

# DOTHAN EAGLE

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75 cents

Today: Showers and thunderstorms

High 92°  
Low 73°



Senate passes restrictions on financial world **8A**



Review: 'Inception' **8B**  
a four-star mind trip



Two Wiregrass men deserving of Hall of Fame **1B**

## Five charged in Napier Field Road shootout

Matt Elofson  
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Authorities say a botched drug deal was the likely motivation behind a shootout along Napier Field Road on Wednesday evening. Dale County Sheriff Wally

Olson said seven people, including two juveniles, will face felony charges at the resolution of the ongoing investigation. He said one of the seven people remained at-large on Thursday evening.

The shooting happened in the neighborhood around the Canterber-

ry Farms subdivision off Napier Field Road around 5 p.m. Wednesday. He said there was a group of three males shooting while another group of four males returned fire. Olson said the shooting sent one man to Flowers Hospital for treatment, but he had been released by Thursday.

"It appears what had happened stemmed from some narcotics being stolen earlier in the day," Olson said. "They went over and snatched some marijuana from one of the individuals, and we believe it may have been some retaliation."

Olson declined to release the

names of the people charged and in custody because investigators were still looking for one of the men believed to have been involved in the shooting. But he said some of the people involved are from Dale

See **SHOOTOUT, 3A**

# Turbulence

Officials: Unknown if new airport affecting Dothan



Danny Tindell / dtindell@dothaneagle.com

Passengers check in at the Dothan Regional Airport on Thursday afternoon.

Lance Griffin  
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While Dothan Regional Airport experienced a 16 percent drop in the number of people flying out of Dothan in June compared to the same time last year, officials say it is too soon to determine if the new Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport is a strong factor.

Recently released numbers indicate 3,523 people flew out of Dothan Regional Airport in June, compared to 4,201 who flew out in June of 2009. The numbers, however, do not indicate a new trend. Fewer people have flown out of Dothan each month in 2010 compared to the same time frame in 2009.

"You can see that our trend has remained negative in comparison to last year over the entire first half of the year. It would be difficult to attribute the last four weeks to solely the opening of the new airport," said Jennifer

See **AIRPORT, 3A**

"The important thing for people to know in our area is that 'shopping local' is just as important for our airport as it is for any other local business."

Jennifer Doherty  
Dothan Regional Airport  
marketing director

### Dothan airport enplanements

Month	2010	2009	%change
January	2,946	3,125	-5.73
February	2,847	3,348	-14.96
March	3,426	3,724	-8.00
April	3,272	3,874	-15.54
May	3,474	4,009	-13.34
June	3,523	4,201	-16.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,269</b>	<b>12,084</b>	<b>-15.02</b>

## Consider it capped

BP finally stops oil spewing in Gulf

Colleen Long and Harry R. Weber  
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The oil has stopped. For now.

After 85 days and up to 184 million gallons, BP finally gained control over one of America's biggest environmental catastrophes Thursday by placing a carefully fitted cap over a runaway geyser that has been gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico since early spring.

Though a temporary fix, the accomplishment was greeted with hope, high expectations — and, in many cases along the beleaguered coastline, disbelief. From one Gulf Coast resident came this: "Hallelujah." And from another: "I got to see it to believe it."

If the cap holds, if the sea floor doesn't crack and if the

**Inside:**  
Gov. Bob Riley says prayers answered **6A**

relief wells being prepared are completed successfully, this could be the beginning of the end for the spill. But that's a lot of ifs, and no one was declaring any sort of victory beyond the moment.

The oil stopped flowing at 2:25 p.m. when the last of three valves in the 75-ton cap was slowly throttled shut. That set off a 48-hour watch period in which — much like the hours immediately after a surgery — the patient was in stable, guarded condition and being watched closely for complications.



Crew members guide a mumson boat off of the deck of the Pacific Responder oil skimming vessel on the Gulf of Mexico on Thursday. The boat ties up to a boom trailing behind the responder, and then the two pull the boom to contain oil leaking from the Deepwater Horizon oil wellhead.

Patrick Semansky / Associated Press

"It's a great sight," said BP Chief Operating Officer Doug Suttles, who immediately urged caution. "The flow, he said, could resume. "It's far from the finish line. ... It's not the time to celebrate."

Nevertheless, one comforting

fact stood out: For the first time since an explosion on the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon oil rig killed 11 workers April 20 and unleashed the spill 5,000 feet beneath the water's surface, no oil was flowing into the Gulf.

## Adoptions of schools on the rise

Debbie Ingram  
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For 20 years, a handful of local businesses have been steadfast in providing community support to Dothan City Schools through the Adopt-A-School program.

Sony, Michelin, AAA Cooper, Slingluff United Insurance, South-east Alabama Medical Center and

Mike Schmitz Automotive have done things like recognizing top students with savings bonds, providing T-shirts for special events and giving away thousands of dollars in college scholarships.

But the community as a whole has not been that involved with city schools until this past school year when Lavonda Gosselin, a mother of four, took on the job of program director for Adopt-A-School last October.

See **SCHOOLS, 3A**

### For more

- Visit [www.Yeswecanadothan.com](http://www.Yeswecanadothan.com)
- Contact LaRhonda Robinson at the chamber 792-5130 or [lrobinson@dothan.com](mailto:lrobinson@dothan.com)



Jay Hare / jhare@dothaneagle.com

Lavonda Gosselin prepares a display for the "Yes We Can Dothan" campaign inside a branch of Regions Bank on Thursday afternoon. Gosselin became the program director for Dothan City School's Adopt-A-School program last October. Since then, participation in city schools by outside groups has increased.

## Pinckard woman gets 10 years for shooting into car

Ebony Horton  
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OZARK — A Pinckard woman was sentenced to 10 years in a state prison for shooting into an occupied vehicle two years ago.

Dale County Circuit Judge P.B. McLaughlin set a probation hearing next month for Cynthia McClendon, 40, of Dale County Road 554, after a jury convicted her in May of intentionally shooting toward Adam Peterman's occupied truck.

Sentence guidelines for the Class B felony are between 10 and 20 years.

See **PINCKARD, 3A**