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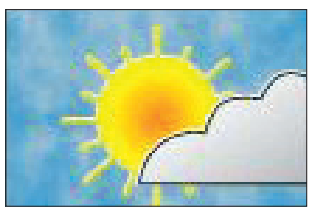
BIG SPRING HERALD

THURSDAY
AUGUST 27, 2009



VOLUME 104, NUMBER 228

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INSIDE

Rolling billboards? Trustees to mull advertising on buses

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Is there a "This Space for Rent" sign in your school bus' future?

Big Spring Independent School District trustees will discuss the option of renting out advertising space on school buses when they hold a special meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday in the high school board room.

Superintendent Steven Saldivar said officials are looking into the proposal as a way to raise extra revenue for the district, adding that renting out school bus space for advertising would make BSISD unique among school districts in this area.

"I don't know of any districts in West Texas school districts that do this," Saldivar said. "As far as I know, it's only done by districts in urban areas."

According to information included with the board's agenda, renting out space on individual buses could bring in up to $300, plus a one-time fee of $250.

Saldivar is unsure if the idea would attract many advertisers.

"It all depends," he said. "But my guess is that we wouldn't have very many takers."

Thursday's report is for discussion only. No action will be taken at this time, Saldivar said.

See **BSISD**, Page 3A

Coming home to Ackerly

Ballgame, food, dance among SHS activities

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

ACKERLY — It's homecoming weekend at Sands High School.

Current and former students will participate in a variety of activities as Sands celebrates its triennial homecoming starting tonight, officials said.

Activities begin at 6:30 p.m. today when students will whitewash the football field parking lot, followed by a "Meet the Mustangs" event sponsored by the booster club at the football field. At 7:30 p.m., everyone is invited to a community pep rally at the field.

Friday activities begin with a Drama Club-sponsored spaghetti supper at 5 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Cost is $6 for adults and $4 for children 6 and under, said SHS' Tana

See **SHS**, Page 3A

HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Work crews with Price Construction mill out a portion of Main Street Wednesday afternoon. The work was in preparation of the installation of landscape islands along Main, officials said.

Trash pick up set Friday in District 5

By THOMAS JENKINS
Staff Writer

Fall may be right around the corner for the Crossroads area, but don't tell employees with the city of Big Spring, as they continue their spring cleaning Friday with their annual Large Item Pickup Program.

Targeting the city's District 5, represented by City Councilman Troy Tompkins, the program looks to provide local residents with away to dispose of large, cumbersome items that might not otherwise make it to the municipal landfill.

"We'll go through one district each month until we've completed all six," said Assistant City Manager Todd Darden. "People have really been utilizing the program, which is exactly what we want, so we'll keep going strong until we finish District 6 next month."

Darden said the program, which has been in operation for several years, aims to help the community's elderly and disabled, but is available to anyone who needs it.

"We're trying to target people who are elderly, handicapped or otherwise don't have the means to get these large items to our landfill," said Darden. "This is a service the city is going to provide as a courtesy to the people and give them

See **TRASH**, Page 3A

INDEX

Comics	8B
Classified	5-7B
Features	6A
Obituaries	2A
Opinion	4A
Sports	1-4B

54414 79720 9

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Fund-raisers set for United Way

Herald Staff Report

United Way of Big Spring and Howard County has two events planned Friday.

This week's Dine-Out Day restaurant is K.C. Steakhouse, located along the north service road of I-20. A portion of all proceeds from Friday's business at the steak and seafood restaurant will be donated to the local United Way effort.

Also, the proceeds from car washes at Atmos Car Wash, 2002 E. FM 700, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friday will be donated to the local United Way.

The local United Way provides funding for 15 local agencies — the Northside Community Center, Victim Services, West Side Community Center, West Side Day Care Center, West Texas Girl Scout Council, Salvation Army, Big Spring YMCA, American Red Cross West Texas Chapter, Big Spring Boys Club, Buffalo Trail Council Boy Scouts of America, Council on Aging, Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, Humane Society, CASA of West Texas and Isaiah 58.

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

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

Page 1B
Thursday, August 27, 2009

FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Phillips set for Forsan football debut

By JEFF LANE
Special to the Herald

As school districts across Texas begin the 2009-2010 year, one thing is on the minds of many and you won't find it in the classroom.

No, the only place you will find the thoughts of thousands across the state this weekend will be on the gridiron amidst the sounds and smells that can only mean one thing — football is back.

Friday night in Forsan two familiar foes will do battle, hoping to start the season off with a bang, and more importantly, a win.

The Forsan Buffaloes and Eldorado Eagles square off at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Buffalo Stadium with the Buffs introducing a new coach, but a familiar face.

Jason Phillips, the Forsan baseball coach, takes over as the new head football coach for the Buffs and feels like he has his team focused and prepared.

"During the preseason we focused on implementing the new offense and defense," Phillips said. "Now that we have a solid foundation, we are able

See **FORSAN**, Page 2B

Eldorado at Forsan

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday
Where: Buffalo Stadium
Game-time weather: Partly Cloudy, 86°F
Radio: KBTS 94.3 The Fuse.

High expectations face Steers in 2009

Big Spring hosts Snyder in opener

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

Not since the early part of this decade has there been as high of expectations for the Big Spring Steers football team.

With good reason, the Steers are once again receiving their fair share of hype as they prepare to open the 2009 season at 7:30 p.m. Friday against Snyder at Memorial Stadium.

According to second-year Head Coach Phillip Ritchey, the Steers couldn't ask for a better opponent to open the year than the rival Tigers.

"Snyder likes to play physical, smashmouth football," noted Ritchey. "This team will be one of the most disciplined ones we'll face all year. They bring it from start to finish. It's a good team to open up with."

The Steers finished the 2008 season with an 8-5 record, advancing three rounds deep into the postseason before being eliminated by Everman.

Last year, Big Spring opened the year with a 20-14 victory over Snyder, which went 8-4 and two rounds deep in the playoffs in 2008. However, Snyder is returning just seven starters and nine lettermen from last year's squad.

On the other hand, the Steers return 10 starters, including seven on the offensive side of the ball. They also get back senior Tyler Tannehill at quarterback, who sat out most of the 2008 season with a knee injury he suffered in the Steers' final scrimmage. This year, Tannehill survived Big Spring's two scrimmages and looks to be 100 percent.

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring Steers running back Monte Anderson gives a defender a stiff arm during an intra-squad football scrimmage Aug. 8 at Blankenship Field. Anderson is one of many returning key factors for the Steers as they open the 2009 season against the Snyder Tigers at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Memorial Stadium.

"The plan going into last season was the pass the ball a lot more. When Tyler went down, we went from having a passing quarterback to a run-oriented quarterback in Matt (Ritchey)," noted Coach Ritchey. " We had to change our scheme and prepare a new offense within a week."

Having Tannehill at quarterback allows the Steers to use Matt Ritchey in various spots in their formations, including fullback, tight end and slot receiver. It also makes the offense more explosive than it was in 2008.

"We're capable of more big plays this year, especially with Tyler healthy at quarterback," said Coach Ritchey. "Last year, our big plays came on runs or play-action pass. This year, we're have the ability to score on any passing play as well as in the run game."

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Snyder at Big Spring

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday
Where: Memorial Stadium
Game-time weather: Partly cloudy, 83° F
Radio: KBYG 1400AM, KBEST 95.7, KBST 1490AM, www.kbst.com

Van Horn vs. Coahoma

When: 6 p.m. Saturday
Where: Ratliff Stadium in Odessa
Game-time weather: Mostly sunny, 91° F
Radio: KBTS 94.3 The Fuse.

Bulldogs open season at storied Ratliff Stadium

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

COAHOMA — For a second consecutive year, the Coahoma Bulldogs have the pleasure of opening their football season at famous Ratliff Stadium in Odessa.

The Bulldogs' opener is against the same opponent they faced to begin 2008 as well as they match up with Class 1A school Van Horn at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Last year, the Bulldogs got off to a great start, pounding Van Horn, 25-12. Coahoma ended up winning its first four games of the season before going 1-4 in District 7-2A play and missing the postseason.

The Bulldogs don't return the same type of experience it had a year ago and are likely to look a bit differently with their schemes in 2009.

"Most of our experienced players are at receiver and in the

See **COAHOMA**, Page 2B

CROSSROADS SCOREBOARD
ZERO WEEK

Snyder at Big Spring	Van Horn vs. Coahoma (Sat.)	Eldorado at Forsan	Grape Creek at Stanton	Hermleigh at Sands	Sanderson at Grady	Throckmorton at Garden City (Sat.)

Find Friday night scores online at www.bigspringherald.com on the local sports page.

Obituaries

Jackie Wayne Owens

Jackie Wayne Owens, 68, of Lampasas, passed away Monday, Aug. 24, 2009, in Round Rock. He was born Nov. 10, 1940, in Waco to Dorman Leon and Lela Mae (Bowland) Owens.

Jackie graduated from Lampasas High School in 1959. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1965 and from Civil Service in 1975. He was an avid fisherman.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a son, Rodney Paul and a brother, D.L. Owens. Jackie is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Elaine; a son, Kenneth; daughters Carrie Hyatt and Tobi Owens McGee, all of Lampasas; a brother, Stanley Owens; and grandchildren Sarah Reid, Bailey Hyatt, Jackie Hyatt, Maci McGee and Melody Owens.

Friends are invited for a time of visitation Thursday, Aug. 27 from 6-8 p.m. at Killeen Memorial Funeral Home. Graveside services will be Friday, Aug. 28 at 11 a.m. at Central Texas Veterans Cemetery.

Killeen Memorial Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements.

Paid obituary

W. Leo Eggleston

W. Leo Eggleston, 82, of Big Spring died Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009, at Hospice House in Odessa. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Ralph Anderson, minister of Birdwell Lane Church of Christ, and Billy Reed, minister of the Third Street Church of Christ in Monahans, officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

He was born Nov. 5, 1926, in Stanton to Cleo and Willie Eggleston. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, having serviced in World War II in the Pacific. He married Helen Young in December of 1954. He had been employed at Cosden in the pipeline department. He was a member of the Birdwell Lane Church of Christ and was a lifetime resident of Howard County.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Eggleston of Big Spring; two daughters, Ann Peacock and husband, Larry, of Weatherford, and Diana Stanford and husband, Joe, of North Richland Hills; three sons, William "Skip" Eggleston and wife, Joni, of El Paso, Mike Eggleston and wife, Connie, of Big Spring, and Robert Eggleston and wife, Kari, of Spring; 19 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sons, Billy George and Jim Eggleston.

The family suggests memorials to Home Hospice, 111 E. Seventh St., Suite A, Big Spring 79720.

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

Mary E. Campbell

Mary E. Campbell, 77, of Big Spring died Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2009, in an Odessa hospital. Her services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Support Groups

TODAY

• 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.

SATURDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

• Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

MONDAY

• Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

• Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY

• Grief share, sponsored by Home Hospice and the First Presbyterian Church, Seventh and Runnels (north end door), meets at 6 p.m.. Drop-ins are welcome. For more information, contact Sherry Hodnett at 264-7599.

• The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministeries, 1209 Wright St. Tuesday, Jan. 6, Teen Chaqllenge will be held at The Path. They will present a Rally for Jesus.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Wednesday and 7 a.m. today:

• JOHNNY MARTINEZ, 38, of 403 N.E. Ninth St., was arrested Thursday on a charge of public intoxication.

• UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE was reported in the 1000 block of 12th Street.

• ASSAULT CLASS C/FAMILY VIOLENCE was reported:
in the 1800 block of 15th Street.
in the 800 block of Creighton.

• ASSAULT BY CONTACT was reported in the 1900 block of Highway 87.

Sheriff

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

Note — Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 82 inmates at the time of this report.

• RICHARD BERNAL, 24, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• ANTHONY ESCAMILLA, 25, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• MANUEL ESCAMILLA, 23, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of no driver's license.

• CHRISTOPHER LEDESMA, 26, was arrested Thursday by the HCSO on a charge of public intoxication.

• JOHNNY MARTINEZ, 38, was transferred to the county jail Thursday by the BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

• STEPHEN CORY WATERS, 27, was arrested Wednesday by the HCSO on charges of driving while license invalid, failure to maintain financial responsibility, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to appear – failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Fire/EMS

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

• MEDICAL was reported in the 5200 block of Sterling. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3500 block of Connally. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 400 block of E. 10th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 3600 block of Duke. Service refused.

• MEDICAL was reported in the 2000 block of E. 24th Street. One person was transported to SMMC.

• GRASS FIRE was reported in the 1700 block of FM 700.

• GRASS FIRE was reported in the area of W. 17th Street.

Take Note

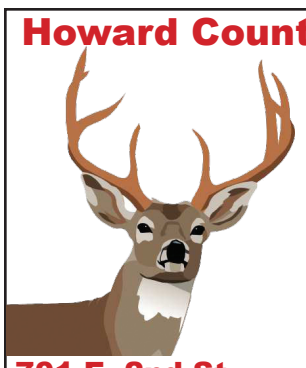
• DAV Chapter 47 will sponsor the third annual 9/11 Memorial at the Mall at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11 in front of the yellow ribbons at the Big Spring Mall. For more information, call Mike Tarpley, DAV junior vice commander at (432) 556-2227.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglect children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. CASA currently has 10 active volunteers to serve the 55 plus children of Howard County in foster care. A class is forming in Howard County and 20 volunteers are needed. For more information on becoming a CASA volunteer, please contact Robyn LaForge at (432) 683-1114.

• West Texas Opportunities Inc., through a Job Access Reverse Commute project with the Texas Department of Transportation offers transportation to employment in Midland, on a limited schedule, Monday through Friday each week. This fixed route currently leaves Big Spring at 7 a.m. and makes a stop at the EZ Rider bus connection in downtown Midland. The route leaves Midland for the return to Big spring at 4:15 p.m. As a promotional introduction, no fare is charged. Beginning April 1, the daily fare will be from $3 to $8, round-trip, depending on the number of passengers using the service. For more information, call Victor Enriquez, JARC coordinator, at West Texas Opportunities, (800) 245-9028.

• The Permian Basin Foundation has awarded West Texas Opportunities Inc. $130,000 through the Texas Resources for Iraq Afghanistan Deployment fund. WTO will assist current and former military personnel serving in Iraq or Afghanistan and their families. Funding will serve Howard, Martin, Andrews, Borden, Dawson, Ector, Fisher, Gaines, Glasscock, Midland, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry and Upton counties. For more information, contact Diana Martinez or Debbie Wilson at 110 Johnson in Big Spring or call (432) 267-9536.

Howard County Feed & Supply



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Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Fri 8/28	Sat 8/29	Sun 8/30	Mon 8/31	Tue 9/1
93/64	95/65	93/68	95/67	92/68
Sunshine and clouds mixed. High 93F. Winds NNE at 5 to 10 mph.	A few clouds. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the mid 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 90s and lows in the upper 60s.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.
Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:15 PM	Sunrise: 7:19 AM Sunset: 8:14 PM	Sunrise: 7:20 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM	Sunrise: 7:21 AM Sunset: 8:11 PM	Sunrise: 7:21 AM Sunset: 8:10 PM

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Texas At A Glance

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	95	65	pt sunny	Kingsville	102	77	t-storm
Amarillo	86	57	sunny	Livingston	94	69	t-storm
Austin	99	71	t-storm	Longview	89	68	t-storm
Beaumont	90	73	t-storm	Lubbock	91	61	pt sunny
Brownsville	99	74	pt sunny	Lufkin	92	70	t-storm
Brownwood	96	66	pt sunny	Midland	93	68	t-storm
Corpus Christi	99	78	t-storm	Raymondville	102	76	pt sunny
Corsicana	93	66	pt sunny	Rosenberg	95	72	t-storm
Dallas	93	68	pt sunny	San Antonio	100	74	t-storm
Del Rio	99	75	t-storm	San Marcos	100	71	t-storm
El Paso	92	69	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	89	67	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	91	67	t-storm	Sweetwater	93	64	pt sunny
Gainesville	92	66	mst sunny	Tyler	89	66	t-storm
Greenville	90	65	pt sunny	Weatherford	94	66	pt sunny
Houston	94	73	t-storm	Wichita Falls	94	65	sunny

Bulletin Board

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

TODAY

• Gideon International Big Spring Camp U42060 meets at 7 a.m. in Herman's Restaurant.

• Kiwanis Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

FRIDAY

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

• AMBUCS meet at noon in La Posada Restaurant.

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

• Dance at the Senior Center, 1901 Simler, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

MONDAY

• Prospector's Club work night begins at 7 p.m. at 606 E. Third.

Lottery

The winning numbers drawn in the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night: 14-15-16-22-26-49.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 13-14-24-31-34.

Number matching five of five: 2. Prize: $11,562

Winning ticket purchased in: Houston, N. Richland Hills.

The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4 - 8 - 6 - 2. Sum It Up: 20.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 4-0-7. Sum It Up: 11.

BIG SPRING HERALD

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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811

BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: $8.85 monthly; $95.58 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: $14.58 monthly Howard; $18.33 elsewhere.

FEARLESS FOOTBALL FORECAST

This week's games

Jonathan Hull

Jeff Lane

Robert Smith

Bill Norris

Tim Larson

Tim Knox

	Jonathan Hull	Jeff Lane	Robert Smith	Bill Norris	Tim Larson	Tim Knox
Snyder at Big Spring	Big Spring	Big Spring	Big Spring	Big Spring	Big Spring	Big Spring
Eldorado at Forsan	Forsan	Forsan	Forsan	Forsan	Forsan	Forsan
Grape Creek at Stanton	Stanton	Stanton	Stanton	Stanton	Stanton	Stanton
Sanderson at Grady	Grady	Grady	Grady	Grady	Grady	Grady
Hermleigh at Sands	Sands	Sands	Sands	Sands	Sands	Sands
Coahoma vs. Van Horn	Coahoma	Coahoma	Coahoma	Coahoma	Coahoma	Coahoma
Garden City vs. Throckmorton	Throckmorton	Throckmorton	Throckmorton	Garden City	Garden City	Garden City
Odessa High at El Paso Montwood	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa
Odessa Permian at Duncanville	Permian	Permian	Permian	Permian	Permian	Permian
DeSoto at Midland Lee	DeSoto	Lee	DeSoto	DeSoto	Lee	Lee
Rockwall at Midland High	Midland	Midland	Midland	Midland	Midland	Midland
Burkburnett at Sweetwater	Burk	Sweetwater	Sweetwater	Sweetwater	Sweetwater	Sweetwater
Hereford at Lubbock Estacado	Hereford	Hereford	Hereford	Hereford	Hereford	Hereford
Colorado City at Reagan County	Colorado City	Colorado City	Colorado City	Colorado City	Colorado City	Colorado City
Borden County at New Home	Borden Co.	Borden Co.	Borden Co.	Borden Co.	Borden Co.	Borden Co.

Area roundup: Stanton begins 2009 with new coach

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

STANTON — There are new beginnings for the Stanton Buffaloes football team in the 2009 football season.

Most notably, the Buffs will break in a new coach at 7:30 p.m. Friday against Grape Creek in Stanton.

John Peterson, last year's special teams coordinator for the Buffs, takes over the reigns from Lee McCown, who had led Stanton the past six seasons. McCown moved to Monahans to take an assistant coaching position.

This is Peterson's first head coaching job as he enters his 19th year in the profession overall.

Last year, Stanton lost a close game to the Eagles last season. The Buffs trailed 20-10 late in the game, but was able to score and pull within 3 points with 2:32 to play.

See **AREA**, Page 4B

STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

Snyder utilizes a power-run offense and often does it with a no-huddle scheme in an attempt to wear down its opponent. Ritchey is confident the Steers are well prepared for the Tigers' base offense, thanks in large to Matt Ritchey's ability at linebacker. The Steers also saw a similar power attack from Lubbock High in their final scrimmage last week.

"Snyder's offense really plays to the strength of our defense. We're replacing four starters in the secondary, and while there is some experience back there, they still need to get better adjusted to playing with each other," noted Coach Ritchey. "With Matt at middle linebacker and the quickness of our defensive line, we're more suited for stopping the run game.

"Seeing Lubbock run some of those power-run schemes helped us prepare for this week," he continued. "When we're practicing against our offense during two-a-days, we're not seeing anything close to what Snyder will run with their formations."

Getting off to a strong start is important, according to Ritchey, especially with expectations as high as they are.

"For this team, starting the season with a win is very big. There are high expectations for us and the players understand what we're capable of accomplishing this season," said Ritchey. "If we start with a loss, it would definitely hurt. This group needs to go out and play up to the level they're capable of.

"I think potentially we could be 10-0. We have to stay healthy for it to happen. That was a problem for us last year," he added. "There are too many good teams on this schedule for us to think we can cruise to an undefeated record. We're going to have a heck of a football team. I like having our expectations high. I don't know how many games we're going to win or lose, but we're going to have a good football team. For someone to beat us, they're going to have to be a pretty good team as well."

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

to apply specific adjustments to a weekly game plan."

Phillips hopes to change the recent trend against the Eagles, who hold a 5-1 advantage over the Buffs in the last several years.

Eldorado lost a lot of seniors last year, but still return talent at the skill positions with their only glaring weakness in the offensive and defensive line, according to Phillips.

The Buffs will have to stop the backfield tandem of senior fullback Ivany Sanchez and senior running back Wes Brown.

Both were All-District 29-1A last year with Sanchez scoring 10 touchdowns.

"We expect Eldorado to run the ball right at us," said Phillips. "This will probably be the theme every week. In the past, we have been smaller than everyone we played, but this year we are more comparable in size. We have added some stunts and fronts to give them problems. If we tackle and execute, we will be fine."

Phillips commented that the Eagles will base out of a 50 defense, and while he will have a small play package this week, he will mix up formations and try to get Eldorado out of position defensively.

The Buffs go into the matchup at full strength for the first time this season with sophomore running back Ty Johnson back in the lineup after suffering a minor hamstring injury in the preseason.

Johnson is expected to have a big year after moving up to play on the varsity his freshman season.

The defense will look to experienced linebacker Ryan Flores to lead them in stopping the Eagles offense.

"We are really focusing on one play at a time and getting the kids to forget negative plays," Phillips said. "If one bad play happens we cannot let that turn into a bad series. We need to control the line of scrimmage and sustain drives and we can't give up big plays on defense."

To subscribe, call 263-7331

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

secondary," said second-year Coahoma Head Coach Stacey Martin. We've got four starters back in both areas. We're going to try to get the ball out quickly to our receivers because we don't have a lot of experience on our offensive line. Our secondary is going to have some pressure put on it because we don't have a lot of experience in the front seven. We're in a better position on defense than offense. We moved some players that we thought would make us a better team."

With a lack of experience on the offensive line and the graduation of running back P.J. Daylong and fullback Corey Roberts, it makes sense for the Bulldogs to want to utilize a quick passing game while the run game becomes more established.

