



THE DAILY CITIZEN

Wednesday, January 7, 2009 • Dalton, Georgia • www.daltondailycitizen.com • 50 Cents

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THINGS TO CHECK OUT ON THE INSIDE

Today is the deadline to make Whitfield property tax payments, so a tent has been set up at the courthouse to accept payments.

See page 3A

Josie Tate has undergone a career makeover — and is now a hair stylist. Meet this Friend & Neighbor.

See page 1C

New school on Cedar Ridge Road is now named — Cedar Ridge Elementary

See page 2A

FROM TODAY'S FORUM

"If people would stop wasting the condiments then they wouldn't charge for them. People need to start being more conservative and stop wasting stuff."

"I would like to hear from one person how the \$700 billion bailout has helped them in any way."

See page 2A

Call 706-272-7748

WEATHER

Forecast: Windy
Today's High: 50
Tonight's Low: 33
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MISTY WATSON/The Daily Citizen

An elevated Coahulla Creek flows by Prater's Mill in Varnell Tuesday morning following heavy rains that started Monday and continued through Tuesday night. Rain is expected to end this afternoon, then temperatures will drop tonight.

Some run, some don't

Heavy rain causing flood problems

BY CHARLES OLIVER
charlesoliver@daltoncitizen.com

Water covered Clenis Baggett's yard in the trailer park on Third Avenue east of Eton, and she watched as rain continued to soak the area Tuesday evening around 6.

"It's been higher than this," she said.

"It's been up to my chest," added her daughter Jessie Calloway. "It's been in my momma's house. We've had to redo the kitchen, the living room, all the bedrooms."

Calloway came to take her mother to her home around 5 p.m. and the yard had already flooded. Local officials hadn't ordered an evacuation of the area, but Baggett, 74, has lived there for eight years, and she said she knew what was coming and wanted to get out.

"It does this every year," said Calloway. "When she bought this place, they told her it didn't flood."

One neighbor, who did not want his name printed, said he was staying put.

"I ain't going nowhere. I ain't letting no water run me out," he said. "I've got family that lives in here."

FLOOD WARNING

A flood warning for Whitfield, Murray, Catoosa and Walker counties remains in effect until 12:45 p.m. today, the National Weather Service said Tuesday evening. There was a chance of heavier rain overnight as a strong cold front moved through the area. Two to four inches of rain fell across much of the area earlier Tuesday, the National Weather Service reported.

He said he'd lived there for 12 years and seen flooding much worse.

"I've been in here when it was chest high," he said. "I stayed."

He blamed the flooding on blocked culverts and ditches.

"It's all down behind that creek right there, and the county won't do anything about it," he said. "That's why it keeps doing this."

Nearby, the bridge over Mill Creek was covered with water.

At around 6 p.m., neither Eton nor Murray County had ordered any evacuations, but Sheriff Howard Ensley and Eton Police Chief Brent Hooper said they were keeping an eye on the situation and would evacuate people if needed.



MISTY WATSON/The Daily Citizen

Water droplets cling to tree branches as a heavy rain shower passes through Varnell on Tuesday.

Ensley said Norton Bridge in the north end of the county had flooded as had Patricia Avenue in Spring Place.

Several areas of Highway 225 North north of Red Cut Road in Murray County were

flooded as of about 6:30 p.m., officials said. There was also significant flooding in front of Northwest Elementary School.

Around 7 p.m., rescue crews

➤ See FLOODING, 3A

\$500,000 sought to buy or fix homes

\$20 fee added to jail booking

BY JAMIE JONES
jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com

As the home foreclosure crisis continues, help may be on the way.

The Dalton-Whitfield Community Development Corp. is applying for a \$1.23 million federal neighborhood stabilization program grant to help low, moderate and middle income residents in five counties fix or buy homes.

The development corporation is the regional applicant for Fannin, Gilmer, Murray, Pickens and Whitfield counties. Whitfield County is expected to receive about \$500,000, executive director Gaile Jennings said. Murray County could get between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

The money can be used to buy vacant and foreclosed properties, demolish blighted properties, repair homes and provide lease-purchase homes to qualified families who have already lost a home to foreclosure. There were

➤ Please see HOUSES, 3A

Hunting regulations meeting Thursday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division wants to know what you think about hunting regulations.

The division is holding a public meeting on Thursday at Dalton State College to receive comments on the development of hunting regulations for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 hunting seasons.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the Goodroe Auditorium of Memorial Hall. You are required to register upon arrival and say whether you plan to give a statement. Officials say statements must

be concise to allow everyone a chance to speak.

Written statements must be received by Jan. 16. They should be mailed to Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, Game Management Section, Attn: John Bowers, 2070 U.S. Highway 278 S.E., Social Circle, GA 30025.

Proposed changes to hunting regulations will be considered by the Board of Natural Resources in May 2009.

For more information, visit the Wildlife Resources Division Web site at www.gohuntgeorgia.com or contact Hunter Services at (770) 761-3044.

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Monthly: \$12 | Yearly: \$135.24
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Methods of payment: Cash, check, bank draft, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express
Second class postage paid at Dalton, Ga., 30720.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Daily Citizen, P.O. Box 1167, Dalton, Ga., 30722.

NORTH GEORGIA NEWSPAPER GROUP
SERVING NORTH GEORGIA & SOUTH EAST TENNESSEE
Volume 46, Number 272

2A Wednesday, January 7, 2009

TODAY'S FORUM

Editor's note: Please keep your comments as brief as possible. Get to the point! Longer comments should be submitted as letters to the editor. If you include a name, please spell it or it probably won't be used.

"The Democrats have a committee which wants to propose doubling the federal gas tax. How are they going to blame that on Bush?"

"Why is it that the Eastside Bypass is the last one to have its litter picked up? Then they put it in orange bags which laid out there next to the Bypass until they turned white."

"Mr. Little needs to pick up all his campaign signs off the Corbendale and Tilton roads."

"Happy 79th birthday Margaret Penland."

"There is no way a Democratic Senate is going to keep Burris out of the Senate. He'll be in the Senate before this is all over."

"It's sad that some people are so stupid that they think everything that goes bad in the world is caused by George Bush."

"Thanks so much for the calendar I received in the newspaper."

"Why didn't I get a calendar with my paper?"

Editor's note: Calendars go to subscribers in their newspaper. Non-subscribers can get one at our Thornton Avenue office while supplies last.

"The man who wants Michael Vick back on the Falcons must really be a redneck."

"Happy birthday Tanja Sucher."

"If people would stop wasting the condiments then they wouldn't charge for them. People need to start being more conservative and stop wasting stuff."

"To the person who wants smokers taxed out of existence: How about we tax something you like out of existence? By the way I am a non-smoker."

"In Murray County the price of gas went up four cents a gallon, not down. I don't think they got the message up here."

"You don't print half the stuff I say either. It's like your biased or something."

Editor's note: You say a lot of stuff.

"To all the people writing in about the lady with five children: It's scary to me to believe we live in a town where people say such derogatory remarks about someone trying to provide for her children. And these people are begrudging her children food? That's scary."

"I hope everyone read Ron Hart's column in the Sunday paper, 'Bush, not a tough act to follow.' So right."

"I can see it in the future — a McDonald's sign with 'Over 100 million ketchup packets sold.'"

"Great season for the Falcons. If they had Michael Vick, they probably wouldn't have made it to the playoff game."

"Happy first birthday to Elizabeth Ryann Shields."

"I would like to hear from one person how the \$700 billion bailout has helped them in any way."

"If my Rep. Scott and his daughter could have felt the fear, panic and pain that deer felt in the last few minutes of his life, maybe they wouldn't be smiling so broadly."

"The only reason a waitress calls you darling, sweetie, or sugar pie is to get a tip. Dummy!"

"Why don't they raise the tax on liquor? You could raise more taxes than on cigarettes."

"I have been to Erlanger, Memorial, Emory and Hamilton in the past few years. In medical services rendered they are all very good. But when it comes to cafeterias, I'd take Hamilton over any. I'd take a date there."

"The food at Hamilton is really good. The trout almandine is tasty and inexpensive."

"Jimmy, I really enjoyed your column on Sunday. I wish I had read yours before Ron Hart's. Yours made me feel good and his made me feel bad."

"People don't like Mayor Pennington because he is part of the buddy system."

"My power bill has gone up ever since Georgia Power put in digital meters."

"Michael Vick is exactly where he needs to be."

"Dalton, don't be fooled into believing Atlanta's \$60 million operational shortfall is a statewide issue. The mayor and council there inherited a surplus. What are they doing with it?"

"I love the editor's comments on the forum. It's a great balance for the unbridled ignorance."

"I live in Tunnel Hill. We don't get garbage pickup for our taxes."

"What happened to the little lost dog in Jane Lount's letter?"

"The editor prints the forum for free so he should have a chance to comment. I like his comments."

"Gas prices were \$1.51 Sunday and on Tuesday they are \$1.61. The paper says they are going down. Someone needs to tell BP this."

Editor's note: The story said that the state gas tax is going down. The price of gas has moved back up since the Israeli-Hamas flareup.

Call 706-272-7748 to make a comment.

It's Cedar Ridge Elementary

By MARK MILLICAN
markmillican@daltoncitizen.com

After voting that included Internet balloting, the board: ■ Heard a construction update from Keith Burran of M.B. Kahn Construction, who announced an upcoming meeting with Dalton Utilities officials to discuss sewer line placement for the new high school. ■ Approved an agreement with Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray

Cedar Ridge is scheduled to be open in August for around 600 students.

In other business, the board: ■ Heard a construction update from Keith Burran of M.B. Kahn Construction, who announced an upcoming meeting with Dalton Utilities officials to discuss sewer line placement for the new high school. ■ Approved an agreement with Boys & Girls Clubs of Gordon, Murray

and Whitfield Counties to begin a unit at Beaverdale Elementary, with the youth organization paying 5 percent of receipts to the school system to cover utility and maintenance costs of running the program. The program kicks off at the school Feb. 1.

■ Elected Jerry Nealey board chairman upon the nomination of Tim Trew, and elected Trew vice-chair upon the nomination of Gary Brock.

Superintendent Katie Brochu called the selection a "lengthy process," but board members did not want to publicly divulge vote tallies for the other names in contention. She announced the board would be able to tour the school — well on the way toward completion — at its Jan. 26 work session.

CORRECTION

A party on Jan. 24 to honor Sanna Wagner, who is retiring from Associates in Obstetrics and Gynecology, is sponsored by AOG. It will be at the Dalton Shrine Club from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Boy misses bus, takes car

WICOMICO CHURCH, Va. (AP) — A 6-year-old boy who missed his bus tried to drive to school in his family's sedan — and crashed.

His parents were charged with child endangerment. State police said the boy suffered only minor injuries and authorities drove him to school after he was evaluated at a local hospital for a bump on his head. He arrived shortly after lunch.

The boy missed the bus, took the keys to his family's 2005 Ford Taurus and drove nearly six miles toward school while his mother was asleep.

TODAY'S CITIZEN

NAME: Stephanie Poteet
AGE: 24
HOME: Dalton
FAMILY: Mom, Pam Poteet; dad, Don Poteet; boyfriend, Daniel Fossett; brother and sister-in-law, Jason and Tara Poteet; nephew, Jaden Poteet; dogs, Rocco and Lulu
WORK: Green Spot cashier (graduated with BBA in marketing systems from DSC December, 2008)
PLAY: Watching UGA football with my boyfriend
SHE SAID: "Come to me all who are heavy laden and I will give you rest."



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NEW SUPERINTENDENT WELCOMED



New Dalton Public Schools Superintendent Jim Hawkins, at left, was welcomed to town at a reception Tuesday evening at Trevitt Hall. The event was hosted by the Leadership Dalton-Whitfield Alumni Association and was open to the community. Speaking with Hawkins are Javier Lara, right, and Aaron Moore, both of the Latin American Community Alliance. "We are chamber members, and as alliance members our main focus is supporting education in the community and the region," said Moore. "It's important we know who the players are and who we are dealing with."

MARK MILLICAN/The Daily Citizen

Pay property tax today under tent

The Whitfield County tax commissioner's office will take property tax payments today from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. under a tent on Selvidge Street in front of the courthouse.

Today is the deadline for the property tax pay-

ments. Tax commissioner Danny Sane puts the tent out every year. He said it allows people to drive up and hand in their payments without getting out of their car. Checks only — no cash — will be accepted at the tent.

Orders for fruit now being taken

Customers may order their Indian River navel oranges, pink grapefruit, honey bell tangelos and citrus samplers now through Jan. 21 from Learning Tree Elementary School in Dalton.

Pickup is Jan. 27 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at 300 S. Tibbs Road in Dalton.

"Tangelos are a cross between a tangerine and a grapefruit," said chairman

Michelle Chinking. "They have a sweet, juicy, tangy taste all their own. One bite and you'll be hooked! Also, this is the last month this season for navel oranges."

Prices are navel oranges \$27 box, \$16 half box; pink grapefruit \$28 box, \$17 half box; tangelos \$23 box and citrus samplers \$17 per bag. The citrus 24-hour hot line is (706) 271-0494 or email ltesfruit@windstream.net.



MISTY WATSON/The Daily Citizen

David Couch, right, a bag boy at Green Spot, helps Fred Snell put his groceries in the back of his car Tuesday during one of the rain showers that passed through the area.



MISTY WATSON/The Daily Citizen

Flood waters rose about knee deep around this trailer on Third Avenue east of Eton on Tuesday evening as Mill Creek poured over the bank.

Flooding: Watch

> Continued from page 1A

were attempting to rescue a kayaker stranded in high water near Old Highway 2 in Cisco, officials said.

Whitfield County 911 reported high water on numerous roads around 7:30

p.m., including Cohutta-Varnell Road, Old Mill Road, Old Cleveland Highway, Cedar Ridge Road, East Walnut Avenue, Peggy Lane, Reed Pond Road, Willowdale Road, Mitchell Bridge Road and Underwood Street.

Houses: \$20 fee to be fingerprinted

> Continued from page 1A

815 home foreclosures in 2007 and 2008 in Whitfield County.

Jennings said 25 percent of the money must go to families earning less than 50 percent of the area median income. For a family of three, that would be \$23,800 or less per year. In Whitfield County, some 2,000 households would qualify. The grant application must be submitted by Jan. 15 and all money must be spent within 18 months.

"I've never seen the federal government work so fast," Jennings said.

The development corporation had the first of two public hearings on the grant Monday during the

Whitfield County Board of Commissioners meeting. The second public hearing will be Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. in the lower atrium of the Whitfield County Courthouse.

In other business:

■ The cost of being arrested just got more expensive in Whitfield County.

Commissioners voted 3-0 to approve a \$10,000 budget amendment for the sheriff's office to cover a \$20 fee being charged by the state to record all fingerprints digitally. The \$10,000 is expected to be canceled out by adding a \$20 fee to the booking process.

Maj. John Gibson told commissioners they should

expect to hear complaints from the public.

■ Commissioner Harold Brooker was elected board vice chairman by a 2-0 vote. Brooker did not vote, commissioner Mike Cowan did not attend the meeting and chairman Mike Babb only votes to break ties. Brooker returned to the board after serving 12 total years in the

early 1970s, the late 1980s and early 1990s. Cowan was the previous vice chairman.

■ Commissioners will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday at 6 p.m. rather than Monday. They will be in Atlanta on Monday for a reception with state legislators sponsored by the Dalton-Whitfield Chamber of Commerce.

• Matthew Thomas Gregory, 23, 528 Spring Place-Smyrna Road, Chatsworth, was charged Monday by the Chatsworth Police Department with theft by taking.

• Carla Ruth Herrera, 44, 4025 Parker Road, Dalton, was charged Monday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with failure to drive in a single lane and DUI.

• Tommy Bill Hicks, 39, 505 Keener Road, Chatsworth, was charged Monday by the Murray County Sheriff's Office with no proof of insurance, deposit account fraud/bad checks, failure to stop for stop sign and expired vehicle tag or decal.

• Anthony Lamar Moore, 42, 2904 Vine Drive, Dalton, was charged Monday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with possession of a firearm or knife while trying to commit crimes and criminal damage to property (first degree).

• Edmond David Ridley, 26, 120 Ola Drive, Cohutta, was charged Monday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with possession of a firearm or knife while trying to commit crimes and criminal damage to property (first degree).

• James Valentino

Tugwell, 26, 1600 Underwood St., Apartment 1, Dalton, was charged Monday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with aggravated assault and terroristic threats and acts.

• Allen Lee Barton, 52, 6320 Highway 411 North, Chatsworth, was charged Tuesday by the Murray County Sheriff's Office with possession of arms by a convicted felon.

• Steven Lawrence Brock, 32, 207 Deep Springs Road, Dalton, was charged Tuesday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with simple assault, cruelty to children, criminal damage to property (second degree), disorderly conduct and DUI (third offense).

• Aida Ana Gonzalez, 30, 1269 Orchard Way, Dalton, was charged Tuesday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with forgery (first degree).

• Harold Jay Hamrick, 38, 319 Big Oak St., Chatsworth, was charged Tuesday by the Murray County Sheriff's Office with simple battery and obstruction of an officer.

• Karen Michele Searles, 37, 219 Fredrick St., Dalton, was charged Tuesday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with sale of crack cocaine.



THE GLENN STONE FAMILY

Glenn Stone, a great man, died tragically leaving behind a wife and 3 children with no life insurance. The community loved him, he willingly gave his time coaching children in all sports.

He was always willing to help anyone do anything.

A donation fund has been set up at BB&T for donations toward expenses incurred.

The Glenn Stone Donation Fund account number is 5240394237. All donations will be much appreciated and accepted at any BB&T branch.

The family would like to thank everyone for donations, thoughts and prayers.

The Family of Glenn and Lisa Shelton Stone.

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THE DAILY CITIZEN

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support for POW/MIAs appreciated

To the editor:

My sincere thanks to The Daily Citizen for your support through the years as my family has battled to raise public awareness and keep POW/MIA accountability moving forward. Only by keeping American citizens informed can we reach the fullest possible accounting.

Because of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, 841 Americans have been recovered, identified and returned to their families. Many more wait for us to bring them home. We are also getting significant accounting for those missing from Korea and World War II and have only a small number unaccounted for from the Persian Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan combined.

I am especially grateful to Victor Miller for willingly listening and then telling our story so accurately. Support like this has sustained my family and has helped bring us closer to bringing my brother, Maj. Bobby M. Jones M.D. home.

Our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to our fundraiser thus far and to all who continue to remember us in your prayers. We are most grateful.

Jo Anne Shirley Dalton

Why can't public enjoy Haig Mill Lake?

To the editor:

When our children were young we used to take them fishing at Haig Mill Lake. The fishing was great, the lake was close to home and we spent many a day fishing there. Now if you want to take a kid fishing you either have to know someone that owns a lake in Dalton or go out of town to fish.

When Dalton Utilities first decided that they needed the lake to provide Dalton with water, they promised that when the project was finished that Dalton would have a great place to fish and camp. What happened to this plan? When Dalton Utilities needed the support of the citizens to take over the lake they promised great things for the community.

The fishermen and women in Dalton can no sooner get to the lake than they could get into the White House. In fact it would be easier to get into the White House. The utility company has fenced the lake off and put padlocks on the gates. Am I the only one to remember the great promises of Dalton Utilities? Can they explain why the public cannot fish in the lake? If so, I would like to hear their explanation. I would love to be able to fish in the lake once more. My health is failing and I am unable to make long trips out of town to fish so I have had to give up fishing.

Evelyn Dyer Dalton



Read more from Daily Citizen editor Jimmy Espy at espysoutpost.blogspot.com

WORDS OF WISDOM

Bible verse: "They will belong to me," says the Lord who rules over all. "They will be my special treasure. I will spare them just as a loving father spares his son who serves him."

Malachi 3:17

Thought for today: "I do not believe that sheer suffering teaches. If suffering alone taught, all the world would be wise. To suffering must be added mourning, understanding, patience, love, openness and the willingness to remain vulnerable"

Anne Morrow Lindbergh
American author (1906-2001)

Getting even

As 2009 dawns, the next cycle of Georgia politics is coming into view. We already have seen coverage of the budding race for governor, with Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle and Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine preparing to run for the Republican nomination.

Other GOPers considering an entry include Secretary of State Karen Handel and Congressman Lynn Westmoreland.

On the Democratic side, coverage to date has focused on whether ex-Gov. Roy Barnes will mount a comeback attempt. Retired adjutant general David Poythress looks like he's prepared to go for the state's top job whether Barnes jumps in or not.

However, the 2010 contest with the most potential for fireworks has so far received little attention. The primary for the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor features (for now) Senate President Pro Tem Eric Johnson of Savannah and Sen. David Shafer of Gwinnett County. Johnson and Shafer have been on opposite sides of most intra-GOP fights in the state Senate.

While campaigns infused with personal bitterness may not do much for the Georgia political system, they provide great entertainment value. Besides, the joust for lieutenant governor is often a prelude to bigger things. Since 1967, seven governors — three of them lieutenant governors — have come from the ranks of legislative leaders. In 2006, Ralph Reed, a dynamic Republican figure with a national profile, saw his career as a Georgia politician destroyed, perhaps forever, in his quest for lieutenant gover-



Bill Shipp

nor. During the 2006 campaign for lieutenant governor, Johnson, like most of Georgia's Republican establishment, was quick to jump on the Reed bandwagon. Johnson figured he might as well get an early start with Reed, who appeared at first to be a shoo-in for the post.

At the height of pundit talk of a permanent national Republican majority, the only real question was whether (or maybe how soon) Ralph would be changing his address to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Shafer, who had lost to Reed when Reed was elected chairman of the state Republican Party in 2000, was one of the few willing to plant his flag with Cagle's then-long-shot bid for lieutenant governor. Shafer's gamble paid off when Reed's association with tainted Washington lobbyist Jack Abramoff, as well as allegations of other less-than-ethical transgressions, made national headlines.

The cloud around Reed helped Cagle coast to victory. Then Cagle expeditiously dispatched hapless Democrat Jim Martin in the general election. Of course, Johnson, who had committed to Reed too early, lost his place in Georgia's Republican power lineup.

Now Johnson has launched a bid to regain his supremacy in the Senate by becoming lieutenant governor. You may

expect his campaign to be sparked by his anger over the indignities he believes he has suffered.

