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MONDAY EDITION,
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VOLUME 115, NUMBER 277

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Public Hearing on proposed City budget 2020-2021
 Aug. 25
 5:30 p.m.
 Council Chambers

Public Hearing on proposed County budget 2020-2021
 Aug. 24
 3:30 p.m.
 Courthouse

BSISD returns to class on Aug. 19

Toasty Tuesday every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Coahoma Lion's Club Trade Day & City Wide Garage Sale
 Sept. 26
 8 - 5 p.m.

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Joyful Season Sept. 18-20 Howard County Fair Barn

.....
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 ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

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Big Spring ISD students receive school supplies for upcoming year

All BSISD students in Pre-K through 8th Grade

By AMANDA DUFORAT
 Managing Editor

Big Spring ISD students will soon be back in the classroom and one of the things waiting to greet them will be school supplies for the year. All students in Pre-K through 8th Grade at Big Spring ISD, will only need to bring a backpack on the first day of school thanks to a federal grant.

According to Big Spring ISD Superintendent Jay McWilliams, the monies were provided through an ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund) Federal Grant.

“This money was made available to all school districts in the state, and the amount you received was based on your low socioeconomic numbers in your district,” Superintendent Jay McWilliams said. “There were parameters on how you could spend the funds, and you had to submit a plan along with three quotes before



See **SUPPLIES**, Page 3

Courtesy photos
Dr. Thompson, Assistant Superintendent of Academics and Assessment, and Jay McWilliams, Big Spring ISD Superintendent received the school supplies for the upcoming school year.

Big Spring Economic Development Corp. to meet in regular session Tuesday afternoon

By AMANDA DUFORAT
 Managing Editor

The Big Spring Economic Development Corporation will convene for a regular meeting on Tuesday at 5:15 p.m. in the EDC Board Room, located at 215 W. Third Street.

The Board will consider and possibly take action to approve a corporate resolution for authorized representative for financial institutions and resolutions appointing the Executive Director as Public Information Coordinator.

As planning begins for a new fiscal year and a new

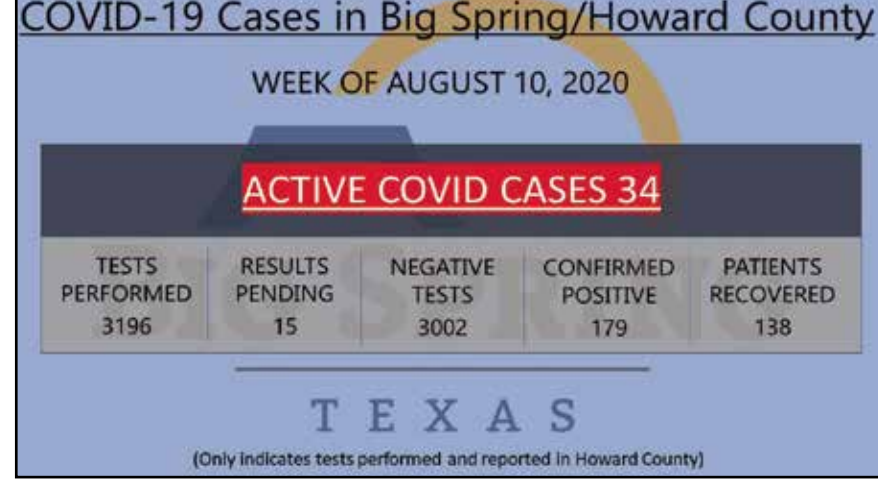
director has taken the leadership helm, the 2020-2021 goals will also be considered and possibly accepted.

New Executive Director of the BSEDC Mark Willis will provide the Director's Report during Tuesday's meeting, before the board members convene in an Executive Session to discuss the Associate Director's annual evaluation. Should any action need to be taken from the Executive Session it will be done so once the board has reconvened in regular

session.
 Routine agenda items, such as approval of minutes from the Aug. 6, 2020 special meet-

ing will and the receipt of July Investment Report and

See **BSEDC**, Page 3



A Moment in Time

The Benton Street Bridge

By TAMMY SCHRECEGOST
 Special to the Herald

On May 2, 1930, the Benton street viaduct contract had been awarded (by a narrow margin) to R.E. McKee of San Antonio. Mr. McKee won the contract to allow construction of a steel and concrete viaduct that stretched over the T&P Railroad tracks on Benton Street. The successful bid was for \$111,481.40. The joint project would require the T&P Railroad to pay 50% of the cost, 35% to Howard County and 15% to the City of Big Spring.



