



## Moore Board votes to fund financial impact study for LAP

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The CARES Local Advisory Panel (LAP) will be able to add an economic impact analysis to its roster of studies, thanks to the Moore Development Board of Directors, which gave the go-ahead for a study some believe the CARES feasibility study has overlooked.

The board voted unanimously to finance the study, which is

expected to cost approximately \$1,000, during its Wednesday meeting.

"This (agenda) item was born out of the LAP meeting we had last week with the VA," said Kent Sharp, executive director of Moore Development. "Price Waterhouse is the overall contractor that has been hired to conduct the (feasibility) study. Price Waterhouse has contracted portions of that study out to different firms.

"An economic research firm is doing the land re-use and redevelopment portion of the study. That lady came to me and asked if we would help her gather some data and demographics their company uses to conduct that type of study. She asked me some questions about what I thought the development could do."

Sharp said that conversation led to the discovery of what he described as a probable "over-

sight."

"I asked her if they had an economic impact analysis planned, and she told me they hadn't included that in their part of the study," said Sharp. "She agreed with me that it was probably an oversight and that it probably should have been included.

"So I asked her if Big Spring were to do that, could they use that data. She told me that not only could they use that data,

they would use it in their proposal. And she seemed to concur with me that it would be pretty strong evidence in the overall study — to the impact this will have on the overall study.

"Personally, my recommendation is this is the cheapest \$1,000 this community or Moore Development could spend," said Sharp.

See **STUDY**, Page 3A



Big Spring High School Junior Raegan Ritchey, center, is loaded into an ambulance by Big Spring Fire Department paramedics Arnold Solis, left, and Chad Pederson during a community-wide emergency drill Wednesday. The drill simulated a tornado hitting the Cornell Corrections Cedar Hill Unit.

## Local emergency personnel learn from Wednesday drill

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

It's a worst case scenario.

The Cornell Corrections Cedar Hill Unit has been hit by a tornado, resulting in a hostage situation and numerous injuries. Local law enforcement and medical services are inundated with injuries and emergencies.

So why is everyone smiling?

"About this time each year we try to do a drill involving several different entities from the community," said Big Spring Police Department Lt. Terry Chamness, coordinator for the drill that took over the front lawn of the Cedar Hill Unit Wednesday morning.

"That's including Cornell Corrections for the prisons, and we try to get the hospital in it so they can take the injured people... We respond with police and fire as part of it as well.

*"When we do these drills, we try to incorporate several things that might occur or happen in the real world so we can be prepared to handle them. Like any drill, it's hard to simulate reality. We try to get as close as we can to it by using make up and all the proper procedures."*

Lt. Terry Chamness  
Big Spring Police Dept.

"It's a large community drill to get everyone together and see how it works. Are our protocols in place? And if they are, are they working the way they should be?"

"Today's scenario involves a tor-

nado that's come through the Cedar Hill facility," Chamness explained. "As a result of the tornado, we had about 20 people injured, which the fire department and Cedar Hill responded to. They had to triage the injured people, then take them to the hospital. We have to take the wounded and make sure the proper procedures are followed."

Chamness said the mock hostage situation at the prison is a first for the community drill, and should help emergency responders answer many of the "what ifs" involved in this type of emergency.

"One of the things we're doing today, that we haven't done before involves Cornell Corrections," said Chamness. "We have a hostage situation here at the Cedar Hill Unit that they are responding to as well. Of course there will be some

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## Buckle up

Big Spring police warn 'Click It or Ticket' effort offers 'zero tolerance'

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

Click It or Ticket — it's not a threat, it's a promise.

A very expensive promise.

Local and state law enforcement are cracking down on seat belt violations, part of the Click It or Ticket STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program) wave which got under way Monday, and will continue through June 5.

Lt. Terry Chamness, who has been involved with the Big Spring Police Department's STEP program for the past several years, said the state-backed effort is serious — and if you don't believe him, just try talking your way out of a seat belt ticket during the next two weeks.

"We've been participating in the STEP waves for about seven or eight years now," said Chamness. "This year, the Department of Public Safety wants to crack down on seat belt violations and try to bring the state within a 90 percent compliance rate.

"The first goal for seat belt compliance was 85 percent, but now we're wanting to go for 90 percent. The really good thing about Big Spring is we've been above that 90 percent rate for the past three years now. Unfortunately, there are still some people that just don't want to buckle up."

With fines ranging up to \$200 for seat belt violations, Chamness said area motorists will want to take the "Click It or

Ticket" message seriously.

"We're going to have two extra officers out on the road during Click It or Ticket, and they are going to be looking specifically for seat belt violations," said Chamness. "That doesn't mean they won't be looking for anything else, but they are going to be concentrating on safety belt and child restraint violations."

Chamness said a trend identified by DPS will have officers looking closer at motorists that drive pickup trucks as well.

"We're going to be specifically looking at pickups," said Chamness. "According to DPS, most seat belt violations that are reported are from trucks. That's state wide. We're also going to be looking very carefully at how children are being restrained. There are just too many children that aren't in a child car seat or wearing a safety belt."

As for talking your way out of a ticket, Chamness said save your breath.

"Police Chief (Lonnie) Smith instituted a zero-tolerance rule on seat belts years ago," said Chamness. "So excuses aren't going to do you any good. If you get caught, you're going to get a ticket. It's really that simple."

"Safety belts can save lives, not to mention help lower our health and auto insurance by reducing the severity of the injuries sustained in a traffic accident. It just makes sense to buckle up."

Texas law requires drivers and front seat passengers in all vehicles to be secured by a safety belt. Children under 17 years old must be secured

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## Coahoma, Forsan seniors graduate tonight

By STEVE REAGAN

Staff Writer

Seniors from Coahoma and Forsan high schools will receive their diplomas in graduation ceremonies tonight.

The Coahoma High School Class of 2005, led by valedictorian Eddy Corce and salutatorian Chelsea Griffin, will hold graduation at 7 p.m. tonight at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

Forsan's graduating class, featuring valedictorian Levi Johnson and salutatorian Micaela Purcell, will hold commencement at 8 p.m. tonight in the FHS gymnasium.

Following is a list of the graduating seniors from the two high schools:

### COAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2005

Adrian Abrego, Jason Barton, Kimberlee Baugus, Christopher Beck, Chad Born, Katie Boling, Tania Bradley, Isaac Brewer, Crystal Bridges, Andrew Brown, Christopher Bustamante, Kellee Christopher, Garret Cline, Christine Coker, Sarah Collom, Eddy Corce, Vickie Cortez, Benjamin Deanda III, Rebekah Dunlap, Taylor Earhart, Ashley Ellison, Esequiel Estrella, Jerod Flohr, Tyler Fowler, Rory Gammons,

Ruby Garcia, Jonathan Gomez, Brandon Gressett, Kerri Grice, Chelsea Griffin, Kevin Grove, and Carissa Gutierrez.

Magun Gutierrez, Brittany Hankins, Thomas Helmers, Krystal Herrera, Danielle Hess, Justin Hoover, Megan Jackson, Jacob Jacobs, Garren Lance Jernigan, Brandi Kilpatrick, Meagan Kothmann, Kenney Krueger, Annissa Lerma, Nicholas Maddox, Orrin Mansfield, Dustin Martin, Jamie McCrea, Stephanie McIntosh, Ginni Metcalf, Crystal Morelion, Mendy

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## Obituaries

## Marc Owen Luttrell



Marc Owen Luttrell, 69, was born April 30, 1936, in Galesburg, Ill. He died at Midland Memorial Hospital Wednesday, May 25, 2005.

He was the fifth child of Irene and Curly Luttrell, with brothers Robert and Donnie, and sisters Phyllis and Kathlyn. His sister Kathlyn Coe, and her three sons, Jeff, Gregg and Donnie still reside in Galesburg, Ill. He has one sister-in-law, Bernita Luttrell with three children, Gaye, Carrie and Don Luttrell.

He was the father of three married daughters, Kelly Overton and her husband, Randy of Coahoma; Christina McCarver and her husband, Chip of Midland; and Patricia Ditto and her husband, Joe of Coahoma; six grandchildren, Randy Overton Jr., Marc Ditto, Sarah Overton, Cody Ditto, Justin Ditto and Michael McCarver.

He retired from the U.S. Air Force after serving 24 years, from 1958 until 1982. He was a safety superintendent, serving at 11 military bases with the responsibility for more than 51 other military locations.

He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Army Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with four devices, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Short Tour Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal with one device, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with V and four devices, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with device, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal and Air Force Good Conduct Medal with five oak leaf clusters.

He owned a restaurant while stationed in Columbus, Miss. After retirement, he owned a second restaurant, "Yankee Fried Chicken" in Galesburg, Ill., and was the manager of a mobile home park in Wichita Falls.

He served as an arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau in Wichita Falls and in Midland, and served as a volunteer at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Big Spring.

He was elected three times as a member of the city council for the city of Coahoma, serving from 1992 through 1998.

He was also a member of the Air Force Association, the Air Force Sergeants Association and the Coahoma Lions Club, serving as secretary, treasurer, zone chairman, region chairman and club president.

He was a true believer in God and Jesus Christ and a current attending member of the Coahoma Church of Christ.

The funeral will be conducted by Russell Mullins of the Coahoma Church of Christ. Pallbearers will be Hubert Rowden, Billy Sullivan, Don Allen, Bruce Allen, Warren Wallace and Buddy Anderson.

Closed casket services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, May 27, 2005, at the Coahoma Church of Christ. Burial with military honors will be at the Coahoma Cemetery in Coahoma.

The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

The family suggests memorials to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 15186, Austin 78761

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

*Paid obituary*

## Aliene Shults



Aliene Shults, 68, of Big Spring died at 9:43 a.m. Wednesday, May 25, 2005, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Funeral services are 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 28, 2005, at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Darrell Hendrickson, pastor of the First Church of God, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

She was born Nov. 13, 1935, in Saint Jo to Alice and Lester Pilcher. She had been a Howard County resident since June 1, 1962. She retired from Rainbow Bakery after 20 years, and was manager of the thrift store when she retired.

She is survived by her husband, Billie Shults of Big Spring; three sons, Mike Shults, Ronald Shults and Scott Shults, all of Big Spring; one daughter, Sue McIntosh of Big Spring; mother, Alice Pilcher of Vernon; four brothers, James Pilcher and Roger Pilcher, both of Vernon, Richard Pilcher of Las Vegas and Joe Pilcher of Bossier City, La.; 13 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Lester Pilcher and one grandson, Kevin Shults.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at [www.myersandsmith.com](http://www.myersandsmith.com).

## Take note

• **THE 39TH ANNUAL SPLASH IN AND MOVIES IN THE PARK** is 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. Monday in Comanche Trail Park. The movie, "The Incredibles" will start at 8 p.m. in the Amphitheatre. Free admission to the pool and the movie.

• **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call LaWanda Hamm at 263-7827.

## Coronado Hills Apartments

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2-3 Bedroom

"Remember...you deserve the best!"

## Joe Frank Knapp

Joe Frank Knapp, 84, of Kerrville, formerly of Big Spring, died May 24, 2005, at a Kerrville hospital. Funeral services are 2 p.m. Friday, May 27, 2005, at the Kerrville Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Sam Ligon officiating. Private interment will be in Mount Olive Cemetery. Family visitation is 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. today at Kerrville Funeral Home.

He was born July 12, 1920, to Otis and Nora Knapp in Claypool, W.V. He married Ethel Corcoran June 26, 1942, in Washington DC. He served his country in the U.S. Navy from Feb. 1943 to Nov. 1945. He had been a resident of Big Spring since 1947 and retired from civil service at Webb Air Force Base.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sister, Carolyn Morris and great-grandson, Alexander Badura.

He is survived by his wife, Ethel Corcoran; son, John Knapp and wife, Melody of San Antonio; four grandchildren; sister, Mary Fachko and husband, Charles of Buffalo, N.Y.; brother, Forrest and wife, Erma Knapp of Cedar Grove, W.V.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Dietert Senior Center, 617 Jefferson, Kerrville 78028.

Arrangements are under the direction and personal care of Kerrville Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.kerrvillefuneralhome.com](http://www.kerrvillefuneralhome.com).

## John Minnick

John Minnick, 84, of Midland, former longtime Big Spring resident, died Wednesday, May 25, 2005, in a local hospital. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland.

## William E. Pounds

William E. Pounds, 76, of Big Spring died Wednesday night, May 25, 2005, at Angelo Community Hospital. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

## Police blotter

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

• **TANDI BARBEE**, 22, of 5822 Ranch Road, was arrested Wednesday on charges of public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.

• **MARIE KAUSS**, 45, of 801 W. FM 700, was arrested Wednesday on charges of public intoxication, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance.

• **RICHARD FLORES**, 51, of 1200 Wood Street, was arrested Wednesday on a Taylor County warrant and a charge of driving while license invalid.

• **MICHAEL SALAZAR**, 47, of 406 N.W. 10th Street, was arrested Wednesday on charges of driving while intoxicated and intoxicated assault.

• **DAVID KILLCREASE**, 18, of 4200 W. Highway 80, was arrested Thursday on two local warrants.

• **JASPER MCCARTNEY**, 30, of 1401 N. Highway 87, was arrested Thursday on a Kerr County warrant.

• **THEFT** was reported:  
- in the 1800 block of Gregg Street.  
- in the 900 block of Willia.

• **POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE** was reported in the 500 block of 11th Place.

• **INTOXICATED ASSAULT WITH A VEHICLE** was reported in the 200 block of Owens.

• **DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED - THIRD OR MORE OFFENSE** was reported in the 1500 block of Wood.

• **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 800 block of Lorilla.

• **ASSAULT/CLASS C** was reported in the 700 block of Aylesford.

## Sheriff's report

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

• **RICKIE DELL HAIR**, 31, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• **HEATHER ANNE ATKINSON**, 25, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

• **LATHERRO DEWYNN DARDEN**, 48, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of criminal trespass of a habitation.

• **PATRICK TERRALL KESLER**, 26, was transferred to the county jail Wednesday by the BSPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

## Bulletin board

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

## TODAY

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call 267-6479.

• Special meeting of the Big Spring Independent School District trustees to discuss personnel issues at 5:15 p.m. in the board room.

• Forsan High School graduation. Call Forsan ISD at 457-2223 for more information.

• Coahoma High School graduation in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Call Coahoma ISD at 394-4290 for more information.

## FRIDAY

• Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. Members bring their own lunch. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281 for more information.

