. Pred Celebrity	CSI: Crime Scene Investgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Investgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Investgtn.	Atlanta Braves Light of the Southwest	Performance White House	Evening With B.B. King	Prehistoric America	Movie: The Terminator Seven Wonders Of...	Widest Police Videos Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Bones	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	Baseball Tonght (CC)	Baltimore Ravens (CC)	National Lampoon's
8	Extreme Makeover	Extreme Makeover	Amarte es Mi Pecado	Boxing 2 (CC)	70s Show Dharma-Greg	Without a Trace (CC)	Protagonistas ER (CC)	Movie: Cool Runnings (CC)	The Hour of Healing	Performance White House	Prehistoric America	Movie: The Terminator Seven Wonders Of...	Widest Police Videos Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Bones	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	Baseball Tonght (CC)	Baltimore Ravens (CC)	Van Wilder 35 Movie
9	News Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Laura	News The Tonight Show (CC)	40 Movie: Late Night	Sam Peak Jesse Lee Pe.	Performance White House	Prehistoric America	Movie: The Terminator Seven Wonders Of...	Widest Police Videos Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Bones	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	Baseball Tonght (CC)	Baltimore Ravens (CC)	In the Army Now (CC)
10	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel	En las Mejores Familias	Becker (CC) Spin City	The Late Late Show (CC)	The Late Late Show (CC)	II (SS) Corte-Familia	40 Movie: Late Night	Sam Peak Jesse Lee Pe.	Performance White House	Prehistoric America	Movie: The Terminator Seven Wonders Of...	Widest Police Videos Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Bones	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	Baseball Tonght (CC)	Baltimore Ravens (CC)	15 Movie: My Tutor
11	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Mujeres Enganadas	Blind Date Blind Date	The Late Late Show (CC)	The Late Late Show (CC)	II (SS) Corte-Familia	40 Movie: Late Night	Sam Peak Jesse Lee Pe.	Performance White House	Prehistoric America	Movie: The Terminator Seven Wonders Of...	Widest Police Videos Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Bones	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	Baseball Tonght (CC)	Baltimore Ravens (CC)	Movie: Scarface
12	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Live (CC) Oprah Winfrey	Mujeres Enganadas	Blind Date Blind Date	The Late Late Show (CC)	The Late Late Show (CC)	II (SS) Corte-Familia	40 Movie: Late Night	Sam Peak Jesse Lee Pe.	Performance White House	Prehistoric America	Movie: The Terminator Seven Wonders Of...	Widest Police Videos Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Movie: Bones	That's-Raven Sister, Sister	Baseball Tonght (CC)	Baltimore Ravens (CC)	Movie: Scarface

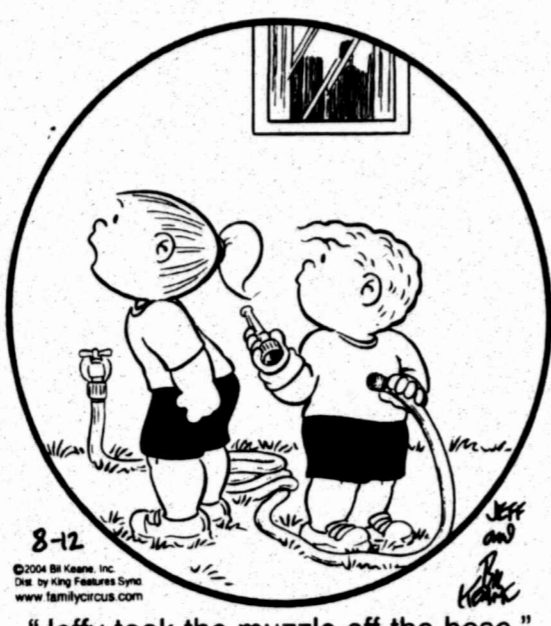
DENNIS THE MENACE



"MARGARET DOESN'T TALK TOO MUCH... SHE TALKS TOO OFTEN."

BC

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Jeffy took the muzzle off the hose."

HAGAR



BLONDIE



This Date In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 12, the 225th day of 2004. There are 141 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 12, 1944, Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., eldest son of Joseph and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, was killed with his co-pilot when their explosives-laden Navy plane blew up over England.

On this date:

In 1851, Isaac Singer was granted a patent on his sewing machine.

In 1867, President Andrew Johnson sparked a move to impeach him as he defied Congress by suspending Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton.

In 1898, the peace protocol ending the Spanish-American War was signed.

In 1898, Hawaii was formally annexed to the United States.

In 1953, the Soviet Union conducted a secret test of its first hydrogen bomb.