The one question for the Coahoma aerial assault is who will be throwing the passes this season. On Saturday, the Bulldogs expect to use both Lane Douglass and Pete Acosta against Van Horn.

Douglass was a first-team all-district tight end in 2008, but has flashed the arm strength and has nice size for the quarterback position. Acosta saw some action as the starting signal-caller last season.

Martin says both will see action as the coaching staff tries to make a decision about the position.

"Pete and Lane are both listed at No. 1 right now. Both do some things better than the other," said Martin. "They'll both take some snaps in the season opener. We don't have that position set in stone, yet."

Quarterback isn't the only spot Martin is undecided about. With the lack of experience across the board on this year's squad, the non-district schedule is going to be utilized as a gauge in figuring out the best options for various positions.

"We're going to use the non-district schedule to figure out who we want to play where and to get a lot of these young guys some experience," said Martin. "That's going to be important for us this season. We're hoping by district, our inexperience will turn into experience."

Van Horn was 6-5 last season and finished second in District 8-1A. The Eagles were are finalists and were ousted by Stanton from the postseason.

They are led by running back J.J. Baca, who is coming off of back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons. Last year, Baca only carried the ball seven times against Coahoma, but averaged 10 yards a carry as he finished with 71 yards.

The Bulldogs' inexperienced front seven will be tested heavily against Van Horn. The Eagles passed the ball a mere three times against the Bulldogs in 2008, compared to 39 rushing attempts.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Sylvia Has an Accident

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7
♥ Q 9 7
♦ A J 5
♣ A Q J 10 8 4

WEST
♠ 10 9 8 6 5 4
♥ 6 4 2
♦ 9 7 6
♣ 3

EAST
♠ Q 3 2
♥ K 5
♦ 10 8 3 2
♣ K 9 7 5

SOUTH
♠ A K J
♥ A J 10 8 3
♦ K Q 4
♣ 6 2

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♣	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	6 ♥	

Opening lead — three of clubs.

I have mentioned before that Sylvia was inclined to be accident-prone, and, in fact, most members of the club were well-aware of this tendency. But what distinguished Sylvia from all the other players in the club was her extraordinary ability to capitalize on this failing and turn it to her advantage.

Consider the present deal where Sylvia held the East cards and South was in six hearts. Had West led a spade, declarer would surely have made the contract. After taking East's queen with the ace, he would have crossed to dummy with a diamond at trick two and attempted the trump finesse, capturing East's king. South later would have tried a club finesse, losing to East's king but making the slam.

However, West led his singleton club instead. South stewed awhile, trying to decide whether or not to finesse, and finally elected to go up with dummy's ace. But Sylvia, who had been expecting declarer to finesse, absent-mindedly played her king on the ace! This naturally led declarer to conclude that West had led the three of clubs from the 9-7-5-3.

Declarer played dummy's queen of hearts at trick two, and after Sylvia followed low, South went up with the ace. He was understandably worried that West might win with the king and return a club for Sylvia to ruff.

Logical as this play may have seemed at the time, it proved to be South's undoing. When he next led another trump, Sylvia won with the king and returned a club, ruffed by West.

Thus, six hearts went down one as a result of Sylvia's remarkable play of the king of clubs at trick one. Of course, if she had simply played low on the first trick, declarer would have had no reason to fear taking a heart finesse, and would have made the slam easily.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

sudoku

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.

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

News in brief

Kennedy to lie in repose in Boston for 2 days ahead of burial at Arlington National Cemetery

HYANNIS PORT, Mass. (AP) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's body will travel more than 70 miles from his Cape Cod home to Boston to lie in repose in a presidential library he helped develop in tribute to one of his slain brothers.

Family members will attend a private Mass at Kennedy's Hyannis Port compound at noon Thursday, and the motorcade is scheduled to leave around an hour later. It will pass sites that were significant to the senator on the way to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, where his body will lie in repose until Friday, a Senate office statement said.

The motorcade will go by St. Stephen's Church, where his mother, Rose, was baptized and her funeral Mass celebrated; cross the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway, the Boston park he helped create and is named after his mother; pass historic Faneuil Hall, where Boston Mayor Thomas Menino will repeatedly ring the bell; and then move by the site of Kennedy's first office as an assistant district attorney.

A military honor guard will join members of his family, friends and current and former staff to stand vigil around the clock as thousands are expected to file past the closed casket to pay their respects. The library will remain open until the last person comes through. Several large photographs will be in the room, showing the senator at different stages of his life.

An invitation-only memorial service will be held at the library Friday evening. On Saturday, President Barack Obama will speak at a private funeral mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Basilica — commonly known as the Mission Church — in Boston's Mission Hill neighborhood.

Memos shows that after waterboarding ended, CIA pushed limits on sleep deprivation

WASHINGTON (AP) — A year after the Bush administration abandoned its harshest interrogation methods, CIA operatives used severe sleep deprivation tactics against a terror detainee in late 2007, keeping him awake for six straight days with permission from government lawyers.

Interrogators kept the unidentified detainee awake by chaining him to the walls and floor of a cell, according to government officials and memos issued with an internal CIA report. The Obama administration released the internal report this week.

Though the detainee's name and critical details are blacked out in the memos, there is only one detainee known to have been in CIA custody at that time: Mohammed Rahim al-Afghani, an alleged al-Qaida operator and translator for Osama bin Laden.

The documents show that even as the Bush administration was scaling back its use of severe interrogation techniques, the CIA was still pushing the boundaries of what the administration's own legal counsel considered acceptable treatment.

The documents describe two instances in 2007 in which the CIA was allowed to exceed the guidelines set by Bush administration lawyers allowing prisoners to be kept awake for up to four days.

U.S. death in Afghanistan ties August for deadliest month of 8-year war with 44 U.S. troops lost

KABUL (AP) — A U.S. service member died Thursday in a militant attack involving a roadside bomb and gunfire, a death that pushed August into a tie with July as the deadliest months of the eight-year war.

The death brings to 44 the number of U.S. troops who have died in Afghanistan this month. But with four days left in the month, August is likely to set a new record.

More than 60,000 U.S. troops are now in the country — a record number — to combat rising insurgent violence. The number of roadside bombs deployed by militants across the country has skyrocketed, and U.S. forces have moved into new and deadlier areas of the country this summer, in part to help secure the country's Aug. 20 presidential election.

Violence is on the rise in Afghanistan even as it falls in Iraq, where nearly twice as many U.S. troops are still based. Five U.S. troops have died in Iraq this month, three fewer than in July.

A statement from the NATO-led force in Kabul said the U.S. service member died in southern Afghanistan when the troop's patrol responded to the bombing and gunfire attack. No other details were released. Thousands of new American troops are operating for the first time in Helmand and Kandahar, two of the country's most dangerous provinces.

New Mexico Gov. Richardson, top aides said to be clear of federal pay-to-play investigation

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson and former high-ranking members of his administration won't be criminally charged in a yearlong federal investigation into pay-to-play allegations involving one of the Democratic governor's large political donors, someone familiar with the case said.

The decision not to pursue indictments was made by top Justice Department officials, according to a person familiar with the investigation, who asked not to be identified because federal officials had not disclosed results of the probe.

"It's over. There's nothing. It was killed in Washington," the person told The Associated Press.

A federal grand jury began an investigation in 2008 into a possible pay-to-play scheme in which lucrative work on state bond deals went to a Richardson donor. The federal probe derailed Richardson's appointment as commerce secretary in President Barack Obama's administration.

Richardson withdrew his nomination in January, saying the investigation would have delayed his confirmation although he said expected to be cleared.

STIMULUS WATCH: Republicans oppose stimulus as billions of dollars flow to their districts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Georgia's Republican senators, Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson, voted against the $787 billion economic stimulus package, blasting the bill as a bloated government giveaway.

But their disdain didn't stop them from later asking Defense Secretary Robert Gates to steer $50 million in stimulus money to a constituent's bioenergy project.

Gates didn't do it, but Chambliss, Isakson and other Republican opponents of the stimulus aren't going empty-handed.

Billions of dollars worth of Defense Department stimulus money is paying for repairs and construction at military installations in areas represented by lawmakers who said "no" to the legislation, according to an analysis by The Associated Press.

The request from Chambliss and Isakson isn't the only one Gates and other top defense officials received before and after President Barack Obama signed the stimulus law in February. Their pitch stands out, though, because of the GOP's staunch opposition.

Analysts expect fewer 1st-time jobless claims; estimate economy shrank at 1.5 percent in 2ndQ

WASHINGTON (AP) — Government data this week showed that consumers and businesses went on a big-ticket spending spree in July, sending home, car and equipment sales soaring by the largest amount in years. On Thursday, the Labor Department's report on weekly jobless claims will indicate whether that improved confidence about the economy is boosting the job market.

Wall Street economists expect the number of first-time unemployment benefit claims will fall to 565,000 from 576,000. That would reverse two weeks of increases, which had heightened analysts' concerns about the availability of jobs.

BSISD

Continued from Page 1A

Also Thursday, trustees will hear a report on the poor state of the high school's air conditioning chillers.

The two chillers were first installed in 1992 and the motors in both units were replaced six years ago, but the units are rapidly wearing out, Saldivar said.

"They're getting to the point where we really need to replace them," Saldivar said. "It's either replace them, or continuously repair them, which is not inexpensive."

No firm estimates as to cost are available, but Chief Financial Officer Sandra Waggoner said each unit would cost in excess of $100,000 to replace.

In other business Thursday, trustees will consider:

• Reports on the installation of modular offices at the administration building and plans to resurface the Blankenship Field track.

• Final budget amendments for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

• Personnel matters.

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

SHS

Continued from Page 1A

Howard.

Prior to kickoff of the 7:30 p.m. homecoming game between Sands and Hermleigh, the school's Red Wagon Parade will be held at the football field track. Floats decorated by each grade will be featured, Howard said.

Sands' homecoming queen will be crowned at halftime of the football game. Queen nominees are:

• Freshman Jennifer Flores, escorted by Preston Gomez.

• Sophomore Nora Gomez, escorted by A.J. Hernandez.

• Junior Morgan Yabrough, escorted by Landon Parker.

• Senior Kim Wigington, escorted by Johnny Rogers.

Crown bearer and flower girl for the event will be Peyton Nichols and Savannah Avey.

After the game, the Sands Student Council is sponsoring a dance at the bus barn for students, their dates and exes. Cost is $3 for non-students.

Activities conclude Saturday when the junior class sponsors a homecoming meal for former students at noon in the school cafeteria. Cost of the brisket meal is $10, Howard said.

For more information, contact the school at 353-4888.

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

TRASH

Continued from Page 1A

he opportunity to get things off of their property they might not be able to otherwise."

There's no charge to use the program, which aims to help area residents remove large, cumbersome items from their property such as appliances, furniture and other items. However, residents do need to be aware of what can and cannot be picked up, Darden said.

"Some of the more typical items we pick up are appliances that don't work anymore, couches and mattresses," said Darden. "Those are the kind of things that we can take to our landfill and we're allowed to pick up. However, we can't pick up any household hazardous waste. That means any kind of chemicals including lawn chemicals, car batteries and tires and things of that nature. We also won't be picking up any tree branches, shrubs or things like that."

All items must be by the curb in the city's right-of-way no sooner than 24 hours before the scheduled pick up. Items need to be separated as much as possible for its trip to the municipal landfill.

"To be placed on the pick up list, all residents have to do is call 264-2504 or 264-2501, and we'll get them set up. If they don't call and get on the list, we can't pick up their items."

Darden said customers need to be aware of gas, water and electricity meters and lines when they put their large items out to be picked up.

"A lot of time we have to bring in equipment to pick those large items up," he said. "If you cover the meters up, it's hard for us to know where they are. Using the equipment makes the pick up go quicker and we want to make sure our employees are safe while they are picking these things up."

For more information on the Large Item Pick Up program and maps of the six city districts, visit the city of Big Spring Website at www.mybigspring.com, or call 264-2504.

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

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MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL
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Mattie L. Sullivan, 98, died Tuesday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

W. Leo Eggleston, 82, died Tuesday. Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Thursday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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AN ENCOURAGING WORD

By Eddy Pitchford

Due to the economic situation, some people are looking for new jobs. They want to be honest, as they send resumes to companies across the nation. They refuse to pad their qualifications but they want to stand out to prospective employers. They prayerfully hope their credentials will open doors of opportunity.

Sadly, some folks use the same approach with the Lord. They think they must come up with enough goodness and religion to impress God. They believe the Lord will smile at them if they can learn to sing good enough or pray enough prayers. They confuse sincere worship with theatrical performance.

Reflect on the simple thought of Micah 6:8, "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

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Romo gladly dousing his celebrity QB status

IRVING (AP) — Tony Romo is ruining his reputation as a celebrity quarterback.

Since training camp opened, Romo has avoided the sloppy mistakes that trigger debates about his recklessness and leadership. There hasn't been a single squabble with a receiver. And if he has a new Hollywood hottie in his life, he's kept their canoodling out of the tabloids.

The Dallas Cowboys can only hope things keep going this smoothly during the season.

Through two NFL preseason games, Romo has yet to throw an interception, lose a fumble or take a sack. Sure, it's only been seven drives and it's not like he's faced ferocious pressure, but at least he's off to a good start, showing the poise and patience the team is expecting — and remembering to keep two hands on the ball when he scrambles.

It's boring stuff, especially for a guy who rode to stardom by taking his chances and enjoying his share of victories. But sticking to the fundamentals can help a team win playoff games, something the Cowboys haven't done since 1996.

"Obviously the way I was before wasn't getting the job done to the extent of the goal you want to accomplish," Romo said. "So you just keep going and keep going and hopefully you are able to accomplish that one day. I can see improvement."

Over two games, Romo has led the Cowboys to three touchdowns and a missed field goal. That's points-worthy drives in four of his seven series. He's 22 of 30 for 228 yards.

"Either you are trying to get better or you are content as a player," Romo said. "I am not content. I don't think this team is. We are striving to be a team that we hope can make everybody excited or have an exciting time watching us play this season. We are enjoying it."

Perhaps the best sign of Romo's new demeanor is how he's spreading around the ball. Seven players already have caught his passes, plus he's thrown to three others.

Romo's willingness to look at all of his receivers, tight ends and running backs (even a backup fullback) shows he's snapped out of the must-throw-to-Terrell Owens mindset that sometimes doomed Dallas when Owens was a Cowboy.

Taking Owens out of the equation obviously removed a big threat, but it's helped broaden the Cowboys'

See **ROMO**, Page 4B

Sports in brief

Big Spring City Championship Golf Tournament set for this weekend

The Big Spring City Championship Golf Tournament has been slated for Saturday and Sunday at the Comanche Trail Golf Course.

Any resident of Howard County is eligible to contend for the title.

Players will need tee times both days and must have an established handicap or they'll be placed in the championship slot.

Fee is $40 to play plus a cart fee, although private carts are welcome. Prizes awarded will be gift certificates for the Pro Shop.

Two extra days alotted for Crossroads Youth Football signups

The Crossroads Youth Football Association has extended its signup period for two extra days.

Players can be signed up from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday at the Big Spring Mall.

Scholarships are available for anyone needing help footing the bill.

For more information, call Jeff Vidal at 816-6871.

Big Spring Tennis Boosters meeting today at Figure 7

The Big Spring Tennis Booster Club has scheduled a meeting for 6 p.m. today at the Figure 7 Tennis Center.

Any parent who has a child either in the high school or junior high tennis program is encouraged to attend.

Opinions and support for the 2009-2010 tennis teams are greatly needed.

For more information, call 264-1425.

YMCA taking registration for Youth Volleyball League

Any boys or girls entering fourth, fifth or sixth grade interested in playing volleyball can now register for the Big Spring YMCA Youth Volleyball League during operating hours at the YMCA.

The fee is $50 per child, but financial assistance is available for those who qualify. The deadline is Tuesday.

For more info, contact the YMCA at 267-8234.

End of Summer Ragball Tournament slated for Friday and Saturday

The End of Summer Ragball Tournament has been scheduled for Friday and Saturday at Cotton Mize Field in Comanche Trail Park.

Registration starts at 7 p.m. Friday and players must be at least 14 years old. For info, call Melisa at 935-2960 or Jay at (325) 574-4338.

Big Spring Quarterback Club meeting at ATC Monday

The Big Spring Steers Quarterback Club is meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center.

All parents of junior high and high school football players are encouraged to attend.

For more info, call Denise Carillo at 816-1685.

DINING AROUND TOWN

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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.

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEW

Film society set to screen feel-good film

Looking for some good family fun in a somewhat unusual setting? Look no further, because the Big Spring Film Society will fill the bill Saturday with a free screening of Steven Spielberg's "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial."

According to the film society's founder, Brandon Johnson, the screening is set to begin a little after 9 p.m. at the Big Spring State Park.

The BSFS staged a screening of "Jaws" at Comanche Trail Lake not long ago that drew an immense crowd, an accomplishment Johnson hopes to duplicate Saturday night.

"This is the third film in our Steven Spielberg retrospective," said Johnson. "Everyone needs to bring lawn chairs and bug spray, and a concession stand will be available at the screening site.

"Also, everyone planning to attend needs to be aware that once we get 20 minutes into the film the front gates to the state park will be locked. There's no admission fee, but donations will be accepted. The screening will take place at the playground area on top of Scenic Mountain."

E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" — which is Rated PG — won four Academy Awards and countless others after its debut in 1982. The film also introduced the world to actress Drew Barrymore and actor Henry Thomas, who have becomes stars.

We here at the *Herald*, like Johnson, are pleased that there are clearly a number of film enthusiasts in Big Spring and that they support the film society's efforts.

And from what we understand, a couple more Stephen Spielberg classics are coming in the future. Johnson says the next screening will the "Raiders of the Lost Ark," and the society's Spielberg retrospective will end with "Jurassic Park.

Then Johnson says to expect the group to continue with films from the late '70s and '80s like 'Ghostbusters,' 'The Goonies,' 'Back to the Future' and others.

We look forward to what else the film society has on tap.

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

Dear Lord, You alone possess good judgment. May we trust in Your judgment.

Amen

Thoughts on cell phones, cheese

As a writer, I constantly have ideas for columns and stories dancing in and out of my head. Sometimes they are good ideas, and I get calls from thankful readers, and other times they are not-so-good ideas, and I get dirty looks from readers while waiting in line at the convenience store.

THOMAS JENKINS

The hardest ideas to deal with are the short, simple ones. Things that are too small or frivolous to write an entire column about, but too thought-provoking to simply pass-up. What's a writer to do? Well, combine all the short ideas and make one big column out of them, of course.

With that, here's a list of things bugging and bewildering me, for your consideration.

A new hand-held cell phone law will ban drivers from making calls in active school zones in Texas where signs are posted, effective Sept. 1. Violators are looking at a $50 fine if they are caught. However, cities wanting to enforce the law must post a sign at the beginning of each school zone to inform drivers that using a wireless communications device is prohibited.

All I can say is it's about dang time. The legislature is finally acknowledging the danger of jacking your jaw while you're driving. I just have one little problem with this. Why are they just trying to protect the children on their way to school? If we know it's a danger in school zones, why isn't it a danger anywhere else? Why is our state legislature trying to protect lil' Tommy on his way to school, but could care less about adults and senior citizens trying to cross the street at non-school intersections?

And here's the kicker. DPS says a driver making an emergency call in a school zone is an exception to the law. Am I the only one that sees the problem with this?

"Ma'am, do you know while I pulled you over? It's because you're talking on your handheld cell phone in a school zone."

"But officer, I'm making an emergency phone call."

"What kind of emergency do you have, ma'am?"

"I'm late for work."

"Ma'am, being late for work doesn't constitute an emergency."

"It does if your boss told you he'd kill you if you're late for work again."

Thanks a lot, lawmakers. It's good to know you guys are finally making an effort to protect pedestrians and other drivers from the brain-dead motorists that go everywhere with their cell phones plastered to their ears, jabbering on and on about what happened on some stupid television show the night before.

Unfortunately, school zones make up less than 5 percent of the roadways in Big Spring, so the other 95 percent are still ticking time bombs, just waiting for Captain Brainiac to text message while he makes that nifty little curve at mach 3.

Speaking of politicians...

I'm convinced I've found an accurate, dependable manner by which to determine the current state of our nation's economy, and without the use of overpriced consultants that pass off educated guesses for wisdom.

Thinking of buying a home, but your not sure if we're coming out of this recession? Thinking of emptying out your savings to buy that candy apple red Porsche?

Look no further than your local Mexican fast food restaurant.

Sounds crazy?

Stay with me.

I'm convinced the state of the economy is reflected in the amount of cheese you get on your taco at the local fast food establishments. Just a little pinch of cheese on top? Watch your wallet. A generous heaping of cheese, spilling over the sides of the tasty meal? Things are looking up.

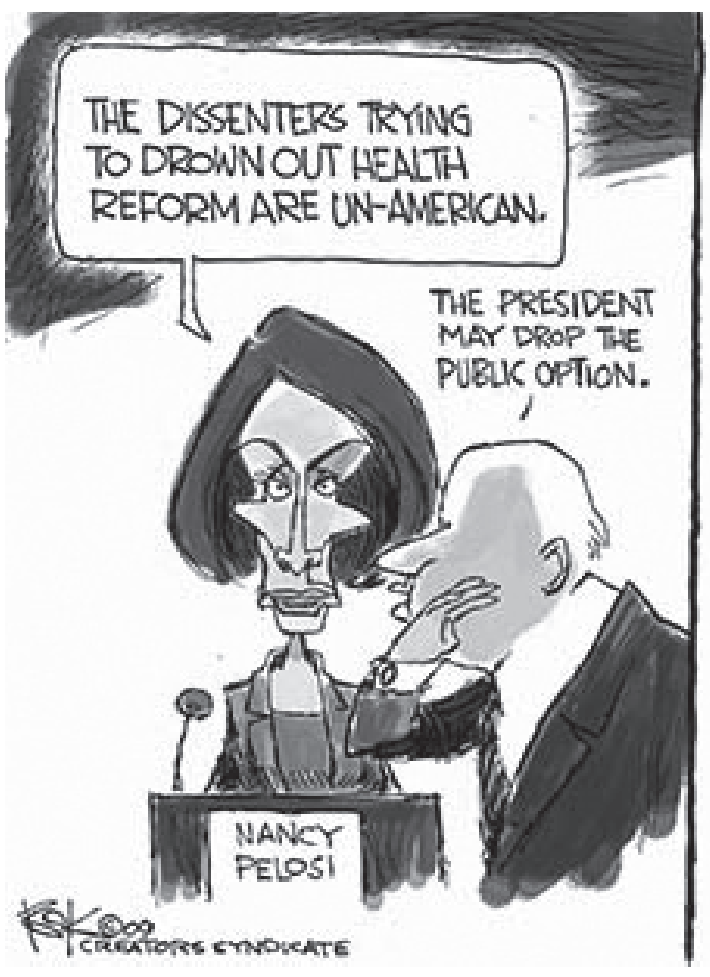
Now, I've been in enough restaurants to know portions can also be controlled by other factors, such as how busy they are, or what kind of mood the people behind the counter are, but for the most part it's been dead on.

