THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2006

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NSIDE

Stanton standout is medalist at Coahoma Invitational

Page 1B

50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Citizens urged to take part in Trash-Off Saturday

By THOMAS JENKINS

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 109

Staff Writer

It's time to talk trash.

Or, more to the point, time to pick it up as Keep Big Spring Beautiful and an array of local churches and organizations will join thousands of other groups across the Lone Star State Saturday for the annual Don't Mess With Texas Trash-

Local organizer and Keep Big Commerce from 9 a.m. until

Spring Beautiful spokesperson Pat Simmons said the day-long clean up has drawn quite a bit of interest among local volunteer groups.

"There will be different groups and organizations that will be picking up trash in areas they have selected," said Simmons.

Those groups can pick up their trash bags at the Big Spring Area Chamber of

noon Friday.

"The Trash-Off is about community pride," said Simmons. "Our neighborhood and communities reflect our sense of pride in where we live and we don't want it to be trashed with litter. Let's work together to accomplish this on Saturday. We want to be a part by joining volunteers from all over Texas to clean up, green up and paint up on this special day."

Simmons said the focus of the reported to Keep Texas See TRASH-OFF, Page 3A

day may be trash and litter, but that won't stop the Keep Big Spring Beautiful group from making it a day of fun.

Hot dogs will be served at the Heart of the City Park starting at noon, with drawings for prizes and gifts for children who participate.

as we will have huge dumpsters for the trash," said Simmons.

"The trash is weighed and



Beautiful. There will be a sepa-"Bring your trash to the Park rate dumpster for the cans. We ask that you save the cans by placing them in a separate bag.



This dump truck drops off a load of debris at the city's bonfire grounds during Coahoma's cleanup effort in December. The pile of materials — which now measure 100 feet long, 50 feet wide and 20 feet tall — will be used to fuel a bonfire Saturday at 7 p.m.

Coahoma residents glad to see their hard work go up in smoke

By THOMAS JENKINS

Staff Writer

The city of Coahoma will celebrate the success of its ongoing effort to tear down dilapidated structures Saturday evening, as area residents and program volunteers gather to watch their hard work go up in smoke.

Literally.

"All of the materials from the buildings we've torn down have been put into a big pile for a bonfire," said Mayor Bill Read. "That pile is about 100 feet long, 50 feet wide and about 20 feet tall."

Read said the pile — which is located near 110 First St. — will be lighted at about 7 p.m., under the watchful eye of the Howard County Volunteer Fire Depart-ment, which will be pulling double duty during the celebration.

"We've partnered with the volunteer fire department to do this. They are there to keep the fire in hand, but they will also be cooking and serving hot dogs and drinks for those who come out to participate," said Read. "We're expecting quite a few people to be there and

"We'll continue to work for the benefit of Coahoma and Howard County, to make things better."

- Coahoma Mayor Bill Read

we'll have plenty of refreshments for everyone.'

Nearly a half-dozen dilapidated structures were removed from the Coahoma skyline in December, as

See CLEAN UP, Page 3A

Taxing times

Businesses studying proposed tax structure

By APRIL CASTRO

Associated Press Writer AUSTIN — As the owner of his family's 28year-old company, Kurt Summers is one of the few Texas businessmen who pay state business

taxes. The roughly \$8,000-ayear that he pays on Austin Generator Service is a tax that Gov. Rick Perry recently called

voluntary. For years, lawmakers have been trying to fix the loophole-ridden franchise tax that most Texas businesses, including Dell and SBC, don't pay.

The latest attempt, endorsed Wednesday by Perry, will likely be the starting point for a 30-day special session on the issue set to begin next month.

Summers, who took over the north Austin

His hope for a new tax is that it would level the See TAXES, Page 3A

Tax proposal glance

New sources of money: Restructured business

tax: \$4 billion. — State budget surplus:

\$1 billion — \$1-per-pack increase on cigarette tax: \$800 mil-

 Taxing auto sales based on a standardized vehicle value: \$75 million. New auditors in comptroller's office to help col-

lect taxes: \$50-\$60 million.

Property Tax Relief:

- Total: \$5.9 billion.

- Rate would go from a maximum \$1.50 per \$100 of property value to a maximum of \$1.30. Schools would receive enough state money to lower the rate to \$1

- Total cost: \$5.9 billion.

Source The Associated Press

business when his father playing field so that the 6 retired in 2002, said he percent of companies that pays the tax because he do pay will "no longer feels "an obligation to do shoulder it by ourselves. Under the new plan.

Hoops, Dreams and Goals tips off here Friday

Special to the Herald

West Texas Centers for MHMR will host its second annual Hoops, Dreams and Goals basketball tournament Friday in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The tournament is a time for the consumers of West Texas Centers for MHMR to participate in their own version of the Final Four and celebrate March

as Mental Retardation Month.

The event, co-sponsored by The Howard County Arc, Howard College and West Texas Centers, is a premier event that recognizes and honors the many individuals and families that live with mental retardation on a daily basis.

Eight teams, complete with their own cheerleading squads, will compete in games and special events at the home of the



Howard Hawks and Lady Hawks, said Shelley Smith, West Texas Centers CEO.

really had a great

time and everyone walked away a winner," she said.

spirit stick" award.

until the next tournament," Smith said.

Team trophies, individual The Howard College Hawk See HOOPS, Page 3A

College medals and team most valuable cheerleading squad is slated to player awards will be handed perform in the opening "cereout along with a new "traveling monies and get the spirit filled day started. Big Spring Mayor "The teams and local commu-Russ McEwen will be on hand "Our tournament nities are very excited about to officially declare March as last year was one of the tournament and we have Mental Retardation Month in the best days in our developed a new spirit stick. Big Spring and special events Center's history. We award that the winner will get such as free throw contests. to proudly display in their area dribbling relays and passing contests will be going on

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Sports

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

BSHS sending 18 to regional academic meet **Herald Staff Report**

Eighteen Big Spring High School students qualified in 21 events for the Class 4A Region University Interscholastic League

Academic Contest. Seventy-two BSHS students participated in the meet at UTPB in Odessa last Friday.

Although Big Spring did not have enough overall points to win the 2006 Academic

Trophy, the Steer speech and debate team and journalism students both earned firstplace team points, as did the 10th at state last year. school's one-act play cast and

"This year's win is the fifth State University. consecutive district title for both the speech and journalism team," said Leland Mallett, BSHS UIL academic coordinator.

It was also the second year in a row for the one-act play Sweepstakes team to win district.

2004 and 2005, and placed

The regional meet is scheduled for April 22 at Angelo

Prior to that, the Steer oneact play will perform in area competition April 7 in Snyder's Worsham Auditorium.

Among the top winners from Big Spring Friday were Will Shipman, first place in See ACADEMICS, Page 3A

Big Spring has won the current issues and informa-Region I academic title in tive speaking; Logan Wright, first in persuasive speaking and second in poetry inter pretation: Alvssa Rains, first in feature writing; Nathan Booth, first in editorial writing and second in news writing; and James Bowen, first in headline writing. Others were Casey Moore, second in editorial writing; Michelle McMurtrey, second in fea-

Obituaries

Greg Posey



Greg Posey, 44, of Big Spring died Monday, March 27, 2006, at his residence. Graveside funeral services are 2 p.m. Friday, March 31, 2006, at Mount Olive Memorial Park with Russ Mullins, minister of the Coahoma Church of Christ, officiating.

He will lie in state Friday from 10 a.m.

until service time.

He was born April 24, 1961, in Tucson, Ariz. He grew up and attended school in Big Spring and worked for Ameron, Inc., in

Burkburnett before returning to Big Spring in 1994. He then worked for Solitaire Mobile Home Manufacturing.

Survivors include four sons, Chris Posey and Daniel Posey, both of Stanton, Bobby Posey of Abilene and Zack Posey of Coahoma; his parents, Bob and Cynthia Posey of Sahuarita, Ariz.; two brothers, Robert Posey of Temperance, Mich., and Everett Posey of Arlington; and two granddaughters.

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

Janice L. Cook



Janice L. Cook, 59, of Fort Worth died Saturday, March 25, 2006, at her home. Services are 3 p.m. Saturday, April 1, 2006, in Biggers Funeral Chapel in Fort

She was born in Monahans to Louis and Mildred Murphy Cook. She taught school in Rule, Plains, Big Spring, Coahoma, Abilene and Keller school districts, where she retired in January

She was preceded in death by her mother and father. Survivors include her brothers, Kenneth Louis Cook Sr., and wife, Shirley of Odessa and Robert W. Cook and wife, Jessica of Spring; sister, Ruby Del Crim and husband, Keith of Clyde; several nieces and nephews and great-nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to Odyssey Hospice Care, 1200 Summit Ave., No. 270, Fort Worth 76102; American Cancer Society, 3301 W. Freeway, Fort Worth 76107 or a charity of choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Biggers Funeral Home in Fort Worth.

Sheriff's report

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following between 8 a.m. Wednesday and 8 a.m.

 EDDIE RAY MULANAZ, 31, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.

 KENNETH PAUL FLATT, 46, was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.

· WADE ALLEN BRYANT, 43, was arrested on a charge of theft of service more than \$20 but less than

· BILLY YANEZ, 42, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated, third or more offense.

· RONALD LEE COX, 49, was arrested on a judgment sentence of driving while intoxicated, third or

· RICHARD LEE OLIVAS, 19, was arrested on a charge of family violence.

 BURGLARY OF A HABITATION was reported in the 2700 block of East 25th St.

 DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE was reported in the 5500 block of Midway Road.

• SUSPICIOUS SUSPECT was reported in the 4900 block of Wasson Road.

Fire/EMS

The Big Spring Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services reported the following activity:

· MEDICAL was reported in the 2800 block of Lawrence. One person was transported to SMMC.

· MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of Goliad. One person was transported to SMMC. • STRUCTURE FIRE was reported in the 2600 block

of Ent. The fire was extinguished.

Around Town

- · HERITAGE MUSEUM is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday. An admission fee, which includes entry into the Potton House, is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.
- HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday.
- POTTON HOUSE, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Take note

- Mendoza to help defray medical costs associated with a liver transplant starts at 2 p.m. Sunday. Plates are \$5 and may be ordered by calling Nora Valles at La Vedera, 267-2200; Mike Sanchez at 263-3589; or Manuel Ramirez at 263-0897.
- HOWARD COLLEGE SPRING FLING presents the USAF Band of the West "Top Flight" at 1 p.m. April 5 in the Dora Roberts Student Union Building. For more information, call 264-5011.
- HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM PRESENTS JOHN-NIE LOU AVERY at 6 p.m. today at the museum. In honor of Women's History Month, Avery will speak about the achievements of women in the development of aviation and World War II. For more information, call the museum at 264-1999.
- AN ACCOUNT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT CITIZENS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION for 21-monthold Madysyn Hillger, in care of her grandmother, Debra Hillger. Madysyn has been diagnosed with a rare neurological-genetic disorder, Rett Syndrome. Donations will be applied to travel, medical and lodging expenses. For more information, call 264-7340 or
- · A CELEBRATION OF AMERICAN MUSIC: GEORGE GERSHWIN'S "PORGY AND BESS" with the Big Spring Symphony Chorus is scheduled for 8 p.m. April 8 in the Municipal Auditorium. For more information, contact Dr. Keith Graumann, symphony conductor, at 267-1626 or e-mail Graumann@cox.net
- AARP TAX PREPARATION FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION is at the Senior Center Monday from 8 a.m. until noon. The AARP program will wrapup for the year April 10. Electronic filing will be available. For more information on the program, contact Gloria Hopkins at 267-6733.
- FIFTH ANNUAL CITYWIDE EASTER EGG HUNT is set for noon April 15 at the Birdwell Lane Park featuring an Easter bunny. Sponsorships are available. For more information, call Jennifer Patton at 432-263-6351 or e-mail Jennifer.patton@kbyg.net.
- KEEP BIG SPRING BEAUTIFUL FLEA MAR-KET is 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. May 6 in the Big Spring Mall parking lot and booth space is available. Applications are available at the mall office or the Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 263-9231.
- BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1986 20th REUNION needs addresses and contact information for classmates. Call Kelly at 816-4540.
- FORSAN EX-STUDENT ASSOCIATION ANNU-AL ALL-CLASS REUNION is Aug. 5. Names, addresses and class years for Forsan exes are needed. Submit information or pictures for a newsletter before June 15 to Ida Lou Raney, 5216 Dawson Dr., Big Spring or call 432 267-2414, Jimmy Anderson at 432 267-6143 or Opal

Discover Another World, Read! You never know what you might find.