On Thanksgiving Day 1930, the new overpass opened for traffic and the Goliad crossing was closed however, with all endeavors, a problem arose. A lawsuit was filed by a group of five local citizens and business owners and an injunction was issued against the Texas and Pacific

The above photo was taken by Borom Studios in 1930 showing the bridge being built. The Benton Street Bridge is now closed to the public, after safety concerns being identified over the past couple of months.

at the Goliad Street location, but this was not financially feasible and eventually the lawsuit was dismissed.

Railway and the City of Big Spring in their attempt to close the previously used crossing on Goliad. The local businessmen believed by closing this access, it would hurt their business. This included the gins and the grocery supply companies that were located directly north of the tracks. They argued that the Goliad crossing had been there since 1883 and that the cotton farmers, from the south, would not be able to cross the viaducts with their loads. One local lady argued that she did not feel safe having her children take the viaducts. She said there were too many “tramps and bums congregating on the bridges.” She felt safer having a flagman continue to walk the foot traffic across the tracks on Goliad. There was even talk of building a foot bridge

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Obituaries

Susan Barber



Susan Barber, 69, of Coahoma was called home to be with the Lord on Aug. 13, 2020.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will be present from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday for visitation. Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity Memorial Park. Susan was a native to Big Spring, born on Feb. 27, 1951, to Homer Lee Williford, Sr. and Evelyn Frances Hutcherson Williford Redman. She was raised a "steer" and graduated from Big Spring High School in 1969, despite many challenges she completed high school and got her associates degree at Howard College in 1971. She married James Martin Barber in 1973. She relocated to Tyler, Texas, where she attended TJC and worked to get licensed as a Dental Hygienist. A field which she proudly worked for almost 30 years. They remained in Tyler until 1981, James's business brought them back to Odessa, Texas.

After only a year, James and her eldest daughter, Dalana, were taken in a tragic accident. During her recovery Susan relocated to Coahoma and later met and had a very long relationship with Jerry R. Mann. She remained in Coahoma until being called home with her Lord Jesus Christ. In Heaven she was greeted by her Mother, Father, Husband, Daughter Dalana Louise Roberts Barber, her brother Homer "Lee" Williford JR., and many friends and family that have passed before her. She is leaving behind four daughters, Teana Demyen of Big Spring, Tammy Lovett and husband Shane of Joshua, Texas, Brooke Grant and husband Ronnie of Sands Springs, Kala Mann of Coahoma, and one son Jerry R Mann II of Coahoma. Her grandchildren Lana Wuistinger, Tristan Gutierrez, BaiLee Larson and husband Brandon, Evalena Gutierrez, Landon Grant, Kyle Grant and Bentley Grant. Great grandchildren, Aiden and Tobias Wuistinger and Grant Larson.

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

Paid Obituary

Lillie Ethel Blassingame (Lil)

Lillie Ethel Blassingame (Lil) was born in Idabel, Oklahoma, in 1931, to Wesley T. Lindsey and Lillie E. Oakley Lindsey. She passed away on Aug. 15, 2020. Graveside services will be 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020, at the Peace Chapel at Trinity Memorial Park.

She moved around a lot as a child, but she remembered fondly her high school years, growing up in Grandfalls, Texas, where she was a popular teenager and known for her beautiful singing voice.

Lil attended Sul Ross State University and Howard College. She was a cheerleader at Howard.

Lil moved with her family to Big Spring, Texas, where she met and fell in love with Robert W. (Bob) Blassingame. After a whirlwind courtship, they married in six weeks. She and Robert had two daughters, Susan Blassingame (Lubbock) and Jo Lynn Logan (Odessa) who were the joys of her life. Jo Lynn and her husband, John Logan, had their beloved grandson, James, who spent much time with his grandparents, traveling in the motor homes and visiting campgrounds in Texas and Colorado.

She enjoyed working and worked several interesting places before beginning a long career at Big Spring ISD. Ultimately, she moved to the School Business Office where she worked as secretary to the Assistant Superintendent of BSISD. She loved working for the schools, and her colleagues at the Business Office became life-long friends.

One of Lil's greatest memories is of being a charter member of College Baptist Church. Over the years, those members have passed away, and Lil was the last, but she cherished the memories of the work they did together. Every morning, Lil spent time reading her Bible and studying lessons. She read the Bible through three times in the past few

years.

