



INSIDE
Howard College's Hawks head to regionals in Abilene

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VOLUME 102, NUMBER 145

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2006

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 WEEKEND

Local pharmacists brace for Medicare signup

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

With the Monday deadline to enroll in the new Medicare drug coverage looming on the horizon, area pharmacists are encouraging people who qualify for the program to at least consider it before costly late-filing penalties become a reality.

Jimmy Anderson, pharmacist in charge of Professional Pharmacy, said he and his staff

are bracing themselves for a last-minute rush.

"It's been really busy the last couple of weeks," said Anderson. "We're having more and more people come in and ask us about the program as we get closer to the deadline, and we're fully expecting it to get even busier."

Anderson said he hopes area residents who qualify for the program, which allows Medicare enrollees to purchase

"After Monday, people will still be able to get on the program, but it's going to cost considerably more."

—Jimmy Anderson, pharmacist

their prescriptions at a considerable discount, will take a look at the program before the deadline.

"After Monday, people will still be able to get on the program, but it's going to cost considerably more," said Anderson. "The cost of the program is taken out of their Social Security incomes, and a lot of these people are living on fixed incomes. These penalties could have a definite impact on whether or not they can afford the program."

Anderson said the program would be the most advanta-

geous for Medicare recipients who don't have a second form of health insurance.

"If they currently have co-pay coverage for their prescriptions, Medicare Part D is most likely not for them," said Anderson. "However, if Medicare is the only thing they have, they should seriously consider this program. That's who it will help the most."

See **MEDICARE**, Page 3A

Repeat offender sentenced to life term

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

A Howard County jury sent a repeat criminal offender to prison for life Tuesday afternoon.

After handing Jesse Nunez Torres the 12th felony conviction of his career, the 118th District Court jury took less than 10 minutes to decide on the maximum possible punishment, court records show.

Nunez was convicted of aggravated robbery in connection with an incident that occurred in the early morning hours of Dec. 13 at the Exxon Mini Mart at the intersection of U.S. Highway 87 and Interstate 20.

Trial testimony showed that a suspect wearing a ski mask entered the store, brandished a knife and demanded money from store clerk Michael Parker. Parker complied, and the suspect soon left in a GMC pickup.

The vehicle was spotted leaving the scene by Howard County Deputy O'Brien Blakeney, who pursued the vehicle west

See **LIFE**, Page 3A



Jean Jacobowitz, left, Dr. Cheryl Sparks and Mayor Russ McEwen discuss the upcoming 2006 Art Gala presented by the Howard County Humane Society at a recent reception for the artists in the Heritage Museum. The Gala, which is set under the stars on the historic Garrett Ranch, begins at 5 p.m. Saturday.

A night under the stars

Humane Society fund-raiser promises a memorable time

By **MARSHA STURDIVANT**
Features Editor

How do you improve on one of the most successful annual fund-raisers in Big Spring?

With the 2006 Art Gala, promising a night under the vast West Texas skies filled with good food, beautiful works of art and a chance to see the historic Garrett Ranch.

"This is our fifth annual fund-raiser for the Howard County Humane Society and we felt like this year we would change it up a bit," said Verna Davis, vice president of the humane society's board of directors.

"We'll have tables covered in white cloths, decorated with potted geraniums, positioned on the beautifully manicured

What: Humane Society Art Gala.

Where: Garrett Ranch.

When: 5 p.m. Saturday.

Cost: \$50 per person.

lawn of the Garrett Ranch, with the art work on display. We'll listen to music and enjoy great cuisine from the Chuck Wagon Gang of Odessa, all under the West Texas sky," she said.

To attend the Gala, a \$50 per person donation allows access to all the festivities which begins at 5 p.m. Saturday. Davis said anyone not receiving an invitation should contact her at 267-8003.

"If they will leave a

See **GALA**, Page 5A

BSISD trustees to consider beefing up drug-testing policy

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees will consider toughening the district's drug testing policy when they hold their regular meeting at 5:15 p.m. today in the high school board room.

BSISD students who participate in competitive extra-curricular activities are required to submit to random drug testing under a policy adopted in 2004.

Superintendent Michael Downes said the school board will consider hiking the punishment for students who flunk a drug test for the first time.



Downes

Currently, first-time offenders under the policy are required to attend a conference with their parents and school principal, as well as undergo mandatory counseling and testing.

Downes said the proposed change would also impose a 10-day suspension from the student's extra-curricular activity.

"(Under the current policy), our response to a first positive test has been an attempt on our part to involve the

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

Commencement exercises set for SWCID and Howard College

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Graduation season has arrived. Students from SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf and Howard College will be the first area schools to hold commencement exercises.

SWCID will hold its annual graduation ceremonies at 10 a.m. Friday in the Activity Center. Daniel Campbell, division director, workforce education, and Cheng Tan, division director, general studies, will be co-masters of ceremonies.

SWCID Provost Dr. Ron Brasel will confer the degrees.

Howard College's 59th annual com-

SWCID

10 a.m. Friday in Activity Center

Howard College

7 p.m. Friday at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

mencement will be held at 7 p.m. Friday in Dorothy Garrett Coliseum. William Layne Chapman, recently named the outstanding student at Howard, is the scheduled speaker, while College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks will confer the degrees.

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Carriers to 'Stamp Out Hunger' Saturday

Local residents encouraged to leave cans of food near their mailboxes

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
Staff Writer

Big Spring Post Office employees will be doing their part to "Stamp Out Hunger" Saturday, as the National Association of Letter Carriers gets ready for its 14th annual food drive.

Gary Crittenden, who was recently appointed as postmaster of the Big Spring Post



Crittenden

Office, said he and his carriers are ready to put a dent in hunger in Howard County.

"We have approximately 28 carriers in our Big Spring office, and every one of them is ready for this," said Crittenden. "It's a chance for all of us to help make a dif-

ference in Big Spring, and we really look forward to that.

"Our goal this year is to collect 15,000 pounds of food during the drive, compared to roughly to the 1,000 pounds we collected a year ago. It sounds like a lot at first, but when you realize we handle approximately 15,000 pieces of mail each day, and one can of food weighs about a pound, it's

not unreachable."

Crittenden said the post office recently mailed out post cards to area residents letting them know about Saturday's drive.

"We want to average approximately one pound per customer," said Crittenden. "And we have so many residents that give so generously,

See **CARRIERS**, Page 3A

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Obituaries

Mildred Reeves



Mildred Reeves, 88, of Big Spring died Monday, May 8, 2006, in an Odessa hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 12, 2006, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel with the Rev. Durrell Hendrickson, pastor of First Church of God, officiating and the Rev. R.T. Havener assisting. Interment will follow in Trinity Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends today from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

She was born Jan. 1, 1918, in Becoda, Mo., and married Ogle Reeves Dec. 25, 1934, in Senath, Mo. He preceded her in death in 1988.

Mrs. Reeves lived in California for 55 years, then moved to Big Spring in 2001. She was a seamstress for 50-plus years. She was a member of the First Church of God.

Survivors include three daughters, Dana Dickson and husband, William of Big Spring, Sandra Unger and husband, Daniel of Stockton, Calif., and Loretta Elliott of Broken Arrow, Okla.; one son, Raymond Reeves and wife, Nancy of Pullman, Wash.; one sister, Betty Peart of Grimes, Calif.; nine grandchildren, William A. Dickson of Fort Polk, La., Deidrei Knight of Big Spring, Loretta Dickson of Avon, Conn., Kenny Reeves of Tallahassee, Fla., Jessica Newton of San Leandro, Calif., Dana Warford of Stockton, Calif., Cheri Howard of Cohasset, Minn., Michelle Stoermer of Broken Arrow, Okla., and Sarah Unger of Stockton, Calif.; 13 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by one son, Jimmy Wallace Reeves and several sisters. Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid obituary

Dorothy Kennemur



Dorothy Kennemur, 82, of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 9, 2006, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. Graveside services are 11 a.m. Saturday, May 13, 2006, in Trinity Memorial Park. Memorial services are 1 p.m. Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Matt Miles officiating.

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

She was born July 5, 1923, at Oakland, Calif., to Minnie and Harvey Carmack and was a lifetime resident of Howard County. She married Nobel Kennemur, June 29, 1940, in Big Spring. He preceded her in death Sept. 9, 1992. They farmed a number of years in the Elbow Community. She was a supervisor in the accounting department of Webb Air Force Base for more than 20 years, retiring when the base closed. She was a very active member of the First Presbyterian Church and the Encourager Support Group.

She is survived by two sons, John H. Kennemur and his wife, Winnifred and Danny Kennemur and his wife, Kay, all of Big Spring; one daughter, Nancy Hale of Big Spring; one sister, Marilyn Knight and her husband, Joe of Santa Anna; very special friend, B.D. Mason of Big Spring; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one brother and two sisters.

The family suggests memorials to the First Presbyterian Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 2222 Big Spring 79721 or the American Cancer Society, in care of Lucy Bonner, P.O. Box 2121 Big Spring 79721.

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

Betty Leigh Pearson



Betty Leigh Pearson, 62, of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 9, 2006, at her residence. Funeral services are 2 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

The family will receive friends at 611 Dallas following the service. The family will receive friends from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. today at Myers & Smith Chapel.

She was born Feb. 1, 1944, in Big Spring to Billie and Red Merrill. She lived most of her life in Big Spring. She was the manager of Inland Port for a number of years. She was a Catholic.

She is survived by two daughters, Suzy Pearson, and Cindy Bishop and her husband, Gary, all of Big Spring; one brother, James Wesley Merrill of Clarkston, Wash.; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by one brother, Ricky Merrill.

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

Take Note

• **WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK** event at the Texas Department of Health, 501 Birdwell Lane is set for 9 a.m. until noon May 18, featuring skin care, healthy gardening, exercise and door prizes. Call 263-9775 for more information.

• **A PUBLIC RETIREMENT RECEPTION TO HONOR FORSAN TEACHERS BRENDA WHITE AND RHONDA ROTHELL** is set for 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday in Elbow Elementary.

• **HOWARD COLLEGE AND SOUTHWEST COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF GRADUATION** is Friday. SWCID students graduate at 10 a.m. on the SWCID campus and HC students ceremonies are at 7 p.m. in the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

• **COSSACK MOTORCYCLE CLUB RELAY FOR LIFE BENEFIT** begins at 4 p.m. Saturday at 1610 N. Birdwell Lane.

Frances Barr

Frances Barr, 82, of De Soto, formerly of Vincent, died Tuesday, May 9, 2006, in a De Soto nursing home. Graveside funeral services are 10 a.m. Saturday, May 13, 2006, in the Trinity Memorial Park Peace Chapel with the Rev. Walter McCall, pastor of Vincent Baptist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends Friday from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

She was born Aug. 15, 1923, in Hamilton County and married Vernie Luther Barr Sept. 9, 1939, in Vincent. He preceded her in death Feb. 6, 1994.

She had been a resident of Vincent most of her life. She was a member of Vincent Baptist Church.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Sherry and David Greene of Whitesboro; one son; seven grandchildren; three sisters, Pat Bradford of Vincent, Ruth Wirsching of Corpus Christi and Ima Jean Maddox of Big Spring; and 17 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jacob and Jettie Shepherd, one brother, J.C. Shepherd Jr., and four sisters, Inez Howell, Glade Costin, Louise Ingram and Gertrude McGuffen.