A BRISKET DINNER BENEFIT for Willie Stout at 325 574-2150, or e-mail hiraney@crcom.net.

- BIG SPRING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1977 is gathering addresses for the 30th reunion. Mail contact information to Emily Boyd, 10817 Sandpiper Lane, Dallas or e-mail emilyboyd1@aol.com.
- HANGAR 25 AIR MUSEUM IS COLLECTING RECIPES to be included in a 2006 cookbook which will display memories of Big Spring over the years. Share your memories and your recipes. Contact the Hangar at 264-1999 for recipe forms
- HOME HOSPICE HAS COOKBOOKS with nearly 500 recipes on sale for \$18 with proceeds to benefit Hospice House. Recipes submitted by volunteers, coordinators and owners of Home Hospice. Call Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599 for more information.
- ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.
- THE MOBILE MEALS PROGRAM that delivers meals to the elderly and homebound needs volunteers to deliver meals. If you can spare one hour per week to deliver eight or 10 meals, you are needed. About 85 to 90 meals are prepared, packaged and delivered to recipients within the city limits of Big Spring. If you can volunteer, please call 263-4016 before 3 p.m.
- · 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.
- LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS is accepting appointments for 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.
- CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH is looking for infant cars seats to be given to needy families. Call Karen at 263-3517 or the church at 263-5683.
- BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING counties are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

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Bulletin board

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

- · Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room. Call 267-6479.
- The Prospector's Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at 606 E. Third St. The public is invited to these meetings. For more information, contact Lola Lamb at 263-3340 or Doyle and Virginia McClain at 263-8407.

- · Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. at 1019 Nolan St. 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.
- · 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 senior citizens are invited.

SATURDAY

· Texas Trash-Off.

• Eagles Lodge Area 3188 hosts the District 4 Convention. Registration begins at 10 a.m. for all old and new members. The lodge is located at 703 W. Third. For more information, call 263-6862.

SUNDAY

- · Daylight-saving time begins. Set clock forward
- Eagles Lodge Area 3188 hosts the District 4 Convention for all old and new members. The lodge is located at 703 W. Third. For more information, call 263-6862.

• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.

• The Big Spring Cruisers club meeting at 7 p.m. in the Texas RV Park meeting room.

District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets

at noon at 610 Scurry. • Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306

W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758. • Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756

meets at 5:30 p.m. Monday in the 11th and Birdwell Lane Church of Christ. A different program is offered every week, and anyone 7 years old or older is welcome to attend. Please enter through the northwest door. Call 263-2786 for more information.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s. Light and variable winds becoming southeast 10 to 15 mph in the afternoon.

Friday night...Increasing clouds. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows around 60. Southeast winds

10 to 15 mph. Saturday...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 80s.

South winds 10 to 20 mph. Saturday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the

mid 50s. Sunday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s. Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Monday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s. Monday night...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers

and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 50s.

Tuesday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 70s. The chance of rain is 20 percent.

Tuesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 50s.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 1-4-5-29-40. Bonus Ball: 17. Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$21 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 2-8-13-15-24. Number matching five of five: 0. Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 0-8-2

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Dianne Marquez

Missed Your Paper: 432-263-7335 (Mon.-Fri. 8a.m.-7p.m. Sun. 8a.m.-noon)

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ly Howard & Martin Counties; \$13.25 elsewhere.

Herald Staff Repo

Alon U

Representatives Alon USA an International U1 Operating En Local 351 reached year agreemen morning, avertin sible strike at t Spring Refinery.

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The current c ends at midnight and there had bee talk about a p strike if an agr could not be a before then.

TRASH-OF

Continued from Page This is a fund-ra

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Simmons said ma

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TAXES

Continued from Page

Summers calculate he would come o after savings fr accompanying p tax cut.

"Those of us th been paying the share should de see some savings Summers, 47. think that's nec an equal and fai

ment.' In the last three lawmakers have re ly stumbled over structure a new b tax. They worri proposals would n equally to differe ness structures. A ness-friendly Repu have been hesitan a new business t could be harmful creation and ec

growth. Perry said this p

CLEAN UP

Continued from Page

more than 50 vol - from high sch dents to const companies — tor five abandoned bu all part of the town ever Trash-Off.

The project —

was the brainchil city's Rural Com

HOOPS

Continued from Page

throughout the da opening ceremon: begin at 9 a.m. an is set for 9:30 a.m.



Alon USA, Local 351 sign new contract

The new

March 31, 2010.

becomes effective April 1

and extends through

Members of the Local

351 workman's commit-

tee working on the agree-

ment included chairman

Rodney Moore, Joey

Pate, Brian Scoggins.

Gail Damgaard, Rolland

Rose and Steve Newton.

Representing Alon USA

were Imken, Ernie

Morgan, operations man-

ager; Randy Hillman,

OMS, pipelines and ter-

minals; Roddy Caffey,

maintenance manager;

and Jim Alexander, oper-

Local 351 were Randy

Griffin, business manag-

er, and Toby Turbett,

business representative,

ations superintendent.

contract

Herald Staff Report

Representatives from Alon USA and the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 351 reached a fouryear agreement this morning, averting a possible strike at the Big Spring Refinery.

Keith Imken, Alon USA general manager, human resources, said the parties signed the pact about 8:30 this morning. It includes wage increases, work rule changes and minor benefit changes, he said.

The current contract ends at midnight Friday and there had been some talk about a possible strike if an agreement could not be reached before then.

around.

both of Borger.

Also

Senators divided on whether illegal ACADEMICS immigrants should leave and when

stay or should they go, those 11 million illegal immigrants living in the United States?

While that question hangs over a Senate debate on border security and immigration, most senators agree on allowing undocumented workers to stay at least temporarily. The fight is over whether they should have to leave three years to six years down the road.

Even senators who oppose providing a path to citizenship to illegal immigrants are willing to grant them temporary legal status as long as they register with the government, pay fines and eventually leave.

"Our first obligation is to bring them out of the shadows, make sure we know who they are, why they're here, make sure we have a name and some kind of identification for them." Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist said.

Then there will be a period of time, whether it's three years or six years ... but they can continue to work here and at that point in time — that's where the debate is — do they have to go home or

WASHINGTON (AP) - Should they are they put on some sort of path to citizenship?" Frist said.

President Bush reiterated support for a temporary worker program as he took off for a meeting in Mexico with host President Vicente Fox and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Bush said workers should be given tamper-resistant identity cards and go to the back of the line when they seek

"I think it makes sense to have a temporary worker program that says you're not an automatic citizen to help, one, enforce the border; and, two, uphold the decency of America," Bush said.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who has proposed allowing illegal immigrants earn a path to citizenship through work, was buoyed by Bush's comments.

"We should reject temporary status and required departure because they are bad for business," Kennedy said. "What do we gain if millions of immigrant workers who fuel our economy are required to spend weeks... waiting for permission to continue their work?"

debris; planted 4.2 million include beautifying parks and recreation areas, cleaning seashores and waterways, handling recycling collections, picking up litter, planting trees and flowers, and conducting educational programs and litter-free events.

For more information on the trash off, contact Simmons at 263-4607.

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

electricity generators to hospitals and nursing homes, the current tax formula drops his tax liability when the company takes a loss. That's what happened the year following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

He worries that this plan would not allow for those tough economic times.

"We did see a decline in '02, it was a difficult year raising the rate on busi- for us," he said. "We saw nesses as a source of more a sharp decline in revenue and therefore a sharp decline in the franchise tax.

"Trying to survive had that been the full burden of five- to 10-grand, it could have been the one

straw that put us under." The bill exempts company's with annual gross

receipts of \$300,000 or less. Hammond estimates that would apply to about half of the businesses in Texas. Contact Staff Writer

Continued from Page 1A

ture writing; Josh Acuff, second in Lincoln Douglas Debate; Braden Burchett, second in mathematics; Maurice Africh, second in persuasive speaking; Jessica Stone, second in social studies and third in science; Malle Carrasco, third in persuasive speaking; Matt Soto, third in literary criticism; and Steven Lucan, third in account-

District 4-4A Point Totals: Andrews 534, Big Spring 413, Frenship 224, Plainview 109, Lake View 107, Estacado 53.

Big Spring results Accounting: 2. Whitney Weir, 3. Steven Lucas. Current issues: 1. Will

Shipman. Editorial Writing: 1. Nathan Booth, 2. Casey Moore.

Feature Writing: 1. Alyssa Rains, 2. Michelle McMurtrey, 6. Lauren Sage.

Headline Writing: 1. James Bowen.

Informative Speaking: 1. Will Shipman, 4. Blake Roach, 5. Josh Acuff.

Lincoln Douglas Debate: 2. Josh Acuff. Literary Criticism: 3. Matt Soto, 5. Brittainy

Horton. Mathematics: 2. Braden Burchett.

Number Sense: 5. Brandon Kinard, 6. Kade Parker.

Writing: 2. News Nathan Booth, 3. Taylor Parks, 4. James

Persua . Speaking: 1. Logan Wright, 2. Maurice Africh, 3. Malle Carrasco. Poetry Interpretation: 2. Logan Wright, 6. Carlita

Prose Interpretation: 1. Rebekah Horton, 6. Malle Carrasco.

Writing: 6. Ready Jessica Stone.

Science: 3. Jessica Stone.

Social Studies: 2. Jessica Stone, 6. Kristina Morehead.

Team Events Accounting: 2, Current 2, Examination Debate: 1 and 3, Journalism: 1, Number Sense: 2. One-Act Play: 1, Social

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

Studies: 2, Speech: 1.

24th & Johnson 267-8288 Florine "Pete" Cobb, 87, died Monday. Graveside services were at 11:00 AM Thursday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Airgas.

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TRASH-OFF

Continued from Page 1A

This is a fund-raiser for Keep Big Spring Beautiful."

While the day long event is volunteer driven, Simmons said many area residents can make a difference by simply taking a walk around their prop-

"We need to clean up our town. Everyone should check their property for its appearance,

Continued from Page 1A

Summers calculated that

he would come out even

after savings from an

accompanying property

"Those of us that have

been paying the lion's

share should definitely see some savings," said Summers, 47. "I don't

think that's necessarily

an equal and fair treat-

In the last three years,

lawmakers have repeated-

ly stumbled over how to

structure a new business

tax. They worried that

proposals would not apply

equally to different busi-

ness structures. And busi-

ness-friendly Republicans

have been hesitant to levy

a new business tax that

could be harmful to job

creation and economic

Perry said this proposal

CLEAN UP

Continued from Page 1A

more than 50 volunteers

— from high school stu-

dents to construction

companies — tore down

five abandoned buildings,

all part of the town's first-

The project — which

was the brainchild of the

city's Rural Community

growth.

TAXES

check the front and see if it appealing to the eye. Pick up a piece of trash, even if it is not yours. That's one less piece to fly

"Let's pull together to make this a wonderful

Simmons said she's excited about the Trash-Off and is eager to see the

finally has "broken the

code on how you get the

capital-intensive compa-

nies and the high volume,

low margin companies —

the restaurateurs, the

HEBs, supermarkets —

into a system that treats

If adopted, the new

structure would tax busi-

nesses at 1 percent of

each company the option

salary and health care or

a sole proprietorship or

For more than 80 years,

the state's main business

tax has been based on a

company's net assets. It

fell heavily on oil and gas

companies, utilities and

others with a lot of land

and equipment. In the

1980s, companies success-

College Initiative (RCCI)

is a collective step in

the right direction,

"We're members of the

RCCI effort, and we've

been talking about clean-

ing up the town during

those meetings," said

Read. "It came to fruition

back in November when

we started putting people

in place to get the job

according to Read.

partnership

general

would be exempt.

them fair and equitably."

impact it has on the community and the way many outsiders view it. "It really makes a great impact on the community. I get more input from visitors and citizens in

representing

event which reflects our community pride. We need schools, church groups, individuals, businesses, organizations plus Adopt-a-Highway groups."

fully sued over the tax,

the different areas and

it's great," said Simmons.

Cleanup is the nation's

improvement program.

Last year 2.4 million

Great American Cleanup

volunteers collected a

record breaking 208 mil-

lion pounds of litter and

largest

The Great American

community

Legal loopholes and a changing Texas economy have caused the tax to dwindle with age. What was once an oil- and agriculture-based economy is now more service-orient-

gross receipts, giving This tax proposal recogof deductions for either nizes that shift. Perry employee benefits such as said.

cost of goods. Retailers time opportunity," he told would pay 0.5 percent. a crowd of reporters and Businesses structured as business lobbyists Wednesday as he introduced the new plan.