When she retired, she and Bob travelled for many years in their RVs, visiting many interesting sites and making friends from all over the country.

Lil was a consummate game player; she loved playing games with anyone and everyone. She was a popular mother among her daughters' friends because Lil loved nothing more than sitting on the floor in the living room, playing cards or other games like Trivial Pursuit. James recalls many hours spent playing Skip-Bo or other games with "Mam." Lil was a popular bridge partner; whether it was party bridge or contract, she loved to win and taught many people the game of bridge. She also spent many hours reading and loved talking books.

A wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, Lil will be missed by many. Her laughter and love of good conversation made her a popular companion.

She is survived by her husband Bob and daughter Susan, both of Lubbock. Her daughter Jo Lynn and husband John Logan live in Odessa. Her beloved grandson, James, and his wife Brooke live in Midland. John and Mary Logan and their sons live in Littleton, Colorado. Marcus and Erin Logan and their son and daughter live in Prosper, Texas. She also leaves behind her Blassingame family, especially her beloved sisters-in-law and many nephews and nieces who loved her very much, as well as special friends, Jim and Tammy DePauw.

The family wishes to thank all of those who cared for and prayed for Lil throughout her life and especially these last few weeks. We are especially mindful of the ladies of her Sunday School class at College Baptist.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your favorite church or charity in her memory.

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

Paid Obituary

Odilia Granados

Odilia Granados, 78, of Big Spring died Sunday, Aug. 16, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home

George Hardwood

George Harwood, 83, of Big Spring, passed away Friday, Aug. 14, 2020. His services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory.

Take Note

• Pack 305 Cub Scouts will be hosting a Sign-up Drive by Ice Cream Social in the NazFamily Church parking lot on Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 6:30 p.m. Those in kindergarten through 5th grade are encouraged to stop by and find out more about cub scouting.

• Coahoma Lion's Club Trade Day will be held Sept. 26 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Downtown Coahoma. There will be food, arts & crafts, antiques, collectibles, clothing, and more. This will be in conjunction with Coahoma City Wide Garage Sale. Please practice social distancing at six feet and face masks are recommended. For more information, call 432-394-4287.

• The Life Center in Big Spring is helping moms and dads with a Diaper Day Giveaway! Call for a five minute phone appointment and a pickup time for free diapers, wipes and formula. 432-606-5041.

• The Senior Supper Club has come out of hibernation to resume its normal Tuesday evening dinners. The Come-One-Come-All group will be meeting on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and orders will be placed around 5:30 p.m. after much socializing from a distance. The Senior Supper Club is an informal group of folks from Howard County who meet at least weekly and sometimes more for Dutch-Treat food at different area restaurants. Sometimes the group also meets for cards, dominoes, or desserts and fellowship. For more information, contact Colonel. Allen.M.Morris@Gmail.com.

• St. Vincent de Paul will be open the following dates beginning May 2020. Food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and other assistance will take place the third Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Both distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building.

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290572

Increased wildfire activity and fuel dryness in north central Texas and along the Interstate-35 corridor

COLLEGE STATION, Texas—Continued hot and dry conditions across much of the state have resulted in increased wildfire activity, particularly in north central Texas and in areas along the Interstate-35 corridor. Activity and fuel dryness is expanding north and east into higher population centers, including further east along the Interstate-45 corridor as well.

Fire environment—weather, fuels and current conditions

Consecutive days of triple digit temperatures across much of the state has accelerated the drying in wildland vegetation and created a conducive environment for the ignition and spread of wildfires.

"We are seeing a significant increase in wildfire occurrence that coincides with the current streak of 100-degree days," said Brad Smith, Texas A&M Forest Service Predictive Services Department Head. "Many of these wildfires are starting late in the day, or early evening, when we observe daily peak heating and an increase in gusty winds."

A cold front that is forecast to move into the state early next week will likely end the streak of 100-degree days, but is not expected to provide enough rainfall to improve the vegetative dryness that is supporting wildfire activity.

For current conditions and wildfire outlook, check out the Texas Fire Potential Outlook: <https://bit.ly/3kemhbG>.

Fire activity

Over the past seven days, state and local resources have responded to 94 fires that have burned 5,483 acres. This includes many large, multi-day fires including the still-smoldering Pennington Creek Fire in Palo Pinto and Jack Counties at 2,654 acres and 95% containment. Activity in central portions of the state increased this week with new fires in Brown, Mills, Caldwell, Williamson, and Bastrop Counties.