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

Police blotter

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

- **JEFFREY DAVID WARD**, 20, of Fort Worth, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.
- **RYAN SCOTT ROBINSON**, 18, of Southlake, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.
- **AMANDA RUTH BURRELL**, 19, of Claude, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.
- **JESSICA MARIE GARCIA**, 19, of Burleson, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.
- **ALEJANDRA RODRIGUEZ**, 18, of Andrews, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.
- **FELICIA KOHLI**, 19, of El Paso, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.
- **KENDRA LEE CORBIN**, 19, of Andrews, was arrested Wednesday on a local citation.
- **THEFT** was reported in the 200 block of West Marcy.
- **BURGLARY OF A HABITATION** was reported in the 1000 block of Birdwell Lane.

Sheriff's report

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

- **FRANCISCO JESUS NIETO**, 27, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a judgment/sentence for burglary of a building and a judgment/sentence for driving while intoxicated - third or more offense.
- **URIEL HERRERA-CONTRERAS**, 21, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on a charge of driving while license invalid.

Fire/EMS

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

- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 500 block of West 17th Street. One person was transported to the VAMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 800 block of Lorilla. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **TRAUMA** was reported in the 9000 block of Kay Road. Service was refused.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 100 block of Northeast Ninth Street. One person was transported to SMMC.
- **MEDICAL** was reported in the 4600 block of Aspen. One person was transported to SMMC.

Support Groups

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

• AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

- Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane. Call 267-6479.
- Friends of the Library meets at noon in the Howard County Library, 500 S. Main.
- Big Spring Main Street meets at noon in the Railroad Museum located at Second and Main streets.
- American Legion Auxiliary meets at 6 p.m. at 3203 W. Highway 80.
- 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.
- Neighbors and Newcomers Club meets. New members are welcome. Call 263-2005 for more information.
- Staked Plains Lodge No. 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 221 Main.

FRIDAY

- Signal Mountain Quilting Guild meets from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Call 267-1037 or 267-7281.
- AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.
- Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room, 1001 Birdwell Lane.
- SWCID and Howard College graduation.
- 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

- Free eye glasses are available from 9 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. in the Event Center, 1607 E. Third.
- The 2006 Art Gala, a fund-raiser presented by the Howard County Humane Society, is 5 p.m. at Garrett Ranch. Call 432-425-2326.
- Eagles Lodge Dance at 8:30 p.m. at 703 W. Third.

Weather

Tonight...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 50s. Southeast winds around 10 mph.

Friday...Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s. South winds 10 To 15 mph.

Friday night...Mostly clear. Lows in the mid 60s. South winds around 10 mph.

Saturday...Partly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 90s. South winds around 10-mph shifting to the east in the afternoon.

Saturday night...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s.

Lottery

Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 8-10-14-24-50-53. Number matching six of six: 0. Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: \$7 million.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night: Winning numbers drawn: 7-11-23-30-34. 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: 0-9-3

Correction

In the Wednesday edition of the *Big Spring Herald* a story described the 20 ballots cast during early voting in the municipal election as being for District 1. The story should have read, "We had 20 ballots cast in the District 2 race for the Big Spring City Council..."

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© 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. Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

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		1	6		
5	4		9	7	2
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6 7					2 4
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Big Spring Independent District are, from left, Gail... are Lois Cunningham, W... Neel. See more BSISD...

MEDICARE

Continued from Page 1A

Paul Kenmore, pharmacy manager for Medicine Shoppe, said there are many different programs to choose from. "From what I've seen there are about 37 different companies that handling these types of programs," Kenmore said. "If someone comes in and asks about them, we're allowed to suggest one company, but we help them decide what type of plan they should be looking for. We

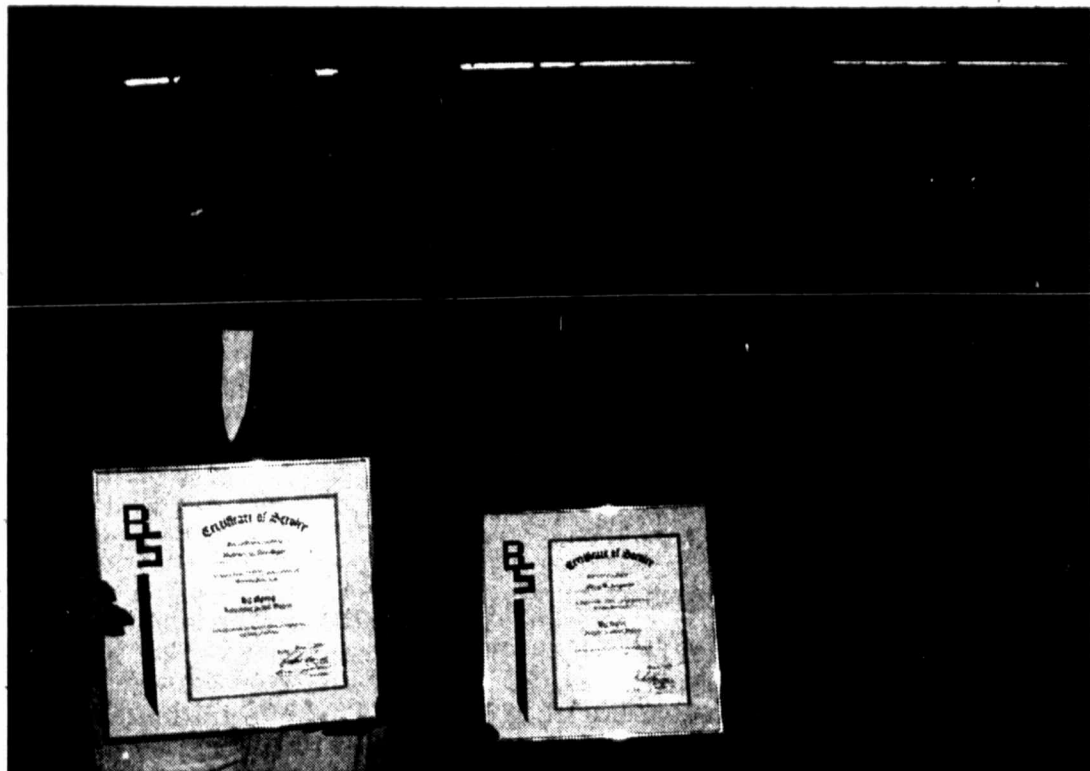
GRADS

Continued from Page 1A

- Following is a list of South Collegiate Institute for the Deaf students who will receive degrees during graduation ceremonies Friday morning:
- ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE**
Chrissie Camerisch-BUS
Jared Armer-CIS
Stormy Barrett-ITP
Erin Bartlett-ITP
Rodney King-ITP
Corrie Smith-ITP
Jonathan Streeter-ITP
- ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE**
William-Ofori-Attah-GS
- CERTIFICATE-LEVEL I**
Timothy Bland, AUNT
Todd Shumaker, BCT
Melissa San Miguel, DLT
Melissa Alexis, GAT
Lance Bonner, GAT
Roberto Diaz, GAT
Javier Goodwin, GAT
Jay Huhta, GAT
Miriam Lazcano, GAT
Tabitha Murray, GAT
Garrett Scott, GAT
Alberto Tijerina, GAT
Daniel Tijerina, GAT
Dominique Trotter, GAT
Melissa Burchfield, OT
Silvia Morales, OT
Maria Ramos, OT
Vanessa, Zebreski, OT
Naomi Foster, PDE
Kadian Foster, PDE
Pablo Valle, PDE
Adam Brown, WLDG
Jamie L. Gonzalez, WLDG

- Following is a list of Holy College students who will receive degrees or certificates during commencement exercises Friday:
- Chad Abbs
Gracie Nicole Acosta
Seneca Danielle Arguello
Chad Averette
Nathaniel C. Bagley
Eric Myles Barber
James Barrett
William Compere Basom
Karen Bearden
Danielle Faith Bedingfield
Jimmy D. Bennett
Brian Christopher Boiles
Tonia M. Hancock Brooks
Cody Brown
J. W. Darby Brown
Charles Burgess
Jeannette K. Butler
Debbie Marie Butts
Kelli Ann Carstensen
Charles Casey
William Layne Chapman
Reina Christine Cisneros
Chance Heath Clanton
Raiston James Coates
Michael W. Cogburn
April M. Collins
Karyn Lyn Cook

Rhino Linings
of Midland
OUTDOOR SEATING & SMALL BUSINESS
Spray On Bed Linings • Truck Accessories
Van Equipment • Paintless Dent Removal
With This Coupon
SAVE Off One Bed
\$25.00 or FREE
Car Wash
With Purchase
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432-262-6463
(2041 Franklin Ave. • 1 Block North Of West On
SHAW & Franklin, Midland, TX.)



Herald photo/Steve Reagan

Big Spring Independent School District personnel who are retiring after service to the district are, from left, Gail Berringer, Terry Ferguson and Jeannine McKimney. Not pictured are Lols Cunningham, Wanda Deel, Martha Espinoza, Lorna May, Ann Mitchell and Ben Neel. See more BSISD service photos, Page 6A.

MEDICARE

Continued from Page 1A

Paul Kennemur, pharmacy manager for The Medicine Shoppe, said there are many different programs to choose from. "From what I've seen, there are about 37 different companies that are handling these types of programs," said Kennemur. "If someone comes in and asks us about them, we're not allowed to suggest any one company, but we can help them decide what type of plan they should be looking for. We're

expecting there to be a rush between now and Monday and we're ready for it."

The new program allows 43 million seniors and disabled people to enroll in a government-paid private plan that will subsidize the cost of their prescription medications through Medicare. Approximately 37 million people have now either signed up or been automatically enrolled.

"There are a lot of different ways people can get information on Medicare Part D," said Kennemur. "They can call us or come by our offices and we'll be happy

to help them. They can also call Medicare at 800-633-4227 or visit them on the Web at www.medicare.gov.

"The Web site has a lot of information, along with a program to enter all of your current medications and get a recommendation on which program is best based on that information. That can be extremely helpful."

For more information on Medicare Part D, contact your pharmacist.

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

LIFE

Continued from Page 1A

on Interstate 20 and eventually back into Big Spring.

The pickup crashed in the west side of Big Spring, testimony showed. The suspect fled the scene on foot and was eventually arrested while hiding underneath a vehicle.

Despite Torres wearing a ski mask at the time of the robbery, District Attorney Hardy L. Wilkerson said he was identified by a number of factors — his clothing matched that shown on the store videotape, the amount of money he was carrying matched the

amount taken from the store and the truck used in the robbery was linked to the defendant as well.

That circumstantial evidence was more than enough to convince the jury, which took less than 15 minutes to convict Torres of the offense.

"Objectively, the only real issue was identification. Was (Torres) one and the same as the man who robbed the store?" Wilkerson said. "We were able to demonstrate that, in fact, he was."

During punishment phase, Torres' extensive criminal history was introduced into evidence. State criminal records show that he had 11 prior felony convictions — mostly for robbery — dating back to 1973. In addi-

tion, records show he had served four previous stints in state prison, Wilkerson said.

Normally, aggravated robbery — a first degree felony — is punishable by a term of between five and 99 years or life in prison. With the offense enhanced by prior convictions, however, the minimum prison time Torres faced was 25 years, Wilkerson added.

"The sheer repetitiveness of (Torres') conduct and his exhaustive criminal history obviously influenced the jury," Wilkerson said. "Absolutely, he deserved life in prison. There simply comes a time when you can no longer tolerate a person's conduct."

CARRIERS

Continued from Page 1A

donating five or six cans, I really feel like we can do it. I feel like we can reach this goal.

"We want to make sure everyone knows about this. We're putting the word out to all of the media outlets, from newspapers to radio stations all around the area. We want this to be a success."

Food donated to the drive will go to the local Salvation Army.

"The shelves at the Big Spring Salvation Army are basically bare right now," said Crittenden. "And now that the West Texas Food Bank doesn't have an office in Big

Spring, they have to pay a fee to get them to bring them food from the Midland-Odessa area.