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

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

• Big Spring High School graduation in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. Call Big Spring ISD at 264-3600 for more information.

• Spring City Senior Citizen's Center country and western dance from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. featuring Monroe Casey and the Prowlers. All area seniors are invited.

## Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department reported the following activity:

• **TRAUMA** was reported in the 700 block of Gregg Street at 10:39 a.m. Wednesday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 3700 block of Hatch at 9:22 a.m. Wednesday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **MEDICAL** was reported in the 700 block of Baylor at 12:57 p.m. Wednesday. One person was transported to SMMC.

• **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported in the 200 block of N. Owens at 10:01 p.m. Wednesday. Two people were transported to SMMC.

## Weather

Today — Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of thunderstorms. Not as warm. Some thunderstorms may produce damaging winds and large hail. Highs in the mid 70s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Tonight — Mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Friday — Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday night — Mostly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows in the upper 50s. Northeast winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.

Saturday — Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 80s. Light and variable winds becoming south 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon.

## Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 3-9-15-24-44. Bonus Ball: 26. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$5 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 8-24-26-35-36. Number matching five of five: 1. Prize per winner: \$34,578. Winning tickets sold in: Texas City. Next Cash 5 drawing: Tonight.

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

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday afternoon, in order: 9-9-1

## Holiday Hours

The Big Spring Herald office will be closed Monday, May 30, 2005 in observance of Memorial Day

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEADLINES ARE ADJUSTED AS FOLLOWS:

• Deadline for Monday's paper, Friday 3 p.m.  
• Deadline for Tuesday's paper, Friday 4 p.m.

RETAIL ADVERTISING DEADLINES ARE ADJUSTED AS FOLLOWS

• Deadline for Monday's paper, Thursday 4 p.m.  
• Deadline for Tuesday's paper, Thursday 5 p.m.

## Legis

By JIM VERTUN

Associated Press  
AUSTIN — The compensation create new doctors provide a small fits paid to in under compromise announced Wednesday designed to in care and low employers.

Revamping a pension system labor and doctors cized as too expensive in the workers had been ority for the 200 Workers' com to the system employees' hurt job. The goal is that injured w

## Craddic

By APRIL CAST

Associated Press  
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## DRILL

Continued from P

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## STUDY

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# Legislators reach deal to revamp workers' compensation

By JIM VERTUNO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — The state workers' compensation system would create new doctor networks and provide a small raise in benefits paid to injured workers under compromise legislation announced Wednesday that is designed to improve medical care and lower costs for employers.

Revamping a workers' compensation system that business, labor and doctors all had criticized as too expensive and ineffective in treating injured workers had been labeled a priority for the 2005 legislation.

Workers' compensation refers to the system meant to protect employees hurt while on the job. The goal is to make sure that injured workers receive

medical care, lost wages and, if necessary, retraining and rehabilitation, so they can work again.

Although both the House and Senate had passed their versions of the bills in March, the two sides didn't reach a compromise deal until faced with a Monday deadline for the end of the session.

"This agreement represents a major victory for everyone who has a stake in the workers' compensation system," Gov. Rick Perry said.

Texas has the third-highest workers' comp costs in the nation and the highest rate of injured employees not returning to work.

The new system, which awaits final approval and Perry's signature to become

law, will create managed-care style networks of doctors like those in commercial plans.

Sen. Todd Staples, who sponsored the Senate version of the plan, said the networks should bring more doctors into the system, providing more expertise for treating injured workers.

Doctors have been fleeing the system in recent years, frustrated by the current bureaucratic system and low reimbursement rates for treating injured workers.

Staples, R-Palestine, said the networks will provide clear coverage guidelines and that market-based rates will be more attractive to doctors.

The current system generally allows workers to pick their physician from a state-approved doctor list. Texas

business groups have lobbied for the networks, claiming that market forces will help drive down costs.

Business groups praised the new plan.

"Injured workers will get back on the job sooner and it will reduce costs for employers," said Bill Hammond, president of the Texas Business Association, the state's largest business lobby.

Labor groups, though, remain cautious of the network plan with worries that workers will lose doctor choice.

"The introduction of managed care into workers' compensation needs to be viewed not as an end, but as an experiment," said Emmett Sheppard, president of the Texas AFL-CIO. "We are not yet convinced the new

system will work."

Injured workers will see an increase in benefits by up to 12 percent. Texas currently caps benefits at \$539 a week.

The bill also revamps how the system is run. It abolishes the current Worker's Compensation Commission and replaces it with a single, appointed commissioner housed in the Texas Department of Insurance.

It also creates an Office of Injured Employee Counsel to serve as an advocate for injured workers.

The Legislature last retooled the workers' comp system in 1989.

Texas is the only state that allows companies to opt out of the workers' compensation system.

## Craddick offers terse words in response to Dewhurst

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN — Tensions erupted Wednesday as House and Senate leaders took each other to task for the slow-moving school finance negotiations.

Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick chided Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, a fellow Republican who leads the Senate, after Dewhurst said the pace of school finance negotiations needs to pick up.

Gov. Rick Perry down-

played the tensions as an expected part of any legislative session.

The 140-day session ends Monday. House and Senate members have not agreed on a new education funding system, the hallmark issue of the legislative session.

Hope that they would reach a consensus seemed to dim with each passing day.

Both sides have called Thursday the last day to reach a compromise before it becomes too late to meet various legisla-

tive deadlines and adopt a plan this session. Perry has expressed reluctance for calling a special session.

Craddick noted that the House passed its school finance plan in mid-March, while the Senate finished its version only two weeks ago.

"With that kind of timeline, tensions are running high, and it's easy to point fingers out of desperation," Craddick said.

Negotiations had been stalled as the House exchanged numbers with

the comptroller's office on an alternate business tax plan.

How businesses will pay their taxes has been the primary stumbling block among legislative tax writers, as they lumber along to compromise.

"Keep in mind, the plan the House was working from a month ago didn't balance, it shifted business taxes on to consumers and we think, at the end of the day, it needs to be revenue neutral, and not do harm," Dewhurst said.

## GRADS

Continued from Page 1A

Morgan, Joseph Olivares, Adam Padron, Zachary Phillips, Daniel Posey, and Callie Price.

Luis Ramirez, Tiffany Reid, Marty Richter, Christopher Roberts, Travis Roberts, Rebeca Rodriguez, Jose Rodriguez, Randall Rose II, Rocky Salazar Jr., Tyler Sheppard, Darrick Shiflett, Travis Simpson, Michael Smith, Harvey Stegman, Joshua Sullivan, Alicia Thurman, Michelle Villa, William Walker, Tami Wilbourn, Cory Wilson, Heather Wombwell, David Ybarra Jr., and Lauren Yeater.

**FORSAN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2005**

Burke Atkerson, Christin Ballard, Cynthia Becerra, Amber Bedwell, Haylea Belew, James Branham, Kyle Briggs, Hillary Burks, Amanda Charlton, Britt Clark, Rachel Clinton, Karissa Daniels, Sean Dunnam, Ashley Colgrove, Terrah Fryar, Casi Graves,

Daniel Hoard, Krystal Hughes, Amber Humphrey, Abby Janca, Levi Johnson, Ruth Kaelin, Karmin King, Clay Kuykendall, Melissa Marlow, John Martinez, Stephanie O'Brien, Trey Paredes, Micaela Purcell, Corey Reyna, Jerry Sims, Brandon Tant, Emilee Trammell, Stehanie Whetsel, and Brent Wood.

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

## DRILL

Continued from Page 1A

injuries from that for the medics to have to work on as well.

"When we do these drills, we try to incorporate several things that might occur or happen in the real world so we can be prepared to handle them. Like any drill, it's hard to simulate reality. We try to get as close as we can to it by using make up and all the proper procedures."

While drills like these are fairly common for law enforcement and emer-

gency response personnel, Chamness said a great deal of help came from some rather unlikely groups when it came time to get things moving.

"Beside the first responders and the hospitals, there have been a lot of people that help with this drill," said Chamness.

"Traci Lindsey (drama teacher) from Big Spring High School brought her make-up crew out here, and we started at 7 a.m. this morning on making up all these people so they look like real injuries. It's not just a tag on them saying what the injury is, it looks very real.

"Mike Ritchey (BSHS principal) got us 11 students from the high school to come out and participate. Also, RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) provided us with about 15 volunteers to play victims. There's a lot of people from the community involved — that's what it's all about."

Chamness said the expense of the drill is shared by all of the entities participating.

"The hospital is providing meals for everyone involved in the drill," said Chamness. "That's one of the ways we're

spreading the cost of the drill out among the different entities involved. When everything is all said and done, we'll critique what's going on."

So how did the community fare in the disaster?

"Once we're through and we've gathered all of the information from the drill, we'll begin looking at what we did and how we did it," said Chamness. "So far, things look really good."

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

## STUDY

Continued from Page 1A

Board member Joyce Crooker agreed, pointing out the poor attendance of the recent LAP meeting as a prime example.

"After the turnout for that last meeting was so poor, I think anything we can do to show what an effect this could have is a good idea," said Crooker.

Once completed, Sharp said the results of the analysis will be turned

over to the CARES LAP, which would then submit it to be included in the study.

In December 2002, former Veterans' Affairs Secretary Anthony Principi established the Capital Asset and Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission to provide an independent review of the draft national plan to realign the DAV's health care system. The commission suggested a feasibility study

concerning the Big Spring facility be conducted.

Principi approved the award of the contract in January to conduct the business plan studies at 18 sites, including Big Spring and Waco, identified by the CARES decision made in May of 2004.

According to information released by the VA, study recommendations — including those from stakeholders — will be reviewed by the VA Under Secretary for

Health and CARES Implementation Board, consisting of senior VA officials who will make recommendations to the secretary.

The CARES LAP recently held the first of four meetings on the subject, including a presentation on how the feasibility study is being conducted.

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

## TICKETS

Continued from Page 1A

with a safety belt or in a child safety seat, whether they are sitting in the front or back seat. A child under four years old or less than 36 inches tall must ride in a child safety seat.

A safety belt violation can result in fines ranging from \$25 to \$200, plus court costs.

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

## MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Roger Lee Evans, 63, died Saturday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Mt. Bethel Baptist Church. Burial will be at Mt. Olive Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 9:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Marc Luttrell, 69, died Wednesday. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM Friday at the Coahoma Church of Christ. Burial with Military Honors will be at Coahoma Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 5:30 until 6:30 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Aliene Shults, 68, died Wednesday. Funeral Services will be at 10:30 AM Saturday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

William E. Pounds, 76, died Wednesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.



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MAY 26 2005

## 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

## Congratulations to our area's new high school grads

A week ago, we were congratulating graduates from Howard College and SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf while noting high school were about to receive their diplomas. Today we want to offer the same encouragement to Coahoma and Forsan students who graduate tonight, and to Big Spring students, who will cross the stage on Friday.

It truly is a very special time, an exciting time. We hope you are able to celebrate this time in your life with family and friends. It's something you'll always remember. But we also encourage you to celebrate responsibly. You've gotten this far; you have a great future before you. It would be a terrible shame to see it vanish because of a stupid act like driving and drinking.

Hopefully, you've been thinking about this day for quite some time and have definite ideas as to what you want to do. Some of you will go to college miles and miles away. Others will stay at home for a year or two, taking advantage of the lower tuition and easier accessibility that a community college such as Howard College can offer. Others will opt not for a traditional college degree, but aim toward an education in technology or another specialized field. Those are all admirable choices.

If you haven't decided what to do, we'd encourage you to visit with college counselors and specialists at the Workforce Network. They can explain, for instance, which skills are in demand and what fields are "overcrowded." As for college, you can always start obtaining your basics while still deciding a field to major in.

In most cases, this is a time when you'll gain more independence. At the same time, most of you will be taking on more responsibility.

Think about what you want to do, set goals and then pursue them.

And once again, congratulations.

## ADDRESSES

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## Which is the real Cuban news?

Historic and unprecedented events are occurring in Cuba — creating cracks in the chains that have bound the Cuban people for 46 years. Yet, even in "the land of the free," we let ourselves be misguided by the manipulations of their oppressor.

It has happened before, and it is happening again. When the whole world begins to pay attention to the courageous dissidents who dare defy the Fidel Castro regime — simply by crying out for freedom and democracy — the Cuban dictator manages to divert our attention by creating his own crisis.

And every time, we fall for it — especially those of us in the news media.

This time, all the Castro-created hoopla is over Luis Posada Carriles, an alleged Cuban exile "terrorist" who was acquitted twice after having been accused by Venezuelan authorities of blowing up a Cuban jetliner in which 73 people were killed almost 30 years ago.

By comparison, the first meeting of opposition leaders allowed to take place in Castro's Cuba should be much more important. Shouldn't it?

After all, such an extraordinary event could spark the light at the end of a long and dark tunnel for more than 11 million Cubans on the Caribbean island and more than 2 million abroad.

On May 20-21, some 200 Cubans from all over the island overcame many obstacles created by the government and held the first Assembly for the Promotion of Civil Society in Cuba — an event that took years to plan and for which many dissidents have had to withstand many forms of harassment and even imprisonment.

Nevertheless, they stood together and cried for "freedom," as they held the largest and most public meeting of Cuban dissidents since Castro took power in 1959. They shouted, "Viva (long live) Bush," and, "Down with Fidel." They adopted a resolution labeling the Castro regime as "Stalinist." They listened to an audiotaped message from President Bush. In the backyard of one of the assembly's key

organizers, outside Havana, they even held Cuba's first truly free election in decades, to select the leaders of a coalition of dissident groups.

And yet in the United States, Posada Carriles was grabbing the big headlines — all because Castro, a long-established sponsor of terrorism who should have no credibility, was throwing tantrums, accusing Carriles of being a terrorist.

The Cuban dictator, who ordered his air force to blow two American civilian airplanes out of the sky in 1996, has been demanding that Carriles, who is seeking asylum in the United States, be extradited to stand trial in Venezuela, where leftist President Hugo Chavez, totally controlled by Castro, is also throwing tantrums.

Chavez wants to fry Carriles, a naturalized Venezuelan who escaped from a Venezuelan prison in 1985, when he was awaiting a hearing on an appeal by prosecutors who wanted to try him again for the jetliner bombing. The Venezuelans want to keep trying him until they convict him.

This week, Chavez went as far as to threaten to break diplomatic relations with the United States if Carriles is not extradited within 60 days. And he actually had the gall to call the Bush administration "a government that shamelessly hides and protects an international terrorist."