Many of the recent wildfire starts have been attributed to human activities—such as debris burning—and are preventable. So far in 2020, 902 wildfires that have burned 10,994 acres were the result of debris burning. This includes 16 fires that have burned 104 acres over the past week.

Aviation resources continue to assist ground crews with water and retardant drops to slow forward progression of fires and douse hotspots across fire areas. Fire suppression aircraft have logged approximately 87 hours of flight time over the past week. Efforts involved dropping 148,240 gallons of water and 33,697 gallons of retardant on multiple fires including the Pennington Creek Fire in Palo Pinto and Jack Counties, the Smith Fire in Mills County (252 acres, 80% contained) and the All Hands Fire in Coleman County (619 acres, 100% contained).

Aviation resources staged in state include two Type 1 helicopters, two Type 3 helicopters, nine single engine air tankers, one heavy air tanker and two air attack platforms.

Since January 1, 2020, state and local resources have responded to 3,330 fires that have burned a total of 171,204 acres. Aviation resources have flown 1,510 hours, dropping 1,517,151 gallons of water and retardant on Texas wildfires so far this year.

If a wildfire is spotted, immediately contact local authorities. A quick response can help save lives and property.

For frequent wildfire and incident updates, follow the Texas A&M Forest Service incident information Twitter account, <https://twitter.com/All-HazardsTFS>.

Prevention and Mitigation

The majority of wildfires in Texas are human

See **FIRE**, Page 3

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MEMBER 2020
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SUPPLIES

Continued from Page 1

receiving the money to go ahead with your project or idea.”

He continued, “We have some great people here in BSISD that came up with the idea of purchasing the school supplies for our kids this school year. I cannot thank Raemi Thompson, Debbie Park, Gina McWilliams, and Leslie Clements enough for the work they put in to make this happen. We are so grateful that the supplies came in today.”

According to McWilliams, the school supplies will be handed out on the first day of class – Aug.

19 to students. Families are asked to purchase their students backpacks this year and through a few different events this year, families were able to receive support with backpacks as well. The school supplies arrived on campuses Friday afternoon.

“The great part about it as well, is the fact they come individually packaged according to grade level,” he said.

“BSISD is very excited to be able to our kids free school supplies for the 2020-2021 school year... It's a great day to be a Steer!” McWilliams said.

In addition to the students receiving help with school supplies

this year, through the efforts of Star Dodge and the H.O.P.E. Foundation, Big Spring ISD teachers and faculty received some support with school supplies for the upcoming year. More than \$3,000 was raised in a few weeks that went towards helping teachers supply items for classrooms and activities for the upcoming school year.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing editor@big-springherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

BSEDC

Continued from Page 1

Financials. Consideration and approval will also come before the Board with possible approval regarding the 2020-2021 Final Budget.

Before the meeting adjourns for the evening, each board member will have an opportunity to offer comment during the Board Comment segment of the meeting.

For those wanting to attend the meeting, and are in need of special accommodations or for the hearing-impaired, contact the Big Spring EDC for requests of an interpreter should one be needed. If possible the request needs to be made 48 hours in advance. To contact the Big Spring EDC, call 432-264-6032.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

FIRE

Continued from Page 2

caused. With hot and dry conditions statewide, many counties in Texas are currently under a burn ban. During periods of drought and/or high wildfire danger, a county judge or commissioner's court may enact a burn ban to protect the public and prevent human-caused wildfires.

“Across Texas, we are experiencing a hot and dry weather pattern, which is creating critically dry fuels that are highly susceptible to ignition,” stated Karen Stafford, Texas A&M Forest Service Prevention Program Coordinator. “Texas A&M Forest Service is reminding residents to be mindful of any outdoor activity that may cause a spark.”

Here are some things to know before you burn any debris:

Learn before you burn. Contact your county officials to ensure your county is not currently under a burn ban or other outdoor burning restrictions.

Many areas of Texas are experiencing high temperatures and dry weather. Residents should stay up to date on weather conditions and always use extreme caution when performing these outdoor activities even if not under a burn ban.

Always obey local burn bans and outdoor burning restrictions. Wait to conduct any outdoor burning or light campfires until the burn ban has been lifted and weather conditions are not extremely hot, dry, or windy.

When burning debris, choose a day when winds are under 10 mph and the humidity is high in your area.