Last year's food drive netted more than 71.3 million pounds of non-perishable food items, according to information released by the NALC.

Only non-perishable food should be donated. Those wishing to contribute to the drive should place their donation in plastic sacks near their mail boxes for their mail carrier to gather.

"When they come by to deliver the mail, they will pick up the bags of food, and if they see any bags of food, they will stop and pick those up, too," Crittenden said. "We'll have collection bins near the boxes in the lobby Saturday as well."

BSISD

Continued from Page 3A

parents and help students make wise choices," Downes said.

"With a lot of students, that has been enough of a deterrent to say no when facing peer pressure," he added. "But for some students, parental involvement and counseling has not been a deterrent."

Deterrence is the main reason behind the proposed policy change, Downes said.

"The aim of this is not to enforce proper behavior, it's to help prevent improper behavior," Downes said. "We're trying to facilitate wise choices. We don't want to penalize kids."

GRADS

Continued from Page 1A

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Erin Bartlett-ITP
Rodney King-ITP
Corrie Smith-ITP
Jonathan Streeter-ITP
- ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE**
William-Olori-Attah-GS
- CERTIFICATE-LEVEL I**
Timothy Bland, AUMT
Todd Shumaker, BCT
Melissa San Miguel, DLT
Melissa Alexis, GAT
Lance Bonner, GAT
Roberto Diaz, GAT
Javier Goodwin, GAT
Jay Huhta, GAT
Miriam Lazcano, GAT
Tabitha Murray, GAT
Garrett Scott, GAT
Alberto Tijerina, GAT
Daniel Tijerina, GAT
Dominique Trotter, GAT
Melissa Burchfield, OT
Silvia Morales, OT
Maria Ramos, OT
Vanessa, Zebreski, OT
Naomi Bartley, PDE
Kadian Foster, PDE
Pablo Valle, PDE
Adam Brown, WLDG
Jamie L. Gonzalez, WLDG

Following is a list of Howard College students who will receive degrees or certificates during commencement exercises Friday:

- Chad Abbas
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Chad Averette
Nathaniel C. Bagley
Eric Myles Barber
James Barrett
William Compere Basom
Karen Bearden
Danielle Faith Bedingfield
Jimmy D. Bennett
Brian Christopher Boiles
Tonia M. Hancock Brooks
Cody Brown
J. W. Darby Brown
Charles Burgess
Jeannette K. Butler
Debbie Marie Butts
Kelli Ann Carstensen
Charles Casey
William Layne Chapman
Reina Christine Cisneros
Chance Heath Clanton
Ralston James Coates
Michael W. Cogburn
April M. Collins
Karyn Lyn Cook

- Ricky Crawford
Andrea Cruz
Dustin Eldon Dallas
Brandy Daugherty
April L. Jimenez
Priscilla Romo Hernandez
Matthew James Hillman
Kristopher Todd Hise
Whitney Hufford
Amy Huitt
Kristi Hutchison
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Beatrice Juarez
Melanie Karavatos
Leslie Kennedy
Kara S. Koehler
Amanda Lelia Laster
Joshua Leib
Nancy Leib
Jessica Ray Lewis
Kacy Lea Liles
Shawna Lowe- Diaz
Stephanie Nicole Lucio
Ramona Jean Mancha
Gabriel Edward Marchant
Mary Ann Marquez
Andrea McComb
Misty McGuire
Julie Carol McNeal
Steven Anthony Mendez
Karia Lynn Messick
Jesse L. Metcalf III
Chad Lee Montgomery
Aida Amaro- Moreno
Kyle Lloyd Newton
Valerie Marie Ontiveros
Whitney Oppgard
Randy Ortiz
Mary A. Ortiz
Michael Jon Paredes
Kyrstin Parker
Sara Rebecca Pavlovsky
Joshua K. Pedigo
Tyler Ray Davidson
Johnny DeLeon
Erica A DeLeon
Johnny R. DeLeon
Dovie Nicole DeWeese
Nicole Lee Dickson
Eamonn Francis Donovan
Marsha S. Douglas
Lacy Michelle Eggleston
Rudolph Fernandez
Richard Forbes
Jennifer Marie Lopez Froman
Karon Fryar
Cole Carter Furqueron
Krista Gamble
Debra Garza
Zapora Dorthier Gatson
Edna Velasquez Gonzales

- David Gonzalez
Mary Gonzales
Russell Gray Grant
Travis A. Gray
Julie Gray
Mitchell Maxwell Gutierrez, Jr.
Linda Michelle Hagle
James Raymond Hamilton
Dezmon D. Harris
Quinton Harris
Mary Alaina Hedrick
Manuel R. Hernandez
Michael Anthony Hernandez
Latoya Fairley
Kourtney Dawn Graves
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Jared Ryan Smallwood
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Sterling Burchett

- Kortne Brooke Covey
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Talva Hurt Castillo
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Georgina M. Torres
Linda Cortez White

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
24th & Johnson 267-8288

Betty Leigh Pearson, 62, died Tuesday. Funeral Services will be at 2:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will receive friends at 611 Dallas following the service. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Thursday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

Dorothy Kennemur, 82, died Tuesday. Graveside Services will be at 11:00 AM Saturday at Trinity Memorial Park. Memorial Services will be at 1:00 PM Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends from 7:00 until 8:00 PM Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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2006

EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Susanne Reed
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Let's all help make
NALC food drive
a success Saturday

Neither rain, nor sleet, nor dark of night will keep these carriers from their appointed rounds. That will be important Saturday when the National Association of Letter Carriers holds its annual food drive.

And local letter carriers say they're hoping to be able to collect 15,000 pounds of food here in the Big Spring area.

More importantly, every item donated locally will stay right here in Howard County, since the letter carriers plan to give all of their collections to the Salvation Army here in Big Spring.

The drive, which stocks local food banks and pantries, is scheduled at a time of year for an extremely good reason, according to NALC officials. It's slated when many children seem to be especially vulnerable — when many school lunch programs are suspended during the summer months and low income families have difficulty providing basic nutrition.

More than 110 million postcards, sponsored by the Campbell Soup Co. and the U.S. Postal Service, have been delivered to postal customers to remind them of the drive. Other supporters of the drive are local United Ways, the AFL-CIO, Valpak and America's Second Harvest.

Making a donation is easy. Even if you didn't get a reminder in the mail, all you have to do to take part is place non-perishable food donations in a bag near your mail box before your letter carrier arrives on Saturday. The letter carriers will do the rest.

Or, if you're uncomfortable leaving the food in a bag near the mailbox, the letter carriers will have a drop point at the Big Spring Post Office.

This will be the first year that the carriers have decided to place a drop point at the post office.

While the carriers' goal of 15,000 pounds of food seems somewhat lofty to some, it really isn't.

What's important is our participation. With more than 15,000 postal patrons served here, just one can of food from every patron would be enough to surpass that stated goal.

So we are asking that you take the time to gather together cans, bags or boxes of food — anything that won't spoil will be acceptable. Then on Saturday morning, place your bag of food near your mailbox or make the short drive to the post office and drop off your donation.

Let's all of us help those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

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

LETTER POLICIES

The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.

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

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

May we put 100 percent into our faith today, Lord.

Amen

Not a day without racism

If you go by certain columnists and news reports, you see a clear dividing line: good hard-working immigrants — legal, illegal, it makes no difference — who supported the May 1 Great American Boycott versus conservative white racists, who like cheap lettuce but hate immigrants.

I agree that illegal immigrants are, for the most part, good, hard-working folk, but that's where the truth of the stereotype ends. The hundreds of e-mails I've receive in the last week — overwhelmingly in support of my opposition to the boycott, even in the liberal San Francisco Bay Area — belie the propaganda spewed by the boycotters and swallowed whole by too many journalists. The story is not one of good, open-minded immigrants versus bad, closed-minded racists.

For one thing, many legal immigrants opposed the boycott. If you work in California, you probably saw immigrants on the job in your workplace on Monday. Maybe they sympathized with the boycott. Maybe they didn't.

Attorney Manny Madriaga from San Jose, Calif., wrote that he is "a small businessman and a naturalized citizen. I immigrated to the U.S. because it is a nation of laws and it has a vibrant democracy. Any group that shoves signs in our collective faces that they are above the law does not have a place in the United States of America."

Pat, a proud Mexican-American from Orange County, Calif., who didn't want to release her last name, told me she would rather see protests against the high Latino dropout rate or corrupt Mexican government. And, "I have to go shopping after work, my own small contribution to the anti-boycott programs."

A number of readers told of spouses or friends battling with the bureaucracy to win legal status — they were furious that protesters don't think they have to follow the law.

Non-white Americans have issues, too. A woman from Southern California phoned to tell me she is half African-American and part Native-American, and she is sick of watching trauma centers close because hospitals are going broke caring for the uninsured.

This is not a Republican-Democrat issue, either. The April 12 Field Poll found that less than one-third of voters in left-leaning California — only 44 percent of Democrats — back allowing illegal immigrants to obtain driver's licenses.

Supporters of the May 1 boycott often cite racism as the reason Americans want to limit immigration. I am ashamed to say that some people who oppose illegal immigration spout racist venom.

Nonetheless, it is a mistake to see the pro-illegal forces as free of the racist taint. I'm not just talking about Los Angeles marchers seen yelling "hueros" (white people) in front of businesses open on May 1. The very notion that illegal immigrants do the work Americans won't do — also voiced

by President Bush — is predicated on the unspoken notion that black people won't take jobs illegal immigrants from Mexico and Central America grab, while white people don't want to work hard, although they are happy to buy cheap products (as if consumers have a choice).

Beneath the public dialogue is an ugly undercurrent of racism that emerges when people are not speaking for public consumption.

One reader e-mailed that the May 1 marchers "are better Americans than the white trash that dominates our welfare system; they are better than the cry-baby black males who are now proclaiming that illegal aliens are the greatest threat to blacks since slavery."

A San Franciscan chided me for being mean-spirited about Latinos — I wasn't — when anyone who lives in the Bay Area knows that "Asians have totally taken over this city and surrounding areas with their wealth, greed and filthy personal habits."

There was a time in my career when someone would call me a "racist," and I'd be furious at the facile belief that if you oppose illegal immigration, you are anti-Latino. This week, and not for the first time, I heard from Latinos who oppose illegal immigration but love their heritage. I also heard from illegal-immigration supporters who suggested I was a racist — but they were the ones spewing hate-filled stereotypes.

E-mail Debra J. Saunders at dsaunder@sfchronicle.com.
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DEBRA SAUNDERS



Question: Where is Dick Cheney?

The news that Vice President and Mrs. Cheney would be traveling to Lithuania, Kazakhstan and Croatia was significant for only one reason last week. It answered the burning question that Americans have been asking themselves as they stand at the gas pump filling their tanks, or marvel at missions unaccomplished around the world:

Where is the vice president? Where is Dick?

Where is the man who formulated this administration's energy policy? Remember him?

Where is the man who pushed hardest for the invasion of Iraq, was the channel for the "declassification" of information in order to leak it to the press to play it to the press to play it to the administration's critics?

Where is the man who many said was in charge on 9-11?

Remember the days when the joke was that nothing better happen to Cheney, or Bush would have to be president?

Remember when it was said, with pride, that Dick Cheney was the most powerful and influential vice president in history?

Is it only his poor shooting skills that have kept the vice president out of sight (as it were), and now have him headed on the kind of

trip that Spiro Agnew would feel comfortable taking, or could it be the fact that he has proven to be wrong about everything he has touched?