Opposition from the state's high-powered business lobby contributed to lawmaker's past failures on the issue.

forcing the Legislature to change it in 1991 by making it more like a corporate income tax.

"This is a once-in-a life-

The state's two largest business groups are withholding criticism, but have not yet endorsed the

"We'll continue to work

for the benefit of

Coahoma and Howard

County, to make things

better. We'd like to see

some industry come into

the county and have hous-

es built to support that.

This is a step in that

And as the city and pro-

ject volunteers get ready

to celebrate one set of vic-

tories, Read said the effort

direction."

to take a look at it," said Bill Hammond, president of the Texas Association of Business. Will Newton, state director of the National Federation

flowers and bulbs;

cleaned 176 miles or

roads, streets and high-

ways; and cleaned 10,250

miles of rivers, lakes and

In 2006, the Great

American Cleanup is

expected to involve close

to 2.5 million people vol-

unteering more than 8

million hours to clean,

beautify and improve

16,000 communities dur-

ing 30,000 events from

coast to coast in all 50

states. Activities will

"I would characterize it

as a very serious proposal

to deal with a real world

problem and we're going

shorelines.

Independent Business, said he has concerns like what would prevent future lawmakers from state money during tough budget years.

"There is some concern, of course, on those details that are coming out," Newton said. "If it is a tax based on gross receipts, is there a mechanism that will ensure that if you're losing money during hard economic times, that you don't still have a tax lia-

bility?" For Summers' business, which provides backup

is still going strong. "We're planning another work day similar to the one we had in December for April 25," said Read. "Things are going a little slower this time around because some of the property owners aren't as willing to help as last time, but we'll get the job

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Snyder, TX.

HOOPS

ever Trash-Off.

Continued from Page 1A

throughout the day. The opening ceremonies will begin at 9 a.m. and tip-off is set for 9:30 a.m.

ties in West Texas. The event is open to the cindy.smith@ public and everyone is wtcmhmr.org

West Texas Centers for encouraged to come out MHMR provides care for and join in on the fun. If more than 2,200 people you would like to more with mental retardation information or would like and mental illness and to volunteer, contact their families in 23 coun- Cindy Smith at 432 263-0007, ext. 256 or e-mail

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April 1st & 2nd Saturday: 10-6pm Sunday: 12-5pm **Howard County Fair Barns**

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momentum and giving the advan-

tage to the early frontrunner who

can amass money and support in

the year or two before the process

begins. How do you spell Hillary?

There's just one problem with

the one George Bush faces. Grass-

roots Democrats are increasingly

united in their opposition to the

war in Iraq. Hillary Clinton has

of the war, but she has insisted

that America must complete its

Her position puts her totally at

odds with her constituency, partic-

ularly with the activists who dom-

what makes it particularly compli-

changing her position will expose

her to the already familiar charge

that she is nothing but a political

inate caucuses. It's a situation

ripe for embarrassment — and

cated for Mrs. Clinton is that

mission, whatever that is.

criticized the president's conduct

this scenario, and it's precisely

"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

John A. Moseley Managing Editor Bill McClellan **News Editor**

OUR VIEWS

Good luck, academic contestants

lthough we're not about to apologize for being attracted to the stadium lights on fall Friday nights and ball fields during the summer, we'll admit we don't always give our academic students the credit they deserve.

Part of that is the nature of the "game," of course. Speech and debate contestants aren't cheered on by thousands of fans waving school banners and blow ing air horns. No, their competitions take place in a totally different atmosphere, where "cheering" amounts to a wish of "good luck" from a fellow student, sponsor or a parent.

Still, we know that students, involved in extracurricular academic activities put in hours that are as long and tedious as anyone who puts on shoulder pads or swings a tennis racket.

Needless to say — although we will — many of those students do both.

It's that time of the school year when many Crossroads area students are deeply involved in University Interscholastic League academic contests. Big Spring High School's cross examination debate team just completed state competition, for instance, while the one-act play cast and crew earned a spot to the area contest next week in Snyder. Meanwhile, 18 local students are getting set for the Region I Class 4A UIL Academic Contest later next month in San

All will be going into competition with little fanfare no bands playing, no cheerleaders and no mascots. So, we'd like to take this moment to say "way to go, all you Steers, Bulldogs, Buffaloes, Wildcats, Bearkats and Mustangs." We're proud of who you are and what you do. We hope you attain the goals you have set before you and wish you the best.

How To Contact Us

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opin-

In order that we might better serve your needs, we

- offer several ways in which you may contact us:
- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

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

also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

When we are blind to You, Lord, may our eyes be opened to Your word.

Clearing the way for Hillary

here's good news for Hillary. Gore is out. Dubai is done. The rules are in her favor. The nomination would seem to be hers for the asking, but for one not-so-small problem. George Bush's war is hers, too, and it is the one storm cloud on the senator's



ESTRICH

2008 horizon. In an odd twist, her fate is tied to the man she most vociferously opposes.

Al Gore wasn't about to beat Hillary for the Democratic nomination. The guy who went to Saudi Arabia to criticize America and who refused Bill Clinton's help in his own campaign would not have toppled the female frontrunner. But he would have made life more difficult for a lot of former Clinton-Gore types, who had worked for both of them, contributed to both of them and felt loyalty to both of them.

He would have made it a little harder for her to talk about "our" administration, and take credit for its accomplishments. In the end, Hillary generates much more passionate support than Gore. She would have out-raised him, outorganized him and out-polled him, but it was a contest she didn't need, and a beating he clearly didn't want. Instead, the former vice president and presidential candidate has done the right thing, and announced that he isn't running for president in 2008.

That's one piece of good news for the senator from New York. Another was the decision by the powers that are in Dubai to cave rather than fight, and sell their U.S. port interests to an American entity. That issue needed to go away, even though it looked like a winner for Mrs. Clinton, because it positioned her on the opposite side of her husband, which is an extremely awkward position for both of them, and raised the uncomfortable question of how her husband earns his income, and how much the public has a right to know about it.

One of the New York tabloids is trumpeting the fact that Hillary is now on top, and that what hap-

an someone please explain

Clinton always get a pass

from the secular left when

why Hillary and Bill

they invoke God in their public

ridiculed for championing family

values while Hillary is glorified as

Do the God-mocking among us

doubt the Clintons' sincerity and

threat to their sacred church-state

thus not perceive them to be a

separation doctrine? Or could

there be some other reason we

don't see hysterical editorials

Jesus Christ, as when Hillary

recently dragged Him and the

when the power couple mention

Good Samaritan into the immigra-

"American Taliban"? Why don't

the media pillory Hillary like they

did John Ashcroft for saying, "We

Shouldn't someone step forward

and ask, "Can a deeply religious

person be president?" like Tony

"Can a deeply religious person be

In 1992, Bill Clinton likened his

Pharisees and the "sanctimonious

Testament. In 1996, he received a

glowing tribute from the media for

ranking "near the top of the list of

fortably about religion" - as if, all

presidents who have talked com-

of a sudden, they deemed that a

Hillary received kudos for urging

her party to reclaim the mantle of

family values. (Memo to the short-

term memory challenged: The libs'

nose-holding scramble to recon-

nect with "values voters" didn't

good thing. That same year,

Mauro, then of USA Today,

attorney general?"

inquired concerning Ashcroft:

Republican opponents to the

money-changers" of the New

have no king but Jesus?"

Why is no one calling Hillary an

discourse? Why is Dan Quayle

a dutiful disciple of evangelist

John Wesley?

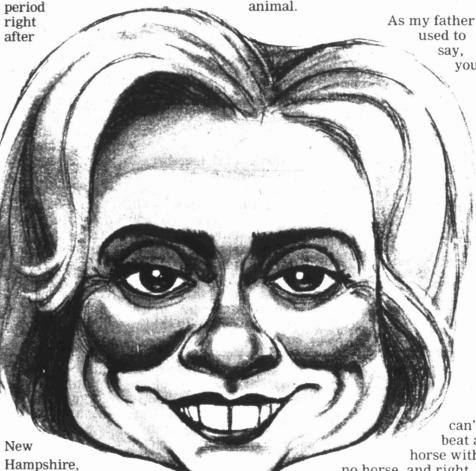
gets a free pass

Hillary

pened with Dubai won't happen again because Hill, not Bill, is calling the shots. She's certainly the one in office, and she obviously decides where she stands. But don't believe everything you read. Hillary is no Al Gore. The most brilliant mind in American politics is not being sent into hibernation, as he was in 2000. Not even close. I don't care who carries the title, the campaign manager will be the man from Hope.

The process, as Democrats are now adjusting it, is also geared to favor Hillary. The latest commission on delegate selection has recfirst caucus in Iowa and the first primary in New Hampshire, one or two additional states will be Iowa and New Hampshire, and one or two primaries will be added in the

ommended that in addition to the allowed to hold caucuses between period right after



before the "window" opens for all states Feb. 5. Thus, it's entirely possible that the nomination could be decided by Feb. 5, depriving an insurgent or long-shot candidate of much time to build

begin with their soul-searching

the 2004 presidential election.)

ing the Clintons were the same

those lampooning her quasi-

seances with Eleanor

dabbling in other New

Age concepts, such as

"Politics of Meaning.

Aren't we witness-

ing a glaring double

standard here? When

the Clintons brandish

warn of an impending

theocracy? Why does-

Post's E.J. Dionne vilify Hillary

as a wedge issue" like he did

George W. Bush after the 2004

for "the exploitation of strong reli-

gious feelings" and using "religion

Do you remember when Hillary,

during a speech in Albany, N.Y.,

"religious and moral values" were

sex? Or how about her speech that

Foundation — a group that recom-

multiple references to God, includ-

she said, "I've always been a pray-

Why didn't anyone skewer her

for that like they did President

Bush for reportedly saying that

attacking Iraq he prayed "for the

these now-silent critics presume

strength to do the Lord's will?" Do

when he was contemplating

in January 2005, suggested that

important in combating teenage

same month in Boston to the

National-Ten Point Leadership

mends faith-based remedies for

gang criminality? There, after

ing thanking Him for the Ten

Point program and its workers,

the Bible, where is

n't the Washington

election?

ing person."

Maureen Dowd to

Roosevelt and her

Michael Lerner's

group therapy in the aftermath of

Of course, the journalists prais-

ones who defended Hillary against

DAVID

LIMBAUGH

no horse, and right now, those who would stop Mrs. Clinton still need a horse to lead the antiwar effort who is more than a symbolic candidate. That's why it's particularly good news whenever a credible opponent drops out, as Al Gore did this week.

Hillary means something else by 'praying'"? Or do they excuse her because they believe she favors keeping religion a private matter?

Nice try, but Hillary has been quite clear on that point, too. At the Boston speech she said, "There is no contradiction between support for faith-based initiatives and upholding our constitutional principles." More pointedly, she said there must be room for religious people to "live out their faith in

the public square." Also don't forget the trio of spiritual advisers Bill Clinton surrounded himself with following his DNA-coerced confession of relations with "that woman." Not to mention Clinton's statement in a post-presidential sermon to his former fellow congregants at the Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C. that, 'You cannot imagine the peace, the comfort, the strength I have drawn from my Sundays here." Hum, could he have been talking about the same kind of "strength" President Bush had in mind in his prayer concerning Iraq? Surely not, right?

Liberals don't cross that hallowed line.

I'll not address the curious context of Hillary's particular biblical references, as others have covered that subject well.

But I will say that when certain famed liberal politicians, like Hillary and John Kerry, invoke Scripture, it seems transparently incongruous.

It's as if they're saying, "Look at me, Middle America, I am bilingual, too: I can talk Scripture as fluently as I can speak English, and I can interweave religion and politics as seamlessly as Roy Moore. So vote for me, Biblethumpers.'

The next time the secular media crucifies a conservative politician for openly professing the relevance of faith in his public life, try to remember their refusal to inflict the same rhetorical punishment on those in their ideological camp — and ask yourself, "Why?"