Of course, Cuba is well known for giving refuge to international terrorists, but that doesn't seem to faze the cynical Venezuelan president. He is obviously following marching orders from Havana at time when Havana is trying to distract world attention from Cuba's dissidents.

And yet, the regime's efforts to squash the credibility of Cuba's rising opposition may have finally backfired.

While it surprisingly allowed the dissidents to meet without the massive arrests that have preceded other planned meetings, the Castro government detained and expelled several European lawmakers and journalists who were in Cuba to attend the dissidents' rally. And when they got back to Spain, Italy, Poland, Germany and the Czech Republic, some of them called on their governments to take a tougher stand against the Castro regime.

Arnold Vaatz, a German lawmaker who was expelled from Cuba on the day the dissidents'

meeting began, reportedly charged that "with its decision to lift (diplomatic) sanctions against Cuba, the European Union has made itself the accomplice of Fidel Castro's government."

The Europeans may be a few decades behind the United States in recognizing that the only way to deal with Cuba is by getting tougher on Castro. But better late than never.

"We need to do it in spite of economic interests that might suggest a more conciliatory attitude," Gustavo Selva, an Italian government official, told reporters. "There's no negotiating over freedom."

Four months ago, the European Union had suspended the sanctions it had imposed on Cuba in June 2003 following a crackdown on dissidents. But now some Europeans are urging their governments to reconsider that decision.

It means that the hoopla over Carriles was not enough to divert world attention away from Cuban dissidents. It certainly wasn't as effective as Castro's other infamous maneuver to divert world opinion from Cuban dissidents.

In 1996, a planned meeting of another coalition of dissident organizations had to be cancelled after the regime detained about 50 of its key organizers. And to squash world outrage over the detentions, Castro did something even more barbaric. On the day the Concilio Cubano meeting was to be held, Cuban MiGs shot down two American civilian planes and killed four Cuban exiles who were helping to rescue refugees fleeing from Cuba on rafts.

Posada Carriles, the twice-acquitted CIA-trained spy currently held by U.S. authorities, may or may not be guilty of masterminding a terrorist attack. But he is certainly not more important than the daredevil dissidents who may have just changed the course of Cuban history.

Unfortunately, when we allow ourselves to be manipulated, the bigger stories get the smaller headlines.

To find out more about Miguel Perez, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).  
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## The cable saga rages on

I walk into the Radio Shack, and I am smiling. There is a long line of people trying to make returns, but I do not mind. I stand in line whistling a happy tune.

The guy in front of me, who has his arms full of D-cell batteries and a flashlight big enough to bludgeon a horse with, whirls on me. "What are you so happy about?" he asks. "You make a lot of money on the stock market or something?"

Better, I say. "Better?" he says. "What's better than that?"

My wife says I can buy a dish, I say.

The guy almost drops his batteries. "Satellite TV?" he says. "You're getting one of them?"

Yeah, I say. That's why I am grinning.

"Hey," the guy shouts to the people in the front of the line. "This lucky son-of-a-gun is buying a dish!"

Heads turn.

"Way to go!" one guy says. "You show 'em!"

"No more cable?" a woman says. "You're getting free of the cable company?"

I feel like I'm getting out of prison, I say. I feel like I have just received a pardon from the governor.

Heads up and down the line nod. Is there a more hated monopoly today than America's cable companies? Maybe I am wrong about this, but I doubt it.

Maybe where you live, the cable

company is great. Maybe it offers a large selection of stations at reasonable prices that do not continually keep going up. Maybe your cable rarely goes out. Maybe when it does and you call, you find yourself talking to courteous employees who are genuinely concerned. And maybe the cable technicians who come to your home to repair your service are highly-skilled, highly-efficient craftsmen who show up on time and do the job right the first time.

Or maybe you live in the real world.

Maybe your cable company seems to hire people only if they are on work release. Maybe when these people answer the phone they are a.) sullen, b.) unhelpful or c.) both.

Maybe your cable goes out anytime it rains ... anywhere in your time zone.

And maybe when you call in to report it, you get the same song and dance that I do.

"Nobody else has called in to report an outage," the man at the cable company always says in a bored tone.

So what? I say. The cable is out. I am reporting it.

"Yeah, well, unless enough of your neighbors report it, we can't send anybody out to check," he says. "It's the rules."

So I talked to my neighbors and asked them why they didn't call the cable company and report outages.

"Because when I do, they always tell me nobody else has reported one," one neighbor said.

"I just figure the cable is supposed to go out every few days," another said. "You mean it isn't?"

"I can never get through to the cable company to report an out-

age," a third said. "The phone is always busy. How do you get through?"

It takes me several tries, I admitted. I sometimes have to call for 10 or 20 minutes straight, redialing and redialing.

"It's not worth the time to me," she said with a shrug. "I just read a book when the cable goes out. I figure lousy cable service is a great way to improve myself."

So, naturally, I began to envy those people who had satellite dishes. I envied anyone who didn't have to deal with the cable company. The subdivision I live in wouldn't allow dishes when they were the size of tool sheds, but now they allow the small ones.

And as soon as they started appearing, I noticed that the cable companies of America began running these ads telling us how lousy the dishes are: how the picture sometimes get fuzzy when it rains, how you have to sink money into buying the dish, and how you have to buy multiple receivers if you want to watch different programs on different TV sets.

"Doesn't any of that stuff bother you?" a guy ahead of me in line asks.

Maybe it will, maybe it won't, I say. But right now, I figure I'll take the devil I don't know over the devil I do.

The people in line cheer.

To find out more about Roger Simon and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).  
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MIGUEL PEREZ



ROGER SIMON

## Dogs

By CHRISTINE (KRT)

SEATTLE something you often in the Ki Wash., court Juvenile

Center: people into smiles an out eagerly for members Prosecutor's C into the room.

That's what when two trained servic Jeeter, a moon Ellie, a full cruise the h waiting room courtroom or victims during be a traumatic process.

The two hav of drug-court ceremonies, t the tension in corridors courtrooms, a scores of children ta prosecutors, ir and investiga what had ha them.

"They just time go by eas 15-year-old w Jeeter and Ell days at Drug C

"They've tot difference," s Deines, coord King Coun Juvenile Judg Clark.

"These dogs you can see melt. The comforting an They don't wa from you and have to worry think."

Five months a 2-year-old retriever mix the nonprof Companions



BSSH Denim Diamonds G

Denim and Gala Barbecue Dance to bene Spring State set to begin a June 3 at 60 and 606 Mathe

The event is Stacy and M Vicki and E Leslie Elrod Kay and McLaughlin.

Music will b by Full H Sulphur Draw.

The 2005 gal are Stacy and Doris Hull Volunteer council offi Huibregtse, w chairman, Stephenson, Robin Hallma and Lexeen W chairman.

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For more i call 268-7536 or

Colorado City Juneteenth c

Vendors ar wanted for th City celebration se 18, at Ruddick Booth rental and vendors i their own mat

Prospective may fill out adjacent to th

The deadline

# Dogs comfort kids in court

By CHRISTINE CLARRIDGE  
(KRT)

SEATTLE — Here's something you don't see often in the King County, Wash., courthouse or Juvenile Detention Center: people breaking into smiles and reaching out eagerly for hugs when members of the Prosecutor's Office walk into the room.

That's what happens when two specially-trained service dogs — Jeeter, a moonlighter, and Ellie, a full-timer — cruise the hallways or waiting rooms, enter a courtroom or visit with victims during what can be a traumatic interview process.

The two have been part of drug-court graduation ceremonies, have eased the tension in dozens of corridors and courtrooms, and helped scores of victimized children talk with prosecutors, interviewers and investigators about what had happened to them.

"They just make the time go by easier," said a 15-year-old who knows Jeeter and Ellie from his days at Drug Court.

"They've totally made a difference," said Elaine Deines, coordinator for King County Chief Juvenile Judge Patricia Clark.

"These dogs walk in and you can see everybody melt. They're so comforting and accepting. They don't want anything from you and you don't have to worry what they think."

Five months ago, Ellie, a 2-year-old Labrador-retriever mix trained by the nonprofit Canine Companions for

Independence, became one of the nation's first service dogs to be officially matched with a prosecutor's office or any other governmental agency.

Ellie's placement in December was inspired by the success of Jeeter, the 3-year-old companion of a prosecutor's family member, who began to make weekly but unofficial courthouse visits nearly two years ago.

Two young victims wrote a book about Ellie. Jeeter has been allowed in a courtroom during a trial when two young twin girls refused to testify without his presence.

"It's hard to explain," said the twins' mother. "He just had a tenderness about him that helped them find the strength they needed to tell the story they couldn't."

"While we were waiting in the hall to testify, he approached the girls and places his head on their laps. He knew they needed him then."

Page Ulrey, a Special Assault Unit prosecutor who gives Ellie a home and is one of her co-handlers at work, said, "Ellie and Jeeter are really just about unconditional love."

Ellie's duties include nuzzling, cuddling, doing tricks, looking kind and lovingly placing her head on the laps of little ones.

"It can be very, very hard to come in here and talk about what happened," said Christine Liebsack, the child interviewer with the prosecutor's Special Assault Unit who uses the dogs most in her work.

"There are definitely kids who do not want to be here, and the dogs can help to break the ice or minimize the trauma," Liebsack said. "It makes me feel good when I can tell Ellie's providing some emotional comfort for them that I can't."

The program started nearly two years ago when Ellen O'Neill-Stephens, a deputy prosecutor, brought her son's service dog to the Juvenile Detention Center and the Drug Court where she was working.

Jeeter, who, like Ellie, is a Labrador-retriever mix trained by Canine Companions for Independence, was such a natural at befriending the young and the troubled that word of his abilities spread.

Last fall, a prosecutor asked for Jeeter's help with the 8-year-old twins who were hesitant to testify in a sex-abuse case, and the success of that story led O'Neill-Stephens to lobby for the dog's formal placement with the Prosecutor's Office to help victims.

Around the same time, O'Neill-Stephens learned Ulrey was looking for a dog of her own. The two of them, and Liebsack, researched, lobbied, then began the lengthy dog-companion-training process for Ellie.

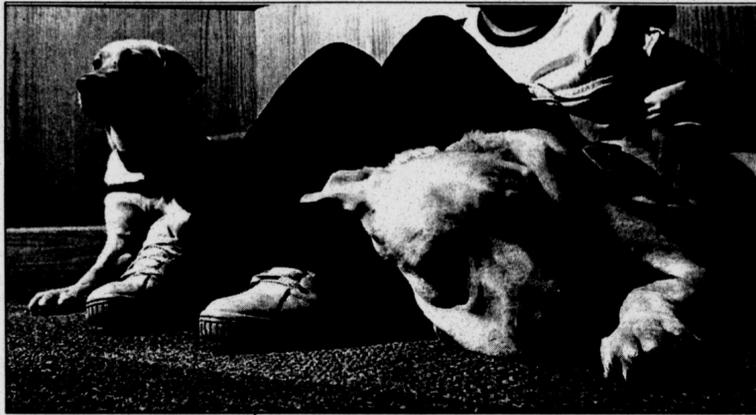
The idea was a hard sell at first to the bosses at the Prosecutor's Office and at Canine Companions for Independence, where staff members feared their dogs' special skills would be underused.

But the success stories, and the love, are hard to argue with.

The mother of the twin



Jeeter approaches the bench, along with deputy prosecutor Ellen O'Neill-Stephens. Jeeter, who is the service dog for O'Neill-Stephens' son, began to make weekly but unofficial courthouse visits nearly two years ago.



Jeeter (right) and Ellie cuddle with a 15-year-old boy who had testified in court. Prosecutors in King County, Wash., use the two specially-trained service dogs to help reduce the anxiety of children who talk to investigators or testify.

girls who needed Jeeter's help to testify said the dog was so important in their lives that they decided to raise a service dog for someone else.

"What he gave us is priceless," she said. In an article in a

Children's Response Center newsletter, King County Prosecuting Attorney Norm Maleng talks about his initial reluctance to "hire" a dog.

"When I was a boy on the farm, our dogs lived

in the barn. I could never imagine taking a dog into a courthouse," Maleng is quoted as saying.

"Now after meeting Ellie and Ellen's dog Jeeter, I think that no Prosecutor's Office is complete without one."

## Briefly

### BSSH Denim and Diamonds Gala set

Denim and Diamonds Gala Barbecue and Street Dance to benefit the Big Spring State Hospital is set to begin at 6:30 p.m. June 3 at 600 Mathews and 606 Mathews.

The event is hosted by Stacy and Mark Barr, Vicki and Eddie Cole, Leslie Elrod and Mary Kay and Scott McLaughlin.

Music will be provided by Full House and Sulphur Draw.

The 2005 gala chairmen are Stacy and Mark Barr and Doris Huijbregtse.

Volunteer services council officers are Huijbregtse, who serves as chairman, Ruth Stephenson, secretary, Robin Hallman, treasurer and Lexeen Weaver, past chairman.

Volunteer services board members are Shirley Bodin, Lane Bond, Jo Beth Corwin, Tommy Corwin, Javier Flores, Lucy Griffith, Betty Lee, Flynn Long, Suzanne Markwell, Lyndel Moody, Dorothy Sheppard, Murlene Williams and Cyneather Woodruff.

For more information, call 268-7536 or 268-7535.

### Colorado City sets Juneteenth celebration

Vendors and talent are wanted for the Colorado City Juneteenth celebration set for June 18, at Ruddick Park.

Booth rental fee is \$30 and vendors must bring their own materials.

Prospective vendors may fill out the form adjacent to this article. The deadline is June 10.

No two vendors will be allowed to sell the same items.

Vendors may start selling at 11 a.m. June 18 and continue until 7 p.m.

The festival will begin with a parade in downtown Colorado City led by the Buffalo Soldiers.

The parade will end at the park in time for opening ceremonies.

Juneteenth is celebrated each June to commemorate the date in 1865 in which slaves were freed in Texas.

For more information on participating in the parade or for vendor space, contact Russell Banks at 432-728-8624 or James Green at 432-728-9298.

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from all area churches and clubs for publication in the Friday edition. Church News must not be written in first person

and is due by noon Wednesday. Call 263-7331 or submit articles to life@bigspringherald.com.

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**Americot 427R \$18/bag plus Tech Fees**  
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**Americot 262R \$35/bag plus Tech Fees**  
This new RR mid-season picker cotton has an excellent yield potential and adaptability. Plant height is 35 inches under irrigation. Americot 262R is a semi-smooth variety. Fiber traits are: micronaire 4.0 to 4.9, strength 28 to 31g/tex, length 35 to 37 staple, uniformity 82 to 84.