His energy policy, written with the participation of industry executives, treated conservation and alternative energy sources as a joke. Fuel-efficient and hybrid cars? Be serious. If you want to ask the vice president about it now, all you have to do is go to Kazakhstan.

There were many who said that the United States did not have the military resources to wage war in Iraq, at least the way it needed to be waged, at the same time it was still trying to secure Afghanistan from Osama bin Laden and his Taliban, the greatest threat against us. Dick Cheney was not among them. He was, by all reports, among the strongest and earliest supporters for the Iraq invasion. Now, it is reported, the Taliban control Afghanistan after dark. What has gone wrong? Are we stretched too thin? Was the vice president wrong about that, too? Go to Lithuania if you're looking for answers to that one.

What happened to the reconstruction efforts in Iraq? Another disaster. Isn't the vice president the man from Halliburton, the only ones doing well in this mess, or do I have the wrong guy? Just head for Croatia and check up on that one.

And that Scooter Libby, the one under indictment after leaking

classified documents, who pointed his finger at the president, who admitted that, yes, the president had "declassified" certain documents, which the vice president then authorized Libby to leak to the press in order to counter administration critics of the war effort ... need we ask whom he worked for? If you do need to ask, you'll have to head for the Balkans or the "Stans," as one vice president I know once called them, to do it.

The other big news on the vice president last week, of course, is that his daughter Mary has a new book out, which she is promoting — and Diane Sawyer has interviewed her about being the gay daughter of the vice president. In her book, and in interviews, Mary Cheney reportedly praises her dad for giving her a hug when she came out as a teenager and telling her he only wanted her to be happy. How understanding.

When John Edwards praised him on just this point in the vice presidential debate, the Cheneys cried foul. Now, when they're desperate for some good press, it's fair. OK. But how about the rest of America's gay teens, who have the highest suicide rate of any teenagers? Do the Cheneys have any kind words for them? Don't go to Washington to find out. You won't find them. Maybe in Lithuania. But I wouldn't bet on it

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Re
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TrailBlaz
real pow

By STEVEN COLE S

The Orlando Sentinel

With gasoline hovering at \$3 a gallon, this may not be the best time for Chevrolet to cram a big 6.0-liter engine into its new sport ute, but then again, denying that TrailBlazer SS makes a trip from gas station to gas station pretty taining. We average 18 mpg. In a word: overpriced. Introduced in 2005, TrailBlazer first offered with a 4.2-liter cylinder, then a 5.3-liter



CHEVROLET
Base price: \$26,700
Price as tested: \$28,900
EPA rating: 15 mpg
Details: Front-engine, 6.0-liter, 395-horsepower, automatic transmission.

GALA

Continued from Page 1

message, I will call back in the evening," said.

This fund-raiser is only one the humane society sponsors every year. It provides the annual operating budget for the shelter.

"All we have are people donations and this fundraiser to provide funds for the daily operations of the shelter. The fund-raiser is our lifeblood. We are a humane society, so we take in many animals as strays and keep them until they are adopted," said Stone, director of the shelter.

Stone said alone covering the five salaries of the employees to maintain the shelter. The costs include pet veterinary care includes spaying or neutering each animal. It is adopted and used for the facility.

"We have 142 dogs and 62 cats and we have a waiting list of other animals to be accepted at the shelter. As soon as one animal is adopted, we call the next person on the waiting list," said.

The Art Gala features a variety of activities including the art show where the works will be available for sale. In the evening, a jazz band and a string quartet provide two hours of musical entertainment.

After the sale of work, an auction that offers Texas Rangers and Dallas Cowboy packages and includes spa/golf packages. Horseshoe Bay. Sue Partee,

Ready to go!

No elephant in a tutu, TrailBlazer SS sports real power and grace

By STEVEN COLE SMITH
The Orlando Sentinel

With gasoline prices hovering at \$3 a gallon, this may not be the best time for Chevrolet to cram a big 6.0-liter V-8 engine into its midsize sport ute, but there's no denying that the TrailBlazer SS makes the trip from gas station to gas station pretty entertaining. We averaged 13.2 mpg. In a word: ouch.

Introduced in 2002, the TrailBlazer first was offered with a 4.2-liter six-cylinder, then a 5.3-liter

V-8, and finally this 6.0-liter V-8, not that much different from the engine found in the Chevrolet Corvette and Pontiac GTO. It's mated to the beefy 4L70-E automatic transmission, which is just a four-speed, but with the kind of power this engine makes, the number of gears is academic.

The engine isn't all with the SS: You also get a lowered, sport-tuned suspension, big 20-inch tires and wheels, and interior and exterior trim that set it apart from the other, lesser TrailBlazers.



Chevrolet's TrailBlazer SS

The SS is the regular-length TrailBlazer, rather than the extended version with three rows of seats. That's fine, because that version of the TrailBlazer is not a personal favorite. If you really need three rows of seats, the new Tahoe is a better choice.

But if five passengers is plenty, the SS is a competent, albeit thirsty, car pooler on weekdays. Also, it is more than willing to make a trip to the drag strip on weekends. Inside, the leather upholstery is nicely executed, and as in all TrailBlazers, the instruments and controls are well-placed. Despite the sports suspension, the SS rides smoothly, even on rough roads, and handling is excellent for an SUV.

Outside, the SS trim is subtle enough to keep

from embarrassing drivers of a certain age but still advertises, quietly, that this is something special. The SS is offered only in white, black, silver or blue, and the black test model looked as though it meant business.

Which it does. The pushrod 6.0-liter V-8 may not be as sophisticated as some newer-design V-8s, but it is a superb engine — smooth and fast, with linear power that just feels right. The TrailBlazer isn't quite as exciting as its central competition, the Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT8, but it's close, and it's cheaper.

It isn't, however, cheap. Base price of a rear-wheel-drive TrailBlazer LT (the SS is offered in four-wheel drive, but our tester was rear-drive) is

\$26,715. Add the SS package (\$5,270) and a few other options, and the bottom line is \$36,605, which — given the capability — isn't bad. Stability control and anti-lock brakes are standard; side-curtain air bags are an option.

General Motors sells

this same basic SUV as the GMC Envoy, Buick Rendezvous, Saab 9-7X and Isuzu Ascender, but if you want the hot-rod version, you have to get the TrailBlazer.

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CHEVY TRAILBLAZER SS

Base price: \$26,715.

Price as tested: \$36,605.

EPA rating: 15 mpg city, 19 mpg highway.

Details: Front-engine, rear-wheel-drive SUV with a 6.0-liter, 395-horsepower V-8, and a 4-speed, automatic transmission.

GALA

Continued from Page 1A

message. I will call them back in the evening," she said.

This fund-raiser, the only one the humane society sponsors every year, provides the annual operating budget for the animal shelter.

"All we have are private donations and this fund-raiser to provide the funds for the daily operations of the shelter. This fund-raiser is our livelihood. We are a no-kill shelter, so we take as many animals as we can hold and keep them until they are adopted," said Jo Stone, director of the shelter.

Stone said along with covering the five salaries of the employees who maintain the shelter, the costs include pet food, veterinary care which includes spaying or neutering each animal before it is adopted and utilities of the facility.

"We have 142 dogs now and 62 cats and we have a waiting list of other animals to be accepted into the shelter. As soon as one animal is adopted, we call the next person on the waiting list," Stone said.

The Art Gala features a variety of activities, including the art show, where the works will be available for sale. During the evening, a jazz quartet and a string quartet will provide two hours of musical entertainment.

After the sale of the art work, an auction begins that offers Texas Rangers and Dallas Cowboys game packages and includes a spa/golf package in Horseshoe Bay.

Sue Partee, whose

grandmother, Big Spring benefactor Dorothy Garrett, supplied the initial donations and funding that opened the animal shelter, explained the packages available at the auction.

She said two packages provide Texas Rangers tickets. One package, for the June 30 game against the Houston Astros, includes six seats 13 rows above the Rangers dugout. The second package offers four seats behind home plate for the July 25 game against the New York Yankees.

"Whoever wins this package will get to see all the famous pitchers, pitching," Partee said.

Two Dallas Cowboy

packages include tickets to one pre-season and one regular game in the Crown Suite at Texas Stadium. The dates of these packages will be announced at the Gala, she said.

And a fifth package provides the winner with two tickets to Horseshoe Bay, where they may enjoy three world-class golf courses and a spa.

The auction as well as ticket sales supply the largest portion of the fund-raising efforts, although the painting sales will also garner some funds, Davis said.

"All the paintings have fixed prices. After the art sale is completely closed, we will begin the auc-

tion," she said.

The attire for the evening is Texas casual. Davis said that translates to starched jeans and cowboy boots for the men and sandals for the women.

And she is thrilled to have her siser-in-law, Joan (pronounced Jo Ann) LaRue as one of the featured artists. The idea for the Gala came from a conversation Davis had with LaRue and the entire event was planned and executed in a three-month span.

The donation of \$50 per person may also be made at the gate of Garrett Ranch before the Gala begins. For directions to the ranch, call 432-2326.

Contract Bridge

A Very Hot Potato

South dealer
North-South vulnerable
NORTH
♦ Q 9 8 4
♥ A
♦ A 7 6 4 3
♠ J 8 4
WEST
♦ 6 5
♥ 8 7 4 2
♦ Q 10 2
♠ K Q 10 9
EAST
♦ 7 2
♥ J 10 5 3
♦ K 8
♠ 7 6 5 3 2
SOUTH
♦ A K J 10 3
♥ K Q 9 6
♦ J 9 5
♠ A

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
6 ♣

Opening lead — king of clubs.

It is an undeniable fact of bridge life that every once in a while, a reasonable bidding sequence leads to a poor contract. Declarer is nevertheless obliged to give the assignment his best shot. Sometimes he might even be able to enlist the defenders' support to help him achieve his goal.

Take this case where South reached six spades as shown and West led the king of clubs. It was immediately apparent to declarer that the slam would fail unless he could somehow avoid losing two diamond tricks. Since there were very few legitimate holdings that would allow

only one diamond loser (West having the singleton king or queen, or either opponent having the K-Q alone), South decided his best chance lay in the hope of inducing a defensive slip.

At trick two, he led a diamond to the ace, both opponents following low. He then cashed the ace of hearts, A-K of trumps and K-Q of hearts, discarding two clubs from dummy. South ruffed his last heart in dummy and then exited with a diamond, losing to East's king. Since East had only clubs left, he had no choice but to lead one, allowing South to discard his jack of diamonds as he ruffed in dummy, and the slam was home.

The key play was the diamond to the ace at trick two. Once East followed low to this trick, there was no way for the defenders to wriggle out of the position South had visualized. Had East foreseen what was coming, he could have dropped his king under the ace to avert the impending endplay, but this was certainly not an easy play to make at such an early stage.