In 1960, the first balloon satellite - the Echo One - was launched by the United States from Cape Canaveral.

In 1962, one day after launching Andrian Nikolayev into orbit, the Soviet Union also sent up cosmonaut Pavel Popovich; both men landed safely August 15th.

In 1972, the last American combat ground troops left Vietnam.

In 1978, Pope Paul VI, who had died Aug. 6 at age 80, was buried in St. Peter's Basilica.

In 1985, the world's worst single-aircraft disaster occurred as a crippled Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 on a domestic flight crashed into a mountain, killing 520 people.

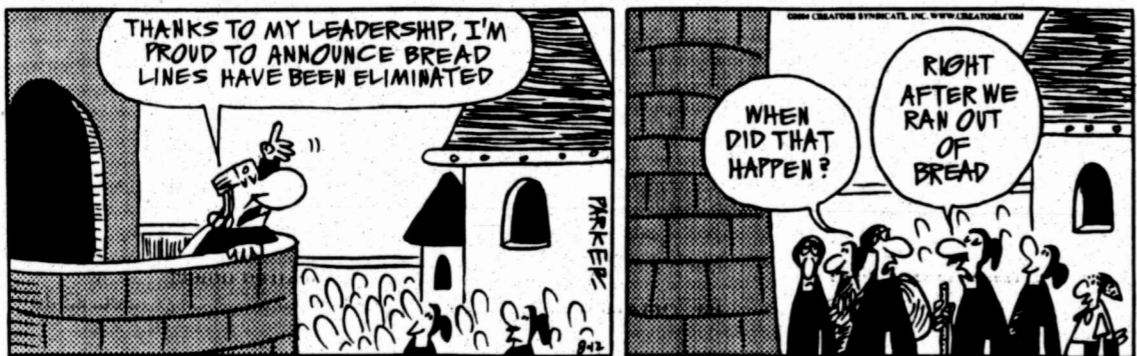
Ten years ago: In baseball's Birthdays: Choreographer Michael Kidd is 85. Former Senator

Dale Bumpers, D-Ark., is 79. Country singer Porter Wagoner is 77. Singer-musician Buck Owens is 75. Actor George Hamilton is 65. Actress Jennifer Warren is 63. Rock singer-musician Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits) is 55. Singer Kid Creole is 54. Jazz musician Pat Metheny is 50. Actor Sam J. Jones is 50. Actor Bruce Greenwood is 48. Country singer Danny Shirley is 48. Pop musician Roy Hay (Culture Club) is 43. Rapper Sir Mix-A-Lot is 41. Actor Peter Krause is 39. Tennis player Pete Sampras is 33. Actor Michael Ian Black ("Ed") is 33. Actress Rebecca Gayheart is 32.

Answer to previous puzzle

ASH	LILAC	POSER
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HELLO	AGREE	REE
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WIZARD OF ID



AGNES



HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST



SNUFFY SMITH



BEETLE BAILEY



Newsday Crossword SOUND-ALIKE CELEBS by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman

- ACROSS**
- 1 For all to hear
 - 6 It pours from pores
 - 11 Trig abbr.
 - 14 Popeye creator
 - 15 Devil Rays' home
 - 16 "Rope-a-dope" pugilist
 - 17 Noted saloon raider
 - 19 Rule, for short
 - 20 Enzyme suffix
 - 21 Eggy quaffs
 - 22 Reenlist
 - 24 Nags
 - 26 Comic actor Arnold
 - 27 Stubborn mule
 - 28 Shatner's claim to fame
 - 31 Amulets
 - 34 Oro y ___ (Montana motto)
 - 35 Oklahoma city
 - 36 "Bearded" bloom
 - 37 Queeg's ship
 - 38 Make booties
 - 39 Get-up-and-go
 - 40 Throw, slangily
 - 41 Simple tune
 - 42 Salad green
 - 44 Sunday seat
 - 45 Hi-fi pioneer Fisher
 - 46 Will add-on
 - 50 Butter, for one
 - 52 Holier-than-
 - 53 Astronomical altar
 - 54 Ventilate
 - 55 "Butterfly" singer
 - 58 Pinky or Spike
- DOWN**
- 9 Cause abandoner
 - 10 Trumpet blast
 - 11 North by Northwest star
 - 12 Toast topper
 - 13 Make an X, maybe
 - 18 Director Ephron
 - 23 Colony insect
 - 25 Greek T's
 - 26 Smelled awful
 - 28 Pizza serving
 - 29 Cut and paste
 - 30 "K-K-K-"
 - 31 Talk nonsense
 - 32 The Haj novelist
 - 33 The Cable Guy star
 - 34 Shore of Encino Man
 - 37 Member of a certain biological phylum
 - 38 Fuzzy fruit
 - 40 Prepared peas, perhaps
 - 41 Takes off
 - 43 Broad st.
 - 44 Milne bear
 - 46 Action-film highlight
 - 47 West Indies native
 - 48 Peace goddess
 - 49 Cake stratum
 - 50 Pretzel topper
 - 51 Mooring spot
 - 52 Pie holders
 - 56 L. Hubbard
 - 57 "I've got it!"

