

# The Natchez Democrat

NEW ORLEANS: Clinton, Pitt meet in Lower 9th. 3A

SEC: Georgia Bulldogs take tourney title. 1B

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008

www.natchezdemocrat.com 50C

## Judge issues ruling

Persons requiring run-off election in Wilkinson County

BY MARY HOOD  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

WOODVILLE — Judge Jim Persons issued his final ruling in the Wilkinson County election contest Friday.

Persons ruled that a special Democratic primary run-off election will take place April 15 and the general election will be May 20.

The results of the Aug. 9 Wilkinson County Democratic primary election were thrown out in late February after questions about the reliability of the paper ballots led

Persons to rule they could not be counted.

With the paper ballots thrown out, Persons said the will of Wilkinson County's voters could not be determined and a new election must take place.

The contest was filed by Circuit Clerk Mon Cree Allen, Sheriff

Reginald "Pip" Jackson and District 2 Supervisor Richard Hollins after 17 of the 31 members of the Wilkinson County Democratic Executive Committee decided to throw out the paper ballots in September, which reversed the election wins of Allen, Hollins and Jackson.

Circuit clerk candidate Lynn Tolliver Delaney, supervisor candidate Kirk Smith and sheriff candidate Jessie Stewart — who were declared the winners of the election after the ballots were tossed in September — filed as respondents to the contest.

The committee decided to toss the ballots after Delaney, Smith and Stewart leveled allegations of voter fraud and intimidation at the September hearing.

Persons also ruled that each of the above parties are required to submit to the court names of people they deem acceptable to serve as special master. The special master's duty is to ensure the security of the ballot boxes and the ballots. The recommendations for special master are to be submitted to court on or before noon Tuesday.

Persons also ruled that the special master will be responsible for conducting the primary run-off election.

The court will confer with the secretary of the state in regard to the funding of the special master.

## Groups raise Relay funds with eggs, fun

BY MARY HOOD  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

VIDALIA — Though the Easter egg hunt didn't start until 2 Sunday afternoon, eager kids with empty baskets started lining up at 12:30.

Miss-Lou Team Extreme and Vidalia Women's Club joined forces to have the hunt at Vidalia Lower Elementary School to raise money for Relay for Life.

Tammy Rouse, relay chair for Team Extreme, said this was not merely an Easter egg hunt but almost a spring fling event.

This is because other activities were available, including face painting, a cakewalk and

**"It's something for the kids to come out and do, and there are a lot of activities."**

Robin Gregg  
parent

the D.A.R.E Train.

Manning the D.A.R.E Train was Lt. Neil Mohan from the Concordia Parish Sheriff's Office.

He said the D.A.R.E Train began several years ago when another officer saw something

similar at an even out of time.

"He came back to Sheriff Randy Maxwell and told him about it and he fell in love with it," Mohan said.

They took the design idea and inmates helped build the train.

The train ride has a two-fold purpose, one for enjoyment and the other for D.A.R.E awareness.

"We're trying to keep kids off drugs," Mohan said.

With three grandchildren, Mohan loves kids and has been volunteering to drive the train

SEE EGGS, 3A

## ALL WORK & NO PLAY



MARCUS FRAZIER | THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

Danny Blake works on a Hand Free Window in his Espero Drive workshop. By day, Blake is a hospital employee, by night he's self-employed.

## Natchez man keeps busy with day job, home business

BY MARY HOOD  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — A window maker by day and a medical technician by night, Danny Blake doesn't have too much free time.

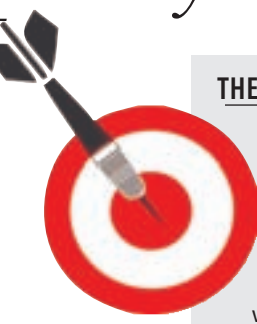
Blake, who lives on Espero Drive, makes windows for rural mail carriers in his business, Hand Free Windows.

"From October to February it keeps me pretty busy," Blake said.

Rural mail carriers use their own cars, and when rolling the window up and down very frequently, usually during the colder months, the automatic window motors burn out quickly.

Blake's removable Plexiglas window goes in place of the regular car window and the driver can push it open.

Blake took over the business after his brother,



THE DETAILS

THE DART is a weekly feature in which a reporter and a photographer throw a dart on a map and find a story wherever it lands. This week the dart landed on Espero Drive in Natchez.

er, the inventor, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

"It doesn't make enough to live on but it helps during Christmas," Blake said.

He said it usually takes him an hour and a half to put one together. This includes cutting out the design from cardboard patterns,

of which Blake has a large variety.

Most rural mail carriers use Jeep Wranglers and Cherokees, he said.

The hardest pattern to create was for a 1988 Ford Ranger, he said.

"The older vehicles are hard to get patterns for if you don't already have it," Blake said. After he cuts out the design, he places a rubber strip to seal the air out.

Blake said he hasn't sold many in Mississippi but many in Louisiana and in the Northern states.

He said he sold approximately 100 last year.

There are still improvements to be made in his home business, however.

For instance, the postal department requires mail carriers to lock their cars if they leave

SEE WORK, 3A

## Cauthen hospitalized after wreck

BY MARY HOOD  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

NATCHEZ — Adams County Supervisor Sammy Cauthen was involved in a car accident in Jackson Sunday.

No information was available from the Jackson Police Department, but as of late Sunday afternoon, Cauthen was in intensive care, but in stable condition at University Medical Center in Jackson.



Cauthen

## Brick by brick, groups building cash

VICKSBURG (AP) — More and more organizations in Vicksburg are preserving the present and funding the future with a practice that has become a popular way to pay for projects: selling personalized bricks.

"I've been told that it's the No. 1 fundraiser in the nation. I've seen a lot of them done," said Alan Orlicek, an Arcola-based artisan who has imprinted names and messages into thousands of bricks for such projects, includ-

**"I've been told that it's the No. 1 fundraiser in the nation."**

Alan Orlicek  
artisan

ing several in the Vicksburg.

Though he does other work, too, he said

name-a-brick campaigns have become a cottage industry for him.

Orlicek said he has made commemorative bricks for churches, schools and school stadiums, garden clubs and other organizations.

Bricks outside St. Michael Catholic Church commemorate events such as baptisms, confirmations, weddings and anniversaries. Some

SEE BRICK, 3A



WHAT'S OUTSIDE

Mostly cloudy, breezy  
Hi 82, Lo 66

8A

WHAT'S INSIDE

COMICS/ADVICE	3B	SPORTS	1-2B
CLASSIFIEDS	4B	TELEVISION	7B
OBITUARIES	5A	RECORDS	5A
OPINION	4A	REGION	3A

HOW TO REACH US

ADVERTISING	445-3624	CLASSIFIEDS	442-7355
CIRCULATION	445-3556	NEWSROOM	445-3552

WHO'S NEWS



Daly

Henry Daly won first place in the fifth grade division of the MPSA District Spelling Bee. Henry attends Trinity Episcopal Day School and is the son of Ed and Stephanie Daly.

IS THERE someone you'd like to nominate for Who's News? Give Julie Finley a call at 601-445-3551 and let us know.

Truck in your future?

New or used to fit your budget — find it in today's Classifieds.

4B