Observe that had declarer telegraphed his intentions by clearing all his hearts and clubs before playing a diamond to the ace, it would have been much easier for East to jettison his king, and West would then have scored two diamond tricks. The diamond play came too early for East to realize that his king was a very hot potato.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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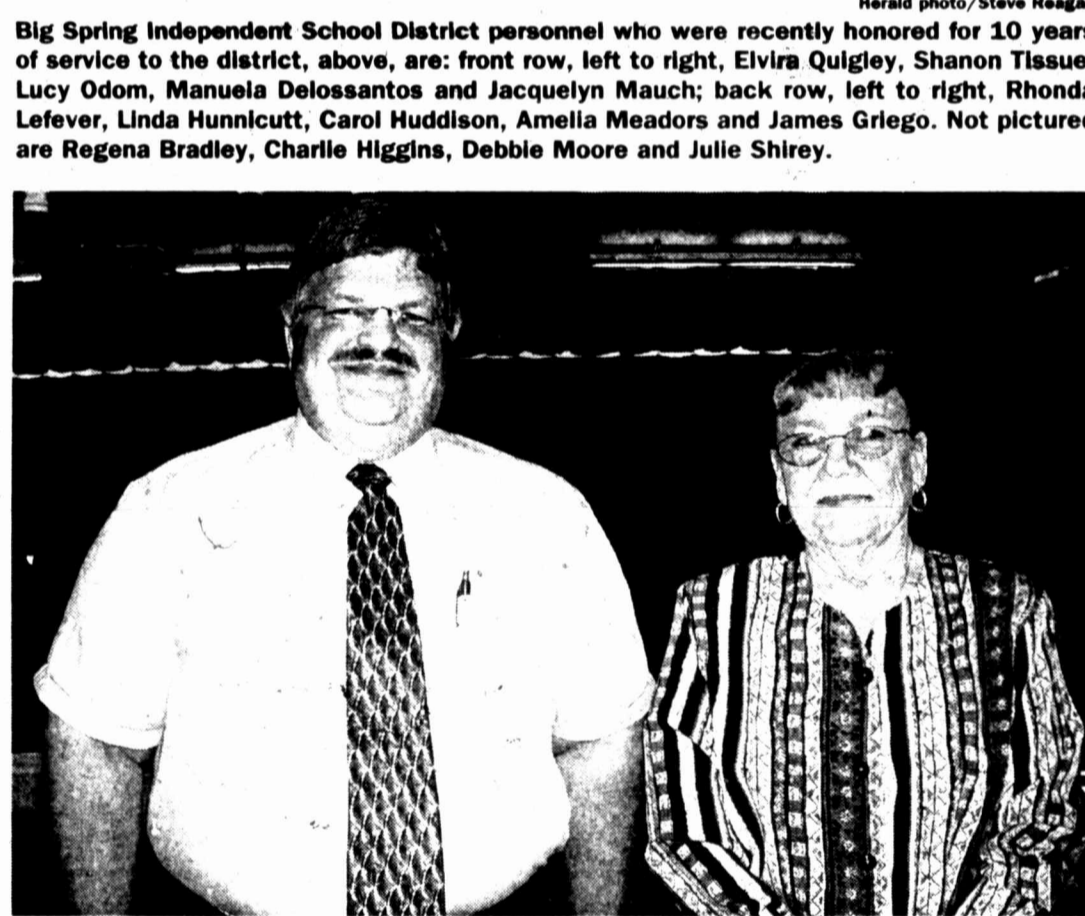
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BSISD HONORS PERSONNEL AT AWARDS BANQUET

Herald photos/Steve Reagan
Big Spring Independent School District personnel who were recently honored for 15 years of service to the district, right, are: front row, left to right, Pam Walker, James Rudinger, Wanda Rudinger, Alvin Rocha, Yolanda Escanuela, Theresa Lewis and Cynthia Casillas; back row, left to right, Pedro Sorola, Sharon McGrievy, George Martin, Phillip Gibson, Tabitha Barbee and James Norman. Not pictured are Joyce Covert, Mary Dingus, Sheila Hall, Rosemary Hernandez and Maria Ortega. BSISD personnel who were recently honored for 20 years service to the school district, below, are: front row, left to right, Robin Ritchey, Sheryl Gass, Susan Dawes and Jan Nichols; back row, left to right, Marvin Wynn, Michael Ritchey, Douglas Wagner, Peggy Skiles and Peggy Calhoun. Not pictured are Beth Spence and Armando Salgado.



Herald photo/Steve Reagan
Big Spring Independent School District personnel who were recently honored for 10 years of service to the district, above, are: front row, left to right, Elvira Quigley, Shanon Tissue, Lucy Odum, Manuela Delossantos and Jacquelyn Mauch; back row, left to right, Rhonda Lefever, Linda Hunnicutt, Carol Huddison, Amelia Meadors and James Griego. Not pictured are Regena Bradley, Charlie Higgins, Debbie Moore and Julie Shirley.

Herald photos/Steve Reagan
Big Spring Independent School District personnel who were recently honored for 25 years service to the school district, above left, are: front row, left to right, Carol Boyd and Christina Islas; back row, left to right, Gail Berringer, Cheryl Robertson, Rebecca Stone and Lana Piercefield. Not pictured is Suann Lacy Seay. BSISD personnel who were recently honored for 30 years of service to the school district, above right, are James McFarland, left, and Dorothy Carter. Not pictured is Leticia Torres.

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IN BRIEF

HC sets girl's summer basketball camp dates

Howard College women's basketball head coach Earl Diddle and assistant coach Eric Rodewald have announced the dates for three summer basketball camps to be held at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The first camp will run from June 5-8 from 9 a.m. through 11:30 a.m. The camp is for kindergartners through third grade and the cost is \$50.

The second camp, an individual day camp, will also take place June 5-8. The camp goes from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., costs \$60 and is for grades four through eight.

The third camp is shooting and position camp and it runs from June 19-22 from 9 a.m. to noon. The camp costs \$60 and is for grades seven through 12.

For more information, call 264-5043 or 816-4327. Pre-registration for all three camps is also encouraged.

C.G.A. sets date for annual scholarship golf tournament

The Chicano Golf Association has set the 16th annual scholarship tournament for May 27-28 at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

The tournament is two-person (pick your own team) scramble and it costs \$75 and free food is provided.

For more information, call 264-2366 or 264-7116.

HC sets boy's summer basketball camp dates

The Howard College men's basketball coaching staff and players will be conducting two camps this summer and both camps will take place in July.

The first camp will take place July 17-18 and the second camp runs from July 24-25. The cost of the camps are \$250 for participants wanting to stay overnight in the dorms and \$200 for commuters.

The Hawk Camp format consists of morning and afternoon sessions. All sessions include specialized clinics on both offensive and defensive phases of the game. These clinics teach the fundamentals of the game and are the foundation of the Hawk Camp.

There will be 24-hour security during the camp and the camp includes breakfast, lunch and dinner. Boarding campers will have a lunch for commuters.

Camp participants need to bring athletic clothing (shorts, shirts, socks and shoes) to all sessions and boarding campers must also have linens, toiletries and spending money.

For more information, call the athletic office at Howard College at 264-5043. Enrollment is limited.

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Howard forced to change lineup for regional tourney

• Fonseca, Bermudez dismissed from team; Pitchers introduced to new playoff roles

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

The Howard College baseball team will play in the regional tournament without the services of a starting position player and a relief pitcher, according to head coach Britt Smith.

Freshman shortstop David Fonseca and pitcher Adrian Bermudez were dismissed from the team last week due to violation of team rules.

No. 2 hitter Jeff Storms, a sophomore who played the entire season at second base, will move over to shortstop for the Region 5 Tournament, which begins Saturday at McMurry University in Abilene. The new second baseman will be freshman Bryan Minzenmeyer.

"The loss doesn't bother the other players so it certainly doesn't bother the coaches," said Smith. "Bryan's a good player and I think he'll be just fine. He'll play hard and that's all we can ask for."

Other than an injury to outfielder Dusty Dallas and illnesses to Darby Brown and Daman Aaron, the Hawks are ready for a run at the national tournament.

"We don't have a choice but to play all of them because we are only taking 10 guys," said Smith. "Dusty's ankle is sore and it has been severely taped all week. He will not be 100 percent at any point in the tournament. Darby practiced yesterday, but

is still a little weak. Daman is probably the healthiest of all three."

Howard will most likely see Chris Williams on the mound against McLennan in Round 1 Saturday. According to Smith, the team is fundamentally sound, does what it takes to win offensively and doesn't beat themselves.

"They're not going to wow you with talent, but they get it done," added Smith.

Like during the season, Smith feels confident about his offense and says the key is going to be what happens on the mound.

"We are probably a better offensive team without (Fonseca)," said Smith. "Bryan's only disadvantage is that he hasn't played much."

The pitching situation will be different for regionals than it was during the year.

"We are going to throw every starter two innings and the relief guys will throw one inning," said Smith. "We just need them to be sharp for one inning."

The Hawks have only had one starter — freshman Ryan Robinson — go nine innings all season so Smith said they have to have this approach to have any chance to win.

"This is the only way we can win this thing in our minds," said Smith. "We have to bring the guys back the next day. The pitchers are excited and it will take pressure off them because now they just have to win their inning."

The team has only eight

See HOWARD, Page 2B

Coahoma takes on familiar opponent

• Bulldogettes look to advance against undefeated Sonora

By TROY HYDE

Sports Editor

A familiar foe awaits the Coahoma Bulldogs in the Area championship of the Class 2A baseball playoffs this weekend when they travel to Andrews.

The Bulldogs will face Kermit in their first playoff series of the postseason. They had a first-round bye after winning District 4-2A for the third straight year earlier this year. Kermit defeated Junction in three games in its first-round playoff series, but has lost to Coahoma in both meetings this year.

"The biggest thing for us is to not think about beating them twice and take them serious," said Coahoma head coach Brad Harman. "They'll play with a chip because they have lost twice to us."

The first game of the best-of-three series will take place Friday at 7 p.m. in Andrews, while Game 2 starts at 3 p.m.



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Coahoma senior Sarah Dunn throws out a runner at first base during action against Kermit last weekend. Dunn and the Bulldogettes take on Sonora this weekend in the regional quarterfinals at Angelo State University.

Saturday. If a third game is needed, it will be played 30 minutes after Game 2.

Coahoma defeated Kermit in its first game of the year aside from a tournament, 14-12, and then blew out the Yellow Jackets 13-3 in the second meeting.

Unlike senior Tad



Garden City Juniors Alex Halfmann, left, and Taylor Niehus pose with their championship medals at the UIL state tennis tournament Tuesday after the duo won the Class 1A boy's doubles tournament at the Lakeway World of Tennis near Austin. Halfmann and Niehus went 19-1 as a team this season.

Golf is a gentleman's game; keep it that way

I was 12 years old the first year I played in the Texas-Oklahoma Junior Golf Tournament.

There was a kid from Spain who traveled to play in the tournament. He would have won the tournament, except he called a 2-stroke penalty on himself for hitting the wrong ball.

Nobody else knew. For him it was an easy decision. One of the most prestigious tournaments with more than 500 participants and this kid had a chance to win.

How do you teach that kind of honor to a kid? That has stuck with me for 25 years now. I have always been a fan of golf.

All other sports require officials of some kind to monitor the rules. Golf is on an honor system. A player is required to be responsible for his own actions. Not a single PGA tournament goes by where a player is not disqualified for a rules infraction.

It is not because of intentional actions, but because of the complexities of the rules of golf.

Golf does not administer strokes after the fact. A player is disqualified. That means a goose egg in the bank account that week. Imagine Shaquille O'Neal being called for a foul and forfeiting his game check. What if Terrell Owens had to sit the rest of a game if he was called for a penalty? Fouls and penalties are part of every other sport. In golf, you play by the rules, or you go home.

As part of my job duties as golf professional, I am responsible for running golf tournaments. The purpose of a tournament is to give people an opportunity to test their skills against the competition. We use flights to match people of like abilities. Most tournaments in West Texas use Round 1 scores to determine winners.

It always bothers me to see people in lower flights than where they belong. I could win every tournament entered under this format by shooting high enough the first day, then improving the second. What would that prove? Golfers have labeled this concept as "sandbagging." We like to call our buddies this term when it appears like they are not living up to potential.



LARRY BRYAN

See BRYAN, Page 2B

MAY

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HOWARD

Continued from Page 1B

pitchers going to regionals, but if any game goes extra innings, Smith said two position players — Aaron and freshman Barrett Lowenstein — can pitch if needed.