Shafer has his own baggage. He was Guy Millner's right-hand man during Millner's not-quite-successful attempt to become Georgia's first modern-era Republican governor in the 1990s.

Shafer was Oxendine's top aide in the state Insurance Department and lost a race for secretary of state in 1996. His race for lieutenant governor will be fueled by his ambition to reach the highest levels of state government and elbow Johnson out of the way once and for all.

Expect both Republicans to go bare-knuckles in this battle. Johnson may have unexploited weaknesses that Shafer can expose, in a manner similar (if less spectacular) to the drumbeat that took Reed down in 2006. Johnson's dealings as an architect and real estate developer, and his alleged use of his position in the Senate to benefit those enterprises, have never been fully examined by a hard-charging opponent.

Johnson has enjoyed a position of relative power as the top Republican in the Senate, but endured little scrutiny from a capitol press corps that has dwindled in number and initiative over the last several years. Now that he is a candidate for statewide office, Johnson may well emerge as a better candidate for a little old-style investigative journalism.

You can reach Bill Shipp at P.O. Box 2520, Kennesaw, GA 30156, e-mail: shipp1@bell-south.net, or Web address: billshipponline.com.



It couldn't happen here?

Pinal County, Ariz., Sheriff Paul Babeu has canceled a contract with Reflex Traffic Systems to operate mobile traffic cameras in that county. "I've never yet seen a photo radar camera arrest a drunk driver or arrest a person with a warrant, see if somebody has insurance, or to just simply give directions to somebody," Babeu said.

Meanwhile, in Maricopa County, Ariz., the conservative Goldwater Institute has issued a report blasting Sheriff Joe Arpaio. The report details numerous problems with his department, including improper record keeping, civil rights violations, increasing response times to calls, the lack of investigations into large numbers of crimes, massive budget deficits and the fact that the county has paid out more than \$30 million in lawsuit judgments, settlements and other court costs. The report also notes that crime rates, especially homicide, have soared in the past three years, even as they have held flat or risen just slightly in neighboring jurisdictions.

The economy may be in the tank. But one group isn't suffering. Members of Congress will get a \$4,100 pay raise this year, raising their salary to \$169,300. This marks the fifth year in a row the lawmakers refused to cancel their automatic pay increase.

Loudon, Va., police say they found Vicky Lynn Kwasny slumped over the



Charles Oliver

began with a visit to the Social Security office with her husband. When Viespoli asked about changing the name on her account, a woman looked up her records and told her she was an illegal alien. Viespoli was born in Germany to an American soldier and a German woman. The family came to the United States when she was a small child in 1951. Her mother became a naturalized citizen six years later, which should have automatically made Viespoli a citizen. But the government has no record of her parents ever registering her. Now, she is unable to vote, get a passport or — even after paying into the system since she was 16 — collect Social Security benefits. Officials have suggested she dig up her father's corpse for DNA testing to prove she is his daughter.

City officials in Portland, Ore., have unveiled the first of their new solar-pow-

ered public toilets. They say they plan to install more and also market their design to other cities. But with a price tag of \$140,000 that may be wishful thinking.

An employee in Newton, Massachusetts' emergency dispatch center spilled a soft drink, destroying more than \$13,000 in equipment. The spill destroyed the center's ability to send dispatches to individual fire stations.

Police stations in Perth, Australia, have been hit by arsons that left two patrol cars destroyed and did other damage. The police department is considering hiring private security guards to keep an eye on at-risk stations.

Sam Spiteri, 3, has spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy. His parents bought him a miniature therapy pony to help with his physical therapy. The Spiteris live in a fairly rural area of Caledon, Canada. In fact, they live next to a cattle farm. But their property isn't zoned to house livestock. So a neighbor complained, and city officials threatened to take them to court unless they got rid of the dog-sized pony. Well, they threatened to sue until the media reported the story. Now, they say they will grant the Spiteris an exemption to the zoning rules.

Charles Oliver is a staff writer for The Daily Citizen.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is **Wednesday, Jan. 7**, the seventh day of 2009. There are 358 days left in the year.

Highlight in History:

On Jan. 7, 1789, the first U.S. presidential election was held. Americans voted for electors who, a month later, chose George Washington to be the nation's first president.

On this date:

In 1608, an accidental fire devastated the Jamestown settlement in the Virginia colony.

In 1610, astronomer Galileo Galilei began observing three of Jupiter's moons.

In 1800, the 13th president of the United States, Millard Fillmore, was born in Summerhill, N.Y.

In 1927, commercial transatlantic telephone service was inaugurated between New York and London.

In 1942, the Japanese siege of Bataan began during World War II.

In 1949, George C. Marshall resigned as U.S. Secretary of State, effective Jan. 20. President Harry S. Truman chose Dean Acheson to succeed him.

In 1959, the United States recognized the new government of Cuba, six days after Fidel Castro led the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

In 1972, Lewis F. Powell Jr. and William H. Rehnquist were sworn in as the 99th and 100th members of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1979, Vietnamese forces captured the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge government.

In 1989, Emperor Hirohito of Japan died in Tokyo at age 87; he was succeeded by his son, Crown Prince Akihito.

Ten years ago: For the second time in history, an impeached American president went on trial before the Senate. President Bill Clinton faced charges of perjury and obstruction of justice; he was acquitted.

One year ago: The Pentagon reported an Iranian fleet of high-speed boats charged at and threatened to blow up a three-ship U.S. Navy convoy passing near Iranian waters, then vanished as the American ship commanders were preparing to open fire.

Today's Birthdays: Author William Peter Blatty is 81. Country singer Jack Greene is 79. Pop musician Paul Revere is 71. Magazine publisher Jann Wenner is 63. Singer Kenny Loggins is 61.

Dalton High freshmen learn about real costs of living

SUBMITTED BY THE DALTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION

You are 35 years old. You have a spouse and three young children. You graduated from high school and are currently earning \$24,000 a year. Your spouse earns \$15,000. What can you afford to buy or rent in terms of housing, transportation, medical bills, clothes, groceries, insurance, further education, etc.?

The second group of Dalton High School freshmen will have a chance to find out when they go through "Reality Check," a program sponsored jointly by the Dalton Board of Education and the Dalton Education Foundation on Thursday at the school.

Community volunteers man 12 stations in the fictitious "Realville, U.S.A." to offer everything from a "real estate agency" selling and renting housing to a "day care service." Often, the volunteers represent their own career field. The manager of the West Walnut Avenue Kroger, for example, is returning this year to "run" the "Realville Grocery."

Students have been assigned a fictitious family, education level, job and income. After figuring their taxes and determining how much net they have per month, they will go "shopping" for housing, transportation, day care, groceries, medical care, insurance and more as they keep a record of their spending vs. their earnings.

As happens in real life, they will be hit with unexpected expenses or bonuses that will cause them to refigure what they can

afford. Two major lessons become quickly apparent to most students: keeping within a budget requires careful management of resources, and — generally speaking — the higher one's educational level, the more earning power that person has.

Sponsors hope that this real-life view of independent living will encourage these ninth-graders to work hard to stay in school through high school graduation and beyond, said Kevin Wright, Dalton Education Foundation president.

One of the booths offers the option of further education, but of course, that comes with a price tag too. Many students, "stuck in dead-end jobs" because of their fictitious education levels, line up to enroll in further schooling. They quickly recognize the sacrifices they must make to go back to school.

Community volunteers, especially those involved in business, add an extra level of reality for these students by talking knowledgeably about their products. In the case of the "Realville Car Co.," some students purchased cars that they could not afford on their assigned incomes. Brooker Ford volunteers manning that station told students that they could not give them a full refund since the cars had been "driven" off the lot. That's real life!

Dalton Education Foundation trustee Steve Pound chairs the foundation's "Learn and Earn" program of which "Reality Check" is a part. Pound has been recruiting volunteers to man the booths. There may be room for some additional

volunteers, Pound says, especially when large groups of students arrive at one time. Persons interested in volunteering to help staff the booths may obtain more information by calling the Dalton Education Foundation at (706) 278-5427 or e-mailing def@dalton.k12.ga.us. A brief training session for new volunteers will be scheduled prior to 8:30 a.m. Thursday.

"We deeply appreciate the help and generosity of the Chattanooga Area

Chamber of Commerce and their partners — University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga State and the University of Tennessee Extension Service — in sharing this program, their expertise and their materials with Dalton Public Schools and the Dalton Education Foundation," Pound said. He adds that Dalton is participating with Chattanooga schools in assessing the effectiveness of the program.

Do you know what today is??

It's **MIKE MIRACLE'S BIRTHDAY!!!**

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25 \$10.00 Off Office Visit with this coupon	26 Kimball 10-6 Lenoir City 11-5	27 Jellico 10-6 Cleveland 10-5 Gallatin 10-6 Harrogate 10-6 Maryville 10-5	28 Sweetwater 10-5 Sevierville 11-5 Cookeville 10-6	29 Jellico 10-6 Crossville 10-6 Cleveland 10-5 Portland 10-6 Halls 10-6	30 Maryville 10-5 Harrogate 9-5 Winfield 10-6 Athens & Lenoir City 10-5	31 Sweetwater 8-2 Kimball 9-1 Maryville 8-2 Harrogate 10-2

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DALTON-WHITFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Beware! The Legislature is in session



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Robin Bryant lights a luminary during the American Cancer Society's recent Night of Celebration and Remembrance to honor and remember loved ones who have battled cancer.

Relay for Life to meet Tuesday

The American Cancer Society will hold a meeting for the 2009 Relay For Life of Whitfield County on Tuesday, Jan. 13, at 6 p.m. in the Temple Baptist Church Fellowship Hall on South Dixie Highway. The meeting is open to anyone interested in starting a team.

Relay For Life is an overnight event designed to celebrate survivors and raise

money for research and programs of the American Cancer Society.

The 2009 Relay will be on June 5 at the North Georgia Fairgrounds. Ceremonies will begin at 7 p.m. with a survivor lap.

For more information, call (706) 278-1960 or visit http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=12744.

MLK celebration set for Jan. 17 at Ryman

The annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration banquet will be Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. at Ryman Hall. The guest speaker will be Paul A. McDaniel, pastor of Second Missionary Baptist

Church in Chattanooga. Tickets are \$30 per person. They may be purchased at Willis Funeral Home and the Dalton Community Center on Fredrick Street.

Dulcimer club to organize

A mountain dulcimer club will hold an organizational meeting on Jan. 14 at 2:30 p.m. at Dalton First United Methodist Church on Thornton Avenue. Beginners

are welcome and ability to read music is not required. For information, call Sherry Patterson at (706) 278-7256 or Arlene Varner at (706) 278-1903.

Forgive my lame use of sensationalism in my title, but just like professional journalists I am pitifully attempting to capture your attention. The thought came from a somewhat well known story about a sign in an Atlanta restaurant proclaiming something to the effect of, "Lock up your children, pets, valuables — the Georgia Legislature is in session."

As a former elected official, I would argue this thought too severe in consideration of our state elected officials. Given the plethora of examples of the bad, we often throw out the good with the bad. I truly believe most public officials want to serve their communities faithfully and with distinction. After many years of visiting the state Capitol during previous sessions advocating for our local community, I unequivocally appreciate the service of our elected officials.

As I read my morning devotional, the subject was on leadership. Since I had already decided to discuss the upcoming session and preview our legislative priorities in today's column, I thought it providentially coincidental that the subject of my devotional be leadership.

A brief from my devotional reads, "Since leaders have influence over the lives of others, their responsibility is enormous. Issues that may not matter to others must matter to them. Everything rises or falls on leadership."

This excerpt is from the book, "Men in Leadership," by Bob Briner.

As the members of our state government begin another legislative session next week, they will face tremendous challenges ranging from but not limited

to: A deficit budget for the current year and probably the following fiscal year, a state water management plan, state tax issues and the need to be more competitive, and last but not least, an aging and woefully under capacity transportation infrastructure.

Again, I generally feel most elected officials serve for the good of their communities and our state as a whole. But along with that overall belief and confidence in our system, I along with many others get frustrated over petty bickering and party politics. Party politics have a place in campaigns and when issues are philosophically debated (such as fiscal management, role of government, etc).

Outside of these instances, leadership demands that individual public servants seek the common good of the whole. We, the citizens of Georgia, expect and demand that party politics and petty bickering yield to working together and collaborating around solutions. Many citizens have given up on the process and are soured to our greatest national asset — a democratic form of government that is elected freely by the people and for the people.

Your chamber is intricately involved in the political process. We have a member-led Legislative Action Committee. These volunteers meet regularly throughout the session. They are well versed in the

legislative priorities that have been agreed upon that affect our community at large and specifically the business community. They review bills as they are presented by legislators and as they move through the legislative process. They take positions on these bills and present them back to the chamber's executive board who then votes to take a position of support or opposition.

This year's legislative priorities are:

1. Support passage of a tourism investment/incentive bill.
2. Support further reductions in the sales tax charged on energy in the manufacturing process.
3. Support increased funding for pre-K education.
4. Support development and implementation of an improved revenue tracking system for tracking state sales tax revenue.
5. Support increases in the jobs tax credits and other economic development incentives.
6. Oppose legislation setting artificial caps on assessments of residential and commercial property and any other artificial tax measures.
7. Support transportation initiatives such as an east-west corridor north of Atlanta and regional transportation funding initiatives.
8. Support for a state water plan that contains both conservation and augmentation elements, and that has full implementation funding provided by the state.
9. Support continued funding by the Board of Regents and the legislature for Dalton State College.
10. Support for a comprehensive review and improvement of the state tax

structure. I urge all citizens to be aware of the issues being debated in Atlanta over the coming weeks and to make their positions known. The chamber will kick off its legislative season with two events. On Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. we will have our "Good Morning Dalton Breakfast" highlighted by comments from our local state delegation. On Monday, we will host a legislative reception for key local stakeholders and members of the legislature to meet at the Georgia Depot in Atlanta.

As we all look forward to and pray for a productive session, I will report on key issues as they proceed through the legislative process. Thank you for your support of The Greater Dalton Chamber of Commerce.

Brian Anderson is president and CEO of the Dalton-Whitfield Chamber of Commerce.



Brian Anderson

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BRIEFS

Feinstein says accept Burris

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Senate Rules Committee has parted with many of her Democratic colleagues and says that the Senate should seat former Illinois Attorney General Roland Burris. Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California said Tuesday that Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, however tainted by corruption charges, has the right to appoint someone to President-elect Barack Obama's former seat. The Rules Committee decides whether Burris is qualified to serve. Feinstein said that blocking Burris would have ramifications for other governors' appointments.

CNN reporter next surgeon general?

WASHINGTON — President-elect Barack Obama has approached CNN's chief medical correspondent, Sanjay Gupta, to be the country's next surgeon general, the cable network said Tuesday. CNN said it has kept Gupta from reporting on health care policy and other matters involving the incoming Obama administration since learning he was under consideration for the post. Gupta hosts "House Call" on CNN, contributes reports to CBS News, and writes a column for Time magazine. He is a neurosurgeon and is on the faculty at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta.

Israeli shells kill at least 30

GAZA CITY, Gaza — Israeli mortar shells struck outside a U.N. school where hundreds of Palestinians had sought refuge on Tuesday, killing at least 30 people — many of them children whose parents wailed in grief at a hospital filled with dead and wounded. The Israeli army said its soldiers came under fire from militants hiding in the school and responded. It accused Gaza's Hamas rulers of "cynically" using civilians as human shields. Residents confirmed the account, saying militants were seen staging attacks from the area. Despite international criticism over civilian deaths and a diplomatic push to broker a cease-fire, Israeli said it would push on with the offensive against Hamas.

CIA pick unlikely to face challenge

WASHINGTON — President-elect Barack Obama had to do a little fence-mending Tuesday with the new Congress controlled by his own party — apologizing to a key Senate Democrat for failing to consult on his decision to name veteran Washington hand Leon Panetta CIA director. Vice President-elect Joe Biden also branded it a mistake. But despite rumblings of criticism about Panetta's lack of intelligence experience, his confirmation is not expected to draw strong opposition.

Don't get used to cheap oil

BY JOHN PORRETTO
AP Energy Writer

HOUSTON — All that money you're saving these days at the gas pump? You might want to put it in the bank.

The same cheap oil that's providing relief to drivers and businesses in an awful economy is setting the stage for another price spike, perhaps as soon as next year, that will bring back painful memories of last summer's \$4-a-gallon gas.

The oil industry is scaling back on exploration and production because some projects don't make economic sense when energy prices are low. And crude is already harder to find because more nations that own oil companies are blocking outside access to their oil fields.

When the world emerges from the recession and starts to burn more fuel again, and higher demand meets lower supply, prices will almost certainly shoot higher.

Some analysts say oil could eventually eclipse \$150 a barrel, maybe even on its way to \$200. In such a scenario, gasoline would easily cost more than the record high of \$4.11 a gallon set last summer. Oil trades at about \$50 today.

No one knows for sure, but some analysts say the spike could happen as soon as next year, perhaps in 2011 or 2012.

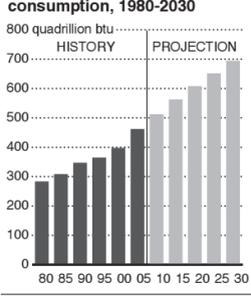
"I think those supply limits will come back to bite with a vengeance," said Sean Brodrick, a natural resources analyst at Weiss Research Inc.

High prices at the pump last summer — more than \$4

Energy in demand

Global energy demand is expected to increase in the coming years as the economies of developing nations like China and India expand.

World marketed energy consumption, 1980-2030



SOURCE: Energy Information Administration AP

per gallon for gas on average — helped slash demand for oil. From November 2007 to October 2008, Americans drove 100 billion fewer miles than the year before, according to government figures. The nation's biggest automakers lurched toward bankruptcy as sales of sport utility vehicles and trucks plummeted.

Coleman sues over Minn. Senate recount result

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Republican Norm Coleman filed a lawsuit Tuesday challenging Democrat Al Franken's apparent recount victory in Minnesota's U.S. Senate race, delaying a resolution of the contest for weeks or months.

At a Capitol news conference filled with cheering supporters, Coleman said he won't accept a board's determination a

day earlier that Franken captured 225 more votes in the November election. He had a seven-day window to file the lawsuit.

Coleman shrugged off the idea that he might concede the election to avoid a protracted fight that could leave Minnesota with only a single senator in Washington for months.



Enjoying the Christmas festivities on the trip to Williamsburg, Va., are from left Jewell Dale, Robbie Rockholt, Carolyn Britton and Gail Montieth.

'Teens' visit Williamsburg

The Recycled Teenagers Travel Club recently took a Christmas trip to the Grand Illumination in Williamsburg, Va.

The group took part in the festivities in Colonial Williamsburg and also toured Jamestown and Richmond, Va. They enjoyed a Christmas play, "Beautiful Star," in Greensboro, N.C. and toured Shirley Plantation in Charles City, Va. They also enjoyed a visit to Natural Bridge, Va.

Participants included group leaders Rosie and John Mosteller, Bill and Neil Holley, Jim and Pat Clayton, Darrell and Linda Dempsey, Bill and Jolynn Green, James and Rethia Spence, Betty Vick, Carol Kittles, Jean Corp, Paula Waters, Sandra Cross, Linda Styles, Geneva Johnson, Flora Crow, Faye Nelson, Pam Parker, Betty Pippin, Charlene Clayton, Jewell Dale, Gail Montieth, Carolyn Britton, Robbie

Rockholt, Pat DeLoach, Barbara Littleton, Carolyn Mitchell, Wanda Williams, Linda Walraven, Starr Helton, Charles and Geraldine Sneed, Lynn Hatler, Ruby Smith, Jerene McIntosh, Dora Stalans, Dorothy Robinson, Faye Elder, Carolyn Bearden, Shirley Hegwood, Vicky

Gordon, Patricia Knoll and Jerry and Linda Dennis.

Director Rosie Mosteller will announce trips for 2009 at the annual travel party Jan. 29 at 3 and 6 p.m. at the Dalton-Whitfield Senior Center. To register for one of the parties call the center at (706) 278-3700.

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Dalton to host Lego League competition

Forty teams of students, including one from New Hope Middle School, will meet at Dalton High School for the First Lego League (FLL) Super Regional competition on Saturday.

The FLL is a global program created to get kids excited about science and technology. Geared for ages 9-14 (up to 16 outside of the U.S. and Canada), FLL utilizes theme-based challenges to engage kids in research, problem solving and engineering. The cornerstones of the program are its core values, which emphasize contributions of others, friendly sportsmanship, learning and community involvement.

Each annual challenge has two parts, the Project and the Robot Game. Working in teams of up to 10 kids and guided by at least one adult coach, team members have about 10 weeks to:

- Build an autonomous robot that will, in 2 minutes and 30 seconds, complete pre-designed missions.

- Analyze, research and invent a solution for a given assignment.

- Create a clever presentation about their solution to perform in front of a panel of judges.

FLL events are much like

sporting events. Referees monitor and score the robot game. Judges review team presentations. Teams earn awards and trophies. It's a pumped-up environment with music and excitement, and there is a ton of cheering.

There will be 40 FLL teams at the Dalton Super Regional, from all over Georgia. Several local teachers and coaches that participate in the FLL program at the schools in Whitfield County and Dalton Public Schools will be volunteering.

Another 40 teams will compete at a second Super Regional competition in Warner Robins the same day. At the end of the day, 24 teams from each of the Super Regional competitions will advance to compete for the state championship on Jan. 31 at Georgia Tech. Georgia's winning team will advance to the World Festival at the Georgia Dome, where approximately 100 teams from all over the world will compete April 16-18.

More than 270 teams registered in Georgia this year, and it is Georgia's seventh season to participate in FLL.

For more information about the FLL, visit www.firstlegoleague.org.

NEW PRESIDENT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ron Hawkins, left, of Murray County, was recently inducted as 2009 president of the Northwest Georgia Region/Dalton chapter of the Antique Automobile Club of America by Carter Pittman, 2008 president. The chapter was chartered in 1973 and accepts new members on the guidelines that "you do not have to own an antique vehicle — just have a love of them." For more information or to obtain an application to join, contact any member or call (706) 695-8182.