Keep the debris pile small and have a 10 ft. area cleared around the pile. Always keep a water source nearby.

Residents should pay attention to county burn bans and avoid all outdoor burning until conditions improve. Burn ban information can be found by contacting local fire departments or by visiting <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/TexasBurnBans/>.

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Jimmy Storey, 76, died Saturday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Gerald Verba, 68, died Friday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Rebecca Arriola, 71, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Susan Barber, 69, died on August 13th, 2020. Visitation will be from 9:00 AM until 9:00 PM on Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel. The family will be present from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM Monday for visitation. Graveside services will be at 1:00 PM Tuesday at Trinity Memorial Park.

Odilia Granados, 78, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Big Spring Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:15 p.m., August 27, 2020 in the Big Spring High School Board Room, 707 11th Place Big Spring, Texas

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$.9664 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$.1500 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	_____ % increase	or	_____ 1.86 % (decrease)
Debt service	_____ .08 % increase	or	_____ % (decrease)
Total expenditures	_____ % increase	or	_____ 1.69 % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Tax Code Section 26.04)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 3,674,265,775	\$ 3,490,984,353
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 6,136,405	\$ 10,296,572
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 3,105,284,713	\$ 2,897,489,931
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 5,246,627	\$ 9,173,019

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(8).
** "New property" is defined by Tax Code Section 26.012(17).
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Tax Code Section 1.04(10).

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 45,575,000

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 8-19-15) (Back)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$.9700	\$.1500*	\$ 1.1200	\$ 8,752	\$ 1,149
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$.9182	\$.1504*	\$ 1.0686	\$ 7,527	\$ 2,274
Proposed Rate	\$.9664	\$.1500*	\$ 1.1164	\$ 8,005	\$ 2,262

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 96,236	\$ 105,488
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 51,989	\$ 59,391
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.1200	\$ 1.1164
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 582.28	\$ 663.04
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 80.76

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.1164. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 1.1164.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 21,701,949
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 5,119,845

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

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Lady Steers fall in back-to-back home games to TLCA & Pecos on Saturday

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sports Writer

The Big Spring Lady Steers wrapped up their opening week of the regular season by dropping both contests at their home dual meet with the Pecos Lady Eagles (25-21, 19-25, 22-25, 25-17, 7-15) and the TLCA Lady Eagles (9-25, 19-25, 17-25).

"We definitely figured out some things that we need to work on in this next week of practice," Lady Steers coach Kaitlyn Braswell said.

The two games over the weekend were Big Spring's fifth and sixth games that the Lady Steers had played in the past five days. Their schedule has been hectic so far but they still find themselves in a good place sitting at .500 through the first week.

Big Spring started off the weekend by playing in a match that lasted over two hours on Saturday morning against a strong TLCA squad. It was a back-and-forth matchup where no one wanted to give up but the Lady Eagles were able to prevail with a very strong last set that put the Lady Steers away.

The day started off well for Big Spring as they pulled away from TLCA in the first set to win 25-21. Midway through that set, the Big Spring football team showed up at Steer Gym to cheer on their volleyball team. The football team's arrival injected new energy into both the crowd and the players on the floor following a quiet start to the day.

However, TLCA was not going to go away easily. The Lady Eagles were led by the strong striking ability of Kait Kirkland through all five sets as she seldom, if ever, stepped off of the court. Outside of a nice diving save by senior libero Ashlin Calvio, TLCA was able to handle Big Spring in the second set and led the entire way en route to a 25-19 win.

With the match tied at one set apiece, Big Spring knew that they needed to come out firing in the third set. The Lady Steers were leading for the majority of that set when the Lady Eagles scored five quick points near the end of the set to take the lead and the set for a 2-1 lead heading to the fourth.

It was more of the same story in the fourth set but this time Big Spring did not allow a TLCA comeback and were able to follow the strong play of Jocelyn Gonzales and Ryen Terrazas to a fourth set victory.



Courtesy Photo/Tony Claxton (claxtonphotography.com)

Big Spring's Triston Smith makes a powerful connection with the ball on Saturday afternoon against Pecos.

Steers made things more interesting in the second set.

"Let's go! Pick the energy up," the normally reserved Braswell could be heard yelling from the bench.

Big Spring was able to keep themselves closer in the second set but the end result was the same. Kalyn Whitehead made a highlight save that led to a point for the Lady Steers but they were unable to keep the momentum gained from that play on their side.