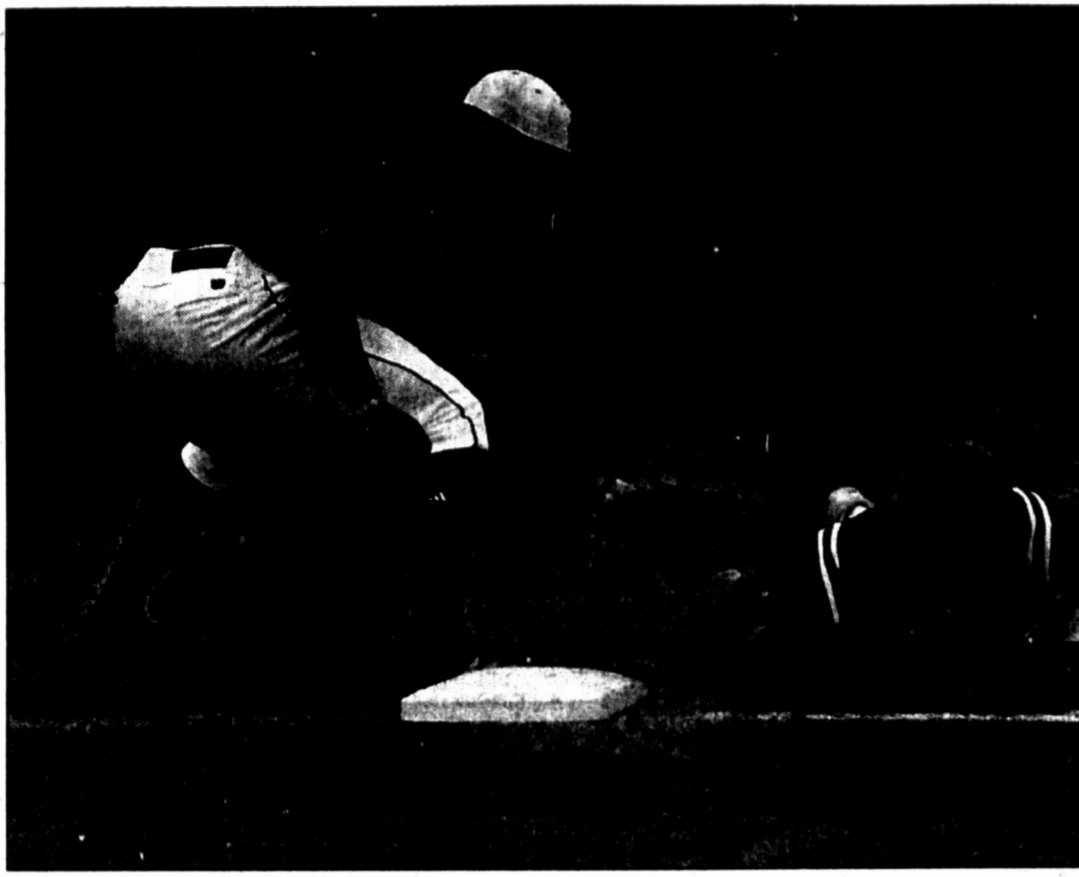
Either Robinson or freshman Kenny Smalley will start things off Saturday against McLennan, but Smith said who starts the game doesn't really matter.

"They will all pitch so it doesn't matter who gets the start," said Smith. "The guys are preparing to pitch every day."

Howard finished fourth in the Western Junior College Athletic Conference this year. The Hawks went 15-13 in the league and are 36-20 on the season.

The offense is led by Brown, who is fifth in the league in hitting with an average of .452. He also has a team-high 25 doubles and 85 hits. Storms is also hitting better than .400 and has 23 doubles and 58 runs on the year. Both Brown and Storms have more than 20 stolen bases apiece.

Sophomore Gabe Marchant has a team-high 63 runs, 30 stolen bases and eight triples and matched Dallas for the most home runs on



HERALD photo/Troy Hyde
Howard sophomore Darby Brown, left, applies the tag on a base runner from Western Texas during nonconference action earlier this month. Brown leads the Hawks into the Region 5 Tournament this weekend. Howard takes on McLennan Saturday at 1 p.m. The tournament will be played at McMurry University.

the team with 10. Freshman Stephen is 6-1 on the mound this year and Robinson is 5-1.

Robinson is among the league leaders in innings pitched and Smalley is in the top 10 in strikeouts with 53.

Smith said New Mexico, McLennan and Temple are the top teams in the tournament. New Mexico

is the favorite to advance to nationals.

"New Mexico won the title last year and has been wire-to-wire No. 1 this year so they are the team to beat I would say," said Smith. "They expect to win and that's part of the battle."

"We are not going there to bring home second though. We need to try and win it or we should-

n't even be going. We have the talent to do so."

The tournament is double elimination. If the Hawks win their opener against McLennan they will play Sunday at 5 p.m. against either North Central or Midland. A first-round loss puts Howard in the 10 a.m. game Sunday against the loser of Midland and North Central.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

that position."

White (13-1) got the win in relief in the first game against Kermit this year and will start Game 1 for the Bulldogs Friday. Harman said he is unsure about who will start Game 2, but it depends a little on what happens in the opener. Possibilities on the mound include freshman Donnie Garcia, senior Kacee Coberly and junior Blaine Kerby.

Garcia got the win in the 13-3 victory against Kermit earlier this year. His complete-game performance included two earned runs on eight hits and nine strikeouts.

"I am not sure who will throw in Game 2, but it could be any one of three guys," said Harman. "It just depends on what happens in Game 1."

Harman said Kermit's top half of the order can hit the ball well and will try to steal bases and use its team speed when they do get on base.

"If they don't hurt themselves they can be very good," he said. "And they will take advantage of mistakes their opponents make."

"We just have to show up and play our game and if we do things like we have done this year we should be fine. If we don't make mistakes and throw strikes on the mound then I feel confident we'll come out on top."

The Bulldogs' lineup at the plate should not change for the most part, said Harman. Coahoma (19-8) is led at the dish by Garcia, Kerby and junior Collin McMillan.

The Coahoma-Kermit winner will play either Jim Ned or San Angelo Grape Creek in the regional quarterfinals next week.

Bulldogettes vs. Sonora

Putting the ball in play consistently against Sonora's Megan Craig is



one of the keys for Coahoma softball head coach Robby Dickenson in his team's best-of-three regional quarterfinal series against the Lady Broncos.

"(Craig) is the heart of their team," said Dickenson. "We need to put the ball in play early and make them earn everything they get by not making mistakes in the field."

Dickenson said Sonora is pretty solid in the infield and will feature several good hitters at the plate. The Lady Broncos are also undefeated this year.

"I am not sure what their record is, but I know they haven't lost yet," said Dickenson. "At the same time, I don't think they have played a schedule as hard as ours."

All-state pitcher Kali Roberts will throw in Game 1 Friday night at 5 p.m. at Angelo State University in San Angelo. The second game will also be played Friday night, but Dickenson is unsure about his starter in that game.

"If we win the first game then Kali won't throw in Game 2," said Dickenson. "I have some other girls that I am confident in and will have no problem throwing either of them if they are needed."

Roberts got the win in Game 1 of Coahoma's Area championship series against Kermit last weekend. She allowed one hit and walked one in six innings and struck out 10. Senior Ashle New finished the game with a perfect seventh inning and senior Sarah Dunn allowed one run on two hits in Game 2.

Roberts has played the last several games with a sore shoulder and neck, but Dickenson said the injury has improved and she is feeling better this week.

The winner of this series will take on either Henrietta or Seymour in regional semifinals.

COAHOMA ATHLETIC BANQUET AWARDS

- FOOTBALL**
MVPs - All 7 Seniors
Terrell Bibb
Kacee Coberly
Joe Holguin
Cody Griffin
Antonio Gonzales
Matthew Buske
Patrick Croft

- CROSS COUNTRY**
Fighting Heart - Jessica Pittman

- BOYS BASKETBALL**
MVP - Terrell Bibb
Outstanding Newcomer - Jason Gonzales
Outstanding Defensive Player - Collin Morgan
6th Man - Stephen Ewing
Fighting Heart - Joe Holguin
Most Improved - Kamrun Green

- BOYS TRACK**
MVPs - Joe Holguin, Collin Morgan, Kamrun Green and Josh Jones
(All were regional qualifiers)

- GIRLS TRACK**
MVP - Sterling Gee

- GOLF**
Girls MVP - Jaci Martinez
Boys MVP - Terrell Bibb

- TENNIS**
Girls MVP - Callie Paige, Brianna Thurman, Chelsea Watts and Jessica Pittman
Boys MVP - Taylor Halle, Harrison Chevalier, Joe Holguin and Patrick Croft
(All were regional qualifiers)

- POWERLIFTING**
Girls MVP - Chelsea Gonzales
Boys MVP - Jake McCain
Girls Most Improved - Jencia White and Emeraldie Urias
Boys Most Improved - Jesse Medina, Cory Clinton, Justin Ditto and Nathan Gomez

- OUTSTANDING MALE STUDENT TRAINER**
Garrett Walker
OUTSTANDING FEMALE STUDENT TRAINERS
Sant Bayes, Sarah Dunn and Channell Griffin

- FEMALE ATHLETES OF THE YEAR**
Kali Roberts and Sterling Gee
MALE ATHLETES OF THE YEAR
Joe Holguin and Terrell Bibb

- BOCETTES CLUB SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**
Sant Bayes, Drew Wells, Cody Griffin and Terrell Bibb

BRYAN

Continued from Page 1B

But, in reality we are watering down a phrase that needs addressing. Sandbagging is cheating. Making a five the first day when you could have made a four is no different than making four the second day and writing down a three. Both are cheating to win a prize. A prize not earned.

What message does this send to your friends and kids? The system is set up to reward you for good play. Next time, try your hardest on every shot both days. Let the results take care of themselves. You will find your game getting better because you will be pushing your limits.

Your honor is worth more than the prizes awarded at the local events. Golf is for ladies and gentlemen.

That was the way it was intended and for us to preserve. Let's do our best to make sure that is the game handed down to our children.

It is our responsibility to teach our kids that making themselves better in all aspects of life and doing your best is more important than winning prizes.

Golf can teach these lessons, but only if we lead by example.

Larry Bryan is the Director of Golf at the Big Spring Country Club. He can be reached at 267-5354 (BS Country Club pro shop) or at larryj@crcom.net.

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Thursday, May 11, 2006

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GARAGE SALE, Saturday Only! 7:00 a.m.-? 105 Ash (Coahoma). Wedding dress, size 10, microwave and lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE: 114 Brooks Rd., Saturday 10:00-? Piano, furniture, clothes, etc.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE: 2710 Rebecca, Saturday 8:00-? Clothing, toys, home deco. and lots more. No Early Bird Specials.

GARAGE SALE: 4013 Dixon, Friday & Saturday 8:00-5:00. Refrigerated AC units, 3 piece antique bedroom suite, all clothes 25¢ each, lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE: Friday 8:00-5:00 @ 1419 Stadium Ave. Miscellaneous items, baby clothes (boys, 0-9mo) and baby items. **NO EARLY SALES. CASH ONLY.**

GARAGE SALE: Friday Only 8:00-3:00. Camper shell, satellite with receivers, furniture, tools, crafts. Too much to list!! Worth the Drive! 1601 South Moss Lake Road.

MOVING SALE! 3203 East 11th Place, Friday & Saturday 8:00-? Couches, mattresses, bedding, wheels, chairs, books. Even house at 220 Davis Road for sale!

Garage Sales

MOVING SALE: 4216 Parkway Road. Dining room set, toys, kitchenware and much more. 8:00-3:00 Thursday & Friday and 7:00-5:00 on Saturday.