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OBITUARIES

• **Jonathan Dewitt Cronic, Dalton**
 • **David "Freddie" Franks, Cohutta**
 • **Huston C. Smith, Chatsworth**
 • **Bernice "Bunny" Craig Strain, Decatur**
 • **Dora Lee Bennett White, Chatsworth**

Obituary notices are posted online at www.daltondailycitizen.com

Jonathan Dewitt Cronic

Mr. Jonathan Dewitt Cronic, 44, of Dalton, departed this life Monday, Jan. 5, 2009, at Hamilton Medical Center.

Mr. Cronic was born June 1, 1964, in Whitfield County. He was also preceded in death by his father, Dewitt P. Cronic; and sister, Billie Faye Cronic.

Mr. Cronic is survived by his mother and stepfather, Gladys and Robert J. Givens; brothers and sisters-in-law, Chris and Connie Cronic of Dalton, Bryan Givens of Calhoun, Dave and Beverly Cronic of Jasper, Ernest and Nancy Cronic of Rome and Glen Cronic of Carrollton; sisters and brothers-in-law, Cynthia and Frank White of Chatsworth, Angela and Mike Howard of Cleveland, Tenn., Nancy Cronic of Rome, Connie Pendergrass of Rome and Linda and Butch Cook of Acworth; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services to celebrate the

life of Jonathan Dewitt Cronic are Thursday at 2 p.m. in the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home with the Rev. Darey Kittle officiating.

He will be laid to rest in the United Memorial Gardens.

The family will receive friends at the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home today from 5 to 9 p.m.

Visit the Web site at www.pondersfuneralhome.com to share words of comfort and memories with the Cronic family.

Arrangements are by locally owned and operated Ponders Funeral Home, 138 Melrose Drive, Dalton; (706) 226-4002. Your selected independent funeral home. www.legacy.com

David 'Freddie' Franks

David "Freddie" Franks, 69, of Cohutta, passed away Monday, Jan. 5, 2009, at Hamilton Medical Center.

Mr. Franks was preceded in death by his parents, Glenn Franks and Grace Franks Bishop; sisters, Edith Barton, Lois Lingerfelt, and Gladys Colbert; and a brother, Troy Franks.

He was a member of Cedar Valley Cathedral of Praise.

Survivors include his wife, Myrtle Hollis Franks of the residence; a daughter, Angie White of Dalton; two stepdaughters and sons-in-law, Pat and Jim Moore of Dalton, and Delania and Chris Simms of Cohutta; two stepsons and daughter-in-law, Michael and Laurie

Hollis of Cohutta and Bruce Hollis of Dalton; a sister, Linda Brown of Dalton; two brothers and sisters-in-law, J.C. and Monica Franks of Dalton and Richard Bradley, Sr. and Edna Franks of Dalton; six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral is Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove Chapel of Julian Peeples Funeral Home with the Rev. Clayton Brown officiating.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. today.

A graveside service will be at Chattanooga National Cemetery on Friday at 11 a.m. A white dove release will conclude the service.

An online guestbook can be viewed and signed at www.julianpeeples.com.

Julian Peeples Funeral Home, Pleasant Grove Chapel is in charge of the funeral arrangements. www.legacy.com

Huston C. Smith

Mr. Huston C. Smith, 67, of Chatsworth, died Monday, Jan. 5, 2008, at Hamilton Medical Center.

Mr. Smith was a member of Chatsworth Masonic Lodge and active with the American Red Cross. He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Lillie Smith; and a son, Robin Smith.

Survivors include his loving wife of 47 years, Sandra Thomason Smith; children and spouses, Chuck and Melinda Smith of Dalton and

Tonda and Chris O'Neal of Bremen; grandchildren, Gary, Eric and Alia O'Neal and Hannah and Lillie Smith; sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Randall Ingle of Chatsworth; several nieces and nephews.

Services are Thursday at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Shawn Chapman Funeral Home with the Rev. Donald Young, the Rev. Tim Batchelor and the Rev. Erwin Crider officiating.

Burial will be in the Maranatha Church Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Arrangements made with integrity by Shawn Chapman Funeral Home and Crematory in Chatsworth. www.legacy.com

Bernice 'Bunny' Craig Strain

Mrs. Bernice "Bunny" Craig Strain, 91, of Decatur and formerly of Dalton, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2009, in Atlanta.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William "Bill" Strain, in 1992.

Bernice is survived by her daughter, Anjo Strain Jones of Decatur; son, Craig Strain of Atlanta; grandchildren, Kristen and Tres Indermark of Avondale Estates, Casey and Katey Jones of Decatur, Luke and Natalee Jones of Colorado Springs, Colo.; great-grandchild, Nicholas Indermark; sister and brother-in-law, Ollie and James Henry Cleghorn of Dalton; nieces and nephews also sur-

vive.

Services will be Thursday at noon in the chapel of Love Funeral Home.

Burial will be in West Hill Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the Love Funeral Home Thursday from 10:30 a.m. until the hour of the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Side by Side Brain Injury Clubhouse, 1001 Main St., Stone Mountain, GA 30083.

Words of comfort may be sent to the family at www.lovefuneralhome.ga.com.

Love Funeral Home, 1402 N. Thornton Ave., Dalton (across from Hamilton Medical Center), is in charge of arrangements. www.legacy.com

Love

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Dora Lee Bennett White

Mrs. Dora Lee Bennett White, 87, of Chatsworth, died Monday, Jan. 5, 2009, at her residence.

She was the daughter of the late Wesley Davis Bennett and Lona Wimpey Bennett; was a longtime member of Mount Rachel Baptist Church and was preceded in death by her husband, Robert E. "Bob" White; sisters, Lela Greenway, Eula Mae Thompson, Neta Thompson

and Mary Lou Newton; brothers, Cleaburn Bennett and Arvil Bennett and her special granddaughter, Janna Johnson.

Dora Lee is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Patsy and L.D. Faw of Dalton; sons and daughters-in-law, Weems and Nedra White, Bobby and Dorene White all of Dalton; sister, Essie West of Dalton; grandchildren, Wendy and David Ensley, Amy and Burke Hayes, Tracy and Bill Grissett, Stacy and Nick Beason, Heather and Glen Johnson and Joshua Faw; great-grandchildren, Cody and Carly Ensley, Conner and Donovan Hayes, Caden Johnson, Emily and Will Grissett and Evie Beason; nieces and nephews.

Services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Love Funeral Home with Dr. Larry Wood officiating.

Burial will be in West Hill Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the Love Funeral Home today from 5 to 8 p.m.

Words of comfort may be sent to the family at www.lovefuneralhome.ga.com.

Love Funeral Home, 1402 N. Thornton Ave., Dalton (across from Hamilton Medical Center) is in charge of arrangements. www.legacy.com

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Council meets tonight

The mayor and council of the city of Dalton will hold their first meeting of 2009 today at 6 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

THE MARKET

Tuesday's Dow Jones: 9015.10 ▲ 62.20
 Tuesday's NASDAQ: 1652.40 ▲ 24.30

	Monday	Tuesday		14.91	15.25
Gold	853.5	848.2	Intel	86.82	89.23
Silver	11.49	11.20	IBM	4.93	4.97
Acuity	35.36	35.10	Interface	21.52	22.50
AAir	4.55	4.59	JCP	60.05	59.69
Apple	94.58	93.02	JNJ	26.67	25.36
AT&T	28.43	28.30	Kroger	22.96	22.96
BAC	13.98	14.28	Lowes	63.56	62.14
BB&T	25.88	25.68	McDonalds	30.53	29.97
BP	49.03	49.05	Merck	20.52	20.76
BristolMyers	23.23	22.35	Microsoft	44.76	45.08
HP-Compaq	36.33	39.31	Mohawk	4.48	4.64
Chevron	76.66	77.35	Motorola	8.72	8.83
CocaCola	45.44	44.71	Region-Fin	35.43	35.97
ConAgra	16.62	16.79	Rock-Tenn.	10.04	10.49
ColonialBnk	2.1	2.43	Sara Lee	36.67	35.79
Coke Ent.	12.86	12.63	SouthernCo	7.17	7.29
CrackerBrl	22.13	20.89	Synovous	27.88	28.30
CrwnCrafts	2.65	2.32	SunTrust	45.54	46.32
CSX	35.34	36.69	Torchmark	14.85	14.81
Dell	10.61	11.05	Total Sys	55.18	55.42
Delta	11.95	12.38	UPS	69.95	67.07
Dixie Group	1.74	2	Vulcan	32.48	31.96
Dow	15.13	16.05	Verizon	NA	NA
Duke	15.77	15.34	Wachovia	56.52	56.02
DuPont	26.33	27.65	Wal-Mart	4.69	4.92
Earthlink	6.85	7.20	Wendy's	32.87	32.81
Ericsson	7.99	8.19	Yum	8.9	9.10
Exxon	81.63	80.30	Xerox		
Ford	2.58	2.76			
FSG	5	4.90			
GE	16.63	16.86			
GM	3.71	3.94			
Goodyear	6.97	7.51			
HomeDepot	24.71	25.26			

Stock information as of market closing is furnished by Hilliard Lyons, 511 Benjamin Way, Suite 112, Dalton, (706) 279-1810 or 800-437-6450. Hilliard Lyons is a member of the New York Stock Exchange.

OUR SINCERE THANKS

"No man is an island, No man lives alone - all that we put in the lives of others - comes back into our own."

We the friends and relatives of Mr. Oscar Eugene Anderson wish to thank his church family, and many friends who lovingly donated toward the benefit. Mr. Anderson is improving physically and is most grateful for your generosity. May God Bless each of you individually and collectively.

Holsomback exhibit to open

SUBMITTED BY THE CREATIVE ARTS GUILD

The Creative Arts Guild will host Michael Holsomback of Chattanooga in the main gallery today through Feb. 20 for an exhibition of recent paintings and collages alongside Gallery 111 featured artists, husband and wife Waldo Vines and Victoria Martin-Gilly. An opening reception is Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Holsomback's passion for art developed early, fostered by the sacrifice and support of his parents. He earned his bachelor of fine arts in painting and drawing from the University of Georgia and his master's of fine arts in painting and printmaking from East Tennessee State University in 1989. Holsomback began his teaching career shortly thereafter.

Born in rural north Georgia in 1961, Holsomback is the self described son of a son of a white sharecropper, as his father's parents lived in a string of Depression-era sharecropper shacks.

"The fields may have been segregated but the poverty was colorblind," he said.

It is through his own veil of poverty and the illnesses which arise within it, that Holsomback has sharpened his vision as a painter. He has seen and participated in the long and often painful journey of Southern cultural evolution.

Holsomback is currently an art department faculty

member at Chattanooga State Community College in Chattanooga and serves as adjunct faculty at University of Tennessee. He is also a productive painter himself, having a considerable regional and national exhibition record. His work has been selected for exhibitions in such venues as: the San Diego Art Institute, the University of Mobile, the Stage Gallery in Merrick, N.Y., the Huntsville Museum of Art in Huntsville, Ala., and Nassau College in Nassau, N.Y.

Waldo Vines and Victoria Martin-Gilly show in Gallery 111

Waldo Vines and Victoria Martin-Gilly, both painters from South America, will show recent works in Gallery 111.

Vines was born in Lima, Peru, in 1967. He grew up in Caracas, Venezuela, where he inherited from his parents a deep sentiment for social work and activities related to art and culture. He returned to Lima in 1986 where he studied archeology in the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru. Vines moved to Venezuela in 1990, entering the Faculty of Architecture of the Polytechnic Institute Santiago, Santiago Marino. He then moved to Atlanta in 1994 where he met his wife, artist Victoria Martin-Gilly. His work is held in numerous corporate collections, including King & Spalding, Delta Air Lines, Georgia Power and The Home Depot.

"Currently, I am working on a series of paintings based on my experience as an immigrant. They're intended to convey a sense of reflection and loneliness. Bits and pieces of my life and collages into surfaces of drawings and notes to myself — they personalize the image and give the viewer a way into my world," said Vines.

"While working, I discover meaning and truth, a personal exploration of my surroundings and myself. The drawing of the house represents my family, my childhood in Peru, my high school days in Argentina and the many years in Venezuela where I attended Architecture School before moving to the United States almost ten years ago. The boat is my inner self, representing the person who left everything behind to live the adventure of conquering an unknown

world that has now become my home."

Venezuela-born artist Victoria Martin-Gilly holds a degree in Modern Languages from Universidad Metropolitana in Caracas, Venezuela and a degree in Experimental Drawing from the McIntyre Academy School of American Art in Decatur, Georgia. She has also received training from the Marietta Martin Ceramic Studios in Therife, Spain. She has had exhibitions in Caracas, Venezuela and in New York, Tulsa, Savannah and Atlanta. Ms. Martin-Gilly has served as an art teacher for the Latin American Association Cultural Initiative in Atlanta. Her work is held in numerous corporate and private collections around the globe.

The opening reception Friday is free and open to the public.



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AccuWeather.com® 5-Day forecast for Dalton

Today	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
45° 37°	49° 29°	56° 37°	55° 34°	43° 30°
Spotty showers	Partly sunny	Not as cool	A shower	Colder

Almanac

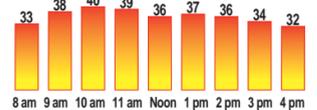
Statistics for Chattanooga through 3 p.m. yest.

Temperature:
 High 55°
 Low 48°

Precipitation:
 24 hrs. through 3 p.m. yest. 2.34"

Real Feel Temperature®

The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. Shown is the highest values of the day.



Sun

Sunrise today 7:47 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 5:45 p.m.

Moon Phases



Weather History

On Jan. 7, 1953, 1-3 inches of ice accumulated in parts of eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Connecticut. Most residents of Norwalk, Conn., had no electricity.

Weather Trivia™

Q: What is the coldest it has ever been in the United States?

A: -79.8°F at Prospect Creek, Alaska, Jan. 23, 1971

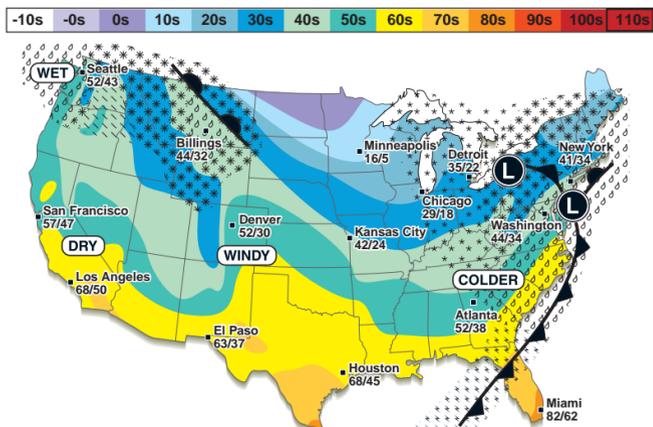
Georgia Weather



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

City	Today	Thu.	Fri.	City	Today	Thu.	Fri.
Albany	67/41/r	65/36/s	67/41/s	La Grange	54/37/s	57/29/s	60/35/s
Atlanta	52/38/pc	55/33/pc	56/41/s	Macon	66/40/pc	61/31/pc	62/35/s
Athens	60/37/pc	55/31/pc	58/36/s	Marietta	50/33/c	53/31/pc	57/33/s
Augusta	66/38/r	60/33/pc	62/34/s	Newton	64/39/r	67/39/s	66/38/s
Brunswick	66/43/r	65/42/s	62/43/s	Rome	50/34/sh	53/28/pc	60/38/s
College Park	52/38/pc	55/33/pc	56/41/s	Savannah	66/39/r	63/36/pc	62/35/s
Columbus	60/39/s	60/36/s	62/42/s	Sparta	69/35/r	60/31/pc	62/32/s
Gainesville	50/35/sh	51/30/pc	58/38/s	Valdosta	66/38/r	65/38/s	66/42/s

National Weather for January 7, 2009



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



City	Today	Thu.	Fri.	City	Today	Thu.	Fri.
Albany	30/26/sn	31/15/sf	24/11/pc	Memphis	50/39/pc	53/38/s	59/47/pc
Anchorage	-4/11/s	4/6/pc	14/10/c	Miami	82/62/t	74/55/s	75/60/s
Baltimore	44/30/r	40/26/c	39/26/pc	Milwaukee	28/18/sn	27/15/c	21/17/c
Billings	44/32/r	44/27/c	35/17/c	Minneapolis	16/5/sf	16/12/s	15/7/sn
Boise	43/32/c	41/29/c	38/23/pc	New Orleans	64/45/s	71/50/s	72/56/pc
Buffalo	34/23/t	27/16/sf	24/19/sf	New York	41/34/r	38/28/c	34/28/s
Charlotte	60/35/r	51/30/pc	54/35/s	Okla. City	62/35/s	63/39/s	52/32/pc
Cheyenne	50/32/c	56/25/pc	29/17/sn	Orlando	74/49/t	68/45/s	72/48/s
Chicago	29/18/sn	25/18/pc	32/19/c	Philadelphia	43/34/r	39/26/c	35/28/pc
Cincinnati	40/22/sf	34/20/c	41/26/pc	Phoenix	67/43/s	73/48/s	67/47/s
Cleveland	38/23/sn	26/21/sf	29/25/sf	Pittsburgh	40/26/r	29/20/sf	30/25/sf
Dallas	64/42/s	68/44/s	70/46/pc	Portland, OR	50/44/r	48/35/r	44/34/pc
Denver	52/30/pc	56/26/pc	45/17/c	St. Louis	38/24/c	41/30/pc	41/30/pc
Detroit	35/22/sn	34/19/sf	28/22/pc	Salt Lake City	44/24/c	39/26/pc	35/20/sn
Indianapolis	38/22/sf	31/19/c	41/27/pc	San Francisco	57/47/s	53/46/sh	56/43/s
Kansas City	42/24/pc	45/32/pc	42/22/pc	San Diego	66/51/s	61/51/s	66/49/pc
Las Vegas	61/38/s	63/40/s	61/38/pc	Seattle	52/43/r	47/38/r	45/34/pc
Los Angeles	68/50/s	66/48/s	64/48/pc	Wash., DC	44/34/r	45/28/c	43/30/s

W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

The World

City	Today	Thu.	Fri.	City	Today	Thu.	Fri.
Athens	56/45/c	55/46/s	53/45/r	Jerusalem	62/42/s	63/45/pc	58/47/pc
Auckland	78/65/s	76/64/s	72/65/s	London	38/30/pc	39/27/pc	37/28/s
Amsterdam	40/33/c	34/30/pc	40/30/s	Madrid	41/23/pc	39/27/sn	41/30/pc
Baghdad	61/39/s	63/40/s	64/40/s	Montreal	25/19/sn	21/9/sf	18/0/pc
Beijing	34/16/s	28/10/pc	34/17/s	Moscow	14/10/sn	14/0/sn	16/7/sn
Berlin	25/15/sn	24/20/s	31/28/s	Paris	30/25/s	32/23/s	30/21/s
Buenos Aires	86/70/pc	84/70/pc	81/64/c	Rio	77/72/r	87/76/r	87/73/pc
Cairo	69/49/pc	67/52/pc	70/58/pc	Rome	50/41/r	52/39/s	48/36/s
Calgary	42/21/pc	23/8/sn	22/8/pc	Seoul	38/17/s	30/10/s	23/7/s
Cape Town	80/66/s	77/61/s	70/60/sh	Singapore	85/75/sh	83/75/r	81/75/sh
Caracas	92/76/pc	90/73/sh	88/72/pc	Sydney	90/63/t	66/59/r	71/62/pc
Dublin	41/32/sh	41/34/pc	43/34/s	Tel Aviv	68/52/s	68/54/pc	64/53/pc
Geneva	29/27/c	39/32/pc	44/30/s	Tokyo	45/36/pc	45/41/s	50/39/r
Hong Kong	70/57/s	68/50/s	59/45/s	Toronto	34/22/sn	23/14/sf	25/19/pc
Istanbul	48/42/c	44/37/pc	38/35/sn	Warsaw	20/14/sn	23/19/sf	27/20/sn

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2009

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2008 Ford F250
 Super Cab, XLT, Deisel, Stk# 8T032
 Factory List \$41,344
 A Plan \$36,413⁸⁷
 FMCC \$500
 Factory Retail Cash \$4,500
 Dealer Cash \$1,000
 Net after Factory Rebate **\$30,413⁸⁷**

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2008 Ford Expedition
 EL, XLT, 4X4, Dual Heat & Air, Stk# 8T111
 Factory List \$35,045
 A Plan \$31,659⁵⁷
 FMCC \$500
 Factory Retail Cash \$4,000
 Net after Factory Rebate **\$27,159⁵⁷**

2008 Ford Mustang
 GT, Bullitt Pkg., 5 Spd., Stk# 8C075
 Factory List \$31,720
 A Plan \$28,315⁵⁶
 Net after Factory Rebate **\$28,315⁵⁶**

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2009 Ford Focus
 S Pkg., Auto., Air, Stk# 9C009
 Factory List \$16,505
 A Plan \$15,176⁹⁹
 FMCC \$500
 Factory Retail Cash \$1,000
 Net after Factory Rebate **\$13,676⁹⁹**

2009 Ford Fusion
 SE Pkg., 4 Cyl., Auto., Stk# 9C026
 Factory List \$22,615
 A Plan \$20,245⁷⁷
 FMCC \$500
 Factory Retail Cash \$2,000
 Net after Factory Rebate **\$17,745⁷⁷**

2008 Ford F150
 Lariat, Super Cab, 20" Wheels, Stk# 8T160
 Factory List \$39,090
 A Plan \$34,088⁴⁵
 FMCC \$500
 Factory Retail Cash \$4,500
 Net after Factory Rebate **\$29,088⁴⁵**

2008 Ford Taurus
 Limited, FWD, Moonroof, Stk# 8C029
 Factory List \$29,855
 A Plan \$26,734⁰⁵
 FMCC \$500
 Factory Retail Cash \$2,500
 Net after Factory Rebate **\$23,734⁰⁵**

USED CAR & TRUCK SPECIALS

Stock #	Year	Make	Model	Price	Stock #	Year	Make	Model	Price
P5297B	1999	Dodge	Ram Van	\$5,700	P5349	2007	Toyota	Corolla	\$13,595
9C013A	2004	Ford	Focus	\$7,425	P5365	2007	Pontiac	G6	\$13,999
P5378	2002	Ford	Ranger	\$8,999	8C021A	2003	Chevy	C1500	\$14,999
P5312	2007	Ford	Taurus	\$9,525	P5391	2008	Mercury	Gr Marquis	\$16,995
P5377	2007	Pontiac	G6	\$11,997	8C007A	2003	Toyota	Tacoma	\$9,995
P5360	2004	Volkswagen	Passat	\$11,997	P5375A	2008	Dodge	Charger	\$18,600
P5345A	2007	Pontiac	G5	\$12,998	8T164A	2007	Chevy	Colorado	\$18,625

*With Approved Credit. Vehicles not included in Employee Pricing Plus: '09 F150's, Hybrids, Mustangs GT500 & Chassis Cabs.

