

**Fire/** Continued from Page 1A

"It's a big loss for the county," Smith said. "Coming on the heels of Hurricane Rita, this is devastating for this precinct."

Smith said there is no cause for the fire at this time and added that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives will investigate the fire.

When the fire was reported, residents said explosions were coming from the barn. Smith said the barn contained highly flammable and explosive oxygen and acetylene containers.

Moss and Allen were en route to Austin for meetings when they received the call and returned to

Buna.

"We had received the phone call 30 minutes after we had arrived in Austin," Allen said. "We figured we would get on-the-job training."

Moss reported Tuesday that the other commissioners have already pulled together and promised to assist with whatever Precinct 4 may need in the interim until the barn and equipment can be replaced.

"It's a bad part of the year for us to be down," Allen said. "But we will do whatever it takes to continue service to the community."

Jasper County has been known for handling adversity and we will ride this out."

**Hero/** Continued from Page 1A

or so.

In a recent phone interview with *The Jasper Newsboy*, Beatty was excited that some pro-basketball players had visited the hospital. "I met them and I don't remember their names but I have their autographs," he said.

Beatty has a 22-point scoring average at JJHS, according to his father, but he will have to miss some games this year.

JJHS teacher Lynn Jones said, "Glenn is always willing to work and answer the call...He is a very respectful young man whose attitude will take him far in life."

History teacher Neal Green agreed. "Glenn is a very energetic and competitive student... very involved in my history class and we look forward to his return."

His science teacher Janet Edwards said, "Glenn's selfless act of

bravery in the face of danger demonstrates a level of maturity and devotion that makes me feel extremely proud. His classmates and I pray that he recovers completely and can rejoin us very soon."

Jasper Fire Marshal Stephen Williamson said he conducted the fire investigation jointly with the Farm Bureau insurance team.

They determined the fire was caused by a space heater in a bedroom.

"The space heater was located too close to a bed, which is the item that caught fire and led to the damage of the entire structure and contents," Williamson said.

The family lost all personal belonging and household goods. Donations to the family can be dropped off at 1279 East MLK where Glenn Beatty Sr. is staying.

# Dewhurst turns up heat on high school steroid testing

By JIMMY GALVAN  
Managing Editor

If Lt. Governor David Dewhurst has his way, there will be a mandatory random testing program in public schools for steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs in the near future.

For Jasper Independent School District athletic trainer Joe Guthrie, the plan will have long-lasting benefits.

"I agree whole-heartedly with random drug testing for student-athletes," Guthrie said.

He said that this year, the University Interscholastic League (UIL) created a form that student-athletes were required to sign stating they would refrain from using any type of steroids or performance-enhancing drugs.

"They had to fill out this form for us, and did that

really keep them from using steroids. Probably not," Guthrie said. "Whoever is going to do them, is going to do them. But this would be the next step."

In the past years, the UIL has fought drug testing of high school athletes believing the issue should be treated as a local issue for each school district.

Texas had 733,026 students participate in public school sports during the 2005-06 school year, more than any other state.

Some Texas schools are already testing their athletes. Of the more than 1,300 member schools, a UIL survey in 2005 found that 53 schools tested athletes for steroids. According to a UIL spokesperson, that number grew to 127 in 2006.

Another issue is costs for local school districts to perform the tests. Texas law-

makers began the current legislative session with \$14.3 billion budget surplus for the next two years. A random sampling of 30,000 students at \$200 each would cost about \$6 million.

"This kind of testing will save lives in the long run," Guthrie said. "We don't know all the side effects steroid use causes."

He added that the tests would also act as a deterrent to illegal drug activity among the athletes in the high school.

"The tests would give the kids an opportunity to turn away from the peer pressure — this would be an excuse for them," Guthrie said. "It's an easy out for them."

He said he envisions a day when all high school athletics will face random drug testing.

"We don't need to just gear the testing towards

football," Guthrie said. "Everybody thinks this is just a football problem, but it's not."

Guthrie said he doesn't believe this area has been affected by steroid use as of yet.

"I haven't come across anyone that I would even suspect of using around here," Guthrie said.

He admitted that some athletes have come to him with over-the-counter supplements that they wanted to use, but Guthrie said he quickly dismisses their thoughts on it.

"Anytime they bring in any kind of supplement like that in, I tell them they don't need to take it at all," Guthrie said. "I advise them that all they need is a well-rounded diet. Those supplements can cause problems and there are no long-term studies on them at all."

## Jasper man arrested on intoxicated manslaughter

Seven months following an accident that claimed the life of a Lufkin woman, Timothy Steven Schroer, 30, of Jasper has been charged with intoxication manslaughter, according to the Department of Public Safety reports.

Schroer was arrested last week following the

results of a lab analysis which found his blood alcohol contest to be .15, nearly twice the legal limit, the evening he hit and killed Sarah Haley.

According to DPS accident reports, the Haleys were traveling north toward Lufkin on U.S. Highway 69 in a 1996 Geo

Prizm. Schroer was driving south in a 1994 Ford Mustang.

At 10 p.m. Schroer left the southbound lanes, crossed the center stripe and into the northbound lanes, according to the report.

The two vehicles collided head-on, the impact

ejecting all three from their vehicles, the report stated.

According to police reports, Sarah Haley died at the scene of the accident.

Intoxication manslaughter is a second-degree felony punishable from two to 20 years in prison if a person is convicted

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