**Conventional Varieties**

**Americot 4207 \$18/bag per bag**  
Americot 4207 is the conventional version of Americot 427R. Agronomic and fiber traits are similar.

**Americot 8120 \$18/bag per bag**  
Americot 8120 is the conventional version of Americot 821R. Agronomic and fiber traits are similar. Americot 8120 has demonstrated exceptional dry land performance over the past three years

**Americot 1621 \$16/bag per bag**  
Americot 1621 is a mid-season picker variety with excellent yield potential and stability.

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# Hungry Isuzu dealers, good warranty whet appetite for Ascender

By STEVEN COLE SMITH  
The Orlando Sentinel

Exactly what went wrong with Isuzu is difficult to understand, even more difficult to explain. Not that long ago the company had a moderately complete lineup of cars, SUVs, pickup trucks, even a minivan. Then Isuzu dumped everything but SUVs, marketing the Rodeo, Axiom and Trooper.

Now that trio is gone, leaving Isuzu dealers with just one vehicle to sell for 2005: the Ascender. Which is not really an Isuzu. It's a version of the Ohio-built Chevrolet TrailBlazer, as is the GMC Envoy, Buick Rainier, Oldsmobile Bravada and Saab 9-7X. This summer, Isuzu dealers will, at least, get a pickup truck to sell, the i-280 and i-350, versions of the Chevrolet Colorado.

This alliance between Isuzu, one of Japan's oldest manufacturers, and General Motors began in 1972, when GM began selling Isuzu pickups as Chevy Luvs. It peaked in 1999, when GM, already part owner of Isuzu, raised its equity share to 49 percent. Then, it was assumed that Isuzu would play a big part in the development of the Chevy Colorado. It didn't. GM's share of Isuzu is now 12 percent.

Back in Japan, Isuzu is concentrating on what it knows best: mid- and heavy-duty trucks with diesel engines. Isuzu has been building diesels since 1936. It's a bit confounding that GM hasn't been able to take more and better advantage of that expertise and production capacity beyond the Duramax-truck diesels, in the way that Jeep is using European-built diesels in its Liberty.

Whatever. Isuzu must be content with its diminished presence in the United States because the company will never again challenge Toyota, Honda and Nissan. Likely we'll

eventually get Isuzu-built Isuzus, but for now, they are GMs.

Which is not a bad thing. The Ascender is a good vehicle, made more attractive with an Isuzu badge by two factors: a seven-year, 75,000-mile powertrain warranty, and the willingness of the hungry Isuzu dealers to deal. On Isuzu's Web site, the company lists the five-passenger Ascender as starting at \$25,959, but costing \$19,209 after discounts. The extended seven-passenger model tested starts at \$28,569, ends up at \$21,819.

The test model was a four-wheel-drive, seven-passenger Ascender that, with options such as leather upholstery and a 5.3-liter, 300-horsepower V-8 engine, listed for \$38,770. Personally, I prefer the look and performance of the five-passenger Ascender — or any of the GM sport utes from this extended family — but if you need that third-row seat, this is the way to go. Even so, the extra length and weight in the



The 2005 Isuzu Ascender

rear make it feel tail-heavy on sharp corners.

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IN B

C.G.A. set scholarship

The C.G.A. Association announced annual golf tournament take place June 11, Sunday, Ju Big Spring Club (Sat Comanche (Sunday).

The tournament be a two your partner and costs \$ son. Proceed used to help high school college.

Players c mulligans Saturday a for \$5 each be free fo players an closest to four differe For mor tion, cont Mendoza at Billy Pine 7116.

B.S. Coum announces child tour

The Bi Country Cl a parent-tournament through Ju There wi phy divis open divis two persor There will gun start b the tourna begin at Saturday a Sunday.

The entry for the trop and \$30 fo division pl of a golf c carts are w The age in the trop is 5-11, 12-1 For mor tion, call 26

Bubba Fra scheduled

The four Big Spring Bubba Fr tournament place Satu 18, at the Country Cl The tourr start at 8 a. be a four-pe ble. The co person includes a lunch and For mor tion, con Piercefield or 816-113 Sparks at 24

Pitching cl for early Ju

Terri Mc conduct a clinic at t Ezell Softba Midland Ju There a time slots a For mor tion, conta Ezell at 432.

Mugs' ann game guar

toumey an Mugs wi annual el guarantee s nament Ju the Fred Softball Co entry fee is For mor tion, conta Ezell at 432 Debbie Fra 522-2612.

## IN BRIEF

### C.G.A. sets annual scholarship tourney

The Chicano Golf Association has announced its 15th annual scholarship golf tournament will take place Saturday, June 11, through Sunday, June 12, at the Big Spring Country Club (Saturday) and Comanche Trail Park (Sunday).

The tournament will be a two person pick your partner scramble and costs \$75 per person. Proceeds will be used to help send local high school students to college.

Players can purchase mulligans both Saturday and Sunday for \$5 each. There will be free food for the players and prizes for closest to the pin on four different holes.

For more information, contact Willie Mendoza at 267-7977 or Billy Pineda at 264-7116.

### B.S. Country Club announces parent-child tournament

The Big Spring Country Club will host a parent-child golf tournament June 4 through June 5.

There will be a trophy division and an open division for the two person scramble. There will be a shotgun start both days as the tournament will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday and at 1 p.m. Sunday.

The entry fee is \$80 for the trophy division and \$30 for the open division plus the cost of a golf cart (private carts are welcome).

The age breakdown in the trophy division is 5-11, 12-15 and 16-18.

For more information, call 267-5354.

### Bubba Franks Invite scheduled for June

The fourth annual Big Spring High School Bubba Franks golf tournament will take place Saturday, June 18, at the Big Spring Country Club.

The tournament will start at 8 a.m. and will be a four-person scramble. The cost is \$60 per person and that includes a hamburger lunch and a golf cart.

For more information, contact Gene Piercefield at 267-4205 or 816-1134 or John Sparks at 263-8527.

### Pitching clinic set for early June

Terri McClure will conduct a pitching clinic at the Freddie Ezell Softball Clinic in Midland June 7-9.

There are limited time slots available.

For more information, contact Freddie Ezell at 432-694-5508.

### Mugs' annual eight game guarantee

Mugs will host its annual eight games guarantee softball tournament June 10-12 at the Freddie Ezell Softball Complex. The entry fee is \$450.

For more information, contact Freddie Ezell at 432-694-5508 or Debbie Franklin at 432-522-2612.

## Big Spring meets 'friendly' rival for chance at Austin

• Lady Steers take on Andrews in Midland tonight at Mugs Field

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

It doesn't get any better than this if you're a fan of West Texas softball.

One game between two perennial powerhouses to decide the Region 1 state qualifier.

That is what is on the line tonight for No. 3 Big Spring and Andrews as the arch rivals reunite for the third time this season in Midland at the Freddie Ezell Softball Complex (Mugs Field) for the regional final. The first pitch is scheduled for 8 p.m.

"The girls are totally focused right now," said Big Spring coach Phillip Pearce. "We've had a good week of practice."

The Lady Steers will be introduced to unfamiliar ground, though, as tonight marks the first time Big Spring will play

in a regional final match. Andrews lost to Crowley last year in the regional final and has gone to state just once in its program's history as they played in Austin in 1997.

The matchup tonight has another first, as well. It will be the first time since the UIL started Class 4A that two teams from West Texas will meet in the regional final.

The two district rivals met twice this year during District 4-4A action and the Lady Steers won both games by the same score of 1-0. Both runs which Big Spring scored were unearned.

The pitcher matchup is not yet known at this time. Alex Watkins will most likely start for Big Spring and Kendra Corbin is likely to start on the hill for Andrews. However, Chelsea Abner of Big Spring and Charli Mitchell of Andrews (24-7) are two other possibilities.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde  
The Big Spring softball team poses with its regional semifinal trophy after the Lady Steers defeated Cleburne in Abilene last Friday. Big Spring and rival Andrews meet tonight in Midland for a chance to play at the state tournament in June.

Watkins is 17-1 this year and has won 17 straight decisions after losing to Odessa Permian in the team's first game of the year. She has allowed just one run in three postseason games this year. Abner is 10-1 this year, but has not pitched since the district season.

"Our pitchers are going to have to keep Andrews off-balance tonight," said Pearce. "We must keep them guessing on what we are going to throw. If they see what we are throwing then they'll hit the ball."

"Kendra throws fairly hard, but she is not the

hardest thrower we have seen this year. We need to be able to hit the pitch she likes to throw away from us."

The Lady Steers enter the contest with a 27-2 record and have won 21 straight games since losing to White Settlement Brewer earlier this season.

Pearce took over as head coach after the ninth game and is 20-0 since that point.

"We have to hit the ball and be error-free in the field," said Pearce. "Its going to be a great game though and the stands should be packed."

## Track stars sign with South Plains

• Tuitt, Vanderbilt further athletic careers together

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

It took a little persuading, but in the end Big Spring senior Cycelye Tuitt got her wish.

She wanted her friend and fellow track teammate Amisha Vanderbilt to accompany her to South Plains on a track scholarship. Vanderbilt, after nearly deciding against the decision, decided to sign on the dotted line as both soon to be graduates inked track scholarships Wednesday at the Athletic Training Center.

"We didn't plan on going to the same school," said Vanderbilt. "I was thinking about just going to Midland College, but then Cycelye told me she was going so I decided to go with her."

Tuitt added, "I tried to persuade her to go there because we grew up together and were close friends and I just knew she didn't want to stop competing."

Vanderbilt would have had to stop competing at Midland College because they do not have a track program.

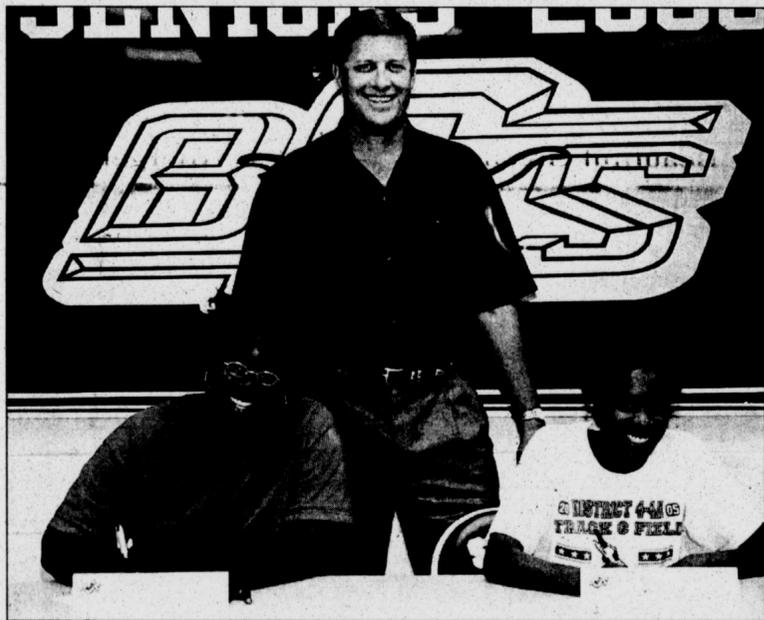
Vanderbilt plans on competing in the shot put, discus and javelin at South Plains next year. She advanced to the regional meet this year in both the shot put and discus. She also participated in her first-ever state meet earlier this month as she finished sixth in the discus.

"I knew I could compete in college once I made it out of regionals," said Vanderbilt. "This lets me know that I can do things I didn't think I can do and do things I really didn't want to do."

Kennedy said that getting to state sealed the deal for Vanderbilt.

"She got noticed a lot at the state meet," he said.

The shot put is her favorite event and Vanderbilt didn't even originally want to com-



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde  
Senior Amisha Vanderbilt, left, and Cycelye Tuitt, right, enjoy a laugh during their signing of track scholarships Wednesday at the Athletic Training Center. Big Spring track coach Jay Kennedy, center, was also present for the signing. Tuitt and Vanderbilt will further their athletic careers together as both will attend South Plains next year.

pete in the discus, but Big Spring coach Jay Kennedy told her she had to.

"Sometimes you have to do things you don't want to do, but it was a good thing in the end," said Vanderbilt.

Tuitt, who turned down a scholarship offer from McMurry University in Abilene, will compete in the high jump, long jump and triple jump for sure and also thinks that she will do some running events, too.

"I wanted to perform track in college during last season, but I knew it was possible for me this season," said Tuitt.

Both athletes have work to do if they want to become the top person in their events next year. Tuitt must battle October Wells, an incoming freshman from Snyder, in most of her events and Vanderbilt must compete against two athletes who will be sophomores next year.

Kennedy thinks both Vanderbilt and Tuitt are ready to compete right now.

"They will be able to

concentrate solely on track and that should help them improve a bunch," he said.

Tuitt chose South Plains over McMurry because of its nursing school, the class sizes and because it is a regional creditor. Vanderbilt just wants to get out of town.

"Having Cycelye there with me played a big part, but I really just wanted to get out of Big Spring," said Vanderbilt.

Kennedy said going to the same school will help Vanderbilt and Tuitt make the transition to college.

"You have a support group already in place," said Kennedy. "The girls get along real well and I truly believe they will succeed and graduate and getting that degree, to me, is the most important thing."

"I feel personally like these are my girls. It is a chance for them to better themselves and I am excited for them and for the program at Big Spring because now we can use these girls as examples to other athletes."

Tuitt's goals for next

year are to surpass 5-8 in the high jump, 19-0 in the long jump and 40-0 in the triple jump. She jumped 5-5, 17-9 and 36-0 this year, respectively. She also competed in several sprinting events on the track this year, but is unsure of what South Plains wants her to do as far as running goes.

"Cycelye got better with her running as the season went on," said Kennedy. "The biggest thing for her right now is confidence. She had a really bad hamstring injury during her sophomore year and was afraid to really let go in her junior season. She kind of got over that this year and that is why she improved her running I think."

Vanderbilt hopes to eclipse 45-0 in the shot put and 130-0 in the discus next year. Her best throws this year were 37-9 and 123-0, respectively. She did not throw the javelin in high school.

Tuitt plans to major in nursing and attend Texas Tech after two years at South Plains. Vanderbilt wants to be a medical assistant.