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PREP WRESTLING

Northwest's cup runneth over

Bruins take first Conasauga Cup

By **MARTY KIRKLAND**

martykirkland@daltoncitizen.com

Despite a long list of accomplishments as one of the most dominant wrestling programs in Area 7-4A the past two years, Northwest Whitfield failed to win the Area 7-4A duals title, beat rival Murray County or lay claim to the Conasauga Cup trophy during that stretch.

The Bruins will take another shot at the first item in that group this weekend when the Area 7-4A duals are held at South Paulding High School. They no longer have to worry about the latter two.

Northwest — ranked No. 2 in the latest GaSports.com Class 4A coaches poll — went 3-0 at home on Tuesday during this season's Conasauga Cup, picking up victories against Southeast, Dalton and Murray County in Tunnel Hill to knock two items off the undone list at the same time.

The Bruins (22-4) topped Southeast 57-10, settled a 36-36 tie with Dalton on match criteria and ended the night with a 33-29 victory against Murray County — the winner of the past three Conasauga Cups since the quad meet among wrestling programs in Murray and Whitfield counties was given a formal reintroduction during the 2005-06 season.

"It feels good, really good," Northwest senior Kenny Michael said. "This is all right. But it's just normal matches. What's really important is this weekend. This weekend we don't need to lose our intensity. We have to step it up again."

When Dalton (27-7) and Northwest faced off in the second round of Cup duals, the Catamounts held a 36-21 lead with three matches remaining. But Northwest's David Lewis (135 pounds) and Kenny Michael (140)



Northwest Whitfield's Adam Wilkins, top, recorded a quick pin against Dalton's Elias Ortega on Tuesday night in the annual Conasauga Cup wrestling meet at Northwest High. Murray County and Southeast also competed in the quad meet. The Bruins won all three of their matches and took home the Conasauga Cup for the first time.

Misty Watson/The Daily Citizen

➤ Please see **CUP, 2B**



Tucker

COLLEGE BASKETBALL: ROUNDUP

Jackets clip rival Dogs for a 'sweep'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

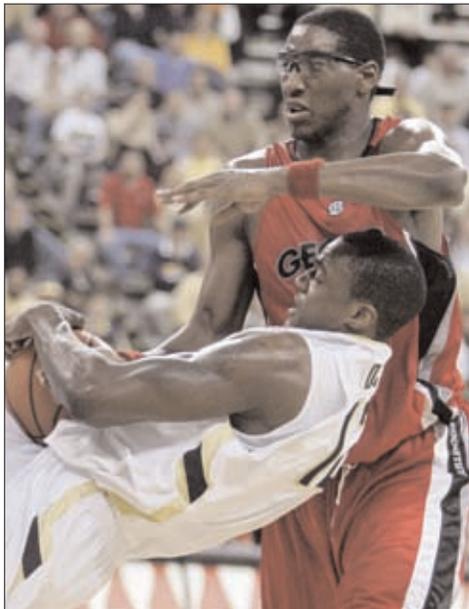
ATLANTA — Zachery Peacock scored 18 points and Georgia Tech rallied from a 13-point deficit to beat Georgia 67-62 on Tuesday night, completing a sweep of its state rival in the two major sports.

On the heels of a 45-42 victory in football, the Yellow Jackets (9-5) fought back in a sloppy game, providing little hope that either team is on the verge of turning around their disappointing seasons heading into their respective conference schedules.

Peacock drove to the hoop to put Georgia Tech ahead for good, 62-60, with 1:23 remaining. Travis Leslie got open in the lane for Georgia, only to walk as he set up for a dunk.

Lewis Clinch missed a long 3, but out-hustled Terrance Woodbury for the rebound. The Yellow Jackets took advantage of their second chance as Peacock missed a jumper, then watched Gani Lawal jam home the rebound with 20.6 seconds to go. Clinch wrapped it up with two free throws.

Georgia (9-6) was led by Trey Thompkins with 20 points, but the Bulldogs wilted in the second half when Georgia Tech turned up the defensive pressure. They shot only 27 percent (6-



AP PHOTO

Georgia Tech's Bassirou Dieng, foreground, is fouled by Georgia's Jermy Price in first-half action of their game Tuesday night in Atlanta. The Yellow Jackets won the rivalry game, 67-62.

➤ Please see **HOOPS, 4B**

PREP ROUNDUP

Bruins edge rival Indians

By **ADAM KROHN**

adamkrohn@daltoncitizen.com

CHATSWORTH — Tuesday night's game may not have counted toward the region record, but judging by the intensity between Murray County and Northwest Whitfield, it sure counted for pride, bragging rights and everything else.

Post player Baker Chiddister's 3-point basket with 35 seconds remaining gave Northwest its first lead of the game, 49-48, as the Bruins overcame a 15-point second half deficit while holding Indians' scoring threats Garrick and Chase Sanford scoreless in the second half — both finished with seven points — to sneak out of Chatsworth with a 50-48 victory.

In girls' action, the Lady Bruins defeated the Lady Indians 51-22.

After Chiddister's 3-pointer, Garrick Sanford missed a running, five-foot bank shot with 10 seconds left and Northwest's Nermin Delic dove on the loose ball and called a quick time out. After Northwest inbounded, Delic was fouled and went to the line for a one-and-one with 5.3 seconds left.

Delic made his first free throw but missed the second and Murray rebounded and called a time out. With 3.4 seconds left, the Indians inbounded from half court and Tanner Long kicked the ball out to Jon Kiser, who fired a shot from near midcourt that hit the back of the rim as the buzzer sounded.

"I couldn't look," said Bruins coach Ryan Richards of Kiser's shot. "We've been beat on a shot like that about three or four years ago and you go home sick. We're just thankful to get out of here with a win."

After a sluggish first-quarter for both teams, Murray led 8-6 before going on a 22-13 run in the second quarter led by Garrick Sanford's seven points. The Indians were ahead 39-26 with 2:40 remaining in the third when the tide turned and the Bruins started to gain momentum by grabbing virtually every rebound and loose ball while mixing up their zone defense with the full-court press. After a couple of 3s from Tanner Reno and Bryce Martin, along with post shots from Chiddister and Alex Thames, the Bruins had cut the Indians' lead to seven, 42-35.

"In the second half we were just trying to come out and play a lot harder than we did in the first half because we weren't playing very hard," said Chiddister, who ignited the Bruins while playing for a struggling Delic. Chiddister finished with 10 points and led the Bruins with four steals.

The Bruins went back to work in the fourth quarter.

➤ Please see **PREP, 2B**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Powerful SEC makes its case for No. 1

By **PAUL NEWBERRY**

Associated Press Writer

Let the rest of the country brag about its ivy-covered traditions and its cultural superiority. Down in Dixie, they're satisfied trotting out the top college football teams anywhere on any given Saturday.

The Southeastern Conference is always strutting around, proclaiming itself the best in the land, as if the issue isn't even worth discussing.

It's a glory road of the gridiron that starts in Florida, winds its way up

through Georgia and Tennessee, then curves back into Alabama and Mississippi and Louisiana, an unrivaled path of pigskin prestige.

Since the powers that run college football created the Bowl Championship Series a decade ago, SEC teams have won the national title four times. No other conference has won more than twice.

Florida could make it five national titles — and three in a row — when the Gators meet the Big 12's Oklahoma in the BCS championship game Thursday night.

Given its long-standing success, it's easy to see why the SEC has become the league everyone else loves to hate. These guys don't mind tooting their own horn, either, which only adds to the hard feelings emanating from the rest of the country.

"They have a golden spoon in their mouth," said Glenn Rhea, a 33-year-old fan and graduate of Big 12 school Texas Tech. "They always think they're better

➤ Please see **SEC, 2B**

Prep: SE girls win

➤ Continued from page 1B

ter, opening with a 10-4 run, with Northwest's Romeo Williams tying the game at 46 with 3:31 remaining on a spectacular play in which he ran down an overthrown pass that was heading out of bounds and twisted his body to bank in a layup as his momentum was taking him out of bounds.

Long, who scored 10 points and along with Chandler Puryear (six points, six rebounds) accounted for all of Murray's fourth-quarter scoring, countered with a post-up shot with 2:30 remaining to put the Indians ahead 48-46.

But Long missed two critical free throws with 1:40 remaining, which set up Chiddister's big shot that came off a loose ball after Northwest (9-4) mishandled an inbounds pass.

"It was a busted play and I was in the right place at the right time," said Chiddister. "I was open so I took the shot."

For the Indians (8-3), it was a win they let slip away, but Kiser said the team will bounce back.

"We should have the (senior) leadership to bounce back," said Kiser, who led the Indians with 11 points, four assists and four steals. "It just hurts because this was the last time we'll play Northwest on our home floor and that's what makes it so hard."

Indians coach Greg Linder said the loss resulted from a lack of execution in the second half.

"We just didn't make shots," Linder said. "We got a lot of opportunities. To their credit they put a lot of pressure on us. We couldn't make the easy conversions and we let the game slip out of our hands on the defensive end by not rotating and communicating."

Reno led the Bruins with 13 points.

In the girls game, the Lady Bruins (11-2) opened up a 16-4 first quarter lead and never looked back. Quaneisha McCurdy led the Lady Bruins with 15 points and six rebounds. Tember Marchant led the Lady Indians (6-6) with 12 points, five rebounds and two steals.

■ **Southeast girls 61, Ridgeland 35:** Ashley Strong scored 18 points and had 10 rebounds and the Lady Raiders' defense held the Lady Panthers to 10 second-half points.

Shelby McFarland added 14 points and Brianna Sosebee 10 for the Lady Raiders (4-6, 2-1 Region 6-3A). Rhande Haskett had 12 points and Shakiyla McLin tossed in 11 for Ridgeland, which trailed 36-25 at half-time. Southeast actually fell behind 8-0 to start the game, but led 19-14 after one quarter.

■ **Ridgeland boys 56, Southeast 40:** Dewan Harrison scored 18 points, including four 3-pointers, and David Alexander had 16 for the Panthers.

Trey Parris led the Raiders (2-9, 0-3 Region 6-3A) with 10 points. Matt Hall had eight points and 10 rebounds and Adrian Storey had seven rebounds. Damond O'Neal added six points.

Varsity swimming

■ Dalton's Catamounts (180) routed Northwest Whitfield (56) and Cherokee (55) in a three-way swim meet at Dalton High. The Lady Catamounts also won with 155 points to Cherokee's 88 and Northwest's 59.

Brandt Tharpe and Stephen Jones won two events each. Tharpe won the 200 freestyle in 1:58.09 and 500 free in 5:24.43. Jones took the 100 free (52.48) and 100 backstroke in a state qualifying time of 58.91.

The Cats' Alex Adams won the 200 IM in 2:19.99, Easton Frankenberger won the 50 free in 24.26, Chase Hair took the diving with 199.90 points, Omar Farag won the 100 butterfly in 56.17, and Harris News won the 100 breaststroke in a state qualifying time of 1:08.38.

Dalton's boys won the 200 medley relay in 1:49.75 (Jones, News, Farag, Zach Broome), 200 freestyle relay in 1:41.17 (Cody Patterson, Frankenberger, Farag and Jones) and 400 free relay in 3:52.79 (Tharpe, News, Wil Cushman and Farag).

Joana Rosales led the Lady Cats by winning the 200 free in 2:09.10 and the 100 free in 59.71.

Erin Hullender won the diving with 153.20 points, Maddie Scarborough took the 100 butterfly in 1:05.78, Tyler Todd won the 500 free in 6:49.96 and Maranda Storey won the 100 backstroke in 1:10.78.

Dalton girls won the 200 medley relay in 2:07.27

(Storey, Julia Martin, Scarborough, Todd), the 200 free relay in 1:56.32 (Storey, Abbey Shaw, Rebecca Davis and Rosales) and the 400 free relay in 4:25.57 (Davis, Scarborough, Rodd, Rosales).

Northwest's Cody Plott took third in the 50 free in 25.27 and 100 breaststroke in 1:17.47.

Ryan Ford was third in the 200 IM in 3:07.33. David Gullede was third in the 100 fly in 1:43.11. The Bruins' 200 free relay (Plott, Benjamin Pitkin, Gullede and Ward Harmon) took third in 1:49.93.

Northwest's Chandler Baer finished second in the 200 free in 2:38.51.

Monica Souther was third in the 100 fly in 1:20.55 and 100 free in 1:13.57. Caroline Cannon was third in the 100 back in 1:30.17. The Lady Bruins' 100 medley relay team (Souther, Baer, Sydnee Bowman and Melanie Farmer) took third with a 2:17.62.

Baer, Farmer, Bowman and Souther won the 200 free relay in 2:01.11. Cannon, Chelsea Christiansen, Shanna Jones and Mara Ruano were third in the 400 free relay in 5:20.61.

JV basketball

■ **Northwest Whitfield girls 62, Murray County 31:** Tori Clemmons scored 20 points and pulled down eight rebounds for the Lady Bruins (6-0). Sydney Roberts added 11 points and six steals and Jenna Williams had four assists.

Kolby Keener led the Lady Indians with 12 points.



Andy Pichardo, left, of Southeast, and David Miles of Murray County battle during their 140-pound weight class match in the Conasauga Cup wrestling meet at Northwest Whitfield on Tuesday.

Cup: Area duals coming up

➤ Continued from page 1B

secured back-to-back pins, and Connor Hayes (145) won an 8-5 decision against Dalton's Juan Holguin to tie the team score at 36.

Hayes said coaches had only told him that his match was of major importance, but he and his teammates broke down the math a little more, helping him understand he had to win for the Bruins to have any chance of topping Dalton.

The message obviously got through — the Northwest sophomore took Holguin straight to his back early in the first period, then held him off in the final two periods.

"I felt like I was going to do pretty good after that, like it might not be as hard as I thought it would," Hayes said. "But he kept going and kept fighting. It felt awesome to win, though, everybody was proud."

Hayes' victory left the team victory to be determined by criteria and, with no team suffering any loss of points for unsportsmanlike conduct or other fouls, it went to total victories —

which still left both sides knotted at seven apiece. But the Bruins had five pins against Dalton — Josh Lewis (152), Ryan Banks (171) and Adam Wilkins (285) also delivered — while the Cats had only four, with those coming from Taylor Duckworth (160), Henson Toland (189), Eduardo Gutierrez (103) and Jordan White (112).

"Our kids wrestled as well as they could tonight," Northwest coach Allen Tucker said. "I think Dalton's kids wrestled great, Murray's kids did, too ... it's as good a wrestling as we've had, it's so even and it's tough in the northern half (of Area 7-4A). Wrestling like we did tonight, I think, will make all three of us better."

Northwest still needed the victory over Murray County (15-8) to claim the Cup outright and while that dual didn't finish quite as dramatically as the Dalton match, the Bruins did have to come back once more. Trailing 25-21 with three matches to go, the Bruins this time got back-to-back pins from Michael and a different Lewis brother, Josh,

at 145.

"We had just been talking about how we couldn't give up pins and we had to get more pins," said Lewis, who with his teammates endured a 45-33 loss to the Indians in early December. "We talked about how much the points counted. And that's what we did tonight, worried about pins and team points."

The night was expected to provide close competition among the Cup's participants and it didn't disappoint — although Murray County cruised past Southeast (10-14), 72-6, and Dalton beat the Raiders, 54-30, every other dual was a breather almost from start to finish.

Dalton beat Murray County, 34-29, for the first time in Cup competition in the night's first round of duals to set up a chance at the same sort of breakthrough night the Bruins enjoyed, but Northwest's performance down the stretch against Dalton took the Cats' fate out of their own hands.

For more results from the Conasauga Cup, please visit daltoncitizen.com.

BCS: SEC success 'resented'

➤ Continued from page 1B

than everybody else."

And why not?

The last conference to take three straight Associated Press titles? That would be the SEC, which did it some three decades ago with Alabama (1978-79) and Georgia (1980).

In this updated version of the Civil War, the Big 12 is just an annoyance (granted, they did have four pretty good teams this year), the Big Ten is a bunch of slow-footed, three-yards-and-a-cloud-of-dusters, the Pac-10 is nothing more than USC and the Nine Dwarfs. What about the Atlantic Coast Conference? C'mon, that's a basketball league. The Big East? Puh-lease.

"When you do it three years in a row," said Florida tight end Tate Casey, "some people are going to start resenting you. I think that's what we're seeing."

But this dynamic runs a bit deeper.

College football is the undisputed king of Southern sports, unencumbered by the loyalties reserved for pro teams (latecomers to the region) and a source of pride to those who still remember the struggles of integration and the civil rights movement.

The first major league franchise to settle in the Deep South was baseball's Atlanta Braves, which arrived from Milwaukee in 1966. The New York Yankees already had won 20 World Series titles before the South got a crack at its first.

While plenty of pro teams have arrived on the scene since the Braves, they've mainly concentrated in Atlanta and around fast-growing Florida. Five of the nine states represented in the SEC — Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi and South Carolina — have no major professional teams

to divert attention from the two main seasons in this neck of the woods, football and spring football practice.

In another interesting twist, black athletes once barred from the SEC by Jim Crow have become a dominant force on the football field, providing a rich source of homegrown talent and an enticing way out for those growing up on poverty-plagued backroads.

It's been said that Bear Bryant, the legendary Alabama coach, did more to integrate the South than any troops or judges or protesters when he scheduled a game against Southern Cal in 1970. The Trojans' star running back, Sam Cunningham, was black. After he ran all over the Crimson Tide in a 42-21 victory, the recalcitrant segregationists in the Heart of Dixie decided it might be a good idea to have some African-Americans on their team.

Now, it's impossible to envision Southern football without stars such as Percy Harvin or Knowshon Moreno. Heck, they're leading the cheers for schools that once shunned them.

Michael Oher, an African-American lineman at Mississippi, played the Cotton Bowl with "SEC" written in the blackened shade under his eyes. The

Rebels backed up his brava-do with a resounding 47-34 victory over Texas Tech.

"We had to represent," Oher explained afterward. "There was a lot of talk of the Big 12 being better. It's not true. We had to show 'em."

Even those natives who don't consider themselves SEC fans have to give the conference its due. Just listen to David Franklin, a civil engineering student at Georgia Tech (an ACC member) who's got family ties to the Big 12.

"Depth-wise, the SEC is the best football conference in the country — and my brother plays for the University of Oklahoma," the 20-year-old junior said. "Even though the Big 12 is strong this year, I still think you have to go with the SEC top to bottom."

In the still-to-be-completed bowl season, the SEC holds an impressive 5-2 mark with that one big game remaining, but the Big 12 (4-2) is right on its heels and the Pac-10 bested them both with a perfect 5-0 mark.

Still, not a week goes by without some player or coach from the SEC talking about how demanding it is to win consistently in a league where half the members have at least one AP national championship in their trophy case.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Yow takes a leave from coaching job

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina State women's basketball coach Kay Yow will not return to the team this season due to health issues related to her long fight against cancer.

In a statement released by the school Tuesday afternoon, the Hall of Fame coach said she just doesn't have the energy to coach the way she has before. She has missed the past four games.

Yow said she will revisit the decision no later than the end of the season.

Yow was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1987, and the disease recurred in the 2004-05 season.

Oft-injured Pavano signs with Indians

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Indians have signed free agent pitcher Carl Pavano, who was a four-year bust with the New York Yankees because of injuries.

Pavano, who will turn 33 on Thursday, signed a one-year deal with the Indians, who have been looking to add starting depth and hope the right-hander has put his injury problems behind him.

He made only 26 starts and went 9-8 with a 5.00 ERA with the free-spending Yankee.

DA unable to press charges vs. Harrison

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia prosecutors have concluded that a gun owned by Indianapolis Colts star Marvin Harrison was used in an April shooting, but they still can't determine who pulled the trigger.

Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham on Tuesday announced that five bullet casings found at the North Philadelphia shooting scene came from Harrison's handgun. But investigators have conflicting witness accounts of who fired it.

No charges have been filed in the April 28 shooting.

Vick wants to sell his home at auction

RICHMOND, Va. — Michael Vick is asking a bankruptcy judge to allow him to sell his eight-bedroom home in the Atlanta suburb of Duluth at auction.

The house has been on the market for more than a year and is listed at \$4.1 million. The imprisoned former NFL star disclosed the auction plans Tuesday in a new financial disclosure statement filed in his bankruptcy case in Newport News.

Phillies reliever gets 50-game suspension

NEW YORK — Phillies reliever J.C. Romero and Yankees minor league pitcher Sergio Mitre were suspended for the first 50 games of next season after testing positive for a banned substance.

Romero, 4-4, with a 2.75 ERA, won two games in Philadelphia's World Series victory over Tampa Bay last season.

— Associated Press

Thrashers lose, 3-1

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Petr Sykora ended Pittsburgh's seven-game drought without a power-play goal while scoring twice and Evgeni Malkin came out of a slump with three assists, leading the Penguins to a 3-1 victory over the Atlanta Thrashers on Tuesday night.

The Penguins, outscored 10-1 in their previous two games, also got captain Sidney Crosby's first power-play goal in 26 games and ended a five-game losing streak. They had dropped five in a row at home, getting outscored 23-8 during a streak that included losses of 7-3 to Toronto and 6-1 to Florida.

Atlanta, last in the Eastern Conference, didn't show much life outside of a couple

of skirmishes involving Colby Armstrong. The Thrashers lost their sixth in seven games. The Thrashers are 0-3 against the Penguins, with Crosby getting two goals and four assists.

Pittsburgh's 0-for-33 power-play slump, its longest since an eight-game streak in December 2003, ended late in the first period when Sykora redirected Ryan Whitney's pass from the right point after Malkin dug the puck out from behind the net.