The Lady Steers were outscored 50-36 through the last two sets and their overall record on the season dropped to 3-3. While there were some good plays and things to praise on film, there is still much more to improve on as the season moves forward.

UP NEXT: Big Spring plays another dual meet in Wink on Tuesday afternoon. The Lady Steers will face off against both the Wink Lady Wildcats and the Seminole Lady Indians.

Shawn Moran is the sports writer at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Bulldogettes split Sweetwater Dual over the weekend



Courtesy Photo/Coahoma ISD

The Bulldogettes celebrate after scoring a point during a close game against the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs.

Special to the Herald

SWEETWATER —Bulldogettes will be focusing on defensive basics when they return to practice this week after their latest match, but head coach Jamie Bonner is pleased with how her volleyball team is shaping up this season.

The Coahoma team earned its first loss of the pre-season to Grape Creek — 21-25, 25-18, 11-15 — and won against 4A Sweetwater — 26-24, 21-25, 15-13 — in a dual match hosted by the Lady Mustangs on Saturday.

The Bulldogettes made some costly defensive errors during their first set against the Lady Eagles, but were able to recover to win the second set. In

the last set, the Bulldogettes made a late-in-the-game rally to pull within three points before Grape Creek ended the match with a kill.

"One big thing they did to us is that they tipped the ball a lot, and we were standing back ready for a hit. We couldn't adjust and move our feet in time," Bonner said. "Another issue for us was being in the correct defensive position quick enough. We are definitely going to go back and work on those fundamentals."

Kenzi Canales led Coahoma in the final push of the Grape Creek game sending over some powerful sets for the Lady Eagles side for the last three Bulldogette points. Stepping into the team's Libero position, the Coahoma High School senior has added an additional level of depth to the Bulldogettes' defensive arsenal.

"She worked so hard in the summer," Bonner said. "Summer workouts were off and on, but she was there every day and continued to work, and she has stepped up her leadership skills this year. Also, I think that just translates to our physical play on the court."

Quickly shaking off the loss, the girls turned around to face a tough second match against the Sweetwater Lady Mustangs. With the powerful arms of seniors Julia Cox, Ashley Romero, and MaKynlee Overton, Coahoma left the floor with a two-set to one victory.

Combined stats for the two games show Cox led the Bulldogettes with 10 kills followed by Romero with nine and Overton had eight.

Led by four senior starters, the Coahoma team still has plenty of talent from its younger players to draw from. Sophomore Zoie Joslin, who returned as the team's go-to setter, had 16 assists for the

match. Freshman Isabella Cox had five kills and an ace and her classmate Sophie Biddison got two kills and two aces.

"It feels really good, and it feels good to the girls, to know that we have nine players who can all step up at any time and play any position because of their overall athleticism," Bonner said. "That's huge for us to have people who can step in no matter what the situation is, and I have faith they can get it done."

After more than five months and an interrupted summer workout program caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the return to competition has been welcomed by both Coahoma athletes and their coaches.

It also means getting used to following new UIL Covid-19 guidelines.

"It's been weird getting used to the mask, but they have adjusted well," Bonner said. "I thought not being able to switch sides might have affected us. It's all mental as far as what side you are on anyway, but so far, I don't think that has affected us in any way. We are just excited that we get to play. Every day that we get to play, I tell them we are just going to work hard and have fun. You never know how long it will last."

JV Bulldogettes volleyball action: JV White fell in both games at the Sweetwater dual. JV Red went 2-0.

UP NEXT: The Coahoma varsity Bulldogettes (3-1) hosts Lubbock Estacado for their home opener at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday. JV White plays at 4:30 p.m., JV Red's game starts at 5:30 p.m. All games are held at the Coahoma Elementary School competition gym on the Kim Nichols gym floor.

Stars win 5-4 in OT to tie Flames after PavelSKI hat trick

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — John Klingberg got the initial credit for Dallas' overtime goal after Joe Pavelski forced the extra period by completing a hat trick in the final seconds of regulation.

The Dallas defenseman knew a scoring change was coming.

Klingberg's hard shot grazed Alexander Radulov's stick 16:05 into overtime, and the Stars beat the Calgary Flames 5-4 on Sunday to even their

Western Conference playoff series at 2-2. Game 5 is Tuesday.

The shot that got past Cam Talbot was the 62nd for the Stars, their most since 63 in a five-overtime loss in the 2003 playoffs. The NHL announced the scoring change about three hours after the game.