## Bulldogettes seek return trip to Austin

• Same keys, lineup for Coahoma against Class 2A's Jim Ned

By TROY HYDE  
Sports Editor

No changes are expected to occur this week for the Coahoma softball team as the Bulldogettes try to earn a return trip to the state tournament in Austin.

To clinch a berth to state, Coahoma (24-11) must defeat Jim Ned (17-3) in a best-of-three regional final playoff series starting Friday in Snyder at noon. The second game of the series will take place at 5 p.m. Saturday and then a third game, if needed, will be played 30 minutes after Game 2.

"I feel comfortable about the situation," said Coahoma coach Robby Dickenson. "If we play our game and hit the ball like I know we can then I think we'll be fine. I also think we will have the advantage if the series goes to three games because we have won two straight Game 3s."

Dickenson said the keys for his club to advance to state are simple.

"We have to make them earn everything they get, meaning we can't make any mistakes in the field," he said. "We also need to hit the ball hard, put the ball in play and force them to make mistakes. I don't think they play defense much because their pitching is the team's strength."

Another key for Coahoma will be junior hurler Kali Roberts, who enters the game with a 16-5 overall record, but has only lost to two Class 2A teams this year (both times in the postseason). She lost to Hawley two weekends ago 1-0 in 13 innings and then lost more recently to Holliday, 3-2, in 12 innings.

"I don't think Jim Ned has seen anyone like Kali before," said Dickenson. "I don't think many teams in Class 2A have for that matter. Jim Ned gets timely hits at the plate and are very scrappy. They are also a lot like Holliday in that they are athletic."

The winner of the series advances to the state tournament in Austin, which will take place June 2-4.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde  
Coahoma junior Kall Roberts tosses a pitch to a batter from Crane during the area championship played in Midland earlier this month. The Bulldogettes take on Jim Ned in the Regional Final Friday and Saturday.

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**PALACIOS  
ROOFING & HOME  
IMPROVEMENT**  
Roofs, Room Additions,  
Ceramic Tile, Fences,  
Painting Insured & Bonded  
Home Phone#  
**432-263-5430**  
Cell#  
**432-213-0363**

**STORAGE**

**AAA  
Mini-Storage**  
1st 1/2 Month  
Rent FREE  
10x25 Unit  
For All Your Storage Needs  
Large Or Small, We Store It All!!!  
3301 E. FM 700 263-0732

**WEB PRINTING**

For Information  
On Web Printing  
Call  
**Tony Hernandez**  
**263-7331**  
**BIG SPRING HERALD**

**TREE TRIMMING**

**LUPE'S TREE  
TRIMMING**  
More than 20 years  
of experience. Stump  
grinder available.  
For Tree Trimming  
and removal.  
Call Lupe  
**432-267-8317**  
**432-268-6406**

Big Spring  
Thursday, M

Help W

ADVERTISING  
REPRESENTATIVE

The Big Spring Herald is a go-getter in our retail market. If you like people with experience (news plus), are a team player, dependable, organized, pay a fair price, are creative, make money, write to you.

We offer an excellent benefit plan, count list, benefits, mileage, and commission.

Apply at 710 Scurry

Resume to:  
Susanne  
P.O. Box  
Big Spring, TX  
or fax  
(432)264-  
email  
advertising@  
herald.com

**BUSY OFFICE**

office clerk, 40 hrs/week, requires Saturday work. Ten-key by touch and other basic computer skills. Sired (filing, copy, professional telephone necessary. Salary on experience. Please fill out an application at Blue Bell Creamery, 401 East I-20, Big Spring, Texas.

**College Student**

**SUMMER GREAT PAY**, Sales/service, 10 hrs/week in Big Spring, Midland, etc. All ages 17+ (432)267-6006.

**COME JOIN OUR**

Comanche Trail, is accepting for a Activity Director Alzheimer Unit & for position. Benefits paid vacation, 40 hours/week. Please call son at 3200 Spring, TX 79720. **DQ'S** in Big Spring 1506 East 4th & need counter help. enclosed cooks. Ap these locations. calls.

**EVENING KIT**

Monday-Saturday. Experience not required. Good work & personal growth. Apply in person at Red Mesa, 2401 G

**WAREHOUSE/**

Wanted for local area. Benefits include retirement & health insurance. Requirements are check, drug screening record and 21 years old. Apply at Credit World, 161

Customer

StarTek full-time

StarTek

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insurance

paid holiday

Or call

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Help Wanted

**ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE**  
The Big Spring Herald is looking for a go-getter to sell advertising in our retail department. If you like people, have sales experience (newspaper sales a plus), are a team player, have dependable transportation, are organized, pay attention to details, are creative, and like to make money, we want to talk to you.

We offer an established account list, benefits, paid vacation, mileage reimbursement, and commission.  
Apply at 710 Scurry, or send resume to:  
Susanne Reed  
P.O. Box 1431  
Big Spring, TX 79721  
or fax:  
(432)264-7205  
email to:  
advertising@bigspringherald.com

**BUSY OFFICE** needs full-time office clerk, 40 hours a week, requires Saturday work. Ten-key by touch, Excel, Word, and other basic office skills desired (filing, copying, etc.). Professional telephone skills are necessary. Salary will depend on experience.

Please fill out an application at Blue Bell Creameries  
401 East I-20  
Big Spring, Texas 79720

College Students/ HS Grads SUMMER WORK

**GREAT PAY**, Flex. hours Sales/service, No exp. nec. Work in Big Spring, apply in Midland, conditions apply All ages 17+ (432)699-6782

COME JOIN OUR TEAM!

Comanche Trail Nursing Center, is accepting applications for a Activity Director for the Alzheimer Unit & full-time Janitor position. Benefits include: paid vacation, 401K, health insurance. Please apply in person at 3200 Parkway, Big Spring, TX 79720.

**DQ'S** in Big Spring located at 1506 East 4th & Lamesa Drive, need counter help and experienced cooks. Apply at one of these locations. No phone calls.

**EVENING KITCHEN Help**  
Monday-Saturday  
Experience not required.  
Good work history & personal references.  
Apply in person,  
Red Mesa Grill  
2401 Gregg

**WAREHOUSE/ DELIVERY**  
Wanted for local Rental Store. Benefits include paid vacation, retirement & health insurance. Requirements are back ground check, drug screening, good driving record and be at least 21 years old. Apply in person, Credit World, 1611 Gregg.

Help Wanted

**FIELD SERVICE TECHNICIAN**  
Would prefer experience maintaining soft drink machines and related vending equipment. Knowledge of Basic Electronics and Refrigeration certification plus. Must have some hand tools and clean driving record. Full-time, minimum of 40 hours per week. Company offers comprehensive benefit program, including group health, profit sharing, 401k, short/long term disability, etc. Starting pay commensurate with experience. Please apply at:  
**Ab-Tex Beverage Ltd.**  
3611 Hwy 87 North  
Big Spring, Tx 79720  
EEO/AA Employer

**FULL-TIME OUTREACH** Coordinator needed for local service agency to work with all age groups. 40 Hours a week, benefits, local travel required. Must have dependable transportation, outgoing personality and be self-motivated. Salary plus travel reimbursement, background check required. Send resume c/o: P.O. Box 1431-102, Big Spring, Texas 79721.

GREAT PAY!

**Good Benefits!**  
A Great Career Opportunity. Now Hiring Drivers for: Pump Trucks, Transports, Mechanic, Vacuum Trucks. Requirements: Valid CDL, 21 years of age, Clean MVR. Must pass drug screen. No experience necessary. Call 432-756-2875. Apply in person at Key Energy, West I-20, South Service Road, Stanton, TX.

**IMMEDIATE OPENING** for Full-time and Part-time clerk/cashier/cook. Apply at 3315 E. FM 700, Neighbors Convenience Store.

**MERCHANDISING POSITION** open in Big Spring for local Distributing Company. Call (432)213-3864 for application and appointment.

**NEED A** experienced detail person & mechanic's helper. Good clean driving record. Apply in person, 1300 East 4th. No Phones Call Please!

**NEED IMMEDIATELY** R.N. or L.V.N. for hourly pediatric case in Big Spring. Please apply in person at Complete Home Health Care, 2402 W. Wall, Midland, Tx.

NIGHT FREIGHT DELIVERY DRIVER NEEDED

Fortune 500 company has driver position available part time or possible full time. Must have Class A/CDL. Excellent pay. Please fax resume to Kassie at (972)285-8488 or call (972)288-7614 for more details.

Help Wanted

**PIZZA INN** accepting applications for qualified people to join our Management Team. Looking for individual with management and food experience. Apply in person with resume, 1702 Gregg Street.

**SALESPERSON NEEDED.** Experience preferred, but not a must. Looking for aggressive, dedicated salesperson for automotive sales. Contact Randy Gee @ Bob Brock Ford, Lincoln, Mercury & Nissan, 500 West 4th.

**SWEETWATER REPORTER** seeking experienced Composing Room Forman. Must have experience with Mac computers and familiar with Quark, Photoshop and other creative graphic programs. Creativity a plus. Management experience helpful, but not required. Send resume to: Sweetwater Reporter, P.O. Box 750, Sweetwater, Texas 79556.

**WANTED OILFIELD Supply/** Sub Surface pump salesman. Salary D.O.E.. Full benefits. Send resume to P.O. Box 2234, Big Spring, Tx 79721.



WELL SERVICE

Vacuum Truck Drivers needed. Top pay and benefits. Contact Matt at (432)664-2321.

**WORKING KNOWLEDGE** of mfg and machinery a plus. Benefit package includes medical, life insurance and paid vacation. American Limestone Co., 2515 Apron Drive, Big Spring.

Items for Sale



**1998 JAYCO Eagle Model #263RKS** 5th wheel travel trailer. Very clean. 29' Rear kitchen super slide, queen bed. Lots of storage. \$10,500.00. Call (432)263-8987.

Miscellaneous

**CAKES:** Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarios. 10% Discount on Arches, Candelabras, florals w/cake order. Grishams (432)267-8191.

**ORLANDO DISNEY Area!** 7 days family vacation (good for one year). Paid \$600. Sell for \$199.!! (432)499-0132.

Mobile Homes

**2001 PALM Harbor Double Wide 58x28;** 4 Bedroom, 2 bath; on 1/2 acre in Coahoma ISD. Midway area; assumable loan. By appointment (432)816-9549.

Pets

**GERMAN SHORT** haired Pointer puppies. \$300. & \$350. Call (432)264-0961.

Real Estate for Rent

**1104 NOLAN** Rear, 2 Bedroom, 1 bath. No pets. Call (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

BEAUTIFUL LARGE

One bedroom Apts. Private patios Large swimming pool 24 hr. laundry facility Move-in \$199.00 plus deposit Coronado Hills Apartments 801 W. Marcy Big Spring, Tx. 79720 (432)267-6500

**FOR RENT** large 1 bedroom, 1503 Scurry. All bills paid. \$375. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)264-6611.

Real Estate for Rent

**LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLEX**  
Swimming Pool  
Carports,  
Most Utilities Paid,  
Senior Citizen Discounts,  
1 & 2 Bedrooms & 1 or 2 Baths  
Unfurnished  
**KENTWOOD APARTMENTS**  
1904 East 25th Street  
267-5444  
263-5000

**102 WEST 13TH.** Between Main & Scurry. Newley Remodeled 1 Bedroom, 1 bath, carport. Washer connections. \$275. month, \$150. deposit. Call Pierce Group at (432)264-6611.

**1402 HARDING.** 3 Bedroom, 2 bath. CH/A, carport, washer, dryer, stove & refrigerator. HUD accepted. \$450.00 Month \$250.00 deposit. Call (432)267-2177, 270-4349.

**1404 Stadium,** 3 bedroom, one bath, CH/A. \$400. month, \$200. deposit. **446-A Armstrong,** 4 bedroom, 1 bath, 4435. month, \$150. deposit. Water & gas paid. Call (432)263-1792, 213-4787.

**1418 Stadium,** 3 bedroom, 1 bath; \$335. month, \$150. deposit. **2002 Johnson.** 3 bedroom, 1 bath. \$335. month, \$200. deposit. Call (432)263-1792, 213-4787.

**1809 Johnson-** 2/1 bath, washer, dryer connections, new paint & carpet. \$525. month, \$275. deposit No HUD. Call (432)267-2296.

**2 BEDROOM,** 2 bath, fenced yard. No pets. Call (432)263-7259.

**2001 JOHNSON.** Newly remodeled, 2 Bedroom 1 bath. Garage, fenced yard and refrigerated air. \$365.00 month \$295.00 deposit. Call (432)263-8005 or 816-1330.

**3 Bedroom,** 2 bath Trailer in Coahoma ISD. \$375. month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

**3912 Parkway,** 3 bedroom, 1 bath. New Central A/C. Remodeled. Double carport and storage. Stove furnished. \$400.00 month, \$250.00 deposit. Call (432)263-0122.

**603 George-** 3/1bath. Washer & dryer connections, 1 car garage. \$625. month, \$325. deposit. All have CH/A. Call (432)267-2296.

**605 EAST 15TH.** Two bedroom, one bath, CH/A. \$350. month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)263-3375 or 816-6992.

**616 DALLAS** Home for rent. Remodeled. Quiet neighborhood, fenced yard. \$575. month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

**624 CAYLOR.** Very nice brick home. Possible 4 bedrooms, 1 bath, central heat and air, washer/ dryer connections, fenced backyard. Deposit \$200. Rent \$550. Call (432)267-2112. leave message.

**800 1/2 NOLAN.** 1 Bedroom, 1 bath. Utilities included. \$400.00 month, \$300.00 deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

**801 East 18TH-** 3 Bedroom. 2904 Cherokee- 2 Bedroom. Both have CH/A. No HUD. No Pets. Call (432)263-5818 or 213-0820.

**BUILDING for LEASE** on 1308 North HWY 350, \$200.00 month plus \$200.00 deposit. Call WESTEX Auto Parts at (432)263-5000.

Real Estate for Rent

**ELEGANT,** Older, Modern, one bedroom, spacious + studio room, spacious apartment. Central Air, covered parking, W/D connections. \$285.. Non Smoking. Optional furnishings. McDonald (432)263-4835, 270-0707.

**HEIGHTS APARTMENTS**  
\$200. Move-In Special  
\$200. deposit.  
All Bills Paid  
403 East 8th  
Call (432)267-2771

**Midway Area - Small 3 Bdrm** mobile home. Stove & refrigerator, washer & dryer. CH/A. \$350.00 month \$150.00 deposit. HUD approved. Call 432-393-5585 or 270-3928.