Whitney showed the Penguins' relief by dropping his head back and looking upward.

The Thrashers lost their sixth in seven games. The Thrashers are 0-3 against the Penguins.

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL FOOTBALL: SEC SEER

Gators hope to extend SEC title streak

By **ED SHEARER**

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — A third straight national championship for the Southeastern Conference will be at stake when top-ranked Florida meets high-scoring, second-ranked Oklahoma in the Bowl Championship Series title game in Miami on Thursday night.

The Gators beat Ohio State for the national crown two years ago and LSU knocked off the Buckeyes last year, with both SEC teams exploiting their superior team speed in each game.

Florida has more speed again, but not nearly as big an advantage as it had on the Buckeyes.

Meanwhile, Oklahoma plays fast, using a no-huddle offense to

rack up plenty of quick touchdowns. The Sooners have scored more than 60 points in each of their last five games.

High scoring has been the way the way it has gone in the Big 12 this year.

The knock on the Big 12 has been what appears to be an absence of defense, and a couple of bowl games give that some credence.

Ole Miss beat high-scoring Texas Tech 47-34 in the Cotton Bowl and third-ranked Texas beat Ohio State 24-21 in the Fiesta Bowl, the fewest points scored by the Longhorns in any game this season.

Both the Gators and Sooners feature solid attacks led by a



Heisman Trophy winner.

Florida's Tim Tebow won the Heisman for 2007 and Oklahoma's Sam

Bradford won it this season, with Tebow finishing third behind runner-up Colt McCoy of Texas.

Bradford passed for 4,464 yards and 48 touchdowns while Tebow threw for 2,515 yards and 28 scores, adding 564 yards running with 12 touchdowns.

Oklahoma cornerback Dominique Franks rates Tebow only the fourth-best quarterback in the land, trailing Bradford, McCoy and Texas Tech's Graham Harrell.

"If you look at the three best quarterbacks in the country, (they) came from the Big 12," Franks said. "The three best receivers in the country came from the Big 12. The three best tight ends came from the Big 12. So we've faced some great offenses, and a lot of people don't understand that other conferences don't have what we face."

The pregame banter didn't bother Tebow.

"I like it. It's fun," he said. "It makes it more competitive, and I'll enjoy it. You can say whatever you want. That's fine. We still get to go play. That's what I like I do."

"He's a great player, but I think we'll be able to handle him," Oklahoma defensive tackle Gerald

McCoy said of the Florida quarterback.

Tebow won't be the only problem Oklahoma's defense will face. There's also four players with track speed — Percy Harvin, Chris Rainey, Jeff Demps and Brandon James.

Harvin, who has a TD in 14 straight games, is expected to be recovered enough from a high ankle sprain that left him out of Florida's SEC championship game victory over Alabama.

The Gators are a 4-point favorite. That's not enough. Florida 35-28.

Totals for last week: Straight 4-3, vs. spread 4-3. For year: straight 73-31, vs. spread 50-42-1.

PRO FOOTBALL

Saints QB Brees AP Offensive Player of Year

By **BARRY WILNER**

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Drew Brees understood what breaking a record set by Dan Marino would mean to the New Orleans Saints.

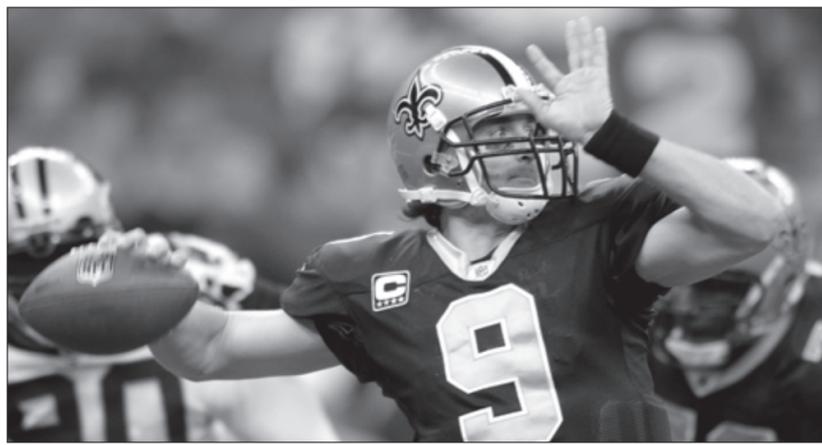
So coming up 15 yards short was disappointing to the Saints quarterback, who won The Associated Press 2008 NFL Offensive Player of the Year award Tuesday.

Brees threw for 5,069 yards, 15 fewer than Marino's 1984 mark and only the second time someone has eclipsed 5,000 yards passing in a season.

"The only reason I still even think about it is because I know how much it would have meant to the offensive line and the skill position guys," Brees said. "Those guys were 10 times more upset than I was about not getting the record. I just feel like they really, especially down the stretch, looked at that as something that, for all the heartache and all the ups and downs we had this season, that was something they hang their hats on."

"So that's who I wanted to get it for, so that's why I'm still upset. I'm over it, for myself, but I guess I'm not over it for them."

Although the Saints were 8-8 and didn't make the playoffs, Brees performed so well he earned 22 votes in balloting by a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the league. That easily



AP PHOTO

New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees became the second player in NFL history to pass for more than 5,000 yards in a single season.

beat Peyton Manning, the NFL Most Valuable Player for the third time for Indianapolis, and Minnesota running back Adrian Peterson. They tied for second with nine votes each.

San Diego quarterback Philip Rivers received six votes, and Carolina running back DeAngelo Williams (2), Atlanta run-

ning back Michael Turner (1) and Carolina wide receiver Steve Smith (1) also got votes.

"I don't come out from week to week and say I have to throw for 300 (yards)," Brees said. "I don't think about that. It's really about what I can do to help this team win."

Brees tied with Rivers, his former teammate with the Chargers, with a league-lead-

ing 34 touchdown passes. Brees was fourth in passer rating (96.2) and led the league in attempts (635) and completions (413).

He also spent much of the season without key weapons like receiver Marques Colston, running back Reggie Bush and tight end Jeremy Shockey, who were plagued by injuries.

Yet Brees kept throwing — and connecting.

"Each year I've gotten better, especially over the last five years," he said. "When I go back to 2004 in San Diego, every year I feel so much more comfortable. I really feel like I've refined my routine and continued to find what works for me. It changes a little bit every year. I tweak it every year to make it a little better, but by doing so, I make myself a better player."

He is the perfect player for coach Sean Payton's system.

"When you look at the body of work for him and you look at what he's been able to do with the number of guys being hurt," Payton said, "you look at his efficiency down the field with throws over 20 yards, over 30 yards. His completion percentage, his red zone, his third-down scoring offense, he's first in every one of those categories. He's worked extremely hard, and when you see what he does in preparation during the work week, it's amazing."

WINTER LEAGUES NOW FORMING

Southern Combo Doubles and Mixed Doubles Leagues are now forming.

Mixed will play on Sunday afternoons @ 2:00 p.m. beginning Jan. 11

Combo will play on Monday & Tuesday nights @ 6:30 p.m. beginning Jan. 12

Also, back by popular demand: Flex Singles League.

For more information, e-mail Deb Wells: dwells@optilink.us.

www.southern tennis.com



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ATTENTION All North Georgia DEER HUNTERS



Georgia State Representative Martin Scott harvested this trophy buck while hunting in Dade County on November 26, 2008. His daughter, Katherine, was there to share in the experience. Obviously the state representative agrees, "Hunting is a Family Tradition!"

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, will be holding a public meeting allowing hunters the opportunity to give input into developing hunting regulations for the 2009, 2010, and 2011 hunting seasons.

It is time for a change and your presence is requested: Thursday January 8, 2009 at 7:00pm at Dalton State College, Goodrue Auditorium- Memorial Building. For additional information contact Wes Hixon at 706-657-3527 or Weshixon@weshixon.com

Here are some facts North Georgia deer hunters should know about current regulations...

- The state of Georgia has 159 counties and approximately 91 of these counties are permitted to deer hunt annually until January 15th; 7 other counties have extended archery seasons that permit deer hunting annually until January 31st. Meanwhile, the northern zone counties are NOT permitted to hunt deer after January 1st.

- Current Georgia hunting regulations allow 146 of these counties 76 days to harvest either sex deer during firearms season, leaving only 13 counties that have restricted either sex hunting days. Catoosa, Dade, Gilmer, Habersham, Lumpkin, Murray, Stephens, White and Whitfield counties are allowed only 24 either sex hunting days a year, and Fannin, Rabun, Towns and Union counties are restricted to only 3 either sex hunting days annually.

One example: Walker County has 76 either sex hunting days to manage its deer herd, a very positive approach. However, hunters in the adjoining counties of Dade, Catoosa and Whitfield are allowed only 24 either sex hunting days to manage their deer herds.

Georgia State Representative Martin Scott and Georgia State Senator Jeff Mullis invite all outdoor enthusiasts to come and voice their opinions at the January 8, 2009 meeting. As North Georgia hunters, we should have the same privileges Southern Georgia hunters enjoy. There is strength in numbers... it's your opportunity to help influence a change. Bucks, does, yearlings and fawns are welcome. *Hunting is a Family Tradition!*

PRO BASKETBALL

Celtics sliding

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Raymond Felton scored 25 points, rookie D.J. Augustin added 11 of his 20 points in overtime, and the Charlotte Bobcats stunned Boston 114-106 on Tuesday to continue the Celtics' sudden slide.

Beaten by their surprising nemesis for the second time in two seasons, the defending champions came undone in OT, and they've quickly gone from unbeatable to vulnerable.

After a team-record 19-game winning streak and an NBA-record 27-2 start, the Celtics lost for the fifth time in seven games, leaving battered, bruised and angry by Larry Brown's upstart Bobcats.

Paul Pierce scored 28 points, but had a key turnover in overtime. Ray Allen scored 20 points for the Celtics.

■ **76ers 104, Rockets 96:** At Philadelphia, Andre Iguodala scored 28 points and reeling Philadelphia returned home from a dreadful road trip to beat Houston.

■ **Magic 89, Wizards 80:** At Orlando, Fla., Hedo Turkoglu scored 22 points and Orlando held off a late scoring burst by Caron Butler in a victory over Washington.

Butler had 29 points, all in the second half.

Orlando center Dwight Howard had his 25th double-double, with 15 points and 16 rebounds.

Hoops: UF romps

➤ Continued from page 1B

of-22) after the break and turned it over 12 times, finishing 19-of-55 (35 percent) from the field.

The Yellow Jackets' shooting touch wasn't much better. They made 26-of-72 (36 percent) from the field, going 1-for-11 outside the 3-point arc. But Georgia Tech outworked the Bulldogs, coming up with 12 steals and dominating on the boards, 53-40. Lawal had 14 rebounds, Peacock 13.

The Bulldogs led by 13 three times early in the second half, the last of those on Terrance Woodbury's jumper that made it 45-32 with 16:40 remaining. Georgia made only three more baskets the rest of the game, doing most of its scoring at the foul line.

■ **UConn 61, W. Virginia 55:** At Morgantown, W.Va., Jeff Adrien scored 17 points and No. 5 Connecticut beat No. 25 West Virginia. Hasheem Thabeet added

13 points and 13 rebounds for Connecticut.

■ **Michigan State 67, Ohio State 58:** At East Lansing, Mich., Kalin Lucas scored 20 points to lead eighth-ranked Michigan State past Ohio State.

■ **Virginia 74, Brown 50:** At Charlottesville, Va., Mike Scott had 15 points and 10 rebounds and Sammy Zeglinski scored 14 points as Virginia defeated Brown.

■ **Florida 95, Longwood 69:** At Gainesville, Fla., Nick Calathes scored 19 points, Erving Walker had 16 and Kenny Kadji added 14 as Florida thumped Longwood.

■ **TCU 85, Texas Tech 80:** At Lubbock, Texas, Edvinas Ruzgas scored 24 points to lead TCU to a victory over Texas Tech.

■ **Villanova 89, Seton Hall 85:** At Newark, N.J., Scottie Reynolds matched his career high with 40 points and No. 18 Villanova beat Seton Hall.

LOCAL

Prep Schedule

Today
Middle school basketball
McCallie boys at New Hope, 4:15

Thursday
Varsity basketball
Christian Heritage at Collegedale, 6
Freshman basketball
Northwest Whitfield at Murray County, 6
Middle school basketball
Berry at Christian Heritage, 5
New Hope girls at Valley Point, 4:15
Valley Point boys at New Hope, 4:15

Friday
Varsity basketball
Harvester Christian at Christian Heritage, 6:30
Southeast at Heritage-Catoosa, 7
Hillgrove at Northwest Whitfield, 7
Murray County at Rome, 7

Varsity wrestling
Dalton, Murray County, Northwest Whitfield at Area 7-4A duals at South Paulding, 5
Junior varsity basketball
Harvester Christian at Christian Heritage, 4
Murray County at Rome, 4
Northwest Whitfield boys at Hillgrove, 5:15

Middle school wrestling
Westside at Ocoee JV tournament, 4:30

Saturday
Varsity basketball
Northwest Whitfield at LFO, 2:30
Dalton at Murray County, 3
Southeast at Trion, 6

Varsity wrestling
Dalton, Murray County, Northwest Whitfield at Area 7-4A duals at South Paulding
Area 6-3A duals at Southeast, 9 a.m.

Junior varsity basketball
Murray County at Rome, noon
Northwest Whitfield at LFO, 11:30 a.m.

Freshman basketball
Northwest Whitfield boys at LFO, 10 a.m.
Dalton boys at Murray County, 10:30 a.m.

Middle school basketball
Seventh grade tournament

Middle school wrestling
Westside at Cleveland, Tenn., tournament

TELEVISION

On Today

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
7 p.m.
ESPN — Davidson at Duke
ESPN2 — Louisville at South Florida
9 p.m.
ESPN2 — Gonzaga at Tennessee

NBA BASKETBALL
9 p.m.
ESPN — Miami at Denver

FOOTBALL

NFL Playoff Glance

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 3
Arizona 30, Atlanta 24
San Diego 23, Indianapolis 17, OT
Sunday, Jan. 4
Baltimore 27, Miami 9
Philadelphia 26, Minnesota 14

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 10
Baltimore at Tennessee, 4:30 p.m. (CBS)
Arizona at Carolina, 8:15 p.m. (FOX)

Sunday, Jan. 11
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m. (FOX)
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 4:45 p.m. (CBS)

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 18
NFC
Arizona-Carolina winner vs. Philadelphia-N.Y. Giants winner (FOX), 3 p.m.
AFC
Baltimore-Tennessee winner vs. San Diego-Pittsburgh winner (CBS), 6:30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 1
Tampa, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC, 6 p.m. (NBC)

Pro Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 8
At Honolulu
AFC vs. NFC, 4:30 p.m. (NBC)

HOCKEY

NHL Glance

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
N.Y. Rangers	24	14	3	51	112	109
Philadelphia	21	10	9	51	133	122
New Jersey	23	13	3	49	119	101
Pittsburgh	20	17	4	44	124	125
N.Y. Islanders	12	25	4	28	107	149

Northeast Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Boston	29	7	4	62	143	89
Montreal	22	10	6	50	115	100
Buffalo	20	15	5	45	117	113
Toronto	16	18	6	38	121	142
Ottawa	13	19	6	32	89	111

Southeast Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Washington	27	11	3	57	135	117
Carolina	21	15	5	47	108	118
Florida	18	16	6	42	108	113
Tampa Bay	11	18	10	32	95	121
Atlanta	13	23	5	31	116	149

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Detroit	26	7	5	57	141	111
Chicago	21	8	7	49	132	96
Columbus	18	17	4	40	104	109
Nashville	17	18	3	37	93	112
St. Louis	15	21	3	33	112	132

Northwest Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Calgary	23	12	4	50	120	117
Vancouver	21	15	5	47	117	108
Minnesota	20	16	3	43	97	87
Edmonton	19	16	3	41	108	114
Colorado	19	19	1	39	104	115

Pacific Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
San Jose	29	4	5	63	133	90
Anaheim	20	15	5	45	113	112
Phoenix	19	16	5	43	102	112
Dallas	17	16	5	39	111	129
Los Angeles	16	16	6	38	97	103

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Tuesday's Games

Buffalo 4, Ottawa 2
Minnesota 1, Boston 0
Carolina 3, New Jersey 2
Washington 2, Philadelphia 1, SO
Pittsburgh 3, Atlanta 1
Detroit 3, Columbus 0
Florida 4, Toronto 2
Colorado at Nashville, late
Chicago at Phoenix, late
Los Angeles at Anaheim, late
San Jose at Calgary, late

Today's Games
Montreal at N.Y. Rangers, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Edmonton, 9 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NBA Glance

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	29	7	.806	—
New Jersey	17	18	.486	11 1/2
Philadelphia	14	20	.412	14
Toronto	14	21	.400	14 1/2
New York	13	20	.394	14 1/2

Southeast Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	27	8	.771	—
Atlanta	22	11	.667	4
Miami	18	15	.545	8
Charlotte	13	22	.371	14
Washington	7	26	.212	19

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	27	6	.818	—
Detroit	21	11	.656	5 1/2
Milwaukee	17	19	.472	11 1/2
Chicago	14	20	.412	13 1/2
Indiana	12	22	.353	15 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	23	11	.676	—
New Orleans	20	10	.667	1
Dallas	20	13	.606	2 1/2
Houston	21	15	.583	3
Memphis	11	24	.314	12 1/2

Northwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Denver	24	12	.667	—
Portland	20	14	.588	3
Utah	20	15	.571	3 1/2
Minnesota	9	25	.265	14
Oklahoma City	5	30	.143	18 1/2

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	27	5	.844	—
Phoenix	19	12	.613	7 1/2
Golden State	10	26	.278	19
L.A. Clippers	8	25	.242	19 1/2
Sacramento	8	27	.229	20 1/2

Monday's Games

San Antonio 91, Miami 84
New Jersey 98, Sacramento 90
Milwaukee 107, Toronto 97
Utah 119, Golden State 114
Denver 135, Indiana 115

Tuesday's Games

Orlando 89, Washington 80
Philadelphia 104, Houston 96
Charlotte 114, Boston 106, OT
Minnesota 94, Memphis 87
Oklahoma City 107, New York 99
Sacramento at Chicago, late
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, late
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's Games

Orlando at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Memphis at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Miami at Denver, 9 p.m.
Indiana at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at Utah, 9 p.m.
Detroit at Portland, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games
New York at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.

College Results

EAST
Connecticut 61, West Virginia 55
Cornell 75, Bucknell 64
Fairfield 59, Army 54
Penn 84, Lafayette 70

SOUTH
Colgate 68, N.C. Central 58
Florida 95, Longwood 69
Georgia Tech 67, Georgia 62
UCF 70, Holy Cross 57
Virginia 74, Brown 50

MIDWEST
Dayton 45, Miami (Ohio) 40
Iowa St. 64, Houston Baptist 56
Kansas 91, Siena 84
Michigan St. 67, Ohio St. 58
Rhode Island 86, Toledo 77

SOUTHWEST
Lamar 109, Paul Quinn 63
Oklahoma St. 100, Centenary 57
TCU 85, Texas Tech 80
Texas St. 82, N. Colorado 59

TRANSACTIONS

Tuesday's Moves

BASEBALL
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL—Suspended Philadelphia LHP J.C. Romero and N.Y. Yankees minor-league RHP Sergio Mitre 50 games after testing positive for a banned substance.

American League
CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with RHP Carl Pavano on a one-year contract. Designated INF Michael Aubrey for assignment.
NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms with 1B

Mark Teixeira on an eight-year contract and RHP Jason Johnson on a minor league contract. Designated 1B-OF Shelley Duncan for assignment.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Named Tony DeFrancesco manager for Sacramento (PCL).
SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Tyler Walker on a one-year contract.

TAMPA BAY RAYS—Agreed to terms with C Michel Hernandez, OF Jon Weber, LHP Randy Choate, RHP Julio DePaula, INF Ray Ormedo and OF Ray Sadler on minor league contracts.

National League
CHICAGO CUBS—Acquired RHP Luis Vizcaino from Colorado for RHP Jason Marquis and cash considerations.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Agreed to terms with RHP Chan Ho Park on a one-year contract.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Agreed to terms with INF Pedro Lopez, INF Anderson Machado and LHP Corey Hamman on minor league contracts.

American Association
EL PASO DIABLOS—Acquired RHP Alex Gett from Harlingen (UL) for a player to be named.
LINCOLN SALTDogs—Sold the contract of RHP Chris Cullen to Pittsburgh (NL).
SHREVEPORT SPORTS—Signed INF Richard Paz. Acquired LHP Logan Williamson from San Angelo (UL) for future considerations.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
PHOENIX SUNS—Released G Dee Brown.
Women's National Basketball Association
WASHINGTON MYSTICS—Named Lubomyr Lichonczak, Vanessa Nygaard and Vicky Bullett assistant coaches.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
CHICAGO BEARS—Fired linebackers coach Lloyd Lee.
HOUSTON TEXANS—Announced the contracts of trainer Kevin Bastin and strength and conditioning coach Dan Riley will not be renewed.

Canadian Football League
SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS—Re-signed DB Lance Frazier and LB Renauld Williams.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
COLORADO AVALANCHE—Placed D Adam Foote on injured reserve, retroactive to Jan. 4. Called up D Philippe Dupuis from Lake Erie (AHL).
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Placed F Jiri Novotny on injured reserve. Activated D Ole-Kristian Tollefsen from injured reserve. Assigned F Stefan Legelin and F Nikita Filatov to Syracuse (AHL).
DALLAS STARS—Assigned D Ivan Vishevskiy to Peoria (AHL).
LOS ANGELES KINGS—Recalled F Oscar Moller from the Swedish Junior National Team.

ECHL
CHARLOTTE CHECKERS—Claimed F Cedrick Bernier off waivers from Wheeling.
LAS VEGAS WRANGLERS—Loaned RW Matt Beaudoin to Houston (AHL).
READING ROYALS—Fired coach and director of hockey operations Jason Nobil. Named Larry Courville director of hockey operations and interim coach.

VICTORIA SALMON KINGS—Announced Manitoba (AHL) assigned F Dan Gendur to the team.

SOCCER
Major League Soccer
D.C. UNITED—Re-signed M Santino Quaranta.