"It felt great to see one go in, but I think the Stars tipped it there, so good for him to go to the hard area," said Klingberg, who ended up with three

assists after the scoring change. "Just a great effort by the whole team."

Pavelski, signed as a free agent last offseason after spending 13 years in San Jose, recorded Dallas' first playoff hat trick since the franchise moved from Minnesota in 1993, and the first of his career on his 53rd post-season goal.

"Obviously this was probably the biggest game of my Stars career so far," said Pavelski, who has five goals

in seven games in the NHL bubble. "Woke up feeling good. Knew right from the start in the locker room all the guys were intense."

Tobias Rieder tied an NHL record with his third short-handed goal of the playoffs, and Calgary got one in a third straight game against Dallas, for a 4-3 lead early in the third period.

Derek Ryan hit Rieder in stride with a pass after chasing down a loose puck.

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Mercury and Mars Highlight Passionate Impulse

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Observe until you have a gut feeling about what to do next. If no feeling comes, enjoy the silence and space. After all, silence and space is what gives life form.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's a higher level of intellectual activity going on today, and you'll get the chance to share ideas with people who think alike and differently. You'll challenge and inspire one another.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The best way to find out who can keep a secret and who can't is to observe how people do with the information you give them -- before you tell them anything you actually would want kept secret.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The victory is yours, which is weird because you didn't even know you were in a competition.

Do not let that stop you from using what you're given.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's sometimes hard to tell whether you're excited or anxious. Either way, there's a job to be done. Breathe through the nerves and remind yourself what matters here.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Unreasonable purchases have their place and time. As fellow Virgo Dorothy Parker suggested, "Take care of the luxuries and the necessities will take care of themselves."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The people around you with similar backgrounds and experiences will not be the most useful to you now. The objective and unbiased eye is invaluable, and it only comes from an outsider with a different experience.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Consider, just for one day, doing hardly a thing beyond showing up. It's what

most people are doing. Pull back and you'll be suddenly aware of, for better or worse, what a whole lot of extra effort you normally put in.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're only interested in the people who are difficult to know and the prizes that are hard to win. Perhaps, it's because you have a feeling you can succeed with this.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Resist persuasion. Those who attempt to sway you in any particular direction are more concerned about their own agenda than yours. Action would be premature.

By HOLIDAY MATHIS



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 17). Your cosmic birthday includes lofty expectations met by new people. The plot takes unexpected turns in the thrill ride that is the end of the year. Highlights of 2021 include a legendary family event, a professional opportunity and a habit change or skill enhancement that brings your game to the next level. Cancer and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 20, 22, 1 and 17.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: Striving to be happy usually doesn't work. Try these three methods under the new moon in Leo:

1. There is ample evidence to support the theory that people feel first and then come up with the reasons for the feeling after the fact. In light of this sequence, it is possible to feel good or bad for no reason at all. Try out the hypothesis. Decide to be happy for one minute. Just do that until it's easy enough. Then, work up to two and three min-

utes, etc.

2. Happiness can be a most elusive goal. It is often true that people who set off on a path toward something that has little to do with their own happiness will notice a side effect of happiness along the way. Do what's right. If you happen to get happy in the process, count it as a bonus.

3. There are three minds involved in setting up an experience. There is the mind that looks forward to it, the mind that is in the moment with it and the mind that reflects back on it. An experience itself doesn't have to be all that comfortable or pleasurable to provide some joy in mind one or mind three. Set yourself up for success by giving yourself ample time for planning and good tools for reflecting. This takes the pressure off of the present moment. When it comes to happiness, two out of three smiling minds is all it takes!

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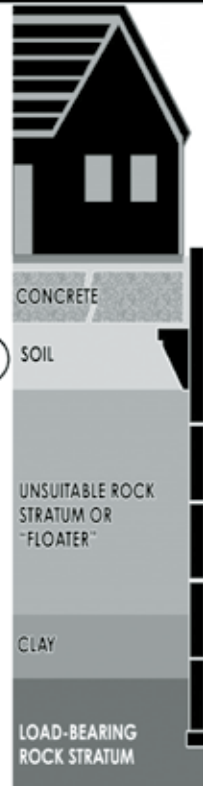
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NORTH
♠ 9
♥ 5 4 3
♦ A K 9 7 6 5 4
♣ 5 4

WEST
♠ A Q 10 7 5 2
♥ J 10 6
♦ J 2
♣ J 10

EAST
♠ K J 8 6 4 3
♥ Q 2
♦ 10
♣ Q 9 7 3

SOUTH
♠ —
♥ A K 9 8 7
♦ Q 8 3
♣ A K 8 6 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 1♠ 2♦ 4♠
5NT Pass 7♦ 7♠

Opening lead — five of hearts.