Tannily

Before you plan Most farmers perform

ents to produce healt. gardeners should also to determine whether balance to support a

While home growe equipment handy in tl extension service ager on taking a soil sampl

before planting," say agronomist with New Agricultural Science help you determine w to your soil, to keep ;

Nourish your so Just as humans need a soil needs fertilizer to produce. Fertilizers e ring elements. Based

choose the perfect fer Organic matter, suc many nutrients that p materials alone seldo of nutrients. Also, so

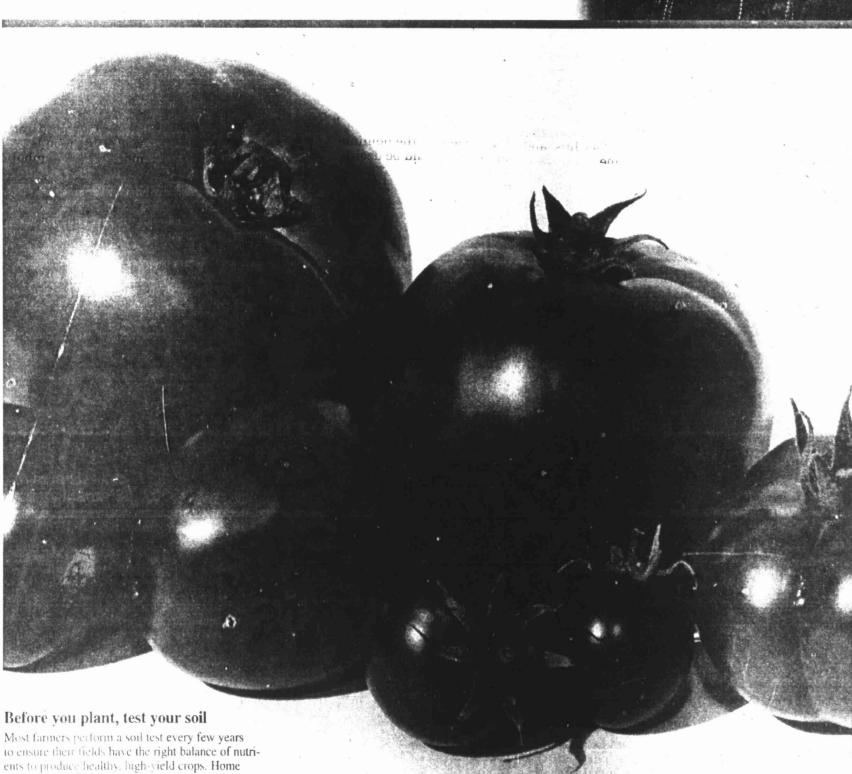
Howdoes yourgarden grow?

Fertilizer facts for healthy soil, healthy plants and healthy food

RESTRUCTED BY STATE OF A SYNDICAL

rowing healthy, fresh vegetables in your backyard is easier said than done, right? Wrong.

Growing a bountiful garden is easier than you think. In fact, nearly half of the nation's homeowners grow vegetables for their dinner tables and to share with family and friends. Growing fresh vegetables for your family is as healthy as it is rewarding because the nutrients in vegetables provide vitamins and minerals that are essential to your good health.



Most farmers perform a soil test every few years to ensure their fields have the right balance of nutrients to produce healthy, high-yield crops. Home gardeners should also test their soil before planting to determine whether the soil has the proper nutrient balance to support a garden.

While home growers may not have proper testing equipment handy in the garden shed, a local cooperative extension service agent will be able to provide advice on taking a soil sample and conducting a soil test.

"The best time to obtain a soil test is six weeks before planting," says Dr. Robert Flynn, extension agronomist with New Mexico State University's Agricultural Science Center at Artesia. "That will help you determine what nutrients you need to add to your soil, to keep your garden healthy."

Nourish your soil

Just as humans need vitamins to supplement their diets, soil needs fertilizer to help plants grow nutrient-rich produce. Fertilizers enrich soil with naturally occurring elements. Based on your soil test results, you can choose the perfect fertilizer for your soil conditions.

Organic matter, such as animal manure, contains many nutrients that plants need. However, organic materials alone seldom provide the proper balance of nutrients. Also, some organics have high levels of carbon, which can temporarily tie up nitrogen in the

soil, causing leaves to turn yellow.

"With organics, you don't always know the nutrient, balance you're getting," says Flynn. "Commercial fertilizers are generally easier to use and allow for greater accuracy.

Commercial fertilizers are labeled with three numbers, which provide the proportion of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium — the three essential elements for plant growth. For example, a bag of fertilizer labeled 8-8-8 contains 8 percent each of nitrogen,

phosphorus and potassium. When using organic fertilizers, high volumes of organic matter are required. For example, if an organic fertilizer has only 3 percent nitrogen and a commercial fertilizer has 21 percent nitrogen, you would need seven times the amount of organic fertilizer to meet the nutrient levels of commercial

"If you do decide to use organic material, keep in mind that it takes time to mineralize and become inorganic, a form plants can use, so timing of application is essential to ensure plants are provided with the proper nutrient balance when they need it most,"

Plant therapy

Select a garden plot that receives full sunlight a healthy garden needs at least six hours of sun each day. The garden should be large enough to accommodate spreading and growth.

Fertilizer should be applied to the garden bed one week before planting, by distributing the recommended amount of fertilizer evenly over the growing area.

Apply water-soluble fertilizer three to six weeks after planting, depending on what the fertilizer instructions recommend

Fertilizer should be applied more frequently when the plant is growing rapidly. At this stage, plants are removing high levels of nutrients from the soil to sustain their growth. To keep plants healthy, monitor your nutrient levels and replace the nutrients removed from the soil as needed.

"Think of the soil as a nutrient reservoir," says Flynn. "Fill the reservoir as it empties until it is balanced. Perform a soil test each year, eventually your soil will reach a balanced state.

Beyond weeding and watering

Tips for long-term garden maintenance

Fertilizer trouble-shooting

It's not uncommon for soil to need a little pick-me-up later in the growing season as your vegetables remove nutrients from the soil to grow. Healthy, thriving plants will resist insects, outgrow weeds and produce nutrient-rich crops. If your plants aren't receiving the proper nutrients, you'll know it.

- A plant with yellow leaves may lack nitrogen.
- A low produce yield may be due to a nitrogen deficiency.
- A plant with stunted growth and late maturity may lack potassium and/or phosphorus.
- A plant with a scorched appearance on leaves may lack
- A plant with purplish-colored leaves may lack phosphorus.
- A plant with a bruised, rotted appearance may lack calcium.
- Fruit and vegetables that do not ripen on time may lack phosphorus.
- A plant prone to wilting, and which does not seem to absorb water efficiently, may lack potassium.

Long-term care

Want fresh veggies year after year? Keep these tips in mind for healthy produce each sease ::

- Perform a soil test annually until test levels reach medium high to high nutrient levels, to stock soil with the nutrients it needs.
- Rotate garden beds and plant positioning year after year. This will prevent disease build-up from affecting specific species.
- If you enjoy raising the same vegetables each year, grow a flowering plant, such as sweet peas, between crops. As growing the same plant will remove essential nutrients from the soil, rotate with a plant that requires different proportions of these nutrients.
- Plants requiring different nutrient levels can be placed together and can actually aid other plants, as they won't be competing for

More affordable Toyota FJ Cruiser will keep off-roaders engaged, active

By ANN M. JOB

For The Associated Press Looking for something different to drive? How about a quirky-looking, new sport utility vehicle that's ready and waiting for spirited off-roading?

The 2007 Toyota FJ Cruiser arriving in showrooms this spring won't be confused with today's popular crossover SUVs that are car-based and have mainstream styling.

Designed engineered as Toyota's most cre lible off-roader, the five-passenger FJ has almost cartoonish styling, a surprisingly wide stance, a practical, easyto-clean, rubber-type floor covering inside and an outer roof that comes in only one color — white.

The sixth SUV for Toyota showrooms, the V6-powered FJ has a starting a manufacturer's suggested retail price, destination including charge, of \$22,315.

Price-wise, this puts it between the 2006 Toyota RAV4 small SUV, which starts at \$20,905 for a fourcylinder model, and the 2006 Highlander, which starts at \$25,135 for a fourcylinder model.

Expected to appeal to young, single, active guys, the high-riding FJ is likely to compete strongperforming, rugged, offroad SUVs. These include the Jeep Wrangler, which starts at \$21,110 for a base,

at \$29,500 with five- manual cylinder powerplant.

Indeed, the FJ's overall length and width are akin to that of Hummer's H3, but the FJ's engine has torque than both the H3 crawl ratios. and Wrangler.

Cruiser sound familiar?

in the United States comfortable accouterments and a bounciness in the ride. starting price, including destination charge, of \$56,720, it's now the most expensive Toyota-badged

offer authentic SUV capability at a new, more affordable price.

churned through mud at a rpm. steady pace, mounted boulders without hesitation and danced skillfully through big dirt in the H3 and that moguls. It descended hilly produces a maximum 225 dirt paths with the skill of foot-pounds of torque at a mountain goat.

The four-wheel drive models with the five- in this newest Toyota. automatic speed transmission, so a driver

2006 model with six- must engage all four cylinder engine, and 2006 wheels when needed. In Hummer H3, which starts the test vehicle with transmission, however, four-wheel drive was full time.

Drivers downshift into a low gear for difficult terrain and more horsepower and find wonderfully slow

The on-road ride wasn't Does the name FJ as truckish as I expected, but passengers do feel Since 1958, Toyota has vibrations nearly all the sold Land Cruiser SUVs time and the FJ shuddered noticeably some of them known by when it rolled over FJ model names. Even potholes. On curves, I today, Toyota's Land noticed a tippy feeling, Cruiser remains a and on uneven road brutish, capable vehicle, surfaces on country but with V8 power, roads, there was some bobbing up and down and

But the interior was quieter than I expected, though at highway speeds the wind noise around the vehicle grows louder. I In contrast, the new FJ also heard the engine Cruiser is designed to each time I pressed on the accelerator.

Well-parsed comes from the FJ's 4-Wearing standard mud- liter, double overhead and-snow-rated. 17-inch scam V6 that generates 239 radial tires, the five- horsepower and 278 footpassenger test FJ 4X4 pounds of torque at 3,700

This compares with the 220-horsepower, 3.5-liter, inline five cylinder that's 2,800 rpm.

Don't look system is part-time in exemplary fuel economy With four-wheel-drive

and

Toyota FJ Cruiser

transmission, the test FJ astounding had an estimated fuel economy rating of 16 miles a gallon in city driving and 19 mpg on the highway. This is similar to the rating for the H3 and also rivals the rating for a Toyota Tundra fullsize pickup truck with V8 and two-wheel drive.

In addition, Toyota lists 91 octane gasoline as the FJ's required fuel, while the Wrangler and H3 use regular unleaded gas.

The quirky looks of the FJ belie a meaty, more than 4,000-pound vehicle with a solid-feeling structure. The platform is from the Land Cruiser Prado, a truckish vehicle that Toyota sells in other parts of the world.

Passengers must climb up to get into the FJ, whose headroom is an offroaders, the FJ floor is

40-plus a inches. From the driver's material, not carpet, and seat, I looked down on seat fabric is watercars and far ahead in repellant. traffic. I could even see that the sunroof in a stability control with Toyota Camry ahead of traction control are me was open.

But I wished the front front had height tester adjustment. At 5-foot-4, I found myself sitting too low there to feel comfortable. Indeed, my nose seemed to be just level with the top of the dashboard.

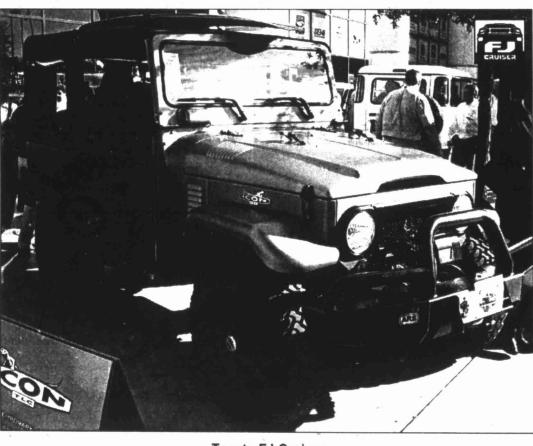
Still, the FJ's so-called "suicide doors" — side doors with rear, rather than front, hinges closed with an impressive thud, not some loose, cheap sound.

In keeping with the lifestyle of rugged

Anti-lock brakes and standard. I wish that seat-mounted passenger seat in the airbags and curtain airbags were standard,

Hooks and tie-down points populate the rear cargo area, which is reached via a tailgate door that swings open to the left. This leaves a clear path for people walking up curbside to load items.