**NEWLY REMODELED Duplex:** 706 13th St., 2 bedroom, 1 bath, central air/heat, washer/dryer connections, fenced backyard, newly painted, new carpet, refrigerator/gas stove. No pets. \$350.00 month, \$200.00 deposit. Call (432)267-6516.

**NEWLY REMODELED** including carpet & appliances. 1 Bedroom. All bills paid but Electric. \$300. Month, \$150. deposit. Call (432)714-4001 or 213-1651 ask for Mary 9:00am-7:00pm..

**NICE BRICK** office or retail business building, great location...behind Medicine Shoppe on Gregg Street. \$325.00 Per month. Call (432)263-1281.

Nice house, good neighborhood. **1304 Tucson,** 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Central heat/air, washer/dryer connections, fenced backyard, Several nice extras. Rent \$450.00, deposit \$200.00. Call (432)267-2112 leave message.

**SANDSPRINGS, THREE** bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home sits on 3/4 acre lot. Has CH/A. Call (432)267-7730.

**SOUTH PLAINS APARTMENTS**  
Studios, 1 & 2 Bdrm  
\$199 Move-In Special  
\$300.00 Monthly  
On-site Mgr.  
Laundry & Vending Facility  
3304 West Hwy. 80  
Call Stephanie  
(559)355-2900

**SUNSET RIDGE APARTMENTS**  
2 BR apt. Now Ready  
\$99 Move in Special  
On-site Mgr. & Maint.  
24 Hour Laundry Facility  
No Water or Cable Bills!  
Call Melinda @ (432)263-2292

**TWO BEDROOM,** one bath, with carport, secluded neighborhood, washer/ dryer connections, CH/A. No Pets. \$375. month, \$250. deposit. Call (432)267-9442.

Real Estate for Sale

**\$1,000 TOTAL** Move in Cost. On 1306 Marijo. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage home. Reasonably good credit required, lowered interest rates to Qualified Buyer. Call now (432)520-9848 Cameo Investments Inc.

**10,000 square ft** Commercial building, plus 2000 sq ft metal building on 5 ac.. Close to hospital on Scenic Mountain. Call (432)213-2319.

**19.5 ACRES** Silver Heels Addition, great view, unrestricted. \$1,500. an acre. Call (806)746-6790.



**2 STORY** House in great condition. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living areas, office, fireplace. 2 large storage buildings, large gazebo, 2150 sq. ft., 3/4 acre. Beautiful yard. Low property taxes. Asking \$105,000. (432)263-4080.

Real Estate for Sale

**20 ACRES** on Hwy 176. Set up for Mobile Home. 45K, \$6,500.00 Down, assume \$270.00 monthly @ 7.4% for 30 years. No Credit Check. (817)312-6322.

**50 ACRE** tract on I-20 in city limits. Super commercial building site. All or part. Call (432)213-2319.

**6107 E. Midway Rd.** 4 Bedroom, 2 bath Brick. 2 Living areas, pantry, fireplace. New roof, on 1.01 acres. Coahoma School District. \$70's. (432)263-2801, 263-7653.

**BEAUTIFUL 140** tract in city limits. Flat, great commercial building site. All or part. Call (432)213-2319.

**COUNTRY LIVING-** 4.89 acre lots with city water, fire hydrants, electricity, phone, cable, good restrictions. Moss Lake Road in Coahoma School District. Owner financing. (432)393-5872.

**FOUR BEDROOM,** 2-1/2 bath home on 20 acres. Forsan ISD. All offers considered. Call (432)816-1868.

**HOME OWNERS,** Investors or Realtors. Three lots with homes on them will sell together or separate. Will finance. Call for more information (361)449-2577 cell (361)449-7393.

**WILL PAY** Cash for Houses up to \$25,000.00. Call Kelly (432)425-9994.

**NO DOWN** Payment on 2 thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. We can adjust your monthly payments to fit your Budget. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

**NORTH OF** College - 1723 Purdue 3/2/1 brick home. Credit check & references required. New loan or 20% down. Below appraisal. Call (432)268-8353 Cell (325)699-1042.

**REDUCED!** Brick 3-4 Bedroom, 2 bath, huge den/living area, double carport w/storage, fenced backyard, cellar and storage. 108 West Crockett, Loraine. Mid 40's. (325)737-2601, 436-9278.

**SEALED BIDS-** 317 acres surface only in CRP, Rockhouse Rd., Howard County. Taking bids till June 1st. Mail bids to: Dunagan Farm, 2741 Oak Mountain Trail, San Angelo, TX 76904 for more information Call (325)944-0285.

Vehicles

**'04 Nissan Xterra**  
\$3000 OFF MSRP  
**Bob Brock Ford**  
500 W. 10th 267-7121

**1964 CHEVY** Nova, 2 door, hard top with V8. \$1,500.00 As is. Needs work. Call (432)267-2126.

**1985 PONTIAC** Fiero. \$1,900.00 ONTO and a 1981 Chevy half ton pickup. Rebuilt motor and transmission. New tires and wheels. \$2,500.00. Call (432)268-9430.

**2000 DODGE** Grand Caravan. Excellent Condition inside/out. New tires Dec. 2004. Asking \$7495.00. Call (432)816-4052, 816-4059 leave message (432)267-6093 after 7:30 pm. ask for Jerry.

**2003 TOYOTA** Avalon. Silver Spruce, 43k miles, new tires. \$24,500.00. 2002 Chevy Monte Carlo. Black, sporty and loaded, 55k miles. \$12,000.00. Call (432)238-9001 before 9:00 p.m..

**95 CHRYSLER** New Yorker. Very Clean inter.. Great work or school car. \$2,200.00. Call (432)263-7825.

You Can Save By Advertising Your Business In Our Professional Service Directory!  
Call  
263-7331  
for more information.

**StarTek**  
Business Process Outsourcing

**50 English Customer Care Representative Openings!**  
StarTek USA Inc. is hiring agents for full-time English speaking customer care representatives.

StarTek offers great benefits including a competitive pay, medical and dental insurance, and paid time off after 90 days, paid holidays, and incredible advancement opportunities.

Call 432-264-2700  
Or come by 501 Birdwell Lane

Place Your Vehicle Ad TODAY!! UP TO 25 WORDS.

1<sup>st</sup> Week \$28<sup>00</sup>  
2<sup>nd</sup> Week \$14<sup>00</sup>  
If Your Car hasn't Sold you get the 3<sup>rd</sup> Week FREE

Call or come by to place your ad, now!

**HERALD**  
710 Scurry  
Call: (432) 263-7331  
email: classifieds@bigspringherald.com

**BARCELONA APARTMENTS**  
Choose Your Own Monthly Rent Options  
Such As ALL BILLS PAID  
\$299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP.  
538 Westover 263-1252  
Housing Assistance Accepted

**FOR SALE**  
No Down Payment  
OWNER FINANCING  
Bad Credit O.K.  
2-3-4-5 & 6 Bedroom Brick Homes  
Call Beverly 263-3461

MAY 26 2005

Legals

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**  
The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bid proposals for the **Food Service Department** until 4:00 P.M., June 2, 2005, on the following:  
**Bread Products**  
**Milk**  
**Snacks**  
Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office, 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620. Bids will be publicly open and read immediately following the deadline for receiving the bids in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. Bidders are invited to be present at the bid opening. Bids received after the opening date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on June 9, 2005, at 5:15 P.M. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.  
#4559 May 19 & 26, 2005

Legals

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**  
The Big Spring Independent School District shall receive sealed bid proposals until 3:30 P.M., June 2, 2005, on the following:  
**Athletic Training Room Supplies**  
Specifications and bid documents may be secured from the school district's Business Office located at 708 East 11th Place, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4648, phone number (432)264-3620. Bids will be publicly open and read immediately following the deadline for receiving the bids in the Business Office of the Big Spring Independent School District. Bidders are invited to be present at the bid opening. Bids received after the opening date and time will be returned unopened. Bids will be presented for consideration to the Board of Trustees on June 9, 2005, at 5:15 P.M. at their regularly scheduled board meeting. The Big Spring Independent School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.  
#4560 May 19 & 26, 2005

Legals

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:  
TO: **Y Pibuladhanapatana**  
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, owing or having or claiming any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the following described property delinquent to Plaintiffs herein, for taxes, to-wit:  
**Lot Ten and the South half of Lot 11, Block 15, Boydston Addition, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas.**  
Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: **\$2,493.73**, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and costs thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.  
You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by **HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL** as Plaintiffs, against **Y Pibuladhanapatana**, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on the **16 DAY OF MAY, 2005**, in a certain suit styled **HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. Y PIBULDAHANAPATANA**, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is **T-4716** that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suite, are **NONE**.  
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.  
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor(s), shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suite was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, and all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein, and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.  
You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the **4 day of July, 2005** before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show causes why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.  
#4564 May 19 & 26, 2005

Tomorrow's Horoscope

**BY HOLIDAY MATHIS**  
The Capricorn moon is more ambitious than industrious. You may find yourself looking for someone to delegate your work to. Smart thinking! Easygoing Gemini influences offer help in the communication department, so it should be pretty easy to convince qualified people to help, or to educate unqualified people about what it takes to get the job done.



HOLIDAY MATHIS

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). Great love and great achievements can involve great risk. Your nature helps you throw caution to the wind and take a chance on romance. Mars smiles on your fearless attitude, and the payoff will be mighty fine.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). It's truth-telling time. Evaluate if what you're doing to earn a living is truly making you happy. If not, seek the counsel of a professional or even a really good friend, book or website to get you on track.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Domestic situations and calm, thoughtful, intellectual energy are highlighted. What a perfect combo to assist you in dealing with the drama. Tonight features a hunch that you absolutely should act on ASAP.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Good news comes from a long distance friend, but should be kept under wraps until you're given permission to blab. It will be difficult to keep quiet, but you are this person's trusted confidante, and restraint is

most appreciated.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You wear your heart on your sleeve, leaving it vulnerable to the inevitable spills and stains. Fortunately, you bounce right back with a hot shower and a load of laundry. Don't let life sully your charitable nature.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Planets encourage you to take a rest, especially in romance. You don't have to work hard at love now. Just relax, and feel it. Let go of the barriers of confusion and static, and your heart has more room to breathe.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your creativity suffers from being overanalyzed. Believe in your abilities. Infinite possibilities are born of faith. Use the gifts that you have received, and pass on the learning that has been given to you.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Planets encourage you to find your happiness through intellectual channels. As Carl Sagan said, "The brain is like a muscle. When we think well, we feel good. Understanding is a kind of ecstasy."

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you miss a deadline once, maybe you're overworked. But twice, and you're unconsciously sabotaging yourself. Get to the root of the behavior. Your ability to turn things around for the best is amazing.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Leave major decisions for another day. You have plenty of minor choices that command your immediate attention. A quiet atmosphere with caffeinated beverages is most conducive to your decision-making process.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your patience is

tested when a friend calls you for advice on a topic that you've hashed out a dozen times before. Take a deep breath. This person was not ready to listen in the past but will finally take your words to heart.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). It's the perfect day to maximize or upgrade your technological resources. Computers never complain, call in sick or ask for a raise... well, almost never. Enlist the help of a technologically savvy friend, possibly Aquarius.

**ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS:** "I went to a psychic, and she told me some things that scared me. Now I'm living in complete fear. She said that if I didn't give her \$450 in the next couple days the bad luck would continue... and not to tell anyone for 64 days. I asked if I would have any more children. She said no. Three months later, I lost a baby. I've had more bad luck, too. Can anyone help me without breaking me financially?"

You've been taken by a charlatan! This is extortion! It's a shame that this person has put fear in your heart. Fear is a kind of curse. You attract what you fear. Good news: To reverse this curse, all you have to do is recognize the lies for what they are and decide to let it go. This remedy is free! Choose some affirmations that will help you when your mind starts to go to "the bad place." Here's a thought: "If I want to have another child, I can." Here's another one: "I'm working with my destiny to create the best future I can create." Here's one more: "My intuition is valid, and I will be the power in my life."

Legals

**West Texas Opportunities, Inc.** will be accepting written bids from anyone interested in contracting for the weatherization of homes in the fourteen county service area of WTO, I. Bids must include charges for both labor and materials.  
The geographic area to be covered by its contract includes Dawson, Martin, Glasscock, Upton, Andrews, Gaines, Borden, Howard, Midland, Nolan, Scurry, Mitchell, Fisher and Ector Counties.  
The homes may be located in the cities, communities and rural areas of the counties.  
All contractors will be required to be a general contractor and to provide proof of adequate liability insurance and Worker's Compensation.  
All contractors must agree to meet all requirements of the Dept. of Labor Fair Labor Standards Act, regulations of equal employment and services, affirmative action, non-discrimination and other required assurances as listed in the contract.  
WTO, I will certify all eligible clients and provide a list of eligible homes to be weatherized and a schedule of projected initial inspection and final completion dates on a month to month basis.