Right before the economy went kaplooey, the cheese on my tacos looked more like a gesture than a condiment.

And while the dairy treat atop one of my favorite foods has bounced back some, it's still a lot smaller than it was before the huge crash.

Granted, I wouldn't bet your entire portfolio on my cheese idea, but I figure I've put about the same amount of thought into the process as the people in charge of making economic forecasts.

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



Less government, fewer problems

In times of crisis too many Americans look to the federal government to save them without considering that it was that same government which caused the problems in the first place. I guess it's comforting to think that big daddy has all the answers and that we are not alone, but that's a false security blanket only likely to lead to greater disappointment.

DANIEL KLINE

Politicians, at least on a national level, never solve anything. They might shift around our problems trading one crisis for another or delaying a disaster, but they have no real solutions because speeches and political posturing rarely offer any answers.

The federal government needs to stop manipulating the financial markets, stop getting involved in issues like health care, education or anything else that can be accomplished on a local level.

Congress and the president should essentially worry about national defense, highways and refereeing the inevitable disputes between states.

Democracy works best on a local level. My hometown holds a yearly town meeting where elected citizens debate everything from whether to buy new police cars to exactly when dogs need to be on leashes.

At these meetings, citizens discuss things that they have a vested interest in. If they increase the school budget their taxes will go up. If they decrease the budget their kids might lose art class or sports programs. These aren't rich folks playing with the lives of others in some hallowed hall, these are neighbors agonizing over how to do the right thing for as many people as possible.

At these meetings, real people make tough decisions and live with the consequences. Town meeting met at a theater in the high school and debates were often spirited because what happened in those few days decided what type of town we would have for the next year.

Government works when we make as many decisions as we can on a local level. Why can't a town vote to increase taxes but offer all residents health care? If a municipality made such a bold move it would cause some people to move out and others to move in. Like picking a condo because the complex has a pool, we could choose our place of residence based partially on its combination of taxes, amenities and laws.

What, except our entrenched politicians who like their jobs and power, stops us from making the decisions that actually impact our lives? I would choose to live someplace with low taxes and high personal responsibility. Health care would be my problem as would paying for my son's education.

You might prefer to live someplace where the local government takes a huge bite our of your income but covers health care, schooling and other areas. We deserve to have the choice and have for too long ceded power over our lives national politicians who care more for ideology and agendas than individual people.

I'd rather have the friendly couple that lives next door to me voting on important issues in my life than anyone in Congress. To my neighbors I am not just a line item or a potential voter. They actually have to see me each day and live with the consequences of their votes.

Forget stimulus packages, universal health care and all the other national debates that draw attention away from the fact that we must stop expecting government to have the answers. The people need to take the pow

er back and realize that in times of crisis we must rely on ourselves not wait for the politicians to save us.

Daniel B. Kline's work appears in more than 100 papers weekly. He can be reached by e-mail at dan@notastep.com

Posada, Pettitte lead Yanks past Rangers, 9-2

NEW YORK (AP) — Andy Pettitte was sitting at home Wednesday morning, watching the Little League World Series on TV when he saw his name scrolling across the bottom of the screen.

The caption informed him that if Pettitte beat the Texas Rangers, he'd tie Lefty Gomez for third place on the New York Yankees' career win list — quite the milestone for a veteran pitcher who admittedly prefers to stay out of the spotlight.

Once again, he couldn't avoid it.

Pettitte went out and tossed seven sharp innings, and got some instant offense from Jorge Posada's three-run homer in the Yankees' seemingly effortless 9-2 victory.

"He's a great pitcher," Derek Jeter said, standing a few feet away from Pettitte. "When he's on a roll like this, he's fun to play behind."

Jeter and Mark Teixeira each had a pair of RBIs, and Jerry Hairston Jr. added a solo homer for the Yankees. It was the fourth time in five games that the highest-scoring team in the majors scored at least eight runs, even if they didn't need them all with Pettitte on the hill.

Helped by a slew of double plays, he allowed two runs and five hits to win his third straight decision. Pettitte (11-6) now has 189 victories in pinstripes, behind only Hall of Famers Whitey Ford (236) and Red Ruffing (231).

"Definitely it was good to get those three runs early," he said. "It was a good game for us."

Nearly perfect if not for some fluke bounces.

Alex Rodriguez came up hobbling after fouling a ball off his left foot in the seventh, but remained in the game at third base for another half inning.

Then in the eighth, Posada took a foul ball off his gloved hand behind the plate and immediately began shaking it. He left the game, and X-rays were negative on what manager Joe Girardi called a bruised ring finger.

"My biggest concern is always injuries," Girardi said, "and it's something you can't control."

David Murphy homered and drove in both runs for the Rangers, who are desperately trying to keep pace in the playoff chase. They dropped five games behind the Los Angeles Angels in the AL West and 2½ games behind the Boston Red Sox for the wild card after both teams won.

Murphy's solo shot in the seventh got the Rangers within 4-2 and snapped Pettitte's streak of 49 2-3 innings without allowing a homer. The left-hander promptly fanned Elvis Andrus to end the inning, and the Yankees tacked on five runs in the bottom half to put it out of reach.

"They're obviously a very potent offense," Murphy said. "They showed us that in that inning."

Derek Holland (7-8) allowed six runs on seven hits in six-plus innings in another poor outing against New York.

The 22-year-old left-hander had been 3-0 with a 1.29 ERA in his last three starts, but has allowed 12 runs in two starts against the Yankees this season.

"The results certainly aren't what we wanted, but I didn't think I pitched badly," Holland said. "I know they're the Yankees, but I try to treat them like any other team. I don't want to give them too much credit."

Then again, perhaps the team with the best record in baseball deserves it.

After Pettitte bailed the Yankees out of a bases-loaded jam in the first, Posada drove a 1-1 pitch over the center-field wall for his 17th homer of the season, staking New York to a 3-0 lead in the second. Hairston added his homer in the fourth, and despite the Rangers scratching out a couple of runs, they never could dig all the way back.

Trailing 9-2 in the eighth, Texas loaded the bases off Brian Bruney only to watch Rodriguez start his third 5-4-3 double-play of the game. It was the fourth turned by the Yankees and wiped out one final would-be rally.

"They're an explosive team and we knew that," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "All you can do is put this game away and look towards tomorrow's game."

NOTES: Rangers C Jarrod Saltalamacchia said he's still targeting Sept. 1 for his return from the DL. Saltalamacchia has thoracic outlet syndrome, causing numbness in his right (throwing) hand. ... There was a moment of silence before the game for Sen. Edward Kennedy, who died late Tuesday night at 77. ... Jack Nicholson and Paul McCartney were on hand for the game.

Teen dead after hot practice

VERNON (AP) — Officials say a northern Texas middle school student was found unresponsive at home and pronounced dead the morning after going through football practice in triple-digit heat.

Wilbarger County Justice of the Peace Lewis Templeton said Wednesday a toxicology report should determine whether the death of 13-year-old Brent Shinn was heat-related. Foul play has been ruled out.

The 13-year-old from Vernon Middle School was found unresponsive Tuesday morning and later pronounced dead at a hospital.

Vernon schools Superintendent Tom Woody said practice lasted a little more than an hour Monday afternoon. The temperature was about 105, according to the National Weather Service.

Vernon is located about 150 miles northwest of Fort Worth.

49ers' Hill leaves practice after 1 pass

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Shaun Hill left the San Francisco 49ers' practice after throwing one pass Wednesday morning but said he is fine and will be ready to play in this Saturday's exhibition game against the Dallas Cowboys.

Hill strained his lower back during practice Tuesday and received treatment.

"It was still there today," coach Mike Singletary said. "He probably could have pushed himself through practice, but I told him he didn't need to do that. Let the other guys get the reps and let's go."

Damon Huard and rookie Nate Davis, the team's fifth-round draft choice, alternated at quarterback the remainder of practice.

Hill shrugged off the injury. "I'll be fine," he said.

Singletary this week named Hill the regular season starter.

AREA

Continued from Page 2B

However, an onside kick attempt failed and Grape Creek simply ran out the clock to seal the win.

After playing at Grape Creek the past few seasons, Stanton finally gets the Eagles in their home stadium.

"It's nice to have them coming to us this year," noted Peterson. "It feels like we've been going down there for several seasons."

Stanton is committed to being a more balanced team offensively in 2009 after using a run-oriented scheme based out of the I-formation and triple-option sets during McCown's tenure.

One of the reasons the Buffs want to be more balanced is the presence of junior quarterback Tyler Fulton.

"Tyler had a good summer and looked good during 7-on-7 football," said Peterson. "We'll try to split the play calling 50-50 between runs and passes. Tyler is improving as a passer and is going to be a big part of what we're trying to do."

Sands vs. Hermleigh (Homecoming)

ACKERLY — Sands schools are making one thing clear. It's never too early in the year to celebrate with your alumni.

Ex-students and faculty will make their way back to Ackerly Friday as the Sands Mustangs play their annual homecoming game at 7:30 p.m. as a part of their season opener with Hermleigh.

After making the postseason for the first time since 2002 last season, the Mustangs have high hopes for a return trip to the playoffs. Those expectations are based around spread back Johnny Rogers and running back Daniel Armendariz.

"Much of what we do is going to be done through Johnny and Daniel. Those are two guys we can't afford to lose," said Sands Head Coach Wayne Henderson. "We've got some talented players along side them, but they don't have the experience, yet. We'll rely on Johnny and Daniel while the other guys develop."

Rogers accounted for more than 1,300 yards rushing and passing last season, while Armendariz was second on the team in rushing and led the squad with more than 180 tackles on defense.

Last season, Hermleigh gave Sands all it could handle for three quarters. The score was tied 8-8 as the fourth quarter started, but the Mustangs outscored Hermleigh 24-8 in the final stanza.

"We're pretty evenly matched. Hermleigh has a big size advantage over us. Our biggest kid is probably 165 pounds," noted Henderson. "We'll try to run them down like last season and hope to outlast them."

Grady vs. Sanderson

LENORAH — At times, the 2008 football season felt like a struggle for the Grady Wildcats. That's odd to say about a squad that finish 7-3.

However, the Wildcats were kept out of the postseason with a 3-2 record in six-man Division I, District 7.

The Wildcats are expecting a return to the playoffs in 2009 as they open the season at 7:30 p.m. Friday against the Sanderson Eagles. Confidence is brewing behind what Head Coach Joe Helms says will be a more balanced offensive attack.

Last season, the Wildcats were forced to air the ball out frequently with a lack of experience in the backfield and on the offensive line. Helms is determined to keep senior quarterback Dylan Cox from using his arm as much in 2009.

"I don't think Dylan's numbers will considerably drop, but I don't expect him to have that many yards again because I think we'll be a more balanced team," said Helms. "We had to throw a lot last season because we didn't have a lot of experience at running back. That's going to be different this year. We're going to put more focus on the run game. My ideal season is for us to have 1,800 yards rushing and 1,800 yards passing."

Helms is hopeful a contingent of four juniors at running back — Joe Cook, John Ramirez, Bryley Pinkerton and Anibal Medina — can compliment the passing game enough to take pressure off of Cox.

In last year's matchup with Sanderson, the Wildcats entered the fourth quarter with a 34-16 advantage. However, Sanderson pulled within four points courtesy of two long pass plays.

Helms is cautious that his team won't overlook its opening opponent again in 2009.

"Honestly, when you've got this many starters back, there's a big danger of taking teams lightly," he added. "Sanderson is a storied program and has some good size and speed. They don't have a lot of depth, but that's common with teams in the small-school division. We can't take them lightly at all. I hope we learned that last year."

Sanderson enters the game ranked sixth overall in six-man Division II. Grady enters the season ranked 12th in Division I.

Garden City vs. Throckmorton Saturday in Hico

GARDEN CITY — Once again, the Garden City Bearkats will open the football season at the Hico Six-man Super Saturday presented by Nike.

The 'Kats didn't fair too well in last year's opener in Hico as Abbott rocked them, 57-12.

This season, Garden City draws the Throckmorton Greyhounds at 10 a.m. Saturday in a rematch from a 2008 Division I six-man playoff game. Garden City came out on top in a hotly contested battle, 70-66.

The 'Kats will be the underdog Saturday against the seventh-ranked Greyhounds, who return utility back Michael Everett and the 2,200 all-purpose yards he recorded last fall.

Garden City will rely on a rushing attack built on running back Josh Colunga. The play of linebackers Marcus Cook and Brett Chudej will be pivotal for the 'Kats on defense.

ROMO

Continued from Page 3B

plans. Dallas should be less predictable and it's up to offensive coordinator Jason Garrett to dream up a variety of plays, and then it's up to Romo to pull them off.

If Romo does, no one will question his weight, his work ethic, his passion for the game or his love life, all of which were cross-examined in the wake of last season's December meltdown, when the Cowboys lost three of their last four games and didn't make the playoffs.

"I feel like each year I play this game I get better just because you work at it, you think about it, you try and correct it," said Romo, who was coming off his first non-Pro Bowl season since becoming the full-time starter in 2006. "I had a friend tell me once, 'You just keep getting better and everything will take care of itself.'"

Now back at their Valley Ranch headquarters, Romo feels good about how things went in training camp in San Antonio. He likes the tone that was set during a controversy-free month.

"Everything was just football 24-7," Romo said. "I think that's the way we want to work around here."

It's a change, but it might be one for the better.

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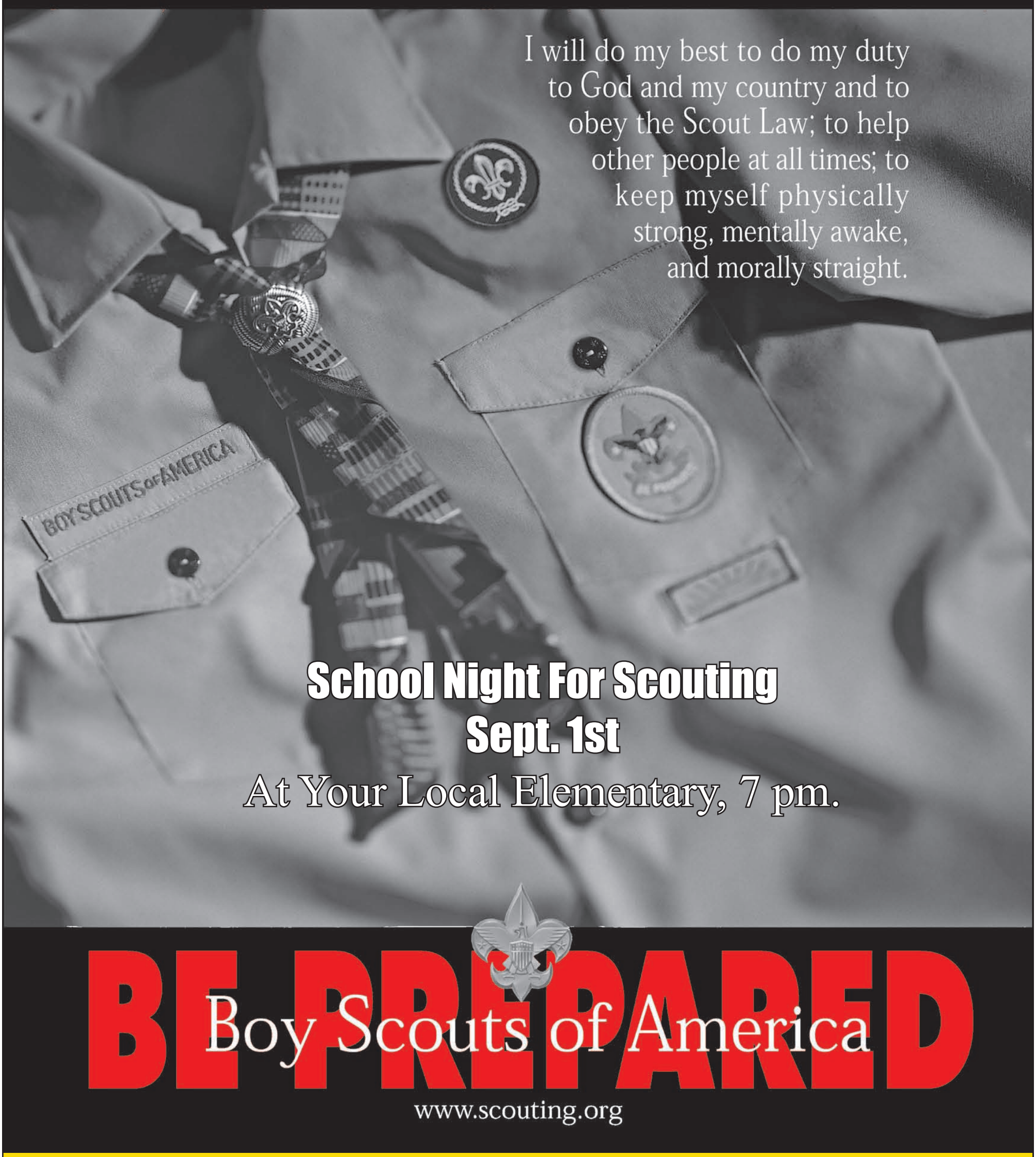

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OFFICE SPACE for Lease, with optional Warehouse attached at 217 East 3rd Street. Has been updated. Call 432-263-8421 for more info.

SMALL SHOP- Overhead Door, Restroom. $200.00 month, deposit. References Required. Call (432)213-2400.

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2 BEDROOM, 2 bath Mobile Home for Lease or Sale on North Service Road off I-20 East of Big Spring. Call (254)643-1145.

2807 APACHE Drive, 3/2/2 Beautiful home on large, corner lot, newly updated kitchen & bathrooms, sprinkler system $116,000. Call (432)268-1840 or (432)213-0381.

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FOR SALE BY OWNER: 2528 and 2530 Fairchild, 2,500 square feet duplex. $499.00 down, $776.75 per month. Call (432)270-8920 or Home Realtors.

Check this one!

OWNER FINANCE- Easy Terms- 3/1 on 1012 Bluebonnet. Call (325)277-4923.

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2005 MUSTANG GT. Perfect condition, 21,500 miles, Silver with black & red leather interior. Premium sound. Garage kept. $16,500.00. Call (432)263-6287.

2006 Ford Explorer, low mileage, $14,000. Must Sell as soon as possible. Call (432)263-2213.

FLAT BED Goose Neck Trailer. (Red). 8x20, $5,000.00. Call Joe (432)212-9188.

Legals

The Howard County Auditor will accept sealed bids until 10:00 A.M. on September 11, 2009 for Diesel and Gasoline.
Specifications may be obtained in the County Auditor's Office, in the Courthouse, 300 S. Main St., Room 203, Big Spring, TX, or by calling 432-264-2210.
Bids will be presented to the Commissioners' Court at 10:00 A.M. on September 14, 2009 for their consideration.
The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
#6231 August 27 & September 4, 2009

Legals

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL DISTRIBUTION AND CLAIMS BAR

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,
Plaintiff,
v.
MADISON REAL ESTATE GROUP, LLC, a Wyoming limited liability company, RICHARD AMES HIGGINS, BRANDON S. HIGGINS, and ALLAN D. CHRISTENSEN,
Defendants.
Case No.: 2:08cv00243
Judge
Clark Waddoups
United States District Court,
District of Utah,
Central Division

On March 28, 2008, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the District of Utah (District Court) against the Madison Real Estate Group, LLC. ("Madison"), Richard Ames Higgins ("Higgins"), Brandon S. Higgins ("Brandon") and Allan D. Christensen ("Christensen") alleging, among other things, fraud in connection with the sale or purchase of securities. The District Court appointed Roger J. McConkie as the Receiver (the "Receiver") of Madison and of all affiliated limited partnerships, properties, and/or other business entities. The Receiver was tasked with taking control of and marshaling the assets of Madison and its entities (hereafter the "Receivership Estate") for eventual distribution to defrauded investors and creditors. The Receiver now anticipates that some funds may become available for distribution.

If you believe that you are an investor, and/or creditor of Madison or any of the following entities or properties or have provided materials and/or services to them for which you have not been paid, you are hereby notified and instructed to prepare and send a "Madison Claim Form and Questionnaire" to the Receiver Roger J. McConkie, Prince Yeates & Geldzahler, 175 East 400 South, No. 900, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84111, postmarked on or before October 27, 2009. For those who have already submitted information and materials to the Receiver, you also have the option of simply affirming under penalty of perjury your previous submission using a "Madison Affirmation of Prior Submission of Claim." Claims not submitted and/or affirmed in writing, and postmarked on or before October 27, 2009, will be barred. You may obtain a copy of the Claim Form or Affirmation and additional information regarding the Receivership at http://madisonreceivership.com.
All Claim Forms and any supporting documentation, and/or Affirmations must be submitted under penalty of perjury.

The Madison entities and properties are as follows:

Entities
Oklahoma Overlake LP
Texas Lubbock Square LP
Westgate San Angelo LP
Lubbock Preserve at Prairie Pt. LP
Oklahoma Sunnyview LP
San Angelo Casa Rio LP
Baytown Crosby Green LP
Town Plaza Lubbock LP
San Angelo Greystone LP
Wellington Texas LP
Oklahoma Oakridge Village LP
Lubbock Riviera LP
Coronado Hills Big Spring LP
Abilene Meridian LP
Lubbock Treehouse LP
Lubbock Aspen Village LP
Gallatin Group LC
Castlerock Investments, LLC
Qwest Management LLC

Properties
Overlake Apartments (Oklahoma City)
Lubbock Square Apartments (Lubbock)
Westgate Villa Apartments (San Angelo)
Preserve at Prairie Point (Lubbock)
Sunnyview Apartments (Oklahoma City)
Casa Rio Apartments (San Angelo)
Crosby Green Apartments (Baytown)
Town Plaza Apartments (Lubbock)
Greystone Apartments (San Angelo)
The Wellington Apartments (Lubbock)
Oakridge Village Apartments (Oklahoma City)
The Riviera Apartments (Lubbock)
Coronado Hills Apartments (Big Springs)
Meridian Apartments (Abilene)
Treehouse Apartments (Lubbock)
Aspen Village Apartments (Lubbock)
#6240 August 27, and September 3 & 10, 2009

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Big Spring Herald Classifieds
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AAA forecasts less Labor Day travel

By CHRIS KAHN
AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK — Fewer people will take a vacation this Labor Day weekend than last year, though cheaper gasoline and an abundance of special holiday deals still promises to make it a busy weekend at airports and on the highway, auto club AAA said Wednesday.

AAA estimated that 39.1 million people will travel at least 50 miles from home between Thursday, Sept. 3 and Monday, Sept. 7 as part of a survey of 1,350 American households.

That's six million fewer travelers than last year, but it's more than the number of travelers who took to the roads from 2004 to 2007.

"With Labor Day falling almost a full week later in 2009, many children will have returned to school," the auto club said in its report.