And the reason for the white roof? On the concept FJ vehicle shown at auto shows, this roof color was a popular feature for consumers.



Toyota FJ Cruiser

Q&A

Knight-Ridder Services

Q. My wife brought our Land Rover Discovery with 58,000 miles to a CarMax store, where they offered her \$11,000 for it, noting that the vehicle was in good shape.

But they had a vehicle identical to ours on the lot with 59,000 miles, a nohaggle price of \$21,000 and a note that the book price was \$22,500. I was offended by the low-ball offer. What are your thoughts?

-P.A., St. Charles, Ill.

A. CarMax offers to buy consumers' cars, but not at retail value or what customers would expect to pay for them on the used-car lot.

Our thoughts? That you think you should have been offered the retail was likely the wholesale price.

That figure allows the dealer to spend a few bucks to prepare the car for resale and make a

hefty profit? Seems so, remain open?

providing it can sell the vehicle without investing a lot in repairs and providing it can sell the vehicle in a short period of time without having to lower the sticker to move

If you were offered retail value, what would value of the car, not what the dealership have to charge to sell it? More than the going retail, which means it probably wouldn't sell the car. And if everyone came to the store to sell used vehicles at retail, how long would Does it stand to make a | you expect the store to

Regional meeting for sheep, goat raisers association set for April

The Texas Sheep and Uvalde, will provide a Goat Raisers Association, along with the Sterling and Glasscock County Offices of Texas Cooperative Extension has scheduled a regional meeting at 6 p.m. April 18 in the Sterling County Community Center.

In addition to TS&GRA business. Dr. Rick Machen, extension livestock specialist

program on the National Identification Animal System.

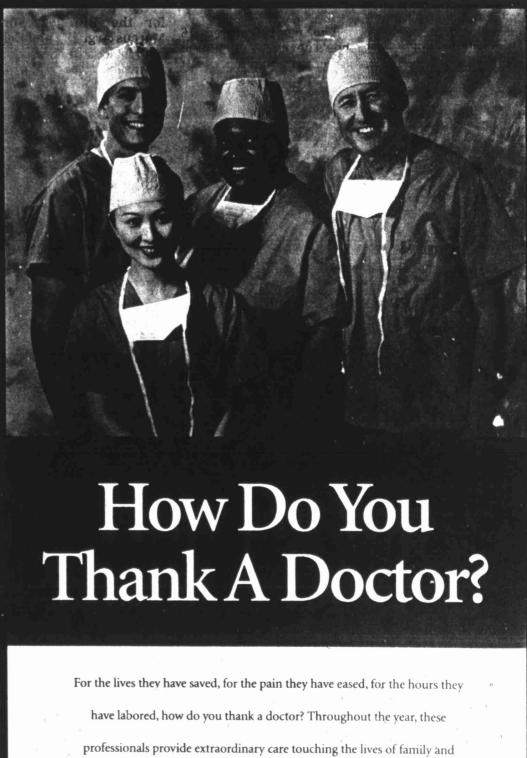
Following the program, producers will have the opportunity to sign up for the program to receive their premise number if they desire.

The North American Hair Sheep Association and the First National Bank of Sterling City will

provide a meal and there is no charge for the event.

Organizers seek to reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for this meeting.

Contact the Sterling County Extension Office at (325) 378-3181 to advise of the auxiliary aid or service required or for more information..



friends throughout the community. So for all they have done and all they will do, on Doctors' Day, March 30, we simply say, "Thank you."



1601 West Eleventh Place • Big Spring, Texas 79720 432-263-1211 www.smmccares.com

month of April

Reautiful will be h ing a golf tournam Spring Country C cost \$60 per per The tourney is a person scramble For more inform tion, contact the cor try club at 267-5354

Benefit scramble set at Comanche

A four-man scra ble golf tournament help defray medi expenses for Wil Mendoza is set Sunday at Comand Trail Golf Course. Entry fee is \$20] person, which include a meal. The tournament v begin with a shotg

start at 10 a.m. For more inform tion, contact Char Mendoza at 267-7 or Billy Pineda at 2 7116.

HC rodeo team se annual crawfish b The Howard Colle

rodeo team l announced its ann H-E-B crawfish b Saturday, April 29 the Howard Cou Rodeo Bowl at 2 p before How College Rodeo act takes place. The price for a crafish boil ticket is Tickets can be p chased the day of event or ahead of ti by calling How

head rodeo coa Greg Kernick at 816-9477. The Howard Coll rodeo will take pl April 27-29.

Coahoma PTA to host dodgeball tournament in Ap

The Coahoma P.T will be hosting dodgeball tournam as an element playground fund-r er April 14-15.

The sign-up date the event will to place April 14 a p.m. in the jun high gym. There are seve

age groups, but ea team must consist only eight to 10 pl ers. The groups broken into five ferent categories: ond and third, fou and fifth, si through eighth, ni through 12th a adults, 18 and ol who are not in sch

The cost for seco through fifth grade \$5 per person each team is guar teed five games. other groups will \$10 per person and guaranteed 10 gam For more inform tion, contact Laura 267-8660 or Neasa 264-1662.

B.S. Country Club sets golf scrambl The Big Sp Country Club has up a three-per and Sunday. For more infor tion, contact the shop at 432-267-535

KBSB golf tourney announced for month of April

Keep Big Sprin Beautiful will be host ing a golf tournament Spring Country Club The tournament will start at 9 a.m. and cost \$60 per person. The tourney is a four person scramble. For more informa tion, contact the coun try club at 267-5354.

Benefit scramble set at Comanche

A four-man scramble golf tournament to help defray medical expenses for Willie Mendoza is set for Sunday at Comanche Trail Golf Course. Entry fee is \$20 per person, which will include a meal.

The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact Charille Mendoza at 267-7757 or Billy Pineda at 264-

HC rodeo team sets annual crawfish boll

The Howard College rodeo team has announced its annual H-E-B crawfish boil will take place Saturday, April 29, at the Howard County Rodeo Bowl at 2 p.m. before Howard College Rodeo action takes place.

The price for a crawfish boil ticket is \$15. Tickets can be purchased the day of the event or ahead of time by calling Howard head rodeo coach Greg Kernick at 432-816-9477.

The Howard College rodeo will take place April 27-29.

Coahoma PTA to host dodgeball tournament in April

The Coahoma P.T.A. will be hosting a dodgeball tournament as an elementary playground fund-raiser April 14-15.

The sign-up date for the event will take place April 14 at 6 p.m. in the junior high gym.

There are several age groups, but each team must consist of only eight to 10 players. The groups are broken into five different categories: second and third, fourth and fifth, sixth through eighth, ninth through 12th and adults, 18 and older who are not in school.

The cost for second through fifth grade is \$5 per person and each team is guaranteed five games. The other groups will pay \$10 per person and be guaranteed 10 games. For more information, contact Laura at

B.S. Country Club sets golf scramble

264-1662.

267-8660 or Neasa at

The Big Spring Country Club has set up a three-person scramble golf tourna ment for Saturday and Sunday. For more informa

tion, contact the pro-shop at 432-267-5354.

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor STANTON Garden City girl's golf team played host to a place Grady. Loop was tournament Wednesday at third with a 509 and the the Phoenix Country Club Lady Kats' second team in Stanton and the Lady scored a 517. Kats came away with a

place finish.

Garden City's top team scored a 428 and was 43 strokes ahead of second-

Kayla Medrano was the first place and fourth top Garden City golfer

Mikela Barton (110) all 110. placed in the top seven as well. Hirt, Halfmann an team was led by Melissa Multer finished third, Hirt's 122. Brittney fourth and fifth, respec- Chudej shot a 127, Julie tively, while Barton fin- Hirt a 130 and Cayla

Lady Kats dominate competition at host meet

with a 100. Erin Hirt (109), Nichols placed second Brooke Halfmann (109), with a 103 and Haylee Amy Multer (110) and Bingham was sixth with a

and she also won the meet ished seventh. Ashlee Schwartz and Whitney Kellermeier each shot a 138.

The Lady Kats' next competition will be the Garden City's second district meet at the Big Spring Country Club Monday. The top two district teams will advance to the region tournament.

Stanton's Smith wins local meet

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

Stanton senior Savanah Smith shot an 88 Wednesday at the Coahoma Invitational and took home first place for her efforts in the girl's division, while the best local boy finisher was Stanton's Justin Hinajosa

Both of Stanton's No. 1 teams on the boys and girls side also placed high in the team standings. The girl's team, led by Smith, placed second overall with a 413 and was just four strokes behind winner Rankin. The second Stanton girl's team placed sixth with a score of 504.

The top Buffalo boy's team came in sixth out of 16 teams as Stanton scored a 355.

Midland Christian won the boys team title, while Rankin was second, Anson fourth and two Robert Lee teams were third and fifth, respective-

The meet featured 16 boy's teams — including Stanton, Forsan and Coahoma — and six girl's teams.

Smith won the meet by bettering the second best golfer — Rankin's Andrea Aguilar — by five strokes. Rankin's Dana Feathers was third with a 101 and Rankin's Kylee Self was fifth.

The Lady Buffaloes top team also consisted of Brittani Garza (107). Samantha Portillo (108), Mallory Cotton (110) and Bonnie Kendall (122).

The second team was led by Mercedes Gonzales' 123. Joddi Briseno shot a 125 and Belyna Hull and Naomi Delao added a 127 and 129, respectively.

tourney. Martinez shot a 111, while Tori Paige and Bethany Shivers added a 120 and 137, respectively.

Forsan's Shiloh Sanders shot a 111.

Hinajosa's 81 was good enough to tie for fifth. Jason Martinez of Rankin won the meet with a 75, while Matt Phillips of Midland Christian shot a

Rankin's Zane Graves shot an 80 and took third, Colorado City's Nick Edwards shot an 80 and finished fourth and Robert Lee's Kevin Honse matched Hinajosa's 81.

Stanton's No. 1 team was led by senior Sean Smith and Forsan was led by Mark McKiski. Smith shot an 84, while McKiski turned in an 86. Coahoma's top boy's golfer was Matthew Taylor as he finished with a 95.

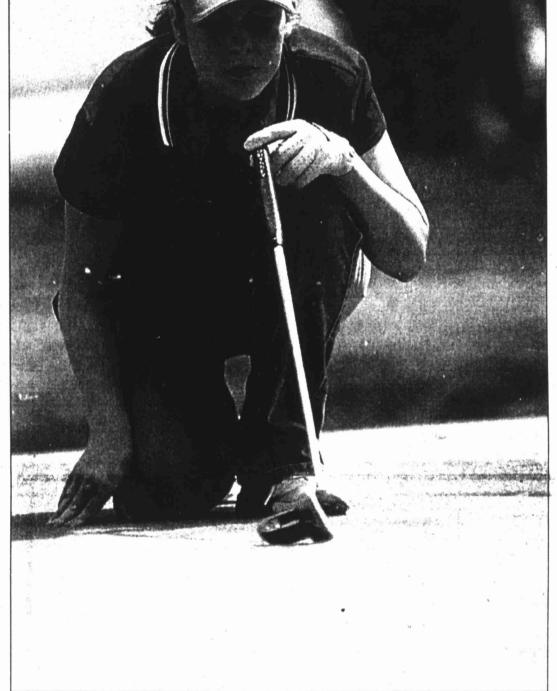
Matthew Ruiz, a senior from Stanton, shot an 86, Jeovani Vela added a 90 for the Buffaloes and Marcus Arguello and Eric Ramos scored a 95 and 106, respectively.

Joe Benny Bryand led Stanton's second with an 89. Stephen Reyes also topped 100 with a 96.

After McKiski came senior Tye Baker for Forsan. He shot an 88 and helped lead the Buffs to a 10th place finish. Forsan shot a 378 overall and missed ninth place by one

Clint Hobbs shot a 100, Justin Epley added a 104 and Rick Bailey closed out Forsan's top five with a 109.

Coahoma's top team placed 13th overall. After Taylor's 95, came Curt and Lang Mendoza's 96. Terrell Coahoma did not have Bibb shot a 97 and Blaine enough golfers for a team, Henderson added a 106. but three participated in The Bulldogs' No. 2 team



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde Stanton's Savanah Smith gets a closer look at the No. 9 green Wednesday at the Coahoma Invitational. Smith won the girl's side of the golf tournament after shooting an 88. The Lady

came in 16th place with a lists included Stanton's second round of the tourscore of 433. Matt Earhart shot a 100 to lead the way, while Ryan Walker added Mikey a 106, Garrett Walker shot a 112, Regan New finished with a 115 and Colter Morgan a 119.