The Contractor must agree that all materials and work performed will meet all requirements of the Department of Energy and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and WTO, I requirements. Specifics on the requirements of DOE, TDHCA and WTO, I will be provided to each interested bidder along with the bid package.  
The bid package must be completed fully in order to be considered. Failure to complete any applicable section or required form will result in the disqualification of the bid.  
Anyone interested in obtaining a Weatherization Bid Package, may contact Janet Everheart, Executive Director, West Texas Opportunities, Inc., P.O. Box 1308, Lamesa, Texas 79331 or call 806-872-8354.  
All bidders are invited to attend the pre-bid conference on Tuesday, June 7, 2005, 10:00 a.m. at 603 North 4th Street, Lamesa, Texas. All bids must be received by 4:00 p.m., June 30, 2005. Bidders are invited to attend the bid opening to be held on June 30, 2005 at 4:30 p.m. at 603 North 4th Street in Lamesa, Texas. WTO, I is an equal opportunity agency.  
#4570 May 26, 27 & 29, 2005

Legals

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:  
TO: **Ellen V. Barnes**  
if living, and if any or all of the above named Defendants be dead, the unknown heirs of the unknown heirs of said above named persons, and the unknown owner or owners of the hereinafter described land, and the executors, administrators, guardians, legal representatives, legatees and devisees of the above named persons, and any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the land described in Plaintiffs' petition on file in this cause, owing or having or claiming any legal or equitable interest in or lien upon the following described property delinquent to Plaintiffs herein, for taxes, to-wit:  
**Lot 5, Block 26, Cole & Strayhorn Addition, City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas**  
Which said property is delinquent to Plaintiffs for taxes in the following amount: **\$8,301.69**, exclusive of interest, penalties, and costs, and there is included in this suit in addition to the taxes all said interest, penalties, and costs thereon, allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein.  
You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by **HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL** as Plaintiffs, against **Ellen V. Barnes, Estate**, as Defendant(s), by petition filed on the **16 DAY OF MAY, 2005**, in a certain suit styled **HOWARD COUNTY, ET AL VS. ELLEN V. BARNES, ESTATE**, for collection of the taxes on said property and that said suit is now pending in the District Court of Howard County, Texas 118th Judicial District, and the file number of said suit is **4908** that the names of all taxing units which assess and collect taxes on the property hereinabove described, not made parties to this suite, are **NONE**.  
Plaintiffs and all other taxing units

who may set up their tax claims herein seek recovery of delinquent ad valorem taxes on the property hereinabove described, thereon up to and including the day of judgment herein, and the establishment and foreclosure of liens, if any, securing the payment of same, as provided by law.  
All parties to this suit, including Plaintiffs, Defendant(s), and Intervenor(s), shall take notice that claims not only for any taxes which were delinquent on said property at the time this suite was filed but all taxes becoming delinquent thereon at any time thereafter up to the day of judgment, including all interest, penalties, and cost allowed by law thereon, may, upon request, be recovered herein without further citation or notice to any parties herein, and all said parties shall take notice of and plead and answer to all claims and pleadings now on file in said causes by all other parties herein, and all of those taxing units above named who may intervene herein and set up their respective tax claims against said property.  
You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit at or before 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday after the expiration of forty-two (42) days from and after the date of issuance hereof, the same being the **4 day of July, 2005** before the Honorable District Court of Howard County, Texas, to be held at the courthouse thereof, then and there to show causes why judgment shall not be rendered for such taxes, penalties, interest, and costs, and condemning said property and ordering foreclosure of the constitutional and statutory tax liens thereon for taxes due the Plaintiffs and the taxing unit parties hereto, and those who may intervene herein, together with all interest, penalties, and costs allowed by law up to and including the day of judgment herein, and all costs of this suit.  
#4563 May 19 & 26, 2005

Annie's Mailbox  
Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Last year, after 16 years of severe sexual abuse, I had my biological father arrested. I felt liberated, but my older siblings are hostile toward me for turning him in. No one in my family knew the abuse was going on, so it came as a complete shock to them.



KATHY MITCHELL  
MARCY SUGAR

Why can't they understand that their father is a monster and essentially killed me internally? My oldest sister even tried bribing me with \$500 in cash to see if I would drop the charges.

What bugs me the most is how my siblings still spend time with my father as if nothing ever happened. They even bring their kids to visit him at his home since he posted bail. Please tell me what I'm supposed to do. Why can't they see what this man really is? — Teen in Need

Dear Teen: We're sure it took a lot for you to come forward. However, accusing a family member of abuse often creates a rift, and for some, it is easier to discredit the charges than grapple with the fallout. Have you had counseling? Your counselor can work on ways to help you deal with your siblings and the choices they have made regarding your father. If you do not have a counselor, contact RAINN (rainn.org) at 1-800-656-HOPE, and ask for assistance.

Dear Annie: My wife and I have three wonderful grandchildren whom we do not see on weekends, vacations and summers with us. It has always been our dream to be able to take them to Disneyland. We have been saving for this, and the grandchildren have been

helping us save, for the last 10 years.

Our daughter recently remarried, and her new husband has two children he sees on weekends and holidays. We were told that we now have five grandchildren and have done our best to include the two new ones on holidays and in other activities.

However, now that we are finalizing our trip to Disneyland, our daughter has hinted strongly that we need to include her stepchildren. My wife is very upset, since we really can't afford to add two more children right now. This would delay the trip a few more years unless we dip into our retirement savings, which we'd rather not. Our oldest granddaughter will be 14 soon, and we are concerned that if we wait much longer, she will not want to make the trip with us.

What should we do? — Grandma in Arizona  
It is understandable that your daughter wants her new stepchildren to be included in this family excursion, and while that is a lovely idea, it is unfair to insist that you do so. You

have known them only a short time, and you and your grandchildren have been saving 10 years for this trip. More importantly, taking five children is asking for trouble. The adult-child ratio is too unbalanced.

Tell your daughter you will be happy to take along her stepchildren, provided she pays for their expenses and another adult comes along to help supervise. If she refuses, say, "Sorry, but we simply cannot manage more than three children." Stick to your guns, Grampa. You are being plenty generous as it is.

Dear Annie: In response to those concerned with excess hair — c'mon, folks, it's not rocket science. Many manufacturers sell ear and nose hair trimmers that are powered by one AA battery. I bought mine for less than \$20. As far as I see, there are no acceptable excuses for excess nasal or ear hair, so quit complaining and get clipping. P.S.: There's also nothing wrong with sagging breasts and wrinkles. At our age, we all have them. — Hairless 65 in Lancaster, Calif.

Dear Hairless: We were deluged with mail from men citing every brand of trimmer available. We want to thank everyone who wrote and made it clear that there is no reason to look like Cousin It. You really came through for us.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, P.O. Box 118190, Chicago, IL 60611.

**"LOOK"**  
Auto, Collectible, Real Estate, Electronics, Furniture, Collectibles, Jewelry, Baby Items, Appliances, Electronics, Kitchenware, Contractors, Computers, Jewelry, Baby Items, Furniture, Collectibles, Electronics, Autos, state Employment, nic, Kitchenware, s, Jewelry, Baby Items, s, Electronics, Autos, st, Looking for a home? A good career? An affordable computer? Find just what you need and want in the classifieds.  
Big Spring Herald Classifieds  
Definitely Worth A Look  
To place your classified ad, call  
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Here are some helpful tips and information that will help you when placing your ad. After your ad has been published the first day we suggest you check the ad for mistakes and if errors have been made we will gladly correct the ad and run it again for you at no additional charge. If your ad is inadvertently not printed advance payment will cheerfully be refunded and the newspaper's liability will be for only the amount received for publication of the advertisement. We reserve the right to edit or reject any ad for publication that does not meet our standards of acceptance.

DON'T PAY  
to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 800-876-7060.

THURSDAY

	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)	SCIFI (64)
6:30 PM	News (CC)	News	Inocente de Ti	King of the Hill	News	Ent. Tonight	Amarte Asi	Raymond	Joe McGee	News-Lesher	Discovery	Classics	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order	Live	That's Raven	College	SportsCenter	Movie: X-Change
7:00 PM	NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	Apuesta por un Amor	The O.C. (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene	La Mujer en el Espejo	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Update/Israel	West Tex Jmi TX Mnthly Talk	Area 51 (CC)	Movie: Death Wish II	CSI: Crime Scene	Law & Order	The Parkers	Movie: 102 Dalmatians	Georgia Tech	Movie: Rocky IV	Movie: The Fallen Ones
8:00 PM	Playoffs - Teams TBA	Playoffs - Teams TBA	La Madrastra	American Idol (CC)	Investigation (CC) (DVS)	Los Plateados (CC)	The Apprentice (CC)	Friends (CC)	Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Alien Planet	Movie: Death Hunt (CC)	MXC	Law & Order	College Hill	Club Comic	Sister, Sister	SportsCenter	Baseball
9:00 PM	News (CC)	News	Primer Impacto	70s Show	News	Late Show	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Area 51 (CC)	Movie: The Lance Comedy Inc.	The Lance Comedy Inc.	Nightly News	That's Raven	SportsCenter	Baseball	Movie: Highlander	
10:00 PM	Ent. Tonight	Jimmy Kimmel	Jimmy Kimmel	Becker (CC)	Becker (CC)	Laura	Al Rolo Vivo	Late Night	10 Movie: Major League	Sign Off	Alien Planet	Movie: Death Wish II	Widest Police	Quest for the Spear	Midnight Love	Proud Family	Baseball	Teams TBA	Endgame (CC)
11:00 PM	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Alma Rebelde	Spin City	Show	The Insider	Mania Celeste Programa	Conan O'Brien	Update/Israel				Real TV	Movie: Pirates of Silicon	Club Comic	Lizze McGure	Billiards	SportsCenter	Twilight Zone
12:30 AM	News (CC)	News	Noticias Univ	70s Show	News	Late Show	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News	The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Area 51 (CC)	Movie: The Lance Comedy Inc.	The Lance Comedy Inc.	Nightly News	That's Raven	SportsCenter	Baseball	Movie: Highlander	

**DENNIS THE MENACE**

"YOU KNOW WHERE STEEL WOOL COMES FROM? ROBOT SHEEP."

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane

"Daddy, when you're buying office supplies, we need more paper clips."

**HAGAR**

"HAGAR, THE DOCTOR SAID YOU USE TOO MUCH SALT!"

"FOOD JUST DOESN'T TASTE GOOD WITHOUT A LITTLE SALT!"

"I KNOW, BUT ON CHOCOLATE CAKE?!!"

**BC**

"WHO CAN GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF 'A WORK IN PROGRESS'?"

EARL?

A SLINKY GOING DOWN AN "UP" ESCALATOR.

**WIZARD OF ID**

EQUESTRIAN REFUSE SPECIALIST WANTED

WHAT HAPPENED TO "STABLEHAND WANTED"?

WE HAVE A UNION NOW

**BLONDIE**

"IT'S EASY TO SAVE MONEY... ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PUT 10% OF YOUR PAYCHECK IN THE BANK EVERY WEEK."

"BUT IT TAKES MY ENTIRE PAYCHECK TO PAY ALL MY BILLS, BOSS."

"IN THAT CASE, BUMSTEAD, START PAYING 10% FEWER BILLS EVERY WEEK!"

**AGNES**

GRANDMA, I NEED ACCESS TO THE INTERNET.

NO, WE CAN'T AFFORD IT.

THINK OF THE KNOWLEDGE! I WOULD HAVE BUCKETS OF KNOWLEDGE! BUCKETS AND BUCKETS OF HARD-CORE KNOWLEDGE!

WHAT GOOD IS KNOWLEDGE IF IT'S IN A BUCKET?

IF YOU BUY ME A COMPUTER, I BET I COULD GOOGLE YOU AN ANSWER TO THAT IN TEN SECONDS! TEN SECONDS!!

I CAN BUY YOU A BUCKET, IF YOU'D LIKE.

**HI AND LOIS**

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY... COME AGAIN SOME OTHER DAY

AS LONG AS IT'S NOT SATURDAY...

**This Date In History**

By The Associated Press

Today's Highlight in History:  
On May 26, 1940, the evacuation of Allied troops from Dunkirk, France, began during World War II.

On this date:  
In 1521, Martin Luther was banned by the Edict of Worms because of his religious beliefs and writings.  
In 1805, 200 years ago, Napoleon Bonaparte was crowned King of Italy in Milan.  
In 1960, U.N. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge accused the Soviets of hiding a microphone inside a wood carving of the Great Seal of the United States that had been presented to the U.S. embassy in Moscow.  
In 1978, the first legal casino in the eastern United States opened in Atlantic City, N.J.  
In 1991, a Lauda Air

Boeing 767 crashed in Thailand, killing all 223 people aboard.  
Ten years ago: In the tobacco industry's largest recall ever, Philip Morris U.S.A. halted sales of several cigarette brands, including some versions of top-selling Marlboro, because some filters were contaminated.  
Five years ago: Barry Grunow, 35, an English teacher at Lake Worth Community Middle School in Florida, was shot to death by Nathaniel Brazill, a seventh grader, after the teacher refused to let him talk with two girls in his classroom. (Brazill was convicted of second-degree murder and is serving a 28-year sentence.)  
One year ago: Nearly a decade after the Oklahoma City bombing, Terry Nichols was found guilty of 161 state murder charges for helping carry out the attack. (Nichols later received 161 consecutive life sentences.)  
Today's Birthdays: Actor James Arness is 82.

Sportscaster Brent Musberger is 66. Country musician Gates Nichols (Confederate Railroad) is 61. Singer Stevie Nicks is 57. Actress Pam Grier is 56. Actor Philip Michael Thomas is 56. Country singer Hank Williams Jr. is 56. Former astronaut Sally K. Ride is 54. Actress Genie Francis is 43. Comedian Bobcat Goldthwait is 41. Singer Lenny Kravitz is 43. Actress Helena Bonham Carter is 39. Rhythm-and-blues singer Joey Kibble (Take 6) is 34. Actor-producer-writer Matt Stone is 34.  
Thought for Today: "Life is a tragedy full of joy."  
Bernard Malamud, American author (1914-1986).

**THE OTHER COAST**

TYPICAL, YOU FIND A NICE PLACE IN THE COUNTRY AND THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW, THEY'RE KNOCKING UP CONDOS NEXT DOOR.

**SNUFFY SMITH**

YORE OL' BULLET'S TH' PAW, SMIF !!

FREE! MIXED BREED PUPS

MIXED-BREED HUNTIN' PUPS \$10.00 each

THEN I GUESS IT'S ONLY FAIR THAT I TAKE 'EM OFF YORE HANDS, EARL !!

**Newsday Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- Imparts
- Energizes, with "up"
- Mythical hammer wielder
- Strand an Arctic ship
- Wedding pledges
- Make perfect
- Early condensation
- McGregor of *Moulin Rouge*
- Entrusted for safekeeping
- Non-studio film
- Prepare a contract
- Raw metal
- Internet site starter
- Onassis nickname
- Delicious
- Enthusiastic sound
- Be abuzz
- Crack a cipher
- Circuit
- America's uncle
- Wharf
- Broccoli bit
- Pickable
- Change colors
- Toughie
- 1960s war zone, for short
- CIA predecessor
- Teed off
- Explained beforehand
- Each
- Handles badly

**DOWN**

- Prom wheels
- Greenspan's field: Abbr.
- Geek
- Eats well
- Cavil
- Hampshires' homes
- Jockey Arcaro
- Wordsworth works
- Navigator's dir.
- Subsequently
- Words of welcome
- Radio-studio sign
- Taylor of *The Nanny*
- Dame
- "Woe \_\_\_"
- Puddle contents, perhaps
- Blitzer of CNN
- Fleece
- Hoopla
- John Wayne film of '74
- Impair
- Work shift for some
- Looks at
- Debate side
- Clergy
- Spot
- Thrice, in prescriptions
- Ravioli, e.g.
- Came up
- Get rid of
- Cries like a baby
- Be of use
- Hoarder
- Farm equipment name
- Monthly payment
- Summer coolers
- Friar
- Establishes, with "up"
- Whom the Edgar Award was named for

**SOUND THINKING** by Robert H. Wolfe  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**Answer to previous puzzle**

ERRANT EGG ABBA  
SHALOM TART TOTT  
PETERCOTTONTAIL  
NASA RESPONSE  
SAGA BEE  
DUSTBUNNY LALA  
USA ERGO FSTOPS  
BIDE DERMA ETTA  
SNIPPY MARC SET  
GEAR MARCHHARE  
IDA LEIA  
SPUMANTE TAMS  
YEAROFFTHERABBIT  
DRUG FRA TROIKA  
SALE YAW SEXTET

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71

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**BEETLE BAILEY**

I HEARD YOU CAN MEET SOME REALLY CUTE GIRLS AT THESE PEACE DEMONSTRATIONS

HI! I'M KILLER!