However, "this year's Labor Day holiday travel is expected to show that the pull of the last long weekend of summer is stronger than the poor employment picture and the potential overlap with the school year. In fact, it just may be that many Americans are starting to feel a little more economically secure overall, leaving them freer to travel."

Gas prices also have dropped compared with last year. A gallon of regular unleaded is $1.05 cheaper than it was last year, according to AAA.

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Wed. 9/02 - Ladies Day - Ladies bowl one free game
Thur. 9/03 - Seniors Day - 60 and over bowl free
Fri. 9/04 - City Employees show ID for two free games
Sat. 9/05 - World Record Day! Everyone gets one free game and a Certificate of Achievement

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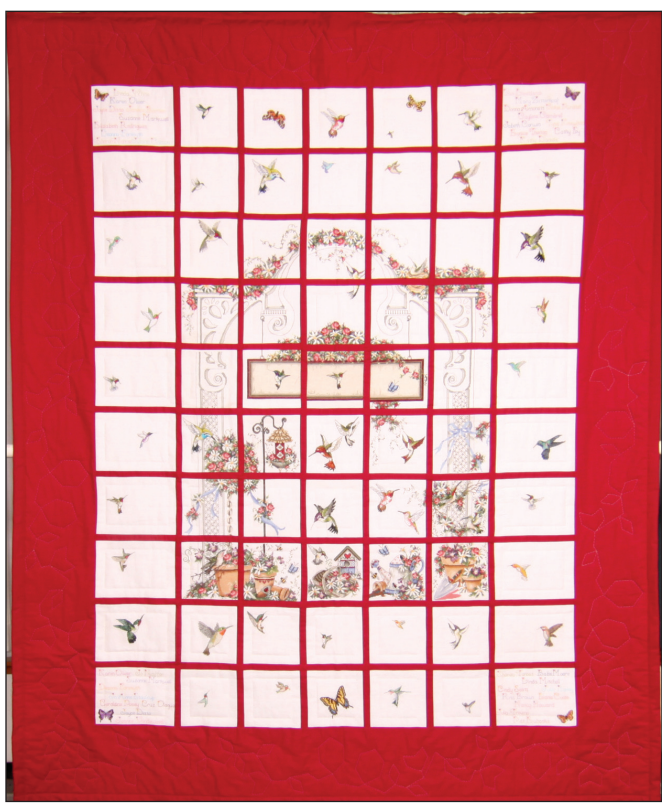

County Fair Quilt tickets available

Those who have never seen a Howard County Fair Quilt, have missed a handmade work of art.

Each year, members of the Howard County Fair Board of Directors — assisted by volunteers from the community — spend literally hundreds of hours cross stitching blocks for the quilt of the year. After all the stitching is finished, volunteers join the cross stitched blocks together, in preparation for the final stage of quilting.

This year's quilt is a trellis, complete with hummingbirds, flowers and butterflies. Karen Oliver obtained the pattern, separated the individual block sections and prepared the packets including needles, thread, frames to hold the squares during stitching and sewed the completed squares together. Oliver also provided detailed instruction on cross stitch techniques, from beginner to advanced level.

Geraldine Posey spent many hours putting the quilt in the frames and setting the quilting pattern. It took the efforts of 40 women from Howard County, with assistance of two women from out of state, to cross stitch the 70 individual squares and finish the quilt. The quilting stage alone required eight days. Thousands of hours later, the finished quilt is breathtaking, according to organizers.

An opportunity to own the quilt is made possible by purchasing tickets.

Tickets for this quilt are $1 each or six for $5, and are available now from any fair board member. Winner of the 2009 Howard County Fair Quilt will be announced Oct. 3. It is not necessary to be present to win.

All proceeds from the sale of quilt tickets go to defray expenses of the annual Howard County Fair, which will be held Sept. 30-Oct. 3.

The quilt is on display at Wells Fargo Bank.

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Legals

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY LAND APPLICATION PERMIT RENEWAL
OF INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER
PERMIT NO. WQ0004771000

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Sid Richardson Carbon, Ltd., 201 Main Street, Suite 3000, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, which operates the Sid Richardson Carbon – Big Spring Plant, a carbon black manufacturing facility, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of TCEQ Permit No. WQ0004771000, which authorizes the disposal of waste heat boiler softener backwash, boiler evaporator bottoms blowdown, and miscellaneous equipment drains at a daily average flow of 890 gallons per day via evaporation. This permit will not authorize a discharge of pollutants into water in the State. TCEQ received this application on March 11, 2009.

The facility and land application site are located on the west side of Midway Road, approximately one-mile north of Interstate Highway 20 and approximately 2.5 miles east of City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas 79720. The facility and land application site are located in the drainage area Colorado River Below Lake J.B. Thomas, in Segment No. 1412 of the Colorado River Basin.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the Howard County Library, 500 Main Street, Big Spring, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. *You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application.* The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name; address; phone; applicant's name and permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are germane to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission will only grant a contested case hearing on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised in timely filed comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at www.tceq.state.tx.us/about/comments.html within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.TCEQ.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from Sid Richardson Carbon, Ltd. at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Long Nguyen at (817)-390-8604.

Issued: 08/20/09
#6241 August 27, 2009

Tomorrow's Horoscope

The Sagittarius moon issues an invitation to step foot in unfamiliar territory, experience the sights and sounds of a distant place and taste food from foreign lands. Even if all you do is to flip on the Travel Channel, you'll be lucky for the effort. It's also fortunate to read of pilgrimages to exotic lands, vision quests and grand adventures.

HOLIDAY MATHIS

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are many facets to a job you do and you'll be spending time on some of the lesser-explored areas of your work. If it's slow going at first, be patient. You'll be using a totally different part of your brain.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Doing well with the job at hand will lead to better work. This is true no matter what the job at hand may be. Even if no one is likely see your masterful efforts, they will still pave the way of good fortune.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you communicate too often or for too long, miscommunication is likely to be the result. Keep your message brief so that your listener will know what to focus on.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Healing happens in a minute. Problems go away as if by magic. The answer is so simple, you won't believe that you missed it yesterday: acceptance. Suddenly, there is no longer a reason to be mad.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whatever your age, you may get the sensation that you are growing up too fast. Stay pure and innocent for as long as you can. Protect yourself from things that make you think less of the world and the people in it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can tell when you're making a fantastic impression, and today you go beyond that. You could possibly have people falling for you, or feeling that they simply must have your business or your friendship.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You identify with someone's struggle because you've been there before. However, it's important to recognize that this person will have his or her own way of dealing with the situation. Only give help if you are asked to do so.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If you don't know what to do, do nothing. Fretting is worse than doing nothing and so is taking impulsive action out of fear. Your time is best spent making yourself happy. Answers come when you're relaxed and smiling.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You want others to succeed, even if those people have not wanted the same for you, or have unwittingly contributed in some way to your unhappiness. This is how you know you're a genuinely good person.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your energy and intention are stronger than they were before and they're also probably stronger than the people around you right now. This is good for you since the prize goes to the one who wants it more.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Be appreciative of all of your teachers. As the poet Kahlil Gibran wrote, "I have learnt silence from the talkative, tolerant from the intolerant, and kindness from the unkind; yet, strange, I am ungrateful to these teachers."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You find beauty all around you. Find it in the mirror, too. And if that seems too tall an order, do something about it until you can once again admire yourself for the gorgeous creature you are.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 27). Love and friendship will inspire you to hone your talents. In September, you will learn the best way to move your career forward. You'll be vital to another person's success in November, and in February, you'll be the recipient of similar mentorship. Travel is best in May and June. Scorpio and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 1, 50, 47 and 32.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS: "I'm a Cancer who used to date a lot and I have had many significant relationships. Then suddenly it all dried up. I'm not that old — 48. Why am I still alone after 14 years? Is this just my destiny? And if it is, is there anything else I'm supposed to be doing with my life besides trying, unsuccessfully, to date?"

There's much to love about your single life. You don't have to consider anyone else as you create your own schedule. Cancer's domestic skill is unequaled, and it's nice not to have your home environment cluttered up by someone else's needs. You can follow your whims and enjoy the control you have over your own destiny. And speaking of your destiny, it's time for you to reclaim it instead of worrying about whether or not you're going to meet someone. If you want another relationship, decide consciously that you're willing to give up some of your order and freedom for that messy thing called love. Then affirm in your mind that you are already a part of a harmonious couple, and go about the business of making more room in your life for a relationship.

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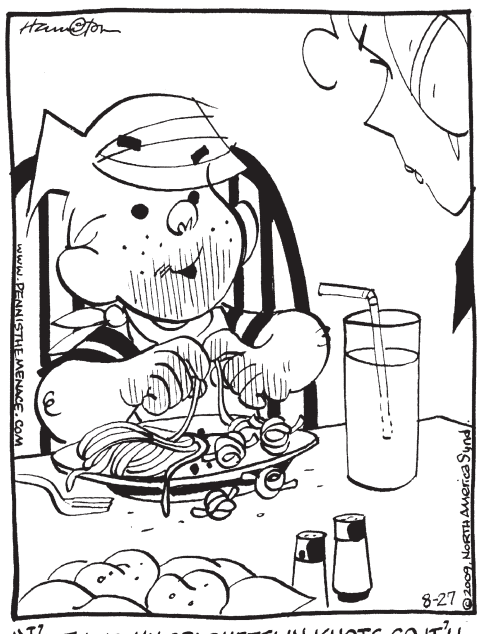
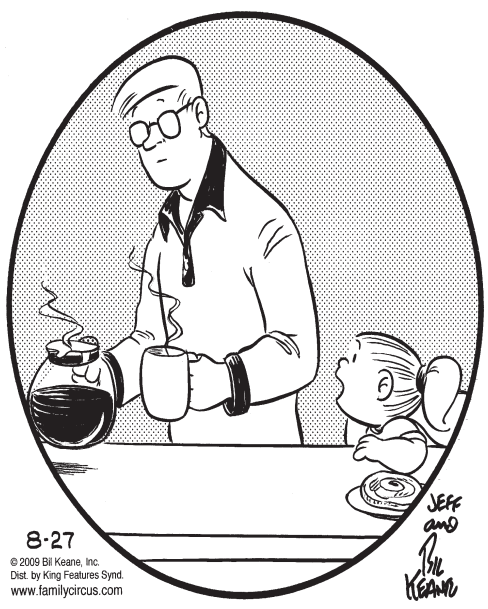
5 :PM :30	*News* / *ABC*	*News* / *ABC*	*Locura* / *Noticiero*	*Lopez* / *Lopez*	*News* / *CBS*	*Noticias* / *Noticiero*	*News* / *NBC*	*Raymond* / *Friends*	*Granger* / *Brad*	*BBC* / *Business*	*Cash Cab* / *Cash Cab*	*Delta Force 2, Bobby Chavez*	*UFC Unleashed*	*Bones*	*106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live*	*Wizards* / *Wizards*	*Yearbook* / *Yearbook*	*SportsCenter*
6 :PM :30	*News* / *Entertain*	*Jeopardy!* / *Fortune*	*Gancho*	*Two Men* / *Two Men*	*News* / *Entertain*	*12 Corazones*	*News* / *Millionaire*	*Seinfeld* / *Seinfeld*	*Sanchez* / *Dr.*	*News-Lehrer*	*Made* / *Made*		*UFC Unleashed*	*CSI: NY*		*Wizards* / *Wizards*	*ATP Tennis: U.S. Open Series -- Pilot Pen*	
7 :PM :30	*Grey's Anatomy*	*High School Football: Fort Stockton vs. Greenwood*	*Nombre Amor*	*NFL Preseason Football: Dolphins at Buccaneers*	*Big Brother 11*	*Más Sabe el Diablo*	*30 Rock* / *Parks*	*Friends* / *Friends*	*Israel* / *Sprna*	*Local* / *Parklands*	*American Loggers*	**Movie:** *Halloween, Nancy Loomis*	*UFC Unleashed*	*CSI: NY*	*Movie: Waist Deep, Larenz Tate*	*Another Cinderella Story*		*Little League Baseball: World Series*
8 :PM :30	*Grey's Anatomy*		*Mañana es*		*CSI: Crime Scn*	*Pobres*	*Office* / *30 Rock*	*Friends* / *Friends*	*Light of the Southwest*	*Antiques Roadshow*	*American Loggers*		*TNA iMPACT!*	*Bones*		*Phineas*	*World Series*	
9 :PM :30	*(:02) Private Practice*		*Rosa*		*(:01) The Mentalist*	*Victorinos*	*Law & Order*	**Movie:** *Step Up, Mario*		*Chasing-Search*	*Man vs. Wild*	*Halloween 4: Michael Myers*		**Movie:** *Freedom Writers, Scott Glenn*	*Game* / *TBA*	*Wizards* / *Montana*	*Baseball: Junior League Final*	*Baseball Tonight*
10 :PM :30	*News* / *Nightline*	*News* / *Nightline*	*Impacto* / *Noticiero*	*Raymond* / *King-Hill*	*News* / *Late Show*	*Noticias* / *Titulares*	*News* / *Tonight Show*		*Israel* / *Van Impe*	*Charlie Rose*	*American Loggers*		*UFC Countdwn*		*W. Williams*	*Suite Life* / *So Raven*		*SportsCenter*
11 :PM :30	*Insider* / *Jimmy Kimmel Live*	*Jimmy Kimmel Live* / *Extra*	*La Escuelita VIP* / *Contra Viento*	*Law Order: CI* / *RENO 911*	*Late Late Show* / *Insider*	*Decisiones de Famosos* / *Pagado*	*Late Night-Jim* / *News*	*Sex &* / *Sex &* / *(12:10)* **Movie:** *Stuck on You*	*Bill Cloud* / *Swallow* / *Israel* / *LightWrld*	*BBC* / *Smiley* / *(Off Air)*	*American Loggers* / *Man vs. Wild*	*Halloween 5: Revenge of Michael Myers*	*MAN* / *Game* / *Batman* / *MAN*	**Movie:** *Freedom Writers, Scott Glenn*	*Movie: Waist Deep, Larenz Tate*	*Life De* / *Cory* / *Replace* / *Kim*	*Little League Baseball: World Series*	*Baseball* / *NFL Live* / *SportsCenter*
12 :AM :30	*News*	*Paid*		*TMZ*	*Insider*	*Pagado*	*News*		*Light of the Southwest*		*Man vs. Wild*	**Movie:** *Poltergeist, Beatrice*	*UFC Countdwn*		*W. Williams*	*Emperor* / *Dragon*	*NASCAR* / *World Series*	*SportsCenter*
1 :AM :30	*Paid*	*Paid*	*Mujer...* / *Güereja*	*Friends* / *Raymond*	*Entertain* / *Paid*	*Pagado* / **Pelicula:** *Las*	*Poker After Dark*											

DENNIS THE MENACE



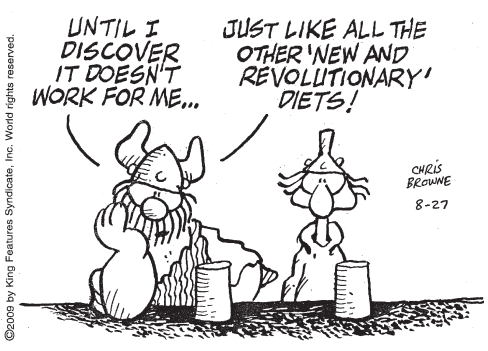
"I'M TYING MY SPAGHETTI IN KNOTS SO IT'LL BE EASIER TO EAT."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"When I get older will I have to pretend I like coffee?"

HAGAR



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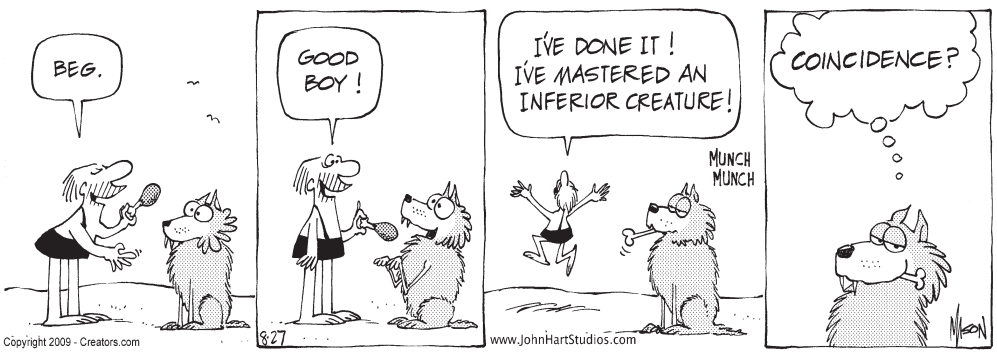
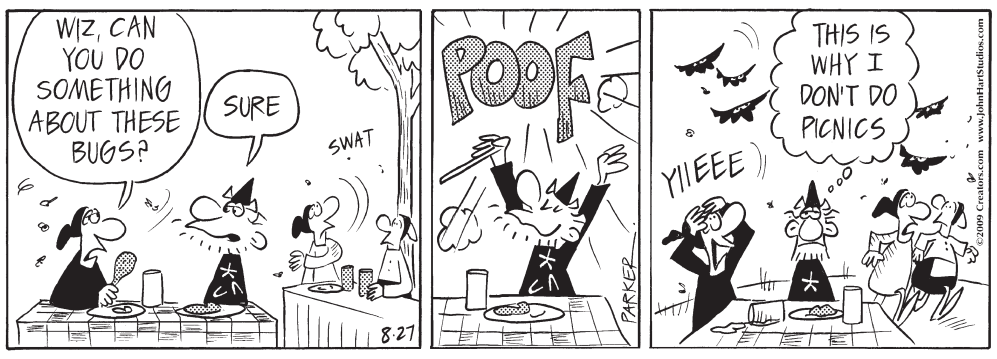
BC

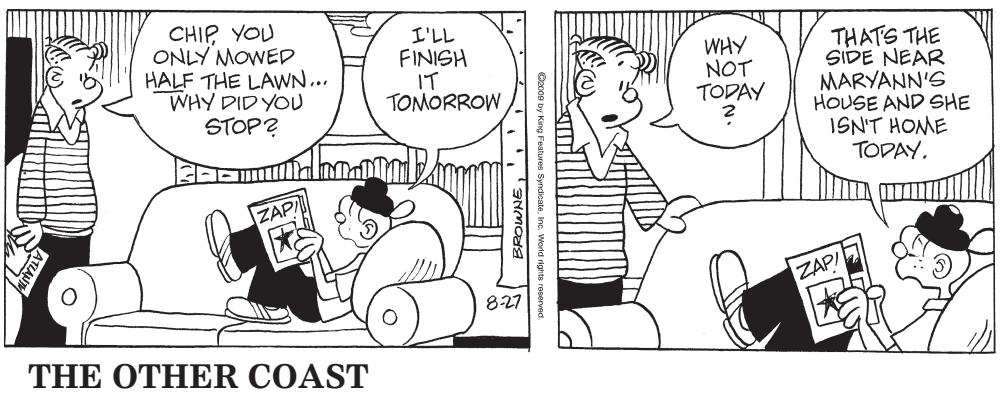


WIZARD OF ID



AGNES

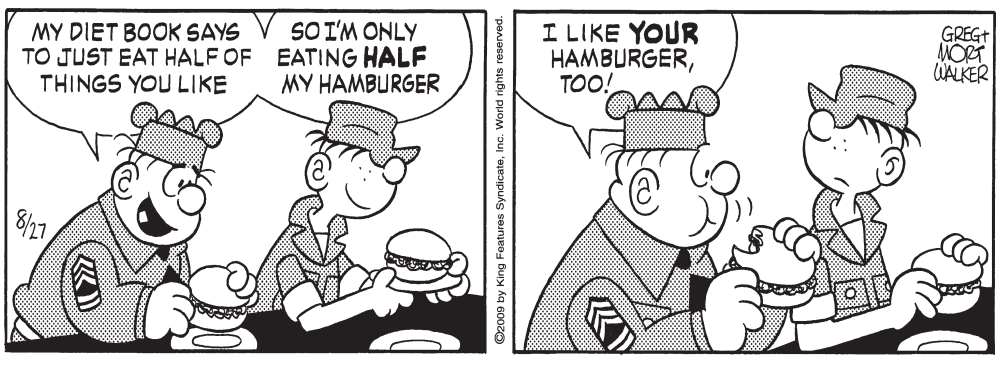
HI AND LOIS



THE OTHER COAST

SNUFFY SMITH

BEETLE BAILEY



This Date In History

Today is Thursday, Aug. 27, the 239th day of 2009. There are 126 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 27, 1859, Edwin L. Drake drilled the first successful oil well in the United States, at Titusville, Pa.

On this date:

In 1858, the second debate between senatorial candidates Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas took place in Freeport, Ill.

In 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa blew up; the resulting tidal waves in Indonesia's Sunda Strait claimed some 36,000 lives in Java and Sumatra.

In 1892, fire seriously damaged New York's original Metropolitan Opera House.

In 1908, Lyndon Baines Johnson, the 36th president of the United States, was born near Stonewall, Texas.

In 1928, the Kellogg-Briand Pact was signed in Paris, outlawing war and providing for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

In 1962, the United States launched the Mariner 2 space probe, which flew past Venus in December 1962.

In 1975, Haile Selassie, the last emperor of Ethiopia's 3,000-year-old monarchy, died in Addis Ababa at age 83 almost a year after being overthrown.

In 1979, British war hero Lord Louis Mountbatten and three other people, including his 14-year-old grandson Nicholas, were killed off the coast of Ireland in a boat explosion claimed by the Irish Republican Army.

In 1989, the first U.S. commercial satellite rocket was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla. — a Delta booster carrying a British communications satellite, the Marcopolo 1.

In 2006, a Comair CRJ-100 crashed after trying to take off from the wrong runway in Lexington, Ky., killing 49 people and leaving the co-pilot the sole survivor.

Today's Birthdays: Cajun-country singer Jimmy C. Newman is 82. Author Antonia Fraser is 77. Actor Tommy Sands is 72. Bluegrass singer-musician J.D. Crowe is 72. Musician Daryl Dragon is 67. Actress Tuesday Weld is 66. Rock singer-musician Tim Bogert is 65. Actress Marianne Sagebrecht is 64. Actress Barbara Bach is 62. Ex-porn star Harry Reems is 62. Country musician Jeff Cook is 60. Actor Paul Reubens is 57. Rock musician Alex Lifeson (Rush) is 56. Actress Diana Scarwid is 54. Pro golfer Bernhard Langer is 52. Rock musician Glen Matlock (The Sex Pistols) is 53. Actor Peter Stormare is 51. Country singer Jeffrey Steele is 48. Gospel singer Yolanda Adams is 47. Country musician Matthew Basford (Yankee Grey) is 47. Writer-producer Dean Devlin is 47.