Other individual medal-

Buffaloes' top team finished second. Freddy Erives (103) and Coahoma's Casey Kilpatrick (113) and Justin Ditto (117).

nament will be played at Comanche Trail Golf Course April 10.

The first round of Coahoma and Stanton Forsan's district meet will golf in the District 4- will take place in San 2A meet in Baird this Angelo Monday. The meet coming Wednesday. The finishes in Baird April 10.



Howard College sophomore Charles Burgess, right, shakes the hand of state Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, Tuesday during a congratulatory ceremony at Howard College for the men's basketball team. The Hawks placed fifth in the national tournament last week in Hutchinson, Kan. Burgess will play basketball at Texas Tech next season.

Big Spring Junior High Track Results @Levelland

8th Grade - 2nd Place with 125 points Shot: Lauren Porras 25-5 (2nd), Kami Davis 24-0 (6th) Discus: Lauren Porras 58-9.5 (4th), Alex Ortega 57-7.5 (5th) High Jump: Macy Graves 4-8 (1st), Halee Thomas 4-0 (5th)
Triple Jump: Iesha Simpson 30-1.5 (1st)
Long Jump: Iesha Simpson 14-11 (1st)
2,400-meter run: Vicki Conner 11:31 (4th), Whitney Gonzales 12:45.

800-meter run: Anjelica Doporto 3:18 (5th) 100-meter hurdles: Halee Thomas :20.43 (1st), Emily Key :21.22 (3rd)

100-meter dash: lesha Simpson :13.7 (1st) 800-meter relay: Halee Thomas, Emily Key, Marissa Zavala, Tauyna Glover 2:17.28 (3rd)

400-meter dash: Marissa Zavala 1:15.88 (5th)
300-meter hurdles: Anjelica Doporto 1:06.72 (4th), Tami Rainwater

200-meter dash: lesha Simpson :28.66 (1st)
1,600-meter run: Vicki Conner 7:36 (5th), Bernadetta Cruz 8:36 (6th)
1,600-meter relay: Anjelica Doporto, Marissa Zavala, Tami Rainwater,
seha Simpson 6:06 (3rd)

7th Grade - 3rd Place with 88 points

7th Grade — 3rd Place with 88 points
Shot: Tanieka Stephenson 23-7 (2nd)
Discus: Linzi Rodriguez 51-9 (2nd), Megan McElroy 48-9.5 (4th)
High Jump: Ashile Aaron 4-0 (6th)
Triple Jump: Alesha Yanez 23-0.5 (6th)
Long Jump: Ashile Aaron 11-10.5 (4th), Alesha Yanez 11-8 (5th)
800-meter run: Kaitlyn O'Brien 3:15 (6th)
100-meter hurdles: Chanel Cuveillo :20.25 (4th)
100-meter dash; Desiree Anderson :13.9 (2nd), Kaylesha Lang :14.56
3rd), Kati Vaile :15.40 (6th)
400-meter dash: Holly Kennady 1:13.94 (4th)
300-meter hurdles: Chanel Cuveillo 1:00.52 (4th), Marisol Canalo
03.31 (5th) Destiny Currie 1:04.44 (6th)
200-meter dash: Gabby Fierro :31.44 (1st), Kaylesha Lang :31.51 (3rd)

XI-meter desh: Gabby Fierro :31.44 (1st), Kaylesha Lang :31.61 (3 200 meter relay: Gabby Fierro, Desiree Anderson, Alesha Yan

COAHOMA GOLF INVITATIONAL













Three local schools — Coahoma, Forsan and Stanton participated in the Coahoma Invitational golf tournament Wednesday at Comanche Trail Golf Course. Clockwise from above: 1) Coahoma senior Terrell Bibb gets ready to putt on No. 9; 2) Forsan's Mark McKiski watches his ball as it approaches the hole after a putt; 3-4) Stanton seniors Matthew Ruiz and Marcus Arguello tee off on No. 10; 5) Forsan senior Shiloh Sanders smiles after sinking a long putt on No. 9; 6) Forsan junior Rick Balley hits a chip shot from behind the No. 9 green. Stanton senior Savanah Smith won the girl's portion of the tournament with an 88. The Stanton girl's top team took second.



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

LOCAL PERSONAL Assistance Company seeking part-time employee to help with Activities of Daily for elderly. Must work well with little supervision. Flexible hours. Please pick up application at 501 W. 17th. Office is located inside Park Place Retirement.

MARTIN CO. Hospital Home Health is looking for a full-time RN and a PRN to join their energetic staff. Must be willing to travel to surrounding areas. Bilingual preferred and salary DOE. Interested parties may call Allison @ (432)756-3259 fax resume (432)756-4510.

MIDWESTERN SERVICES,

Tank Cleaners needed. In & out of state travel & work 60+ hrs. per week. Transportation to and from job site. Hotel paid & \$175 a week per diem. Hourly wage & bonuses. 100% drug free. EOE. Apply at 749 South County Rd. 221, Snyder,

NEED BODY Tech with at least five years experience. Must be I-Car or ASE certified. Call or apply in person at Gillihan Paint and Body, 821 West Fourth Street, Big Spring, TX. Telephone (432)264-6528.

NEED MECHANIC and/or Machine Maintenance person with hydraulic, gasoline, diesel, and electric engine experience. Must also work with schematics. Competitive salary and Fax resume

(432)354-2669. NOW HIRING drivers to transport railroad crews. 25 Years old, pass a drug screen, good driving record. Retired Men and Women are encouraged to apply. (866)303-4100 Leave message with name, number and location.

Help Wanted

NOW HIRING for lead maintenance position! Experience preferred & Great Benefits! Schriece call (432)263-7300 or fax resume (432)263-7301.

PARKVIEW NURSING & Rehabilitation We are now increasing our Certified Nurse Aid staff. Qualified person will be a friendly and compassionate team player. If this sounds like you, please apply in person at Parkview Nursing & Rehabilitation, 3200 Parkway.

PIZZA INN

Now Hiring wait Staff Must be dependable, hard working. Apply in person at 1702 Gregg St. No phone calls.

CITY OF Big Spring is taking applications for Utility Service Worker. Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 310 Nolan (432)264-2346. The City of Big Spring is EOE.

Pollard Chevrolet is seeking an ACCOUNTING CLERK. Accounting experience required. Pay based on experience and ability. Apply in person at 1501 East 4th.

REGIS HAIR Salon relocating to Big Market Place next to Wal-Mart Super Center. Early April. Now Hiring License Hair Stylist. Guaranteed wage and generous commission, 401k, stock purchase plan available, medical insurance, advance training and incentive program. All supplies furnished except Call Jack shears. 1-888-888-7778 ext. 1147 or JoAnn at 432-263-1111.

REGISTERED DENTAL Hygienist for a BUSY family dental practice! Must be registered in New Mexico. We offer the highest pay in the South West United States! Short work week and great hours in a wonderful friendly work environment! If you are team player, call (505)887-6972 or fax your resume to (505)234-9194.

SCS TRANSPORTATION Is accepting applications for Fuel Haulers for long term employment. TX. A CDL with hazmat and tanker required. Benefits, Incentive and twelve months a year employment are here for you. Call Ron at (432)337-1675 or fax resume to (432)337-1676.

TAKING APPLICATIONS for Class A or B CDL Driver. Experience with line work a plus but necessary. (432)267-6006.

TUBING TESTER operator/ derrick person. Must pass drug test. Good wages. Call Jesse, (432)213-0739 after 7:00 p.m.

WANTED FLATBED drivers with Class A CDL, two years over the road and one year flatbed experience. Free Medical Insurance and Paid Vacation.

Call 888-246-3485. 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.

Instructional

PIANO & VOICE LESSONS

Beginners through Advance. Years of teaching experience. 2607 Rebecca. Call (432)263-3367

Items for Sale

HUGE SAVINGS on Furniture, Electronics and Appliances. Come by 501 E. Birdwell Lane #14 or call (432)263-0076.

Miscellaneous

3 PIECE brand new king mattress in original plastic. Factory warranty. \$295 takes 3 piece set. 806-549-3110.

CAKES: Wedding, Anniversaries, Quinceanarious. Arches, Candelabras and florals. FREE DELIVERY. Call Grishams (432)267-8191.

FREE PALLETS. Good for do it yourself wood projects. Pick up behind the Big Spring Herald's office at 710 Scurry.

JUNQUE MART Thift Store 600 Lamesa (432)264-0542 Mon -Sat. 10:00-5:00 100's of movies, also records, furniture, clothes, electronics, collectible knives of Hollywood stars. Cheap Prices!

LICENSED STATE Trapper, seeking to trap coyotes and bobcats. Call (318)565-3222 or (318)430-1111.

NEW BLACK Iron Canopy Bed, Never Opened Box, SAC-RIFICE \$159. 806-549-3110.

NEW QUEEN Pillowtop Mattress and Foundation. Original plastic never opened. Warranty, Sell fast! \$195. Call <u>7</u>806)549-3110.

QUICK CASH Quick Cash Rebates-Get money you need.

The long distance you want and the discounts you deserve. Checking account required. 612 Gregg Big Spring, Texas

\$100-\$500.

TRAILERS!! New 14' Cargo Trailer V-nose, 4-wheel, brakes, drive-in tail gate. Bargain Priced. 12' 4-Wheel yard trailer, fold down gate \$650.00; 8X7 yard trailer w/fold down gate \$325.00. Call Bill Crane (432)213-0426, 1209 East 4th.

Real Estate for Rent

1510 NOLAN. 2 Bedroom, No pets. (432)267-3841 or 517-0642.

HEIGHTS APARTMENTS 1 Bedroom furnished \$450. month \$200, deposit All Bills Paid 403 East 8th

Call (432)267-2771 605 LINDA Lane. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$450. month, \$200. deposit. 1203 Mulberry, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/A. \$385. month, \$150. deposit. (432)263-1792, 816-9984.

Real Estate for Rent

South Plains **Apartments** 432-714-4840

Efficiency Apt. • *175* One Bedroom • *225* Two Bedroom • *300*

All Utilities Except Electric Paid

w/6 Mo. Lease (*\$300 Deposit)

Free High Speed Wireless Internet On-Site Manager Security System In Place Laundry & Vending Facility Housing Assistance Accepted

3304 W. Hwy 80

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Homes. Pool, 24 hour maintenance. Central Heat and Air, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, furnished. Washer/ dryer connections. (432)263-3461 -Tom.

502 A Goliad - 1 BR \$235.00: 505 Goliad 3 BR 2 bath \$245.00; 1210 Wood 2 BR \$300.00 per month. 267-7380.

or office. 1712 Gregg. Approximately 5,000 sq. ft. \$600. month +deposit. Call WESTEX Auto Parts (432)263-5000.

BUILDING for **LEASE** for retail

EXTRA NICE 3 Bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, corner lot. \$700.00 month plus deposit. Call (432)263-4528 or 296-0277.

FOR LEASE 1515 Hwy. 350. Building with overhead door. On one acre of fenced land. \$350. Month, \$350. deposit. Call (432)263-5000.

FOR RENT, 2 Bedroom house. Stove & Refrigerator furnished. Call (432)267-6179.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT. 408 E. FM 700 \$500.00 Mon. Elec, gas, and water paid. 650 square feet. For more info call (432) 267-9455

SEVERAL OFFICES available. Call (432)263-6514, 517-0038, (432)770-5656.

THREE BEDROOM, two bath. Fireplace, CH/A, CISD. \$600. Month, \$400. deposit. Call (432)264-9907.

Real Estate for Sale

1106 LAMAR. Great for rental property or first time buyer. \$19,900. cash or owner will finance. Bad credit Okay! Call Jeremy, (432)978-6562.

1612 BLUEBIRD. Owner Financing. Buy for \$277.00 month or Rent \$375.00 month. Call (432)264-9907.

2 Thru 6 Bedroom Brick Homes. No Down Payment. Owner Financing. Bad Credit OK. 6 Month warranty. Call Maria (432)263-3461.

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299 MOVE IN SPECIAL + APPLICATION & SECURITY DEP. ALL BILLS PAID

538 Westover

263-1252 1-866-265-4104 **Housing Assistance Accepted**

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2 MONTHS FREE!