COLLEGE
AUBURN—Named Ted Roof defensive coordinator. Announced DB Jerrard Powers will make himself available for the NFL draft.
DUKE—Named Laura Anderson women's volunteer assistant lacrosse coach.
ILLINOIS—Named Mike Schultz offensive coordinator.
LOUISVILLE—Named Brent Guy and Larry Slade assistant defensive football coaches and Jay Johnson assistant offensive football coach. Announced the resignation of special teams coach Mark Nelson.

MINNESOTA—Announced the resignations of offensive coordinator Mike Dunbar and defensive coordinator Ted Roof.
N.C. STATE—Announced women's basketball coach Kay Yow is taking a leave of absence for the remainder of the 2008-09 season. Named Stephanie Glance interim women's basketball coach.
PRESBYTERIAN—Announced the resignation of football coach Bobby Bentley. Named offensive line coach Doug Malone interim coach.
SOUTH CAROLINA—Named Eric Wolford offensive line coach.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Found small 10 lb. black male long hair dog, approx. 1 year old on Hwy 41 close to Whitfield Co. Central office. 706-278-1113

104 Lost

Lost dog in Dawnville area. Reward for return. Golden Retriever answers to "Koda". Please call 706-229-0592 or 706-263-1513

Lost pair of reading glass in at Walmart on Shugart Rd (left in buggy) on Dec. 31st. Call if found 706-483-3640.

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REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS/ EXPERIENCED DESK REVIEWERS. Certified/ FHA Only. Good Writing/Strong Analyticals Email/Send Resume w/ Education & 3 Samples to: Recruiting@live.com

SALES!! No Experience Necessary! Join Young-minded, Hip-Hop, Rock-n-Roll, Blue Jean Environment, Skateboarders, x/y gen, Music Lovers Welcome! \$500 Sign-on! Start Work- Travel USA! Wanda #866-386-5621

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★
Look for the solution to today's Sudoku Puzzle on page 7B of the classifieds.

310 General

Seeking Insurance Clerk. Duties include: Data entry, customer service and other miscellaneous duties. Medical background a plus. Hours 8am to 5pm daily. Send resumes to: Blind Box R-8 c/o The Daily Citizen PO Box 1167 Dalton GA 30722

311 Health Care

F/T Lab Tech for single dr med office. Phleb. & lab equip. Prefer certification. Fax: 706-278-6360.

Part time person needed to scan medical charts in a doctor's office. Bilingual a plus. Mail resumes to: 302 Point North Place, Dalton, GA 30720 or fax to 706-279-3969

317 Professionals

Case Manager needed in Dalton area to serve adult mental health population. Related education or experience preferred. Please email resume to fcf@optiink.us for consideration

Lost Your Job? Need A New Career? Career Transition Professionals

The areas leading job search and Career Management Company, Call (423) 648-3093 to schedule a no cost appointment or email your resume to: tleffew@careertp.com or Fax to (423) 648-3095

320 Trucking Opportunities

Truck Drivers Wanted-Best Pay and Home Time! Apply Online Today over 750 Companies! One Application, Hundreds of Offers! http://hammerlanejobs.com

320 Trucking Opportunities

Driver Trainees Needed Now for Covenant Transport! Earn \$700+ per week! No experience needed **CDL & Job Ready in 15 Day!** Learn how Covenant can cover costs! Volunteer Training Center 3009 Ohls Avenue 1-888-231-4094

DRIVERS ENGLANDTRANSPORT.net is Now Accepting Applications for Driver Trainees. No Experience Needed. Training Available! Great Pay, Home Time & Benefits. 1-866-619-6081 Ad # 3120 www.atruckjob.com

TEAMS! Great miles. No NE, no touch freight. \$10,000 Seniority bonus for all company drivers after 5 years service. Owner operators, teams welcome. Kennesaw Transportation 800-824-6640 Ext 1221 or 1228. Class A-CDL req'd. Visit online www.kennesawtrans.com

322 Sales

New Home Sale. Great opportunity for result oriented sales professional. Draw + commission. Fax resume to Dan at 706-629-8088

SERVICES

401 General Services

DIRECTV FREE 4 Room System! 265+ Channels! Starts \$29.99! FREE HBO, Showtime, Starz! 130 HD Channels! FREE DVR/HD! No Start Up Costs! Local Installers! 1-800-973-9044

The Daily Photo

Submitted by:
Renae Brooks of Dalton, GA
To submit your photo, email photo, name and city to: lauramartin@daltondailycitizen.com

401 General Services

FREE DIRECTV 4 Room System! 265+ Channels! Starts \$29.99! FREE HBO, Showtime, Starz! 130 HD Channels! FREE DVR/HD! No Start Up Costs! Local Installers! 1-800-234-9094

FREE DIRECTV 4 Room System! 265+ Channels! Starts \$29.99! FREE HBO, Showtime, Starz! 130 HD Channels! FREE DVR/HD! No Start Up Costs! Local Installers! 1-800-216-7723

Personal Housecleaning with Professional Reliability and Results. References Available. Call 706-229-0030

THESE ARE NOT NORMAL TIMES!! Changes On A Global Scale Are Fulfilling Bible Prophecies. Prepare for What Is Coming Next by Going to: www.Biblically.com

PETS/LIVESTOCK

501 Pets for Sale

8 week old Lab mixed puppies. \$35.00 each to cover 1st shots. Blond, Black and black and tan. Call 706-280-8070.

502 Free Pets

Free puppies to a good home. Beagle mix, medium size brown pups. 706-583-0806 or 706-529-8040

Free to a good home. Abandoned (family left pet when they moved) male dog, appx. 1 year old, white w/brown spots, smaller dog. Loves attention! Call 706-226-1966 or 706-278-5570

ITEMS FOR SALE

605 Computers

Used Dell Laptops \$399
Used Dell PCs \$195
New PCs w/XP \$429
706-858-5888 or 423-499-1975

611 Misc. Items For Sale

* REDUCE YOUR CABLE BILL!* Get a 4-Room All-Digital Satellite system installed for FREE and programming starting under \$20. FREE Digital Video Recorders to new callers, SO CALL NOW. 1-800-699-7159

GET A NEW COMPUTER Brand Name laptops & desktops. Bad or NO Credit - No Problem smallest weekly payments avail. its yours NOW- Call 1-800-618-3765

PHENTERMINE, Xanax, Carisoprodol and more. Doctor Consultation included. Shipped FedEx 1-4 days. www.BESTBUDGETRX.COM 1-866-683-5744

611 Misc. Items For Sale

OBAMA INAUGURATION T-SHIRT! Authentic Rolling Stone Collection. Celebrate the historic inauguration on January 20th, 2009 with your limited edition "NEW HOPE" t-shirt! http://www.inaugurationtee.com

STEEL BUILDINGS. All sizes welcome. Steel prices are down! Will help with design. Additional discounts available. www.greylensteel.com 1-866-802-8573

704 Land & Lots

Bank Foreclosed, Priced to Sell! 1106 Mayfield Ln, Ranger Ga. Approx. 2.04 acres. Appraise value \$35,200. Asking \$14,000 neg. Call 912-536-7918 cell or 912-489-9261

705 Homes For Sale

\$2,000Dn. Starting at \$700/mo. OWNER FINANCING. Several 3Bd/2 Ba. homes in Whitfield & Murray Remodeled, very nice. Owner/Broker 706-529-0650

FREE Foreclosure Listings Over 200,000 properties nationwide. LOW Down Payment. Call NOW! 1-800-817-6272

***17 ac. 3 br, 2.5 ba home in Cohutta. Full bsmt, deck, storage blg. CHVAC w/ dual furnaces (propane & wood), attic fan. Generator backup electrical system. New paint, carpet, laminate & vinyl. Priced well below appraisal. 706-529-0650

3 Bed 2 Bath Foreclosure! Only \$34,900! Buy Foreclosure! For Listings 800-387-1727 ext. 5673

3 Bed 2 Bath only \$14,000! buy Foreclosed Home! For Listings 800-815-7810 ext. 9243

3 Bed 2 Bath Only \$350/mo! Buy Foreclosure! Stop Renting! (5%dn, 20yrs @ 8.5% APR). For Listings 800-815-7810 ext. 1950

3Bed 2 Bath only \$300/mo! Buy Foreclosure! Stop Renting! (5%dn, 20yrs @ 8%apr) For Listings 800-815-7810 ext. 1989

4 Bedroom 3.5 Bath Foreclosure! Only \$39,600! Bank Owned Home! For Listings 800-815-7810 ext. 1900

4BD HOME only \$226/mo! 3bd Home only \$205/mo! Foreclosures! 5%dn, 30yrs @ 8%apr! For Listings 800-536-8517 x 5564

705 Homes For Sale

5bd 3ba Foreclosure! Only \$67,000! Must Sell NOW! For Listings 800-815-7810 ext. 9341

Brand New Home in Cohutta. Large lot. 3 bd, 2 bath. Formal D/R, wood and tile floors, custom cabinetry, gas logs in L/R, unfinished bonus room. \$179,900. Call: 706-217-5005

Buy 3 Bed 2 Bath Foreclosure! Only \$23,000! Bank Owned! For Listings 800-815-7810 ext. 1971

HOMES FROM \$10,000! Buy Foreclosures and More! 1-4 Bedrooms for Sale! For Listings 800-387-1727

HUD HOMES! 4bd Home only \$226/mo! 3bd Home only \$199/mo! 5%dn, 30yrs @ 8%apr! For Listings 800-536-8517 ext. 5559

Lease Purchase - 3 bd/2baths. \$1,000 down and \$700/month. 355 Woodbranch Dr. Dawnville. 706-260-9183

NEW YEAR SPECIAL. Great Westside location. 3Br 1.5Ba. Newly remodeled. \$94,700. 706-673-2615, 706-280-9246

No Credit Check. Owner Financing. Rent to Own or Lease Purchase. STOP RENTING TODAY MOVE IN TOMORROW!!!! Don Babb 706-463-2333 hbf@vol.com or Mark Burnett 706-529-5901 DALTON

Near Hamilton Med Dead End Street very quiet 4BR 3 BA brick home 1204 Tacoma Dr. \$174,000 \$1,000 down, as low as \$995 month.

126 Magaughy Chapel RD 2BR 1BA, \$79,900, \$1,000 down as low as \$550 month 4405 Trailwood- \$120,000 3BR 2BA, \$1,000 down as low as \$995 month 225 Dogwood Dr, close to Mall but very quiet setting. 1 BR 1 BA new kitchen & hrdwd floors \$79,900, \$1,000 dn, as low as \$692 mon.

Rocky Face 3968 Hurricane Rd, 3 or 4BR 2BA w/fireplace \$107,000 or as low as \$795 mon or \$930 mon long term w/ \$1000 dn 2715 Old Chattanooga Rd, 2 BR 1BA, \$89,900, \$1,000 down, as low as \$750 month. 2701 Old Chatt. Rd 2BR 1BA fixer upper \$65,000 as is \$1000 dn, as low as \$550 mon

TEXAS LAND SALE!! 20-acre Ranches, Near BOOMING I Paso. Good Road Access. Surveyed. Only \$15,900. \$200/Down, \$159/mo. Money Back Guarantee. No Credit Checks. 1-800-843-7537 Ext. 20 www.sunsetranches.com



706 Condos For Sale

2 & 3 bdrm Luxury Condo for sale or lease 1 level, walk in closets, lrg rms cable/int wired vinyl dividers between units on cul-de sac. Starting at \$129,900 owner fin & rent to own fin avail. Appr. Avail 706-259-7474

707 Real Estate Wanted

** SELL YOUR HOME FAST ** We Don't List Homes, We Buy Them! Don't Waste Time, Sell in 3 Days. iBuyHouses.biz 866-428-9249

726 Commercial Buildings

check this out *19,000 sq.ft. - 2105 E. Walnut Ave. Retail space, Next to Hobby Lobby, across from Mall. *97,000 sq. ft., 454 Hwy 225 (Bretlin) *Retail space - Dalton Place Shop. Ctr. 2518 Cleveland Hwy. 1200, 1400, 44,000 SF avail. 706-279-1380 Wkdays 9-5:30

1 -12,500 sf & 1 -10,000 sf bldgs for sale by owner. Dalton. Docks. Suitable for light manfg. or whrg, offices w/ c/h/a. Perry 706-275-0862

728 Commercial Rental

LOOK! *302 S. Thornton 5,500 SF, includes utilities, between Newspaper office & Bank of Am. *1515 Abutment Rd. 10,000 sq. ft. includes utilities. Many sizes or suites. 1.3 mi. S. of Walnut *Camelot Bldg, Near I-75. 1514 W. Walnut Ave. Between Long John Silvers & Burger King. 5,500 S/F. 706-279-1380 wkdays 9-5:30.

Doctor's Offices for Rent Medical Suites, 2500 SF avail. 1008 Professional Blvd., Dalton. Distinctive Modern Bldg., 3rd floor w/elevator. 706-279-1380 wkdays 9-5:30

Office: 2700 S.F. Excellent condition. 1143 E. Walnut Ave. Call: 706-581-1037

Restaurants for rent: *410 S. Hamilton (fmrlly Bailey's Diner) Incl. equipment \$3,495 mo. *801 E. Walnut Ave. Barrett Marketplace \$2995/Mo. \$2000 dep. (fmrlly El Taco) fully furnished. 706-279-1380 wkdy 9-5:30

Retail and Office Space for Lease. Walnut Ave. + other locations 706-278-1566

Retail Shop for Lease. 3000 SF total. \$1375.00 mth \$500.00 Deposit. Chatsworth Area, Great Location. 706-483-9187

RENTAL HOUSING

751 Apartments

!! TWO MONTHS FREE !!
HUGE TOWNHOME SUPERIOR AMENITIES
706-279-1801

\$100 off 1st month rent. 3 BR, \$580/mo., \$300/dep. 2 Br, \$480/mo., \$250/dep. 1 BR \$400/mo. Appliances, c/h/a, W/D hookup, close to mall, no pets. 706-278-4209 or 706-463-1344 or 706-280-9861

\$25 off every wk for 3 months to qualified tenants. Ask about other specials. 1 & 2 bdrm units in Dalton. 706-264-8867

***2BR/1BA DUPLEX Central H/A, W/D hookup, kitchen appliances furnished. \$250/dep, \$475/month. NO PETS! Call 706-673-2177

LOOK HERE!

**1130/1132 Burleyson 2 BR, 1 BA \$485/month, \$240/dep. **707-2 Lance 2 BR, 1.5 BA. Newly remodeled. 1st week FREE w/1 yr. lease. 706-279-1380 wkday 9-5:30

*1 & 2 bd Apartments. Washer & dryer hookups. 4808 South 41 Hwy. Rent by month or week. Call: 706-217-5175

1 bedroom apartment corner of Hwy 225 & Hwy 286 in Eton. \$300/ month. Call 706-517-5759 10am-6pm.

1 BR, 1BA. 306 W. Park St., \$350/mo + \$250/dep. Incl. basic TV cable. 706-226-0503

1 STORY completely furn. effic. Cable TV, phone, microwave, kitch. supplies, linens, utilities furniture North Tibbs Road. \$149/weekly, 278-7189.

1/2 off 1st Mo.- 2BR, 1BA, C/H/A, W/D Connection, Near Conn 3 & I-75. Lafayette Hwy.- 2BR, 2BA, Mobile Home. Monthly or wkly rates. 706-673-4808 or 706-264-6786.

1st week free w/ deposit! 2 bd. 1 ba, laundry room close to downtown. Utilities furnished. \$175/wk or \$650/mo., \$200/dep. 706-581-4615

1st WEEK FREE!! 2 bdrm, 2 ba. A/C, cable, parking, on-site laundry. \$155 week. No Pets! Renovated. **706-370-5705**

2 BR 1 BA - 603 Wills, \$465 month, \$230 dep. 706-279-1380 wkdays 9-5:30

2 BR, 1 BA. 116 Fernwood Ave., \$550/mo + \$250/dep. All utilities included. W/D Conn., C/H/A. 706-226-0503

751 Apartments

271 Broadacre NW Rd. 2 br, 2 ba., Central H/A, W/D hook ups, water furn. \$480 mo \$100 dep. or \$125 wk. \$200 dep. 706-508-4158.

3 BED 2 BATH Duplex. C/H/A, All appl. furnished. \$550/ mo., \$300/dep. No pets. Call: 706-259-8474 or 706-271-6900

3 BED 3 Bath HUD HOME! Only \$299/mo! Stop Renting! BUY! For Listings 800-387-1727 ext. 7889

A Home For The Holidays!
No Rent till December 2008 Large 1, 2, and 3 bedrooms. Call Today **Chalet Valley Apartment Homes 706-226-6424**

Apartment for Rent. 2BR/1 BA located in Chatsworth. \$435.00 mth \$300.00 Deposit. NO PETS 706-483-9187

Awesome apartment you can afford! Well maintained. Convenient location! Call 706-226-6054 Email: parkcanyon@optilink.us

Brand New 2 bdrm 1 bath Apartments \$125 wk. \$0 dep. 1- 2 BR 1 BA - \$75wk, \$0 dep **706-278-6485**



CHECK US OUT! 1, 2, & 3 Bdrm Units available, but going fast! Pool - Fitness Center - Laundry. FREE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM All units: Sunroom & W/D hookups 706-226-0404



Clearview Estates: 2br duplex, N. Cleveland Hwy area, all kitchen appliances, w/d hook up, no pets, \$495/mo. 706-694-8425.

COTTAGE 1 bedroom, 1 bath, W/D hookup, ideal for single individual, No pets. \$475/mo. \$300/dp. 706-226-5400 ext 233

Dawnville Area. Very Nice 3 bdrm 2 bath homes. C/H/A, dishwasher. Also small 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath Apt. w/ fireplace. \$325/mo. Lots of other Homes available. 706-226-7526 or 706-483-2891.

Efficiency apartment in city ALL utilities incl. TV cable Furn. No pets. 1200 James St. \$70/dep. \$70/wk. 706-217-2388 until 9p

Efficiency bachelor apt in city All utilities incl. TV & cable furn. No Pets 801 N. Selvidge St. \$65 dep, \$65/wk 278-3729 8a-8pm.



Picture This

or Mug It or Apron It
or Key Chain It

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will be offering access on our website (www.dailycitizen.com) not only to the photographs that appear in the paper, but dozens more! AND, using the photo(s) of your choice you will be able to create a one-of-a-kind gift!

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- Prints (from wallet-sized to 20" x 30")
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- Greeting Cards • Calendars • Trader Cards • Aprons • Sweatshirts
- T-shirts • Bags • Bookmarks • Mousepads • Buttons • Puzzles
- Coasters • Cutting Boards • Key Chains • Magnets

The list is almost endless!



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Your family and friends will be thrilled to receive a custom-made item displaying a photo you picked just for them!

Visit www.thedailycitizen.zenfolio.com to check out this new feature!

751 Apartments
For Rent: **843 Carbondale Rd.** South - 2 bdrm 2 bath.
107 Marla Dr., North- 2 bedroom 1 bath. Call **706-277-2595**

LCH PROPERTIES
Apartments and Houses
FOR RENT
CALL TODAY:
706-280-0149

Luxurious Townhouse in Eton, newly renovated, ceramic tile, wood flrs, new carpet. 2 bd, 1.5 ba. move in special 1st mon \$250, no deposit 706-980-3361

Luxurious Townhouses, Dalton, newly renovated, ceramic tile, wood flrs, new carpet. 2 bd, 1.5 ba. move in special 1st mon \$300, no dep. 706-980-3361

Motel Rooms For Rent: 2107 S. Dixie Hwy. 41. Standard - \$95/wk. Lg. - \$125/\$135/wk. Dep.= 2 wks. rent. Furnished + TV, basic cable, private phone. 706-279-1380 wkdys 9-5:30

MOVE RIGHT IN, 1 & 2 BD efficiency apts, furnished, all util's, w/d furnished, TV, in Chats., & Dalton, near hospital. 706-313-1733 or 695-0625

MUST RENT THIS WEEK!!
\$99 MOVES YOU IN
Super Deluxe Townhome
2 BR 1.5 Bath, Huge Closets
Woodburning Fireplaces,
Best Deal in Dalton
Best Location, True Luxury
706-934-3787

Special. No Deposit. In Chatsworth. 2 bdrm 1 bath Apt. All appliances. furnished with washer/dryer. C/H/A. \$450 mon. \$250 dep. Also 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath Townhouse. \$550 mon. \$300 dep. Call: 706-517-2589 or 706-264-0066

STAY LODGE
Effic. Apt. with kitchen. Furn w/all utilities. Laundry fac., basic cable. Private phones furn. Starting at \$129.99/wk plus tax **Suite Deals** 1BR \$175.00 per week. Call 706-278-0700

STAYLODGE - WILLOWDALE
MOVE IN SPECIAL
1st Week \$100.00
706-278-0700

Townhouse for Rent. 2BR 1.5 BA WM/Dryer \$475.00 mth \$300.00 Deposit NO PETS. 706-483-9187

UNDERWOOD LODGE
Furnished Efficiency with kitchenette. All Utilities & Cable!! Laundry Facility Available.
Deposit Specials \$50.00!
Only \$85-\$115 per week!
706-226-4651

Upgraded spacious 2 bd @ 900 Vernon Ave. Call for rates! Partial utilities included. 706-279-3998

Duplex
1BR off S. Bypass on Collins Rd. near SE High. New carpet & paint. \$150dp. \$125wk, power & water furn. 706-463-0672

DUPLEX. McCARTY HISTORIC AREA LOCATION.
2br, 1ba. \$450/mon. \$300/dep. Available now. W/D hookup, No pets. 706-226-5400 ext 233

752 Homes For Rent
*2 and 3 bedroom homes for rent starting at \$495 month.
Call 706-463-2332 or 706-397-2087 hhf@vol.com

1st Week Rent Free. Apts., condos, mobile homes, and houses. Dalton, Chatsworth, and Tunnel Hill. Call 706-275-0460

2 bedroom 1 bath home, large lot, garage and carport. \$500 month plus deposit. Haigmill Rd off Reed Rd. 706-673-7716

2, 3, & 4 bedrooms houses and apts. Starting at \$80/week. Some w/utilities. 706-260-9183.