It is difficult to visualize a national team-of-four championship with hundreds of teams participating. Yet that is precisely what happens every year when the American Contract Bridge League conducts its annual Grand National Teams tournament.

Eventually, after many months of play, the field is reduced to two survivors playing for the national championship. That was the scenario back in 1977, when a group from Texas and another from Washington, D.C.,

faced off in a 96-deal match.

The Texas team won that year's event but did not exactly overwhelm its opponents. The final score was Texas 100 (International Match Points), Washington 99! Considering the number of deals played, this was a remarkably low score, reflecting a very high caliber of play by both sides.

The bidding shown here is typical of the excellent form shown by the two teams. At both tables, South employed the Grand Slam Force convention by leaping to five notrump after North had bid two diamonds over West's one-spade overcall.

Five notrump asked North to bid seven diamonds if he had two of the three top diamond honors. Both Norths dutifully bid seven diamonds, and there is no doubt that they would have made the grand slam and scored 2,140 points had the bidding ended then and there.

But at both tables, East-West refused to quit at this point! Both Easts bid seven spades, convinced that they would lose less points at that contract — even though doubled and vulnerable — than they would if they allowed North to play seven diamonds. Both East-West pairs then went down five, losing "only" 1,400 points instead of 2,140, and the deal was a washout!

Tomorrow: Intercommunication.

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Annie's Mailbox

Averted From Unrequited Love

Dear Annie: When I was in my 20s, I thought I was in love with a man who strung me along for his own reasons but obviously didn't love me. I wasted three years of my life giving him every opportunity I could to love me back. I finally realized intellectually that I needed to break it off, but emotionally, I couldn't.

I was lucky. I found a book about how to fall out of love with someone. It was based on the psychological principle of aversion therapy. The theory is that your mind has become accustomed to associating the love object with something pleasant that you want and need, such as attention, affection and security, instead of the pain of what you're really getting, such as

rejection, abuse and uncertainty.

The author suggested that whenever I thought about my young man I immediately replace with a mental picture of him doing something disgusting and repulsive.

For me, all I had to do was picture him sitting on the toilet. Someone else might picture their love object being cruel to animals or losing his or her looks. I was "cured" of my addiction to my phony lover in just a few weeks.

Surprise! He married someone else not long after that. The best part was, I didn't care.

Just a suggestion. It worked for me. -- Happy in Houston

Dear Happy in Houston: That is an interesting type of therapy. If it worked for you,

that's awesome. No sense in staying with someone who does not love you. The sooner you discover that, the sooner you can move on and find someone who does.

Dear Annie: My heart goes out to Mother of an Alcoholic, whose 52-year-old son followed her to Florida. As the mother of a recovering addict, I felt your advice was spot on! I would like to add a few thoughts:

If the son is 52, then Mom is probably in her 70s. She should consider that if she is tempted to enable him, she needs to think long term. Once she is gone, he MUST be able to care for himself, or he won't be far behind her.

She also needs to be able to care for herself financially and not throw good money

after bad. A dear family member of mine went through every resource she had trying to help, only to live her last years broke and sick.

But the MOST important piece of advice for her health, peace and well-being is to find an Al-Anon family support group for herself. She can't help anyone if she doesn't take care of herself. -- Prayerful in Birmingham

Dear Prayerful in Birmingham: Your letter is one of hope and faith. Al-Anon is a wonderful family support group. Thank you for sharing your story and reminding people there is support out there if you or a loved one is suffering from addiction.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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SUDOKU

	3							5
		2	5					6
	8	9	6		7			
1							6	3
9	5		1		6			2
7	2			5				9
	6	4		7	2	9	1	5
		1	9				4	8
		5	4		3	6		

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Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

8	9	5	4	1	3	6	2	7
2	7	1	9	6	5	3	4	8
3	6	4	8	7	2	9	1	5
7	2	6	3	5	4	1	8	9
9	5	3	1	8	6	4	7	2
1	4	8	7	2	9	5	6	3
5	8	9	6	4	7	2	3	1
4	1	2	5	3	8	7	9	6
6	3	7	2	9	1	8	5	4

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