Big Spring's finest affordable rental community is now offering two month's free rent on a 12 month lease. 1 bedroom - \$386.00 2 bedrooms - \$459.00 3 bedrooms - \$516.00

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1401 North Hwy. 87

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ONLY SELL YOUR CAR, OR TRUCK FOR ONLY That's right, for a limited time you can have your 25 word ad for the low, low price of \$1 per day. **Call Classifieds 263-7331** for complete details BIG SPRING HERALD *Must prepay for 18 days no refunds. Private Party Only End of PER DAY

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS The morning moon is void, of course, inspiring lackadaisical behavior. It could very well be that rest is more productive than work anyway. All is not lost. Production starts up again when the Taurus moon takes over this afternoon. Baby steps will get you to the goal, eventually.

be patient! ARIES (March 21-April 19). A breakthrough is imminent. Clouds lift and birds begin to sing. Actually, they were always singing, but you just didn't hear them. Now, you can fully appreciate what

With Aries' influences

overhead, it sure is hard to

you've been missing. TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're especially fortunate today. You have an ability to uplift any situation with grace and charm. Tonight, put your depth of experience to work for you in a social setting.

GEMINI (May 21-June

Real Estate for Sale 200 ACRES in Howard County.

Rolling terrain, paved road frontage. Good grass with some mesquite and tree cover, partial CRP. Barn and small \$125,000. house. Owner/Agent, (432)267-4147 or (432)213-3198.

3/1, 2 car garage, stucco home. 1401 Princeton. Owner will finance, bad credit okay Rachelle, (432)213-2145.

4207 DIXON. Three bedroom, one bath. \$34,750. 1-800-804-7110.

COUNTRY LIVING - South of town on 11.76 acres, barn, nice 2 bedrm, brick, cent. heat/ air. Call Clovis Shannon at Home Realtors (432)263-1284,

FOR SALE, Extra Clean 2 Bedroom, 2 bath Brick Home near College. Den w/fireplace, util. room, single garage, new carpet. Call (432)263-6887 or 270-1743.

GREAT INVESTMENT Four - 1 Bedroom, 1 bath units. Owner Finance or Best Cash Offer. Call (432)264-9907.

LARGE REDUCTION on New Construction. 3 Bedroom, 2 bath on large lot. Beautiful interior, 2 car garage, fenced with sprinkler system. Call Joe Hughes @ Home Realtors (432)263-1284 Cell 270-7877 Home 353-4751

OWNER FINANCE Vines. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. \$28,750. Easy Terms, Call (325)893-1973

Freebies

TO GIVE away Free Computers. Call (432)264-0910.

Vehicles

1994 PONTIAC Sunbird SE. V6, 148,000 miles, red, sporty, \$2300.00. standard. (432)263-1964.

Fords, Lincolns, Nissans Available At Huge Savings

Several New 2005

Bob Brock Ford 500 W. 4th 267-7424

21). Yours is the most entertaining story around the proverbial "water cooler" — maybe because it's so much better than a rehash of someone else's

gossip. You're a true original, and you'll make others laugh. CANCER (June 22-July

22). You'll solve your problem brilliantly. To do so, you must rise above the kind of thinking you were doing when you created it. (If you still don't think your problems are self-created, that's the biggest

problem of all!)

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The person who causes you to be spontaneous and lively is a dear friend, indeed! The one who makes you feel like you just got run over by a Mack truck may also be a dear friend, but he is a dear friend to avoid today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're a master of your time and energy. Feeling and being in control is a great pleasure. However, tonight, you'll have more fun by relinquishing the reigns to a fire sign (Aries, Leo or Sagittarius).

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Consider that someone you are trying to please may not really know how to be happy. This person throws obstacles in the path to guarantee his or her stay in a comfortable state of misery.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Opportunities are never lost. Someone will take the ones you miss. This is true this morning, so keep your eyes peeled. This evening, spend some time with a good influence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your work doesn't seem to be producing what you need or want for yourself right now. But you can be assured that your way of doing a fine job makes the world a better place. Rewards are just around the corner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A family member presents an old challenge. Don't react in the same old way and you will find new peace. Be the poster child kindness and resilience. You deserve the respect you'll get.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be visiting new people and places. A small gift goes far to smooth the social path ahead of you. However, if you can't bring one, an affectionate smile, an assuring look or a kind word is gift enough.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are capable of great endurance. Be careful not to endure the impossible. It's all right to walk away when things don't work out. No one need be blamed. Sunny days lie ahead.

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su do ku

Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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Thursday, March 3

BIG SPRING HERAL

THURSDA WFAA(2) K 6 :PM News (CC) Ent. Tonight 7 :PM Extreme Makeover: Home Inventor 9 :PM (CC)

10 :PM

DENNIS THI

11 :30 Jimmy Kimmel Li

12 :AM Live (CC) News (CC)

Ent. Tonight





SUFFERING FROM



AGNES



HI AND LOI



THE OTHER



AIN'T YOU SCAF WALKIN' HOME A

NIGHT ALL

BY YORE-

SELF,



HOW DID YOU LIKE MY REPORT,

THURSDAY

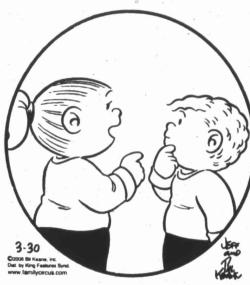
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		Dallas	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Atlanta	Odessa	Odessa	Discovery	Classics	Spike TV	TNT 23	BET 26 Black Ent.	Disney	(28)	Sports	Science Fic.
	6 :PM	News (CC) Ent. Tonight		Peregrina			La Tormenta	and the same of th	Raymond	Joe McGee		Everything You		CSI: Crime	Law & Order	Live	Phil of Future	Tennis:	College	Movie:
-	:PM		Wheel-Fortune Extreme Mak-	Barrera de	Raymond 70s Show	Ent. Tonight Survivor:		Be a Millionaire Will & Grace	Raymond Friends (CC)	John Hagee Update/Israel	TX Mnthly Talk	Need to Know Dengerous	The state of the s	Scene Invetgto.		BET Style Rip the	That's-Raven Movie: The	NASDAQ-100 Open Men's	Basketball: NIT Final	Jeepers (CC)
	/ :30			Amor		Panama -Exile	Pasiones	Four Kings	Friends (CC)	Biblical Israel		Survival Stories				Runway	Luck of the	Quarterfinal	Teams TBA	(50)
	8 :PM	American	American . Inventor	Alborada "	The O.C. (CC)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	Corazon Part Decisiones	Name Is Earl The Office	Movie: The Matrix (CC)	Light of the Southwest		Survivormen Survivormen	, , ,			College Hill Lil Kim Lock.	Irish (CC)		College Basketball:	Movie: Mortuary
,	9 :PM		Primetime	Aqui y Ahora	My Wille-Kids	Without a		ER (CC)	mass (oo)		Story of 1	Dangerous					Emperor New		Slam Dunk	(CC)
-	9 :30 :PM	(CC)	(CC)		70s Show	Trace (CC)		•				Survival Stories	•		NBA		Sister, Sister		and 3-Point	•
-	10 :30	News (CC) Nightline		Primer Impacto Noticiero Univ.	Raymond		Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show		The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Deadliest Catch	:45 Movie:				Zack & Cody That's-Raven		SportsCenter (CC)	Movie: The 13th Warrior
	11 :PM	Ent. Tonight	Jimmy Kimmel				Laura	Lata Minha			Sign Off		The Big Red						College	(CC)
\vdash	:AM	Live (CC)	Extra (CC)	Risa Amigas y	Malcolm-Mid. Becker (CC)			Late Night- Conan O'Brien	The Running	Y. Salamanca Update/Israel	10	Survival (CC) Survivorman	One (CC)		Angeles Lakers Inside the NBA		Kim Possible Lizzie McGuire	Basketball: Slam Dunk	Gmday SportsCenter	T. H14 T
L	12 :30	News (CC)	Paid Program		King of the Hill		_	Apex	mar (OC)	Booker		Survivorman							(CC)	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'VE LEARNED TO SEPARATE MY LAUNDRY INTO LIGHTS, DARKS AND DENNIS."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"...Then after your junior year in high school, you get to be a senior citizen."

WHERE A CORD OF WOOD

MEETS ITS MATCH

HAGAR

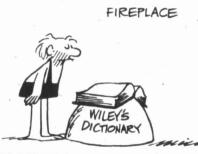


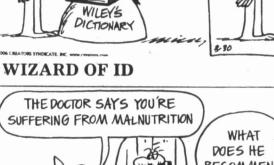
BLONDIE



I CAN'T WORK WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING OVER YOUR

BC





RECOMMEND?

WILEYS

FORTIFIED SWILL PARKER

AGNES



SPEAK A THOUGHT, IT BECOMES FOR ALL MANNER OF CONDEMNATION, JUDGMENT, CRITICISM AND EVEN FEDERAL PROSECUTION





THE OTHER COAST







SNUFFY SMITH





BEETLE BAILEY





This Date In History

Today is Thursday, March 30, the 89th day of 2006. There are 276 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Twenty-five years ago, on March 30, 1981, President Reagan was shot and seriously injured outside a Washington hotel by John W. Hinckley Jr. Also wounded were White House press secretary James Brady, a Secret Service agent and a District of Columbia police officer.

On this date: In 1822, Florida becamé a

United States territory. In 1842, Dr. Crawford W. Long of Jefferson, Ga., first used ether as an anesthetic during a minor operation.

In 1867, U.S. Secretary of State William H. Seward eached agreement with Russia to purchase the territory of Alaska for \$7.2 million, deal roundly ridiculed as "Seward's

In 1870, the 15th amend-

ment to the Constitution, giving black men the right to vote, was declared in effect.

In 1870, Texas was readmitted to the Union. In 1945, the Soviet Union

invaded Austria during World War II. In 1964, John Glenn with-

drew from the Ohio race for U.S. Senate because of injuries suffered in a fall In 1979, Airey Neave, a leading member of the

British parliament, was killed by a bomb planted by Irish National Liberation Army. In 2002, the Queen Mother Elizabeth of England died in

her sleep at Royal Lodge, Windsor, outside London; she was 101 years old.

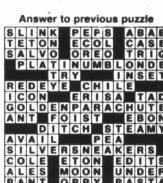
One year ago: Under heavy protection, First Lady Laura Bush visited the capital of Afghanistan, where she talked with Afghan women freed from Taliban repression and urged greater rights. The Supreme Court ruled that federal law allows people 40 and over to file age bias claims over salary and hiring even if employers never intended any harm.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Frankie Laine is 93. Actor

Richard Dysart is 77. Game show host Peter Marshall is 76. Actor-director Warren Beatty is 69. Rock musician Graeme Edge (The Moody Blues) is 65. Rock musician Eric Clapton is 61. Actor Robbie Coltrane is 56. Actor Paul Reiser is 49. Rap artist MC Hammer is 43. Singer Tracy Chapman is 42. Singer Celine Dion is 38. Actor Mark Consuelos is 35.

Singer Norah Jones is 27.
Thought for Today: "As I see it, in this country (America) — a land of the most persistent idealism and the blandest cynicism — the race is on between the decadence and its vitality." Alistair Cooke, British-born American journalist and broadcaster (1908-2004).

* 2006 The Associated Press.



Newsday Crossword

- **ACROSS** 1 Outline
- 6 Upper edge
- 10 Nile biters 14 Spoof
- 15 Uncommon
- League stadium
- right _
- **19** Right away
- 24 Affected, in a way
- **29** Perseverance
- 32 Chimney
- 36 "It's not only
- D.C. office
- 43 Commits
- infraction
- François'
- 51 Besides
- 59 Others: Lat. 60 Have the

FANCY FOOTWORK by Shirley Soloway Edited by Stanley Newman

62 Burn the

character

DOWN

5 Interlock,

as gears

offering

8 Eye part

9 Flat land

10 Distribute

by type

formation

2 Luau dance

4 On Golden __

6 Orthodontist's

7 Great reviews

1 Mild tiff

3 On

- surface of
- 63 All finished 64 Didn't reveal
- **65** Stevenson
- 16 National
- 17 "Moving
- **18** Airport-counter name
- 20 Doesn't deal with
- 23 Looks good (with)
- 25 Polecat relatives
- 31 Online bidding mecca
- coating 33 Granola bit
- my fault" 41 Compass pt. **42** Like a
- a hockey
- 44 The Longest Day author 45 Without a
- goal 48 "Farewell,
- **52** Making short work of
- courage 61 Pie fruit

www.stanxwords.com

11 Rallying cry 38 New Deal

- 12 Unskilled laborers
- 13 Annie's dog 21 Statement reverser
- **66** Drain cleaners 22 Blues singer 67 Hits the brakes Bonnie
 - 25 Fancy party 26 Israeli diplomat
 - 27 Gardener's tool 28 Deli bread
 - 29 Came down with
 - 32 Costa del 33 Fairy-tale
 - starter
 - **35** Prepare the salad
 - 37 Soviet spacecraft
 - **30** Milne creation **51** See eye to eye
 - 34 Iron and Stone 55 October

- power pgm. 39 Ashen
 - 40 Be under the weather
 - 44 Hit the hav 45 Makes
- changes in **46** -oid relative
- 47 Marshy ground 48 Covered with water
- 49 Chicago mayor 50 Greek epic
- 53 Revered one 54 Annapolis
- athletes birthstone
- 56 Until 57 Aura
- **58** Coop residents



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2006 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS @ AOL.COM

Coahoma kinde students were s up and movi Thursday morn the class presen 28th annual C Kindergarten Ro fine fashion.