2008 Abutment 4 BR 2 BA, Sunporch & garage. \$185 wk mon \$370 dp. 706-279-1380 wky 9-5:30

3 BED 2 Bath Only \$230/mo! (5%dn, 20yrs @ 8.5%APR) Buy Foreclosure! For Listings 800-387-1727

3 Bed 2 Bath only \$345/mo! Buy Foreclosures! Stop Renting! (5%dn, 20yrs @ 8.5%APR) For Listings 800-387-1727 ext. 6723

3 BR 2 BA, brick home in the country. CHA, gas logs, eat in kitchen, living rm, den, screened porch, big level yard. \$750 mon. \$550 dep. References required. 706-277-9096

5 bedroom, 2 bath, formal dining room, bonus room, sun room, 2935 sq. ft. Lease with option. \$1200/mo. \$1000/dep. 423-596-1465

808 5th Ave - Dalton. 3 bedroom 1 bath, \$500 per month, \$250 deposit. 706-278-0549 or days evening 706-277-2814.
Classification: Homes for Rent
4bd Home only \$226/mo!
3bd Home only \$205/mo!
Foreclosures! 5%dn, 30yrs @ 8%apr! For Listings 800-536-8517 x 5564

Cute 2 bd 1 bath home, Pleasant Grove schools \$395 per mo. \$200 dep. We have many more homes for rent or sale w/owner financing 259-8170 or

Nice 3 bedroom 2 bath home for rent, Spring Place. 1 car garage, \$725 month \$500 deposit. Call 706-695-6156.

752 Homes For Rent
HUD HOMES!
4bd Home only \$226/mo!
3bd Home only \$199/mo!
5%dn, 30yrs @ 8%apr! For Listings 800-536-8517 ext. 5559

MILL CREEK Lg. brick 3BR 2.5BA home for rent w/ lg. kitchen, dining, utility, living & family room. 2 car garage. No pets. \$795/mon. \$500/dep. 706-673-4000.

NGEMC area, 3br. \$575/mo. cable & water. **Also** 1br. Furnished, utilities, cable. \$140/wk. \$140/dep. 706-694-8010

Quiet 3bd, 1ba, lg. kit. Hdwd flrs., firepl., C/H/A. \$650/mo. \$500/dep. 5 pymts. 706-218-8811, 278-6886, 706-218-8812

Real nice 3 bdrm 1 ba home in nice area \$595 per mo w/ \$300 Dep We have more at: www.affordableofdalton.com or call 259-8170

ATTENTION!
Winter Special - 1st wk. FREE + pay only 1/2 dep. w/1 yr. lease - Sweetwater Road 3 BR 2 BA, \$145wk, \$290dep. South end of Murray Co. off Hwy 225 S. 1/2 + acre lots, beautiful country setting. Several to choose from. Sweetwater Rd., Chatsworth Hwy. 225 Fm Chats Hwy. Take Hwy 225 S 13 mi. Fm Calhoun, take Hwy 225 N, 6 mi past Elks Golf Course, 1 mi N. of 4-way at Nickelsville. 706-279-1380 wkdys 9-5:30

753 Condos For Rent
2 & 3 bd. New Luxury condo/aprt for rent or sale 2 bd starting at \$795 per mo. senior disc. avail. 1 level, large rooms cable/int wired, walk in closets Crow Valley Rd area Appointment Avail 706-259-7474

2 bedroom, 2.5bath Condo in Dalton city. Hardwood & ceramic floors., fireplace, appliances furnished. \$750/mo \$350/dep. Also, 2 bdrm w/garage \$800 mon. \$500 dep. 1-706-397-9987 or 706-264-2976

New Condos in Hammond Creek, lease w/option to buy. 2 bd, 2.5 bath. Gated community & swimming pool. Starting \$900 mon (includes monthly fees) daltoncustomhomeconstruction.com 706-673-2121 or 706-581-2778

MOBILE HOMES

778 Mobile Homes For Rent
1 & 2 bedroom mobile homes & Apartments in Whitfield and Murray Co. \$85 per week and up. Utilities furnished. Call: 706-278-4048

2 & 3 BR, 2 BA mobile home in Nice Neighborhood. Refrigerator, stove and water furnished. 706-217-7233 - Jim

2 BR 1 BA - 2012 -1 Abutment 122 Fields - Rocky Face. \$100 wk, \$200 dep. 706-279-1380 wkdys 9-5:30.

3 bd 2 ba. 968A Beaverdale Rd. Quiet. Water, lawn maint. furnished, CHA, hrwd floors, refrig & stove. \$125 wk, \$200 dep. No Pets. 706-271-6718.

3 BR 2 BA - 214 New Dr. CHA, \$145 wk, \$290 dep. 706-279-1380 weekdays 9-5:30

Down Sizing? Owner Finance. Flexible down payment. \$650/mo. 3 bdrm 2 bath, 1 acre lot in Tunnel Hill. Will go quick. Call Steve 706-270-1342.

Holiday Discounts!
2 & 3 BD homes, many w/ hwd floors. Country setting. Large lots & private pond. Carbondale area. \$110-\$135/wk. 706-217-2385.

Hwy 41 S. area in small quiet park with manager on site. 2 bedroom mobile homes. \$100. week plus \$150. deposit. No pets. 706-428-9443 or 706-980-3510.

Move in Special! 1/2 Price. Quiet community. From \$95 to \$135 week. Utilities included. 706-506-3561 or 678-910-5776

Move In Specials Avail. 2 & 3 bdrm 2 bath, Northwest High area. No pets! Weekly or Monthly. 706-280-7009

Westside Area: 1 and 2 bedroom mobile homes. Beginning at \$65/weekly and \$240/monthly. Call 706-673-4000

TRANSPORTATION

801 Antiques & Classics



1966 Mustang Conv., black w/red interior. New top, new brakes, 68K miles, two family owned. Serious Inquires 706-271-6224. Christmas Special \$19,995.



1968 Dodge Charger, Vibrant Red, Completely Restored, 454 High Perf. Engine, Very Sharp \$29,500. Call 706-618-7899 or 706-695-8643.

801 Antiques & Classics

1971 Chevelle SS454, very nice car, completely restored, strong runner, A MUST SEE! \$18,000. Call 706-618-7899 or 706-695-8643

806 Domestic Autos
\$500! Police Impounds! Hondas/Chevys/Jeeps and more! Cars from \$500! For Listings 800-374-7395 ext. A932

Police Impounds for Sale! Honda Accord 2002 only \$1000! Honda Civic 87 only \$500! Hondas, Toyotas, Nissans & More from \$500! For Listings 800-366-0124 ext. L213



1999 Lincoln Towncar Exec. Series. Very nice car. 24MPG, 127,700 miles. \$3600.00 Call 706-537-2461



2006 Cadillac STS, 6 cycl, nav. sunroof, heated & cooled seats, fully loaded, white diamond. 29,000 miles. \$21,900. 706-277-3729



98 Pontiac Bonneville, loaded with all options including power windows and locks, CD player, automatic, has a V-6. This Pontiac has 177K miles and it looks and drives like it is new. I am asking \$2500. for it or Best Offer. Call 762-201-5483. My number is a Dalton number.

DONATE YOUR CAR to SPECIAL KIDS FUND. Help Disabled Children With Camp and Education. Non-Runners OK. Quickest Free Towing. Free Cruise/Hotel Voucher. Tax Deductible. Call 1-866-448-3254.

Honda Accord 1997 Only \$1,000! Buy Police Impounds! For Listings 800-374-7395 ext. A921



Well maintained 2004 Buick Lesabre custom w/101k miles. White ext., Gray int., 4dr, automatic. Front WD, 6 Cyl., Gas engine. \$5,200. Call Roy: 706 673 2209 - 706 618 8076.

807 Import Autos



04 Nissan 350Z, Touring & Rdster, Red, automatic-5-speed. 71,000 miles, leather, heated seats, many extras! \$23,800. 706-217-9326.



1995 BMW, 325i. 4 door, automatic, white with tan leather interior. One owner. 100k miles. \$6,500. OBO. 706-581-8465

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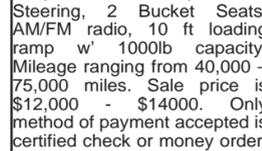
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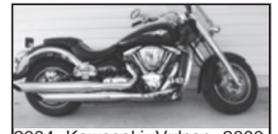
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A sense of hair play

Josie Tate passes cosmetology boards

By LARA HAYES
larahayes@daltoncitizen.com

Ever felt stuck in a job you hated when you really wanted to do something else? Josie Tate is living proof that it's never too late to start over.

As a child growing up in Lawtey, Fla., Tate dreamed of becoming a hair stylist. Helping others feel good about themselves was the main attraction, and she began with those closest to her — her siblings. Tate spent endless hours with comb, curling iron and styling brush in hand, fantasizing she was the most in-demand hairdresser around. She just knew a successful career awaited her.

Fate had other plans. "I got married and had kids, and we never had the money for me to go back to school," Tate, now 48, said. "It seemed like we were always struggling."

Instead she found work as a certified nurse aide at a nursing home. The job paid only enough for her to get by and was mentally exhausting. Tate stuck with it until 1998 when she and her husband began longing for a change.

"We wanted to get out of the rat race," she said. "We had some friends who lived here, and they kept telling us how pretty it was and how many jobs there were. Finally on Labor Day weekend, we packed up our stuff and left."

Tate quickly landed a job as a cashier at a convenience store, and she and her husband settled into their new life in Northwest Georgia. Still, finances were tight, and became tighter upon her husband's death in 2006.

"He didn't have insurance, and it really left me in a bind," said Tate. "It took me almost two years to get back on my feet."



MISTY WATSON/ THE DAILY CITIZEN

Josie Tate, left, a stylist at Sassy Sisters Salon on Cleveland Highway, styles Linda Lewis' hair.

After Tate married her current husband, Gary, it didn't take long for him to persuade her to go after her longtime dream. She enrolled in Dalton Beauty College in 2007. But her doubts and worries refused to go away.

"I kept thinking, 'What am I doing, starting all over again at 45?' but this is what I wanted to

do," said Tate. "Gary supported both of us while I was in school."

Tate didn't count on the frequent urge to leave school.

"I wanted to give up and quit many times, but three of the instructors — Tonya Tomey, Beth Lovelace, Lenay Kenemer — encouraged me," she said. "And Ann Lovelace, too, who's over

admissions. They are angels from heaven."

Her most difficult thing to learn? The long-layered cut.

"It's an awkward cut, the way you have to hold your hands and your shears," she said. "One day I was doing it on a mannequin and got frustrated and said 'I quit.' Lenay said, 'No, you're not gonna

Friends & NEIGHBORS

quit.' She showed me her technique and it clicked."

Tate completed her cosmetology degree and took her state boards in November.

"I had to do a cut, perm, color, highlights, relaxer, facial and sculptured nails on a mannequin," said Tate. "I was nervous knowing there was someone there watching who had my future in their hands."

After an excruciating seven-day wait, Tate learned she passed. Finally she was a full-fledged stylist. She cried for 45 minutes before calling Gary and her mom with the news. Both said, "I told you so."

Tate now works at Sassy Sisters in Dalton. She is concentrating on building her clientele. She hopes to have her own shop and maybe attend a Paul Mitchell school. In the meantime, she enjoys spending time with her family. The brood will grow by one on Friday with the birth of her stepgreat-granddaughter.

Tate is grateful to those whose support made reaching her goal possible.

"Thanks to my husband and all my instructors at Dalton Beauty College for all their encouragement," she said. "Mostly thanks to my husband for his support. I couldn't have done it without him."

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Plan for fitness success

With a new year comes a new beginning. For many, the realization of previous half-hearted attempts at exercise come crashing in.

People flock to workout facilities and promise themselves they are truly ready to become fit and healthy. Why do so many people veer from these promises? In many instances the answer is simple — most people don't have a plan of attack.

When it comes to exercise, planning and setting goals may seem such a bland concept that we just overlook it. Many exercise enthusiasts jump headlong into the world of health and fitness with no concrete objectives in mind. However, it has been proven that those individuals who have taken the time to devise a logical plan and pre-set goals have been the ones who are willing to go the extra mile and stick with an exercise regimen. A plan helps to set us in motion, and goals help to keep us in motion. Without this, what will stop you from quitting again?

Seek "know how"
It is always best for even the largest egos to step back in humility and learn in order to move forward. It will serve you best to seek assistance or advice from those who can help you. An old proverb says, "by wise guidance you will make battle for yourself, and in abundance of counselors there is victory," so maybe going it alone is not the best route for you.

This is the information age, but too much information can be as bad as too little if it distracts you from the

key truths you need to follow. Finding someone who's been where you want to go and/or has experience in helping others will certainly prove to be beneficial.

Goals for gains
Set long-term goals for yourself, something that can be accomplished within a year's time. This is a major step, because these long-term goals will more than likely change some aspect of the way you live your life. Write down three to five long-term goals in order of importance that you would like to accomplish. Then, write down why you would like to accomplish these goals. Ask yourself questions like:

- Why is this important to you?
 - What are you willing to do to make this a reality for you?
 - What things are you not willing to? (Always ask this).
 - How will you feel when this is accomplished?
- Consider the obstacles that might stunt your progress along the way and write them down. By doing

so, you will be more prepared for these situations as they come and will be able to create a battle plan for successfully overcoming them.

Next, set short-term goals that will allow you to reach your long-term goals. A long-term goal might be to lose 40 pounds in a year. A short-term goal could be to lose 3 to 4 pounds per month. Be sure not to set your sights too low to prevent you from hitting your mark or so high that they are unobtainable. Staying on track with the short-term goals makes achieving the long-term goal a snap. That's no fun

The success of your fitness program depends on the consistency of your involvement. Make sure you select activities that encourage your commitment as best you can. Poor activity choices create obstacles and can turn exercise into a chore. For example, if you don't enjoy running, don't plan to run. There are other forms of cardiovascular exercise that will suit you better and yield the same results.

When choosing activities for your exercise program, ask yourself: Will this activity hold your interest over

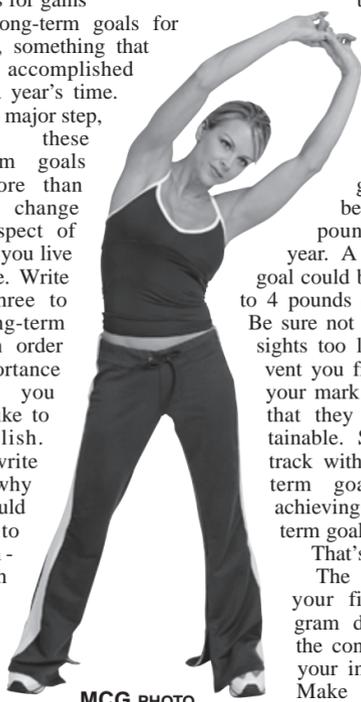


time? Can you fit this activity into your daily schedule? Will this activity help you reach your goals? Answering questions such as these will help you piece together an enjoyable, yet challenging program.

Where am I?
Keep a record of your training and progress. It will help you see the changes that have occurred over time. Results are the most important incentive to keep you motivated. Try to do something each day that puts you one step closer to reaching your goals. Congratulate yourself on achievements. Celebrate your successes, but never take your eyes off the big picture. Take measures to keep you focused and help continue on with the positive lifestyle behaviors you have created.

Make no mistake about it, getting in shape is tough. It takes lot of patience, discipline and hard work. It will seem much easier and less monotonous if you have a plan of attack. Remember, your goals should be obtainable while still making them challenging enough to remain interesting. Having a crisp, clear plan may be the difference between another year of regrets and years of success.

Submitted by **Jeremy Walraven, fitness consultant, Bradley Wellness Center**



MCG PHOTO

GROWINGS ON January jobs in the yard

As we experience cold weather outside, many think there is little that can do in their yard. There are a lot of important jobs you can only take care of this time of year. Don't miss your chance to be a step ahead, when spring does arrive.



Louis Dykes

Continue to plant trees and shrubs throughout the winter so they can establish before the spring growing season.

Make certain all plants are well mulched, and be prepared to provide winter protection of tender ornamental plants. A chicken wire hoop placed around tender ornamental plants and filled with fall leaves provides excellent freeze protection.

January and February are ideal months for dormant pruning. Spring-flowering shrubs should be pruned after they bloom. Wait until mid-February to prune liri-ope and late to early April to prune roses.

Do not fertilize. It's not that the fertilizer is necessarily going to force new growth or cause the plants to break dormancy early, it's just that much of the fertilizer will simply leach from the soil and will not be utilized by plants. Research shows nitrogen uptake, for instance, occurs only during active growth.

Order vegetable and annual seeds and get ready to sow them indoors or in an outdoor coldframe for planting after the last frost date in your area.

trees, ranked in order from most to least resistant, are live oak, bald cypress, black gum, sweet gum, southern red oak, magnolia, white oak, beech, sugar maple, sycamore, ash, longleaf pine, loblolly pine, slash pine, red cedar, water oak, black cherry, silver maple, dogwood, basswood, yellow poplar, red maple, hickory, boxelder (abstracted from Alabama's Ornamental Newsletter — Something to Grow on).

Now is a good time to root prune trees:

If you plan to move trees (homeowner or commercial) in the spring or summer of 2009, now is a good time to root prune. I highly recommend that trees be root pruned prior to transplanting. I have seen numerous examples of poor performance after transplanting (death, slow growth, die-back) and, one common element is the lack of root pruning.

For small trees in the backyard, you can use a shovel. In a circle around the tree, at the drip line (or just inside), insert the shovel to maximum depth. The roots should be cut to the inside of the radius of the intended soil ball for transplanting. In commercial operations a tree spade can be inserted as if lifting, but then retracted without lifting the tree.

■ **Louis Dykes is County Extension Coordinator for Murray County. If you have any questions about growing plants in your garden or if you are having trouble with pests, call the Georgia Cooperative Extension Office, Murray County at 706-695-3031 or e-mail ldynes@uga.edu.**

Resistance of trees to storm damage:

The U.S. Forest Service has released a list to trees that they feel are resistant to storm damage. The ranking is based on observations in the Southeast, where storm intensities can be high. The



FIVE GENERATIONS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Five generations of the Gladys Bearden family recently gathered for a photo. Shown from left are Bearden, Virginia Dillard, Yohna Teasley, Michael Teasley and Michael Teasley Jr.

SUPPORT GROUPS

■ The Dalton Parkinson's Disease Support Group will meet Jan. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Dalton-Whitfield Senior Center at 302 Capps St. in Dalton. Joann Leahy will speak at approximately 6:45 p.m. on deep brain stimulation, a surgical procedure used to relieve Parkinson's symptoms in some patients. The public is invited.

■ First Steps, a child abuse prevention program, is recruiting volunteers.

First Steps volunteers offer emotional support and educational and resource information to new parents during a hospital visit and in follow-up contacts. This program is sponsored by a grant from the Children's Trust Fund, Prevent Child Abuse

Georgia and Family Support Council, a United Way agency.

For more information, contact First Steps coordinator Rita Wagers at (706) 272-7919.

■ Al-Anon Family Groups for families and friends of problem drinkers meet each Monday and Thursday at 8 p.m. in the lower level of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Dalton. The church is at 901 W. Emery St. For more information, call (706) 217-5953.

■ Overeaters Anonymous meets each Thursday at 6 p.m. at the St. Mark's Episcopal Church library. The church is at 901 W. Emery St. in Dalton. For

more information, call Linda at (706) 537-0770.

■ In Remembrance is a group of young adults (high school and college age) joined together to honor the lives of friends, family members or classmates who have died. The group meets twice monthly at St. Mark's Episcopal Church for lunch and spend time sharing memories about those they loved.

For more information, call Margie Bruner at (706) 259-6076 or Susan Ewing at (423) 266-7479 or susanferisewing@hotmail.com.

■ Ridgewood Manor is currently looking for people to adopt a grandparent for the year.

For more information, call Lucretia Lopez or Joyce Shook at (706) 226-1021.

■ Adventa Hospice is looking for activity volunteers who can visit hospice patients in homes or nursing homes.

Activity volunteers support hospice patients through running errands, reading to the patient, sharing a devotional, playing board or card games or just friendly visits. Volunteer by yourself or as a group and as often or as little as your schedule allows. Individual or group training is available at your convenience.

For more information, call Robin or Angela at (706) 259-2518.

IN SERVICE

■ Army National Guard Pfc. Diana V. Ramos, daughter of Silvia Leon of Dalton and a 2008 graduate of Dalton High School, has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, Ramos studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness and received instruction and practice in basic combat, weaponry, drill and ceremony marching, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice and basic first aid.

■ Navy Seaman Eric J. Jones, son of Bonnie L. and Eric J. Jones of Chatsworth, recently completed U.S. Navy basic

training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill. Jones is a 2008 graduate of Murray County High School.

■ Navy Seaman Recruit James A. Hullender recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill. Hullender is a 2008 graduate of Southeast High School.

During the eight-week Navy program, Jones and Hullender completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pictured in the first row, from left, are Joey Parrott, Mike Anthony, Susan Ridley; second row, Jennifer Moorer, Randel Ovbey, Helen Crawford, Hardie Dawn; third row, Jordon Ovbey, Aaron Guess, Lee Lunsford and director Ron Houston. Not pictured are Matt Byrum, Brandon Harris and Jeff Lewis.

DLT announces 'Born Yesterday' cast

Dalton Little Theatre has announced the cast for the upcoming production of "Born Yesterday" directed by Ron Houston: Susan Ridley as Billie Dawn, Michael Anthony as Harry Brock, Hardie Dawn as Paul Verrall, Joey Parrott as Ed Devery, Jeff Lewis as Senator Hedges, Helen Crawford as Mrs. Hedges, Randel Ovbey as

Eddie Brock, Brandon Harris as assistant manager, Jennifer Moorer as Helen, Aaron Guess as the bellhop, Lee Lunsford as the barber and Matt Byrum as a bootblack.

The show will be presented Jan. 29-31 and Feb. 5-7 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 1 at 2 p.m.

In "Born Yesterday," Harry Brock — a wealthy yet boorish junk-dealer tycoon

— brings his unsophisticated girlfriend, Billie Dawn, to Washington, D.C. on a business trip. Brock hires journalist Paul Verrall to educate Billie, and in the process she slowly learns some things about herself and the true character of her boyfriend.

DLT is at 210 N. Pentz St. For tickets, call (706) 226-6618.