Answer to previous puzzle

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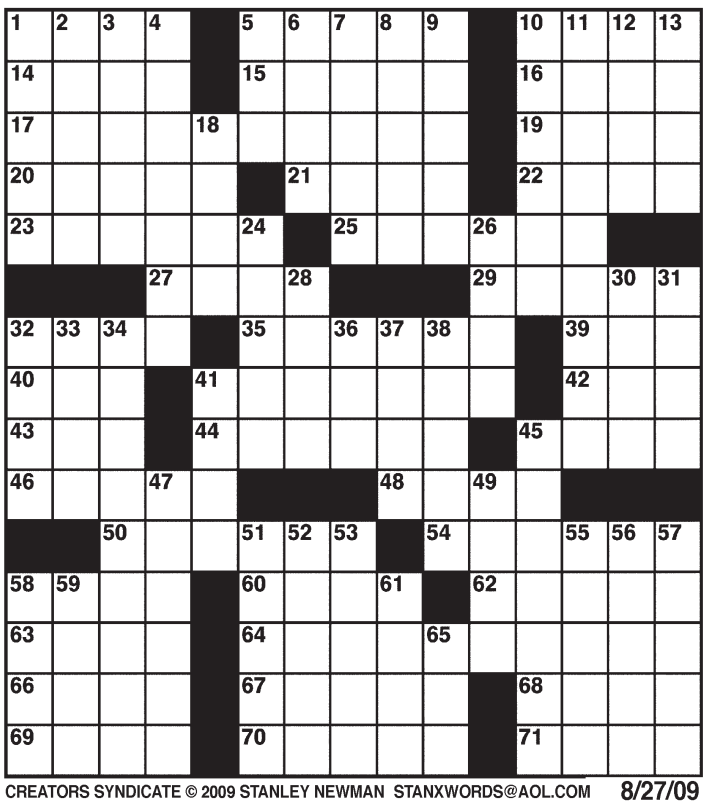
R	E	S	T	E	D			G	E	E		S	A	M
		W	I	N	D	S	O	R	C	A	S	T	L	E
A	R	I	Z		E	A	S	E		C	L	O	T	S
B	E	N	Z		R	U	L	E		L	A	N	E	S
E	G	G	Y		S	L	O	T		E	M	E	R	Y

Newsday Crossword

STRUNG OUT by Norma Steinberg
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Weightlifter's count
5 Theater section
10 Skyrocket
14 Memo words
15 Image makers
16 Ditty
17 Cereal-box phrase
19 Sicilian spewer
20 School near the Seine
21 Philippine money
22 Crowd sound
23 After-dinner ritual
25 Solace
27 National symbol
29 Unbroken
32 Remove, as one's lid
35 Labour leader Brown
39 "__ had it!"
40 Pi follower
41 Far from strict
42 One of the Bobbsey Twins
43 Numero __
44 Stadia
45 Euro fraction
46 Computer device
48 Furnish again
50 Scrubs
54 Prince and princess
58 Repeat verbatim
60 Tangible
62 Steps over a fence
63 *All My Children*, for one
64 No-frills TV choice
66 Ballet bend
67 Questionnaire choice
68 Crosshatch design
69 Cravings
70 One way to cook
71 "A cinch!"

DOWN
1 Goes on horseback
2 Make into law
3 Former
4 Liquidate
5 Sunscreen-tube letters
6 Stumble
7 Yellow shade
8 Gaggle group
9 Matriculate
10 Word on later LPs
11 Improper
12 Karenin's spouse
13 Back
18 Raise one's voice
24 Bar order
26 Does not exist
28 Out of sight
30 Fearsome czar
31 Slight progress
32 Jazz instrument
33 "Yikes!"
34 Hierarchy, so to speak
36 __ Tin Tin
37 Cherished
38 First stage
41 Glitzy gown material
45 Small home
47 Joins on the sly
49 Data holder
51 Shaded area
52 "Cool!"
53 First Daughter
55 Balance sign
56 Island near Lady Liberty
57 Dilapidated
58 Catch sight of
59 Designer Kenneth
61 Denier's shout
65 TV screen



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READY FOR FOOTBALL SEASON?

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2009 FALL SPORTS GUIDE

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Coahoma
Forsan
Garden City
Grady
Sands
Stanton

Please Crossroads...
Keep me spoiled in 2009

Talk about having high standards.

Crossroads athletics has absolutely spoiled me in the past year. So pardon me if I hope and almost expect this pampering to continue.

In the past year, I have made trips all over this state (from El Paso to Austin to DFW) to follow various teams in their championship conquests. I even went out of state twice to Colorado and Kansas courtesy of Howard College athletics.

Will someone please tell me this lifestyle can continue?

Actually, you don't have to. I've already convinced myself that the 2009-2010 sports season could be just as spectacular.

JONATHAN HULL

As a one-man sports staff for the *Herald*, I essentially put in a 10-month grind of covering football, basketball, softball, rodeo and everything in between. This past year, due to some scheduling rearrangements caused by the swine flu, it turned into an 11-month grind — from August of last year up until the end of June.

So I practically had the entire month of July off. A time to relax and recoup was definitely needed. However, about midway through July I developed a problem.

I got colossally bored.

While most embrace the summer and don't want it to pass so quickly, the past two months couldn't have gone by more slowly for me.

Like many football fans, the fall is my favorite season.

Therefore, it is with great sigh of relief that I proudly present this special fall sports preview section.

I can only hope my endeavors are rewarded.

I'm asking Big Spring High to please send every team it has — boys and girls — to the postseason for a second straight year.

I'm begging Stanton to make another deep playoff run and take Forsan and Coahoma along for the ride this season.

I'm imploring all three six-man football schools in the Crossroads area — Garden City, Grady and Sands — to post scores generally saved for the hardwood and not the gridiron.

Just do me a favor Crossroads — keep pampering me, please. It's because of you that I possess the best job in town.

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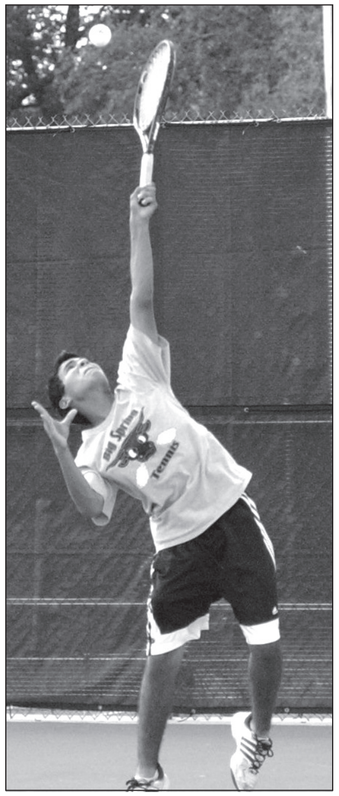

HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Big Spring Steers tennis player Mike Gonzales serves during a match at Figure 7 Tennis Center in Comanche Trail Park Aug. 26, 2008.

TENNIS

Continued from Page 26

"I still haven't set my lineup, yet," he admitted. "I want to try a few different things and see who has more success in certain roles. That's what the first few matches are going to be for. I have a lot of ideas running through my head. I just don't know which one is the right one to use."

The Steers compete in a tough district, especially with longtime Class 5A tennis power Abilene Cooper moving down to 4A last year.

Cooper won the district and Jones says they're the favorites to do so again.

Despite some inexperience on the squad, Jones says his expectations for the team remain just as high as they were last season.

"I don't lower my expectations for our success, although there is definitely a learning curve," he said. "The good thing about this year is I'm getting on the job early. Last year, I was hired late and didn't have much time to get to know the team going into the season. It worked out OK, but this is much more comfortable. We've got the talent to compete. It's just a matter of putting it all together right now."

BRITTON

Continued from Page 27

experience on this year's cross country team. It's like starting over. Randy definitely has the ability to get the most of athletes," said Ritchey. "Eventually, you have to believe he's going to get these young kids up to the standard of the runners who recently graduated."

For now, coaches of other Big Spring athletic programs are picking up some of the slack and lending their time to make sure the cross country team still has guidance.

"We've had several coaches who have stepped up and offered their services," said Ritchey. "Dana Jones, our tennis coach, has offered to help us out. Marcus Morris, the boys basketball coach, has said he's willing to take on the responsibility while Britton is away. Just some real standup guys are stepping up and volunteering to take up the slack."

As for Britton's legacy, it's something the other coaches are quick to use as an example for their respective teams.

"We take a lot of pride in the success Randy has had here. I know I often use the success of the cross country team as an example for our football players," noted Ritchey. "The dedication those runners have had to show in order to achieve what they have is something we need in every sport to succeed. Randy is the one who inspired all of this. He's led a group to the only team state championship in the history of this school. We all take a lot of pride in that fact. We're anxious to have him back at work and hopefully he can bring another state title to Big Spring."

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Big Spring Steers Swimming

Date	Meet	Site
10-1	Abilene/Cooper	Big Spring
10-20	Andrews/Cooper	Big Spring
10-23	Abilene Inv.	Abilene
10-30	Big Spring Inv.*	Here
11-13	Pecos Inv.*	Pecos
11-20	Monahans Inv.*	Monahans
12-11	Seminole Inv.*	Seminole
1-8	Andrews Inv.*	Andrews
1-15	Lubbock Inv.	Lubbock
1-29	District meet	TBA
2-12	Regional meet	Andrews
2-26	State meet	Austin

*-district match

Continued from Page 29

and now Nelson is left with a young, but talented, squad.

"There's a lot of talent on this team, but they're so young. We have to get them to mature quickly," he said. "DeShae and Cameron matured when they were juniors and I'm hoping the juniors this year can do the same thing. If they're able to hit the weights hard enough then they'll have a chance."

Nelson isn't working with complete inexperience, though, despite only have three returning seniors on the team.

The top girls swimmer is Kelly Sage, who was a regional qualifier in 2008 and should be able to at least put up that strong a performance for her senior season as well.

"Kelly is one of our senior leaders as is Jennifer Walker," said Nelson. "Kelly has the ability to make it to state. I just don't know what type of competition she's going to be up against. I haven't seen anybody's swim team in a year. There are some new names and faces to get to know."

Nelson says juniors Drew Breckenridge and Caleb McMahon show loads of potential on the boys side. Both swimmers will swim the 50-meter freestyle, and while elite times that would advance them to state might be a bit unfeasible this year, they have the tools to make progress and be legitimate contenders for the state meet as seniors.

As for the district, anytime a team is pitted against Pecos and Andrews in the pool, it's going to be a competitive field.

"I think we can still be one of the top two or three teams in the district for both boys and girls," said Nelson. "Pecos is always good. Andrews is always good. Abilene Wylie always has some strong swimmers. We've got some good ones, too. We've got some time to get ready before the season starts."

LADY STEERS

Continued from Page 28

Davis. I could go on all day. Taylor Seaton has made a lot of progress. She's starting to be a major kill producer for us. Valerie Ross is a girl that just makes things happen. There are definitely more."

The Lady Steers still have another month to prepare for District 4-4A play.

They open with Frenship, which has one the 4-4A title the past three years.

The Lady Tigers haven't lost a district match during their three-year reign.

Osbourne feels that the gap between Frenship and the rest of the district is beginning to close, but also believes another squad in the league might be the one to watch out for.

"I think it's going to be a really good district race. We could all pretty even if we peak the way I expect us," said Osbourne. "Frenship is a great team and are technically sound. They're definitely beatable, too. The team with the most powerful hitting in this district is Cooper. I think they're going to be a team to be reckoned with. I believe we're going to be ready to compete, though. It's just a matter of us continuing to make progress as we approach district."

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Big Spring Steers Football Schedules

Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-28	Snyder	Home	7:30
9-4	Denison	Home	7:30
9-11	Pampa	Away	7:30
9-18	Andrews-h	Home	7:30
9-27	Sweetwater	Home	7:30
10-2	Open		
10-9	Frenship*	Away	7:30
10-16	Plainview*	Home	7:30
10-23	Cooper*	Away	7:30
10-30	Lake View*	Home	7:30
11-6	Hereford*	Away	7:30

h-homecoming
*-district game

Junior Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-28	Snyder	Home	7:00
9-4	Open		
9-11	Pampa	Lubbock	7:30
9-18	Andrews	Home	7:00
9-25	Sweetwater	Home	7:00
10-2	Andrews	Away	7:00
10-9	Frenship	Away	5:00
10-16	Plainview	Home	5:00
10-23	Cooper	Away	TBA
10-30	Lake View	Home	5:00
11-6	Hereford	Lubbock	TBA

Similar challenges

Steers face same tough schedule that led to success a year ago

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

The names have stayed the same. It's only the locations that have changed.

The Big Spring Steers football team is entering its second year under the tutelage of Head Coach Phillip Ritchey with the same 10 opponents from 2008 lining up across from them in the 2009 season.

Big Spring plays five non-district games against Snyder, Denison, Pampa, Andrews and Sweetwater, followed by five District 4-4A games with Frenship, Plainview, Abilene Cooper, San Angelo Lake View and Hereford. Last season, the Steers went 6-4 against those teams before winning two postseason games and advancing to the regional quarterfinals of the Class 4A playoffs.

"This is a challenging schedule. There's not a game on it that I look at and think 'That's an easy win,' said Ritchey. "Hopefully, we can win them all. Right now, we're focused on that first one."

The Steers have six home games in 2009 with four of their first five games taking place at Memorial Stadium.

Snyder at Big Spring

After two successful scrimmages with Monahans (Aug. 15) in Big Spring and then in Lubbock against Lubbock High (Aug. 21), the Steers open the season at home against longtime rival Snyder Friday.

Last year, the Steers went on the road to open the season with a 20-14 victory over the Tigers. It was the first time the two schools had met on the gridiron since 2001.

"Snyder likes to play physical, smashmouth football," noted Ritchey. "This team will be one of the most disciplined ones we'll face all year. They bring it from start to finish. It's a good team to open up with."

The Tigers and Steers first played each other in 1928 with Snyder winning, 6-0. From 1952 to 2001, the Steers played Snyder in every season except for two.

Continued on Page 4

Big Spring football all-time win/loss against 2009 opponents

(Through 2008)
Andrews.....16-15-2
Frenship.....1-10
Hereford.....6-8
Lake View.....16-7
Plainview.....15-11
Snyder.....28-22-1
Sweetwater.....26-45
Abilene Cooper.....7-19
Denison.....0-2
Pampa.....3-2

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Continued from Page 3

All time, Big Spring holds a 28-22-1 edge over the Tigers.

Snyder ended up 8-4 in 2008, going two rounds deep in the postseason before falling to Monahans, 28-26.

Denison at Big Spring

Big Spring will be tested early as the Denison Yellow Jackets visit Memorial Stadium Sept. 4. Denison is widely considered one of the state's Top 5 teams entering the 2009 season, starting the year ranked fourth in the AP Class 4A poll.

Last year, the Steers made the more than 300-mile trip to Denison only to lose a heartbreaker to the Yellow Jackets, 44-37.

The Steers led by 16 after the first quarter, but fell behind 37-31 late in the game, but tied it up with a minute to play. However, the Yellow Jackets got a 56-yard touchdown run from tailback D.J. Jones, who played only half the game, but managed 195 yards on the ground, with 19 seconds left to claim the victory.

Jones, now a highly recruited senior, is back alongside quarterback Jordan Taylor, who torched the Steers for 181 yards rushing.

All of this leads Ritchey to believe the Yellow Jackets are the best team the Steers will see in the regular season.

"Not to take anything away from Frenship or Cooper, but looking at what Denison had last year and what they return, they're going to be our biggest challenge," said Ritchey. "A lot of people are picking them to win the Division II state championship this year. I'm glad they're the ones having to make the long drive this year. It's going to be a big game no matter what happens in the first week. We should have the stage set for a game against a team people around here don't see very often."

Denison finished the regular season undefeated, but was ousted in the same round of the playoffs as Big Spring by eventual state champion Sulphur Springs, 42-21.

Continued on Page 5

HERALD file photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring Steers wide receiver Thaddeus Straughter fights his way in the end zone in football action against Pampa Sept. 12, 2008 at Memorial Stadium. The Steers defeated Pampa, 43-21.

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BSHS swimmers talented, but young

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

Few coaches in any sport inherit a team with as much talent as the 2008 version of the Big Spring swim team had.

Kenneth Nelson now realizes that fact.

"I walked into a gold mine last year. This year is going to feel more like rebuilding," said Nelson. "I'm almost starting from scratch. There are kids who came out this year that want to swim, but don't know how to really swim. It's going to take some time."

Nelson

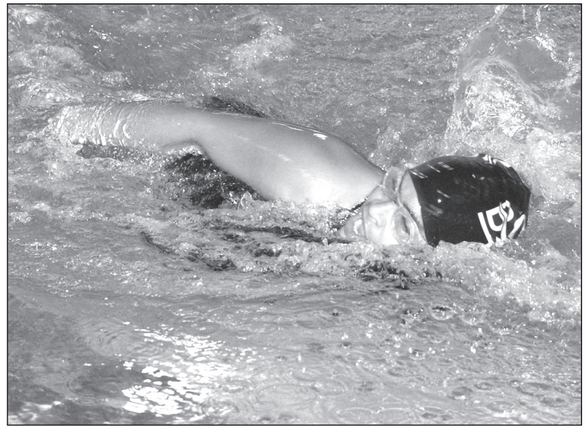
If Nelson had a gold mine last year, then Cameron Hughey and De-Shae Green were his biggest nuggets. Hughey and Green advanced to the state swim meet in Austin, giving Nelson plenty to be excited about all year long.

However, both swimmers graduated last year

Continued on Page 30

HERALD photos/Jonathan Hull

Above, the 2009 Big Spring High School swim team poses together. At left, Mari Carrillo swims a leg of a relay at the 2008 Big Spring Invitational at the YMCA swimming pool.



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Lady Steers improving on v-ball court

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

Progress has been made.

And that was the goal for the Big Spring Lady Steers volleyball team in the first month of the season.

While most sports are just getting started, the Lady Steers (4-10) have been on the court since Aug. 11 and have played 14 games since then. The season started with a straight sets loss to Sweetwater, during which the Lady Steers looked completely overmatched and confused at times.

Since then, Big Spring has taken several steps forward and first-year Head Coach Lynn Osbourne is excited about the possibilities as the team creeps toward the District 4-4A season.

"I've think we've made an enormous amount of progress. I've seen a huge improvement in our passing and defense," Osbourne said. "The aggressiveness is much better as well."

"I feel like we're on track. I don't like to peak early. I'm anticipating us peaking at just the right time," she added. "A lot of times, teams come in excited for the season and they peak a little early. Then, you'll see a lull in play at the wrong time."

Several players have stuck out at different times for Osbourne in the first month of the season. So much so that she struggled to name a few who have performed above the rest.

"It's hard to isolate just a few players. Just about every girl on the varsity roster now has played extremely well. It seems we have a different player stepping up every game," said Osbourne. "I've been really impressed with Selena Gonzales. She has really come on in the last week or so. I've seen a big improvement in our libero Sloan

See LADY STEERS, Page 30

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

The Big Spring Lady Steers volleyball team huddles before the start of a match in San Angelo Saturday.

Lady Steers Volleyball Schedules

Date	Opponent	Site	Teams	Time
8-29	Seminole Tournament	Away	Varsity	TBA
8-29	Midland Tournament	Away	9-JV	TBA
9-1	Grape Creek	Away	9-JV-V	4:30/5:30/6:30
9-4/5	Lamesa Tournament	Away	JV	TBA
9-5	Andrews	Away	9-V	10:00
9-8	Sterling City/MCHS	Home	9-JV-V	4:30/5:30/6:30
9-11/12	Denver City Tourney	Away	9	TBA
9-12	Greenwood	Away	9-JV-V	11:00
9-15	Miles	Away	JV-V	5:30/6:30
9-15	Snyder	Away	9	5:00
9-19	Snyder/Bangs	Away	9-JV-V	10:00
9-22	Denver City	Home	9-JV-V	5:30/5:30/6:30
9-26	Frenship*	Away	9-JV-V	12/12/1:00
9-29	Plainview*	Home	9-JV-V	5:30/5:30/6:30
10-3	Lake View*	Home	9-JV-V	12/12/1:00
10-6	Abilene Cooper*	Away	9-JV-V	4:30/5:30/6:30
10-10	Open			
10-13	Plainview*	Away	9-JV-V	5:30/5:30/6:30
10-17	Frenship*	Home	9-JV-V	12/12/1:00
10-20	Abilene Cooper*	Home	9-JV-V	4:30/5:30/6:30
10-24	Open			
10-27	Lake View*	Away	9-JV-V	5:30/5:30/6:30

*-district game

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Continued from Page 4

Big Spring at Pampa

Speaking of long road trips.

The Steers don't get on the road many times this season, but when they do, a long stretch of highway lies between them and their destination.

On Sept. 11, Big Spring makes its first road trip, traveling 285 miles north to Pampa. Many of the Steers from this year's squad was on the 2008 team, which made more than 300 mile treks to Denison and El Paso. Ritchey thinks those long trips could pay dividends against Pampa.

"Those trips to El Paso and Denison last year are invaluable," said Ritchey. "This team might never make a trip as long as the one to Denison or El Paso. We have to have some fun on those trips. We try to relax. Pampa will be a good trip to get us ready for another long drive to Hereford at the end of the year."

Last year, the Steers crushed the Harvesters in the 2008 homecoming game, 43-21. Pampa is one of two teams in Big Spring's non-district schedule that didn't qualify for the postseason in 2008. The Harvesters finished the year, 2-8.

Andrews at Big Spring Homecoming

Big Spring alumni will make their way to Memorial Stadium Sept. 18 to celebrate the 2009 homecoming as the Steers face one of their biggest historical rivals, the Andrews Mustangs.

In 2008, the Steers spoiled Andrews' homecoming with an 18-6 victory and there's little doubt the Mustangs would like to return the favor.

"Andrews is a big game for us. Last year, we were a little disappointed in the way we played against them," admitted Ritchey. "It's a big rivalry game, plus it's homecoming. There will be lots to play for that week. Just saying Andrews is enough to get this team ready to play."

Andrews had a disappointing season in 2008 under first-year head coach Jeff Cordell, finishing 2-8 and missing the postseason.

Historically, Big Spring and Andrews couldn't play each other much more evenly as the Steers hold a 16-15-2 edge in the rivalry. The Steers have played the Mustangs every season since 1986.

Sweetwater at Big Spring

Another group of Mustangs will visit Big Spring the following week as the Steers meet Sweetwater Sept. 25. In a very physical game, Big Spring was trampled by Sweetwater, 28-7, in 2009.

"Any team we play nicknamed the Mustangs is an easy one to get up for," said Ritchey. "We want to beat Sweetwater as bad as anybody on our schedule. They have had our number the past two years. They've whipped us physically the last two years. We want to step up and beat them this year."

Sweetwater's coach of eight years, Kent Jackson, resigned his post to take over the startup program at Heritage High School in Frisco.