Complete wit about every rode you can think of pole bending to b ing — pint-sized o and cowgirls sho their hard work i kinde thing teacher Kathy said has beco

Coahoma tradition "We started th back in 1978, so i a long run," said l "We started out with just a co events. When we to this new build decided to do it i And just like (Clements) said, gets better every

"It started ou developmental thi kids could do p activities and h memorize the son was music, activ learning, and tur to be a communit they won't let us s

While the annua is a chance for pa see their childr form in front of h of guests in the gymnasium, Nich



Local law enforceme a full-scale fire drill gency equipment we

INDEX

Classified 3-5B **Features** 5A **Obituaries** 2A

Opinion

Sports

1B To reach us: Please call 263-733

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

Returning to torm

Elars Rac

Earnhardt Jr. pleased with team's early season performance

Knight Ridder Newspapers

hat sound you're hearing from legions of Budweiser-red-wearing fans each week can only mean one thing -Dale Earnhardt Jr. is back in championship-contending form. Or is he?

It's likely too early for a definite answer to that question, but based on performance alone in the first four races of the 2006 Nextel Cup Series season, he certainly appears headed in the right direction.

Earnhardt Jr. and four-time Cup champion Jeff Gordon - two of NASCAR's biggest stars — both missed the Chase for the Nextel Cup last season.

After four races — including a season's best third at Atlanta last weekend -Earnhardt Jr.'s average finish is 12.25. His team has gotten off to a better start only once before in 2004.

In 2004, Earnhardt Jr. won two of the season's first four races and had an average finish of 10.5. He went on to qualify for the inaugural Chase.

This has been a good start to the season. Our cars are better, the people are better, the attitudes are better, everything is just better," Earnhardt Jr. said.

"I think the cars are driving better this year than they were in '04. That was a great season, but we definitely had our problem tracks, and when it was bad, it was really

"We've been to two of those problem tracks already this year (California and Las Vegas), and we were a top-15 car each

time. A late-race pit road call for four tires over two gave Earnhardt Jr. an 11th-place finish at California, and he was running in the top 15 late at Las Vegas until he was penalized for speeding on pit road during a late-race caution and finished 27th.

Regardless, Earnhardt Jr. finds himself seventh in points entering Sunday's Food City 500 at Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway — one of the driver's favorite tracks.

He has finished in the top 10 in each of

Dale Earnhardt Jr. is in seventh place in the NASCAR Nextel Cup points stand-

Comparison of Eamhardt Jr.'s start to last season and this season:

2006 2005 Start, Finish Start, Finish Daytona 7th, 8th 5th, 3rd California 40th, 32nd 18th, 11th Las Vegas 34th, 42nd 42nd, 27th Atlanta 35th, 24th 26th, 3rd



After the first four races of the season, Earnhardt Jr. has earned an average finish of 12.25. He enters Bristol Motor Speedway with three straight top-10 finishes at the track.

his last three Bristol races, including a vic-

eight races there, he has six top 10s, has led

"The thing about Bristol is you can be

707 laps and has an average finish of 7.1.

really good but still caught up in a wreck.

That's probably the main concern. Even if

you're the leader, it's hard to miss wrecks

"That's just Bristol. You can't take a

Although he's run near the front the sea-

break at any time. The moment you think

you're doing good, it'll jump up and deal

son's first three races, Earthardt Jr. was

ing tire problems twice during the race.

particularly impressed with his team's third

place at Atlanta, especially since he had to

battle from the rear of field after experienc-

"The top five (finish) gives us momen-

tum. We were happy with the way we ran

sometimes because of all the lapped traf-

fic," Earnhardt Jr. said.

you a nasty blow."

tory in the 2004 Sharpie 500. In his last

more top fives and — hopefully — wins." If so, the number and the volume of the red-clad fans in the stands is sure to grow.



RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP **PICKS**

1. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48): Sixth-place finish at Atlanta? Clearly, Darian Grubb has lost his touch. Bring back Chad Knaus. Last week:

2. Kasey Kahne (car No. 9): Running well in the Cup and the Busch series. There may be a commonality there. Last week: 9.

3. Mark Martin (car No. 6): This team just keeps banging on victory's door, it seems, weekend after weekend. Last week: 4.

4, Matt Kenseth (car No. 17): Two flat tires and he still made it back to 13th at Atlanta. This team looks solid, too. Last week: 2.

5. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): Backto-back top-five finishes at 1.5-mile tracks has got to encourage this team.

6. Tony Stewart (car No. 20): Looked like the 2005 model of Tony Stewart with a patient top-five run at Atlanta. Last week: 6.

7. Casey Mears (car No. 42): Very ordinary in 21st-place finish at Atlanta, but an off week didn't turn into a disaster. Last week: 3.

8. Kyle Busch (car No. 5): Battled through some challenges to get a top 15 at Atlanta. Needs a clean run at

Bristol. Last week: 8.

9. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): Things are looking up as this team is off to a solid start. May be a threat this weekend. Last week: 12.

10. Greg Biffle (car No. 16): Team keeps leading laps but hasn't finished off any of those good runs yet this year. Last week: 7.

For the rest of the top-40

rankings, go online and visit www.thatsracin.com.

Rain delay allows reflection on Hamilton's health

n some ways, it's fitting that NASCAR's weather luck ran out on the same weekend that Bobby Hamilton told everyone he's beginning cancer treatments.

For the first time since April 7, 2002, at Texas Motor Speedway, a Nextel Cup race did not at least begin on its scheduled day as rain pushed the Golden Corral 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway back to Monday.

Atlanta also was the site of the most recent Cup race that stopped one day and resumed

the next when in October 2003 Jeff Gordon won a race completed on Monday after rain interrupted. Last Thursday night, as the

NASCAR circus gathered around the 1.54-mile track, Hamilton and his team held a cookout outside his

motor home, parked so that it overlooked Turn 1

As they are barbecue and swapped stories, the subject of Monday races, ironically, came up. Hamilton won four

races in his Nextel Cup career, and two of them came in races delayed until Monday. The first was at Rockingham in the fall of 1997 and the second was the following April at Martinsville.

He raced in last week's NASCAR Truck race at Atlanta, finishing 12th, just hours after walking into the media center and

telling everyone about his diagnosis. It would be his last race, he said, but only for a while. 'I'm not quitting," Hamilton said.

"I'm not that weak.

Hamilton is one of those guys who doesn't take himself too seriously,



RUSTY JARRETT FOR NASCAR Last week, veteran racer Bobby Hamilton announced he has can-

and goodness knows racing could use a lot more of those. But cancer, of course, is a very serious thing. Hamilton knows he has a serious fight on his hands.

And he's ready to get to it. Monday, as the Cup teams gathered again at Atlanta to race, Hamilton headed to Vanderbilt University's hospital to start treat-

ment to fight the cancer that was discovered in his neck when he noticed the swelling wouldn't go down after he'd had wisdom teeth removed late last year.

At the team cookout last Thursday, nobody talked of chemotherapy or cancer. Hamilton was too busy swapping stories and enjoying the company

Until last week, Hamilton had told only a few people about his diagnosis. In a sport where secrets usually spread faster than a stain on a new shirt, the news surprised virtually everyone. There was little time to react before another race weekend began to unfold.

So the silver lining in Sunday's clouds was that they provided a moment's pause and a chance to say good luck to a good man.

Here's to Bobby Hamilton. May there be only blue skies and sunshine in his forecast.

THIS WEEK'S RACE

FOOD CITY 500

Where: Bristol Motor Speedway, a highly banked 0.533-mile concrete oval located in Bristol, Tenn.

When: Sunday at 2:10 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:40 p.m. Friday.

TV: Fox. Radio: Performance Racing Network. Purse: \$5,426,071.

Last year's winner: Kevin Harvick. Worth mentioning: Dale Earnhardt Jr. has three straight top-10 finishes at Bristol, the longest current streak. He has eight top-15 finishes in his last nine races at Bristol.

Jeff Burton is the only driver with top-10 starts in all four races this season.

Jeff Gordon moved into the top 10 in points after Las Vegas for the first time since Bristol last August ending a 14-race absence, the longest of his career.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

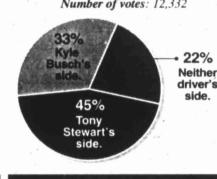
When and where do you expect Dale Earnhardt Jr. to score his next victory in NASCAR's top series?

> Cast your vote at: www.thatsracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

If you had to pick sides in the Kyle Busch-Tony Stewart row, which side would you choose?

Number of votes: 12,332



STOP 'N' GO

RANDOM THOUGHTS ■ Say what you will about rookies, but this year's Nextel Cup class seems to be backing up the preseason hype. At least one of the

rookies has finished in the top 10 in every race this season. Clint Bowyer has the best finish of the

group, a sixth at Daytona. ■ In the "no one has noticed" category for \$100: Dale Jarrett is ninth in points and has top-10 finishes in two of the four races so far.



■ This week should go a long way in determining if Casey Mears will be a legitimate contender this season. Mears, fifth in points, has finished 21st or worse in all six races at Bristol.

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top	-40 driver	rs as of March	20:
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Point
. Jimmie Johns	on690	21. Greg Biffle	39
. Kasey Kahne	640	22. Joe Nemech	ek38
. Matt Kenseth	612	23. Kevin Harvic	k37
. Mark Martin .	600.	24. Kyle Petty	35
. Casey Mears	554	25. Reed Sorens	son 35
. Jeff Gordon.	539	26. Ken Schrade	r34
. Dale Earnhar	dt Jr 534	27. Kurt Busch .	34
. Kyle Busch	530	28. Terry Labort	e34
. Dale Jarrett .	490	29. Michael Walt	rip 33
0. Clint Bowyer	471	30. Carl Edward	s32
1. Jeff Burton .	466	31. Jeff Green	32
2. Tony Stewart	464	32. Scott Riggs.	31
3. Elliott Sadler	461	33. Dave Blaney	30
4. Brian Vickers	456	34. Jeremy May	field 28
5. Martin Truex	Jr 442	35. David Strem	me 27
6. Jamie McMur	may 422	36. Brent Sherm	an26
7. Ryan Newma	n421	37. Kevin Lepag	e26
8.J.J. Yeley	417	38. Bobby Labor	nte24
9. Robby Gordo		39. Sterling Marl	
0. Denny Hamli	n 409	40. Scott Wimme	
the feducation of the		10.00	

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

Rank/Driver Points	Rank/Driver Point
1. Kevin Harvick772	11. Johnny Sauter 57
2. J.J. Yeley 755	
3. Jamie McMurray 698	
4. Clint Bowyer 664	14. Paul Menard 55
5. Denny Hamlin 649	
6. Jason Leffler 639	
7. Carl Edwards 614	
8. Burney Lamar 606	18. Kyle Busch 48
9. Jon Wood 596	19. Matt Kenseth 47
10. Greg Biffle 595	20. Kenny Wallace 46
The other was and a section	

NEXT RACE: Saturday, Sharpie Mini 300, Bristol, Tenn.

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 driver	s as of March 17:
	Rank/Driver Points
1. Mark Martin 560	
2. Todd Bodine535	
3. Ted Musgrave 495	8. Erik Damell 422
4. David Reutimann 458	9. Jon Wood 408
5. Johnny Benson 433	10. Mike Bliss 389
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NEXT RACE: April 1, Kroger 250, Martinsville,