COMMENTARY

The sad state of debate isn't debatable – maybe

I am old and secure enough now to admit publicly that in high school, I was on the debate team.

To understand a little about the makeup of our debate team, I offer this comparison: If our debate team was television's "A-Team" (and it wasn't), I would have been "Faceman" (Dirk Benedict).

When I'm the pretty boy, it's a sad-looking bunch, for sure.

But what we lacked as a debate team in the looks department, we more than made up for in the incredibly bad debating department. I offer as evidence the fact that one of my debate team colleagues began every rebuttal by saying "Where's the beef?"

After that intro, he recovered by delivering other inane 1980s pop culture references ("Whatchu talkin' about Willis?"), "That's reedulous!", "Freeze! It's Miami Vice", "I've fallen and I can't get up!") — often in character, never remotely pertaining to the topic at hand.

Admittedly, we were poor excuses for debaters, but at least we knew some of the rules. The same can not be said of what qualifies as popular debate today.

What passes for debate today is not debate. For instance, in a formal debate, you can't interrupt one another. You actually have to wait



Len Robbins

your turn, then you can present your argument in the same allotted time as your opponent.

That's not the way the talking heads on television or radio debate a topic. There, you apparently "win" an argument based on two factors:

1. By talking the most (and thus interrupting the most).

2. Getting angrier than the other guy.

It doesn't really matter what you say, or if you address the topic at hand. All you have to do is talk more, talk louder, and deliver your diatribe more vehemently. Pity the poor soul who wishes to engage in a thoughtful, thorough dialogue. Bill O'Reilly, et al, will bury them with shouting.

The other way to win a "debate" is to say everything. Eventually, you'll be right. Sports commentators are particularly adept at this practice. For instance, I heard one analyst on ESPN say recently that the Philadelphia Eagles would win the Super Bowl. This same sports analyst — two months ago — said the

Eagles wouldn't make the playoffs. Three months ago, he loudly predicted the Dallas Cowboys would win the Super Bowl. Two weeks ago, he forecast the Tennessee Titans would be the Super Bowl champs. Two days ago, he predicted the New York Giants would win the Super Bowl. That's just what I heard. I'm sure, during the last year, he has predicted that every NFL team would win the Super Bowl (other than the Detroit Lions, of course). Then, after the game is over, he'll brag about how right he was in his prognostication.

Is hollering and screaming and making loud, wholesale declarations more entertaining than a courtly, intellectual exchange of ideas and contentions? Of course it is. We aren't robots, or British.

But is it a wise avenue for making judgments? No, it's not. We don't learn a thing when the criteria for debate is which side can shout down the other. We need to take time to listen to what is said, not how furiously it is delivered.

To quote how my old debate team colleague ended every argument: "I rest my case."

No wonder we lost to Atkinson County High — twice.

■ Len Robbins is the editor of Clinch County News.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar runs in the Living section each Wednesday and Sunday on a space-available basis. To announce your meeting, e-mail the information to lara-hayes@daltoncitizen.com or send by fax to (706) 275-6641. Please send your item at least two weeks in advance

and include a contact number for more information.

Jan. 13

■ The Carpet Capital Women's Network (CCWN) will meet Jan. 13 at 11:30 a.m. at Western Sizzlin' Steakhouse located on Legion Drive in Dalton.

Ruby Couch will be the guest speaker. Membership is not required and all area ladies are invited. For more information, call Susan Swinney at (706) 278-8260 or Clydine Tyson at (706) 275-7509.

Jan. 18

■ Dr. Betsy McArthur

will discuss her new book, "Bound for Glory" — the story of the Darlington, S.C. Rifles during the Civil War — Jan. 18 at 2:30 p.m. at Crown Gardens and Archives, 715 Chattanooga Ave. in Dalton.

Jan. 19

■ The Humane Society of

Northwest Georgia will have its monthly meeting Jan. 19 at 6 p.m. at the Wade Adoption Center at 1703 Cleveland Highway in Dalton. The public is invited.

Jan. 20

■ The League of Women Voters will have a luncheon

meeting Jan. 20 at 11:30 a.m. at Western Sizzlin'. Joe Forsee, director of the Dalton-Whitfield Regional Library, will report on library funding and future plans for the regional system. For more information, contact Janis Keener at (706) 278-9650.

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
 1 Basilica section
 5 Chart
 8 Pinnacle
 12 Like some dorms
 13 Lamb's dam
 14 Gunky stuff
 15 Trouble
 17 Low-voiced woman
 18 "Seinfeld" role
 19 Skips a phoneme
 21 Neither mate
 22 Galvanization matter
 23 Bonfire residue
 26 Bottom line
 28 "The Lord is my shepherd, ..." e.g.
 31 Italy's silhouette
 33 Party bowlful
 35 Despot
 36 Contestant's postcard
- DOWN**
 1 Rue the run
 2 Motel amenity
 3 — good example
 4 Buzz
 5 Aldrin's real name
 5 Preprinted, as postage
 6 Shock partner
 7 Actress Rosie
 8 Opposing
 9 Unsolved mystery
 10 Speck
 11 Grand verse
- 38 Glutton squares
 40 Type
 41 Sought restitution
 43 Chic, to Austin Powers
 45 Antiknock rating
 47 Blood fluids
 51 Avoid at all costs
 52 Loss of courage
 54 Took a powder
 55 Citric beverage
 56 Unravel
 57 Dispatches, mob-style
 58 "Of course"
- 16 Unsigned (Abbr.)
 20 Back talk
 23 \$5 portrait
 24 Bart, to Homer
 25 Something exceptionally good
 27 Gratuity
 29 Felon's flight
 30 "— Doubtfire"
 32 Those favoring a classless society?
 34 Zits
 37 Longing
 39 Prospector's hope
 42 Rot
 44 Cartoon duck
 45 Scandinavian city
 46 Swedish Muppet
 48 Antitoxins
 49 Repast
 50 Eyelid woe
 53 Rhyming tribute

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 1-7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15			16					17		
18						19	20			
			21			22				
23	24	25	26		27	28			29	30
31			32	33		34	35			
36			37	38		39	40			
		41		42		43	44			
45	46					47		48	49	50
51				52	53					
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

BRIDGE

Sylvia throws a curve

Not many members realized at first how little Sylvia knew when she started to play with the experts at the club. But it didn't take the cognoscenti long to discover the vast areas of ignorance in Sylvia's game, nor did it take them very long to try to take advantage of her shortcomings.

While it may be that all's fair in love and war, I always had reservations about the propriety of some players at the club who bid psychics against Sylvia. She had such an extraordinary talent for doing the wrong thing that it seemed to me they should have let well enough alone instead of trying to make things more complicated for her.

But there were times when such tactics boomeranged against the perpetrators. One of her first great triumphs occurred on this deal when Sylvia (East) was playing against two of the more larcenous members of the club.

South bid a spade, and West doubled. North, who could smell a psychic a mile away, assumed his partner was throwing a curve, and he passed. Sylvia, who couldn't tell the difference between a takeout double and a Wiener schnitzel, thought her hand was too weak to bid, so she also passed.

South assumed the spades were all banked against him and so ran to two diamonds. West passed, and North, having first congratulated himself on diagnosing the spade bid as a psychic — apparently confirmed by his partner's runout to two diamonds — also passed. Sylvia then closed the auction with a pass.

You never did hear such a ruckus as took place after South saw dummy and realized he was playing two diamonds when six spades was practically laydown.

Sylvia never quite understood why he squawked so much, since South wound up making the contract with two overtricks.

Tomorrow: Elegant defensive play.

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

♦ A J 10 7 5
♥ J 9 7 3 2
♦ J 4
♣ K

WEST

♦ Q
♥ A K Q 5
♦ A 10 8 3
♣ Q 9 8 4

EAST

♦ 9 6
♥ 10 8 6 4
♦ 5 2
♣ 10 7 6 5 2

SOUTH

♦ K 8 4 3 2
—
♦ K Q 9 7 6
♣ A J 3

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Dble	Pass	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	Pass (!)	Pass

Opening lead — king of hearts.

HOROSCOPE

Happy Birthday: Your integrity and fair play will help you win. Strength and courage will get you through even when someone you care about does not agree. A change in vocation or educational direction will help you improve your lifestyle. Be smart and make your moves swiftly. Your numbers are 8, 13, 16, 20, 26, 38, 43

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get involved — you can make a difference. The more effort you put into helping others, the better connections you will make. Put the past behind you and you will gain ground much more quickly. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't let things get to you or you will fall short of your goals and may disappoint someone who is counting on you. Now is the time to look beyond, not dwell on the present situation. What you can accomplish over time will count. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Travel courses or lifestyle changes will all benefit you long-term. Sharing your concerns and ideas with people you respect will bring you great satisfaction and inspire you to do more to achieve your goals. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't think everyone has more to offer than you do. You can excel if you put your mind to it and your passionate approach can impress and enhance any deal or proposal you make. A prosperous venture is within reach. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You have to let others see your capabilities if you want to be taken seriously. Lend a helping hand. You belong in a position of leadership but you must first gain respect. 4 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do what is in your own best interest, not what someone else wants you to do for him or her. Someone in a position to help you will recognize your strength and give

you a chance to advance. Networking will lead to personal and professional partnerships. 2 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Stop waiting to see what everyone else is doing and forge ahead on your own. You may want to consider making a residential move or check out a location that will be more conducive to work. Don't rule out making a change. 5 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let anyone confuse you or put you in an awkward position. You have to maintain control if you want to reach your goals. Keep things

simple and refuse to be tempted by those telling you that you must go big or forget it. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you don't keep promises, you will ruin your reputation and the chance of getting the help you will want in the future. Take stock of what's required of you and handle the people and situations you face with honesty and integrity. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't leave anything to chance. Double check your personal papers, making sure that everything is in order before you start to plan where and how you will spend your money. Long-term success will come from masterminding your every move. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may be torn between what you should do and what you want to do. Emotional issues will be demanding but be careful not to give in for the wrong reason. A partnership can be good but step back if things don't appear to be equal. 2 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Voice your opinion and you will get results. Don't be afraid to diversify in order to get more out of the people you work with. A relationship you once had can now be renewed. 4 stars



Eugenia Last

CRYPTOQUIP

O Q O N K L F L P Y H L I Z R H Q S Y Z
 I C L I R Z O Y B I E E N O O Q E Z R
 Z S Z P I E Y P C Q H Z F ' E

"YKYLR" ZOYB: "IFQX EIQFX."
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN DANCERS GREGORY HINES AND ELEANOR POWELL WERE THIRSTY, I SUPPOSE THEY CHOSE TAP WATER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals I

To Your Good Health

Search for osteoporosis cause mandatory in young women

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: When my nearly 30-year-old daughter had an X-ray a few years ago, the doctor told her she had the bones of an older woman. A few weeks ago, after an accident, she had X-rays and was told the same thing. She was advised to take calcium and exercise. (She does water aerobics.) What would cause the aging of her bones? No doctor has ever told her why this has happened. — J.L.



Paul G. Donohue

this quickly. And I can add a word about exercise. Weight-bearing exercise is the kind of exercise she must perform. "Weight-bearing" means her bones have to support her body weight during the exercise. Jogging and walking are weight-bearing exercises. The body supports the entire weight of the body during those activities. Water aerobics is excellent exercise for the heart and lungs but is not an excellent weight-bearing exercise — the water's buoyancy supports body weight. She needs land-based exercise, including weightlifting.

There's a slight gap between the two layers, so one rubs over the other effortlessly when air comes into and out of the lungs. A pneumothorax (NEW-moe-THOR-axe) is air that has escaped into the gap between the two pleural layers. It most often comes from the rupture of a bleb, a small cyst. Such a bleb or blebs can be there from infancy, and most never cause trouble throughout life. Your nephew, however, is not so fortunate. Treatment depends on how much air gets into the pleural space. If it's only a little, the body can absorb it on its own. If it's more, the lung is compressed, breathing becomes difficult and there's an urgency to remove it. That can be done with a large needle, a tube or surgery, depending on circumstances.

Recurrences are common. If they continue, doctors can eliminate the space between the two pleural layers to put the problem to rest once and for all.

ANSWER: When the doctors say her bones look old, they're saying that her bones are showing some osteoporosis, something that doesn't happen to a woman's bones until menopause. Your daughter cannot ignore this. She should report it to her family doctor.

Osteoporosis at such an early age calls for an explanation. She might not be making sufficient estrogen and her bones are losing calcium — the same cause of menopausal osteoporosis. If that is the case, the doctor has to find out why. She can take estrogen in pills if this proves to be the reason why her bones look like they do.

Or she might not have stored as much calcium in her bones as she should have when she was younger. That can be partially corrected by taking calcium supplements and vitamin D, which promotes calcium absorption. A woman her age requires 1,000 mg of calcium a day and 200 IU of vitamin D.

Another possibility is an overactive parathyroid gland. Parathyroid hormone, when secreted in constantly excessive amounts, takes calcium from bone and leads to osteoporosis.

I can't say for sure what her problem is. I can tell her she has to get to the bottom of

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My 17-year-old nephew has had two episodes of spontaneous pneumothorax this year. He otherwise is in good health. I have scoured all medical books but can't find a satisfactory answer. I would appreciate any information on this subject. — S.S.

ANSWER: A double-layered membrane covers each lung. That's the pleura.

ASK THE DOCTOR

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

condition where blood pressure drops when a person rises from the sitting or lying position. It can make one feel dizzy or can make a person faint. ProAmatine (midodrine) keeps arteries and veins slightly more constricted so that blood pressure doesn't drop when you change positions. It doesn't shrink your veins. It won't affect your brain or its blood vessels.

PET OF THE WEEK



Osita needs a chance

Osita is a beautiful yellow lab that was left behind when her family moved out of state to find work. Osita has been spayed but she has been diagnosed with heartworms. Donations to help with her treatment can be sent to the Murray County Humane Society, P.O. Box 796, Chatsworth, GA 30705. Write "For Osita" on your check or money order and help give her a second chance at finding a loving home. Upon recovery, she will be available for adoption.

For a list of dogs, cats, kittens and puppies available for adoption through the Murray County Humane Society, call (706) 695-2642 or e-mail muchopups@alltel.net.



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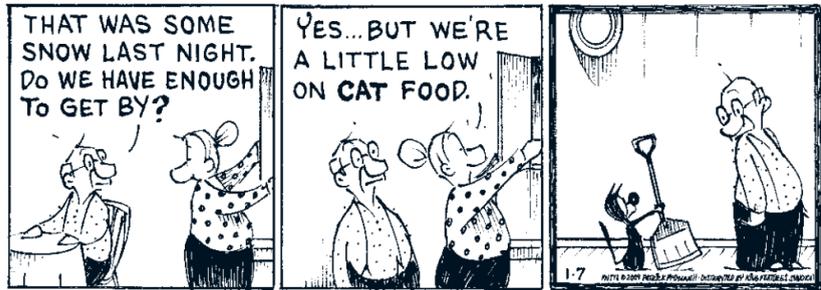
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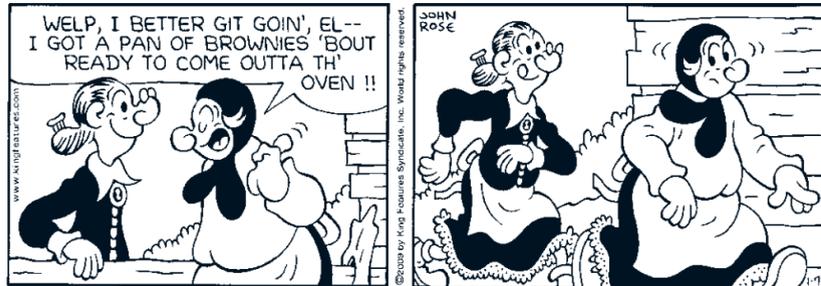
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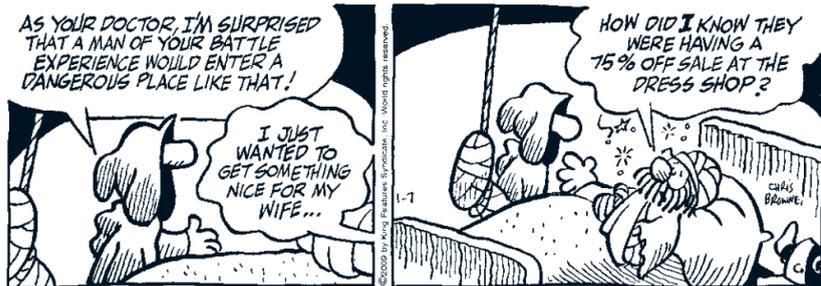
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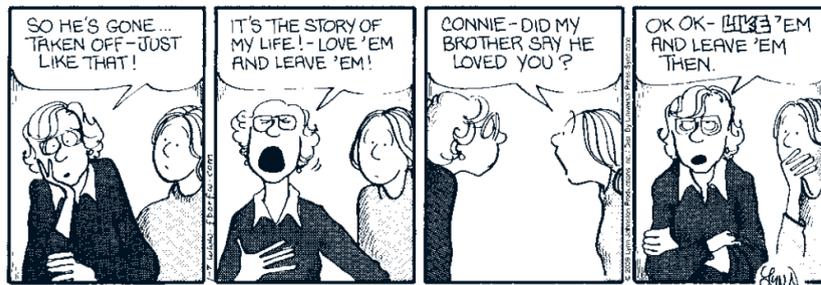
SNUFFY SMITH



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FOR BETTER OR WORSE



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TUNDRA



DEAR ABBY

Woman's confidence shaken by betrayal of her fiance

DEAR ABBY: Two years ago, I caught my fiance cheating on me. I was devastated. In my heart I don't think he would do it again, but still I find myself looking through his e-mails, checking phone records, etc. I find myself crying hysterically and replaying the moment I found out he was cheating over and over again in my head. It's driving me insane. I want to forgive him, but I don't think I can.

tell me how you "come out." I am worried sick about what will happen, since my parents belong to a church that believes homosexuality is a terrible sin.

Will my parents still love me? Will my friends reject me? Will my sister, who I've always been close to, be afraid to keep sharing a room with me?

As hard as I have tried, I can't change the feelings I have inside, so I know I have to deal with this, but I don't know what to do. Please help me. — **TORMENTED GIRL IN LOUISIANA**



Jeanne Phillips

Can you please help me find a way to let go of the past and return to the confident me? — **LIVING IN THE PAST IN PHOENIX**

DEAR LIVING IN THE PAST: I wish you had written me sooner. You and your fiance may need couples therapy. His willingness to participate would prove that he's willing to do everything he can to reassure you that he won't cheat again. It may also help you both understand why it happened, and help you to erase the old tapes playing in your head.

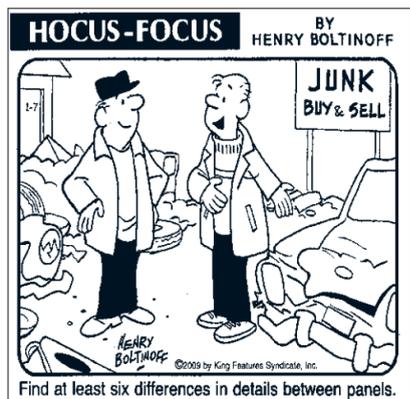
DEAR TORMENTED GIRL: I can only imagine the stress and anxiety you are experiencing. As you clearly point out in your letter, sexual orientation is not a choice, but something a person is born with. Not knowing your parents or your inner circle of friends, I can't predict how they would react. But if you think your family will react badly, then I advise you to wait to come out until you are out of their house and self-supporting.

However, if this doesn't work, accept that you should break the engagement — because a marriage without trust is missing the very foundation of the relationship.

Until then, here are two resources: PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), www.pflag.org; and the Trevor Helpline, a 24-hour crisis helpline for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning young people, (866) 488-7386 or www.thetrevorproject.org.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 16 and know in my heart that I'm gay, even though I'd give anything not to be. So far, I have kept this to myself, but I don't think I can keep it within forever. Please

HOCUS FOCUS



PEANUTS



ROSE IS ROSE



ZITS



BABY BLUES



FAMILY CIRCUS



"Mittens are just gloves where they forgot to cut the fingers out."

CLOSE TO HOME



The Nargleys perform their post-holiday ritual of trying to blow all the needles off the tree in one breath.

Happy New Year

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Lb.	
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Lb.	
Spiral Sliced Hams	\$1.19
Lb.	

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\$1.00
Ea.



8 Oz. Mushrooms	\$1.29
Ea.	
Large Pineapples	2 FOR \$3
Red Delicious Apples	69¢
Lb.	
Fresh Ripe Cantaloupes	\$1.00
Ea.	
5 Lb. Bag Red Grapefruit	\$2.69
Ea.	

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29 Oz. Lemon Meringue Pie	\$1.00
6 Ct. Blueberry or Cinnamon Raisin Bagels	\$1.00
10.1 Oz. South Beach Diet Garlic Parmesan Chicken	\$1.00
4.5 Oz. Strawberries	3 FOR \$1
10 Oz. White & Wild Rice	\$1.00
2.2 Lb. Crinkle Cut Fries	\$1.00
1 Lb. Oven Ready Calamari	\$1.00
6.5 Oz. Pepperoni Pizza	\$1.00

Famous Brand Name Peanut Butter Cookie Dough
\$1.00
32 Oz.



Country Crock Heat and Eat Stuffings
\$1.49
21 Oz.



Famous Brand Name Spaghetti Sauce
\$1.00
26.5 Oz.
16 Oz. Spaghetti Noodles **89¢**



BEVERAGES & DESSERTS

HOUSEHOLD & PET NEEDS

1 Gal. Spring Water
89¢



64 Oz. Cran Apple Juice	\$1.79
24 Ct. Family Size Tea Bags	\$1.00
5 Oz. Chunky Bar	\$1.00
14 Oz. Iced Animal Cookies	2 FOR \$1
3 Pk. Natural Butter Popcorn	\$1.49

Cascade Automatic Dishwasher Action Pacs
\$5.39
32 Ct.



2.1 Oz. Assorted Air Fresheners	3 FOR \$1
4 Pk. 75 Watt Light Bulb	\$1.00
4 Roll Double Bath Tissue	\$2.39
22 Oz. Classic Dog Food	2 FOR 89¢
3 Oz. Assorted Kitten Food	3 FOR \$1