Replacing Jackson is Craig Slaughter, who had previously been at Clyde. Ritchey says he expects to see a new offensive scheme with the change.

"I don't think Sweetwater will be Wishbone-oriented and won't use the option as much," he guessed. "I think they'll still be a power team out of the I-formation."

Sweetwater went 10-3 in its final season under Jackson and was eliminated from the Class 3A playoffs in the third round with a 38-7 loss to Liberty Hill.

Big Spring at Frenship

After a bye week Oct. 2, the Steers open District 4-4A play in Wolfforth, taking on the Frenship Tigers Oct. 9.

Frenship has dominated 4-4A for several years with Big Spring's last win over the Tigers coming in 1999. The Steers have never defeated Frenship in a district game and currently have a nine-game losing streak against the Tigers.

"Frenship sets the standard for what we want Big Spring athletics to be like," said Ritchey. "It doesn't matter the sport, Frenship believes their going to win every game. It's not cockiness as much as it's just confidence. Sometimes that rubs people the wrong way, but I'd like for our athletes to have the same attitude."

The Steers fell to Frenship, 39-21, in 2008, but played without several starters, including all-state running back Monte Anderson, who was among four players involved in an automobile accident the night before.

"We felt like we could beat Frenship last year, but we had that unfortunate accident and it took a lot out of us," said Ritchey. "Minus a couple of mistakes in special

Continued on Page 6

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HERALD file photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring Steers quarterback Matt Ritchey beats two Frenship defenders to the pylon for a touchdown in District 4-4A football action from Oct. 10, 2008, at Memorial Stadium. The Steers have lost 10 straight to Frenship and hope to end that trend in 2009.

Continued from Page 5

teams, we played right there with them. I believe we've got the talent to go to their place and win this game.

"We can't be intimidated by them," he added. "We have to overcome their dominance of us. There's only one way to do it and that's by beating them. It boils down to tradition. Frenship makes plays when they need them. They're so fundamentally sound in every aspect and that comes from a continuity of a program. There's nothing magical about them, though. We've just got to believe we can beat them."

Frenship won the District 4-4A title in 2008, finishing the regular season undefeated. The Tigers were the final team from the district eliminated from the postseason in the regional finals by Denton Guyer, 37-35.

Frenship enters the 2009 season unranked in the AP Top 10 poll, but received 23 votes — the most for a team not ranked.

Plainview at Big Spring

Big Spring's second league game takes place at Memorial Stadium Oct. 16 with Plainview paying a visit. It took late-game heroics for Big Spring to win last year's matchup with the Bulldogs.

Rance Terry, who graduated in May, had a loose ball fall into his arms and he sprinted 69 yards to paydirt with 5:13 to play. Big Spring won 25-21.

"We stole one from Plainview last year. We had nine players injured and on the sidelines in that game and Plainview got up on us," said Ritchey. "We were fortunate last year. There's no doubt about it. We hung on and did what good teams do — win a game it probably shouldn't have won. Thanks to Rance and the miracle in Plainview last year."

Plainview is tradition-rich, but has been down for the past

Continued on Page 8

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BSHS x-country starting season without coach

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

There's only been one team to ever claim a state title for Big Spring High School and it's in a sport most overlook.

In 2006, the Steers cross country team went to Round Rock and claimed a state championship, forever engraving themselves as one of the greatest teams in Big Spring High School history.

Since then, the cross country team has also produced an individual state champion. Jordan Valle claimed the Class 4A title in 2008, adding to the legacy of the program.

The man pulling all the strings to the program's success was Head Coach Randy Britton. When asked, no one can exactly say for sure how many years Britton as been at Big Spring. In fact, he's not entirely sure and any number he gives always seems like a guess.

However, it's hard for anyone to recall a year that Britton wasn't at Big Spring and there's no doubt he's had a longer tenure than any of the current coaches on the staff. In fact, some of the coaches and teachers currently on staff at Big Spring can recall Britton teaching health and coaching cross country when they were students.

Unfortunately, this cross country season is going to at least start without Britton at the helm of the program. Recently, the longtime coach underwent major surgery and is currently in recovery. There isn't a definite date set for his return, but there is little doubt his presence is missed.

"You don't find many coaches anywhere like Randy Britton," said Big Spring Athletic Director Phillip Ritchey. "He's had tremendous success and that's attributed to his work ethic, professionalism and the drive he has to succeed. He has qualities that all coaches strive to obtain.

"There's not a time frame for Randy to return. We're hoping it will be somewhere in the area of four weeks. It could be longer. We're definitely missing Randy. You take for granted the type of quality coach we had in position to lead the cross country team. We didn't truly appreciate what he meant to the program until we had to figure out a way to pick up the slack."

This season could be viewed as a pivotal one of the cross country program. Not a single member of last year's team returns in 2009, leaving Big Spring with a squad that is essentially starting from scratch.

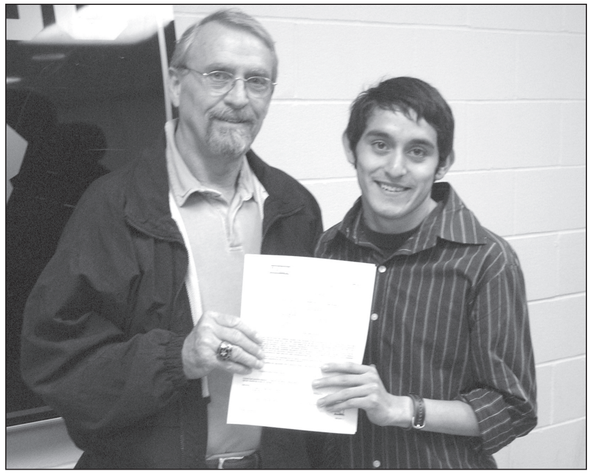
However, Ritchey has full confidence Britton can turn out a winner with the athletes he has available based on his past successes.

"He has turned out a great program. I know we're kind of in a rebuilding year. There isn't any

See **BRITTON**, Page 31

Big Spring Steers Cross Country

Date	Meet	Site
9-5	ACU Classic	Abilene
9-12	WT Micro-Gra.	Lubbock
9-26	Lubbock Inv.	Lubbock
10-3	ACU Inv.	Abilene
10-8	Odessa Inv.	Odessa
10-29	District 4-4A	Lubbock
11-7	Regional meet	Lubbock
11-14	State meet	Round Rock



HERALD photo/Jonathan Hull

Big Spring cross country coach Randy Britton (left) poses with 2008 Class 4A cross country state champion Jordan Valle after Valle had signed a letter of intent to run for Texas A&M, Corpus Christi Feb. 5. Unfortunately, the cross country team will start the 2009 season without Britton at the helm as he recovers from major surgery.

Mix of youth, experience for BSHS tennis

Big Spring Steers Team Tennis

Date	Opp.	Site	Time
9-9	Snyder	Home	4 p.m.
9-12	Frenship Quad	Away	TBA
9-15	Snyder Dual	Away	TBA
9-26	Abi. Cooper*	Away	TBA
10-3	Lake View*	Home	TBA
10-10	Frenship*	Away	TBA
10-15	Sweetwater	Away	TBA
10-17	Plainview*	Home	TBA
10-27	Snyder	Home	TBA

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

For the first time in four seasons, the Big Spring High School tennis team will have the same coach as it did the year before.

Dana Jones has already started his second season with the team and he says the squad is responding well to the consistency in leadership.

"I think they love the continuity. I think it's a huge advantage for me and for them," said Jones. "I learned a lot about what works and doesn't and they learned a lot about me as well. It's more relaxed this year, but I am expecting more from them this season as well. It's nice to have more familiarity with how they play, too. The only surprises will be the freshmen and they're not that much of a surprise because I was involved a lot with the junior high program."

Every match the tennis team plays in the fall is won or lost conjointly as a squad. Individual acclaim is saved for the spring season.

Six boys and six girls will represent Big Spring at each match in singles play with a few more individuals added for doubles games, although some singles players will also compete in doubles matches.

Big Spring returns a lot of experience on the boys side with the top six players from 2008 filling out the lineup. There's not nearly as much experience on the girls side.

"We're going to have a veteran group of players among the boys. At the same time, we only return two of the top six girls from last year," noted Jones. "We have plenty of talent on the girls side, but it's a matter of getting them some experience on the varsity level."

Mike Gonzales, Jeremy Langford, Jonathan Womack and Jonathan Ray are among the top boys returning from last year's squad. For the girls, Big Spring will rely on the experience of Kristina Chang and Alyssa Byrd. Jones is also counting on the play of Jessica Womack, who has plenty of experience on the court, but didn't compete with the team last season.

As for who will compete where, Jones is still greatly undecided and is using the first few matches of the season as a test.

See **TENNIS**, Page 31

To subscribe, call 263-7331

GRADY

Continued from Page 25

Providing Grady's biggest competition could be perennial rival and last year's district champion Ira. The Bulldogs lost a majority of their top players, including standout running back Andy Rivera, who rushed for more than 2,000 yards the last two seasons.

"I don't know that I worry about Ira more than anyone else, but you always have to respect those guys. They're a bit of a rival and have a strong program history," said Helms. "We've got to worry about what we're doing right now. We have to look at this on a game-by-game basis. I've found with high school kids it's much easier to focus on short-term goals than long-term ones. Ideally, I'd like to go 15-0, but that's a long-term goal too hard for a kid to see sometimes. The immediate is much more recognizable."

Still, Helms feels this team could be playing as long or longer than the 2007 version of the Wildcats, which advanced to the regional quarterfinals.

"In a lot of ways, I think we're just as talented as we were in 2007," said Helms. "It's like comparing apples and oranges, though. I don't want to compare them too much to that squad because I feel kids get resentful when you keep bringing up past teams. We've got to establish our own identity. I don't want 2007 to be our rallying call.

"This team could honestly go further into the playoffs than that one, though," said Helms. "The sky is the limit for this group of kids. There's no reason to think we can't advance as far or further this season."

BEARKATS

Continued from Page 24

district again as it returns 22 letter men from last year's state semifinalist squad. The Indians are projected to win despite losing 2008 All-State Offensive Most Valuable Player Adrian Hernandez.

Instead, should Garden City have to get through Fort Davis for a district title in 2009 as expected, it will have to concentrate on stopping running back Marcus Hartnett who recorded almost 2,000 yards in 2008.

Continued from Page 6

two seasons. That's a trend Ritchey expects to change soon.

"I think they'll be better this year. They've got a new coach in (Marcos) Hinojos," he said. "I think he'll do a good job and have those guys ready. He's been their defensive coordinator (since 2001) and he knows the team well."

All time, the Steers hold a 15-11 edge over Plainview and have won the last two matchups.

Big Spring at Abilene Cooper

Big Spring renews its rivalry with one of its newest district opponents, but also one of its oldest foes, Oct. 23 with a visit to Abilene Cooper. Cooper — one of the state's more storied programs — is playing just its second year as a 4A school after dropping from 5A in the latest realignment.

On a side note, the Steers return to Shotwell Stadium where they lost their regional quarterfinal playoff game to Everman in 2008.

"I don't know that these guys understand the tradition at Shotwell Stadium and the many great games it has hosted over the years. Some of them might not even know where the stadium is," said Ritchey. "A lot of the guys remember the stadium from last year, though. I've been involved in a lot of games at Shotwell. It's a very unique place to play. These guys remember losing to Everman there and they'd like to have a better memory of Shotwell than that, I'm sure."

Cooper edged Big Spring last season, 21-17. On a fourth and long deep inside Cooper territory with less than four minutes to play, Matt Ritchey hit Thaddeus Straughter on a short hitch and Straughter pitched the ball to a streaking Zamir Linton on the left sideline.

Unfortunately, Linton didn't have enough room to work as a Cooper defender got just enough of him to force him out of bounds, forcing the Steers to give the Cougars the ball back on downs. One Cooper first down later, the game was over.

"That was a frustrating loss. We played really well that game," said Ritchey. "We had this game in our grasps. We just didn't get it done. The way we played last year will be big for this year. We're going to hear a lot of hype going to Cooper. This team knows they can play with Cooper and this could be a battle that goes a long way to decide a district championship."

Cooper finished its first season in Class 4A with an 8-5 record, advancing to the regional quarterfinals where they fell to Aledo, 28-7.

Cooper has dominated the all-time series with Big Spring, holding a 19-7 edge over the Steers. Big Spring's last win over Cooper came in 1983, although the two teams met for the first time since 1985 last season.

Lake View at Big Spring

Big Spring's final home game is against San Angelo Lake View Oct. 30. In 2008, Big Spring's 42-32 victory over Lake View gave the Steers much-needed momentum heading into the final game of the year and the postseason.

Lake View graduated 32 seniors and return just 15 lettermen to this year's team.

"Anytime you lose that many seniors, with a large number of them being starters as well, then you look at the coming season as a rebuilding year. They lost the heart and soul of their team with those seniors," said Ritchey. "We play them Week 9, though. By then, they might be rebuilt. Coach (Sterlin) Gilbert is a good coach. He'll have them playing competitively."

The athletic programs at Big Spring and Lake View have been intertwined for the past two seasons as both schools have been involved in very meaningful games in just about every sport.

"This is a big rivalry. Usually the game between Lake View and Big Spring are for a playoff spot," noted Ritchey. "I thought last year's football game was vital for us. They'll be a formidable challenge for us."

Lake View made the postseason for the first time in four seasons last year, advancing to the area round where it lost to El Paso Montwood, 47-41. The Chiefs finished the year 6-6.

The Steers have dominated Lake View more than any other team they hold a long-standing rivalry with. Big Spring is 16-7 all-time against Lake View and have outscored the Chiefs by an average of 33-19.

Big Spring at Hereford

The Steers wrap up the 2009 regular season with another trip deep into the panhandle as they visit Hereford Nov. 6.

Big Spring dominated The Herd a year ago, picking off highly touted Hereford quarterback Parker Bridwell, who has committed to play baseball at Texas Tech, five times en route to a 31-0 victory. The win ended a five-game Hereford win streak in the series.

"That win was huge. Not only did it end their win streak over us, but we built some great momentum heading into the playoffs," said Ritchey. "We're hopeful to be in a similar situation against this season. It is a long road trip to end the year and Bridwell is as talented as they come at quarterback. They'll be the ones looking for revenge this year."

Hereford missed the postseason for the first time in three years in 2008, finishing with a 3-7 mark. Big Spring has faced the Herd in every season since 2000 and lost to them twice in the 2006 and 2007 seasons as Hereford claimed bi-district playoff victories over the Steers.

Big Spring is 6-8 all-time against Hereford.

Expectations are high

Last year's 8-5 mark, after defeating Canyon and El Paso Riverside in the postseason before losing to Everman, was Big Spring's first winning record since the 2002 season.

It's a mark the Steers will be looking to improve upon in 2009.

"I think potentially we could be 10-0. We have to stay healthy for it to happen. That was a problem for us last year," said Ritchey. "There are too many good teams on this schedule for us to think we can cruise to an undefeated record. We're going to have a heck of a football team. I like having our expectations high. I don't know how many games we're going to win or lose, but we're going to have a good football team. For someone to beat us, they're going to have to be a pretty good team as well."

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GRADY

Continued from Page 23

"Honestly, when you've got this many starters back, there's a big danger of taking teams lightly," he added. "We beat them last year and we were all younger can be the mindset. We want to go into every game with an air of confidence, but not overly confident. Our goal is to try to get adjustments to where we're making them regardless of who our opponent is."

There isn't a starter on the Grady squad who will receive more attention from opposing teams and the local media alike than quarterback Dylan Cox. Cox, a senior, will be starting for Grady for a third consecutive season. The system he'll be running is the only one he's ever known and played in during his football career at Grady.

"I believe I'm the only football coach Dylan has ever had," said Helms. "He's got three years of varsity experience with the system and everything we did at the levels before that were just stepping stones to get to this point. With Dylan at the helm, I'd say we're already in Week 3 or 4 form at this point."

Cox passed for more than 1,900 yards in 2008, but Helms said he wouldn't be surprised for Cox to post smaller numbers this season.

"I don't think Dylan's numbers will considerably drop, but I don't expect him to have that many yards again because I think we'll be a more balanced team," said Helms. "We had to throw a lot last season because we didn't have a lot of experience at running back. That's going to be different this year. We're going to put more focus on the run game. My ideal season is for us to have 1,800 yards rushing and 1,800 yards passing."

Helms has four juniors — Joe Cook, John Ramirez, Bryley Pinkerton and Anibal Medina — at his disposal he's comfortable with giving the ball to.

See **GRADY**, Page 26

SANDS

Continued from Page 22

1,329 as a junior.

Sands Head Coach Wayne Henderson believes his star player could be even better as a senior, but might also see a decline in some stats due to the emergence of another impact athlete.

"I think Johnny can be a little better than he was last year," said Henderson. "He's got another year of experience and that always makes a difference. I think Johnny's rushing yards may come down because of this (Daniel) Armendariz kid, though."

Armendariz is entering his third season at the varsity level for Sands and has made more of an impact each year. He's been the team's leader in tackles as a sophomore and junior. Last year, he posted more than 180 tackles for the season.

"Daniel is just a good athlete. When he came to us, he had been 11-man football, so it took him some time to adjust to the six-man game," noted Henderson. "He understands it much better now and should be ready to make a big impact. I think he and Johnny will both rush for more than 1,000 yards this season."

Depth is a concern for Henderson, though.

"We've got some other good kids here, but without Johnny and Daniel, we're not going anywhere," he admitted. "We're going to be real young. We have a lot of talented sophomores, but they're inexperienced."

The Mustangs finished second in six-man Division II, District 6 last season behind eventual state champion Borden County. Passing the Coyotes for that No. 1 spot in the league won't be easy, either, as they return five starters on each side of the ball, including the state's most valuable player, running back Michael Cooley.

Henderson believes Sands can play with the Coyotes, though.

"Last year when we played them, it was 16-14 at the end of the first quarter. We let them get a cheap touchdown at the end of the first half and fell behind by 20," said Henderson. "But for a quarter and a half, we were right with them. They're definitely one of the top-notch programs in the state, but our kids believe they can play with them."

As for a second consecutive trip to the postseason, the standard has been placed a little higher.

"Our goal is to make it one step further than we did last year," said Henderson. "We've got to stay healthy. If we can't, we're not deep enough to make up for any personnel losses. But if we can, we can improve and build on what we did last year."

STANTON

Continued from Page 21

"We're in the process of trying to find the player to replace Robbie," said Peterson. "We're liking what we're seeing from Nathan Nix and Taylor Spinks. We're confident we can fill that hole."

Regardless of who gets most of the carries, the Buffs might not put up the same amount of rushing yards in 2009 simply because of a philosophy change.

Under McCown, the Buffs had become a run heavy team, utilizing the I-formation and even Wishbone and Flexbone looks at times. Peterson is dedicated to having a more balanced attack, putting athletic junior quarterback Tyler Fulton on display.

"We're going to be a more balanced team this season. We'll try to split the play calling 50-50 between runs and passes," said Peterson. "Tyler had a great performance in 7-on-7 this summer. He's improving as a passer and is going to be a big part of what we're doing offensively."

Fulton — a first-team all-district safety in 2008 — is also a key cog in Stanton's defense. The most notable hole for the Buffs to fill on defense is the one left by linebacker Mark Garcia.

Garcia was one of Stanton's biggest playmakers on the defensive side of the ball, but also proved to be an emotional leader.

"Grayson Gray has stepped into that middle linebacker role and has also taken on responsibilities of being a leader on the field," said Peterson. "We're also looking for Miguel Juarez and Brandon Almanza to play significant roles on defense."

The Buffs went 5-5 in the regular season in 2008, but posted a 4-1 record in District 7-A. Stanton had its doubters entering the postseason as the league's No. 2 team, but proved it belonged by winning its first two games over Morton and Van Horn, impressively.

Peterson says Stanton fans should be ready for a return trip to the playoffs.

"That's an expectation we have," he said. "Our main goal is to make the playoffs, then we'll take one game at a time from there and see how far we can make a run."

As for how the Buffs matchup in the district, Peterson admits Sundown is the class of the league, but believes Stanton can be right in the mix as well.

"Sundown has the numbers on a lot of peoiple. We'll all have to go through Sundown for the district title," he said. "After that, I feel like the other teams in the conference are pretty equal. It's going to be a dogfight between the rest of us."

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Experienced 'Kats searching for playmaker

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

GARDEN CITY — Garden City's Bearkats are searching for game breakers.

While the Bearkats are looking for a player that can change the game on one play, they return most of last season's lettermen and need to simply fill some key holes entering the 2009 season.

Last year, the 'Kats were able to rely upon All-State utility back Jake Schwartz to give them big plays in all three phases of the game — offense, defense and special teams.

To compliment Schwartz, the Bearkats also had a viable passing threat with Levi Schaefer at quarterback. Both players, along with two other seniors, are now gone.

However, the 'Kats do return 15 lettermen from last season's 10-3 squad that advanced to the state quarterfinals.

Among the returning lettermen is running back Josh Colunga, who the Bearkats will rely upon heavily as their best scoring threat this season.

Defensively, they return linebackers Brett Chudej and Marcus Cook. Some local pundits consider Chudej the top defender in Division I, District 8.

The 'Kats came up short of a district title in 2008, despite losing just one district game to Fort Davis. The Indians defeated Garden City 54-33 in the regular season to claim a district title and later eliminated the 'Kats from the postseason with a narrow 63-56 victory.

Fort Davis is going to be the favorite to win the

See BEARKATS, Page 24

Garden City Bearkat Football

Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-29	Throckmorton	Hico	10a
9-4	Jesus Chapel	Home	7:30
9-11	Robert Lee	Away	7:30
9-18	Abi. Christrian-h	Home	7:30
9-26	Com. Paradigm Trent		5:00
10-2	Open		
10-9	Sterling City*	Home	7:30
10-16	Lubbock CTK	Home	7:30
10-23	Fort Davis*	Away	7:30
10-30	Water Valley*	Home	7:30
11-6	Rankin*	Away	7:30

h-homecoming
*-district game

Courtesy photo/James Schwartz

Garden City Bearkats running back Josh Colunga sprints to the end zone in football action from a six-man playoff game against Throckmorton in Trent.

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Coach: Vance Jones,
Returning starters O/D: 4/4.
2008 Record: 10-3 (3-1).
Players to watch: LB Brett Chudej, LB Marcus Cook, RB Josh Colunga.

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On your mark...

Steers offense could be unstoppable

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

In 2008, there wasn't a better run game in District 4-4A than the one utilized by the Big Spring Steers.

While 1,000 yard rushers Matt Ritchey and Monte Anderson return for their senior season, the Steers offense is ready to evolve into a force that could cause nightmares for opposing defenses.

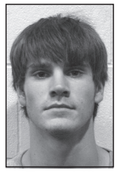
This next step for the Steers' offense is basically centered around the health of one player — quarterback Tyler Tannehill.