MOVING SALE: 606 Jeffrey Rd. (off S. 87), Saturday 8:00-? Tillers, weedeater, mechanic tools, 3 pt. hitch & garden implements. Lots of clothes, home decor, baby clothes & items, Dining & end table, sporting goods, lots of misc.

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MAY 2006

THURSDAY

MAY 11

	WFAA (2)	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEL (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLT (8)	KWES (9)	WTBS (11)	KMLM (12)	KOCV (13)	DISC (20)	AMC (21)	SPIKE (22)	TNT (23)	BET (24)	DISN (27)	ESPN2 (28)	ESPN (29)	SCIFI (64)
6	News (CC)	News Wheel-Fortune	Paragrana	King of the Hill The Simpsons	News Ent. Tonight	La Tormenta	News Be a Millionaire	MLB Baseball Atlanta Braves	Joe McGee	News-Lahrer	Discovery The Real Assassins	Classics Stood Still	Spike TV CSI: Crime Scene Investig. (CC) (DVS)	Atlanta Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Black Ent. Live (CC) BET Style	Disney Phil of Future That's-Raven	ESPN2 MLB Baseball: Teams to Be	ESPN Sports NBA	SCIFI Movie: Hide and Creep (CC)
7	American Inventor	American Inventor	La Fea Mas Bella	70s Show That 70s	Survivor Panama -Exile	Tierra de Pasiones	Will & Grace My Name Is	at Florida Marlins (CC)	Update/Israel Biblical Israel	TX Mrtly Talk	Conspiracy Files (CC)	Movie: The Poseidon	CSI: Crime Scene Investig. (CC) (DVS)	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Tiger College Hill	Movie: The Proud Family	Announced	NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal	Movie: A.I. Assault (CC)
8	American Inventor	American Inventor	Barrera de Amor	Show (CC) (DVS)	CSI: Crime Scene Investig.	Corazon Partido	Earl (CC) The Office		Light of the Southwest	Antiques Roadshow	Conspiracy Files	Adventure UFC Unleashed	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	College Hill Tiger					
9	Commander in Chief (CC)	Commander in Chief (CC)	Aqui y Ahora	Becker (CC) 70s Show	Without a Trace (CC)	Decisiones	ER (CC)	Movie: Crimson		Sheryl Crow, Wildflower	Unsolved History (CC)	Movie: K-119: The Ultimate Fighter	Law & Order (CC) (DVS)	Comickew (CC)	Emperor New Even Stevens	Baseball Tonight	NBA		
10	News (CC) Nightline	News Nightline	Primer Impacto Noticias Univ.	70s Show Raymond	News Late Show	Noticias Titulares y Mas	News Tonight Show		The Hour of Healing	Charlie Rose (CC)	Deepest Catch	The Widemaker (CC)	TNA IMPACT! (CC)	Without a Trace (CC)	Jamie Foxx: Jamie Foxx: Their's-Raven	Zack & Cody: Their's-Raven	Quile Franky With Smith	Basketball: Conference Semifinal	Movie: The Terror Within (CC)
11	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	Ent. Tonight Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)	La Hora de la Risa	King of the Hill Malcolm-Mid.	Letterman Late Late	Laura Al Rolo Vivo	Late Night: Conan O'Brien Paid Program	40 Movie: Del Sanchez Y. Salamanca		Sign Off	Conspiracy Files (CC)	12:15 Movie: The Poseidon	MXC Blind Date	Do With It (CC)	College Hill Tiger	Sister, Sister That's-Raven	It's the Shoes It's the Shoes	SportsCenter	Twilight Zone Twilight Zone
12	Live (CC) News (CC)	Extra (CC) Paid Program	Sonadoras	My Wife-Kids Divorce Court		Maria Celeste Pagado			Update/Israel Booker										

DENNIS THE MENACE

"WHY DON'T NEW SHOES COME WITH A SPARE?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"Grandma never loses her phone. It's fastened to the wall."

HAGAR

HI, HELGA!
THERE ARE THREE ARMED MEN INSIDE WAITING FOR YOU!!
SORRY! I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE ME BRINGING WORK HOME - BUT I WASN'T ABLE TO DO IT ALL AT WORK!
SO - SEND THEM OUT!!

BLONDIE

GREAT BREAKFAST! WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING FOR DINNER?
DAGWOOD, HONESTLY...
SOMETIMES IT SEEMS LIKE FOOD IS ALL YOU EVER THINK ABOUT
FOR PETE'S SAKE, HONEY... DON'T BE SILLY
KISS
GREAT LUNCH! WHAT'S YOUR SPECIAL FOR TOMORROW?

BC

DO ANY OF YOUR PLAYERS USE STERIODS?
THERE'S ONE THAT I'M SUSPICIOUS OF.
WHY IS THAT?
HE SPLITS HIS BAT TAKING PRACTICE SWINGS.

WIZARD OF ID

I'M GOING TO TAKE A CORRESPONDENCE COURSE TO LEARN A TRADE
GOOD IDEA
I'M THINKING ABOUT "LOCKSMITH"
BAD IDEA

AGNES

THERE! A FINISHED TATTOO!
THIS IS A BUTTERFLY?!
YES... A MOST FINE BUTTERFLY SURROUNDED IN THE TRADITIONAL TATTOO WAY WITH TRIBAL FLAMES, CLOWNS, DEMONS AND ASSORTED IMPLEMENTS OF IMPALEMENT.
THAT PART WAS GOING TO BE A BOTTLE OF CHEAP WHISKEY, BUT I MESSED IT UP.
NICE JOB WITH THE WITE-OUT.

HI AND LOIS

MY IPOD IS MISSING! WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
YOU COULD LISTEN TO THE RADIO
ONCE YOU'VE GONE DIGITAL, YOU CAN NEVER GO BACK.
HOW CAN YOU TURN BACK THE HANDS OF TIME, WHEN THERE AREN'T ANY ON THE CLOCK?

THE OTHER COAST

OLD STAN WAS THE HARDEST-WORKING SALESGUY. ALWAYS HAD A CELL PHONE TO HIS EAR.
WHAT A LIFE.
AT LEAST HE'S RESTING IN PEACE, NOW.
RING!
RIP STAN

SNUFFY SMITH

UH-OH, JAMEY-- YA KNOW THAT SNAKE I PUT IN MY POCKET?
YEAH...
I FERGOT I PUT A FROG IN THAR EARLIER!!

BEEBLE BAILEY

THIS IS A NEW HYBRID JEEP
OH? WHAT DOES IT RUN ON BESIDES GASOLINE?
GRAVITY!

This Date In History

Today is Thursday, May 11, the 131st day of 2006. There are 234 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
Twenty-five years ago, on May 11, 1981, legendary reggae artist Bob Marley died in a Miami hospital at age 36.

On this date:
In 1647, Peter Stuyvesant arrived in New Amsterdam to become governor.
In 1858, Minnesota became the 32nd state of the Union.
In 1904, surrealist artist Salvador Dali was born in Figueras, Spain.
In 1910, Glacier National Park in Montana was established.
In 1943, during World War II, U.S. forces landed on the Aleutian island of Attu, which was held by the Japanese; the Americans took the island 19 days later.
In 1944, Allied forces launched a major offensive against German lines in Italy.

Answer to previous puzzle

H	I	K	E	R	S	N	I	T	C	L	A	M
A	N	O	D	E	N	O	V	A	L	A	N	E
T	A	I	N	T	O	R	A	L	E	R	G	S
A	U	T	U	M	N	C	L	E	A	V	E	S
P	O	D	R	A	T	N	O	T	A	R	I	A
S	P	R	I	N	G	S	T	E	E	N	L	A
A	E	R	A	F	A	S	O	K	S	A	L	I
W	A	R	N	L	I	E	A	S	T	R	O	
E	R	A	S	E	R	S	E	R	C	E	O	S
W	I	N	T	E	R	P	A	L	A	C	E	
E	V	E	R	I	S	L	A	I	D	L	E	S
R	A	V	E	E	S	A	I	A	D	O	R	E
S	L	E	W	S	T	I	R	L	Y	C	R	A

Newsday Crossword

EYES FOR YOU by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- Snake attacks
- Blue Grotto isle
- Skirt bottom
- In pieces
- Indian or Arctic
- Tree chopper
- Some Arizonans
- Used to be
- Knock-___
- Completely destroys
- Haymaker target
- Plunk or plop lead-in
- Nonclergy
- Lowered in rank
- Scale opening
- Bishop's hat
- PBS science show
- Way, way off
- Blissful place
- Sausalito's county
- Not prerecorded
- Hospital fluids
- In the thick of
- English cattle breed
- Oater vehicles
- Go bananas
- Yard worker
- Eggy quaff
- "_ bodkins!"
- Lives and breathes
- Like fresh cake
- Will Smith role
- Abel Tasman discovery

DOWN

- Scrooge expletive
- Wall St. debut
- Suds source
- Phantom of the Opera
- No-goodnik
- Computer programmer
- Etcher's fluid
- Sfiooter ammo
- Carrou of Broadway
- Pound and foot
- Use, as influence
- Food additive
- Certain pitcher
- Unearth
- 1 Scrooge expletive
- 2 Wall St. debut
- 3 Suds source
- 4 Phantom of the Opera
- 5 No-goodnik
- 6 Computer programmer
- 7 Etcher's fluid
- 8 Sfiooter ammo
- 9 Foam at the mouth
- 10 Shoe liner
- 11 Jack Lord TV series
- 12 Put on a pedestal
- 13 In disarray
- 18 Have to have
- 22 Mexicali fare
- 23 Madison or Monroe
- 24 Put up with
- 25 Sport requiring a tow
- 29 Governing bodies
- 30 Day in Hollywood
- 31 Amores poet
- 32 Did a 10K, say
- 34 Point a finger at
- 36 Steer clear of
- 37 Monopoly payments
- 39 Cosmo or GQ
- 43 Ilditarod vehicle
- 45 Like Dickens' Dodger
- 46 Cohort of Clark and Jimmy
- 47 Royal domain
- 48 Wagon shafts
- 49 Cacophonous
- 52 Trig function
- 53 Chef's protector
- 54 Haller's cry
- 57 Skippy rival
- 58 Photog's image
- 59 Joanne of Abie's Irish Rose
- 60 Indy 500 sponsor

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MAY

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2006

That's Racin'

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THIS WEEK'S RACE

DODGE CHARGER 500
Where: Darlington Raceway, a 1.366-mile paved banked egg-shaped oval located in Darlington, S.C.
When: Saturday at 6:30 p.m. (all times ET). Qualifying is 3:40 p.m. Friday.

TV: Fox.
Radio: Motor Racing Network.
Purse: \$5,400,769.
Last year's winner: Greg Biffle.
Worth mentioning: Elliott Sadler and Ryan Newman each have five straight top-10 starts at Darlington, the longest current streak.
Jeff Gordon leads all active drivers with 1,553 laps led in 25 races there.

POLL POSITION

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION
Who was/is the best female racer?
Cast your vote at:
www.thatstracin.com

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION
It's May, and we have some night races coming up. Is nighttime the best time for racing?
Number of votes: 6,333

Driver	No. of votes	Percent
There should be more night races on the schedule.	3,875	61%
I like it fine the way it is.	1,673	27%
There are too many night races now.	785	12%

STOP 'N' GO

WHO'S HOT

- **Kevin Harvick:** New contract. Fifth in points. Life is good.
- **Dale Earnhardt Jr.:** The Red Army is gathering steam.

WHO'S NOT

- **Jeff Gordon:** Finished 15th or worse in four of past six races.
- **Martin Truex Jr.:** You can't make progress when wrecks and engines end your day early.
- **Kasey Kahne:** NASCAR's hottest driver has suddenly cooled off.