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AUG 12 2004

That's Racin'

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

DOUBLE DUTY

Bobby Hamilton is one of a nearly extinct breed in NASCAR — he's not only an owner, he's also a driver.

Full-time teams owned by the drivers that race for them were once commonplace in NASCAR's biggest series, but these days you have to move to the NASCAR's Busch or Craftsman Truck series to find any such teams.

But the few that exist tend to be successful. Hamilton, who won four races in a Cup career that spanned more than 20 years, started building his own trucks to race on a limited basis in 1996.

When he left the Cup series following the 2002 season, he moved full-time to trucks and racing the trucks he helped build. He also quickly expanded his Bobby Hamilton Racing operation into the three-truck team organization it is today.

Since the creation of BHR, Hamilton's teams have won 16 races and 19 poles and have produced 65 top-five and 125 top-10 finishes in 325 starts, entering Saturday's Toyota Tundra 200 at Nashville (Tenn.) Superspeedway.

"I don't know how to measure my success. As long as BHR is surviving and it's not treading water and it's doing well then that's OK, it makes me sleep better at night," said Hamilton, 47.

"It's not a big ego thing for me. It's tough for a driver to be an owner and run all the stuff and still win races. I guess in that respect, I'm pretty proud of that."

Driver Chad Chaffin, who started driving for Hamilton last season, credits his owner's racing background with BHR's success.

"He's always had one of the best teams and that's because he's so smart about cars. I can say



Chad Chaffin, who drives for Hamilton, celebrates after last week's win at Indianapolis Raceway Park in Clermont, Ind.

without a doubt Bobby is one of the smartest people I know and probably one of the best drivers out there. He's always had a good team because he tells his guys what to do," Chaffin said.

"Last year we had three teams and he tried to run the teams and we took a step backward before we could step forward. This year, BHR has been the class of the field."

Chaffin is coming off his second career win and second victory of the season last weekend at Indianapolis Raceway Park in Clermont, Ind. Hamilton finished third in the race and took over the series points lead.

Hamilton and Chaffin have five wins between them — the most BHR has produced in a season since its inception.

"It's a tribute to Bobby. He wants to win so bad. He doesn't just want to take his sponsors' money and field a truck," Chaffin said. "He wants

to go out there and lead every lap and win every race."

Hamilton's No. 4 and Chaffin's No. 18 Dodges are produced at BHR headquarters, a 56,000-square-foot facility Hamilton had built in Mount Juliet, Tenn., where he lives.

BHR also fields a third team for 20-year-old Chase Montgomery, which is based at BHR2, located in a smaller shop in Lebanon, Tenn.

Since joining the Truck series full time Hamilton has made no secret of his desire for a series championship, for himself and his longtime truck manufacturer, Dodge.

This season, Hamilton appears to have the consistency demanded for a title run. He has seven top-five and 10 top-10 finishes in the season's first 14 races.

"Bobby will downplay it, but he's a very competitive person," Chaffin said. "He's on a roll. Every time he rolls out his truck he goes right to the top of the (speed) chart."

Hamilton's work ethic does not stop with his team. He said when he first decided to build his own program, he knew one person would be ultimately responsible for its success or failure — himself.

"I promise you there is not another owner who sits in the office, goes over all the bills, signs the checks and gets in the truck and drives it," he said.

"But I also sit down and help with travel arrangements and motel bookings and then go back to the fab shop and work with the fab guys, or sit with pencil and paper and design a chassis.

"As I say that, it sounds like a lot on a plate, but it's really not. When it's a clean plate to start with, it's not that big of a deal."

Hamilton has always had hopes his son, Bobby Jr., would one day drive for a Nextel Cup team owned by Hamilton Sr.

Hamilton Jr. earlier this month signed to join the PPI Motorsports organization and drive its No. 32 Chevrolet in the Cup beginning in 2005.

So what does the future hold for BHR? "You never know what might happen; Bobby Jr. still may need a home someday and it is here for him; it's why I started it," Hamilton Sr. said. "Right now, we're going to win races and hopefully championships and see what happens from there."