Quarterbacks

It doesn't matter what level of football it is, the quarterback will always draw the most admiration, or malice, from the fans in the stands.

Last season, the Steers had planned for Tannehill to step into the natural limelight garnered by the position, but a knee injury suffered in Big Spring's second scrimmage against Lubbock High prevented that from happening.

Instead, Ritchey stepped in, topping 1,000 yards passing and rushing in the process. However, teams could key on the run game based around Ritchey and running back Monte Anderson as Tannehill never returned to the form he showed late during his sophomore season.



Tannehill

Now, as a senior, Tannehill, whose older brother Ryan is battling for the rights to be the starting quarterback at Texas A&M, has his opportunity to shine and take the Steers offense to another level.

"Having Tyler back is huge. Not taking anything away from Matt last year, who threw for 1,000 yards and ran for 1,000 yards, but we're going to be a different team this season," said Steers Head Coach Phillip Ritchey. "Last year, we always had to set up the pass with the run and it worked. But this year we want to strive to be balanced. We're going to run the ball a lot, but we're also going to throw the ball a lot.

"We've got some weapons on offense and it starts with Tyler. He's healthy. We're working on his lower-body strength so his ligaments will hold up better when he gets hit. He took some hits in the scrimmages and he's dealt with it fine," continued Ritchey. "He can throw it and he's looked good running it. I don't think we know how good we can be offensively. We've seen some things already that we like, but if we stay healthy, we are going to be a tough team to defend."

The incumbent Matt Ritchey will still take snaps as well, though. However, he can do so in 2008 knowing that the Steers won't have to rely on him to carry the offense

Continued on Page 10

Steers offensive two-deep roster

QB: Tyler Tannehill
Dennis Merworth
RB: Monte Anderson
Pete Chavarria
WR: Thaddeus Straughter
Devonte Lloyd
WR: Tevian Parnell
Mike Menefield
Slot: Martin Yanez
Xavian Parnell
RT: Jacob Wylie
Anthony Saracho
RG: Jackson Watkins
Tyler Holsenbeck
OC: Julian Ramirez
Pernell Parker
LG: Jonathon Molina
Julio Granillo
LT: Tanner Henry
Kyler McGee
TE: Matt Ritchey
Pavel Plakhotny

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Continued from Page 9

every play.

"Matt will be a big part of the running game. He will also take some snaps with Tyler lined up at wide receiver," said Ritchey. "We want to have the ability to change formation and not personnel. We don't want teams seeing Matt come in and Tyler come out and know that we're probably going to run the football.

"Having Tyler back takes a big load off of Matt," Ritchey explained. "Matt had a lot of pressure and responsibilities on both sides of the ball and we want to relieve him of some of that. We want him fresh late in games and later in the season. We don't want Matt to make a mistake because he's tired."

Based on the publicity Tannehill's older brother Ryan has received at A&M alone, college scouts are frequently asking about Tyler's abilities. A good, healthy season not only means the Steers will be productive on offense, but could also net Tannehill a chance to play at the next level.

"Tyler is throwing the ball very well. He had a good summer. He looked good in 7-on-7 and went to a lot of camps," said Ritchey. "There are a lot of colleges interested in Tyler, but they want to see if he can make it through an entire season healthy.

"A lot of the teams we played last year don't know about Tyler and haven't seen him play. Those teams are going to have to defend the entire field against us this year," he added. "Teams can't be as good against the run if they're worried about the pass. Having Tyler back makes us a complete offensive team."

HERALD file photo

Big Spring Steers running back Monte Anderson cuts inside a block in football action from Aug. 29, 2007 at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa. Anderson has amassed more than 1,000 yards the past two seasons and figures to be a focal point of the Steers offense against in 2009.

Running backs

Speaking of college prospects, there aren't many high school football players in West Texas receiving more attention from major programs than Monte Anderson.

Anderson will be a starter in the Steers backfield for a third consecutive year, but Big Spring coaches hope he will be available for every game during his senior season after missing three due to an injury suffered in an automobile accident in 2008.

Of course, having Tannehill in the backfield with him as a viable passing threat could lead Anderson to a highly-productive season.

"If Monte stays healthy, I think he'll put up at least 1,500 yards," said Ritchey. "Having Tyler back really helps Monte. We're going to face defenses that won't be able to crowd the line of scrimmage like they did last year. They're going to have to fear Tyler throwing it deep. That's only going to help Monte, who looks stronger and quicker than he did last year."

With Anderson out, the Steers lacked a playmaker in the rushing and passing games that wasn't easily replaced. His absence also put more pressure on Matt Ritchey as quarterback.

In 2009, the Steers are hopeful Anderson and Ritchey can complement each other for 10 games. Although, it's not clear how much Ritchey will line up at running back.

"I don't even know how much we'll use Matt as a running back," admitted Phillip Ritchey. "Matt is too good not to get the ball in his hands. You'll see Matt and Monte at RB together sometimes. I don't know how much we'll use Matt there. I've got a lot of things envisioned."

Continued on Page 11

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Grady enters 2009 as district favorite

Grady Wildcats Football Schedule

Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-28	Sanderson	Home	7:30
9-4	Meadow	Away	7:30
9-11	New Home-h	Home	7:30
9-18	Midland Trinity	Away	7:30
9-25	Ropes	Away	7:30
10-2	Open		
10-9	Aspermont*	Home	7:30
10-16	O'donnell*	Home	7:30
10-23	Ira*	Away	7:30
10-30	Loraine*	Home	7:30
11-5	Spur*	Away	6:30

h-homecoming
*-district game

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

LENORAH — When a 7-3 football team that came up just short of qualifying for the postseason returns all but one starter, expectations are going to be high.

Thus is the case with the 2009 version of the Grady Wildcats.

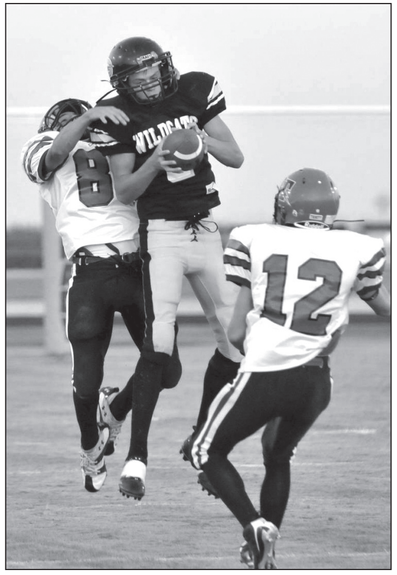
The Wildcats return all six starters on offense and five on defense, making them a heavy favorite in six-man Division I, District 7.

Head Coach Joe Helms is confident about his team's ability heading into the season, but is just as cautious when considering the Wildcats' expected dominance.

"We've gone from losing most of our starters to have most of them back," Helms said. "The kids know what we're trying to do. We're not changing much. We're better prepared.

See **GRADY**, Page 25

Coach: Joe Helms, 7th season
Returning starters O/D: 6/5.
2008 Record: 7-3 (3-2).
Players to watch: QB Dylan Cox, RB Joe Cook, RB John Ramirez, WR Jacob Rodriguez, RB Bryley Pinkerton, RB Anibal Medina.



HERALD photo/Bruce Schooler

At far left, Grady Wildcats running back John Ramirez hurdles a Ropes defender in six-man football action from Sept. 26, 2008 in Lenorah. Ramirez one of a contingent of backs Grady is counting on to take some pressure off of quarterback Dylan Cox. At left, Cox (2) intercepts a pass intended for a Midland Trinity receiver in action from Sept. 19, 2008 in Lenorah.

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Rogers, Armendariz key for Sands

Coach: Wayne Henderson, 7th season
Returning starters O/D: 4/5.
2008 Record: 8-4 (3-1)
Players to watch: SB Johnny Rogers, LB/RB Daniel Armendariz, C Xavier Elizondo, DE Gabe Guillen, NG Michael Gomez.

Sands High School Football

Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-28	Hermleigh-h	Home	7:30
9-4	Wilson	Away	7:30
9-10	Trent	Away	7:30
9-18	Sterling City	Home	7:30
9-25	Spur	Away	7:30
10-2	Dawson	Home	7:30
10-9	Open		
10-16	Westbrook*	Away	7:30
10-23	Borden Co.*	Home	7:30
10-30	Buena Vista*	Away	7:30
11-6	Grandfalls*	Home	7:30

h-homecoming
*-district game

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

ACKERLY — There's only one Crossroads football team ranked in the Top 10 of its respective classification at the start of the season and its doubtful anyone would guess that the Sands Mustangs is the right answer.

The Mustangs enter the 2009 season ranked eighth by www.sixmanfootball.com after finishing 2008 8-4. Sands advanced to the postseason for the first time since 2002 and won their opening round game in the six-man Division II bracket before being ousted by Sierra Blanca, 66-44.

Moving down to the small school division last season benefitted the Mustangs greatly and allowed spread back Johnny Rogers to come into his own. Rogers rushed for another

See **SANDS**, Page 25

HERALD photos/Bruce Schooler

Above, Sands Mustangs running back Daniel Armendariz dives across the goalline in a six-man football game played Sept. 5, 2008, against Wilson in Ackerly. At right, spread back Johnny Rogers fights for yards against Loop, Sept. 21, 2008, in Ackerly.

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Continued from Page 10

Matt and Pavel

It's a position in itself. While the Steers have plenty of weapons, it's hard to imagine any more versatile than seniors Matt Ritchey and Pavel Plakhotny.

However, Ritchey's ability to play multiple positions is made possible by the return, and expected effectiveness, of Tannehill at quarterback.

"A lot of the versatility we have with Matt goes back to Tyler," noted Coach Ritchey. "The possibilites for our offense are almost endless. My biggest fear is we'll either try to do too much and not be very good at any of the things we attempt. Or we miss something and don't explore all the possibilities. We're just hoping to find the right mix and not miss out on other possibilities.

"Matt is going to be heavily involved in our passing game," he added. "He's a great target. He'll line up at tight end, running back, in the slot and quarterback. He's got good hands, good speed and is great running after the catch. We've got to get him off the field some."

Plakhotny

And when Matt needs to come out there will be Plakhotny.

"Matt and Pavel will alternate a lot of series, especially early in the season," admitted Ritchey. "We don't want to wear either one of those guys out so much that they're more injury prone at the end of the game. As the year goes on, we'll use Matt and Pavel on the field together more and more. To start, though, Matt will probably play more defense than he will offense.

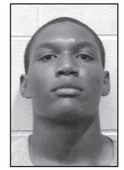
"Pavel is the complete package. He just hasn't had the experience running the ball like Matt has," he added. "Matt has been a receiver or quarterback since junior high. Pavel was a lineman his sophomore season and was used more as a blocking tight end as a junior. We got a taste of what he's capable of in the scrimmage against Monahans. He took a little bubble pass, made a move in the open field and took off for a long touchdown. We're excited about what he can offer this team. He plays harder than anyone we've got. He's relentless."

Wide receivers

For the past three seasons, the Steers have been led in receiving by Sidney Parker. However, Parker is graduated and now playing for West Texas A&M.

The lack of Parker's presence is notable, but not just because of his playmaking abilities.

"It's been quiet around here without Sidney," joked Ritchey. "Sidney has left some very big shoes to fill. We've got a couple guys who are playing well. Tevian Parnell has made some nice plays during practices and scrimmages. Mike Menefield will get some time and he's built similar to Sidney -- tall, lanky, fast and good hands. He reminds me a lot of Sidney except he's much quieter."



T. Parnell

Parnell and Menefield are going to be expected to produce immediately as defenses will often alter their coverages to focus on the top returning receiver Thaddeus Straughter on the other side of the field as well as Plakhotny and Matt Ritchey at tight end.

"That position is going to be the least covered of all of our receivers because of Thaddeus, Matt, Pavel and Monte," said Ritchey. "Those guys understand that we're going to have to throw to them a lot because that's what the defense is going to give to us."

Straughter

Meanwhile, when defenses do look at the receiver on the other side of the field, they'll see a senior who looks like the prototypical wideout.

"Thaddeus has the hands and body of a college receiver," raved Ritchey. "He's got an opportunity to play at another level if he wants to."

One of the Steers' quickest

Continued on Page 13

HERALD file photo/Tony Claxton

Big Spring's Matt Ritchey (9) carries the ball around the end with a Frenship defender in pursuit during District 4-4A football action from Oct. 10, 2008. Ritchey will be used in a variety of ways on offense during the 2009 season.

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STANTON HAS NEW COACH, GREAT EXPECTATIONS

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

STANTON -- For the past six seasons, the Stanton Buffaloes have been under the tutelage of Coach Lee McCown. That changes in 2009.

McCown accepted an assistant coaching position in Monahans, leaving behind a program he led to a 7-6 record and the Class A state quarterfinals a season ago, where the Buffs fell to eventual state champion Canadian.

Taking over for McCown is last year's special teams coordinator, John Peterson. 2008 was Peterson's first season with the Buffs, but he'll be entering his 19th season coaching overall. It is, however, his first head coaching job.

Peterson inherits an experienced Stanton team, returning eight offensive and seven defensive starters. However, there are some big shoes left to fill.

Most notably, the Buffs must find an answer at running back as they said goodbye to Robbie Noland, who totaled more than 1,400 yards rushing a year ago and had led the Buffs in that statistic for the past three seasons.

See **STANTON**, Page 25

Coach: John Peterson, 1st season
Returning starters O/D: 8/7.
2008 Record: 7-6 (4-1).
Players to watch: QB/DB Tyler Fulton, LB/RB Nathan Nix, OL Miguel Juarez, TE/DE Brandon Almanza, LB Grayson Gray, DT Braden Anderson, WR Adam Montez.

HERALD file photo/Bruce Schooler

Stanton Buffaloes quarterback Tyler Fulton fights for more yardage as he's being pursued by Plains Cowboys defenders in District 7-A football action from Oct. 31, 2008. Fulton will be a junior in 2009 and should have the opportunity to pass the ball more under new head coach John Peterson's system.

Stanton High Football Schedule

Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-28	Grape Creek	Home	7:30
9-4	Reagan Co.	Home	7:30
9-11	Colorado City	Away	7:30
9-18	Roby-h	Home	7:30
9-25	Open		
10-2	Iraan	Away	7:30
10-9	Forsan*	Away	7:30
10-16	Seagraves*	Home	7:30
10-23	Tahoka*	Away	7:30
10-30	Plains*	Away	7:30
11-6	Sundown*	Home	7:30

h-homecoming
*-district game

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Continued from Page 19

all-sophomore backfield with Foster Burchett at quarterback, Ty Johnson, a state qualifier in the 100-meter dash as a freshman, at running back and Patrick Robles at fullback.

"We know they're young. We have seven seniors, but just a couple played varsity football last year," noted Phillips. "We're going to make mistakes because we are young, but we want to emphasize learning from those mistakes. Sure, there's going to be problems here and there, but maybe by the time district rolls around we'll have things corrected.

"Ty and Patrick are banged up a little right now, but we expect them to be ready for the first game," he added. "Those two guys give us great speed, power and catching out of the backfield. Our backs are one of the strong points of this team right now."

There will likely be a heightened emphasis on the run game offensively as the Buffs lack experience at wide receiver and quarterback.

"We didn't throw the ball well in our scrimmages, but we expected that. None of our receivers played varsity last year and our quarterback is a sophomore," explained Phillips. "The running game didn't exactly produce big plays, but it was good for four or five yards a carry and you'll take that. We did that without Ty playing as well. I think we'll be able to move the ball enough."

While there's a lack of experience on offense, the Buffs are ready to hang their hat on their abilities on defense.

"We wanted to put an emphasis on putting most of our best athletes on the defensive side of the ball," said Phillips. "We actually have a lot of experience coming back defensively. All 11 guys can fly to the football. It's exactly what we were hoping for."

This is the second season the Buffs will be playing in District 7-A, finishing 2-8 overall with just one win in the district in 2008. However, Phillips believes the Buffs can be in the mix for a playoff spot.

"Sundown and Stanton are going to be tough and are probably the class of the district," said Phillips. "They're both great athletic programs. From top to bottom, I think the district is very competitive. The four other teams (Seagraves, Forsan, Plains, Tahoka), including us, in the league are pretty even. I think we'll be in the mix and have the ability to come out and qualify for the postseason.

"Just our health alone could get us into the postseason," he added. "If we can stay healthy then we're going to have a chance. I've told the players from Day 1, the only thing that will keep us out of the playoffs is ourselves. As long as we're all there and healthy, we can compete with almost anyone."

Courtesy photo/Bob Fishback

Above, Forsan Buffaloes speedster Ty Johnson turns the corner in a District 7-A football game against Sundown Oct. 15, 2008 at Buffalo Stadium in Forsan. Johnson is one of three sophomores, along with quarterback Foster Burchett and fullback Patrick Robles, the Buffs will feature in their backfield in 2009. Below, Forsan's state championship band plays during a game last season.

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Baylor commit headlines BSHS defense

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

One thing remains consistent for the Steers defense from the 2008 football season to this year's version of the unit — it is built around a high-impact and high-profiled player.

In 2008, the Steers were led by All-State middle linebacker Cade Hollandsworth. While the Steers eventually moved Hollandsworth to defensive end, where he again garnered All-State honors, at the start of the season, he was relied upon as the figurehead of the unit.

With Hollandsworth now moved on and attempting to continue his career at West Texas A&M, the defense remains built around the same position. It's only the face and name that has changed.

Linebackers

The plans at the start of the 2008 season were to move Matt Ritchey to middle linebacker and have Hollandsworth start at defensive end.

Ritchey

An injury to quarterback Tyler Tannehill forced Ritchey to focus more on the offensive side of the ball and Hollandsworth was kept in the middle of the defense for the time being.

However, five games into the season, the injury bug that swept over the Steers in 2008 bit their All-State linebacker as well and Hollandsworth ended up sitting out the next few games.

Now needed on defense as much as he was on offense, Ritchey, who had played some at middle and outside linebacker during the first part of the season, will be called upon to fill the void left by Hollandsworth.

He ended up leading the Steers in tackles with 93 and played well enough to start garnering the

Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 11

players will find plenty of opportunities in the slot as senior Martin Yanez gives Big Spring even more big-play ability.

Yanez

"Martin is definitely a slot guy. He's got the heart of a tiger. He's a Wes Welker-type of player," said Ritchey. "He's a competitor. Defenders try to knock him off his routes because he's so small, but they find it's not that easy.

"He's just a great competitor and he surprises players with his blocking ability in the slot," he added. He'll also be our return man. He's a playmaker that we want to get the ball to."

Linemen

The Steers lost some valuable members from its offensive line, including all-district players Jimmy Watson and Zack Saldivar.

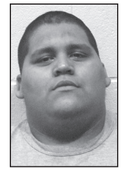
However, the Steers also gained a lot of girth as they feature much more size up front, hopefully creating bigger lanes for Anderson and Ritchey to run through.

"At times in the past, we've been physically outmatched with our lack of size on the offensive line," said Ritchey. "You look up and there's Jimmy Watson at left guard who is probably 180 pounds in his pads on a good day going up against a 250-pound defensive tackle, then you're odds aren't as good. We're going to be able to control the line of scrimmage more. Basic physics tells you that. I just hope these guys can have the heart that Jimmy Watson played with against these bigger guys, then the sky will be the limit."

All five starters on the line will be juniors with right guard Jackson Watkins holding the most varsity experience. Watkins was moved up to the varsity in the middle of last season and immediately stepped into a starting role.

In the regional quarterfinal playoff game with Everman, Watkins struggled against the Bulldogs' talented crop of defensive tackles. Ritchey says that experience has inspired Watkins to improve greatly during the offseason.

Tanner Henry will lineup at left tackle. Ritchey describes him as big, tall and hard working. The Big Spring coaches are hoping to get Henry on a path so he play college ball if he wants.



Molina

Jonathan Molina is making the move from defensive tackle to left guard.

Molina is one of the strongest players on the Steers and it shows when a defensive tackle lines up over him.

At center is Julian Ramirez, who Ritchey claims has the strength to handle nose guards and the mobility to get to the second level and take on linebackers.

Right tackle holds the biggest question for the Steers offensively, but Ritchey is hopeful Jacob Wiley is the answer. Wiley is the least experienced of the Steers linemen, but his coaches are confident he can emerge into a good player.

"We're hoping these guys can dominate the line of scrimmage more than we ever have since I've been here," said Ritchey. "These guys have the ability to open some big lanes for Monte and to keep Tannehill on his feet. We need both things to happen in order to be successful."

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Continued from Page 13

attention of several college scouts, including the ones at Baylor where Ritchey has given a verbal commitment to play beginning next fall.

"All of this defense is built around Matt," said his coach and uncle Phillip Ritchey. "When you play a 4-3 scheme and use a middle linebacker, the talent of that player determines how you play at every other position. It determines what we want our defensive front to do and how we want the secondary to play.

"Matt is a total package in my mind" Ritchey added. "He's strong against the run, whether it's outside or inside. He's going to make tackles on the sideline with his speed. He can drop back into coverage and pick some passes off. Then if he gets his hands on a pass, he's got a chance to take it back for a touchdown. We saw him do that a couple times last season."

While many coaches might be quick to take credit for the publicity and hype a player is receiving, Ritchey isn't as quick to take any praise for the success of his nephew.

"All of Matt's accomplishments are a tribute to his hard work," said Ritchey. "It's nothing that we've done. It all comes from inside him. He's got a great desire to play at the collegiate level. Who knows how far he's going to go. It takes a lot of sacrifice and time to come up here and work and work and work like he does. You'll see him up here a lot of times when he's the only player here in the weight room.

"It's like the Baylor coaches said about him. Matt is a program-type kid," he continued. "He's the guy you put on the front of your athletic program magazines as the face to represent your school because he's the type of person and athlete you want to attract."

X. Parnell

There isn't a lot of varsity experience at the two outside linebacker spots on either side of Matt Ritchey. However, the Steers do feature two good athletes with the ability to help in the passing game when they encounter spread offenses.

"Xavian Parnell is moving to linebacker from the secondary and has done a great job in the scrimmages," said Phillip Ritchey. "Pete Chavarria was a really strong player on our junior varsity last season and he's fought for his spot. It's very important for these guys to be able to keep up with slot receivers against some of the teams we face. Xavian has experience as a cornerback. Pete is a running back on offense and he's very tough.

"The only thing I worry about with these guys is the physicality of the game," he added. "We need them to also be able to come up and make plays on the running backs by getting through blockers. The passing game as far as our linebackers go concerns me the least."

HERALD photo/Tony Claxton

Several Big Spring Steers defenders, including Pavel Plakhotny (2), Matt Ritchey (19) and Pete Chavarria (right) bring down a Lubbock High ball carrier in a football scrimmage at Lowery Field in Lubbock Friday.

Linemen

While the offensive line has gotten significantly bigger, the same can't be said of the Steers defensive line.

"I don't think we're any bigger on the defensive line than we were last year. If anything, we might have sacrificed some size," noted Ritchey. "I do think we're stronger and quicker without that size. We're going to be more tenacious."