Jeff Gordon

RANDOM THOUGHTS

- **Darlington (S.C.) Raceway** has sold out its Saturday night pre-Mother's Day race for the second consecutive season, and this season had its earliest sell-out ever. Shows you NASCAR can make a good decision or two every now and then.
- There's been much debate about the **smaller fuel cells** being utilized at the Coca-Cola 600 this season. However, the "Car of Tomorrow" is going to utilize a 17-gallon fuel cell, down from 22 gallons now. Might as well get used to the change.

— Jim Utter

BY THE NUMBERS

NEXTEL CUP POINTS LEADERS

The top-40 drivers as of May 6:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Jimmie Johnson	1521	21. Jeff Green	986
2. Tony Stewart	1466	22. J.J. Yeley	968
3. Matt Kenseth	1422	23. Ryan Newman	963
4. Mark Martin	1345	24. Scott Riggs	943
5. Kevin Harvick	1313	25. Martin Truex Jr.	936
6. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	1305	26. Reed Sorenson	923
7. Kasey Kahne	1274	27. Bobby Labonte	910
8. Kyle Busch	1237	28. Dave Blaney	875
9. Jeff Gordon	1216	29. Joe Nemechek	873
10. Casey Mears	1168	30. Sterling Marlin	872
11. Dale Jarrett	1166	31. Ken Schrader	864
12. Jeff Burton	1157	32. Robby Gordon	862
13. Carl Edwards	1115	33. Kyle Petty	849
14. Elliott Sadler	1105	34. Jeremy Mayfield	831
15. Clint Bowyer	1087	35. Michael Waltrip	758
16. Denny Hamlin	1085	36. Scott Wimmer	683
17. Jamie McMurray	1062	37. David Stremme	676
18. Kurt Busch	1040	38. Travis Kvapil	607
19. Brian Vickers	1030	39. Kevin Lepage	529
20. Greg Biffle	999	40. Terry Labonte	516

BUSCH SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-20 drivers as of May 5:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Kevin Harvick	1799	11. Jason Loffler	1188
2. Clint Bowyer	1486	12. Burney Lamar	1187
3. Carl Edwards	1417	13. Reed Sorenson	1153
4. Denny Hamlin	1381	14. Kenny Wallace	1127
5. Paul Menard	1359	15. Matt Kenseth	1086
6. Kyle Busch	1340	16. Michael Waltrip	1084
7. Greg Biffle	1314	17. Ashton Lewis	1072
8. J.J. Yeley	1294	18. Mark McFarland	1038
9. Johnny Sauter	1241	19. Danny O'Quinn Jr.	1031
10. Jon Wood	1192	20. John Andretti	1016

NEXT RACE: Friday, Diamond Hill Plywood 200, Darlington, S.C.

TRUCK SERIES POINTS LEADERS

The top-10 drivers as of April 29:

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1. Todd Bodine	852	6. David Siatt	698
2. Ted Musgrave	840	7. Mike Bliss	682
3. David Reutemann	746	8. Johnny Benson	661
4. Mark Martin	720	9. Bobby Hamilton Jr.	639
5. Jack Sprague	704	10. Terry Cook	638

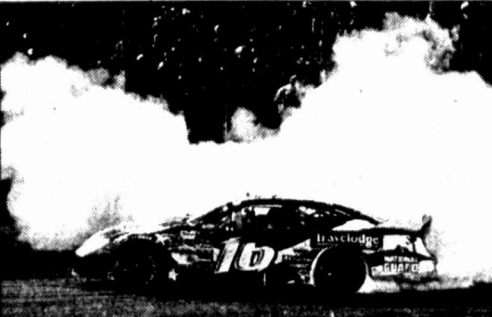
NEXT RACE: May 19, Quaker Steak & Lube 200, Concord, N.C.

Lighting the way

By JIM McLAURIN
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Finish this phrase: "Bright lights, ...
"Big city," right? Las Vegas. New York. Hollywood.
Not necessarily Darlington, South Carolina.
On the other hand, if you ask a NASCAR driver to connect artificial luminescence and the South's first big racetrack, their response usually is, "Great!"
"Darlington is a very fun track to drive at night," said Jimmie Johnson, who swept both races in 2004 when the track switched from day to night racing. "The track has a little more grip and is a little more forgiving than what you have during a day race."
Racing under the lights has always been a staple at small tracks, where vast numbers of bulbs weren't needed. But when the movers and shakers in racing figured out how to illuminate a big track, the phenomenon of racing after dark took a giant leap forward. This year, nearly a third of NASCAR's Nextel Cup races will take place after the sun goes down.
Darlington Raceway joined that party in 2004, and Johnson ate it up. He won both the Carolina Dodge Dealers 400 in the spring and the last Southern 500 in November.
Greg Biffle put his name above the other night riders last spring, winning the Dodge Charger 500. If you're looking for disciples of night racing at Darlington, look no further.
"It kind of gives me goosebumps," Biffle

Night racing breathes new excitement into Darlington Raceway



Greg Biffle spins his tires to celebrate his win in the 2005 Dodge Charger 500.

"I see a replay of it, I replay it in my head over and over, and it gets the blood flowing."
"With all the history this place has, this was one track I really wanted to win at. I'd won here twice in the Busch car, and wanted to win in a Cup car."
It doesn't matter to any driver what time it is when he takes the checkered flag, as long as he takes it first. But most prefer racing at night because it's cooler, and most Nextel Cup night races are run on Saturday, not Sunday, which

gives them an extra day off.
And as Johnson said, it is marginally easier. Track temperatures are cooler, which slows tire wear, and engines perform more efficiently in cooler air temperatures.
But night racing brings its own set of problems. The lighting system developed by Musco Lighting directs the light horizontally from the infield across the racing surface instead of from above. It eliminates most shadows but, according to Biffle, it is different.
Especially at Darlington, where running close to the outer wall is the rule, not the exception.
"It was kind of different at night because the shadow (during the day) is about 12 inches from the base of the wall," Biffle said. "At night, the same thing happens in some spots, and it was hard to tell."
"We run really close to the wall, and it's critical to see what we call the "cushion," where all the rubber is built up. At night, it made it challenging to do that."
That said, both drivers agree that the key to Darlington is not whether races are run in the afternoon heat or cool of the evening, it's the tires. Tire wear is greater at most tracks during the day, but at Darlington it makes no difference. As far as tires are concerned, the rough racing surface is an equal-opportunity destroyer.
"It just tears the tires off, regardless," Johnson said. "It's like racing on a cheese grater. It doesn't matter whether the sun is out or not. It's going to tear 'em up."



Darlington Raceway runs almost completely under the lights during the 2005 Dodge Charger 500 last May.

RANKINGS

THAT'S RACIN'S TOP PICKS

- 1. Jimmie Johnson (car No. 48):** Didn't have a great run at Richmond but still salvaged a decent finish out of it. Last week: 1.
- 2. Tony Stewart (car No. 20):** Never really got it just right at Richmond but still finished sixth.

This team's solid. Last week: 3.
3. Kevin Harvick (car No. 29): It's a cliché, yes, but when a third-place finish is a disappointment, you're doing OK. Last week: 5.
4. Matt Kenseth (car No. 17): Richmond bump in the road was fluky problem — a hole got knocked in the oil tank. Last week: 2.
5. Kasey Kahne (car No. 9): Talladega setback was not his fault. But loose spark plug wires at

Richmond? Come on. Last week: 4.
6. Dale Earnhardt Jr. (car No. 8): With a car good enough to win, his conversion percentage is as good as anybody's. Last week: 8.
7. Mark Martin (car No. 6): A mistake here or there seems to find this team just about every weekend. Last week: 6.
8. Kyle Busch (car No. 5): Can't decide if this team is lowest in the top-tier group or highest among tier

two. Last week: 9.
9. Jeff Gordon (car No. 24): In late 2005 it seemed this team would rebound before Earnhardt Jr.'s. But it hasn't. Last week: 7.
10. Carl Edwards (car No. 99): Three straight top 10s and he's back up to 13th in points. That's a promising trend. Last week: 12.

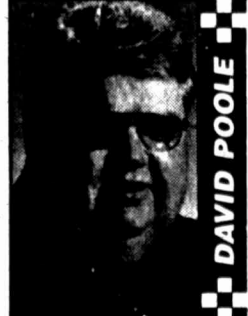
For the rest of the top-40 rankings, go online and visit www.thatstracin.com.

Even in home state, Hamlin knows his boundaries

Denny Hamlin might be a 25-year-old rookie, but he still knows that purposely wrecking Dale Earnhardt Jr. with a Nextel Cup victory on the line — even if you do it in your own backyard — might not be his best career move.
"The last thing I want to do is wreck Dale Jr.," Hamlin said last Saturday night after finishing second to Earnhardt Jr. in the Crown Royal 400 at Richmond (Va.) International Raceway.
"I have a decent fan base now. I don't want to kill it."
Once a strategic miscue by his team sidetracked Kevin Harvick's bid for a runaway victory, the season's 10th Cup race turned into a spirited free-for-all over the final 75 laps.
Harvick started eighth, and it took him until Lap 50 to get to the front and take the lead from Greg Biffle. From that point, Hamlin's No. 29 Chevrolet ran so strong for so long that his second Cup victory in three

weeks seemed inevitable.
What changed everything, though, began on Lap 260 when Martin Truex Jr. spun off Turn 4.
During the caution, everybody made pit stops, with Earnhardt Jr. second and Hamlin third on the restart on Lap 266.
Just 15 laps later, Truex Jr. lost an engine going into Turn 1 and the yellow came out again. This time, Harvick chose not to stop. But Earnhardt Jr., Hamlin, Kyle Busch and Jeff Burton led the would-be challengers down pit road for fresh tires.
Even though Harvick held his lead for more than 30 laps after the ensuing restart, it became quickly evident that he had made a mistake.
Earnhardt Jr. was the first to arrive on Harvick's rear bumper. Earnhardt Jr. then noticed that Hamlin and

Busch had closed in.
"I let them go by," he said. "I thought they would run him real hard and burn their stuff up and I'd just go back by them on the outside and maybe pass Kevin when his tires were about 20 more laps older. That was sort of my plan."
But Hamlin, who is from nearby Chesterfield, Va., and had his own cheering section of family and friends in a crowd of more than 100,000, had other ideas. His No. 11 Chevrolet liked the low groove, and coming off Turn 2 on Lap 330 Hamlin stuck his nose to the inside and zoomed into the lead.
Then when Robby Gordon cut a tire and hit the wall on Lap 346 everyone — including Harvick, this time — came in for tires. Busch got



DAVID POOLE

Big Sp

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Students who violate Spring Independent District drug-testing find the school less fun, first-time offenders.
School trustees unanimously Thursday sections of the policy was adopted in 2004.

Narc

13 people on drug-re

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

A four-month-long narcotics operation headed by the Big Spring Police Department and Howard County Sheriff's Office came to a this morning, netting local residents on charges.
Beginning at 6 a.m. two agencies — with members of

City, school schedule

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Area voters will again be asked to the polls Saturday elections in Big Spring, Coahoma and State take center stage bet 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
San Francisco-based Grill owner D. Gamboa, Internet technology specialist M.

Help on wellne

Special to the Herald

The nearly 400 Texas Centers for Mental Health employees in 23 counties in West Texas are wearing silver ribbons during May to celebrate Mental Health Month and support for the month long "Campaign for the Brain."

The National Mental Health Association recognizes May as National Mental Health Month, drawing the public's attention to the increased awareness of mental wellness in the community and increased need for

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To reach us:
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