PEACE NOW

THAT'S NOT FUNNY!

**BEETLE BAILEY**

I HEARD YOU CAN MEET SOME REALLY CUTE GIRLS AT THESE PEACE DEMONSTRATIONS

HI! I'M KILLER!

PEACE NOW

THAT'S NOT FUNNY!

friend calls on a topic... This per... ready to lis... st but will... ur words to... upgrade... Computers... in, call in... r a raise... ever. Enlist... technologi... iend, possi... CAL QUES... nt to a psy... e told me... that scared... living in... She said... 't give her... next couple... luck would... d not to tell... 64 days. I... ld have any... n. She said... nths later, I... ve had more... Can anyone... ut breaking... taken by a... is extor... me that this... out fear in... ear is a kind... attract what... d news: To... urse, all you... s recognize... hat they are... o let it go... y is free!... affirmations... you when... arts to go to... e." Here's a... want to have... d, I can."... er one: "I'm... my destiny... best future I... Here's one... intuition is... will be the... life."

d them only a... and you and... children have... 10 years for... e important... e children is... trouble. The... ratio is too... daughter you... py to take... stepchildren... e pays for... s and anoth... nes along to... ise. If she... "Sorry, but... not manage... three child... to your guns... u are being... us as it is... : In response... concerned with... c'mon, ...ot rocket sci... manufactur... and nose hair... at are pow... AA battery. I... for less than... s I see, there... ble excuses... nasal or ear... complaining... pping. P.S.:... so nothing... th. sagging... wrinkles. At... ll have them... ss 65 in... lif. ...ess: We were... h mail from... very brand of... available. We... nk everyone... and made it... ere is no rea... Cousin It... ame through... mailbox is writ... Mitchell and... ar. Please e... questions to... ox@comcast.n... e to: Annie's... . Box 118190... 60611.

# That's Racin'

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Go online and check out [www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com) for the latest information and news on stock-car racing, updated daily.

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With the inaugural Chase for the Nextel Cup format a success, NASCAR chairman and CEO Brian France, center, is No. 1 on this year's power list. PHOTO COURTESY OF NASCAR

## Calling the shots

Brian France leads list of NASCAR's most influential

By DAVID POOLE  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Will he or won't he? No matter how many times he denies them, rumors that NASCAR chairman and chief executive officer Brian France is already planning his next career move will not go away.

Is France planning to sell his stake in NASCAR to invest in an NFL team in Los Angeles? Are Brian and his sister, Lesa France Kennedy, posturing behind the scenes for the ultimate seat of power in the sport their family has had such a huge role in building?

Until such rumors become reality, the top spot on That's Racin's annual list of NASCAR's most powerful people remains in Brian France's hands.

Here is this year's most powerful people. Feel free to disagree and offer your comments via e-mail to [dpoole@charlotteobserver.com](mailto:dpoole@charlotteobserver.com).

**1 Brian France (NASCAR chairman and chief executive officer):** Through last year's inaugural Chase for the Nextel Cup, which was a commercial and competitive bonanza, he has unquestionably taken the lead in remaking the sport his grandfather and father ran before him.

**2 Bill France Jr. (vice chairman of NASCAR board of directors):** Smart enough to let Brian run the show once that became his job, but still strong enough to make sure everyone knows the former CEO is still around.

**3 Bruton Smith (chairman and CEO of Speedway Motorsports Inc.):** Smith hasn't gone out of his way to stir things up lately. That in itself goes a long way toward setting the sport's climate.

**4 David Hill (chairman and CEO of Fox Sports) and Ken Schanzer (president of NBC Sports):** With Dick Ebersol recovering from a plane crash that brought tragedy to his family, Schanzer now joins Hill as the TV forces NASCAR ultimately must deal with in the current partnership.

**5 Lesa France Kennedy (president of International Speedway Corp. and NASCAR board member) and Jim France (executive vice president of NASCAR, CEO of ISC):** Jim is Bill France Jr.'s brother and would likely align himself with Lesa if an all-out family struggle for control ever broke out.



Dale Earnhardt Jr. is No. 6 on the power list. JOHN RAOUX/KRT

**6 Dale Earnhardt Jr. (Nextel Cup driver):** He hasn't won a championship so far, but he's by far the sport's most popular and most marketed participant.

**7 Mike Helton (NASCAR president):** His actual power ebbs and flows along with the fortunes of the factions in the sport's highest reaches.

**8 Paul Brooks (president of NASCAR Digital Entertainment) and Richard Glover (NASCAR vice president for broadcasting and new media):** They'll play major roles in the round of television negotiations that are already under way.

**9 Tim Donahue (president and CEO of Nextel) and Gary Forsee (chairman and CEO of Sprint):** However it plays out, the merg-

er of the two companies these guys run will still have a strong role in the sport's future.

**10 Rick Hendrick (Nextel Cup team owner):** Few people can imagine the highs and lows in this man's life, but his motor-sports operation just keeps on winning.

**11 John Darby (Nextel Cup Series director) and Robin Pemberton (NASCAR vice president of competition):** This duo directs officiating in the sport, and they seem to have the respect they need from within the garage to do that difficult job.

**12 Jeff Gordon (four-time Nextel Cup champion driver):** Ex-"Wonderboy" is gradually assuming leadership within the Hendrick team and the sport as a whole.

**13 Jack Roush (Nextel Cup team owner):** His teams have won the past two championships and certainly look like contenders for a third.

**14 H.A. "Humpy" Wheeler (president and chief operating officer of Speedway Motorsports Inc.):** John Darby might look more like Yoda from "Star Wars," but Wheeler's the closest actual fit.

**15 George Pyne (NASCAR chief operating officer):** Close ally of Brian France, so many think that if Brian makes a move, Pyne won't be far behind.

**16 Gary Nelson (NASCAR vice president of research and development):** Leading the research into the car and engine of the future, a project NASCAR can't afford to get wrong.

**17 Grant Lynch (vice president of International Speedway Corporation):** He'll play the lead role in getting a track built in the Pacific Northwest.

**18 Richard Childress (Nextel Cup team owner):** His longtime loyalty to NASCAR gives him lasting influence in the sport.

**19 Mark Dyer (NASCAR vice president of licensing and consumer products):** The eventual host city's road to a proposed hall of fame goes across his desk.

**20 Tony George (Indianapolis Motor Speedway president):** IndyCar racing is his bread and butter, but he's got a big stake in stock cars, too.

### THIS WEEK'S RACE

**COCA-COLA 600**  
Where: Lowe's Motor Speedway, a 1.5-mile banked paved quad-oval located in Concord, N.C.  
When: Sunday at 5:30 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 7:10 p.m. Thursday.  
TV: Fox.  
Radio: Performance Racing Network.  
Purse: \$6,279,649.  
Last year's winner: Jimmie Johnson.  
Worth mentioning: Kurt Busch has competed in nine races at Lowe's Motor Speedway, with just one top-10 finish in October 2004. Ryan Newman has eight straight top-four starts, including four poles, in eight races at Lowe's.  
Also this week: Carl Edwards leads the NASCAR Busch Series points race heading into Saturday night's race at Lowe's.

### POLL POSITION

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION**  
What effect will the replacement of crew chief Pete Rondeau have on Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s team?  
Cast your vote at:  
[www.thatracin.com](http://www.thatracin.com)

**LAST WEEK'S QUESTION**  
Lowe's Motor Speedway's H.A. "Humpy" Wheeler picks Jeff Gordon to win NASCAR's all-star race. That'sRacin.com writer David Poole says Kurt Busch will win. What do you think?  
Number of votes: 6,953

Response	No. of votes	Percent
They're both wrong.	4,757	68%
Wheeler's right.	1,882	27%
Poole picked it.	334	5%

### STOP 'N GO

**WHO'S HOT**  
Nobody comes into the Coca-Cola 600 with more momentum than **Mark Martin**, who collected the trophy and more than \$1 million in last Saturday night's Nextel All-Star Challenge. A Martin sweep of Charlotte also would gain him his first points victory of the season.  
Flying somewhat under the radar, **Jamie McMurray** and **Tony Stewart** have each finished in the top 10 in the last three races.

**WHO'S NOT**  
After vaulting as high as 12th in points, **Jeremy Mayfield** is heading the other way, falling to 16th after finishes of 33rd and 13th the past two races.  
Since finishing fifth at Phoenix, **Brian Vickers** has finished 16th or worse in his past three races, including two finishes of 32nd or worse.



Vickers

— Jim Utter

### BY THE NUMBERS

**NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS**  
The top-40 drivers as of May 13:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Jimmie Johnson	1562	21. Matt Kenseth	1097
2. Greg Biffle	1521	22. Kyle Busch	1086
3. Jeff Gordon	1438	23. Scott Riggs	1074
4. Elliott Sadler	1413	24. Dave Blaney	1062
5. Kurt Busch	1407	25. Casey Mears	1037
6. Tony Stewart	1397	26. Brian Vickers	1034
7. Ryan Newman	1370	27. Ricky Rudd	986
8. Kevin Harvick	1364	28. Ken Schrader	980
9. Jamie McMurray	1351	29. Mike Bliss	980
10. Mark Martin	1344	30. Kyle Petty	978
11. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	1333	31. Bobby Labonte	968
12. Rusty Wallace	1290	32. Jeff Green	963
13. Carl Edwards	1289	33. Travis Kvapil	932
14. Dale Jarrett	1264	34. Scott Wimmer	870
15. Kasey Kahne	1261	35. Mike Wallace	853
16. Jeremy Mayfield	1257	36. Jason Leffler	821
17. Michael Waltrip	1235	37. Bobby Hamilton Jr.	704
18. Jeff Burton	1228	38. Kevin Ligon	511
19. Sterling Marlin	1168	39. Robby Gordon	447
20. Joe Nemechek	1112	40. Hermie Sadler	427

**BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS**  
The top-20 drivers as of May 13:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Carl Edwards	1797	11. David Green	1308
2. Clint Bowyer	1617	12. Kevin Harvick	1276
3. Reed Sorenson	1526	13. Jon Wood	1263
4. Martin Truex Jr.	1479	14. Shane Hmiel	1194
5. Ashton Lewis	1443	15. Randy LaJoie	1127
6. Kenny Wallace	1424	16. Kasey Kahne	1106
7. Denny Hamlin	1419	17. Justin Labonte	1092
8. David Stremme	1386	18. Johnny Sauter	1084
9. Greg Biffle	1379	19. Stanton Barrett	1057
10. Jason Keller	1308	20. Stacy Compton	1030

**TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS**  
The top-10 drivers as of May 20:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Ted Musgrave	1088	6. Ron Hornaday	930
2. Bobby Hamilton	1047	7. Johnny Benson	897
3. Ricky Craven	1029	8. Matt Crafton	880
4. Jimmy Spencer	993	9. Todd Bodine	863
5. Dennis Setzer	940	10. Jack Sprague	858

**NEXT RACE:** Saturday, Carquest Auto Parts 300, Concord, N.C.  
**NEXT RACE:** June 3, MBNA Racepoints 200, Dover, Del.

## Martin determined to make most out of final season

Mark Martin is getting what he hoped for in his final full season of Nextel Cup competition. After winning the NASCAR Nextel All-Star Challenge on Saturday night, he's charged up to try to turn those hopes into a dream finish to this chapter of his career.

"This was a miracle tonight," Martin said after leading the final 19 laps to win \$1,101,325 with the second all-star race victory of his career at Lowe's Motor Speedway. "And we're not done yet. They want to deliver another one — a championship."

In 17 previous Nextel Cup seasons with car owner Jack Roush, Martin has finished sixth or better in the points standings 13 times. He has been the championship runner-up four times, but has not won the title.

Last year, after starting the season slowly, Martin mounted a furious summer run and clawed his way into

the inaugural Chase for the Nextel Cup. He nursed his title hopes all the way into the last of the 10 races in the Chase, but wound up fourth in the final standings as teammate Kurt Busch won the title.

As the season closed, Martin said he went to each member of his No. 6 Ford team. The 46-year-old Martin said he promised each of them that he'd summon everything he had left to give it one last try to win a championship, but knew he couldn't do it if his team wasn't there to help him.

Saturday night, Martin said it was gratifying to see those teammates who complied with his pleas drenched with champagne as they celebrated their all-star victory. "The look on the face of every guy who made this happen, the guys who do the work, I wish I



DAVID POOLE

could capture that and hold onto it," Martin said. "That's really special."

Martin also basked in what he called an overwhelming response from a crowd of around 125,000, who enthusiastically welcomed the veteran's victory that elevated what otherwise might have gone down as one of the less memorable among all-star events.

After Martin jumped past Elliott Sadler on a restart one lap into the final 20-lap segment, that was that. Only when Martin backed off to what he called a "comfort zone" in a few of the remaining laps did Sadler make up any ground. Sadler gave it everything his No. 38 Ford had, but the outcome was never in significant doubt.

The Challenge did add to NASCAR all-star racing's contentious history when a wreck off Turn 4 on

Lap 35 left nine cars mangled and Kevin Harvick and Joe Nemechek exchanging words, gestures and other pleasantries in its aftermath.

This night, however, was all about Martin.

He'd gone barely 100 yards past the checkered flag before telling his team he wanted to come back to defend the victory next season. Later, Martin said he'd also like to run next year's Bud Shootout at Daytona.

Beyond that, however, he's sticking to his plan to leave the full-time Cup grind behind after 2005 to race in the NASCAR Truck Series and/or short-track cars in Friday and Saturday night shows across the country.

"This is my last chance," Martin said. "Do I expect to win it? You know me, you know the answer to that."

"But do I expect to fight like a dog for it? "You'd better believe it."