McGee

One of the biggest moves made on the line was taking senior Kyler McGee away from the offensive side of the ball and playing him exclusively on defense. McGee replaces Jonathan Molina at defensive tackle with the bigger Molina making the move to the offensive line.

"Swapping Kyler with Mo just gave us more mobility on defense," said Ritchey. "Mo was a wall there when he could get going. He could definitely stop the run, but when it comes to reading defenses and reacting, Kyler was more mobile. Kyler did a good job on offense for us, but I think he can make an even bigger difference on defense. He's got to get the experience. He didn't play there much the past two seasons, but once he has a feel for the position, we're going to have a player with a good combination of size, strength and agility."

McGee is going to have playmakers surrounding him on the line as well and the Steers coaching staff believes the name most often mentioned will be that of Pavel Plakhotny.

Continued on Page 15

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Continued from Page 18

Last season, Josh Paniagua and Pete Acosta each found some playing time at quarterback, along with the now graduated Nathan Doporto. Acosta and Paniagua are in the mix for the starting spot again, along with Lane Douglass, who was a first-team all-district tight end a year ago.

"Right now, that job is up for grabs. Josh has been hurt and hasn't practiced much, so we expect him to fill in at wide receiver for the time being, but we know he can play the position, if needed," said Martin. "Pete and Lane are both listed at No. 1 right now. Both do some things better than the other. They'll probably both take some snaps in the season opener. I don't think we'll have the position set in stone by then."

In fact, with the amount of inexperience this year's version of the Bulldogs has, Martin isn't sure of much as the Bulldogs go into the season opener with Van Horn at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa Saturday.

"We're going to use the non-district schedule to figure out who we want to play where and to get a lot of these young guys some experience," said Martin. "That's going to be important for us this season. We're hoping by district, our inexperience will turn into experience."

Not every position is in question, though. Martin feels the Bulldogs will be strong at receiver and defensive back.

"Most of our experienced players are at receiver and in the secondary," said Martin. We've got four starters back in both areas. We're going to try to get the ball out quickly to our receivers because we don't have a lot of experience on our offensive line. Our secondary is going to have some pressure put on it because we don't have a lot of experience in the front seven. We're in a better position on defense than offense. We moved some players that we thought would make us a better team."

Last season, the Bulldogs went 5-5 after starting the season 4-0. They went 1-4 in district play, but lost three of those games by 12 points or less, leading Martin to believe the Bulldogs have as good a chance as anyone in District 7-2A to make the postseason.

"The only team we really struggled against in district was Ballinger," said Martin. "Colorado City beat us in the last minute. We only lost to Jim Ned by a touchdown and to Wall by four points. I think we match up pretty well with our district. The key for us will be the progression of our offensive line and how we hold up at linebacker. We're going to be ready. If we can get these young players prepared by the district season, then we'll have a great chance of pushing for the playoffs."

HERALD file photos/Bruce Schooler

Above, Coahoma Bulldogs wide receiver Lupe Abrego snags the ball in front of a Colorado City defensive back during District 7-2A football action from Oct. 24, 2008. Abrego is one of several experienced receivers the Bulldogs return in 2009. Below, a slew of Bulldogs defenders makes a tackle on a Jim Ned ballcarrier Oct. 9, 2008.

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Changing of the guard

Coahoma breaking in new group of impact players

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

COAHOMA — For the past two seasons, the Coahoma Bulldogs have relied on essentially the same core group of players to lead them on the gridiron.

There will be some new names and faces headlining the 2009 version of the Bulldogs.

"We're in the same position a lot of 2A schools are. We had a lot of good seniors last year, but we have a good lot of seniors this year, too," said Coahoma Head Coach Stacey Martin. "We did lose a lot of experience, though. We have some kids that will have to step in and grow up a lot faster."

Perhaps the most notable name missing in 2009 is that of running back P.J. Daylong, who has led the Bulldogs in rushing the last two seasons.

Coach: Stacey Martin, 2nd season
Returning starters O/D: 5/9
2008 Record: 5-5 (1-4)
Players to watch: WR/DB/QB Josh Paniagua, QB/TE Lane Douglass, WR/QB Lupe Abrego, RB Justin Coker, DB Ray Gutierrez, LB/RB Jason Martinez, DL Chance Hart, DE Josh Castilaw.

Martin hasn't decided who will receive a bulk of the carries this season, but is confident one of three players — Isaac Garcia, Jason Martinez or Justin Coker — will be able to step up.

"It's hard to replace kids like P.J. and some of the other great seniors we had last year," said Martin. "We're confident we have some players who can step in and make a difference, though."

Running back isn't the only position the Bulldogs still haven't figured out yet. Martin is also still undecided on who will be Coahoma's signal caller in 2009.

Continued on Page 18

Coahoma High Football Schedule

Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-29	Van Horn	Odessa	6:00
9-4	Forsan	Home	7:30
9-11	Seagraves	Away	7:30
9-18	Tahoka-h	Home	7:30
9-25	Kermit	Away	7:30
10-2	Open		
10-9	Jim Ned*	Away	7:30
10-16	Ballinger*	Away	7:30
10-23	Colorado City*	Home	7:30
10-30	Wall*	Away	7:30
11-6	Grape Creek*	Home	7:30

h-homecoming
*-district game

Jonathan Hull's District 7-2A projections

1. Tuscola Jim Ned
2. Wall
3. Coahoma
4. Ballinger
5. Colorado City
6. San Angelo Grape Creek

Phillips wearing 2nd hat, takes over Forsan football

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

FORSAN — Forsan's Jason Phillips wasn't satisfied being a man of a single trade.

In a rare move, Phillips, who has been head coach of the Forsan baseball program for the past four years, now takes over the Buffs football team as well.

"Ever since I started coaching, I've considered myself a football and baseball coach. I have just as great of a passion for both sports," said Phillips. "I've always wanted the chance to be a head football coach and I'm lucky enough to be at a school that will allow me to lead both the football and baseball programs."

For some, the dual responsibility of leading two programs might seem to be a conflict of interest. However, Phillips deflects any criticisms by noting the distance between the two seasons.

"At a larger school, I could see that argument because football is a year-round sport," he said. "Here our football guys also play basketball and baseball. Our sports are actually broken up into seasons because we don't have the numbers to have individuals specialize in one sport. I start the school year with football and end it with baseball. I don't think there's any conflict."

Phillips inherits a young team that is short on experienced seniors, but features an athletic,

Continued on Page 20

Coach: Jason Phillips, 1st season
Returning starters O/D: 3/4.
2008 Record: 2-8 (1-4)
Players to watch: RB Ty Johnson, QB Foster Burchett, FB Patrick Robles, LB Ryan Flores, LB Zane Herrin, LB Aaron Valle, OL Aaron Johnson, OL Michael Mims, LB Zach Dykes, DB Mike Hill.

Forsan High School Football

Varsity

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
8-28	Eldorado	Home	7:30
9-4	Coahoma	Away	7:30
9-11	Irion Co.	Away	7:30
9-18	McCamey	Away	7:30
9-25	Iraan	Home	7:30
10-2	Open		
10-9	Stanton*	Home	7:30
10-16	Sundown*	Away	7:30
10-23	Plains*-h	Home	7:30
10-30	Seagraves*	Home	7:30
11-6	Tahoka*	Away	7:30

h-homecoming
*-district game

Jonathan Hull's District 7-A projections

1. Sundown
2. Stanton
3. Forsan
4. Seagraves
5. Plains
6. Tahoka

Continued from Page 14

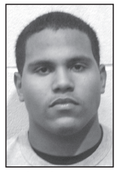
Plakhotny played some defensive end as a sophomore, but was used more exclusively as a linebacker during his junior season in 2008. The Belarus native is making the move back to end for his senior season with hope that he'll consistently disrupt opposing backfields.

"I thought about the move from the standpoint of an offensive coordinator. If I were calling plays against our defense, then I'd be much more worried about Pavel as a defensive end than I would as a linebacker," explained Ritchey. "When I look at highlights of him as a linebacker and then as a defensive end, it's clear he's a playmaker at both positions, but as an offensive coach, I'd be less worried about him as a linebacker than a defensive end. He's the type of player that can eliminate one side of the field as an end."

Monahans and Lubbock High already got a taste of what it's like to challenge Plakhotny in the Steers' two scrimmages.

"Any time Monahans or Lubbock High tried to run the ball to his side, it was bedlam for them," said Ritchey. "He would take on two blockers and still make the play. He gives us a good pass rush as well. Any tackle playing across from him is going to have a miserable night because he is never going to stop."

Playing opposite Plakhotny is one of the Steers' most powerful athletes, senior Derrick Anderson.



Anderson

"Derrick has played a lot on offense, but we decided to try him at defensive end," said Ritchey. "He's one of our strongest players as a state qualifier in power lifting. He's got a good attitude and has taken ownership of that position. He's worked hard in this program and he's getting a chance to be a starter as a senior."

Rounding out the starters on defense is senior Steven Henry, who shined at defensive tackle in 2008 before being injured in an automobile accident. Ritchey expects Henry to return to his pre-injury form in 2009.

"Steven has been one of our most dedicated workers over the summer. He really bought into the lifting program," said Ritchey. "He's one of our more consistent players and has great technique."

Secondary

Big Spring lost four starters from last year's secondary. Two of those players — safety LaRay Woodard and cornerback Zamir Linton — received scholarships to play at West Texas A&M.

However, the Steers still have plenty of experience returning to this season's secondary with three of the four athletes having starting experience at their respective positions.

At safety, the Steers will feature juniors Dennis Merworth and Mike Menefield. Merworth started several games for the Steers before having to hang up his cleats for the year due to a broken arm.

Merworth

"A lot of people don't realize this, but Dennis was a starter for us at safety before he broke his arm," noted Ritchey. "He's a tough football player, but he's needing to get through a season healthy. If he can avoid some of these injuries, then he can be a big difference maker against the run and he's got the speed to get back on pass plays."

Complimenting Merworth's physical style of play is Menefield, who is more of a ball hawking safety.

"Mike is opposite of Dennis. He's more of a deep pass defender," said Ritchey. "You'll see him breaking on a lot of balls and picking it off. He will come up and make tackles. He's shown that in scrimmages. He's very athletic and that's what you want from the position.

"Dennis and Mike complement each other with their styles of play. They've been on the same team for so long, too. They're both juniors," he added. "They communicate well and will definitely complement each other well in our defensive backfield."

Tevian Parnell also started some games for the Steers in 2008, manning one of the cornerback positions.

This season, the spot is completely his, despite being a starting receiver on offense as well.

"Tevian has experience as a corner and I think he can be a solid starter for us," said Ritchey. "He's also starting at wide receiver, but we have enough receivers on offense that we can platoon the position and keep Tevian fresh for defense."

Opposite Parnell is the only player without starting experience on the varsity level in the secondary, Martin Yanez, who is also starting on both sides of the ball.

"Martin was a linebacker last year, but we had a need at corner and moved him out there," said Ritchey. "He plays with a big heart. He's not big, but manages to make plays. One of the players the Monahans coach talked about most was Martin. They tried to throw it deep on him twice because of his size and weren't successful. He just plays with a lot of tenacity for a player his size and you've got to like that."

Key to the team's success

Many players are in similar situations as Yanez and Parnell as they'll be forced to play significant roles on both sides of the ball.

Depth, or a lack thereof, is a major issue for the Steers in 2009 and Ritchey plans on addressing it by platooning players on offense in order to keep them fresh on defense.

So Steers fans should see Matt Ritchey and Plakhotny alternating series at tight end for the Big Spring offense. The same will be seen of Yanez and Xavian Parnell at slot receiver and Tevian Parnell and Menefield at wide receiver.

"We don't have a lot of depth and a lot of our players are going to be playing both ways. We don't have the luxury of having big numbers like Frenship and Abilene Cooper," Ritchey noted. "We're putting more emphasis on our players being fresh for defense. We're going to score points. It's our defense that is going to win the tough games for us."

Steers defensive two-deep roster

DE: Pavel Plakhotny, Devante Lloyd
DT: Kyler McGee, Justin Yanez
WLB: Xavian Parnell, Ben Merworth
CB: Tevian Parnell, Monte Anderson
SS: Dennis Merworth, Thaddeus Straughter
DE: Derrick Anderson, Anthony Saracho
DT: Steven Henry, Anthony Garcia
SLB: Pete Chavarria, Dayvion Young
CB: Martin Yanez, Austin Sanchez
FS: Mike Menefield, Tristian Clay
MLB: Matt Ritchey, Lucas Ontiveros

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Coaching continuity gives Steers advantage

By JONATHAN HULL
Sports Editor

Coaching changes happen. It comes with the nature of the job.

However, the Big Spring Steers coaches are going against what's natural.

For a third consecutive year, the main core of the varsity coaching staff is back together and poised to lead the Steers on another deep playoff run.

"The longer this coaching staff can stick together, the faster this program can get up to a standard like we see at Frenship now," said Head Coach Phillip Ritchey. "It's important for the team to continue to play under the same system with the same terminology and also the same personalities coaching them."

This will be Ritchey's second year at the helm of the Steers and third overall with the program.

He made his way over from Boyd — a small town with a Class 2A program approximately 30 miles northwest of Fort Worth — where he had won a state championship as the team's defensive coordinator in 2004.

However, once his brother, Mike, had been named Big Spring's new athletic director and head football coach in May 2007, Ritchey made the trek west to Big Spring to help implement the spread offense.

Not even a full year later, Mike was headed back to his role as BSHS principal — a post he had left in 2007 to become the AD — opening up the position for Ritchey.

Since his arrival, he has had the good fortune of working with the same group of coaches and it's proven to be an invaluable asset in building the Steers football program.

"I can't say enough about our staff," said Ritchey as he rattled off the name of every varsity football coach from memory. "Just to be able to say those names together this year means a lot to me. The thing I like most about these coaches is that they're all good guys. They relate to kids as well. The players respond to these guys and that's what we look for in coaches. That's our main job to perform. Even more so than teaching them the fundamentals of the game. It's important that we can raise the level of their intensity."

Ritchey

"I don't think there's a single one of these coaches that is in it for their individual achievements," he added. "We love this team and the players on it. We're doing this with the best intentions for our players in mind. Once we make this about the coaches, then this program will start going downhill. We've got to have the players be our focus."

For Ritchey, coaching has always been his calling and it has more to do with the athletes than it does with his love of sports.

"I love coaching, kids and sports. To get paid for a job that feels like you're playing all day is the best," said Ritchey. "The one thing about our coaching staff is we don't talk about winning a lot. I believe that we can teach these kids about being unselfish, hard work, doing the right things on and off the field and looking out for each other. If we do those things, then winning will take care of itself. That's what attracts me to this. I want to impact young lives in a positive way. That's what coaching is all about. I don't think there's a coach out there that cares as much about his players than I do."

Expectations are as high as ever for the Steers in 2009. There's not a game on the schedule that will see the Steers as heavy underdogs and Ritchey says the team has the confidence to win each and every fray it enters.

The positive outlook for this coming season stems from last year's 8-5 record.

The Steers were officially put on the map and teams that had often overlooked Big Spring began to take notice.

It was the first year a Steers squad had posted eight wins and advanced as far as the Class 4A regional quarterfinals — winning two playoff games — since 2002.

This has led more than just the Big Spring faithful to buy into the Steers as a legitimate contender out of District 4-4A.

Dave Campbell's Texas Football Magazine listed the Steers as one of five teams that could be a darkhorse at the Class 4A level in the 2009 season.

Some local media pundits have gone as far as to project the Steers as the favorite in District 4-4A over traditional league power Frenship and Abilene Cooper, which is starting its second season in Class 4A after moving down from 5A a year ago.

However, success for Ritchey and the coaching staff doesn't rest on wins and losses.

"It's not about going 10-0. I've been a part of an 0-10 team," admitted Ritchey. "That doesn't mean we had a bunch of bad kids. They played as hard as they could and that's all you can ask them to do. We had a great time that season even without winning a single game. I don't know how many games we're going to win and it doesn't really matter. I just want these guys to give their best effort and winning will take care of itself. We have a good group of coaches who can take great effort and help guide it into wins."

If Ritchey has his way, Big Spring will be his final stop on his coaching journey.

"I don't think there's a job that can take me away from Big Spring. I've made the rounds and I've told my wife and kids that I've accepted my last job here," said Ritchey. "As long as Big Spring will have me, then I'll be here. It's a great school. It's a great community. We've got great kids here. My family is here. I'm from this area. I'm certainly not going out and looking for another job. This is where I want to be. I'm humbled to get to do this. For me to be looking for something else when I've got all I've ever wanted right here would be crazy."

Big Spring Steers Decade by decade review

Year	W	L	T	Pct.
1920-1929	55	38	3	.591
1930-1939	45	45	11	.500
1940-1949	34	61	4	.358
1950-1959	37	63	3	.370
1960-1969	56	43	1	.565
1970-1979	17	82	1	.171
1980-1989	45	59	0	.433
1990-1999	61	45	2	.576
2000-2008	43	60	0	.418
Totals	**393**	**496**	**25**	**.442**

Coach: Phillip Ritchey, 2nd season
Returning starters O/D: 9/8
2008 Record: 8-5 (3-2).
Players to watch: RB Monte Anderson, DT Kyler McGee, LB/TE Matt Ritchey, DE/TE Pavel Plakhotny, QB Tyler Tannehill, WR Thaddeus Straughter, CB/WR Martin Yanez, OT Tanner Henry, OG Jackson Watkins, S Dennis Merworth, S Mike Menefield.

Big Spring Steers All-Time Coaching Records (Through 1917)

Coach (Years)	W	L	T	Pct.
Norman St. Clair (1917)	2	3	1	.400
E.H. Poteet (1918-19)	9	3	0	.750
J.T. Reid (1920)	3	5	0	.375
G.C. Cox (1921)	8	2	0	.800
R.A. Lasseter (1922)	6	2	0	.750
B.Z. Hughes (1923)	5	3	0	.625
Joe Ward (1924)	8	4	1	.667
Frank Boyle (1925-26)	13	6	0	.684
George Harris (1927)	4	4	0	.500
Bill Stevens (1928-30)	11	19	4	.367
J. Gordon Bristow (1931-35)	31	13	6	.705
George Brown (1936)	5	4	1	.556
Pat Murphy (1937-41, 47)	18	35	7	.340
John L. Dibrell (1942-46)	16	33	1	.327
Herschel Stockton (1948)	3	7	0	.300
Carl Coleman (1949-1955)	34	37	2	.479
Harold Bentley/Roy Baird (1956)	2	8	0	.200
Al Milch (1957-59)	4	25	1	.138
Emmett McKenzie (1960-61)	10	10	0	.500
Don Robbins (1962-65, 76-77)	28	30	2	.483
Herman Smith (1966)	4	6	0	.400
Spike Dykes (1967-69)	16	14	0	.533
Clovis Hale (1970-72)	8	22	0	.267
Bob Burris (1973-75)	6	24	0	.200
Ron Logback (1978-79)	1	19	0	.050
Richard Harris (1980-81)	5	15	0	.250
Quinn Eudy (1982-87)	26	35	0	.426
David Thompson (1988-90)	23	11	1	.676
Dwight Butler (1991-2004)	77	74	1	.510
Tim Holt (2005-06)	7	16	0	.304
Mike Ritchey (2007)	3	8	0	.333
Phillip Ritchey (2008-???)	8	5	0	.615
32 Coaches	**404**	**502**	**28**	**.446**

Jonathan Hull's District 4-4A projections

1. Big Spring
2. Abilene Cooper
3. Frenship
4. Hereford
5. Plainview
6. Lake View

Steers coaching staff

Head coach and off. coordinator	Phillip Ritchey
Def. coordinator	Don Kelso
Assistant coaches	Chris Joslin, Mitch Woodard, Bert Otto, Nick Roberson, Bandy Rollins, Reg McConnell, Tyler Adams, John Wright, John Sparks, Larry Dearen, Dusty Todd.
Junior high coaches	Alfonso Bernal, Kyle Carroll, Gilbert Fuentz, Alex Orosco, Eric Tuttle, Zion Tout.

AP 2009 preseason rankings

Class 5A

Team	Rec	Pts	Pvs
1. Katy (14)	13-3	230	-
2. Allen (8)	15-1	229	5
3. Cedar Hill (2)	12-2	177	-
4. GP North Shore	9-1	112	2
5. SA Madison	9-3	102	-
6. Euless Trinity (1)	13-1	86	1
7. Southlake Carroll	8-3	80	-
8. Dallas Skyline	12-2	71	-
9. FB Hightower	13-1	55	7
9. Odessa Permian	12-1	55	4

Class 4A

Team	Rec	Pts	Pvs
1. Longview (17)	13-3	239	5
2. Lake Travis (5)	16-0	194	1
2. Denton Guyer (2)	12-3	194	-
4. Denison (1)	12-1	163	-
5. Everman	14-1	145	2
6. Highland Park	11-2	88	9
7. Schertz Steele	10-2	85	-
8. Dallas Carter	12-1	67	4
9. Hewitt Midway	12-2	42	7
10. Aledo	11-1	38	3

Class 3A

Team	Rec	Pts	Pvs
1. Gilmer (19)	12-2	243	5
2. Carthage (3)	14-2	209	-
3. Celina (3)	12-4	197	-
4. West Orange-Stark	10-1	155	3
5. Giddings	11-4	115	-
6. Bellville	12-2	82	-
7. Abilene Wylie	11-3	75	7
8. Wimberley	5-5	72	-
9. Prosper	14-1	65	9
10. Cuero	11-2	47	8

Class 2A

Team	Rec	Pts	Pvs
1. Daingerfield (24)	15-1	249	8
2. Arp	11-1	196	4
3. Bushland (1)	10-1	159	9
4. Kirbyville	13-1	126	2
5. Altair Rice	12-1	121	6
6. Refugio	13-1	90	1
7. Muleshoe	15-0	87	3
7. Holliday	10-1	87	-
9. Omaha Pewitt	9-3	48	-
10. Newton	9-4	44	-

Class 1A

Team	Rec	Pts	Pvs
1. Cayuga (18)	13-3	231	-
2. Albany (1)	14-1	174	-
3. Quinlan Boles (1)	13-1	153	6
4. Alto (2)	8-4	144	-
5. Wellington	11-1	137	-
6. Canadian (1)	13-1	117	8
7. Stratford (2)	14-1	82	5
8. Seymour	8-4	72	-
9. Goldthwaite	10-2	59	-
10. Ganado	9-4	58	-

Six-man Div. I	Six-man Div. II
1. Strawn	1. Borden County
2. Follett	2. Highland
3. Richland Springs	3. Woodson
4. Meadow	4. Star
5. Abbott	5. Lefors
6. Valley	6. Sanderson
7. Throckmorton	7. Walnut Springs
8. Paducah	8. Sands
9. Calvert	9. Panther Creek
10. Fort Davis	10. Silverton