As both a driver and an owner, Bobby Hamilton wants to win



Bobby Hamilton has had three wins this season in his No. 4 Dodge.

THIS WEEK'S RACE

SIRIUS AT THE GLEN
What: 90 laps or 220.5 miles.
Where: Watkins Glen International, a 2.45-mile, 11-turn road course located in Watkins Glen, N.Y.
When: Sunday at 2 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:10 p.m. Friday.
TV: TNT.
Radio: Motor Racing Network.
Purse: \$4,615,500.
Last year's winner: Robby Gordon.
Also this week: Bobby Hamilton took over the points lead in the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series following his third-place finish last weekend at Indianapolis Raceway Park. He leads Dennis Setzer by five points entering Saturday's race at Nashville Superspeedway. (The Busch Series is off this week.)

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION
What track poses the greatest threat to shake up the top 10 going into the Chase for the Championship?

Cast your vote at: www.thatracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION
Is the format for the 10-race "Chase for the Championship" fair for Jimmie Johnson, who stands to lose a sizeable lead after 26 races?
Number of votes: 8,816

Fan opinion	No. of votes	Percent
No	5,350	61%
Yes	3,034	34%
Not sure	432	5%

STOP 'N' GO

RANDOM THOUGHTS
Inside Watkins Glen.

STANDOUTS
■ Jeff Gordon has eight career victories in 23 career road-course races, an all-time NASCAR record.

■ Ricky Rudd has 25 top-five finishes in 50 career road-course races (50 percent), more than any other driver in NASCAR road-course history.

■ Only three drivers have competed in all 18 races at the Glen since 1986: Rusty Wallace, Rudd and Michael Waltrip.

STRUGGLES
■ All drivers in the current top 10 in points except for Elliott Sadler and Kurt Busch have had one or more top 10s in their past three races at Watkins Glen. Sadler has finished 15th or worse in all five of his races while Busch has finished 12th or worse in all three of his.

■ Jeff Gordon, the winningest driver at the track with four victories, has finished 22nd or worse in three of his past four races there.

■ Kurt Busch has competed in seven career road-course races with one top-10 finish.

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of Aug. 8:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. J. Johnson (48)	3095	21. G. Biffle (16)	2174
2. J. Gordon (24)	2998	22. B. Vickers (25)	2171
3. D. Earnhardt Jr. (8)	2855	23. R. Gordon (31)	2169
4. T. Stewart (20)	2761	24. J. Burton (99)	2110
5. M. Kenseth (17)	2738	25. J. Nemechek (0)	2098
6. E. Sadler (38)	2674	26. S. Wimmer (22)	2006
7. K. Busch (97)	2615	27. W. Burton (0)	1929
8. B. Labonte (18)	2584	28. R. Rudd (21)	1924
9. K. Harvick (29)	2562	29. B. Gaughan (77)	1815
10. R. Newman (12)	2542	30. S. Riggs (10)	1745
11. K. Kayne (9)	2511	31. K. Schrader (49)	1739
12. J. Mayfield (19)	2510	32. K. Petty (45)	1726
13. D. Jarrett (88)	2487	33. R. Craven (32)	1715
14. J. McMurray (42)	2433	34. J. Green (43)	1703
15. M. Martin (6)	2419	35. J. Spencer (4)	1247
16. C. Mears (41)	2287	36. J. Sauter	2297
17. R. Wallace (2)	2274	37. D. Blaney (30)	1204
18. M. Waltrip (15)	2268	38. D. Cope (50)	889
19. S. Martin (40)	2223	39. M. Shepherd (89)	597
20. T. Labonte (5)	2208	40. K. Lepage (51)	582

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of Aug. 7:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. M. Truex Jr.	3318	11. K. Wallace	2438
2. K. Busch	3201	12. S. Compton	2415
3. J. Leffler	2944	13. T. Fedewa	2400
4. G. Biffle	2910	14. M. Waltrip	2378
5. D. Green	2871	15. C. Athwood	2352
6. R. Hornaday	2843	16. D. Stremme	2335
7. B. Hamilton Jr.	2820	17. R. Pressley	2304
8. J. Keller	2819	18. J. Sauter	2297
9. M. Bliss	2595	19. K. Kahne	2286
10. A. Lewis	2464	20. M. Wallace	2116

NEXT RACE: Aug. 21, Cabela's 250, Brooklyn, Mich.

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of Aug. 6:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. D. Setzer	1971	6. C. Chaffin	1780
2. B. Hamilton	1938	7. T. Kvapil	1749
3. C. Edwards	1826	8. R. Crawford	1670
4. T. Musgrave	1785	9. M. Skinner	1628
5. M. Craton	1783	10. J. Sprague	1628

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Toyota Tundra 200, Lebanon, Tenn.

RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

1. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): Brickyard 400 woes like a pitcher with a five-run lead serving up a solo homer. Last week: 1.

2. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): A Watkins Glen victory would be third time this year he's had back-to-back

wins. Last week: 2.

3. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): Right now he looks like the best threat to challenge Hendrick duo on title chase. Last week: 4.

4. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17): Debris that nearly wrecked Gordon's Indy run dented this team's day. Its car, too. Last week: 3.

5. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): Hard luck tire problem on last lap ruined otherwise encouraging day at

Brickyard. Last week: 5.

6. Elliott Sadler (car No. 38): Stringing the "no-respect" violin to fire up team. Needs to tread water at the Glen. Last week: 8.

7. Kurt Busch (car No. 97): Only five teams have won more than one Cup race this year. This is one of them. Last week: 7.

8. Ryan Newman (car No. 12): Rear-view mirror filling up with teams looking to bump him from top

10 in points. Last week: 6.

9. Kevin Harvick (car No. 29): Ninth in points, but not far enough ahead to start playing defense in Chase race. Last week: 11.

10. Bobby Labonte (car No. 18): Finishing 15th by dodging late-race Indy trouble may have saved day for this team. Last week: 10.

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

J. Gordon followed his dreams to Indianapolis

Jeff Gordon was about 10 years old and living in Pittsboro, Ind., when he had his racing epiphany.

"The coolest thing about racing midgets in Indiana was that it paid money to race," Gordon said. "I was just blown away that you could get \$30 if you won the feature. We'd run two classes ... and if I won them both I could get \$60 and a trophy."

After he collected another trophy — and \$518,053 — on Sunday for winning the Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Gordon couldn't precisely remember the first time he won a race in Indiana.

It would have been in a quarter-midget and sometime in 1981, Gordon said, perhaps at a track in Kokomo or at a place called Big Z. "I have no idea where Big Z is," he said.

Gordon had moved to this Midwest racing Mecca because the rules here allowed him to race bigger cars at a younger age than he'd been able to race in his native California. He quickly moved up to midgets and sprint cars and by the time he was attending high school, he was dreaming about competing against sprint-car legend Steve Kinser someday.

Gordon was driving on dirt tracks that dot the countryside in Indiana and other states in this region. Drivers who raced on pavement were almost like another species, but Gordon crossed over. He started running in U.S. Auto Club-sanctioned events, getting on ESPN and getting around other drivers dreaming about racing on the ultimate paved track, the "big track" in Indianapolis.

Back when he was 10 or so,

Gordon visited the Indianapolis Motor Speedway for the first time. He came the day after the Indianapolis 500, went to the museum in the infield and took the bus tour around the track.

The first time he came to the Brickyard during 500 week, he had bought a T-shirt that listed all of the winners of that race on the back.

"I was just a kid standing on the fence and I yelled at Rick Mears," Gordon said. "He had somebody grab the shirt and he signed it."

Gordon was reliving all of that Sunday after he'd led 124 of 161 laps to win for the fifth time this season and to win the Brickyard 400 for the fourth time in the event's 11-year history, joining Mears, A.J. Foyt and Al Unser Sr. as the only drivers to win a major race at Indy four times in their careers.

He'd parked on the yard of bricks and climbed out of his car to celebrate with his team in front of the grandstands.

Over the radio, NASCAR officials were ordering the team to get the car to

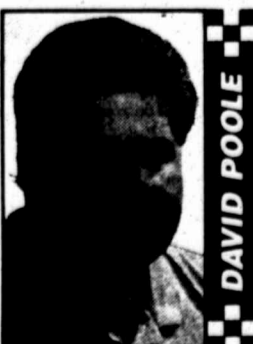
Victory Lane so sponsorship protocols could be followed. Nobody was listening, and since NASCAR has decided to make that a crusade, there could be ramifications for Gordon and his team.

"The whole time I just enjoyed the moment," Gordon said. "I didn't care. I will care when we find out what happens, but now I don't."

"I went out there because that's where I wanted to celebrate with my team."

Despite his four Brickyard wins, Gordon shunned any comparisons between himself and Mears, Foyt and Unser. But comparison are inevitable, and now a countdown has begun toward another that will only intensify as Gordon keeps winning.

Sunday's victory was the 69th of his career, leaving him seventh on NASCAR's all-time list. The driver ahead of him on that list has 76 wins. And his name is Dale Earnhardt.



DAVID POOLE