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TODAY: P.M. storms possible today. High in the low 90s. Low in the 60s.
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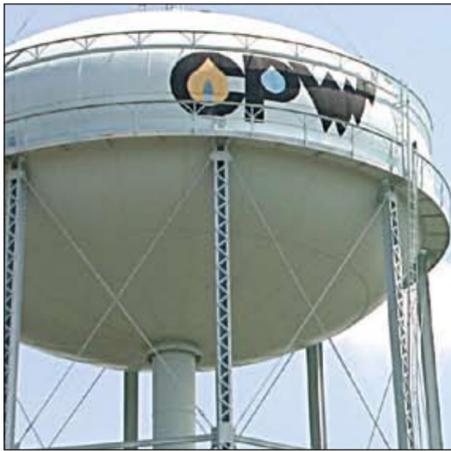
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2 SECTIONS, 22 PAGES

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TIGHTENING BELTS

Utility provider unanimously votes to hike rates



GENE HANCOCK

By **CHRIS TRAINOR**
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Greenwood CPW customers' bills will be on the rise as the utility provider's board unanimously voted Thursday night to raise water and gas rates.

The CPW board — Gene Hancock, Mike Monaghan and Henry See **CPW**, page 9A

Summing it up
Water rates are going up 9.9%, gas is going up 1.23%.

".. We have never, ever made a dime on water. It has never operated in the black. Never. It has always been subsidized."
— CPW commissioner Gene Hancock

■ **DISTRICT 2 SEAT**

Just not enough names

Heitzenrater fails to make petition ballot

By **CHRIS TRAINOR**
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District 2 Greenwood County Council hopeful Cathy Heitzenrater's name will not appear on the November general election ballot, as she did not get enough signatures to get on the ballot as a petition candidate.

Time ran out

Cathy Heitzenrater had until noon Thursday to get 261 signatures on a petition to allow her on the ballot in a race against Mark Allison in November. She received 125 signatures.

Heitzenrater was vying to run as a petition candidate against Republican Mark Allison in November. Allison bested District 2 incumbent Rhett Dominick in the June 8 GOP primary.

Greenwood County elections director Connie Moody had said in order for Heitzenrater to get on the ballot as a petition candidate, she had to deliver a petition with the signatures of a minimum of 261 active registered voters who reside in and are registered to vote in District 2 to the county election office by noon Thursday.

However, Heitzenrater fell short of that number, only garnering 125 signatures.

Heitzenrater said there simply was not enough time to get the appropriate number of signatures, as she only announced her intent to run late Wednesday afternoon. That said, she was pleased to have gotten as many signers on such short notice.

"It was 125 (signatures) and we feel real, real good about that," she said. "We would have liked for it to have been the 261, but folks just didn't have See **BALLOT**, page 9A



Former Negro League baseball player and Ninety Six resident Robert Williams, left, signs a baseball while Greenwood's Bonnie McCombs awaits in the Ninety Six post office. **INSET:** Williams stands next to the stamps honoring Negro League Baseball after they were unveiled Thursday at the Ninety Six post office. While in the Negro Leagues, Williams played for the Birmingham Black Barons.

STAMP OF APPROVAL

Ninety Six resident and former Negro League player honored with postage

ROBERT ROSSEL WILLIAMS has many nicknames, among them being "Chico," "Pop" and even "Bogato." On Thursday, he was simply

known as "hero." As two postage stamps went on sale Thursday, honoring the Negro Baseball Leagues at Ninety Six's post office, Williams — who played for the Birmingham Black Barons in 1955 — was amazed with the crowded room.

"It's a very special day," said Williams, 77, who played short-stop and was the guest of honor for the occasion. "I didn't know I had this many lovely friends." Williams' career, however, was cut short when he was drafted by the Army. The Barons, who

were a part of the Negro National League, played from 1920 to 1960. Great players to come from the team included Satchel Paige, Willie Mays and Jimmie Crutchfield. See **ROSEL**, page 9A

PHOTOS AND STORY BY **SCOTT CHANCEY** ♦ **SCHANCEY@INDEXJOURNAL.COM**

BP finally stops oil spewing from Gulf gusher

By The 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 relief wells See **GULF**, page 9A



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